
Using the Supports Intensity Scale for Determining the Intensity of Needs for Persons with Intellectual & Developmental Disability

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Purpose of Today's Conversation:

☞ Current Environment

☞ Learning for NC-SNAP

(North Carolina Supports Needs Assessment Profile)

☞ NC & the Supports Intensity Scale

2000 to present

- ❖ More organized conversations around evaluating Intensity of Needs
- ❖ Beginning of Resource Allocation Process
- ❖ Individualized budgets
- ❖ Self-direction supported by Person Centered Plans
- ❖ Supports Intensity Scale for Adults
- ❖ Supports Intensity Scale for Children
- ❖ Learning how to have an “intensity of need” conversation on all levels

North Carolina Support Needs Assessment Profile (NC-SNAP)

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the background information below. Then, using the Domain grids on Pages 2 and 3, start at the top of each column and read down until you locate the level that best describes the individual's current needs. When you find that level, make an "X" in the box. Then proceed to the next column. Repeat the process for each grid. After completing all three grids, proceed to Section II, the "NC-SNAP Profile" below.

Note: Focus only on this particular person's needs. Do not make comparisons to other individuals. Also, do not base your answers solely on what services the individual is or is not receiving; focus on what supports the individual truly needs. For example, the individual may reside in a setting that provides 24-hour staff coverage; consider whether this level of support is actually needed for the individual or if less supervision would be appropriate.

I. Background Information

Individual's Name: _____

Social Security No.: _____

Unique ID No.: _____ Case No.: _____

Birthdate: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

County: _____ LME: _____

Are There Significant Natural Supports In Place? Yes No

Current DD System Supports: (Check only one)

First Contact Waiting List (no services)

In Service Waiting List (insufficient services)

Examiner: _____ Phone.: (____) _____

NC-SNAP Certification No.: _____

(relationship to individual: _____)

Date of Assessment: _____

II. NC-SNAP Profile

After completing all three grids:

- find the level marked for each column on Pages 2 and 3 and circle that level in the corresponding column of the chart below
- draw a line connecting the circles in each domain on the chart below
- record the **highest** (largest) score for **each** domain in the appropriate box below
- write the **highest** of these three scores in the "Overall Level of Eligible Support" box then, proceed to Page 4, the NC-SNAP Support Summary

Daily Living Domain				Health Care Domain				Behavioral Domain		
Superv	Assist	Age	Struct	MD	RN	Allied	Equip	M.H.	Severity	Interven
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

Daily Living Supports =

Health Care Supports =

Behavioral Supports =

Overall Level of Eligible Support =

What We Learned From the NC SNAP₍₁₉₉₉₎

Strengths of NC -SNAP

- ✓ Shifted the thinking of the DD System
- ✓ Very Valuable
- ✓ Completed on 100% of Individuals Receiving CAP Services-Success!!
- ✓ Focused on Daily Living, Health Care & Behavior-Good Start!
- ✓ Only 11 Questions
- ✓ Developed competent workforce- based on roll-out of training
- ✓ Brought person, family, case mgr, other service providers together

What We Learned from NC-SNAP

- ✓ Was not quantifiable with resource allocations
- ✓ Did not designate the type of support person may need
- ✓ Superficially “touched” intensity of supports
- ✓ Over time data reflected a larger void of the tool
- ✓ Did not provide enough “influence” to direct conversations of support

Supports Intensity Scale

Interview and Profile Form

Adult Version (ages 16 and up)

ID/TRACKING NUMBER

Name _____ <small>LAST FIRST MIDDLE</small>	Date SIS Completed _____ <small>YR MO DAY</small>
Address _____	City, State, Zip _____
Phone ____/____/____	Language Spoken at Home _____
Age _____	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Individuals or Organizations Providing Essential Supports:	
Name _____ Relationship _____	Phone ____/____/____
Name _____ Relationship _____	Phone ____/____/____
Name _____ Relationship _____	Phone ____/____/____
Other Pertinent Information _____	

Respondent Name	Relationship to Individual	Language Spoken
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

Interviewer _____	Position _____
Agency/Affiliation _____	Phone ____/____/____
Address _____	Email _____

Reorder Information

To order additional forms, call 301/604-1340, or email aamr@pmds.com
Order number: #251—25 forms; #252—100 forms; #250—Manual + 25 forms; #253—Manual only.

James R. Thompson, PhD	David A. Rotholz, PhD
Brian R. Bryant, PhD	Robert L. Schalock, PhD
Edward M. Campbell, PhD	Wayne P. Silverman, PhD
Ellis M. Craig, PhD	Marc J. Tassé, PhD
Carolyn M. Hughes, PhD	Michael L. Wehmeyer, PhD



American Association on Mental Retardation

The Supports Intensity Scale was developed as a result of:

Needing to promote independence

Evolving expectations for people with intellectual & developmental disabilities

The focus on community

Focus on consumer directed supports

How was the SIS Developed ?

The SIS was developed:

- ♥ Over a 5 year period of time
- ♥ Team of experts from the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities- AAIDD
- ♥ Adult version was published in 2004

What is the Supports Intensity Scale?

The Supports Intensity Scale (SIS):

- ♥ An assessment tool that measures practical support requirements of a person with an intellectual & developmental disability
- ♥ Unlike traditional assessments, the SIS focuses on what daily supports an individual needs to live as independently as possible within their community.

▪

Design

- ✘ The supports intensity scale (SIS) was designed to:
 - + assess support needs;
 - + determine the intensity of needed supports;
 - + monitor progress; and
 - + evaluate outcomes.

- ✘ SIS can be used to project support costs

- ♥ SIS measures the pattern and intensity of support needed by an adult with intellectual and developmental disabilities age 16 years and other
- ♥ Supports Intensity Scale for children
 - age 5-15 with intellectual and developmental disabilities –currently being
 - field tested with an anticipated publication 2009
- ♥ North Carolina is part of that field test for the child scale

Areas Assessed by SIS

- ☞ Home Living
- ☞ Community Living
- ☞ Lifelong Learning
- ☞ Employment
- ☞ Health and Safety
- ☞ Social
- ☞ Protection and Advocacy
- ☞ Exceptional Medical Support and Behavioral Support Needs

Why is North Carolina choosing to use the Supports Intensity Scale?

- ♥ it is positive and supports oriented
- ♥ it is engaging
 - (interview with person, family, case mgr, providers, etc)
- ♥ it is reliable and valid- used in 10 states
- ♥ reported to enhance the PCP Process
- ♥ comprehensive
 - 57 items in 7 life domains
 - 28 items in the medical and behavioral area
- ♥ it is simple with well defined item descriptions
- ♥ it has an excellent measurement scale

Will the SIS replace other assessments that are currently completed?

