

# Broadband Internet Connectivity and the “Digital Divide” in California – 2017

- Results from a new statewide survey conducted for -  
**California Emerging Technology Fund**

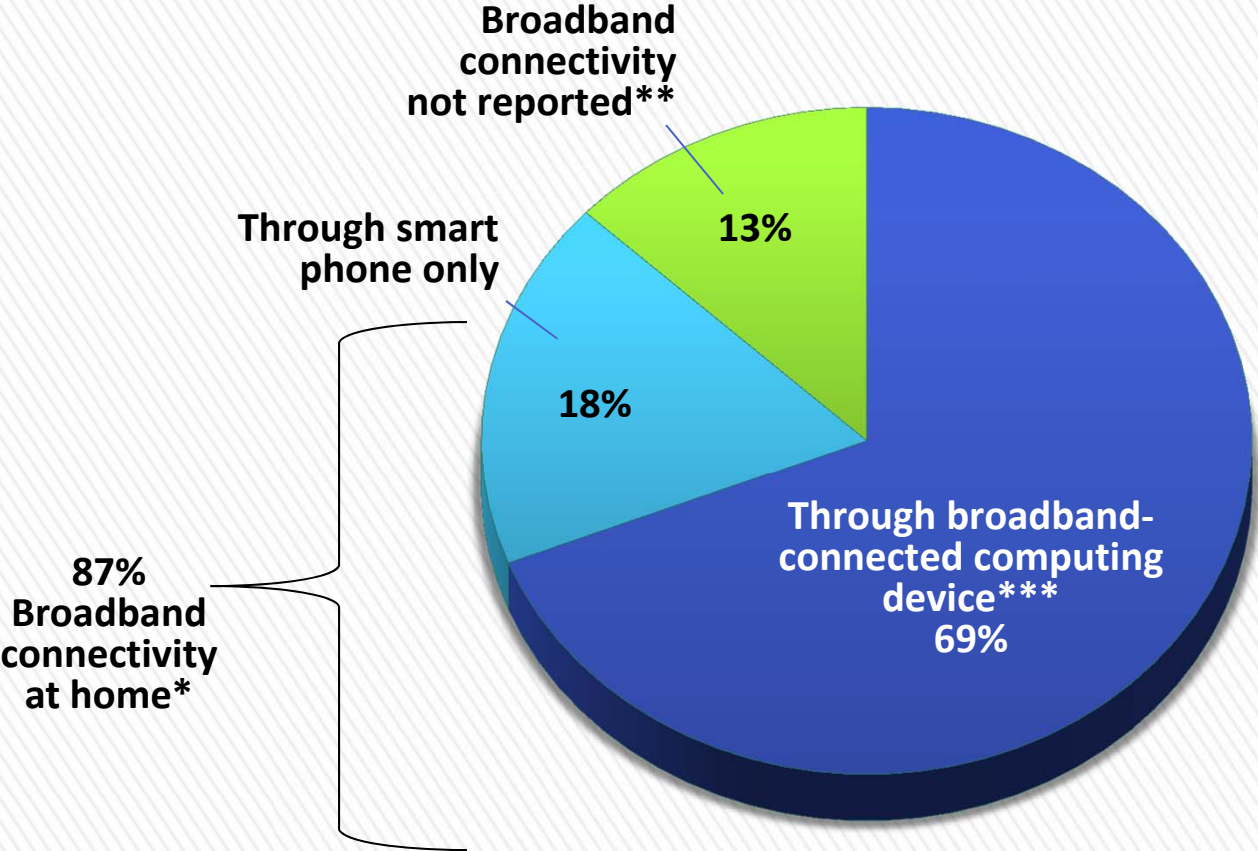
- by the -  
***Berkeley IGS Poll***  
***Institute of Governmental Studies***  
***University of California, Berkeley***

**for publication June 27, 2017**

## About the Survey

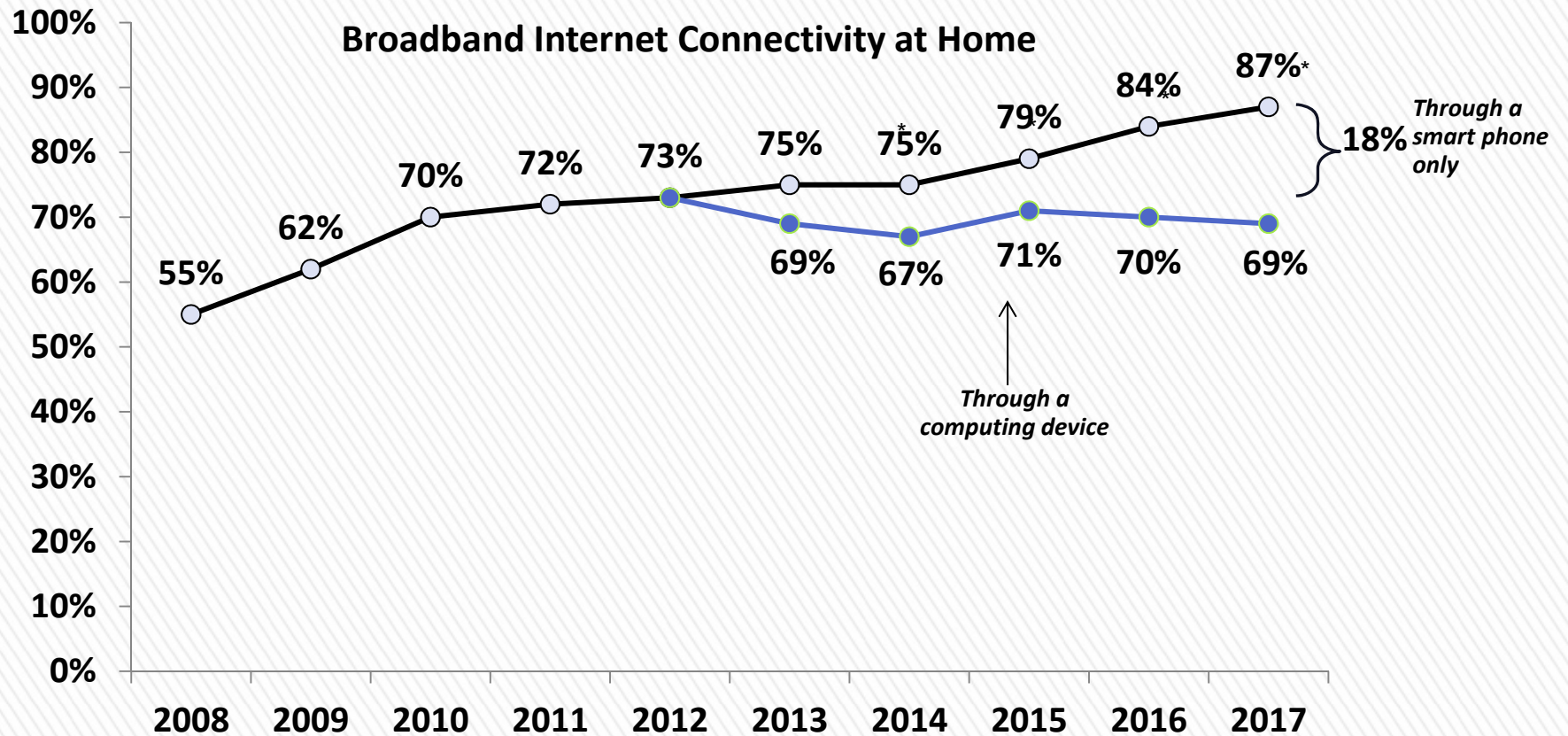
<b>Population surveyed:</b>	<b>California adults age 18 or older</b>
<b>Method of data collection:</b>	<b>Administered by cell and landline telephone by live interviewers</b>
<b>Sampling method:</b>	<b>Samples of adults developed from dual frame random digit-dial cell and landline telephone listings covering California</b>
<b>Languages of administration:</b>	<b>English, Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin, Korean and Vietnamese</b>
<b>Sample size:</b>	<b>1,628</b>
<b>Interviewing period:</b>	<b>May 4 – 29, 2017</b>

