

# TRURO SENIOR SURVEY

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JUNE 12, 2018

# TRURO SENIOR SURVEY

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- The Truro Council on Aging requested a survey of the pleasures and concerns that Truro seniors have about life in own town.
- Barry Bluestone and James Huessy of Northeastern University carried out the survey in early 2018 with the support of the COA.
- A mailed survey and electronic survey was sent to all Truro residents and non-residents 55 and over. The survey contained 41 questions covering a range of issues of importance to seniors.
- At the successful conclusion of this study, responses were received from 454 respondents.
- The following represents the findings from this survey.

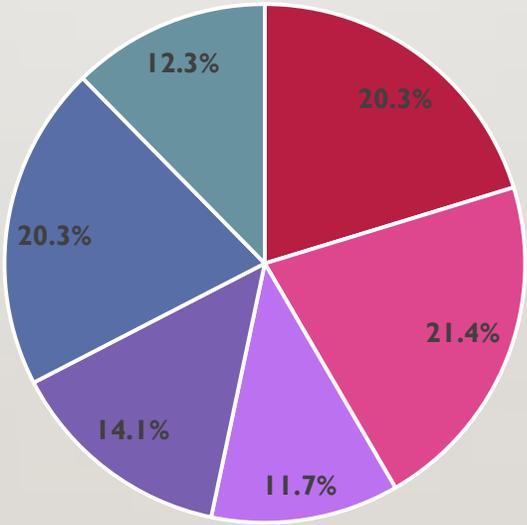
# QI:TRURO SENIOR SURVEY AGE DISTRIBUTION

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Age 55-64: 53.4%

Age 65+: 46.6%

Age 75+: 26.4%

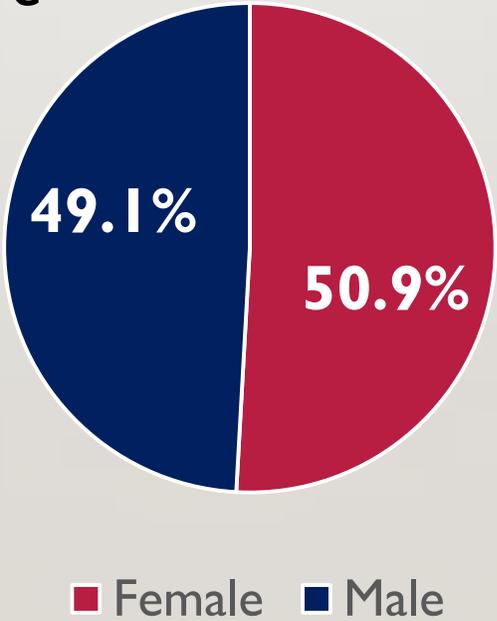


■ 60 to 64 ■ 65 to 69 ■ 55 to 59 ■ 80+ ■ 70 to 74 ■ 75 to 79

# Q2:TRURO SENIOR SURVEY GENDER DISTRIBUTION

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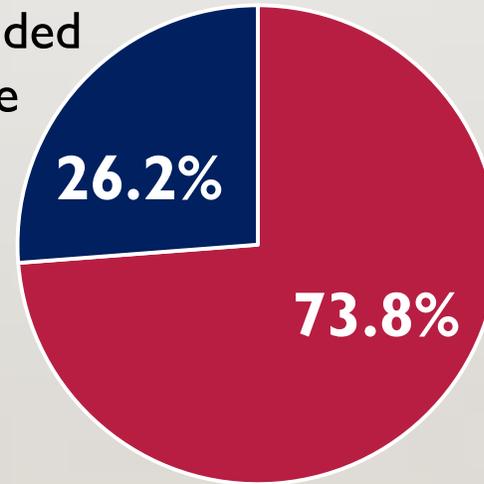
Half of the survey respondents were men and nearly half were women



## Q3: IS TRURO YOUR PRIMARY RESIDENCE?

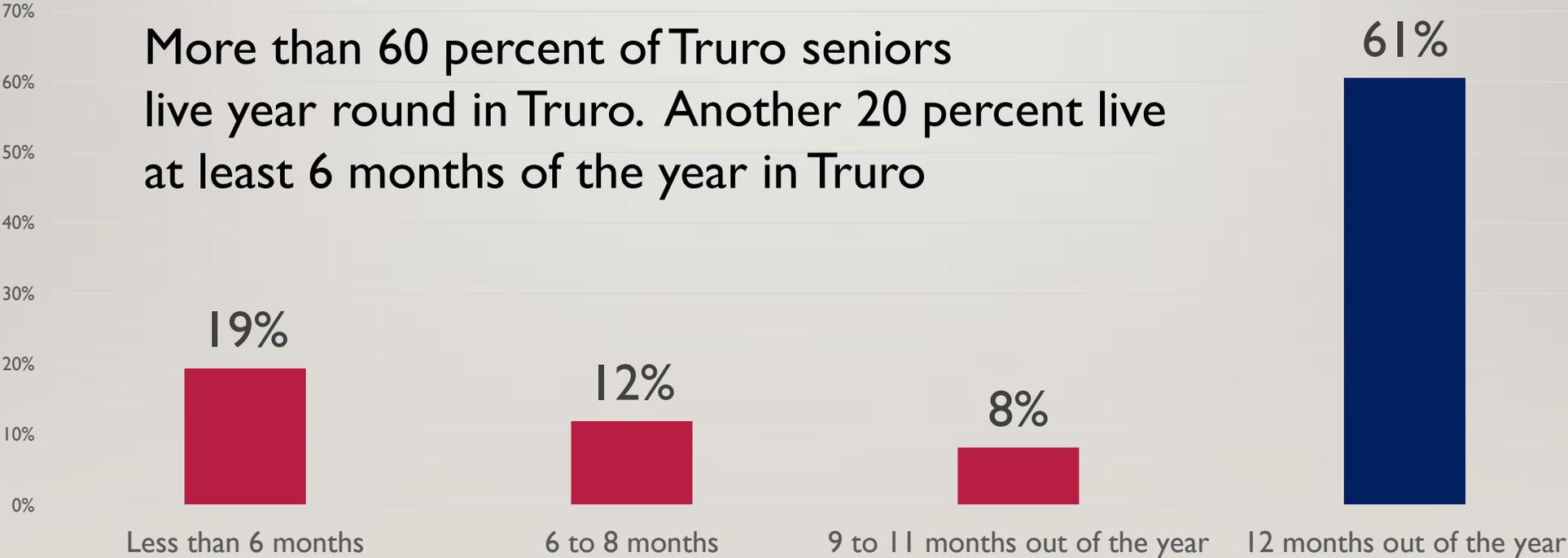
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Nearly 75% of Truro seniors who responded to our survey state that their Truro home is their primary residence

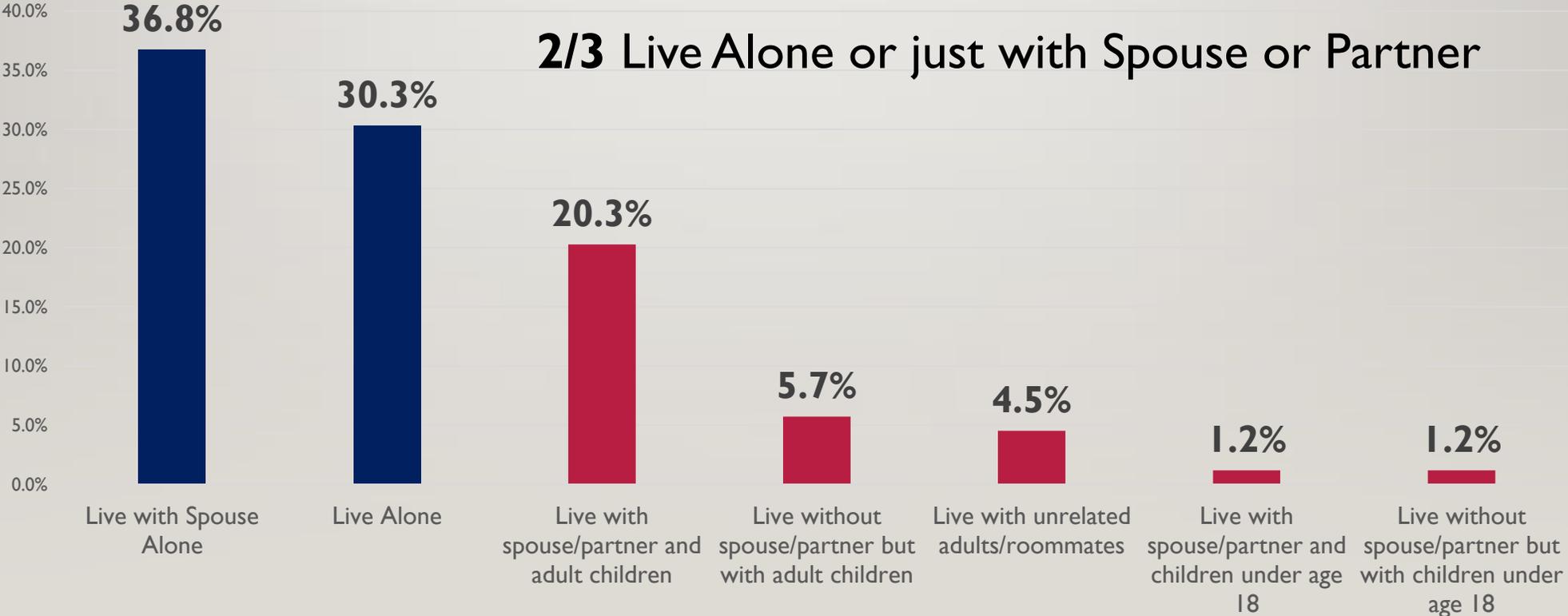


■ Yes ■ No

# Q4: HOW MANY MONTHS EACH YEAR DO YOU ACTUALLY RESIDE IN TRURO?



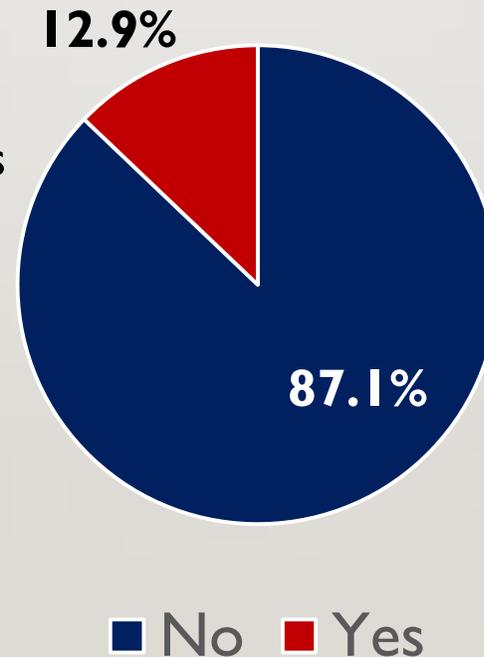
# Q5: WHAT IS YOUR LIVING SITUATION HERE IN TRURO?



# Q6: DO YOU SUFFER FROM ANY DISABILITIES THAT LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY OR NORMAL DAILY ACTIVITIES?

