

Evaluation of the C-IYCF Counseling Package in Nigeria: Exploring the Enabling Environment

SPRING-UNICEF Webinar:

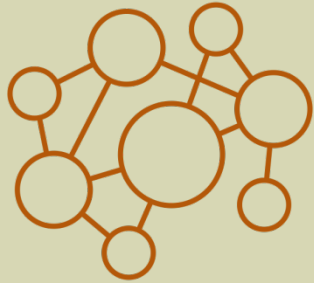
Lessons Learned from Implementing UNICEF's Community Infant and Young Child Feeding (C-IYCF) Counseling Package
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Nigeria C-IYCF Evaluation Objectives

Components To Be Assessed: Nigeria C-IYCF Counseling Package



Contextual and environmental factors that enable or hamper success



Program processes, implementation achievements and cost



Skills and knowledge of IYCF among community volunteers

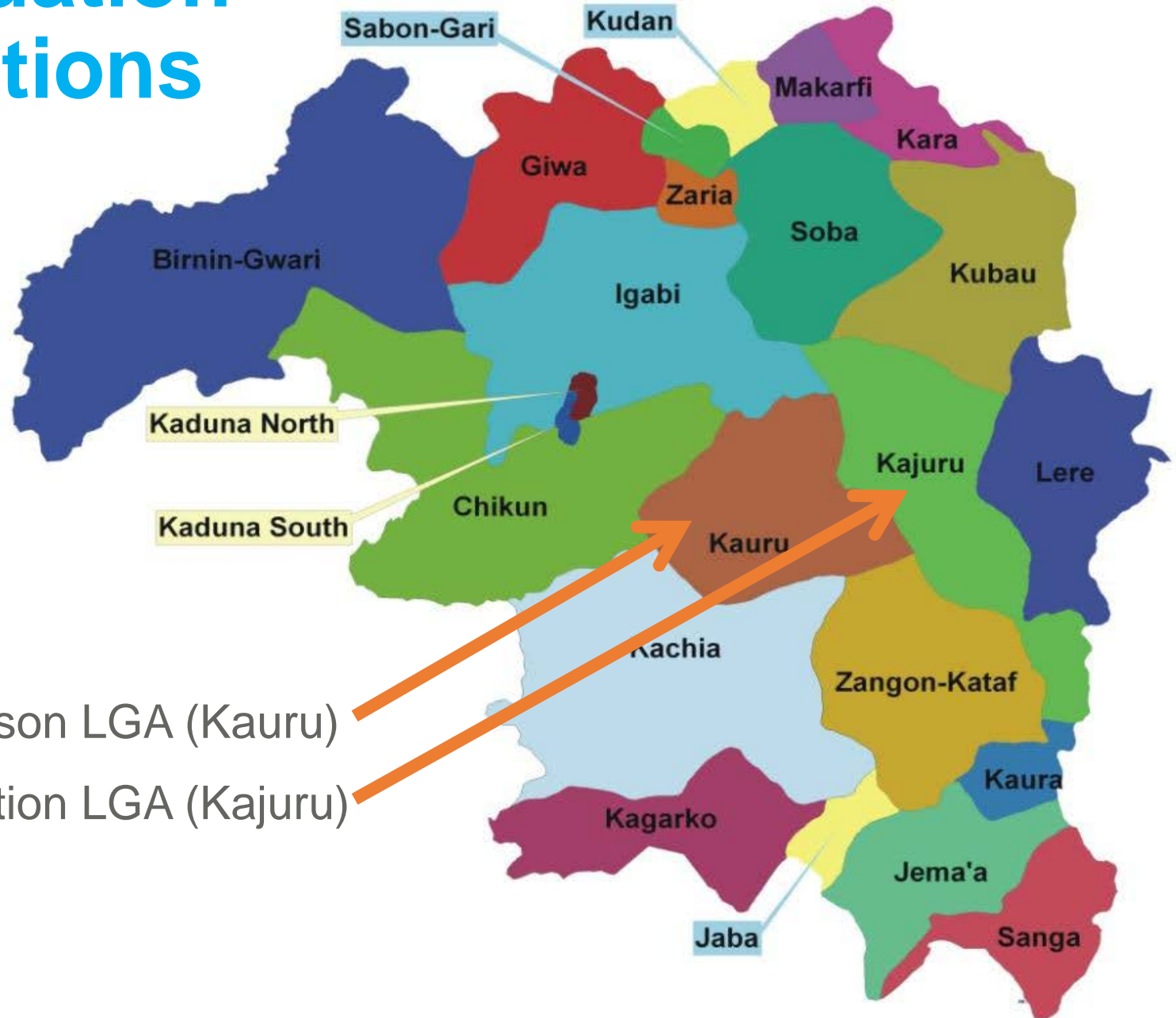


Caregivers knowledge, attitude, beliefs and practice related to IYCF

Evaluation Design



Evaluation Locations



1 comparison LGA (Kauru)

1 intervention LGA (Kajuru)

Nigeria C-IYCF Evaluation

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Caregivers knowledge, attitude, beliefs and practice related to IYCF

Enabling Environment: Policies

LIMITED

- Availability of nutrition-related policies, reports, and tools, particularly at lower levels
- Access to data related to maternal and child nutrition

HIGH

- Engagement by federal offices with federal-level policies and programs and overseeing the work of state-level offices

Enabling Environment: Governance

LIMITED

- Evidence of inter-ministerial coordination for decisions about administration and implementation of nutrition programs
- Engagement of the State at the community level
- Knowledge and attitudes of maternal and child nutrition among Community Volunteers

