SAMOA MICS PLUS, 2022-2023
(Household Phone Survey)

Snapshot of Key Findings
(Wave 2: February–April 2023)

FOREWORD

This statistical snapshot is the second of a series of **2022-23 Samoa MICS PLUS (Household Phone Survey)** Snapshots. MICS Plus is a new initiative under the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) MICS programme to support countries in conducting longitudinal household surveys using Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) method for the collection of representative data on the situation of children, families, and households on a frequent basis and real-time reporting. The 2022-2023 Samoa MICS Plus Survey is based on the sample of the 2021 Census households. The Samoa Bureau of Statistics plans to conduct bi-monthly waves during 2022-2023 which will enable the collection of various information regarding the ongoing situation of children and families in Samoa. The Samoa Bureau of Statistics and UNICEF are happy to release the **result of MICS Plus wave 2** from the Samoa MICS Plus conducted from February to April 2023. Technical and financial support for the survey is being provided by the UNICEF.

Fa'afetai tele lava.

Leota Aliielua Salani *(Mr)*
GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN/CEO

Samoa
2022-2023
WAVE 2 (Feb-Apr, 2023)

MICS PLUS

The Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS), in collaboration with UNICEF, began the implementation of 2022-2023 MICS Plus during the second half of 2022. MICS Plus generates data to understand the situation of households, families, and children to inform decision-makers and stakeholders accordingly. This statistical snapshot summarizes the results of the second wave of calls during 13 February-7 April 2023.

Methodology

MICS Plus combines the power of representative, statistically robust household surveys, with the ability to report on a real-time basis over an extended period, using CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing). Essentially, the mode of data collection is based on direct phone calls to respondents*, as opposed to traditional face-to-face interviews.

In essence, MICS Plus methodology is based on:
- Selecting a probability sample of households from an up-to-date household sample frame that includes phone numbers of households/household members
- Interviewing the sample of households over an extended period via direct calls

The Samoa MICS Plus sample was drawn from the Samoa 2021 Population and Housing Census (PHC) and has been used as the sample frame. The target sample size is 1,600 households.

Sample size by domain

- Apla Urban Area 800
- Rural Area 800

To increase response rates, phone numbers from the Samoa 2021 PHC were validated and households with missing phone numbers were contacted to obtain up-to-date phone numbers. A model-based substitution approach was also used to replace non-responding households during the first wave of MICS Plus.

MICS Plus is nationally representative. Urban and rural areas were defined as the major sample domains and the sample was allocated as follows: 800 households were selected from Apia Urban Area and 800 households from rural areas (Savaii, Northwest of Upolu and Rest of Upolu). The survey will follow the same households in all the subsequent data collection waves, building panel data. During the second wave of calls, households were asked questions about adolescent well-being and health. Data on experience and satisfaction with government services was also collected in this round of waves to inform the Government's Service Improvement Program. The Program is part of Government efforts under the Public Administration Sector Plan 2020/21-2024/25 to improve the quality of public service deliver.
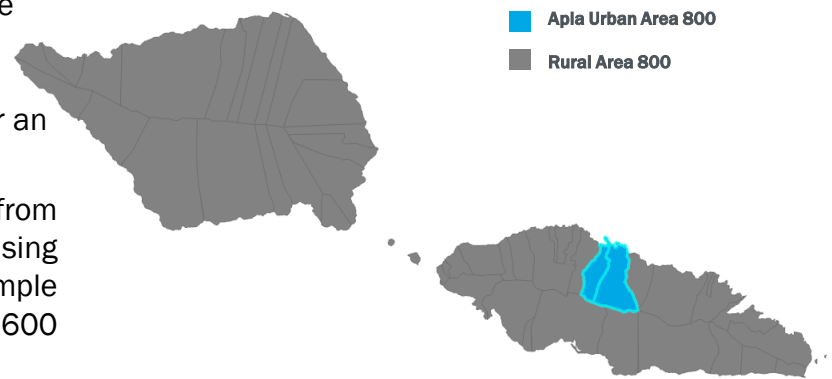
* In each household, calls were conducted with a "knowledgeable adult household member" who was available at the time of the call. Since respondents were not selected randomly, data based on respondent's own characteristics, opinions and behavioural patterns may not be representative of the adult population in Samoa.

Survey Implementation

Response Rates

	Wave 1 (29 August - 04 October 2022)		Wave 2 (13 February - 7 April 2023)	
	Before Substitution	After Substitution	Before Substitution	After Substitution
Households sampled	**1,600**	**1,600**	**1,492**	**1,492**
Interviewed	936	1,312	1,164	1,342
Refused	26	14	32	9
No eligible respondent	3	0	1	0
Phone number(s) does not belong to sampled household	40	24	18	16
Telephone number(s) inactive	328	152	151	89
Respondent busy/postponed	11	7	18	1
No response after repeated call attempts or phone(s) turned off	126	33	108	30
No phone number available for sampled household	130	58	0	5
Response rate (percent)	**58.5**	**82.0**	**78.0**	**89.9**

