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## **Resident Survey Results: Massachusetts**

***Survey Conducted: January - February 2026***

**Survey Commissioned by MED-Project – Research Independently Conducted**

**Executive Summary**

**Resident Awareness**

**Appendix - Demographics**

# Study Objectives & Methodology

## Study Objectives

- MED-Project desires to assess the awareness of its medication disposal program and determine the effectiveness of MED-Project's outreach among residents in Massachusetts.
- MED-Project commissioned a survey to evaluate the effectiveness of its initiatives.

## Study Design

- 1,010 residents in Massachusetts were surveyed from January 19 – February 10, 2026.
- Residents were randomly sampled to minimize bias among a diverse population, and quotas were set to ensure appropriate representation by race and age.

## Sampling & Analysis

- Sampling was done at random from lists of residents in Massachusetts.
- When the survey was complete, the raw data was analyzed and cleaned to remove incomplete or low-quality responses. The data was then analyzed at a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 3.1%, 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 3.1%.

# Executive Summary

## Resident

**Awareness**

- 67% of Massachusetts residents are aware of the commonwealth’s safe, convenient, and free disposal program for expired and/or unwanted medication.
- 39% of those who have been exposed to messaging learned about it from pharmacies, hospitals, and other healthcare providers, while 25% learned from Facebook.

**Disposal Method**

- 46% of Massachusetts residents have used drop-box locations, in-home disposal, take-back events, or mail-back services to dispose of expired and/or unwanted medication. 43% of those residents have used drop-box locations.
- Of those who have used a drop-box location, 58% said they use that method “most” or “all of the time” when disposing of expired and/or unwanted medication.

**Perception**

- 92% of Massachusetts residents who have utilized medication drop-box locations feel they are easy to use, and 88% are satisfied with the current medication disposal program.
- 83% of residents who have utilized mail-back options feel they are easy to use, and 78% feel they are easy to locate.

**Medication Use**

- 22% of residents report that someone in their household regularly takes medication such as opioids or benzodiazepines. Of those, 46% take the medication daily.

