

LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



2122 South 8th Street
Ironton, Ohio 45638
TELEPHONE: 740-532-3962
FAX NUMBER: 740-532-1014



July 30, 2021

Lawrence County Preconception and Inter-Conception Health Assessment

Summary of Demographics

Lawrence County has a population of 59,436. 95.5% of the population is white and 2.1% of the population is Black or African or American with less than 1% of the population being Asian or Indian American. According to the US Census bureau, 16.2% of the population lives in poverty. The median household income for the county is \$45,118. 12% of the population around Lawrence County holds less than a high school diploma, 87.5% holds a high school diploma and 14.9% holds a bachelor's degree.

Summary of Preconception and Inter-Conception Services

Although there are 13 healthcare clinics around Lawrence County, only 3 of them specifically offer well-woman appointments (OB/GYN). The vast majority of these clinics are located in Ironton, with only a few sprinkled throughout other areas/towns in the county. Many women throughout our county travel to West Virginia or Kentucky for their healthcare.

Summary of Challenges and Barriers

Through our surveys, we discovered barriers women face while trying to reach optimal health in Lawrence County. Some of these barriers include low income: 41% of the women we surveyed stated that their household yearly income is less than \$40k per year. 23% of women surveyed stated that they do not go to the doctor because it costs too much money. Another barrier to optimal women's health in Lawrence County is smoking. Although many of the women surveyed stated that they smoked 0 days in the last month, we still had 40% of our women surveyed state that they smoked everyday in the past month.

Additional barriers to optimal health in Lawrence County includes limited grocery stores. Although these stores do sell fresh fruits and vegetables, the selection in the majority of the retailers is often limited, leaving families to do their grocery shopping in neighboring West Virginia or Kentucky.

Women and social service providers throughout Lawrence County were, for the most part, very willing to provide our health department with feedback for this project. However, it was more difficult to receive feedback from local clinicians. This may be due to a wide range of issues such as patient overload or lack of time.

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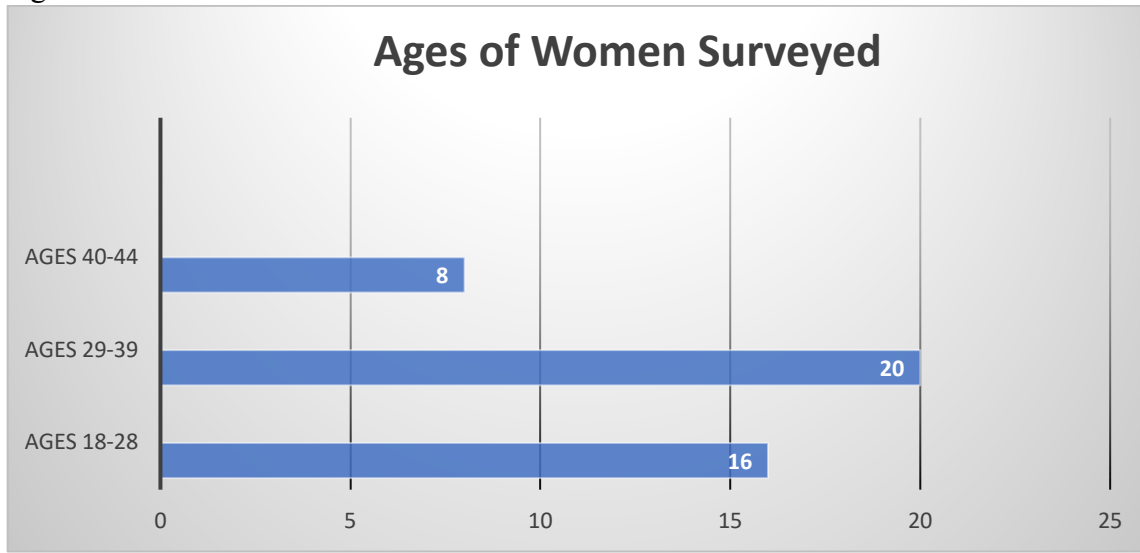


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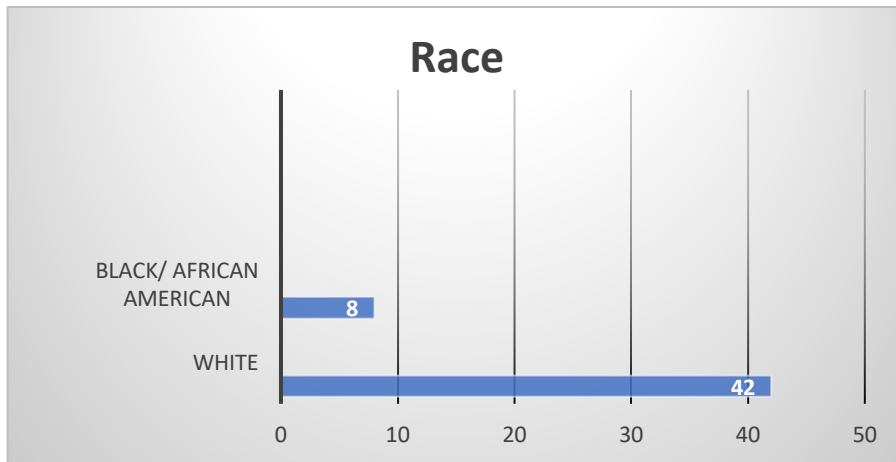


Women's Summary of Qualitative Results

1. Age



2. Race



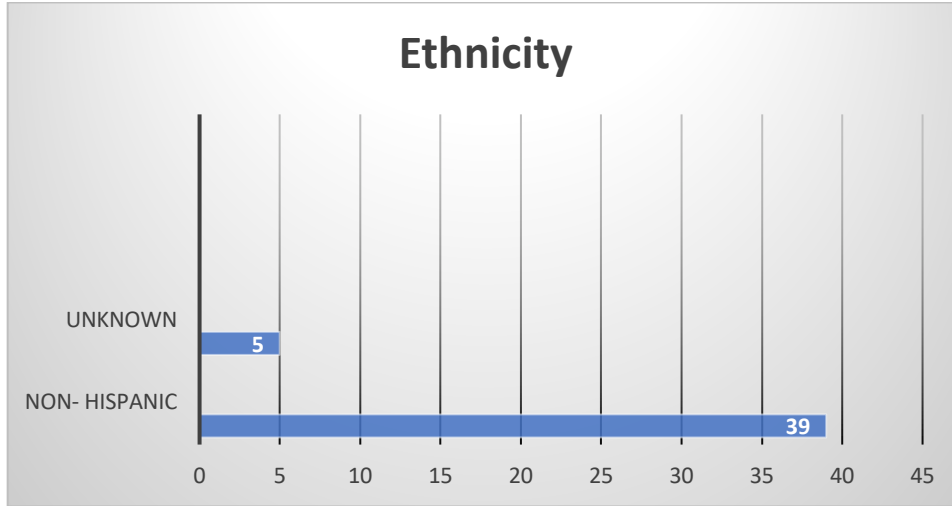
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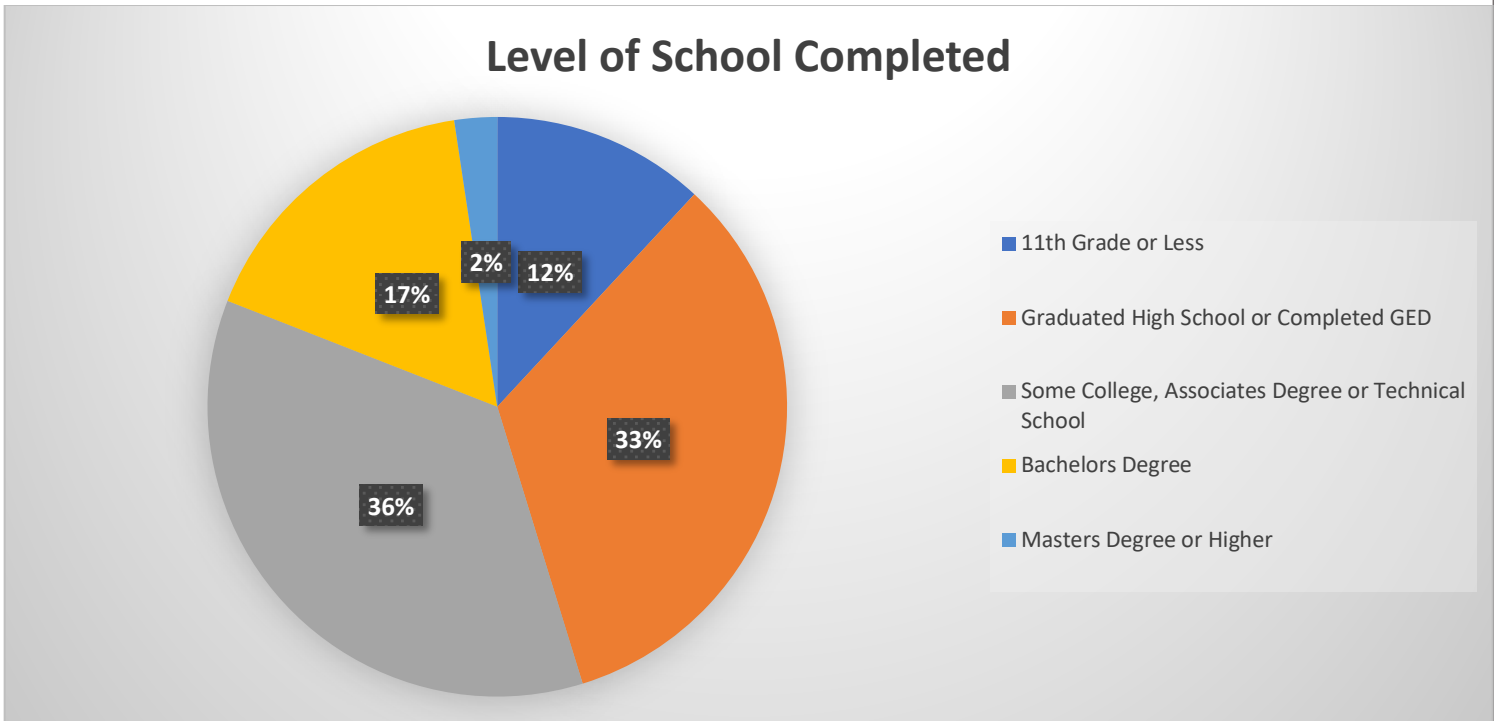
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3. Ethnicity



4. Level of School Completed



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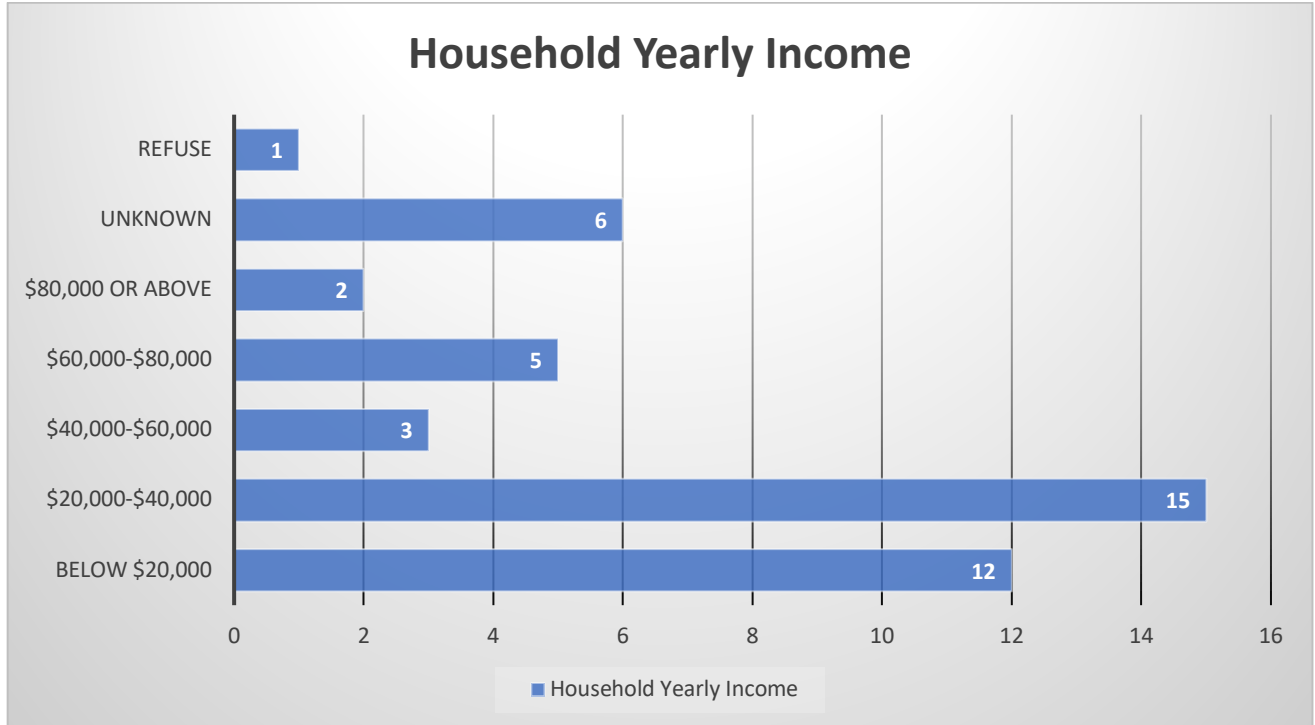