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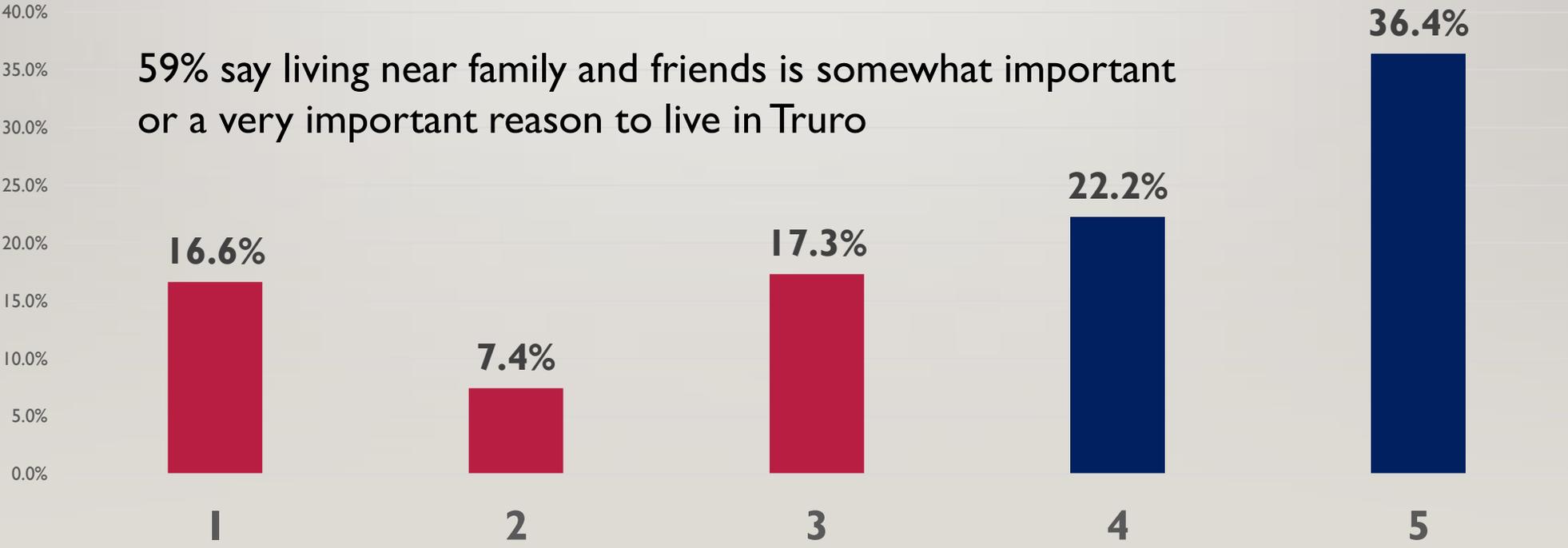
About one in eight Truro seniors suffer from disabilities that limit mobility or normal daily activity



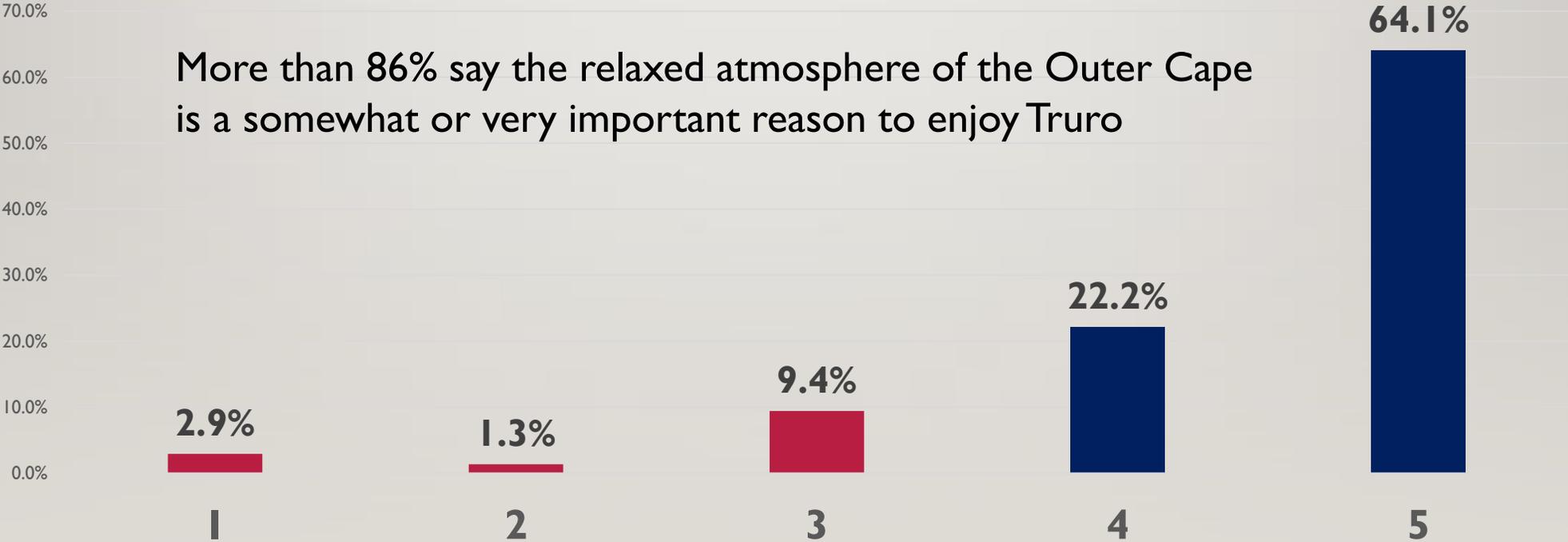


# Q7: REASONS TO ENJOY TRURO -- OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE NEAR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

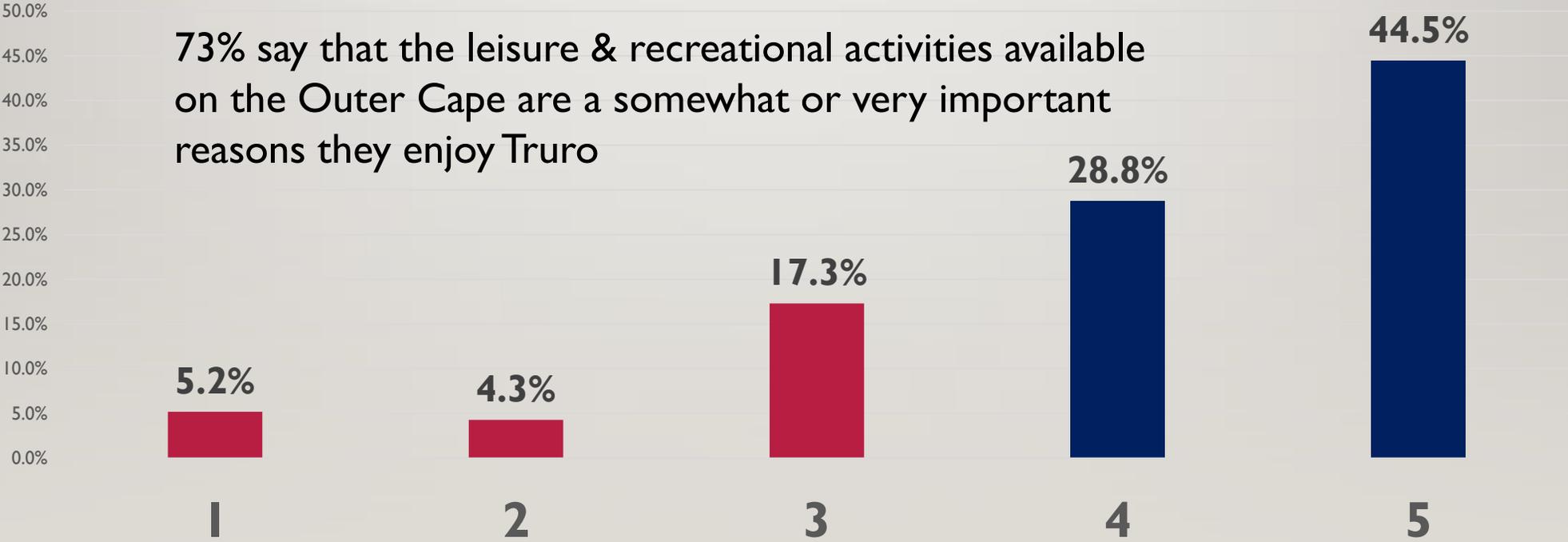
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# Q8: REASONS TO ENJOY TRURO -- A MORE RELAXED ATMOSPHERE ON THE OUTER CAPE



# Q9: REASONS TO ENJOY TRURO -- LEISURE AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE ON THE OUTER CAPE



**WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE  
TO SEE IMPROVED IN  
TRURO?**

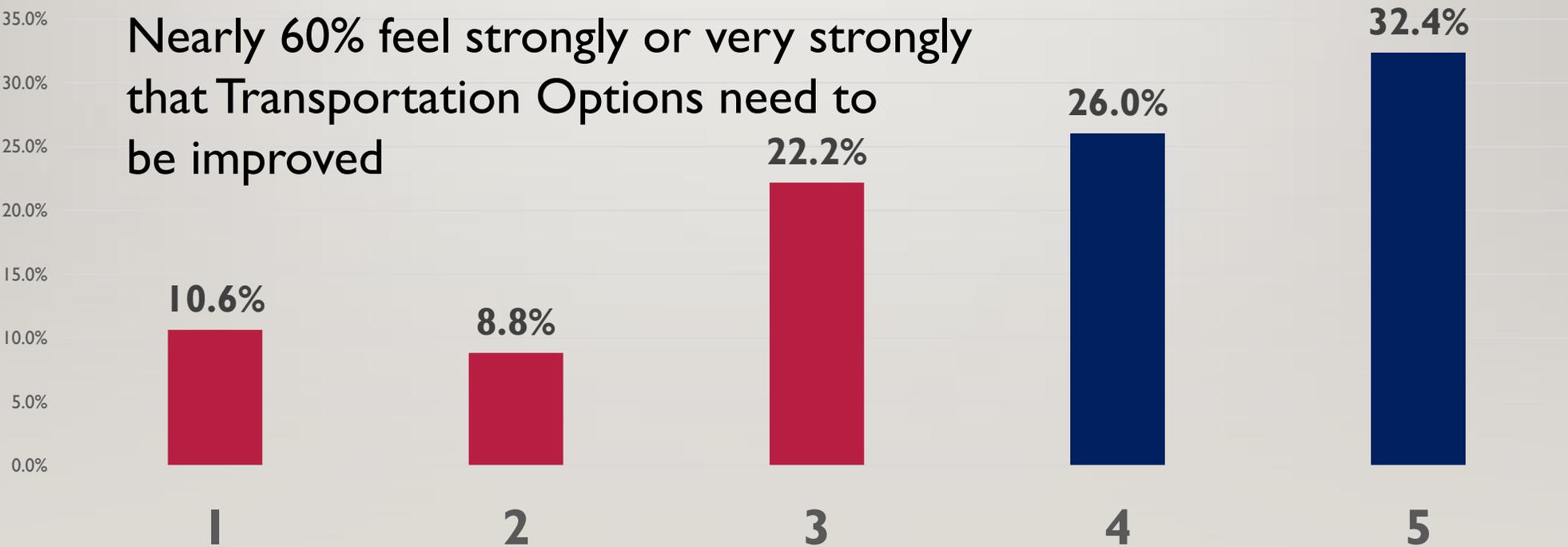
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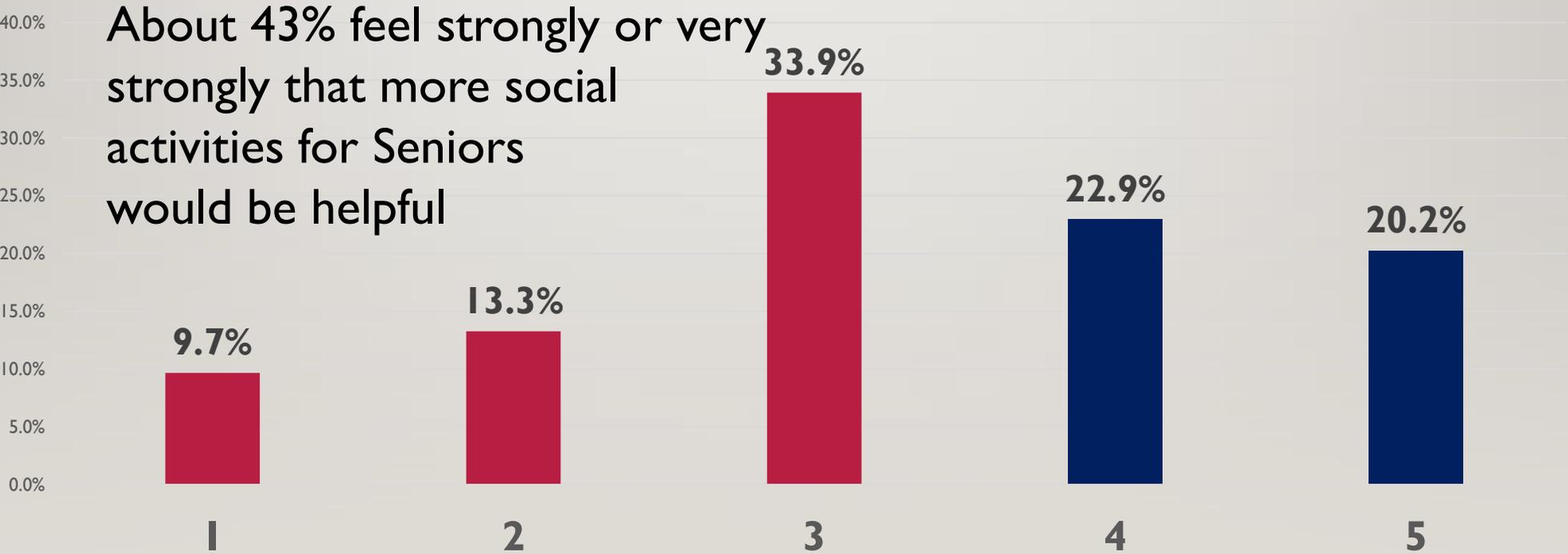
# Q11: IMPROVED ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE



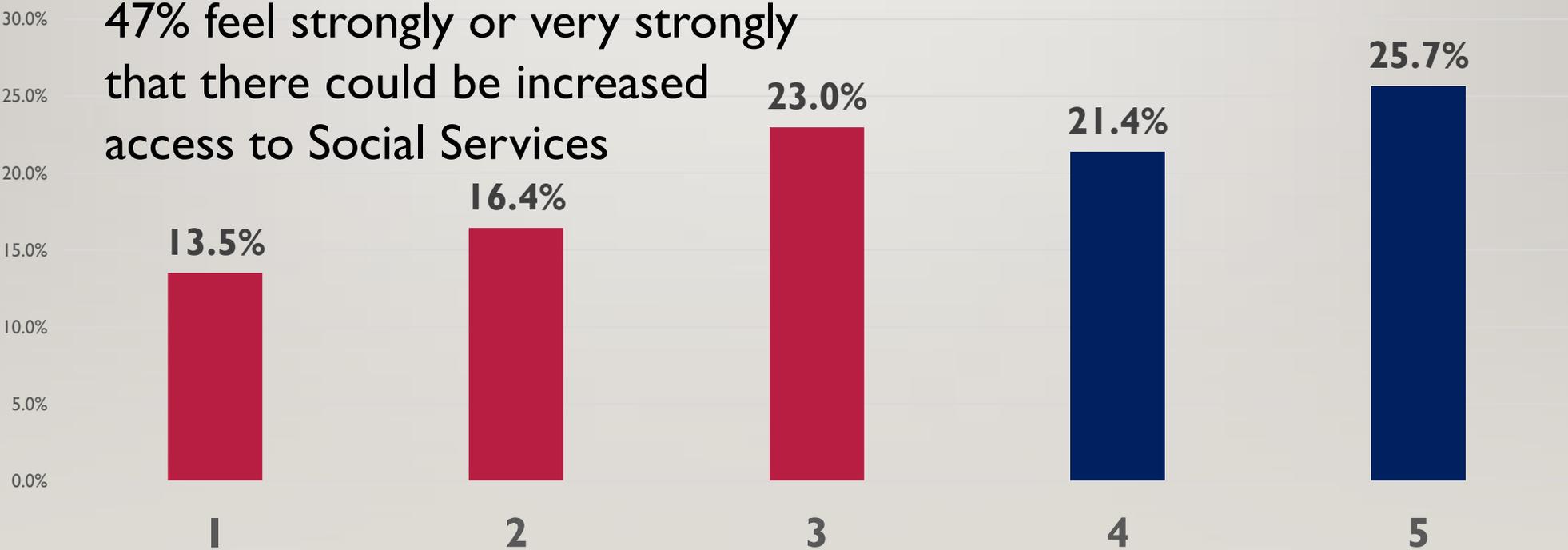
# Q10: IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS



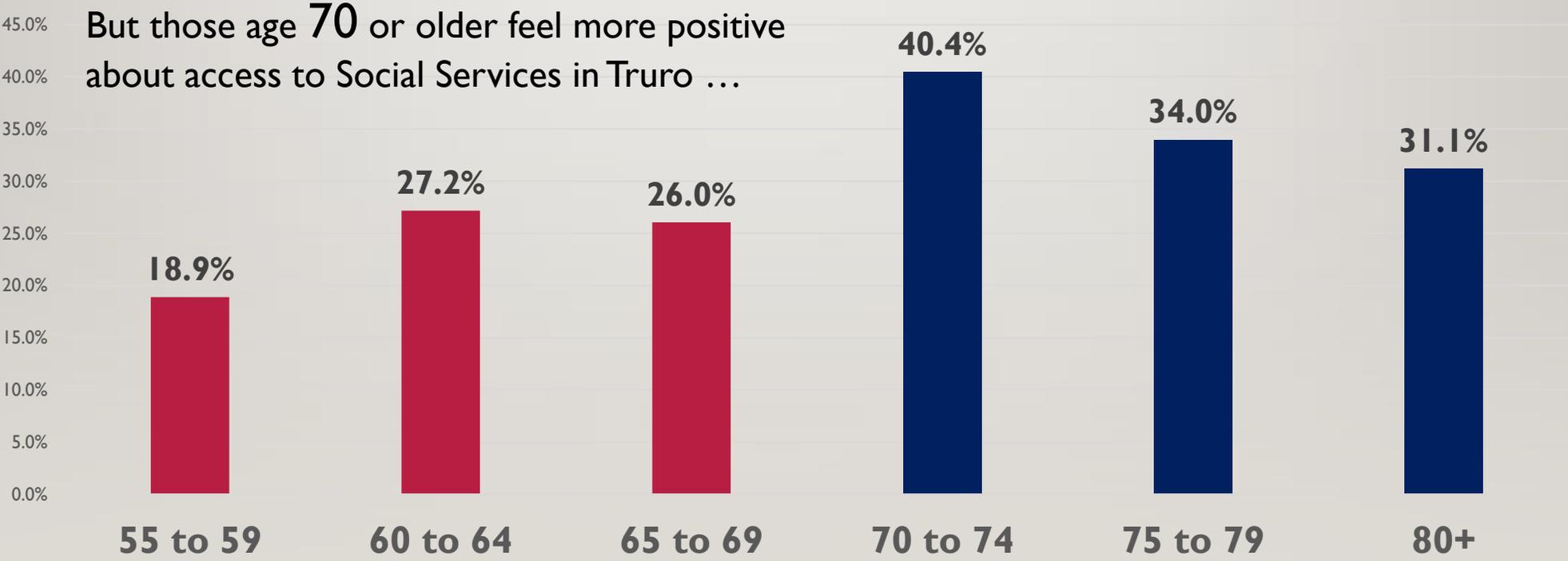
# Q12: INCREASED SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR SENIORS



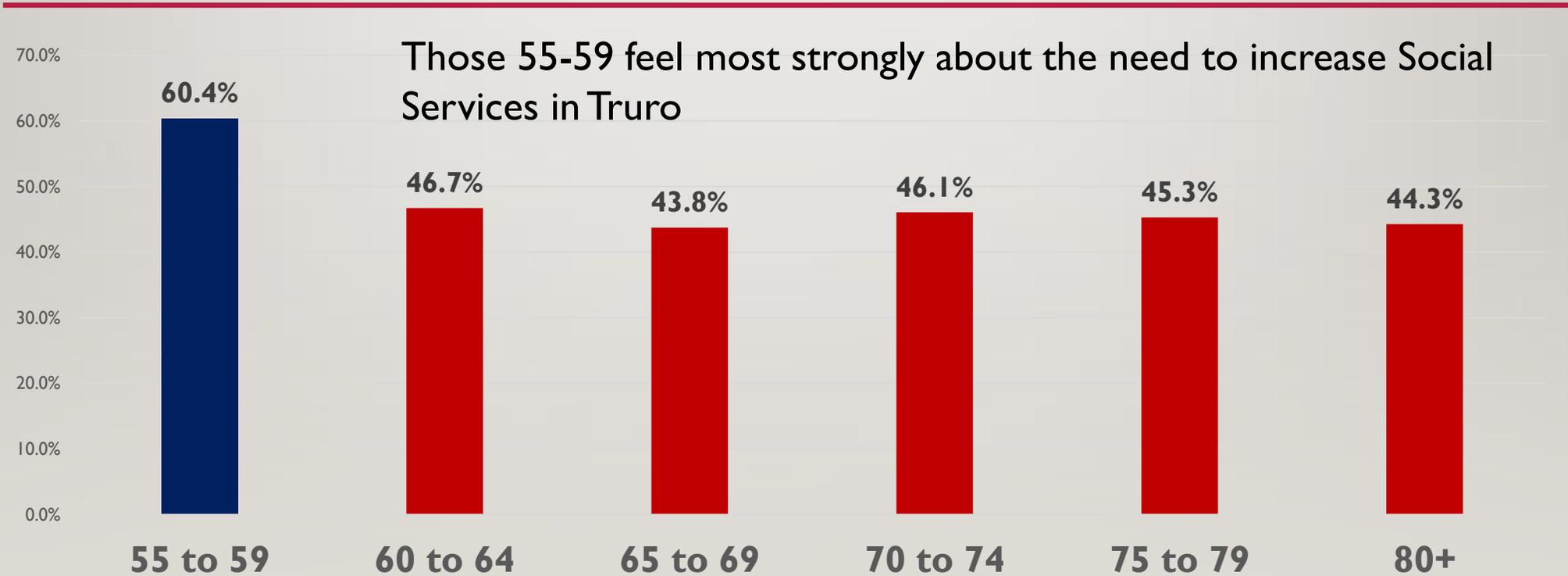
# Q13A: INCREASED ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES (E.G. HOME CARE STAFF, MEAL PREPARATION, ETC.)



# Q13B: PERCENT OF AGE GROUPS THINKING INCREASED ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES IS **NOT** VERY IMPORTANT (ANSWERING 1 OR 2)



# Q13C: PERCENT OF AGE GROUPS THINKING INCREASED ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES IS VERY IMPORTANT (ANSWERING 4 OR 5)



WHY MIGHT TRURO SENIOR CHOOSE  
TO LEAVE TRURO?

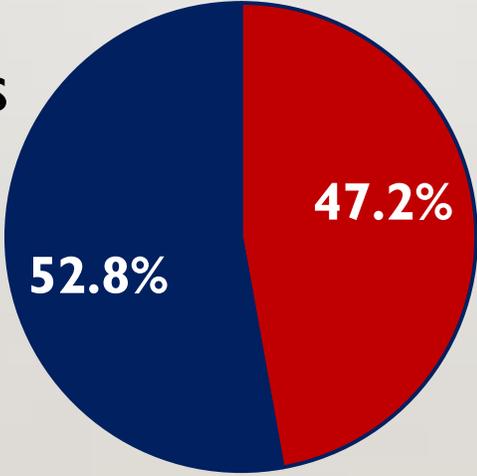
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# Q14A: ARE THERE REASONS WHY YOU MIGHT CONSIDER LEAVING TRURO?

