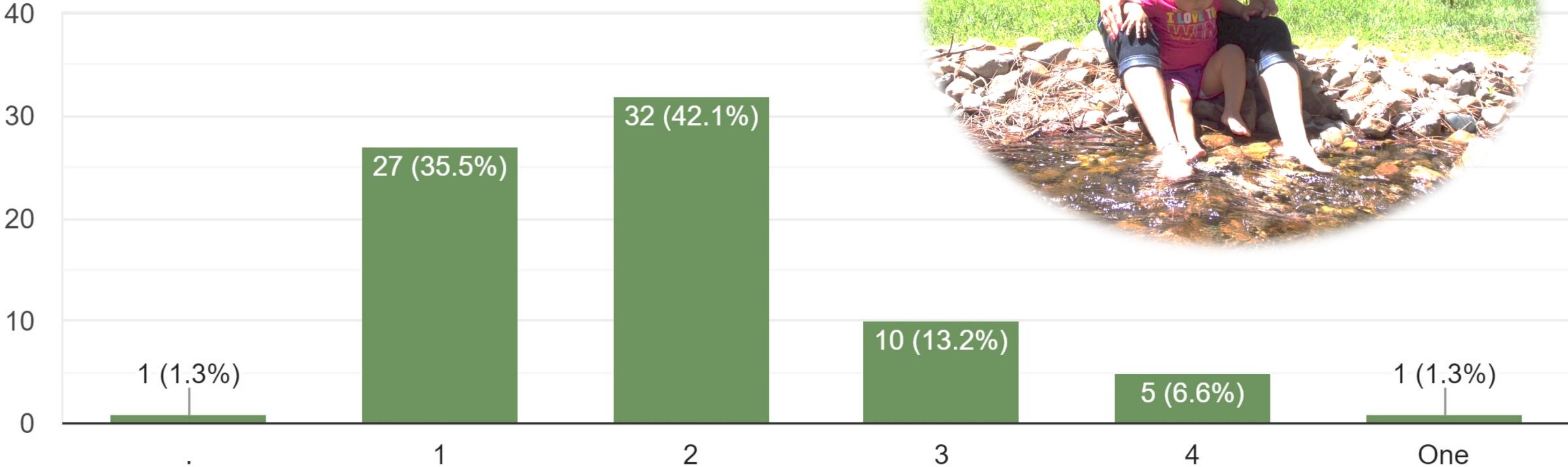


Grandparents/Kin Raising Children Advisory Council of Northern New Mexico

2021-22 Needs Assessment Results *(78 total)*

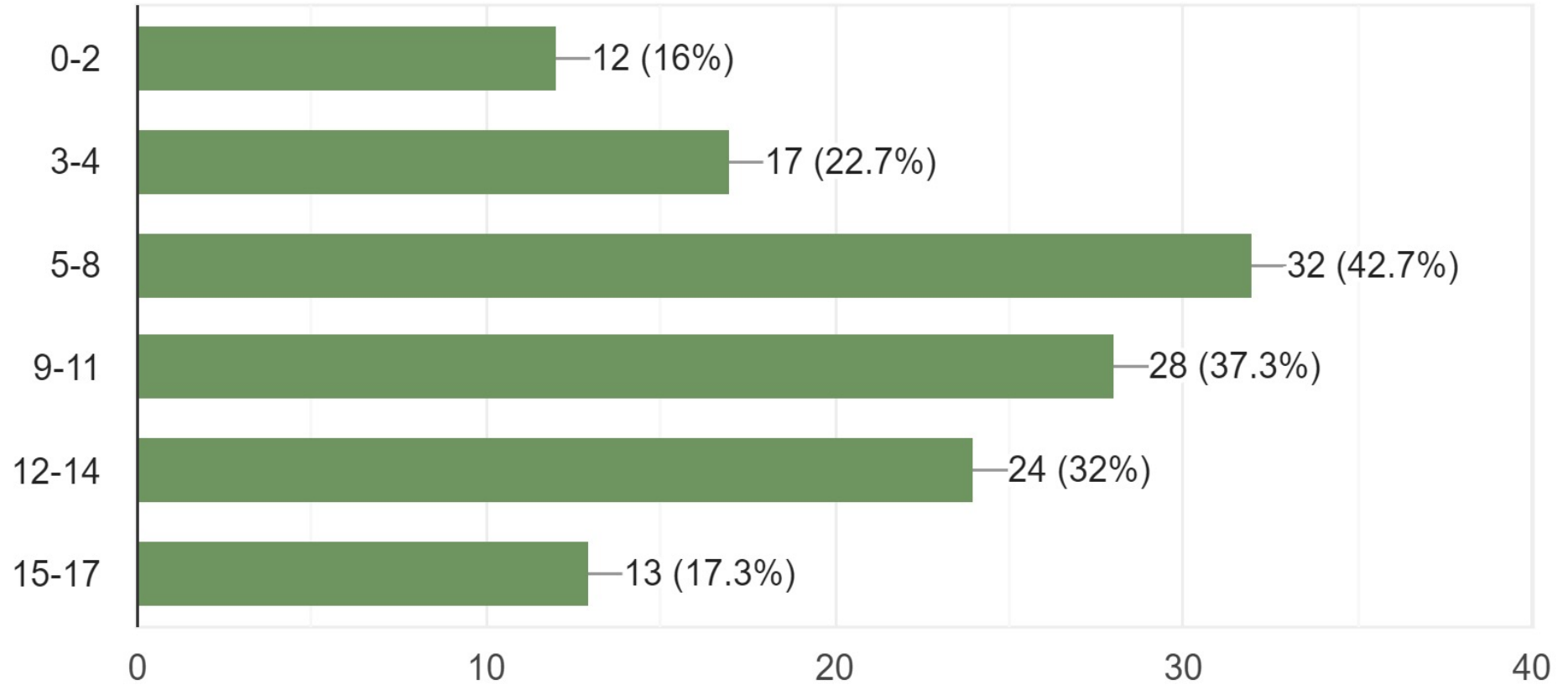
Number of children in your care:

