



Healthwatch Bradford and District

Experiences of childhood Immunisations during Covid-19

What does Healthwatch do?

- Identify areas in Health and Social services that the public are satisfied/dissatisfied with in an objective and impartial way
- Gathering views and examples of the public's experiences, recording the information to feed into local and national statistics
- Working collaboratively with groups, communities and other Healthwatch teams for ways of improvements or examples of good practice
- Collate reports and present the facts at stakeholder meetings
- Show people how their views can make a difference
- Looking at trends locally and nationally



Reasons for this survey?

- Suggestions that local Immunisation figures were below average from the previous year
- To assess opinions and experiences of immunisations during the COVID-19 pandemic
- To present the results and findings at stakeholder meetings



How did we conduct the survey?

- Survey open from August to October
- Online survey but with option to phone in
- Promoted via social media, community networks, news letters and local radio
- Links to the survey used on all e-mail signatures
- Local Health Visitors promoting the questionnaire



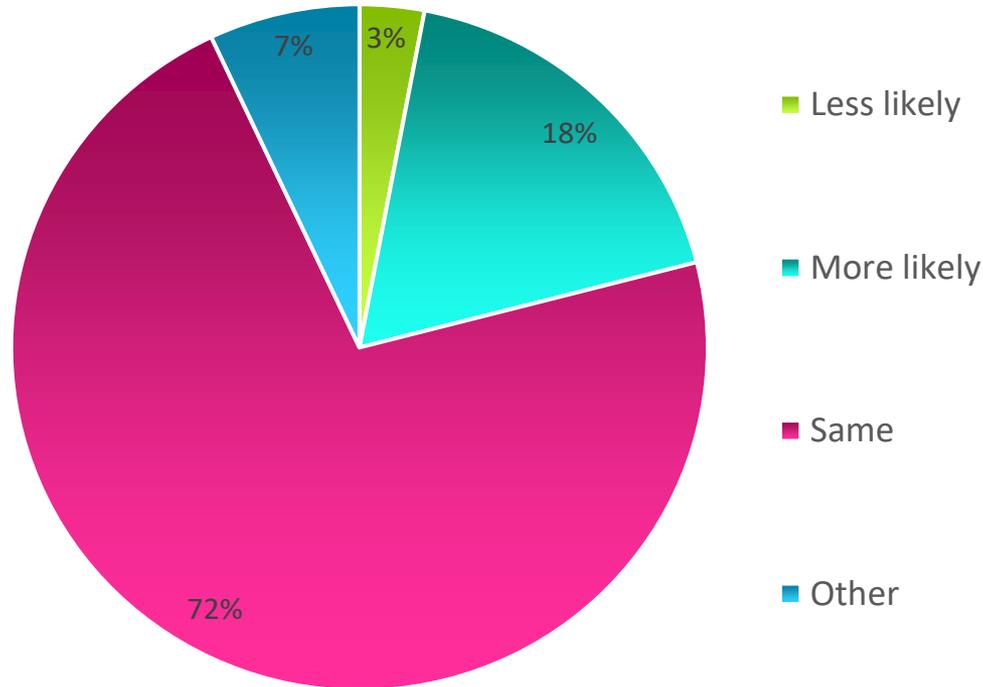
Results

- 62 People filled out the survey, some questions were skipped
- Low responses due to local lockdown and no face to face access, all responses collated from online feedback
- Good variation of feedback and opinions



Questions & Responses

Has the COVID-19 outbreak affected how likely you are to take your children for their childhood immunisation vaccines in general?

