

Health

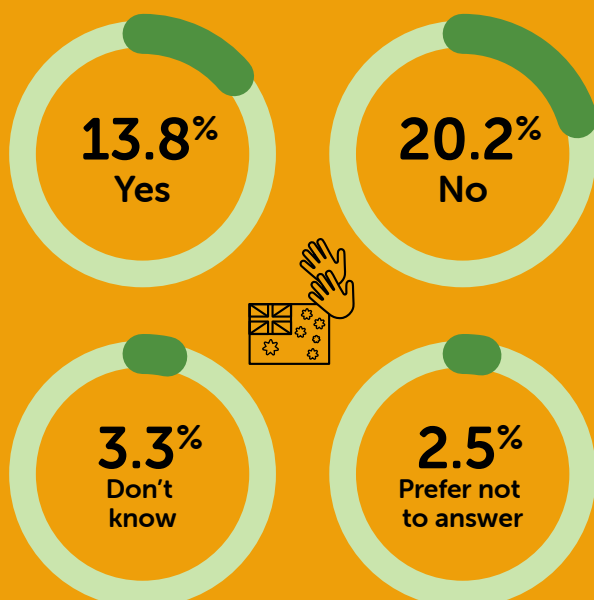
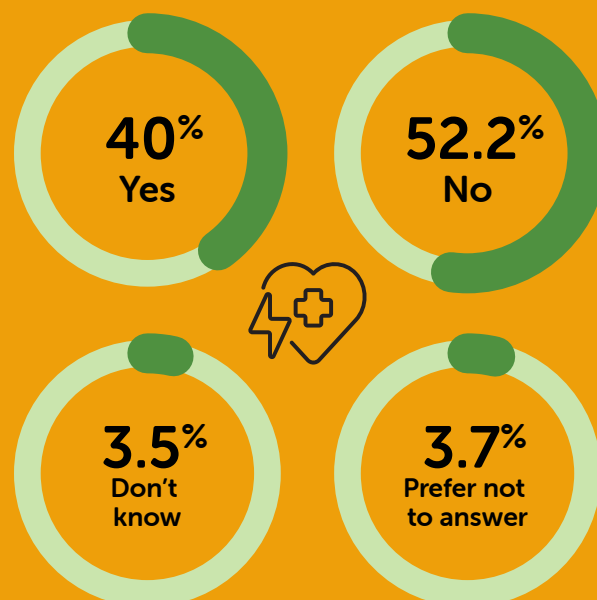
The 2022 Deaf Census surveyed people who use Auslan and other sign languages in Australia. We wanted to know more about Deaf community demographics, cultural identities, and experiences, including healthcare.

Access to healthcare

Have you been diagnosed with any physical health conditions?

841 responses from 846 people

Deaf and disabled people, Deafblind, hard of hearing people, and people who describe it differently were more likely to respond that they have been diagnosed with physical health conditions.



Were you provided with access to physical healthcare as an Auslan user?

337 responses from 846 people

Deaf and disabled people and hard of hearing people were more likely to respond that they were not provided with access to physical health support and care as a person who uses Auslan.

Access to healthcare

Do you have any undiagnosed physical health conditions?

