



Medication Education & Disposal

**Resident and Healthcare Provider Survey Results:
Unwanted Medication – State of Oregon**

Survey Conducted: July 2026

Survey Commissioned by MED-Project – Research Independently Conducted

Executive Summary

Resident Awareness

Healthcare Provider Awareness

Appendix - Demographics

Study Objectives & Methodology

Study Objectives

- MED-Project has been tasked with measuring awareness of program services provided by MED-Project's Product Stewardship Plan for Covered Drugs from Households and evaluating its education and outreach activities in the State of Oregon.

Study Design

- 1,101 Oregon residents (18 years and older) were surveyed between July 3 and July 14, 2026, and 200 healthcare professionals were surveyed between July 4 and July 14, 2026.
- Quotas for race/ethnicity and age were established to align with the 2020 U.S. Census demographic distribution of residents (18 years and older) in the State of Oregon.
- Healthcare providers (doctors, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, pharmacy technicians, or medical office assistants/other healthcare professionals) were sampled.

Sampling & Analysis

- Random sampling was conducted through a quality-controlled panel of state residents.
- During the data collection phase, the raw data was cleaned to remove low-quality responses. The data was then analyzed at a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 2.95% (for residents) and 6.93% (for healthcare providers), which means that if the same survey was conducted 100 times, 95 out of 100 times the results would fall within what is reported herein, +/-2.95% (for residents) and +/-6.93% (for healthcare providers).

Executive Summary – Expired and/or Unwanted Medication

Awareness

Disposal Method

Perception

Resident
— 86% of Oregon residents are aware of at least one in-state medication disposal option. — 73% of residents are aware of pharmacy drop boxes as a disposal method for expired and/or unwanted household medication, while 56% are aware of police station drop boxes, 55% are aware of take-back events, and 40% are aware of mail-back programs. — 40% of residents learned about the disposal program for expired and/or unwanted medication from pharmacies, hospitals, and other healthcare providers, while 29% learned from friends or family. 21% of residents prefer to receive information about safe disposal from pharmacies, hospitals, and other healthcare providers.
— Of Oregon residents who used medication disposal options, 66% utilized a pharmacy drop box.
— 86% of residents agree that medication disposal programs enhance public safety, while 85% agree they have a positive impact on the environment, 79% agree they make it easy to dispose of unwanted medication, and 71% agree they are convenient.

Provider
— 100% of Oregon providers are aware of at least one in-state medication disposal option. — 98% of providers are aware of pharmacy drop boxes as a disposal method for expired and/or unwanted household medication, while 96% are aware of take-back events, 93% are aware of police station drop boxes, and 84% are aware of mail-back programs. — Providers prefer to receive information about safe disposal from pharmacies, hospitals, and other healthcare providers (41%), followed by information provided through their workplace (15%).
— 97% of Oregon providers have encouraged their patients or clients to safely store and dispose of expired and/or unwanted medication.
— 89% of providers agree that medication disposal programs enhance public safety, while 85% agree they have a positive impact on the environment, 86% agree they make it easy to dispose of unwanted medication, and 79% agree they are convenient.

Executive Summary

Resident Awareness

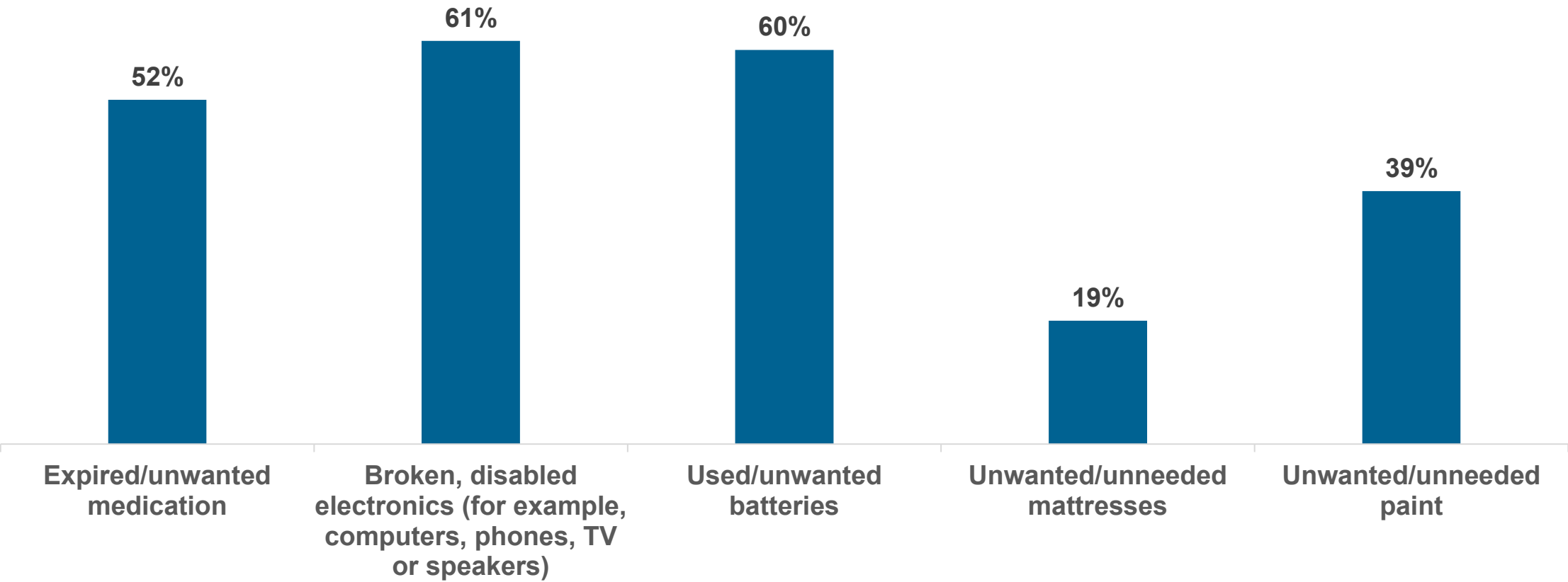
Healthcare Provider Awareness

Appendix - Demographics

Among Oregon residents, 52% have expired/unwanted medication in their homes.

