



Medication Education & Disposal

Resident and Healthcare Provider Survey Results: Expired and/or Unwanted Medicine – Alameda County, California

Survey Conducted: April 2024

Survey Commissioned by MED-Project – Research Independently Conducted

Executive Summary

**Resident Awareness –
Expired and/or Unwanted Drugs**

**Provider Awareness –
Expired and/or Unwanted Medicine**

Appendix - Demographics

Study Objectives & Methodology

Study Objectives

- MED-Project desires to assess the awareness of its disposal programs for expired and/or unwanted medicine and determine the effectiveness of MED-Project's outreach among residents and healthcare providers in Alameda County, California ("Alameda County").
- MED-Project commissioned an independent survey to evaluate the effectiveness of its initiatives.

Study Design

- 1,000 residents and 200 healthcare providers in Alameda County were surveyed between April 2nd and April 16th, 2024.
- Residents were randomly sampled to minimize bias.
- Healthcare providers (doctors, physician's assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, pharmacy technicians, veterinarians, or health office administrators) were randomly sampled.

Note: The 2024 Survey methodology was fielded exclusively through online responses from residents and providers.

Sampling & Analysis

- Random sampling originated from lists of residents and healthcare providers in Alameda County.
- When the surveys were complete, the raw data was analyzed and cleaned to remove incomplete responses. The data was then analyzed at a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 3.08% (for residents) and 6.9% (for healthcare providers), which means that if the same survey was conducted 100 times, we are confident that 95 out of 100 times the results would fall within what we are reporting, plus or minus 3.06% (for residents) or 6.9% (for healthcare providers).

Executive Summary – Expired and/or Unwanted Medicine

	Resident	Provider
Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 82% of residents are aware of pharmacy drop-boxes for unwanted drugs. While 68% are aware of take-back events, 67% are aware of police station drop-boxes, and 63% are aware of mail-back programs. 31% of residents would prefer to receive important information about safe storage and disposal of expired and/or unwanted drugs on Social Media platforms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 96% of providers are aware of Pharmacy drop-boxes compared to 86% that are aware of local take-back events, 79% that are aware of mail-back programs, and 78% that are aware of police station drop-boxes. 59% of providers learned about disposal programs for expired and/or unwanted medicine on Social Media platforms.
Disposal Method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 46% of Alameda County residents have used drop-off locations, 37% have used take-back events, and 34% have used mail-back services for disposal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 92% of Alameda County healthcare providers have encouraged patients to safely store and dispose of expired and/or unwanted medicine.
Perception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91% of residents find the disposal programs for expired and/or unwanted drugs easy to use, 86% find the programs easy to locate, and 89% find the programs convenient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 94% of Alameda County providers believe the disposal programs for expired and/or unwanted medicine are easy to use, 86% believe they are easy to locate, and 92% feel these programs are convenient.

Executive Summary

**Resident Awareness –
Expired and/or Unwanted Drugs**

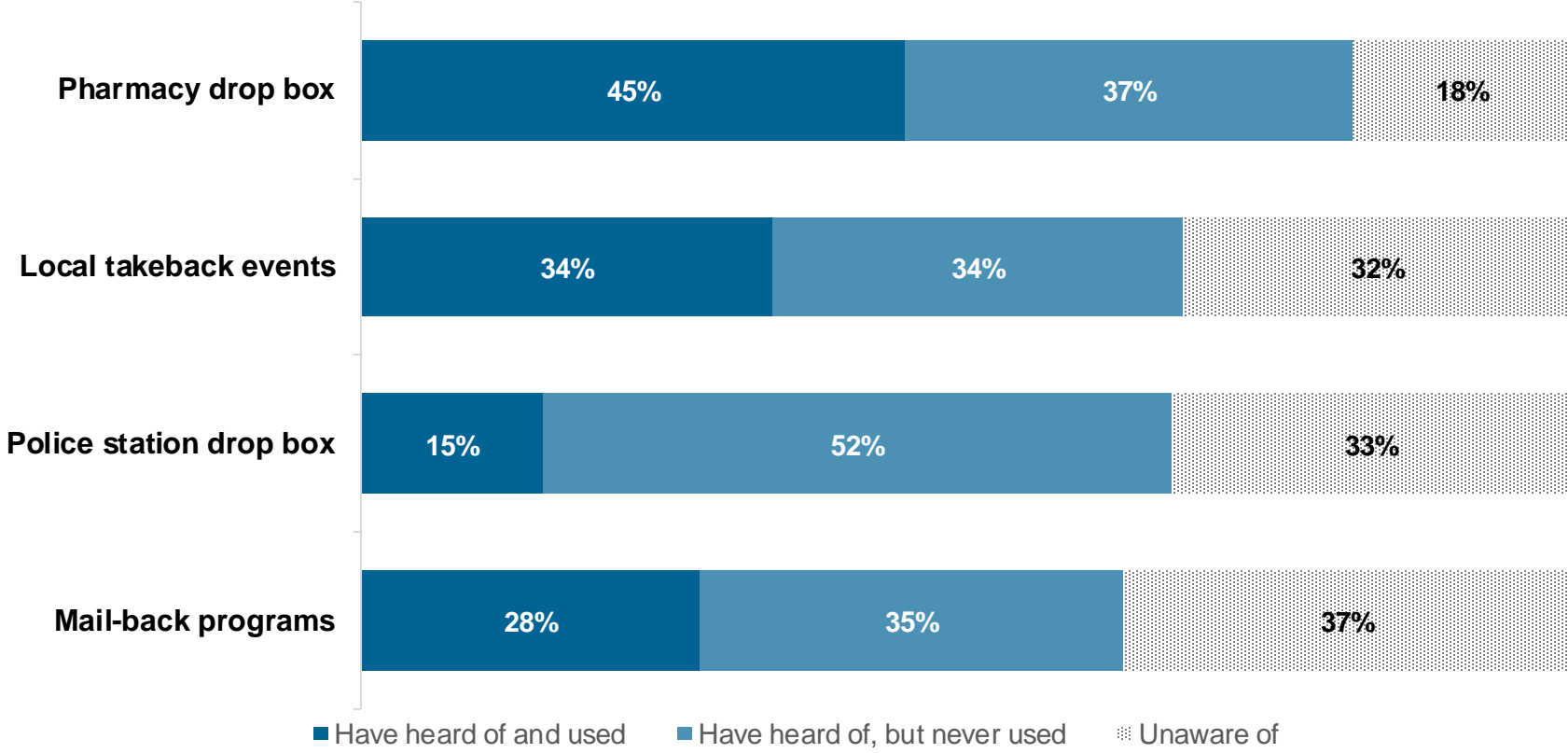
**Provider Awareness –
Expired and/or Unwanted Medicine**

Appendix - Demographics

82% of residents are aware of pharmacy drop-boxes, 68% of local takeback events, 67% of police station drop-boxes, and 63% are aware of mail-back programs for expired and/or unwanted drugs.

