



TCA 2020 Rider Survey

The Cyclists' Alliance

2020 Rider Survey



The 2020 Rider Survey intends to drive and identifies areas for change within women's cycling by engaging directly with professional cyclists. It measures the cultural, sporting and economic pressures as experienced by the women's peloton.

Over 100 women responded to the TCA Rider Survey 2020

Approximately 10% of responses came from Mountain Bike riders. This is another step on **TCA's** journey to becoming the representative voice for all disciplines in women's cycling.

Key findings



Support for TCA has increased considerably. This reflects the peloton's understanding of the need to have adequate representation. The survey results will inform TCA in representation of their members.

▶ Working conditions:

- There is a clear need for better oversight within cycling: **94%** supported this initiative.

▶ Economics:

- The number of unpaid professional cyclists has increased: **23% to 25%**. (We believe further investigation is needed to understand why this continues to increase)
- Wage disparity is growing. We need to lobby the UCI for greater protection of the more economically vulnerable athletes.
- Financial investment in the wider sport has not kept pace with the development of the WWT.

▶ Representation:

- Riders want representation at the highest level to influence policies of safety, fairness, and to **increase** their economic opportunities.
- 99% of responders believe the UCI should recognise TCA as rider representative include the organisation in decisions that shape the future of women's cycling

The current state of women's cycling



25%

Receive **no**
salary

32%

Earn
< €15,000

77%

Riders signed a
contract **without**
receiving any
legal advice

29%

Riders had their
salary reduced or
lost their salary
entirely due to
Covid-19

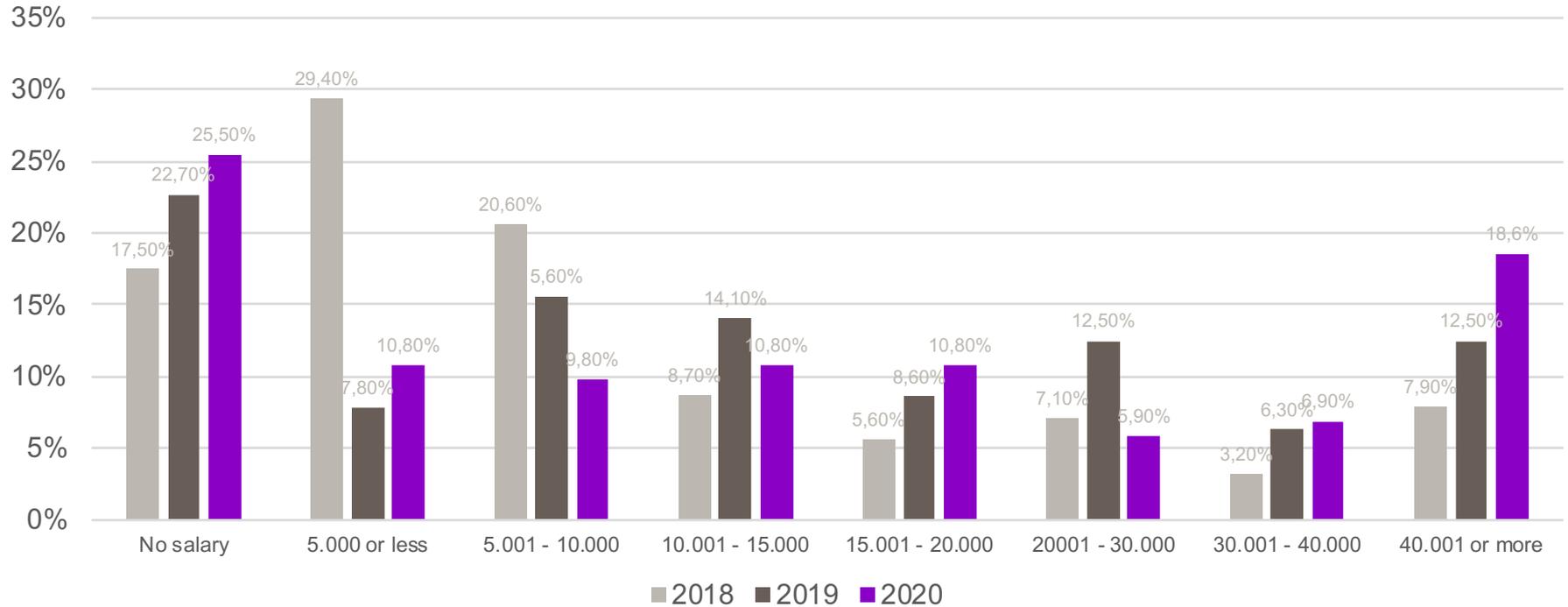
On the whole, rider salaries **continue to rise** but alarmingly **the wage disparity is increasing**.

