

ATTITUDES TOWARDS
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE
AMONG ADULTS LIVING IN
RURAL NEW MEXICO



ABOUT THE RESEARCHERS

Principal Investigators:

Young Women United and
Strong Families New Mexico

**Survey Development and
Research:** Young Women
United, Strong Families NM,
ACLU-NM, Planned
Parenthood of the Rocky
Mountains, Progress Now
NM, Latino Decisions

**Data Compilation and
Analysis:** Young Women
United, Latino Decisions



Latino  **Decisions**
Everything Latino Politics

PURPOSE OF RESEARCH

Purpose: For far too long, our rural and frontier communities have been ignored by movements for reproductive health and rights in New Mexico and across the country. Often, rural families are deemed "too conservative and/or too Catholic" to engage. As a result, assumptions and conclusions are made about what rural communities believe.

Young Women United and Strong Families New Mexico, know our New Mexican communities hold complex and respectful values. This project was designed to demonstrate the impact that is possible when we hear directly from rural communities and meet our families with dignity and respect.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

Partners contracted with Latino Decisions to conduct a mixed mode (landline/cell/web) survey of over 1,700 New Mexican adults who live in rural counties. This study focused on learning from rural New Mexicans, as they are often overlooked in discussions relating to reproductive healthcare or assumed to be conservative and anti-abortion and/or other reproductive health services.

Summary: A mixed mode (Landline/Cell/Web) survey of over 1,700 New Mexican adults who live in rural counties show very high support to allow women and mothers to have access to reproductive health care, including believing that women and families should be able to make their own decisions without politicians interfering. This study was specifically focused on New Mexicans who live in rural counties of the state given the lack of knowledge of this often overlooked population and perception that they are conservative in their views regarding reproductive health care.

KEY FINDINGS

✦ RESEARCH DESIGN AS INNOVATIVE

✦ RURAL NEW MEXICANS EXPERIENCE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACROSS A SPECTRUM. SHAPED BY THEIR IDENTITIES.

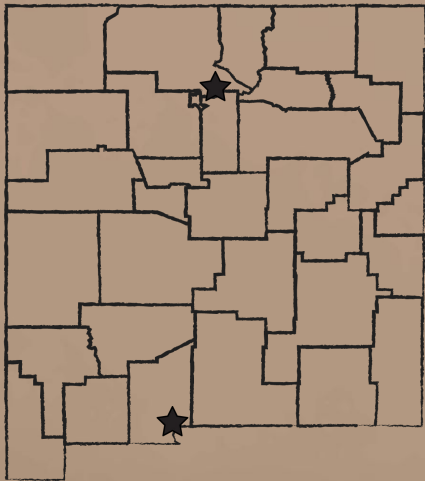
✦ RURAL COMMUNITIES ARE WITH US.

✦ RURAL COMMUNITIES OF FAITH ARE WITH US.



METHODOLOGY OF STUDY

- Focus groups were designed and facilitated by Young Women United and Strong Families New Mexico and held in Espanola, NM and Anthony, NM in 2016. Focus groups informed the 2017 survey.



- This survey was conducted in January 2017. The survey resulted in **1,728** completed interviews with adults who live in rural counties in New Mexico, with no less than 300 interviews for each region of the state. It included **967** interviews conducted by telephone via both landlines and cell phones and **771** interviews over the web.



967 interviews



771 interviews

- Respondents answered in English or Spanish at their discretion.

DEEP DIVE INTO RURAL

Northwest = San Juan, McKinley, Cibola Counties

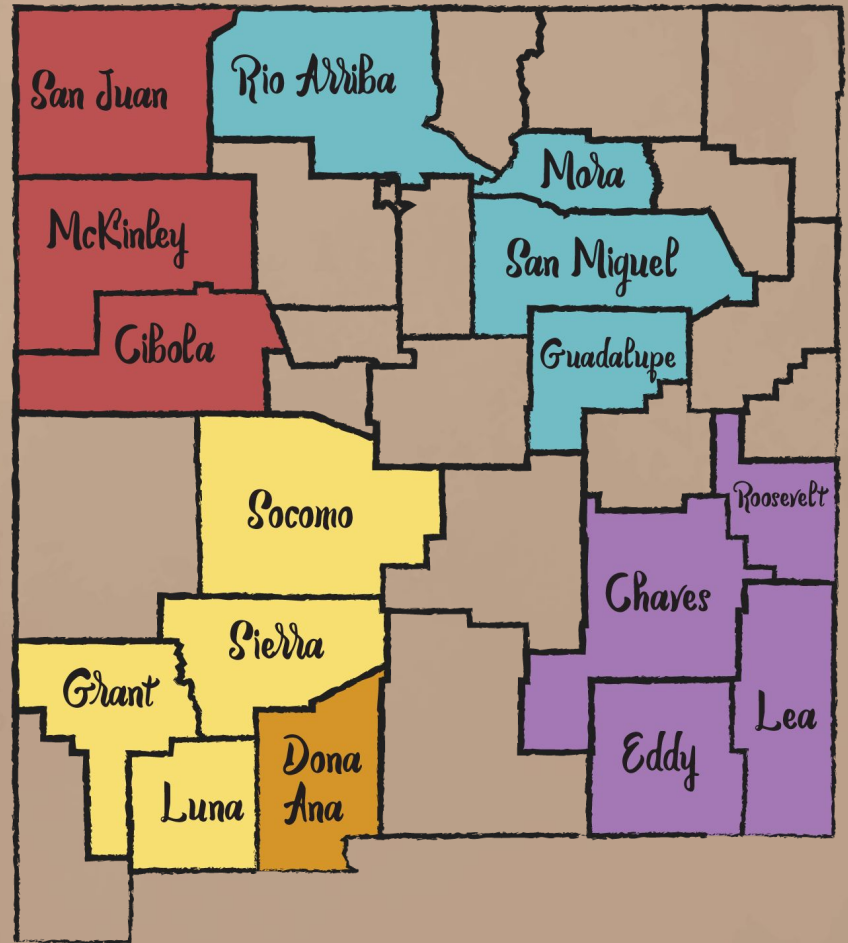
North = Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Mora, Guadalupe Counties