Items Typically Found in Residents' Homes

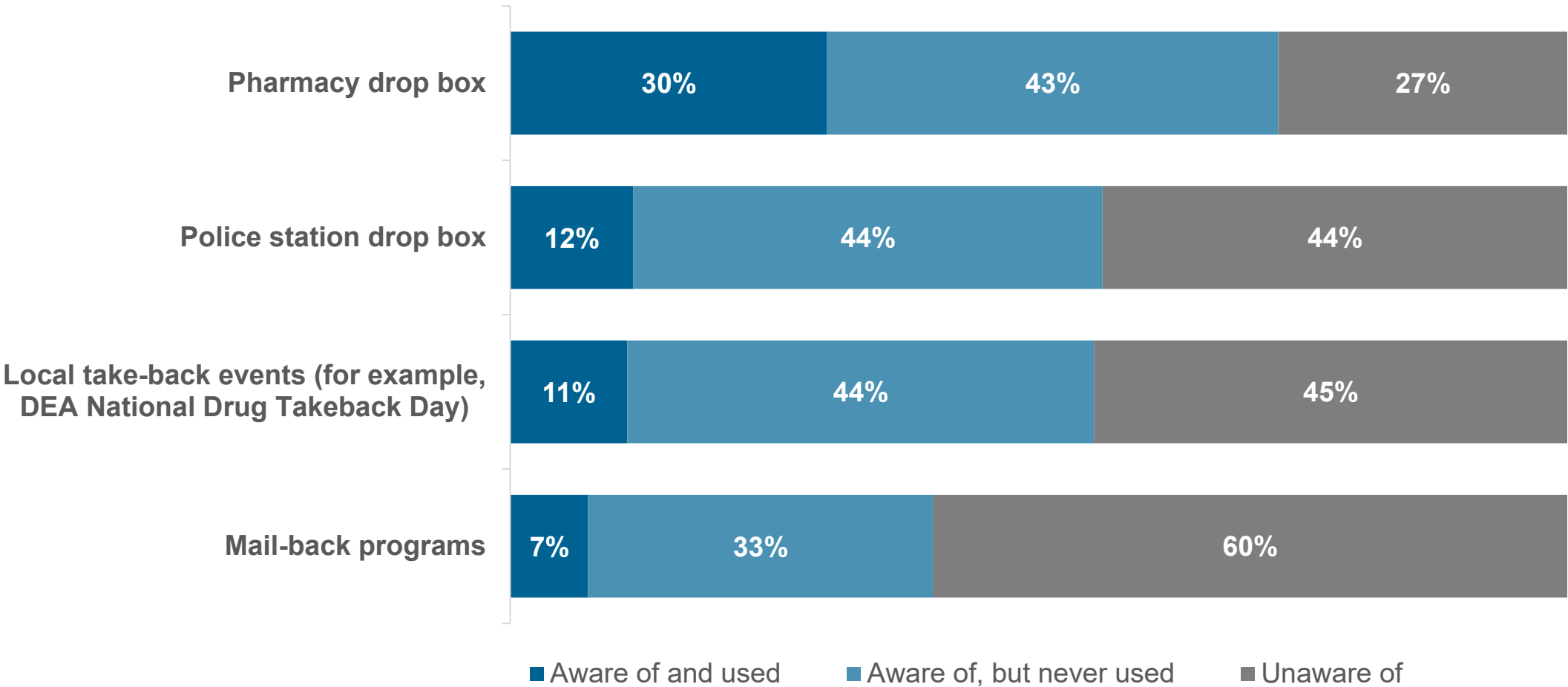
n = 1,101



86% of Oregon residents are aware of at least one in-state medication disposal option.*

Residents' Awareness of Disposal Programs for Unwanted Medication

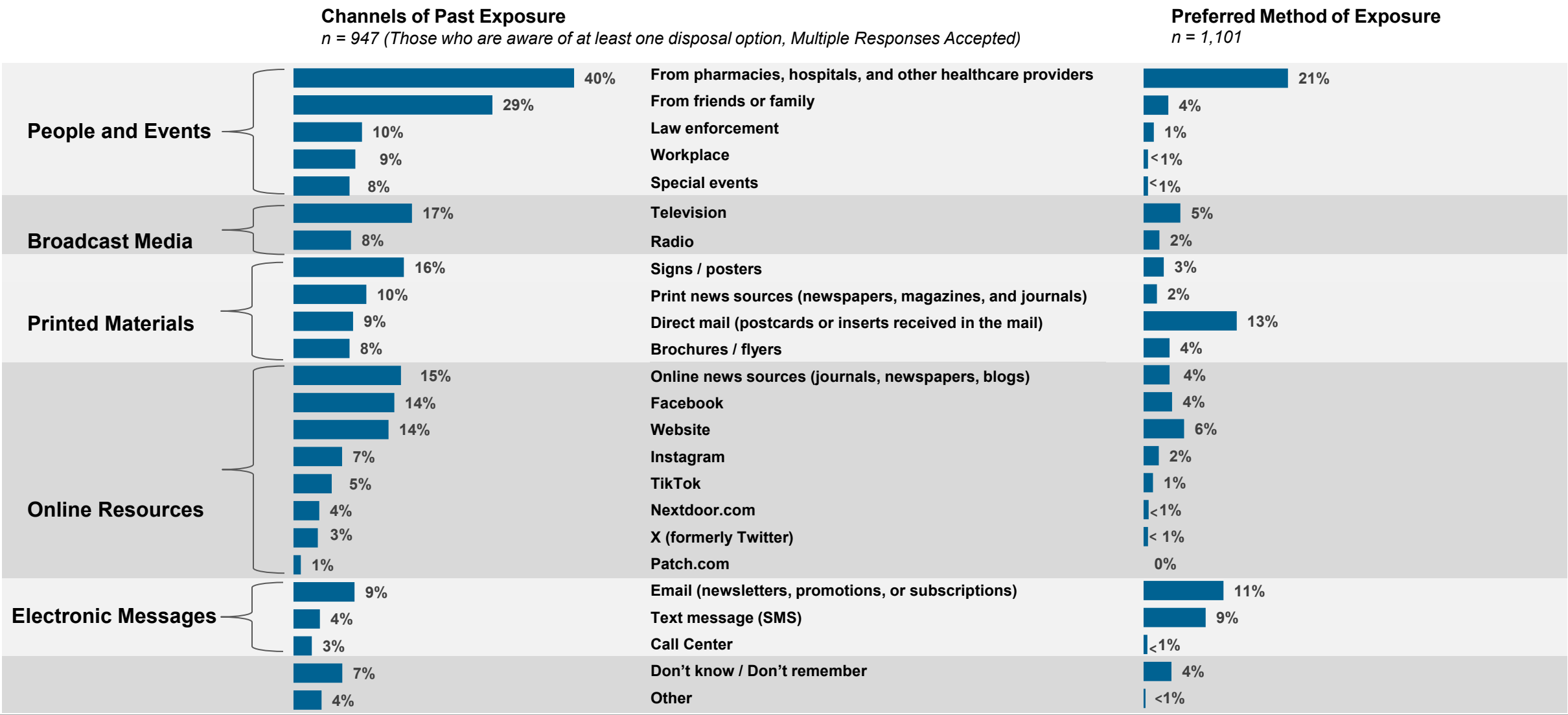
n = 1,101



*Calculations account for overlap; residents aware of multiple options counted once.