HIGH

- Level of support from various national ministries
- Engagement of state offices with budgeting and oversight of policies and programs

Enabling Environment: Resources

LIMITED

- Severe understaffing at health facilities
- Difficulties conducting regular supervision or mentoring visits of health care workers and Community Volunteers because of severely limited resources

Enabling Environment: Social Support

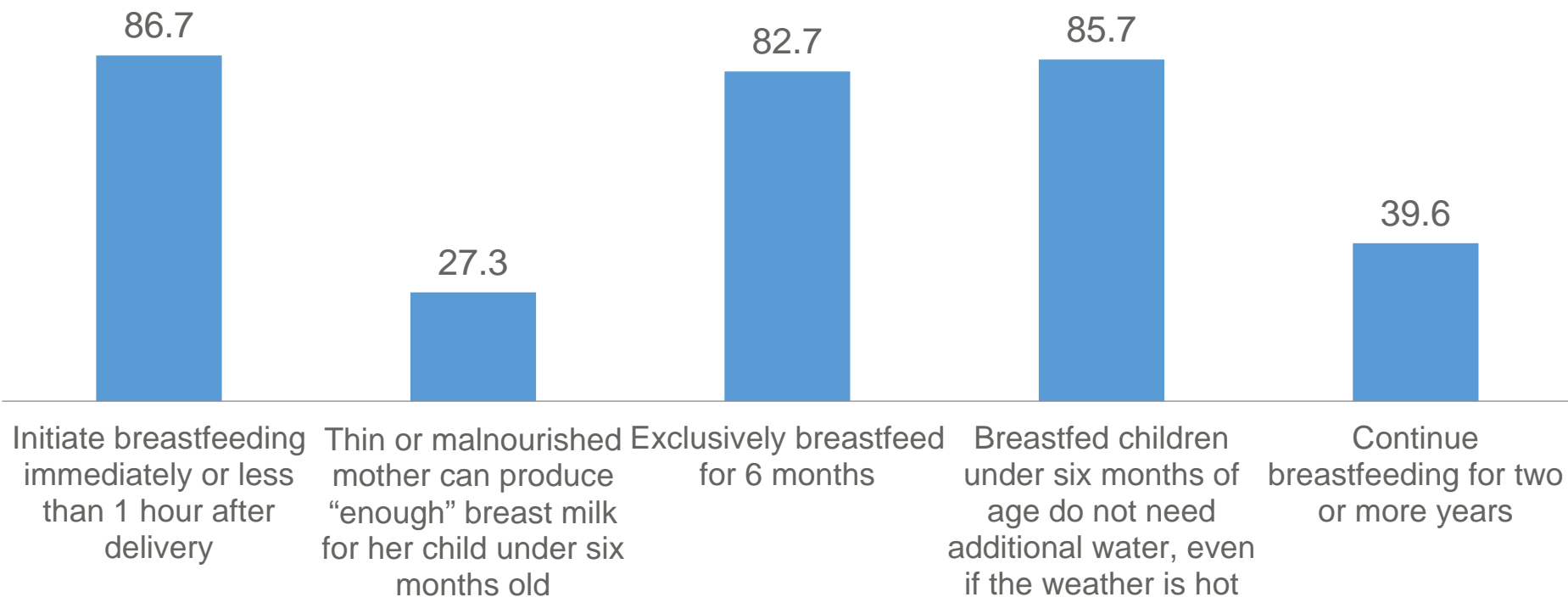
LIMITED

- Knowledge among Ward Development Committee members and community leaders
- Regard for Community Volunteers to provide services
- Status of women to make decisions and participate in support groups

HIGH

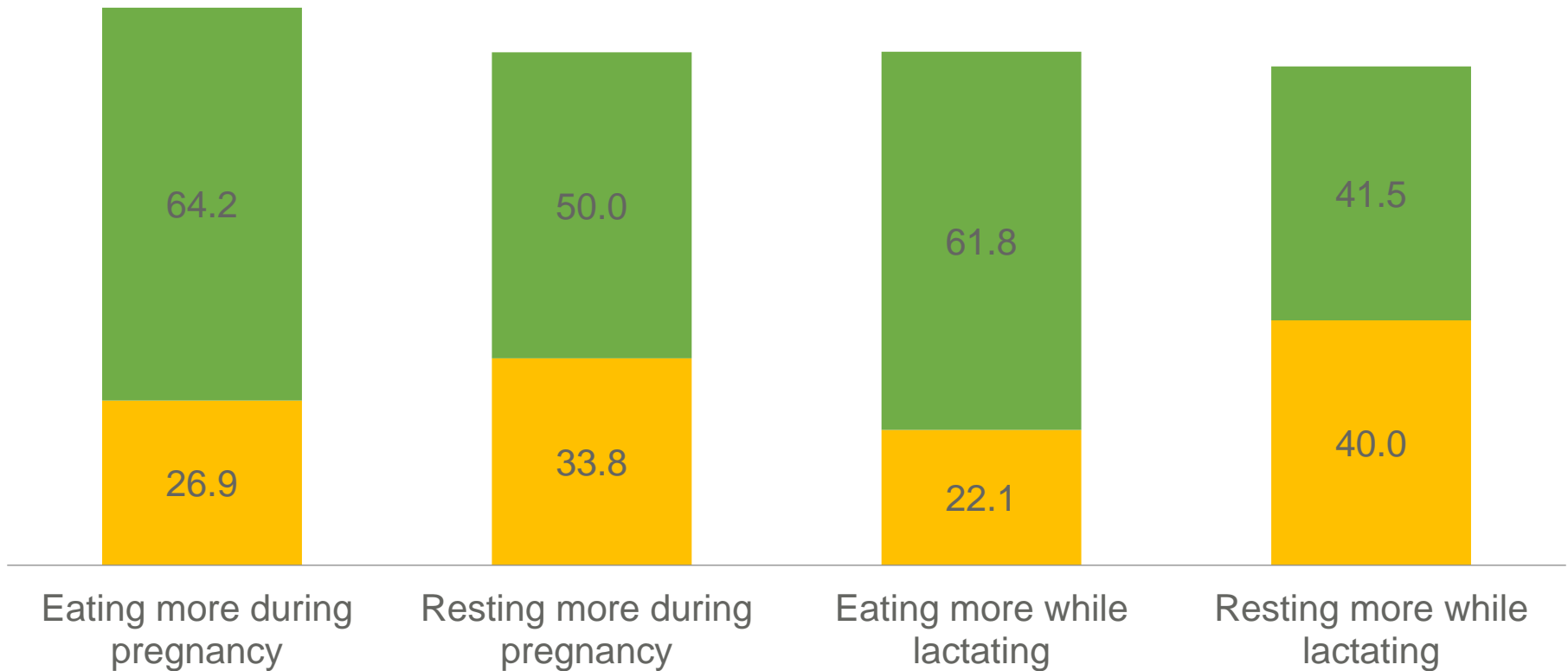
- Knowledge of maternal and child nutrition at the national, state, LGA, and facility levels, but with room for improvement
- Recognition by all levels of the need for nutrition programming
- Expressed willingness to support the C-IYCF program actively