Southeast = Eddy, Lea, Roosevelt, Chavez Counties

Southwest = Luna, Sierra, Grant, Socorro Counties

South = Dona Ana County, excluding the city of Las Cruces

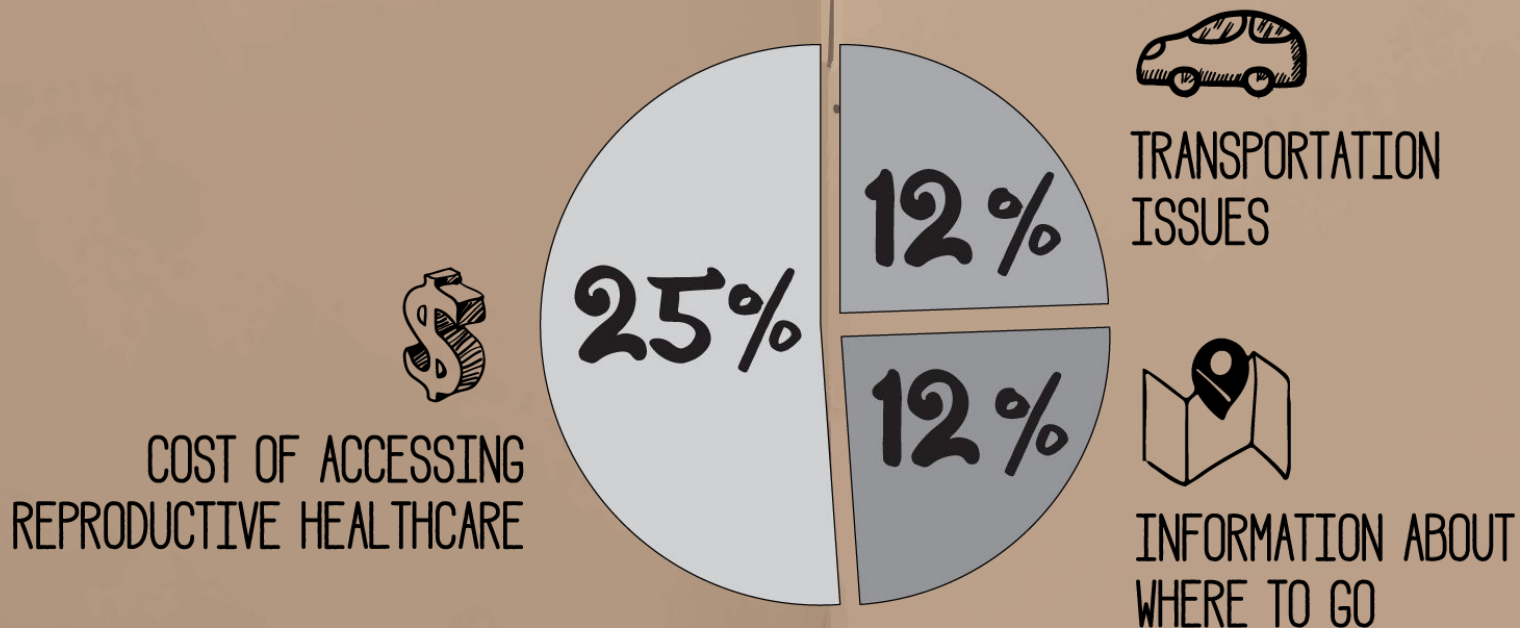
NEW MEXICO



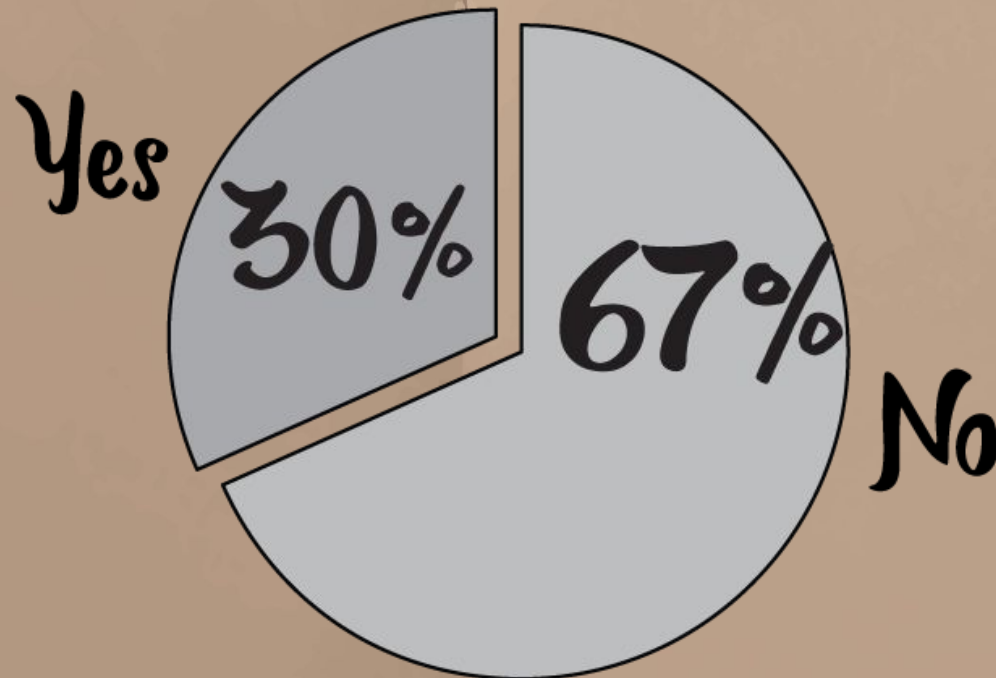
LIVED EXPERIENCES OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE



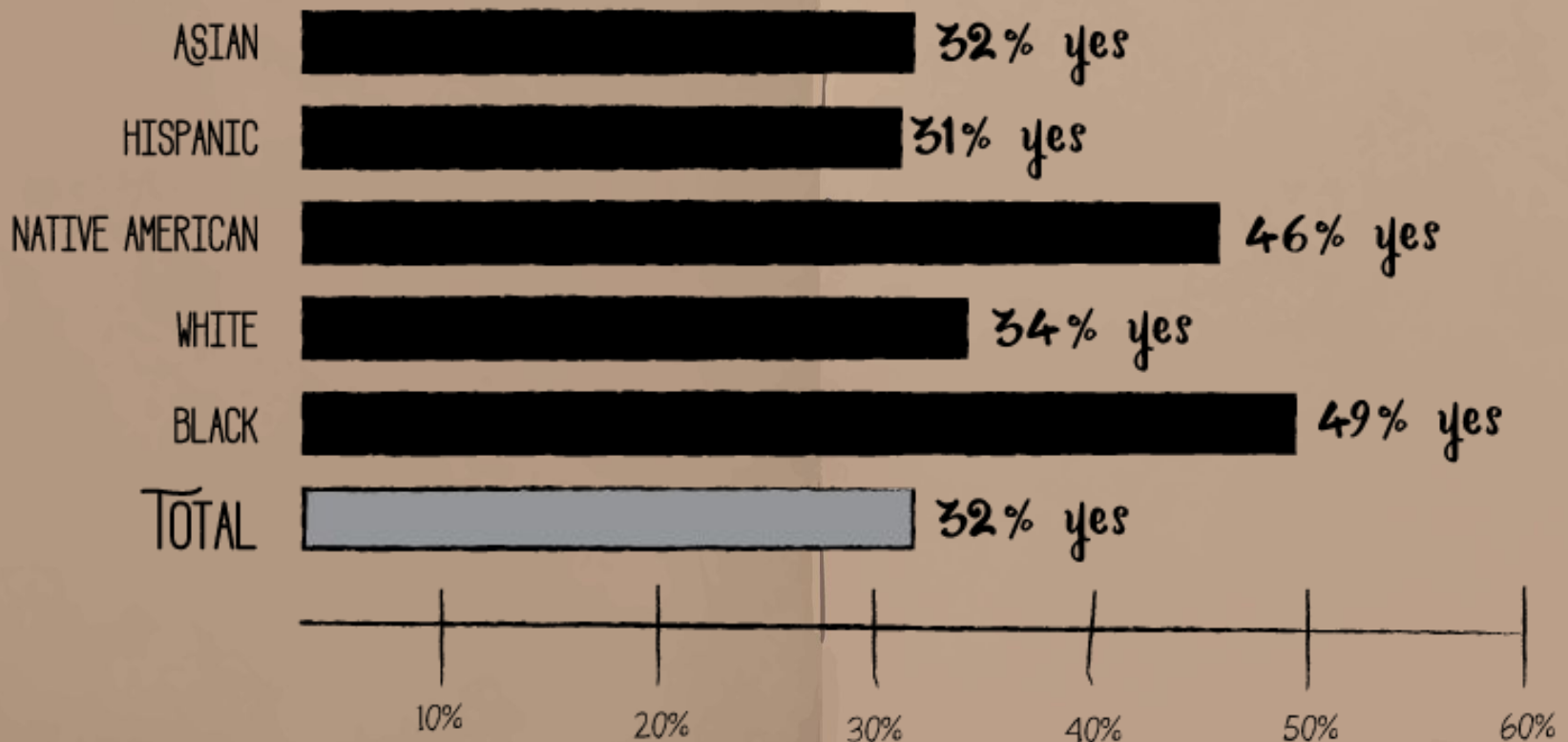
THINKING ABOUT ACCESSING THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE THAT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY HAVE NEEDED, WHAT ARE PRIMARY OBSTACLES THAT HAVE PREVENTED YOU IN THE PAST OR MAY PREVENT YOU IN THE FUTURE FROM ACCESSING THAT CARE?



