

The Notarial Profession of England & Wales - Diversity and Equality Data - 2014/15

The legal profession and wider legal services workforce should reflect the society it serves. To achieve a profession which is truly representative at all levels requires regulators and the profession itself to identify barriers to entry and progression and begin to break them down. By doing this, we will ensure that the legal workforce is open to the widest possible pool of talent.

The Legal Services Act 2007 includes a specific regulatory objective to "encourage a strong, independent, diverse and effective legal profession."¹ The Legal Services Board has given approved regulators guidance as to how that regulatory objective should be met. To comply with his duty of acting in a way that he considers is most appropriate for the meeting of that objective, the Master decided to ask the profession to complete a questionnaire which is based on the model questionnaire prepared by the Legal Services Board.

The survey was first carried out in 2011 when we received 419 responses from the 867 notaries on the Roll, equating to **48.3%**. We are pleased to report that the 2014 survey has received 541 responses from 787 notaries on the Roll, a response rate of **68.7%**, which, for a voluntary survey, represents an excellent return. Thank you to all who responded.

The charts which follow show the bare statistics in the top box and the percentage figures for the responses in the bottom box on each page against all of the indicators.

The figures in the charts in the top box show, in some cases, substantial increases in 2014 but these are largely explained by the better response rate. It will be seen from the percentage figures shown in the second box that the diversity of the profession has not altered substantially against the various indicators in the three years since the last survey was carried out. Given the small size of the profession this is not, perhaps, unduly surprising.

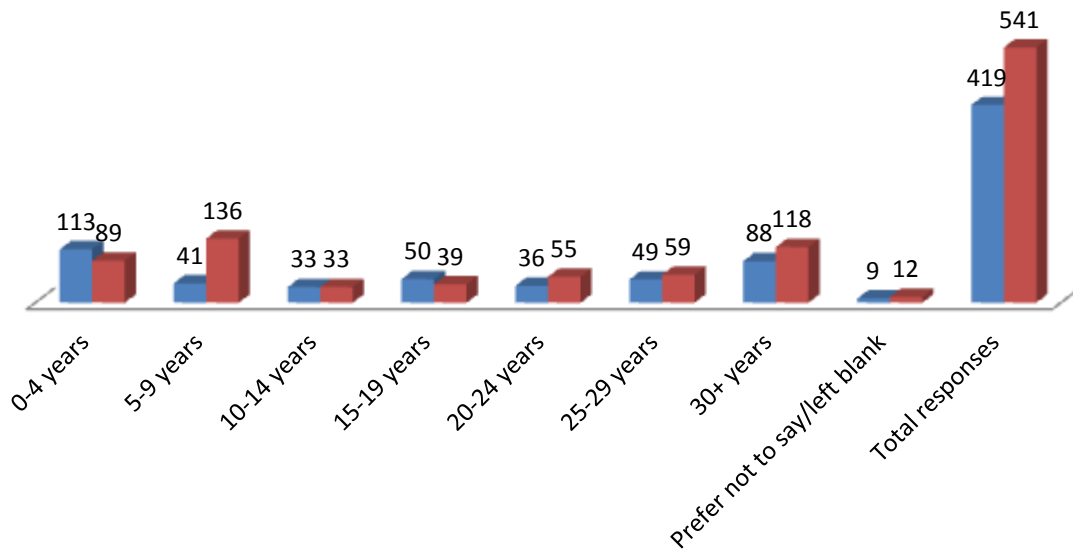
The figures do not require much further comment save, perhaps, to draw attention to the age profile of the profession. Nearly 60% of the profession is aged 55+. What the age graphs do not show is the fact that of those aged 65+, in 2014, 29 are actually aged 75+. Over the past few years, there have been more retirements than new entrants to the profession which is a cause for some concern; both as regard the consumer's ability to access notarial services across the country (particularly outside the major commercial centres) and in terms of the costs of regulation having to be met by a smaller number of notaries resulting in a higher per capita cost.

