THE CANADIAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION

L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES HYGIÉNISTES DENTAIRES

abacus data

Canadian Public Opinion on State of Oral Health in Canada

Conducted for the Canadian Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA)

February 2026

Key Takeaways

- **Dental hygienists are highly trusted and among the most trusted health care roles in the country.**
  Nearly all Canadians hold a positive impression of dental hygienists, and more than eight in ten view them as an essential or important part of the health care system.

- **Canadians prioritize prevention in dental care policy and funding decisions.**
  There is broad consensus that preventive dental care should be prioritized in public funding and that investing in prevention is the most effective way to reduce long-term oral health care costs, with agreement spanning political, demographic, and regional lines.

- **Affordability remains the primary barrier to dental care.**
  Cost continues to drive delayed or avoided care, particularly among younger adults, lower-income Canadians, rural residents, and those without coverage.

- **The CDCP is addressing a clear and urgent need.**
  The Canadian Dental Care Plan is widely known, strongly supported, and delivering positive early outcomes, with applicants reporting high satisfaction and better access to care.

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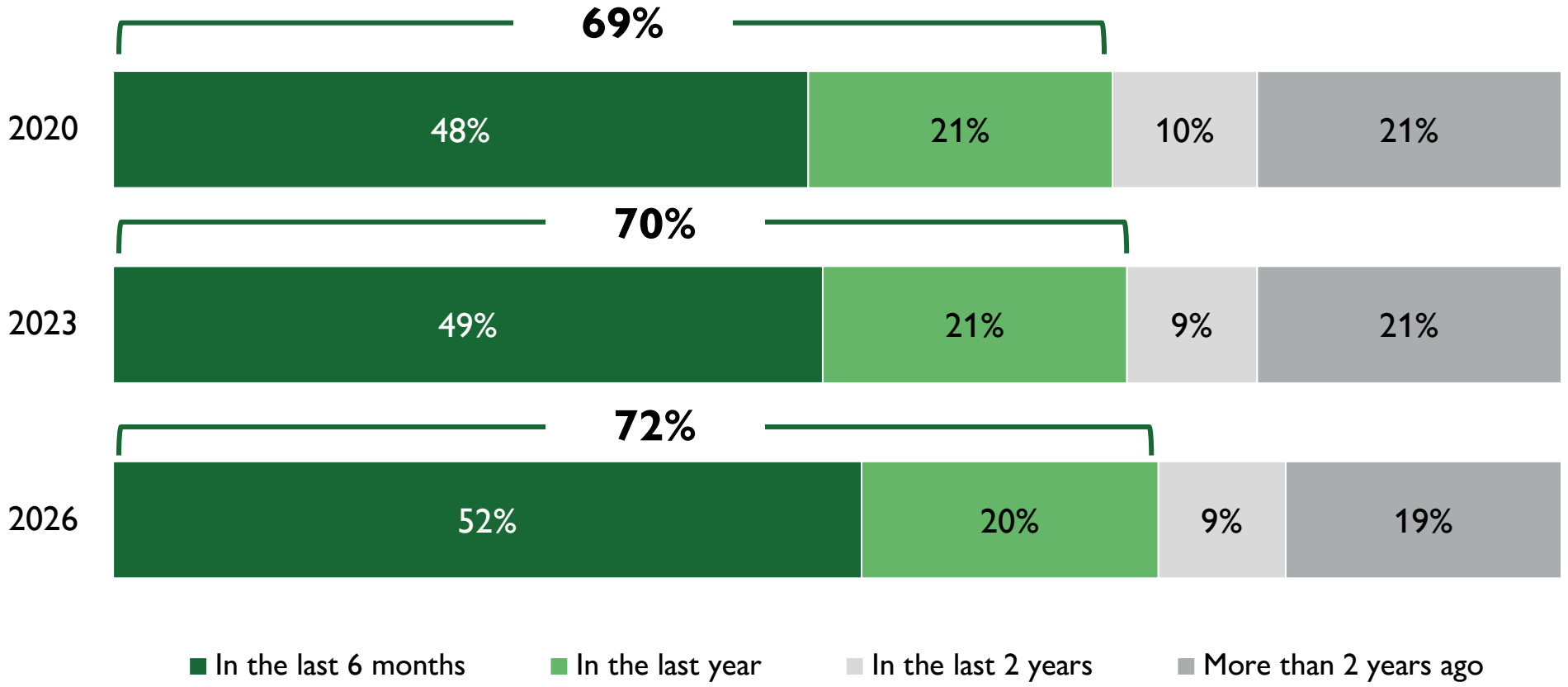
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Oral Health Behaviours and Engagement



When was the last time you accessed dental care services (going to see a dentist, dental hygienist, or other oral health professional)?

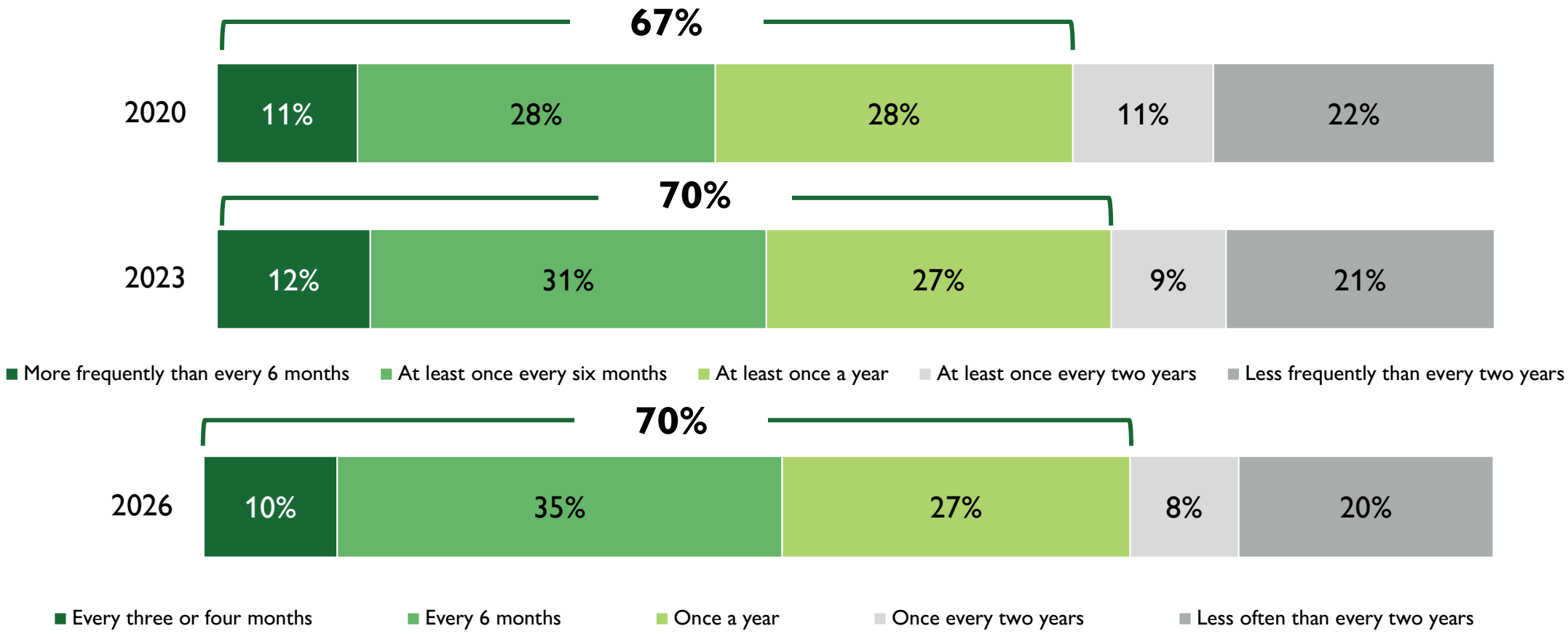
NEARLY 3 IN 4 CANADIANS (72%) ACCESSED DENTAL CARE WITHIN THE PAST YEAR, CONTINUING A SMALL BUT STEADY INCREASE SINCE 2020.



[BASE] n = 2,002

How often do you visit an oral health professional?

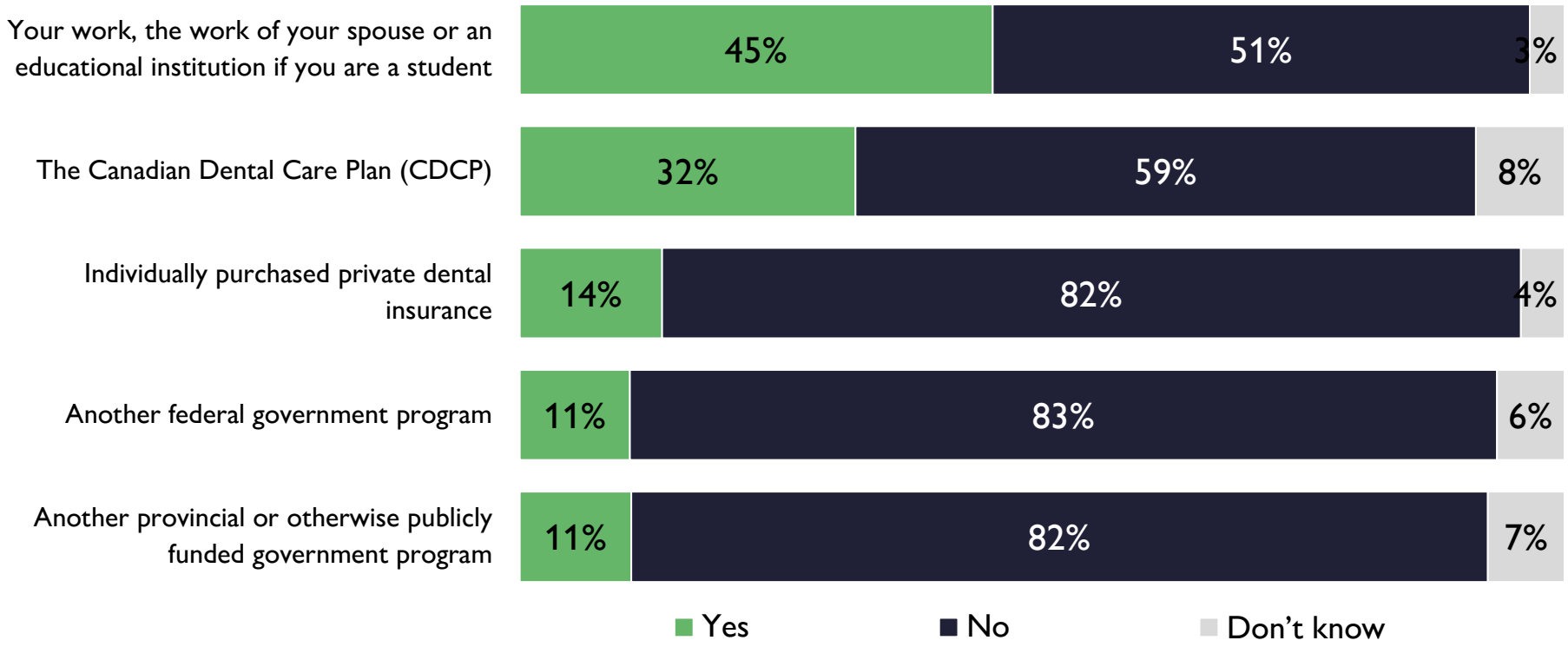
7 IN 10 (70%) CANADIANS VISIT AN ORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR.



[BASE] n = 2,002 | Note: Response options for this question changed slightly from the 2020 and 2023 tracking survey.

Do you have dental benefits coverage through any of the following? Check all that apply

78% OF CANADIANS REPORT HAVING DENTAL COVERAGE, PRIMARILY THROUGH WORK, A SPOUSE'S PLAN, AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION (45%), OR THE CDCP (32%).

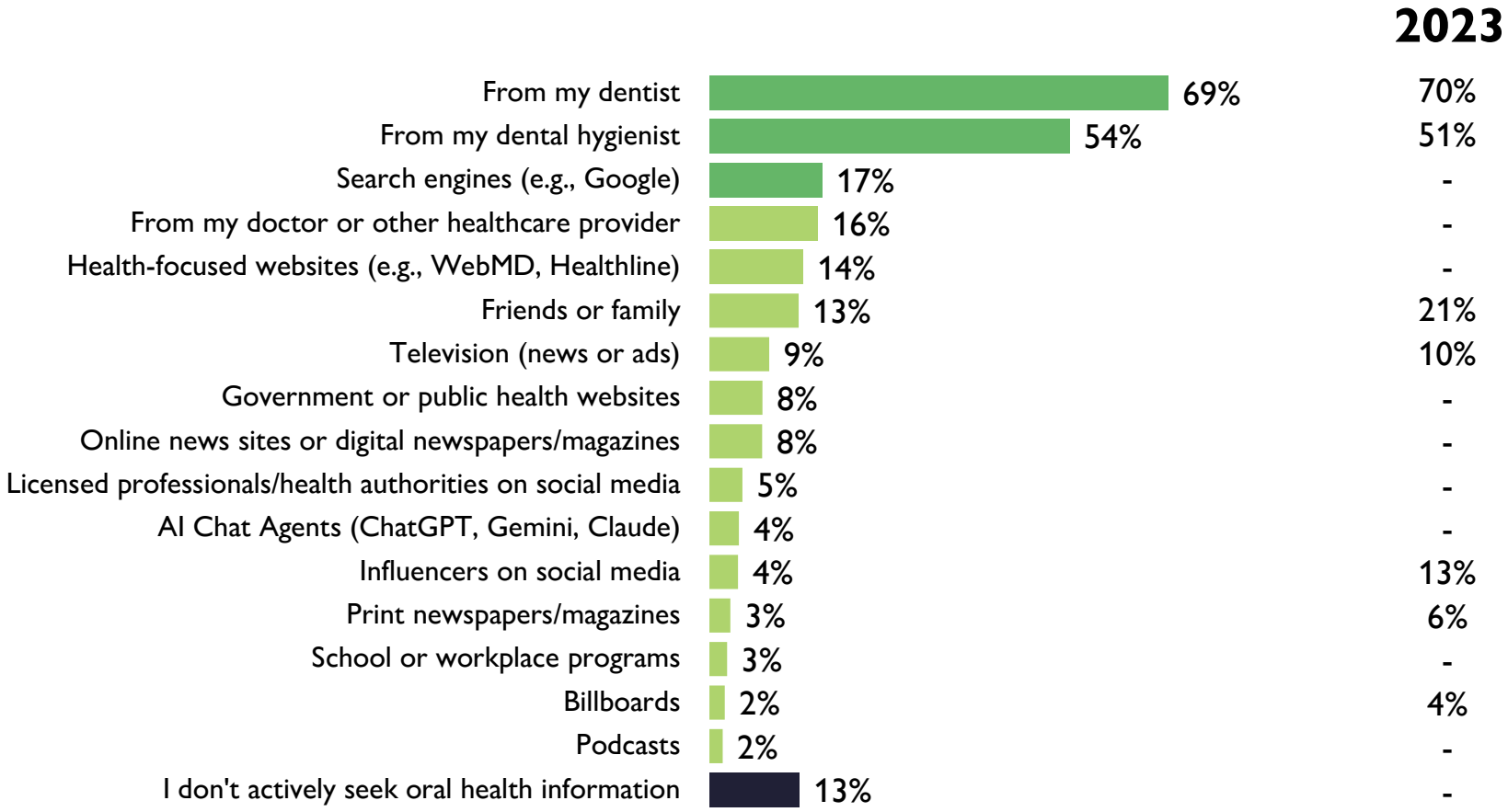


% Canadians say they have one or more types of dental coverage listed	
2026	78% (+10 pts)
2023	68%
2020	60%