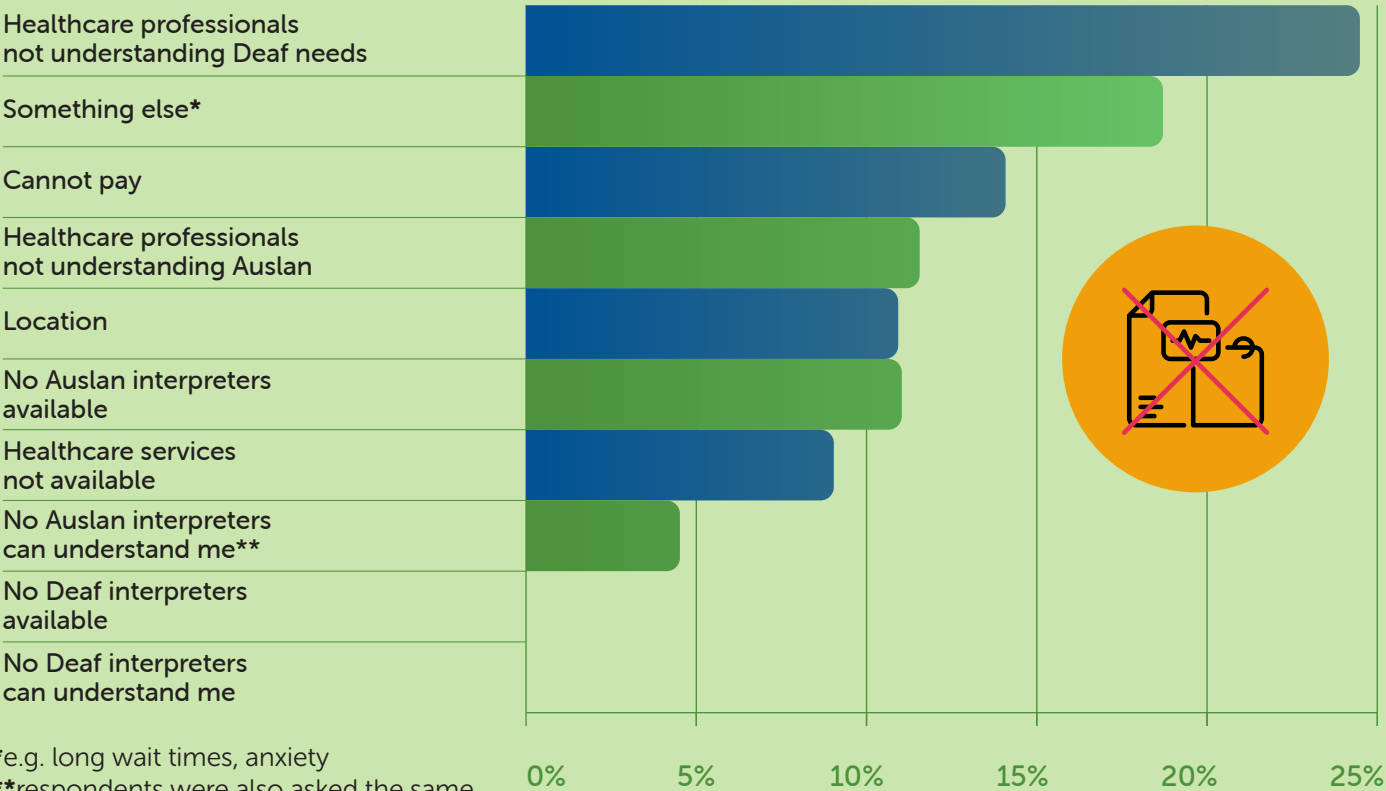
833 responses from 846 people

Deafblind, Deaf and Disabled, and people who describe it differently were more likely to report they have undiagnosed health conditions.



Why have you not yet been diagnosed?

162 responses from 846 people



*e.g. long wait times, anxiety

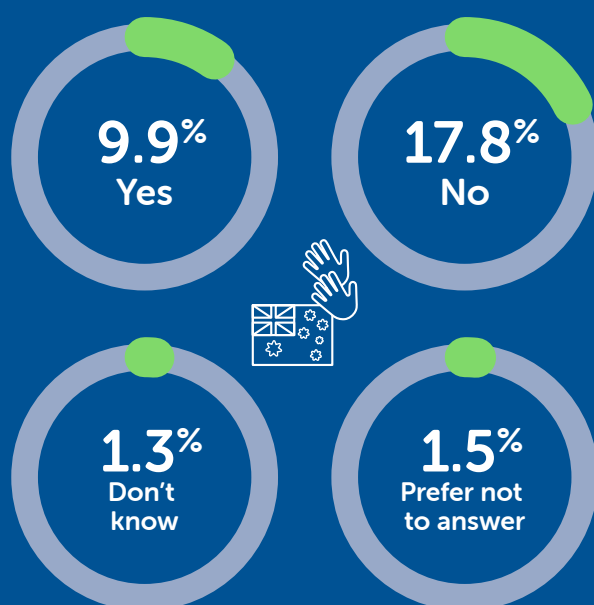
**respondents were also asked the same questions about DIs and nobody indicated misunderstanding

Access to mental healthcare

Have you been diagnosed with any mental health conditions?

841 responses from 846 people

Deaf and disabled people, Deafblind, hard of hearing people, and people who describe it differently were more likely to respond that they have been diagnosed with mental health conditions. A high proportion of Deafblind people reported they do not know if they have been diagnosed with any mental health conditions.



Were you provided with access to mental healthcare as an Auslan user?

