



# Youth with disabilities Covid-19 online survey

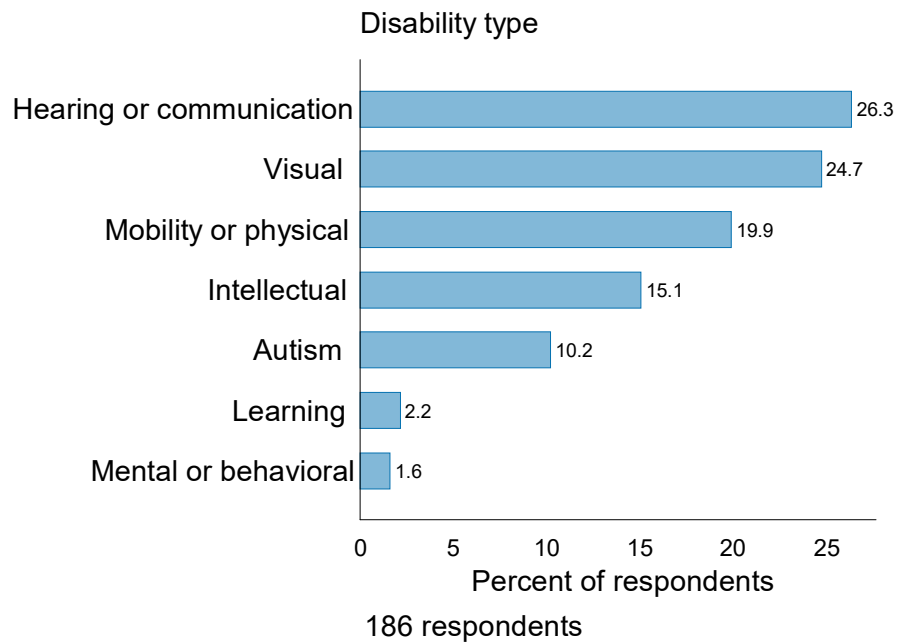
6.8.2020

## Survey population and method

- Data were collected from 12 June – 24 July 2020.
- Eligible respondents included youth with disabilities aged 15-30 years living in Thailand.
- The survey was administered online through Google Forms.
- The online questionnaire was shared through the members of the Children and Youth Council of Thailand and the networks of UNFPA, Ratchasuda College and the Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University. This included sharing the survey via Facebook pages, community leaders and volunteers.
- The survey generated a convenience sample of 186 respondents.

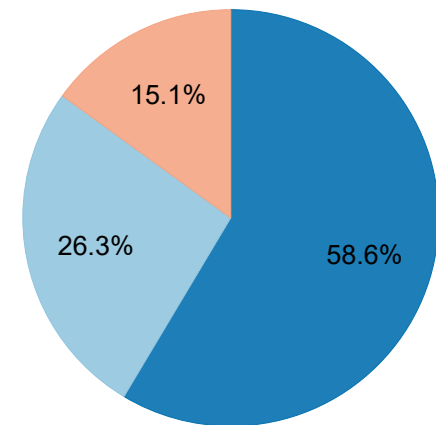
## **Background information**

# Disability type and help during survey



Who filled in the questionnaire?