76 responses



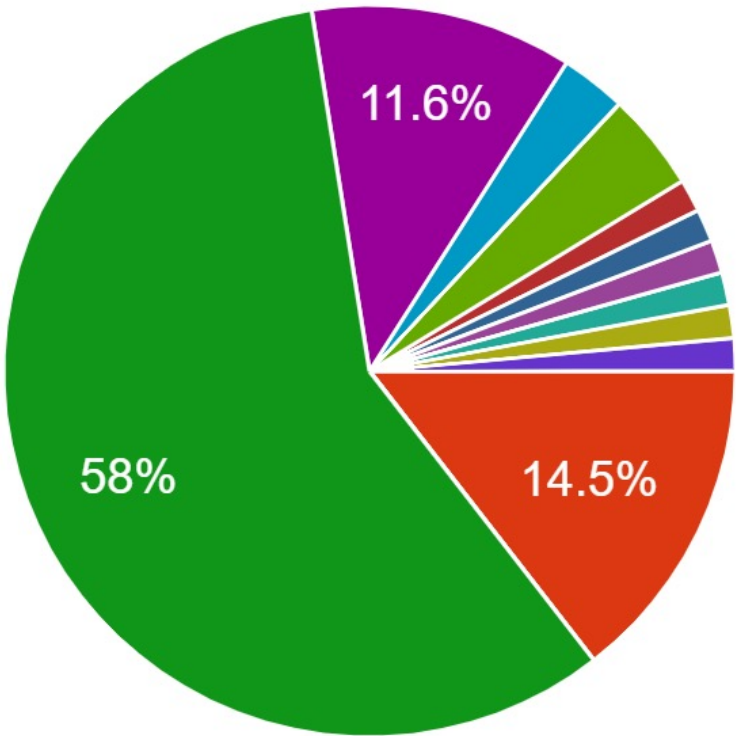
Ages of children under your care:

75 responses



What is the legal status of the relationship with your grandchild/grandchildren?

69 responses



- Relative Foster Care
- Adoption
- Open or cooperative adoption
- Guardianship
- Legal Custody
- Consent or power of attorney
- No legal relationship
- Don't know or uncertain

My daughter was staying, living with me. She had her son with her and then she left and didn't come back.

Full guardianship-parents have no rights to the kids

If other, please state the other legal status of the relationship with your grandchild/kin?

My grandsons were co-parented by me and my son Dennis, but he passed away 6 months ago.

**living
with
me**

**Permanent
legal and
physical
guardianship
from Santa
Clara Pueblo**

Taking them to doctors if ill or appointments, dentist, buying them clothes and what they need. My 14 year old grandson needs a lot of things being that he is in sports and growing up. He has a lot of needs

**father
helps or
keeps 2
year old.**

We care for the children 80% of the time, with one parent living close to us and offering help 30% the other parent take them 2 nights a week

Judge sent girls back to the same abusive mom. Mom never went to pick up child from babysitter. After months Las Cumbres sent me to Pegasus. Went to court, got guardianship but not allowed adoption. 4 years later..no mom!

they just stayed with me when the dad dad. Their mom, my daughter, helps me.

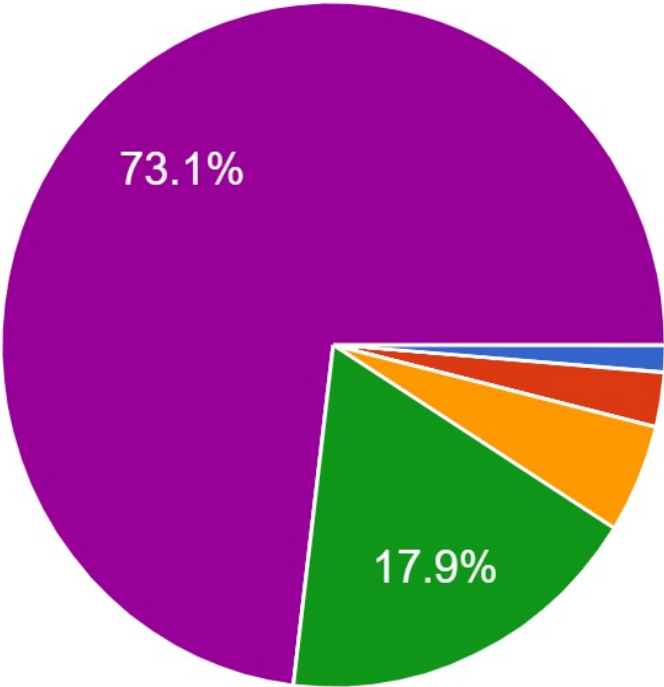
Do not have guardianship, hoping for the best. We are supporting the only way we know how. We are supporting where our son cannot be present.

I am watching my cousins baby. She just left him and we took him in. I have 3 kids so one more was ok

**just stepped
in to be of
support for
my son**

How long have you been responsible for your grandchild/grandchildren?

78 responses



- Less than 6 months
- 6-11 months
- 1 to 2 years
- 3 to 4 years
- 5 years or more





(Optional) How did you become responsible for providing for the basic needs of your grandchild?

Agreement with biological pattern bra an be legally granted custody through judge in court

my daughter was on drugs and her father also. So CYFD and the courts gave me full guardianship

CYFD asked my daughter who would take care of her baby at the time

They were put on my lap. They are my daughters children. Providing a roof over their heads. Love caring. All I can do is try. Hard raising. Addicted even when they say they are not.

My Daughter and her boyfriend couldn't care for children because the were hooked on drugs.

My daughter just left and left him behind.

Father was injured and disabled also alcohol abuser. Mother unable to care for children due to substances

Parents were not around and are doing drugs, not responsible

Pima Co. court in Tucson, AZ, severed parental rights of my grandchildren in 2014

Their parents were not responsible to take care of them. Also, there were drug issues.

