

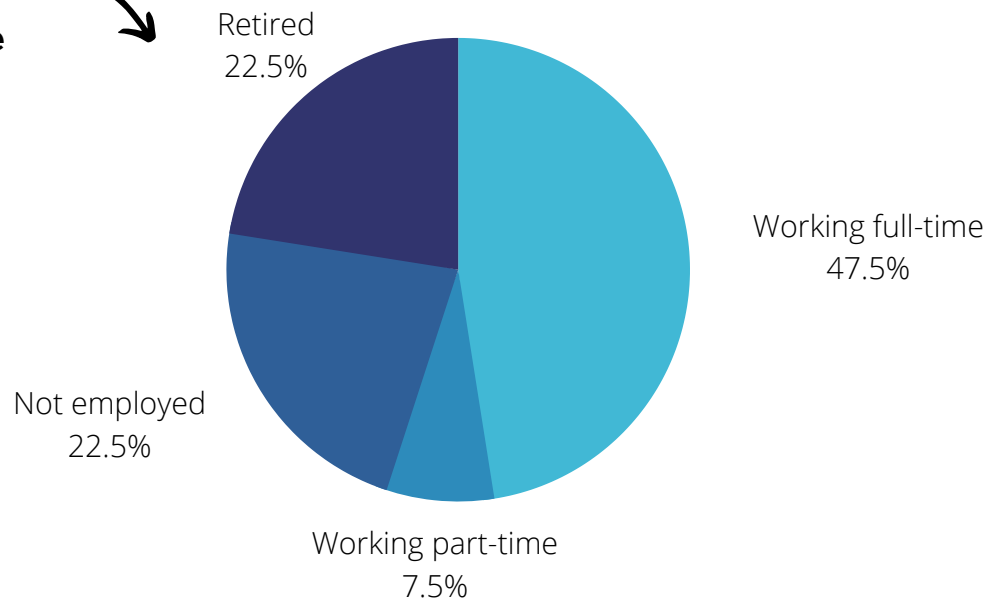


# APHASIA SNAPSHOT

a monthly look at what the aphasia community is thinking and feeling

## Aphasia and the Workplace

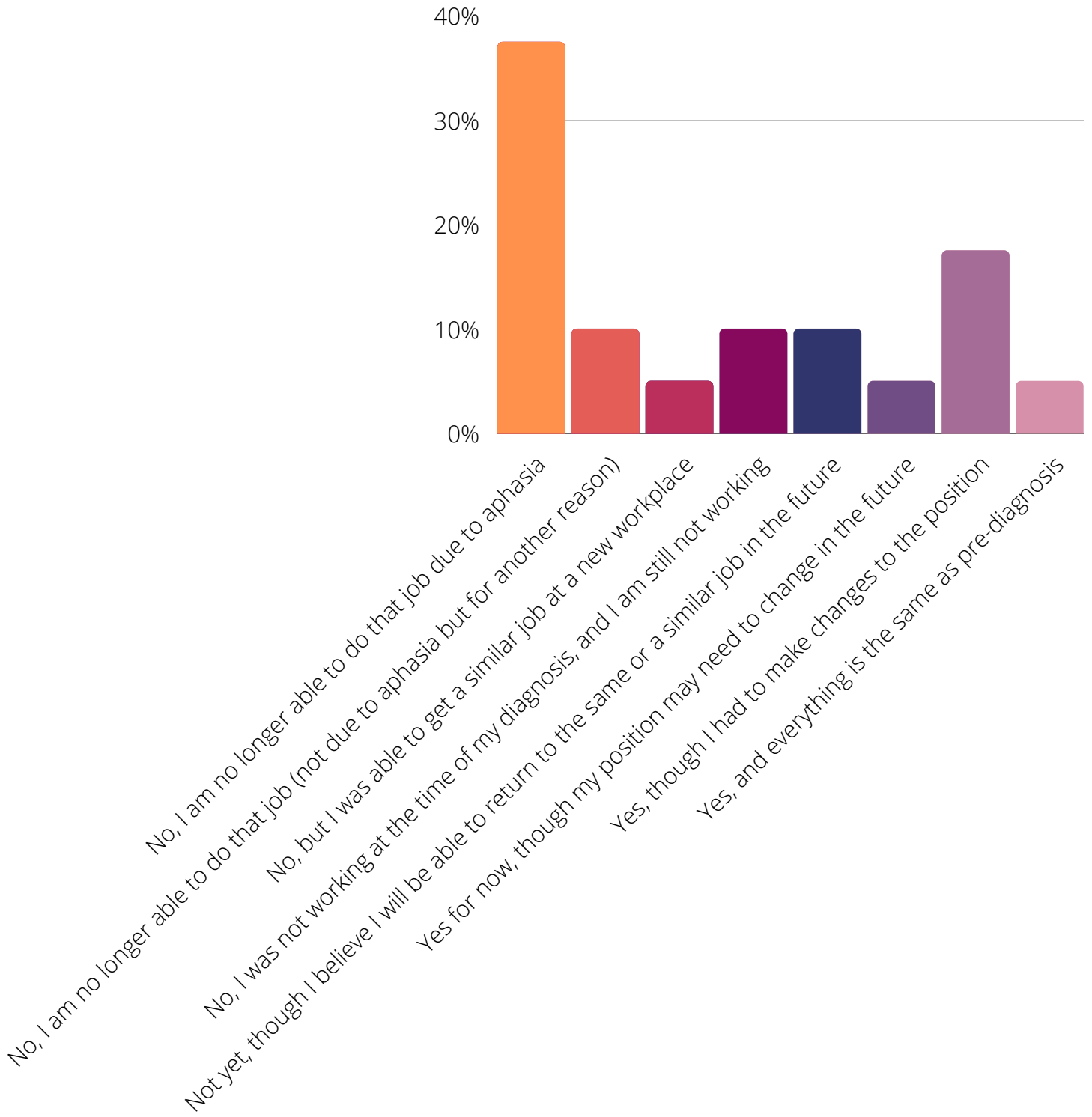
How would you describe your employment status at the time of your aphasia diagnosis?



