



**Help Me Grow**  
ORANGE COUNTY

## **Connecting Families to Developmental Services**

CHOC/UCI NEURODEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS  
Supported by the Children & Families Commission of Orange County

# What is Developmental Screening?

A brief assessment procedure designed to identify children who should receive more intensive diagnosis or evaluation from local **early intervention (EI), early childhood special education (ECSE), health, and/or mental health agencies**

Answers the question: "Does the child need further evaluation?"



# Why is Developmental Screening Important?

- About 16% of children have disabilities, including speech and language delays, intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, and emotional/behavioral problems.
- Only 50% of children with disabilities are detected prior to school entrance.
- Under-detection eliminates the possibility of Early Intervention.
- There is no point in waiting to screen until the problem is observable.
- Informal checklists have no validated criteria for referral.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Committee on Children with Disabilities recommends the use of standardized screening tools.

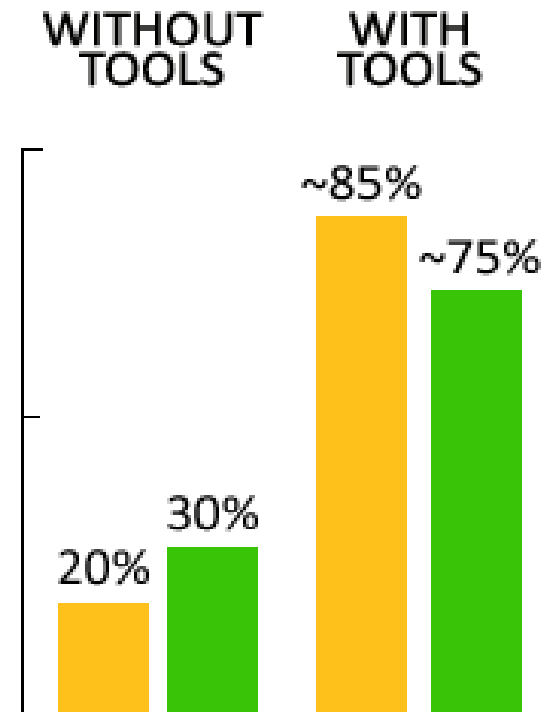
# Surveillance alone is not enough.

Research shows that screening with a standardized tool — is almost three times as likely to identify developmental and behavioral problems than professional judgment alone.

The use of quality tools rather than informal methods, such as milestones checklists greatly improves detection rates.

## DETECTION RATES

- Mental Health Problems
- Developmental Disabilities





# Detection Rates of Children with Existing Delays

	Without Screening Tools	With Screening Tools
Developmental Disabilities	14-54% identified Sheldrick et al, 2011	70-80% identified Squires et al, 1996
Mental Health Problems	20% identified Lavigne et al, 1993	80-90% identified Sturner, 1991

Do not ignore screening results—there is no value to  
“wait and see.”

Then what ?

***Help Me Grow* provides a comprehensive, countywide, coordinated system for early identification, referral and care coordination of children at risk for developmental and behavioral problems.**



# Help Me Grow Orange County

## *Core Components of a HMG System*

**1. Child health care provider** outreach to support early detection and intervention.

**2. Community outreach** to promote the use of HMG and provide networking opportunities among families and service providers.

