



# CFT ROUND 8 November 2021

OCTOBER 26th – November 04, 2021

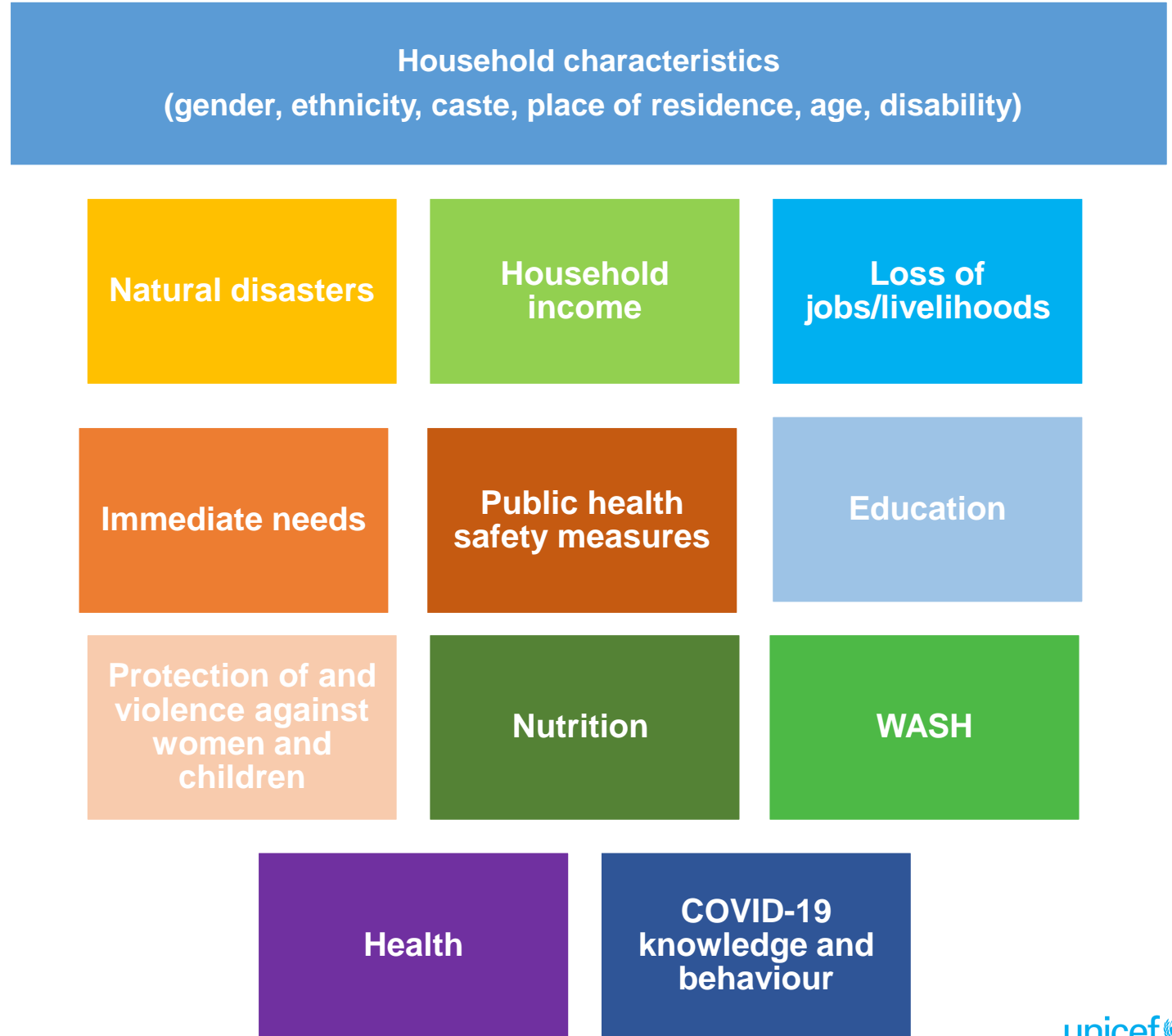
unicef   
for every child



# Content

•This is the **eighth** in a series of household surveys to track the socio-economic multi-sectoral impacts of COVID-19 on children and families in Nepal.

•Wherever possible the data have been triangulated with other sources of data



# Survey Design

- **Telephonic survey and interactive voice responses** with follow up questions.
- Sample size: **5,827** households with 10,107 children living in them. More than 39,000 household members.
- Sample loss compared to earlier rounds. Reasons not clear
- Households are selected through random and purposive sampling.
- The sample covers **nearly 80% of municipalities** (594). Strong geospatial representation to allow interpolation to non-observed areas.
- Sample remains **nationally and provincially representative** of households with children.
- Respondents are 62% female caregivers and 38% male

**Socio Economic:** 33% at risk of poverty (rising). 11% job losses (lowest observed). Immediate needs for financial support (highest), employment and food. Families continue to incur debt and deplete asset bases as a coping mechanism.

**Covid-19:** 84% reported wearing masks to protect themselves during the holiday season. 41% reporting less mask usage for themselves. 71% respondents reported being vaccinated. 61% had not ever been tested. 5% refuse to test. 9% reporting lowered mask usage plus not being vaccinated or tested.

**Education:** Nearly all schools opened. 2% reported their children had dropped-out. 60% feel confident of sending their children to school (big increase). 80% feel their children had fallen behind. 45% having difficulty doing homework. 51% received report card last year.

**Protection:** 15% reporting domestic violence (highest). 10% reporting children working to earn income (significant increase). 20% reported their children showing increased anger/aggression. Top 3 worries remain around mobile usage, bad company and bad habits

**Nutrition:** 21% struggling for food (drop), 9% reduced dietary intake for children (drop). 64% breastfeeding the same (lowest). 17% worrying about children becoming too thin. 27% received Nutrition & Health services/counselling (increase)

**Health:** 25% declared preference for private facilities. 4% respondents reported pregnancies in the home. 9% did not have access to regular ANC. 2% respondents had deliveries (2mths)

**WASH** 17% having difficulty accessing water of which 95% for drinking water

**DRR:** 57% reported experiencing extreme climate event. 27% reported being affected by these climate events. 95% of those being affected reported structural/property damage

**CONCLUSION:** Some improvements are seen (e.g., employment), but recovery continues to be uneven while children continue to be overrepresented in many deprivation indicators. **Children working for income and respondents reporting witnessing violent or discriminatory behaviour is among the highest observed in recent history**

*(the survey contains time trends of 8 key variables across sectors & analyses of 16 indicators across sectors through an equity perspective.)*

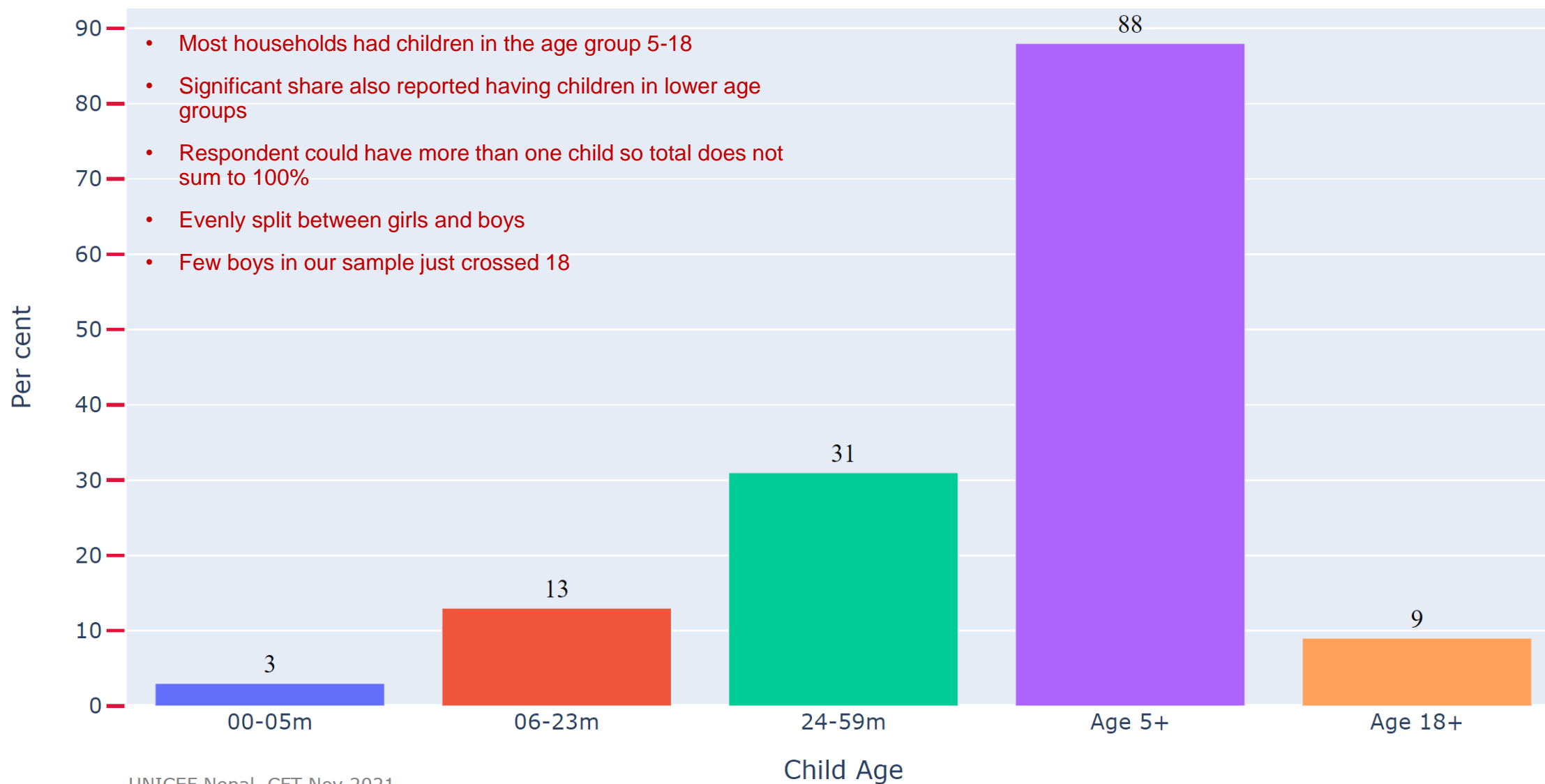
## KEY RESULTS





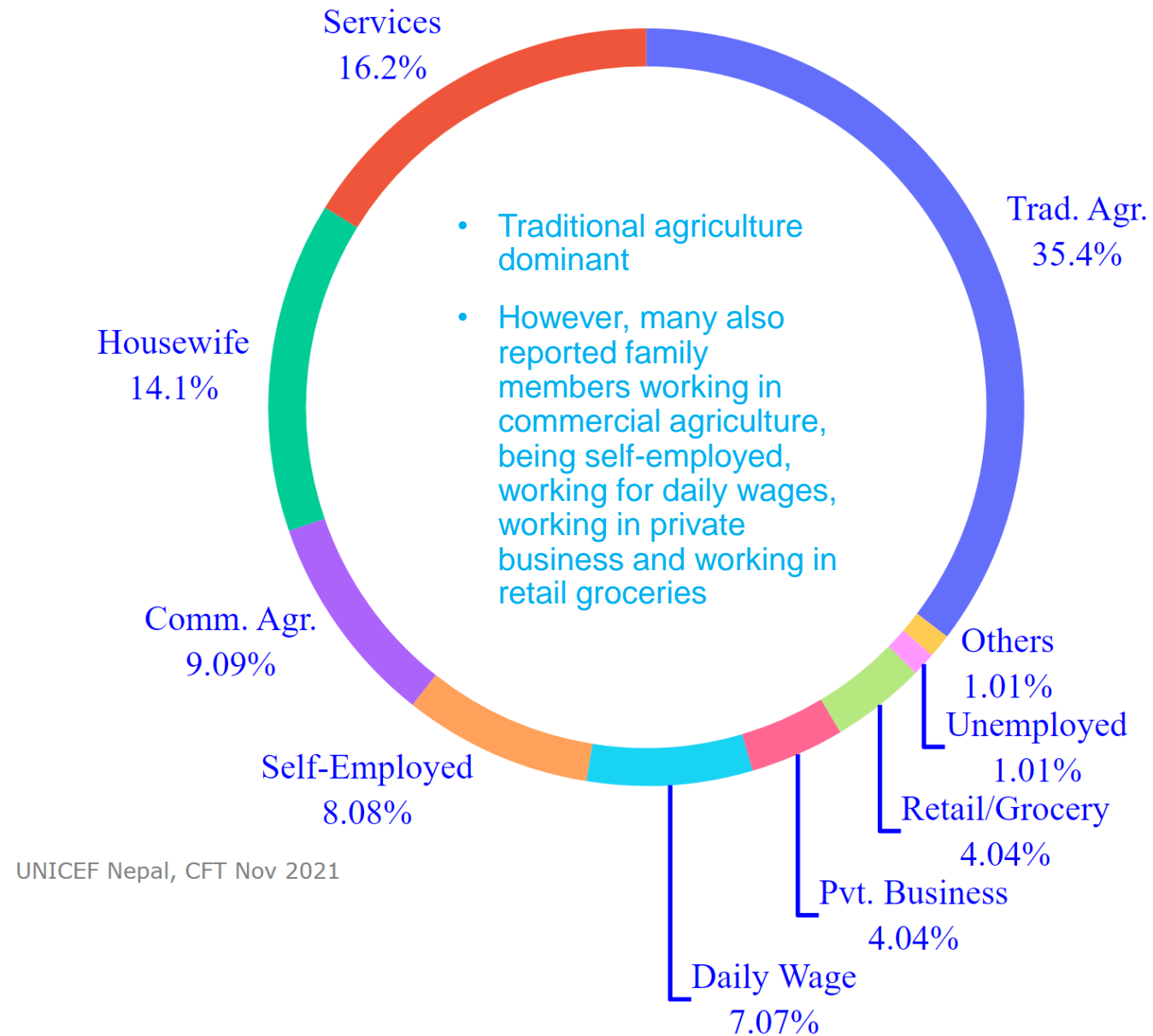
## SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

## Age distribution of children in sampled households

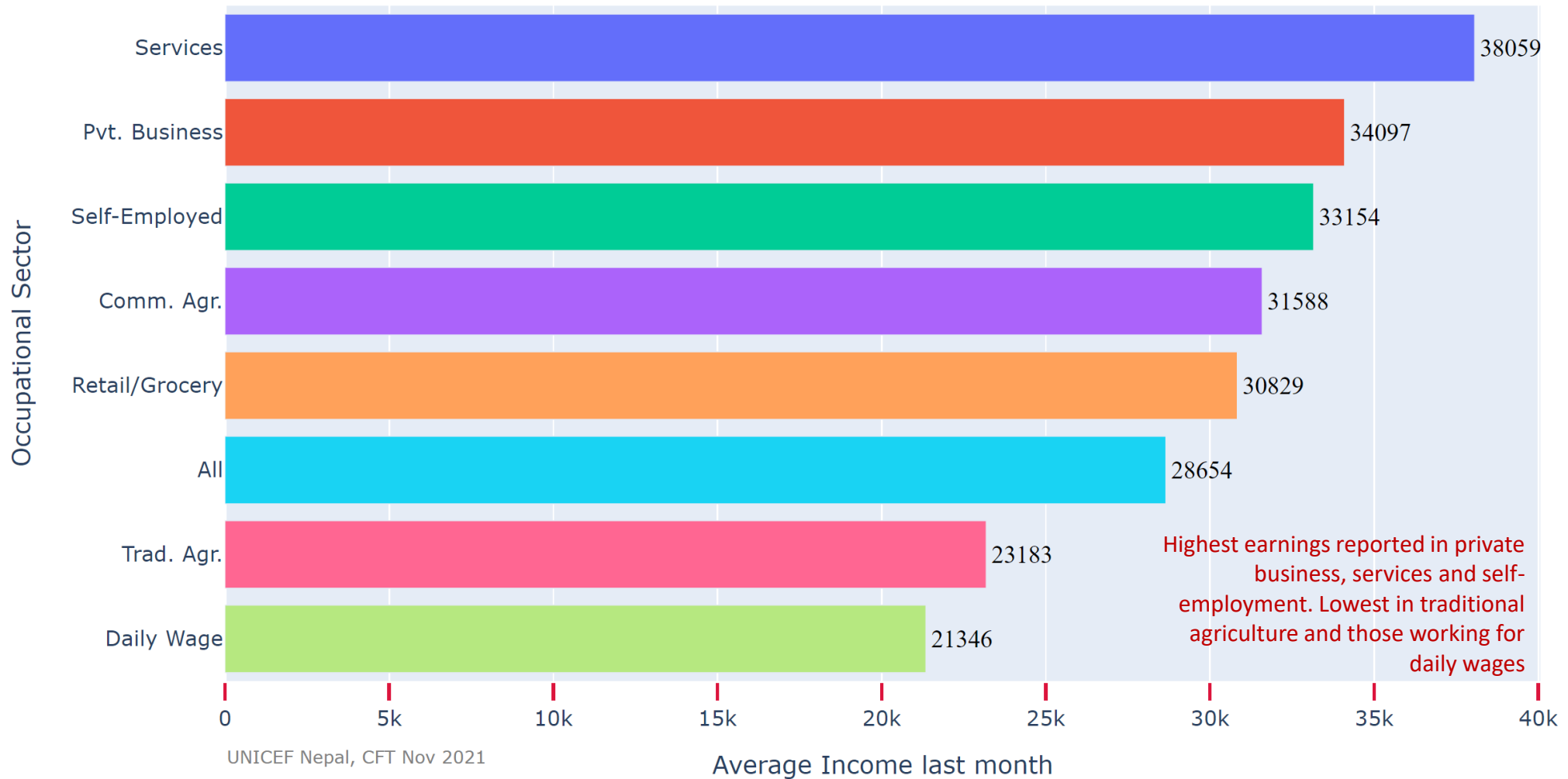


UNICEF Nepal, CFT Nov 2021

# Sector of employment

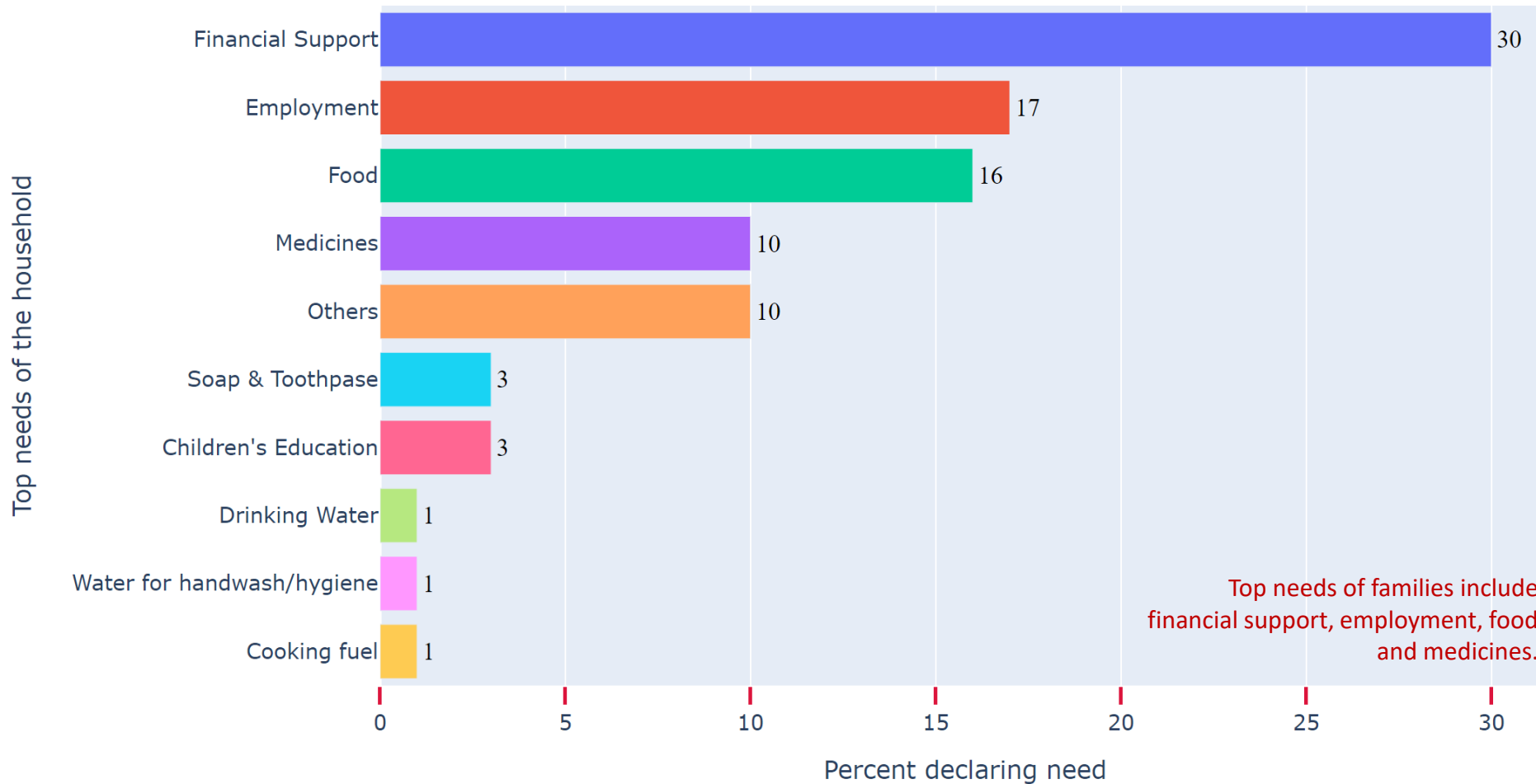


# Earnings by sector of employment: Highest earnings reported in private business, services and self-employment. Lowest in traditional agriculture and those working for daily wages



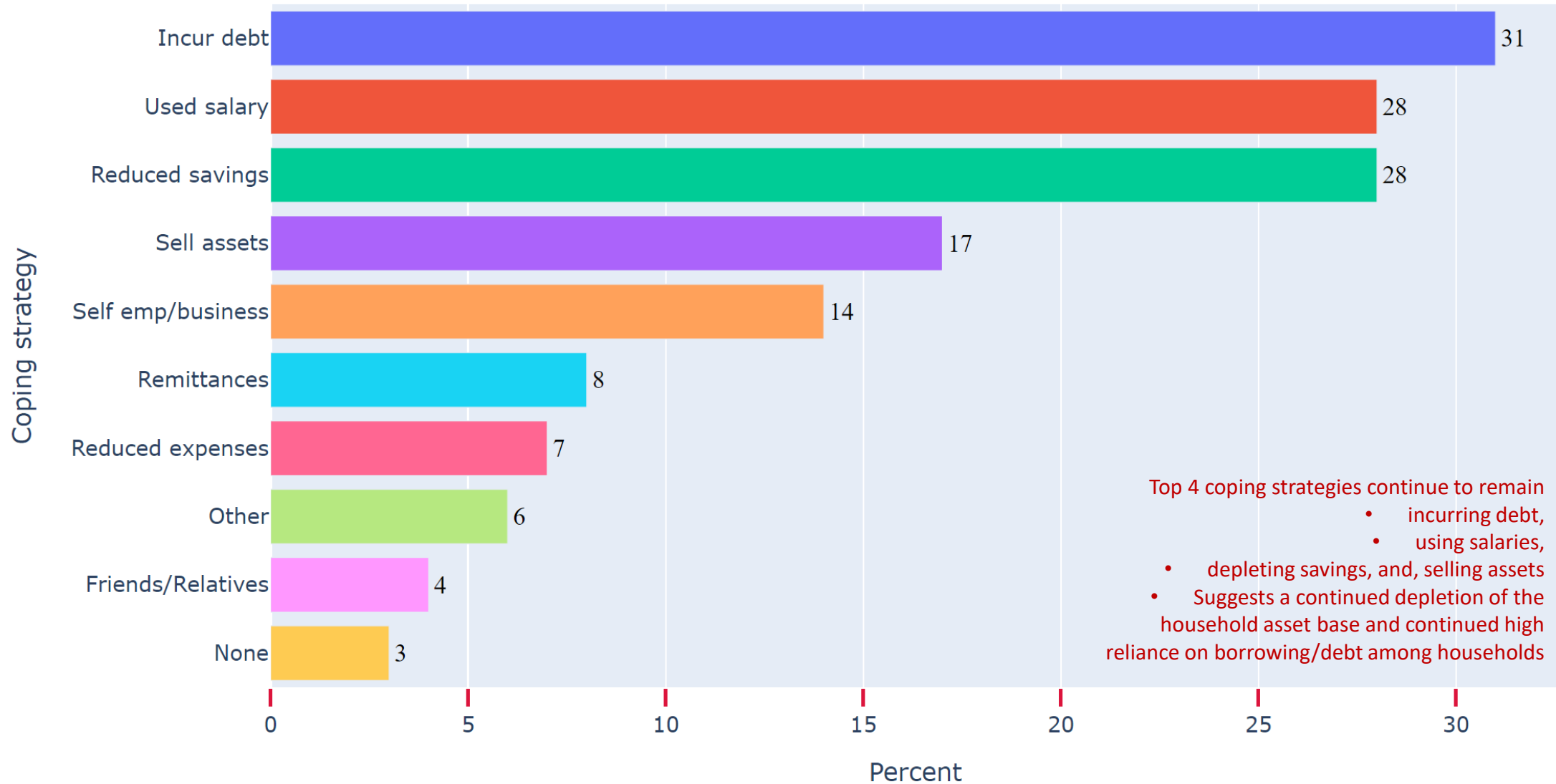


Nearly 1 in 3 households are in need of financial support. Top needs of families include financial support, employment, food and medicines. Declining trend observed for financial support, employment and food compared to earlier rounds. The need for children's education also declined as schools reopened.

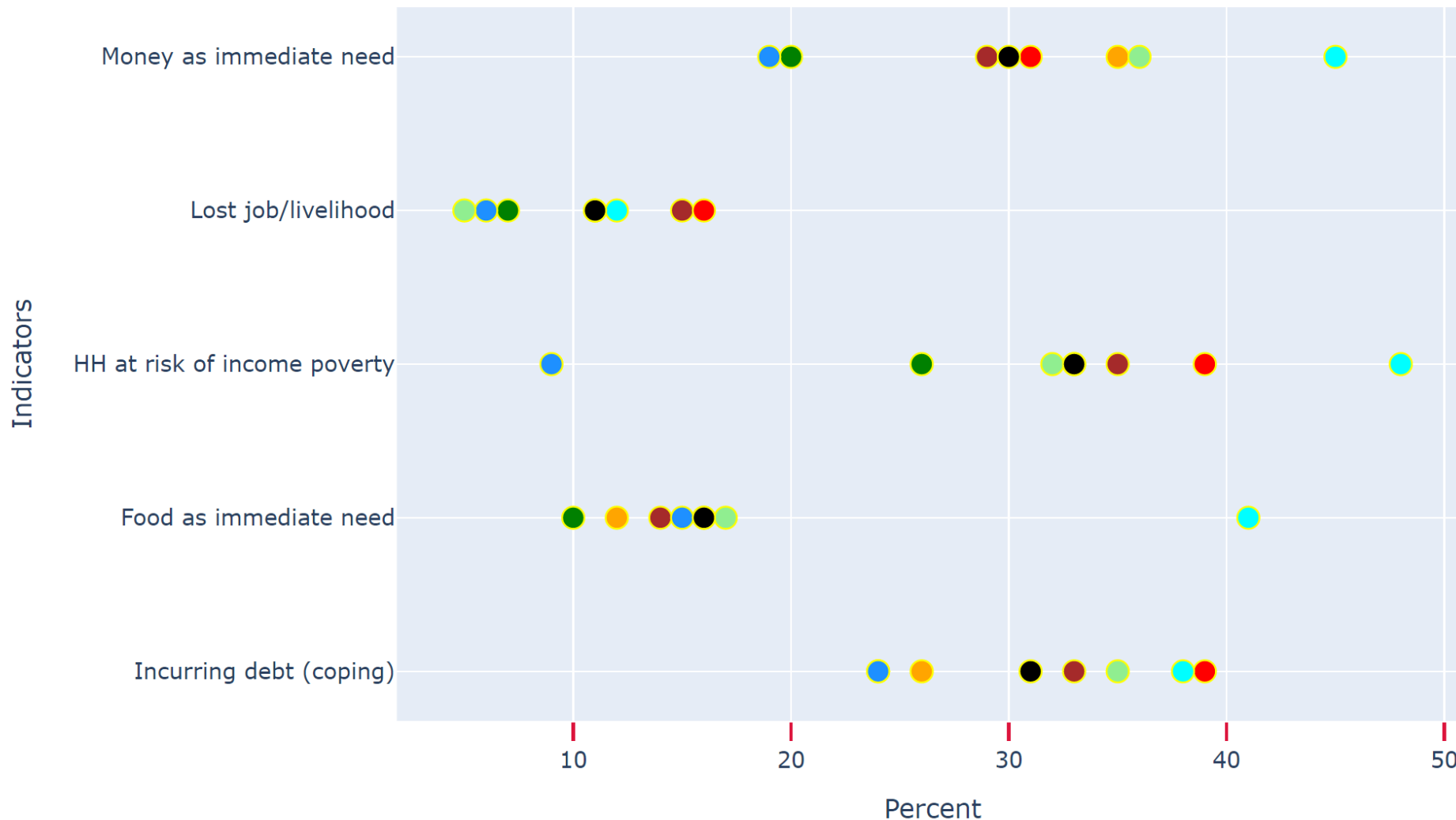


Top needs of families include financial support, employment, food and medicines.

## Coping: Many children continue to live in households that are incurring debt or depleting household assets as a coping mechanism



## Socio-economic shocks and needs by Province



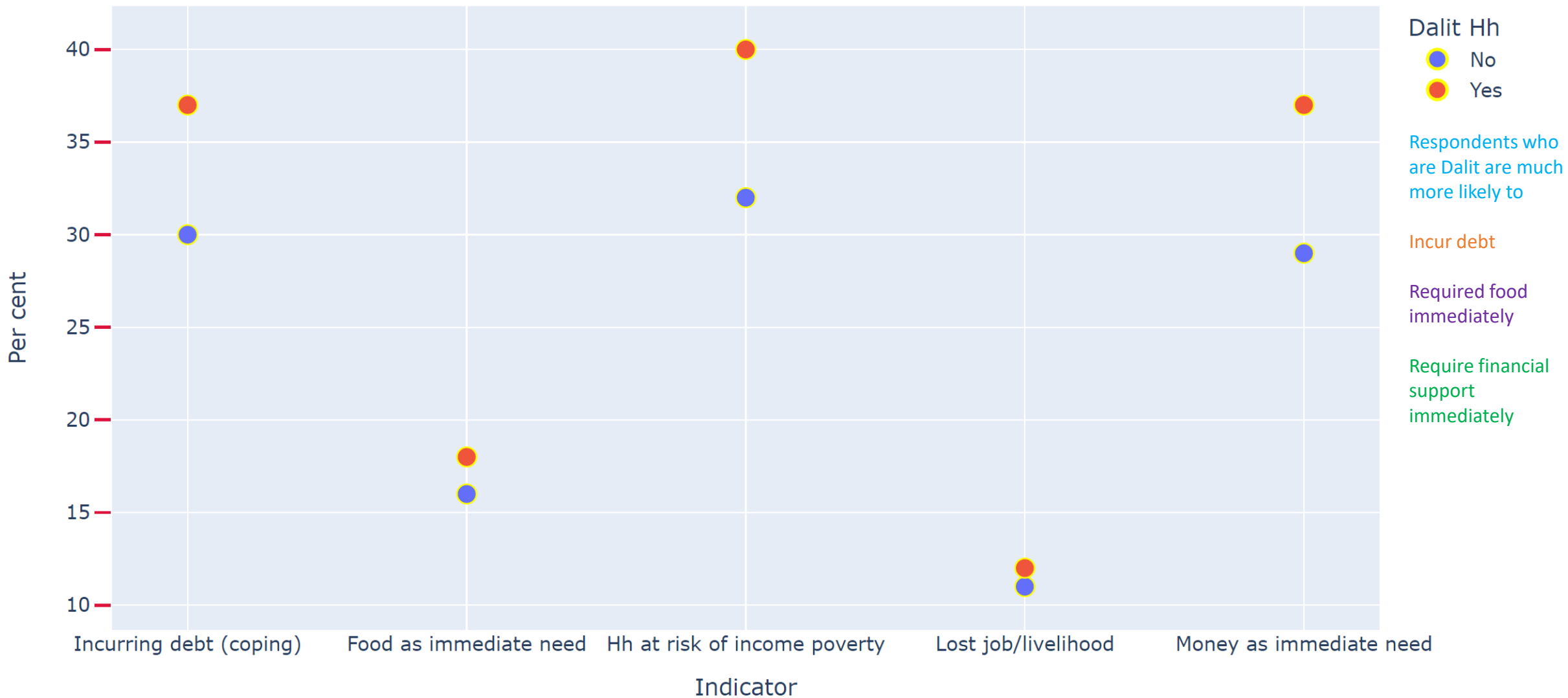
### Province

- Province 1
- Province 2
- Bagmati
- Gandaki
- Lumbini
- Karnali
- Sudur Pashchim
- All

### Interesting variation among provinces:

1. Incurring debt – highest in Sudur Pashchim and Lumbini
2. Food as an immediate need – highest Sudur Paschim
3. HH at risk of income poverty – highest in Sudur Paschim
4. Job losses highest in Lumbini
5. Money as immediate need – highest in Sudur Paschim, Karnali & Province 2

## Socio-economic shocks and needs by Ethnicity (Dalit households)

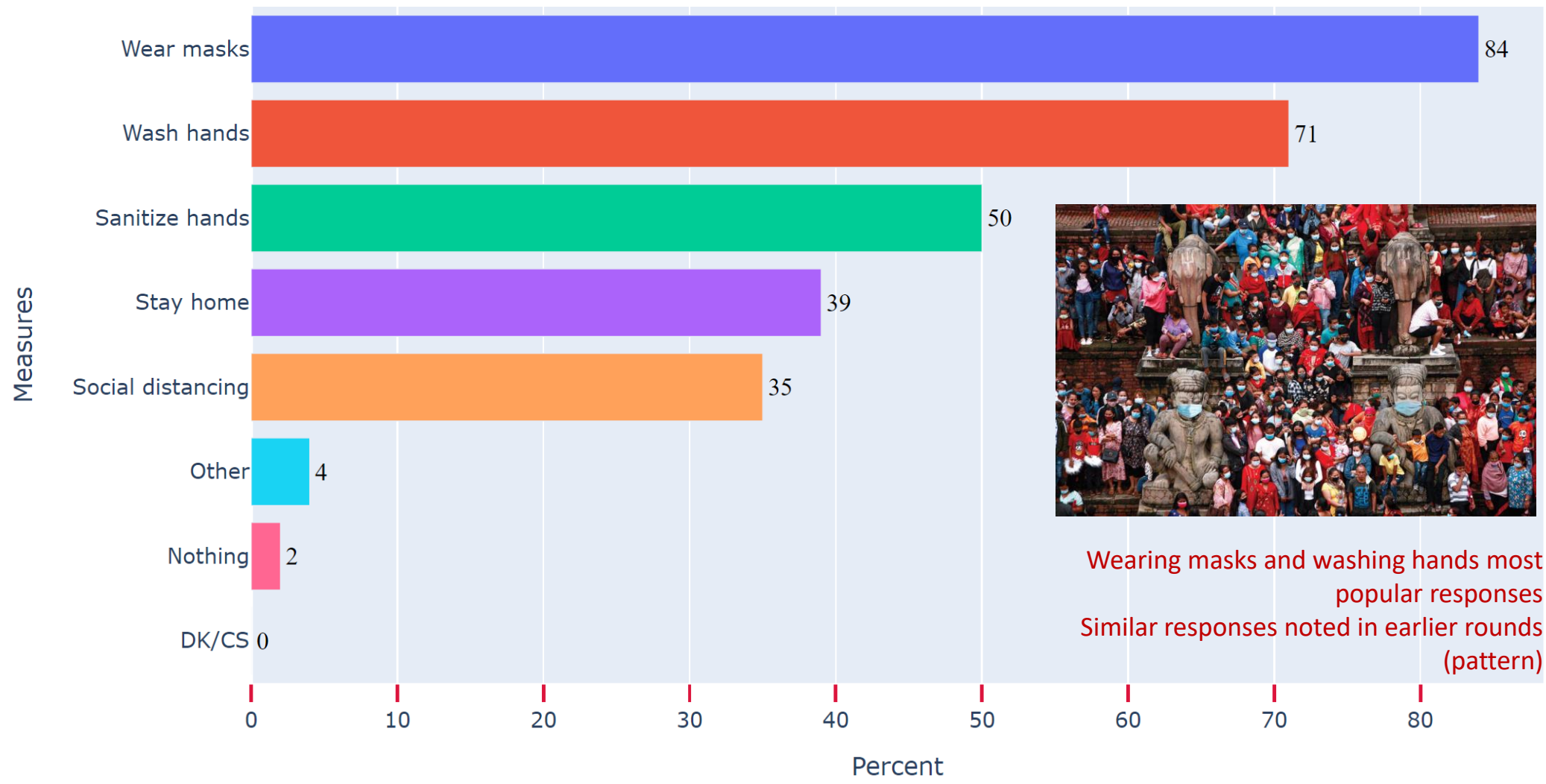




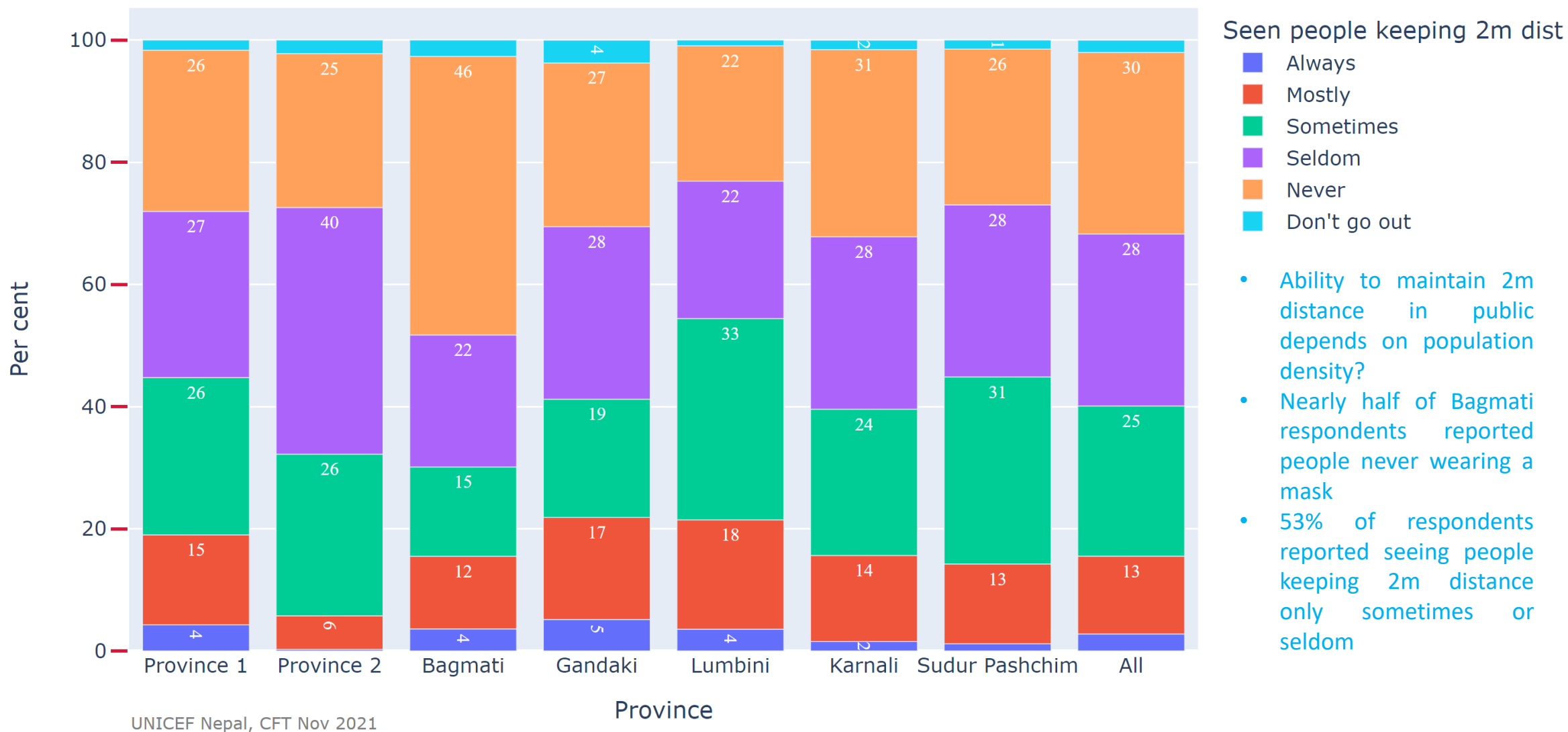
**COVID 19 –KNOWLEDGE and BEHAVIOUR**



# Steps taken for protection during holiday season – mask usage was the main form (behaviour also reported in newspapers and media in Nepal - 'Behind the mask', Nepali Times)



## In the past week, how often have you seen people keeping 2 meters distance in public places?

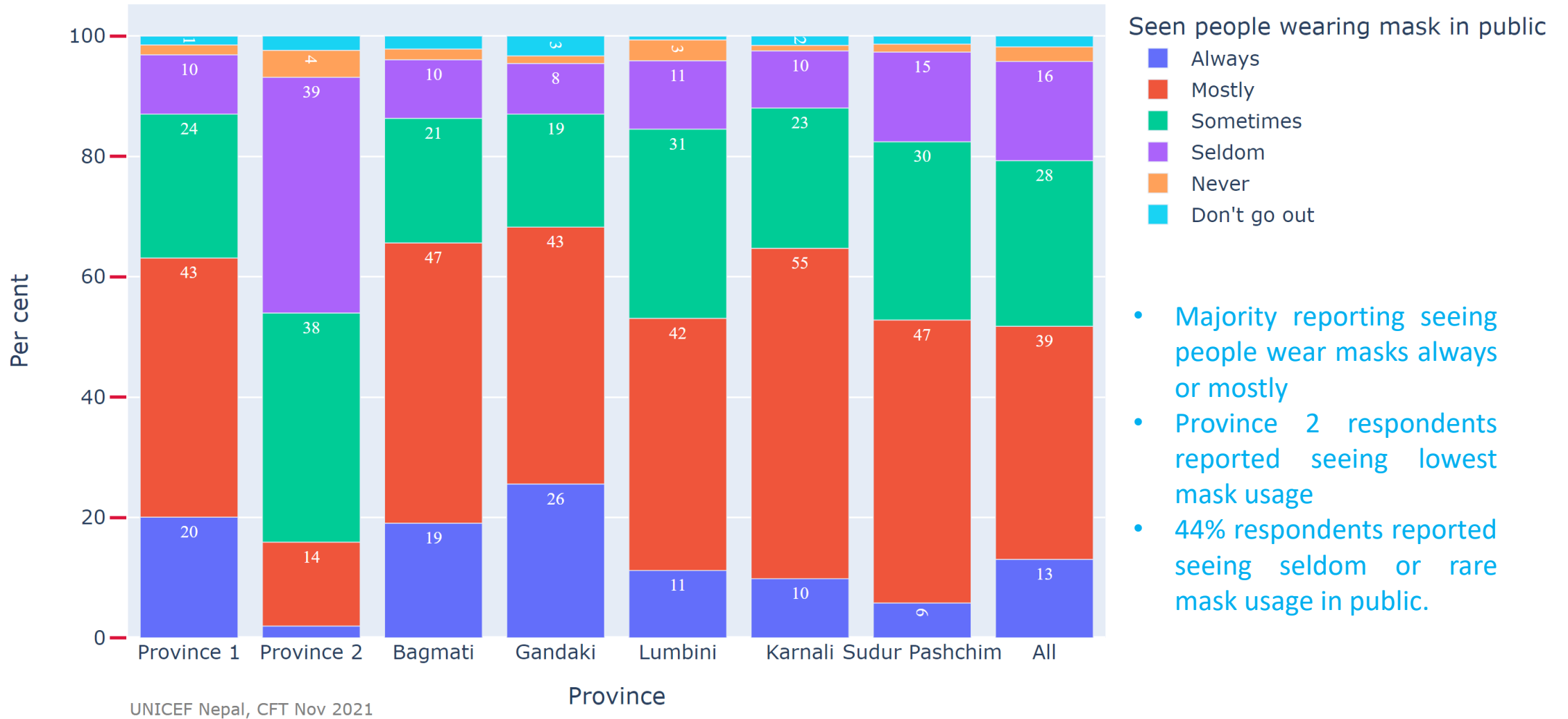


### Seen people keeping 2m dist

- Always
- Mostly
- Sometimes
- Seldom
- Never
- Don't go out

- Ability to maintain 2m distance in public depends on population density?
- Nearly half of Bagmati respondents reported people never wearing a mask
- 53% of respondents reported seeing people keeping 2m distance only sometimes or seldom

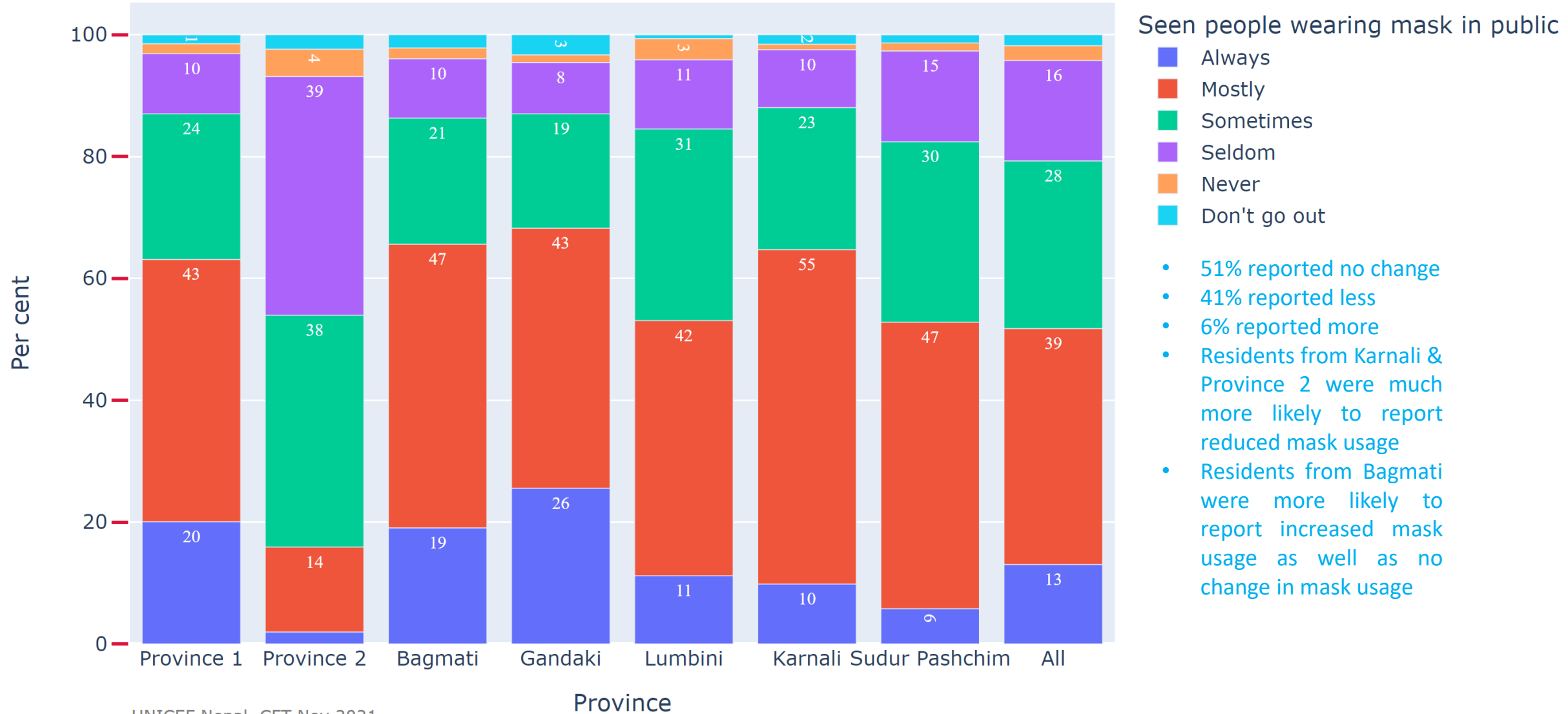
## In the past week, how often have you seen people wearing masks in public places?



