

# **Tennessee Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System**

## **State Added Questions Report**

**2015**

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**General Preparedness**

**Adverse Childhood Experiences**

**Veteran's Health**

## **Acknowledgments**

Tennessee BRFSS project staff would like to express their gratitude to all of the respondents who took time to participate in the survey. Their information will provide public health professionals and researchers a better understanding of the health and prosperity of adult Tennesseans.

Project staff would like to acknowledge the BRFSS data users across the state, our project partners, as well as our contractor for phone operations. Special thanks to all members of the Office of Population Health Surveillance for their contribution to this report.

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## Overview

The Tennessee Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (TN BRFSS) is a survey given to randomly selected adult (18+ years) non-institutionalized Tennesseans each year. Information collected is used in aggregate to generalize the overall health, well-being, and behaviors of the entire Tennessee adult population.

State-added questions, the focus of this analysis, are those questions that were not included in the core or optional modules of the survey for the corresponding year. These questions may have been used in previous core or optional modules from any previous data year or may be new questions altogether. In either case they must have been field tested, cognitively tested, and approved for use by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The State-added questions in this report have been used as optional modules in previous years. They were selected by data users across Tennessee in order to collect continuous data for their program's data needs or in anticipation of prospective data collection.

Data users who are interested in including other State-added questions to the TN BRFSS questionnaire should feel free to make their case at the bi-annual TN BRFSS Data Users Group meetings or by contacting the TN BRFSS Coordinator (contact information below):



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## Preparation for Large-Scale Disaster

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

How well prepared do you feel your household is to handle a large-scale disaster or emergency?

### *SAS Variables Used*

GPWELPR3

### *Dispositions*

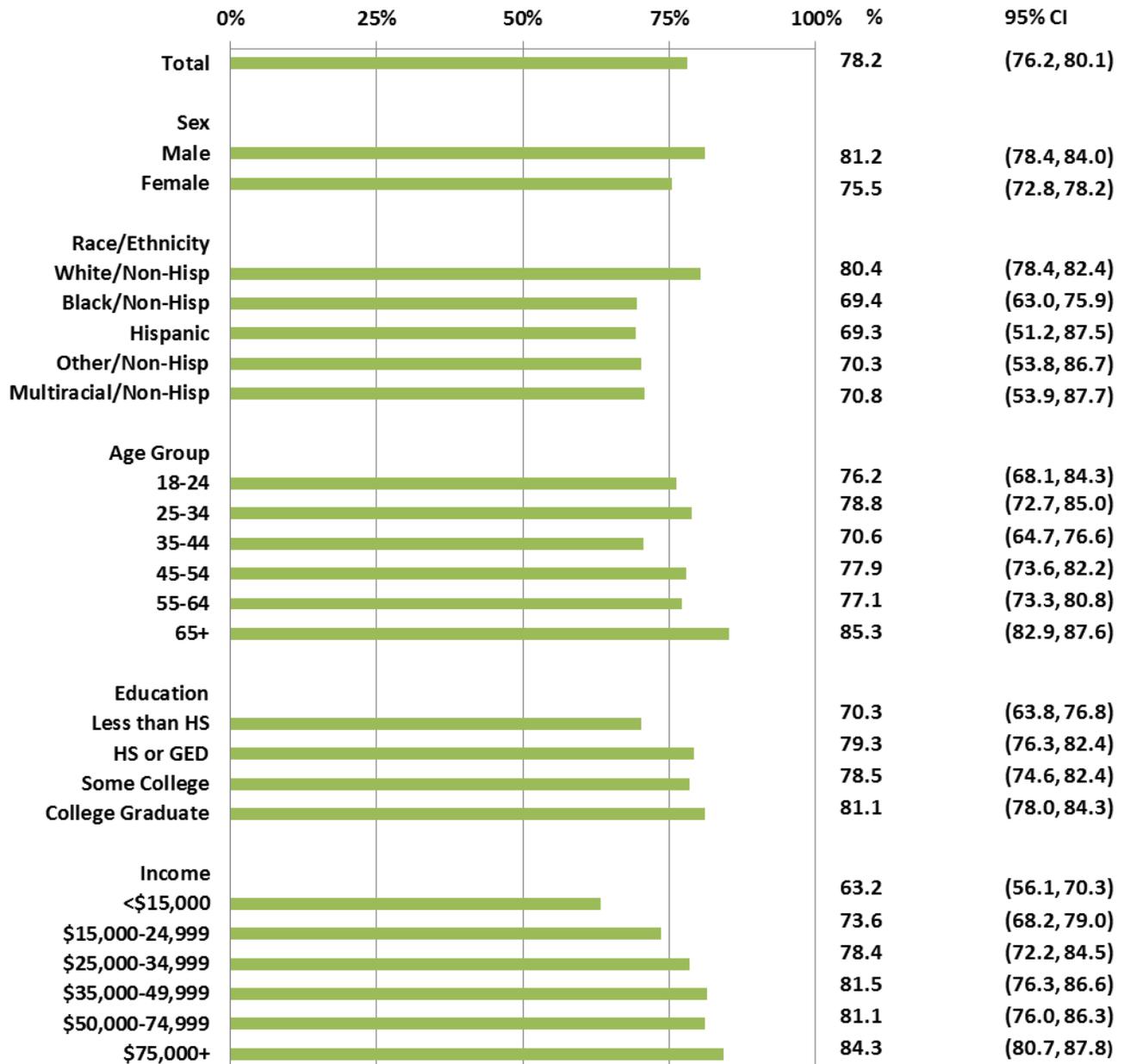
The question allows the respondent to answer with “well prepared,” “somewhat prepared,” or “not prepared at all.” For the purpose of this analysis, “well prepared” and “somewhat prepared” were combined to satisfy the criteria for being prepared for a large-scale disaster or emergency.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: More than 3 out of every 4 (78.2%) Tennesseans felt prepared for a large-scale disaster or emergency.
- **Sex: Men were more likely to report feeling prepared for a large-scale disaster or emergency than women.**
- **Race/ethnicity: White, non-Hispanics were more likely to feel prepared for a large-scale disaster or emergency than black non-Hispanics.**
- Age: Older Tennesseans reported feeling more prepared for a large-scale disaster or emergency than younger Tennesseans.
- **Education: College graduates were more likely to report feeling prepared for a large-scale disaster or emergency than those with less than a high school diploma.**
- **Income: Tennesseans earning \$75,000 or more were more likely to report feeling prepared for a large-scale disaster or emergency than those earning less than \$25,000.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## TN Households Prepared to Safely Withstand a Large-Scale Disaster or Emergency, 2015



## Three Day Water Supply

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Does your household have a 3-day supply of water for everyone who lives there? A 3-day supply of water is 1 gallon of water per person per day.

### *SAS Variables Used*

GP3DYWTR

### *Dispositions*

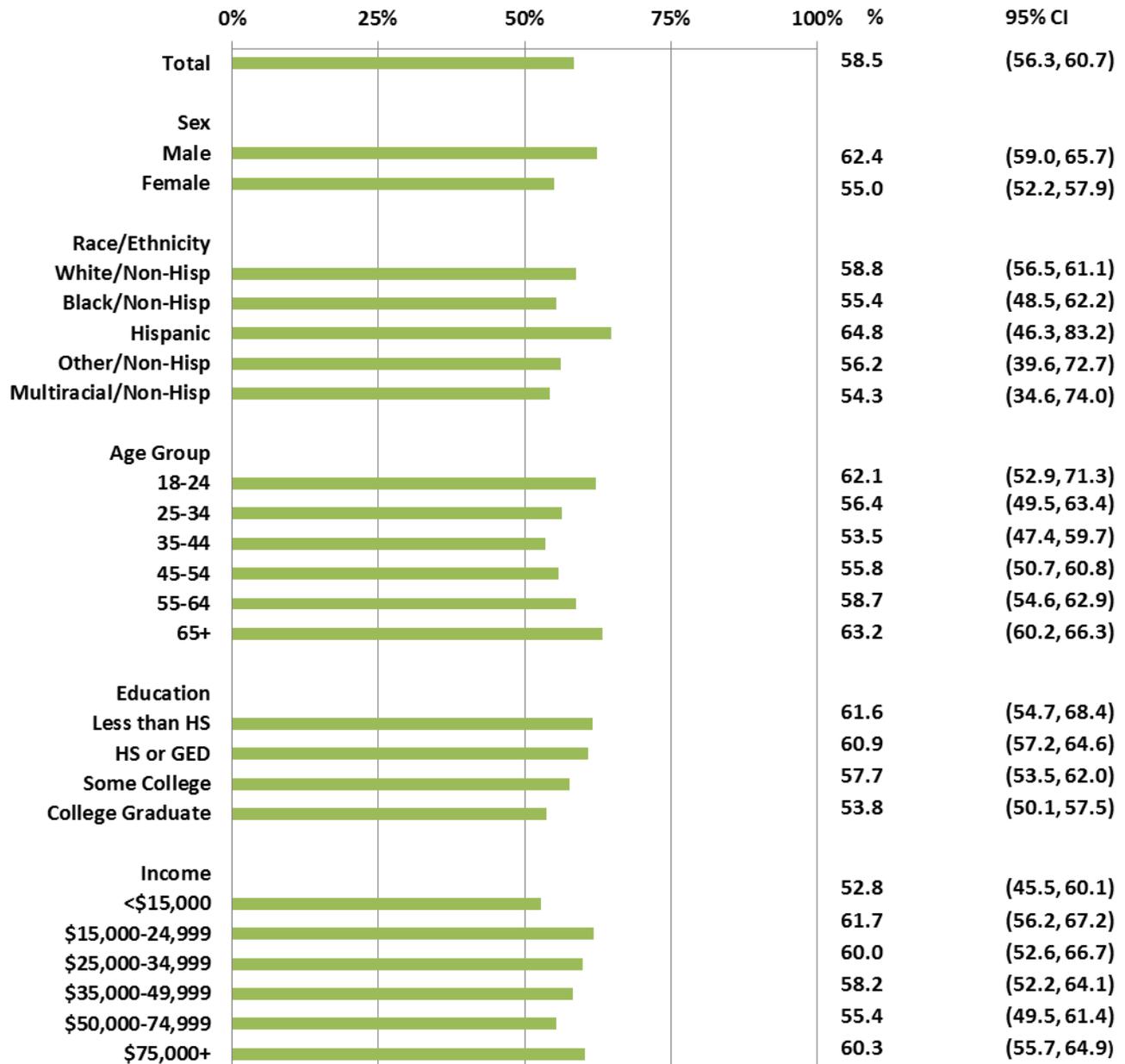
The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Almost 6 out of every 10 (58.5%) Tennesseans had a 3-day supply of water for everyone in the household.
- **Sex: Men were more likely to report having a 3-day supply of water for everyone in the household than women.**
- Race/ethnicity: Hispanics had the highest prevalence of reporting having a 3-day supply of water.
- Age: Older and younger Tennesseans had a higher prevalence of having a 3-day supply of water than middle aged Tennesseans.
- Education: As education level increased, reporting of having a 3-day supply of water increased.
- Income: Tennesseans earning between \$15,000 and 24,999 had the highest prevalence of having a 3-day supply of water for everyone in the household.