The sample frame for Samoa MICS Plus the Samoa 2021 Population and Housing Census (PHC). The target sample size was set at 1,600 households. In wave 1, the response rate was 82 percent after substituting 674 households with the model-based method that utilizes the "Nearest Neighbour" feature based on the "Euclidian distance" approach. Wave 2 targeted 1,492 households after excluding the households interviewed in Wave 1 but no consent for the next wave, households refused in Wave 1 without consent for the next wave, households where the phone number did not belong to the sampled household, and households for which phone numbers were not available. The substitution was performed in the second wave.
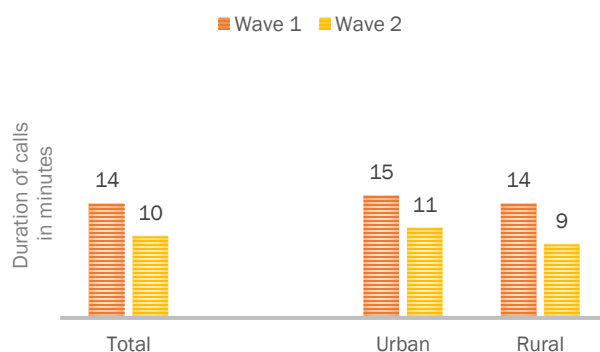
Average Call Attempts

Average number of call attempts for completed interviews, by area of residence, Waves 1 and 2
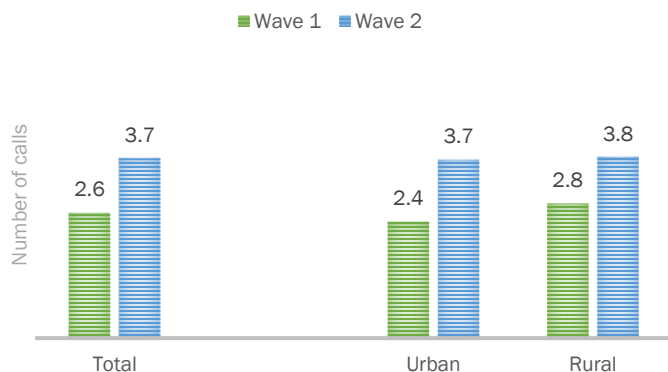

Interview Duration

Median duration of interviews, by area of residence, Waves 1 and 2

Note: 178 interviews in Wave 1, and 111 in Wave 2 are excluded from the calculation of the median duration of the interview due to interrupted calls and inconsistent information

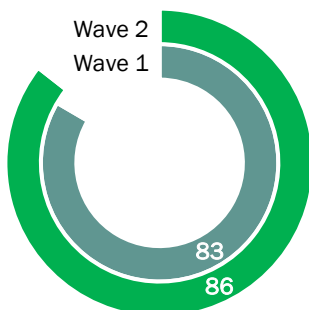## Characteristics of the Head of Household & Household Composition

Sex of household head   *Education of household head*   *Household size*
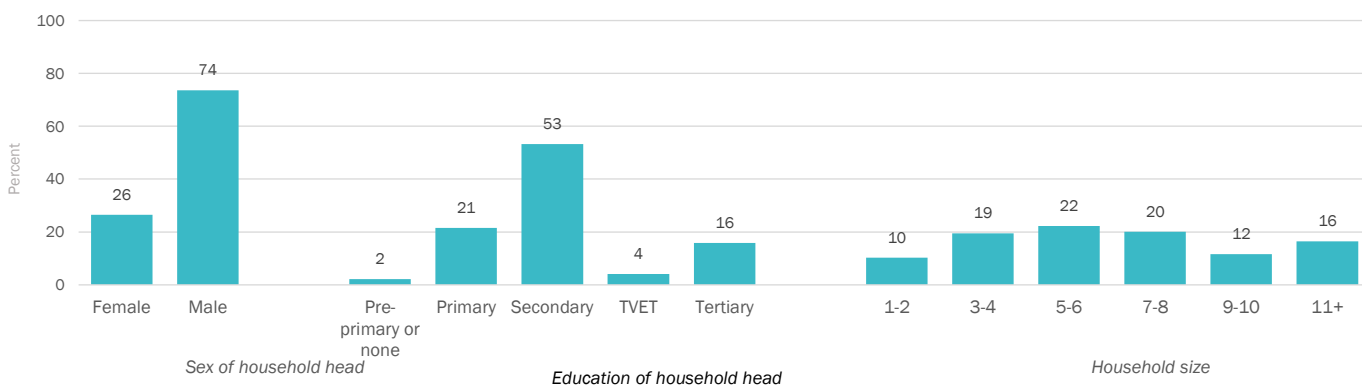
Household Characteristics

