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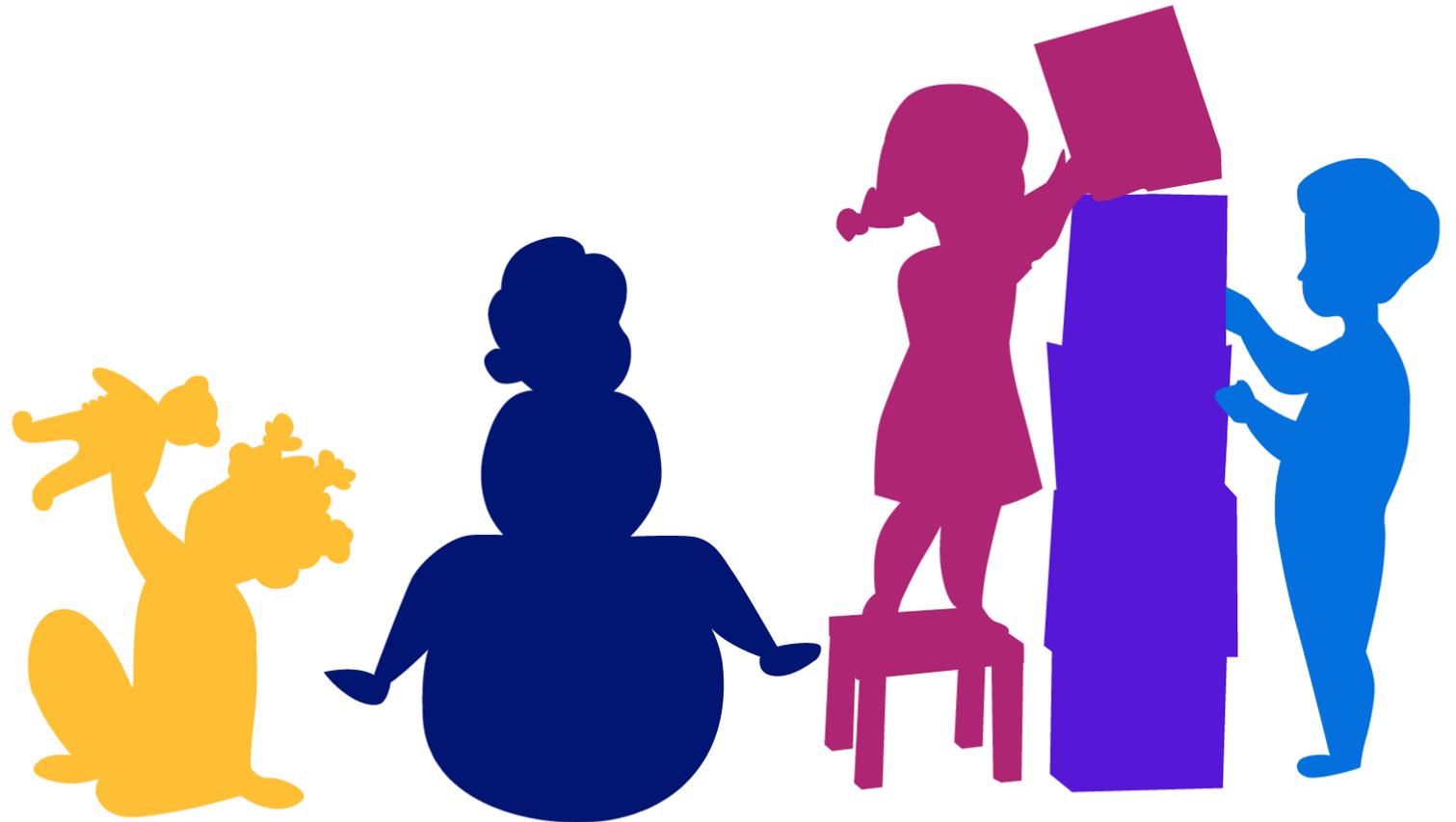
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1. Executive summary





Overall care

82%

of children reported that they were very well looked after by staff for their cancer or tumour (Question X60) in 2023, compared with **75%** in 2022.



Overall care

88%

of parents or carers rated the overall experience of their child's care as **8 or more out of 10** (Question X59) in 2023, compared with **89%** in 2022.



Finding out about the cancer or tumour

73%

of parents, carers, and children reported that information at diagnosis was **definitely given in a way they could understand** (Question X08) in 2023, compared with **69%** in 2022.



Finding out about the cancer or tumour

71%

of parents or carers reported that they were **definitely told about their child's cancer or tumour diagnosis in a sensitive way** (Question X07) in 2023, compared with **73%** in 2022.



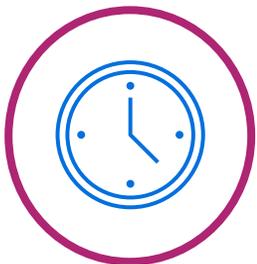
Healthcare staff

80%

of parents or carers felt they always had **confidence and trust in staff caring for their child** (Question X18) in 2023, compared with **83%** in 2022.

Please take care in interpreting historic comparisons due to numbers of respondents and in the absence of statistical significance testing. Confidence interval bars are included in charts throughout this report. More information about confidence intervals can be found in the [‘Understanding the results’](#) section.

† The key questions presented on this page have been selected by healthcare professionals as some of the most important questions in the Under 16 Cancer Patient Experience Survey for children’s cancer care.



Child's care and treatment

76%

of parents or carers felt that staff definitely offered them enough time to make decisions about their child's treatment (Question X37) in 2023, compared with **79%** in 2022.



Healthcare staff

73%

of children reported that they could always understand what staff were saying (Question X13) in 2023, compared with **69%** in 2022.



Child's care and treatment

58%

of parents or carers reported that they definitely had access to reliable help and support 7 days a week from the hospital (Question X33) in 2023, compared with **61%** in 2022.



Child's care and treatment

54%

of parents or carers felt that different hospital staff were definitely aware of their child's medical history (Question X27) in 2023, compared with **58%** in 2022.



Child's care and treatment

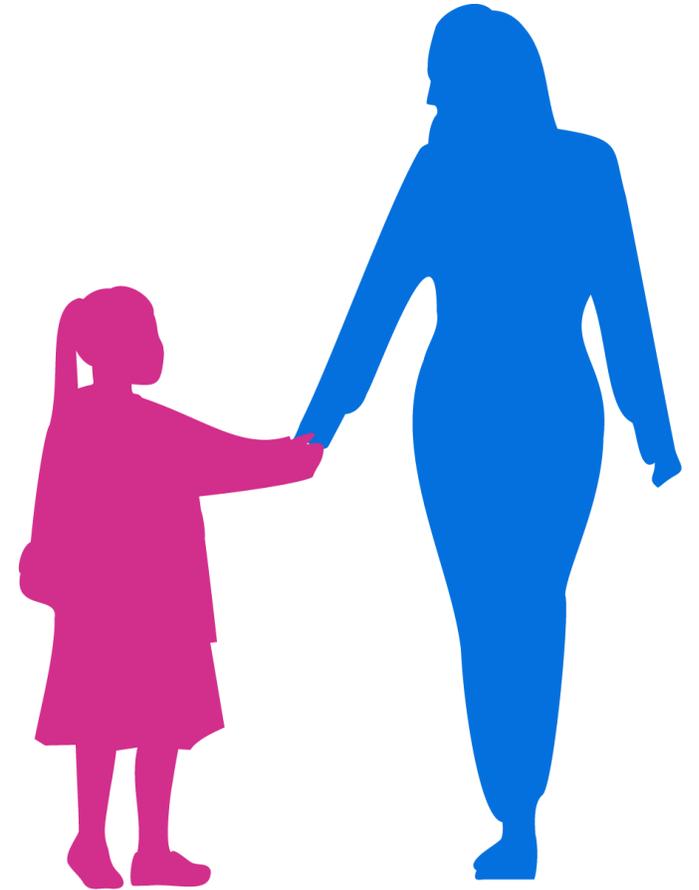
83%

of parents or carers reported that they were definitely offered clear information about their child's treatment (Question X36) in 2023, compared with **85%** in 2022.

Please take care in interpreting historic comparisons due to numbers of respondents and in the absence of statistical significance testing. Confidence interval bars are included in charts throughout this report. More information about confidence intervals can be found in the [‘Understanding the results’](#) section.

† The key questions presented on this page have been selected by healthcare professionals as some of the most important questions in the Under 16 Cancer Patient Experience Survey for children's cancer care.

2. Introduction





The Under 16 Cancer Patient Experience Survey (U16 CPES) measures experiences of tumour and cancer care for children across England. It is an annual survey. This report presents the U16 CPES 2023 headline findings and is the fourth time the survey has run.



The survey respondents are children who were aged under 16 at the time of their care and discharge, as well as their parents or carers.



The survey has been designed to monitor national progress on experience of cancer care, to provide information to drive local quality improvements, to assist commissioners and providers of cancer care, and to inform the work of the various charities and stakeholder groups supporting children with cancer.



NHS England manages the survey, commissioning Picker to oversee survey development, technical design, implementation, and analysis of the survey.



The survey is overseen by an Advisory Group of expert stakeholders including healthcare professionals who provide cancer care to children, charity representatives, patients, and parents or carers. The group advises on survey methodology, questionnaire development, and reporting.



13 Principal Treatment Centres providing cancer or tumour care to children during 2023 who were aged under 16 at their time of discharge were included in the survey.



3. Methodology





Eligibility

Patients with a confirmed cancer or tumour diagnosis who received inpatient or day case care from an NHS Principal Treatment Centre (PTC) in 2023, aged under 16 at their time of discharge.



Questionnaire and mode

- A paper questionnaire with a cover invitation and up to two reminders posted to parents or carers. An option to complete the survey online via a survey URL or QR code, or via telephone.
- Freephone helpline and email for respondents to opt out, ask questions about the survey, enable them to complete their questionnaire over the phone and provide access to translation services for those whose first language was not English. Questions were asked about the child's care during 2023. There were three versions, depending on the patient's age prior to fieldwork:
 - 0 to 7 questionnaire – for completion by parents or carers of children aged 0 to 7.
 - 8 to 11 questionnaire – separate sections for the child and the parent or carer to complete.
 - 12 to 15 questionnaire – separate sections for the child or young person and the parent or carer to complete.



Fieldwork

People were asked to respond to the questionnaire between April and June 2024.



4. Understanding the results





- **For data presented in charts, the percentage of each scored response option is shown.** Figures have been rounded to the nearest whole percentage, therefore they may not always equal 100%.
- **Question numbers relate to the numbering on the data tables,** not the question numbers used on the questionnaires themselves.



Sub-group comparisons allow us to explore differences in how people experience cancer care.

Some of the groups may be quite small, so please take caution when looking at results for these groups. See [‘About the Respondents’](#) for information on the number of responses for sub-groups. For sub-group comparisons to all survey questions at a national level, please see the National Excel Data Tables available on the [survey website](#).



For scored questions, the data presented in the charts excludes non-applicable response options such as ‘Don’t know/can’t remember’. Full data, including how scores to each question are calculated, can be found within the National Excel Data Tables available on the [survey website](#).



No statistical significance testing has been done for sub-group comparisons, therefore please interpret any differences with caution.



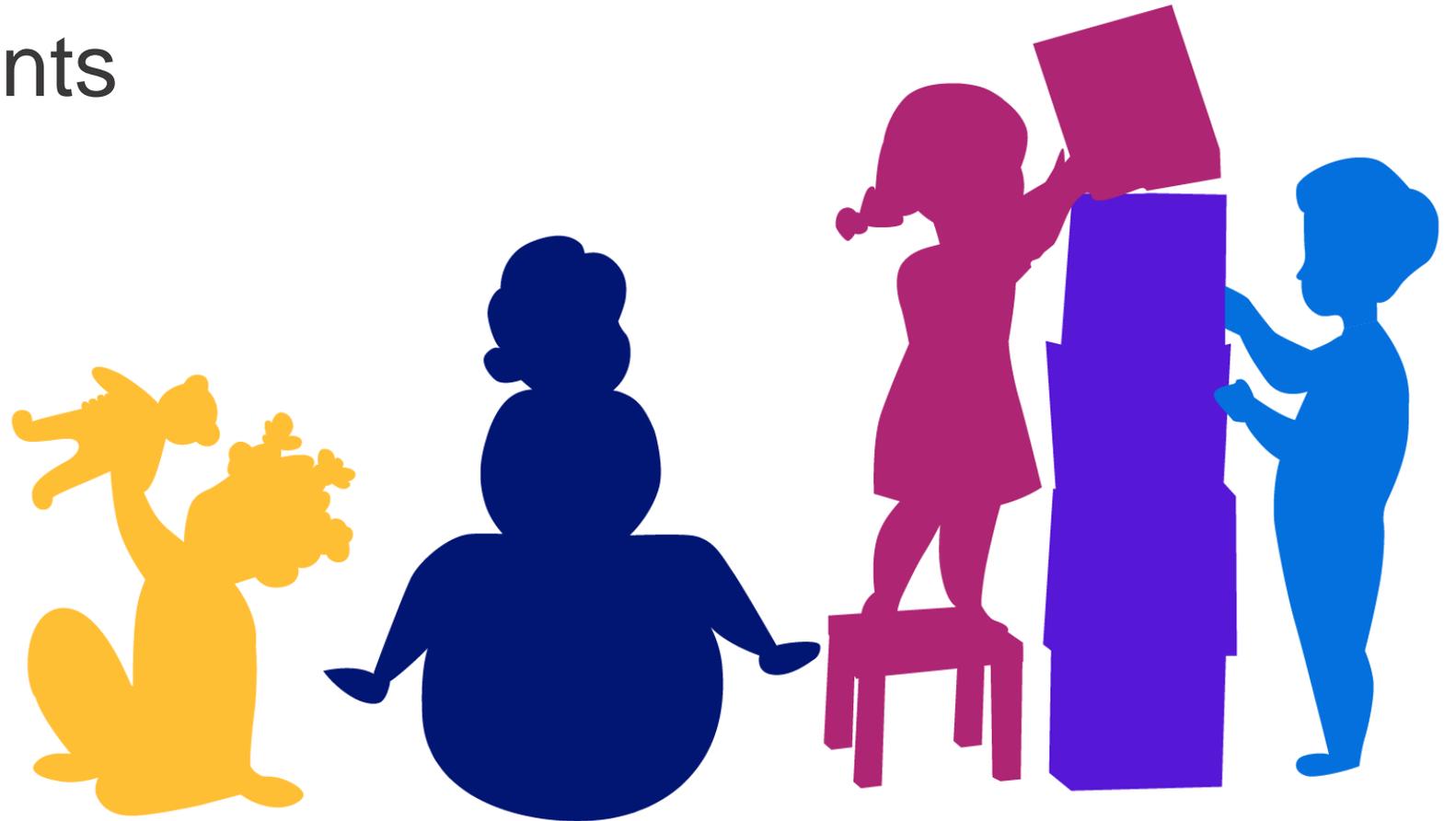
Confidence intervals: Assuming the sample is representative of the organisation, confidence intervals are a method of describing the uncertainty around results. They are shown as black bars on the charts in this report. The most common methodology, which was used here, is to produce and report 95 percent confidence intervals around the results. At the 95 percent confidence level, the confidence intervals are expected to contain the true result 95 percent of the time (i.e. out of 100 such intervals, 95 will include the true figure), based on the sample of information we have. Where confidence intervals overlap, and the comparison is valid, there is not enough statistical evidence to conclude whether or not there is a “true” difference between the two).

Suppression rules have been applied to data to protect the anonymity of respondents and to prevent the release of unreliable results due to small numbers:



- Where the data is semi-identifiable (e.g. a demographic), the eligible population at risk is 1,000 or fewer, and there are 5 or fewer respondents in a particular category, then the data has been suppressed and replaced with an asterisk (*).
- Double suppression: where data has been suppressed for anonymity, data for that sub-group AND the next smallest sub-group are suppressed. This is to prevent back calculation.
- Where the total number of responses to a question is less than 10, data for the question are suppressed, indicated by an asterisk (*).
- Further information regarding suppression rules can be found in the [Technical Appendix](#).

5. About the respondents



Overall response rate

Out of **3,741** eligible parents, carers, and children, **949** responded to the survey, yielding a response rate of **25%**. This is compared with 25% in 2022.



A response consists of one survey completion for a single patient, which could consist of both parent or carer and child responses.

The adjusted sample size removes those patients who did not receive a questionnaire (returned undelivered by post) or who reported they were not eligible to take part. Full details about how the response rate was calculated can be found in the Technical Appendix available on the [survey website](#).

Original sample size	Adjusted sample size	Completed	Response rate
3,775	3,741	949	25%

Survey mode

Survey mode	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Paper	656	69%
Online	291	31%
Phone – English	1	0%
Phone – translation service	1	0%
Mixed (combination of paper and online)	0	0%
Total	949	100%



Survey type

Survey type	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Parents or carers of children aged 0 to 7	490	52%
Children aged 8 to 11 (and their parents or carers)	178	19%
Children aged 12 to 15 (and their parents or carers)	281	30%
Total	949	100%

Which of the following best describes you? (from survey responses)[†]

Sex registered at birth (from survey responses)

Which of the following best describes you?	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Boy/Male	247	54%
Girl/Female	173	38%
I describe myself in another way	2	0%
Prefer not to say	6	1%
Don't know	0	0%
Not given	31	7%
Total	459	100%

Sex registered at birth	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Male	528	56%
Female	385	41%
Prefer not to say	1	0%
Not given	35	4%
Total	949	100%

[†] Asked only to children aged 8-15.

Ethnic group (from survey responses)

Ethnic group	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
White	695	73%
Mixed	56	6%
Asian	110	12%
Black	31	3%
Other [†]	11	1%
Not given	46	5%
Total	949	100%

[†] Please note: 'Other' refers to those who selected 'Arab' or 'Any other ethnic group' in the survey question asking about ethnic background.

Diagnostic group†

Diagnostic group	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Leukaemias, myeloproliferative diseases, and myelodysplastic diseases	369	39%
Lymphomas and reticuloendothelial neoplasms	102	11%
CNS and miscellaneous intracranial and intraspinal neoplasms	218	23%
Retinoblastoma	26	3%
Renal tumours	43	5%
Hepatic tumours	8	1%
Malignant bone tumours	39	4%
All other	144	15%
Total	949	100%

† Please note: Details of how diagnostic groups were formed can be found in the Technical Appendix available on the [survey website](#).

Deprivation (IMD[†] quintile)

Deprivation (IMD quintile)	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
1 (most deprived)	186	20%
2	157	17%
3	177	19%
4	187	20%
5 (least deprived)	221	23%
Non-England	21	2%
Total	949	100%

Current care or treatment stage (from survey responses)

Current care or treatment stage	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Recently diagnosed	13	1%
Watch and wait	89	9%
Receiving treatment	400	42%
Finished treatment within the last one month	79	8%
In remission / long term follow-up	346	36%
Palliative or end of life care	11	1%
Other	53	6%
Not given	26	3%
Total^{††}	1017	107%

[†] **Please note:** Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD quintile) classifies geographic areas into five quintiles based on relative disadvantage, based on where the patient lives (not where they receive care and treatment).

^{††} **Please note:** This is a multiple choice question and therefore the total number of responses may be more than the total number of respondents.

Long term condition status (from survey responses)

Long term condition status	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Another long term condition	340	36%
No other long term condition	494	52%
Not given	115	12%
Total	949	100%

Does the child's long term condition or cancer reduce their ability to carry out their day-to-day activities? (from survey responses)

Does the child's long term condition or cancer reduce their ability to carry out their day-to-day activities?	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Yes, a lot	253	27%
Yes, a little	429	45%
No, not at all	234	25%
Not given	33	3%
Total	949	100%

Long term condition (from survey responses)

Long term condition	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)	32	3%
Autism or autism spectrum condition	74	8%
Bowel condition, such as Crohn's disease	7	1%
Breathing problem, such as asthma	48	5%
Blindness or partial sight	51	5%
Chromosomal condition, such as Down's syndrome or Prader-Willi	16	2%
Deafness or hearing loss	50	5%
Diabetes	9	1%

Long term condition (cont'd)	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Heart problem	12	1%
Joint problem	17	2%
Kidney or liver disease	12	1%
Learning disability	71	7%
Mental health condition	28	3%
Neurological condition, such as epilepsy	31	3%
Other long term condition	103	11%
No other long term condition	494	52%
Not given	115	12%
Total †	1170	123%

† Please note: This is a multiple choice question and therefore the total number of responses may be more than the total number of respondents.

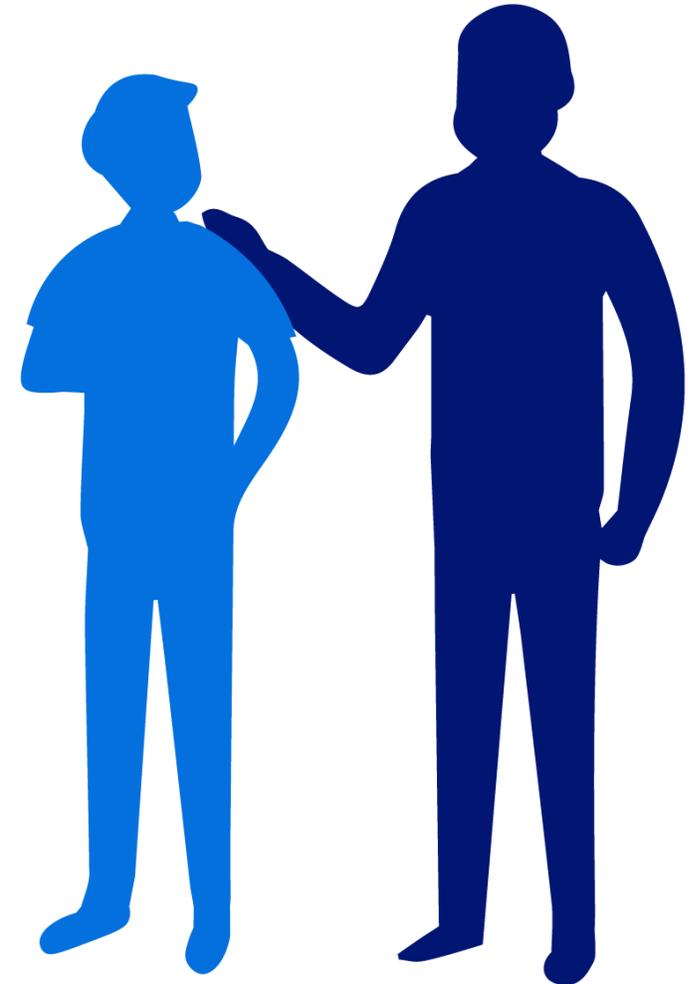


6. National results





6.1 Overall care

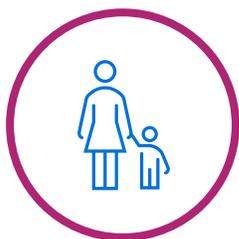




This section shows responses to the overall care questions by various sub-groups. Further information about how sub-groups were determined can be found in the Technical Appendix, available on the [survey website](#). Please take care when drawing conclusions from results based on small numbers of responses.



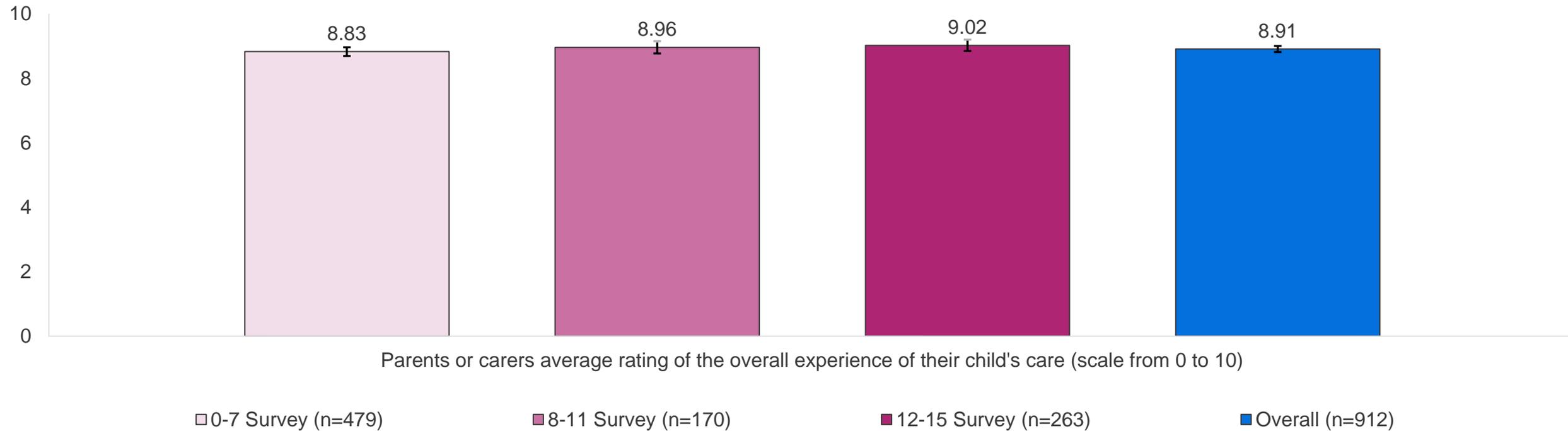
A breakdown of all survey questions and scores to each question by each sub-group can be found in the National Excel Data Tables, available on the [survey website](#).



Questions asking about overall care were structured differently for children and parents or carers, and therefore they are not comparable:

- Children aged 8 and over were asked how well they were looked after for their cancer or tumour by healthcare staff and were given the options Very well, Quite well, OK, Not very well and Not at all well.
- Parents and carers of all age groups were asked to rank their child's overall care on a scale of 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good). These rankings have been grouped into 8-10 (good), 4-7, and 0-3 (poor).

Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)

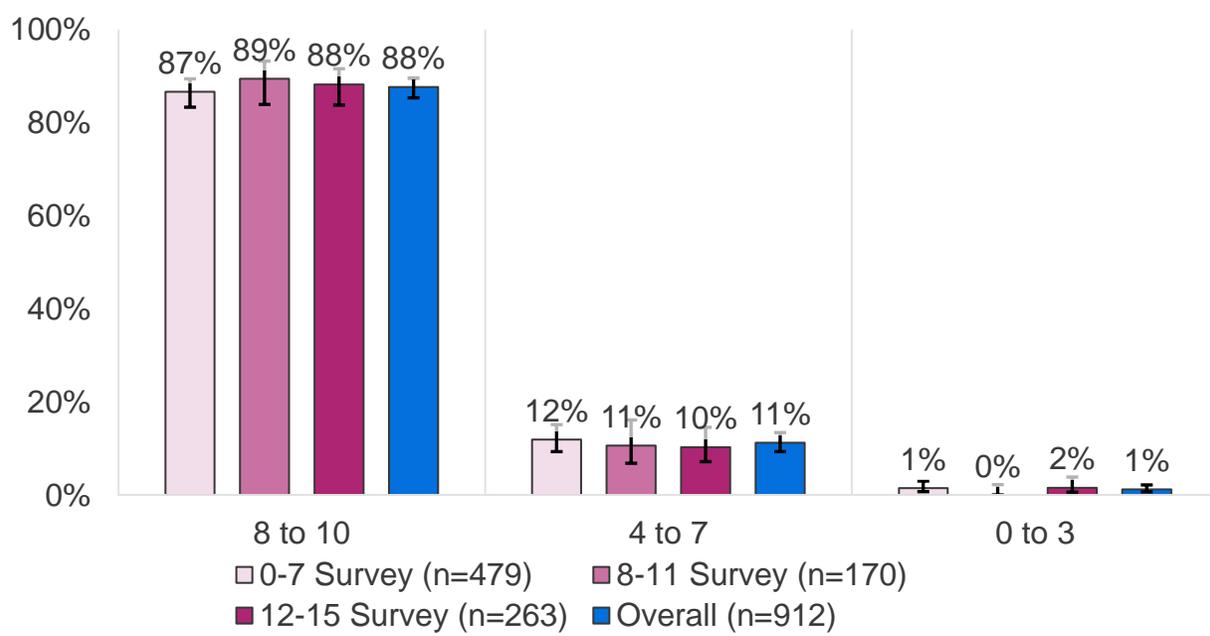


Parents or carers average rating of the overall experience of their child's care (scale from 0 to 10)

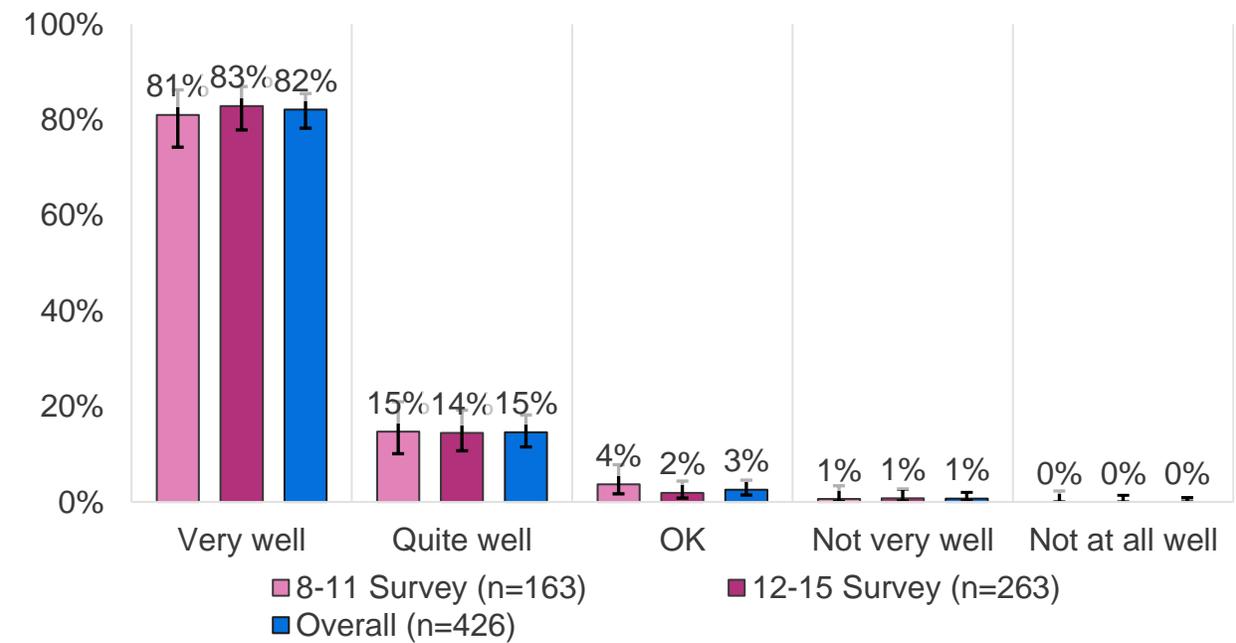
8.91 was the average parent or carer rating of the overall experience of their child's care (scale from 0 to 10). Average parent or carer ratings ranged from 8.83 to 9.02 across age groups.

Chart shows question X59_mean: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912

Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)



Overall, how well are you looked after for your cancer or tumour by the healthcare staff?



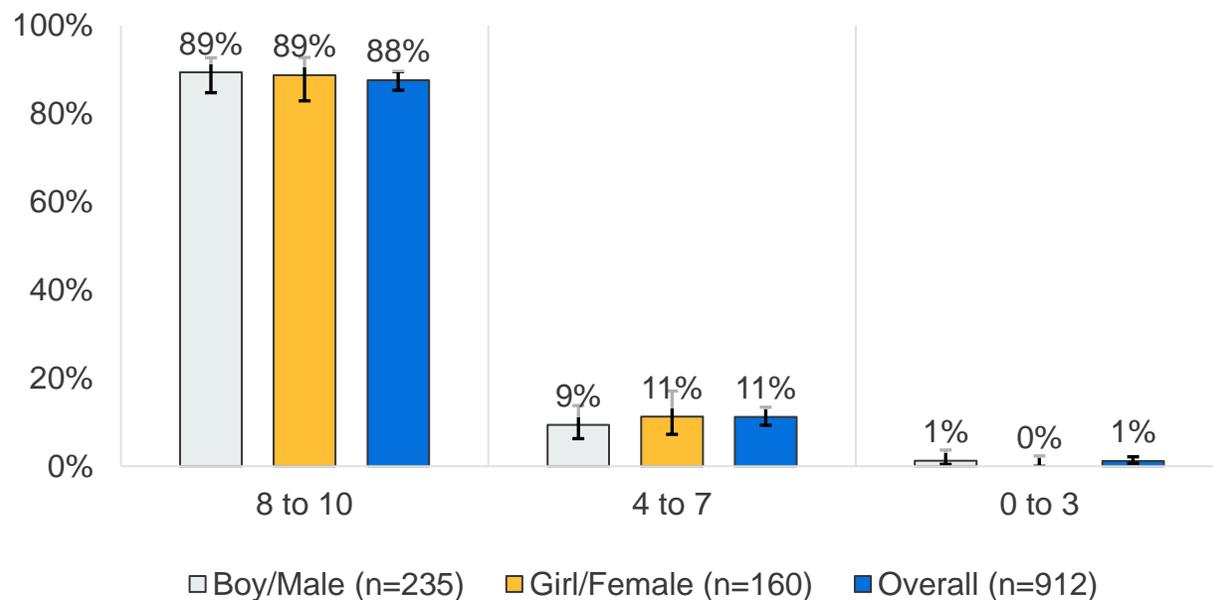
88% of parents or carers rated the overall experience of their child's care as 8 or more out of 10, ranging from 87% in the 0-7 survey to 89% in the 8-11 survey.

82% of children reported that they were very well looked after by staff for their cancer or tumour, ranging from 81% in the 8-11 survey to 83% in the 12-15 survey.

