

 MORNING CONSULT

ALLIANCE FOR AGING RESEARCH

SENIORS' OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS
POLLING PRESENTATION

July 2019

Introduction & Methodology

Background:

The research conducted by Morning Consult on behalf of the Alliance for Aging Research among adults 60+ with health insurance, including seniors on Medicare and adults with a chronic condition, sought to understand **sentiment towards health care and information resources, ability to pay for health care and prescription drug costs, support for legislation to cap what seniors pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs under Medicare Part D, and willingness to pay more in Medicare premiums for the cap to be implemented.**

Throughout these objectives, the research analyzes results among key demographics including age, those taking prescription drugs, those with a chronic condition, and seniors on a Medicare prescription drug plan.

Methodology:

This poll was conducted between June 26 – July 3, 2019 among a national sample of 2,203 adults 60+ with health insurance, including 200 adults 60-64, 2,003 seniors 65+ on Medicare, 1,701 adults with a chronic condition, and 501 adults without a chronic condition. The interviews were conducted online. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

Audience:

Throughout the report, adults refers to the total sample of 2,203 adults 60+ with health insurance.

Key Points

- 1 Seniors 65+ on Medicare are more likely than adults 60-64 to be very satisfied with their health insurance coverage.**
 - Over half of seniors 65+ on Medicare are *very satisfied* with their current health insurance coverage, compared to 34% of adults 60-64.
- 2 Of the tested health care costs, half of seniors on Medicare are worried about their ability to pay for products and services not covered by Medicare.**
 - And two in five adults are worried about their ability to pay out-of-pocket costs for their prescription drugs.
- 3 Adults are noticing an increase in the price of prescription drug costs.**
 - One in three adults have noticed an increase in the price of their prescription drugs in the past year, and one in five say it is difficult to pay for their prescription drugs every month.
- 4 One in five adults have stopped taking a prescription medication because of the cost of the medication.**
 - And one in four adults with a chronic condition report they have stopped taking a prescription medication because of the cost.
- 5 Three in four adults support legislation that places a cap or limit on what seniors pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D program.**
 - When asked to choose between an annual or monthly cap, a plurality of adults (46%) would prefer a monthly cap on out-of-pocket costs.
- 6 Half of seniors 65+ on Medicare are willing to pay a few extra dollars a month, between \$4-\$8 more per month, in Medicare premiums to have a cap or limit placed on out-of-pocket prescription drug costs.**

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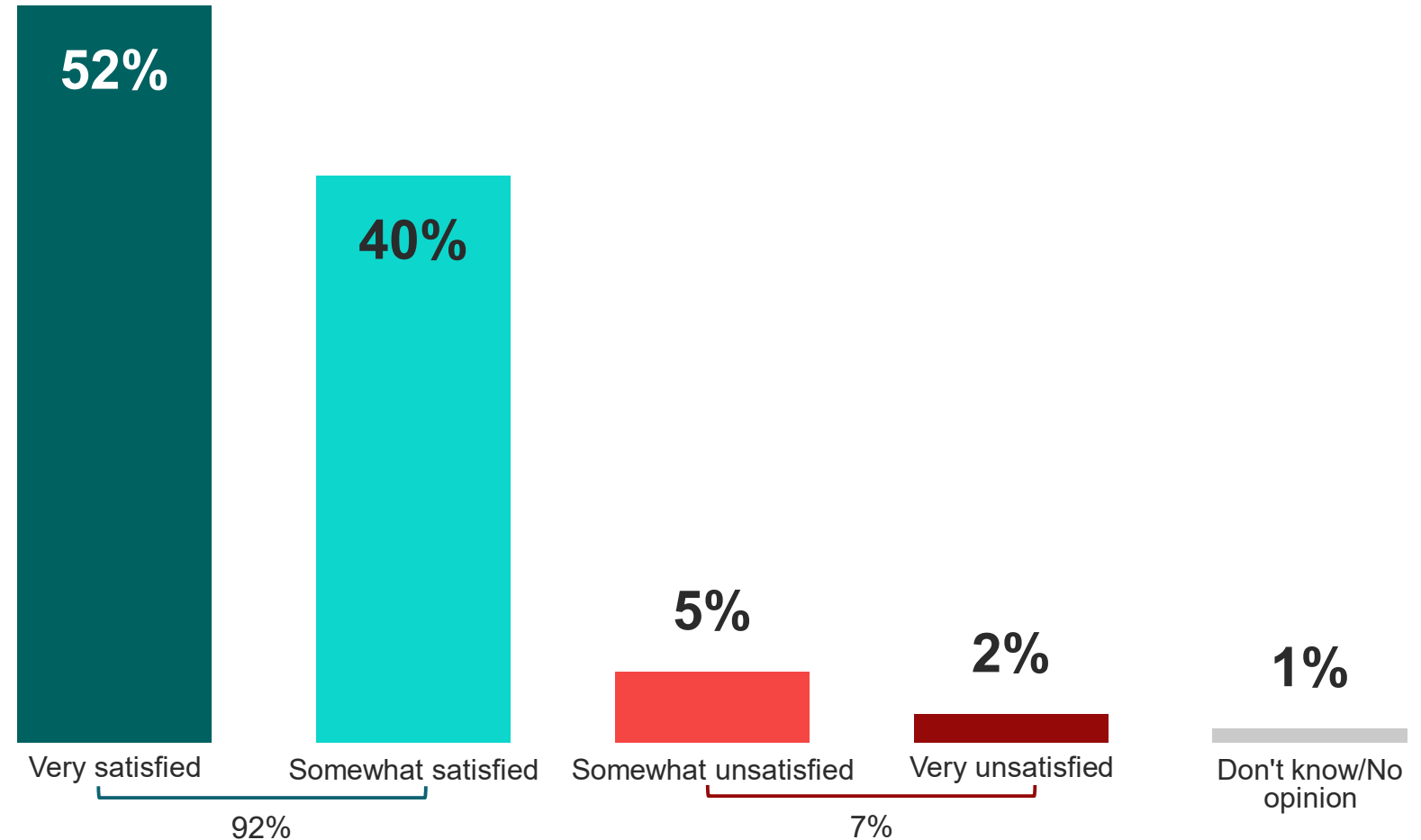
5 Willingness to Pay More in
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6 Respondent Profile

A strong majority of adults* (92%) are satisfied with their current health insurance coverage.

How satisfied or unsatisfied are you with your current health insurance coverage?

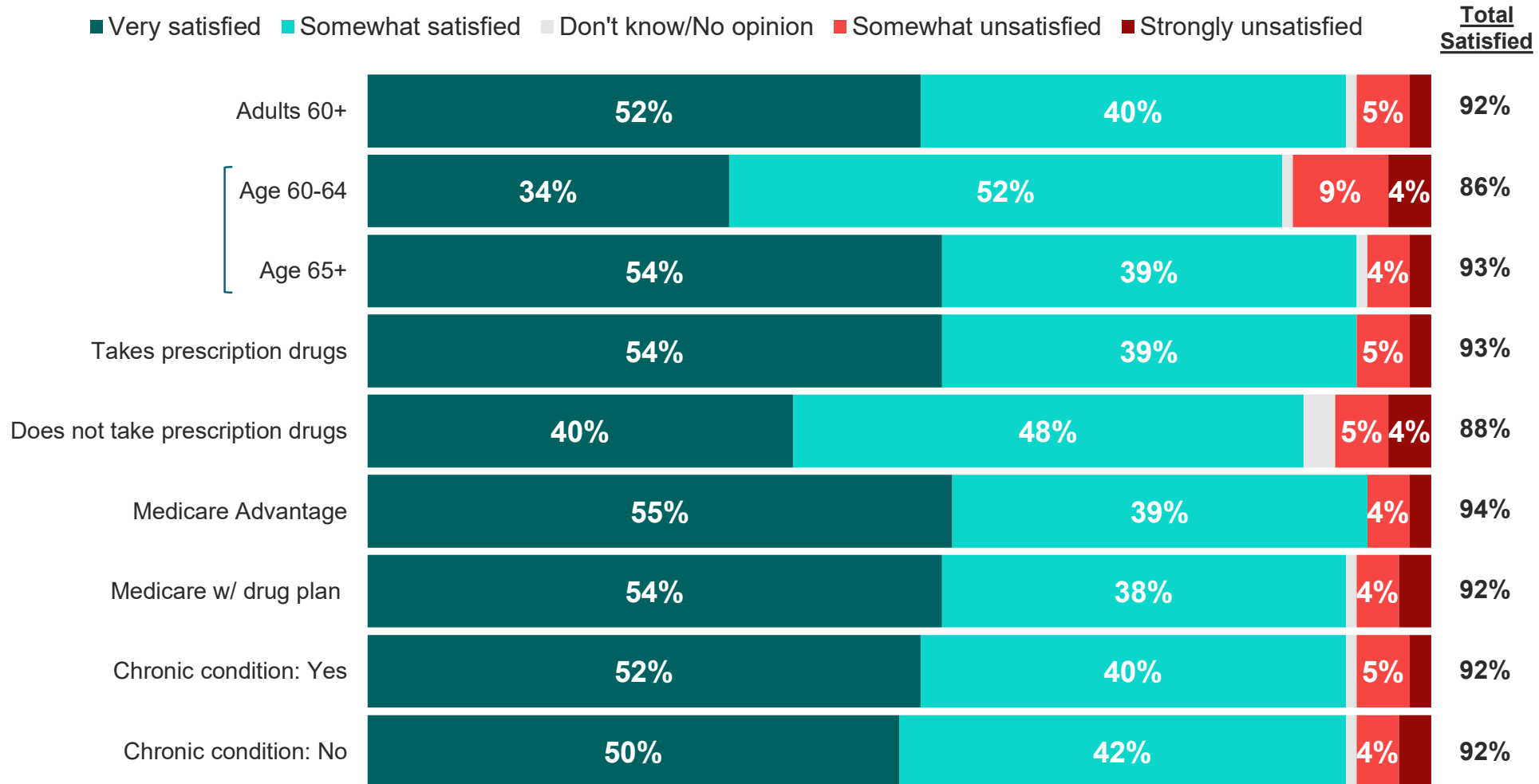


Sentiment Towards Health Care Information Resources

*Throughout the report adults refers to the total sample surveyed, 2,203 adults 60+ with health insurance

And, over half of seniors 65+ on Medicare (54%) are *very satisfied* with their current health insurance coverage, compared to 34% of adults 60-64.

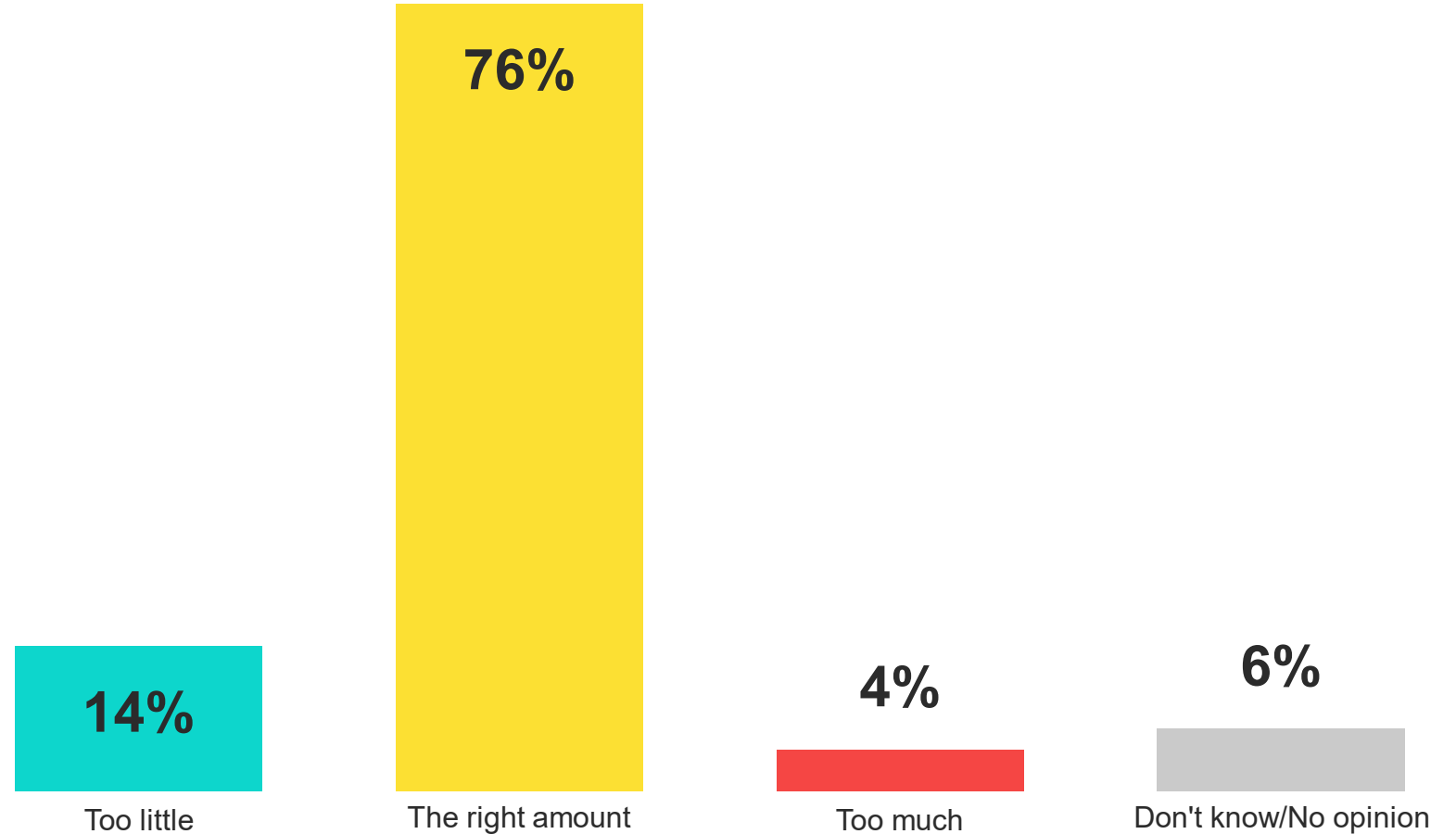
How satisfied or unsatisfied are you with your current health insurance coverage?