Knowledge among health workers **high** but had room for improvement.



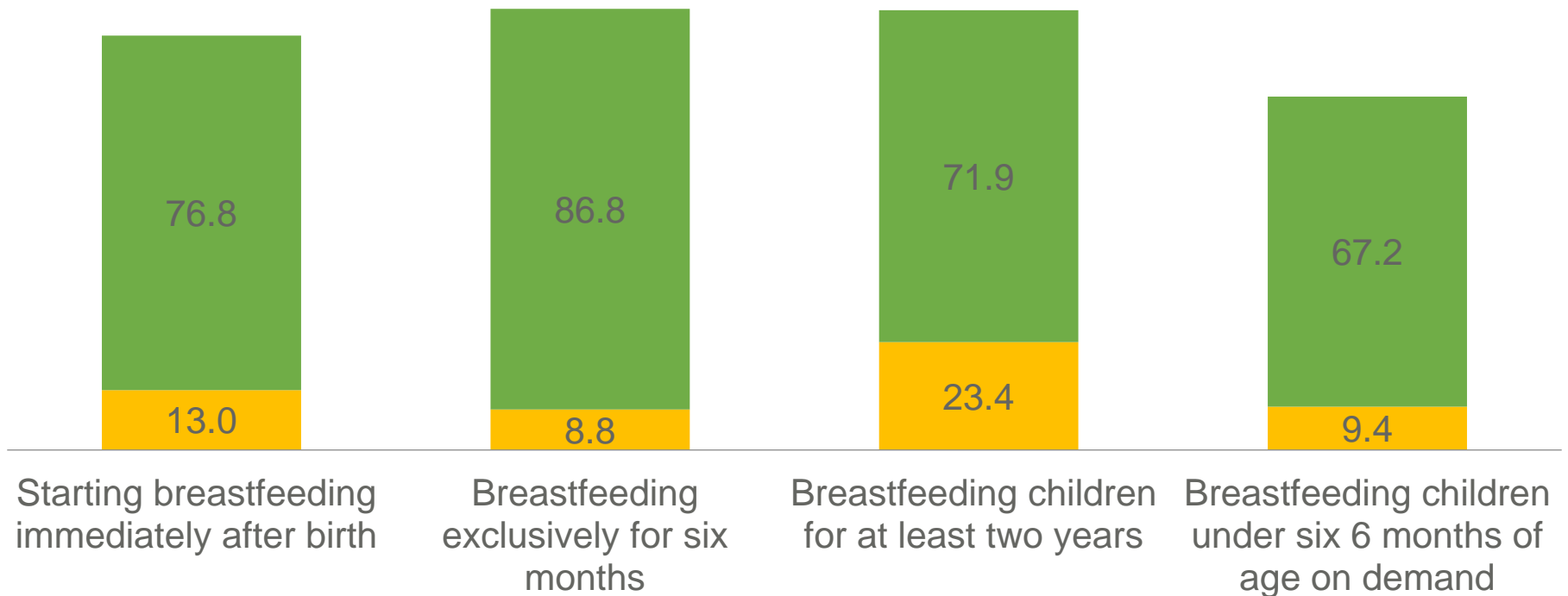
Percent of health workers who strongly agreed with priority maternal nutrition practices was low.