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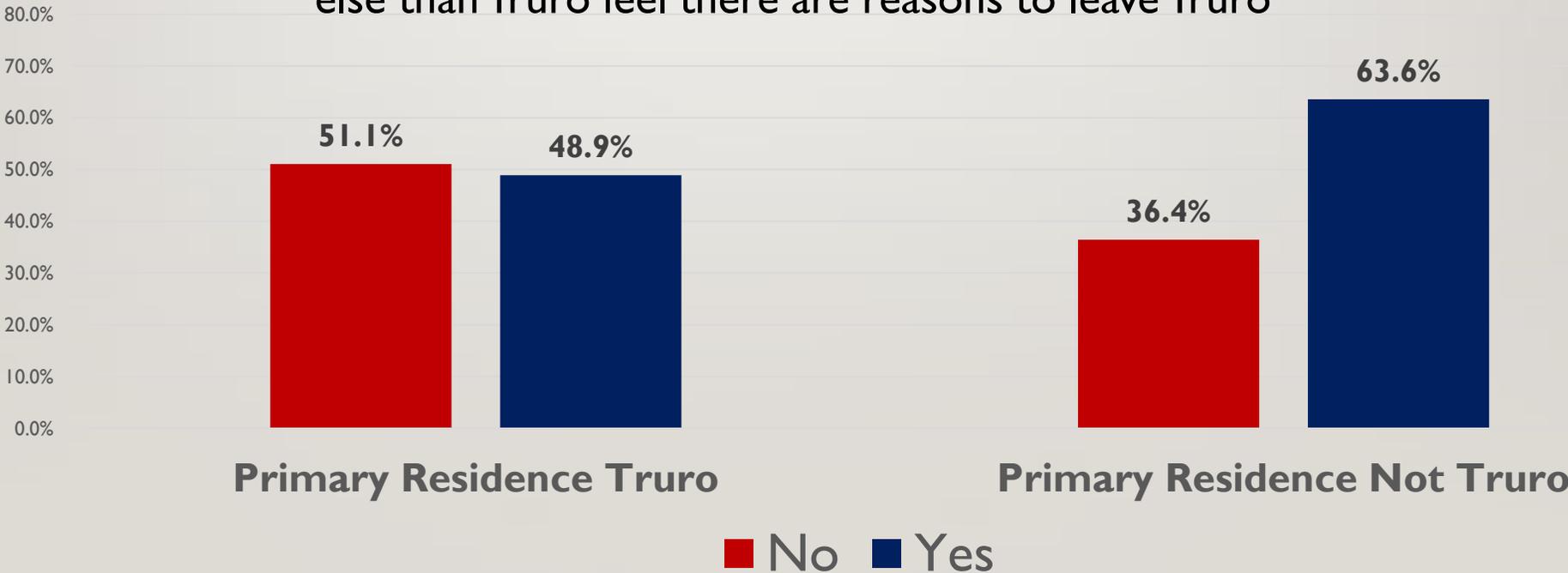
More than half of Truro seniors feel there are reasons to consider leaving Truro



■ No ■ Yes

# Q14B: ARE THERE REASONS TO LEAVE TRURO BY PRIMARY RESIDENCE

Nearly 2/3 of those whose primary residence is somewhere else than Truro feel there are reasons to leave Truro



# Q14D: ARE THERE REASONS YOU MIGHT LEAVE TRURO BY AGE GROUP

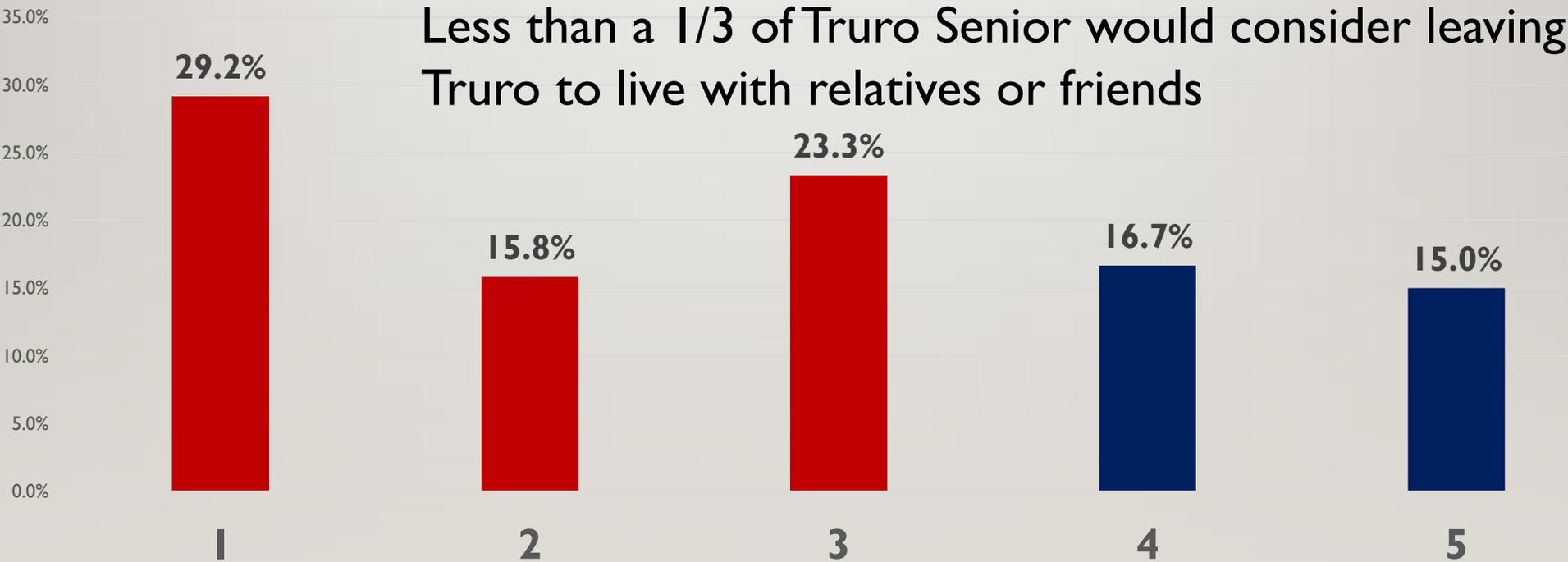


# Q14E: MOST IMPORTANT REASONS SENIORS MIGHT LEAVE TRURO

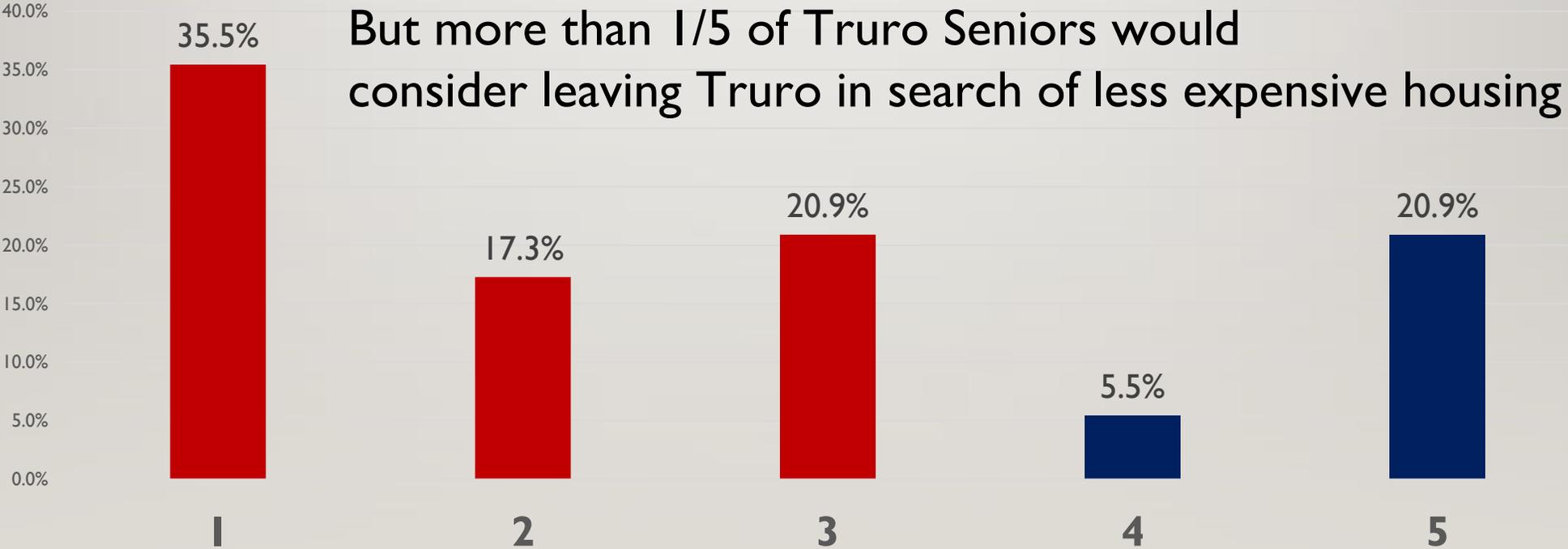
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	Percent Answering 4: Important 5: Very Important
Need better access to <b>medical care</b>	<b>77.0%</b>
Need to live in a location with <b>lower state or local taxes</b>	<b>51.9%</b>
Wish to live in a community with <b>more social services</b> (home care staff, meal preparation, etc.)	42.3%
Need better access to <b>transportation services</b>	37.7%
Wish to live in a community with <b>more recreational activities</b> (theater, film, dancing, music, etc.)	37.6%
Wish to live in a community with a <b>warmer climate</b>	35.8%
Wish to <b>live with relatives or friends elsewhere</b>	31.7%
Need to live in a location with <b>less expensive housing</b>	26.4%

# Q15: REASONS TO LEAVE TRURO -- WISH TO LIVE WITH RELATIVES OR FRIENDS ELSEWHERE



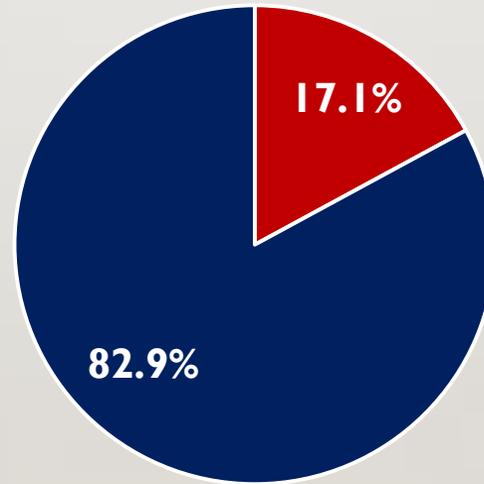
# Q16: REASONS TO LEAVE TRURO -- NEED TO LIVE IN A LOCATION WITH LESS EXPENSIVE HOUSING



# Q16B: HOUSING TENURE BREAKDOWN IN TRURO (U.S. CENSUS 2016)

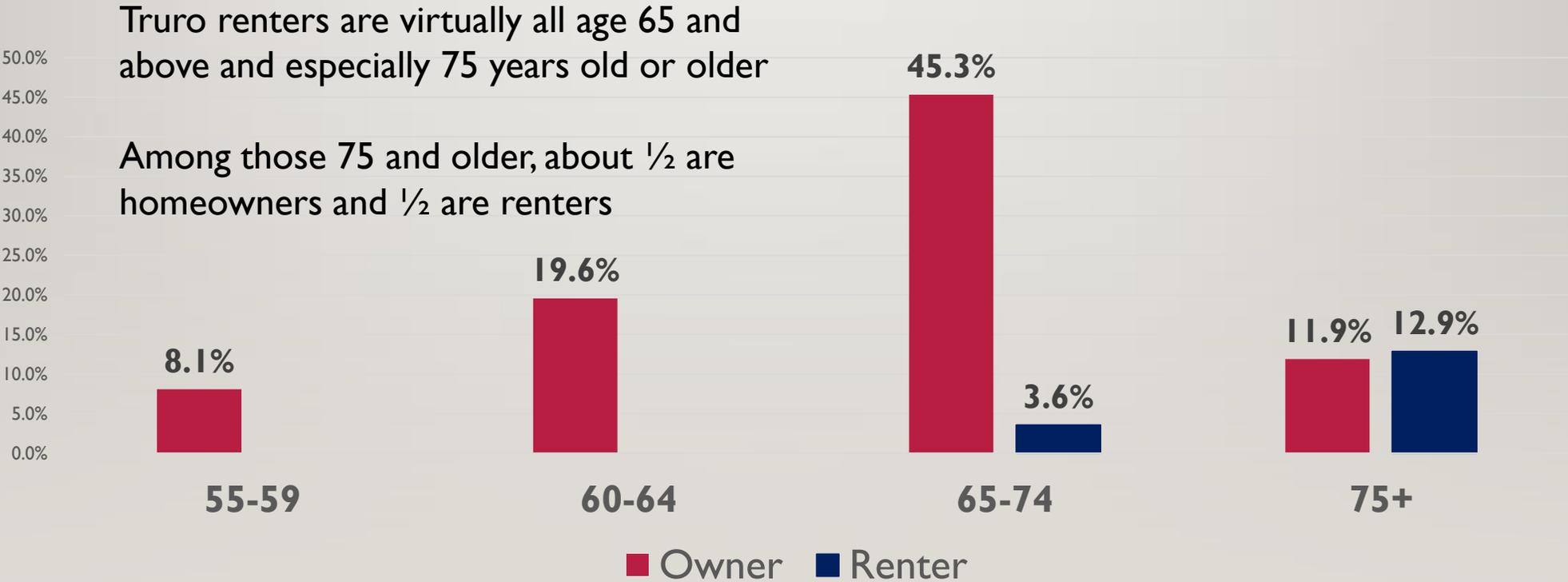
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More than 80 percent of Truro seniors own their own home ... but for many renters affordability is a problem