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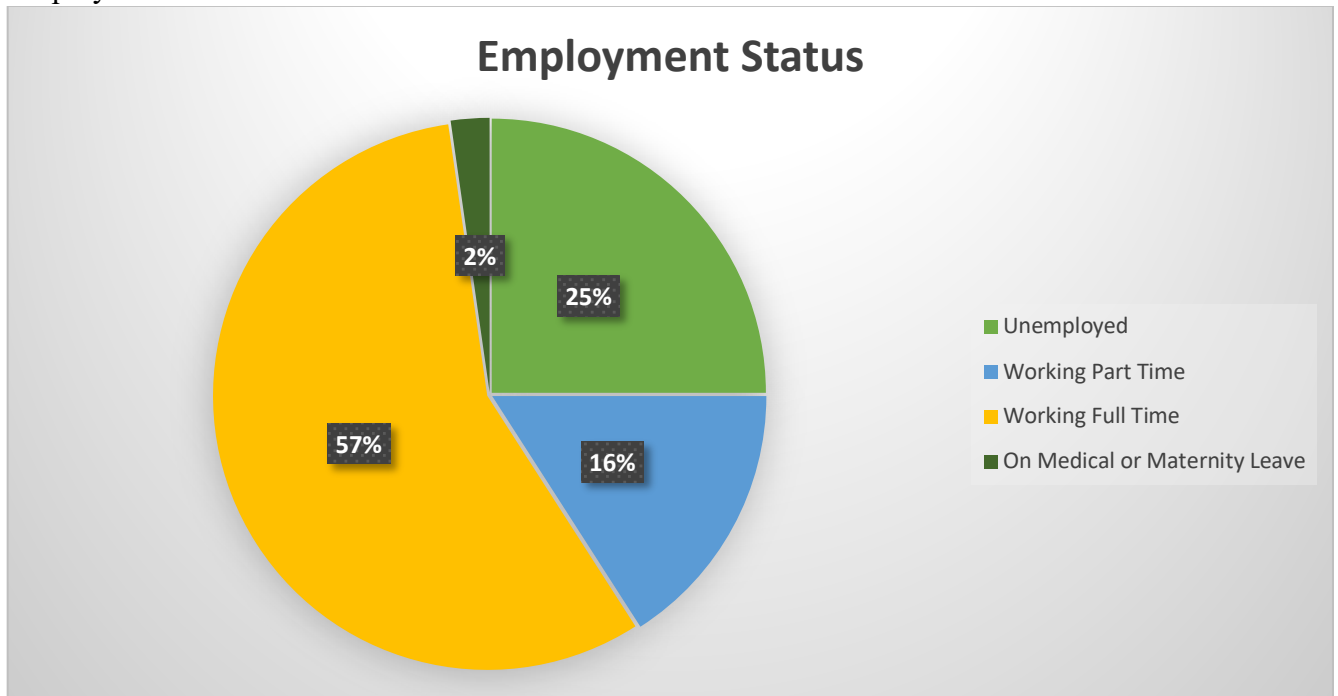


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5. Household Yearly Income



6. Employment Status



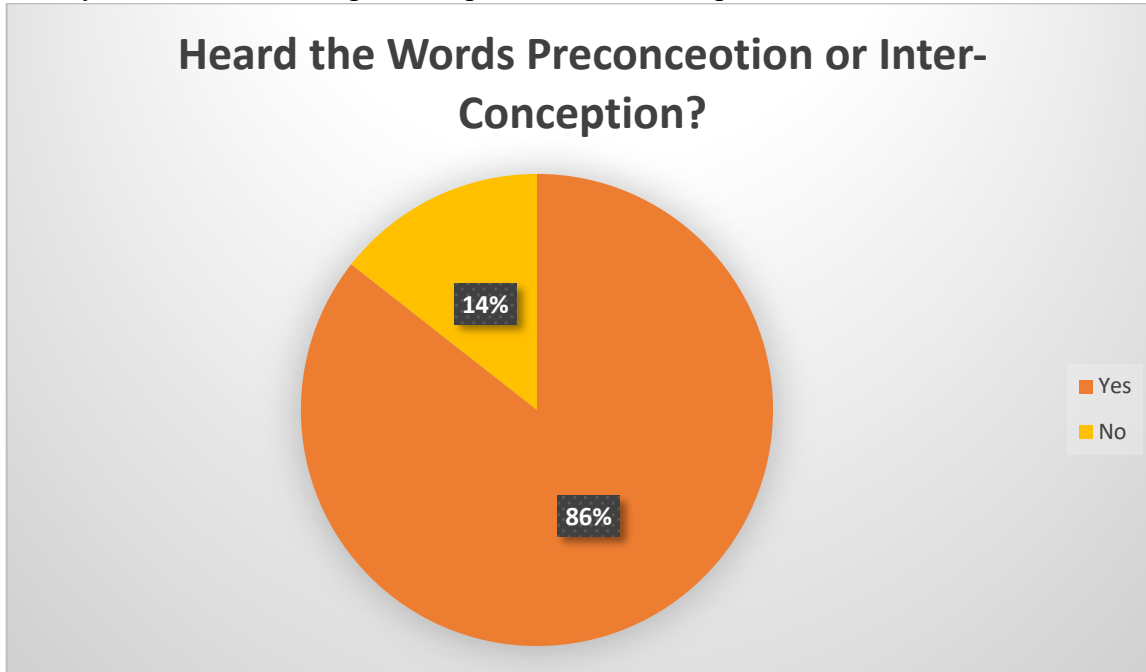
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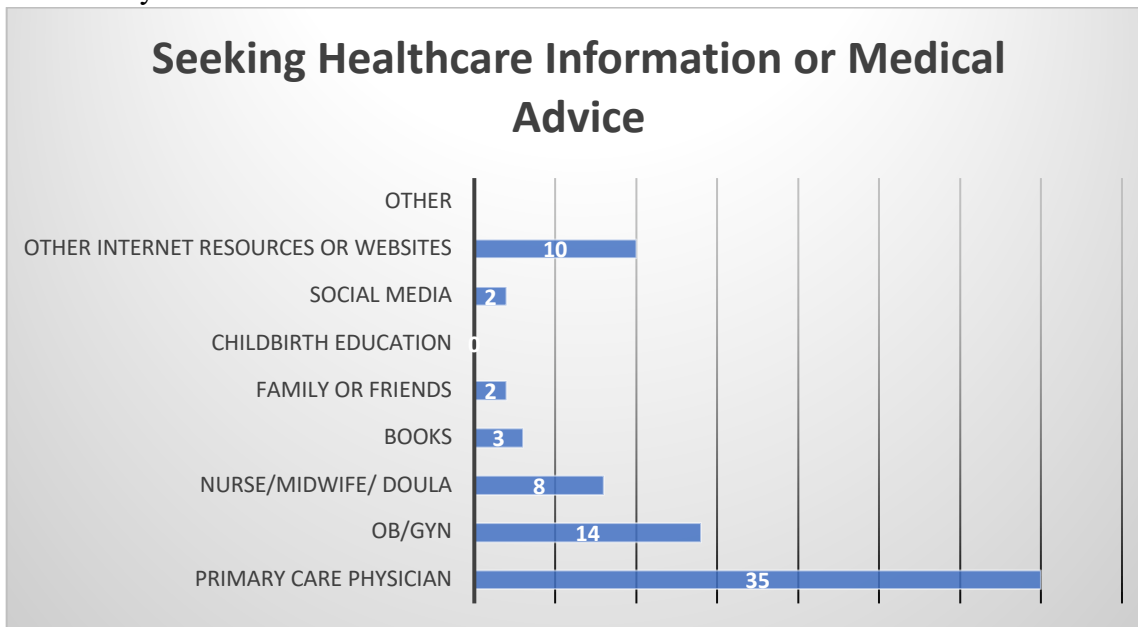
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7. Have you heard the words preconception or inter conception?



8. Where do you seek healthcare information or medical advice?



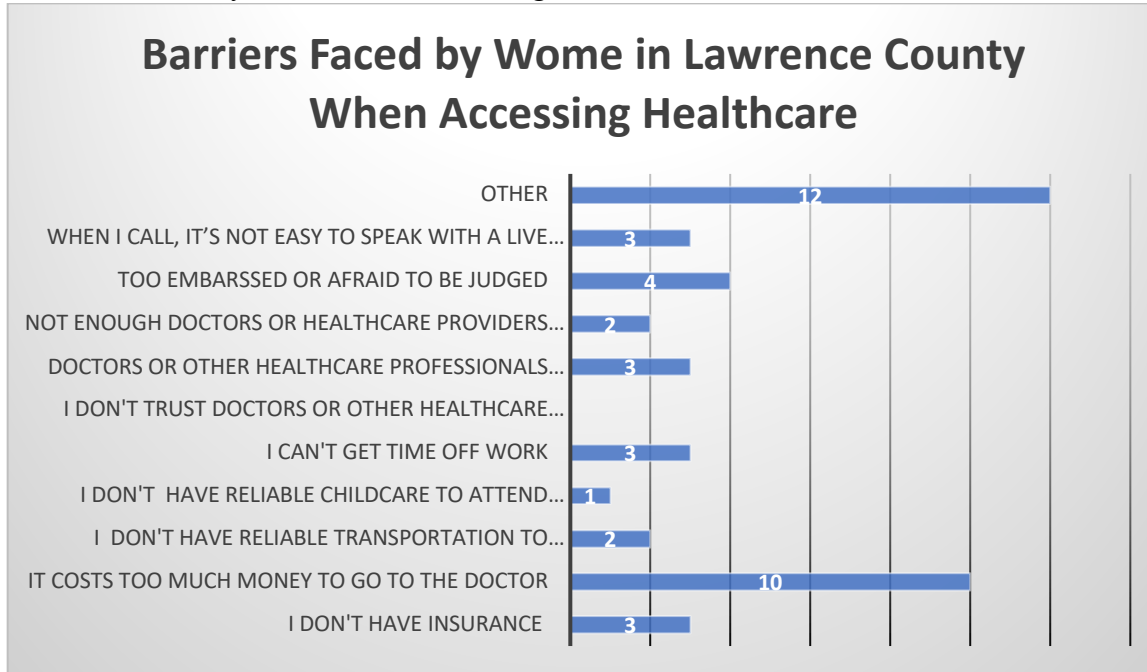
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9. What barriers do you face when accessing healthcare information or medical advice?



