



Autism Jersey



Lesley Harrison
Head of Charitable Services
Autism Jersey



Commissioned by **Autism Jersey** and
the **Government of Jersey**

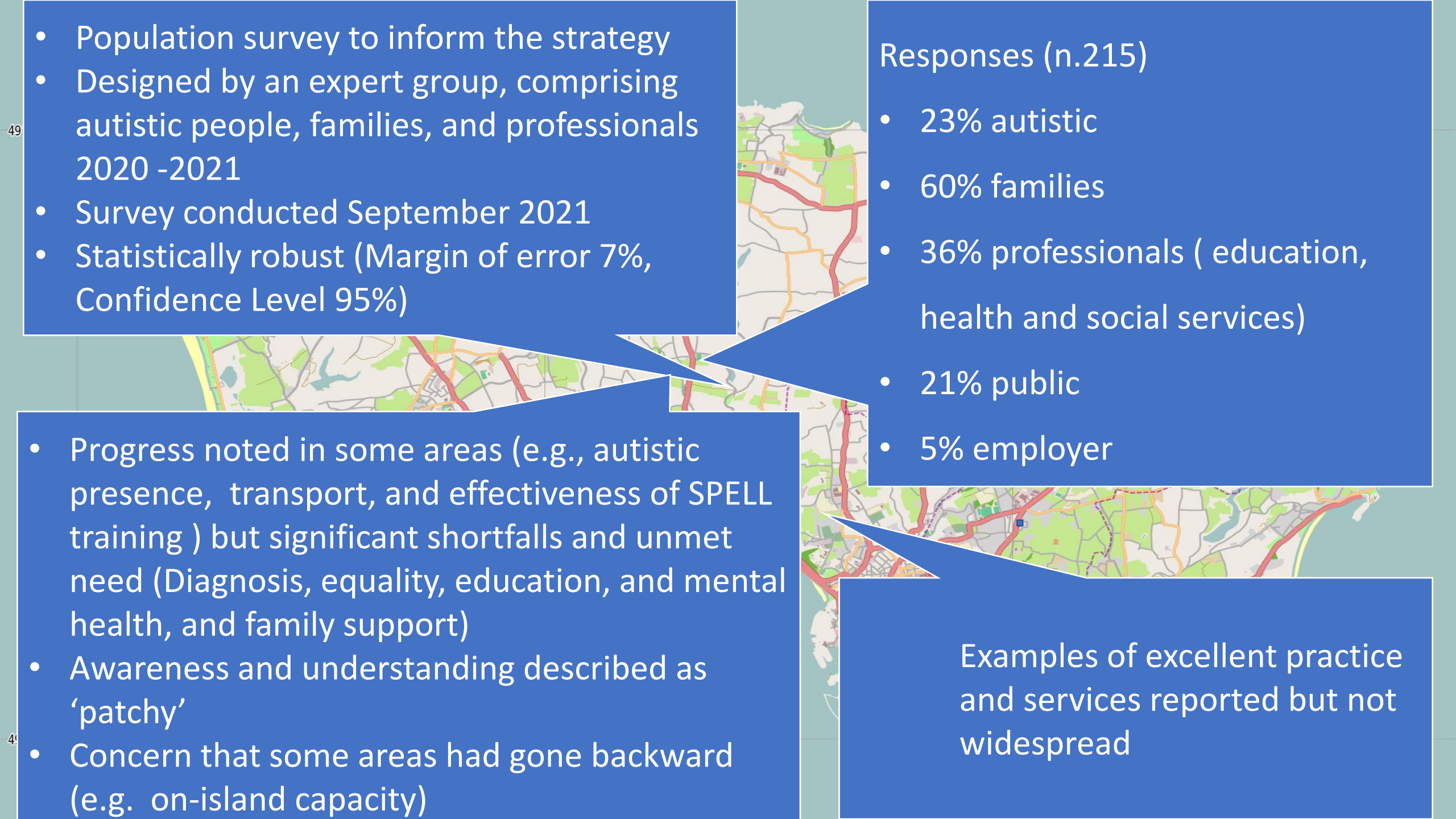


Independently facilitated and
conducted by **AT-Autism**

AT-Autism

Society that works for autistic people

- Values autistic individuals
- Maximises autistic power
- Guarantees support
- Adopts public services and spaces
- Is free from discrimination

