



# National Survey of Veterans' Care Preferences

Pierrepont Consulting & Analytics LLC examined care preferences at VA among Veterans of all ages and service branches. Mercury Analytics LLC conducted the fieldwork.

This national survey of U.S. Veterans used a mixed methodology. Most responses (n=1360) were online; the remainder were by telephone (n=40). For some elderly Veterans, phone interviews were either the best or only option to secure a response. The sample size of n=1400 ensures that key learnings reflect statistically sound and trustworthy results. The survey was conducted between February and April, 2023.

The overall margin of sampling error is +/- 2.62% at the 95% confidence level, meaning the overall results would not vary by more than 2.62% 19 out of 20 times the survey was conducted. Sampling error is greater for subgroups.



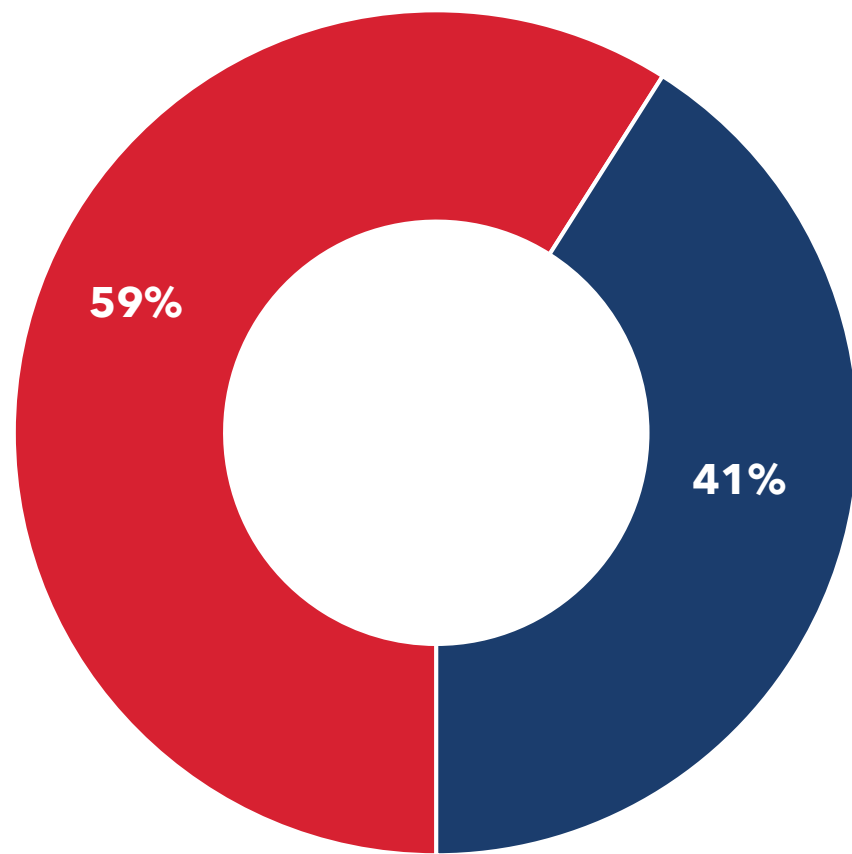
## KEY FINDINGS

# VA care preferences

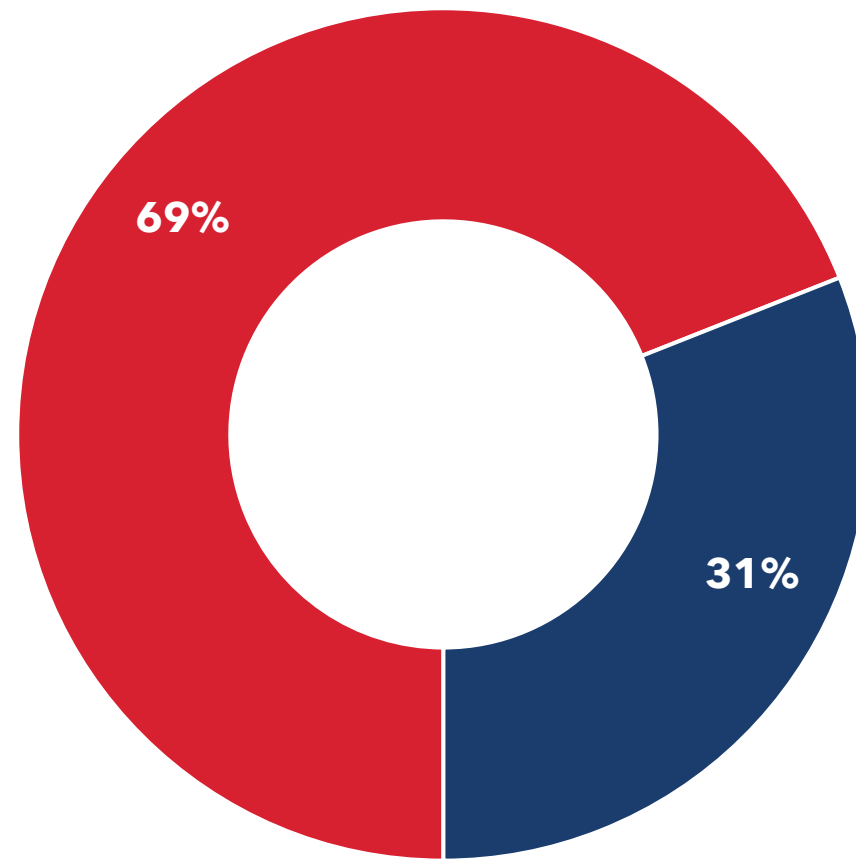
Are you enrolled in VA healthcare?

Where do you prefer to receive your care?

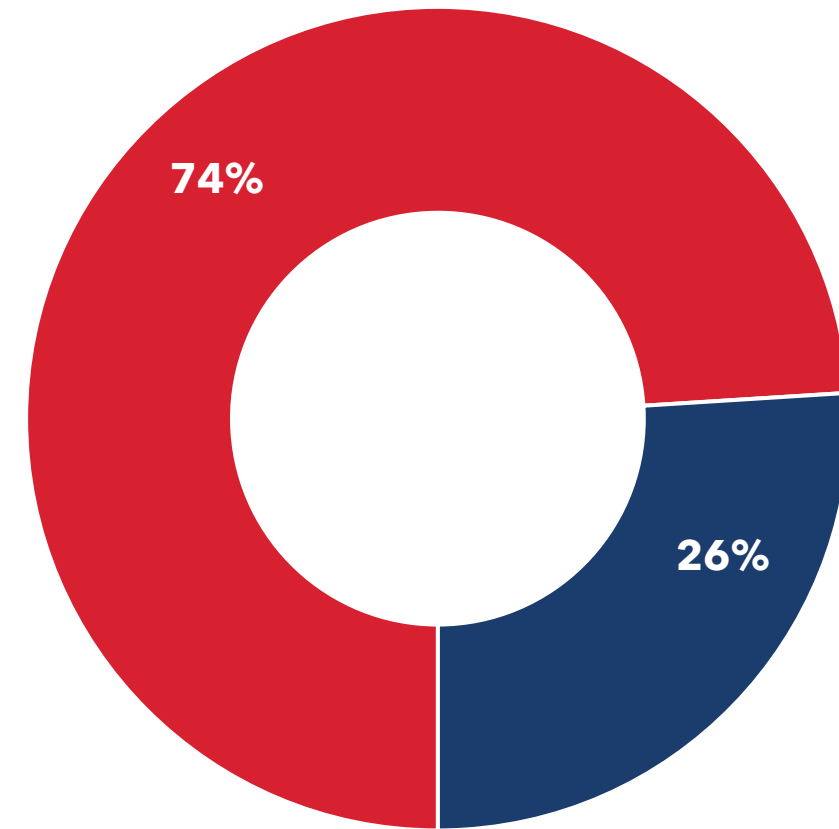
Would you recommend VA to another Veteran?