Residents most commonly learned about safe disposal from pharmacies, hospitals, and other healthcare providers (40%), and from friends or family (29%). 21% of residents prefer to receive information from pharmacies, hospitals, and other healthcare providers.

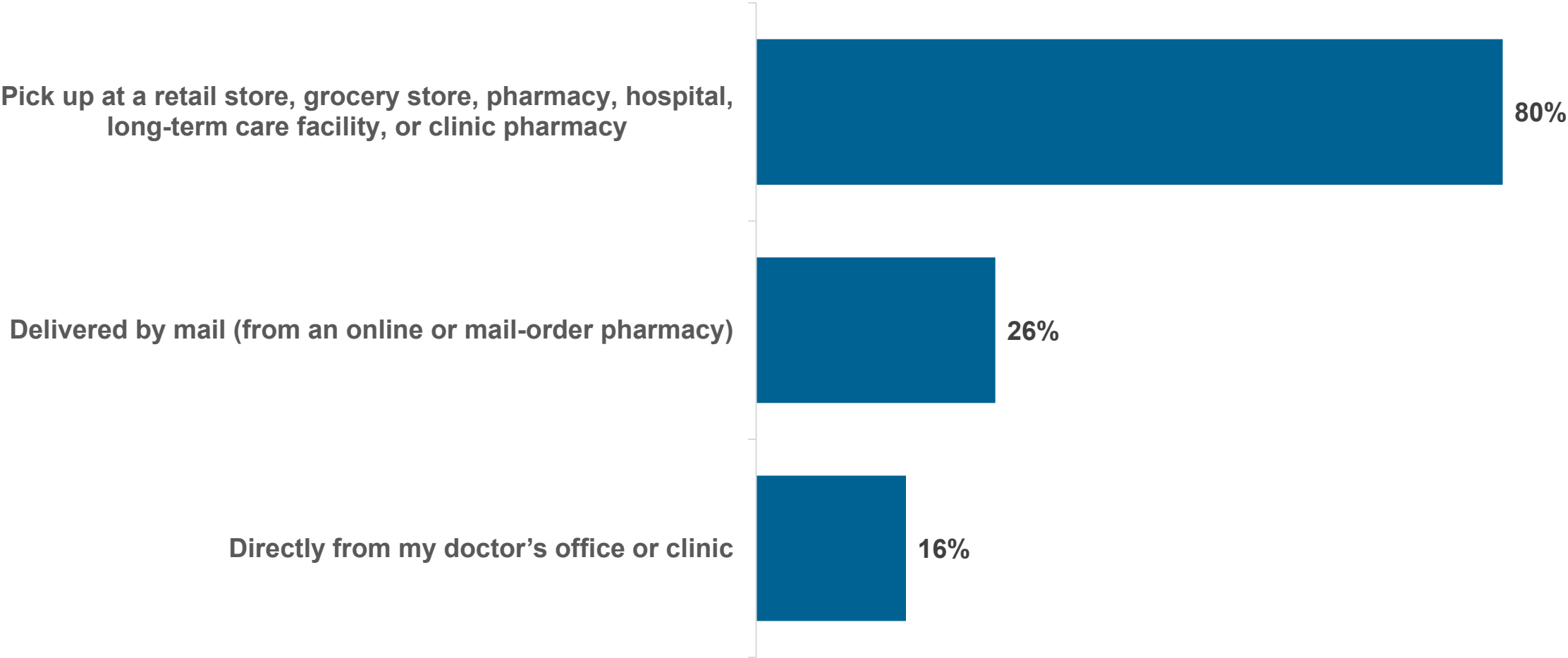
Residents' Communication Channels



80% of residents primarily obtain their medications by picking them up at retail stores, grocery stores, pharmacies, hospitals, long-term care facilities, or clinic pharmacies.

Residents' Procurement of Medications

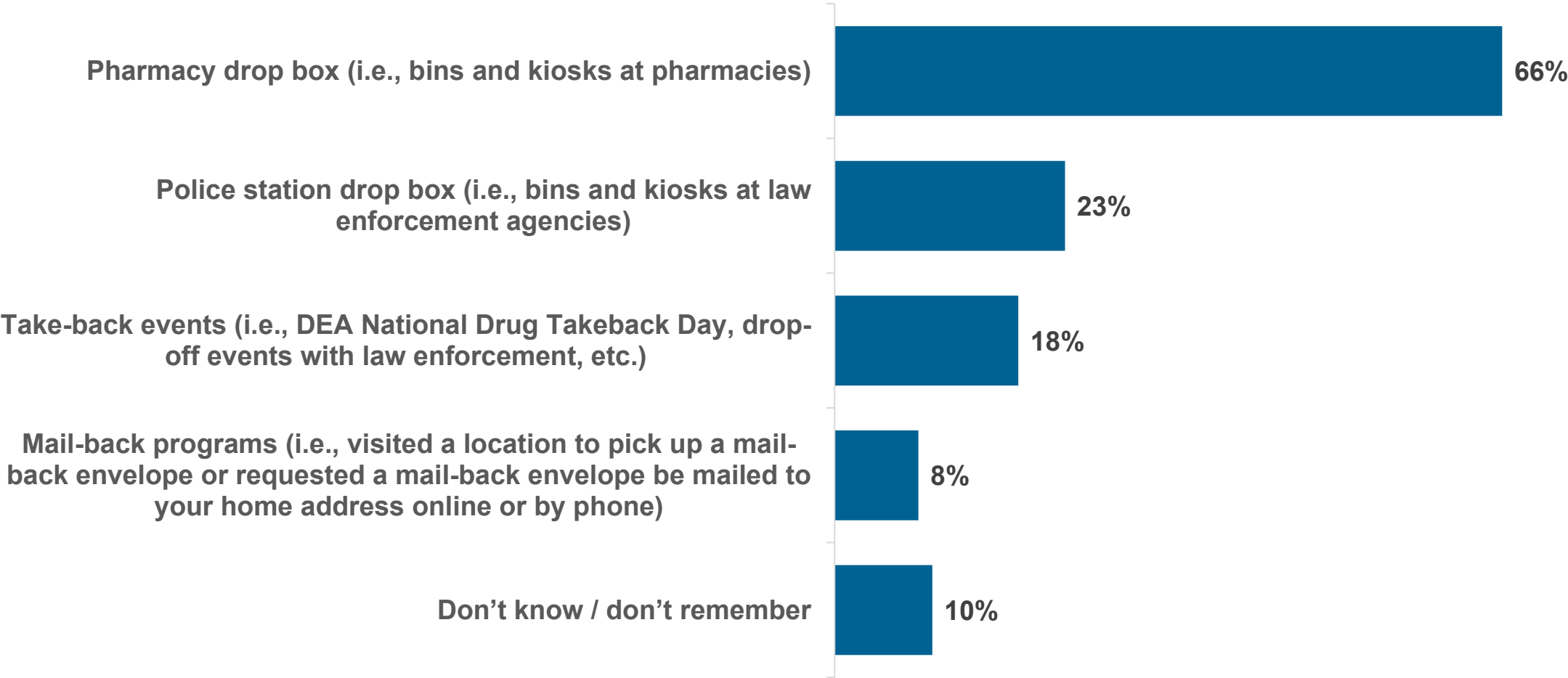
n = 1,101 (Multiple Responses Accepted)