**3. Centralized telephone access point** for connecting children and their families to services and care coordination.

**4. Data collection** to understand all aspects of the *HMG* system, including identification of gaps and barriers.



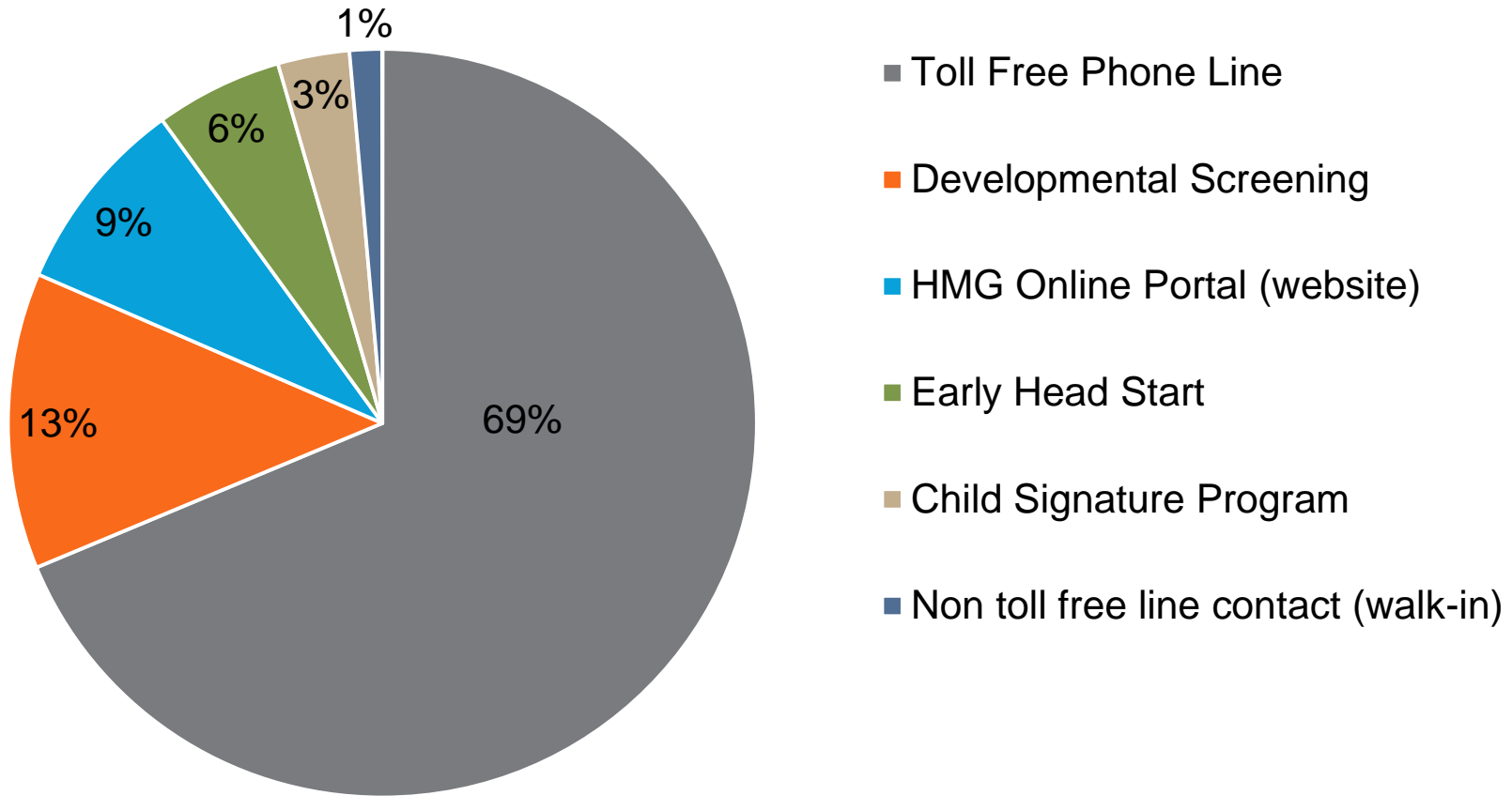