■ Myself  
■ Helper  
■ No answer

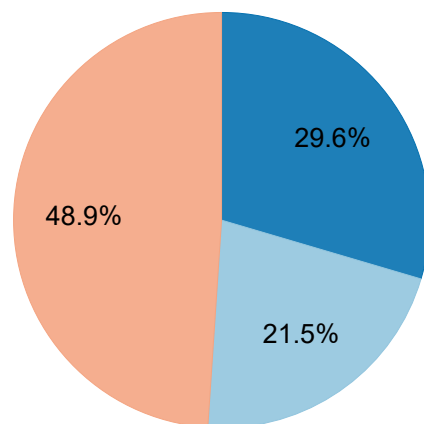


186 respondents

# Age group and biological sex

Age group

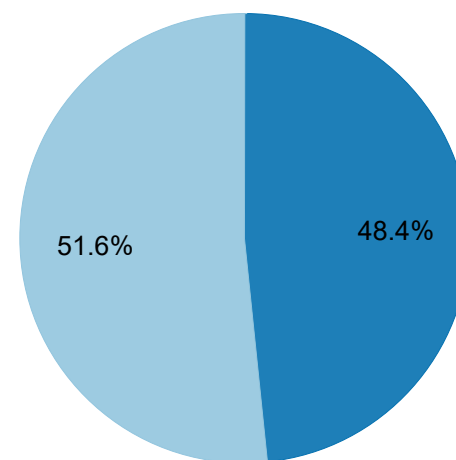
15 to 19 20 to 24  
25 to 30



186 respondents

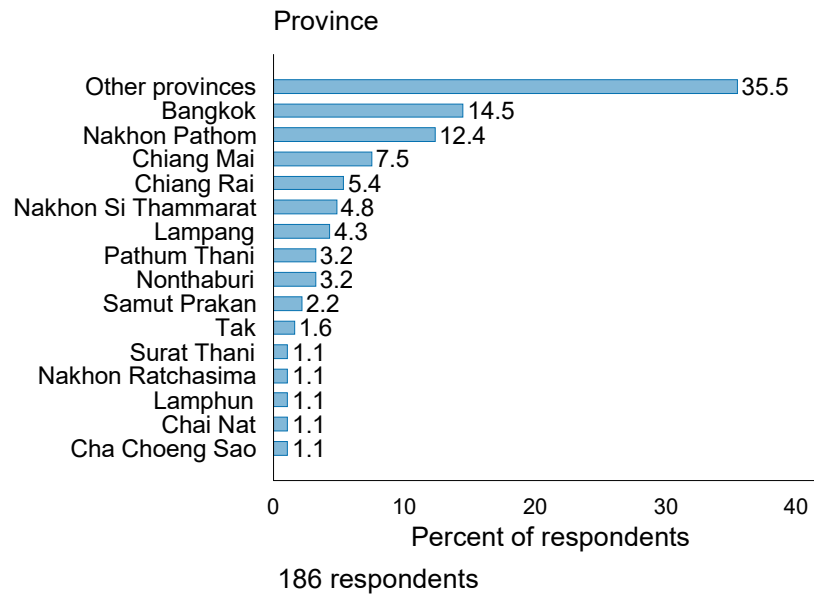
Sex

Male Female



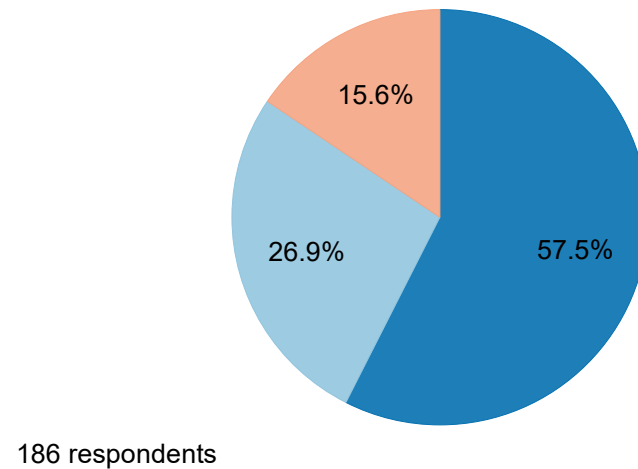
186 respondents

# Province and area of residence

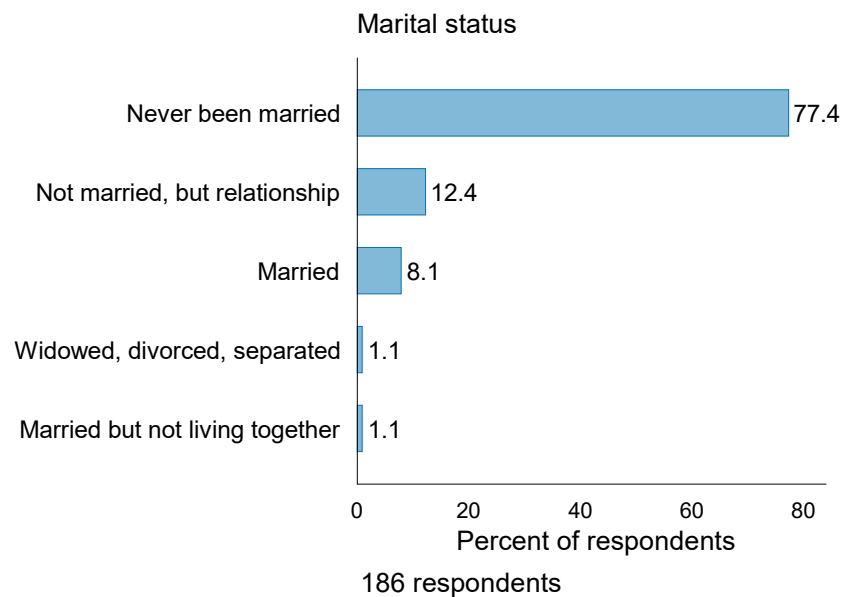


Area of residence

Urban Rural  
No answer

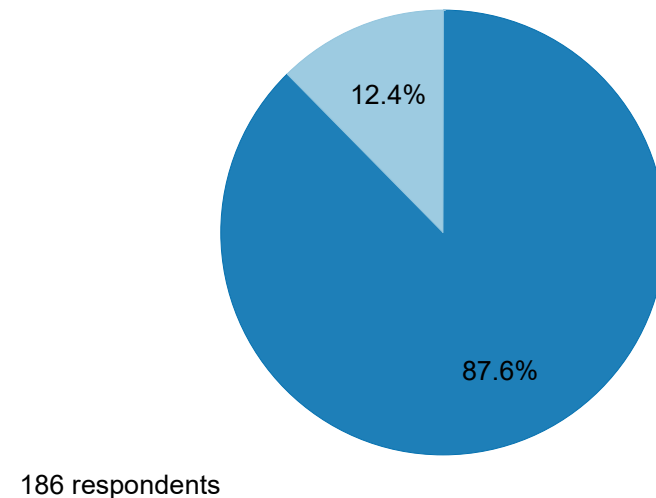


# Majority of disabled youth were singles and had never been married. 12% had children.

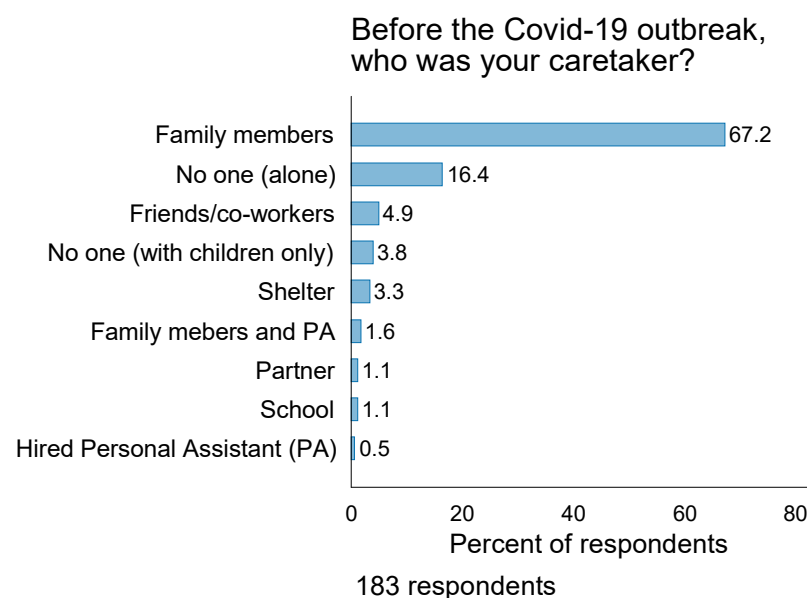
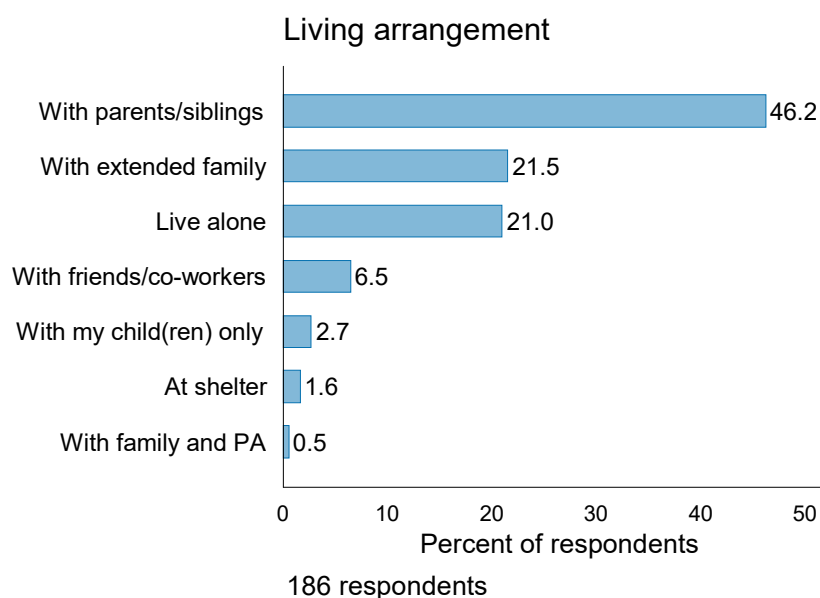


Do you have children?

■ No ■ Yes



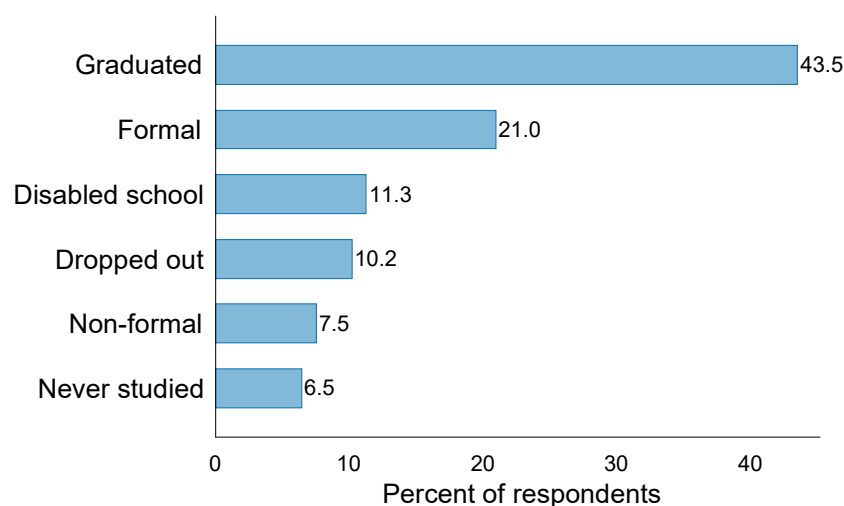
**68% of disabled youth lived with family and 21% alone. Majority had family members as care takers.**





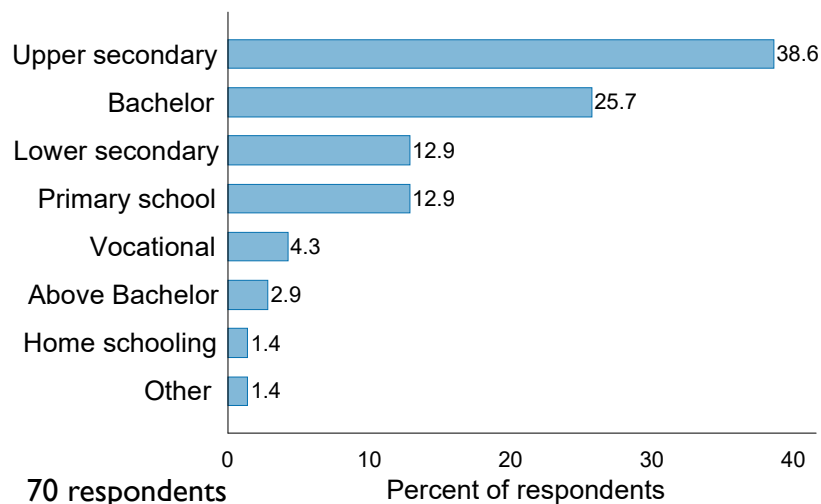
# Majority of respondents had Bachelor degree. Among those still studying, about half were in non-formal/special education.

Are you currently studying?



