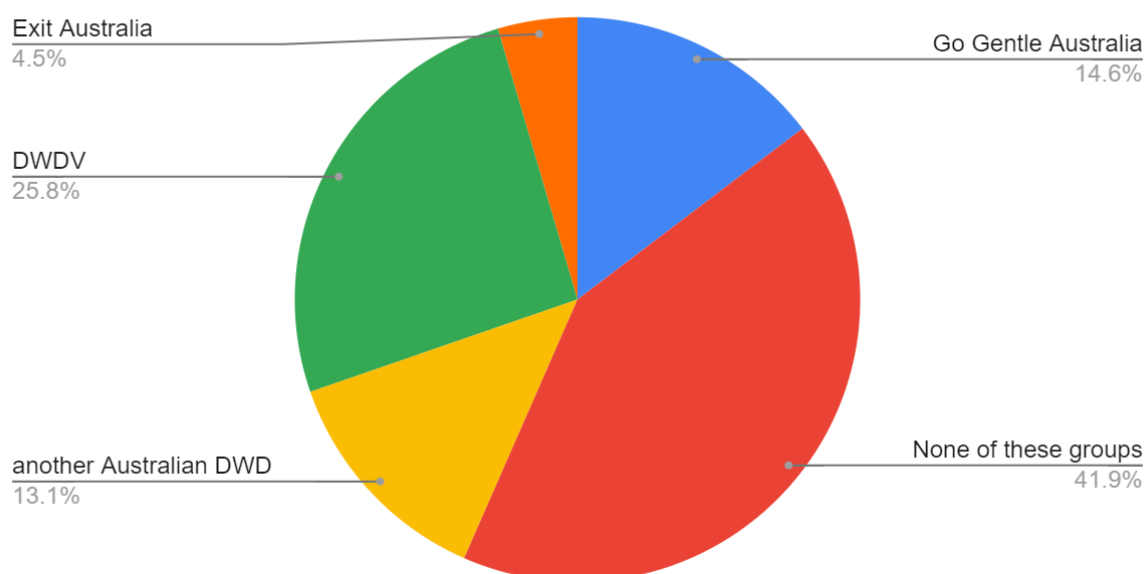


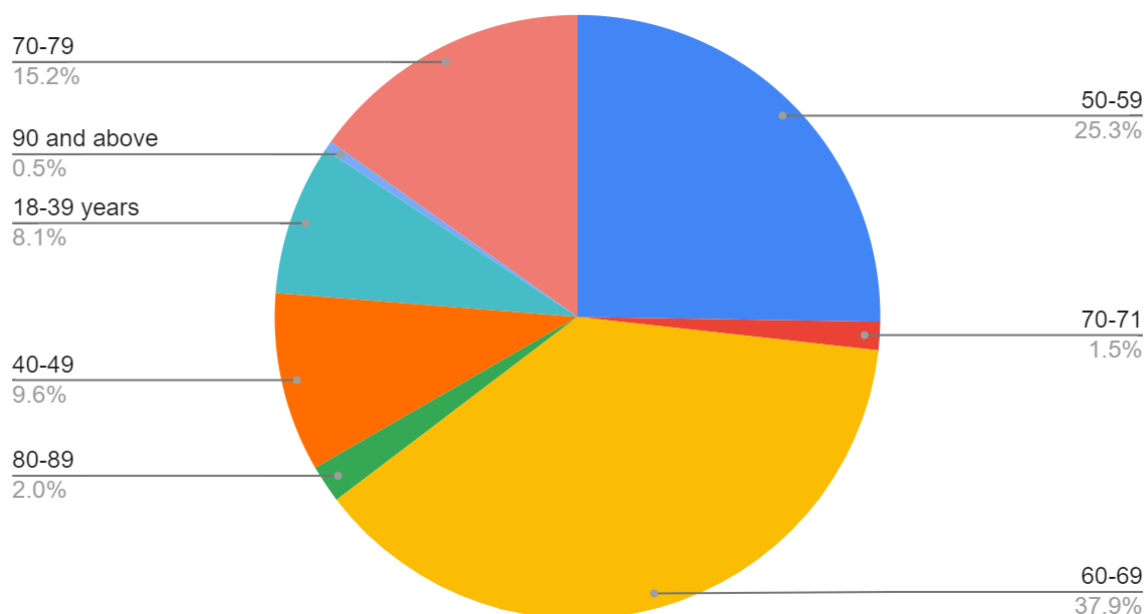
VAD / Aged Care survey via Facebook – Results

198 Facebook users responded to a survey in August 2021, asking their opinion on Aged Care, to determine whether their choice of facility would be influenced by the availability of Voluntary Assisted Dying.