Table 1  
**Broadband Internet Connectivity in California Households  
2017**



\*Includes connectivity through a high speed broadband connection, such as through DSL, cable, fiber optic, satellite, T-1 line, or smart phone only.  
\*\*Includes don't knows and others not reporting broadband connectivity.  
\*\*\*Computing devices include a desktop, laptop, or tablet computer.

Table 2  
**Trend of California Households with Broadband Internet Connectivity (2008 - 2017)**

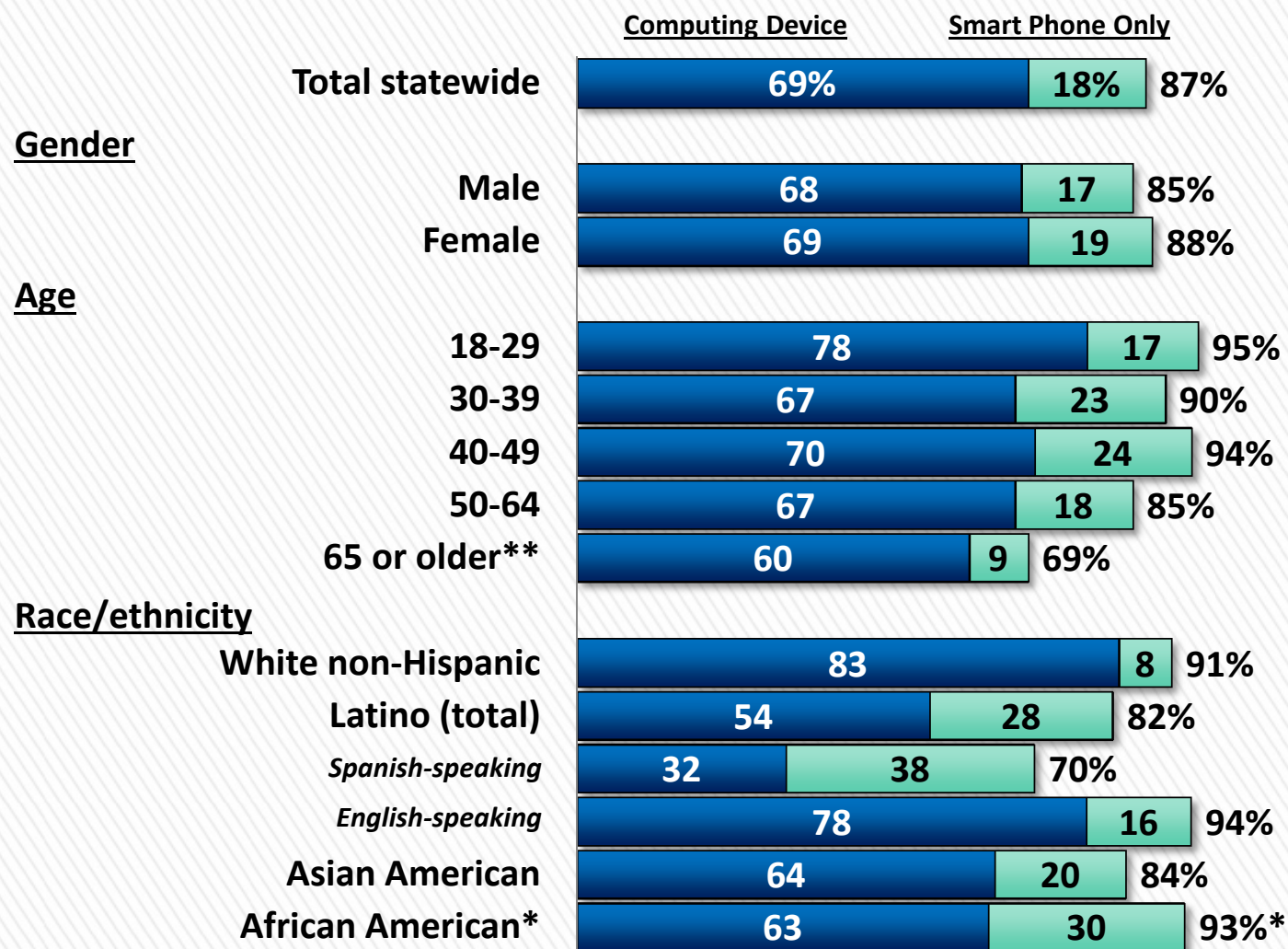


\* For all years prior to 2013, broadband Internet connectivity included those accessing the Internet through DSL, cable, satellite or fiber optic connections to a home desktop, laptop or tablet computer. For 2013 and thereafter, this also includes those connecting to the Internet at home solely through a smart phone.

