



# English Language Early Childhood Services

Research Report - Opinion survey among English-speaking parents in Quebec



# Methodology



Data Collection Method

**Web survey advertised among CHSSN's network of partners as well as social media marketing campaign\***



Target Group

**English-speaking parents of children 0-12 years old (n=1,735)  
Residents of Quebec  
18 years of age or older**



Sample Size

**1,737 respondents**



Maximum statistical margin of error for a probability sample of this size

**+/- 2.3% (19 times out of 20)**



Data collection Dates

**May 28th to June 30th, 2021**



Average Duration

**About 8 minutes**

*\* The CHSSN has communicated the holding of a survey with its network of partners throughout Quebec and with social media ad placement. Parents were invited to complete the survey at [chssnsurvey.ca](http://chssnsurvey.ca). A \$100 gift card valid at Indigo was drawn among all participants.*

# RESPONDENTS PROFILE



# Respondents Profile

Total n = 1737



## Type of family

Nuclear or intact	78%
Blended family	11%
Single-parent family	9%
Other	2%

## Occupation

Working full-time	65%
Working part-time	12%
Staying at home full-time	17%
Unemployed/looking	3%
Student	3%
Retired	<1%

## Age

18-24 y.o.	1%
25-34 y.o.	32%
35-44 y.o.	53%
45-54 y.o.	13%
55+ y.o.	1%

## Age of children

Between 0 and 2 y.o.	40%
Between 3 and 5 y.o.	38%
Between 6 and 12 y.o.	61%

## Birthplace

Quebec	62%
Elsewhere in Canada	22%
Outside Canada	16%

## Region

Montréal	19%
Outaouais	16%
Laval	15%
Lanaudière/Laurentides	10%
Estrie	8%
Gaspésie/Iles/Bas St-Laurent	5%
Côte-Nord	4%
Mauricie/Centre-du-Québec	3%
Capitale-Nat./Chaudière-	2%
Appalaches	
Abitibi/Saguenay/Nord-du-Qc	2%

# Respondents Profile (Cont'd)

Total n = 1737

## Visible Minority

Yes	16%
No	84%

## Level of Comfort, speaking French

Very comfortable	41%
Somewhat comfortable	33%
Not very comfortable	18%
Not comfortable at all	8%

## Level of Comfort, listening in French

Very comfortable	48%
Somewhat comfortable	34%
Not very comfortable	13%
Not comfortable at all	5%

## Level of Comfort, reading in French

Very comfortable	40%
Somewhat comfortable	38%
Not very comfortable	16%
Not comfortable at all	6%

## Indigenous/First Nations

Yes	3%
No	97%

## Living in Quebec for...

2 years or less	14%
3-5 years	12%
6-10 years	21%
11 years or more	53%

## Household gross income

Less than \$30,000	7%
\$30,000 - \$49,999	13%
\$50,000 - \$69,999	13%
\$70,000 - \$99,999	23%
\$100,000 or more	44%

## Education

Elementary	1%
High school	18%
College (CEGEP)	30%
University	51%

## Mother tongue

English only	55%
English and French	21%
English and other	10%
Other only	7%
English, French and other	4%
French only	3%
French and other	<1%

## Most spoken language at home

English and French	27%
English and other	26%
English only	23%
English, French and other	13%
Other only	10%
French and other	1%