259 responses from 846 people

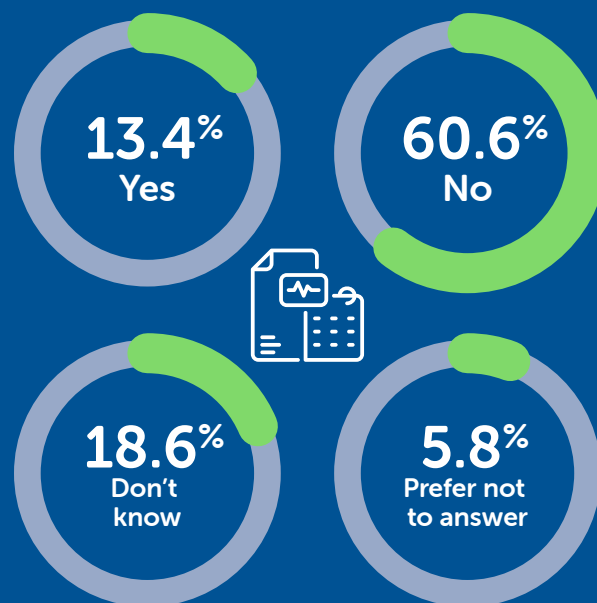
The most common response was no. Deaf and disabled people, hard of hearing people, and people who describe it differently were most likely to report this.

Access to mental healthcare

Do you have any undiagnosed mental health conditions?