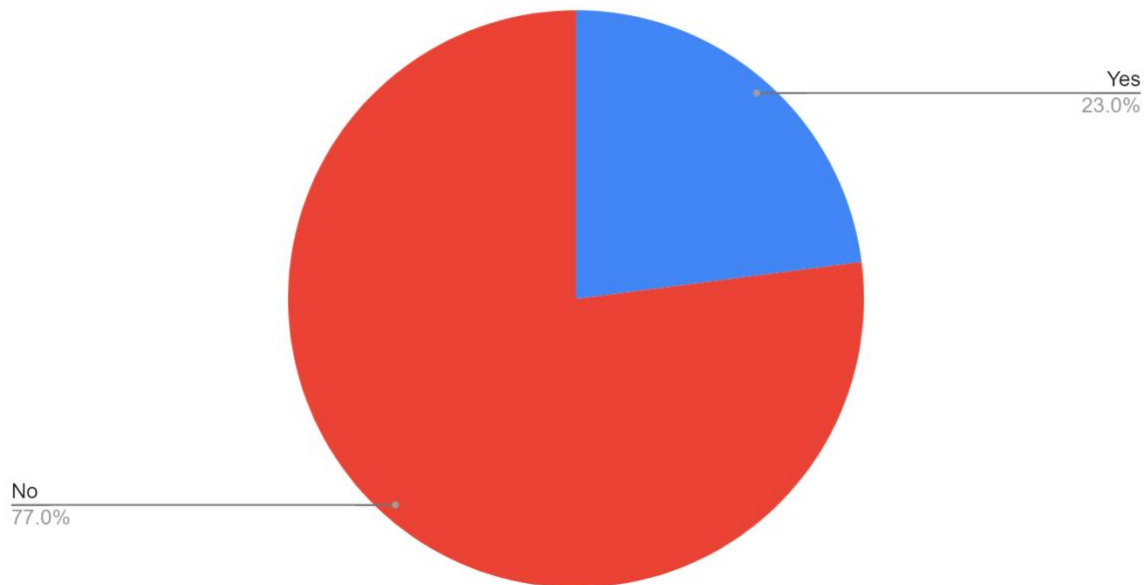
Are you currently a member or supporter of the following organisations?



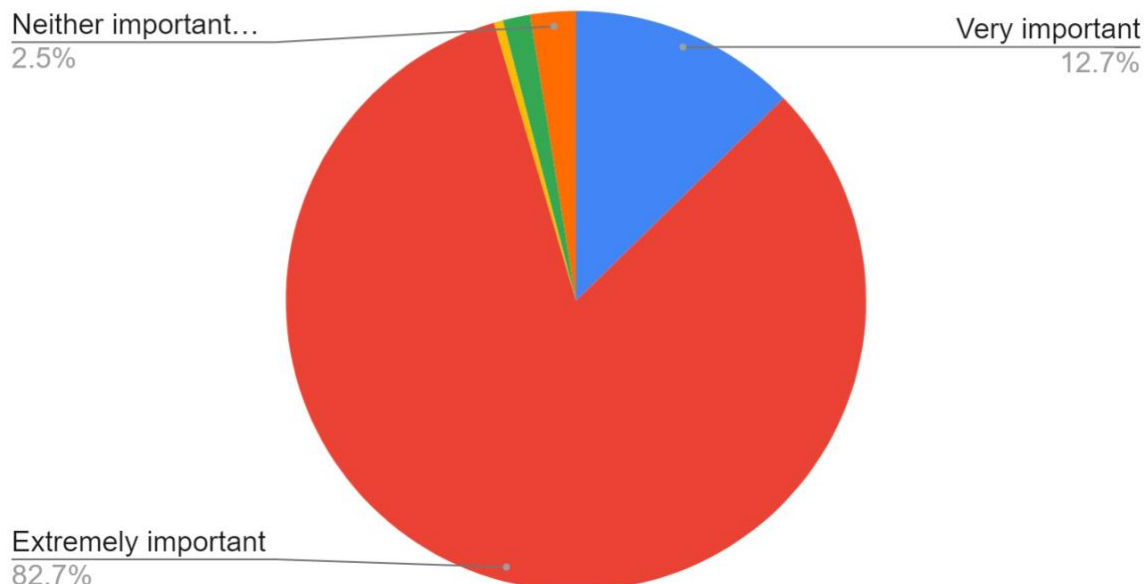
What is your age group?



