Social Inclusion Project in Bulgaria

Baseline Study

Field survey – Parents survey

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Working for a World Free of Poverty

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- As defined by TOR of the Baseline Evaluation Study Projects the sample size of the Field survey was 1400 households in total for the three groups of municipalities – 500 in each of the two Treatment groups of municipalities and 400 – in the Control group.

- The research obtained information on the following indicators:

1. Parents' profile
2. Children's physical health
3. Children's well-being;
- Living conditions
- Nutrition
- Access to health-care
- Risk factors
4. Early childhood education:
- Social and individual development
- Preschool participation
- Parental attitudes towards school
4. Parenting skills
5. Involvement in courses on parental skills

- Sampling procedure was carried out in the following steps:

- **Step 1: Sampling of municipalities of the field survey from the list of all municipalities provided by MLSC**

Sampling was based on the list with 3 groups of municipalities, provided by MLSC
From the list were selected:
In the Treatment group - 27 municipalities and 500 units were distributed based on residence place size
In the Treatment group B – 20 municipalities and 500 units were distributed based on residence place size.
In the Control group – the sample of 400 units was spread around across all 27 municipalities

Another quota criteria was also applied to the sample design: typological split by children age group so as to achieve 150 respondents in the age groups of 3, 4, 5 and 6-7 year olds in each of the two Treatment groups and 100 respondents in the Control group.

Additionally supervisors and interviewers were required to consider split by criteria for vulnerability of the households, for example - unemployed parents, single mother, the mother / parents of minors, children with parents in prison, under-age mothers, etc.

- **Step 2: Identification of the target units /households of vulnerable families**

The sampling lists/data-base was elaborated from the lists of families from vulnerable social groups provided locally by municipalities' administrations municipalities or the Directorates of the Social Assistance Agency. Contacts lists were based on lists of families, who have applied for welfare or children who were on a report by social workers.

In case when vulnerable household lists were not provided or were not sufficient for recruiting the target number of the households, snow-ball approach was applied – mostly relying on local social workers contacts and acquaintances.
Under certain circumstances local leaders or local well accepted social workers were asked for assistance.

- **Step 3: Identification of the target respondents**

When entering into a household the interviewers additionally screened the household for eligibility regarding
- availability of child at certain age
- availability of the main child carer, who would agree to be interviewed and the target child to be tested

METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK/ 1

- Methods of collecting information and research procedure:

- Interviews at the household were conducted by two interviewers with appropriate education:

- One interviewer conducted an interview with the parent or other person who takes care of the child. He/she also fill household observation form.

- The second interviewer (a psychologist or preschool teacher) conducted a test with the target child. He/ she also registered in the questionnaire assessments on the general condition of the child and his anthropological parameters.

- The anthropological parameters were measured with unified scales and meters and interviewers were trained by a pediatrician instructor how to take standard measures of the child.

- Both parent and child received gifts as incentives.

- Test with the child was held only if the parent gave a permission to interview the child at his presence.

- In total the paired interview duration was from one to one and a half hour.

METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK/ 2

- Structure of the interview with the parent or the person who takes care of the child:

- A. Identification of respondents by screening questions
- Block 1 - Demographic profile
- Block 2 - Social environment
- Block 3 - Healthcare and status
- Block 4 - Nutrition
- Block 5 - Risk of abandonment
- Block 6 - Interaction with parents
- Block 7 - Safety, harmful habits and violence; labour
- Block 8 - Familiarity and participation in parental development programs
- Block 9 – Household description – based on questions and observation
- Block 10 - Interviewer's observations

Sample

- The environment in which vulnerable group children develop was evaluated on the basis of information provided by 1400 parents or child-carers from different municipalities throughout the country. For the greater part, it was the mothers of the children who were interviewed (in 1224 of the cases), only 54 of the respondents were the children's fathers, whereas 115 of the respondents were other members of the household.

- Given the great socio-economic differences between smaller primarily rural regions, on the one hand, and bigger primarily urban regions, on the other, responses were compared across three groups – one of 500 respondents living in big municipalities, one of 500 respondents living in small municipalities, as well as a control group of 400 respondents. Further comparisons were drawn with regard to the age of the children on the basis of four groups (3- , 4-, 5-, and 6-7-year-olds) consisting of 350 respondents each.

Parents' profile/ 1

- According to the survey results, in a majority of cases the primary child-carers are young women who are either married or live with their partners. It is most often (87%) the birth mothers that take care of the children, to a much lesser extent the grandmothers (7%) and the fathers (4%). About a quarter of the mother-carers are between 18 and 24 years old, a bit less than a third fall in the 24-29 age group, and another quarter fall in the 30-34 age-group, the mean age being 29. The mean age of the father-carers is a bit higher – 34, and of other primary carers – 49. Most of the respondents - 68% in big municipalities and 81% small municipalities and the control group - are married or live with their partners. At the same time close to a fifth of the child-carers are unmarried single parents. The divorced or widowed respondents are a very small minority.

- The primary child-carers are low-educated, about half of them not having completed primary education and a quarter having only primary school degree. 62% of the respondents in the big municipalities have primary education or less, the percentage being higher in the small municipalities (83%) and the control group (81%). A much smaller portion have completed secondary education – 24% and 13% for big and small municipalities respectively. The respondents with higher education are less than a tenth and reside mostly in the big municipalities. There is no clear-cut pattern of variation across mother- and father-carers – a greater number of fathers have completed primary education, yet it is mostly mothers who have higher education.

Parents' profile/ 2

- Reportedly, the overall average monthly household income amounts to 400 BGN or less, which includes a stable salary in about a third of the cases and some form of random income in another third of the cases. A majority of the respondents (71%) are unemployed, another 9% have a full-time job, about 3% have a part-time job and 10% are on maternity leave.

- About a fifth of the fathers are employed on a full-time basis, and so are 13% of the mothers. The unemployment levels for these two groups are 41% and 30% respectively. Interestingly, about a fifth of the respondents refused to state their employment status.

- Households in big municipalities have a bit greater monthly income than those in small municipalities – an average of up to 500 lv and up to 400 lv respectively. The reported income in the control group is the lowest – up to 300 lv per month on average.

- The most common and most reliable source of income are the child allowances (89% identify them as a main source of income and 32% rely on them to the greatest extent), whose importance is somewhat greater in the small municipalities. The second most reliable source of income are the monthly salaries, yet they are identified as a main source by only 30% of the respondents. Random income, which is also reported in 30% of the cases, is identified as the third most reliable source. Additional sources of income include other forms of social welfare (apart from child allowances) - 22% , unemployment benefits - 15%, pensions - 15%, maternity allowances - 14%, as well as money from relatives and friends in Bulgaria - 11%, and abroad - 6%.

Parents' profile/ 3

- As reported by the respondents, a majority of the children in the sample live with their birth mothers and other underage children, close to two-thirds live with their fathers, about a third live with one or more grandparents, and only a small portion (less that 4%) live with siblings above the age of 18. About 90% of the children live with their birth mothers, with only small differences across big and small municipalities, on the one hand, and the four age groups, on the other.

- When it comes to birth fathers, however, their presence is noticeably smaller – 74% in small municipality households , 59% in big municipalities, and 73% in the control group. For the greater part, there are other underage children who live in the households in the big and small municipalities and the control group – 72%, 82% and 79% respectively. Three-and four-year olds are slightly more likely to live with other children than 5- , 6- and 7-year olds.

- Grandmothers are present in about 37% of the households, whereas grandfathers – in about 26%. In about one seventh of the cases there are other relatives living with the children, very rarely do they live with siblings above 18 and their mothers' partners (3.6% and 2.9% respectively), and almost never (in less than 1% of the cases) do they live with adoptive mothers or fathers, the fathers' partners, foster parents and their partners, great grand parents, aunts and house-mates.

- The most-widely-used language at home is Bulgarian (47%), though a sizable portion prefer to speak Romanes (30%) and Turkish (23%). In big municipalities Bulgarian is used to a greater extent (59%) whereas Turkish much less so (18%). Romanes is considerably more wide-spread in small municipalities (41%) than in big ones (22%) and in the control group (25%). Despite these figures, less than 2% consider their ethnic background to be Roma, whereas 31% report Bulgarian ethnic origins, 12% - Turkish, and as much as 46% - Romanian (in the context of 0.1% speaking Romanian).

Children's physical health/ 1

- The survey results indicate that about 15% of the children have some form serious health problems at the time of the survey, including chronic illnesses, disabilities or special needs, the percentage being a little bit higher among the older children. The most common chronic illness is asthma, from which suffer about 5.6% of the children living in big municipalities, 2.6% of those living in small municipalities, and 3.8% of the ones in the control group. Next, an average of 2.2% have some kind of allergy, whereas 2.1% have other physical disabilities. Other less common illnesses and disabilities include child cerebral palsy (1.6%), mental disabilities (1.4%), and epilepsy (1.1%). As much as 13% of the children were born with some from of health problems, and, what is more, a great portion of them (8%) still have issues. Less than half of the children with serious health problems have obtained a handicapped certificate, the percentage being noticeably greater in the case of the older (5 to 7) children. Only about a quarter of the children with disabilities receive specialized care, whereas a vast majority are cared for at home. Similarly, most of these children are not hospitalized or registered in a hospital and are not subject to periodic check-ups.

Children's physical health/ 2

- According to the respondents, about a fifth of the children have not been sick in the past six months, a third have been sick once, whereas almost half have been sick two or more times. Children in small municipalities seem to be somewhat healthier than those in the other two groups – in the former case 25% have not had any illness in the past six months, the percentage being 12% for big municipalities and 23% for the control group. An average of 30% were sick at least once, 22% - twice, 10% three times, 6% - three times, and in around 8% of the cases there were more instances of illness. When it comes to lice, scabies or stomach and intestinal diseases, a vast majority of the children were reported to not have suffered from either of the three over the last one year, 11% had stomach and intestinal diseases, 3% had lice and in 2% of the cases the respondents did not know or could not remember
- A majority of the children are reported to have had all compulsory immunizations done, yet 88% of the respondents did not state what type of immunization the child had last. In 87% of the cases children are said to have undergone all immunizations, in 8% - only a part of them, and as few as 5% of the respondents said that they did not know, without there being any significant variation across the groups. Regardless of the response they provided to this question, a vast majority of the respondents could not remember or did not know what the last immunization of the child had been. Furthermore, in almost half of the cases the respondents could not remember the age at which the child had last been immunized. The mean age in months reported by those who could remember is 25.18 for the 3-year-olds, 29.5 for the 4-year-olds, 37.7 for the 5-year-olds and 55.16 for the 6-7-year-olds.
- Overall, the respondents give a positive evaluation of their children's health. 45% say that the child is completely healthy and gets sick only on rare occasions, 39% say that the child is healthy for the greater part with the occasional instances of illness, 12% describe the child as more sickly than not and as having health problems somewhat often, and a small minority report the child to be very sickly.

Living conditions

- According to the survey results, the average household in the sample consists of 5 permanent members. About half of the children live in either four- or five- member households (26.6% and 21.6% respectively), about 30% live in larger households, the three-person households are a bit more than a tenth of the sample, whereas the smaller ones are a negligible portion. The average household size is a little bit bigger in small municipalities but the difference (of 0.17) is too small to be of statistical significance.
- Despite the average number of household members, a majority of the households occupy up to two rooms, usually within the premises of a free-standing house. Free-standing houses are by far more common in small municipalities (81%) and in the control group (72%) than in big ones (47%), where apartment buildings also constitute a fair share (41%) of the living premises. As for shacks and cottages, an average of 10% of the respondents reside in such dwellings. Residents of small and big municipalities have a somewhat equal amount of living space, the mean number of rooms at a household's disposal being 2.4. The greatest percentage of the respondents (37%) occupy two rooms, about a quarter occupy three rooms and a bit more than a fifth occupy a single room, which happens more often in small municipalities (26%) than in big ones (20%) and the control group (22%).
- As reported by the respondents, in the winter season one room is heated in half of the cases, and two rooms in about a third of the cases, the most commonly-used heating method being wood and coal. About one tenth of the households have three or more rooms heated in winter. Wood and coal are almost universally used in small municipalities (95%) and the control group (95%), and are also used by a majority of the respondents in big municipalities (68%), though in the latter case other heating methods such as electricity (19%) and central heating (12%) are also somewhat common.

Children's well-being/ 2

- Three quarters of the households have neither a children's room, nor a designated children's corner and more than two thirds of the children do not have their own bed. There is a children's room in an average of 28% of the households which have more than one room at their disposal. In the rest of the cases, a special children's corner has been designated in 31% of the big municipality households, 31% of the small municipality one, and 26% of those in the control group. Almost half of the children sleep in one bed with their parents or grandparents, about a quarter share a bed with other children and a bit less than a third have their own bed. As the children get older, they are less likely to share a bed and more likely to sleep by themselves.

- The housing infrastructure is for the greater part poor, especially in small municipalities. Almost half of the respondents in big municipalities (44%) and a majority of those in small municipalities (77%) and in the control group (66%) reported to have no indoor toilet, the outdoor toilet being by far more wide-spread (present in respectively 46%, 79% and 69% of the households). Furthermore, in two thirds of the cases there is no running water in the house (19% for the big, 43% for the small municipalities, and 38% for the control group). Similarly, 39% of the big municipality households lack a bathroom which is used for showering, and the situation is worse in small municipalities and the control group, where respectively 61% and 48% of the households have no bathroom.

Children's well-being/ 3

- The results of the survey indicate that basic furniture and TV sets are present in a vast majority of the households, children's toys in about three quarters, whereas children's books and drawing paraphernalia – in a bit more than half of the households. Most households have a TV set in use (95%), which in three quarters of the cases is in the room the children sleep in, as well as cable or satellite TV (67%). Tables and chairs lack on rare occasions (in 9% and 14% respectively), while shelves, cupboards and wardrobes lack in almost a quarter of the cases. Three quarters of the households have mobile phones, a third have a computer or a laptop and close to a quarter have access to the Internet. Children's toys are more common in big municipality households (86%) than in small ones (71%), the percentage being 78% in the control group. In like manner, about two thirds of the big municipality households have drawing paraphernalia and children's books, compared to a bit more than half in the control group and less than half in the small municipality households.
- All in all, the interviewers evaluated the households somewhat positively. On a scale from 2 (poor) to 6 (excellent), the mean assessment of the cleanness of the houses is 4.28 for big municipalities, 3.69 for the small ones and 4.03 in the control group, the tidiness scores being almost the same – 4.17, 3.61 and 3.96 respectively. Similarly, the overall safety of the physical environment was evaluated as slightly better in big municipalities (4.31) than in small ones (3.92) and the control group (4.1). The highest scores were given to the observed attitude of the parents/respondents towards their children – 4.78, 4.41 and 4.57 for the three groups respectively. Finally, the overall evaluation of the social environment in which the children grow up is 4.35 for big municipalities, 3.99 for the small ones, and 4.05 for the control group. Some common observations of the interviewers include the fact that the TV was on at all times (in 37% of the cases), the air in the room was fresh(36%), there were smoking or cigarette buds in the living room (20%) and that guests or other people were present (19%). About a tenth of the households struck the interviewers as being clean, tidy and well-kept, where as another tenth seemed poor and scanty.

Nutrition

- As reported by respondents, four fifths of the children were breast-fed up until they were 12 months old on average, and 37% of the mothers smoked while breast-feeding. As the age of the child increases, he or she is more likely to have been breast-fed for longer – on average the 3-year olds were breast-fed the least (up until their 10.7th month) whereas the 6-7 year-olds were breast-fed the most (up until their 13.4th month).

- The vast majority of children are given bread and a cooked meal (soup or something with sauce) on a daily basis. Almost no child lacks bread in the daily diet, 81% are given a hot meal every day and 15% - at least once a week. Cereals are not that popular – 61% of the children do not have such food at all, and it is eaten less than once a month in 13% of the cases. From the things that go on bread, lyutenitsa is somewhat popular, and most households use margarine instead of butter. On a scale from 1 to 4 (1 = at least once a month, 2 = several times a month, 3 = at least once a week and 4 = every day) these foods get average scores of 2.77, 3.25 and 2.61 respectively,

- When it comes to dairy products, they are reportedly a main component of the children's diets. Cheese and yoghurt are served on a daily basis in a third and at least once a week in about half of the households. Milk is somewhat less common – it is given to 14% of the children every day, and to 38% of the children at least once a week. At the same time, milk is not consumed at all in about a tenth of the households, and the other dairy products - in 6-7%.

Children's well-being/ 5

- The survey indicates that meat products are just as popular as dairy. Two thirds of the children are fed meat either on a daily basis or at least once a week, and when it comes to sausages, salami or other processed meat products the portion is even higher – about three quarters. Those who are given hardly any meat amount to about a tenth of the sample. Fish is consumed at least once a week in 22% of the households, though it is largely lacking in the diets of 33% of the children.
- For the greater part, fresh fruit and vegetables are not a part of the daily diet, rather they are most often consumed about once a week. Apples and pears are the most popular fruit – they are given to children every day in 23% of the households. On a scale from 1 to 4 (1 = at least once a month, 2 = several times a month, 3 = at least once a week and 4 = every day) the various kinds of fruit and vegetables score between 2.5 and 2.84 (except for the lemon, whose score is lower).
- Junk food, such as pastries and various types of sweet and salty snacks are consumed on a daily basis or at least once a week in a majority of the households. Biscuits, waffles and chocolate are especially popular and are given to children every day in 40% of the households and at least once a week in another 38%. A quarter of the children have chips, pop-corn, and some kind of maze snacks on a daily basis, and a third of them – at least once a week. Baked pastries are consumed to a similar extent.
- According to the survey results, a bit less than half of the children eat at home four times a day, and most of them are not given any vitamins, food supplements or honey. 5% of the respondents did not know how often the child eats. 86% of the children are reported to have an afternoon snack when they are at home, about quarter are given additional vitamins or food supplements (31% in the big municipality group and 19% in the other two groups) , and about a fifth are reminded to drink water regularly. Honey is not or hardly ever consumed in almost half of the households, and in most other cases it is consumed somewhat rarely.

Access to health-care

- Reportedly, almost all of the children (98%) are registered with a general practitioner (GP) and a vast majority are taken to their GP for prophylactic check-ups at least once every half a year. In 60% of the cases in the big municipalities group, 45% in the small municipalities group and 52% in the control group the children's GPs are pediatricians. About 15% of the respondents do not know if this is the case. The children undergoing prophylactic check-ups every month amount to an average of 15%, about a third undergo a check-up once every three months, a quarter – once every six months, and about 14% - once a year. About a tenth are either never taken to their GP for prophylactic check-ups or this does not happen on a yearly basis. There are no clear-cut patterns of variation across the age groups.

- A majority of the respondents look for medical help when the children are sick, and, additionally, turn to their GPs or pediatricians for advice and help. When a child is sick – has the flue, coughs and is feverish, he or she is taken to the doctor or the hospital in 83% of the cases, is treated with traditional methods such as tea and massages in 14% of the cases, and is given medication by the carer in 2% of the cases. When it comes to obtaining advice and assistance in treating a sick child, almost all the carers to turn to specialists, 5% ask friends or relatives, whereas 3% prefer to decide on their own.

- According to the survey results, almost three quarters of the children in the sample have not been taken to the dentist yet. Only about a third of the respondents in big municipalities and a fifth of those in small municipalities report to have taken their child to the dentist. Older children are more likely to have been to the dentist – this is the case with 13% of the youngest and 42% of the oldest children. Out of the children who have been to the dentist, a majority have been once or twice, and about a third - on multiple occasions.

Risk factors

- Reportedly, a majority of the children rarely witness fights and physical confrontations between members of the household, 3% are beaten when they do something wrong. A bit less than half of the children have been present when there are non-physical fights in the house, and in a majority of cases this happens less than a few times per month. 83% never witness physical fights, about a tenth are exposed to family violence less than a few times per month, and about 5% - somewhat regularly. The witnessing of physical fights is more common in small municipalities. A third of the respondents who report that the children are beaten cannot say how often this happens. In 6% of such cases, the child gets beaten almost every day, and in another 6% - a few times per week.

- 95% of the respondents state that they have never had a child in a children's home, a boarding school/kindergarten, in a foster home or adopted, and 90% state that they would never give their child to a children's home. In 3.4% of the households one child has stayed at a children's home, the likelihood for younger children being smaller, and in 1% a child has been to a boarding kindergarten. Most respondents (78%) would not leave their children to anyone. If need be, 14% would leave them with the grandparents, 3% - with other friends or relatives, and 2% - in a children's home. A vast majority of the parents do not think they would have to leave their children in a home or a boarding kindergarten in the next one or two years, though around 7% cannot answer with certainty. 3% would send their children to a home if they cannot take care of them, and another 3% would do so due to lack of money, necessity to go abroad to work, or poor health of the parents.

Children's well-being/ 7

- About half the children witness people smoking at their homes on an every-day basis, while instances of drinking or swearing in front of the child are less rare. In one third of the households people do not smoke in front of the children, while in 58% they do so more or less regularly. Regular drinking of alcohol and swearing in front of the children is reported in respectively 20% and 13% of the cases. On the other hand, 41% of the respondents state that children do not ever witness drinking, while in 59% of the households the children are said to never hear swearing and dirty language.

- Slightly more than half of the children are allowed to be alone around the house or in the house's yard. 36% of the respondents say that they never allow their child leave to the house on his or her own, the most commonly-mentioned reasons being that he or she is too young (62%) and that the surrounded area is too dangerous (32%). 21% of the respondents in big municipalities and 39% of those in small ones let the child on his or her own only in the area around the house premises, while 18% and 31% respectively – only in the yard. Younger children are less likely to be ever allowed to go out alone, whereas a sizable portion of the older 6-7year-olds are allowed to go out alone in the neighborhood, which happens more often in small municipalities than in big ones (an average of 21% versus 9% across all age groups). 6% can go by themselves wherever they like. When asked if the area they live in is dangerous, 58% of the respondents gave a negative response, about a fifth said that it is sometimes dangerous, and 16% replied positively.

Children's well-being/ 8

- The survey results indicate that about a quarter of the children are left in the house with other children but without any grown-ups, while a tenth are sometimes left home alone. As the age of the child increases, so does the probability of him or her being left in the house with other siblings - 20% of the 3-year olds compared to 32% of the 6-7 year olds. Leaving the child home alone is even more dependent on the age group – this happens with 4% of the 3-year-olds and 17% of the 6-7-year-olds.

- Most of the children have neither worked, nor been taken away by the child protection services. Over the past year 3% of the children have helped their parents at work or have been paid by other people to do work sometimes or rarely, the percentage being 2% for the 3-year-old group. When addressed with this question, 4% of the respondents replied that they did not know. In only 2% of the cases has the child been taken away from the home environment by representatives of the child protection services.

Social and individual development

- With regard to every-day hygiene practices, the survey results indicate that almost all of the children in the sample most often use the toilet for their needs, a vast majority (85%) regularly wash their hands before eating, while three fifths brush their teeth and two thirds wash themselves every evening. In small municipalities children wash their hands on a regular basis to a somewhat smaller extent – 81% of them do so, compared to 88% in big municipalities and 86% in the control group. Every-day tooth-brushing is also more common in big municipalities, where the portion of children who do it is 10% higher than in the other two groups.

- There is a marked tendency for older children to display greater level of self-sufficiency in performing the hygiene practices. Nine tenths of the 6-7 year-olds use the toilet independently, three fifths brush their teeth, three quarters wash their hands and a bit more than half wash themselves before going to bed by themselves. The level of self-sufficiency drops as children get younger. In the group of the 3 year-olds the percentages of children doing these activities on their own are markedly lower – 46%, 15%, 35% and 15% respectively.

- Four fifths of the children are reported be able to independently use a spoon and a fork when eating, while a bit more than half get dressed on their own. As with the hygiene practices, the older the children get, the more likely they are to display self-sufficiency. A vast majority of the 5 to 7-year olds, four fifths of the 4-year-olds and two-thirds of the 3-year-olds are able to use cutlery. Furthermore, this is also slightly more common in small municipalities. When it comes to getting dressed by themselves – close to four fifths of the oldest children and a quarter of the youngest ones do so regularly.

Early childhood education/ 2

- Additionally, an average of 57% of all children in the sample go to sleep on their own when told to do so, and another 36% tidy their clothes and toys by themselves. The differences across age-groups for these two activities are also considerable, the percentages being about two times higher in the group of the oldest children when compared to the group of the youngest ones.

- About a third of the children have demonstrated inclinations towards singing, dancing and drawing, another tenth are interested in some kind of sport and 5% - in computers. Only 11% of all children are enrolled in some kind of class, club or workshop related to their interests, the percentage being the highest in big municipalities (16%), noticeably lower in small municipalities (11%), and as much as twice as low in the control group (6%). With the exception of sports and computers, there is no clear variation pattern of the displaying of different interests across groups, though older children are much more likely to take part in organized activities, especially once they reach preschool age. It is usually in kindergartens that children attend interest-related classes, though child centers are also popular in small municipalities (20%), to a lesser extent in the control group (12%), and are hardly attended in big municipalities (4%). Two thirds of the parents of children who do not take part in organized activities would be interested in enrolling their children, the percentage being a little bit higher in big municipalities.

Preschool participation

- The survey results indicate that half of all and the children do not receive preschool education. 30% of the 6-7 year-olds, for whom preschool education is compulsory, are not enrolled in kindergarten. The percentage is larger in the case of the 5-year-olds, who are since recently also subject to compulsory preschool education though the municipalities have had a two-year period to implement the new legal amendments. The rate of preschool enrollment drops as children get younger and is furthermore slightly lower in small municipalities . An average of 42% of the children are reported to attend kindergarten on an every-day basis and about 5% do so a few times a week.

- Four fifths of the parents state that they would like their children to attend kindergarten, though a vast majority are against whole-week services. A larger percent of parents in small municipalities (86%) expressed interest in preschool education, compared to 79% in the other two groups. The most commonly-stated reason (37%) for the children not attending preschool is inability to pay the fee , which is a greater problem in small municipalities. About a fifth of the parents say that they have simply not tried kindergarten services. A tenth say that the child gets sick often (12% in big municipalities, 6% in small municipalities and 13% in the control group). Another tenth give lack of space in kindergartens as a main reason, which appears to be a greater problem in big municipalities – 15%, compared to 6% in the other two groups.

Parental attitudes towards school

- According to the survey results, almost all parents of preschool-aged children (5 to 7) think that it is important for their children to go to school and four fifths consider it to be very important. Parents of the younger 5-year-olds seem to attach slightly greater importance than those of 6-7-year-olds. About half of the parents have regular talks about school with their children and prepare them for their future school attendance and another quarter have such talks occasionally. Parents in big municipalities and those of 6-7 year-olds discuss the matter more often when compared to the other groups. When it comes to the preschool-aged children's desire to go to school, more than half are reported to have a positive attitude and almost a third – a somewhat positive. 6-7 year-olds are markedly keener than the 5-year-olds. Children have greatest desire in the small municipality group, followed by those in the big municipality group, whereas in the control group attitudes seem least positive. Finally, a vast majority of all parents attach importance to their children's good school performance – an average of 47% reported it to be very important, and another 44% - somewhat important.

Parenting skills/ 1

- When it comes to someone in the household doing activities such as drawing, playing with and reading to the child, in 45% of the cases this happens often, in 30% sometimes, and in 20% rarely or very rarely. A bit less than a third of the children are read to or told stories on a daily basis, and another third – at least once a week. The same portion of children are never or told stories or read to. The percentages are very similar with regard to activities such as drawing, colouring books and doing some sort of hand crafting. Children are talked to, explained things and played with to a greater extent – on a daily basis in half of the cases, at least once a week in a quarter, and a few times a month in about a tenth of the cases. An average of 37% of the children in the sample are put to bed regularly, 13% - at least once a week, and this never happens in 33% of the households. Younger children are much more often put to bed than older ones. Most children go to sleep at either 8-9pm (42%) or 9-10pm (37%) without there being much variation across the age groups. A tenth of the 3-year olds are reported to go to sleep between 10 and 11 pm.