Of Oregon residents who used medication disposal options, 66% utilized a pharmacy drop box.

Residents’ Disposal Methods Used in the Past

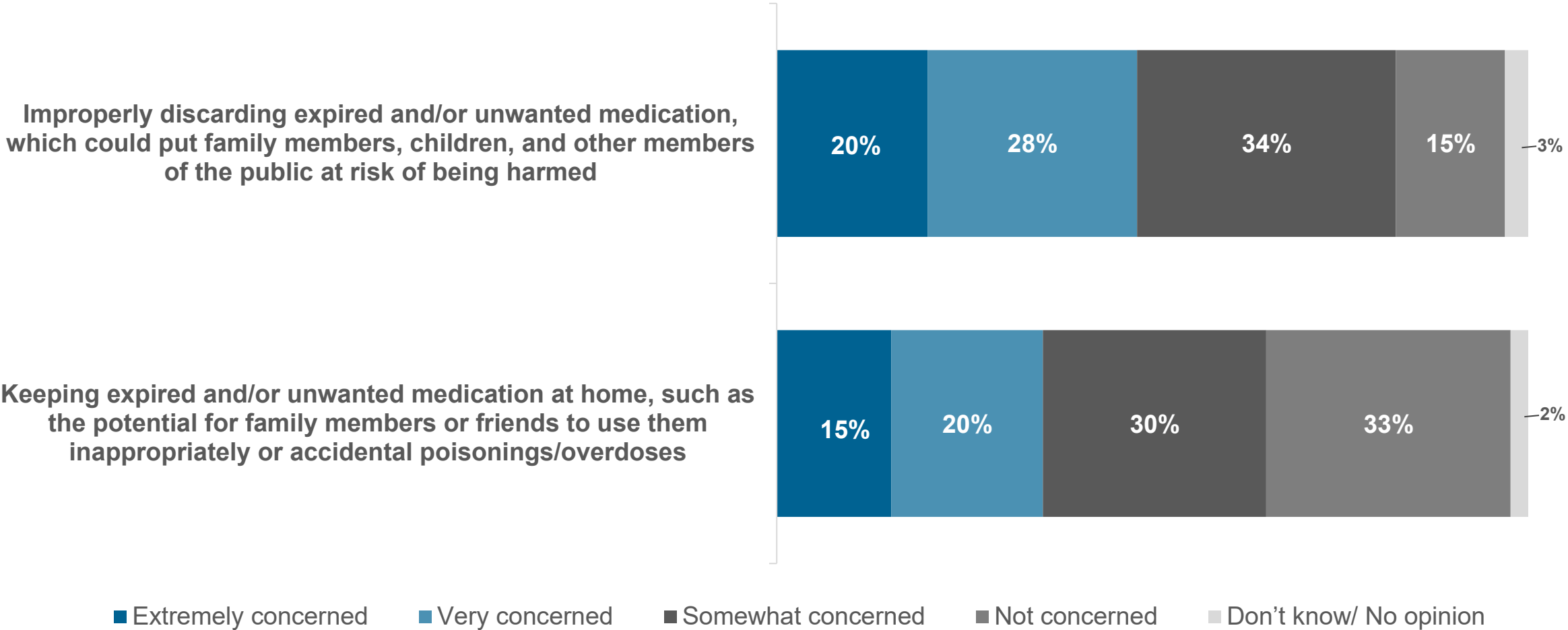
n = 437 (Those who have used any medication disposal options, Multiple Responses Accepted)



82% of Oregon residents are concerned that improperly discarding unwanted medication could put people at risk, while 33% are not concerned that keeping it at home can lead to accidental poisonings.