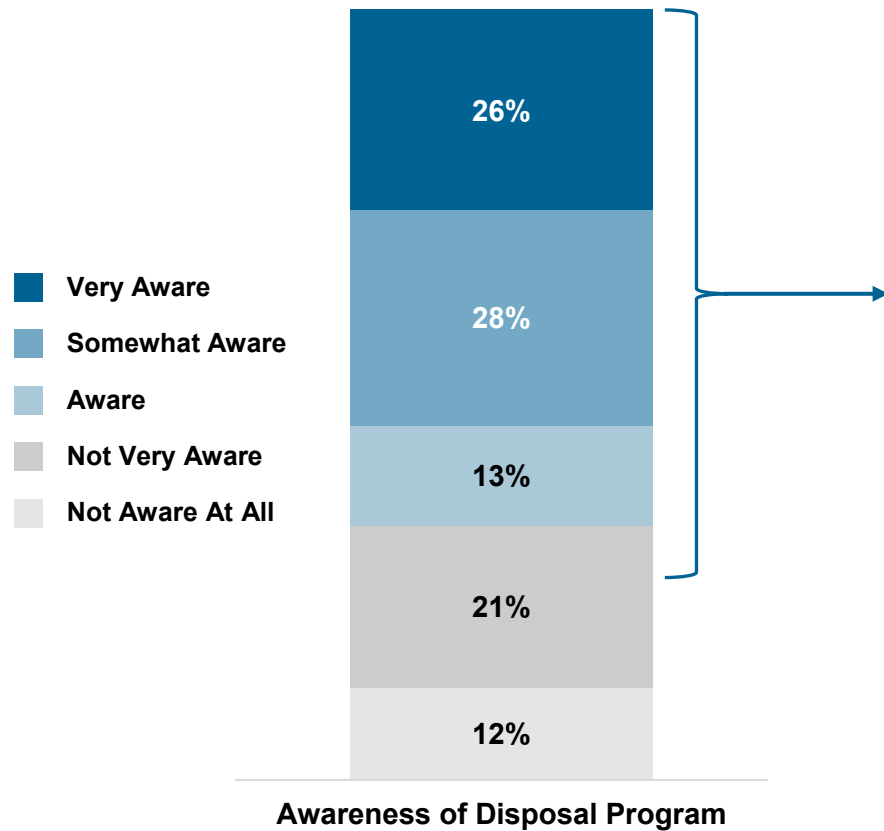
**Executive Summary**

**Resident Awareness**

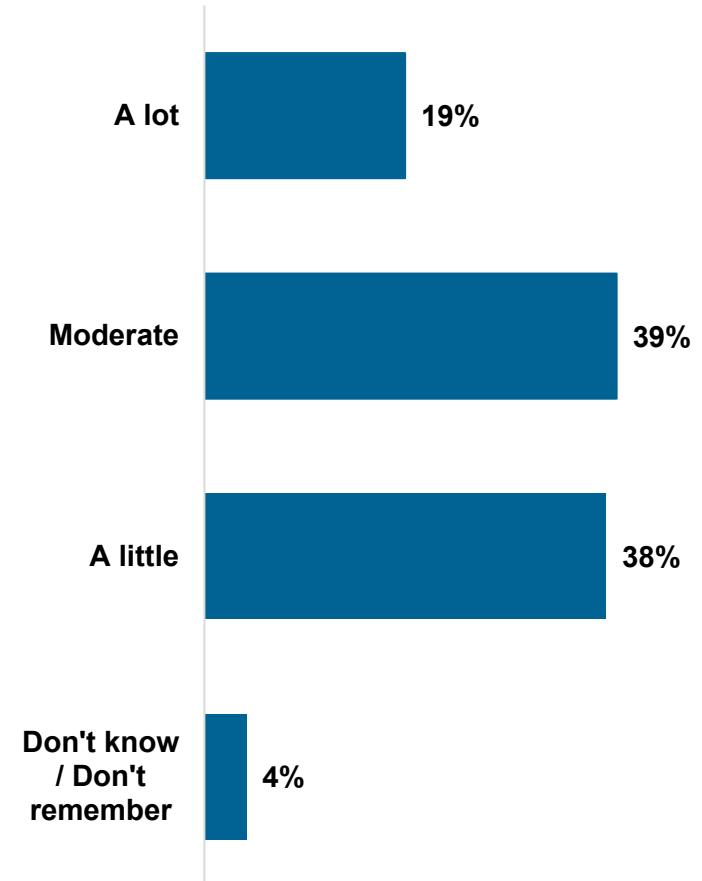
**Appendix - Demographics**

**67% of Massachusetts residents are aware of the safe, convenient, and free disposal program for expired and/or unwanted medication. Of those, 58% have seen or heard about the program at least “moderately.”**

**Massachusetts Residents’ Awareness of the Safe, Convenient, and Free program**



**Massachusetts Residents’ Depth of Exposure to Messaging**

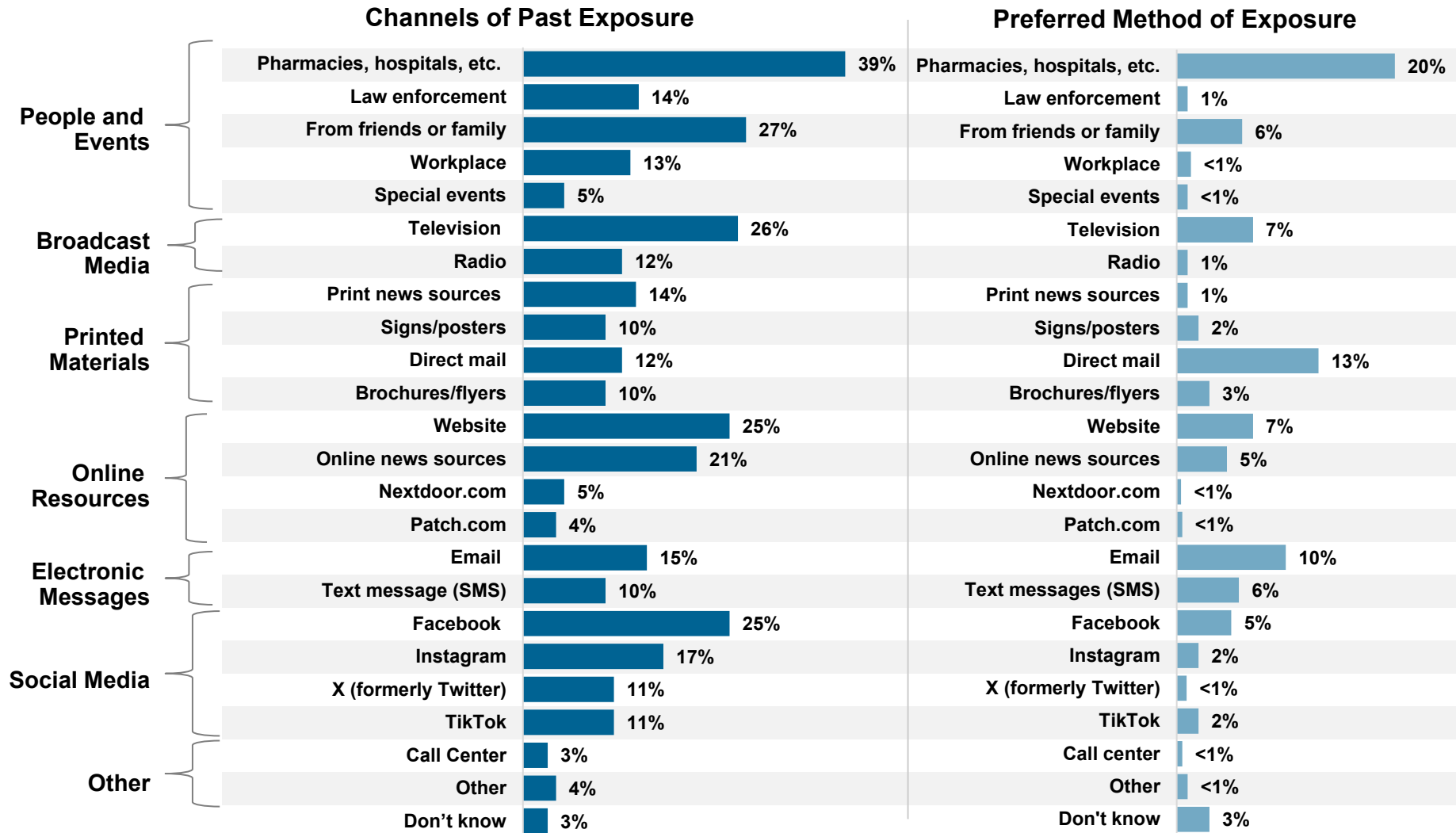


Q7 - How aware are you of the safe, convenient, and free program to dispose of household medication (such as opioids and benzodiazepines) offered to residents of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts?