- As reported by the respondents, three quarters of the children like being hugged and receive hugs regularly, mostly by their mothers (in 82% of the cases), who are also the ones that typically feed the children, put them to sleep, engage them in various activities, play with them and punish them. 15% and 17% of the children respectively look for and get hugged sometimes, 7% get hugged rarely or never, and older children are hugged less often than younger ones. Other children are involved in the upbringing process – more than a third play with the young ones and about a fifth do various activities with them, such as drawing reading and teaching something. In one tenth of the households grandparents are also actively involved in the activities, whereas fathers take part to a much lesser extent. When a child misbehaves, he or she most often gets yelled at (35%), spanked (15%) or talked to calmly (20%). It is usually the mother who punishes the child (78%) and to a much lesser extent the father (14%) and the grandparents (8%).

Parenting skills/ 2

- The most common home activity for the children in the sample is watching TV, followed by playing and talking to people. 95% of the children typically watch TV when at home, the mean number of hours per day being 2.5 for weekdays and 3.2 for weekends. 3- and 4-year olds tend to watch a bit less TV than the older children. A vast majority of the children mostly watch children's programmes and cartoons, although a bit less than half also watch grown-up programmes, and about a tenth some kind of documentaries. Half of the children spend a lot of time drawing, 39% - looking at and reading books, and a quarter - helping in the household, all these activities being noticeably more popular among the older children. Furthermore, one fifth of the 6-7-year-olds spend considerable time on the computer, the percentage being somewhat smaller in the younger age groups. About a tenth of the children also engage in video and computer games.

Involvement in courses on parental skills

- When asked where they learn to take care of their children from, a majority of respondents say that they either learn by themselves and from the child (68%) or from parents and grandparents (50%). 16% also consult friends who have children, while those who learn from the TV, newspapers/magazines, and the Internet, read specialized literature on the topic or turn to teachers, doctors and specialists, are a small minority. Parents who have discussed the topic with a social worker for the past year amount to 8% in big municipalities and 4% in small ones.

- According to the survey results, a vast majority of the respondents have neither participated in nor heard about the existence of parenting courses or programmes, and neither they nor they partners are likely to participate. 23% of the respondents in big municipalities, 14% of those in small ones and 10% of those in the control group have heard about parenting programmes and only an average of 3.5% have participated, the percentage being the lowest in the small municipalities group. What is more, only about a third would try taking part in such programmes (16% most certainly so) whereas another third would most definitely refuse to. When asked about the reasons for their negative attitudes, almost half of the respondents said that they did not need to because they were good parents while another quarter said they did not find such things interesting. 12% of the respondents mentioned lack of time as a main reason and 16% could not provide an answer. Only about a tenth of the respondents think that their partners would be interested in parenting courses and programmes while a quarter are not able to judge . Half of the respondents do not find it important for their partners to take part in such programmes, compared to a quarter who are of the opposite opinion.

RESEARCH RESULTS IN GRAPHS

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Treatment Group A (big municipalities)

Region	Municipality	Total number of interviews	Age of Children				
			3 y.o.	4 y.o.	5 y.o.	6 y.o.	7 y.o.
BLAGOEVGRAD	PETRICH	6	2	1	1	1	1
BLAGOEVGRAD	BLAGOEVGRAD	9	1	2	2	2	2
BURGAS	BURGAS	25	5	5	5	5	5
VARNA	VARNA	40	8	8	8	8	8
VELIKO TARNOVO	VELIKO TARNOVO	11	2	3	2	2	2
VIDIN	VIDIN	8	2	1	2	1	2
VRATSA	VRATSA	9	2	2	1	2	2
GABROVO	GABROVO	8	1	2	2	2	1
DOBRICH	DOBRICG - TOWN	11	2	2	3	2	2
KYUSTENDIL	DUPNITSA	- -		- -		- -	
KYUSTENDIL	KYUSTENDIL	8	2	1	1	2	2
LOVECH	LOVECH	7	2	1	1	1	2
MONTANA	MONTANA	7	1	2	1	2	1
PAZARDZHIK	VELINGRAD	-	-		- -		- -
PAZARDZHIK	PAZARDZHIK	15	3	3	3	3	3
PERNIK	PERNIK	12	2	3	3	2	2
PLEVEN	PLEVEN	17	4	3	3	4	3
PLOVDIV	ASENOVGRAD	5	1	1	1	1	1
PLOVDIV	KARLOVO	-	-		- -		- -
PLOVDIV	PLOVDIV	38	8	7	8	7	8
RAZGRAD	RAZGRAD	7	1	2	2	1	1
RUSE	RUSE	22	4	4	4	5	5
SLIVEN	SLIVEN	16	3	3	3	3	4
SMOLYAN	SMOLYAN	5	1	1	1	1	1
SOFIA	SOFIA	154	31	31	31	31	30
STARA ZAGORA	STARA ZAGORA	20	4	4	4	4	4
TARGOVISHTE	TARGOVISHTE	7	1	1	2	2	1
HASKOVO	DIMITROVGRAD	-	-		- -		- -
HASKOVO	HASKOVO	12	2	3	2	2	3
SHUMEN	SHUMEN	12	3	2	2	3	2
YAMBOL	YAMBOL	9	2	2	2	1	2
	TOTAL	**500**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**

Treatment Group B (small municipalities)/ 1

Region	Municipality	Total number of interviews	Age of Children				
			3 y.o.	4 y.o.	5 y.o.	6 y.o.	7 y.o.
BLAGOEVGRAD	YAKORUDA	- -		- -		- -	
BLAGOEVGRAD	BELITSA	13	2	3	2	3	3
BURGAS	SREDETS	- -		- -		- -	
BURGAS	AYTOS	20	4	4	4	4	4
BURGAS	KAMENO	- -		- -		- -	
VARNA	DOLNI CHIFLIK	- -		- -		- -	
VARNA	VYLCHIDOL	14	3	2	3	3	3
VARNA	AVREN	- -		- -		- -	
VARNA	PROVADIYA	- -		- -		- -	
VELIKO TARNOVO	ELENA	- -		- -		- -	
VELIKO TARNOVO	STRAZHITSA	18	4	4	4	3	3
VIDIN	DIMOVO	-	-	-	-	-	-
VRATSA	BYALA SLATINA	33	7	7	6	7	6
GABROVO	SEVLIEVO	49	10	10	10	9	10
DOBRICH	KRUSHARI	-	-	- -		- -	
DOBRICH	DOBRICH - VILAGES	30	6	6	6	6	6
DOBRICH	TOSHEVO	8	1	1	2	2	2
KYRDZHALI	KIRKOVO	-	-	- -		- -	
KYRDZHALI	ARDINO	15	3	3	3	3	3
KYRDZHALI	KRUMOVGRAD	-	-	- -		- -	

Treatment Group B (small municipalities)/ 2

Region	Municipality	Total number of interviews	Age of Children				
			3 y.o.	4 y.o.	5 y.o.	6 y.o.	7 y.o.
KYUSTENDIL	RILA	10	2	2	2	2	2
LOVECH	TETEVEN	-	-	- -		- -	
LOVECH	LUKOVIT	24	5	5	5	5	4
MONTANA	LOM	37	7	7	7	8	8
PERNIK	TRUN	-	-	- -		- -	
PLEVEN	KNEZHA	-	-	- -		- -	
PLEVEN	DOLNI DUBNIK	27	5	5	6	5	6
PLOVDIV	MARITSA	39	8	8	8	7	8
RAZGRAD	KUBRAT	25	5	5	5	5	5
RAZGRAD	SAMUIL	-	-	- -		- -	
RUSE	SLIVO POLE	14	3	3	3	3	2
RUSE	BYALA	-	-	- -		- -	
SMOLYAN	DEVIN	16	4	3	3	3	3
SOFIA-REGION	PRAVETS	-	-	- -		- -	
SOFIA-REGION	SAMOKOV	47	9	10	10	9	9
STARA ZAGORA	NIKOLAEVO	-	-	- -		- -	
STARA ZAGORA	CHIRPAN	29	6	6	5	6	6
TARGOVISHTE	ANTONOVO	-	-	- -		- -	
YAMBOL	TUNDZHA	32	6	6	6	7	7
YAMBOL	STRALDZHA	-	-	- -		- -	
	TOTAL	**500**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**

Control Group

Region	Municipality	Total number of interviews	Age of Children				
			3 y.o.	4 y.o.	5 y.o.	6 y.o.	7 y.o.
BLAGOEVGRAD	SANDANSKI	22	5	5	4	4	4
BURGAS	POMORIE	15	3	3	3	3	3
VARNA	AKSAKOVO	12	2	2	3	3	2
VELIKO TARNOVO	SVISHTOV	27	6	5	4	6	6
VIDIN	BREGOVO	3	1	1	1	-	-
VRATSA	KOZLODUY	12	3	2	2	3	2
GABROVO	TRYAVNA	7	1	1	1	1	3
DOBRICH	BALCHIK	12	2	3	3	2	2
KYRDZHALI	KYRDZHALI	37	7	8	8	7	7
KYUSTENDIL	NEVESTINO	2	-		1	1	- -
LOVECH	YABLANICA	3	-		-	1	1 1
MONTANA	VARSHEC	5	1	1	1	1	1
PAZARDZHIK	SEPTEMVRI	15	3	3	3	3	3
PERNIK	RADOMIR	12	2	3	2	3	2
PLEVEN	CHERVEN BRYAG	16	3	3	3	3	4
PLOVDIV	STAMBOLIYSKI	11	3	2	2	2	2
RAZGRAD	ISPERIH	12	2	3	2	3	2
RUSE	VETOVO	7	1	1	2	1	2
SILISTRA	SILISTRA	29	6	6	6	6	5
SLIVEN	NOVA ZAGORA	22	5	4	4	4	5
SMOLYAN	MADAN	7	1	2	1	2	1
SOFIA-REGION	BOTEVGRAD	18	4	3	4	3	4
STARA ZAGORA	RADNEVO	12	3	3	2	2	2
TARGOVISHTE	POPOVO	17	3	3	4	4	3
HASKOVO	HARMANLI	14	3	2	3	3	3
SHUMEN	NOVI PAZAR	10	2	2	2	2	2
YAMBOL	ELHOVO	41	8	8	8	8	9
	TOTAL	**400**	**80**	**80**	**80**	**80**	**80**

Age and gender of respondents and children

	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Female	95,9%	96,4%	95,6%	95,7%
Male	4,1%	3,6%	4,4%	4,3%
18-24 y.o.	24,2%	19,4%	25,4%	28,8%
25-29 y.o.	27,9%	26,6%	30,2%	26,5%
30-34 y.o.	21,7%	23,0%	21,6%	20,3%
35-44 y.o.	18,9%	22,8%	17,4%	15,8%
45-74 r.	7,4%	8,2%	5,4%	8,8%
No answer	3,6%	5,2%	4,4%	0,8%

	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Girl	47,9%	46,2%	49,0%	48,5%
Boy	52,1%	53,8%	51,0%	51,5%
3 y.o.	25,0%	25,0%	25,0%	25,0%
4 y.o.	25,0%	25,0%	25,0%	25,0%
5 y.o.	25,0%	25,0%	25,0%	25,0%
6-7 y.o.	25,0%	25,0%	25,0%	25,0%

Base: All respondents

Parent or relative who looks after the child (interviewed person)

Who usually (most frequently) takes care of the child?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Birthmother	86,8%	86,4%	88,8%	84,8%
Birthfather	3,8%	3,2%	4,4%	3,8%
Adoptive mother	0,9%	1,2%	0,6%	0,8%
Adoptive father	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,0%
Father's wife /partner	0,2%	0,0%	0,2%	0,5%
Grandmother	6,9%	7,2%	5,0%	8,8%
Grandfather	0,2%	0,2%	0,0%	0,5%
Brother /sister over 18 years	0,2%	0,2%	0,2%	0,3%
Other blood relatives	0,1%	0,2%	0,2%	0,0%
Great grandmother	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,3%
Foster parent	0,3%	0,6%	0,2%	0,0%
Aunt	0,4%	0,4%	0,4%	0,5%

Base: All respondents

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Respondent's level of education and marital status

Level of education	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Didn't finish primary school	48,8%	41,0%	53,2%	53,0%
Primary education	26,2%	21,2%	30,2%	27,5%
Didn't finish high school	2,2%	2,4%	2,0%	2,3%
Finished secondary education	8,6%	12,0%	6,2%	7,3%
Secondary special education	8,7%	12,0%	6,2%	7,8%
Didn't finish bachelor's degree	0,6%	1,2%	0,2%	0,5%
Bachelor's degree	4,8%	10,2%	2,0%	1,8%

Mean - Completed grade of all who didn't finish high scool	5,5	5,1	5,5	5,9

Marital status	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Married/ living together	76,3%	68,2%	80,6%	81,0%
Divorced	2,9%	3,6%	1,4%	3,8%
Widow/er	1,6%	2,2%	0,8%	2,0%
Single	19,2%	26,0%	17,2%	13,3%

Base: All respondents

Birthmother/ adoptive mother's level of education

Birthmother/ adoptive mother's level of education	All N=169	Group A N=59	Group B N=52	Control group N=58
Didn't finish primary school	42,6%	44,1%	42,3%	41,4%
Primary education	23,7%	25,4%	19,2%	25,9%
Didn't finish high school	4,7%	1,7%	3,8%	8,6%
Secondary education	7,1%	5,1%	5,8%	10,3%
Secondary special education	4,7%	6,8%	5,8%	1,7%
Bachelor's degree	1,8%	1,7%	0,0%	3,4%
Don't know	15,4%	15,3%	23,1%	8,6%

Mean - Completed grade of all who didn't finish highschool	5,5	4,5	5,1	6,7

Base: Respondents who aren't the mother of or have adopted the child

Father's (mother's partner) level of education

Father's (mother's partner) level of education	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Didn't finish primary school	29,9%	20,8%	36,8%	32,8%
Primary education	27,6%	22,6%	32,2%	28,0%
Didn't finish high school	3,3%	1,4%	4,2%	4,5%
Secondary education	8,4%	12,2%	4,8%	8,3%
Secondary special education	10,5%	14,2%	8,0%	9,0%
Didn't finish bachelor's degree	0,3%	0,6%	0,2%	0,0%
Bachelor's degree	2,0%	4,6%	0,6%	0,6%
Don't know	18,0%	23,6%	13,2%	17,0%
Mean - Completed grade of all who didn't finish highschool	5,1	5	5	5,3

Base: All respondents

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First child's age of birth

How old were you (was the mother) when you had your first child?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Under 18 y.o.	34,6%	30,6%	34,8%	39,5%
18-24	46,6%	42,4%	49,0%	49,0%
25-29	10,1%	13,6%	8,6%	7,5%
30-34	3,4%	6,6%	1,6%	1,8%
35-44	1,6%	1,6%	1,6%	1,5%
Don't know	3,6%	5,2%	4,4%	0,8%
Mean - years	19,9	20,8	19,6	19,3

Base: All respondents

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Occupation

What is your occupation?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Working full time	9,0%	12,6%	8,2%	5,5%
Working part time	2,9%	2,8%	4,6%	1,0%
Casual employment	2,1%	2,2%	1,6%	2,8%
Unemployed	71,1%	66,2%	70,2%	78,5%
Maternity leave	10,6%	11,4%	12,2%	7,5%
Owns a business	0,1%	0,2%	0,2%	0,0%
Retired	2,8%	3,0%	2,2%	3,3%
Works from home	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,5%
Personal assistant	1,0%	1,2%	0,8%	1,0%
Foster parent	0,1%	0,4%	0,0%	0,0%

Base: All respondents

Birthmother/ adoptive mother's occupation

Birthmother/ adoptive mother's occupation	All N=169	Group A N=59	Group B N=52	Control group N=58
Working full time	13,0%	16,9%	5,8%	15,5%
Working part time	2,4%	3,4%	3,8%	0,0%
Casual employment	2,4%	3,4%	1,9%	1,7%
Unemployed	29,6%	32,2%	28,8%	27,6%
Maternity leave	4,1%	5,1%	3,8%	3,4%
Abroad	24,3%	16,9%	32,7%	24,1%
Psychiatric treatment	1,2%	0,0%	0,0%	3,4%
Prostitution	1,8%	1,7%	0,0%	3,4%
Don't know	21,3%	20,3%	23,1%	20,7%

Base: Respondents who aren't the mother of or have adopted the child

Father's (mother's partner) occupation

Father's (mother's partner) occupation?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Working full time	18,9%	22,6%	16,0%	18,0%
Working part time	3,2%	3,2%	3,0%	3,5%
Casual employment	10,1%	8,8%	10,8%	10,8%
Unemployed	41,6%	32,2%	48,2%	45,3%
Maternity leave	0,1%	0,4%	0,0%	0,0%
Farmer	0,1%	0,2%	0,2%	0,0%
Owns a business	0,4%	0,2%	1,0%	0,0%
Retired	1,2%	1,2%	1,6%	0,8%
Abroad	3,4%	2,2%	5,0%	3,0%
In prison	1,6%	1,6%	1,2%	2,0%
Don't know	19,2%	27,4%	13,0%	16,8%

Base: All respondents

Household's source of income

Household's source of income?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Monthly child support payment	87,9%	86,0%	90,8%	86,5%
Wage	30,0%	24,2%	31,4%	35,5%
Salary	29,9%	37,6%	25,8%	25,5%
Other forms of financial social support	21,6%	19,2%	28,8%	15,5%
Welfare	15,3%	15,2%	13,2%	18,0%
Pension	15,2%	15,6%	12,4%	18,3%
Maternity leave	14,0%	14,6%	14,2%	13,0%
From friends or relatives living in Bulgaria	10,5%	14,8%	10,0%	5,8%
From friends or relatives livng abroad	6,1%	4,4%	7,2%	7,0%
Giving loans	1,0%	0,8%	1,0%	1,3%
Selling herbs, mushrooms, forest fruits	0,8%	0,2%	1,2%	1,0%
Social support in kind (products, wood)	0,7%	0,2%	1,8%	0,0%
Breeding animals for selling	0,6%	0,8%	0,6%	0,5%
Other	2,1%	3,0%	2,0%	1,1%

Base: All respondents

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Main source of income

Which of these sources do you depend on the most?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Monthly child support payments	32,1%	30,8%	36,8%	28,0%
Salary	28,4%	36,4%	23,6%	24,3%
Wage	14,5%	12,4%	13,8%	18,0%
Друг вид социални помощи в пари	11,7%	7,2%	20,0%	7,0%
Other forms of financial social support	10,2%	10,0%	9,4%	11,5%
Pension	9,2%	9,8%	7,8%	10,3%
Maternity leave	6,4%	7,2%	6,6%	5,3%
From friends or relatives living in Bulgaria	4,3%	3,2%	5,0%	4,8%
From friends or relatives living abroad	3,7%	6,2%	2,0%	2,8%
Other	1,8%	2,6%	1,2%	1,4%

Base: All respondents

Household's monthly budget from all sources of income

What is the household's monthly budget?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Up to 100 lv.	5,7%	5,0%	5,8%	6,5%
101 – 200 lv.	21,2%	16,6%	26,0%	21,0%
201 – 300 lv.	24,6%	16,6%	26,6%	32,3%
301 – 400 lv.	17,0%	17,0%	16,6%	17,5%
401 – 500 lv.	10,0%	10,6%	8,6%	11,0%
501 – 600 lv.	6,1%	7,4%	6,0%	4,8%
601 – 700 lv.	3,8%	5,2%	2,8%	3,3%
701 – 800 lv.	2,8%	3,8%	2,8%	1,5%
801 – 900 lv.	1,1%	2,0%	1,0%	0,0%
901 – 1000 lv.	2,6%	5,0%	1,6%	0,8%
1001 – 1500 lv.	1,8%	3,4%	1,6%	0,0%
Over 1500 lv.	0,6%	1,8%	0,0%	0,0%
No answer	2,6%	5,6%	0,6%	1,5%

Base: All respondents

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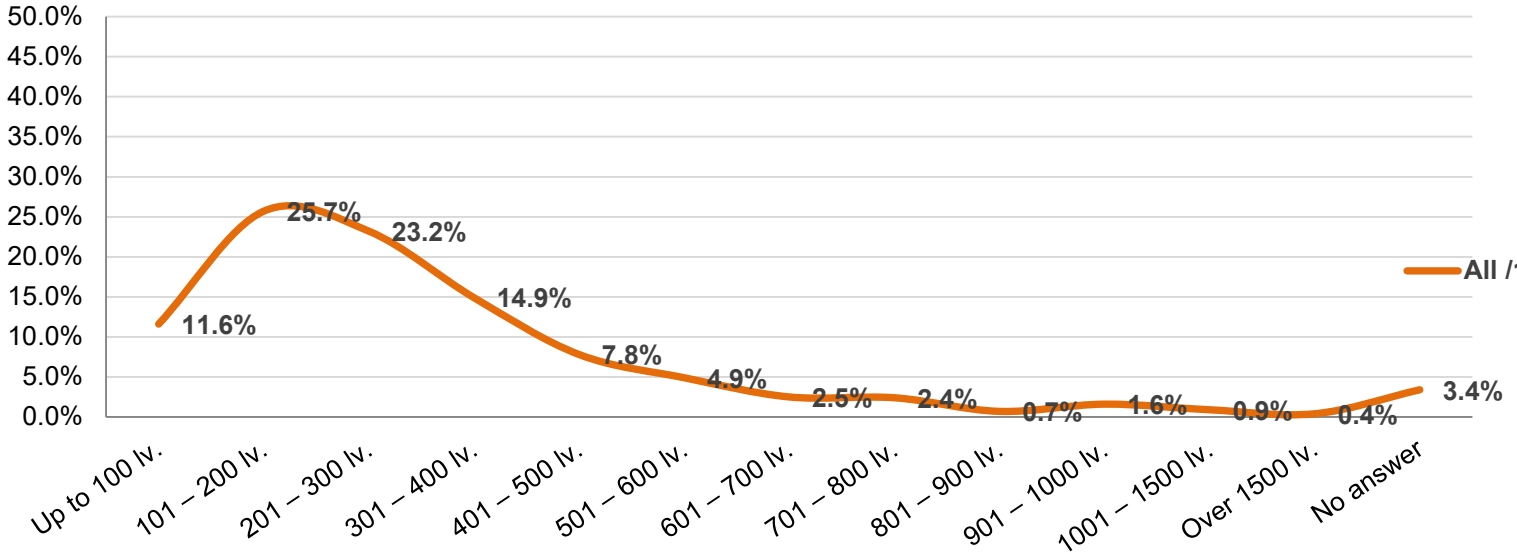
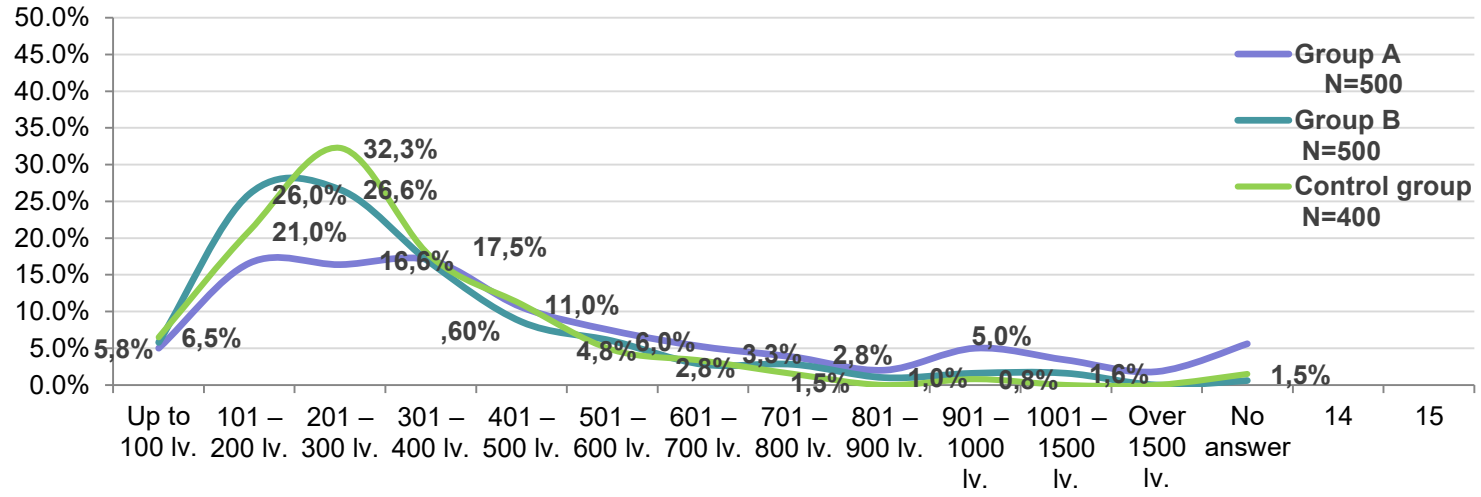
Household's minimum monthly budget

What is the household's minimum monthly budget



Mean:

201-300 lv.



301-400 lv.

201-300 lv.

201-300 lv.

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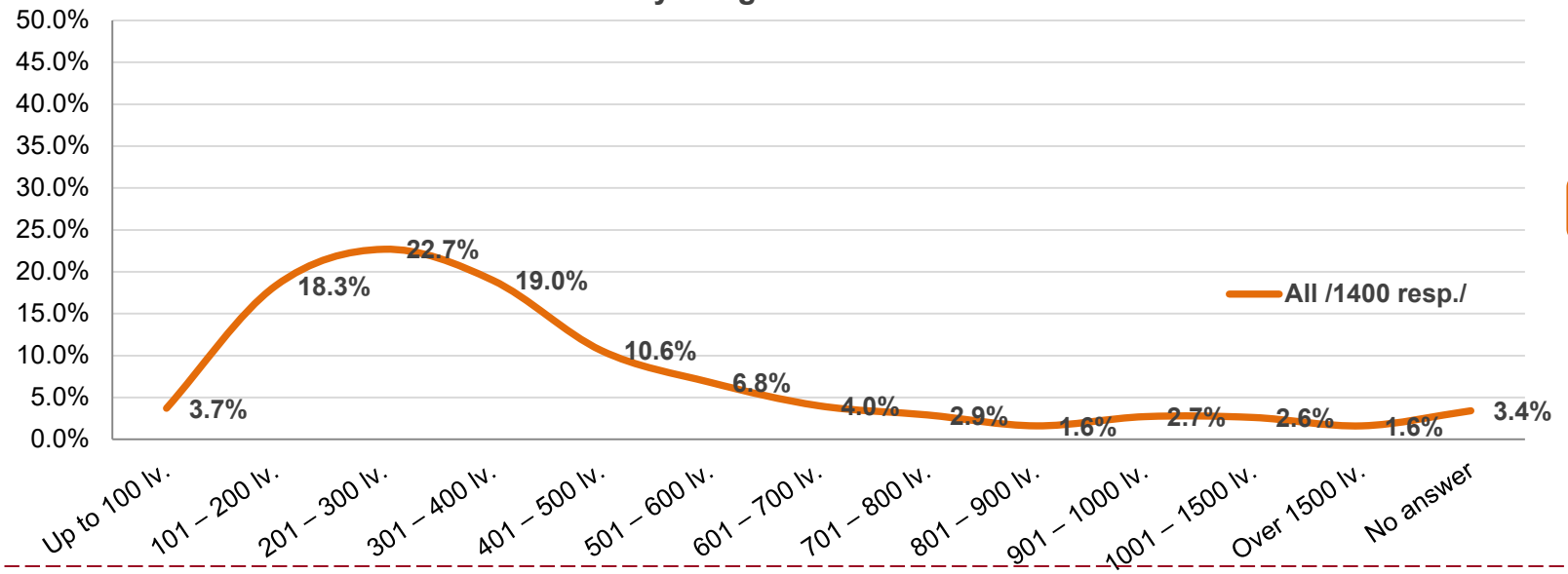
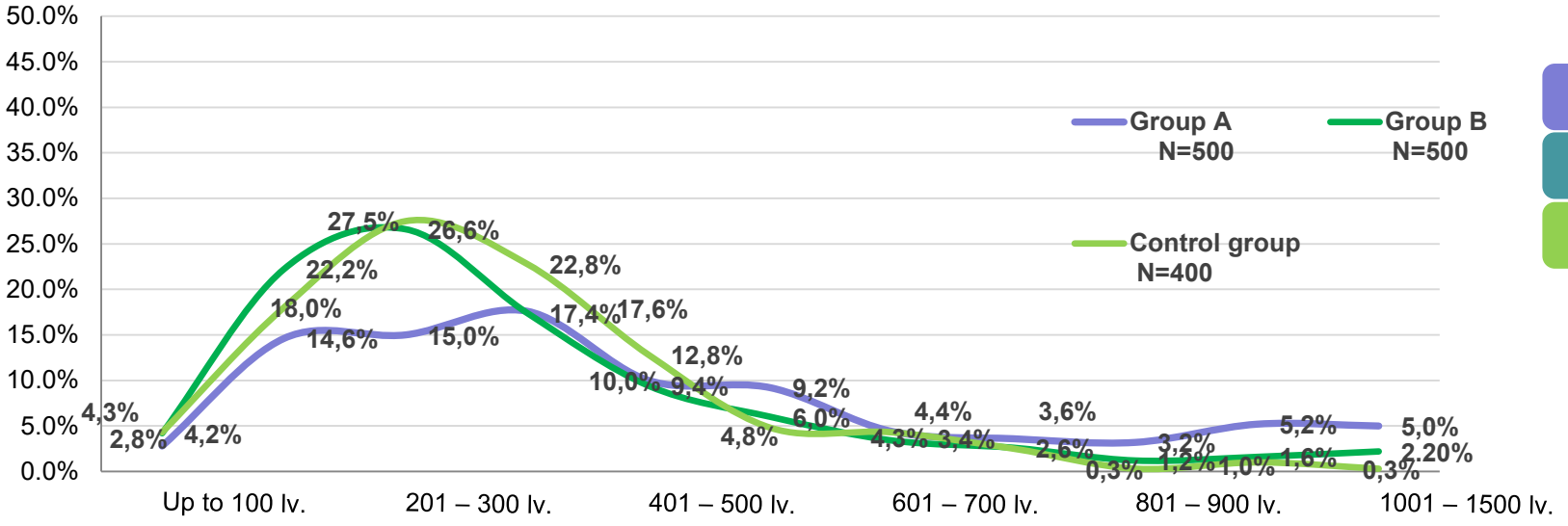
Household's maximum monthly budget

What is the household's maximum monthly budget?