Parents could not provide for them. My guardianship is through the courts.

My daughter (his mother) was unable to care for him and then passed away in 2019.

My daughter passed away and left her son behind. And his father passed away

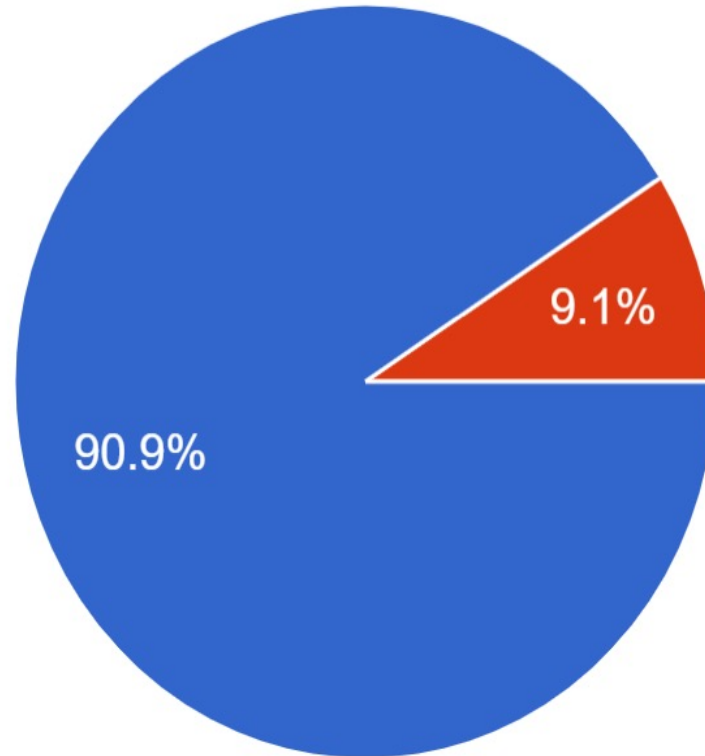
Gained custody after parents could not care for them.

My granddaughter got involved in drugs, abandoned her kids.

My daughter is a drug addict and was not taking care of my 3 grandkids. They need to be in a stable environment. One was disabled and needed my care always as my other two also.

What is your gender?