Q8 - About how much would you say you've heard, seen, or read about the safe, convenient, and free program to dispose of household medication in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts? (asked only if respondent answered "Very aware/Somewhat aware/Aware" to Q7)

# Massachusetts residents have most commonly received information on the safe, convenient, and free disposal of expired and/or unwanted medication through pharmacies, hospitals, and healthcare providers, and prefer this as the channel for exposure.

## Massachusetts Residents' Communication Channels



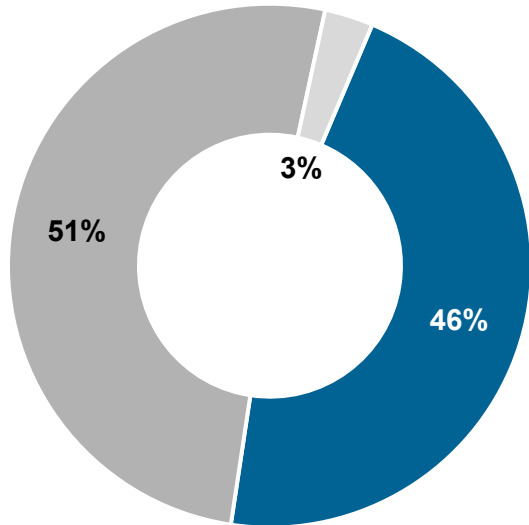
Q11 - Where did you receive information about the safe, convenient and free disposal program for household medication (such as opioids and benzodiazepines) offered to residents of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts?

Q12 - What would be your preferred method for receiving information about the safe, convenient, and free disposal program of household medication for residents in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts?

*Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond with the sum of the separate figures, and not all results will sum to 100%.*

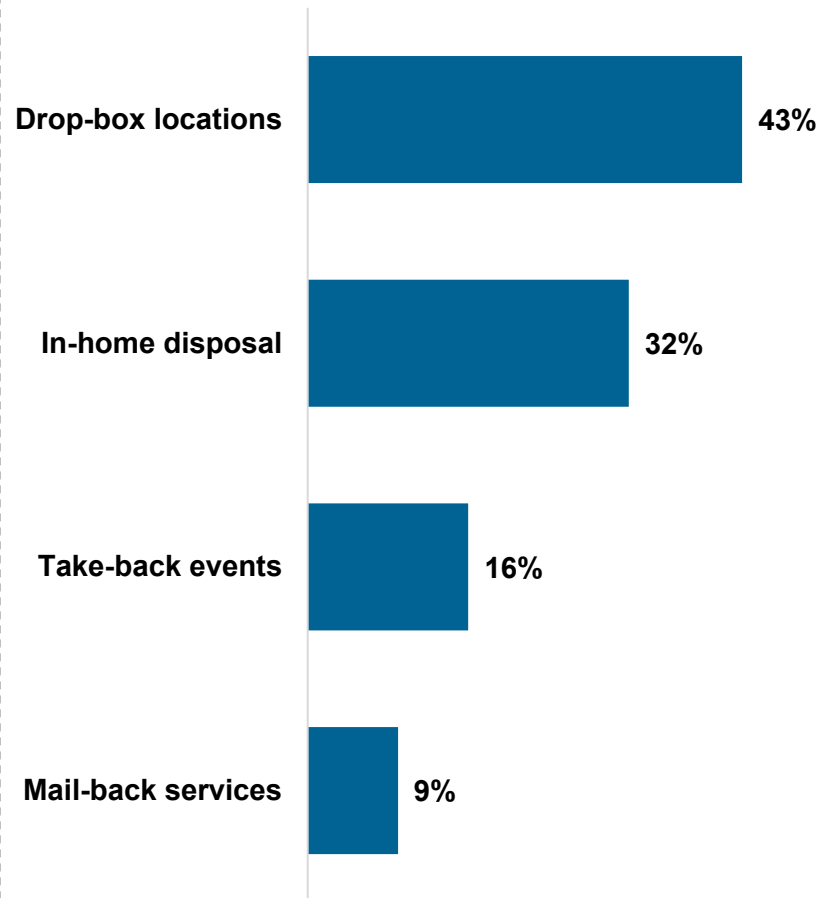
**46% of Massachusetts residents have used drop-box locations, in-home disposal, take-back events, or mail-back services to dispose of expired and/or unwanted medication. 43% of those residents have used drop-box locations.**

**Massachusetts Residents' Disposal Behaviors (past 12 months)**



- Have used disposal methods in the past year
- Have not used disposal methods in the past year
- Don't know/don't remember

