



SOUTH CAROLINA
Developmental Disabilities Council

The 2017-2021 State Plan Survey

Report on Results

The purpose of the DD Council state plan survey is to engage a broad spectrum of stakeholders with particular focus on people with I/DD and their families in order to set funding and advocacy priorities for the Council for years 2017-2021.

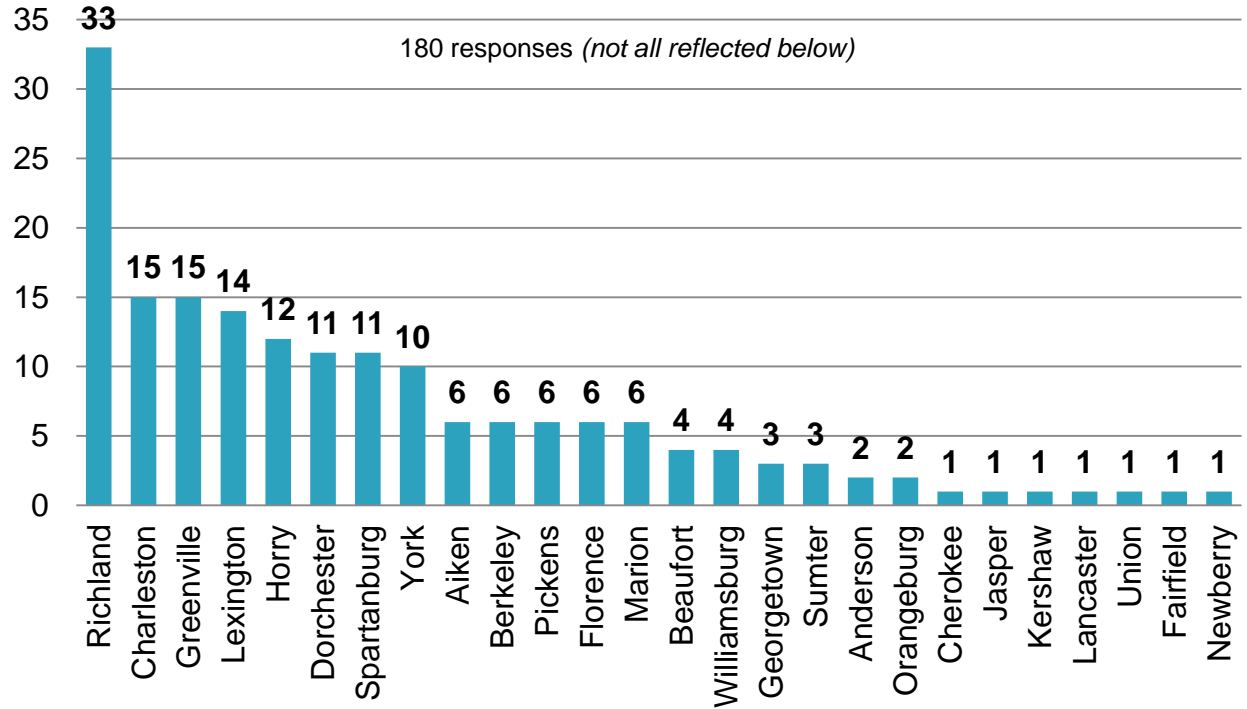
Topics covered include

- Barriers and supports to community participation
- Barriers and supports within the State System
- Goals for South Carolina regarding people with I/DD and their families
- Systems change priorities regarding people with I/DD and their families

Respondents

- **45 %:** People with I/DD and family members
- **30%:** Public agency stakeholder
- **24%:** Non-profit organization stakeholder
- **17%:** 30 years-old or younger