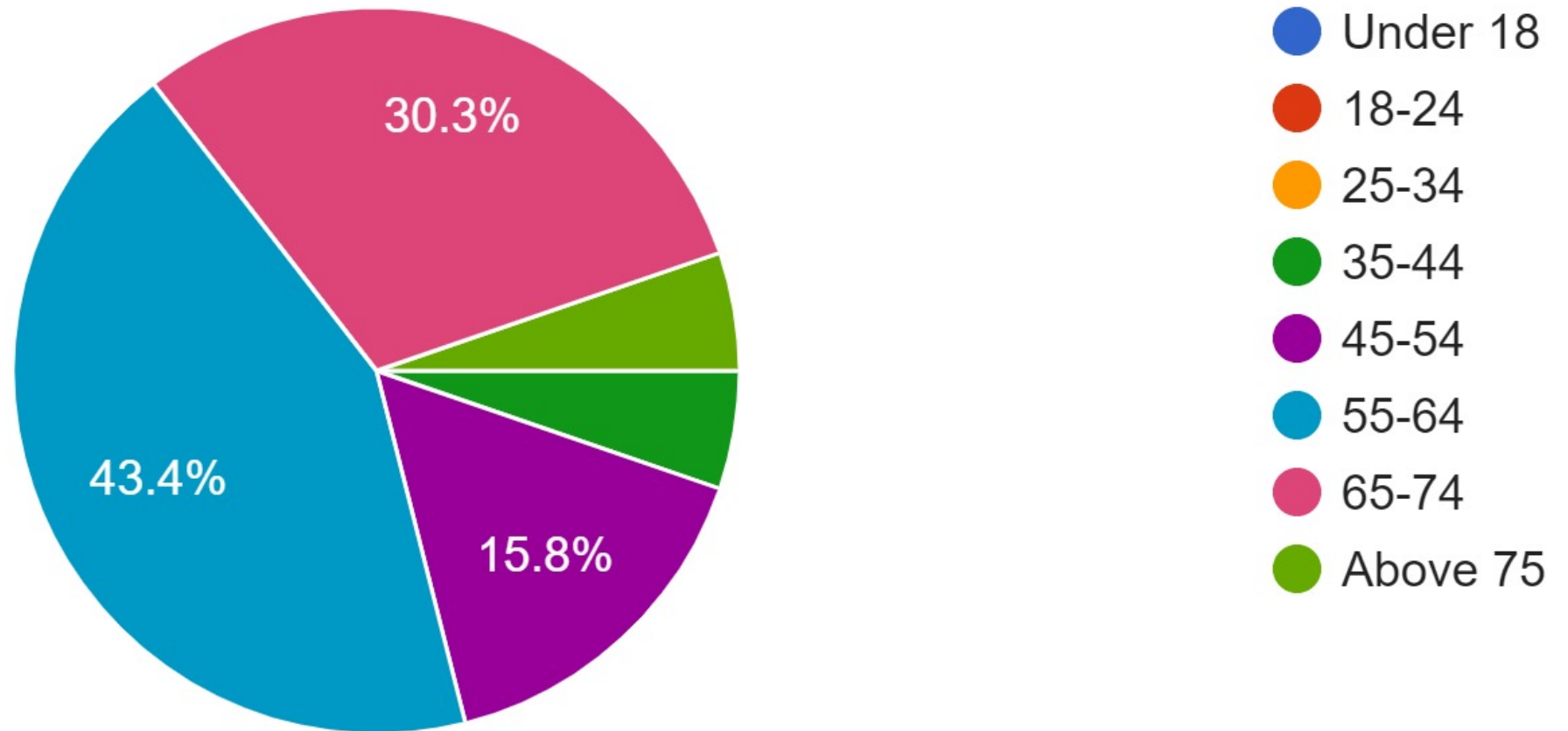
77 responses



- Female
- Male
- Not Listed
- Prefer Not to Say

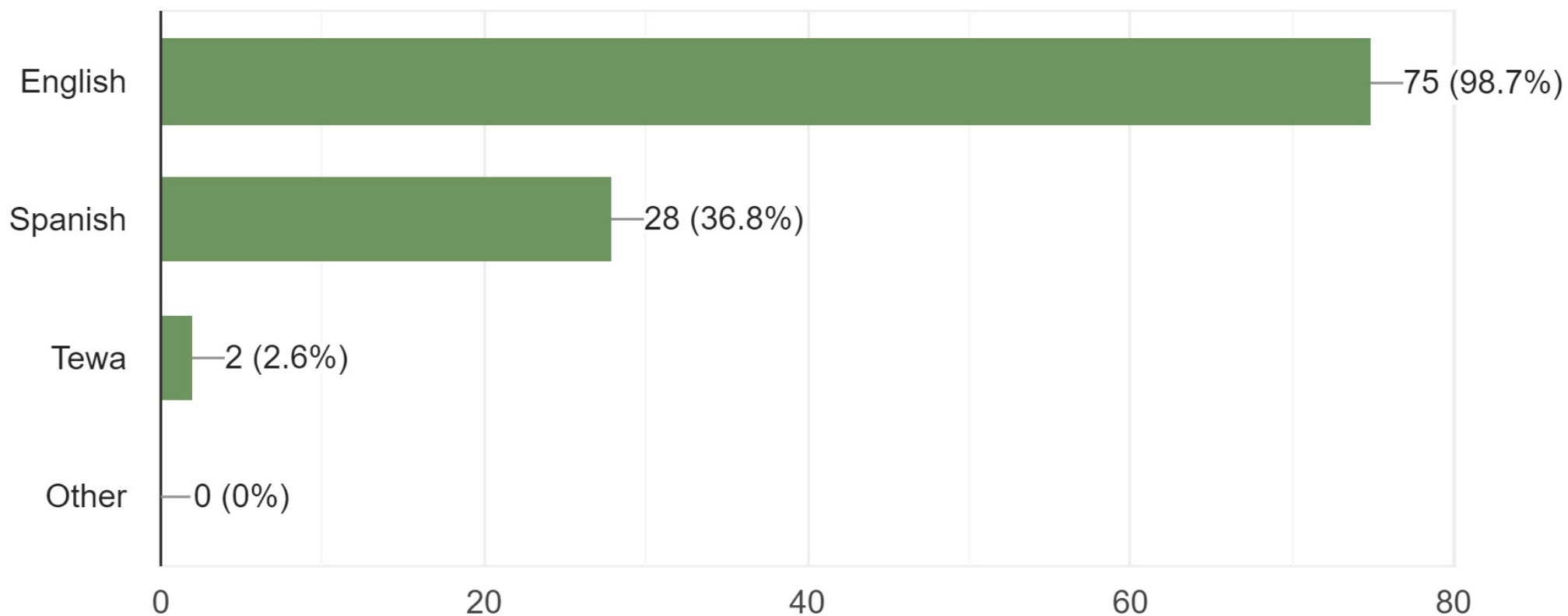
What is your age in years?

76 responses



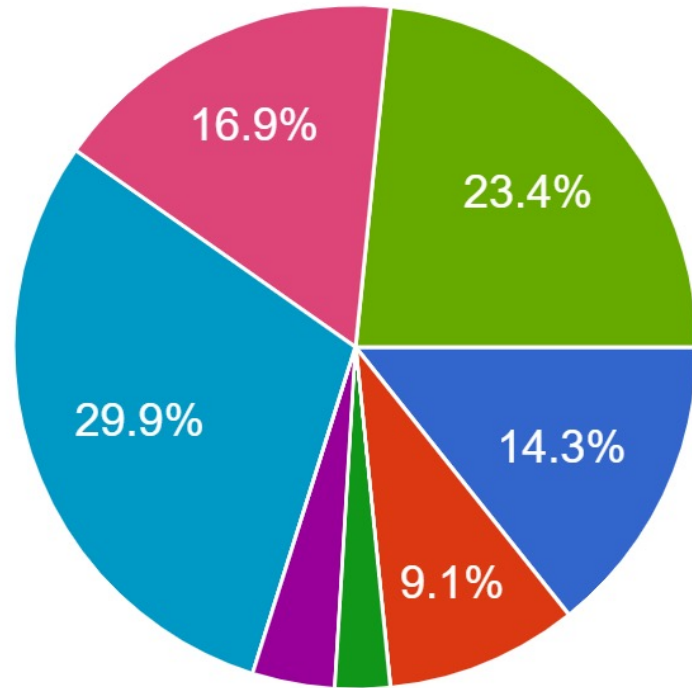
What language do you speak at home?

76 responses



What is your employment status?