The Faculty Office
26 January 2015

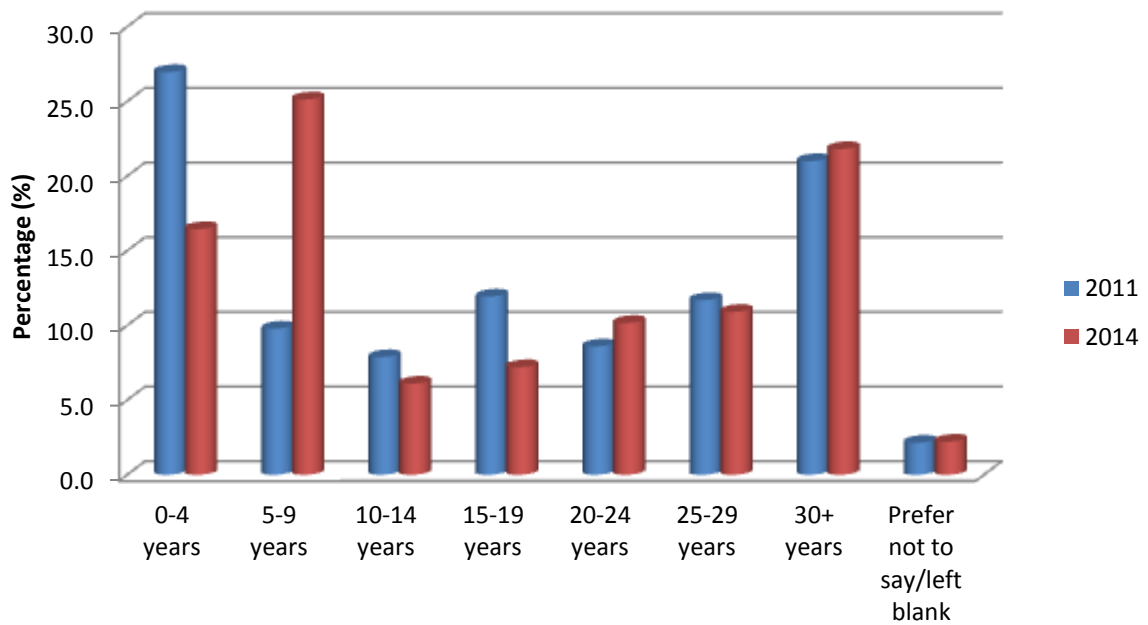
¹ S.1(1)(f) Legal Services Act 2007

Time notarial faculty held

■ 2011 ■ 2014

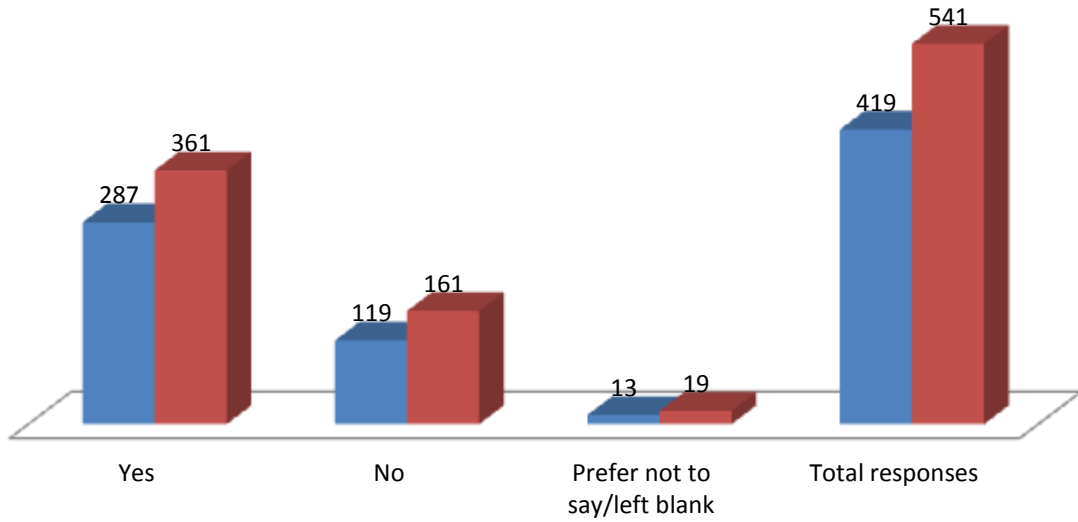


Time notarial faculty held

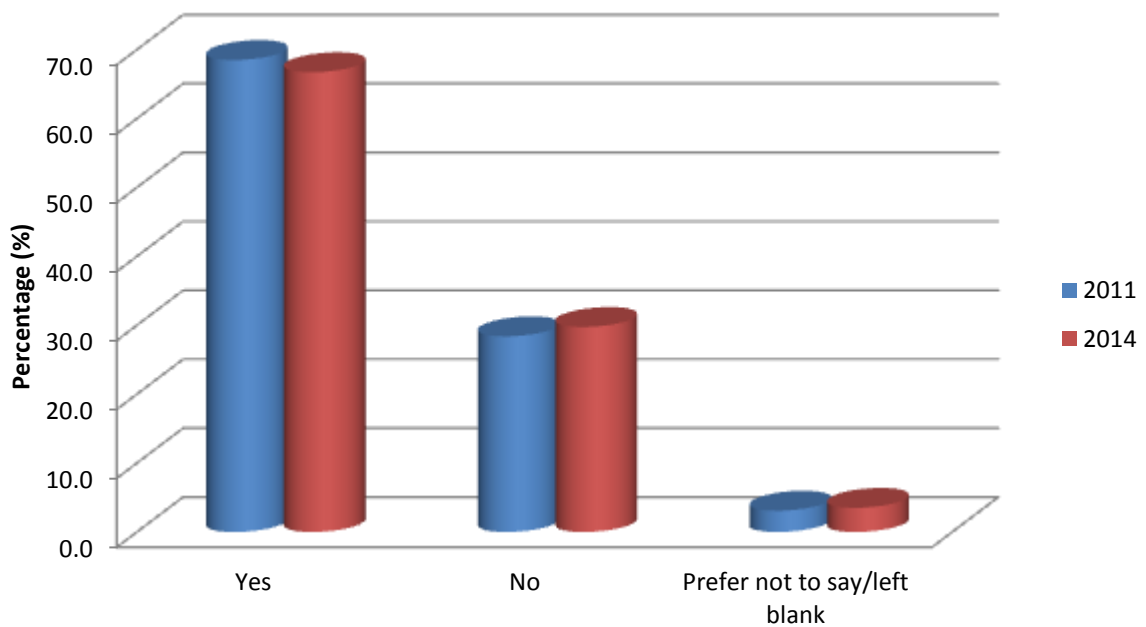


Ownership share of your organisation

■ 2011 ■ 2014

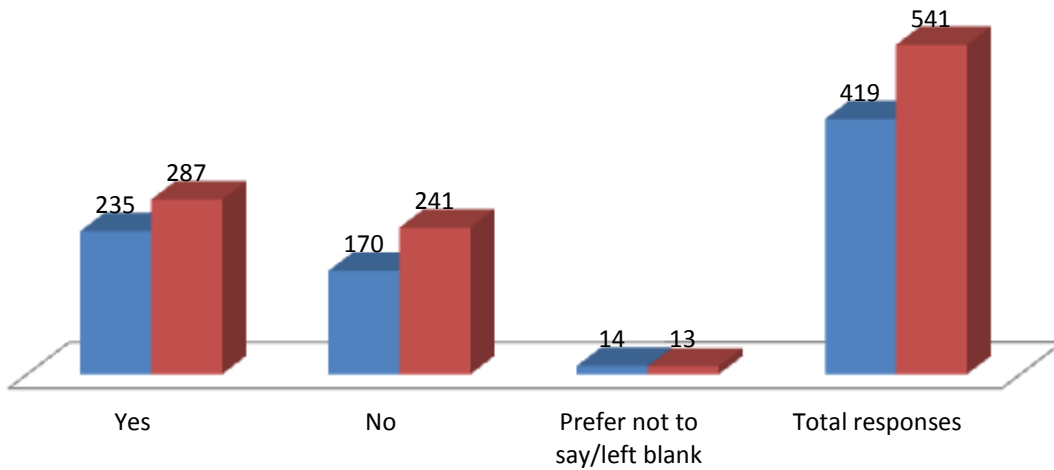


Ownership share of your organisation

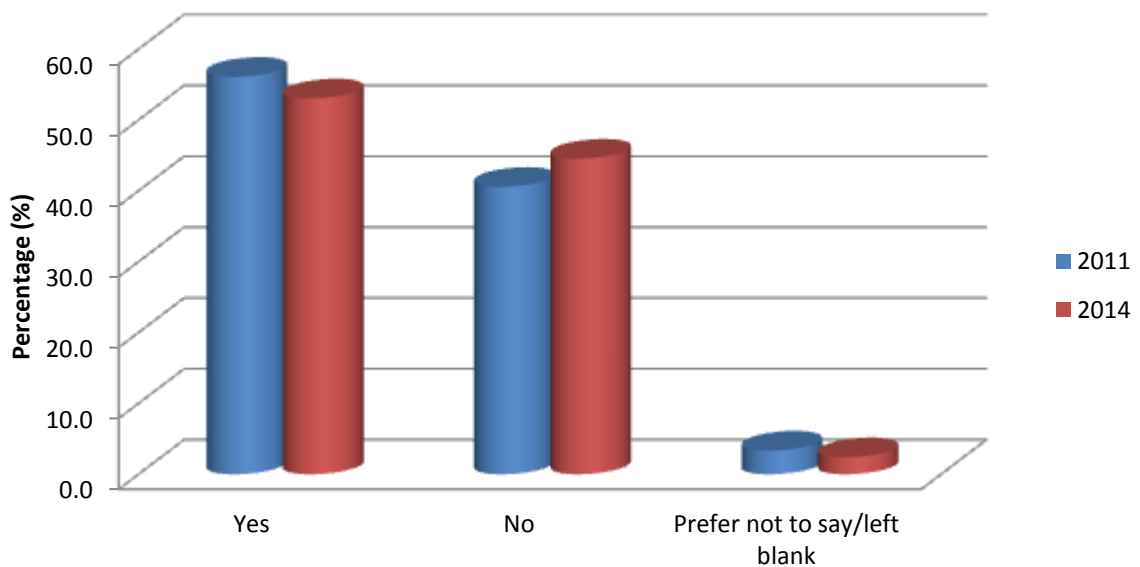


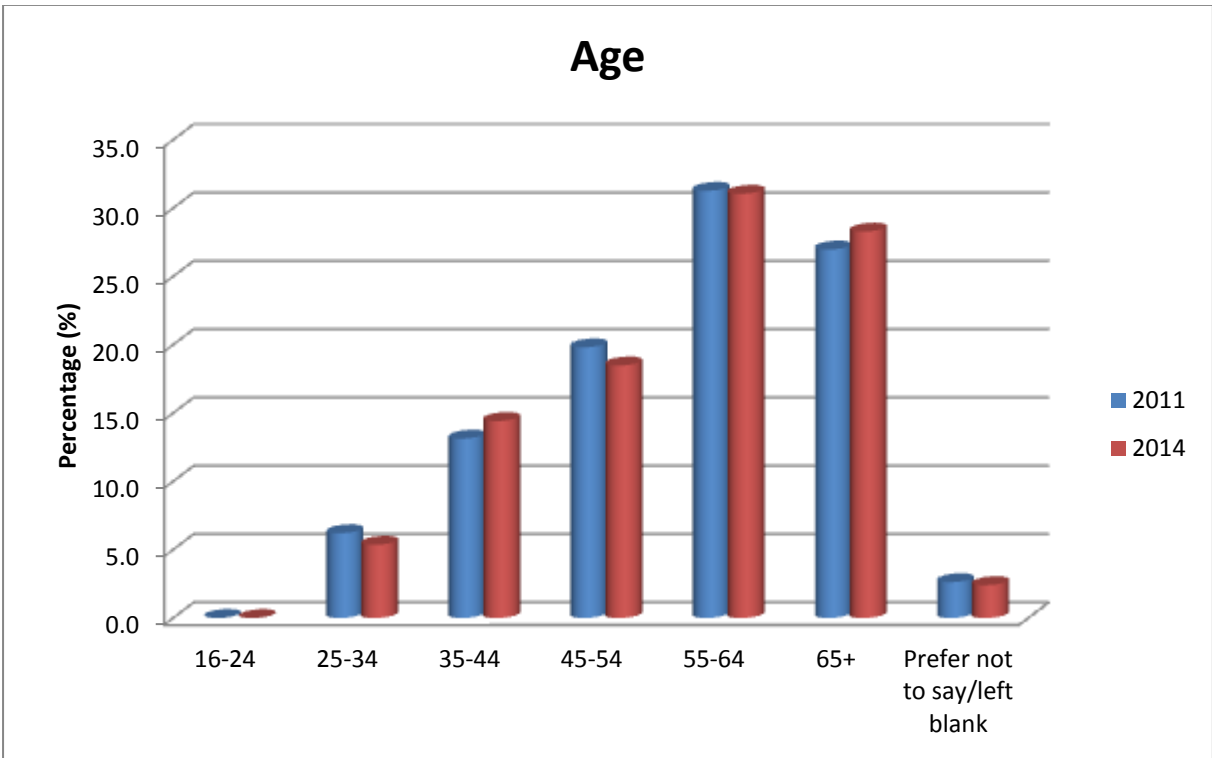
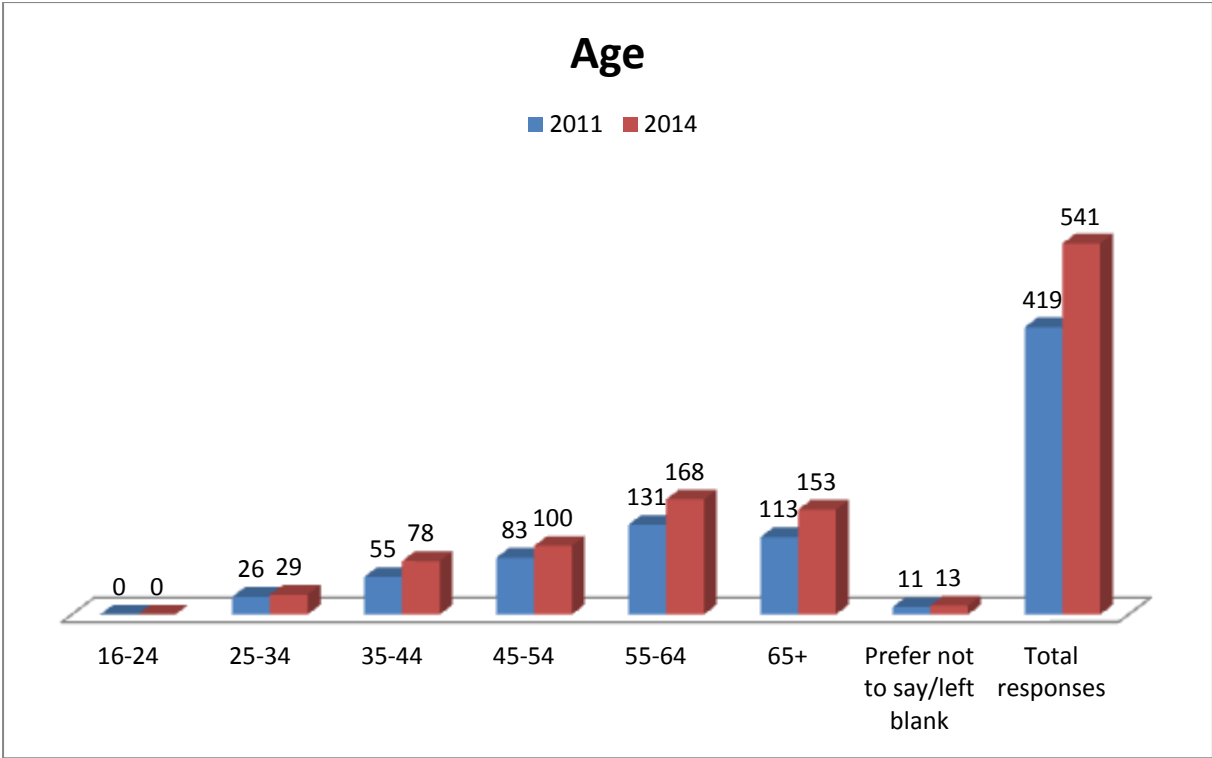
Responsibility for supervising or managing the work of lawyers or other employees

