

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

Social drivers of health (SDOH) are individual factors that directly or indirectly influence a person's health outcomes. Research shows that SDOH factors, including access to quality nutrition, stable housing, basic utilities, transportation, and an environment free from violence, may have as much of an impact on health outcomes as quality medical care.¹ In the context of cancer care, SDOH can affect a person's ability to complete treatment or to participate fully in clinical trials. These factors may limit a patient's ability to access high-quality, effective care and achieve the best outcomes possible.

To address barriers to care, many health care organizations now routinely screen patients for SDOH and recognize the importance of responding to unmet social needs. Government and commercial payers have also started to introduce policies and programs that involve screening patients for SDOH factors and addressing identified needs² to further incentivize this practice.

An online survey to discover barriers and challenges in addressing SDOH was conducted in early 2024. A total of 247 multidisciplinary care team members responded to the survey, including oncologists, nurses, social workers and navigators.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Most providers are conducting SDOH screenings early in the patient journey.



75% are screening
at diagnosis



60% are screening
when treatment begins



One-third say they rely on assessments
from previous diagnoses

Providers discuss social and financial factors more often than cultural factors when discussing treatment options.



69% reported that social and financial challenges
are "always" or "often" discussed or acted upon



Only **54%** reported talking about
cultural considerations

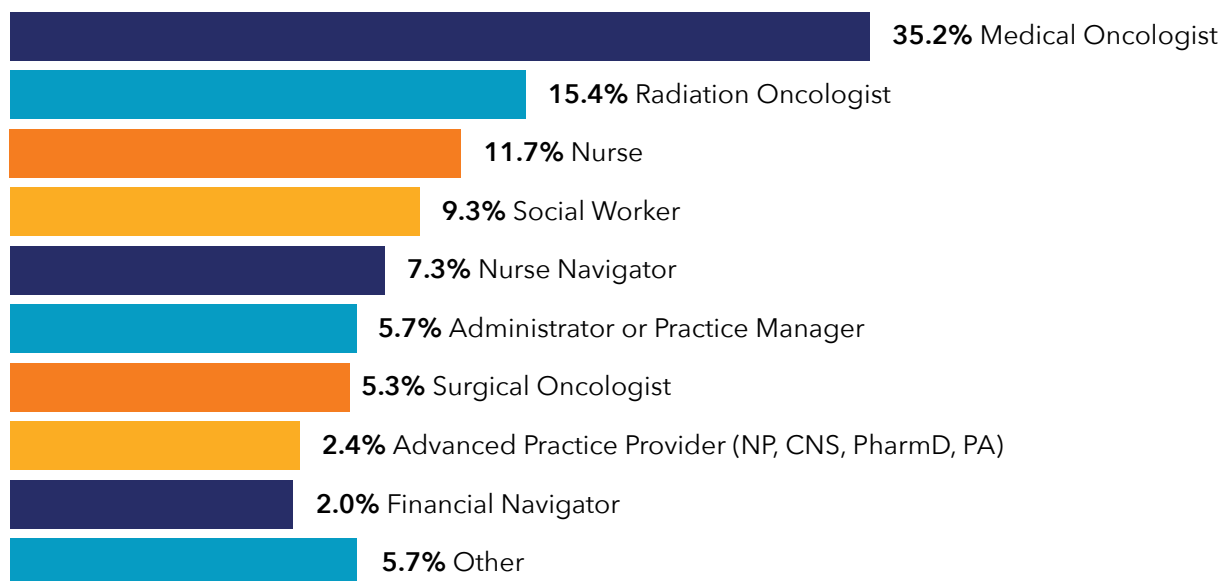
A wide range of SDOH factors are reported as likely to impact first-line treatment choices, especially financial barriers and presence of a caregiver.