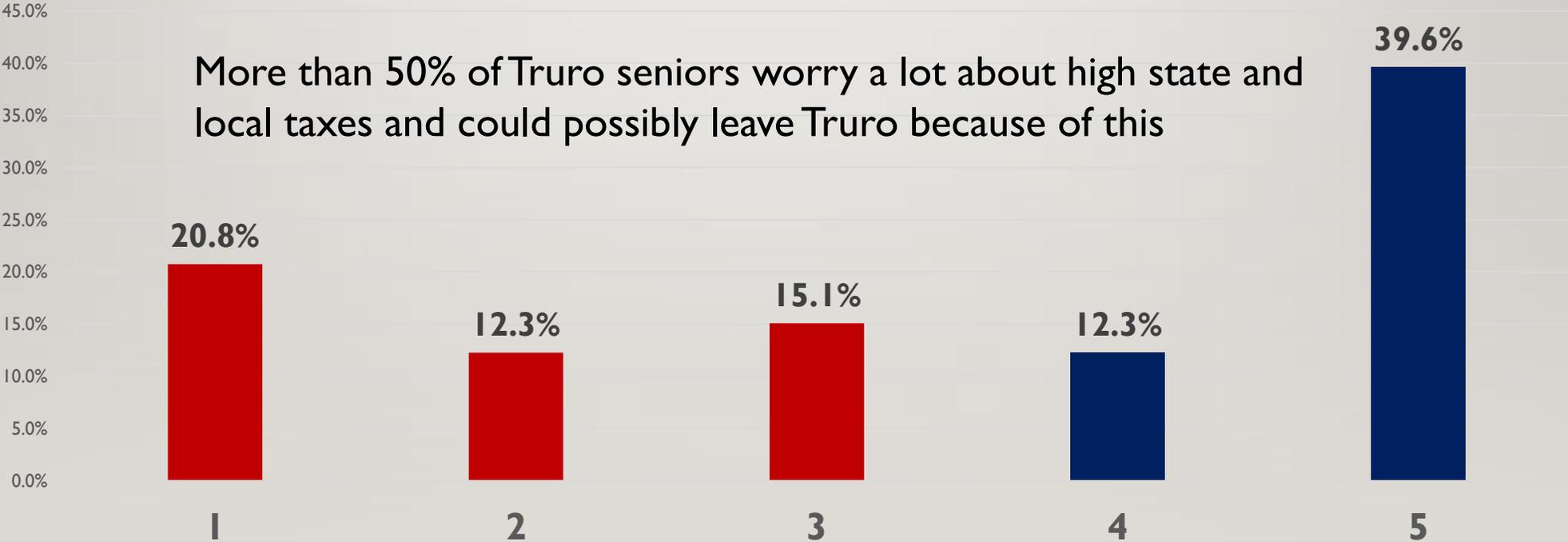


■ Renting ■ Owning

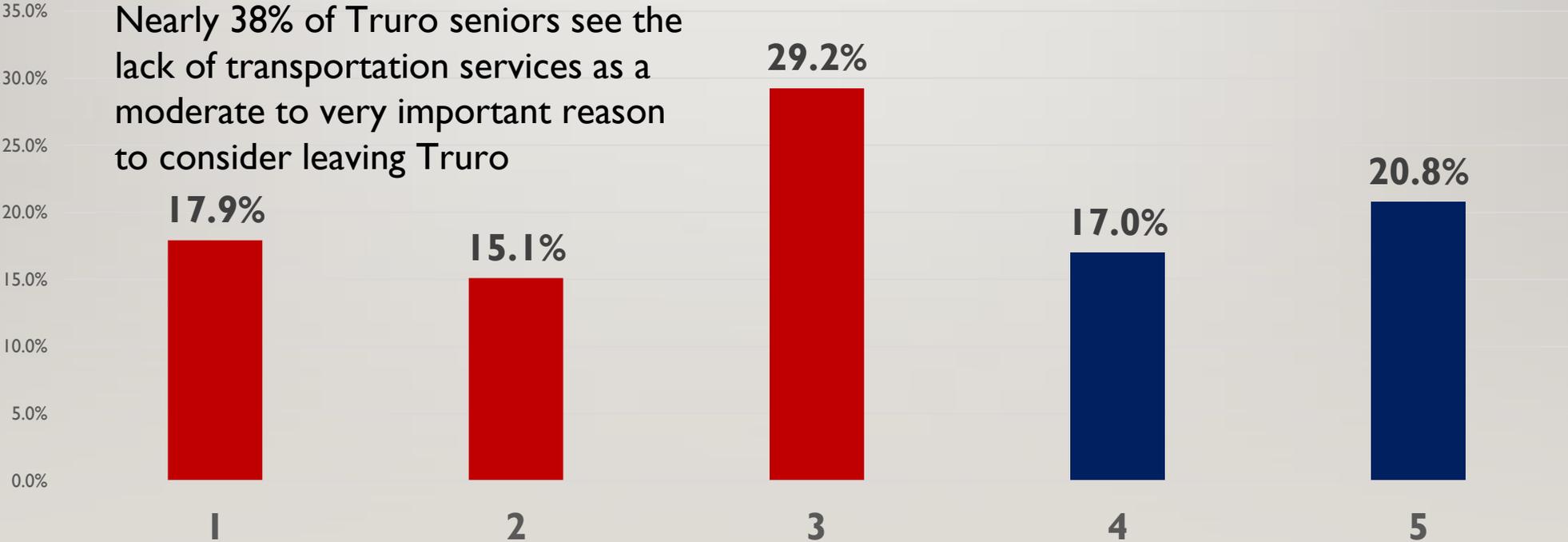
# Q16C: HOUSING TENURE IN TRURO BY AGE GROUP



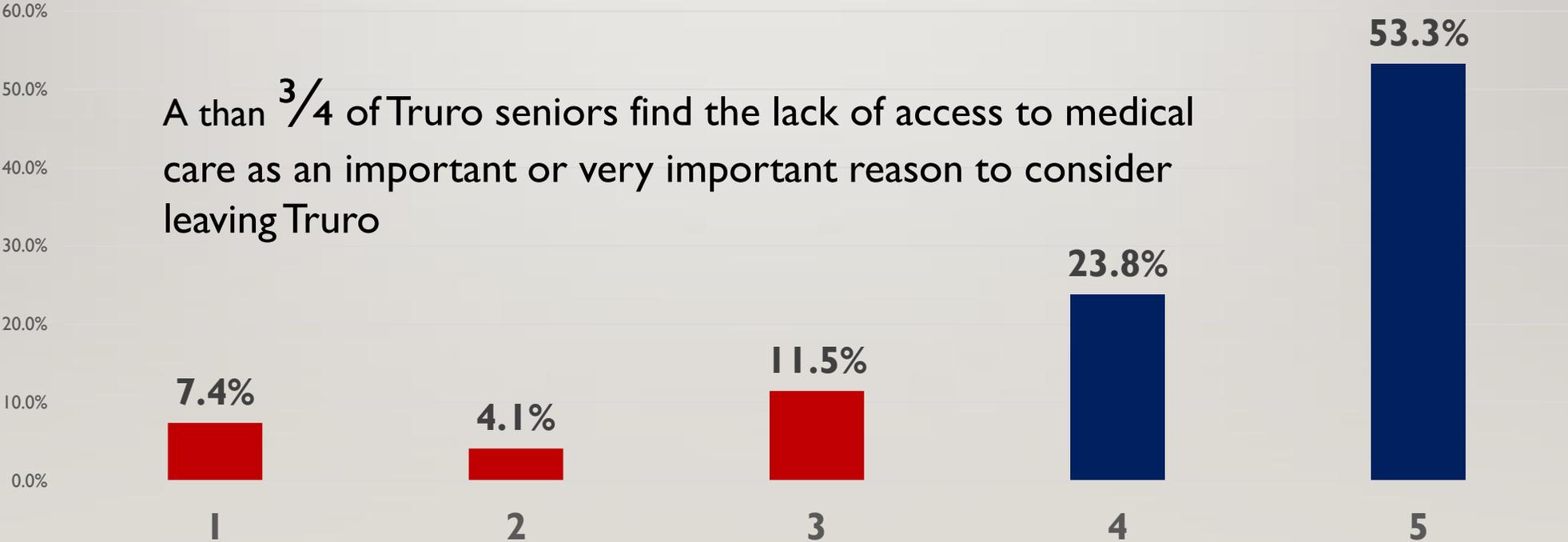
# Q17: REASONS TO LEAVE -- NEED TO LIVE IN A LOCATION WITH LOWER STATE OR LOCAL TAXES



