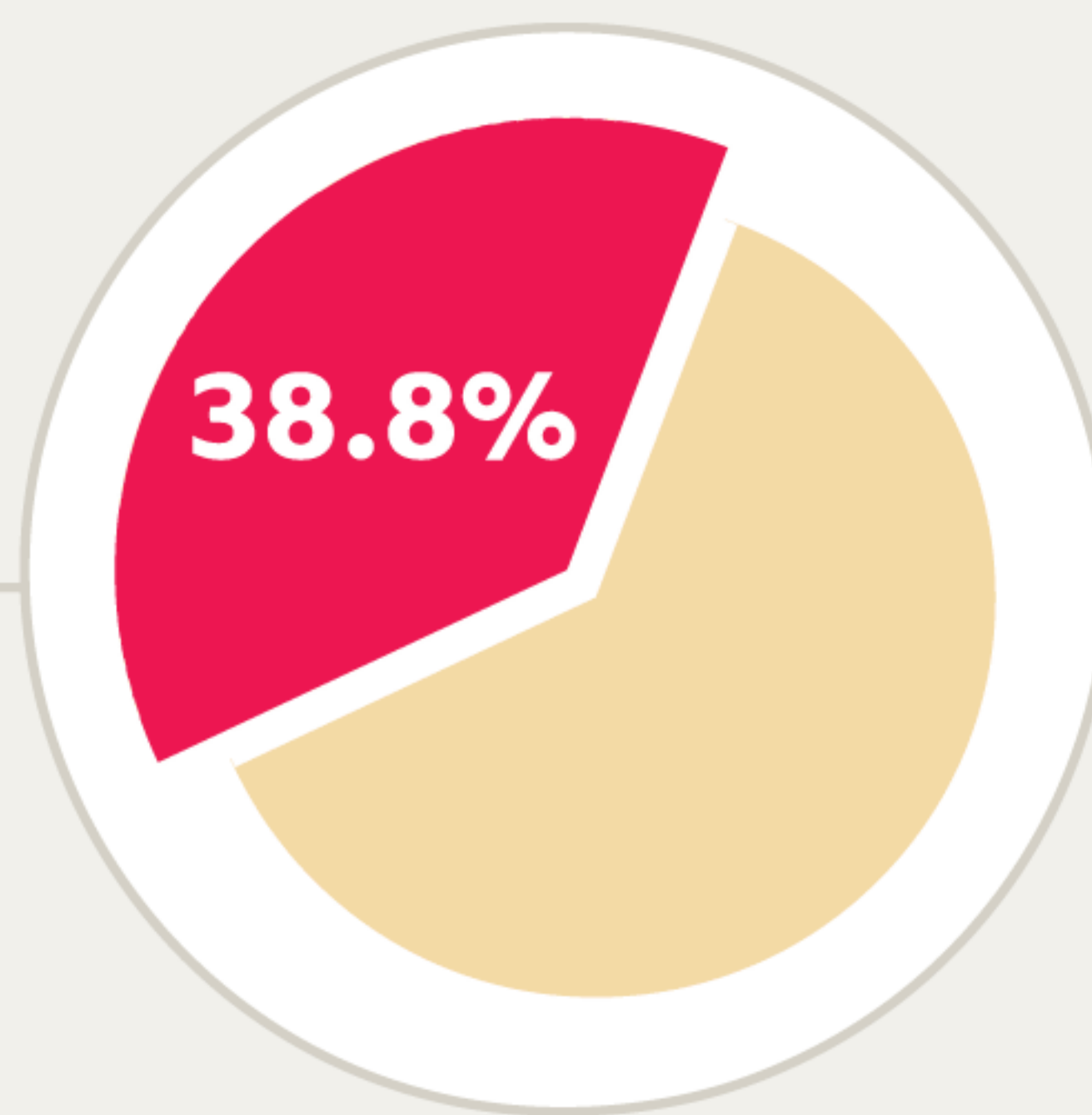
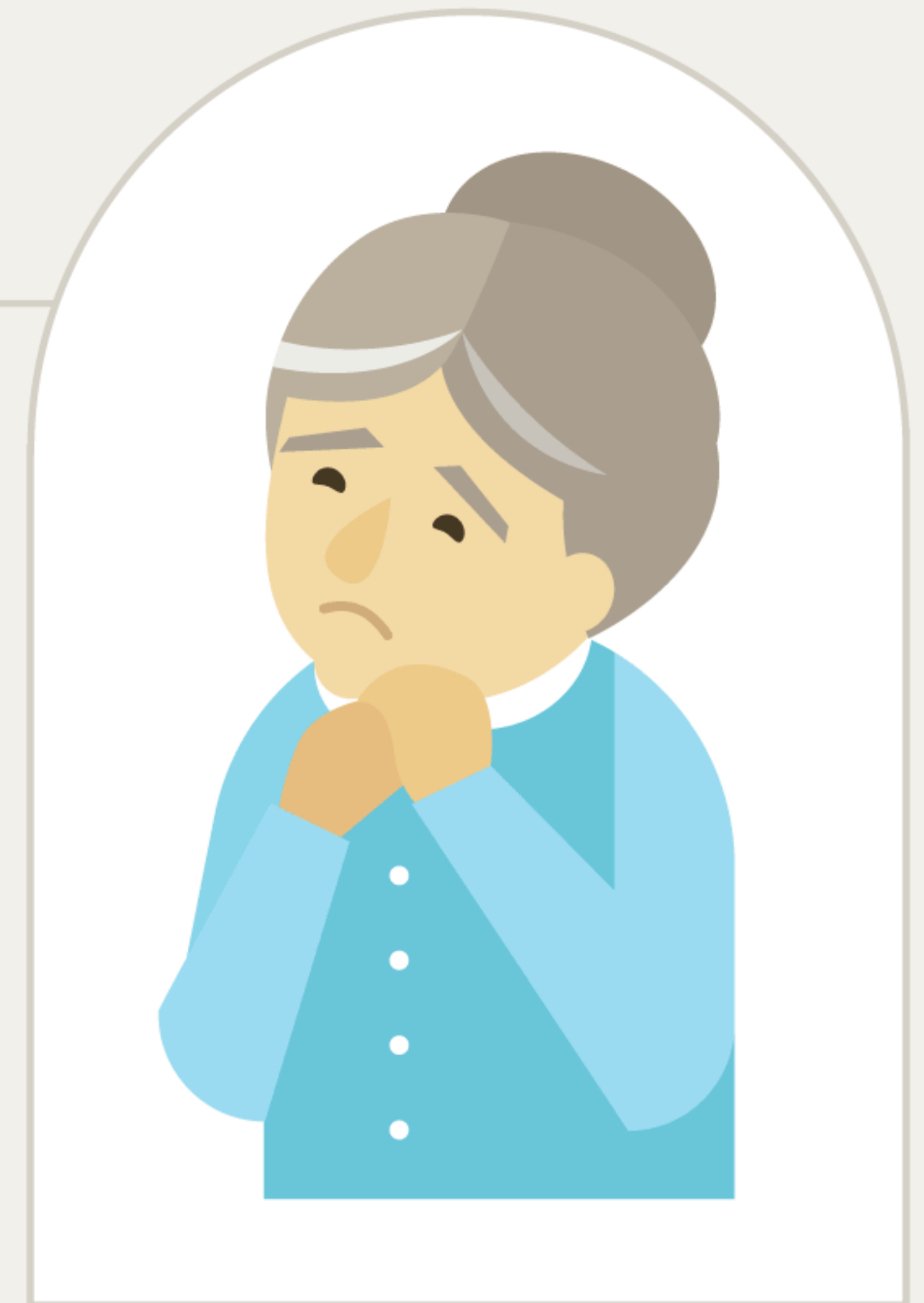


ABUSE of OLDER PEOPLE

a hidden problem



of cases of abuse and violence of the elderly **REMAIN UNDECLARED**



The prevalence of violence and abuse against older people (60 years old and over)



of older people were victims of various acts of abuse and violence



of older victims are **WOMEN**



Violence and abuse of older people in the FAMILY



24.8%

OF OLDER VICTIMS WERE ABUSED BY THEIR FAMILY

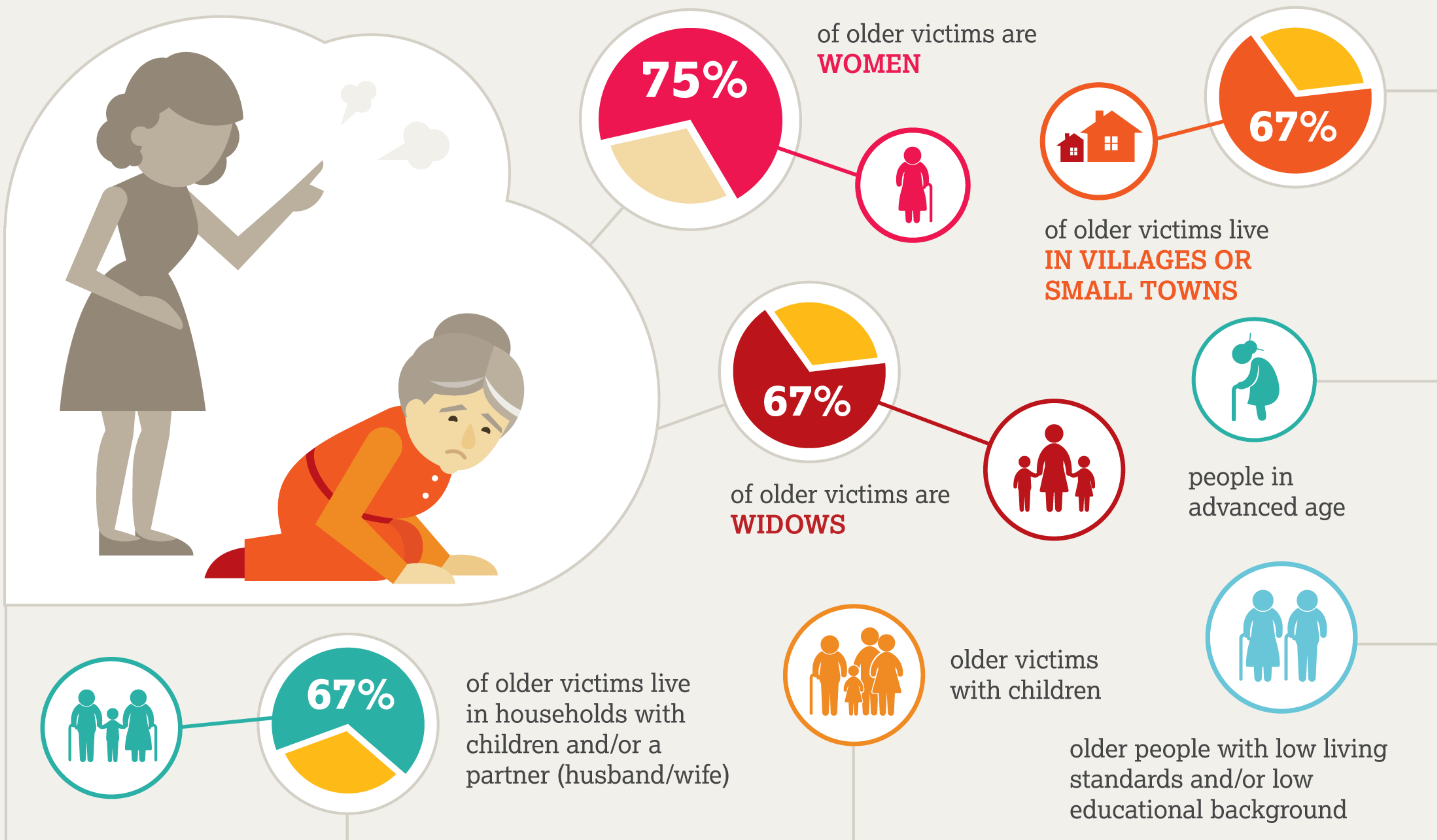


Forms of DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Every fourth older victim of violence (24.8%) was assaulted by a family member



Older victims of domestic violence



The abuser of domestic violence



Age DISCRIMINATION

in health services

In the Republic of Moldova the STATE GUARANTEES access to healthcare for older people because of their status as retired people, but...

Older people's right to services enabling them to maintain good health is violated.

This is determined by:

The self-assessment of the health condition of older person as bad



every second older person considers his/her health as bad or very bad (48.5%)



every second older person suffers from at least one chronic disease or has some degree of disability

Limited access of older people to the healthcare services



1 out of 5 (17.2%) of older people had sometimes not received the medical services they needed

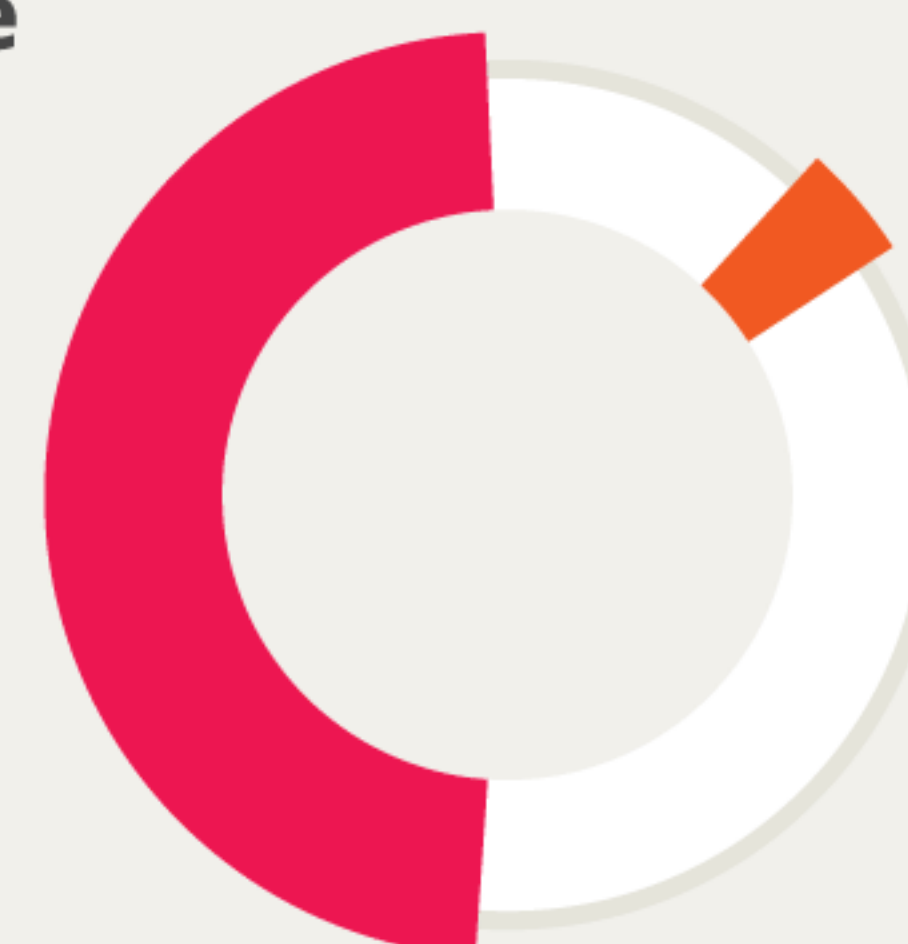


1 out of 10 (10.2%) of older people did not receive all the medical services they needed



Poverty and low income of older people greatly affects their health. **1 out of 10** (9.6%) of older people cannot buy the medicines they need because they are too expensive.