# What has been accomplished?

Based on data collected January–December, 2013

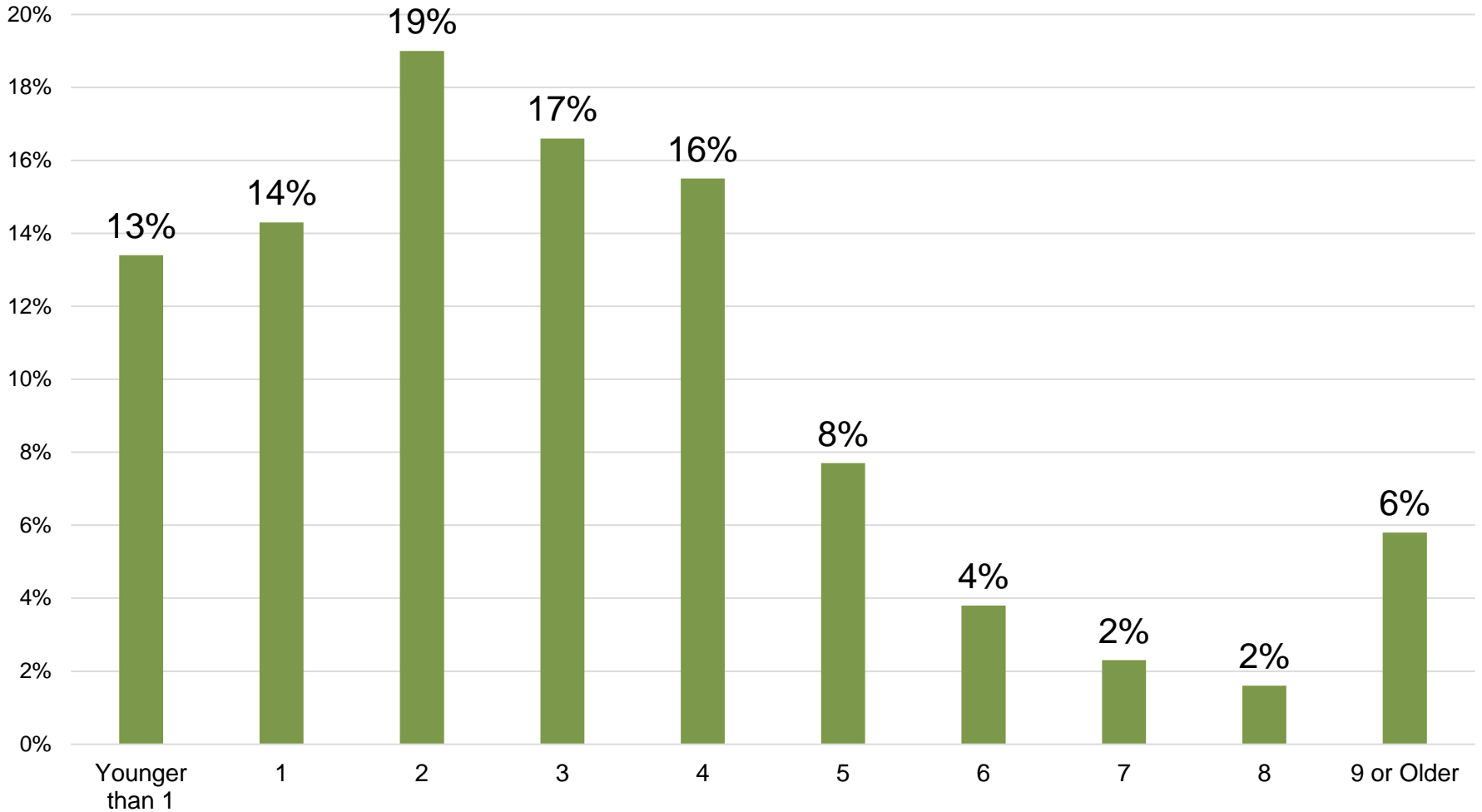


# Access Point to HMG-OC (N=3,227)



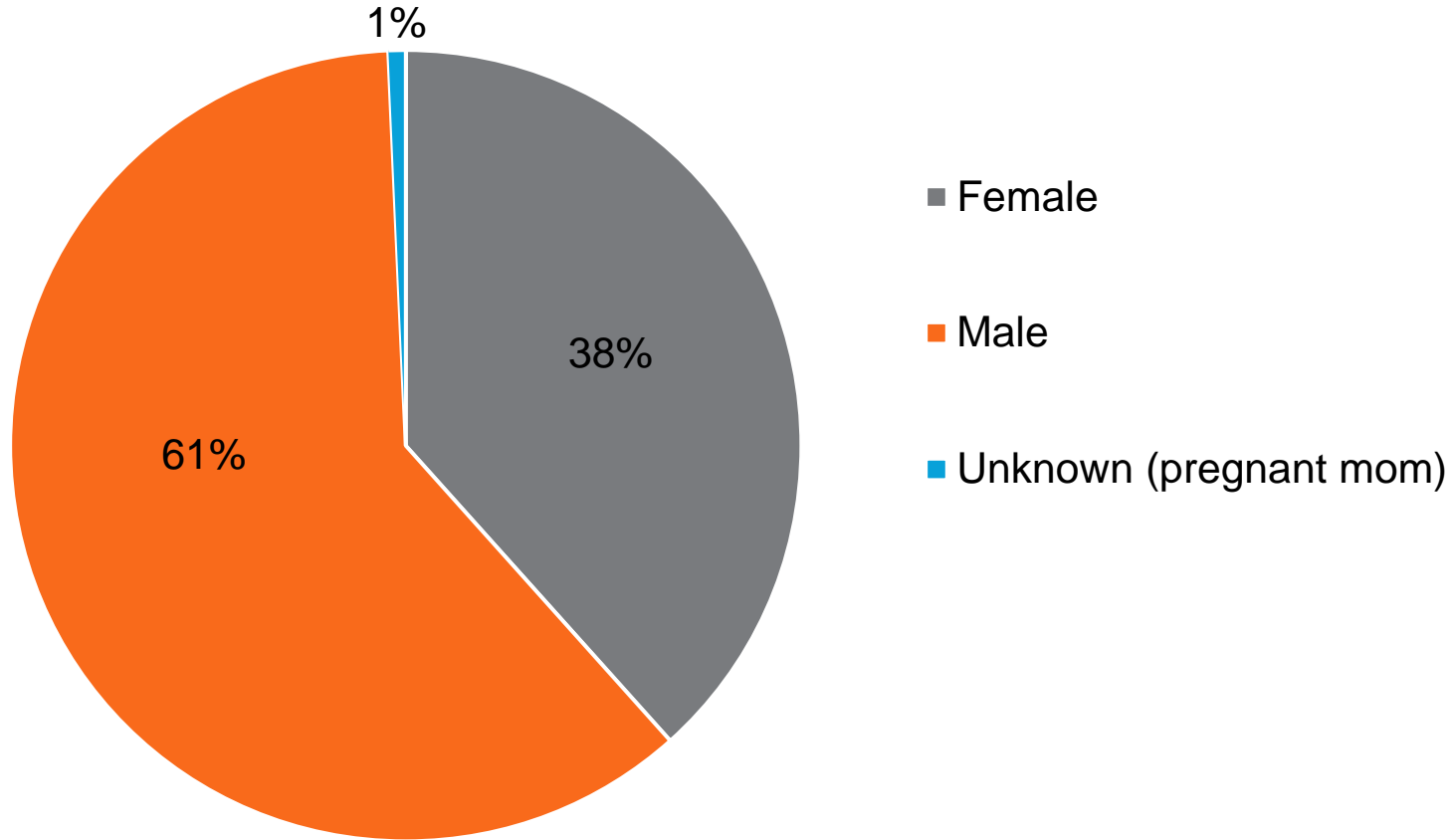


# Ages of Children Served by HMG-OC (N=3,277)