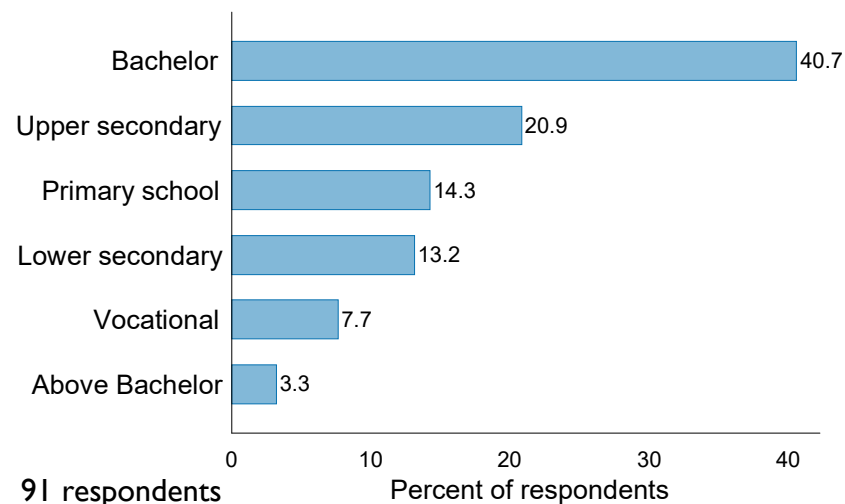
186 respondents

Current level of study



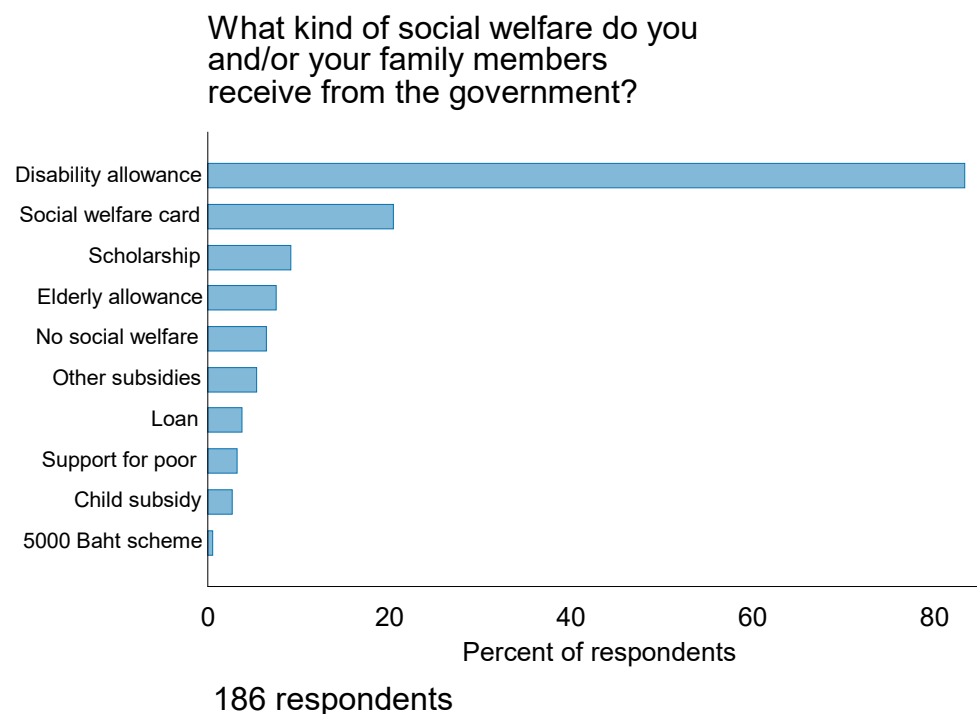
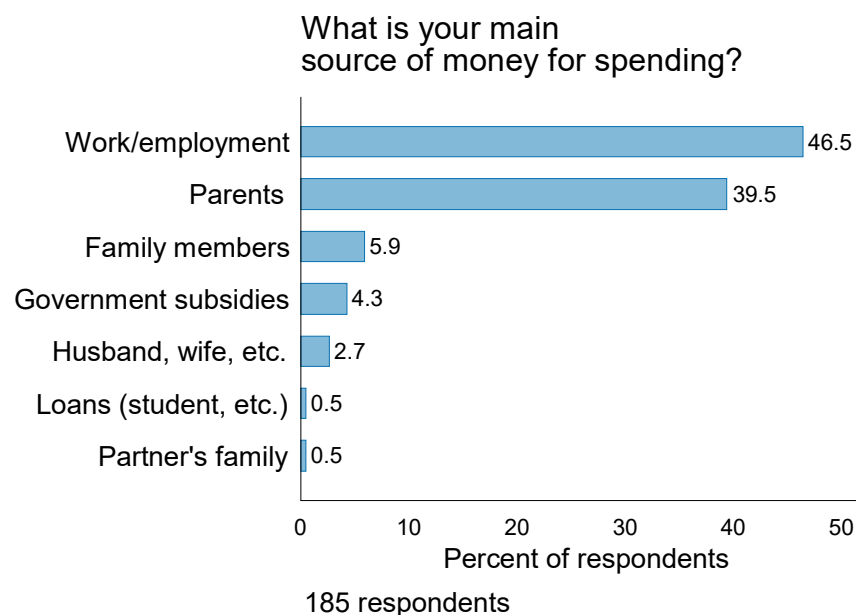
70 respondents