■ Yes ■ No/Not Eligible



■ VA Facility ■ Community provider



■ Yes ■ No/Don't know/Not sure

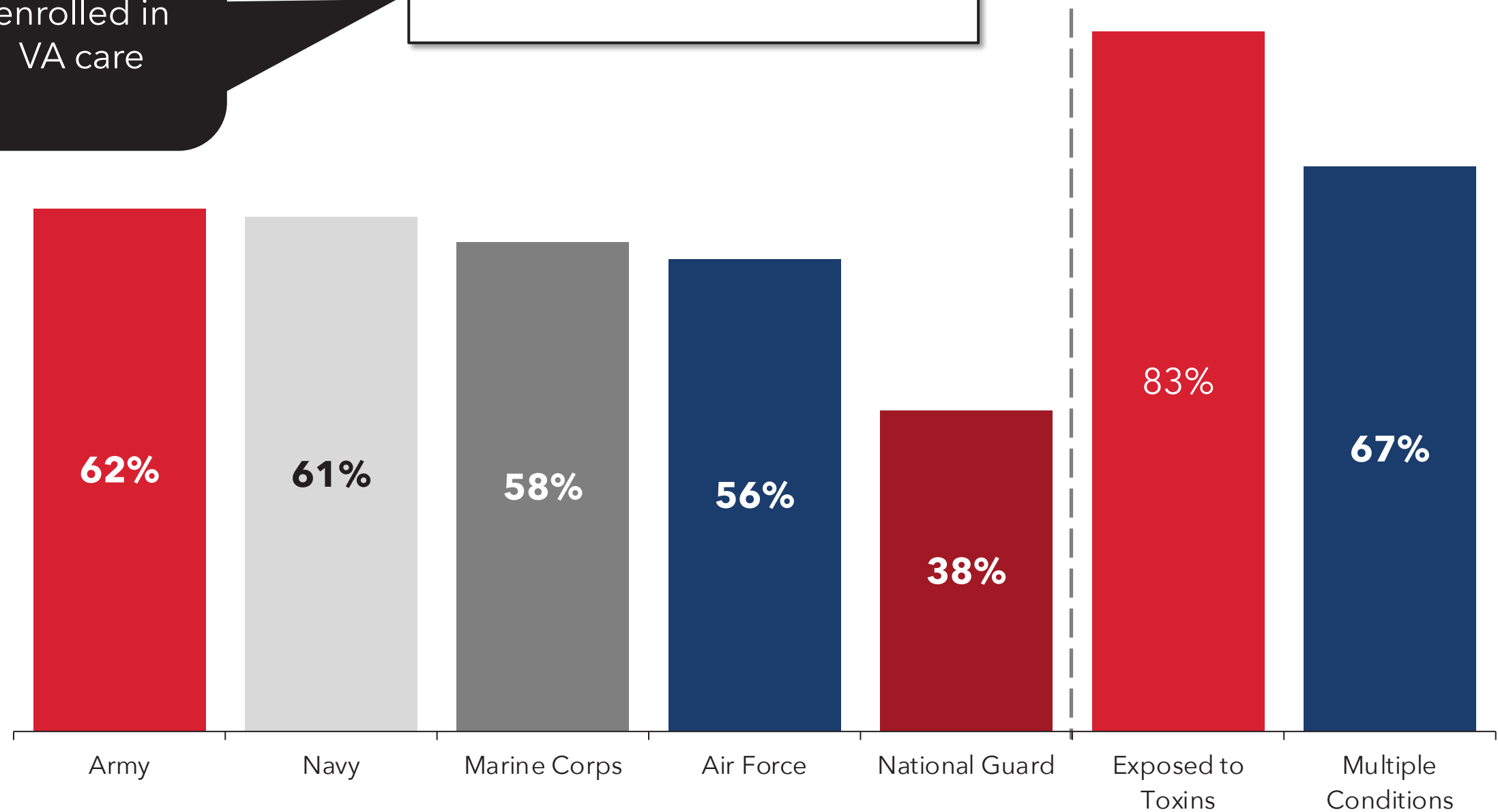
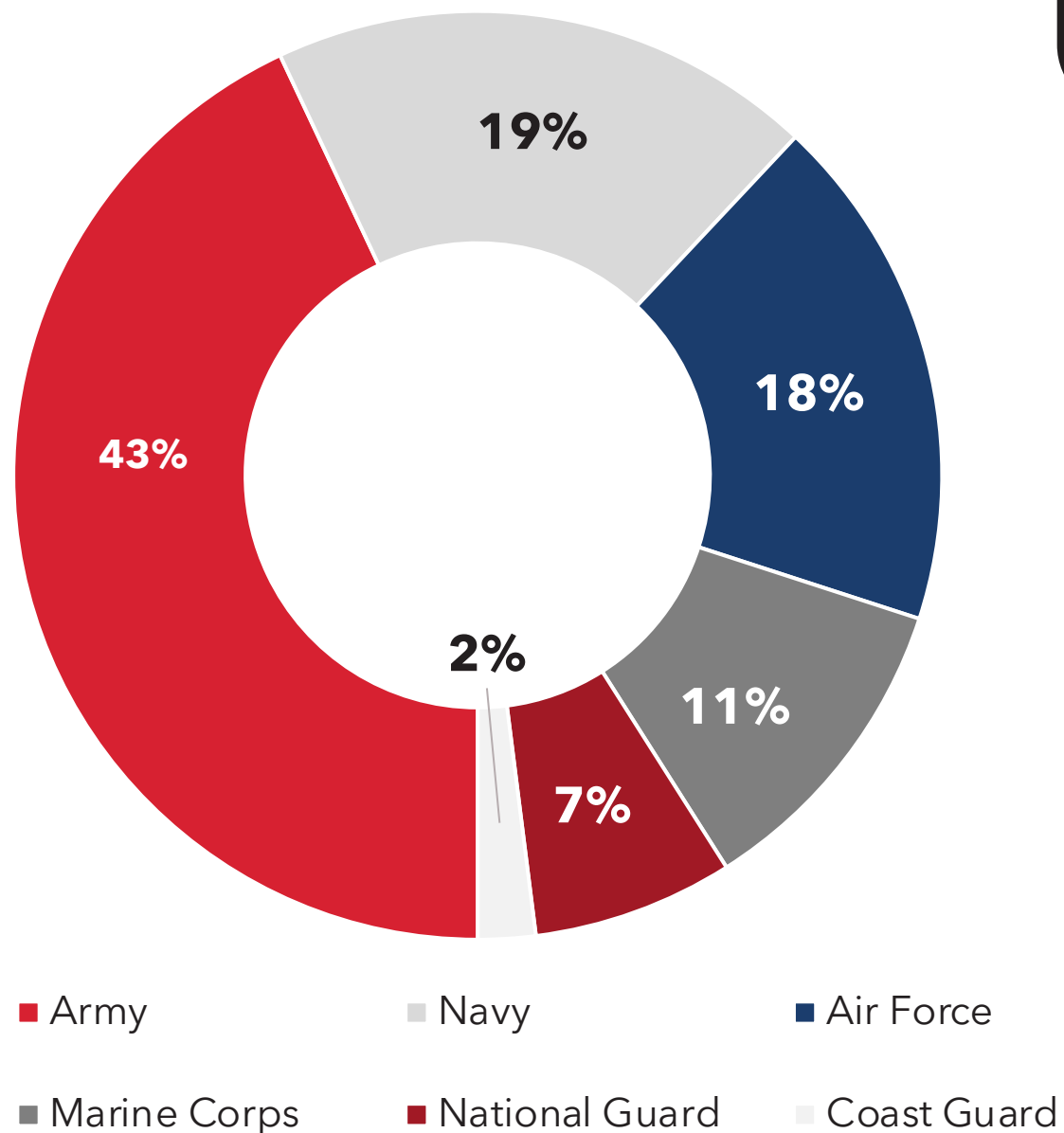
Only 6% of those using VA care would not recommend it to other Veterans