Mean:

301-400 lv.



401-500 lv.

301-400 lv.

301-400 lv.

Ethnic origin and main spoken language in the household

What is your ethnic origin?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Bulgarian	30,60%	43,80%	20,20%	27,30%
Turkish	11,90%	9,60%	12,20%	14,50%
Roman	2,00%	1,40%	3,60%	0,80%
Romanian	45,80%	36,20%	58,20%	42,30%
Russian	9,60%	8,80%	5,80%	15,30%
Other	0,10%	0,20%	0,00%	0,00%

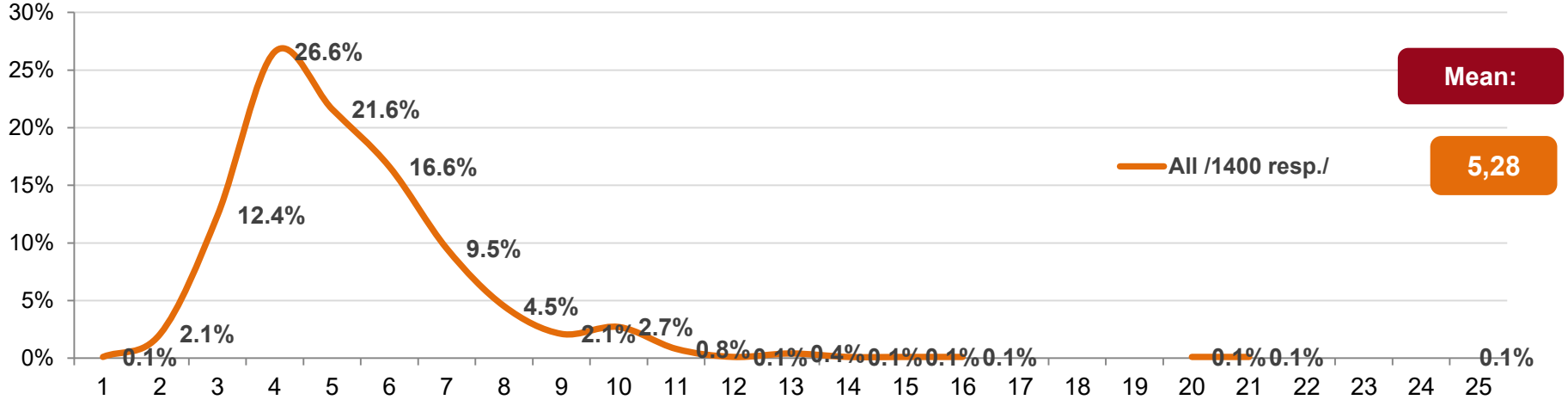
What language do you speak at home?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Bulgarian	46,9%	59,0%	35,6%	46,0%
Turkish	23,2%	18,4%	23,4%	29,0%
Roman	29,7%	22,4%	41,0%	24,8%
Romanian	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,3%

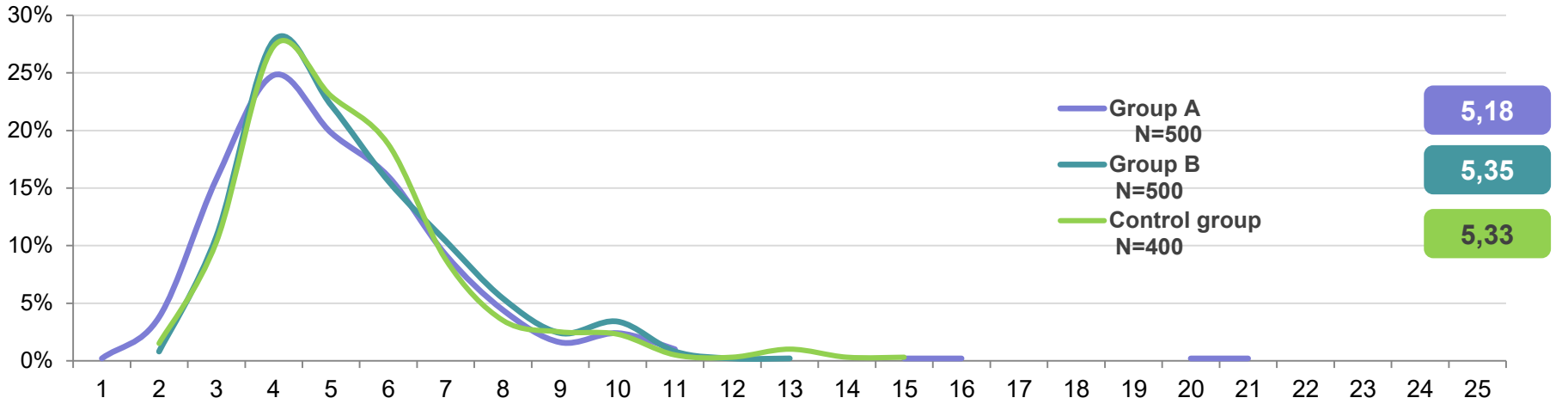
Base: All respondents

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

Number of people in the household

How many people live in this household on a permanent basis?





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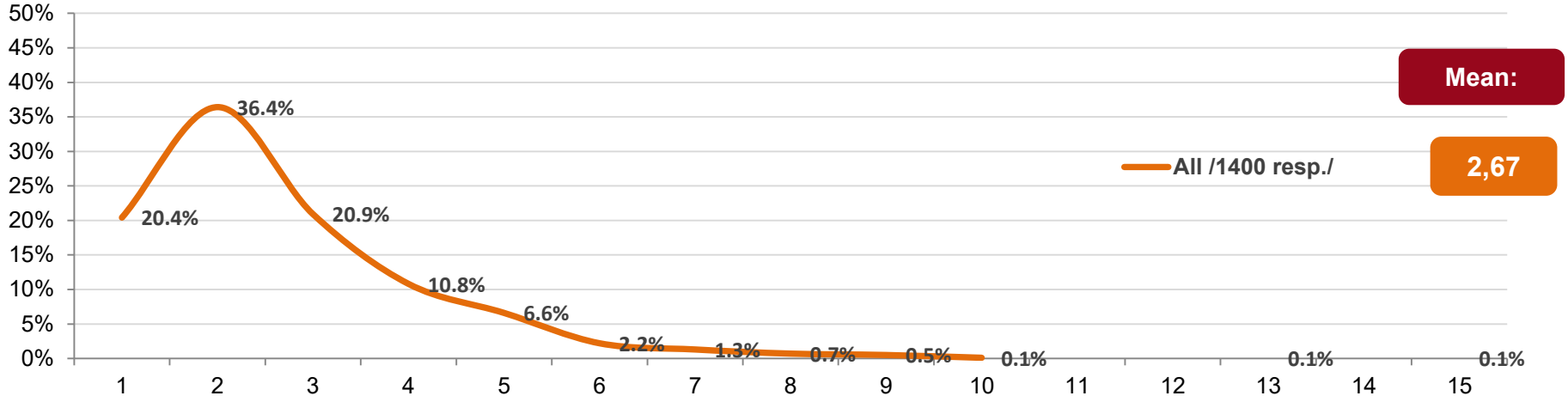
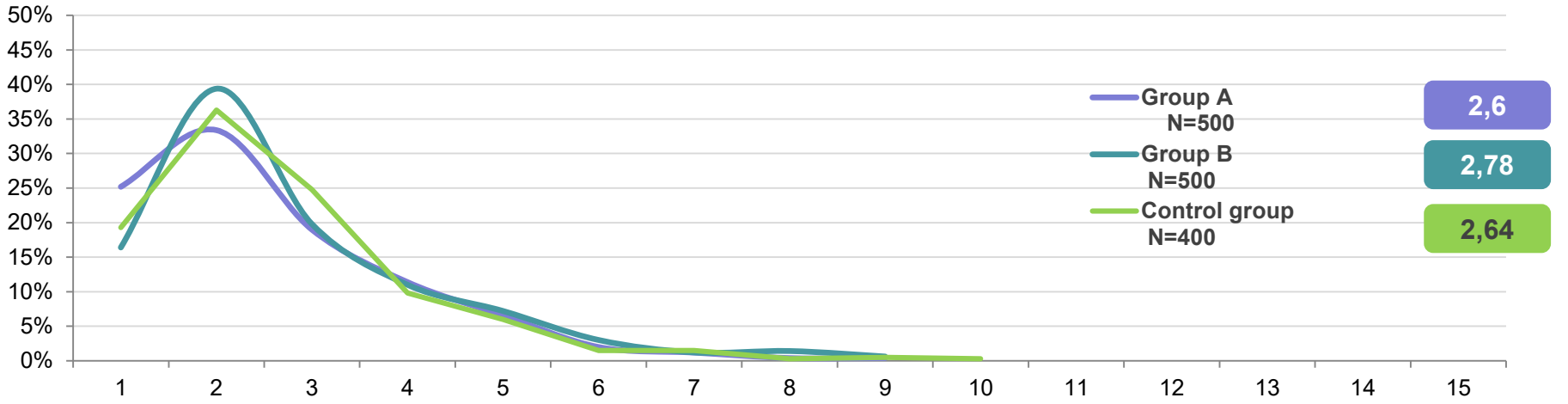
Number of children under the age of 18 in the household

How many children under the age of 18 live in the household?





Number of adults and children under 18 in the household

How many adults live in the household at all times?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
1	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,0%
2	2,1%	3,8%	0,8%	1,5%
3	12,4%	15,8%	10,8%	10,3%
4	26,6%	24,8%	27,8%	27,3%
5	21,6%	19,8%	22,2%	23,0%
6	16,6%	16,0%	15,6%	18,8%
7	9,5%	9,2%	10,4%	8,8%
8	4,5%	4,4%	5,4%	3,5%
9	2,1%	1,6%	2,4%	2,5%
10	2,7%	2,4%	3,4%	2,3%
Over 10	1,9%	2,0%	1,2%	2,4%
Mean number of adults in the household	5,28	5,18	5,35	5,33

How many children under 18 live in the household?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
1	20,4%	25,2%	16,4%	19,3%
2	36,4%	33,4%	39,4%	36,3%
3	20,9%	19,0%	19,8%	24,8%
4	10,8%	11,4%	11,0%	9,8%
5	6,6%	6,6%	7,2%	6,0%
6	2,2%	2,0%	3,0%	1,5%
7	1,3%	1,2%	1,2%	1,5%
Over 7	1,5%	1,2%	2,0%	1,1%
Mean number of children in the household	2,67	2,6	2,78	2,64

Base: All respondents

Number of adults and number of children in the household

What age are the children under 18?

How many of them go to a crèche/ kindergarten/ pre-school or school?

	All N=1400	All - kindergarten / school	**Group A** N=500	Group A - kindergarten / school	**Group B** N=500	Group B- kindergarten/ school	**Control group** N=400	Control group- kindergarten / school
Under 3 y.o..	33,9%	3,9%	31,2%	4,4%	37,2%	2,9%	33,3%	4,6%
3	35,1%	29,7%	35,8%	37,3%	33,8%	20,8%	36,0%	30,6%
4	31,9%	40,2%	30,4%	41,0%	32,6%	33,1%	32,8%	48,1%
5	32,1%	53,4%	32,2%	57,1%	31,2%	44,3%	33,3%	59,6%
6	29,3%	68,8%	27,8%	74,3%	30,0%	66,4%	30,3%	65,4%
7	18,1%	77,3%	18,2%	79,3%	18,2%	76,1%	18,0%	76,4%
8	11,2%	90,1%	9,6%	88,5%	13,0%	89,2%	11,0%	93,2%
Between 9 -14	37,2%	85,8%	38,0%	84,5%	37,4%	81,4%	36,0%	94,3%
Between 15-18	11,5%	61,6%	10,6%	60,0%	13,6%	60,2%	10,0%	66,0%
All (3-18 y.o.)		53,3%		55,5%		49,2%		56,0%

This chart shows the distribution of children under the age of 18 in the household according to age and shows how many of them go to kindergarten/ school. For example 33,9% of all respondents have children under the age of 3, 3.9% of which go to kindergarten/ school.

Base: All respondents

Home environment

Which of the following people does the child live with?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Birthmother	91,1%	91,4%	92,2%	89,5%
Other children under 18	77,4%	71,8%	82,2%	78,5%
Birthfather	68,2%	58,8%	73,8%	73,0%
Grandmother	36,6%	38,0%	34,4%	37,8%
Grandfather	25,9%	25,2%	26,0%	26,5%
Other blood relatives	15,6%	15,8%	13,6%	18,0%
Brother/ sister over 18	3,6%	4,0%	3,4%	3,5%
Husband/ mother's partner	2,9%	4,2%	1,6%	2,8%
Adoptive mother	0,9%	1,2%	0,6%	1,0%
Adoptive father	0,8%	1,6%	0,4%	0,3%
Wife/ father's partner	0,4%	0,2%	0,4%	0,8%
Great grandmother	0,40%	0,60%	0,20%	0,50%
Aunt	0,40%	0,40%	0,40%	0,50%
Foster parent	0,30%	0,60%	0,20%	0,00%
Roommate	0,10%	0,20%	0,00%	0,00%
Great grandfather	0,10%	0,00%	0,00%	0,30%

Base: All respondents

Location of parents

Where is the mother of the child?	All N=115	Group A N=37	Group B N=36	Control group N=42
Abroad - work	39,1%	35,1%	41,7%	40,5%
Different city - work	7,0%	8,1%	5,6%	7,1%
Different city - medical treatment	3,5%	5,4%	0,0%	4,8%
Diseased	7,0%	8,1%	5,6%	7,1%
Don't know	18,3%	16,2%	22,2%	16,7%
Same city/ village	4,3%	10,8%	0,0%	2,4%
With another family	8,7%	8,1%	5,6%	11,9%
Different city/ village	6,1%	2,7%	11,1%	4,8%
Abroad	3,5%	5,4%	5,6%	0,0%
The mother has abandoned her child	2,6%	0,0%	2,8%	4,8%

Base: Absent mother

Where is the father of the child?	All N=378	Group A N=165	Group B N=119	Control group N=94
Abroad - work	14,0%	8,5%	21,0%	14,9%
Different city - work	2,1%	1,2%	2,5%	3,2%
Different city - medical treatment	0,3%	0,6%	0,0%	0,0%
In prison	5,6%	4,8%	5,0%	7,4%
Diseased	4,5%	3,6%	3,4%	7,4%
Don't know	65,1%	76,4%	56,3%	56,4%
Same city/ village	1,6%	1,8%	2,5%	0,0%
With another family	2,4%	1,8%	3,4%	2,1%
Father is unknown	2,6%	0,6%	1,7%	7,4%
Different city/ village	1,3%	0,0%	4,2%	0,0%
Abroad	0,5%	0,6%	0,0%	1,1%

Base: Absent father

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Time spent with child

Mother

How often do the parents see the child – approximately how many days did they spend with him/her last year?

	All N=108	Group A N=35	Group B N=35	Control group N=38
0	48,1%	54,3%	48,6%	42,1%
1-10	12,0%	11,5%	11,6%	13,1%
11-30	12,0%	5,8%	14,4%	15,8%
1-3 m.	16,7%	14,4%	14,4%	21,1%
3-8 m.	5,6%	5,8%	8,6%	2,6%
8-10 m.	2,8%	5,7%	0,0%	2,6%
Over 10 m.	2,8%	2,9%	2,9%	2,6%
Mean number of days	40,8	48,09	34,03	40,32

Base: All absent mothers (without those who have died)

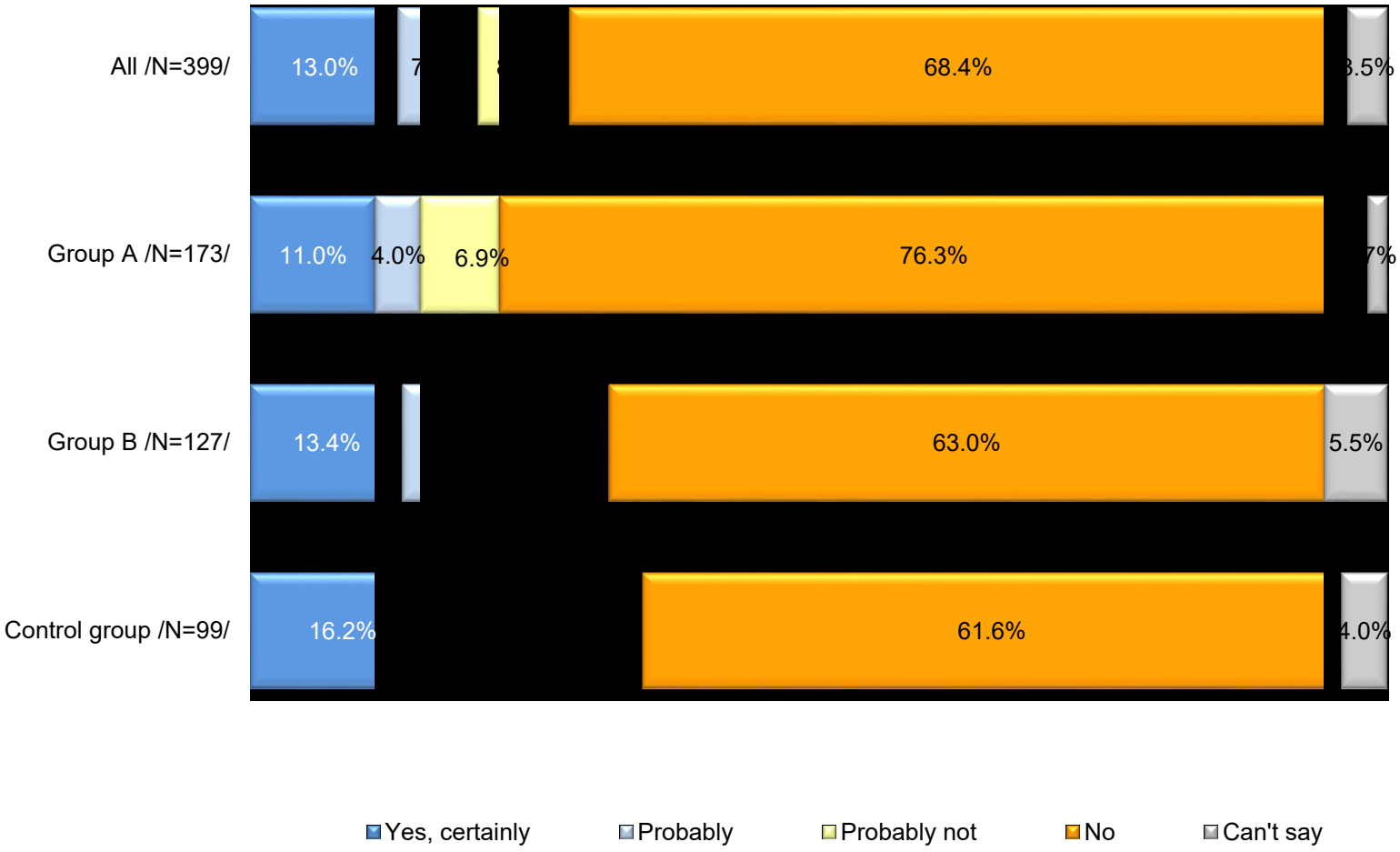
Father

	All N=357	Group A N=158	Group B N=114	Control group N=85
0	81,5%	86,1%	76,3%	79,8%
1-10	5,2%	4,2%	8,0%	2,4%
11-30	5,1%	4,4%	5,2%	4,8%
1-3 m.	4,2%	1,3%	3,6%	10,7%
3-8 m.	4,0%	3,2%	7,2%	1,2%
8-10 m.	0,3%	0,6%		
Mean number of days	9,96	8,1	13,21	9,6

Base: All absent fathers (without those who have died)

Parents' interest in the child

Do the parents care about the child – can they be trusted to look after him in the future?



Base: Respondents, whose children live with one parent/ without parents (without those who have died)

HEALTHCARE AND STATUS

Health related issues – chronic illnesses, defects or special needs

Does the child have any inborn disability or illnesses?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes, but he/she has overcome it	3,7%	4,0%	3,4%	3,8%
Yes, he/she still has them	8,1%	12,0%	6,4%	5,5%
No, he/she was born healthy	87,1%	81,8%	89,4%	90,8%
Do not know	1,1%	2,2%	0,8%	0,0%

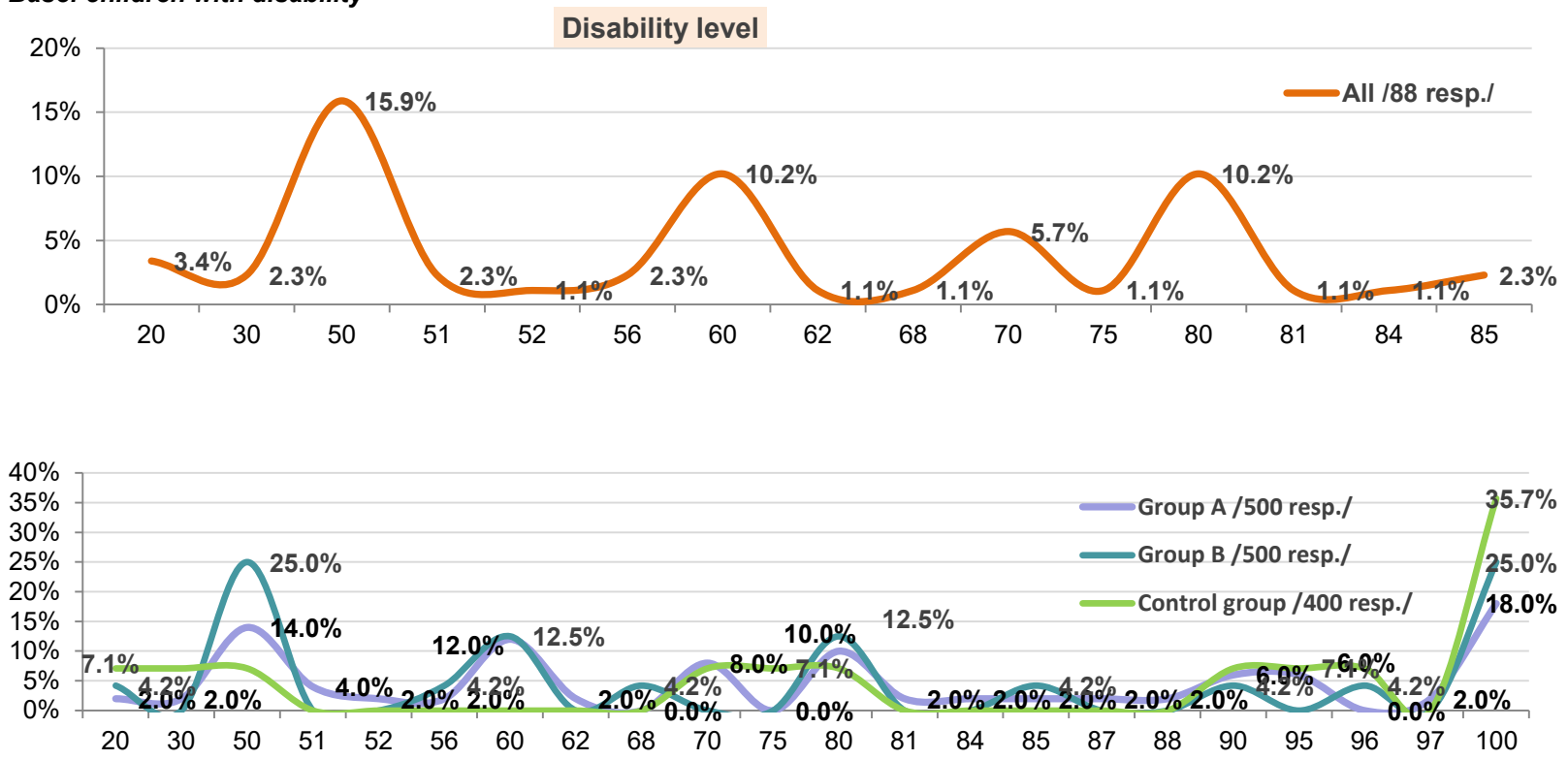
Is your child currently suffering from any serious health related issues?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
No	84,5%	79,1%	88,0%	87,0%
Asthma	3,9%	5,4%	2,6%	3,8%
Allergies	2,2%	3,2%	2,0%	1,3%
Other physical disabilities	2,1%	2,0%	2,4%	1,8%
Cerebral palsy	1,6%	3,2%	0,6%	1,0%
Mental issues	1,4%	2,4%	0,8%	0,8%
Epilepsy	1,1%	1,8%	0,4%	1,0%
Learning disability	0,9%	2,0%	0,2%	0,3%
Anemia	0,6%	0,8%	0,2%	1,0%
Stutters, doesn't talk, speech impediment	0,4%	0,6%	0,2%	0,5%
Other	6,7%	8,0%	5,6%	4,7%

Base: All respondents

Handicapped certificate by Territorial Expert Physicians Commission (TEPC)

Does the child have Handicapped certificate (by TEPC)?	All N=214	Group A N=102	Group B N=60	Control group N=52
Yes	41,1%	49,0%	40,0%	26,9%
No	57,0%	49,0%	56,7%	73,1%
Don't know	1,9%	2,0%	3,3%	0,0%