Source: 2017 results from Berkeley IGS Poll. Prior year results as reported by CETF from surveys conducted by The Field Poll (2014-2016) and the Public Policy Institute of California (2008-2013).

Table 3a

## Broadband Internet Connectivity at Home (by gender, age and race/ethnicity of householder)



\* Results based on small sample size.

\*\* Broadband connectivity among seniors age 75 or older is lower, with 49% connected through a computing device and 9% through a smart phone only, totaling 58%.

Table 3b

## Broadband Internet Connectivity at Home *(by nativity status, educational attainment and disability status)*

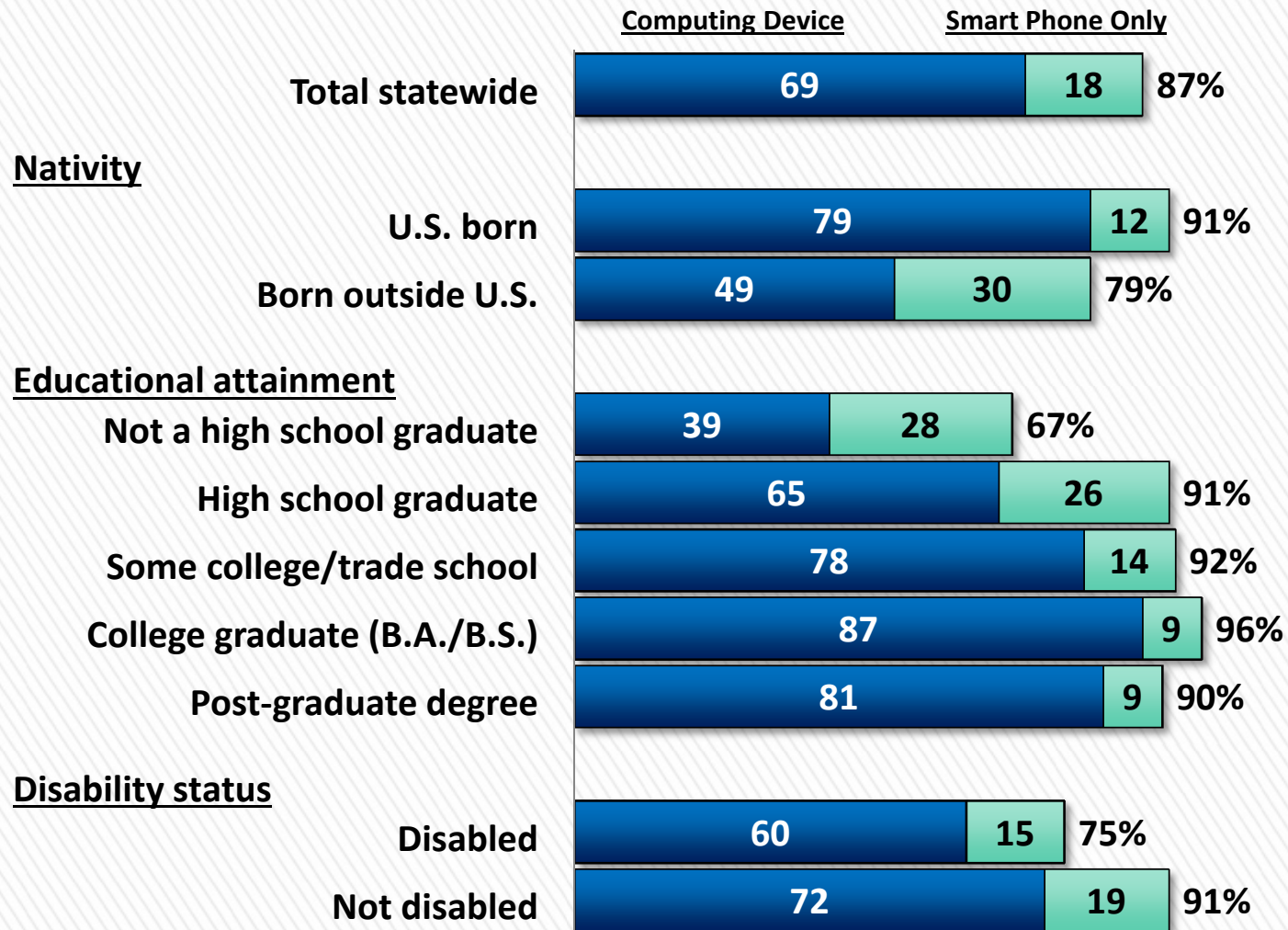


Table 3c

## Broadband Internet Connectivity at Home *(by marital and parental status and household income)*

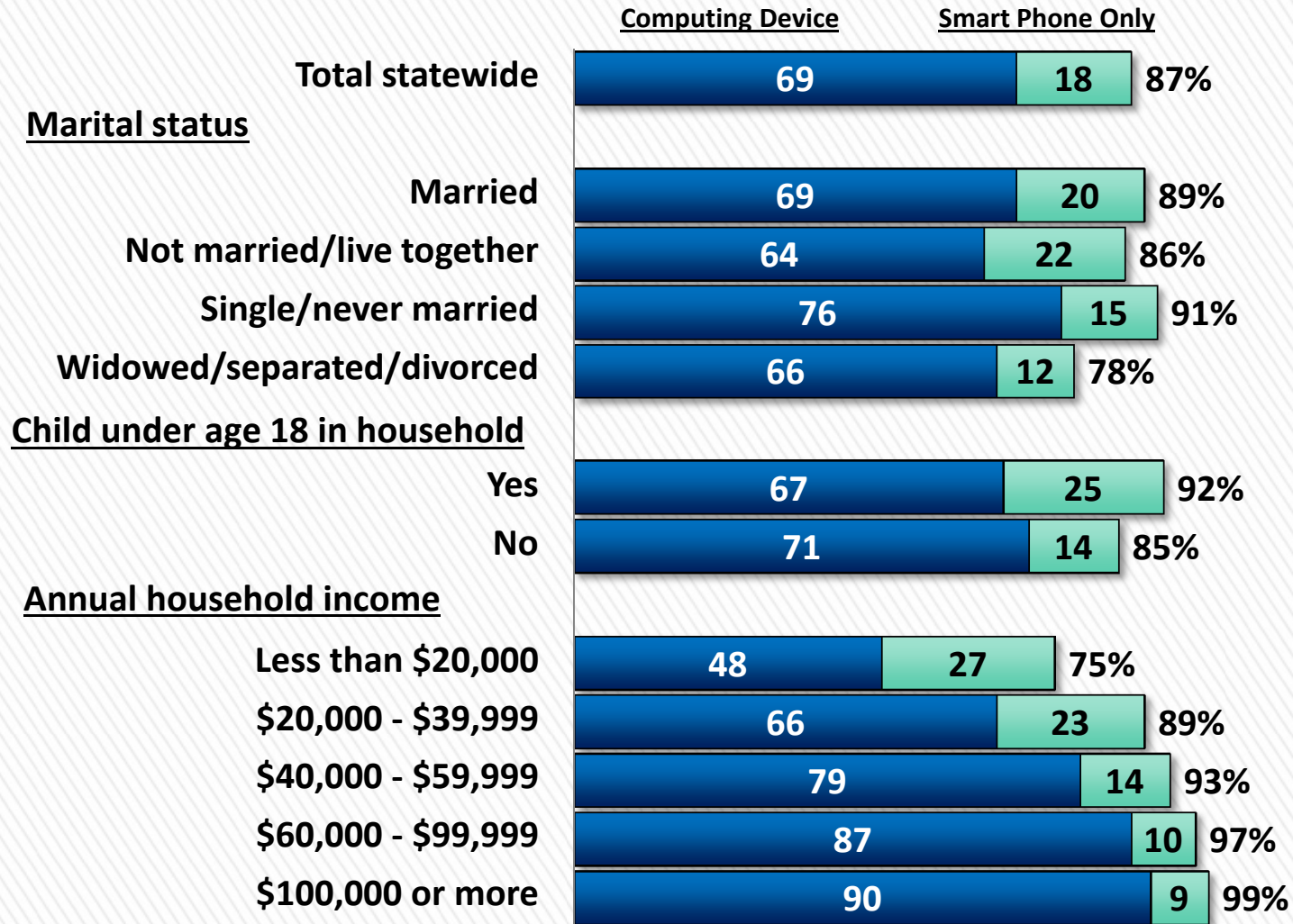


Table 3d  
**Broadband Internet Connectivity at Home**  
*(by region, area, and tenure)*