Highest level of study

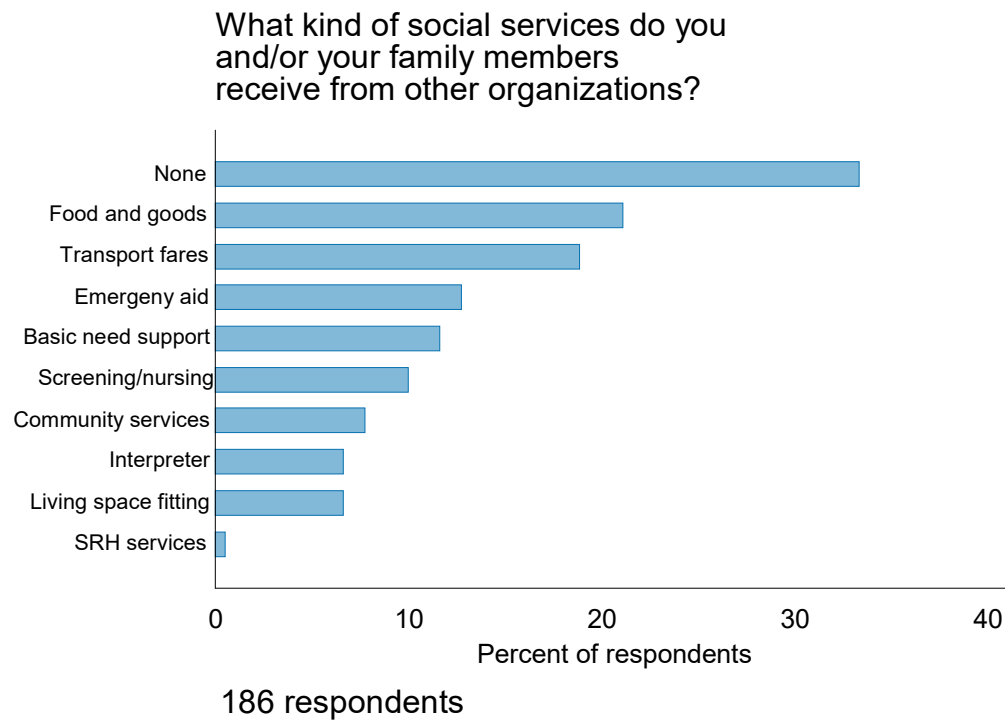


91 respondents

## Majority of disabled youth relied on employment or parents for money. 83% received disability allowance.

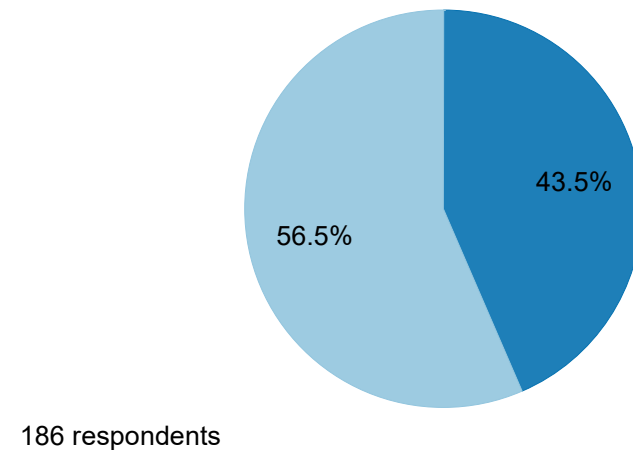


## A minor share received social services from other organizations. More than half used DSC services.

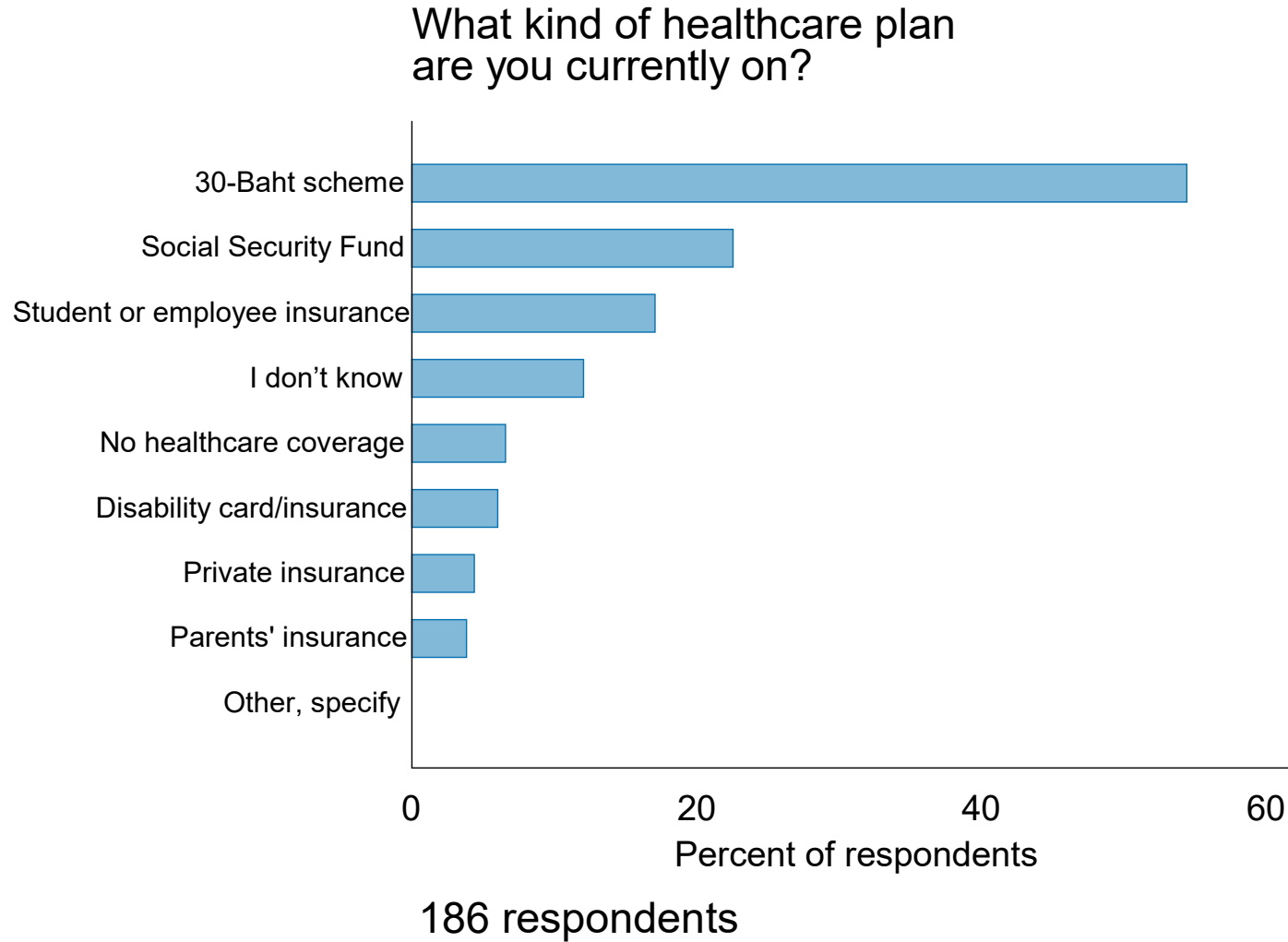


Before the COVID-19 outbreak, did you access any service of the Disability Service Center (DSC)?

■ No ■ Yes



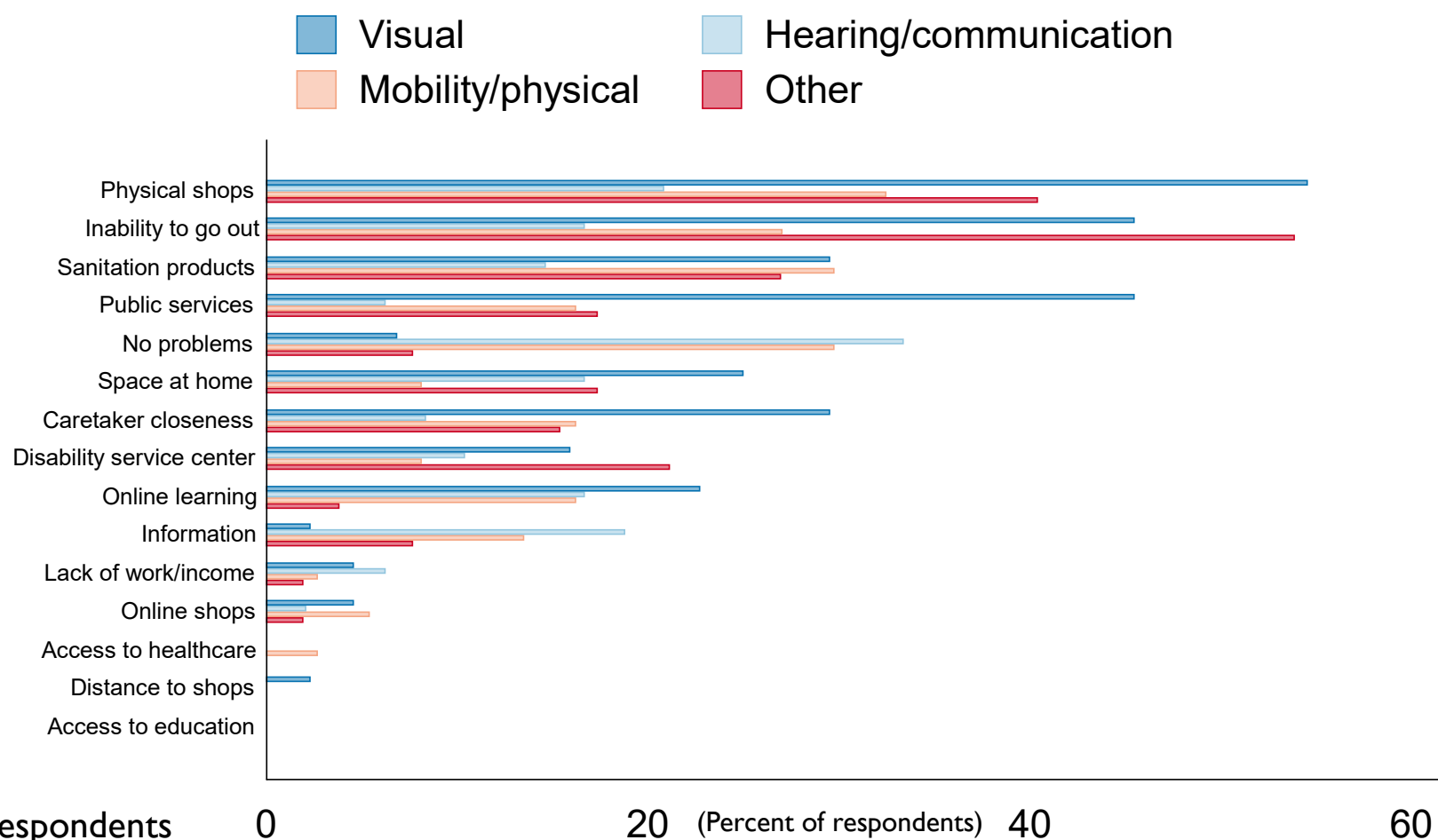
# Large majority had health insurance coverage



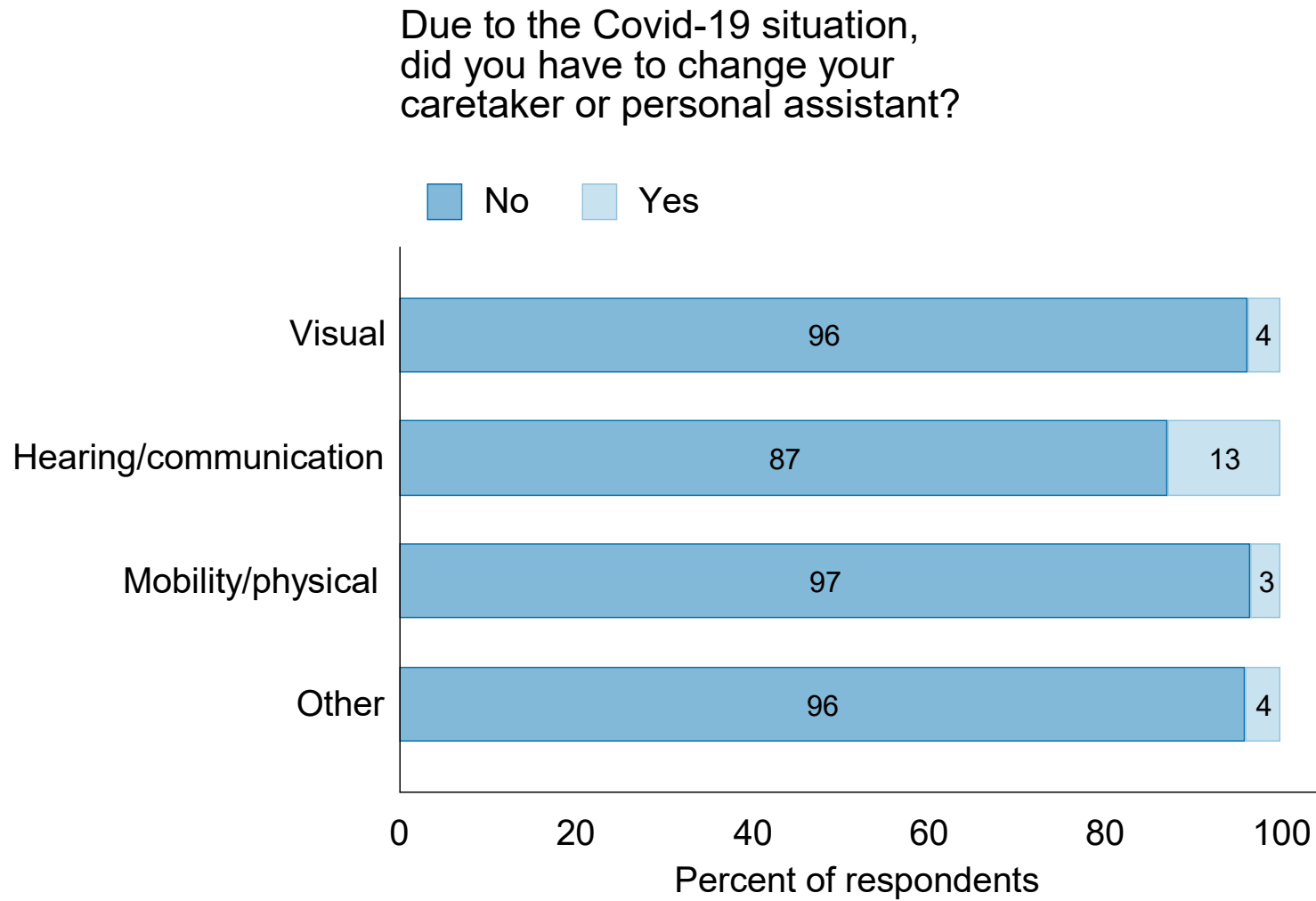
# **Impact of Covid-19 and coping strategies**

**Youth with visual and other impairments faced most problems. Common problems included difficulty to access shops, lack of sanitation products, inability to go out and difficulties in accessing public services.**

Which of the following difficulties did you face during the Covid-19 outbreak?



