

Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Study on Adolescents' Sexual and Reproductive Health in Seven Districts in Rwanda - 2021

Authors: F,R. Habarugira¹, (e-mail: francois-regis.habarugira@enabel.be); V. Zinnen¹; P. Gakumba²; I. Muhuza³; P. Mutabzi⁴; B. Briot¹; F. Staring¹ - ¹ Enabel, ² Afrihope, ³ SFH, ⁴ Ministry of Youth Rwanda



Introduction

Pressing challenges:

- Teenage pregnancy and unsafe abortion
- Having risky sex (STI, HIV)
- Low level of contraceptive use
- Early onset of sexual activity
- Limited parent-adolescent communication
- Social stigma, cultural and religious barriers



Methods

- A cross-sectional study
- 718 youths aged 10 - 24 for structured questionnaires on adolescents Knowledge, Attitude and Practices variables
- 49 key informants for interview and 280 youths for Focus group discussions on attitude and practices of health care providers and community



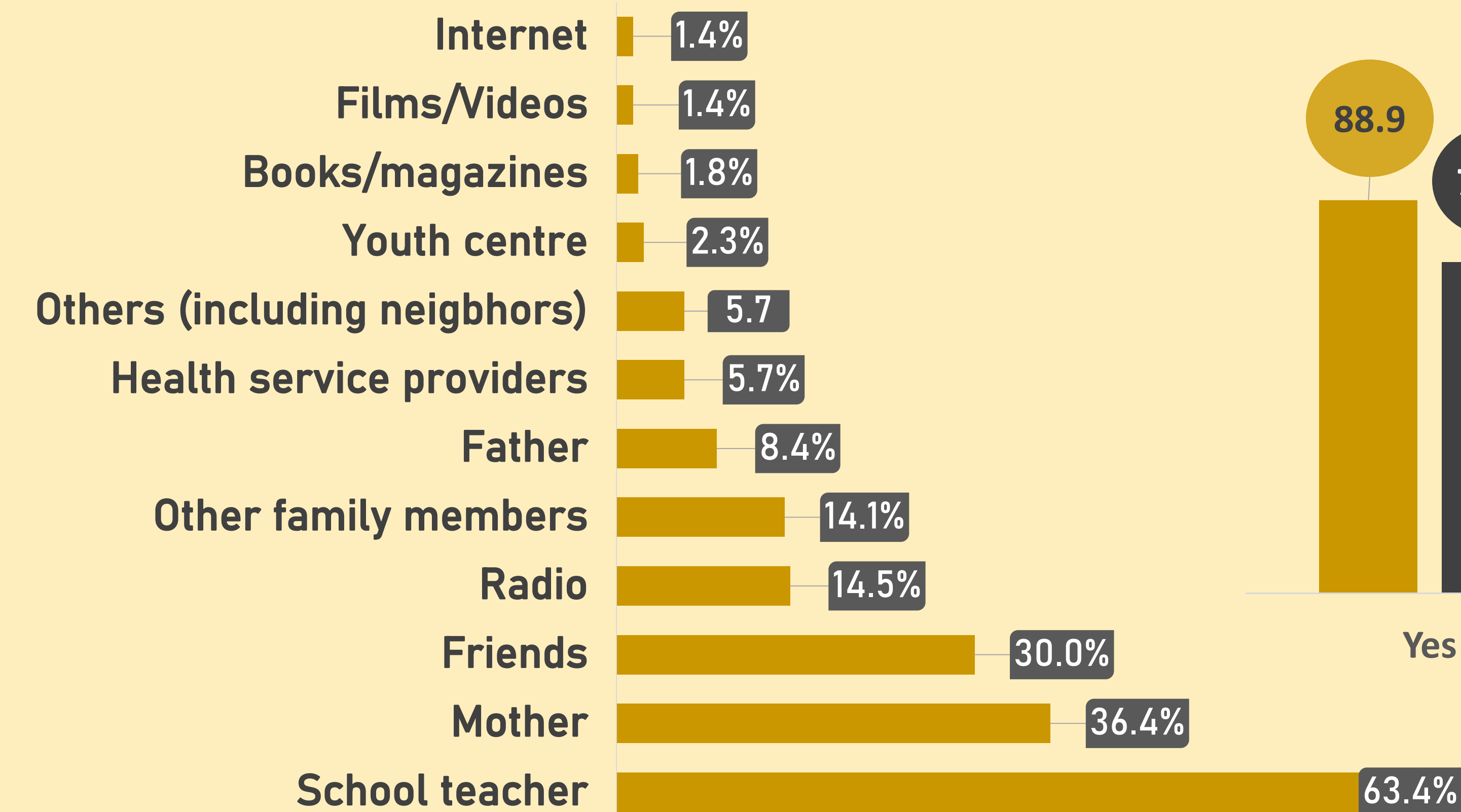
Objectives

- Assess the knowledge, attitude, and practice (KAP) of youths 10-24 related to their Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH)
- Identify attitudes, practices, and beliefs of health care providers regarding Adolescent SRH (ASRH)
- Identify knowledge gaps, cultural beliefs or behavioral patterns and practices of the community that create barriers to access to ASRH
- Elaborate evidence-based recommendations