Chart shows question X59: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912

Chart shows question X60: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426

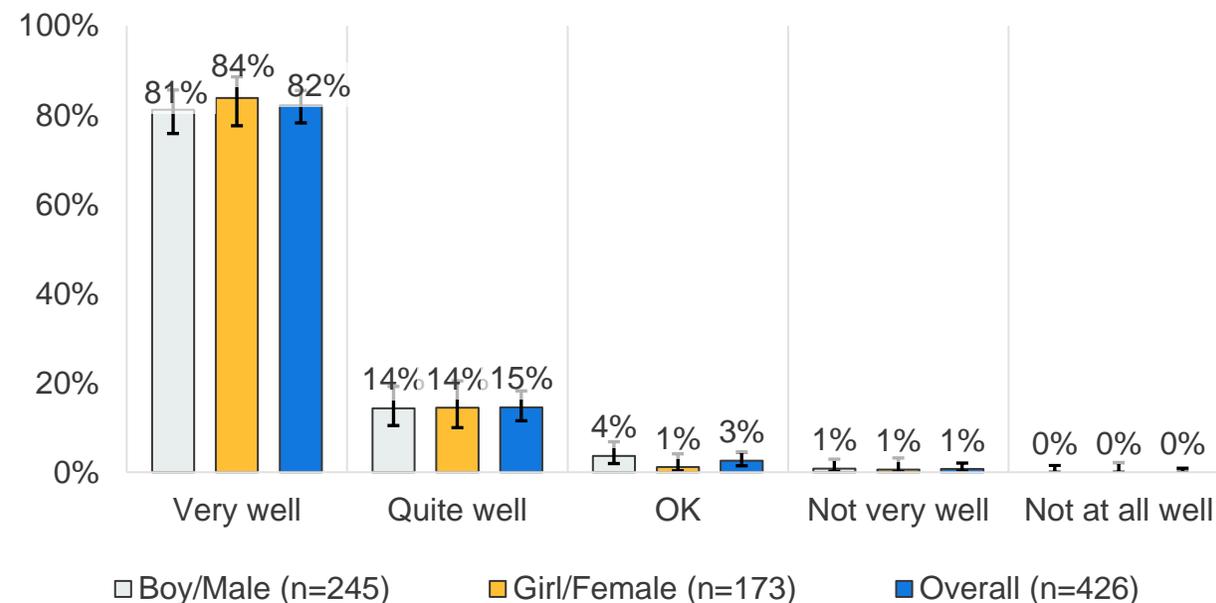
Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)



88% of parents or carers rated the overall experience of their child's care as 8 or more out of 10, 89% for girls/females and 89% for boys/males.

Chart shows question X59: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912. Due to small numbers, results for 'I describe myself in another way', 'don't know' and 'prefer not to say' are not shown.

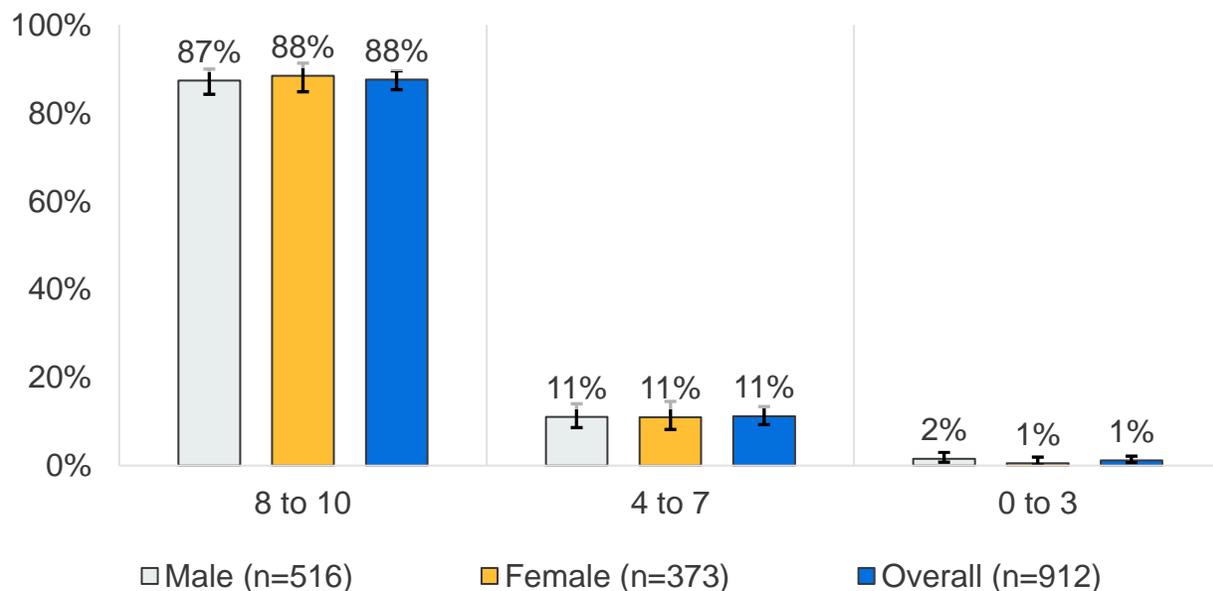
Overall, how well are you looked after for your cancer or tumour by the healthcare staff?



82% of children reported that they were very well looked after by staff for their cancer or tumour, ranging from 81% for boys/males to 84% for girls/females.

Chart shows question X60: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426. Due to small numbers, results for 'I describe myself in another way', 'don't know' and 'prefer not to say' are not shown.

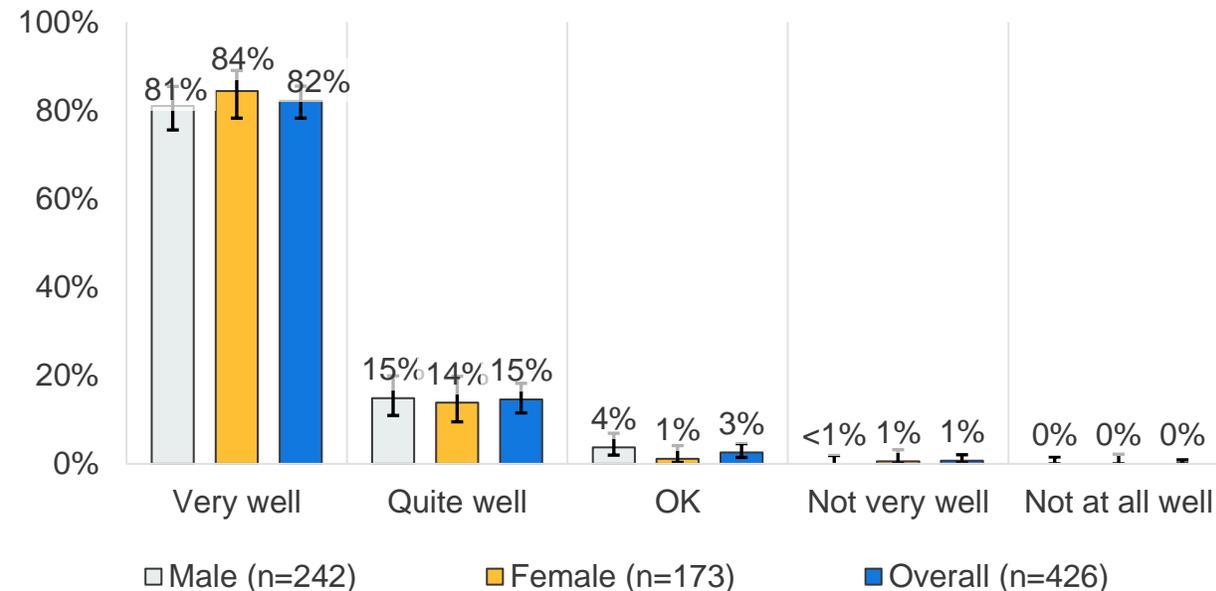
Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)



88% of parents or carers rated the overall experience of their child's care as 8 or more out of 10, ranging from 87% for males to 88% for females.

Chart shows question X59: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912. Due to small numbers, results for 'prefer not to say' are not shown.

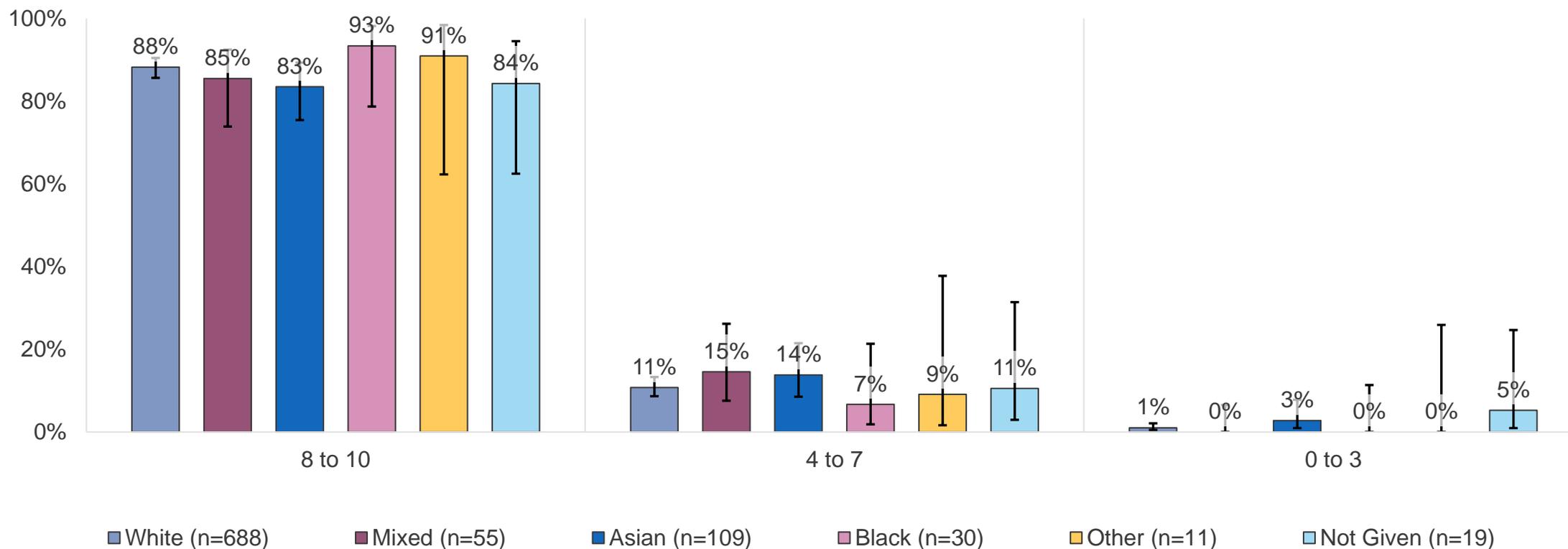
Overall, how well are you looked after for your cancer or tumour by the healthcare staff?



82% of children reported that they were very well looked after by staff for their cancer or tumour, ranging from 81% for males to 84% for females.

Chart shows question X60: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426. Due to small numbers, results for 'prefer not to say' are not shown.

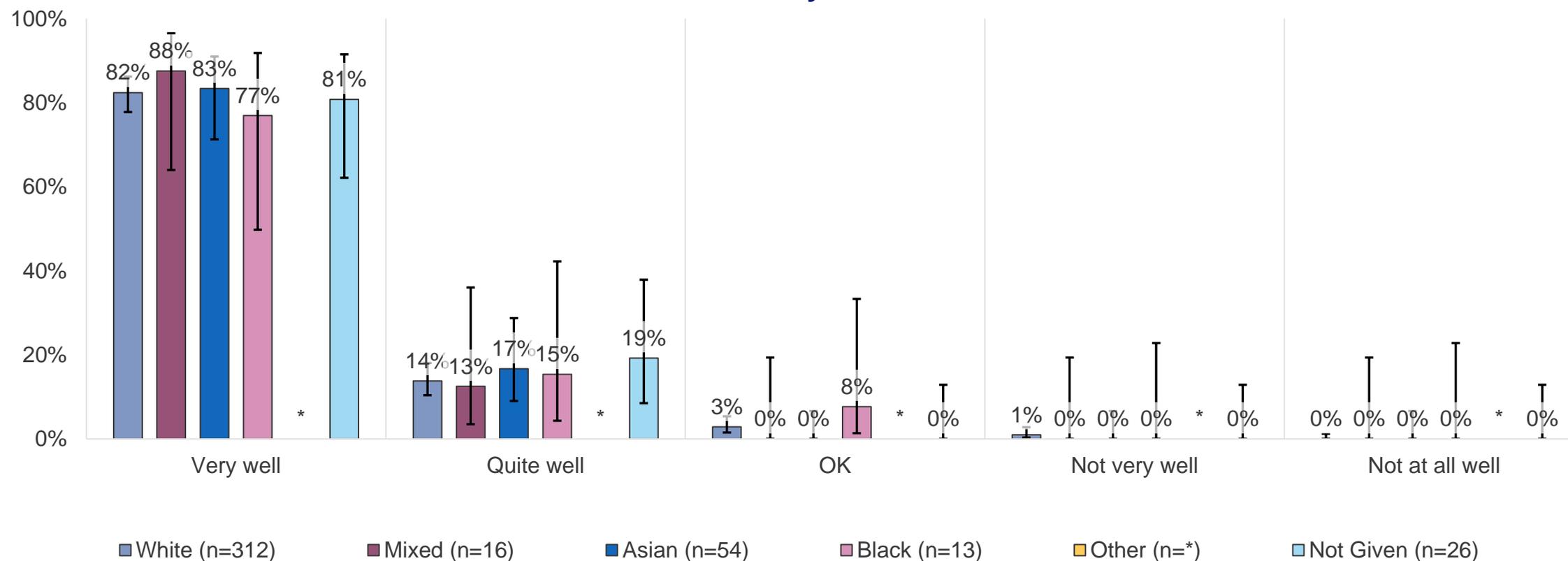
Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)



The percent of parents or carers rating their child's overall care as 8 or more out of 10 ranged from 83% for Asian ethnic background to 93% for black ethnic background.

Chart shows question X59: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912

Overall, how well are you looked after for your cancer or tumour by the healthcare staff?

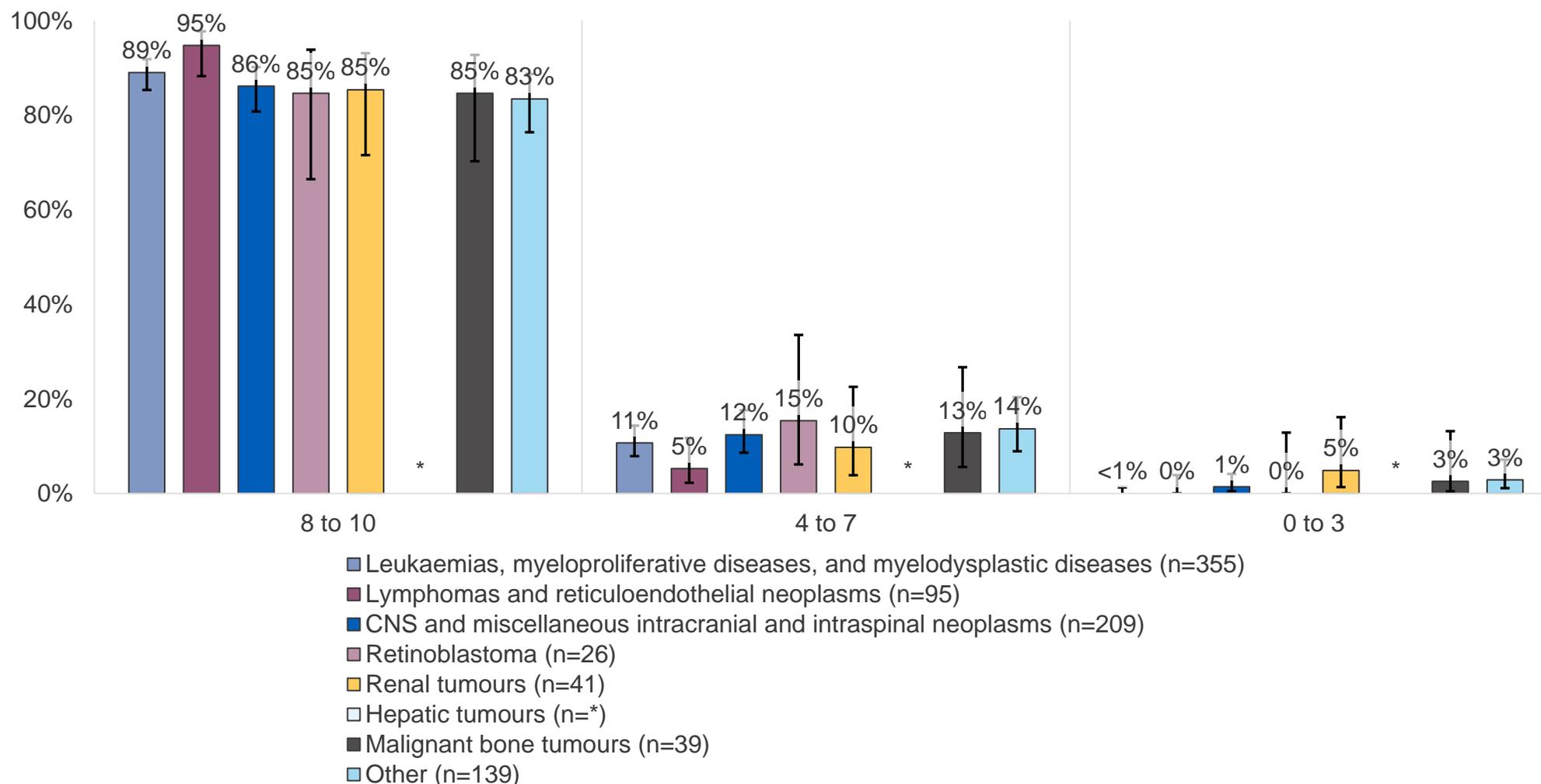


The percent of children reporting they were looked after very well ranged from 77% for black ethnic background to 88% for mixed ethnic background.

Chart shows question X60: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426

* An asterisk indicates that data has been suppressed (see [page 13](#) for details).

Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)



The percent of parents or carers rating their child's overall care as 8 or more out of 10 ranged from 83% for all other to 95% for lymphomas and reticuloendothelial neoplasms.

Chart shows question X59: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912

* An asterisk indicates that data has been suppressed (see [page 13](#) for details).

The percent of children reporting they were looked after very well ranged from 76% for leukaemias, myeloproliferative diseases, and myelodysplastic diseases, and myelodysplastic diseases to 92% for all other. However, please note that data for three diagnostic groups has been suppressed due to small numbers.

Overall, how well are you looked after for your cancer or tumour by the healthcare staff?

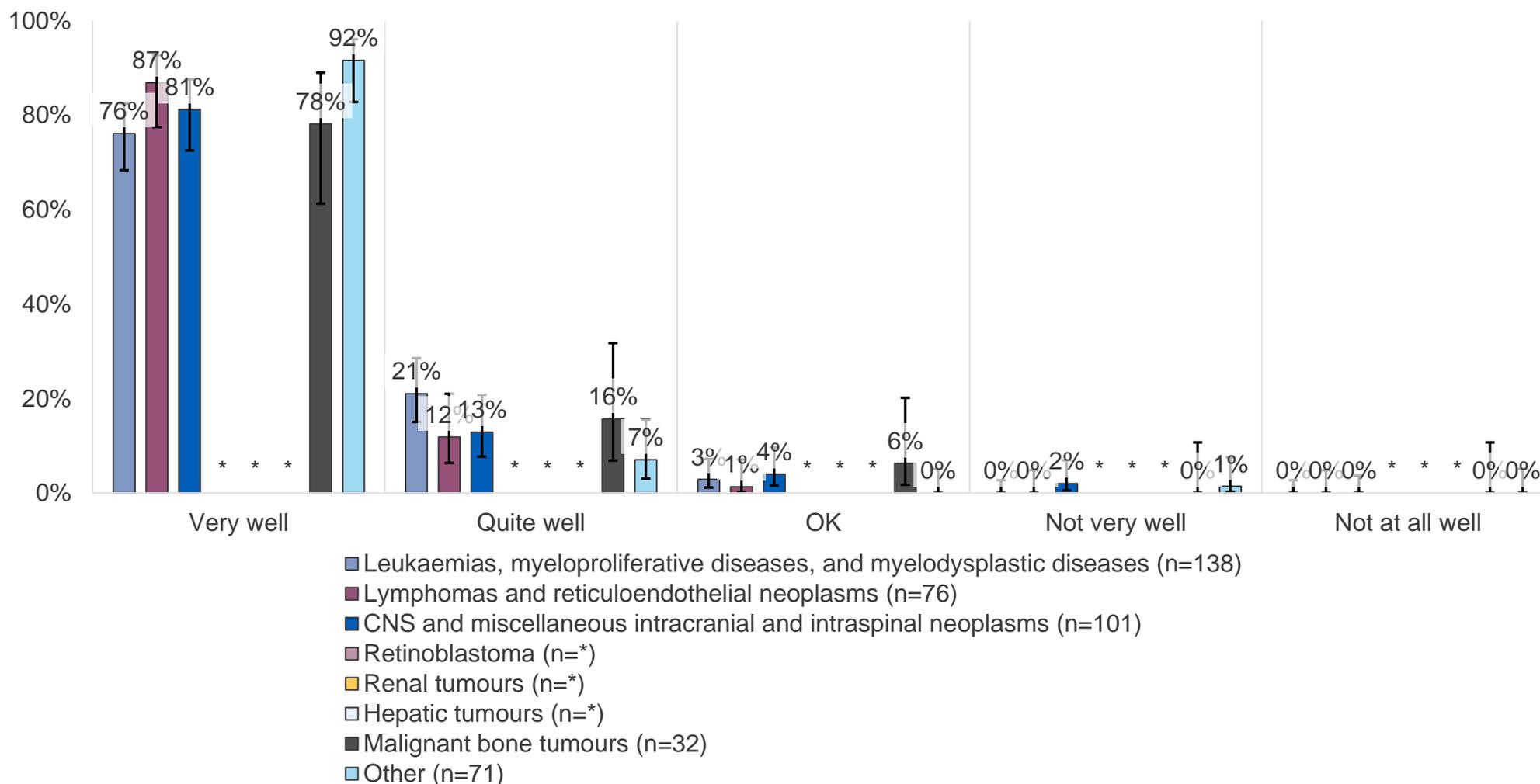
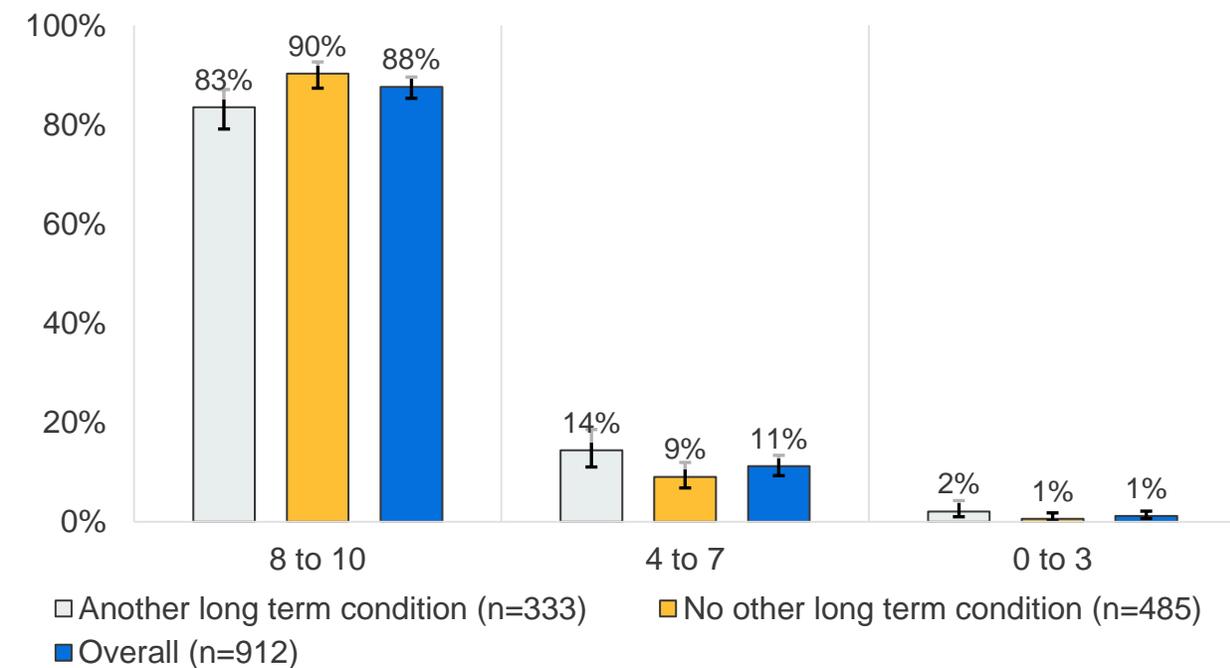


Chart shows question X60: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426

* An asterisk indicates that data has been suppressed (see [page 13](#) for details).

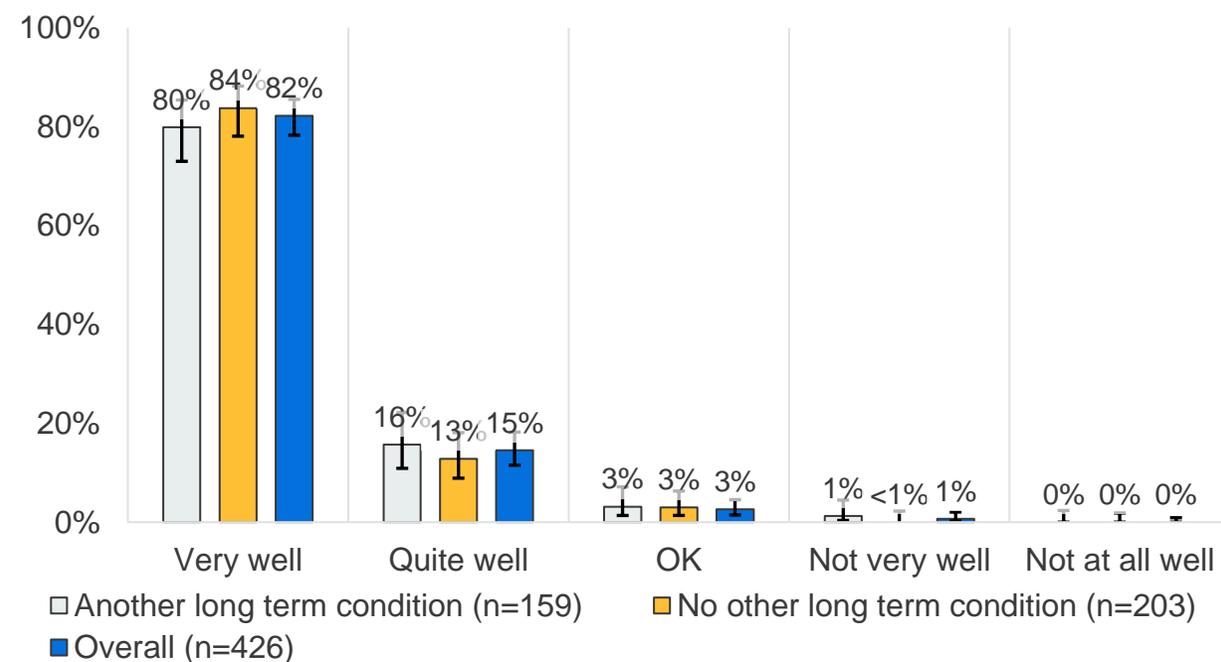
Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)



88% of parents or carers rated the overall experience of their child's care as 8 or more out of 10, ranging from 83% for another long term condition to 90% for no other long term condition.

Chart shows question X59: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912

Overall, how well are you looked after for your cancer or tumour by the healthcare staff?

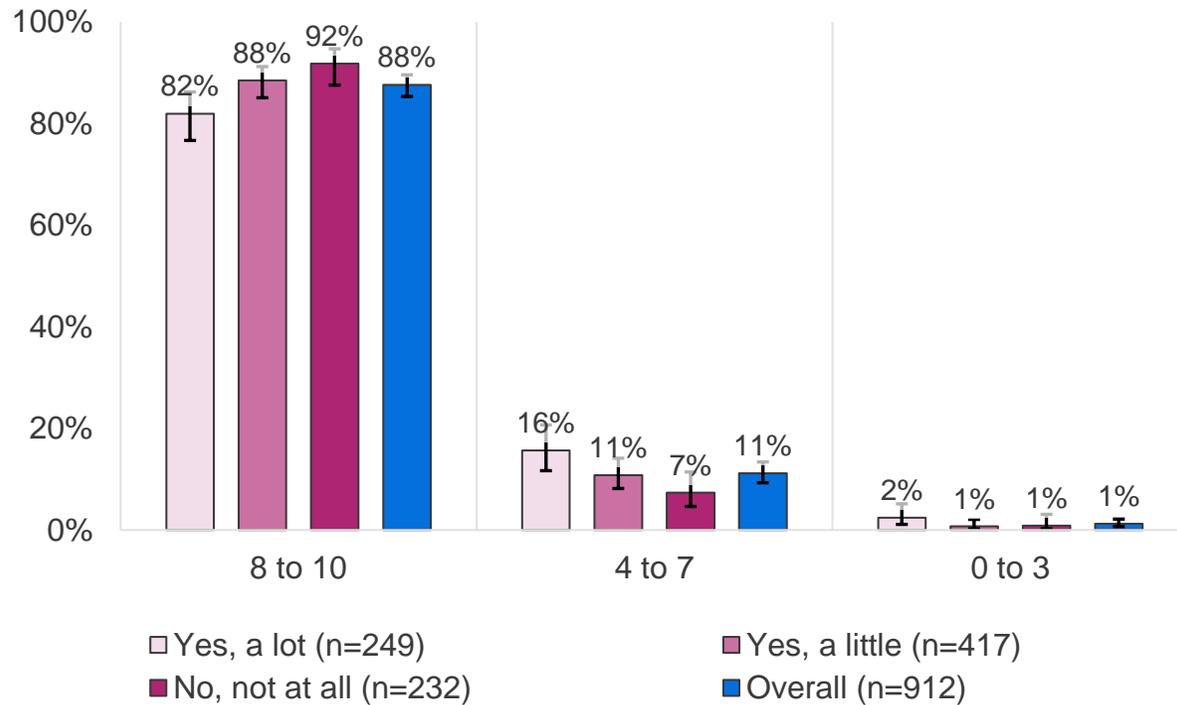


82% of children reported that they were very well looked after by staff for their cancer or tumour, ranging from 80% for another long term condition to 84% for no other long term condition.

Chart shows question X60: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426

Overall care by 'Does the child's long term condition or cancer reduce their ability to carry out their day-to-day activities?'

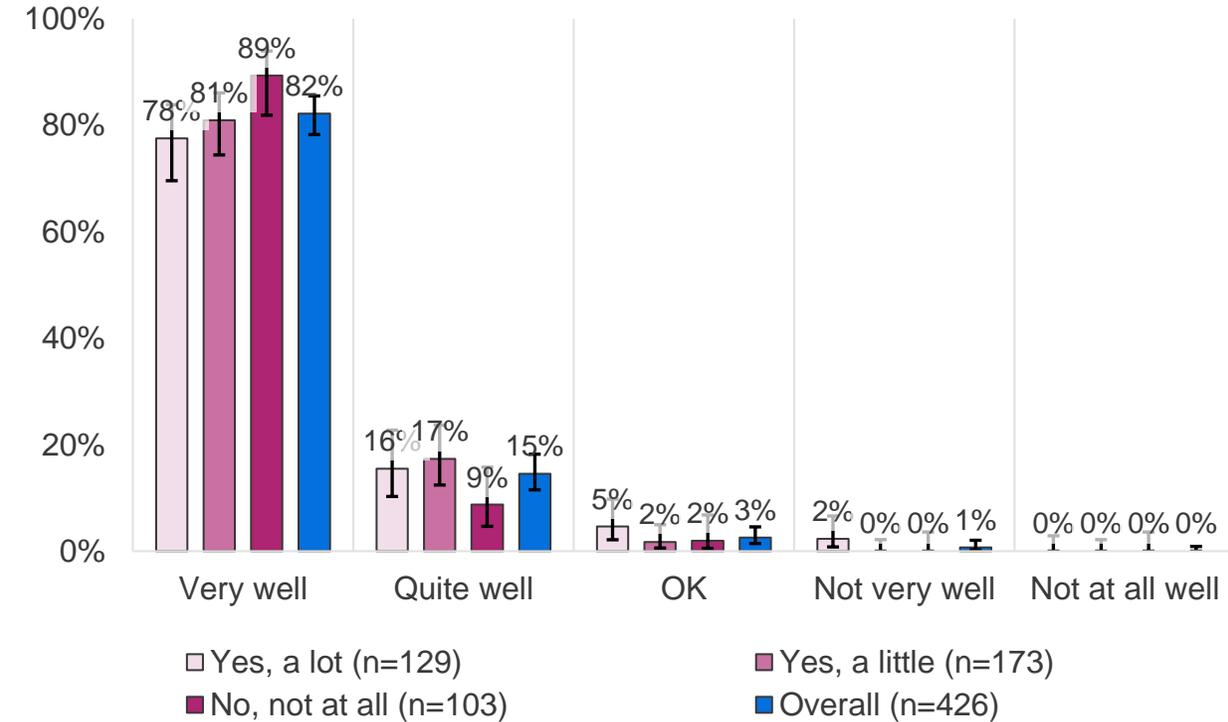
Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)



88% of parents or carers rated the overall experience of their child's care as 8 or more out of 10, ranging from 82% for those who responded 'Yes, a lot' to 92% for those who responded 'No, not at all'.

Chart shows question X59: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912

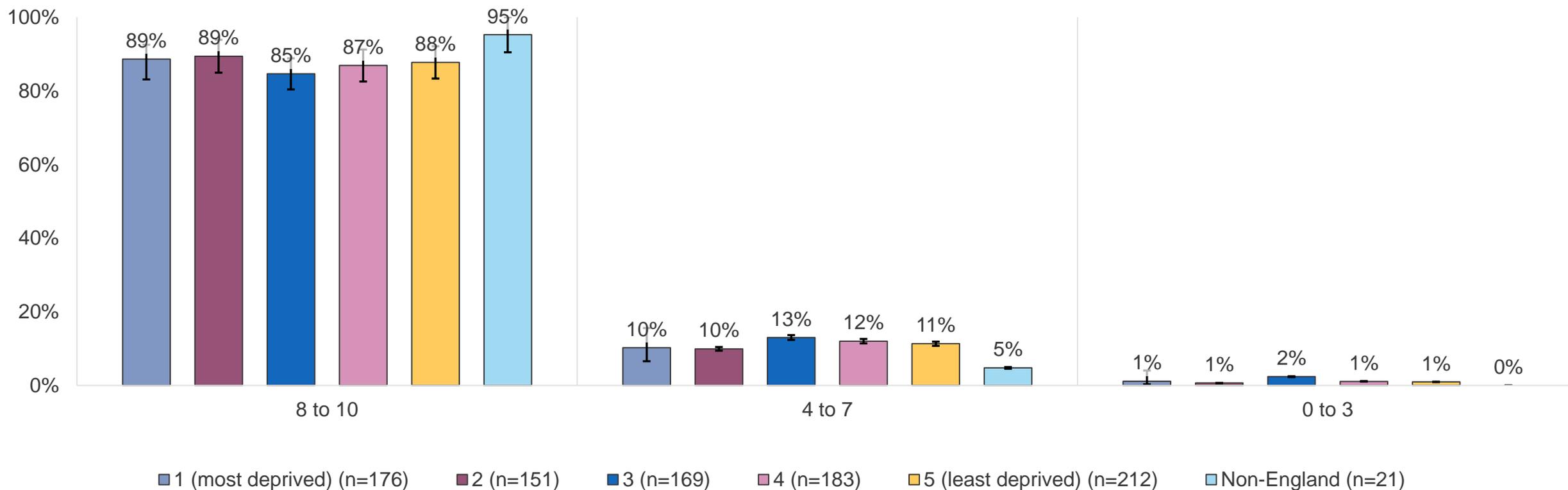
Overall, how well are you looked after for your cancer or tumour by the healthcare staff?