- ♥ the SIS will not replace current assessments completed by Psychology, Nursing, Speech, PT, OT, etc
- ♥ used in conjunction with these assessments to assist the individual and their support team in developing a **Person Centered Plan** that focuses on strengths and abilities, not deficits.

Is the SIS being used in any other states?

The SIS is currently in use in ten states:

Georgia, Washington, Louisiana, Utah,
Pennsylvania, Colorado, Oregon, Missouri, Virginia,
and Nebraska

Three states considering SIS:

Florida, Oklahoma and California

North Carolina has also implemented the SIS in
Piedmont through their Innovations Waiver.

North Carolina Supports Intensity Scale Project

- ☞ The DMHDDSAS is currently piloting the SIS in 7 Local Management Entities (LME's)
- ☞ 181 SIS assessments have been completed
- ☞ A licensed clinician conducts the SIS assessment (separate from agencies providing services)
- ☞ The SIS will probably be completed every two years unless there has been a significant change in an individual's life... (policy still being determined)

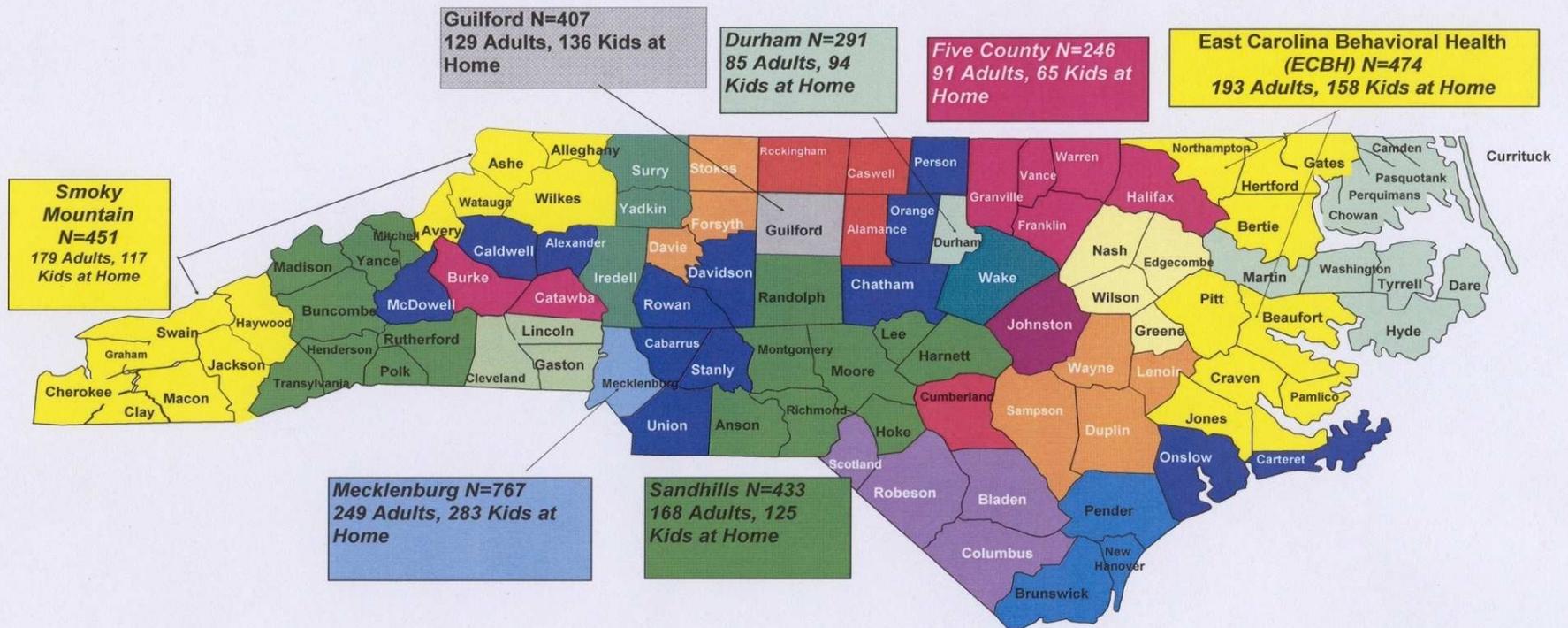
SIS Pilot Project

☞ The 7 LME's are:

- * Smoky
- * Mecklenburg
- * Guilford
- * Durham
- * 5 County
- * East Carolina Behavioral Health
- * Sandhills

Supports Intensity Scale

SIS Implementation LMEs



How the SIS is Different

- ♥ More Specific Questions (57 vs 11)
- ♥ Major refinement in measurement quality
- ♥ Process is more friendly (go to the home if agreed)
- ♥ Reflects Full spectrum of disability (comprehensive)
- ♥ Provides guidance of needs in priority
- ♥ Breath & Depth of assessment
- ♥ Types of Supports
- ♥ Frequency of Supports
- ♥ Duration of Supports

RATING INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

☞ Support Needs & Protection and Advocacy are rated on:

- + frequency
- + daily support time
- + type of support

☞ *Exceptional Medical and Behavioral Support have three scoring options:

- + No support needed
- + Some support
- + extensive support

*This data needs more analysis

Scoring Frequency

Frequency:

How frequently is support needed for this activity?

- 0 = none or less than monthly
- 1 = at least once a month, but not once a week
- 2 = at least once a week, but not once a day
- 3 = at least once a day, but not once an hour
- 4 = hourly or more frequently

Scoring Daily Support Time

Daily Support Time:

On a typical day when support in this area is needed, how much time should be devoted?