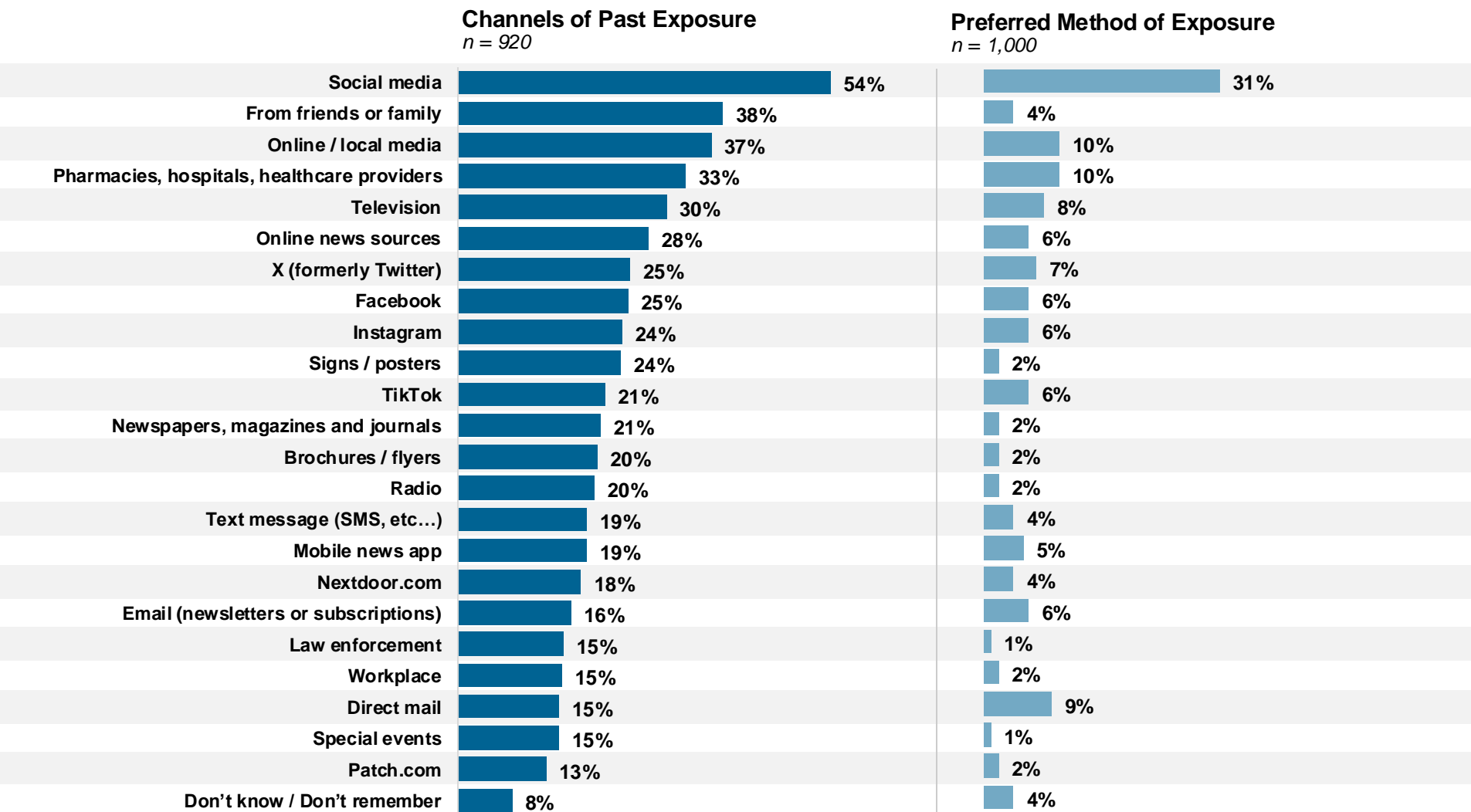
Residents' Awareness of Disposal Programs for Expired and/or Unwanted Drugs

n = 1,000



Following social media (31%), the most preferred methods of exposure to appropriate disposal of expired and/or unwanted drugs include online/local media (10%) and healthcare providers (10%).