Base: children with disability



Base: Children with a handicapped certificate

Special care for disabled children

Who takes special care of the child?	All N=88	Group A N=50	Group B N=24	Control group N=14
Somebody from the household constantly takes care of him/her	86,4%	86,0%	83,3%	92,9%
Specialists work on a regular basis	25,0%	32,0%	20,8%	7,1%
Resource teacher	2,3%	4,0%	0,0%	0,0%
Social worker who comes to the household	1,1%	2,0%	0,0%	0,0%
Caretaker, babysitter	1,1%	2,0%	0,0%	0,0%
No need for special care	1,1%	0,0%	4,2%	0,0%

Base: Children with a disability document

Personal physician – GP or pediatrician

Hospitalization of the child

Does the child have a personal physician - GP?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	98,4%	98,6%	98,0%	98,8%
No	1,4%	1,4%	1,6%	1,3%
Don't know	0,1%	0,0%	0,4%	0,0%

Is the child's personal physician a pediatrician?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	53%	60%	45%	52%
No	31%	29%	35%	30%
No personal physician	2%	1%	2%	1%
Don't know	14%	9%	18%	17%

Is the child hospitalized at this time – i.e. is it registered or/and under observation in a hospital?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	12,1%	15,4%	12,8%	7,3%
No	87,5%	84,2%	86,6%	92,8%
Don't know	0,4%	0,4%	0,6%	0,0%

Base: All respondents

Frequency of illnesses and visits to the personal physician – GP or pediatrician

How often did the child get ill in the past 6 months?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
0	19,7%	12,2%	25,0%	22,5%
1	30,1%	26,4%	32,0%	32,3%
2	21,9%	24,0%	21,0%	20,5%
3	10,1%	11,6%	9,4%	9,0%
4	6,1%	8,4%	4,2%	5,5%
5	2,8%	3,6%	2,0%	2,8%
6	3,6%	5,2%	2,4%	3,3%
More than 6	1,9%	2,6%	1,2%	2,2%

In the past year how often did you take your child to see a GP/pediatrician for a checkup or a consultation?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Every month	14,6%	17,6%	13,2%	12,5%
Once every 3 months	32,7%	37,0%	29,0%	32,0%
Once every six month	26,3%	24,0%	26,0%	29,5%
Once a year	14,3%	12,0%	14,4%	17,0%
More rarely	5,2%	3,8%	8,0%	3,5%
Didn't take it	5,9%	4,0%	8,8%	4,8%
Don't know	1,0%	1,6%	0,6%	0,8%

Base: All respondents

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Child's vaccinations

Does the child have all necessary vaccinations for his age?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes, all	86,7%	86,4%	87,2%	86,5%
Some of them, not all	7,9%	8,0%	7,4%	8,3%
Don't know	5,4%	5,6%	5,4%	5,3%

What was your child's last vaccination?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
16 m. - DTP, haemophilus influenza type C	4,0%	7,4%	1,8%	2,5%
13 m. - measles, mumps and rubella	2,6%	2,4%	1,4%	4,3%
6 m. - hepatitus C	2,1%	2,2%	2,4%	1,5%
7 m. - BCG, Mantoux test	1,9%	3,4%	1,2%	0,8%
6 y. - polio, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis	0,3%	0,2%	0,4%	0,3%
7 y. - BCG, Mantoux test	0,3%	0,4%	0,4%	0,0%
Influenza vaccine	0,3%	0,4%	0,2%	0,3%
4 m. -poliomyelitis, DTP, haemophilius influenza type C	0,2%	0,6%	0,0%	0,0%
Rabies vaccine	0,2%	0,2%	0,4%	0,0%
Hepatitus A	0,1%	0,4%	0,0%	0,0%
1 m. - hepatitus B	0,1%	0,0%	0,2%	0,0%
Varicella	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,0%
Pneumo 23 (pneumonia, by request)	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,0%
Don't know/ can't remember	87,9%	82,0%	91,6%	90,5%

Base: All respondents

Dealing with child's illnesses (flu, cough, high temperature)

Sources of advices and help when treating the child

What do you usually do when your child is sick, e.g. has the flu, cough and high temperature?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
mmediately take it to a doctor or a hospital	82,7%	82,6%	80,8%	85,3%
Use alternative medicine	13,6%	13,4%	14,4%	13,0%
Use medication I trust	2,0%	1,6%	4,0%	0,0%
Wait until it gets better on its own	0,6%	0,6%	0,4%	1,0%
Take it to a healer/ a person that can cure people	0,4%	0,4%	0,2%	0,5%
Homeopathy	0,4%	0,8%	0,2%	0,0%
Inhalation	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,0%
Other	0,1%	0,4%	0,0%	0,0%
Don't know	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,3%

Who do you usually ask for help when treating the child?	Всички N=1400	А Група N=500	В Група N=500	Контролна N=400
Personal physician/ GP/ pediatrician	88,9%	89,2%	88,4%	89,3%
Clinic/ health center	7,1%	7,8%	9,0%	4,0%
Relative or a friend	4,8%	4,4%	5,6%	4,3%
Hospital	4,3%	6,4%	2,8%	3,5%
No one - I decide what to do on my own	2,9%	1,4%	4,8%	2,3%
Pharmacist	2,3%	1,2%	1,8%	4,3%
Health worker/ medic	1,1%	0,4%	2,2%	0,8%
Private physicial	0,8%	1,6%	0,4%	0,3%
Healer/ herbalist	0,7%	0,6%	1,2%	0,3%

Base: All respondents

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Going to the dentist

Have you ever taken the child to a dentist?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	26,3%	33,6%	21,2%	85,3%
No	73,5%	66,2%	78,6%	13,0%
Don't know	0,2%	0,2%	0,2%	0,0%

How often have you taken it to a dentist?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
1 time	38,3%	35,1%	38,7%	43,6%
2	28,3%	31,0%	27,4%	24,5%
3	11,1%	13,7%	8,5%	9,6%
4	9,5%	8,3%	11,3%	9,6%
5	4,6%	4,2%	8,5%	1,1%
6	2,2%	1,8%	0,9%	4,3%
7	0,5%	0,6%	0,0%	1,1%
8	0,8%	0,6%	0,9%	1,1%
9	0,5%	0,6%	0,0%	1,1%
10+ time	3,3%	3,6%	2,8%	3,2%

Base: All respondents

Evaluating the child's health

How is your child's overall health?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Completely healthy – rarely gets ill	45,1%	36,8%	49,4%	50,3%
Rather healthy – sometimes gets ill	38,9%	44,2%	35,2%	37,0%
Rather sickly- frequently gets ill	11,8%	14,6%	11,8%	8,3%
Very sickly – gets ill a lot	3,4%	3,8%	2,2%	4,3%
Can't determine	0,8%	0,6%	1,4%	0,3%

In the past year did the child have lice, scabies or gastrointestinal problems?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
None of these	83,4%	81,2%	84,4%	85,0%
Gastrointestinal problems	11,1%	13,2%	9,6%	10,5%
Lice	3,4%	2,8%	3,4%	4,3%
Don't know/ Can't remember	2,3%	3,0%	2,4%	1,3%

Base: All respondents

NUTRITION

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Breastfeeding and smoking

Was the child breastfed?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	80,4%	77,2%	80,4%	84,5%
No	18,9%	21,6%	19,4%	15,0%
Don't know	0,6%	1,2%	0,2%	0,5%

How many months was the child breastfed?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
1-6 months	43,6%	47,6%	39,1%	44,5%
7-12 months	20,9%	18,3%	22,1%	22,6%
13-24 months	23,0%	21,9%	24,1%	23,5%
25-36 months	7,7%	7,0%	10,4%	4,2%
More than 36 months	2,6%	2,5%	2,5%	2,1%
Don't know, don't remember	2,5%	2,8%	1,2%	3,6%

Did the mother smoke while breastfeeding?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	36,9%	31,3%	46,0%	32,5%
No	62,0%	66,6%	53,7%	66,6%
Don't know	1,1%	2,1%	0,2%	0,9%

Base: All respondents

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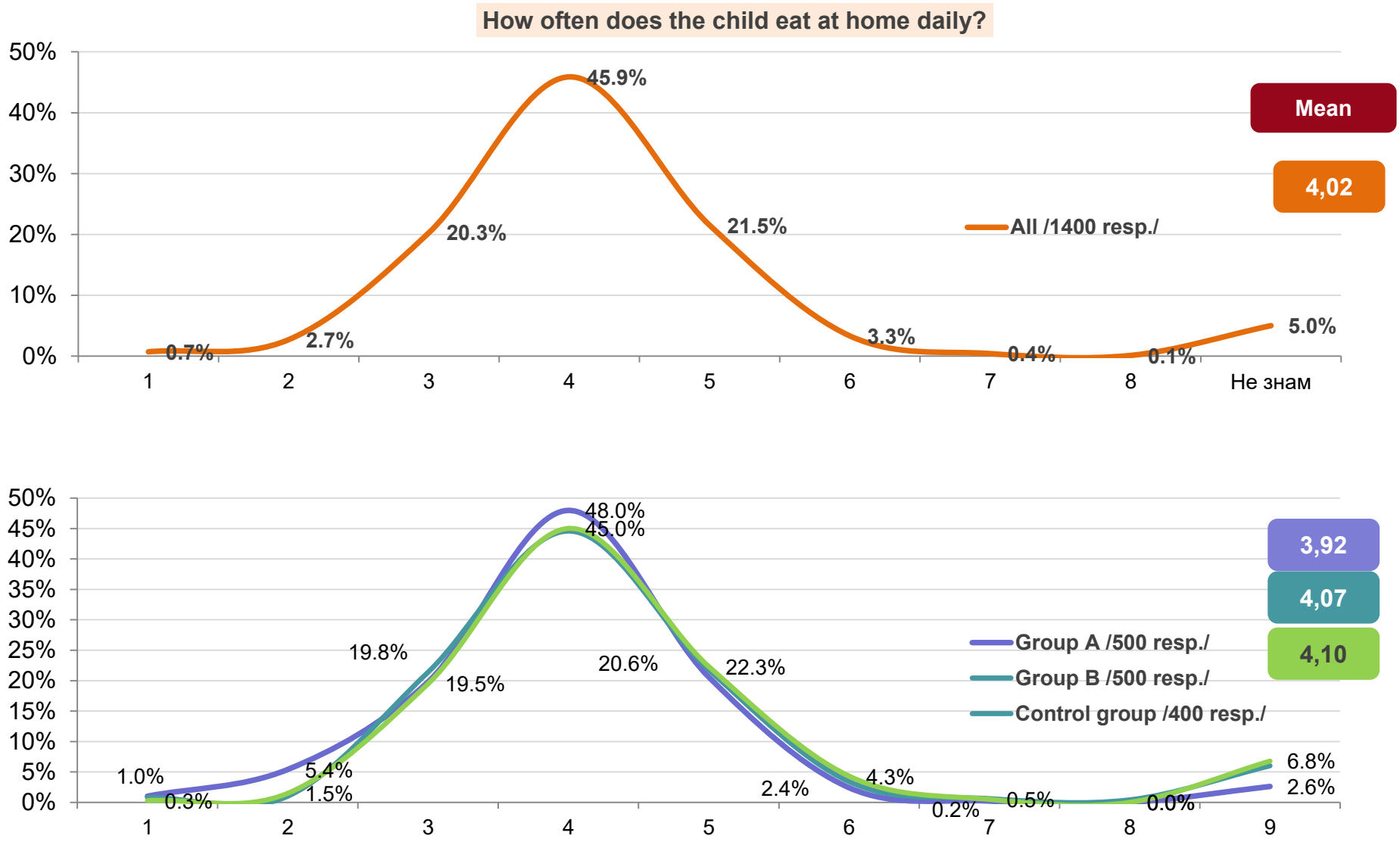
Number of meals at home



Base: All respondents

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Regular intake of water, vitamins and supplements in the household

Does anyone remind the child to drink water regularly when at home?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	18,4%	21,2%	13,4%	21,3%
No	81,1%	78,0%	86,6%	78,3%
Don't know	0,4%	0,8%	0,0%	0,5%

Does the child have an afternoon snack when at home? (on a rest day for example)	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	86,0%	88,6%	84,6%	84,5%
No	12,5%	10,6%	14,0%	13,0%
Don't know	1,5%	0,8%	1,4%	2,5%

Do you give the child any vitamins or food supplements to improve his health?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	23,0%	30,8%	18,6%	18,8%
No	76,1%	68,8%	80,4%	79,8%
Don't know	0,9%	0,4%	1,0%	1,5%

Base: All respondents

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Food/ drink/ supplement intake

Did the child have any of the following between today and yesterday?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Water	98,1%	97,4%	97,4%	99,8%
Soup, porridge	93,4%	90,6%	93,6%	96,5%
Juice, preserve	48,1%	53,6%	46,4%	43,5%
Yogurt	46,1%	47,6%	45,8%	44,8%
Tea	29,5%	29,0%	31,2%	28,0%
Milk	26,1%	30,8%	22,8%	24,3%
Other beverages	22,3%	19,6%	22,8%	25,0%
Vitamins	11,4%	15,4%	9,6%	8,5%
Medication	11,0%	15,4%	8,6%	8,5%

Base: All respondents

RISK OF ABANDONMENT

Cases of and possibility of child abandonment

Do you have a child that has been in a childcare home, weekly kindergarten, a juvenile hall, adopted or with a foster family?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Don't have such a child	94,7%	93,2%	95,8%	95,3%
Childcare home	3,4%	3,2%	2,6%	4,5%
Weekly kindergarten	0,9%	2,0%	0,4%	0,0%
Juvenile hall	0,6%	0,8%	1,0%	0,0%
Adopted/ foster family	0,5%	0,8%	0,4%	0,3%

Is it possible you might have to leave your child in a childcare home in the next couple of years?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes, I might have to	0,6%	0,8%	0,2%	0,8%
No	92,9%	92,6%	91,0%	95,5%
Can't say	6,6%	6,6%	8,8%	3,8%

Base: All respondents

Attitude toward leaving the child/ putting the child up for adoption

If necessary would you leave your child for a period longer than 3 months?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
I wouldn't leave my child with anybody	78,4%	76,2%	75,6%	84,8%
Yes, with grandparents	13,9%	15,6%	15,4%	9,8%
Yes, with relatives	2,9%	2,4%	3,6%	2,8%
Yes, I would leave it in a childcare home.	1,5%	1,4%	2,0%	1,0%
I would put it up for adoption	0,6%	0,4%	0,8%	0,8%
I would send it to a foster family	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,3%
Can't say	3,7%	4,4%	4,4%	2,0%

In which cases would you leave your child in a child care home?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
I wouldn't leave it in any case	89,9%	90,0%	88,6%	91,3%
If I can't take care of it	3,2%	2,4%	3,4%	4,0%
Lack of money	1,4%	1,0%	2,4%	0,8%
If I have to work abroad	1,1%	1,4%	1,0%	1,0%
Parent's health	0,6%	0,2%	1,0%	0,8%
If the child has health issues	0,5%	0,6%	0,2%	0,8%
If there isn't enough room for the child	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,3%
If the mother/ father of the child abandones me	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,3%
If I lose my home	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,5%
Can't say	4,1%	5,0%	4,8%	2,0%

Base: All respondents

Child Service intervention cases

Has the child been taken away by Child Services before?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	1,9%	2,2%	2,2%	1,0%
No	97,9%	97,8%	97,4%	98,8%
Don't know	0,2%	0,0%	0,4%	0,3%

Base: All respondents

INTERACTION WITH PARENTS

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Child's usual activities when at home

What does the child usually do when at home?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Watch TV	90,9%	90,6%	89,8%	92,8%
Play - with toys or something else	85,4%	84,4%	84,4%	87,8%
Talk with somebody	63,9%	69,4%	62,4%	59,0%
Draw/ color	54,0%	61,0%	50,8%	49,3%
Read	39,1%	46,6%	35,0%	35,0%
Help around the house	25,1%	35,2%	22,4%	15,8%
Stay on the computer	15,0%	21,8%	10,8%	11,8%
Play computer/ console games	9,8%	14,0%	8,8%	5,8%
Nothing	0,4%	0,2%	1,0%	0,0%
Listen to music	0,3%	0,4%	0,0%	0,5%
Sing	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,5%
Dance	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,3%

Base: All respondents

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Watching TV, movies, programs

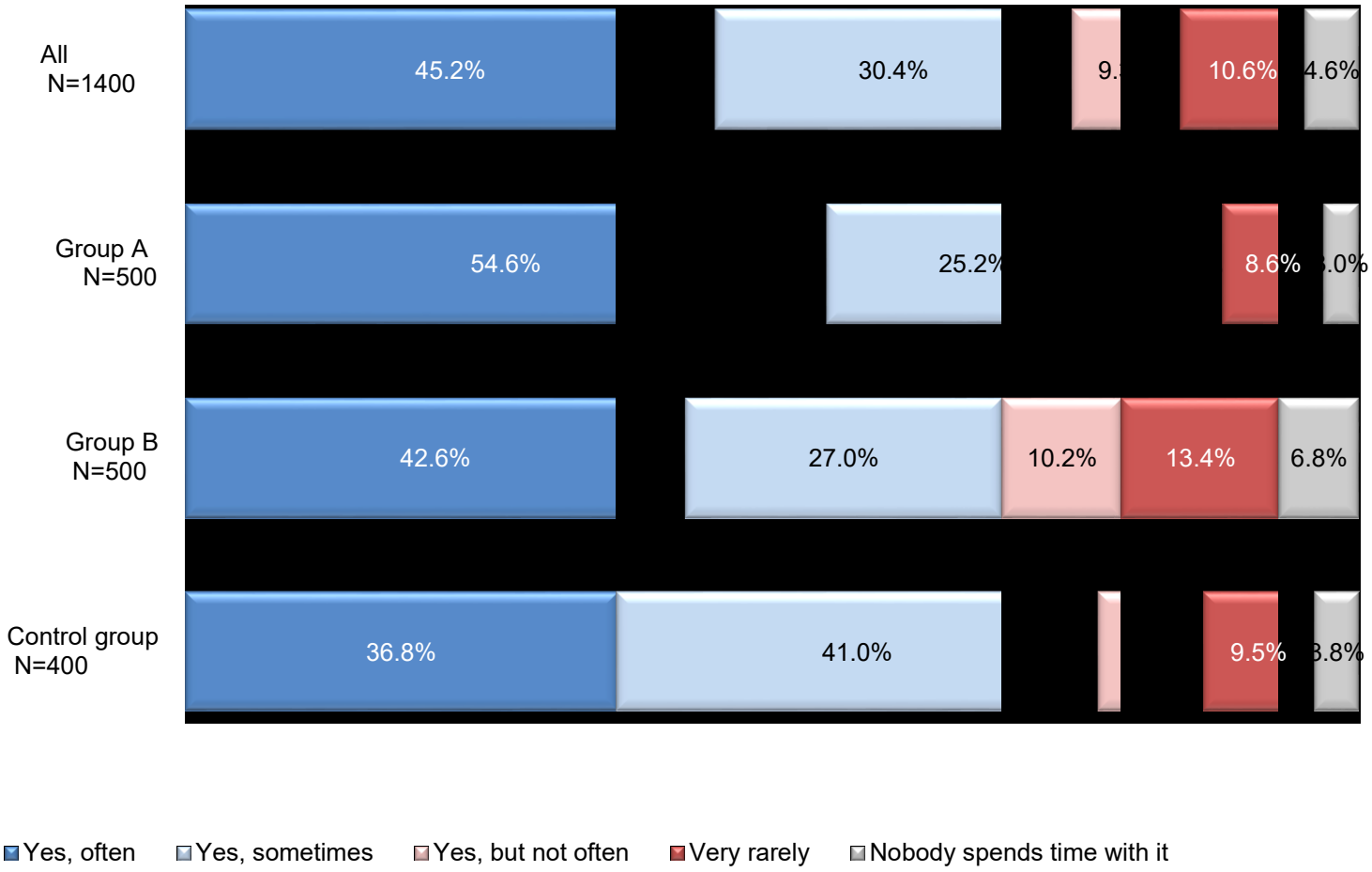
How many hours a day does the child spend watching TV?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Work days - mean number of hours	2,48	2,51	2,48	2,46
Rest days - mean number of hours	3,17	3,2	3,11	3,21

What movies or programs does your child watch most?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Children's shows/ cartoons	90,3%	91,4%	89,6%	89,8%
Mature programs	41,7%	36,8%	49,0%	38,8%
Cartoon on the DVD/ computer	10,6%	14,2%	9,4%	7,8%
Popular science programs – Discovery, Animal planet and so on	7,6%	9,8%	6,0%	6,8%
Musical channel	1,9%	2,0%	1,2%	2,8%
Adverts	0,5%	0,8%	0,0%	0,8%
Sports channels	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,0%
Doesn't watch	5,3%	6,0%	5,4%	4,3%

Base: All respondents

Interaction with family members

Does anyone from the family spend time with the child - draws, plays, reads or talks to the child?



Base: All respondents

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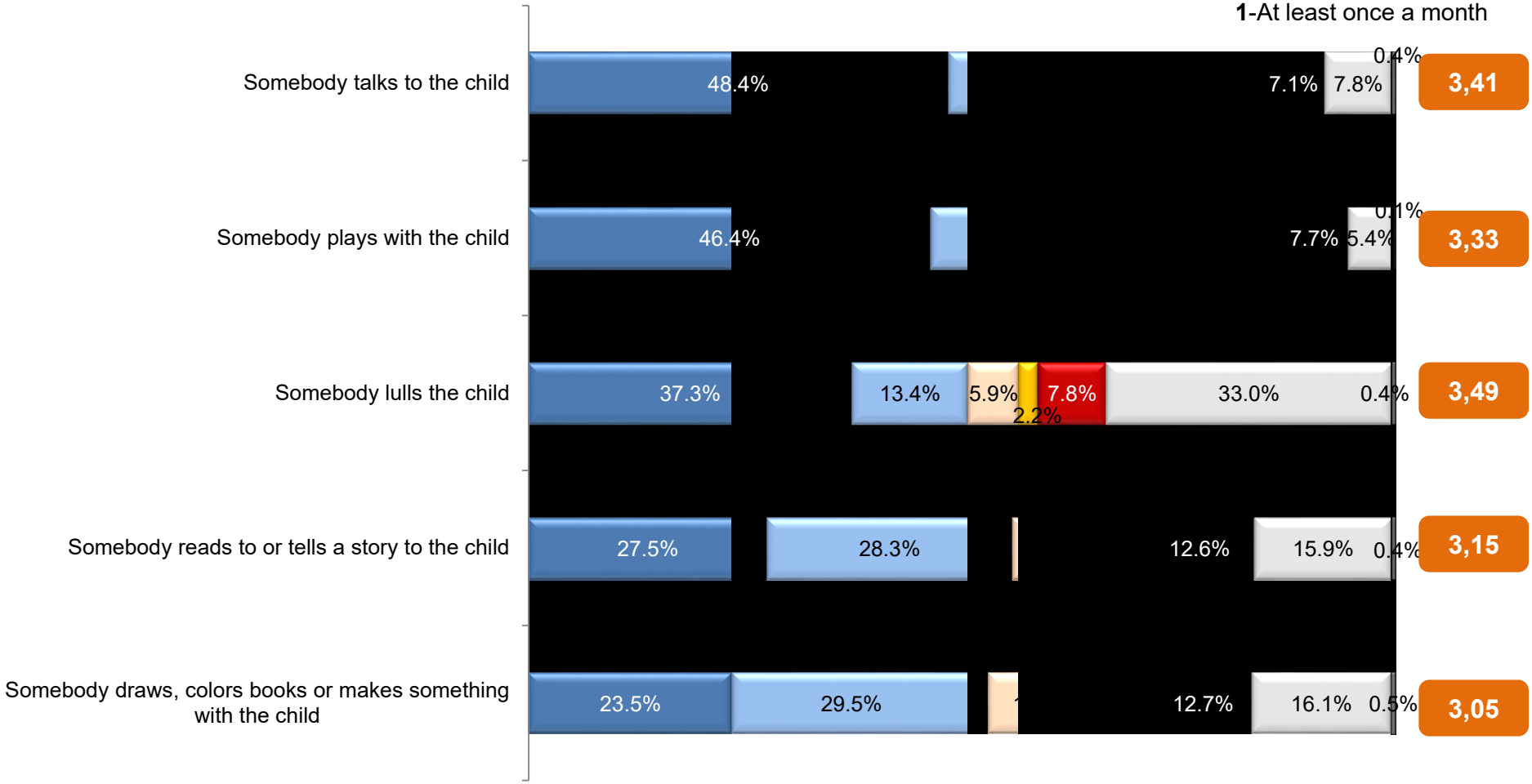
Interaction with family members

How often are any of the following done:

Mean score:
4-Every or almost every day;
1-At least once a month



Base: All respondents

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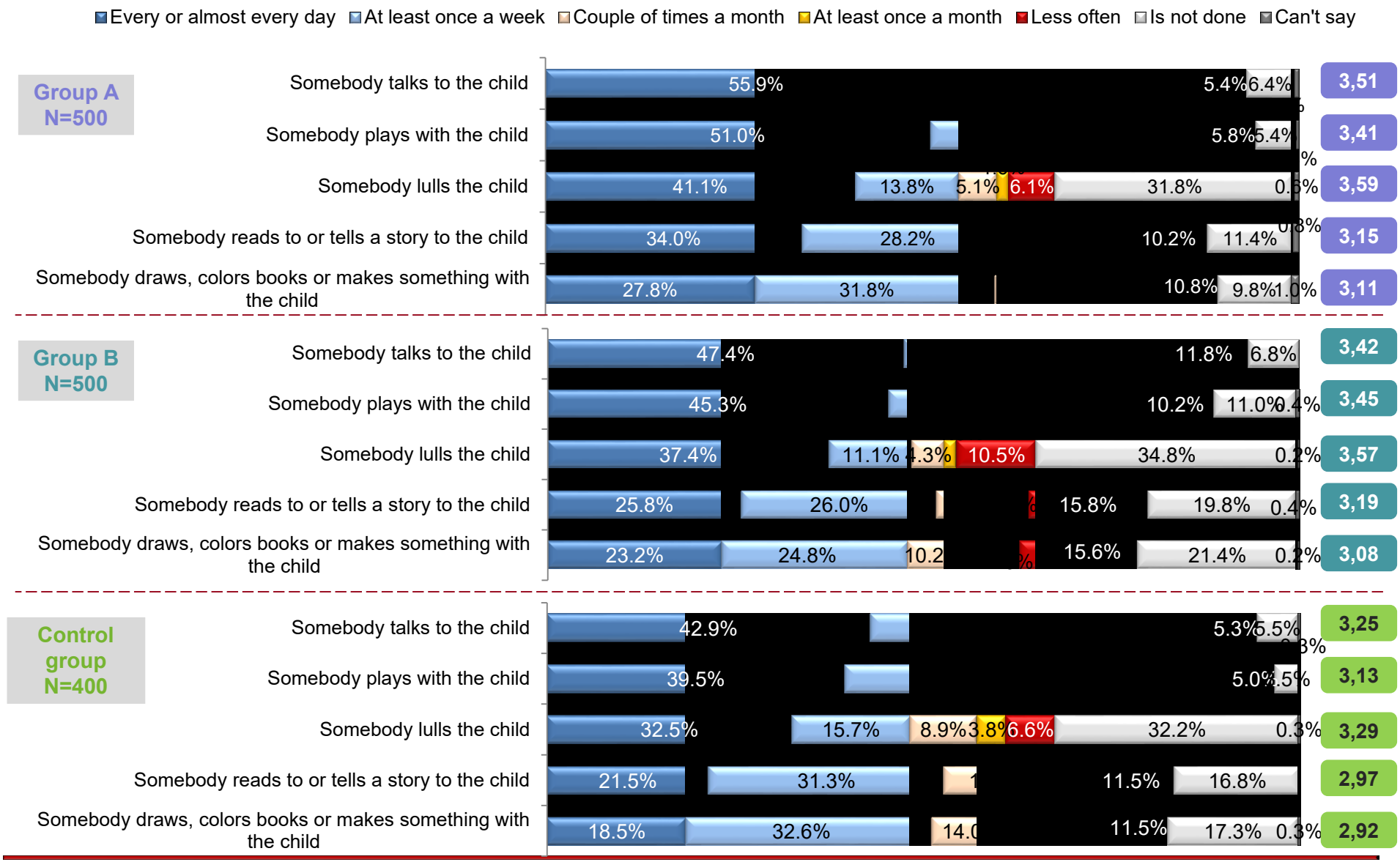
Interaction with family members



