

THE YORKSHIRE MUSIC INDUSTRY

Workforce Snapshot 2026



**higher
rhythm**

MUSIC | MEDIA | OPPORTUNITY

METHODOLOGY AND DATA SOURCE

The data in this report is sourced from a representative sample of 750 people working in, or aspiring to work in the music industry, in Yorkshire.

The data sample was taken from Music Industry Yorkshire memberships. Membership of Music Industry Yorkshire is free and open to anyone in Yorkshire working in, or aspiring to work in, the music industry. Most MIY functions are relevant to all music sectors, while some are specifically targeted at support-sectors of the industry, beyond music artists.

This data has not been scraped from social media account follows or likes, as this can result in transient and less accurate data. The data has been generated from individuals who have actively invested time and provided demographic and professional information as part of MIY membership registration via the Music Industry Yorkshire website.

While MIY capitalises on a broad reach across multiple social media platforms to signpost people towards the organisation and drive membership registrations, traditional search, electronic newsletters, radio advertising and MIY events such as Yorkshire Music Industry Expo, also drive membership registration, with traditional marketing methods also making a contribution. The 750 individuals' non-personal demographic and professional data used as the data source offers a broad and representative sample that is reliable and robust for the purposes of providing this overview of the regional music industry. Deeper data, such as sub-regional specific snapshots, can be extracted on request.

Although some MIY members offer professional music industry services advertised in the Music Industry Yorkshire music business directory, personal data that could be used to identify an individual is confidential and has been excluded from this report.

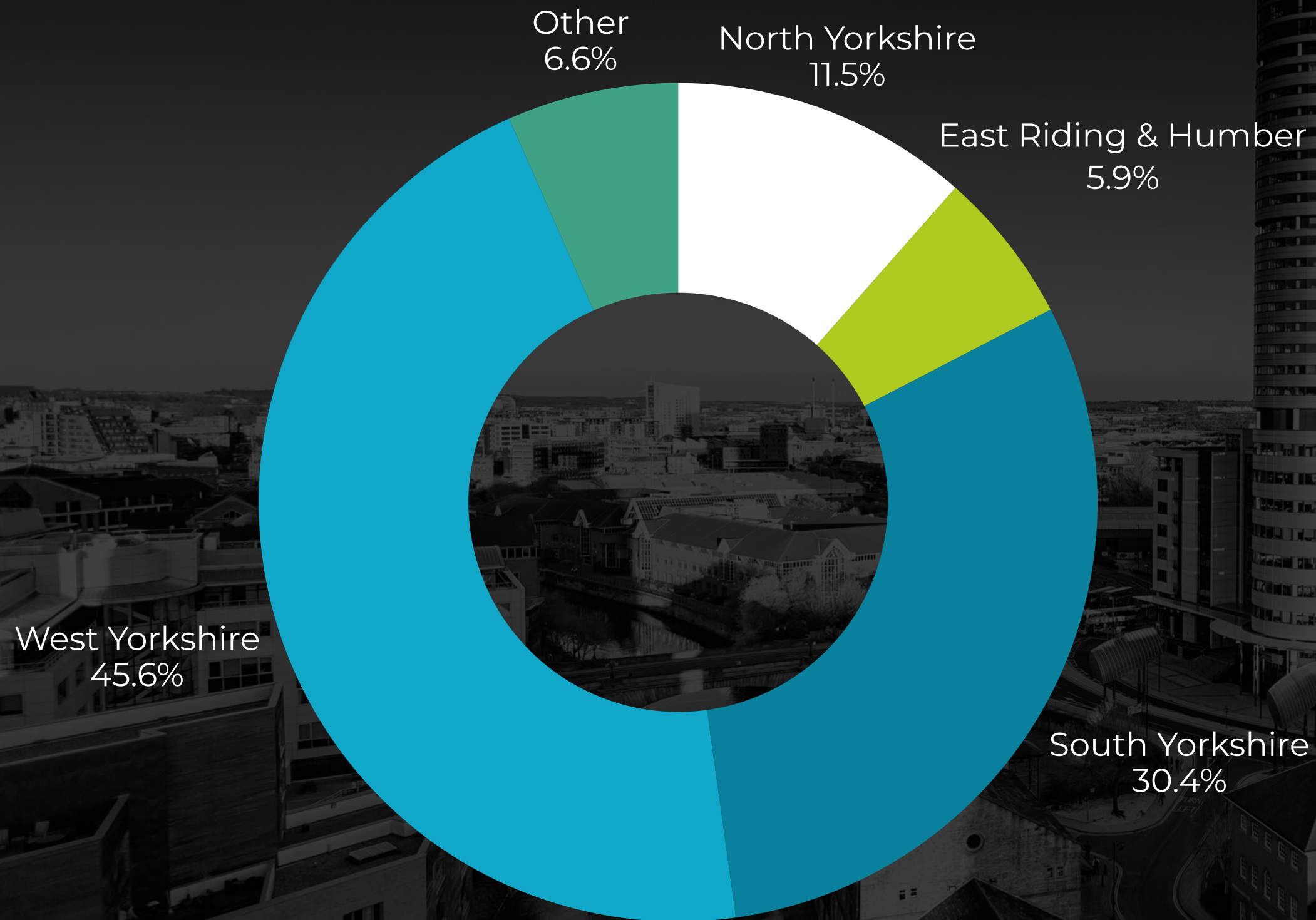
THE YORKSHIRE MUSIC INDUSTRY AT A GLANCE