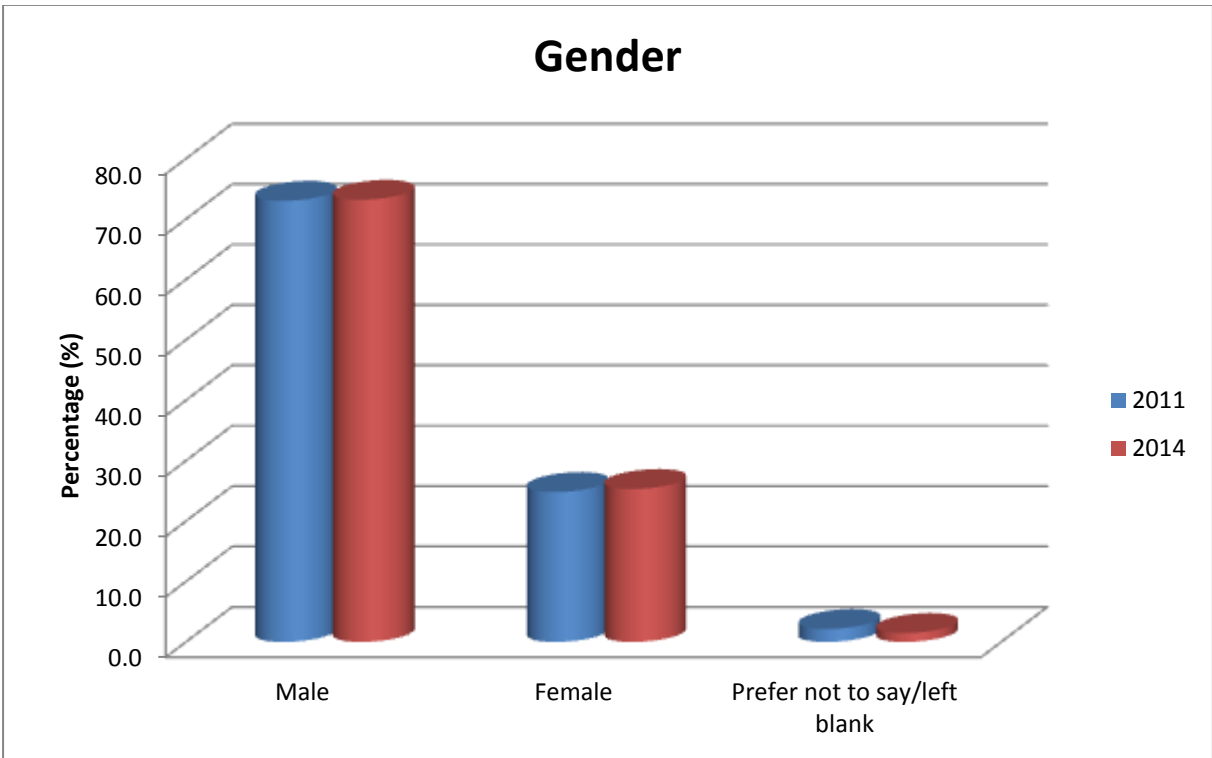
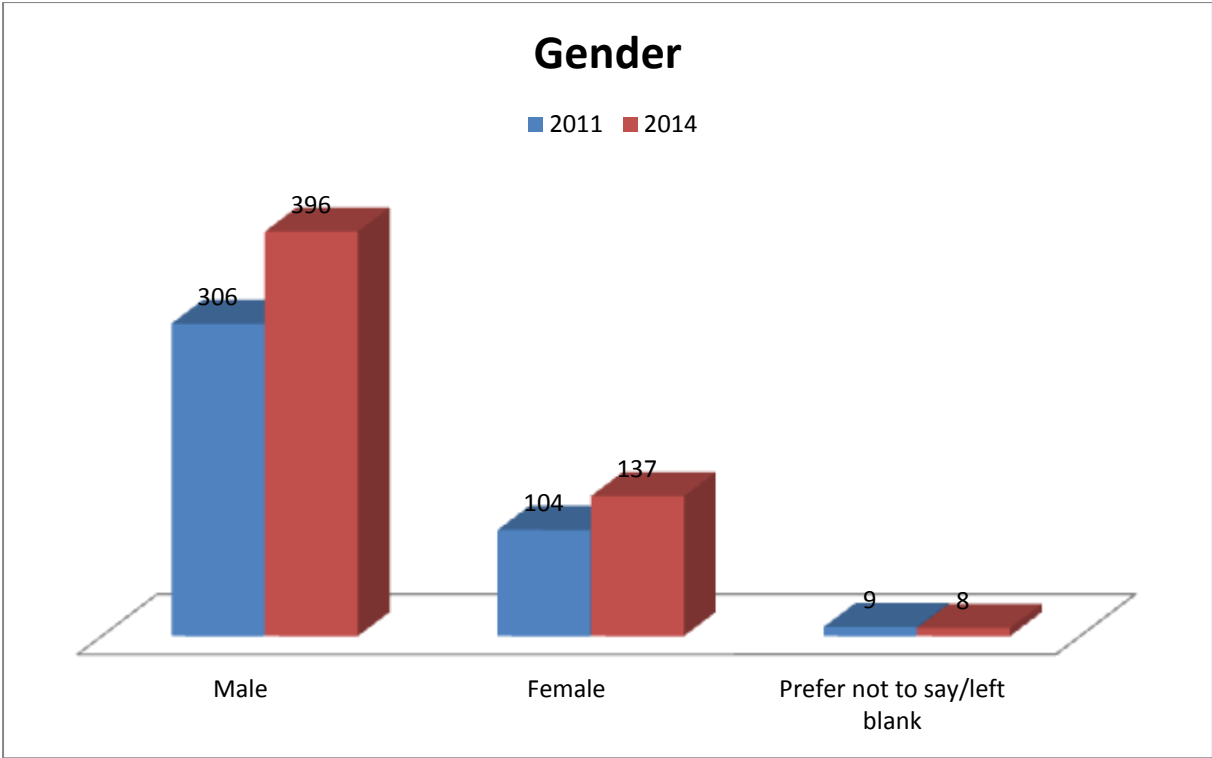
■ 2011 ■ 2014