Residents' Concerns Regarding Unwanted Medication in the Home

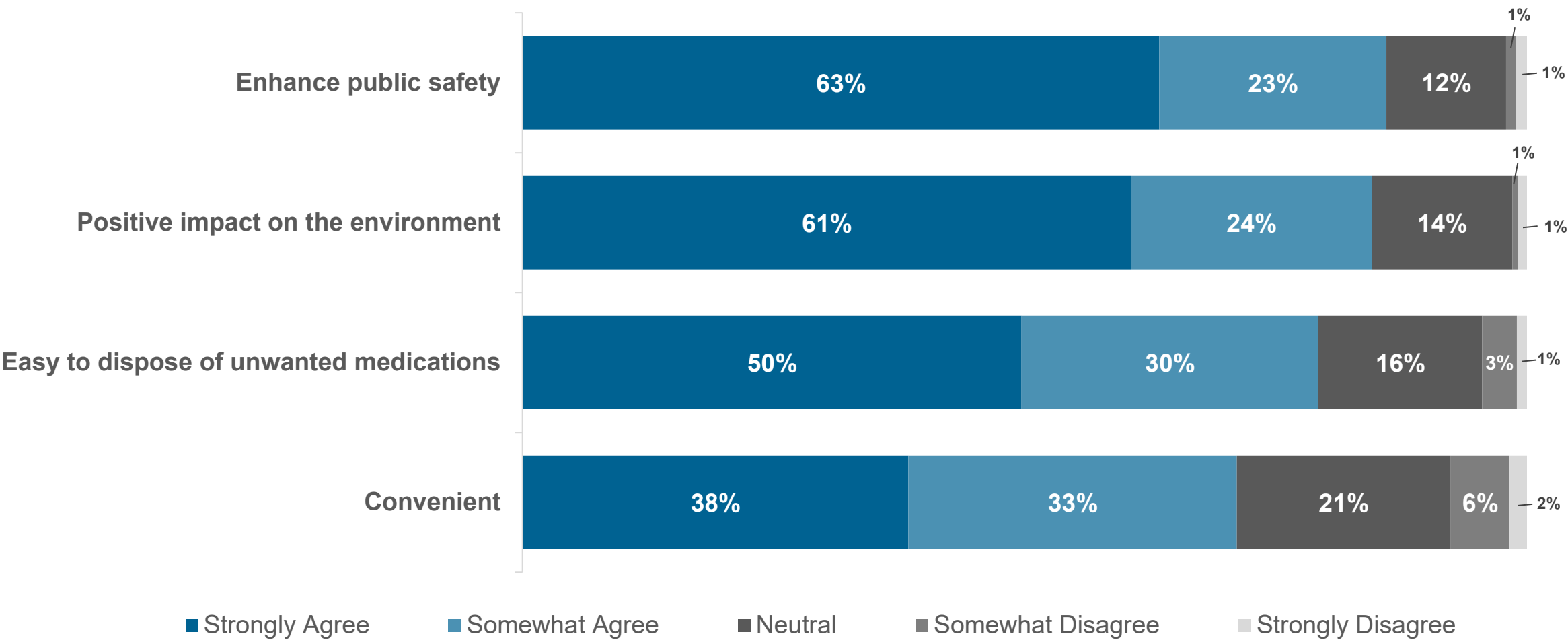
n = 1,101



86% of Oregon residents agree that medication disposal programs enhance public safety, 85% agree they have a positive impact on the environment, 79% agree they make it easy to dispose of unwanted medications, and 71% agree they are convenient.

Residents’ Description of Disposal Programs for Unwanted Medication

n = 1,101



Executive Summary

Resident Awareness

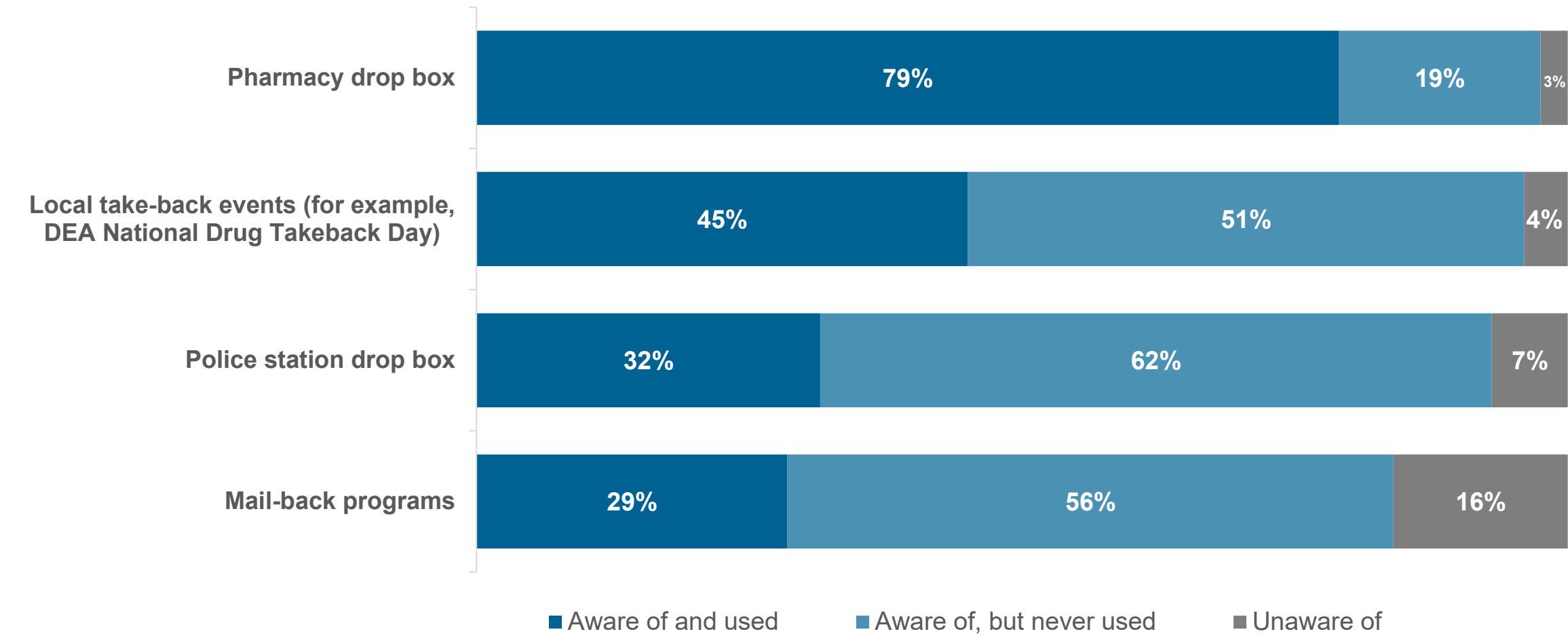
Healthcare Provider Awareness

Appendix - Demographics

100% of Oregon providers are aware of at least one in-state medication disposal option.*