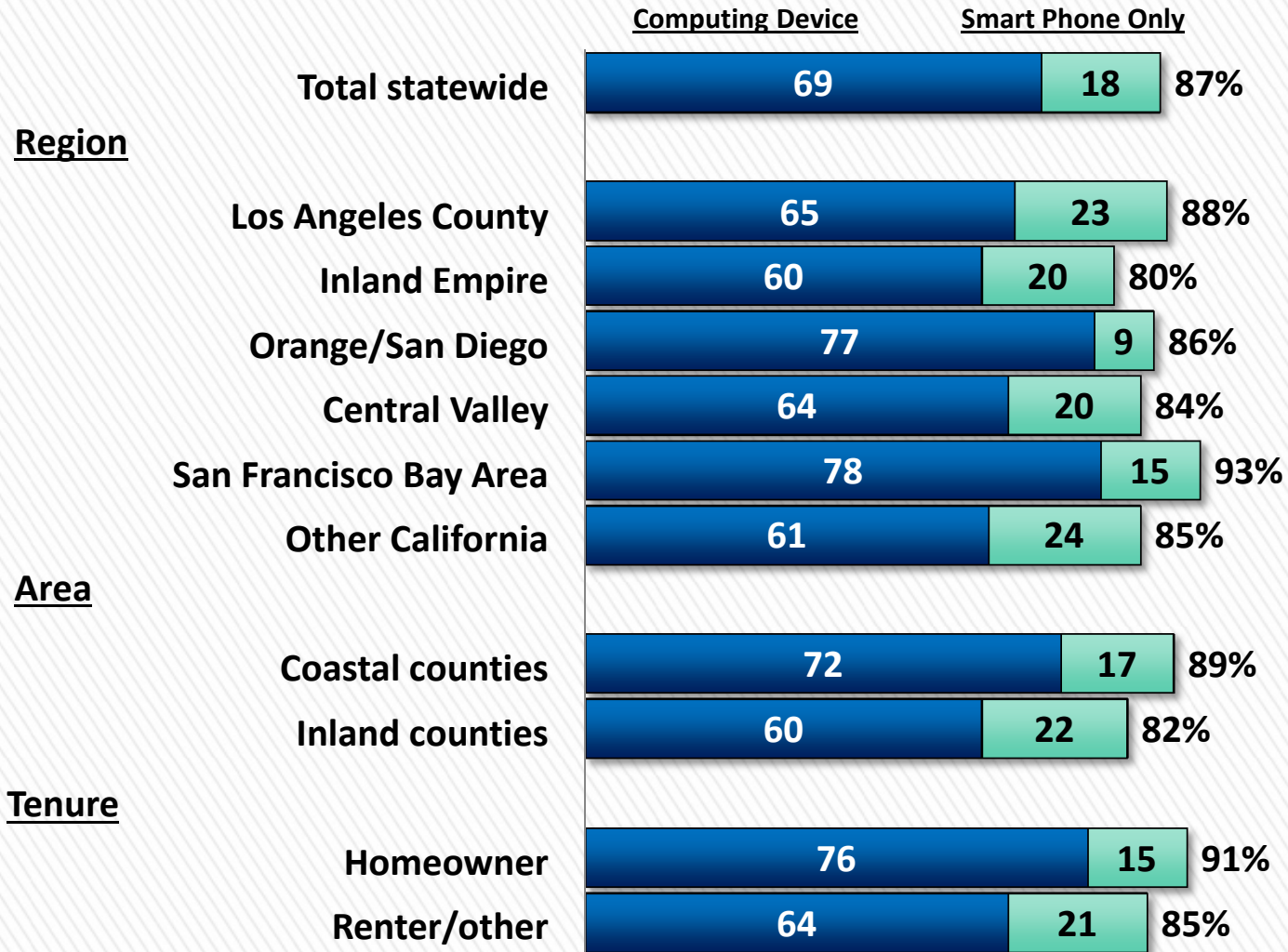




Table 4a

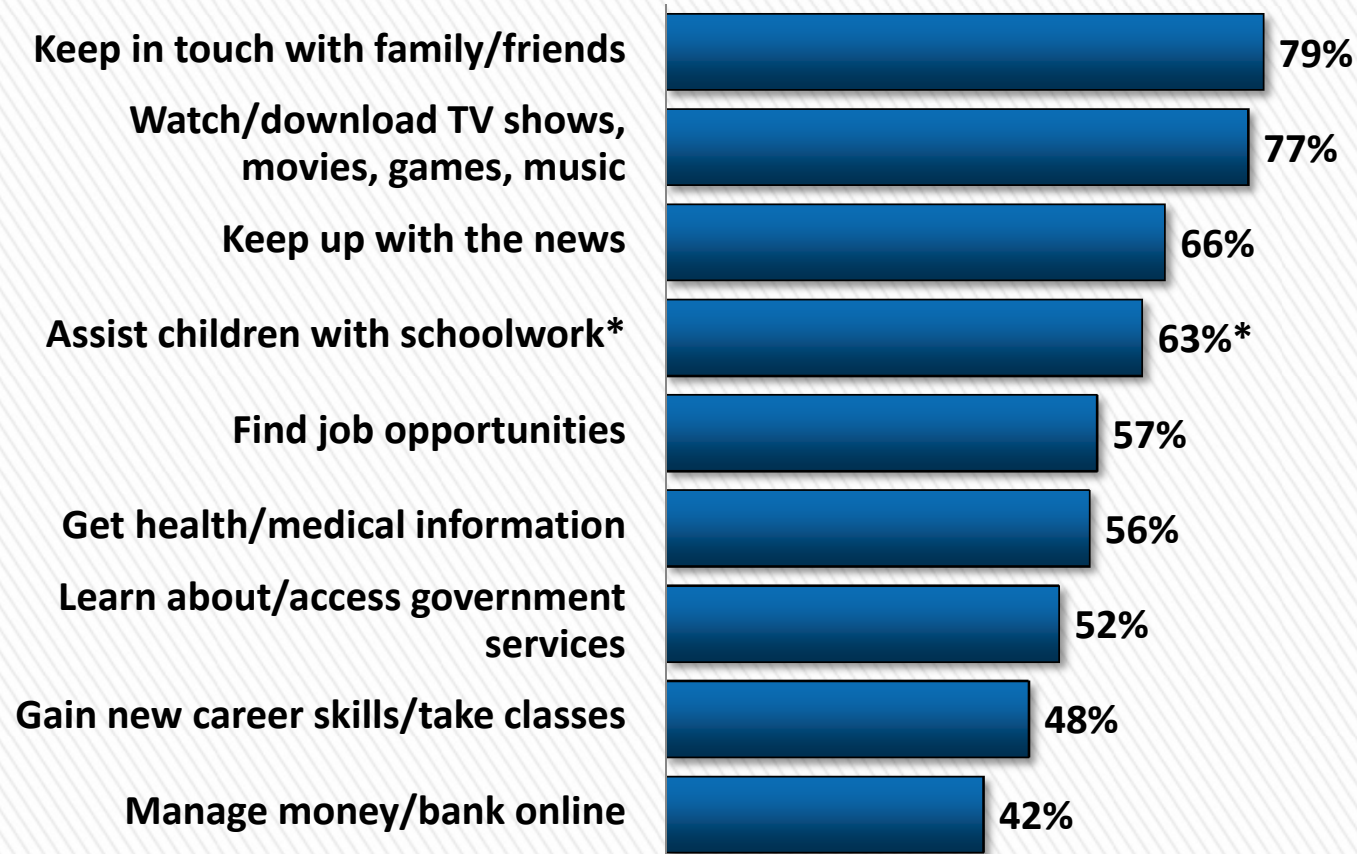
## Ways Californians with Broadband Connectivity Use the Internet at Home

		Connect through a...	
		Computing device	Smart phone only
Keep in touch with family/friends	89%	94%	78%
Assist children with schoolwork*	83%	89%	67%
Watch/download TV shows, movies, games, music	83%	89%	67%
Keep up with the news	80%	84%	68%
Manage money/bank online	70%	78%	46%
Get health/medical information	66%	74%	41%
Find job opportunities	61%	65%	52%
Learn about/access government services	57%	63%	40%
Gain new career skills/take classes	51%	57%	35%

\* This item was asked only of those living in households where children under age 18 reside.