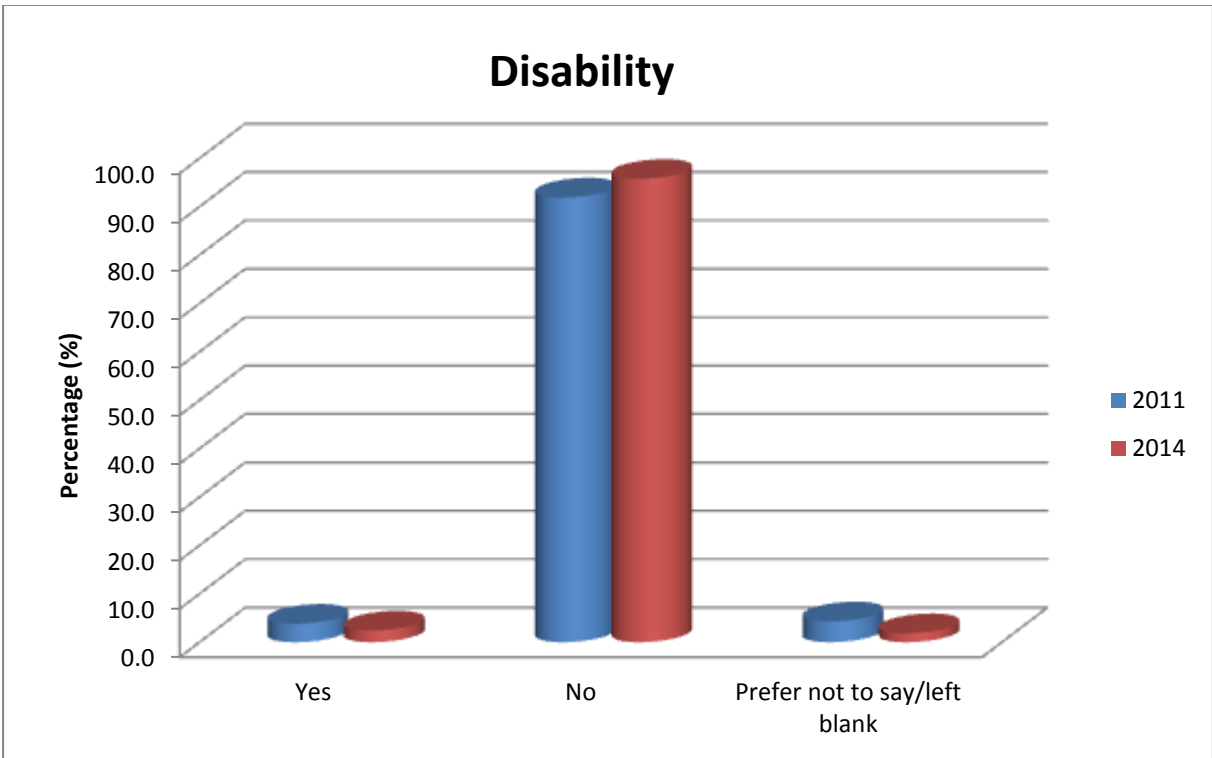
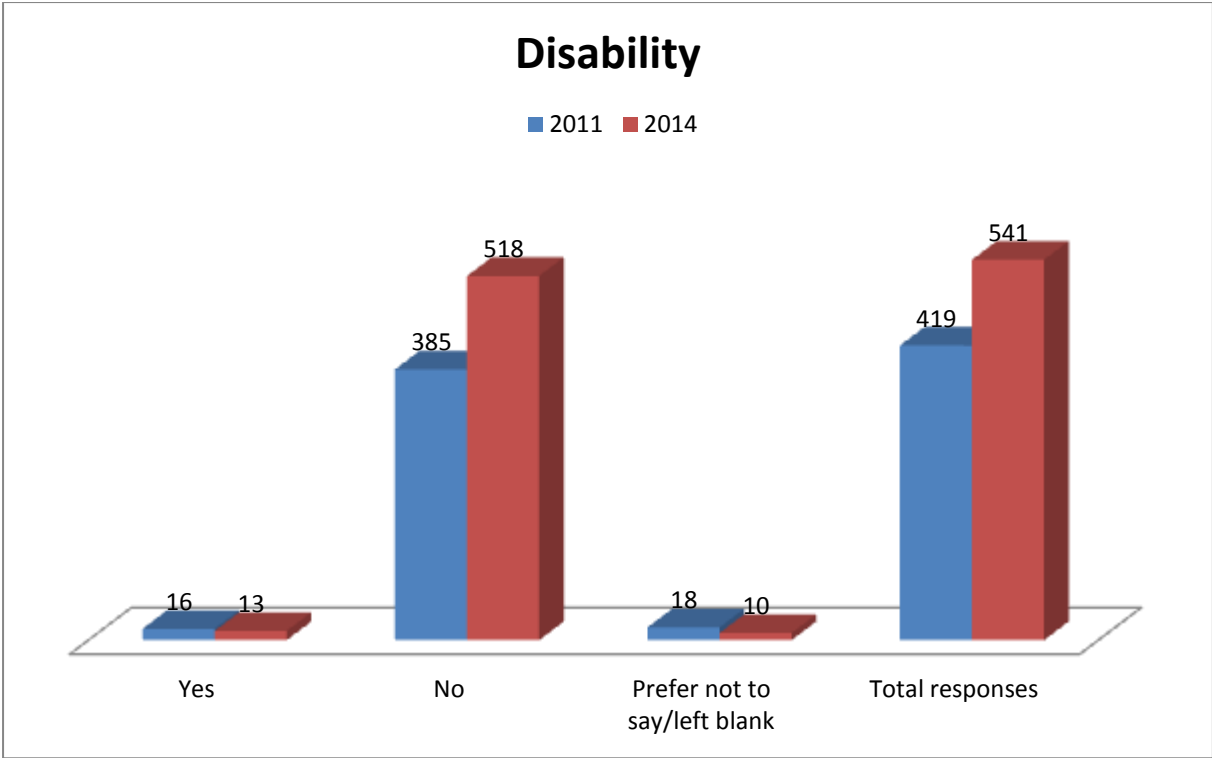


Responsibility for supervising or managing the work of lawyers or other employers