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- Population survey to inform the strategy
 - Designed by an expert group, comprising autistic people, families, and professionals 2020 -2021
 - Survey conducted September 2021
 - Statistically robust (Margin of error 7%, Confidence Level 95%)

Responses (n.215)

- 23% autistic
- 60% families
- 36% professionals (education, health and social services)
- 21% public
- 5% employer

- Progress noted in some areas (e.g., autistic presence, transport, and effectiveness of SPELL training) but significant shortfalls and unmet need (Diagnosis, equality, education, and mental health, and family support)
- Awareness and understanding described as 'patchy'
- Concern that some areas had gone backward (e.g. on-island capacity)

Examples of excellent practice and services reported but not widespread

PRIORITY

Includes

- Advocacy- Specific therapies- activities -criminal justice- Social security -Sensory spaces

Includes

- Family support -transitions - respite/short break- joined up personalised packages

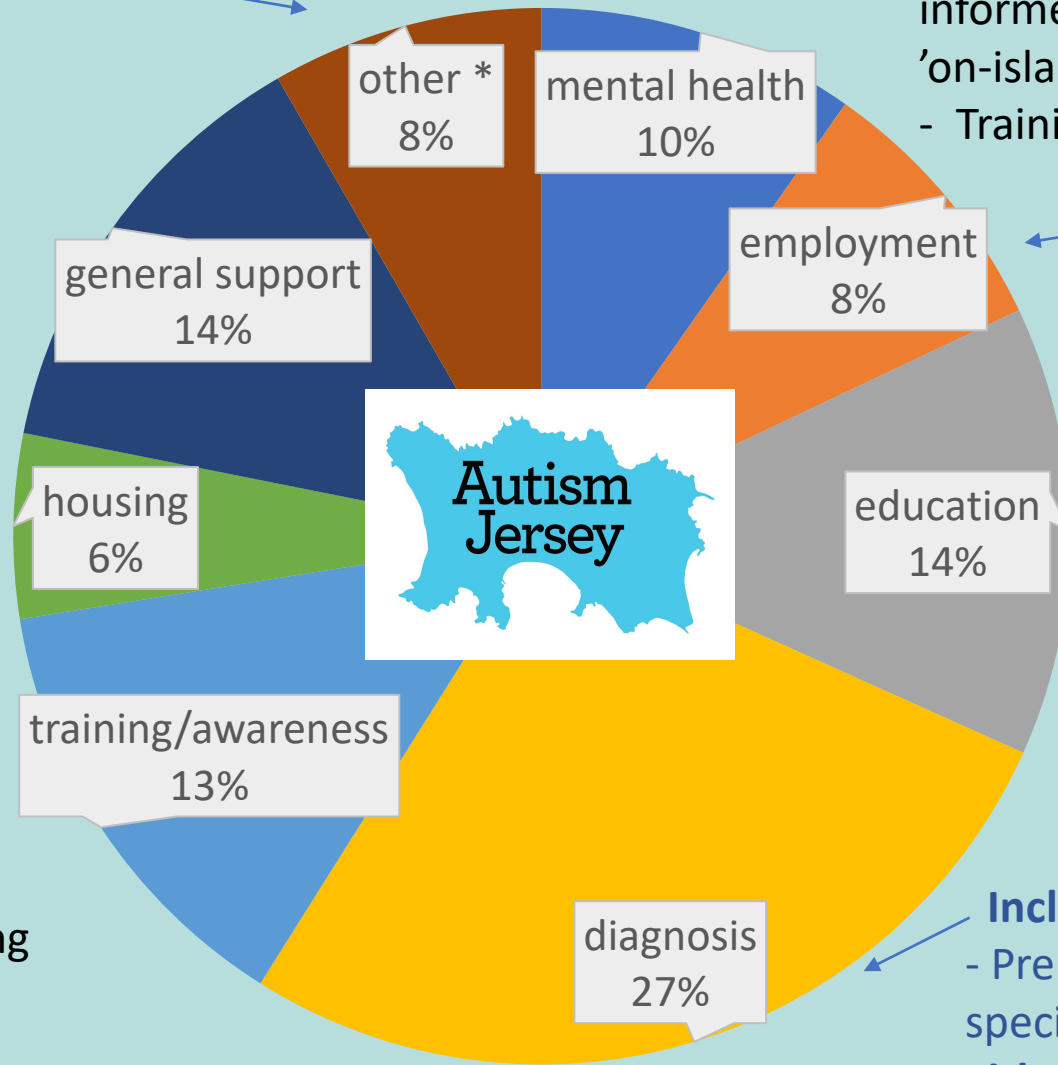
Includes

- Bespoke design - Accessible housing - Autism informed (sensory and space)