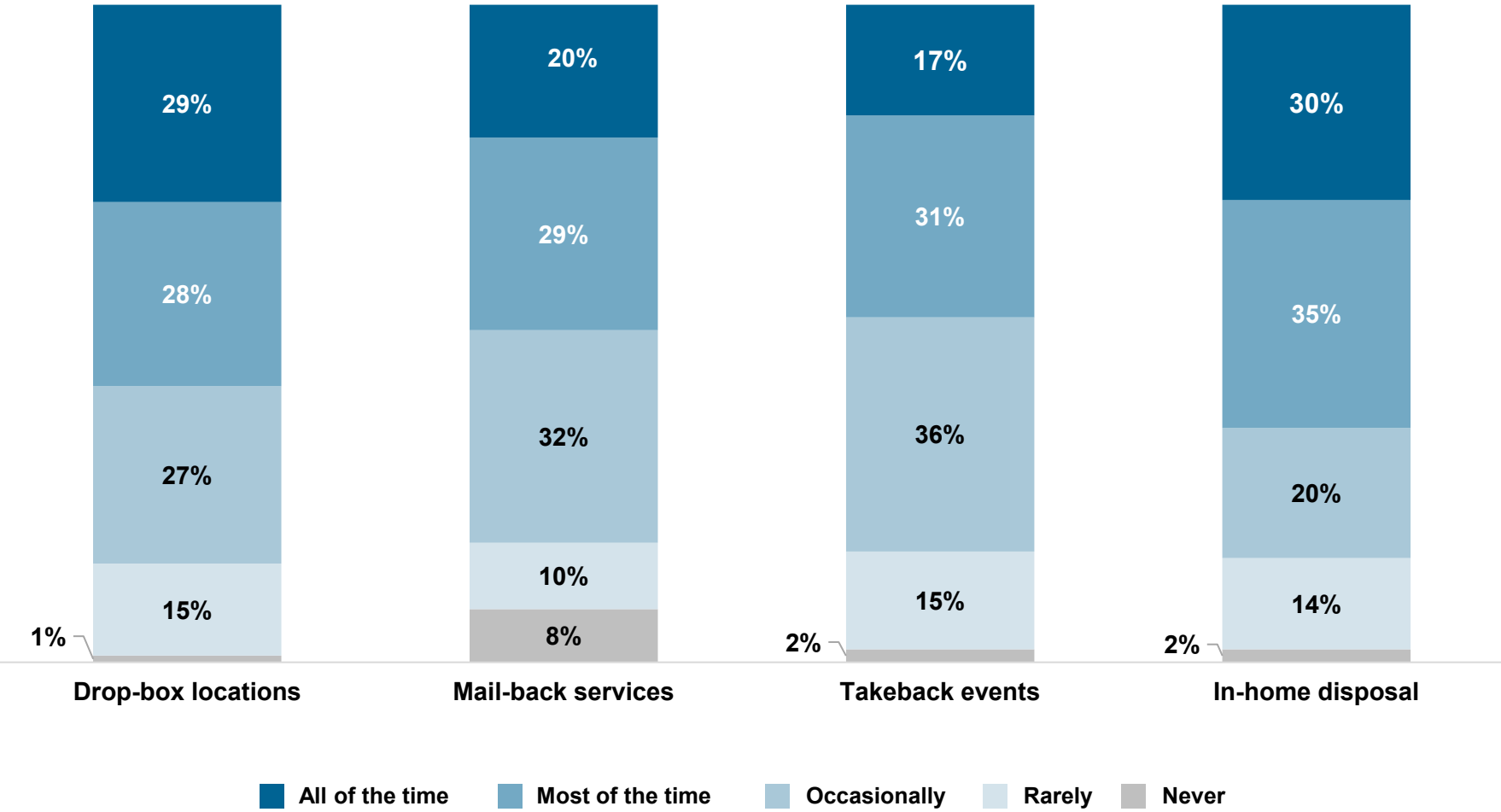
**Massachusetts Residents' Medication Disposal Methods Used (past 12 months)**



Q13 - Have you used any of the following options to dispose of household medication such as opioids and benzodiazepines in the past year? (Drop-box locations (i.e., bins, kiosks, pharmacies, law enforcement agencies); Mail-back services; Take-back events; In-home disposal (mix with undesirable substance such as kitty litter or coffee grounds and then throw in trash, or disposal pouches).

**58% of Massachusetts residents who have used medication drop-box locations use them “most” or “all” of the time to dispose of expired and/or unwanted medication.**

