



Elizabeth Dole Foundation

CARING FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

EDF COVID Survey

Results Overview

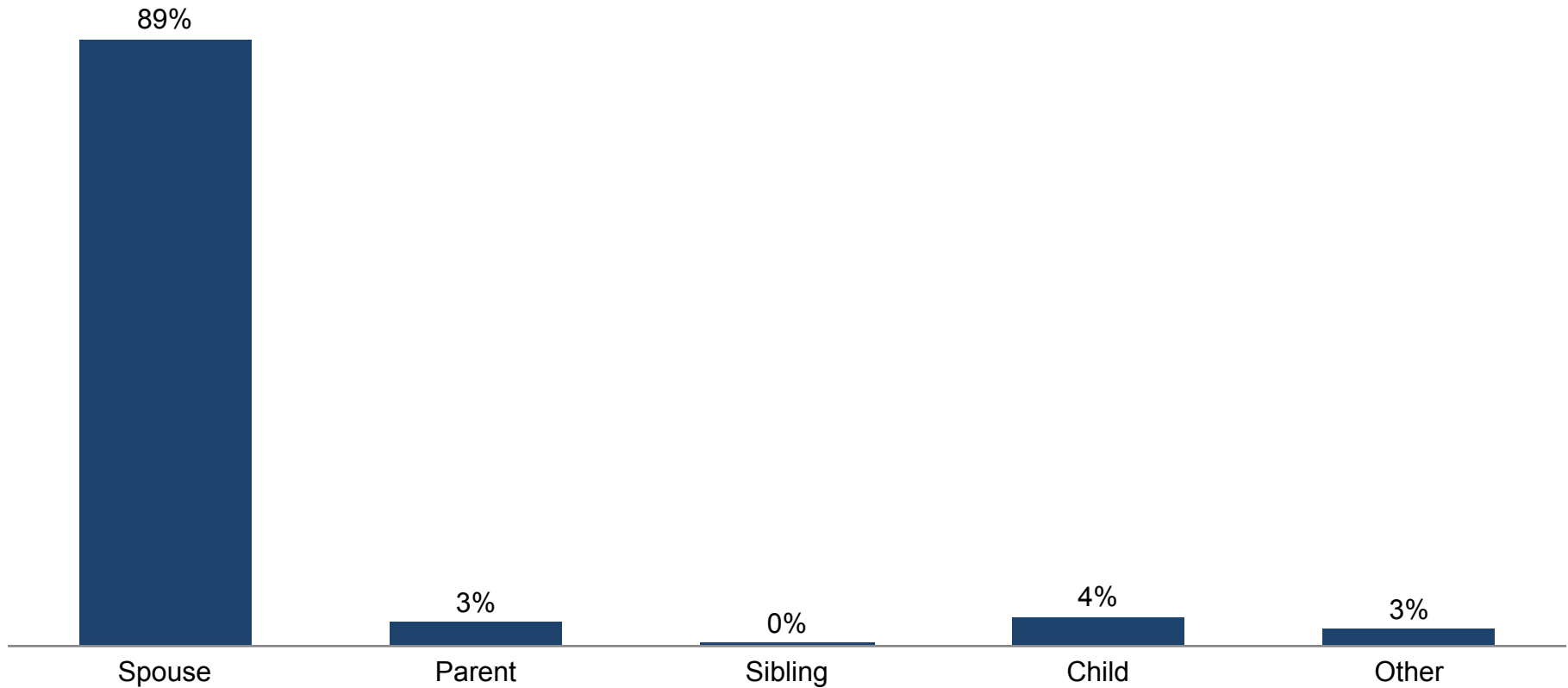
March 27, 2020



Nearly 90% of survey respondents care for a spouse

COVID Survey Responses By of Care Recipient to Caregiver

I am usually a caregiver for my...
(n = 859)