Sentiment Towards Health Care Information Resources

Three in four adults (76%) think there is the right amount of information available to them about their health insurance plan.

Thinking about the information available to you about your health insurance plan, do you think there is too little, too much, or the right amount of information available to you?

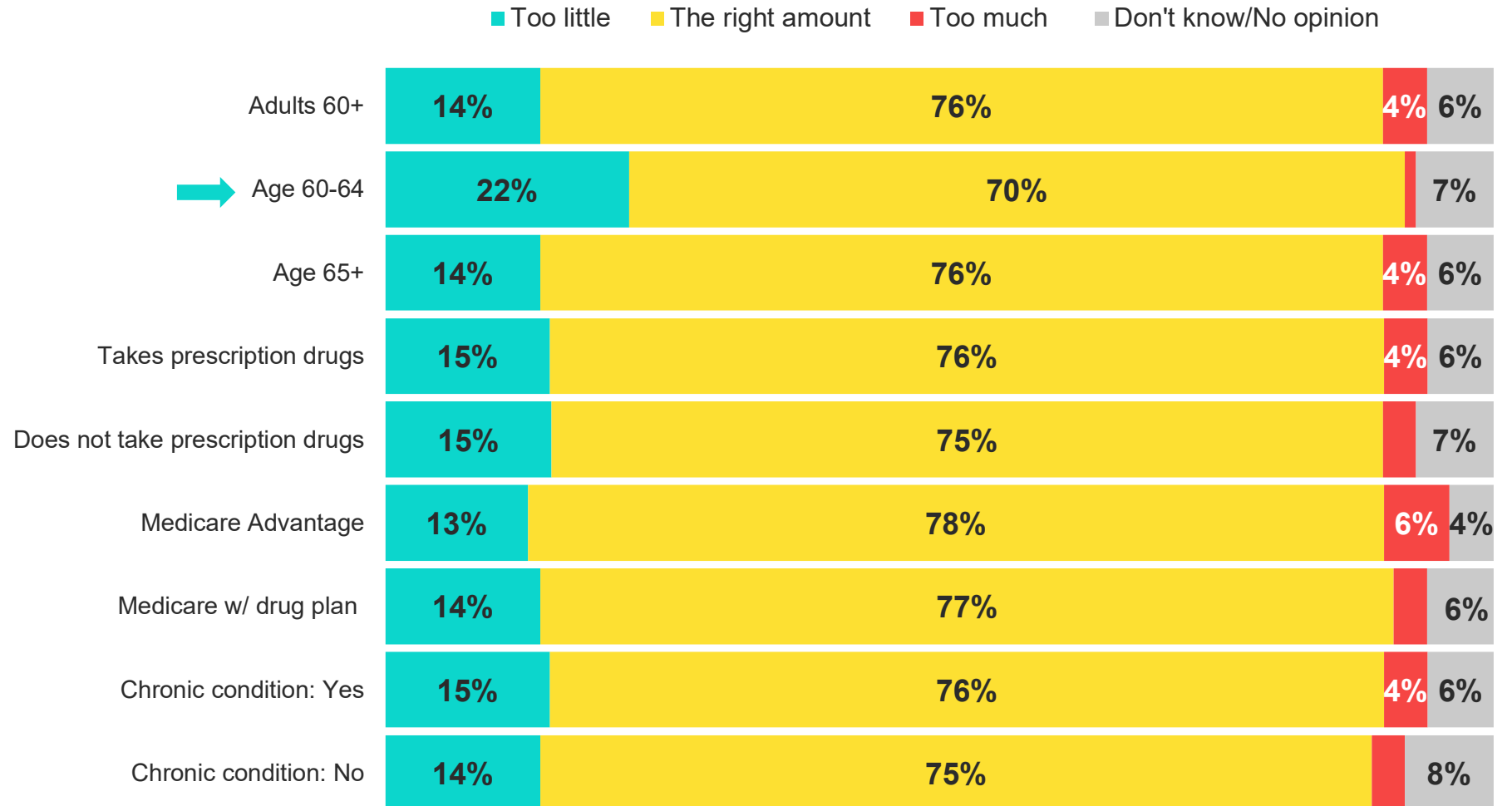


Sentiment Towards Health Care Information Resources

Sentiment Towards Health Care Information Resources

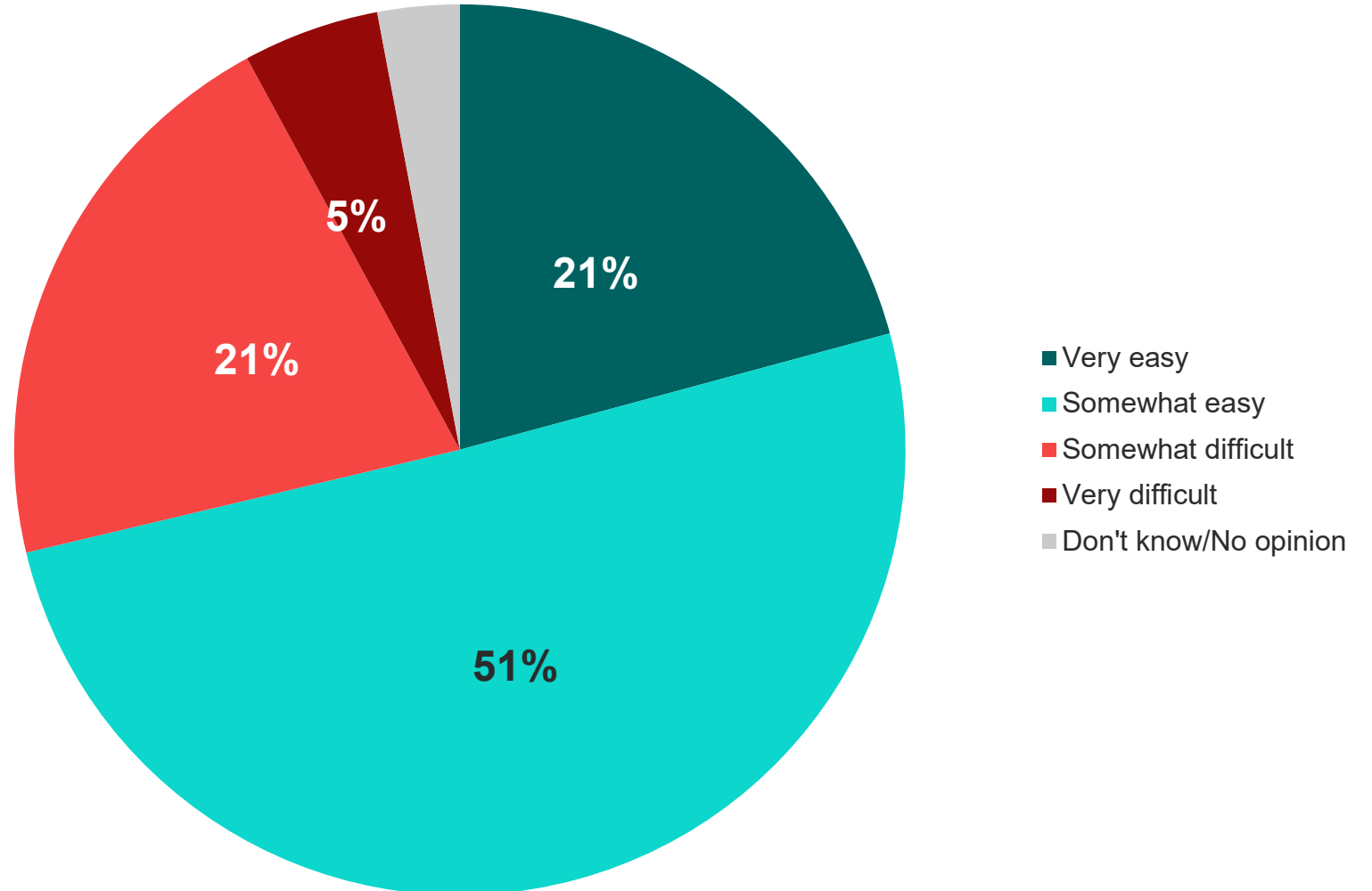
However, one in five adults 60-64 (22%) say there is 'too little' information available to them about their health insurance plan.

Thinking about the information available to you about your health insurance plan, do you think there is too little, too much, or the right amount of information available to you?



One in four adults (26%) say it is difficult to understand the information available to them about their health insurance plan.

Thinking about the information available to you about your health insurance plan, is the information easy or difficult to understand?

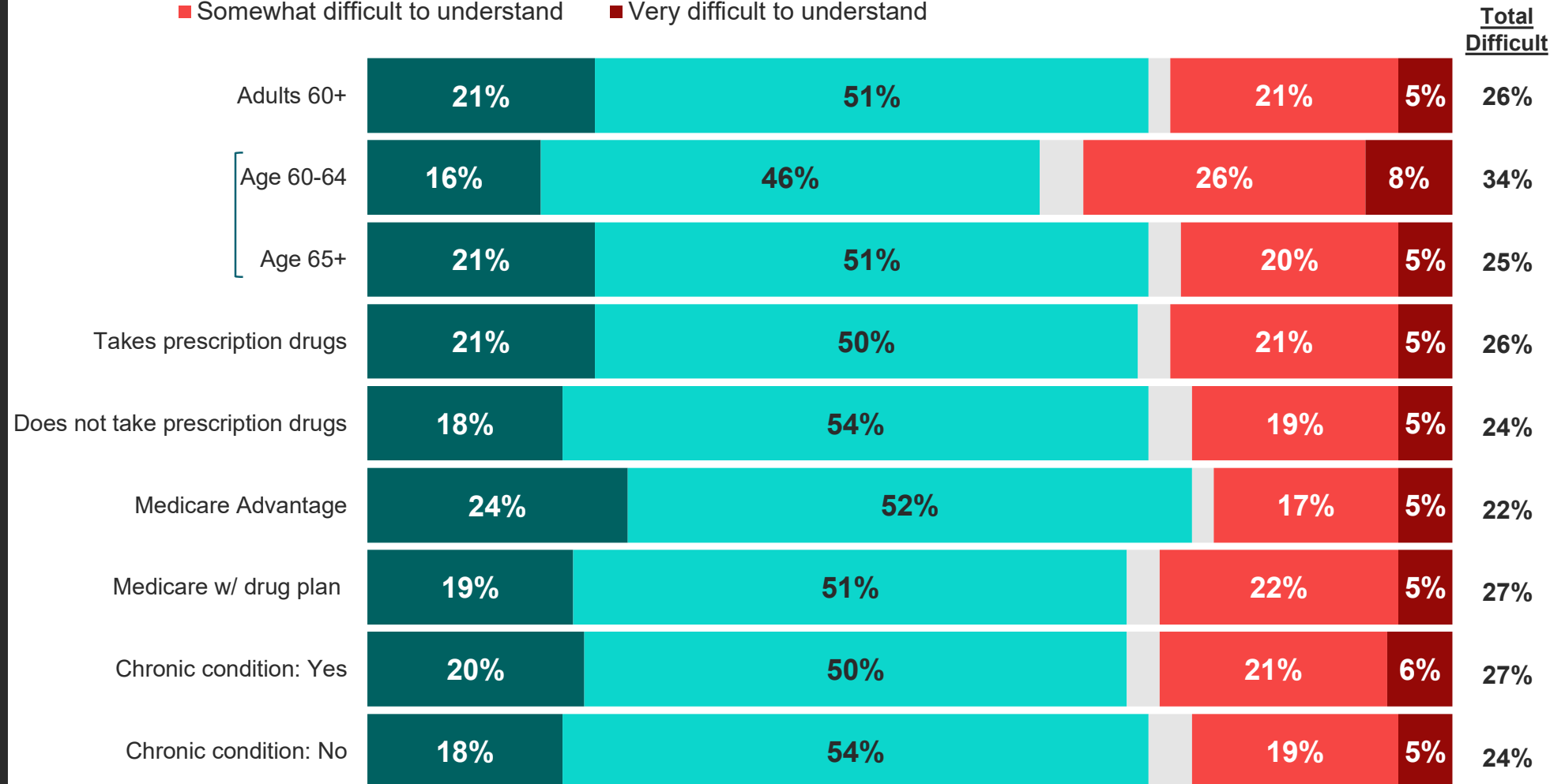


Sentiment Towards Health Care Information Resources

One in three adults 60-64 say it is difficult to understand the information available to them about their health insurance plan, compared to 25% of seniors 65+ on Medicare who say the same.