■ Agree ■ Strongly Agree

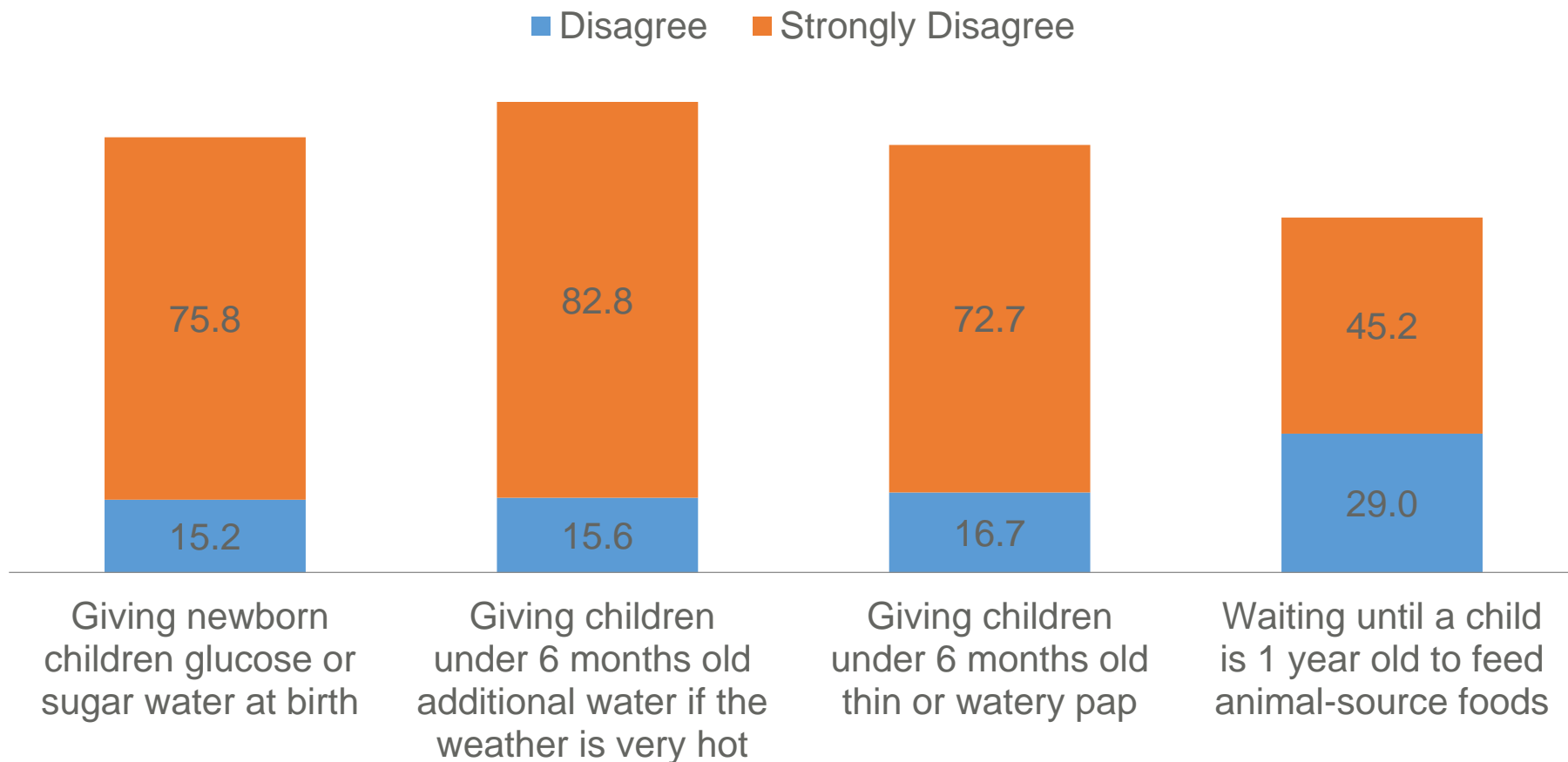


Percent of health workers who strongly agreed with the importance of priority breastfeeding practices had room for improvement.