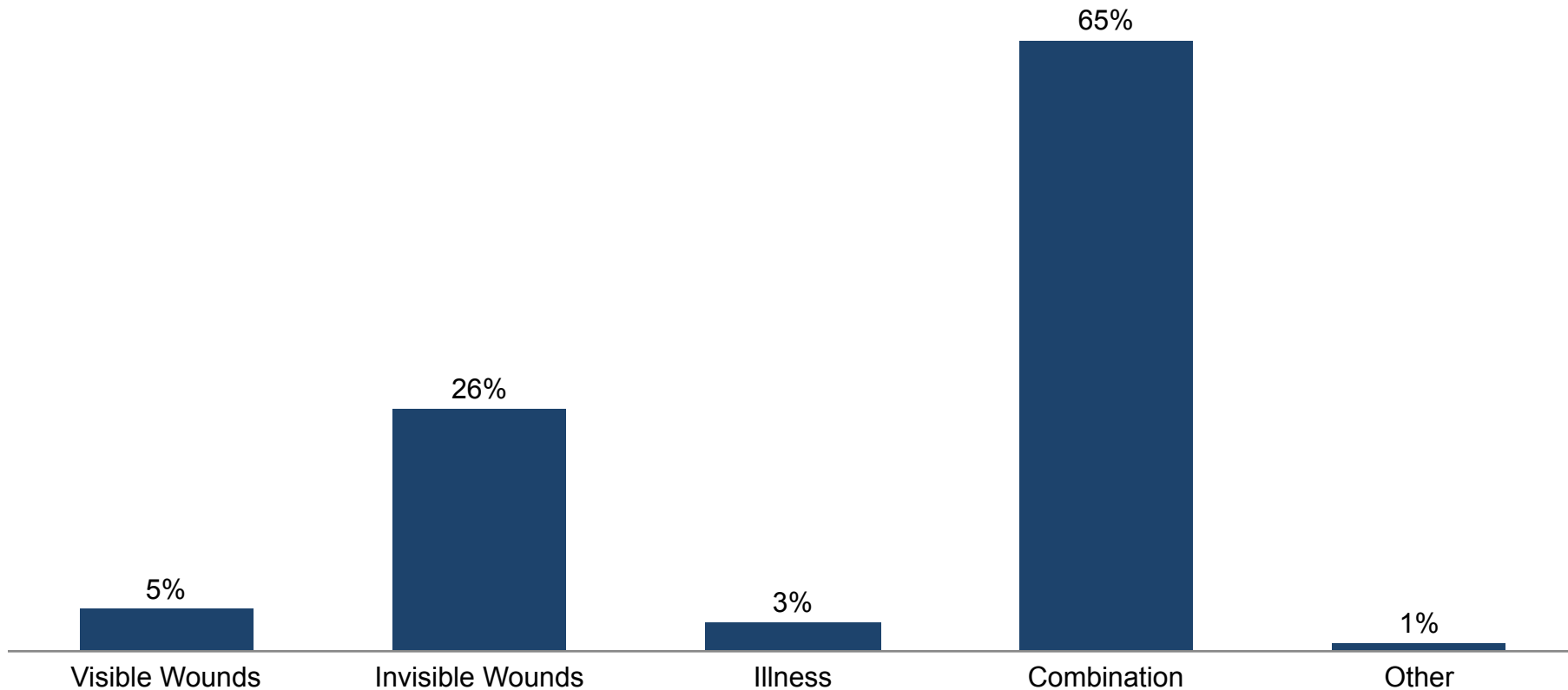


A majority of care recipients suffer from a combination of visible and invisible wounds



COVID Survey Responses By Care Recipient Issue(s)

My care recipient suffers from...
(n = 859)

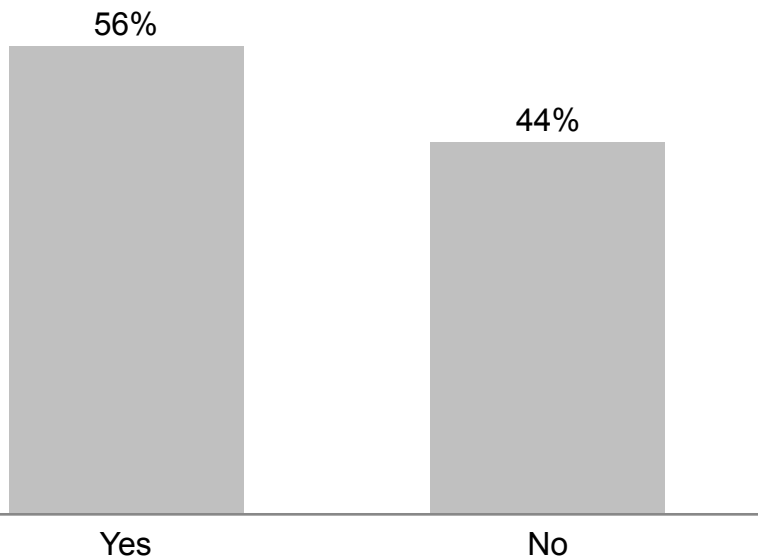


Respondents indicate that the COVID-19 crisis affects both care recipient wellness and caregiver effectiveness