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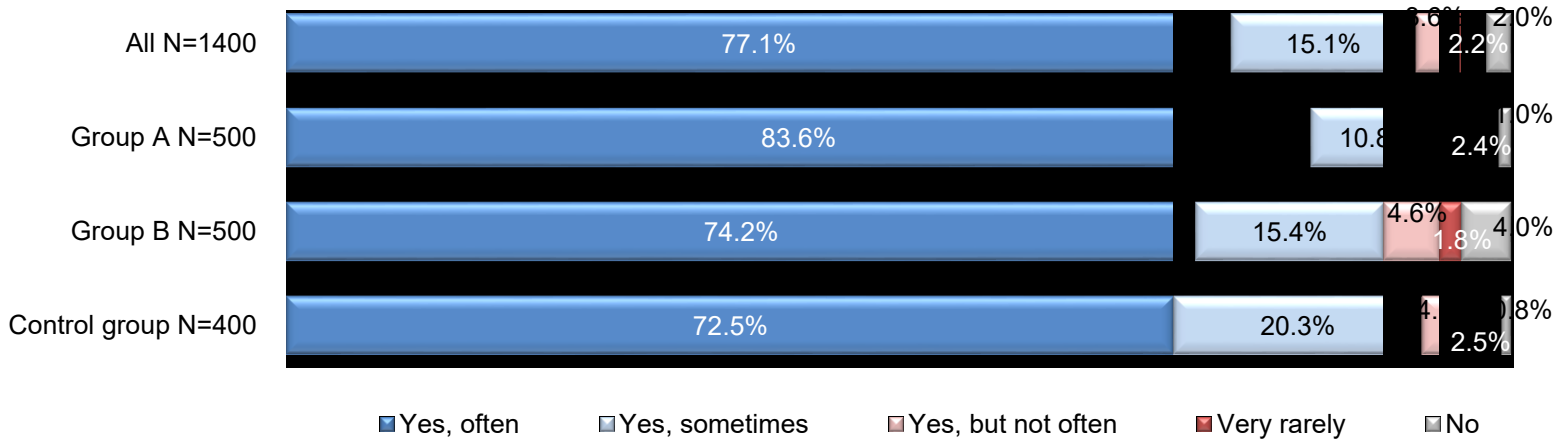
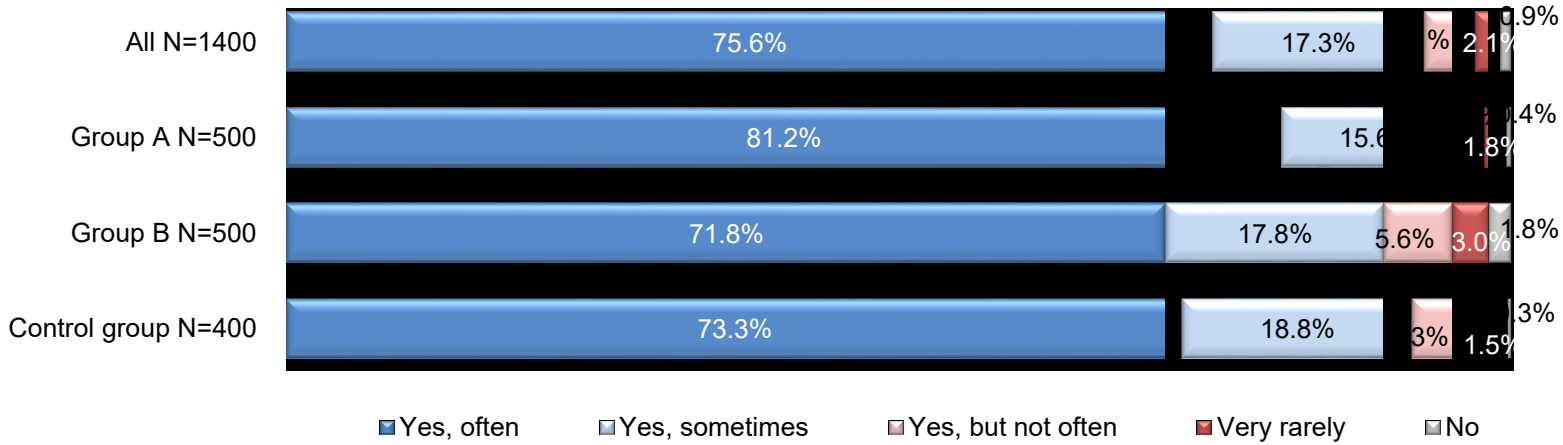
Embracing the child

Does the child ask you to hug it?



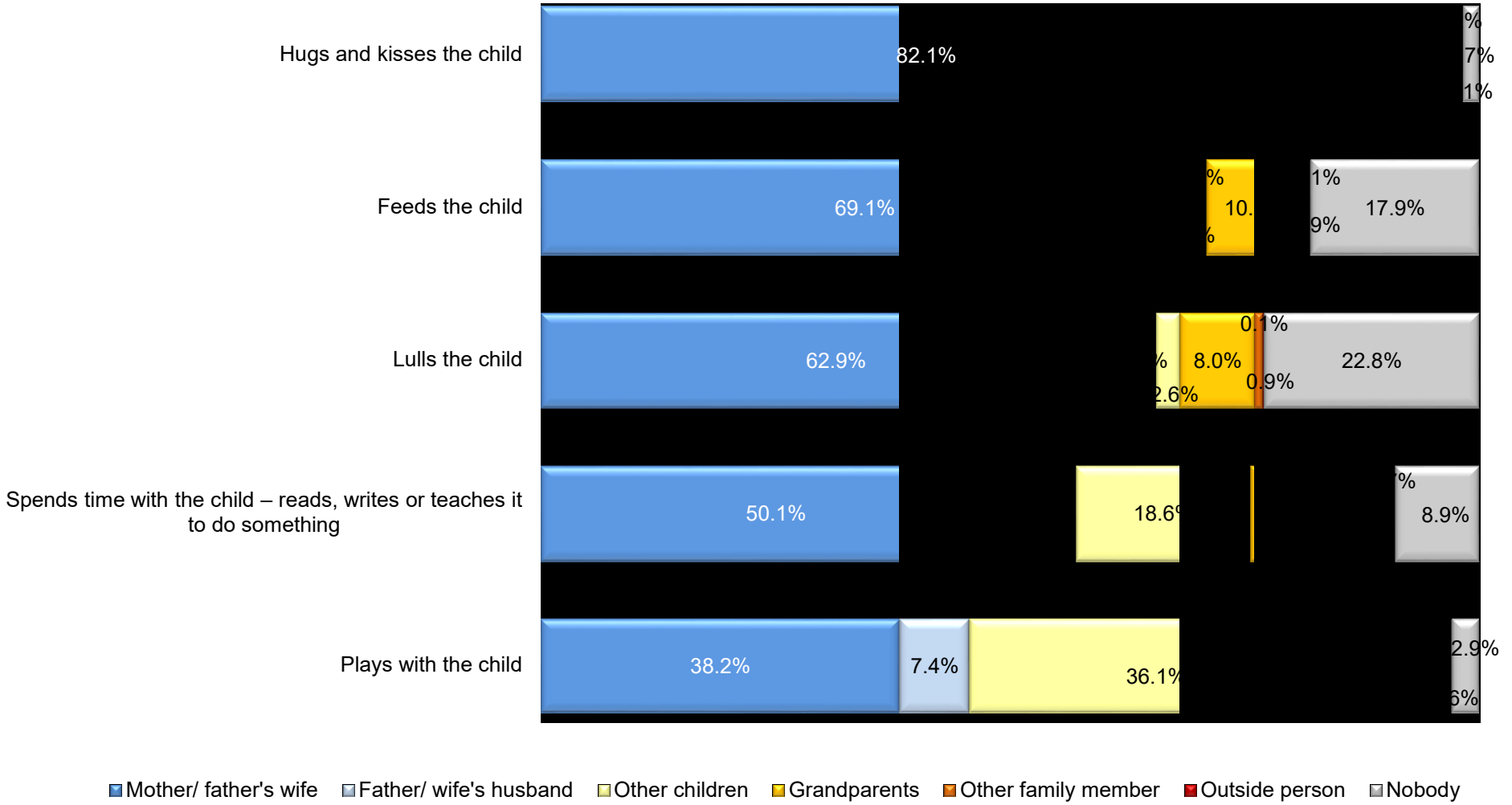
Do you embrace the child when he/she wants to?



Base: All respondents

Taking care of the child

Who does the following most often?



Base: All respondents

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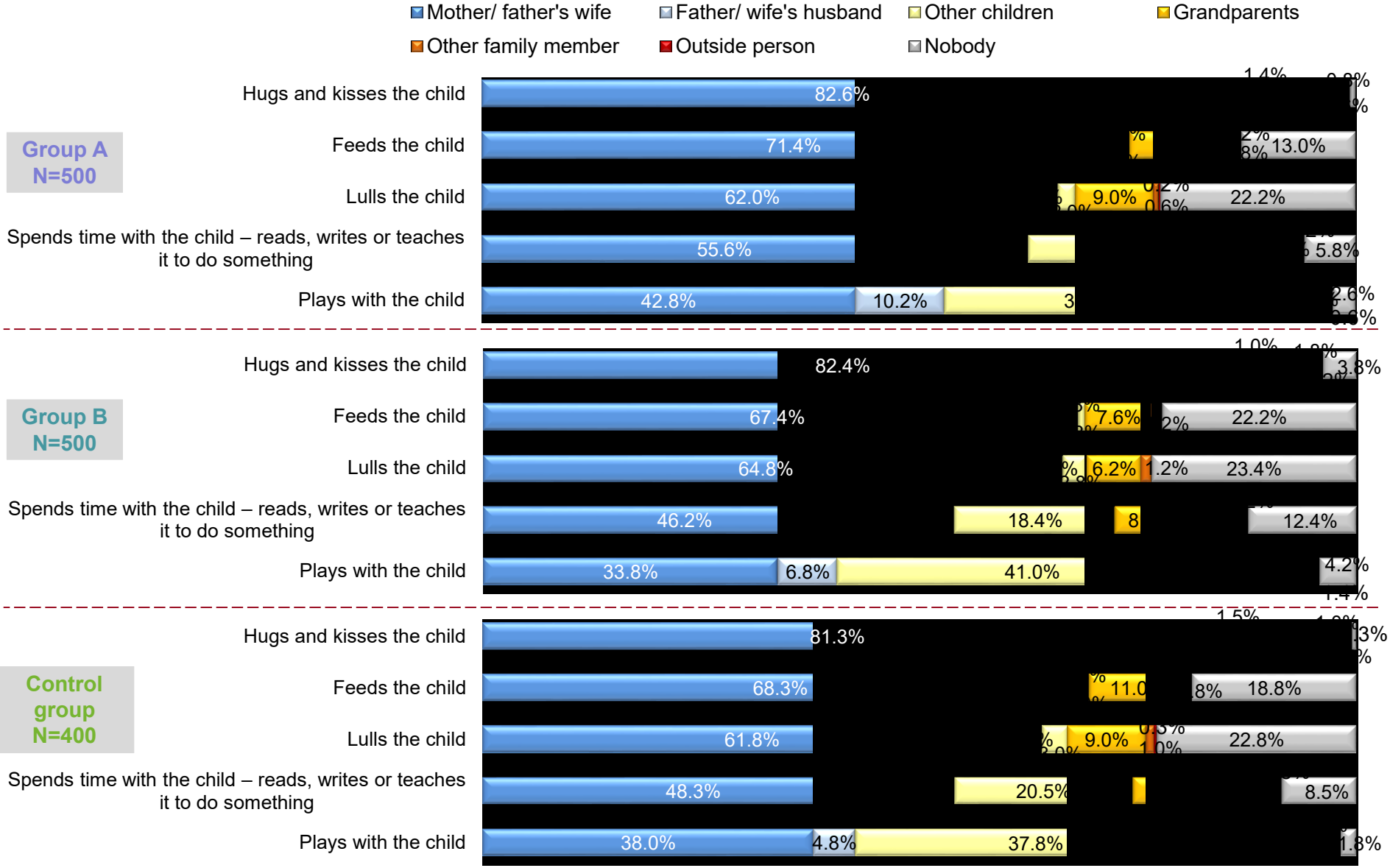
Taking care of the child



Punishing the child

What do you do most often when the child misbehaves and is really getting on your	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Hit the child	2,7%	2,6%	3,2%	2,3%
Spank the child	14,7%	13,2%	15,6%	15,5%
Scold the child	35,4%	30,0%	36,6%	40,5%
Punish the child by scaring it	4,9%	5,2%	4,4%	5,3%
Stop talking to the child	3,2%	2,8%	4,0%	2,8%
Prohibit it from doing something it loves	7,6%	9,6%	6,8%	6,3%
Explain calmly what it did wrong	18,4%	20,2%	18,0%	16,5%
Embrace the child and explain it shouldn't misbehave	6,1%	7,2%	4,8%	6,5%
Seek help from a teacher/ psychologist/ Child Services	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,3%
Ignore the situation	1,9%	1,8%	2,2%	1,8%
Different every time	4,2%	6,0%	4,2%	2,0%
Punish it to stand in one place	0,5%	1,0%	0,0%	0,5%
Don't punish it (disabled)	0,2%	0,4%	0,2%	0,0%

Base: All respondents

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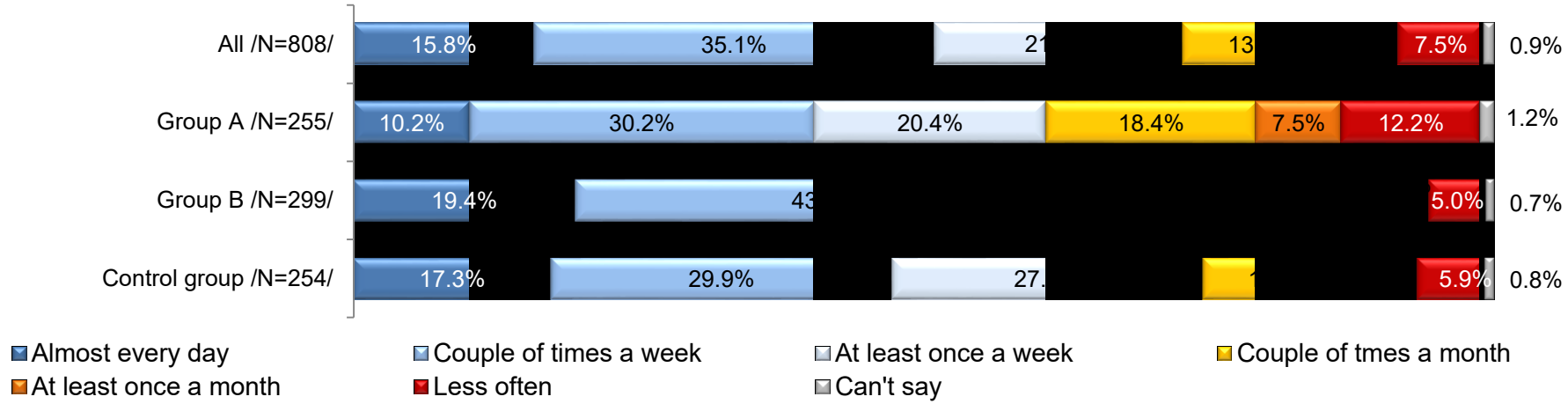
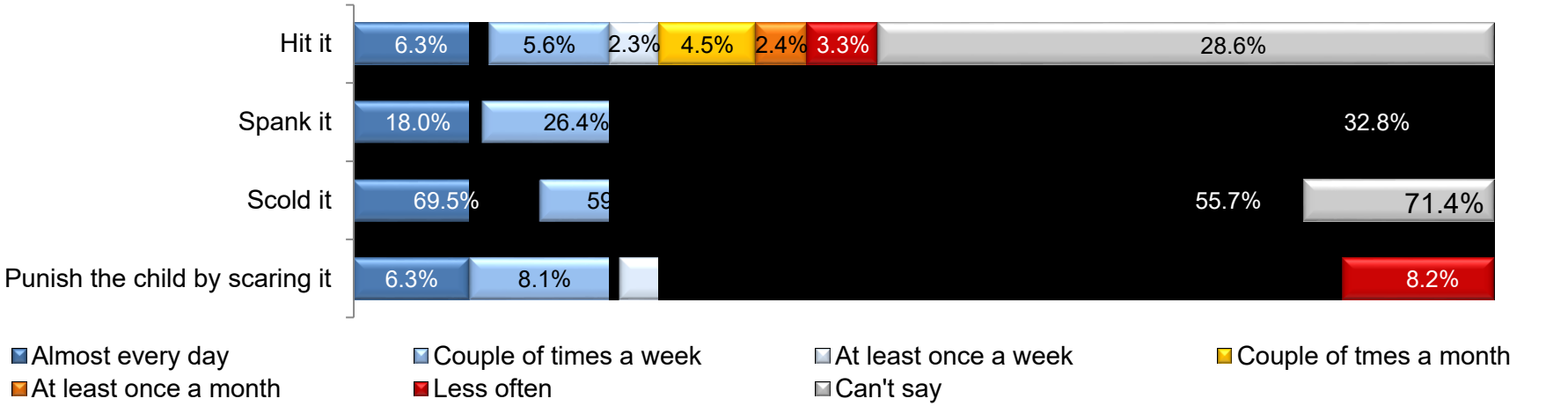
Punishment frequency

Do you often punish your child in this particular fashion?



This chart shows the reasons and frequency of child punishment.



Base: All respondents who punish their children

Who usually disciplines the child?

Who usually disciplines the child?	All N=808	Group A N=255	Group B N=299	Control group N=254
Birthmother/ adoptive mother	78,2%	77,6%	78,9%	78,0%
Father/ adoptive father	14,1%	10,6%	16,4%	15,0%
Grandparents	7,8%	9,8%	4,7%	9,4%
It's different every time	0,9%	2,0%	0,3%	0,4%
Older child/ children	0,6%	1,2%	0,7%	0,0%
Other	0,6%	0,8%	0,3%	0,8%
Husband/ mother's partner	0,5%	0,4%	0,7%	0,4%
Wife/ father's partner	0,5%	0,4%	0,7%	0,4%

Base: All respondents who punish their children

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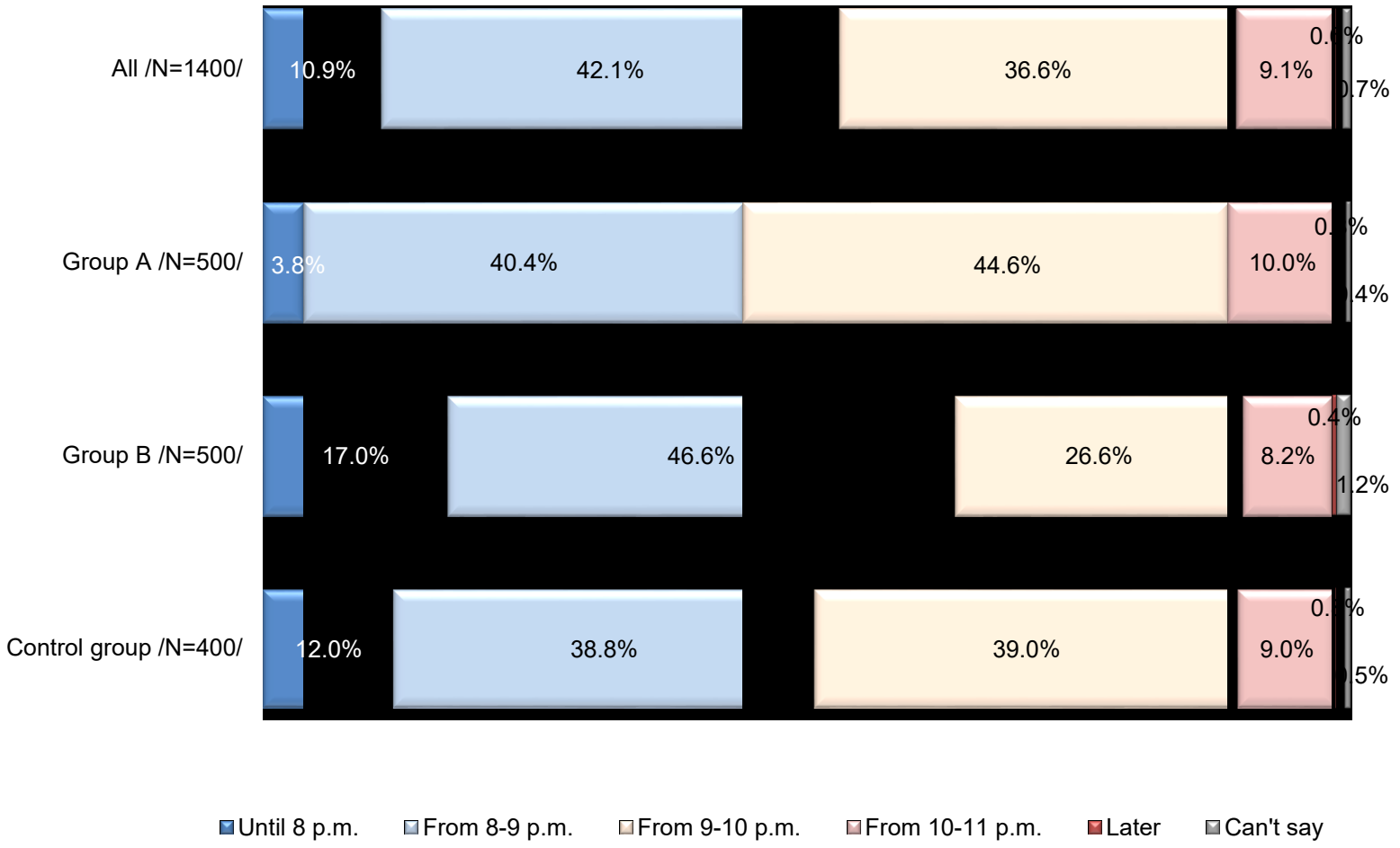
Child's bedtime

What time does your child go to sleep at?



Base: All respondents

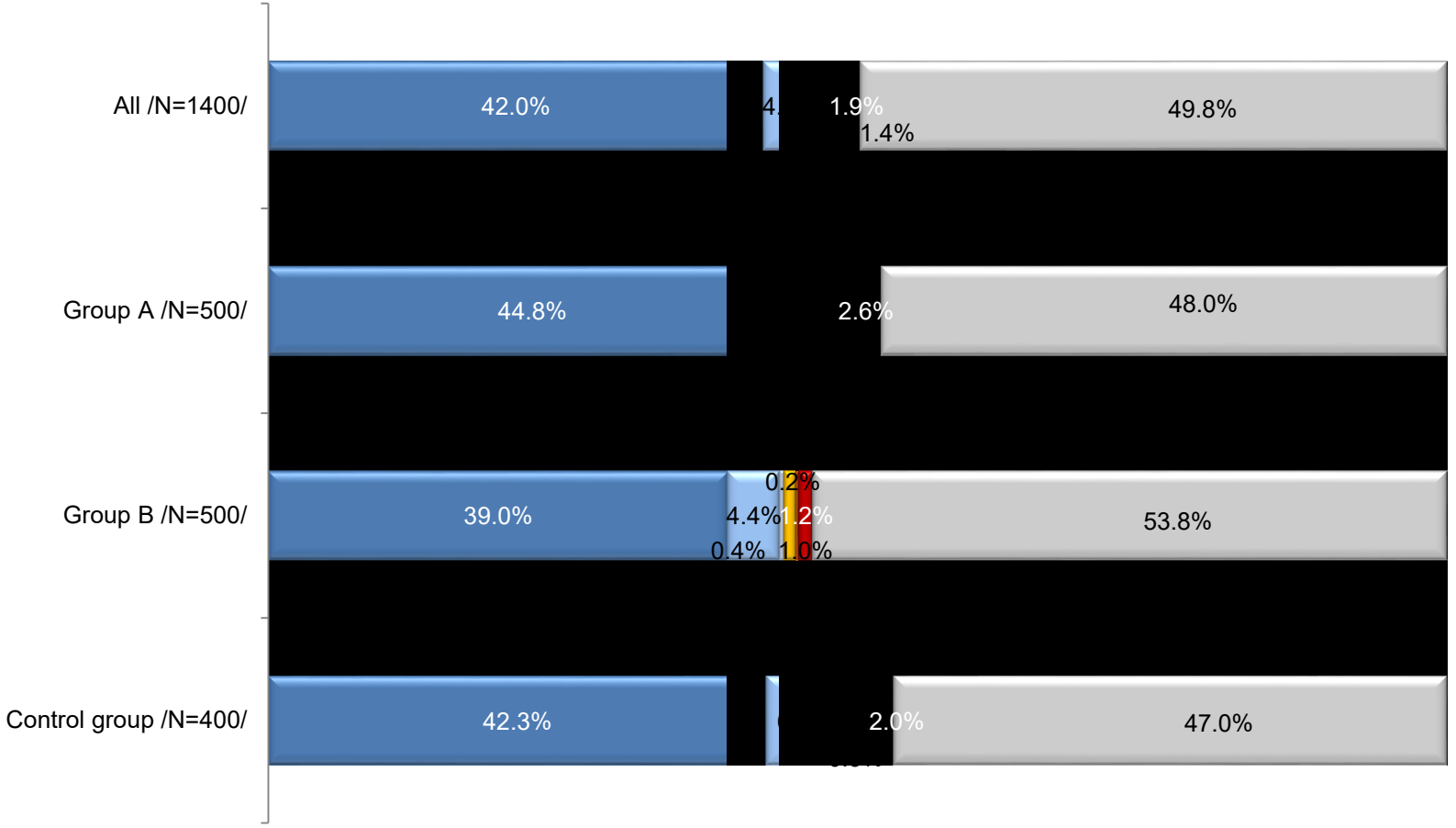
Child's activities

Which of the following activities does your child regularly do – with or without assistance?		All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
	Regularly	98,9%	98,4%	99,4%	99,0%
	Alone	73,2%	74,4%	72,0%	73,3%
Go to the bathroom	With assistance	24,3%	21,8%	27,0%	24,0%
	Regularly	61,1%	67,4%	57,0%	58,5%
	Alone	37,4%	37,6%	37,0%	37,8%
Brush teeth every night	With assistance	23,9%	29,4%	20,0%	22,0%
	Regularly	97,4%	98,0%	97,0%	97,0%
	Alone	54,1%	53,8%	53,6%	55,3%
Dress/ undress	With assistance	42,4%	43,2%	42,8%	41,0%
	Regularly	85,0%	88,4%	80,8%	86,0%
	Alone	58,2%	58,8%	56,4%	59,8%
Washing hands before dinner	With assistance	25,9%	27,8%	24,4%	25,3%
	Regularly	77,4%	79,2%	75,4%	77,5%
	Alone	34,1%	32,0%	32,8%	38,3%
Washing before bedtime	With assistance	42,8%	46,0%	42,6%	39,0%
	Regularly	95,9%	96,2%	95,6%	95,8%
	Alone	82,0%	80,2%	85,2%	80,3%
Eat with a spoon or a fork	With assistance	13,6%	15,8%	10,2%	15,0%
	Regularly	82,9%	84,8%	83,0%	80,3%
	Alone	72,6%	75,2%	71,4%	70,8%
Turn on/ off TV	With assistance	10,0%	9,8%	10,8%	9,3%
	Regularly	96,1%	96,6%	94,4%	97,5%
	Alone	85,6%	83,4%	84,8%	89,5%
Play	With assistance	8,9%	12,0%	7,4%	6,8%
	Regularly	90,5%	91,0%	90,2%	90,3%
	Alone	57,2%	56,0%	59,2%	56,3%
Go to bed when told to	With assistance	31,2%	33,4%	28,2%	32,3%
	Regularly	71,4%	77,4%	71,6%	63,8%
	Alone	35,5%	38,8%	37,8%	28,5%
Arrange clothes/ toys	With assistance	35,9%	38,4%	33,8%	35,3%
None of the above		0,1%			0,3%

Base : All respondents

Frequency of visits to a crèche/ kindergarten/ pre-school?

