

CONTRACEPTIVE USE AND METHODS DISCONTINUATION AMONG WOMEN AGED 15-34 YEARS DURING MARCH-NOVEMBER 2020: RAPID FAMILY PLANNING (FP) STUDY IN EIGHT INDIAN STATES AMIDST COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Key Highlights

- Between March 2020 and Oct-Nov 2020, 8% acceptors adopted modern reversible methods whereas from existing users 15% discontinued
- Initiation of reversible methods increased after July 2020
- Equal domination of supply and demand side issues in procuring the methods (pills/condoms) during the lockdown; Most of the women faced challenges in May
- 39% COVID-19 related reasons (both demand and supply side) were cited for discontinuation or switching to other methods (among women who were using in March 2020)

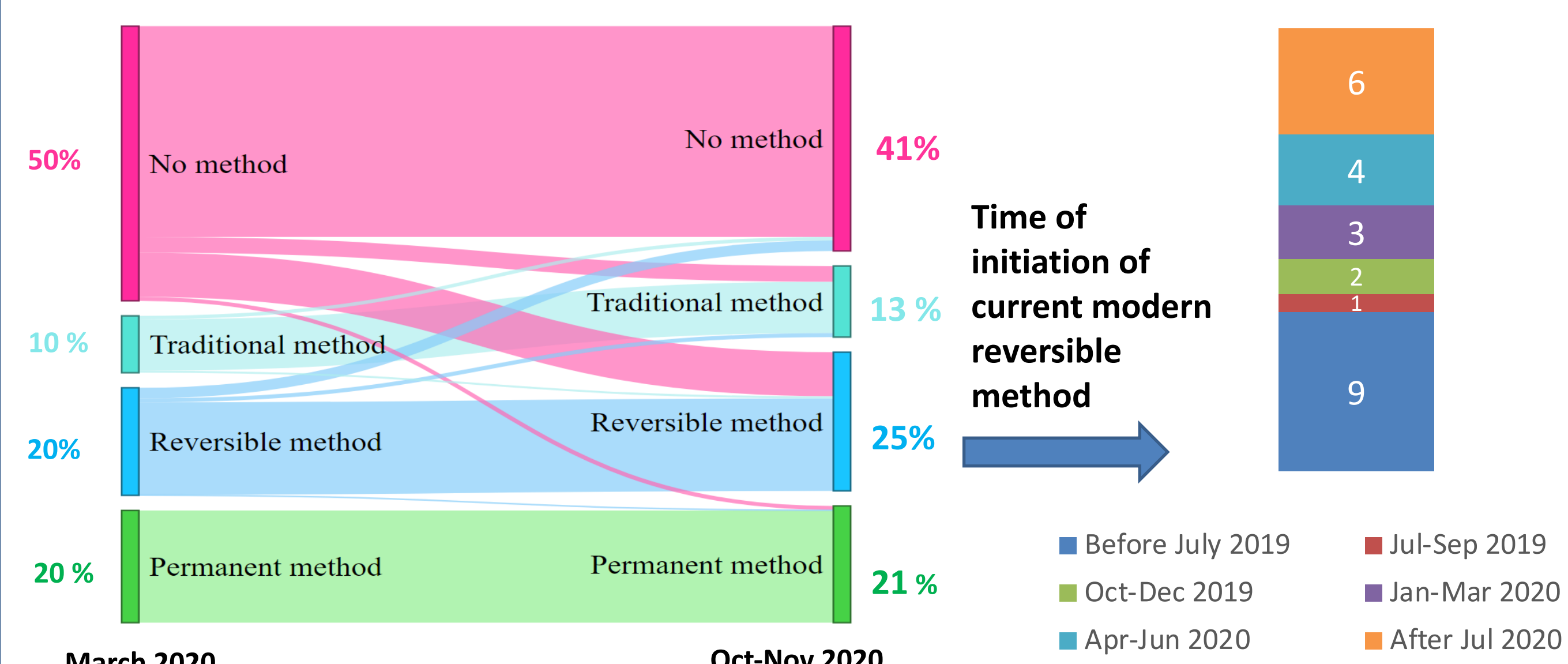
Limitations

Since present sample consist of women who have access to telephones the sample is skewed towards educated women.

