



Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates

Bernard Simons, DDA Deputy Secretary

June 25, 2021



Agenda



- Opening Remarks
- Deputy Secretary Update
- COVID-19 Regional Update
- Questions

Deputy Secretary's Opening Remarks

- The DDA's highest priority is the health, safety, and wellbeing of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, staff, and providers
- The DDA is committed to transparency with all of our stakeholders to ensure we are all working with the same information to support our shared missions
- Thank you for your continued support in joining me during these webcast so that we can stay in-touch and be able to provide you with the most current information

Deputy Secretary's Update

- Governor Larry Hogan Wednesday announced that Maryland's COVID-19 case rate has dropped below 1 per 100K, putting the state in the federal 'green zone' category for cases
- Maryland is one of only three states nationwide reporting case rates under 1 per 100K—the other two are Vermont and South Dakota
- Press release link
 - <https://governor.maryland.gov/.../marylands-covid-19.../>

Deputy Secretary's Update

- On June 20, Maryland reported zero new COVID-19 deaths for the first time since October 18, 2020—another major milestone as our state emerges from the pandemic
- Today's metrics clearly show that vaccines are effective.
- If you have not yet been vaccinated, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible: covidvax.maryland.gov

Deputy Secretary's Update

Governor's Orders

1. No. 21-06-15-01 [ORDER GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND NUMBER 21](#)
 - Effective July 1, 2021, certain orders will end including the order mandating the wearing of face coverings
 - Effective Aug 15, 2021, certain other orders will end
2. No. 21-06-15-02 [Authorizing Suspension of Certain Legal Time Requirements](#)
 - Effective Aug 15, 2021, authority of the Comptroller to extend certain timelines ends

Deputy Secretary's Update

Governor's Orders

3. No. 21-06-15-03 [Delaying Expiration of Nursing Licenses](#)
 - Expiration dates for all licenses, permits, and registrations issued by the Board of Nursing will extend to August 15, 2021

Deputy Secretary's Update

MDH Orders

- 1. [MDH Directive and Order Regulating Certain Businesses and Facilities and General Directives Concerning Limiting the Spread of COVID-19—June 15, 2021](#)
 - Effective July 1, 2021, certain MDH orders will terminate including the order pertaining to face coverings
 - Effective August 15, 2021, all existing COVID-19 MDH orders, guidance documents, and bulletins will terminate
 - Effective December 31, 2021, certain MDH orders will terminate, including the Healthcare Matters order, the Nursing Home Matters order, and the Vaccination Matters order

Deputy Secretary's Update

MDH Orders

- 2. [Amended MDH Vaccination Matters—June 15, 2021](#)
 - Continues requirement that each COVID-19 vaccine administered be reported within 24 hours of administration
- 3. [Amended MDH Healthcare Matters—June 15, 2021](#)
 - Continues provision to authorize local health officers to order quarantine and isolation of certain individuals
 - Extends certain patient transfer items

Deputy Secretary's Update

MDH Orders

- 4. [Amended Nursing Home Matters—June 15, 2021](#)
 - Adds provision that skilled nursing facilities register in ImmuNet as a COVID-19 provider by July 15, 2021

Deputy Secretary's Update

The DDA continues to provide information, resources and coordination with our providers to support people living at home and in our DDA waiting list to be vaccinated



Deputy Secretary's Update

2021 Year-End Closing

- Error Updates for May and attendance certifications for June due by July 9th, 2021
- Providers can submit FY21 adjustments until August 31, 2021 to be included on the 2Q payment

Deputy Secretary's Update

Year End Reconciliations

- DDA will start sending non-submission notifications for FY 2020 cost reports as of June 30, 2021
- Some Providers will receive notifications about non submission of FY 19 cost reports as well

Deputy Secretary's Update

FY 2022 Execution

- Q1 FY 22 payment is in process. Payment date is July 6, 2021
- 4% COLA included in earned payment detail in Q1 FY 22 payment
- PS – Notification regarding the recoupment of advances from FY 21 Q4 payment

Deputy Secretary's Update

Retainer Days

- To adjust or compensate for revenue loss in the day programs
- Total revenue means total revenue toward Home and Community Based Services

Deputy Secretary's Update

- [CMS Issues Guidance on American Rescue Plan Funding for Medicaid Home and Community Based Services](#)
- This guidance is to states on the implementation of section 9817 of the American Rescue Plan, as well as to describe opportunities for states to:
 - Strengthen their home and community-based service (HCBS) systems in response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE),
 - Increase access to HCBS for Medicaid beneficiaries,
 - Adequately protect the HCBS workforce,
 - Safeguard financial stability for HCBS providers, and
 - Accelerate long-term services and supports (LTSS) reform

Deputy Secretary's Update

American Rescue Plan Act Enhanced Funding for Home and Community-Based Services

- Where are we?
- Collaboration with Medicaid
 - Guidance
 - Extension
 - Deadline for Proposal - Extended to July 12, 2021
- FY22 Joint Chairmen's Report - Operation Budget, April 2021
 - 75% Rate Increase
 - Grants to Community Providers and Not-For-Profit Organizations

Deputy Secretary's Update

American Rescue Plan Act Enhanced Funding for Home and Community-Based Services

- The DDA is interested in stakeholder recommendations on use of the remaining funds to support our service delivery system
- Please send recommendations to wfb.dda@maryland.gov by July 2nd, 2021

Deputy Secretary's Update

LTSSMaryland

Early Adopter Group (EAG)

- Providers going live July 1, 2021, are in final stages of prep
- Documentation of preparation processes to assist in any future efforts

General LTSS Troubleshooting

- A companion guide is being developed for Provider and Coordinators of Community Services (CCS) users to assist in answering questions and resolving inquiries that may arise
- The guide will include details around various parts of the system with a focus on the PCP process

Deputy Secretary's Update

National Core Indicators™ Adult Family and Family Guardian Surveys

- Voluntary anonymous surveys to learn about family's experiences and to improve the quality of services for Marylanders and their families
- Surveys were mailed last week with options to:
 - Complete online (preferred), or
 - Complete paper survey and mail back to the DDA
- To learn more visit: www.nationalcoreindicators.org and the [DDA NCI webpage](#)
- Please contact Nicole Kropfelder at nicole.kropfelder1@maryland.gov if you have any questions or challenges completing the online survey

Deputy Secretary's Update

- Given the difficulties encountered this year, Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) has extended the 2020 NCI Staff Stability Survey due date to July 31, 2021
- DDA providers should have received an email directly inviting you to participate in this important Staff Stability Survey. In the email, you will find a unique log-in that will enable you to enter your survey responses directly into HRSI's database. Results of the survey will only be reported to HRSI in the aggregate and your organization will remain anonymous

Deputy Secretary's Update

- In order for your agency to be compliant with the DDA Wage Survey requirement for FY2020, it is the expectation of the DDA that providers respond to the Staff Stability survey that is part of the NCI no later than July 31, 2021
- To learn more visit: www.nationalcoreindicators.org and the [DDA NCI webpage](#)
- If you have any questions regarding the Staff Stability Survey or if you have not received your unique to the survey portal, please contact Robert White at robert.white2@maryland.gov

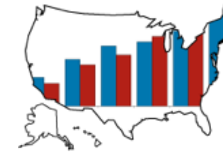
Deputy Secretary's Update

- To date here's the status of our providers:

Status	Total
Link not clicked	87
Link clicked; no questions answered	17
Link clicked; at least one question answered	52
Finished	76

Total Number of Providers	229
Survey with at least one question answered	128
Margin of Error	5.81%

Deputy Secretary's Update



StateData.info
YOUR RESOURCE FOR DATA ON EMPLOYMENT & PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

- The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) is in its 7th year collecting and analyzing data via the Maryland's [Employment Outcome Information System Employment data](https://www.statedata.info/mdda/InformationSystemEmploymentdata) at <https://www.statedata.info/mdda/>
- All Meaningful Day service provider organizations are required to collect and provide information twice annually (typically in the months of May and October) for the period of two concurrent weeks
- All documentation for the October data collection period should be submitted no later than Friday, **July 2nd, 2021**, directly into the data collection site
- If you have data system questions, such as how to access to your username and password, etc. please contact John Shepard of ICI UMass Boston at