- 0 = none
- 1 = less than 30 minutes
- 2 = 30 minutes to less than 2 hours
- 3 = 2 hours to less than 4 hours
- 4 = 4 hours or more

Scoring Type of Support

Type of Support:

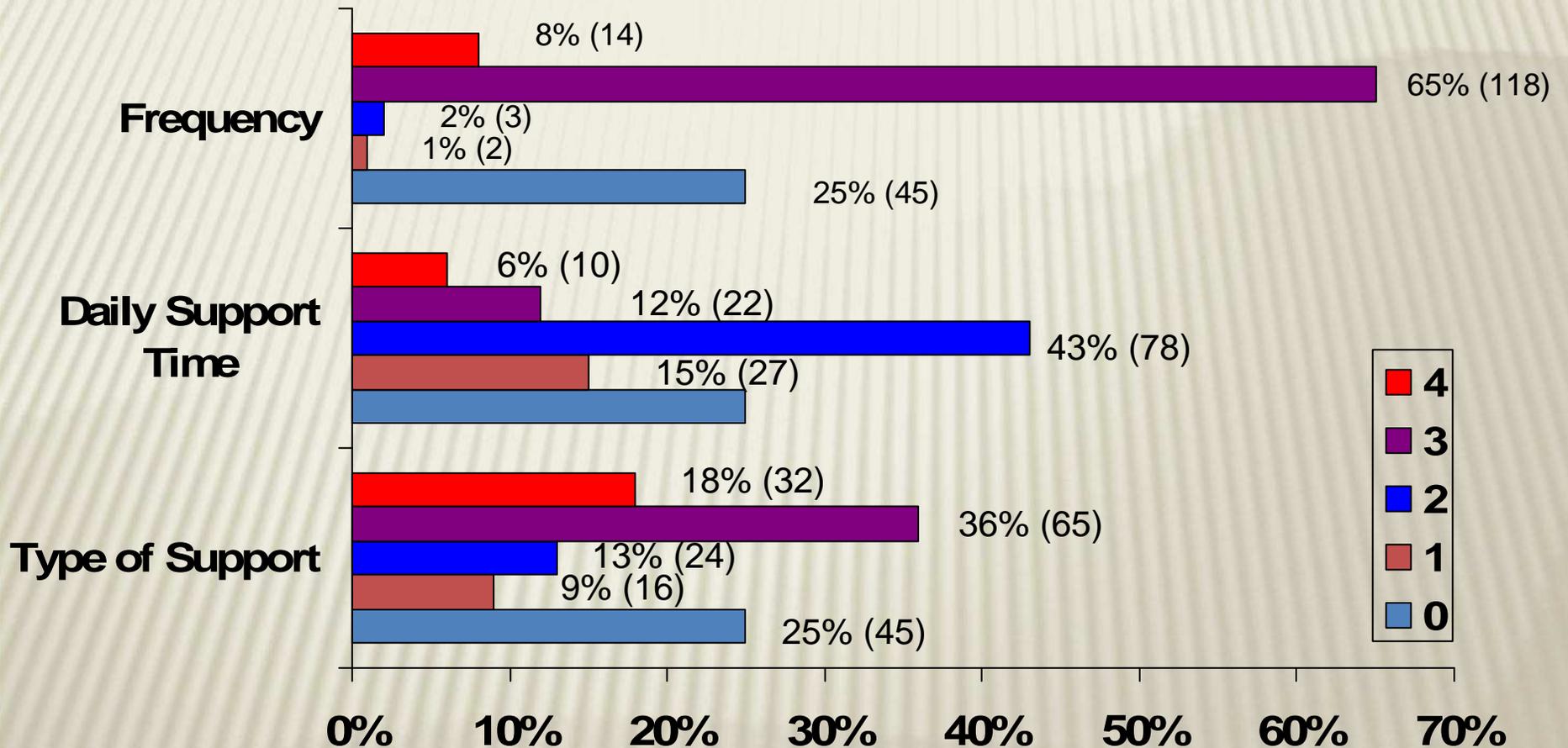
What kind of support should be provided?

- 0 = none
- 1 = monitoring
- 2 = verbal/gestural prompting
- 3 = partial physical assistance
- 4 = full physical assistance