Survey Responses by County



Barriers to Community Participation

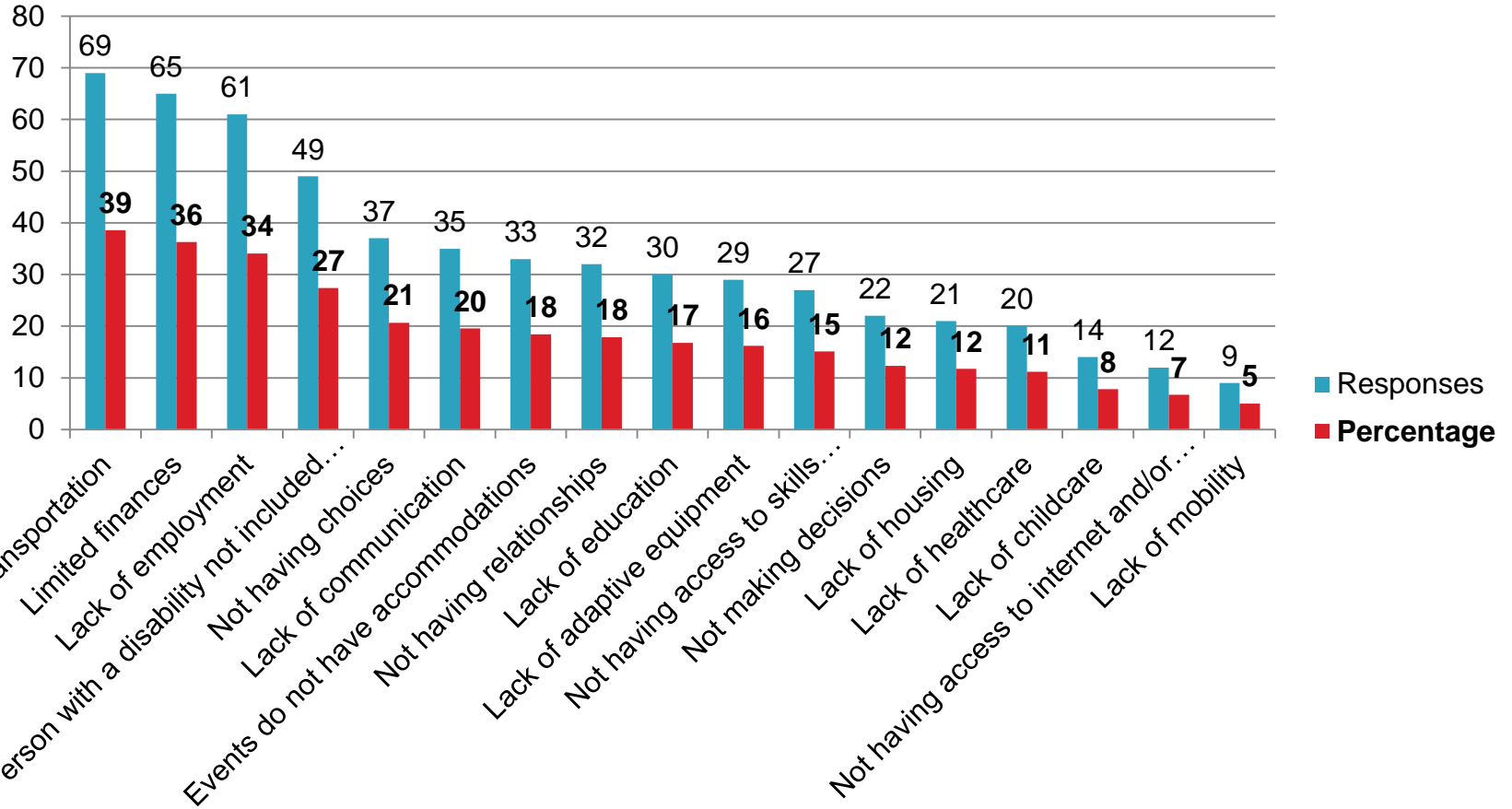
Top Survey Responses

- Lack of transportation
- Limited finances
- Lack of employment
- Person with disability not included in planning
- Not having choices

Comments included

- Lack of communication between agencies
- Low expectations from community leaders regarding ability of people with disabilities
- Lack of services and supports in rural areas
- Lack of services from agencies to integrate people with disabilities in community
- Lack of accommodations and supports in schools so that young people with I/DD can fully participate
- Disempowerment to exercise self-determination because of a lack of supports from state systems