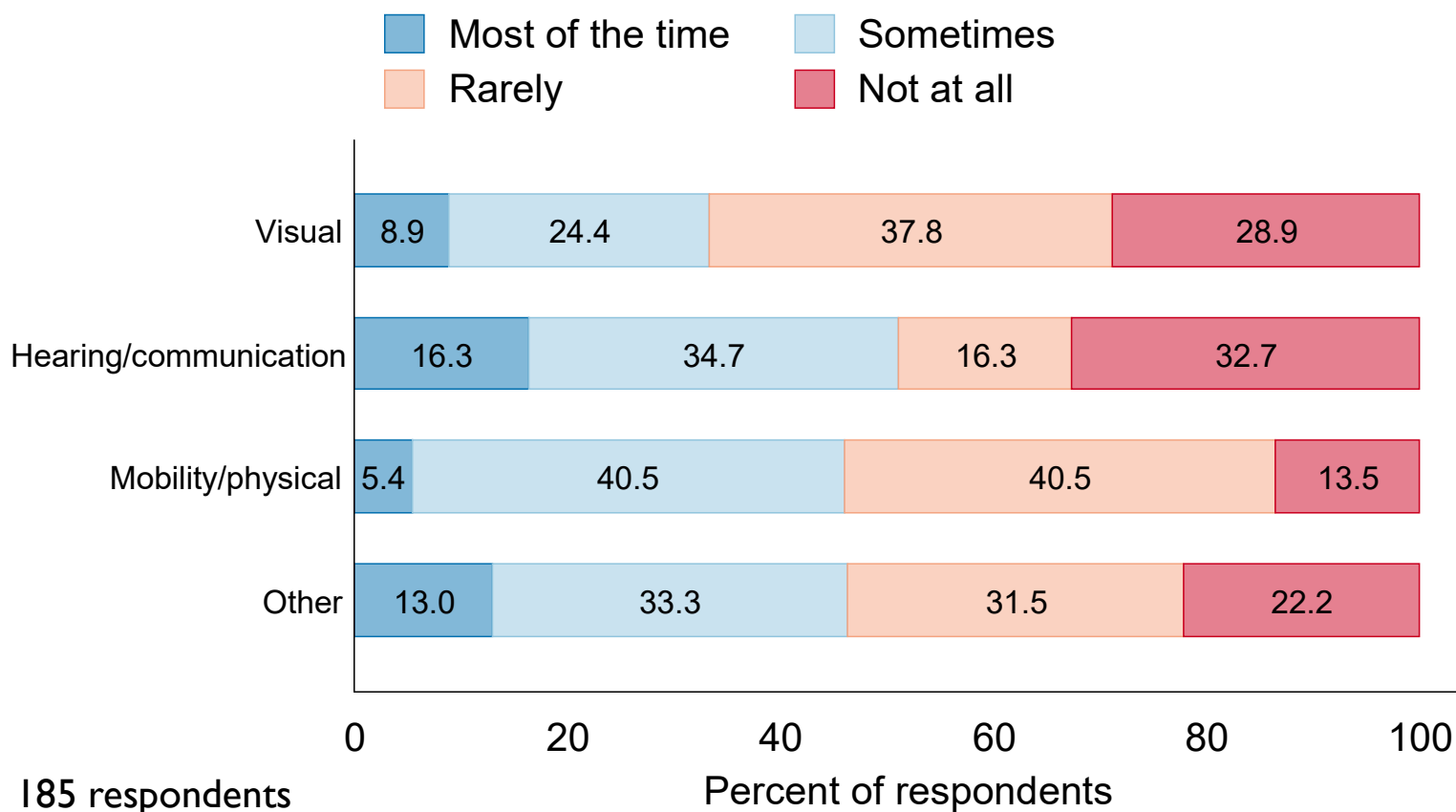
## Youth with hearing/communication impairments had to change their caretaker/personal assistant due to the lockdown more than other disability groups



143 respondents

## Youth with hearing/communication impairments experienced problems in accessing health care due to the Covid-19 outbreak more often than other disability groups

Have you experienced any problems in accessing health care due to the Covid-19 outbreak?

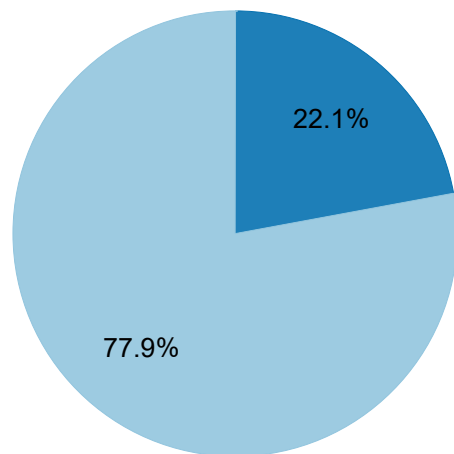




## 78% of disabled youth in employment reported that their work was affected by Covid-19. Common problems: inability to travel to work, lack of equipment and space for home office, business closure

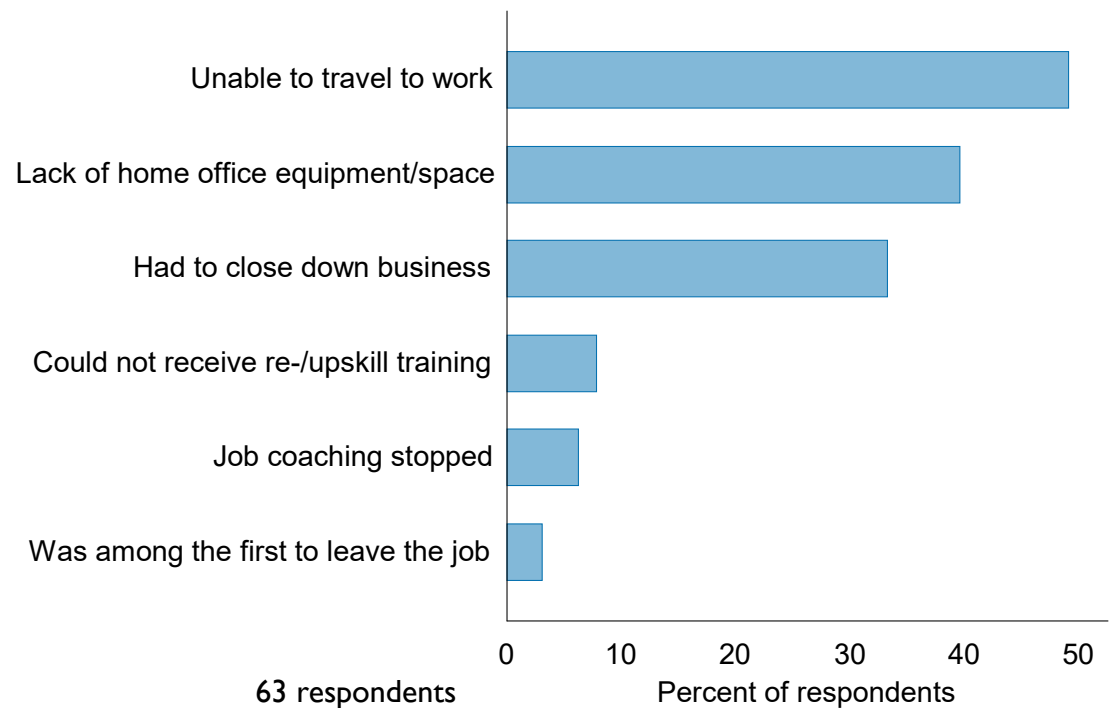
Has the Covid-19 situation affected your work?