Internet Access at Home

*Percentage of households with access to internet at home, Waves 1 and 2*

Wave 2
Wave 1
83
86

Internet: Type of Connection

Percentage of households with internet access by type of connection, by area of residence, Wave 2

|	
Mobile data	97 / 94 / 97
WiFi	13 / 20 / 11
Cable	<1 / <1 / <1

Legend:
- Total
- Urban
- Rural
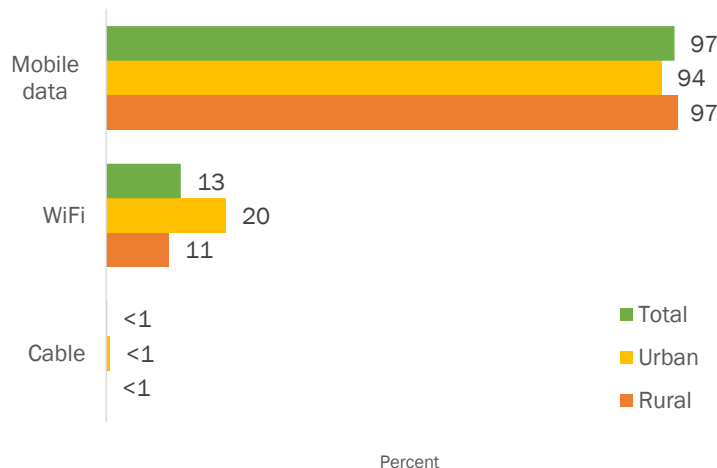
Percent

Water

Percentage of household members living in households using improved water, using basic drinking water services, and who did not have sufficient drinking water when needed in the last 7 days
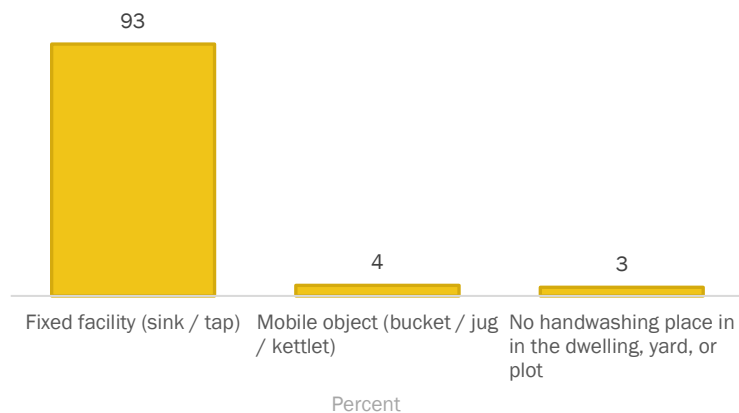
- Improved drinking water source: 100
- Basic drinking water services: 98
- No sufficient drinking water when needed in the last 7 days: 14
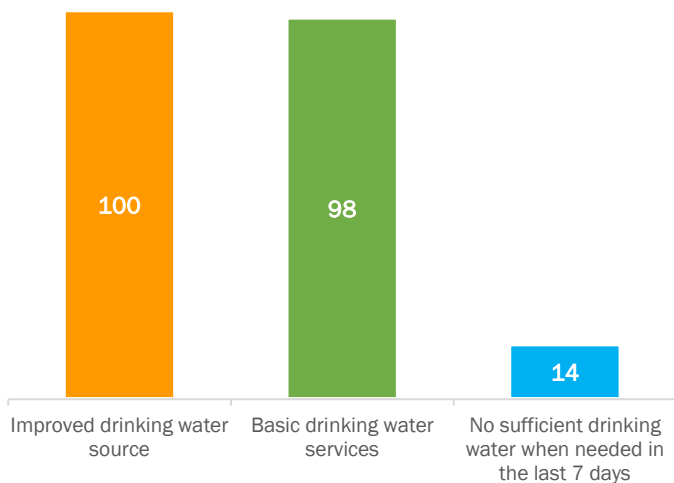
Sanitation

Percent distribution of household members using improved sanitation facility by use of private and public sanitation facilities and use of shared facilities, Wave 2

<1   <1
6
93

Legend:
- Not shared
- Shared by neighbors
- Public facility
- Missing
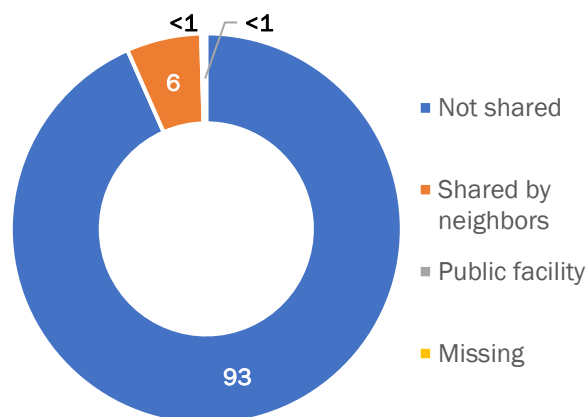
Handwashing facility

Percent distribution of household members by type of handwashing facility

- Fixed facility (sink / tap): 93
- Mobile object (bucket / jug / kettlet): 4
- No handwashing place in in the dwelling, yard, or plot: 3

Percent

Availability of water and soap

Percentage who did not have sufficient water and soap to wash hands when needed
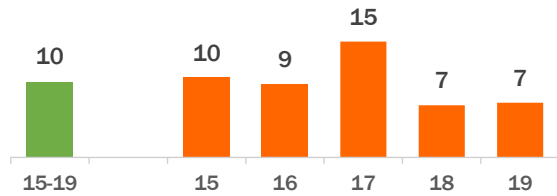
<1   Soap
2
Water

Adolescents Wellbeing and Health

Adolescents' functional difficulties

Percentage of adolescents age 15-19 years with functional difficulty in at least one domain, total and by single age, Wave 2

Children with disabilities are among the most marginalized groups in society. Facing daily discrimination in the form of negative attitudes, and lack of adequate policies and legislation, they are often likely to be among the poorest members of the population and are less likely to attend school, access medical services, or have their voices heard in society. Discrimination against and exclusion of children with disabilities also puts them at a higher risk of physical and emotional abuse or other forms of neglect, violence and exploitation.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNICEF, 1989) and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN, 2006) explicitly state the rights of children with disabilities on an equal basis with other children and call for improvements in their access to services, and in their participation in all aspects of life.