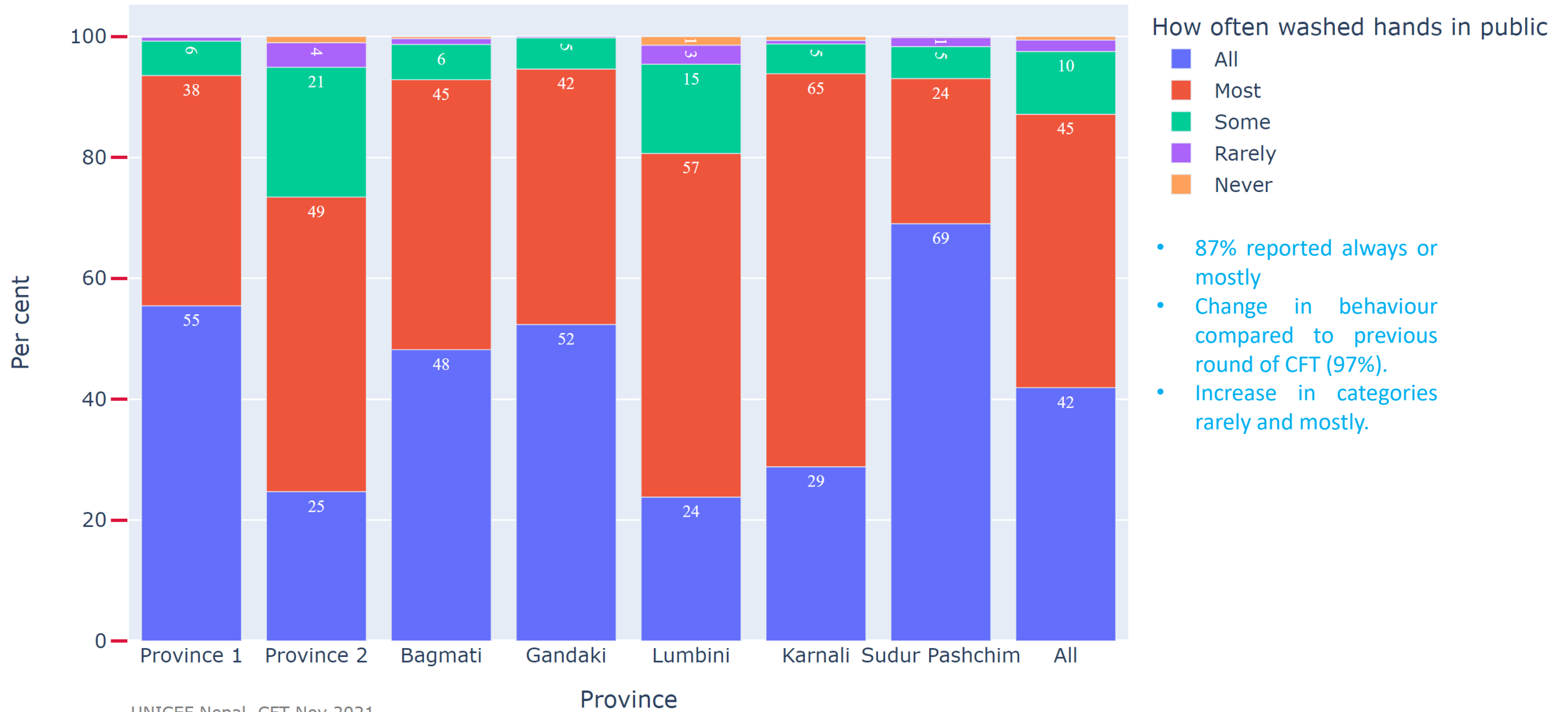
- Majority reporting seeing people wear masks always or mostly
- Province 2 respondents reported seeing lowest mask usage
- 44% respondents reported seeing seldom or rare mask usage in public.



## How has your mask wearing behaviour changed in the last month and a half?



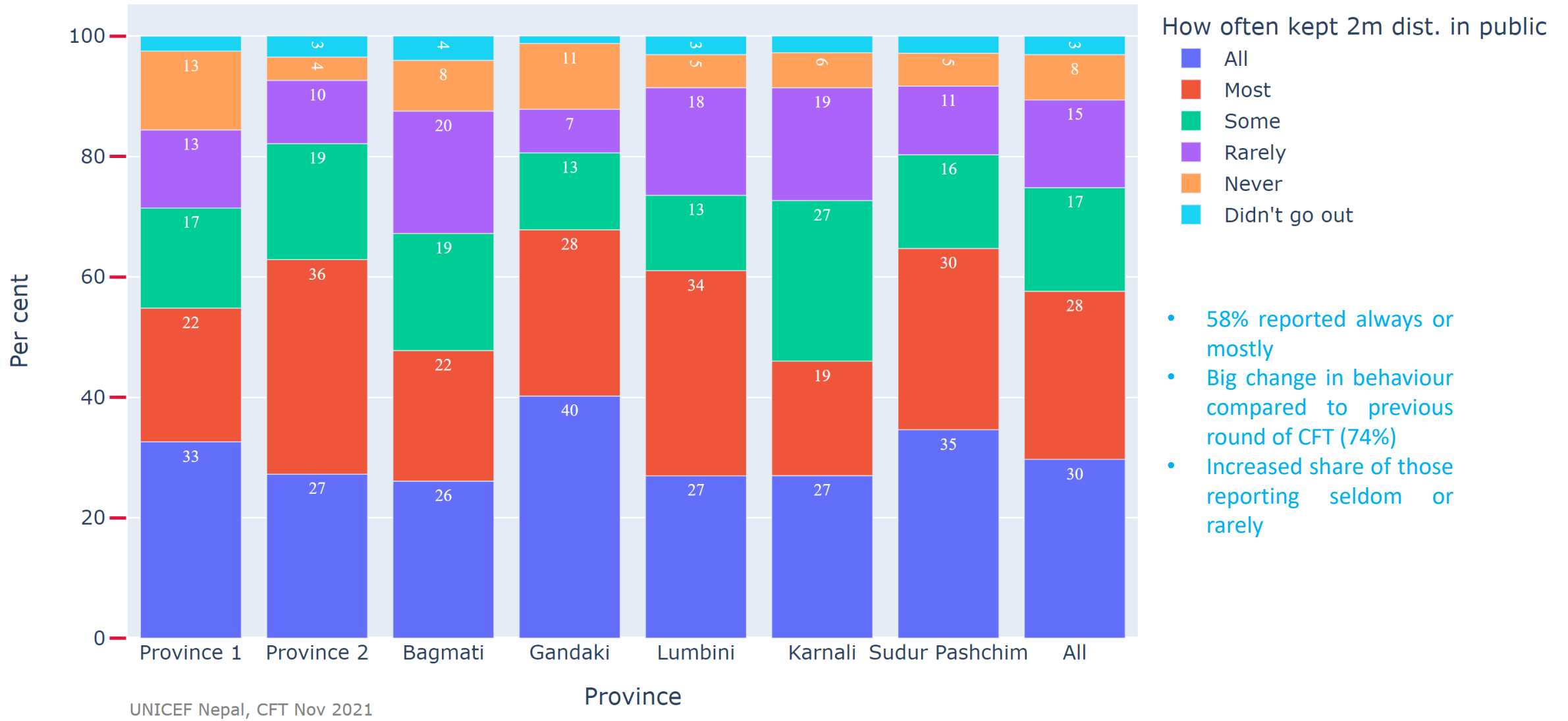
## In the past week, how often have you washed your hands with soap/sanitizer in public places?



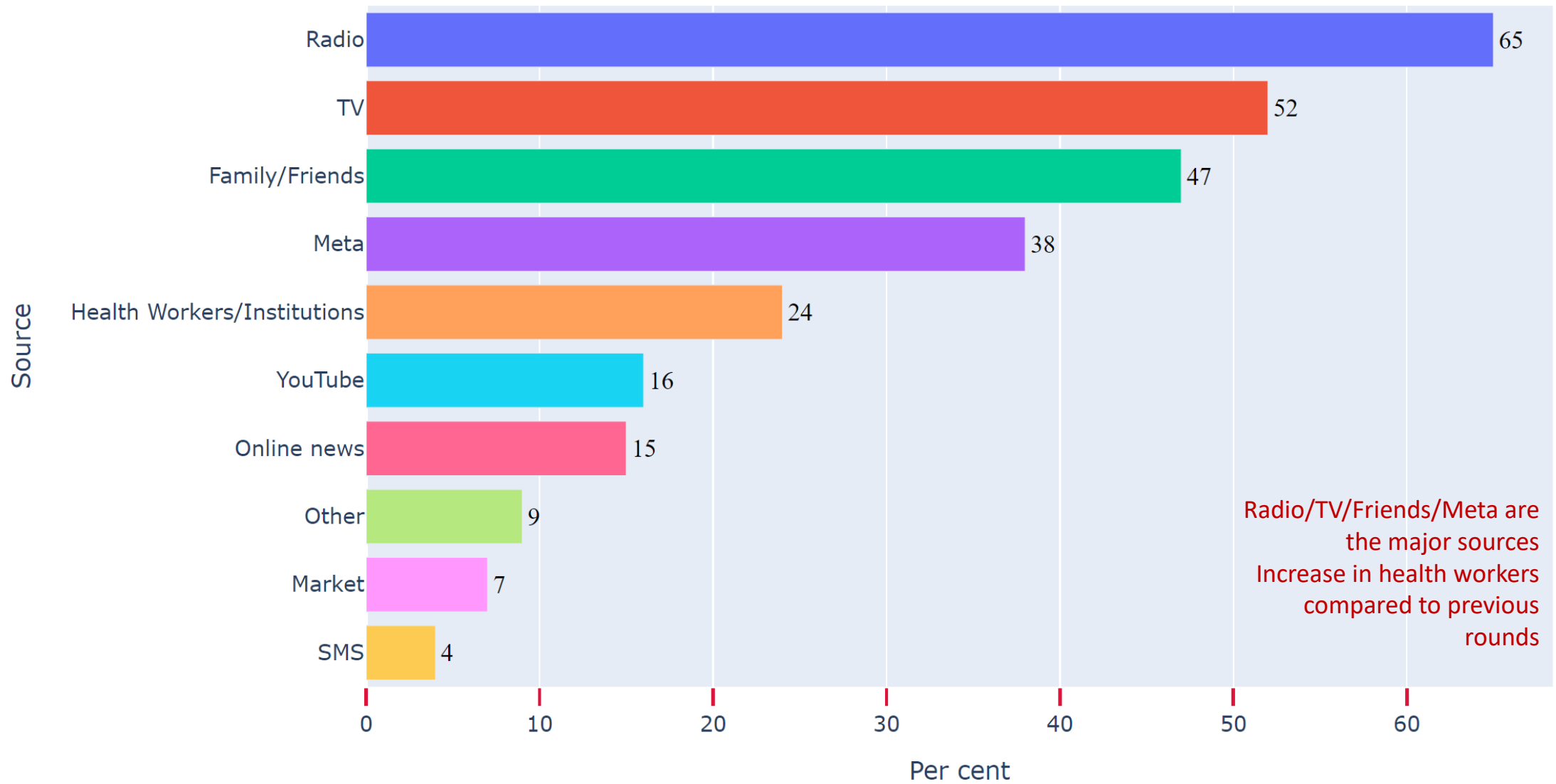
UNICEF Nepal, CFT Nov 2021

- 87% reported always or mostly
- Change in behaviour compared to previous round of CFT (97%).
- Increase in categories rarely and mostly.

## In the past week, how often have you kept 2m distance in public places?

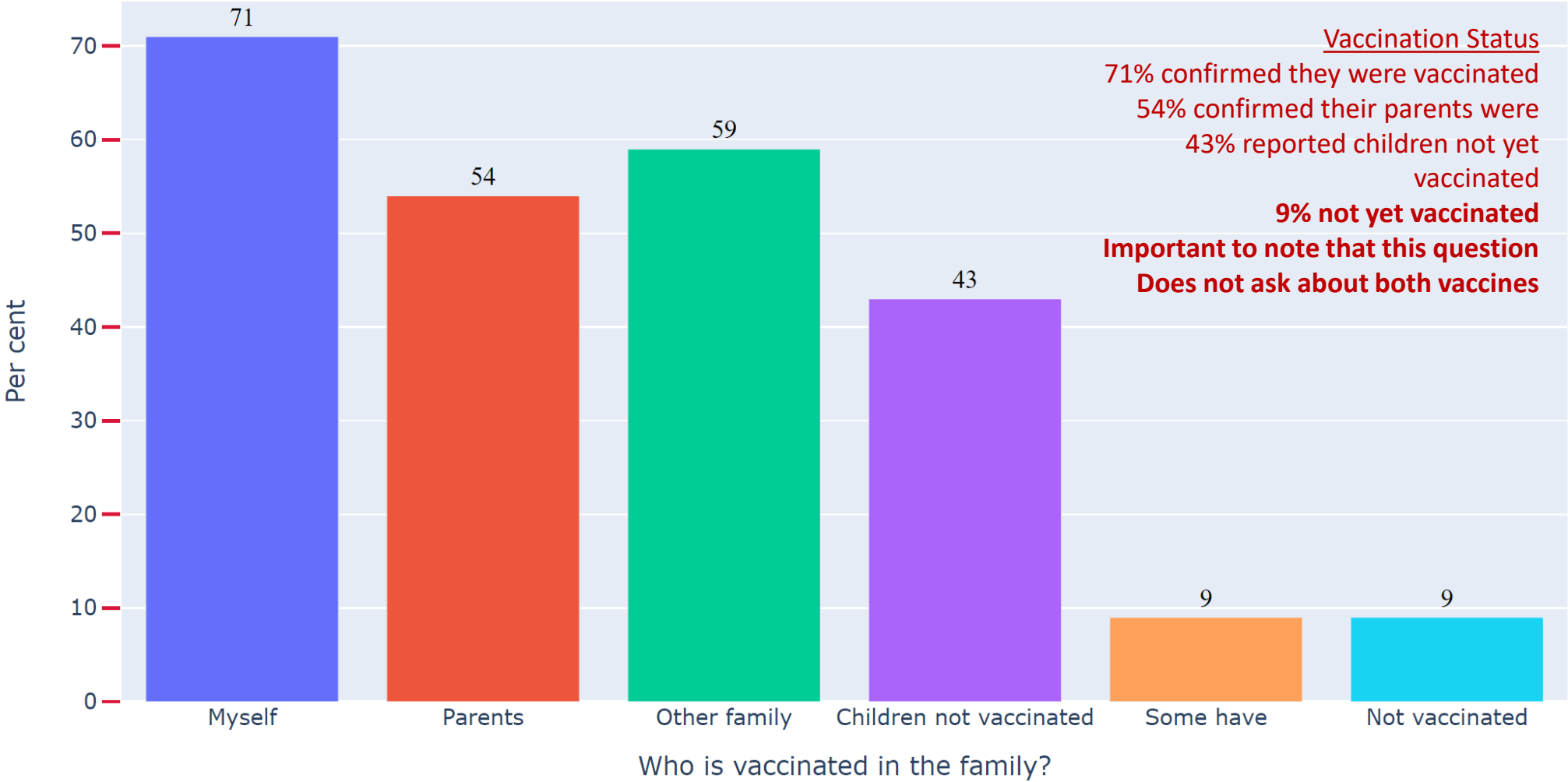


# Where are you getting information on covid-19 prevention?

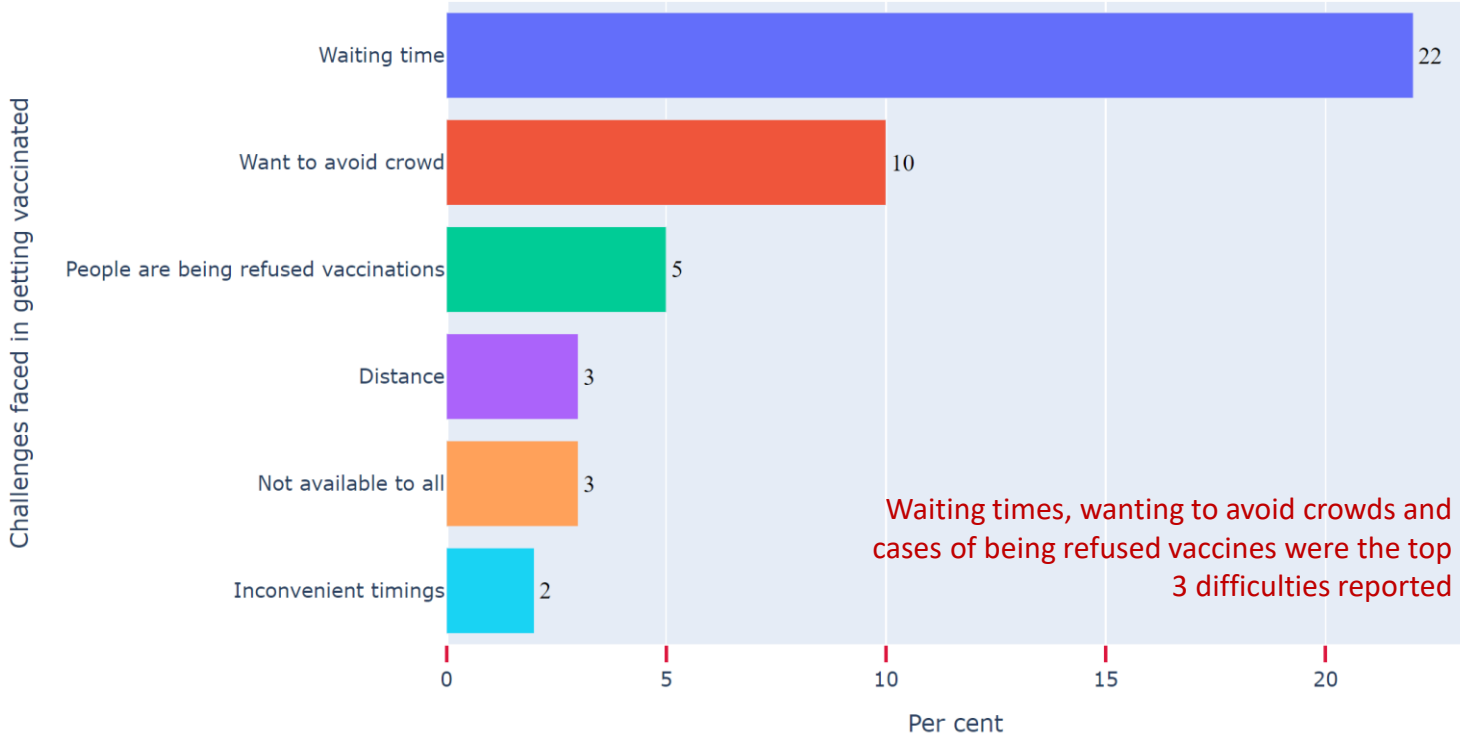
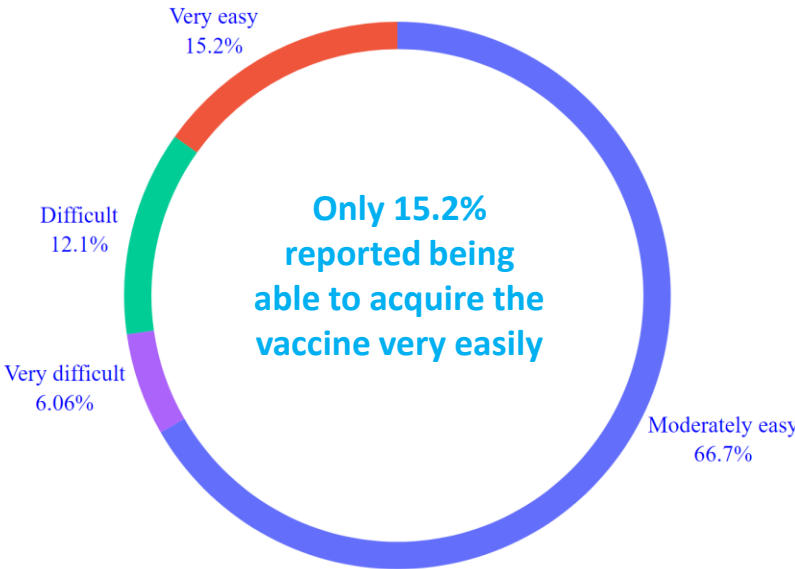


Radio/TV/Friends/Meta are the major sources  
Increase in health workers compared to previous rounds

# Have you or anyone in your family been vaccinated for COVID-19?

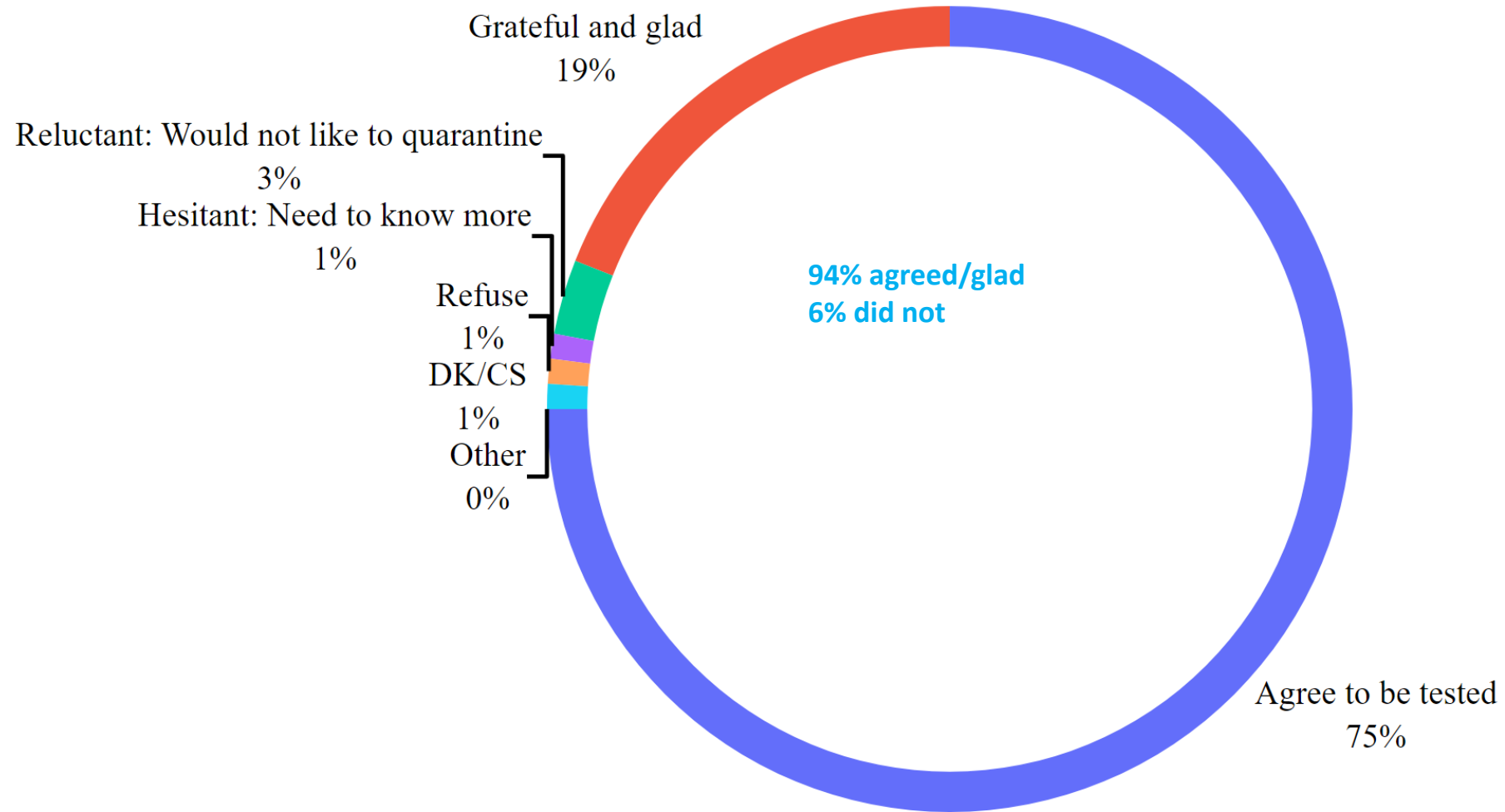


# How easy was it to get a COVID-19 vaccine (Left) ? What challenges were faced in getting vaccines for COVID-19 (Right)?

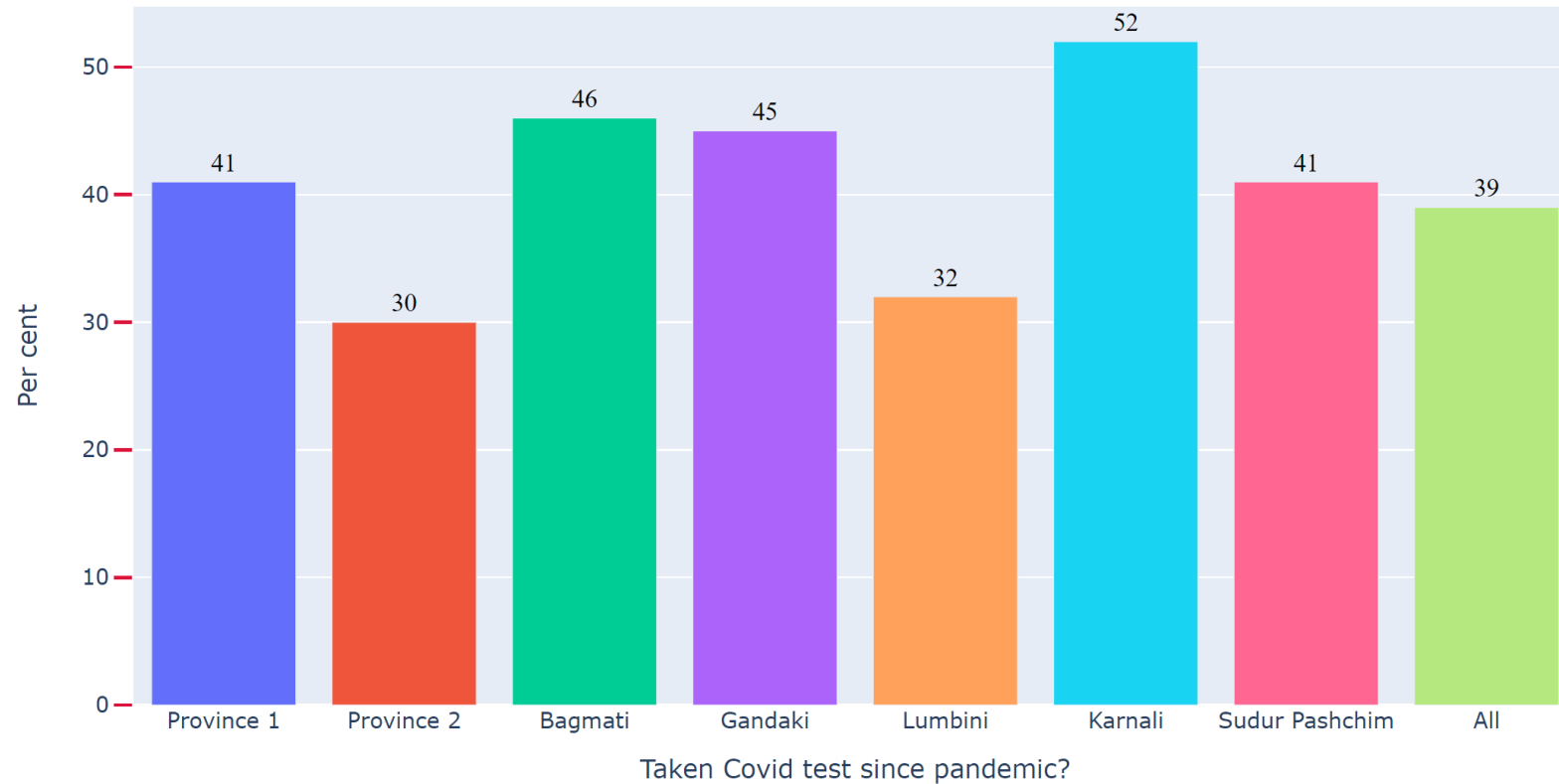


Interesting to note that challenges with vaccine administration: crowds, waiting times, being refused - were also issues noted and addressed by the Ministry of Health (Kathmandu Post, 09 Dec 2021)

## Reaction of respondent if being asked to test as a result of being a Covid contact



## Have you or your family member(s) have ever taken COVID19 test(s) any time since beginning of the pandemic (i.e. January 2020)?

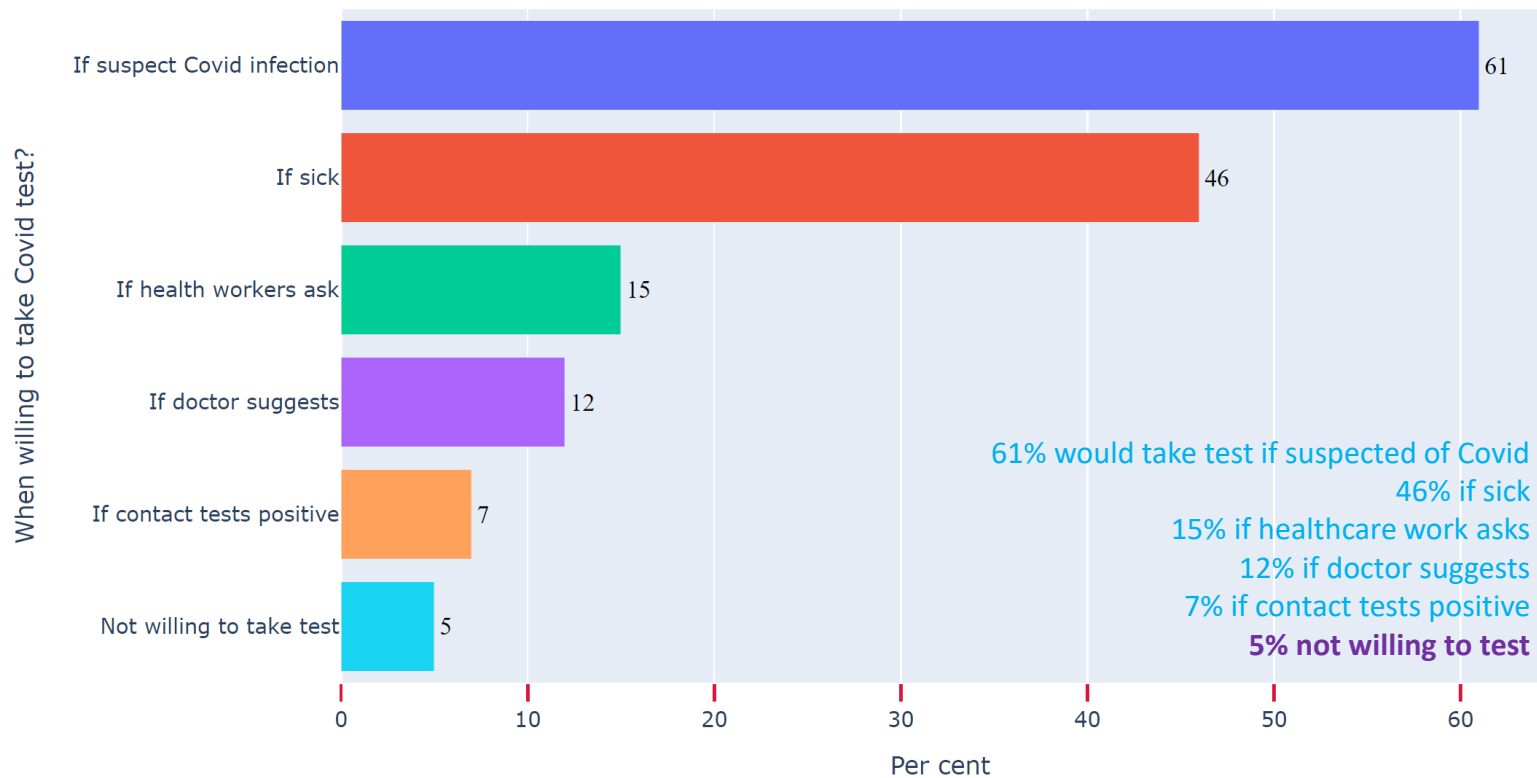


### Significant differences by Province

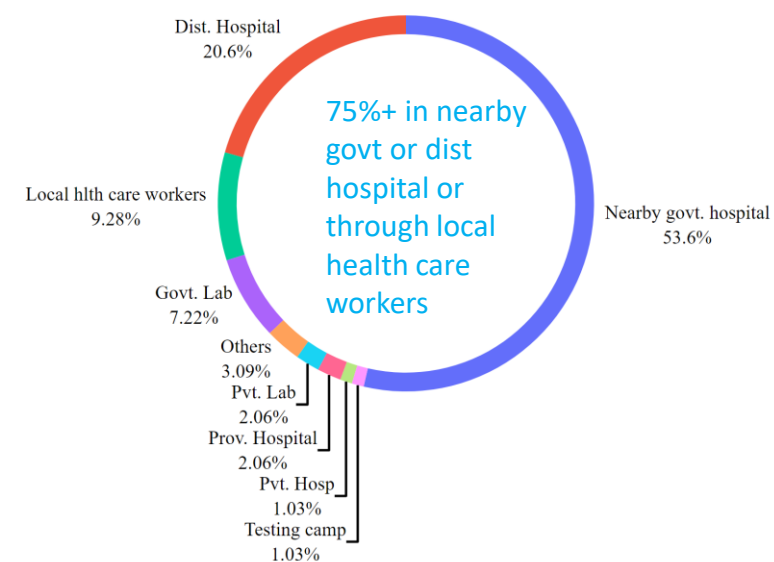
- Highest in Karnali, Bagmati & Gandaki
- Lowest in Province 2
- Overall, 39% reported themselves or family had ever taken Covid test



## When will you consider taking a COVID -19 tests? (for those not ever tested)



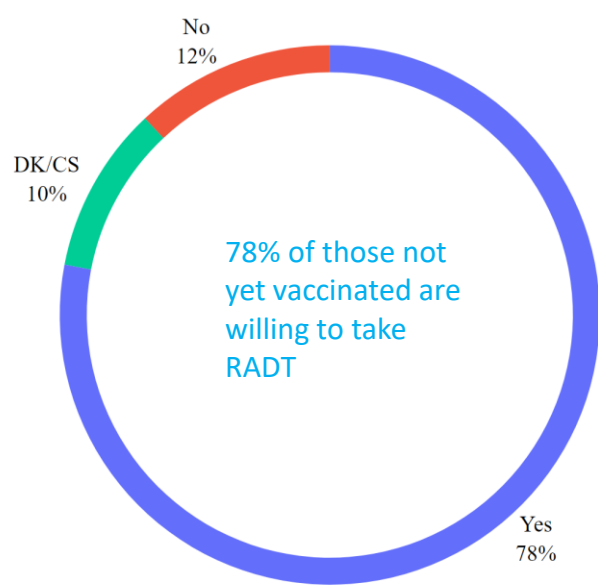
## Preferred place



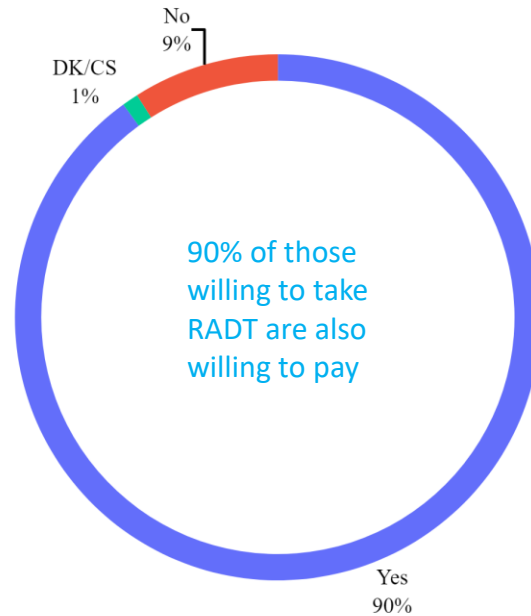
Refer to 'Perceptions Towards COVID-19 Vaccines and Willingness to Vaccinate in Nepal', Subedi, et al. Dec 2021 for similar findings

If your child is going to school, are you willing to pay for RADT every week either at school or otherwise?