# VA enrollment by service branch and medical condition

What was your branch of service?

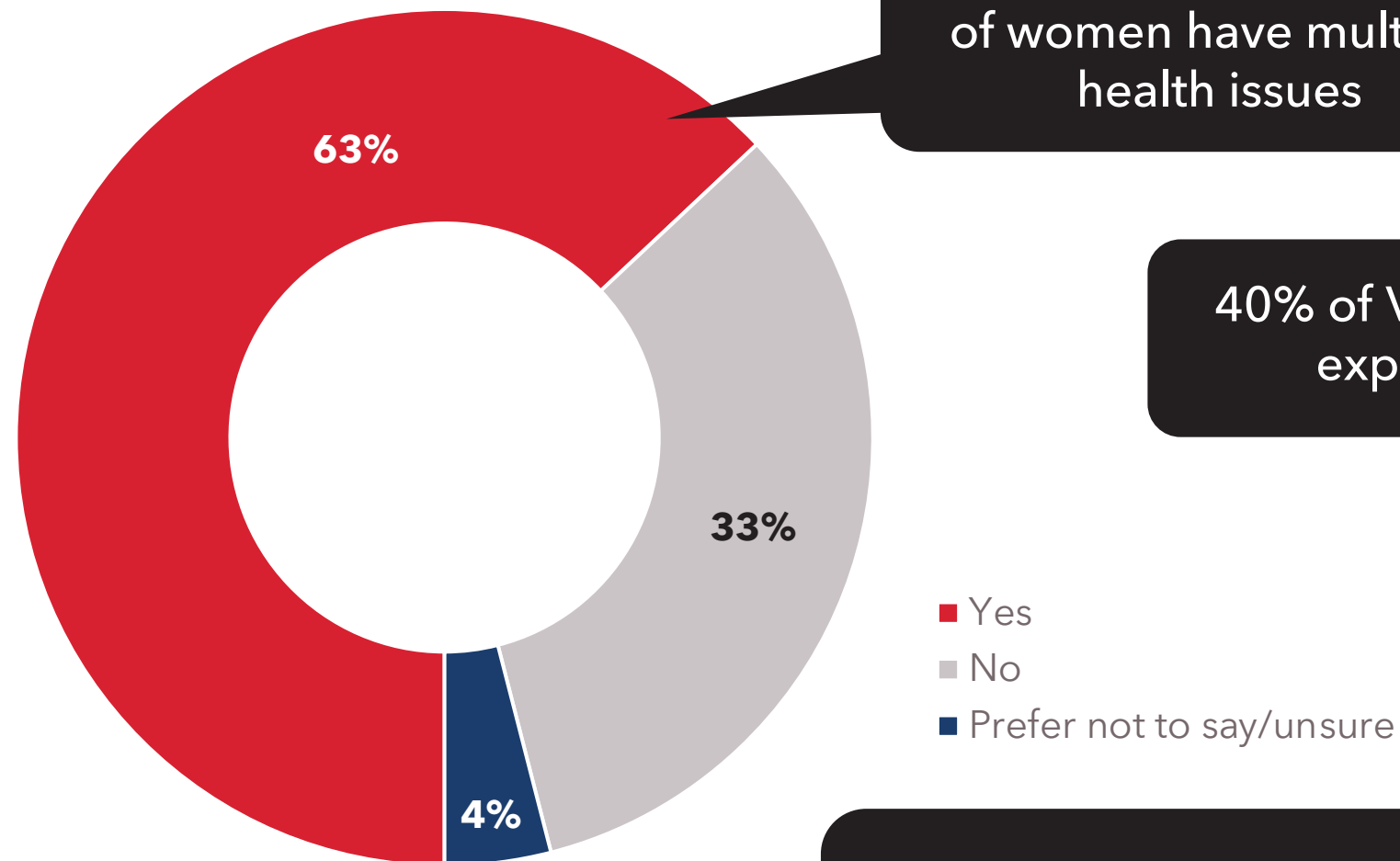
Three in five (59%) Veterans are enrolled in VA care

Are you enrolled in VA healthcare? (% Yes)



# Multiple conditions and toxin exposure

Do you have multiple medical conditions or health issues?