Providers' Awareness of Disposal Programs for Unwanted Medication

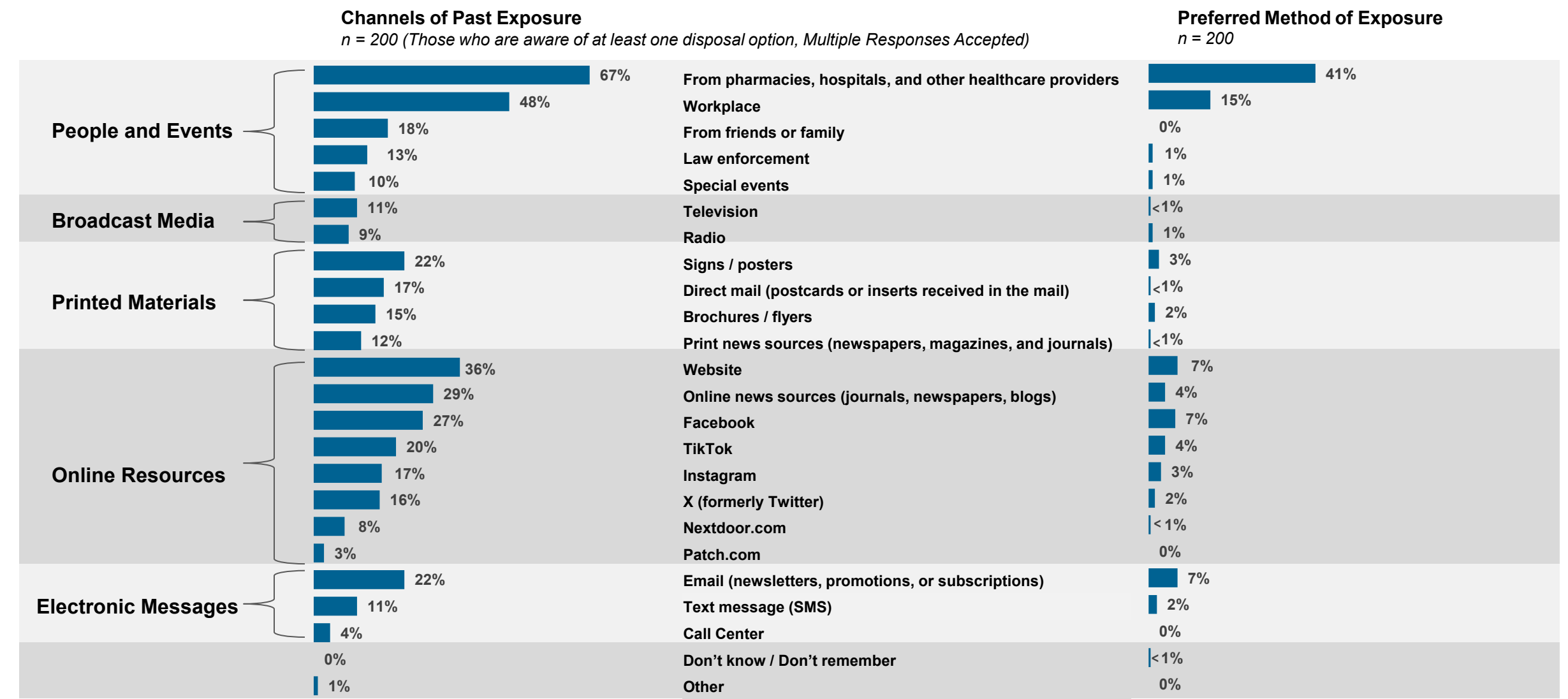
n = 200



*Calculations account for overlap; providers aware of multiple options counted once.

Providers prefer to receive information about safe disposal from pharmacies, hospitals, and other healthcare providers (41%), followed by information provided through their workplace (15%).

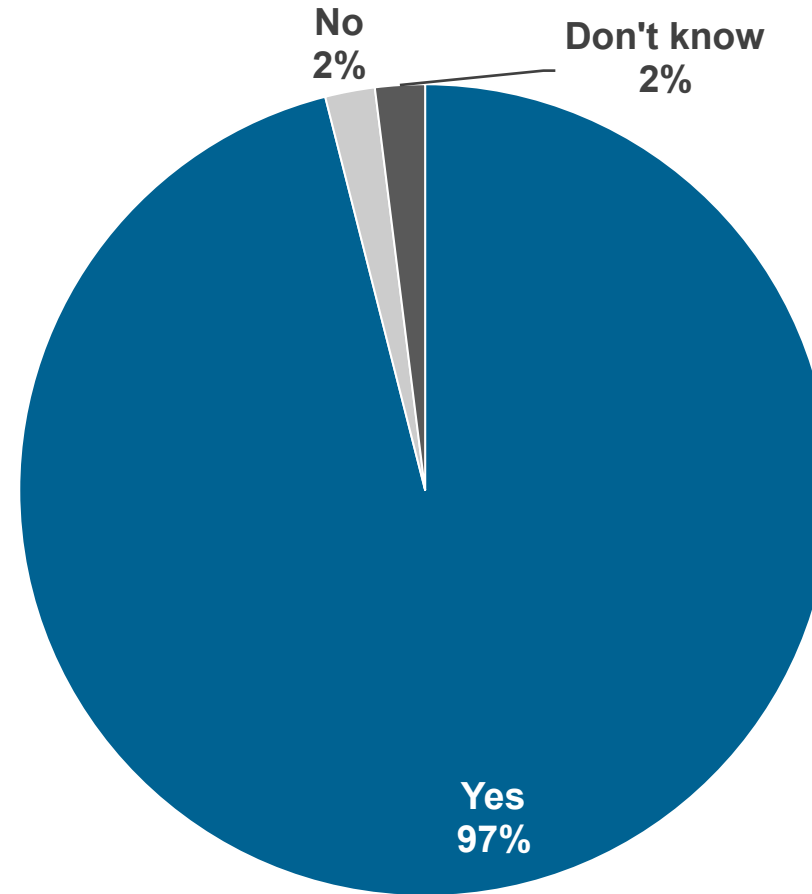
Providers' Communication Channels



97% of Oregon providers have encouraged their patients or clients to safely store and dispose of expired and/or unwanted medication.