Includes

- SPELL plus follow up/on training
- Geared to different sectors
- Autistic involvement

Priority rated



Includes

- Need for consistent skills and autism-informed understanding – restore/ develop 'on-island' capacity – crisis and longer term
- Training need

Includes

- Reasonable adjustment
- Employment support
- Mentoring

Includes

- Specialised provision
- Inclusive schools (capacity building)
- Concern about exclusions
- FE and vocational capacity
- Training in autism /neurodiversity

Includes

- Pre - and post- diagnostic support and specific issues related to **women and girls-**
- Diagnosis seen as a 'proxy' for entitlement to support? Support for behaviours of concern

Eight Priorities identified were:

- 1. Mental health – consistent skills & focused understanding**
- 2. Employment – reasonable adjustments / work programmes**
- 3. Education – Specialised provision and capacity building**
- 4. Diagnosis – Pre & post diagnostic support**
- 5. Training & Awareness – SPELL / Public, Private, Third Sector**
- 6. Housing – Accessibility**
- 7. General Support – Respite & family**
- 8. Other – therapies & activities, Criminal Justice System, Social Security etc**

Autism Jersey would like to invite you to participate in a free one-day workshop entitled:

THE AUTISTIC EXPERIENCE AND VOICE – DELIVERING A NEURODIVERSE STRATEGY FOR JERSEY

The aim of this important event is to provide a facilitated, interactive workshop which will identify and follow themes where the needs of autistic individuals can be explored and aligned to delivery from key stakeholders through the creation of a 3-year action plan which will then provide the basis to feed into overarching Government of Jersey Strategies. A panel of experts will also be in attendance where the highlights of independent research commissioned by Autism Jersey in partnership with the Government of Jersey will be presented. This event will also provide a Q&A forum with the panel of experts.

This is an opportunity for all stakeholders to share their experience and have a voice, to enable the delivery of a strategy that will meet the needs of autistic individuals in Jersey, through a collaborative, partnership approach that will ensure positive outcomes.

Date: Wednesday 23rd November 2022

Time: Registration: 09:00 for 09:30 start – finishing at 16:30hrs

Venue: Assembly Room, Parish of St. Helier Town Hall

Sandwich lunch provided.

Places are limited, so please secure your place via Eventbrite today!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/453795202667>



www.autismjersey.org

Are some solutions to be found in wider issues/ strategies related to inclusion and diversity

- 'Neurodiversity'?
- 'Intersectionality'?
- Universal Design?

Reaching out- connections – 'Leaders'? 'Champions'?

- Autistic community? Families?
- Professionals?
- Government and other institutions?
- Business community? Public?

Getting buy- in

- From the autistic community, families, professionals, and other agencies and public as reported.
- **Communication and connection**
 - With the autistic community, families, professionals, and other agencies, and public as reported

Pivotal Actions - Key areas that if addressed would resolve other issues, (e.g., specialist training – retain/ develop what is e.g., JAAS , SPELL)

'Quick wins'? -Diagnostic (pre-during-post) support? Engagement /involvement of autistic community?

Specific initiatives (e.g. mental health, autism information')

Thank you

l.harrison@autismjersey.org

Survey Questions -Referral Notes if required:

- 1. In Jersey, there is good general public awareness and understanding of autism.**
96 (45%) disagree', 30 (14%) 'strongly disagree', 42 (20%) 'agree', '1 strongly agree'.
- 2. In Jersey, autistic people are offered opportunities in life and work that reflect their individual choices, skills, abilities, and education.**
89 (41%) 'disagree', 27 (13%) 'strongly disagree', 69 (32%) 'unsure'.
- 3. In Jersey, autistic people are protected from harm.**
89 (41%) either 'disagree', or 'strongly disagree', 85 (40%) 'unsure'.
- 4. In Jersey, autistic people are treated equally, as individuals and with fairness (reasonable adjustments are in place or made where needed).**
99 (46%) respondents 'disagree' and 25 (12%) 'strongly disagree'.

Survey Questions -Referral Notes if required:

5. In Jersey, public transport is accessible to all autistic people

(reasonable adjustments are in place or made where needed)

63 (29%) respondents 'agree', 13 (6%) 'strongly agree'

6. In Jersey, children and adults can access an autism assessment and diagnosis without delay.

137 (64%) 'strongly disagree', 62 (29%) 'disagree'.