MANY PEOPLE IN NEW MEXICO
EXPERIENCE MISCARRIAGE AND STILL BIRTHS.
HAVE YOU OR A PARTNER OF YOURS HAD
SIMILAR EXPERIENCES?

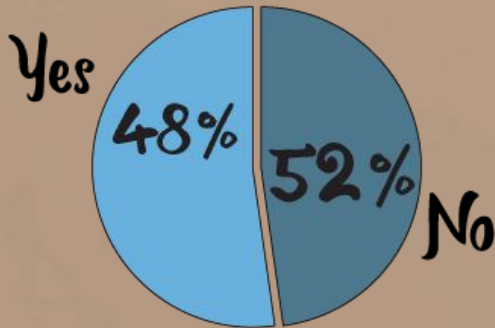


UNFORTUNATELY MANY WOMEN HERE IN NEW MEXICO HAVE EXPERIENCED SEXUAL VIOLENCE AT SOME POINT IN THEIR LIFE. WHAT ABOUT YOU, HAVE YOU EVER BEEN THE VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT OR VIOLENCE?

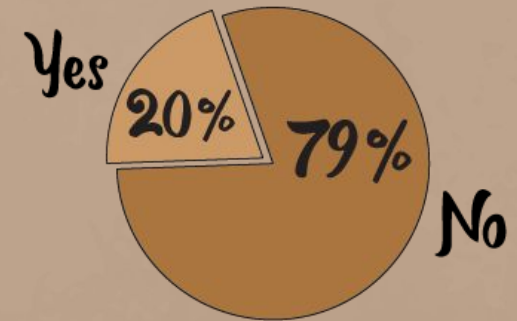


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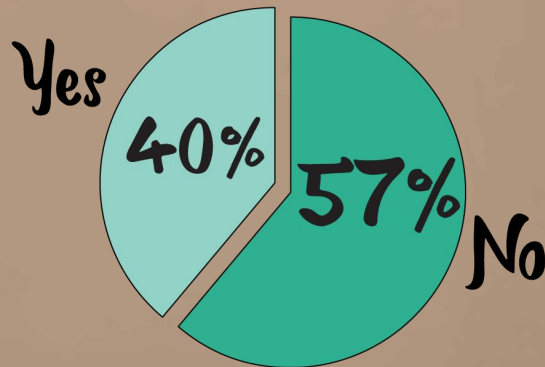
AGES 18-29