10. What barriers do you face when accessing social services to help with housing, food, employment and everyday needs?

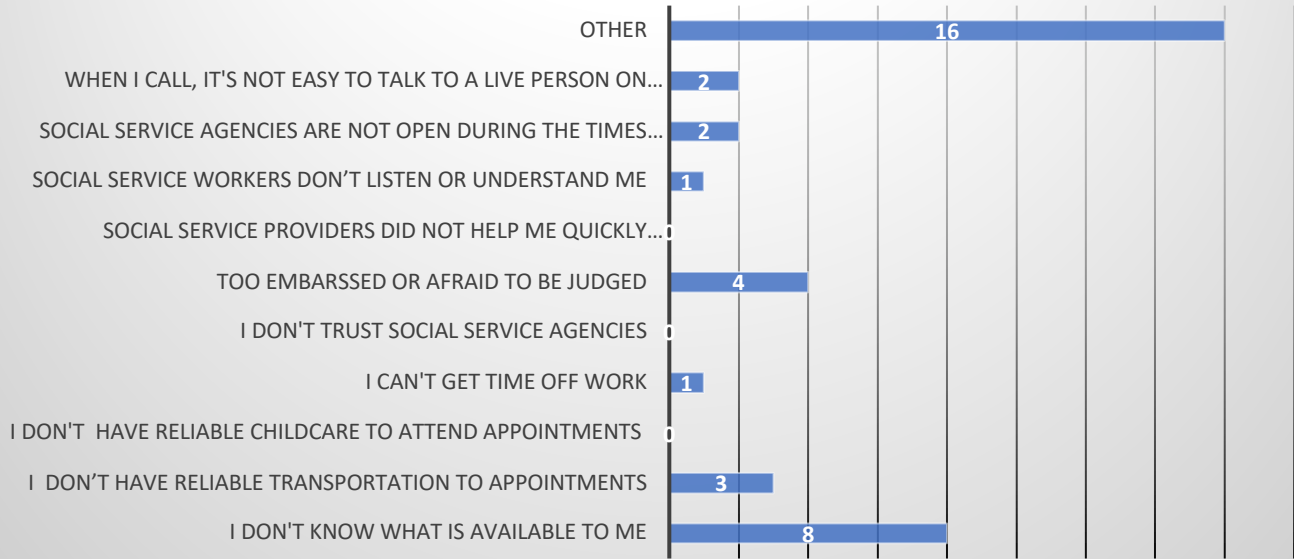
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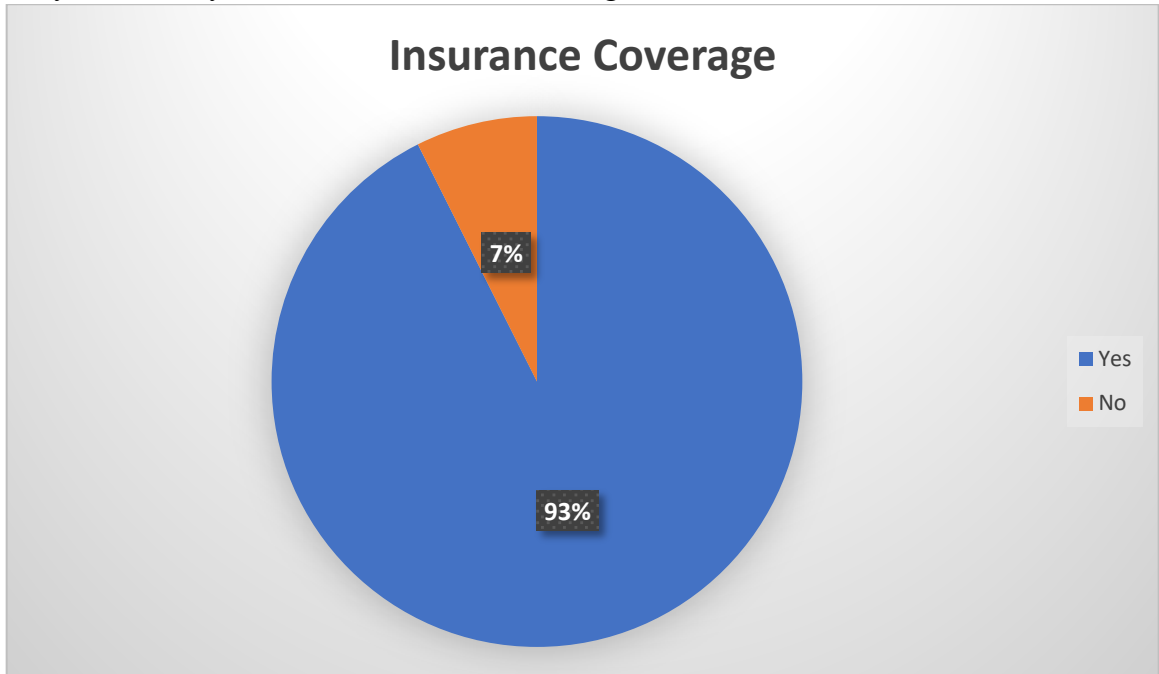
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Barriers Faced by Women When Accessing Social Services



11. Do you currently have health insurance coverage?



12. Do you have insurance for dental or vision health?

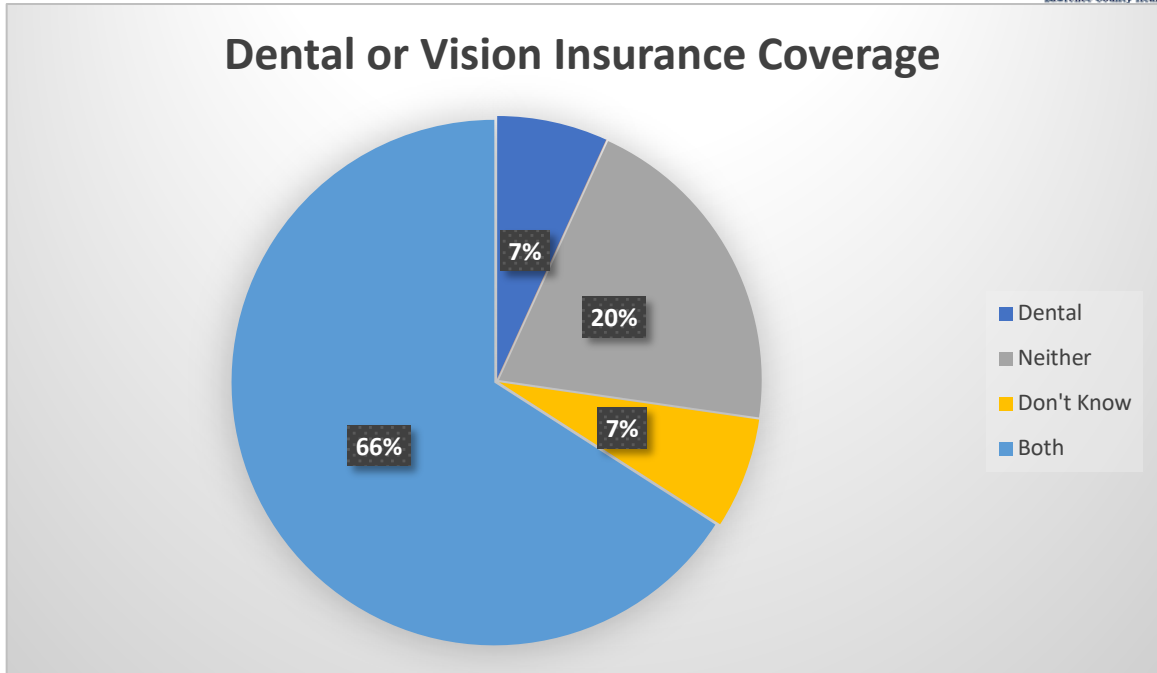
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13. What does it mean to be “healthy” before you get pregnant? (top responses)

- Healthy diet
- Body free of drugs
- Exercise
- Mentally prepared/stable
- Taking prenatal vitamins
- Regular checkups
- Rest

14. Are you currently receiving treatment for any chronic conditions?

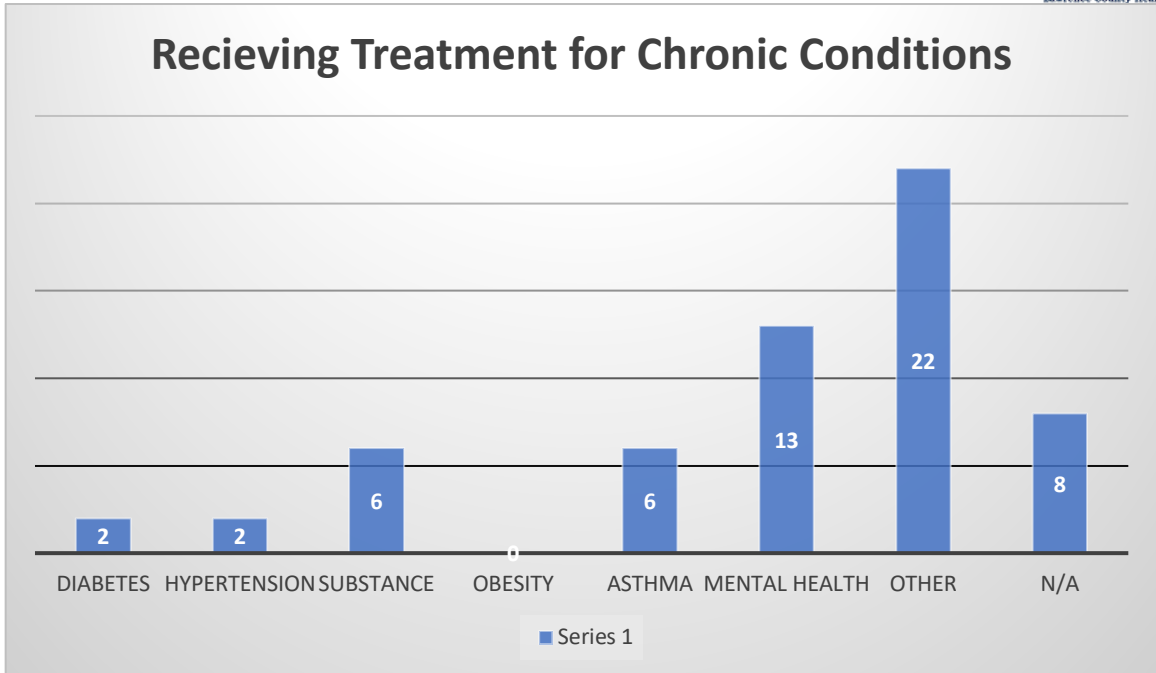
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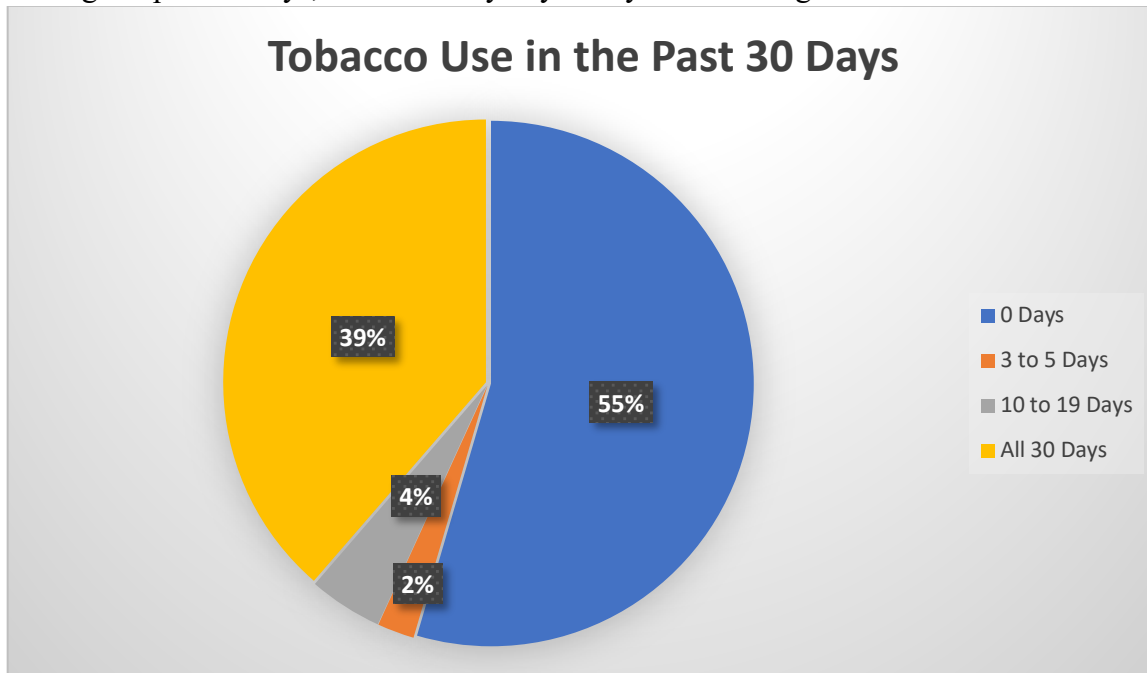
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15. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes or use other tobacco products?



