

Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic

7 February 2022

Round 3

Key informant findings from 129 countries, territories and areas

Quarter 4 2021



**World Health
Organization**



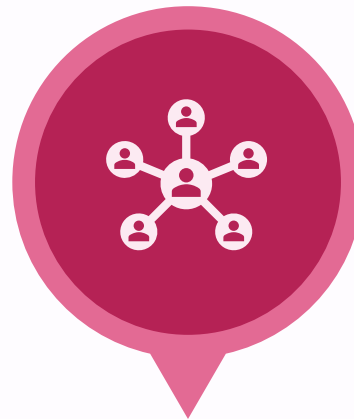


Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic



OBJECTIVE

- Provide rapid snapshot of changes and challenges in service delivery/utilization during to the pandemic.
- Inform countries to support policy and planning dialogue on critical bottlenecks and guide mitigation and recovery towards quality essential health services.
- Produce globally comparable findings on extent of disruptions across health system throughout pandemic, including for **WHO SPRP monitoring indicators**



MODULAR APPROACH

- Integrates all WHO programmatic area pulse surveys into comprehensive approach targeting different Ministry of Health key informants



THREE SURVEY ROUNDS

- Q3 2020 (May-September 2020) – responses reflect situation during previous 3 months (February-August 2020)
- Q1 2021 (January-March 2021) – responses reflect situation during previous 3 months (October 2020 - February 2021)
- **Q4 2021 (November-December 2021) – responses reflect situation during previous 6 months (May-November 2021)**



Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic



Limitations:

- Reporting bias (self-reported key informant data)
- Type/mix of key informants across multiple survey sections
- Process of completion (individual survey section submissions vs. coordinated and validated responses across survey sections)
- Global level data does not reflect subnational variability within countries
- Different quantity and combination of participating countries introduces potential bias into survey round global and regional comparisons

Service disruptions and health systems and services responsiveness



World Health
Organization





**COVID-19 continues to
disrupt health services in
almost all countries
across the globe**



Two years into pandemic service disruptions persist across all regions and income levels



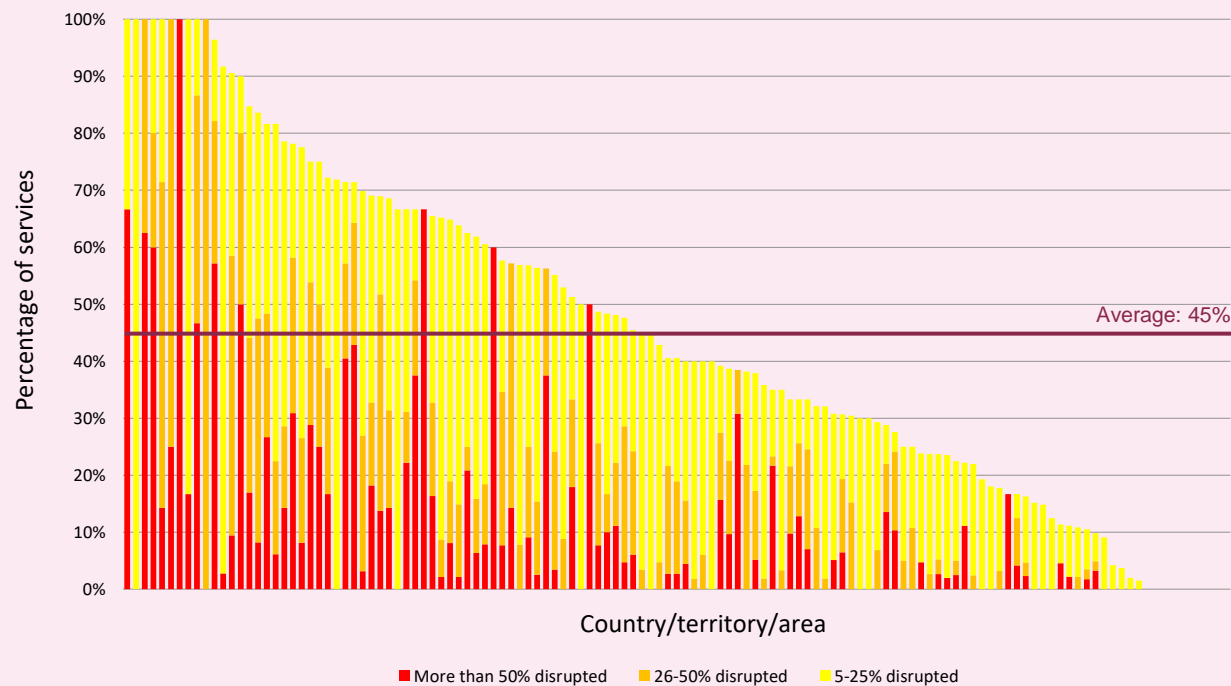
92%

(117 of 127) countries reported some extent of disruptions in at least one essential health service



Countries reported continued disruptions to 45% of tracer health services

Percentage of services disrupted per country (number of tracer services = 66)



Denominator: represents responses from countries/territories that responded to at least one survey section and consented to data sharing agreement.

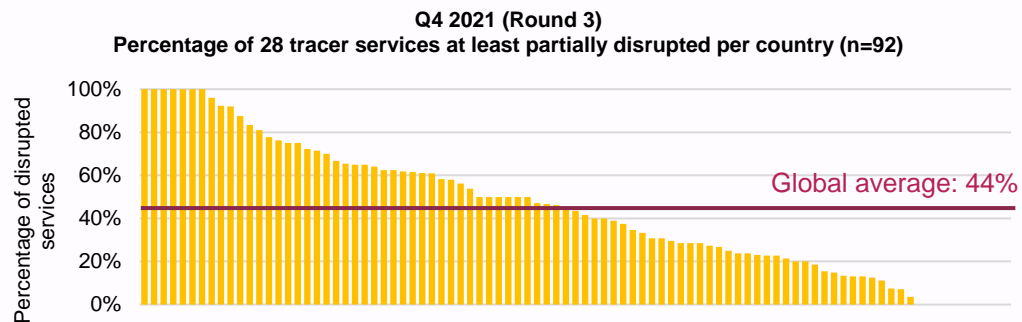
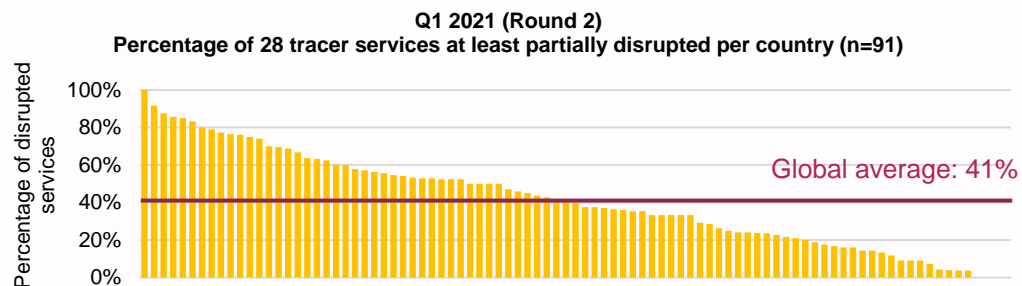
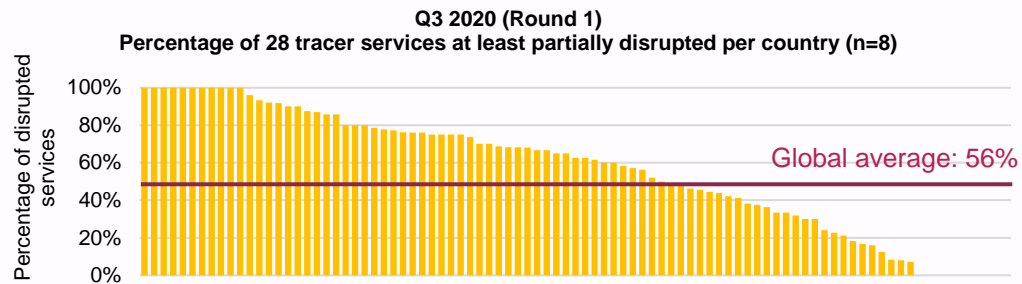
Services include 66 services from the following areas: primary care, emergency, critical and operative care, rehabilitation, palliative care, cancer care, community care, and tracer services for reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, nutrition, immunization, communicable diseases, neglected tropical diseases, mental, neurological and substance use disorders, and care for older people

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)



Extent of service disruptions reported by countries remains similar to early 2021 levels

Comparison of service disruptions (in 28 services in 91 countries that responded to all three survey rounds)



	Q3 2020 (Round 1)	Q1 2021 (Round 2)	Q4 2021 (Round 3)
Average disruption	56%	41%	44%
75-100% disruption	37%	13%	19%
50-74% disruption	23%	29%	26%
25-49% disruption	18%	26%	23%
Less than 25% disruption	11%	27%	21%
No disruption	11%	4%	11%

Denominator: 92 countries/territories responded to all three survey rounds and consented to data sharing agreement. The denominator represents the 89/92 countries that submitted a response on service disruption levels. Cumulative percentages may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding.

Services include: primary care, emergency, critical and operative care, rehabilitation, palliative care, cancer care, community care, and tracer services for reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and nutrition, immunization, communicable diseases, neglected tropical diseases, mental, neurological and substance use disorders, and care for older people

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

All health care settings and service delivery platforms were affected, particularly first-contact services

Percentage of countries reporting disruptions:

53%

Primary care

38%

Emergency, critical and operative care

59%

Elective surgeries

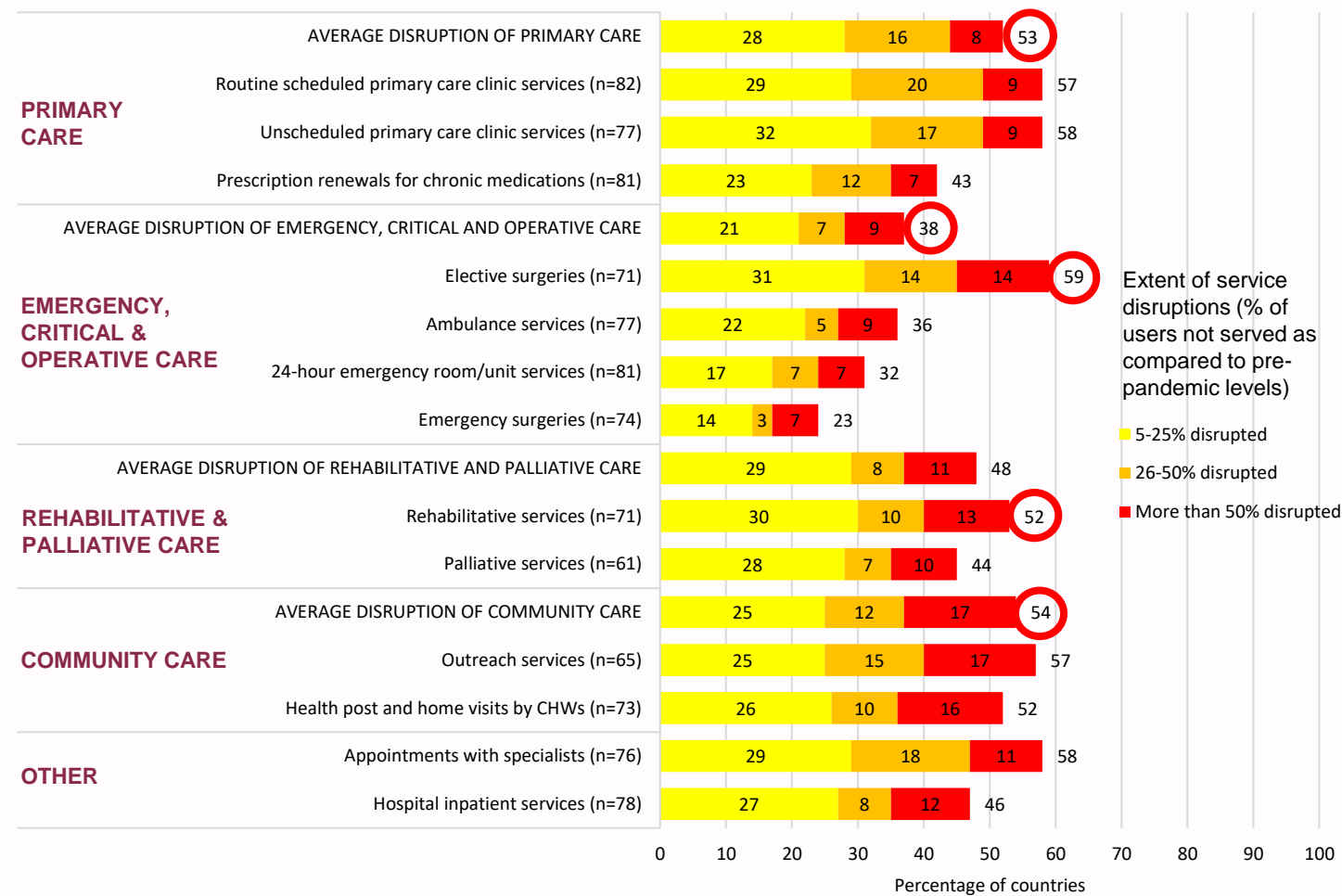
52%

Rehabilitative services

54%

Community care

Percentage of countries reporting disruptions by service delivery setting (n=93)



Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

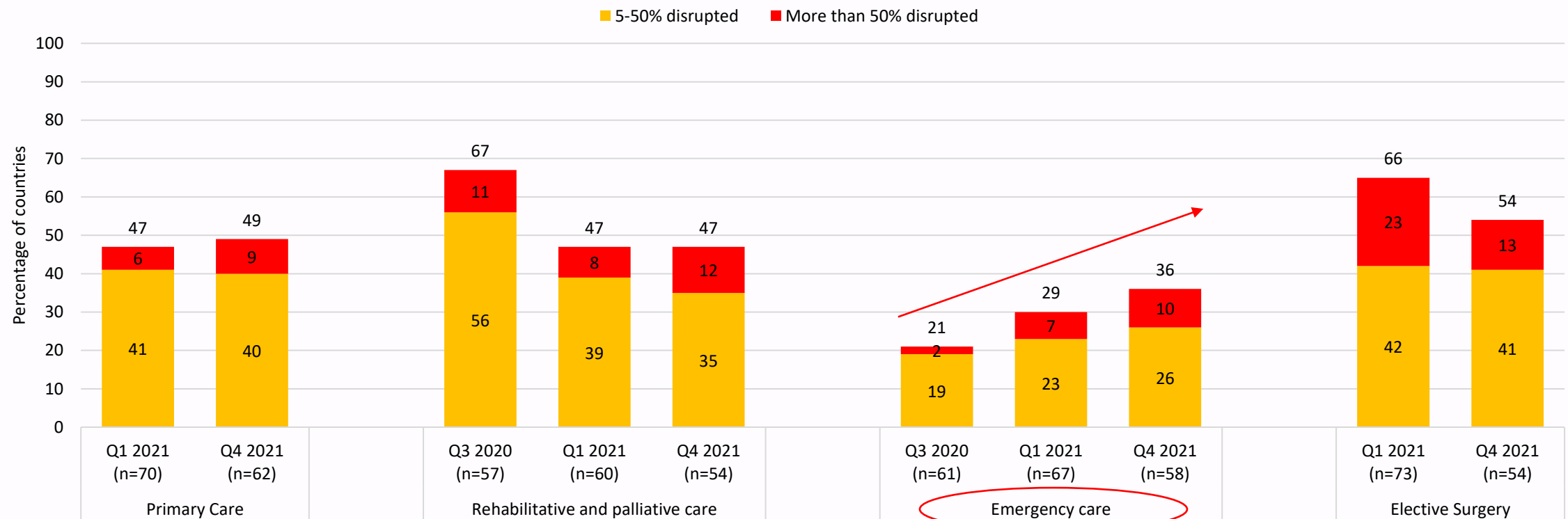


Most service delivery settings experienced similar disruption levels to early 2021

With concerning increases reported in disruptions to emergency care

Comparison of disruptions by service delivery settings in 95 countries that responded to all three survey rounds: Q3 2020 (Round 1), Q1 2021 (Round 2) and Q4 2021 (Round 3)

Extent of service disruptions (% of users not served as compared to pre-pandemic levels)



Service delivery settings and services include: Primary care (Routine scheduled primary care clinic services, Unscheduled primary care clinic services, Prescription renewals for chronic medications); Emergency care (Ambulance services, 24-hour emergency room/unit services, Emergency surgeries); Rehabilitative care and palliative care services; Elective surgery.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

