



Assessing the Needs of Elder Floridians

Results of the 2016 Needs Assessment Survey

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Presentation Outline

- 1 Purpose and background of the 2016 Elder Needs Assessment Survey
- 2 Changes made to the Needs Assessment Survey since 2010
- 3 Review demographic profile and living situation of respondents
- 4 Results of the Needs Assessment Survey
- 5 Conclusions and Q&A

Purpose of the Elder Needs Assessment Survey

- ❖ To determine the needs of Floridians ages 60 and older, from self-care limitations, health, and nutrition to modes of information, transportation, and housing
 - ❖ Special note: the Needs Assessment Survey reflects the needs of the general elder population in Florida, not the needs of DOEA program clients
- ❖ To identify major changes in elder Floridians' needs that may have occurred since the last survey was conducted in 2010
- ❖ To assist professional services planners, agency directors, and policy-makers with their services, outreach, and planning regarding the elder population
 - ❖ Especially for high-need populations: low-income, minority, and rural



Background of the Elder Needs Assessment Survey

- ❖ The DOEA contracted with the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of Florida to conduct the survey.
- ❖ 2,000 elders ages 60 and older were interviewed in March through June of 2016:
 - 1,100 in the initial sample, with approximately 100 elders from each of the 11 Planning and Service Areas (PSAs); and
 - 900 in oversample for minority, rural, and low-income elders.
- ❖ The statewide data was weighted to reflect the proper proportion of elders from each PSA in Florida. It combines the initial sample data and the oversample data.



Differences Between 2010 and 2016 Surveys

- ❖ Based on the 2010 survey, the 2016 survey questionnaire was improved, including more comprehensive answer choices.
- ❖ Additional questions were added to the survey, expanding the following sections:
 - Demographic Profile,
 - Caregiving,
 - Information Assistance/Technology,
 - Transportation, and
 - Housing.
- ❖ Both surveys included an initial sample and an oversample of 300 low-income, 300 minority, and 300 rural respondents age 60 and older.
- ❖ Total number of respondents in 2010: **1,850**
- ❖ Total number of respondents in 2016: **2,000**

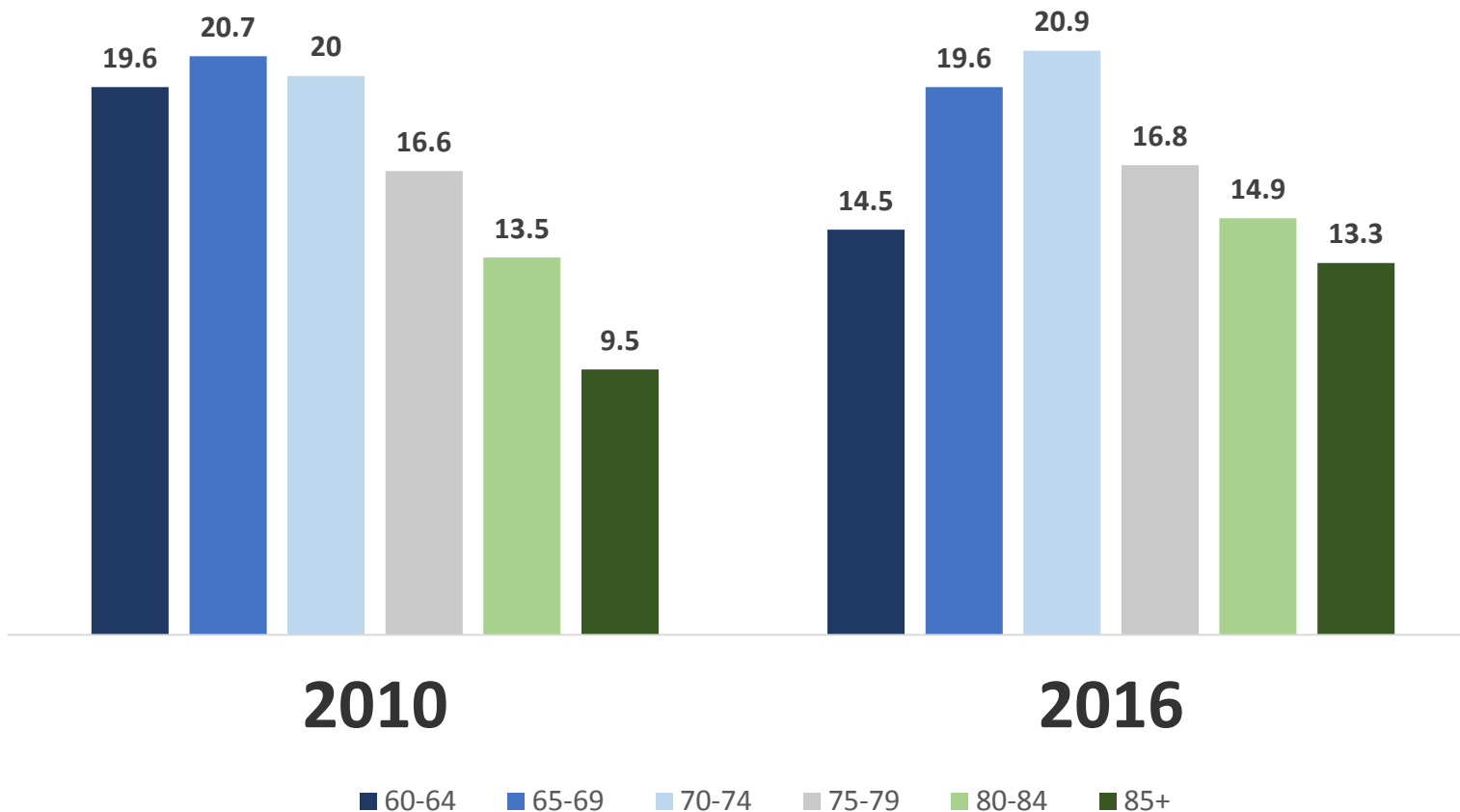
Differences Between 2010 and 2016 Surveys

Compared to the needs of elders identified in the 2010 survey, elders in 2016:

- ❖ were more often caregivers (**20%** in 2010 versus **36%** in 2016),
- ❖ experienced different barriers to moving,
- ❖ had more access to the Internet (**72%** in 2010 versus **82%** in 2016) and less interest in receiving computer and Internet training (**38%** in 2010 versus **26%** in 2016),
- ❖ were less concerned about becoming a victim of consumer fraud (**83%** in 2010 versus **61%** in 2016), and
- ❖ had different concerns about legal issues.

Demographic Profile

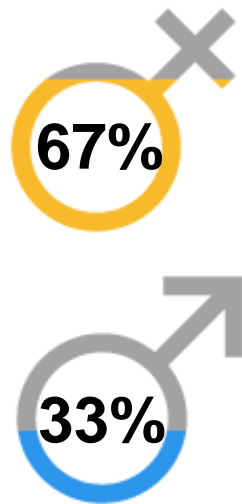
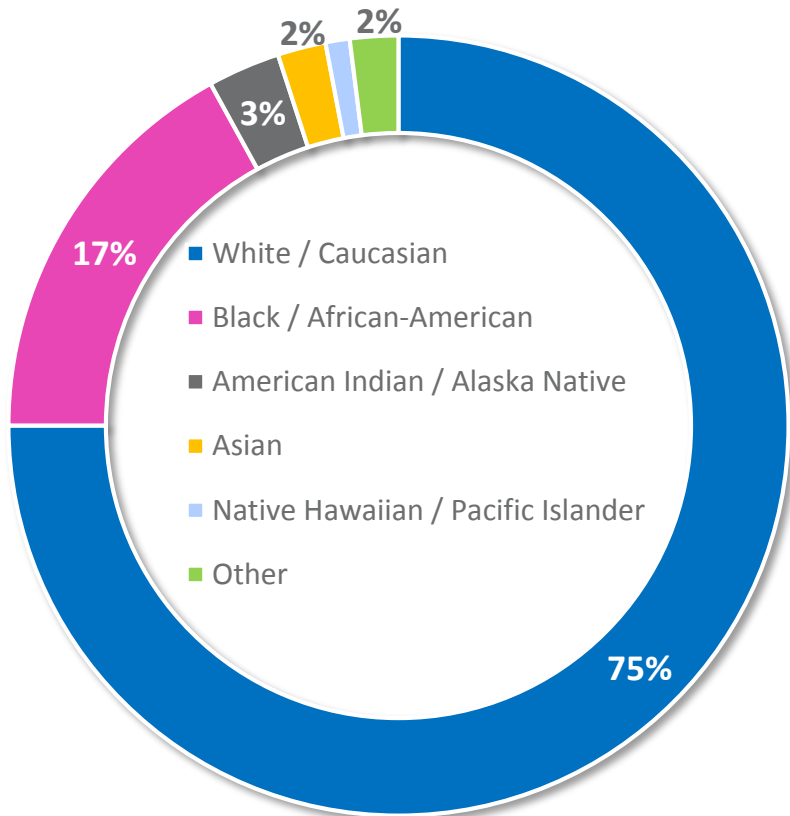
Percent Age Distribution of Statewide Respondents,
2010 and 2016



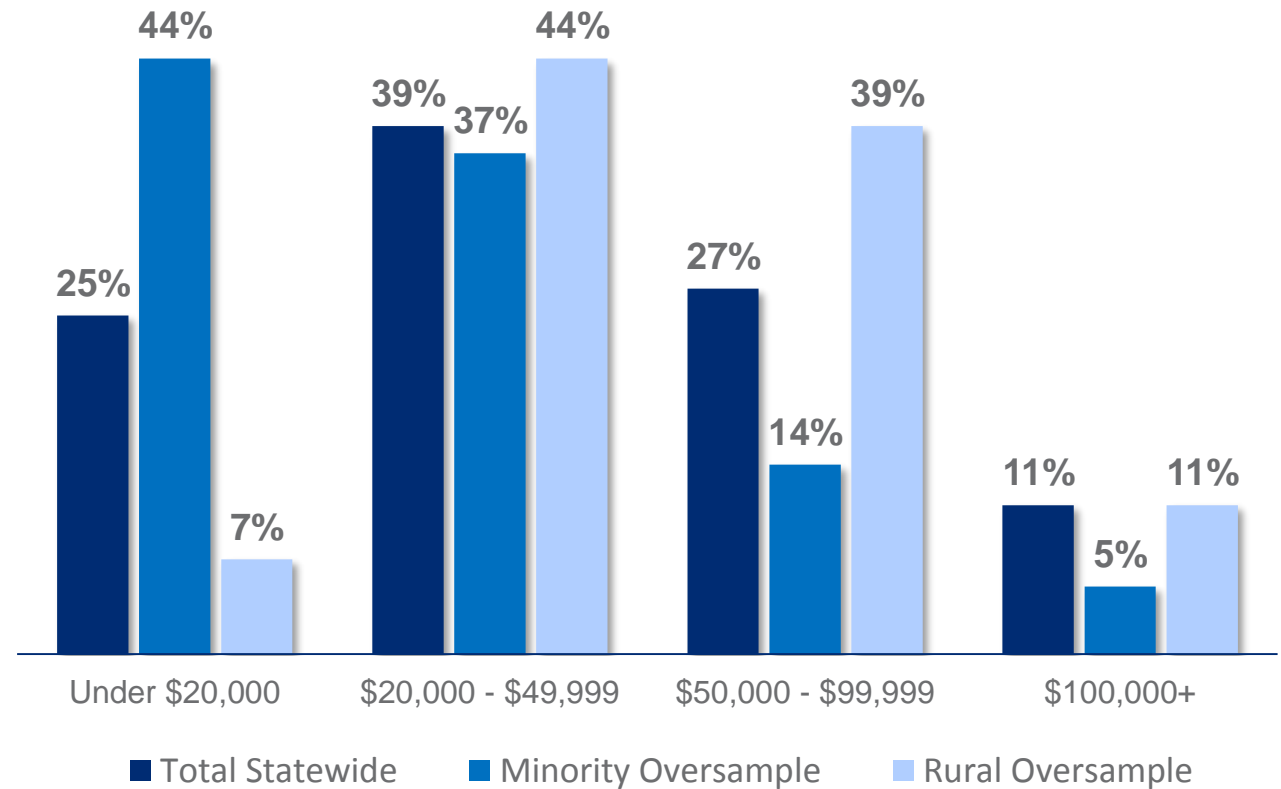
- ❖ The average respondent was a non-Hispanic white woman in her early 70s, with an income between \$40,000 and \$49,000.
- ❖ Minority elders were among the oldest surveyed (largest proportion were 75 to 84), while the rural elders were among the youngest (largest proportion were age 65 to 74).

Demographic Profile

1 in 10 elders
identified as
Hispanic or Latinx.