82% of children reported that they were very well looked after by staff for their cancer or tumour, ranging from 78% for those who responded 'Yes, a lot' to 89% for those who responded 'No, not at all'.

Chart shows question X60: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426

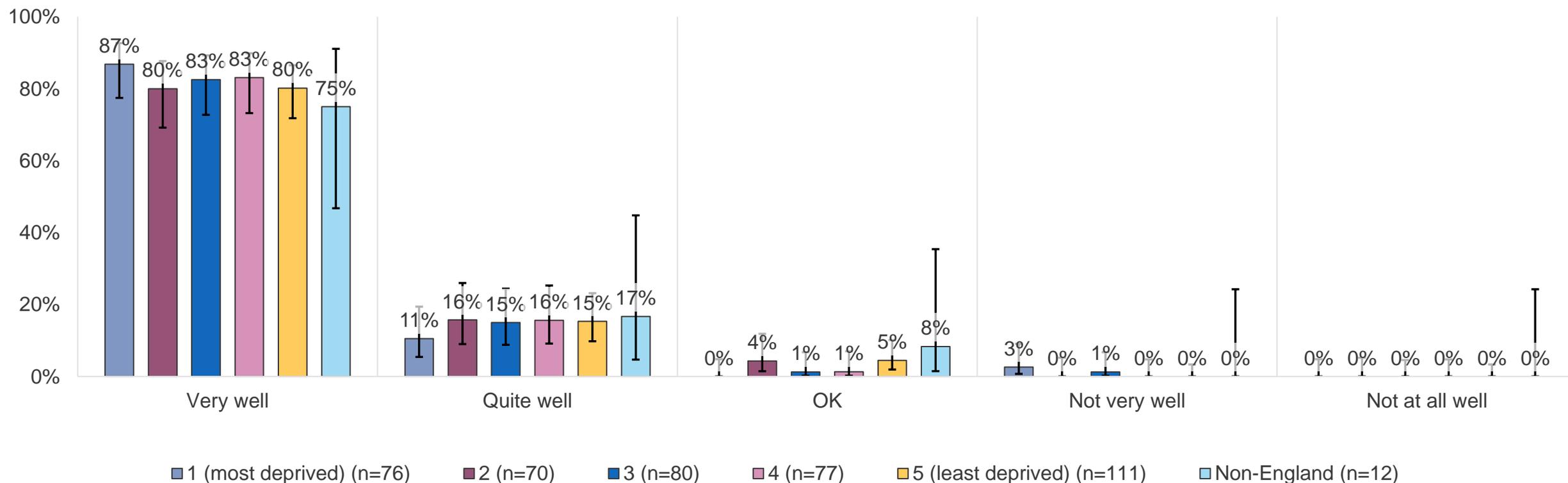
Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)



The percent of parents or carers rating their child's overall care as 8 or more out of 10 ranged from 85% for the third IMD quintile to 95% for non-England.

Chart shows question X59: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912

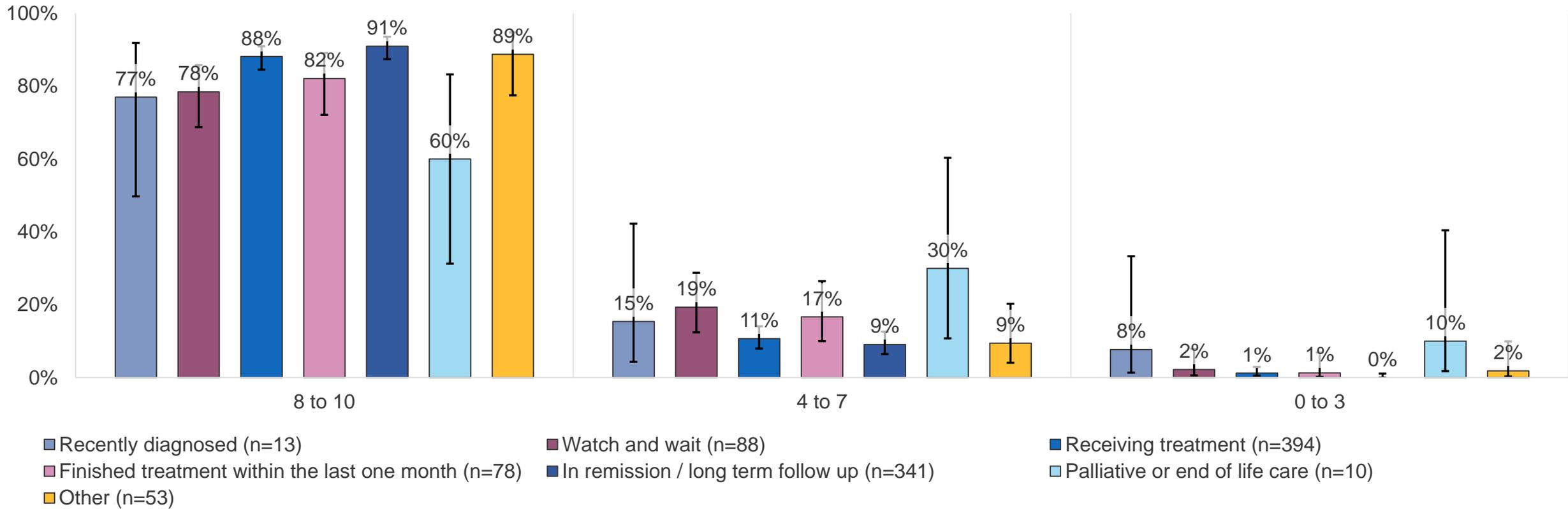
Overall, how well are you looked after for your cancer or tumour by the healthcare staff?



Children reporting that they were very well looked after by healthcare staff ranged from 75% for non-England to 87% for the most deprived.

Chart shows question X60: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426

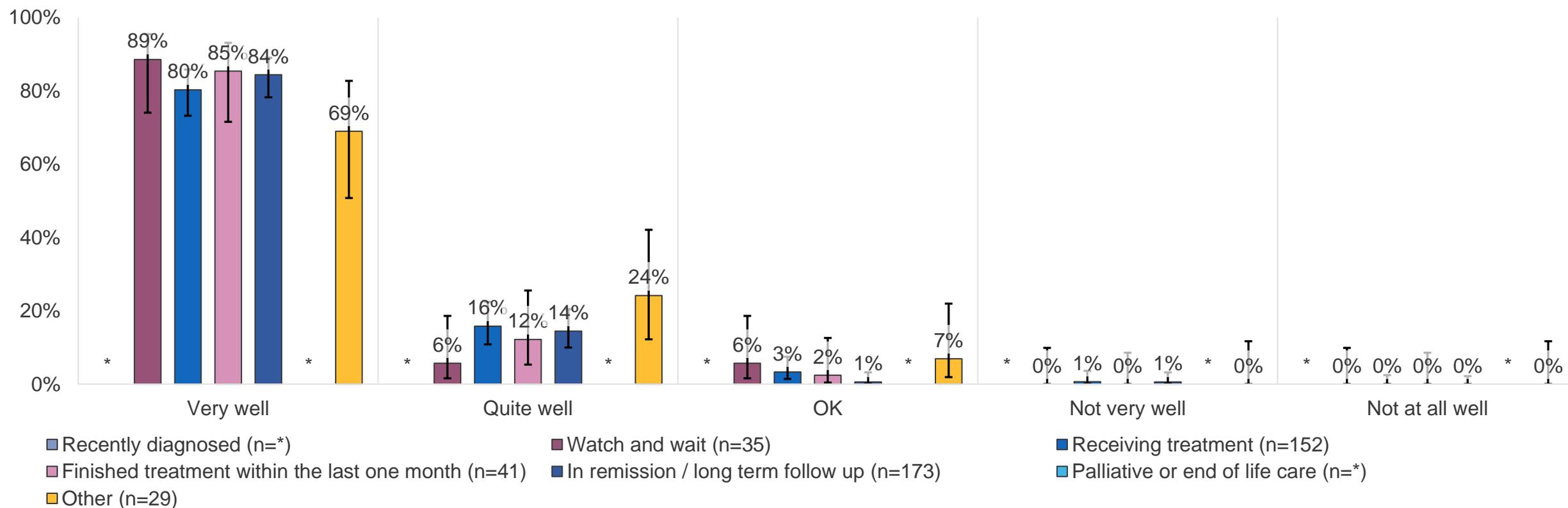
Overall, please rate your child's cancer or tumour care from 0 (very poor) to 10 (very good)



Parents or carers rating their child's overall care as 8 or more out of 10 ranged from 60% for those in palliative or end of life care to 91% for those in remission / long term follow up.

Chart shows question X59: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 912

Overall, how well are you looked after for your cancer or tumour by the healthcare staff?



The percent of children reporting they were looked after very well ranged from 69% for other to 89% for those in watch and wait.

Chart shows question X60: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426

* An asterisk indicates that data has been suppressed (see [page 13](#) for details).

Hospitals working together



50% of parents, carers, and children reported that different hospitals providing cancer or tumour care always worked well together.

Question X57: Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-11, and children aged 12-15. Total number of responses = 727

Travel to the hospital



66% of parents or carers reported that the hospital where their child received most of their care is about or under an hour's travel from their child's home.

Question X58: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 916

6.2

Finding out about the cancer or tumour



Visiting the GP

Before you were told your child needed to go to hospital about their cancer or tumour, how many times did they see a GP (family doctor) about the health problem(s) caused by the cancer or tumour?

55% of parents or carers reported that their child saw a GP once or twice before they were referred to hospital.

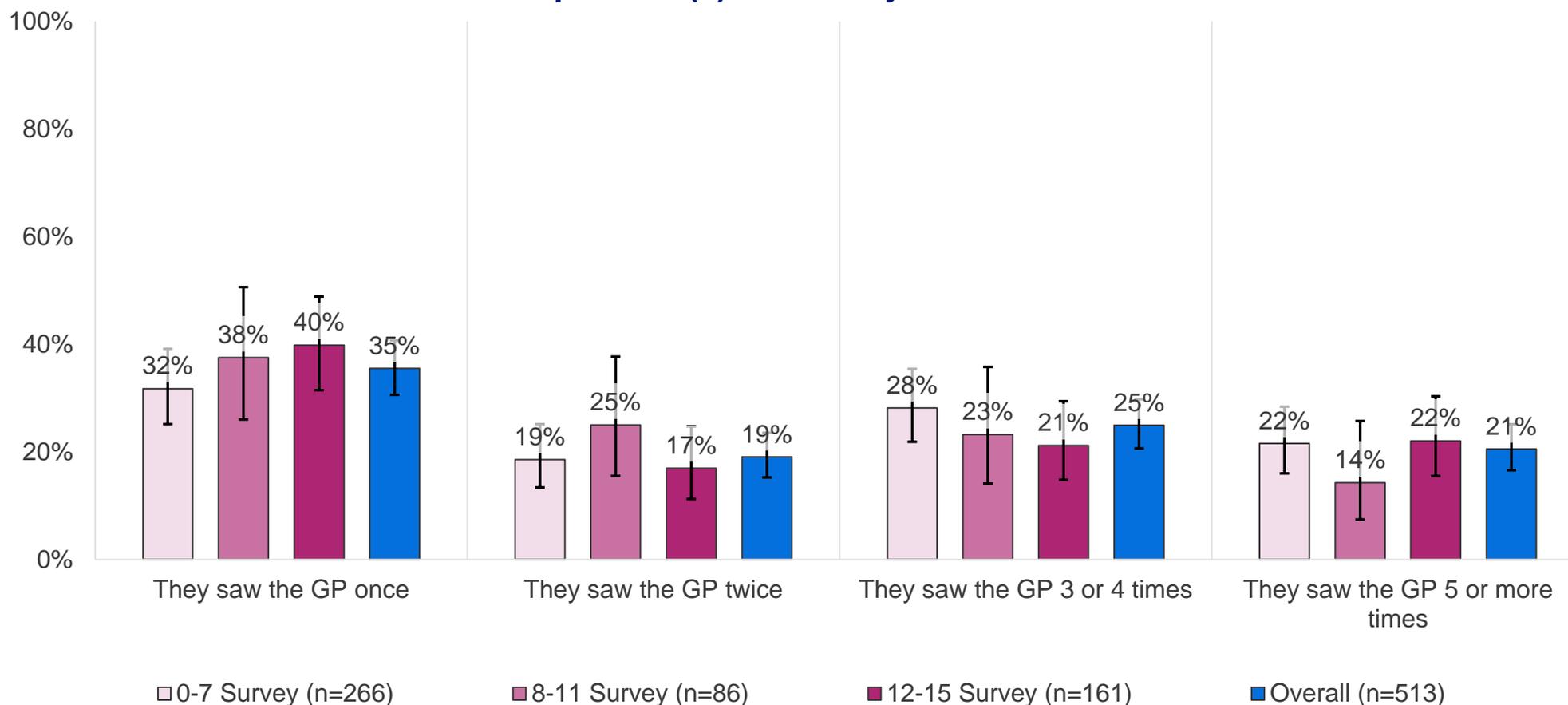


Chart shows question X03: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children were told they had cancer or a tumour. Total responses = 341 (excluding 164 responses of “None – they went straight to hospital” and 8 responses of “Don’t know / can’t remember”)

Visiting the hospital

How did you feel about the length of time you waited between being referred by your GP to a hospital doctor until you were seen at the hospital?

70% of parents or carers felt that they were seen at the hospital as soon as they thought was necessary after being referred by their GP.

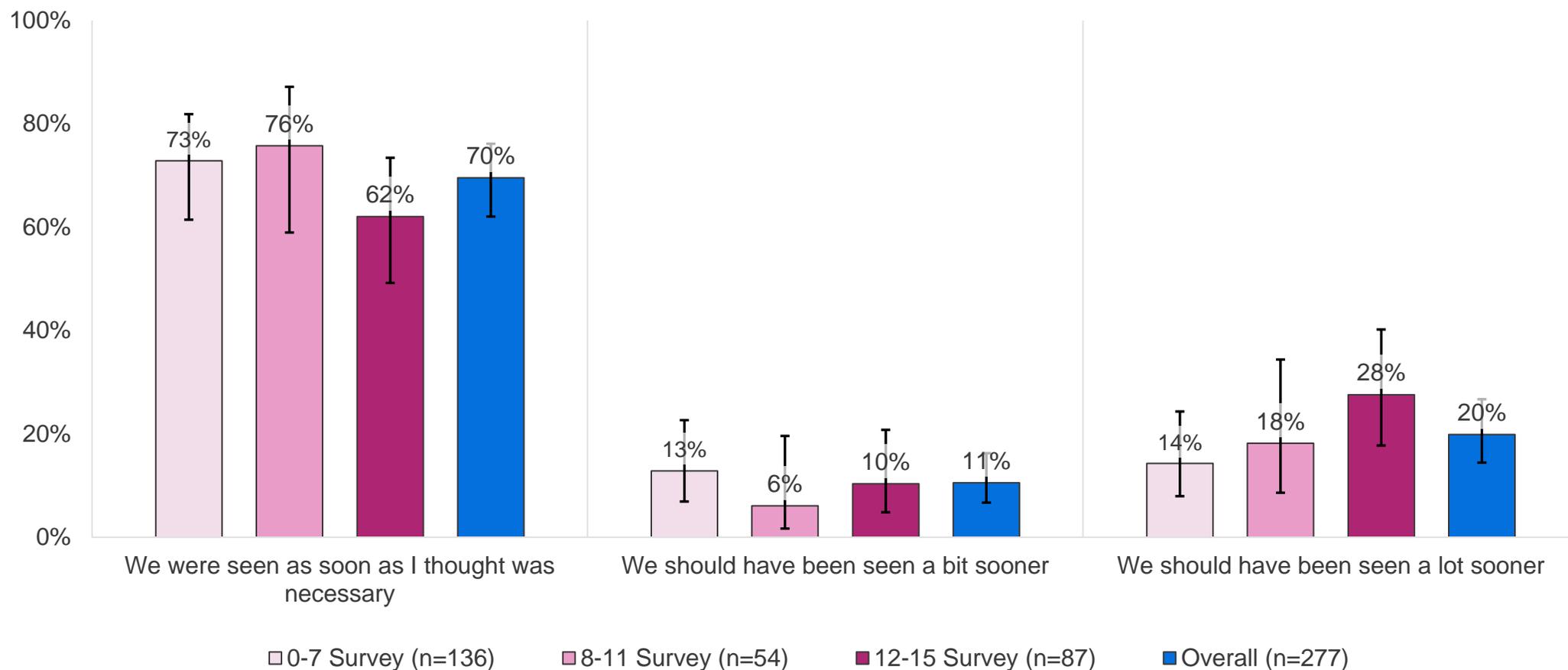
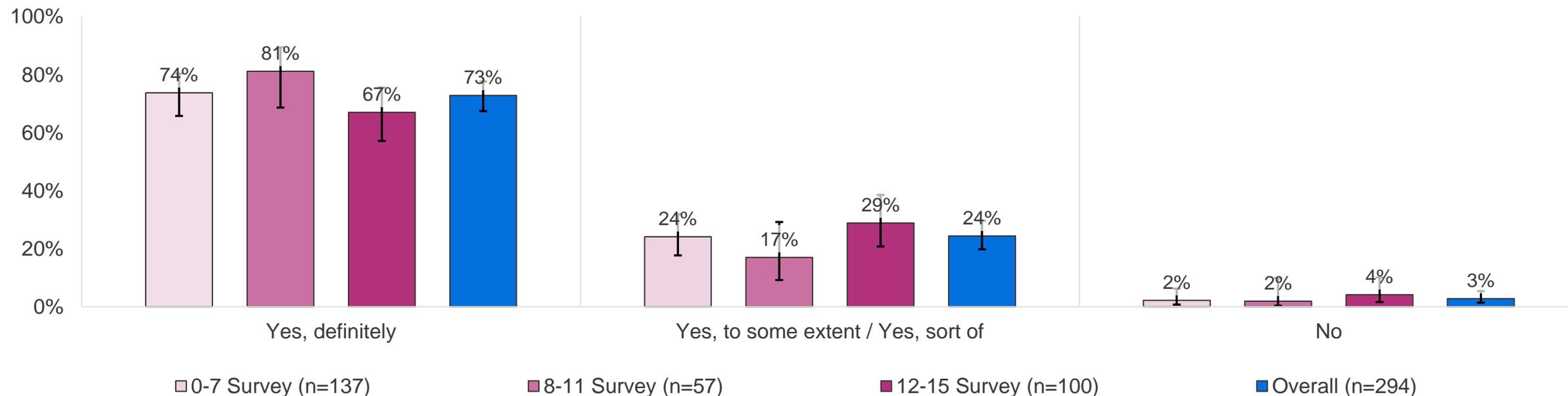


Chart shows question X06: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour. Total number of responses = 161 (excluding 116 responses of "We were not referred by a GP")

Information

When you were told about your child's cancer or tumour, was information given in a way that you could understand? / When you were told about your cancer or tumour, was information given in a way that you could understand?



73% of parents, carers, and children reported that information at diagnosis was definitely given in a way they could understand.

Chart shows question X08: Asked to parents or carers of 0-7s who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour, and children aged 8-15 who were told they had cancer or a tumour. Total responses = 287 (excluding 7 responses of "Don't know / can't remember").

Information

93% of parents, carers, and children reported that staff provided details about who to contact for more information after being told about the cancer or tumour.

Did hospital staff give you details for who to contact if you wanted more information after you were told about your child's cancer or tumour? / Did hospital staff give you details for who to contact if you wanted more information after you were told about your cancer or tumour?

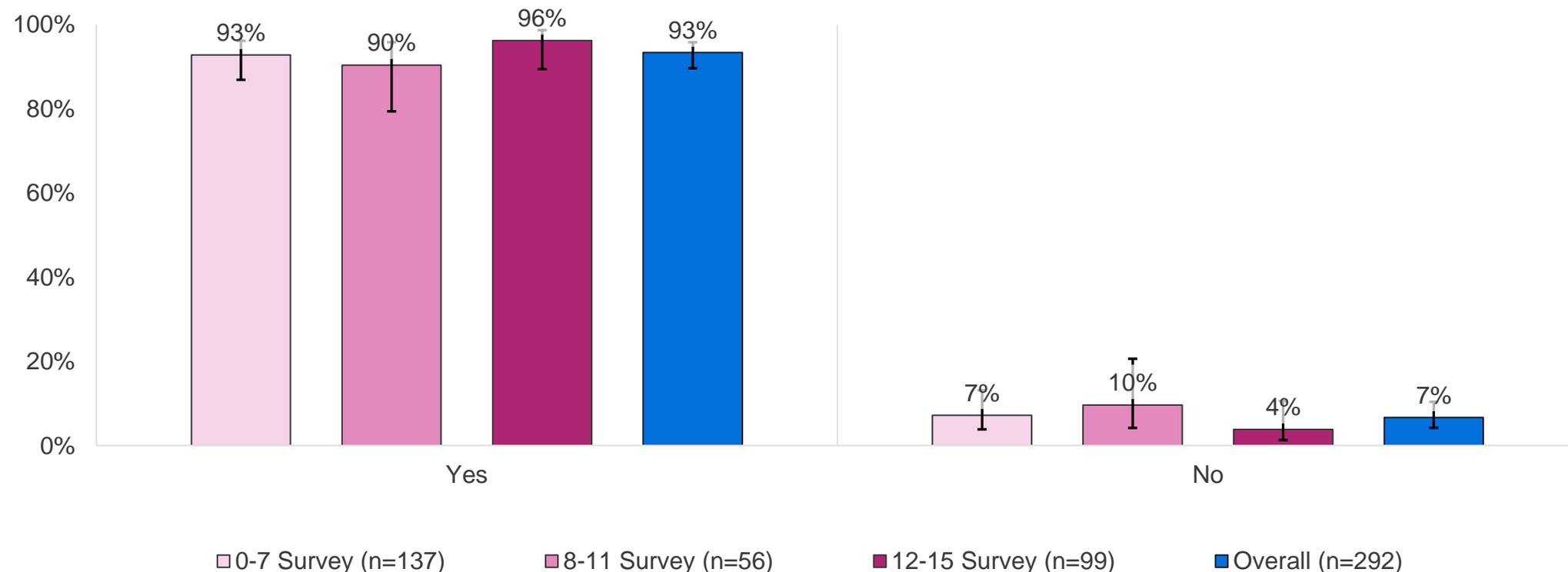
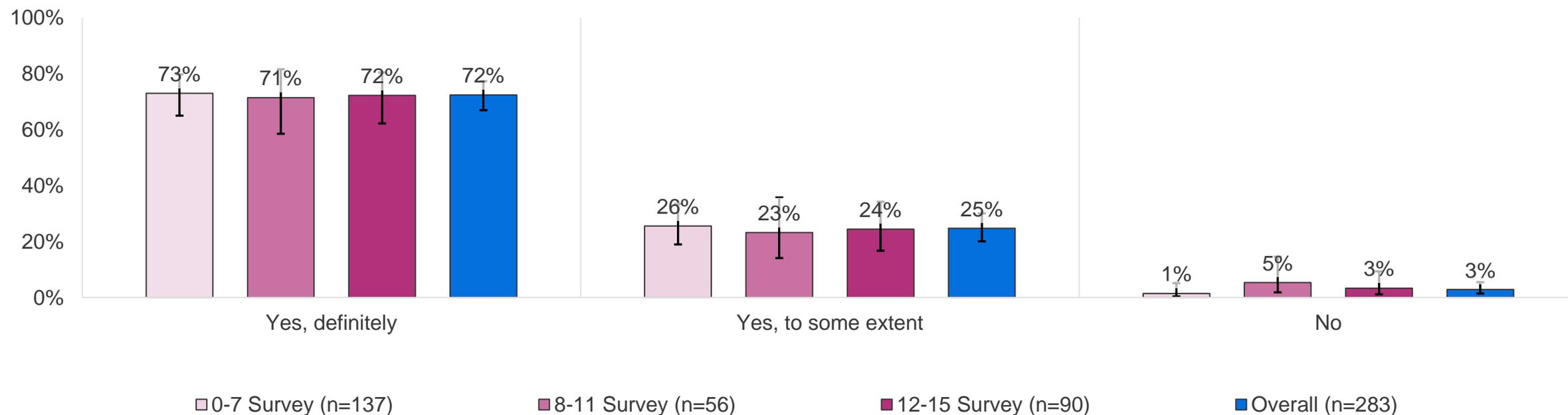


Chart shows question X11: Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-11 who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour, and children aged 12-15 who were told they had cancer or a tumour. Total responses = 256 (excluding 36 responses of "Don't know / can't remember").

Information

Have you been able to find the information that you need about your child's diagnosis?



72% of parents or carers reported that they were definitely able to find information about their child's diagnosis.

Chart shows question X10: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour. Total responses = 283 (excluding 0 responses of "This was not needed").

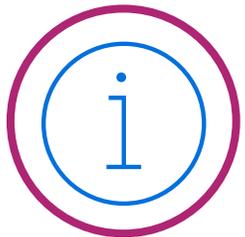
Answering questions



81% of parents, carers, and children reported that they were definitely able to have questions answered after being told about the cancer or tumour.

Question X09: Asked to parents or carers of 0-7s who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour, and children aged 8-15 who were told they had cancer or a tumour. Total number of responses = 280 (excluding 9 responses of "I did not have any questions" and excluding 5 response(s) of "Don't know / can't remember").

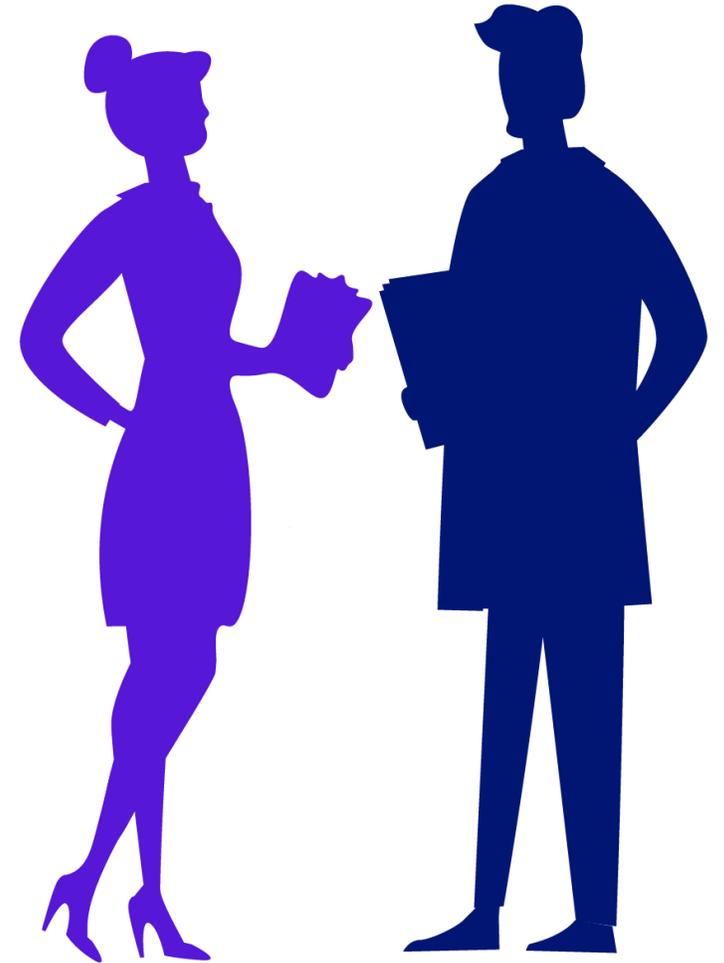
Information



71% of parents or carers reported that they were definitely told about their child's cancer or tumour diagnosis in a sensitive way.

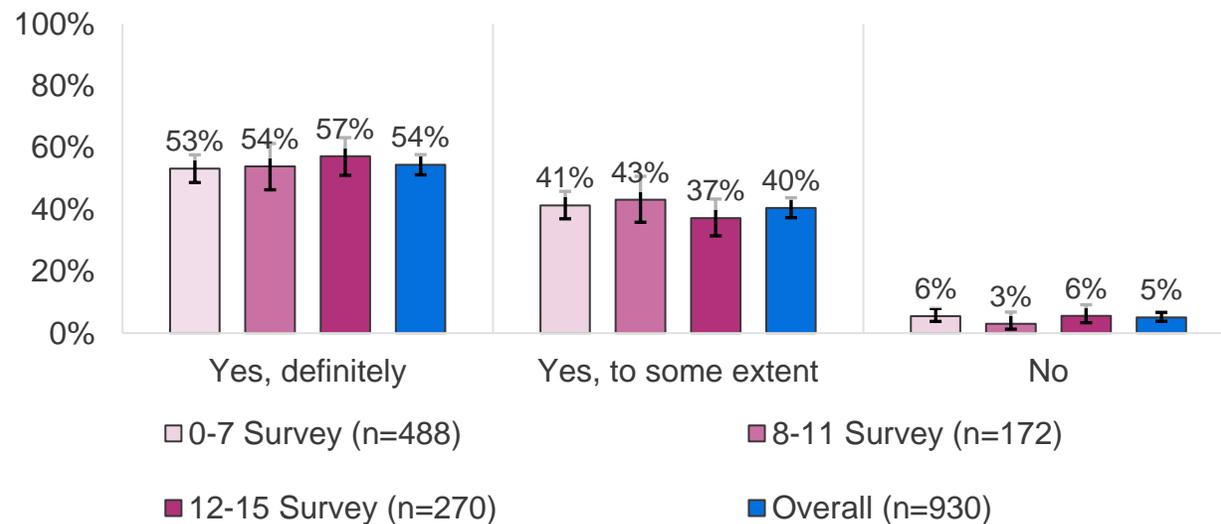
Question X07: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour. Total number of responses = 273 (excluding 7 responses of "Don't know / can't remember").

6.3 Child's care and treatment



Medical history

Are different hospital staff caring for your child aware of your child's medical history?

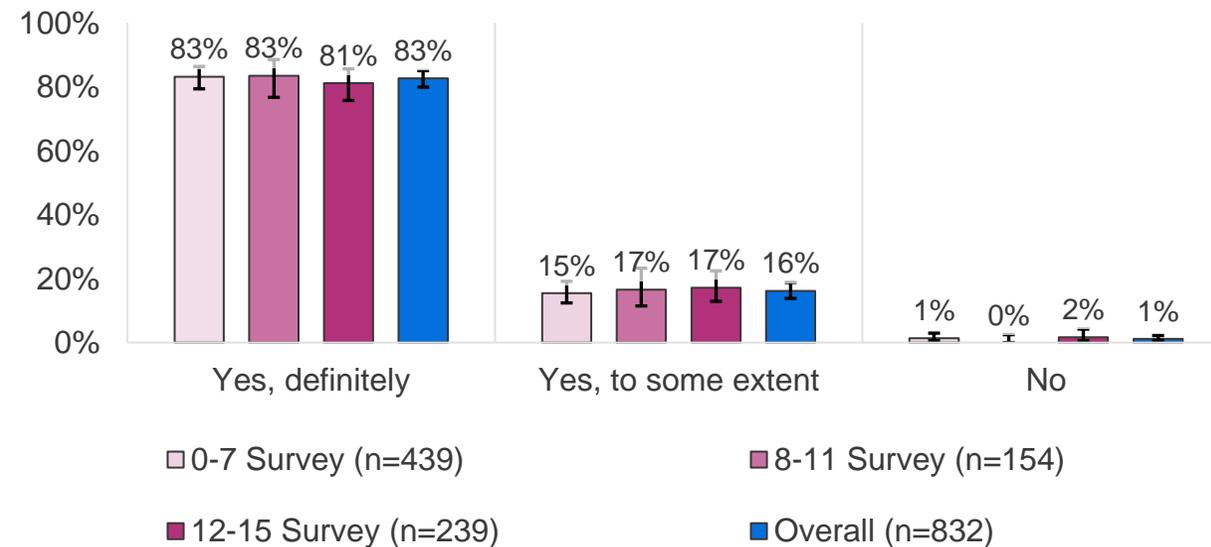


54% of parents or carers felt that different hospital staff were definitely aware of their child's medical history.

Chart shows question X27: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total responses = 889 (excluding 41 responses of "Don't know / Not applicable").

Information

Were you offered clear information about your child's treatment?

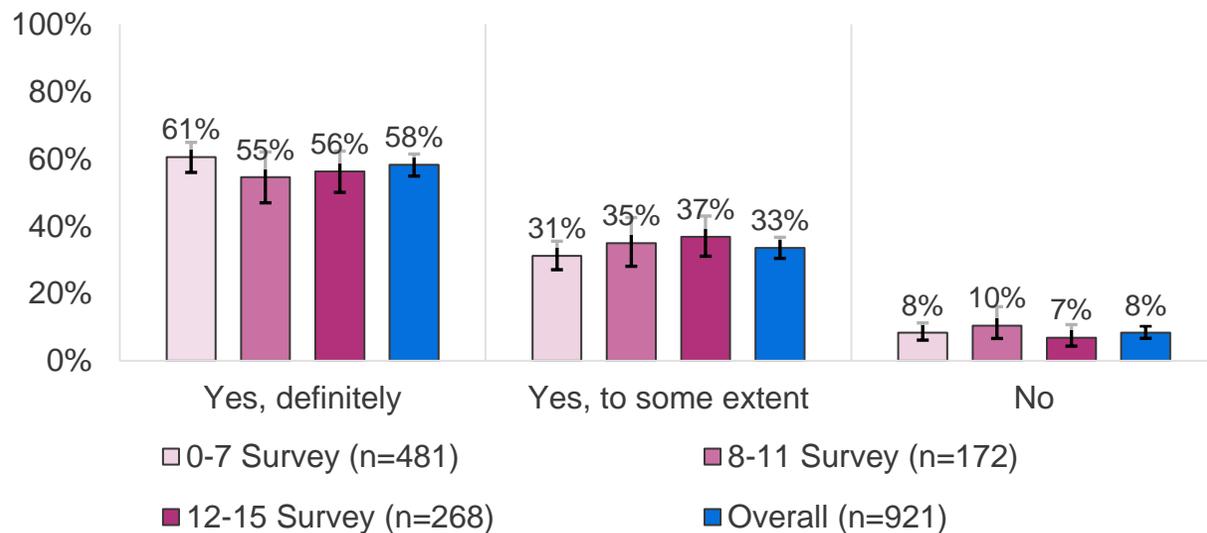


83% of parents or carers reported that they were definitely offered clear information about their child's treatment.

Chart shows question X36: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children received treatment for their cancer or tumour. Total responses = 829 (excluding 3 responses of "This was not needed").