## Preferred official language

English	69%
Both	31%

# RESULTS

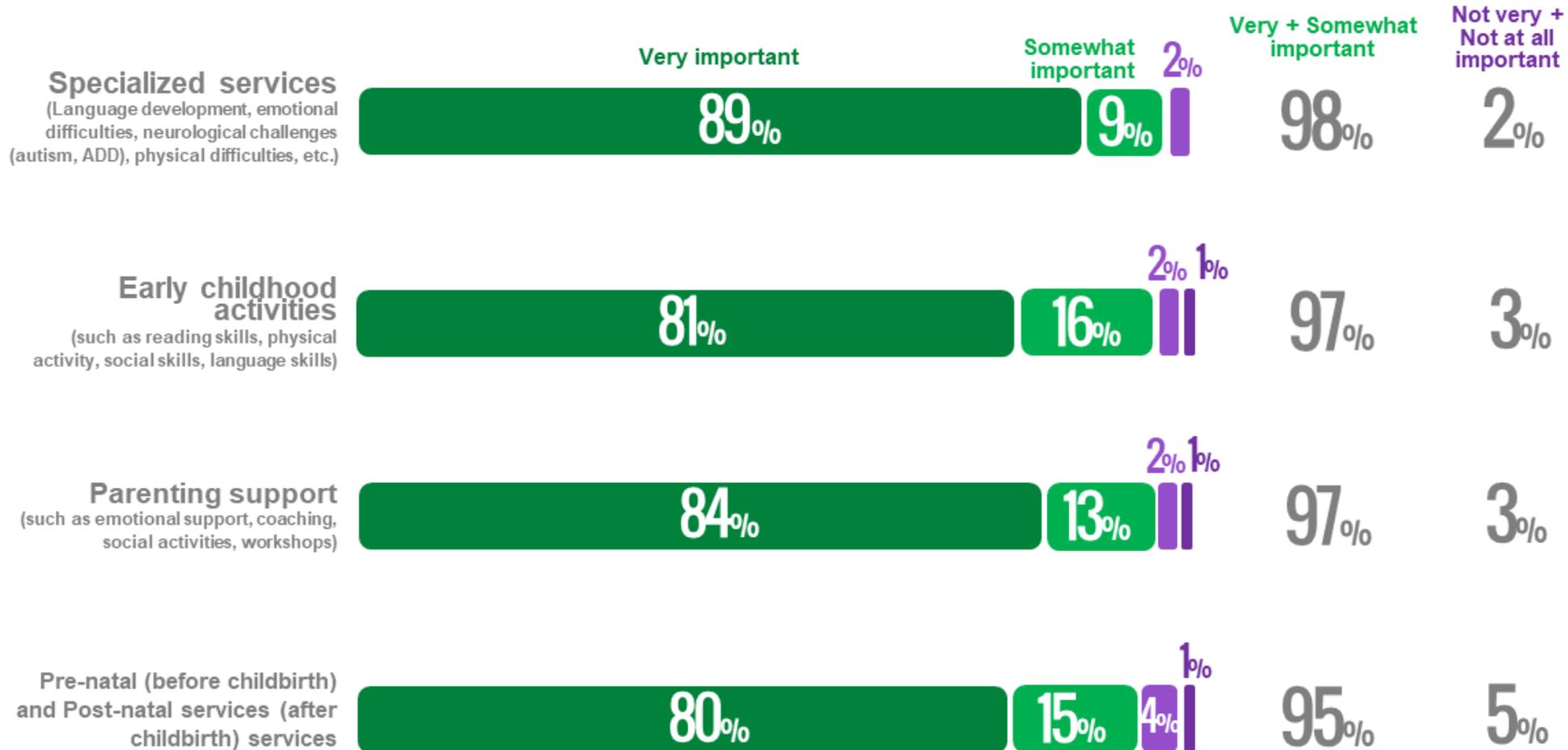


# Language matters

Q7. Perceived importance of services being offered in English, Total, n = 1737