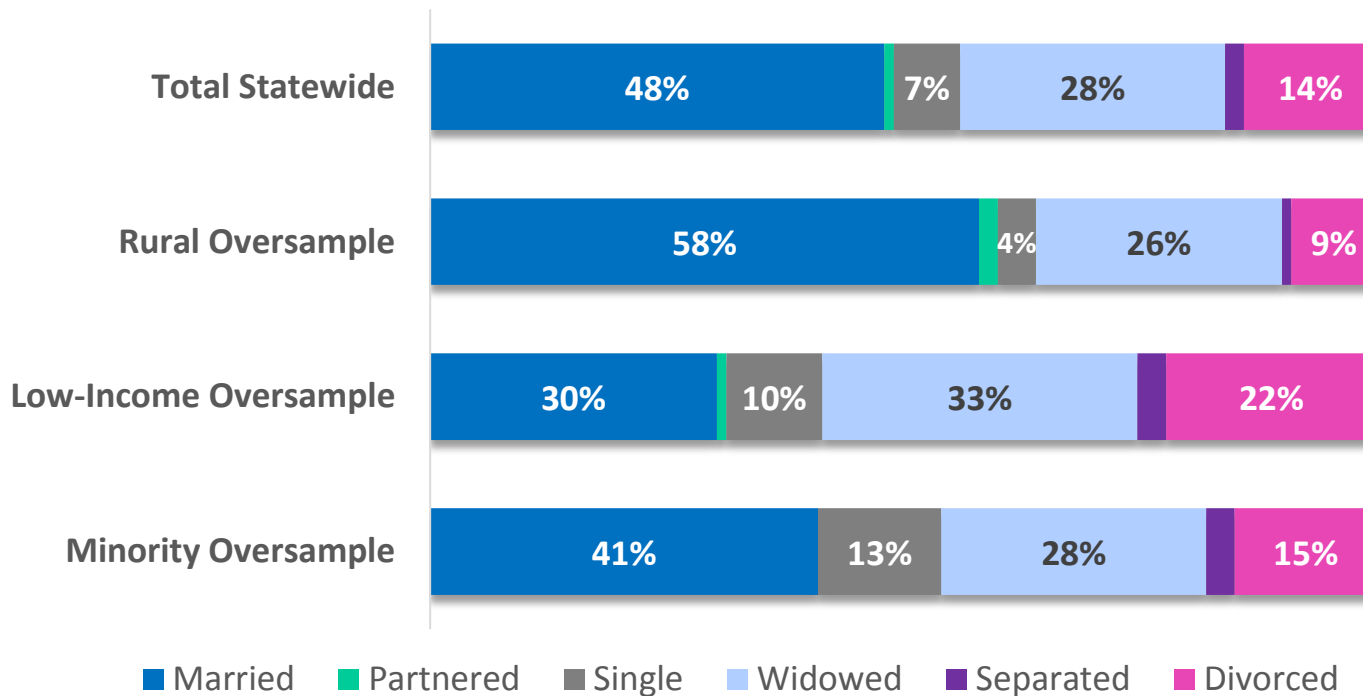



Income Groups of Statewide, Minority, and Rural Respondents

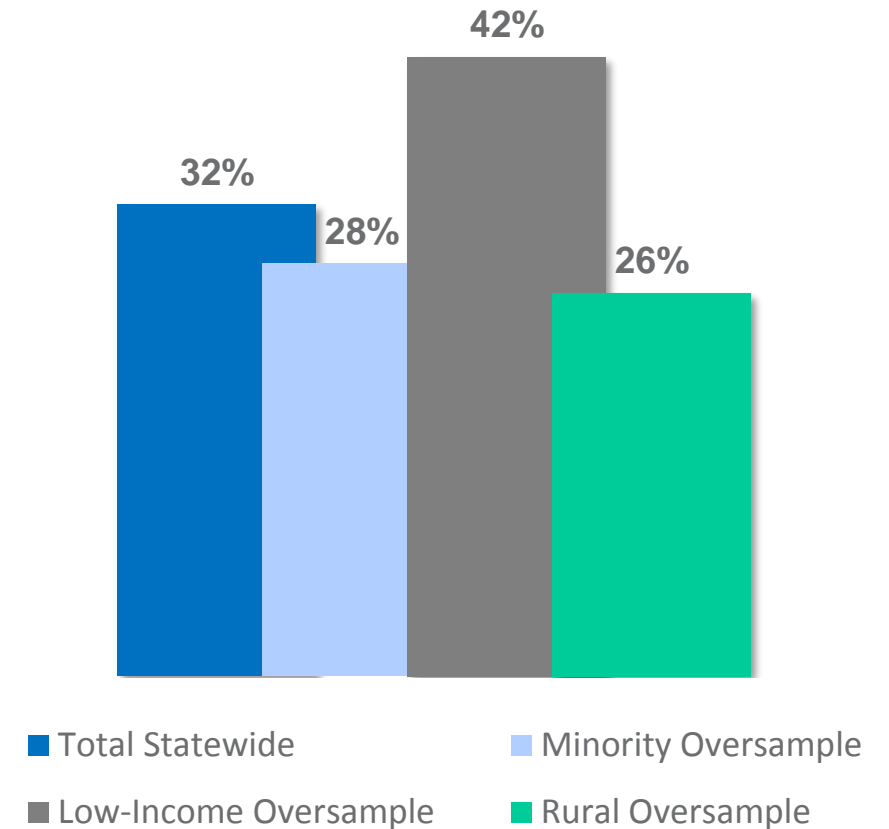


Demographic Profile

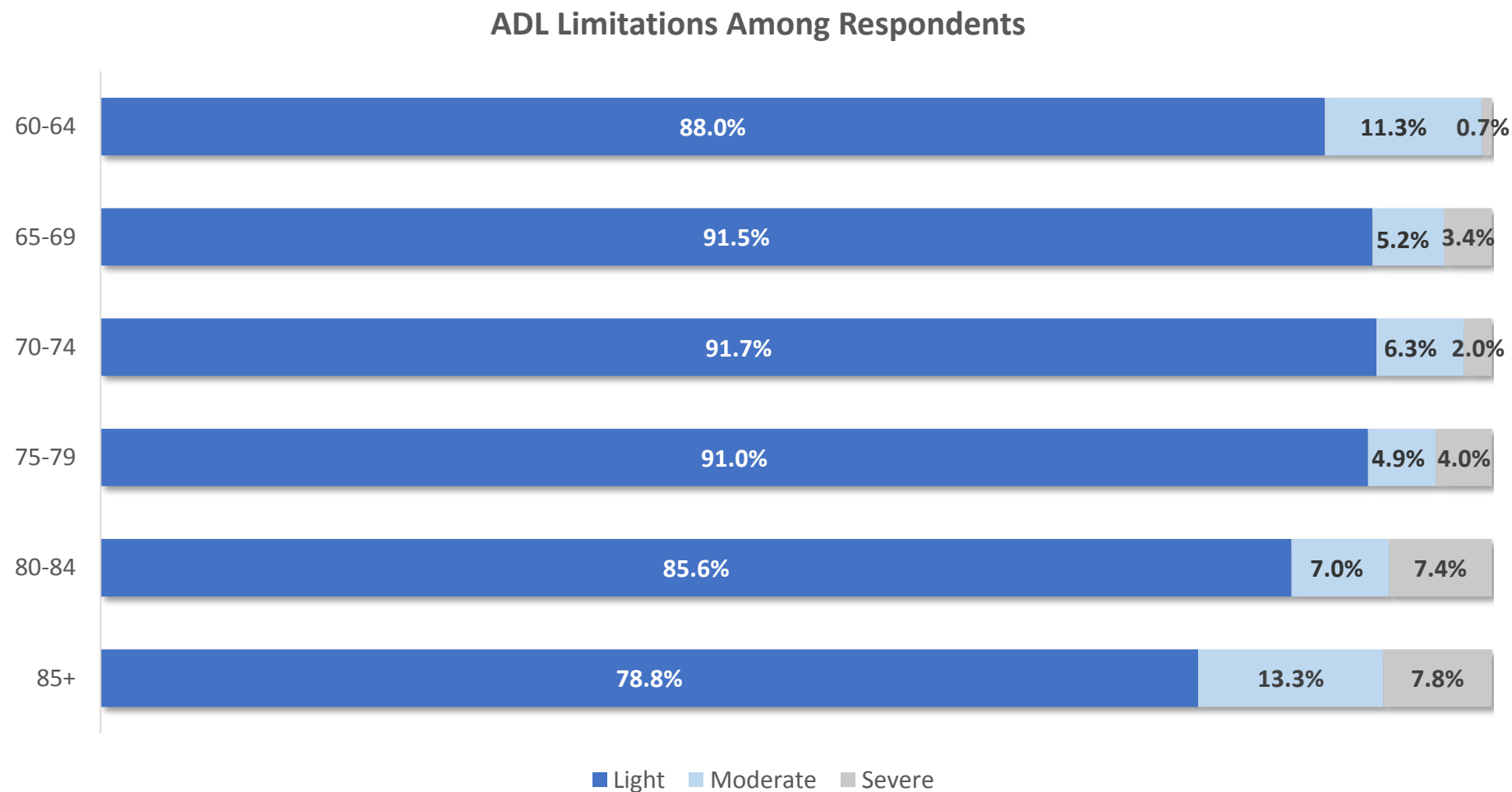
Marital Status of Respondents



Respondents Living Alone

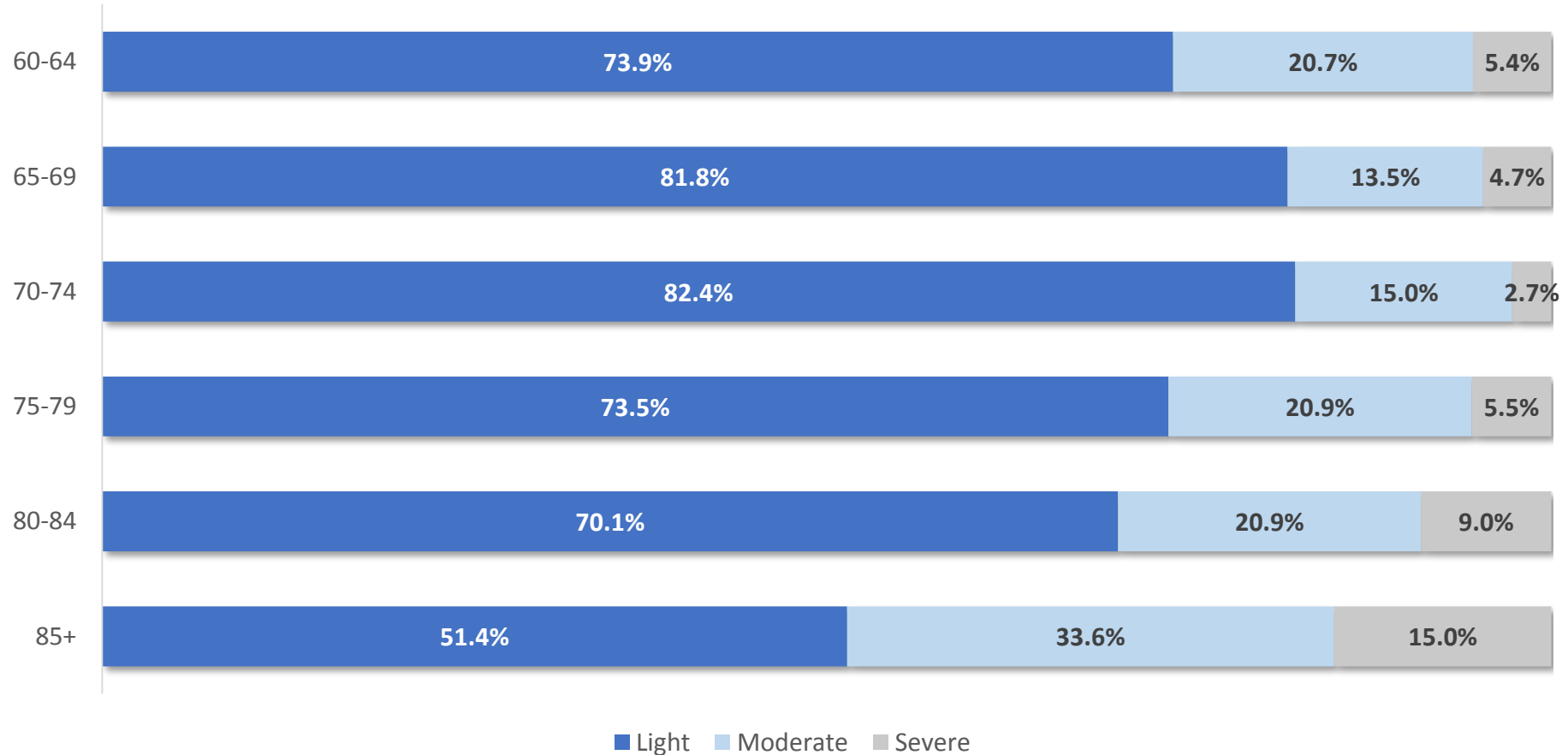


ADL Limitations

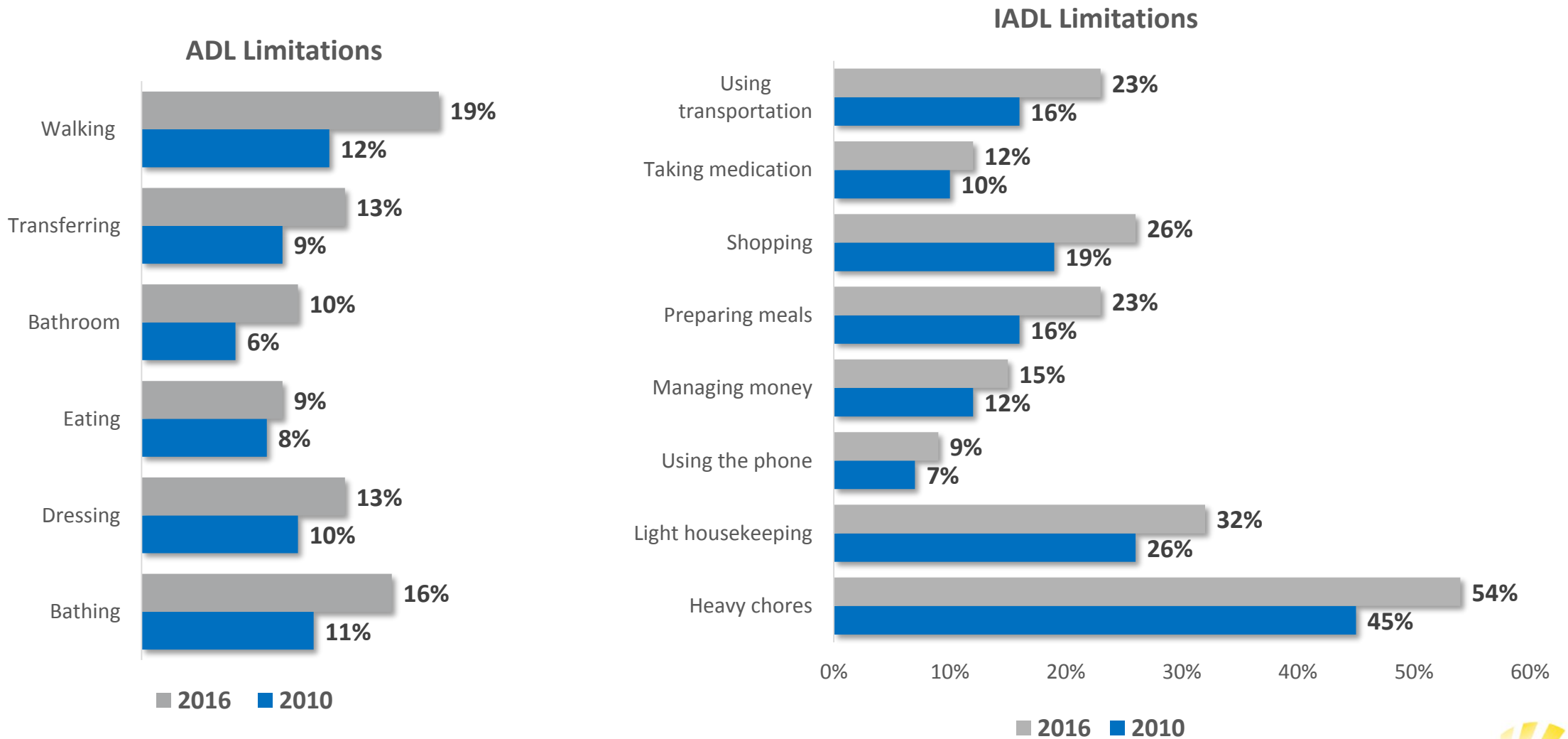


IADL Limitations

IADL Limitations Among Respondents



Comparison Between 2010 and 2016 Surveys



Help with ADLs and IADLs

Approximately **1 in 4** elders got the assistance they needed with ADLs and IADLs “always” or “most of the time.”



34%



16%



9%

- ❖ When seeking assistance, elders look to friends and family (**34%**), a health care professional (**16%**), or a paid attendant (**9%**).
- ❖ Low-income elders (**12%**) were more likely to look to a government agency for assistance than other groups (**6%**).