John.Shepard@umb.edu

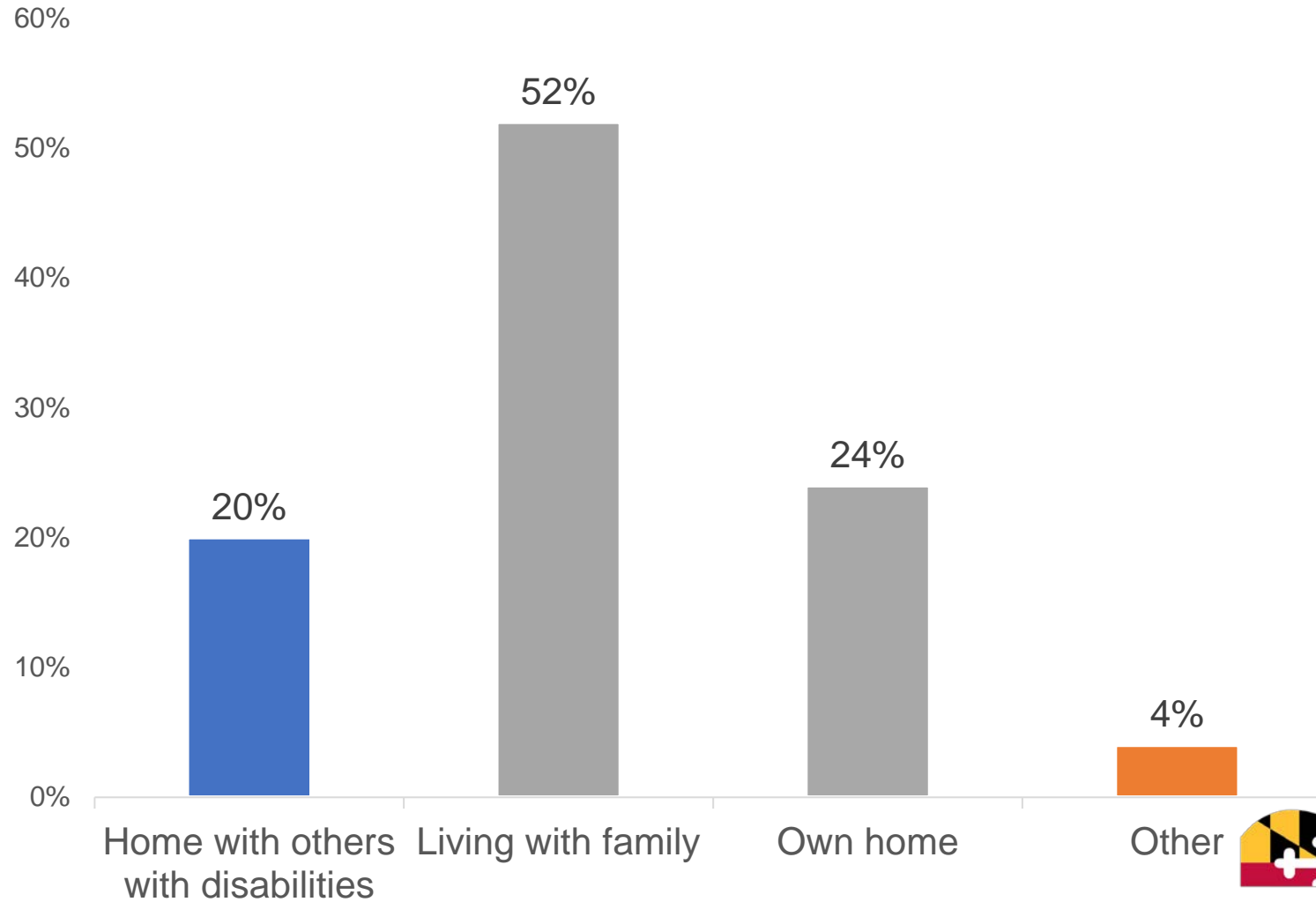


DDA Individual and Family Reopening Surveys

Fall 2020 Survey	Spring 2021 Survey
August 10 th , 2020 – September 21 st , 2020	March 29 th , 2021 – May 17 th , 2021
1,392 responses received	646 responses received
12% of responses were individual	28% of responses were individual
86% of responses were family	62% of responses were family



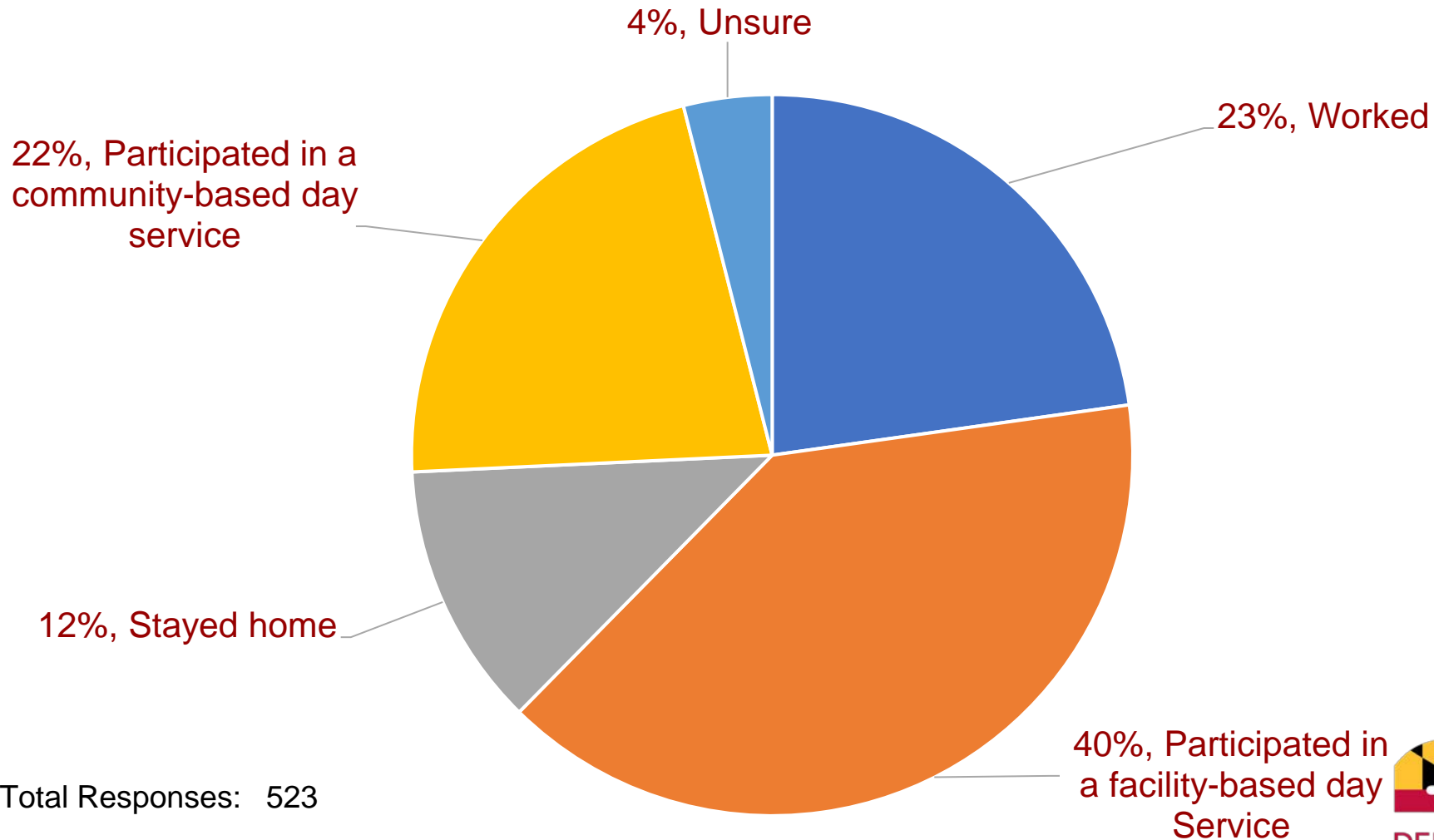
Where Do You Live?