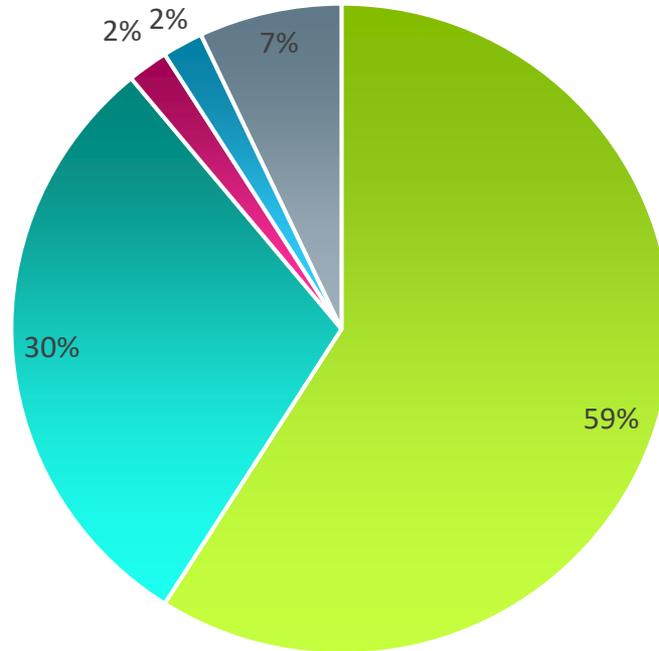


"It's important to keep the illnesses away, not just from the family but the community"

"It is just as important as it ever has been for my children to be immunised"



If your child(ren) had a childhood immunisation appointment scheduled during lockdown, did you attend?



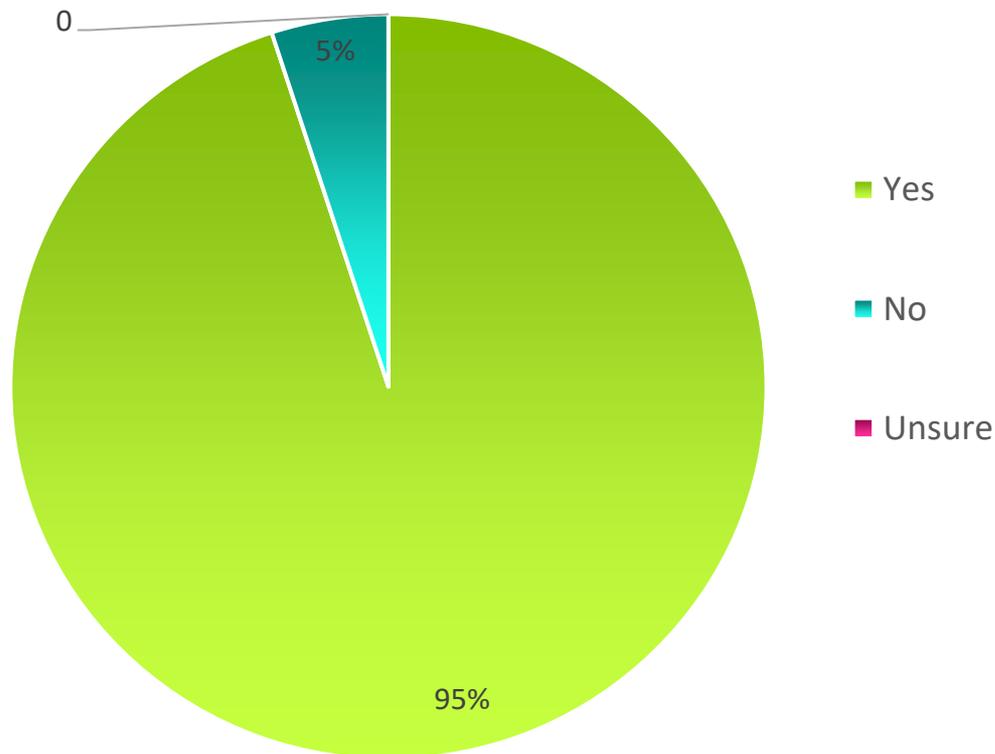
- My child was not scheduled to have a vaccination during lockdown
- Yes - my child received a vaccination during lockdown
- No, because the appointment was postponed by the GP practice
- No, I chose not to take my child because of the pandemic
- No, I chose not to take my child for other reasons

“We did attend because we felt important but it was a really difficult experience. GP reception were incredibly obstructive despite us having letter asking us to have immunisation (and it being overdue) Nurse was abrasive and as far from encouraging and supportive as you could get”

“We were able to manage the risk of attending the appointment so that it seemed proportionate to the benefit”



Would you be happy for your child(ren) to receive their childhood immunisation vaccinations at this stage of the COVID-19 outbreak?