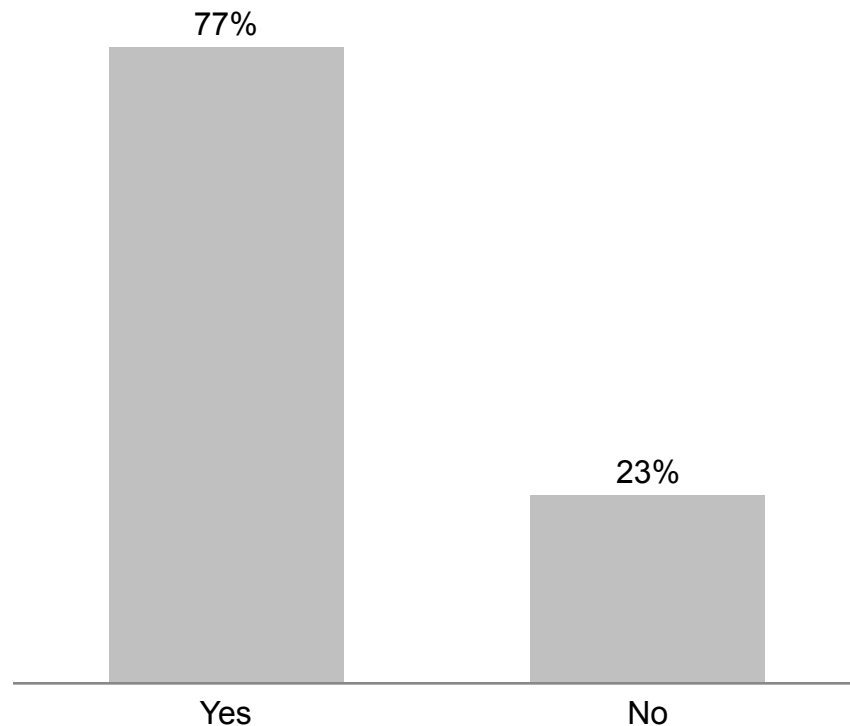
More than half of respondents report lower caregiver effectiveness as a result of the COVID-19 crisis...

My effectiveness as a caregiver has been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 crisis...
(n = 792)



...while nearly 80% of respondents indicate that the COVID-19 crisis has negative impact on care recipients

The wounded warrior for which I provide care has been negatively impacted by the COVID crisis...
(n = 747)



Responses suggest that, as a result of COVID-19 caregivers face even greater caregiving and household management responsibilities...



Everyone is more stressed out in the home. This leads to an overwhelming burden placed on my shoulders. As well, I have to hold it in and keep smiling, raising morale in the home, keeping my veteran and children happy and calm in this crisis.

With the increase of his PTSD and TBI symptoms, I'm having to focus mainly on him and trying to bring his anxiety and stress levels down. I'm not able to help with his independence training and working on things having to do with the rest of the family.

I usually do online ordering or shopping overnight. Now I cannot find online ordering time slots and having to shop frequently due to a combination of shortages and limits in place makes it really hard when you are the sole shopper with six people under your roof.

Responses also suggest that the COVID-19 crisis has significant impacts on wounded warrior mental health and isolation...



At this point, we do not allow him to leave the house. Sometimes he could ride along for quick errands just to get him out of the house and see the countryside, but we no longer do this. No one comes to the house to visit in order to help keep him from being exposed.

He has usually been able to go outside the home to relieve emotional frustration and keep active. His mental health appointments were in person and his relationship to those providers has changed and is not as effective.