Total Responses: 565

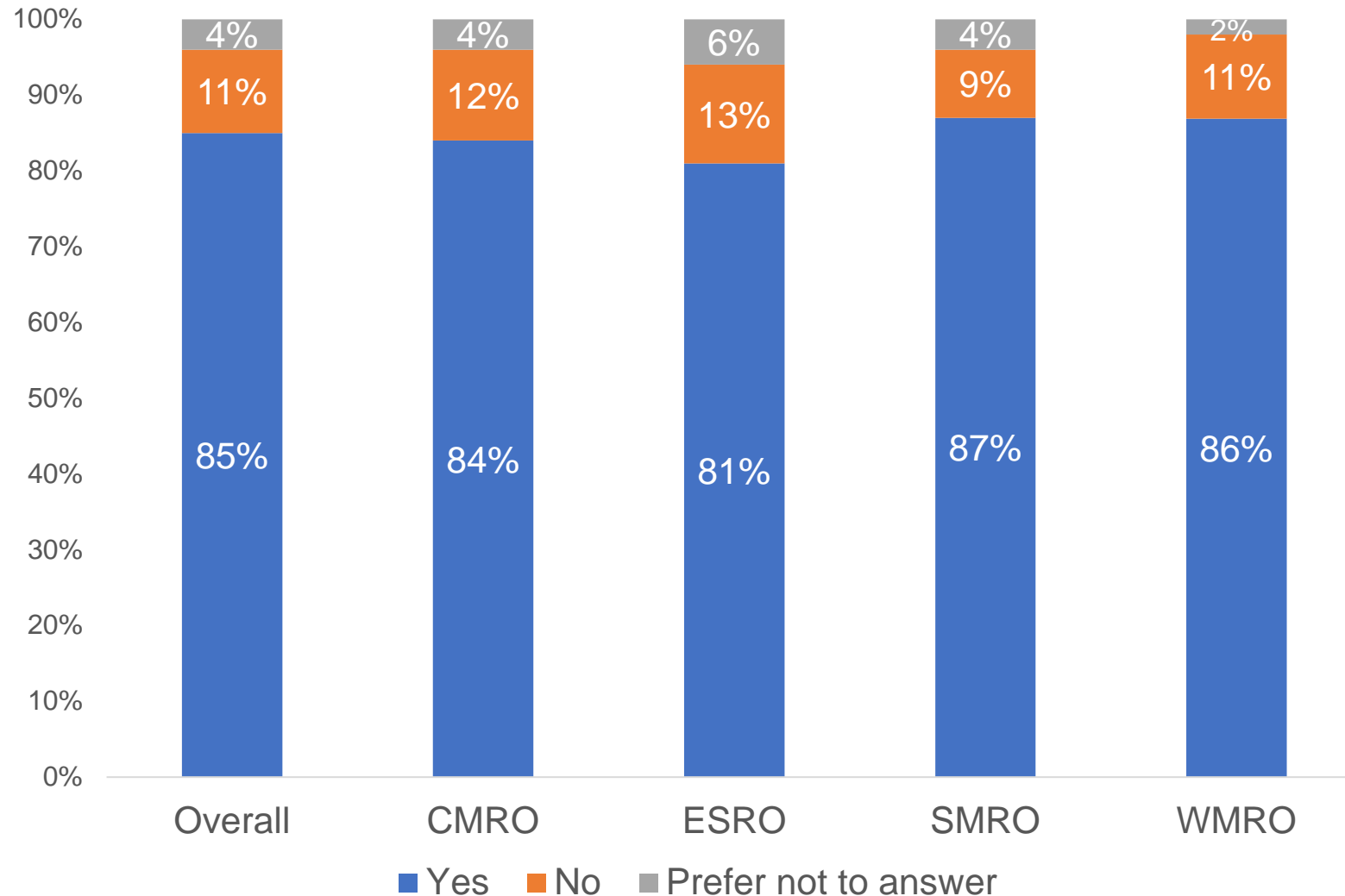
26

What Did You Do During the Day Before COVID-19?



Total Responses: 523

Are You Vaccinated?



Reported vaccination rates are closely aligned across the regions.

Maryland vaccination rates for 18+ population (at least one dose) is 73.1% as of 6/21/21, compared to 85% for DDA overall.

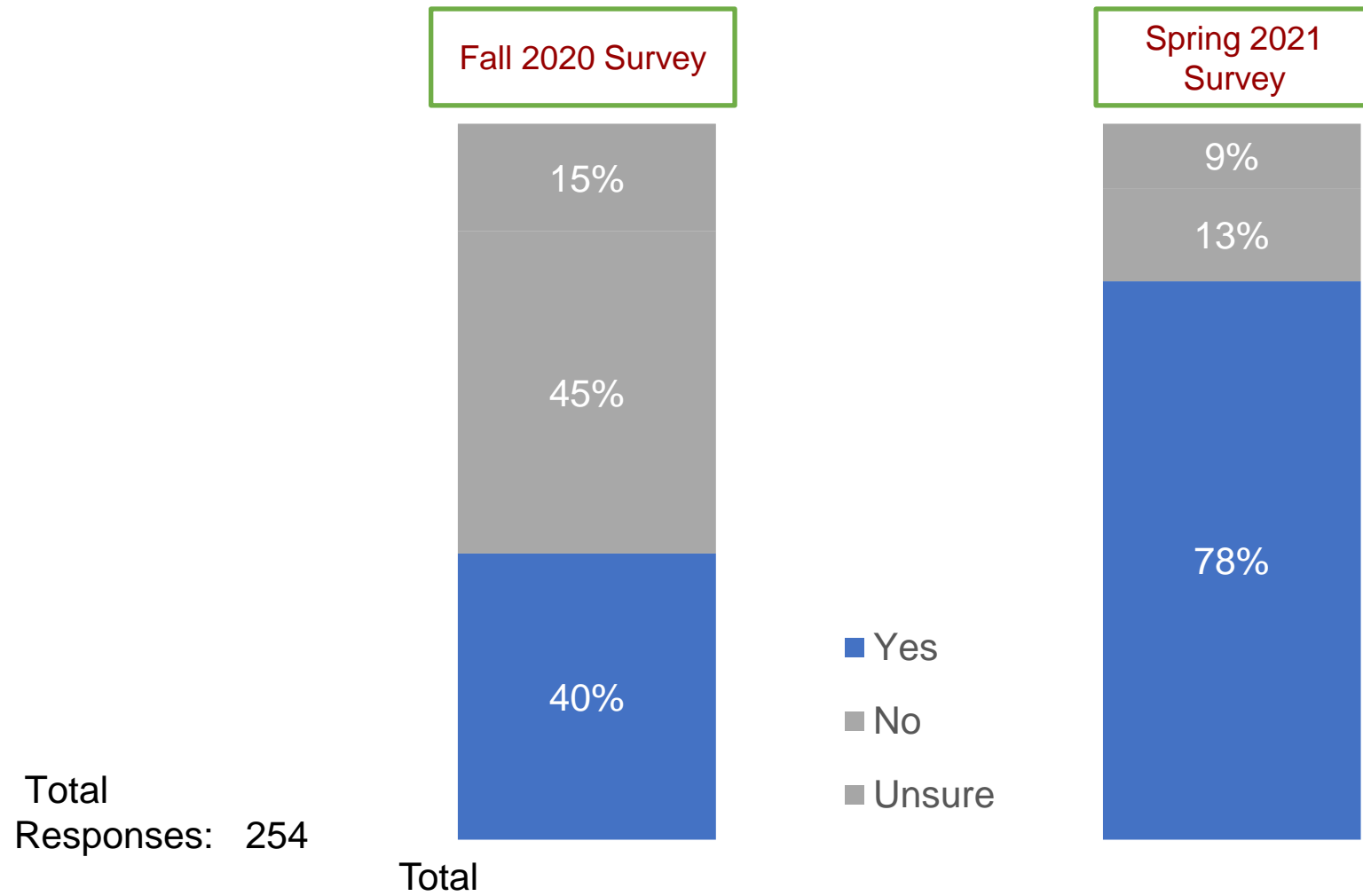
Total Responses: 604



What Are Your Interests Around Reopening and Returning to Services?



Are You Comfortable Returning to Facility-Based Day Services?