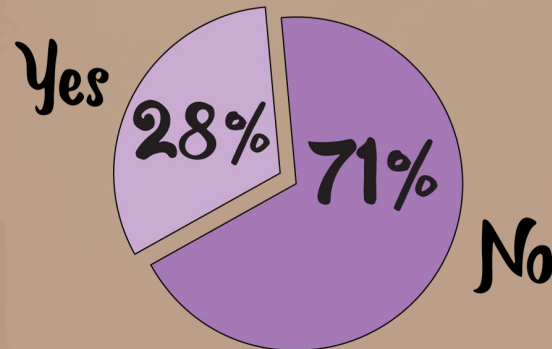
AGES 65+



AGES 30-49



AGES 50-64



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AGES 18-29

48% yes 

52% no 

AGES 30-49

40% yes 

57% no 

AGES 50-64

28% yes 

71% no 

AGES 65+

20% yes 

79% no 

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AGES 18-29



AGES 30-49



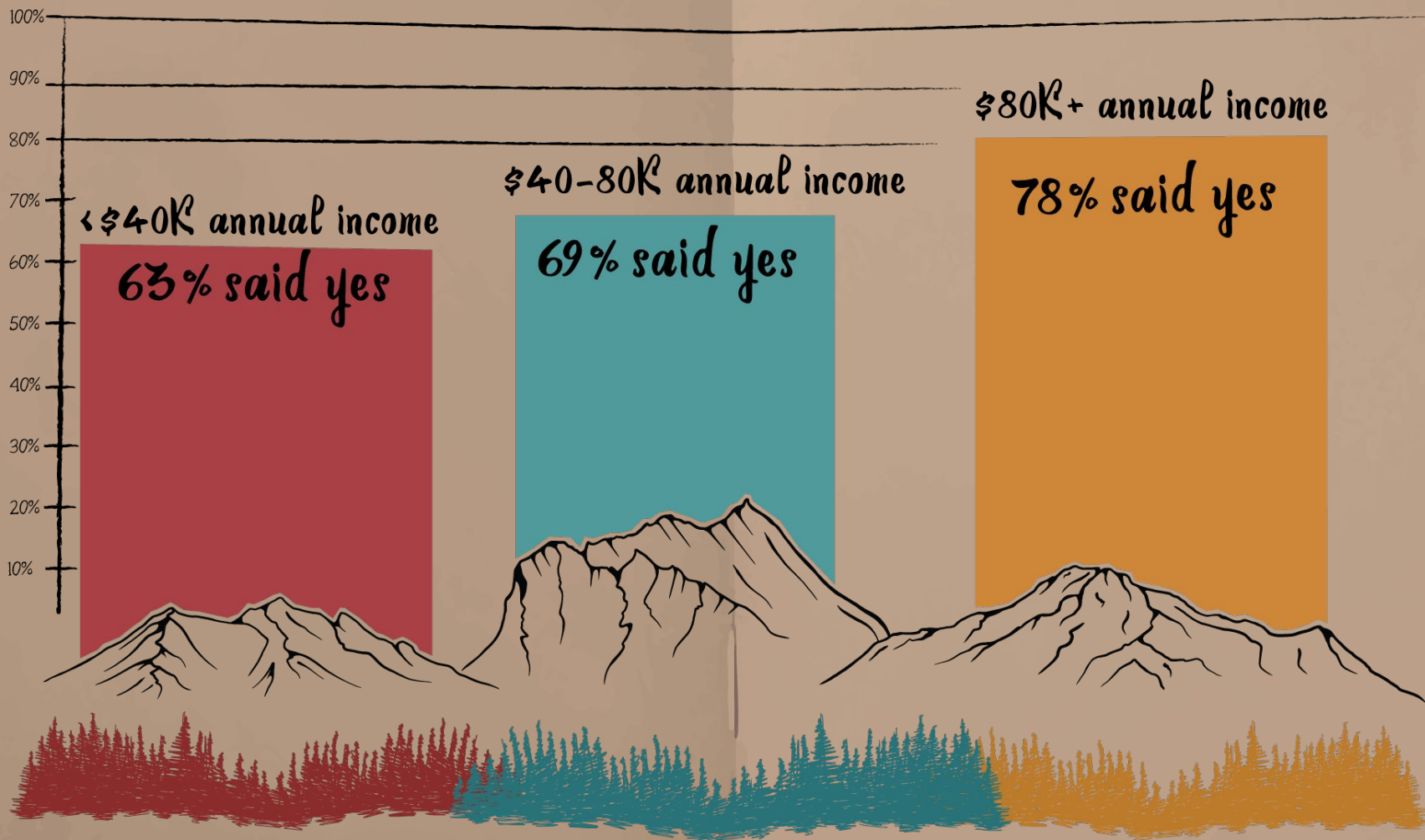
AGES 50-64



AGES 65+

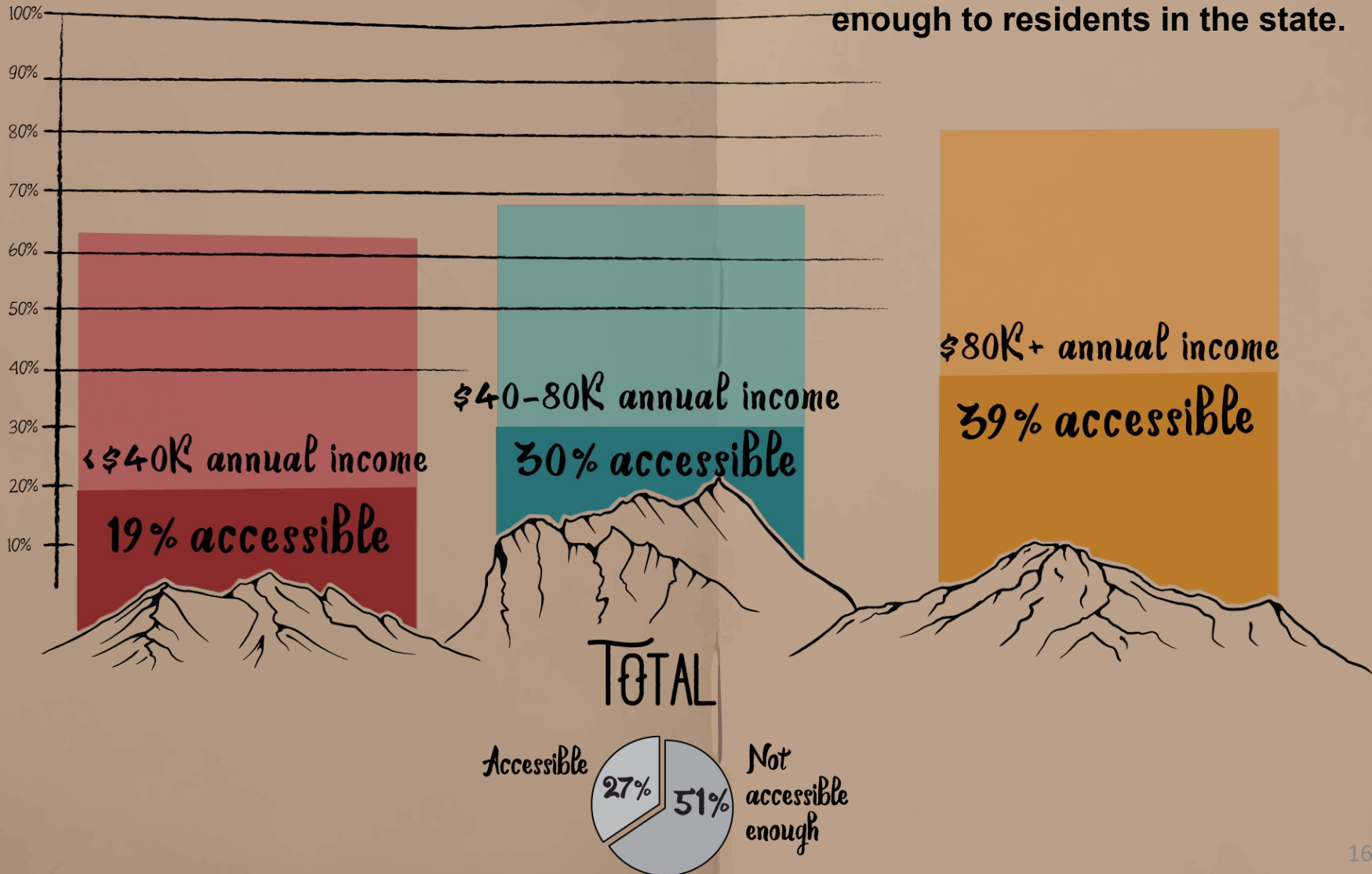


DO YOU THINK PEOPLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY HAVE ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE?