A representative snapshot of the region's music workforce

- **750 music industry professionals surveyed**
- **Representation across all major music industry roles**
- **Coverage includes all Yorkshire sub-regions**



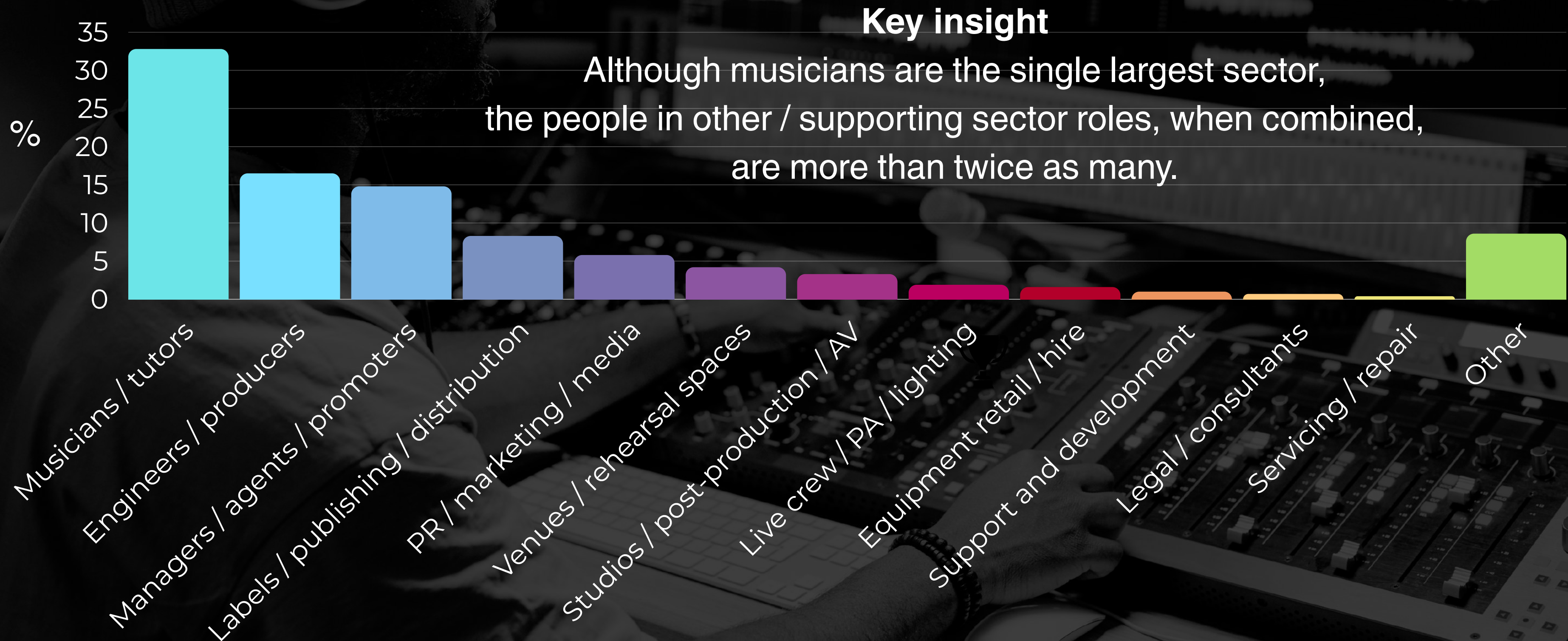
WHERE THE MUSIC INDUSTRY IS BASED



Key insight

More than three quarters are based in West and South Yorkshire, highlighting these areas as the primary hubs of the regional music workforce.

ROLES IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY



A COMPLETE MUSIC ECOSYSTEM ACROSS YORKSHIRE: SUBREGIONAL PATTERNS

West Yorkshire

Strong concentration of musicians, engineers, and managers, reflecting a dense creative and production base.

South Yorkshire

Balanced mix of creative and technical roles, with a strong presence of promoters and producers.