Residents' Communication Channels

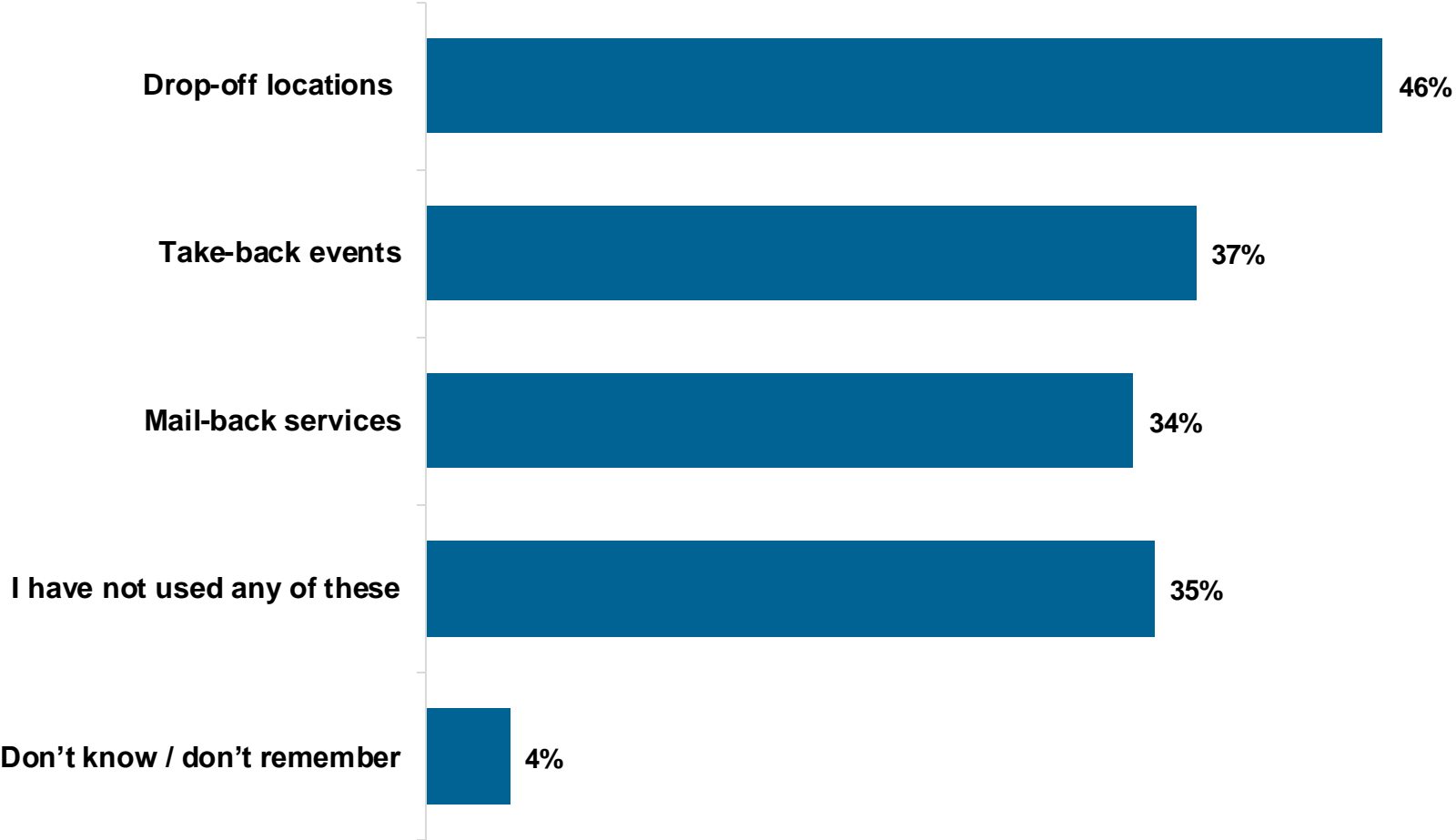


Q11: How did you learn about the take-back program for expired and/or unwanted drugs or home-generated sharps for residents of ALAMEDA COUNTY?
 Q12: What would be your preferred method for receiving important information about how to safely store and where to dispose of expired and/or unwanted drugs and/or home-generated sharps?

46% of Alameda residents have used drop-off locations for expired and/or unwanted drugs.

Residents' Expired and/or Unwanted Drugs Disposal Methods Used

n = 1,000

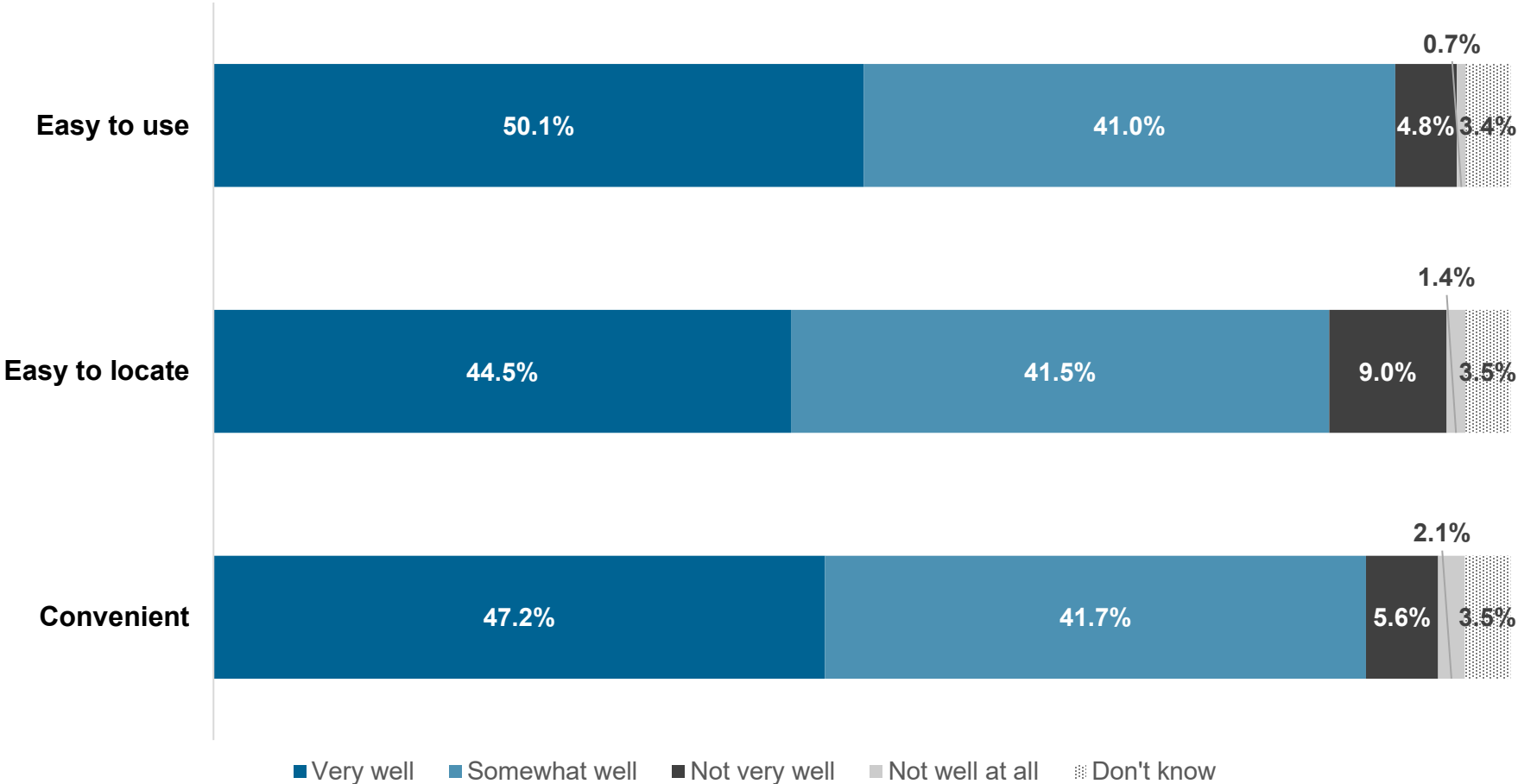


Q13: Have you used any of the following options to dispose of expired and/or unwanted DRUGS?