Needed help
with IADLs



Did not need
help with IADLs



ADLs: N = 549

IADLs: N = 1190

Basic Caregiving Information



Provide care for someone who is unable to care for themselves



Provide care at least once a week

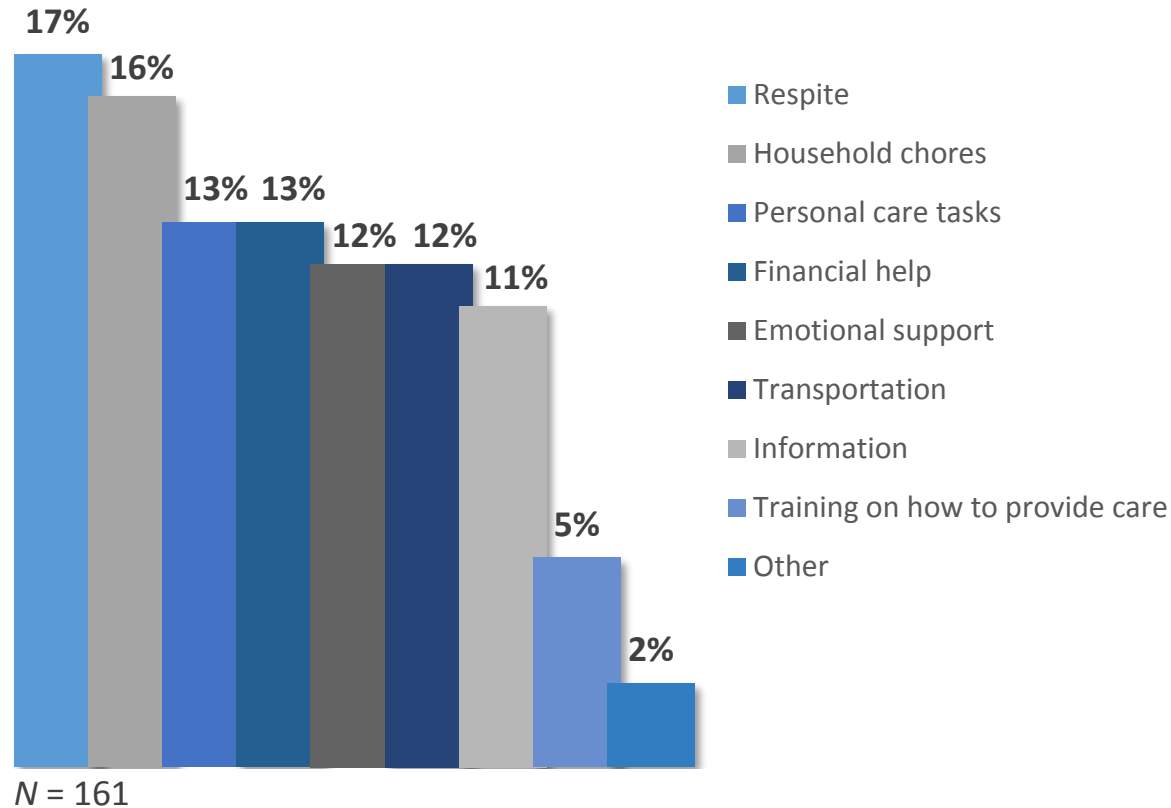


Provide care for another elder (age 60 or older)



Assistance with Caregiving

Types of Help Needed by Caregiving Elders



32% of caregivers receive help with their caregiving responsibilities



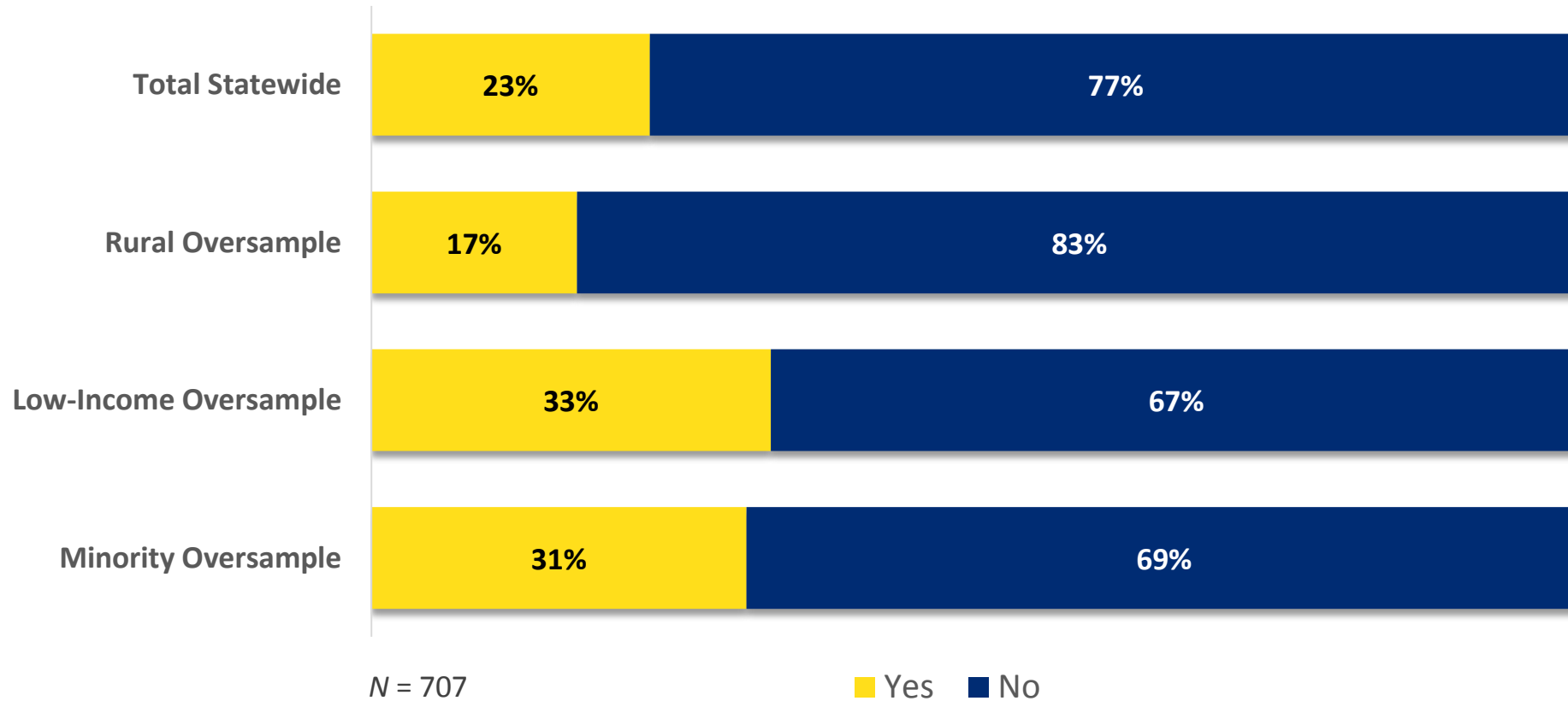
23% of caregivers need help with their caregiving responsibilities



12% of caregivers are interested in receiving caregiver training

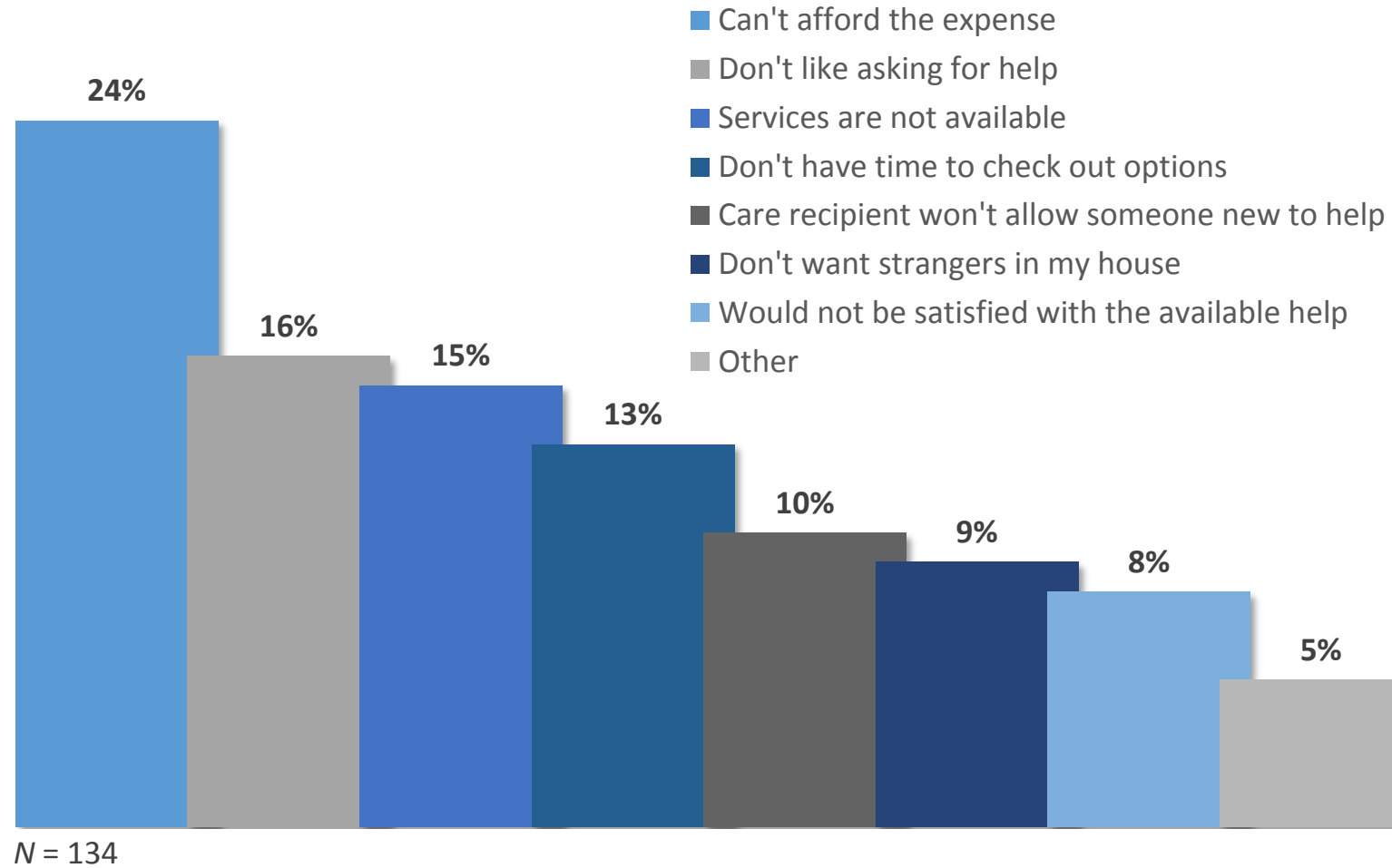
Assistance with Caregiving

Do you need assistance with your caregiving responsibilities?



Assistance with Caregiving

Reasons Why Caregivers Haven't Received Help



Health and Health Promotion



51% of elders surveyed were interested in taking a health class



18% attended an event offering free health information in the past year

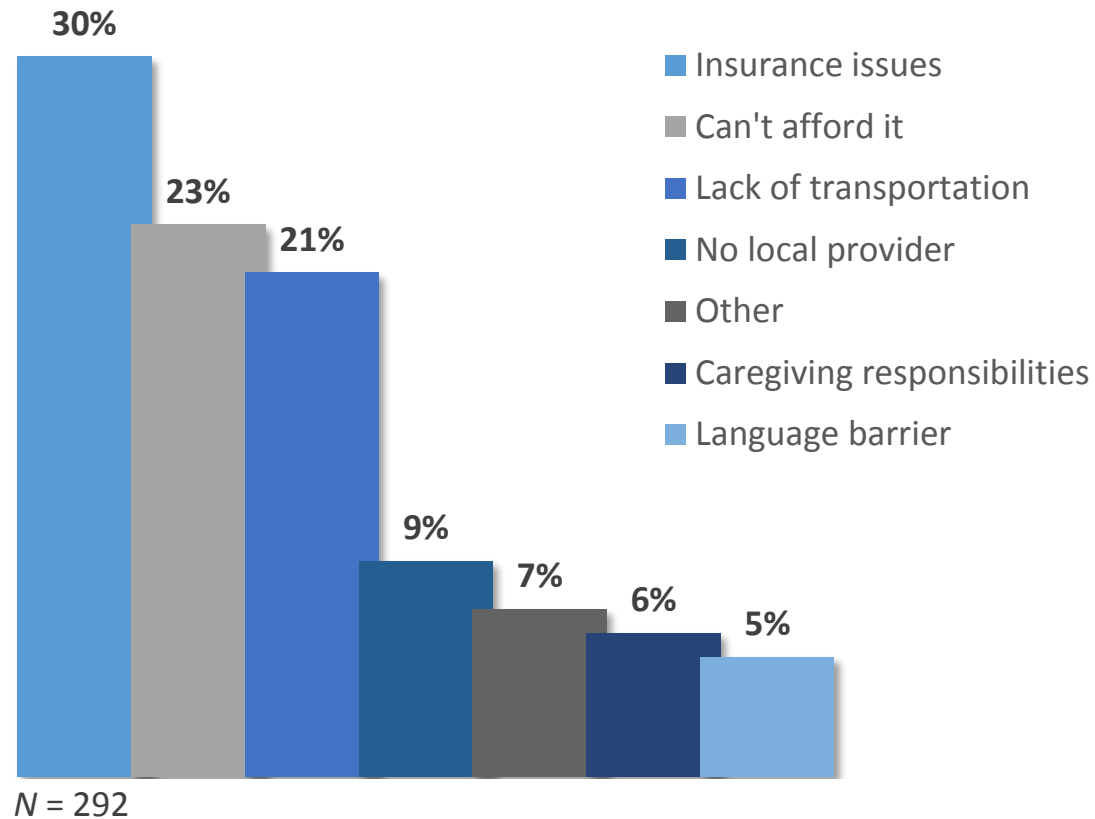


87% were physically active at least 3 times per week



Access to Medical Care

Barriers to Medical Care Among Respondents



- ❖ Of those who do not get medical care when needed, these were the main barriers to receiving medical care.
- ❖ Low-income (**29%**), minority (**28%**), and rural (**30%**) elders cited the expense as being a main barrier more than the total statewide sample (**23%**).
- ❖ One in five (**21%**) of respondents cited lack of transportation as a barrier to medical care.