16. In the past 7 days, on how many times did you eat fruits and vegetables?

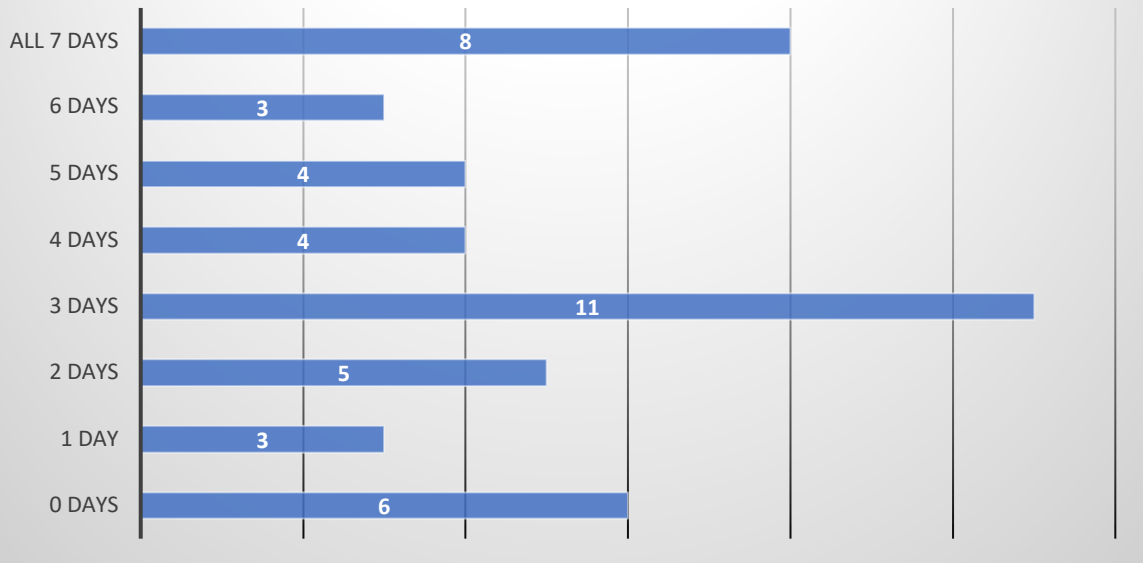
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Days Active in the Past Week



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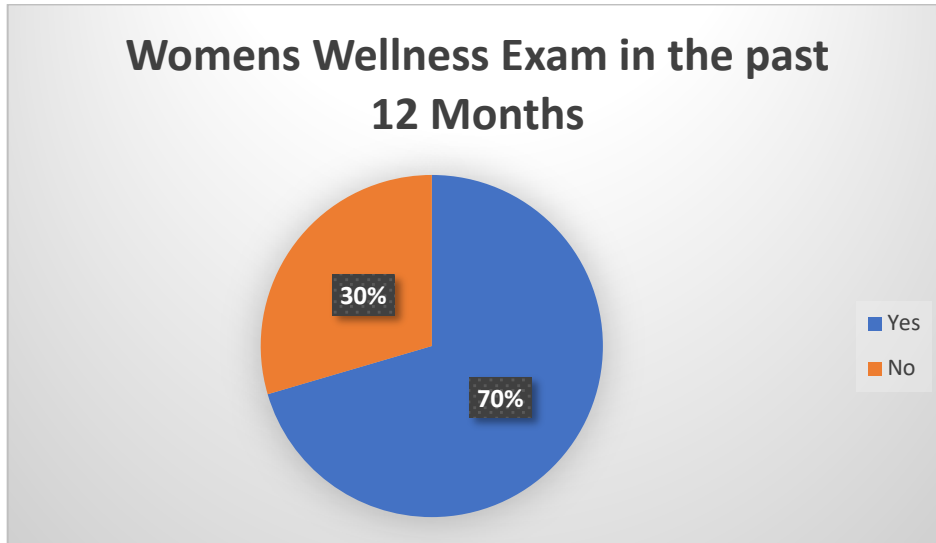


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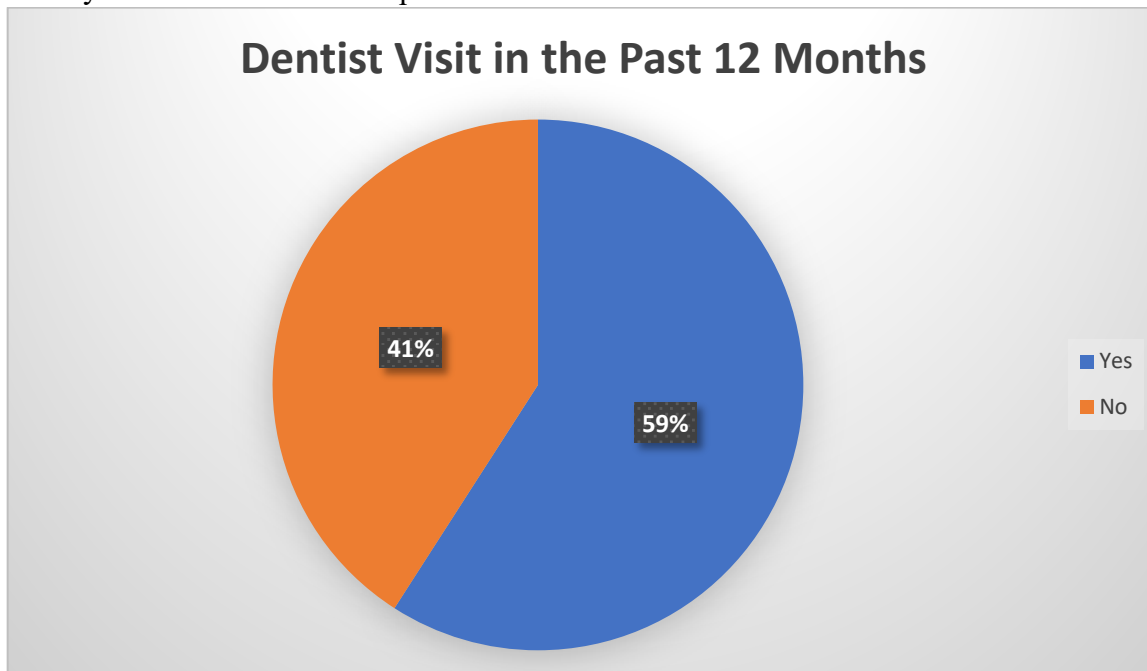


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17. Have you seen a doctor or other healthcare provider in the past 12 months for a women's wellness exam?



18. Have you seen a dentist in the past 12 months?



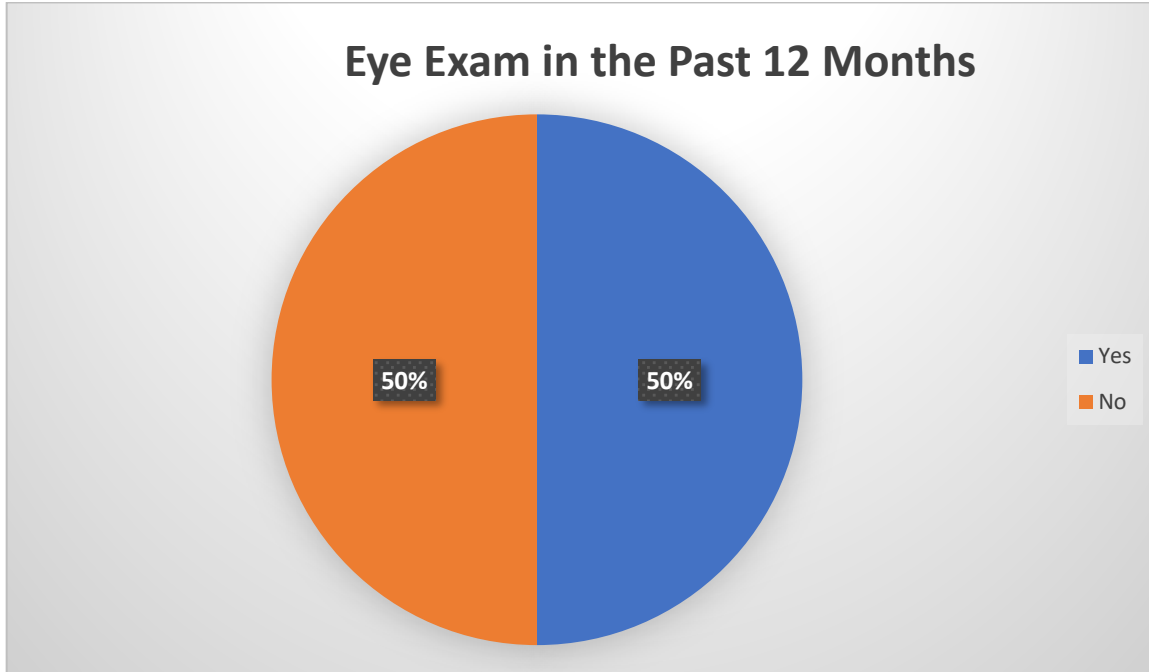
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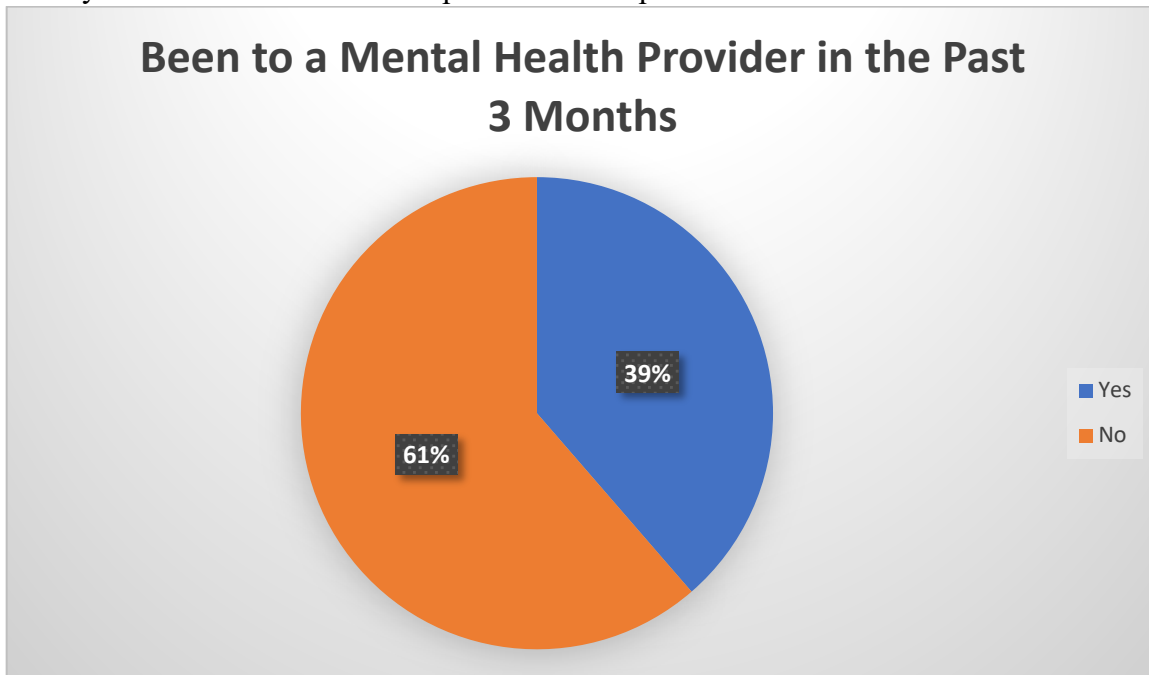
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19. Have you had an eye exam in the past 12 months?