Going to a job interview is stressful in the best of circumstances. Going to a job interview when you have aphasia adds a whole extra level of frustration to navigate. Take a deep breath. We've provided [four ideas to help get you through the process.](#)

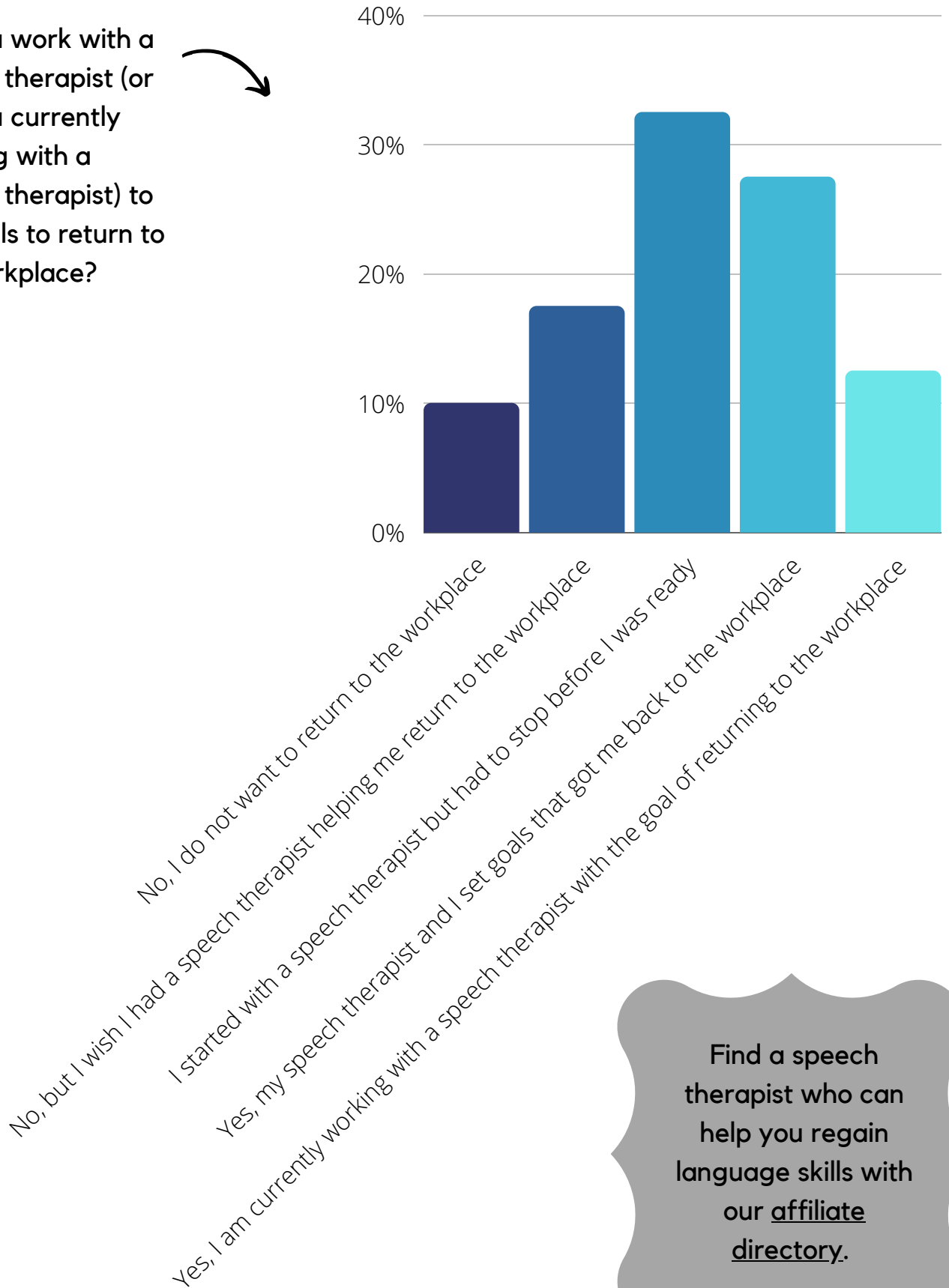
# Aphasia and the Workplace

Were you able to return to the same job after your aphasia diagnosis?