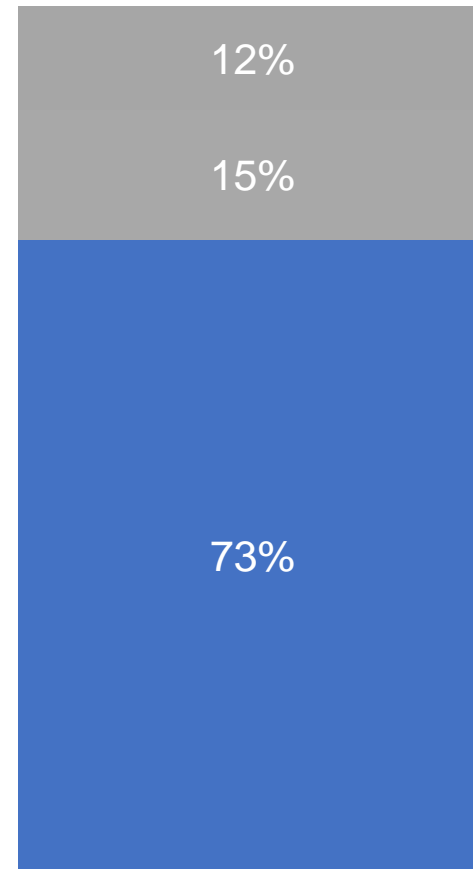
Total Responses: 254

Total

- Yes
- No
- Unsure



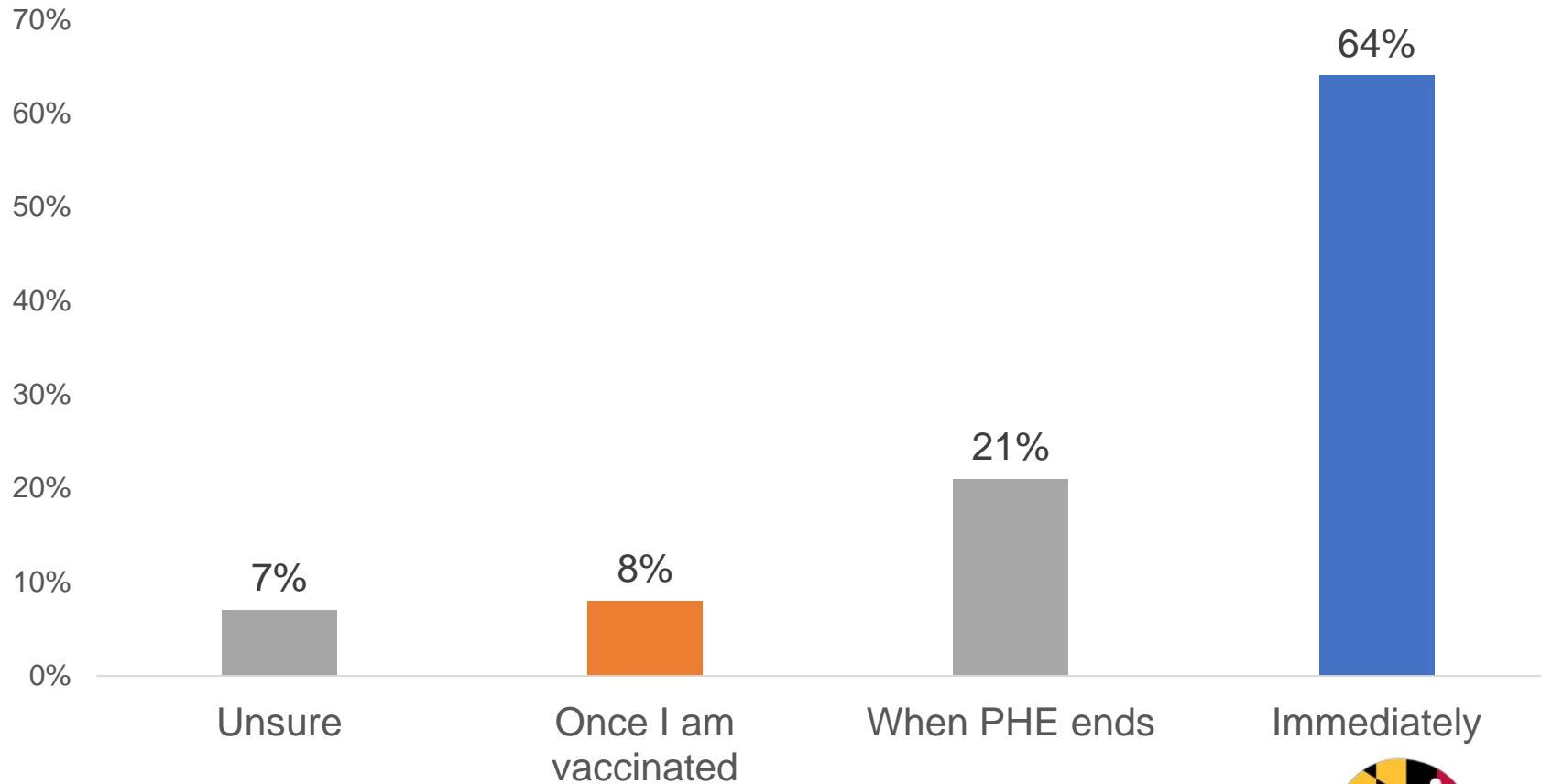
Do You Feel Comfortable Doing the Things You Did Before COVID-19? (e.g., seeing friends and family, going out in public areas, etc.)



Spring 2021 Total Responses: 543

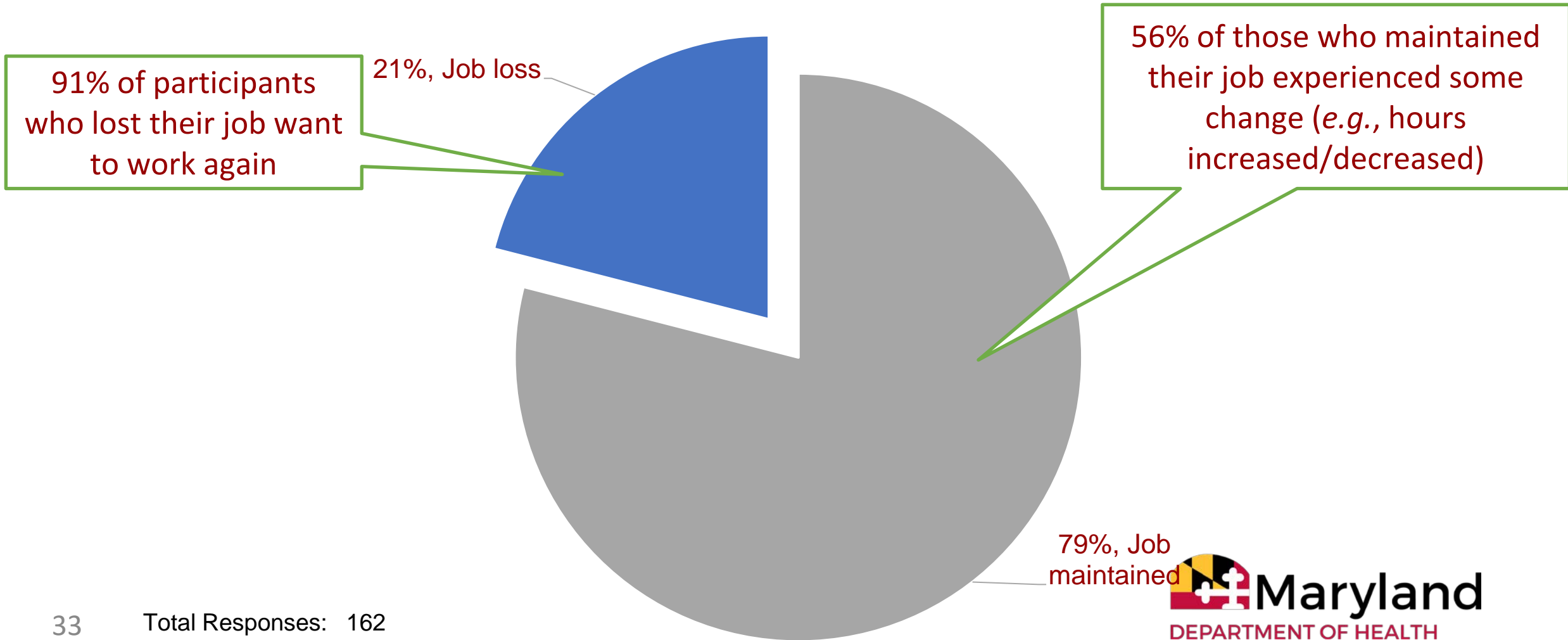
■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure

When Would You Like to Return to Services?



Total Responses: 337

How Has Employment Changed for You?