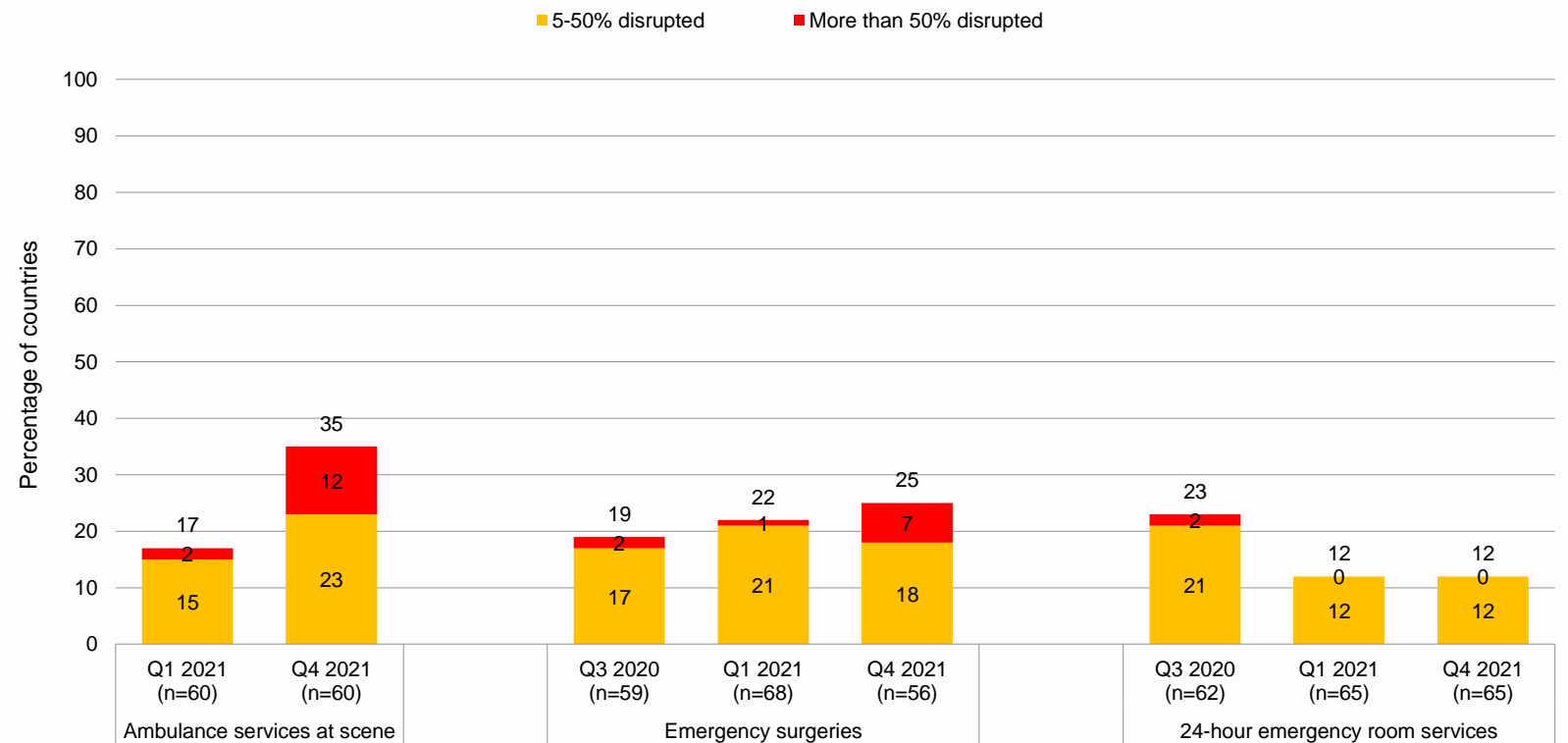


Increased disruptions reported to potentially life-saving emergency care, likely resulting in substantial near-term increased mortality from both COVID-19 and other time-sensitive conditions



About twice as many countries reported service disruptions for ambulance services between Q1 2021 and Q4 2021

Comparison of service disruptions in emergency care: Q3 2020 (Round 1), Q1 2021 (Round 2) and Q4 2021 (Round 3) (in countries that responded to all three survey rounds)



Note: Services included in round 3 and at least one other round will be compared. Services assessed in only round 3 of the survey will not have a comparison over time. Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

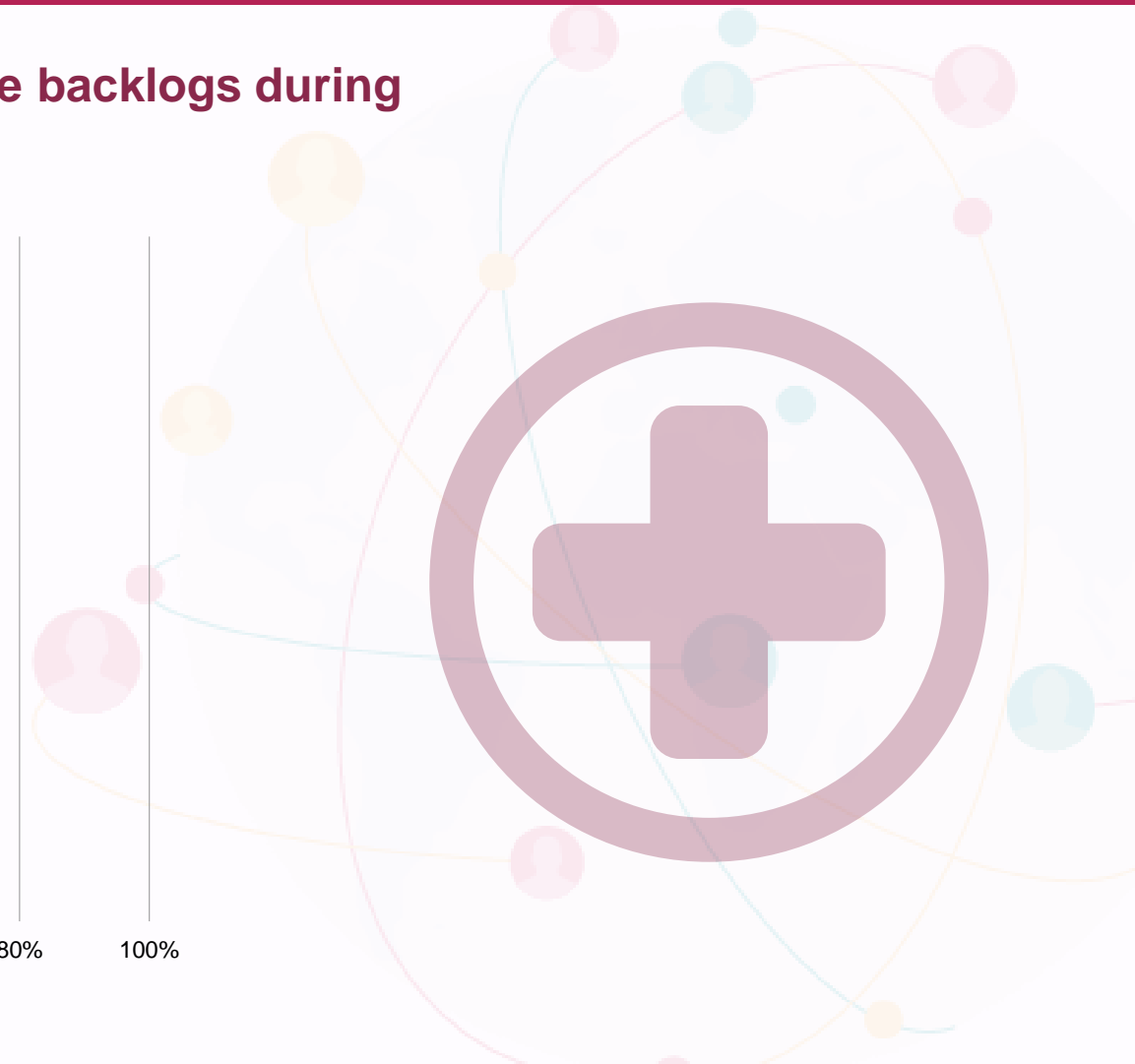
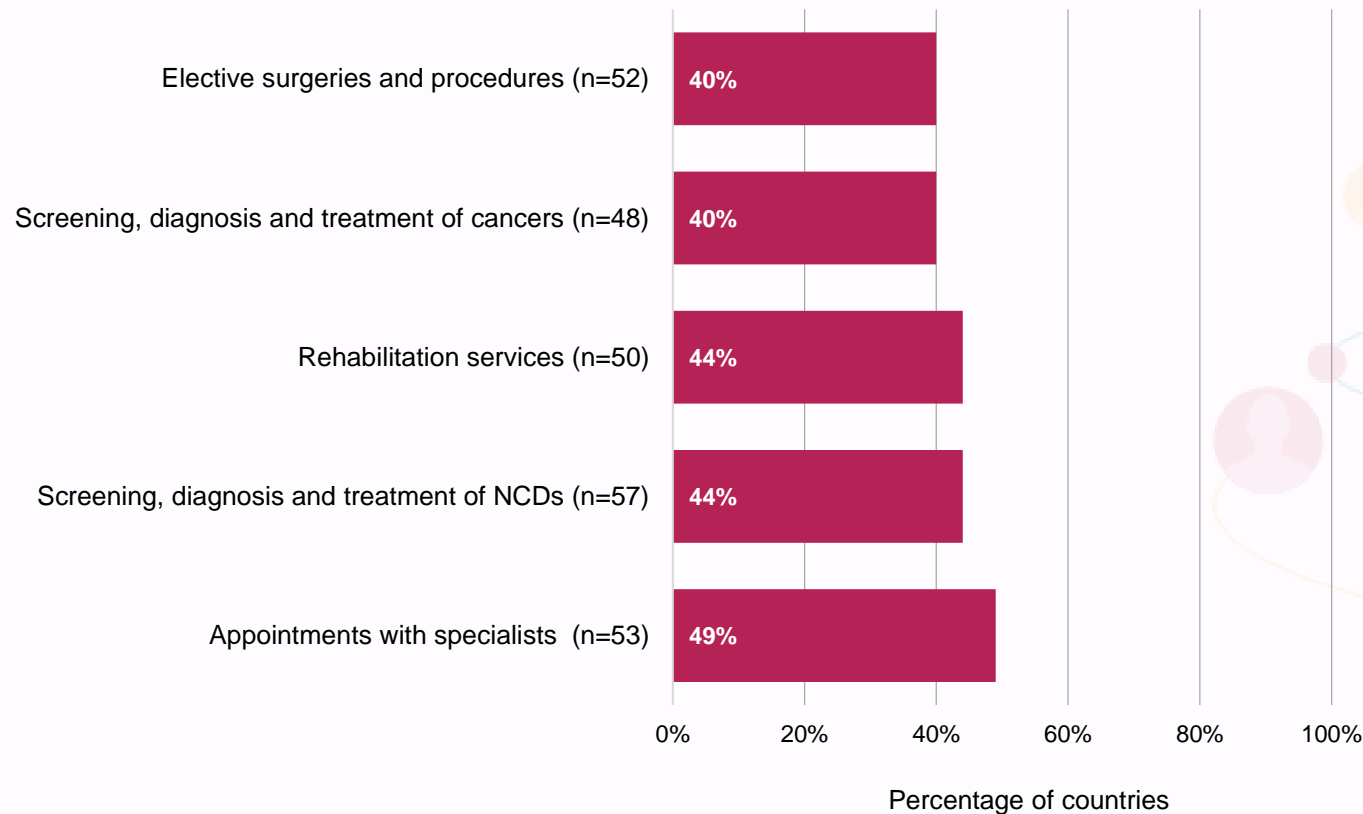


40% or more countries reported increased backlogs in multiple essential health services during the second half of 2021, including: care for cancer, other noncommunicable diseases and rehabilitation



World Health Organization

Percentage of countries reporting increases in service backlogs during the second half of 2021



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

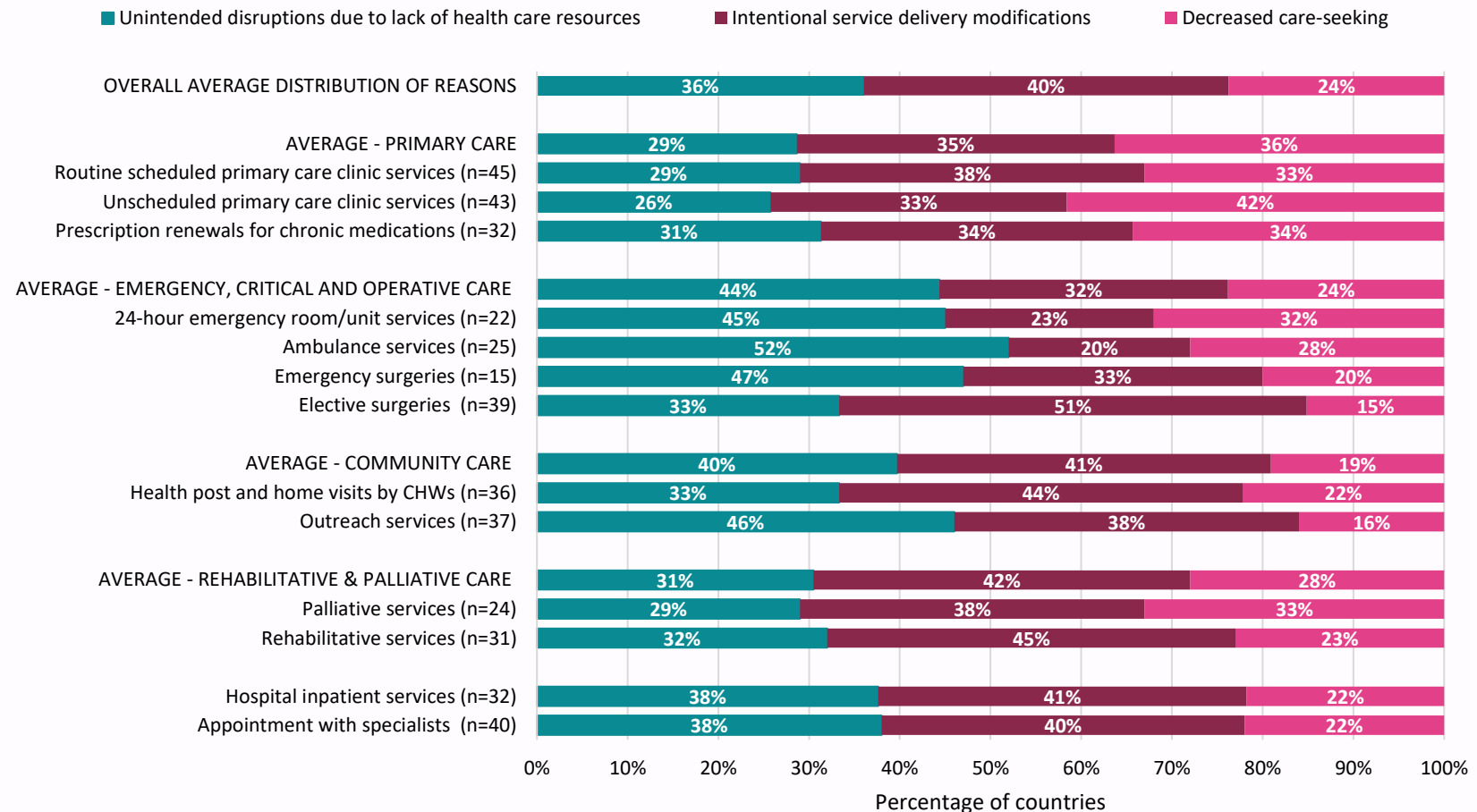


Disruptions are due to both supply- and demand-side factors:



- **lack of health care resources (1/3 of countries)**
- **policies to suspend or scale back services (1/3 of countries)**
- **decreased care-seeking (1/4 of countries)**

Percentage of countries reporting reasons for service disruptions



Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)



All health systems are responding to overcome service disruptions and recover quality services



All countries reported actions to mitigate consequences and promote service recovery

All countries reported using at least one strategy to overcome service disruptions, such as:

- Home-based care & catch-up visits
- Recruitment, training and support to health workers
- Procurement of surge commodities
- Communications with communities
- A number of health financing strategies

Percentage of countries implementing mitigation & recovery actions (n=95)



Policies, planning and investments for continuity of essential health services and health systems recovery



World Health
Organization





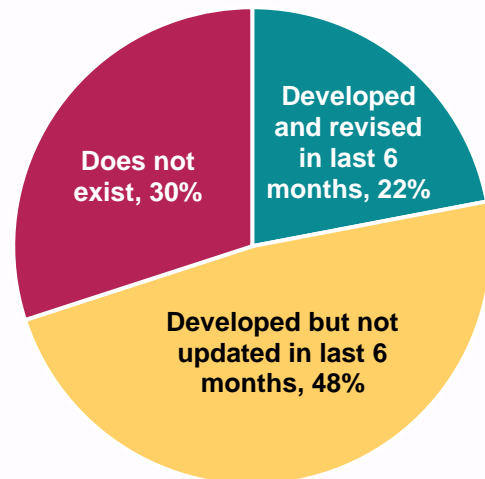
Policies and plans for continuity of essential health services and health systems recovery



2/3

About two thirds of countries have policies and plans for continuity of essential health services during the pandemic

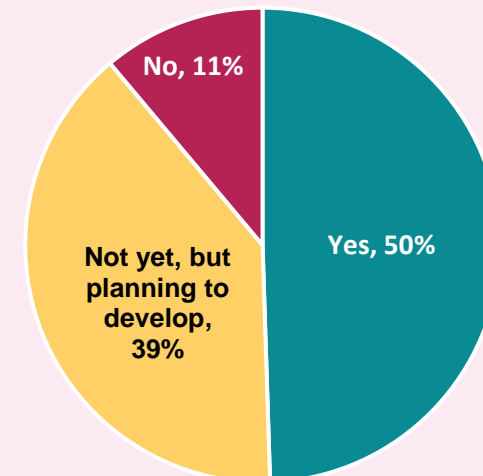
Percentage of countries with policy or plan for continuity of essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic (n=86)



1/2

Half of countries have plans in place for building longer-term health service resilience and preparedness

Percentage of countries with health system recovery plan to strengthen health service resilience and preparedness for future public health emergencies (n=87)



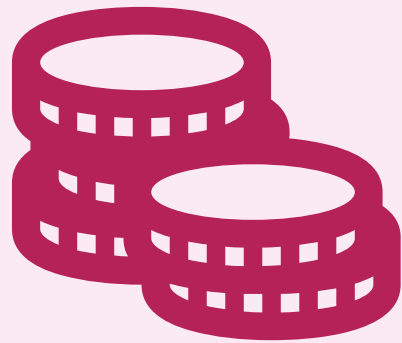


More than two-thirds of countries allocated additional funding for longer-term health system recovery

Access to medicines and supplies and workforce capacities are the most common areas of investment