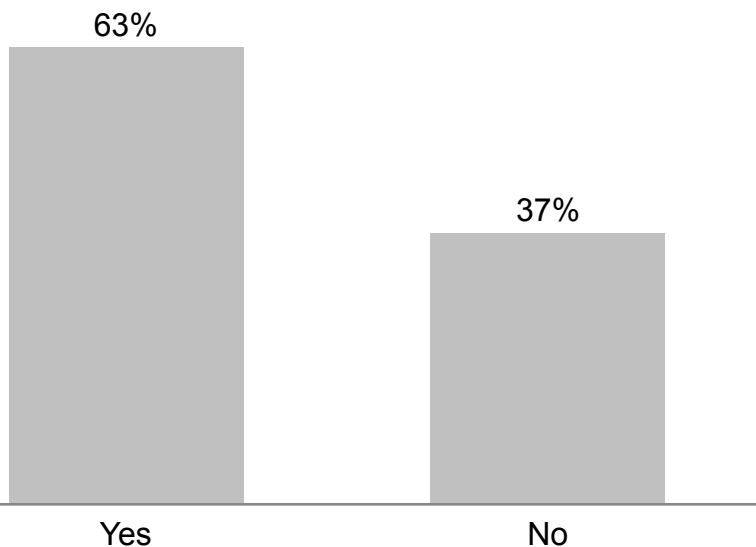
He was already on high alert, has been since the military. But now, it's overload. Fight or flight response is activated 24/7. He is snapping at everyone in this household when he's awake. The list could go on for days of how he has been regressing

Many caregiver families have the added challenge of caring for children during school closures



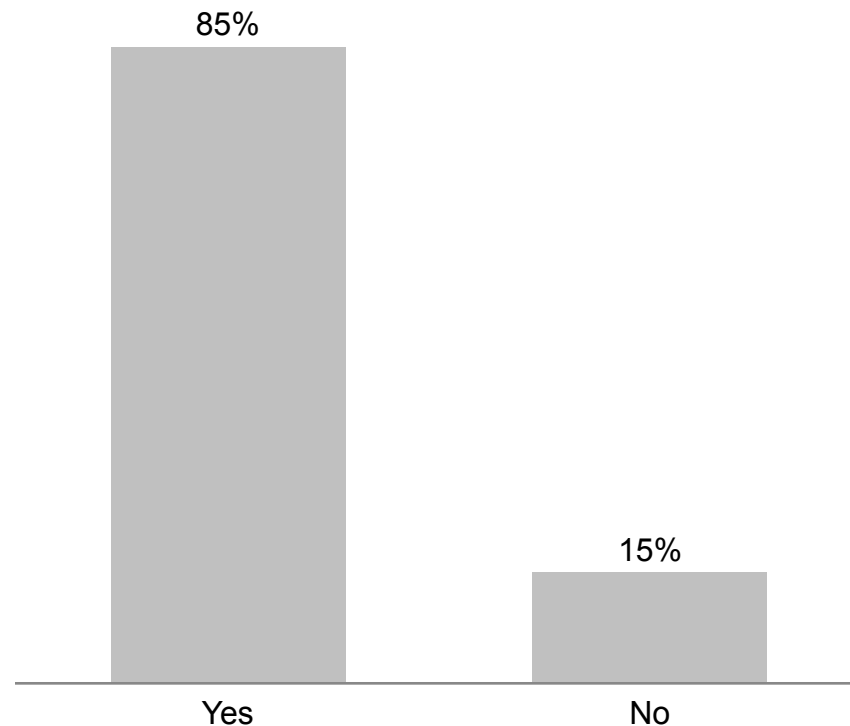
Over 60% of respondents have a child under the age of living in the household

I have a child under the age of 18 living in my household...
(n = 859)



...and over 80% of these households have been affected by school closures

I have been impacted by COVID-related school closures and am also providing care for my child/children...
(n = 466)