20. Have you been to a mental health provider in the past 3 months?



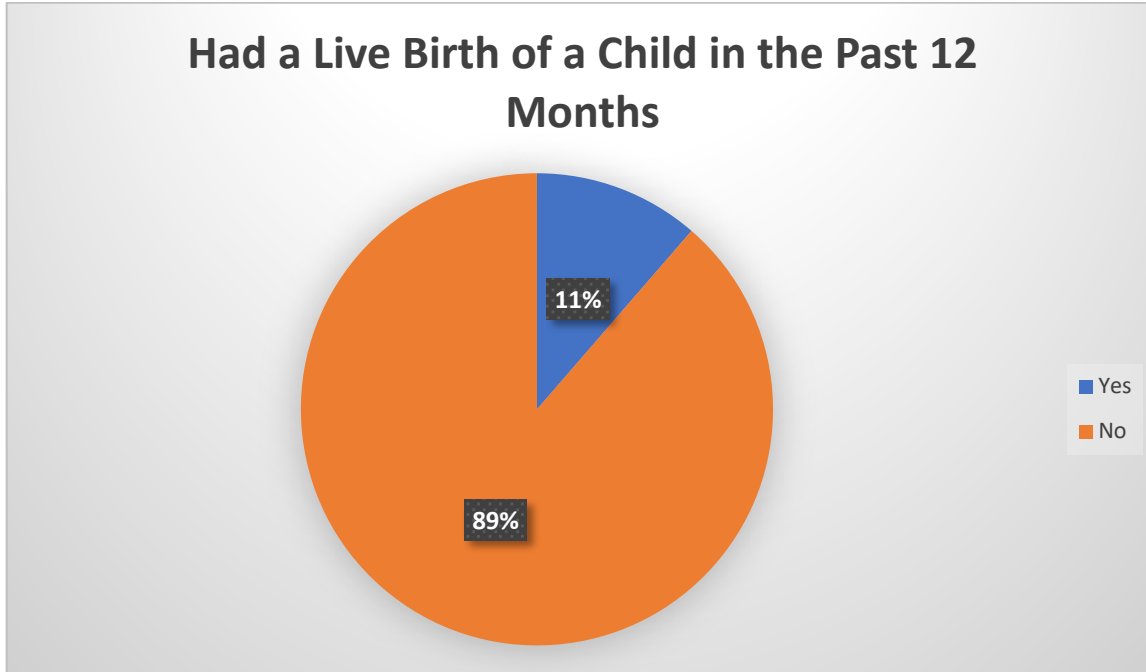
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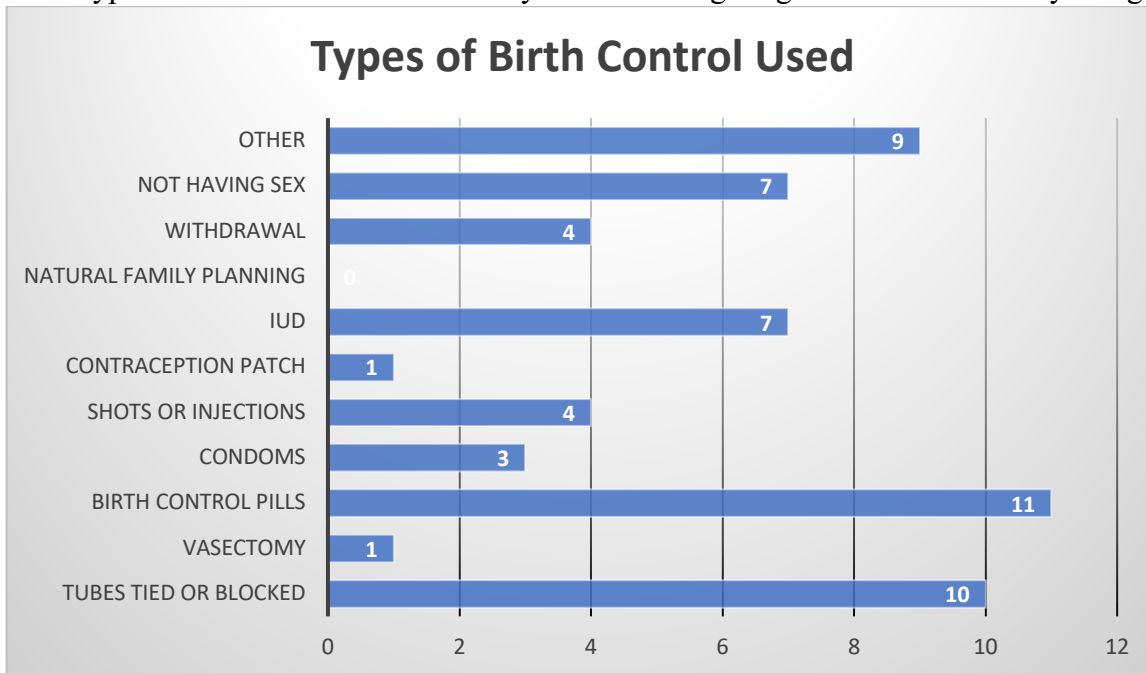
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21. Have you had a live birth of a child in the past 12 months?



22. What type of birth control method have you used after giving birth or are currently using?



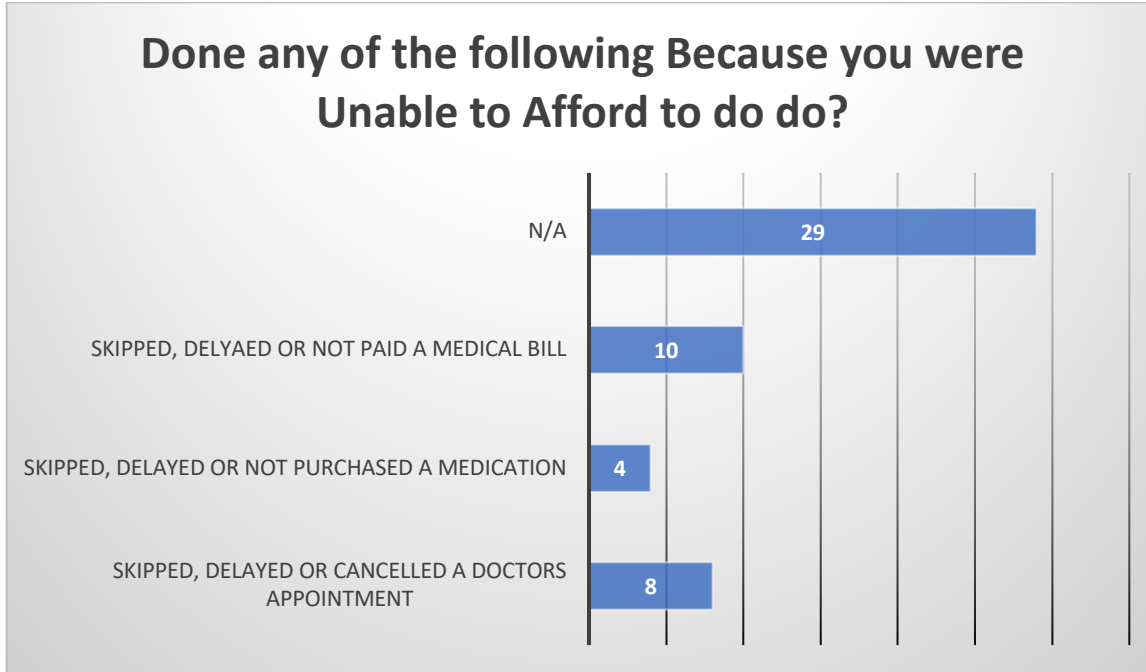
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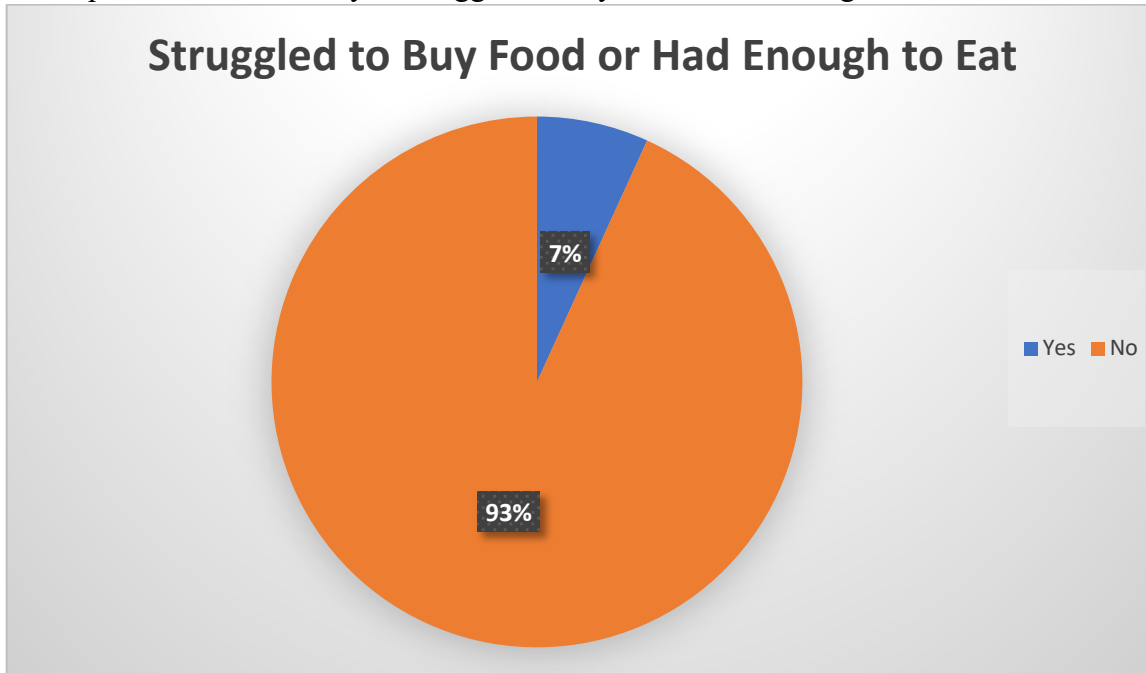
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23. In the past 6 months, have you done any of the following because you were unable to afford to do so?