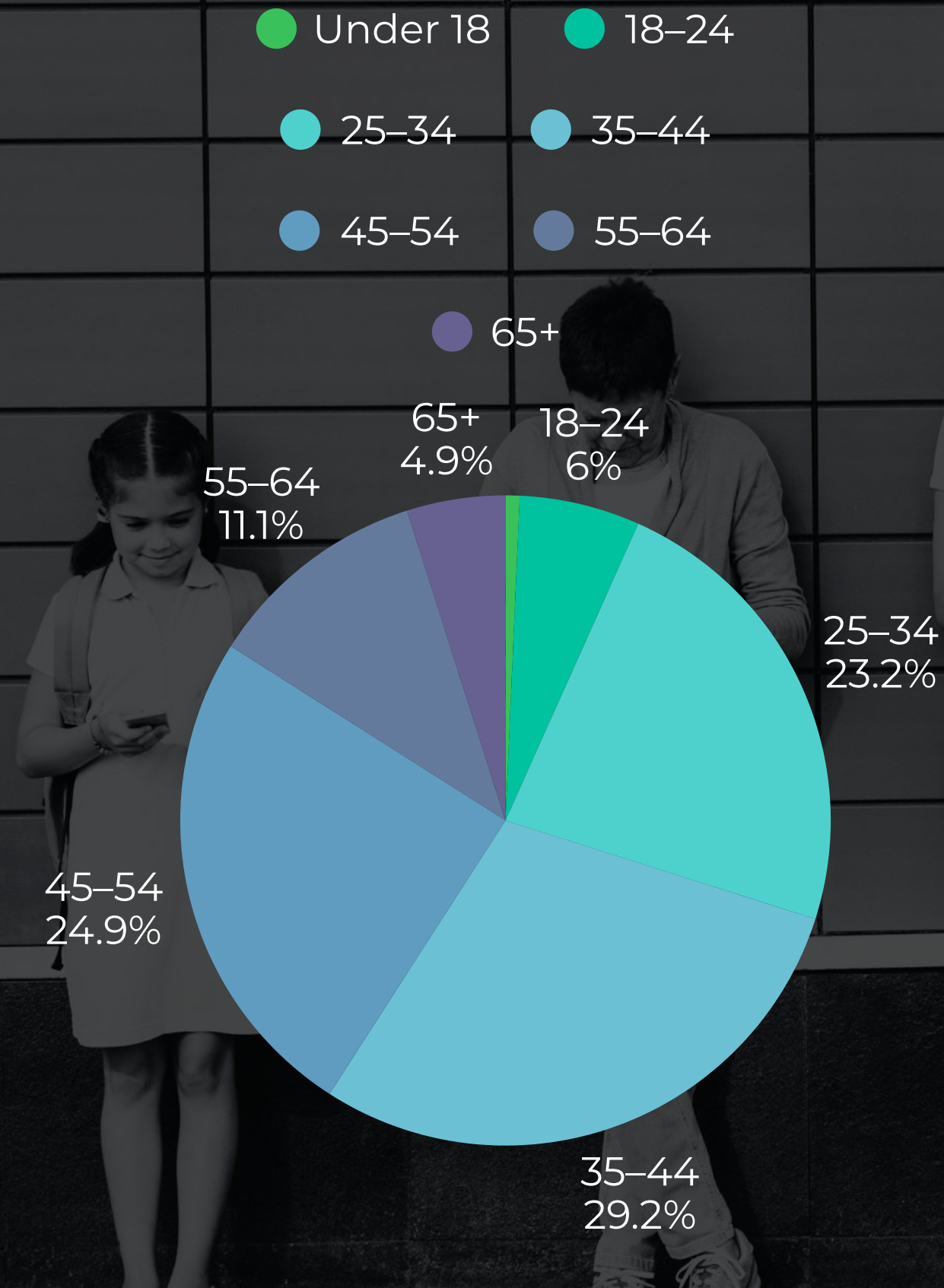
North Yorkshire

Smaller workforce overall, with proportionally higher visibility of musicians and marketing roles.