Thinking about the information available to you about your health insurance plan, is the information easy or difficult to understand?

■ Very easy to understand
 ■ Somewhat easy to understand
 ■ Don't know/No opinion
■ Somewhat difficult to understand
 ■ Very difficult to understand

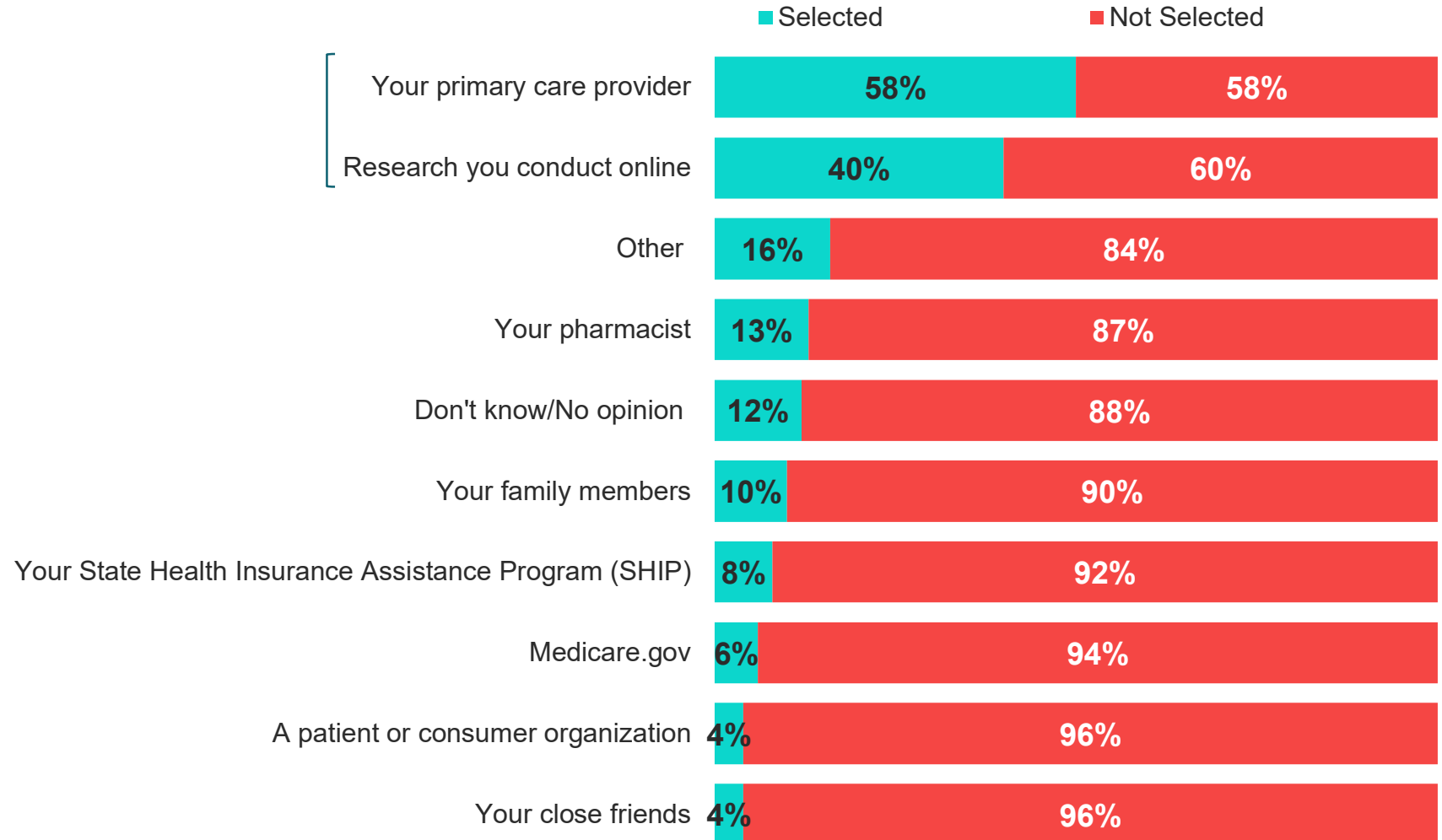


Sentiment Towards Health Care Information Resources

Sentiment Towards Health Care Information Resources

Of the tested resources, adults 60-64 are most likely to get information about their health insurance plan through their primary care provider or research they conduct online.

What resources do you use to get information about your health insurance plan? Check all that apply.

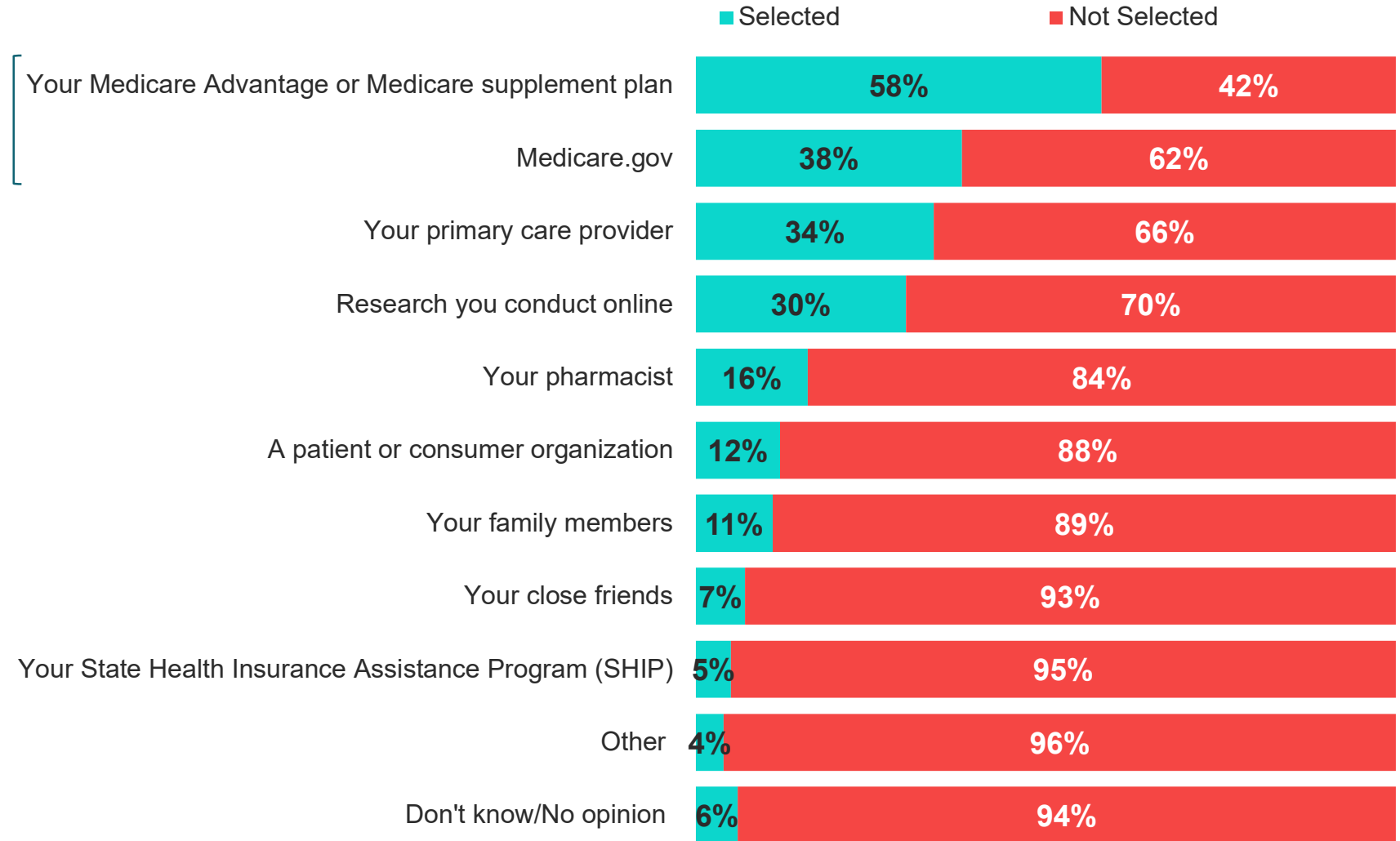


*Among adults 60-64 with health insurance

Sentiment Towards Health Care Information Resources

On the other hand, seniors 65+ on Medicare are most likely to get information about their plan from their Medicare Advantage or Medicare supplement plan or Medicare.gov.

What resources do you use to get information about your health insurance plan? Check all that apply.



*Among seniors 65+ on Medicare, n=2,003

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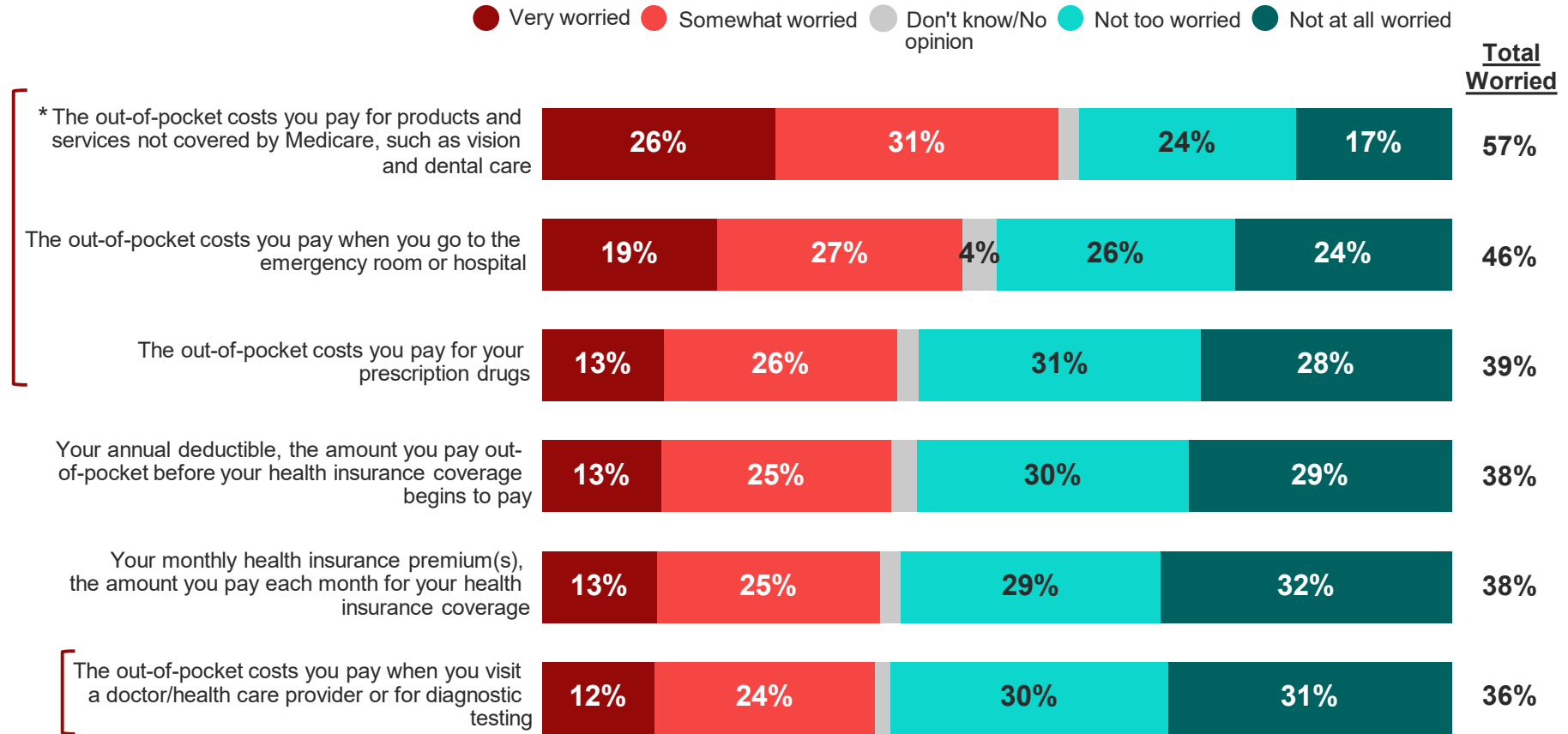