Q. How important is it to you that the following be offered in English?

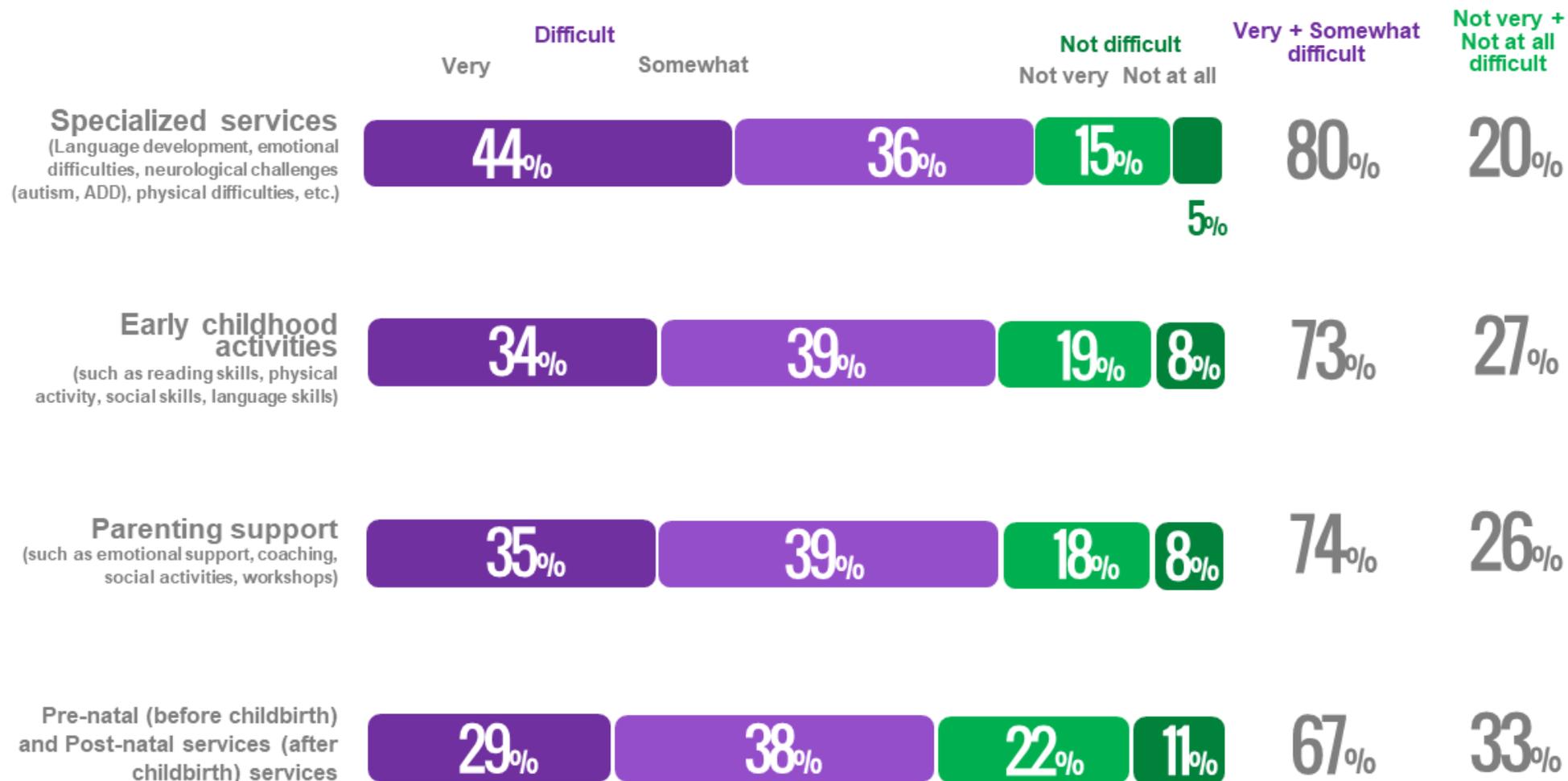


# An obvious challenge

Q8. Difficulty in finding different services in English, Looked for services, n=varied.