In order to achieve these goals, there is a need for cross-nationally comparable, reliable data. The Child Functioning module is designed In line with the WHO's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to collect information on functional difficulties that children experience in different domains including hearing, vision, communication/comprehension, learning, mobility and emotions. Children with functional difficulties may be at risk of experiencing limited participation in an unaccommodating environment and limit the fulfilment of their rights.

Adolescent functioning by domains

Percentage of adolescents age 15-19 years who have functional difficulty, by domain and area of residence

|	Seeing	Hearing	Walking	Self-care	Communication	Learning	Remembering	Concentrating	Accepting Change	Controlling behaviour	Making Friends	Anxiety	Depression
Total	1.1	0.2	1.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.7	1.0	0.8	5.1	3.7
Urban	1.9	0.9	4.5	0.9	0.7	0.9	2.8	2.4	2.1	2.4	2.1	6.6	5.7
Rural	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.6	4.8	3.3

Adolescents functioning inequalities

Percentage of adolescents age 15–19 years with functional difficulty, by selected background characteristics, Wave 2

— National
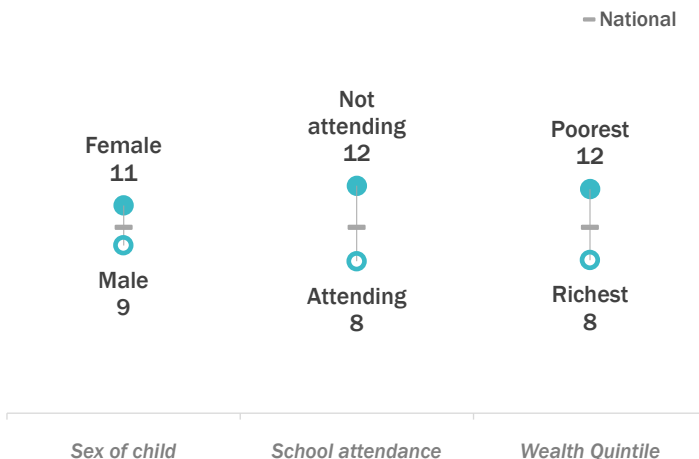
Adolescents' marriage

Percent distribution of adolescents age 15-19 years by whether ever married (according to respondent), Wave 2
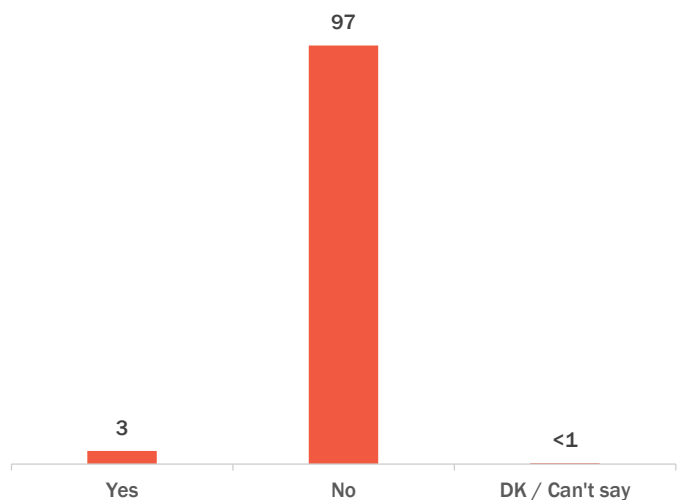
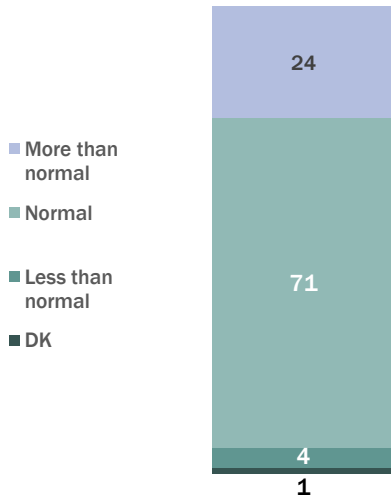## Change in bodyweight – eating practice

Percent distribution of adolescents age 15-19 years by eating practice during the last month (according to respondent), Wave 2
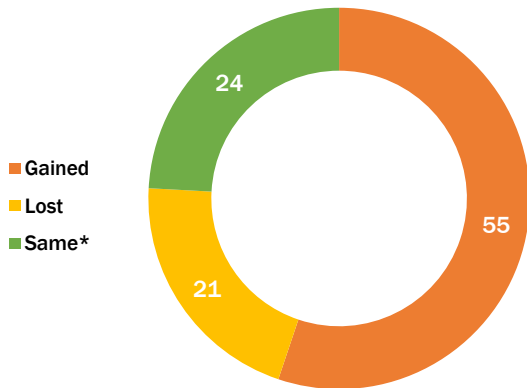
More than normal	24
Normal	71
Less than normal	4
DK	1