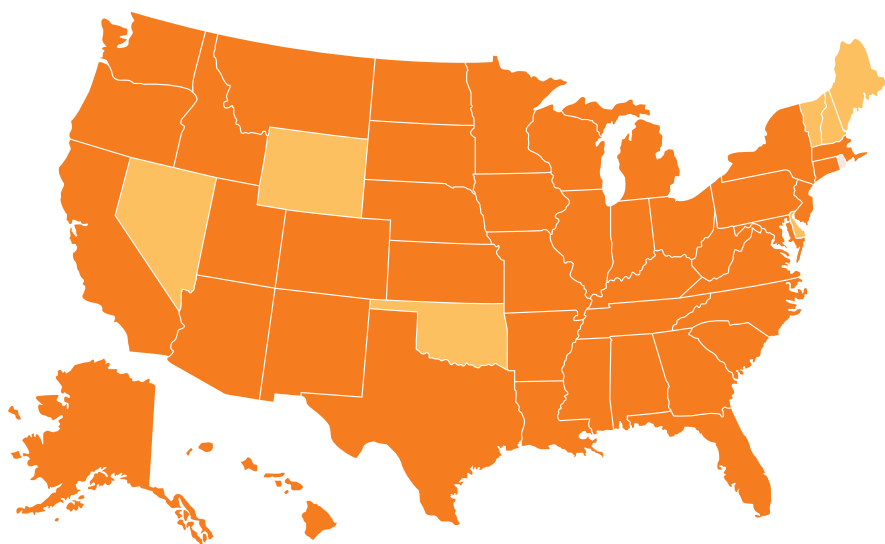
SDOH factors that were reported as less likely to have an impact include language,
race/ethnicity and education level

WHO TOOK THE SURVEY?

(n=247)

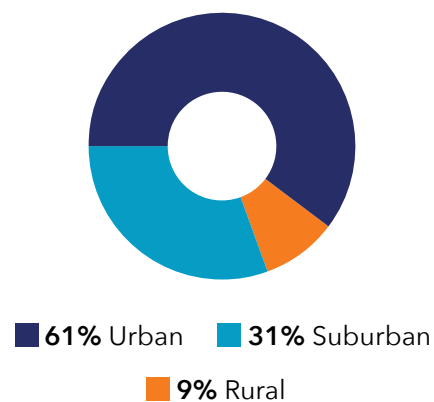


Respondents represented Washington, DC and 42 US states.



State with respondents

Practice Setting

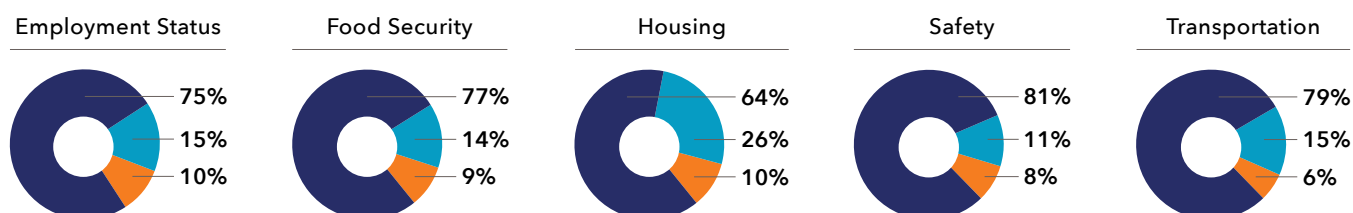


SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

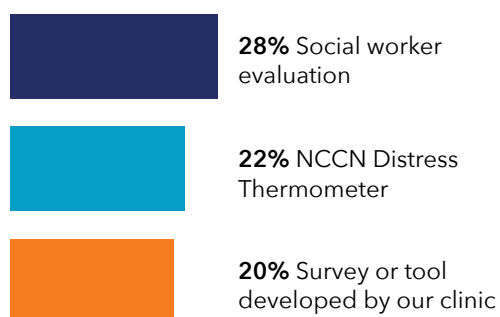
SDOH SCREENING PRACTICES

Does your cancer program or practice routinely screen patients for the following social drivers of health?