Table 4b

## Ways in Which Low Income Adults with Broadband Connectivity Use the Internet at Home

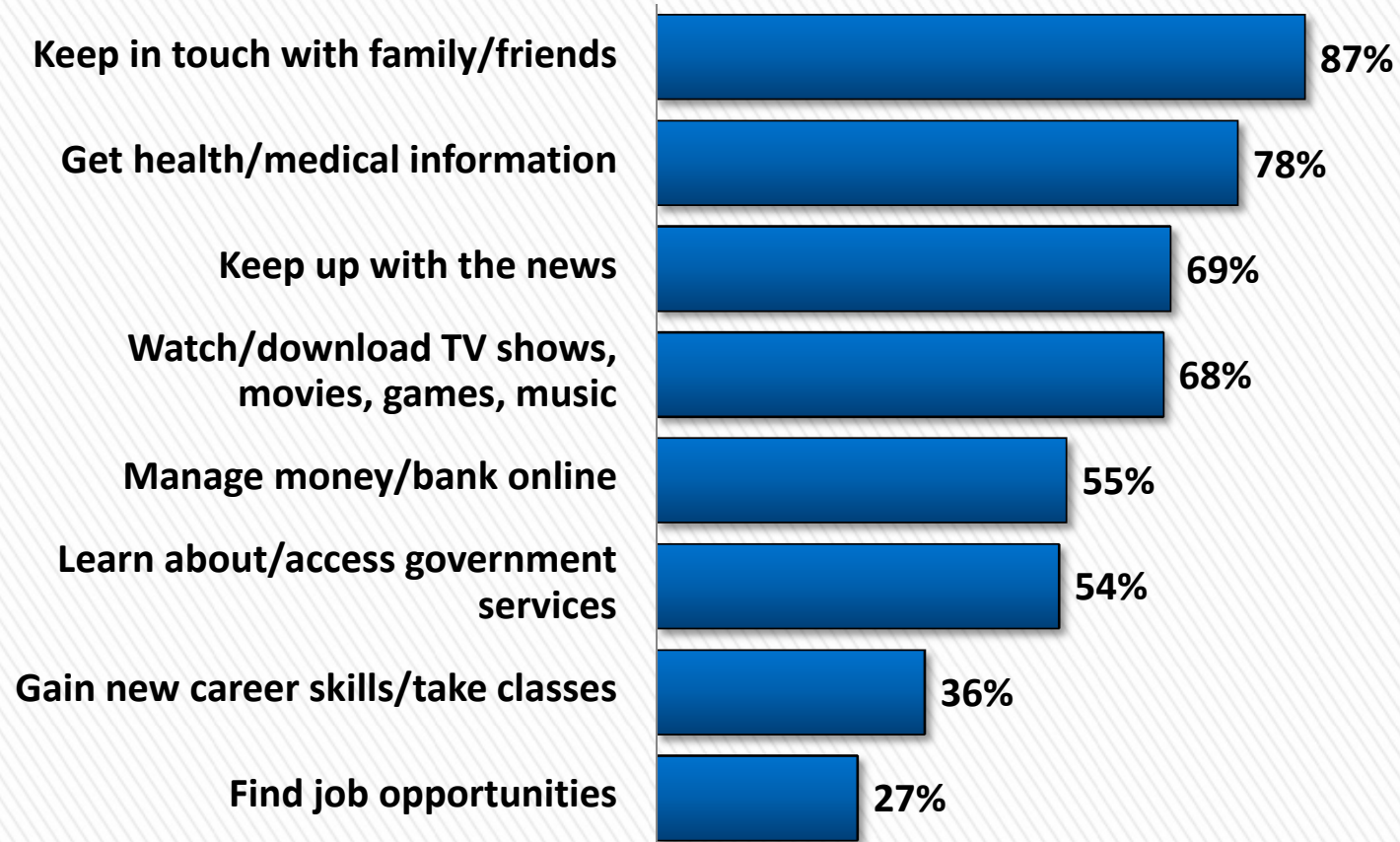


\* This item was asked only of those living in households where children under age 18 reside and is based on a small sample size

Note: Low-income adults are defined as those whose annual household income is less than \$20,000.

Table 4c

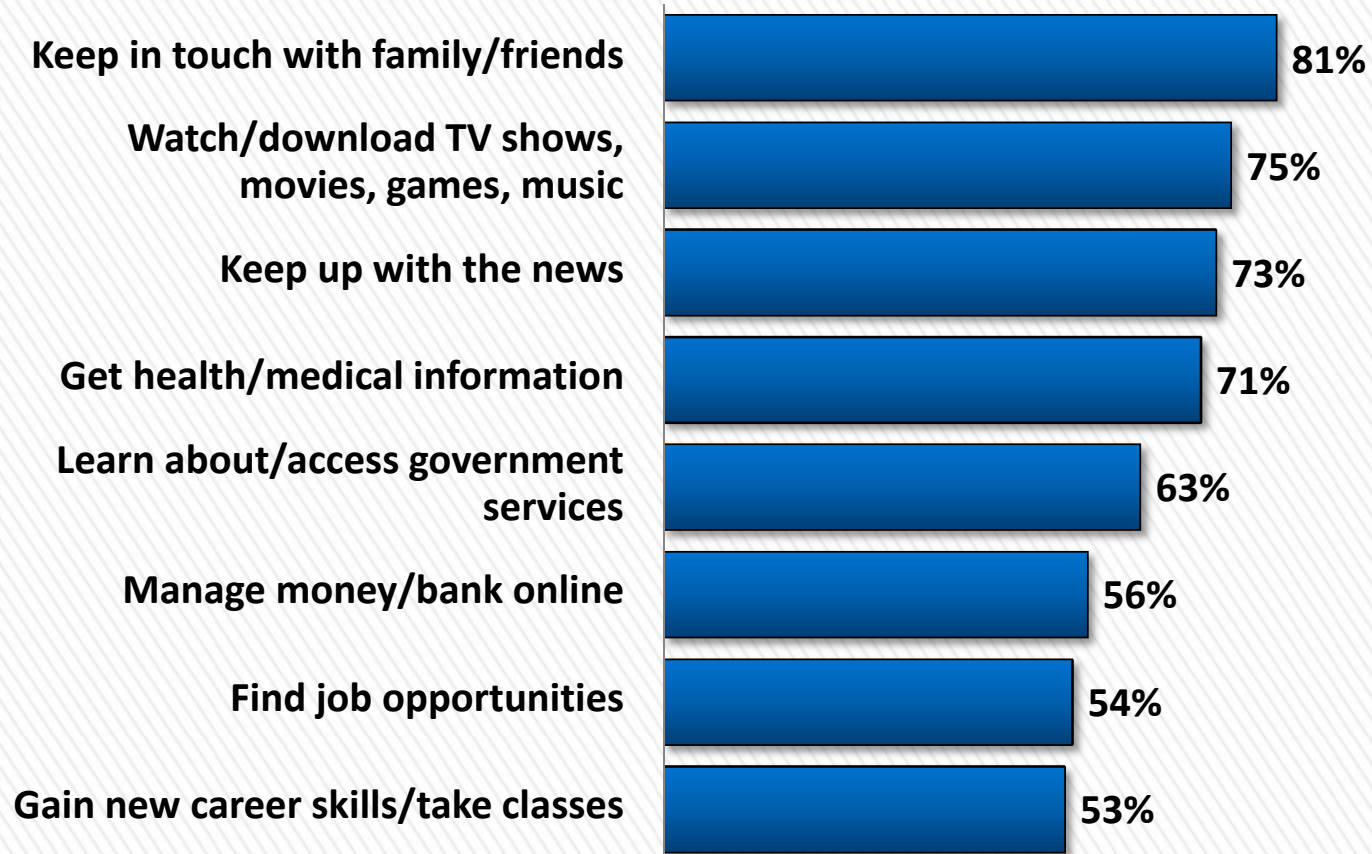
## Ways in Which Seniors Age 65 or Older with Broadband Connectivity Use the Internet at Home