■ No ■ Yes



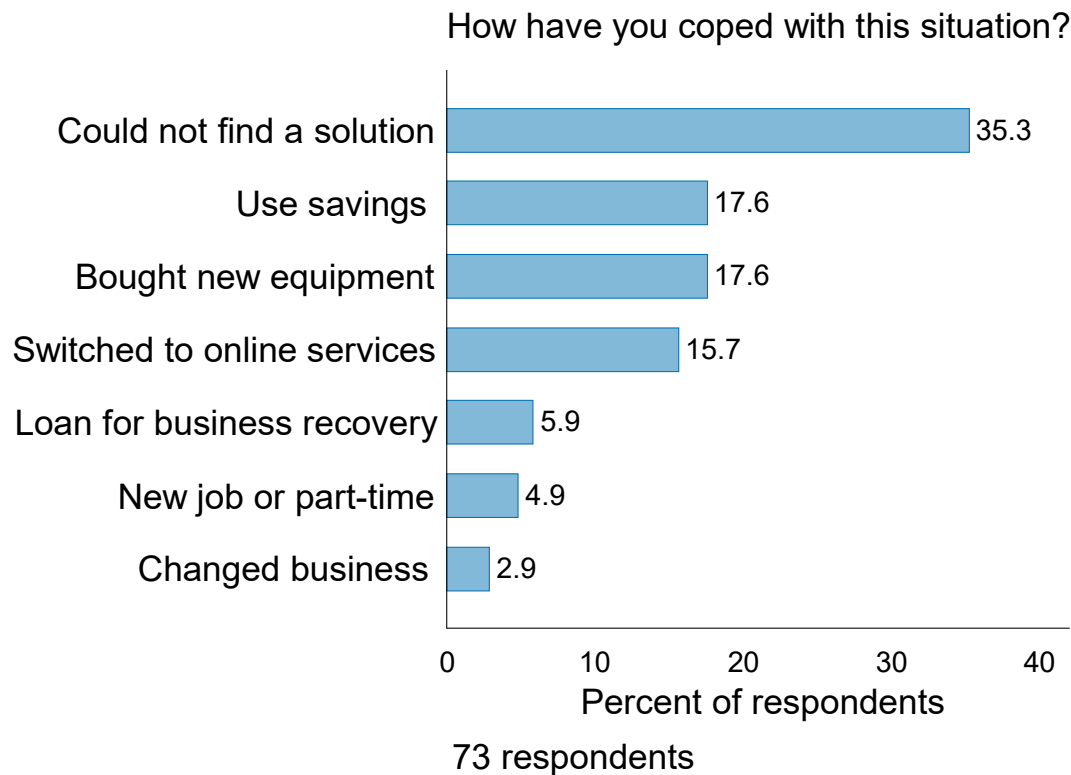
95 respondents

How has Covid-19 affected your work?

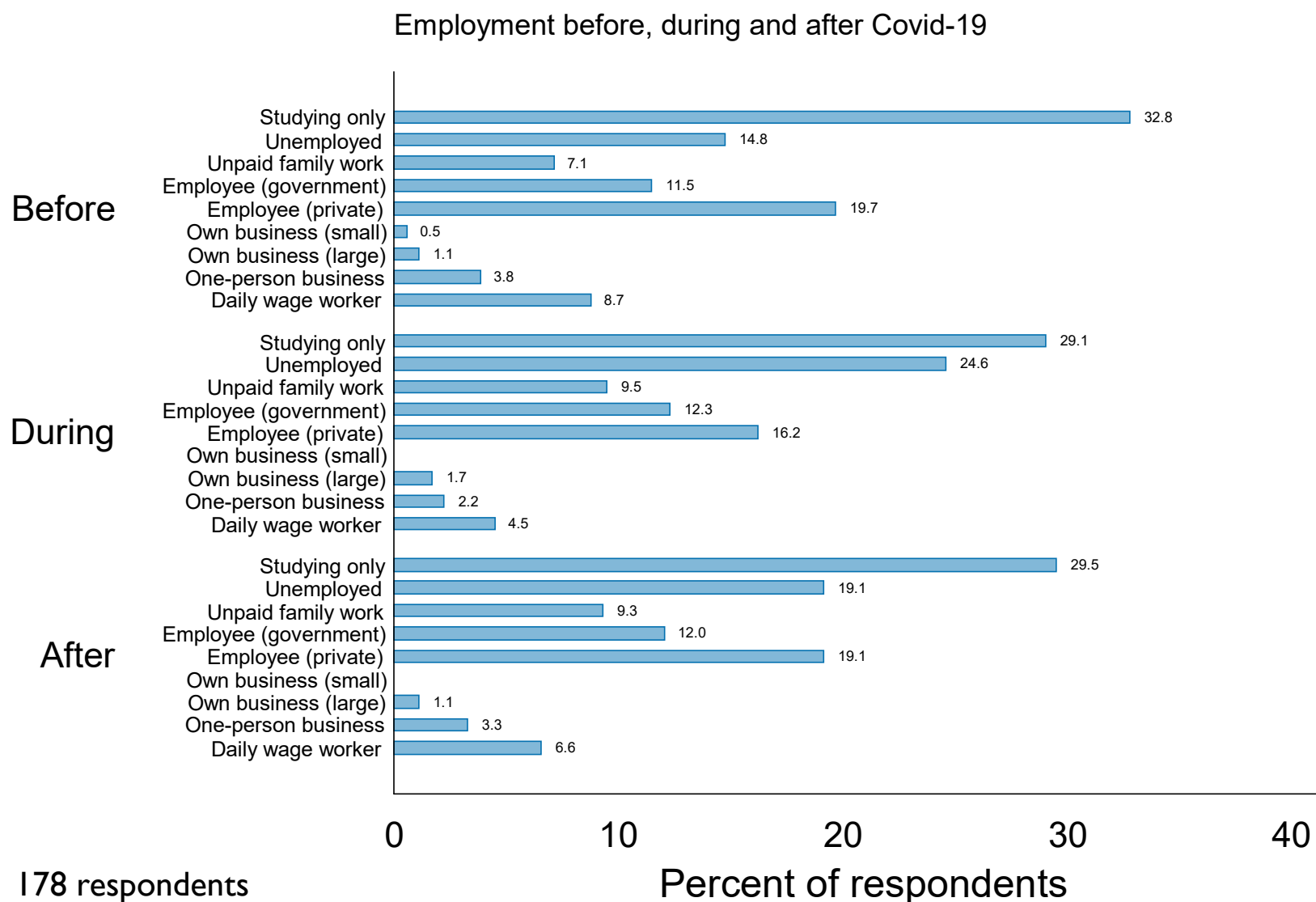


63 respondents

**35% could not cope with the disruption of their employment situation. Some used savings, bought new technical equipment and switched to working online. Finding a new job/business or loans was rare.**



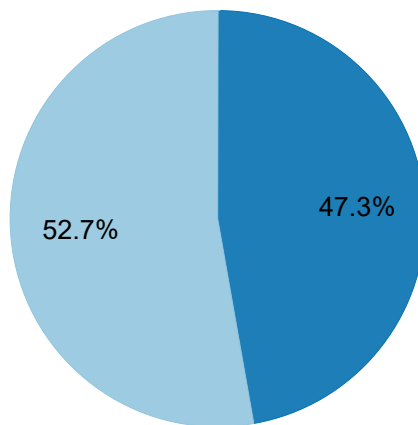
**Unemployment increased by 10 percentage points during the lockdown. One-person businesses and daily wage workers were most affected. Partial recovery since easing of lockdown.**



## More than half of disabled youth in education had problems studying online. Many lacked necessary equipment and space, barrier-free learning materials, internet connection and guidance.

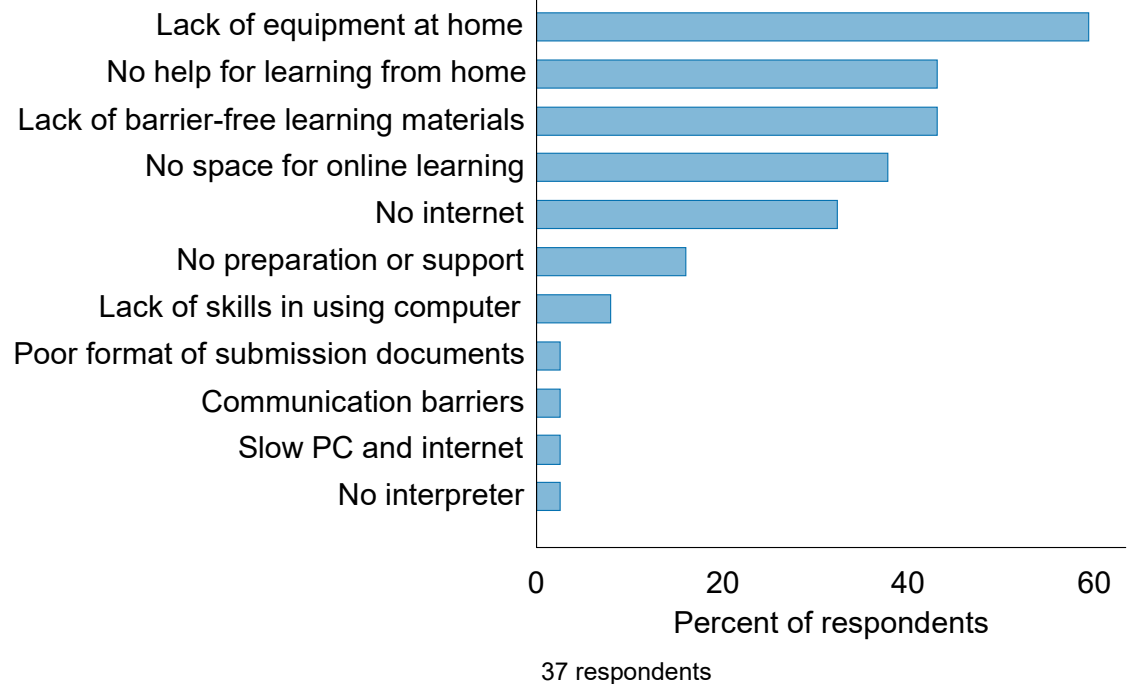
During the COVID-19 situation, did you have any problems studying online?