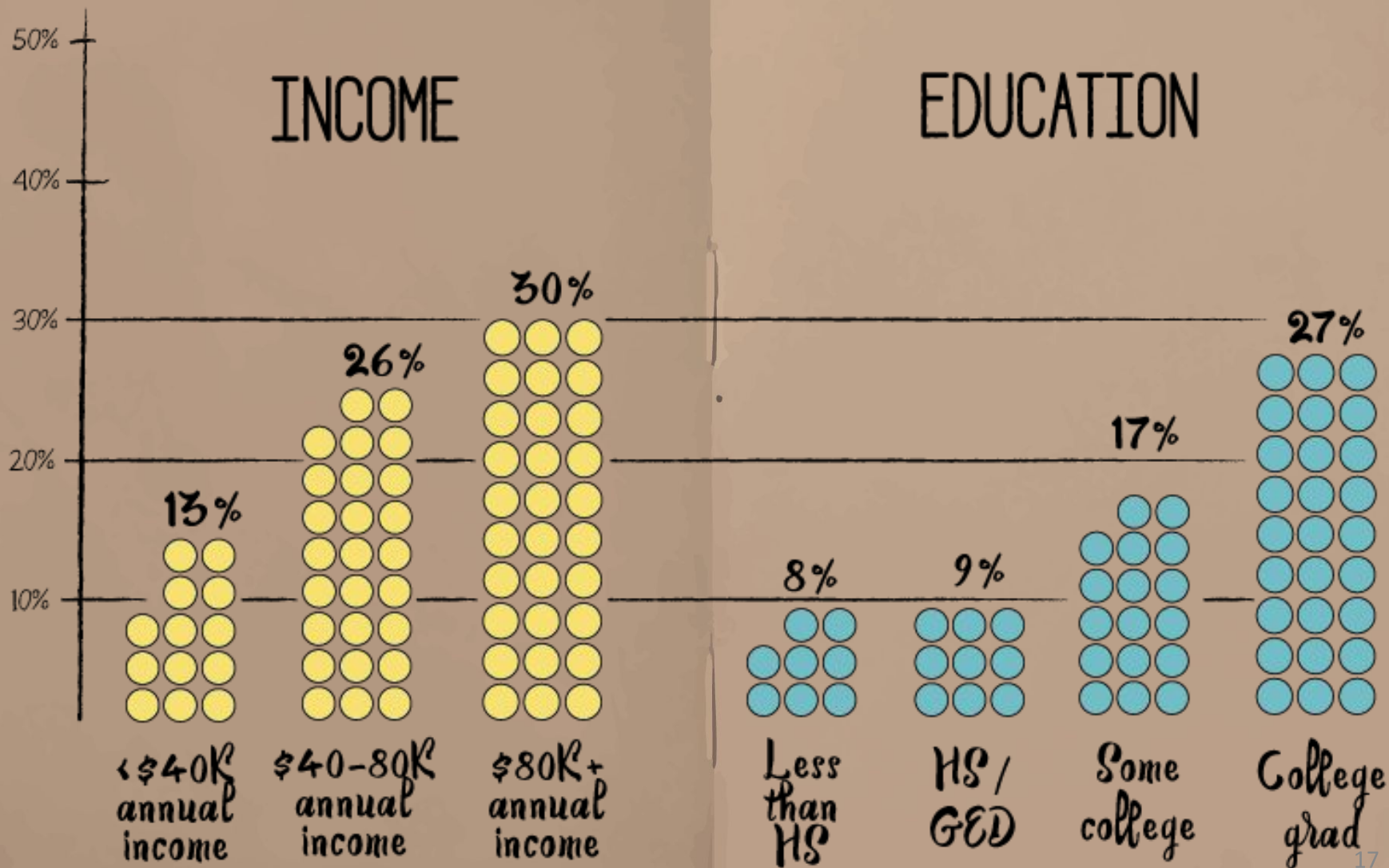
ACCESS TO ABORTION CARE

It is estimated that 94% of New Mexico counties do not have an abortion clinic. Given this information, would you say abortion care is accessible or not accessible enough to residents in the state.

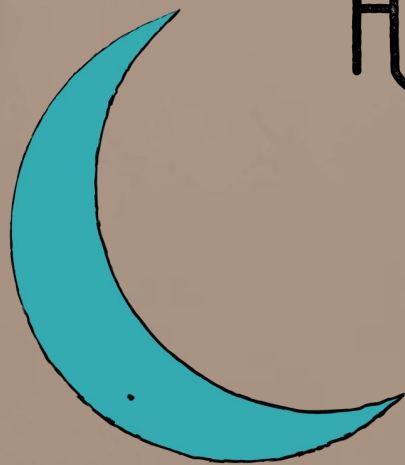


HAVE YOU EVER ACCESSED

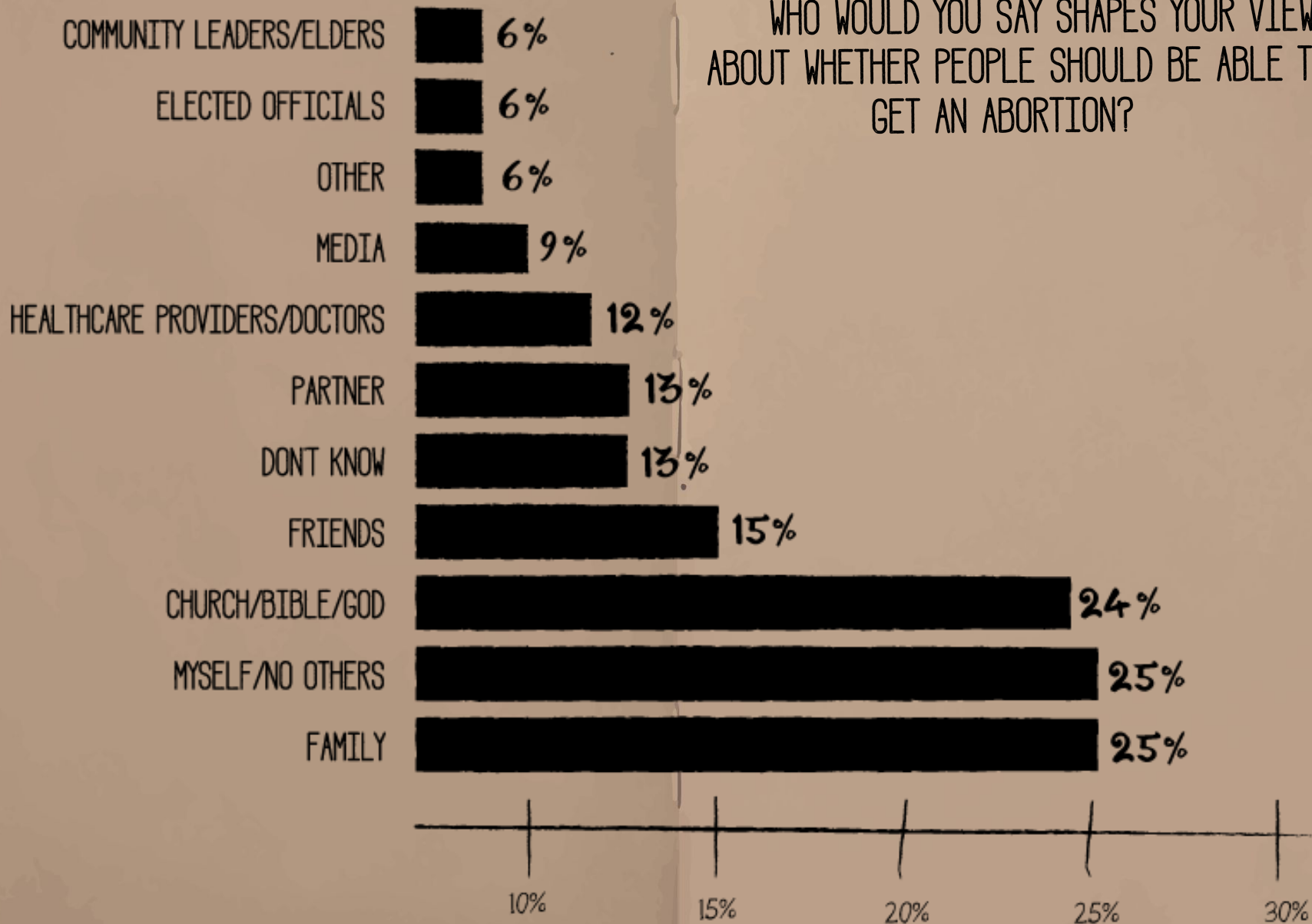
ABORTION CARE YOURSELF?



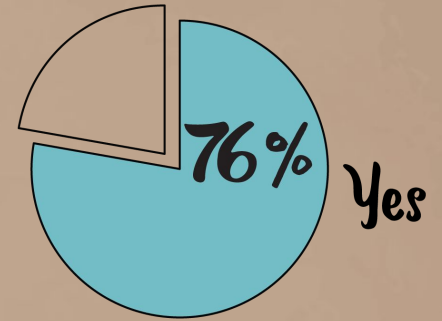
ATTITUDES & BELIEFS REGARING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE



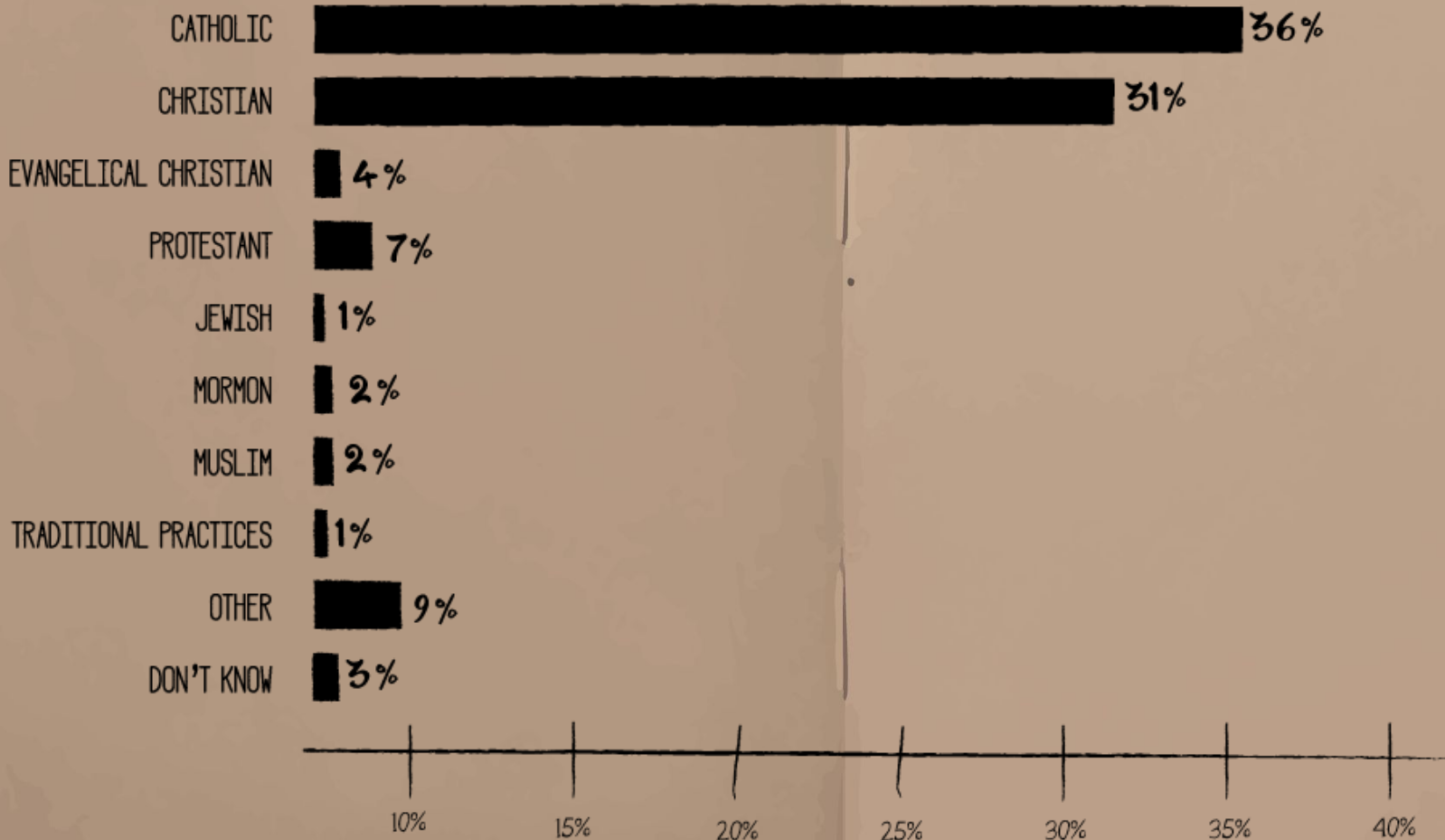
WHO WOULD YOU SAY SHAPES YOUR VIEWS
ABOUT WHETHER PEOPLE SHOULD BE ABLE TO
GET AN ABORTION?



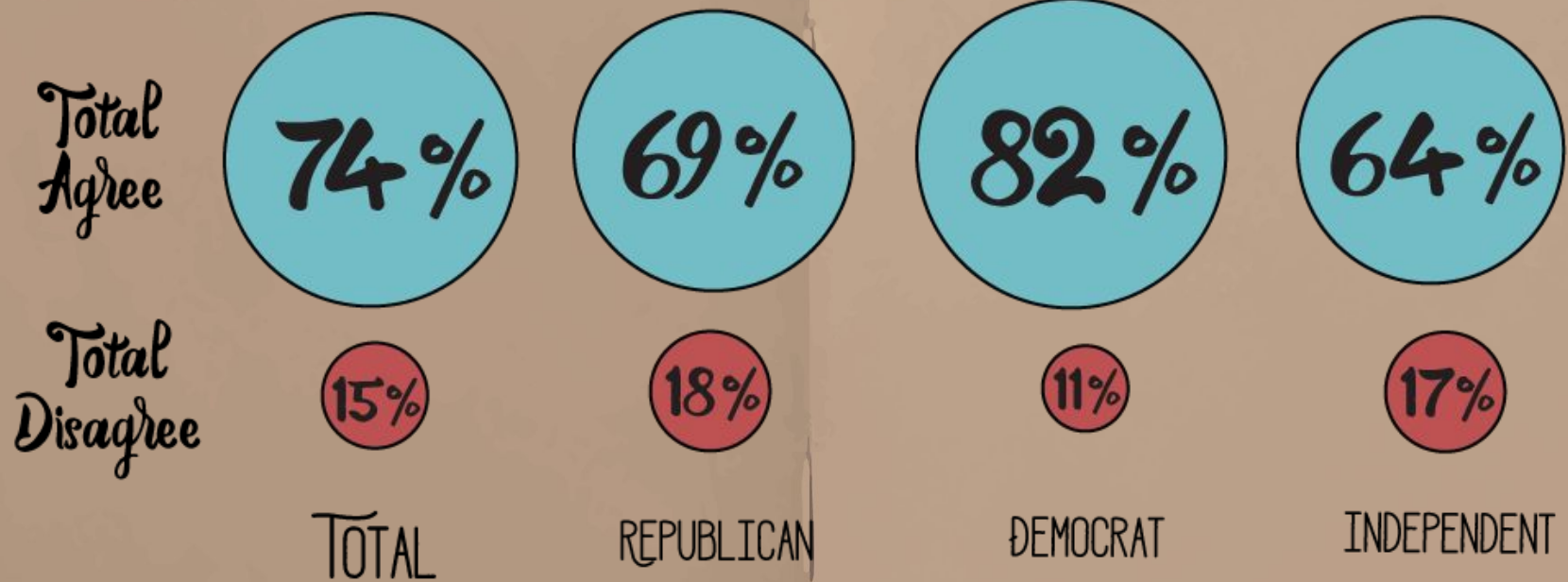
DO YOU HAVE A SPIRITUAL OR RELIGIOUS PRACTICE?



WHAT SPIRITUALITY OR RELIGION DO YOU PRACTICE?



PLEASE INDICATE HOW MUCH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE:
PERSONAL DECISIONS ABOUT ABORTION NEED TO REMAIN WITH
NEW MEXICAN WOMEN, THEIR FAMILIES, AND THEIR MEDICAL
PROVIDERS.



PLEASE INDICATE HOW MUCH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE:
IF SOMEONE I CARE ABOUT HAS MADE THE DECISION TO HAVE AN
ABORTION. I WANT THEM TO HAVE SUPPORT.