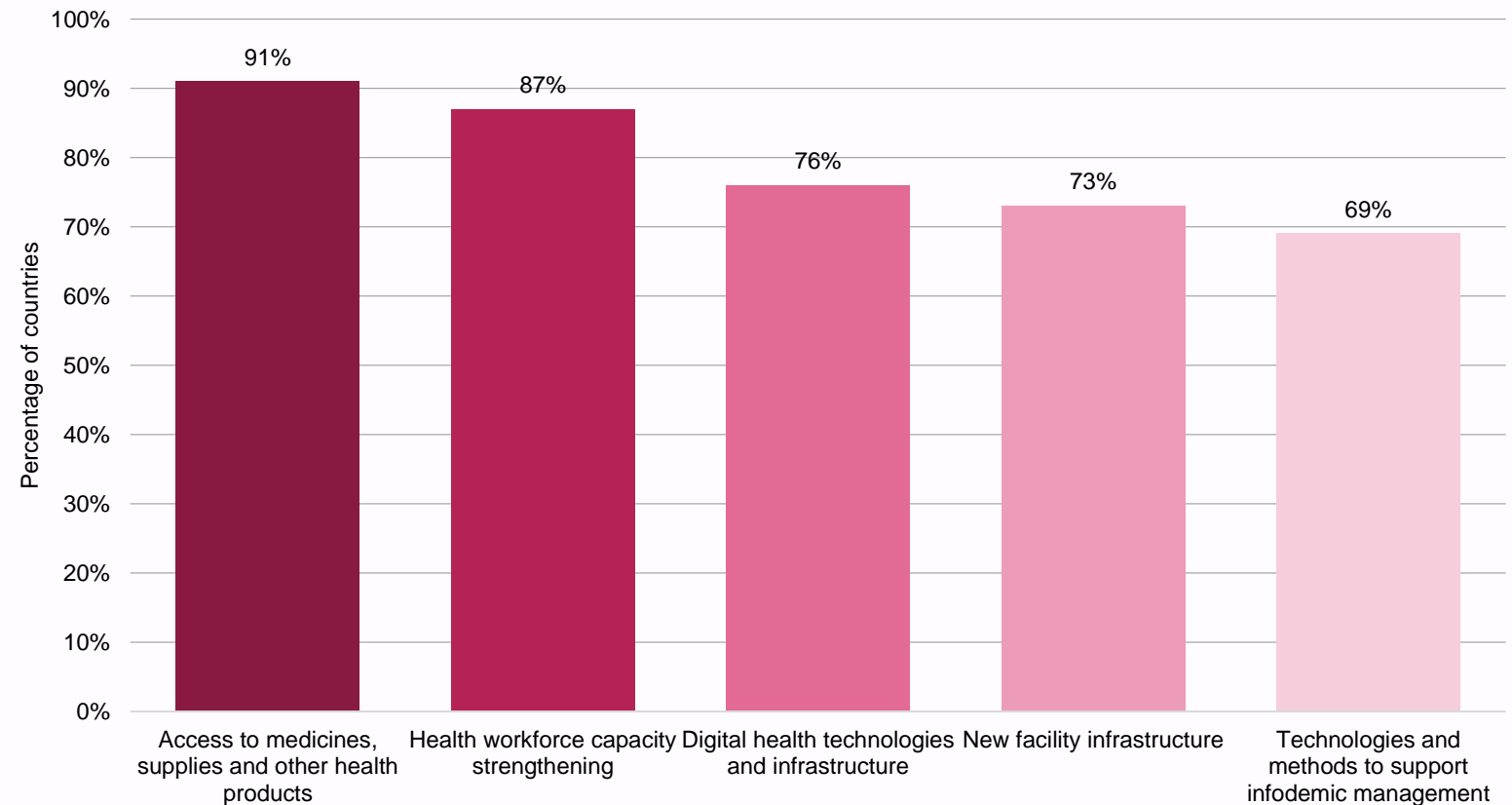
World Health Organization



70%

of countries allocated additional government funding for longer-term health system recovery and/or health service resilience and preparedness (n=79)

Percentage of countries reporting investments for longer-term health system recovery and/or health service resilience and preparedness (of the countries reporting any investments: n=55)



Bottlenecks to access of essential COVID-19 tools



World Health
Organization

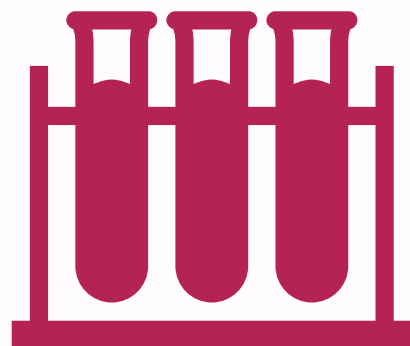




Countries are facing critical challenges to scaling up access to essential COVID-19 tools, notably around health workforce and community demand



Most countries reported bottlenecks to scaling up access to essential COVID-19 tools

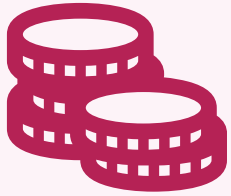


92%

of countries (87 of 95) reported at least one bottleneck to COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics, vaccination and PPE access



Bottlenecks to scaling up access to COVID-19 tools include:



Lack of funding



Health workforce challenges



Supply & equipment shortages



Lack of distribution capacity



Lack of clear strategy, guidance, or protocols



Lack of needed data & information



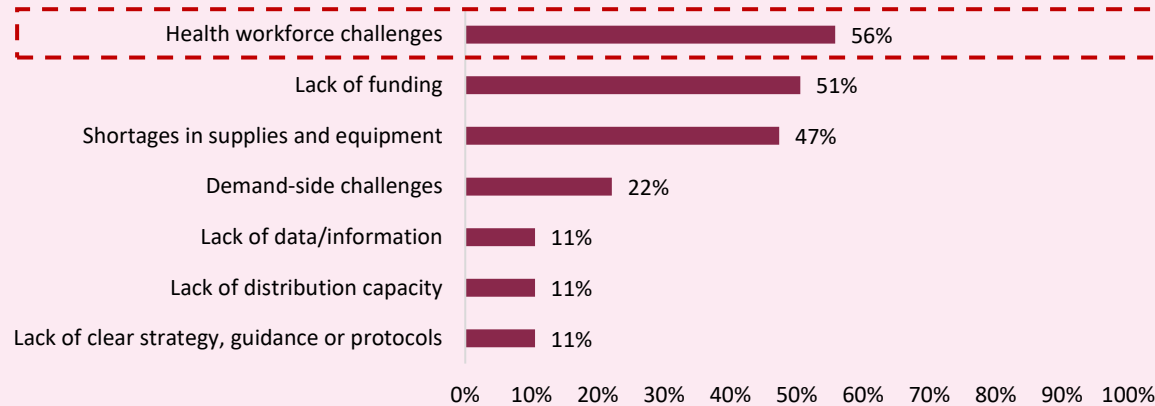
Health workforce issues represent the biggest barriers to access to COVID-19 tools

Community demand challenges (including due to acceptance and affordability) is greatest challenge to scaling up COVID-19 vaccination

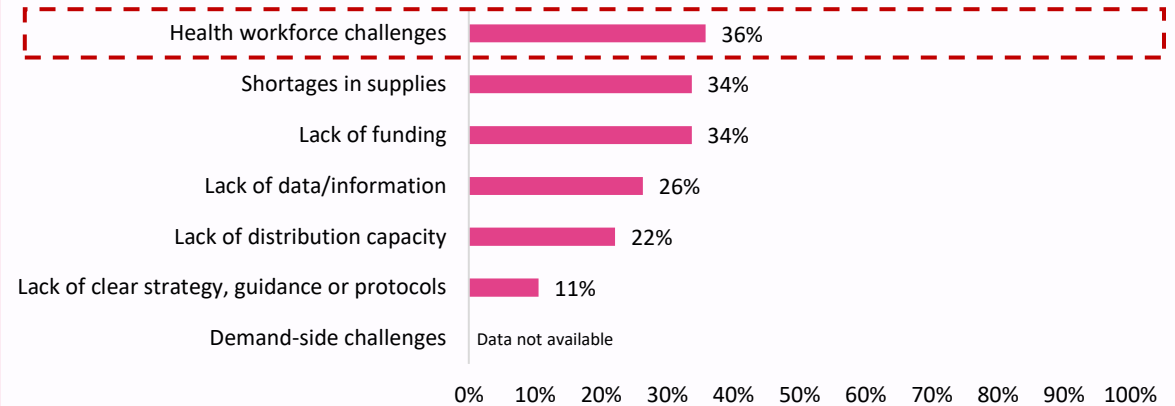


World Health Organization

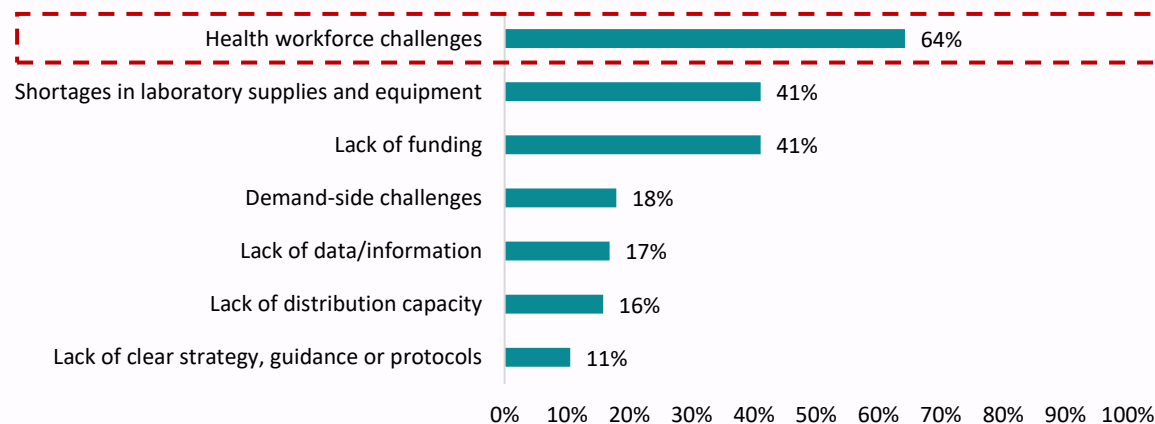
Bottlenecks for COVID-19 diagnostic and testing (n=95)



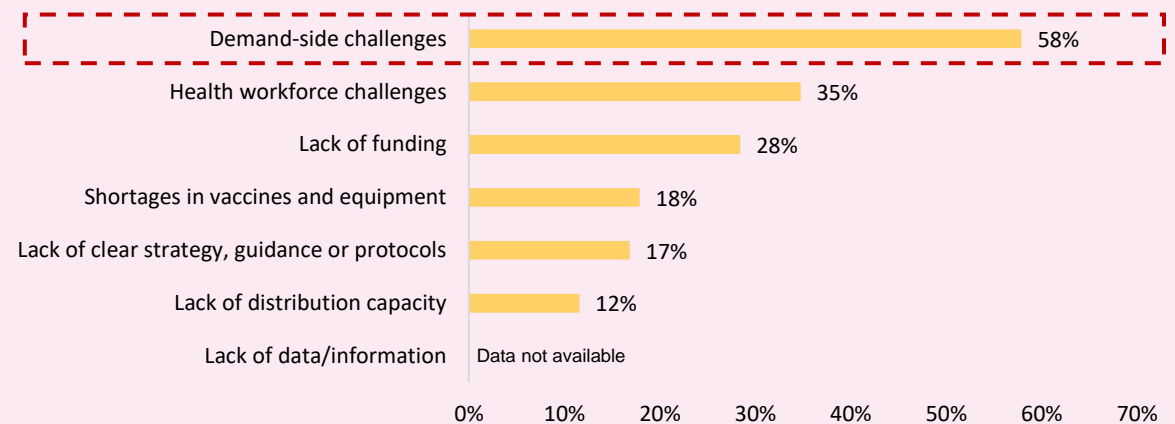
Bottlenecks for PPE distribution and use (n=95)



Bottlenecks for COVID-19 therapeutics (n=95)



Bottlenecks for COVID-19 vaccination (n=95)



Country priority needs



World Health
Organization





Countries reported priority needs for maintaining continuity of essential health services and scaling up essential COVID-19 tools:



World Health Organization

- Health worker strengthening (e.g. recruitment, retention and training)
- Availability of essential health products and essential COVID-19 tools
- Rapid tools or guidance to assess and monitor health service capacities and health system absorption capacities
- Guidance on developing national policies, strategies, or plans for continuity of essential health services and scale up of essential COVID-19 tools
- Financial planning support
- Risk communication and community engagement strategies
- Operational guidance and protocols for supply chain management



Condition- and programme-specific tracer service disruptions



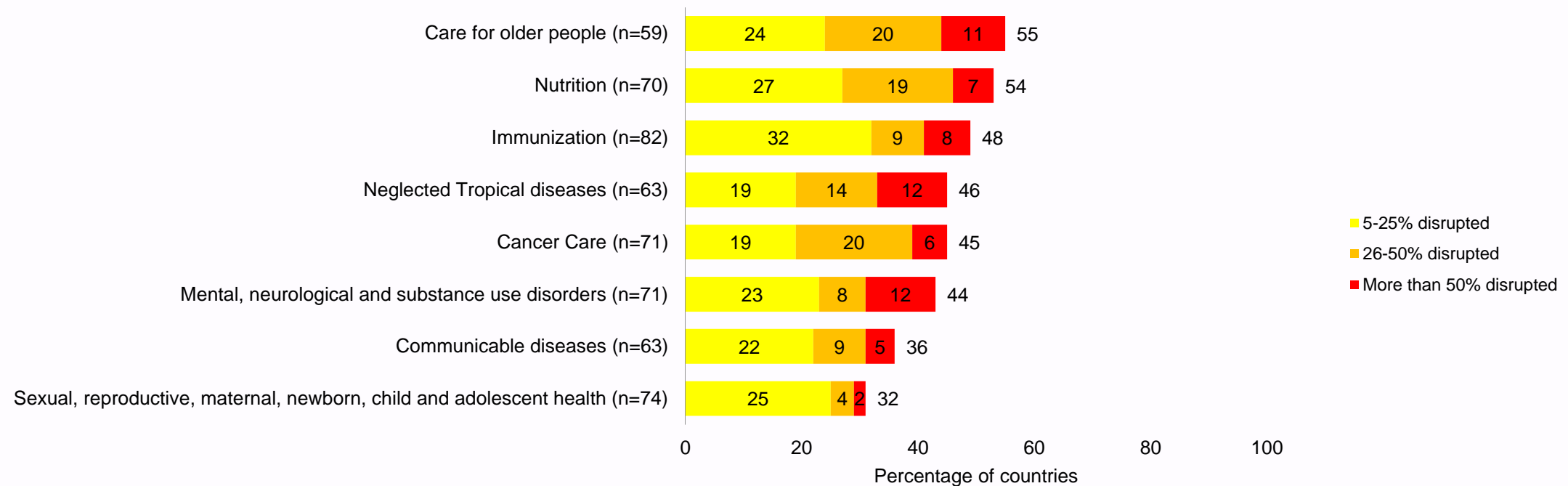
World Health
Organization





Countries report disruptions across all major tracer service areas

Percentage of countries reporting disruptions, by condition- and programme-specific service area



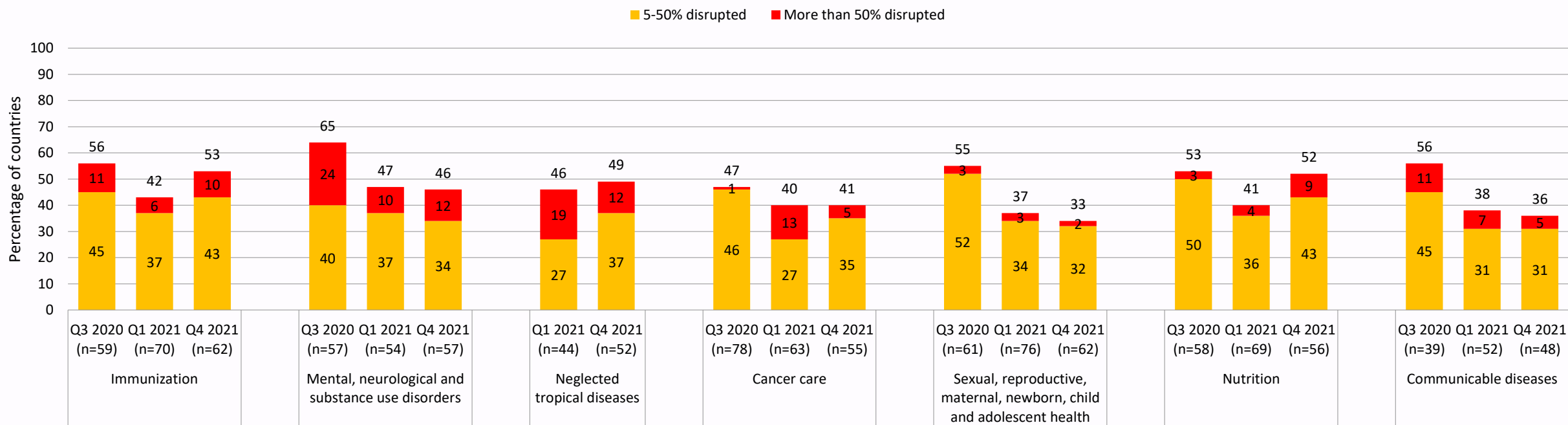
Care for older people services include: Screening and assessment of physical and mental capacity, health and social care services in the community and long-term care facilities; and provision of integrated health and social care services. *Nutrition include:* Counseling on infant and young child feeding; screening/treatment for moderate/severe wasting; and distribution of high dose vitamin A supplementation. *Immunization services include:* facility-based routine immunization; and outreach routine immunization. *Neglected tropical disease services include:* Diagnosis, treatment and care; preventive chemotherapy campaigns; community awareness and health education campaigns; support for self-care, rehabilitation and psychosocial services for people with chronic NTDs; prescriptions for NTD medicines; and surgical procedures for NTDs. *Cancer care services include:* Cancer screening and treatment. *Mental, neurological, and substance use disorders (MNS) services include:* MNS emergency services; counselling for MNS disorders; medicines for MNS disorders; services for children and adolescents; services for older adults; school mental health programmes; suicide prevention programmes; overdose prevention programmes; and critical harm reduction services. *Sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child & adolescent health & nutrition services include:* family planning & contraception; antenatal care; facility-based births; sick child services; post-natal care. *Communicable disease services include:* Continuation of established antiretroviral treatment; Initiation of new ARV treatment; HIV prevention services; HIV testing services; Hepatitis B and C diagnosis and treatment; TB diagnosis and treatment; malaria diagnosis and treatment; ITN malaria prevention campaigns; IRS malaria prevention campaigns; and SMC malaria prevention campaigns.