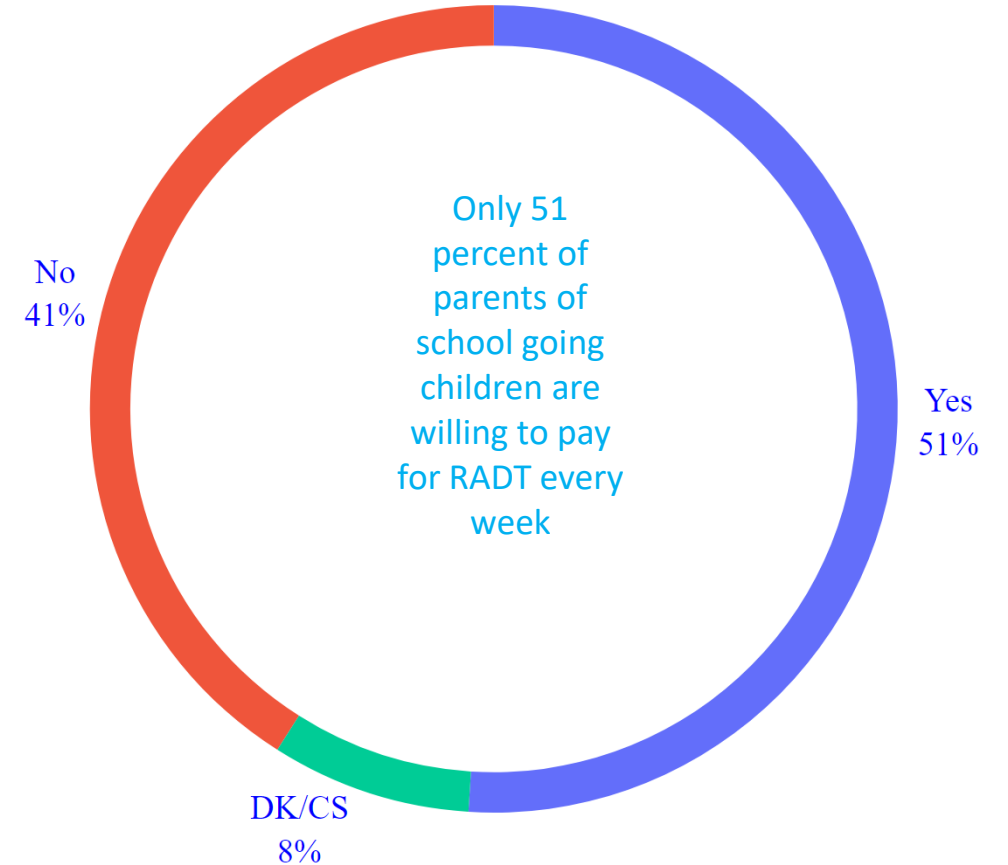
### Willingness to take RADT and pay for it



78% of those not yet vaccinated are willing to take RADT



90% of those willing to take RADT are also willing to pay

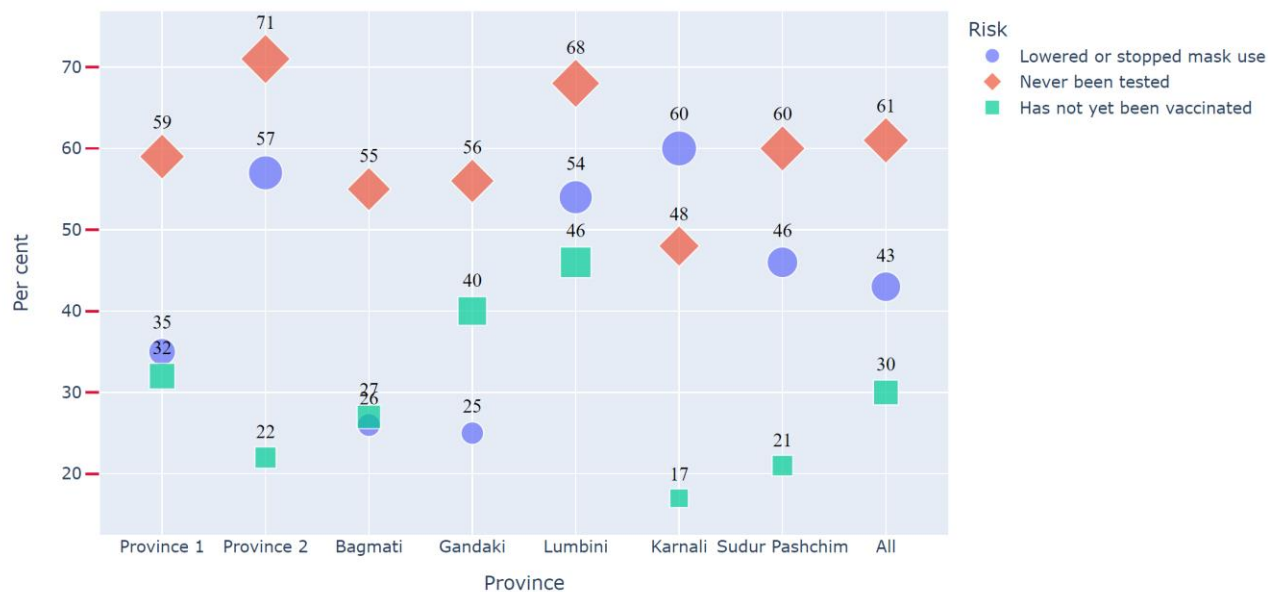


Only 51 percent of school going children are willing to pay for RADT every week

RADT: Rapid Antigen Diagnostic Testing

## Three (3) indicators to measure risk: Lowered mask usage; Not vaccinated; Not tested. Differences by province and correlations

Covid-19 risks by Province



### Significant differences by Province

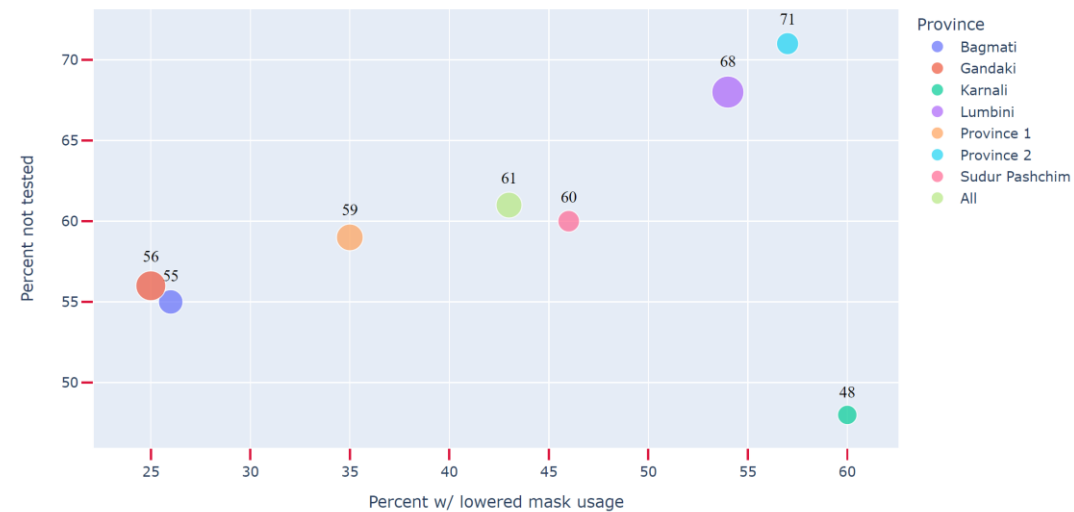
Never been tested highest in Province 2 and Lumbini

Lowered mask usage highest in Province 2, Karnali & Lumbini

Not yet been vaccinated, highest in Lumbini

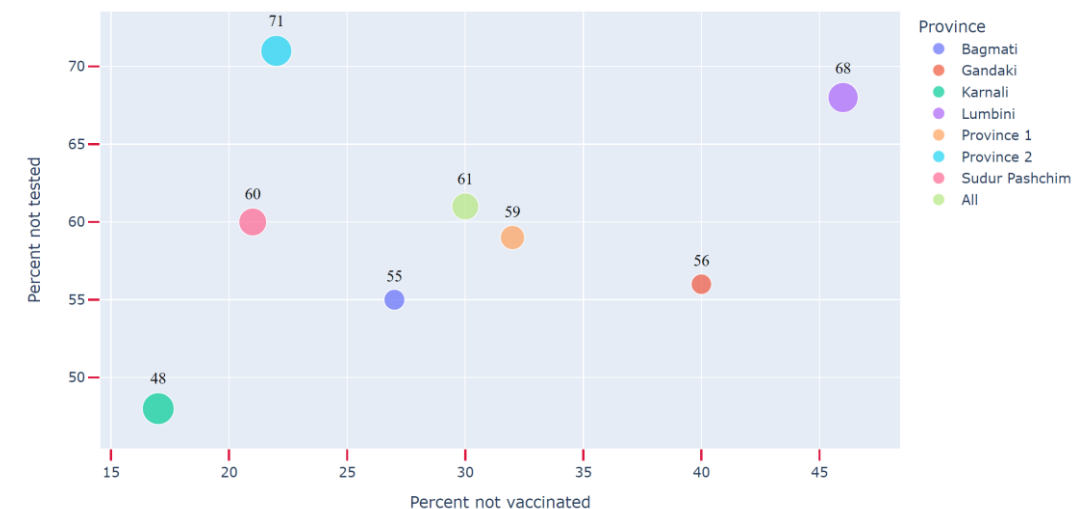
**9.3%: Not vaccinated or tested + lowered mask usage**

Lowered mask usage and vaccination



Lowered mask usage and not tested +ve correlation (top) but not so for testing and vaccinated (bottom)

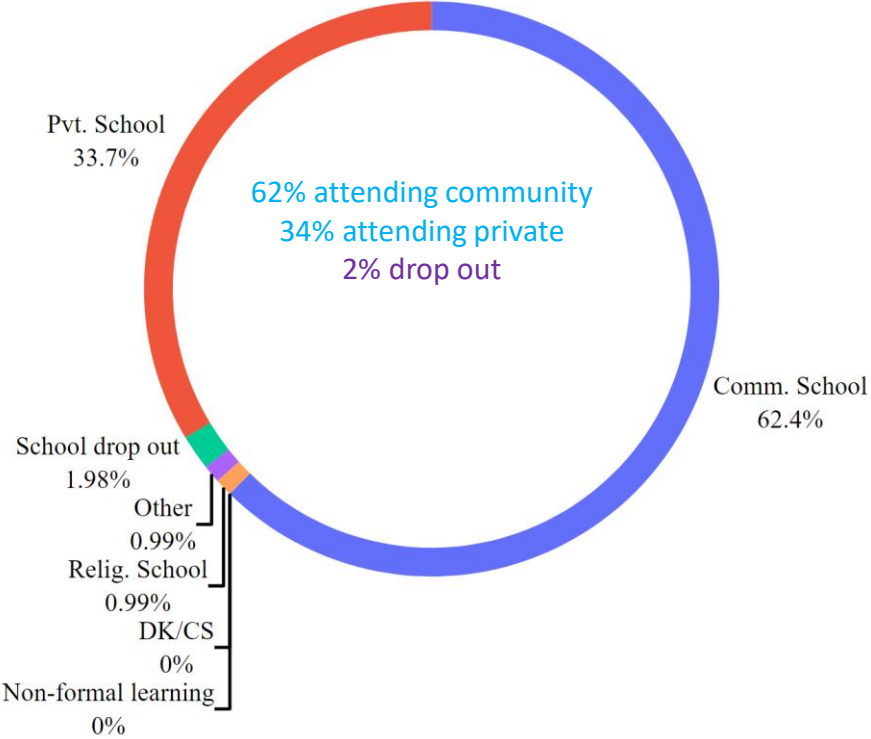
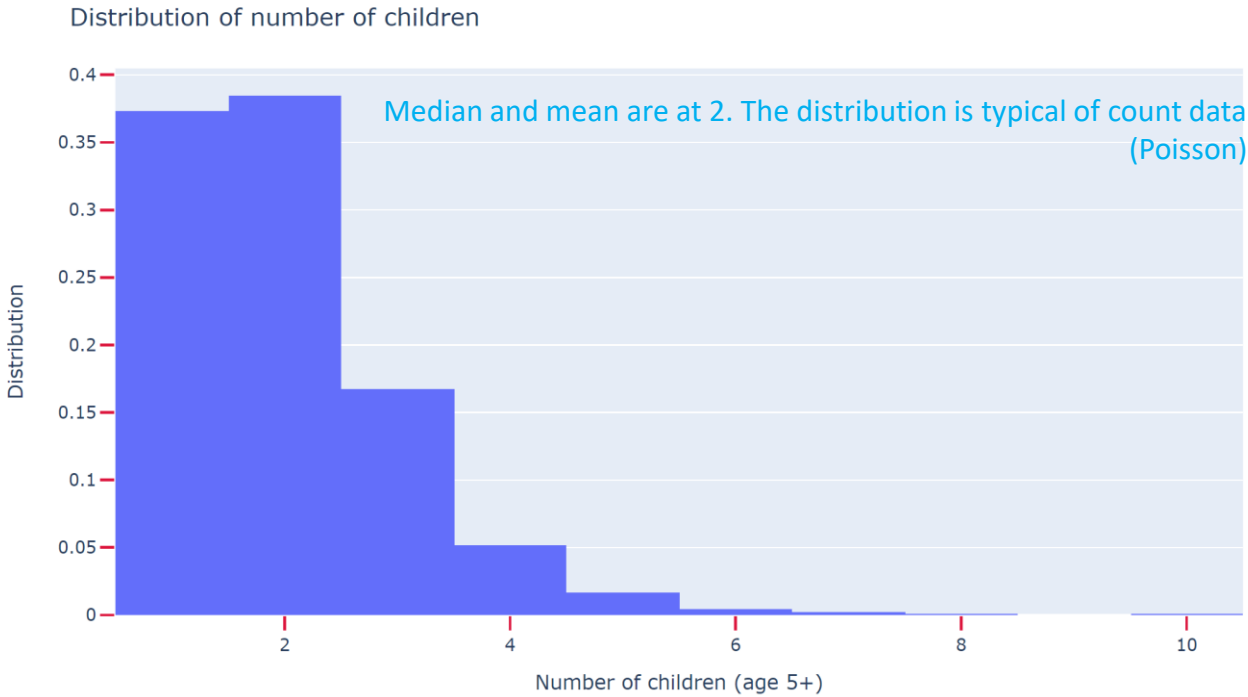
Vaccinations and testing





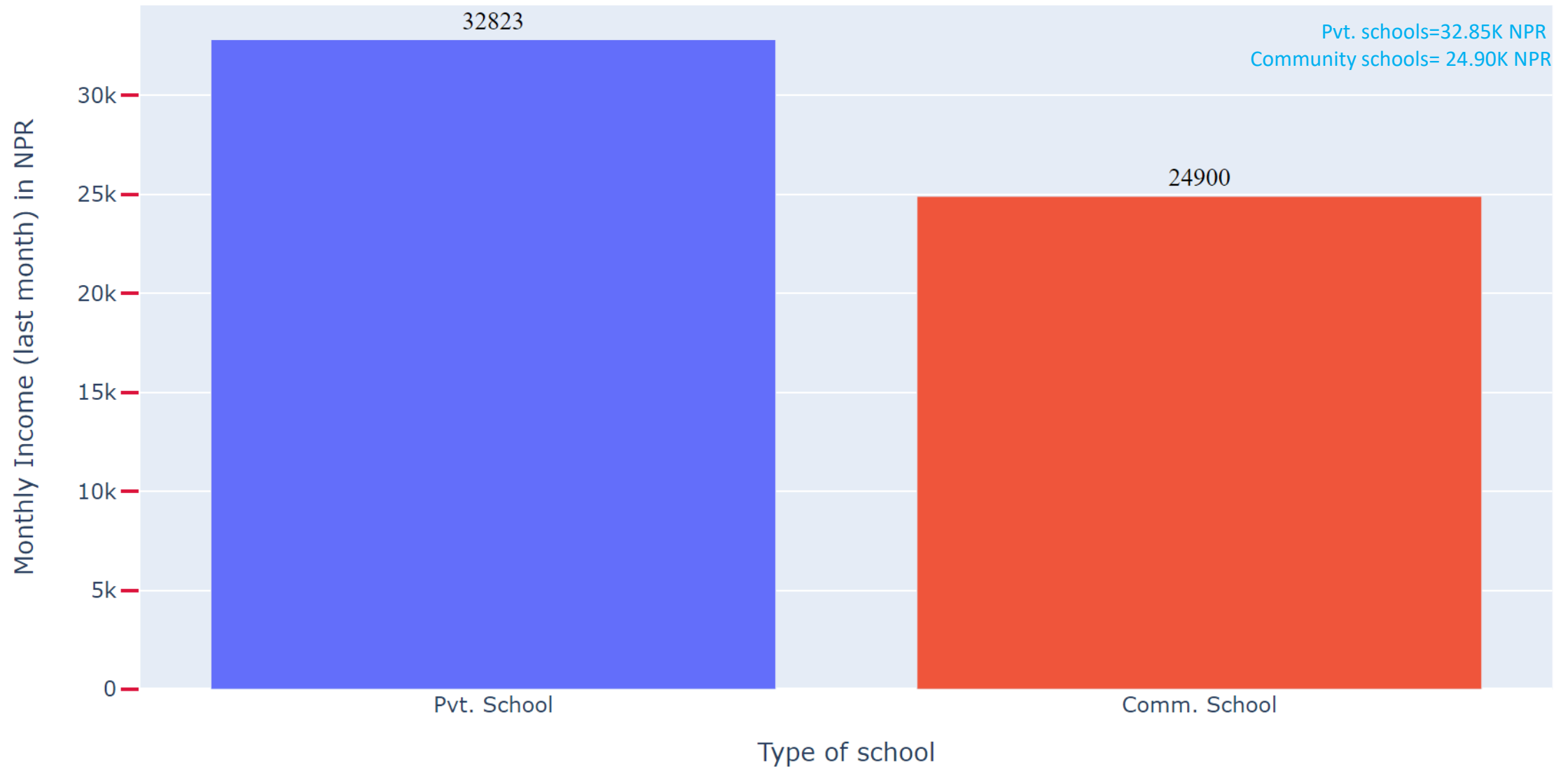
**EDUCATION**

Private schools accommodated 33.7% of these children while Community schools 62.4%. 2% respondents reported their children had dropped-out of school.

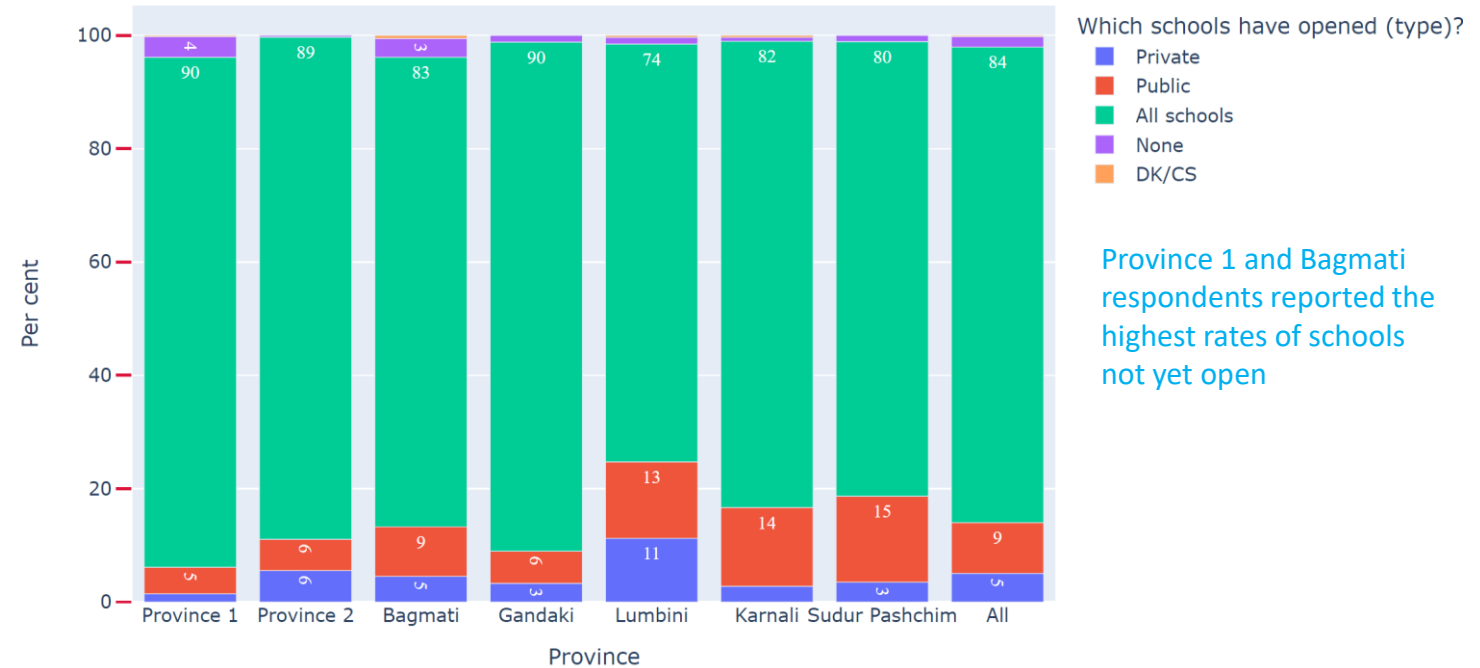
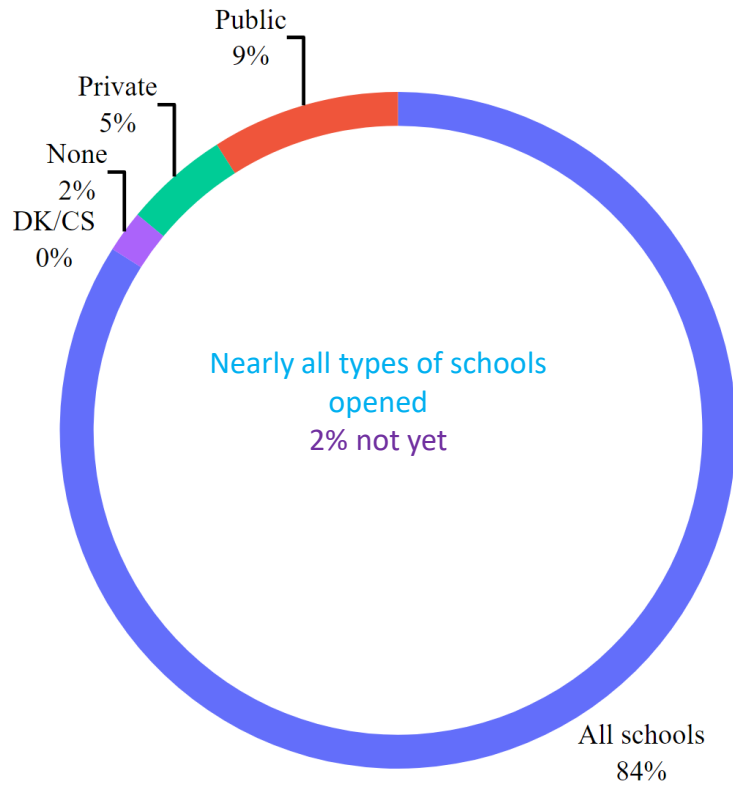


Average age of the child is around 11 years. 50-50 division between boys and girls

Respondents sending their children to private schools had significantly higher monthly incomes compared to those who were sending their children to community schools.



## Have schools opened (which ones) in your locality?



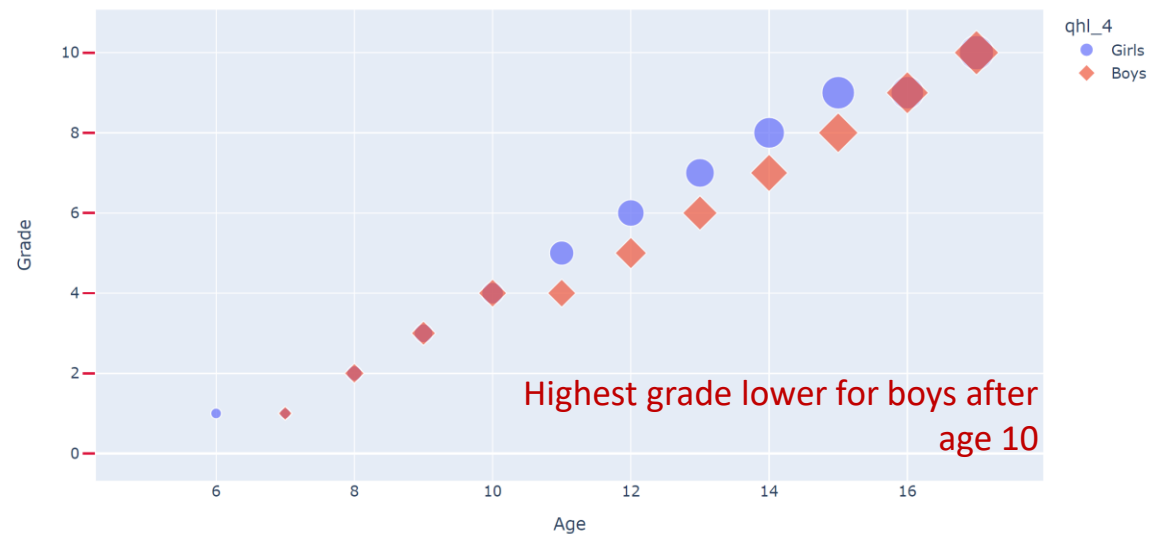
84% of respondents said all schools were opened. Of the remaining 16%, 9% reported public schools as being open and 5% reported private schools being opened. 2% reported schools had not opened yet. The variation by Province shows that in Bagmati and Province 1, more respondents were likely to report schools not yet opening

Highest Grade by age of child

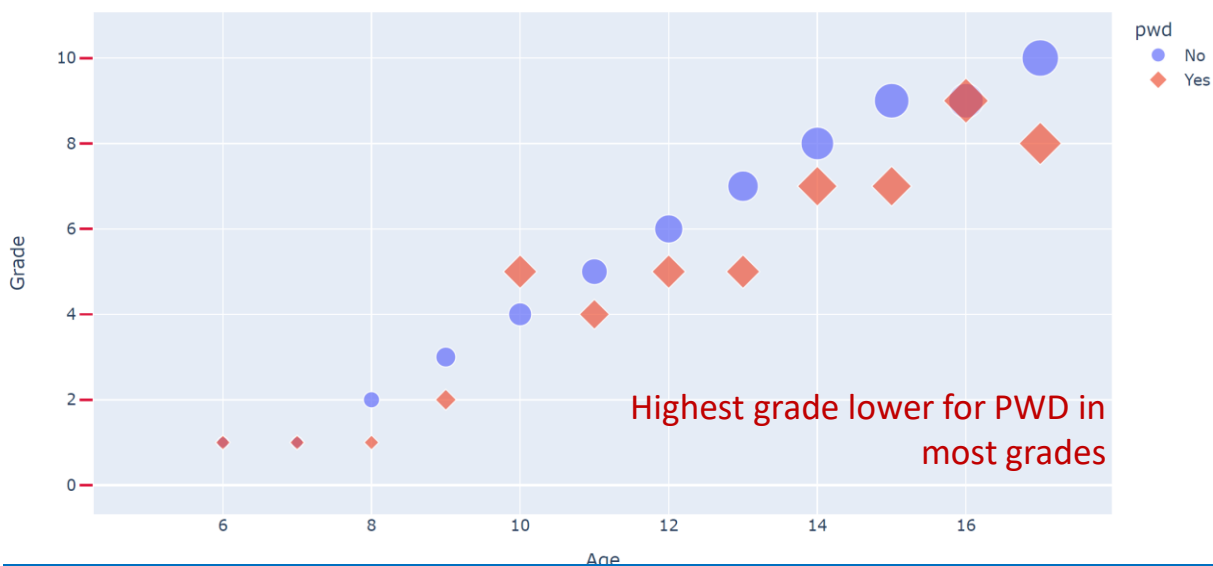


## Differentials in highest grade achieved by ethnicity, disability status and gender

Highest grade by age of child



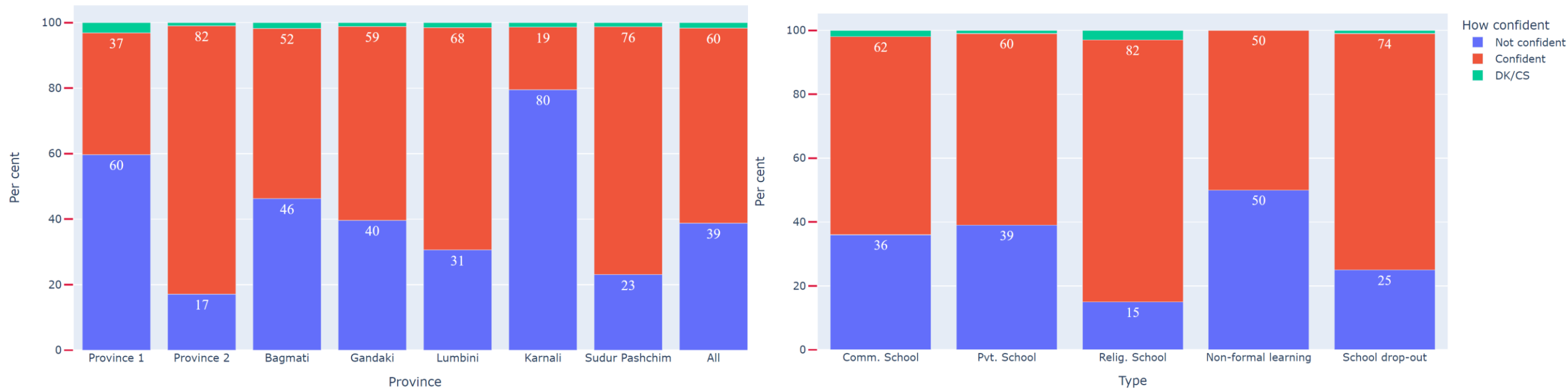
Highest grade by age of child



Supports some of the findings from the 'Positive Deviance Research in Nepal (MoEST, Unicef Innocenti), 2021 (Draft)

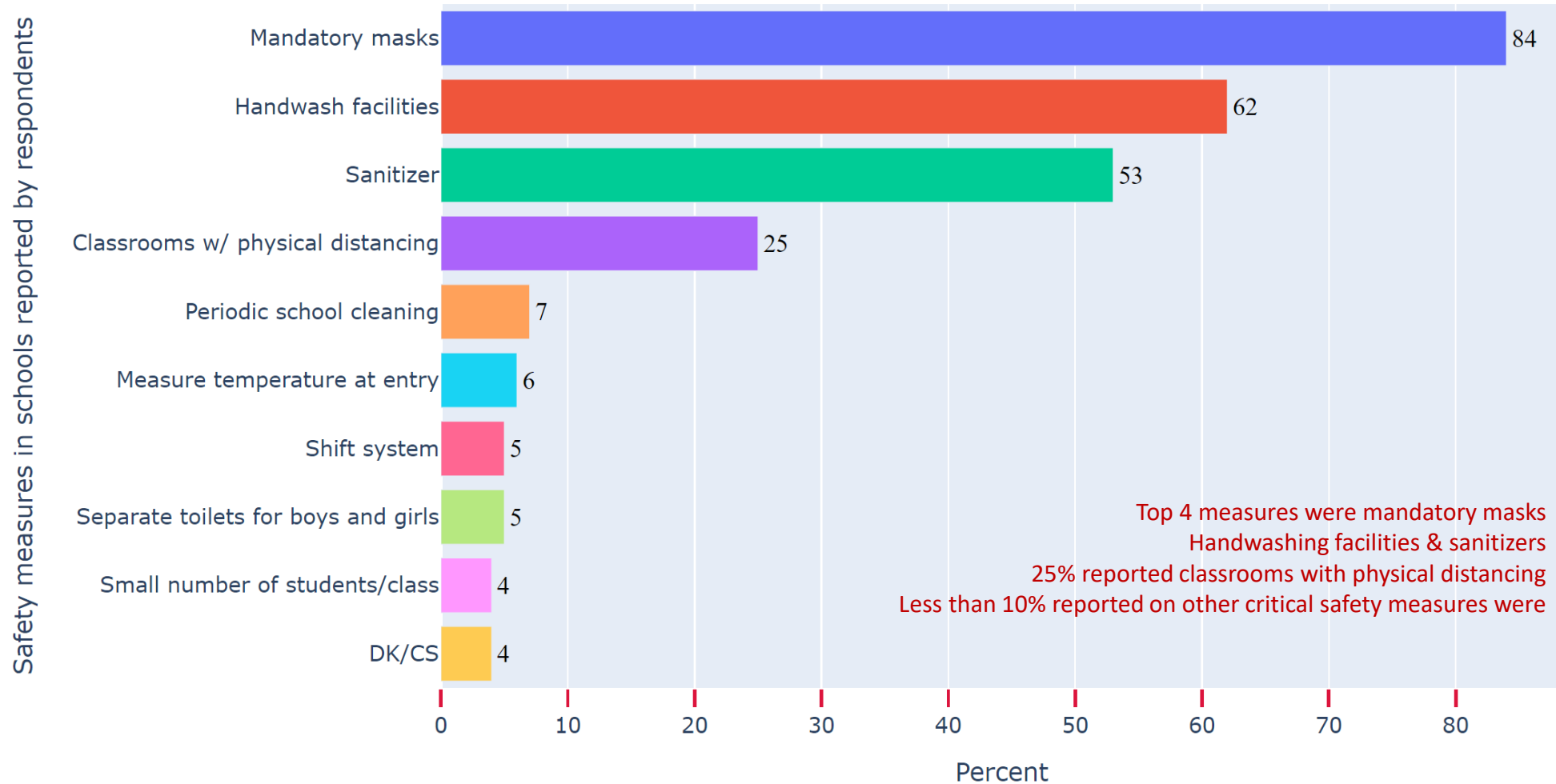


## Are you confident that the school will operate safely and regularly once it reopens (by Province (left) and Type of school (right))?

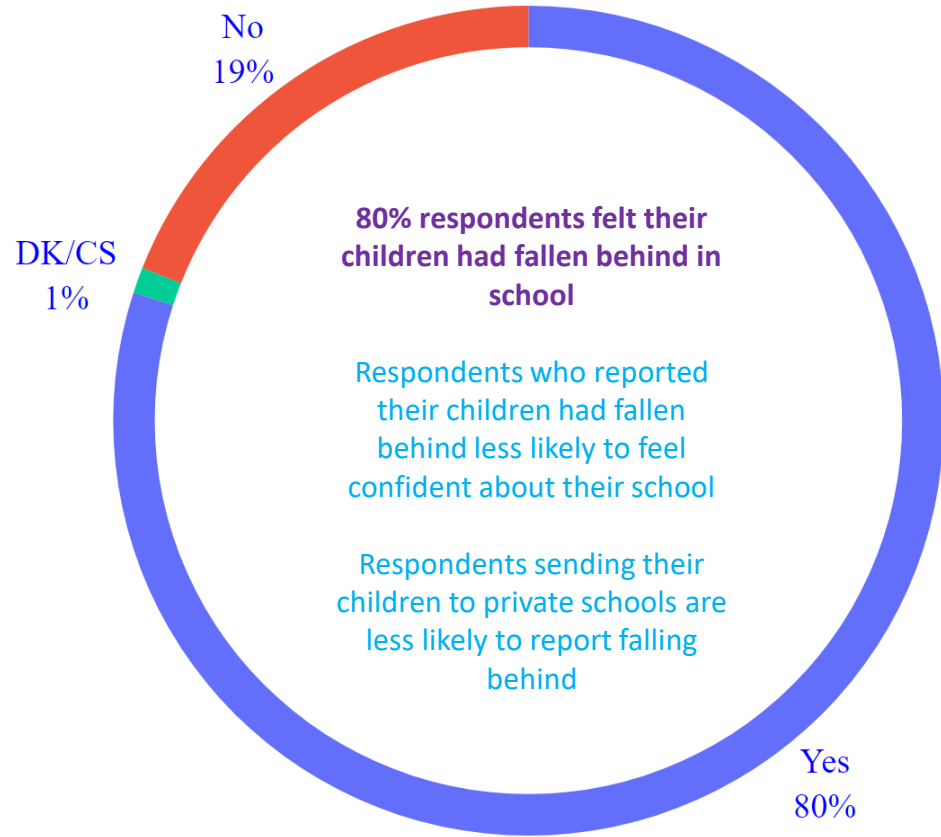


1. The percent of respondents feeling confident increased from 40% in July to 60% in the current round.
2. Residents from Karnali were the least likely to be feeling confident and residents from Province 2 most confident
3. Confidence levels are slightly lower for respondents sending their children to private schools compared to community schools.

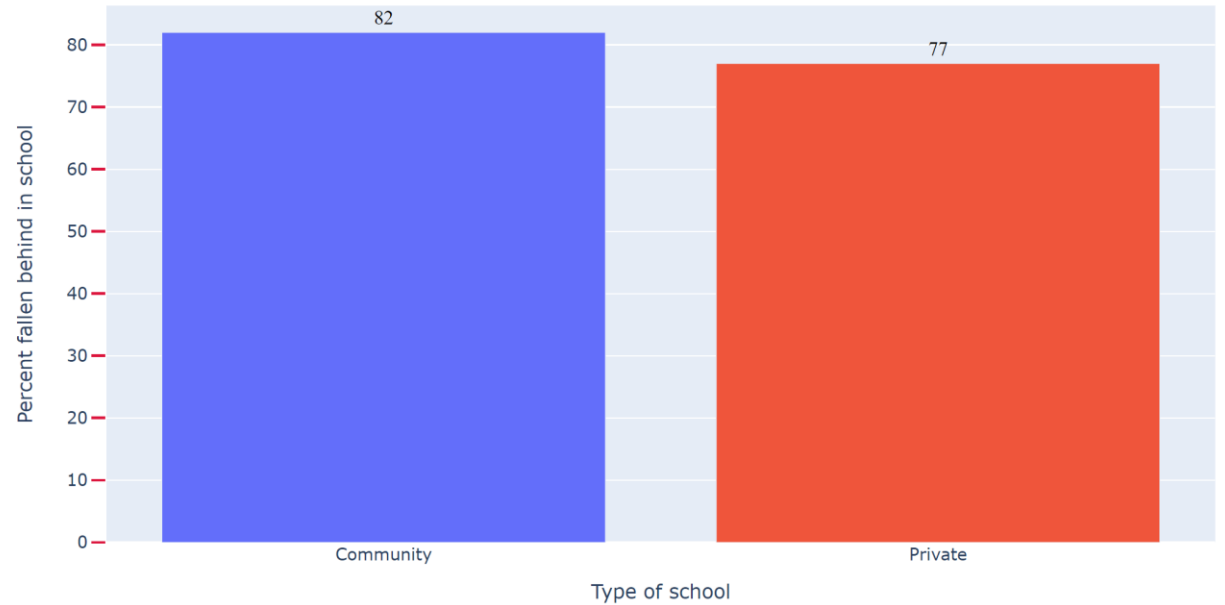
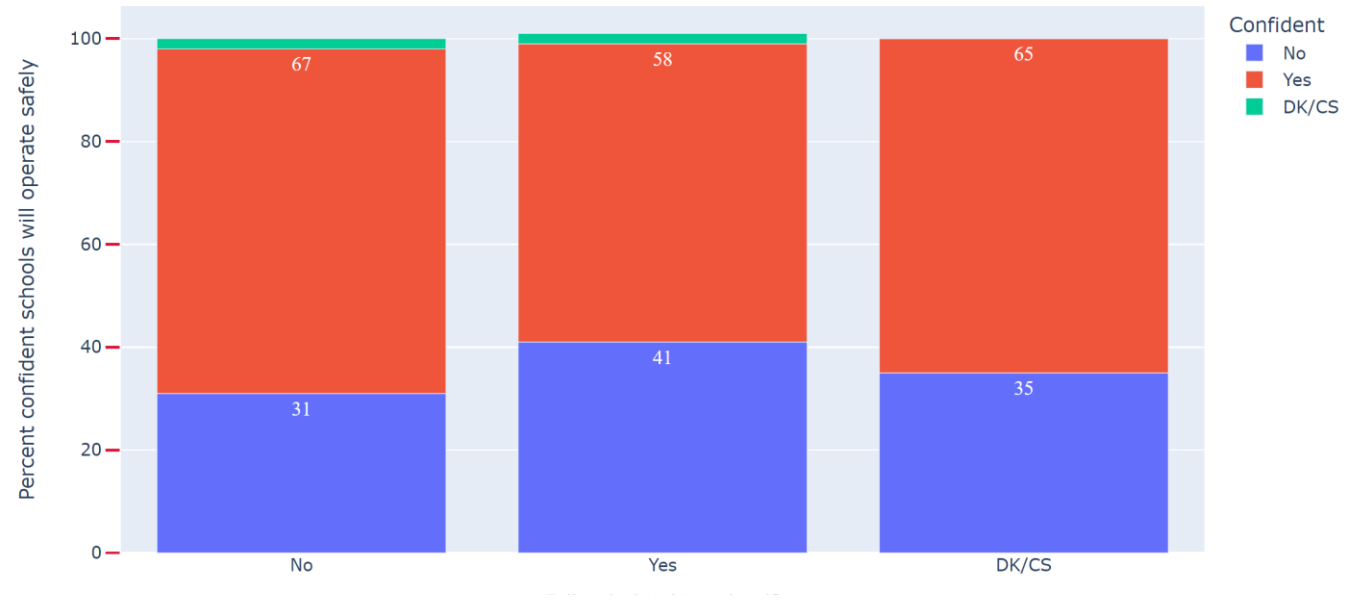
# What safety measures were in place in your children's school for the prevention of Covid-19, when schools were open?