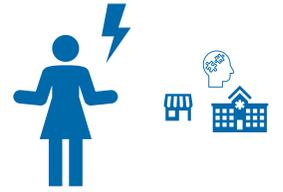


Q. Was it difficult to find the following service in English when you wanted them?

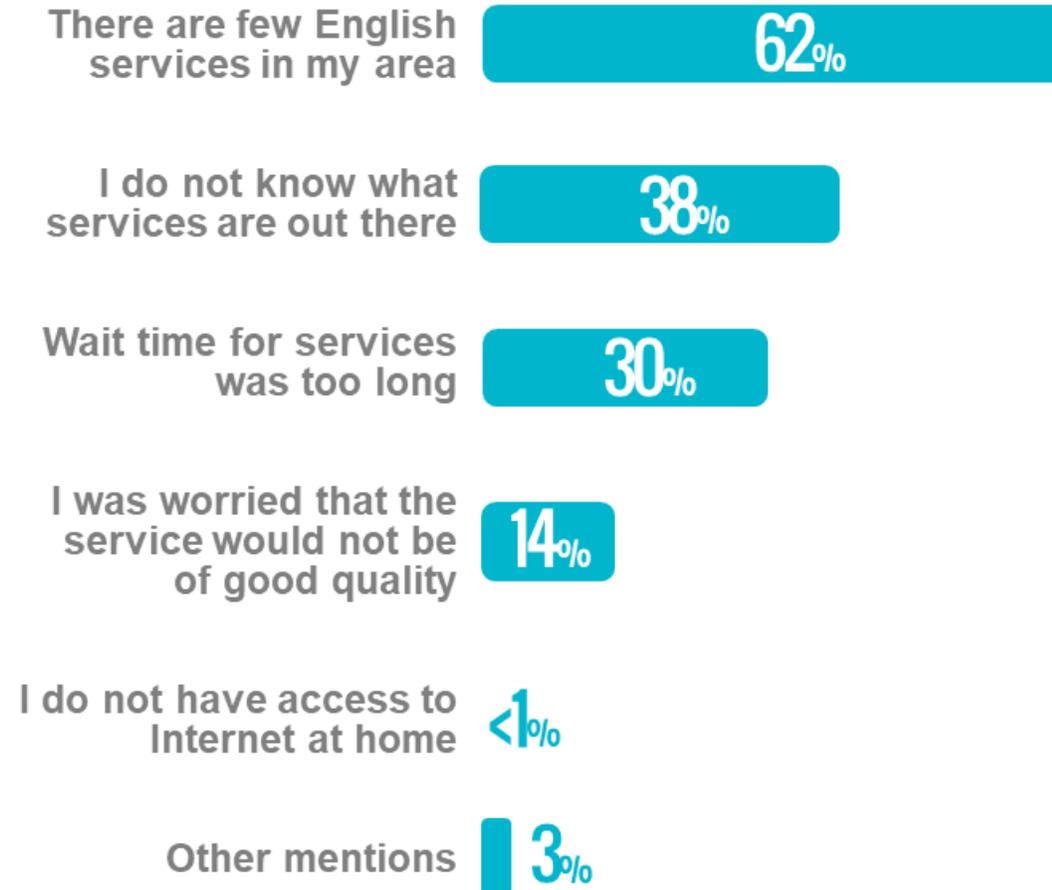


# The scarcity of services is not a myth

Q10. Challenges faced when looking for services in English, Total, n = 1737



Q. What were the challenges you faced in looking for services in English?

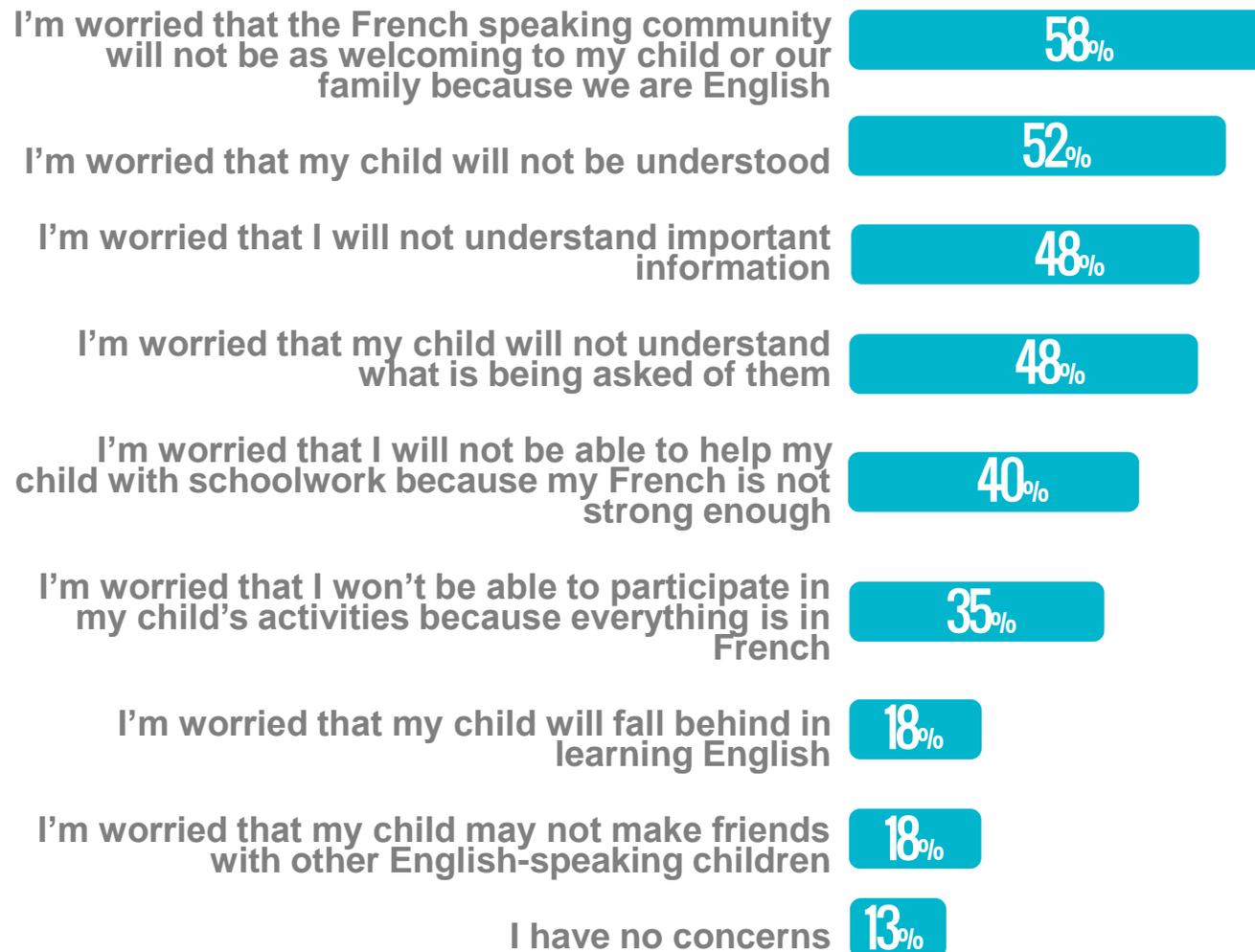


# A multidimensional problem

Q11. Main concerns about services not being offered in English, Total, n = 1737



Q. Here is a list of concerns English-speaking parents may have because services for their children are not available in English. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



# The particular challenge of Daycare

Q7. Perceived importance / Q8. Difficulty of finding Daycare in English, Total, n = 1737