All condition- and programme-specific services continue to be disrupted

Comparison of disruptions by tracer services in countries that responded to all three survey rounds: Q3 2020 (Round 1), Q1 2021 (Round 2) and Q4 2021 (Round 3)

Extent of service disruptions (% of users not served as compared to pre-pandemic levels)



Immunization services include: facility-based routine immunization and outreach routine immunization. *Mental, neurological, and substance use disorders (MNS) services include:* MNS emergency services; counselling for MNS disorders; medicines for MNS disorders; services for children and adolescents; services for older adults; school mental health programmes; suicide prevention programmes; overdose prevention programmes; and critical harm reduction services. *Neglected tropical disease services include:* Diagnosis, treatment and care; preventive chemotherapy campaigns; community awareness and health education campaigns; support for self-care, rehabilitation and psychosocial services for people with chronic NTDs; prescriptions for NTD medicines; and surgical procedures for NTDs. *Cancer care services include:* Cancer screening and treatment. *Sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child & adolescent health & nutrition services include:* family planning & contraception; antenatal care; facility-based births; sick child services; post-natal care. *Nutrition services include:* screening/treatment for moderate/severe wasting. *Communicable disease services include:* Continuation of established antiretroviral treatment; Initiation of new ARV treatment; HIV prevention services; HIV testing services; Hepatitis B and C diagnosis and treatment; TB diagnosis and treatment; malaria diagnosis and treatment; ITN malaria prevention campaigns; IRS malaria prevention campaigns; and SMC malaria prevention campaigns.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)



Disruptions in services for sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health



1/3

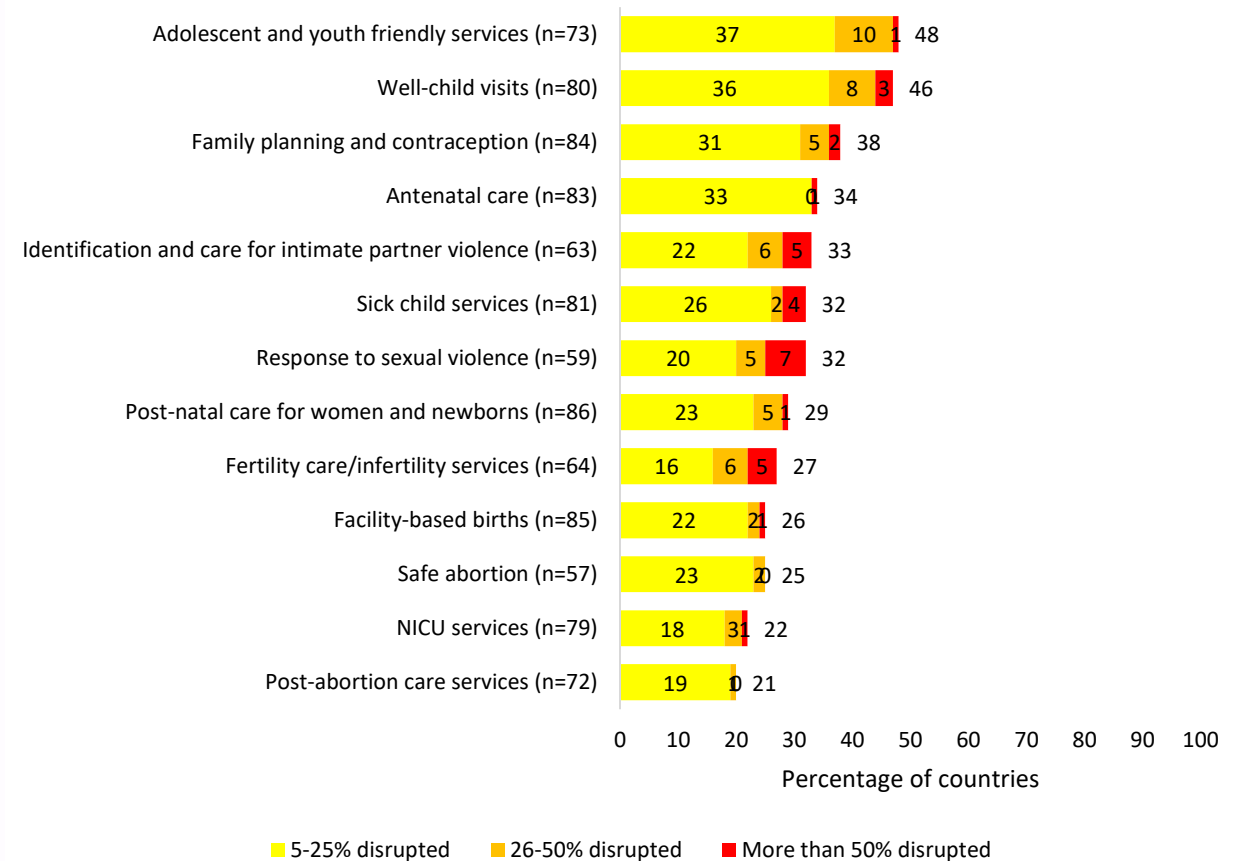
Approximately 1/3 of countries report disruptions to:

- family planning and contraception services
- antenatal care and postnatal care, critical health services to ensure that pregnant women and newborns survive and remain healthy
- Sick child services
- Identification and care for intimate partner violence

approximately 45%

Disruptions were most reported in well-child visits and adolescent health services

Percentage of countries reporting disruptions in sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services in Q4 2021



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

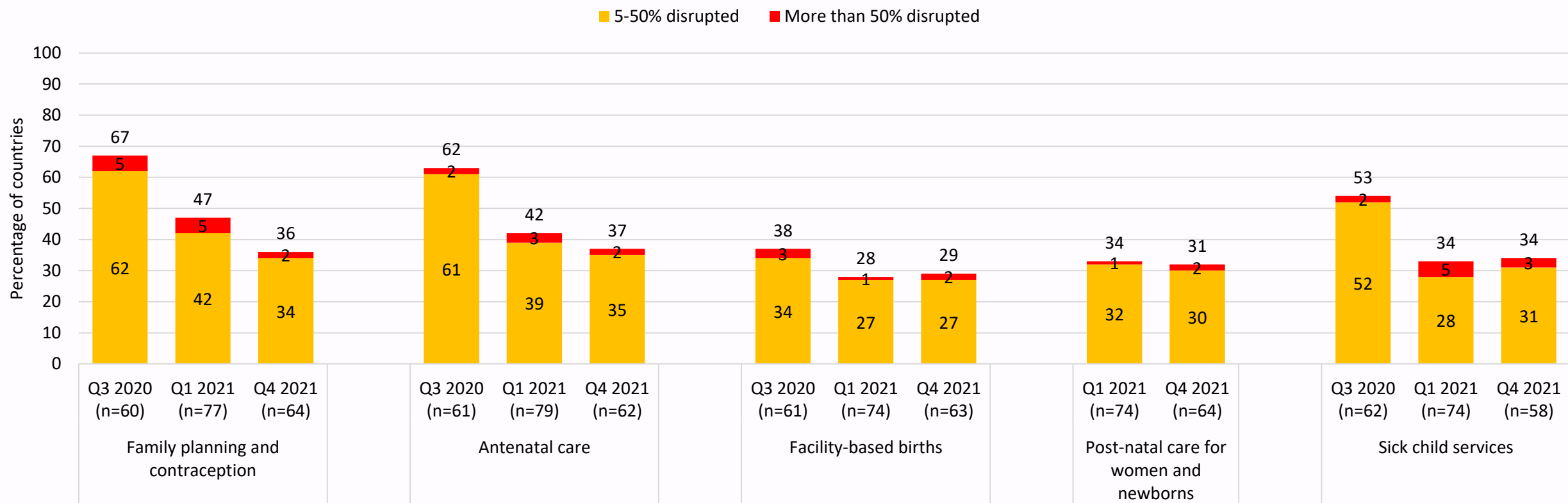


Similar disruption levels continue across most sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services



10% decrease in percentage of countries reporting disruptions to family planning and contraception services in Q4 2021 as compared to Q1 2021

Comparison of disruptions in sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services in countries that responded to all three survey rounds: Q3 2020 (Round 1), Q1 2021 (Round 2) and Q4 2021 (Round 3)



Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

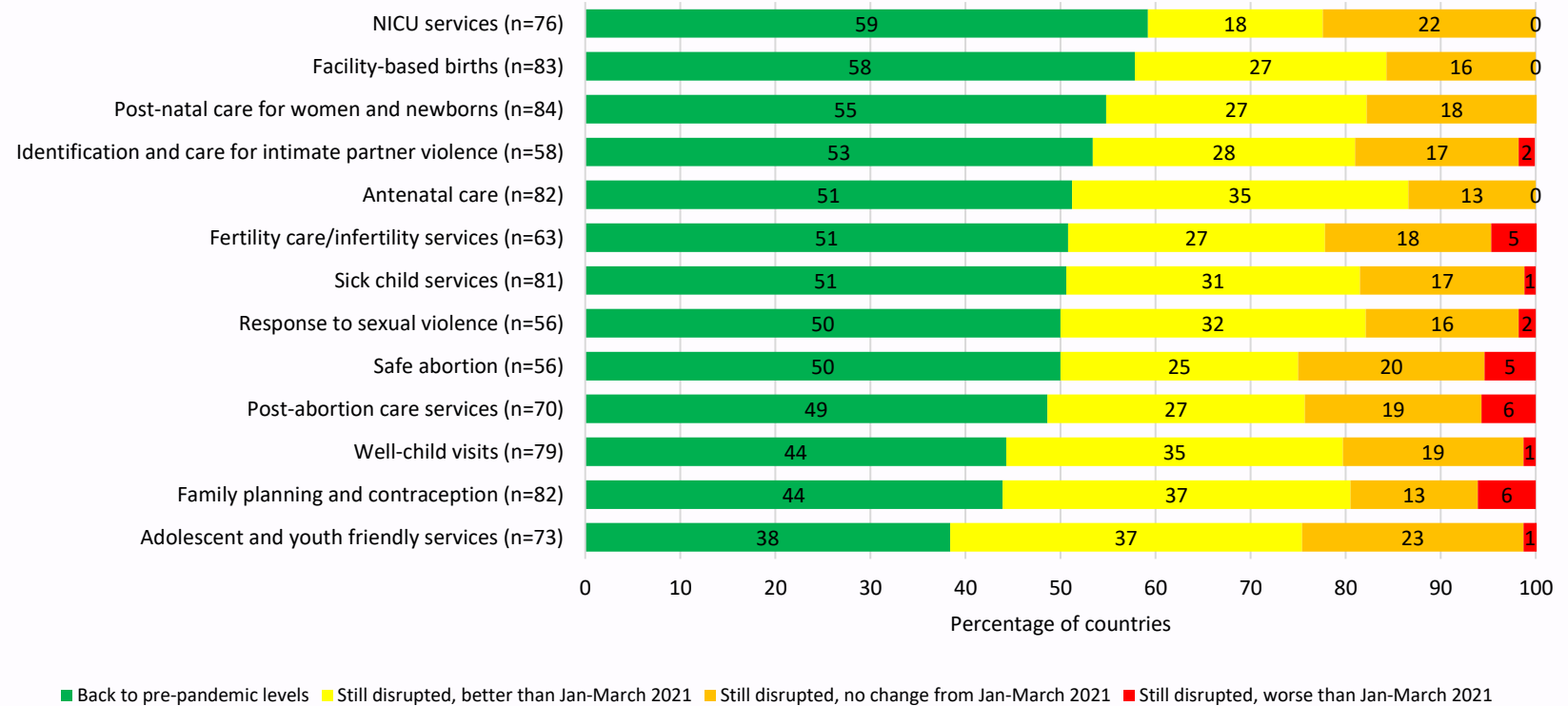


Signs of partial service recovery across all sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services



- Across most sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health delivery channels, at least three quarters of countries reported either no disruption or fewer disruptions than in Jan-March 2021
- Heavily curative services (e.g. NICU and facility-based births) generally have better perceived improvement

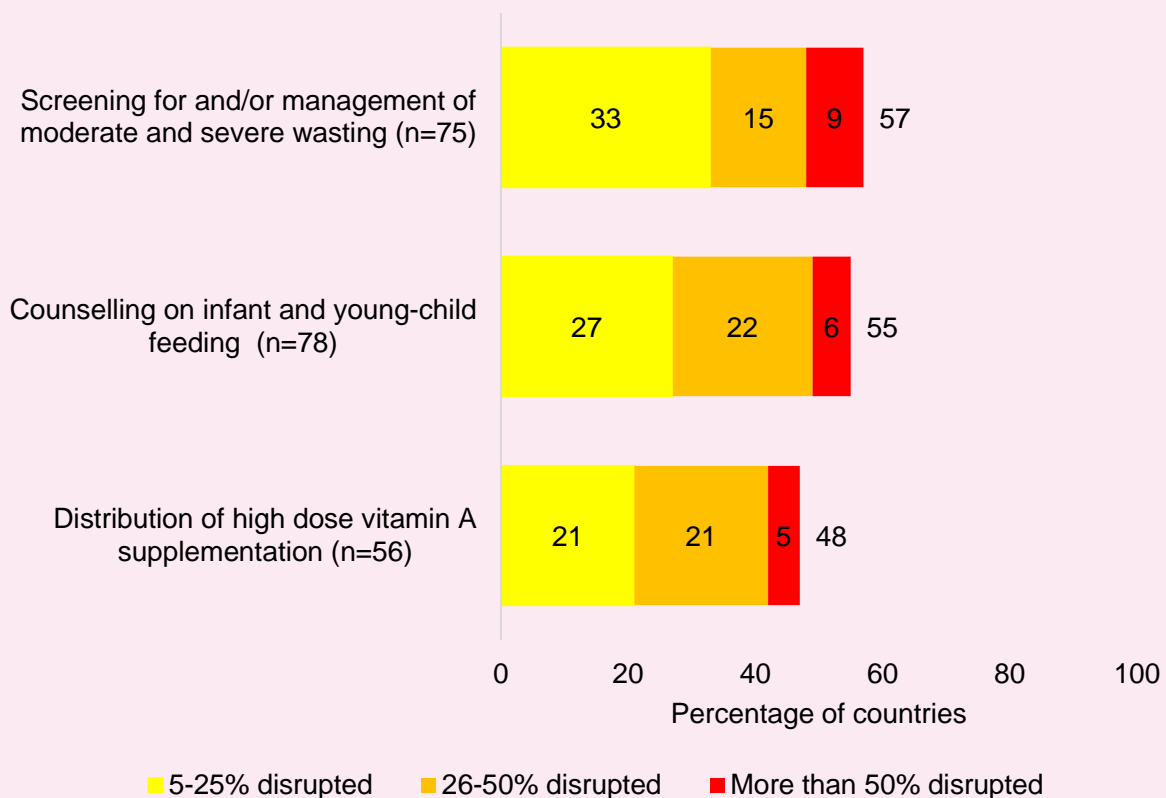
Perceptions of levels of disruption and recovery in sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services as compared to Q1 2021



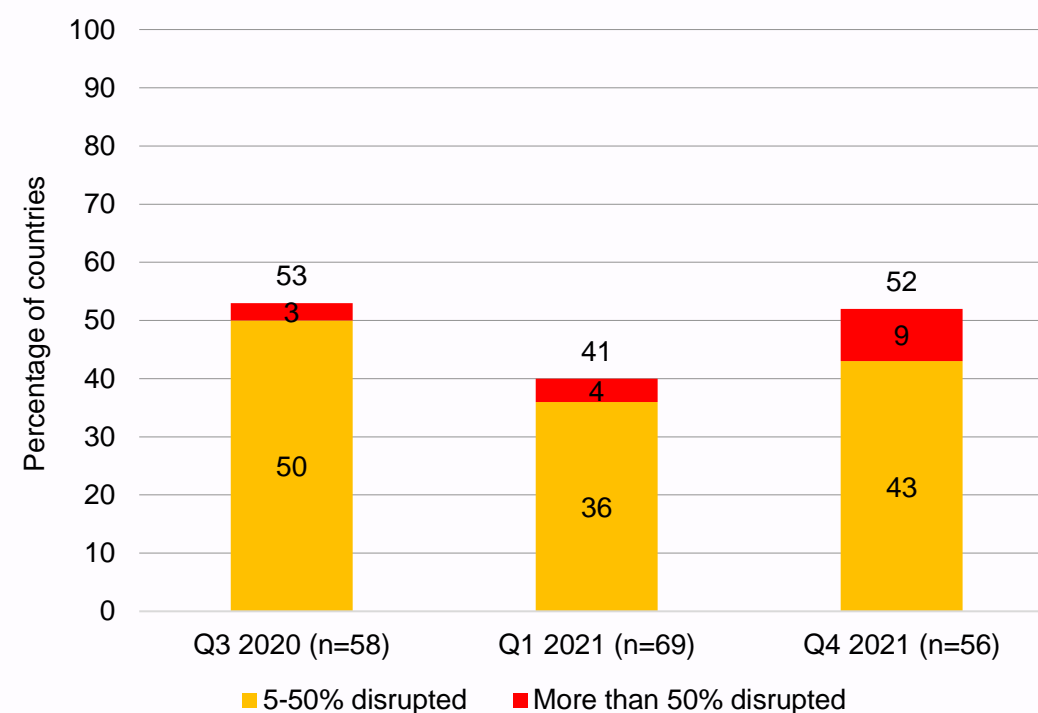
Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Disruptions in services for nutrition