48.4% of older people have not benefited from discounted medicines



About 4% of older people do not know that they can benefit from discounted medicines



74-year-old woman, Comrat

Yesterday I called the ambulance for my husband, but they told me to call the family doctor. I do not know who to call anymore, because the doctor doesn't want to come either. He says I should come to him, because "patients should go to the doctor, not the doctor come to the patients". But how should I go there? Take my husband in my arms or how?

We get no benefit from the insurance policy. It's no use! You go to the doctor and he asks: Do you have an insurance policy? You tell him that, yes, you have, and he says: "Put your insurance policy on the shelf at home".



78-year-old woman, Nisporeni

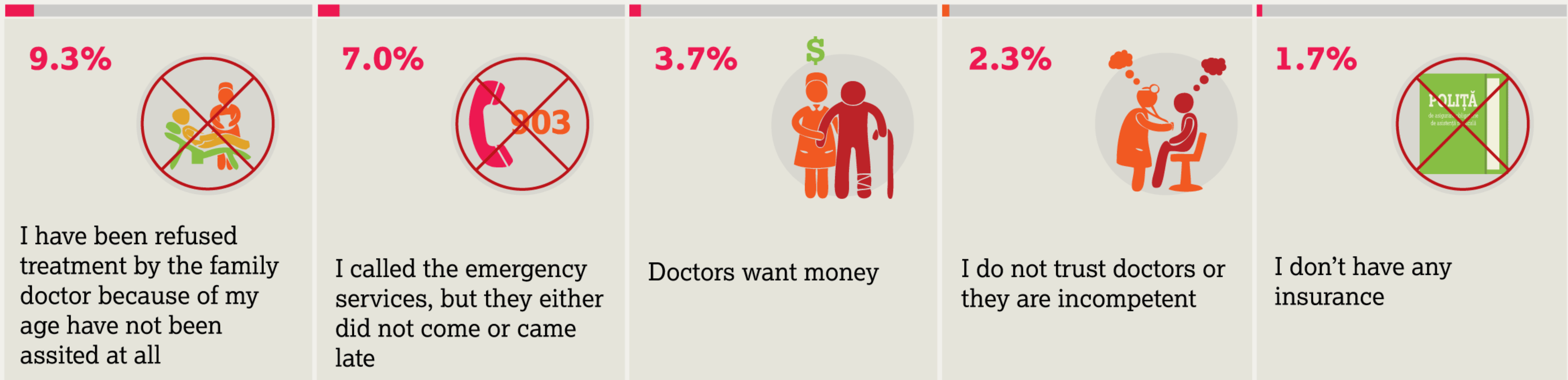


69-year-old man, Briceni

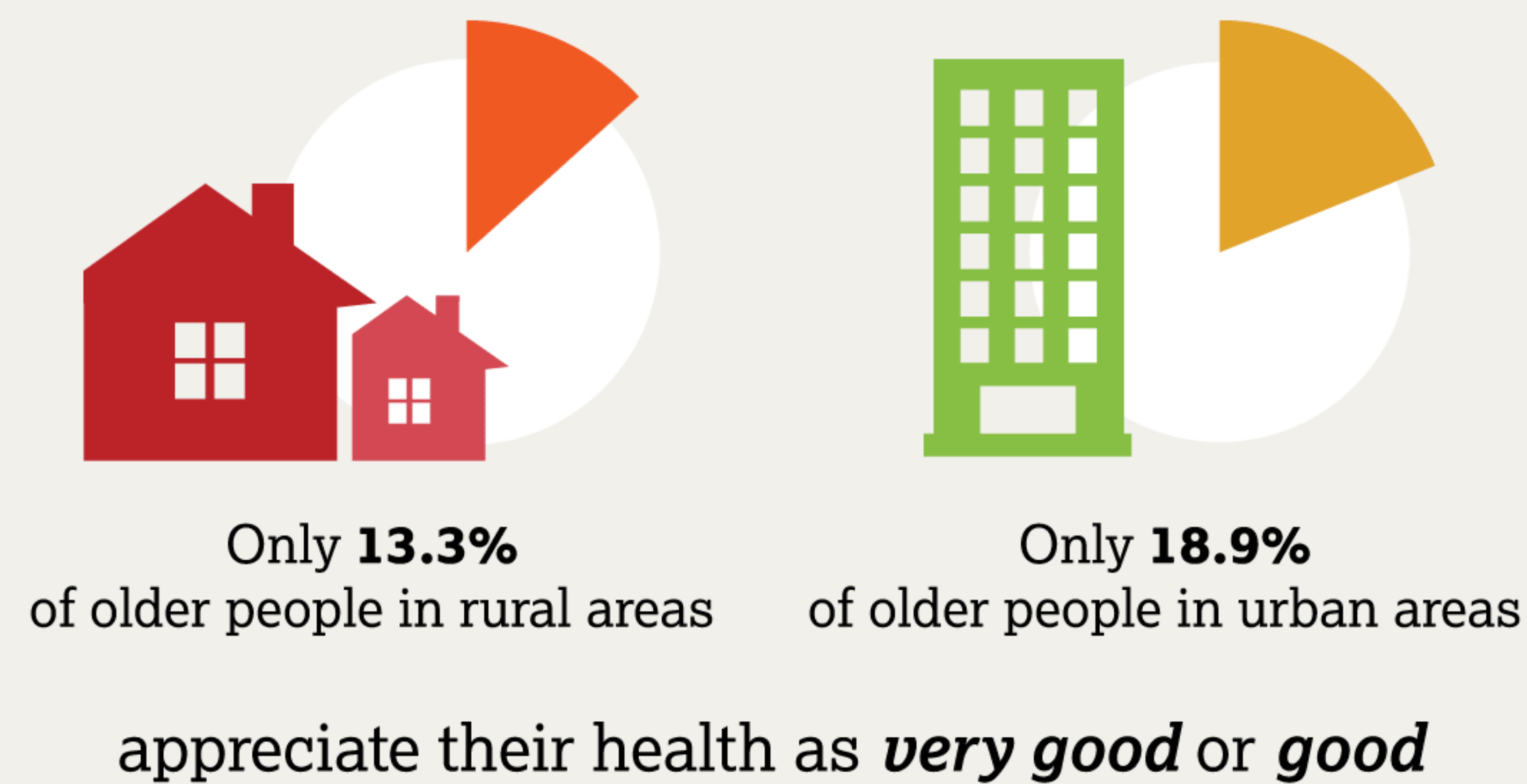
You go to the doctor and you need money! If you have insurance, but you don't have any money in your pocket – it's not good! We do not receive the necessary consultation from the doctors... even the medical assistants don't take us seriously.

Age DISCRIMINATION in health services

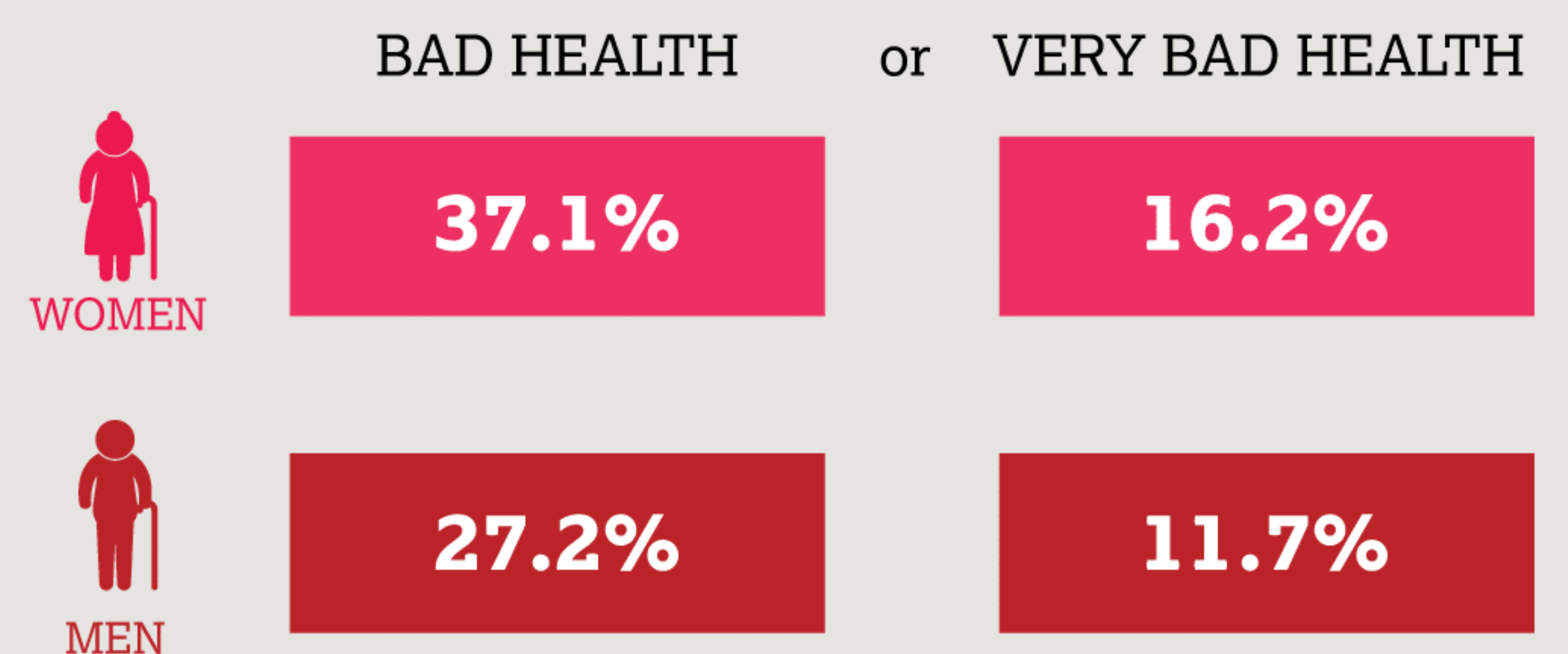
In cases where older people have not received the medical assistance they needed (27.4%) it raises concern about discrimination in these cases.



Older people **living in villages** are more vulnerable and **more discriminated** against by the health system.



Older women, in comparison with older men, are **more at risk of health problems**.



I went for a blood test and they asked me for 7 lei [US\$0.35], telling me I couldn't have it on the insurance. For another test they asked me for 18 lei [US\$0.9]. I gave them the money. For the third test they asked me for 100 lei [US\$5] and told me that they couldn't do it on the insurance ... I wanted to have a preventive check-up, but I stopped, because I didn't have the money to pay for it.



62-year-old woman, Nisporeni

The insurance policy isn't working! It's almost worthless. We cannot use it! They tell us that insurance applies only if you are hospitalised in Chisinau or here, so that you don't have to pay 180 lei [US\$9] for a bed if you are hospitalised.



76-year-old woman, Comrat

... and we have to pay the nurses. They want 10 lei [US\$0.5] for one perfusion.



75-year-old man, Comrat

FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS of older people

in Republic of Moldova

Few of those who leave help their parents. As they have their own families, they should think of them first. Their parents remain in the background.
64-year-old woman, Nisporeni.

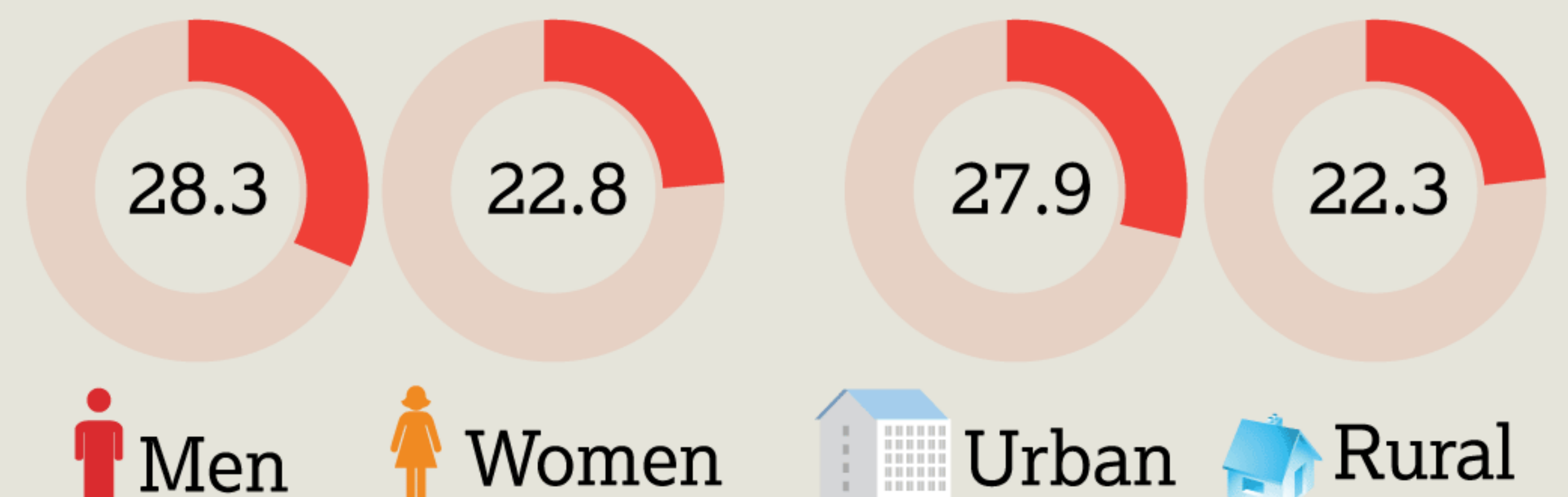


The welfare of older people is determined by the strength of family ties:



3 out of 4 people claim that the main responsibility for taking care of older people belong to the family.