91% of residents find the drug take-back programs easy to use, 86% find the programs easy to locate, and 89% find the programs convenient.

Residents' Description of Drug Take-Back Programs

Percent selected by respondents (n=613)

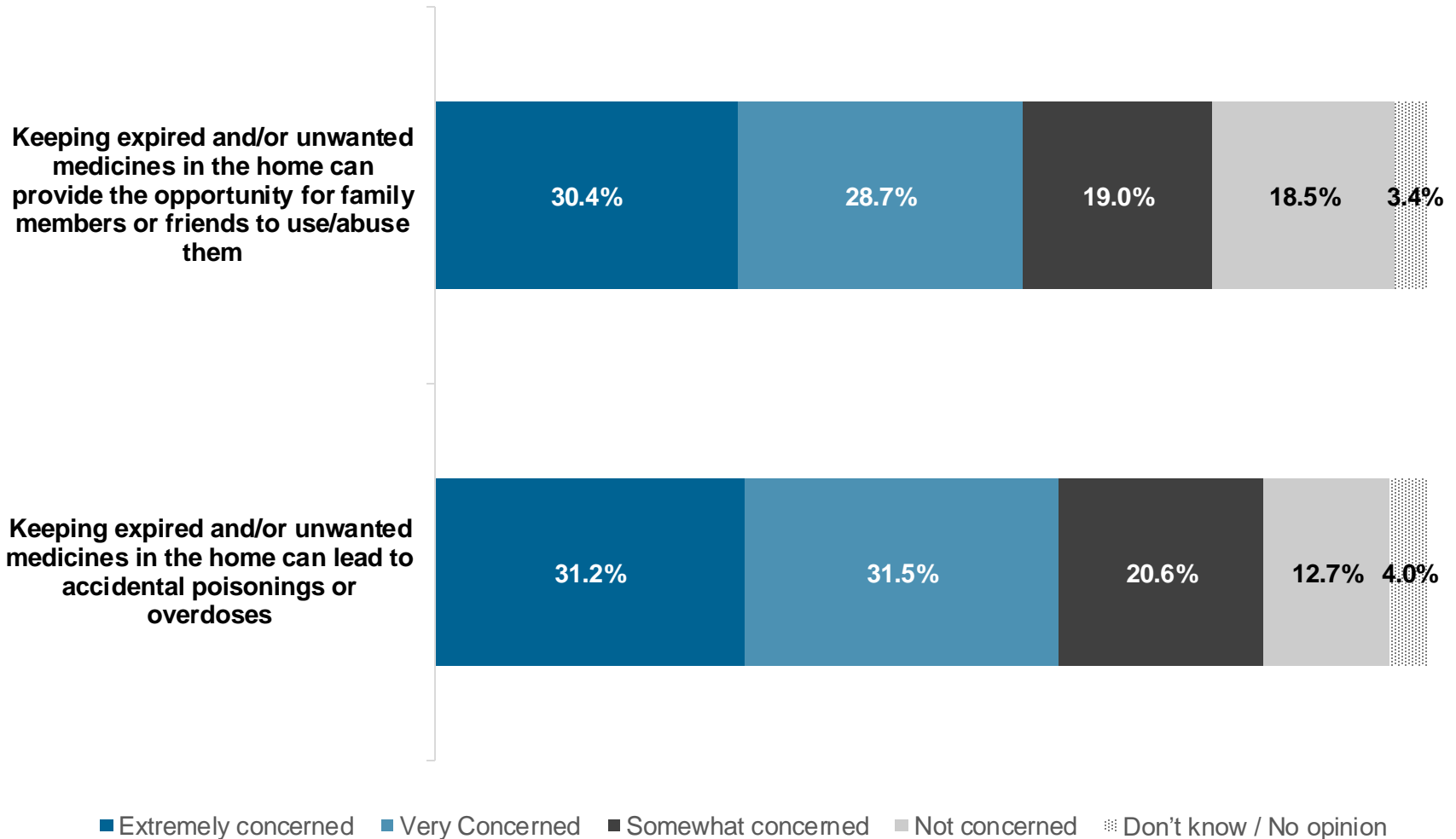


Q15: Please indicate how well you feel each following phrase describes the DRUG take-back programs that currently exist in ALAMEDA COUNTY.

30% of residents are extremely concerned and nearly 19% are not concerned that expired and/or unwanted drugs in the home can provide the opportunity for family members or friends to use/abuse them.

Residents' Level of Concern

Percent selected by respondents (n = 1,000)



Q17: Please carefully read the list of statements about expired and/or unwanted DRUGS in the home. Please indicate your level of concern regarding each statement as it relates to expired and/or unwanted medicine in the home.