Providers' Encouragement of Patients to Dispose of Unwanted Medication

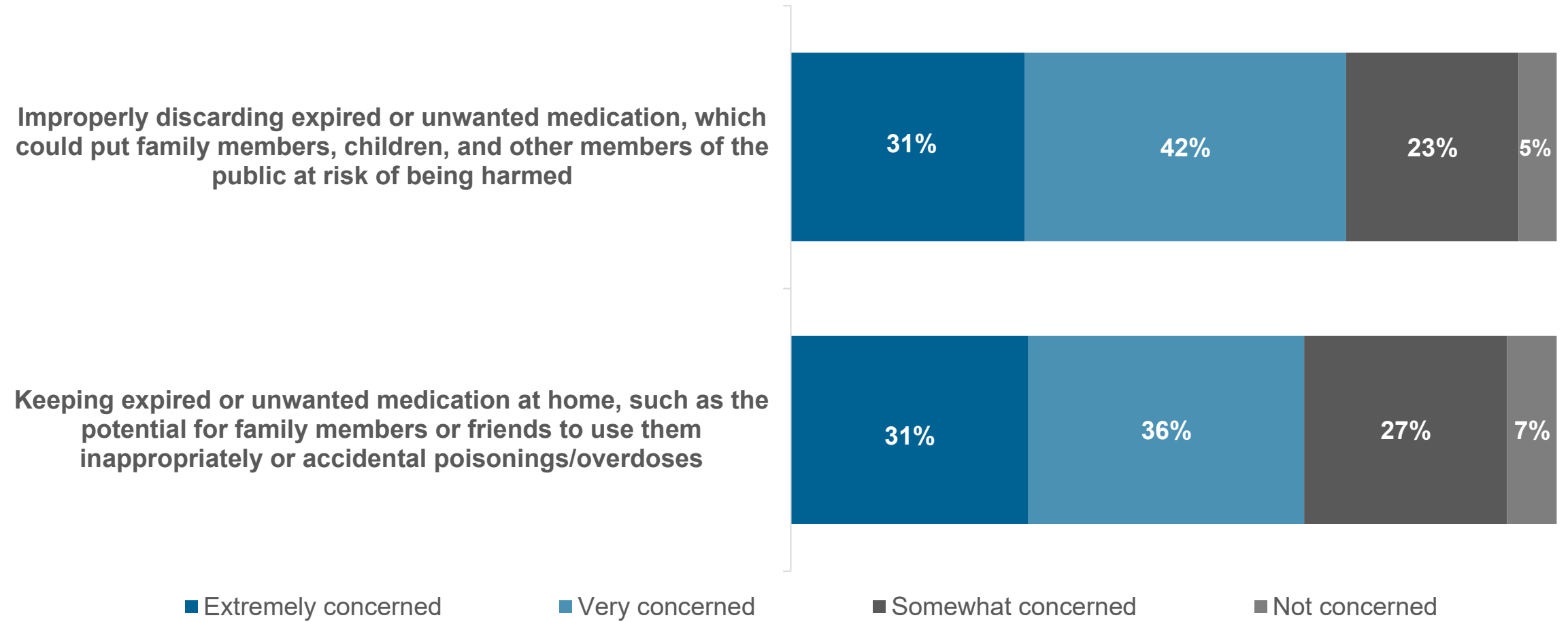
n = 200



73% of providers are extremely or very concerned that improperly discarding unwanted medication could put people at risk, and 67% are extremely or very concerned that keeping it at home can lead to accidental poisonings.

Providers' Concerns Regarding Unwanted Medication in the Home

n = 200

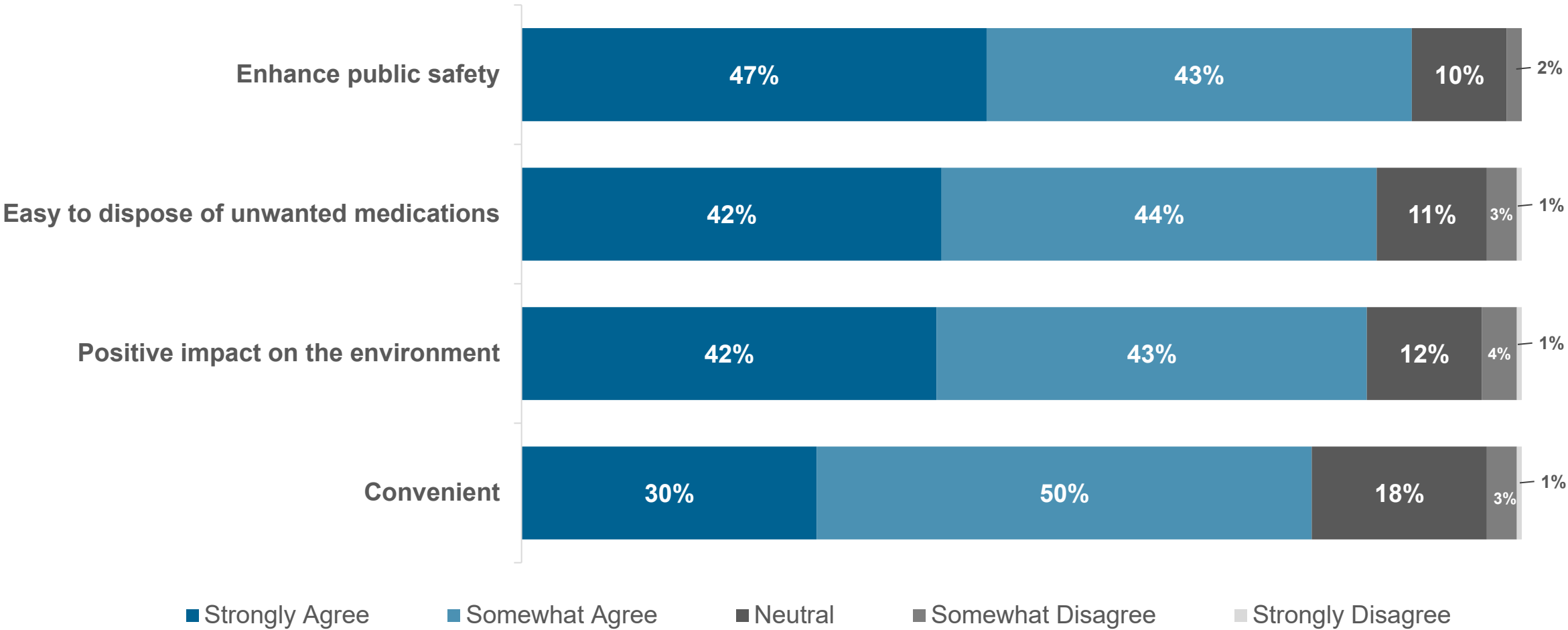


0% of providers responded "Don't know/No opinion"

89% of providers agree that medication disposal programs enhance public safety, while 86% agree they make it easy to dispose of unwanted medication, 85% agree they have a positive impact on the environment, and 79% agree they are convenient.