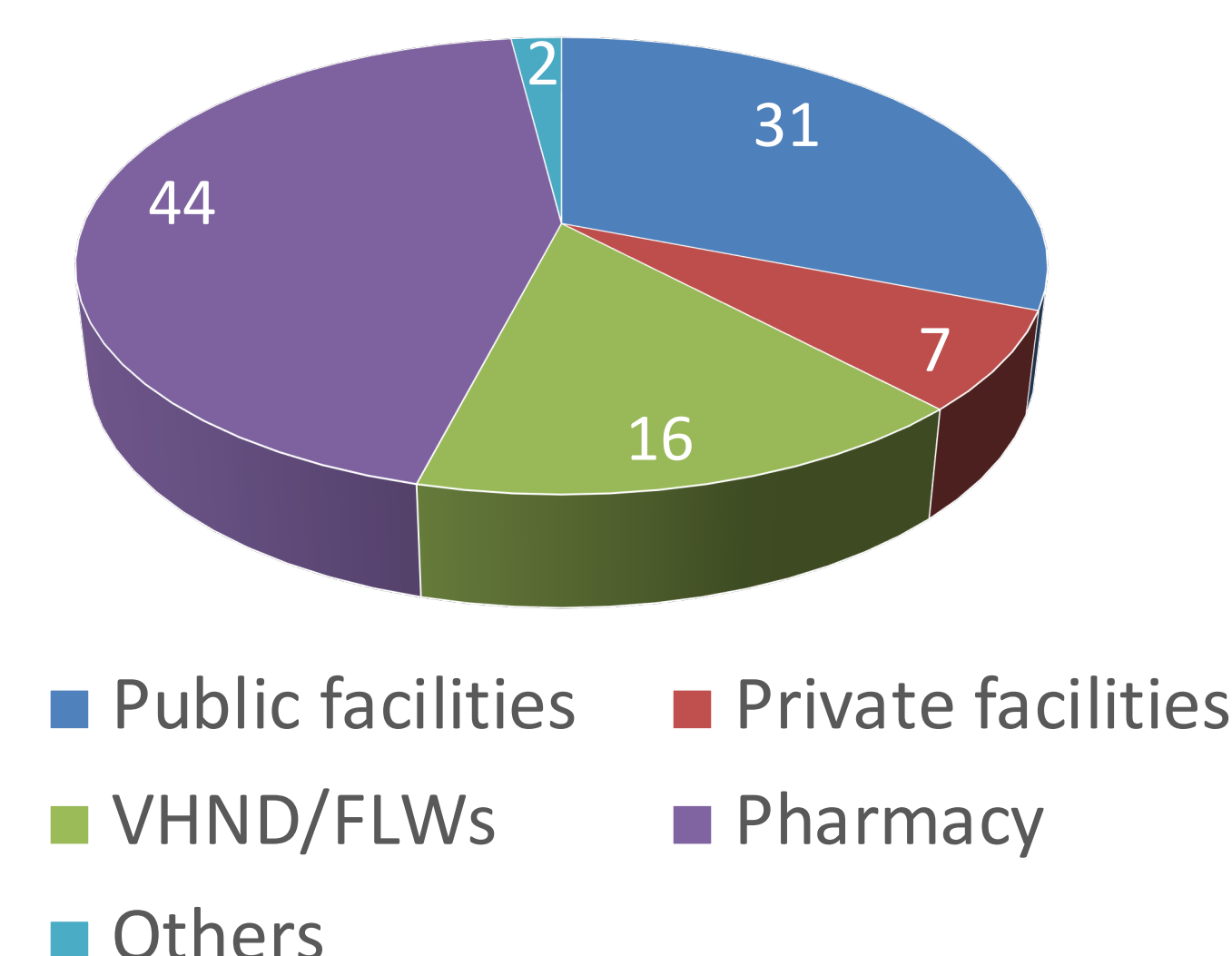
Contact Information

This work was jointly undertaken by Population Council Institute and USAID For more information, contact nsaggurti@popcouncil.org; racharya@popcouncil.org