How often does your child go to a crèche/ kindergarten/ pre-school?



Base: All respondents

Reasons for not visiting a crèche/ kindergarten/ pre-school

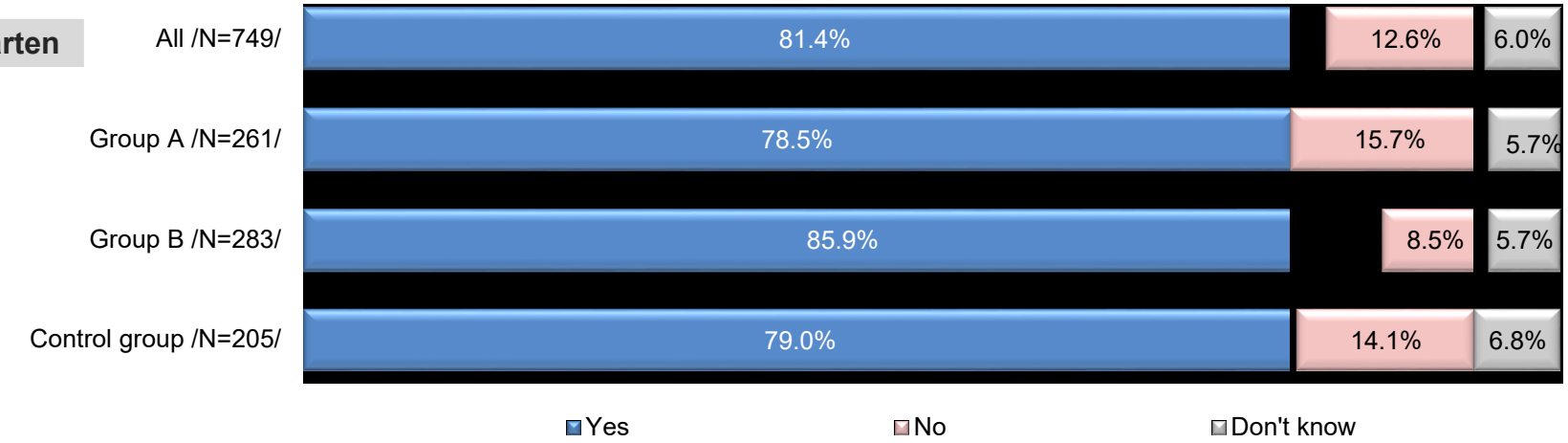
Why doesn't your child go more often to a crèche/ kindergarten/ pre-school?	All N=749	Group A N=261	Group B N=283	Control group N=205
Can't pay fees	37,2%	31,4%	43,8%	35,6%
We didn't try to send the child to kindergarten	21,9%	21,8%	23,0%	20,5%
Often sick	10,0%	11,9%	6,4%	12,7%
The kindergarten is full	9,2%	14,6%	6,4%	6,3%
I don't work so I look after it	6,1%	8,4%	2,1%	8,8%
Health issues (disability)	3,9%	5,0%	3,2%	3,4%
Child refuses to go	3,7%	1,9%	5,7%	3,4%
No kindergarten in the village (group B)	1,7%	0,0%	3,2%	2,0%
Lack of money	1,7%	1,5%	1,4%	2,4%
Transportation problems	1,5%	0,8%	2,8%	0,5%
Nobody can take it	1,2%	0,8%	0,7%	2,4%
Other	2,3%	2,4%	2,1%	2,5%
Don't know	4,5%	5,0%	3,2%	5,9%

Base: Parents, whose children don't go often to a crèche/ kindergarten/ pre-school

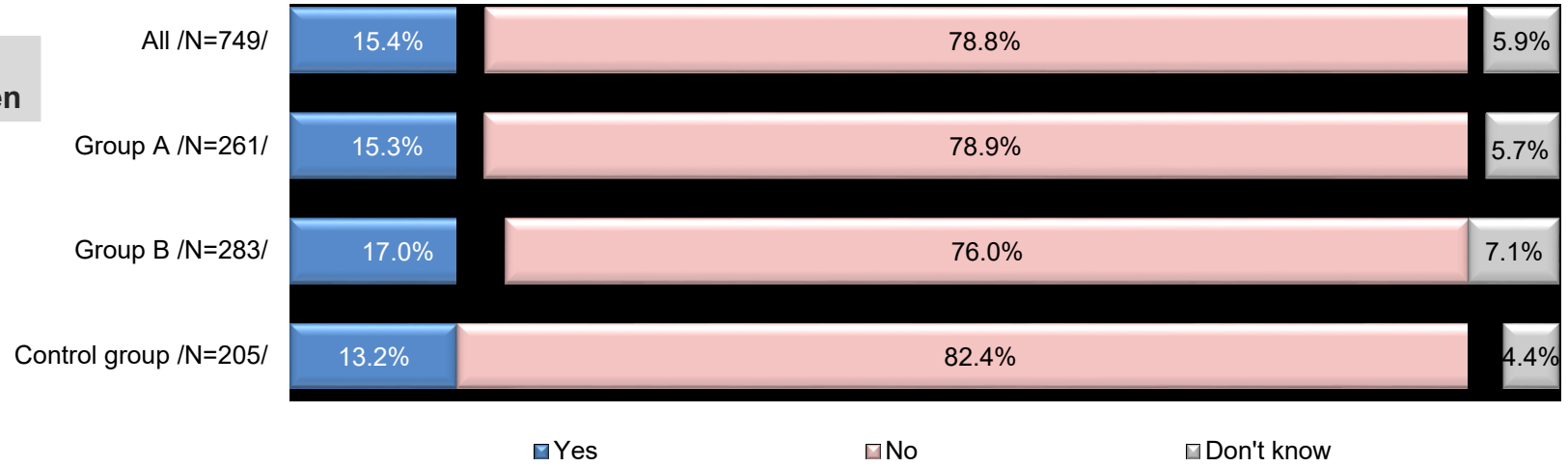
Willingness to visit a crèche/ kindergarten/ pre-school

Would you like for your child to go to a crèche/ kindergarten/ pre-school

Kindergarten



Weekly kindergarten



Base: Parents, whose children don't go often/ at all

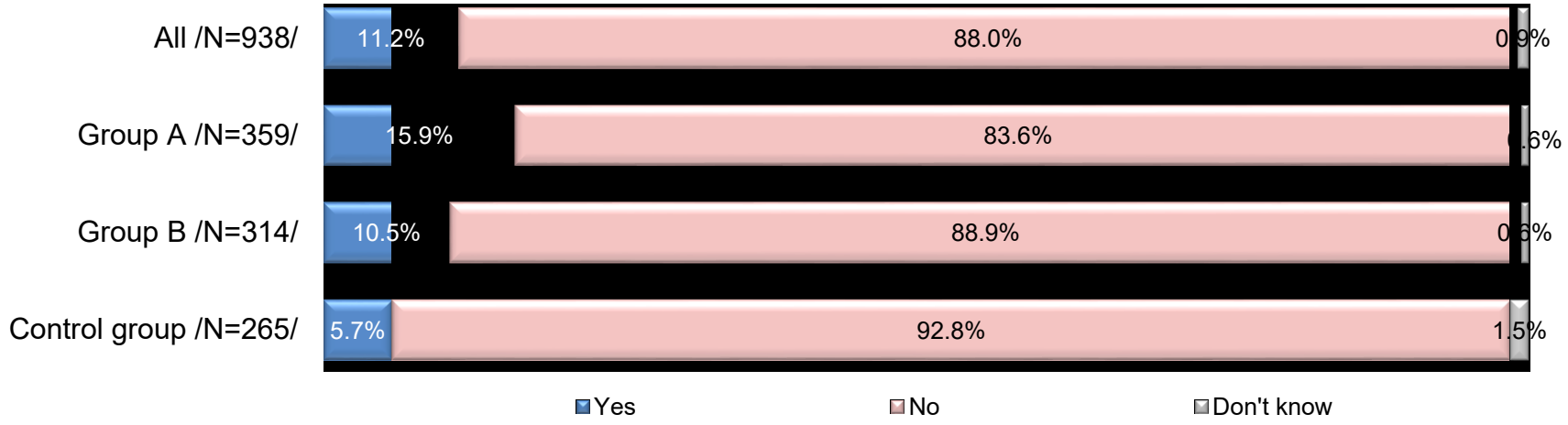
Child's interests and activities

Does your child take interest in/ do any of the following?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Singing	31,8%	32,5%	31,8%	31,1%
Dancing	31,6%	34,5%	31,4%	28,3%
Singing	29,1%	29,7%	26,8%	31,3%
Sports	10,9%	15,8%	7,2%	9,5%
Computers	5,2%	7,6%	2,8%	5,3%
Reading	1,3%	1,8%	1,2%	0,8%
Church scool	0,9%	1,2%	0,8%	0,5%
Languages	0,5%	0,6%	0,2%	0,8%
Playing an instruments	0,4%	0,8%	0,2%	0,3%
Artistic	0,4%	0,4%	0,6%	0,3%
Modeling, mastering, constructing	0,3%	0,2%	0,0%	0,8%
Cooking	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,0%
Hairdressing	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,0%
Plaing with puzzles	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,3%
None	32,9%	28,1%	37,2%	33,6%

Base: All respondents

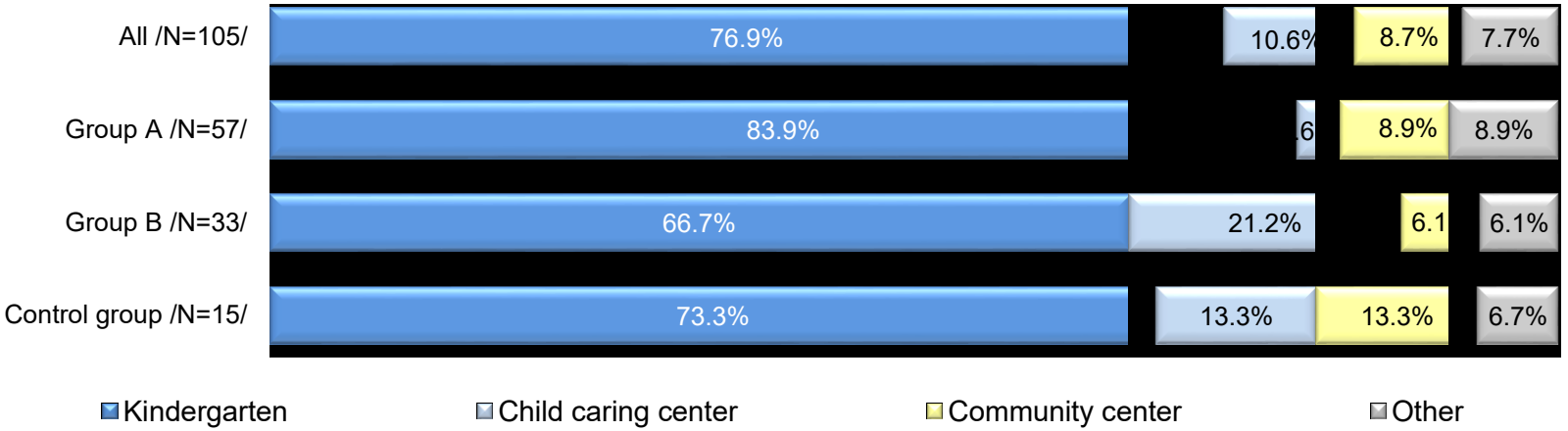
Participating in a course/ club/ study group

In relation to these interests does your child go to some sort of course/ club/ study group



Base: Parents, whose children have taken up different activities

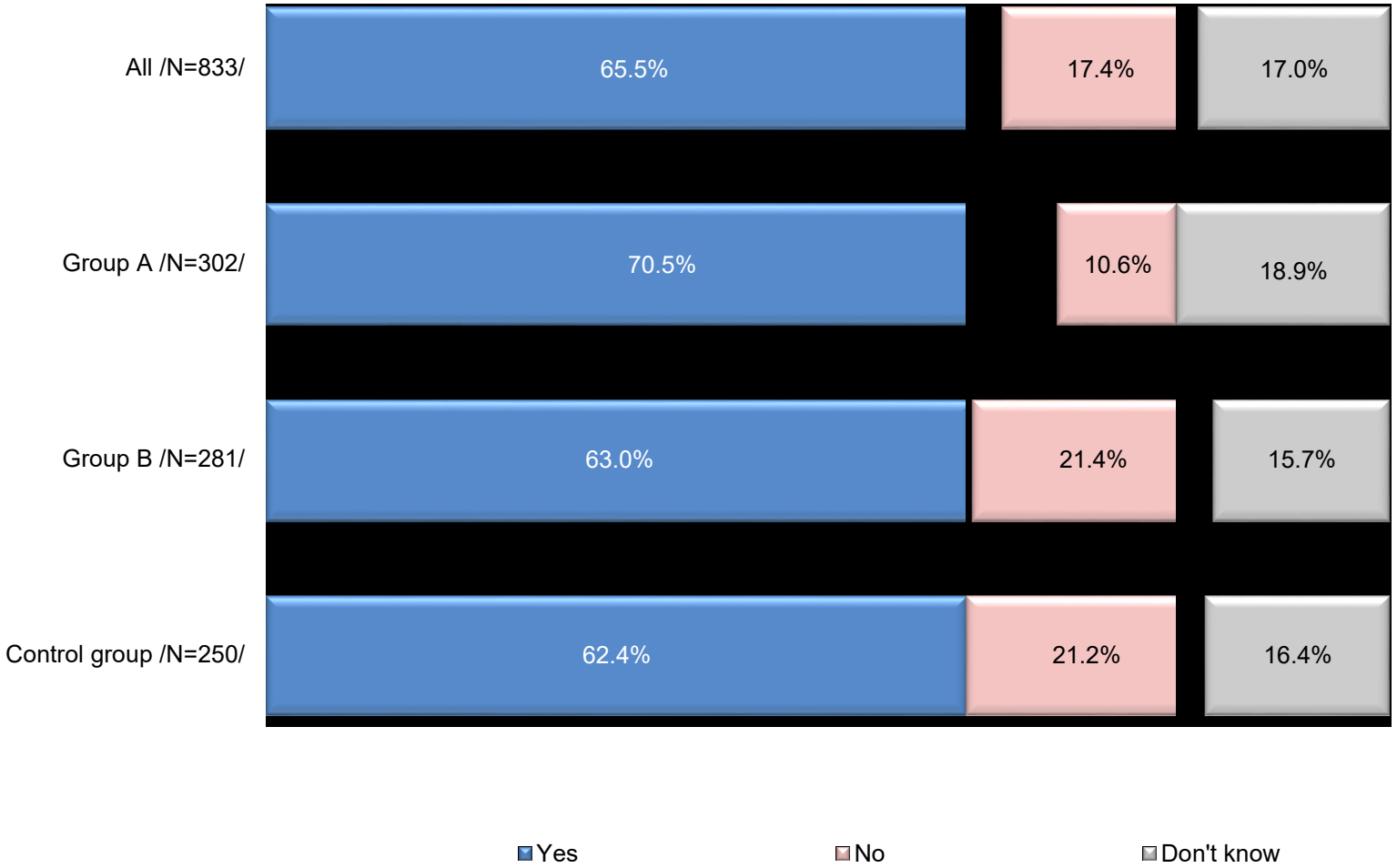
Where does the child go?



Base: Parents, whose children are participating

Participating in a course/ club/ circle

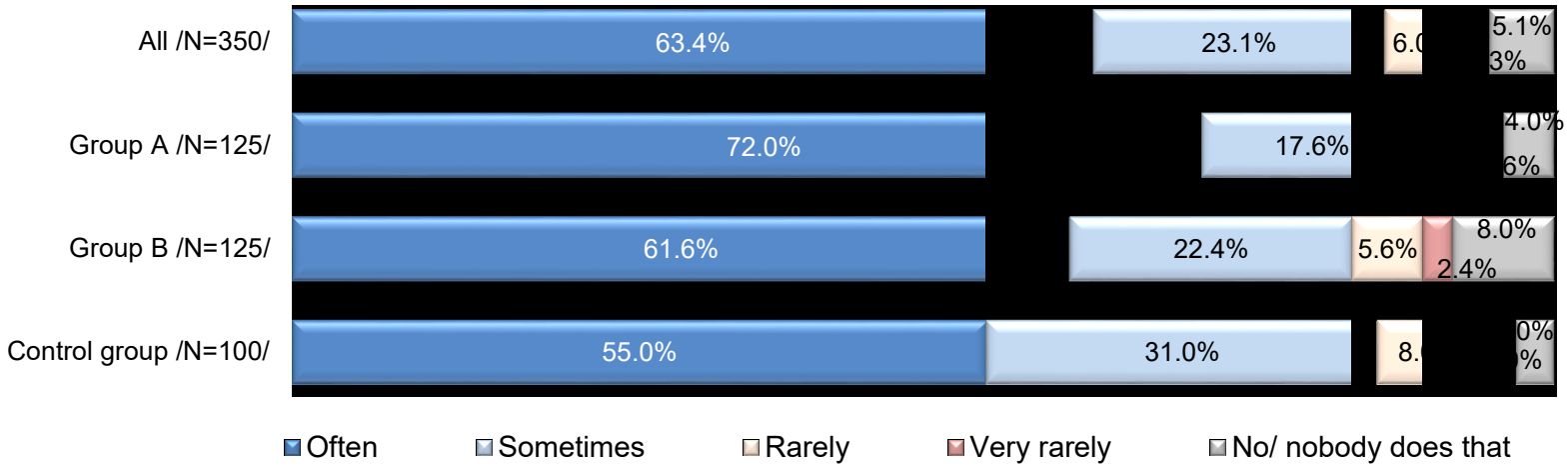
Would you like to sign your child up for a course/ club/ circle?



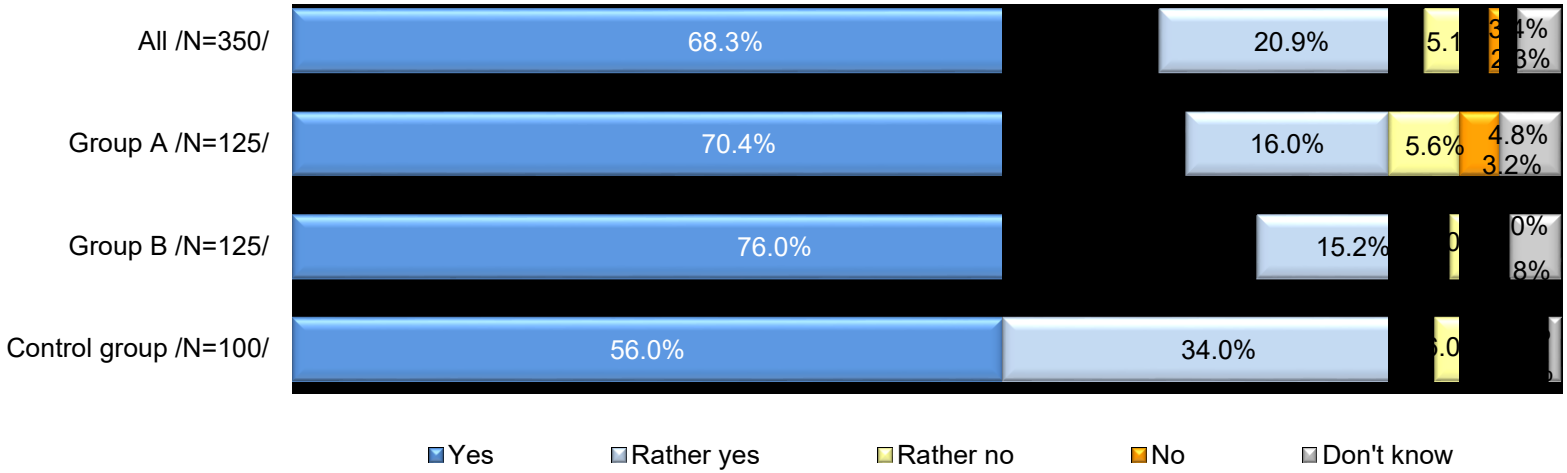
Base: Parents of children who are not enrolled

Children in preschool

Do you prepare your child for school?



Does your child want to go to school?



Parents, whose children are around the age of 6-7

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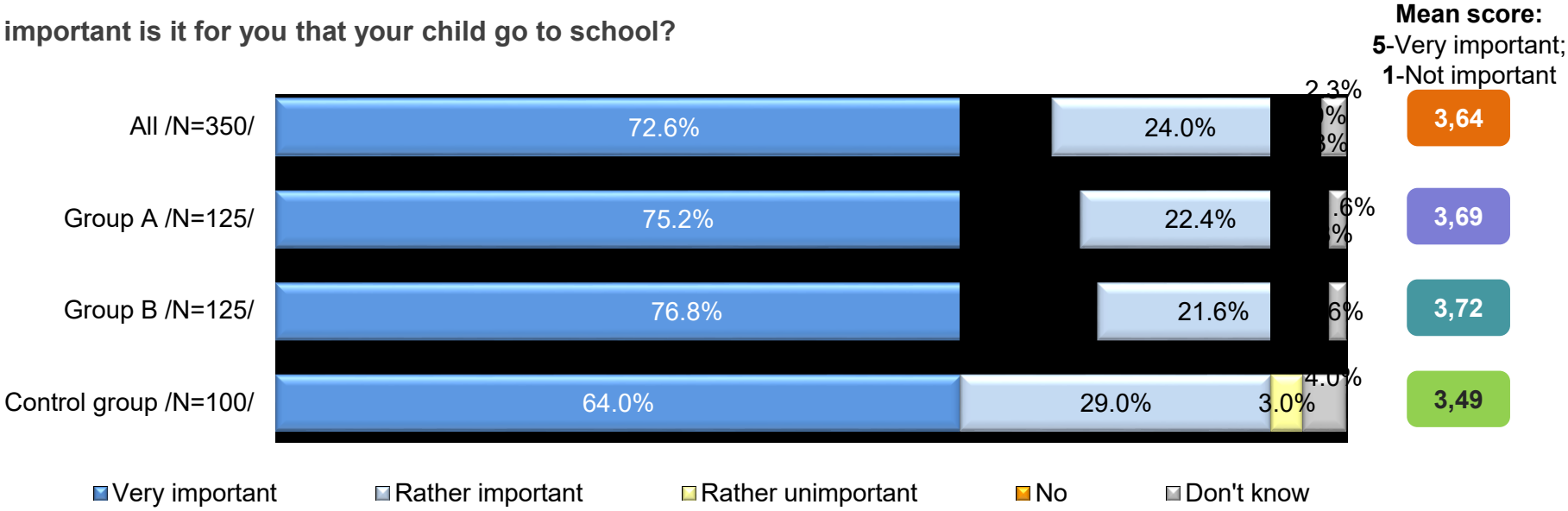
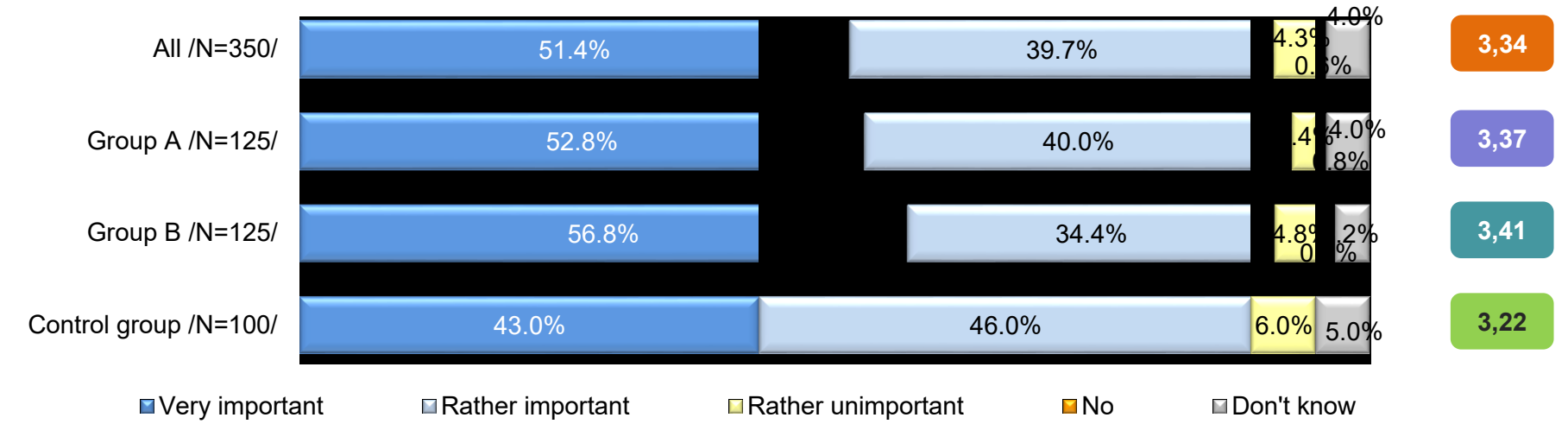
Children in preschool

How important is it for you that your child go to school?



How important is it for you that your child do well in school?