# Q18: REASONS TO LEAVE -- NEED BETTER ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

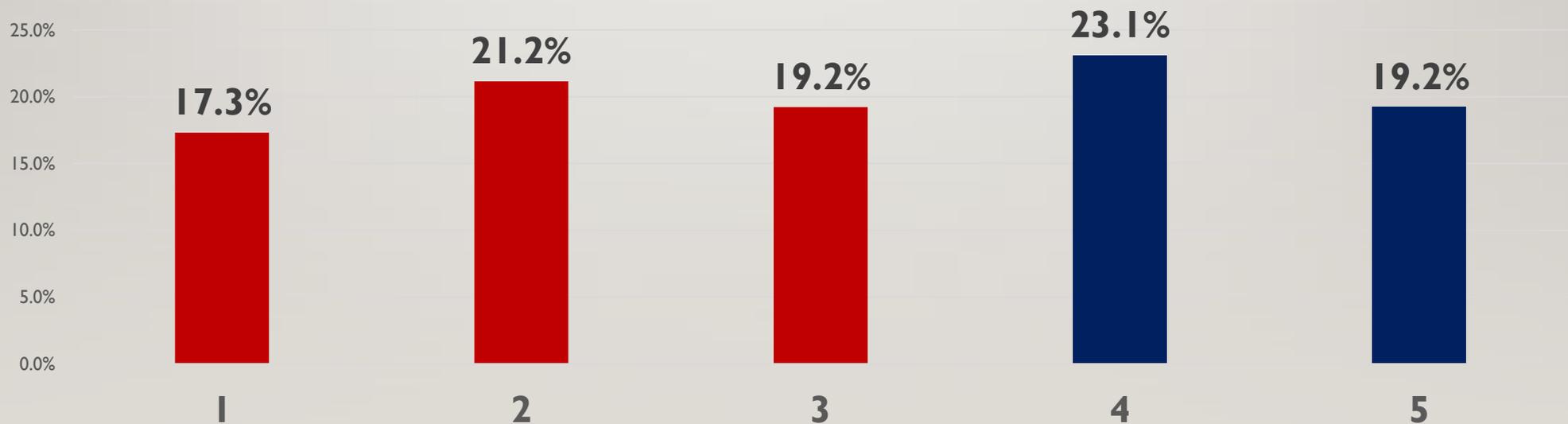


# Q19: REASONS TO LEAVE -- NEED BETTER ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE

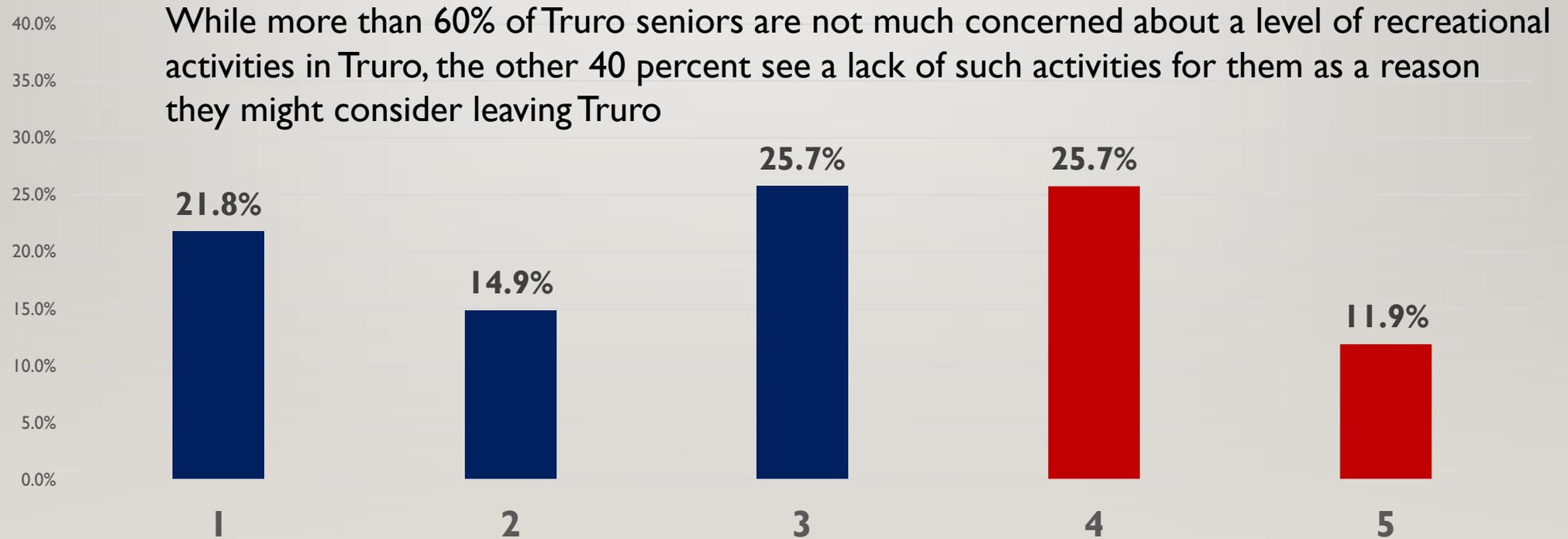


# Q20: REASONS TO LEAVE -- WISH TO LIVE IN A COMMUNITY WITH MORE SOCIAL SERVICES (HOME CARE STAFF, MEAL PREPARATION, ETC.)

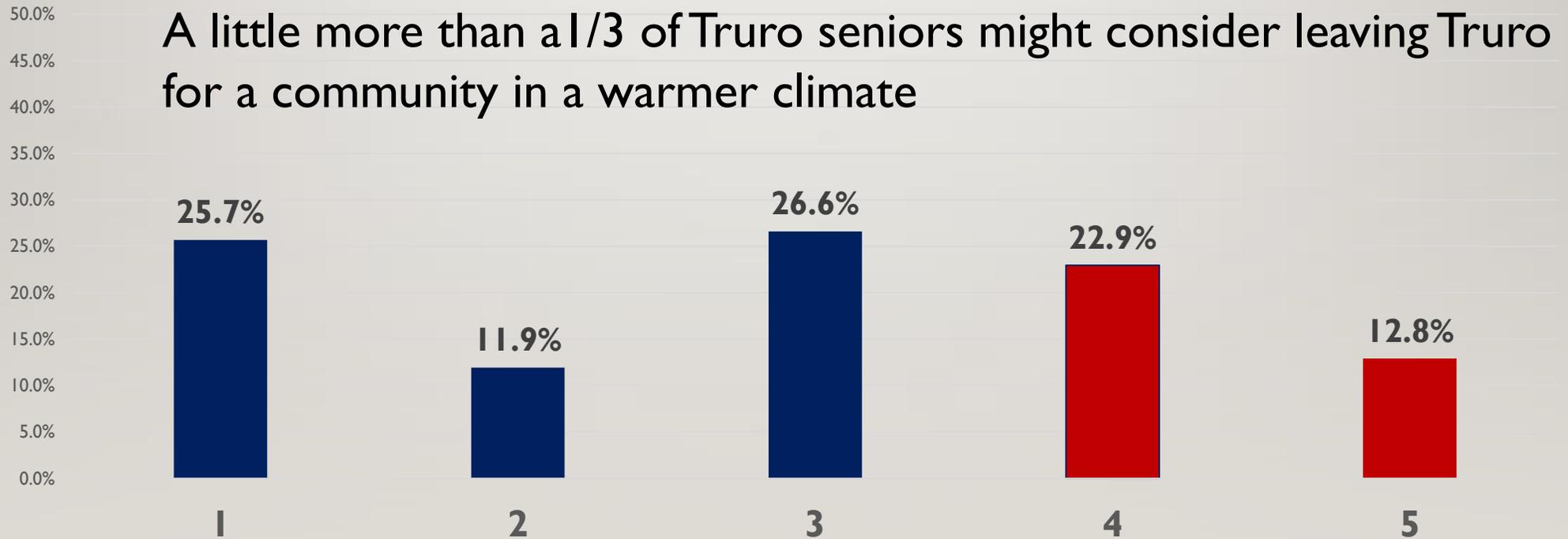
More than 40% of Truro Seniors might leave Truro to live in a community with more social services including home care staff and meal preparation



# Q21: REASONS TO LEAVE -- WISH TO LIVE IN A COMMUNITY WITH MORE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES (THEATER, FILM, DANCING, MUSIC, ETC.)



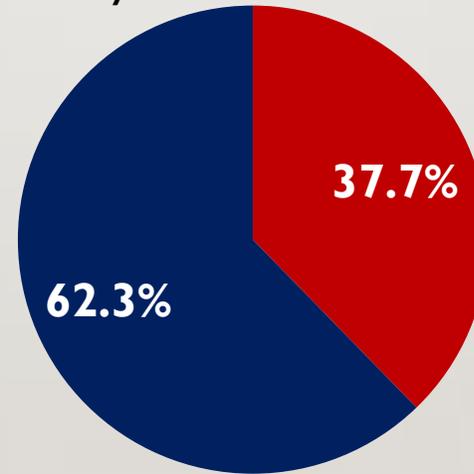
# Q22: REASONS TO LEAVE -- WISH TO LIVE IN A COMMUNITY WITH A WARMER CLIMATE



# Q23: REASONS TO MOVE HOMES -- IF YOU DECIDED TO LEAVE YOUR CURRENT RESIDENCE WOULD YOU WANT TO CONTINUE TO LIVE IN TRURO?

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More than 60 % of Truro seniors would stay in Truro if they moved from their current residence ... but that leaves nearly 40% who might consider leaving Truro if they leave their current residence

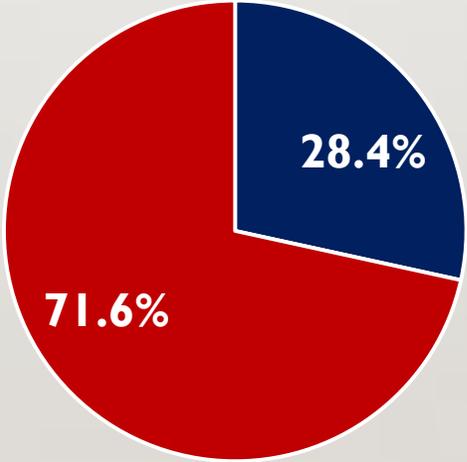


■ No ■ Yes

# Q24: REASONS TO MOVE HOMES BUT STAY IN TRURO – SEEK A COMPANION, ROOMMATE OR BOARDER TO LIVE WITH ME

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About 28% of Truro seniors who would consider moving to another home in Truro would do so to seek a companion, roommate, or boarder to live with them.

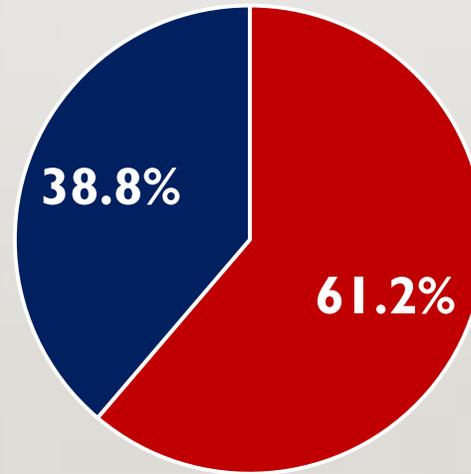


■ Yes ■ No

## Q25: REASONS TO MOVE HOMES BUT STAY IN TRURO – MOVE TO A CONDOMINIUM / APARTMENT

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Nearly 40% of Truro seniors would consider moving to a condominium or apartment (if such housing were widely Available)

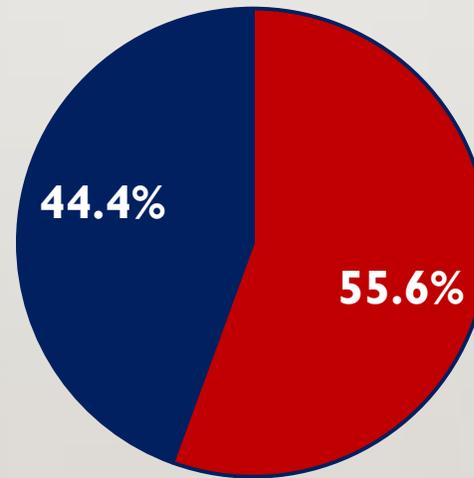


■ No ■ Yes

# Q26A: REASONS TO MOVE HOMES BUT STAY IN TRURO: MOVE TO A SENIOR RETIREMENT COMMUNITY IF ONE EXISTED IN TRURO

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Some 44% of Truro seniors  
would consider moving to a  
senior retirement community  
if one existed in Truro