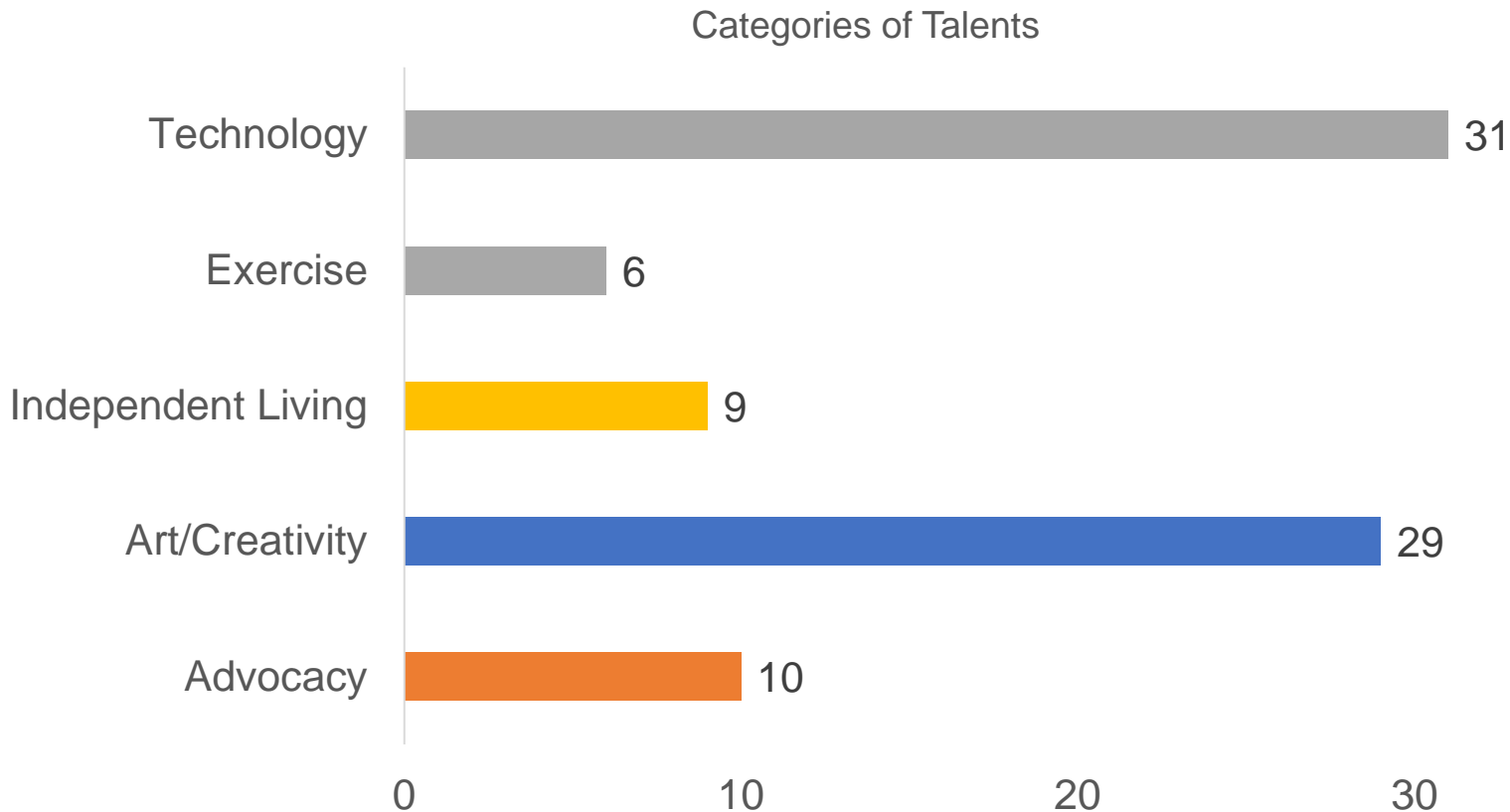


Opportunities Coming Out of COVID-19



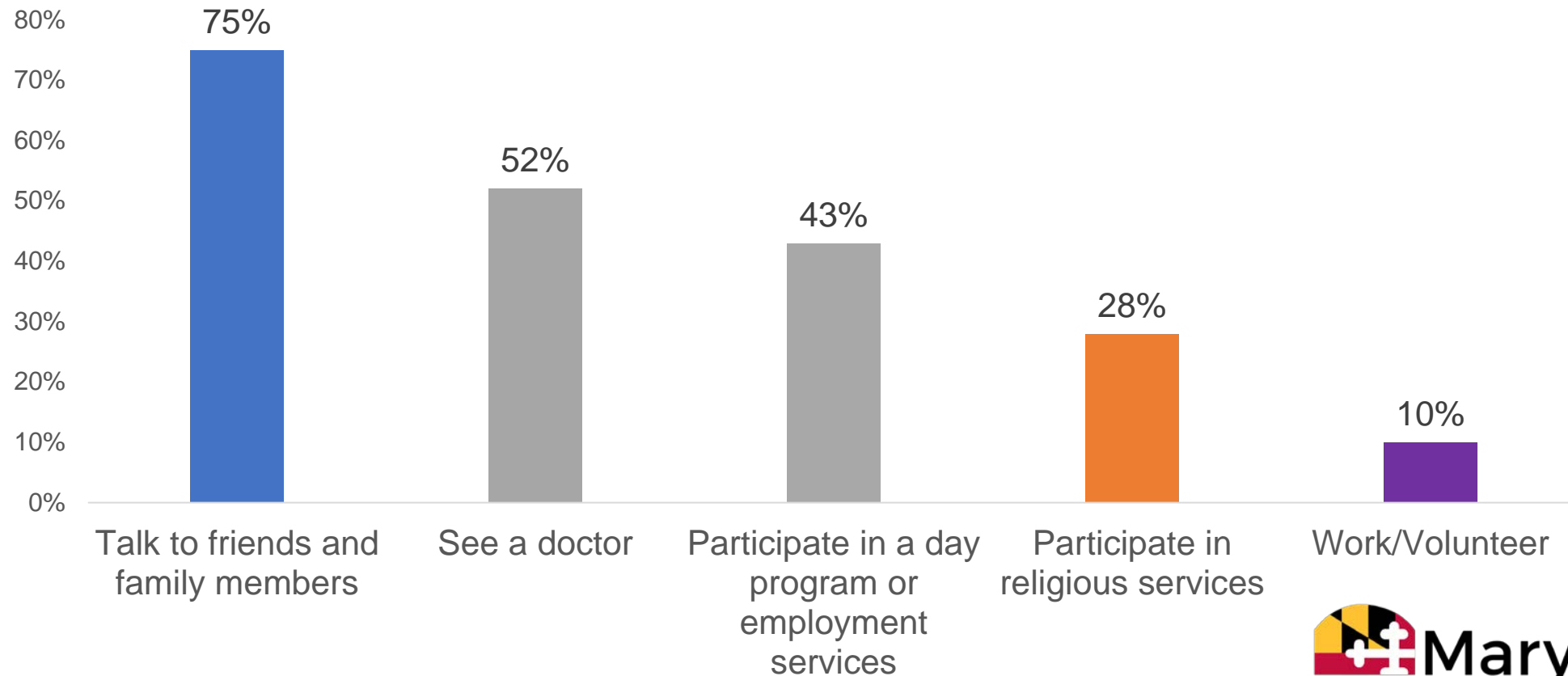
What New Talents Did You Learn?

Over 130 participants identified that they have discovered new talents and interests. These are the top five categories for participants who shared their talents:



How Do You Use Technology?

52% of participants report using technology. Those participants reported multiple different uses, including:

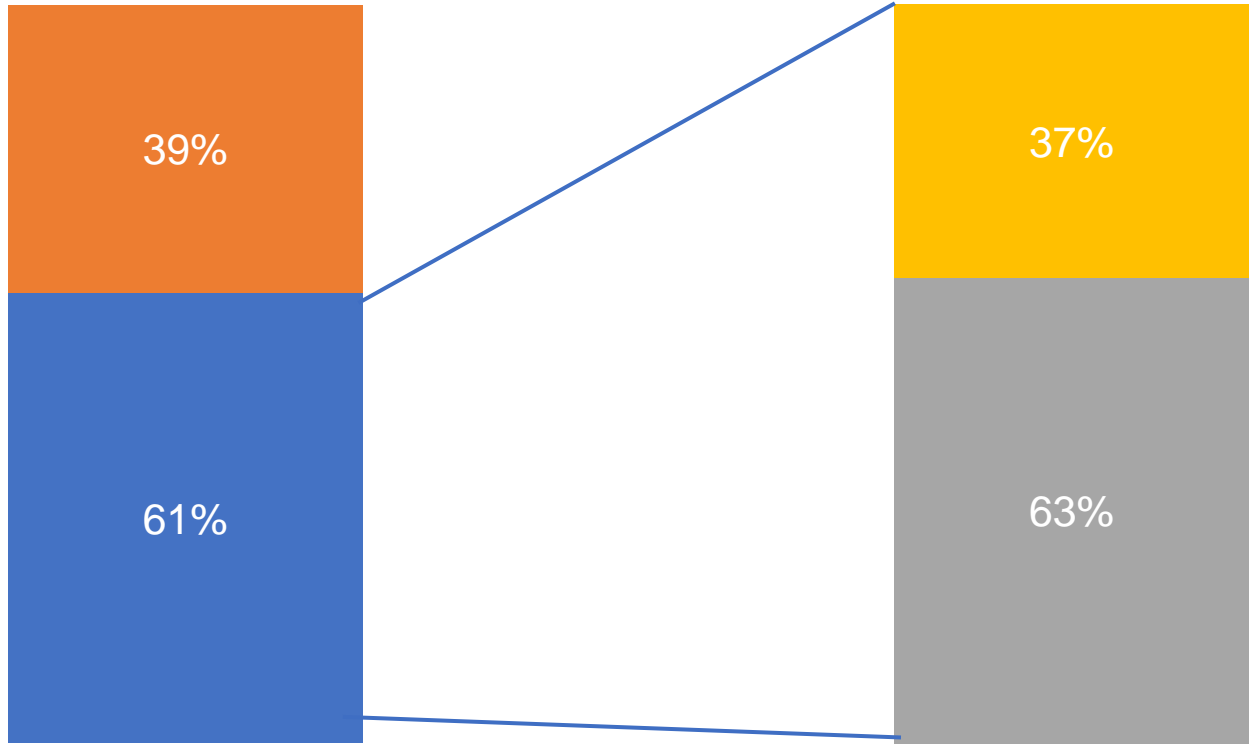


Total Responses: 451

How Do You Feel About Using Technology?

Would you like to use technology more?

Do you want supports to do so?