Total Disagree

19%

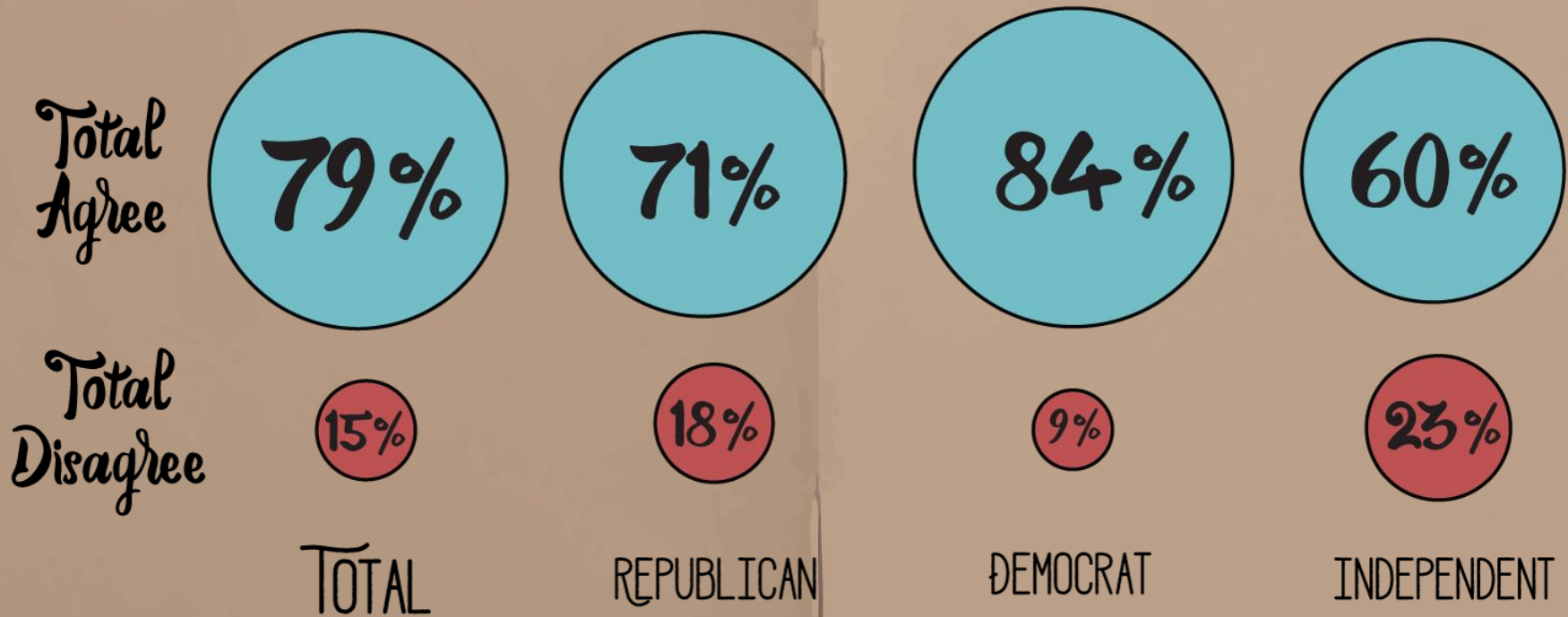


Total Agree

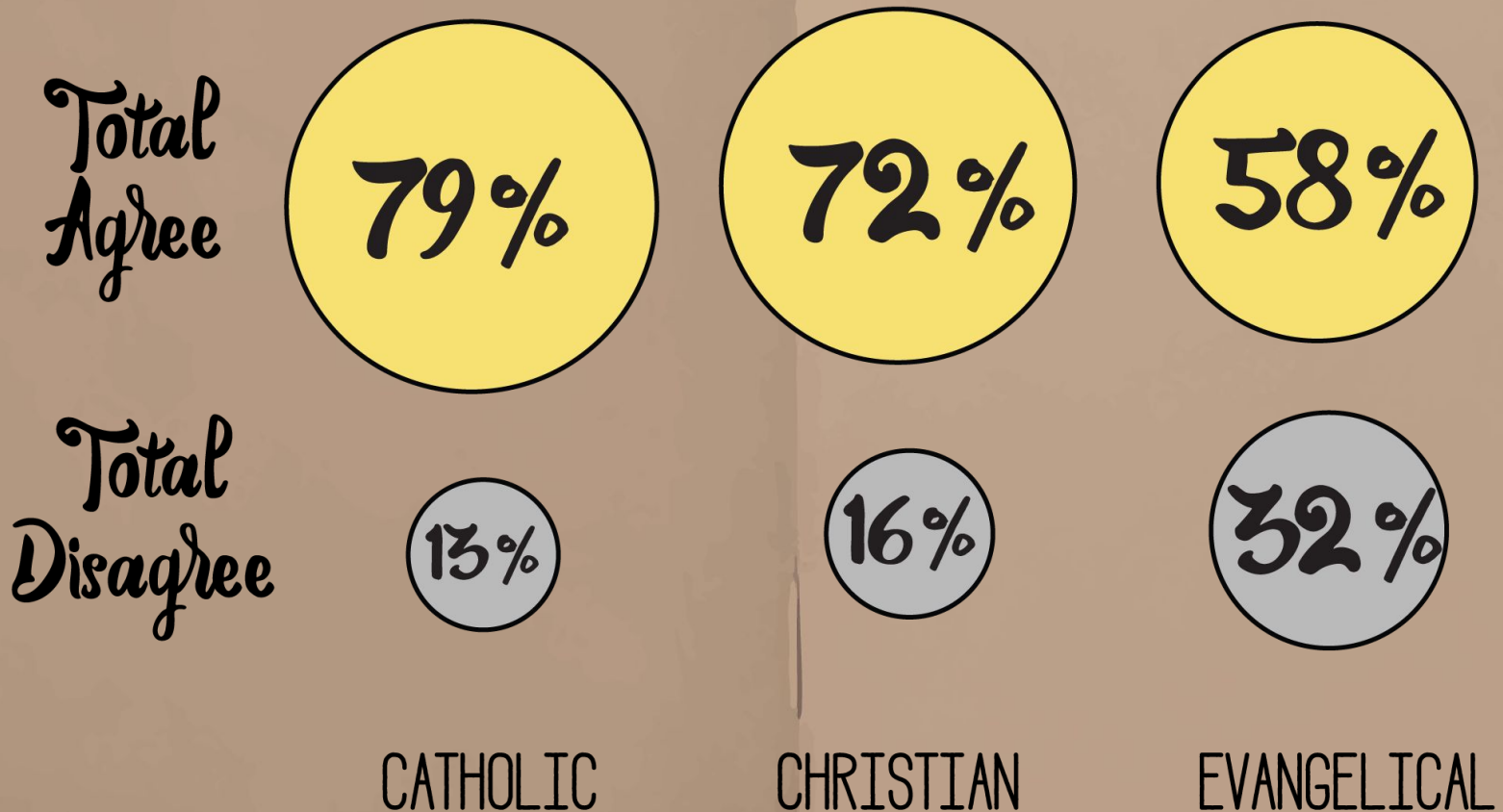
68%



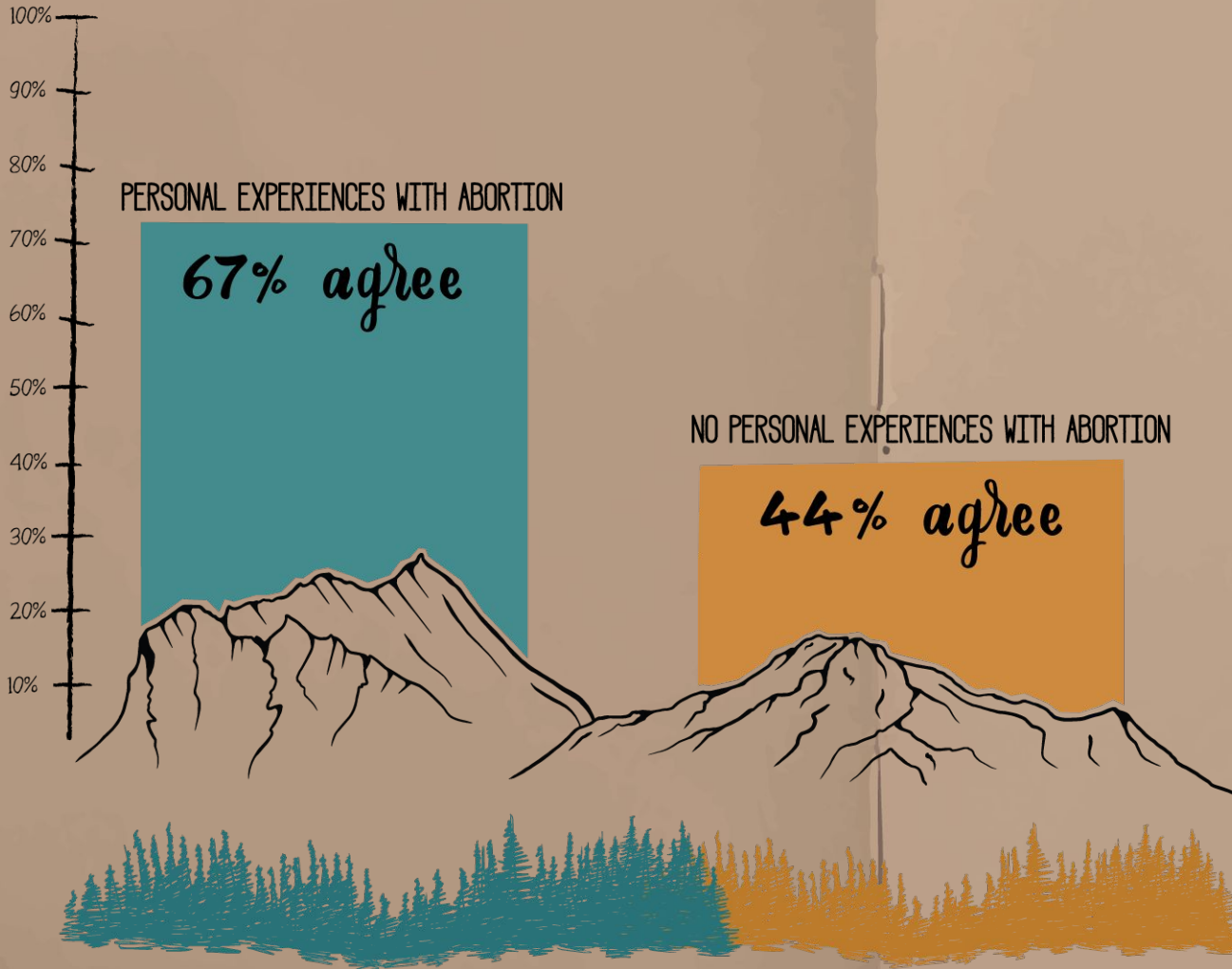
PLEASE INDICATE HOW MUCH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE:
I CAN HOLD MY OWN MORAL VIEWS ABOUT ABORTION AND
STILL TRUST A WOMAN AND HER FAMILY TO MAKE THIS
DECISION FOR THEMSELVES.



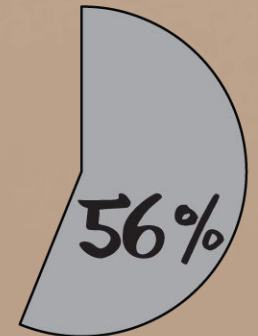
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PLEASE INDICATE HOW MUCH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE:
NEW MEXICANS NEED ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE,
INCLUDING ABORTION, ACROSS OUR RURAL STATE

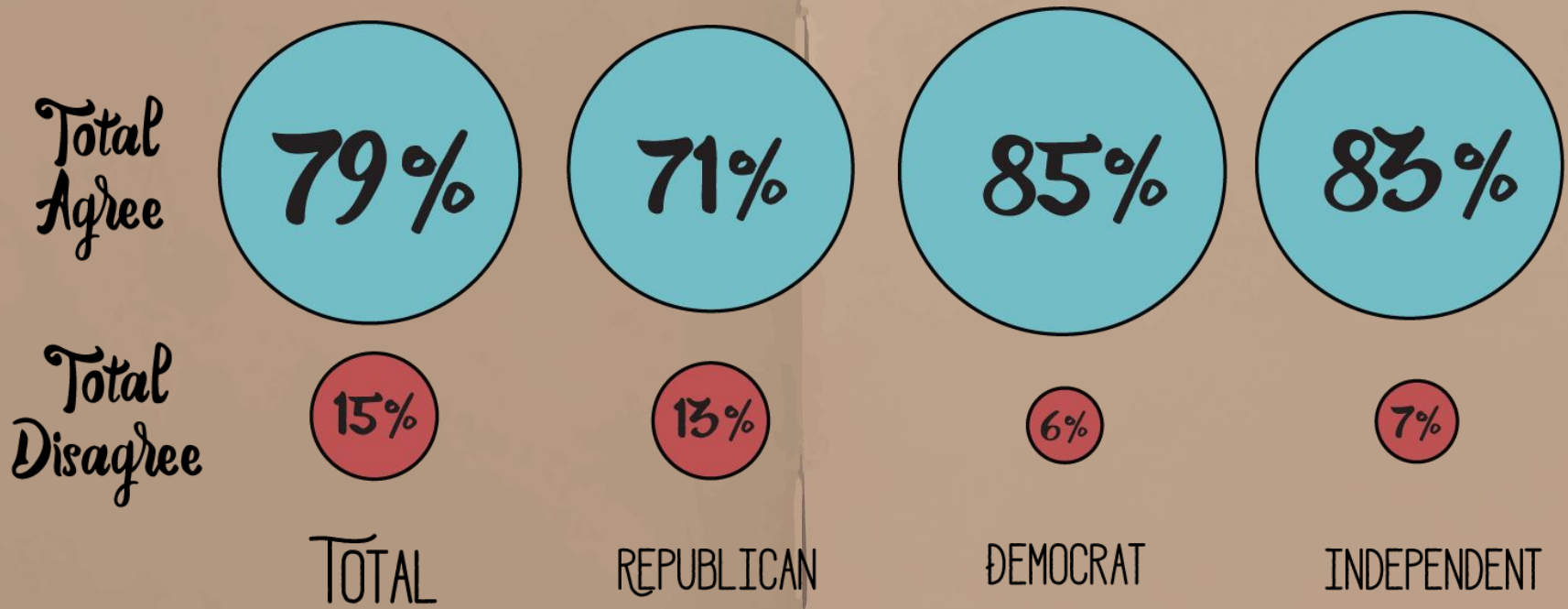


TOTAL



56% OF RESPONDENTS BELIEVE THAT NEW MEXICANS NEED ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE, INCLUDING ABORTION, ACROSS OUR RURAL STATE.

PLEASE INDICATE HOW MUCH YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE:
WHETHER DUE TO THE LOSS OF A PREGNANCY, ABORTION CARE
OR PRENATAL CARE, WOMEN DESERVE TO BE SUPPORTED AND
RESPECTED AND NOT SHAMED WHEN SEEKING REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTHCARE.



KEY FINDINGS

✦ RESEARCH DESIGN AS INNOVATIVE

✦ RURAL NEW MEXICANS EXPERIENCE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACROSS A SPECTRUM. SHAPED BY THEIR IDENTITIES.

✦ RURAL COMMUNITIES ARE WITH US.

✦ RURAL COMMUNITIES OF FAITH ARE WITH US.