Executive Summary

**Resident Awareness –
Expired and/or Unwanted Drugs**

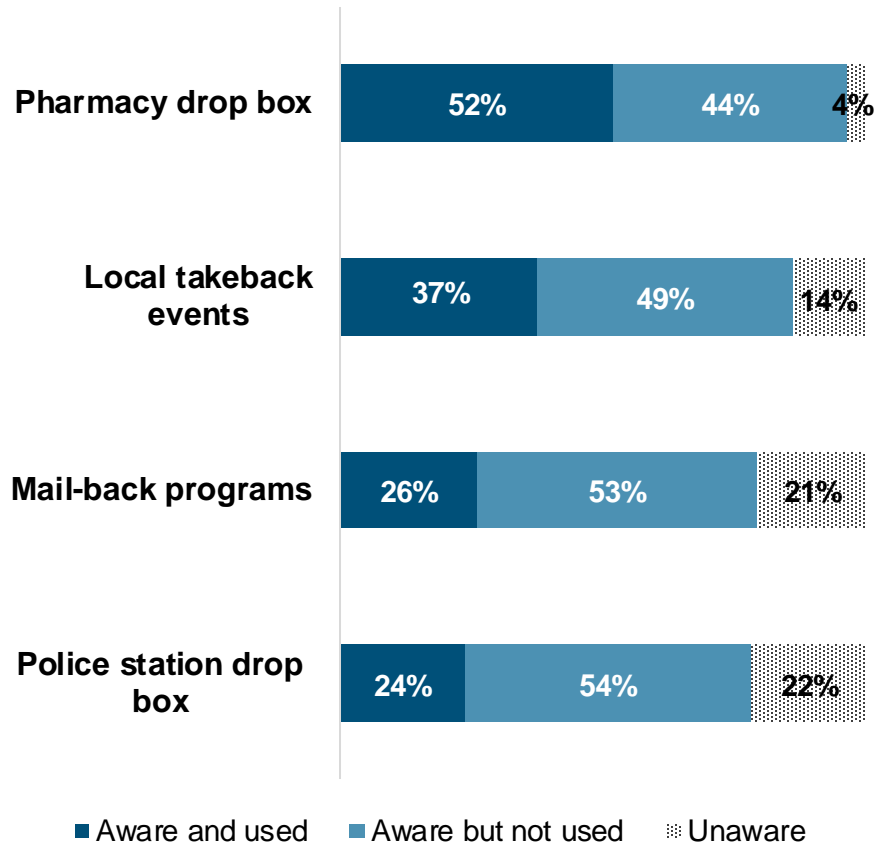
**Provider Awareness –
Expired and/or Unwanted Medicine**

Appendix - Demographics

Among Alameda healthcare providers, 96% are aware of pharmacy drop-boxes, 86% are aware of local takeback events, 79% are aware of mail-back programs, and 78% are aware of police station drop-boxes for expired and/or unwanted medicine.

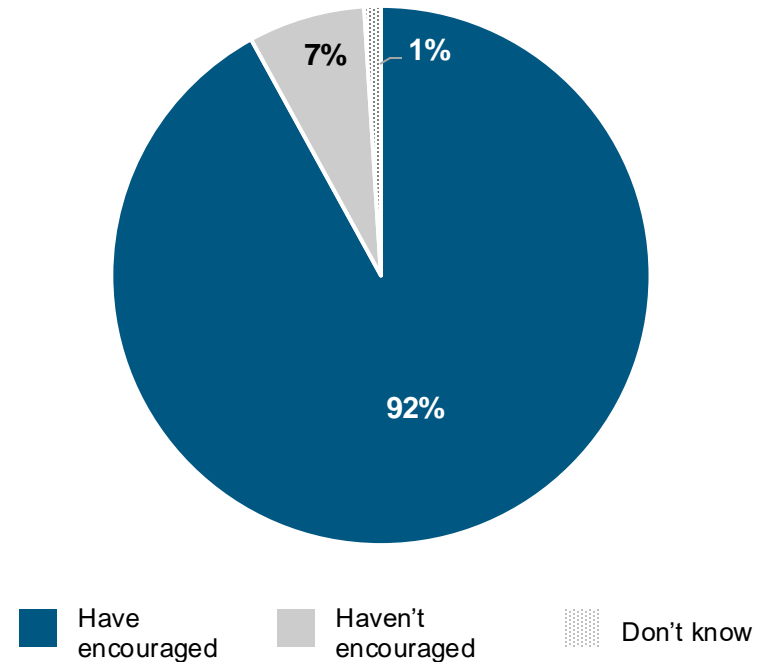
Healthcare Providers' Familiarity with Disposal methods for Expired and/or Unwanted Medicine

n = 200



Healthcare Provider Encouragement to Safely Store and Dispose of Expired and/or Unwanted Medicine

n = 200

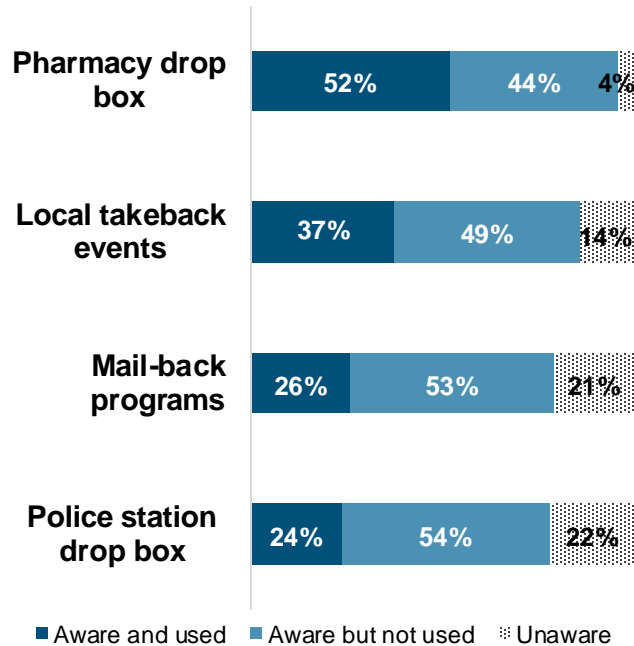


Q4: How familiar are you with each of the following ways someone can dispose of (get rid of) expired or unwanted household MEDICINES in Alameda County?
 Q7: Have you encouraged your patients or clients to safely store and dispose of expired and/or unwanted MEDICINE?

96% of Healthcare Providers are familiar with pharmacy drop-boxes, 78% are familiar with police station drop-boxes, and 79% are familiar with mail-back programs.