East Riding & Humber

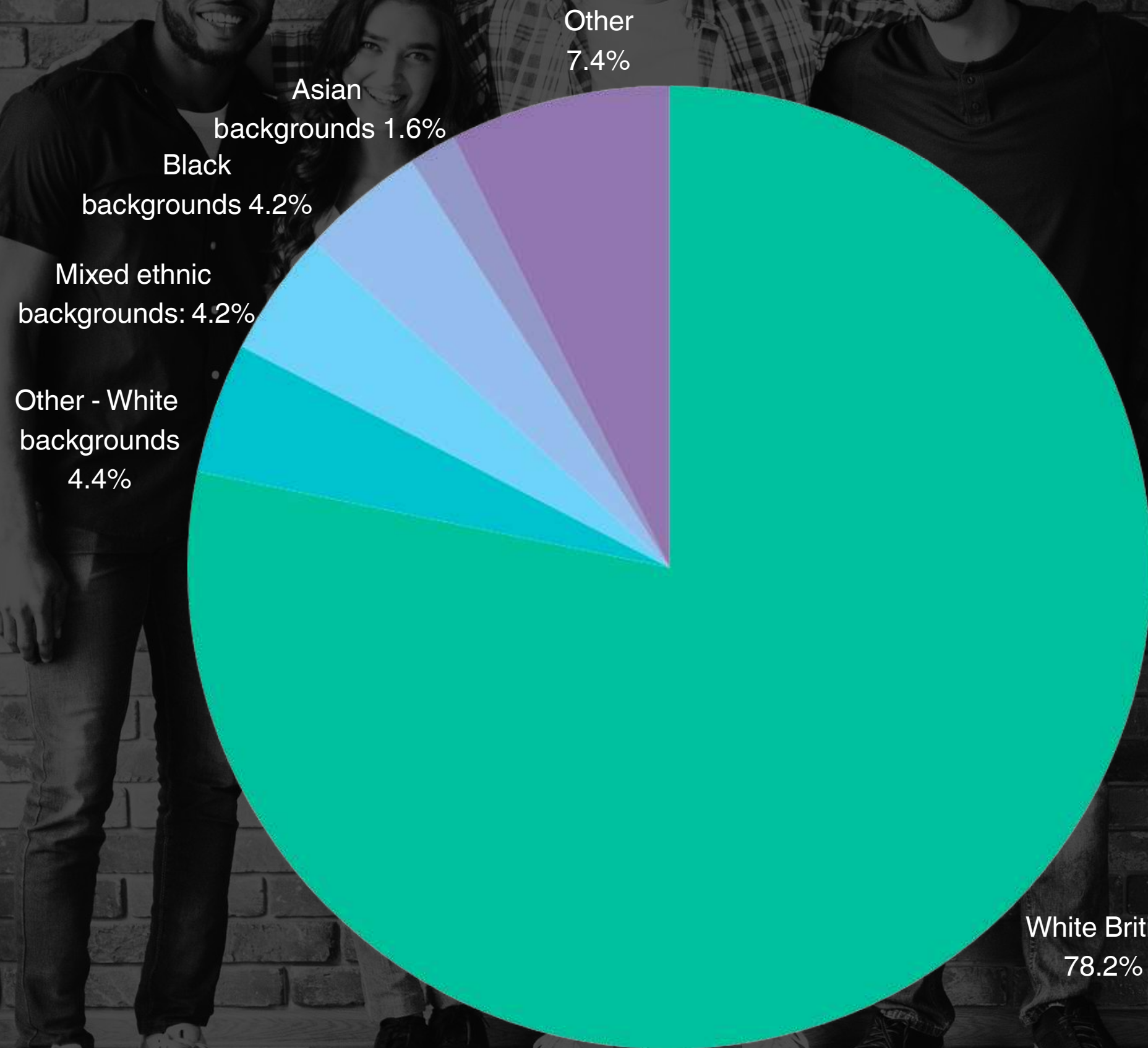
Lower overall volume, but representation across management, labels, and support functions.

A MULTI-GENERATIONAL WORKFORCE



Key insight
Over half of the workforce (54.1%) sits in the 35–54 age range, indicative of a mature, established industry with long-term skills.