Older people who have almost nobody to take care of them:

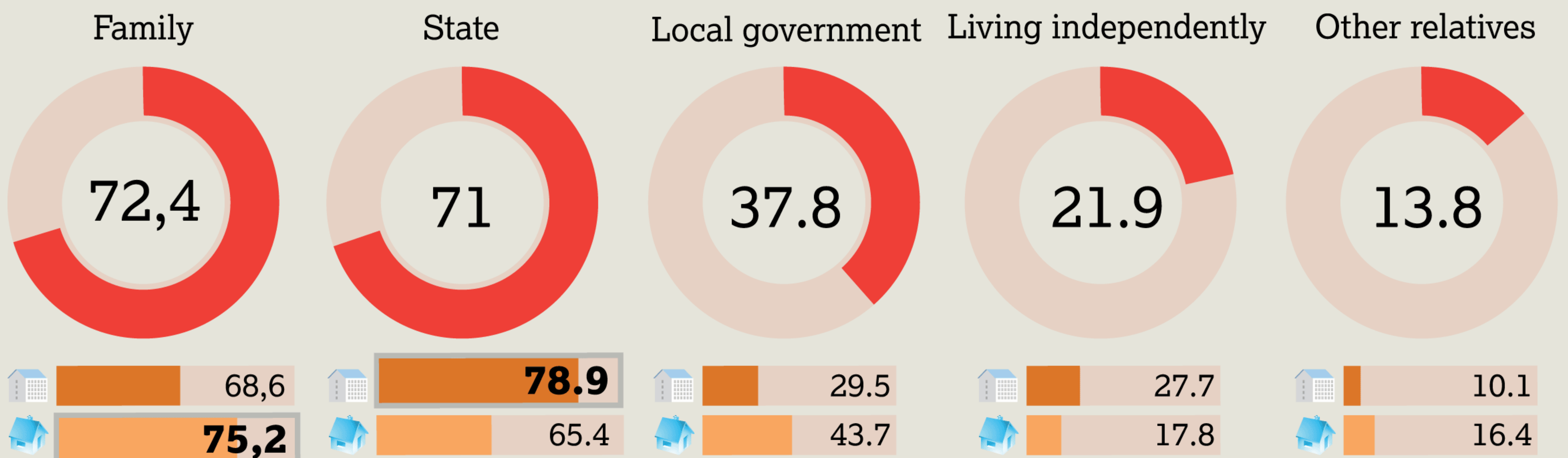


The happiest older people are those who have children abroad who help them with money transfers.
74-year-old woman, Comrat

There are children who help their parents and you notice this immediately: the yard is tidy and the older people are dressed differently. But there are children who seek help from their parents. It all depends on how the children are.
67-year-old man, Nisporeni

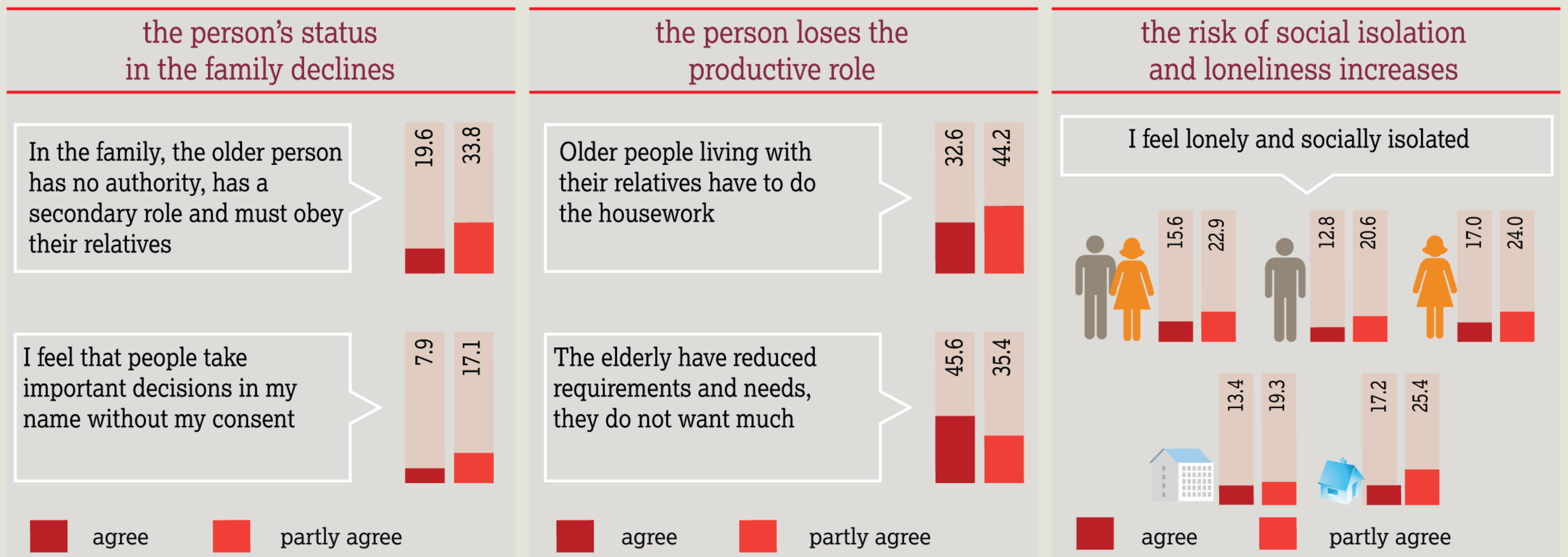


Older people's opinions about the institution or individual who bears the main responsibility for the care of older people



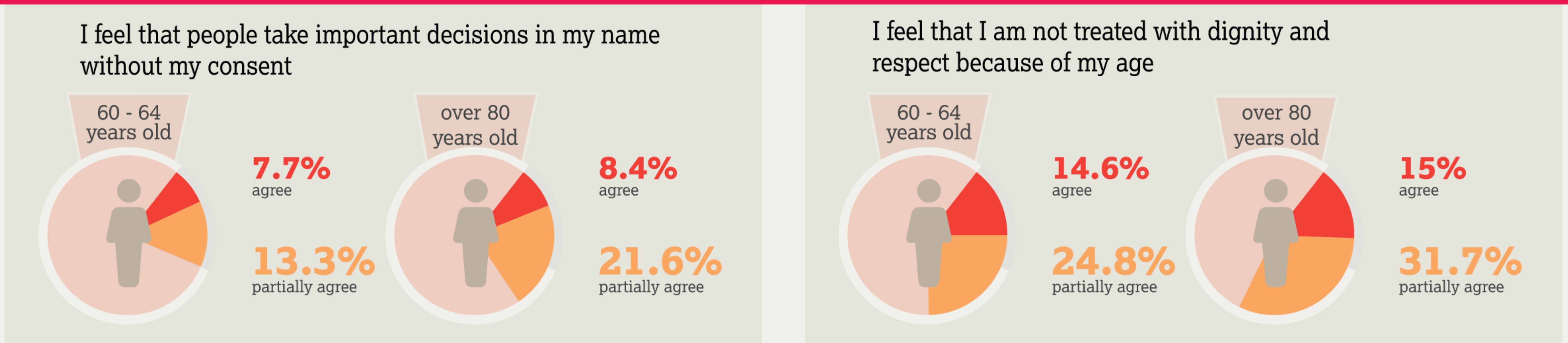
Discrimination against older people in the family and society

After retirement and along with the ageing



As a result, 4 out of 10 elderly said that they suffer from age discrimination.

Age discrimination worsens with age



Although the family is the most important source of support for older people, one in four older people has not received any support from close relatives in the last 12 months.

Reasons why family members do not give support to older people



Older people in the

LABOUR MARKET

In the Republic of Moldova the potential of older people is not exploited in the workforce.
Only 11.6% of older people are employed.

It is more difficult for older people to find work at older ages.

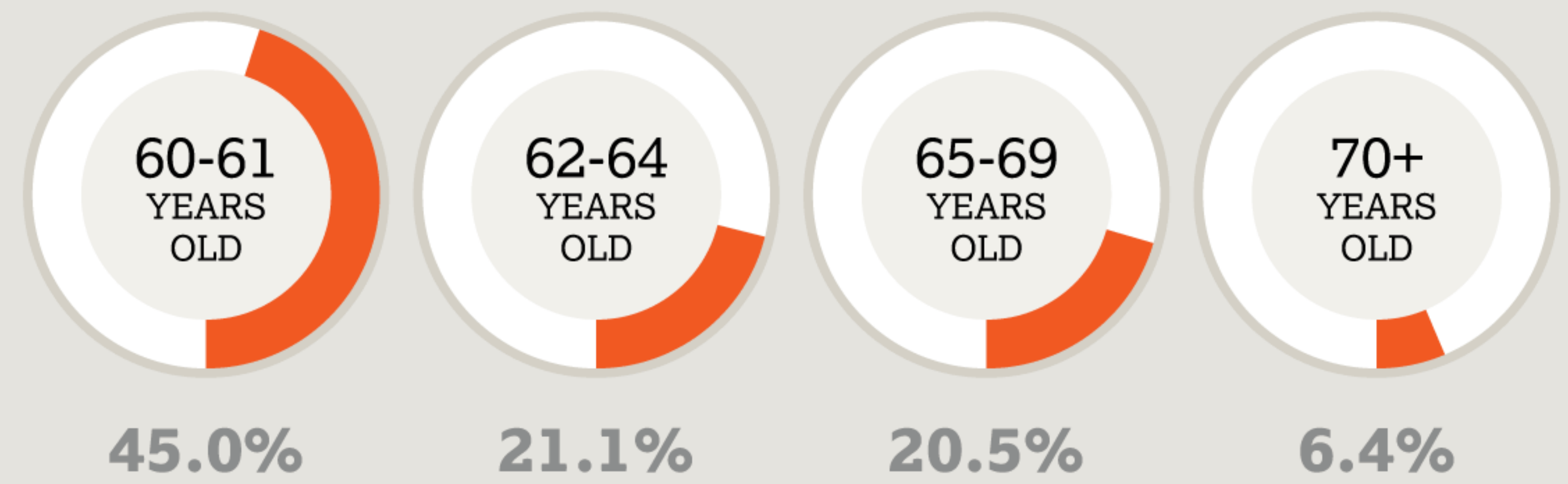
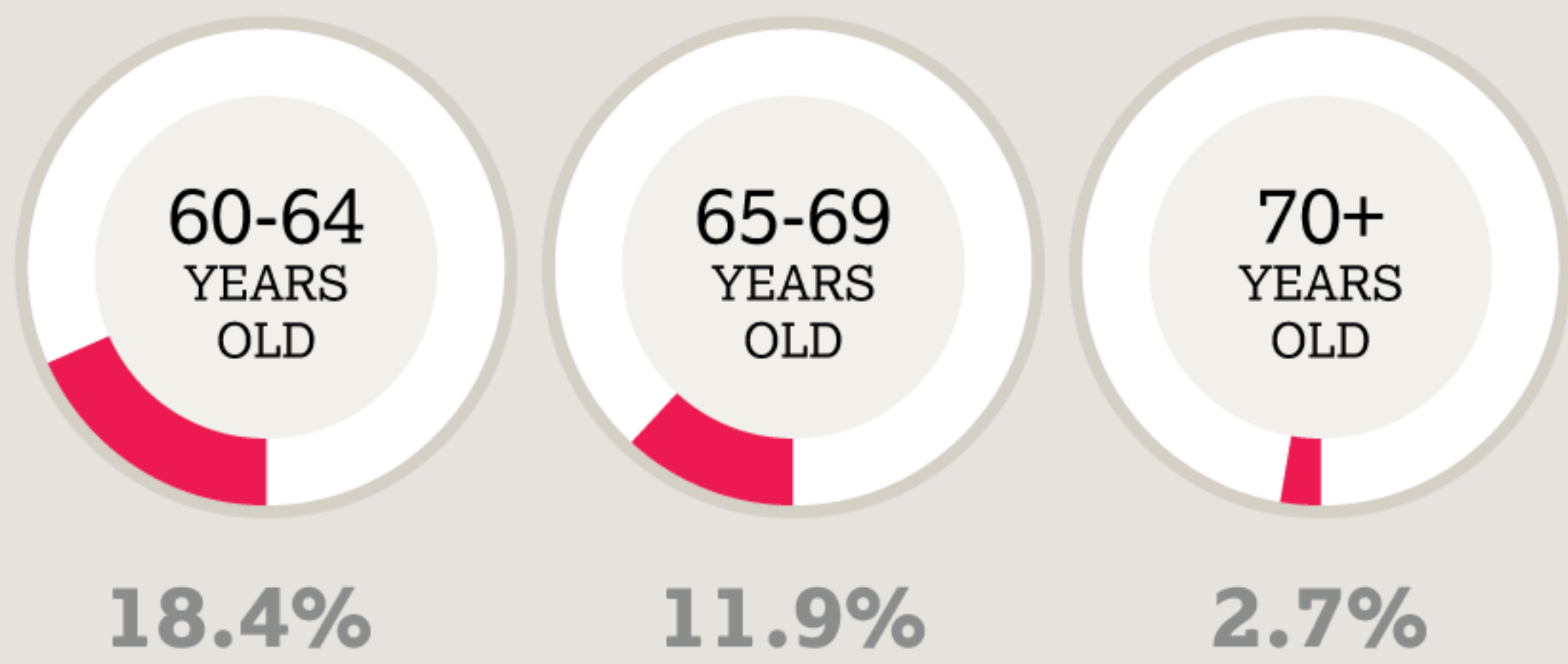
WOMEN EMPLOYED BY AGE GROUP

9.1%

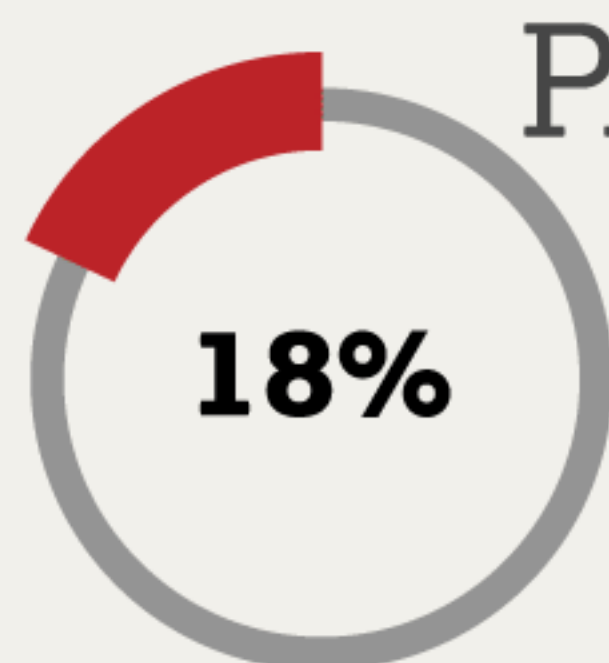


16.7%

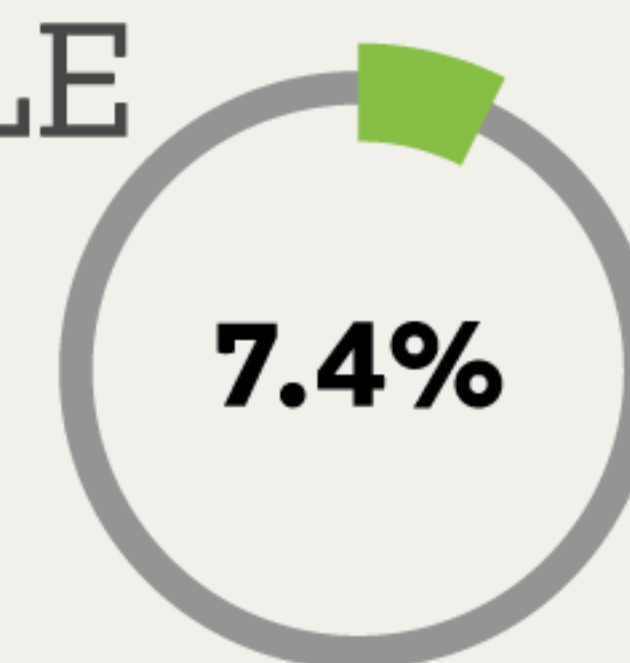
MEN EMPLOYED BY AGE GROUP



URBAN AREAS



PARTICIPATION OF OLDER PEOPLE
IN THE LABOUR
MARKET



RURAL AREAS



A **determinant** of older people's participation in economic activity is **their educational level**.