# Do you think your children have forgotten their learning and fallen behind?

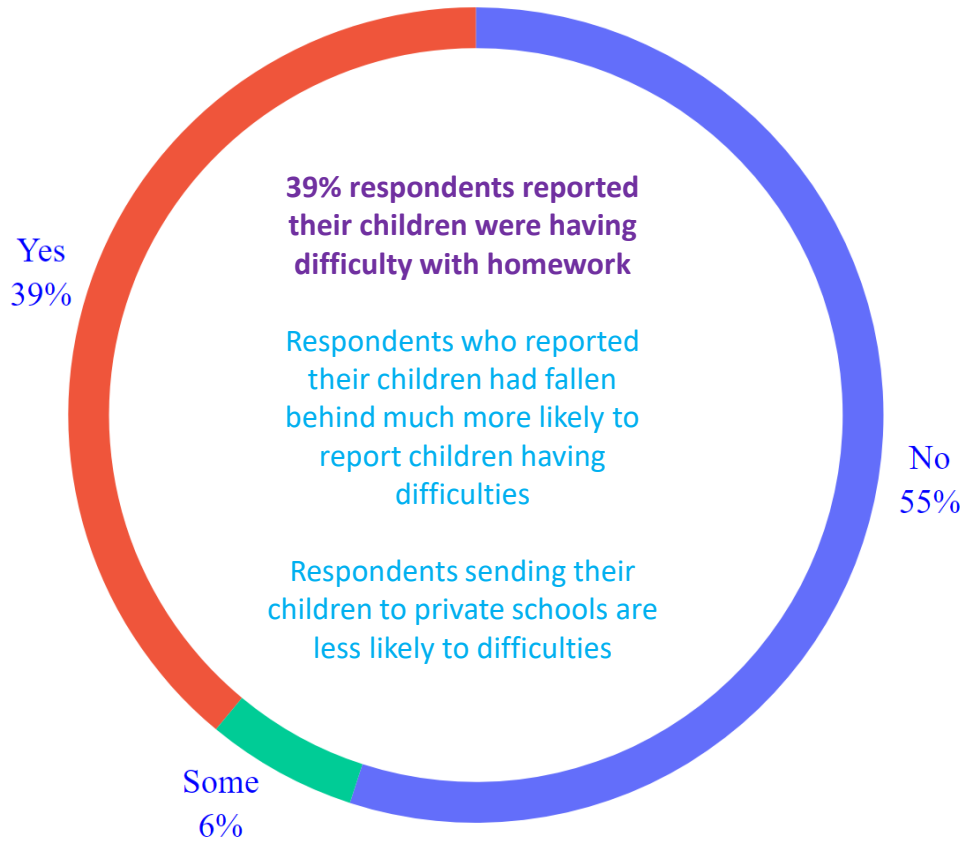


To make up, 51% respondents reported that schools were doing **nothing** while 34% respondent schools encouraged continued learning through alternative modalities (e.g., online)

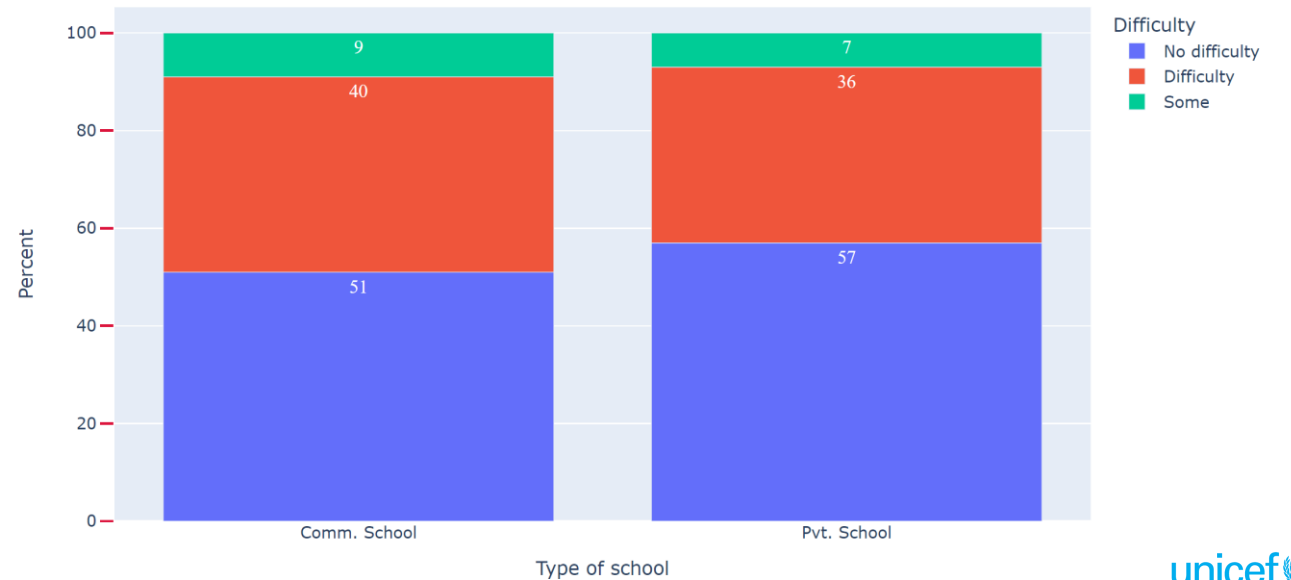
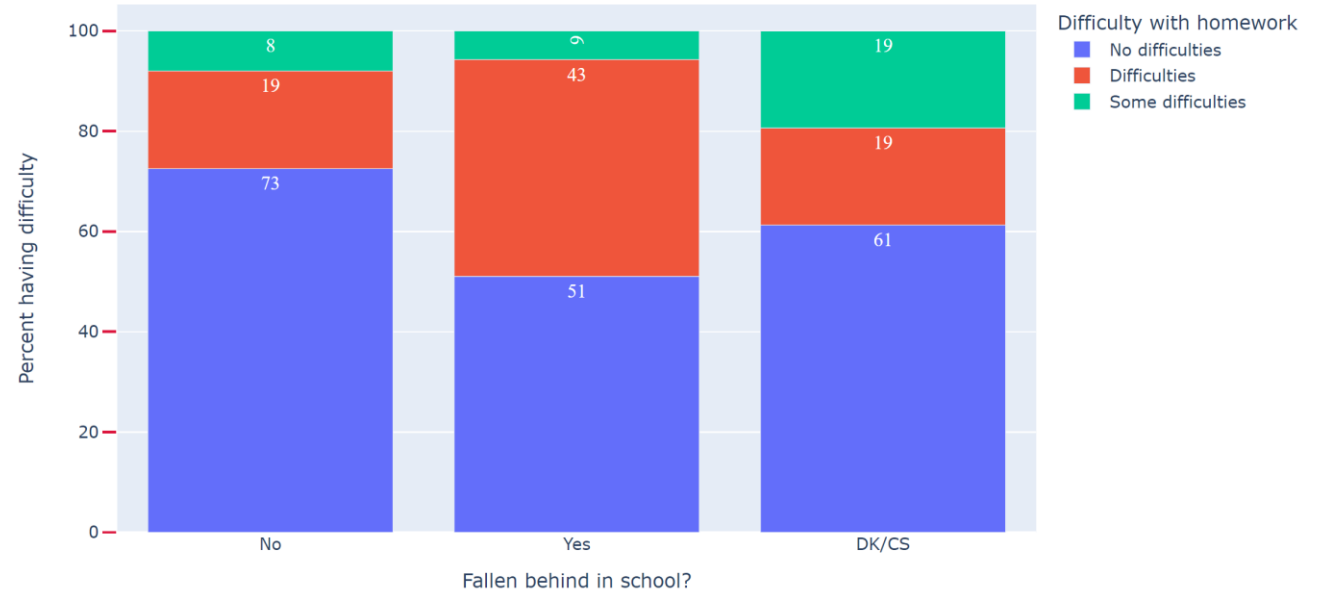


Confident  
 No  
 Yes  
 DK/CS

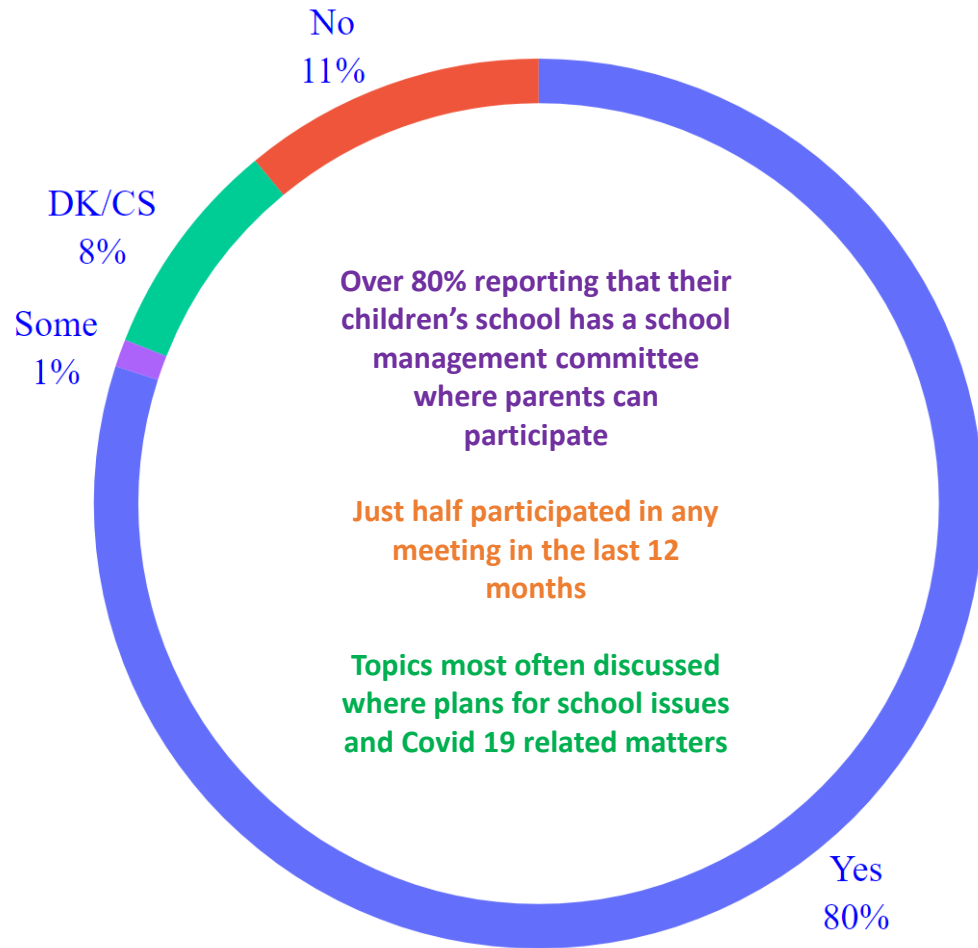
# Do your children face difficulties in doing their homework?



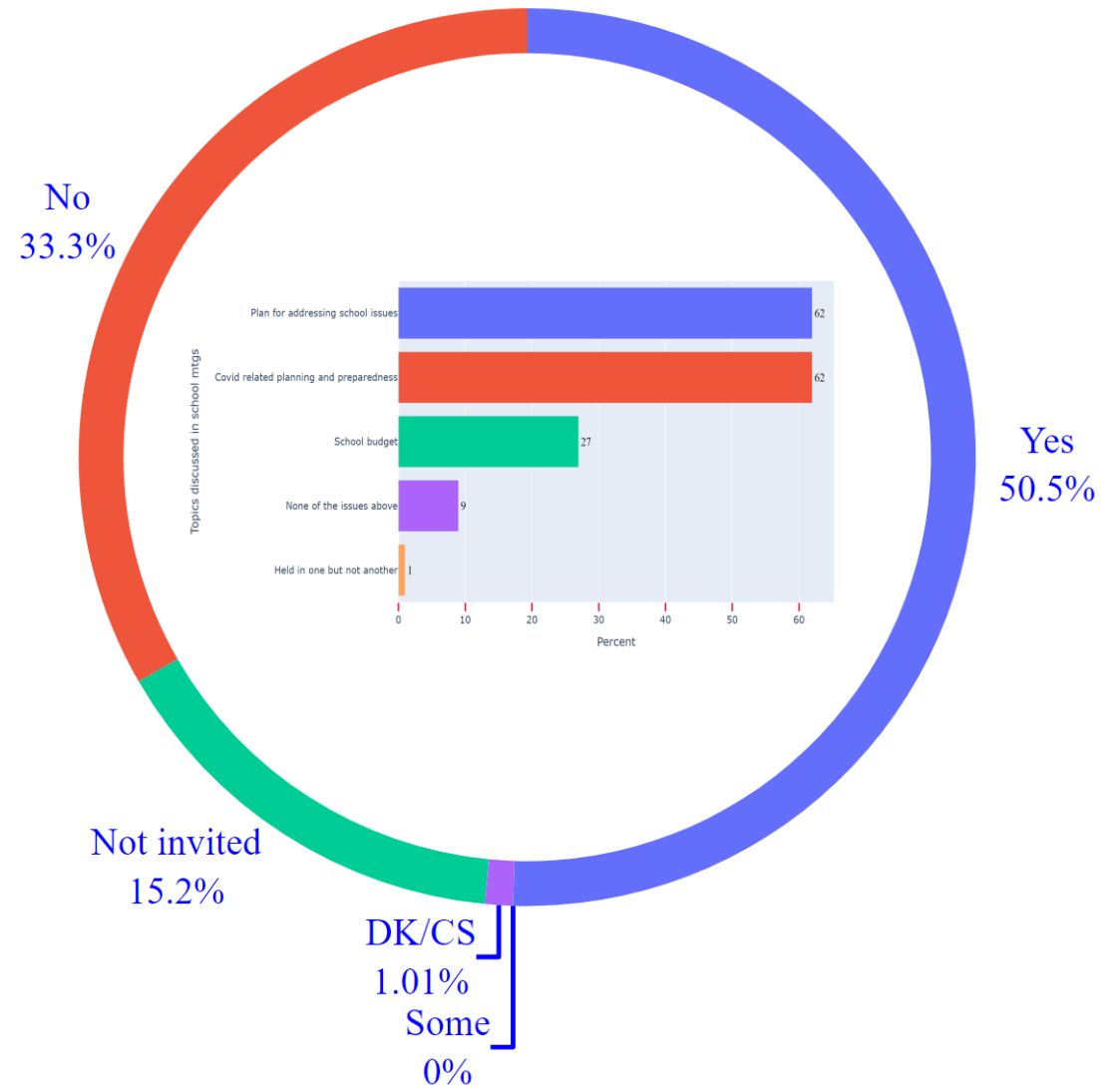
**1 in 5 children who are having difficulty do not get any help in doing their homework**



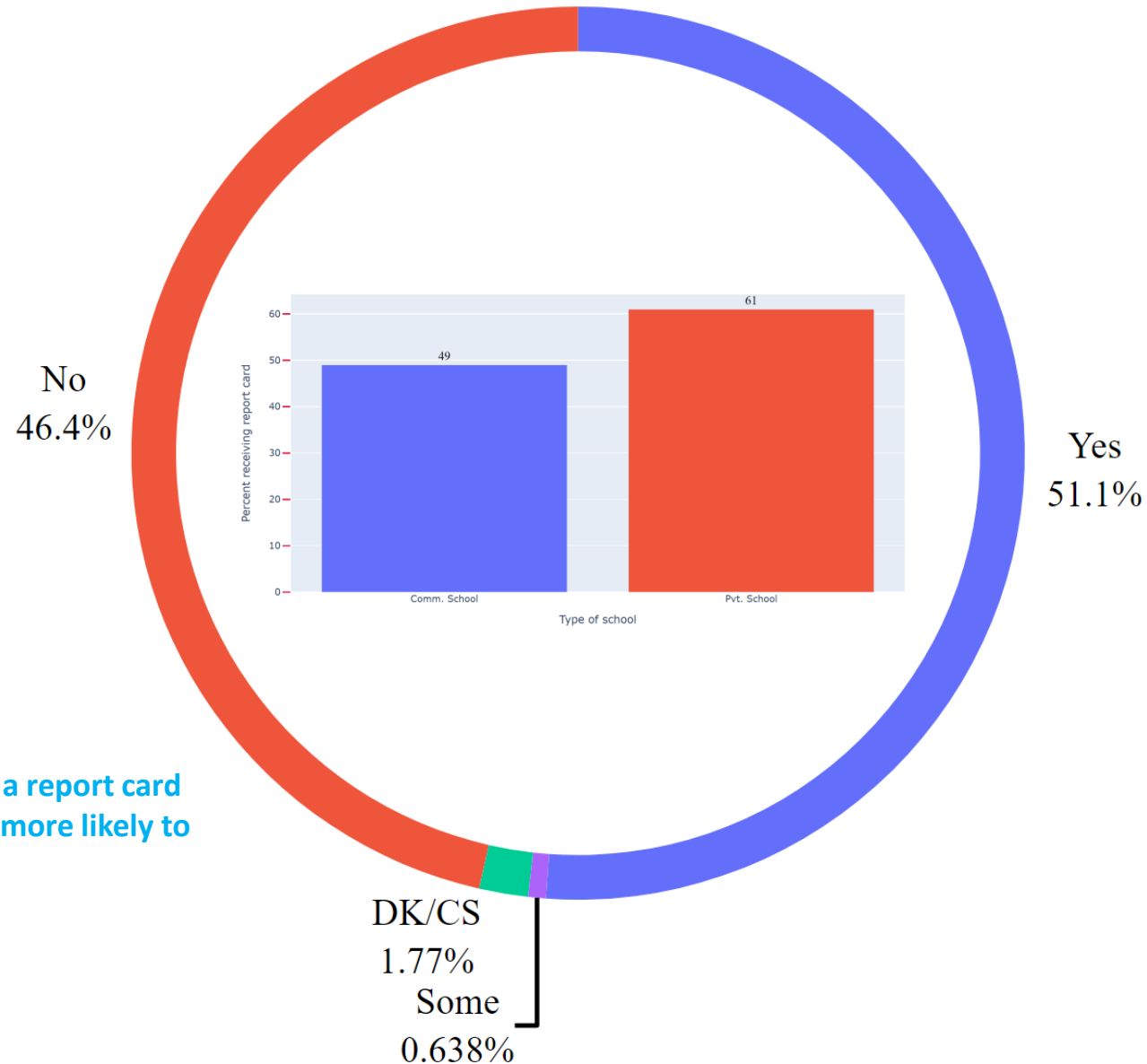
Does your child/do your children school have a management committee in which parents can participate (such as parents-teachers association or school management committee)?



In the last 12 months ever attended a meeting called by this committee? What was discussed?

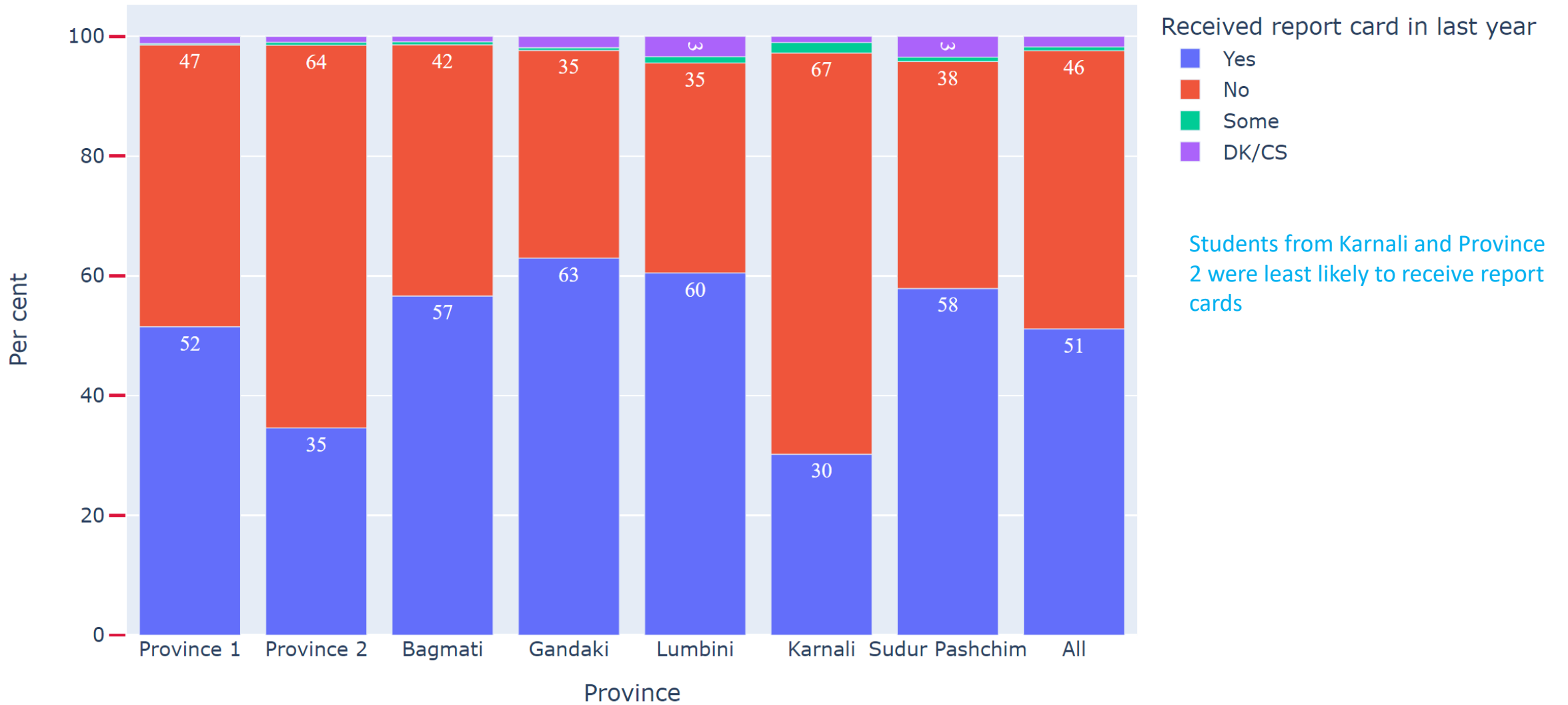


# In the last 12 months, have you or any other adult from your household received a school or student report card?

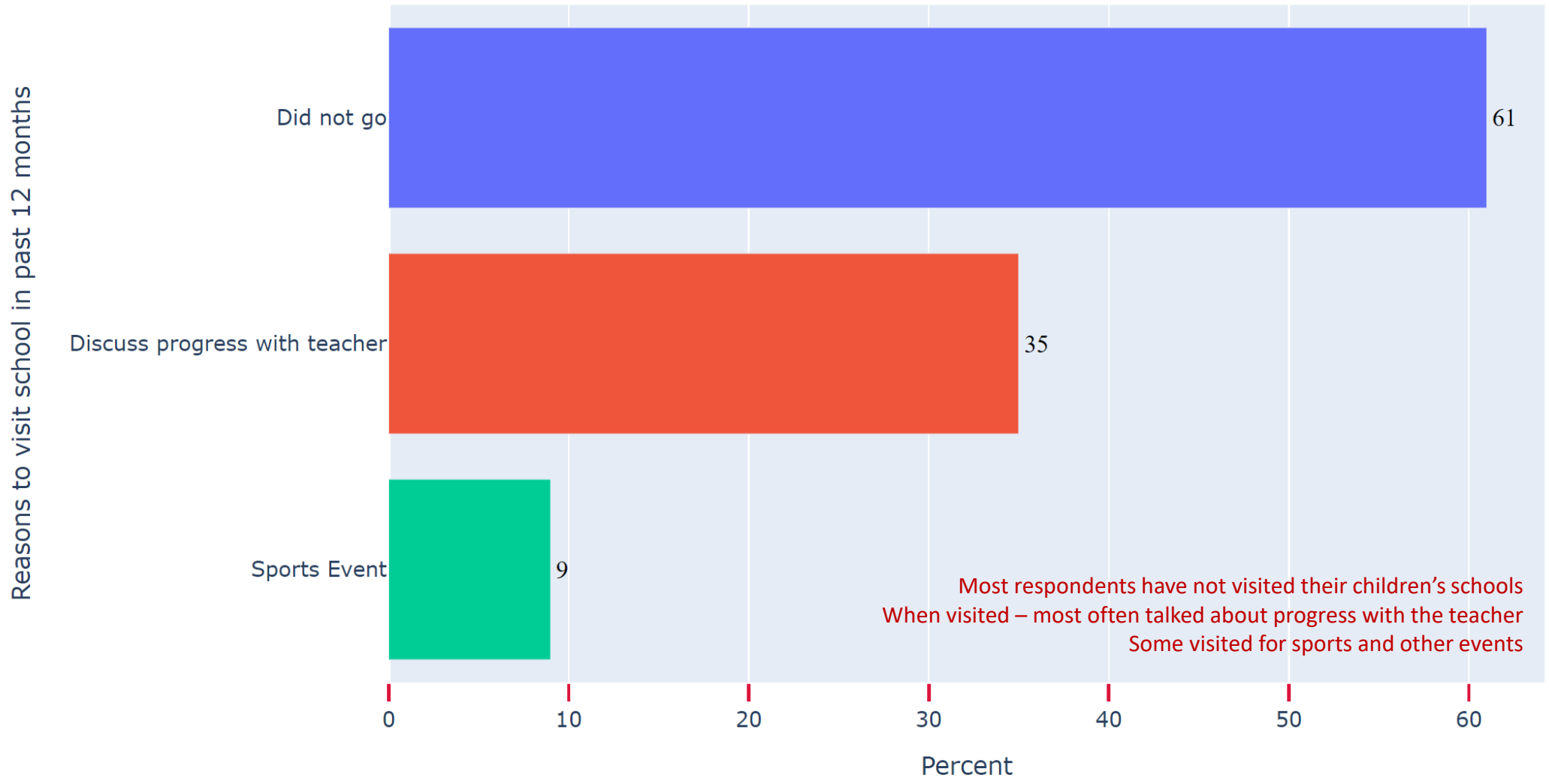


1. Just over 50% reported receiving a report card
2. Students in private schools were more likely to receive report cards

# In the last 12 months, have you or any other adult from your household received a school or student report card? (By province)



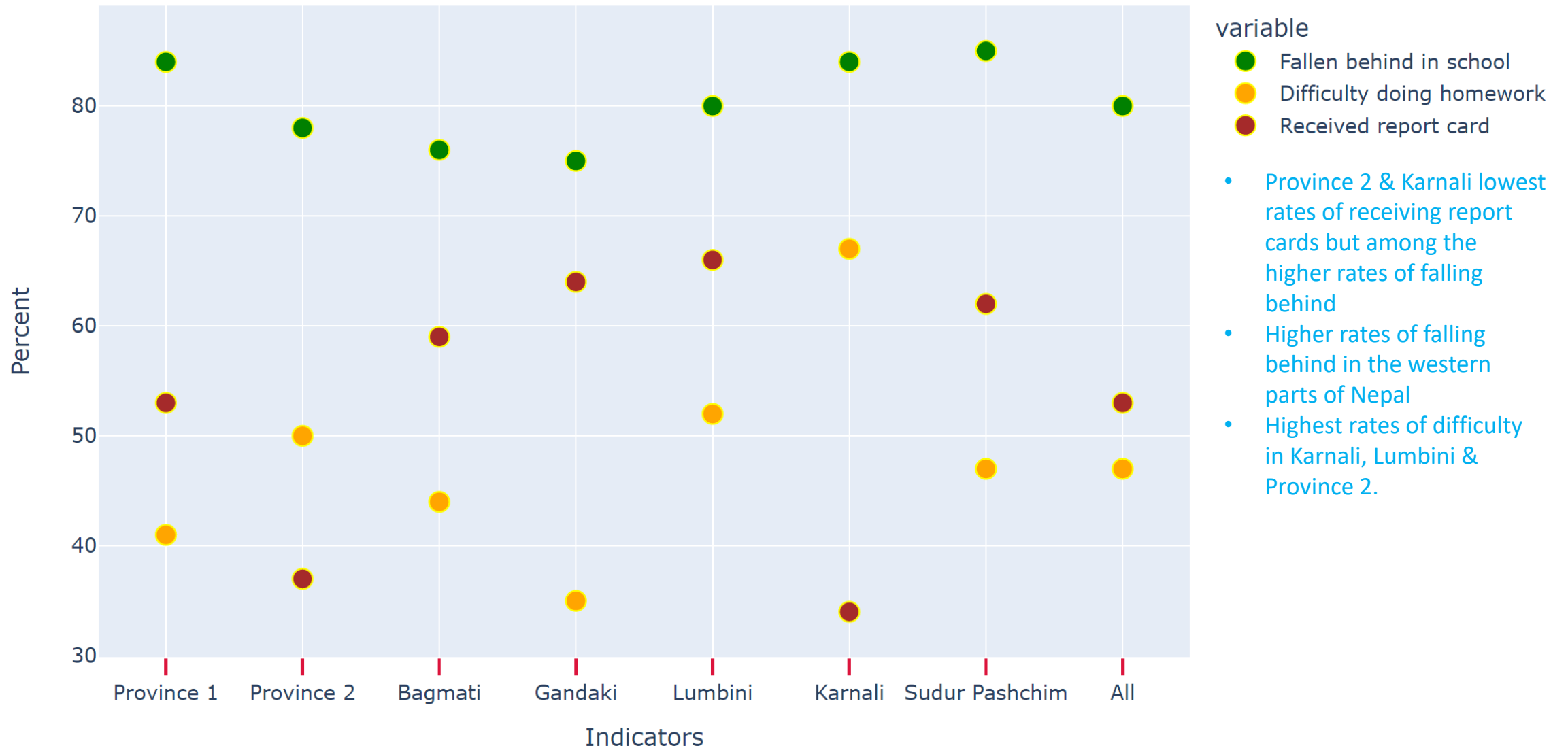
# In the last 12 months, have you or any adult from your household gone to your children's school for any of the following reasons?



Most respondents have not visited their children's schools  
When visited – most often talked about progress with the teacher  
Some visited for sports and other events



## Falling behind in school, having difficulty doing homework and receiving a report card in the last year (by province)

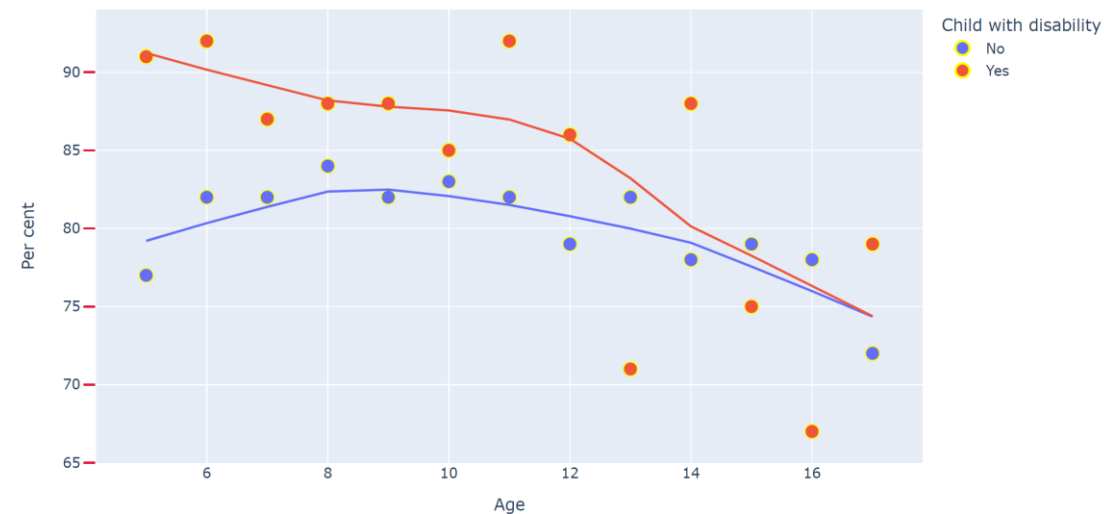
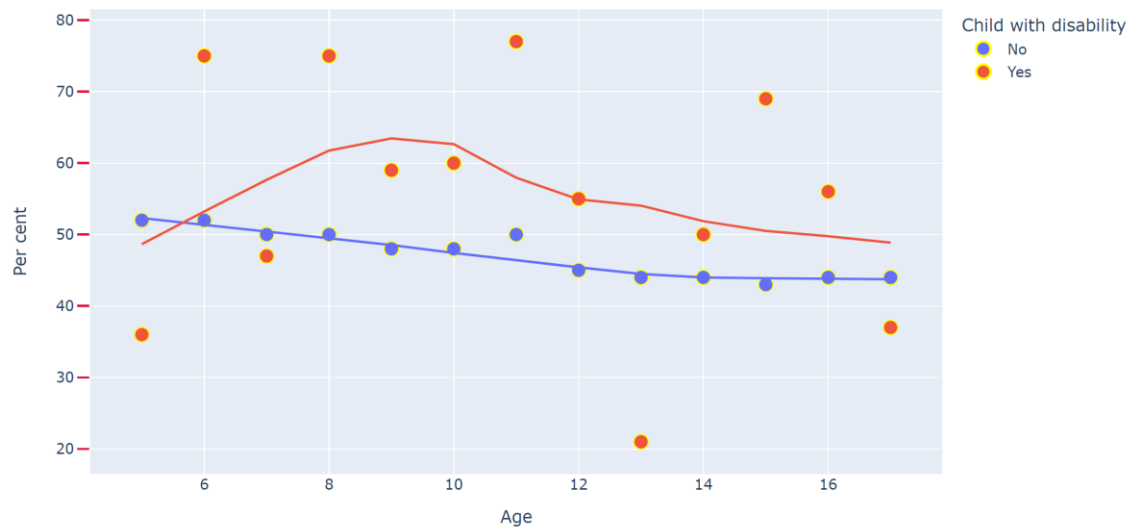


variable

- Fallen behind in school
- Difficulty doing homework
- Received report card

- Province 2 & Karnali lowest rates of receiving report cards but among the higher rates of falling behind
- Higher rates of falling behind in the western parts of Nepal
- Highest rates of difficulty in Karnali, Lumbini & Province 2.

## Difficulty in doing homework (L) and falling behind in school (R) by disability status of child: In both cases children with disabilities face challenges across most age groups, especially the younger age groups

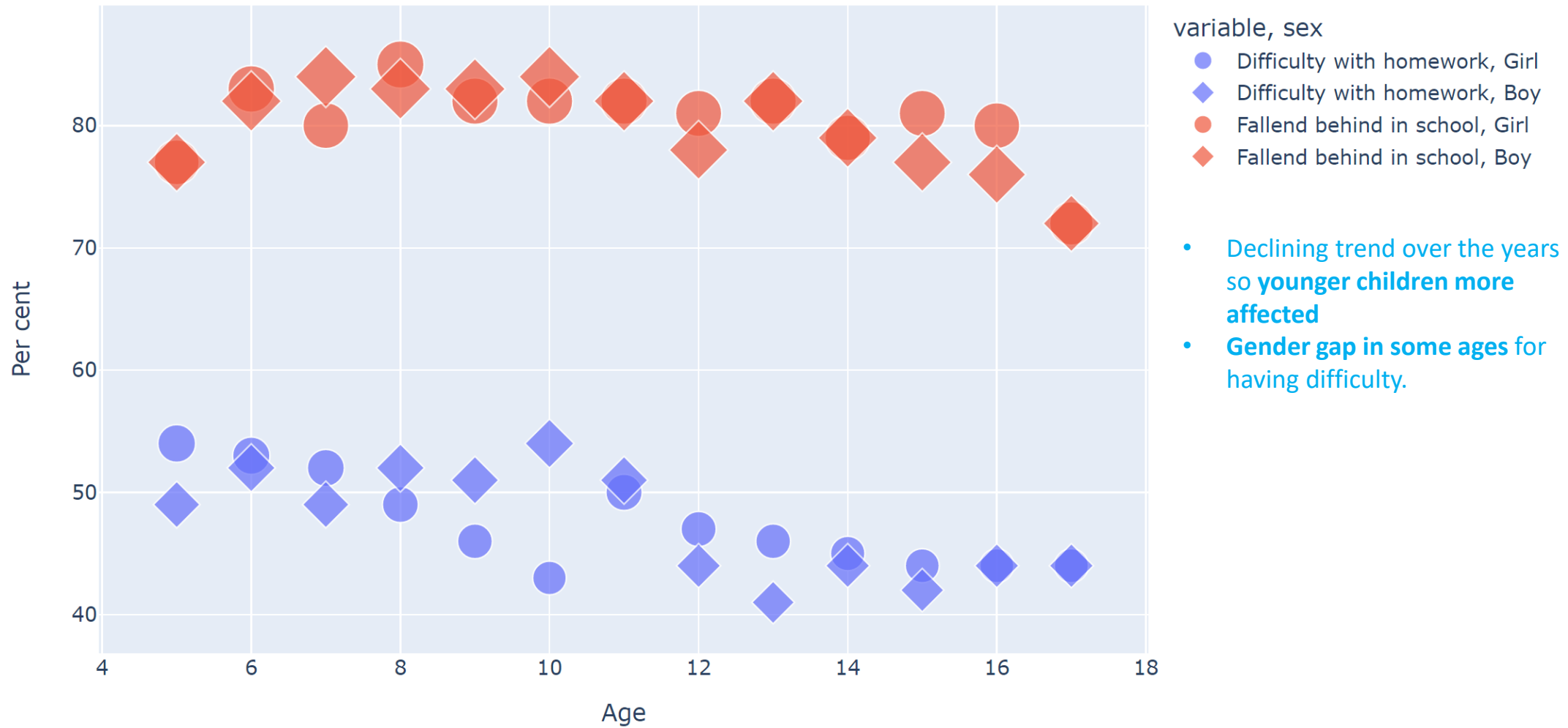


Graphs show the % having difficulty with homework (Left) and falling behind in class (Right) by age of child according to whether the child has a disability or not. Lines are the estimated values by age and show a clear differential – although it is reducing in both cases as age increases

Children with disability are far more likely to be facing difficulty with homework for virtually all age groups

Children with disability, especially younger ones, are also far more likely (at all ages) to be falling behind

## Falling behind in school (blue) and having difficult with homework (red) by age and gender of the child (boys=diamonds, circles=girls)



variable, sex

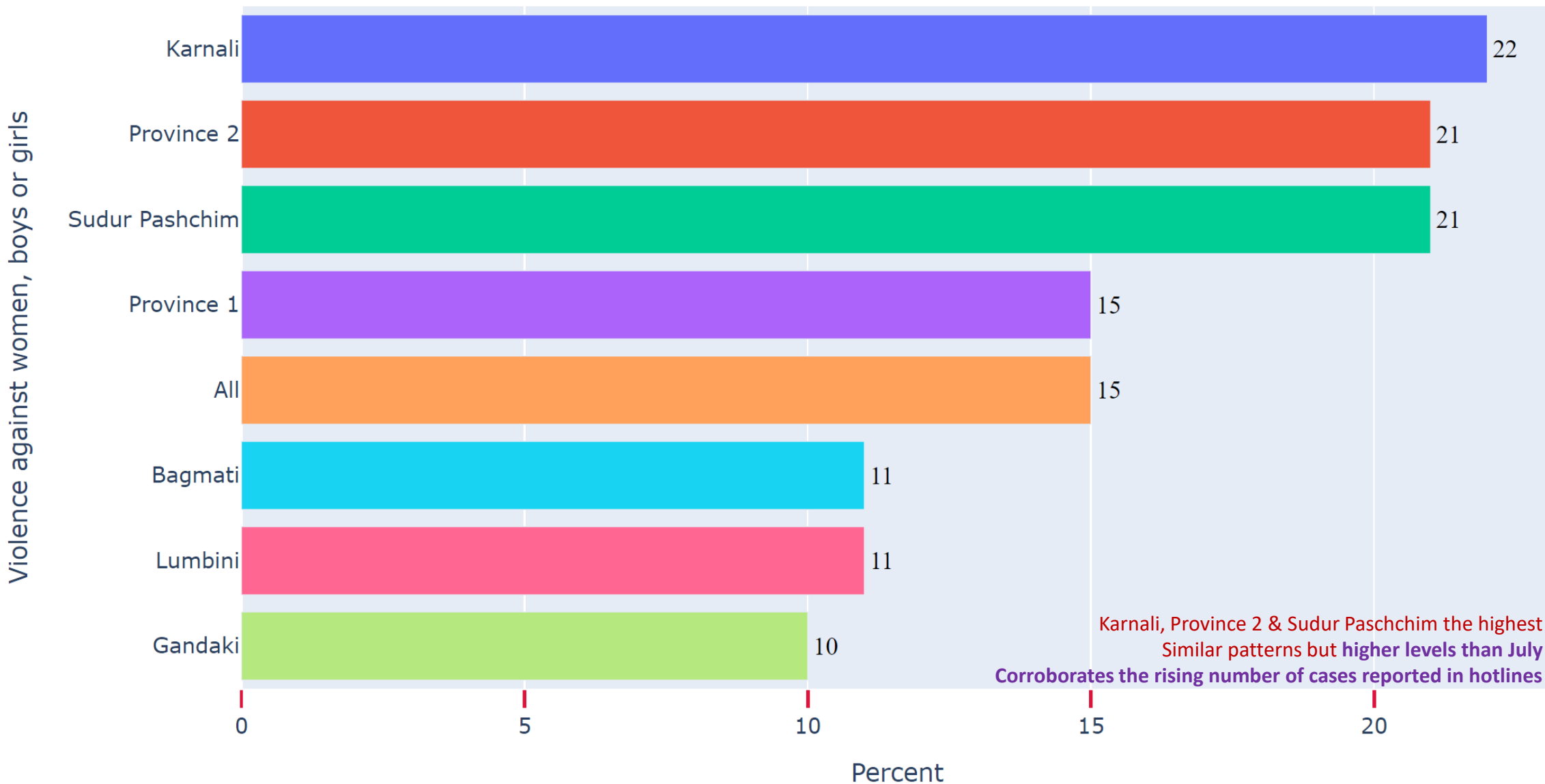
- Difficulty with homework, Girl
- ◆ Difficulty with homework, Boy
- Fallend behind in school, Girl
- ◆ Fallend behind in school, Boy

- Declining trend over the years so **younger children more affected**
- **Gender gap in some ages for having difficulty.**

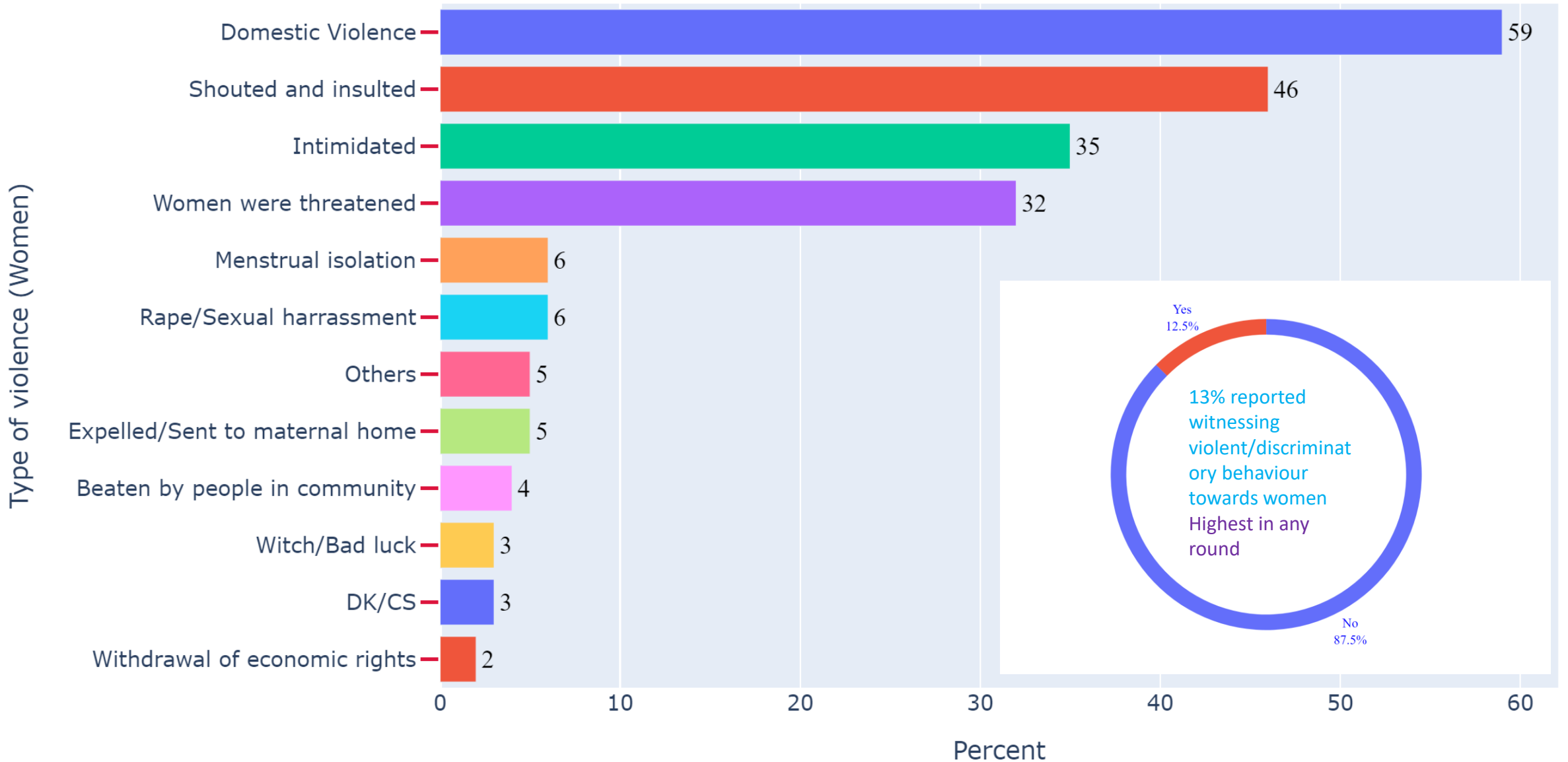


CHILD PROTECTION

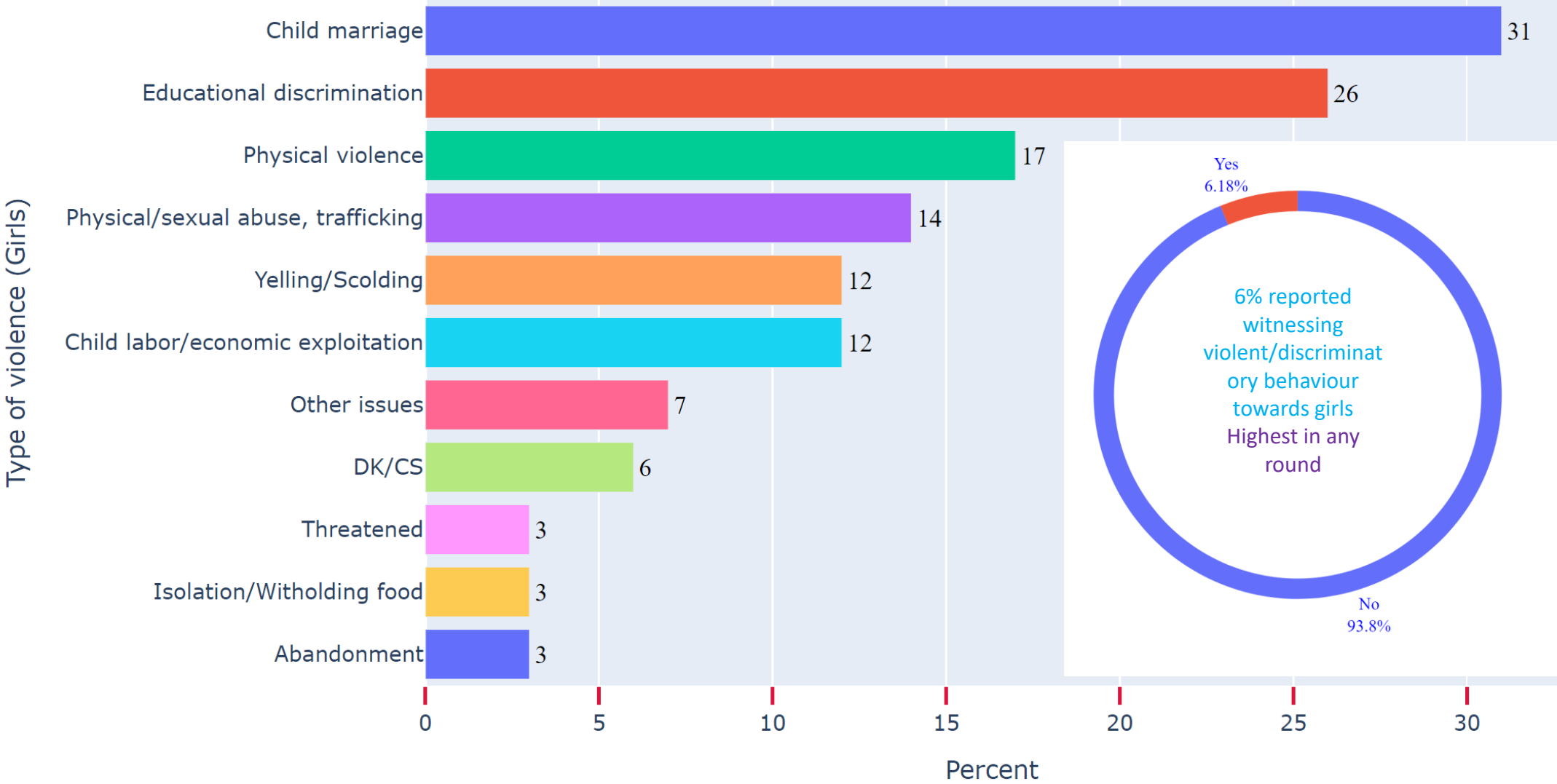
# 15% of respondents reported discriminatory or violent behavior against women, girls or boys. Increased from last round and is the highest reported since Aug 2020