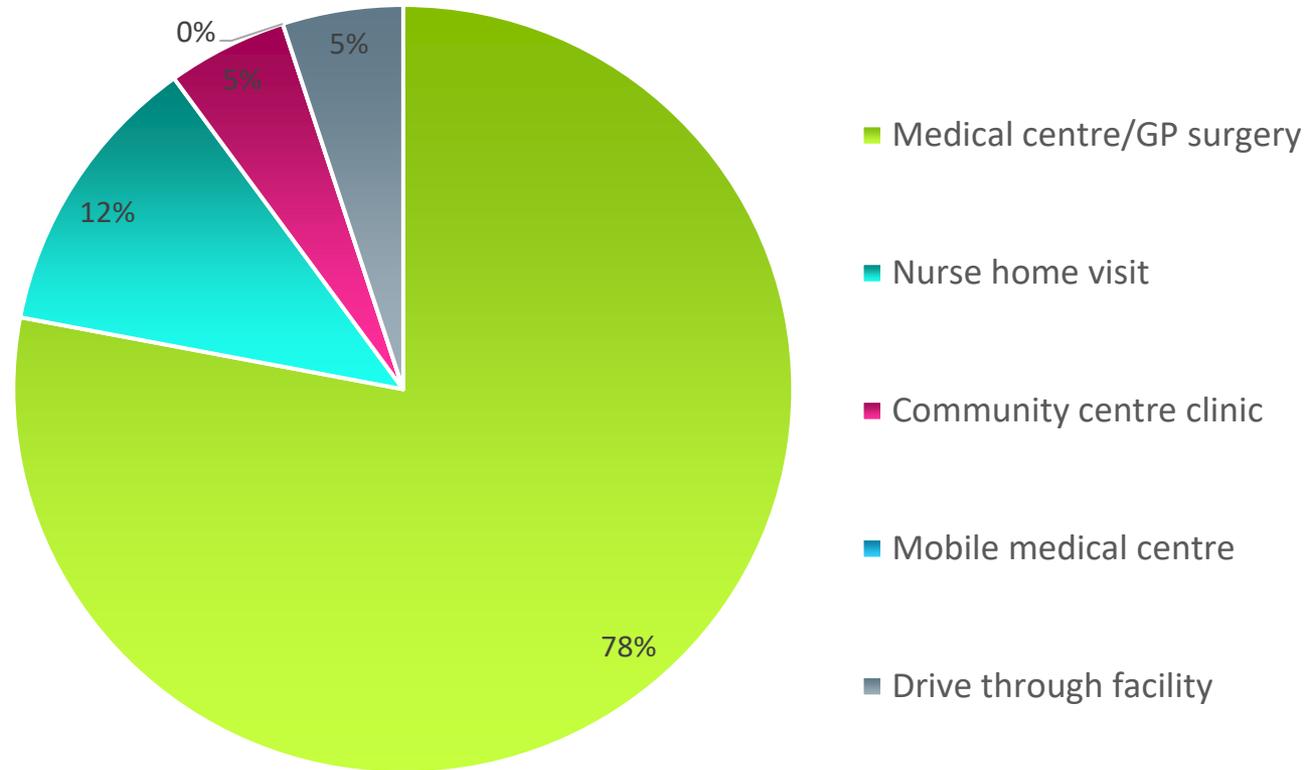


“Nothing has changed. I don’t want them getting ill during a period of time when the NHS is under additional strain”

”Want to protect them from unnecessary suffering, from being ill and also keep immunocompromised children safe from serious harm”

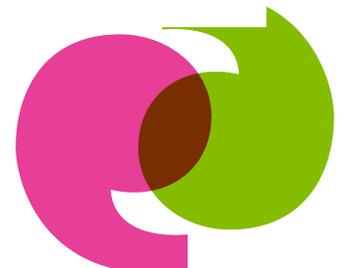


Where would you be most comfortable taking your child for vaccinations?