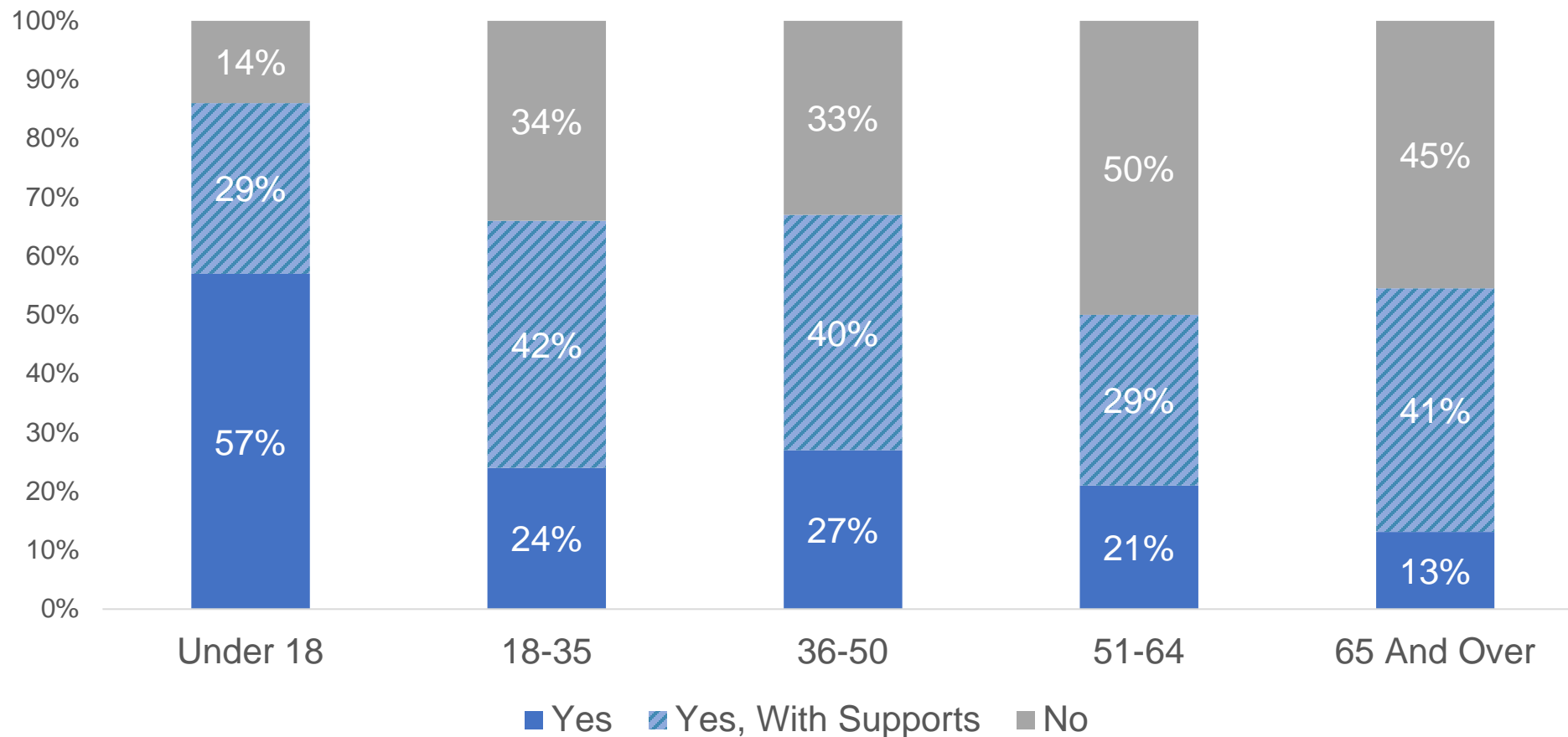
Total Responses: 435

■ Yes ■ No ■ With supports ■ Without supports



Are There Opportunities to Use Technology And Virtual Supports to Individualize Services?

Would you like to use technology more often?



Generally, as people age, they are less likely to want to use technology more

How Has Access to Technology Changed from Fall 2020 to Spring 2021*?

	Fall Survey	Current Survey	% Change
Need support to use technology and it is not available	40%	25%	↓38%
Don't know how to use technology	27%	10%	↓63%
Don't have a device	11%	5%	↓55%
Don't have Internet	4%	2%	↓50%
Don't have privacy	3%	1%	↓67%

**Respondents may not be the same in both surveys.*

How Can This Data Support New Opportunities Moving Forward?

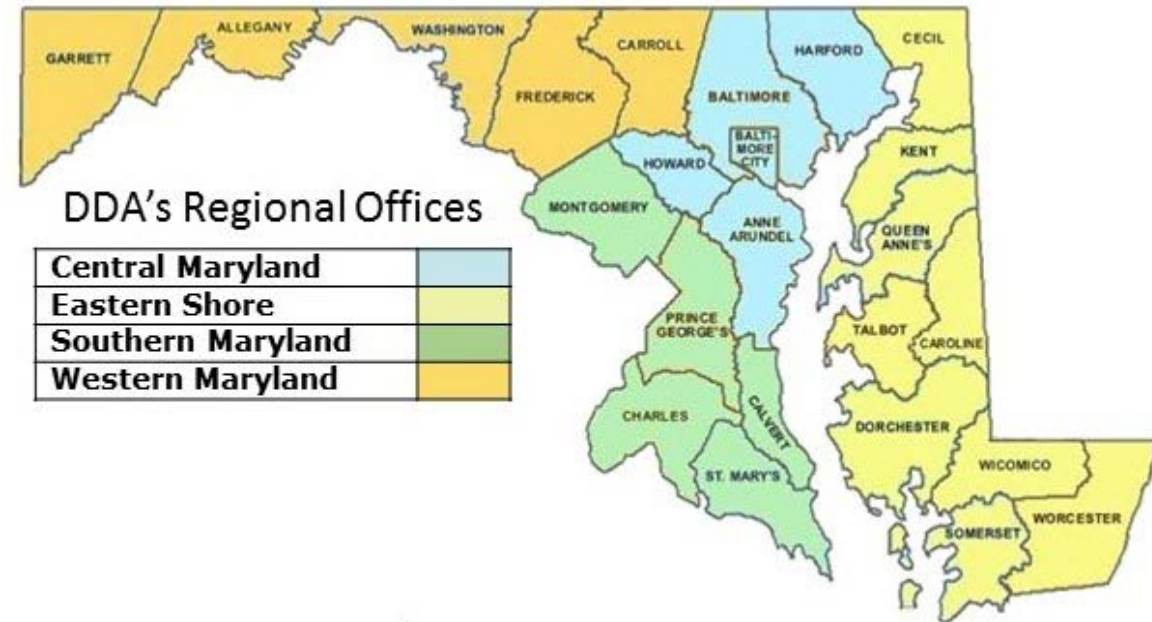
- Person-Centered Planning
 - Take advantage of the opportunity to build on new interests and talents developed during the Public Health Emergency
- Health
 - Continue to leverage community partnerships, which were critical to promoting vaccination access and coordination—DDA vaccination response rate (85%) is higher than State average (73%)
 - Continue use of telehealth to support better access to healthcare for individuals with developmental disabilities post-PHE

How Can This Data Support New Opportunities Moving Forward?

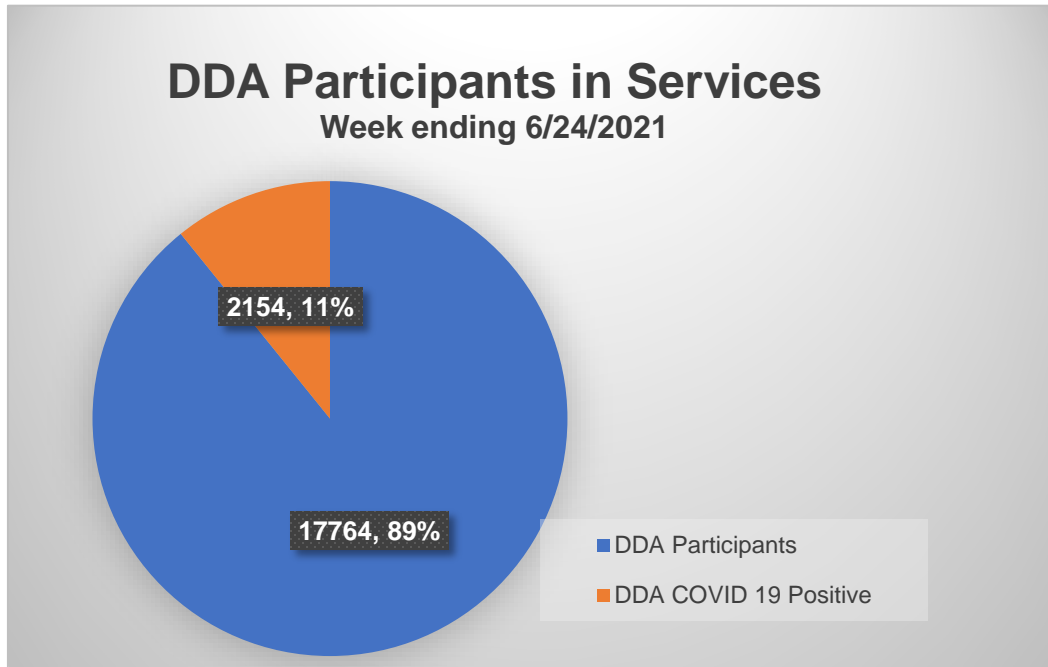
- Employment
 - New skills and interests should guide job exploration and expanded employment opportunities
- Technology
 - Leverage the supports included in the DDA Waiver Amendment #3 to provided continued support for individuals to utilize technology effectively
 - Increase access and integration of technology to overcome identified challenges