Support from the hospital

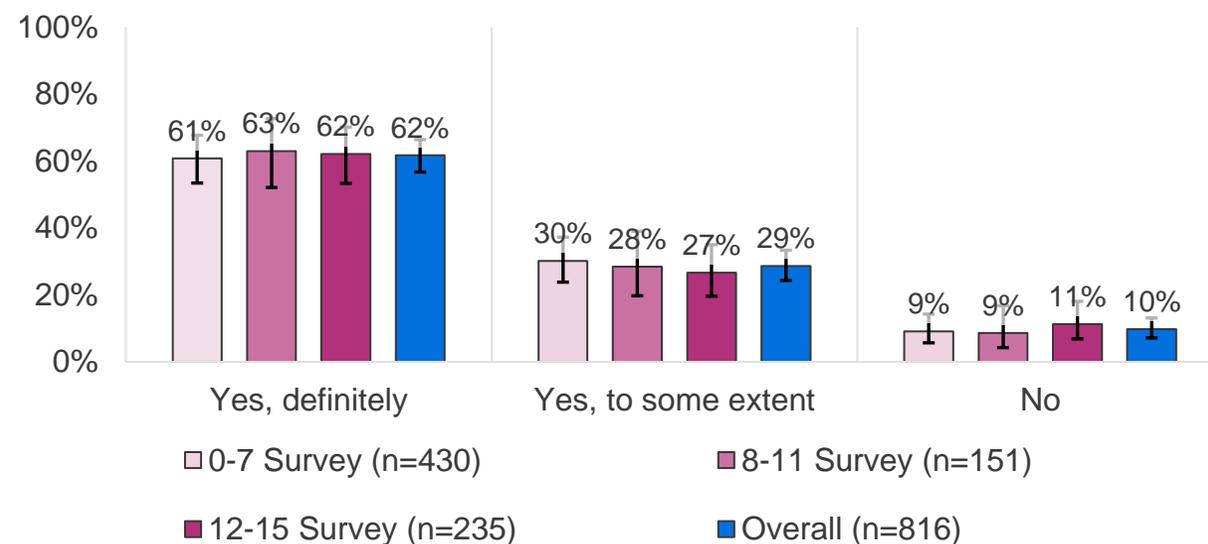
Do you have access to reliable help and support 7 days a week from the hospital?



58% of parents or carers reported that they definitely had access to reliable help and support 7 days a week from the hospital.

Support from the hospital

If your child's treatment has finished, did you receive enough ongoing support from the hospital after it ended?



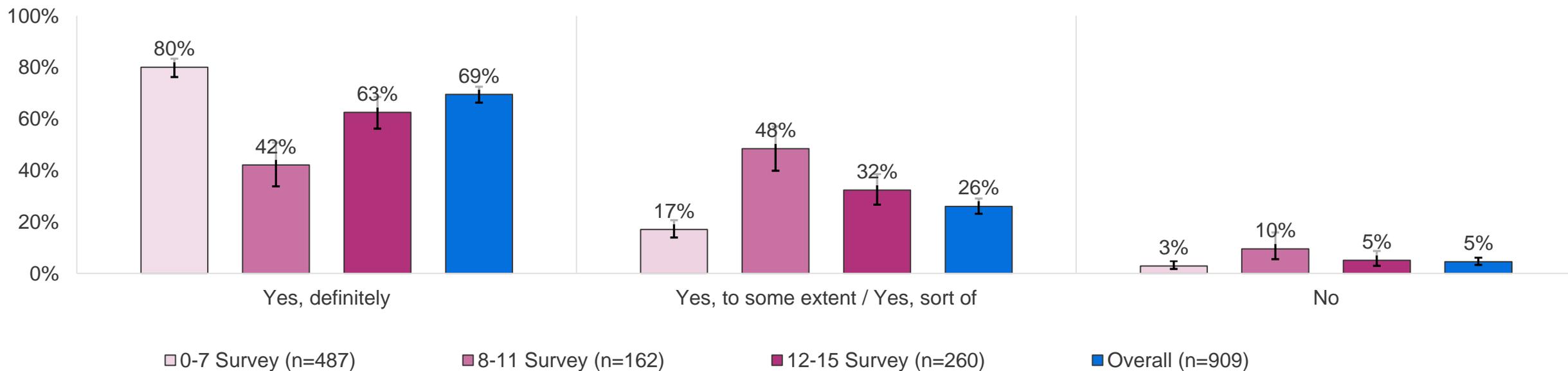
62% of parents or carers felt they definitely received enough ongoing support from the hospital after their child's treatment ended.

Chart shows question X33: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total responses = 866 (excluding 55 responses of "This is not needed").

Chart shows question X39: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children received treatment for their cancer or tumour. Total responses = 381 (excluding 40 responses of "Not applicable / this was not needed" and excluding 395 responses of "My child is still receiving treatment").

Decisions about care and treatment

Are you involved as much as you want to be in decisions about your child's care and treatment? / Do you have a say in deciding what happens with your care and treatment? / Are you involved in decisions about your care and treatment?

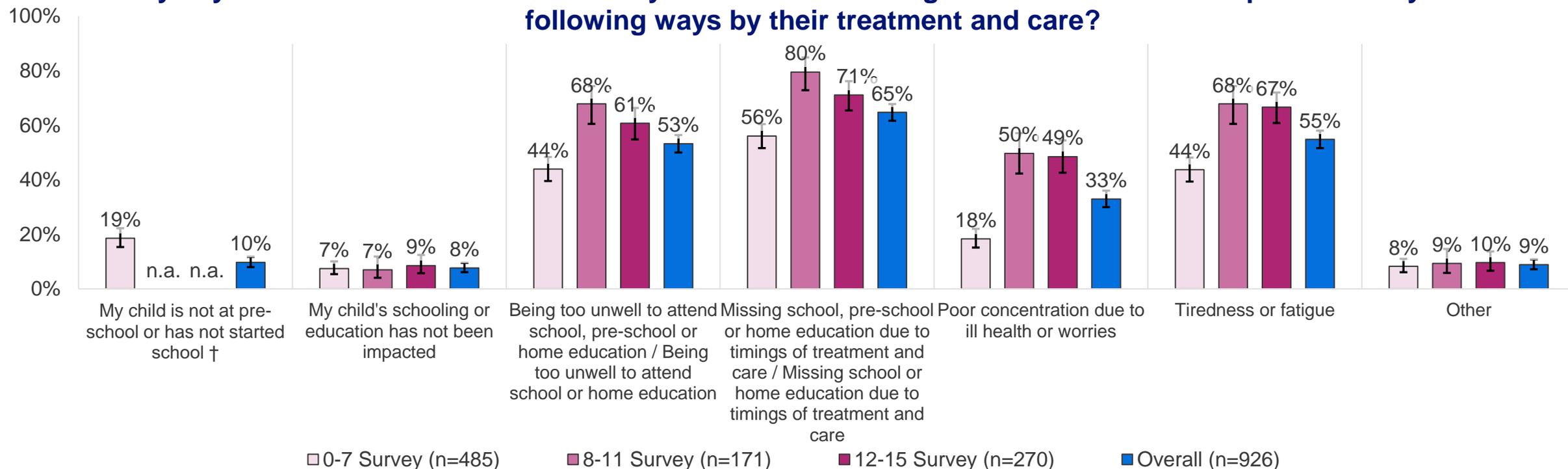


69% of parents, carers, and children felt they were definitely involved in their child's or their care and treatment.

Chart shows question X29: Asked to parents or carers of 0-7s and all children aged 8-15 . Total responses = 842 (excluding 48 responses of “No, but this is not needed” and 19 responses of “No, but this is not possible”).

Impact of care and treatment on schooling and education

Has your child's schooling and education (including pre-school) been impacted in any of the following ways by their treatment and care? / Has your child's schooling and education been impacted in any of the following ways by their treatment and care?



Across all surveys, parents or carers reported that their child's schooling and education had been impacted by missing school, pre-school or home education due to timings of treatment and care / missing school or home education due to timings of treatment and care, more so than other response options.

Chart shows question X30: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 926.

† Response option was only asked to parents or carers of 0-7 years old.

6.4 Care in hospital



Staff availability in hospital

71% of parents, carers, and children felt that their child or they were always able to get help from staff on the hospital ward when they needed it.

When your child was in hospital, were they able to get help from staff on the ward when they needed it? / Could you get help from staff on the ward when you needed it?

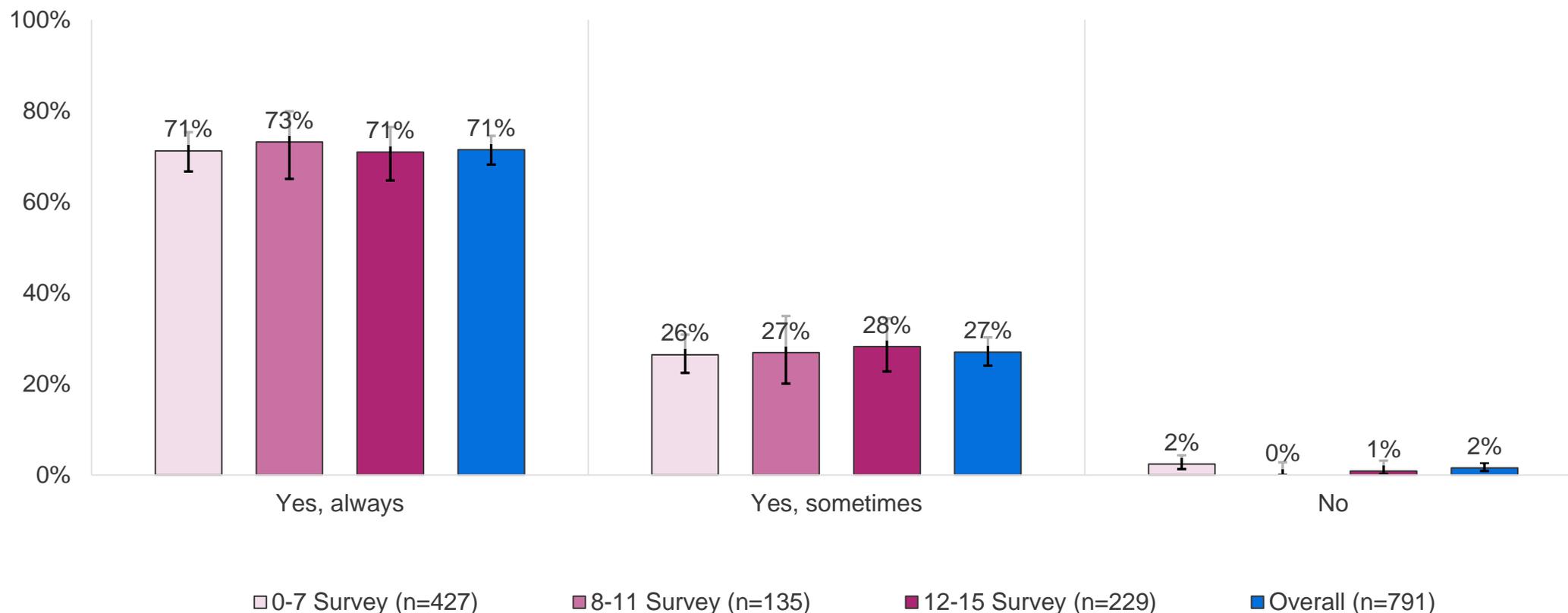


Chart shows question X42: Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children stayed in hospital, and children aged 8-15 who have stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay). Total number of responses = 781 (excluding 8 responses of “They / I did not need any help” and 2 responses of “Don’t know / can’t remember”).

Things for children to do in hospital

47% of parents, carers, and children felt that there were definitely enough things for their child to do in the hospital.

**Were there enough things for your child to do in the hospital? /
Were there enough things for you to do in the hospital?**

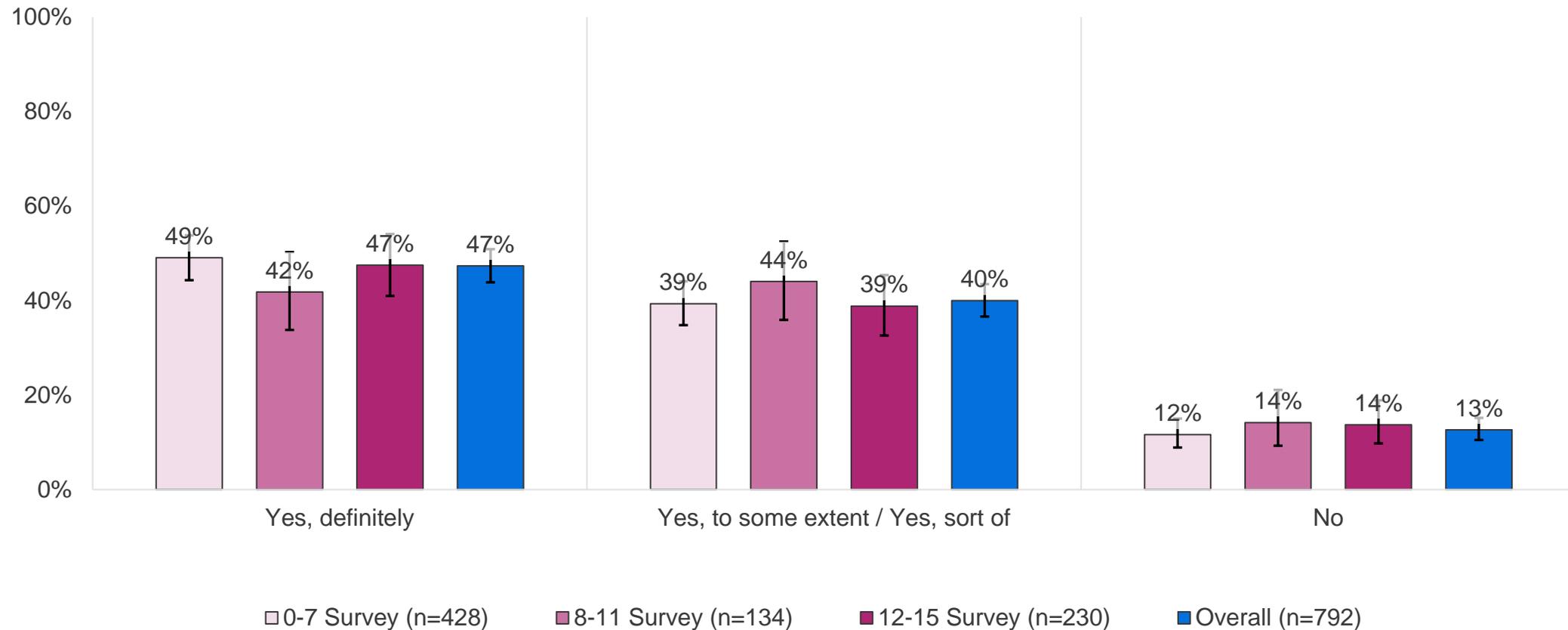


Chart shows question X43: Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children stayed in hospital, and children aged 8-15 who stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime, or for an overnight stay). Total responses = 775 (excluding 17 responses of "This was not needed").

Play specialist support

Was play support available in hospital when your child needed it (i.e. from a Health Play Specialist who uses play and activities to support patients and/or prepare them for treatments)?

52% of parents or carers reported that the hospital always offered play specialist support when they needed it.

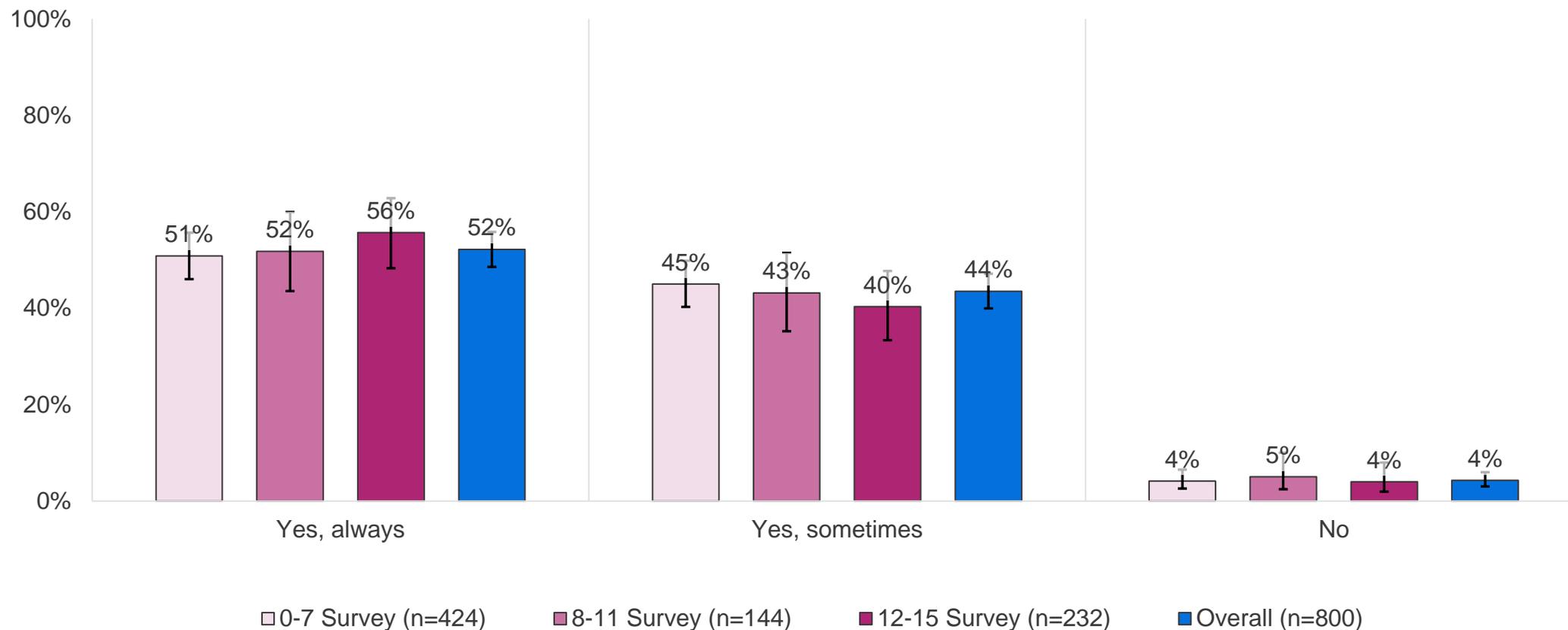


Chart shows question X46: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime, or for an overnight stay). Total responses = 726 (excluding 74 responses of “My child did not need this”).

Hospital Wi-Fi

36% of parents or carers felt that the hospital Wi-Fi always met the needs of them and their child.

Did the hospital Wi-Fi meet your and your child's needs?

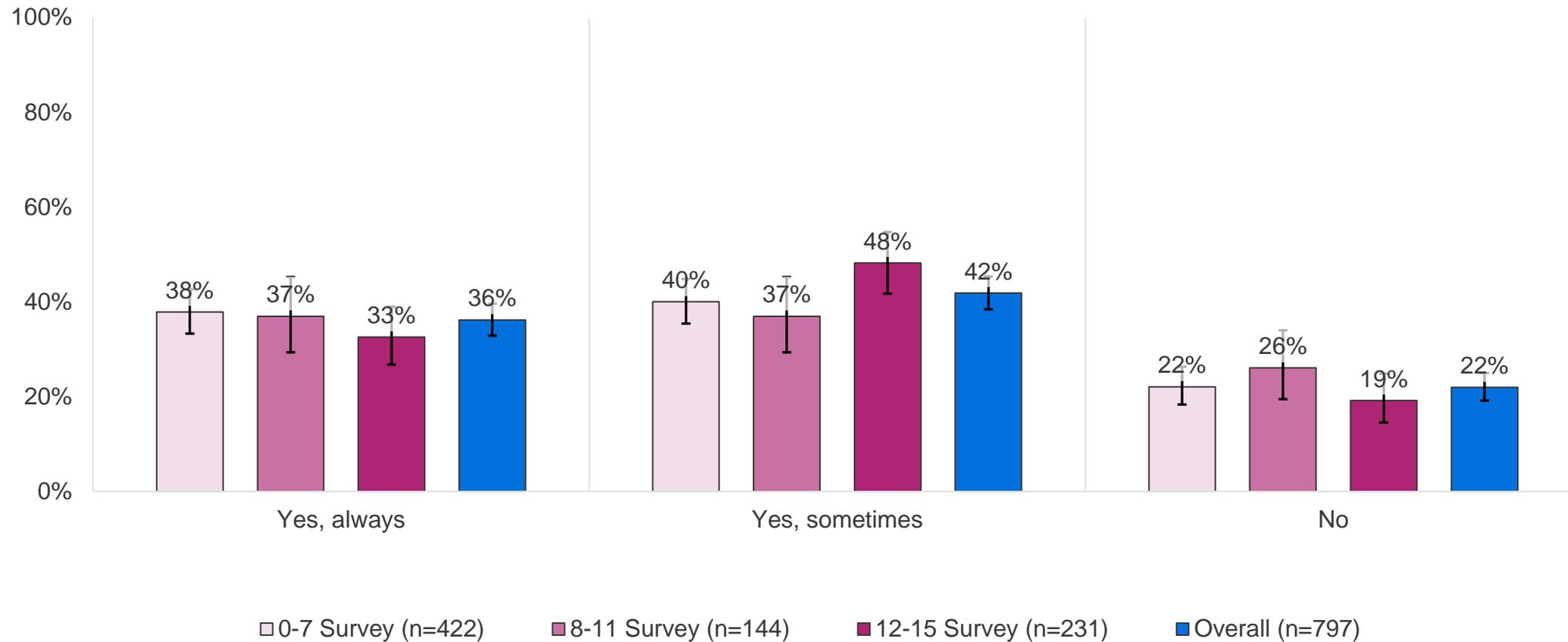
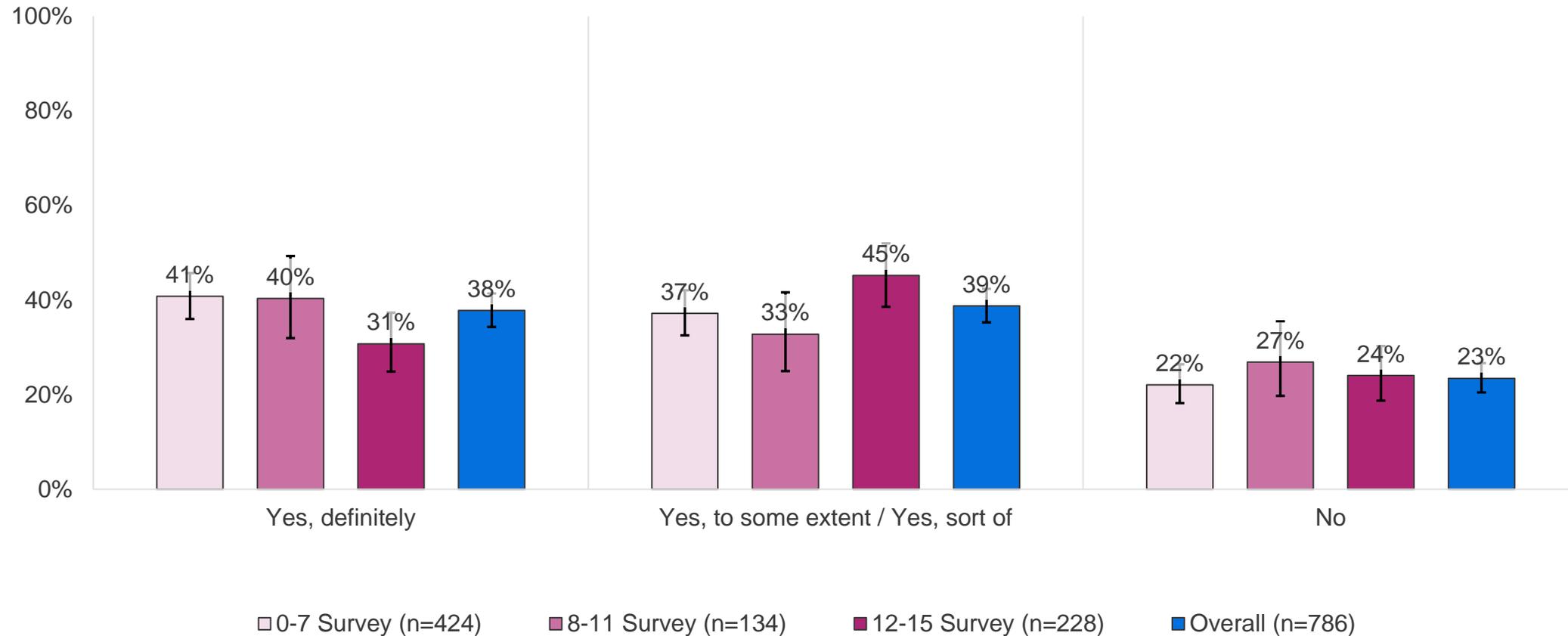


Chart shows question X51: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay). Total responses = 774 (excluding 23 responses of "This was not needed").

Hospital food

Was there a suitable choice of hospital food for your child? / Was there a suitable choice of hospital food?



38% of parents, carers, and children felt that there was definitely a suitable choice of hospital food.

Chart shows question X44: Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children stayed in hospital, and children aged 8-15 who stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime, or for an overnight stay). Total responses = 717 (excluding 69 responses of “My child did not have hospital food / I did not have hospital food”).

Hospital food

40% of parents or carers reported they were definitely able to prepare food in the hospital if they wanted to.

Were you able to prepare food in the hospital if you wanted to?

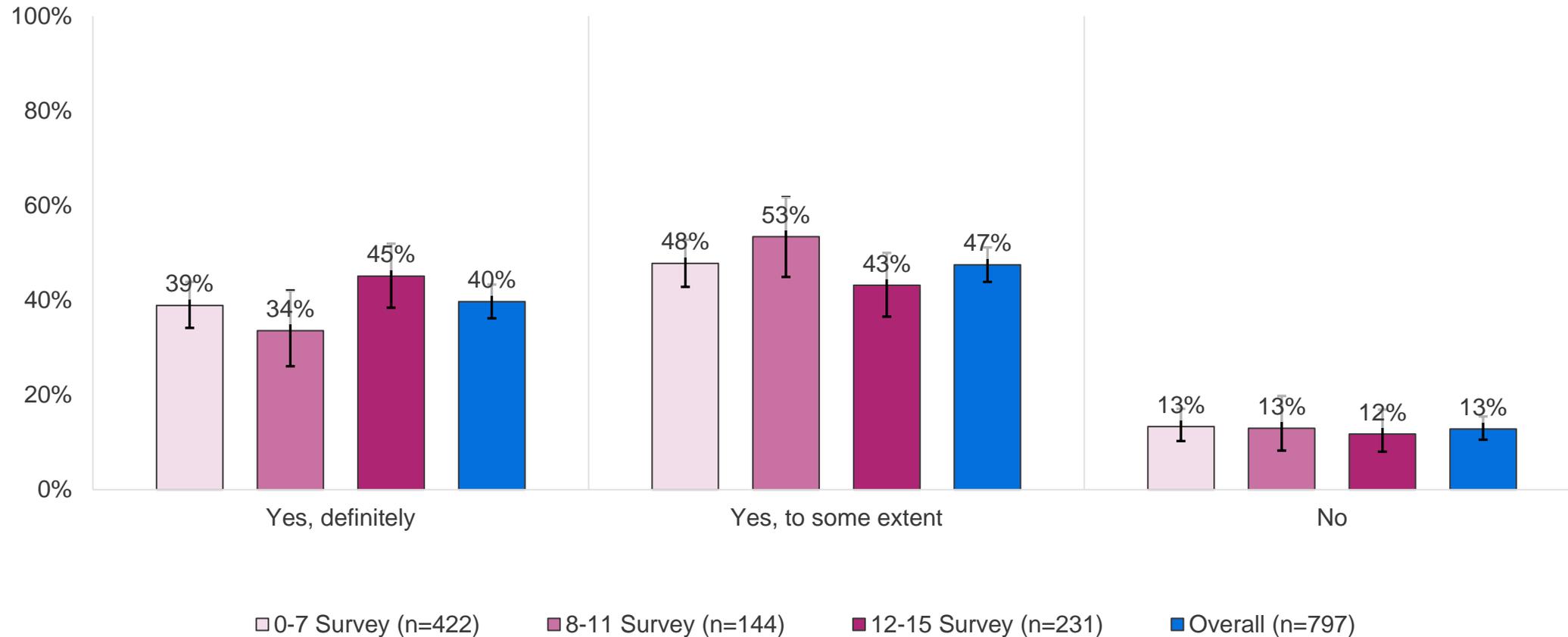
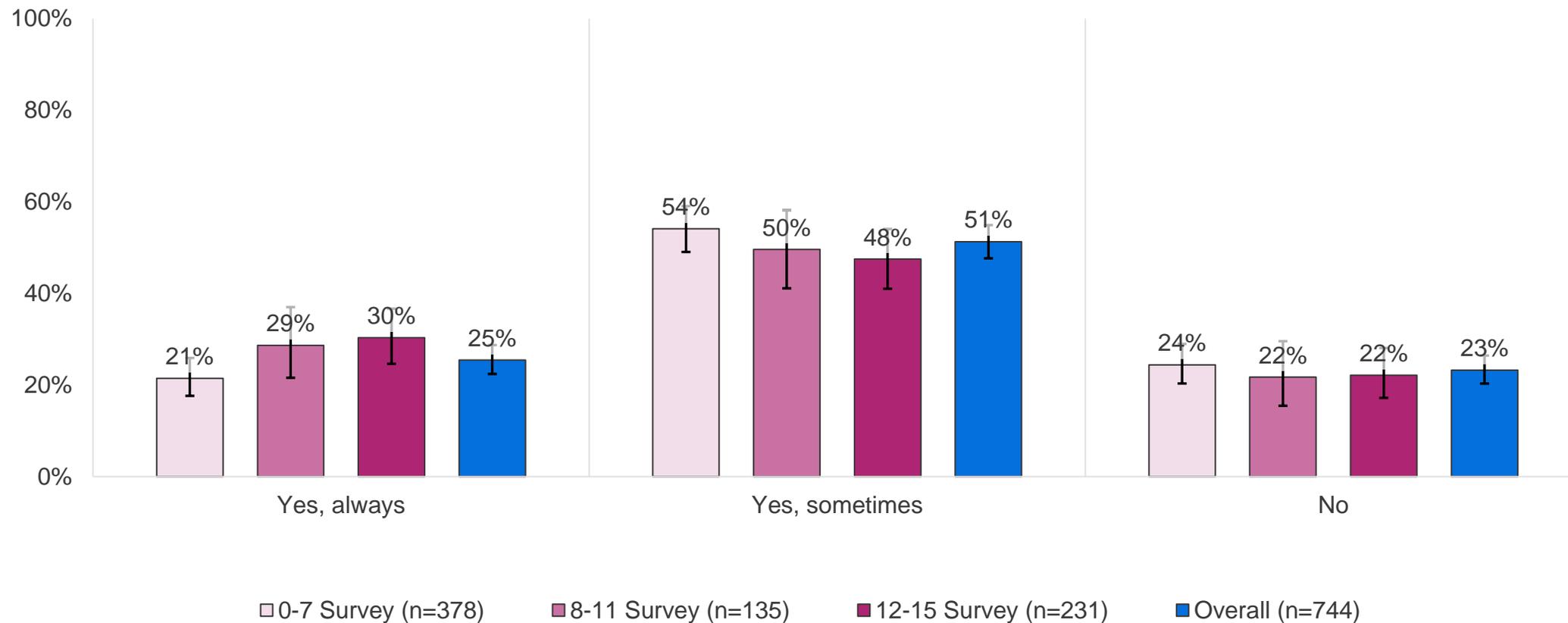


Chart shows question X50: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay). Total responses = 718 (excluding 79 responses of "I did not want to prepare food").

Hospital environment

Was it quiet enough for you to sleep in the hospital?



25% of parents, carers, and children reported that it was always quiet enough for them to sleep in the hospital.

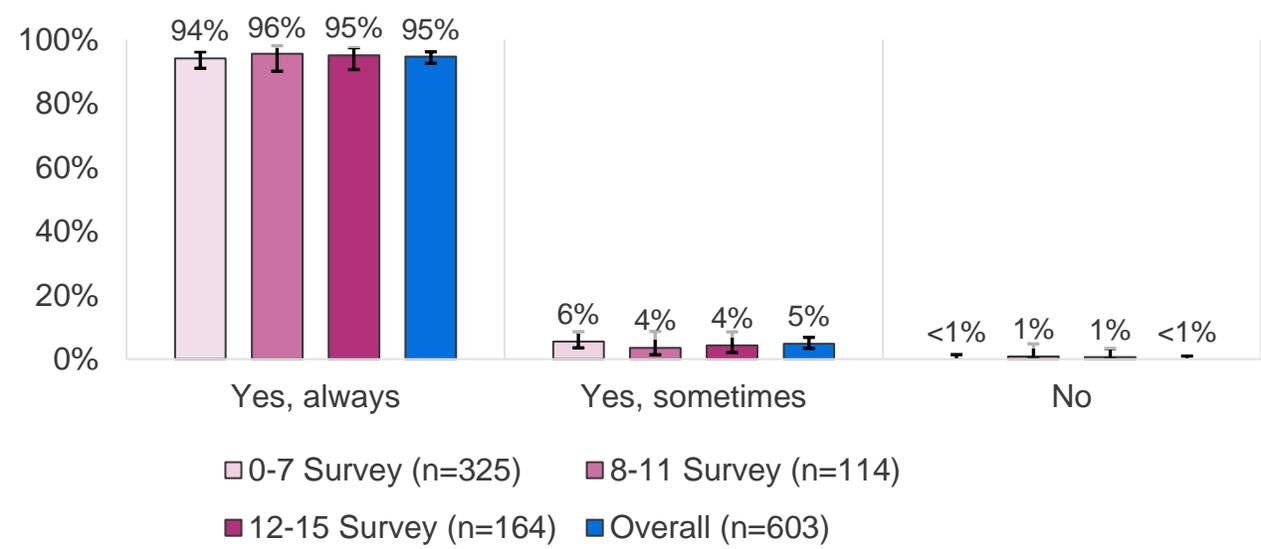
Chart shows question X49: Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children stayed in hospital and who stayed overnight with them, and children aged 8-15 who stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay). Total responses = 727 (excluding 17 responses of "I did not need to sleep in the hospital").

6.5 Care at home or at school



Bedside manner and trust

Were the nurses that came to your home or your child's school friendly? / Were the nurses that came to your home or school friendly?