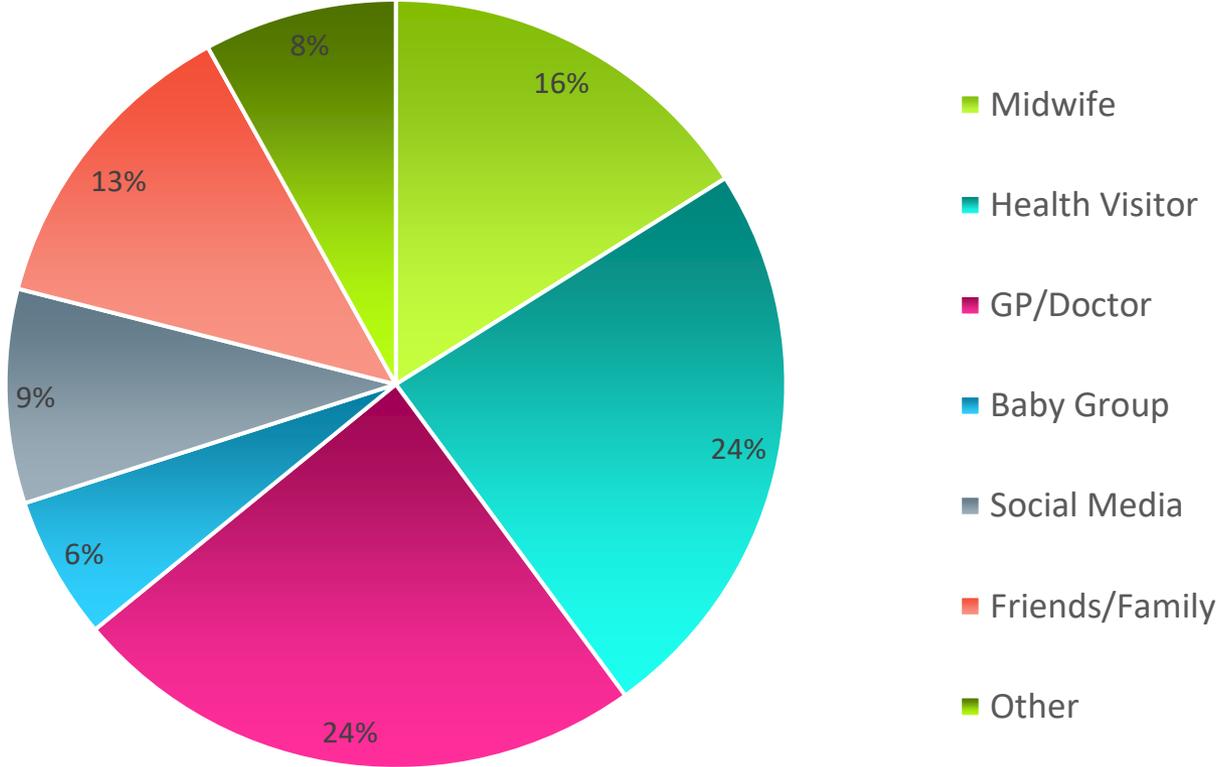


“I would like to have taken my child to the paediatrics phlebotomist but with support and time to talk him through”

“I received information about what to do when I got there prior to my visit which helped me feel a bit more in control”



From which person/organisation have you received information about the childhood immunisation programme