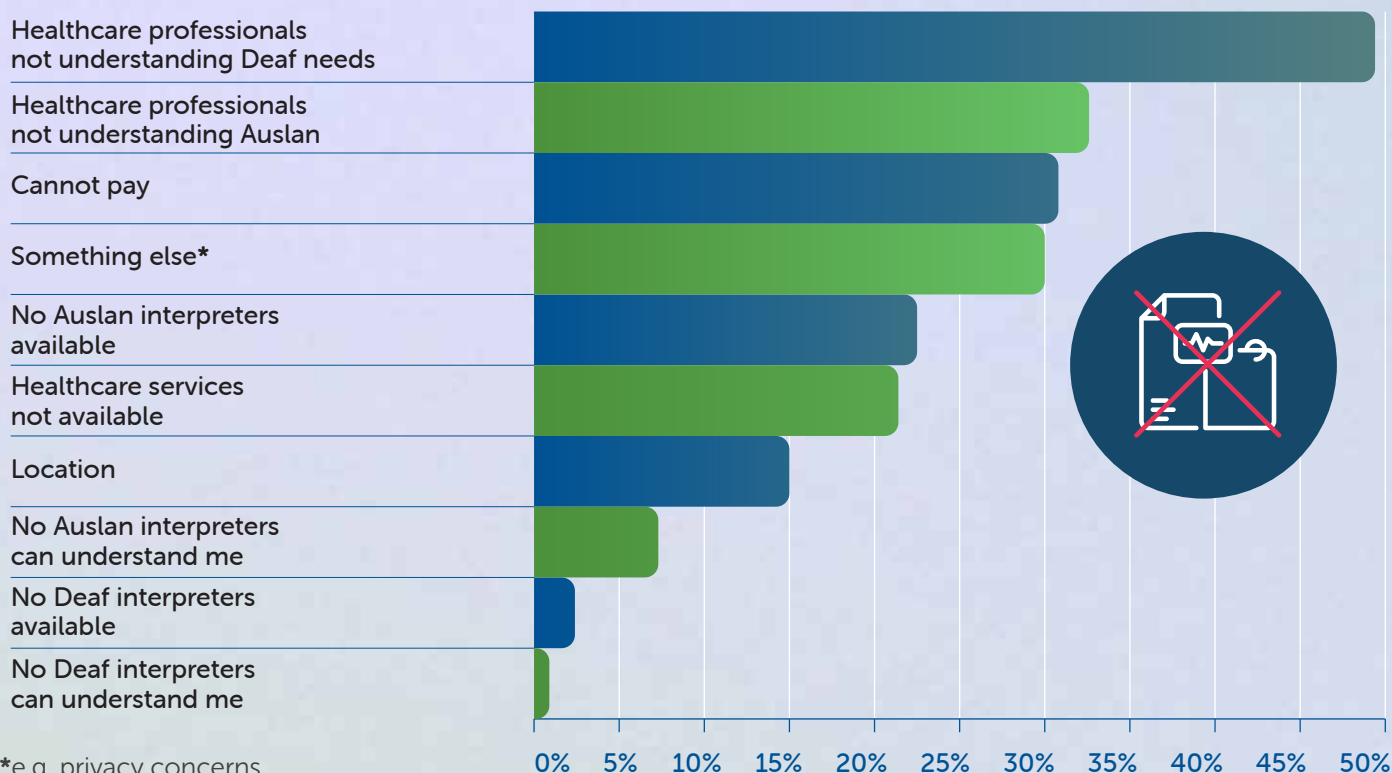
228 responses from 846 people

Deafblind people were more likely to report they have undiagnosed mental health conditions, while Deaf and disabled people were more likely to report they do not know.



Why have you not yet been diagnosed?

228 responses from 846 people



Access to GP

How many times have you been to a GP in the last 12 months?

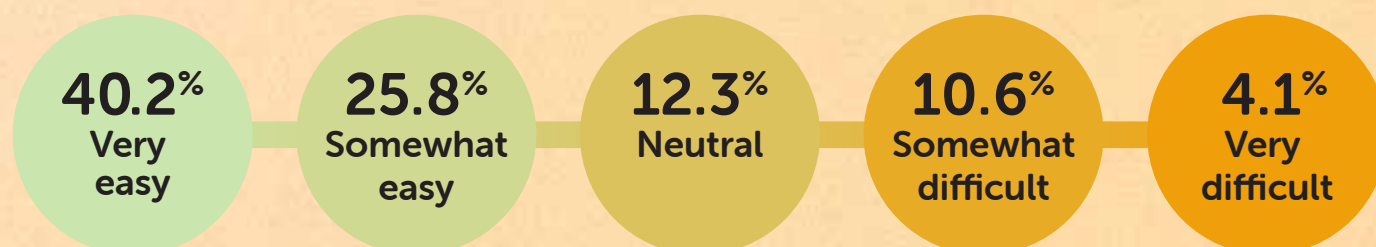
840 responses from 846 people

Most people reported 1–5 times (48.2%), but almost half reported more than 6 times in the last 12 months (47.6%).

A larger proportion of Deafblind people attended **up to 20 times** in the last 12 months compared to other deaf people.

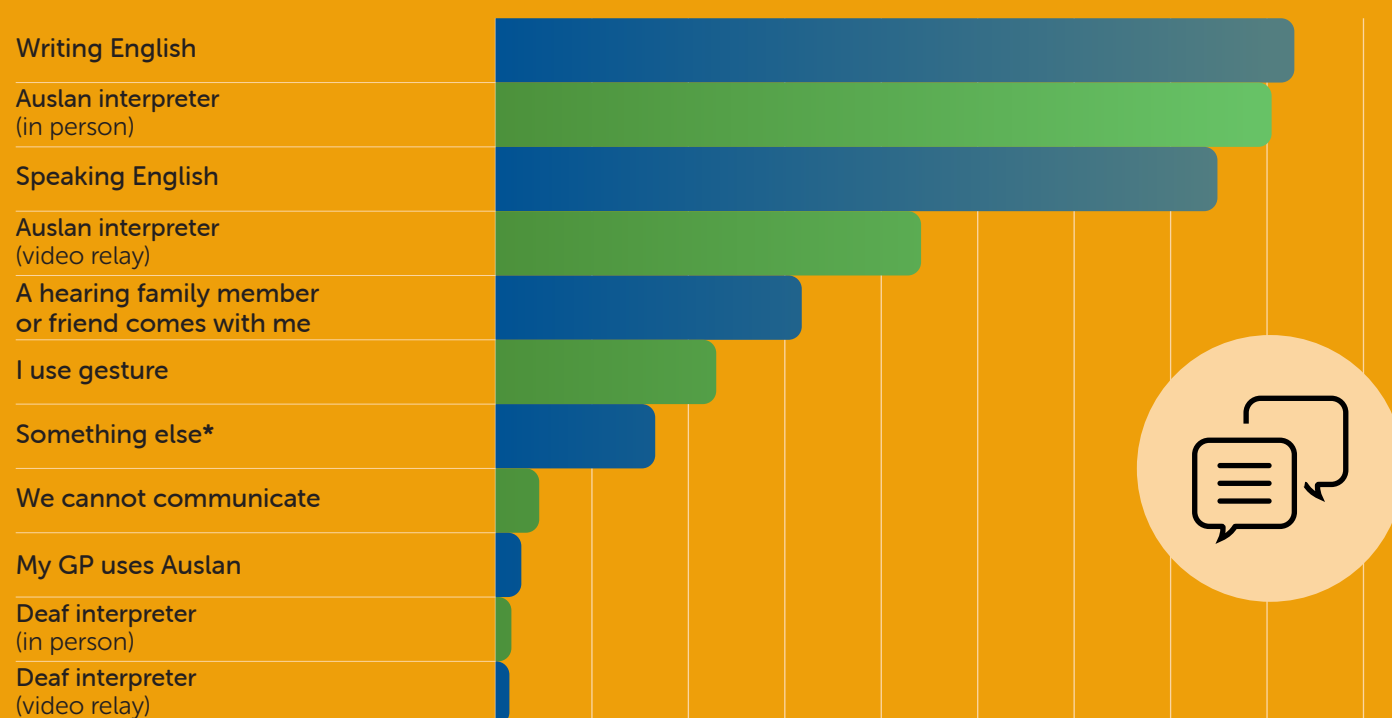
How easy was it to book an appointment?