24. In the past 6 months, have you struggled to buy food or had enough to eat?



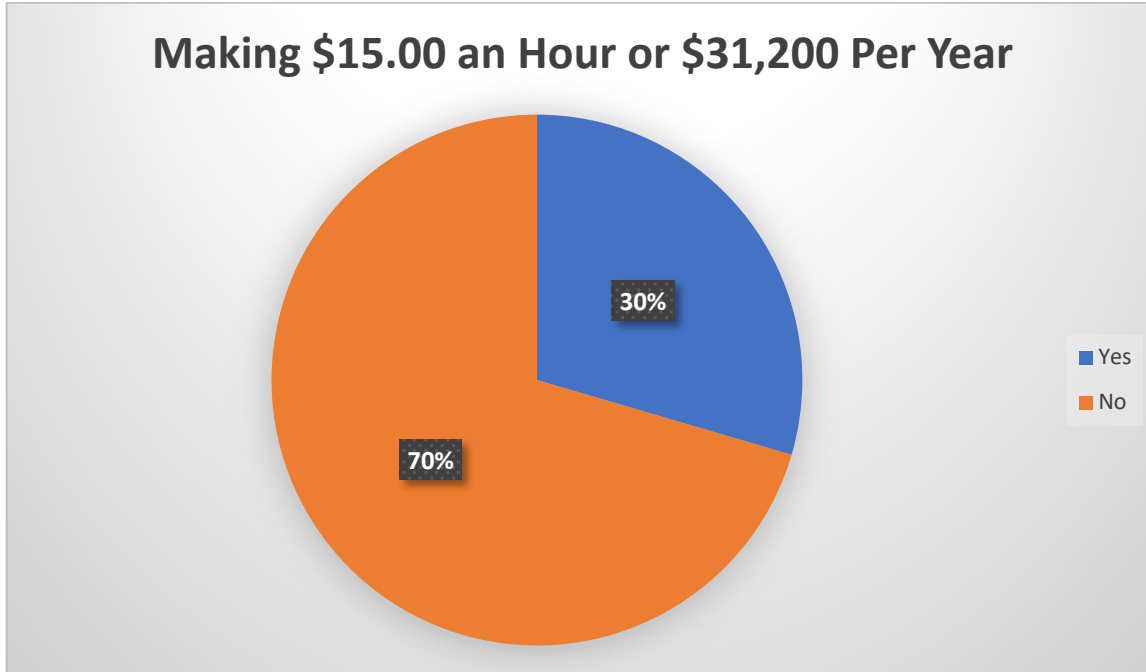
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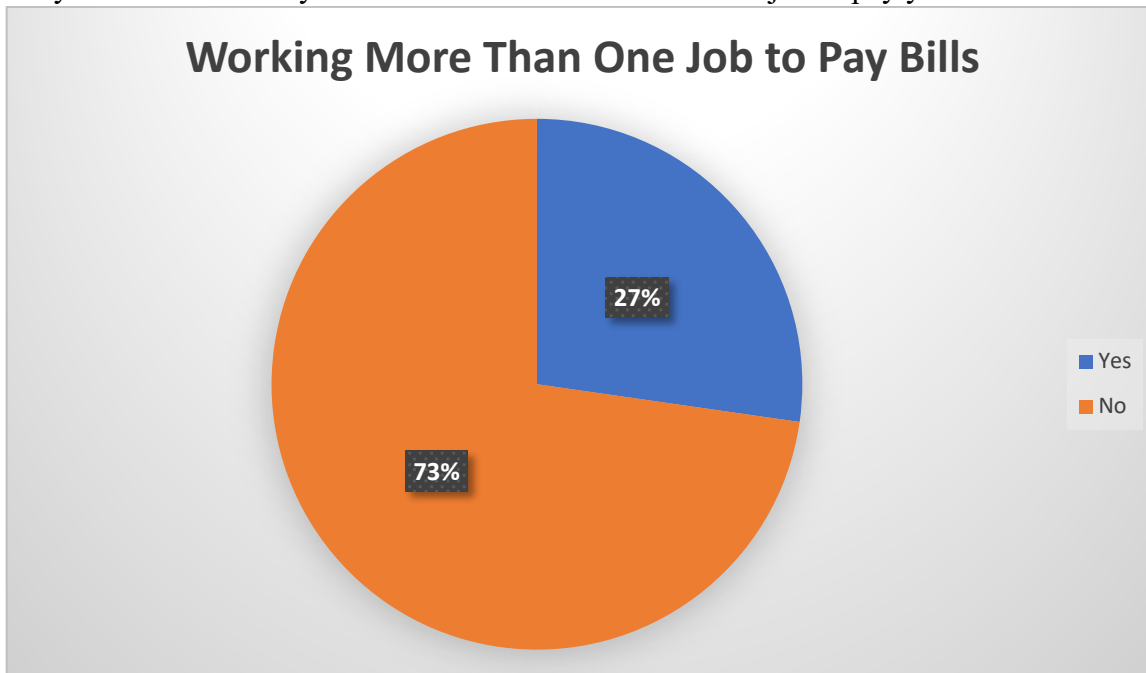
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25. Are you making \$15.00 an hour or \$31,200 per year?



26. Do you or someone in your household work more than one job to pay your bills?



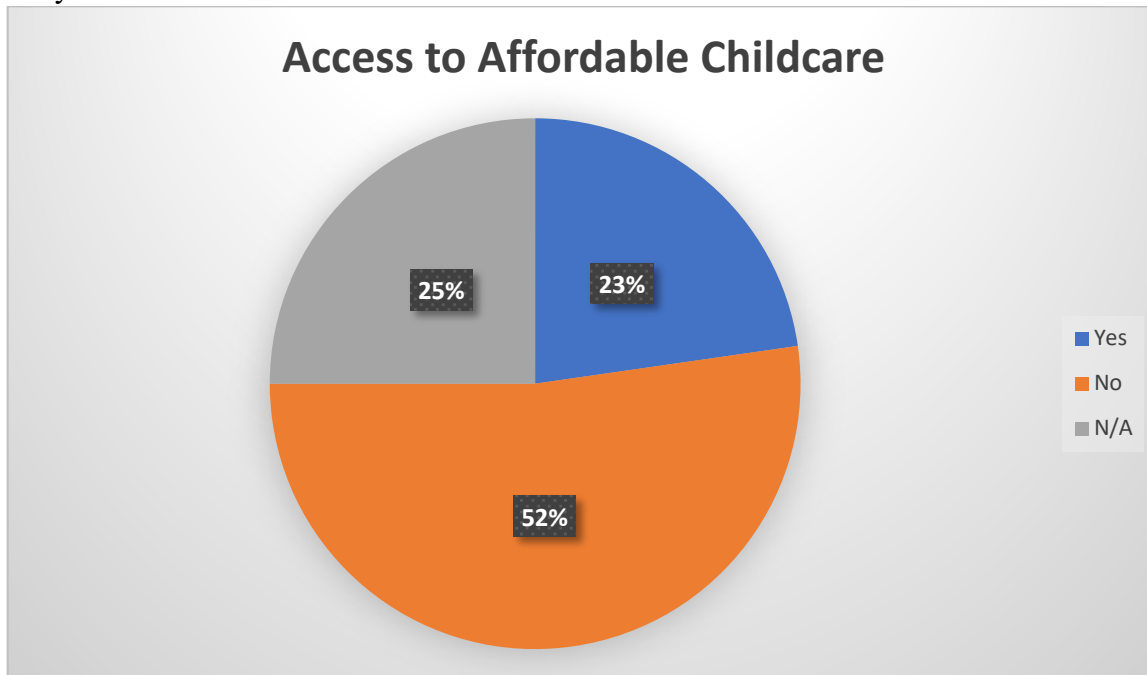
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27. Do you have access to affordable childcare?



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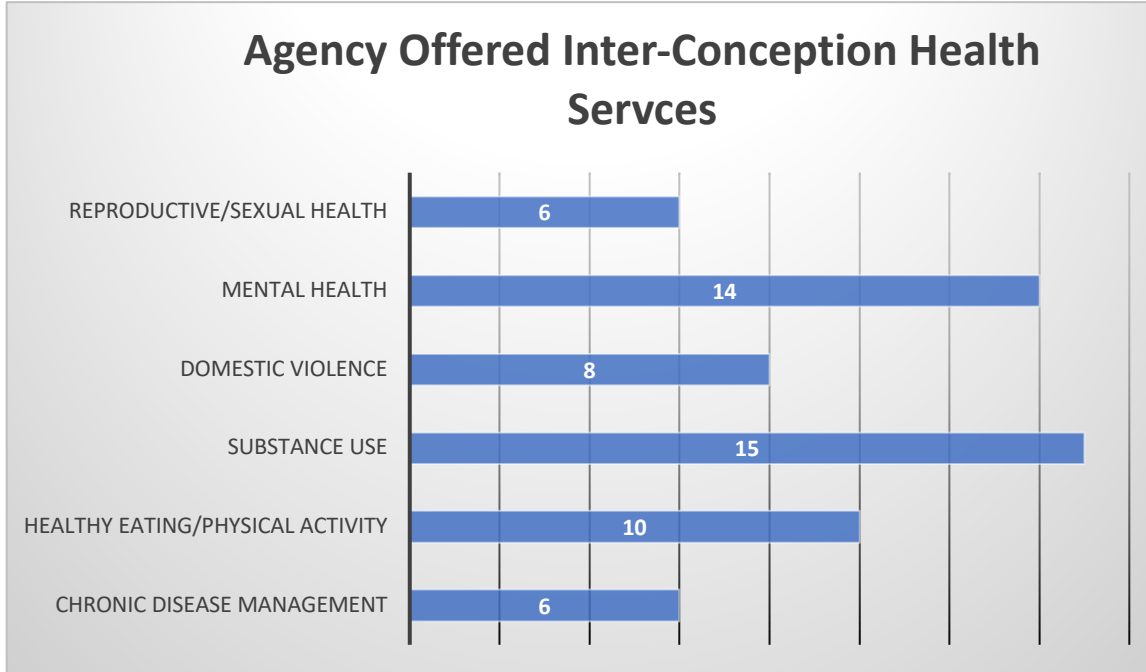


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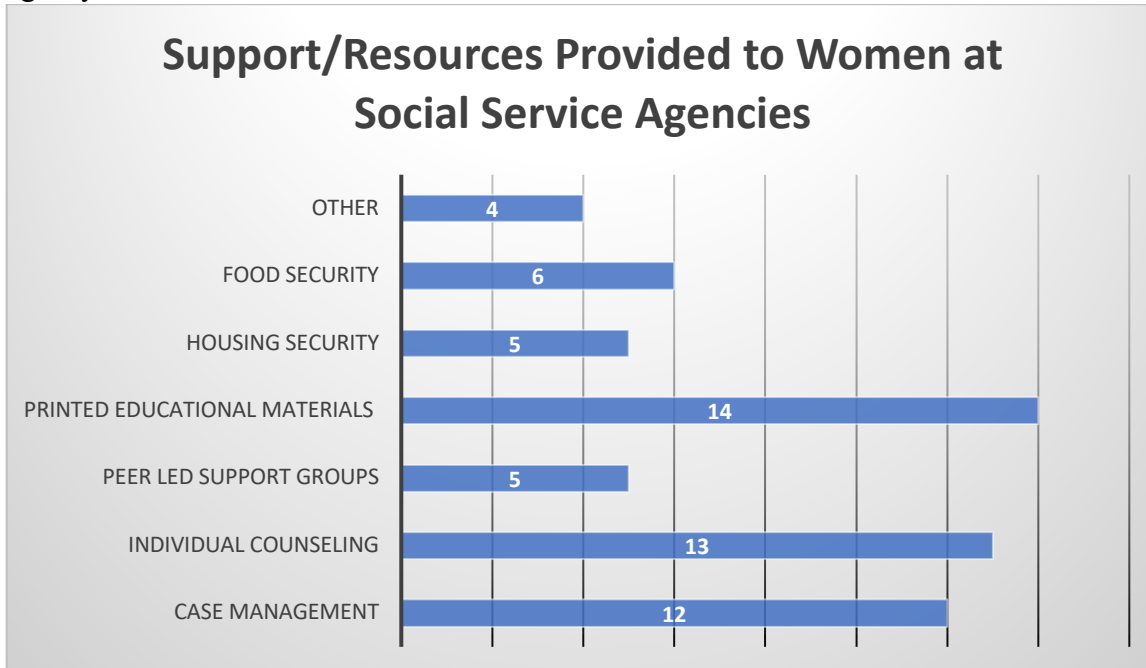