COVID-19 Regional Updates

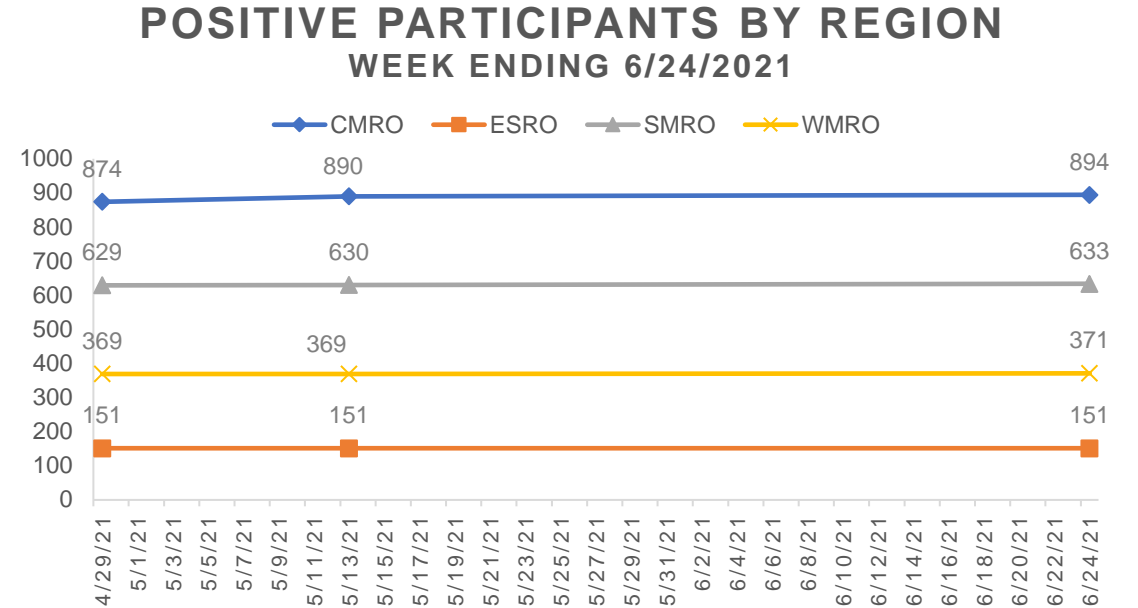
- **SMRO**- Onesta Duke
onesta.duke@maryland.gov
- **ESRO**- Kim Gscheidle
kimberly.gscheidle@maryland.gov
- **CMRO**- Nicholas Burton
nicholas.burton@maryland.gov
- **WMRO**- Cathy Marshall
cathy.marshall@maryland.gov



DDA Tracking



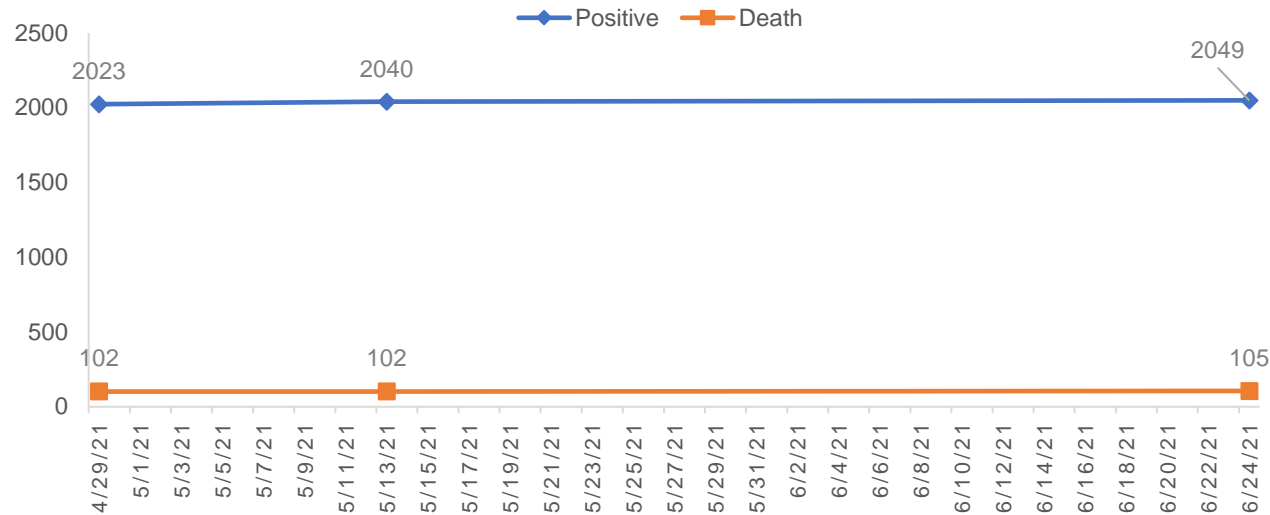
There are 17,764 people supported in services by the DDA of which 11% (2,154) have tested positive for COVID-19.



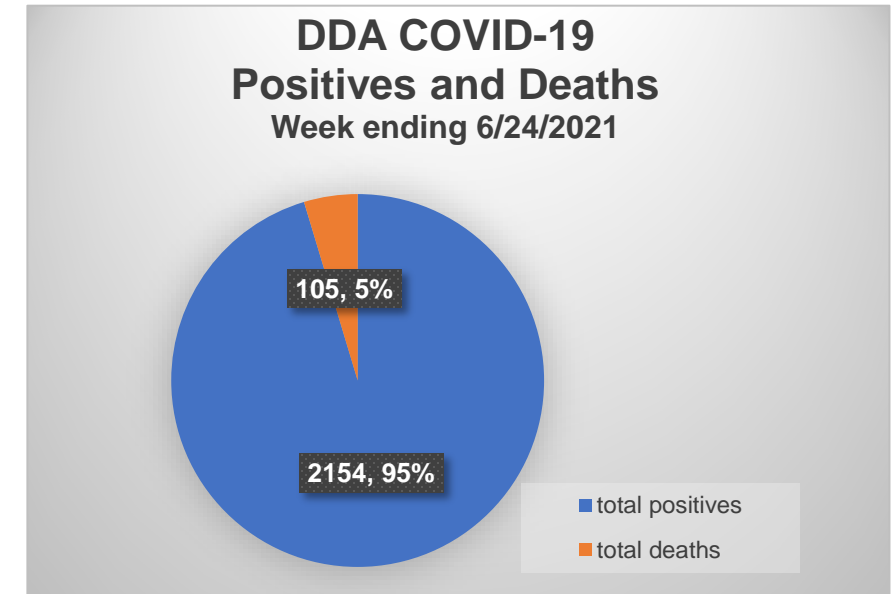
CMRO 894 Positive; Increase of 4
 ESRO 151 Positive; Increase of 0
 SMRO 633 Positive; Increase of 3
 WMRO 371 Positive; Increase of 2

DDA Tracking

POSITIVE PARTICIPANTS STATEWIDE
WEEK ENDING 06/24/2021



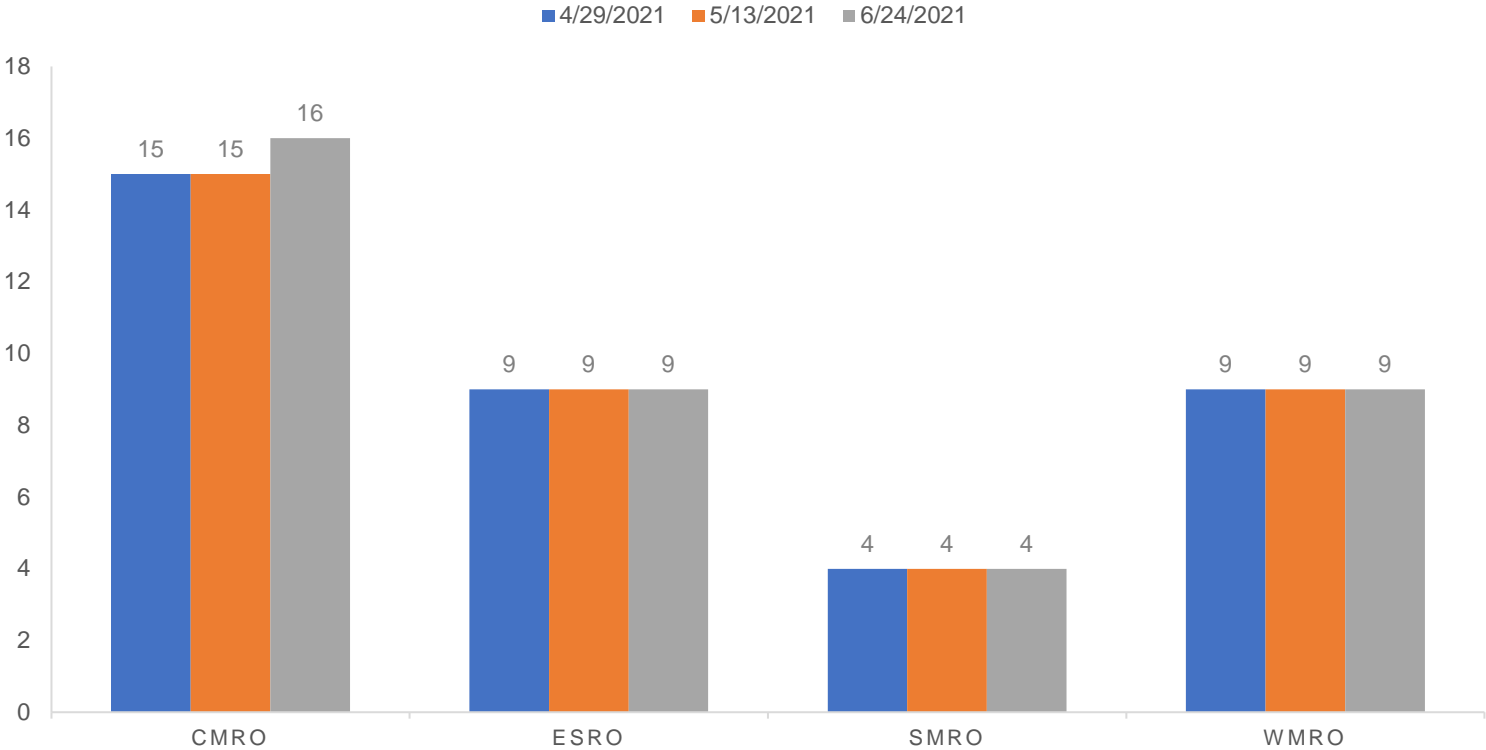
There have been 2,049 participants reported as having tested positive for COVID-19 of which there have been 105 deaths. (No Increase)



The 105 deaths represents approximately 5% of all (2154) participants that tested positive.