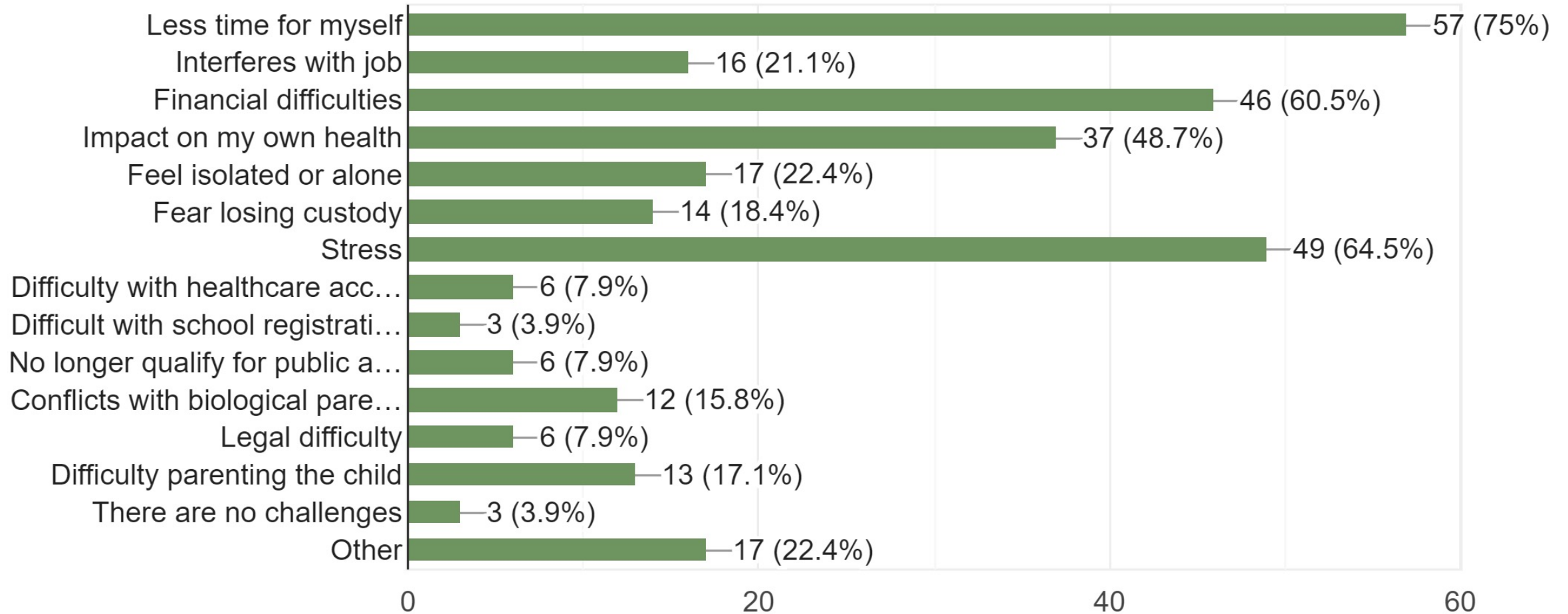
77 responses



- Full-time (40 hours or more a week)
- Part-time (30 hours or less)
- Temporary (seasonal)
- Self employed
- Retired, with a part-time job
- Retired, with no additional job
- Unemployed
- Disabled

Please select the challenges that you face in raising your grandchild or grandchildren (Check all that apply).

76 responses



do not
qualify for
anything

ADHD, odd,
Prado,
behavioral
challenges,
covid, no care
provider,

Other challenges that you face in raising your grandchild or grandchildren

It's difficult to
plan time
away, e.c.
vacations

Hardest - lack of
mental health;
worried what will
happen to the girls
if something
happens to me

Parenting
because of
child with
ADD, ADHD,
Autism
spectrum

Trauma

Children have
behavioral
issues
because of
trauma!

Technology using
computers, internet,
and being invalued
in their education all
while caring for my
92 year old mother.

Understanding and
dealing with her
disabilities

Childcare, social
interaction with
other children (she
is an only child),
finding time for us

Having the
time/energy to
provide learning
assistance after
school. He has
difficulty with
reading and writing.

Looking for
legal council
to fight for my
guardianship

recreation and
places we can go
that are not too
expensive to goon
short vacation
together.

childcare

Raising
boys with
special Ed
needs

Maternal grandparent
and her children have
been non existent.
suddenly, they want
to come visit the
children without
making arrangements
etc. Children do not
want any contact with
grandmother or aunts
and uncles.

She has mental health
issues that aren't
getting addressed.
She resents us
wanting to know
what is going on in
her life. She is
suffering from after
effects of addiction,
depression , PTSD and
being bipolar

I would have retired
by now had I not
had this additional
child. I wouldn't give
her up, but I'd really
like to retire.

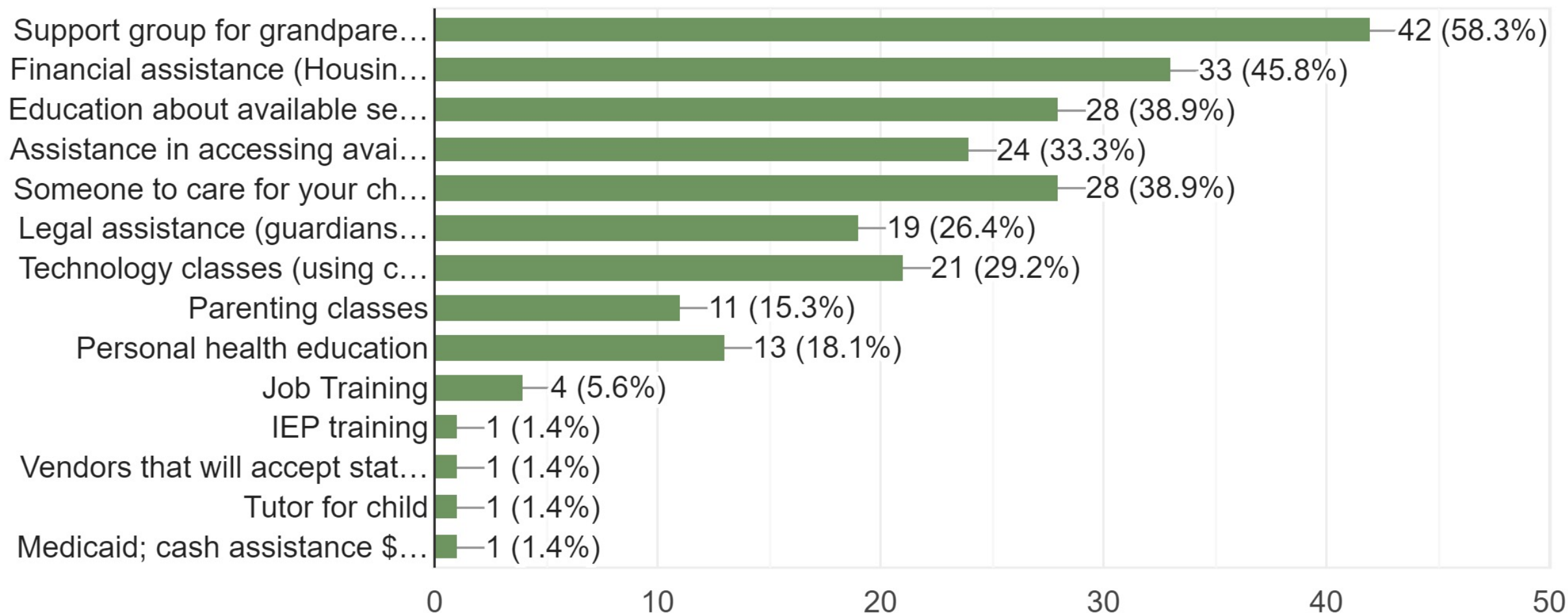
Not enough respite
care (hours);
resources/doctors etc;
grandparents support
- no resources out
there only "groups";
mentors to help with
homework/school
work