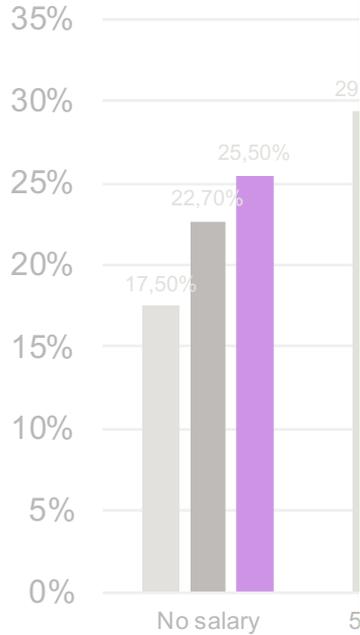
We assume this arises where teams spend large sums of money to attain the very best riders. Pushing down the salary of other riders.

- ▶ 43% had to reimburse their team for services like mechanical assistance, medical testing, or travel costs to races. (This figure has decreased with 8% which represents progress).
- ▶ 33% have to work a second job while racing professionally.



Salary



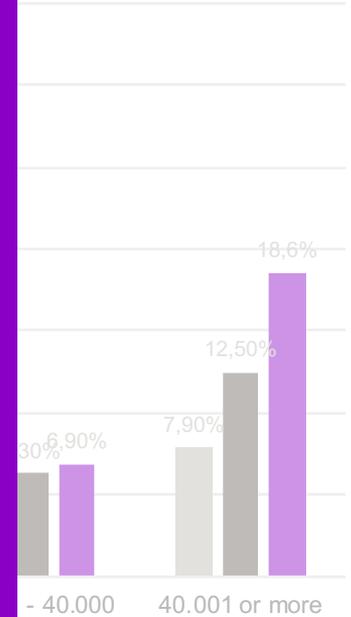


Key Insights:

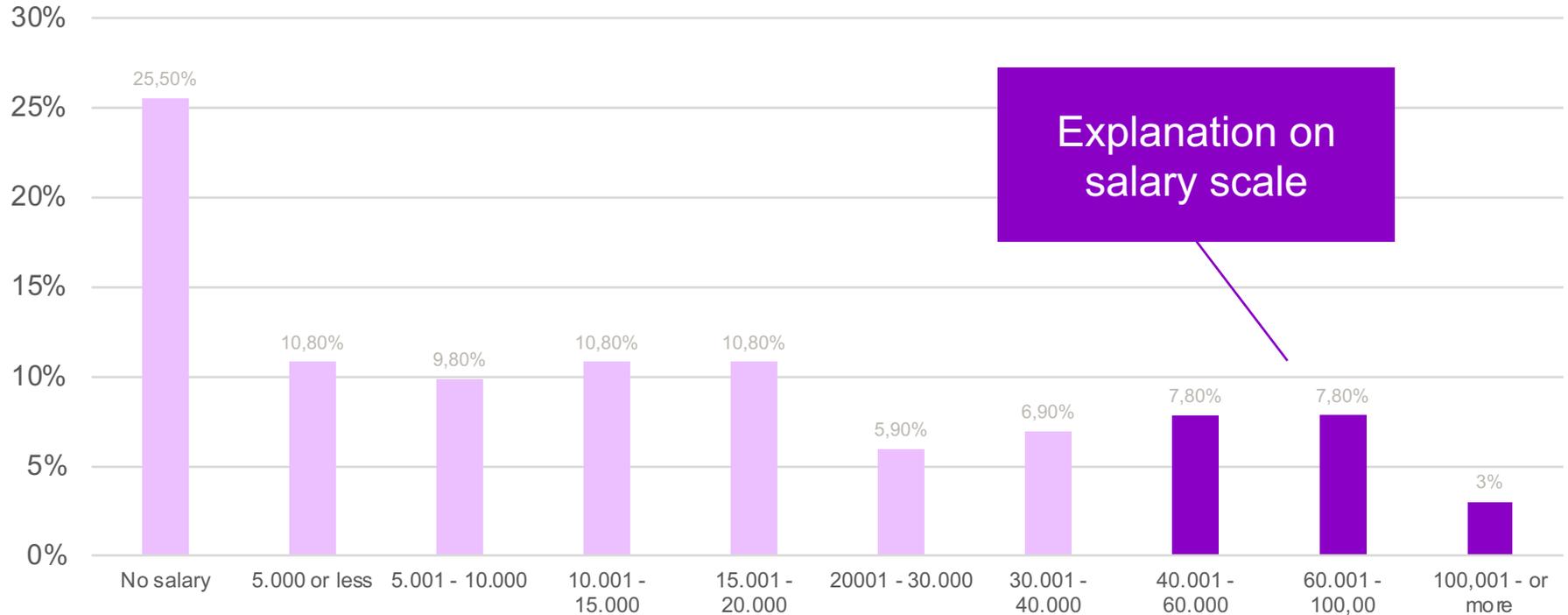
While the number of professional riders earning more than € 40k a year has increased.