Barriers to Community Participation



Community Participation Supports

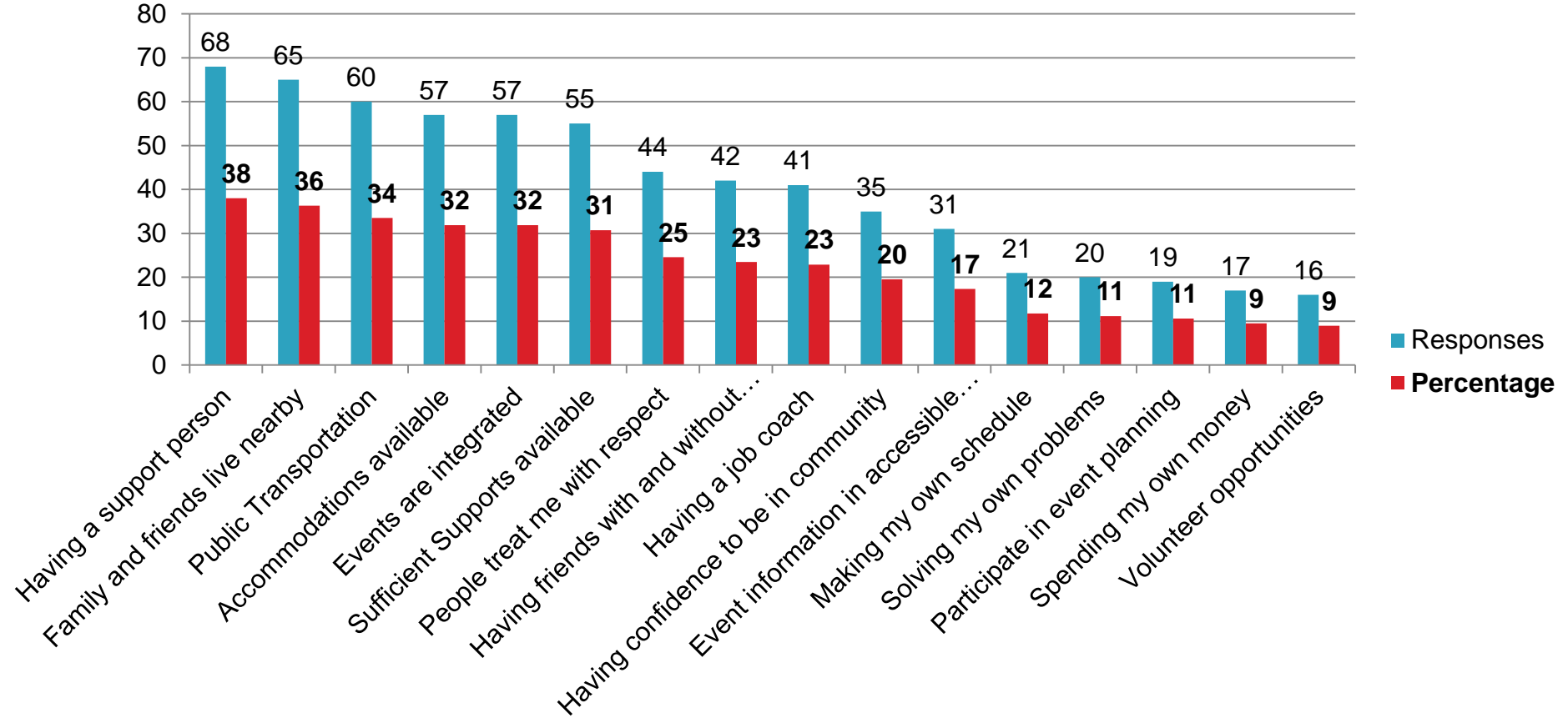
Top Survey Responses

- Having a support person
- Family and friends live nearby
- Public transportation
- Accommodations available
- Integrated events

Comments included

- Caseworkers who connect individuals to integrated community activities
- Access to systems that lead to integrated, competitive employment
- Systems of support for young people with I/DD
- Access to personal transportation
- Networking among parents of individuals with I/DD