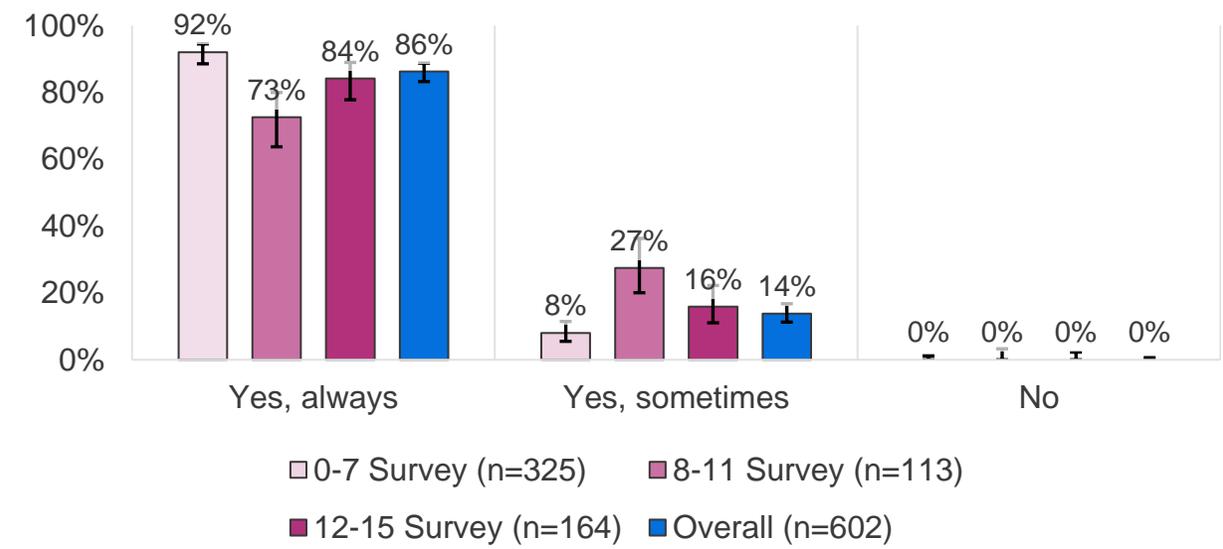


95% of parents, carers, and children felt that the nurses who came to their home or school were always friendly.

Chart shows question X54: Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children have been visited at home or school by a nurse, and children aged 8-15 who were visited at home or school by a nurse. Total number of responses = 603 (excluding 0 responses of "Don't know / can't remember").

Bedside manner and trust

When nurses speak to you, do you understand what they are saying?



86% of parents, carers, and children reported that they always understood what nurses visiting their home or school were saying.

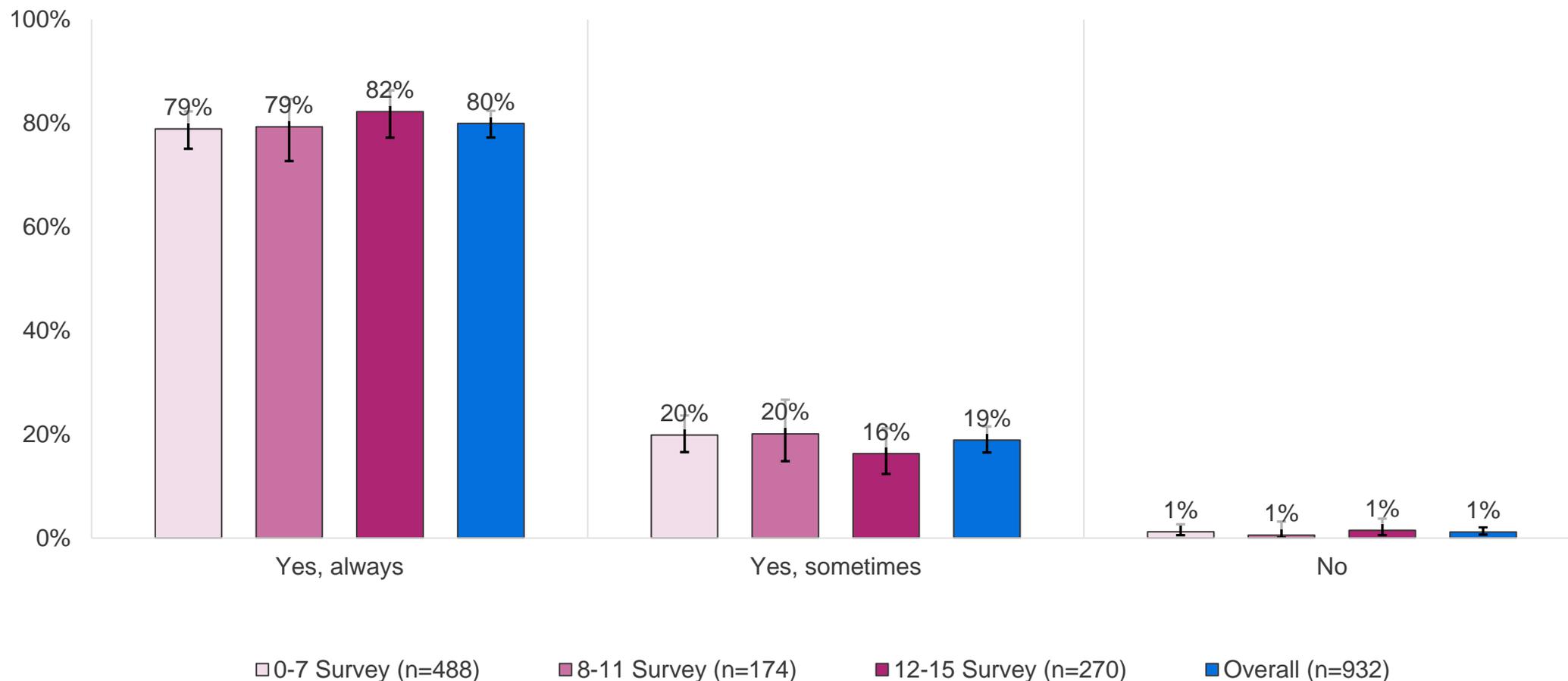
Chart shows question X55: Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose child was visited at home or school by a nurse, and children aged 8-15 who were visited at home or school by a nurse. Total number of responses = 602 (excluding 0 responses of "Don't know / can't remember").

6.6 Healthcare staff



Bedside manner and trust

Do you have confidence and trust in the members of staff caring for your child?

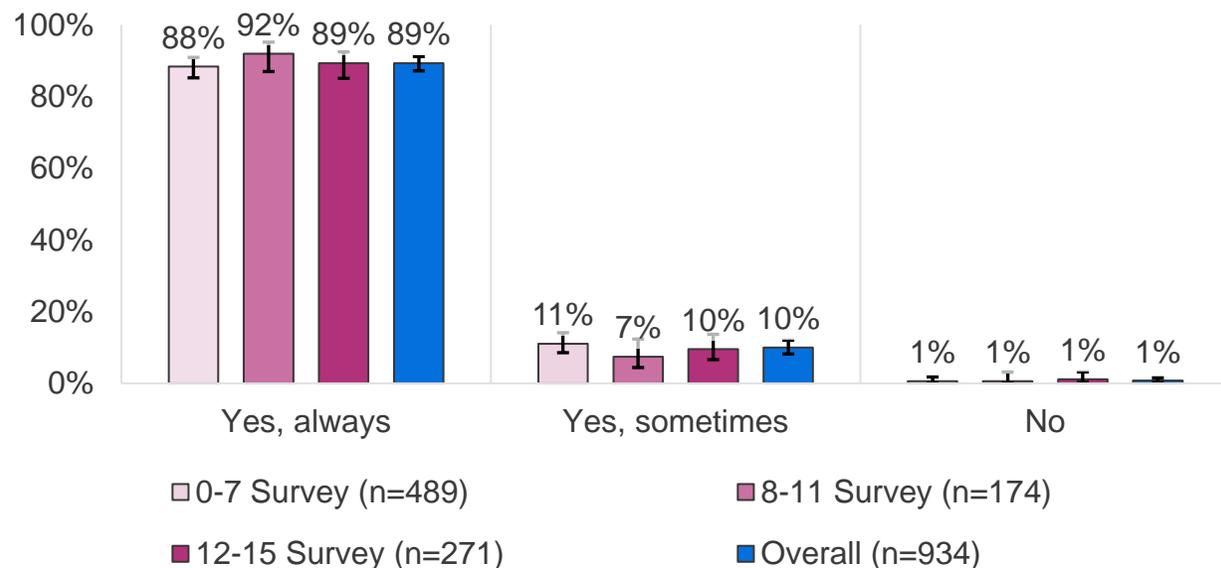


80% of parents or carers felt they always had confidence and trust in staff caring for their child.

Chart shows question X18: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 932.

Bedside manner and trust

Are you and your child treated with respect and dignity by staff?

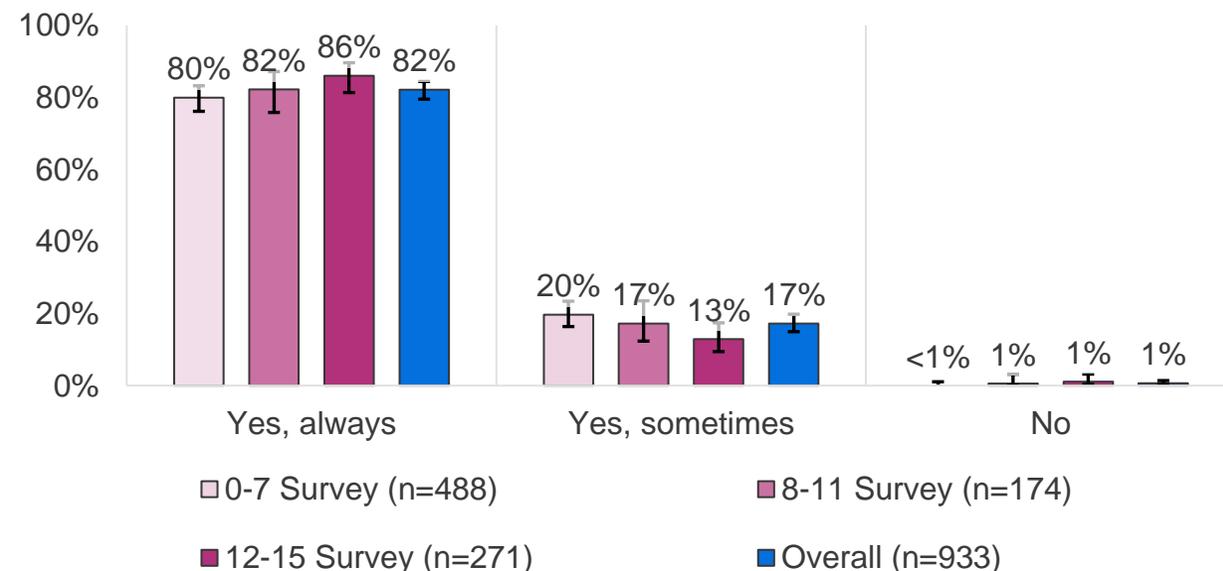


89% of parents or carers felt that they and their child were always treated with respect and dignity by staff.

Chart shows question X17: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 934.

Bedside manner and trust

Do members of staff caring for your child treat you with empathy and understanding?

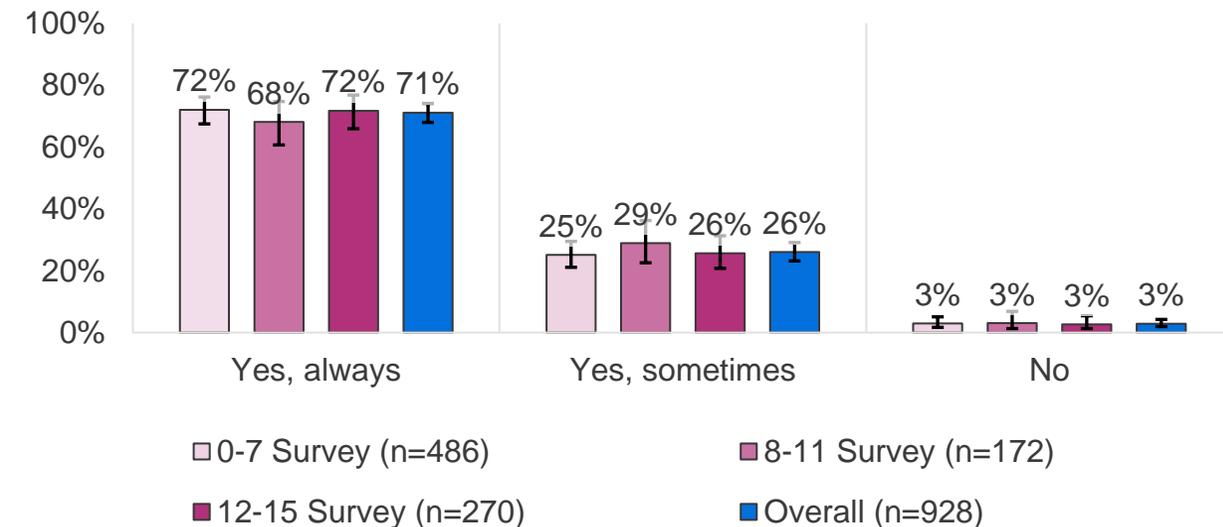


82% of parents or carers felt that they were always treated with empathy and understanding by staff caring for their child.

Chart shows question X19: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 933.

Bedside manner and trust

Are staff sensitive to the information they share with you when your child is in the room?

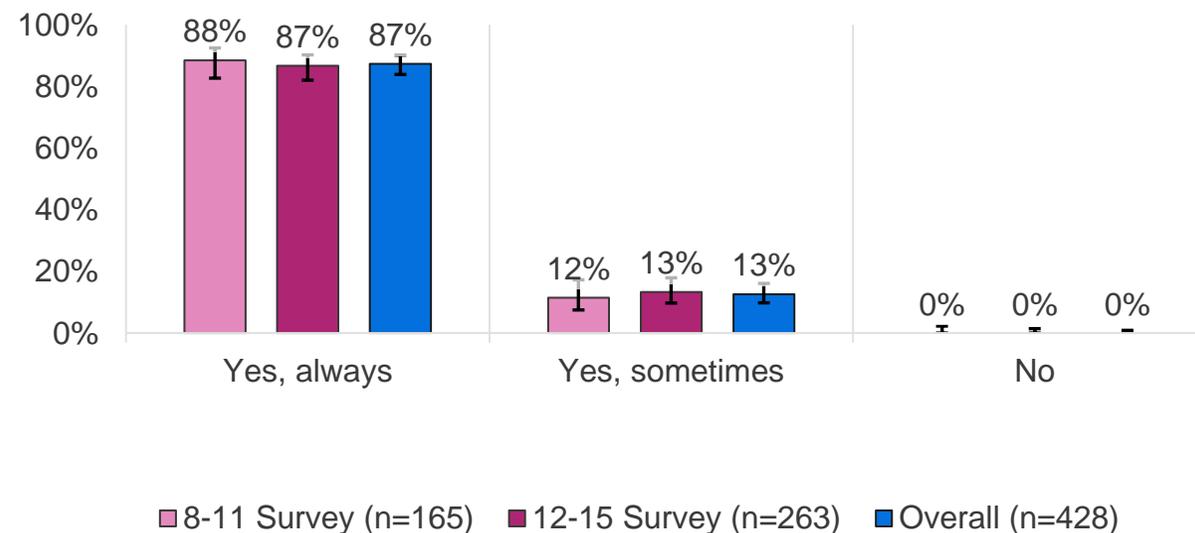


71% of parents or carers felt that staff were always sensitive to information shared with them when their child was in the room.

Chart shows question X21: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total responses = 834 (excluding 94 responses of "This is not needed").

Bedside manner and trust

Do you feel that staff are friendly?

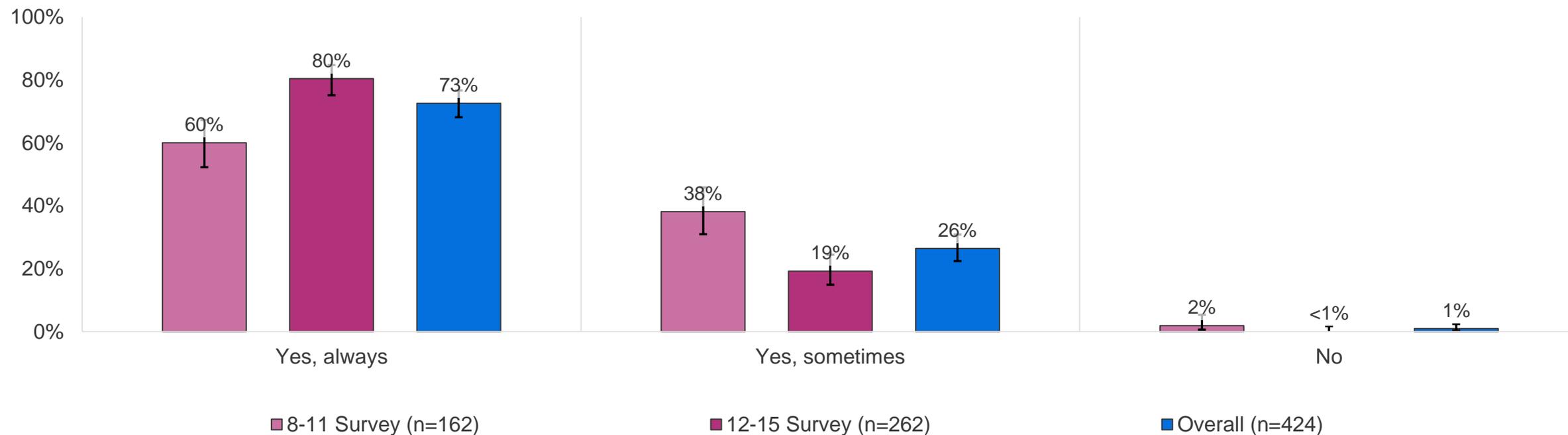


87% of children felt that staff were always friendly.

Chart shows question X12: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 428.

Communication

When staff speak to you, do you understand what they are saying? / Do staff speak to you in a way that you can understand?

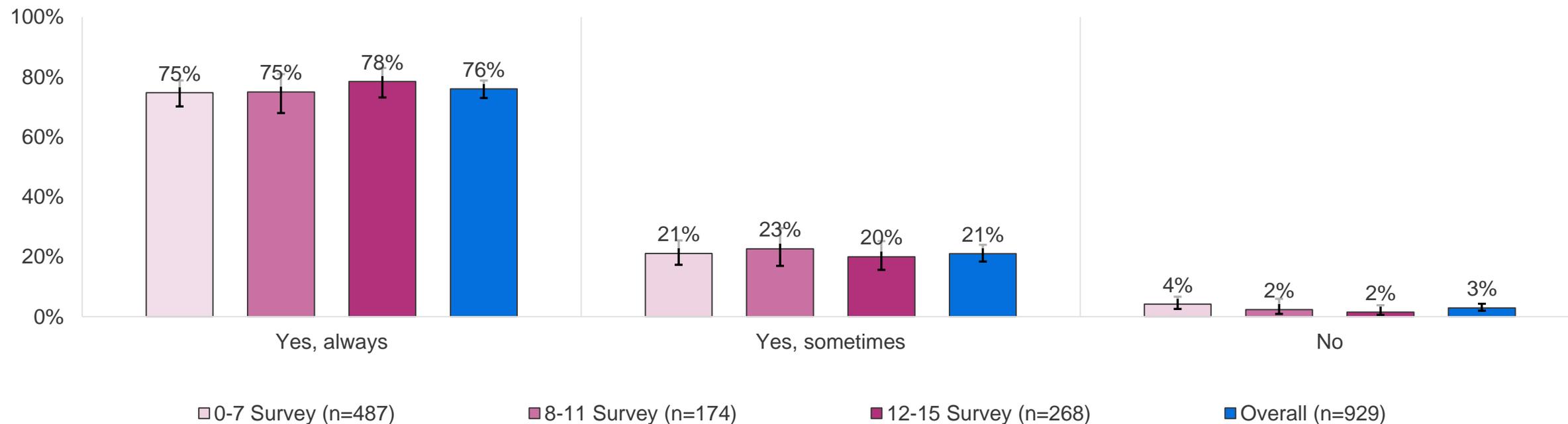


73% of children reported that they could always understand what staff were saying.

Chart shows question X13: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total responses = 420 (excluding 4 responses of “Don’t know / can’t remember”).

Communication

Do healthcare staff share information with your child in a way that is appropriate for them?



76% of parents or carers felt that healthcare staff always shared information with children in a way that was appropriate.

Chart shows question X22: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total responses = 817 (excluding 112 responses of “This is not needed”).

Communication



57% of parents, carers, and children reported not being told different things by different members of staff that left them feeling confused.

Question X20: Asked to parents or carers of 0-7s and children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 915.

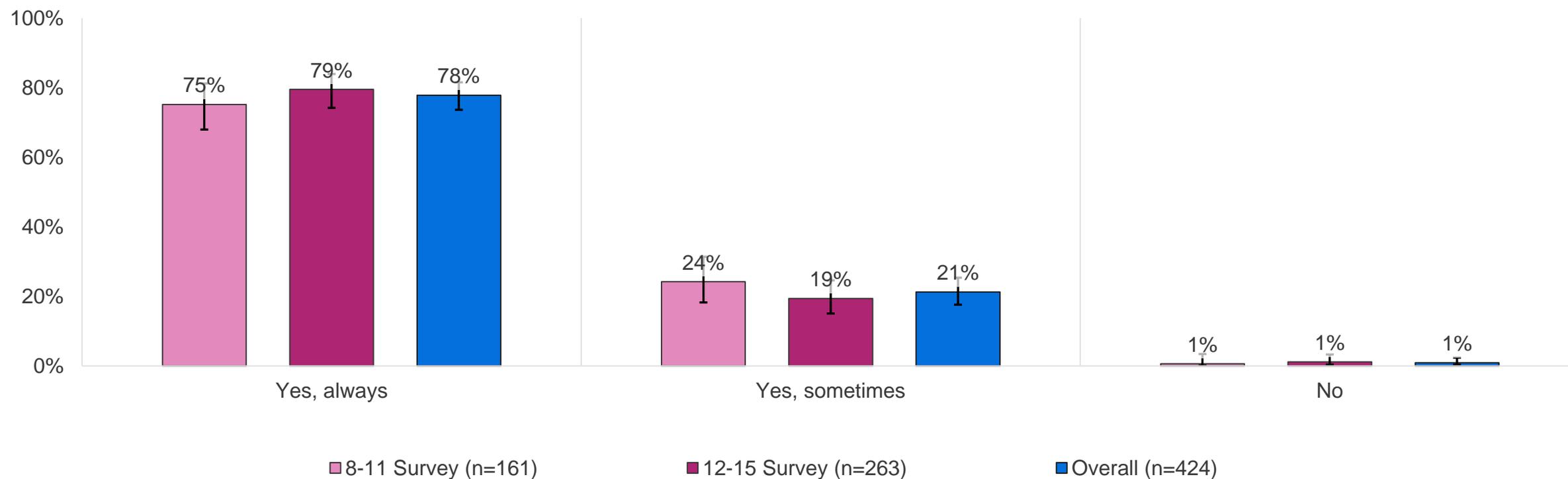


84% of parents or carers reported that they definitely had the chance to ask staff questions about their child's care and treatment.

Question X16: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 931 (excluding 3 responses of "I have not had any questions").

Communication

Do staff talk to you, not just to your parent or carer?



78% of children felt that staff always talked to them, not just their parent or carer.

Chart shows question X14: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 424.

Support for parents or carers

The percent of parents or carers reporting being given information about a psychologist or counsellor ranged from 52% in the 0-7 survey to 63% in the 8-11 survey.

Have hospital staff given you information about any of the following people you can chat to about your child's cancer or tumour?

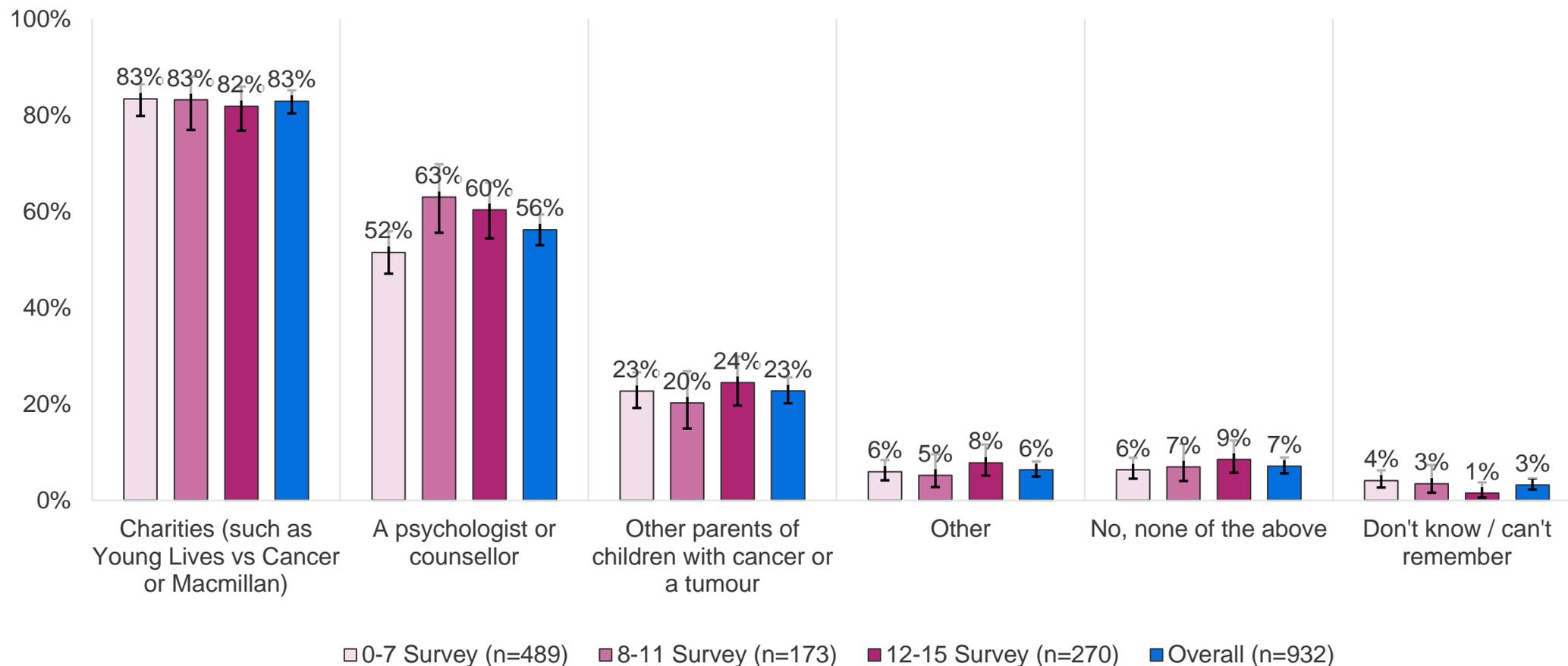


Chart shows question X24: Asked to parents or carers of all age groups. Total number of responses = 932.

Support

The percent of children reporting being given information about a psychologist or counsellor ranged from 54% in the 8-11 survey to 59% in the 12-15 survey.

Have hospital staff given you information about any of the following people you can chat to about your cancer or tumour?

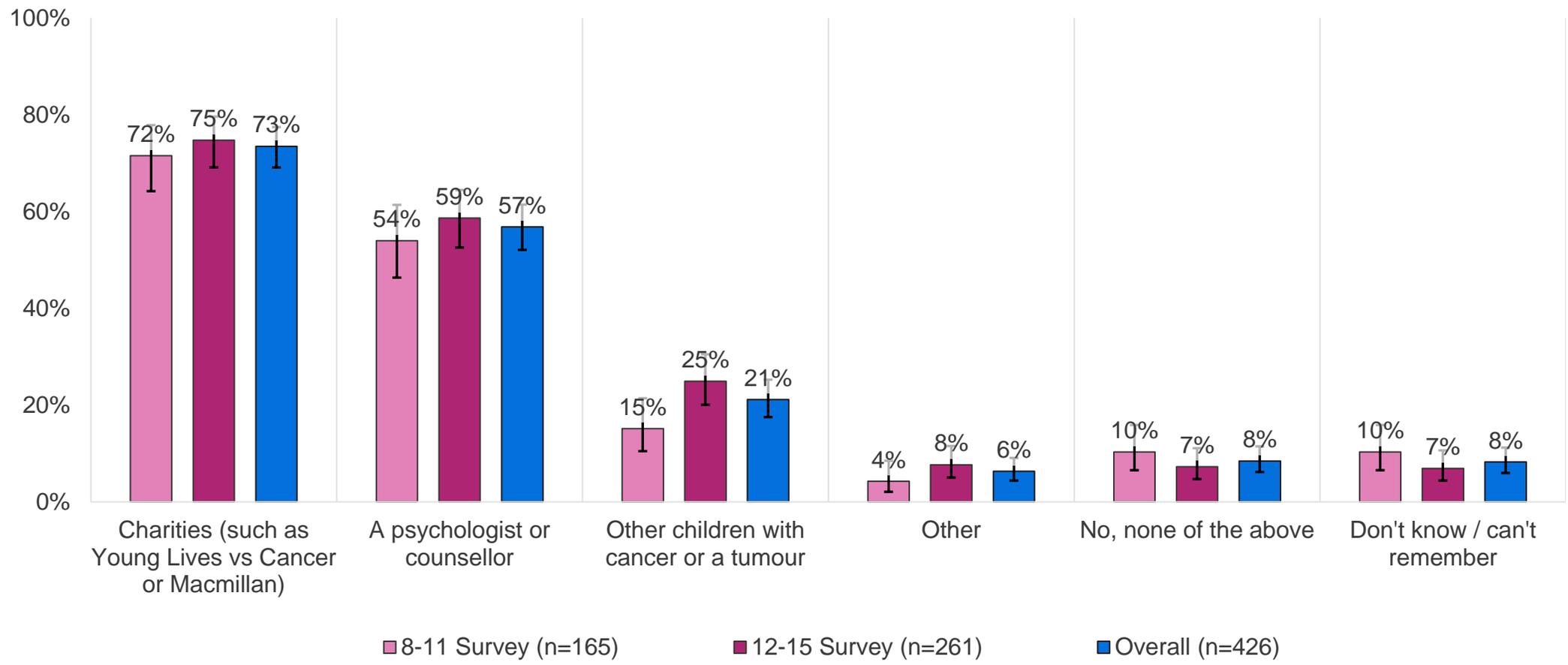
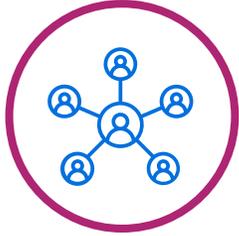


Chart shows question X23: Asked to all children aged 8-15. Total number of responses = 426.



7. Year on year comparisons





This section presents 2023 scores alongside 2022 and 2021 scores for comparable questions. Full data, including how scores for each question are calculated, can be found within the National Excel Data Tables available on the [survey website](#).

The charts present 2021, 2022, and 2023 scores, where comparable. The coloured line indicates the score, and black lines show the confidence intervals.



Assuming the sample is representative of the organisation, confidence intervals are a method of describing the uncertainty around these estimates. The most common methodology, which was used here, is to produce and report 95 percent confidence intervals around the results. At the 95 percent confidence level, the confidence intervals are expected to contain the true value 95 percent of the time (i.e. out of 100 such intervals, 95 will include the true figure).

Where 2021 or 2022 data is not available or not comparable this is represented with a dash, please see [Technical Appendix](#) for a full breakdown.



No statistical significance testing has been done for year on year comparisons, therefore please interpret any differences with caution.

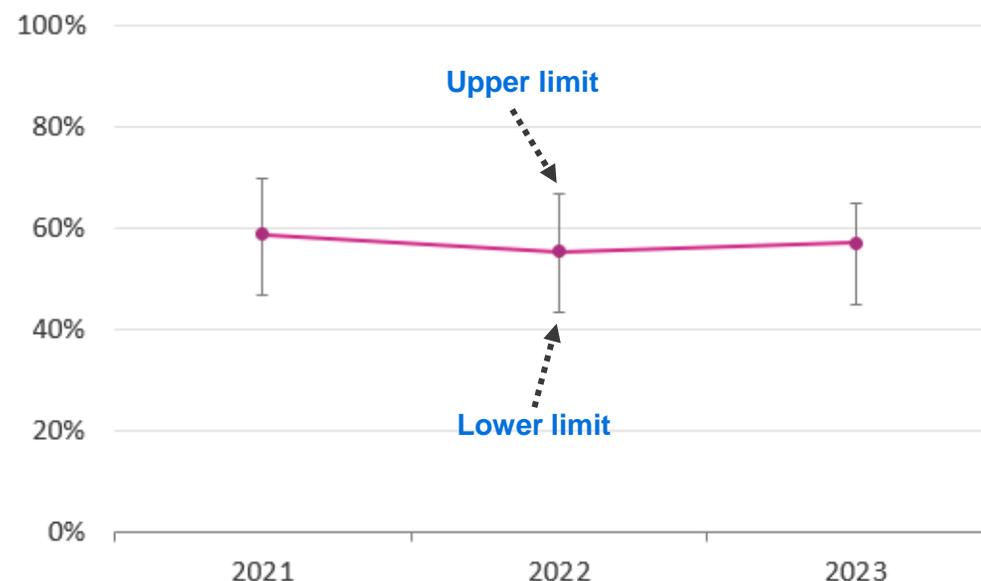
In this example, the score for X10 was **57%**, compared with **55% in 2022 and 59% 2021**. However, the confidence intervals provide us with a bigger picture.

The **upper and lower** limits indicate the **range** in which the true value is likely to lie, based on the information we have.

The **longer** the black bars are, the **greater the range in which the true population value is likely to lie**, and vice versa.

In this example, the confidence intervals overlap, indicating that although the 2023 overall score is higher than 2022, there is not enough statistical evidence to conclude whether or not there is a “true” difference between the two.