Parents, whose children are around the age of 6-7

SAFETY, HARMFUL HABITS AND VIOLENCE

Smoking and drinking in front of the child at home

Does anyone smoke in front of the child when at home?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes, every day	48,1%	43,4%	57,0%	43,0%
Yes, couple of times a week	10,0%	10,4%	8,8%	11,0%
Yes, couple of times a month	1,7%	2,2%	0,8%	2,3%
Yes, less often	8,5%	10,4%	5,6%	9,8%
No	31,6%	33,6%	27,8%	34,0%

Does anyone drink in front of the child when at home?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes, every day	5,8%	4,8%	6,8%	5,8%
Yes, couple of times a week	14,3%	12,8%	14,4%	16,0%
Yes, couple of times a month	14,0%	12,2%	13,4%	17,0%
Yes, less often	25,0%	26,0%	24,8%	24,0%
No	40,7%	44,0%	40,2%	37,3%
Don't know	0,2%	0,2%	0,4%	0,0%

Base: All respondents

Swearing, quarrels and violence in front of the child at home

Is your child exposed to inappropriate words or swearing when at home?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes, every day	4,4%	4,0%	4,4%	4,8%
Yes, couple of times a week	8,7%	6,4%	12,0%	7,5%
Yes, couple of times a month	7,6%	5,2%	8,8%	9,3%
Yes, less often	20,0%	17,2%	25,4%	16,8%
No	58,6%	66,0%	49,2%	61,3%
Don't know	0,6%	1,2%	0,2%	0,5%

Does your child witness quarrels when at home?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes, every day	2,0%	2,0%	1,6%	2,5%
Yes, couple of times a week	8,1%	5,0%	12,0%	7,0%
Yes, couple of times a month	8,5%	7,6%	8,8%	9,3%
Yes, less often	26,6%	25,0%	29,8%	24,5%
No	54,4%	59,4%	47,6%	56,5%
Don't know	0,5%	1,0%	0,2%	0,3%

Does your child witness violence between the people in the household when at home?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes, every day	0,2%	0,2%	0,4%	0,0%
Yes, couple of times a week	1,8%	1,2%	3,0%	1,0%
Yes, couple of times a month	3,1%	1,4%	5,0%	2,8%
Yes, less often	11,1%	7,2%	15,0%	11,0%
No	83,1%	88,8%	76,6%	84,0%
Don't know	0,8%	1,2%	0,0%	1,3%

Base: All respondents

Going out alone

Does your child go out alone – on the street, in the neighborhood?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
No, I don't let it go anywhere without an adult	36,4%	53,0%	23,8%	31,5%
Yes, but only around the house	29,1%	21,0%	39,2%	26,8%
Yes, but only in the yard	25,5%	18,6%	30,6%	27,8%
Yes, but only in the neighborhood	15,3%	9,0%	21,0%	16,0%
Yes, with other children/ brothers/ sisters (underage)	7,3%	8,0%	8,4%	5,0%
Yes, to the neighbors	7,2%	4,8%	10,4%	6,3%
Yes, everywhere	6,1%	4,4%	6,4%	8,0%
Yes, with other children/ brothers/ sisters (of age)	3,4%	4,8%	4,0%	1,0%

Base: All respondents

Reasons for not allowing the child to go out alone

Why don't you let your child go out alone?	All N=555	Group A N=288	Group B N=137	Control group N=130
Too young	62,7%	61,5%	61,8%	66,4%
Dangerous neighborhood	31,7%	31,9%	35,8%	27,0%
I fear it might get hurt because of its disabilities	5,2%	5,2%	3,3%	7,4%
Immobile, health issues	2,3%	3,0%	1,6%	1,6%
Fear of dogs, trains	2,1%	1,5%	3,3%	2,5%
A lot of dogs	1,4%	1,1%	3,3%	0,0%
I fear people won't accept it on account of its disabilities	0,8%	0,7%	1,6%	0,0%
Doesn't want to go out alone, it's afraid	0,8%	1,1%	0,8%	0,0%
Other	0,6%	1,1%	0,0%	0,0%

Base: Respondents, who don't let their child go out without supervision

Do you consider your neighborhood dangerous?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	15,9%	25,4%	9,4%	12,3%
Yes, sometimes	21,6%	23,4%	23,8%	16,8%
No	58,2%	47,2%	62,2%	67,0%
Can't decide	4,2%	4,0%	4,6%	4,0%

Base: All respondents

Lack of attention to the child

Do you sometimes not know where the child is?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	7,3%	5,0%	10,2%	6,5%
No	92,4%	94,8%	89,2%	93,3%
Don't know	0,4%	0,2%	0,6%	0,3%

Do you leave your child at home with other children (no adults)?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	25,8%	23,8%	26,6%	27,3%
No	74,1%	76,0%	73,4%	72,5%
Don't know	0,1%	0,2%	0,0%	0,3%

Do you leave your child alone at home – when you have something to do?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes	10,5%	7,2%	10,8%	14,3%
No	89,1%	92,4%	88,8%	85,5%
Don't know	0,4%	0,4%	0,4%	0,3%

Base: All respondents

Early involvement of the child in the labor process

In the past year did the child have to work – to help you in your job or to do something for money?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Yes, often	0,5%	0,4%	0,8%	0,3%
Yes, sometimes	1,4%	1,4%	1,2%	1,5%
Yes, rarely	1,4%	0,2%	2,4%	1,8%
No	92,9%	95,2%	88,4%	95,5%
Don't know	3,9%	2,8%	7,2%	1,0%

Base: All respondents

FAMILIARITY AND PARTICIPATION IN PARENTAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

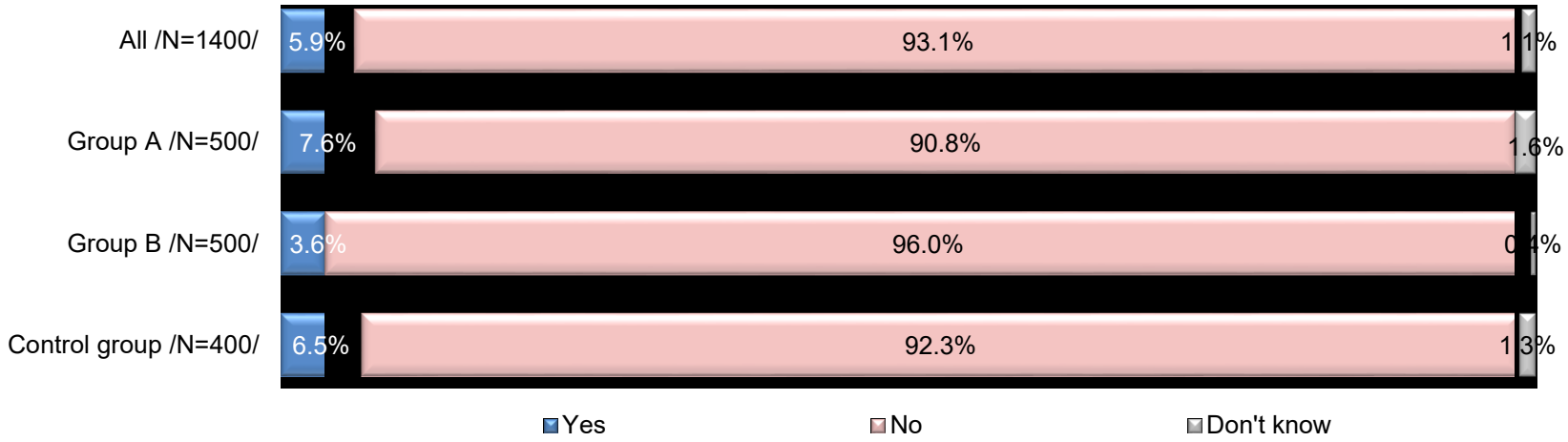
Sources of information about raising children

Where do you learn how to take care of your children?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Self-learing	68,0%	71,0%	61,0%	73,0%
From mother/ father/ grandparents	50,1%	49,0%	53,4%	47,5%
From friends with children	15,6%	18,0%	12,6%	16,3%
From TV	4,8%	6,0%	1,8%	7,0%
From newspapers/ magazines	3,0%	5,2%	1,6%	2,0%
From the internet	2,1%	3,6%	1,8%	0,8%
From experience	2,1%	1,4%	2,4%	2,5%
From books/ specialized literature	0,7%	1,4%	0,6%	0,0%
Teacher/ doctor/ specialist	0,6%	1,2%	0,4%	0,3%
Sisters/ brothers/ relatives/ mother-in-law	0,4%	0,4%	0,2%	0,5%
Don't know	0,7%	0,0%	1,0%	1,3%

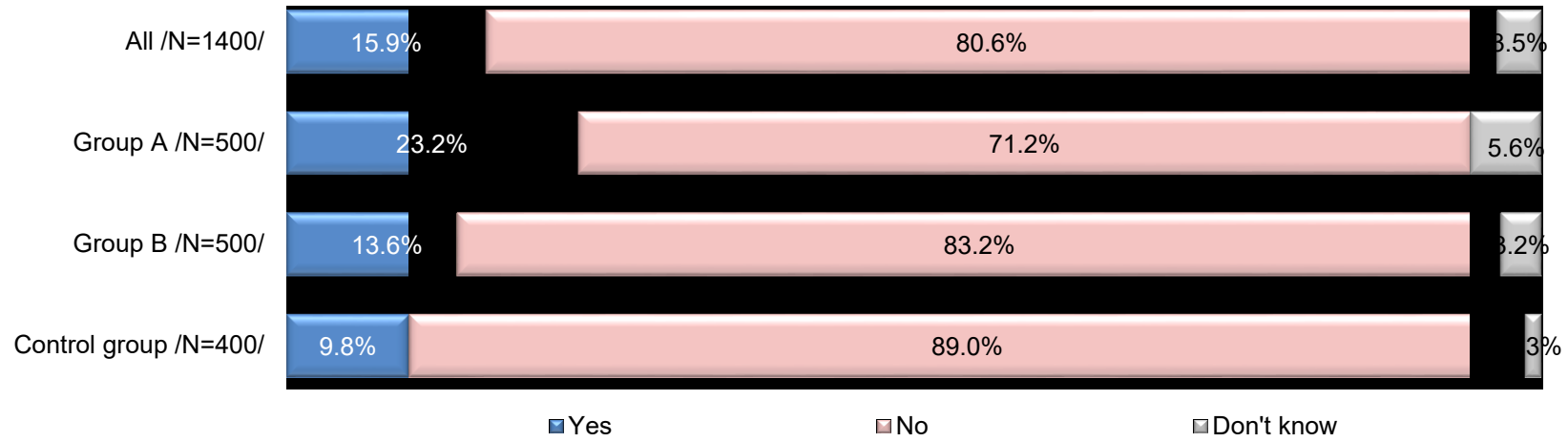
Base: All respondents

Discussing child upbringing with a social worker

In the past year have you discussed raising your children with a social worker?



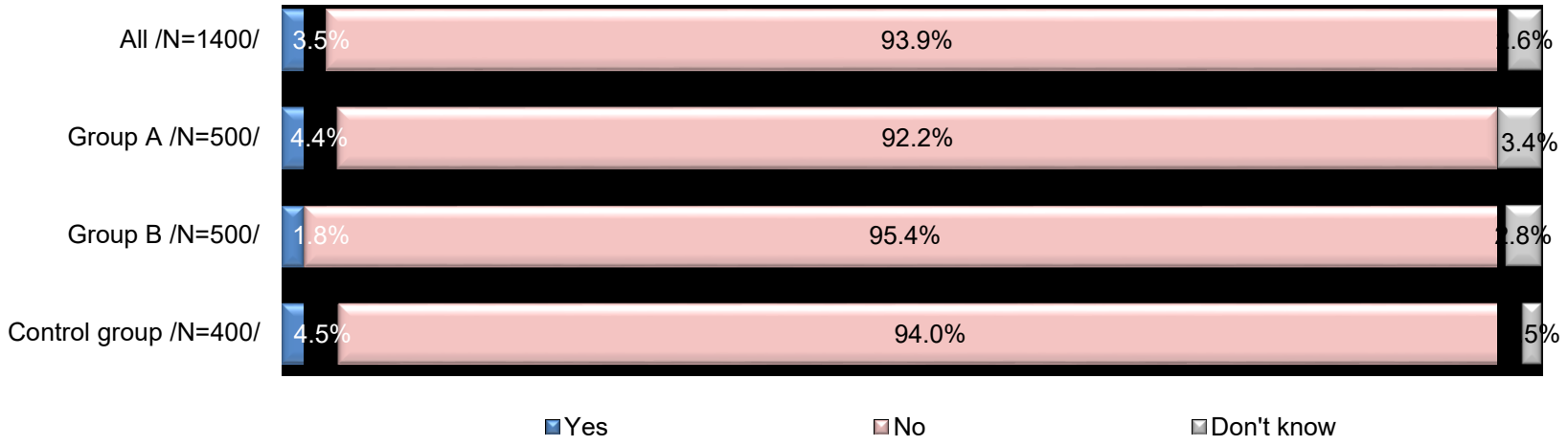
Have you heard about courses or programs for developing parental skills?



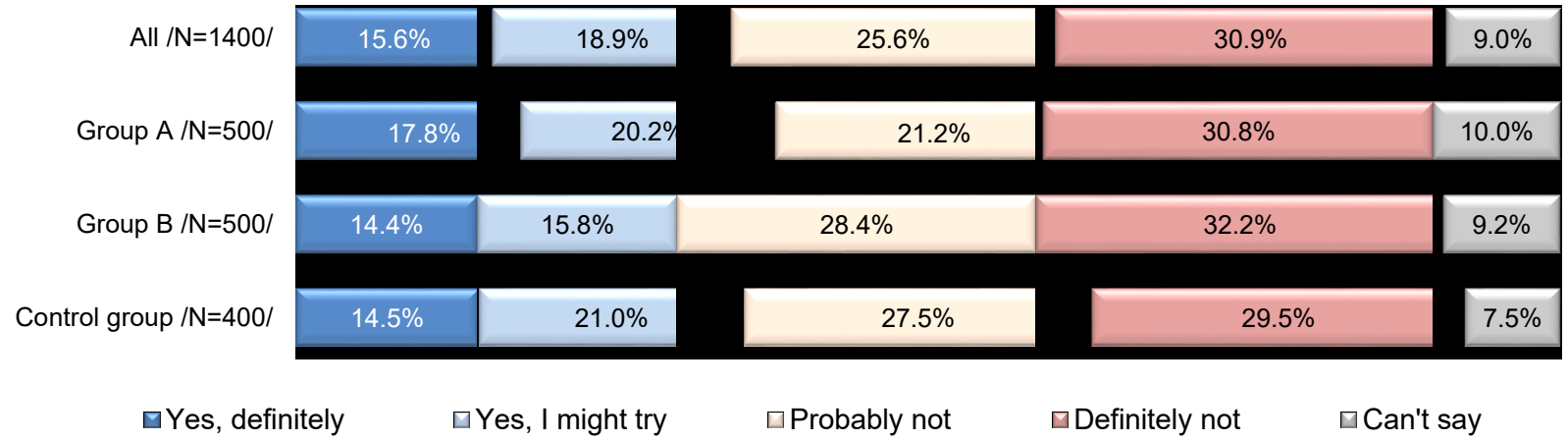
Base: All respondents

Participating in educational programs

Have you ever participated in such programs?



Would you participate in such programs?



Base: All respondents

Reasons for not participating in educational programs

Why wouldn't you participate in such programs?	All N=917	Group A N=310	Group B N=349	Control group N=258
No need - I'm a good parent	46,2%	44,2%	47,3%	47,3%
Lack of interest	12,3%	13,9%	11,7%	11,2%
No time - busy	23,8%	21,0%	27,8%	21,7%
Illiteracy	0,5%	0,0%	0,3%	1,6%
Child's individuality	0,3%	0,6%	0,0%	0,4%
No point, nothing new	0,2%	0,3%	0,0%	0,4%
Health issues	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,4%
Financial troubles	0,1%	0,3%	0,0%	0,0%
I don't want to	0,1%	0,0%	0,0%	0,4%
Can't say	16,2%	19,7%	12,9%	16,7%

Base: Parents who wouldn't participate in trainings

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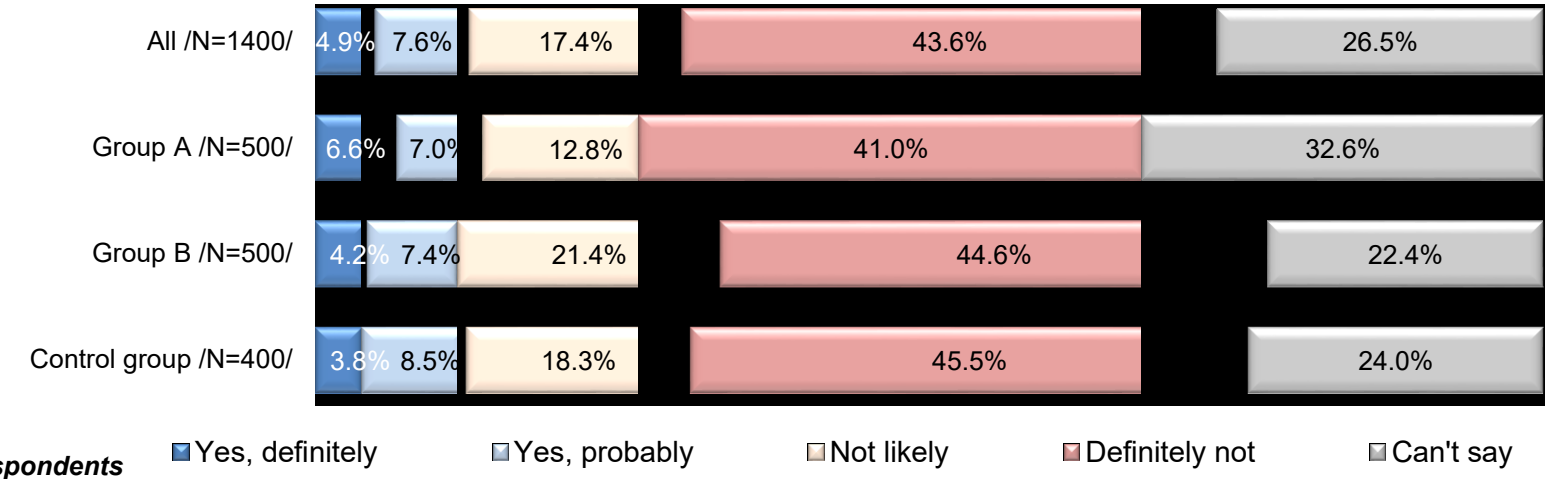
Husband/ partner's participation in educational programs

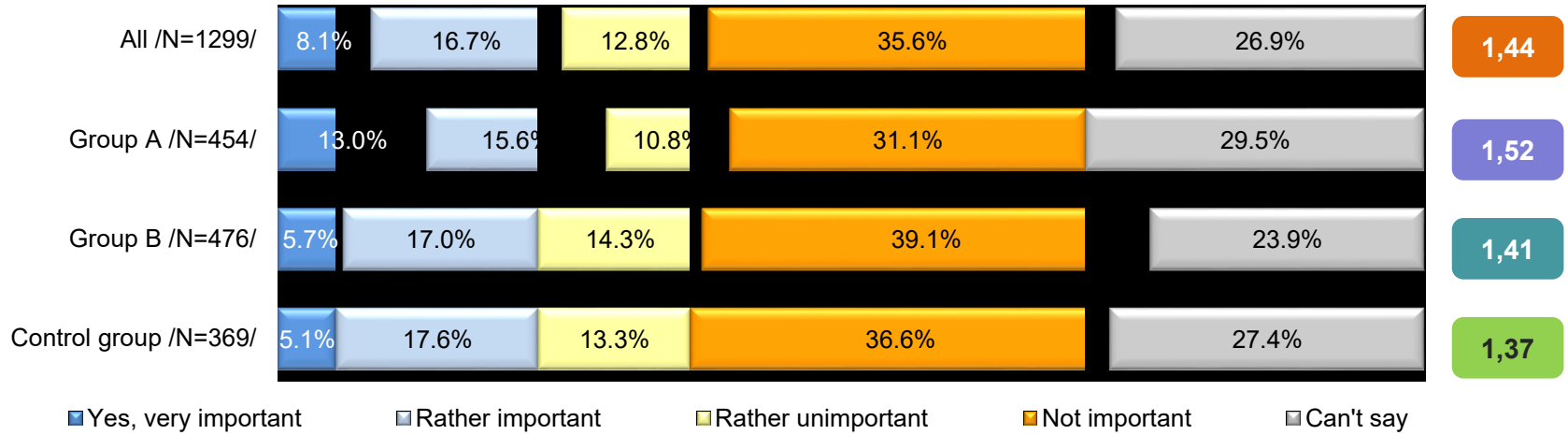
Do you think your husband/ wife/ partner would participate in such programs?



Base: All respondents

Do you consider important that your husband/ wife/ partner participate in such programs?

Mean score:
5-Very important;
1-Not important

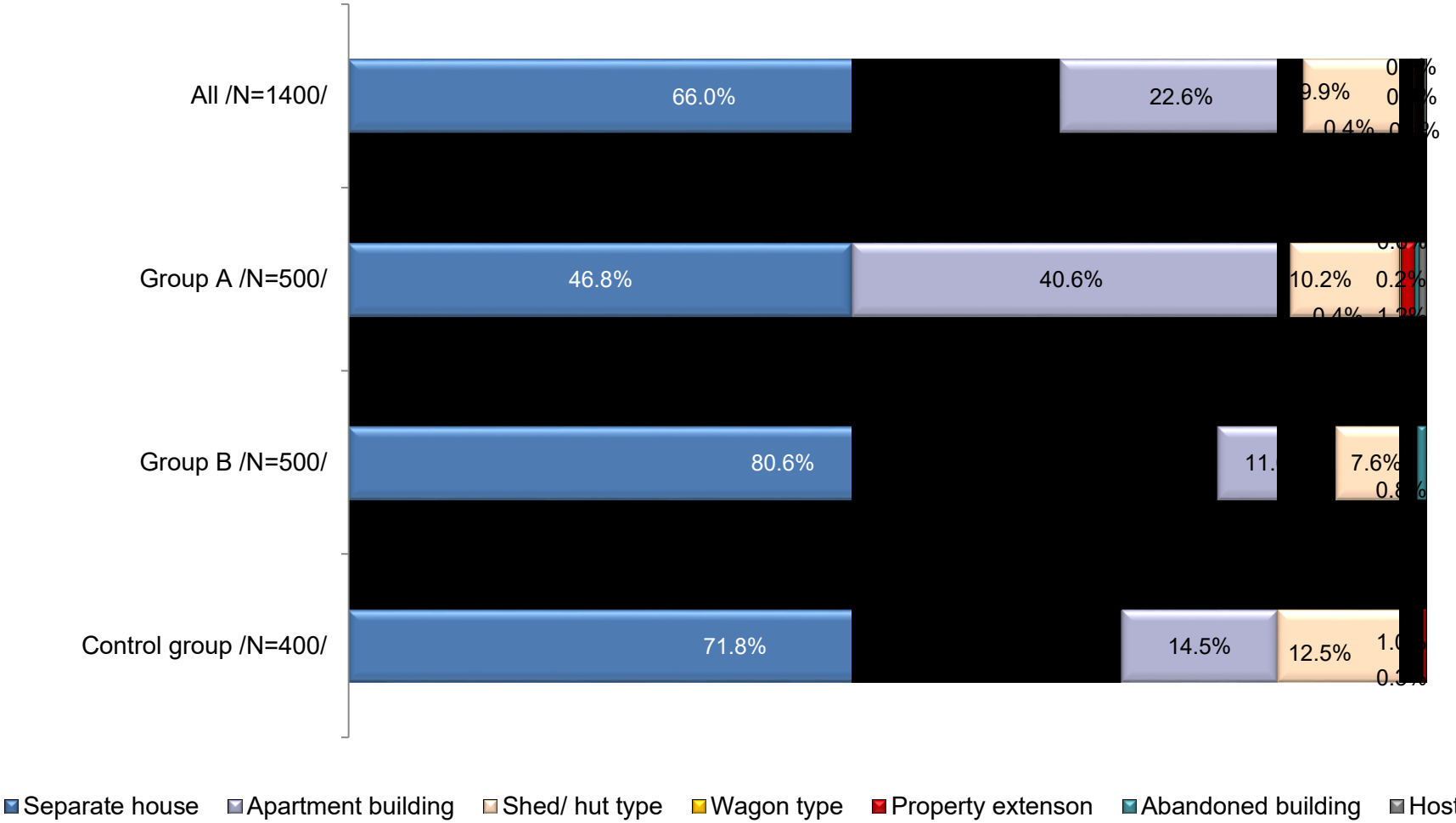


Base: Respondents with spouse/ partner

HOUSEHOLD OBSERVATION

Type of property

What kind of property do you live in?



Base: All respondents

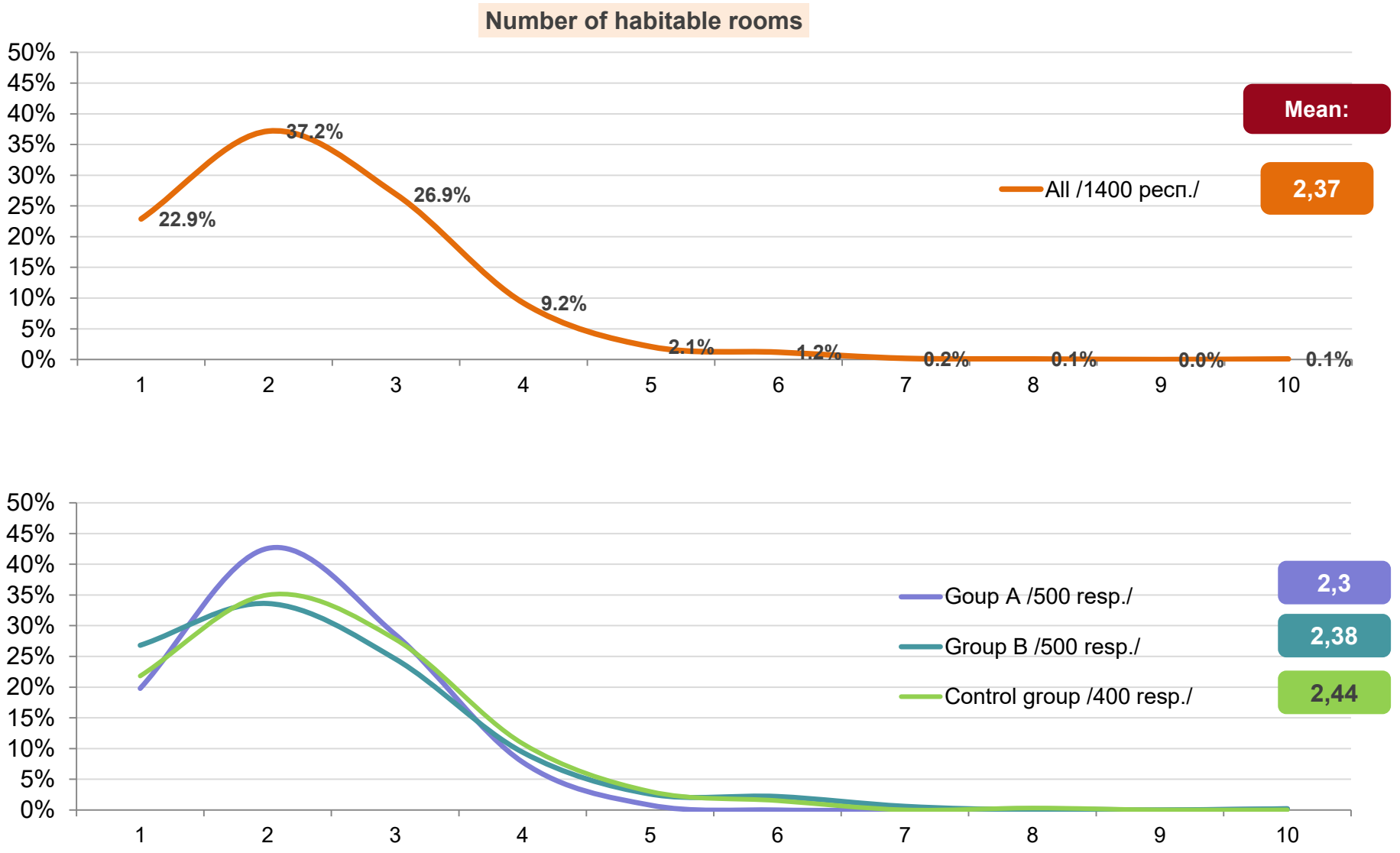
Number of living quarters and number of heating rooms

Number of living quarters (without sanitary facilities and small kitchens)	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
1	22,9%	19,8%	26,8%	21,8%
2	37,2%	42,6%	33,6%	35,0%
3	26,9%	28,6%	24,6%	27,8%
4	9,2%	7,8%	9,4%	10,8%
5	2,1%	0,8%	2,6%	3,0%
6	1,2%	0,0%	2,2%	1,5%
More than 6	0,4%	0,4%	0,4%	0,3%
Mean	2,37	2,3	2,38	2,44

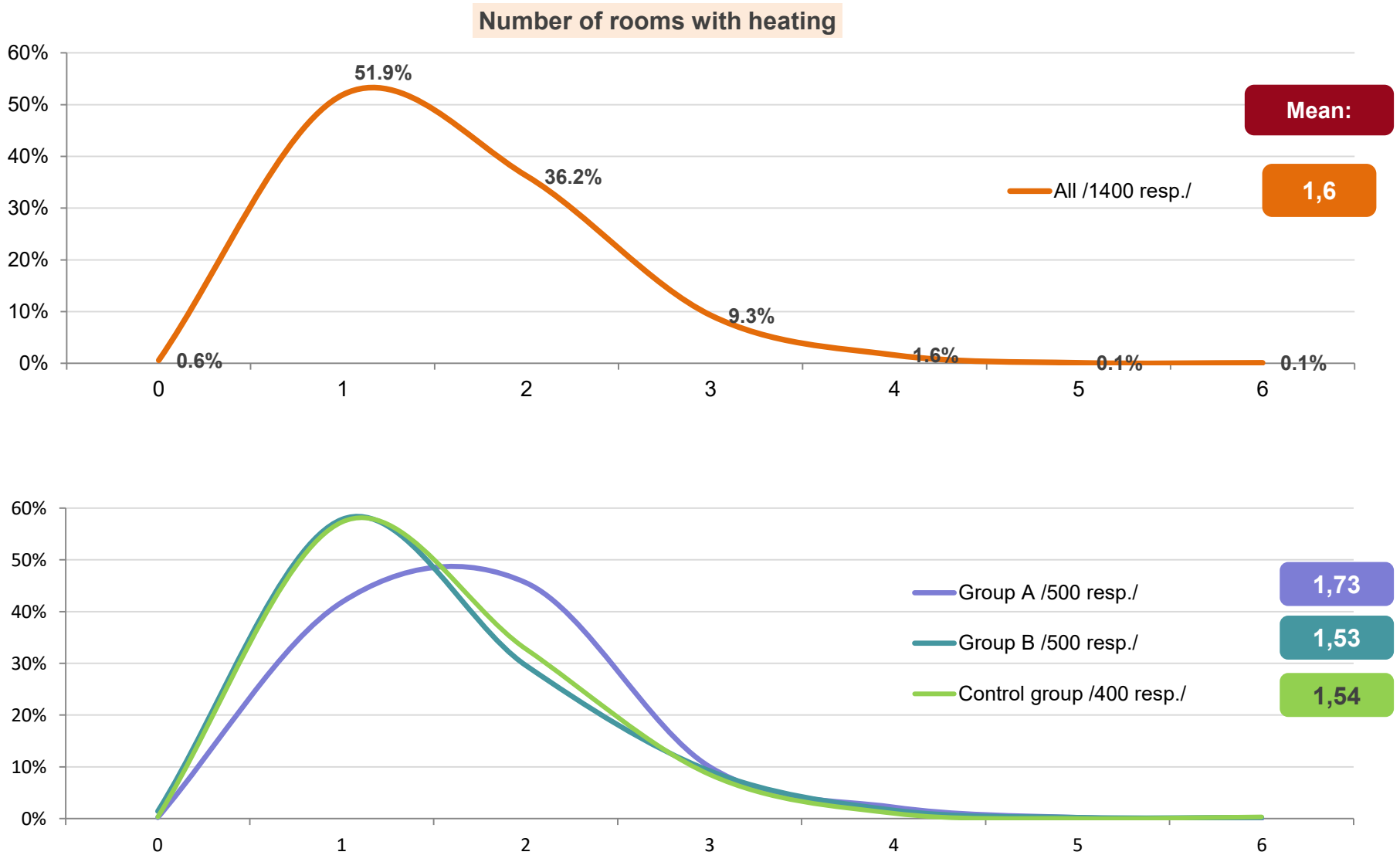
Number of rooms with heating	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
0	0,6%	0,2%	1,4%	0,3%
1	51,9%	41,8%	57,8%	57,3%
2	36,2%	45,6%	29,6%	32,8%
3	9,3%	10,0%	9,2%	8,5%
4	1,6%	2,2%	1,6%	1,0%
5	0,1%	0,2%	0,2%	0,0%
6	0,1%	0,0%	0,2%	0,3%
Mean	1,6	1,73	1,53	1,54

Base: All respondents

Number of habitable rooms (excl. halls, bathrooms and kitchen)?