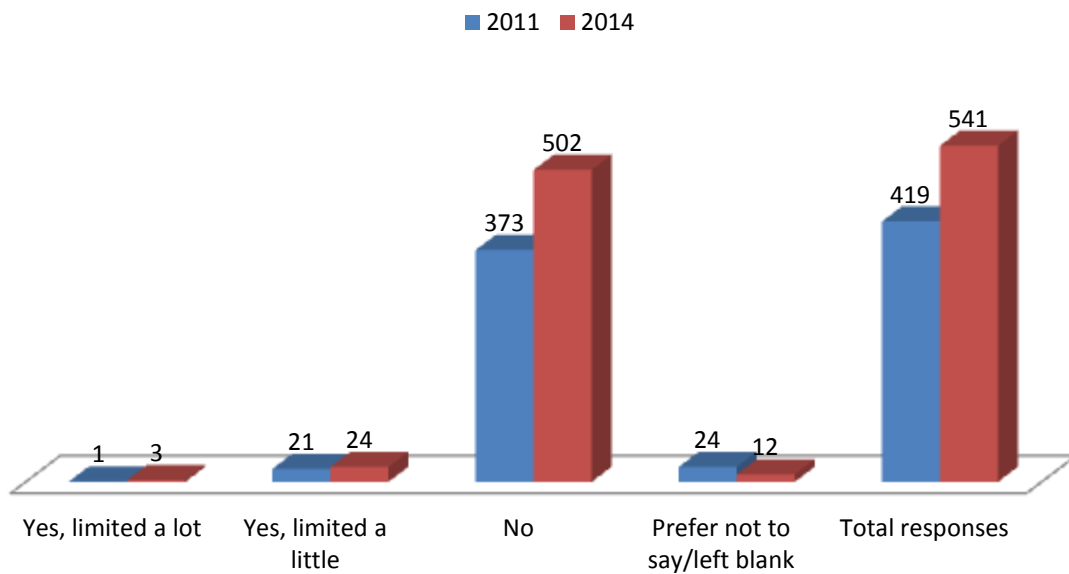




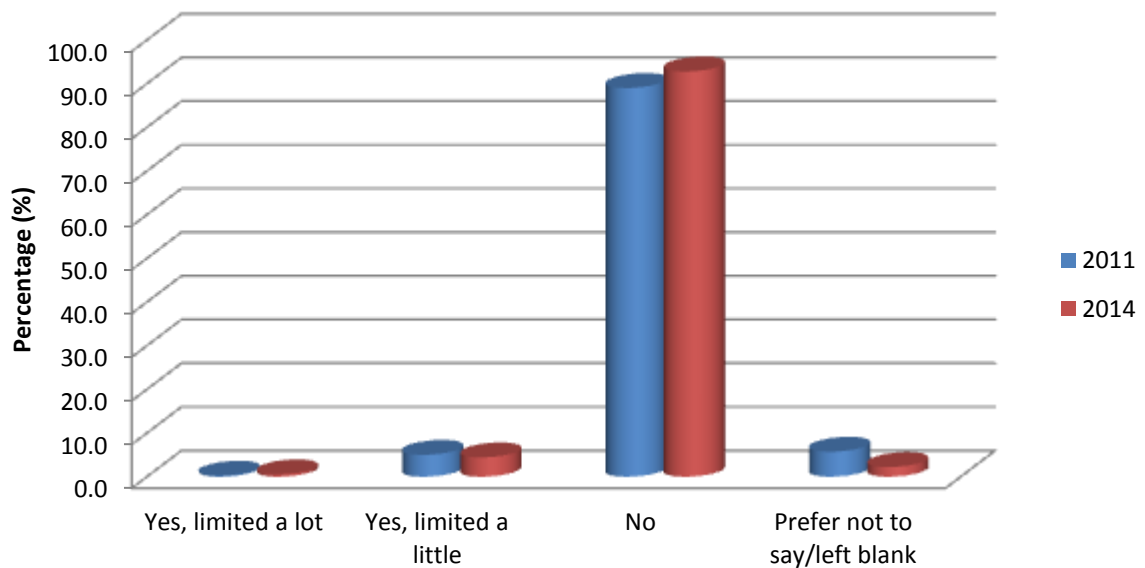


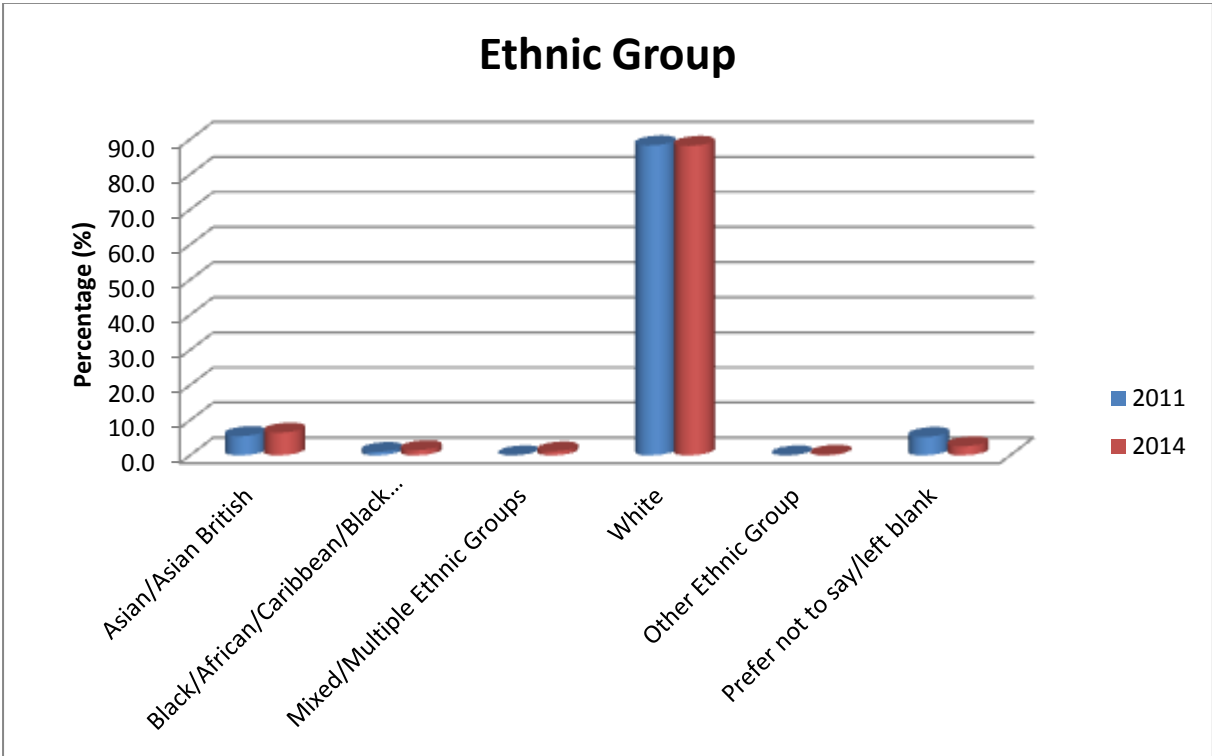
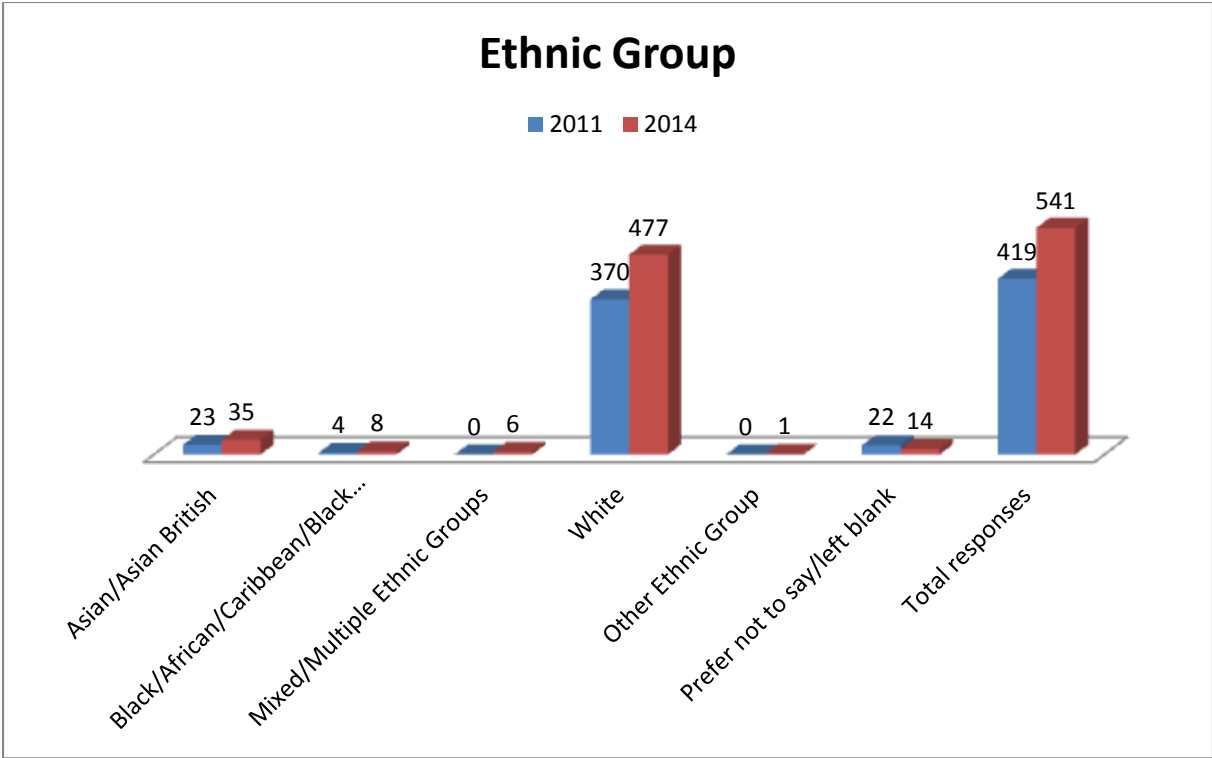