Respondent Profile

Ability to Pay for Health Care Costs

About two in five adults are worried about their ability to pay out-of-pocket costs associated with emergency or hospital visits (46%), prescription drugs (39%), and doctor visits (36%). And over half of seniors 65+ on Medicare (57%) are worried about their ability to pay the out-of-pocket costs for products and services not covered by Medicare.

Among the following types of health care costs, how worried are you in your and/or your household's ability to pay for the following health care costs?



*Option shown only to seniors 65+ on Medicare, n=2,003

Ability to Pay for Health Care Costs

Overall, adults 60-64 are more worried than seniors 65+ on Medicare in their ability to pay for the tested types of health care costs. And, seniors 65+ with prescription drug coverage through a standalone prescription drug plan are more worried than seniors with Medicare Advantage in their ability to pay the out-of-pocket costs they pay for prescription drugs.

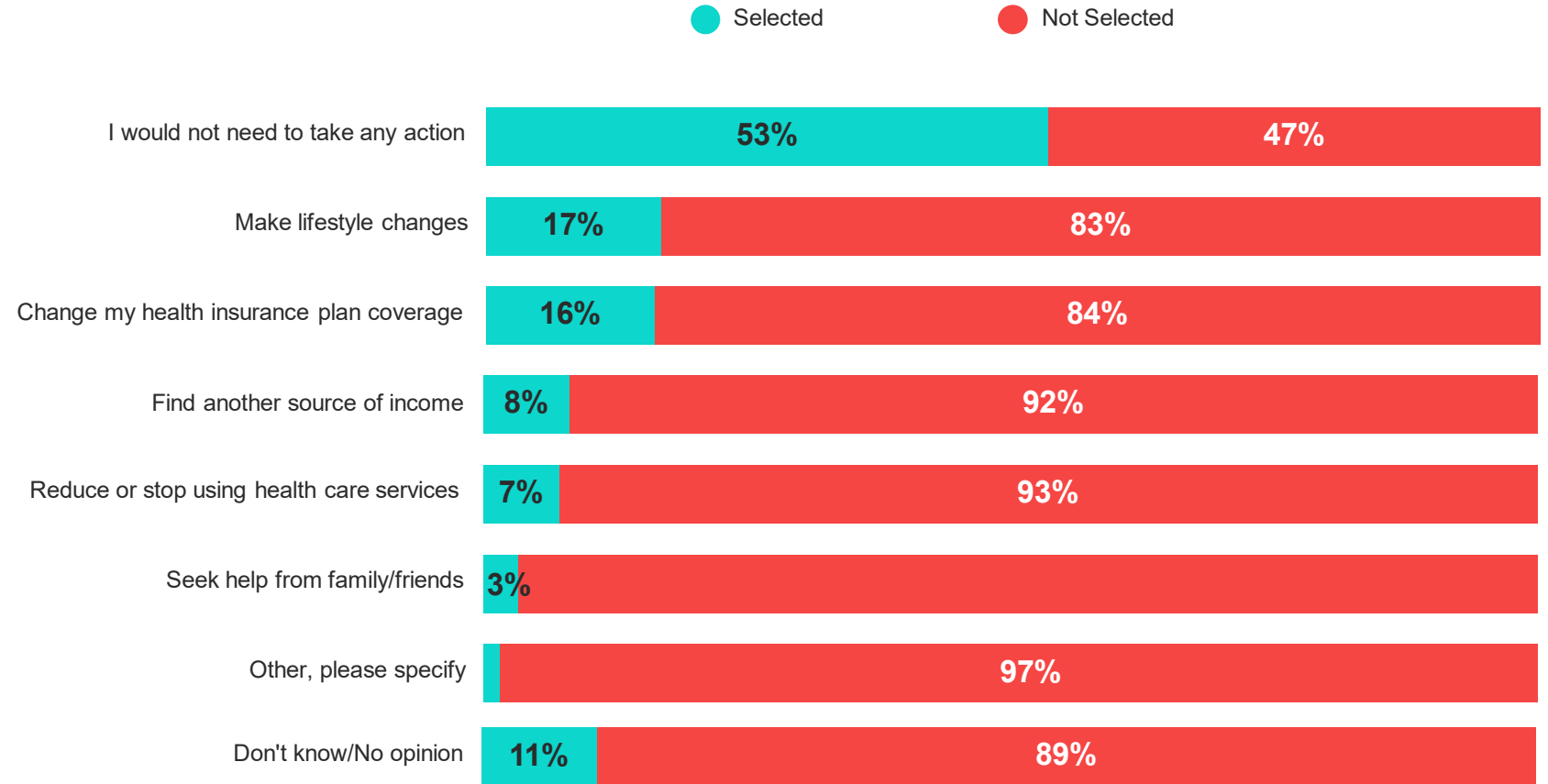
Among the following types of health care costs, how worried are you in your and/or your household's ability to pay for the following health care costs?

Total Worried in Paying Following Types of Health Care Costs Across Demographics									
	Adults 60+	Age 60-64	Age 65+	Currently takes prescr. drugs	Does not currently take prescr. drugs	Medicare Advantage	Trad. Medicare w/ drug plan	Chronic Cond.	No Chronic Cond.
*The out-of-pocket costs you pay for products and services not covered by Medicare, such as vision and dental care	57%	N/A	57%	57%	56%	53%	60%	58%	51%
The out-of-pocket costs you pay when you go to the emergency room or hospital	46%	57%	45%	46%	50%	51%	40%	46%	48%
The out-of-pocket costs you pay for your prescription drugs	39%	43%	38%	40%	37%	36%	41%	40%	36%
Your annual deductible, the amount you pay out-of-pocket before your health insurance coverage begins to pay	38%	50%	37%	38%	43%	37%	36%	38%	40%
Your monthly health insurance premium(s), the amount you pay each month for your health insurance coverage	38%	48%	36%	37%	38%	26%	46%	36%	38%
The out-of-pocket costs you pay when you visit a doctor/health care provider or for diagnostic testing	36%	50%	35%	35%	44%	36%	34%	36%	39%

*Asked only among seniors 65+, n=2,003

Over half of adults (53%) would not need to take any action if their monthly health care premium for prescription drug coverage increased between \$4 and \$8.

If your monthly health care premium for prescription drug coverage increased between \$4 and \$8, which of the following actions, if any, would you need to take to afford the increase? Please select all that apply.



Ability to Pay for Health Care Costs

Seniors 65+ on Medicare are more likely than adults 60-64 to say they would change their health insurance plan coverage in order to afford an increase in their health care premium (17% vs. 8%).

If your monthly health care premium for prescription drug coverage increased between \$4 and \$8, which of the following actions, if any, would you need to take to afford the increase? Please select all that apply.

Actions Taken in Order to Afford \$4-\$8 Increase in Health Care Premium Across Demographics

	Adults 60+	Age 60-64	Age 65+	Takes prescr. drugs	Does not take prescr. drugs	Medicare Advantage	Trad. Medicare w/ drug plan	Chronic Cond.	No Chronic Cond.
I would not need to take any action	53%	55%	53%	54%	51%	56%	52%	54%	53%
Make lifestyle changes	17%	17%	17%	17%	14%	16%	17%	17%	14%
Change my health insurance plan coverage	16%	8%	17%	16%	14%	17%	18%	16%	17%
Find another source of income	8%	10%	8%	8%	9%	8%	8%	8%	8%
Reduce or stop using health care services	7%	8%	7%	7%	10%	7%	6%	7%	7%
Seek help from family/friends	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	4%	2%	3%	3%

Ability to Pay for Health Care Costs

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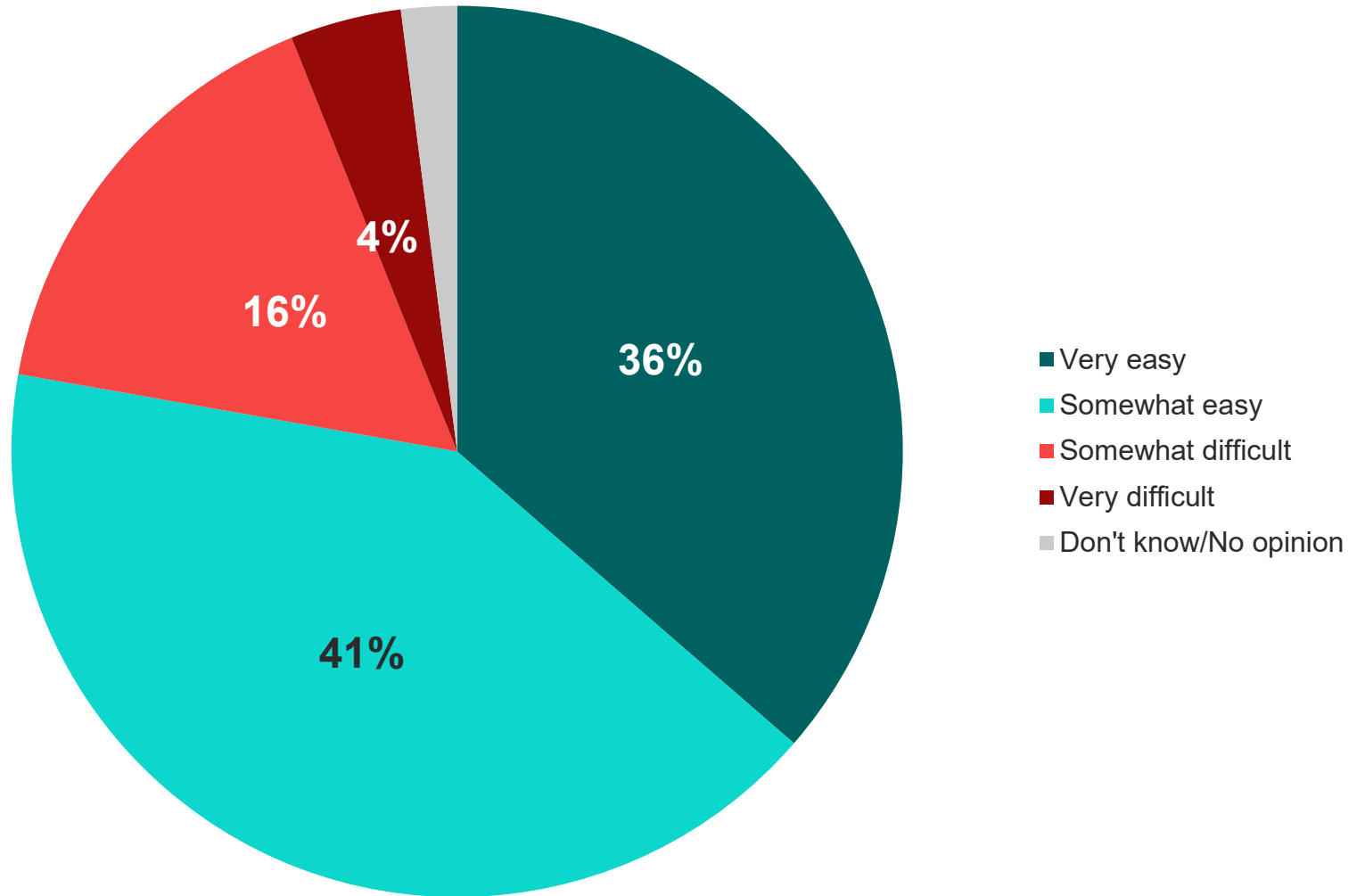


6 Respondent Profile

Ability to Pay for Prescription Drugs

One in five adults (20%) currently taking prescription drugs say it is difficult to pay for their prescription drugs every month.