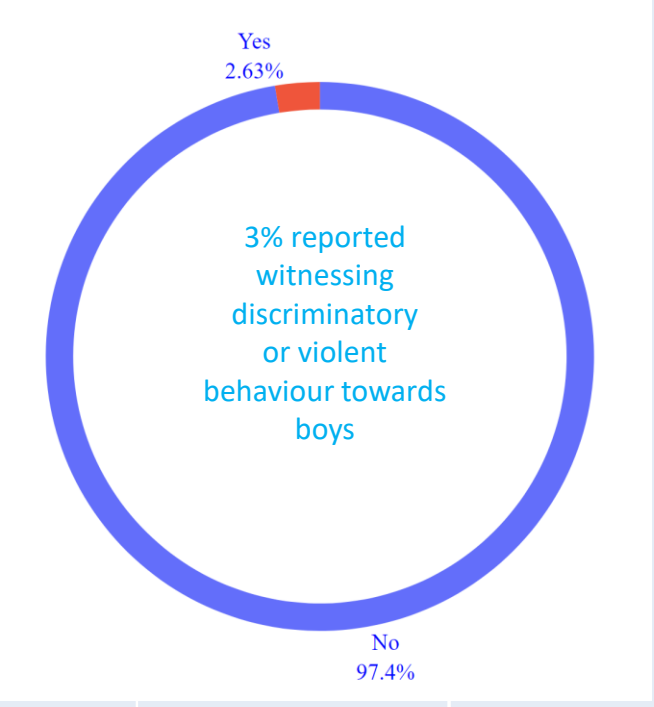
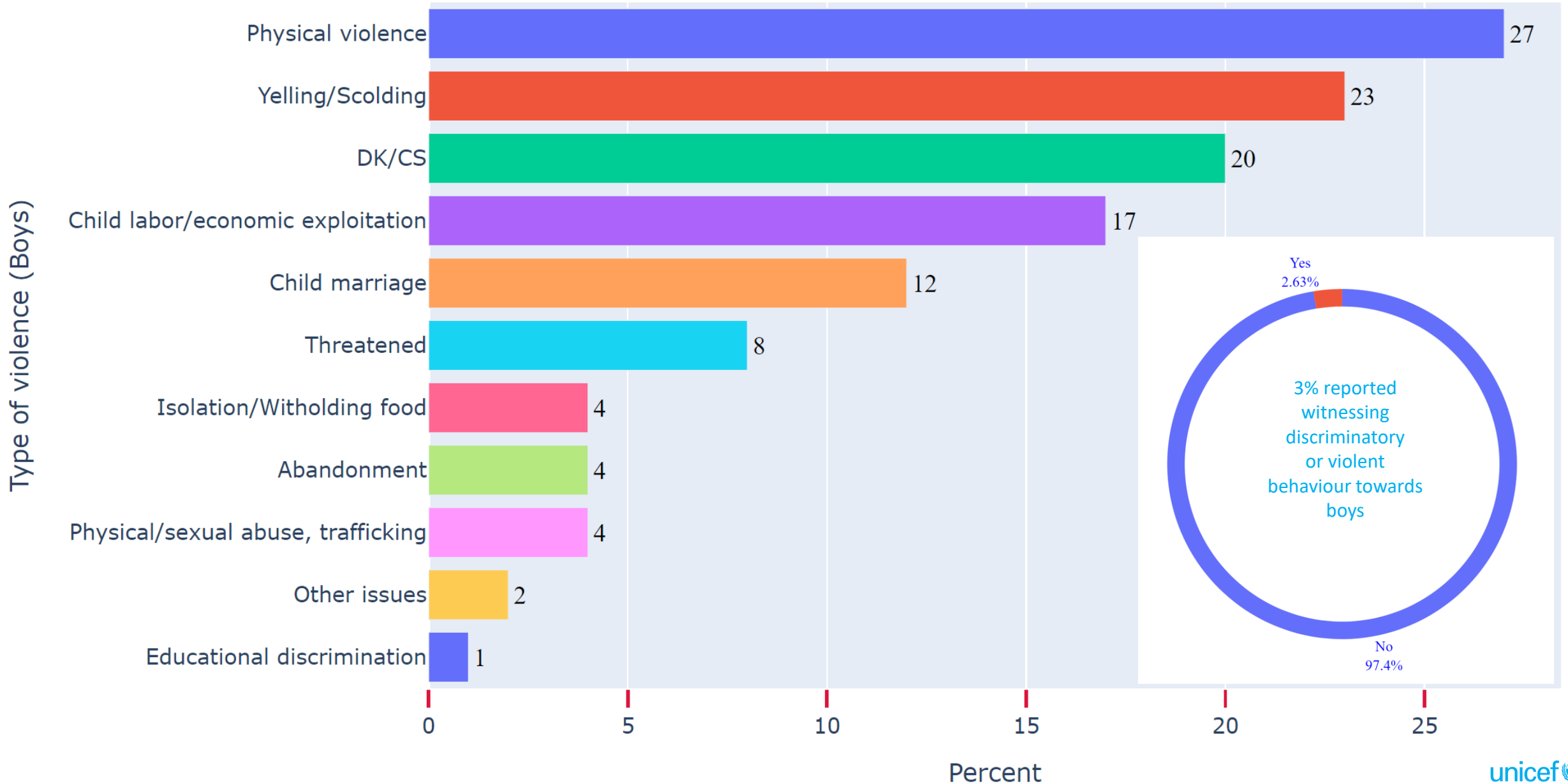
# What forms of discriminatory or violent behavior you have noticed towards women in your community/Tole lately/at home?



# What forms of discriminatory or violent behavior you have noticed towards girls in your community/Tole lately/at home?

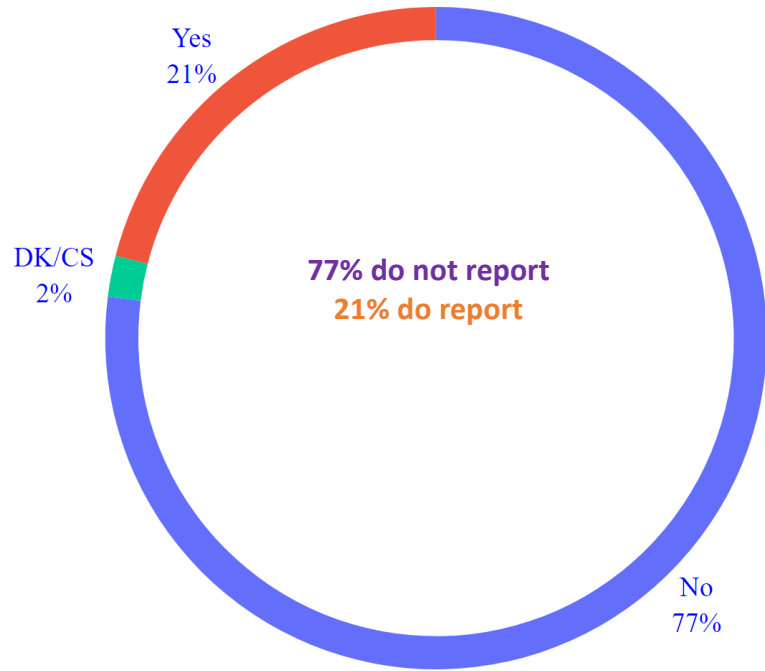


# What forms of discriminatory or violent behavior you have noticed towards boys in your community/Tole lately/at home?

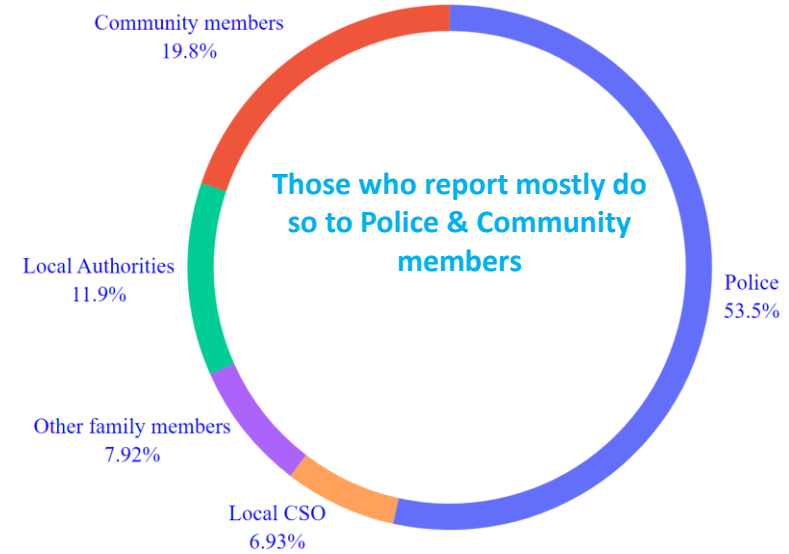




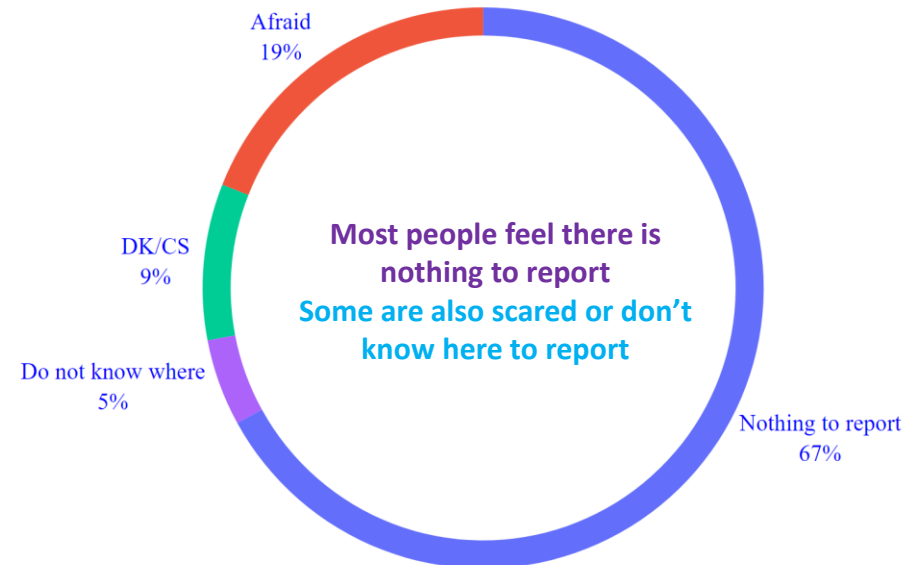
## Percentage of the respondents reporting violent behaviour



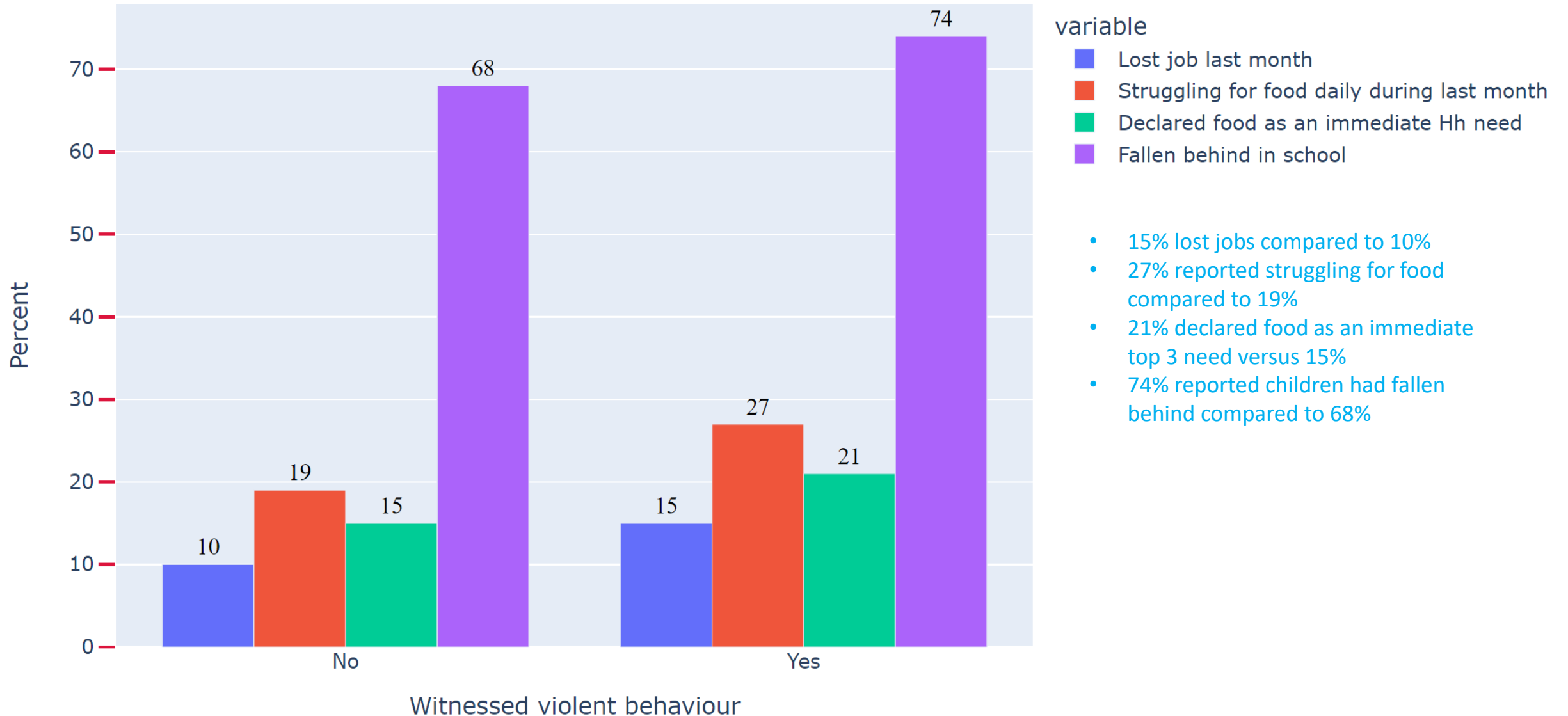
## Places where respondents reported violence behaviour



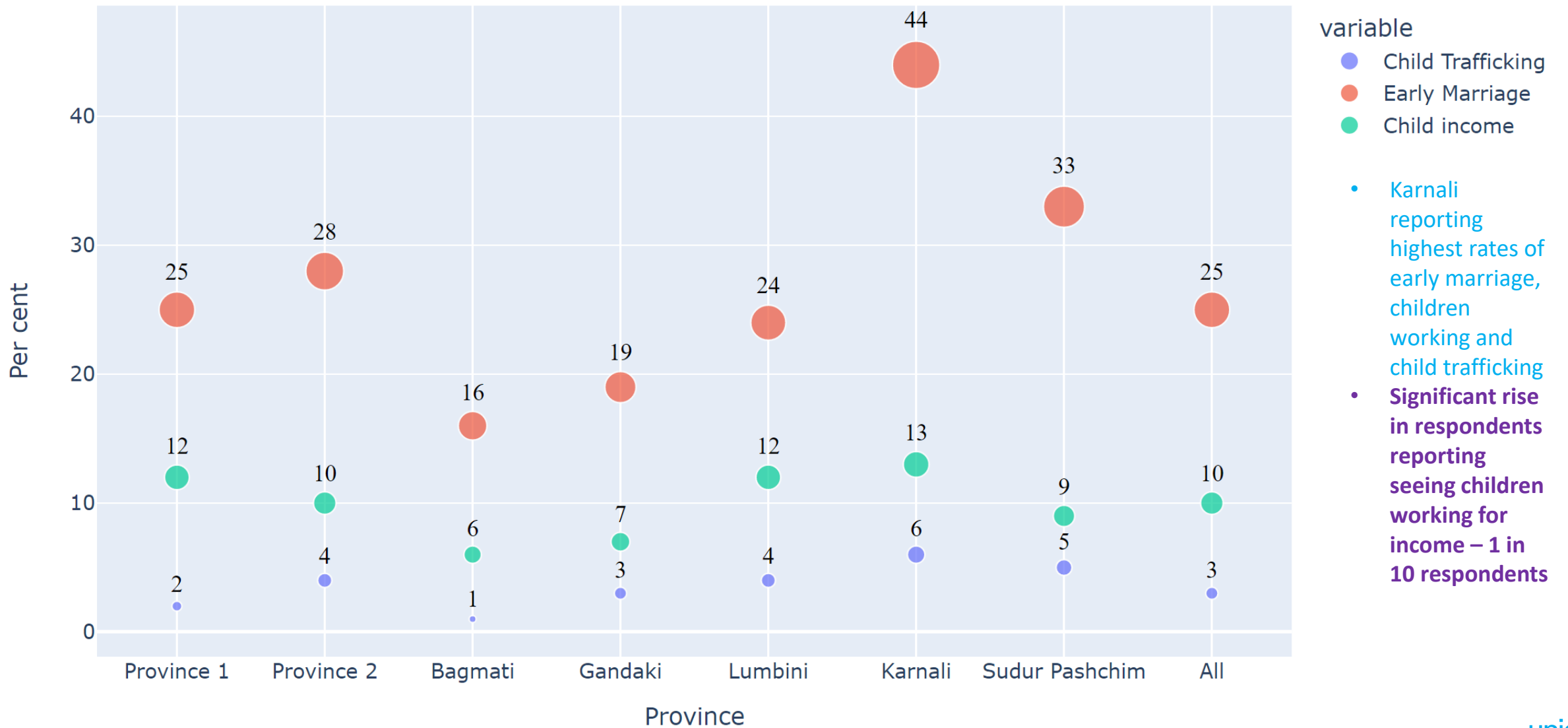
## Reasons for not reporting



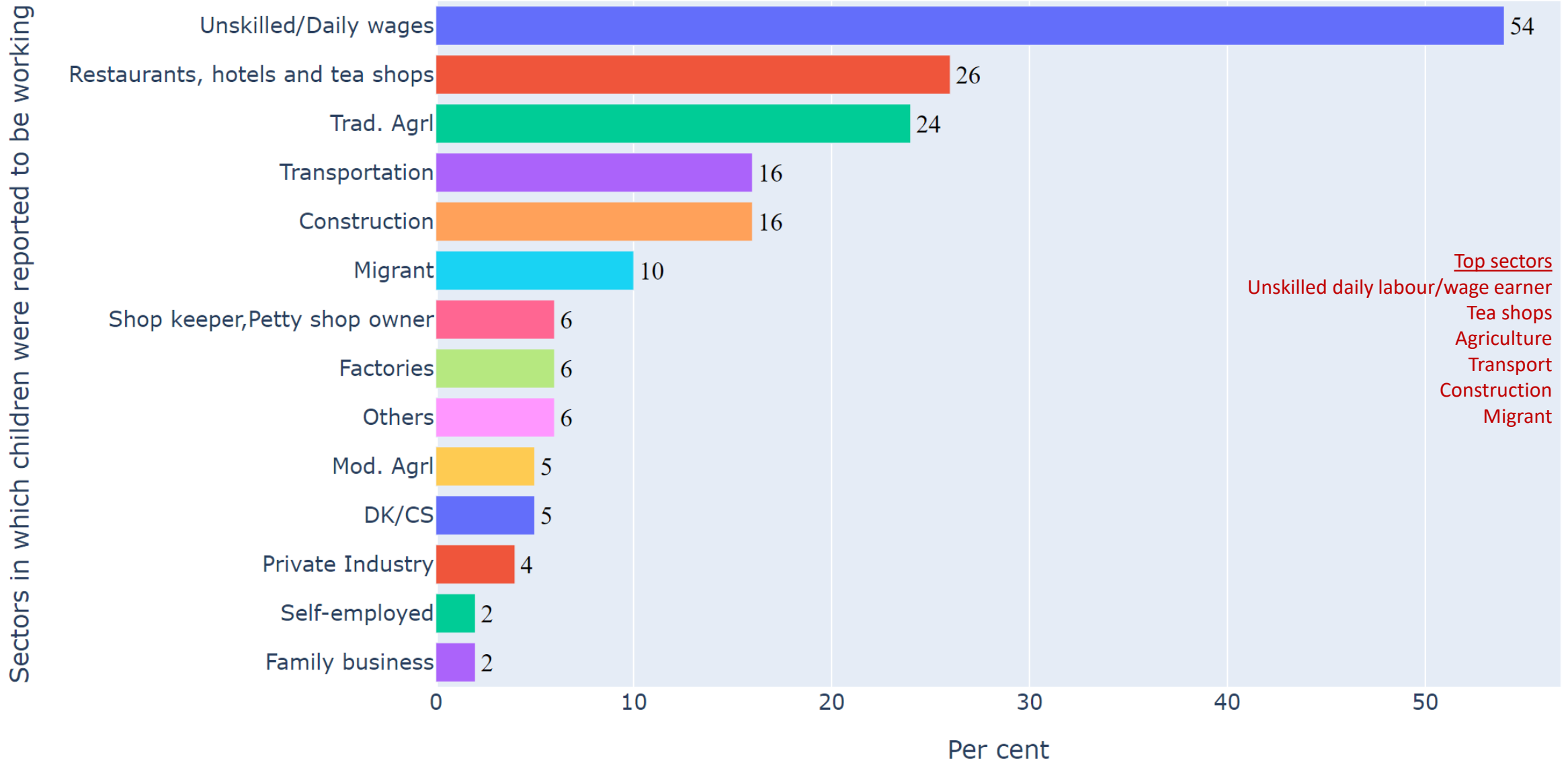
# Households reporting witnessing violence are also likely to be reporting other shocks such as losing jobs, struggling for food, declaring food as an immediate need or falling behind in school.



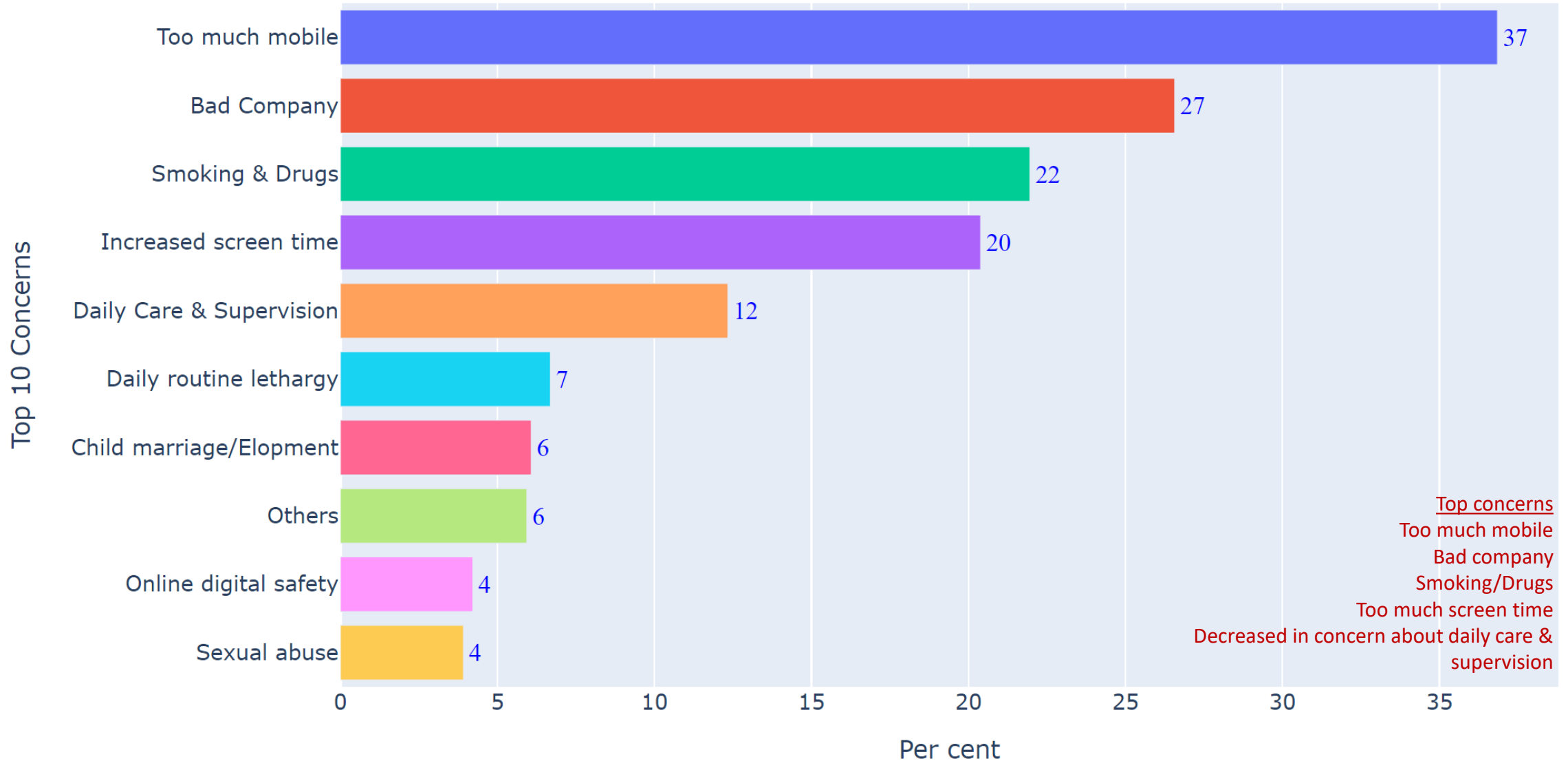
## Households noticing or hearing about child trafficking, early marriage and children working to help earn income. (by Province)



The percentage of working children increased from 2% to 10% in the last months. Most children work on daily wages in restaurants, agriculture, transportation and construction and are more likely in hazardous environments.

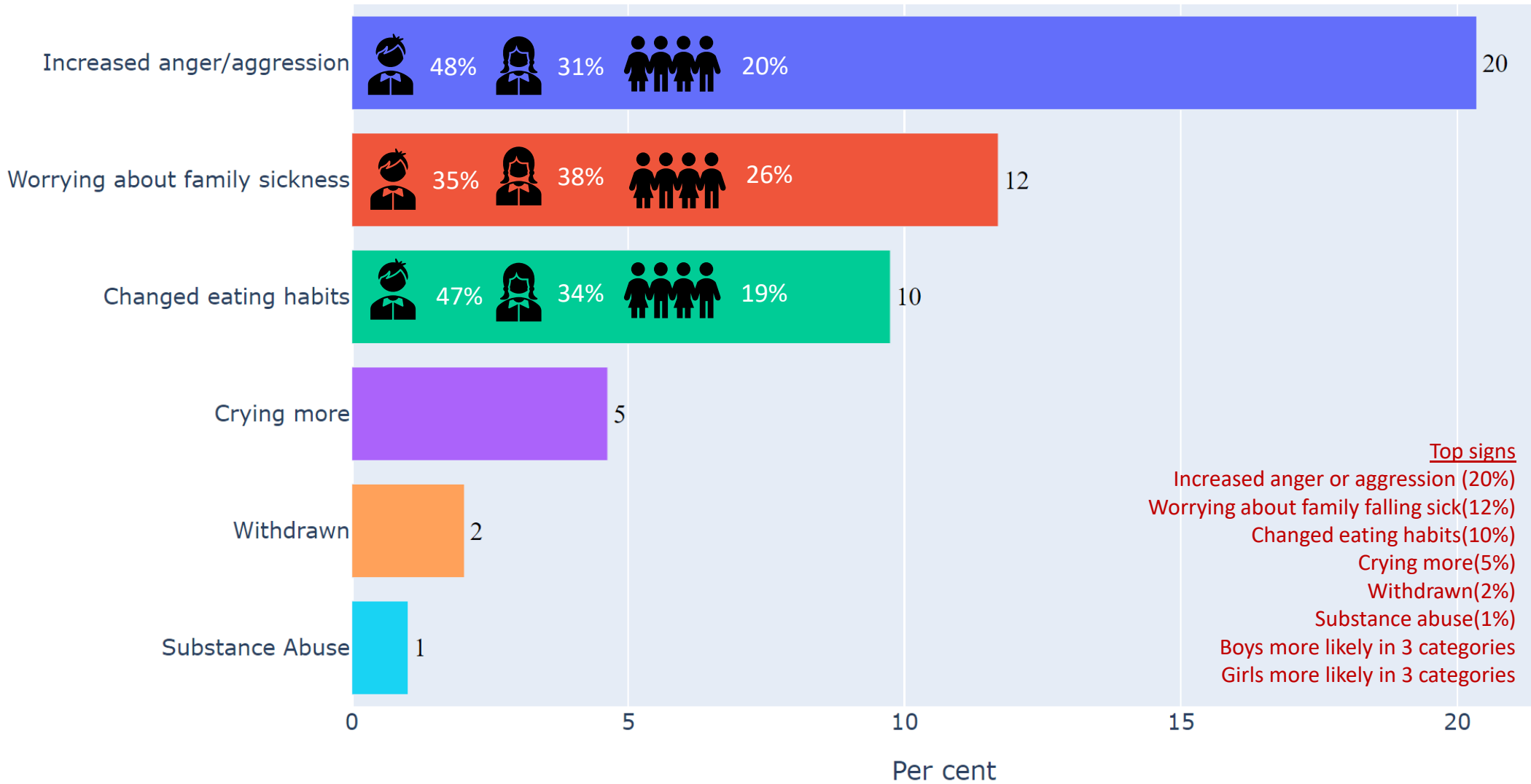


## Top concerns of caretakers about their children (% responding yes for each category)

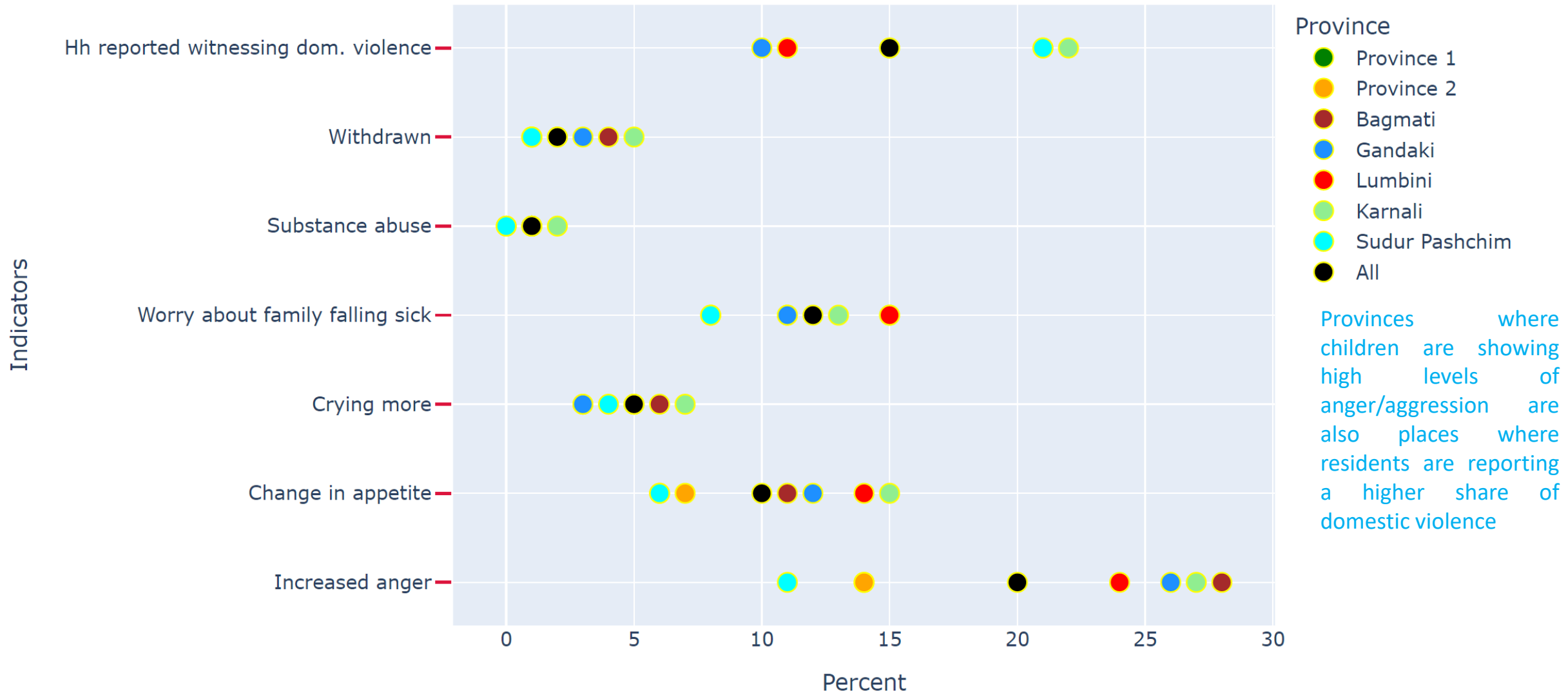


## Are any of your children showing one or more of the following signs ? (% responding yes)

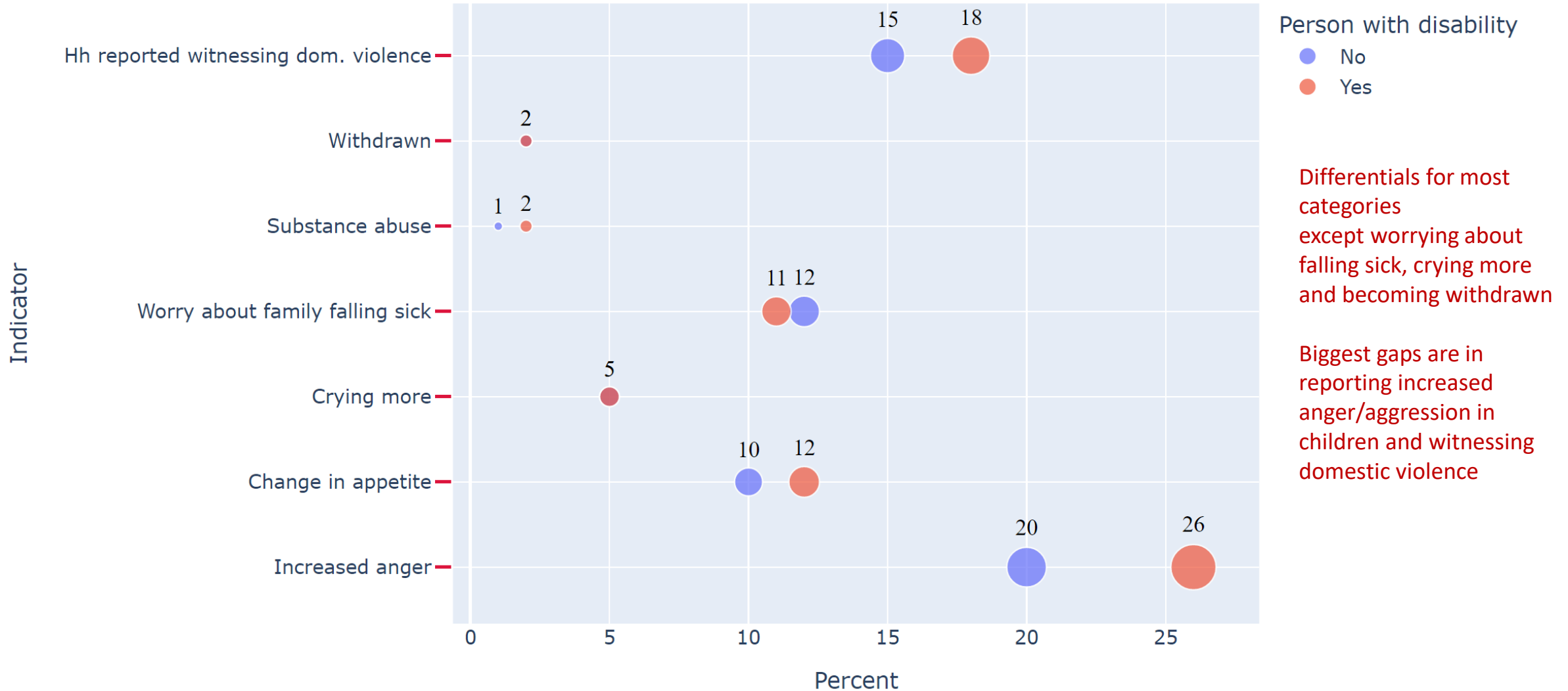
Children's symptoms as reported by respondents



## Variations in reported issues by provinces



## Variations in reported issues by disability status of respondents

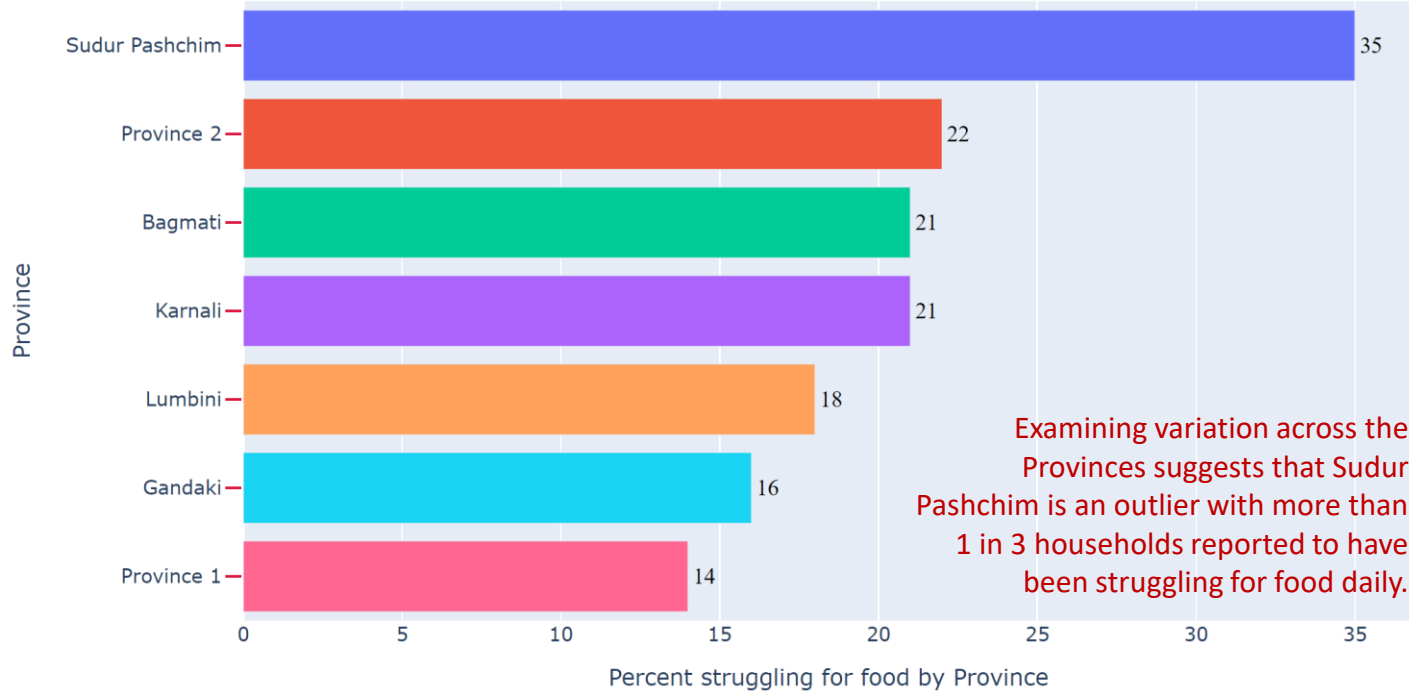
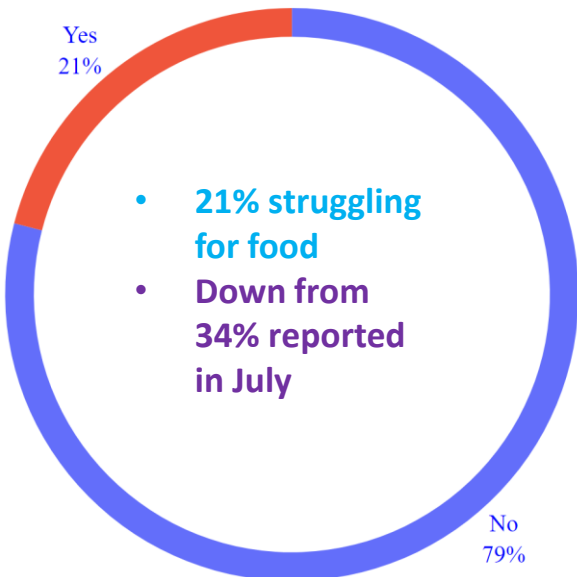




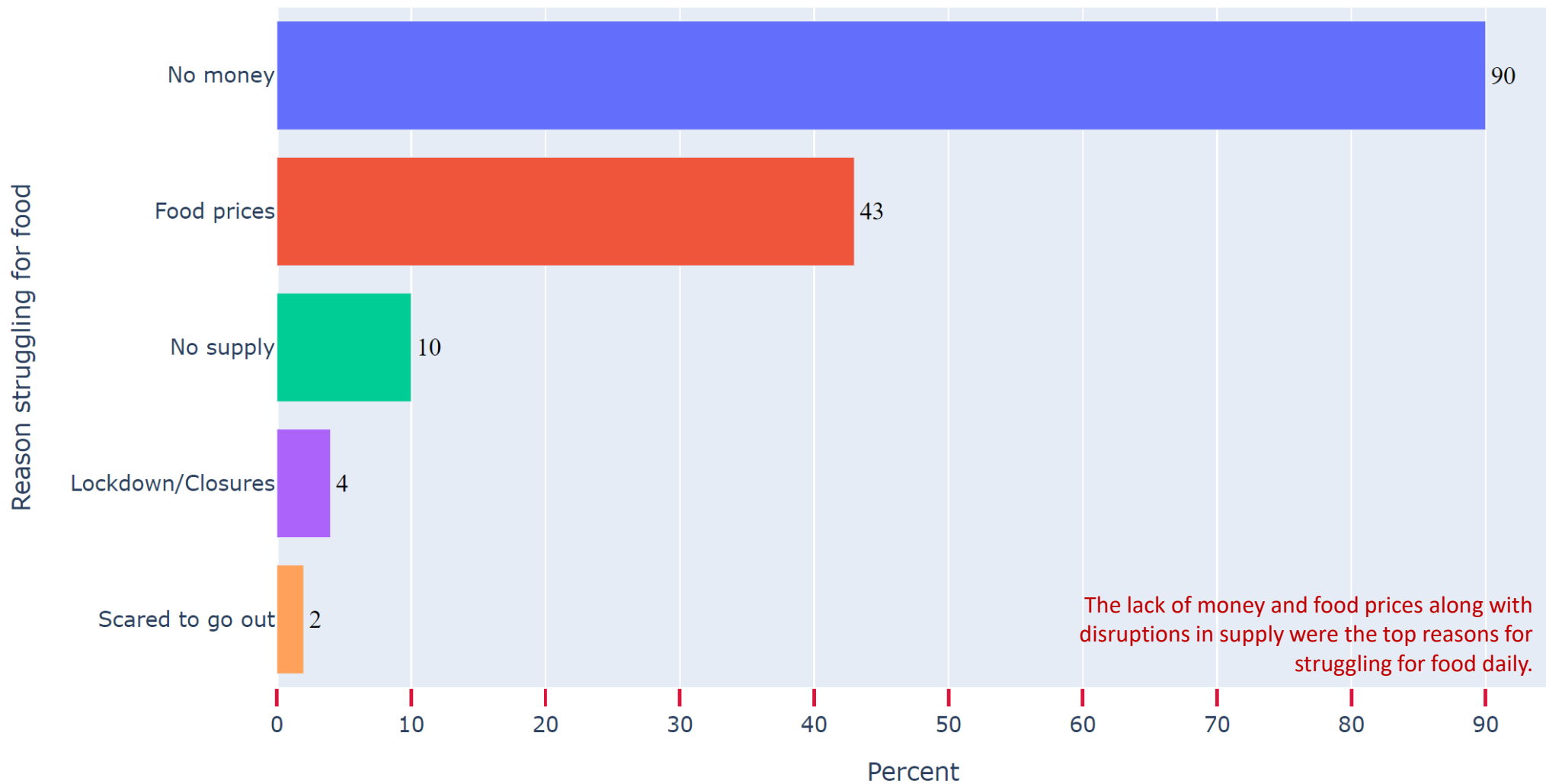


**NUTRITION, HEALTH AND CARE SEEKING**

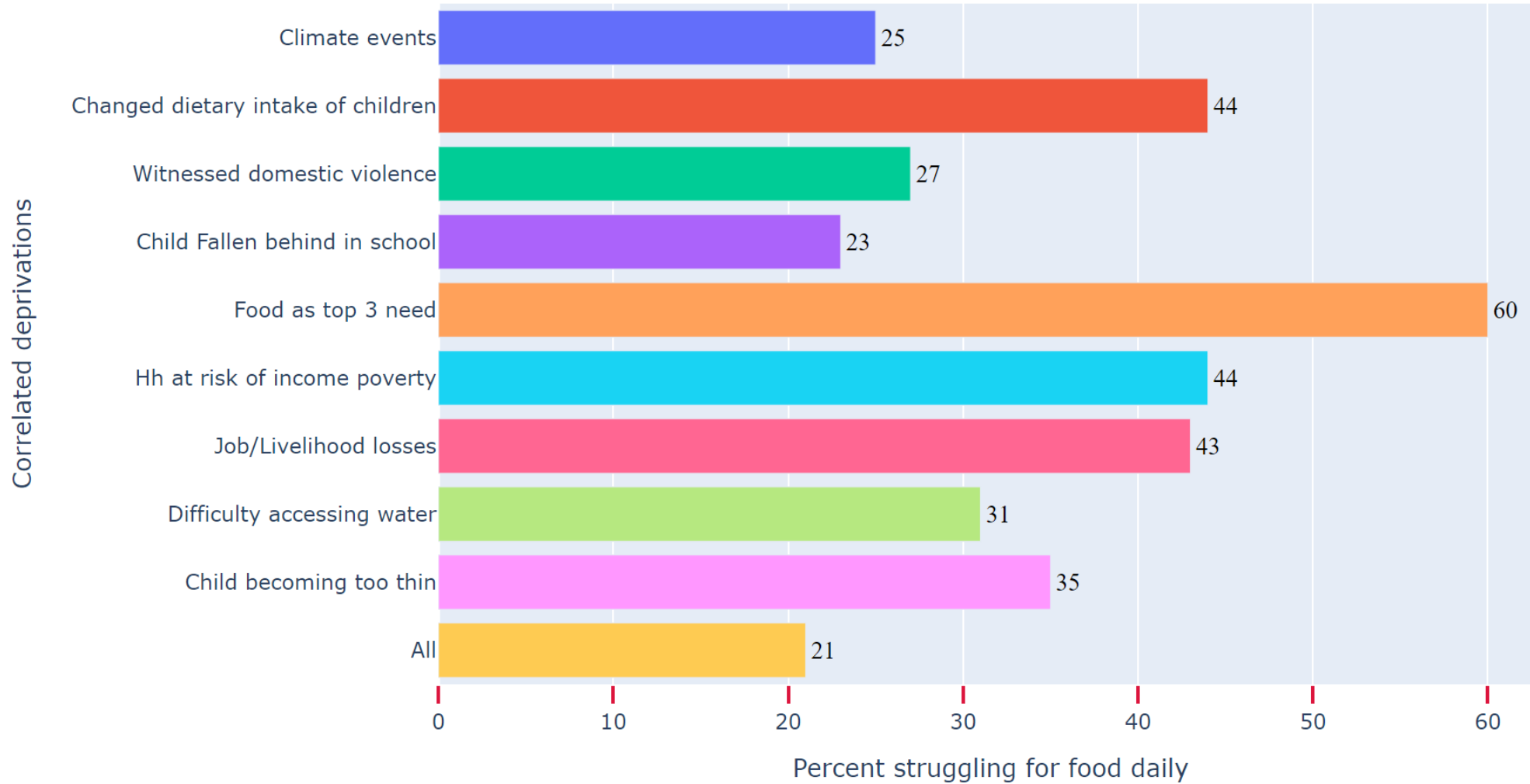
More than 1 in 5 households continued struggling for food daily over the past month. The overall numbers are lower compared to the previous round but still among the highest observed through all other rounds.