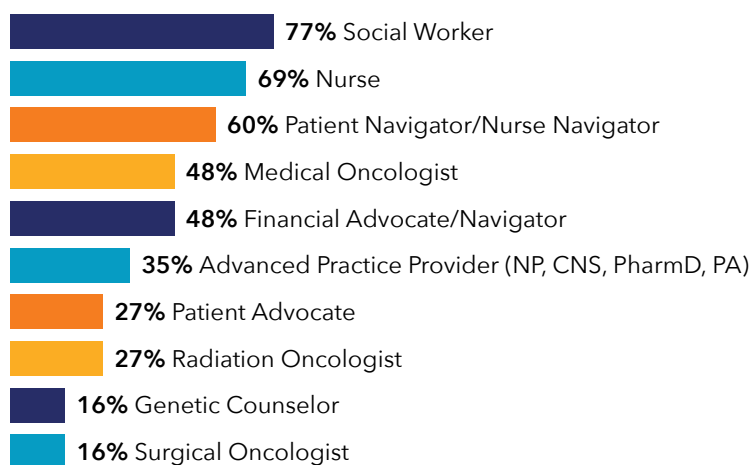
■ Yes ■ No ■ Not Sure



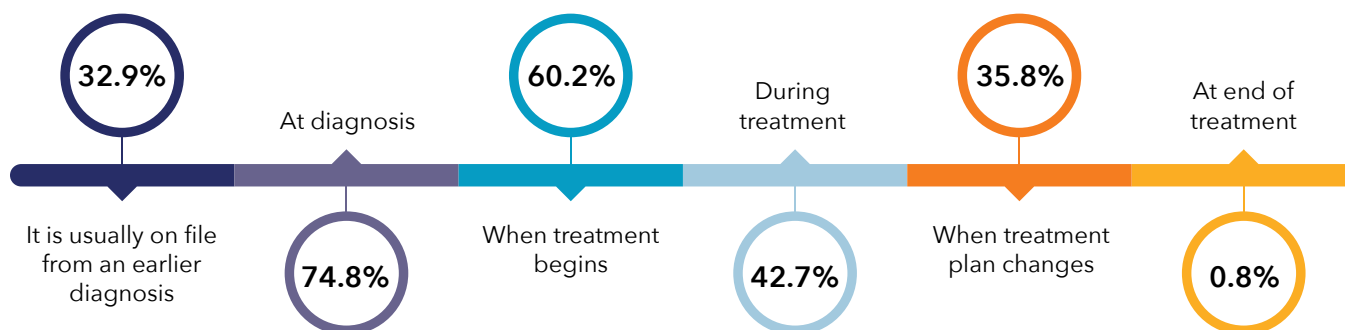
What screening tools do you use?



Who commonly participates in discussions with patients about SDOH at your institution?



When are SDOH typically assessed?