How easy or difficult is it for you to pay for your prescription drugs every month?

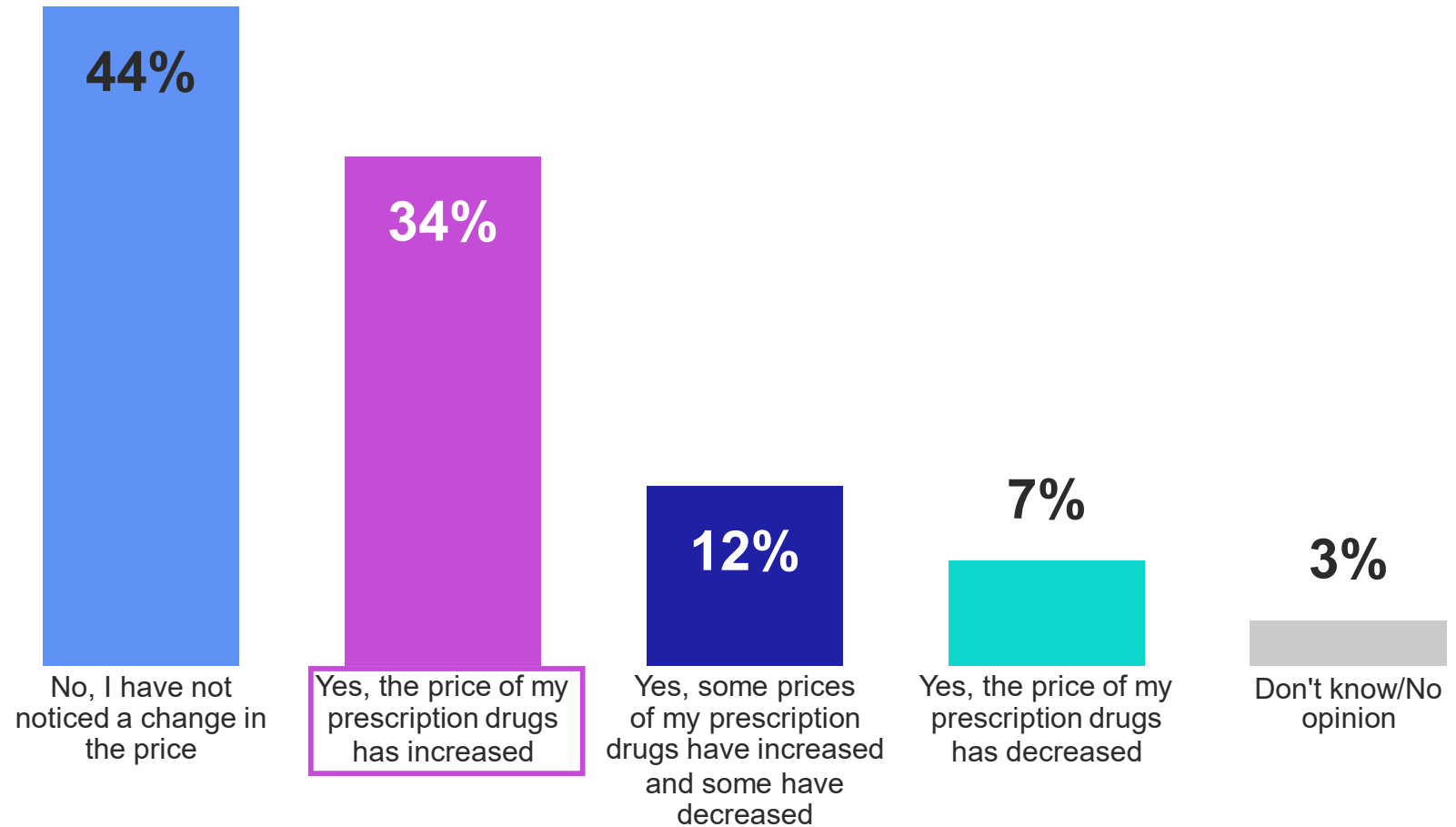


Asked among those currently taking prescription drugs, n=1,912

Ability to Pay for Prescription Drugs

One in three adults currently taking prescription drugs (34%) have noticed an increase in the price of their prescription drugs in the past year.

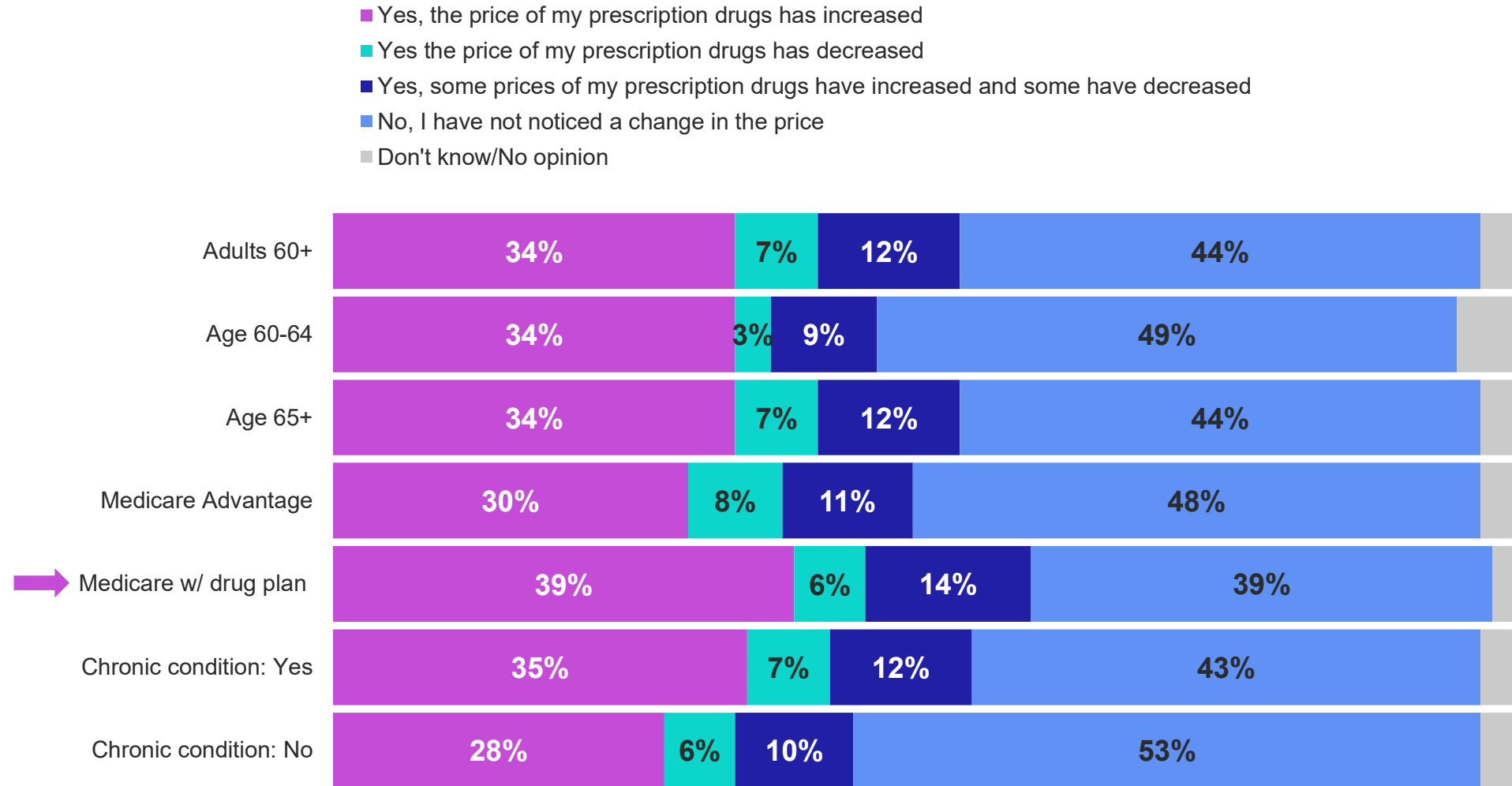
Generally, have you noticed a change in the price you pay for one or more of the prescription drugs over the past year?



Ability to Pay for Prescription Drugs

And, seniors 65+ on Medicare with a standalone prescription drug plan are more likely than seniors with Medicare Advantage to say the price of their prescription drugs have increased in the past year.

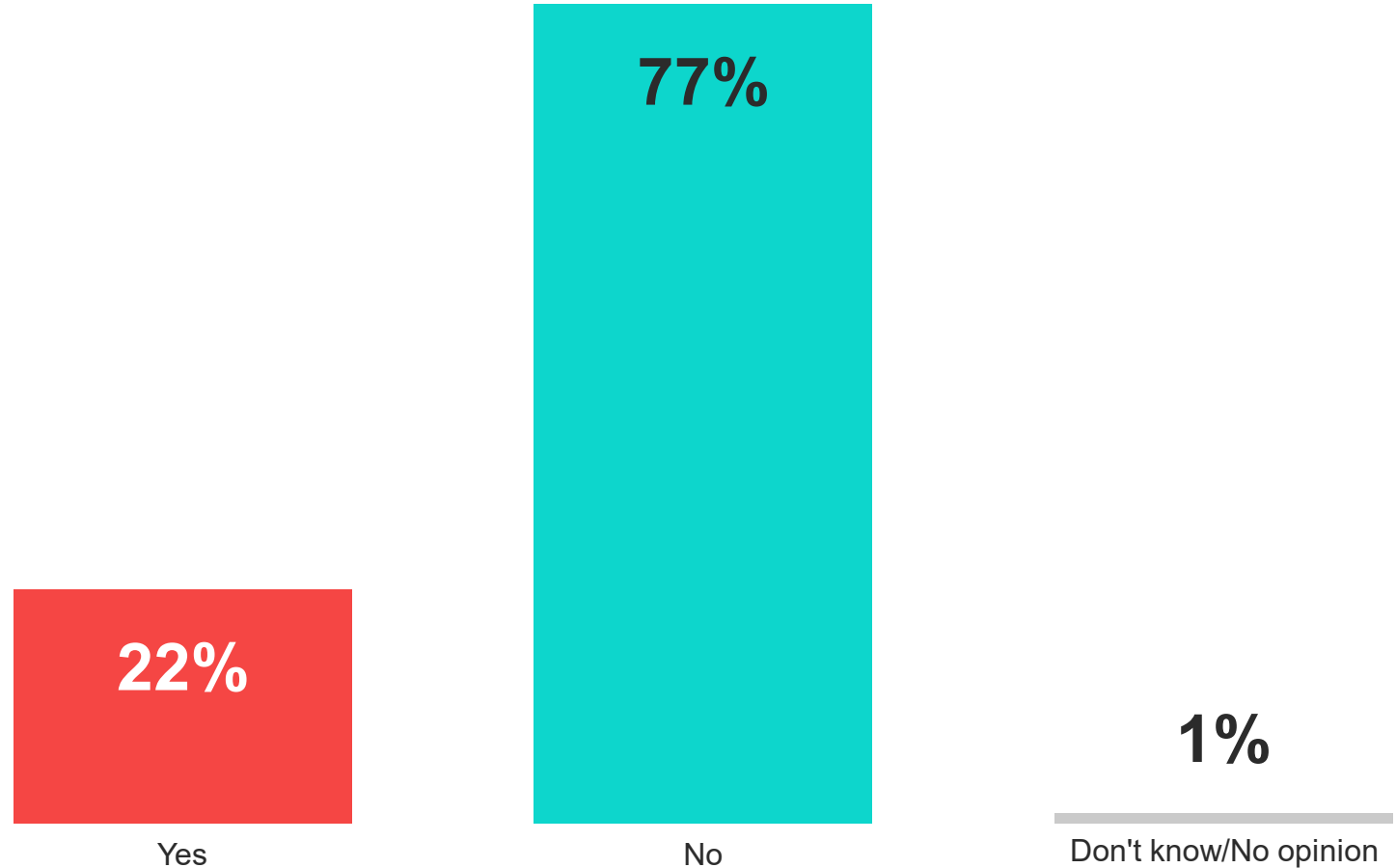
Generally, have you noticed a change in the price you pay for one or more of the prescription drugs over the past year?