814 responses from 846 people



How did you communicate with your GP?

1469 responses from 846 people



*e.g. lipreading, voice recognition software

Access to specialist doctors

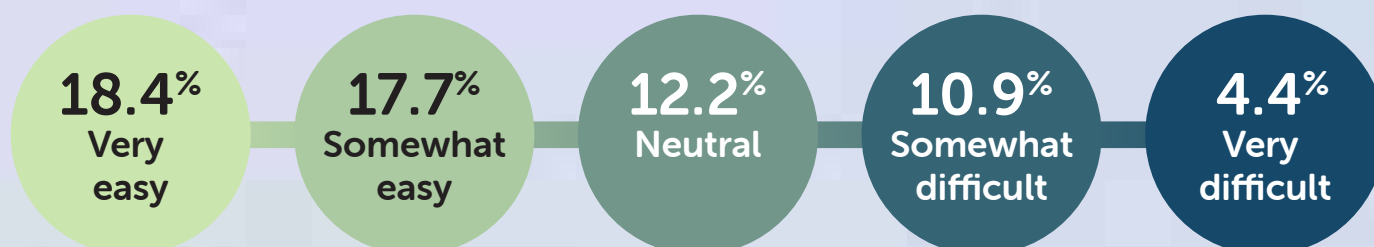
How many times have you been to a specialist doctor in the last 12 months?

835 responses from 846 people

Most people reported 1-5 times (50.6%). 15.3% reported more than 6 times in the last 12 months. A larger proportion of Deaf and disabled people, Deafblind, hard of hearing and people who describe it differently attended **up to 10 times** in the last 12 months, compared to Deaf people.