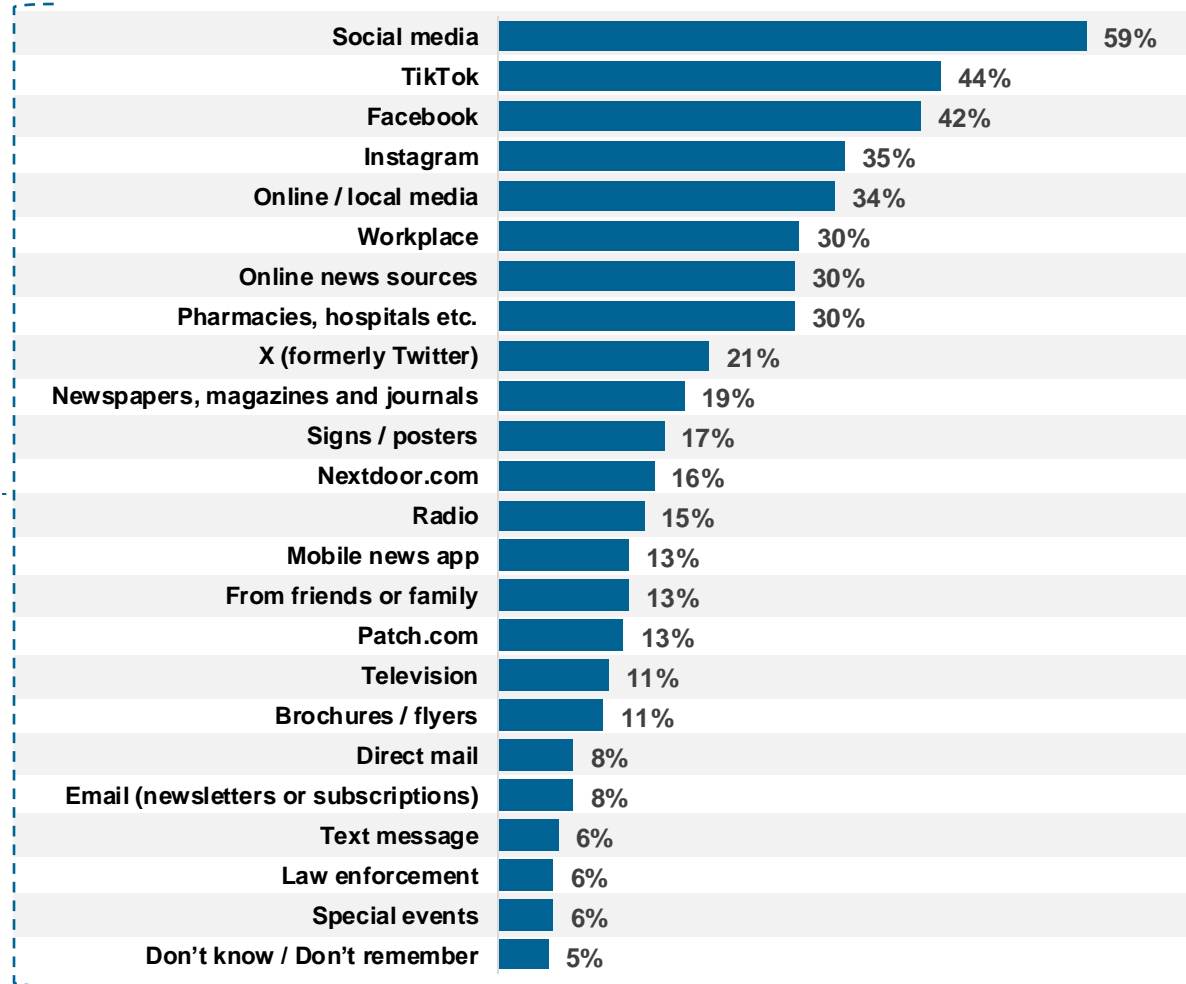
Healthcare Providers' Familiarity with Disposal methods for Expired or Unwanted Medicine