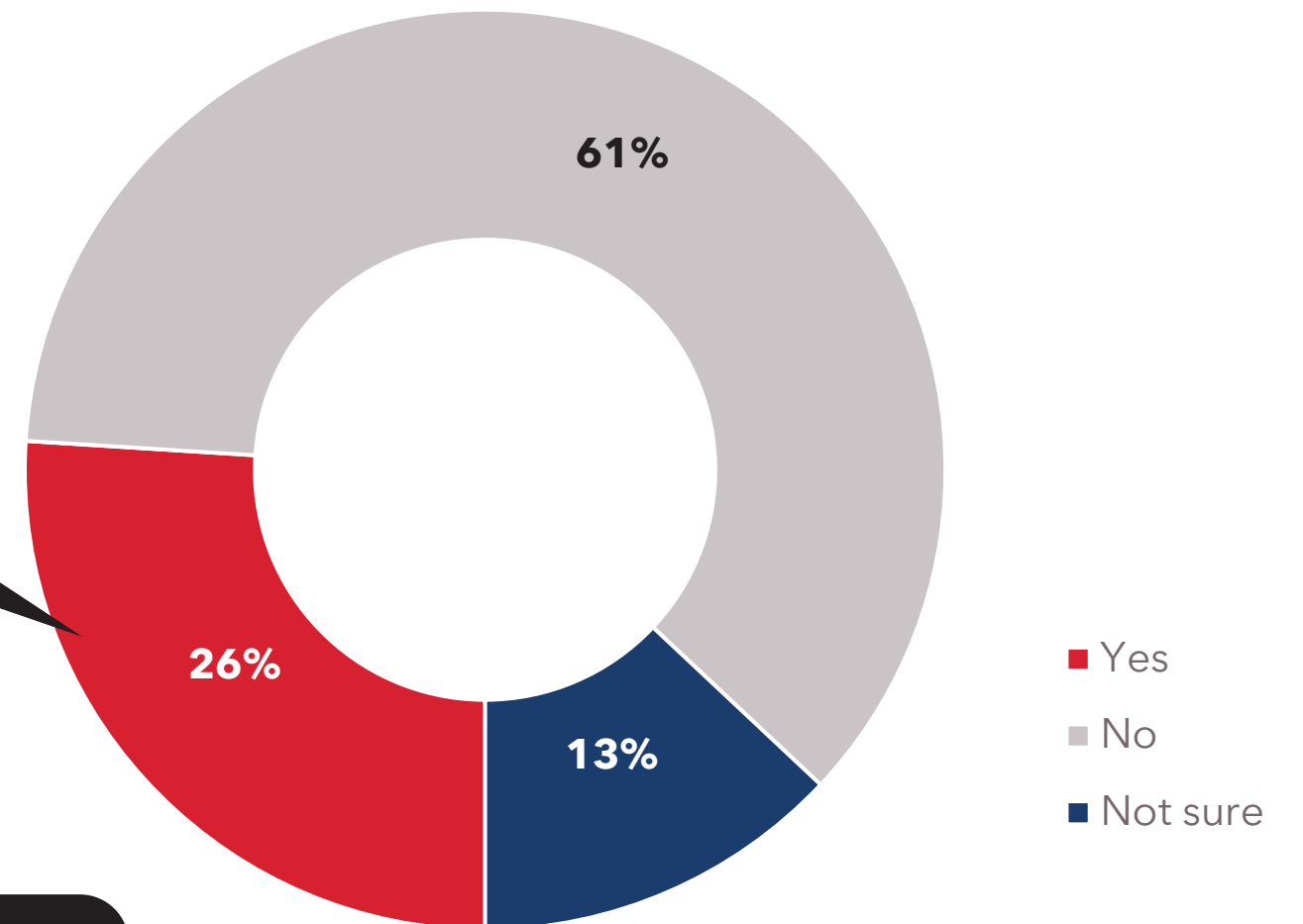


69% of Vets 75+ and 68% of women have multiple health issues

40% of Vets using VA were exposed to toxins

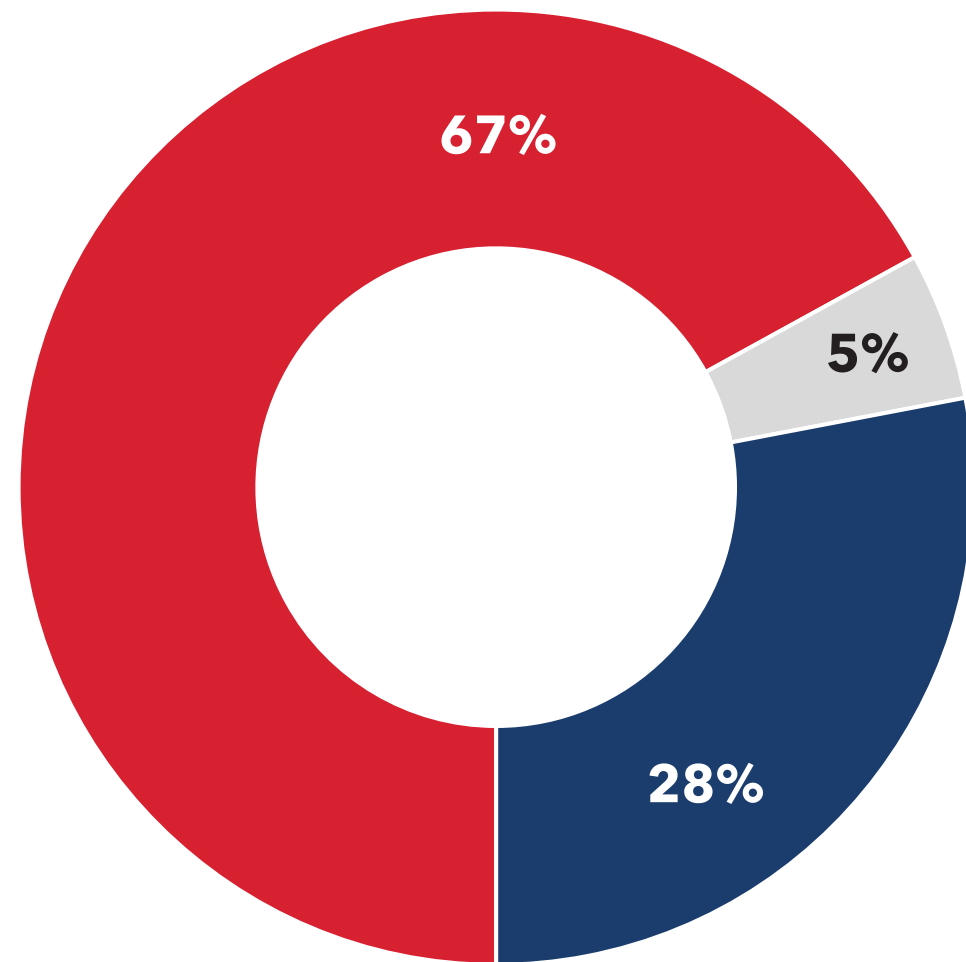
Veterans receiving VA care are significantly more likely (88%) to have multiple conditions than those not receiving VA care (55%)

During your time of service in the military, were you exposed to toxins such as those from Agent Orange or burn pits?