## Importance that DAYCARE be offered in English :



## Has had difficulty finding DAYCARE in English :

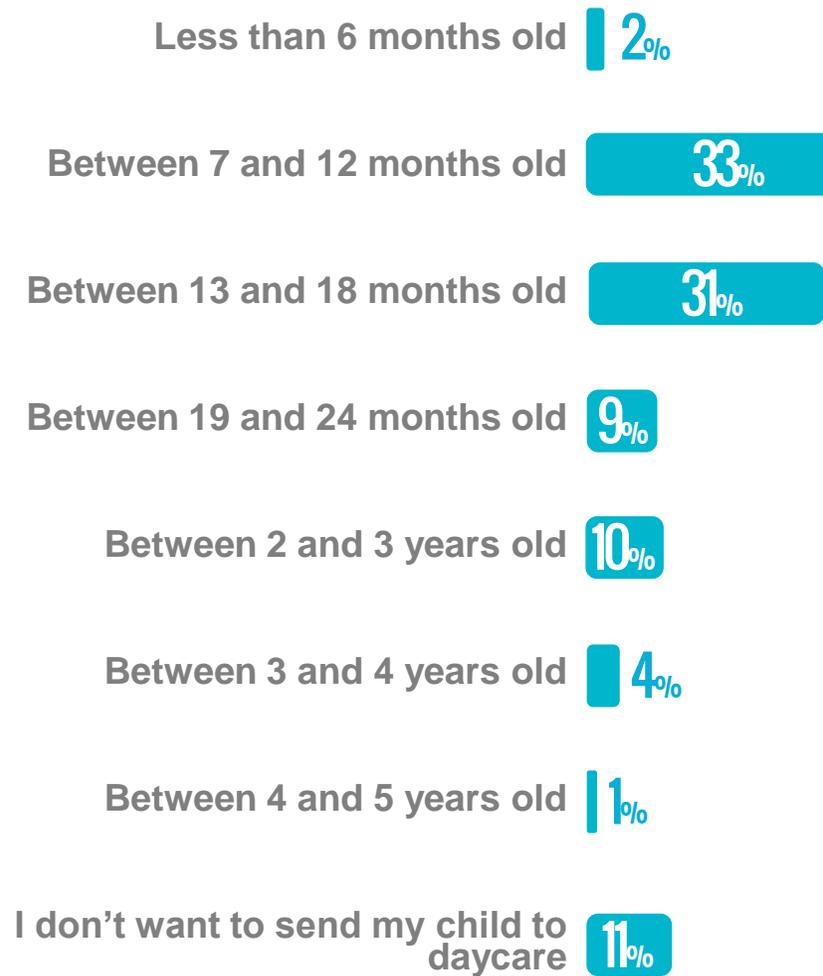


# Around 12 months

Q14. Preferred age to start daycare, Without DNK, n = 1661



Q. What is your preferred age for your child to start daycare?



# The impact is major and affects women

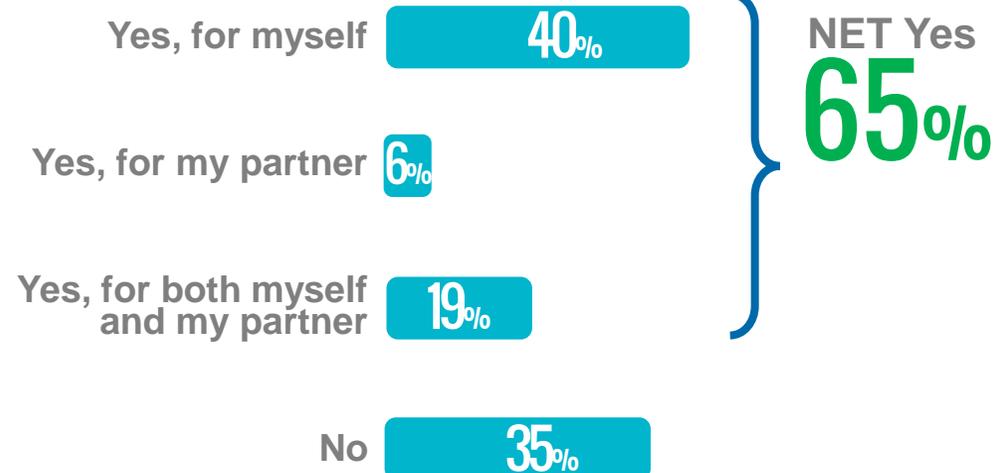
Q15-16. Difficulty in finding a place in daycare and (if yes) Impact on ability to work, Without DNK, n = varied



Q. Regardless of the language of the service, have you had a hard time finding a place in daycare for one of your children?