[BASE] n = 2,002

Where do you learn about oral health or factors impacting your oral health? *Select all that apply*

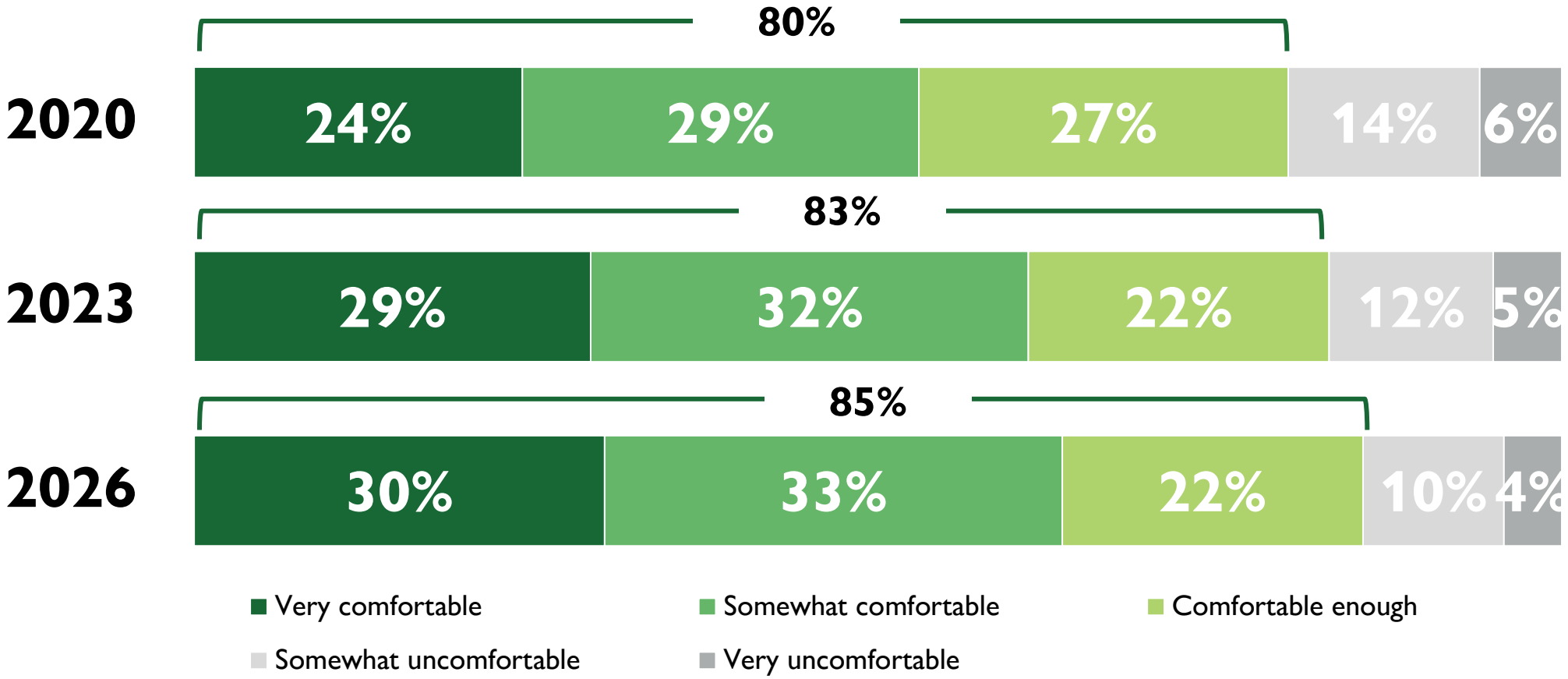
77% OF CANADIANS LEARN ABOUT THEIR ORAL HEALTH EITHER FROM THEIR DENTIST AND/OR DENTAL HYGIENIST.



[BASE] n = 2,002

Would you feel comfortable seeing a dental hygienist for oral health care in their own practice (not a traditional dental practice with a dentist)?

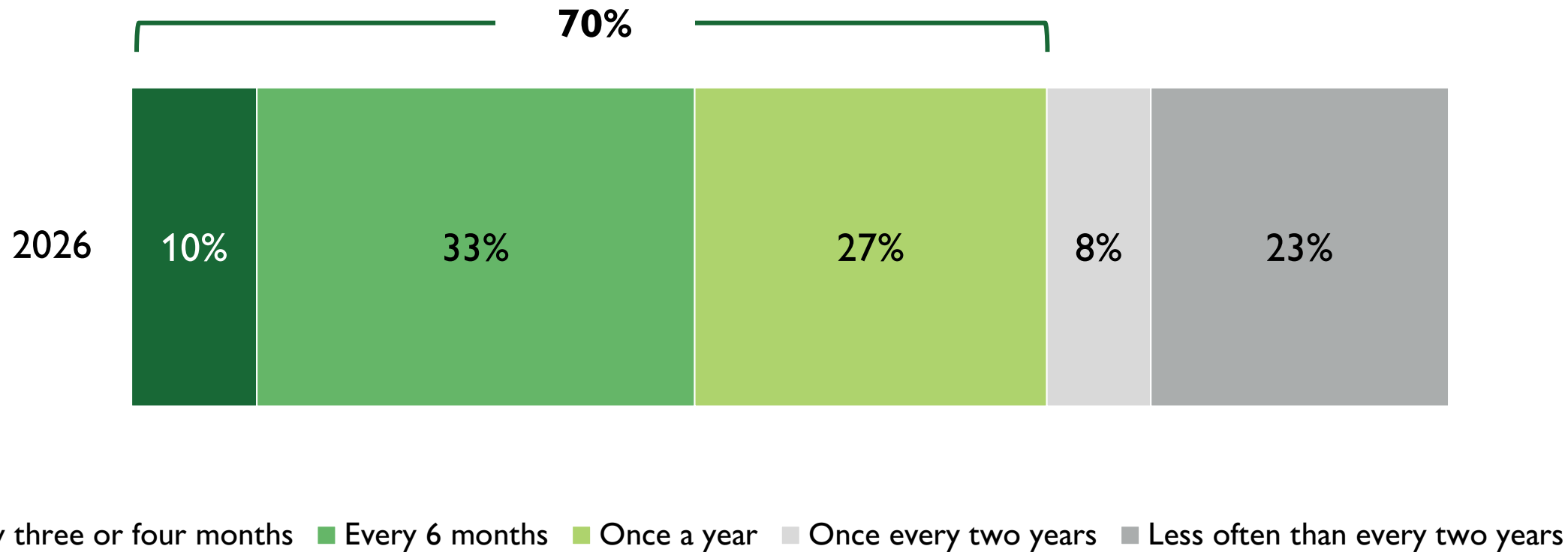
85% OF CANADIANS ARE COMFORTABLE SEEING A DENTAL HYGIENIST IN THEIR OWN INDEPENDENT PRACTICE, UP STEADILY SINCE 2020.



[BASE] n = 2,002

How often do you see a dental hygienist?

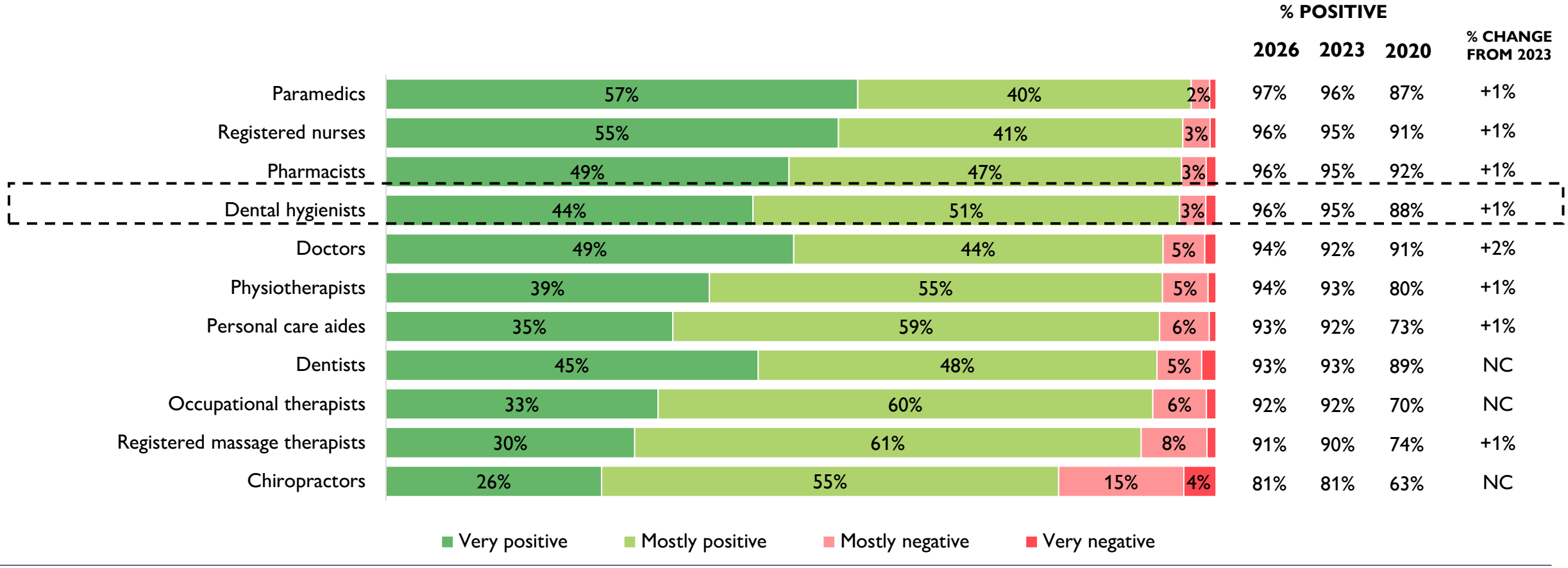
7 IN 10 (70%) CANADIANS SEE A DENTAL HYGIENIST AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR.



[BASE] n = 2,002

Please tell us if you have a very positive, mostly positive, mostly negative, or very negative impression of each of the following professions.

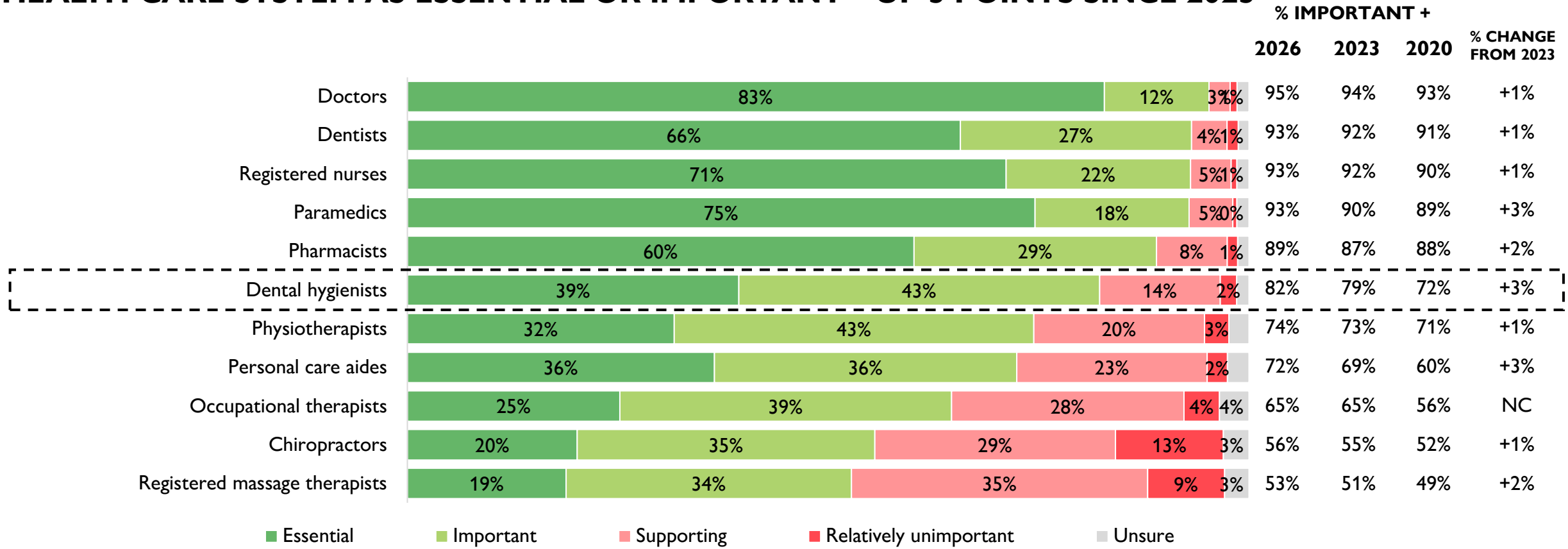
DENTAL HYGIENISTS CONTINUE TO HOLD NEAR-UNIVERSAL POSITIVE IMPRESSIONS (96%), ON PAR WITH PARAMEDICS, NURSES AND PHARMACISTS AND MARGINALLY HIGHER THAN DENTISTS.