Change in bodyweight

Percent distribution of adolescents age 15-19 by whether body weight changed in the period January 2022 till February-April 2023 (according to respondent), Wave 2
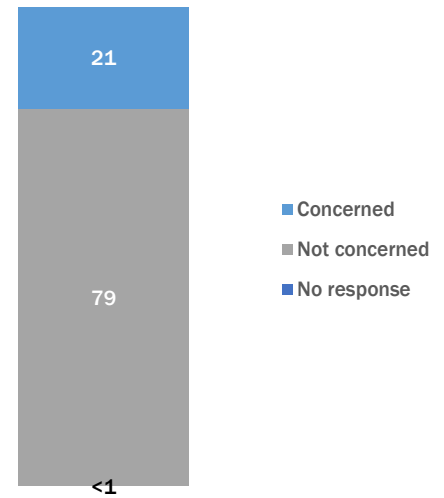
- Yes — 37
- No — 60
- DK — 3
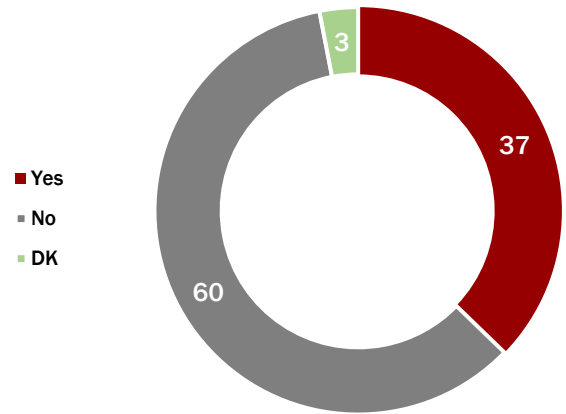
Change in bodyweight

Percent distribution of adolescents age 10-19 years with bodyweight changed in the period January 2022 till February-April 2023 by how bodyweight changed (according to respondent), Wave 2

- Gained — 55
- Lost — 21
- Same* — 24

*According to respondent, there have been changes in the adolescent's body weight since January 2022, but at the time of the interview, the weight is the same as in January 2022.
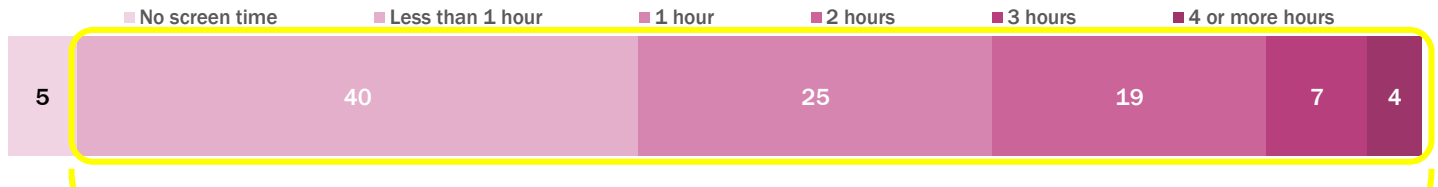
Percent distribution of adolescents age 10-19 years who gain weight in the period January 2022 till February-April 2023 by whether respondent is concerned about child's bodyweight

- Concerned — 21
- Not concerned — 79
- No response — <1

Screen time

Percent distribution of adolescents age 15-19 years by whether spend time in front of screen (TV, computer, cell phone, etc.) and by average number of hours per day for those who spend (according to respondent), Wave 2

No screen time	Less than 1 hour	1 hour	2 hours	3 hours	4 or more hours
5	40	25	19	7	4

Percent distribution of adolescents age 15-19 years who spend some time in front of the screen (TV, computer, cell phone, etc.) by whether respondents have concerns about child's screen time (according to respondent), Wave 2
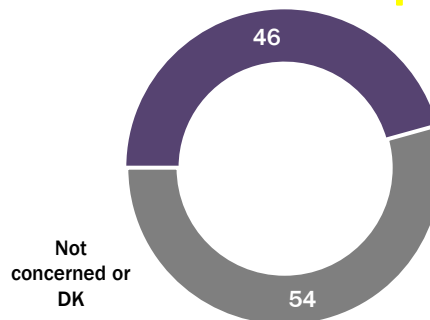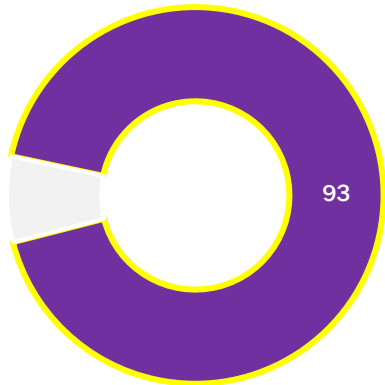
- Concerned, spending too much time — 46
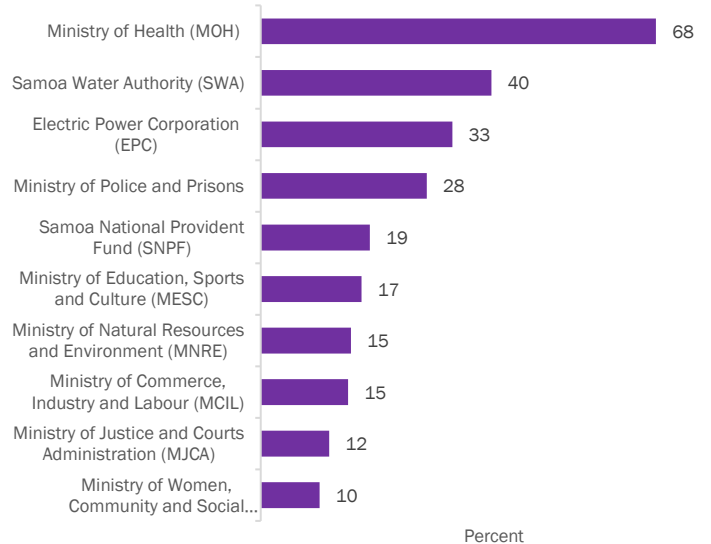- Not concerned or DK — 54