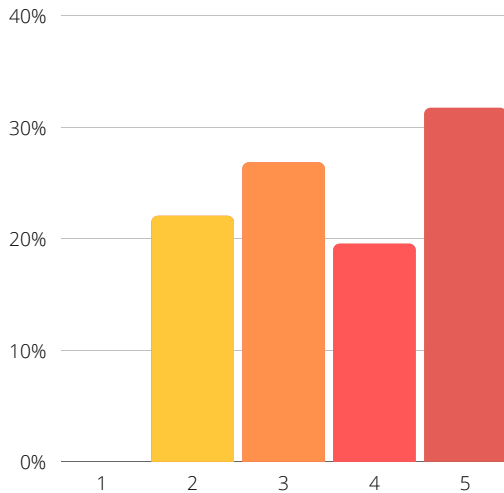
# Aphasia and the Workplace

Did you work with a speech therapist (or are you currently working with a speech therapist) to set goals to return to the workplace?



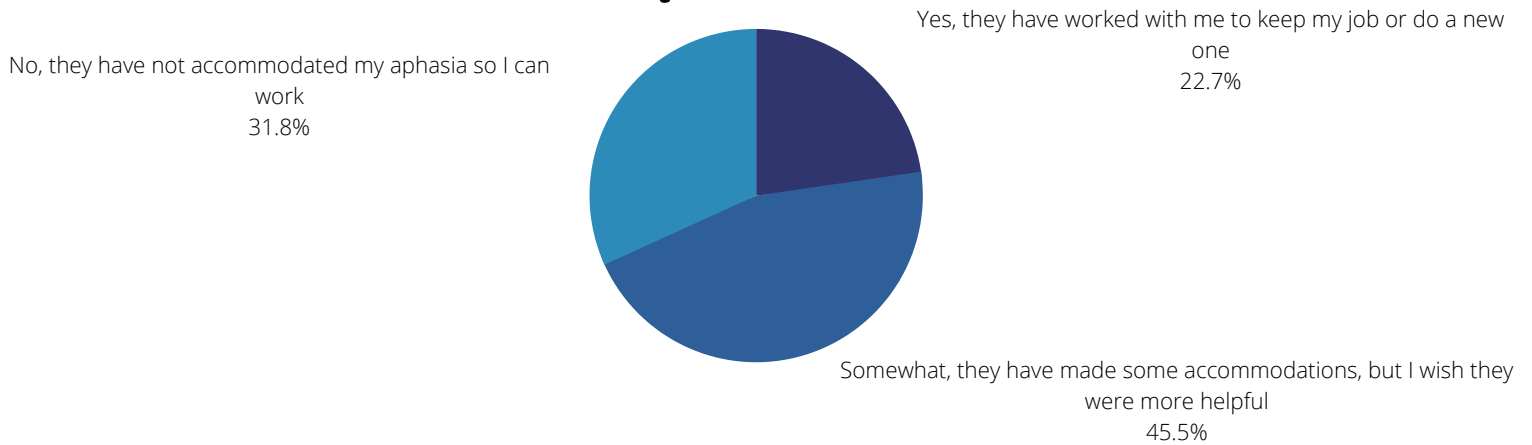
Find a speech therapist who can help you regain language skills with our [affiliate directory](#).