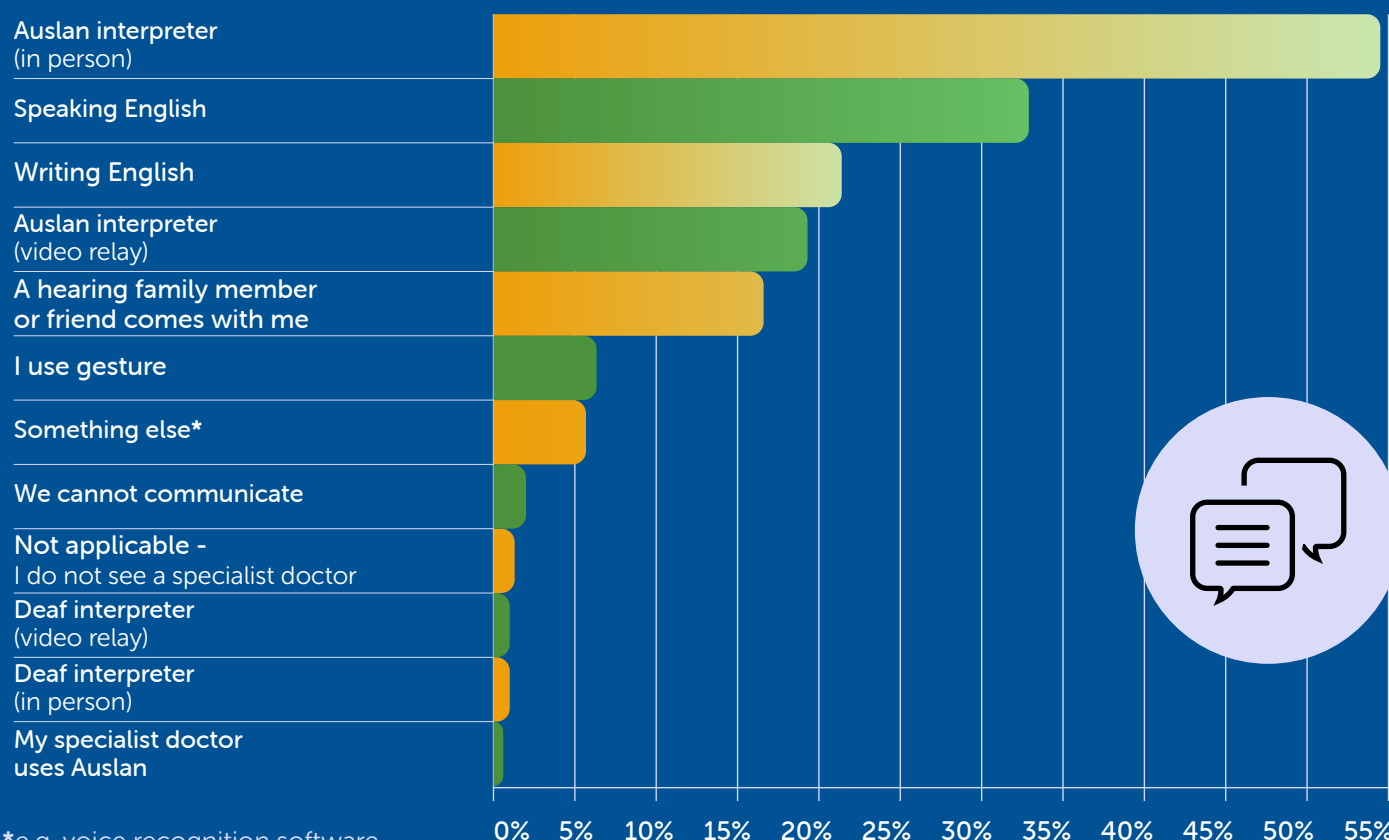
How easy was it to book an appointment?

561 responses from 846 people



How did you communicate with your specialist doctor?