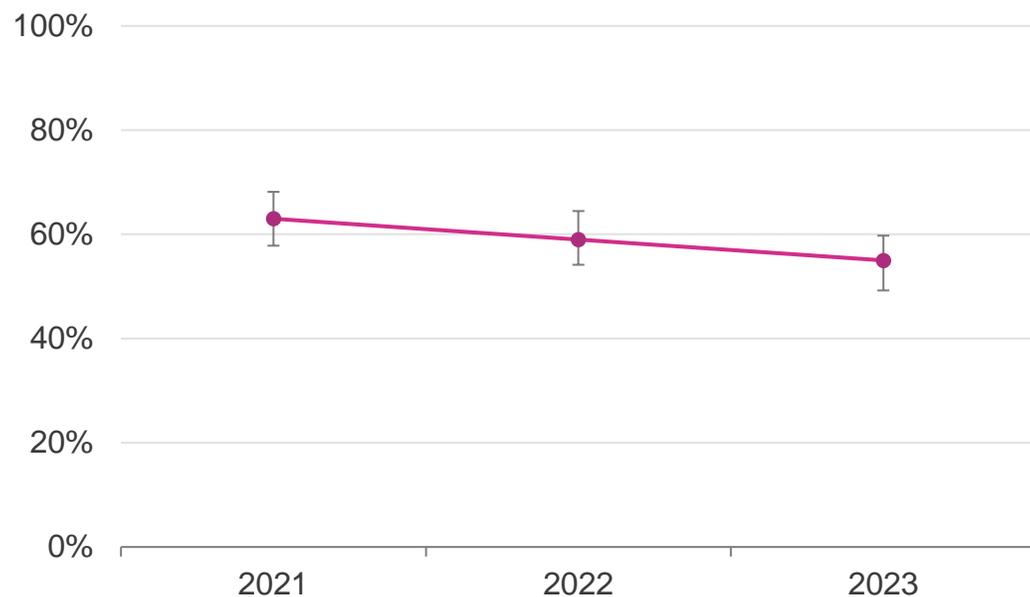
Example data only:



X10	59%	55%	57%
Responses	248	240	259

Finding out about the cancer or tumour

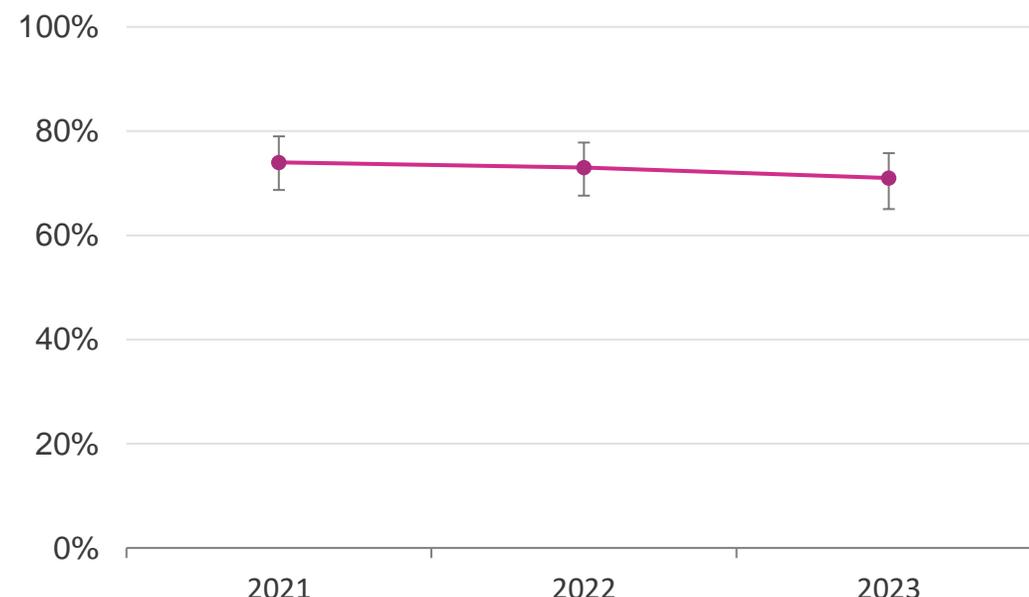
X03: Parents or carers reported that their child saw a GP once or twice before they were referred to hospital. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children were told they had cancer or a tumour.



X03	63%	59%	55%
Responses	331	345	341

Finding out about the cancer or tumour

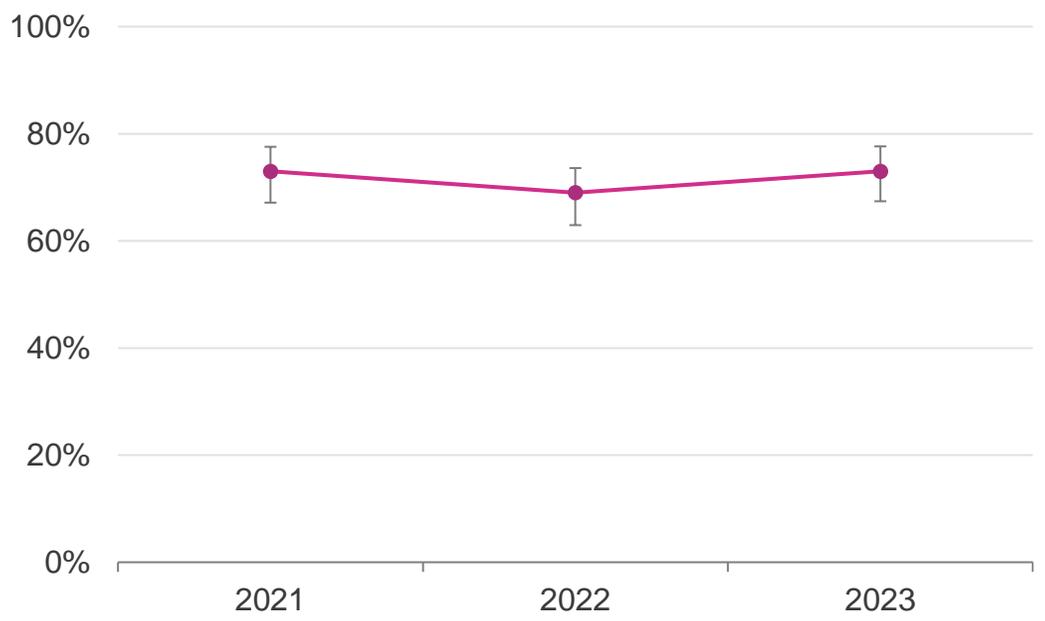
X07: Parents or carers reported that they were definitely told about their child's cancer or tumour diagnosis in a sensitive way. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour.



X07	74%	73%	71%
Responses	275	289	273

Finding out about the cancer or tumour

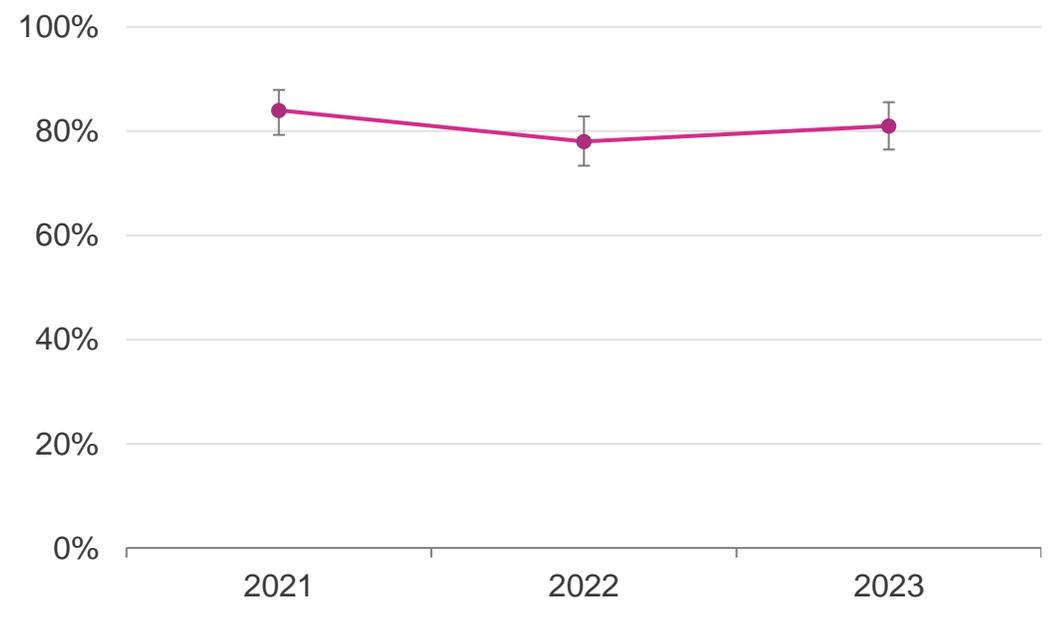
X08: Parents, carers, and children reported that information at diagnosis was definitely given in a way they could understand. Asked to parents or carers of 0-7s who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour, and children aged 8-15 who were told they had cancer or a tumour.



X08	73%	69%	73%
Responses	278	289	287

Finding out about the cancer or tumour

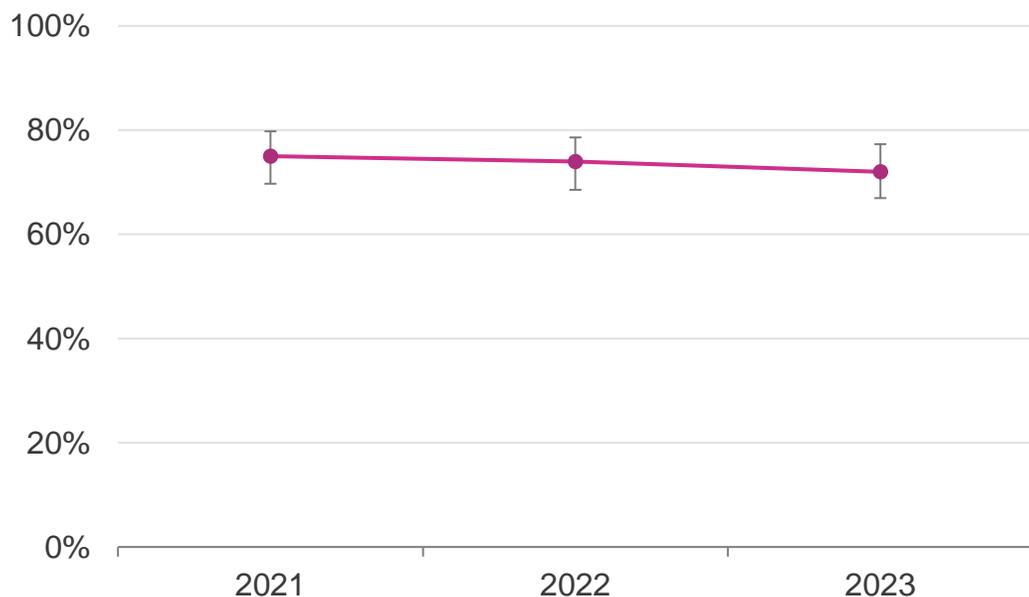
X09: Parents, carers, and children reported that they were definitely able to have questions answered after being told about the cancer or tumour. Asked to parents or carers of 0-7s who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour, and children aged 8-15 who were told they had cancer or a tumour.



X09	84%	78%	81%
Responses	276	288	280

Finding out about the cancer or tumour

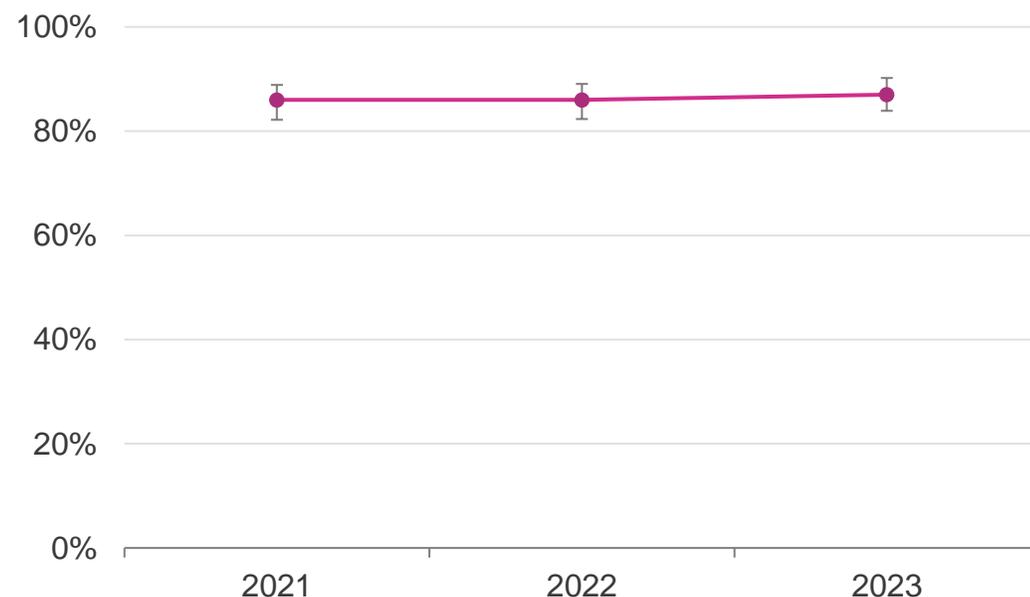
X10: Parents or carers reported that they were definitely able to find information about their child's diagnosis. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups who were told about their child's cancer or a tumour.



X10	75%	74%	72%
Responses	281	291	283

Healthcare staff

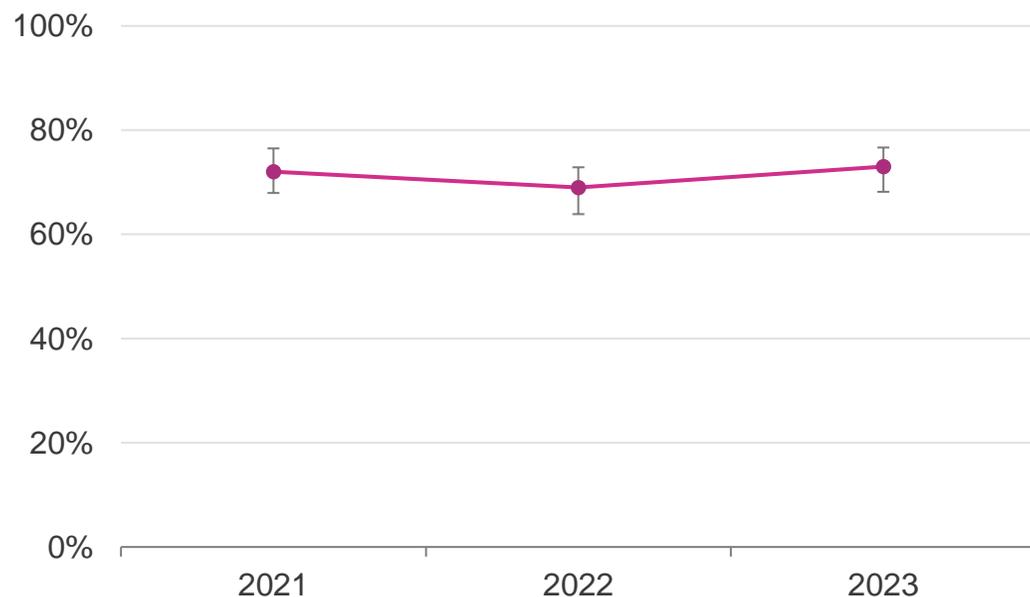
X12: Children felt that staff were always friendly. Asked to all children aged 8-15.



X12	86%	86%	87%
Responses	417	408	428

Healthcare staff

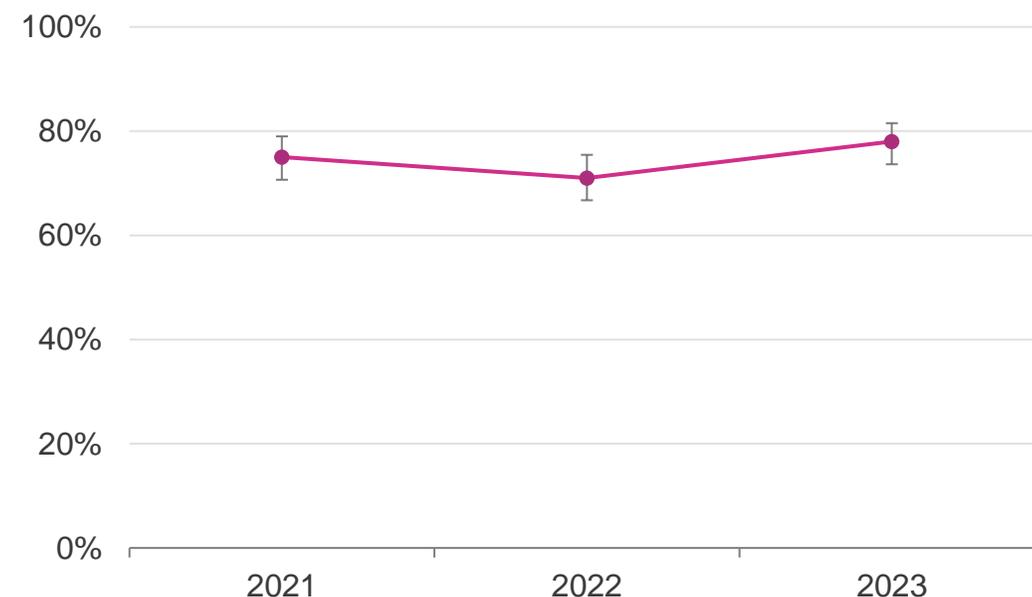
X13: Children reported that they could always understand what staff were saying. Asked to all children aged 8-15.



X13	72%	69%	73%
Responses	417	407	420

Healthcare staff

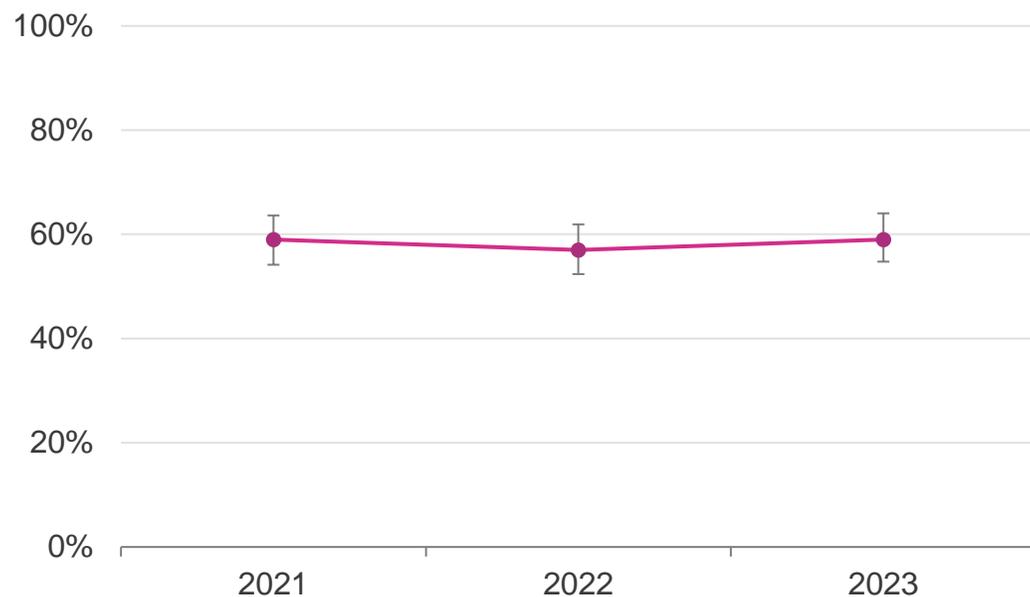
X14: Children felt that staff always talked to them, not just their parent or carer. Asked to all children aged 8-15.



X14	75%	71%	78%
Responses	413	411	424

Healthcare staff

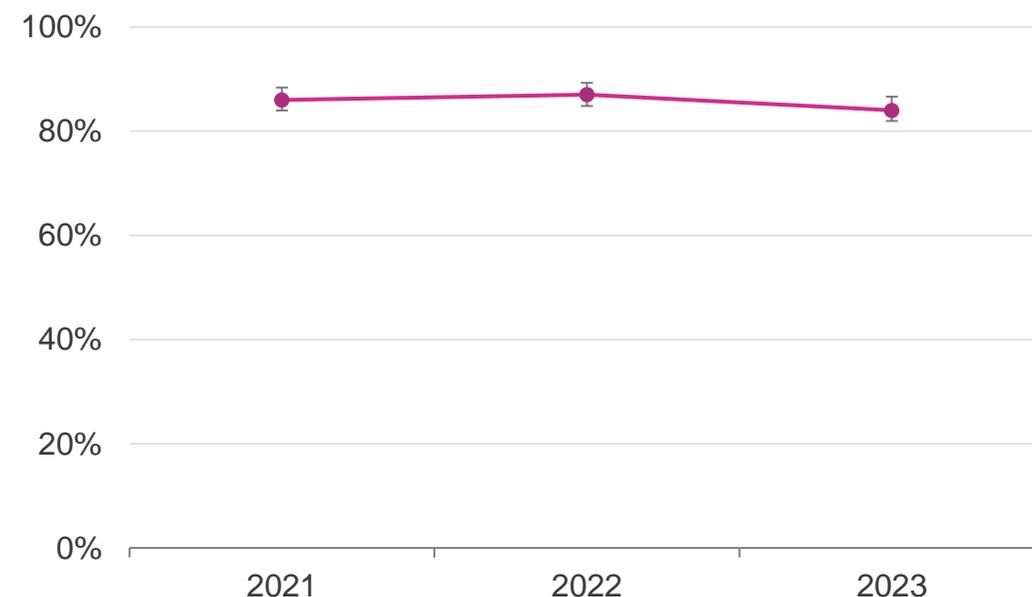
X15: Children reported always or mostly seeing the same members of staff for their treatment and care. Asked to all children aged 8-15.



X15	59%	57%	59%
Responses	412	409	427

Healthcare staff

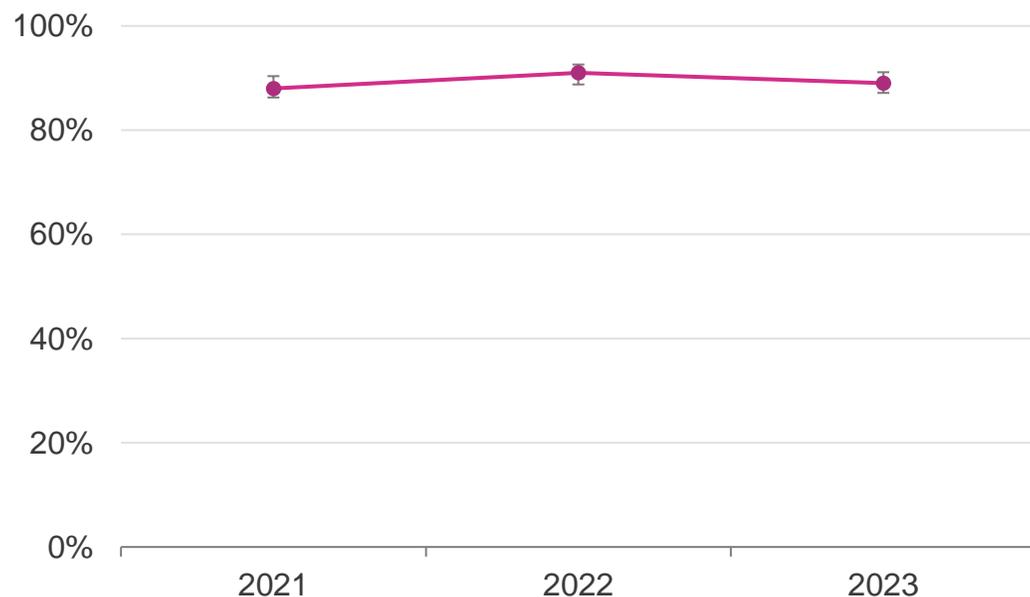
X16: Parents or carers reported that they definitely had the chance to ask staff questions about their child's care and treatment. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



X16	86%	87%	84%
Responses	935	868	931

Healthcare staff

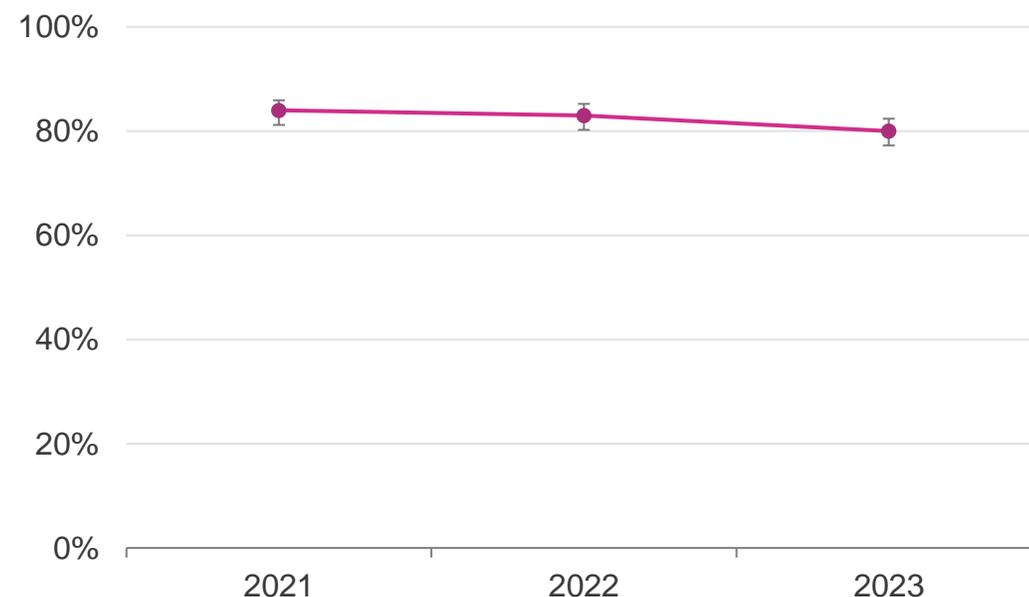
X17: Parents or carers felt that they and their child were always treated with respect and dignity by staff. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



X17	88%	91%	89%
Responses	937	875	934

Healthcare staff

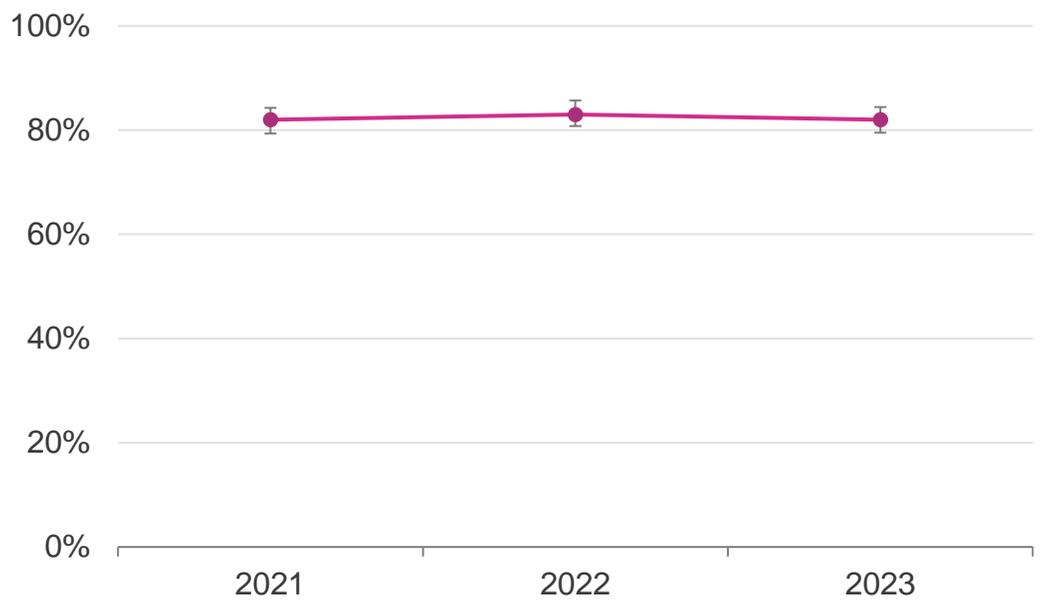
X18: Parents or carers felt they always had confidence and trust in staff caring for their child. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



X18	84%	83%	80%
Responses	938	876	932

Healthcare staff

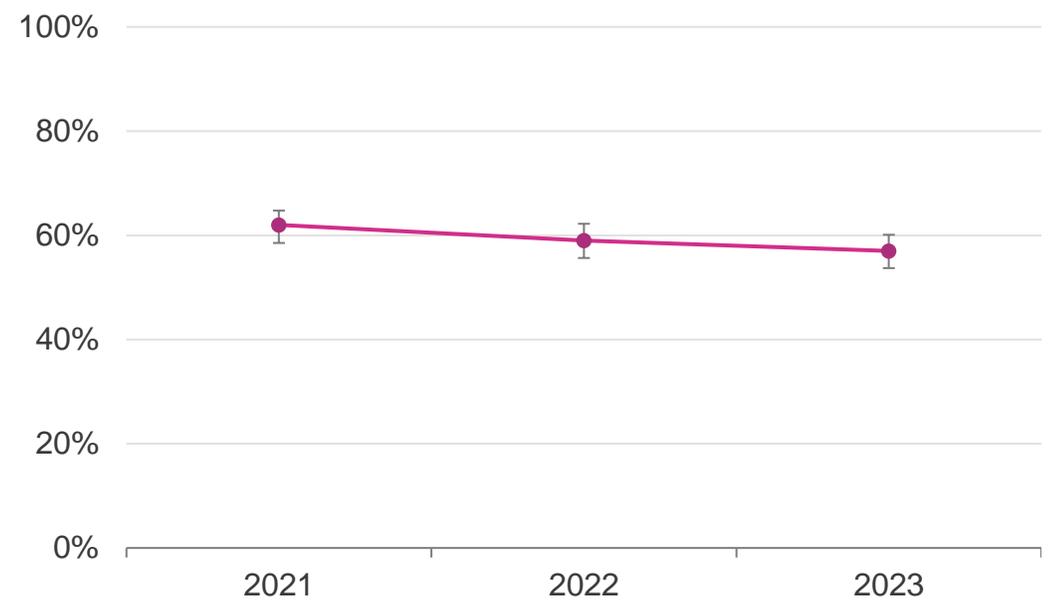
X19: Parents or carers felt that they were always treated with empathy and understanding by staff caring for their child. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



X19	82%	83%	82%
Responses	936	879	933

Healthcare staff

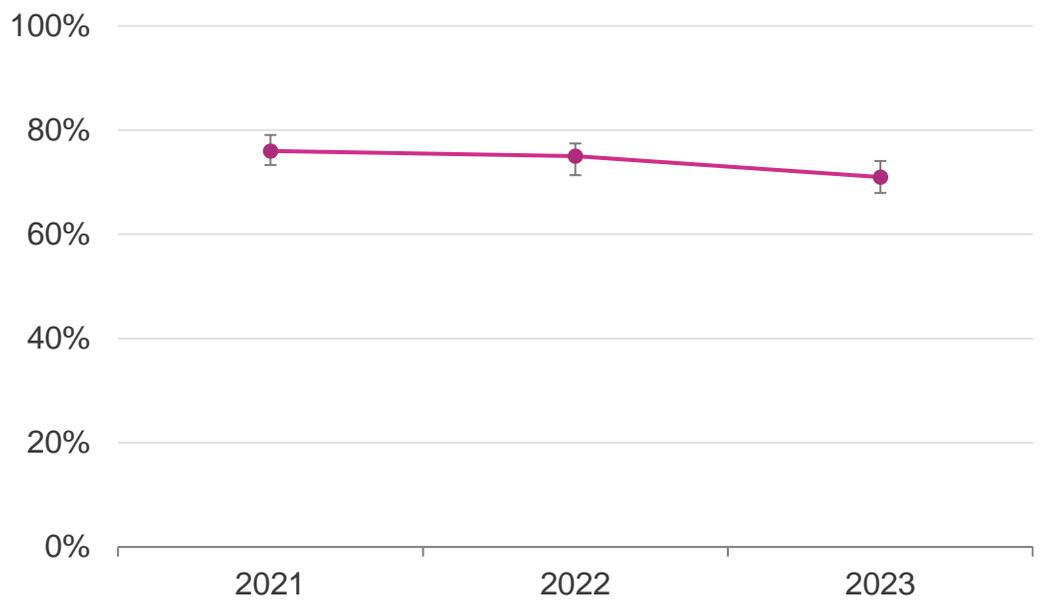
X20: Parents, carers, and children reported not being told different things by different members of staff that left them feeling confused. Asked to parents or carers of 0-7s and children aged 8-15.



X20	62%	59%	57%
Responses	932	858	915

Healthcare staff

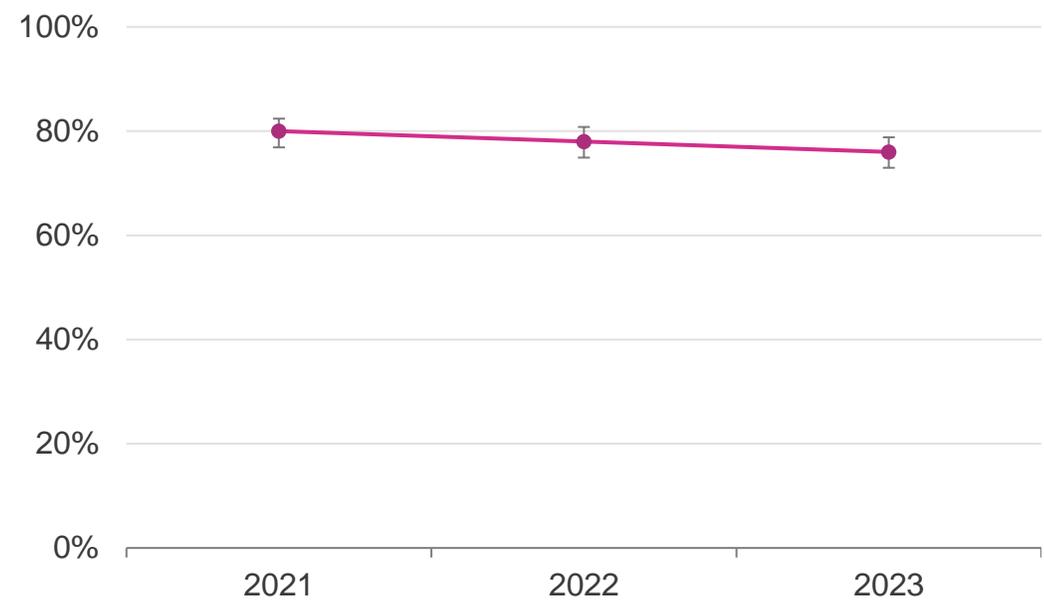
X21: Parents or carers felt that staff were always sensitive to information shared with them when their child was in the room. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



X21	76%	75%	71%
Responses	836	785	834

Healthcare staff

X22: Parents or carers felt that healthcare staff always shared information with children in a way that was appropriate. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



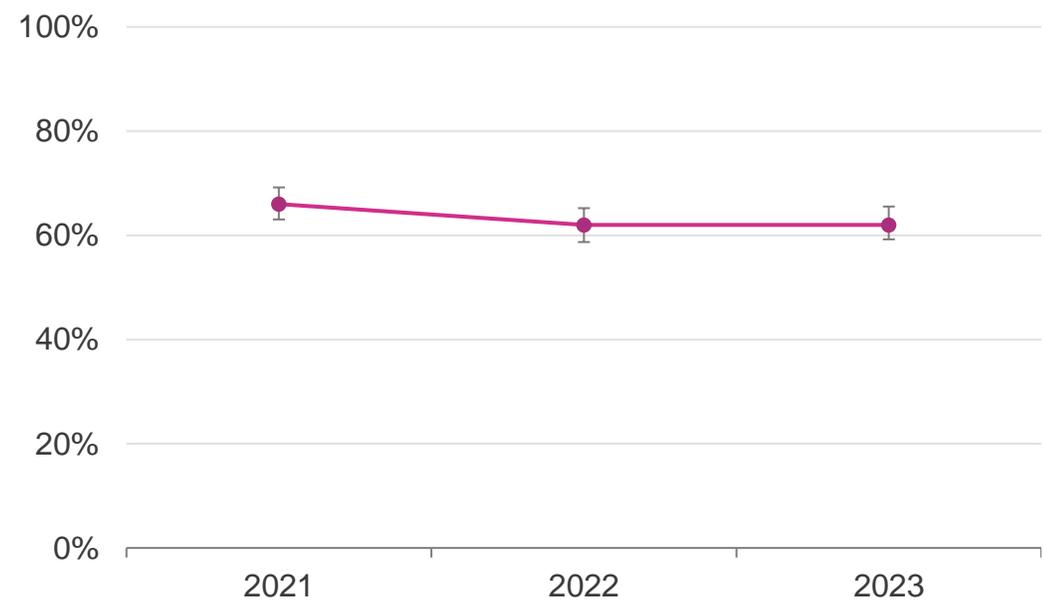
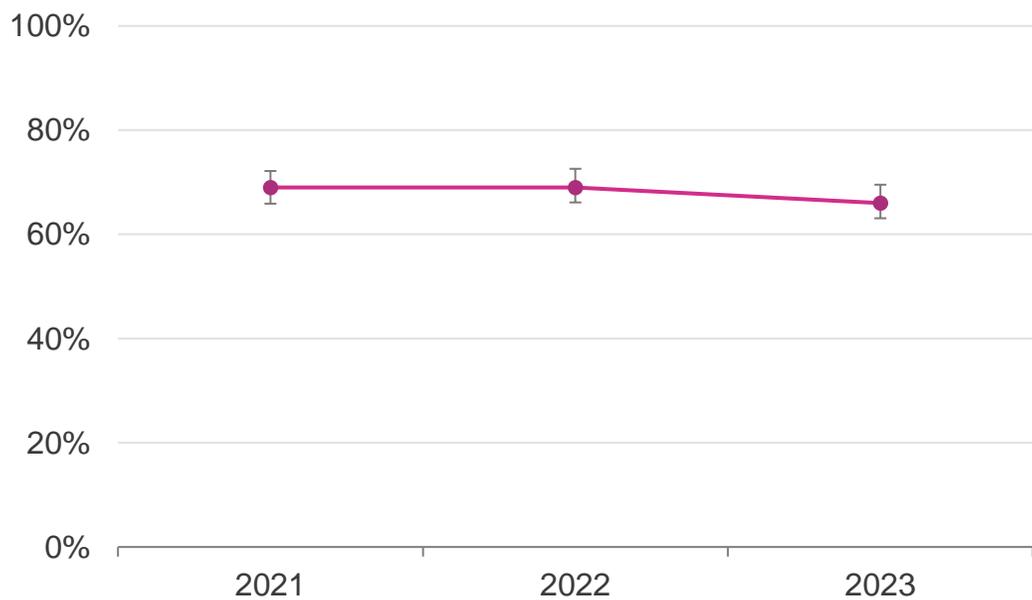
X22	80%	78%	76%
Responses	816	759	817

Healthcare staff

Child's care and treatment

X25: Parents or carers felt they had enough information about financial help or benefits. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.