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## TN Households With a 3-Day Supply of Water for All Persons, 2015



## Three Day Food Supply

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Does your household have a 3-day supply of nonperishable food for everyone who lives there? By nonperishable we mean food that does not require refrigeration or cooking.

### *SAS Variables Used*

GP3DYFD1

### *Dispositions*

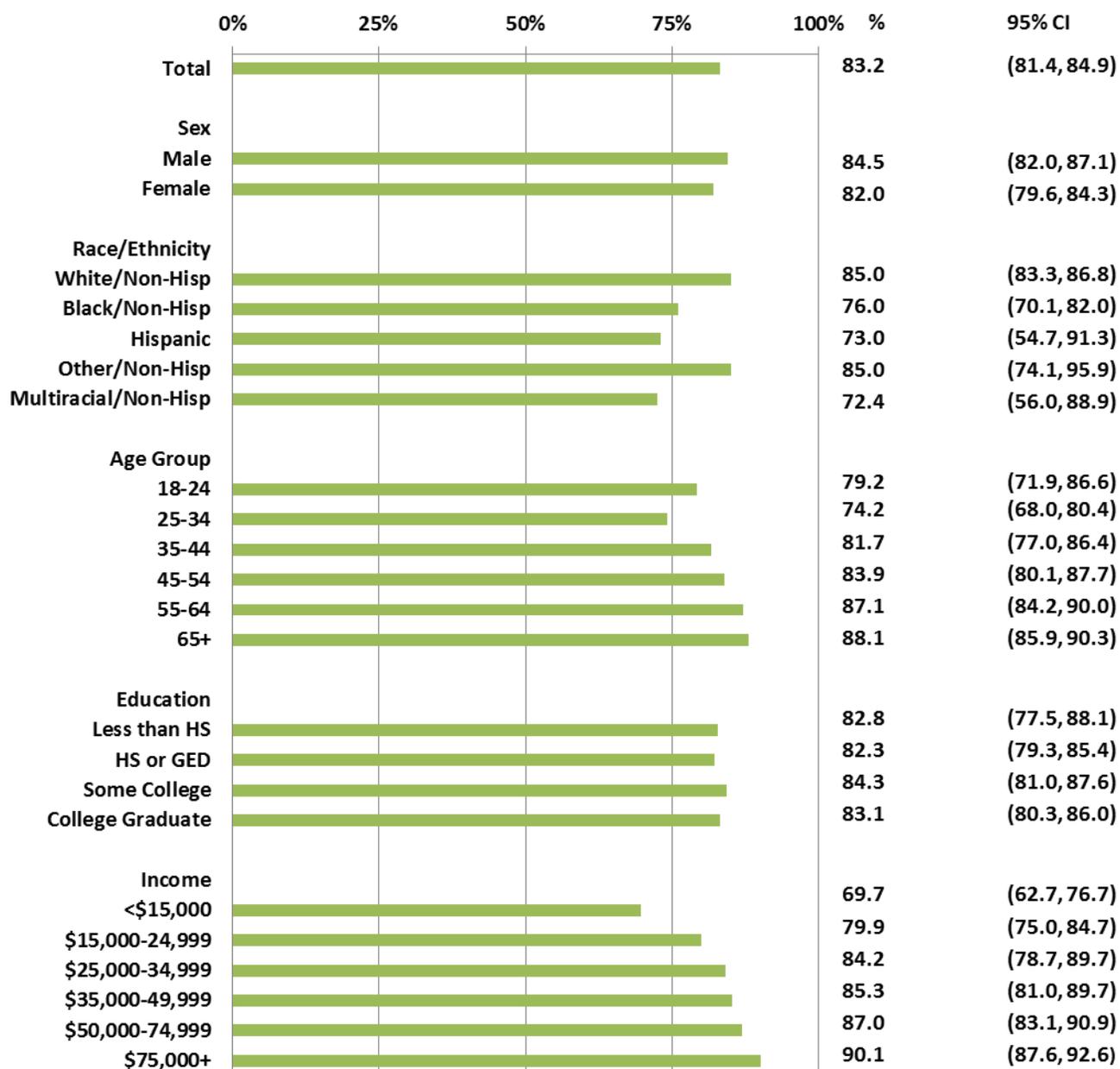
The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: More than 4 out of 5 (83.2%) Tennesseans had a 3-day supply of nonperishable food for everyone in the household.
- Sex: Men were more likely to report having a 3-day supply of nonperishable food for everyone in the household than women.
- **Race/ethnicity: White non-Hispanics were more likely to have a 3-day supply of nonperishable food than black non-Hispanics.**
- Age: As age increases, so does the proportion of those with a 3-day supply of nonperishable food.
- Education: Education has no association with food supply for emergency purposes.
- **Income: Tennesseans earning \$75,000 or more were more likely to report maintaining a 3-day supply of nonperishable food for everyone in the household than those earning under \$25,000.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## TN Households With a 3-Day Supply of Food for All Persons, 2015



## Three Day Prescription Medicine Supply

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Does your household have a 3-day supply of prescription medicine for each person who takes prescription medicines?

### *SAS Variables Used*

GP3DYPRS

### *Dispositions*

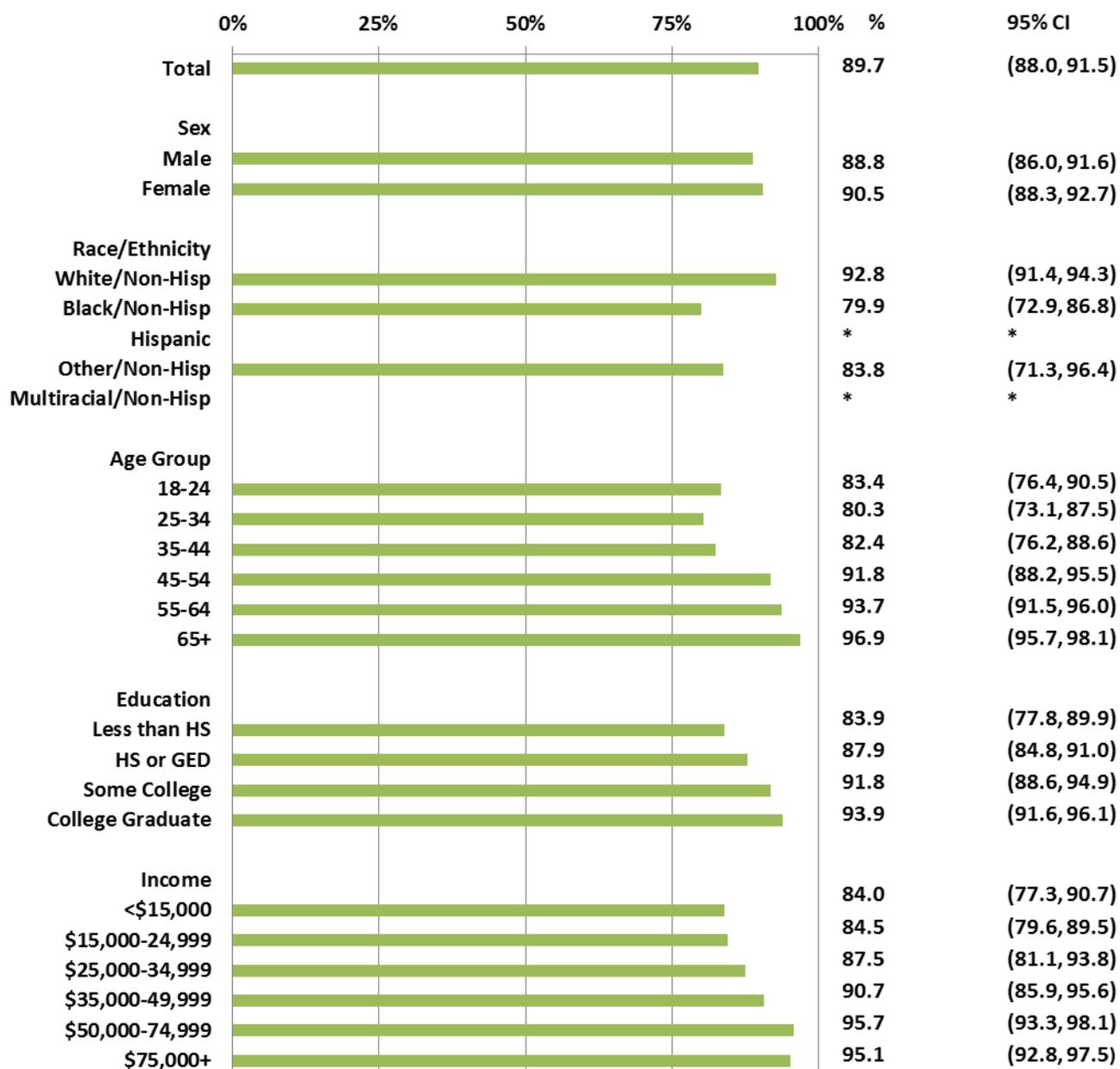
The question allows the respondent to answer “yes,” “no,” or “no one in the household takes prescription medicine.” Only households with someone who takes prescription medicine were included in the following analyses.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Almost 9 out of 10 (89.7%) Tennesseans who took prescription medicine had a 3-day supply of prescription medicine
- Sex: No difference was observed between men and women.
- **Race/ethnicity: White non-Hispanics were more likely to report having a 3-day supply of prescription medicine than black non-Hispanics.**
- **Age: Tennesseans aged 55 years and older were more likely to report having a 3-day supply of prescription medicine than those aged 44 years and younger.**
- **Education: Higher education was associated with having a 3-day supply of prescription medicine.**
- **Income: Tennesseans earning more than \$50,000 or more were more likely to report maintaining a 3-day supply of prescription medicine than those earning under \$25,000.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## TN Households With a 3-Day Supply of Prescription Medicine for All Persons Who Take Prescription Medicine, 2015



## Battery Radio and Batteries

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Does your household have a working battery operated radio and working batteries for your use if the electricity is out?