**Massachusetts Residents’ Frequency of Use of Different Medication Disposal Methods**



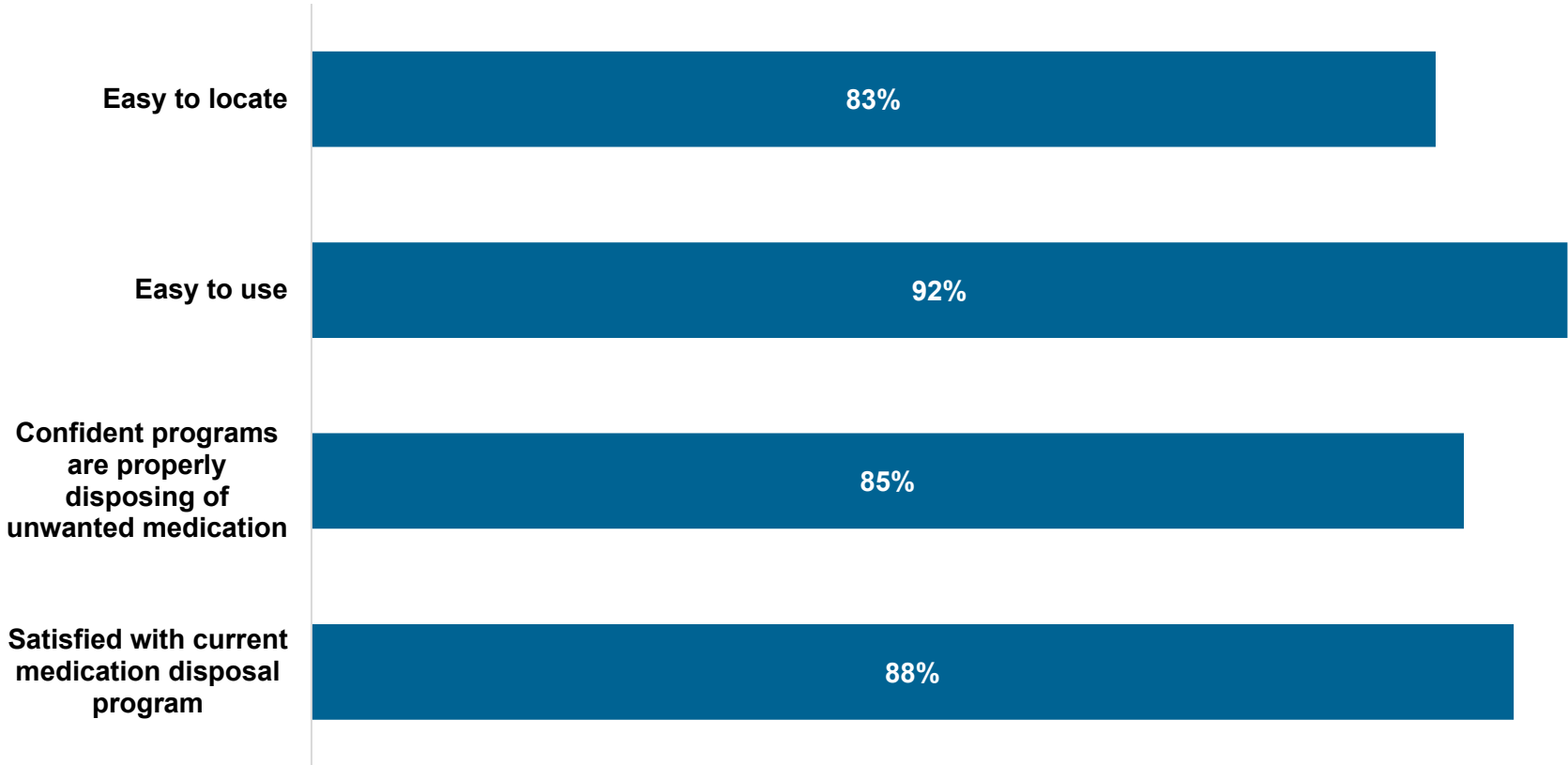
Q14 - For each of the services you previously used to dispose of expired and/or unwanted household medication, please tell me how often you dispose of medication in this way: Drop-box locations (i.e., bins, kiosks, pharmacies, law enforcement agencies); Mail-back services; Take-back events; In-home disposal (mix with undesirable substance such as kitty litter or coffee grounds and then throw in trash, or disposal pouches).

Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond with the sum of the separate figures, and not all results will sum to 100%.

**92% of Massachusetts residents who have utilized medication drop-box locations feel they are easy to use, and 88% are satisfied with the current medication disposal program.**