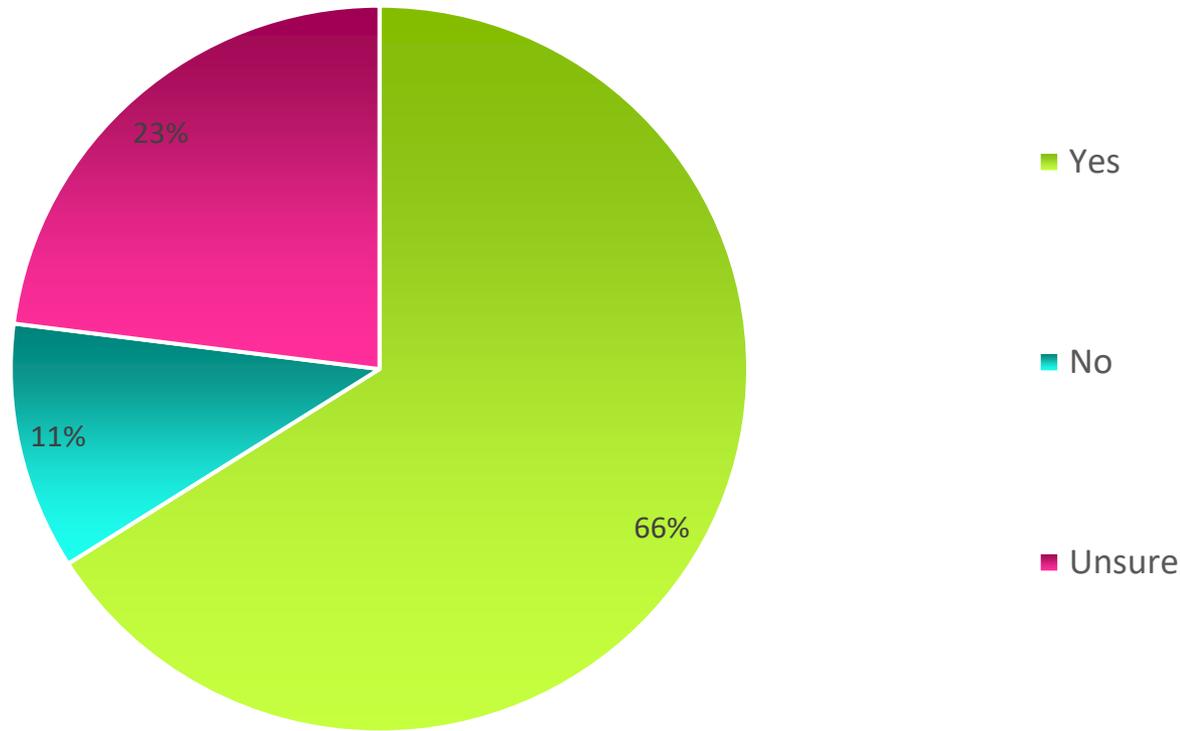


“Was fairly officious and the GP surgery reception staff had no knowledge of it. The wrong phone number for the GP surgery was on the letter”

“Because I trust the healthcare professionals advice”



If a COVID-19 vaccine is approved for children, would you be happy for your child to receive this?



"I can't understand why we wouldn't want to protect our children from potentially life threatening diseases. Through vaccinations some things have been wiped out completely"

"Not long enough trials, who knows how it will affect in 5 years time"



How have you found the process of booking immunisations?

“Incredibly difficult Wrong phone number on the letter - different surgery - although part of same practice and that surgery could not book Right surgery initially queried letter, then said weren't sure if offering, then said no slots available and then queried why we had rung up on a Friday afternoon thinking we would be able to book as computer tends to update on a Friday afternoon so better to book next week (answer surgery was open and received letter on Friday lunchtime). Did eventually enable us to book after queried this and stressed importance of vaccinations.”