### *SAS Variables Used*

GPBATRAD

### *Dispositions*

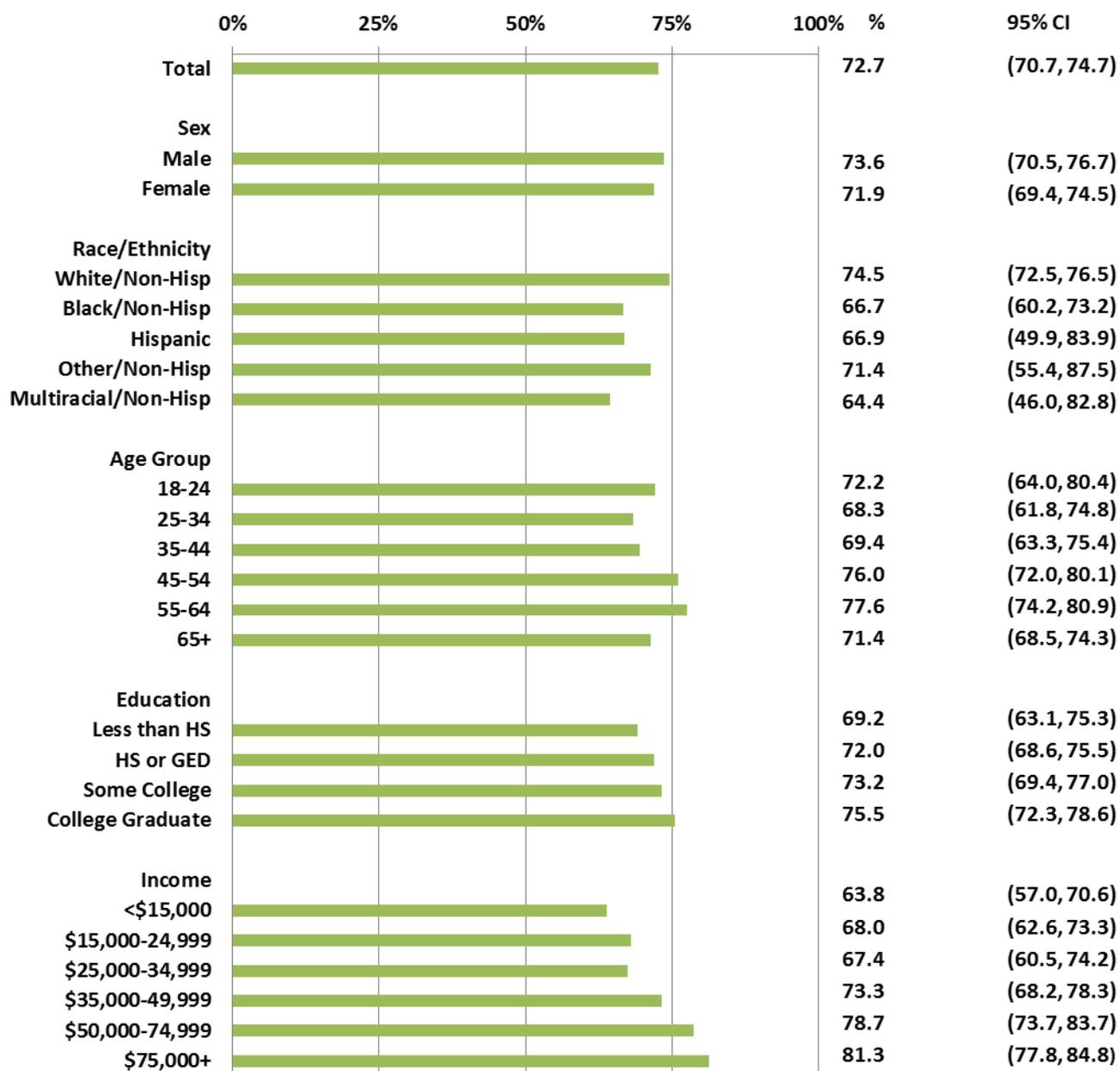
The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Almost 3 out of 4 (72.7%) Tennesseans had a battery operated radio with working batteries in case the electricity went out.
- Sex: No difference was observed between men and women.
- Race/ethnicity: No difference was observed among the race and ethnicity groups.
- Age: No difference was observed among the age groups.
- Education: No difference was observed among the education groups.
- **Income: Tennesseans earning \$50,000 or more were more likely to report owning a battery operated radio and working batteries than those earning under \$25,000.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## TN Households With a Working Battery Operated Radio and Working Batteries, 2015



## Flashlight and Batteries

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Does your household have a working flashlight and working batteries for your use if the electricity is out?

### *SAS Variables Used*

GPFLSLIT

### *Dispositions*

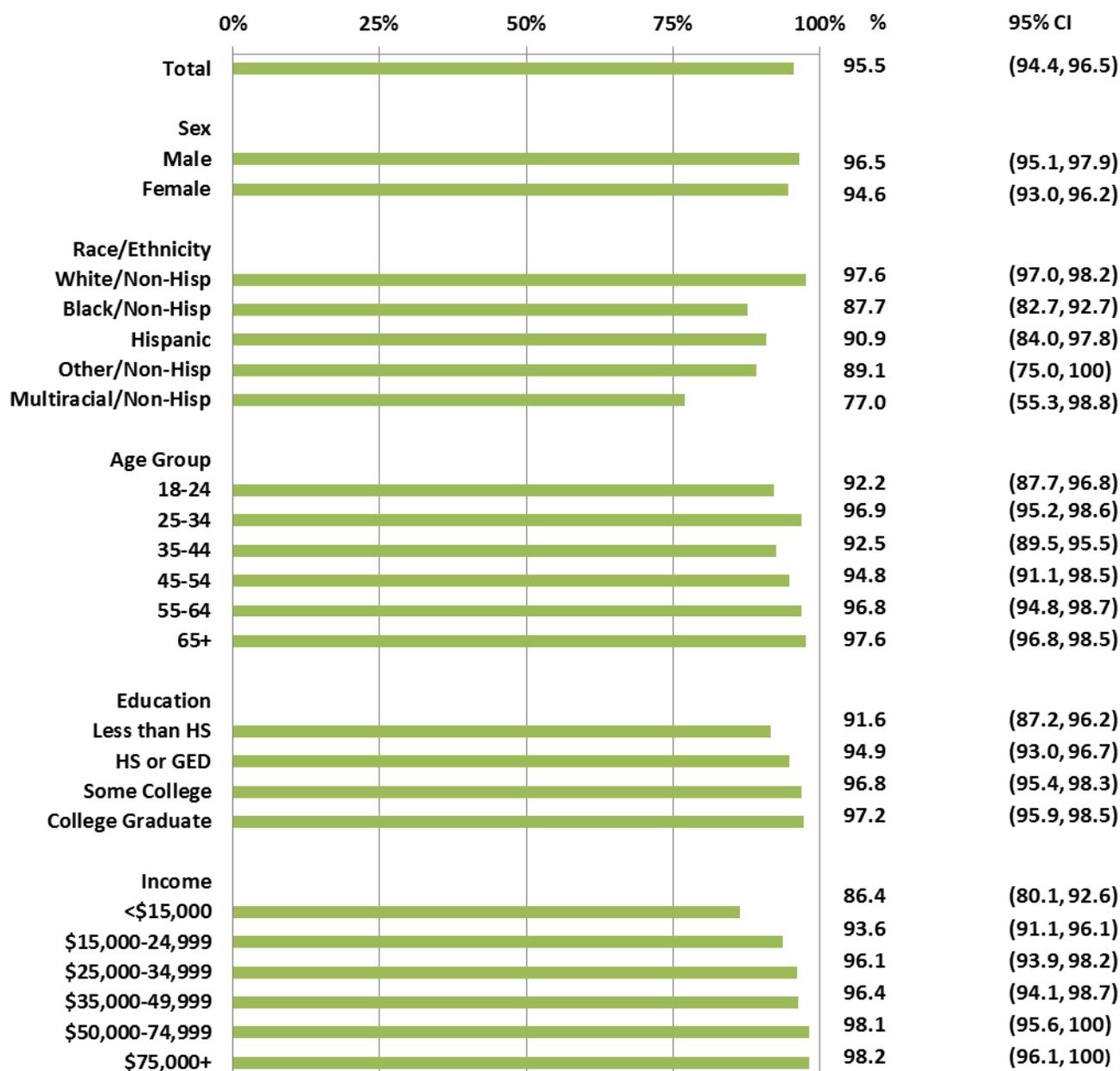
The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Almost all (95.5%) Tennesseans reported having a flashlight and working batteries in case the electricity went out.
- Sex: No difference was observed between men and women.
- **Race/ethnicity: Black non-Hispanics were less likely than white non-Hispanics to have a flashlight and working batteries.**
- Age: No difference was observed among the age groups.
- Education: No difference was observed among the education groups.
- **Income: Tennesseans earning \$25,000 or more were more likely to report owning a flashlight and working batteries than those earning under \$15,000.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## TN Households With a Working Flashlight and Working Batteries, 2015



## Written Disaster Plan

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Does your household have a written disaster evacuation plan for how you will leave your home, in case of a large-scale disaster or emergency that requires evacuation?

### *SAS Variables Used*

GPVACPL1

### *Dispositions*

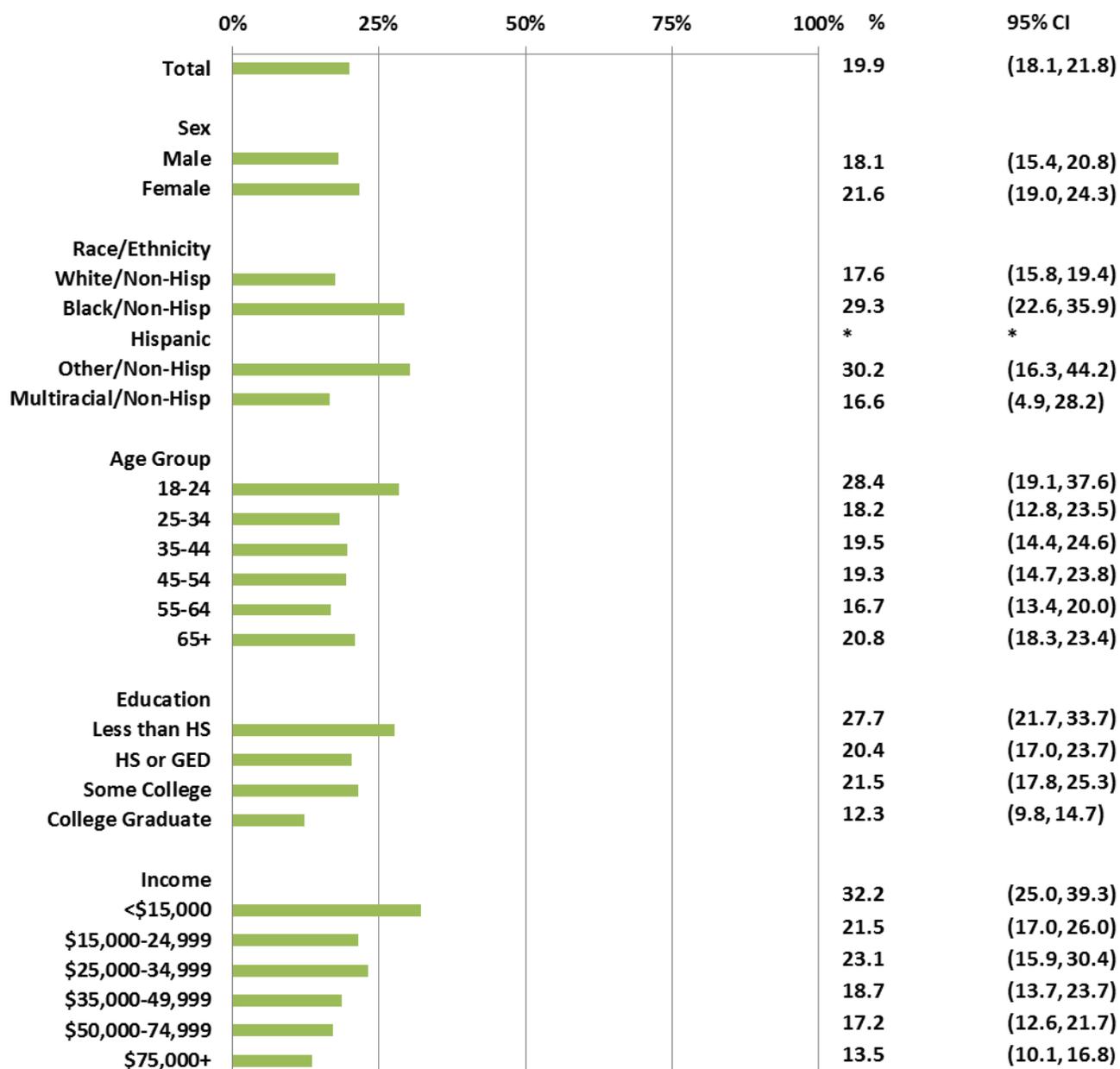
The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: About 1 out of 5 (19.9%) Tennesseans reported living in a house with a written disaster plan for evacuation.
- Sex: No difference was observed between men and women.
- **Race/ethnicity: Black non-Hispanics were more likely than white non-Hispanics to live in a house with a written disaster plan for evacuation.**
- Age: Tennesseans aged 18-24 years and 65 years and older were more likely to report living in a house with a written disaster plan for evacuation.
- **Education: Tennesseans who have graduated from college were less likely to report living in a house with a written disaster plan for evacuation than those with less education.**
- **Income: Tennesseans earning \$75,000 or more were less likely to live in a house with a written disaster plan for evacuation than those earning less than \$25,000.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## TN Households With a Written Disaster Plan for Evacuation, 2015