X26: Parents or carers felt that different hospital staff always worked well together. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.

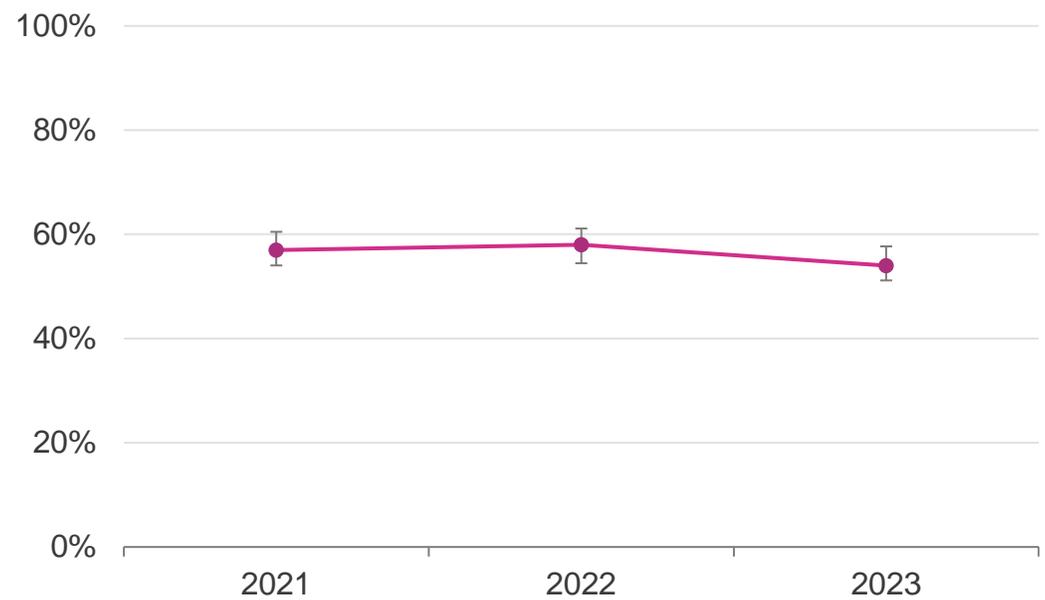


X25	69%	69%	66%
Responses	832	779	824

X26	66%	62%	62%
Responses	905	853	905

Child's care and treatment

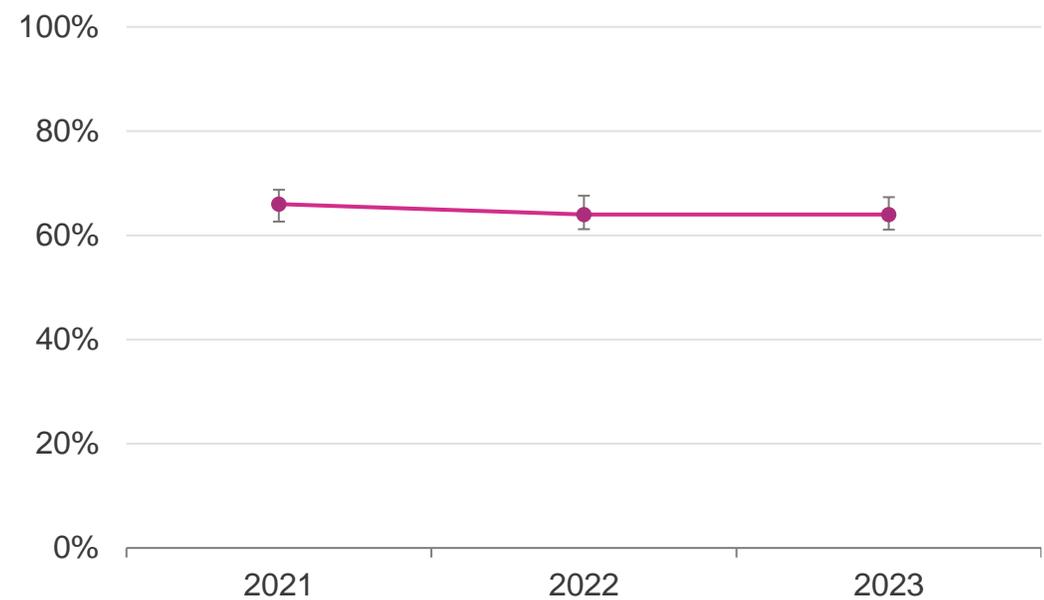
X27: Parents or carers felt that different hospital staff were definitely aware of their child's medical history. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



X27	57%	58%	54%
Responses	899	837	889

Child's care and treatment

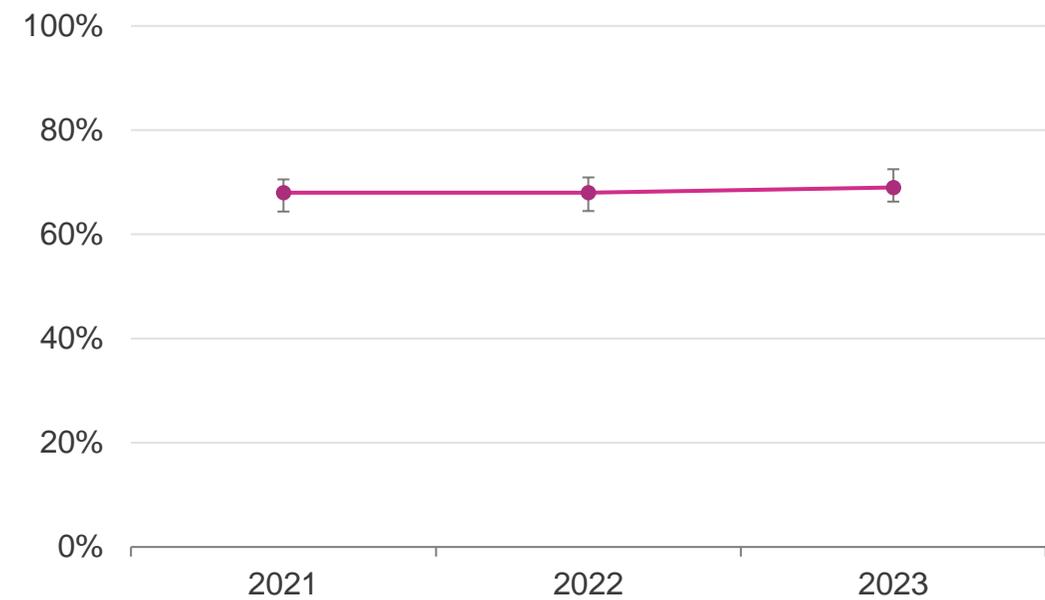
X28: Parents, carers, and children felt they always knew what was happening with their child's or their care. Asked to parents or carers of 0-7s and all children aged 8-15.



X28	66%	64%	64%
Responses	920	847	901

Child's care and treatment

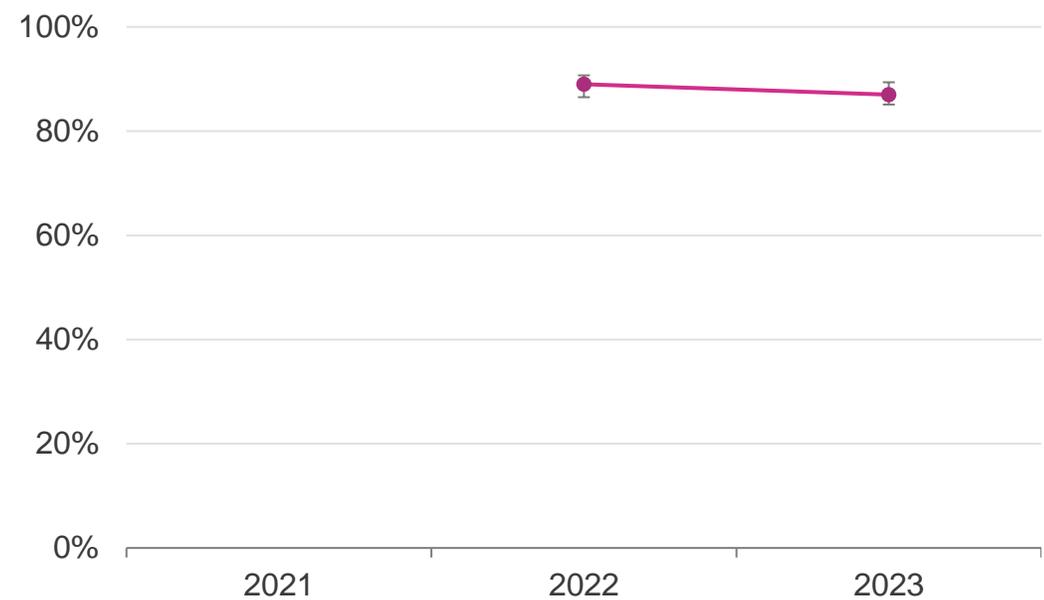
X29: Parents, carers, and children felt they were definitely involved in their child's or their care and treatment. Asked to parents or carers of 0-7s and all children aged 8-15 .



X29	68%	68%	69%
Responses	881	804	842

Child's care and treatment

X31: Parents or carers reported that there was a main person in the team looking after their child that they could contact about their care or treatment. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



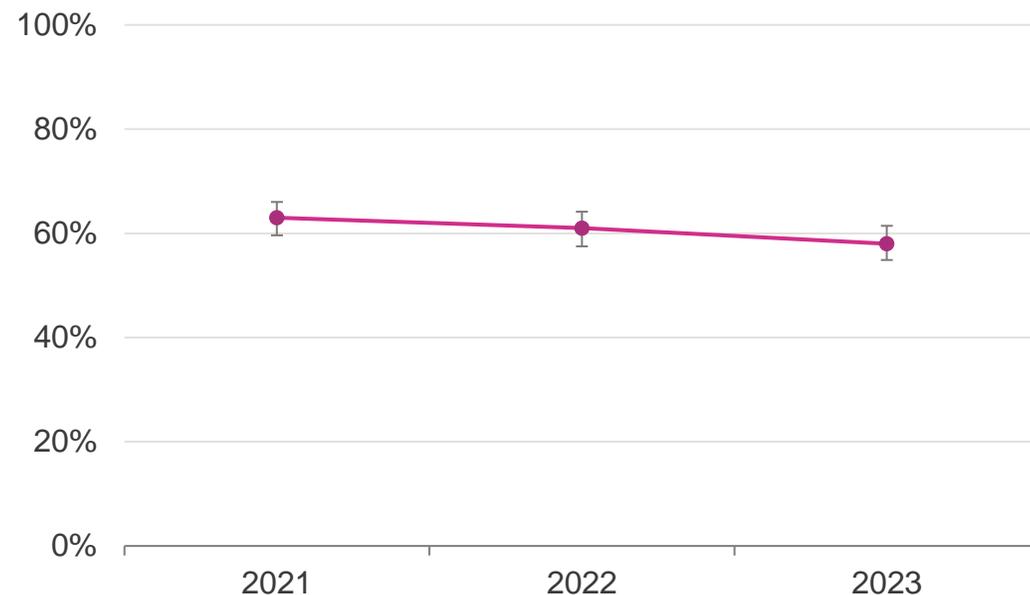
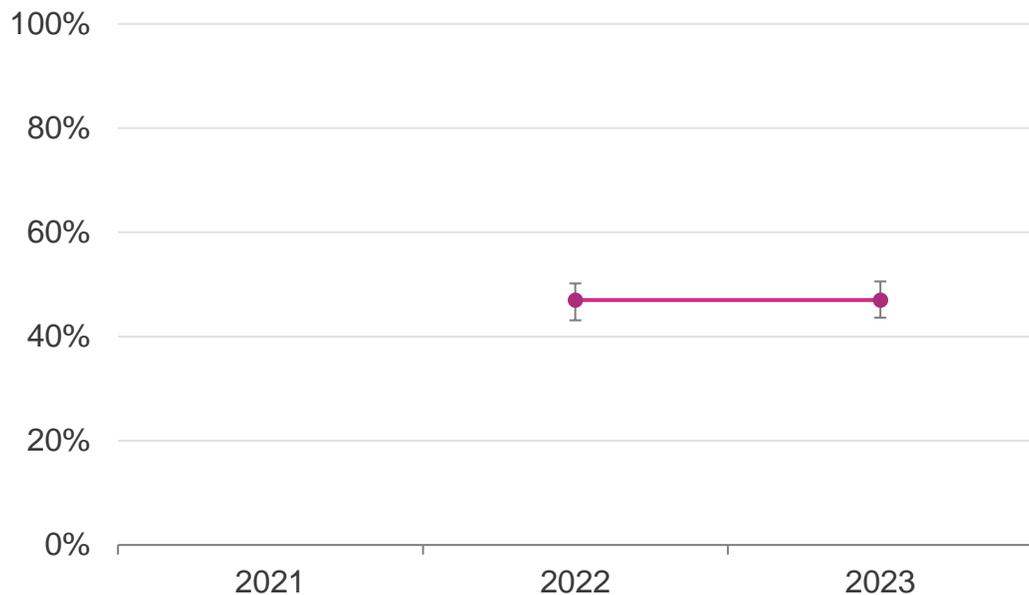
X31	-	89%	87%
Responses	-	873	928

Child's care and treatment

Child's care and treatment

X32 † : Parents or carers reported that it was very easy to contact the main person in the team looking after their child. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups who could contact the main person looking after their child if needed.

X33: Parents or carers reported that they definitely had access to reliable help and support 7 days a week from the hospital. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



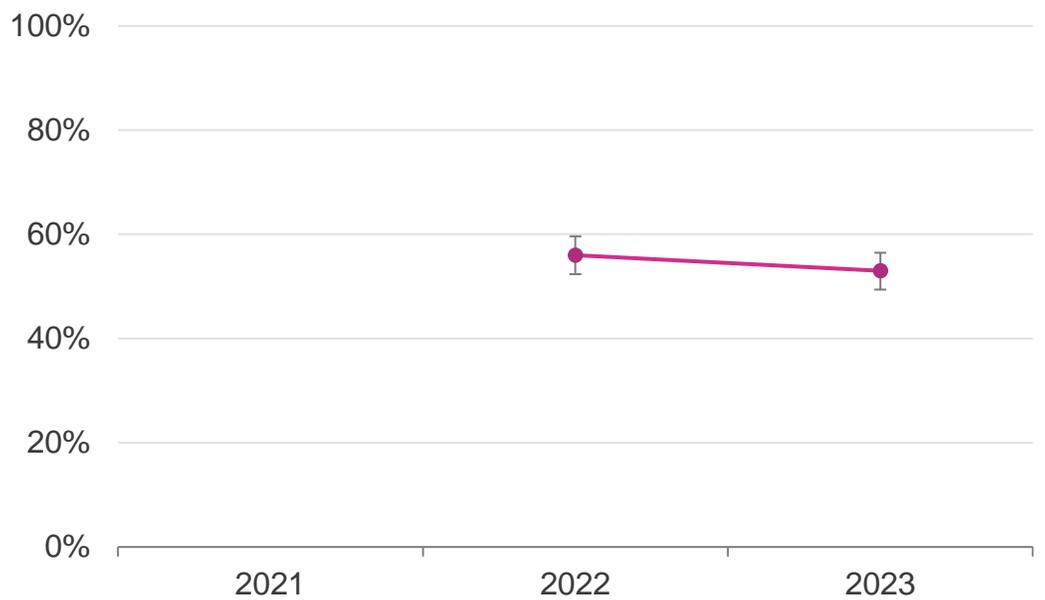
X32	-	47%	47%
Responses	-	759	790

X33	63%	61%	58%
Responses	870	823	866

† Due to changes in scoring X32, the 2022 score has been recalculated and so scores from published 2022 reports will not be comparable to this year's results.

Child's care and treatment

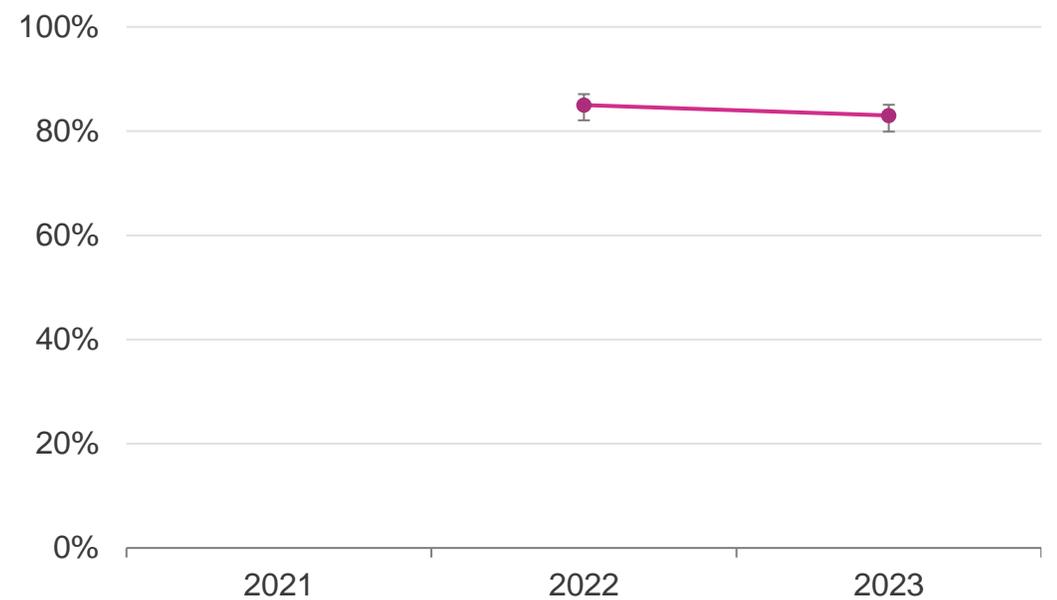
X34: Parents or carers reported that their child's care and treatment was definitely offered at a time suitable for them and their family. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.



X34	-	56%	53%
Responses	-	714	763

Child's care and treatment

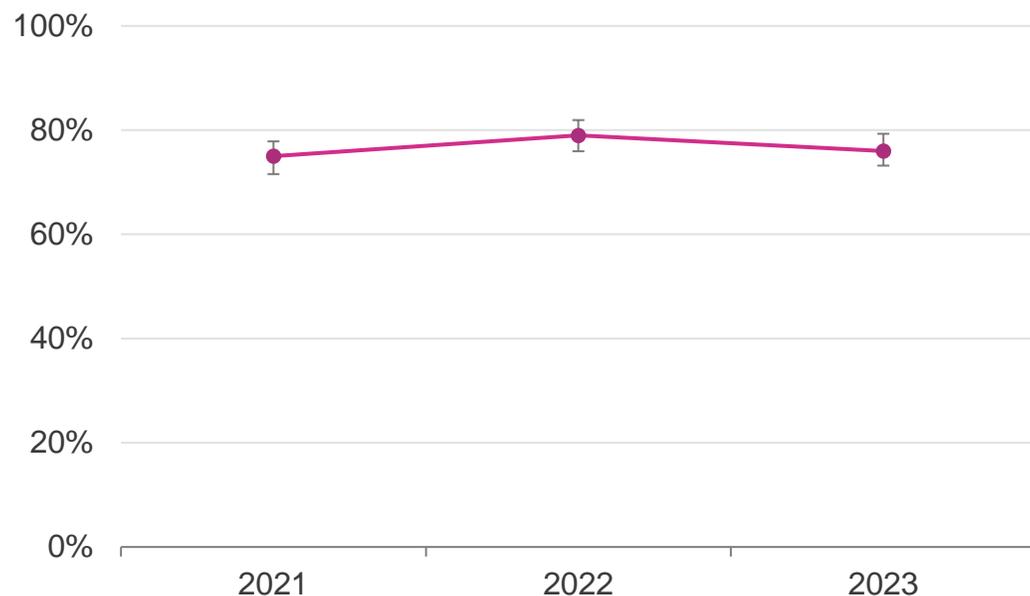
X36: Parents or carers reported that they were definitely offered clear information about their child's treatment. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children received treatment for their cancer or tumour.



X36	-	85%	83%
Responses	-	787	829

Child's care and treatment

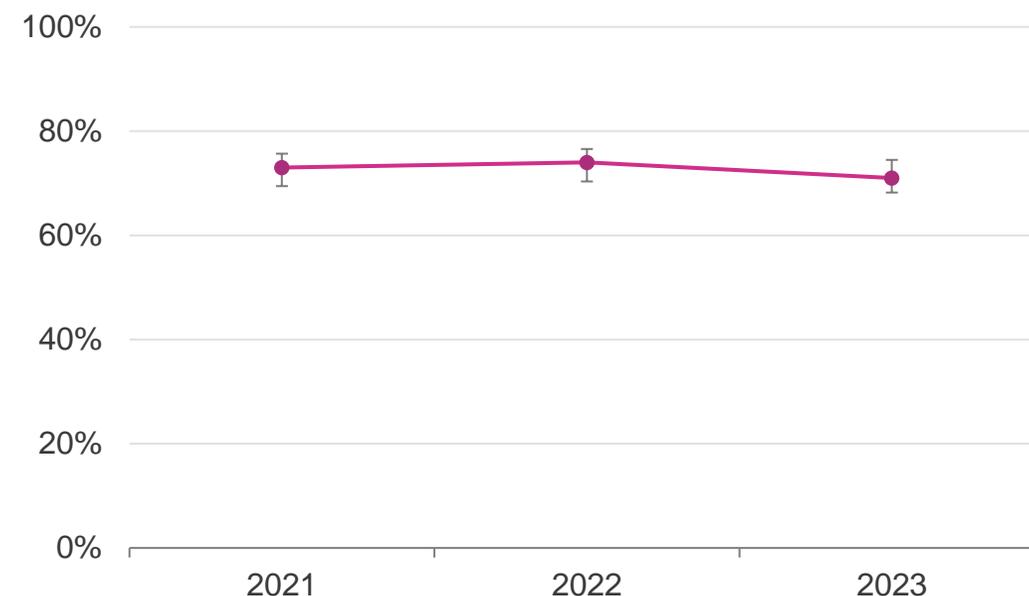
X37: Parents or carers felt that staff definitely offered them enough time to make decisions about their child's treatment. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children received treatment for their cancer or tumour.



X37	75%	79%	76%
Responses	727	708	741

Child's care and treatment

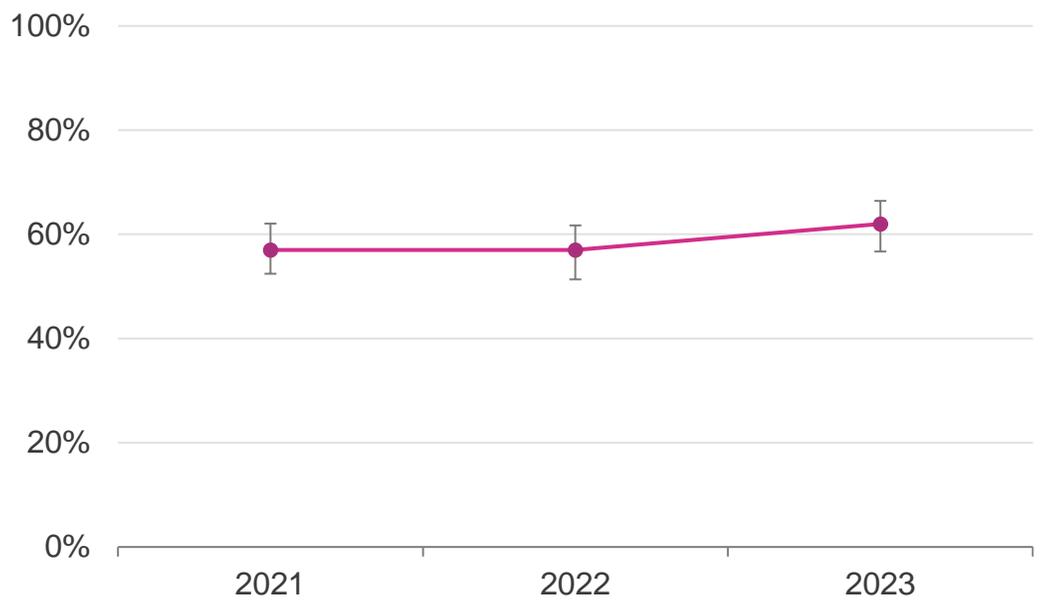
X38: Parents or carers reported that staff definitely offered them support to help manage their child's treatment side effects. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children received treatment for their cancer or tumour.



X38	73%	74%	71%
Responses	783	768	795

Child's care and treatment

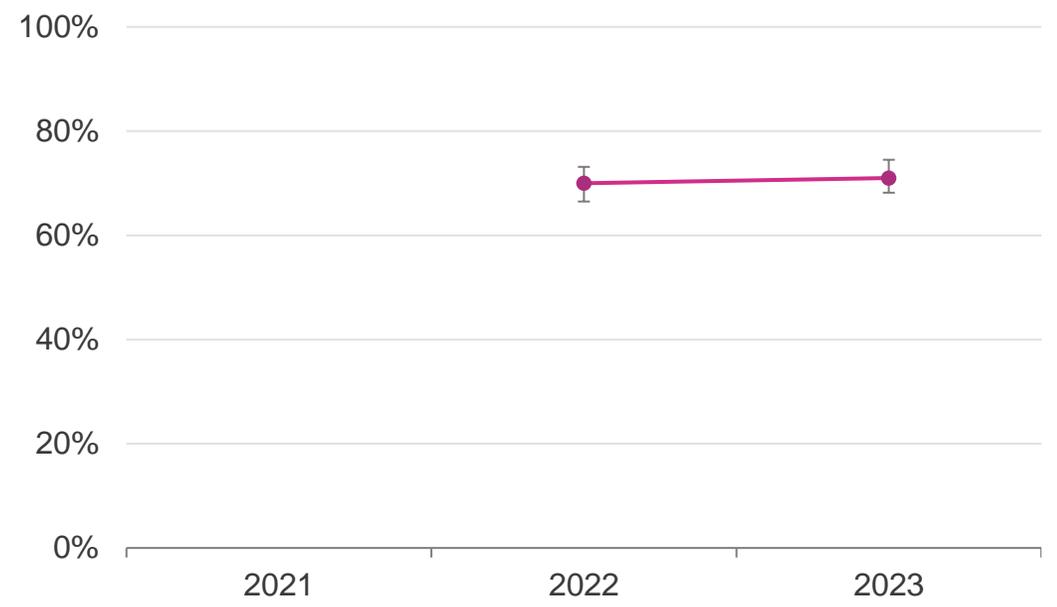
X39: Parents or carers felt they definitely received enough ongoing support from the hospital after their child's treatment ended. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children received treatment for their cancer or tumour.



X39	57%	57%	62%
Responses	403	348	381

Care in hospital

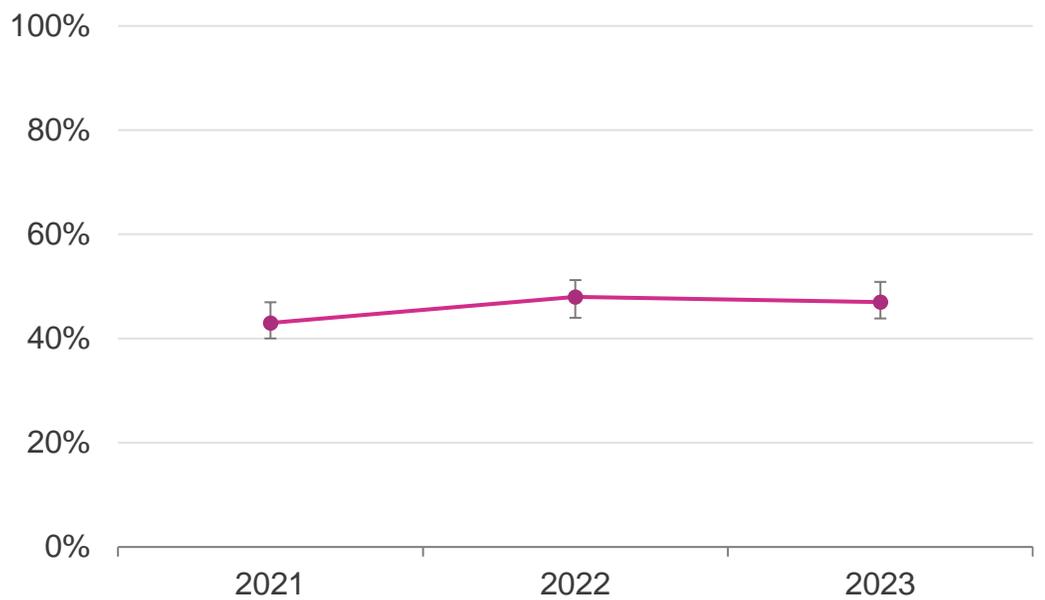
X42: Parents, carers, and children felt that their child or they were always able to get help from staff on the hospital ward when they needed it. Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children stayed in hospital, and children aged 8-15 who have stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay).



X42	-	70%	71%
Responses	-	728	781

Care in hospital

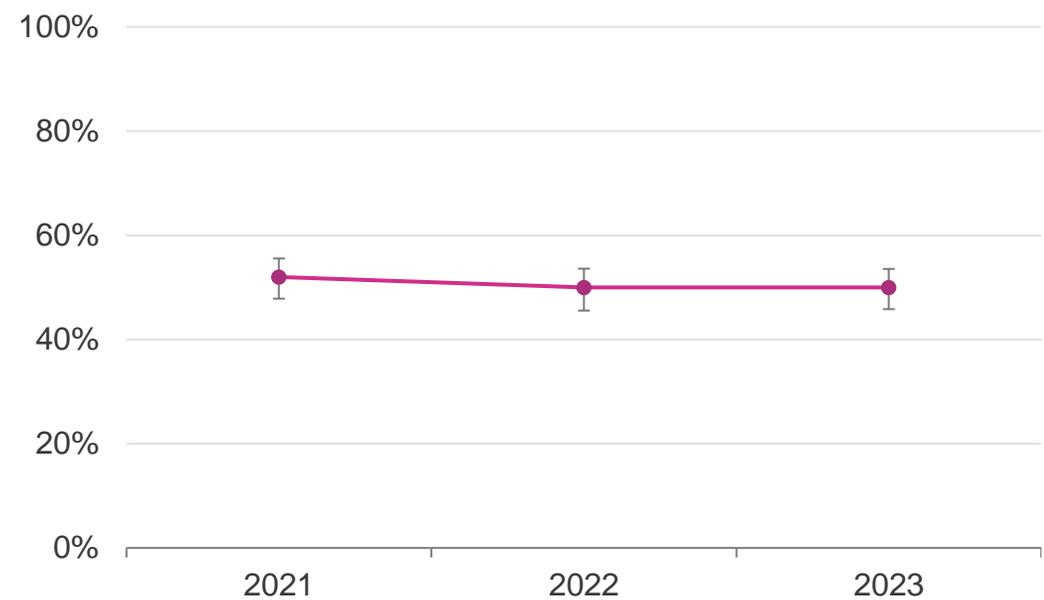
X43: Parents, carers, and children felt that there were definitely enough things for their child to do in the hospital. Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children stayed in hospital, and children aged 8-15 who stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime, or for an overnight stay).