[BASE] n = 2,002

We are going to show you several different professions within the health care system and ask you to classify their role into one of five groups.

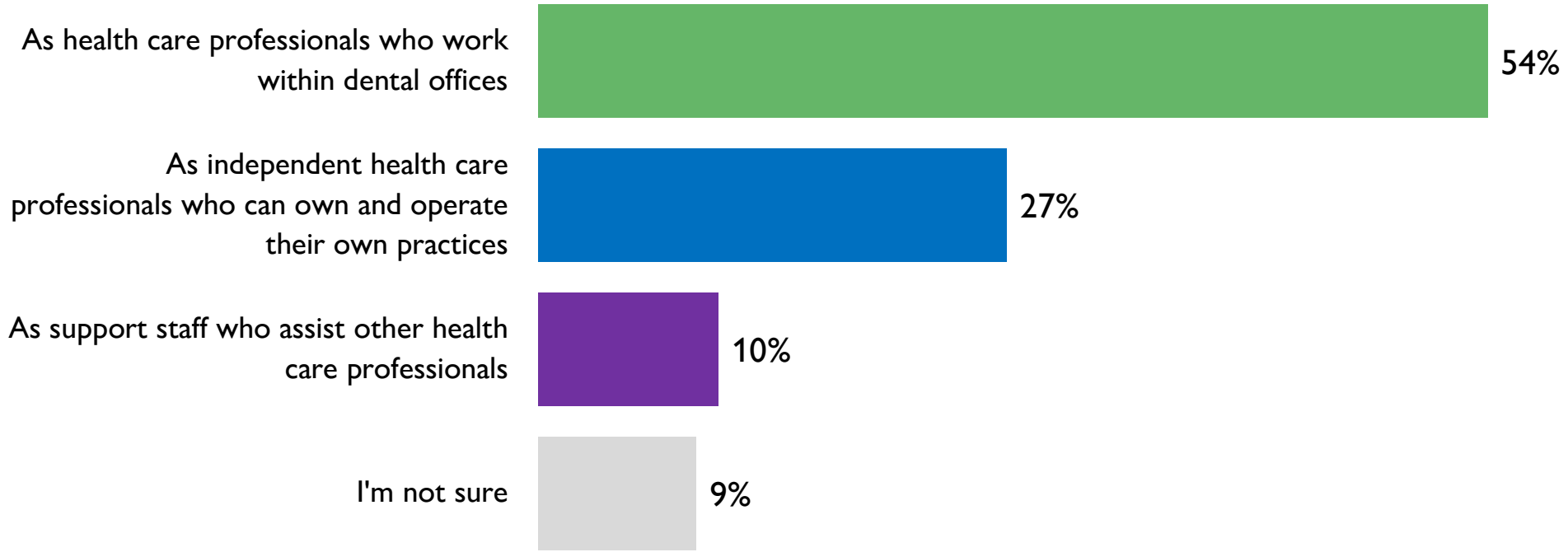
MORE THAN 8 IN 10 CANADIANS (82%) VIEW DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ROLE WITHIN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AS ESSENTIAL OR IMPORTANT - UP 3 POINTS SINCE 2023



[BASE] n = 2,002

And how do you think of dental hygienists considering these three categorizations?

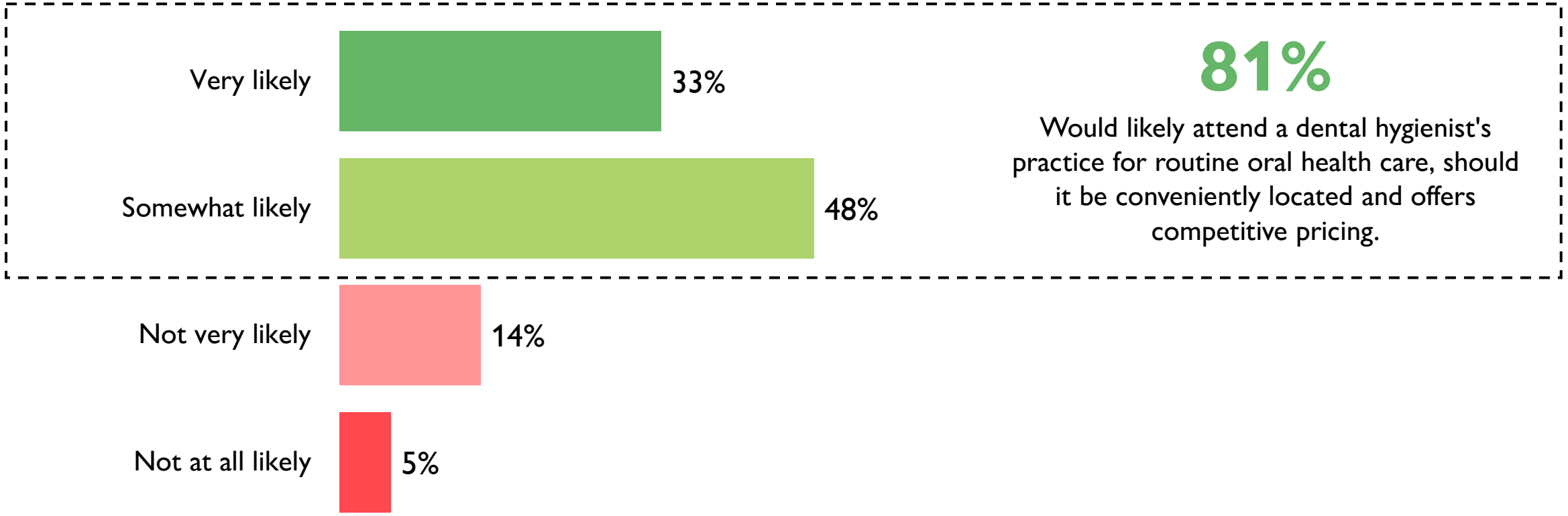
A MAJORITY SEE DENTAL HYGIENISTS AS HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITHIN DENTAL OFFICES (54%), THOUGH FEWER RECOGNIZE THEM AS INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONERS WHO CAN OWN AND OPERATE THEIR OWN PRACTICES (27%). A MARGINAL MINORITY(10%) VIEW THEM AS SUPPORT STAFF.



[BASE] n = 2,002

If a dental hygienist's practice was conveniently located and offered competitive pricing, how likely would you be to visit them for routine oral health care (cleanings, assessments, education)?

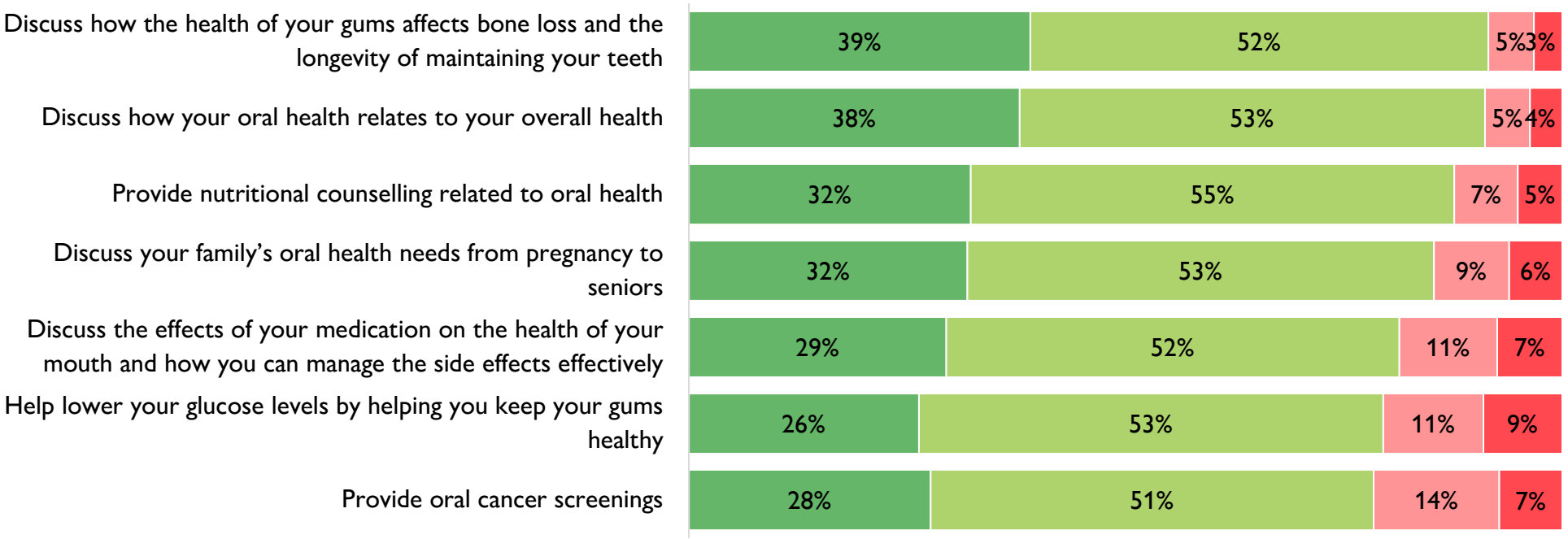
STRONG OPENNESS TO DENTAL HYGIENIST–LED CARE: 81% SAY THEY WOULD BE LIKELY TO USE A DENTAL HYGIENIST'S PRACTICE FOR ROUTINE ORAL HEALTH CARE IF IT WERE CONVENIENTLY LOCATED AND COMPETITIVELY PRICED



[BASE] n = 2,002

Do you have trust in your dental hygienist to…

CANADIANS EXPRESS CONSISTENTLY HIGH TRUST IN DENTAL HYGIENISTS ACROSS PREVENTIVE AND HEALTH-RELATED ROLES, WITH TRUST STRONGEST FOR CORE ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND PREVENTION (78–92%)



	% TRUST			
	2026	2023	2020	% CHANGE FROM 2023
Discuss how the health of your gums affects bone loss and the longevity of maintaining your teeth	92%	86%	86%	+6%
Discuss how your oral health relates to your overall health	91%	87%	85%	+4%
Provide nutritional counselling related to oral health	88%	84%	83%	+4%
Discuss your family's oral health needs from pregnancy to seniors	85%	81%	81%	+4%
Discuss the effects of your medication on the health of your mouth and how you can manage the side effects effectively	81%	72%	77%	+9%
Help lower your glucose levels by helping you keep your gums healthy	79%	75%	74%	+4%
Provide oral cancer screenings	78%	67%	65%	+11%

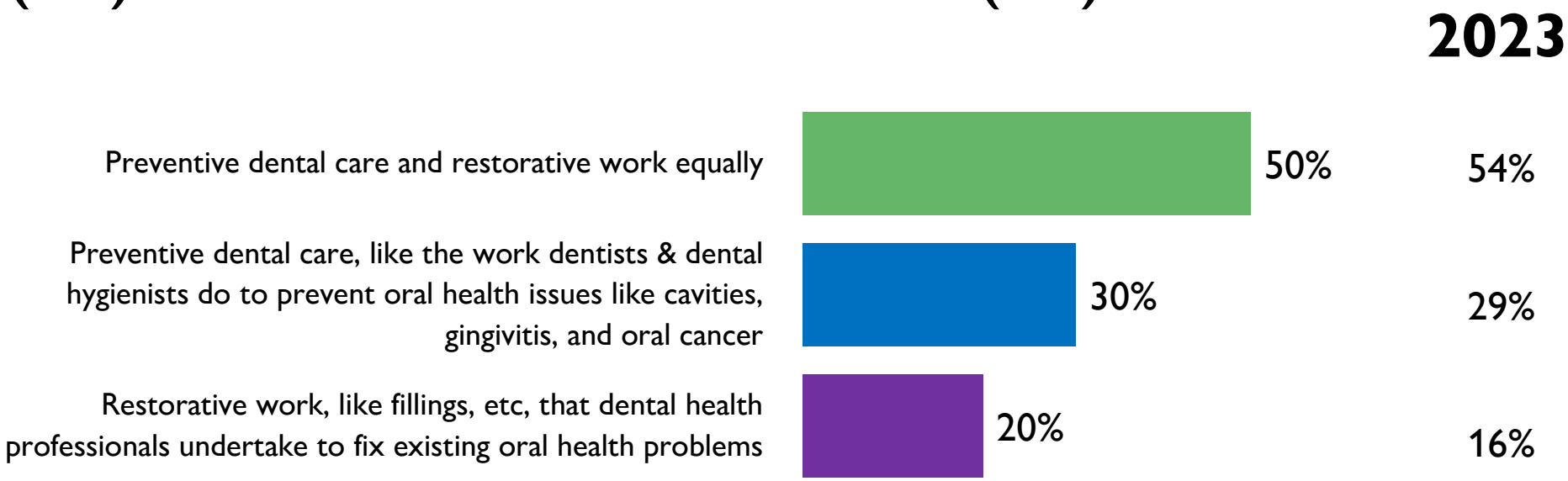
[BASE] n = 2,002

Preventive Care vs. Restorative Care



And in your view, should the money the Government of Canada is committing prioritize improving access to:

CANADIANS FAVOUR PRIORITIZING PREVENTIVE DENTAL CARE, EITHER ALONE (30%) OR ALONGSIDE RESTORATIVE CARE (50%).



	Total	LPC	CPC	NDP
Preventive dental care and restorative work equally	50%	51%	47%	54%
Preventive dental care	30%	31%	33%	22%
Restorative work, like fillings	20%	18%	21%	24%

[BASE] n = 2,002

And in your view, should the money the Government of Canada is committing prioritize improving access to:

PREFERENCES SHIFT WITH AGE FROM PREVENTION-ONLY TOWARD A BALANCED APPROACH, BUT SUPPORT FOR PREVENTION REMAINS STRONG AT EVERY AGE.