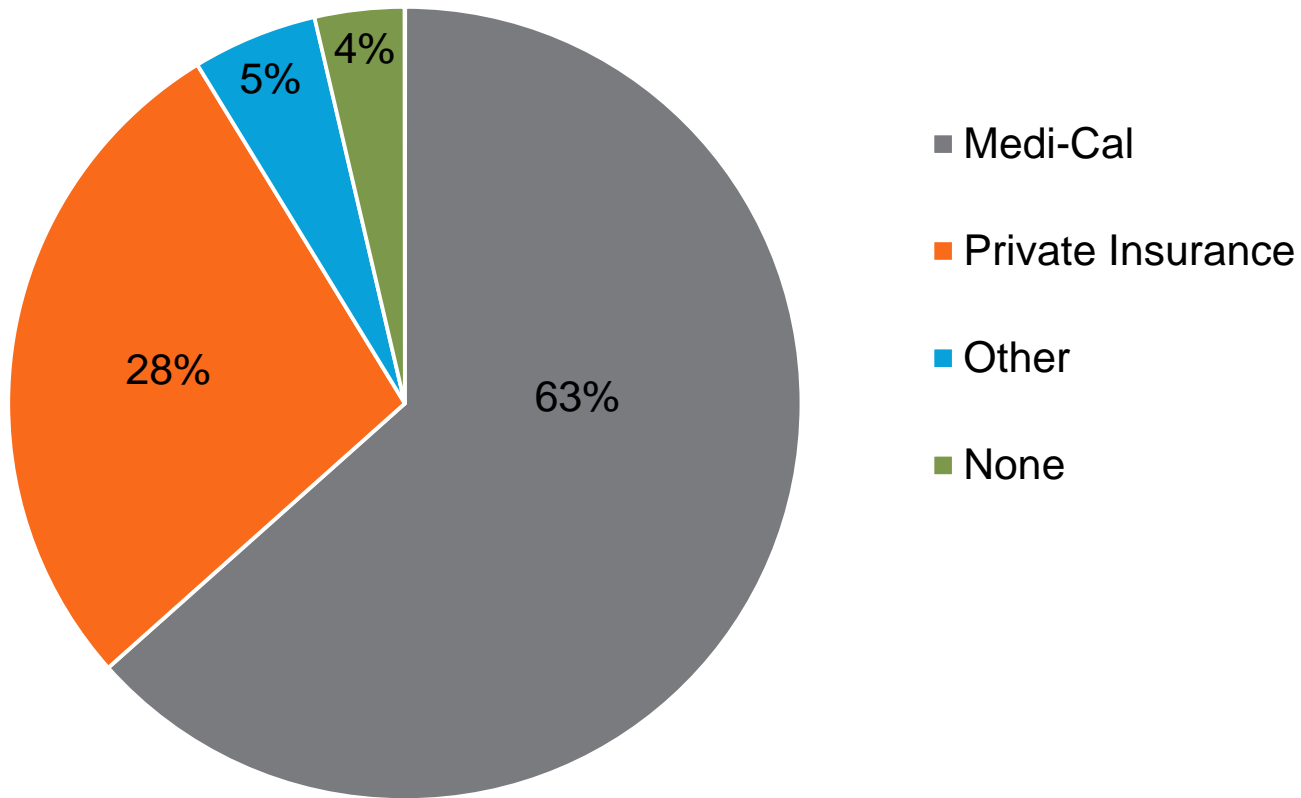




# Gender of Children Served by HMG-OC (N=3,214)

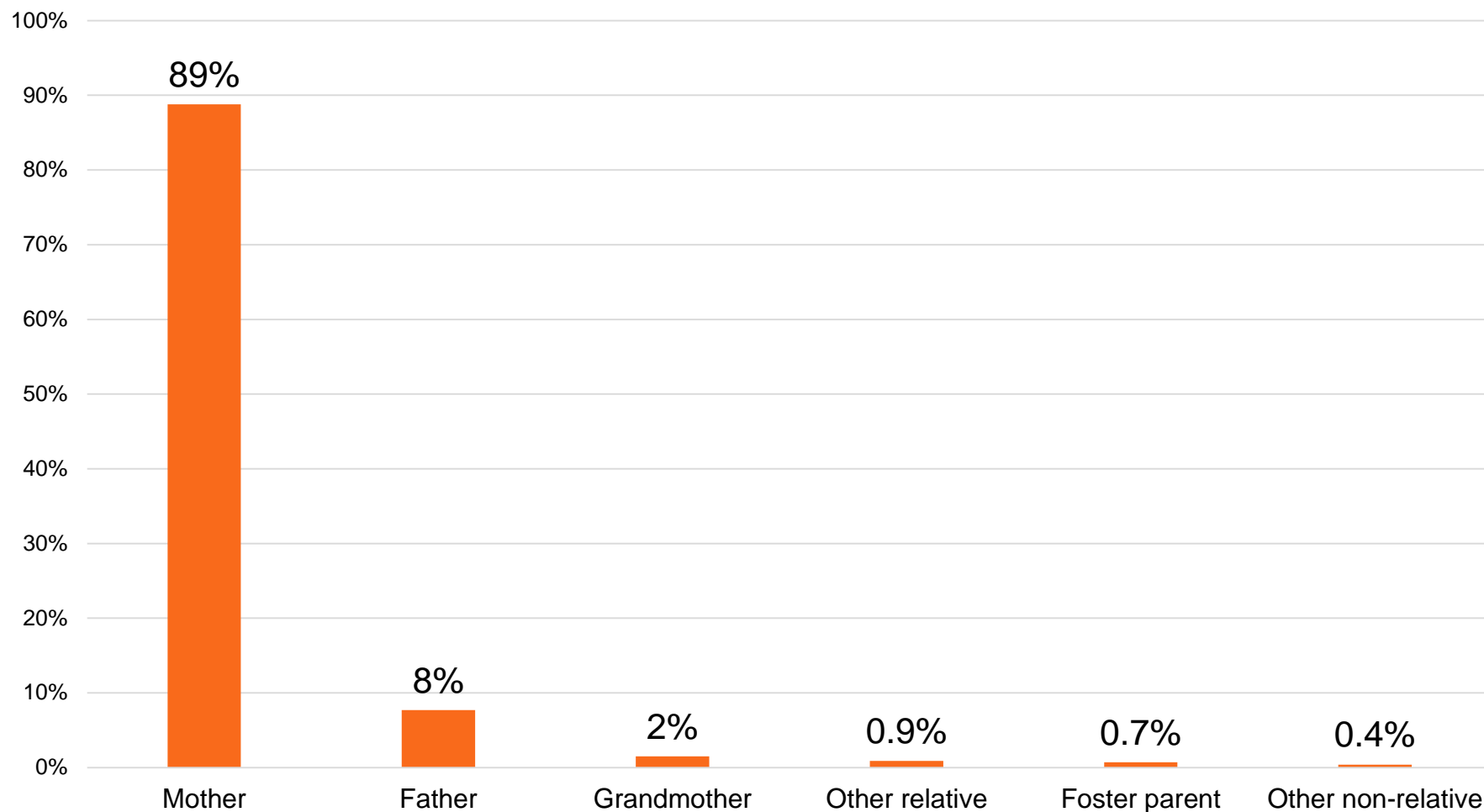


# Child's Health Insurance (N=2,184)



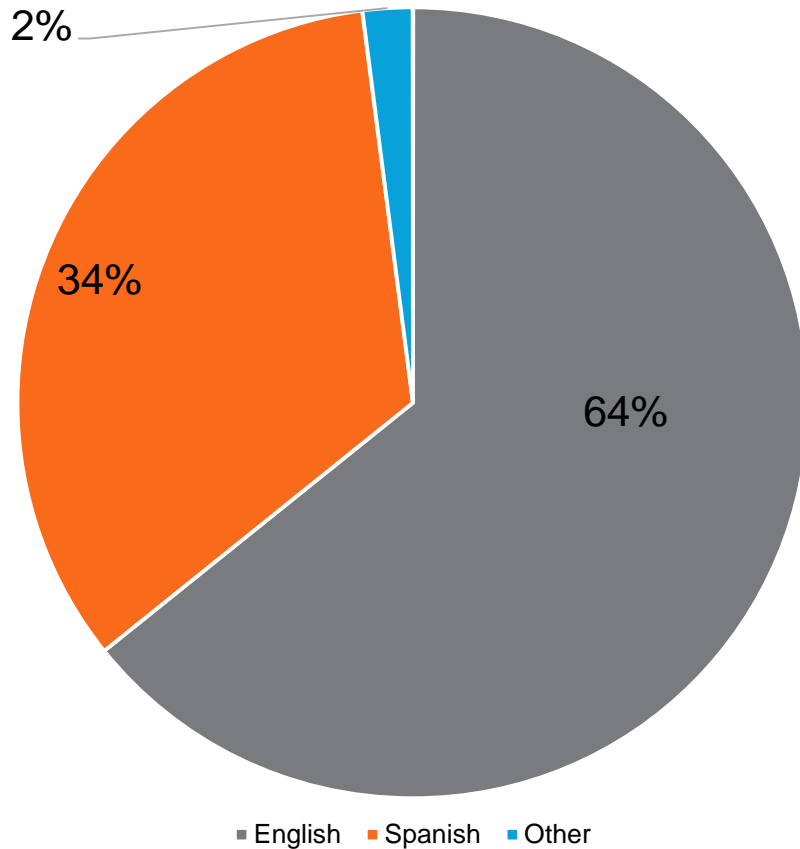


# Child's Relationship to HMG-OC Caller (N=2,643)