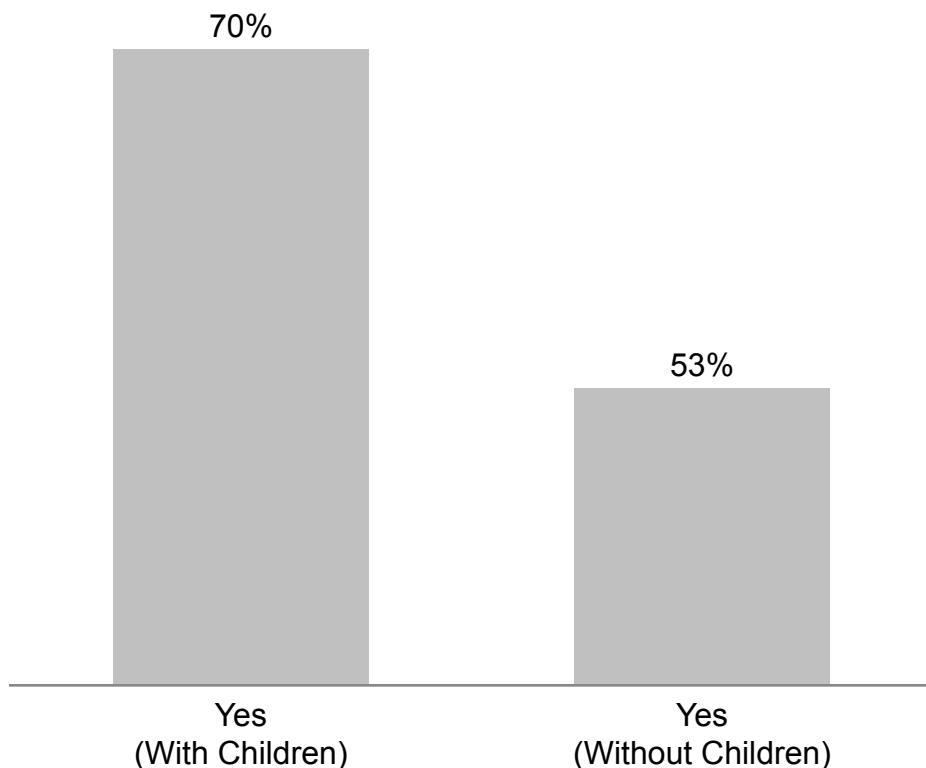
Households with and without children face COVID-related financial impacts



COVID Financial Impact on Caregiver Households

Household with Children v. Households without Children

My family has been impact financially by the COVID-19 crisis...
(n = 738)



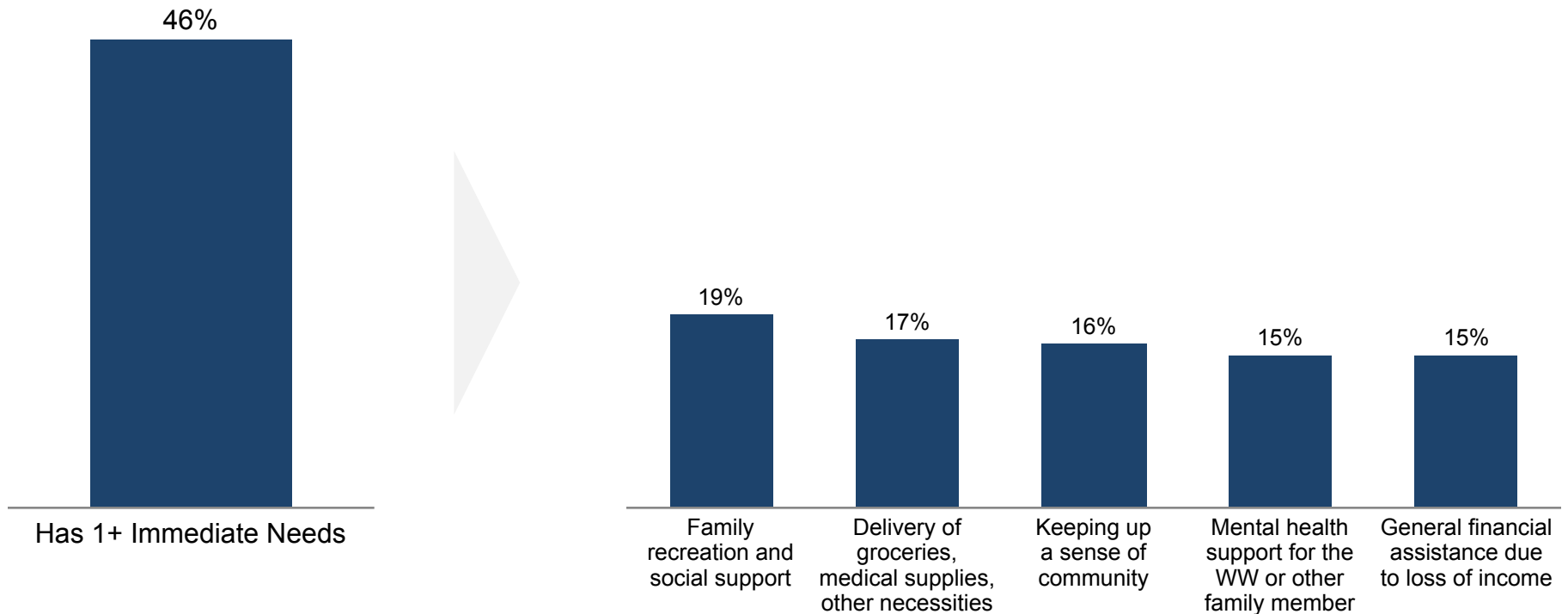
Extra food and entertainment supplies are causing a financial strain. We had our 18 year old quit his job, (gas station), because of the lowered immune system of his father. As well as the possibility of grandma coming to us. So we are footing his bills until this blows over.