7. In Jersey, autistic people have good and equal access to Health services, which recognise their individual characteristics and needs (reasonable adjustments are in place or made where needed).

70 (33%) respondents 'disagree', 40 (19%) 'strongly disagree', 40 (20%) 'agree'.

8. In Jersey, autistic people have good and equal access to mental health services, which recognise their individual characteristics and needs (reasonable adjustments are in place or made where needed). 72 (33%) 'disagree' and 64 (30%) strongly disagree'.

Survey Questions -Referral Notes if required:

- 9. In Jersey, staff in health services have appropriate training in understanding and responding to the individual characteristics and needs of autistic children and adults.**
70 (33%) disagree', 30 (15%) 'strongly disagree', 73 (34%), 73 (34%)'unsure'.
- 10. In Jersey, staff in mental health services have appropriate training in understanding and responding to the individual characteristics and needs of autistic children and adults.**
92(43%) 'unsure' and 34 (16%) 'agree', 51 (24%) disagree', 35 (16%) 'strongly disagree.
- 11. In Jersey, staff in schools and colleges have appropriate training in understanding and responding to the individual characteristics and needs of autistic children and young people.**
82 (38%) 'disagree' and 41 (19%) strongly disagree', 40 (20%) 'agree'.
- 12. In Jersey, staff in employment and vocational services have appropriate training in understanding and responding to the individual characteristics and needs of autistic adults.**
99, (46%) 'unsure, 61 (28%) 'disagree' and 31 (14%) strongly disagree', '18 (8%) agree'.

Survey Questions -Referral Notes if required:

13. In Jersey, staff in Government Health and Social Services have appropriate training in understanding and responding to the characteristics and needs of autistic children and adults and their families and carers.

78 '(36%) disagree', '33 (15%) strongly disagree', 21 (10%) 'agree'.

14. In Jersey, autistic children enjoy full and equal access to education (which recognises their characteristics and needs, and reasonable adjustments are in place or made where needed). '

54 (25%) agree', 7 (3%) 'strongly agree', 66 (31%) 'disagree', 47 '(22%) strongly disagree'.

15. In Jersey, the police and staff in the criminal justice system have appropriate training in understanding and responding to the individual characteristics and needs of autistic children and adults and their families and carers.

120, (56%) 'unsure', 67 (31%) 'disagree' 21 (10%) 'strongly disagree'.

16. In Jersey, the criminal justice system understands and deals with autistic people fairly and appropriately (reasonable adjustments are in place or made where needed).

152 (71%) 'unsure',

Survey Questions -Referral Notes if required:

17. In Jersey, autistic people enjoy equal opportunities for employment and are free from discrimination *reasonable adjustments are in place or made where needed).*

83 (39%) 'disagree' and 33 (15%) 'strongly disagree', 82 (38%) 'unsure'.

18. In Jersey, autistic people and families have access to informed advocacy services when they need them.

63 (29%) disagree', 35 (16%) 'strongly disagree', 36 (17%), 'agree'.

19. In Jersey, autistic people of all ages are not prevented from living a safe, happy, and fulfilled life, because they are autistic *(from early childhood to older adulthood).*

53 (25%) 'agree', 57 (27%) 'disagree'.

20. In Jersey, autistic people of all genders, races and cultures have their individual characteristics and needs understood and met. 91 (42%) 'disagree', 33 (15%) 'strongly disagree', 11%'agree'.

Survey Questions -Referral Notes if required:

21. In Jersey, autistic people have good access to public buildings and spaces (e.g., libraries, leisure facilities, reasonable adjustments are in place or made where needed e.g., attention to signage, and sensory factors).

74 (34%) disagree', 61 (28%) 'agree'.

22. In Jersey, the commercial sector understands the characteristics and needs of autistic children and adults (e.g., in shops, supermarkets, restaurants etc., and reasonable adjustments are in place or made where needed, e.g., attention to signage or 'autism friendly' hours in supermarkets).

76 (35%) 'disagree', 38 (18%) 'strongly disagree', 61(28%) respondents 'agree'.

23. In Jersey, families with autistic members know where to get help and advice when they need it and can access this (such as with complaints about services or treatment, helping agencies, sensitive to culture and race). 126 (58%) either 'disagree' or 'strongly disagree', 38 (18%) 'agree'.