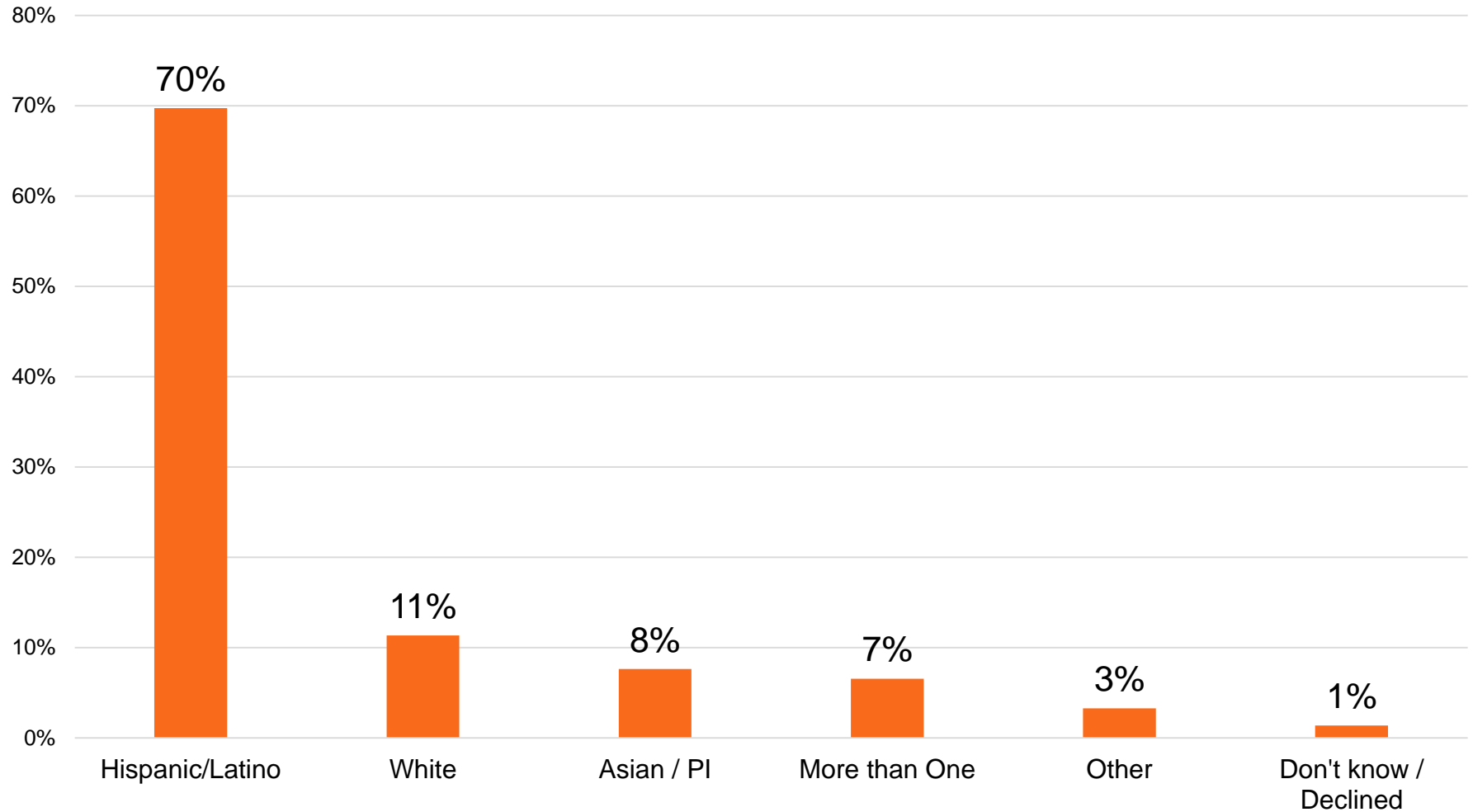
# Caregiver's Primary Language (N=2,294)



<b>Other Language Spoken</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Vietnamese	16	0.7%
Other (not listed)	11	0.5%
Chinese	8	0.3%
Indian	5	0.2%
Farsi	3	0.1%
Russian	1	0.0%