I have had to work less in order to care for my children during what is usually my sleep time. My check has been half the normal for all of March since my kids have been out of school since March 3rd. That is a big pay cut. I work from home at least, but still it is hard.



Caregivers have pressing needs during the COVID-19 crisis

COVID Survey Responses Percentage Indicating Immediate Needs and Top Immediate Needs (n = 699)



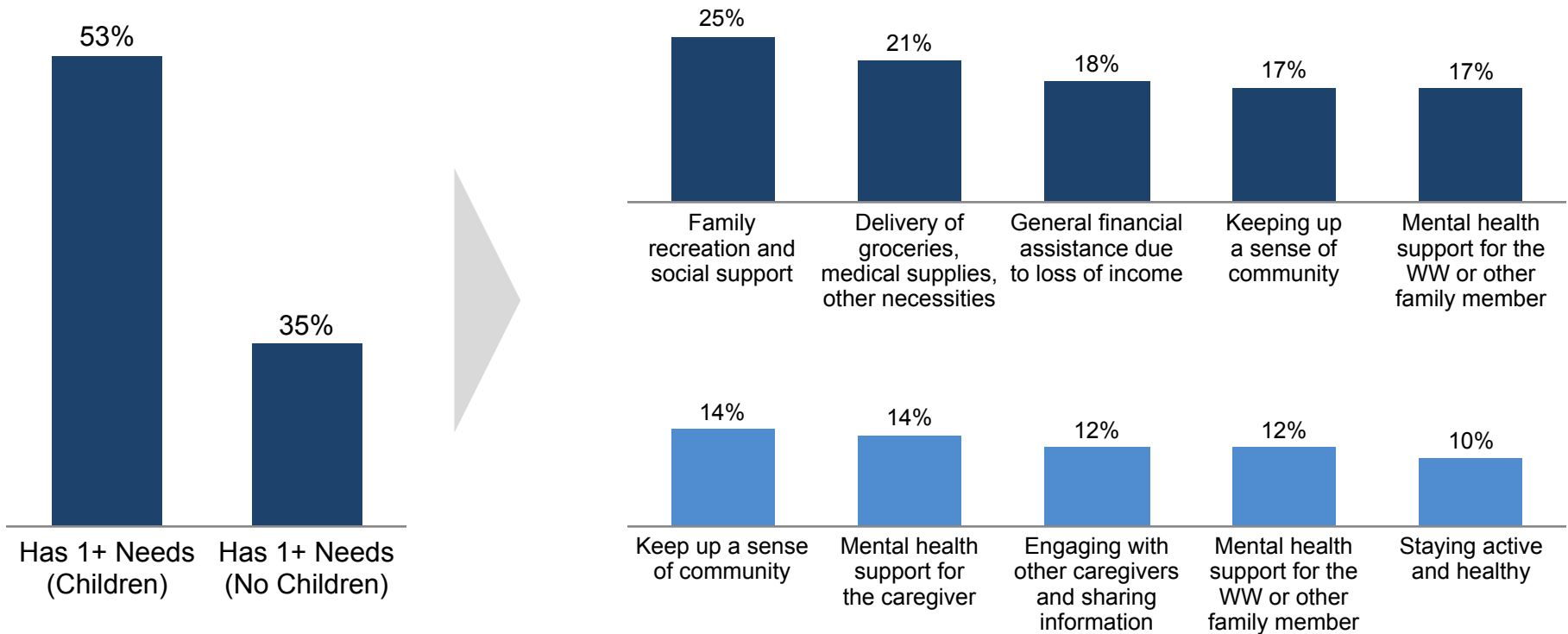
Nearly 50% of respondents indicated one or more immediate needs

Top needs include combatting isolation (keeping my family entertained, keeping up a sense of community), grocery delivery, mental health support and financial assistance

Caregiver households with children have even more acute immediate needs



COVID Survey Responses
 Percentage Indicating Immediate Needs and Top Immediate Needs
 (n = 699)



A larger number of households with children have immediate needs

Caregiver households with children have different and more immediate needs than caregiver households without children