Government services

Awareness about government services

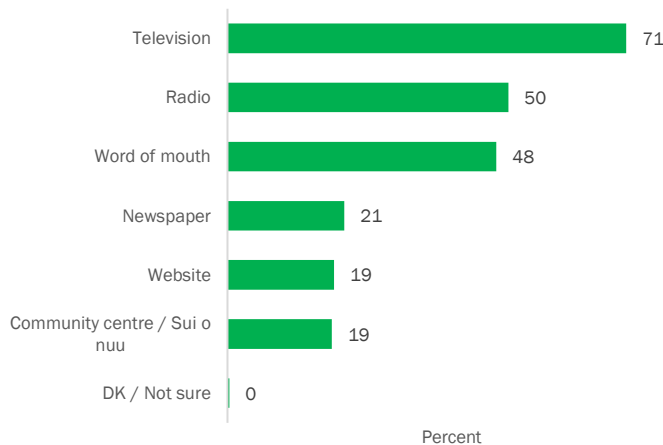Percentage of respondents who have heard of or are aware of any government agency or institution, Wave 2

Percentage of respondents who have heard of or are aware of any government agency or institution, by top ten agencies and institutions, Wave 2

93

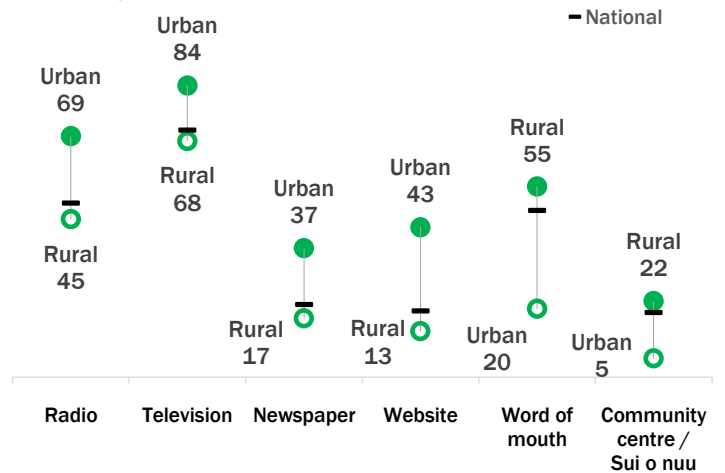| Agency/Institution	Percent
Ministry of Health (MOH)	68
Samoa Water Authority (SWA)	40
Electric Power Corporation (EPC)	33
Ministry of Police and Prisons	28
Samoa National Provident Fund (SNPF)	19
Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture (MESC)	17
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE)	15
Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour (MCIL)	15
Ministry of Justice and Courts Administration (MJCA)	12
Ministry of Women, Community and Social…	10

Percent

Government services: source of information

Percentage of respondents who used at least one service from government agencies or institutions in the last 12 months by the source of information about the latest service used, Wave 2
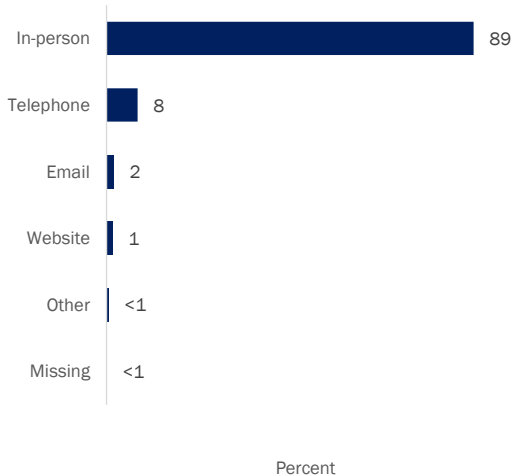
Source	Percent
Television	71
Radio	50
Word of mouth	48
Newspaper	21
Website	19
Community centre / Sui o nuu	19
DK / Not sure	0

Percent

Percentage of respondents who used at least one service from government agencies or institutions in the last 12 months, by the source of information about the latest service used, by area of residence, Wave 2

— National

|	Radio	Television	Newspaper	Website	Word of mouth	Community centre / Sui o nuu
Urban	69	84	37	43	20	5
Rural	45	68	17	13	55	22