Access to Medical Care



11% split a pill or skipped medication because of the price



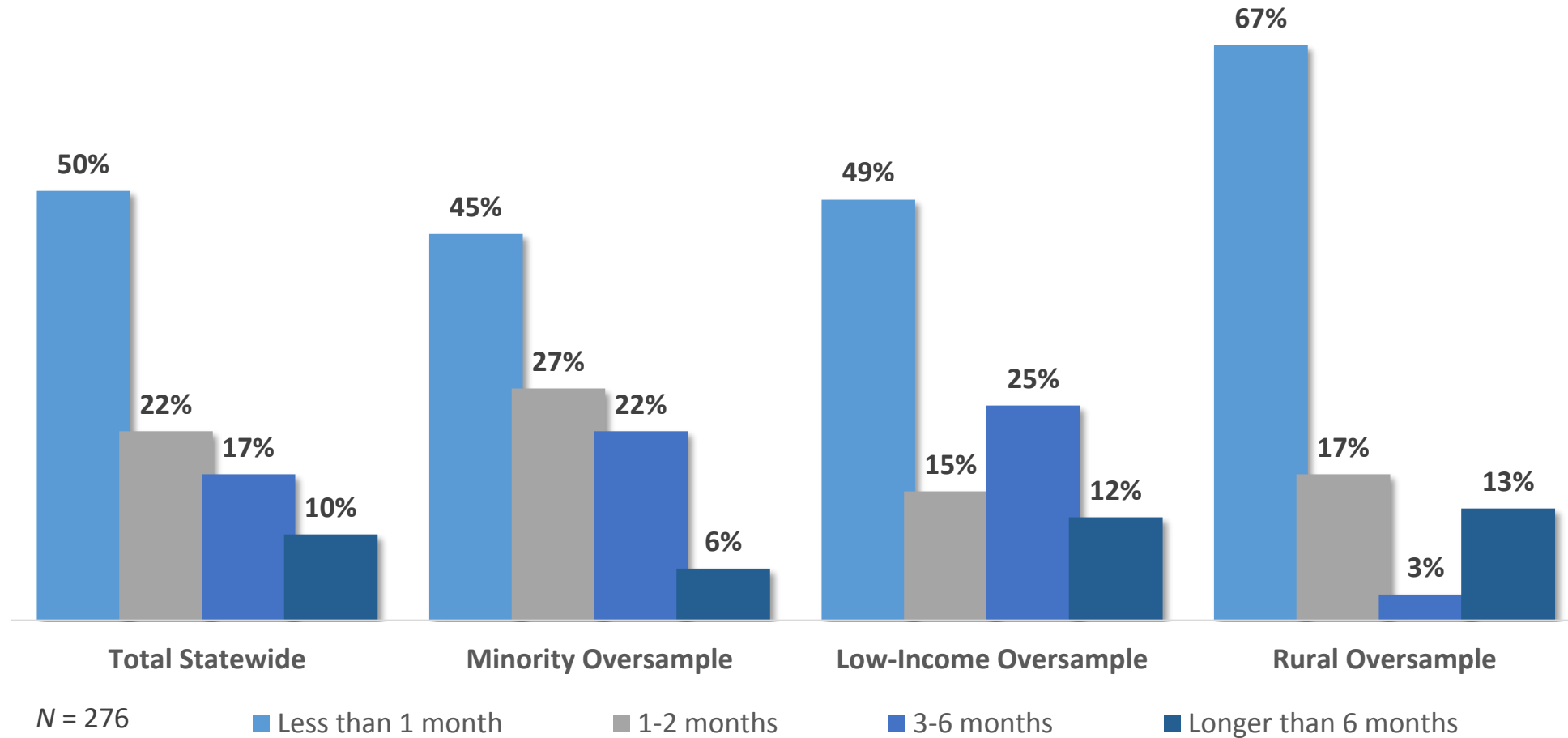
8% delayed or went without assistance for an emotional or mental health problem



37% of low-income elders delayed their prescription medications more than three months, as compared to **27%** of statewide elders

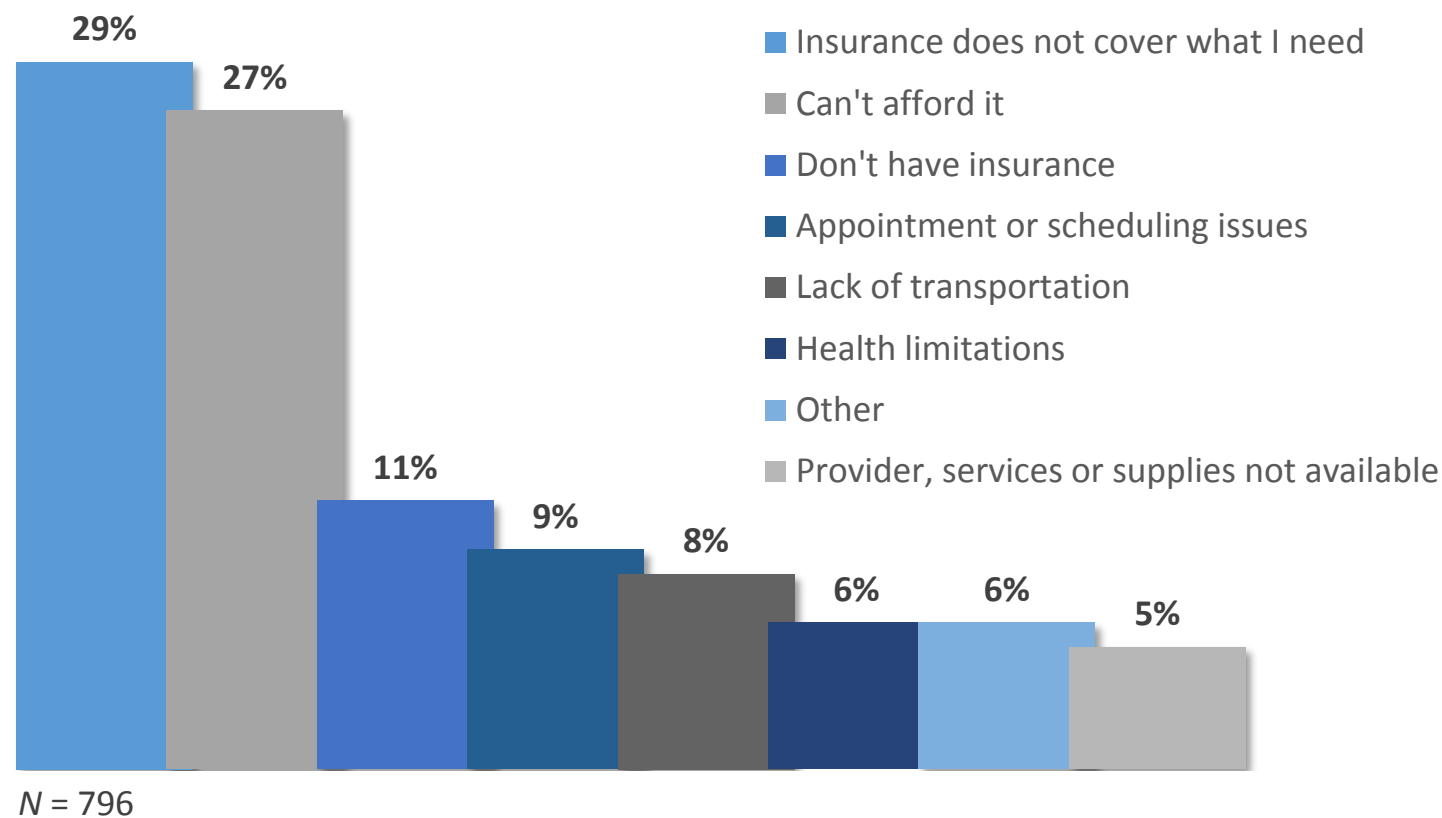
Delays in Medical Care

Length of Delays in Filling Prescription Medications



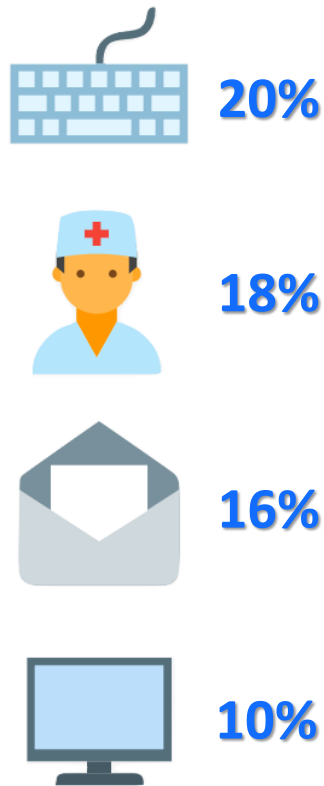
Delays in Medical Care

Limitations in Respondents' Ability to Get Prescriptions, Dental Care, or Eyeglasses