# Aphasia and the Workplace

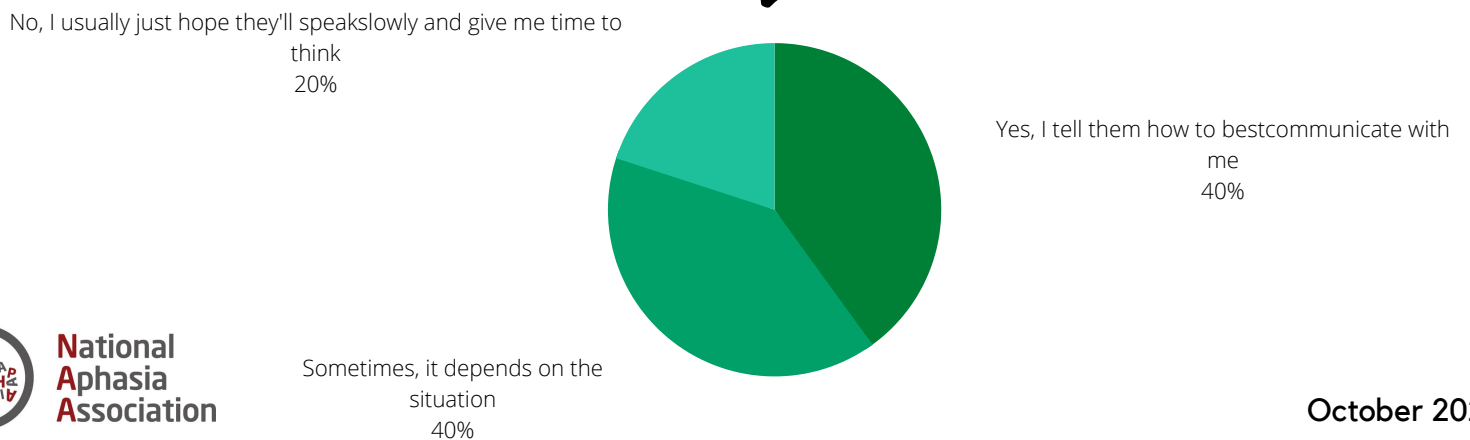


On a scale from 1 - 5, how much does aphasia impact your ability to work? (1 is not at all and 5 is that you can no longer do your old job.)

If you do work, has your workplace been accomodating?



If you work, have you explained aphasia to your co-workers?



# Aphasia and the Workplace

What do employers need to know about aphasia? If you could teach all employers about aphasia, what would you tell them?

Aphasia is a speech disability, but intellect is not affected. Just give me time to process.

Aphasia is different for everyone, but we all need more time: More time to process incoming conversations, surroundings, to respond, or do our tasks.

Be more understanding. It takes us longer to express ourselves. More patience not only when we are speaking, but also writing, reading, and listening!

I am at the same capacity (brain power), but I have difficulty speaking because I have a brain injury.

I know what I want to say, but sometimes the word doesn't come to my mouth. I need to be fresh and not stressed.

I want employers to know that aphasia presents differently in each individual. Because of this, it's important to allow the individual the opportunity to ask for what they need versus making assumptions based on what the employer may think they know about "aphasia."

It takes me a little extra time to respond, so please be patient. I find scheduled meetings to be more functional. During abrupt or unscheduled meetings, it is difficult for me to keep on task and retain information.

It's a communication disorder. I have difficulty with word retrieval, and sometimes I am slower with info processing, but I understand.