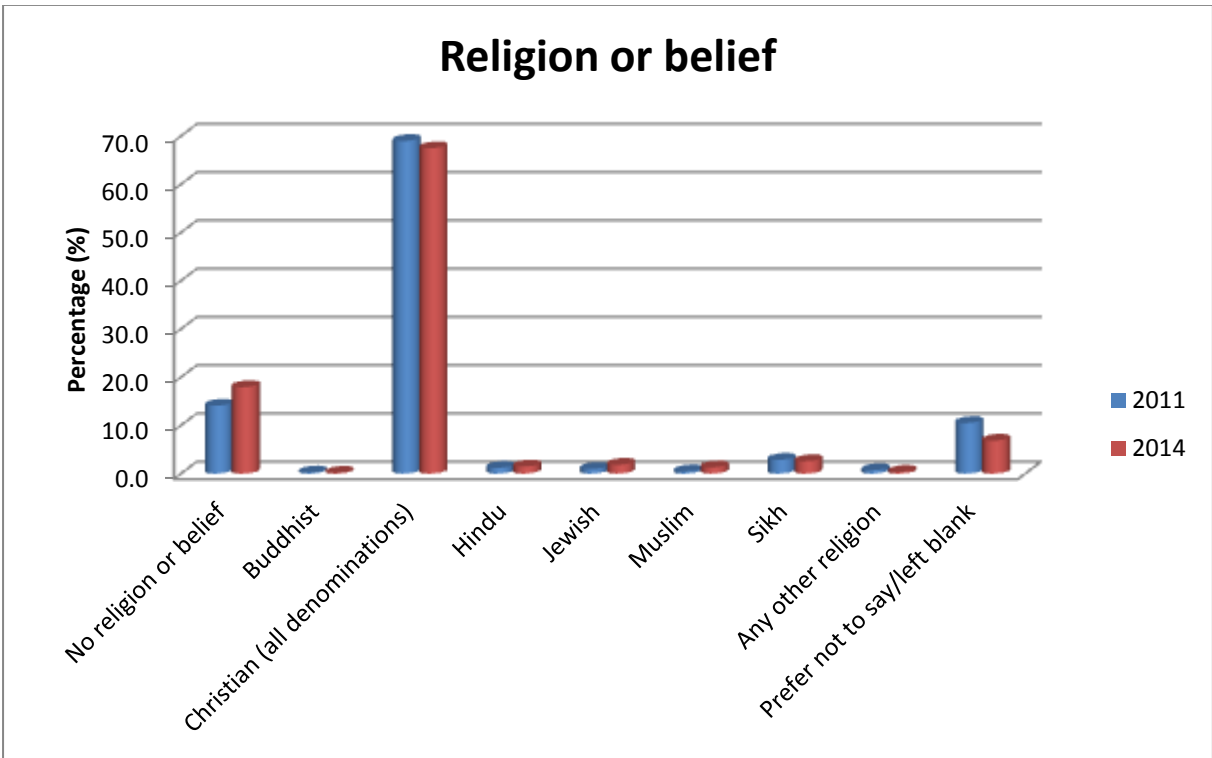
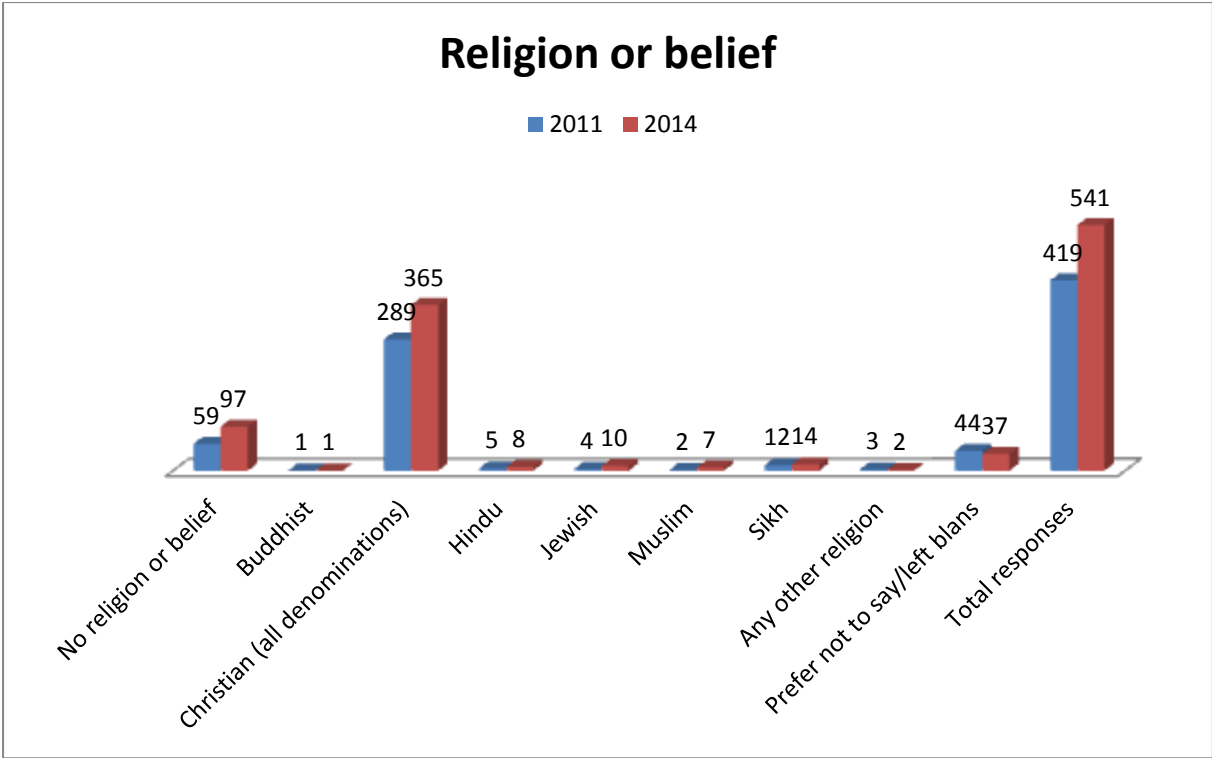
Day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability

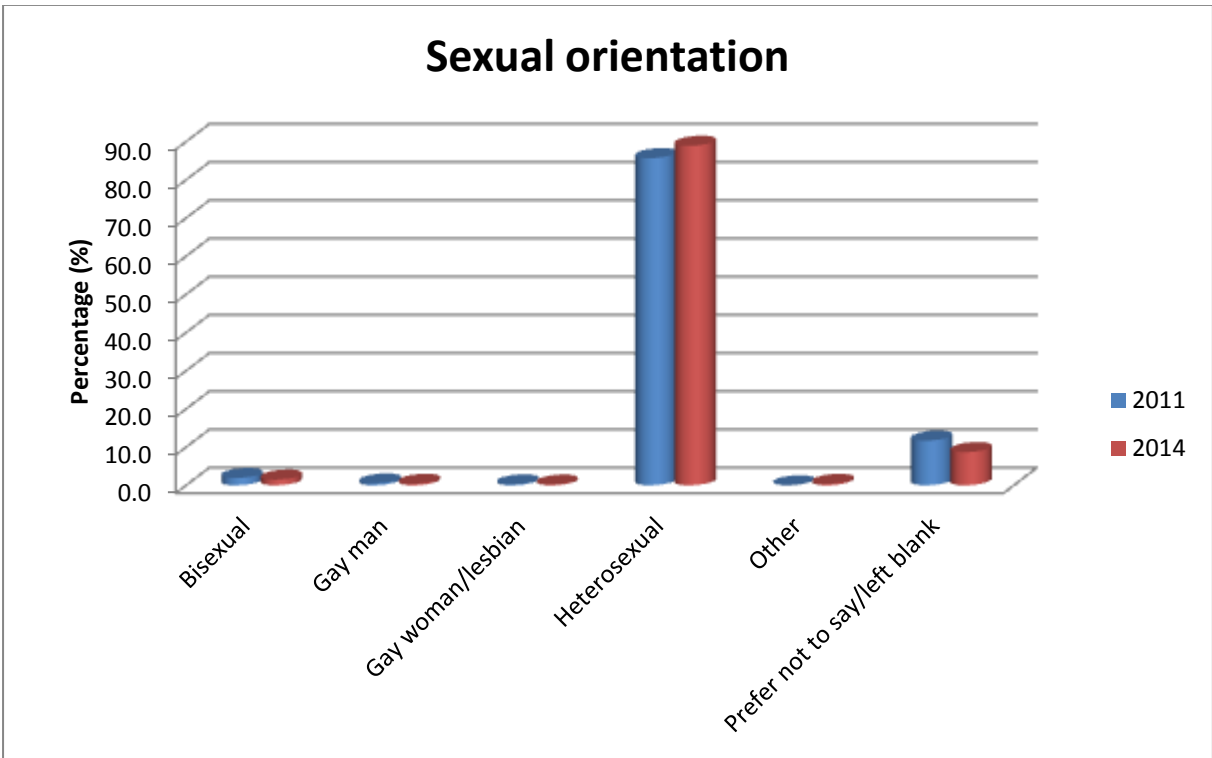
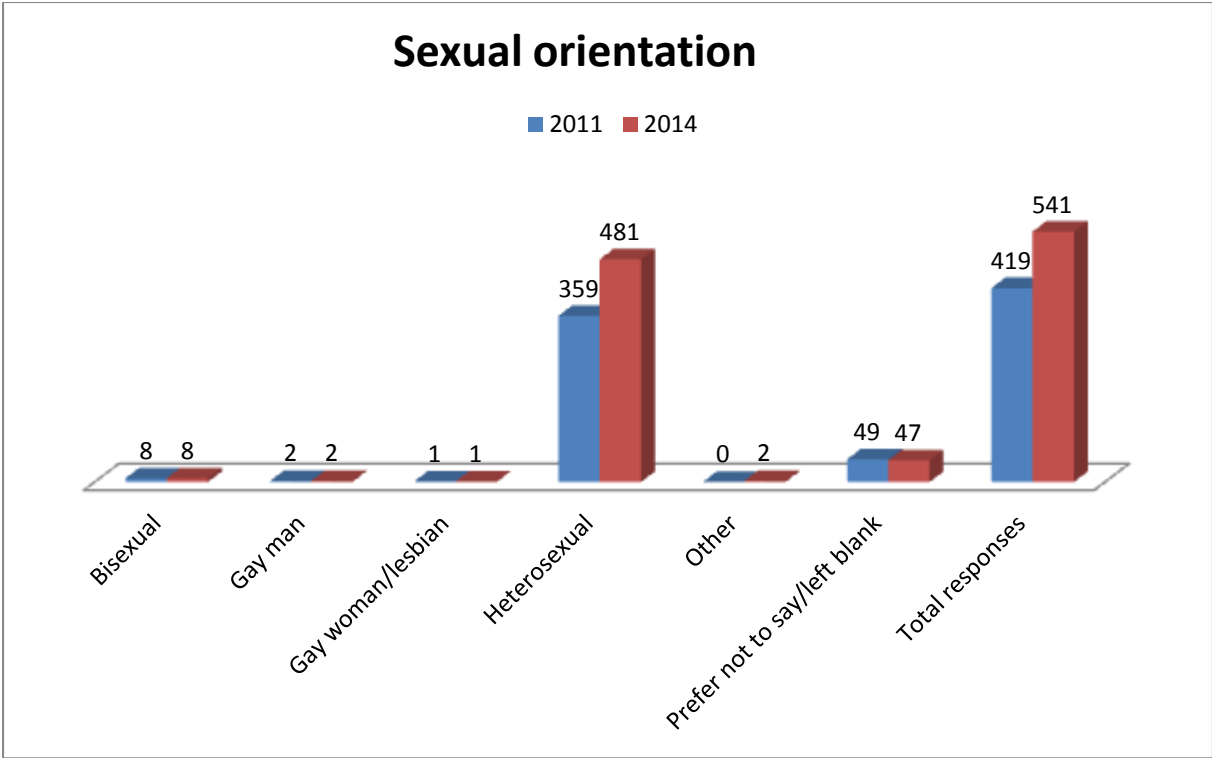


