

MeHAF periodically participates in a survey of grantmaking organizations sponsored by the Center for Effective Philanthropy (CEP). This PowerPoint presentation summarizes the results of a survey fielded in the fall of 2015. CEP surveys funded grantees and declined applicants to assess foundations' performance in key areas such as impact on grantees' organizations and fields of practice, foundation-grantee relationships, and selection/reporting/evaluation processes. Their national database provides comparative information with philanthropic funders as a whole and with other foundations similar to MeHAF. This summary compares the 2015 survey results with MeHAF's performance in two earlier surveys, in 2009 and 2004.



THE CENTER
FOR EFFECTIVE
PHILANTHROPY

Grantee Perception Report Applicant Perception Report

Prepared for
Maine Health Access Foundation
May/June 2016

CEP MISSION

The mission of the Center for Effective Philanthropy is to **provide data and create insight** so philanthropic funders can better define, assess, and improve their effectiveness – and, as a result, their intended impact.

Grantee Survey Population

Survey Period	Year of Active Grants	Number of Responses Received	Survey Response Rate
September and October 2015	2014 & 2015 or ending 12/2013	70	64%
September and October 2009	2008	70	63%
February and March 2004	2003	53	73%

Grantee Category	Number of Responses
All Grants Except Discretionary	62
Discretionary Grant	8

Grantee Program Areas

Program Area	Number of Responses
ACA Outreach and Education/ACA Advocacy	15
Access to Quality Healthcare	5
Discretionary Grant	8
Healthy Communities	15
Payment Reform	6
Thriving in Place	7
Integration Initiative/Behavioral Health Homes	7
Other (includes Oral Health, Foundation Initiated and grantees indicating “Other” or “Don’t Know”)	7

Applicant Survey Population

Survey Period	Year of Application	Number of Responses Received	Survey Response Rate
September and October 2015	2014 & 2015	20	31%
September and October 2009	2008	20	57%
February and March 2004	2003	88	39%

Program Area	Number of Responses
Healthy Communities	9
Thriving in Place	5
Other (includes ACA Advocacy, ACA Outreach & Education, Access to Quality Healthcare, Behavioral Health Homes and Discretionary Grant)	6

Grantee Comparative Dataset

Nearly 300 foundations

More than 40,000 grantee responses

Custom Cohort	
Baptist Community Ministries	Missouri Foundation for Health
Caring for Colorado Foundation	New York State Health Foundation
Connecticut Health Foundation, Inc.	Quantum Foundation
Endowment for Health	Saint Luke's Foundation
Kansas Health Foundation	The Colorado Health Foundation
Maine Health Access Foundation	Winter Park Health Foundation
MetroWest Health Foundation	