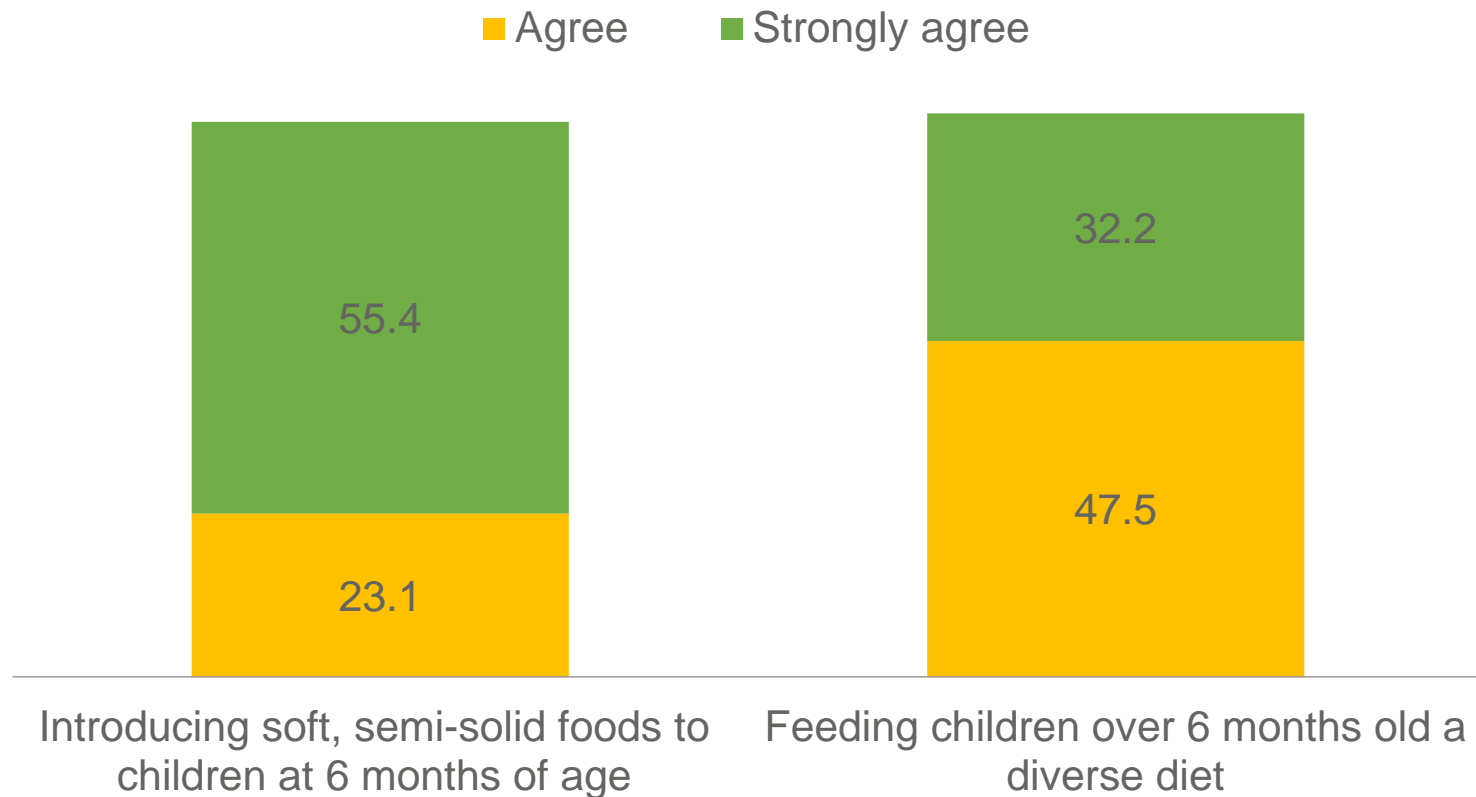
■ Agree ■ Strongly Agree



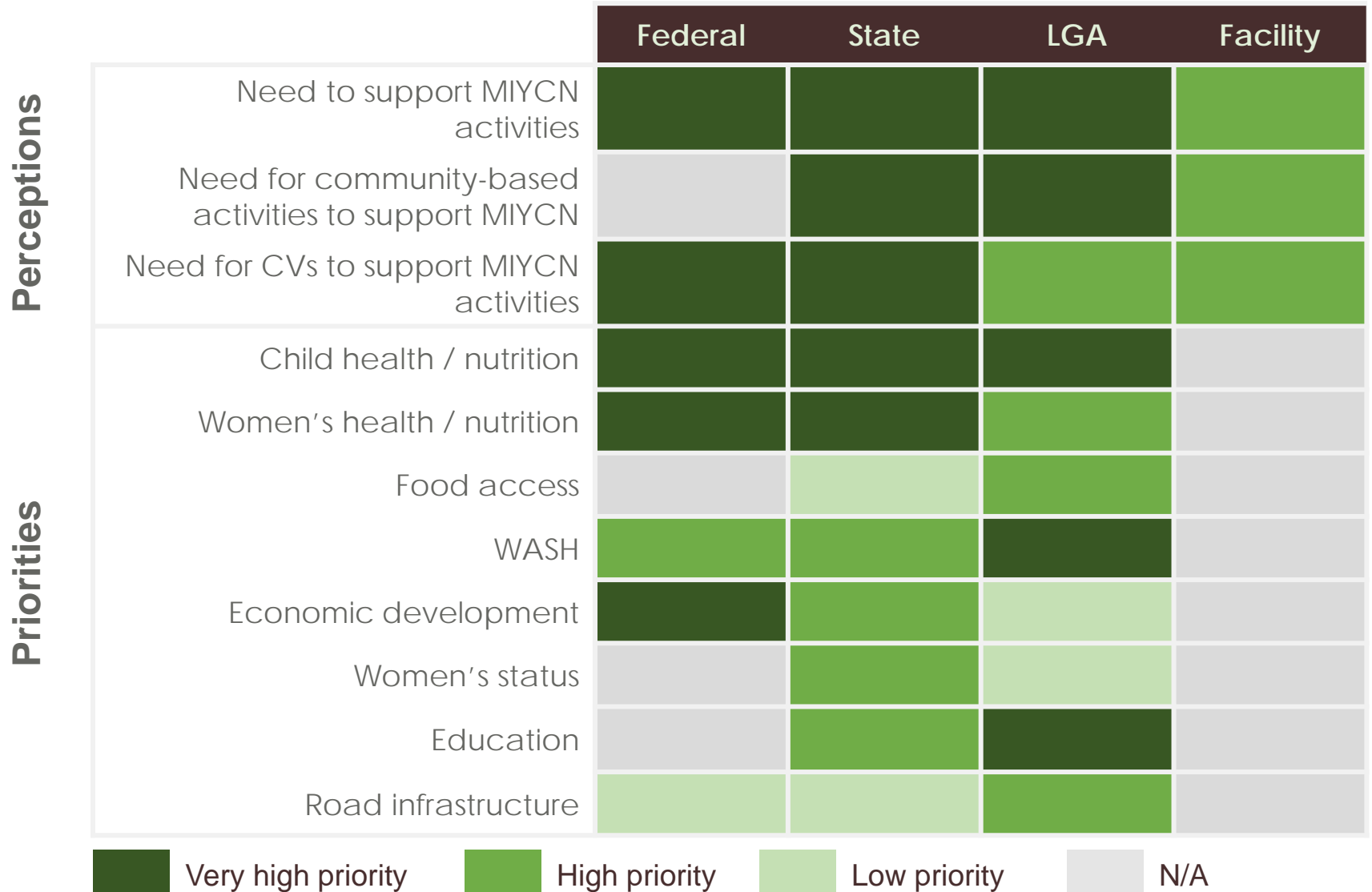
Percent of health workers who **strongly disagreed** with the IYCF misconceptions **okay, but needs improvement.**