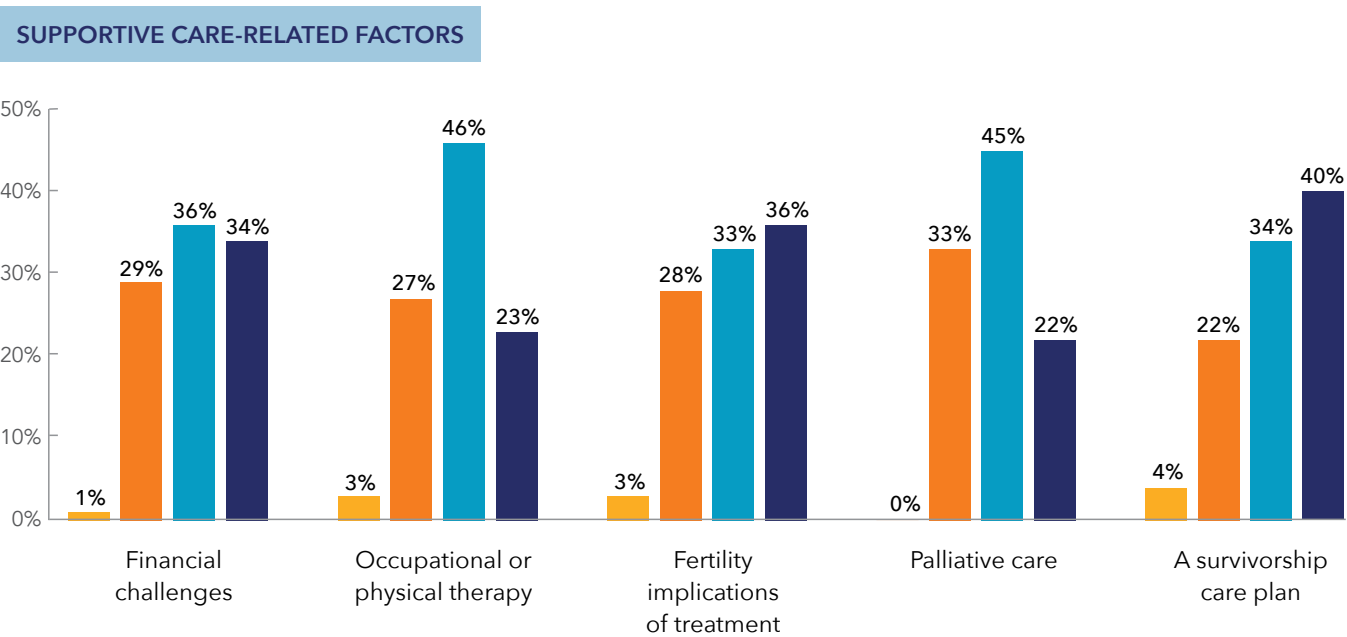
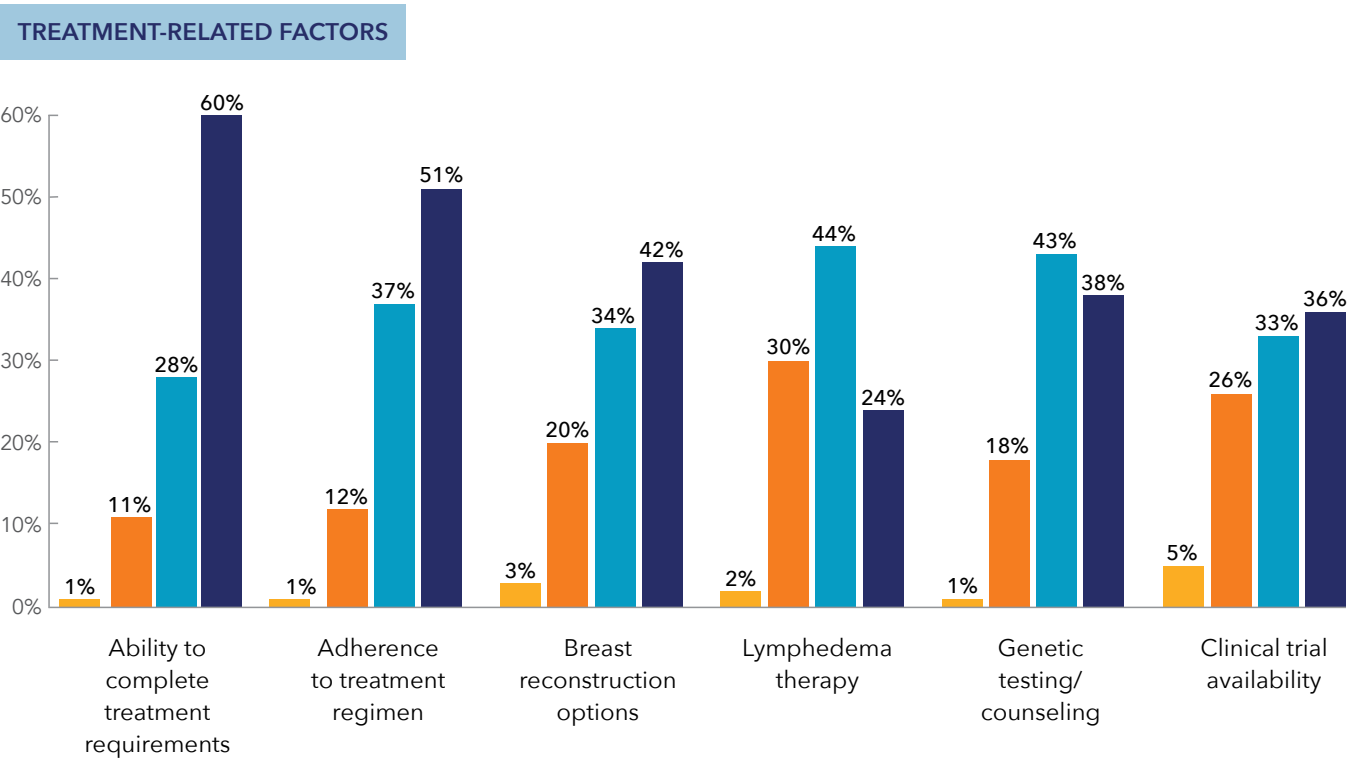