	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION						INCOME			Community					Parent	
		18 to 29	30 to 44	45 to 59	60 and over	Male	Female	BC	AB	SK/MB	ON	QC	ATL	< $50K	$50K - $100K	> $100K	Rural	Small	Medium	Large	Very Large	Yes	No
Preventive dental care and restorative work equally	**50%**	34%	39%	51%	67%	47%	52%	53%	52%	55%	50%	46%	47%	51%	51%	45%	45%	49%	51%	49%	52%	49%	51%
Preventive dental care, like the work dentists & dental hygienists do to prevent oral health issues like cavities, gingivitis, and oral cancer	**30%**	40%	37%	30%	20%	32%	28%	26%	31%	29%	31%	33%	26%	28%	28%	37%	31%	25%	31%	30%	33%	31%	30%
Restorative work, like fillings, etc., that dental health professionals undertake to fix existing oral health problems	**20%**	26%	24%	19%	14%	21%	19%	21%	17%	16%	19%	21%	27%	21%	21%	18%	24%	26%	18%	21%	15%	20%	20%
Column n	**2002**	363	498	507	634	984	1018	284	230	142	753	446	147	661	745	514	180	245	400	671	506	1018	984

[BASE] n = 2,002

And in your view, should the money the Government of Canada is committing prioritize improving access to:

REGARDLESS OF COVERAGE STATUS, ATTITUDES TOWARD THE CDCP, OR PERCEPTIONS OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS, CANADIANS CONSISTENTLY PRIORITIZE PREVENTIVE DENTAL CARE - EITHER ON ITS OWN OR ALONGSIDE RESTORATIVE CARE.

	TOTAL	Dental benefits coverage		Attitude toward CDCP		Applied for the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP)		How do you think of dental hygienists?		Impression of dental hygienists		Role of dental hygienists	
		Has dental benefits coverage	Does not have dental benefits coverage	Support	Oppose	Yes, applied for myself and/or dependent	No	As healthcare professionals	As staff who support other healthcare professionals	Positive	Negative	Essential + Important	Supporting + Relatively unimportant
Preventive dental care and restorative work equally	**50%**	49%	51%	50%	52%	47%	51%	50%	49%	50%	54%	50%	49%
Preventive dental care, like the work dentists & dental hygienists do to prevent oral health issues like cavities, gingivitis, and oral cancer	**30%**	30%	30%	30%	30%	29%	31%	31%	29%	31%	18%	31%	27%
Restorative work, like fillings, etc., that dental health professionals undertake to fix existing oral health problems	**20%**	20%	19%	20%	18%	24%	18%	19%	22%	20%	27%	19%	24%
Column n	**2002**	1589	413	1714	174	704	977	1145	857	1913	89	1651	323

[BASE] n = 2,002

And in your view, should the money the Government of Canada is committing prioritize improving access to:

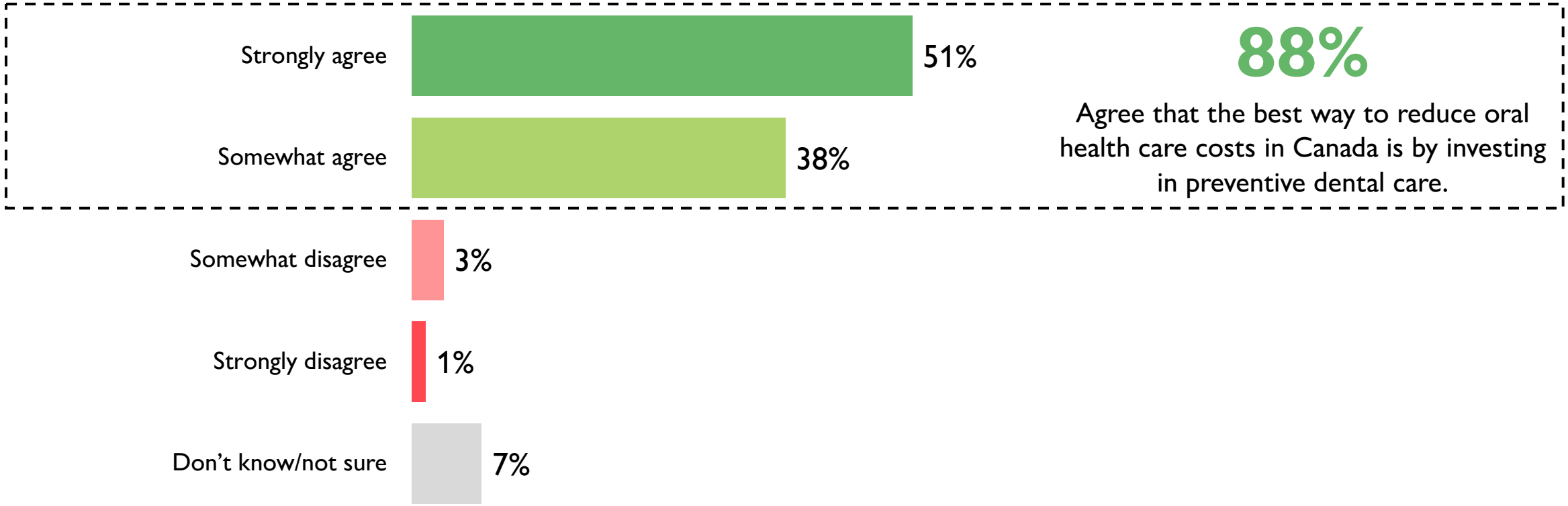
PREVENTIVE CARE REMAINS A PRIORITY ACROSS ALL GROUPS, WITH INFREQUENT USERS MORE LIKELY TO FAVOUR A BALANCED APPROACH.

	TOTAL	Last time accessed dental health services				Frequency visiting oral health professional					Frequency visiting dental hygienist				
		In the last 6 months	In the last year	In the last 2 years	More than 2 years ago	Every three or four months	Every 6 months	Once a year	Once every two years	Less often than every two years	Every three or four months	Every 6 months	Once a year	Once every two years	Less often than every two years
Preventive dental care and restorative work equally	**50%**	49%	44%	42%	60%	46%	45%	51%	40%	63%	47%	45%	50%	42%	60%
Preventive dental care, like the work dentists & dental hygienists do to prevent oral health issues like cavities, gingivitis, and oral cancer	**30%**	31%	35%	35%	22%	30%	33%	31%	36%	21%	30%	34%	32%	35%	22%
Restorative work, like fillings, etc., that dental health professionals undertake to fix existing oral health problems	**20%**	20%	20%	23%	18%	23%	22%	18%	24%	16%	23%	21%	18%	23%	18%
Column n	**2002**	1075	403	171	353	215	719	537	157	374	198	688	538	148	430

[BASE] n = 2,002

And separate from the CDCP, to what extent do you agree or disagree that the best way to reduce oral health care costs in Canada is by investing in preventive dental care, like the work dentists & dental hygienists do to prevent oral health issues like cavities, gingivitis, and oral cancer before they start.

NEARLY 9 IN 10 CANADIANS (88%) AGREE THAT INVESTING IN PREVENTIVE DENTAL CARE IS THE BEST WAY TO REDUCE ORAL HEALTH CARE COSTS.



[BASE] n = 2,002

And separate from the CDCP, to what extent do you agree or disagree that the best way to reduce oral health care costs in Canada is by investing in preventive dental care, like the work dentists & dental hygienists do to prevent oral health issues like cavities, gingivitis, and oral cancer before they start.

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	TOTAL	Dental benefits coverage		Attitude toward CDCP		Applied for the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP)		How do you think of dental hygienists?		Impression of dental hygienists		Role of dental hygienists	
		Has dental benefits coverage	Does not have dental benefits coverage	Support	Oppose	Yes, applied for myself and/or dependent	No	As healthcare professionals	As staff who support other healthcare professionals	Positive	Negative	Essential + Important	Supporting + Relatively unimportant
NET: Agree	**88%**	91%	80%	94%	64%	94%	89%	91%	85%	90%	49%	92%	77%
Strongly agree	**51%**	53%	44%	57%	16%	63%	47%	54%	46%	52%	23%	56%	29%
Somewhat agree	**38%**	38%	37%	38%	48%	31%	43%	36%	40%	38%	26%	36%	48%
Somewhat disagree	**3%**	3%	4%	2%	15%	1%	3%	2%	4%	3%	14%	2%	8%
Strongly disagree	**1%**	1%	3%	0%	12%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	14%	1%	5%
NET: Disagree	**5%**	4%	7%	2%	27%	2%	5%	3%	6%	4%	28%	3%	13%
Don't know/not sure	**7%**	5%	13%	3%	9%	4%	6%	6%	8%	6%	24%	5%	10%
Column n	**2002**	1589	413	1714	174	704	977	1145	857	1913	89	1651	323

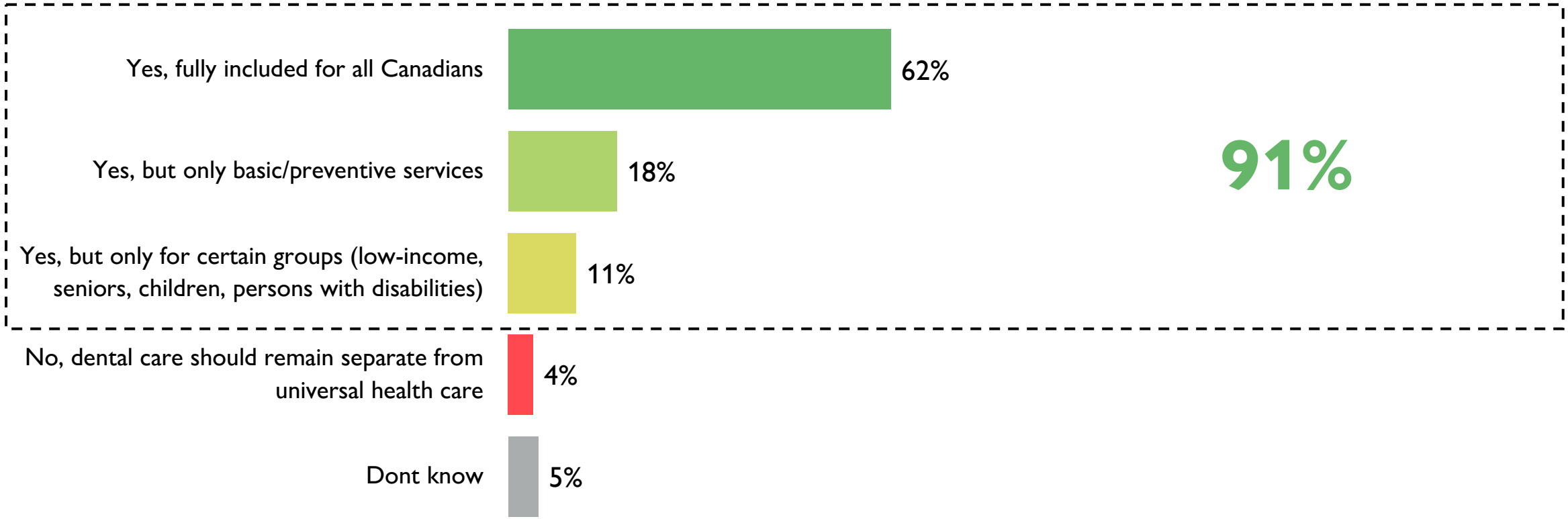
[BASE] n = 2,002

Access and Barriers to Care



Do you believe dental care should be included as part of Canada's universal health care system (like physician and hospital care)?

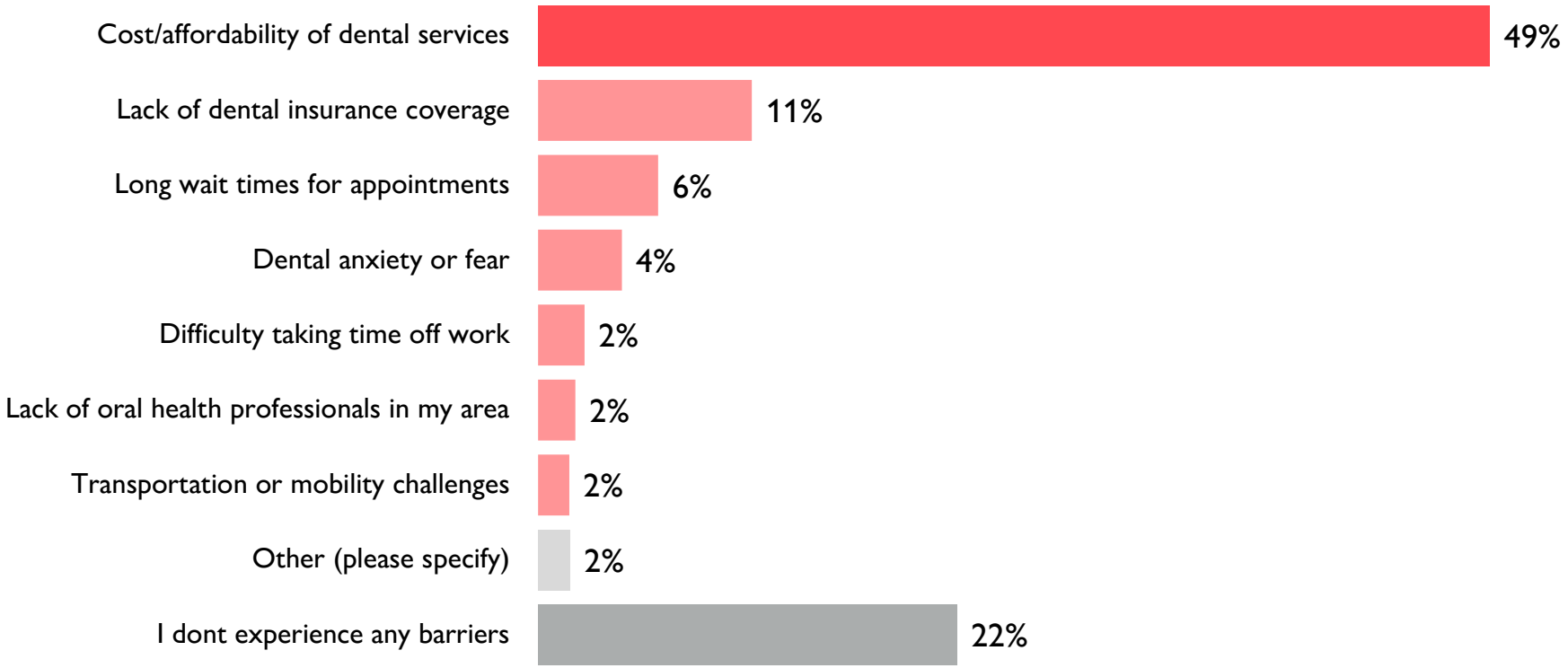
9 IN 10 (91%) CANADIANS SUPPORT INCLUDING DENTAL CARE IN CANADA'S UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE SYSTEM – EITHER FULLY, FOR BASIC/PREVENTIVE SERVICES, OR FOR SPECIFIC GROUPS.