X43	43%	48%	47%
Responses	780	725	775

Care in hospital

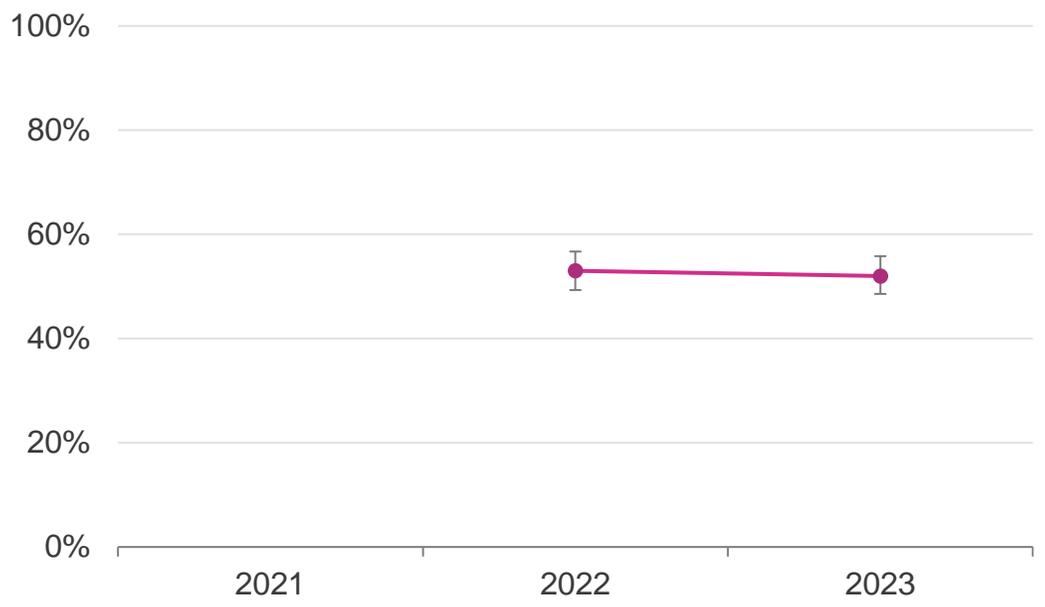
X45: Parents, carers, and children reported always being given somewhere private to talk to staff when their child was in hospital. Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children stayed in hospital, and children aged 8-15 who stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay).



X45	52%	50%	50%
Responses	644	589	640

Care in hospital

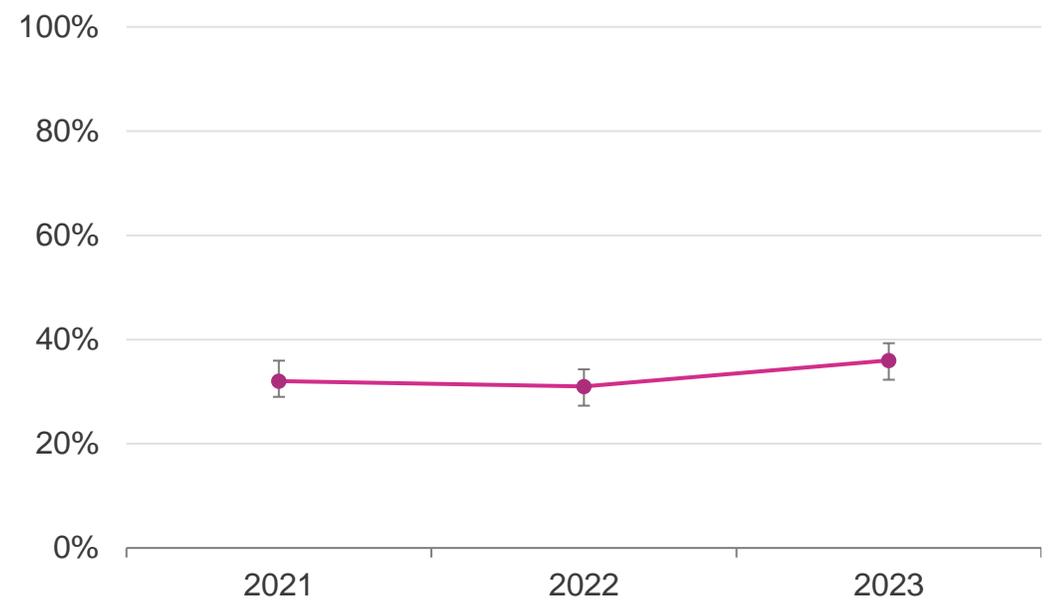
X46: Parents or carers reported that the hospital always offered play specialist support when they needed it. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime, or for an overnight stay).



X46	-	53%	52%
Responses	-	696	726

Care in hospital

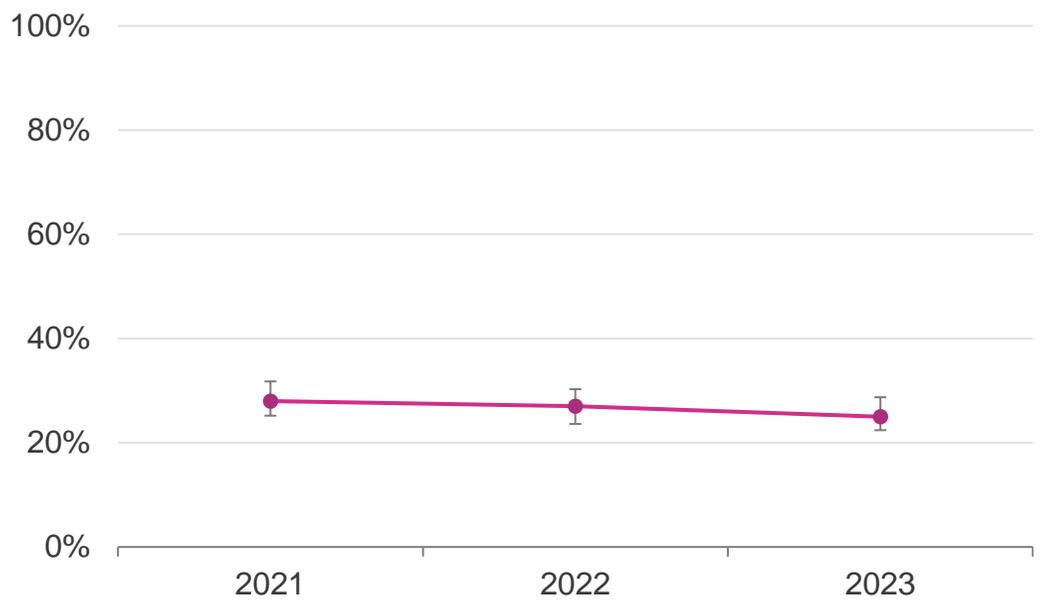
X48: Parents or carers reported that facilities for them to stay overnight were very good. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children stayed in hospital and who stayed overnight with them (receiving treatment or care in the daytime, or for an overnight stay).



X48	32%	31%	36%
Responses	695	668	714

Care in hospital

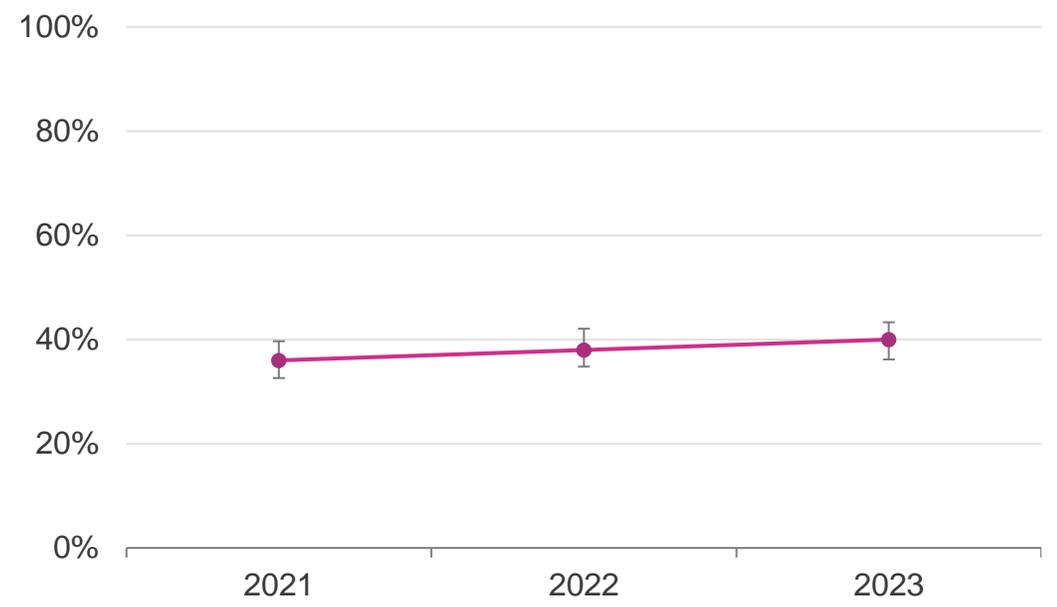
X49: Parents, carers, and children reported that it was always quiet enough for them to sleep in the hospital. Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children stayed in hospital and who stayed overnight with them, and children aged 8-15 who stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay).



X49	28%	27%	25%
Responses	719	675	727

Care in hospital

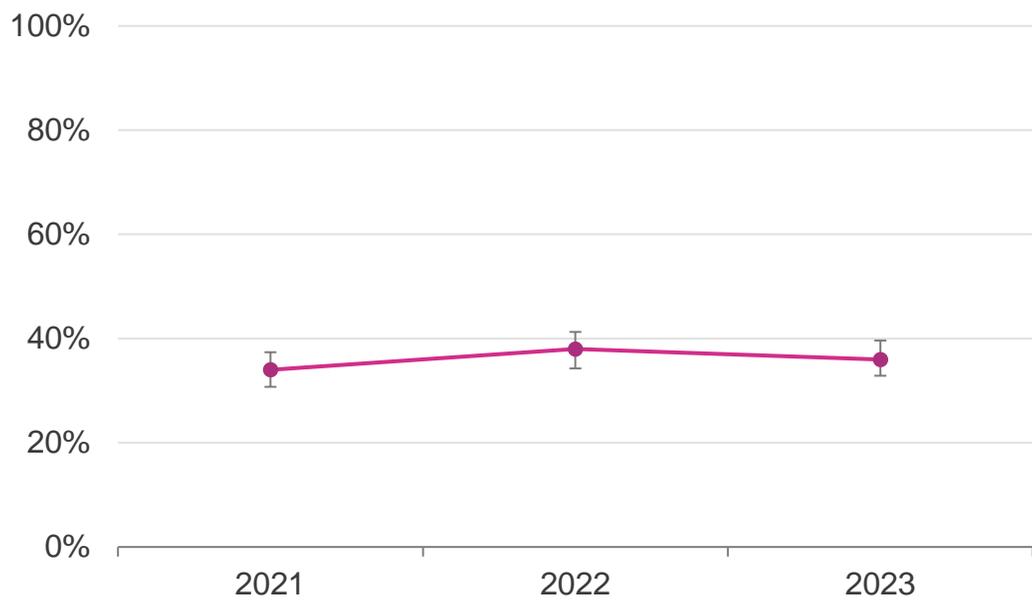
X50: Parents or carers reported they were definitely able to prepare food in the hospital if they wanted to. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay).



X50	36%	38%	40%
Responses	707	680	718

Care in hospital

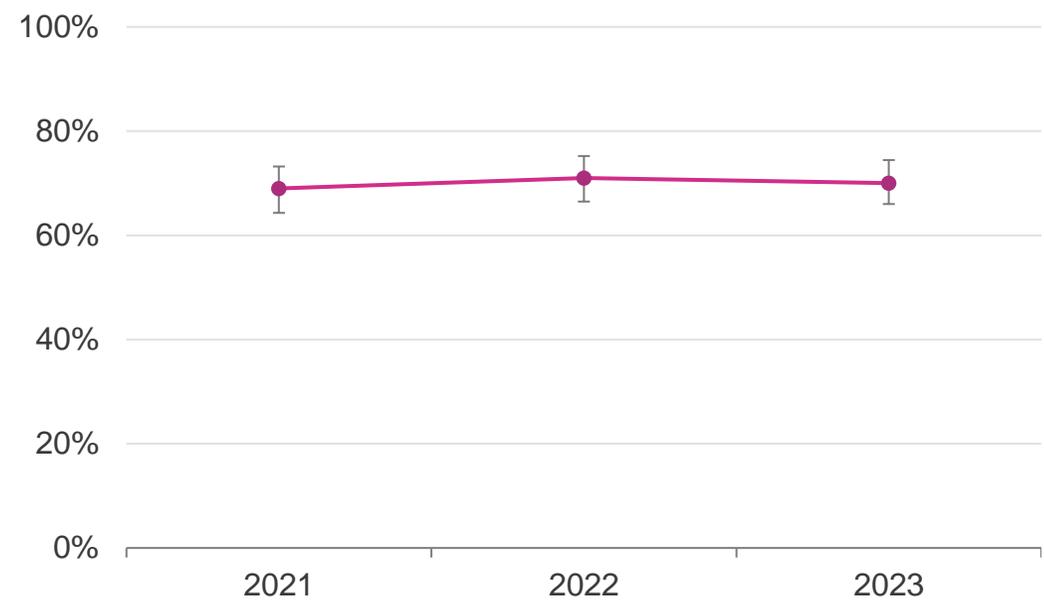
X51: Parents or carers felt that the hospital Wi-Fi always met the needs of them and their child. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay).



X51	34%	38%	36%
Responses	777	732	774

Care in hospital

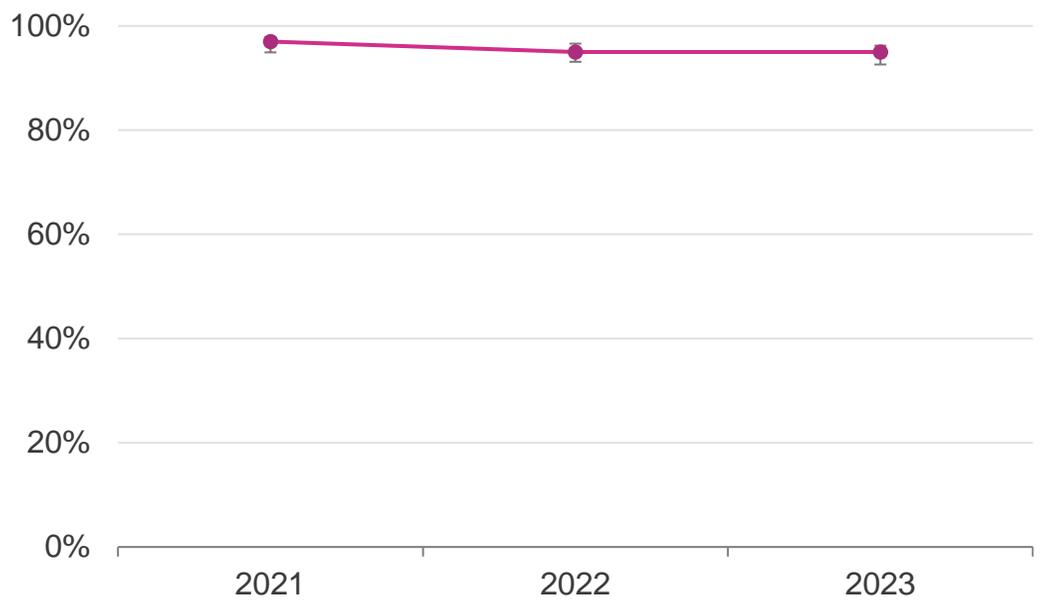
X52: Parents or carers reported that their child had access to hospital school services during their stay in hospital. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups whose children stayed in hospital (receiving treatment or care in the daytime or for an overnight stay).



X52	69%	71%	70%
Responses	412	411	446

Care at home or at school

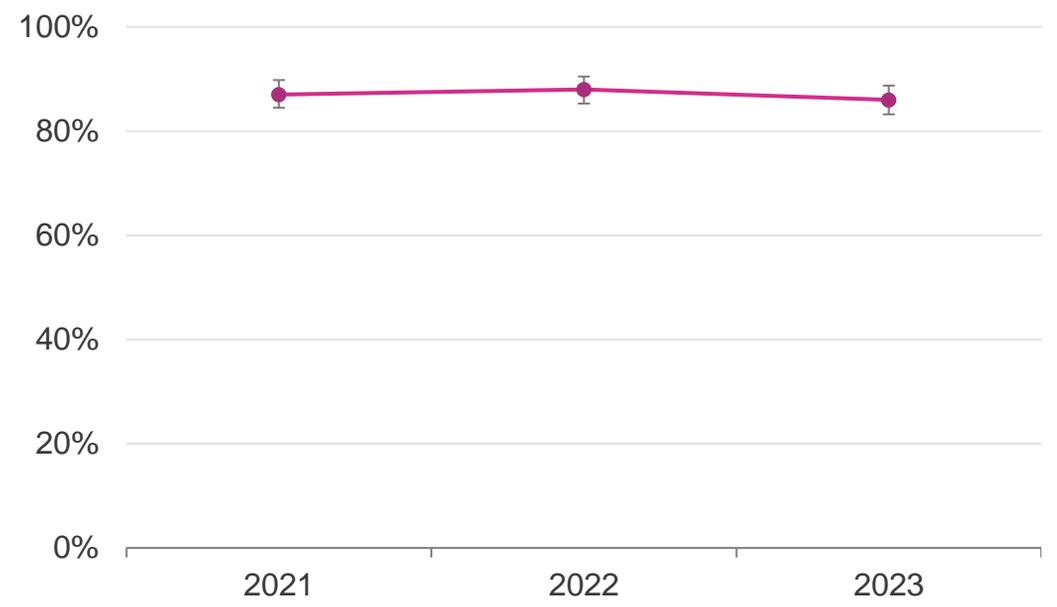
X54: Parents, carers, and children felt that the nurses who came to their home or school were always friendly. Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose children have been visited at home or school by a nurse, and children aged 8-15 who were visited at home or school by a nurse.



X54	97%	95%	95%
Responses	602	598	603

Care at home or at school

X55: Parents, carers, and children reported that they always understood what nurses visiting their home or school were saying. Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose child was visited at home or school by a nurse, and children aged 8-15 who were visited at home or school by a nurse.



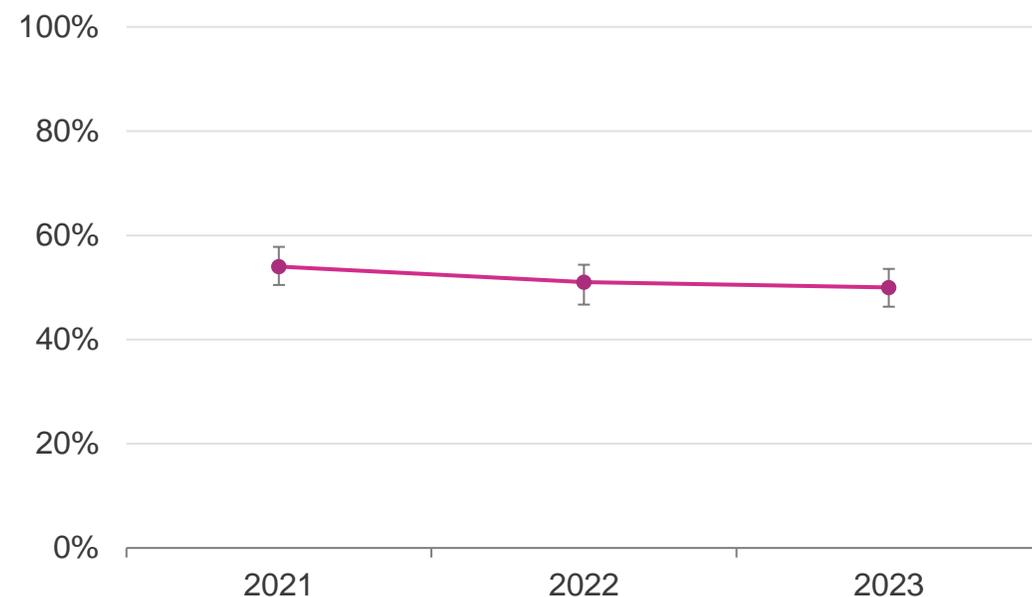
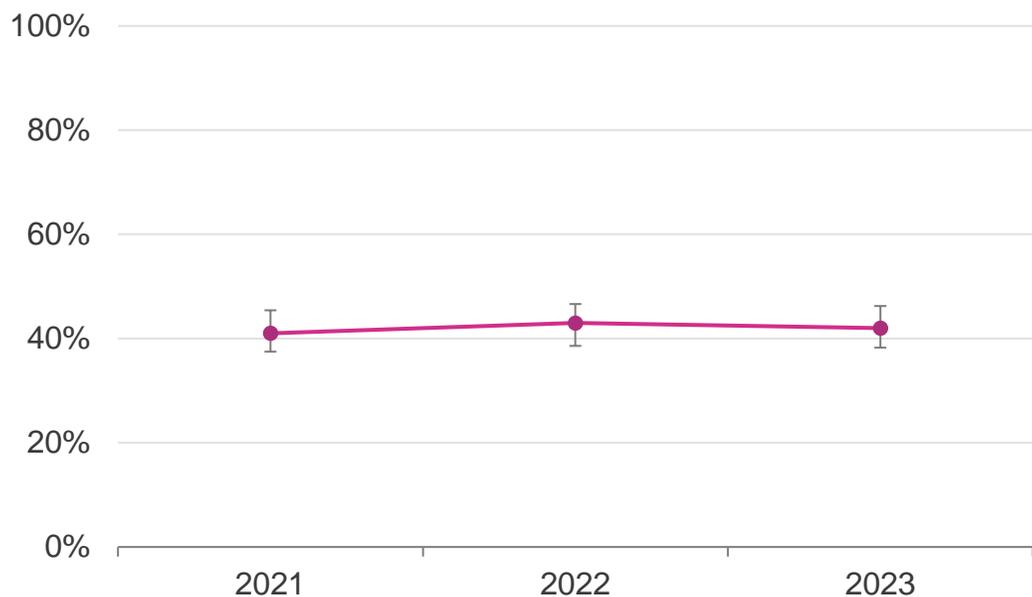
X55	87%	88%	86%
Responses	602	598	602

Care at home or at school

Overall care

X56: Parents, carers, and children reported that the same nurses always came to their home or school. Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-7 whose child was visited at home or school by a nurse, and children aged 8-15 who were visited at home or school by a nurse.

X57: Parents, carers, and children reported that different hospitals providing cancer or tumour care always worked well together. Asked to parents or carers of children aged 0-11, and children aged 12-15.



X56	41%	43%	42%
Responses	587	578	583

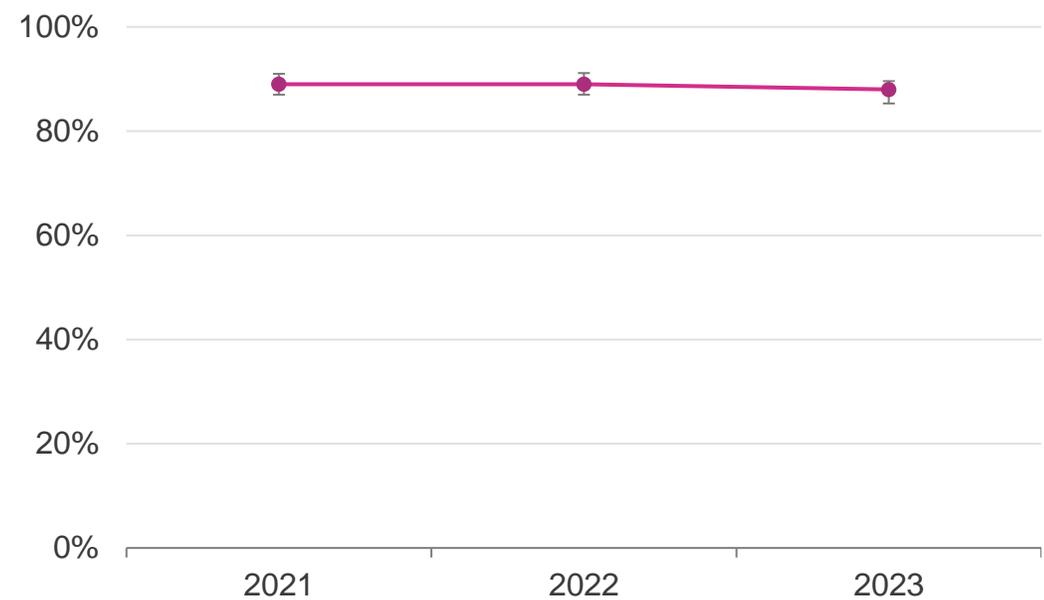
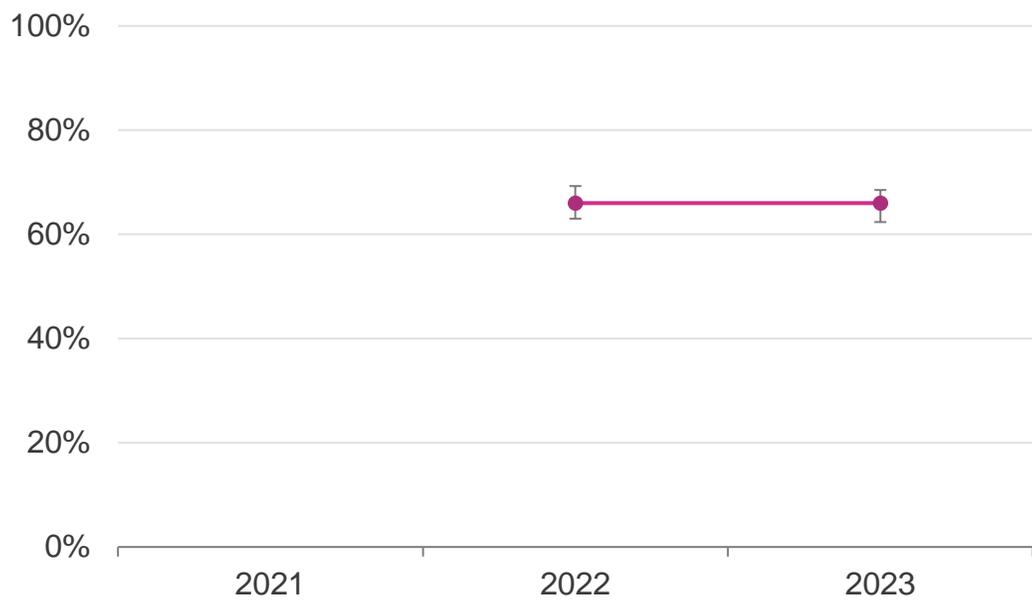
X57	54%	51%	50%
Responses	711	653	727

Overall care

Overall care

X58: Parents or carers reported that the hospital where their child received most of their care is about or under an hour's travel from their child's home. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.

X59: Parents or carers rated the overall experience of their child's care as 8 or more out of 10. Asked to parents or carers of all age groups.

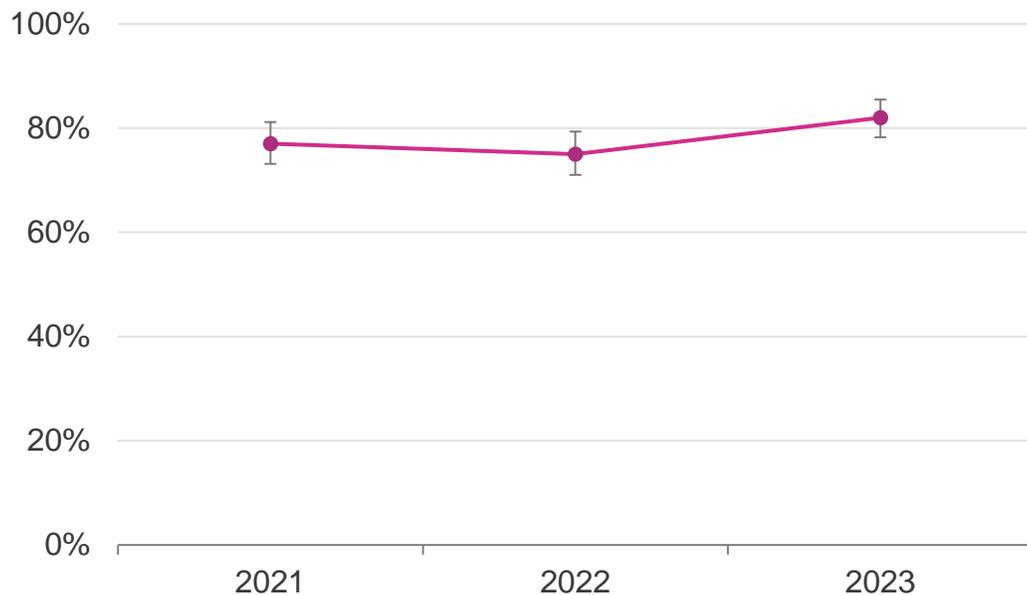


X58	-	66%	66%
Responses	-	870	916

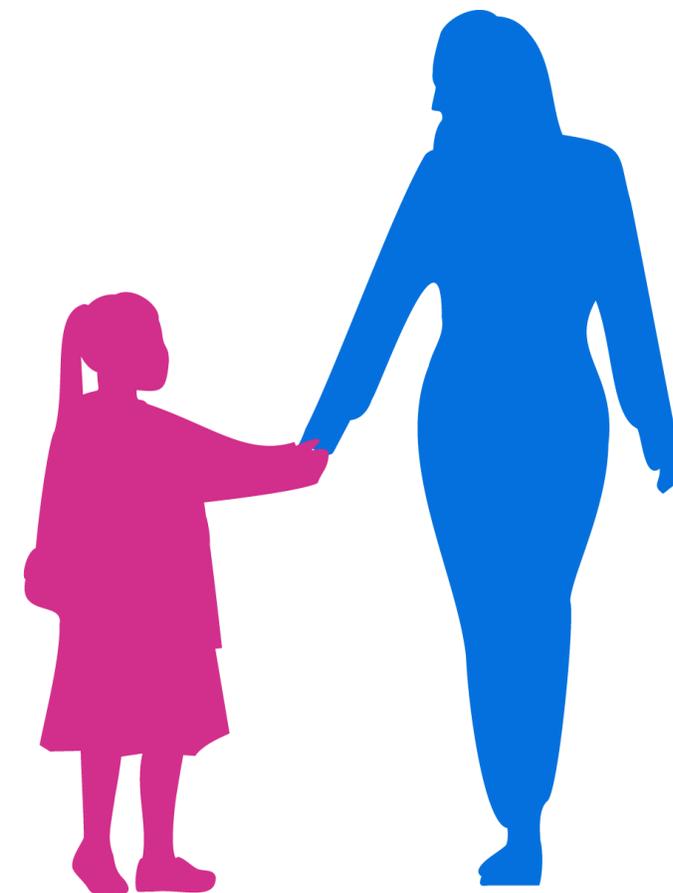
X59	89%	89%	88%
Responses	922	855	912

Overall care

X60: Children reported that they were very well looked after by staff for their cancer or tumour. Asked to all children aged 8-15.



X60	77%	75%	82%
Responses	416	411	426





8. Further information





For more information on the Under 16 Cancer Patient Experience Survey, visit the [survey website](#).

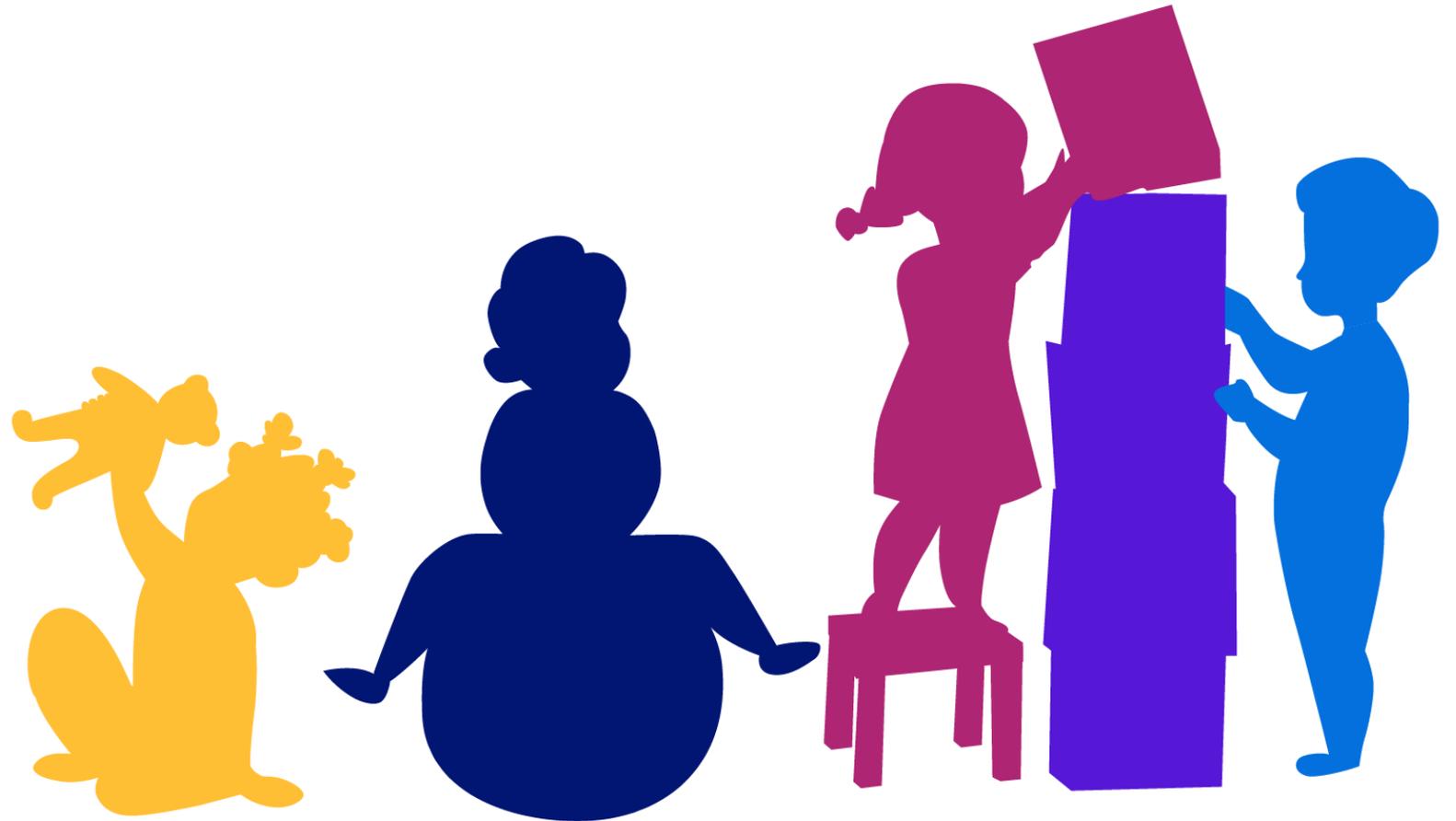


If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to get in touch [via email](#).



For full data tables showing results to all survey questions, please see the [survey website](#).

9. Appendix



Principal Treatment Centre (PTC)	Number of responses	Proportion of responses
Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust	52	5%
Birmingham Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	90	9%
Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	56	6%
Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust & University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	179	19%
Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust	68	7%
Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust	64	7%
Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust & University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust	61	6%
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	48	5%
Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust	42	4%
The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	63	7%
The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust & St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	95	10%
University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust	69	7%
University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust	62	7%
Total	949	100%