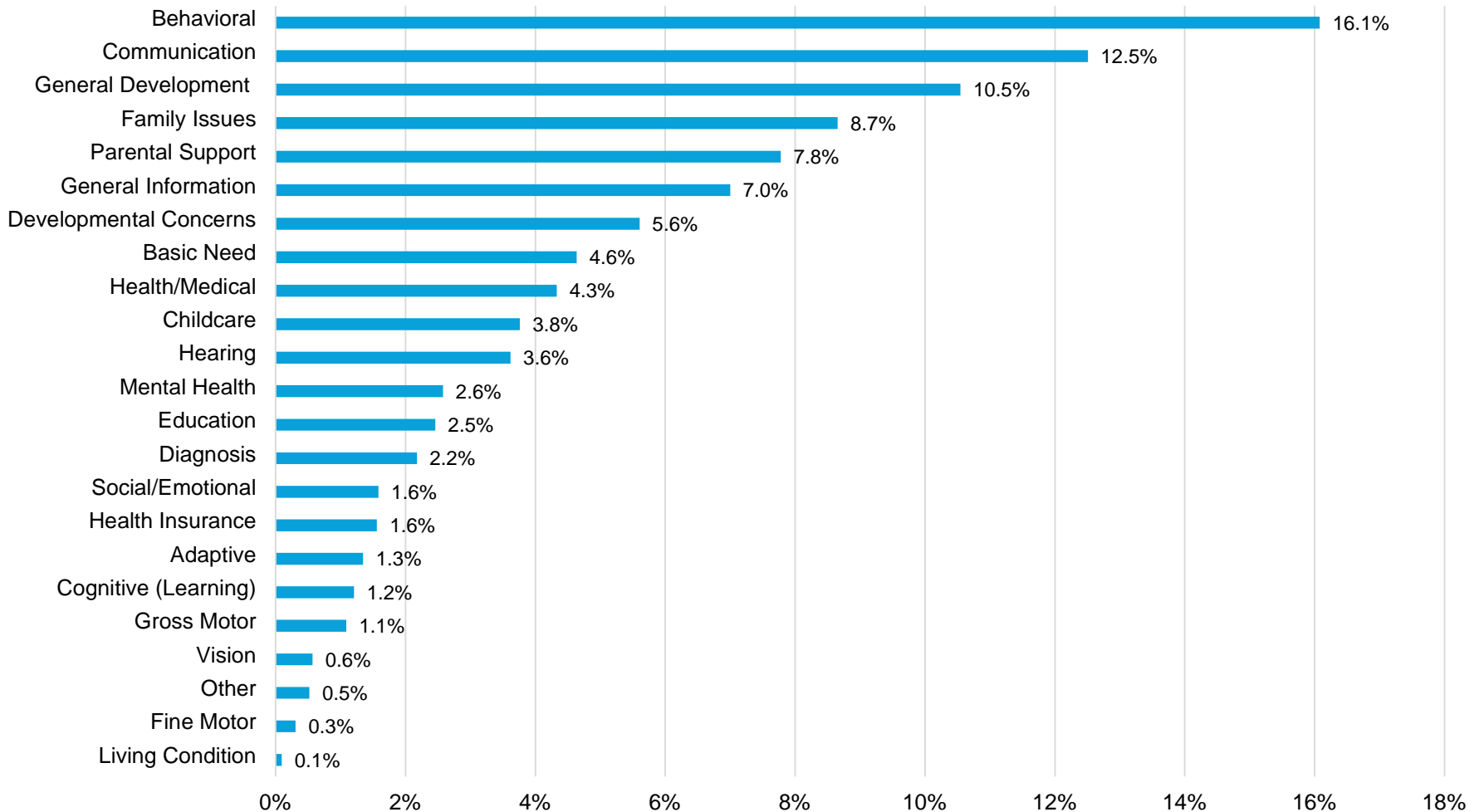


# Ethnicity of Children Served by HMG-OC (N=2,313)





# Concern Described by Parent at Time of Contact (N=4,229)\*

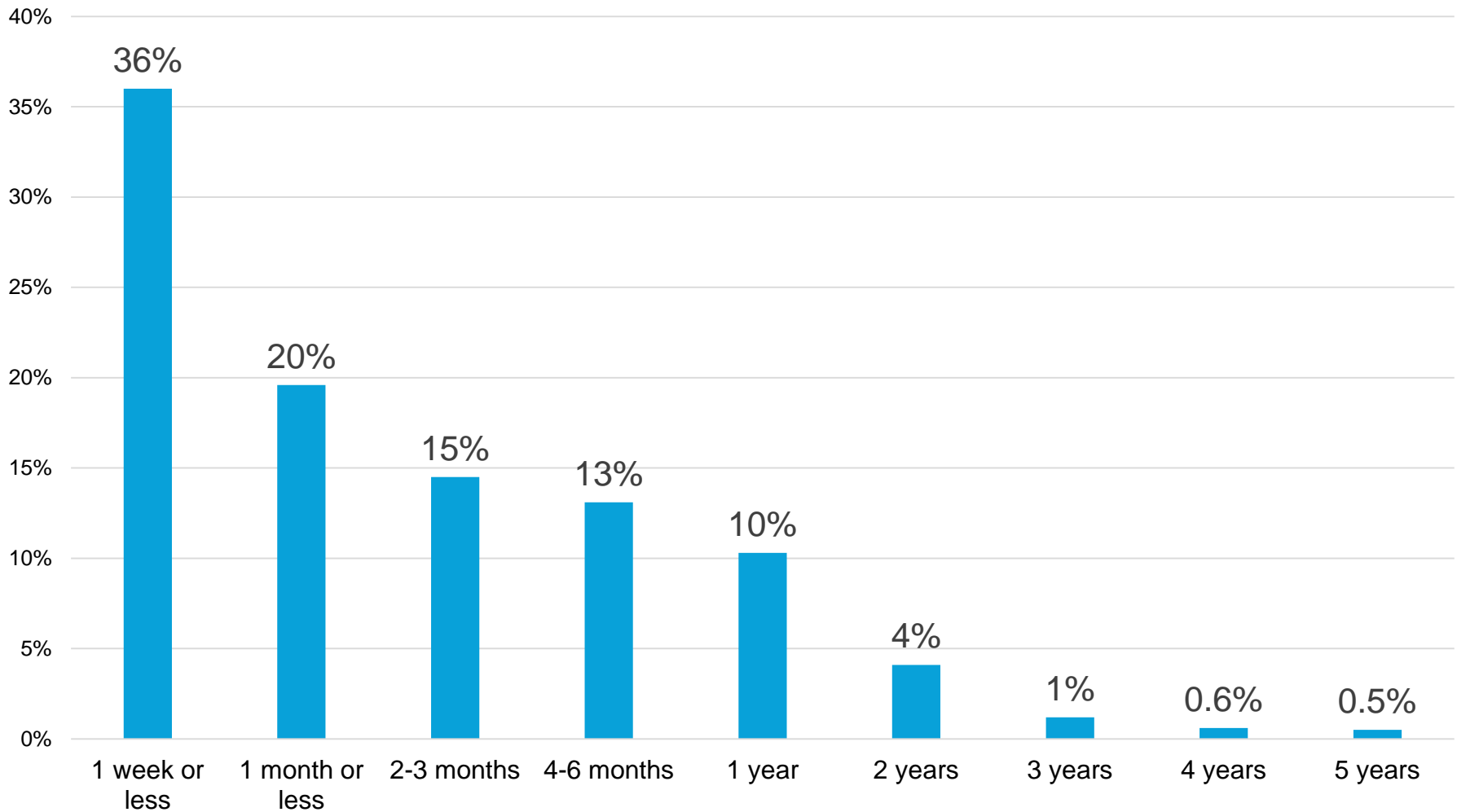


\* Each child can have more than one concern/issue to be addressed