Among older people with **higher education,**



26.2% are employed.

Among older people with **specialised secondary education,**



21.4% are employed.

Among older people with **vocational training,**



17.1% are employed.

4 out of 10 older people

1 out of 10 older people

1 out of 20 older people

1 out of 20 older people

Do not continue to be active in the workforce because of

worsening health

lack of suitable jobs available

staff reductions

employer's refusal to extend their contract

SOCIAL PARTICIPATION OF OLDER PEOPLE AND VOLUNTEERING

The low participation of older people in the economic life of the country is linked to discriminatory attitudes and prejudices.

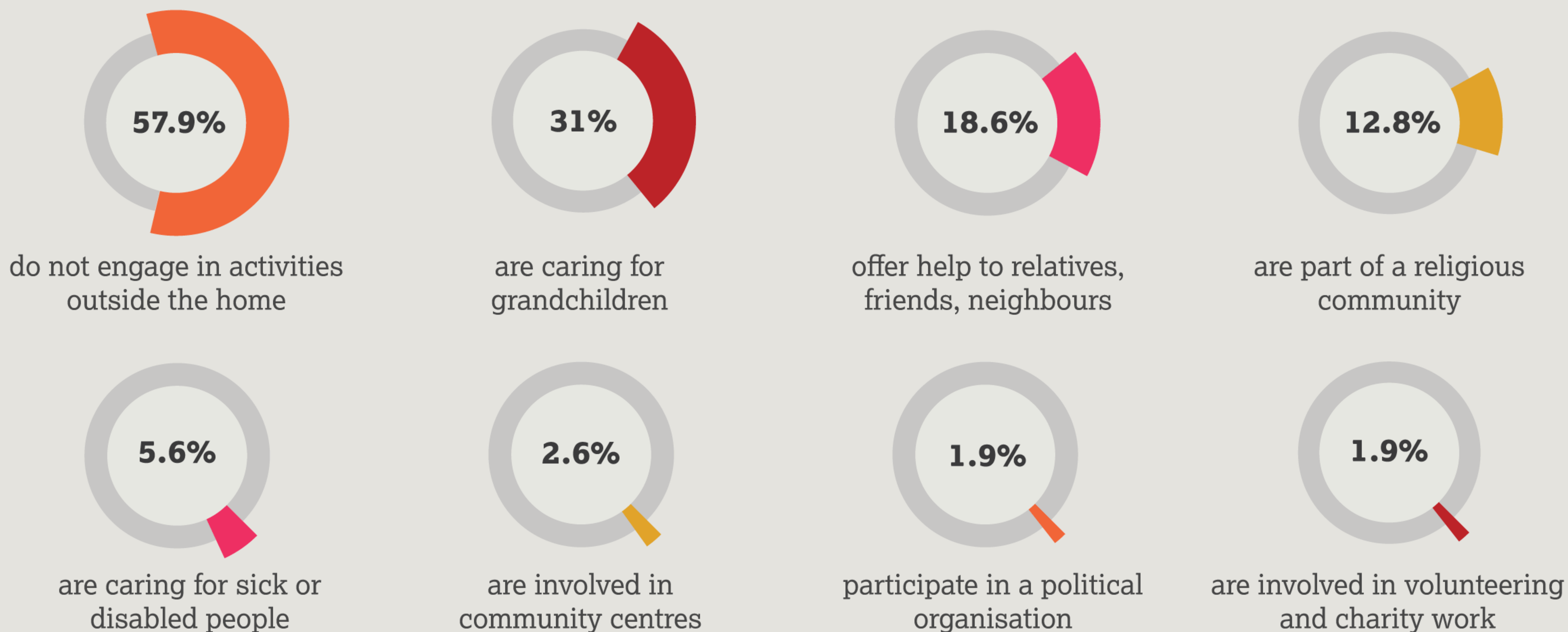
Older people from rural areas and with a lower level of education are most frequently discriminated in the work place. Negative stereotypes about old age are more pronounced among youth and younger adults.

OPINIONS OF YOUNG ADULTS (20-25 YEARS-OLD) ABOUT OLDER PEOPLE

	Agree	Partly agree
They have reduced personal capacities, poor memory and low productivity	37.4%	49.4%
They are not willing to learn new methods of work or how to use new technology	36.8%	46.2%
Older people cannot do a complex work or take responsibility	32.8%	44.8%
For older people social activities are demanding	34.2%	42.6%

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES for older people usually take place in the family or with people living nearby

More than half the older people in Moldova do not have a social life or participate in activities that promote active ageing.



The involvement of older people in activities outside the home is **very low** because::



community centres are missing



volunteering is underdeveloped



health of older people is poor



older people's interest in social activities is low

Perceptions of ageing and older people by older people themselves

3/4 of older respondents say that older people are not informed about and don't know their rights



4/10 of respondents say there is violence and abuse of older people

6/10 of respondents agree (totally or partly) that older people

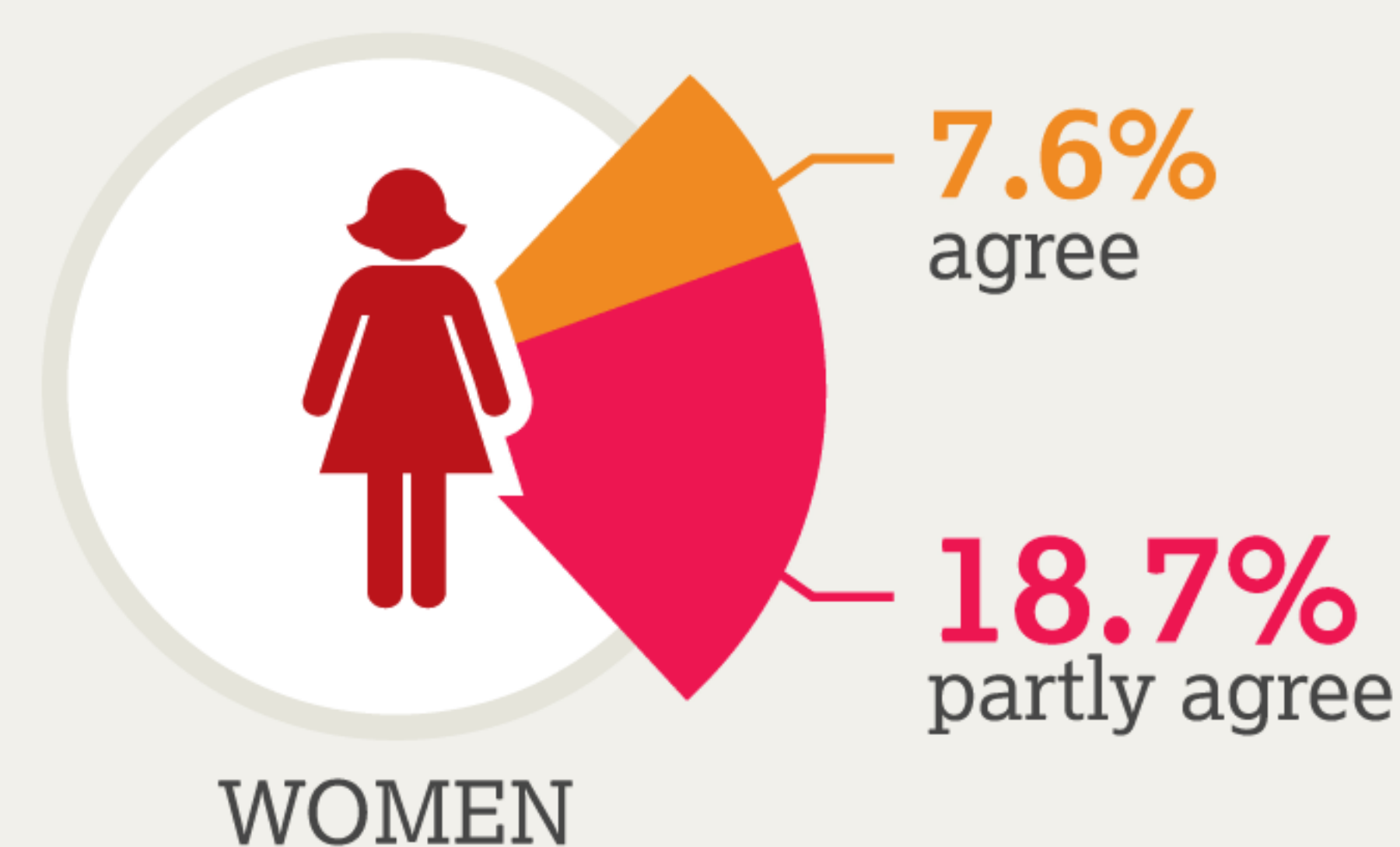
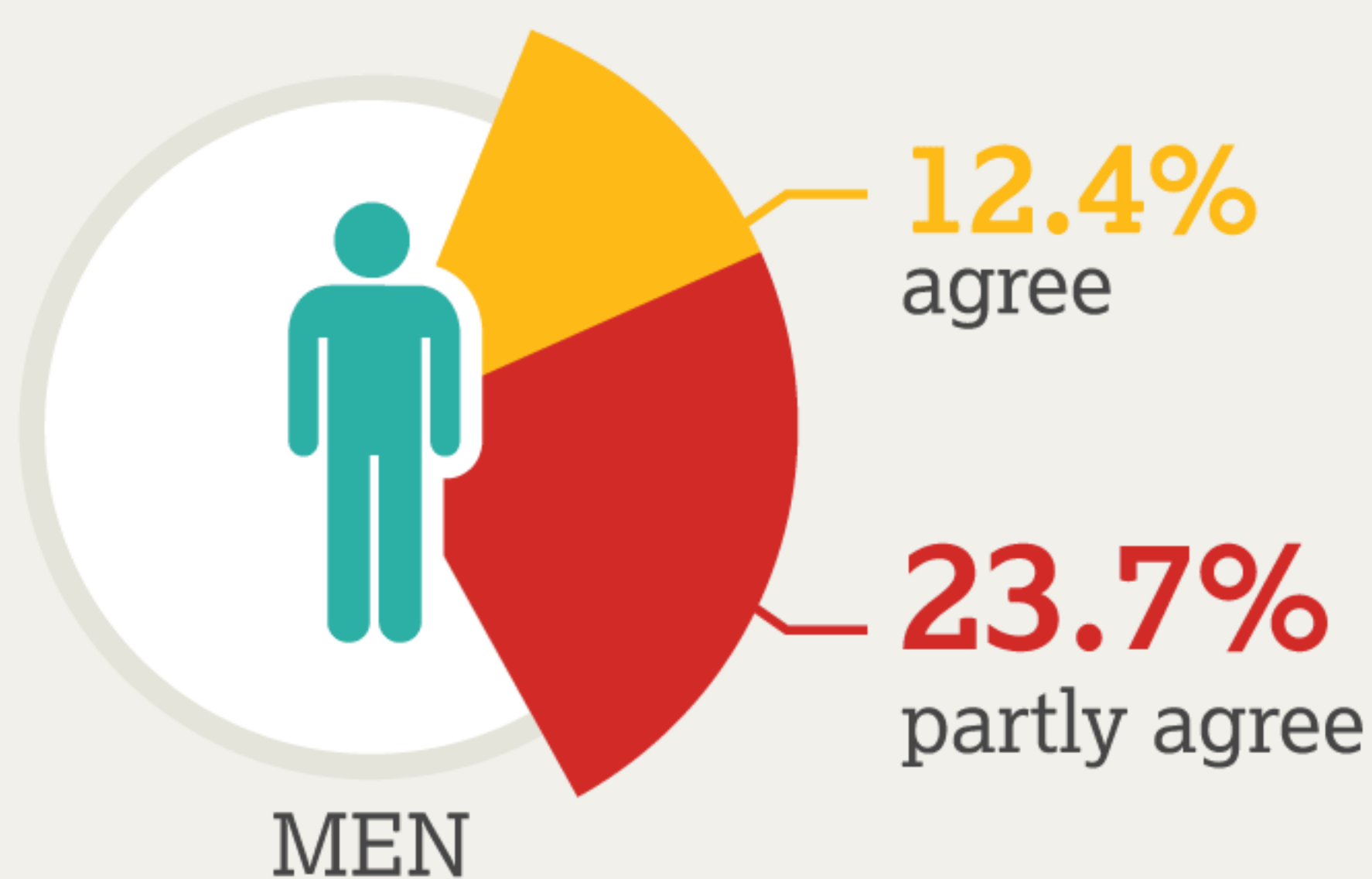
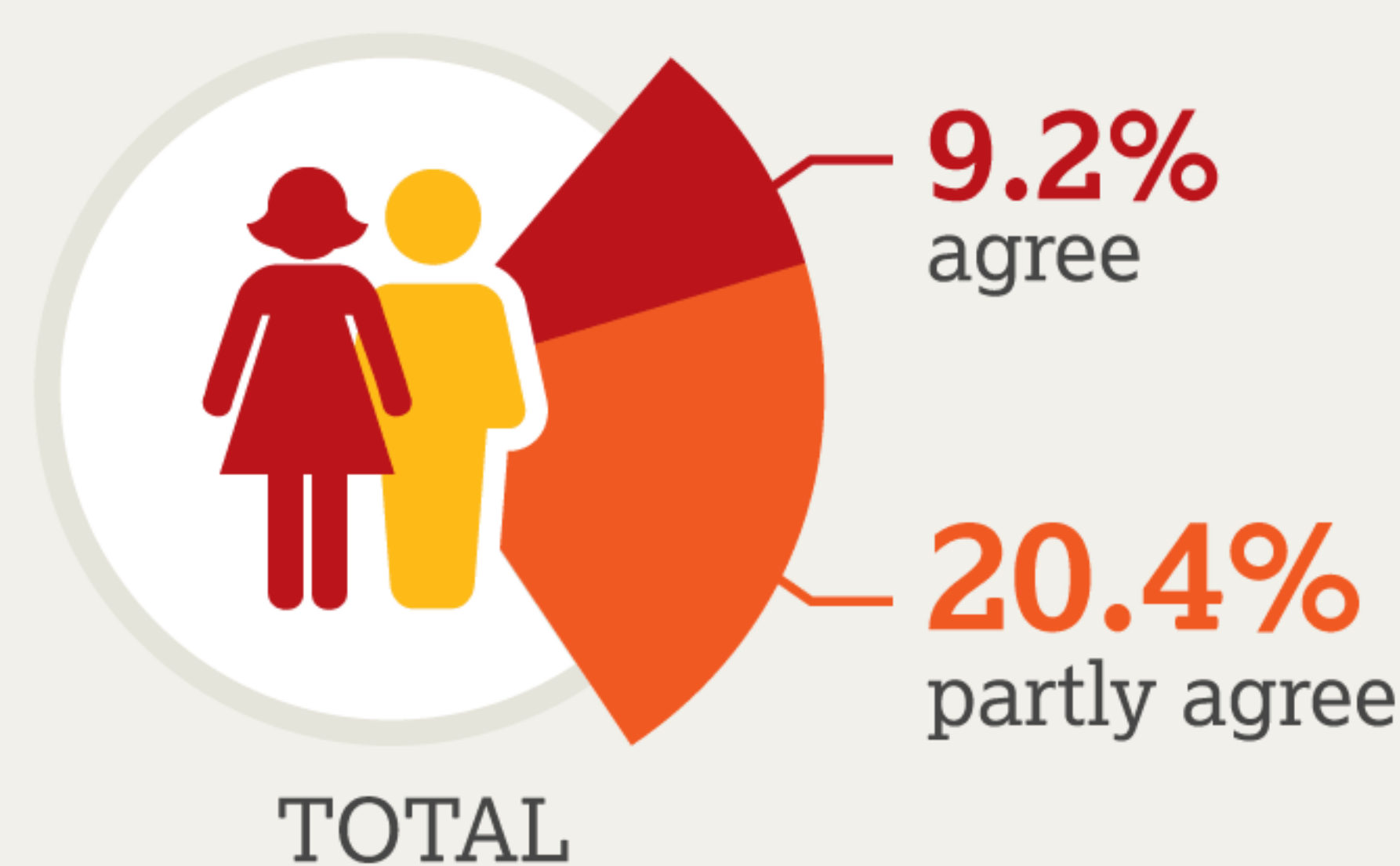