## Evacuation in Emergency

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

If public authorities announced a mandatory evacuation from your community due to a large-scale disaster or emergency, would you evacuate?

### *SAS Variables Used*

GPMNDEVC

### *Dispositions*

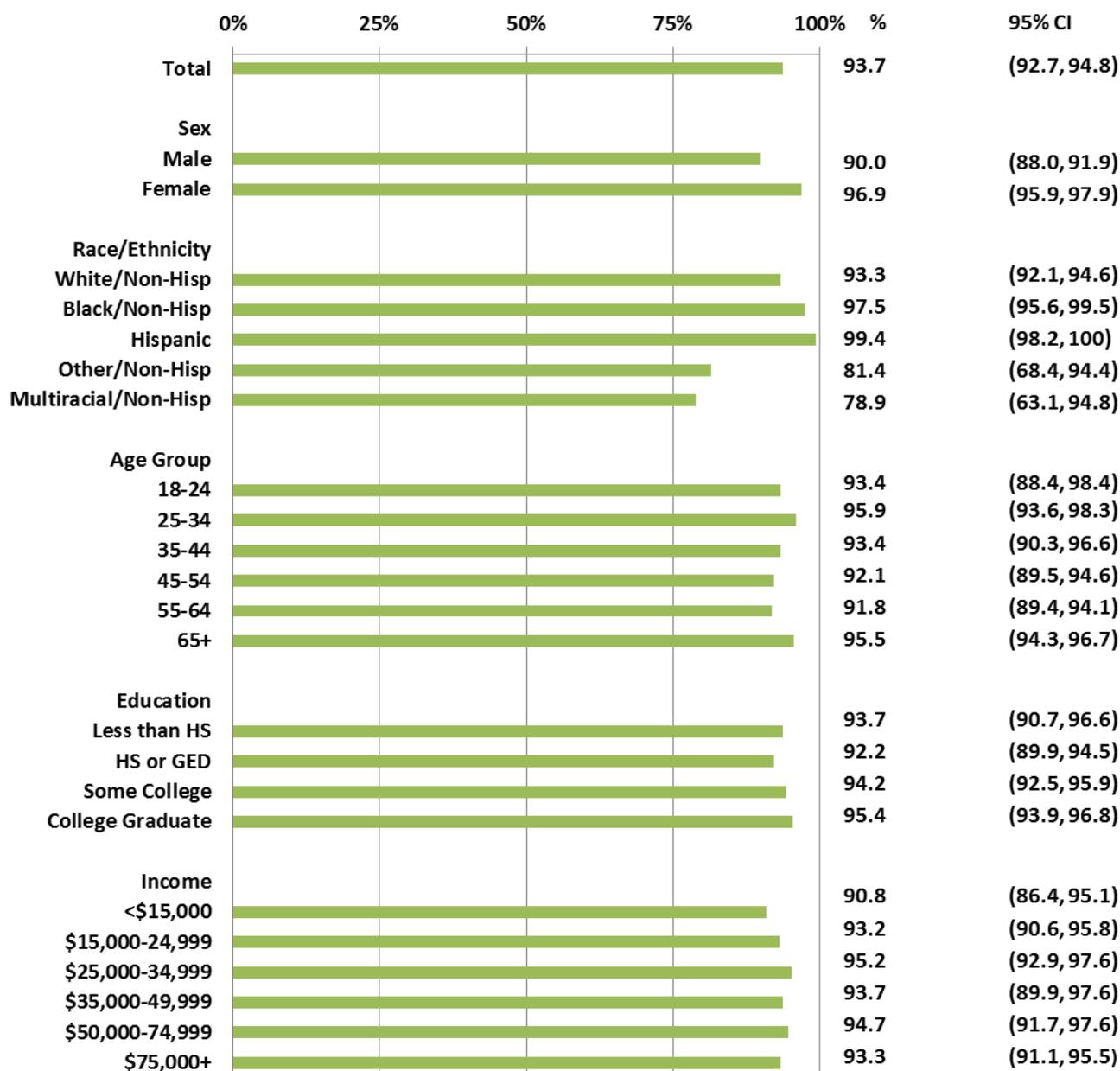
The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: More than 9 out of 10 (93.7%) Tennesseans would evacuate given an announcement from public authorities.
- **Sex: Men were less likely than women to evacuate given a mandatory evacuation.**
- Race/ethnicity: No difference was observed among the race/ethnicity groups.
- Age: No difference was observed among the age groups.
- Education: No difference was observed among the education levels.
- Income: No difference was observed among the income levels.

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## TN Respondents Who Would Evacuate Given a Disaster or Emergency, 2015



## Lived with Depressed Adults

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Did you live with anyone who was depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACEDEPRS

### *Dispositions*

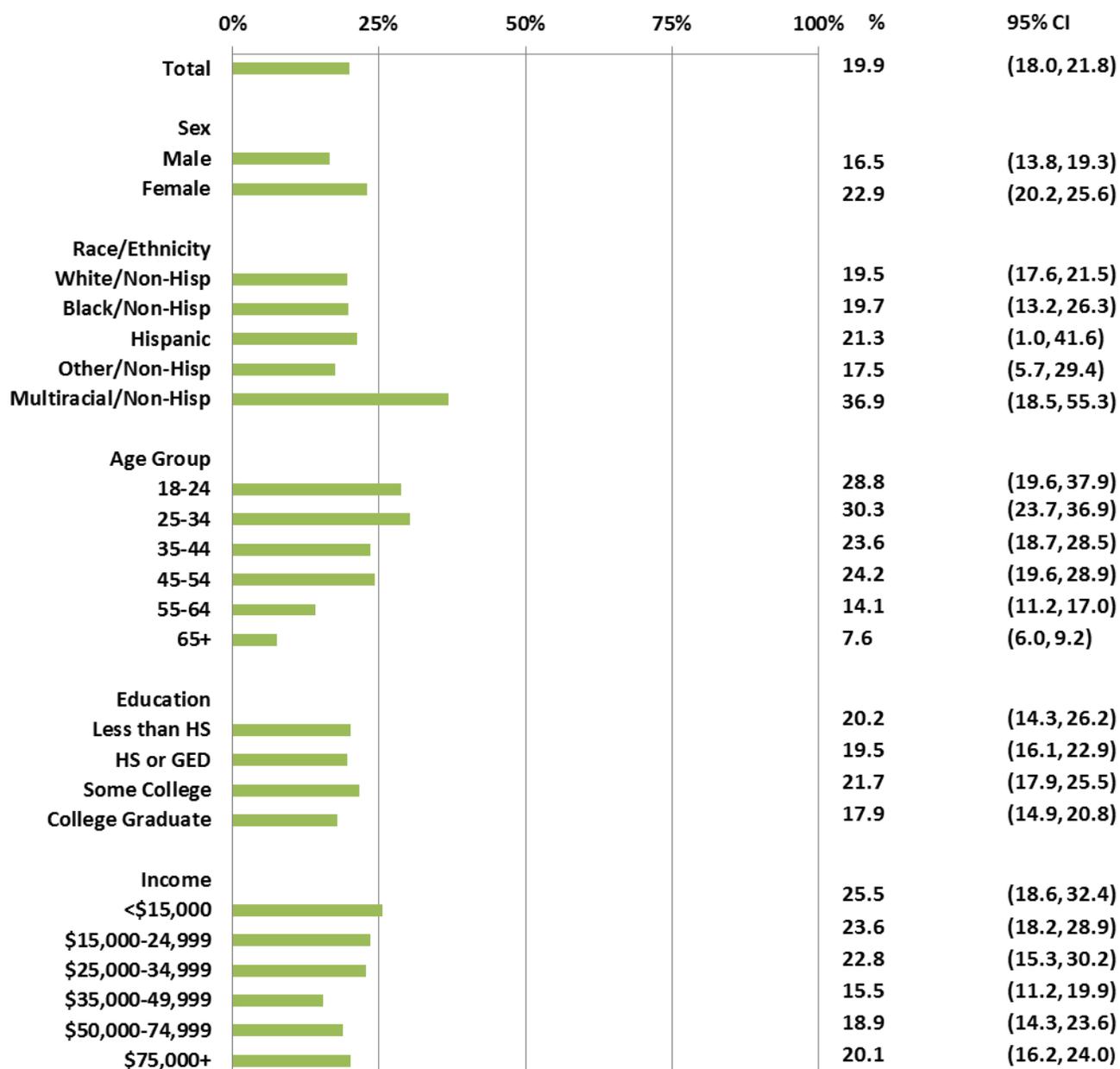
The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results. Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: About 1 in 5 (19.9%) Tennesseans lived with someone who was depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal.
- **Sex: Women were more likely than men to have lived with someone who was depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal.**
- Race/ethnicity: No difference was observed among the race/ethnicity groups.
- **Age: Respondents under the age of 55 years were more likely than respondents 55 years and older to report living with someone who was depressed, mentally ill, or suicidal.**
- Education: No difference was observed among the education groups.
- Income: No difference was observed among the income groups.