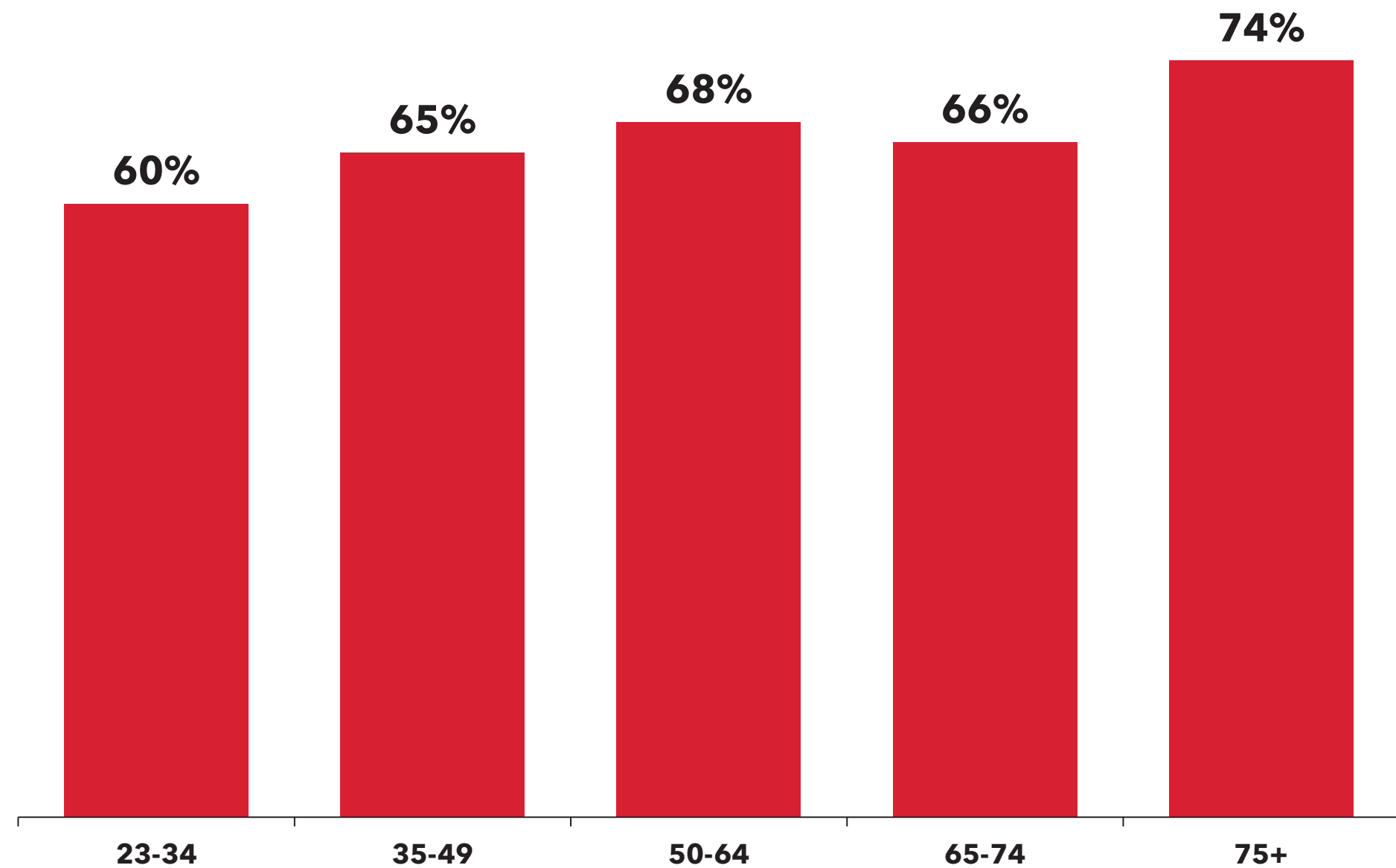


# Physician preference for **primary care**

Do you prefer a physician or a nurse to provide your primary health care services?

