

Peter D. Hart Research Associates

Unemployed In America

A Look At Unemployed Women and Families

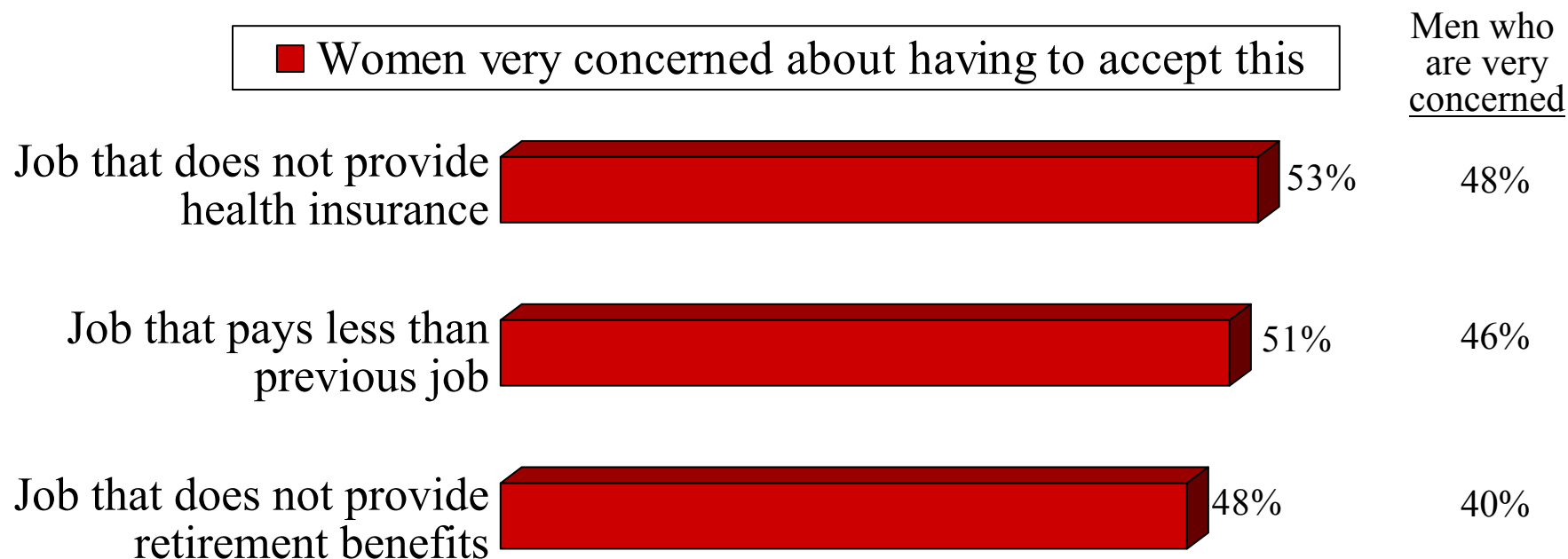
Survey among 413 unemployed adults
Conducted April 17 – 28, 2003

Commissioned by



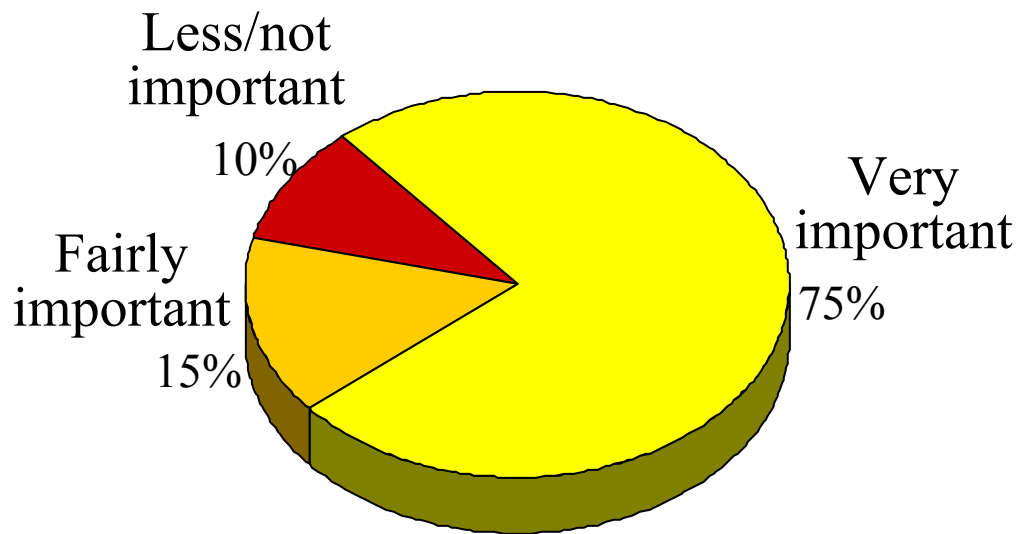
Men & Women Equally Concerned About Having To Accept Various Jobs