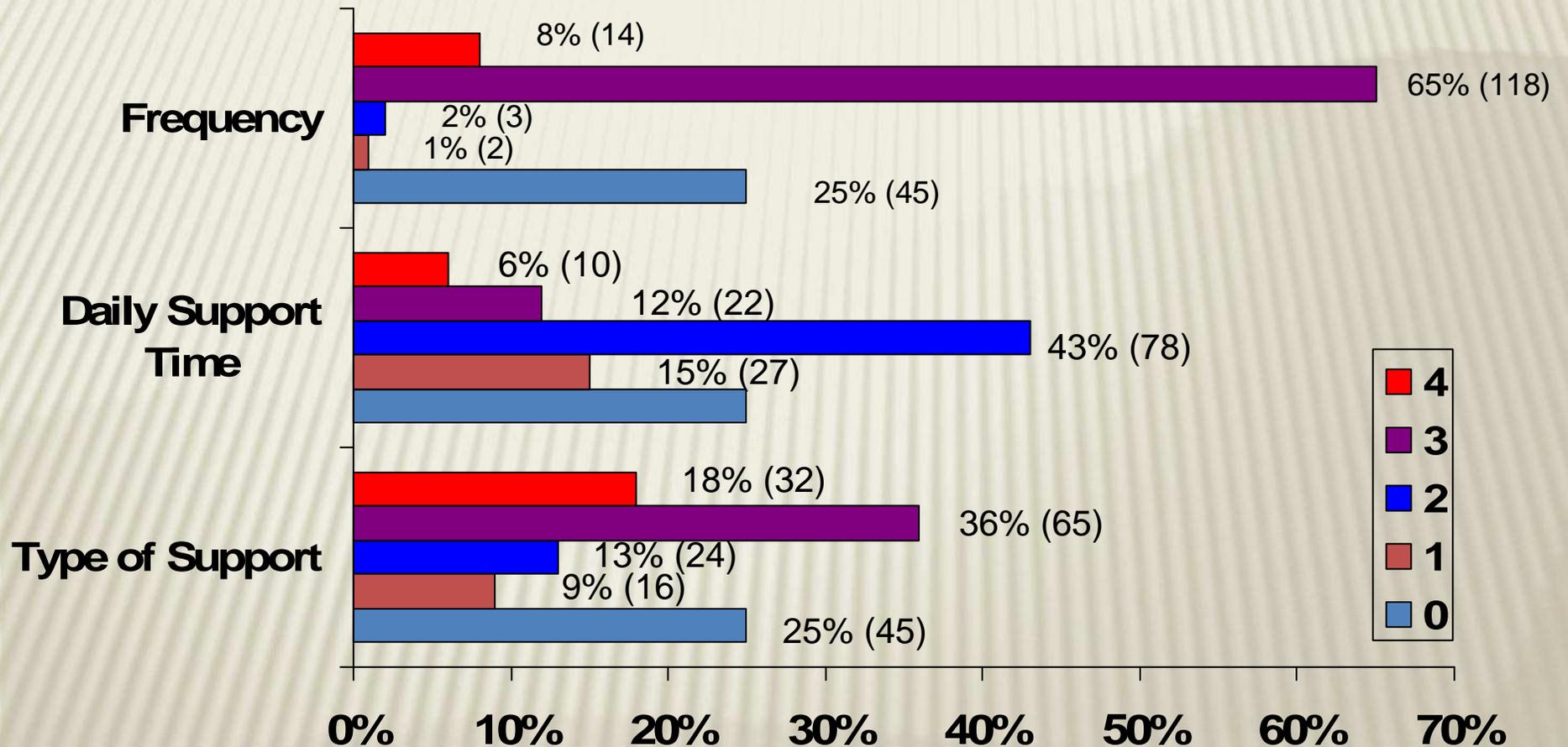
SIS Scores From & LME Project

- × Raw Scores
- × Standard Scores
- × Percentiles
- × SIS Support Needs Index

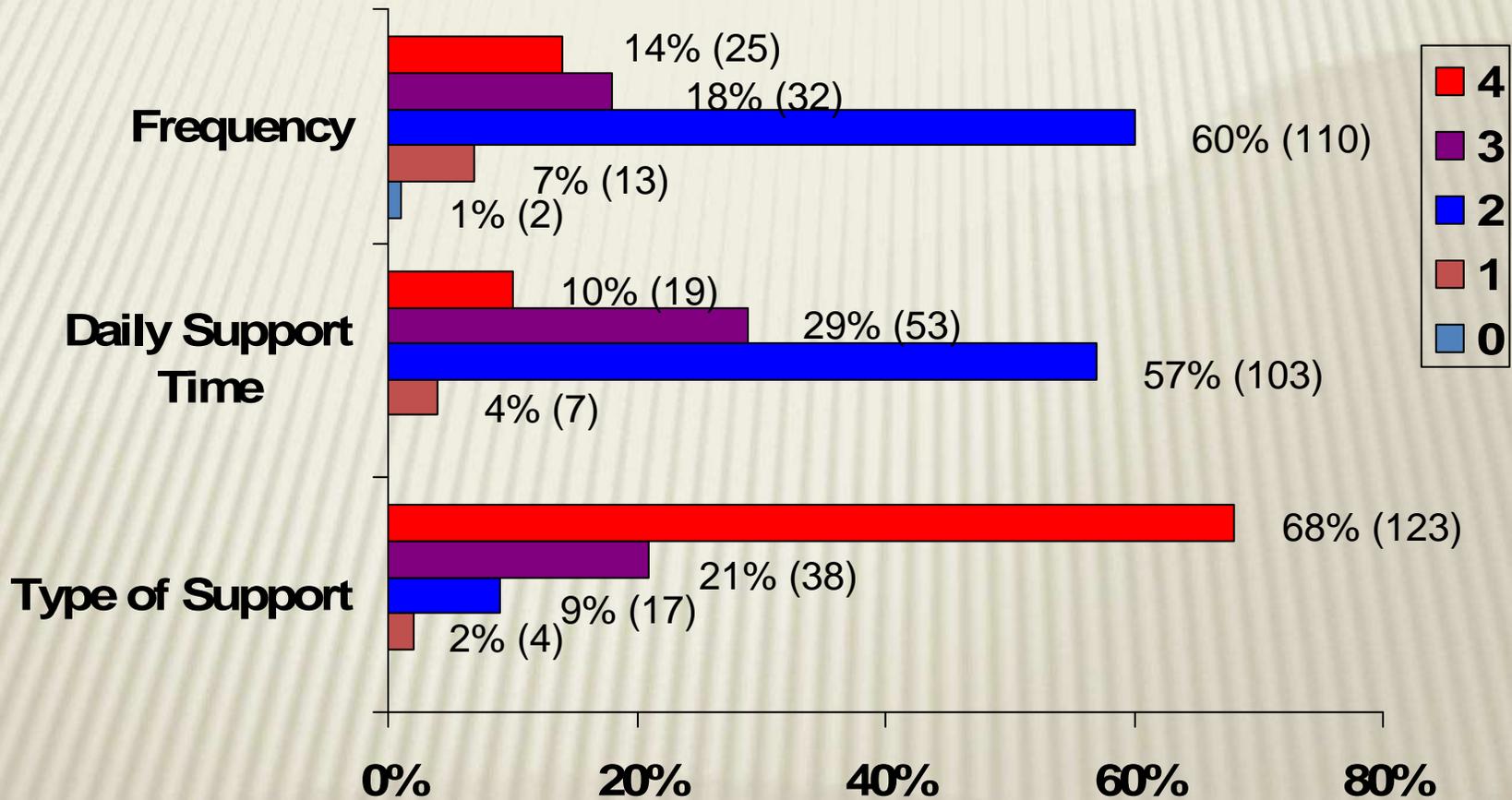
Home Living Activities: Eating Food