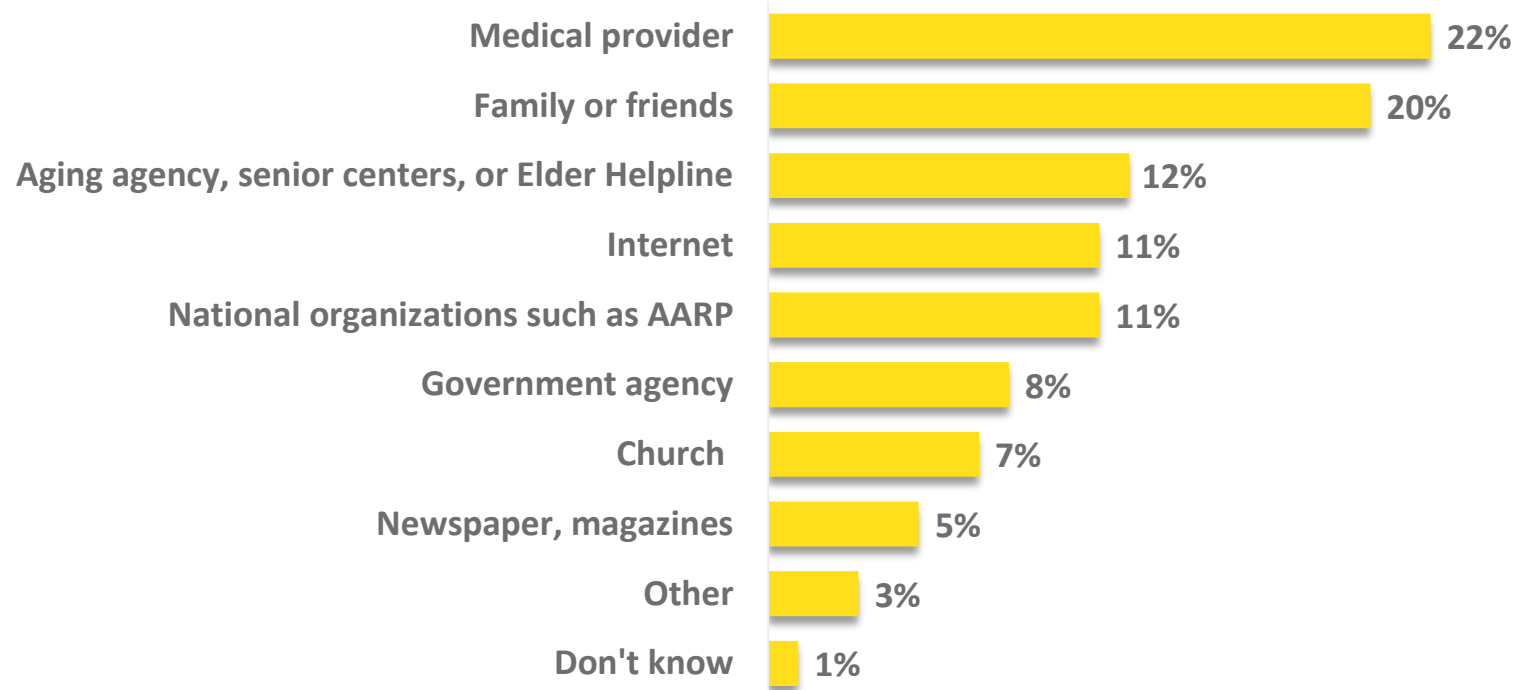


Sources of Information about Services

Preferred Ways of Receiving Information About Services for Elders

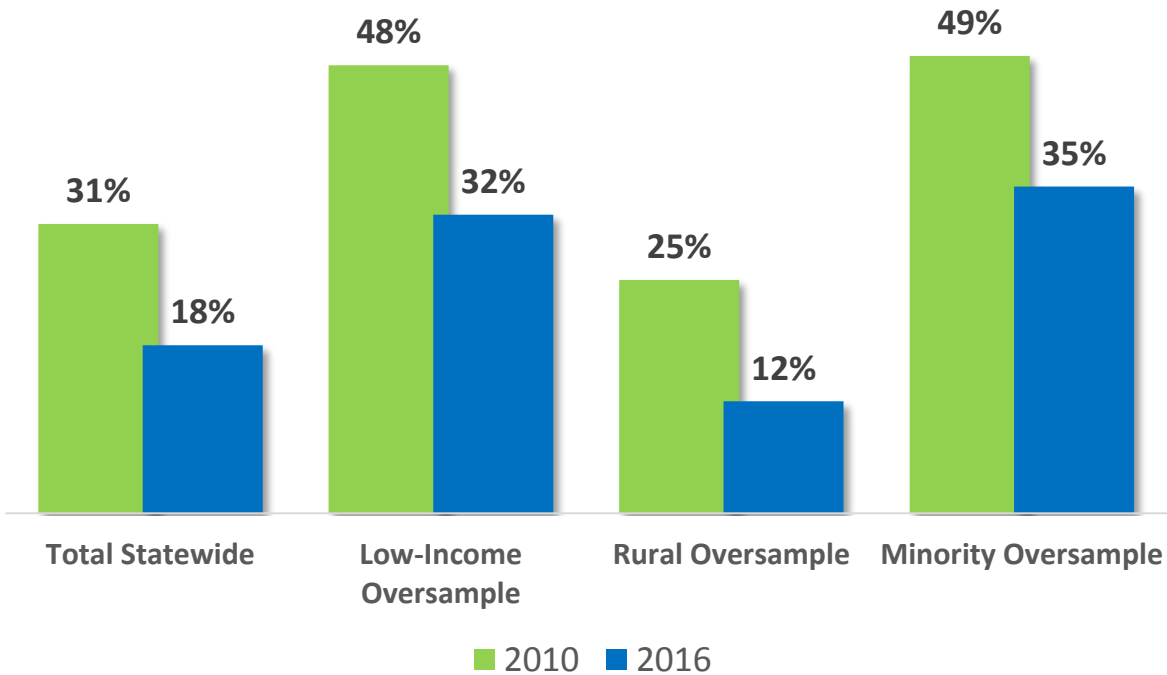


Sources of Information About Services for Elders



Internet and Technology Use

Percent of Respondents with No Internet Access



26%

were interested in receiving computer and Internet training

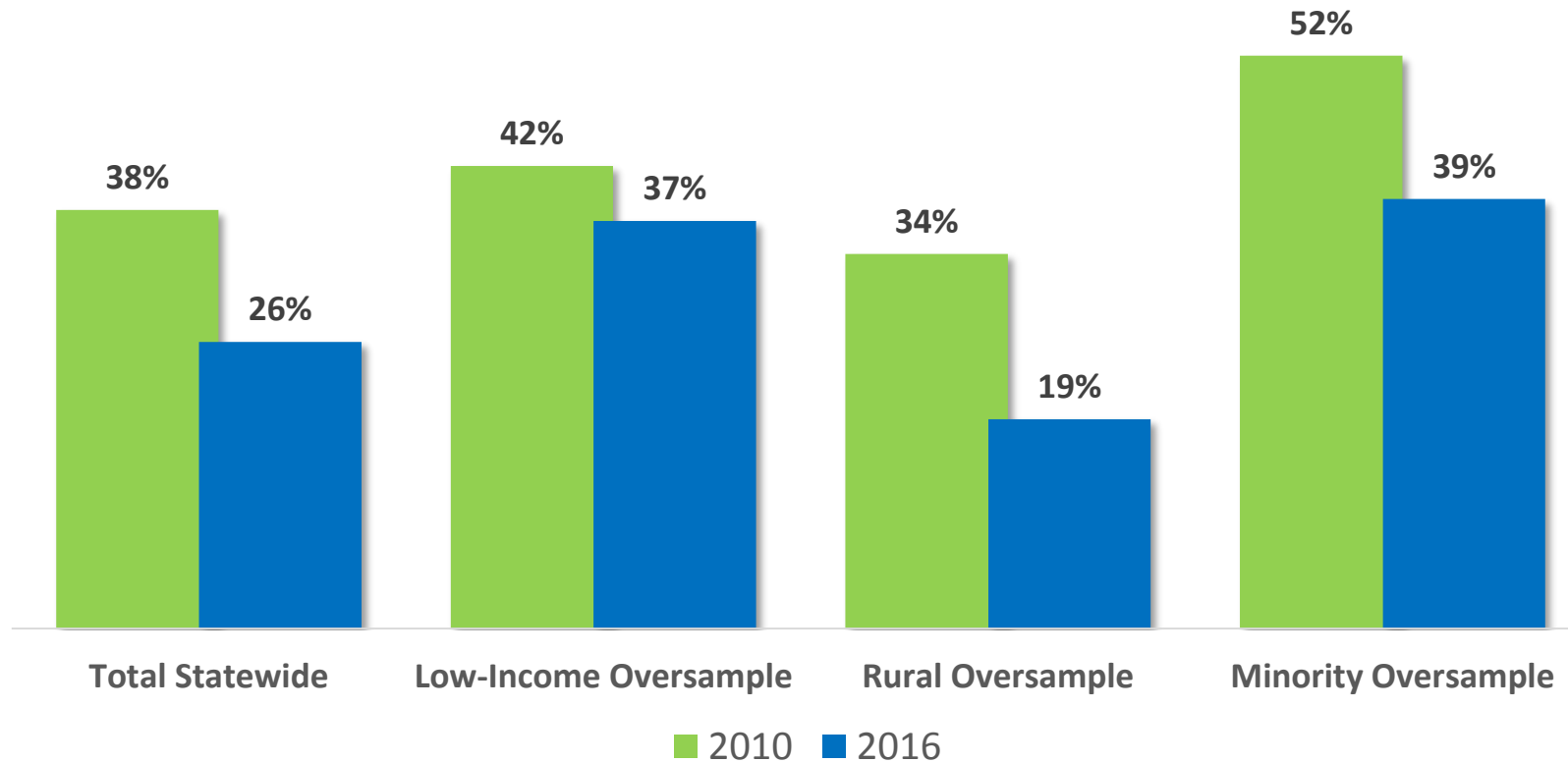


1 in 4

elders used a computer regularly

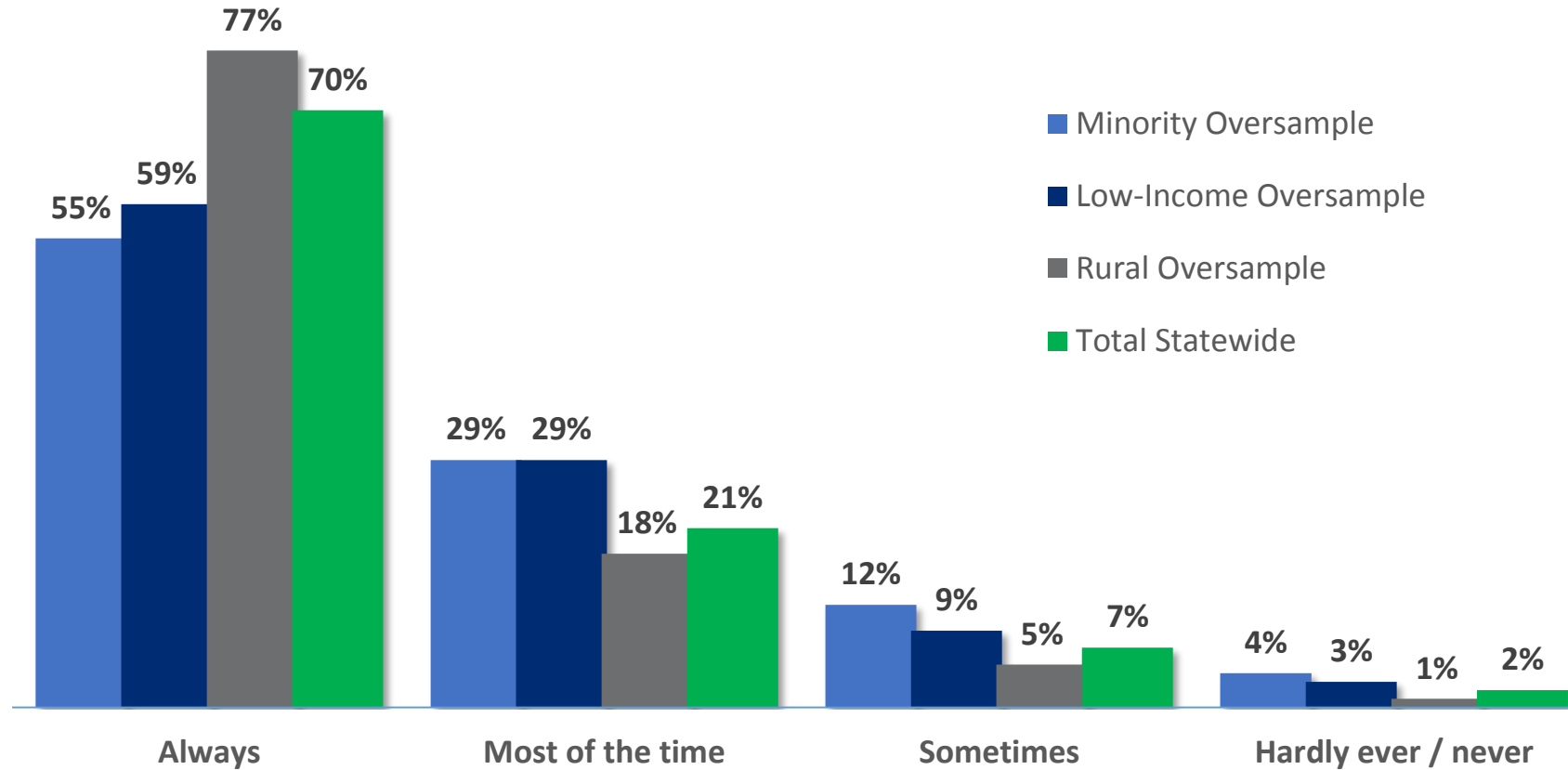
Internet and Technology Use

Respondents Interested in Receiving Computer and Internet Training, 2010 and 2016



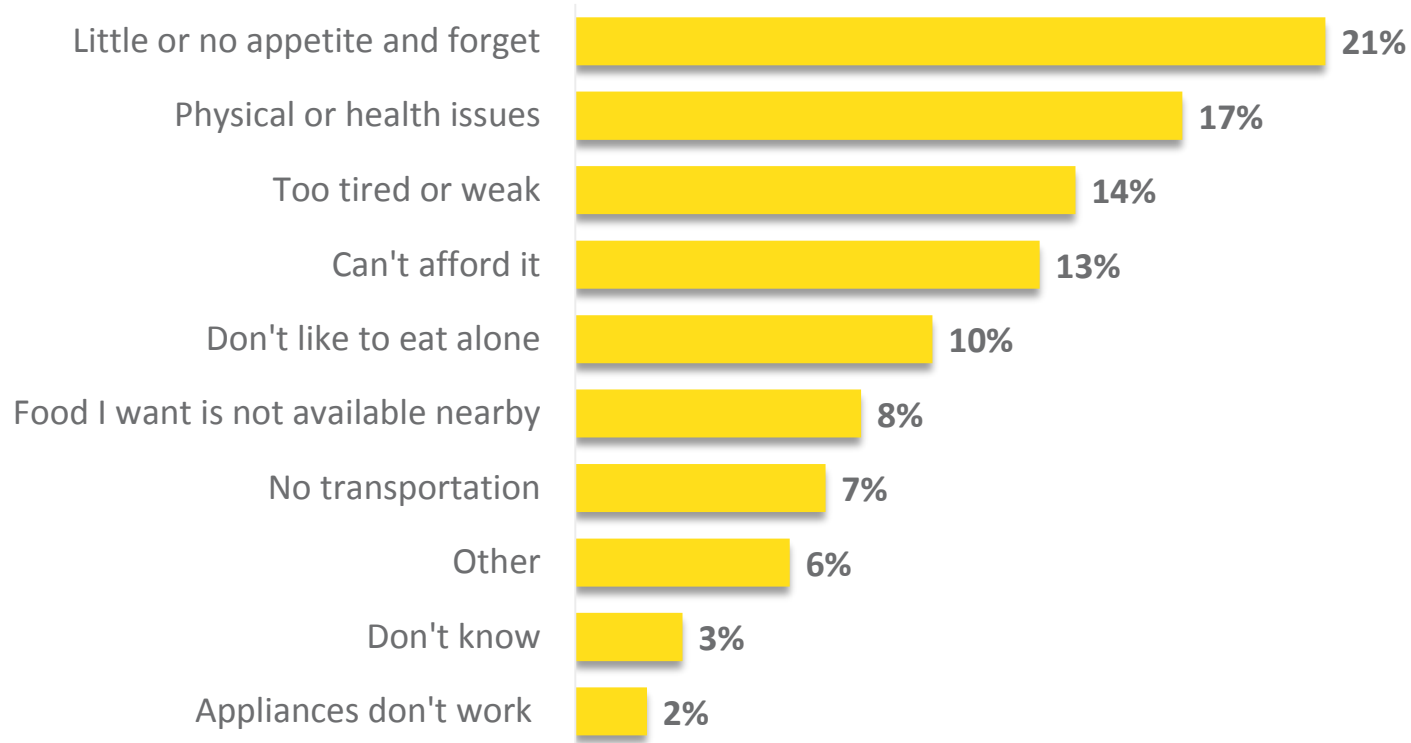
Nutrition Risks

Frequency of Eating Needed Food Among Respondents



Nutrition Risks

Reasons for Inadequate Nutrition Among Respondents

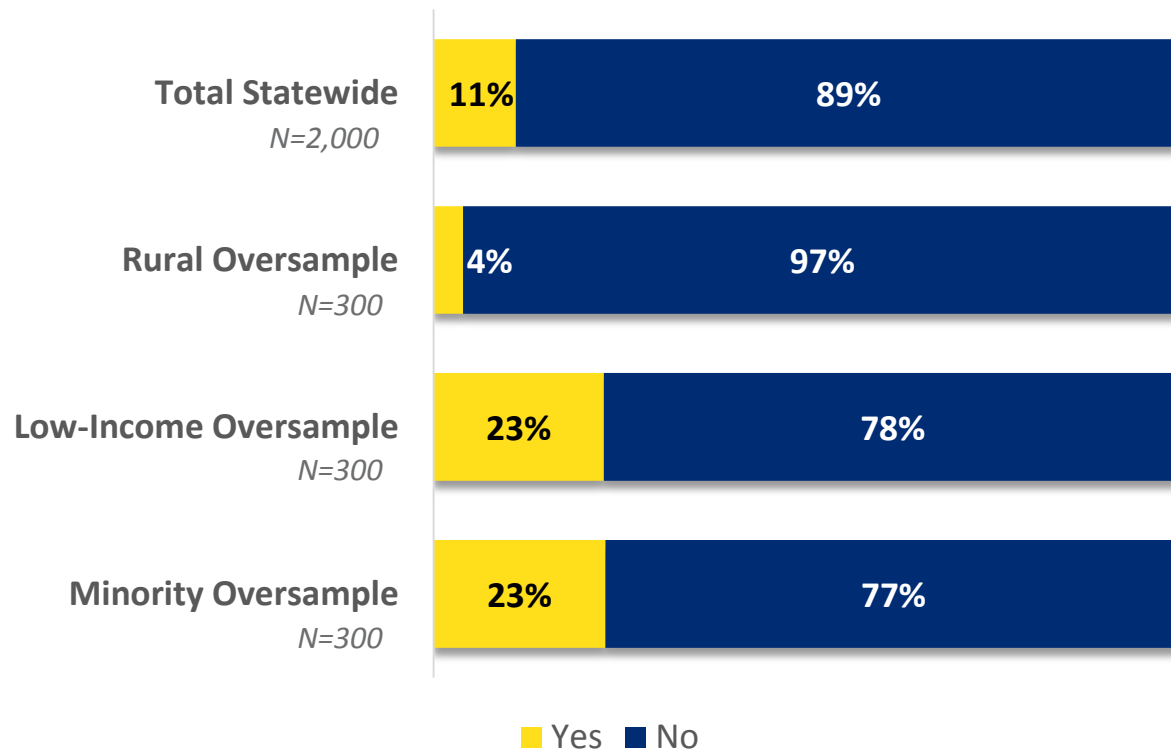


N = 524



Food Assistance and Information

Do you receive food assistance?



❖ Of those who receive food assistance, more than half (**52%**) receive SNAP benefits. Other sources of food assistance received include:

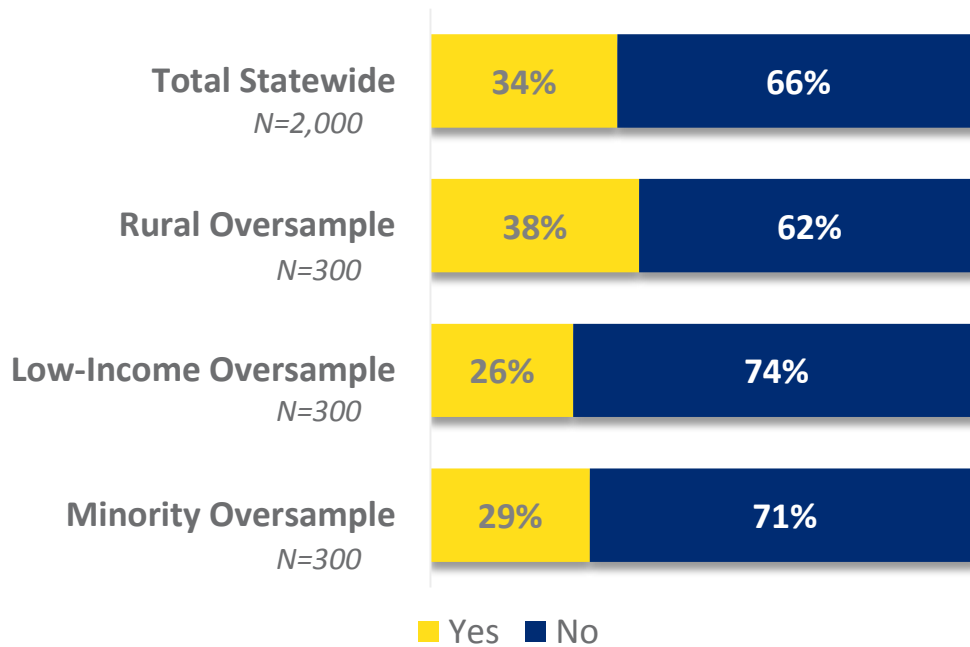
- family and friends (**16%**),
- community groups (**12%**), and
- Meals on Wheels / Home-Delivered Meals (**12%**).