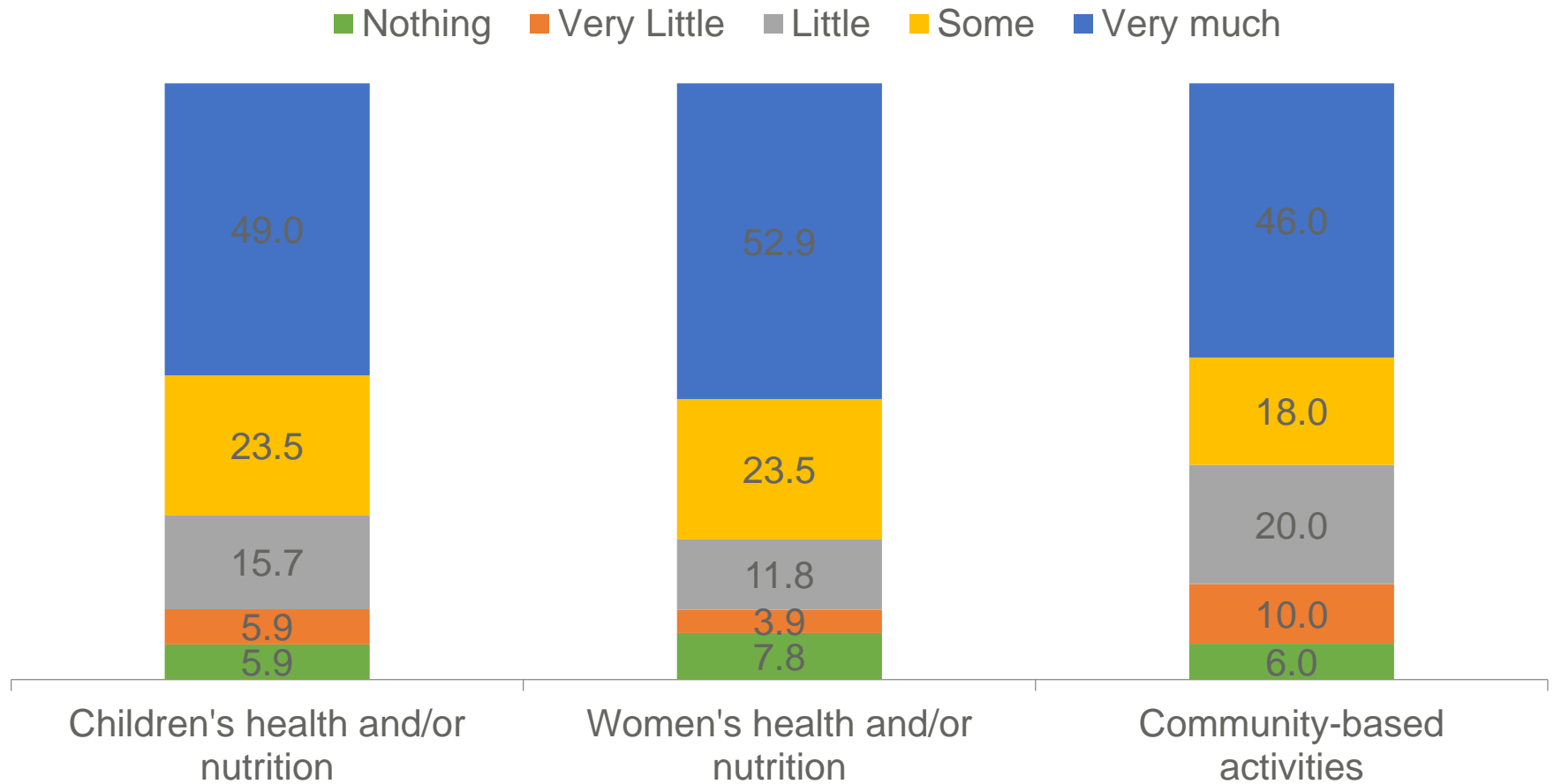
Percent of health workers who strongly agreed with the importance of complementary feeding practices was in need of improvement.