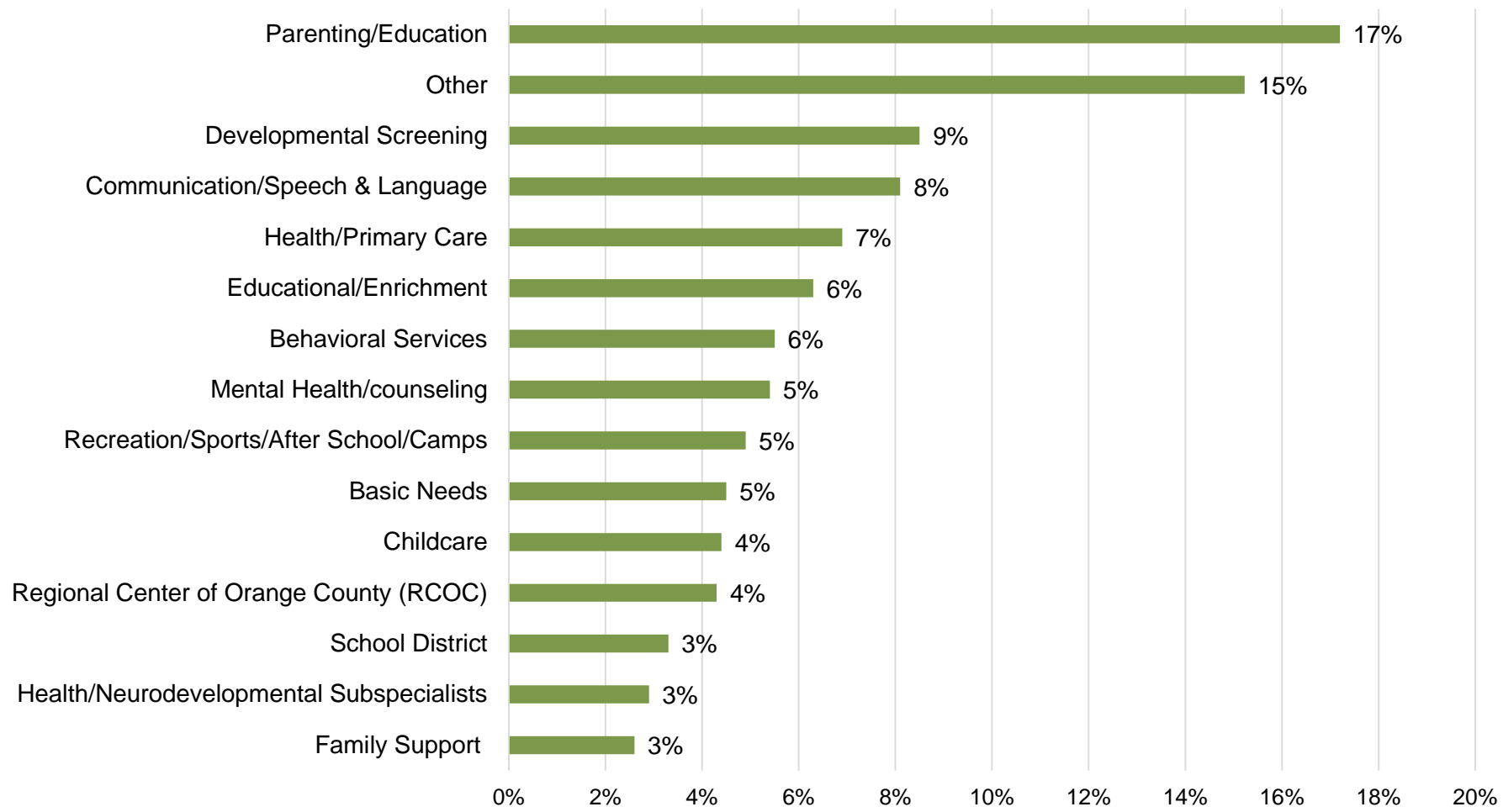


# Length of Time with Concern Prior to Initial Contact with HMG-OC (N=3,486)





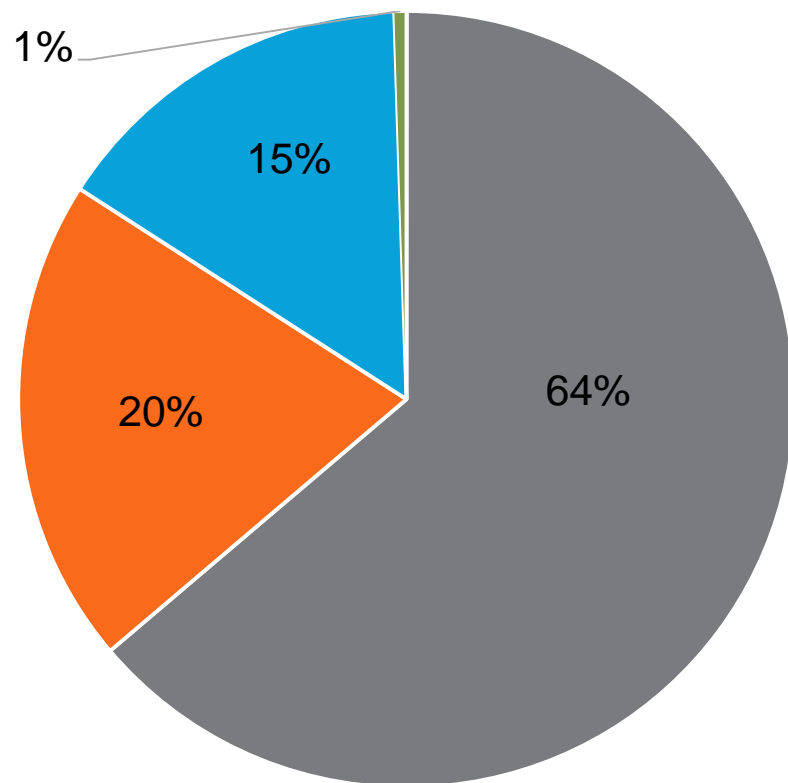
# Referrals Provided by HMG-OC (N=8,299)\*