Aphasia affects one's ability to express/communicate, but not to think ideas.

Speak more slowly; enunciate more clearly; don't have a lot of machines or background noise; we need more time to process; aphasia does NOT mean loss of intelligence and does NOT mean hearing impairment. (No need to speak louder or to talk "down" to people with aphasia.)

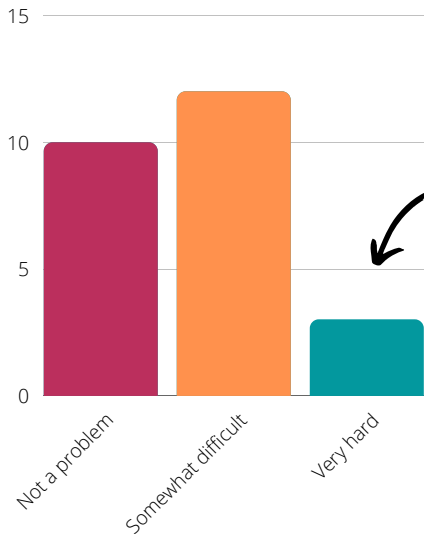
The difficulties we have internally don't always show in conversation, especially with people who didn't know us before the injury.

Thinking is different from doing. I can remember anything, but I still have trouble saying or writing and some math. There is a definite improvement, and I am currently 90 to 95% of where I was.

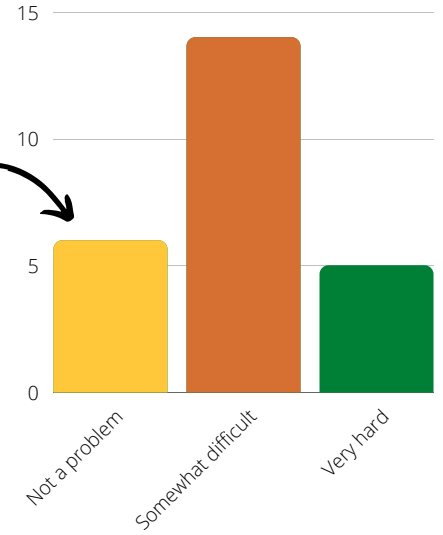
Yes. I tell them to email me.

# Aphasia and the Workplace

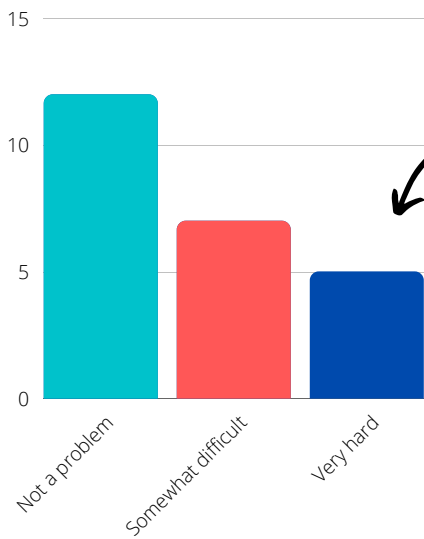
If you are working, how much does aphasia impact these elements of the workplace?