Asked among those currently taking prescription drugs, n=1,912

One in five adults have stopped taking a prescription medication because of the cost of the medication.

Have you ever stopped taking a prescription medication as prescribed because of the cost? This includes stopping the prescription entirely, taking it less than prescribed, only filling the prescription some months, etc.

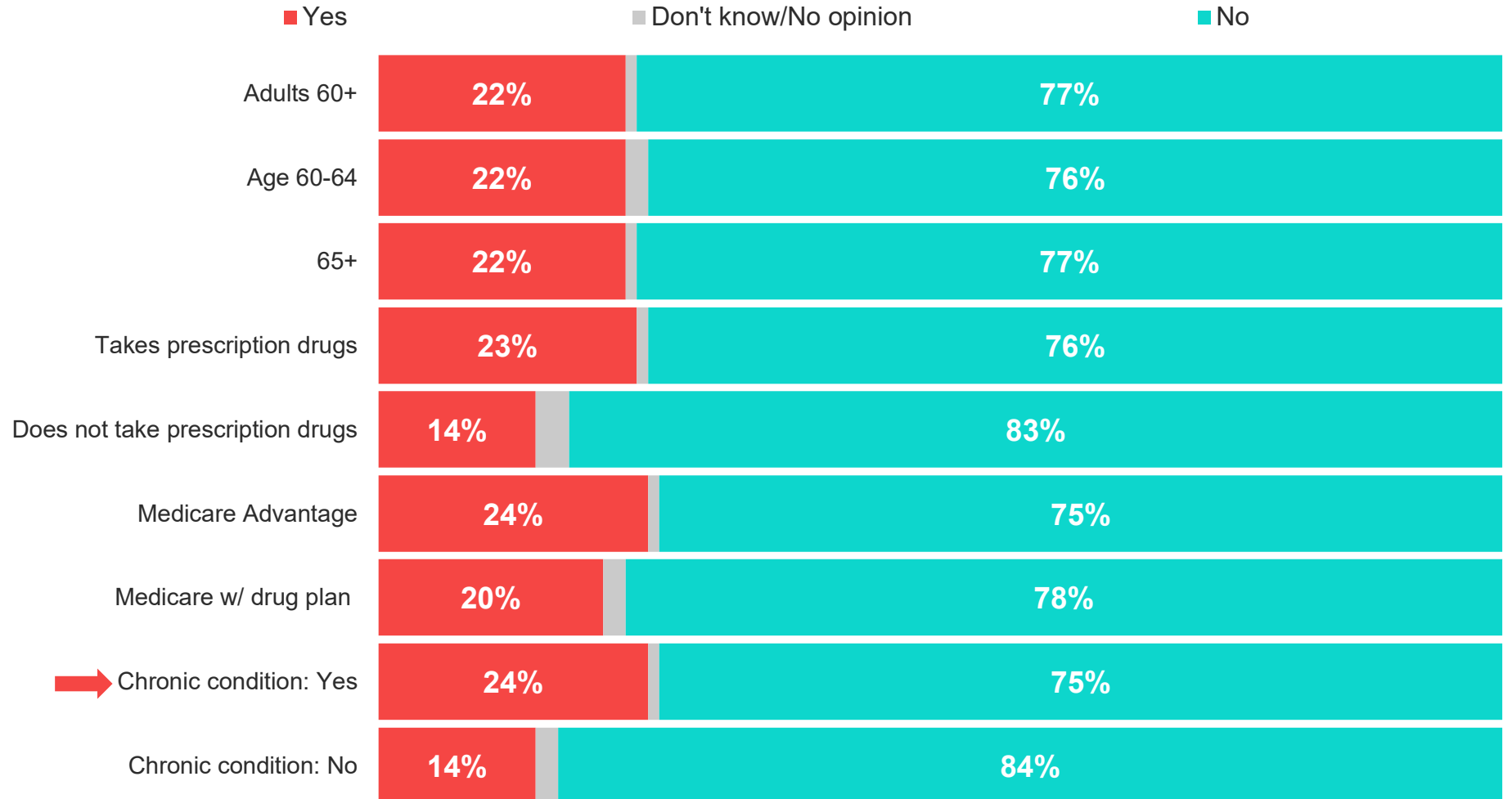


Ability to Pay for Prescription Drugs

Ability to Pay for Prescription Drugs

And, one in four adults with a chronic condition (24%) report they have stopped taking a prescription medication because of the cost.

Have you ever stopped taking a prescription medication as prescribed because of the cost? This includes stopping the prescription entirely, taking it less than prescribed, only filling the prescription some months, etc.



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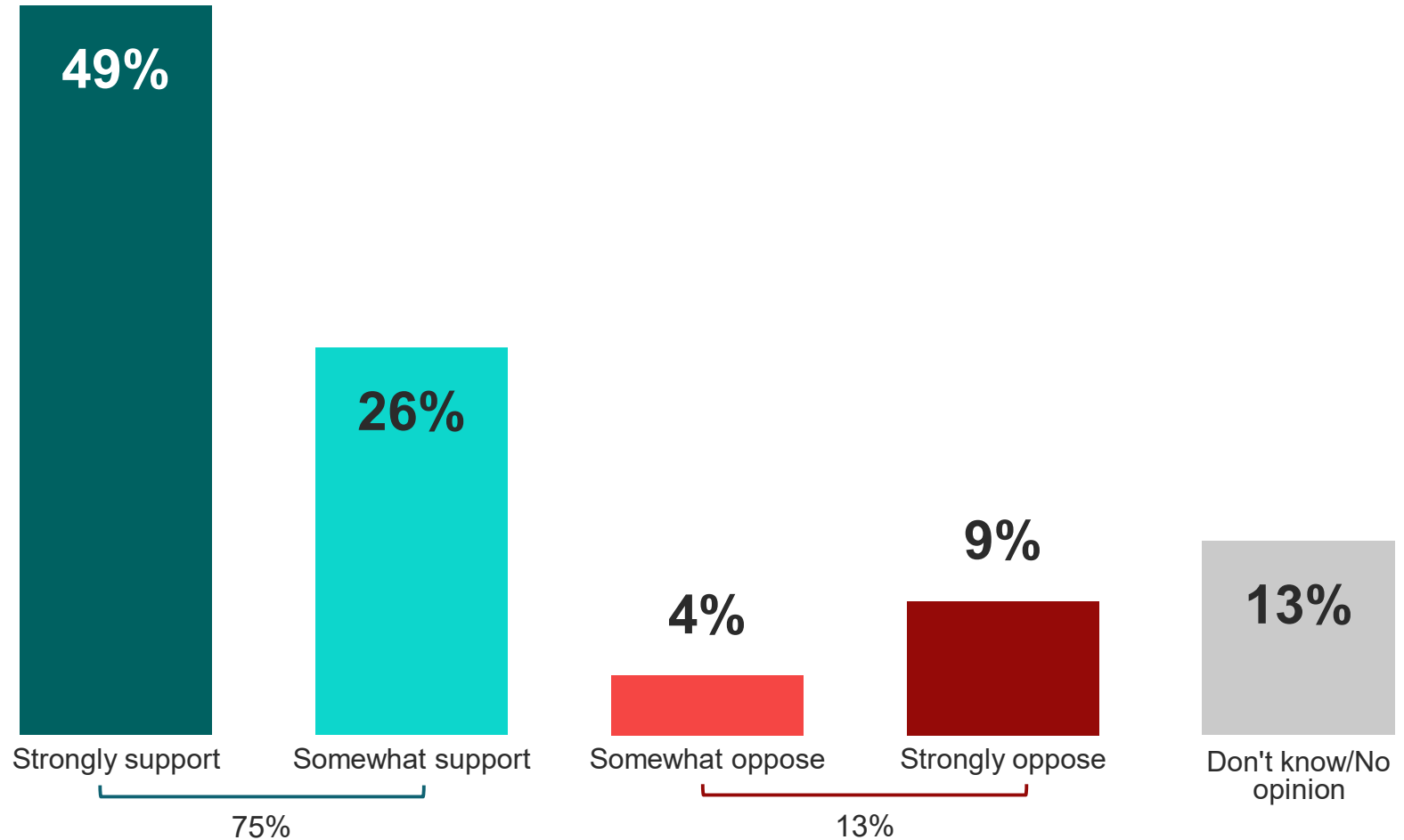


Respondent Profile

A majority of adults (75%) support legislation that places a cap or limit on what seniors pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D program, including 49% who express strong support.

Currently there is no cap or limit on what a Medicare beneficiary pays out-of-pocket each year for prescription drugs under Medicare Part D. Congress is considering legislation that would cap or limit what seniors on Medicare Part D spend on prescription drugs. Do you support or oppose legislation that places a cap or limit on what seniors pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D program?

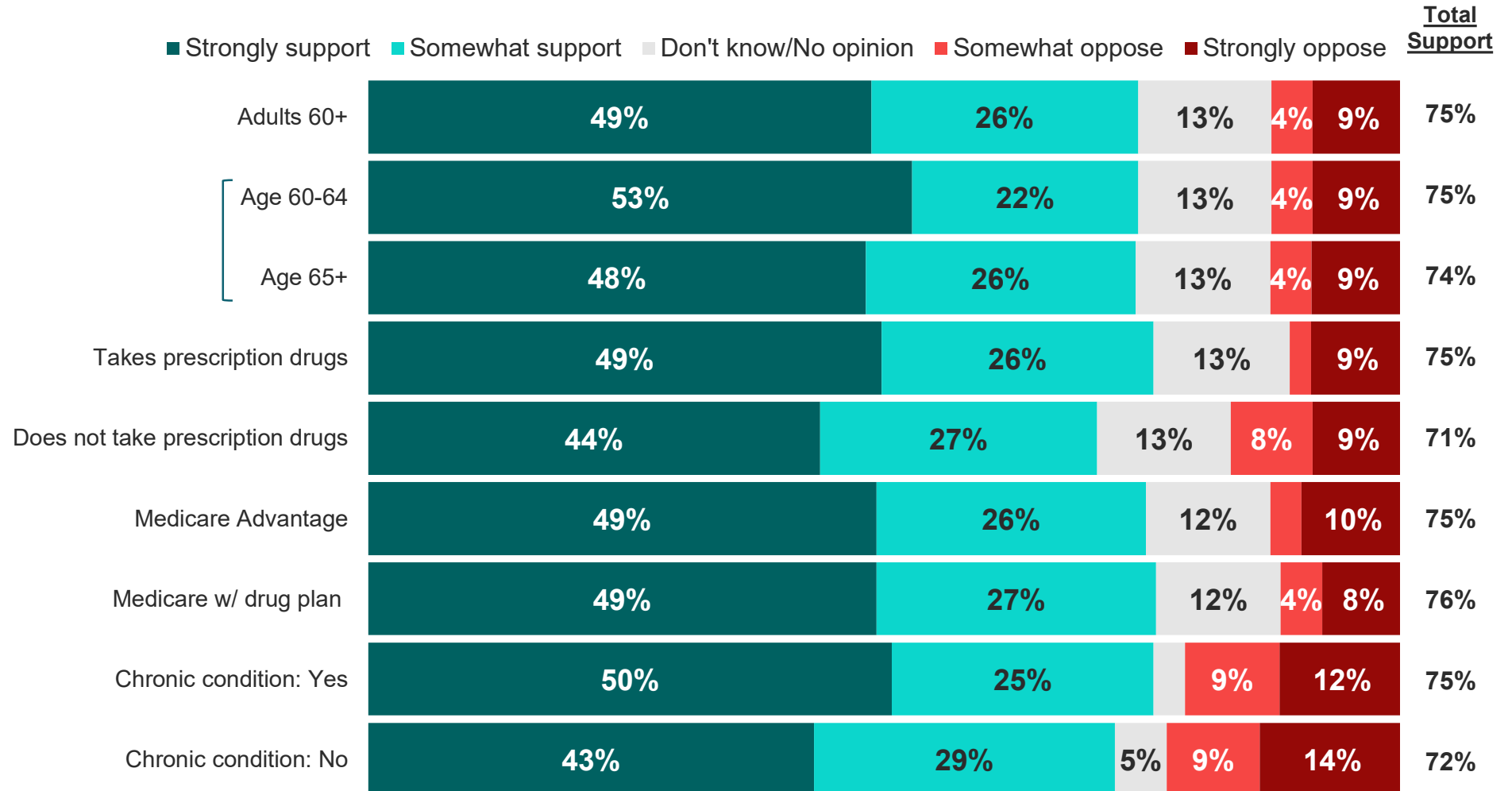
Support for Medicare Part D Cap Legislation



Adults 60-64 are as likely as seniors 65+ on Medicare to support legislation that places a cap on what seniors pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D program.