[BASE] n = 2,002

What is the biggest barrier preventing you from accessing dental care as often as you would like?

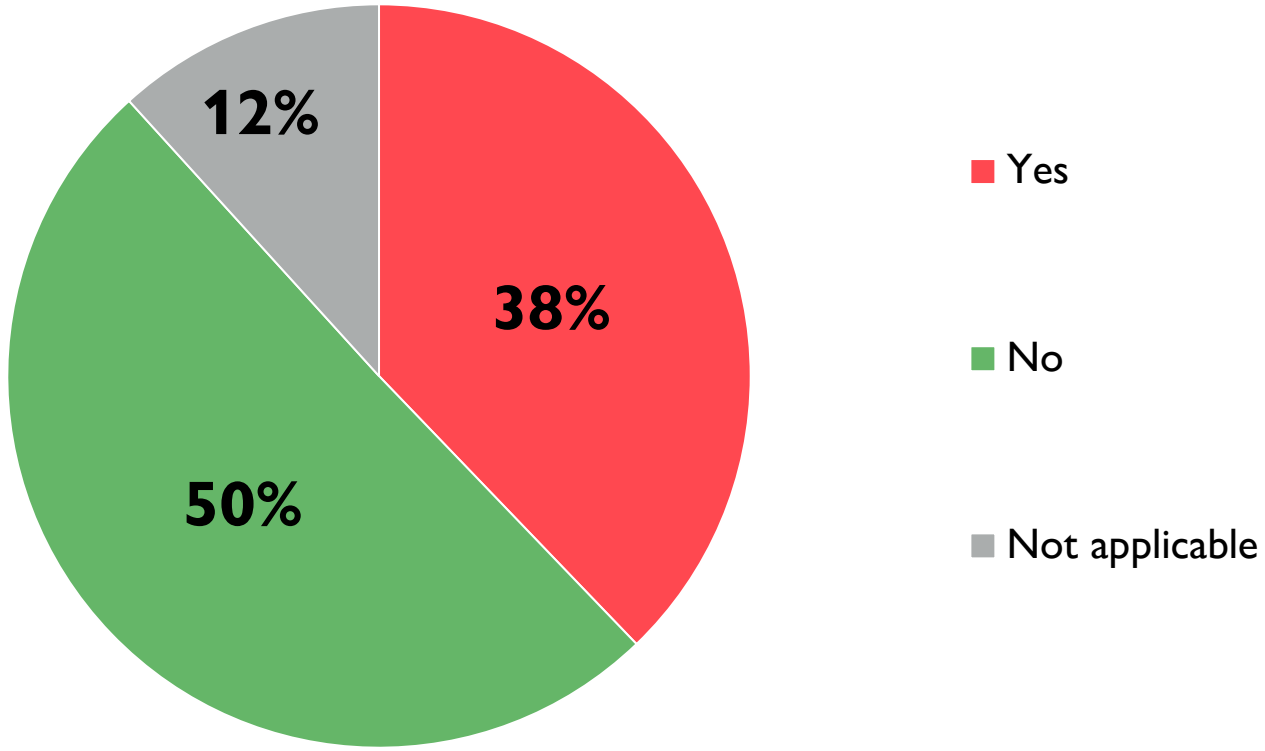
COST AND AFFORDABILITY OF DENTAL SERVICES REMAINS BY THE FAR THE LARGEST BARRIER (49%) PREVENTING ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE.



[BASE] n = 2,002

In the past 12 months, has concern about your overall financial situation (job security, inflation, or rising costs) caused you to put off dental care, even if you could technically afford it?

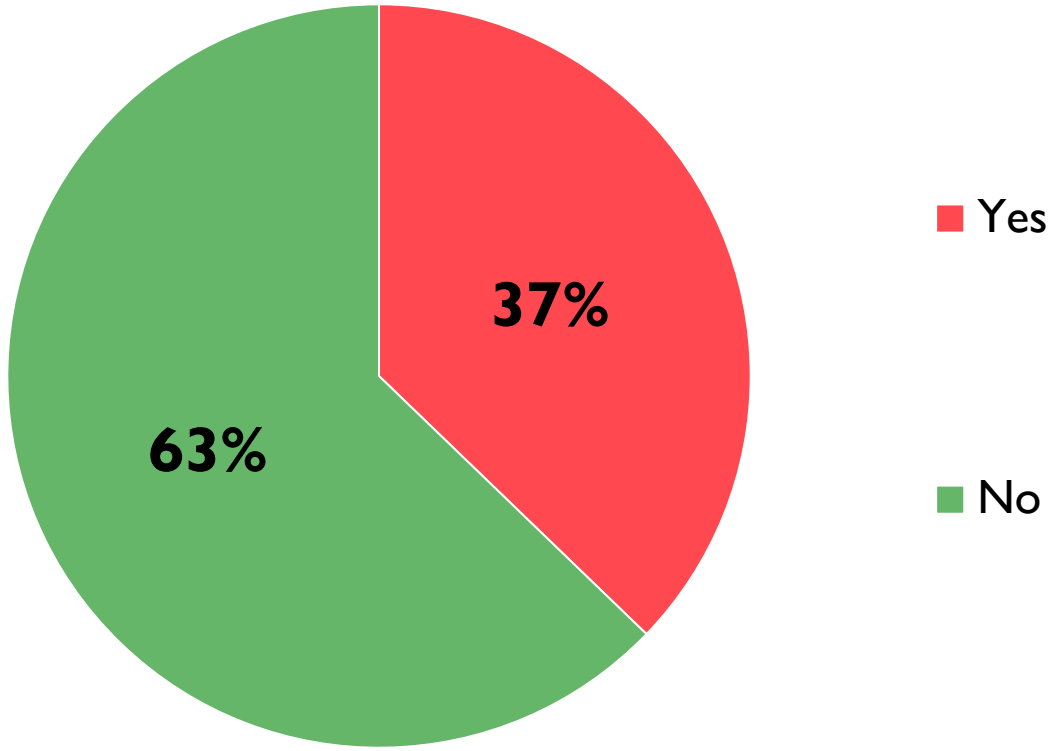
NEARLY 4 IN 10 (38%) CANADIANS SAY THAT CONCERN OVER THEIR FINANCIAL SITUATION HAS CAUSED THEM TO PUT OFF DENTAL CARE IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, EVEN IF THEY COULD TECHNICALLY AFFORD IT.



[BASE] n = 2,002

In the past 12 months, have you delayed or avoided dental care you wanted to get primarily because you could not afford it?

37% OF CANADIANS SAY THEY HAVE DELAYED OR AVOIDED DENTAL CARE PRIMARILY BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT AFFORD IT.



[BASE] n = 2,002

In the past 12 months, have you delayed or avoided dental care you wanted to get primarily because you could not afford it?

DELAYING OR AVOIDING DENTAL CARE DUE TO AFFORDABILITY CONCERNS IS MORE COMMON AMONG YOUNGER CANADIANS, WOMEN, LOWER-INCOME EARNERS, AND RURAL RESIDENTS, AS WELL AS AMONG THOSE LIVING IN ALBERTA AND ATLANTIC CANADA.

	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION						INCOME			Community					Parent	
		18 to 29	30 to 44	45 to 59	60 and over	Male	Female	BC	AB	SK/MB	ON	QC	ATL	< $50K	$50K - $100K	> $100K	Rural	Small	Medium	Large	Very Large	Yes	No
Yes	**37%**	46%	43%	38%	27%	33%	41%	37%	47%	36%	37%	31%	47%	47%	38%	22%	47%	35%	39%	36%	35%	38%	36%
No	**63%**	54%	57%	62%	73%	67%	59%	63%	53%	64%	63%	69%	53%	53%	62%	78%	53%	65%	61%	64%	65%	62%	64%
Column n	**2002**	363	498	507	634	984	1018	284	230	142	753	446	147	661	745	514	180	245	400	671	506	1018	984

[BASE] n = 2,002

In the past 12 months, have you delayed or avoided dental care you wanted to get primarily because you could not afford it?

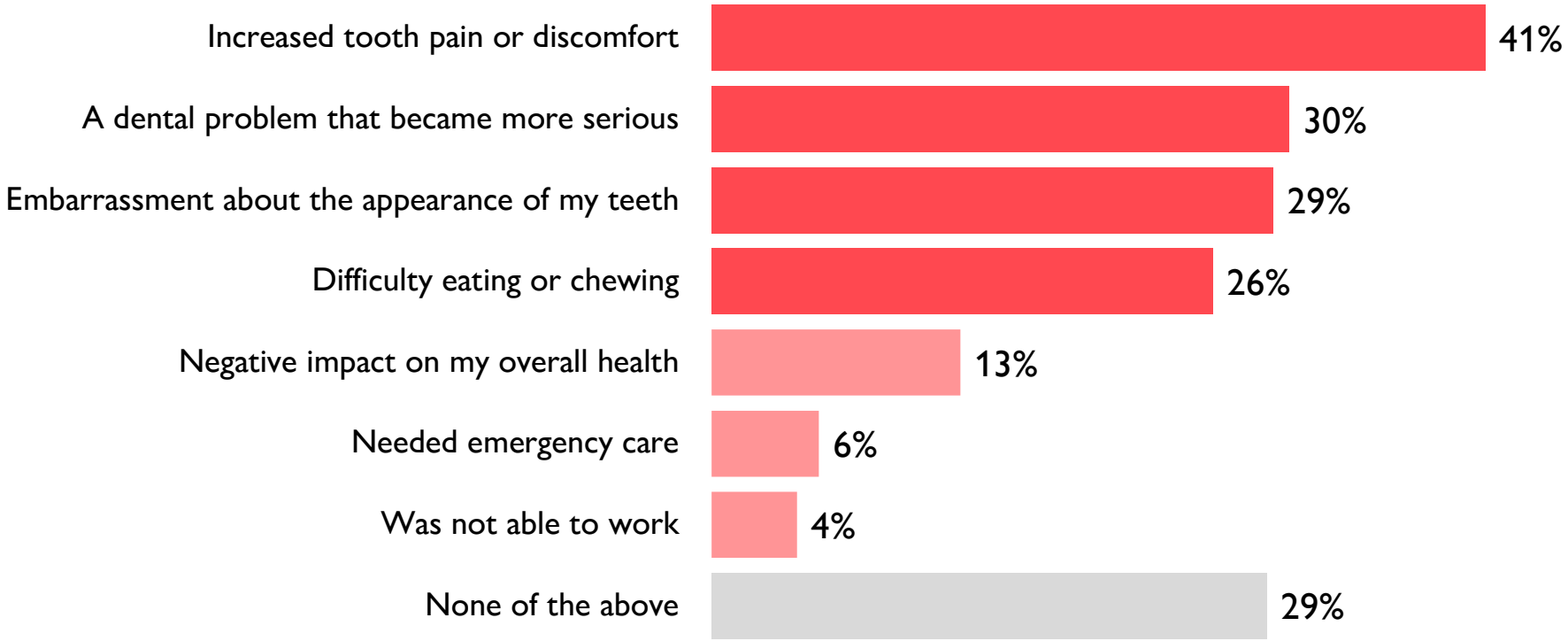
DELAYING OR AVOIDING DENTAL CARE DUE TO AFFORDABILITY IS MORE COMMON AMONG CANADIANS WITHOUT DENTAL COVERAGE AND CDCP APPLICANTS.

	TOTAL	Dental benefits coverage		Attitude toward CDCP		Applied for the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP)		How do you think of dental hygienists?		Impression of dental hygienists		Role of dental hygienists	
		Has dental benefits coverage	Does not have dental benefits coverage	Support	Oppose	Yes, applied for myself and/or dependent	No	As healthcare professionals	As staff who support other healthcare professionals	Positive	Negative	Essential + Important	Supporting + Relatively unimportant
Yes	37%	35%	45%	39%	27%	44%	33%	36%	39%	37%	49%	37%	39%
No	63%	65%	55%	61%	73%	56%	67%	64%	61%	63%	51%	63%	61%
Column n	2002	1589	413	1714	174	704	977	1145	857	1913	89	1651	323

[BASE] n = 2,002

As a result of delaying or avoiding dental care due to cost, did you experience any of the following?

REPORTED IMPACTS OF DELAYING OR AVOIDING DENTAL CARE DUE TO COST.



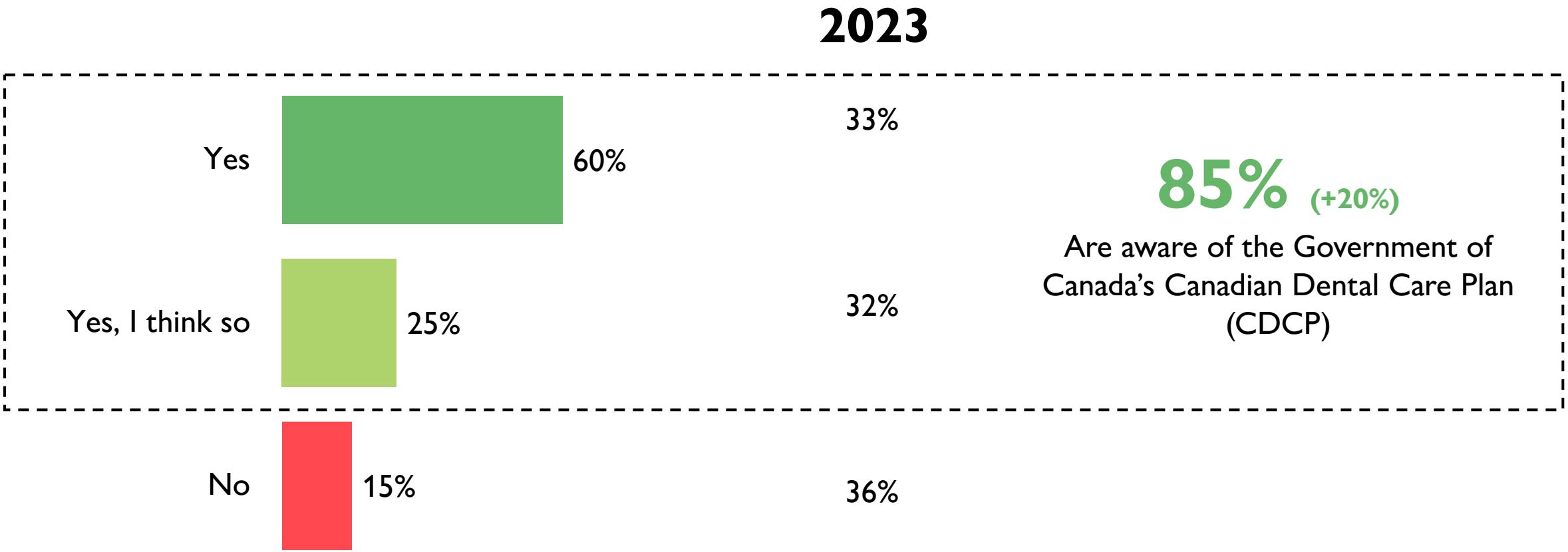
[THOSE WHO HAVE DELAYED RECEIVING DENTAL CARE] n = 729

Canadian Dental Care Plan



Are you aware of the Government of Canada's Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP)?