Providers' Description of Disposal Programs for Unwanted Medication

n = 200



Executive Summary

Resident Awareness

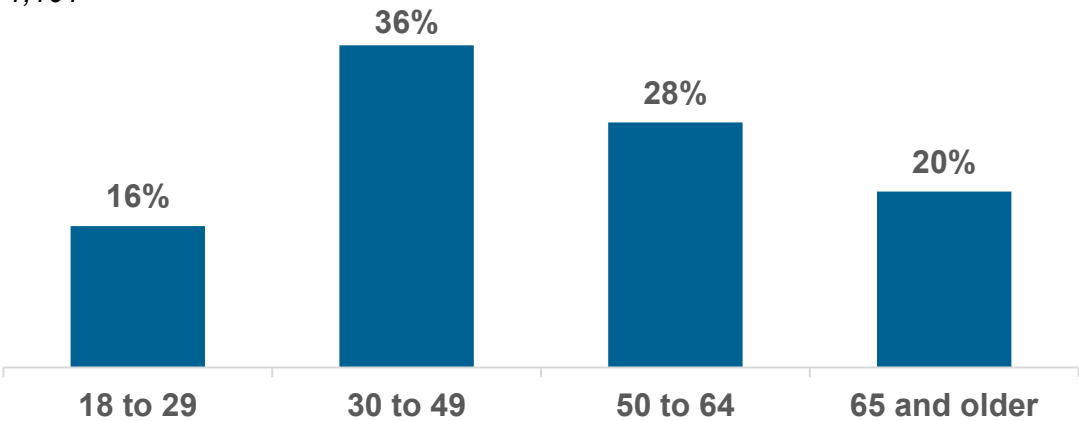
Healthcare Provider Awareness

Appendix - Demographics

Appendix: State of Oregon Resident Demographics

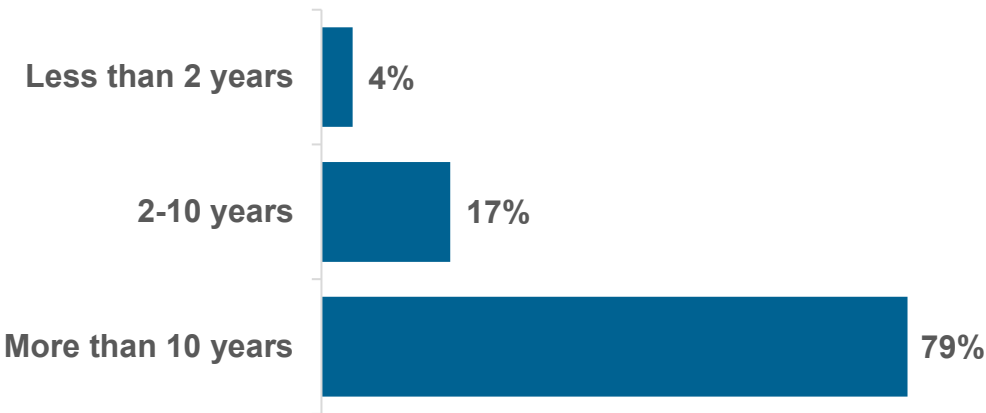
Age

n = 1,101



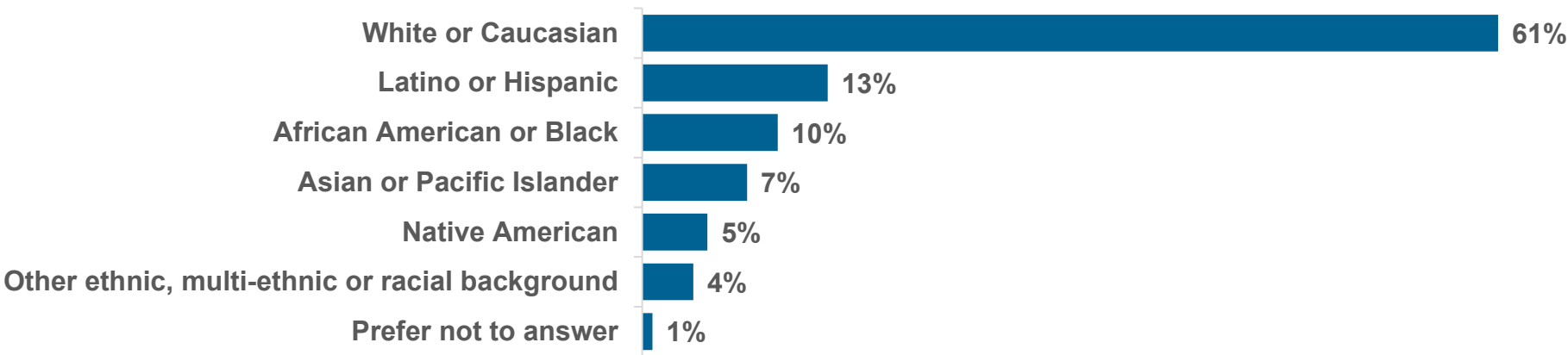
Years Living in the State of Oregon

n = 1,101



Race and Ethnicity

n = 1,101



Appendix: State of Oregon Resident Demographics

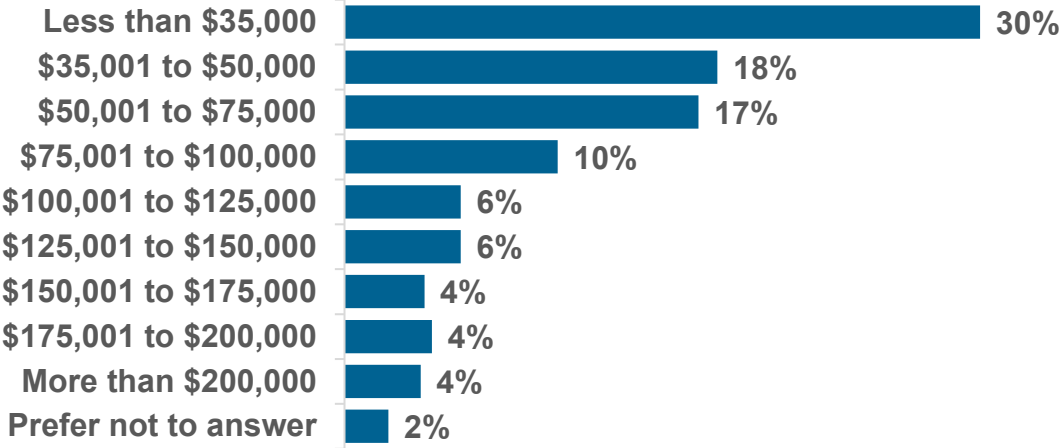
Area of Primary Residence

n = 1,101



Annual Household Income

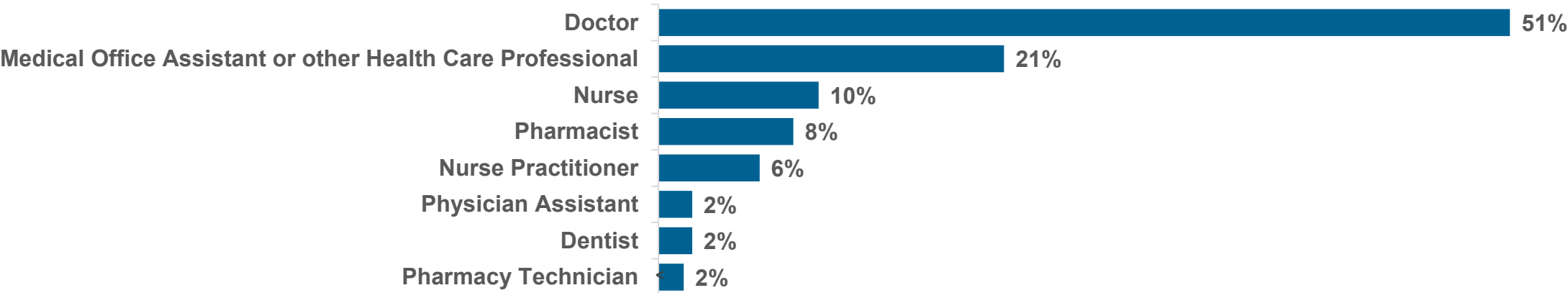
n = 1,101



Appendix: State of Oregon Healthcare Provider Demographics

Profession

n = 200



Years in Practice in the State of Oregon

n = 200