Percentage of countries reporting disruptions in nutrition services in Q4 2021



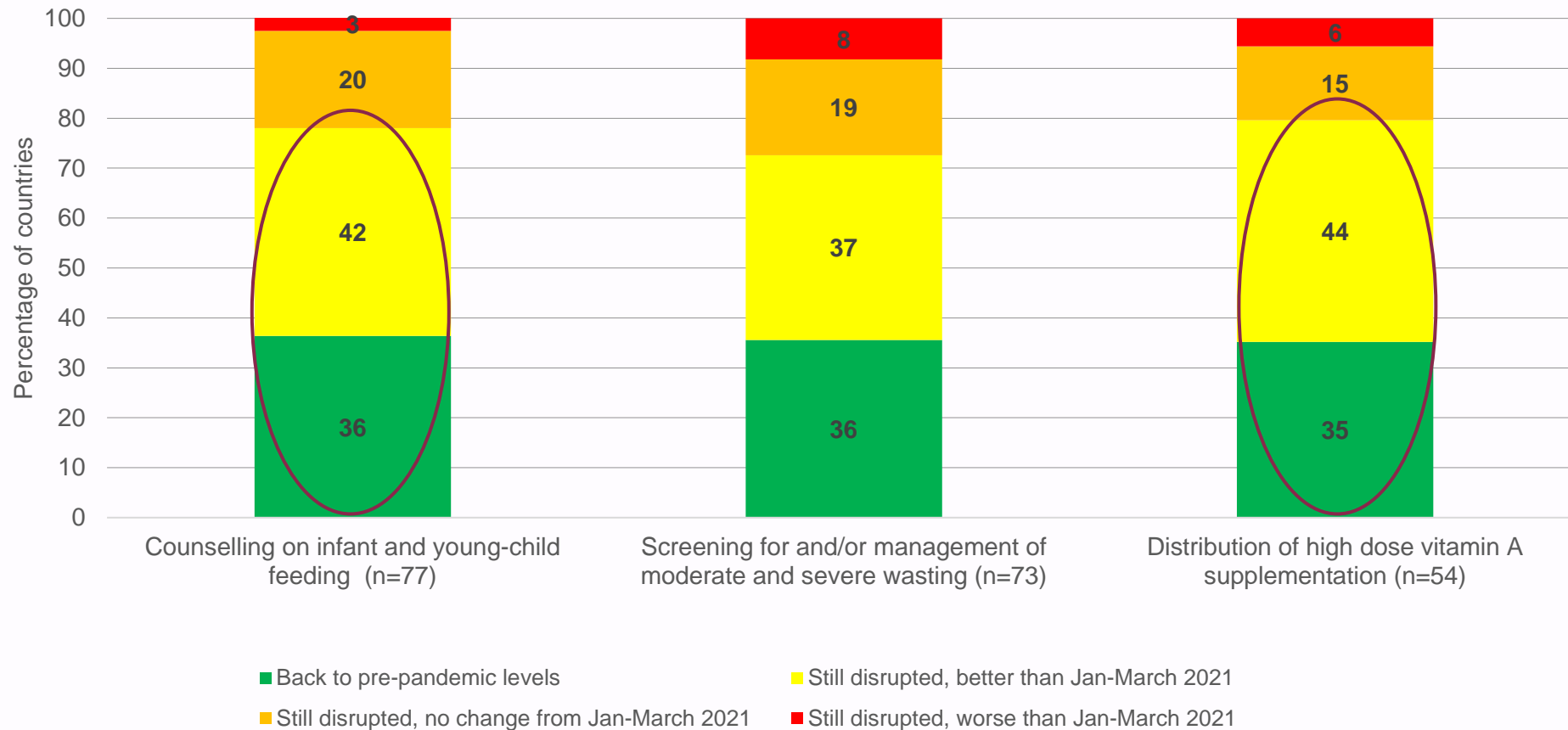
Comparison of disruptions in screening for and/or management of moderate/severe wasting in countries that responded to all three survey rounds: Q3 2020 (Round 1), Q1 2021 (Round 2) and Q4 2021 (Round 3)





Despite persisting disruptions in nutrition services, approximately 40% of countries report improvements in magnitude of disruptions since Q1 2021

Perceptions of levels of disruption and recovery in nutrition services as compared to Q1 2021



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

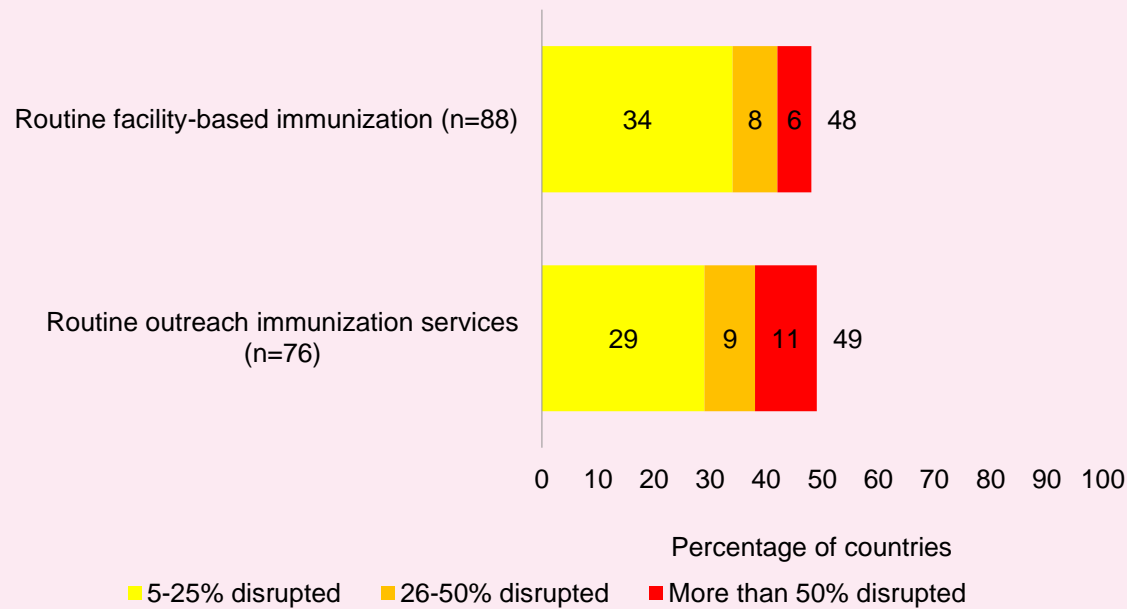


Disruptions in services for immunization

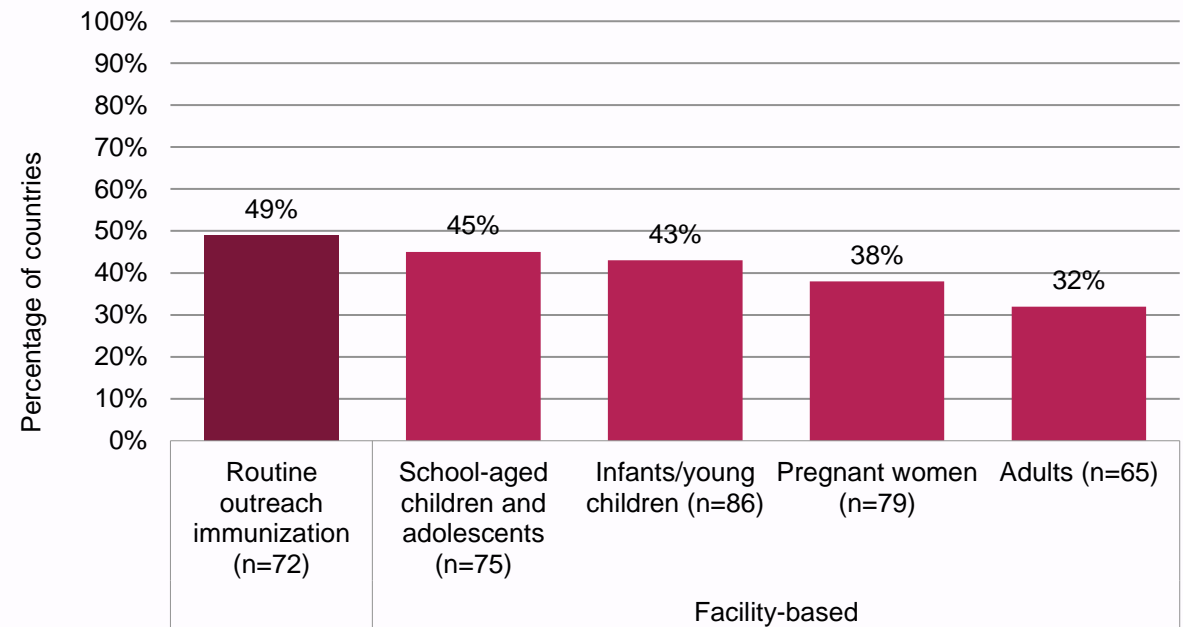
As COVID-19 vaccination has scaled up, disruptions in routine immunization services persist



Percentage of countries reporting disruptions in routine immunization services in Q4 2021 due to COVID-19



Percentage of countries reporting disruptions to routine immunization services in Q4 2021 due to COVID-19 vaccination scale up



Almost half of countries reported disruptions to both routine facility-based and outreach immunization services

Disruptions due to COVID-19 vaccination scale up were most frequently reported in outreach immunization services and vaccination of school aged children

Note: The percentage of countries reporting disruptions must be interpreted with caution. Reported levels of disruption in the first two pulse surveys did not seem to correlate with net annual vaccination coverage levels achieved for 2020. Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

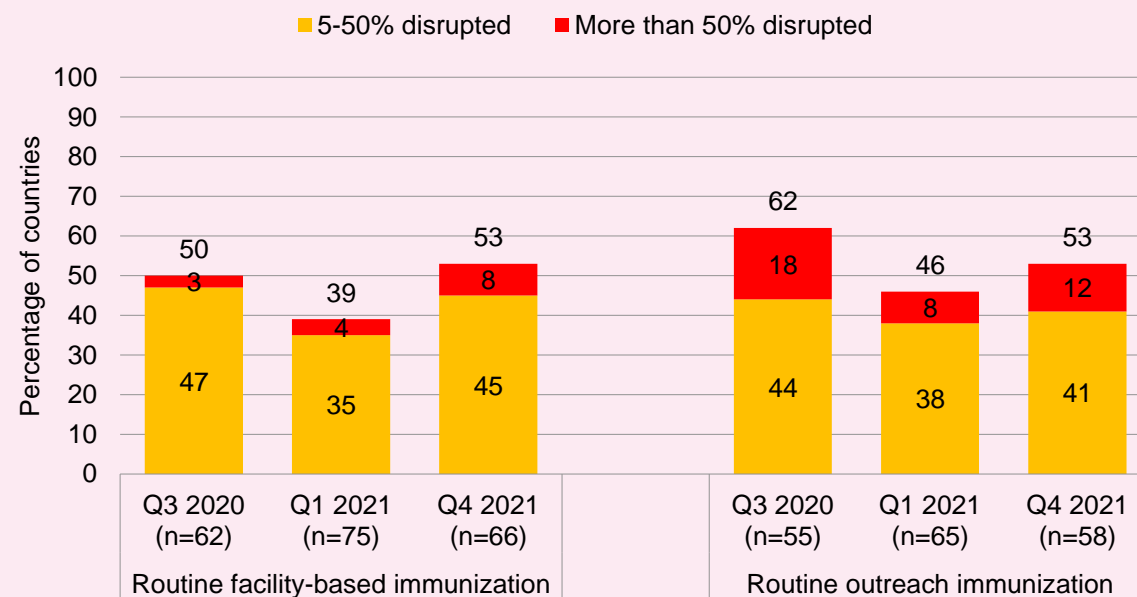


The percentage of countries reporting disruptions to immunization services has increased compared to reporting in Q1 2021



14% increase in countries reporting disruptions to facility-based immunization and 7% increase in countries reporting disruptions to outreach immunization when compared to Q1 2021 reporting (since when many countries have scaled up COVID-19 vaccination programmes)

Comparison of disruptions in immunization services in countries that responded to all three survey rounds: Q3 2020 (Round 1), Q1 2021 (Round 2) and Q4 2021 (Round 3)

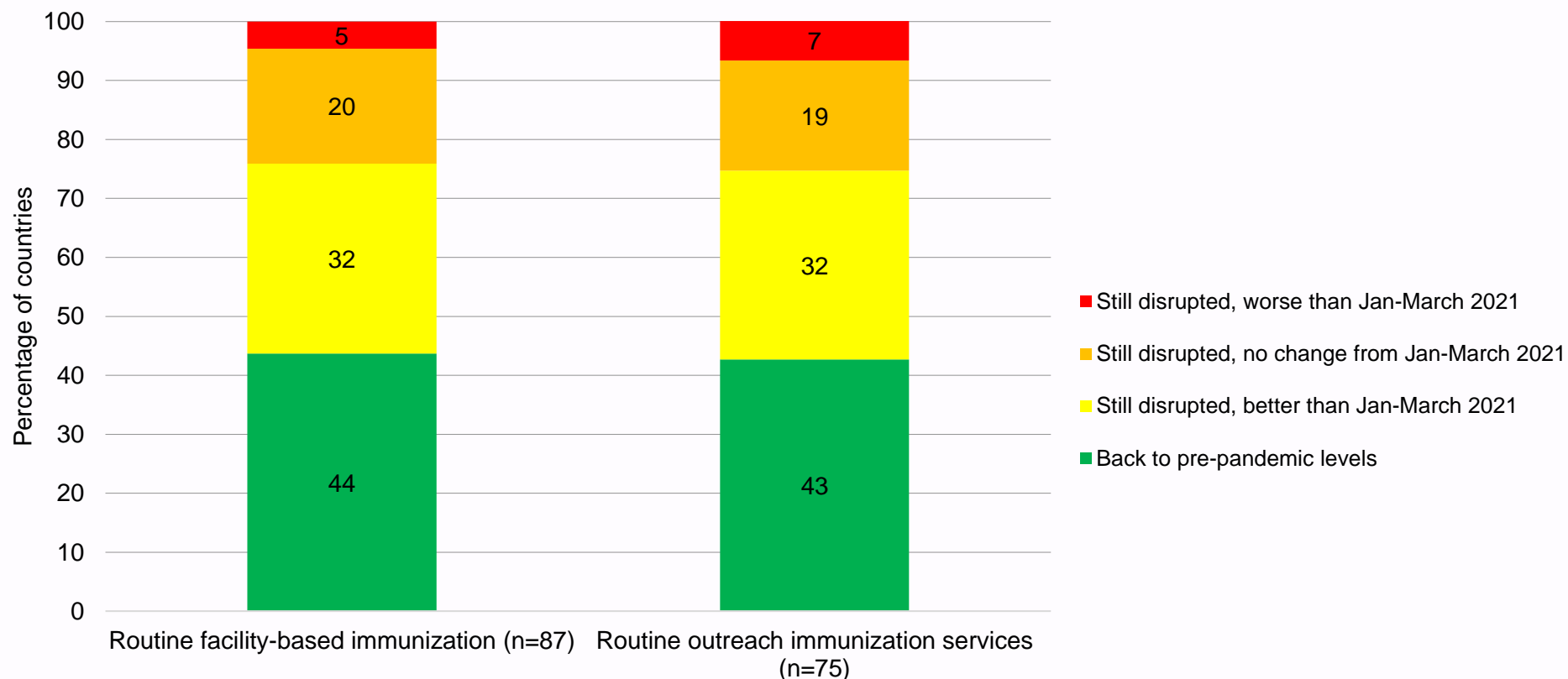


Note: The percentage of countries reporting disruptions must be interpreted with caution. Reported levels of disruption in the first two pulse surveys did not seem to correlate with net annual vaccination coverage levels achieved for 2020. *Denominator:* excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.