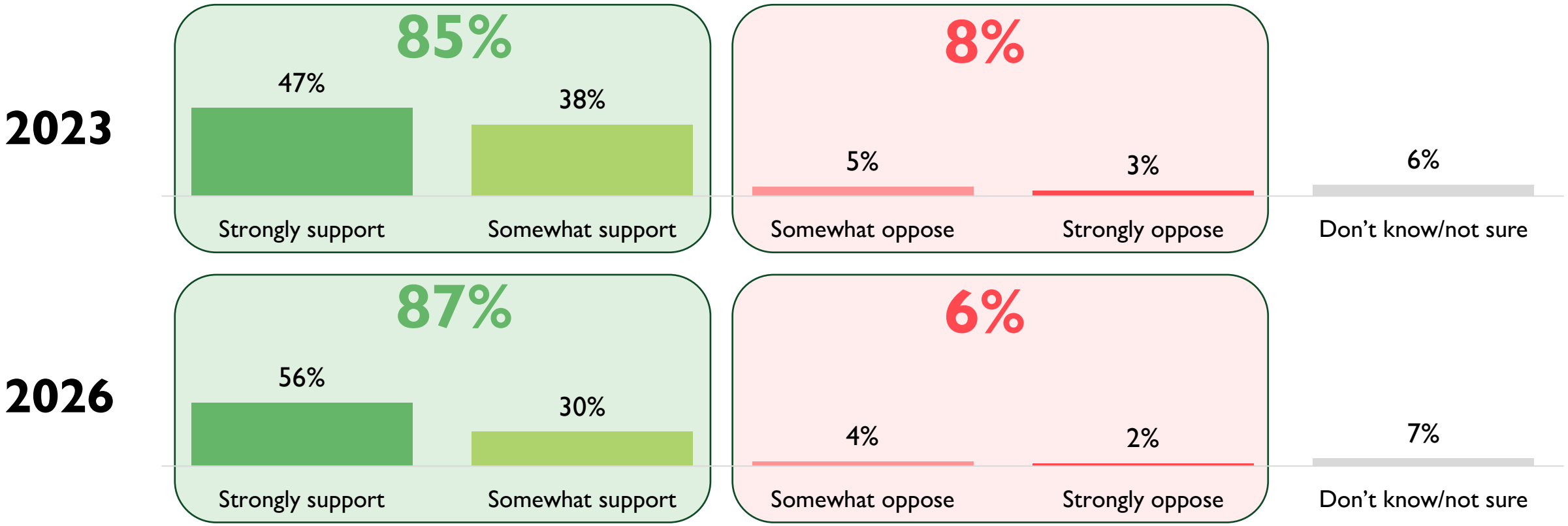
AWARENESS OF THE CANADIAN DENTAL CARE PLAN (CDCP) IS HIGH, WITH 85% OF CANADIANS AWARE (UP 20 POINTS SINCE 2023).



[BASE] n = 2,002 | Note: Question wording was updated from the 2023 wave. Previously: *Have you seen, read, or heard anything about the Government of Canada implementing a national dental care program, or recall any funding announced in 2022 to improve access to dental care more generally?*

And based on what you saw, read or heard, is this a program you support or oppose?

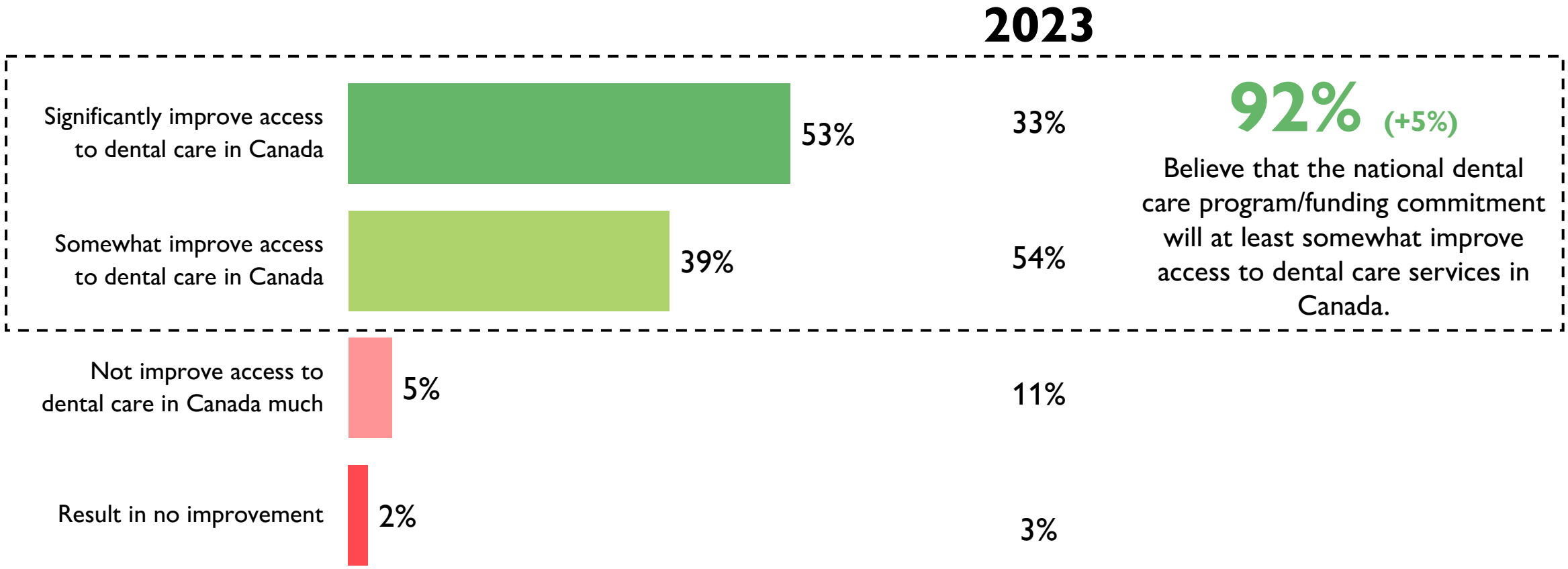
SUPPORT FOR THE CANADIAN DENTAL CARE PLAN REMAINS HIGH AT 87%, UP TWO POINTS SINCE 2023.



[THOSE AWARE OF CDCP] n = 1,717

And based on what you saw, read, or heard, is your sense that this program will…

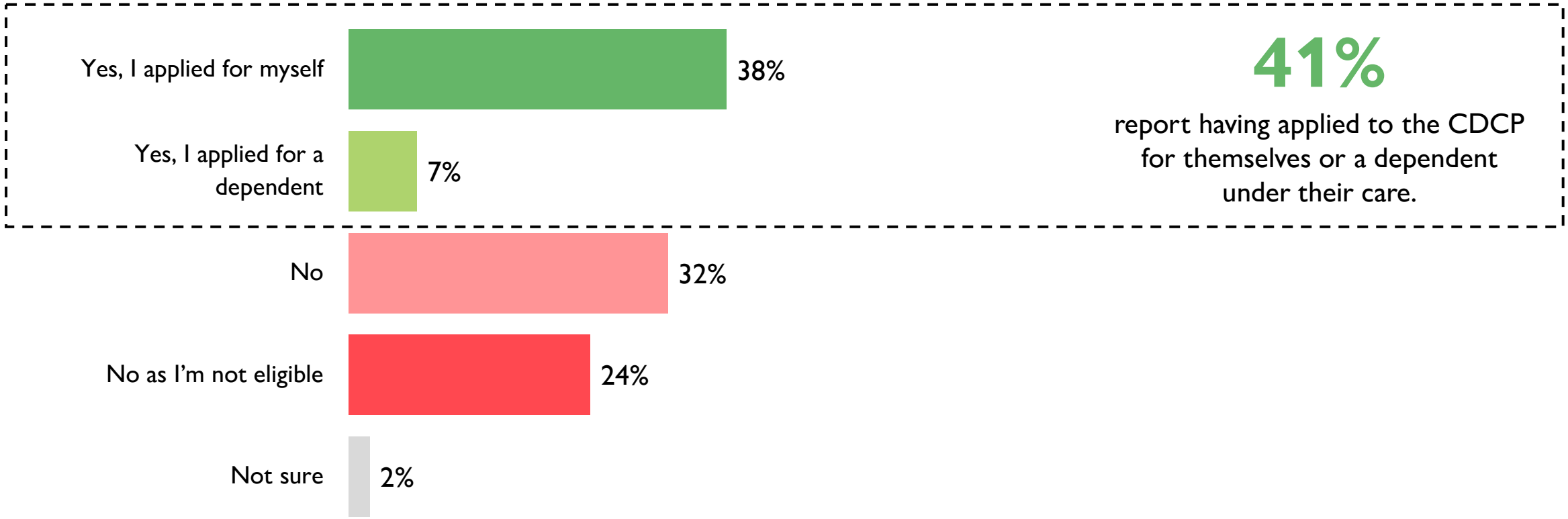
AMONG THOSE AWARE OF THE CDCP, 92% BELIEVE THE PROGRAM WILL IMPROVE ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE, UP FIVE POINTS SINCE 2023.



[THOSE AWARE OF CDCP] n = 1,717

Have you applied for the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) for yourself?

4 IN 10 (41%) CANADIANS AWARE OF THE CDCP REPORT HAVING APPLIED FOR THE PROGRAM; MEANWHILE 1 IN 4 (24%) SAY THEY'RE NOT ELIGIBLE.



[THOSE AWARE OF CDCP] n = 1,717

Have you applied for the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) for yourself?

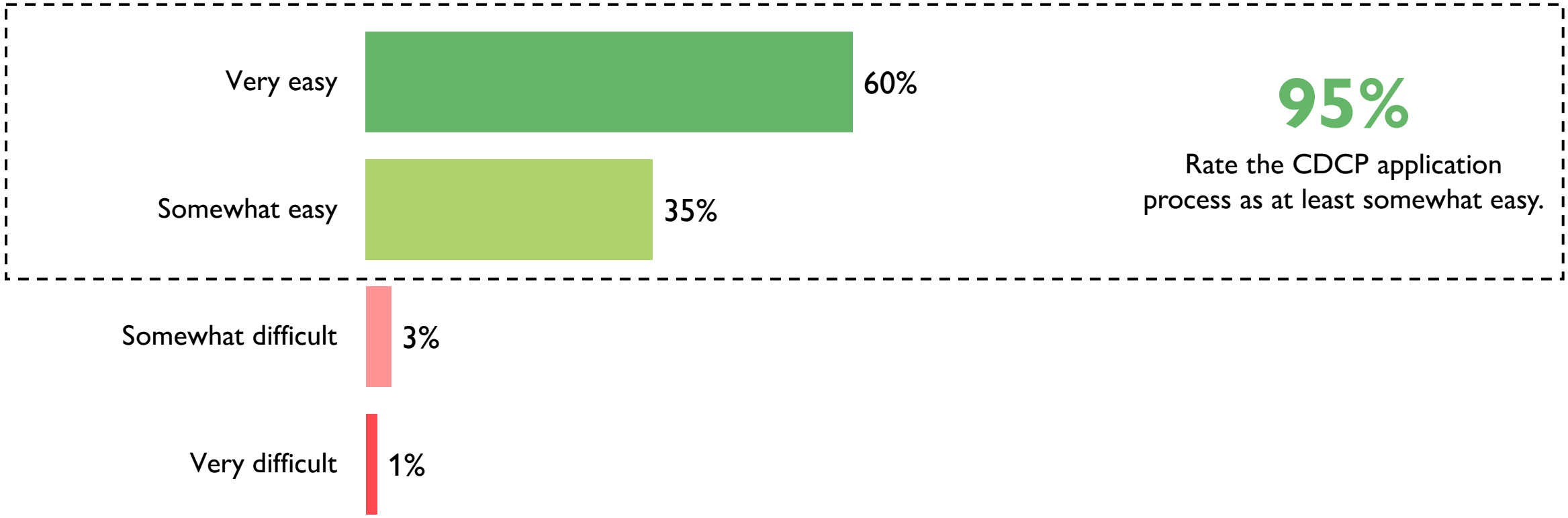
APPLICATIONS TO THE CDCP FOR ONESELF ARE HIGHEST AMONG CANADIANS AGED 60+ (51%) AND THOSE WITH HOUSEHOLD INCOMES UNDER $50,000 (54%).

	TOTAL	AGE				GENDER		REGION						INCOME			Community					Parent	
		18 to 29	30 to 44	45 to 59	60 and over	Male	Female	BC	AB	SK/MB	ON	QC	ATL	< $50K	$50K - $100K	> $100K	Rural	Small	Medium	Large	Very Large	Yes	No
NET: Yes, I applied for myself + Yes, I applied for a dependent	**41%**	45%	35%	31%	51%	41%	42%	41%	30%	36%	44%	45%	37%	56%	39%	23%	40%	42%	43%	41%	41%	43%	39%
Yes, I applied for myself	**38%**	37%	31%	28%	51%	37%	39%	37%	27%	32%	40%	42%	37%	54%	35%	19%	38%	39%	41%	37%	37%	40%	36%
Yes, I applied for a dependent	**7%**	12%	7%	7%	4%	7%	6%	9%	6%	6%	8%	5%	5%	6%	9%	6%	7%	7%	4%	7%	9%	10%	3%
No	**32%**	37%	37%	36%	23%	31%	33%	30%	43%	36%	31%	28%	35%	31%	32%	35%	40%	33%	29%	32%	32%	28%	37%
No as I'm not eligible	**24%**	12%	26%	31%	25%	26%	23%	26%	25%	26%	22%	26%	28%	9%	28%	42%	17%	23%	25%	26%	25%	27%	21%
Not sure	**2%**	5%	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%	2%	3%	3%	1%	1%	3%	2%	1%	3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%
Column n	**1717**	291	412	428	586	841	876	243	185	113	655	395	126	561	639	457	140	212	340	583	442	901	816

[BASE] n = 2,002

How would you rate your experience with the CDCP application process?