*Note: "Assisting children with schoolwork" not reported because of its very small sample base among seniors.*

Table 4d

## Ways in Which Disabled Adults with Broadband Connectivity Use the Internet at Home



*Note: "Assisting children with schoolwork" not reported because of its very small sample base among disabled adults.*

Table 5a

## Reasons Why Californians Without Internet Connectivity Say their Household Doesn't Have It

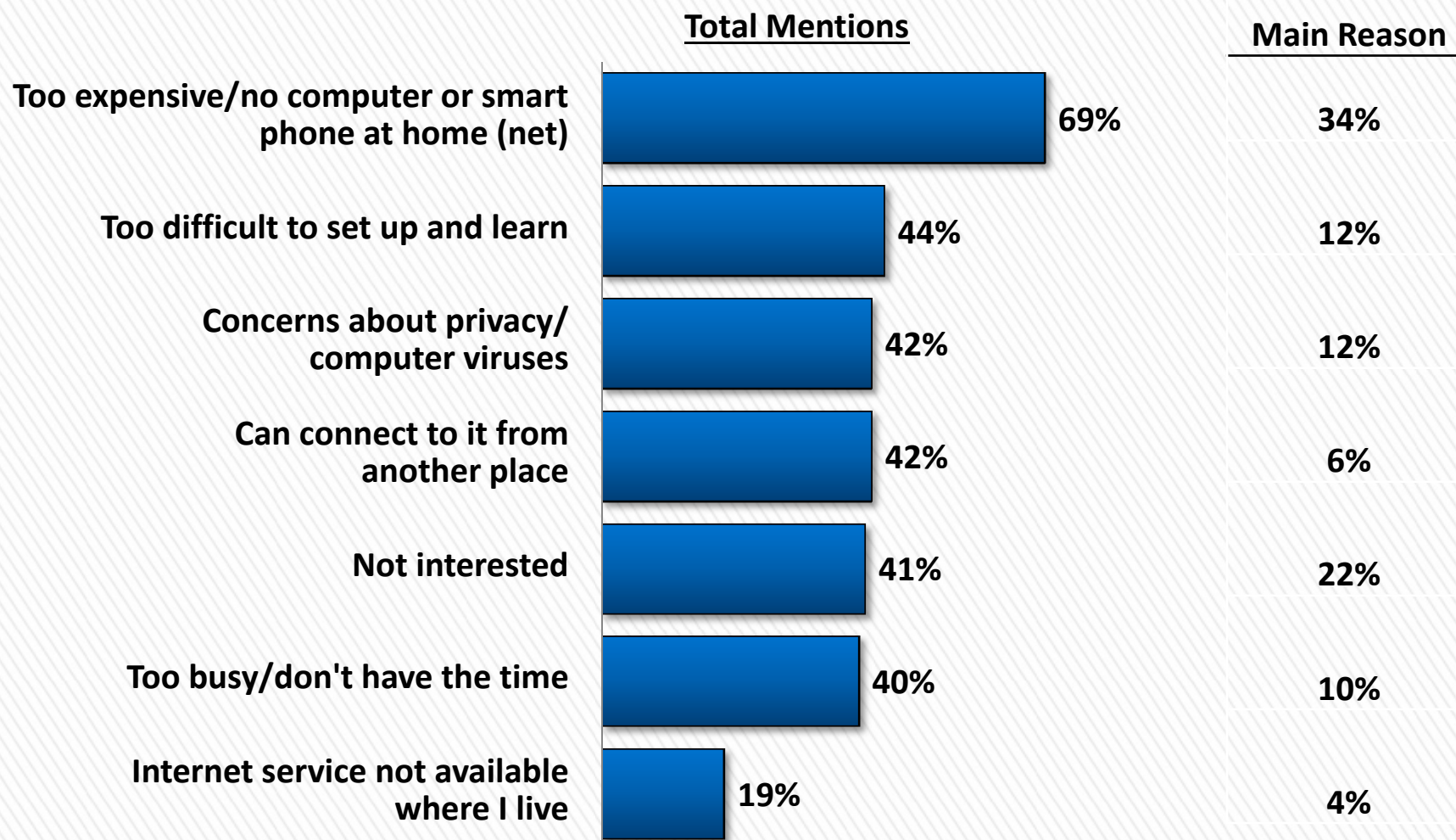
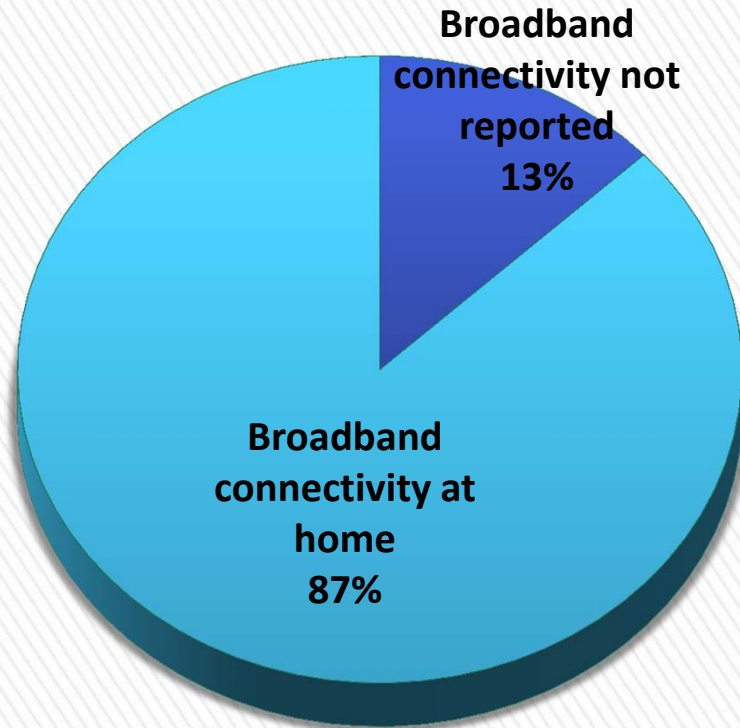