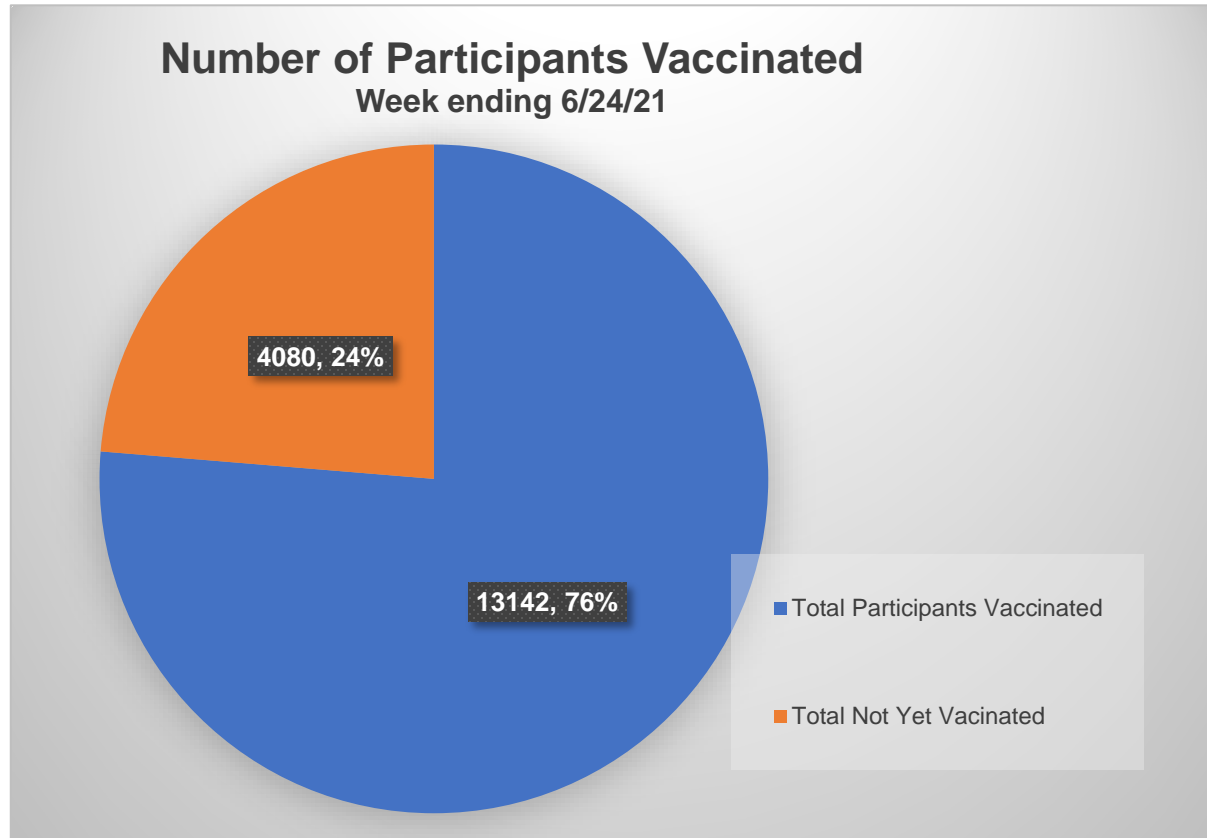
DDA Tracking

PARTICIPANTS IN SELF-DIRECTION
WEEK ENDING 06/24/2021



38 COVID-19 Positive
0 Deaths

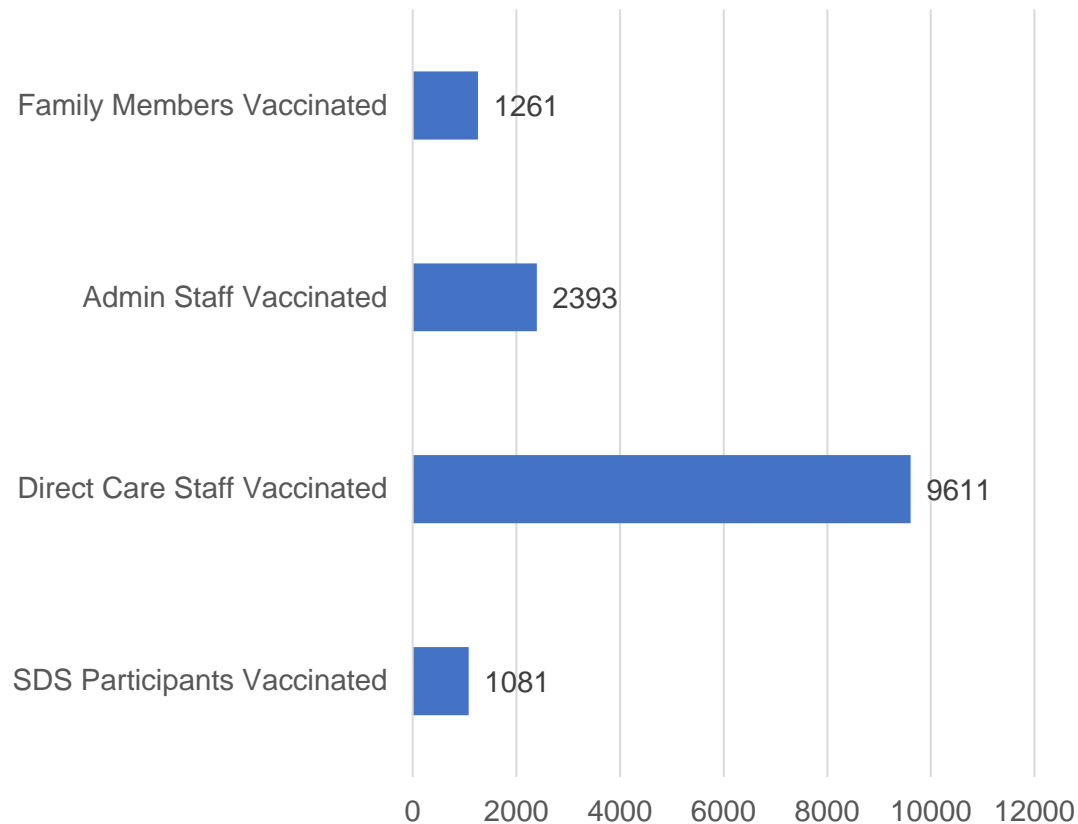
Vaccination Tracking



- Of the 17,222 participants that the agencies reported intending to have vaccinated, 13,142 (76%) have been vaccinated, 4,080 (24%) have not received a vaccine
- There have been 134 vaccination clinics held by the provider agencies with 1 currently scheduled for July 5th

Vaccination Tracking

Others Vaccinated
Week ending 6/24/2021



Others vaccinated include:

- 1,261 Family Members
- 2,393 Administrative staff
- 9,611 Direct Support Staff
- 1,081 Self Directed Participants (Increase of 670)

Deputy Secretary's Update

DDA Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) receives questions regarding programs, services, processes, and new initiatives directly and during topic specific webinars. These Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are organized into the topic specific categories to help you find those questions and responses most relevant to you. To go directly to a specific section, you can click on the link in the Table of Contents.

This is a live document which will be updated as categories and questions are added and updated. Questions received that are similar in nature were consolidated to best summarize the answers and resources.

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- I. **Appendix K**
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- III. **COVID-19 Guidance (New - June 22, 2021)**
- IV. **DDA Communications**
- V. **DDA Provider Applications**
- VI. **Eligibility and Application**
- VI. **Person-Centered Planning**
 - A. Plan Development
 - B. Plan Revisions
 - C. Service Implementation Plans (SIP)
 - D. Budget Development - Self-Direction
 - E. Detailed Service Authorization Tool (DSAT)
- VII. **Self-Direction**
 - A. Forms and Processes
 - B. Benefits and Rates

The DDA receives questions regarding programs, services, processes, and new initiatives directly and during topic specific webinars. This week we posted some updates at:

[DDA Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) – June 22, 2021](#)

Upcoming Monthly Webinars

Please join us for our 2021 Webinar Series:

- July 30 at 1pm
- August 27 at 1pm
- September 24 at 1pm
- October 29 at 1pm
- November 19 at 1pm
- December 17 at 1pm

To register for the Monthly Webinars with Deputy Secretary Bernie Simons go to:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6873417036092171790>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Questions