Applicant Comparative Dataset

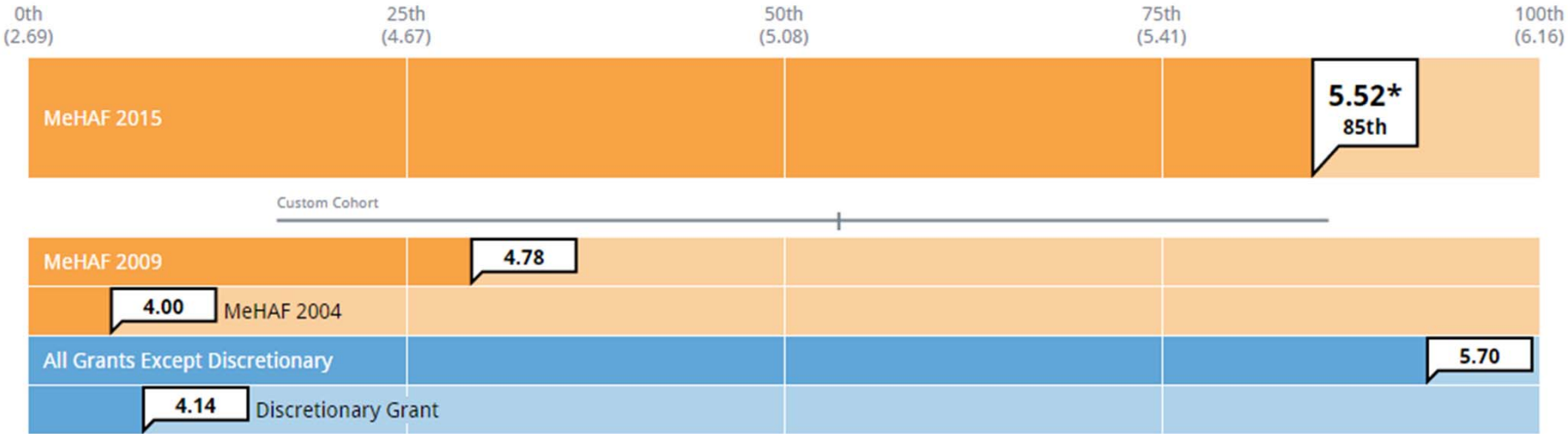
More than 50 foundations

More than 5,000 declined applicant responses

“To what extent has the Foundation advanced the state of knowledge in your field?”

1 = Not at all, 7 = Leads the field to new thinking and practice

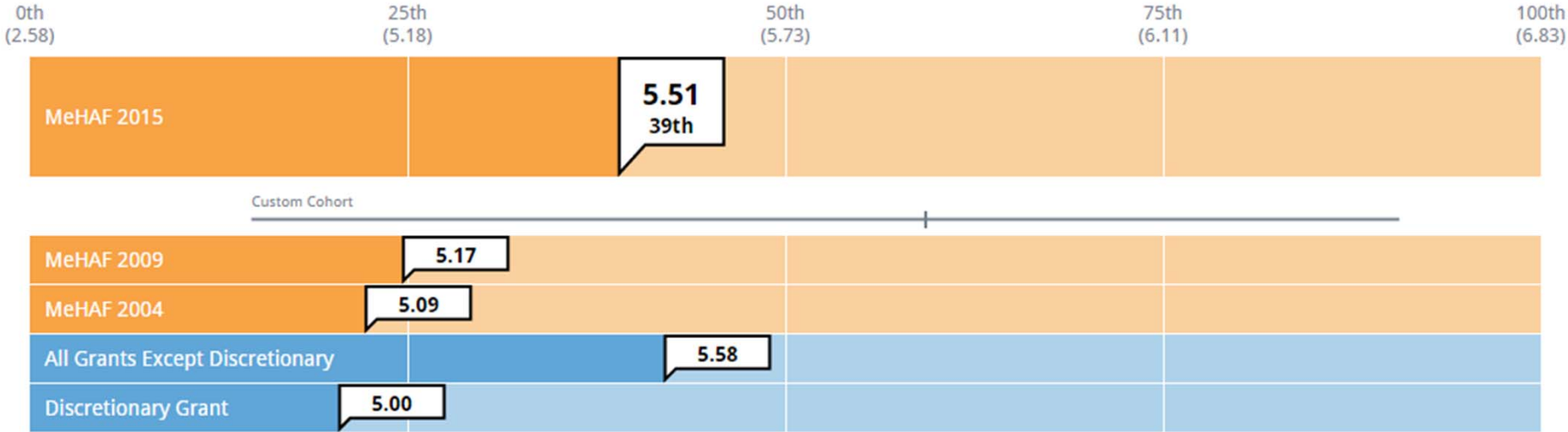
Grantee Ratings



“Overall, how would you rate the Foundation’s impact on your local community?”

1 = No impact, 7 = Significant positive impact

Grantee Ratings





“[MeHAF’s support allowed us to] become a state and national leader in [our field]...We could NOT have done this without ongoing support from MeHAF and [its] many resources and networks.” –Grantee