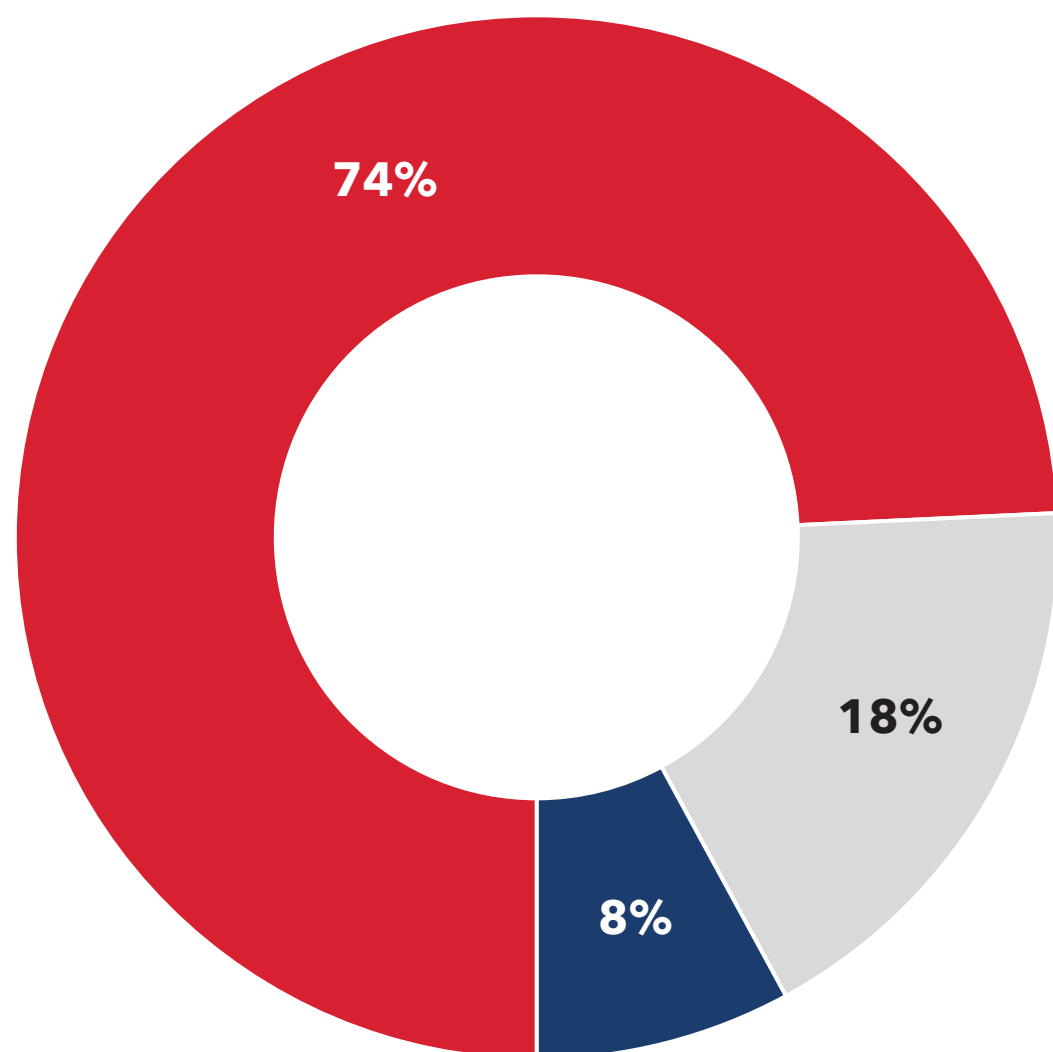


- Physician
- Nurse
- First Available



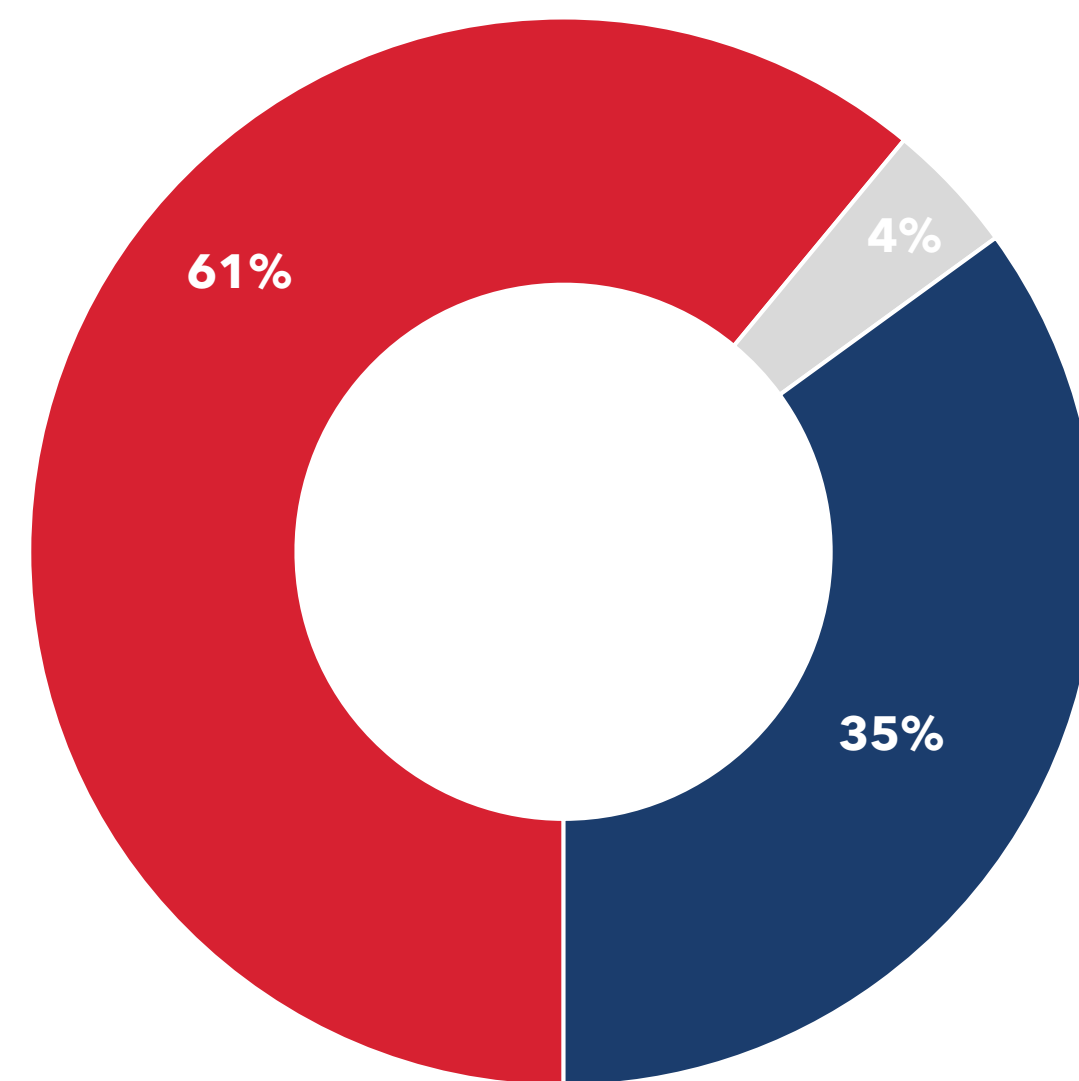
# Physician preference for **anesthesia care**

In your opinion, is it important that your anesthesia care during surgery be provided by a physician anesthesiologist?



■ Important  
■ Not Important  
■ Don't know

Would you prefer to have a physician or nurse administer anesthesia during surgery?



■ Physician  
■ Nurse  
■ No preference

Veterans of every age, gender, race, and medical condition prefer physician-administered anesthesia care



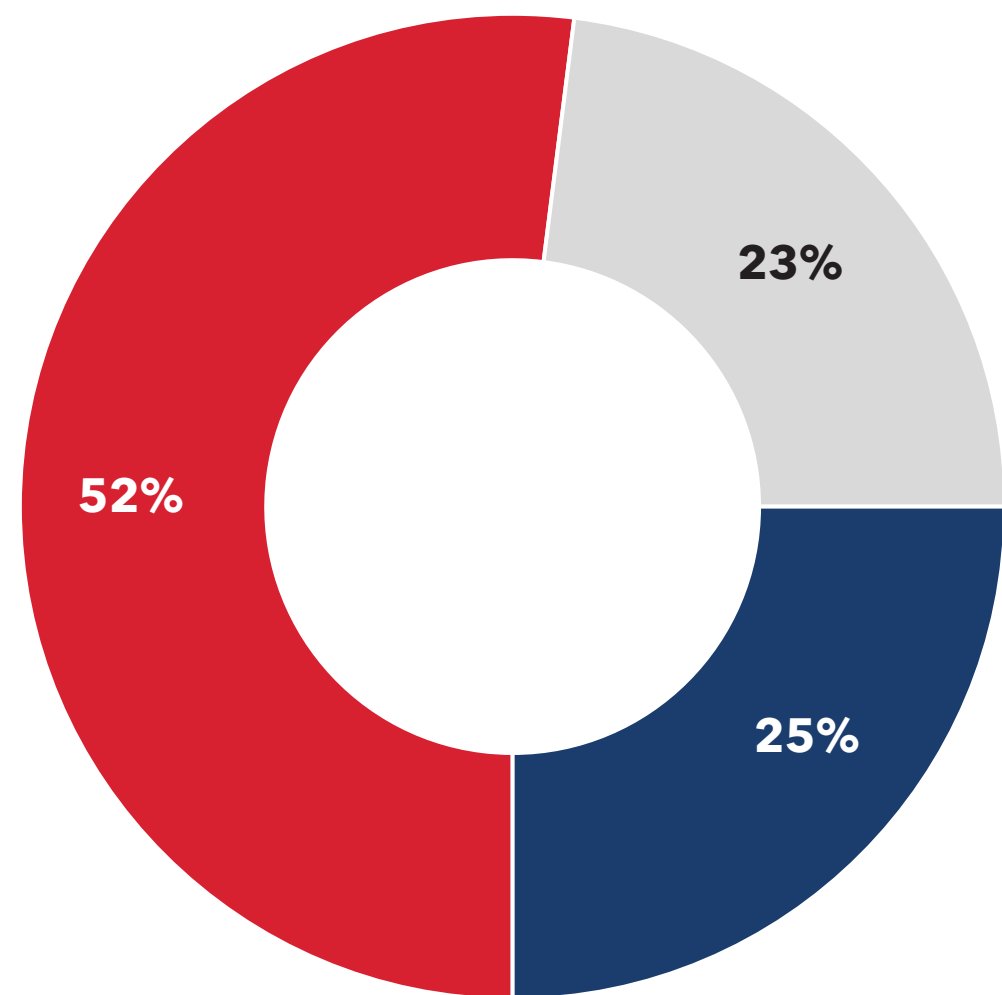
# Physician preference for **anesthesia care**