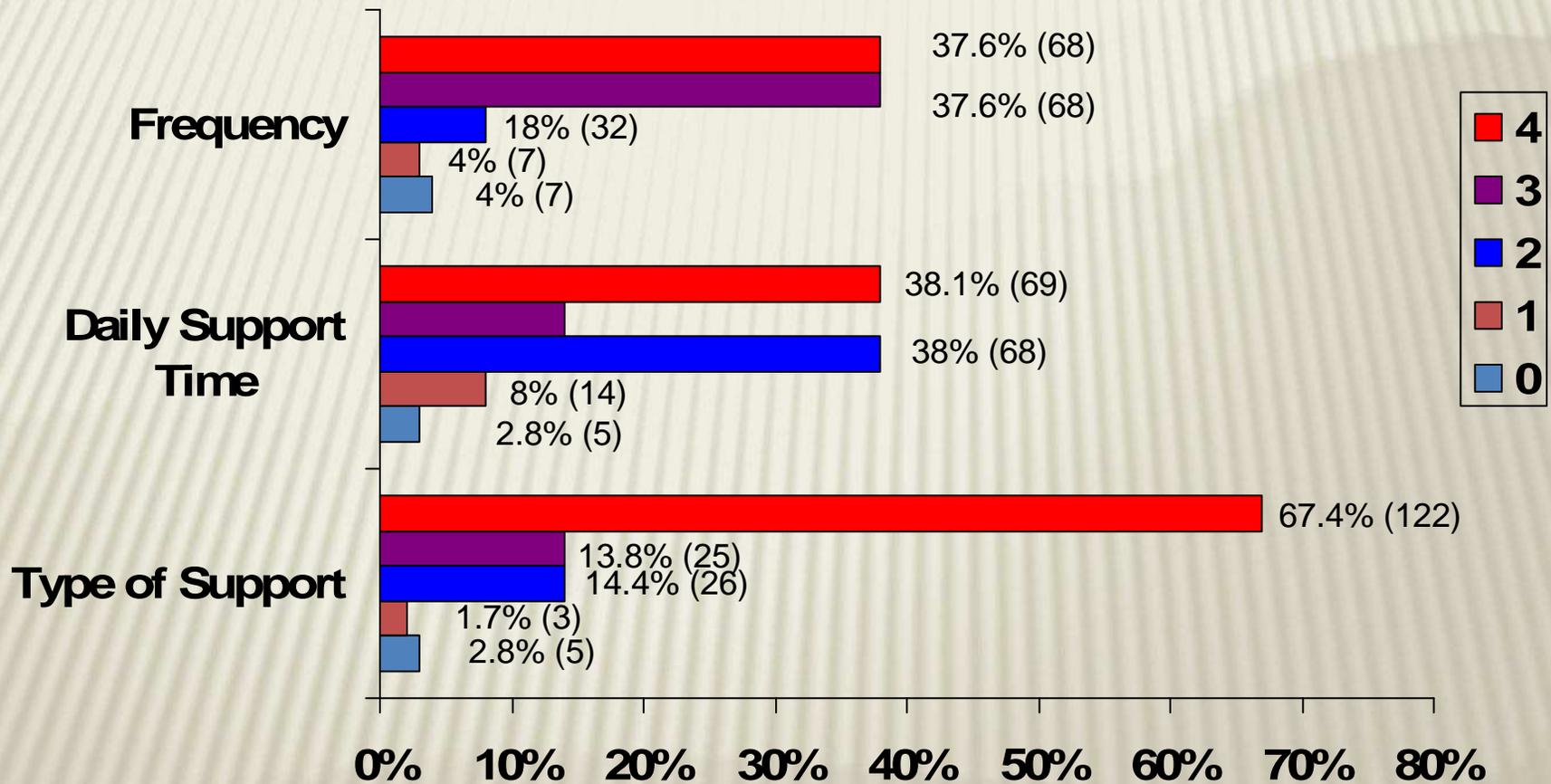
Home Living Activities: Eating Food



Community Living Activities: Shopping/Purchasing Goods and Services

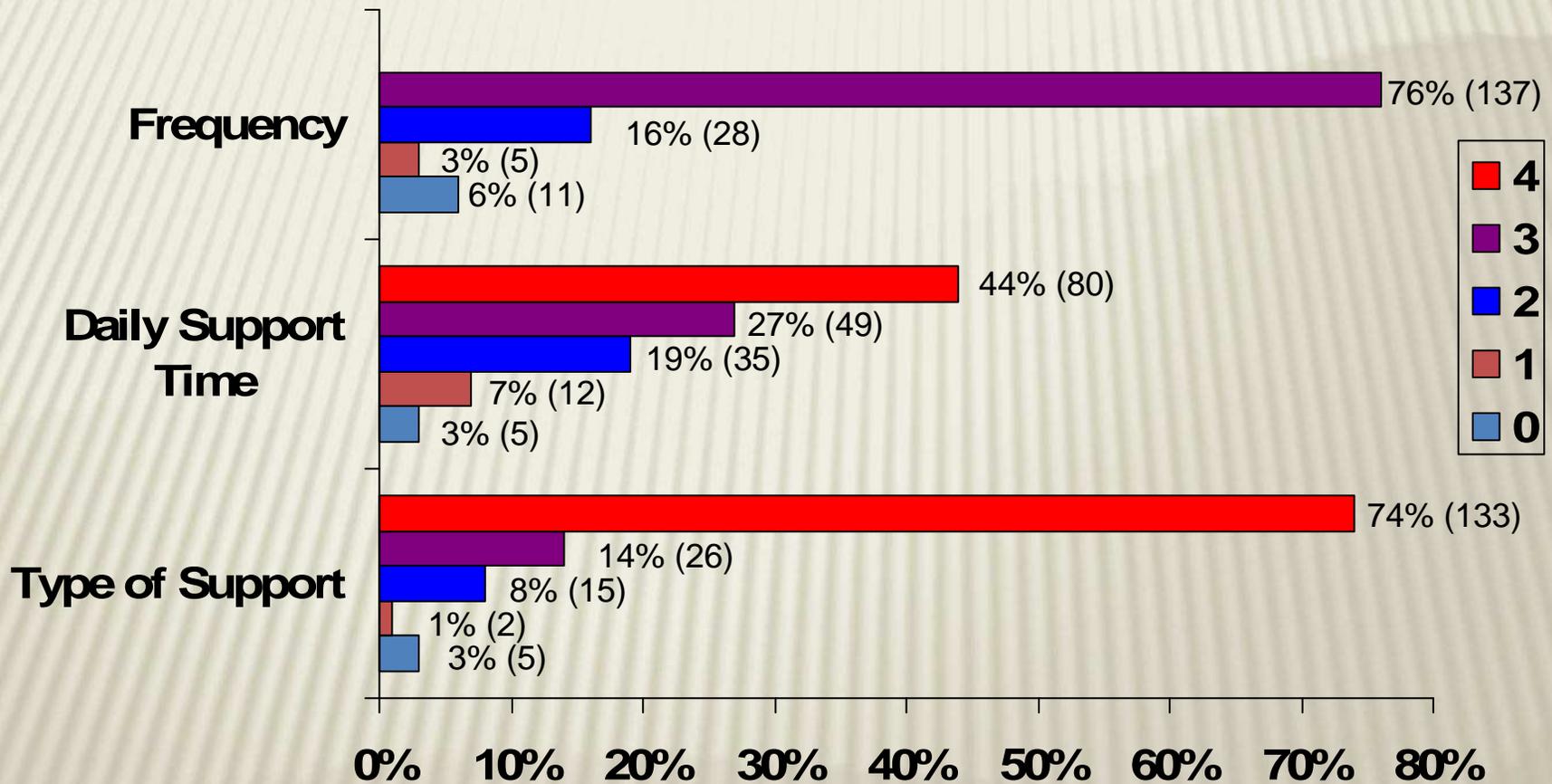