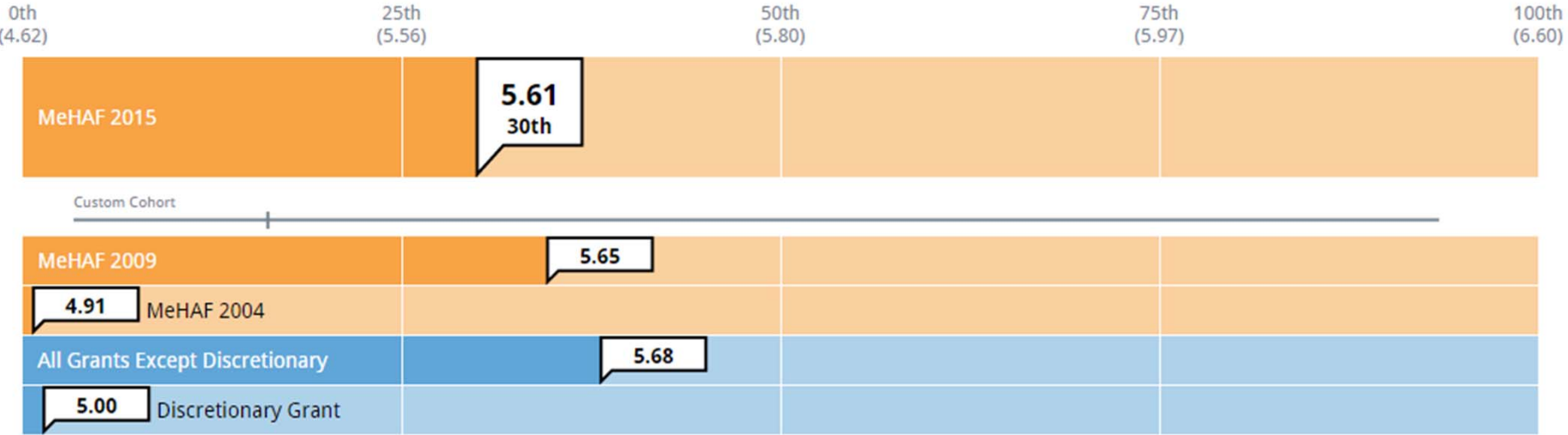


“The Foundation is having a positive effect on mobilizing our community to act on increasing access to quality healthcare and public health offerings.” –Grantee

“How well does the Foundation understand your organization’s strategy and goals?”

1 = Limited understanding, 7 = Thorough understanding

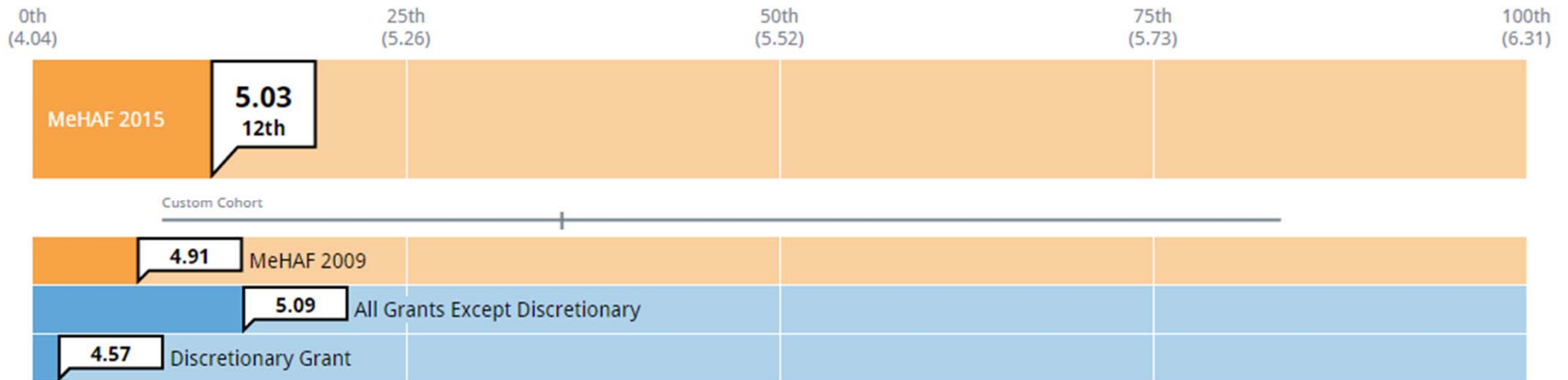
Grantee Ratings



“How much, if at all, did the Foundation improve your ability to sustain the work funded by this grant in the future?”