Lack of time for
myself. New math I'm
not aware of. Bad
eating habits, difficult
to feed. She is getting
counseling however
she still has emotional
times. Trouble
sleeping, she's afraid
of the dark and
silence.

child with
ADHD,
dyslexia, and
PTSD, money
needs

Please select the services you are in need of/would like/are interested in:

72 responses



Other services you are in
need of/would like/are
interested in (optional)

**No providers
in area. Low
pay and
paper-work
never ends.**

**Parenting
classes about
disabilities**

**Computer
classes**

**Shorter DDR
waiver
approval (now
10+ yrs.)**

**need internet
services and
computer.**

**We have been told
grandparents cant get
compensation for
caring for children
however foster
parents are paid.
Childcare has been
helpful. Its difficult to
be motivated to do
chores or other
projects.**

**I just want him safe,
mom pops in every
so often when it's
time for shots or
just needs a place to
stay.**

**Both boys
have special
needs, could
use support**

**I attend a
support
group
(Cancer)**

**I feel isolated
and
embarrassed.**

**mental
health**

**Teach them
about life, I
won't be here
forever.**

**Tutor for
student with
diagnosed
educational
difficulties**

**My child is now 16 and
fairly self-sufficient.
I've had her since she
was 6 weeks old and
could have used many
of the services listed
above, including the
legal assistance. I paid
close to \$10K out of
pocket in legal fees.**

**Legal aid services -
many do not take on
adoption cases,
backlogged with
many cases**

**on a waiting list for
behavior therapy for
children with autism
due to covid**

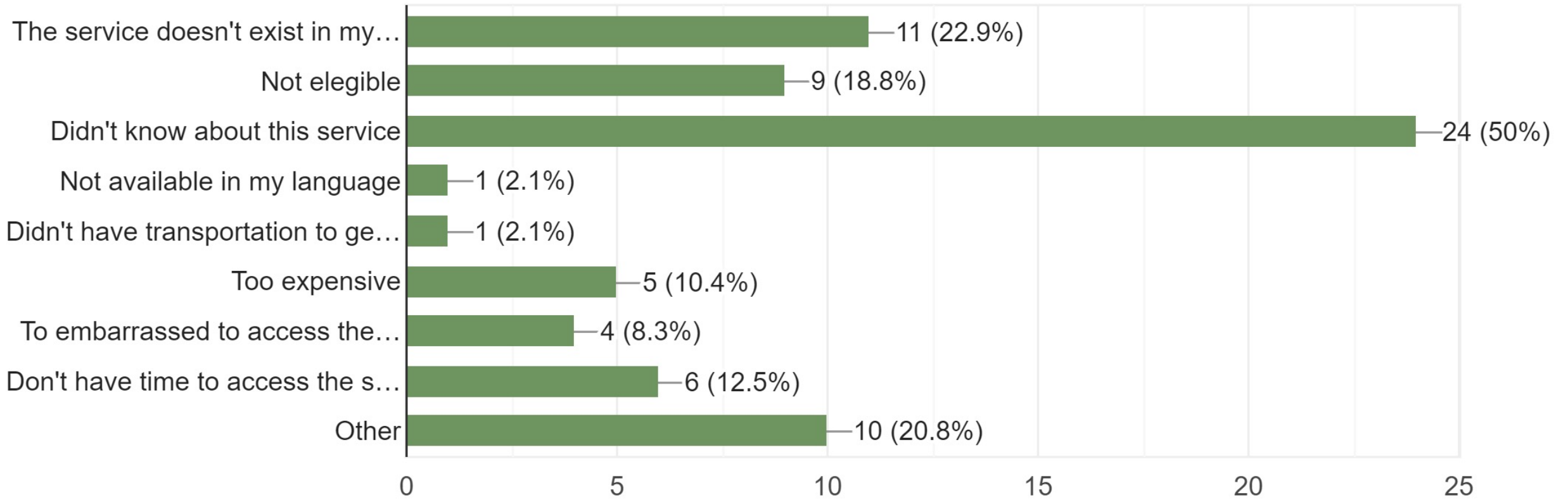
**Need to learn
more about
effects of drug
addiction and
her mental
health issues.**

**activities for
my children
(sports, events
for children)**

**I do participate in
asking about
resources but no
one are available
except for Barrios
Unidos for food and
clothing and what
Ms. Lupe can give**

For any of the services listed above, please check the reasons why you aren't currently using the service(s):

48 responses



Other reasons why you aren't currently using the service(s):

I take care of my dad he's 88 years old. He can't walk at all anymore and my granddaughter keeps me very busy

Legal aid services - many do not take on adoption cases, backlogged with many cases

transportation and money travelling to appointments

We have been told grandparents cant get compensation for caring for children however foster parents are paid. Childcare has been helpful; however, its difficult to be motivated to do chores or other

I never asked for any services until I was diagnosed with cancer and wasn't eligible for some services.

No providers in area. Low pay and paper work never ends.

afraid that someone will take him and he wouldn't be safe.