- ✓ Are discriminated against because of their age.
- ✓ Are ignored or rejected by others.
- ✓ Face social isolation.



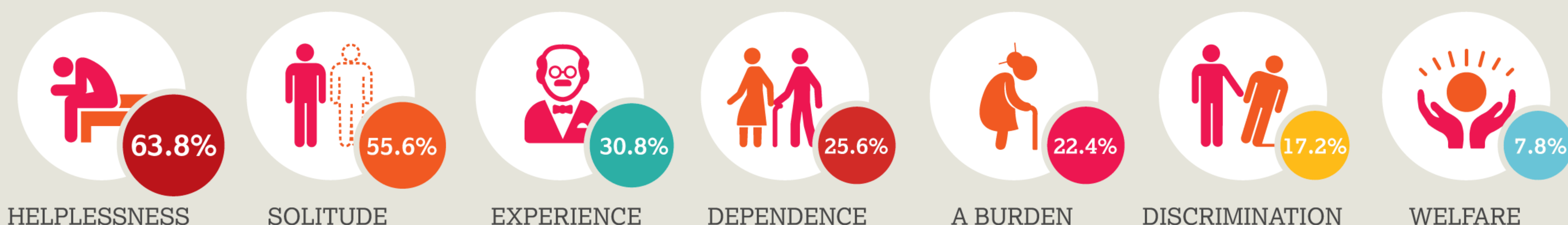
Perceptions of older age and older people by youth and younger adults

1/3 of respondents believe that "older people are a burden to society"



The vulnerability of older people is displayed in negative stereotypes about old age

For the majority of youth and younger adults who responded, ageing is associated with:



Views

on the social status of older people in society by youth and younger adults

Because of their experience, older people are useful to society, %



Older people ensure the preservation of traditional values in society, %



Future generations could benefit from the presence, knowledge and experience of older people, %



Society must take older people's rights into account, %



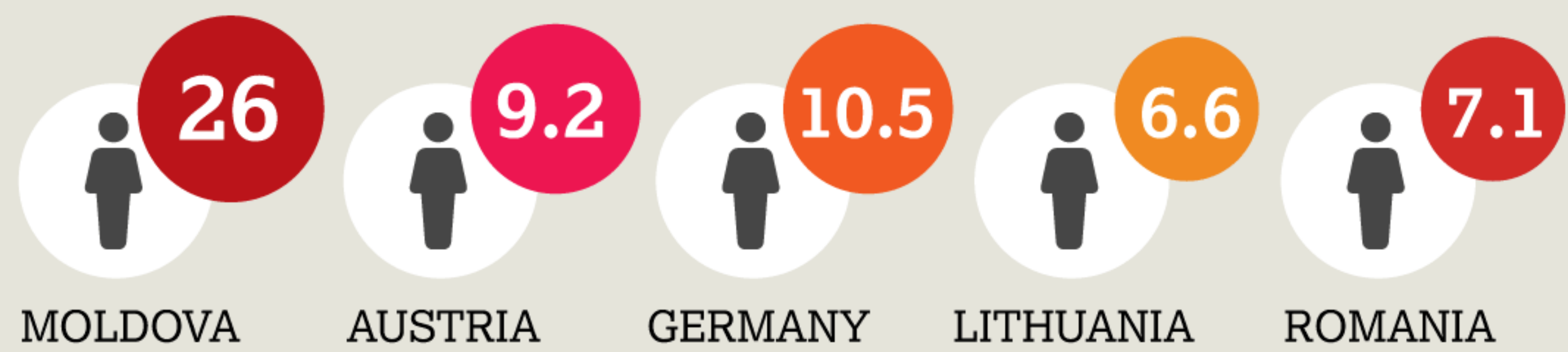
Society must take the problems of older people into account, %



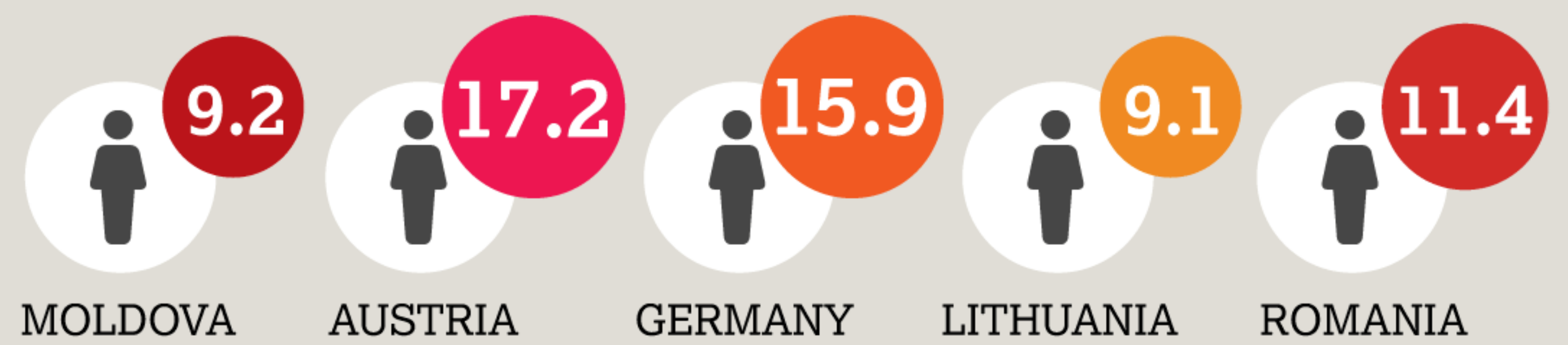
Older people are an important source of emotional support, %