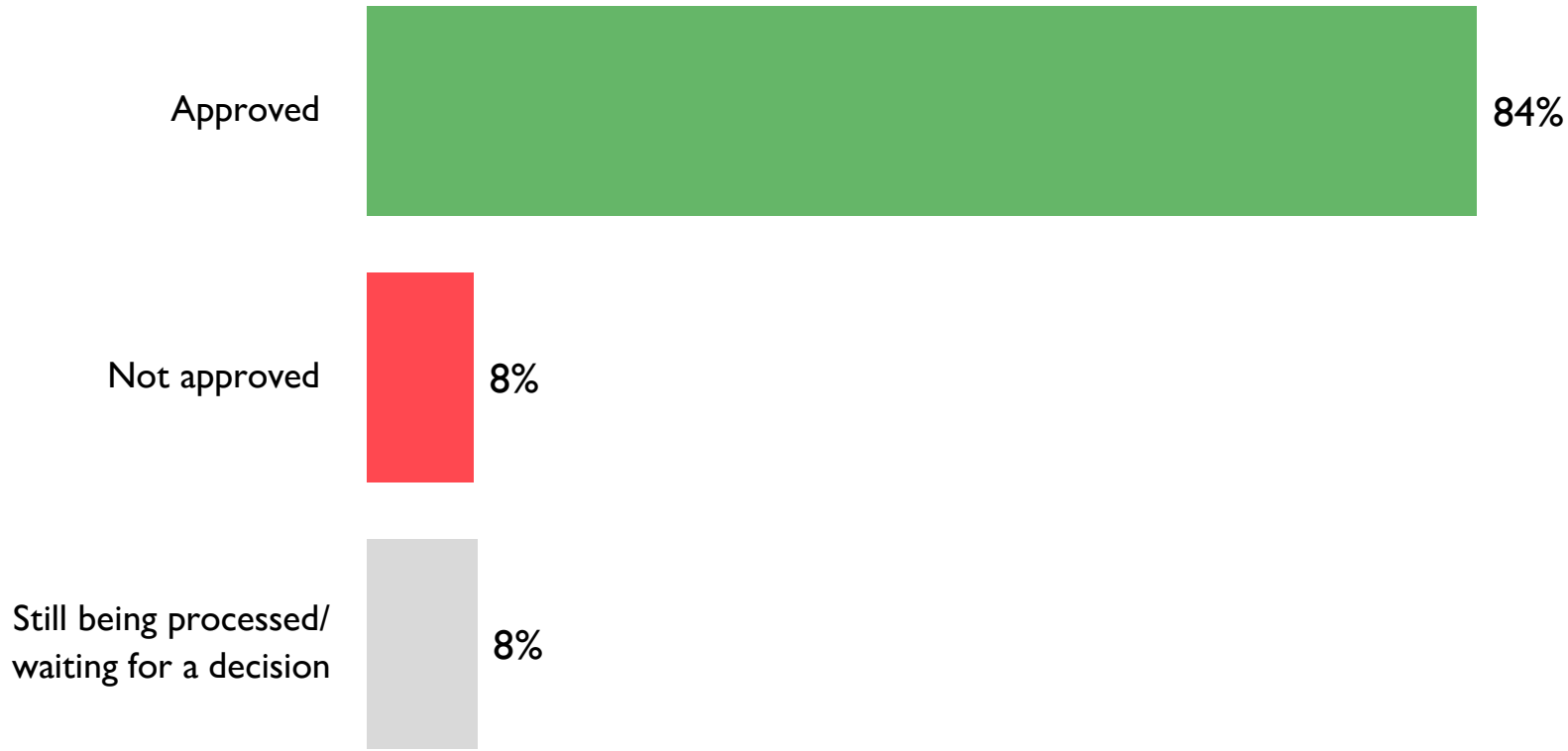
NEARLY ALL CDCP APPLICANTS RATE THE APPLICATION PROCESS AS AT LEAST SOMEWHAT EASY (95%).



[THOSE WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR CDCP] n = 704

What is the current status of your Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) application?

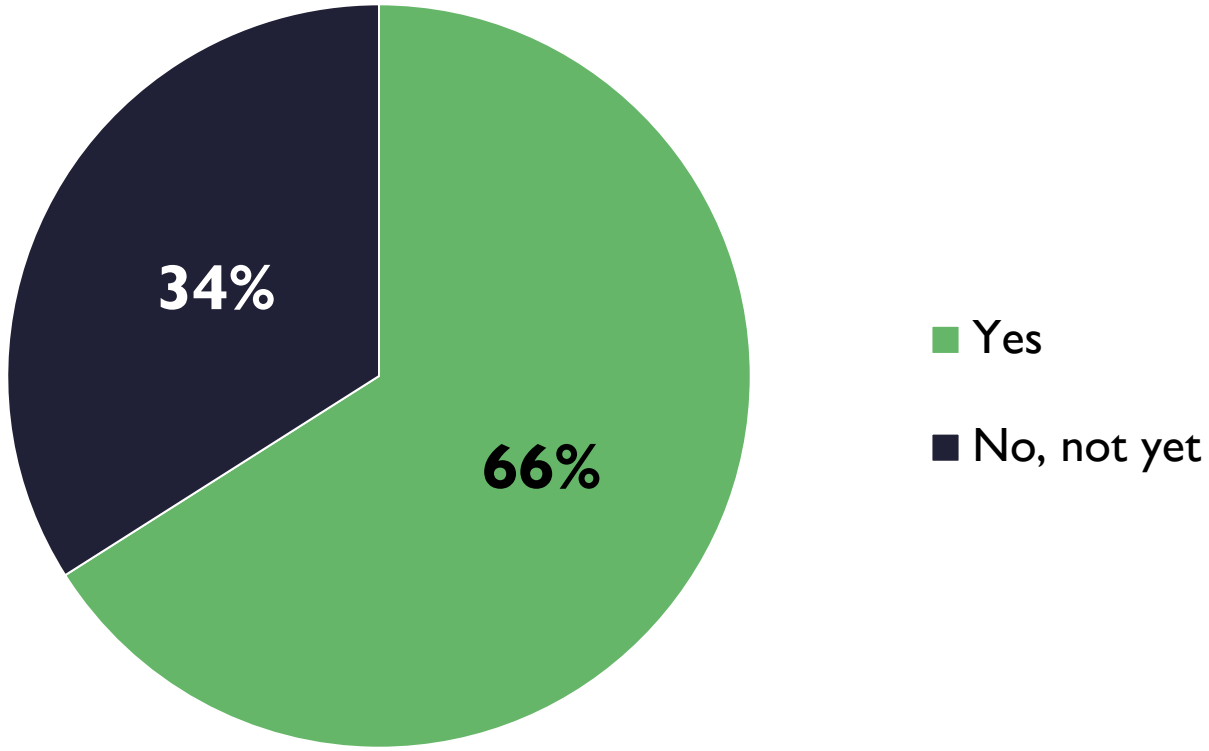
THE VAST MAJORITY OF CDCP APPLICANTS (84%) REPORT THEIR APPLICATION HAS BEEN APPROVED, MEANWHILE 8% SAY THEIR APPLICATION IS STILL BEING PROCESSED.



[THOSE WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR CDCP] n = 704

Have you already attended an oral health appointment that was covered by the CDCP?

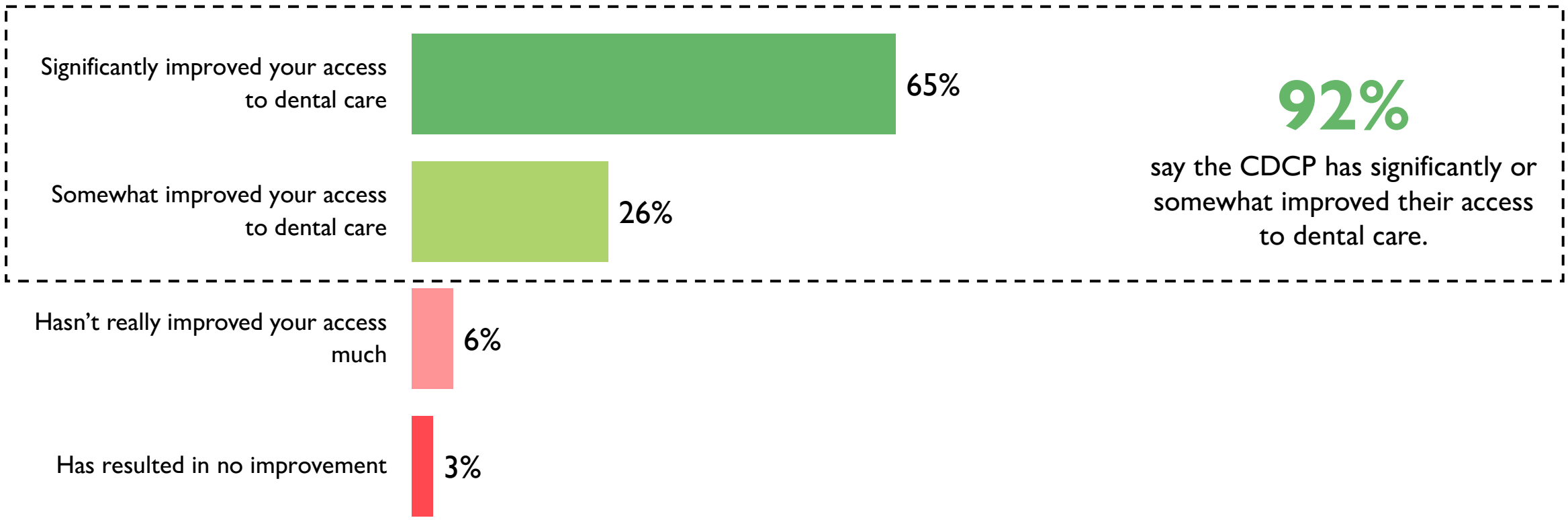
2 IN 3 (66%) CANADIANS WITH AN APPROVED CDCP APPLICATION HAVE ALREADY ATTENDED A COVERED DENTAL APPOINTMENT.



[THOSE WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR CDCP AND APPLICATION IS APPROVED] n = 595

Would you say this program to date has…

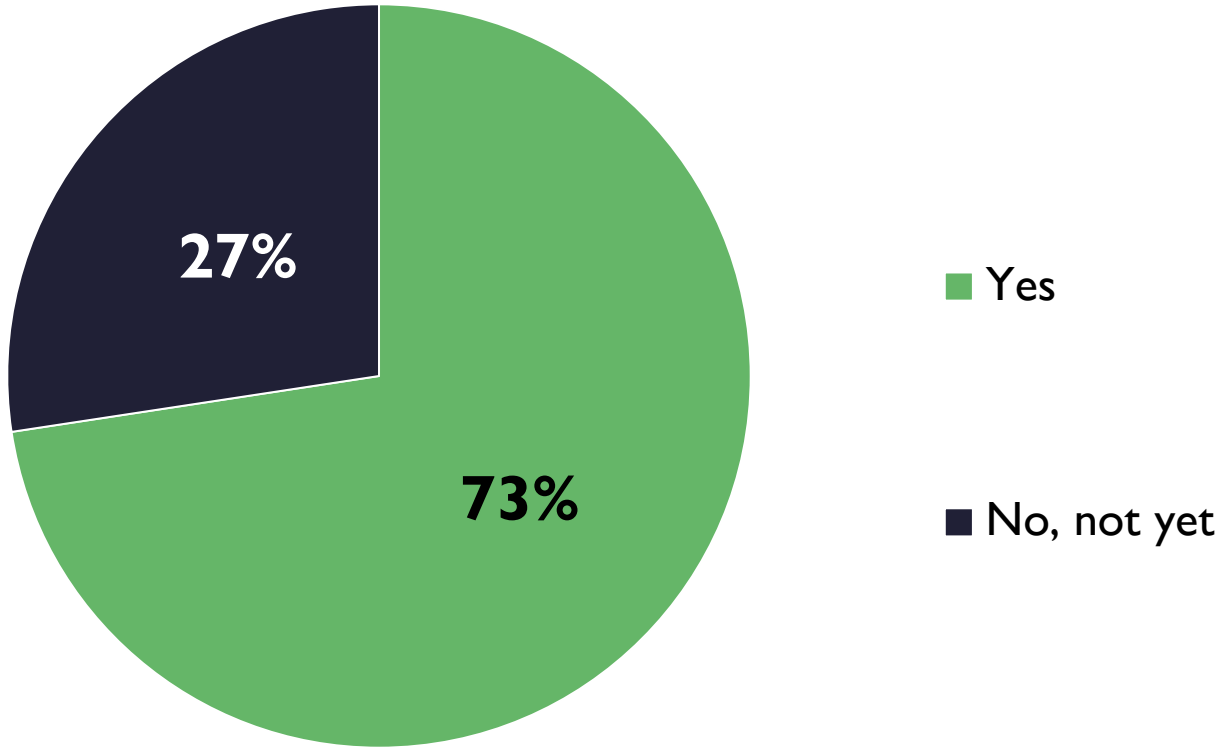
THE VAST MAJORITY OF CDCP USERS (92%) SAY THE PROGRAM HAS AT LEAST SOMEWHAT IMPROVED THEIR ACCESS TO DENTAL CARE.



[THOSE WHO HAVE ATTENDED AN APPOINTMENT COVERED BY THE CDCP] n = 395

Has this program helped you access dental care services you weren't previously able to access?