■ No ■ Yes



74 respondents

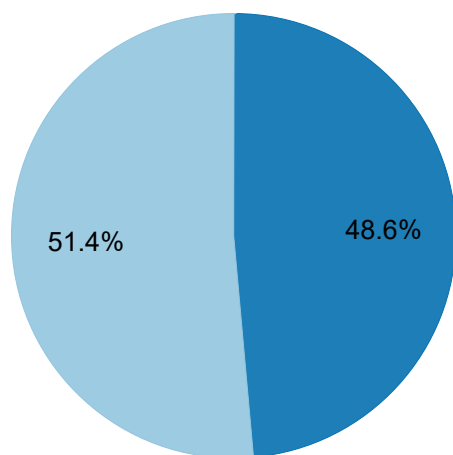
Which difficulties in studying online did you have during Covid-19?



## 28% of disabled youth who need SRH services encountered previously unknown difficulties accessing these services during the Covid-19 lockdown

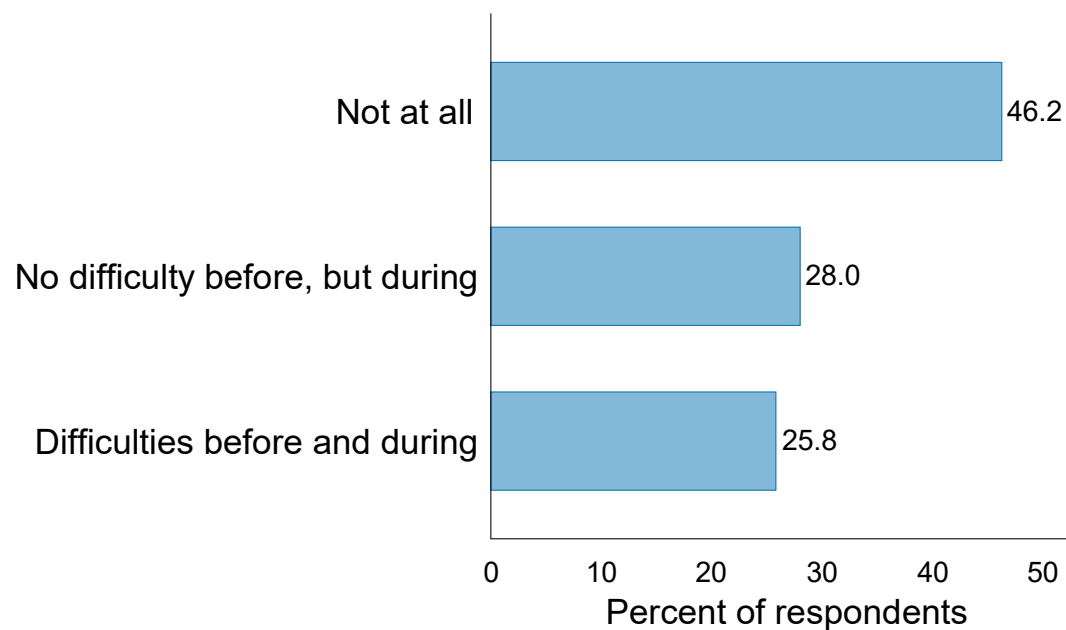
Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services needed?

■ No need for SRH services   ■ Need for SRH services



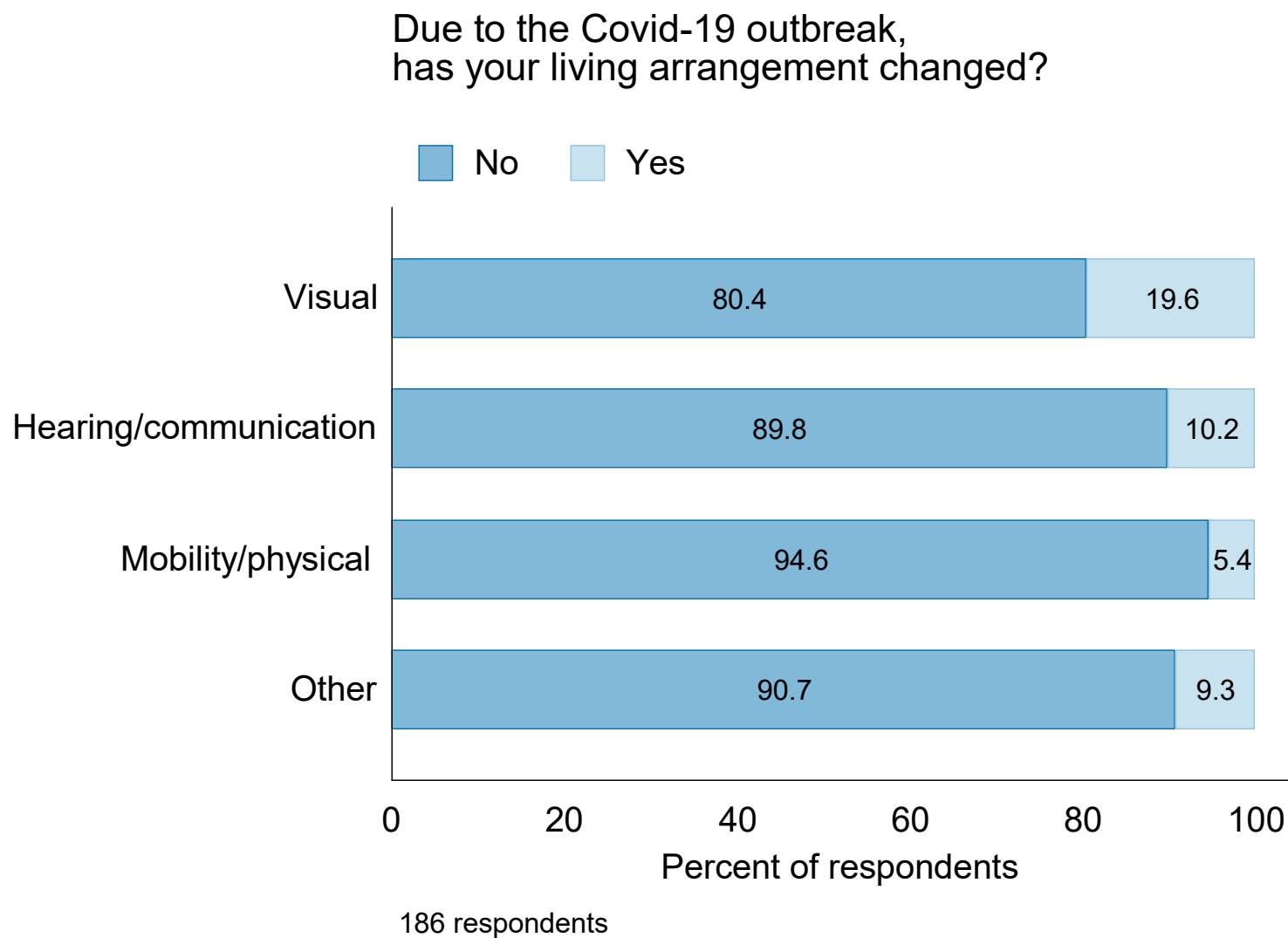
181 respondents

Before and during Covid-19, did you have difficulties accessing SRH services?