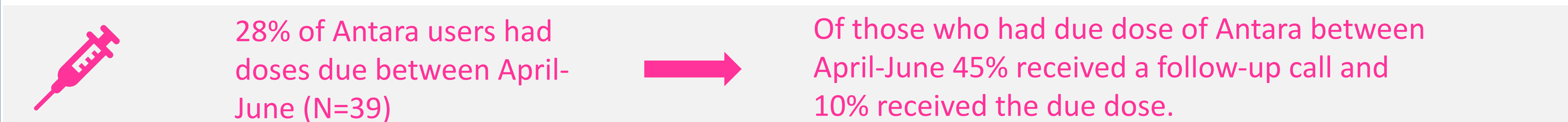
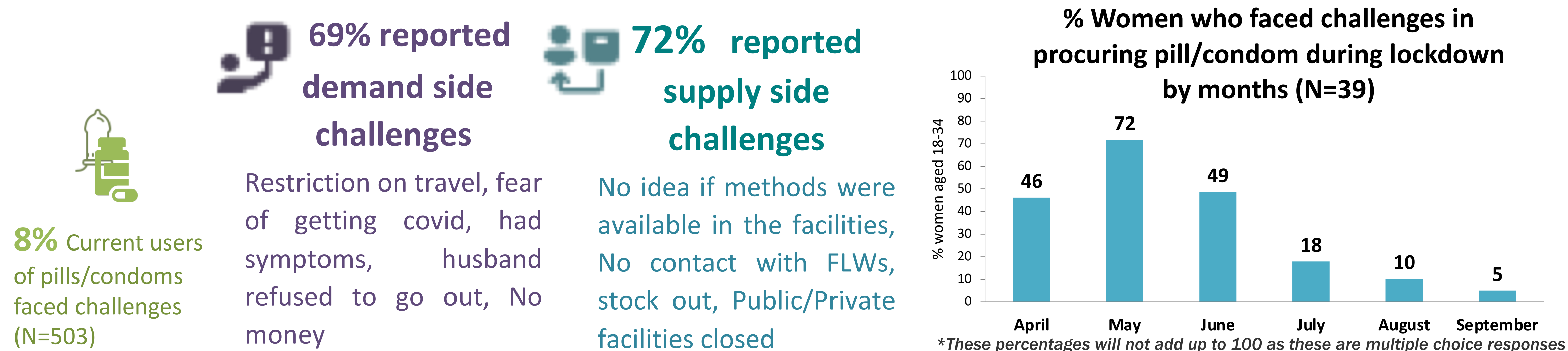
Contraceptive use between March and Oct-Nov 2020