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans Who Lived With Someone Who Was Depressed, Mentally Ill, or Suicidal, 2015



## Lived with Alcoholic

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Did you live with anyone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACEDRINK

### *Dispositions*

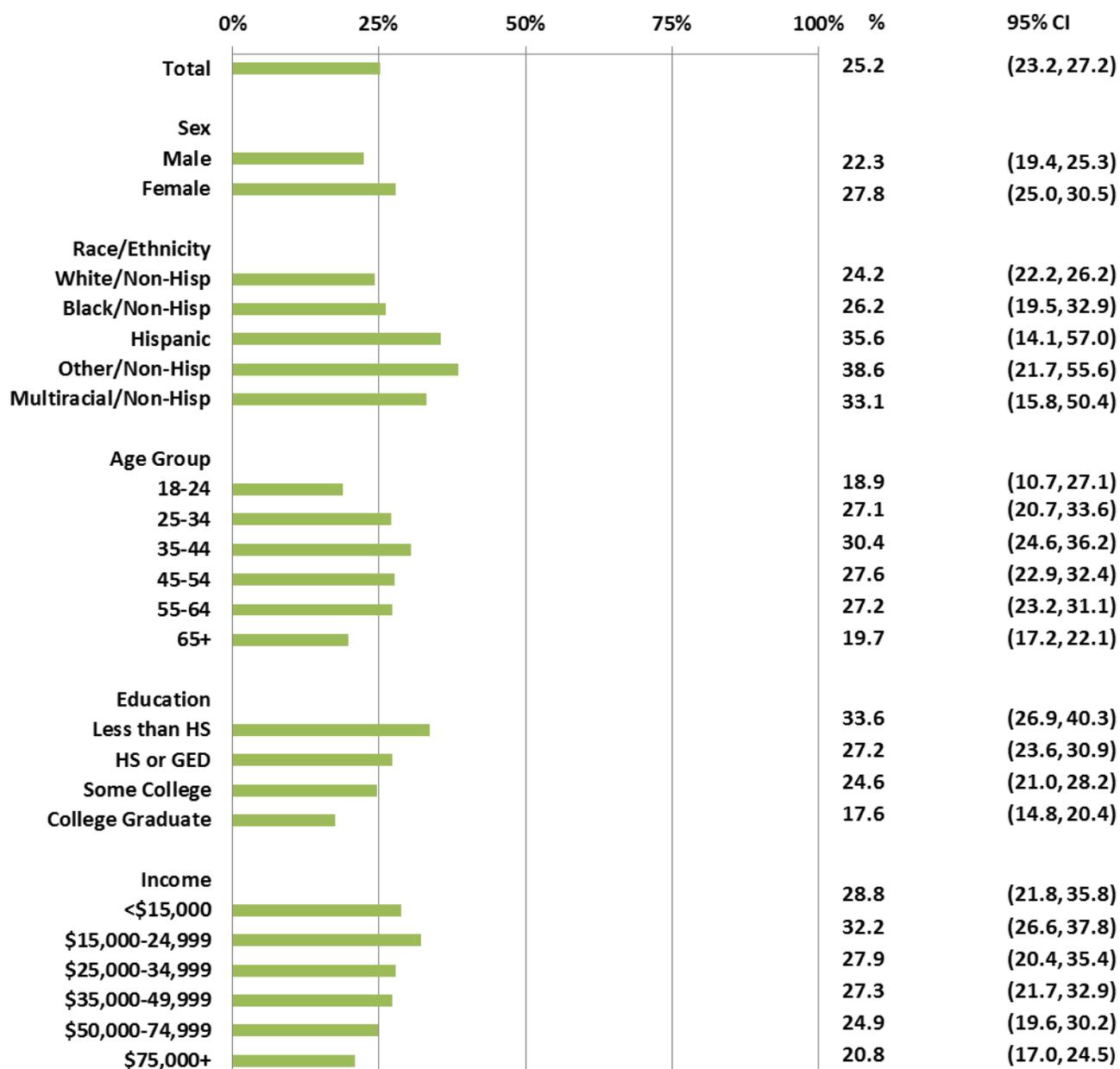
The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results. Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: About 1 in 4 (25.2%) Tennesseans lived with someone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic.
- Sex: More women than men reported having lived with someone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic.
- Race/ethnicity: More Hispanics, other non-Hispanics, and multiracial non-Hispanics reported having lived with someone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic than white non-Hispanics or black non-Hispanics.
- **Age: Respondents aged 65 years and older were less likely than those aged 35-64 years to report living with someone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic.**
- **Education: College graduates were less likely than non-graduates to have lived with someone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic.**
- Income: As income increases the likelihood of living with someone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic decreased.

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans Who Lived With Someone Who Was a Problem Drinker or Alcoholic, 2015



## Lived with Illegal Drug User

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Did you live with anyone who used illegal street drugs or abused prescription medications?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACEDRUGS

### *Dispositions*

The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results. Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: About 1 in 10 (11.4%) Tennesseans lived with someone who used illegal street drugs or abused prescription medications.
- Sex: No difference was observed between men and women.
- Race/ethnicity: Black non-Hispanics and other non-Hispanics were more likely to report living with someone who used illegal street drugs or abused prescription medications.
- **Age: Older respondents were less likely to report living with someone who used illegal street drugs or abused prescription medications than younger respondents.**
- **Education: College graduates were less likely than non-graduates to have lived with someone who used illegal street drugs or abused prescription medications.**
- **Income: Tennesseans earning \$35,000 or more were less likely than those earning under \$25,000 to report having live with someone who used illegal street drugs or abused prescription medications.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans Who Lived With Someone Who Used Illegal Street Drugs or Abused Prescription Medications, 2015



## Lived with Incarcerated Adult

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Did you live with anyone who served time or was sentenced to serve time in a prison, jail, or other correctional facility?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACEPRISN

### *Dispositions*

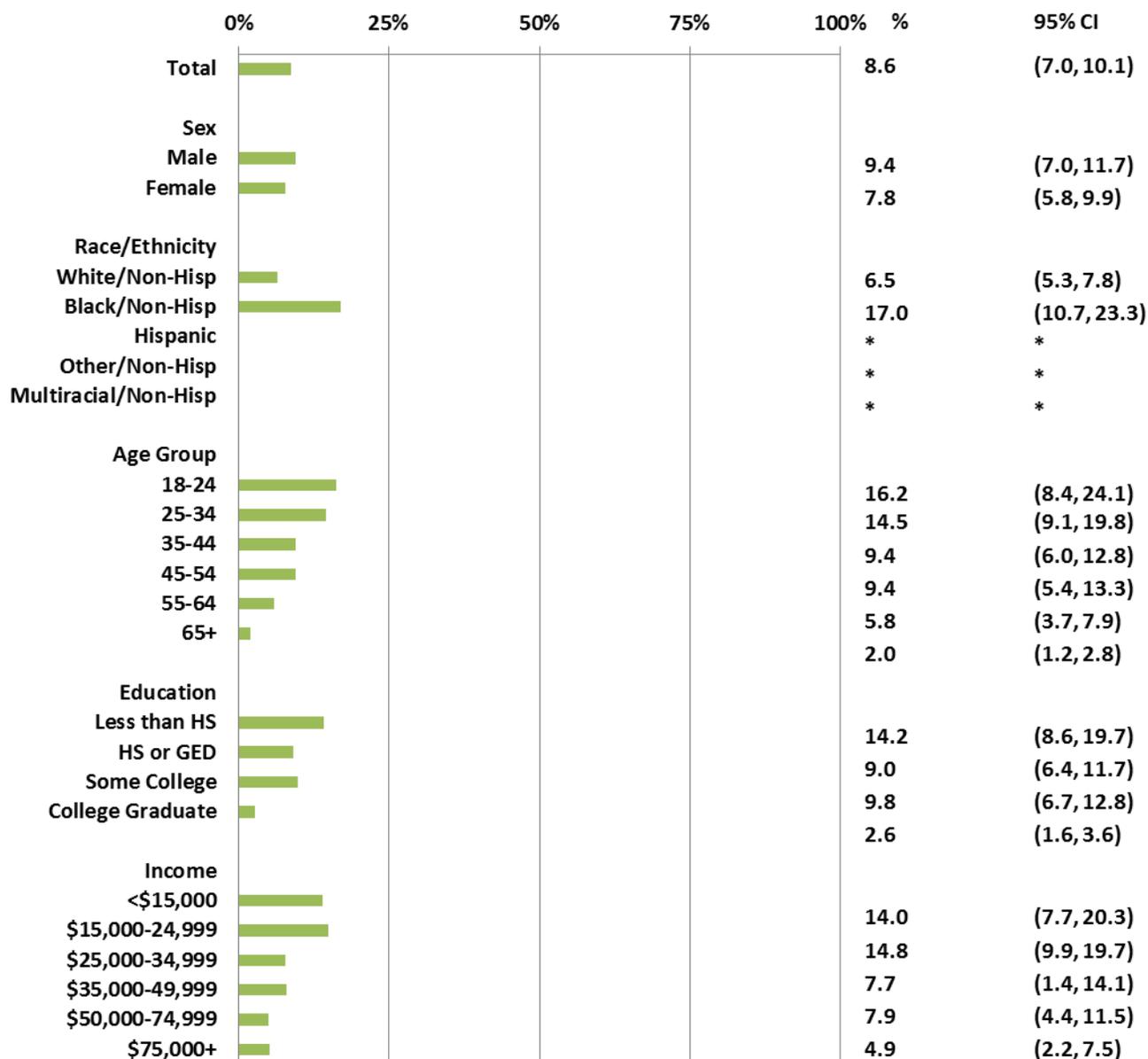
The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results. Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Less than 1 in 10 (8.6%) Tennesseans lived with someone who served time in a correctional facility.
- Sex: No difference was observed between men and women.
- **Race/ethnicity: Black non-Hispanics were more likely than white non-Hispanics to report living with someone who served time in a correctional facility.**
- **Age: As age in years increased, respondents were less likely to report having lived with someone who served time in a correctional facility.**
- **Education: College graduates were less likely than non-graduates to have lived with someone who served time in a correctional facility.**
- **Income: Tennesseans earning \$50,000 or more were less likely to report having lived with someone who served time in a correctional facility than those earning under \$25,000.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans Who Lived With Someone Who Served Time or Was Sentenced to Serve Time in Prison, Jail, or Other Correctional Facility, 2015



## Lived with Divorced Parents

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Were your parents separated or divorced?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACEDIVRC

### *Dispositions*

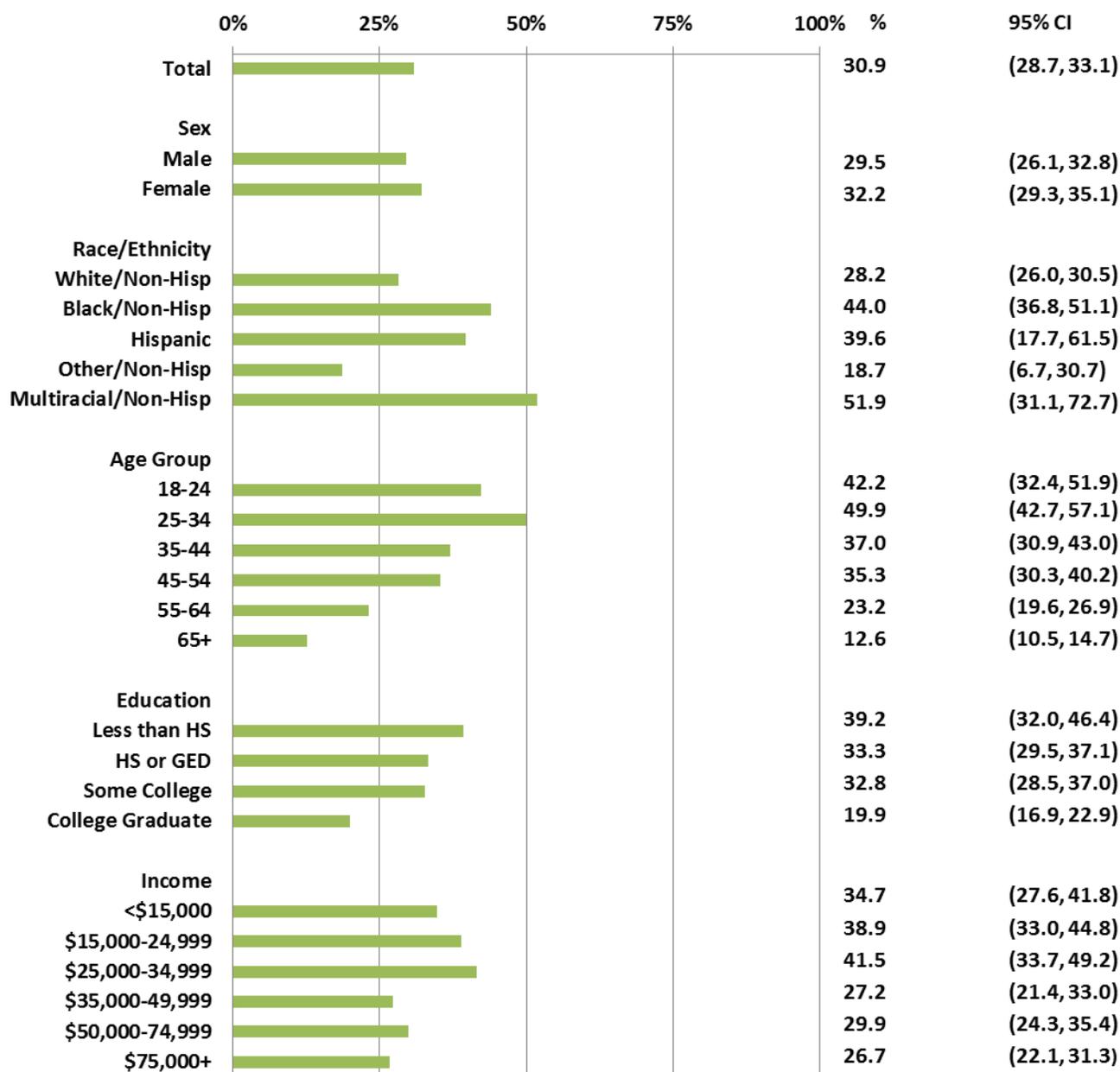
The question allows the respondent to answer “yes,” “no,” or “never married.” All responses for “yes” are included in these results and those with parents who were never married were excluded from the analyses. Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Almost 1 in 3 (30.9%) Tennesseans had divorced or separated parents.
- Sex: No difference was observed between men and women.
- **Race/ethnicity: Black non-Hispanics were more likely than white non-Hispanics to report having divorced or separated parents.**
- **Age: Older respondents were less likely to report having divorced or separated parents than younger respondents.**
- **Education: College graduates were less likely than non-graduates to have divorced or separated parents.**
- Income: Tennesseans earning \$35,000 or more had lower proportions of divorced or separated parents than those earning less.

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans Whose Parents were Separated or Divorced (Excluding Those Never Married), 2015



## Lived with Adults who beat Each Other

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

How often did your parents or adults in your home ever slap, hit, punch, or beat each other up?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACEPUNCH

### *Dispositions*

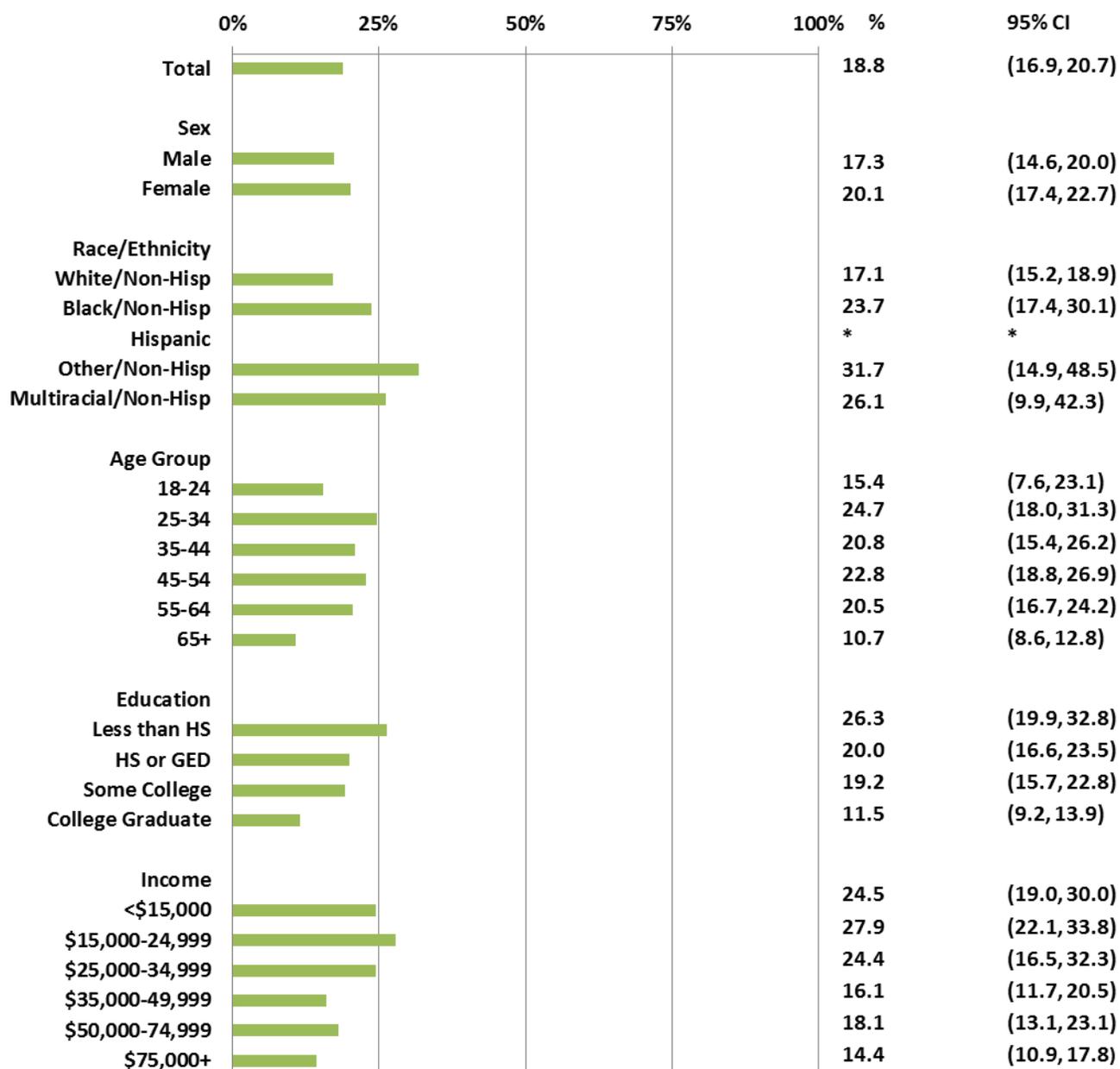
The question allows the respondent to answer “never,” “once,” or “more than once.” All responses for “more than once choice” and “once” were counted as “yes” and “never” was counted as “no.” Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Almost 1 in 5 (18.8%) Tennesseans had parents who physically abused each other.
- Sex: No difference was observed between men and women.
- Race/ethnicity: Black non-Hispanics had higher proportions of parents physically abusing each other than white non-Hispanics.
- **Age: Those 65 years and older were less likely to report having parents who abused each other than those younger than 65 years.**
- **Education: College graduates were less likely than non-graduates to report their parents abused each other.**
- **Income: Tennesseans earning \$75,000 or more were less likely to report having parents who abused each other than those earning less than \$25,000.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans with Parents Who Slapped, Hit, Punched, or Beat Each Other Up, 2015



## Experienced Physical Violence

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

How often did a parent or adult in your home ever hit, beat, kick, or physically hurt you in any way? Do not include spanking.

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACEHURT

### *Dispositions*

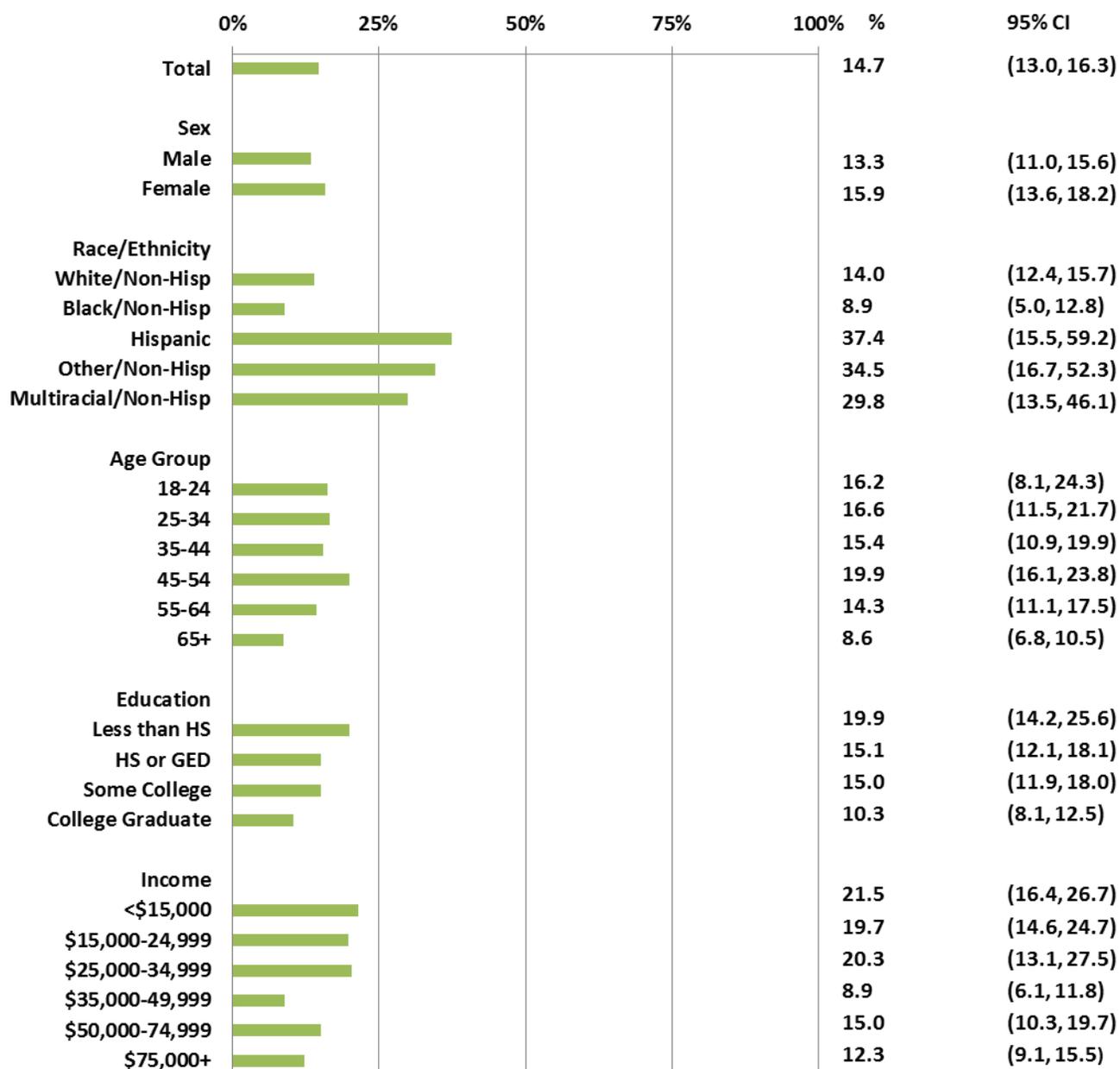
The question allows the respondent to answer “never,” “once,” or “more than once.” All responses for “more than once choice” and “once” were counted as “yes” and “never” was counted as “no.” Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Over 1 in 10 (14.7%) Tennesseans had a parent who hit, kick, beat, or hurt them.
- Sex: Women were more likely to have parents who hit, kick, beat, or hurt them than men.
- **Race/ethnicity: Black non-Hispanics were less likely to report parents who hit, kick, beat, or hurt them than Hispanic, Other non-Hispanic, and Multi-racial respondents.**
- **Age: Those 65 years and older were less likely to report having parents who hit, kick, beat, or hurt them than those aged 25-64 years.**
- **Education: College graduates were less likely to have parents who hit, kick, beat, or hurt them than those who did not graduate high school.**
- Income: Tennesseans earning \$35,000 or more were less likely to report having parents who hit, kick, beat, or hurt them than those earning less.