- ◆ 51% of women are very concerned that they will have to take a job that pays less than their previous job, compared with 46% of men who are concerned about this.
- ◆ 53% of women are very concerned about having to accept a job that does not provide health insurance; 48% of men are very concerned about this.



Unemployment Benefits Critical, Though Slightly Fewer Women Than Men Receive Them

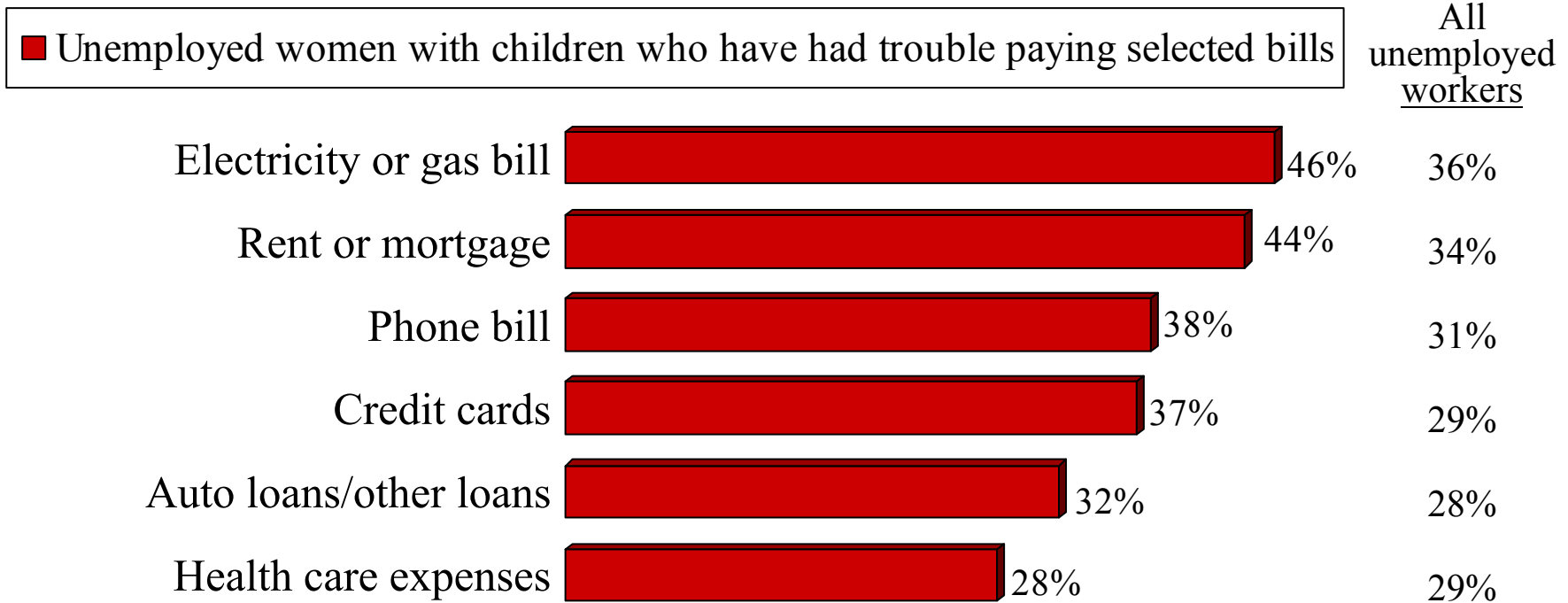
How important have unemployment benefits been in helping you/your family meet basic needs?



- ◆ 34% of unemployed women report that they currently receive benefits or that they received benefits within the past two years, compared with 40% of men who report the same.
- ◆ 20% of unemployed women report **currently** receiving unemployment benefits.
- ◆ Just 19% of unemployed women under age 30 have received benefits in the last two years.