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<p>Surgery and anesthesia are inherently dangerous. Many VA patients have underlying medical conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, arthritis, or chronic pain that put them at greater risk for surgical complications. Requiring physician involvement is a necessary safeguard.</p>	61%	31%	6%	2%
<p>Not one top-rated civilian hospital in the U.S. allows nurse-only anesthesia care. Veterans deserve the same level of high-quality care during surgery as non-veterans get at top-rated hospitals.</p>	64%	27%	7%	2%
<p>If the VA replaces physician anesthesiologists with nurse anesthetists there will be two standards of care: one lower standard of care for veterans in VA facilities and the other a higher standard of care for non-veterans in virtually every other hospital in the United States.</p>	39%	32%	20%	8%

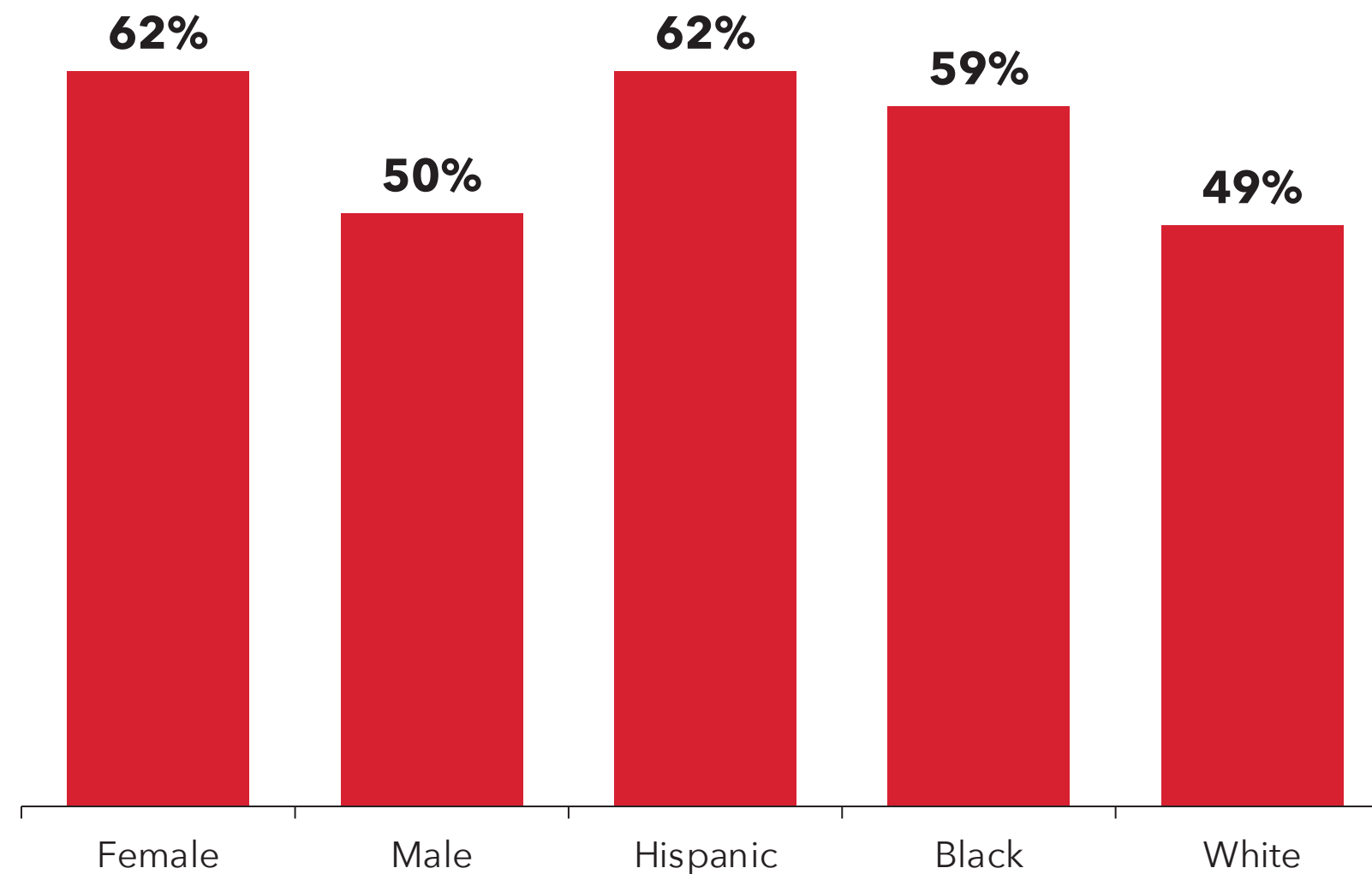
Details may not sum to total due to rounding.

# Seeking physician-led care **outside VA**

If only a nurse anesthetist were available to oversee your anesthesia care at a VA facility, would you opt to instead receive your care from a physician outside a VA facility to ensure you had a physician anesthesiologist during surgery?