**Massachusetts Residents' Description of Medication Drop-box Location**

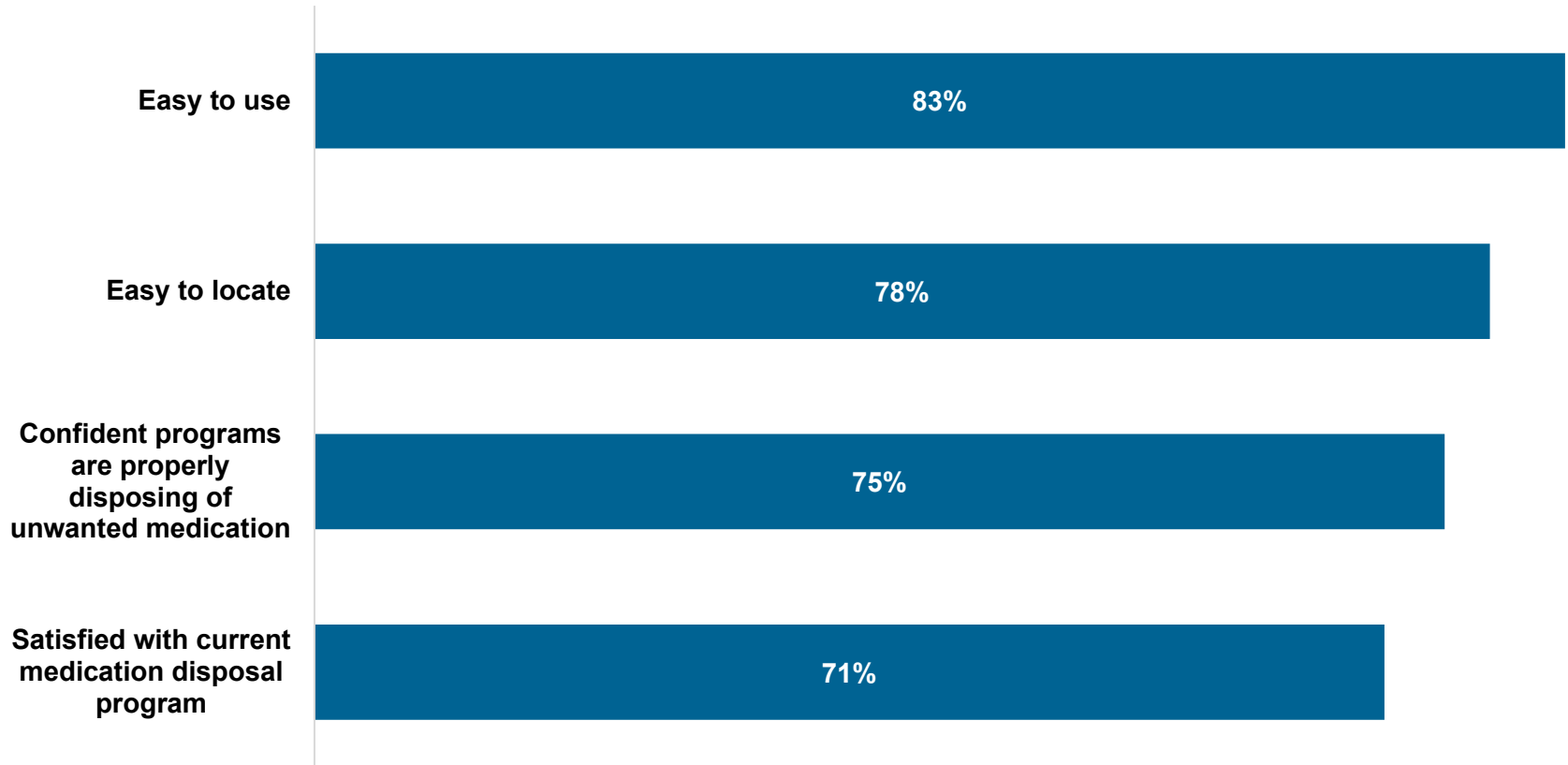
Percent of respondents who felt that the phrases "Easy to locate," "Easy to use," "Confident programs are properly disposing of unwanted medication," and "Satisfied with current medication disposal program" described the medication drop-box location "Very Well" or "Somewhat Well" )



**83% of residents who have utilized mail-back options feel they are easy to use, and 78% feel they are easy to locate.**

### Massachusetts Residents' Description of Mail-Back Disposal Option

Percent of respondents who felt that the phrases "Easy to locate," "Easy to use," "Confident programs are properly disposing of unwanted medication," and "Satisfied with current medication disposal program" described the mail-back disposal option "Very Well" or "Somewhat Well"