“Really easy, I get reminder letters when they're due and ring the surgery. The appt is normally within 2 weeks.”

“Not good. Never been clear if I'm expecting a letter or I need to make appointment. Had letters for some and not others so this time I waited weeks for a letter and it didn't come so I rang and ended up being late.”

“Easy my doctor surgery did it all for me.”

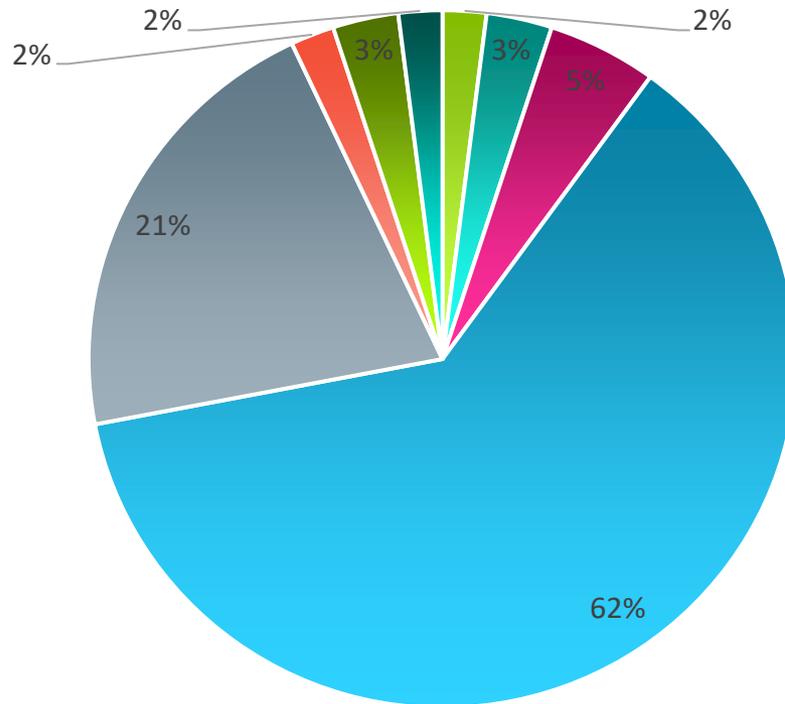


Findings, Recommendations & Comments

- General feedback and information collated seems to have followed the national trend
- Numbers dropped in the first few weeks of lockdown but recovered after surgeries were reopened and followed strict guidelines and measures.
- The guidelines and procedures now in place around attending immunisation appointments should lower people's negative perceptions, giving clear direction going forward.



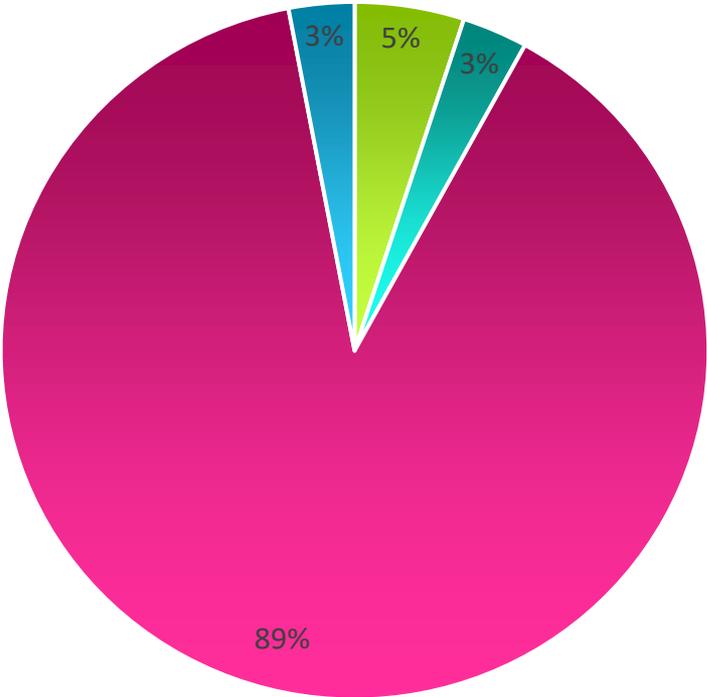
Ethnicity of Respondents



- Asian or Asian British - Indian
- Asian or Asian British - Pakistani/British Pakistani
- Mixed - White and Asian
- White - British
- White - English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British
- White - Central or Eastern European
- Prefer not to say
- Other