Supports to Community Participation



Barriers in State System

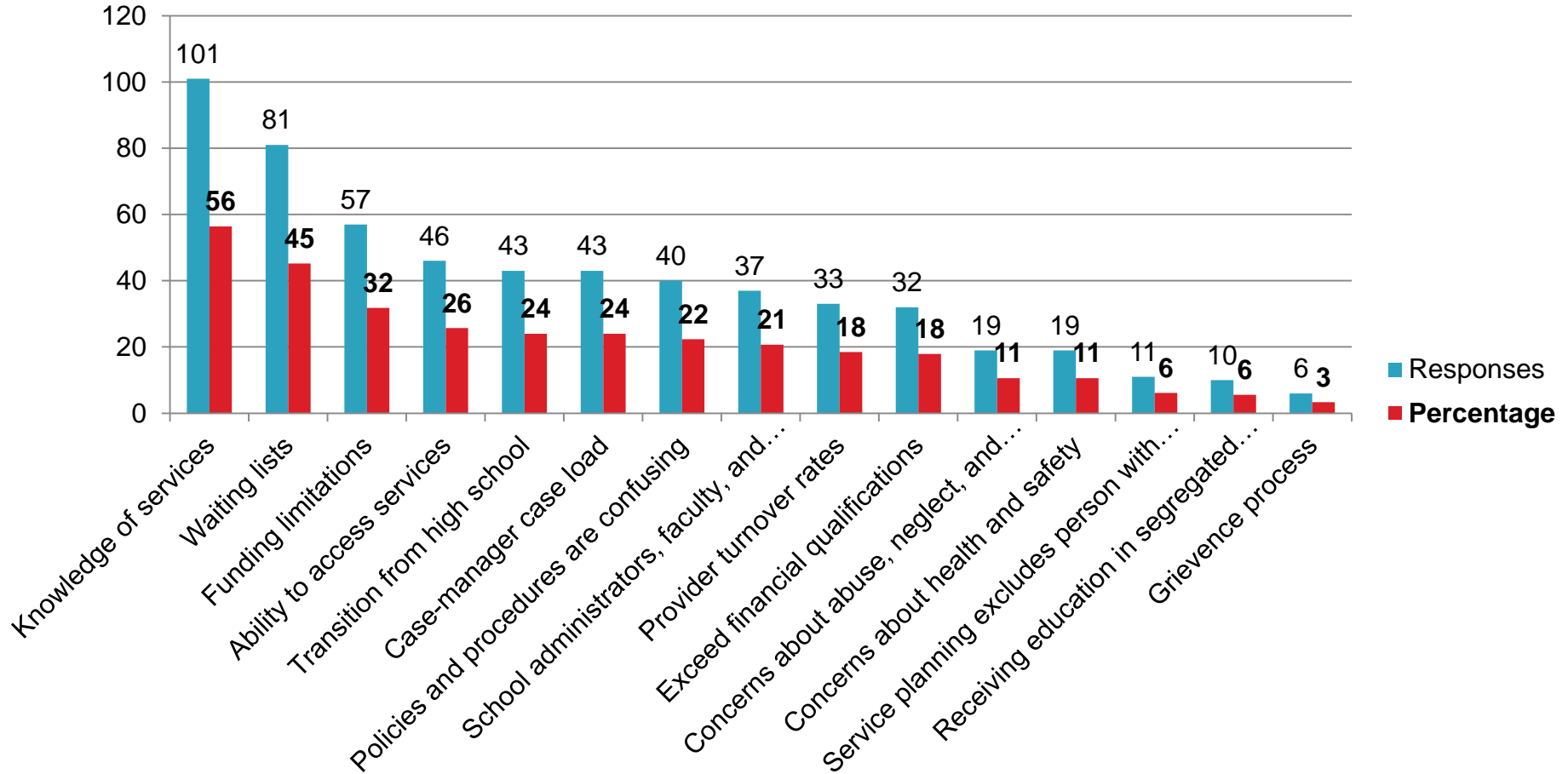
Top Survey Responses

- Lack of knowledge regarding available services
- Waiting lists
- Funding limitations
- Transition from high school to post-high school life
- Ability to access services

Comments included

- Waiver handbooks are not detailed enough
- Multiple public systems do not work well together or collaborate causing frustration
- DDSN is not enough involved with transition of young people out of school
- Information regarding State systems is not reliable or not updated frequently enough
- Training for school and other professionals who interact with people with I/DD is not sufficient
- Access to affordable transportation
- Lack of provider capacity in rural areas