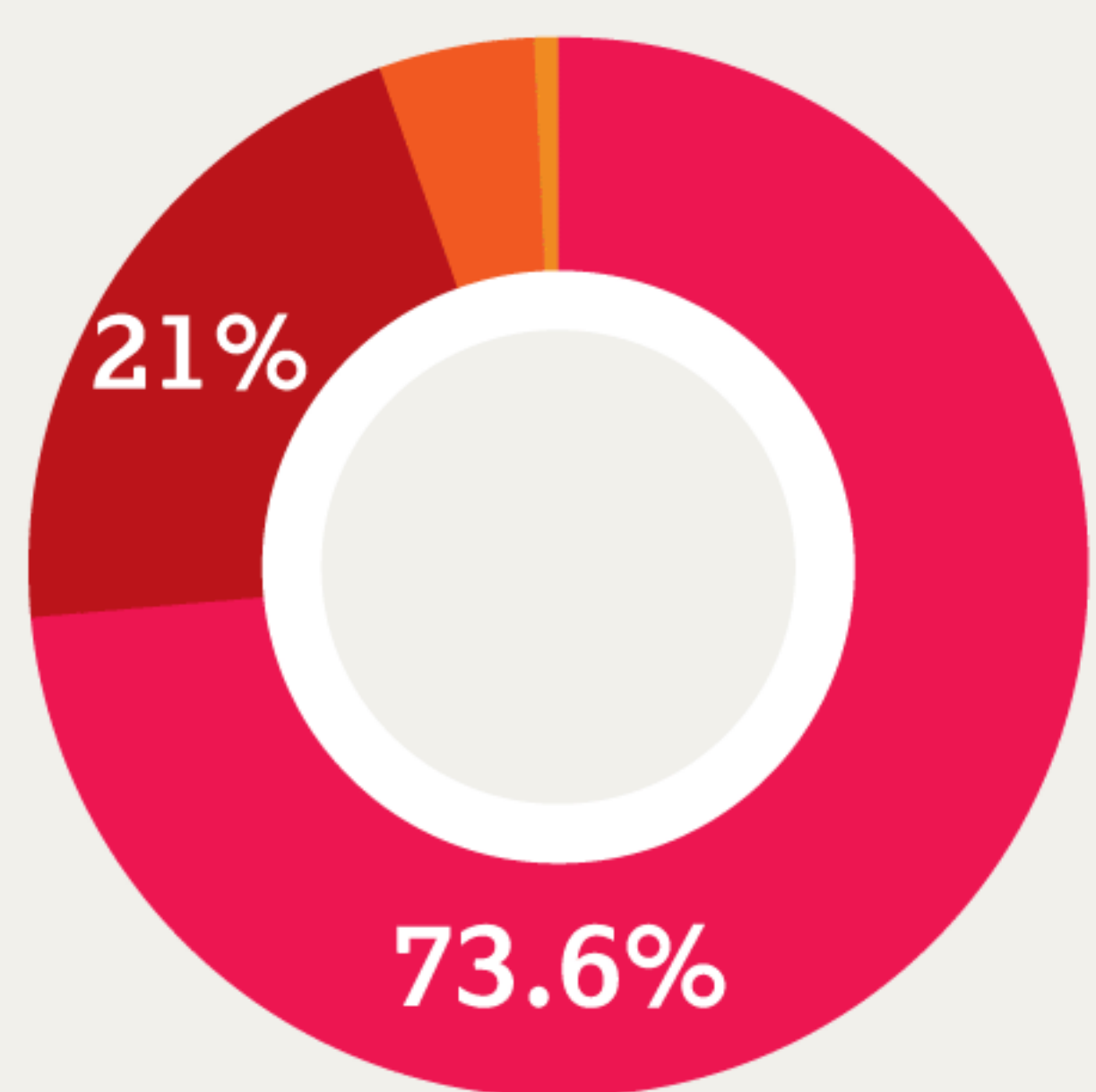
Older people are a burden to society, %



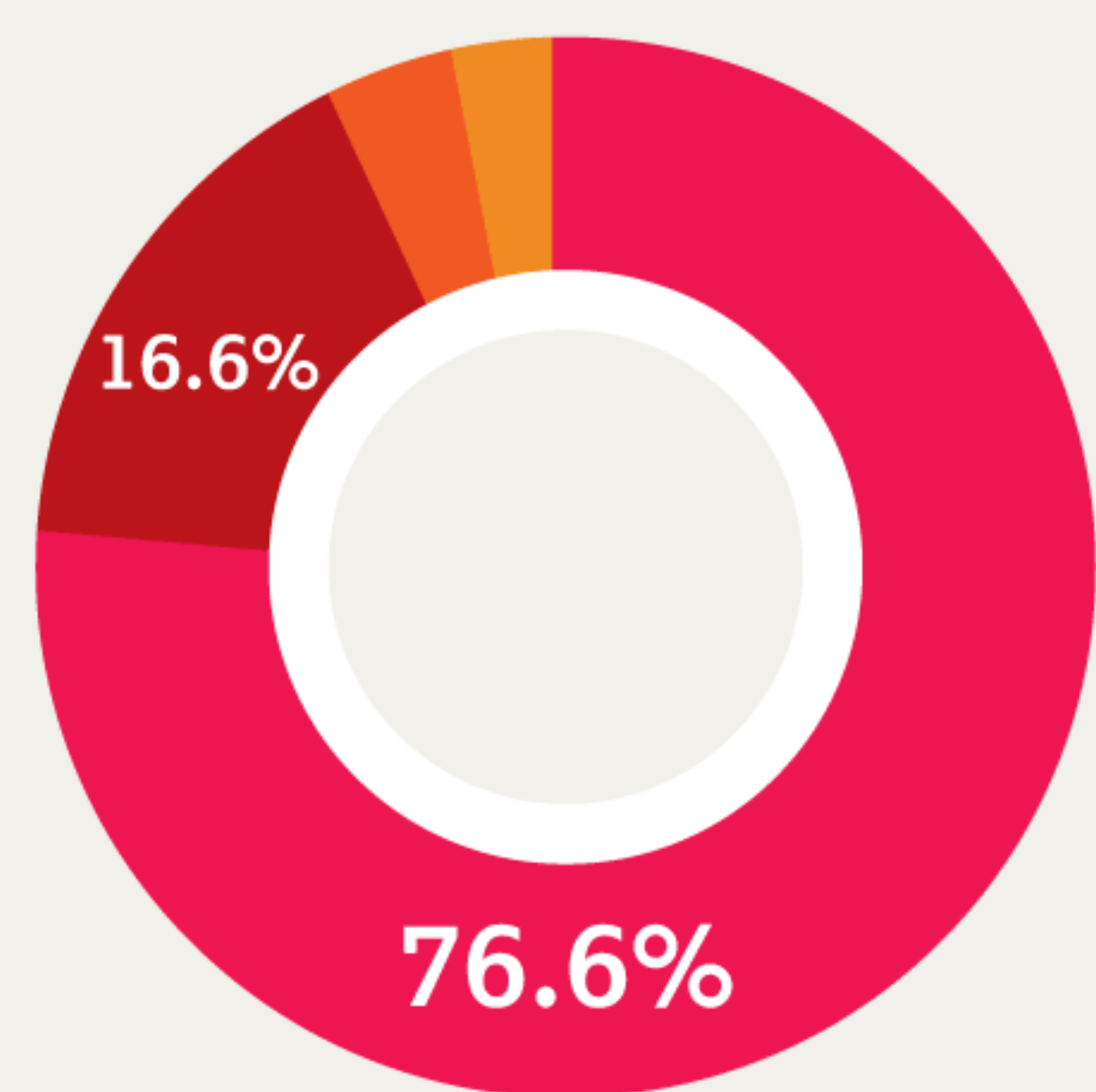
Older people are an obstacle to change, %



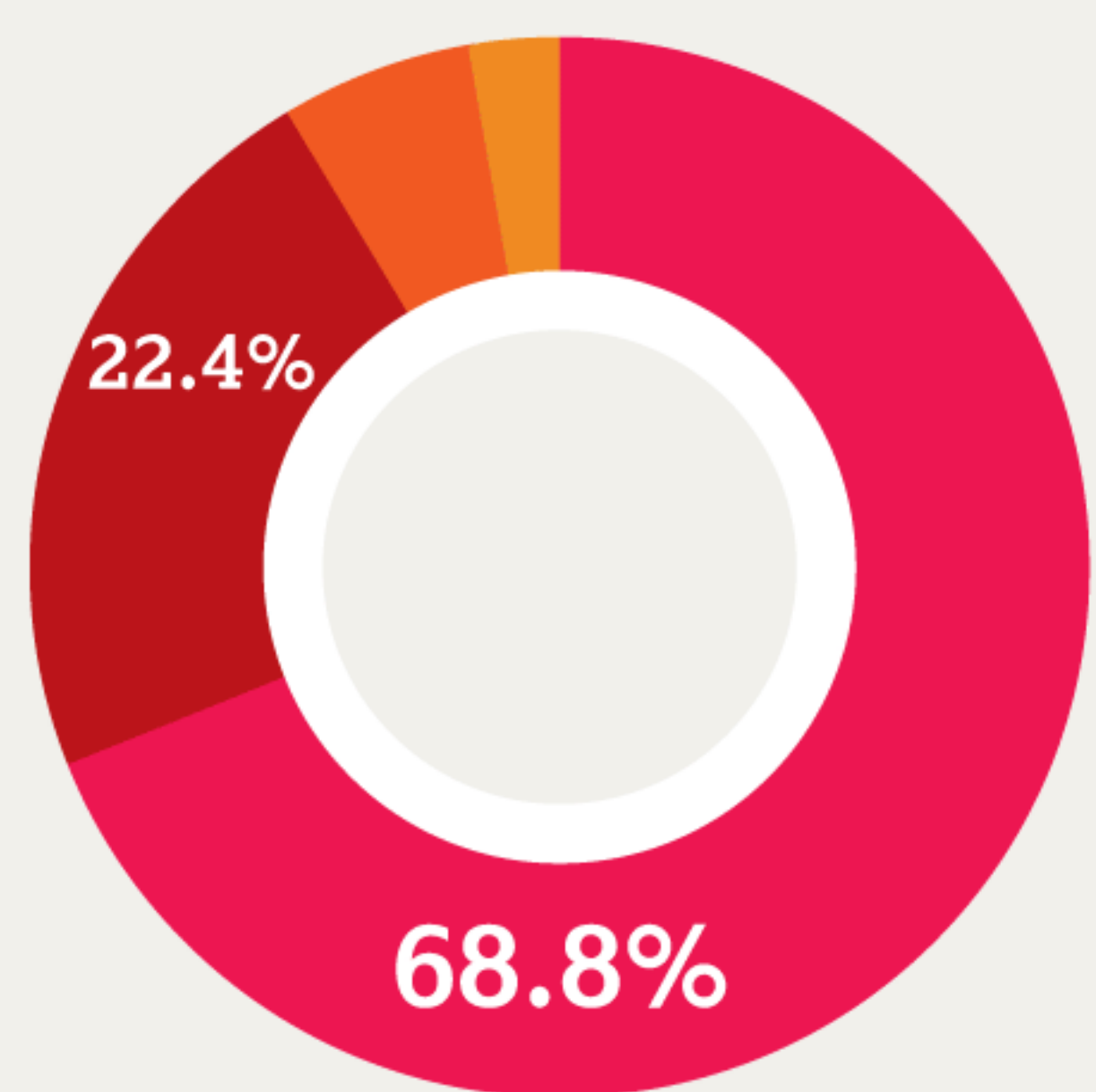
Because of their experience, older people are useful to society



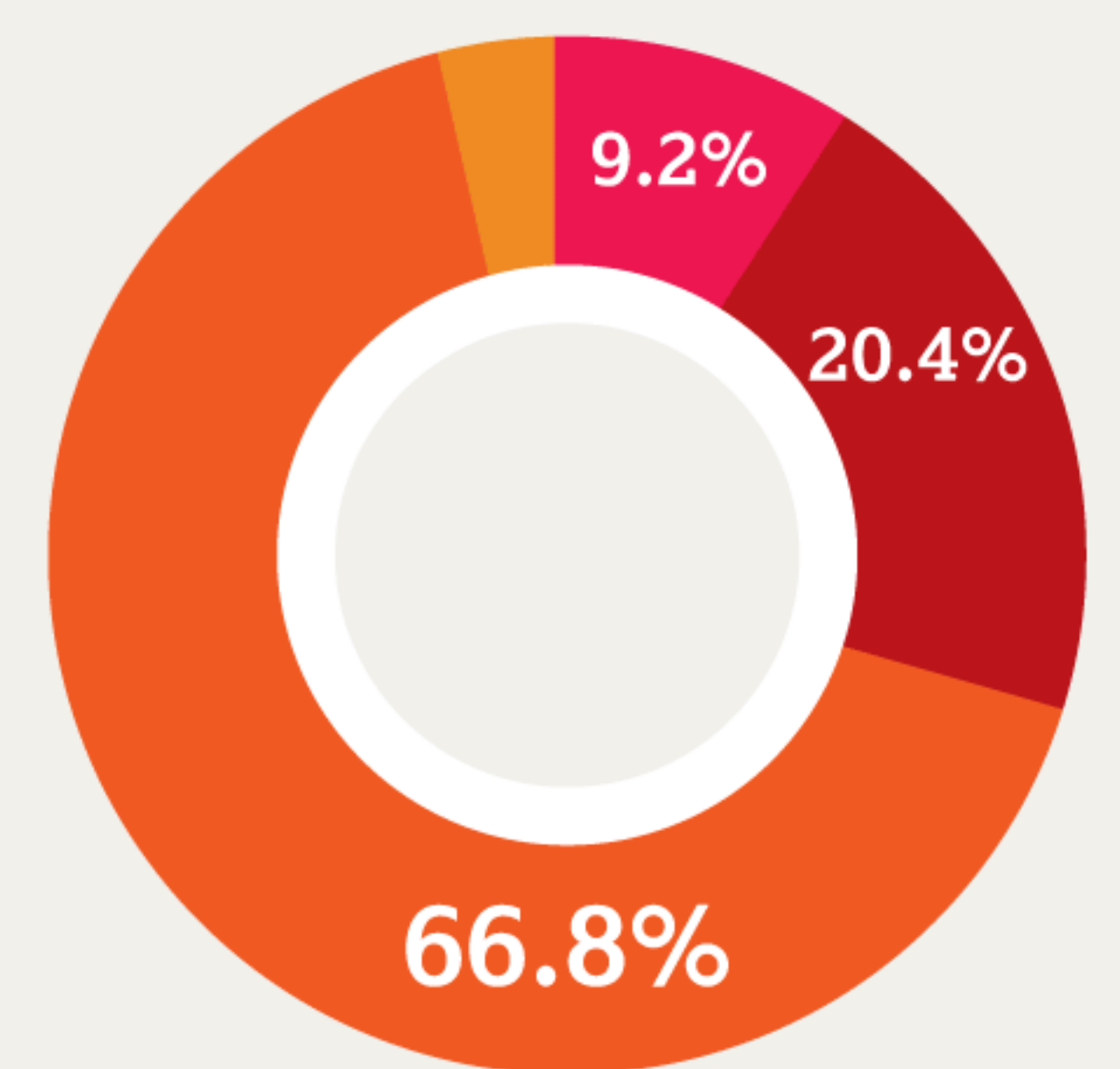
Older people ensure the preservation of traditional values in society



Future generations could benefit from the presence, knowledge and experience of older people



Older people are a burden to society



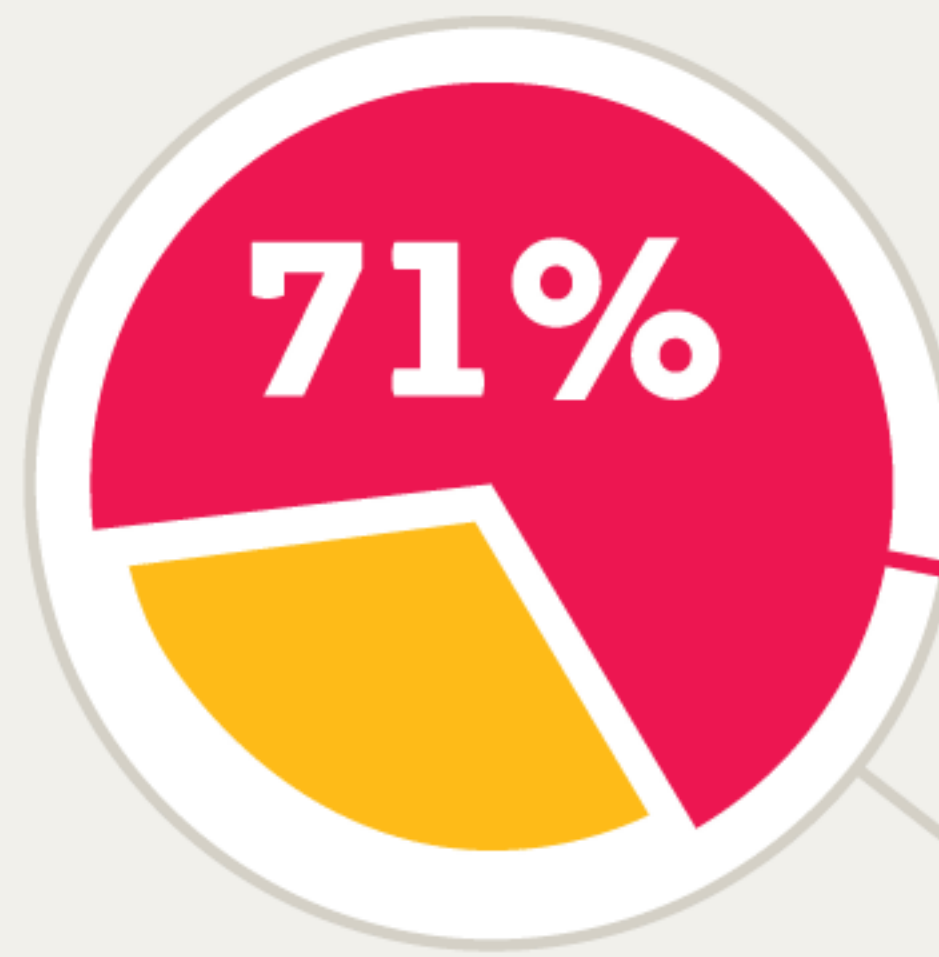
■ AGREE
 ■ PARTLY AGREE
 ■ DISAGREE
 ■ DIFFICULT TO ANSWER

PROFILE OF THE OLDER

victim of abuse



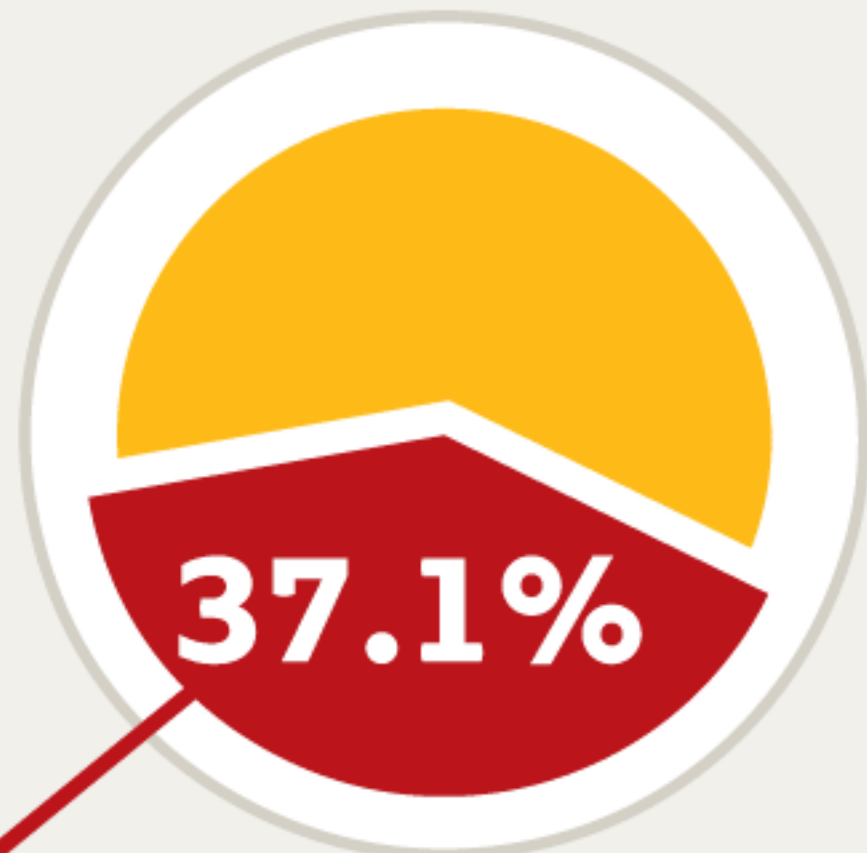
Older victims of abuse are lonely, especially those **over 70 years of age**