Number of rooms with heating during the winter



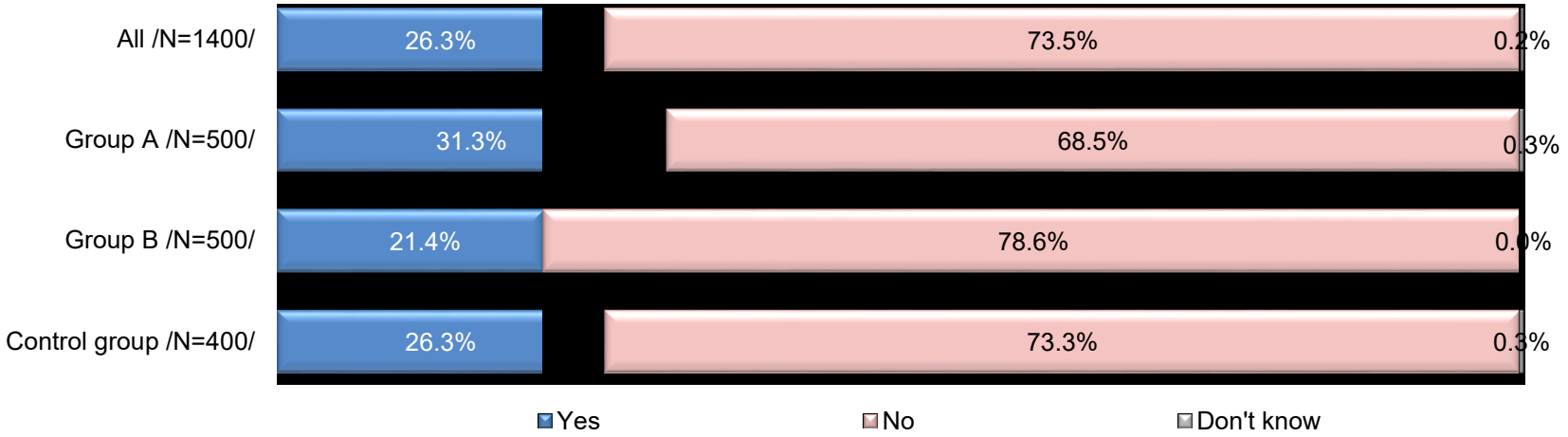
Presence of a children's room and a corner, designed especially for the child

Is there a separate children's room in your home?



Base: All respondents

Is there a corner for the child to play in?



Base: Parents without a separate children's room

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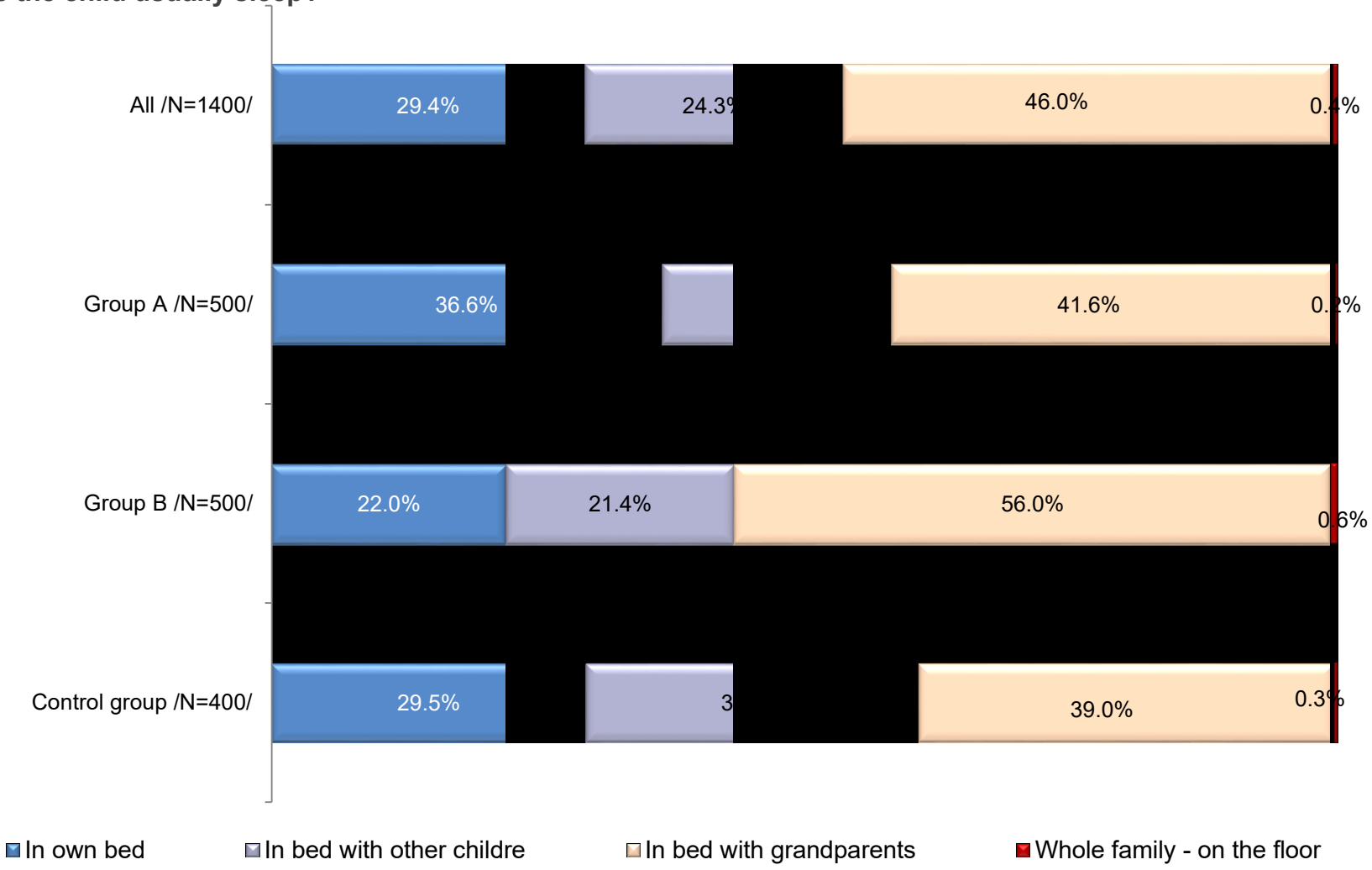
Child's sleeping place

Where does the child usually sleep?



Base: All respondents

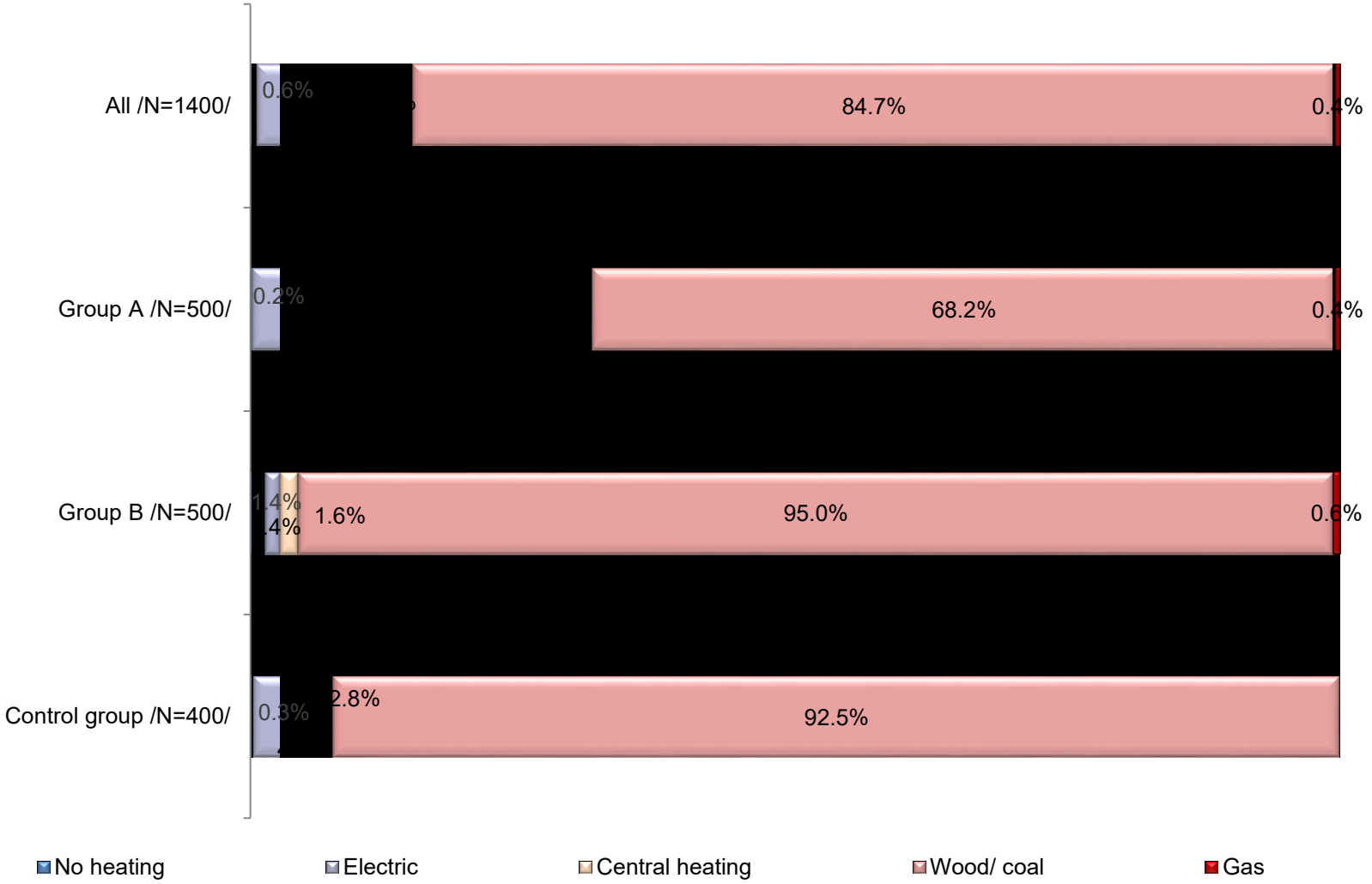
Presence of specific rooms in the household

Are there any of the following in the household?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Tap water on the premise	67,1%	81,0%	57,4%	62,0%
Outdoor toilet	64,6%	46,2%	79,4%	69,0%
Bathroom	50,6%	61,0%	39,4%	51,8%
Tap water in the yard	50,2%	32,4%	60,0%	60,3%
Toilet on the premise	37,9%	55,6%	23,0%	34,3%
No answer	0,9%	0,4%	1,6%	0,8%

Base: All respondents

Main type of heating device in the household

What is your household's main heating device?



Base: All respondents

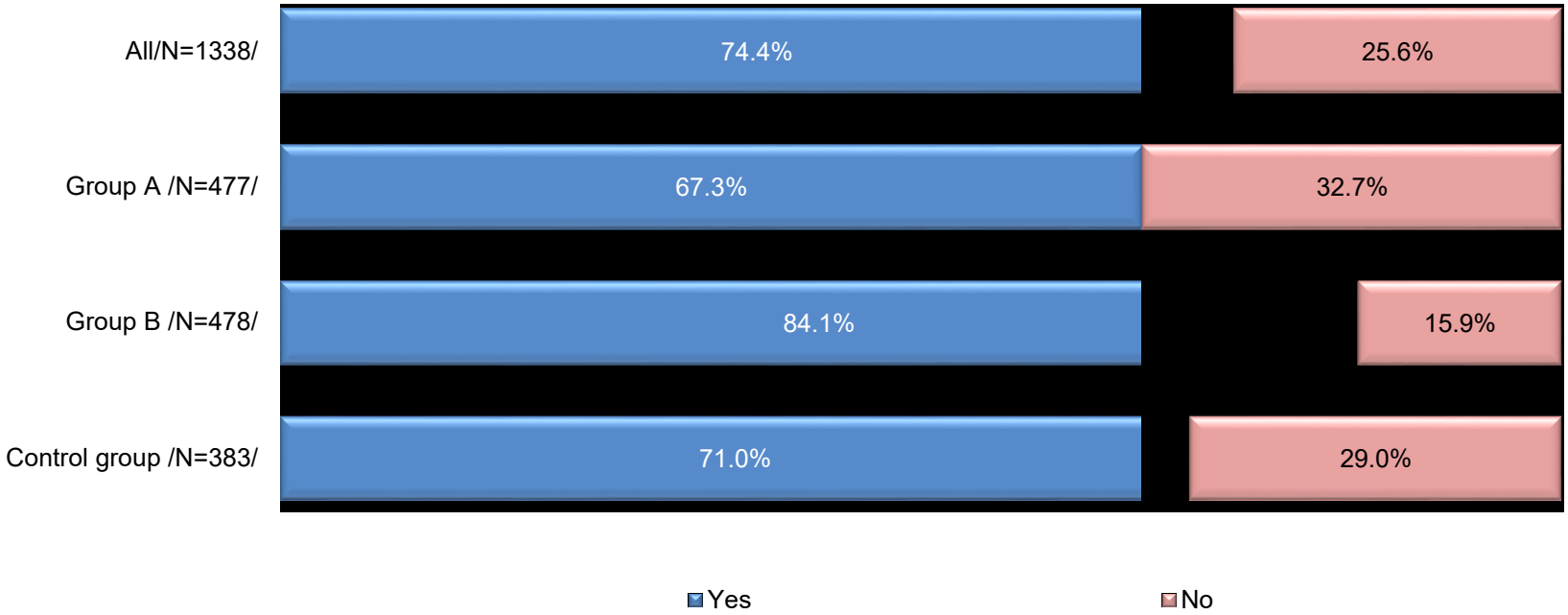
Ownership in the household

Which of the following do you (or your family) own and use at the moment?	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Working TV	95,4%	95,2%	95,4%	95,8%
Table	91,4%	93,0%	90,2%	90,8%
Chairs (incl. stools and couches)	86,1%	87,2%	85,8%	85,0%
Toys	77,8%	85,6%	71,0%	76,5%
Cabinets, bookcases, wardrobe	77,4%	85,2%	70,4%	76,5%
Mobile phone	74,1%	79,8%	73,2%	68,3%
Cable/ digital/ satelite TV	66,9%	72,6%	61,4%	66,5%
Pens/ crayons/ something to draw with	56,5%	67,8%	46,0%	55,5%
Children's books	54,8%	63,0%	47,8%	53,3%
PC/ laptop	28,5%	38,2%	22,6%	23,8%
Internet access	23,1%	33,2%	17,2%	17,8%
Stereo or other surround sound system	16,4%	18,0%	12,4%	19,3%
No answer	0,6%	0,0%	1,6%	0,0%

Base: All respondents

TV location in the household

Is there any TV receiver in the child's bedroom?



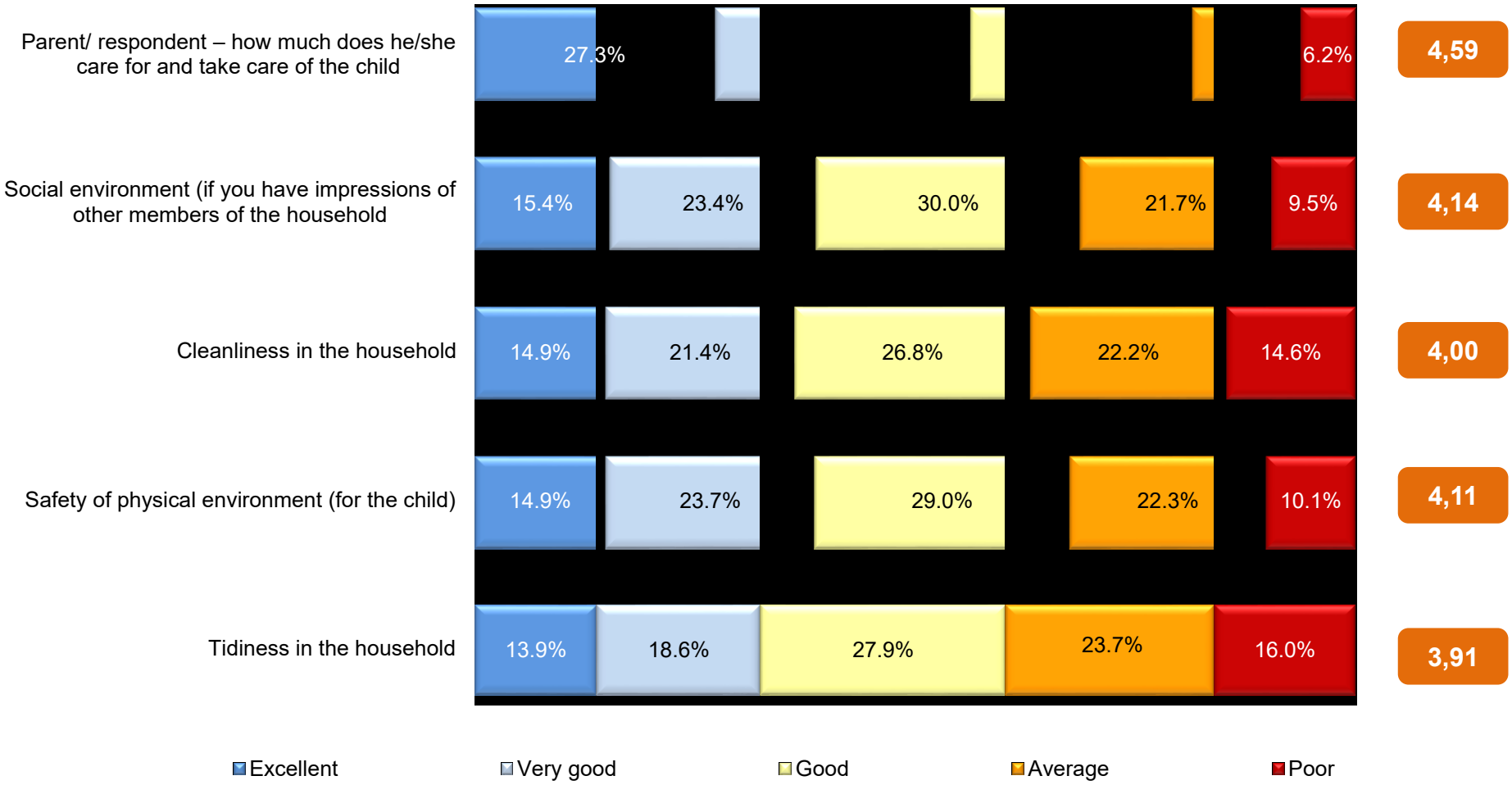
Base: All respondents who own a TV receiver

INTERVIEWER'S OBSERVATIONS

Conditions during the interview

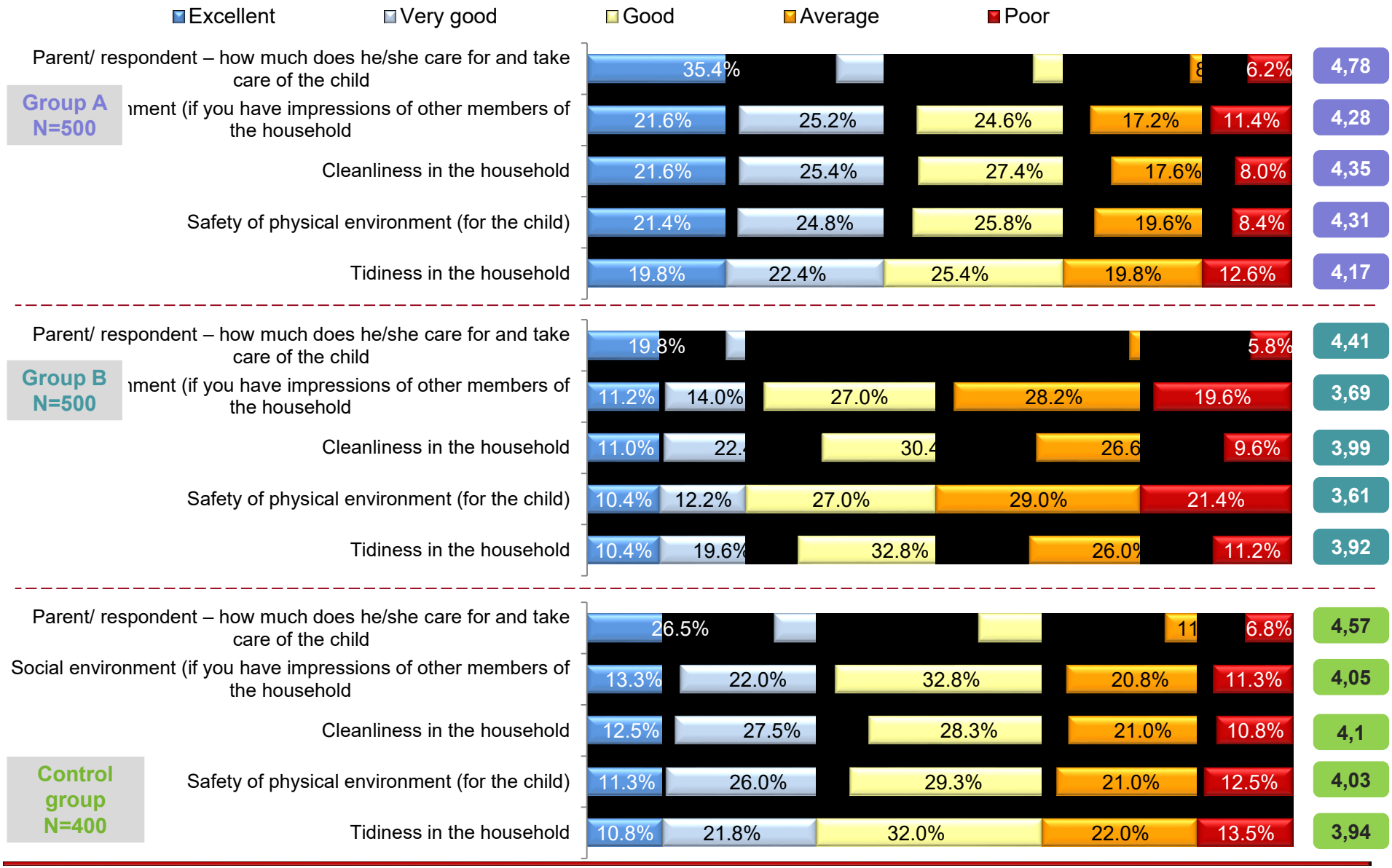
Evaluate the living conditions during the interview

Mean score:
6-Excellent; **2**-Poor



Base: All respondents who own a TV receiver

Conditions during the interview



Other impressions of the household

	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
TV is working non stop	36,6%	38,8%	39,0%	31,0%
The room was well ventilated	36,1%	40,6%	28,2%	40,5%
Smoking in the living room, cigarette butts, reeked of cigarettes	19,6%	15,2%	24,8%	18,8%
Guests, outside people	19,2%	16,6%	21,8%	19,3%
Clean and tidy household	11,6%	14,8%	10,8%	8,8%
Lack of furnishing	10,4%	13,6%	11,4%	5,0%
Unclean household	6,9%	4,2%	9,4%	7,3%
Poor living conditions	5,5%	5,8%	6,2%	4,3%
A lot of people living in one room (crowded)	5,4%	6,0%	7,4%	2,3%
Calm, welcoming environment	5,2%	6,4%	3,8%	5,5%
Small dwelling (house), close	4,6%	7,0%	4,2%	2,3%
Good living conditions	4,5%	5,4%	4,0%	4,0%
Extreme poverty	3,9%	3,2%	5,4%	3,0%
Stuffiness, unventilated	3,1%	3,4%	3,6%	2,3%
Very messy, unordered	2,9%	2,2%	3,2%	3,3%
Other	11,1%	12,8%	12,2%	7,0%
No answer	6,7%	6,6%	7,8%	5,5%

Base: All respondents

Impressions of the parent

	All N=1400	Group A N=500	Group B N=500	Control group N=400
Understood the questions and gave meaningful answers	66,6%	71,0%	59,2%	70,3%
Truthful	66,1%	67,4%	63,8%	67,3%
Concerned and attentive	59,1%	69,4%	52,4%	54,5%
The parent was embracing the child during the interview	15,8%	19,4%	11,0%	17,3%
Poverty	4,7%	5,2%	6,0%	2,5%
The parent was nervous, restless, was impatient toward the child	4,1%	4,0%	5,0%	3,3%
Grandparents mainly look after the child	3,4%	3,8%	3,4%	2,8%
Love and care for the children	2,8%	4,2%	3,0%	0,8%
Good family environment	2,4%	3,6%	2,2%	1,3%
Mother doesn't know Bulgarian.	1,8%	3,0%	1,2%	1,0%
Concerned parents of disabled child	1,2%	2,2%	1,2%	0,0%
Uneducated, illiterate, do not understand the issues	1,1%	1,4%	1,4%	0,5%
Not sincere	1,1%	1,6%	1,4%	0,0%
No concern for children	1,1%	0,6%	1,0%	1,8%
Other	7,6%	8,4%	9,0%	5,0%
No answer	1,1%	1,4%	0,8%	1,0%

Base: All respondents