I do participate in asking about resources but no one are available except for Barrios Unidos for food and clothing and what Ms. Lupe can give

Services currently being used:

- Outpatient therapy
- Support group "Grandparents raising grandchildren"
- Medicaid
- Counselling from Family Council.
- Methadone from a clinic in Espanola.
- TANF assistance
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters a few years ago
- Granddaughter receives death benefits (Social Security) from both of her parents--which go towards her college fund.
- NFLOC: nursing level of care, Conduent
- Will be utilizing respite services soon (Las Cumbres)
- Azzy is getting child only tarif which is only \$224. Approve more money for food. I qualified for \$25 in food stamps.
- Khapo Community School FACE program

Please elaborate on your specific needs

Keeping guardianship. I would like legal advice. I've been unemployed since I was given guardianship so my income is minimal. Bills are outstanding and I'm falling further into debt. I severely need financial help

we would like respite

having problems with food, clothes, rent and bills.

financial stability

funding, resources are a need.

Counseling for the teenage years - some services through SKY Center in Santa Fe

Most respite is during the week. Need some weekends free. Will soon need help w/ pampers and clothing for 3 month old. 3 year old has been getting hand down clothing. Would like more help w/ food and snacks for 5 year old.

Financial Help

Therapy for entire family in our home

support group for both a grandparent raising a grandchild as well as support to better understand drug addiction problems.

Help in getting food stamps for granddaughter'; help financially so she can attend school activities; help financially with cost incurred to visit siblings

Need diapers, need refrigerator, over, fixtures in my home, etc. Windows, painting, flooring, cabinets, just about everything needs fixing.

Services don't exist. Been raising grandkids for decades with little to no support. Systems in place have no empathy. Until you walk down the spine of a grandma you have no clue. Please help us to help others

Parenting classes would be useful because the relationships between grandparents and grandchildren is much different than that when we were raising our own kids.

I'm on disability and don't have money for home repair. Most of my money goes for basic needs don't have any money extra after rent is paid.

Respite with qualified/experienced providers

I'm moving towards adoption. Attorney fees are tremendous. There are no programs that will assist with the cost of adoption (paying an attorney) that I'm aware of.

Because I approached the Court first to obtain Kinship Guardianship, CYFD did not take my child on. Her brothers are able to get monetary help from the State, regardless of their grandparent's financial status. I was not able to do that. That money would help a lot - the State needs to change that policy. I also had to pay for the legal costs for guardianship and subsequent adoption (as well as for a guardian ad litem for my child). Those were paid by the State for the other children. Additionally, I had to pay for all childcare out of pocket while the others did not.

Please elaborate on your specific needs

financially,
anything
would help

to be able to
buy them
what they
may need at
the time

it's really hard
getting assistance
for the 4 year old,
very hard child.
Assistance to get 4
year old evaluated is
very hard.

Thank you for
helping us
grandparents!

paying bills,
everything
has gone up.
Food,
clothing, gas,
utilities.

utility bills are
expensive
during cold
months

Financial Stability, my
vehicle needs
maintenance all the
commuting to school,
therapist and doctors.
My granddaughter
needs chromebook or
computer for
homework, we only
use cell.

Pay bills,
cost of
gas, food,
clothes

behind
on my
bills

Until Barrios Unidos
approached us about
grandparent support
we just suffered
silently. We have been
included for
Christmas,
Thanksgiving,
outreach, and gas
cards. We know we're
not alone

Financial Stability. My
gas water and car
payment are 2 months
behind. Our rent is
one month behind. I
had some unexpected
car repairs that put
me behind, but I had
to fix the car in order
to get to work and the
kids to school.

I am in immediate
need of a washing
machine. Gas
money for vehicles.
Tickets to extra
curricular activities
and events. Thank
you.

Some "breathing"
time would be
amazing. What I
mean by that, is
simply some
"respite" on
occasion to
recharge.

I spend a lot of
money on groceries
and gas. I think help
with that would be
great.

Please share any other issues or needs related to raising a grandchild(ren) that you would like us to know about.

They need clothes, diapers, financial assistance, and things mentioned on the page before. My doors and windows so no cold comes in the winter. Thank you

I am currently having him in counseling - death of both parents, Dx: ADHD and Autism

We were not financially prepared to raise children once again. Financially, we are managing but could use some help. Concerns for our and their future.

Financial needs: Due to future needs for the children. We are prepared for ourselves but did not expect to be providing for children in the future.

Just helping them with home work, teaching them spanish, taking them to school

what schools in area are best in addressing my granddaughters disabilities. Developmental delays, intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, ADHD

First, it's amazing although challenging. I wish that I could be Ezra's grandmother instead of his mom for ONE day. As his mother, he's being raised just like I raised my five children.

My hope is to be as envaled in their lives and education as I possibly can all while they miss the parents which have very little to no invaluement in their lives

One child has issues in breaking everything and throwing food every where. She will be 6 next month and she cant sit still and will not listen to any direction. I will be visiting with her Dr. next month to receive

Raising grandchildren can take a toll on grandparents - higher than normal depression, sleeplessness, emotional problems. Chronic health problems, mental stress, education concerns, etc..

Need a bigger house

My workplace is giving me a hard time to take off to take care of my daughters and take them to the doctor even though I have personal leave.

Attorney fees are costly

Having some kind of resource for the children so they can share their feelings about the loss of their parent and having to live with grandparents/guardians.

Hardship - financial. I am disabled

Grandchildren will only qualify for auxillary benefits if their situation meets these criteria: 1) Grandchild's parents are disabled; 2) Grandchild's parents are deceased; 3) You've adopted your grandchildren.

Assistance with home repairs/car repairs. Additional food locations. Child care and after school care.

Daniella will is five. Grace 3 years September 28. Both girls love to sing and dance. I would love to have some place to take them for singing and dancing and learn what other activities are in the community.

Please share any other issues or needs related to raising a grandchild(ren) that you would like us to know about.