Despite persisting disruptions in routine immunization services, some countries report perceptions of recovery since Q1 2021

Perceptions of levels of disruption and recovery in immunization services in Q4 2021 as compared to Q1 2021



Disruptions in services for mental, neurological and substance use disorders

School mental health programmes (56%) and alcohol prevention and management programmes (51%) are among the most predominantly disrupted services across all service areas



From prevention and promotion: school mental health programmes and suicide prevention programmes



To diagnostics and treatments neuroimaging and neurophysiology, psychotherapy, counselling and psychosocial interventions, and prescriptions

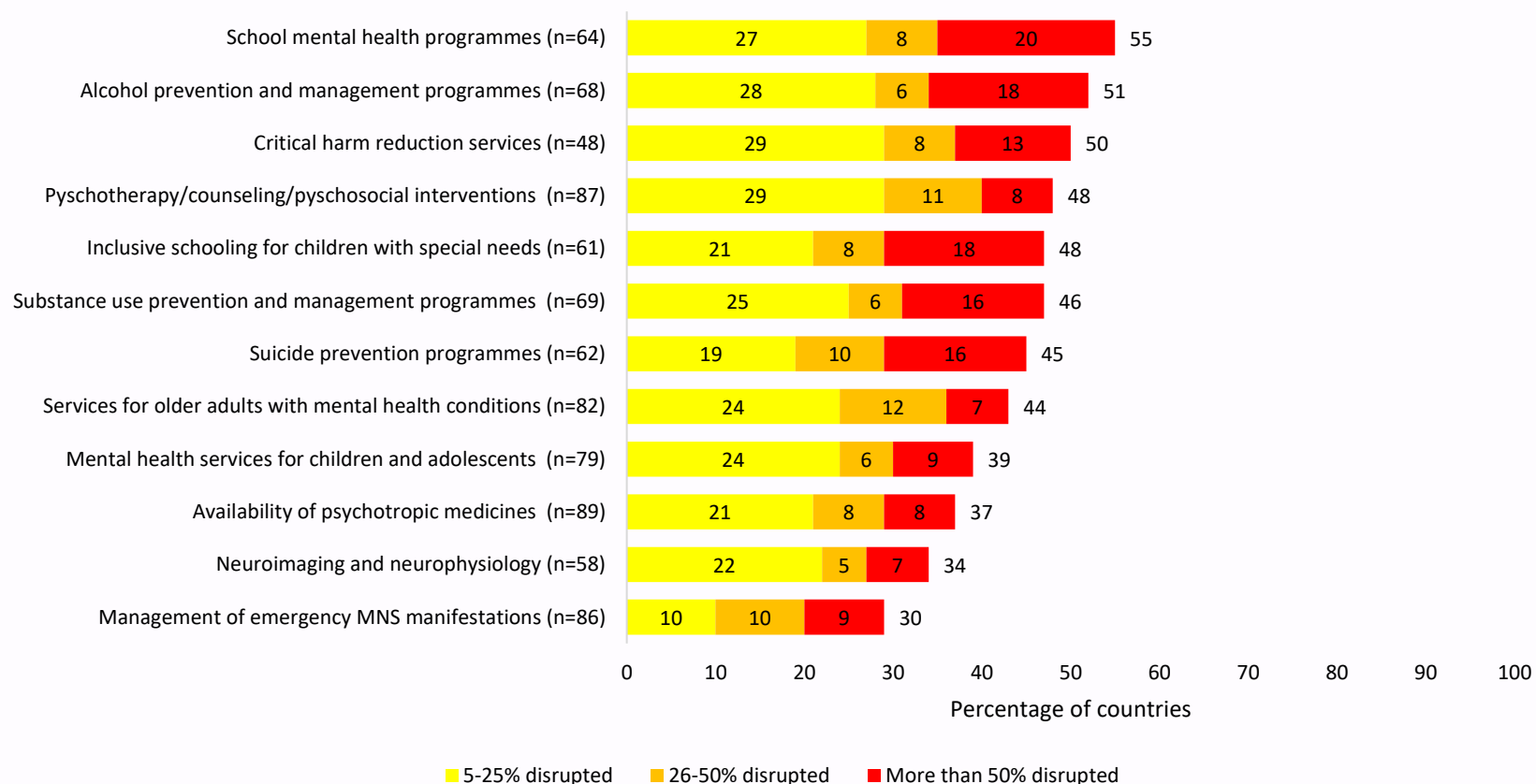


For life-saving emergency care: management of emergency MNS manifestations, critical harm reduction services, overdose prevention and management programmes



For the most vulnerable populations: older adults, children, and adolescents with mental health conditions or disabilities

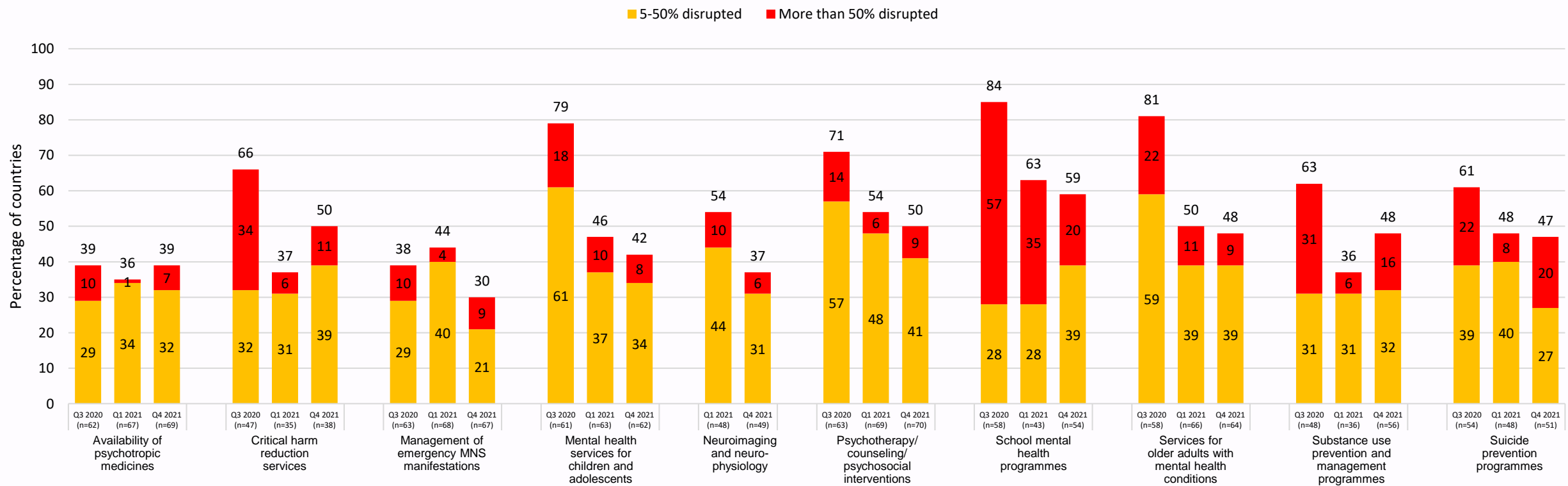
Percentage of countries reporting disruptions in mental, neurological and substance use disorders (MNS) services in Q4 2021





More than 1/3 of countries are still reporting disruptions across all mental, neurological, and substance use disorder services

Comparison of disruptions in mental, neurological, and substance use disorder services in countries that responded to all three survey rounds:
Q3 2020 (Round 1), Q1 2021 (Round 2) and Q4 2021 (Round 3)



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

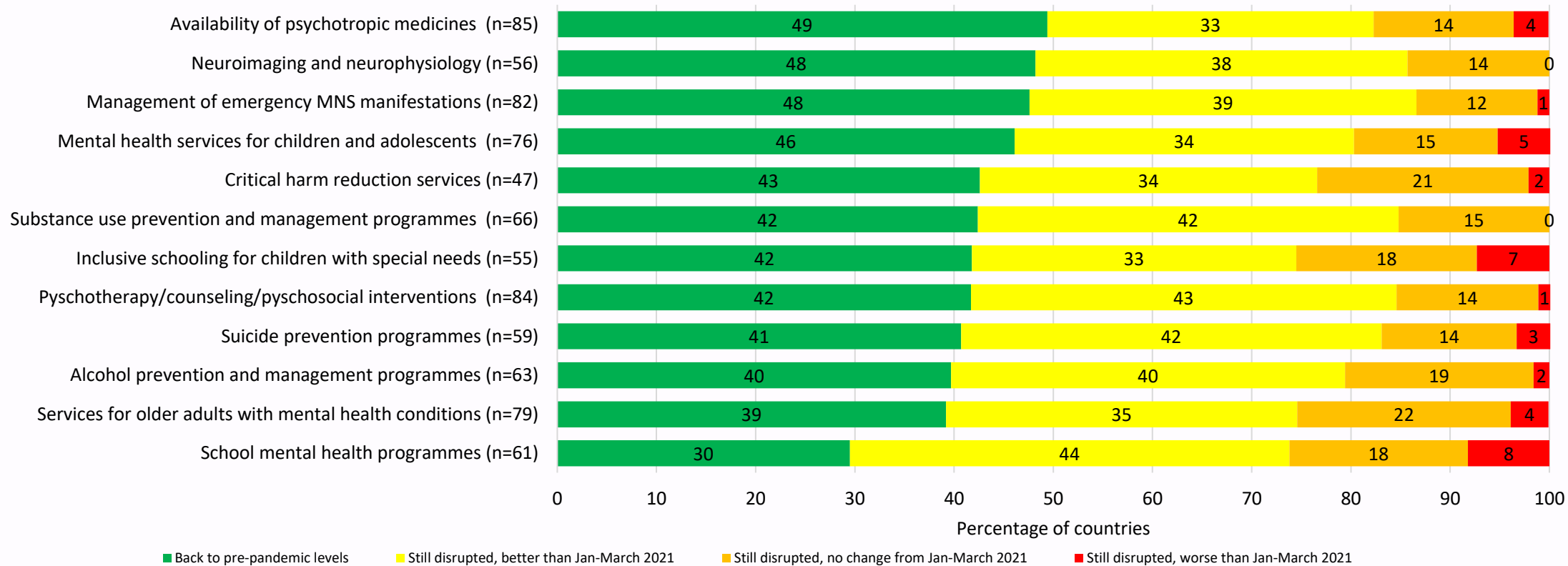
Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)



Despite persisting disruptions in mental, neurological, and substance use disorder services, 3/4 or more countries report improvement in magnitude of disruptions compared to Q1 2021



Perceptions of levels of disruption and recovery in mental, neurological, and substance use disorder services as compared to Q1 2021



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)



Disruptions in services for communicable diseases: TB, HIV, hepatitis and malaria



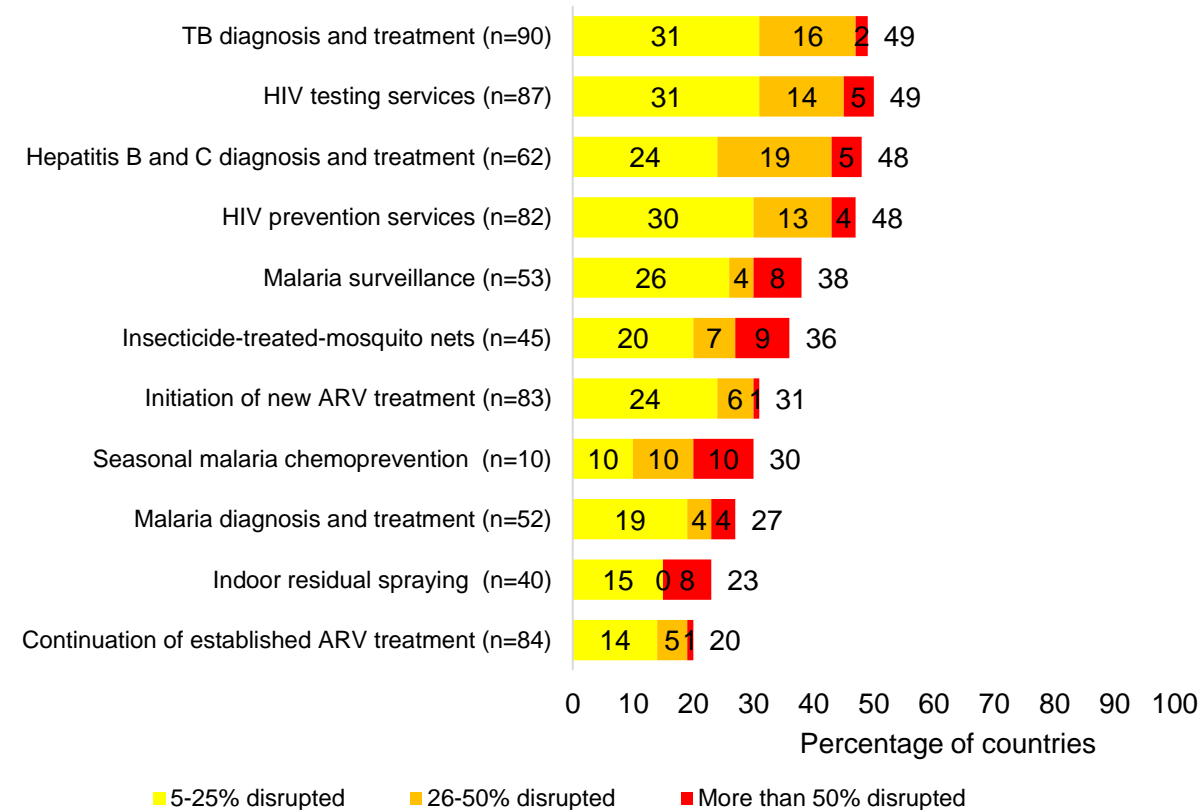
1/2

About half of countries report disruptions to TB diagnosis and treatment, HIV testing and prevention services, and hepatitis B & C diagnosis and treatment

1/3

About 1/3 of countries report disruptions to one or more malaria services (including diagnosis and treatment services and prevention campaigns)

Percentage of countries reporting disruptions in communicable disease (TB, HIV, hepatitis and malaria) services in Q4 2021



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

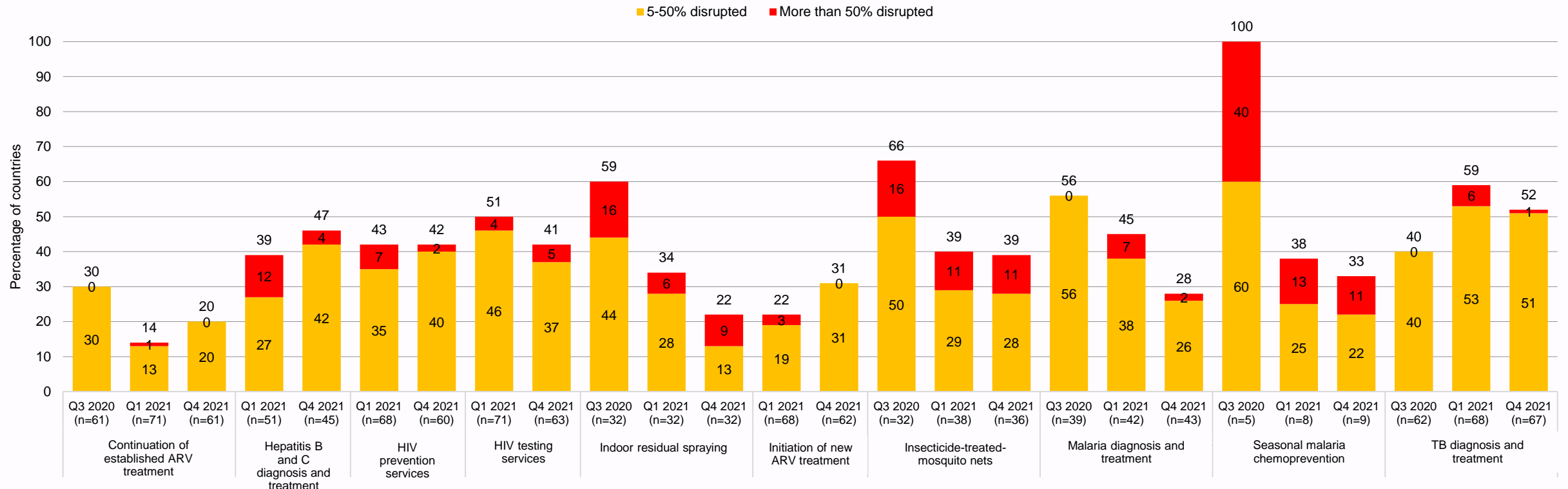


Fewer countries reported disruptions to most communicable disease tracer services

Increased percentage of countries reporting disruptions to hepatitis B and C services, with potential implications on mortality if disruptions are sustained



Comparison of disruptions in communicable disease (TB, HIV, hepatitis and malaria) services in countries that responded to all three survey rounds:
Q3 2020 (Round 1), Q1 2021 (Round 2) and Q4 2021 (Round 3)



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

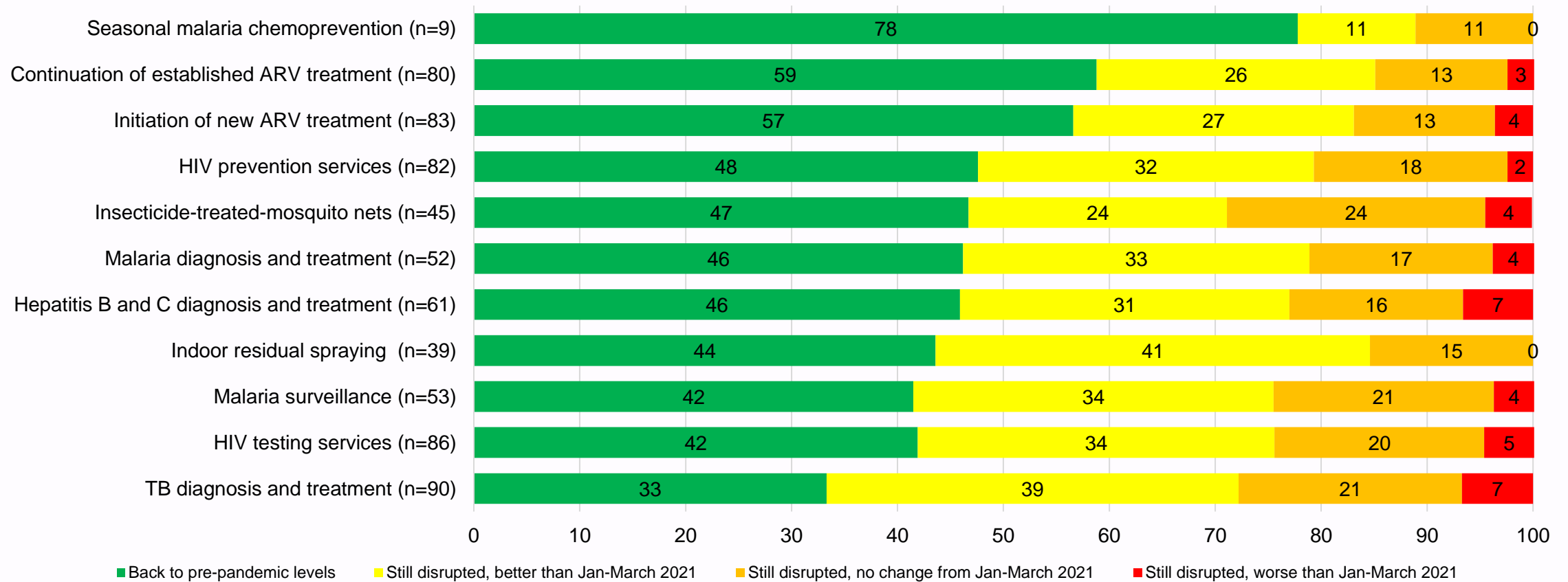
Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)