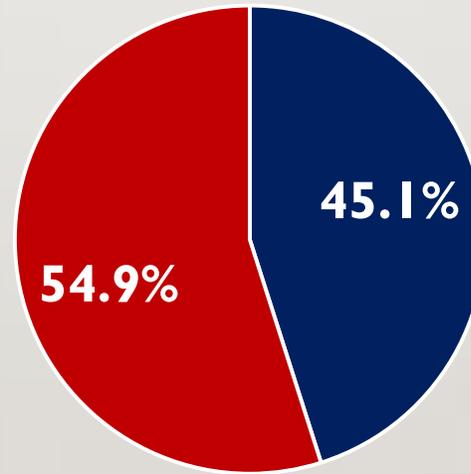


■ No ■ Yes

# Q30: LIKELIHOOD OF MOVING INTO A RETIREMENT HOME -- IN ANY OF THE FOUR OUTER CAPE TOWNS

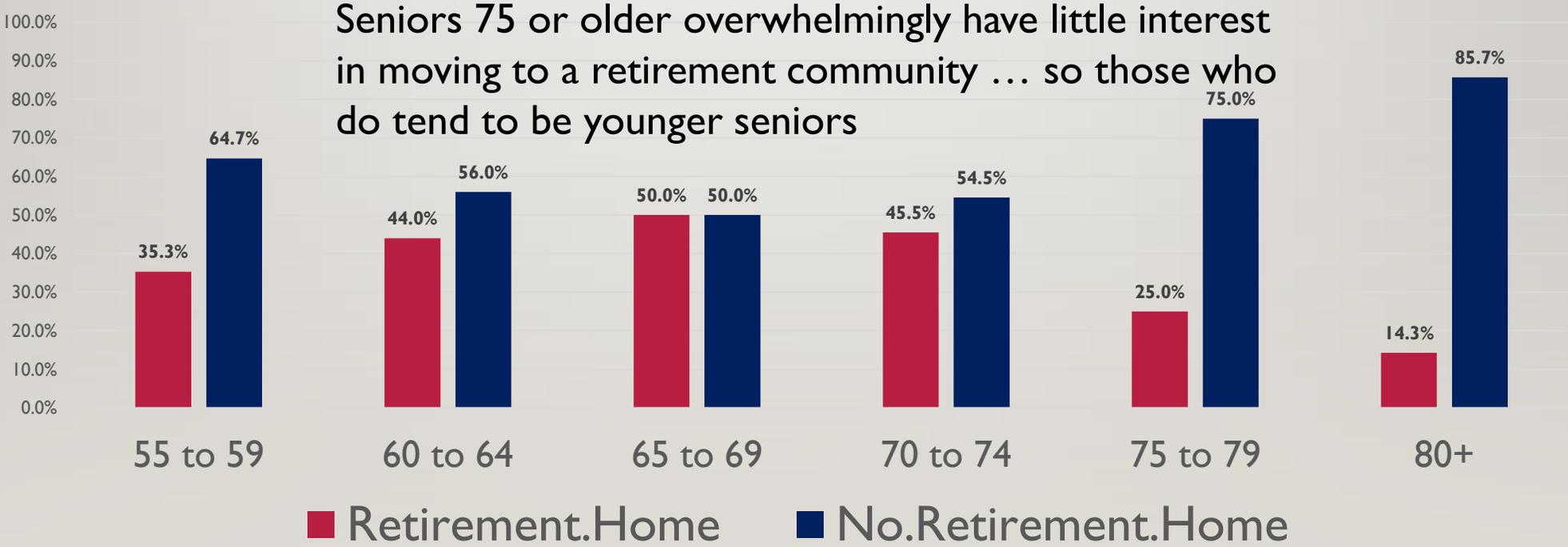
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About 45% of Truro seniors would consider moving into a retirement home if one were available in any of the four Outer Cape towns



■ Yes ■ No

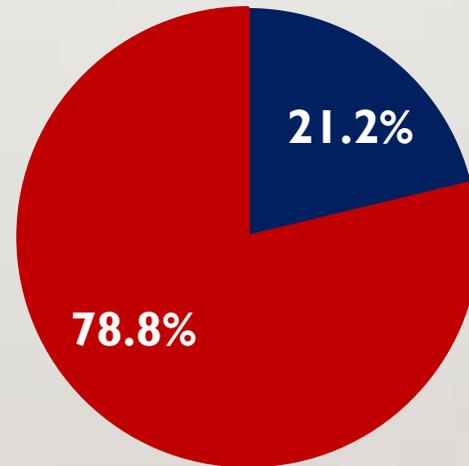
# Q26B: WILLINGNESS TO MOVE TO A RETIREMENT COMMUNITY IN TRURO BY AGE GROUP



## Q27: REASONS TO MOVE HOMES BUT STAY IN TRURO -- MOVE TO LIVE WITH A FAMILY MEMBER

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Only about 1/5 of Truro seniors would move in order to live with a family member

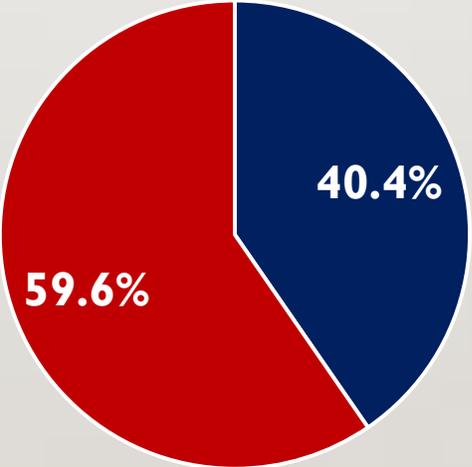


■ Yes ■ No

# Q28: REASONS TO MOVE HOMES BUT STAY IN TRURO: MOVE TO AN ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENCE OR NURSING HOME, IF ONE EXISTED IN TRURO

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But about 40% of Truro seniors would consider moving to an assisted living residence or nursing home at some point in their lives if one existed in Truro

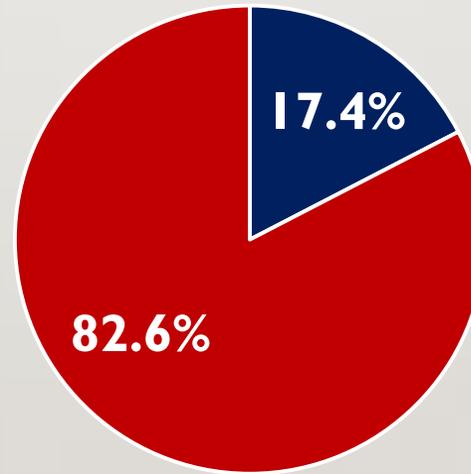


■ Yes ■ No

## Q31: LIKELIHOOD OF MOVING INTO A RETIREMENT HOME -- ELSEWHERE ON THE CAPE

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Only 17% of Truro seniors would consider moving to a retirement home somewhere else than the Outer Cape

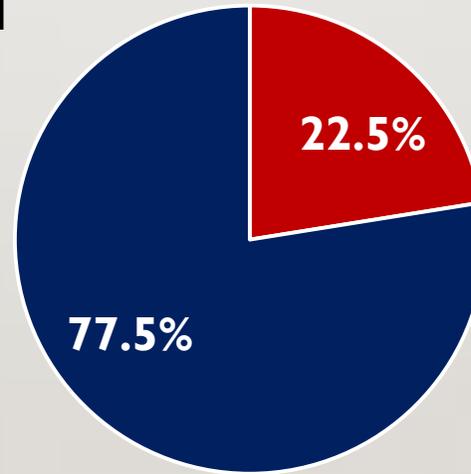


■ Yes ■ No

# Q32A: WHAT TYPES OF HOUSING WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE SEEN BUILT IN TRURO -- SMALL 1-BEDROOM OR 2-BEDROOM SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES

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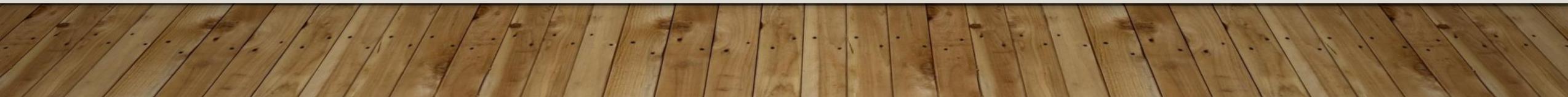
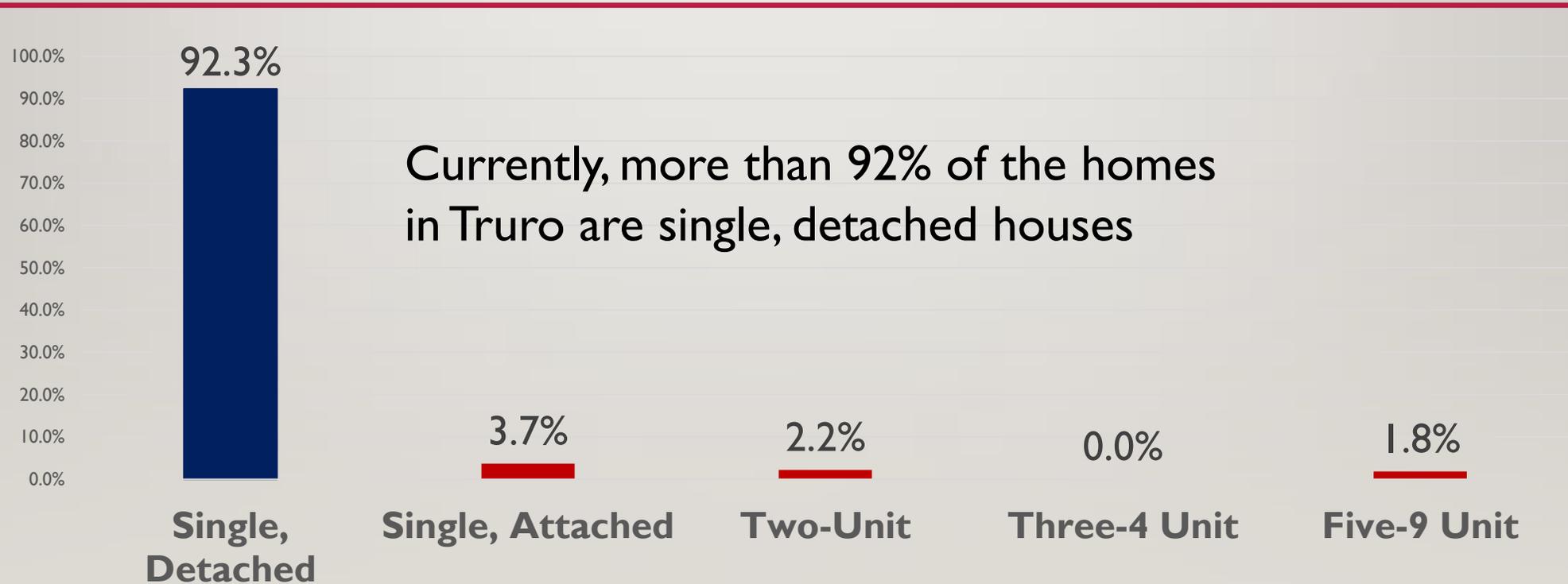
More than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of Truro seniors would like to see small 1-bedroom or 2-bedroom single-family homes built in Truro



■ No ■ Yes

# Q32B: TRURO HOUSING STOCK BY HOUSING TYPE

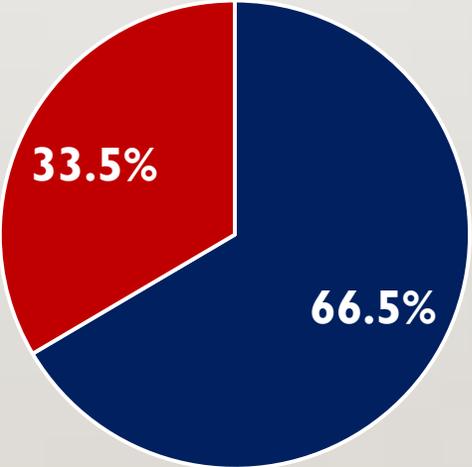
(2016 U.S. CENSUS)



# Q33: WHAT TYPES OF HOUSING WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE SEEN BUILT IN TRURO -- LOW-RISE MULTI-UNIT “GARDEN STYLE” APARTMENTS

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Among Truro seniors, 2/3 would like to see low-rise Multi-unit “Garden Style” apartments built in Truro

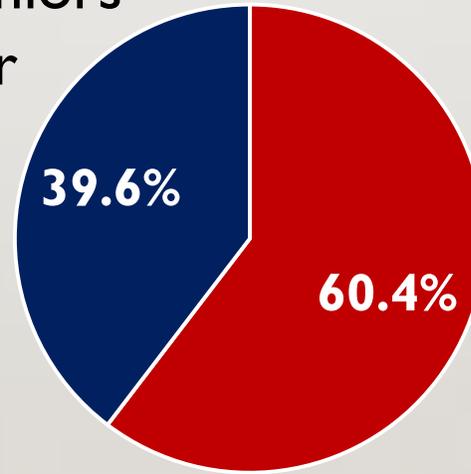


■ Yes ■ No

# Q34: WHAT TYPES OF HOUSING WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE SEEN BUILT IN TRURO -- MULTI-UNIT SMALL APARTMENT BUILDINGS