My grandson will be needing brain surgery here soon, would really need help such as childcare helping assist with his medical needs, school work and helping myself with any needs I might need.

Times are very hard and it's hard raising grandkids.

Barrios has really helped me with diapers, clothes and food, and gas card when I have to go somewhere far.

I'm worried what happens to kids when I'm gone.

Need technology tools for kids to be able to participate in Zoom and other e-net classes.

Not at this time. We are very fortunate to have this service to help us. I didn't know about the services until my granddaughter was 13 y/o.

Pay bills, food, clothing, utilities

Would like help with Angelina, respite time for myself.

The CYFD will help another person that's not a grandparent with money, and grandparents are left to raise them alone.

Very hard, having to deal with parents.

Legal aid assistance

Respite

Financially stressed

Patience and understanding!

Financial needs: Due to future needs for the children. We are prepared for ourselves but did not expect to be providing for children in the future.

Some education to parents on drug use and how it affects the parents brain or psychology to understand better their non interest in their children.

essential needs of both grandchildren & grandparents. Kids growing up without their parents does a lot of emotional damage to them, I believe we need more emotional support as well as financial. Thank you!

I have taken on the responsibility of 2 grandchildren, getting them ready for the bus, waiting for them, feeding them, and keeping them safe. The winter is here, they need to wait in the cold for the bus so warm clothes would help and maybe making house weatherized would be big help to put put plastic, get ready for winter and warm clothes for the kids. We live far from Espanola but knowing I can ask Lupe for help has been wonderful. It would be good to have a program to help us with windows.

When disaster strikes, please have a plan B, C, and D trying to reach out and we cannot get support due to COVID. It was ridiculous and a sham. Our grandmothers have lost many family members but we still care for our children. When the opioid crisis struck, community and individuals in power turned the other cheek, we were left behind when covid struck again we were left to fend for ourselves. We need financial support, we do not need someone or outsider to come and want to educate us. We just do not have the finances.

It's hard to start over. Buying pampers, clothes, shoes, bottles, everything baby needs. No job because of COVID, makes things harder.

Please share any other issues or needs related to raising a grandchild(ren) that you would like us to know about.

grateful to have programs for grandparents as lots of help is needed.

Grandparents need to learn on children's rights and what schools need to provide about testing, IEP's, etc.

I am a single 65 grandmother, raising 11 year old granddaughter. Grandparents need to be educated on how to help and teach children with learning disabilities (ADHD, PTSD and Dyslexia)

The drug issue has got me so frustrated. My grandchildren deserve parents, but they have no choice in the situation. This isn't easy, but I am glad I can be there for them.

Needs/Challenges of Grandparents-Kin Raising Grandchildren

Pampers and clothing for 3 month old

Help with attorney fees

Computer classes

Parenting classes about disability

Raising children with mental health issues

Support for kids with special needs

Tutor for student with diagnosed educational difficulties

Need to learn more about effects of drug addiction and her mental health issues.

Assistance with home repairs

Education on raising children w/ addiction

Lack of time for myself

Respite

Money for home repair

Education on drug use and how it affects parents and children brains

Help with food and snacks for 5 year old

Financial help

Need respite during the weekends

Financial help for legal costs

Raising children with ADHD

Childcare

Financial help for child care

A place to take children to singing and dancing lessons

Raising children with PTSD

Coping with depression, stress, and health problems

Raising children with special education needs

Help with fixing my flooring and furnace

No time/energy to provide learning assistance after school

No healthcare provider in my area

Parenting classes

Child has difficulty with reading and writing

Clothing for child

Assistance with car repairs

Money for a high-chair and diapers

Support group to better understand drug addiction

Respite with experienced providers

Difficulty with the new math that is being taught

Counseling for child

Resources for grandparents

Legal assistance

Technology assistance

Education on the effects of drug addiction

Raising a child during COVID-19

Raising children depression

Education on mental health

Raising a child with Autism

Mentors to help with school work

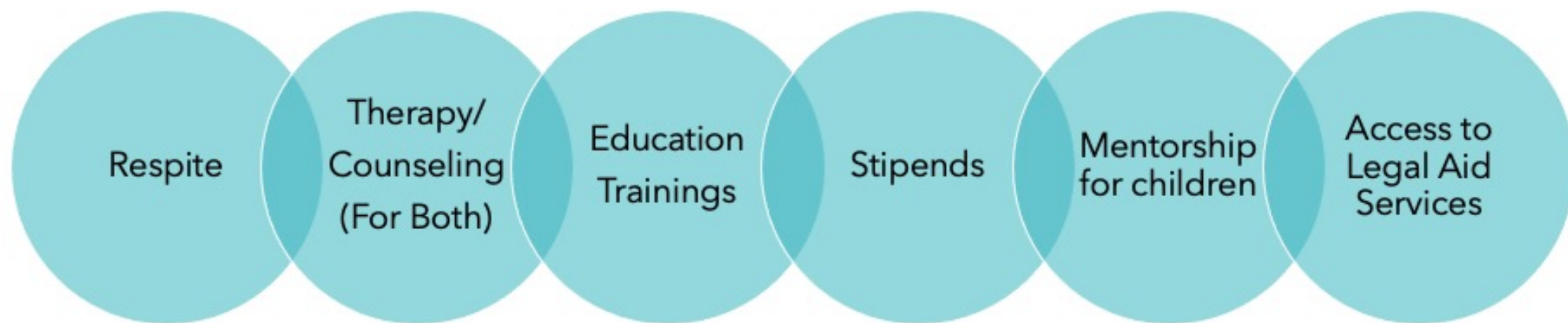
Education on nutrition for child

Tutor for my child

Therapy for entire family

Money for car gas

Needs from the 78 surveys gathered in 2021



Questions/Ideas

Anna Marie Garcia

Vice President of

Early Childhood Education

LANL Foundation

annamg@lanlfoundation.org

Evelyn Juarez

Early Childhood Education

Coordinator

LANL Foundation

evelyn@lanlfoundation.org