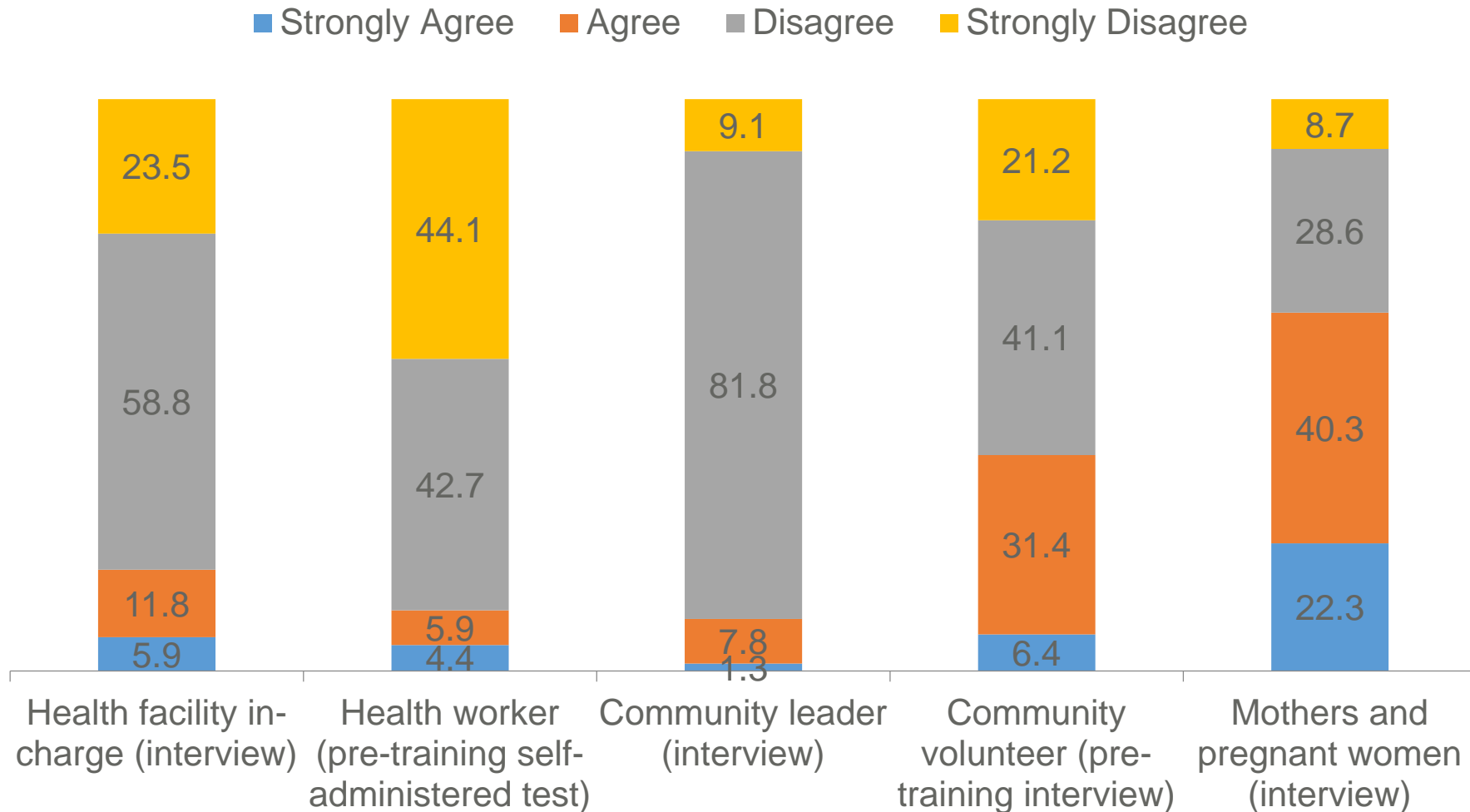
MIYCN is of high or very high priority at the federal, state, and LGA levels.



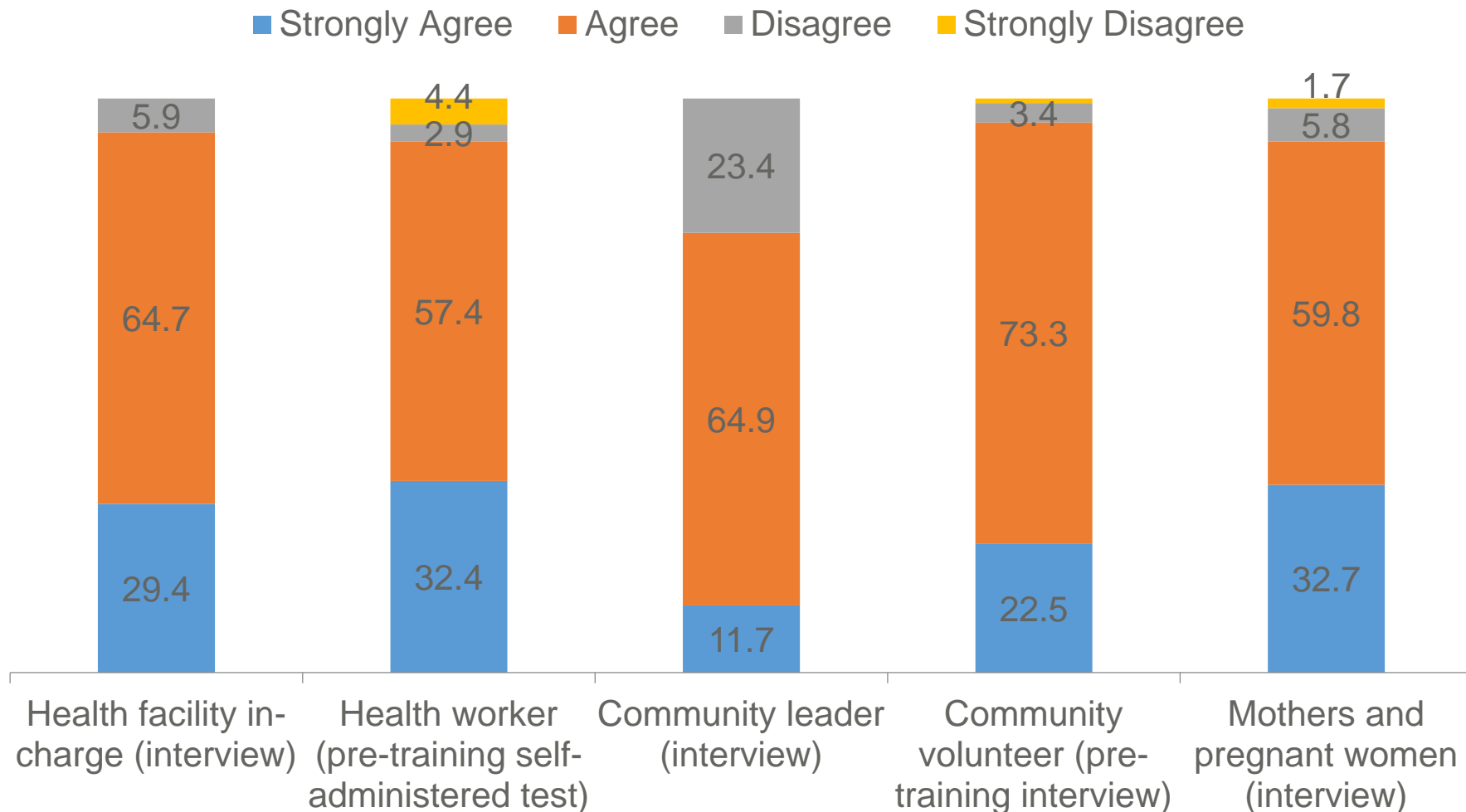
Health facilities are **not doing much** related to MIYCN or at the community level.