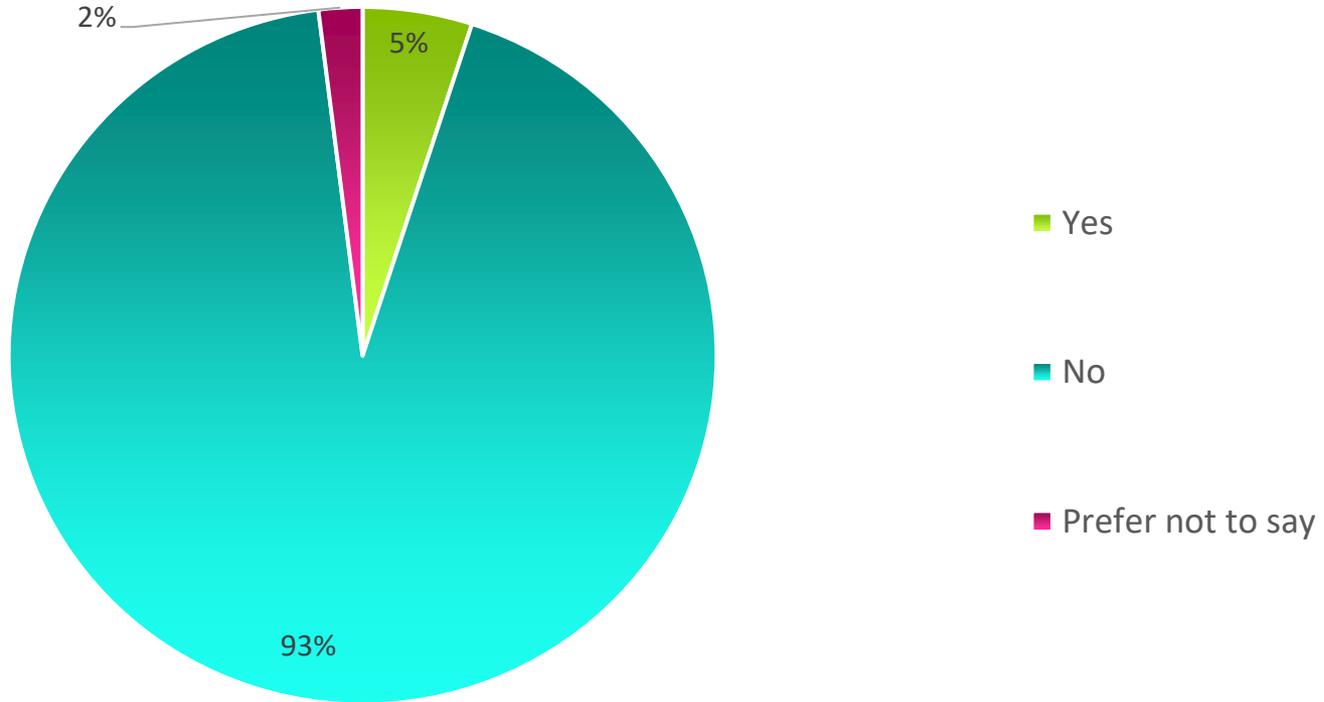
Sexual Orientation of Respondents



- Lesbian/Gay
- Bisexual
- Hetrosexual/Straight
- Other



Respondents with Disabilities



www.healthwatchbradford.co.uk

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