Social Service Providers Summary of Qualitative Results

1. Does your agency offer any of the following inter-conception health services?



2. What preconception or inter-conception health support or resources are provided to women at your agency?



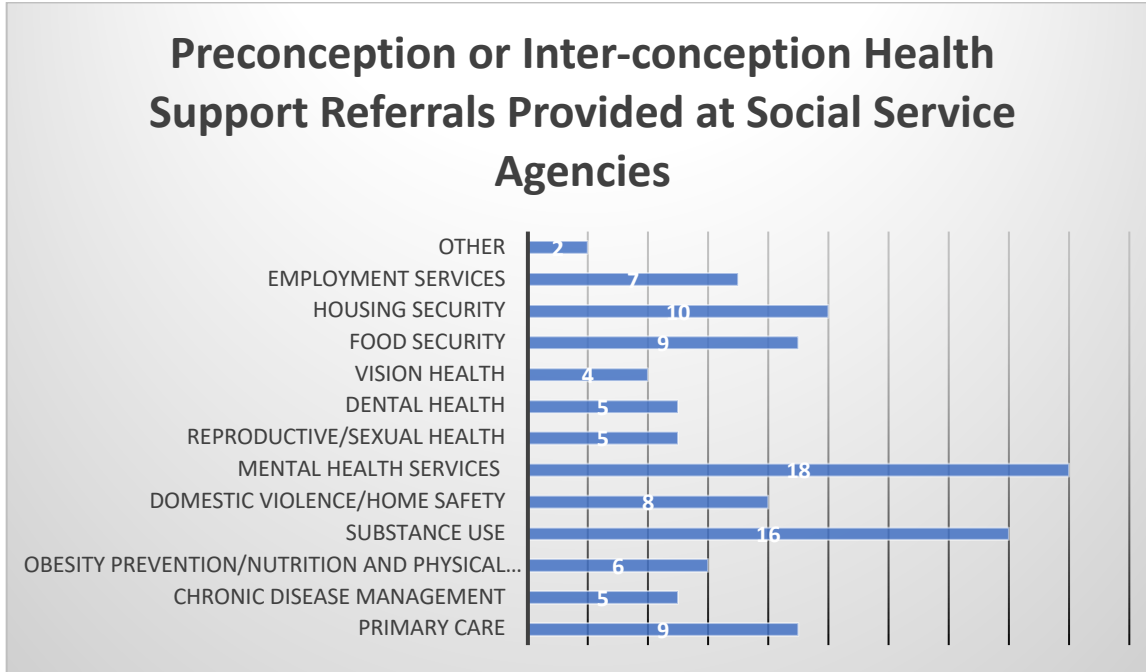
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3. What preconception or inter-conception health support referrals are provided to women at your agency?



4. Based on your experience, what information do women 18-44 ask for the most when they come to your agency?

- Mental health services
- Housing
- Drug/alcohol counseling
- Coping skills to manage depression and anxiety
- Grief counseling
- Overall support
- Childcare
- Employment
- Housing information

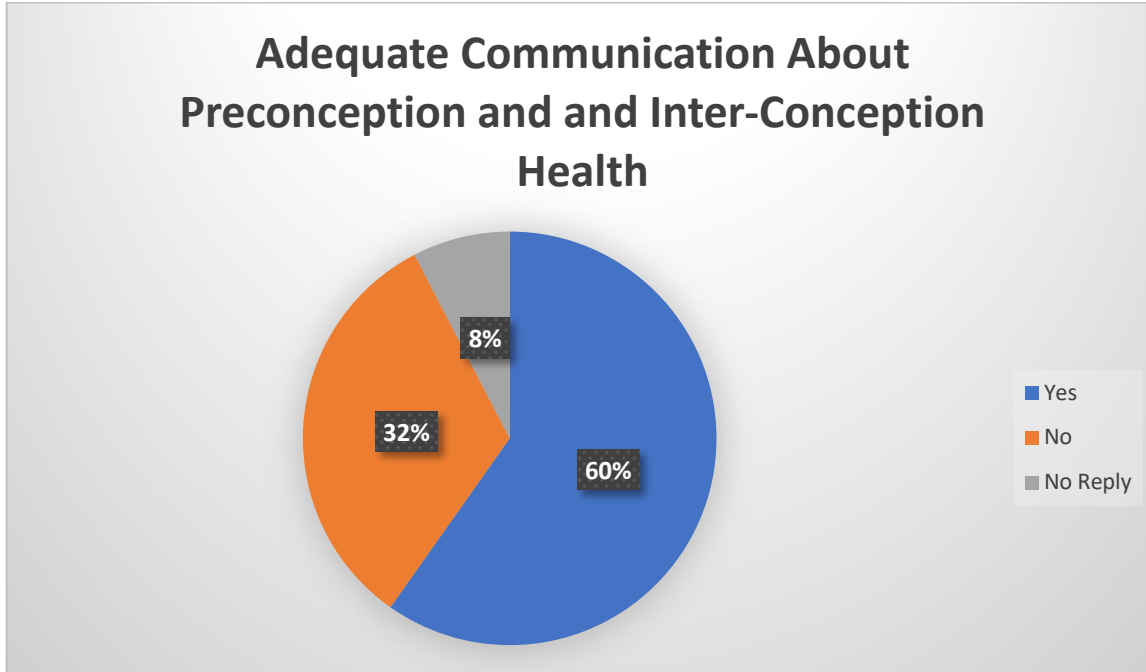
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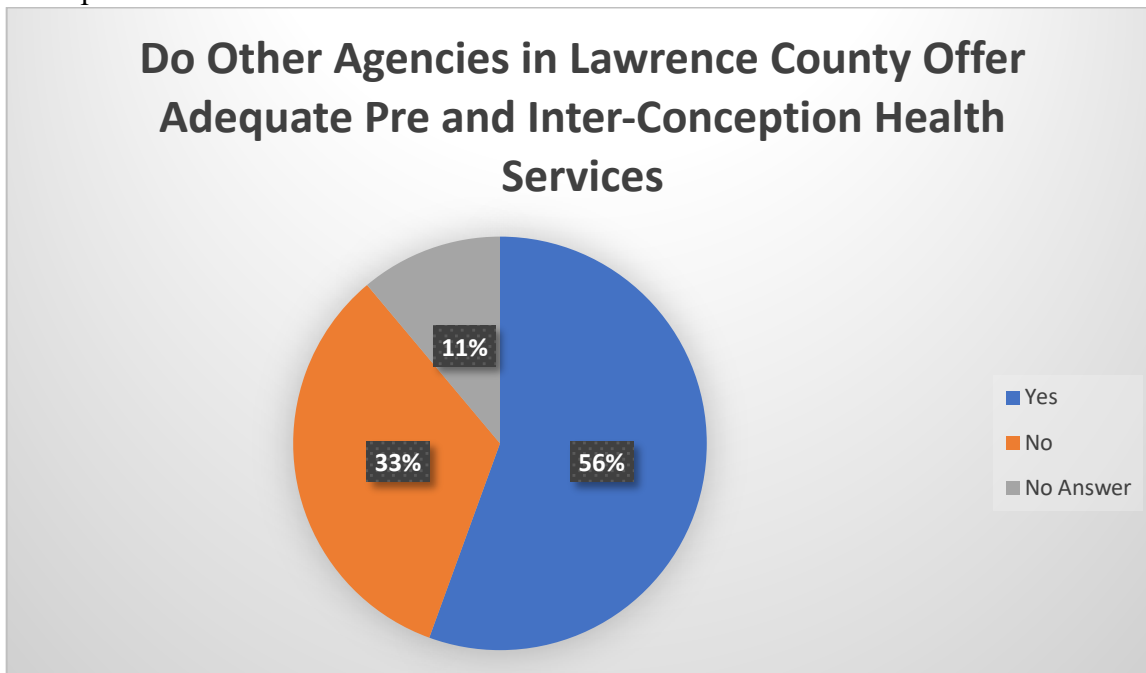
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5. Do you think staff at your agency communicate well about the services you provide women for preconception and inter-conception health?



6. Do you feel as if other agencies throughout the county offer adequate preconception and inter-conception health services?



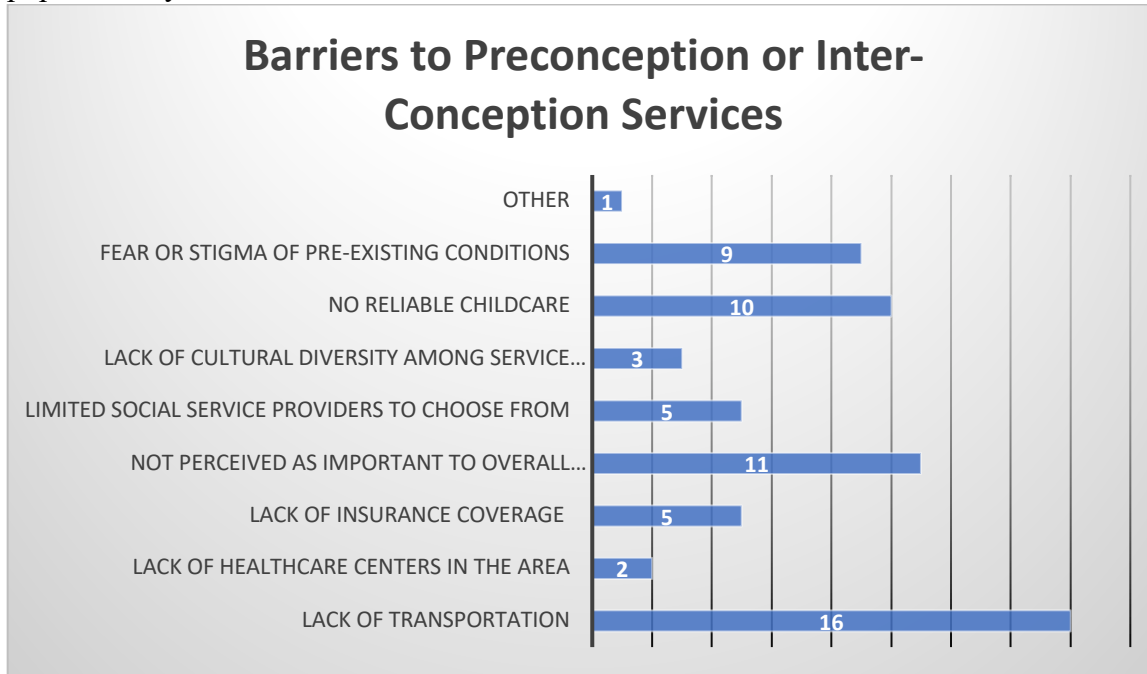
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7. What barriers to preconception and inter-conception health are you seeing with the populations you serve?



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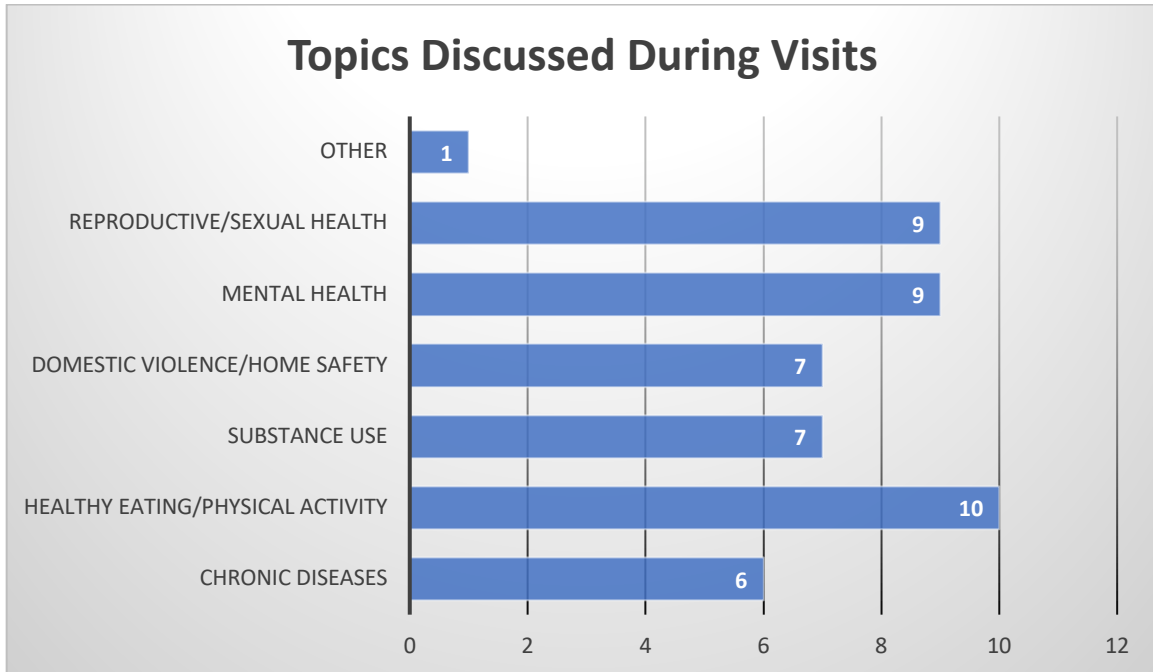