*2.4% of respondents indicated it was not typically assessed, and 5.7% indicated "Not sure"

IMPACT ON TREATMENT DECISIONS

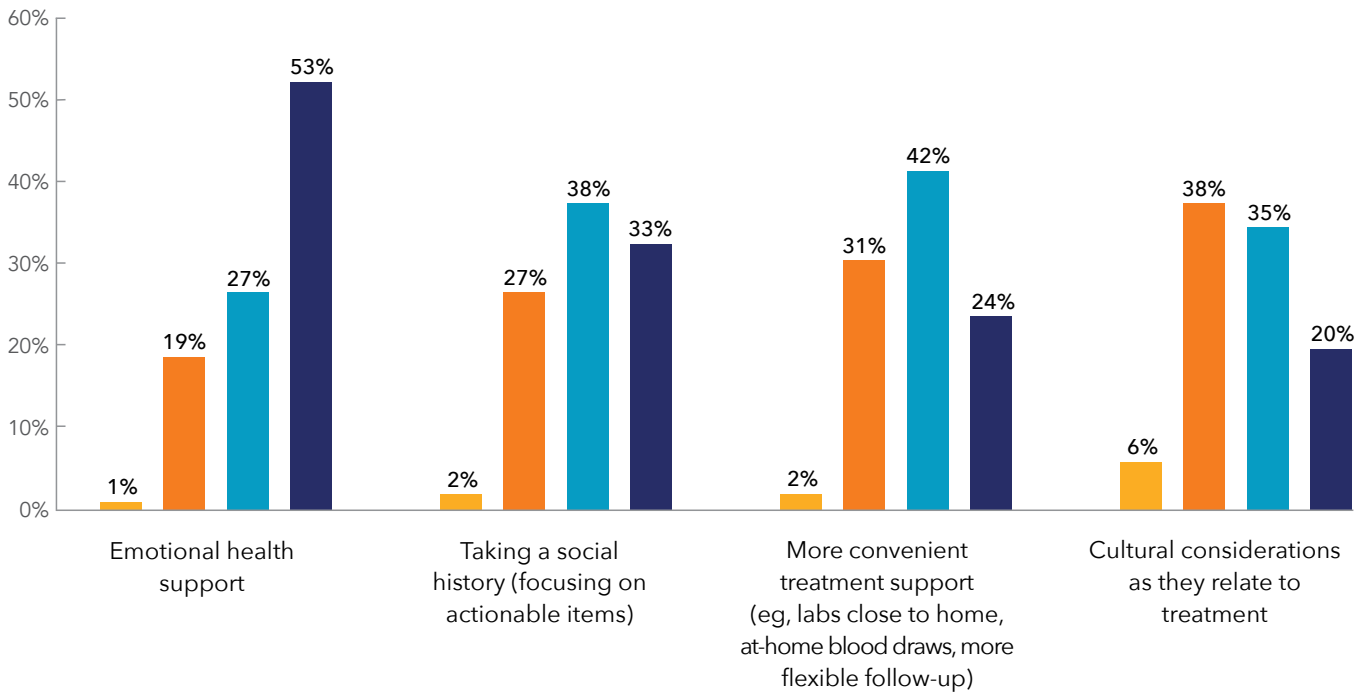
As you consider available treatment options, how often do you discuss/act on the following with your patients?