Despite partial signs of recovery since Q1 2021, substantial disruptions persist across all communicable disease services



Perceptions of levels of disruption and recovery in communicable disease (TB, HIV, hepatitis and malaria) services as compared to Q1 2021

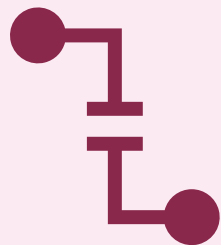


Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

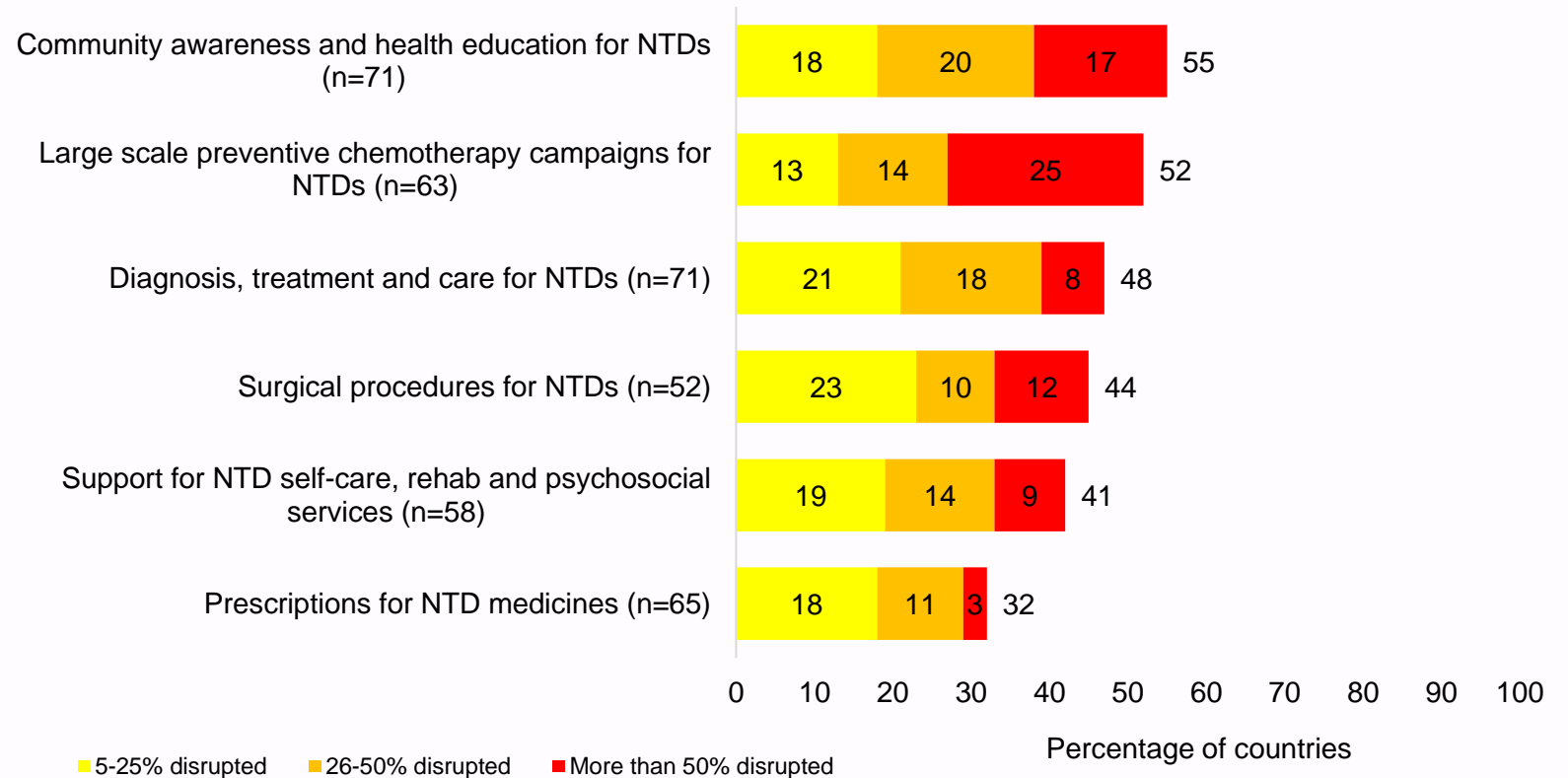


Disruptions in services for neglected tropical diseases



The most predominant disruptions were to community awareness/health education campaigns, large scale preventive chemotherapy campaigns, and diagnosis, treatment and care for NTDs

Percentage of countries reporting disruptions in neglected tropical disease (NTD) services in Q4 2021



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

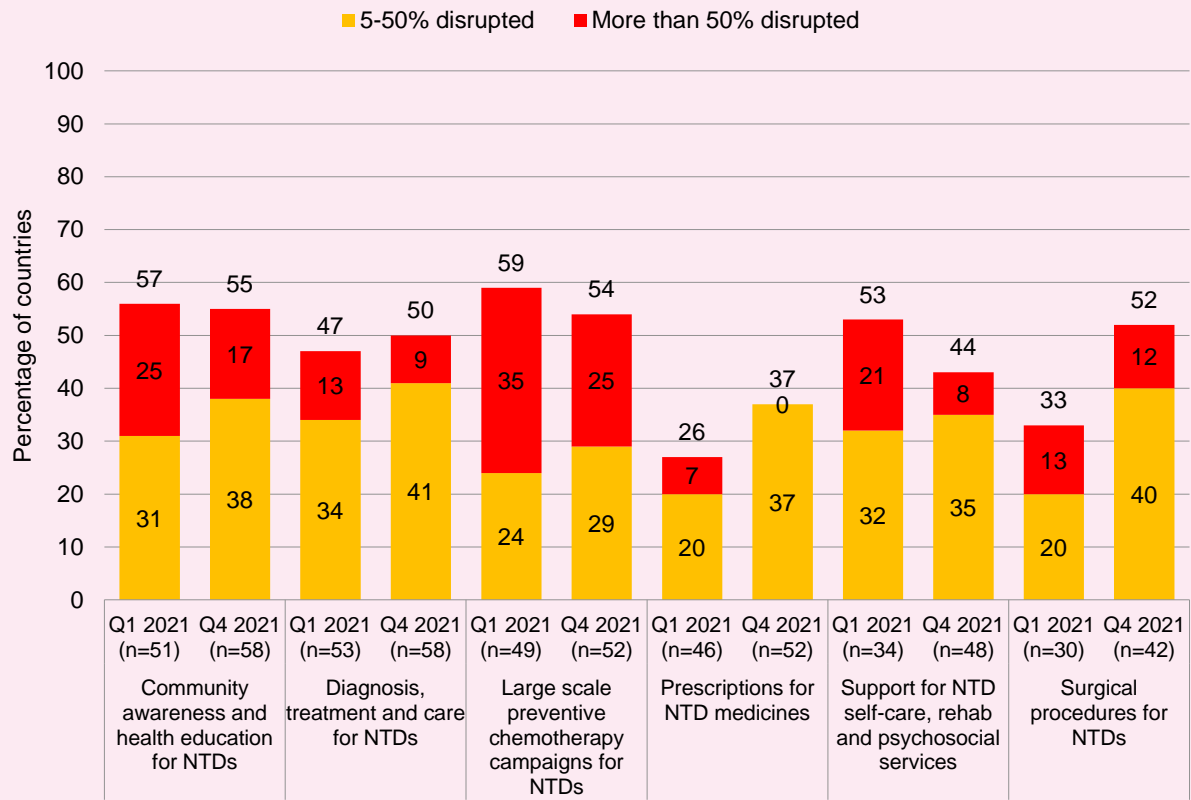
Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

Service disruptions persist across all tracer neglected tropical disease services

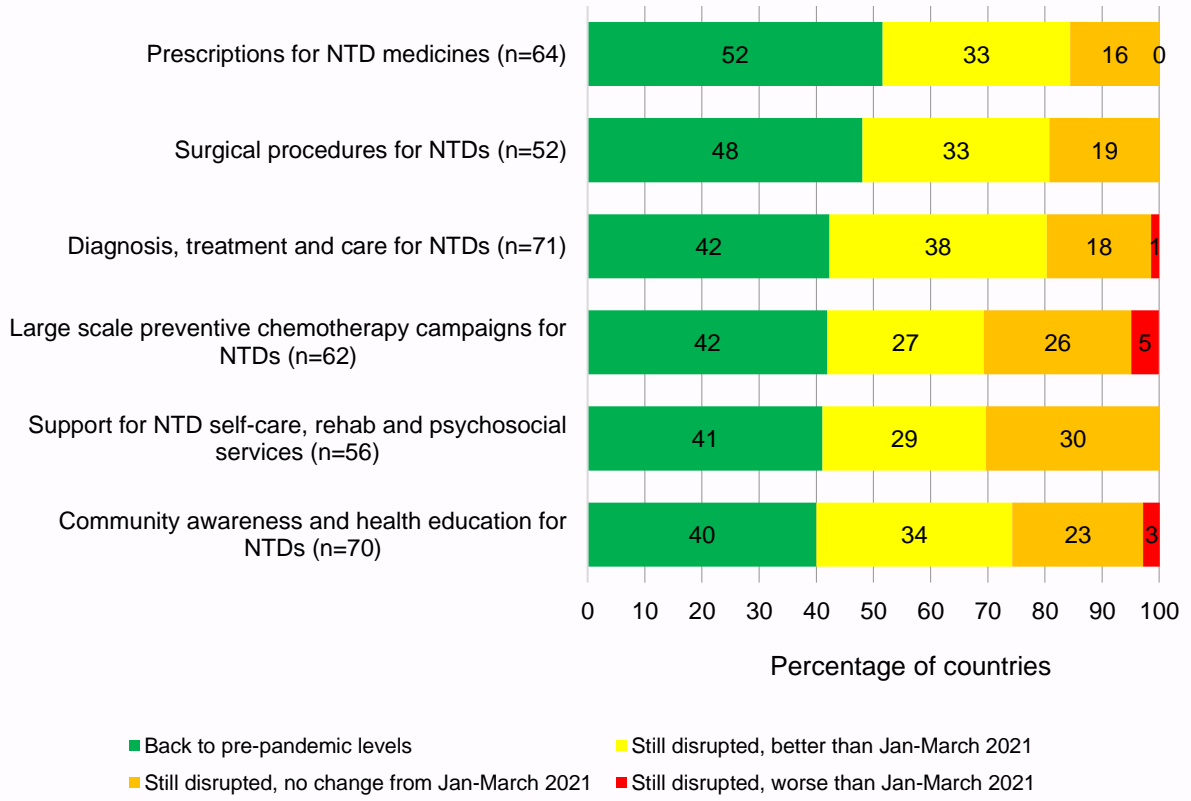


Though 1/3 countries report partial service recovery in magnitude of disruptions compared to disruption levels in Q1 2021

Comparison of disruptions in neglected tropical disease (NTD) services in countries that responded to all three survey rounds: Q3 2020 (Round 1), Q1 2021 (Round 2) and Q4 2021 (Round 3)



Perceptions of levels of disruption and recovery in neglected tropical disease (NTD) services as compared to Q1 2021



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

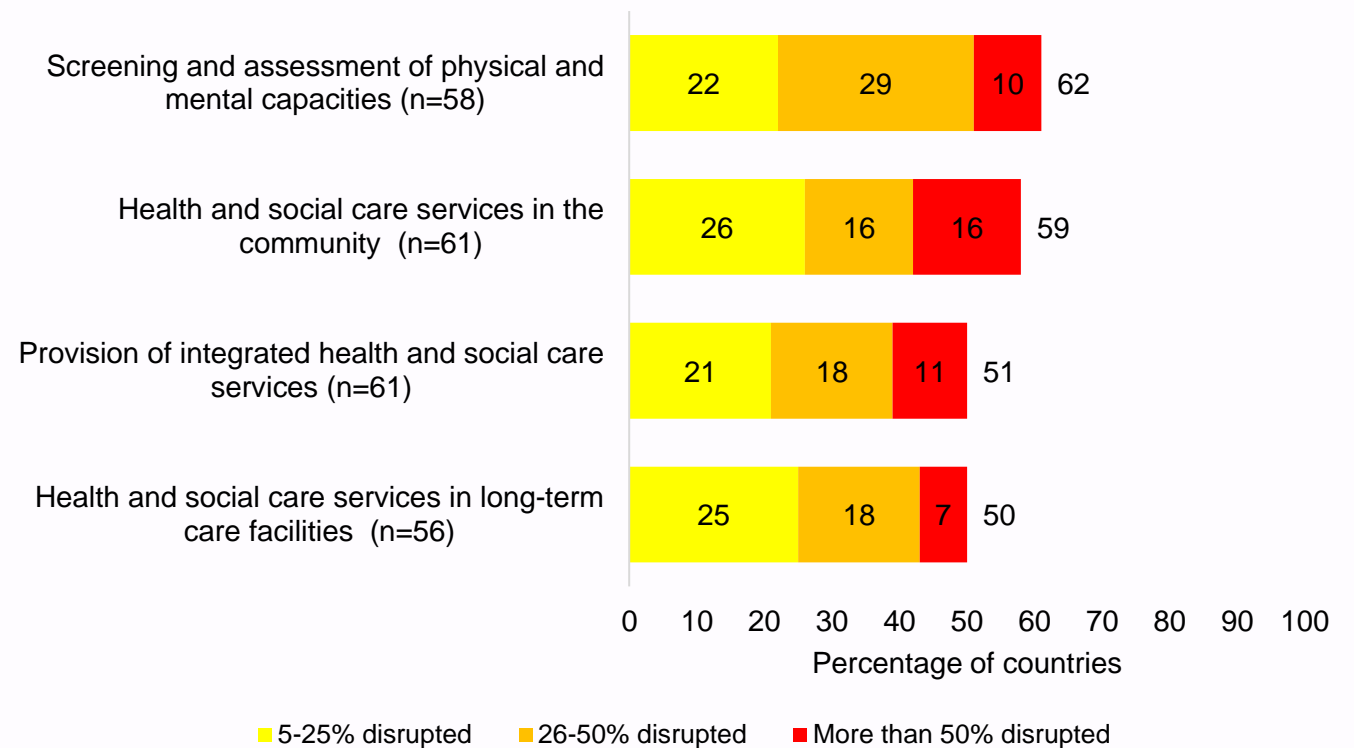


Disruptions in services for care for older people

50%

50% or more countries reported disruptions across all services for older people

Percentage of countries reporting disruptions in care for older people in Q4 2021



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

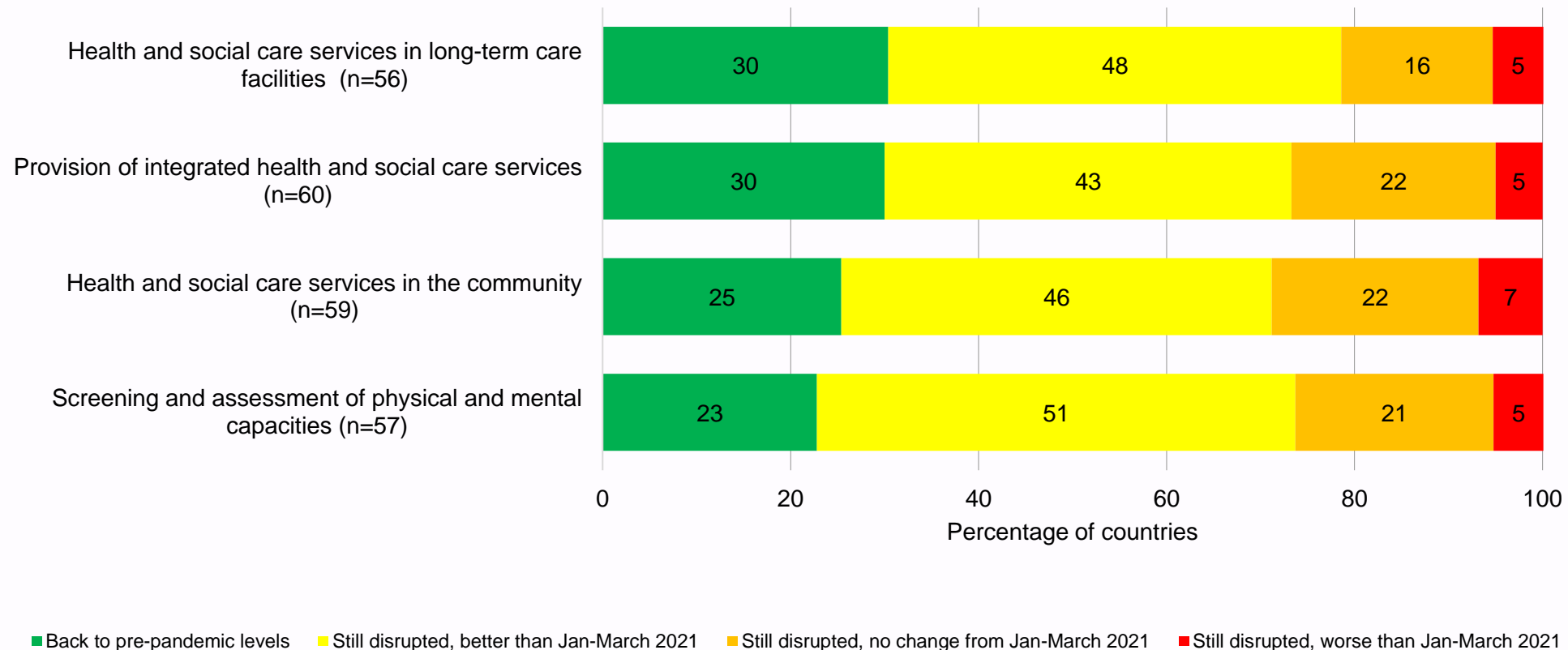
Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)