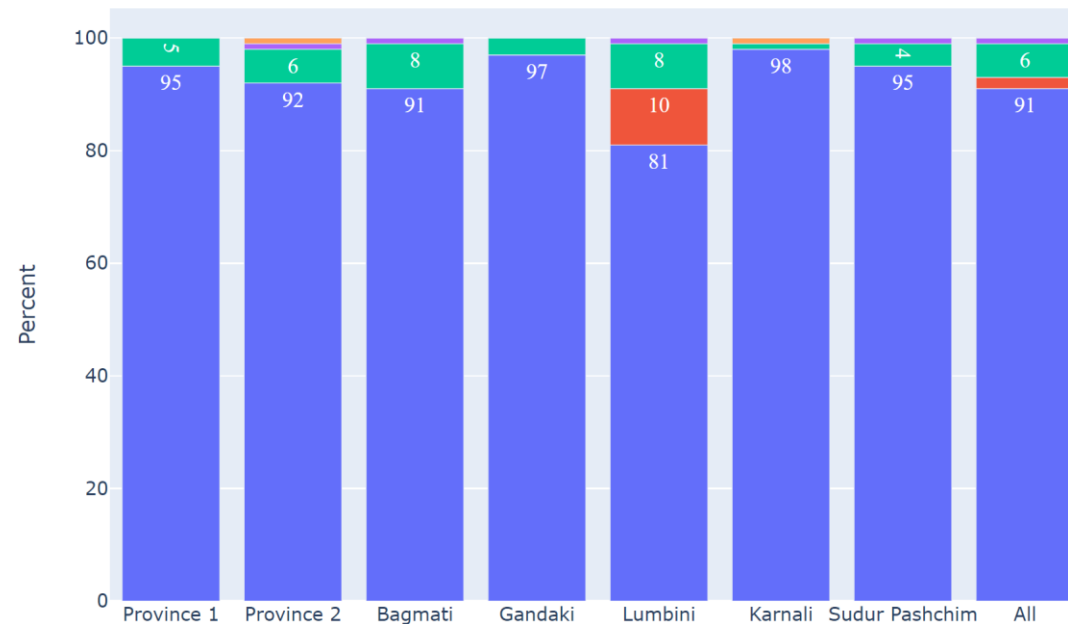
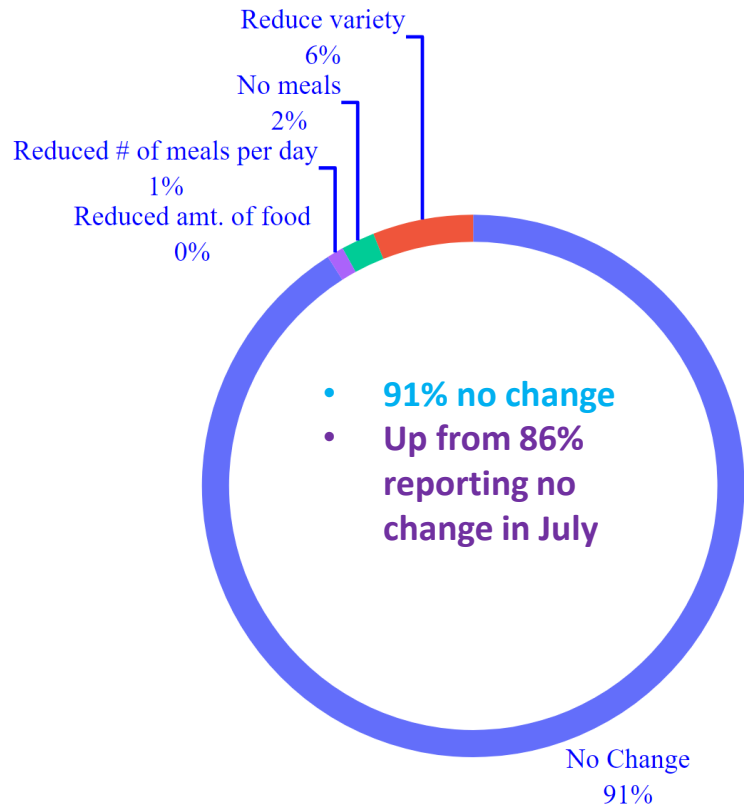
# The lack of money and food prices along with disruptions in supply were the top reasons for struggling for food daily.



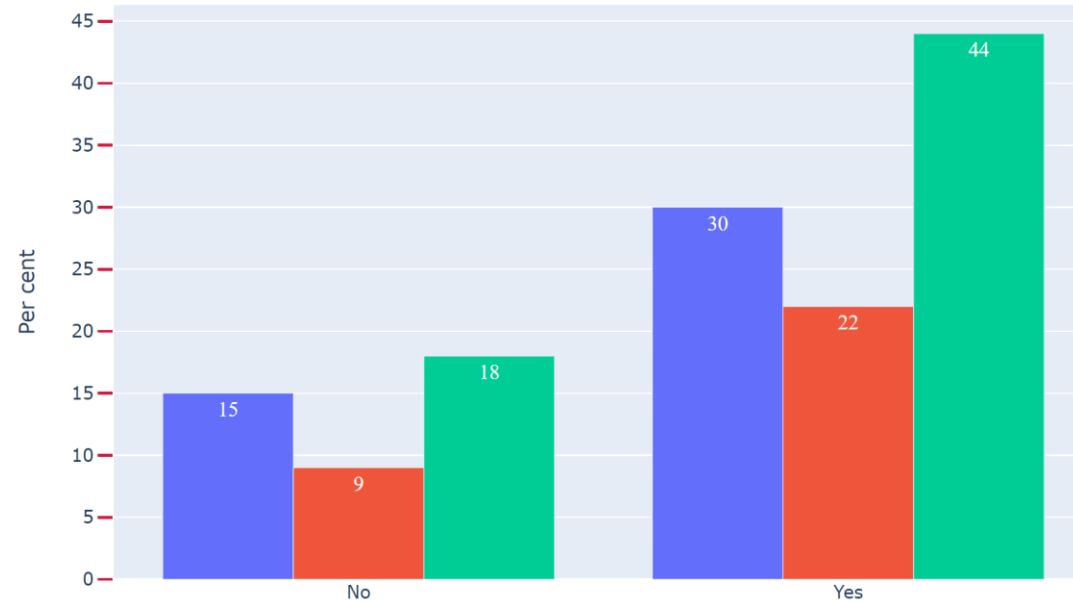
## Children living in households struggling for food are also likely to be subject to other shocks/deprivations. For all the indicators chosen the percent struggling for food is higher than the average



# How has your child's eating habits changed due to COVID pandemic?

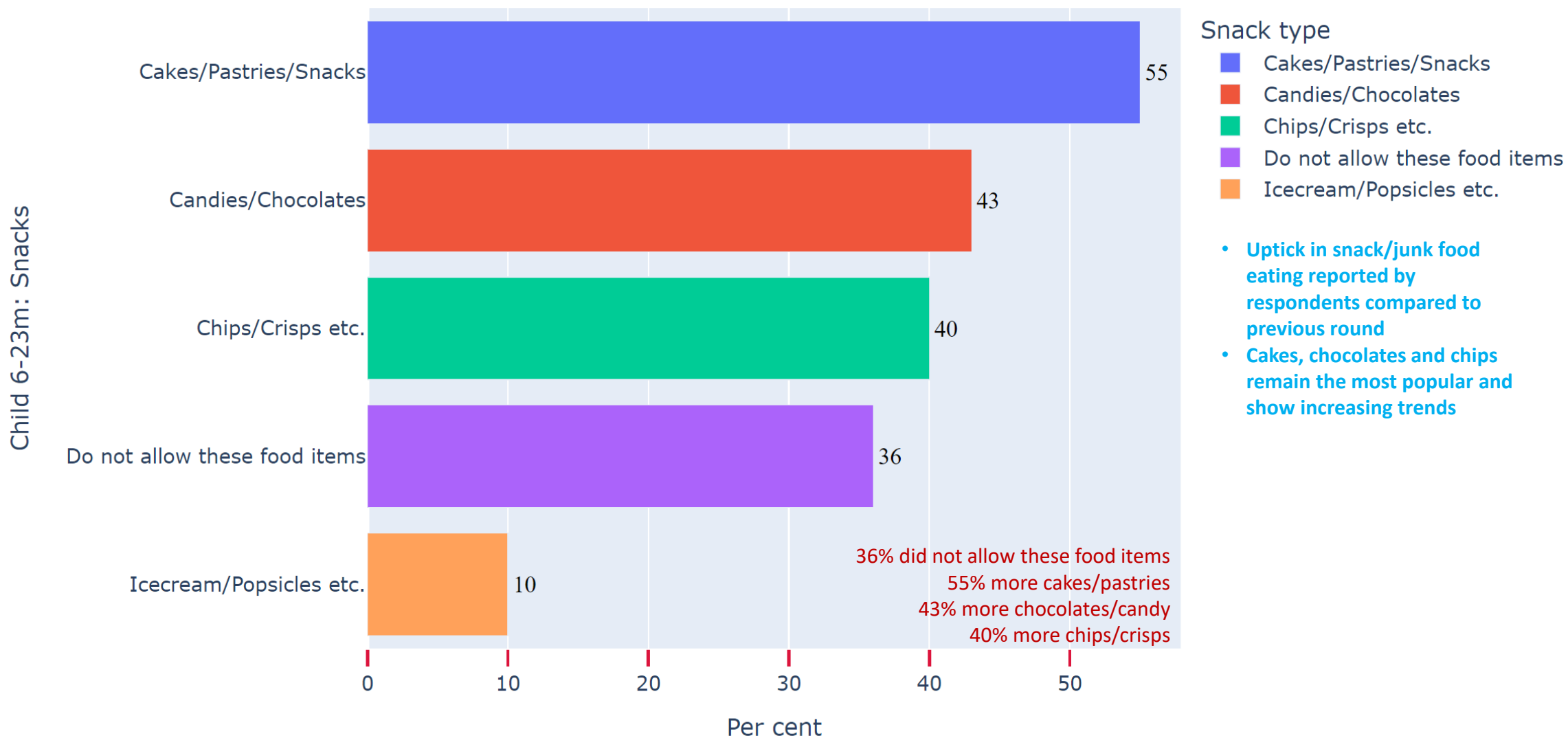


**1 in 10 respondents from Karnali reported children going without a meal in past 24 hours**

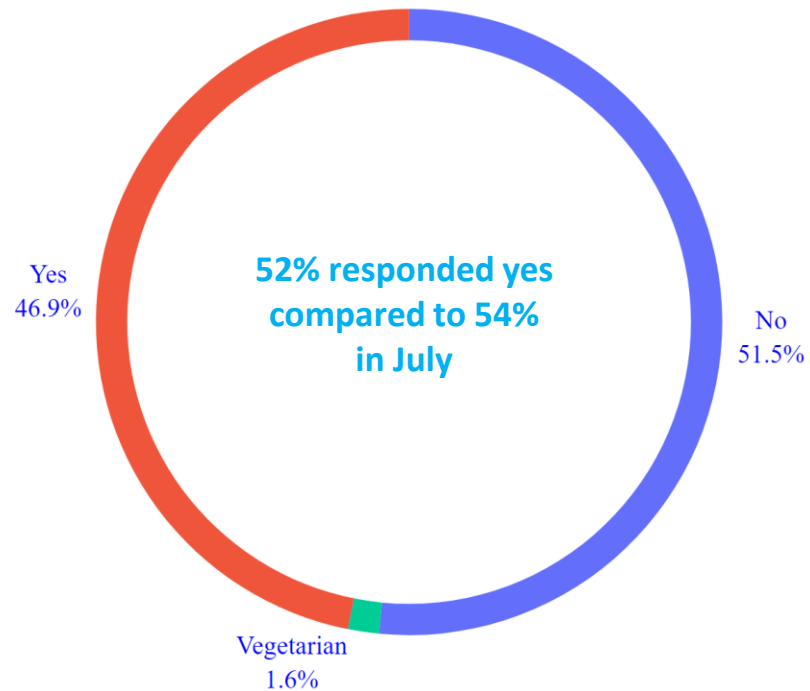


**Respondents reporting changed dietary intake are also likely to report higher job losses, higher rates of struggling for food or declaring food as an immediate need**

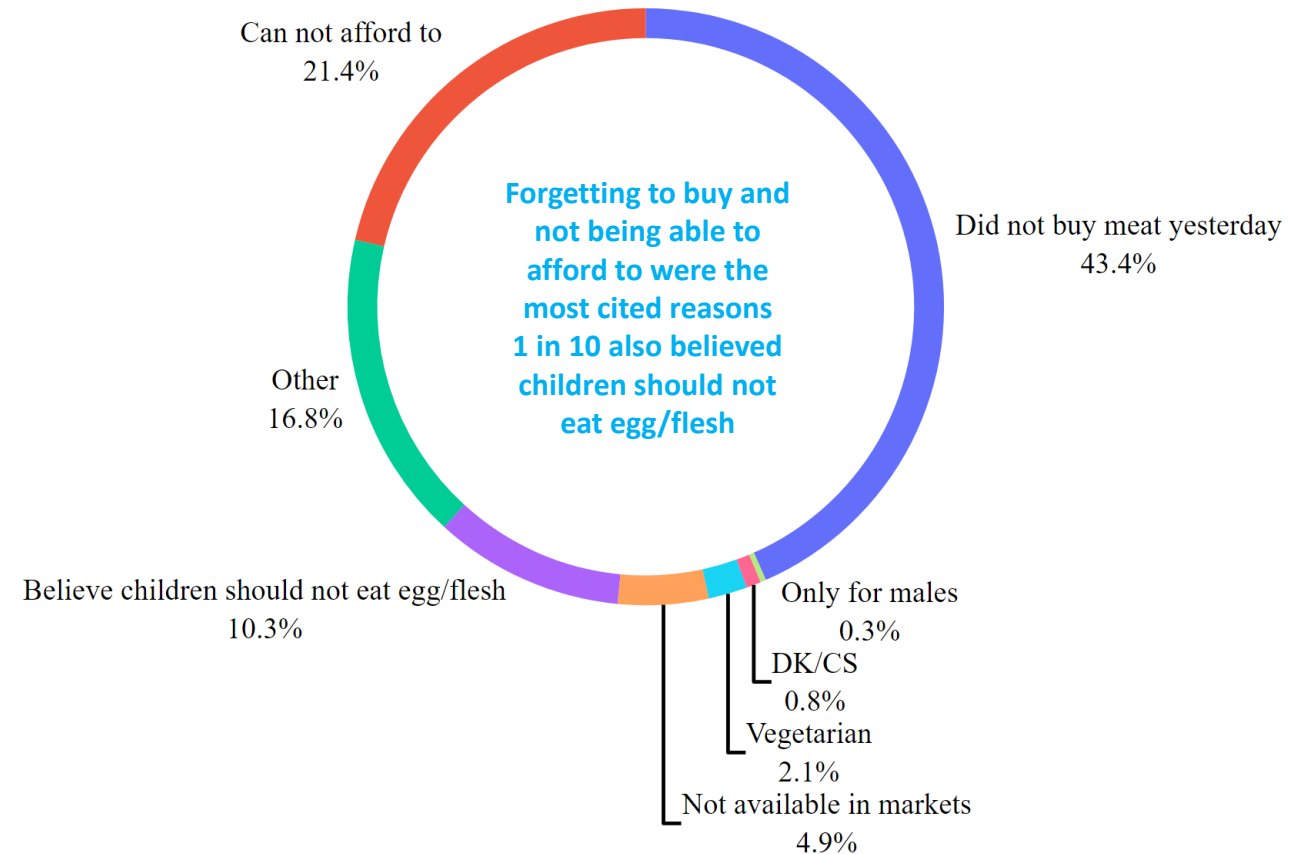
# Did your child 23-6months of age, eat any of the following foods more often because of COVID?



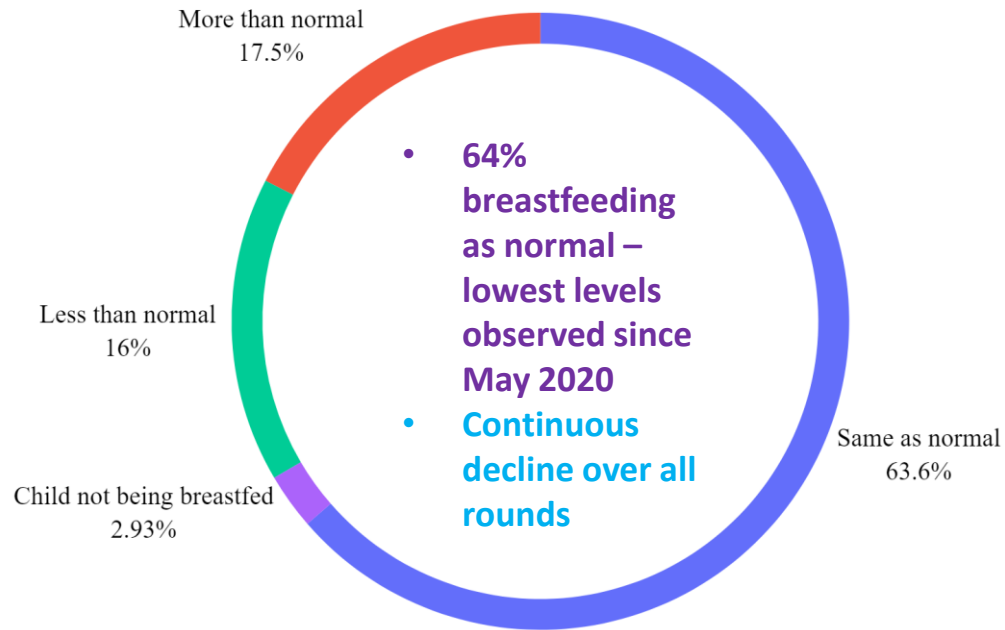
## Did your child 6-23 months of age eat egg or other flesh food (meat, fish, poultry) in the previous 24 hours?



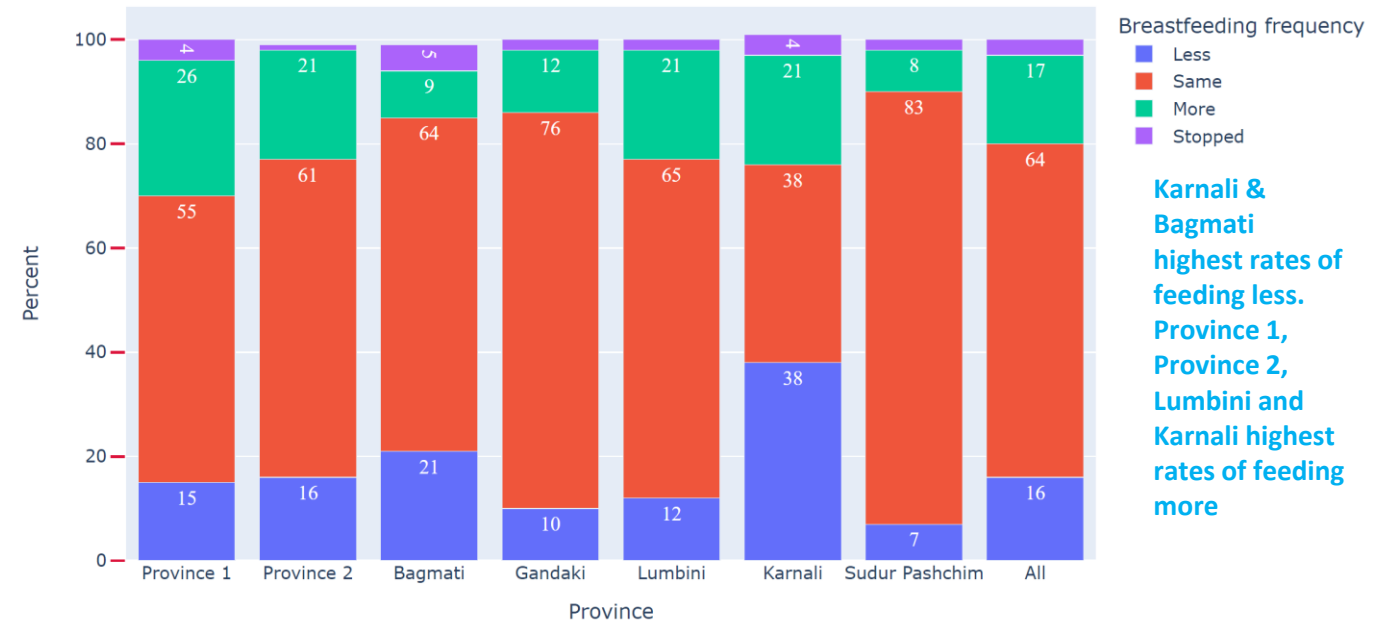
## Why did your child of 6-23 months age not eat egg or other flesh food (meat, fish, poultry etc) in the previous day?



## How often is your child being breastfed now?

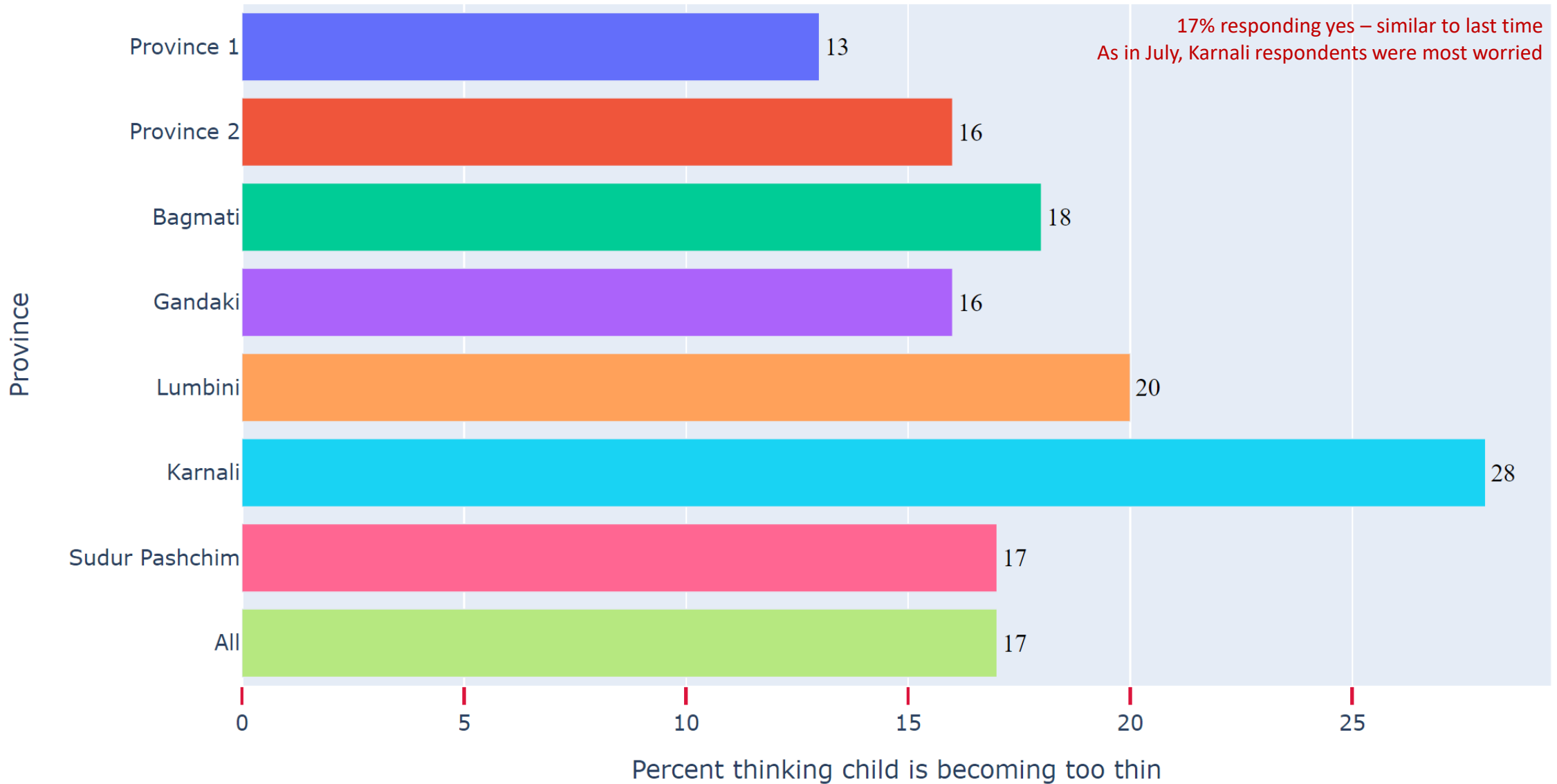


## Variation by Province



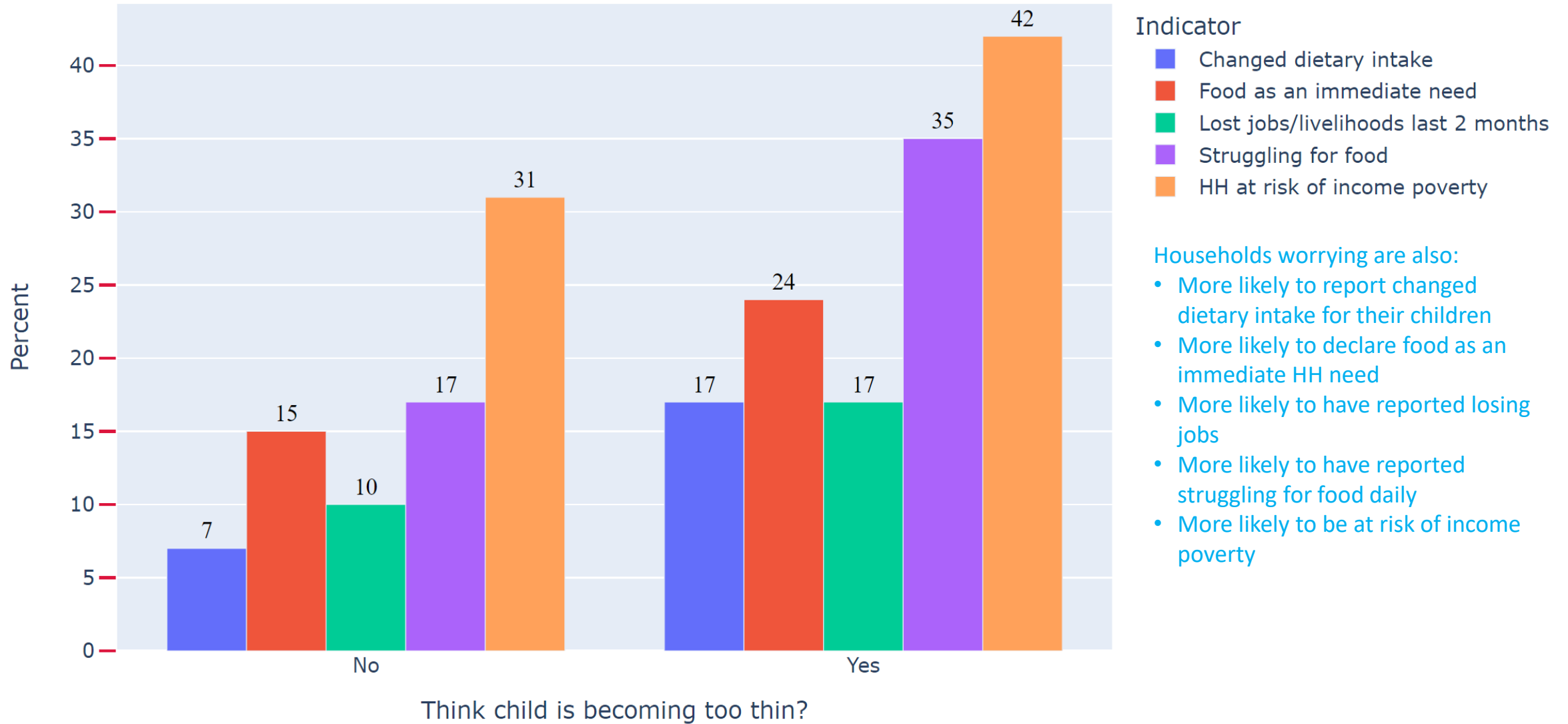


## Do you think your child is too thin or is becoming thinner compared to last month?



# Do you think your child is too thin or is becoming thinner compared to the last month?

## Correlation with other indicators



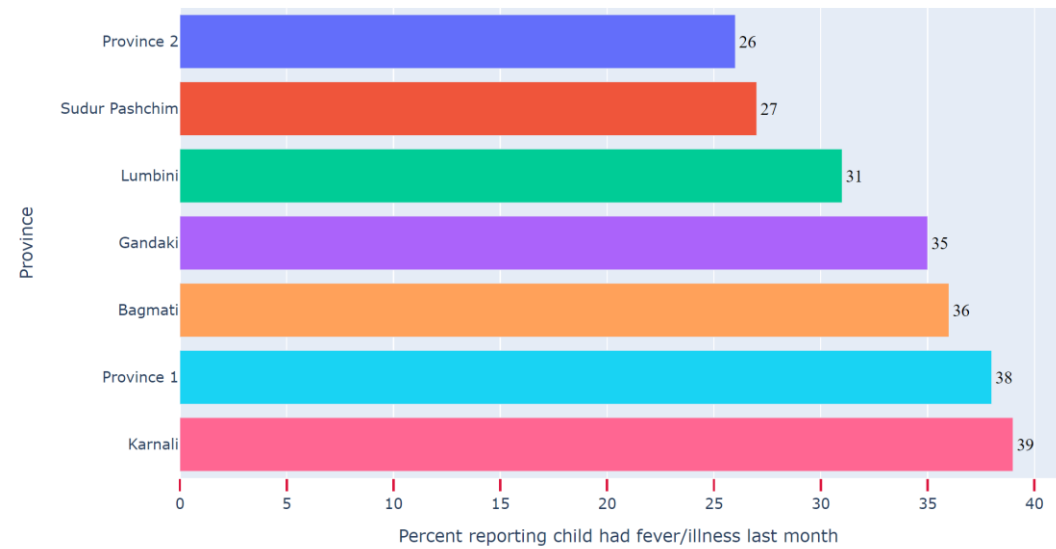
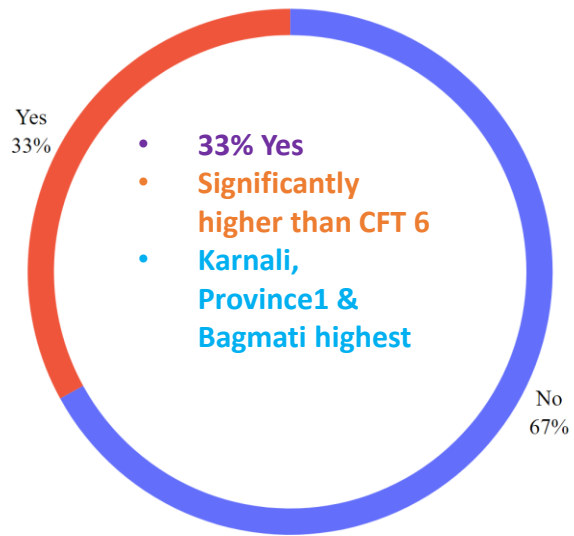
### Indicator

- Changed dietary intake
- Food as an immediate need
- Lost jobs/livelihoods last 2 months
- Struggling for food
- HH at risk of income poverty

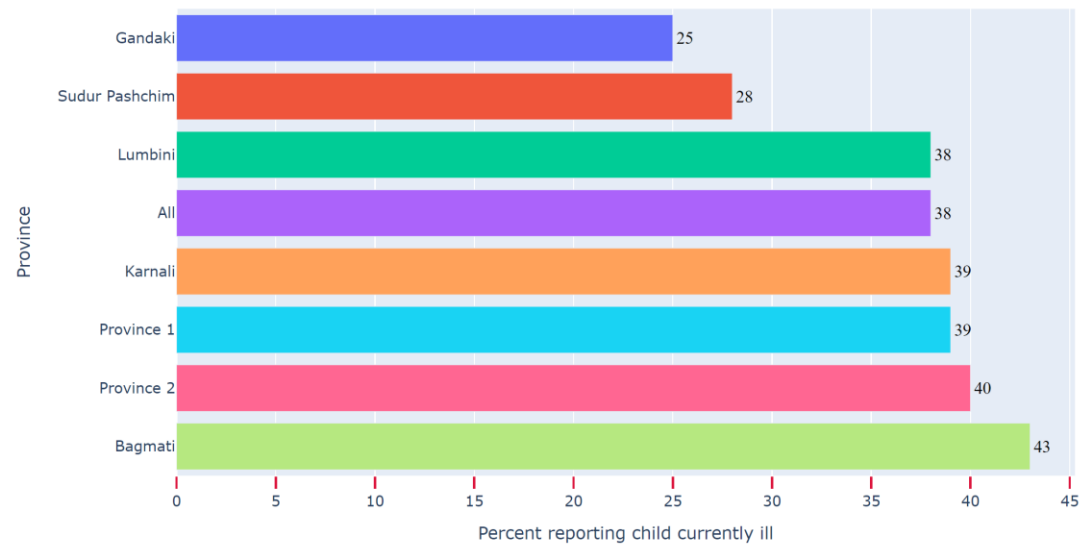
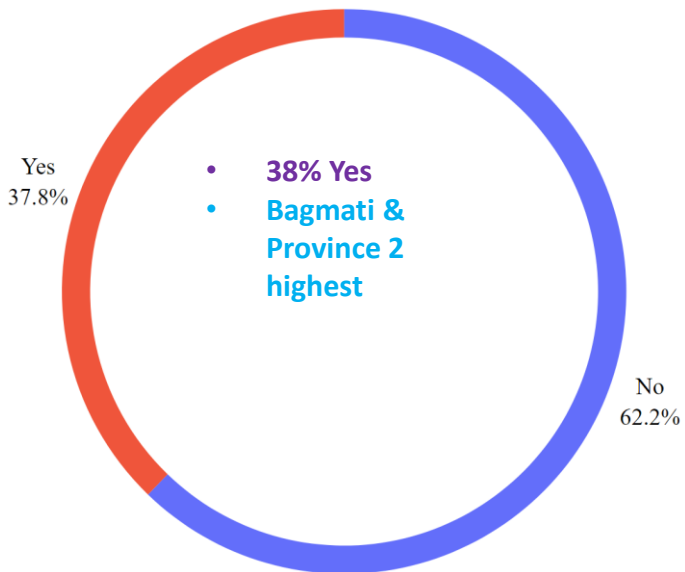
### Households worrying are also:

- More likely to report changed dietary intake for their children
- More likely to declare food as an immediate HH need
- More likely to have reported losing jobs
- More likely to have reported struggling for food daily
- More likely to be at risk of income poverty

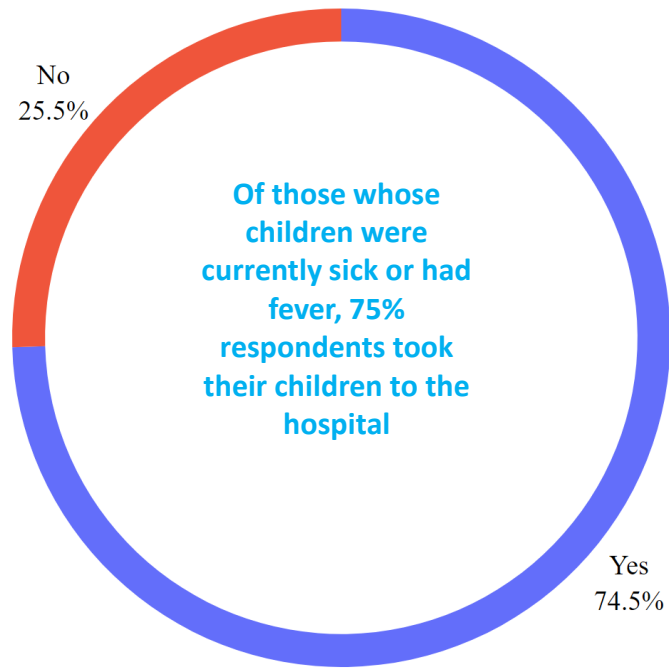
## Have/has your children/child become ill or had fever in the past month?



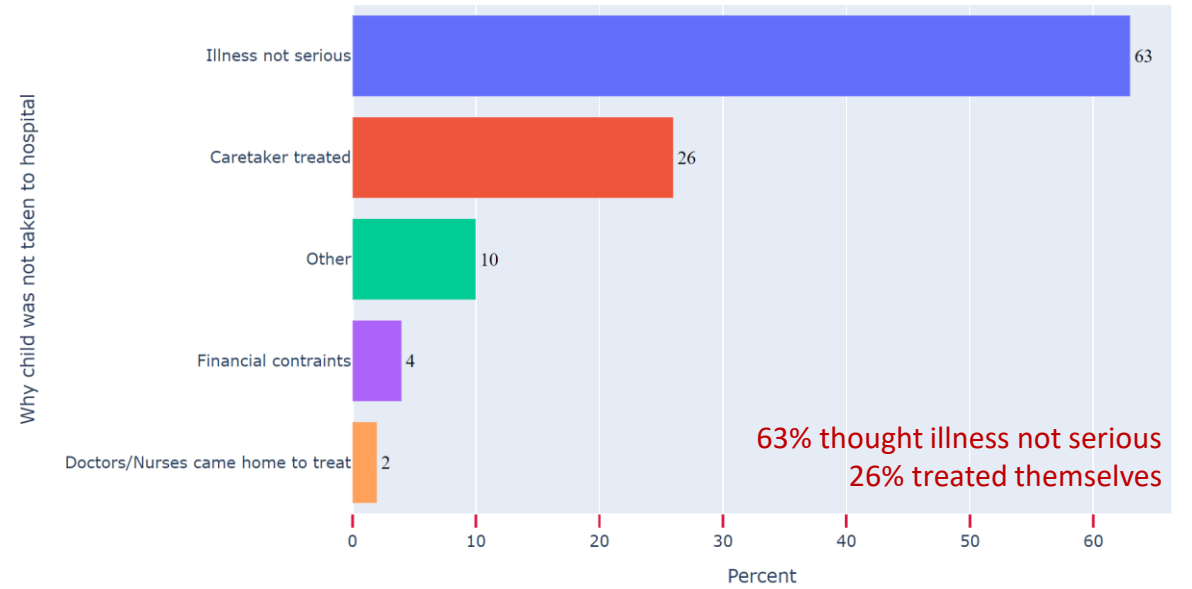
## Is your child currently sick or has been having fever for more than 7 days?