❖ When asked about the Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card, most elders who did not have it said it was because they:

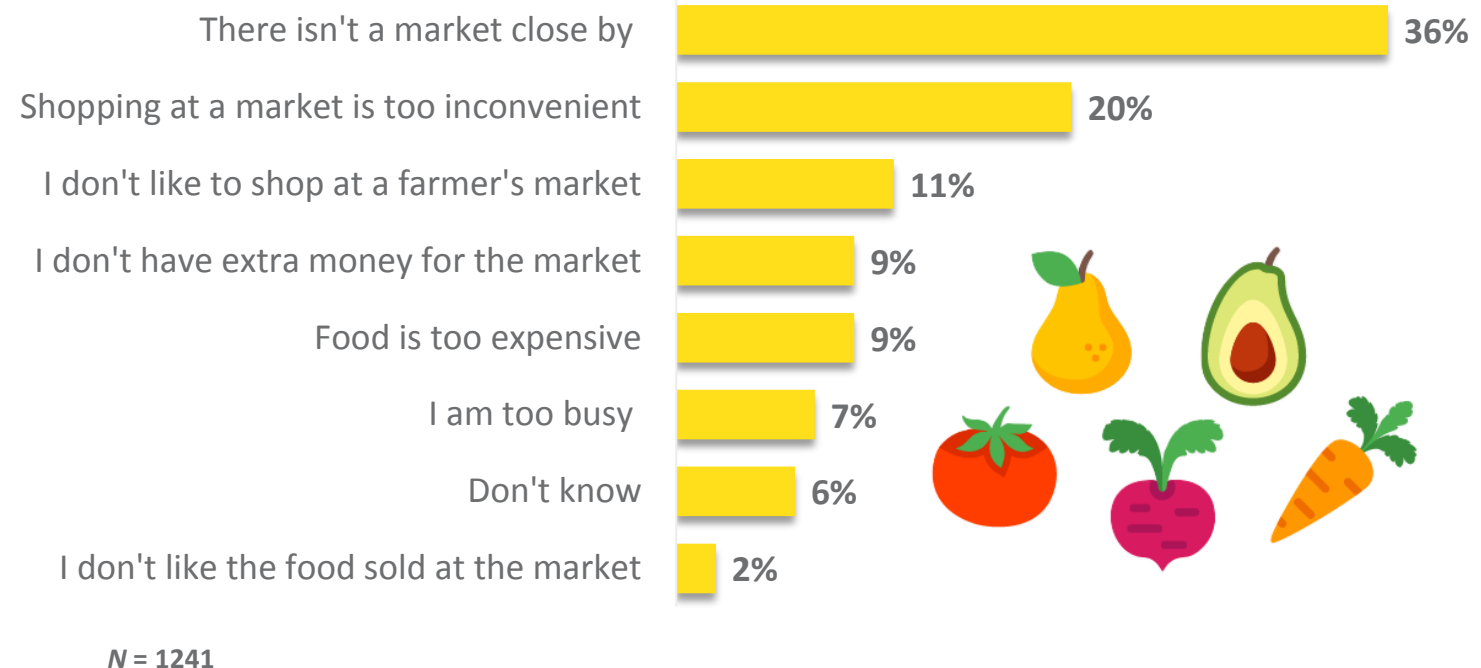
- didn't need it (**36%**),
- didn't think they would qualify for it (**14%**), or
- didn't know about the program (**13%**).

Farmer's Markets

Have you recently purchased food from a farmer's market?



Why haven't you recently purchased food from a farmer's market?

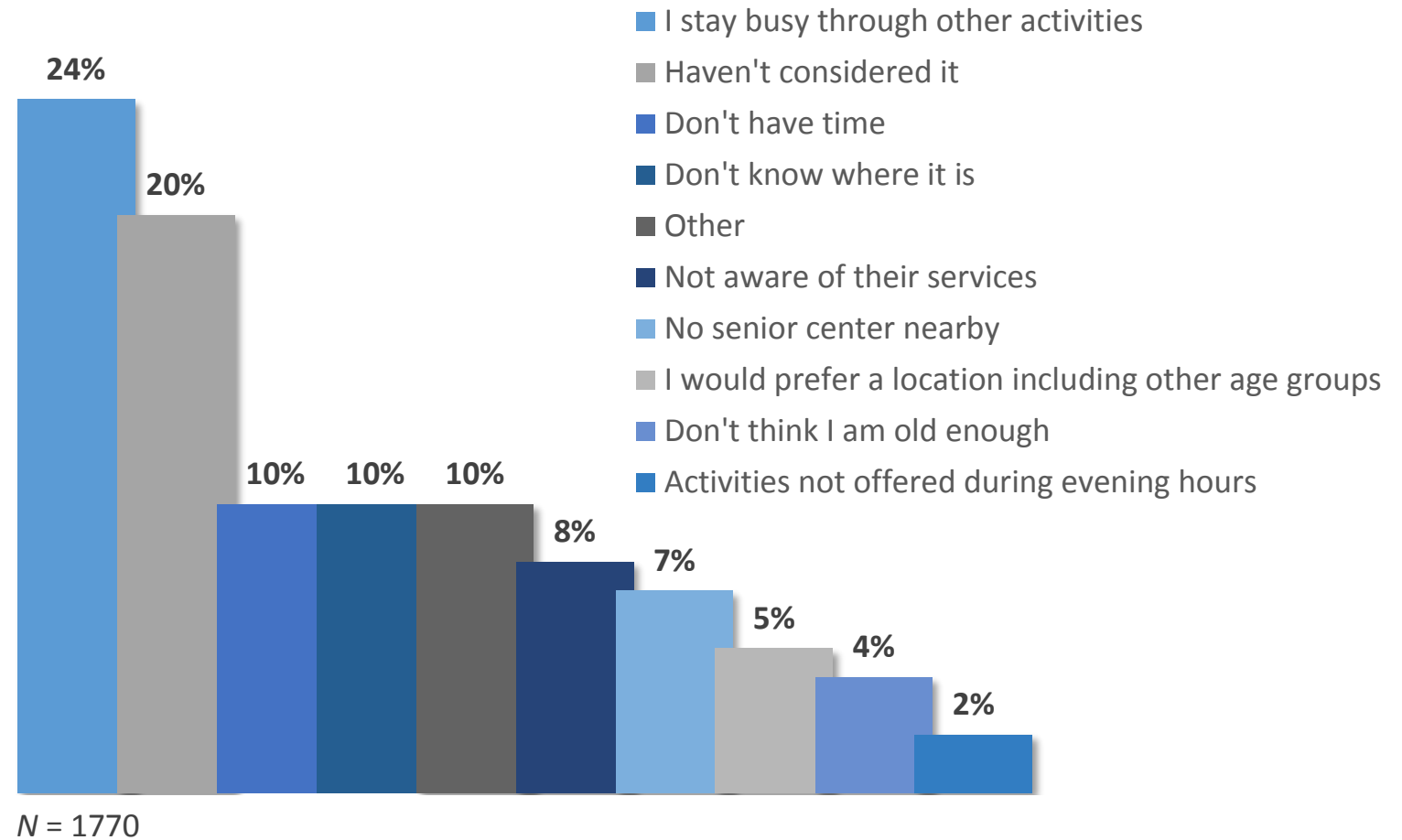


Senior Centers



elders visited a senior center
“often” or “sometimes”

Reasons Why Respondents Do Not Go to Senior Center



Modes of Transportation



13% of elders
preferred to
bicycle or walk

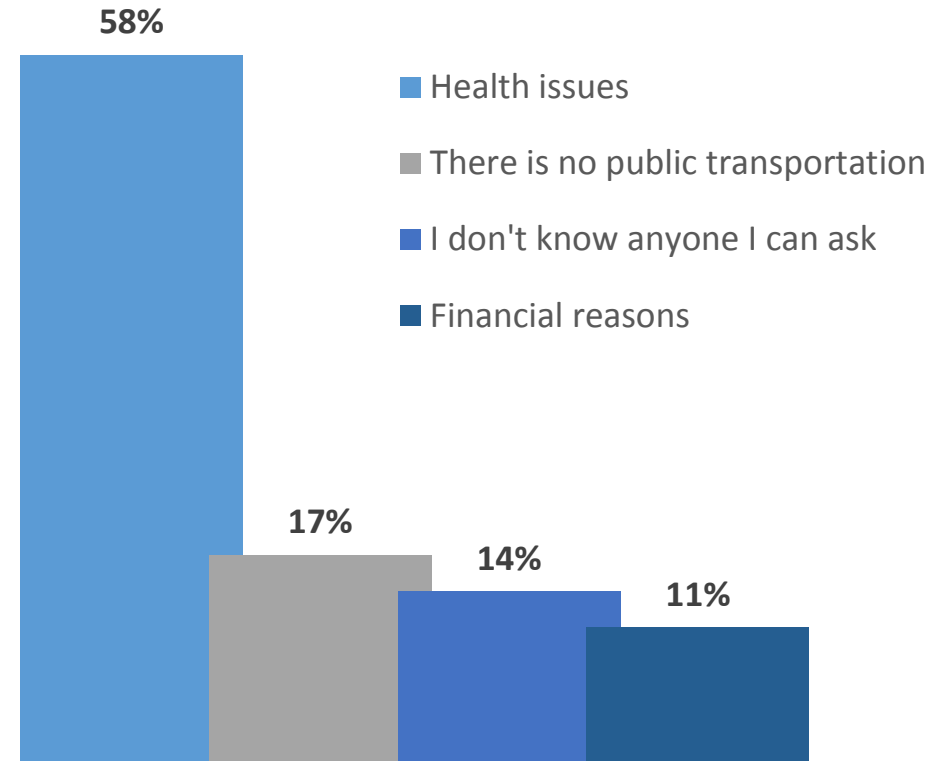


69% of elders
preferred to drive
or be driven in a car

- ❖ Minority and low-income elders were significantly more likely to use public transportation.
- ❖ Of the respondents that used public transport, **23%** were dissatisfied with the service.
- ❖ Top three reasons for not using public transportation:
 - Don't need it (**45%**)
 - Limited availability of public transportation / Doesn't go where I need it to go (**19%**)
 - Inconvenience (**13%**)

Mobility Limitations

Limitations on Respondents' Ability to Get Where They Need to Go

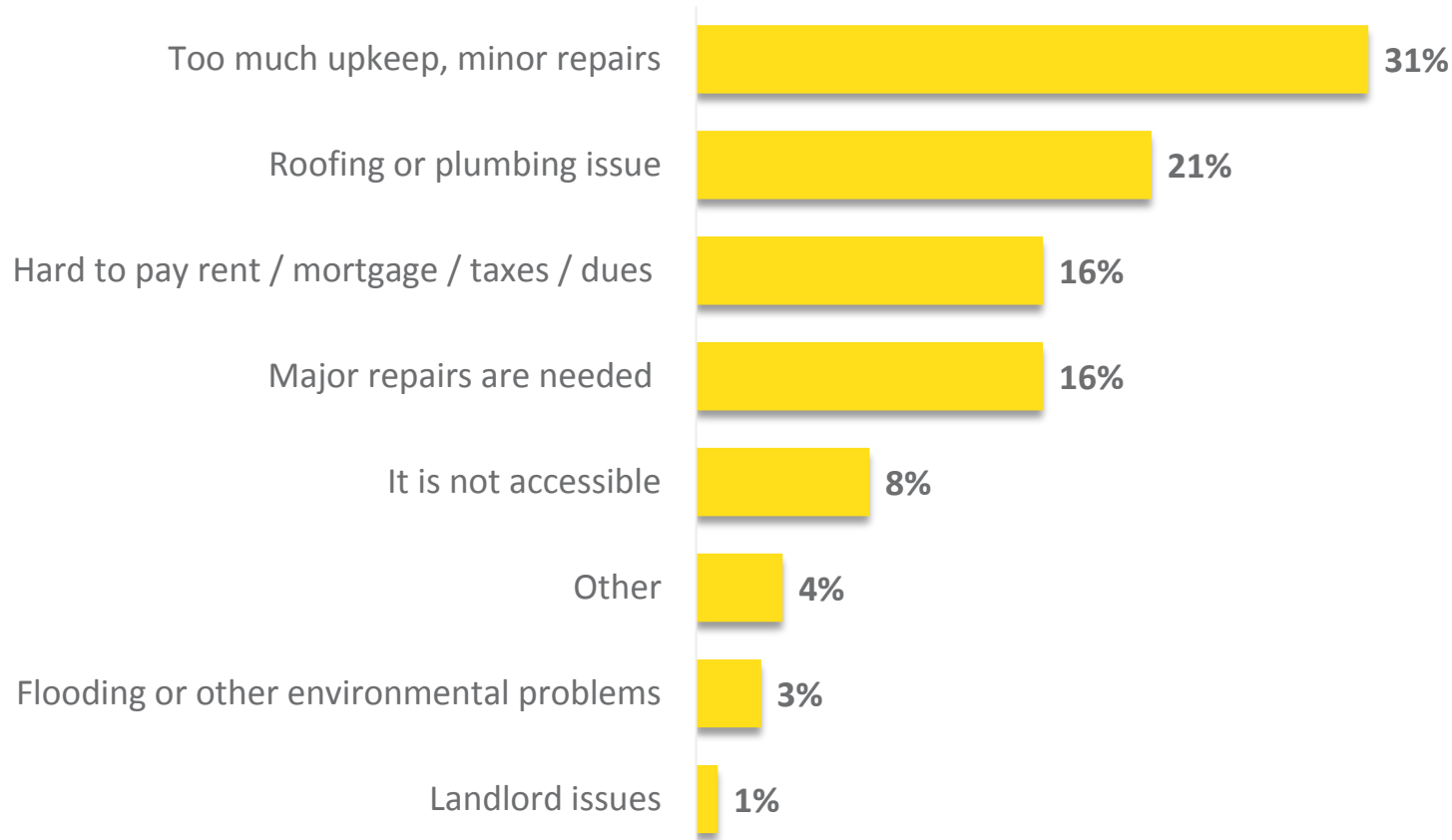


N = 134

- ❖ Most respondents (**93%**) were able to get where they needed to go.
- ❖ Among those who weren't, nearly two-thirds (**58%**) cited health issues as the main reason.
- ❖ When asked what limits their driving, respondents also cited illness or physical problems as the largest reason (**18%**).