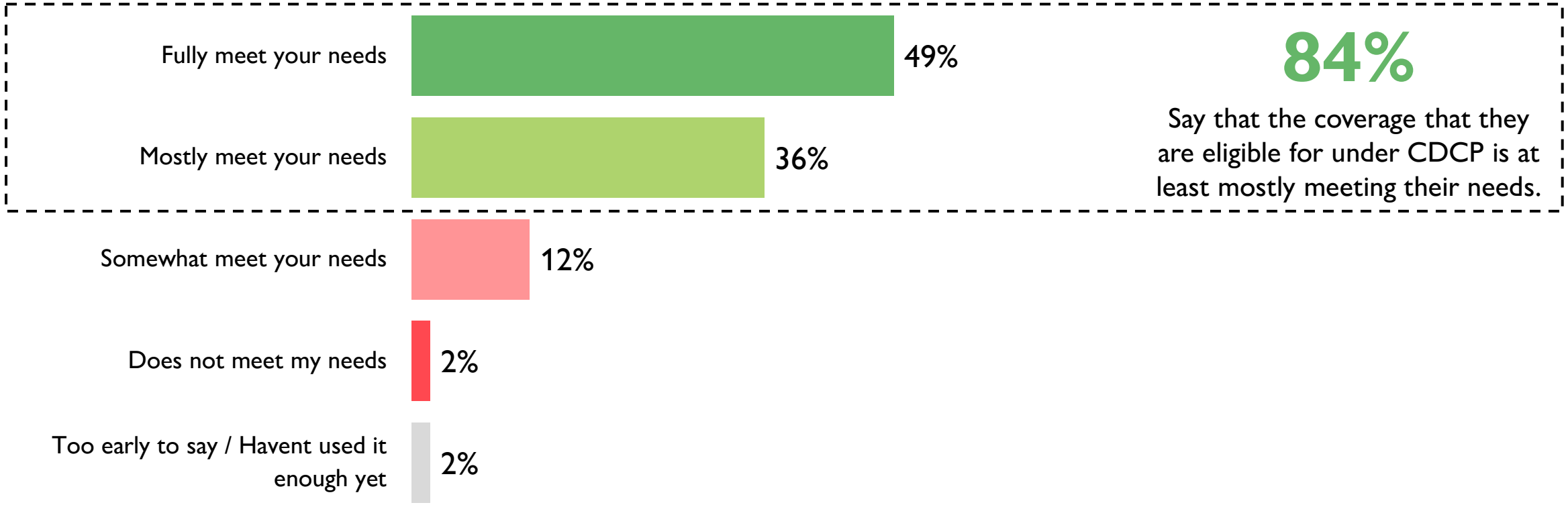
NEARLY 3 IN 4 (73%) OF CDCP USERS SAY THE PROGRAM HAS HELPED THEM ACCESS DENTAL SERVICES THEY PREVIOUSLY COULD NOT.



[THOSE WHO HAVE ATTENDED AN APPOINTMENT COVERED BY THE CDCP] n = 395

And does the coverage you are eligible for…

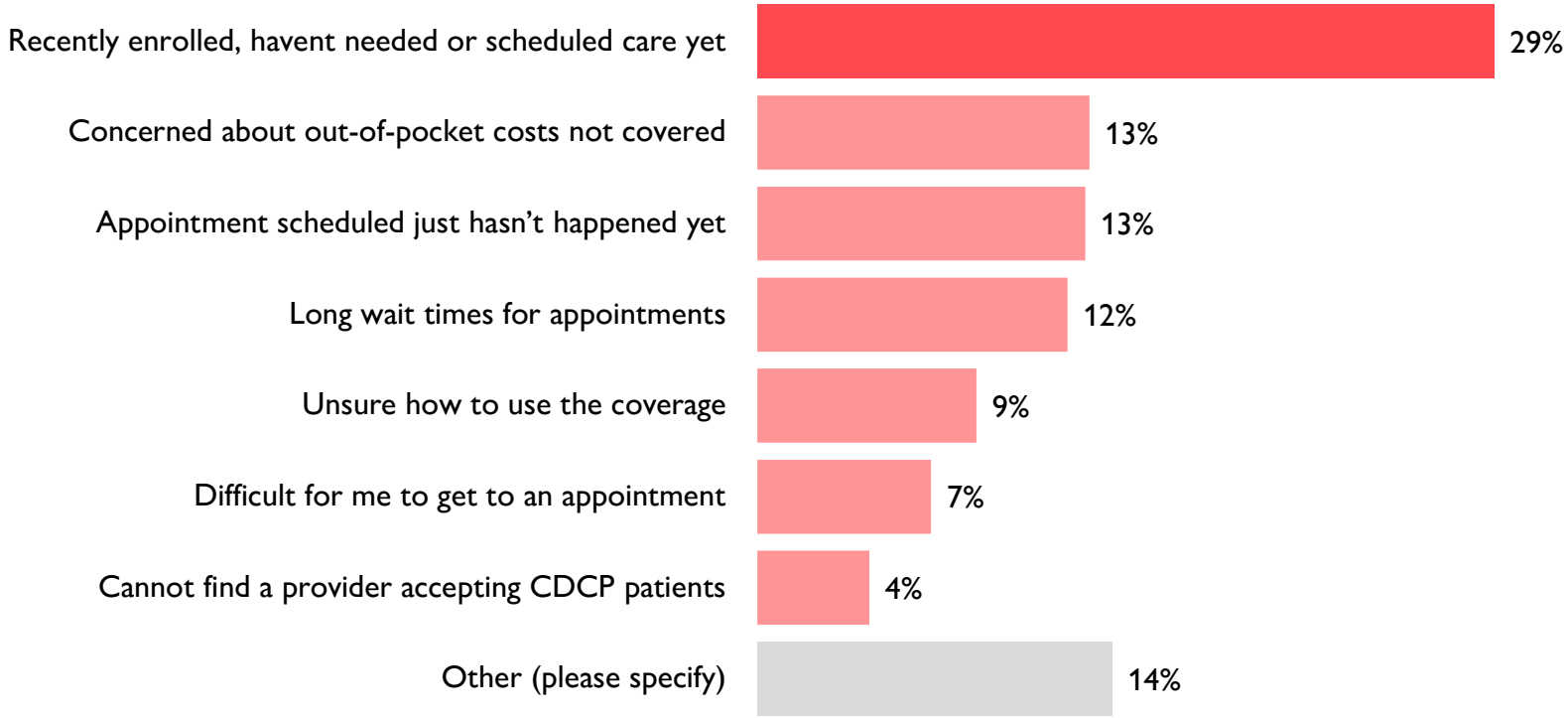
MORE THAN 8 IN 10 CDCP USERS (84%) SAY THEIR COVERAGE FULLY OR MOSTLY MEETS THEIR DENTAL CARE NEEDS.



[THOSE WHO HAVE ATTENDED AN APPOINTMENT COVERED BY THE CDCP] n = 395

What is the primary reason you have not yet used your CDCP coverage?

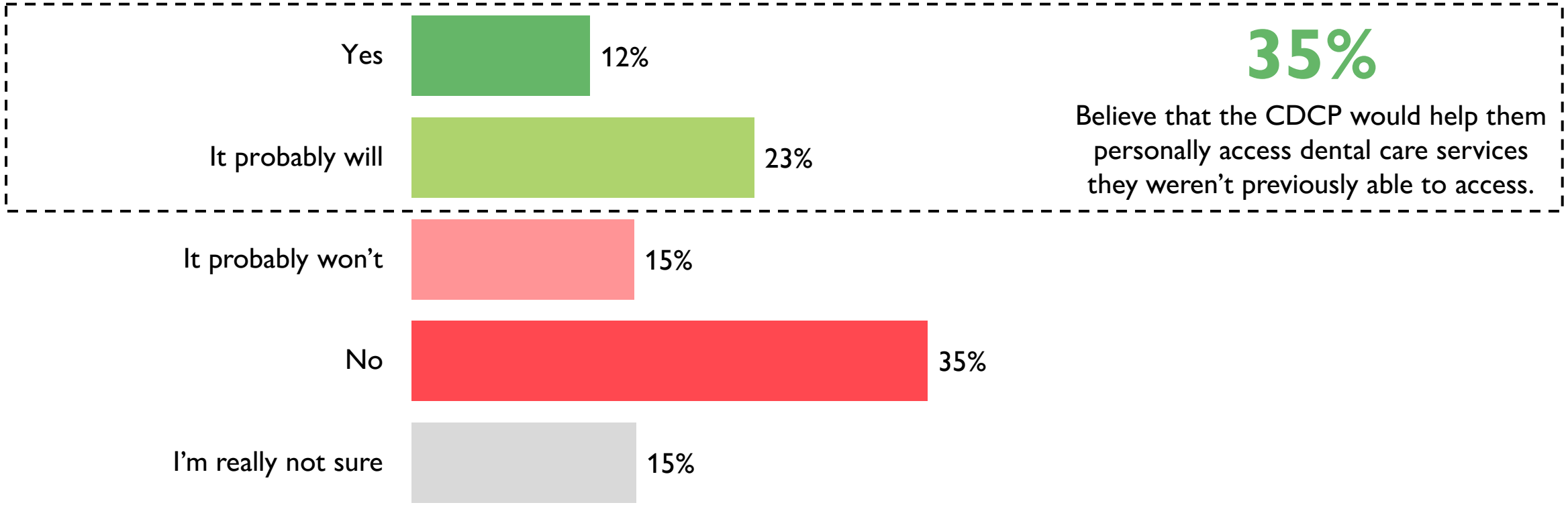
AMONG APPROVED CDCP APPLICANTS WHO HAVE NOT YET USED THEIR COVERAGE, THE MOST COMMON REASONS ARE BEING NEWLY ENROLLED (29%), HAVING AN APPOINTMENT SCHEDULED BUT NOT YET COMPLETED (13%), AND CONCERNS ABOUT OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS (13%).



[THOSE WHO HAVE NOT ATTENDED AN APPOINTMENT COVERED BY THE CDCP] n = 200

Based on what you know, is this a program that will help you personally access dental care services you weren't previously able to access?

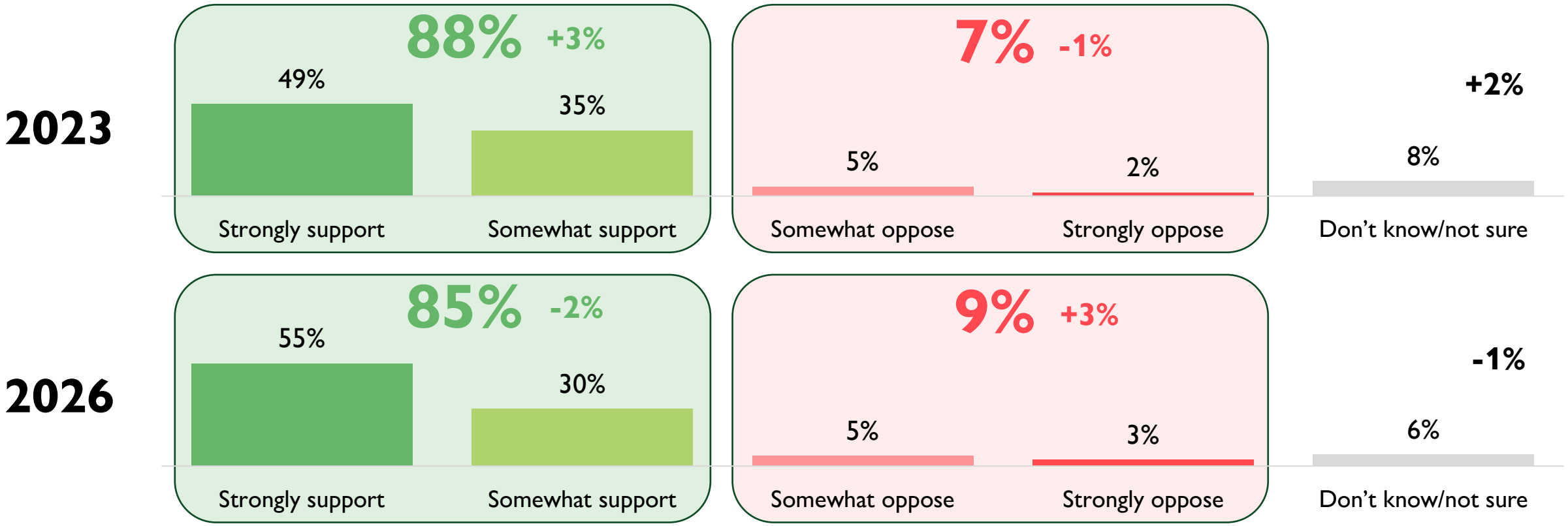
AMONG NON-APPLICANTS, ABOUT ONE-THIRD (35%) BELIEVE THE CDCP WOULD LIKELY HELP THEM ACCESS DENTAL CARE THEY COULDN'T PREVIOUSLY ACCESS.



[THOSE WHO HAVE NOT APPLIED FOR THE CDCP] N = 1,013

As you may or may not know, in 2022 the Government of Canada announced it would put 3 billion dollars over five years to provide dental care for Canadians with family incomes of less than $90,000 annually. The Canadian Dental Care Plan is now open to all eligible Canadians. Based on this description, to what degree do you support or oppose this initiative?

AFTER LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE CDCP, SUPPORT REMAINS VERY HIGH, WITH 85% OF CANADIANS IN SUPPORT OF THE PROGRAM.



[BASE] n = 2,002 | Note: Change in question wording from 2023, previously: *As you may or may not know, in 2022 the Government of Canada announced it would put 3 billion dollars over five years to provide dental care for Canadians with family incomes of less than $90,000 annually, starting with under 12 years-olds in 2022, expanding to under 18 years-olds, seniors, and persons living with a disability in 2023, with full implementation by 2025. Based on this description, to what degree do you support or oppose this initiative?*

Methodology

The survey was conducted with 2,002 Canadian adults from January 20 to 26, 2026. A random sample of panelists were invited to complete the survey from a set of partner panels based on the Lucid exchange platform. These partners are typically double opt-in survey panels, blended to manage out potential skews in the data from a single source.

The margin of error for a comparable probability-based random sample of the same size is +/- 2.19%, 19 times out of 20.

The data were weighted according to census data to ensure that the sample matched Canada's population according to age, gender, educational attainment, and region. Totals may not add up to 100 due to rounding.



THE CANADIAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION

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