Government services: main channel for using services

Percent distribution of respondents who used at least one service from government agencies or institutions in the last 12 months by the main channel for using the latest service, Wave 2

Channel	Percent
In-person	89
Telephone	8
Email	2
Website	1
Other	<1
Missing	<1

Percent

Percentage of respondents who used at least one service from government agencies or institutions in the last 12 months by the source of information about the latest service used, and by wealth index, Wave 2

— National

	Telephone	Website	Email	In-person
Poorest	3	0	0	97
Richest	13	3	5	79
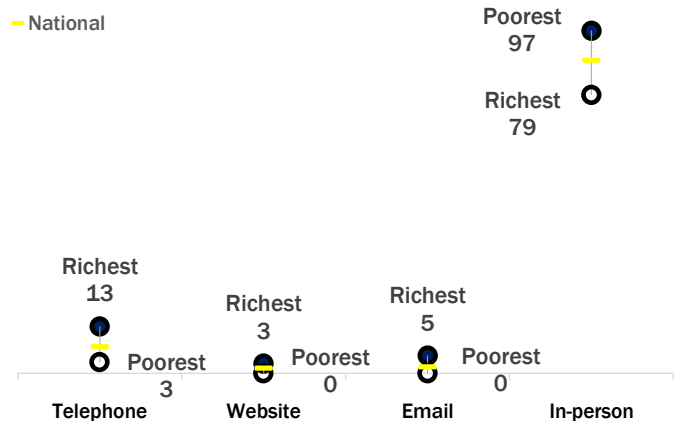
Government services

Government service: satisfaction

Percentage of respondents who used at least one service from government agencies or institutions in the last 12 months who were very or somewhat satisfied with selected aspects of the latest service provision, Wave 2
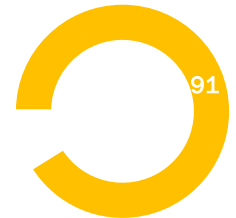
Timeliness of the latest service
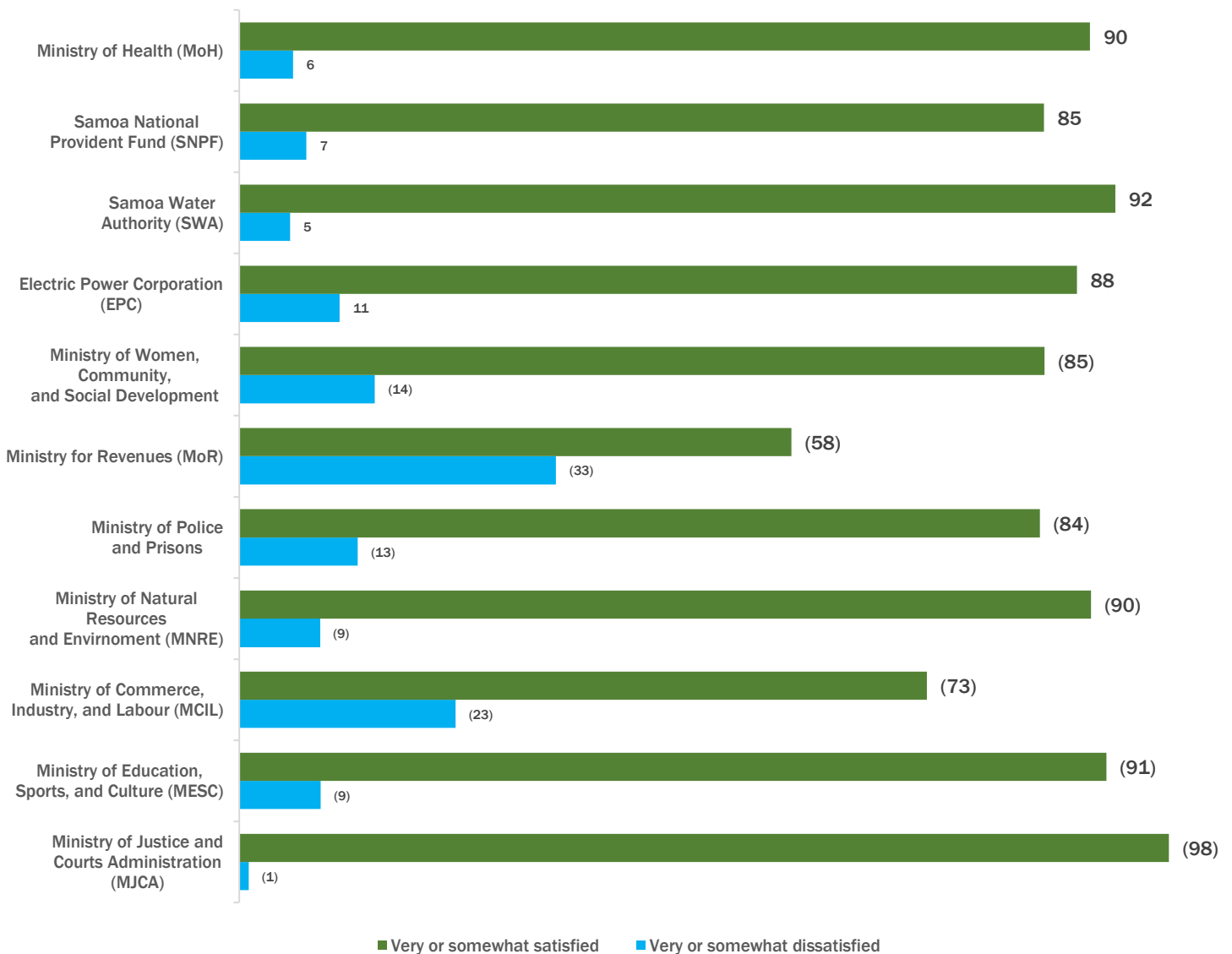
88
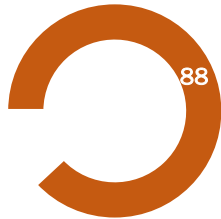
Accessibility of the latest service