■ Never
 ■ Sometimes
 ■ Often
 ■ Always



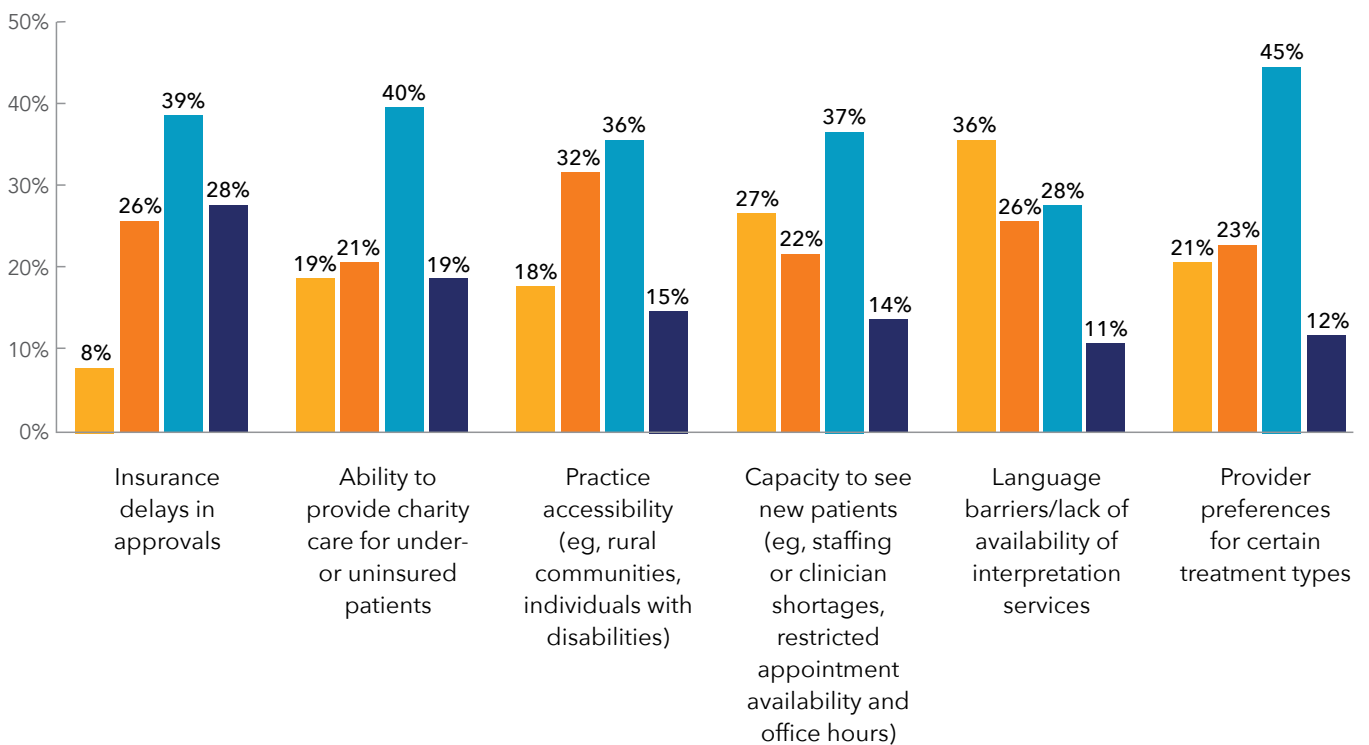
■ Never
 ■ Sometimes
 ■ Often
 ■ Always

PSYCHOSOCIAL-RELATED FACTORS

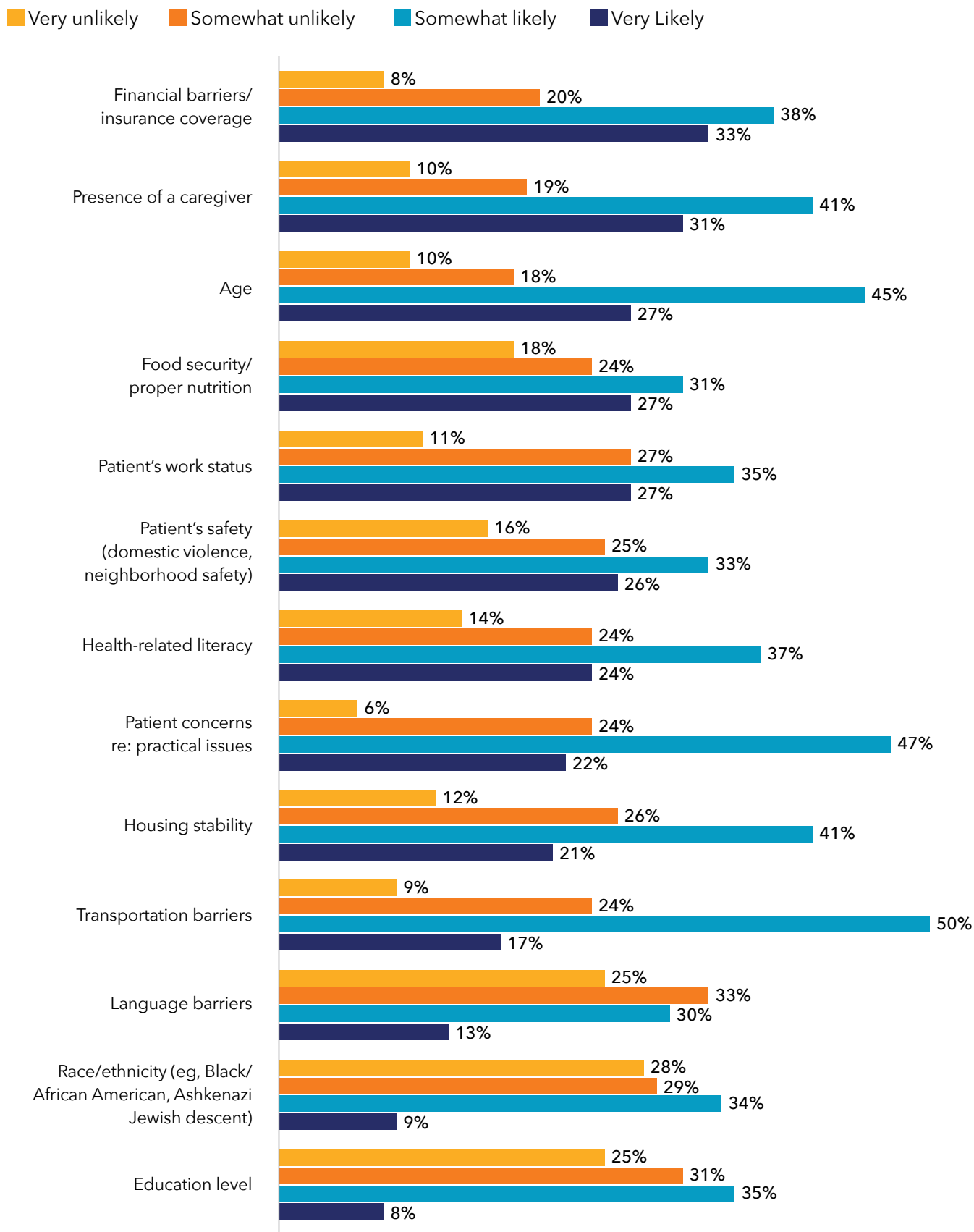


How likely do the following practice-level factors impact first-line treatment choices?

■ Very unlikely
 ■ Somewhat unlikely
 ■ Somewhat likely
 ■ Very Likely



How likely are SDOH factors to impact first-line treatment choices for patients with HR+/HER2-metastatic breast cancer?



REFERENCES

1. Hood CM, Gennuso KP, Swain GR, Catlin BB. County health rankings: relationships between determinant factors and health outcomes. *Am J Prev Med.* 2016;50(2):129-135.
2. Korn AR, Walsh-Bailey C, Correa-Mendez M, et al. Social determinants of health and US cancer screening interventions: A systematic review. *CA Cancer J Clin.* 2023;73(5):461-479.

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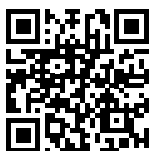
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Learn more at
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