Home Ownership and Maintenance

Problems with Respondents' Homes

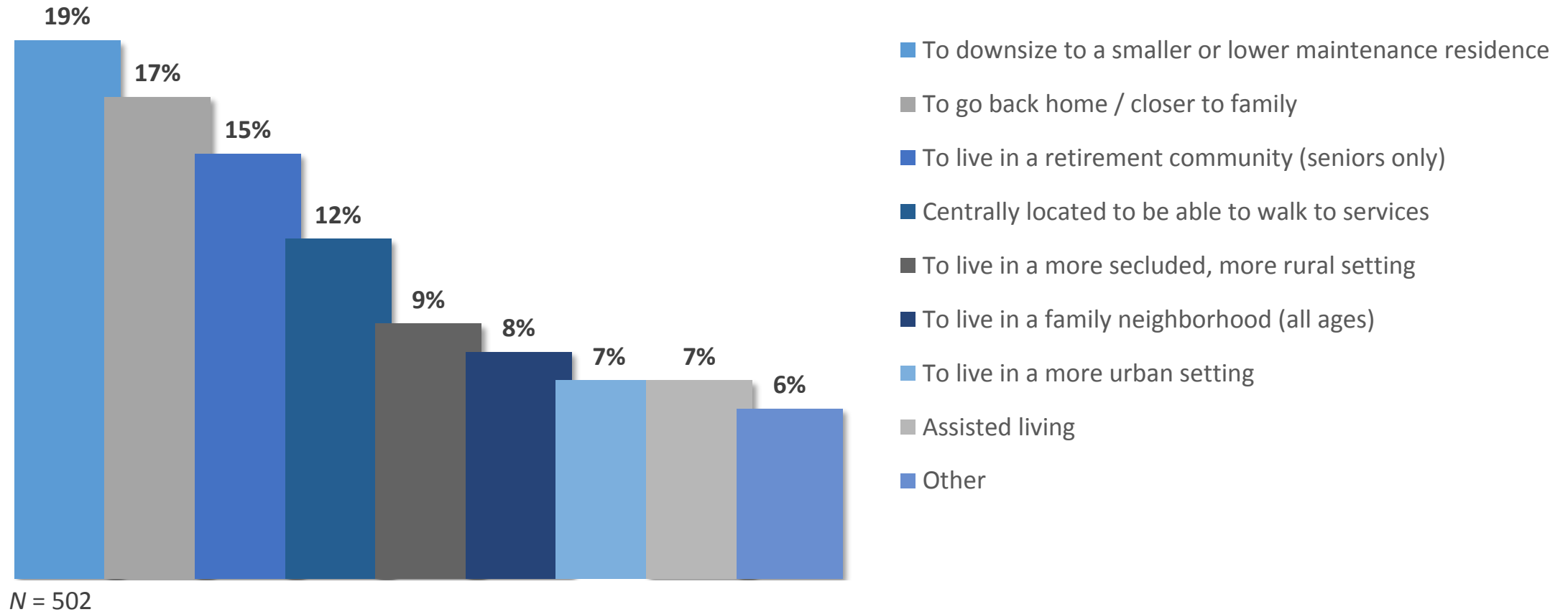


- ❖ **8 in 10** respondents owned their own home, which was especially common among rural respondents.
- ❖ Of elders who cited problems with their home, one-third (**31%**) mentioned too much upkeep or minor repairs were needed.

N = 555

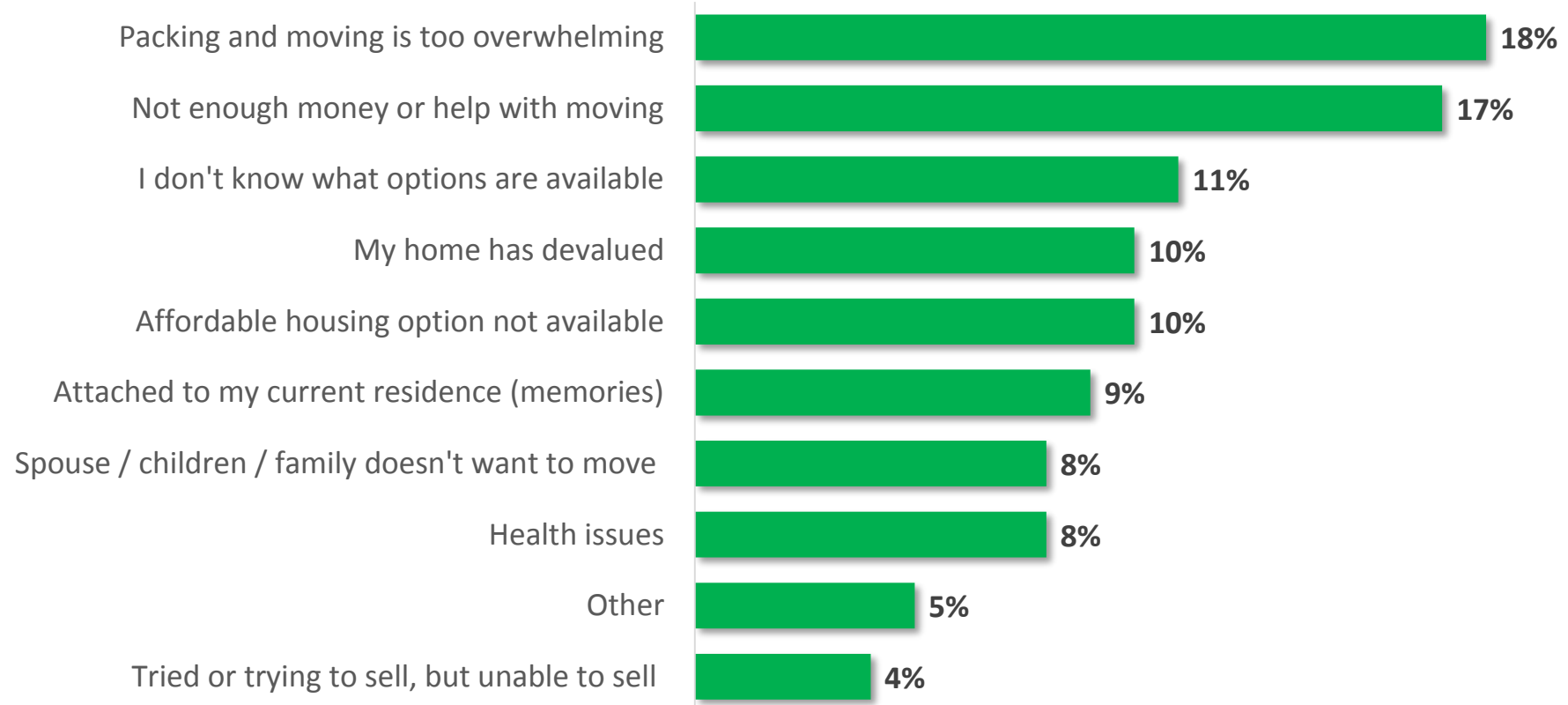
Moving

Desired Home Location If Respondent Could Move



Moving

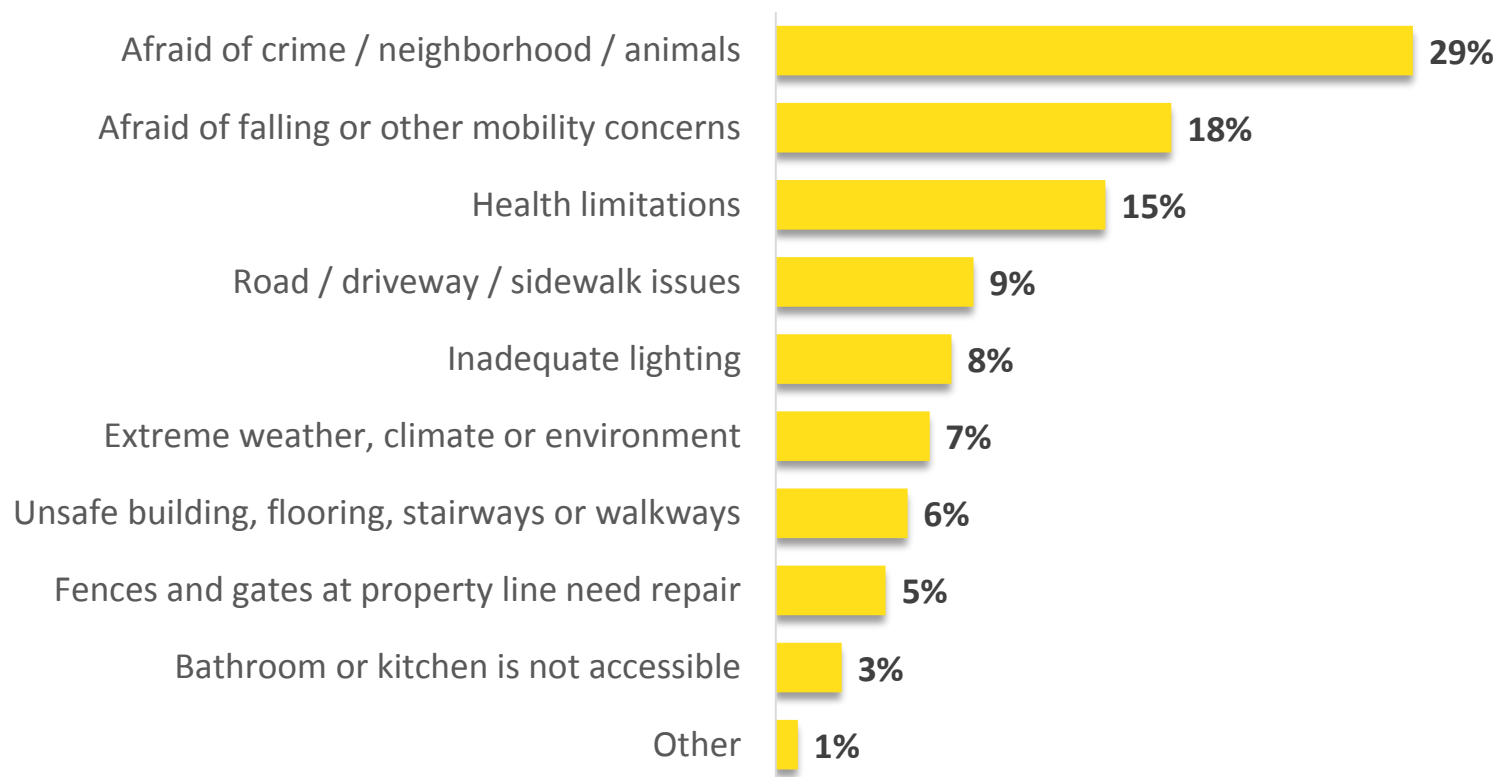
Reasons that Prevent Respondents from Moving



N = 279

Housing Safety

Reasons Why Respondents Feel Unsafe in Their Homes or on Their Property



N = 65

- ❖ The large majority of all groups surveyed felt safe in their homes and properties (**96%**) and in their neighborhoods (**90%**) “always” or “most of the time.”
- ❖ Minority (**20%**) and rural elders (**19%**) cited health limitations more often than other groups as a reason for feeling unsafe.

Volunteerism

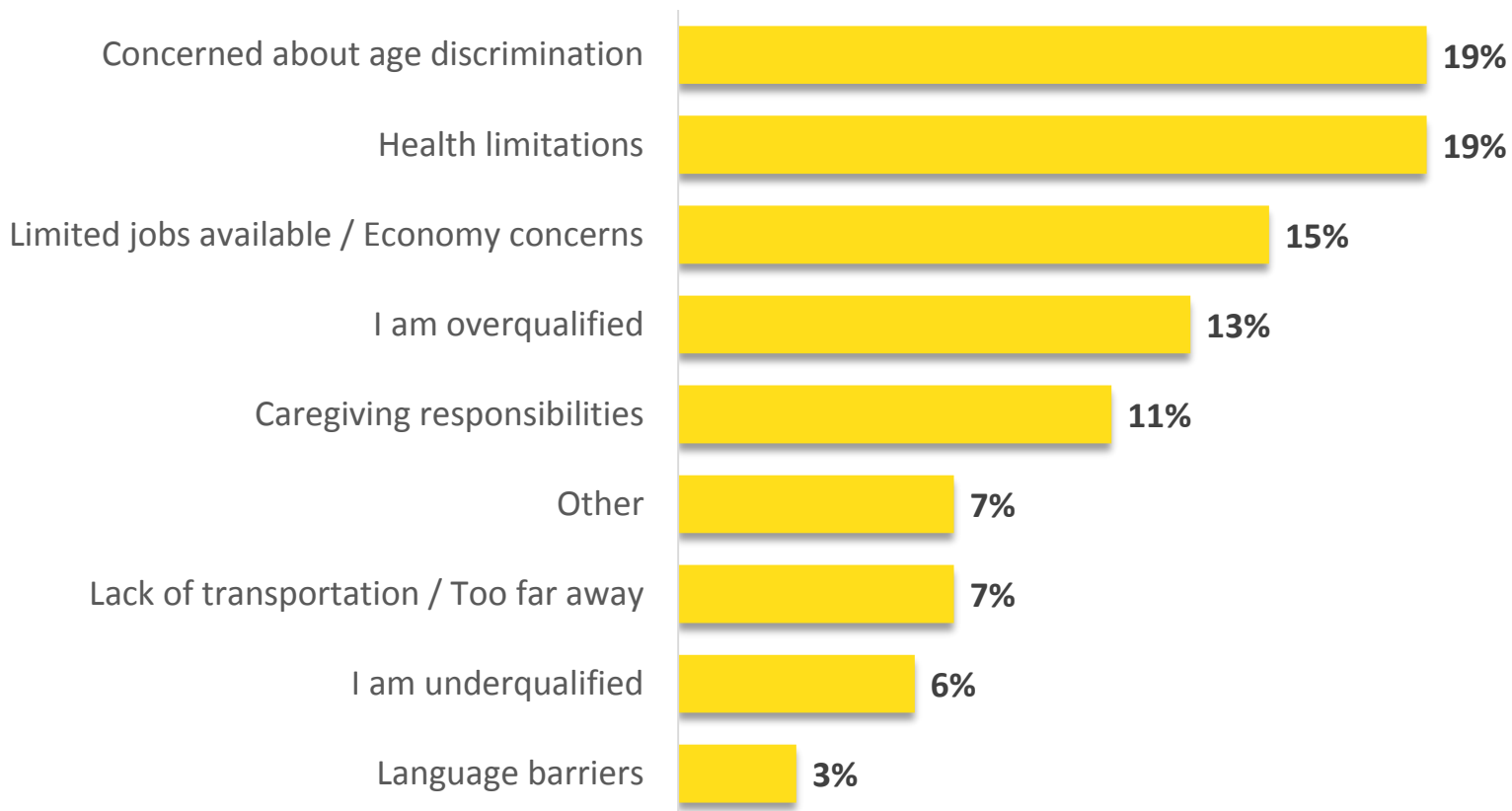


- ❖ One-third of elders volunteered. Of those who volunteered, two-thirds volunteer at least once a week.
- ❖ The organizations for which elders were most likely to volunteer were faith-based (**26%**), community- or arts-based (**17%**), civic-based (**10%**), or health-based (**10%**).
- ❖ Of those who did not volunteer, lack of time (**18%**) and health issues (**17%**) were among the most-cited reasons.