of older victims are women



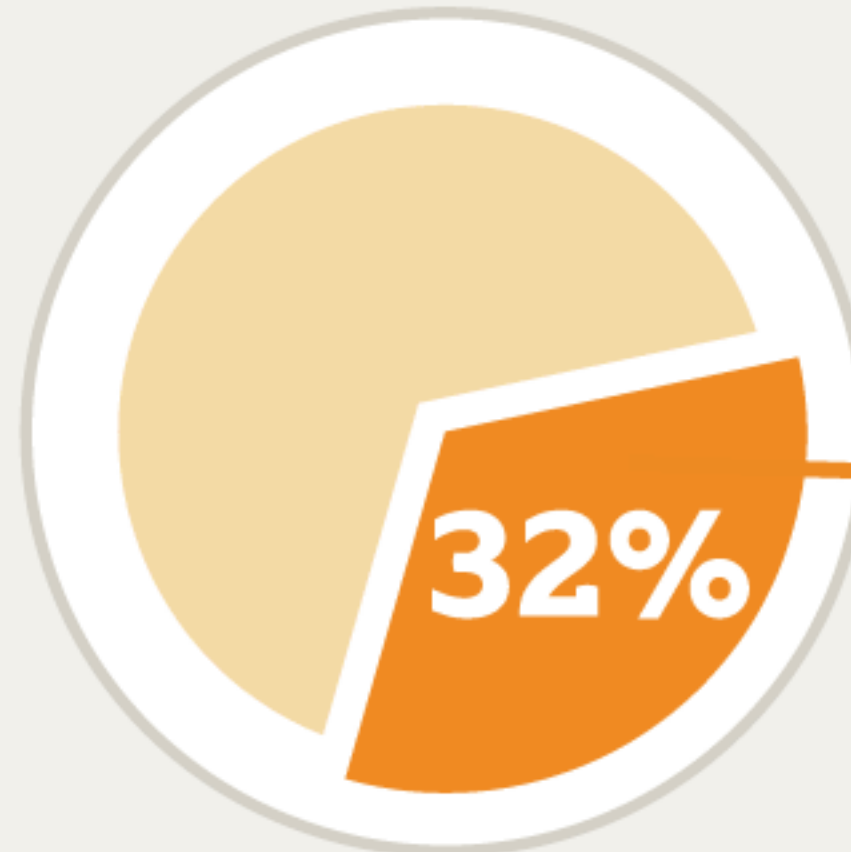
of older victims are widows who have children or other relatives



of older victims are living alone



older people **FROM VILLAGES AND SMALL TOWNS**, especially those living with their families, are abused repeatedly and over a long period



of older victims live in extended families



AGGRESSOR'S profile in the case of elder abuse

The aggressor's profile differs depending on the form of abuse and the environment in which it is taking place:



46.3%

of abusers are people **CLOSE TO THE OLDER PERSON** (family members) or near them (in the same neighbourhood)



35%

of abusers are **STRANGERS/UNKNOWN** to the older person

53% OF OLDER VICTIMS DID NOT WANT TO IDENTIFY THE AGGRESSOR

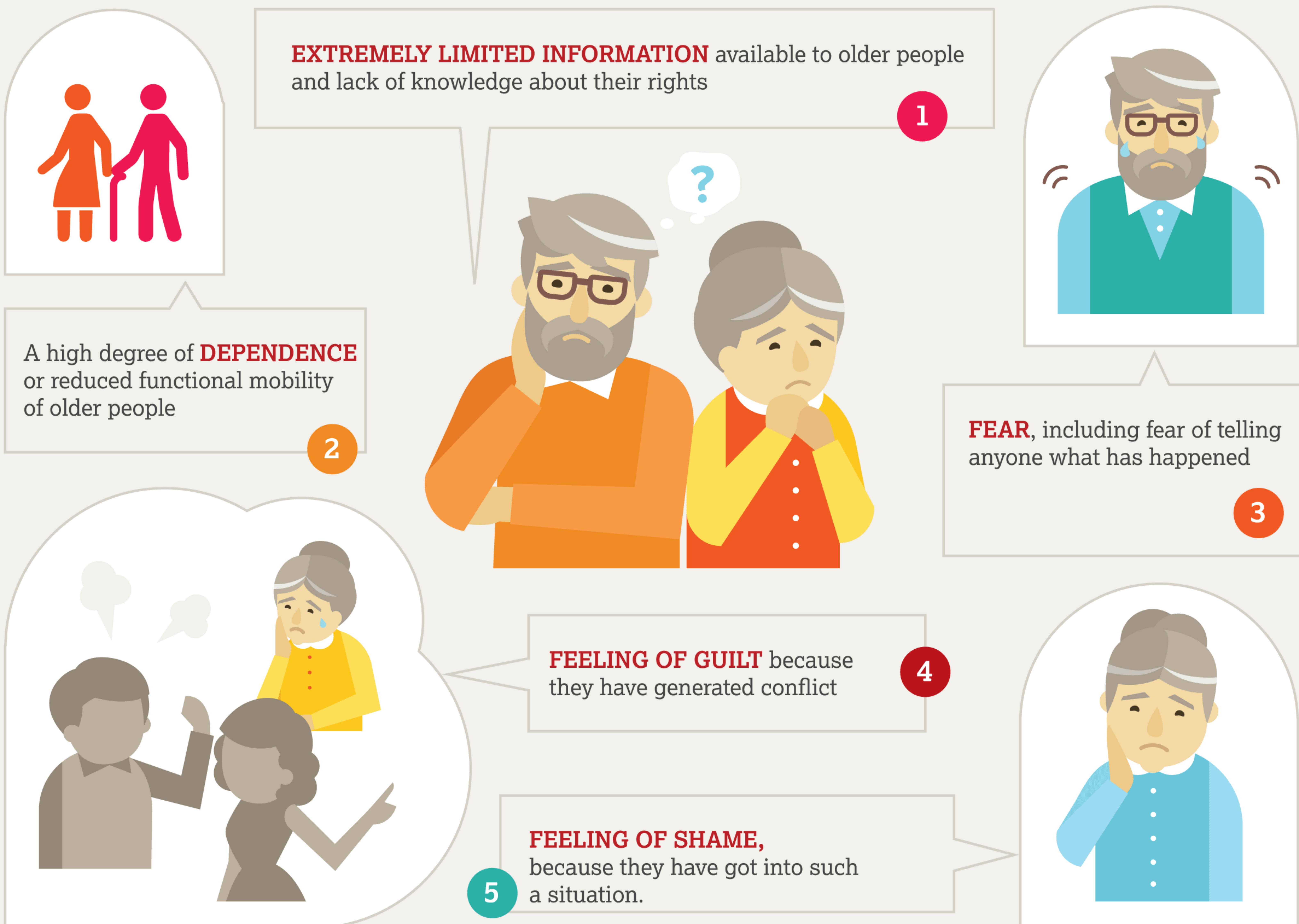


THE ABUSER: general characteristics



UNMASKING

THE ABUSER and ABUSE of older people is complicated by:



Respect for older people's right

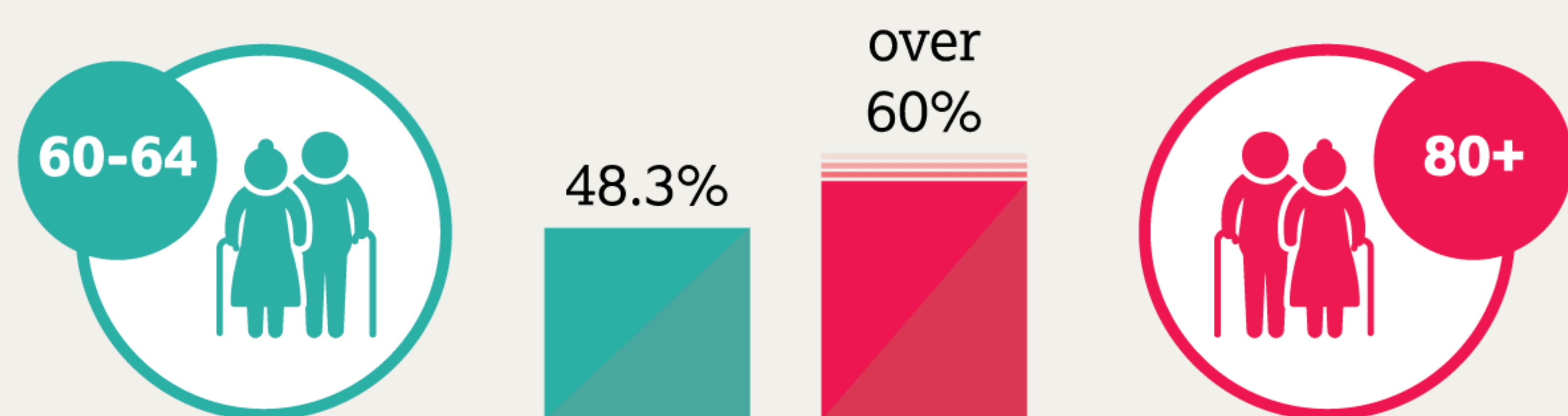
to a decent standard of living

More than half the older people in our country are deprived of their right to a decent standard of living, although this right is guaranteed by article 47 of the Constitution of Moldova.

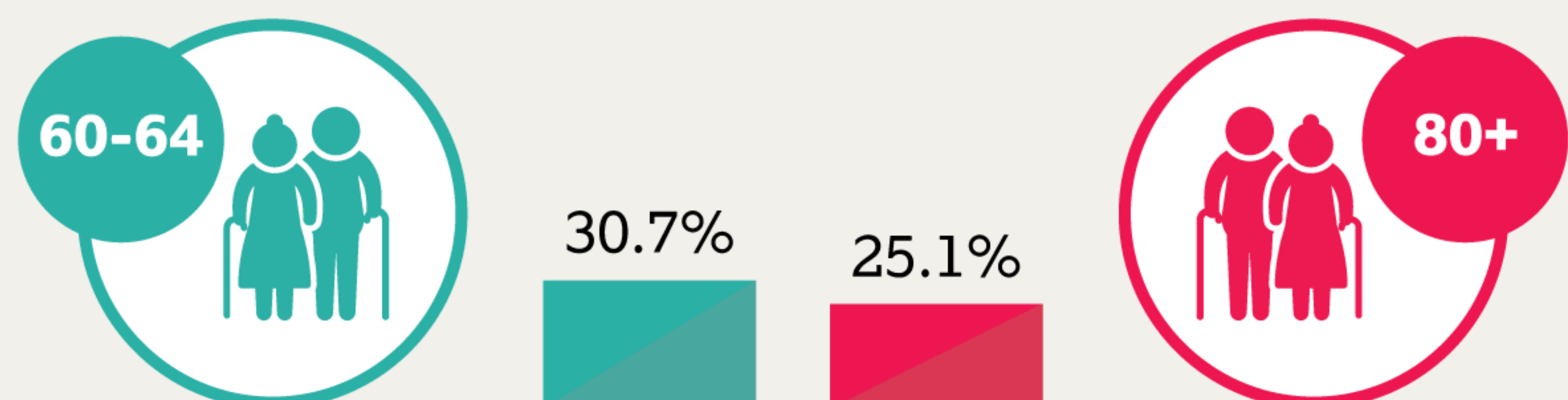


LIVING STANDARDS go down in older age

The proportion of older people who have no income to pay for basic necessities **increases with age**



And the proportion of older people who have enough income to pay for basic necessities **decreases with age**

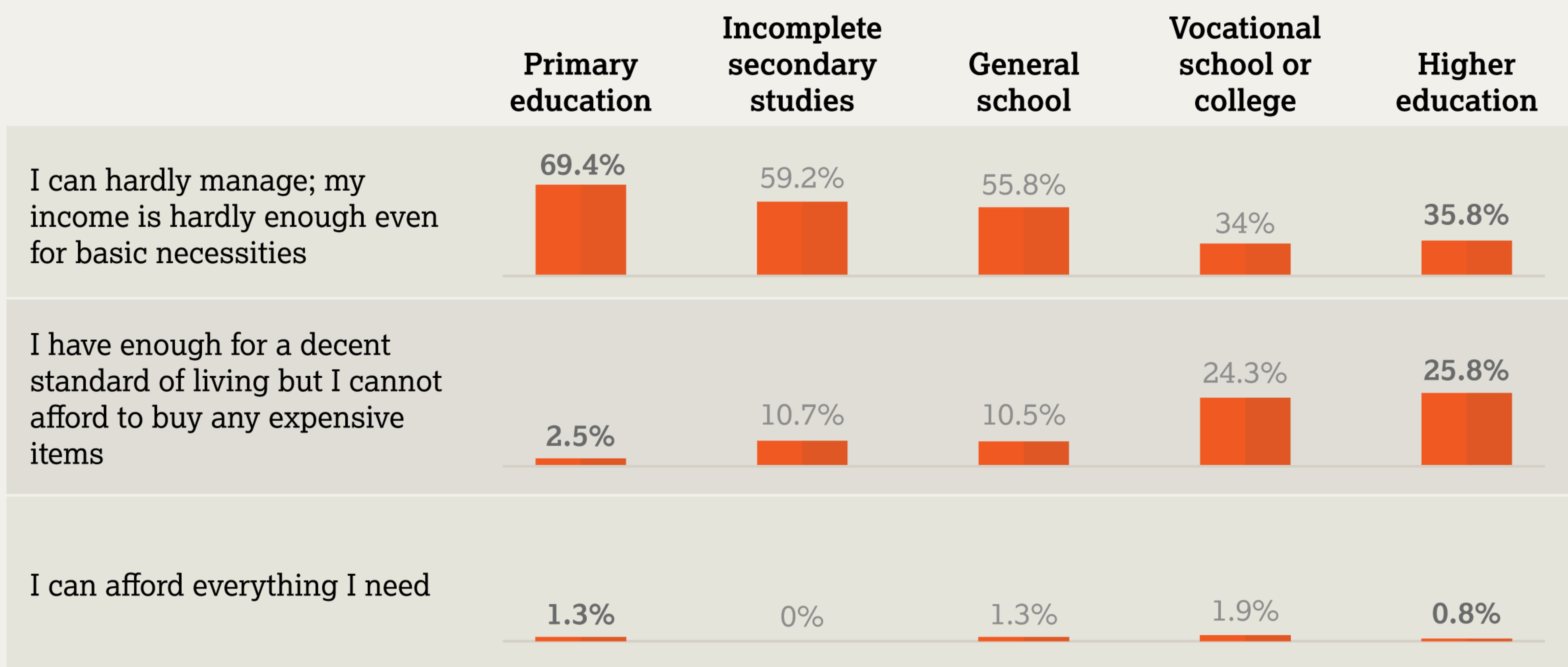


According to the Global AgeWatch Index for 2014, the quality of life for older people in the Republic of Moldova is ranked 74th out of 96 countries:



FINANCIAL SITUATION, ACCORDING TO EDUCATIONAL LEVEL, in the opinion of older people

Older people with a lower educational level cannot make a decent living



Older people are hardly managing to live on their low pension

Often they cannot pay for the services or items they need



6 out of 10 older people need help with money



1 out of 5 older people did not have enough food



1 out of 2 older people need medicines



1 out of 10 older people need emotional support and help with the household chores



1 out of 3 older people need medical services

People aged 80 and over have particular needs:



29.3%, so every third older person is short of food



13% need help with housework



12% need personal care

In general, the situation is very, very difficult and miserable. We do not live, we barely survive!