Are you, or any members of your household / immediate family, currently considering Residential Aged Care for yourself or another person?

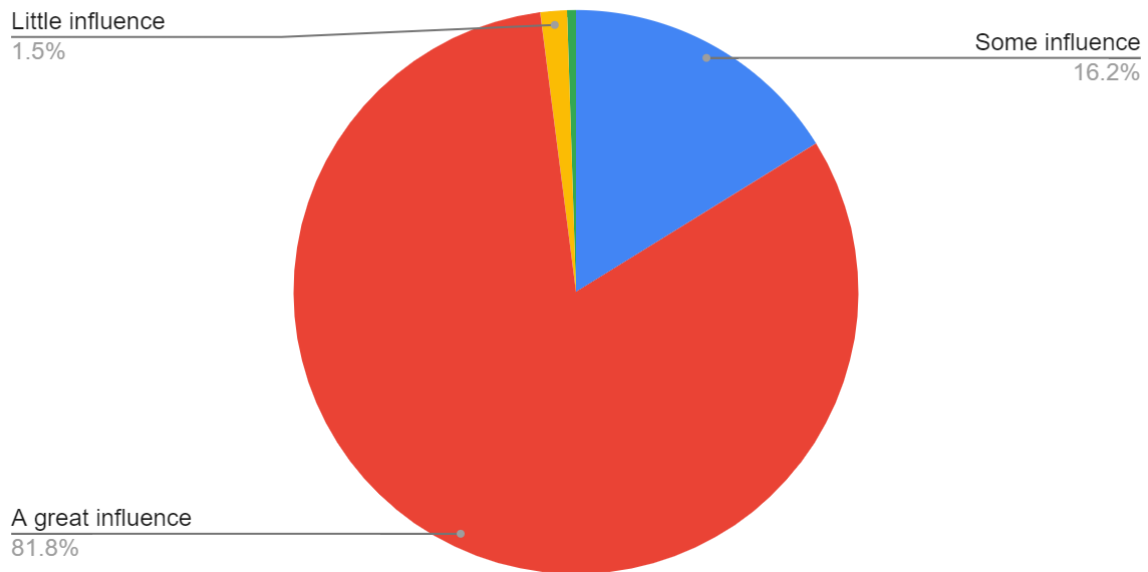


How important would it be to you that the Facility you are considering provides access to VAD?



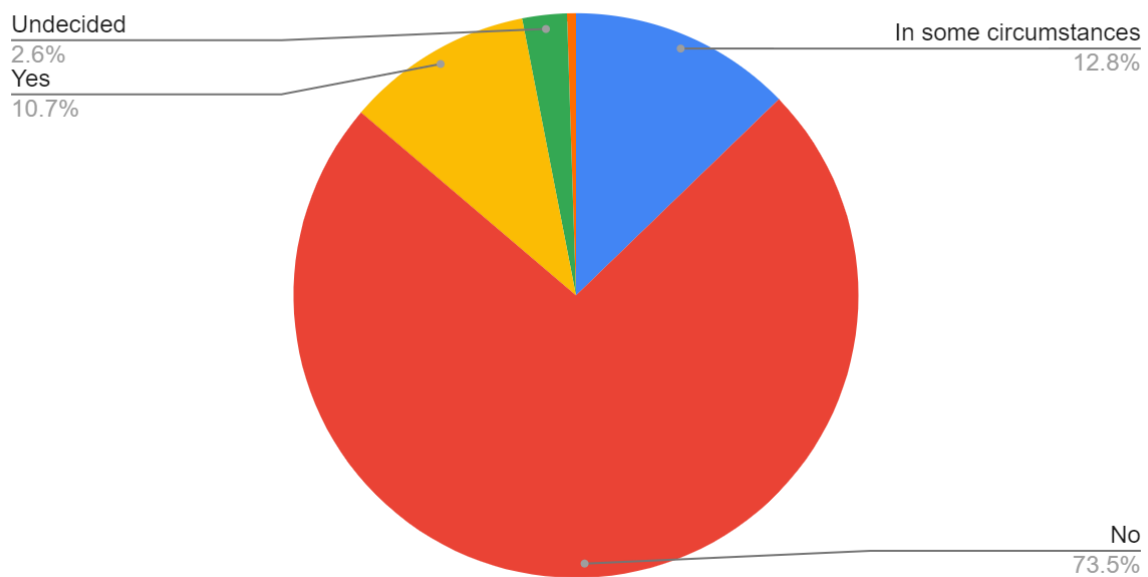
Only 2% of respondents considered access to VAD 'not very important' or 'unimportant'.