n = 200



Healthcare Providers' Communication Channels

n = 200

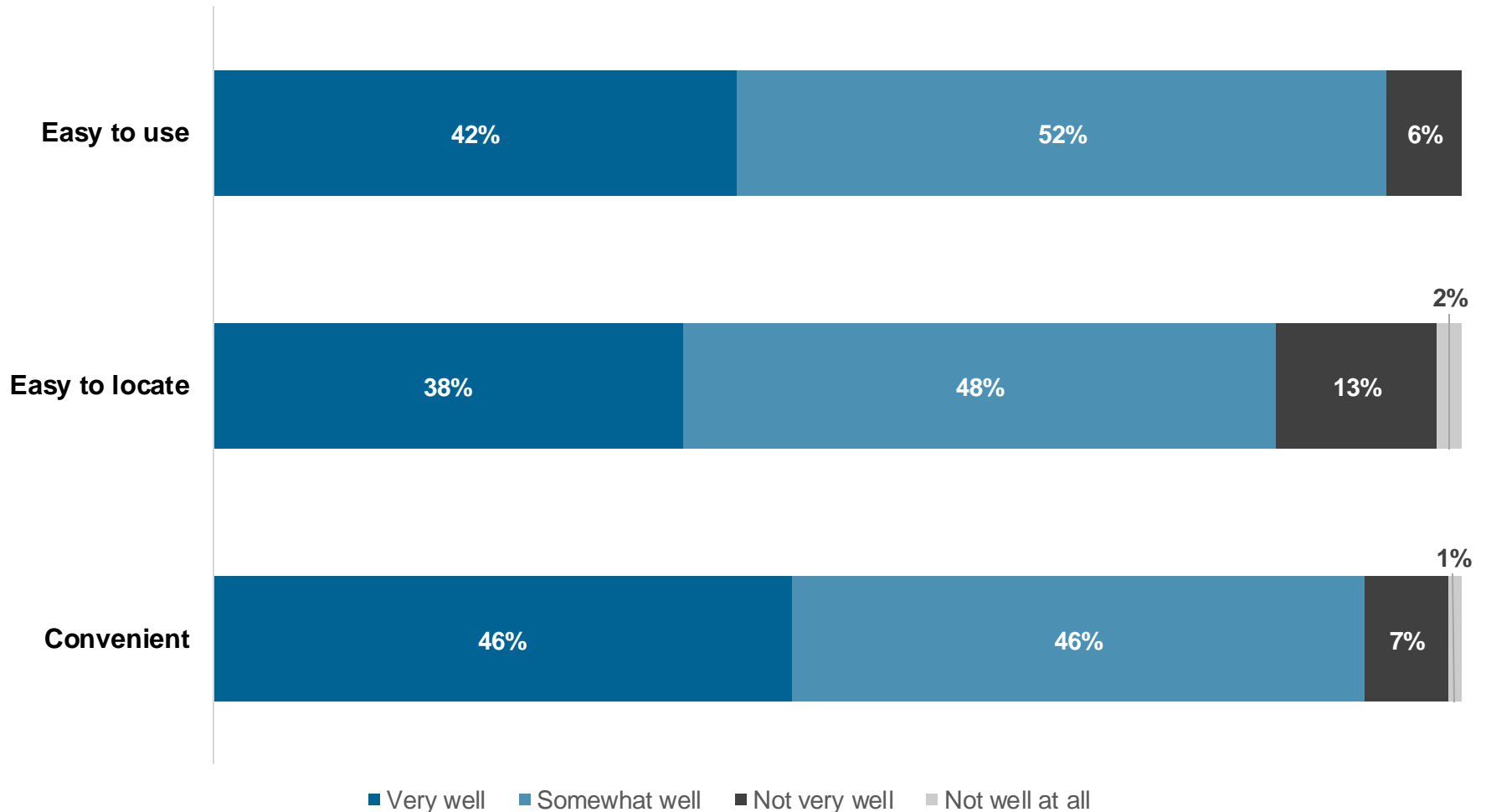


Q4: How familiar are you with each of the following ways someone can dispose of (get rid of) expired or unwanted household MEDICINES in Alameda County?
 Q6: How did you learn about the take-back program for expired and/or unwanted medicines or home-generated sharps for residents of ALAMEDA COUNTY?

94% of Healthcare Providers find disposal programs for expired and/or unwanted medicine disposal programs easy to use, 86% find the programs easy to locate, and 92% consider the programs to be convenient.

Healthcare Providers' Description of Disposal Programs for Unwanted and/or Expired Medicine

Percent selected by respondents for phrases "Easy to Use", "Easy to Locate", and "Convenient" (n = 192)

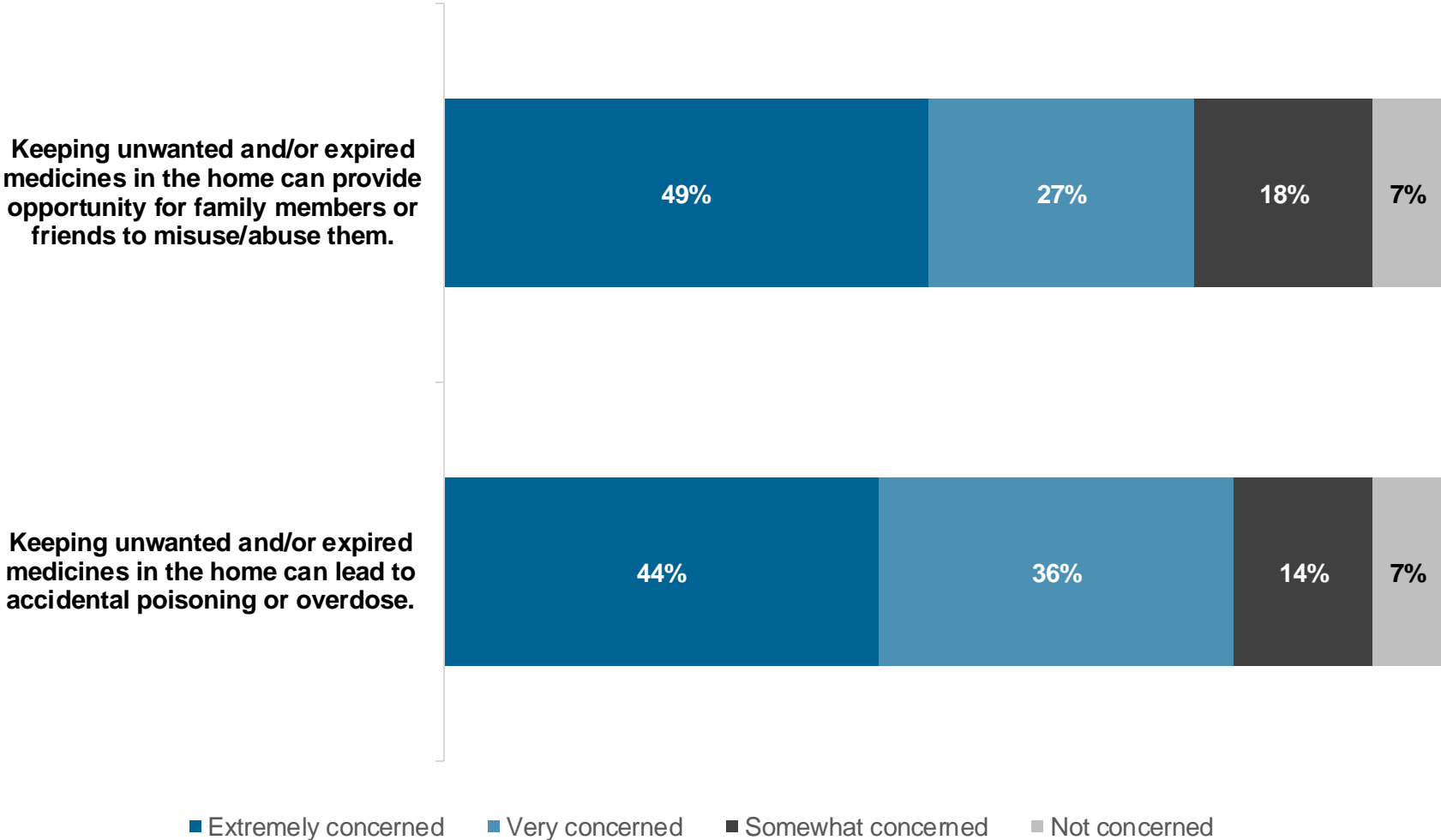


Q9: Please indicate how well you feel each word or phrase describes the MEDICINE safe disposal program.

44% of Healthcare Providers are extremely concerned and 14% are somewhat concerned that expired and/or unwanted medicine in the home can lead to accidental poisonings or overdoses.

Healthcare Providers' Level of Concern

Percent selected by respondents (n = 200)



1% of residents responded "Don't Know"

Q11: Please carefully read the list of statements about unwanted and/or expired MEDICINE in the home. Please indicate your level of concern regarding each statement as it relates to expired and/or unwanted medicine in the home.