68-year-old man, Briceni

They cut us without the knife! You pay for the utilities, it has left only for bread, if you purchase medicines, you do not have with what to pay for the rest!

82-year-old woman, Comrat

Last winter I didn't afford to make the fire everyday and heat the house. This winter it's even worse. I don't have any money to buy wood and coal.

65-year-old woman, Briceni

Is very hard for us. We need medicines, but they are expensive. We need to borrow money to buy firewood for winter.

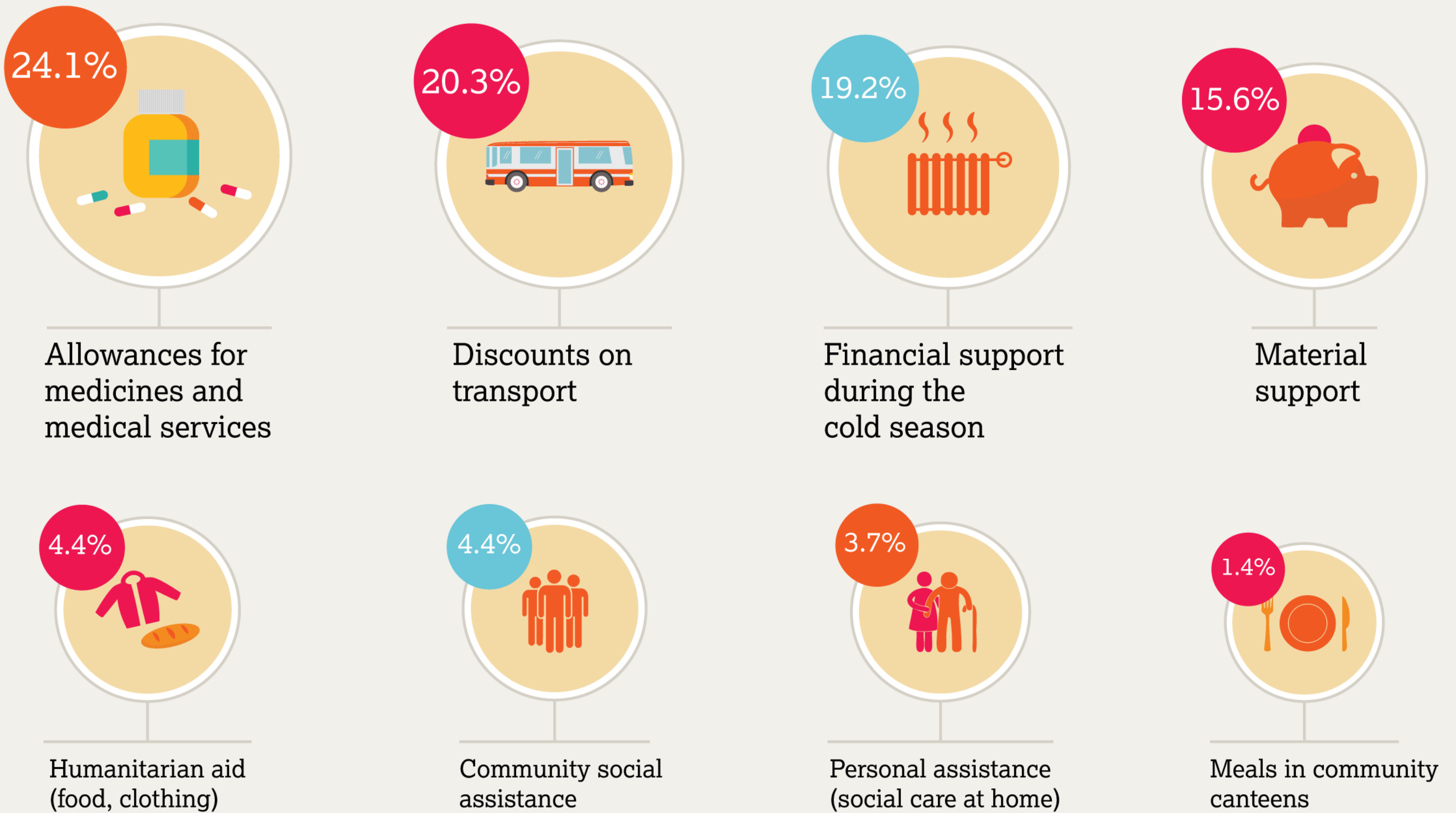
73-year-old woman, Briceni

SOCIAL PROTECTION of older people

in the Republic of Moldova

The current social protection system fails to bring older people out of poverty

Support received by older respondents in the last year



SOCIAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES do not cover the needs of older people

Social assistance services are insufficient



Community social assistance services

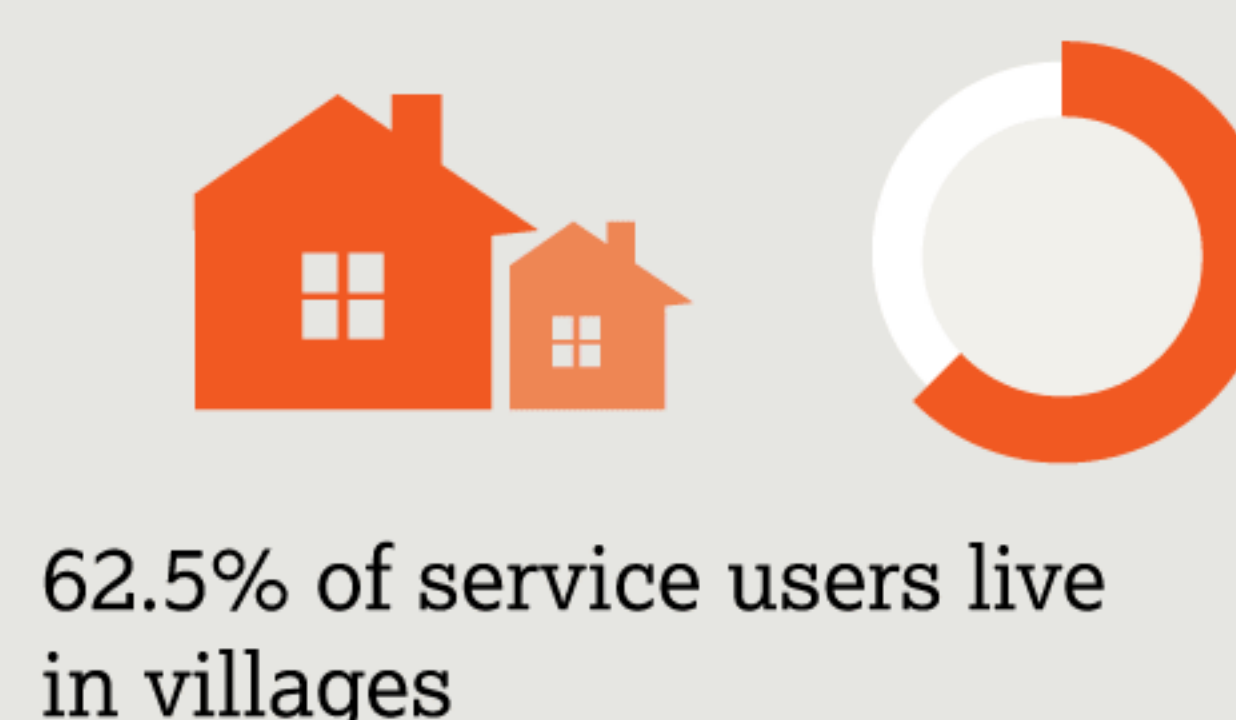


Personal assistance services (social care at home)



Although insufficient, community social services for older people are important, especially for

older people in rural areas



older people with some degree of disability or a chronic illness



5% of older people interviewed ask for help from a social worker first when they need help

OLDER PEOPLE'S OPINIONS about community assistance services

I am very lucky to have a social worker who comes and helps me. She is my only help, because so many young people are abroad, including my children. All the people in my neighbourhood are older people.

68-year-old woman, Comrat

The social worker says to me: "If I come again and there will be disorder in your room, the social worker will be taken away from you". I live alone, I have no one who can help me... How can they take him away?

69-year-old man, Comrat

When I was ill in bed, if I needed something, even some bread, I had to pay to get it. Now, thank God, I receive social assistance and the girl who comes helps me a lot.

71-year-old woman, Nisporeni



Not all the social workers have a kindly attitude towards us.

75-year-old woman, Briceni

...Apar from the social worker, nobody helps us. In my neighbourhood everyone is 80 years old or even more.

82-year-old woman, Comrat

THE FAMILY is the most important source of support for older people



54.1% of older people receive the support they need from a family member (other than their spouse)



In **3 out of 10** cases, this support is provided by their partner



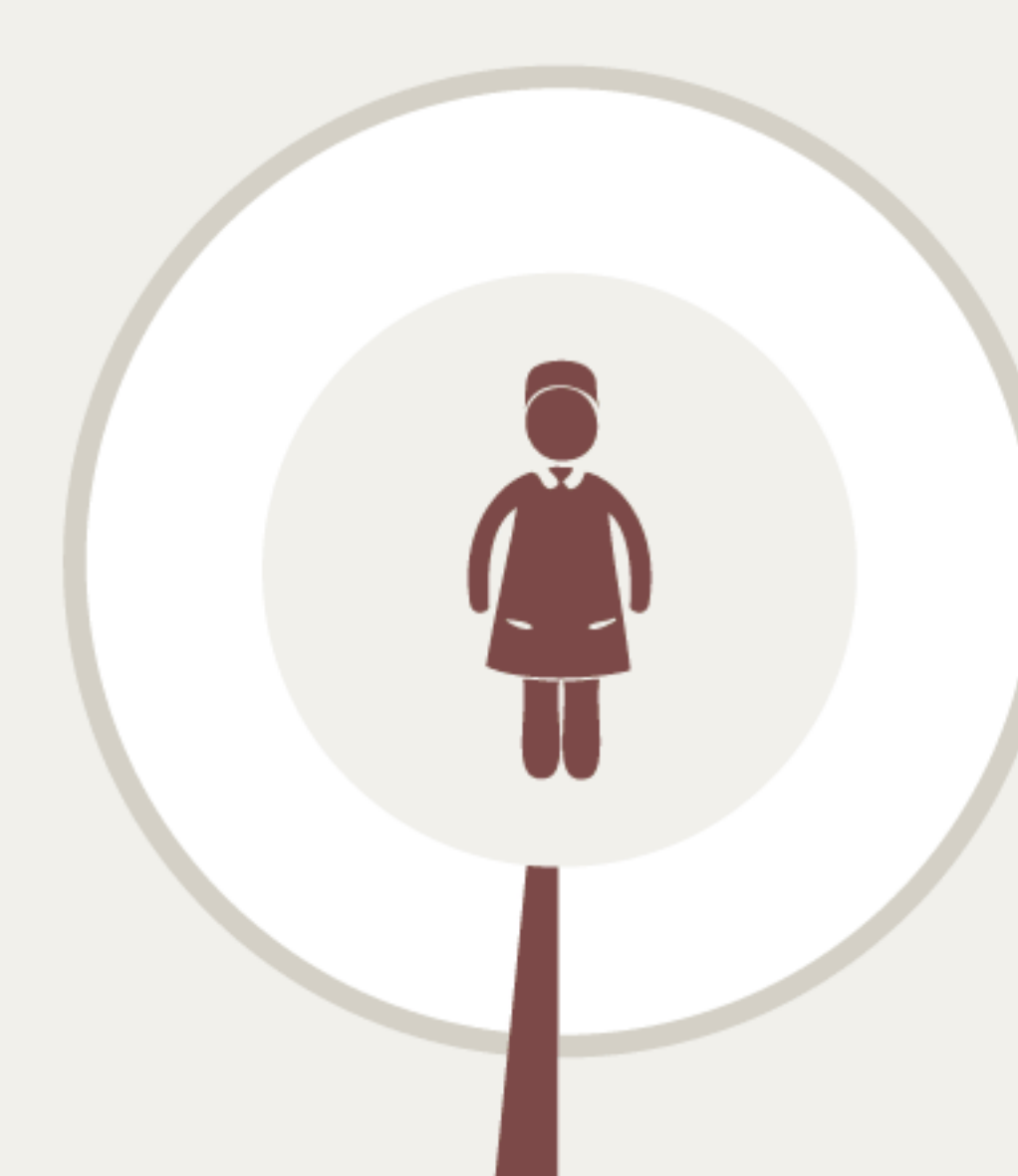
17% of older people ask for help from their neighbours



6.5% of older people ask for help from their friends



4.6% of older people ask for help from a social worker



1.6% of older people ask for help from a health worker



12% of older people do not have anyone to call on in case of need



1 out of 5 do not have close relatives



Only **8.5%** of older people say they can take care of themselves