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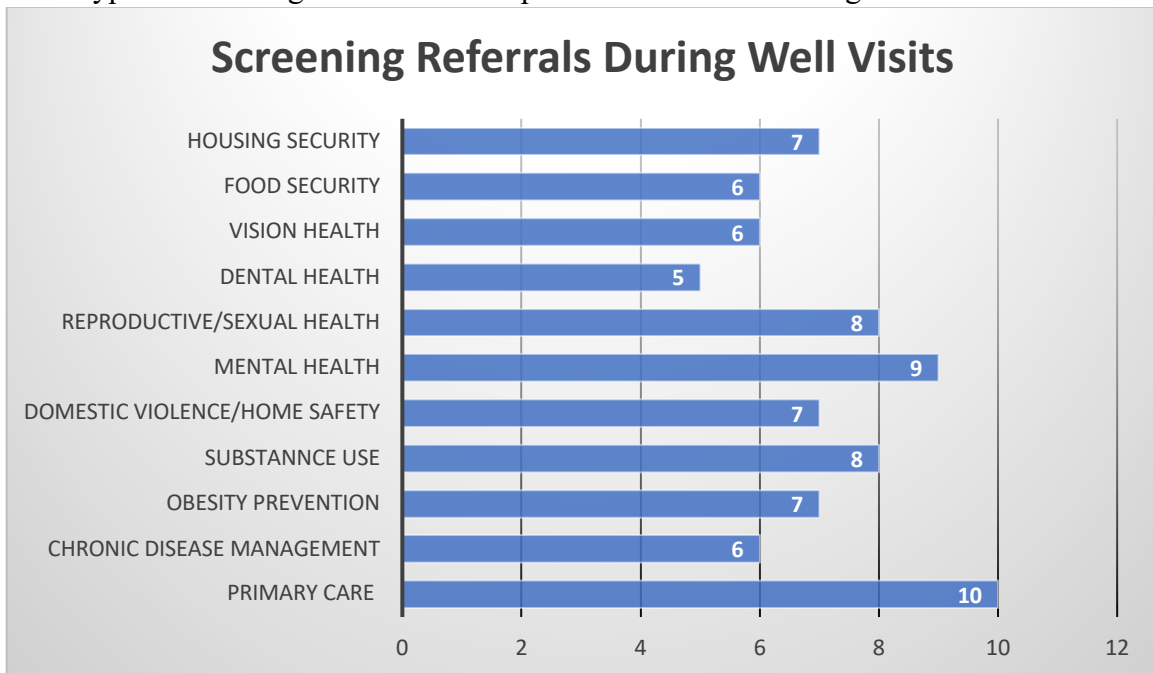


Clinicians Summary of Qualitative Results

1. Which of these preconception or inter-conception health topics are discussed during routine visits and well woman visits?



2. What type of screenings or referrals are provided to women during routine health checks or visits?



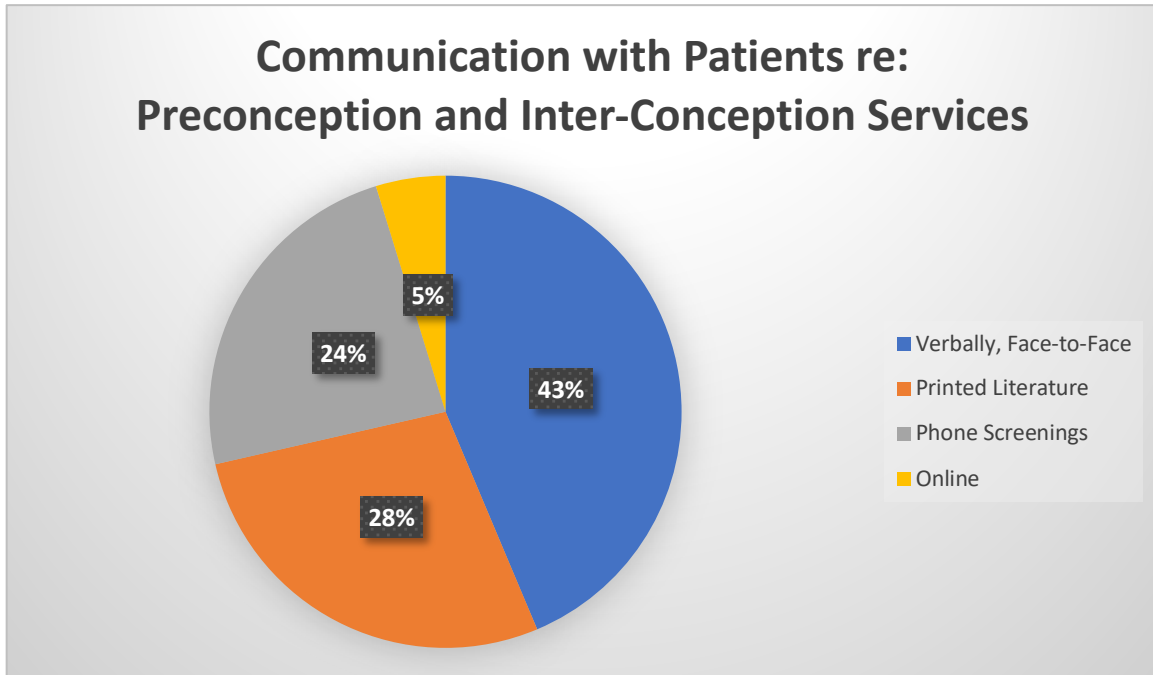
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3. How does your hospital or clinic communicate with patients about preconception or inter-conception healthcare services?



4. Based on your experience, what information do women ages 18-44 ask for the most when they come to your clinic? (top responses)
- OB/GYN / birth control
 - Depression/anxiety control
 - Weight loss/weight management
 - STD testing
 - Referrals to PCP
 - Diabetes management
 - Substance abuse treatment
5. How does your hospital or clinic make women feel valued or respected when they receive services?
- Provide privacy
 - Explain that screening is good for everyone
 - Keeping everything confidential
 - Non-judgmental
 - Include the patient in decision making
 - Treated equally/ do not give preferred treatment based on race, sex, or religion
 - Listen and address concerns

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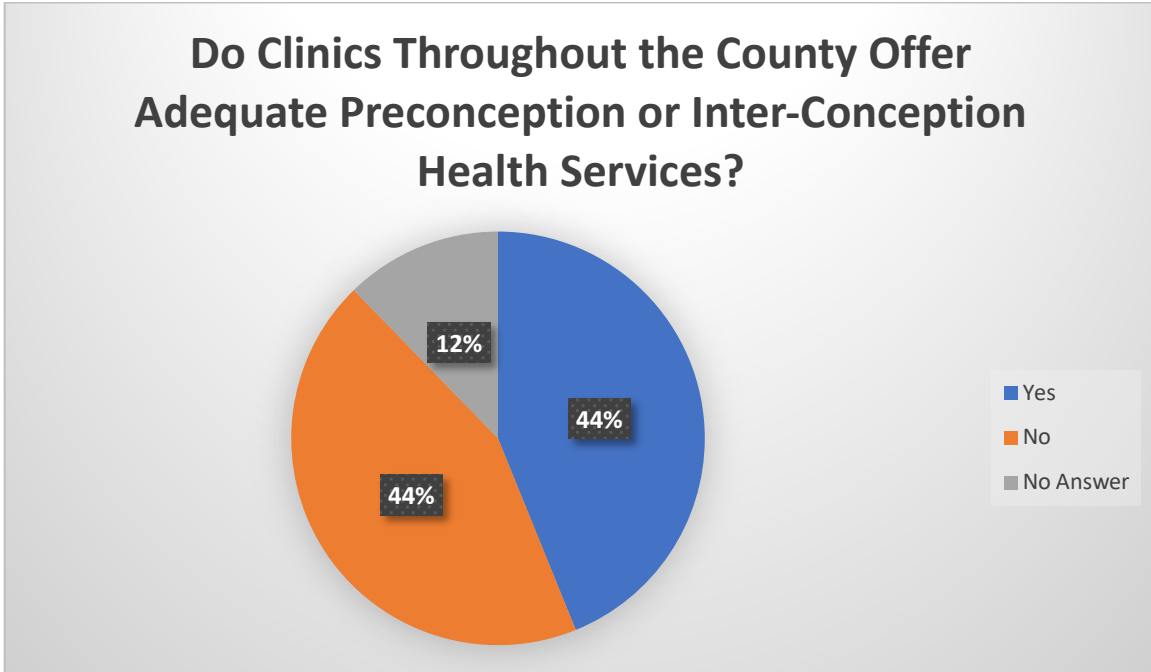
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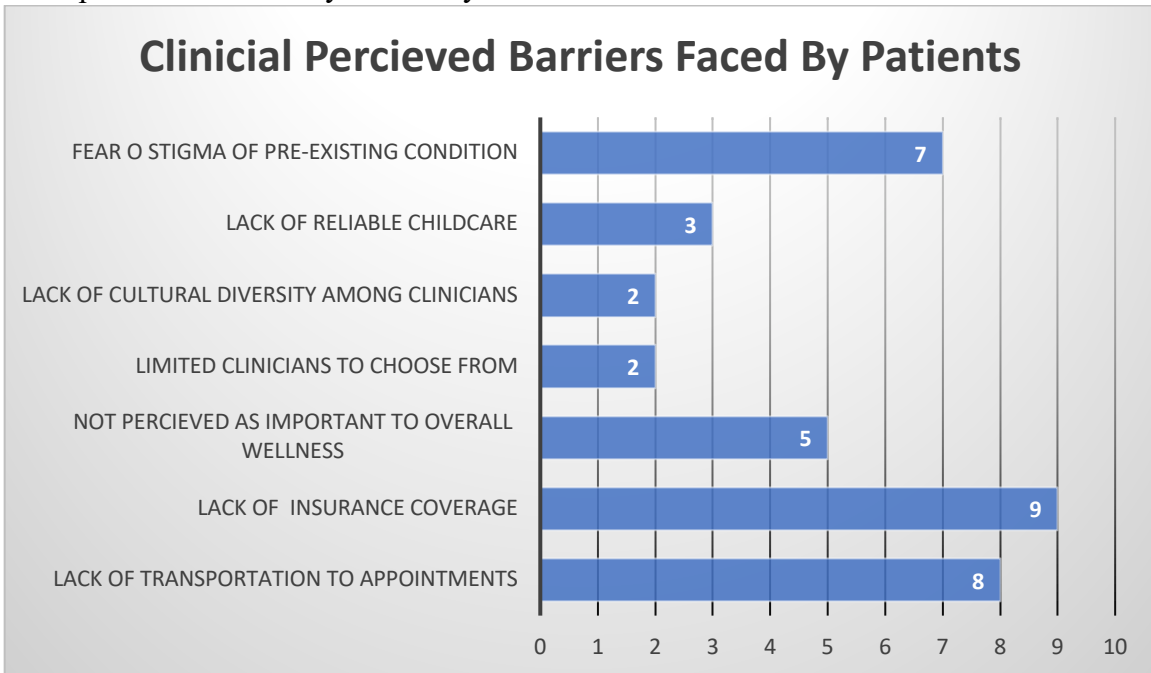
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6. Do you feel as if hospitals and clinics throughout the county offer adequate preconception and inter-conception health services?



7. What barriers do you perceive patients face when attempting to access preconception or inter-conception healthcare in your county?



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8. What barriers do clinicians face when delivering preconception and inter-conception health interventions?