Executive Summary

**Resident Awareness –
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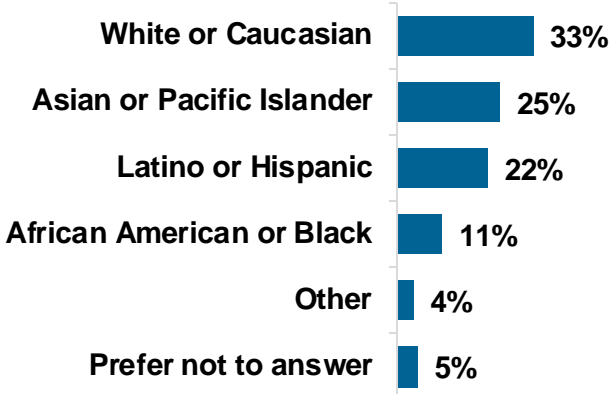
**Provider Awareness –
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Appendix - Demographics

Appendix: Alameda County Resident Demographics

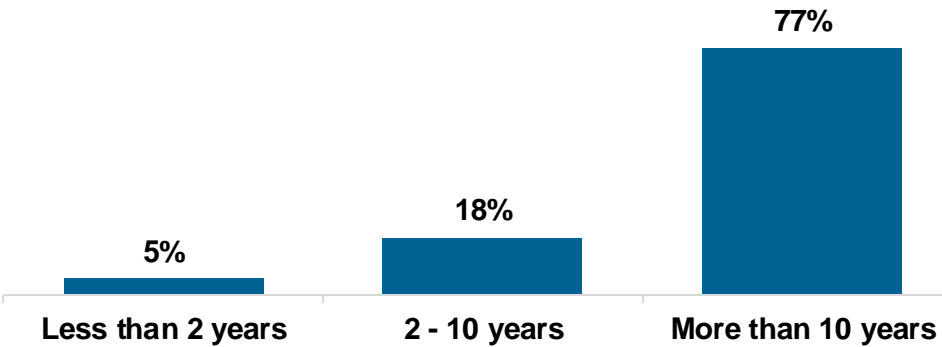
Race and Ethnicity

n = 1,000



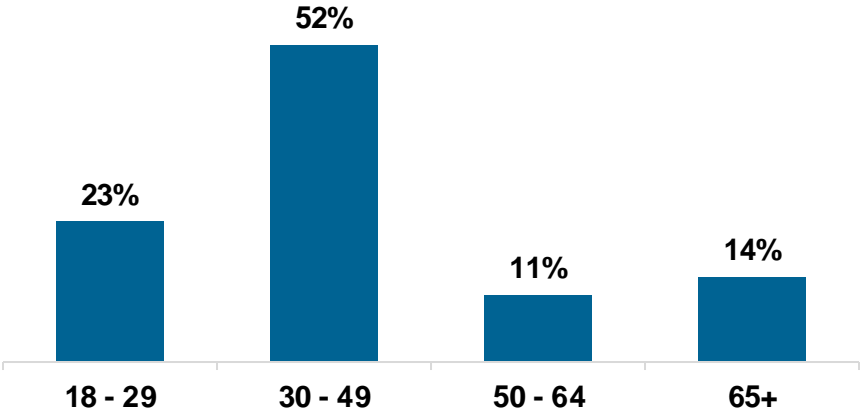
Time in Alameda County

n = 1,000



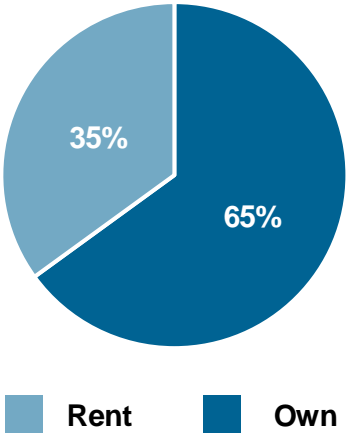
Age

n = 1,000



Living Situation

n = 1,000

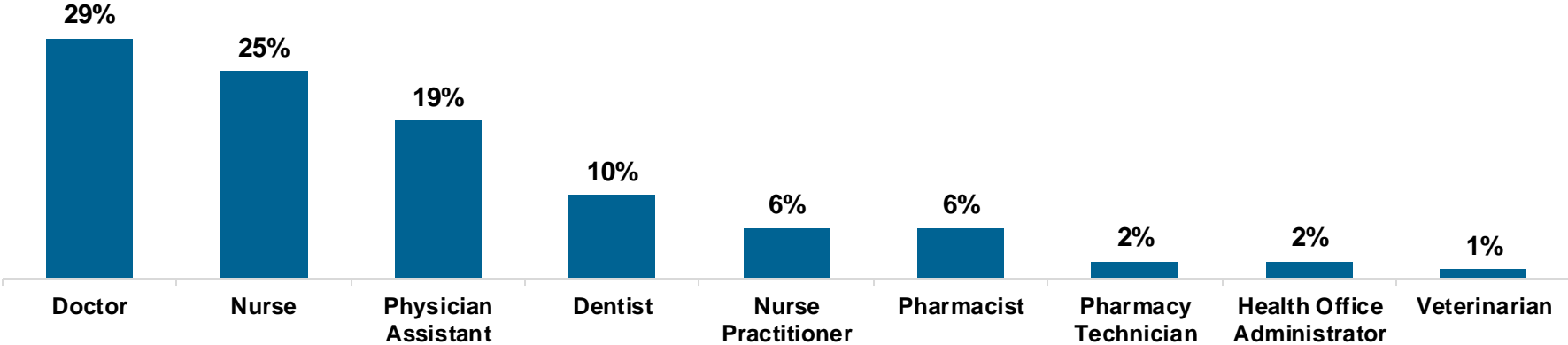


Q4: Do you own or rent your place of residence?
 Q5: Select your age from the following ranges:
 Q6: How long have you lived in ALAMEDA COUNTY ?
 Q7: With which racial or ethnic group do you identify?

Appendix: Alameda County Healthcare Provider Demographics

Healthcare Provider Type

n = 200



Practice Time in Alameda County

n = 200