1 = Did not improve ability, 7 = Substantially improved ability

Grantee Ratings



Non-monetary Assistance

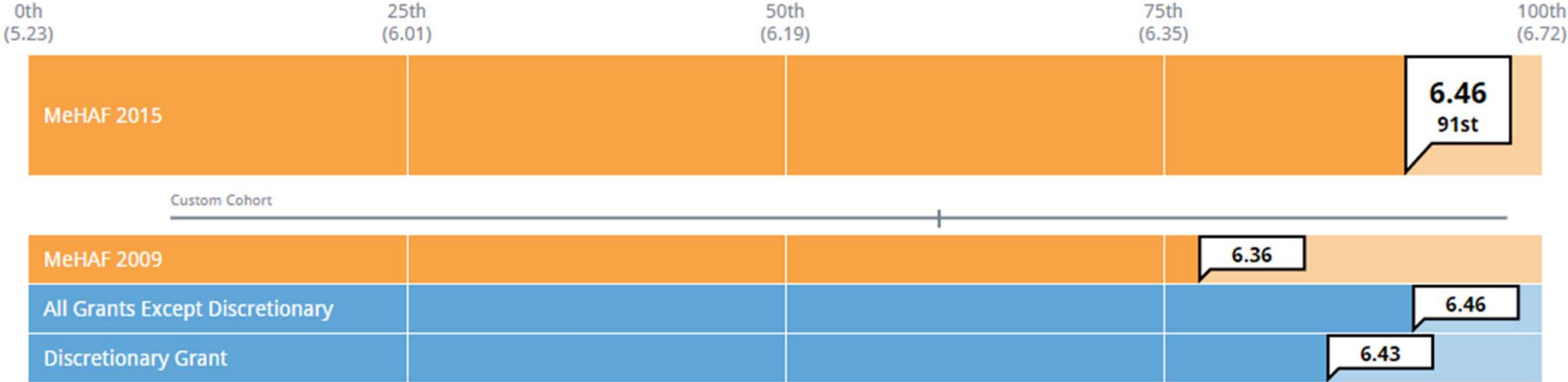
	MeHAF 2015	MeHAF 2009	MeHAF 2004	Average Funder	Custom Cohort
Types of Assistance					
Comprehensive	10%	7%	2%	6%	11%
Field-Focused	33%	26%	2%	9%	11%
Little	36%	36%	42%	37%	40%
None	21%	31%	54%	47%	38%

“Comprehensive” assistance refers to grantees receiving at least 7 forms of assistance, and “field-focused” assistance refers to grantees receiving at least 3 forms of assistance specifically focused on the field.

Funder-Grantee Relationships Summary Measure

1 = Very negative, 7 = Very positive

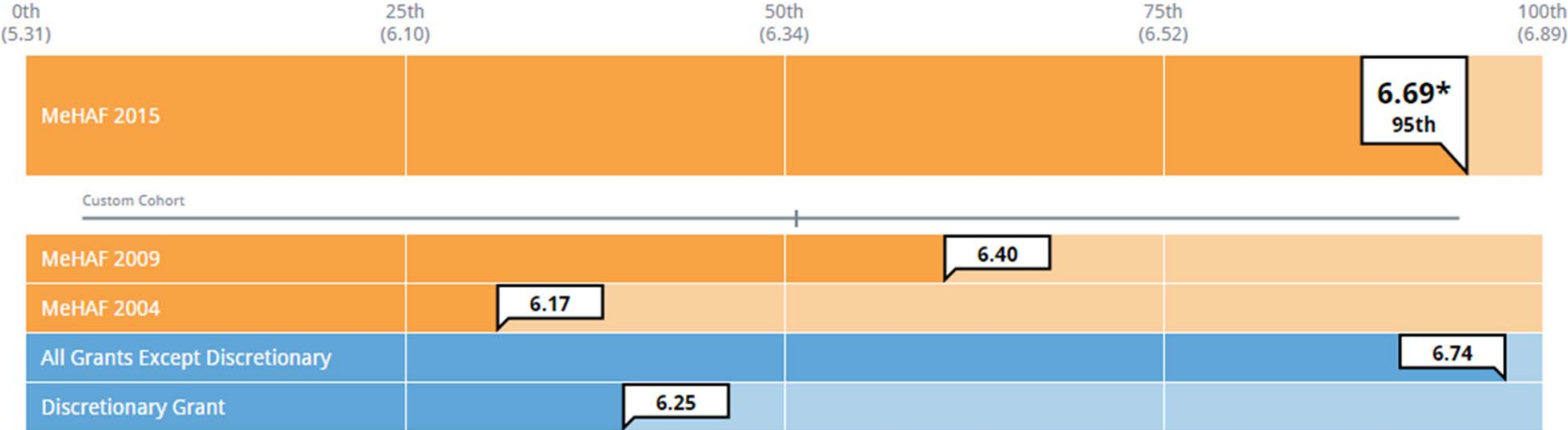
Grantee Ratings



“Overall, how responsive was the Foundation staff?”