Currently there is no cap or limit on what a Medicare beneficiary pays out-of-pocket each year for prescription drugs under Medicare Part D. Congress is considering legislation that would cap or limit what seniors on Medicare Part D spend on prescription drugs. Do you support or oppose legislation that places a cap or limit on what seniors pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D program?

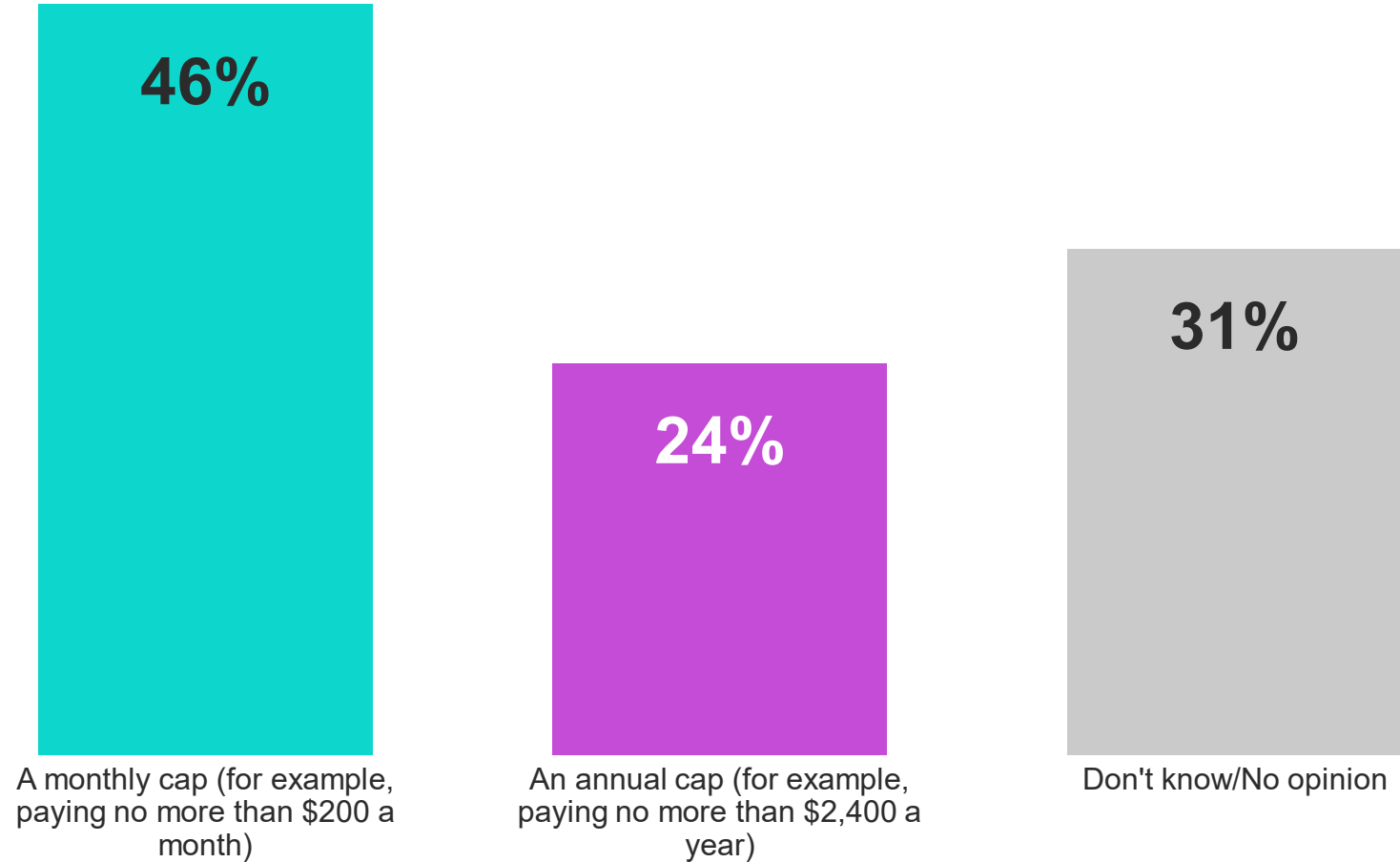
Support for Medicare Part D Cap Legislation



Support for Medicare Part D Cap Legislation

When asked to choose between an annual or monthly cap, a plurality of adults (46%) would prefer a monthly cap on out-of-pocket costs.

Under the proposed legislation to cap or limit what seniors on Medicare Part D for prescription drugs, there are two different types of caps or limits that are being considered: An annual cap meaning, for example, once you spend \$2,400 in a given year you will not pay for any out-of-pocket costs above that amount in the year. Or a monthly cap meaning, for example, once you spend \$200 in a given month you will not pay for any out-of-pocket costs above that amount in the month. If the Medicare Part D prescription drug spending cap or limit was implemented, which would you prefer the most?



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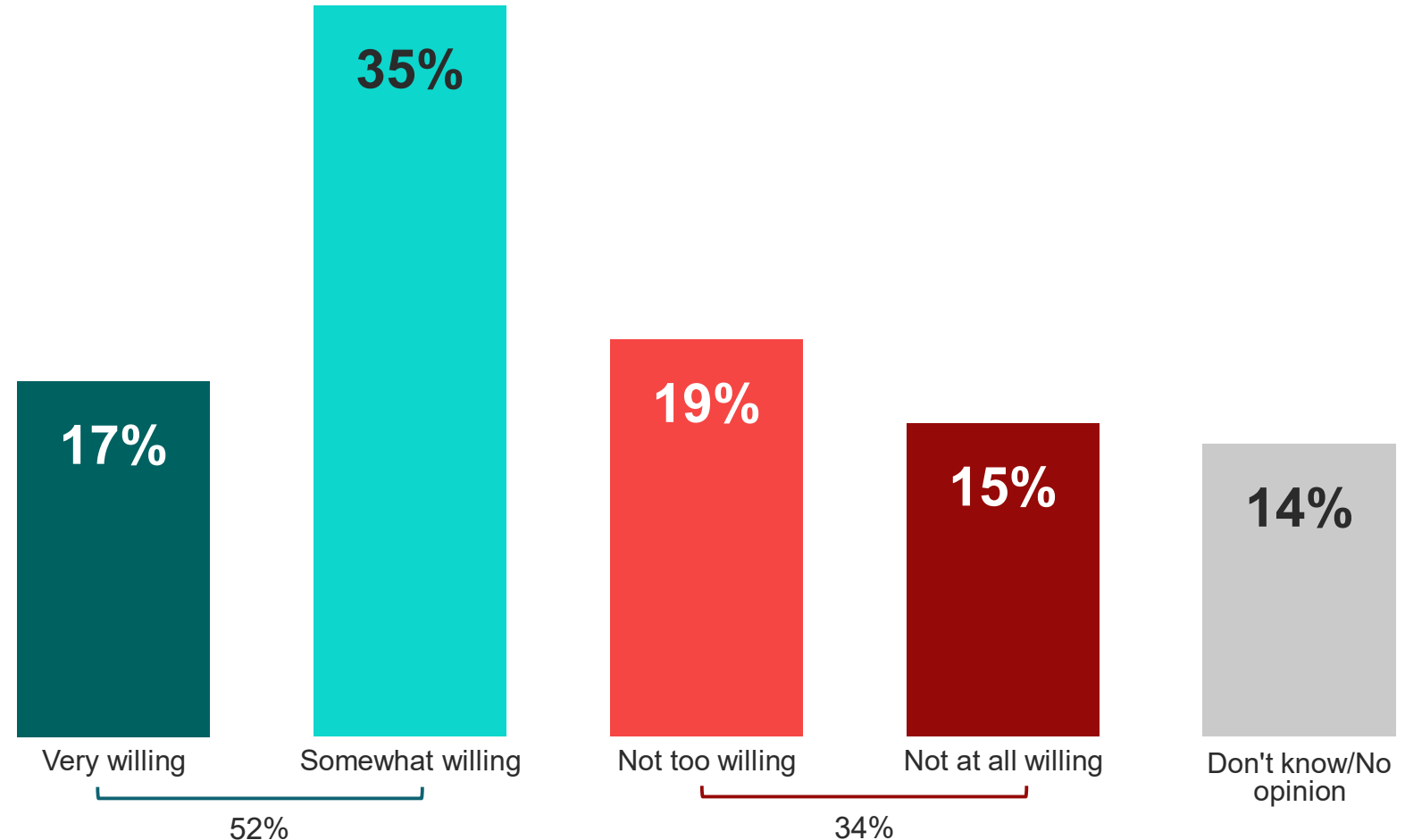


Respondent Profile

Half of seniors 65+ (52%) on Medicare are willing to pay a few extra dollars a month in Medicare premiums to have a cap or limit placed on out-of-pocket prescription drug costs.

How willing would you be, if at all, to pay a few extra dollars a month, about \$4 to \$8 more per month, in Medicare premiums in order to have a cap or limit on what you and other seniors pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs?

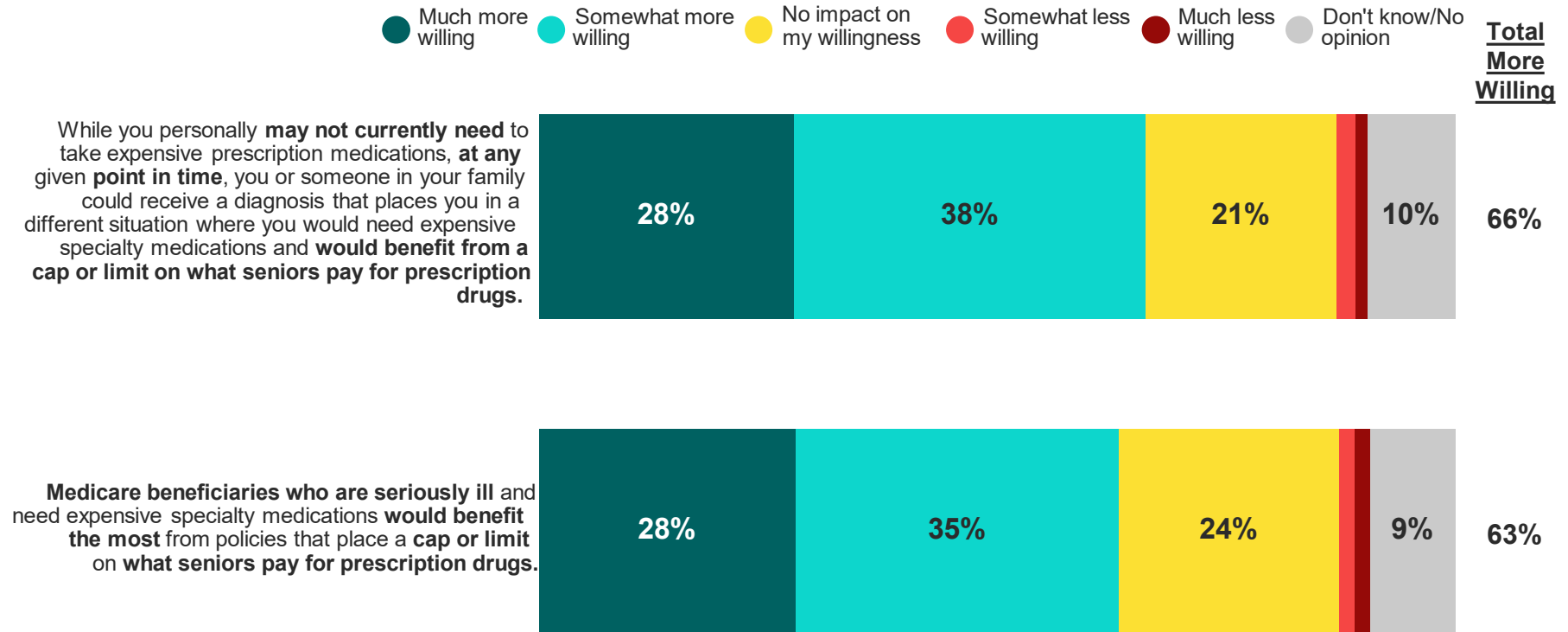
Willingness to Pay More in Medicare Premiums



Willingness to Pay More in Medicare Premiums

The tested statements positively influence the willingness of seniors 65+ on Medicare to pay more in Medicare premiums to have a cap or limit placed on what they pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs.