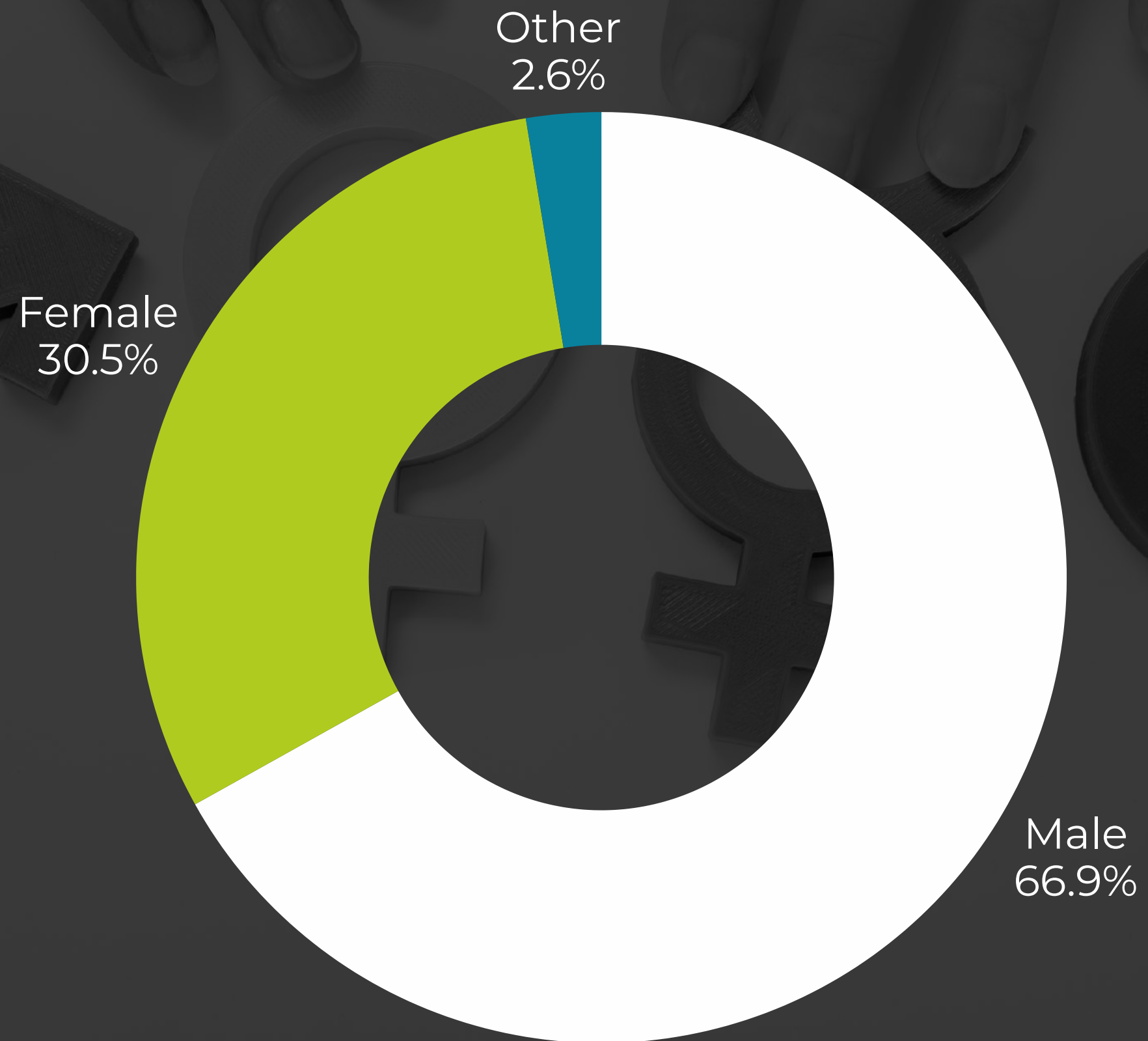
ETHNICITY DATA DISCLOSURE



Key insight

The representation of non White-British people across Yorkshire is around 15%. In this snapshot of the Yorkshire Music Industry, representation is around 22%, so almost 50% above the regional average. This indicates strong ethnic diversity within the region's music workforce.

GENDER IDENTITY



ABOUT MUSIC INDUSTRY YORKSHIRE & HIGHER RHYTHM LTD

The **Yorkshire Music Industry Development Network**, **Music Industry Yorkshire**, was established on the back of a partnership project with **Higher Rhythm** and **Generator**, commissioned by **Yorkshire Forward**. Since then, **MIY** has been managed and financed by **Higher Rhythm**, connecting music industry professionals and aspiring professionals with jobs, events, industry information, and development opportunities across the region, as well as delivering flagship international events, such as the **Yorkshire Music Stage** at **South by South West**.

Alongside the **MIY** website's calendar of key music industry events, industry directory, and the leading music industry jobs board in the region, the Yorkshire-wide reach and core functions of knowledge sharing and access to events make **MIY** a primary hub of network-based music industry development regionally.

Higher Rhythm Ltd is a sector-leading, music industry, media, and learning organisation based in **Doncaster** since **2001**, supporting people to develop sustainable careers in the creative industries. Operating as a social enterprise, **Higher Rhythm** delivers opportunities and services across Yorkshire, including recording studios, radio broadcasting, courses (including further and higher education), artist and industry development, creative projects, events, and volunteering opportunities.



Higher Rhythm

www.higherrhythm.co.uk



Music Industry Yorkshire

www.musicindustryyorkshire.com