1 = Not at all responsive, 7 = Extremely responsive

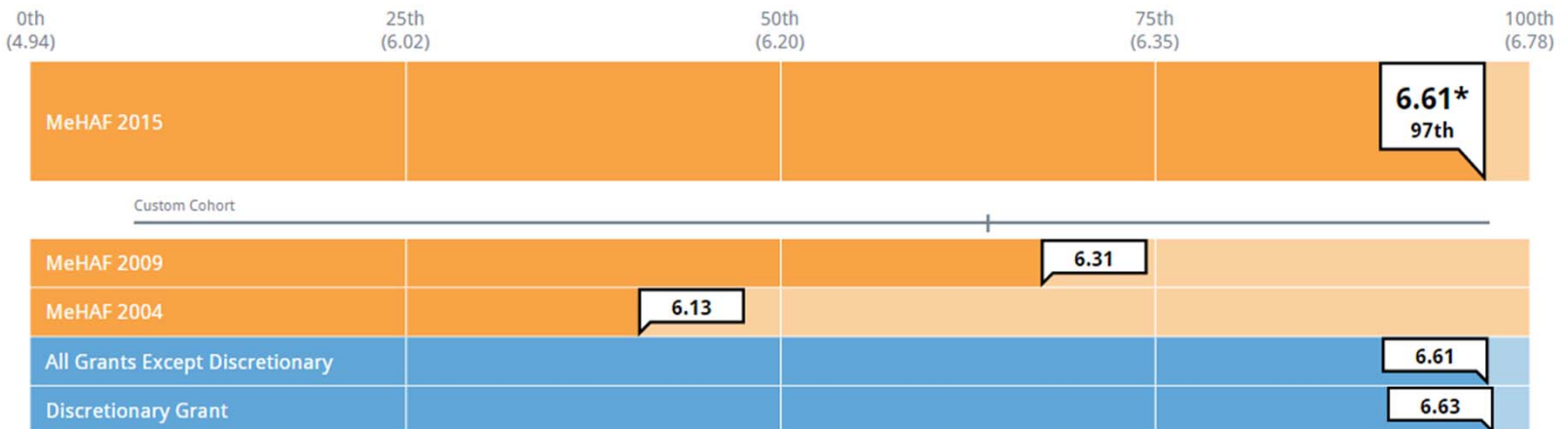
Grantee Ratings



“How comfortable do you feel approaching the Foundation if a problem arises?”