Fewer countries reported full recovery of services for older people compared to reported recovery in other tracer service areas



Perceived level of disruption compared to Q1 2021 across services for older people care



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)



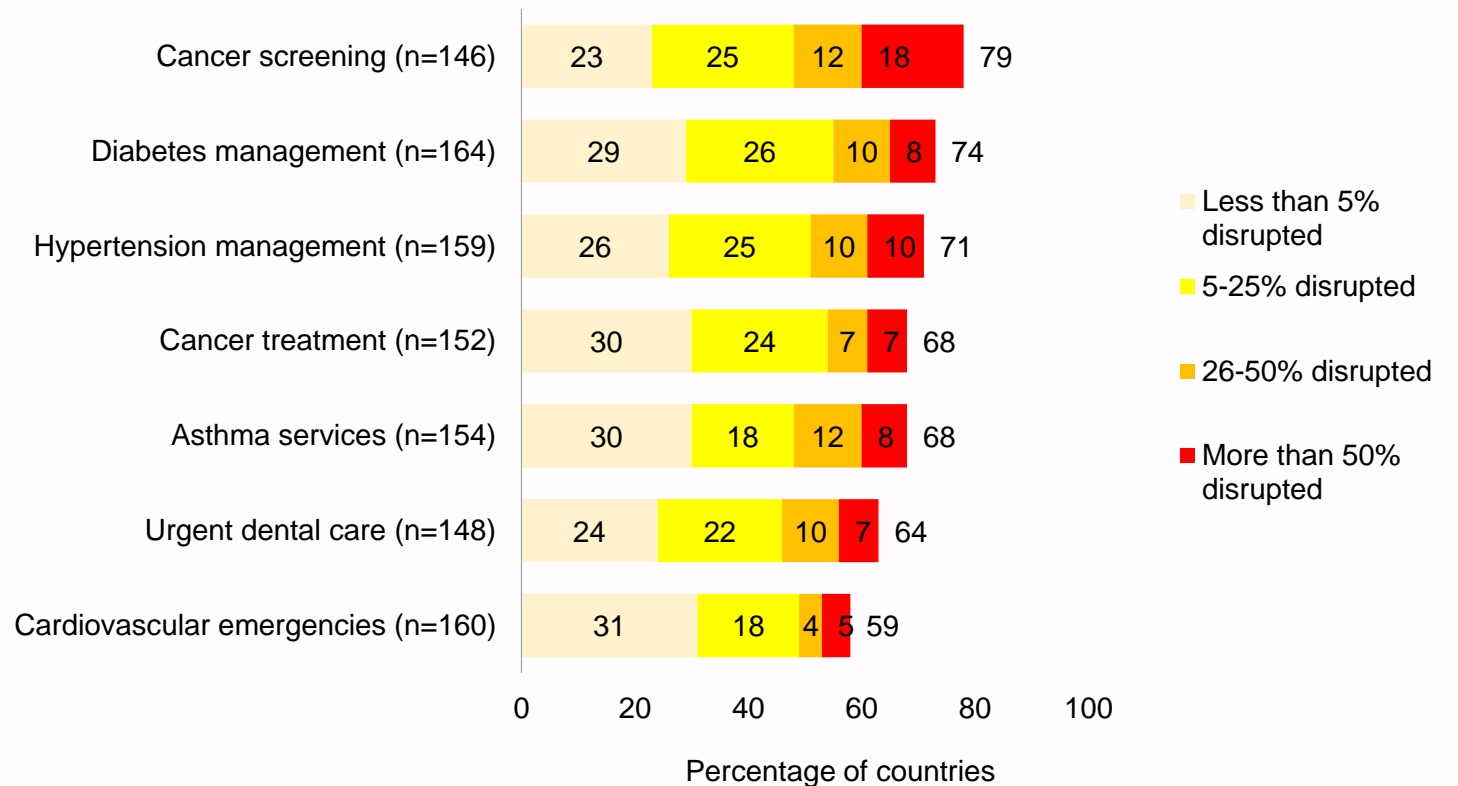
Disruptions in services for noncommunicable diseases

From 2021 Country profile of capacity and response to noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) assessment



Across all noncommunicable disease (NCD) services, at least 50% of countries reported at least some level of disruption

Percentage of countries reporting disruptions in noncommunicable disease services in 2021



Denominator: excludes "Not applicable" or "Do not know" responses. Cumulative percentages may vary due to rounding.

The NCD survey response rate, time period and methodology differed from the pulse survey (methodology included an extra category indicating minimal disruption (up to 5%)). As such, comparisons over time based on previous survey rounds are not included.

Source: 2021 Country Profile of Capacity and Response to Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) assessment

WHO SPRP global tracking and monitoring



World Health
Organization



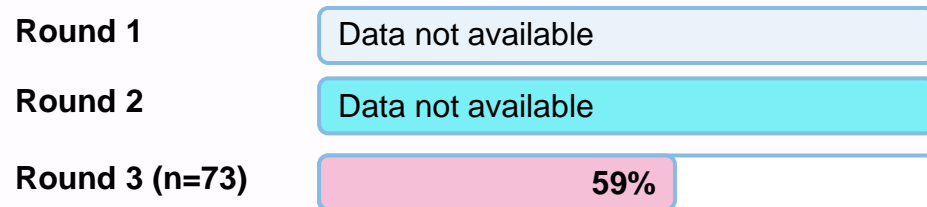


WHO 2021 SPRP tracking and monitoring



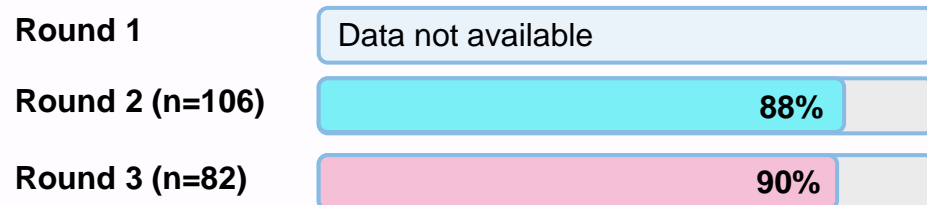
Pillar 1: Coordination, planning, financing and monitoring

Proportion of countries that conduct 1 or more analyses of health inequities during the COVID-19 pandemic



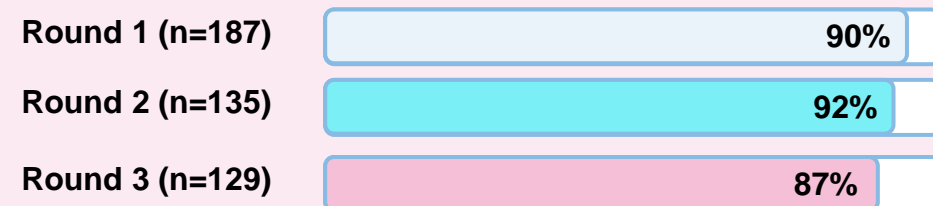
Pillar 2: Risk communication, community engagement and infodemic management

Proportion of countries with capacities to track and address infodemic and health misinformation

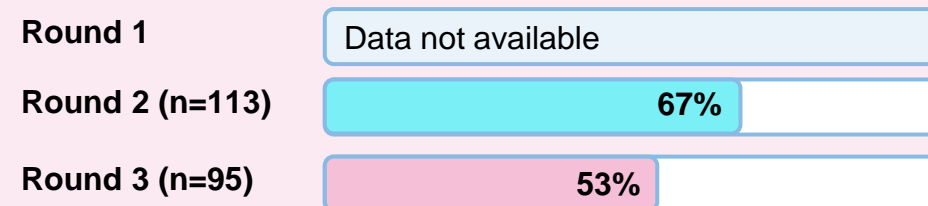


Pillar 9: Maintaining essential health services and systems

Proportion of countries reporting disruption to EHS during COVID-19 (28 services asked across three rounds)



Proportion of countries with functioning mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) coordination group



Note: Round 1 response rates consolidate responses submitted to 3 separate service disruption pulse surveys during Q3-Q4 2020: i. Continuity of essential health services (cross-cutting); ii. Noncommunicable diseases; and iii. Mental, neurological and substance use disorders.

View [WHO 2021 SPRP M&E plan](#)

Source: Round 3 Global pulse survey on continuity of essential health services, Nov-Dec 2021 (reflecting situation during previous 6 months)

Survey response rates



World Health
Organization





Country response rates – as of 20 January 2022



Global response rates:

- 223 countries, territories and areas were invited to respond
- **129 (58%) responded (round 1: 87%; and round 2: 63%)**
- 95 countries responded to all three survey rounds
- 125 countries responded in round 3 and at least one other round

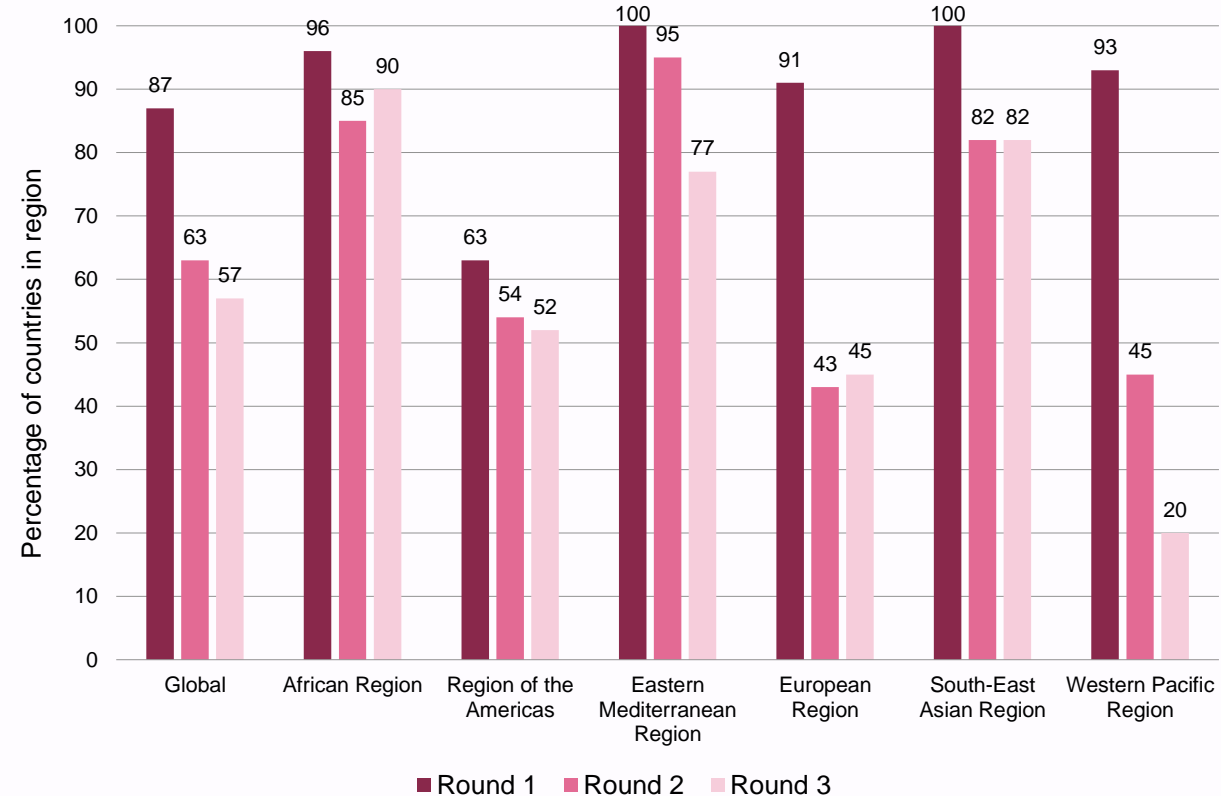
Regional response rates:

- Highest response rates in African Region, South-East Asian Region and Eastern Mediterranean Region
- Lower response rates in Region of the Americas, European Region and Western Pacific region

Survey section response rate:

- About 40-45% of countries responded to each survey section, except malaria section where 55/86 (64%) of countries affected by malaria responded

Global and regional response rate, by round





Response rates – as of 20 January 2022

Overall						By survey section									
Region	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3			Round 3									
Region	Countries with partial survey submission	Countries with partial survey submission	Countries that received survey (#)	Countries with partial survey submission	Countries with complete survey submission	Section 1. Continuity of EHS	Section 2. SRMNCAH	Section 3. Nutrition	Section 4. Immunization	Section 5. HIV and hepatitis	Section 6. TB	Section 7. Malaria (where relevant)	Section 8. NTDs (where relevant)	Section 9. MNS	Section 10. Care for older people
African Region	45/47 (96%)	40/47 (85%)	48	43/48 (90%)	31/48 (65%)	38/48 (79%)	36/48 (75%)	37/48 (77%)	38/48 (79%)	37/48 (77%)	39/48 (81%)	36/44 (82%)	39/48 (81%)	36/48 (75%)	45/47 (96%)
Region of the Americas	34/54 (63%)	29/54 (54%)	54	28/54 (52%)	11/54 (20%)	20/54 (37%)	21/54 (39%)	21/54 (39%)	19/54 (35%)	19/54 (35%)	17/54 (31%)	9/18 (50%)	13/31 (42%)	19/54 (35%)	13/54 (24%)
Eastern Mediterranean Region	22/22 (100%)	21/22 (95%)	22	17/22 (77%)	6/22 (27%)	9/22 (41%)	7/22 (32%)	7/22 (32%)	8/22 (36%)	8/22 (36%)	7/22 (32%)	2/7 (29%)	6/20 (30%)	16/22 (73%)	8/22 (36%)
European Region	48/53 (90%)	23/53 (43%)	53	24/53 (45%)	10/53 (19%)	17/53 (32%)	17/53 (32%)	15/53 (28%)	19/53 (36%)	17/53 (32%)	18/53 (34%)	N/A	14/49 (29%)	17/53 (32%)	17/53 (32%)
South-East Asian Region	11/11 (100%)	9/11 (82%)	11	9/11 (82%)	7/11 (64%)	7/11 (64%)	8/11 (73%)	8/11 (73%)	8/11 (73%)	8/11 (73%)	8/11 (73%)	5/8 (63%)	8/11 (73%)	8/11 (73%)	8/11 (73%)
Western Pacific Region	27/29 (93%)	13/29 (45%)	35	8/35 (23%)	4/35 (11%)	4/35 (11%)	5/35 (14%)	5/35 (14%)	4/35 (11%)	5/35 (14%)	6/35 (17%)	3/9 (33%)	7/26 (27%)	7/35 (20%)	8/35 (23%)
All	187/216 (86%)	135/216 (63%)	223	129/223 (58%)	69/223 (31%)	95/223 (43%)	94/223 (42%)	93/223 (42%)	96/223 (43%)	94/223 (42%)	95/223 (43%)	55/86 (64%)	87/185 (47%)	103/223 (46%)	90/223 (40%)

Note:

Complete survey submission: submission of all relevant survey sections

Partial survey submission: submission of at least one survey section

Round 1 response rates consolidate responses submitted to 3 separate service disruption pulse surveys during Q3-Q4 2020: i. Continuity of essential health services (cross-cutting); ii. Noncommunicable diseases; and iii. Mental, neurological and substance use disorders.

The round 3 survey was sent to 223 countries, territories and areas. Response rates are calculated based on relevance of services to the country context. Malaria is considered relevant in 86 country contexts and neglected tropical diseases are considered relevant in 185 country contexts.

Participating countries, territories and areas



World Health
Organization





WHO would like to express its gratitude to all authorities and WHO Country Offices that supported participation in this survey



African Region

- Algeria
- Angola
- Benin
- Botswana
- Burundi
- Cabo Verde
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Comoros
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Niger
- Rwanda
- Sao Tome and Principe
- Senegal
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Togo
- Uganda
- United Republic of Tanzania
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Region of the Americas

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Argentina
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda
- Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
- Brazil
- British Virgin Islands
- Chile
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Dominica (Commonwealth of)
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Honduras
- Jamaica
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- Peru
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- United States of America
- Uruguay
- Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Eastern Mediterranean Region

- Bahrain
- Egypt
- Iran (Islamic Republic of)
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- Libya
- Morocco
- occupied Palestinian territory, including east Jerusalem
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Qatar
- Somalia
- Sudan
- Tunisia
- Yemen



WHO would like to express its gratitude to all authorities and WHO Country Offices that supported participation in this survey (cont.)



World Health Organization

European Region

- Armenia
- Belarus
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hungary
- Israel
- Kazakhstan
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Montenegro
- Netherlands
- North Macedonia
- Portugal
- Slovenia
- Sweden
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- Uzbekistan

South-East Asian Region

- Bangladesh
- Bhutan
- Indonesia
- Maldives
- Myanmar
- Nepal
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste

Western Pacific Region

- Australia
- Brunei Darussalam
- Cambodia
- Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Malaysia
- New Zealand
- Vanuatu
- Viet Nam