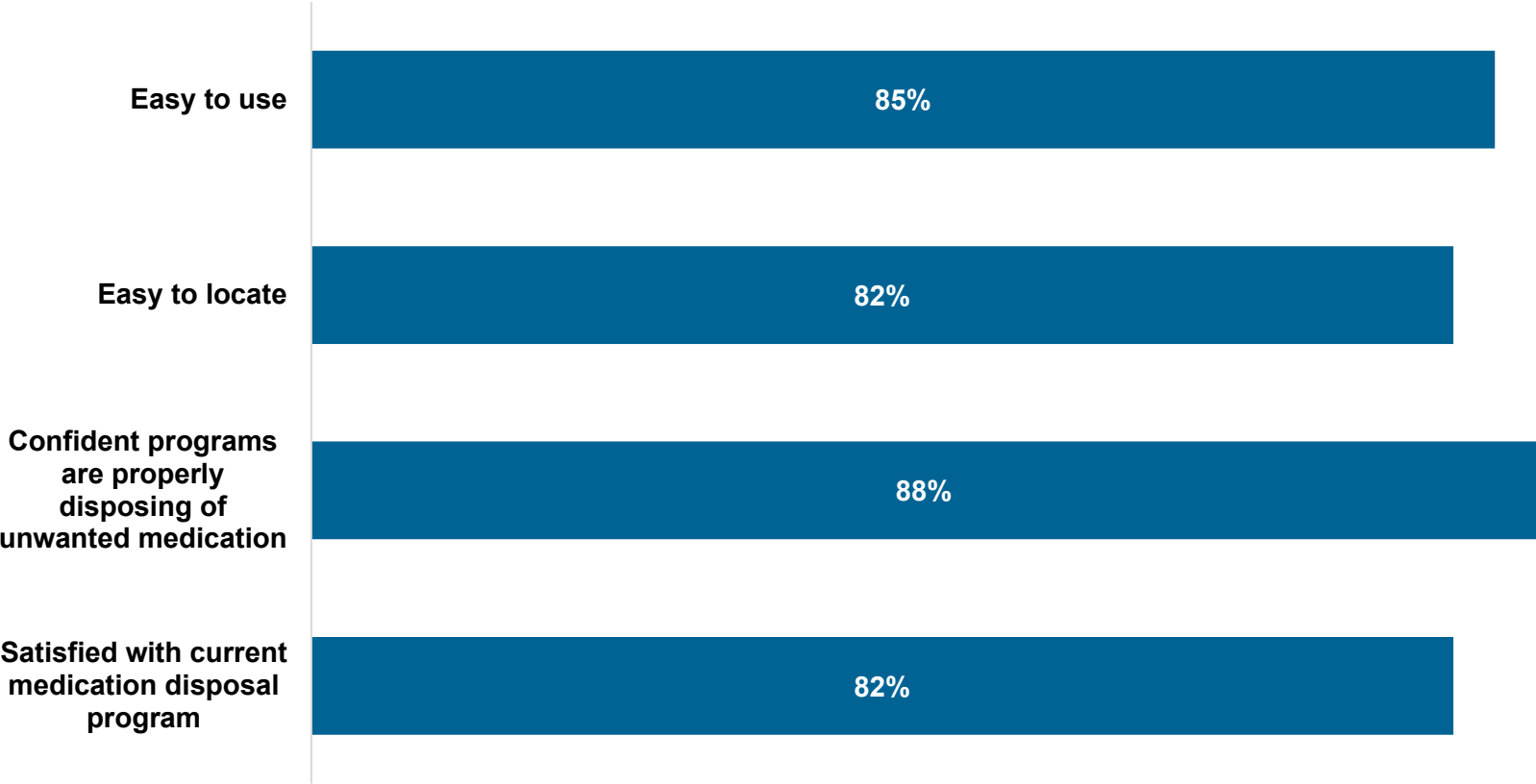


Q15b - Please indicate how well you feel each following phrase describes the medication mail-back disposal options that currently exist in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. "Easy to locate," "Easy to use," "Confident programs are properly disposing of unwanted medication," and "Satisfied with current medication disposal program."

**85% of residents who have utilized take-back events feel they are easy to use, and 88% feel confident that programs are properly disposing of unwanted medication.**

### Massachusetts Residents' Description of Take-Back Events

Percent of respondents who felt that the phrases "Easy to locate," "Easy to use," "Confident programs are properly disposing of unwanted medication," and "Satisfied with current medication disposal program" described the take-back events "Very Well" or "Somewhat Well"



Q15c - Please indicate how well you feel each following phrase describes the medication Take-Back Events that currently exist in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. "Easy to locate," "Easy to use," "Confident programs are properly disposing of unwanted medication," and "Satisfied with current medication disposal program."

# 44% of Massachusetts residents are extremely or very concerned that keeping expired and/or unwanted medication in the home can lead to accidental poisonings.

## Massachusetts Residents' Level of Concern

Percent of respondents who said the statement makes them "extremely concerned" or "very concerned"

Keeping expired and/or unwanted medication in the home can provide the opportunity for family members or friends to abuse them

40%

Keeping expired and/or unwanted medication in the home can lead to accidental poisonings

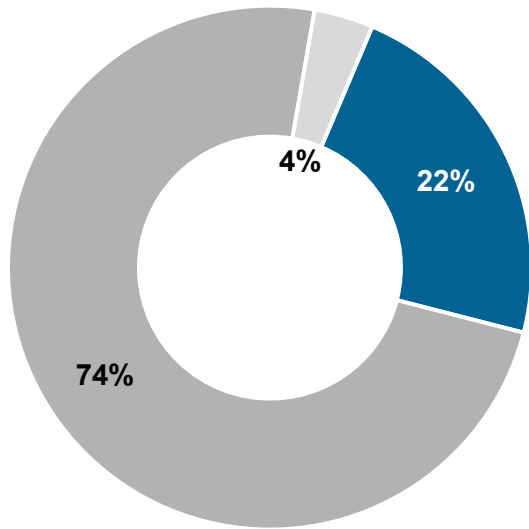
44%

Q16 - Please indicate your level of concern regarding each statement as it relates to expired and/or unwanted medication such as opioids and benzodiazepines in your home.

"Keeping expired and/or unwanted medication in the home can lead to accidental poisonings or overdoses."; "Keeping expired and/or unwanted medication in the home can provide the opportunity for family members or friends to use/abuse them."

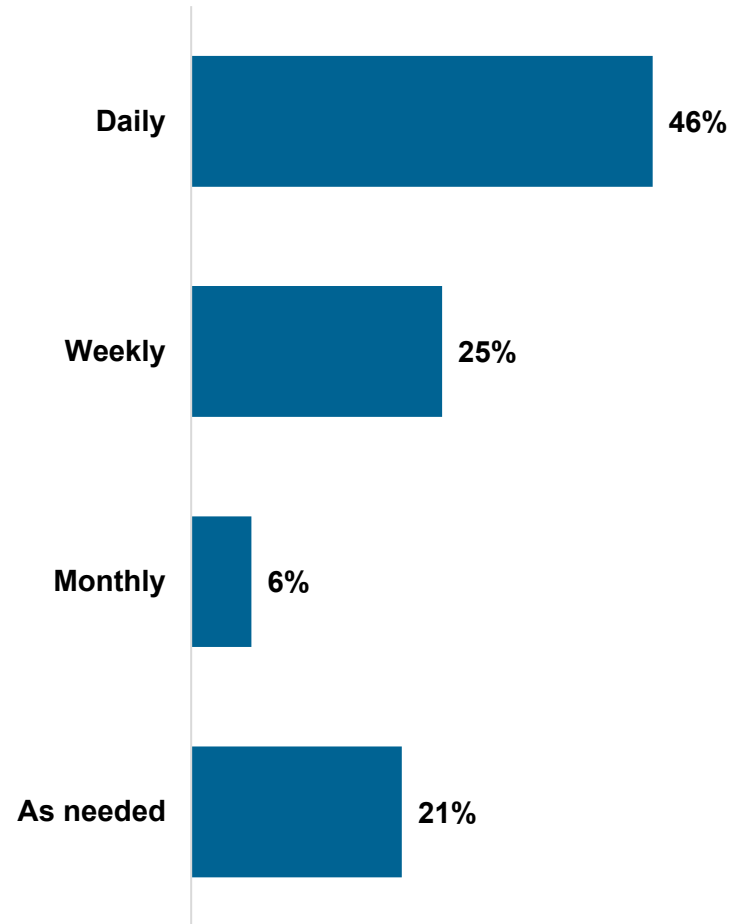
**22% of residents report that someone in their household regularly takes medication such as opioids or benzodiazepines. Of those, 46% take the medication daily.**