911 responses from 846 people



*e.g. voice recognition software, telehealth services

Access at hospital

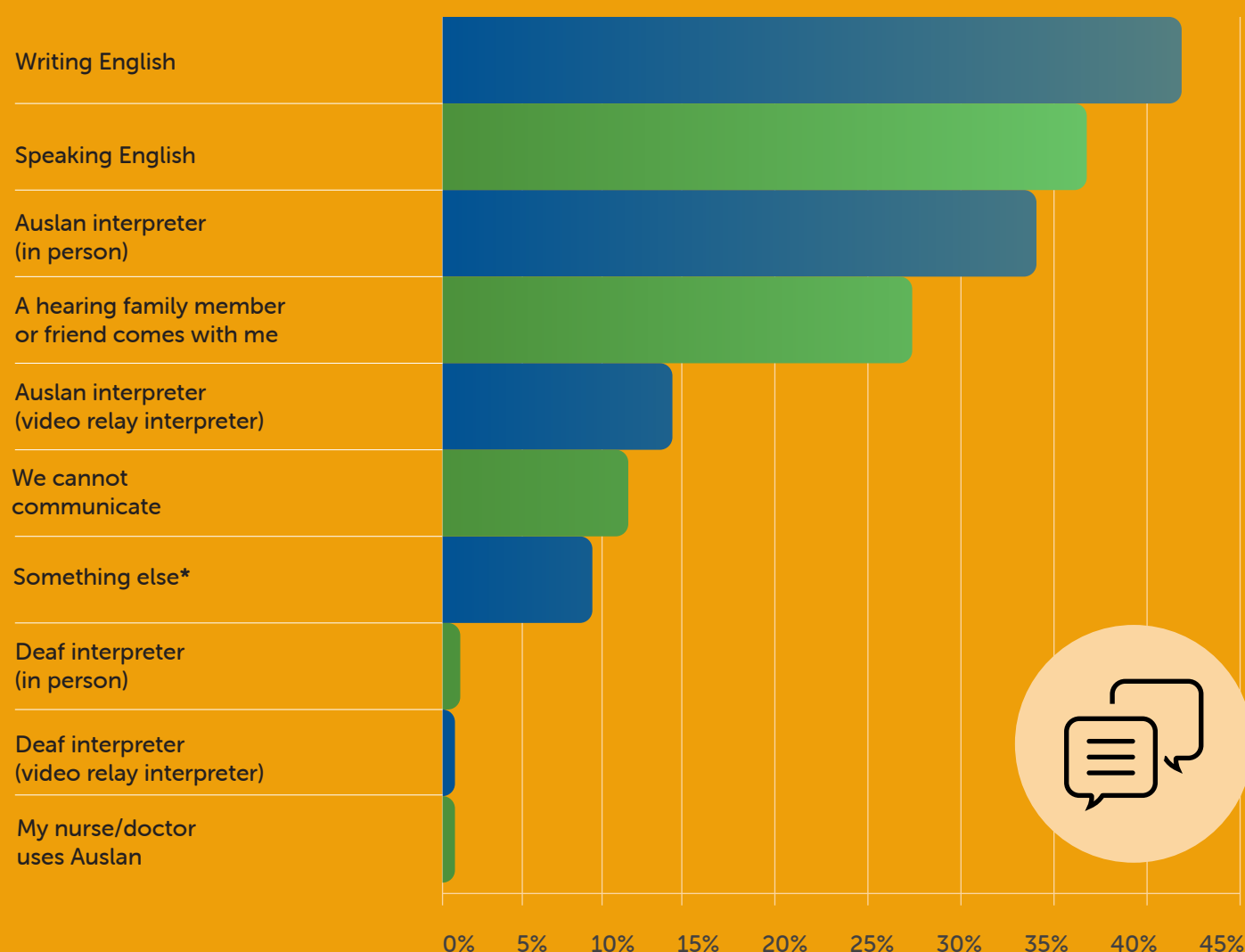
How many times have you been to hospital in the last 12 months?

836 responses from 846 people

The most common response was that they have not been to a hospital (51.1%) or that they have been only once to a hospital (20.4%). 27.3% reported they have been to a hospital **more than twice**, especially Deaf and disabled people.

How did you communicate with medical staff at the hospital?

718 responses from 846 people

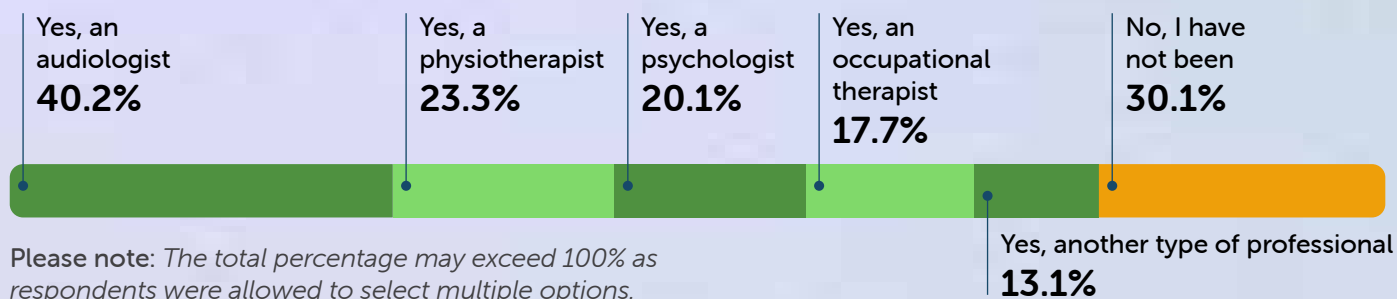


*e.g. writing on paper, typing into phone

Access to allied health professionals

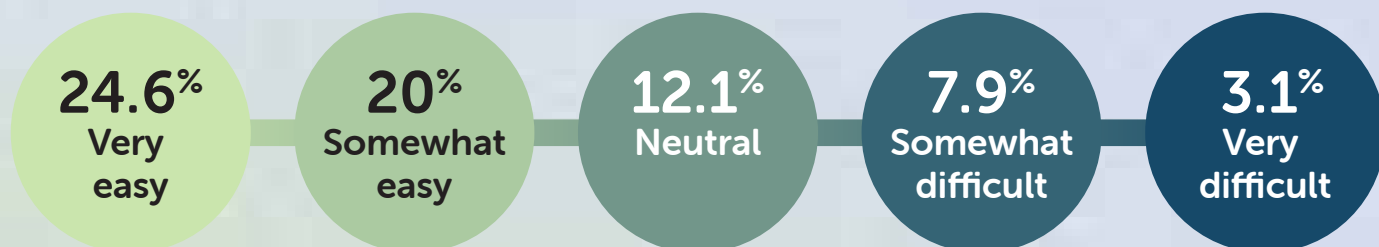
Have you been to an allied health professional in the last 12 months?