How much influence on your decision would access to VAD have on your choice of an Aged Care Facility?



Only one respondent said access to VAD would have no influence on their choice of an Aged Care Facility.

Would you consider an Aged Care Facility for yourself or someone else which does not allow VAD?



Answers / comments to this question include:

It must be local. In my regional area.

if the someone else did not believe in VAD

No other choice and the opportunity to take action against the facility under the Anti-discrimination Act (Tasmania) which prohibits religious discrimination

If the person suffers mental illness or other that may influence their choices

If no other choices

Costs

Depends upon the urgency with which a bed needs to be found, and the physical and mental condition of the family member. There are some homes which on the basis of their standard of care and nursing I would wish to avoid.

Only available

Wishes of the in patient.

only if there was no alternative, or that it provided good care when others don't

Not sure. Would depend on the context at the time

If care was needed and a facility that allowed VAD was not available we would have to consider it.

It would depend on the level of care facility provided

Temporarily, I understand sometimes availability of care is complex and limited

I would if it was a particularly good centre that ticked all the other boxes, and if there was some other way that my parents could access VAD if need be. If sending them to a centre that didn't have VAD meant that they could never access it, I would not send them to that centre.

Can't say I never would, but it would certainly be an important part of any decision on aged care.

If no choice

It may be due to other priorities - price, location and amenity - I had to. It might mean the aged care resident had a better quality of life in some aspects but worse in others - loss of choice, fear of a bad death. That is an appalling calculus to have to make for the resident and their families. Shame on those facilities who do not enable access to VAD for those who want it.

but only if their staffing ratios and quality of care was way above current standard practice

Shouldn't it be offered by hospice, rather than aged care?

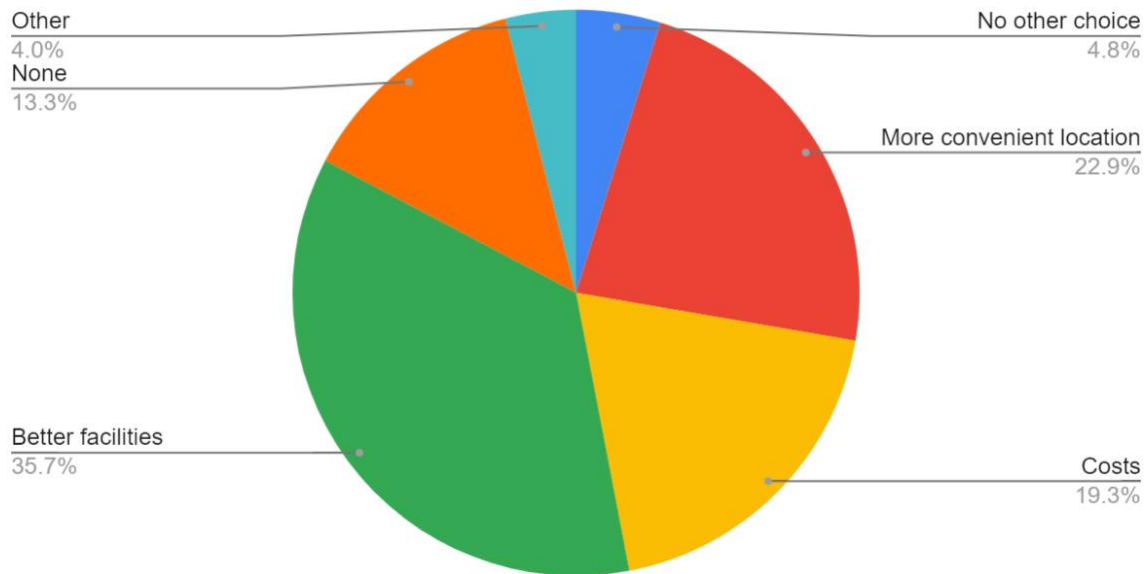
I would choose the best care available at the time, that choice would include if VAD was readily available and acceptable to the care facility

If there were no other short term options

Depends on if any of them have it and how accessible it is.

Not unless there was no other option near family/home area.

Can you please describe the circumstances in which you would consider an Aged Care Facility which did not allow VAD?



178 people responded to the final question, which allowed multiple responses. 33 people stated they would never consider an Aged Care Facility that did not allow VAD, and another 12 would only do so if they had no other option.