\* Each child can receive more than one referral



# Status of Children Reached during Care Coordination (N=1,178)\*



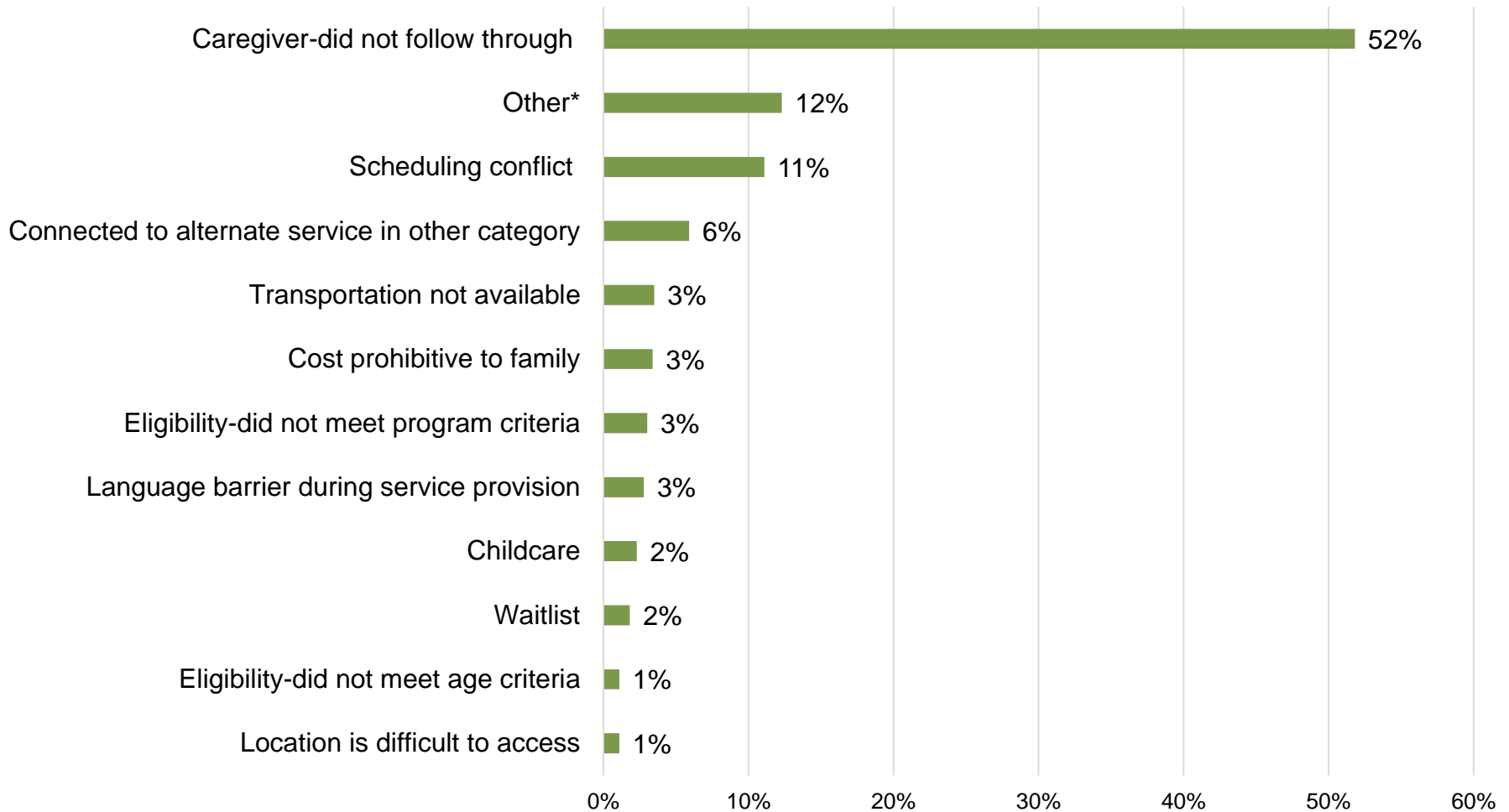
Considered connected if child is connected to at least one program/service from referrals provided by HMG-OC

Considered pending if child will receive service but it has not started yet at the time of the follow-up

■ Connected ■ Not Connected ■ Pending ■ Unknown



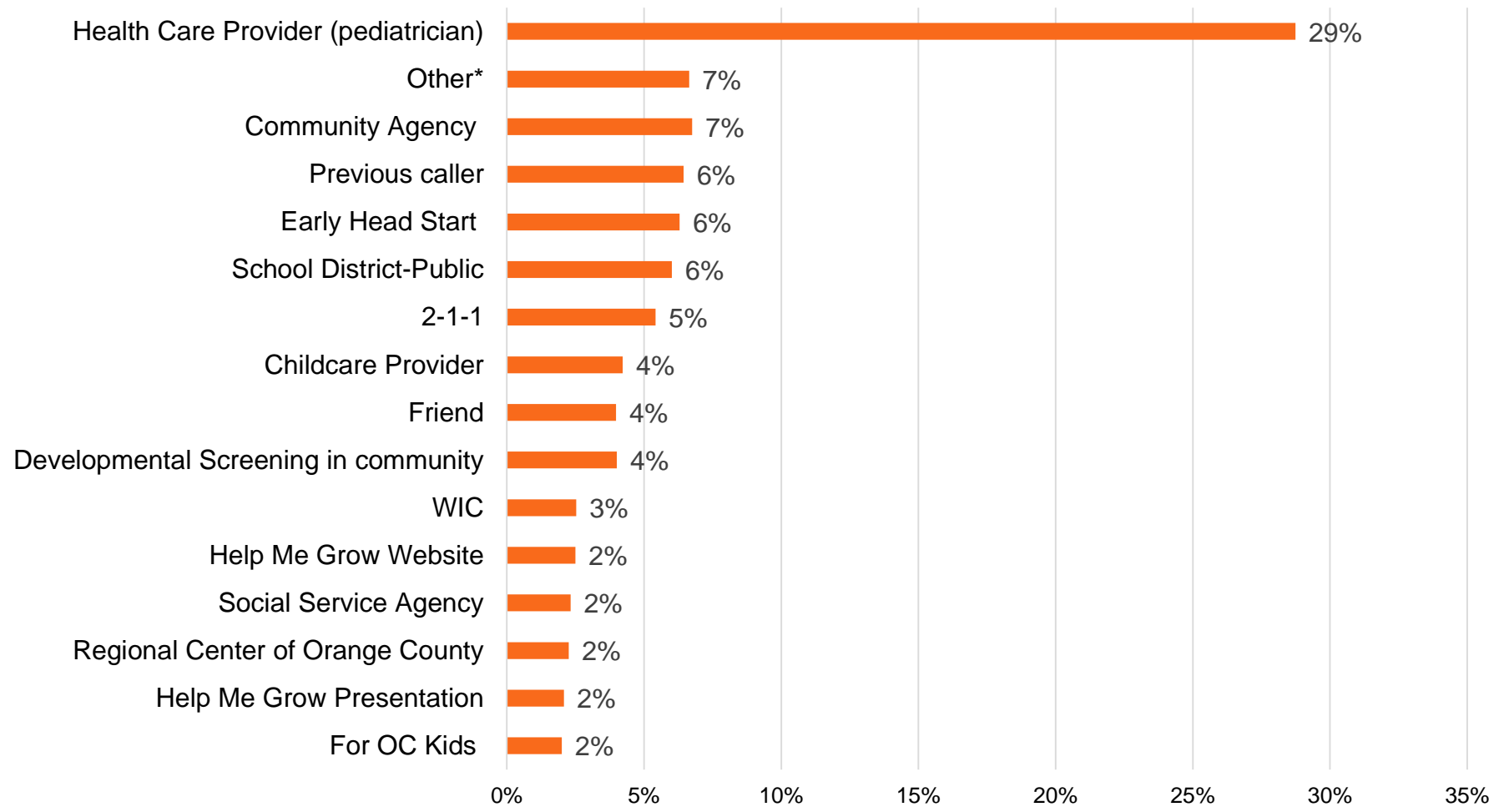
# Barriers to Accessing Services (N=830)



\* The "other" category includes 14 other items all which are less than 1%.



# Ways Learned about HMG-OC (N=2,843)



\* The "other" category includes 24 other items all which are less than 1%.



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**Call 866.GROW.025**  
**[www.helpmegrowoc.org](http://www.helpmegrowoc.org)**

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