Below are statements some have made about the impact of passing legislation to cap or limit what seniors pay for prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D program. Do the following statements make you more or less willing to pay more in Medicare premiums in order to have a cap or limit placed on what you and other seniors pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs?



Willingness to Pay More in Medicare Premiums

Seniors 65+ on Medicare currently taking prescription drugs are more likely than those not currently taking prescription drugs to be more willing to pay more in Medicare premiums to have a cap or limit placed on what they pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs.

Below are statements some have made about the impact of passing legislation to cap or limit what seniors pay for prescription drugs in the Medicare Part D program. Do the following statements make you more or less willing to pay more in Medicare premiums in order to have a cap or limit placed on what you and other seniors pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs?

Total 'More Willing' to Pay more in Medicare Premiums to Have Cap Implemented Across Demographics							
	Adults 65+	Takes prescr. drugs	Does not take prescr. drugs	Medicare Advantage	Trad. Medicare w/ drug plan	Chronic Cond.	No Chronic Cond.
While you personally may not currently need to take expensive prescription medications, at any given point in time, you or someone in your family could receive a diagnosis that places you in a different situation where you would need expensive specialty medications and would benefit from a cap or limit on what seniors pay for prescription drugs.	66%	67%	59%	69%	65%	68%	58%
Medicare beneficiaries who are seriously ill and need expensive specialty medications would benefit the most from policies that place a cap or limit on what seniors pay for prescription drugs.	63%	64%	59%	63%	64%	65%	59%

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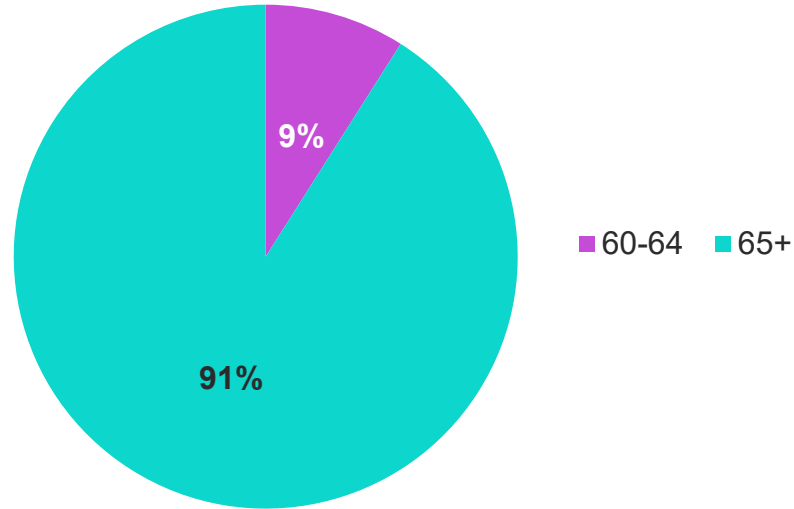
**Willingness to Pay More in
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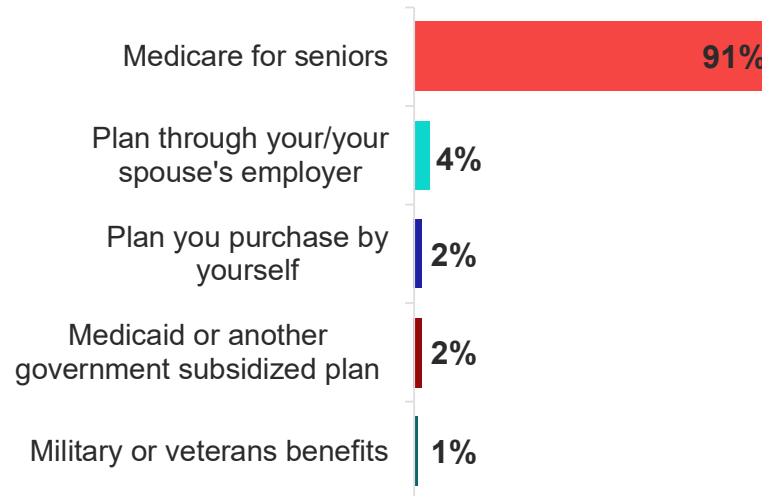
Respondent Profile

Respondent Profile

Age

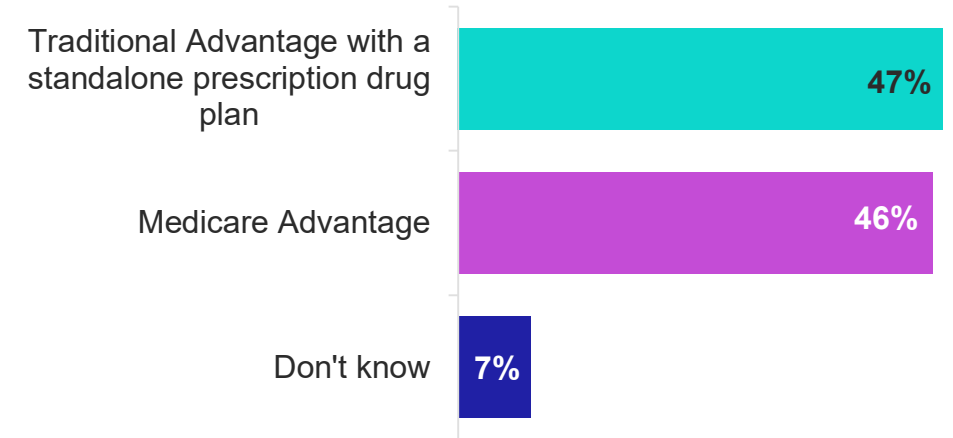


Type of Health Insurance Coverage*



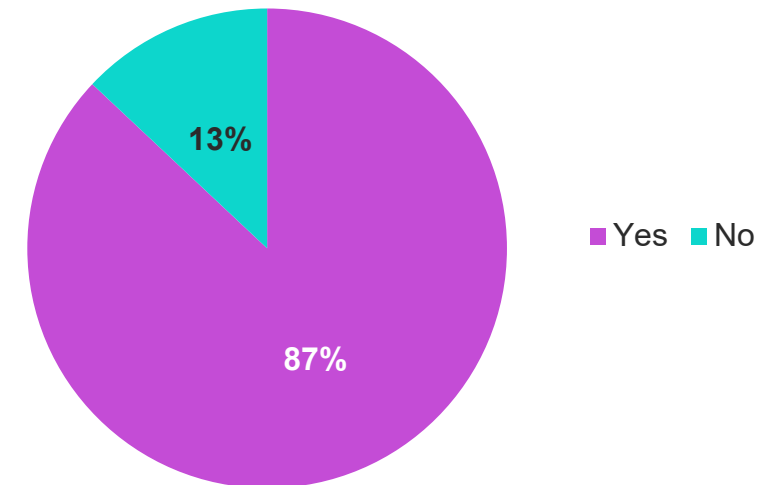
*Seniors 65+ had to have health insurance through Medicare, while adults 60-64 had a different type of insurance coverage.

Type of Prescription Drug Coverage*



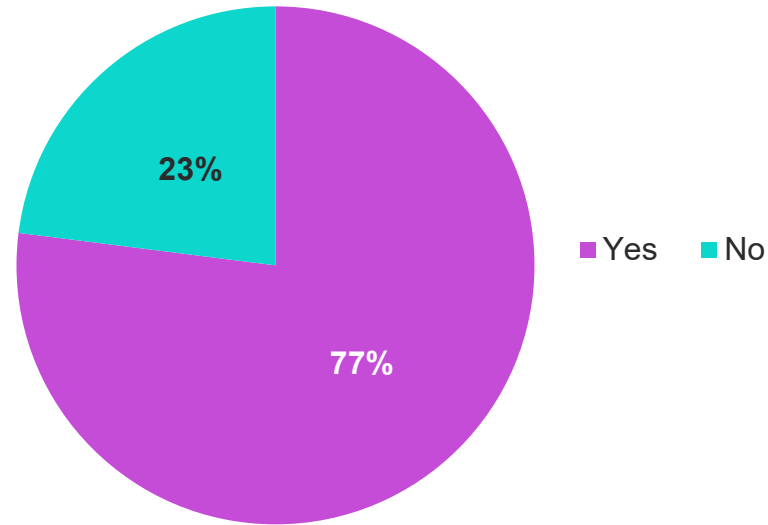
*Asked among seniors 65+ on Medicare, n=2,003

Currently Taking Prescription Drugs



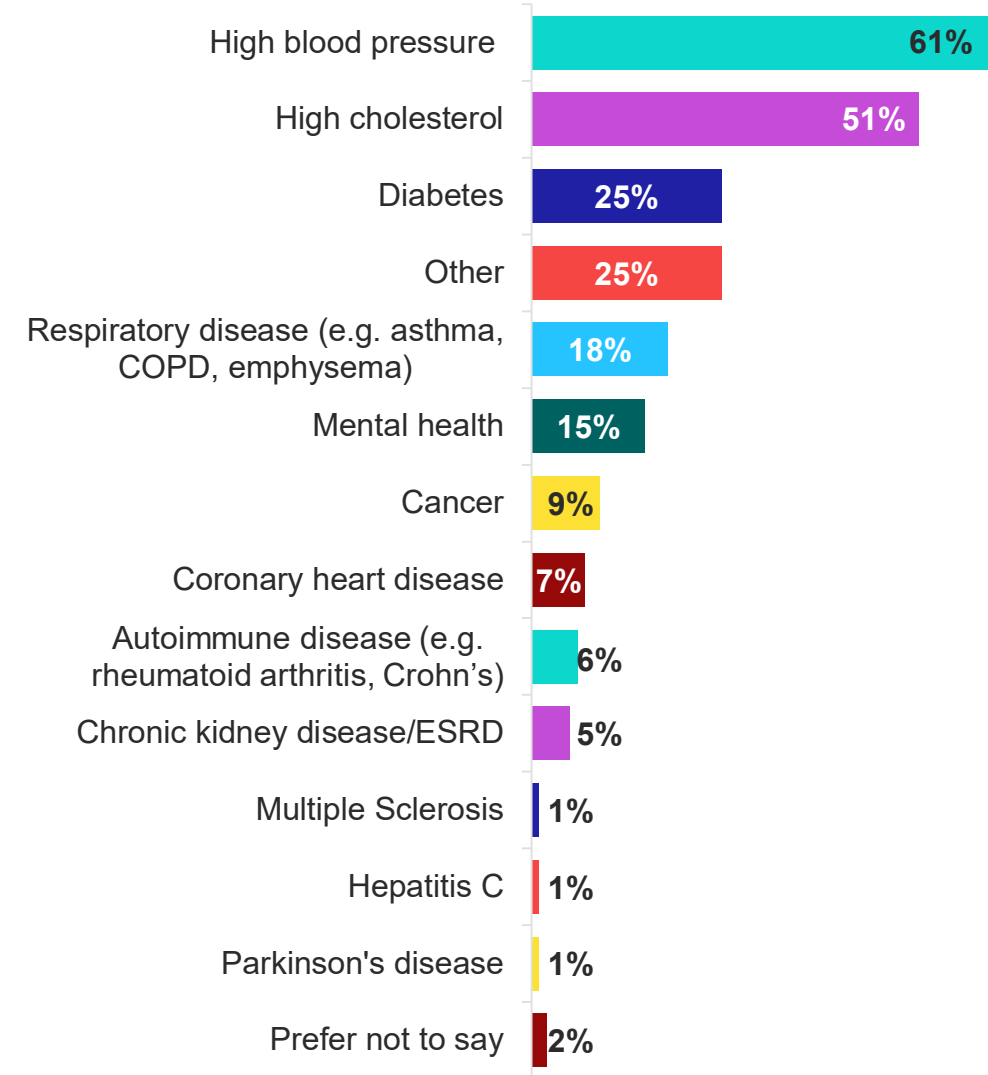
Respondent Profile

Diagnosed with Chronic Condition*



*Quota was set to collect 1,702 responses of adults with a chronic condition

Type of Chronic Condition*



*Asked among adults with a chronic condition, n=1,702

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