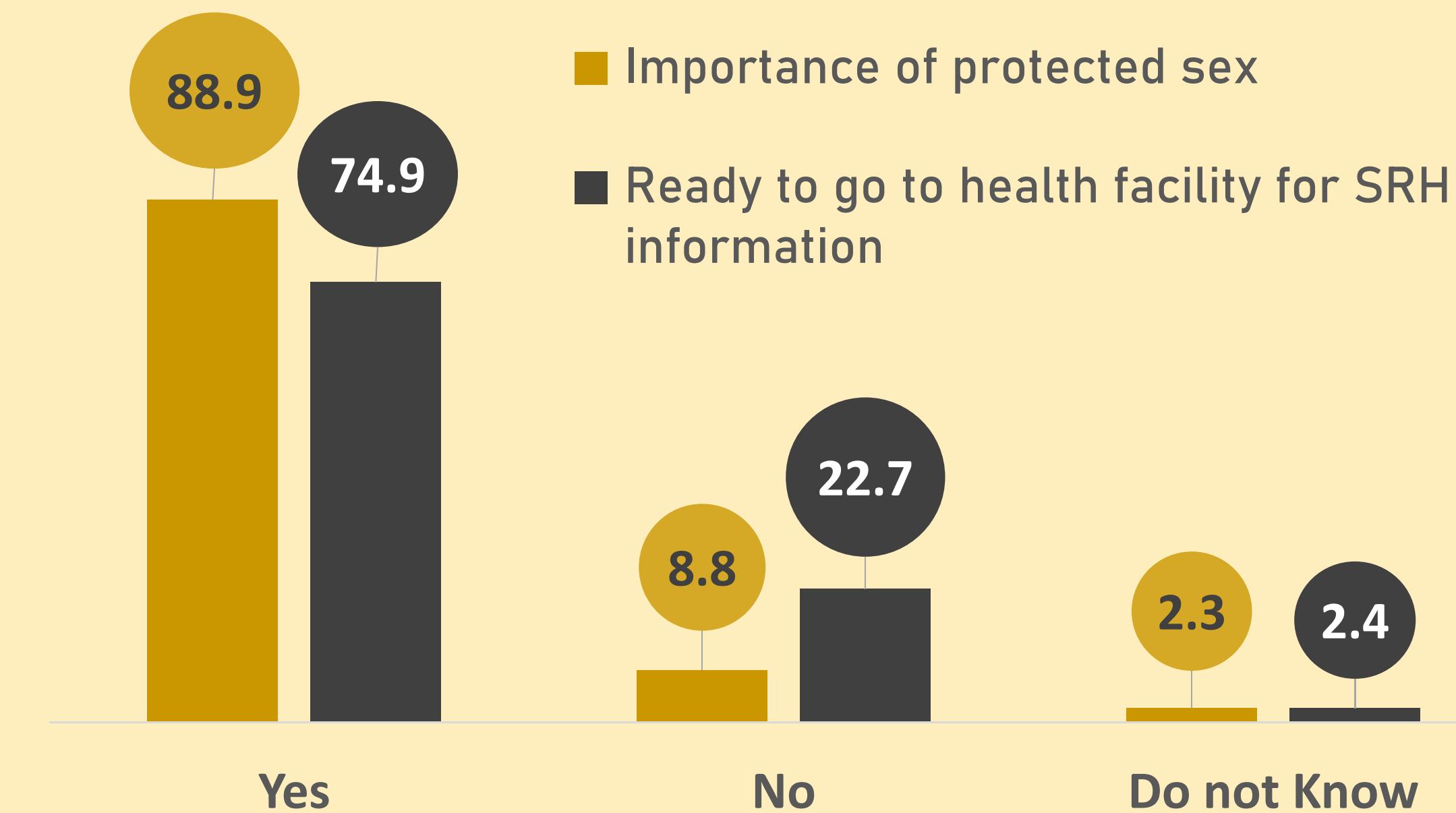


Quantitative findings

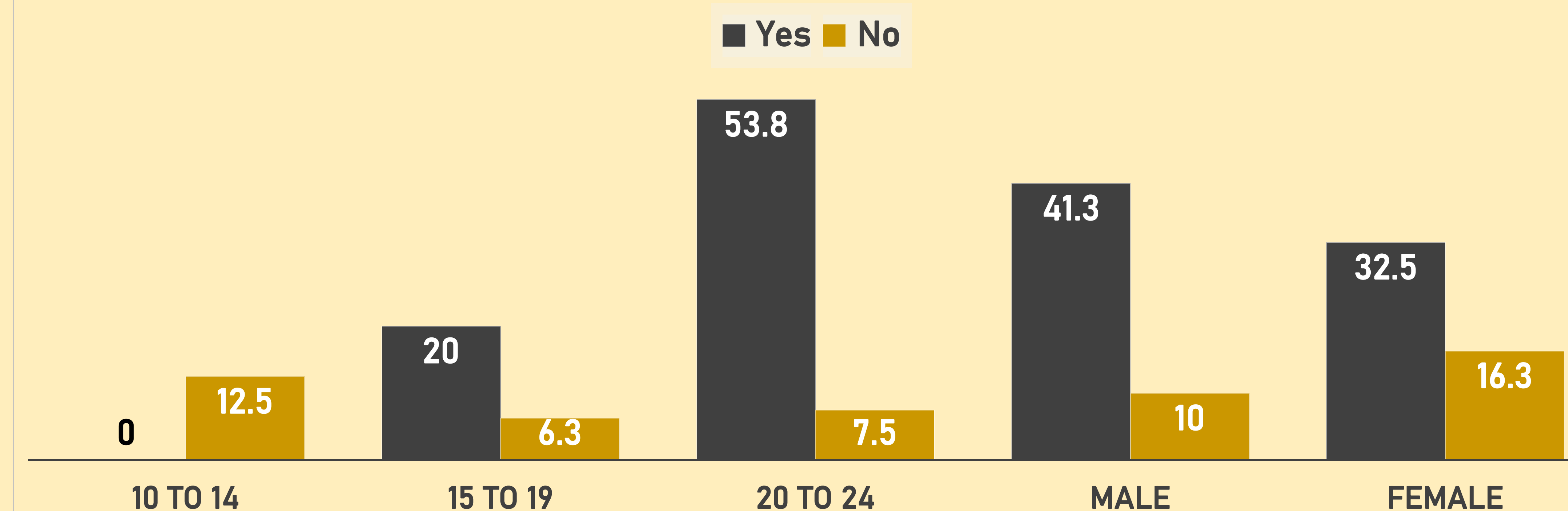
Main sources of information on SRH reported by respondents in the study area



Knowledge and attitude of adolescents about information and safe sex



Proportion of respondents who consented/not consented before sexual intercourse (%)



Results



Qualitative findings

Main barriers to access services:

- Distance to services
- Social and cultural influences
- Lack of privacy & confidentiality
- Incomplete package of services



Conclusions

There is a satisfactory level of adolescents' knowledge about ASRH

Work to remove the obstacles:

- Availability of accessible services
- Improve the quality of service
- More support and resources (financial and human capital)