Lifelong Learning Activities: Learning Self-Determination Skills



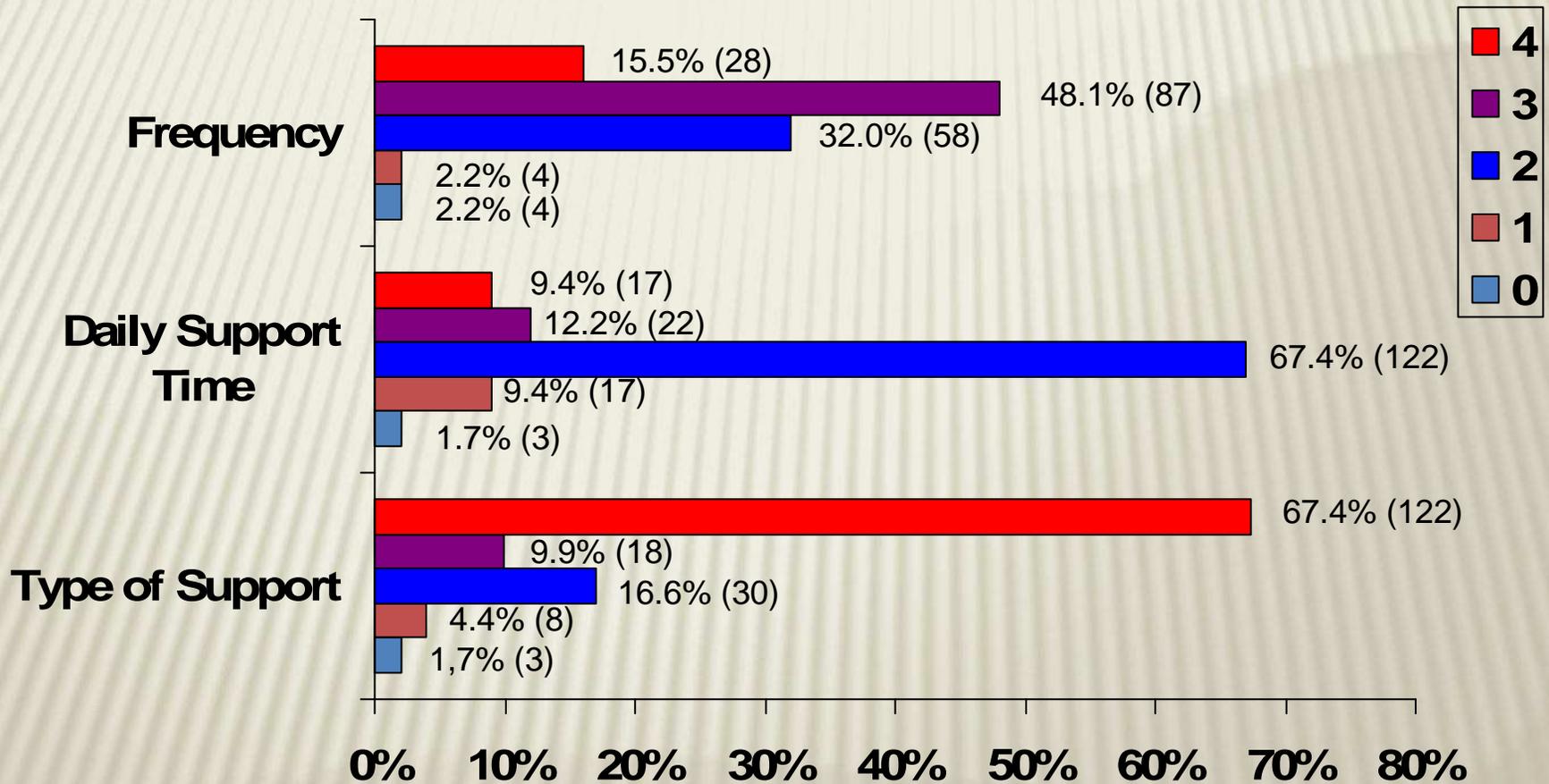
Employment Activities:

Accessing/Receiving Job or Task Accommodations



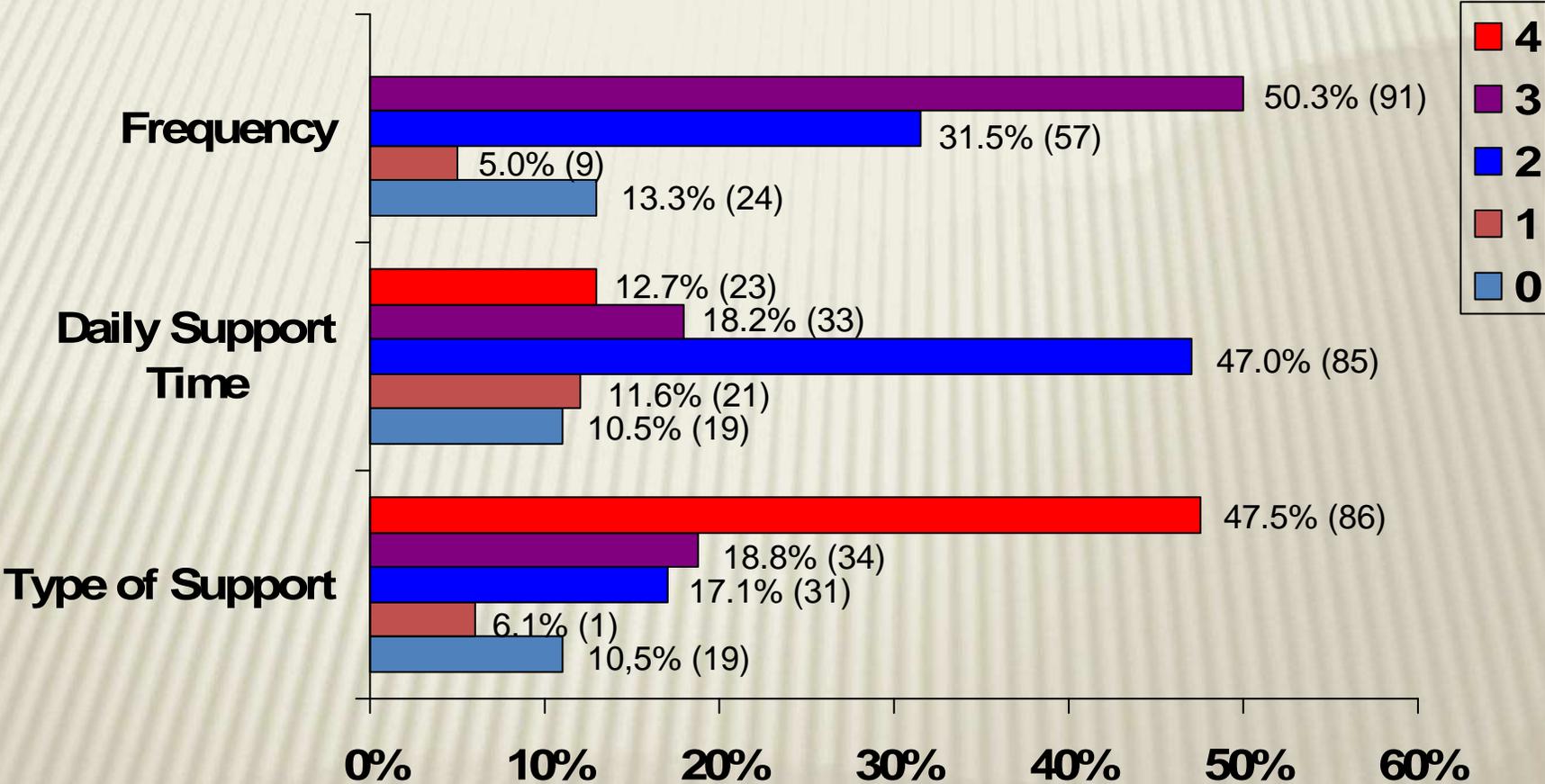
Health and Safety Activities:

Maintaining Physical Health and Fitness



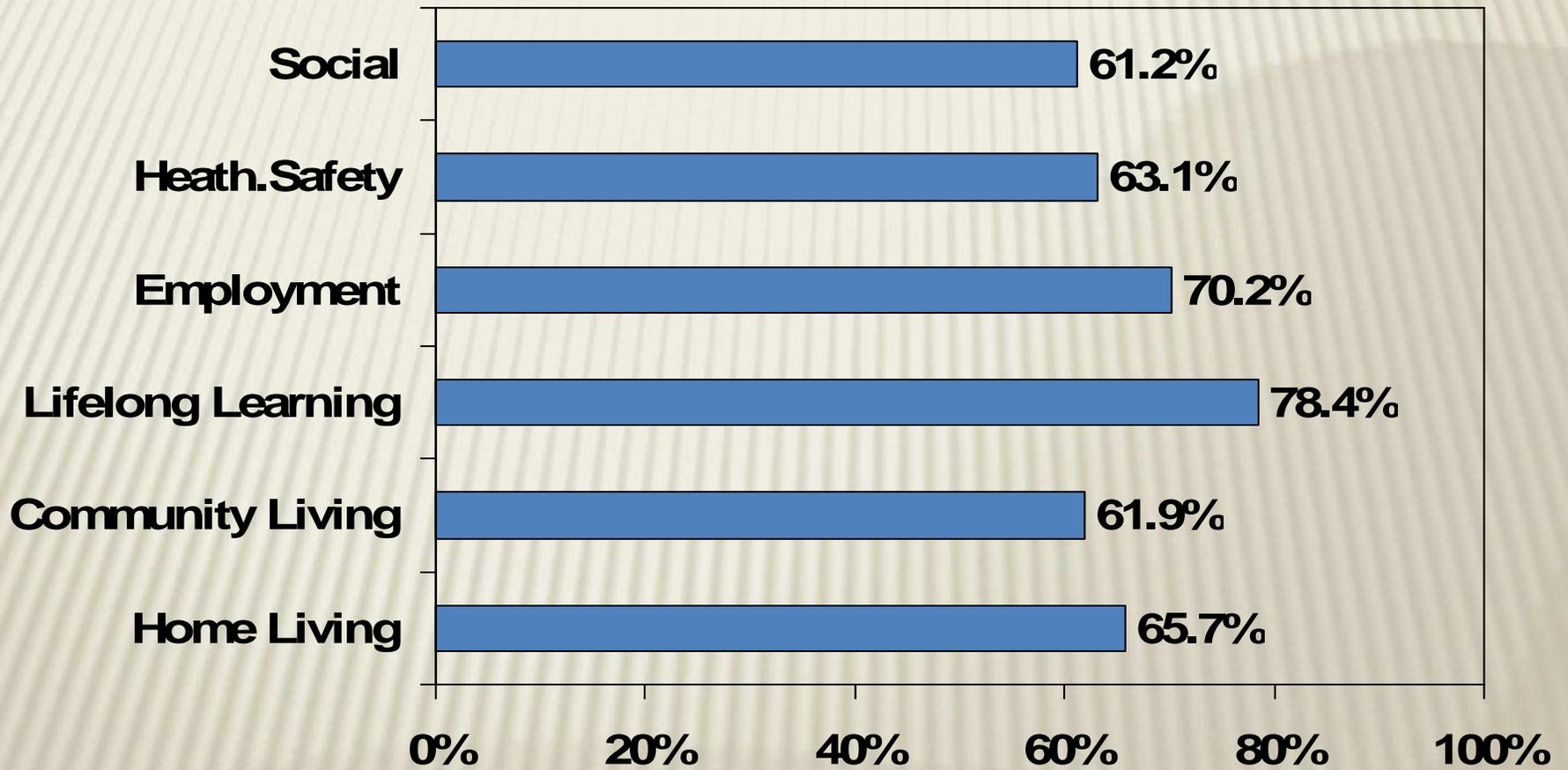
Social Activities:

Making and Keeping Friends

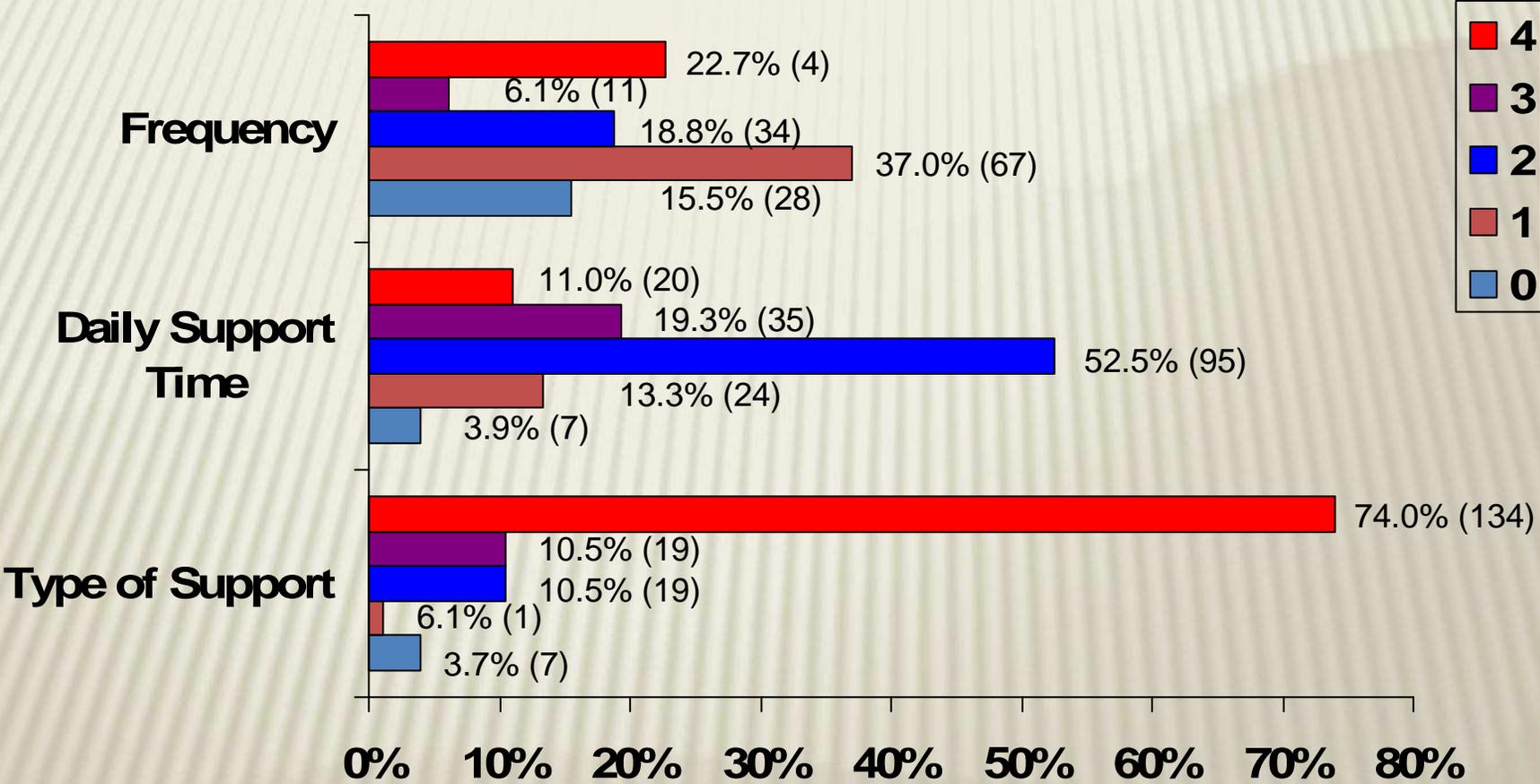


Intensity of Supports Need:

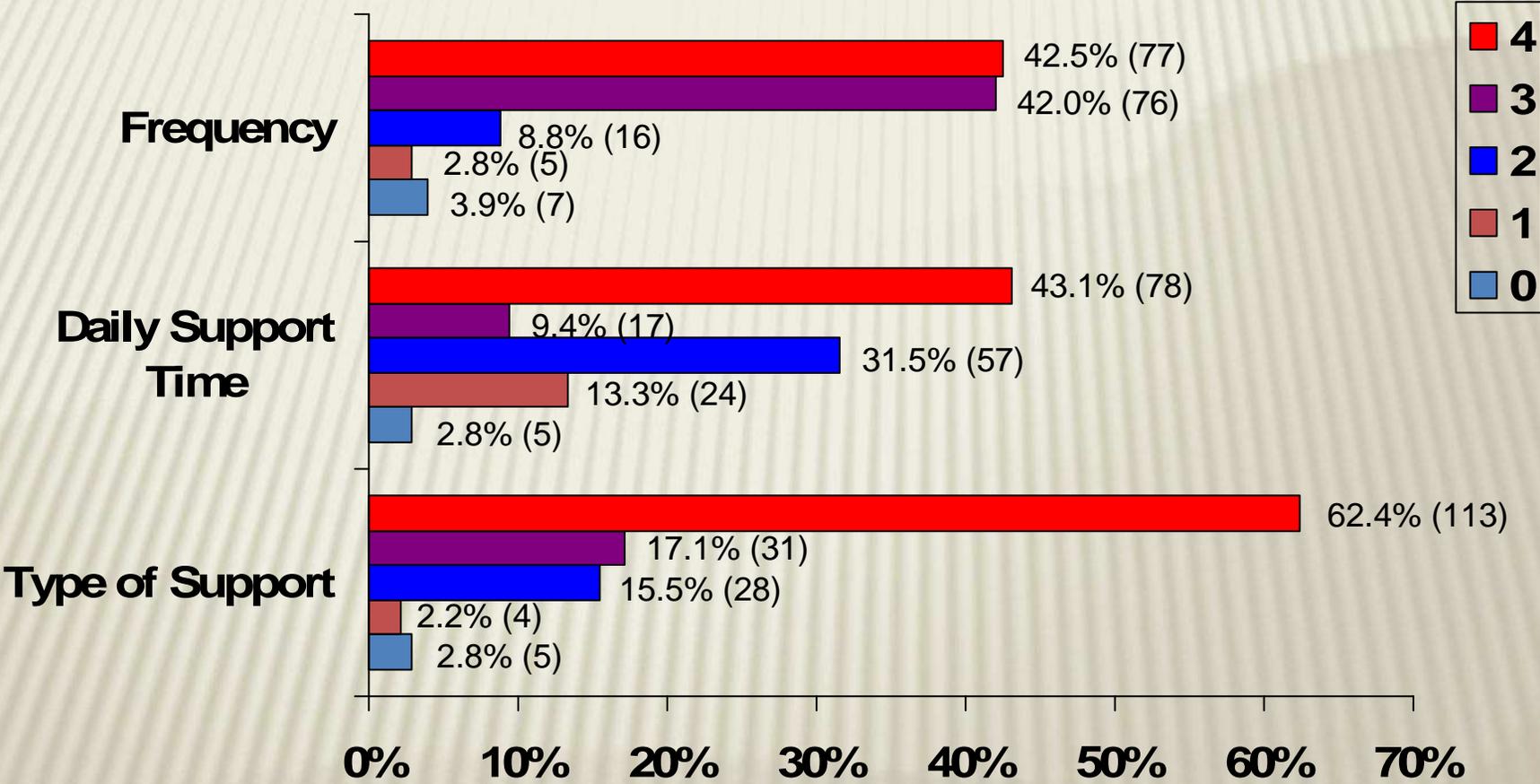
Average Percentiles for Support Needs Activities (N = 181)



**Supplemental Protection and Advocacy Scale:
 Belonging to and Participating in Self-advocacy/Support Organizations (N = 181)**



**Supplemental Protection and Advocacy Scale:
Making Choices and Decisions (N = 181)**



What SIS Provides

- Direct, reliable, and valid measure of supports needed across life areas
- Evaluation of the impact of significant medical and behavioral conditions
- A way to present the individual's support needs in comparison to a national sample of adults with developmental disabilities
- Help in planning for individualized supports and services
- Information useful in developing individual budgets/resource allocation

Data Provided by SIS

- **Profile** of needed supports
- Standard scores computed for each of the 6 Activity Subscales provide a **pattern** of an individual's support needs
- A composite standard score calculated from scores from the 6 Activity Subscales provides an indication of the **intensity** of supports needs
- Protection and advocacy scores
- Exceptional medical and behavioral support needs

Questions....Comments

Thank you