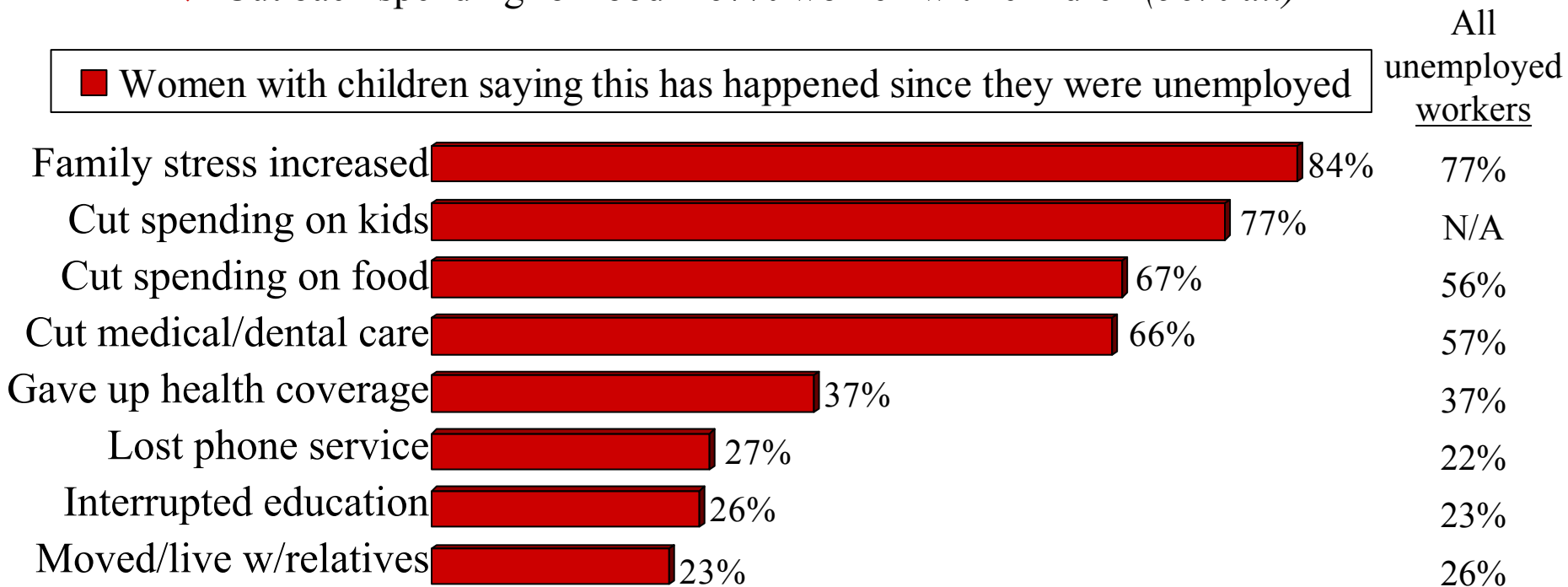
The Impact Of Unemployment

- ◆ Compared with unemployed workers in general, higher proportions of unemployed women with children report having trouble paying various bills, including:
 - ◆ Electricity/gas bills – 46% women with children (*36% all unemployed*)
 - ◆ Rent/mortgage – 44% women with children (*34% all*)
 - ◆ Phone bill – 38% women with children (*31% all*)
 - ◆ Credit cards – 37% women with children (*29% all*)



The Impact Of Unemployment

- ◆ Unemployed women with children also are more likely than other unemployed workers to report having experienced a series of problems, including:
 - ◆ Increased family stress – 84% women with children (*77% all unemployed*)
 - ◆ Postponed medical/dental care for financial reasons – 66% women with children (*57% all*)
 - ◆ Cut back spending for food – 67% women with children (*56% all*)



Women With Children Rely More On Assistance

- ◆ Unemployed women with children are more likely than other unemployed workers to say they receive several types of assistance, including:
 - ◆ Food stamps – 27% women with children (*16% all unemployed workers*)
 - ◆ Medicaid/other government-subsidized health insurance – 40% women with children (*21% all*)
 - ◆ Public or general assistance – 21% women with children (*10% all*)