90

Cost of the latest service

92

Overall quality of the latest service

91

Percentage of respondents who used at least one service from government agencies or institutions in the last 12 months who were very or somewhat satisfied and who were very or somewhat dissatisfied with the overall quality of the latest service provision by the government agency or institution (top ten), Wave 2

Agency	Very or somewhat satisfied	Very or somewhat dissatisfied
Ministry of Health (MoH)	90	6
Samoa National Provident Fund (SNPF)	85	7
Samoa Water Authority (SWA)	92	5
Electric Power Corporation (EPC)	88	11
Ministry of Women, Community, and Social Development	(85)	(14)
Ministry for Revenues (MoR)	(58)	(33)
Ministry of Police and Prisons	(84)	(13)
Ministry of Natural Resources and Envirnoment (MNRE)	(90)	(9)
Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Labour (MCIL)	(73)	(23)
Ministry of Education, Sports, and Culture (MESC)	(91)	(9)
Ministry of Justice and Courts Administration (MJCA)	(98)	(1)

■ Very or somewhat satisfied   ■ Very or somewhat dissatisfied

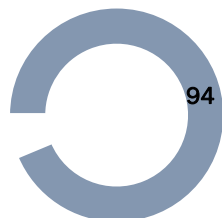*Note: ( ) Figures that are based on 25-49 unweighted cases*
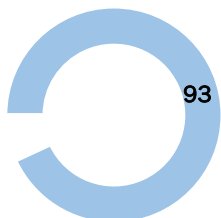
Government services

Government service: experience

Percentage of respondents who used at least one service from government agencies or institutions in the last 12 months who strongly agree or agree with selected statements, Wave 2
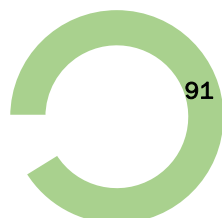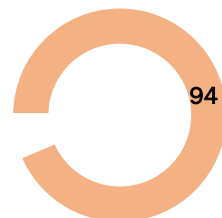
Staff treated me fairly
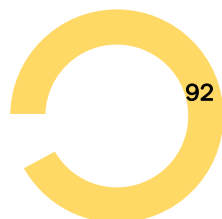94

I received high-quality information / advice
93

Staff paid extra attention to me
91

Staff were knowledgeable and competent regarding subject matter
94

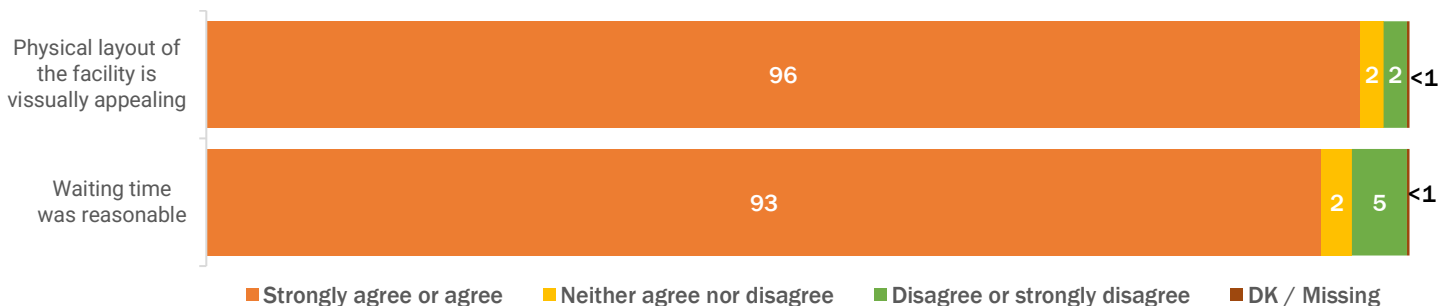### Staff were accessible
92

I was able to find contact info
94
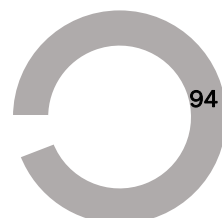
Government service: in-person experience

Percentage of respondents who used at least one service from government agencies or institutions in-person in the last 12 months by what extent agree or disagree with selected statements for the latest service, Wave 2

Physical layout of the facility is vissually appealing	96	2 2	<1
Waiting time was reasonable	93	2 5	<1

■ Strongly agree or agree ■ Neither agree nor disagree ■ Disagree or strongly disagree ■ DK / Missing