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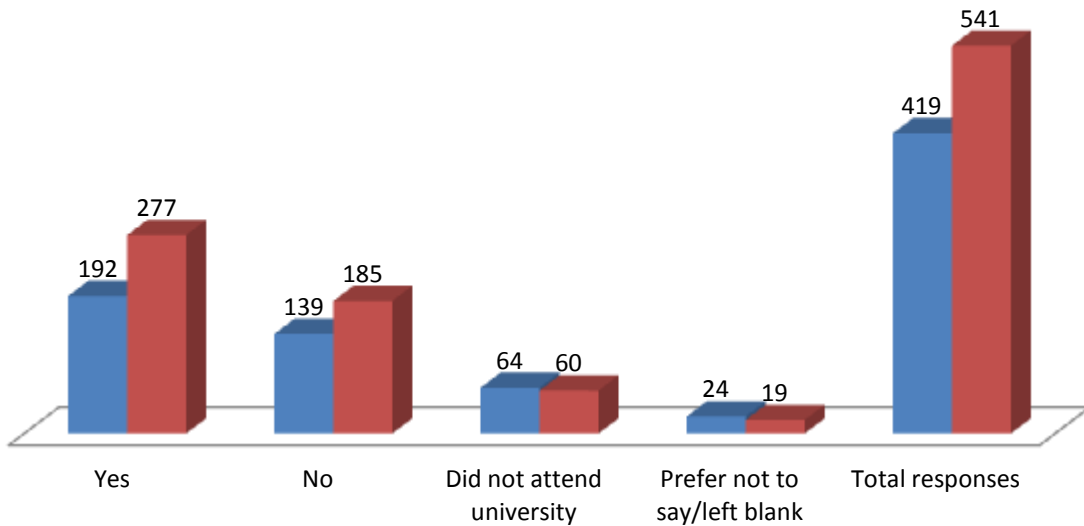




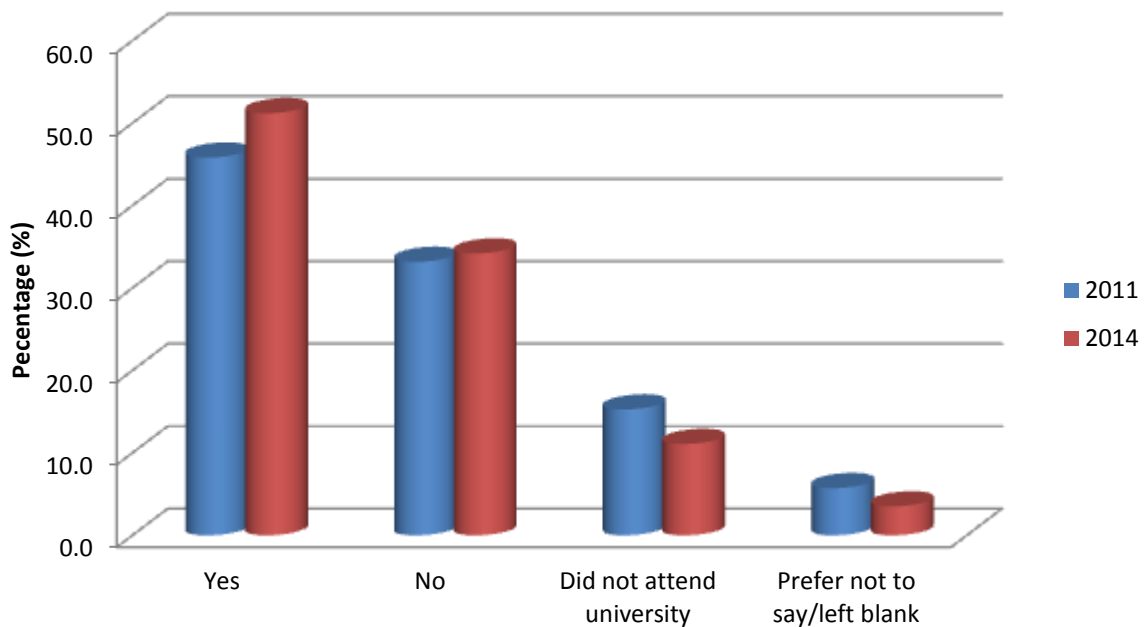


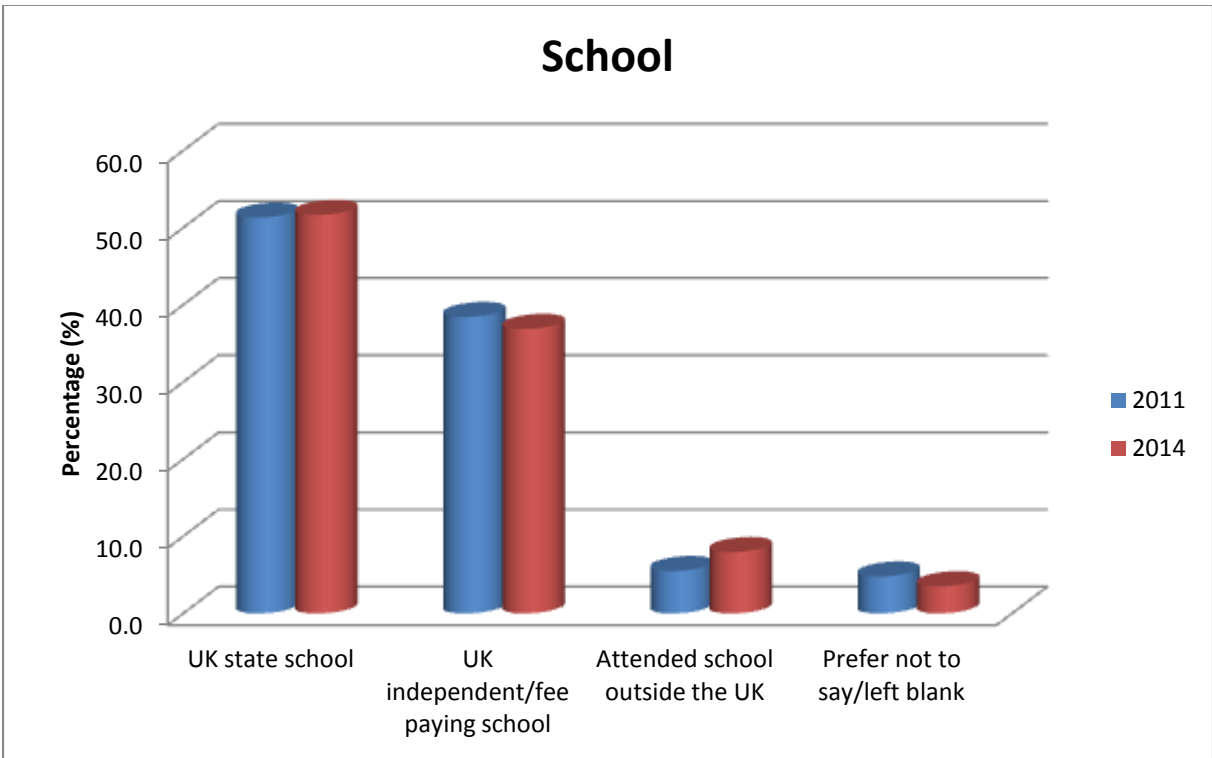
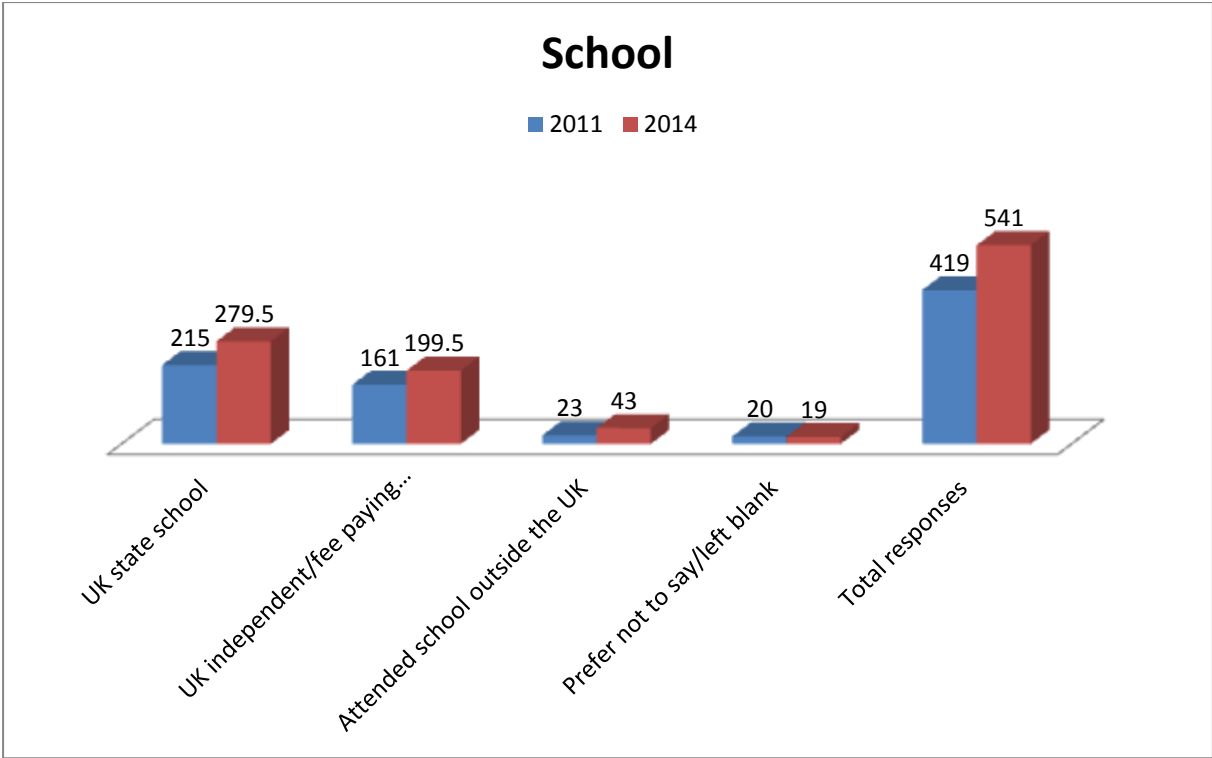
First generation to study at university