1 = Not at all comfortable, 7 = Extremely comfortable

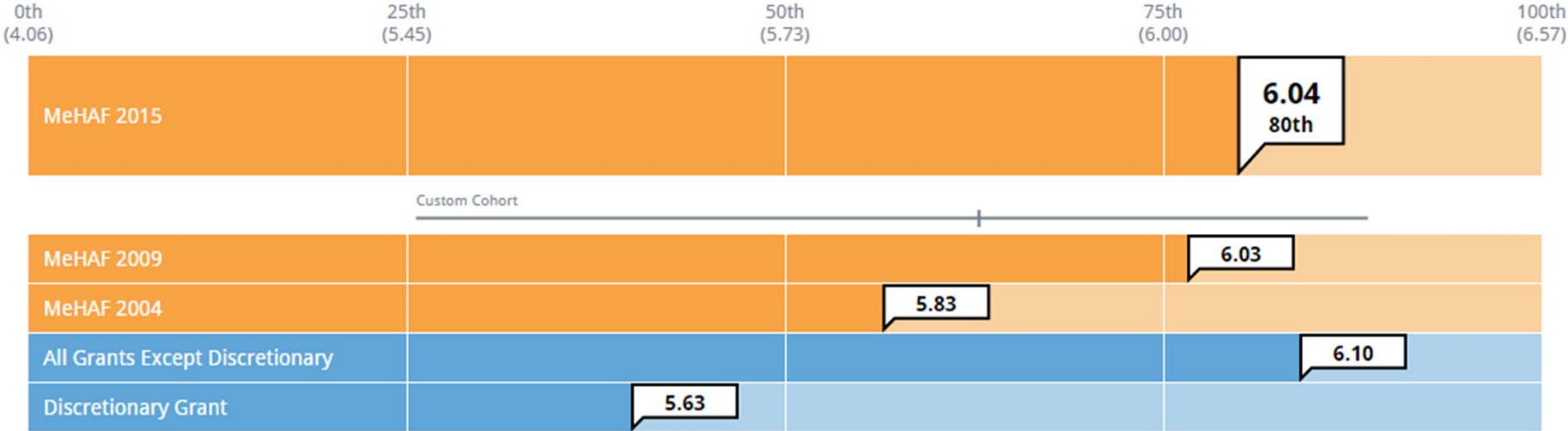
Grantee Ratings



“How clearly has the Foundation communicated its goals and strategy with you?”

1 = Not at all clearly, 7 = Extremely clearly

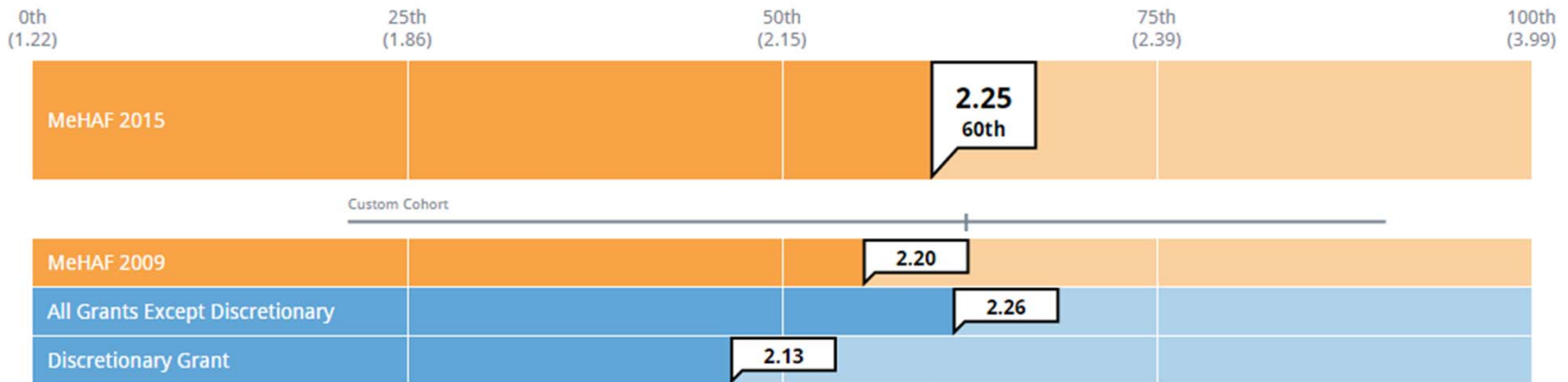
Grantee Ratings



“As you developed your grant proposal, how much pressure did you feel to modify your organization’s priorities in order to create a grant proposal that was likely to receive funding?”

1 = No pressure, 7 = Significant pressure

Grantee Ratings





“...Improve the application itself...the questions seem repetitive, and so structured, that there is little room to ‘tell my story’...the grant-writing process takes an inordinate amount of time....” –Grantee



*“MeHAF is one of the most involved funders we deal with...This is a double-edged sword: They are very helpful but, at times, their processes/interactions/communications can be exhausting... –**Declined Applicant***

Recommendations

- Strive to build a **stronger understanding of grantees' organizational goals and strategy**
- Examine **communication practices** to assess declines in applicants' perceptions of the consistency of communications
- Determine MeHAF's **preferred balance of grantees' time investment** in the processes and the helpfulness of those processes
- Increase the **helpfulness of feedback** provided to applicants, and determine whether the **pressure experienced by applicants** to modify their priorities is aligned with Foundation strategy.