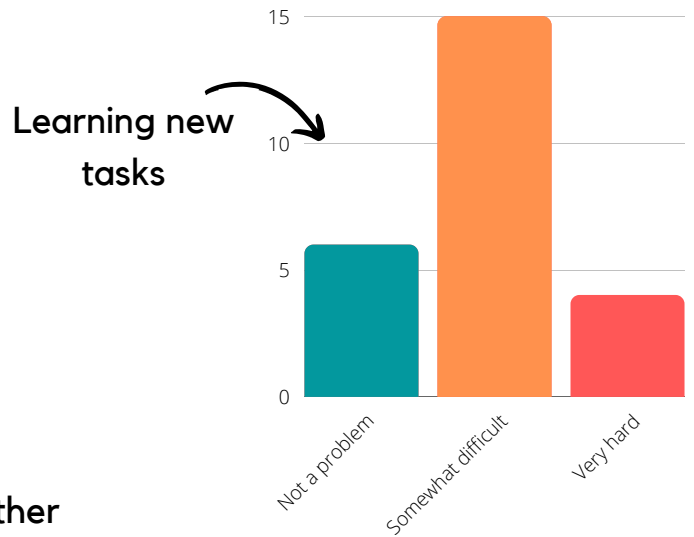
Keeping up with the pace of work



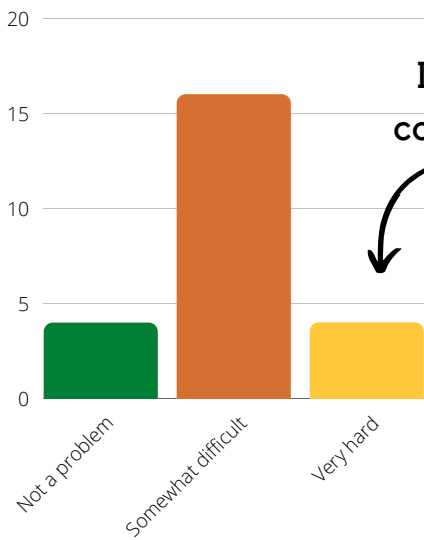
Understanding written or spoken communication



Feeling part of the workplace

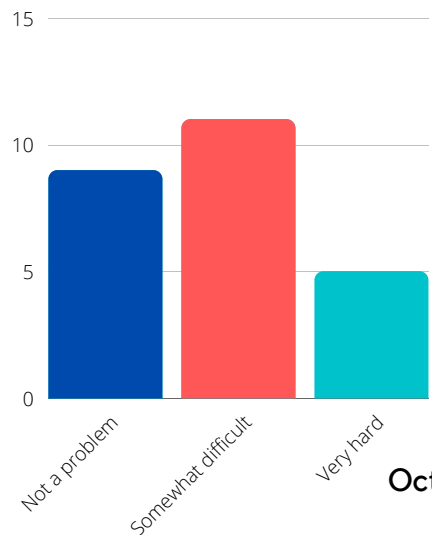


Learning new tasks



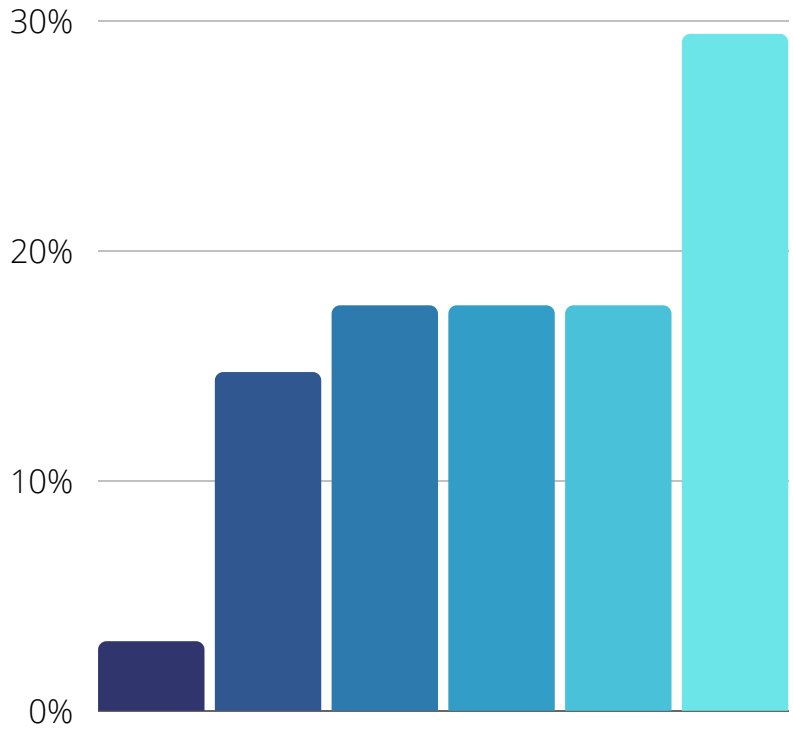
Interacting with other co-workers or customers

Interacting with your boss



# Aphasia and the Workplace

What would help you MOST to be a more successful employee?



A presentation/training about aphasia with best communication tips for my co-workers or boss

Being given more time on tasks

Fewer face-to-face interactions, such as meetings

Speech therapy (outside of the workplace)

A workplace-focused support group to share ideas with other people who have aphasia

The NAA has a professionals with aphasia group. Read more and sign up today.