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans with Parents Who Hit, Kick, Beat, or Hurt Them, 2015



## Experienced Verbal Abuse

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

How often did a parent or adult in your home ever swear at you or put you down?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACESWEAR

### *Dispositions*

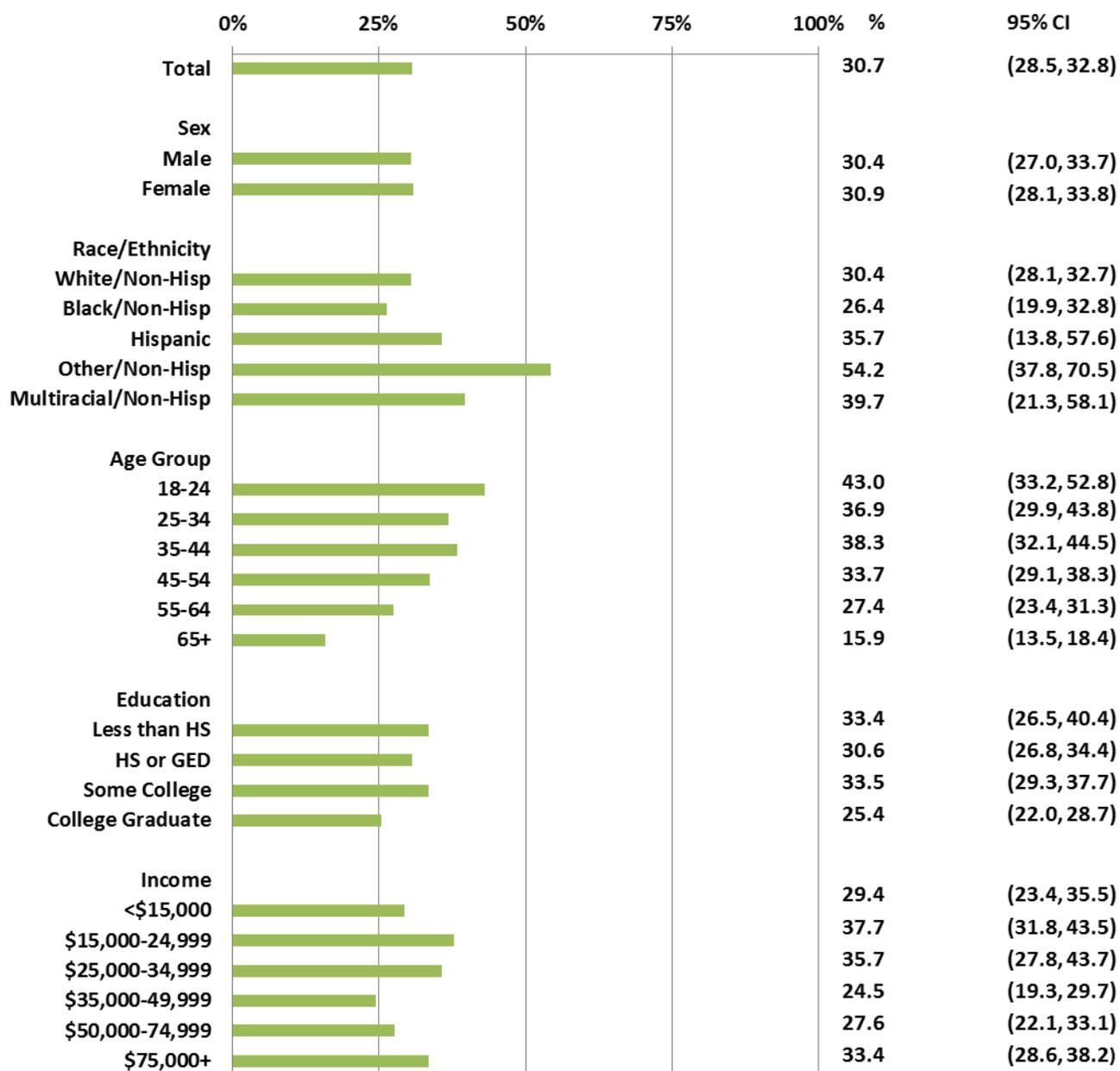
The question allows the respondent to answer “never,” “once,” or “more than once.” All responses for “more than once choice” and “once” were counted as “yes” and “never” was counted as “no.” Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Almost 1 in 3 (30.7%) Tennesseans had a parent who swore at them or put them down.
- Sex: No difference was observed between men and women.
- Race/ethnicity: No difference was observed between race/ethnicity groups.
- **Age: Older respondents were less likely to report having parents who swore at them or put them down than younger respondents.**
- Education: College graduates were less likely than those who did not graduate high school to have parents who swore at them or put them down.
- Income: No difference was observed among income groups.

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans with Parents Who Swore at Them or Put Them Down, 2015



## Experienced Sexual Touching

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

How often did anyone at least 5 years older than you or an adult ever touch you sexually?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACETOUCH

### *Dispositions*

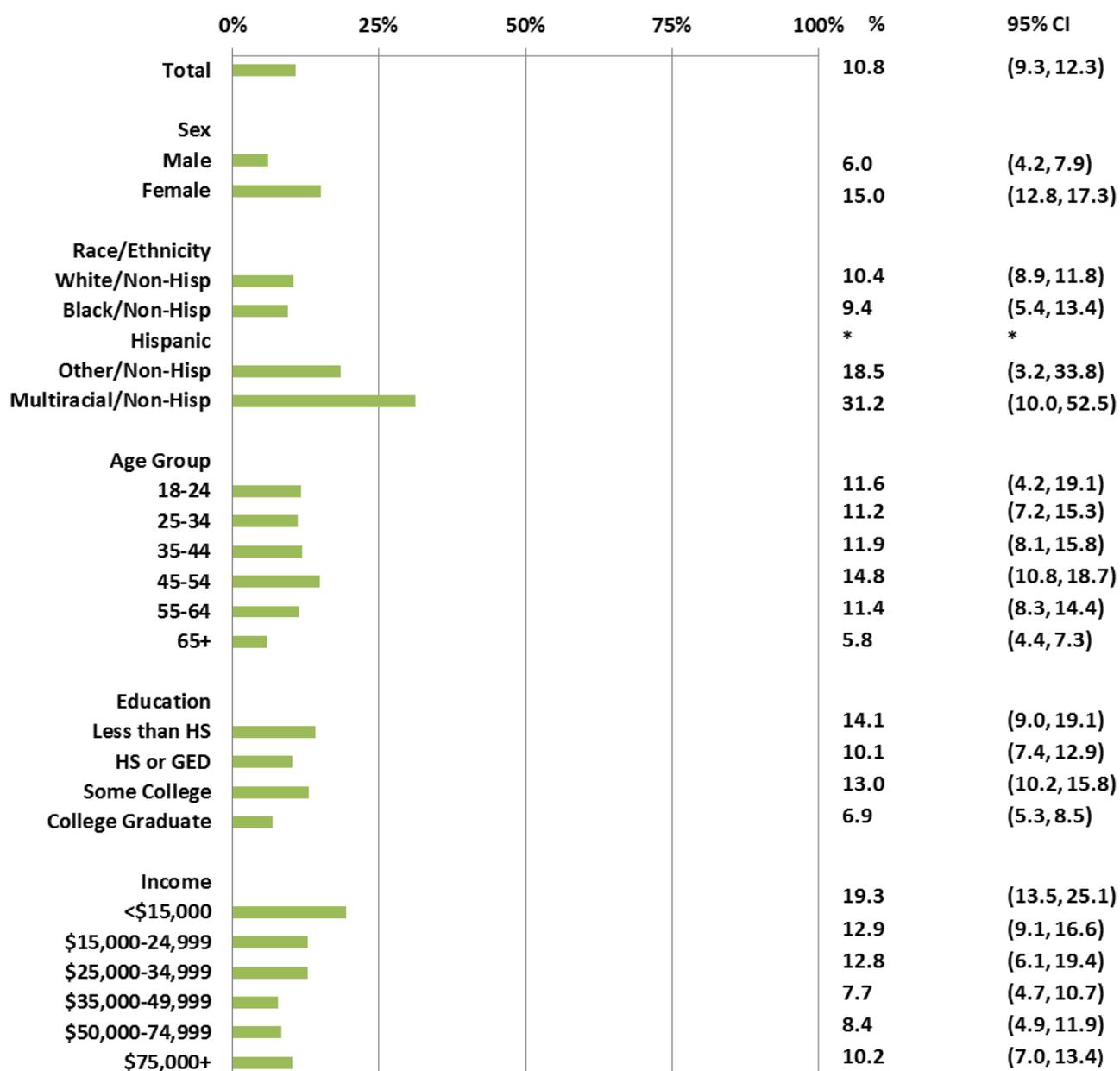
The question allows the respondent to answer “never,” “once,” or “more than once.” All responses for “more than once choice” and “once” were counted as “yes” and “never” was counted as “no.” Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: About 1 in 10 (10.8%) Tennesseans were touched sexually by someone at least 5 years older.
- **Sex: Women were more likely than men to report having been touched sexually by someone at least 5 years older.**
- Race/ethnicity: No difference was observed between race/ethnicity groups.
- **Age: Those aged 65 years and older were the least likely to report having been touched sexually by someone 5 years or older.**
- **Education: College graduates were less likely than those who did not graduate high school to report having been touched sexually by someone 5 years or older.**
- **Income: Those earning under \$15,000 were more likely to report having been touched sexually by someone 5 years or older than those earning \$35,000 or more.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans Who Were Touched Sexually by Someone at Least 5 Years Older, 2015