Employment

Limitations to Respondents' Ability to Find a Job



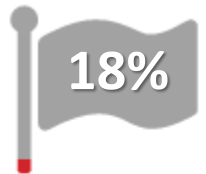
N = 182

❖ **One-half** of respondents were retired, while about **18%** were currently employed.

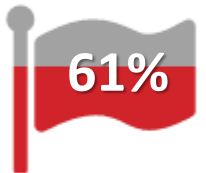
❖ **14%** were interested in switching to part-time or full-time work.

❖ Only **6%** of elders were interested in receiving job training. Of those interested, computer-related job training was most cited (**36%**).

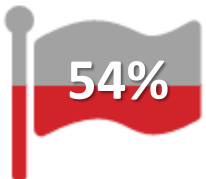
Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation Issues



Thought they were a victim of consumer fraud or a swindle

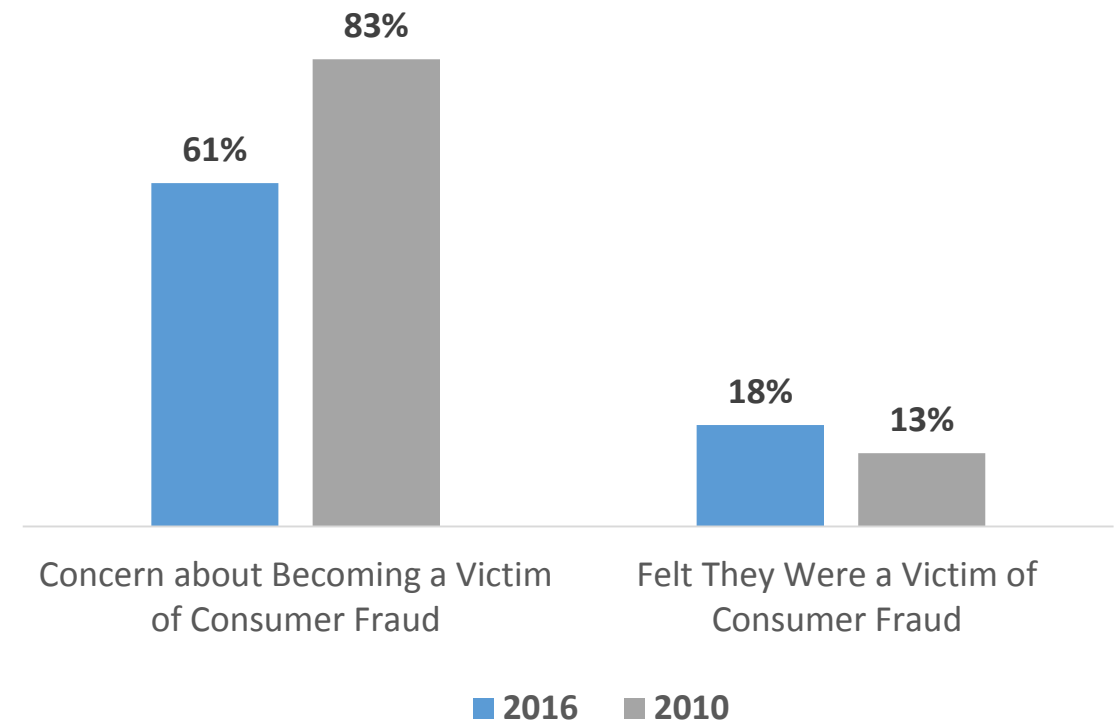


Are concerned about becoming the victim of consumer fraud or a swindle



Were aware of programs to assist elders in keeping themselves protected from abuse, neglect and financial exploitation

Concerns and Experiences Among Respondents Regarding Consumer Fraud



Legal Assistance



28% of elders sought legal help in the last five years

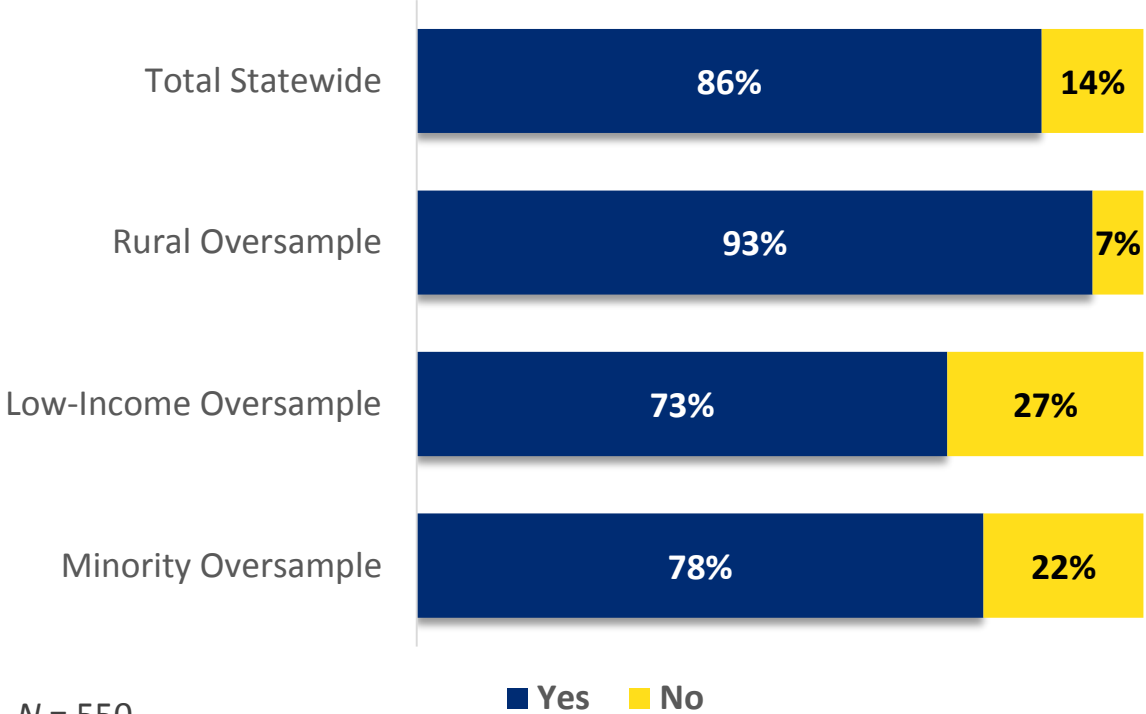


86% of them were able to get the legal help they needed

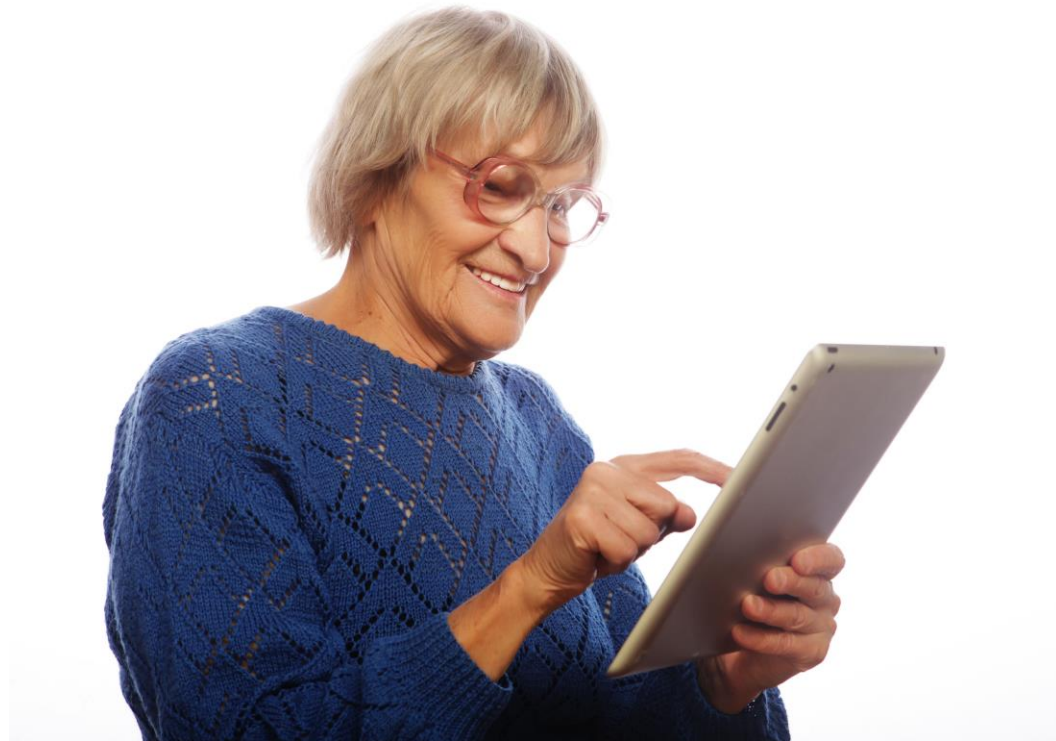


20% of elders think it would be difficult to find legal help in the future

Respondents Able to Get the Legal Help They Needed



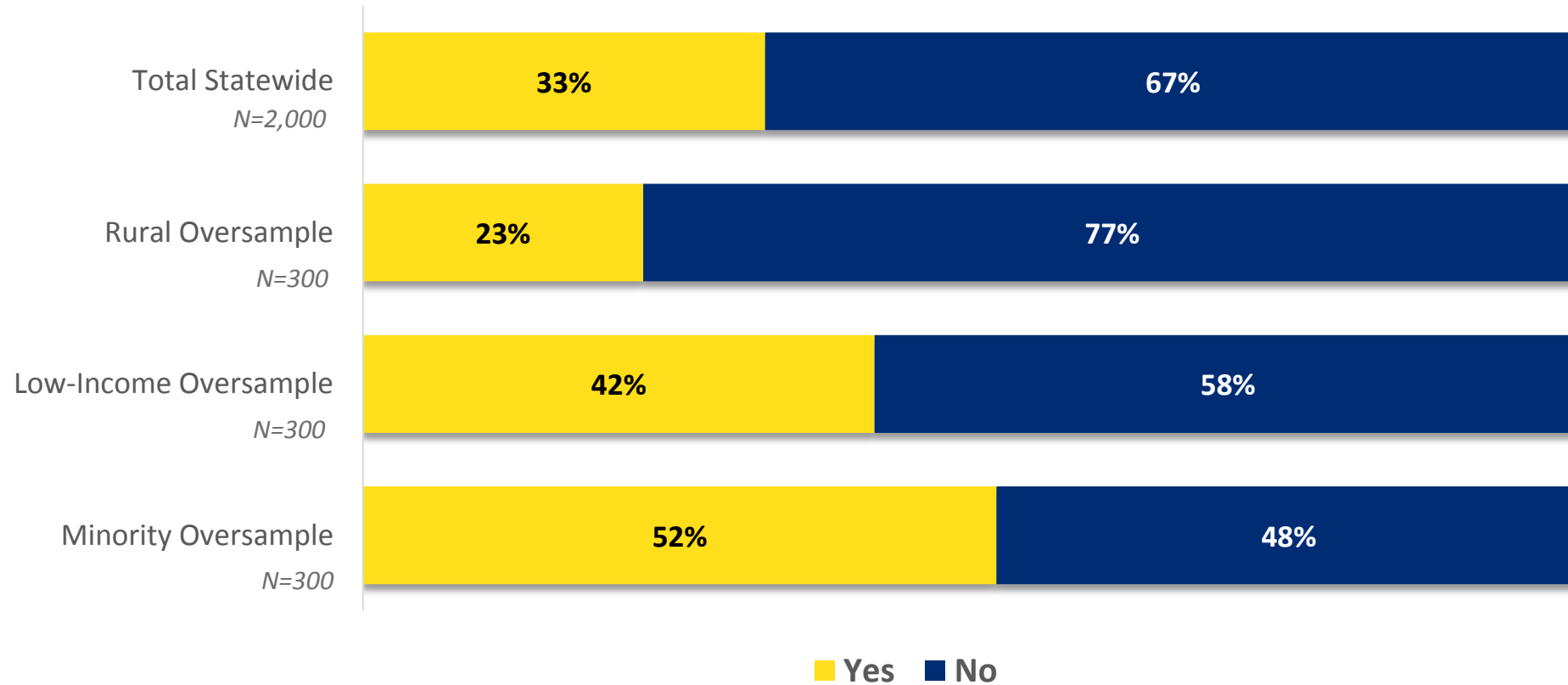
Legal Assistance



- ❖ Of those not able to get legal help when they needed it, cost (**25%**) and lack of information about resources (**27%**) were the biggest reasons.
- ❖ **22%** of elders did not know where they would seek help with a legal need. Of those who did, most would go to the Florida Department of Elder Affairs (**18%**) or the Florida Bar Lawyer Referral Service (**19%**).

Disaster Preparedness

Percent of Respondents Interested in Learning about Special Needs Shelter in Emergencies



Concluding Points

Compared to the initial sample, elders in the minority and low-income groups:

- ❖ were more interested in receiving information on any subject;
- ❖ expressed more need for assistance with ADLs, IADLs, and caregiving responsibilities;
- ❖ delayed filling prescription medications, eye care, and dental care for longer periods;
- ❖ had less access to the Internet (**65%** and **68%** versus **87%**);
- ❖ got the food they needed less often (**84%** and **88%** versus **93%**);
- ❖ needed more financial and physical assistance with moving homes; and
- ❖ did not receive the legal help they needed as often.

Compared to the initial sample, elders in the rural group:

- ❖ have higher incomes,
- ❖ are less interested in receiving information on most subjects,
- ❖ express less need for assistance with ADLs, IADLs, and caregiving responsibilities,
- ❖ have fewer problems with their homes, and
- ❖ are not as limited in mobility.

Concluding Points

Interesting statewide findings:

- ❖ Respite and emotional support were the main kinds of help needed by caregivers.
- ❖ Expense was one of the primary barriers to both medical care and legal help.
- ❖ About one-fifth of elders preferred to find out about services for elders through the Internet or email (**20%**) as well as through visits with their physician (**18%**).
- ❖ The main barriers to moving for respondents were the fact that packing is too overwhelming and that they don't have enough money or help with moving.
- ❖ Over one-fifth (**22%**) of elders did not know where they could seek help with a legal need.

Questions?