■ 2011 ■ 2014



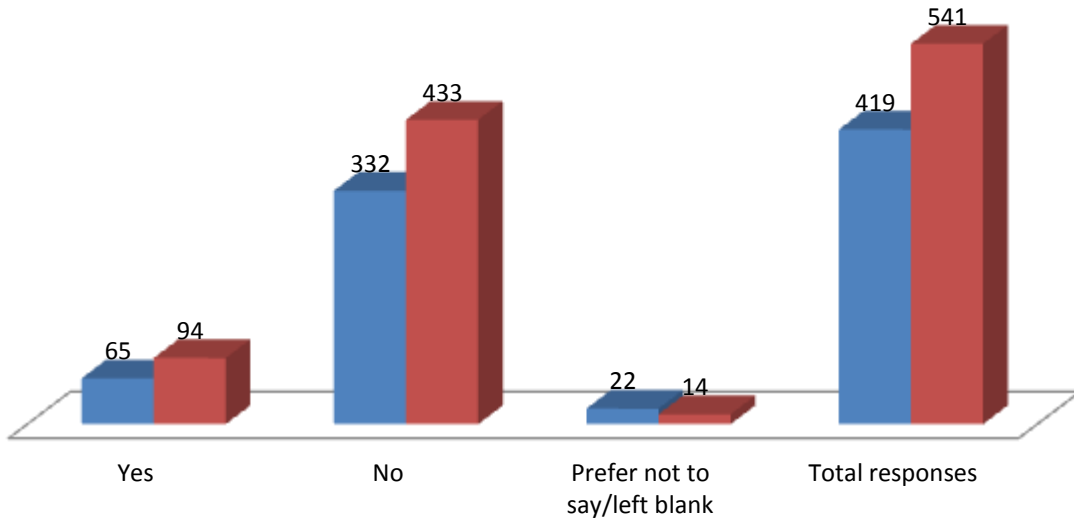
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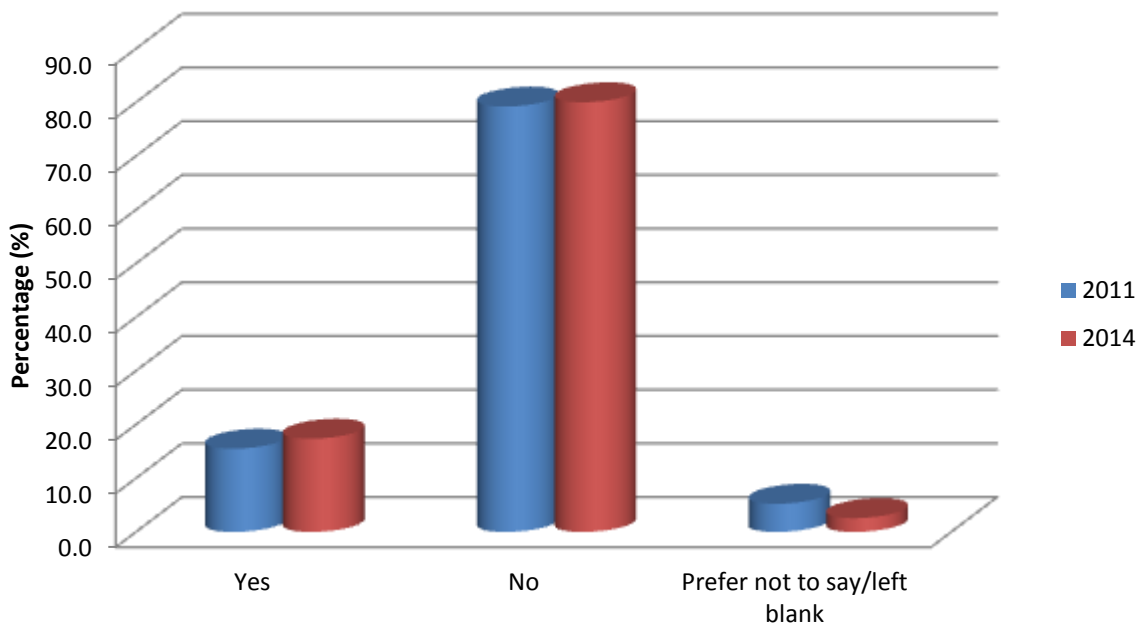


Primary carer for child/children

■ 2011 ■ 2014

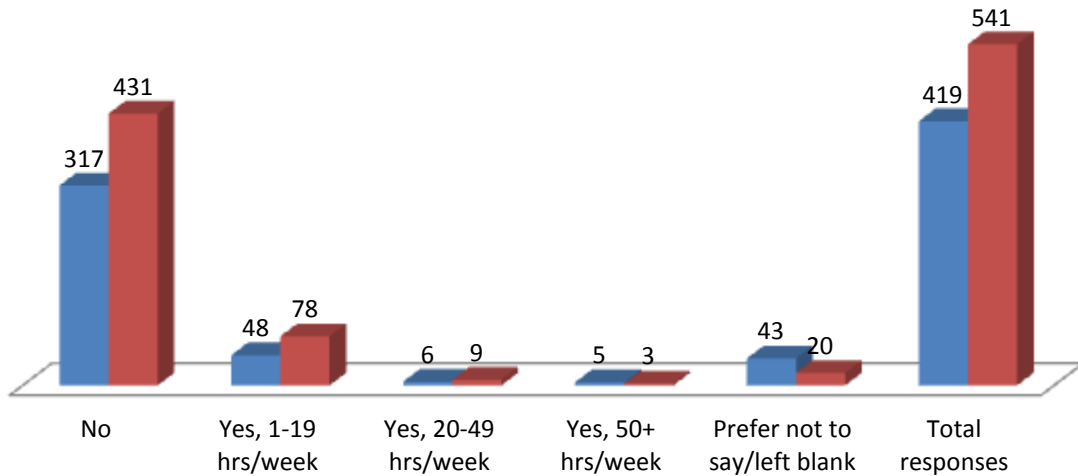


Primary carer for child/children



Look after family/friends/others because of long-term ill-health/disability

■ 2011 ■ 2014



Look after family/friends/others because of long-term ill-health/disability