## Forced Touching of Adult

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

How often did anyone at least 5 years older than you or an adult try to make you touch them sexually?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACETTHEM

### *Dispositions*

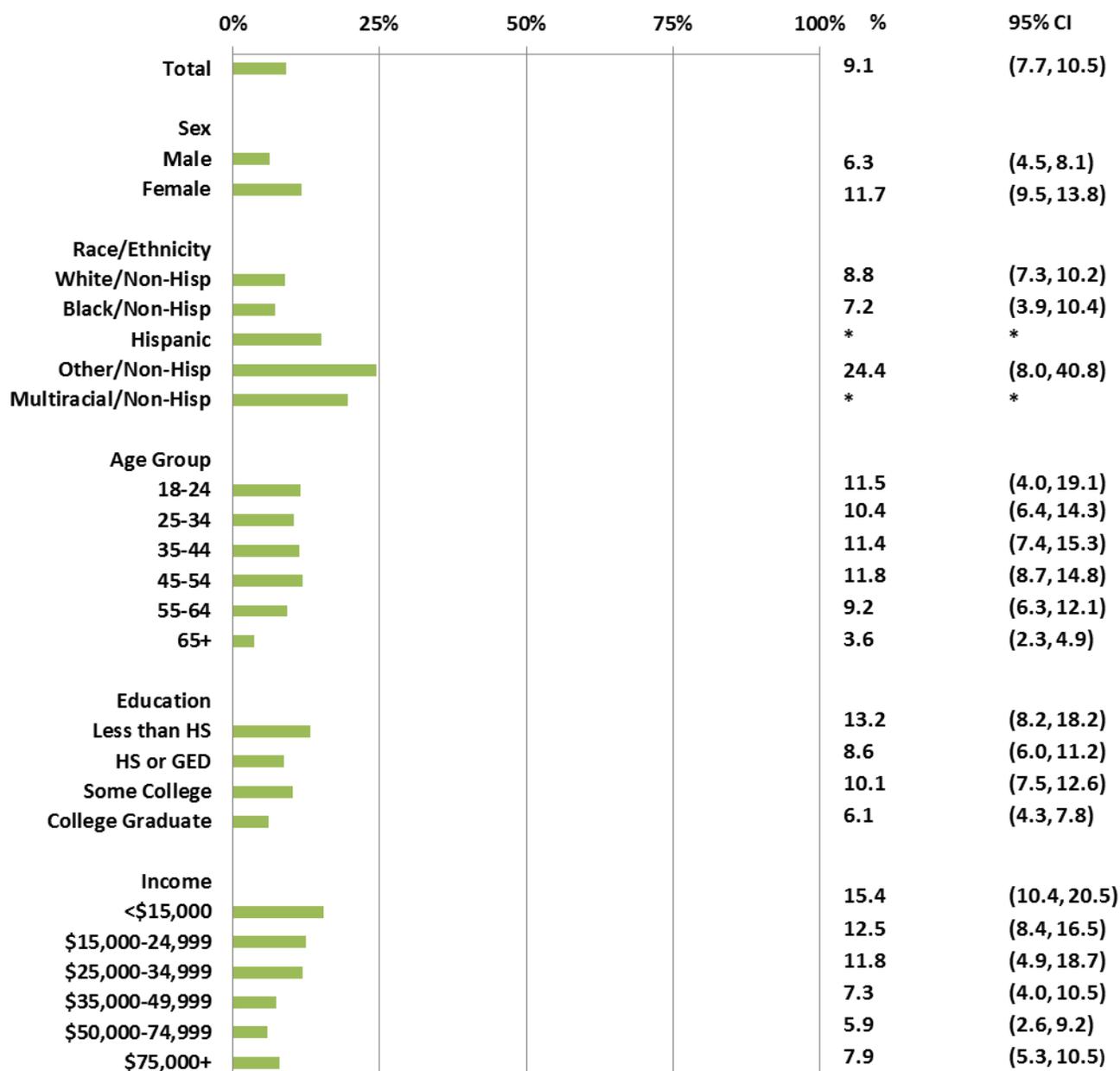
The question allows the respondent to answer “never,” “once,” or “more than once.” All responses for “more than once choice” and “once” were counted as “yes” and “never” was counted as “no.” Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: Almost 1 in 10 (9.1%) Tennesseans were asked by someone at least 5 years older to touch them in a sexual manner.
- **Sex: Women were more likely than men to report being asked by someone at least 5 years older to touch them in a sexual manner.**
- Race/ethnicity: No difference was observed between the race/ethnicity groups.
- **Age: Those aged 65 years and older were the least likely to report being asked by someone at least 5 years older to touch them in a sexual manner.**
- **Education: College graduates were less likely than those who did not graduate high school to report being asked by someone at least 5 years older to touch them in a sexual manner.**
- Income: Those earning under \$35,000 were more likely to report being asked by someone at least 5 years older to touch them in a sexual manner than those earning \$35,000 or more.

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans Who Were Asked by Someone at Least 5 Years Older to Touch Them in a Sexual Manner, 2015



## Forced Sex from Adult

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

How often did anyone at least 5 years older than you or an adult force you to have sex?

### *SAS Variables Used*

ACEHVSEX

### *Dispositions*

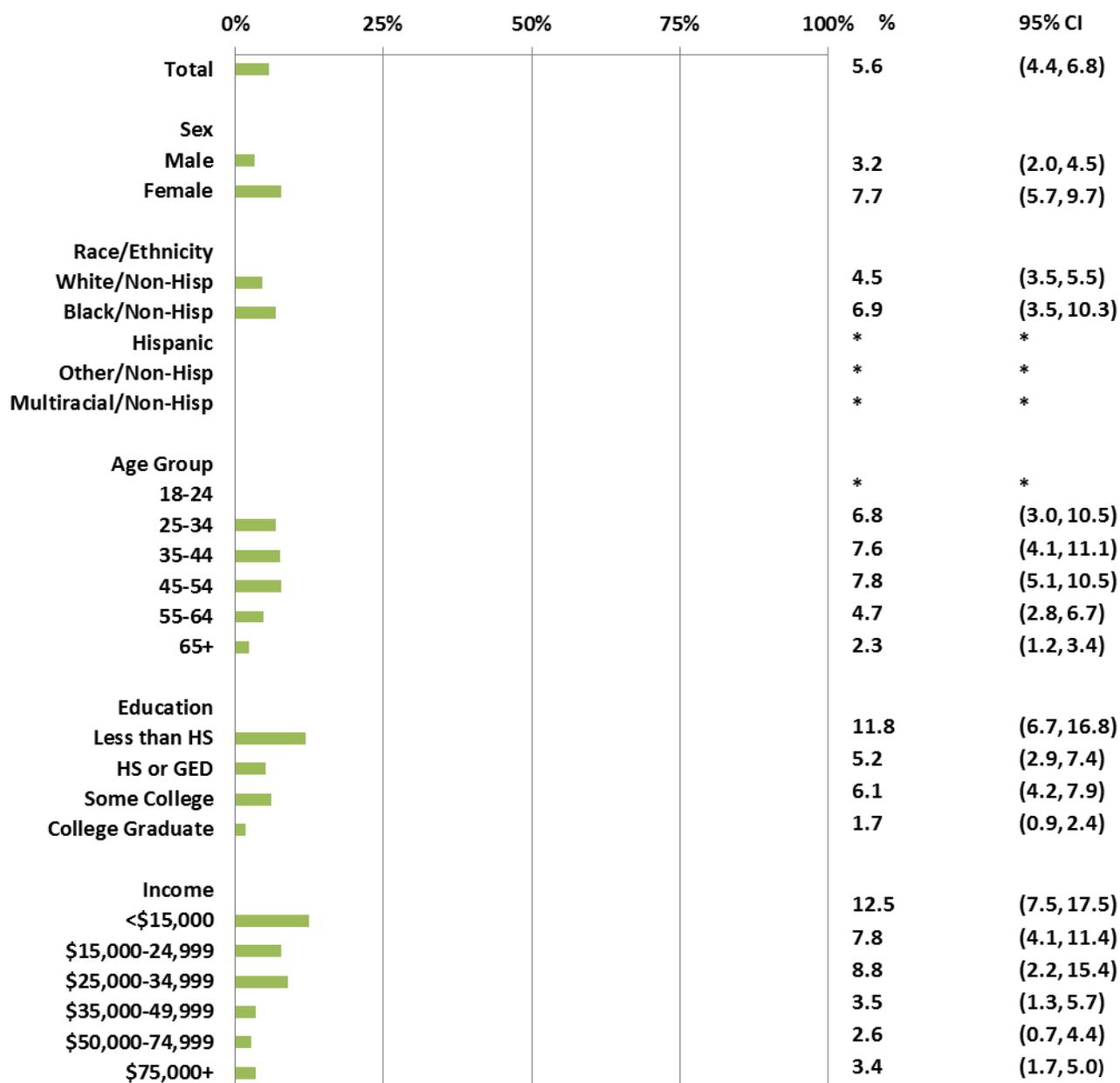
The question allows the respondent to answer “never,” “once,” or “more than once.” All responses for “more than once choice” and “once” were counted as “yes” and “never” was counted as “no.” Question refers to the time respondent was under 18 years of age.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: About 1 in 20 (5.6%) Tennesseans were forced to have sex by someone at least 5 years older.
- **Sex: Women were more likely than men to report being forced to have sex by someone at least 5 years older.**
- Race/ethnicity: No difference was observed between race/ethnicity groups.
- Age: Those aged 65 years and older were the least likely to report being forced to have sex by someone 5 years or older.
- **Education: College graduates were less likely than non-graduates to report being forced to have sex by someone at least 5 years older.**
- **Income: Those earning under \$15,000 were more likely than those earning \$35,000 or more to report being forced to have sex by someone at least 5 years older.**

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans Who Were Forced to Have Sex With Someone at Least 5 Years Older, 2015



## Experienced Combat

### *TN BRFSS asks:*

Did you ever serve in a combat or war zone?

### *SAS Variables Used*

VHCOMBAT

### *Dispositions*

The question allows a “yes” or “no” choice for the respondent. All responses for “yes” are included in these results. Only respondents who previously said they had served in the armed services were asked this question.

### *Key Findings*

- Tennessee statewide: About 1 in 3 (35.7%) veterans served in a combat or war zone.
- Sex: Not enough women were in the sample size to produce stable estimates.
- Race/ethnicity: No difference was observed among race/ethnicity groups.
- Age: No difference was observed among age groups.
- **Education: Veterans who had some college were more likely to have served in a combat or war zone.**
- Income: Veterans earning under \$35,000 were less likely to have served in a combat or war zone than those earning more.

\***Bold text** indicates statistical significance

## Tennesseans Who Served in a Combat or War Zone, 2015