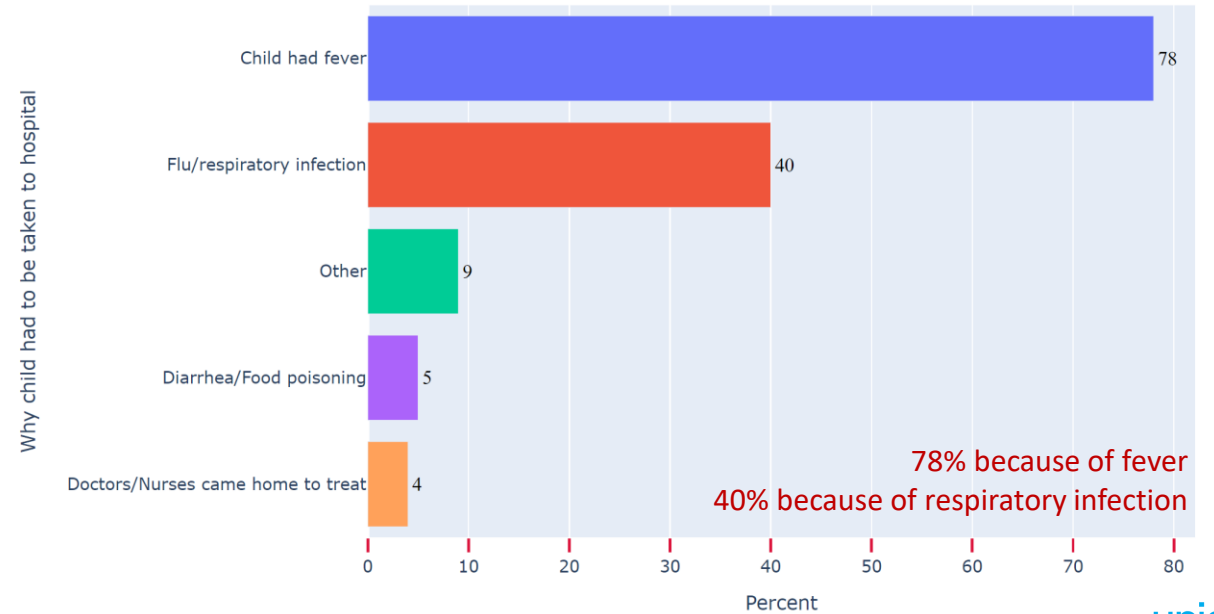
## Did you have to take your child/children to a hospital or a health centre?



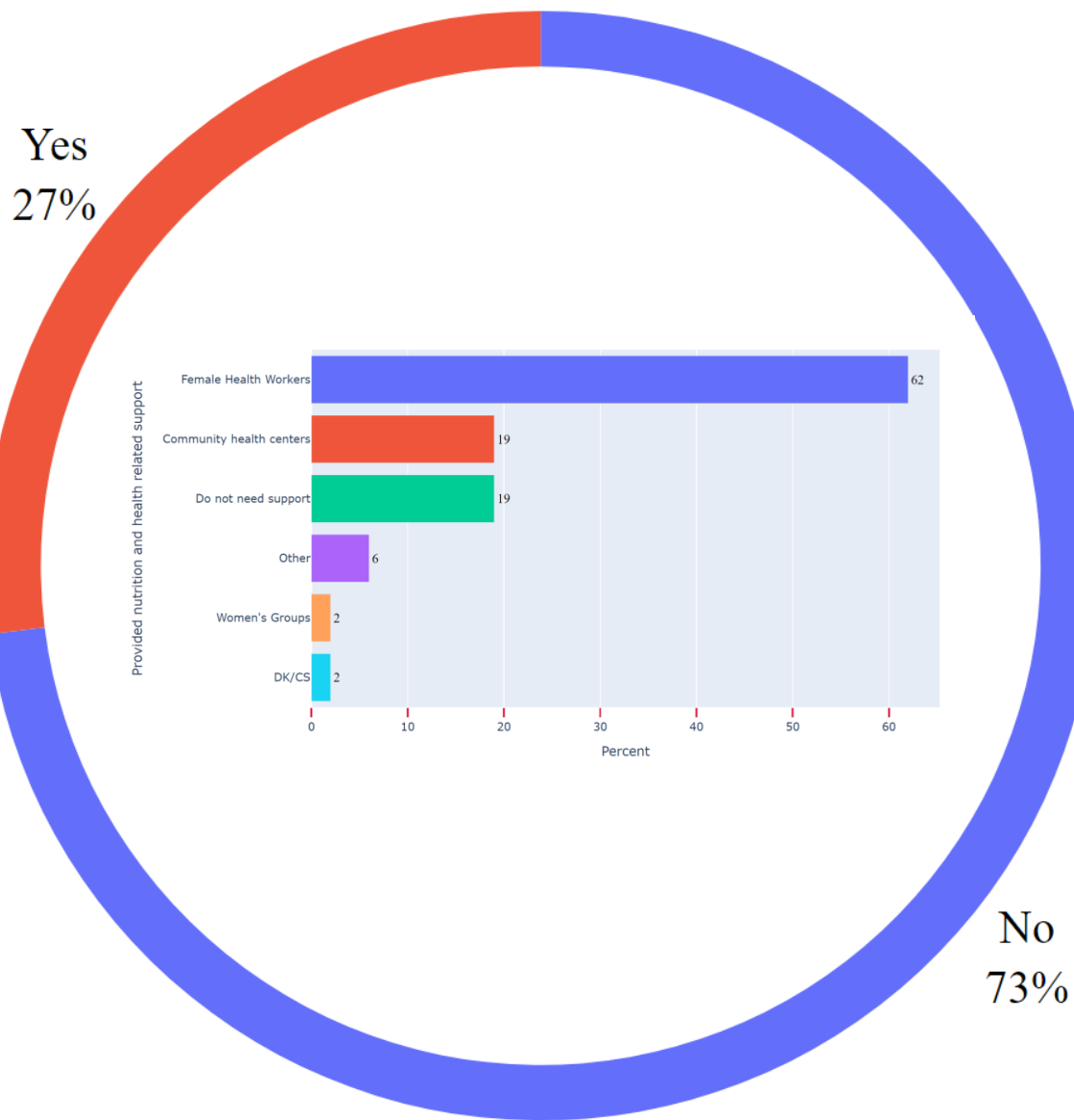
## Why did you not take your child/children to a hospital/health post?



## Why did you take your child/children to a hospital/health post?



# Did you receive any support related to nutrition and health in your community in the past month or recently?



Yes  
27%

No  
73%

27% received – significant increase compared to July 2021

Support received primarily from female health workers and community health workers

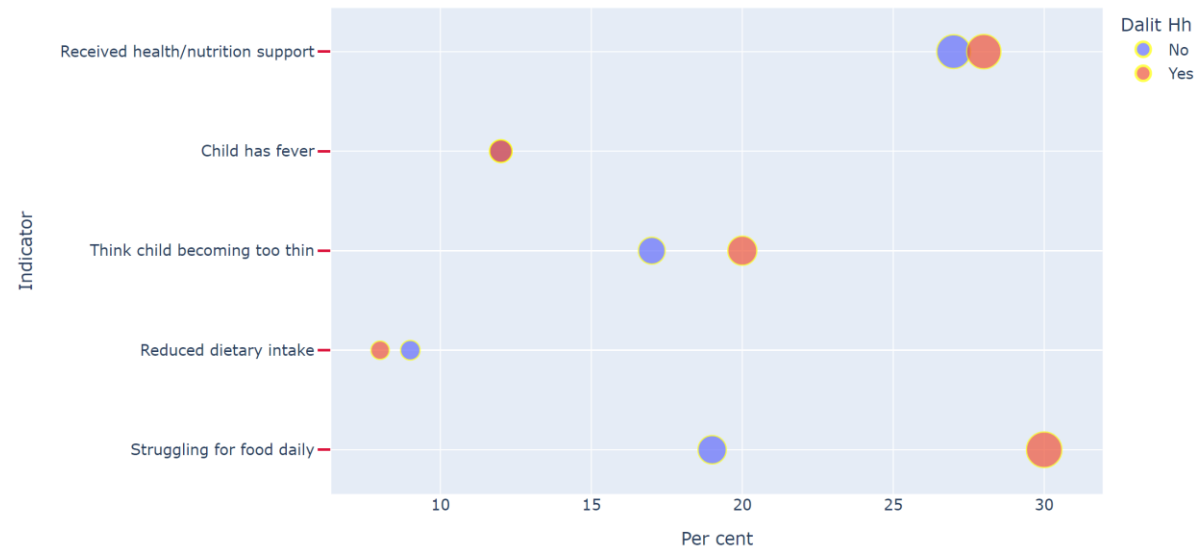
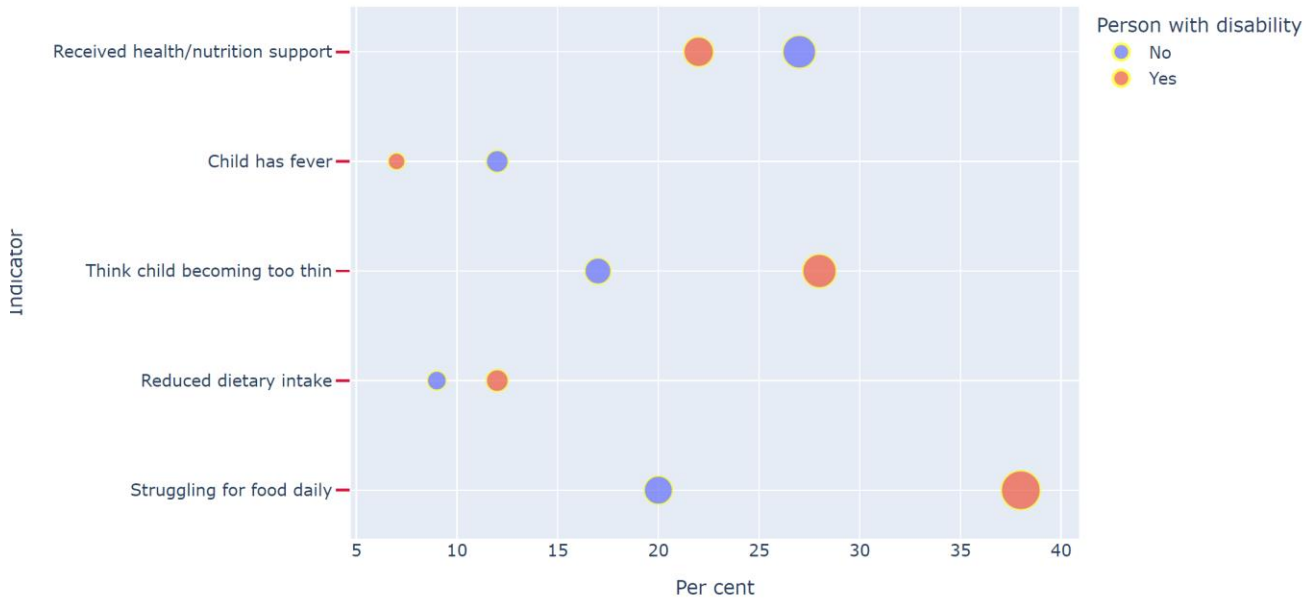
81% received services  
28% received counselling

## Select nutrition indicators by province



## Select nutrition indicators by disability status (T) & ethnicity (B)

Respondents who were disabled were also less likely to have received support, more likely to be worried their children are becoming too thin and more likely to be struggling for food daily. Biggest gaps are in struggling for food and worrying about children becoming too thin



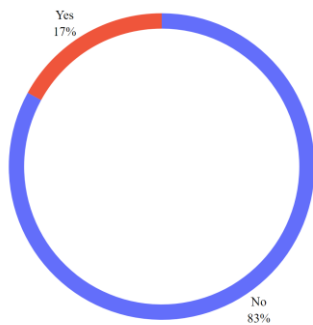
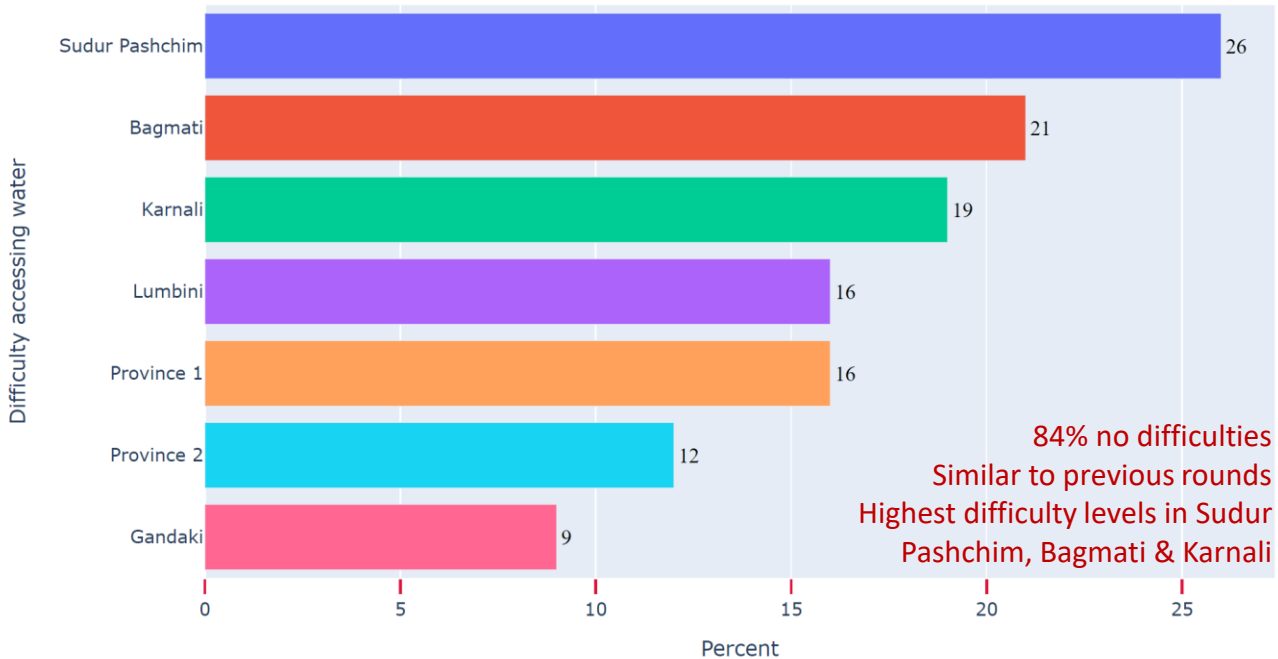
Dalit respondents were more likely to worry about their child becoming too thin and struggling for food daily. They were slightly more likely to report receiving support. Less likely to report reduced dietary intake. Biggest gaps are in worrying about children becoming too thin and struggling for food.



**WASH**

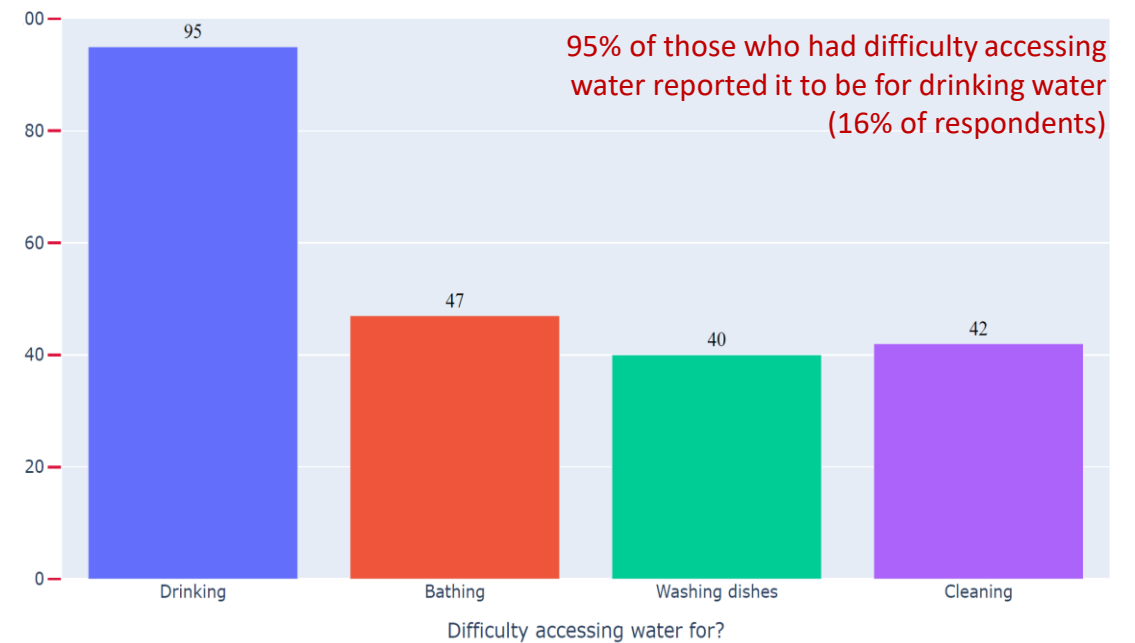


## Have you been facing difficulties in accessing water?

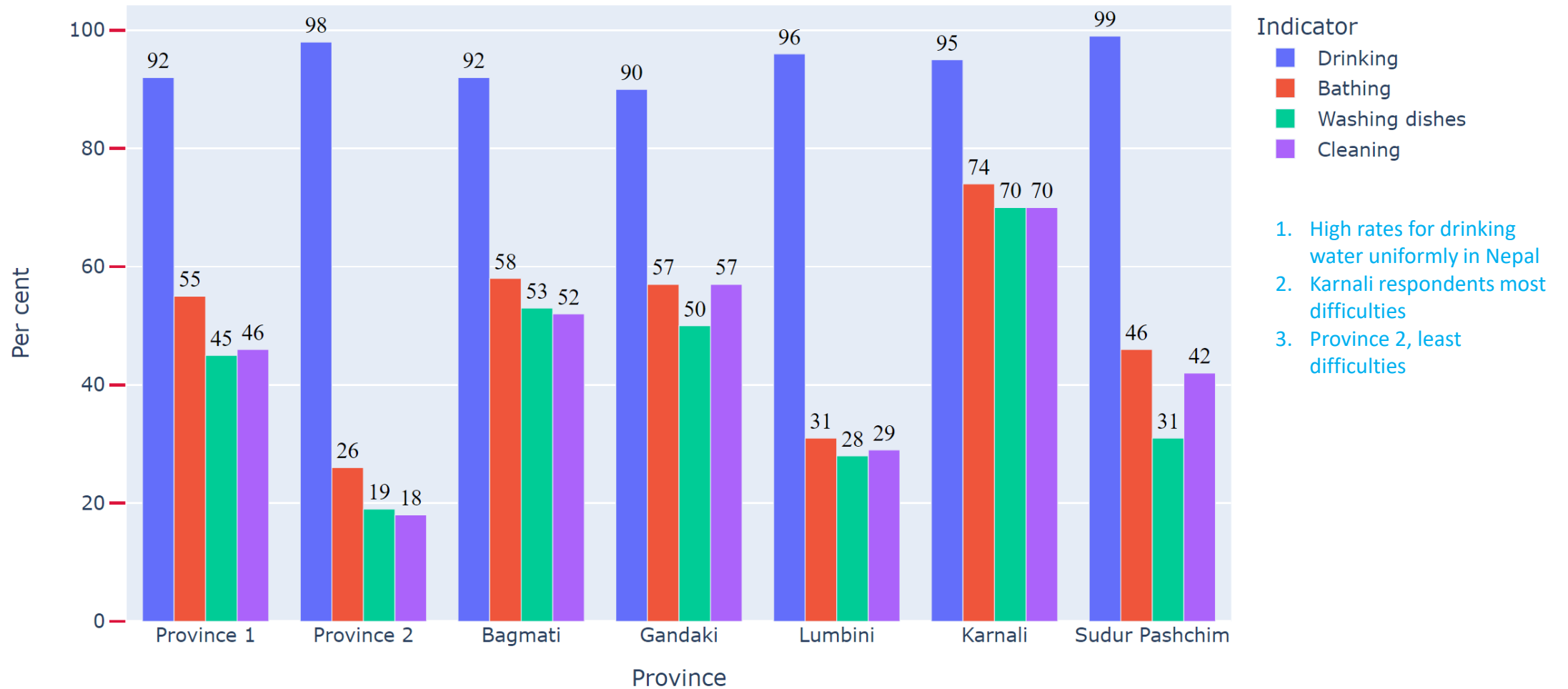


84% faced no difficulties in accessing water. Province level variations show Sudur Pashchim, Bagmati & Karnali respondents reporting higher levels of difficulties. Most difficult was in accessing drinking water.

## Facing difficulties in accessing water for what?



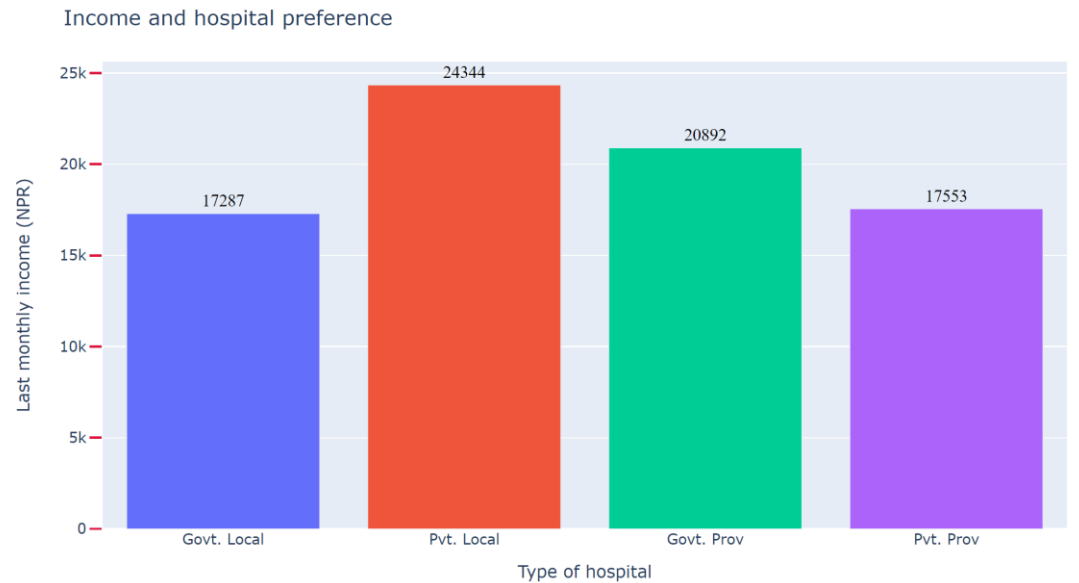
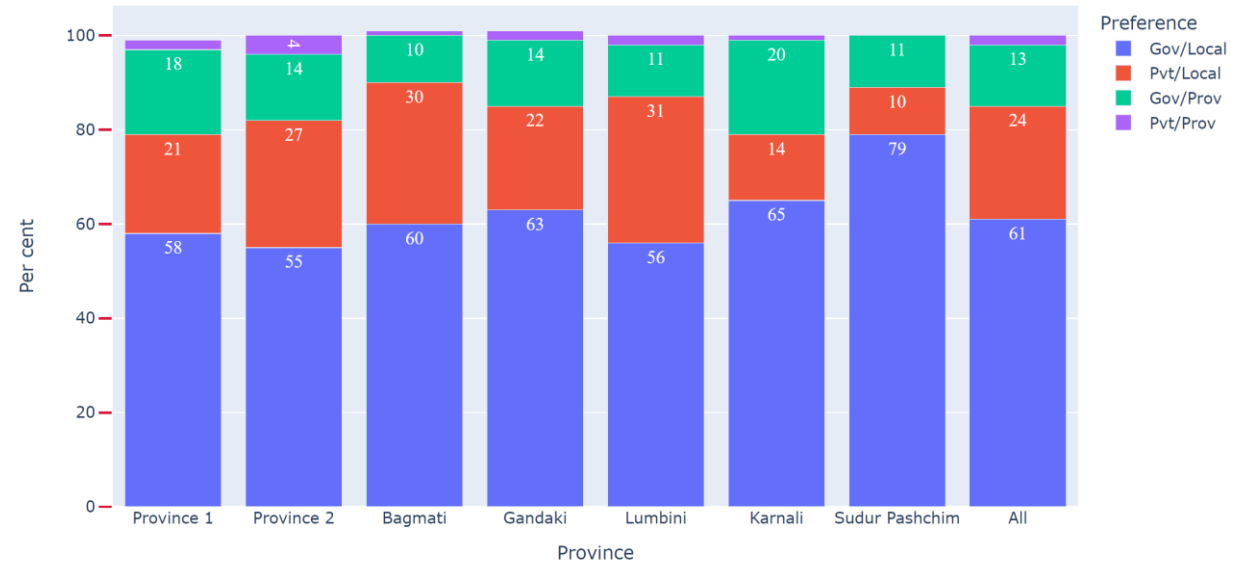
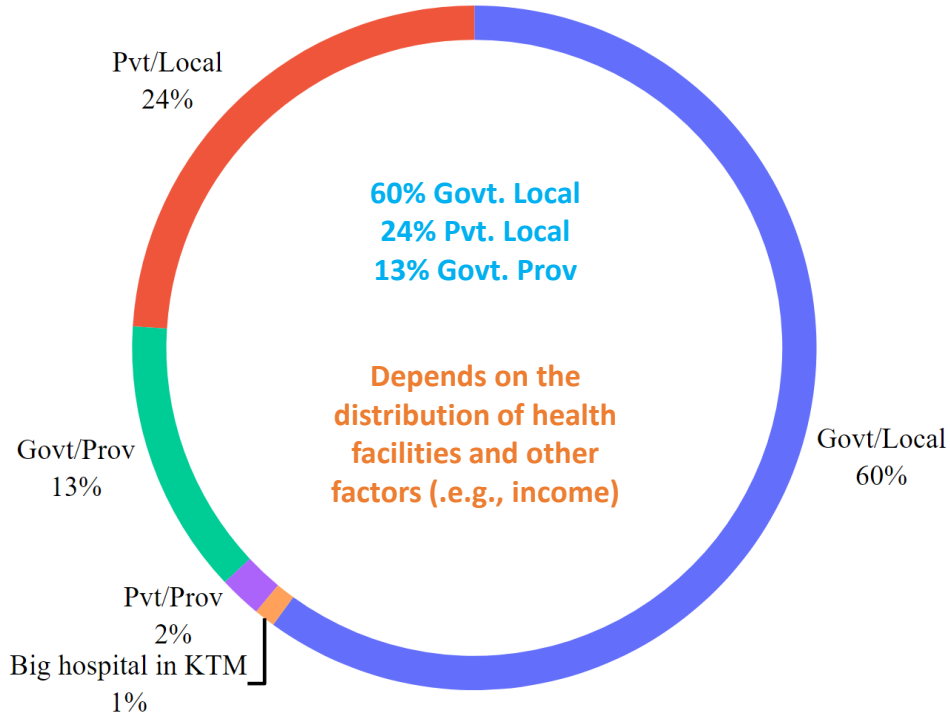
## Difficulty accessing water (for?) By Province



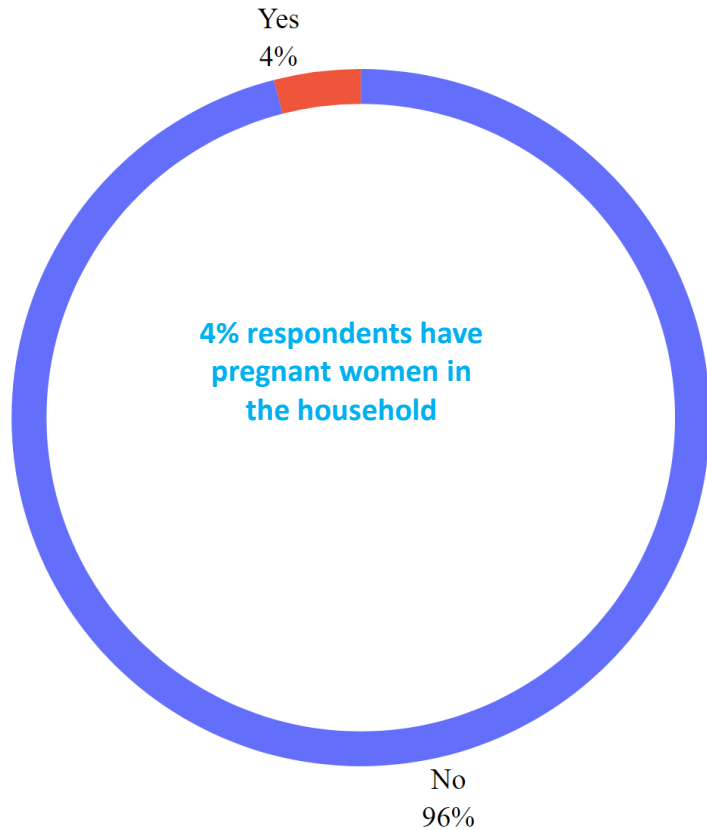


HEALTH

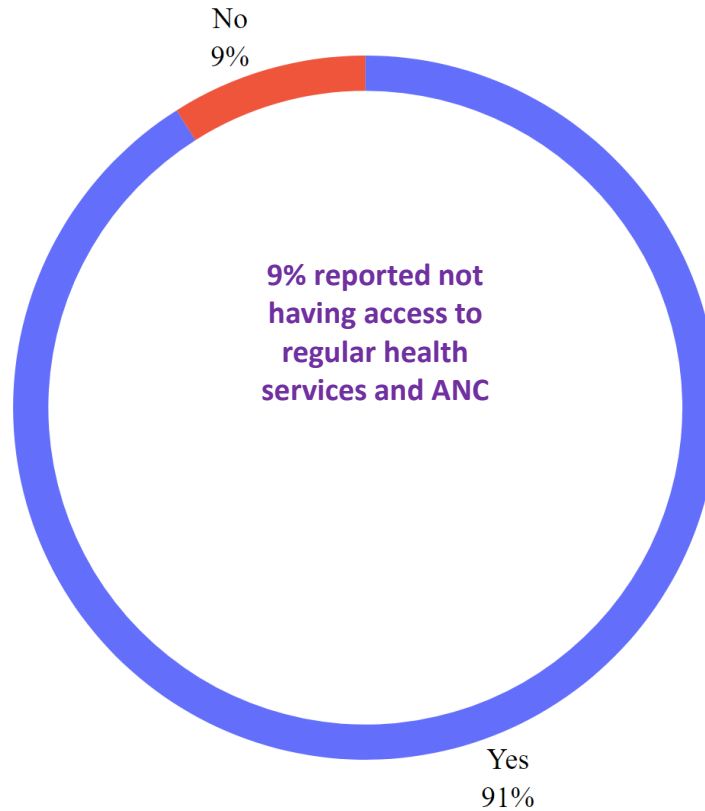
# Where do you usually go if you need health services?



Are there pregnant women living in your household at present?



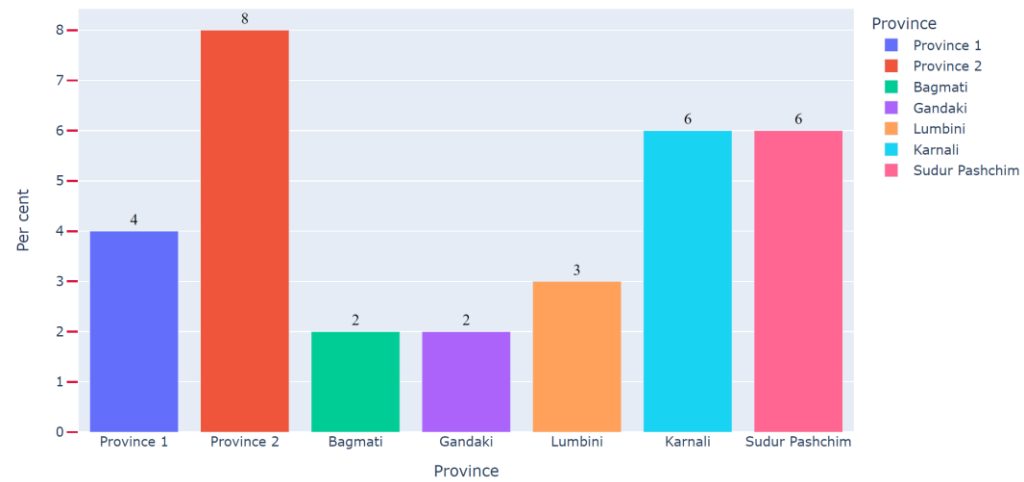
Do they have access to regular health services and ANC?



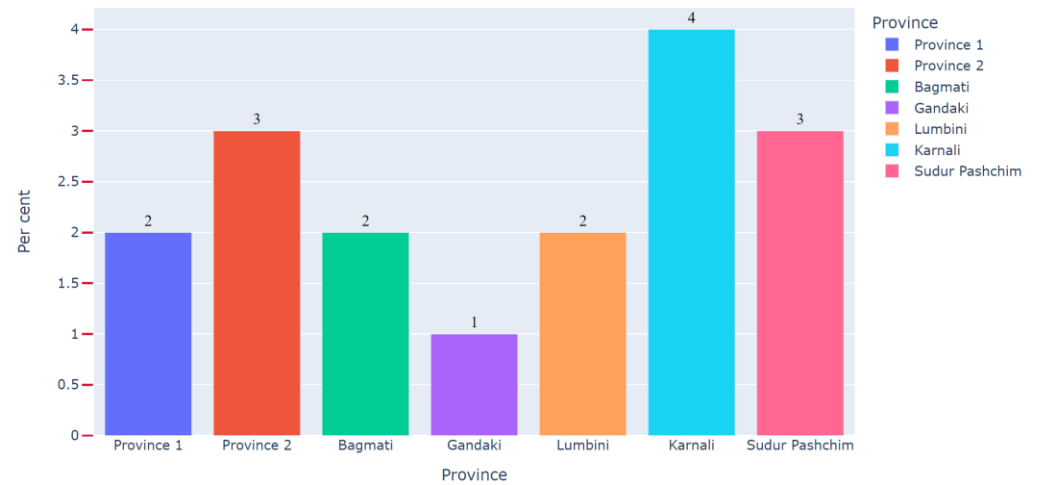
Any deliveries in the last 2 months?



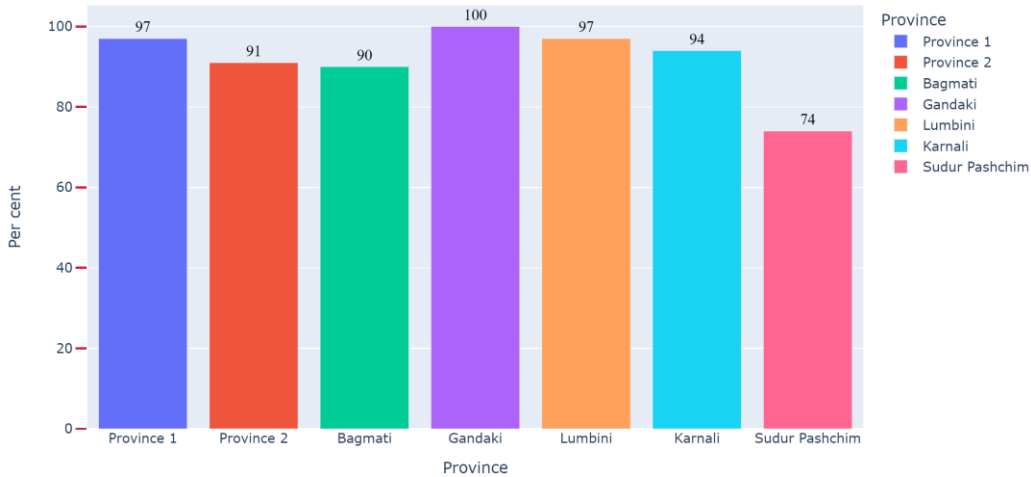
Percent respondents reporting pregnancies at home



Percent deliveries



Percent regular health/ANC



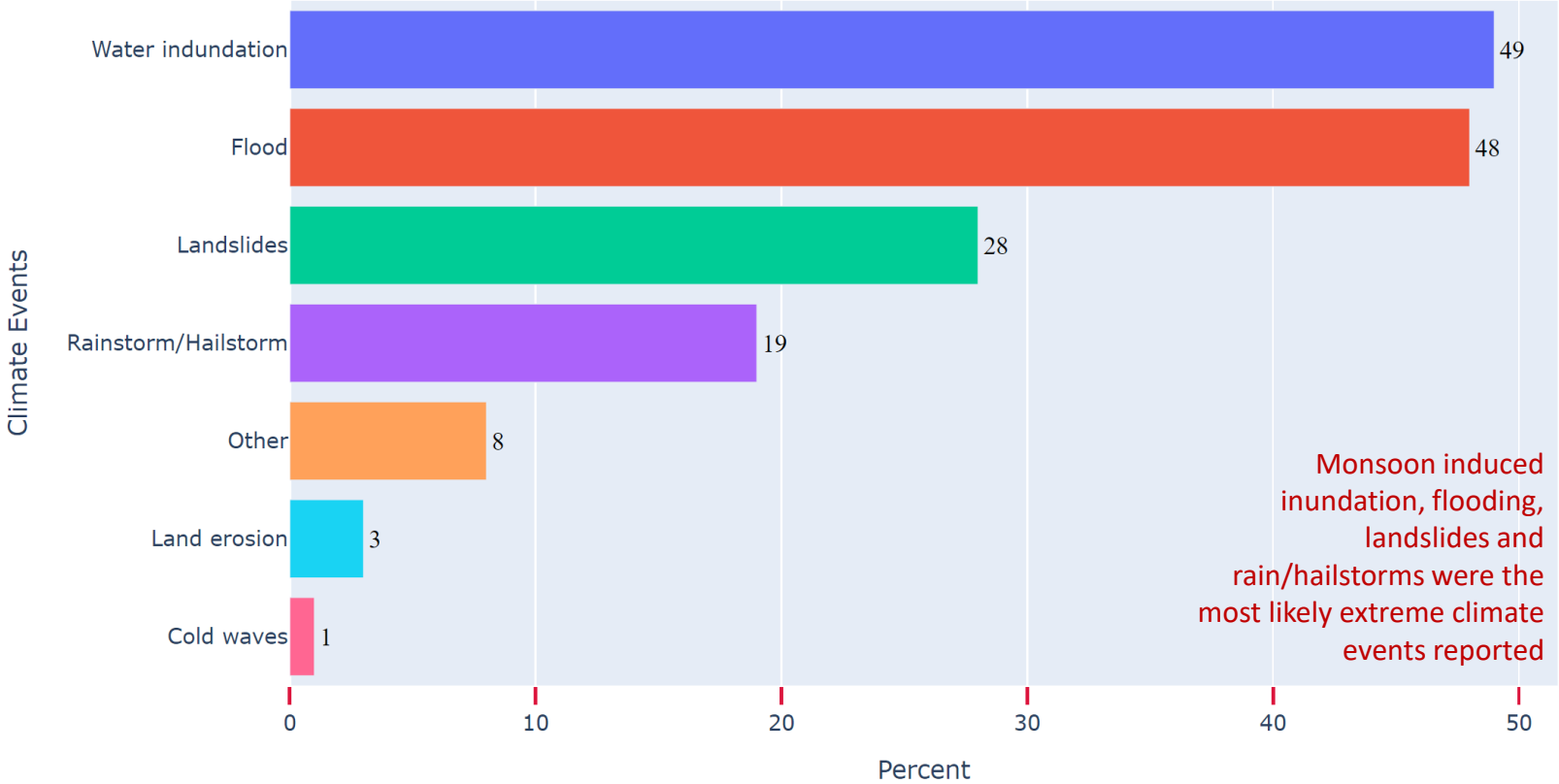
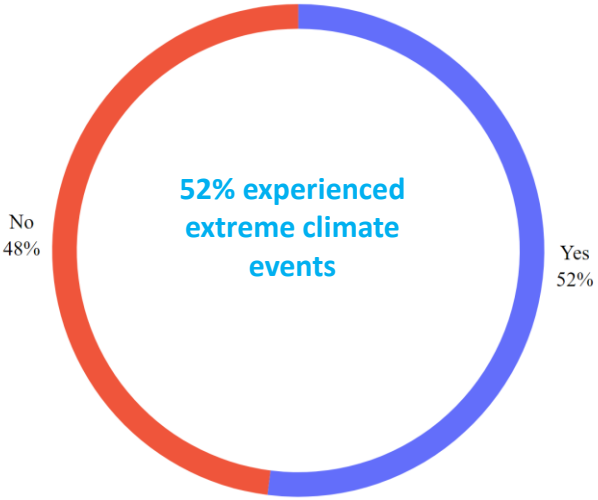
- **Province 2, Sudur Pashchim and Karnali highest pregnancies**
- **Sudur Pashchim well below average in terms of regular health and ANC access**
- **Sudur Pashchim, Karnali & Province 2 reported highest deliveries in last 2 months**

## Pregnancies, access to ANC and deliveries by Province



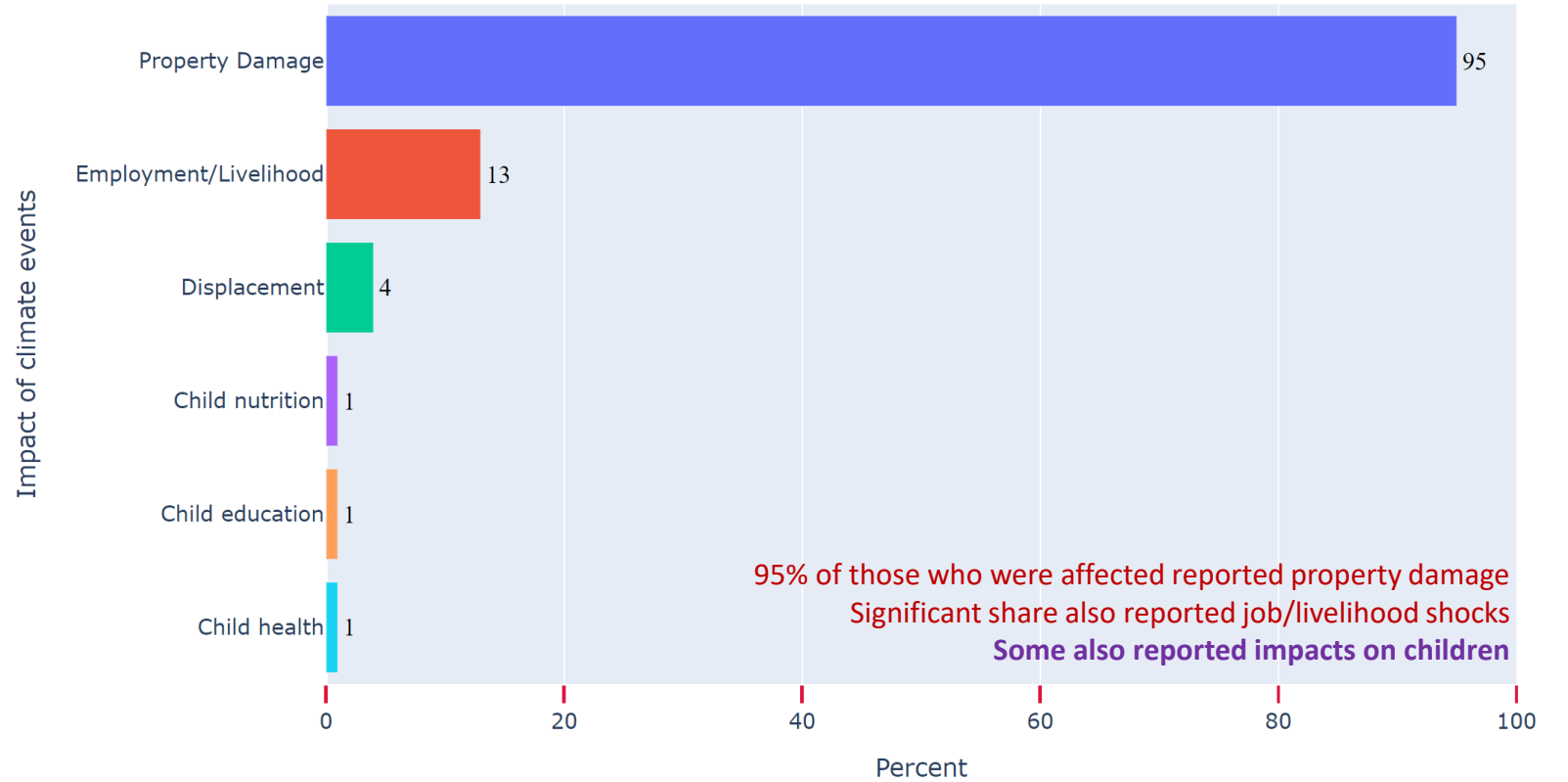
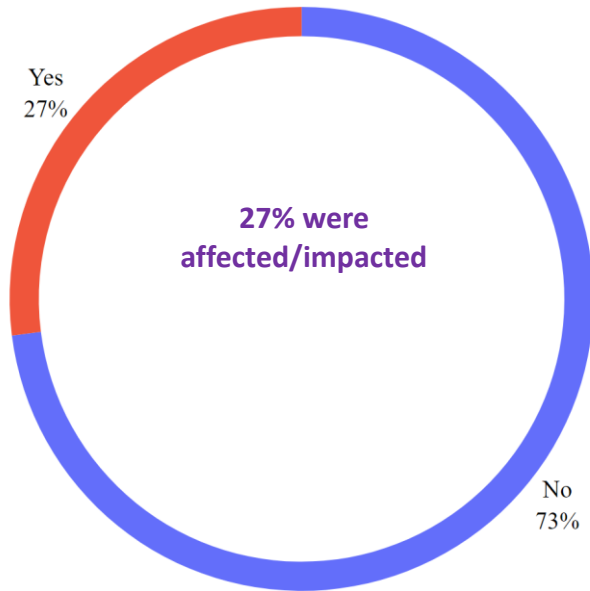
## MONSOONS, FLOODS AND LANDSLIDES