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But fewer than 40% of Truro seniors favor the development of larger Multi-unit apartment buildings in Truro

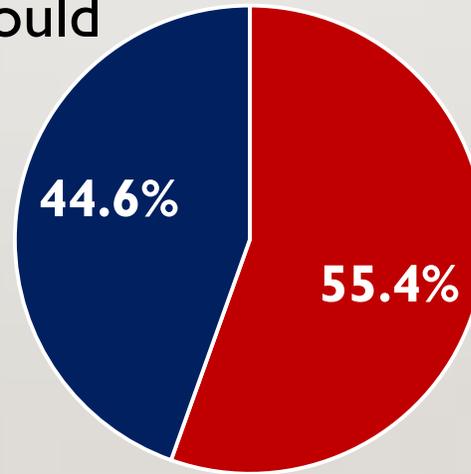


■ No ■ Yes

# Q35: WHAT TYPES OF HOUSING WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE SEEN BUILT IN TRURO -- MULTI-UNIT SMALL APARTMENT BUILDINGS WITH COMMON SHARED SPACE

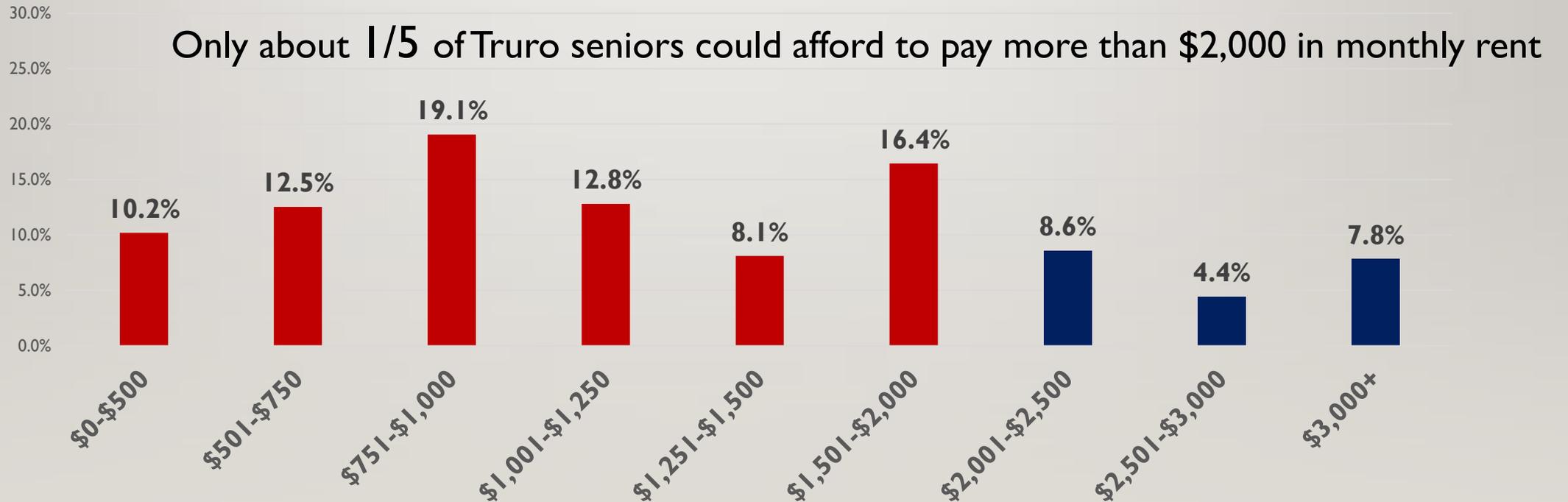
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And about 45% of Truro seniors would like to see smaller multi-unit apartment buildings with common shared space



■ No ■ Yes

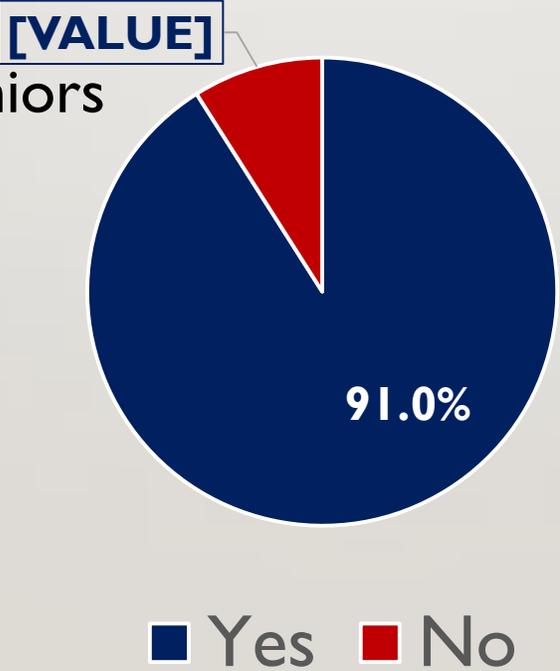
# Q36: WHAT IS THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT YOU COULD AFFORD PER MONTH IN RENT OR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS?



# Q37: IF HEALTH OR MOBILITY ISSUES WERE TO AFFECT YOUR INDEPENDENCE, WOULD YOU CONSIDER ARRANGING FOR HELP WITH HOUSEKEEPING

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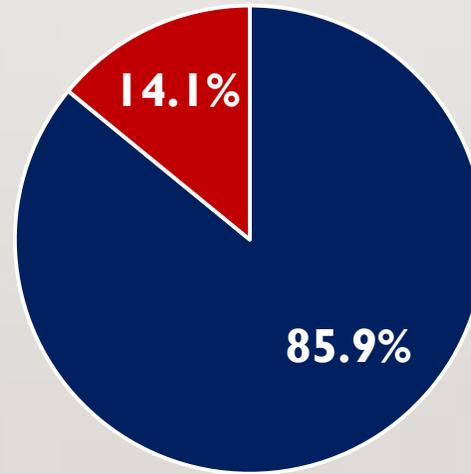
More than 90% of Truro seniors would consider arranging for help with housekeeping if health or mobility issues were to affect their independence



# Q38: IF HEALTH OR MOBILITY ISSUES WERE TO AFFECT YOUR INDEPENDENCE, WOULD YOU CONSIDER – HOME MODIFICATION FOR AGING IN PLACE

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More than 85% of Truro seniors would consider home modification to allow them to age in place

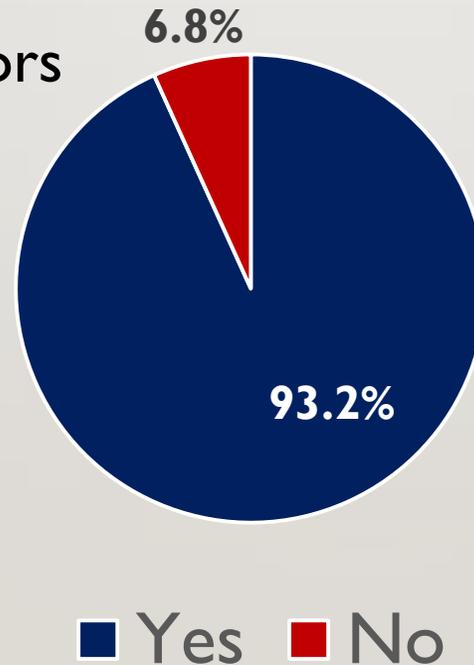


■ Yes ■ No

# Q39: IF HEALTH OR MOBILITY ISSUES WERE TO AFFECT YOUR INDEPENDENCE, WOULD YOU CONSIDER – ASSISTANCE WITH TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

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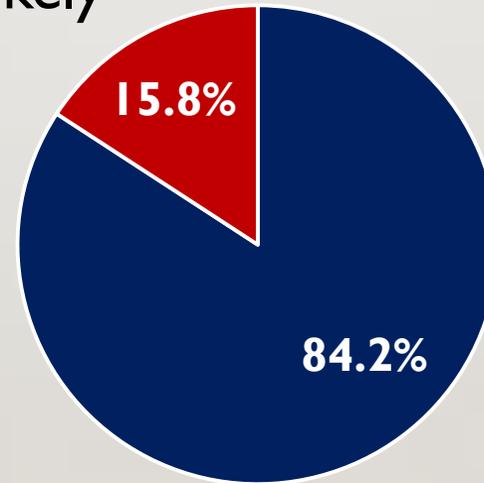
More than 93% of Truro seniors would like transportation assistance if they developed health or mobility issues that affected their independence



# Q40: IF HEALTH OR MOBILITY ISSUES WERE TO AFFECT YOUR INDEPENDENCE, WOULD YOU CONSIDER – HIRING A HOME HEALTH AIDE

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Nearly 85% of Truro seniors would likely or very likely consider hiring a home health aid if they faced health or mobility issues



■ Yes ■ No

# SUMMARY I

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- Nearly 75% of Truro seniors see Truro as their primary residence.
- More than 60% of Truro seniors live year-round in Truro.
- 2/3 of Truro seniors live alone or just with spouse or partner.
- About one in eight Truro seniors suffers from disabilities that limit mobility or normal activity.
- Nearly 60% of Truro seniors say living near family and friends is key reason for living in Truro.
- More than 86% of Truro seniors say the relaxed atmosphere of the Outer Cape is an important reason for living here.

# SUMMARY II

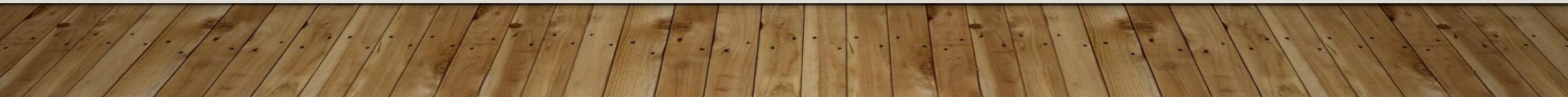
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- What Improvements do Truro seniors want to see in our town:
  - More than 77 % want better **access to quality health care**
  - More than 75% of Truro seniors would like to see **small 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom single-family homes built** in Truro
  - More than 66% of Truro seniors would like to see **low-rise multi-unit “Garden Style” apartments built** in Truro.
  - About 45% of Truro seniors would like to see **smaller multi-unit apartment buildings with common shared space**

# SUMMARY III

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- Despite their love for Truro, more than half of Truro seniors feel there are reasons to consider leaving Truro
  - Need better access to medical care 77%
  - Need to live in a location with lower state & local taxes 52%
  - Wish to live in community with more social services 42%
  - Need better access to transportation 38%
  - Want more recreational activities 38%
  - Want a warmer climate 36%
  - Wish to live with relatives or friends elsewhere 32%
  - Need to live in a location with less expensive housing 26%



# SUMMARY IV

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- Reasons to Move Homes but stay in Truro
  - Some 44% of Truro seniors would consider moving to a senior retirement community if one existed in Truro.
  - Nearly 40% of Truro seniors would consider moving to a condominium or apartment in Truro if such housing were available.
  - About 40% of Truro seniors would consider moving to an assisted living residence or nursing home at some point in their lives if one existed in Truro.
  - About 28% of Truro seniors would consider moving to another home in Truro to live with a companion or roommate.
  - About 20% of Truro seniors would consider moving within Truro to live with family members.
  - Only 17% of Truro seniors would consider moving to a retirement home somewhere else on the Outer Cape

# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

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- Seniors enjoy living in Truro and wish to continue to live here.
- But they have a number of key concerns about life here.
- The biggest concern is lack of access to both quality healthcare and transportation.
- Seniors also are concerned about the high level of taxes they have to pay in Truro.
- Seniors would like to consider alternative housing as they age in Truro.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

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- Establish better transportation options for seniors so they can get around the Outer Cape as they need and to access the medical care facilities they need either through local government or through the Council on Aging
- Consider a lower property tax rate in Truro for seniors on limited income.
- Work with developers and local officials to see what sort of housing options could be provided to allow seniors to downsize and possibly live in shared residences.
- Expand social services in Truro including home aides as needed.

**THANK YOU**

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