### Massachusetts Residents' Household Intake of Medication



- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

### Massachusetts Residents' Frequency of Medication Intake



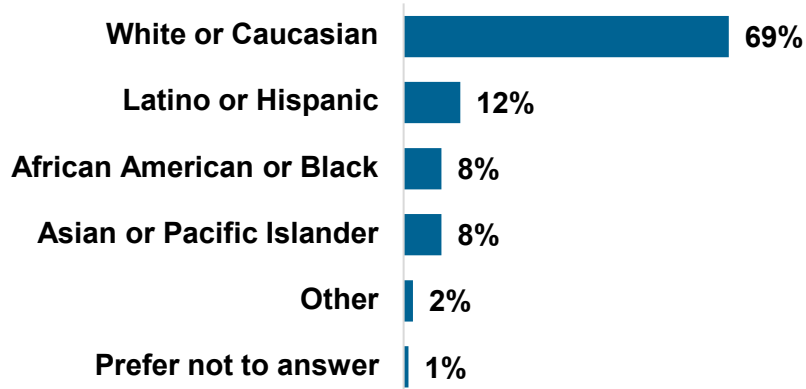
**Executive Summary**

**Resident Awareness**

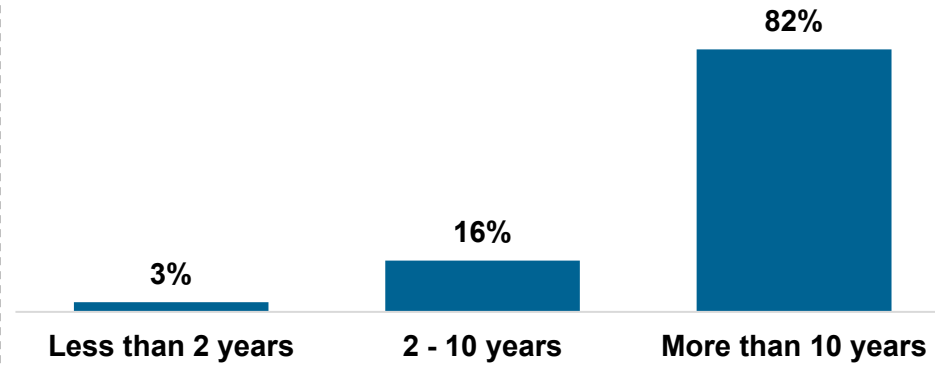
**Appendix - Demographics**

# Appendix: Massachusetts Resident Demographics

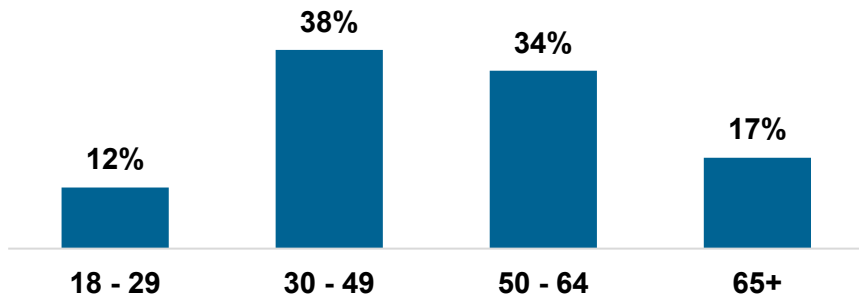
## Race and Ethnicity



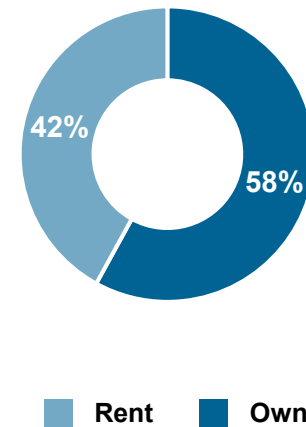
## Time in Massachusetts



## Age



## Living Situation



Q3 - Do you own or rent your place of residence?  
 Q4 - Select your age from the following ranges:  
 Q5 - How long have you lived in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts?  
 Q6 - With which racial or ethnic group do you identify?

*Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond with the sum of the separate figures, and not all results will sum to 100%.*