Q. Has the lack of daycare services impacted your ability to work?

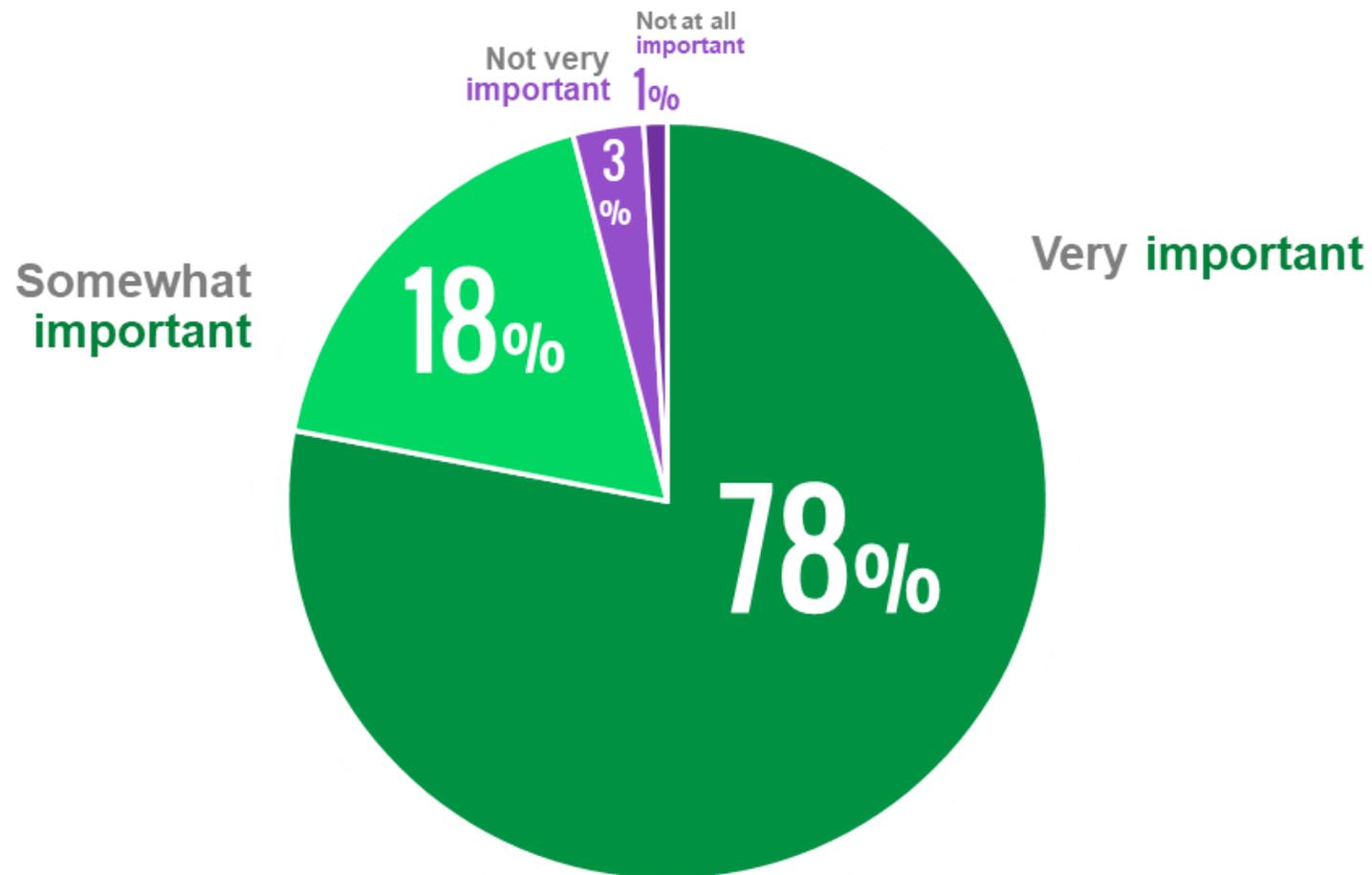


# Fatherhood must not be forgotten

Q12. Perceived importance of activities to support dads, Without DNK, n = 1654

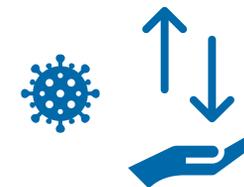


Q. It is important to have activities offered in English to support dads.

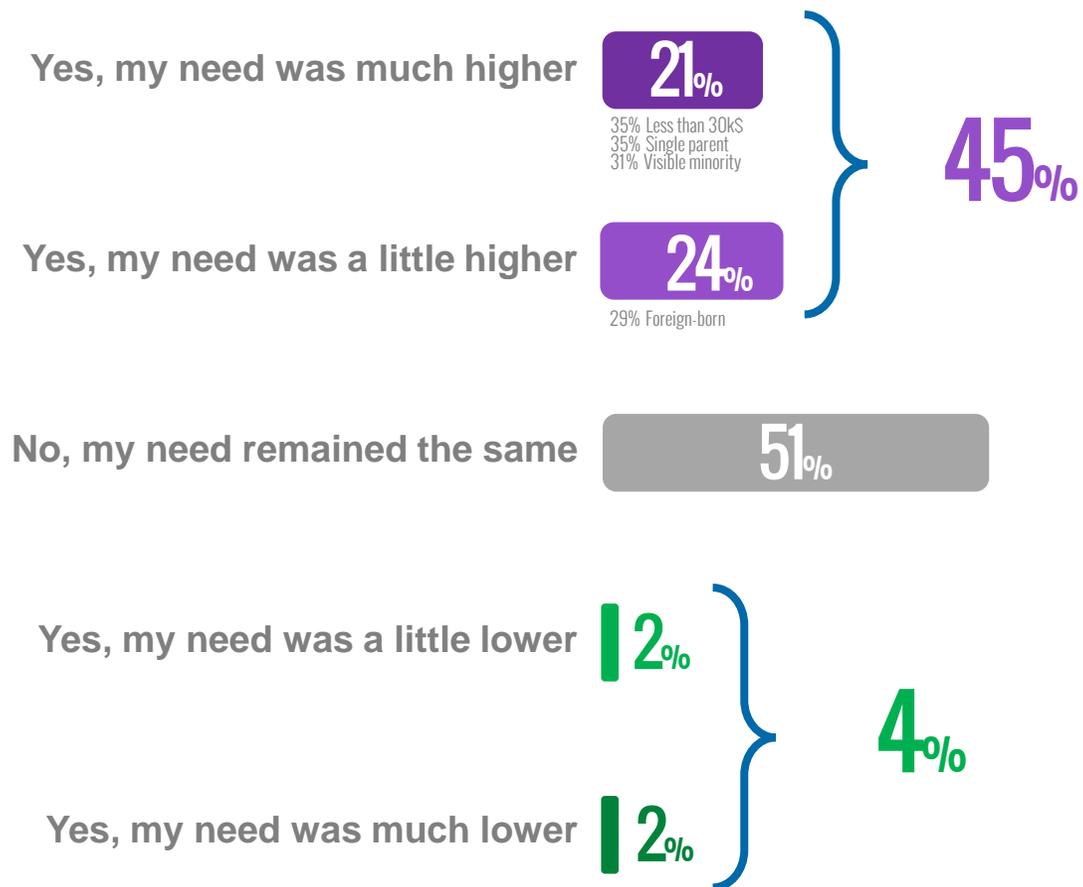


# Pandemic = Increased needs

Q13. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on parenting and early childhood service needs, Parents, n = 1737



Q. Has the pandemic had an impact on your need for parenting and early childhood support services?





**CONCLUSIONS**

# Conclusions

- The language of services does matter, particularly when it comes to specialized services or when additional levels of vulnerabilities are added (e.g. being unilingual, low level of education, low-income levels, etc.).
- A high percentage of survey respondents identified a significant lack of services available in English, particularly in the regions.
- The top concerns for parents in accessing services offered by French-speaking services providers are: that it will not be a welcoming environment, that their child will be misunderstood, or that as parents, they will not understand important information provided.
- The inability to find daycare spots for English-speaking children is also affecting the parents' ability to work, with women bearing the largest impact.
- Many parents participating in the survey also indicated increased needs resulting from the pandemic; and the importance of offering more programming and services for dads.
- All of these results highlight the need to improve access to early childhood services for the English-speaking population of Quebec.