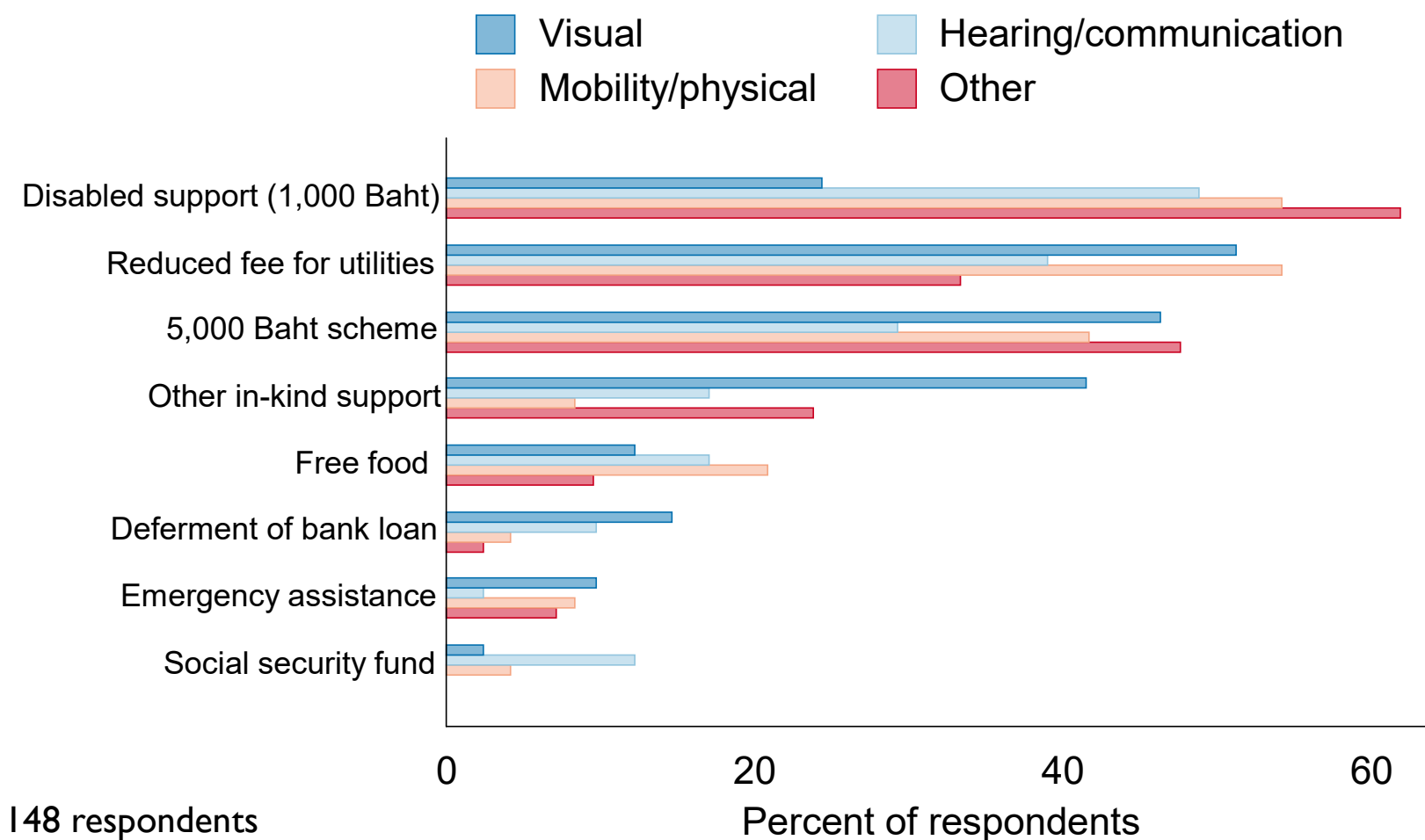
93 respondents

## More youth with visual impairments had to move during Covid-19 than other disability groups



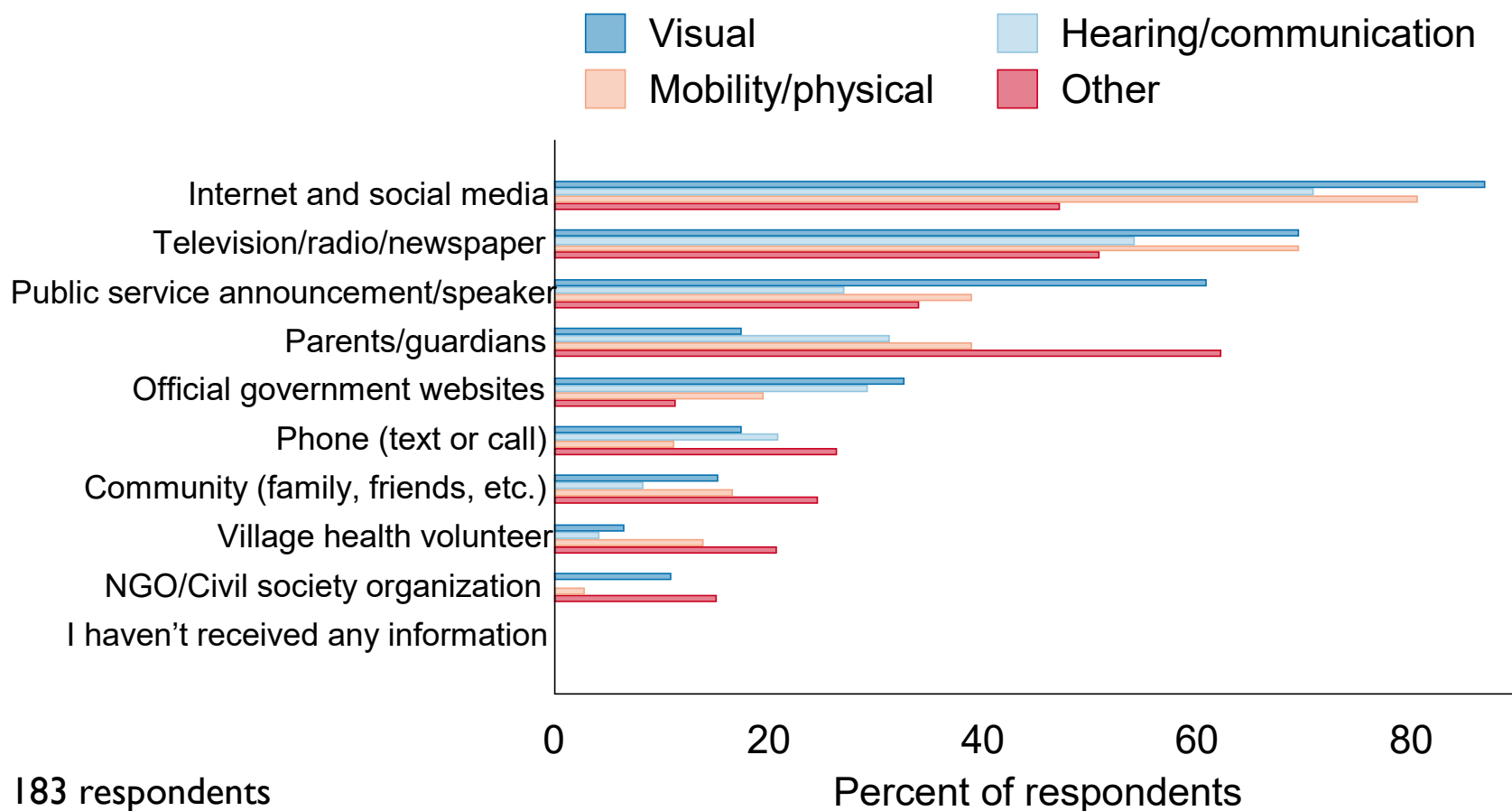
**Large share of disabled youth benefited from disabled support, reduced fees for utilities and the 5,000 Baht scheme. Youth with visual impairments received less disabled support and relied more on in-kind support.**

Have you or your family received financial/social support during the outbreak?



**Internet and social media were main sources of information for disabled youth, except for those with intellectual, learning, mental or behavioral problems or autism, who relied more on personal communication.**

What are the sources of information from which you have received most information about COVID-19?





## Summary of key findings

- Youth with visual, intellectual, learning, mental or behavioral impairments as well as those with autism faced most problems during the Covid-19 outbreak. Common problems included difficulty to access shops, lack of sanitation products, inability to go out and difficulties in accessing public services.
- More youth with hearing/communication impairments had to change their caretaker/personal assistant due to the lockdown than youth with other disabilities.
- Youth with hearing/communication impairments experienced problems in accessing health care due to the Covid-19 outbreak more often than other disability groups.
- 79% of disabled youth in employment reported that their work was affected by Covid-19. Common problems included inability to travel to work, lack of equipment and space for home office, and business closure.
- 36% of disabled youth whose work was affected could not cope with the disruption of their employment situation. Some used savings, bought new technical equipment and switched to working online. Very few were able to find a new job/business or take on a loan.

## Summary of key findings

- Unemployment among disabled youth increased by 10 percentage points during the lockdown. One-person businesses and daily wage workers were most affected. A partial recovery has taken place since the easing of lockdown.
- More than half of disabled youth in education had problems studying online. Many lacked the necessary equipment and space, barrier-free learning materials, internet connection and guidance.
- 28% of disabled youth who need SRH services encountered previously unknown difficulties accessing these services during the Covid-19 lockdown.
- More youth with visual impairments had to move during Covid-19 than other disability groups.
- Large share of disabled youth benefited from disabled support, reduced fees for utilities and the 5,000 Baht scheme. Youth with visual impairments received less disabled support and relied more on in-kind support.
- Internet and social media were the main sources of information for disabled youth, except for those with intellectual, learning, mental or behavioral problems or autism, who relied more on personal communication.