The number of professional riders with “no salary” has also increased from 17% in 2018 to 25% in 2020.

Leaving 45% of the Professional Riders earning less than € 10k a year!



Salary 2020



- ▶ For a second year running, riders seeking contract assistance has increased from **16%** in 2019 to **23%** in 2020.
- ▶ TCA continues to commit significant time and resources to supporting riders through contract negotiations.
- ▶ **55%** highlighted guidelines and/or legal assistance as a primary reason for joining TCA.
- ▶ However, of the 27 who cited a reduction in salary due to COVID-19, only 5 sought legal advice. One engaged directly with TCA.

TCA will support you in contract negotiations. Please contact us



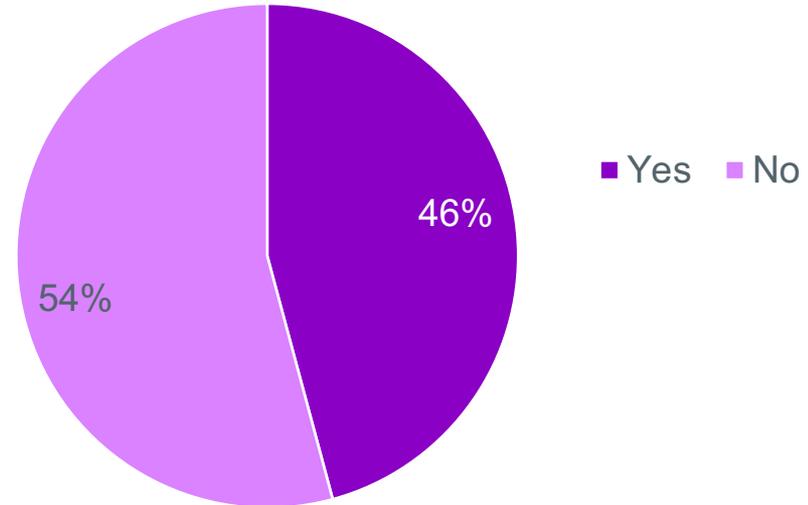
Key Insights:

Female cyclists continue to prepare for life after sport with Higher Education. 46% are studying at a tertiary level.

Why?

42% indicated that further career opportunities outside cycling contribute to considering retiring from the sport.

Riders enrolled as a student while racing:



Reason(s) that best describes why riders may consider leaving the sport:

- ▶ 72% - Financial reasons
- ▶ 56% - To start a family
- ▶ 40% - To pursue career opportunities
- ▶ 32% - To spend more time with partner, family, friends
- ▶ 22% - To pursue study options
- ▶ 16% - Cycling is too stressful



Factors that would assist riders in prolonging their cycling career:

- ▶ 87% - More money from cycling
- ▶ 46% - Parental policy (being able to start a family)
- ▶ 44% - Access to career development programs
- ▶ 26% - Access to educational funding
- ▶ 22% - Access to medical services



Riders were asked a series of COVID-19 related questions. The responses provide insight into how riders feel as a result of the impact of the pandemic.

- ▶ 85% of responders are confident in their team's COVID-19 safety protocols
- ▶ 29% had their salary reduced or lost their salary entirely (where they receive one in the first place)
- ▶ Of riders who have not yet signed a contract: 76% are concerned that COVID-19 will make it harder to secure a contract



What are the most important or difficult issues faced by professional female cyclists?

- Inadequate race safety putting riders in danger
- Poor standards of professionalism within teams
- Lack of medical expertise at races
- Concerns about team stability and financial security
- Single-year contracts and long-term economic / job instability
- Contract negotiations
- Salary (or lack of)
- Non-European riders emphasise the complexity and pressure associated with acquiring visas
- Making transition from junior to senior professional





**THANKS TO ALL RIDERS
FOR THEIR INPUT**

Disclaimer

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