Source of current reversible methods

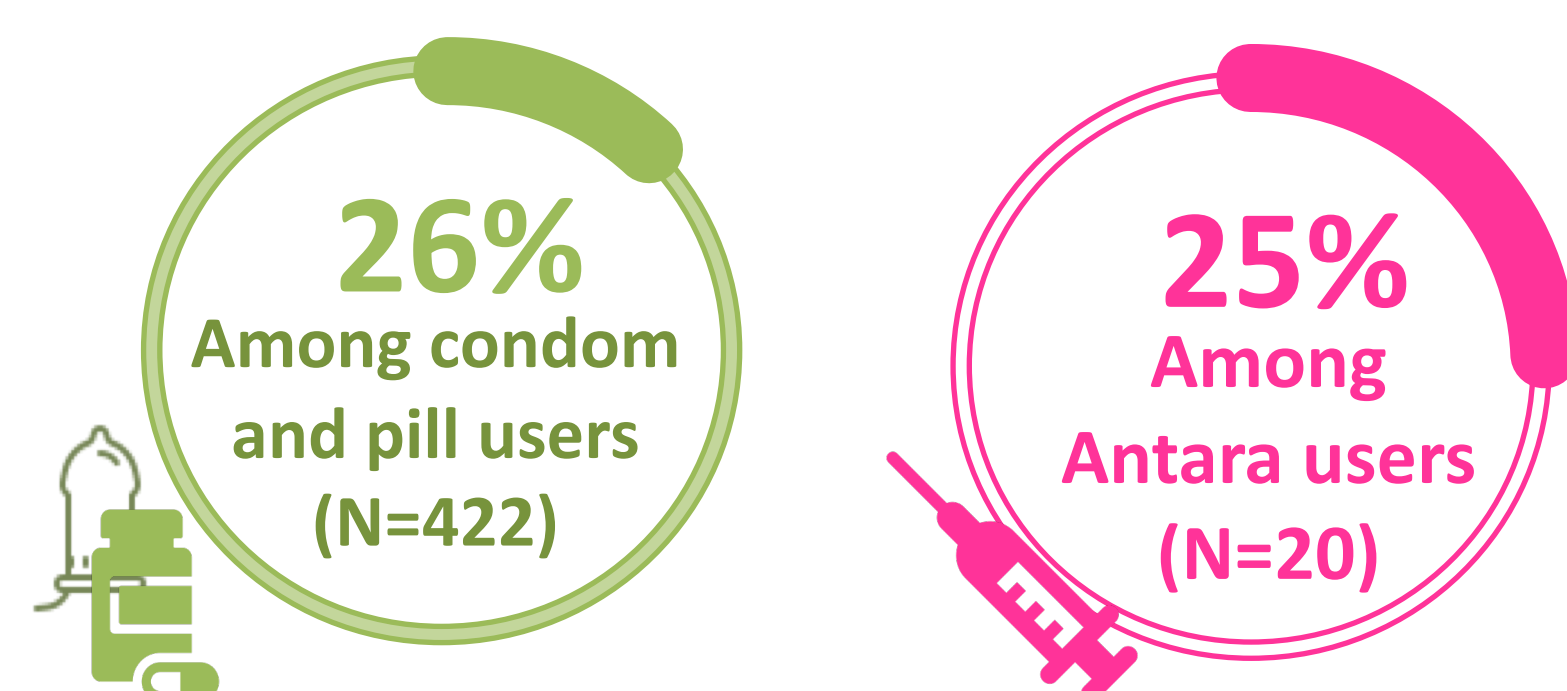


Challenges in procuring methods among current users during April-June 2020

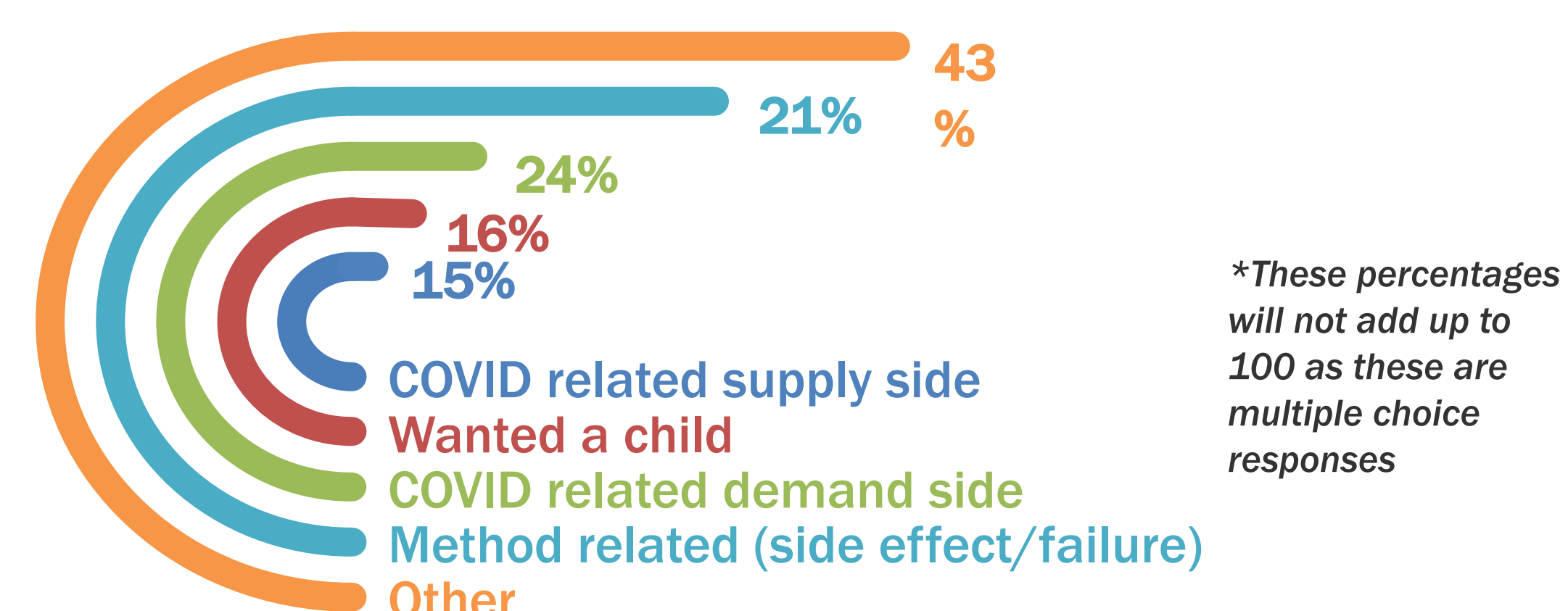


Discontinuation/Switching of methods between March and Oct-Nov 2020

% women who discontinued or switched between March to Oct-Nov 2020



Reasons reported for discontinuation or switching among pill/condom and Antara users (N=113)



*These percentages will not add up to 100 as these are multiple choice responses

Study area and participants

- The study was conducted during October-November 2020 in 8 states of India: Assam, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttarakhand
- Four districts in each state (2 with high and 2 with low use of modern reversible methods in %) were selected
- Local CSOs/NGOs collected contact numbers of eligible women who consented to be part of the study
- Women were interviewed via telephones and data was collected using CSPro software on smart phones
- In total, 3296 rural women of age 18-34 years were interviewed over telephone
- More than 50% of women in the sample had 2 or more children, less than 15% were uneducated, and ~40% were below 24 years of age

Note: For Odisha and Haryana sample was taken from an existing study cohort of households under the Council's contraceptive use dynamics study)