1223 responses from 846 people



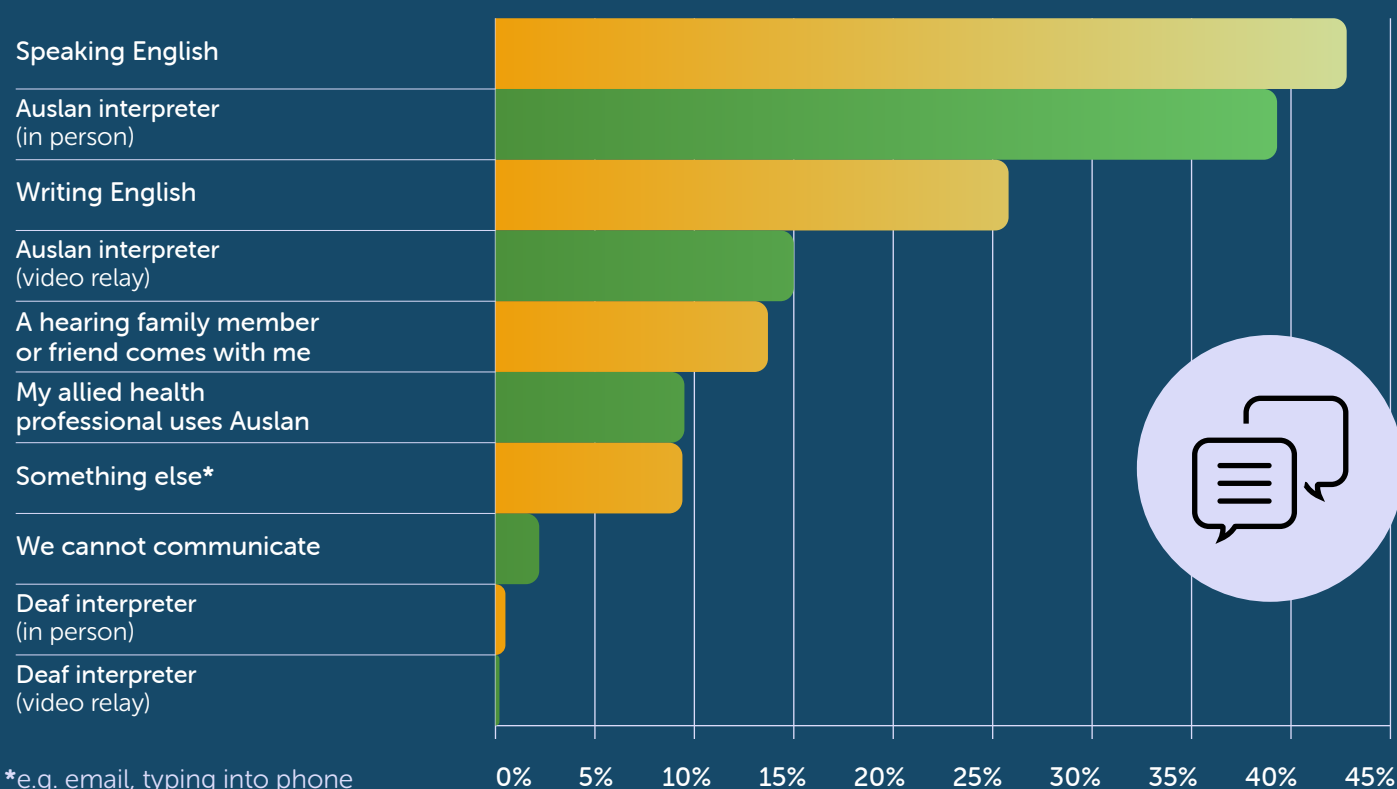
How easy was it to book an appointment?

572 responses from 846 people



How did you communicate with your allied health professional?

918 responses from 846 people



*e.g. email, typing into phone