Barriers in the State System



State System Supports

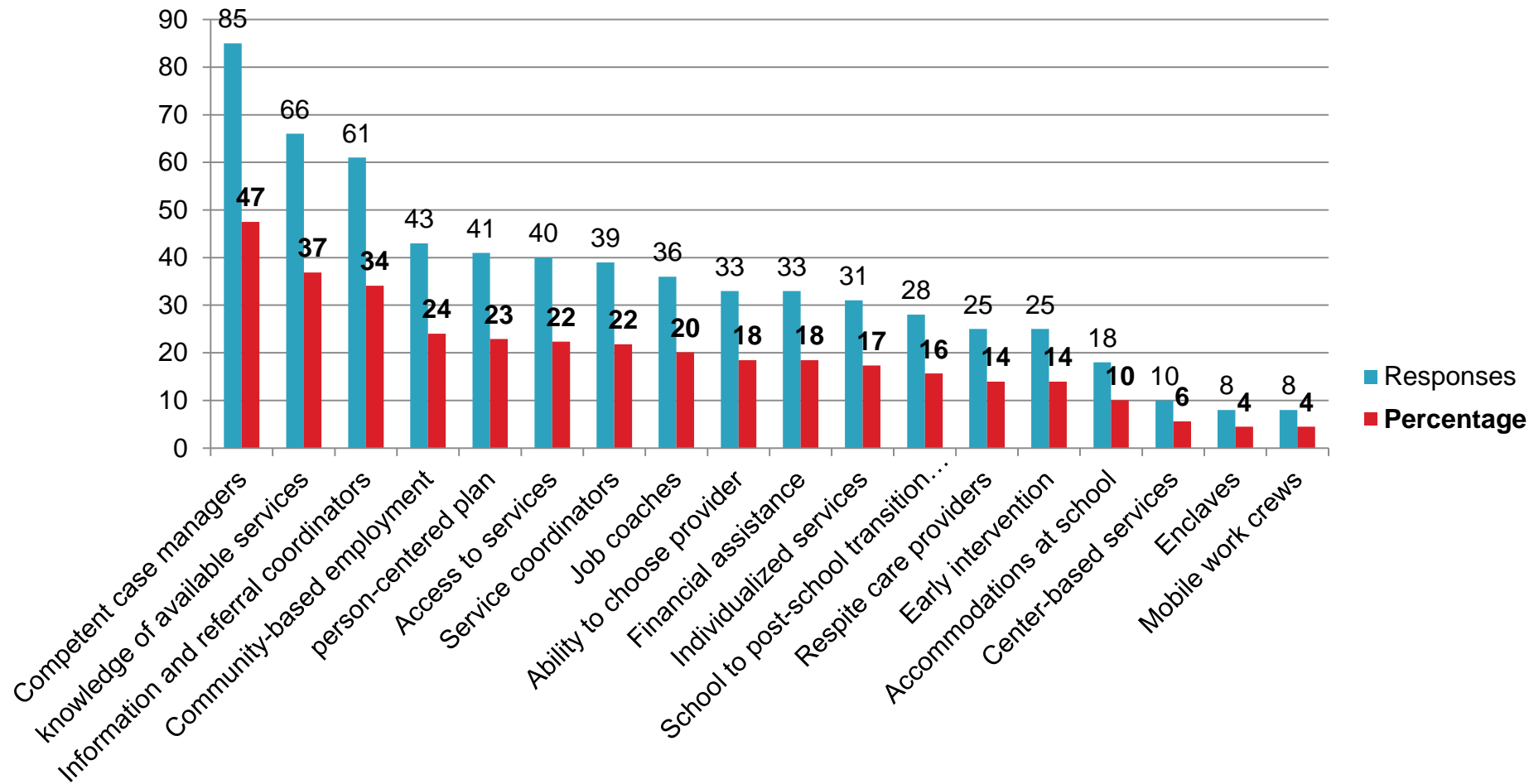
Top Survey Responses

- Competent case managers
- Knowledge of available services
- Knowledgeable information and referral coordinators
- Community-based employment
- Person-centered planning

Comments included

- Offering choices to people
- Services that are useful in contemporary society such as job coaches
- Independent case managers
- Availability of information in a variety of formats
- Professionals who encourage self-determination
- School districts, DDSN, and SC VRD working together

Supports in the State System



Goals for South Carolina

- Employment, internship & job training opportunities for adults with I/DD.
- Collaborative transition services for high school students with I/DD that include DDSN, SC VRD, school districts & businesses that leads to competitive, integrated employment; post-secondary schooling; or self-employment.
- Access to accurate, comprehensive, understandable information about services available across State systems including DDSN, SC VRD, school districts and others.
- State systems that empower people with I/DD and their families to have choices, live self-determined lives, and have self-directed care and supports.
- Access to public or other modes of transportation.
- Continuing education for professionals regarding State systems
- Systems that build capacity among case managers, service coordinators, and respite providers.
- Eliminate waiting lists and lower case loads for providers.

Ideas for Systems Improvement in South Carolina

- Enhance service network to empower people with I/DD who choose to live and to work in the community.
- Build state capacity by engaging public-private partnerships.
- Support interagency teams at the State and local level leading to improved collaboration.
- Engage more people with I/DD and their families on decision-making boards and committees especially at SC VRD and DDSN.
- Eliminate sub-minimum wage practices for people with I/DD.
- Streamline application process among multiple agencies.
- Provide more learning opportunities for people with I/DD and their families regarding their rights.
- Continue to implement the HCBS Final Rule and ensure that people with I/DD and their families are involved in the decision-making process at every level.
- Improve transportation infrastructure.