# Have there been any extreme climate events in your community since we last spoke? What were they?

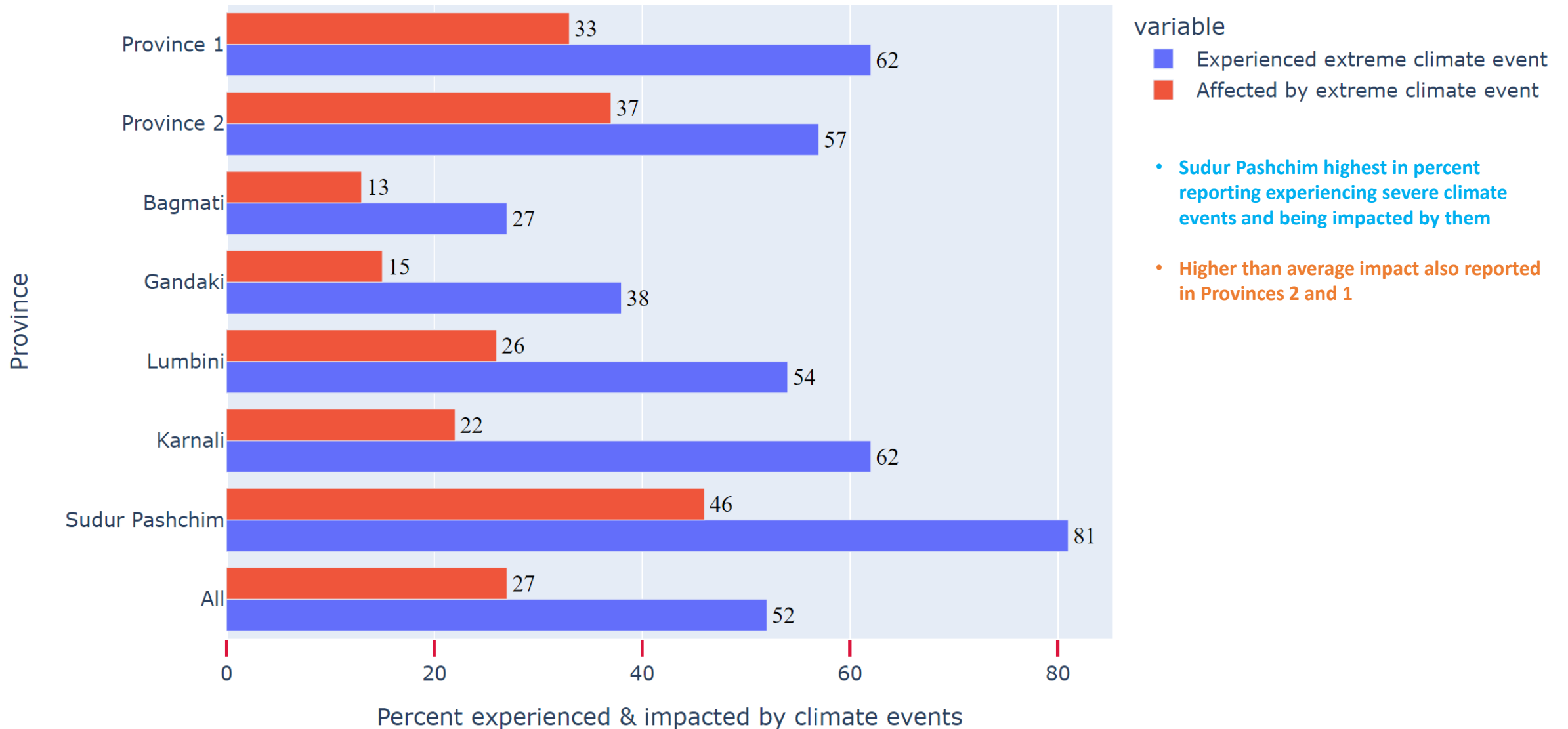




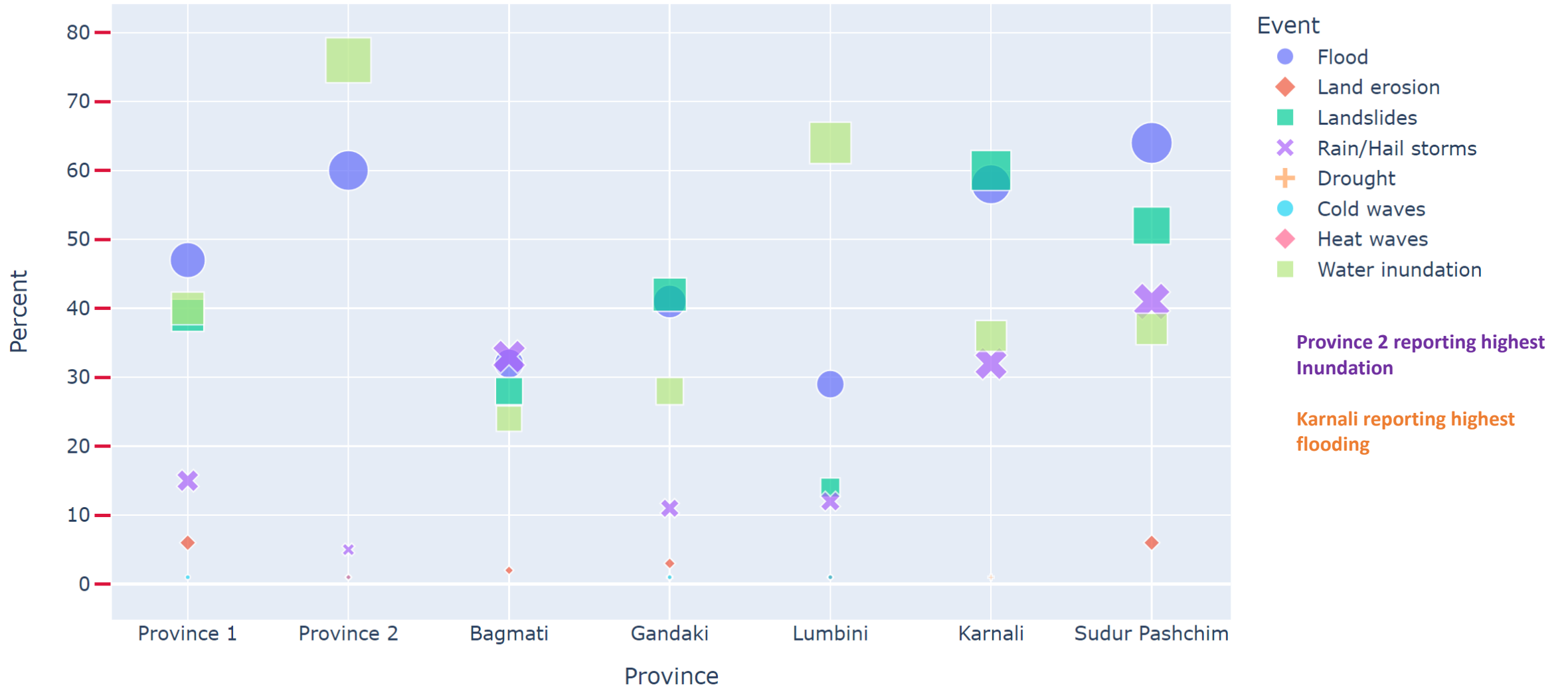
## Has it affected you and how?



## Variation in reporting of extreme climate events and impact by Province



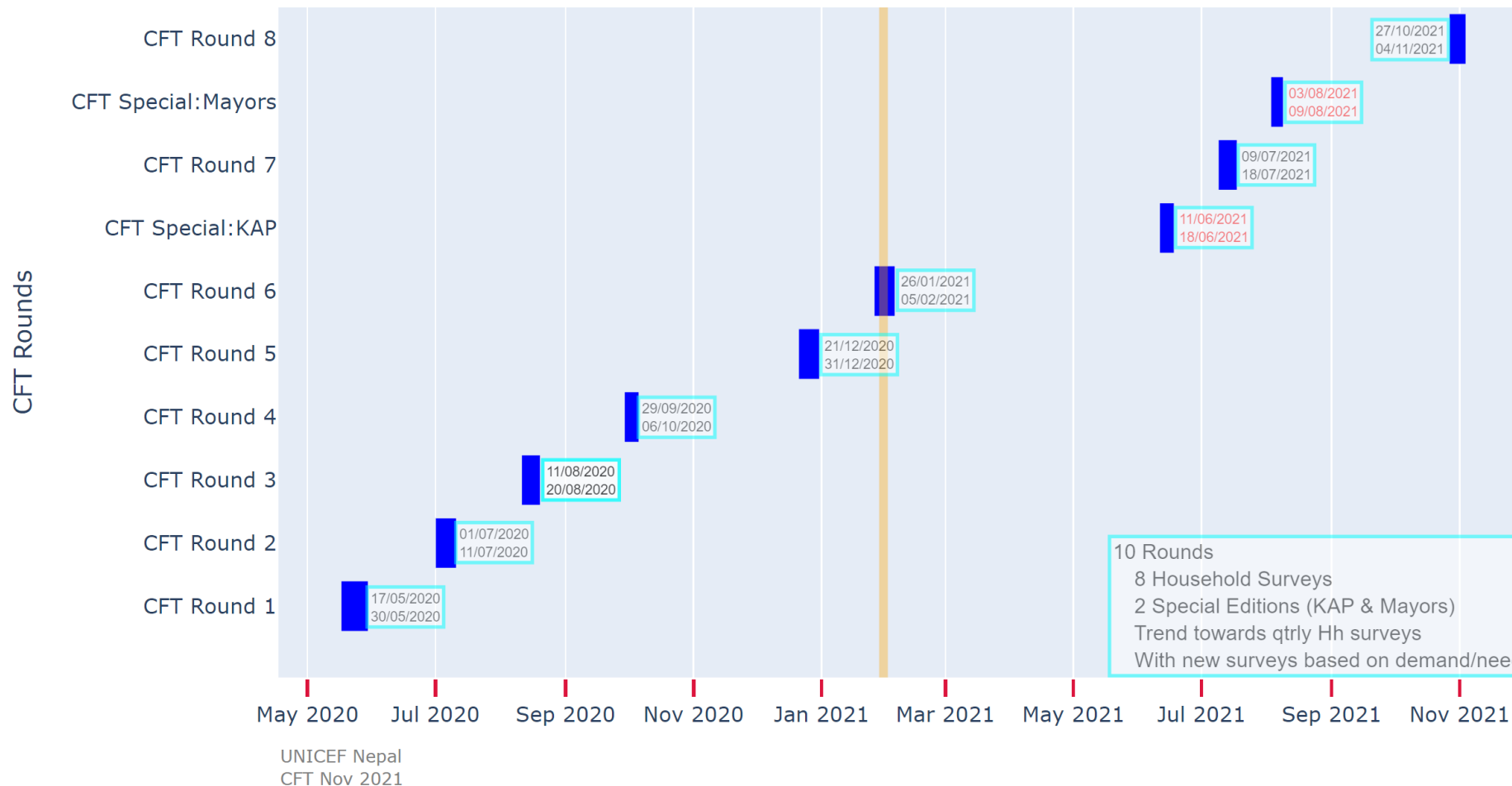
# Variation in reporting of type of extreme climate event by Province





# CONCLUSION: TRENDS & EQUITY ANALYSIS

# CFT Time-line: 8<sup>th</sup> Round of CFT (Oct 27-Nov 04, 2021)



8 CFT Rounds + 2 Special Editions

Extremely rich and diverse data set including indicators on many sectors.

Movement towards less frequent CFTs

Maintain trend of key variables and present findings on new pertinent issues

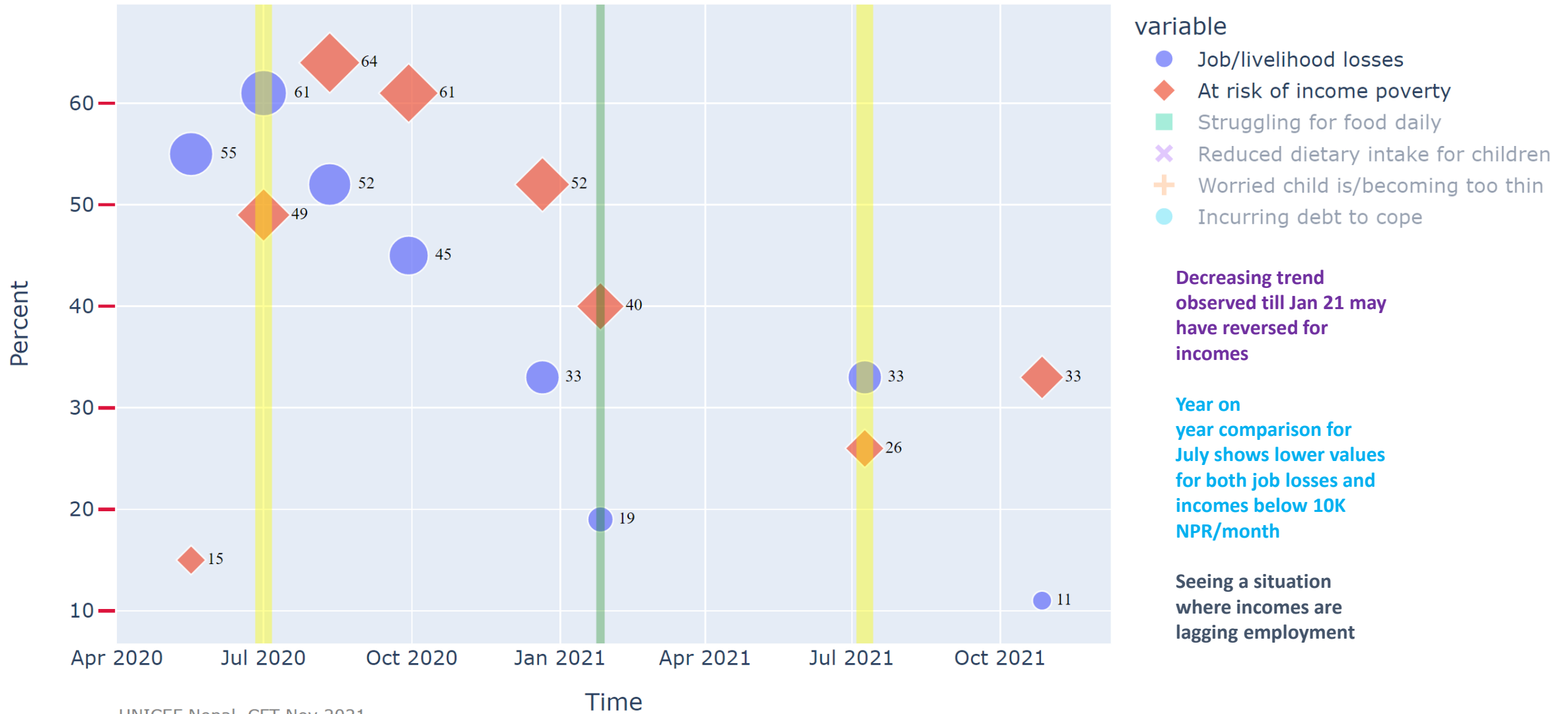
**Trend analysis shows some reversals and gains**

**But disconcerting findings with respect to equity for many indicators**

**Especially in relation to persons with disabilities, female headed households, in some instances Dalit households**

**For several rounds households have been reaching out for financial assistance, food, and money, while children continue to be overrepresented in many deprivation indicators**

# Trends in job losses and income (at risk of poverty means HH monthly income below NPR 10K/month)



- variable
- Job/livelihood losses
  - ◆ At risk of income poverty
  - Struggling for food daily
  - ✕ Reduced dietary intake for children
  - + Worried child is/becoming too thin
  - Incurring debt to cope

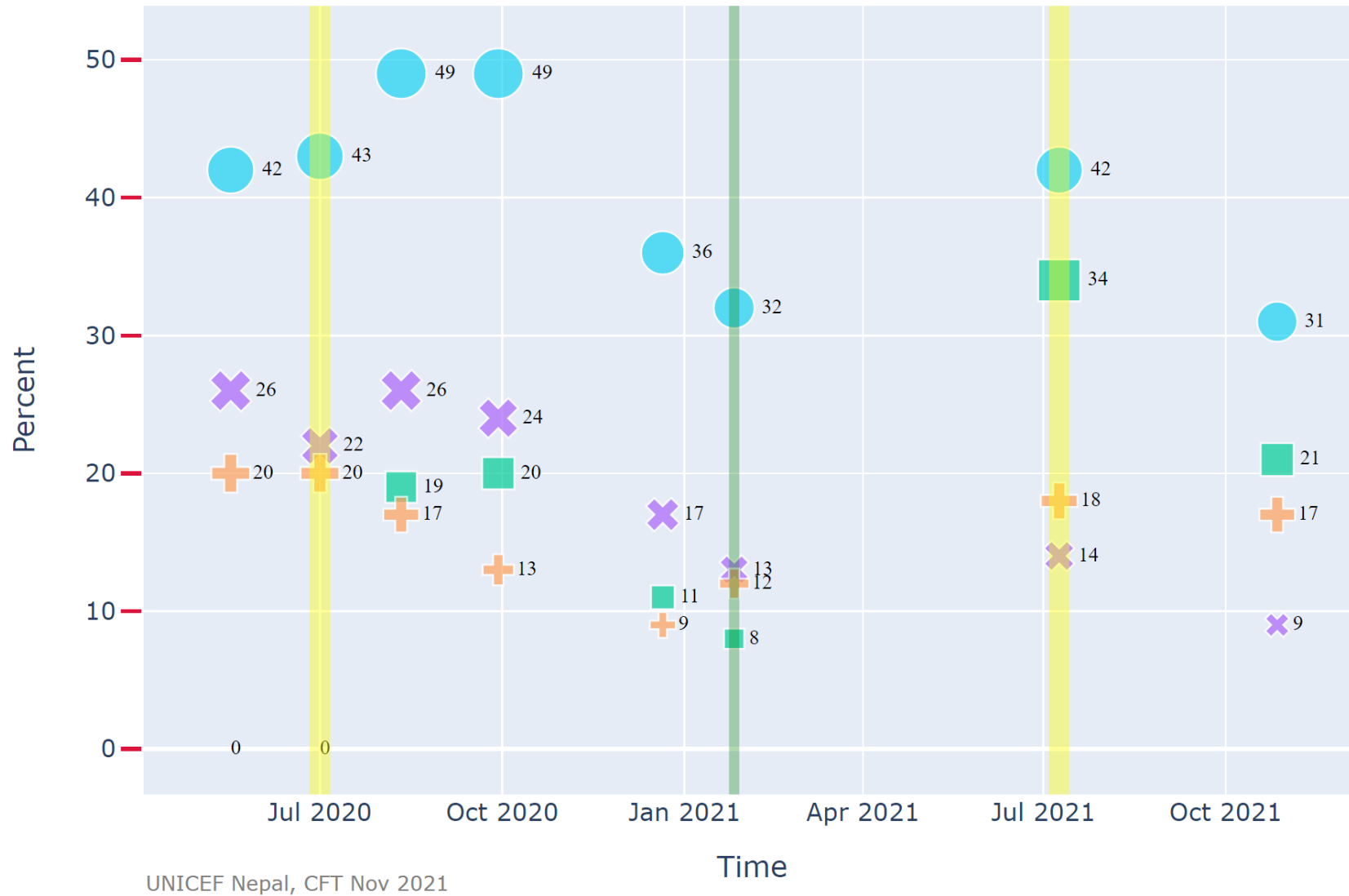
Decreasing trend observed till Jan 21 may have reversed for incomes

Year on year comparison for July shows lower values for both job losses and incomes below 10K NPR/month

Seeing a situation where incomes are lagging employment

UNICEF Nepal, CFT Nov 2021

## Trends in other indicators



### variable

- Job/livelihood losses
- ◆ At risk of income poverty
- Struggling for food daily
- ✕ Reduced dietary intake for children
- ✚ Worried child is/becoming too thin
- Incurring debt to cope

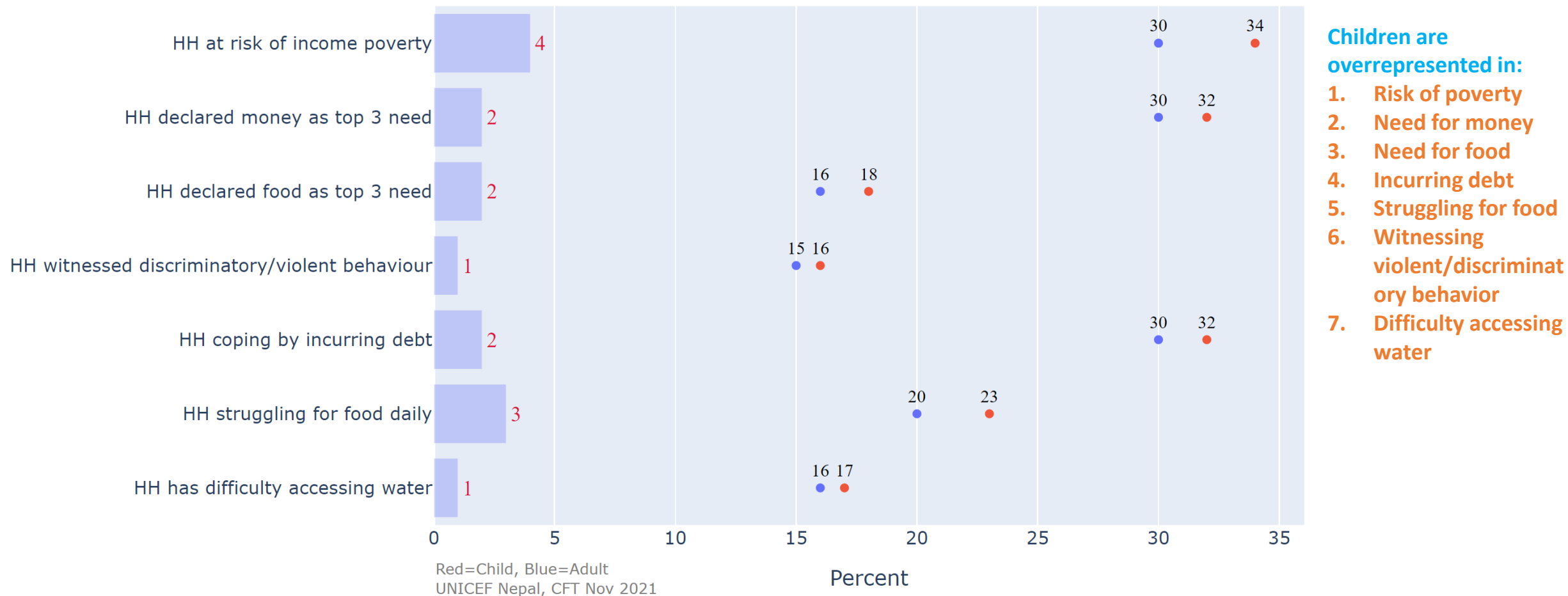
No clear trend except perhaps decreasing trend for reducing children's diets

Highest levels of struggling for food in 2021

Worrying about children becoming too thin are also at high levels in 2021

## CFT 8 key indicators: Children continue to be disproportionately affected in numerous ways

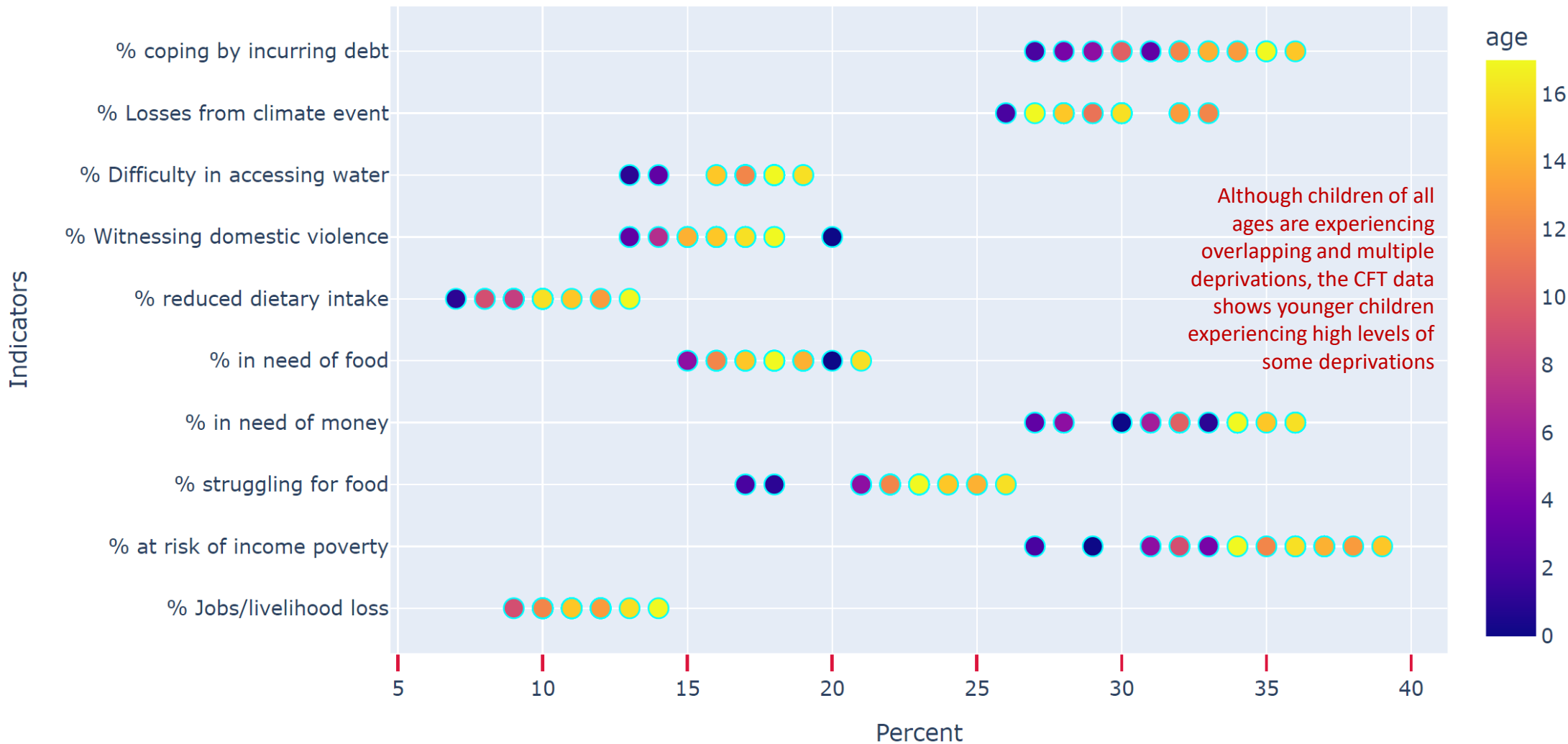
### Key indicators by adult/child status





## CFT 8 key indicators: By age of child

CFT 8: Key indicators by age of child



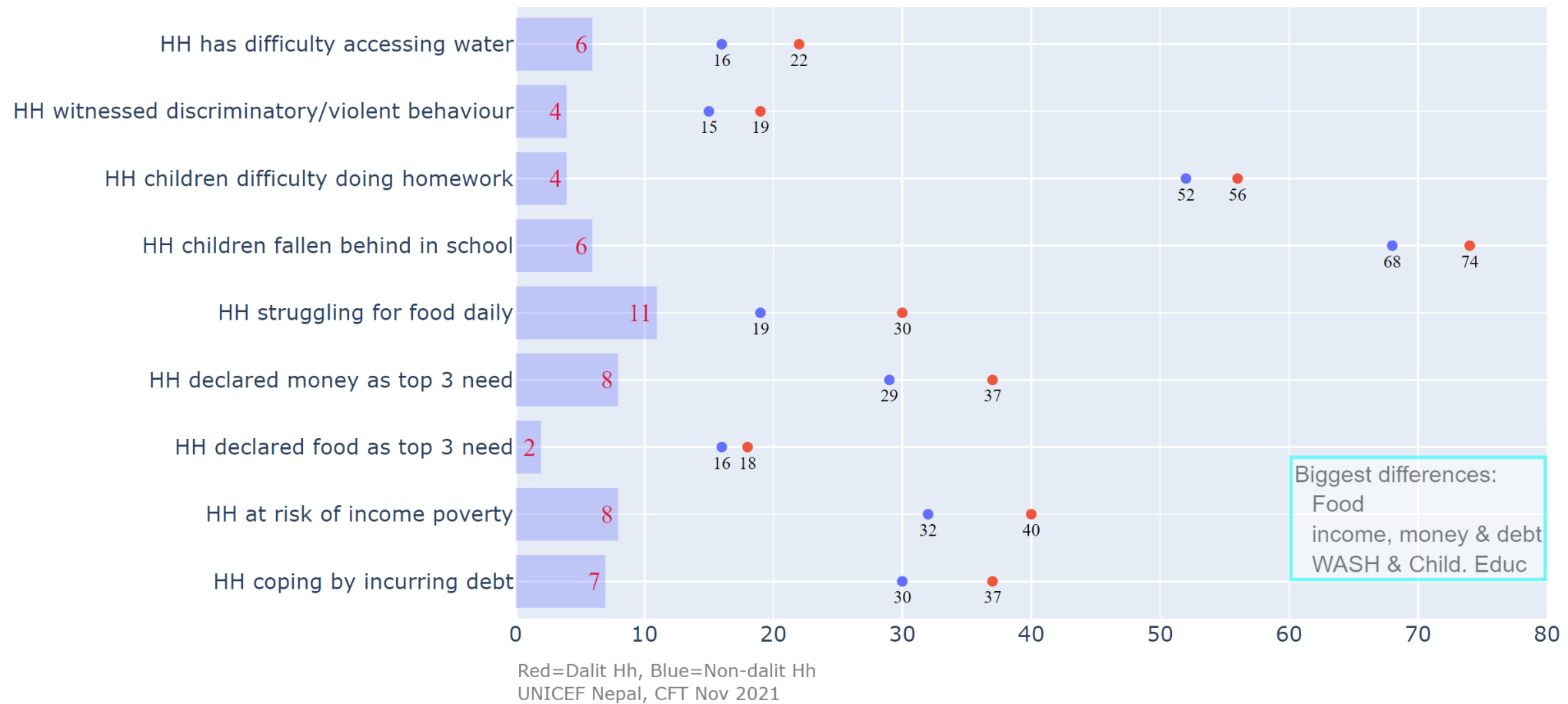
# CFT 8 key indicators by province

## Key indicators by Province



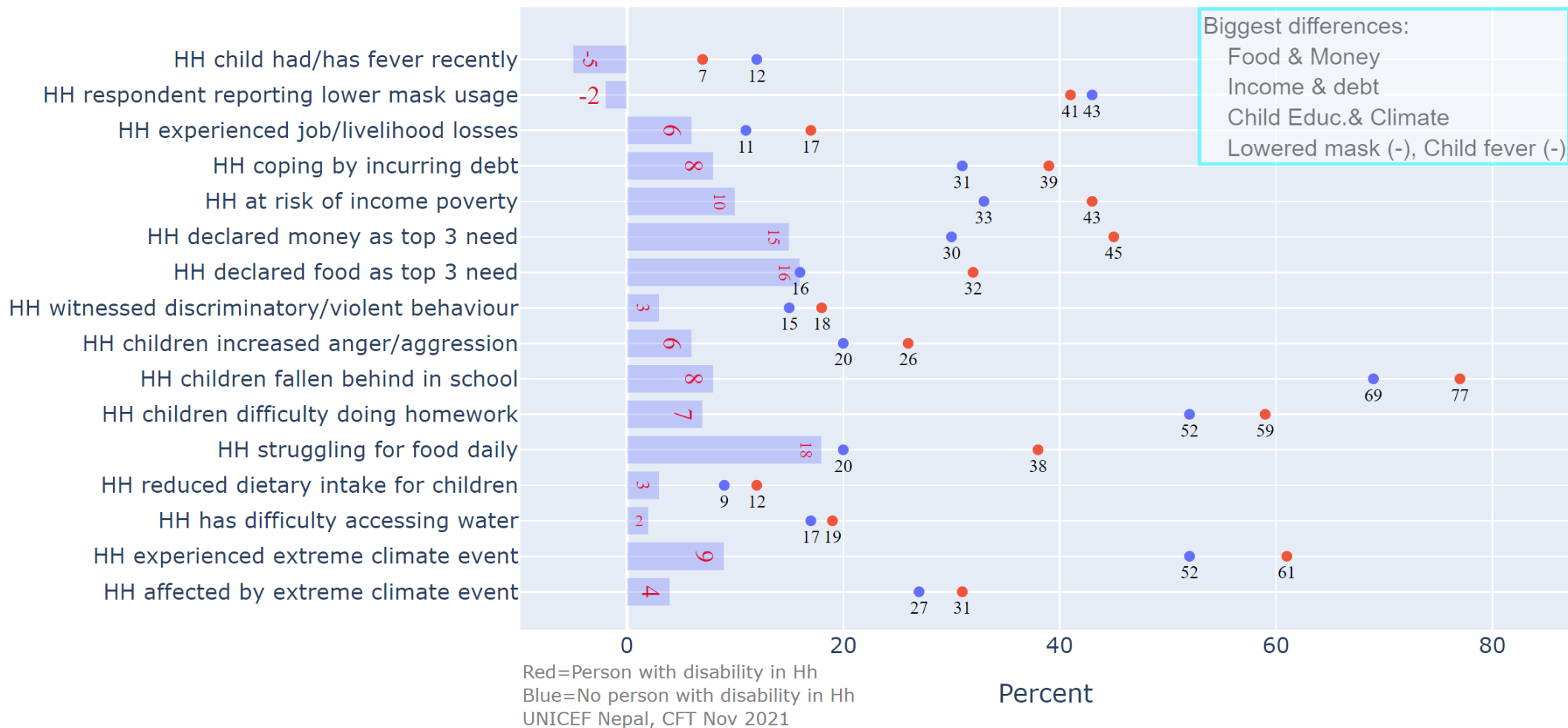
# CFT 8 key indicators by ethnicity (Dalit)

## Key indicators by ethnicity of Hh (Dalit)



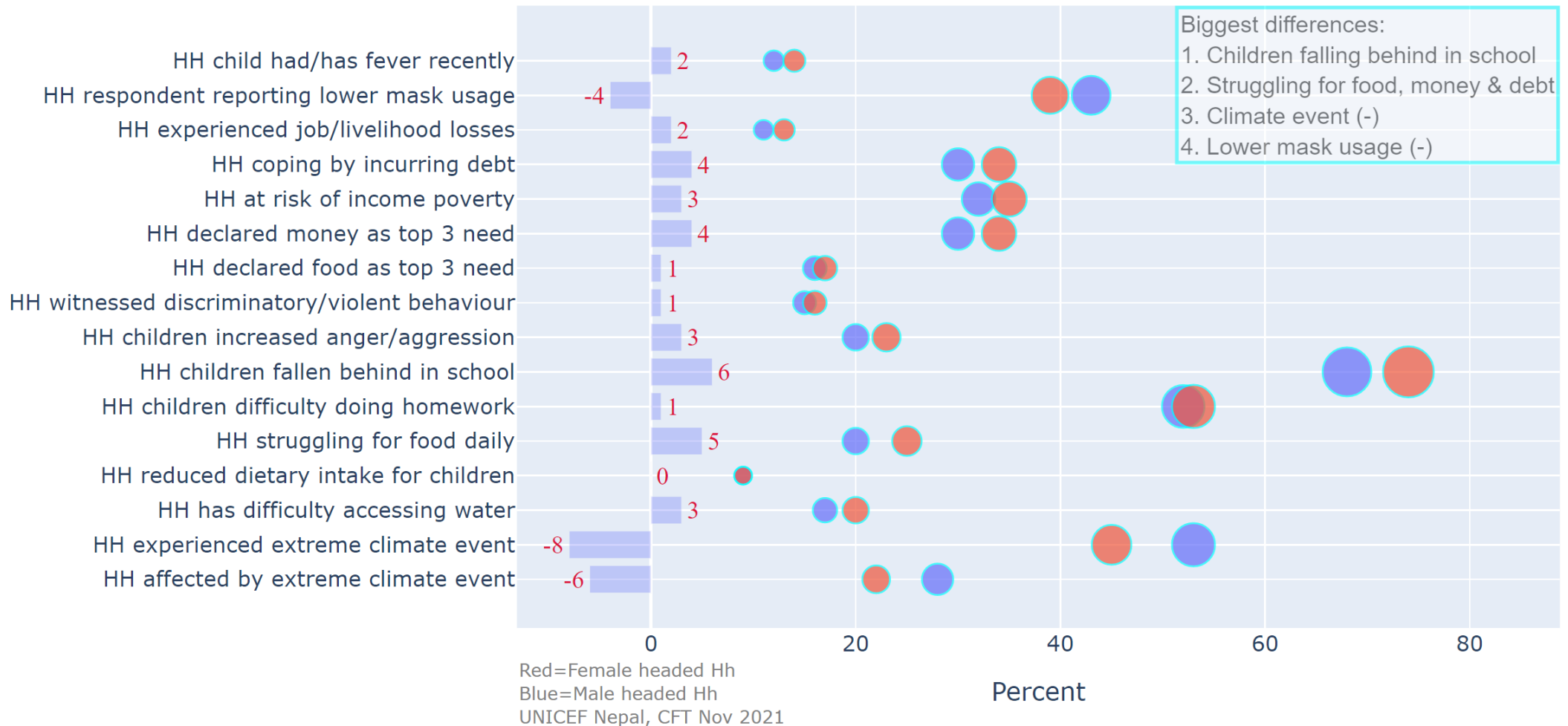
## CFT 8 key indicators by disability status of respondent

Key indicators by disability status)



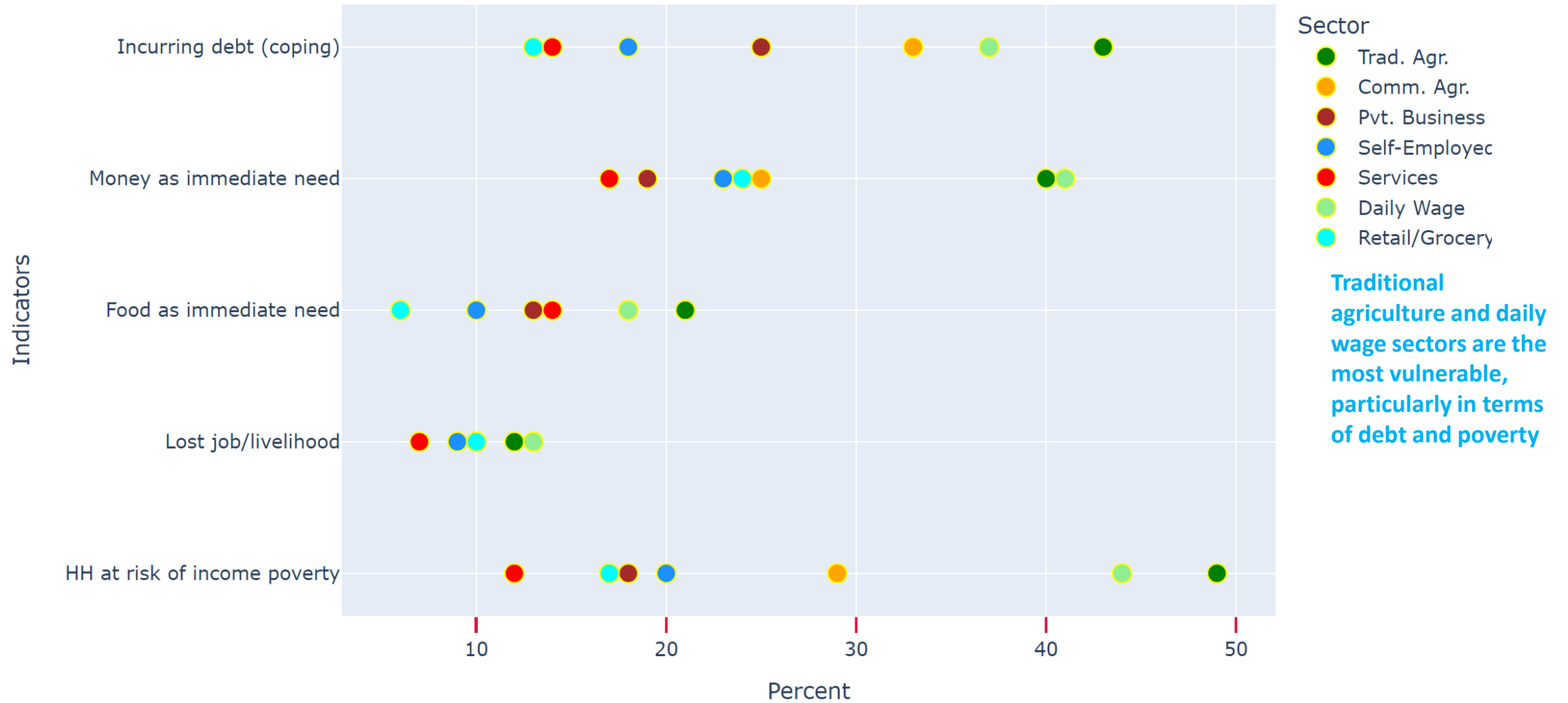
## CFT 8 key indicators by head of household (female)

Key indicators by gender of household head)



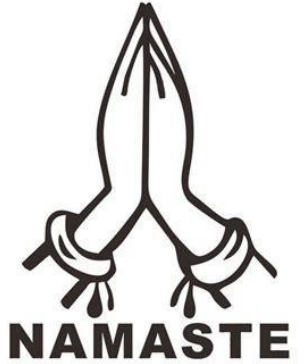
# Socio-economic shocks and needs by sector of employment

## Key indicators by Sector of employment



unicef 

for every child



Sharecast  
Initiative Nepal