- Yes
- No
- Don't know

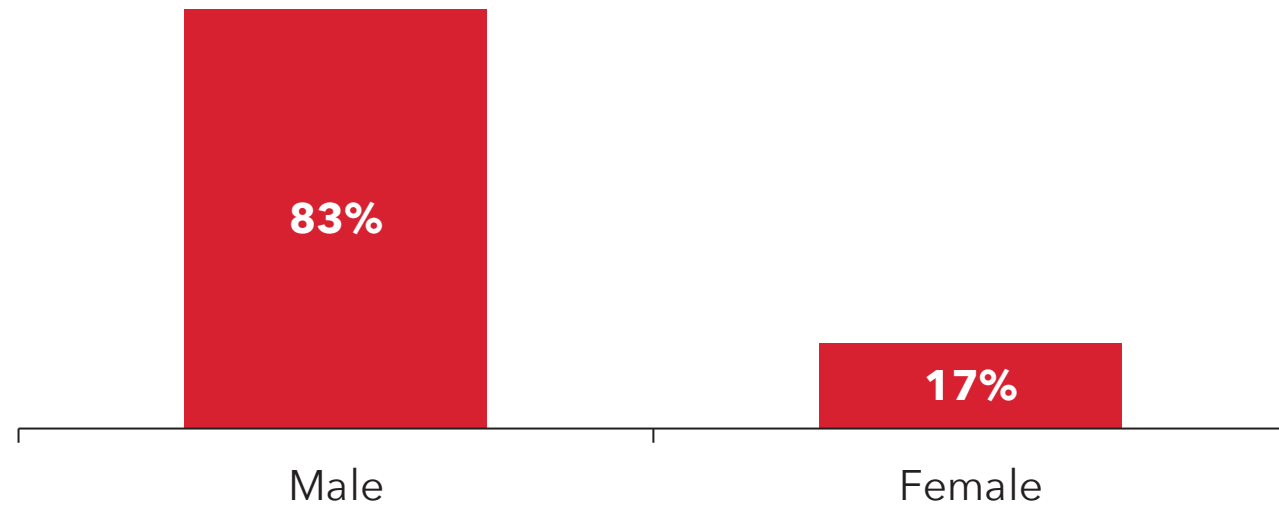




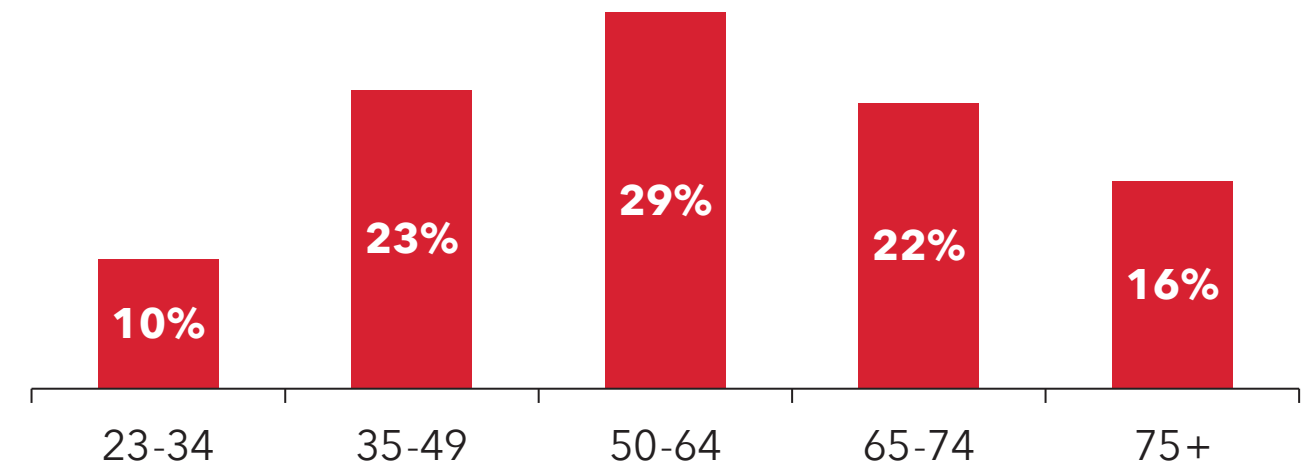
# DEMOGRAPHICS

# Demographics

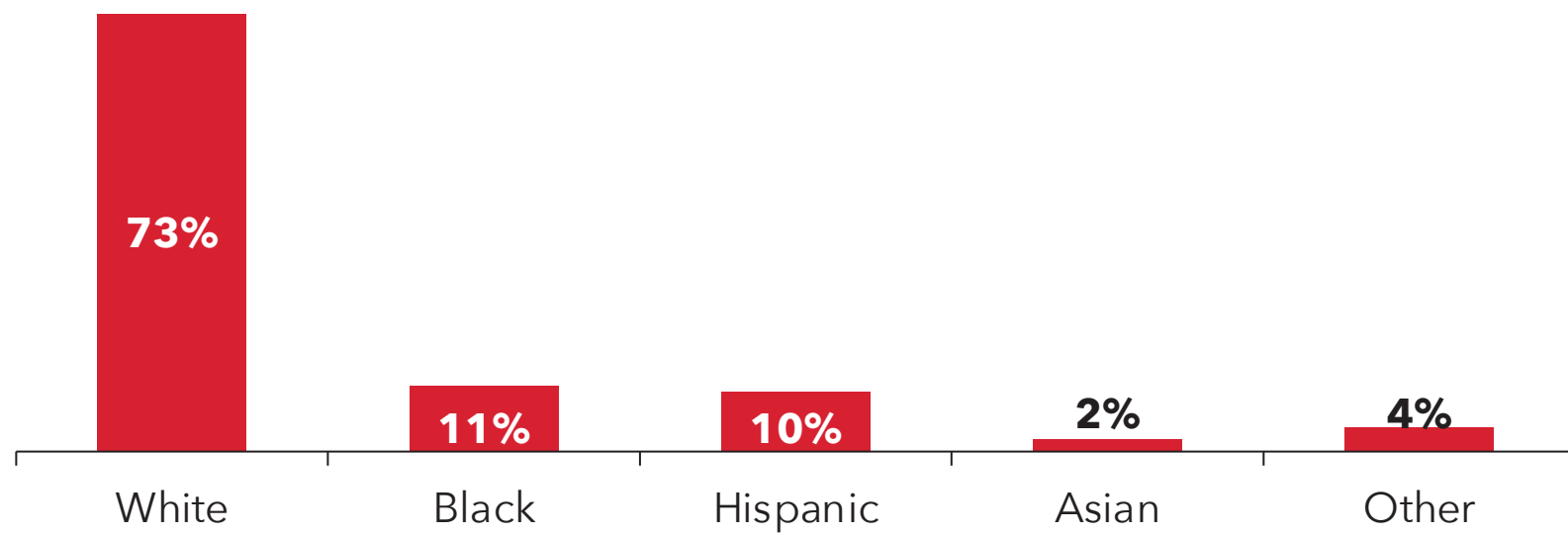
## Gender



## Age



## Race



## Region