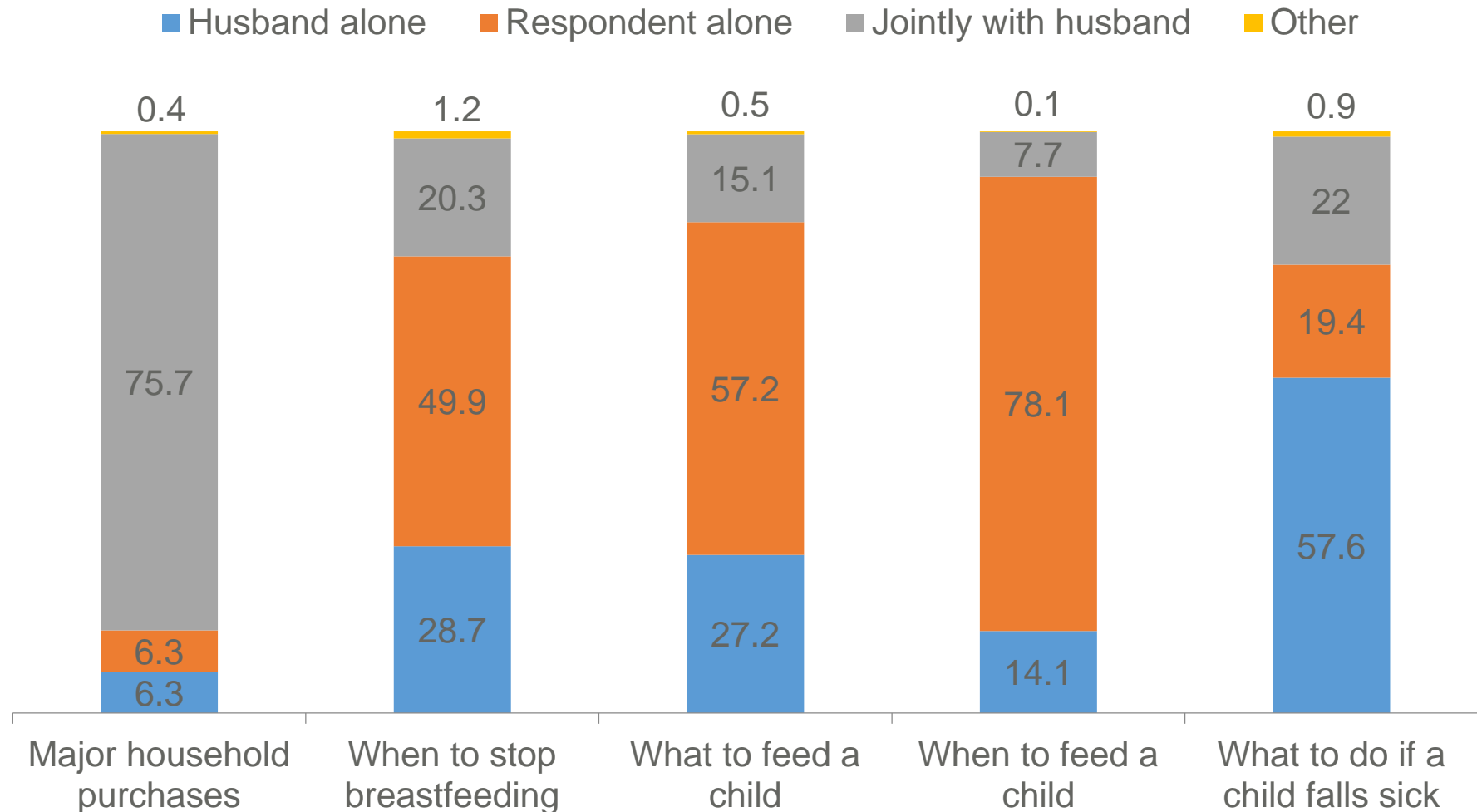
Only the men should make the important decisions in the family.



A mother should be able to express her opinion regarding child feeding.



Decision-making power among women is limited.



Recommendations

- ✓ Ensure – don't assume – that key actors are familiar with and have essential policies, protocols, and job aids, etc.
- ✓ Organize routine coordination meetings at the national and district levels to strengthen coordination and ownership
- ✓ Engage district and sub-district leaders in planning, implementing, and monitoring, including supporting and incentivizing community volunteers
- ✓ Don't forget to build nutrition knowledge and attitudes at all levels
- ✓ Proactively address women's status – decision-making power, control of resources, and mobility
- ✓ Actively support community volunteers in their service delivery role



Thank you!

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