Table 5b

# Main Reason Californians Without Broadband Connectivity at Home Aren't Connected, as a Percentage of all Households\*

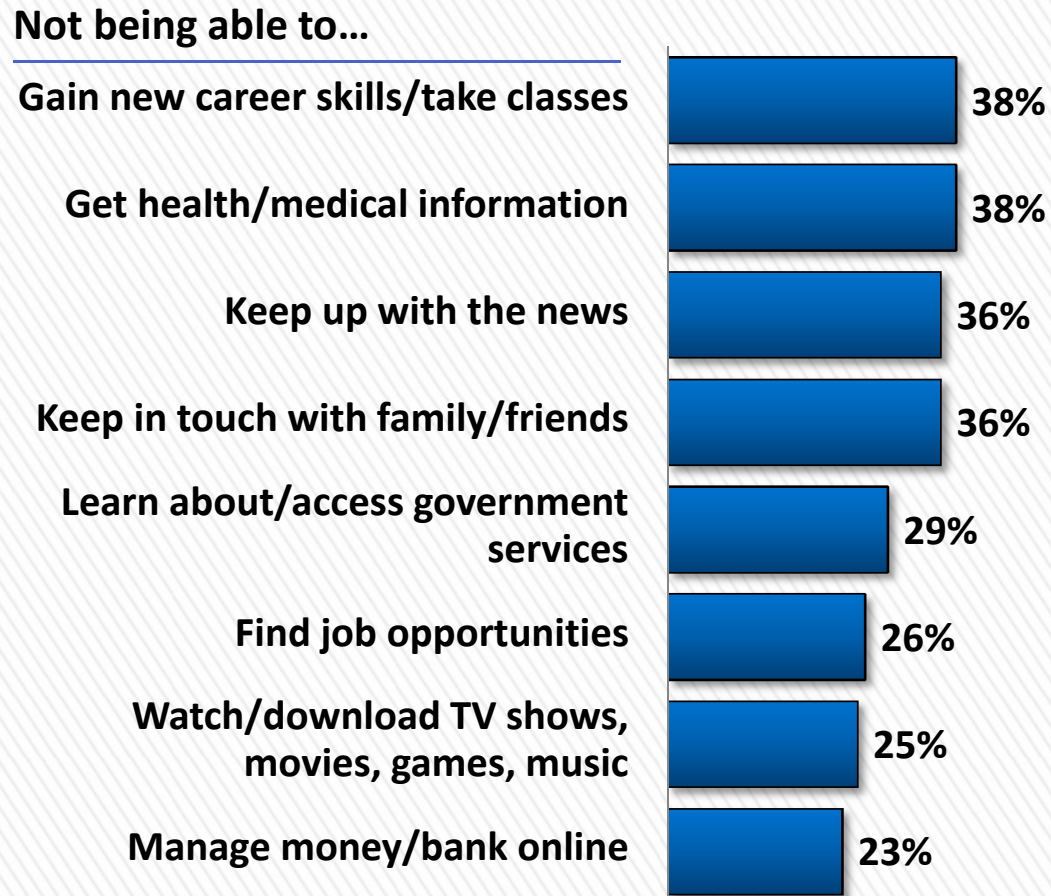


Too expensive/no computing device or smart phone	<u>13%</u>
Not interested	4%
Too difficult to set up and learn	3
Concerns about privacy/computer viruses	2
Too busy/don't have time	2
Can connect from another place	1
	1

\* Calculated by multiplying the main reason percentages reported in Table 5a by the 13% not reporting broadband connectivity at home. Categories with 0.5% or less not shown.

**Table 6**

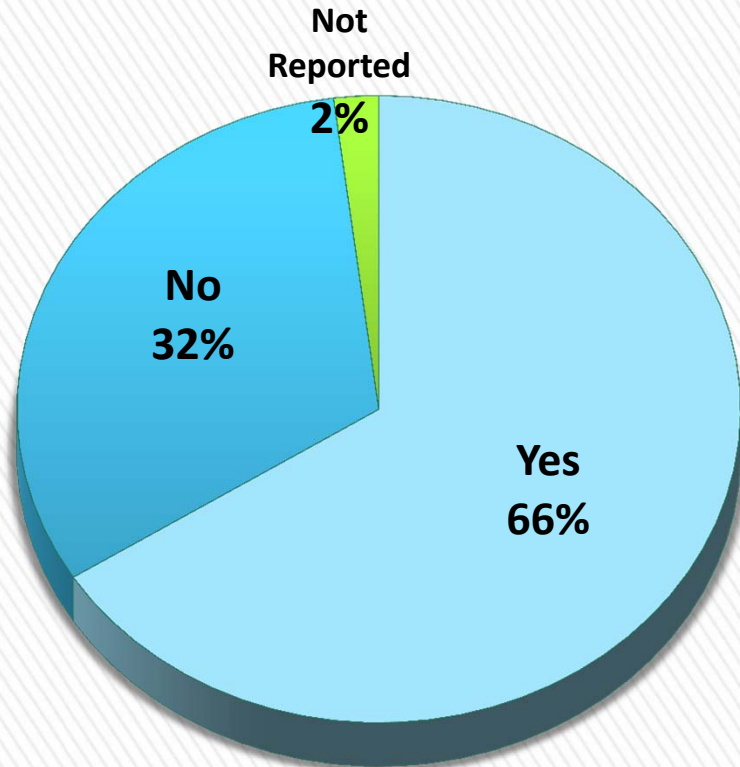
## **Ways in Which Californians Without Internet Connectivity Feel Disadvantaged Because They are Unable to Access the Internet at Home**



*Note: "Assisting children with schoolwork" cannot be reliably reported because of small sample sizes.*

Table 7

## Broadband Internet Connectivity Through a Computing Device Outside the Home



### Where?

At work	44%
Home of friend/family	39
At/near a store	32
At/near a school	30
Public building (other than library)	29
At/near a library	24
Other place	5

*Note: Sum of places where adults have broadband Internet access outside the home adds to more than 66% subtotal due to multiple mentions.*



Table 8

## Broadband Internet Connectivity Through a Computing Device Either at Home or Outside the Home

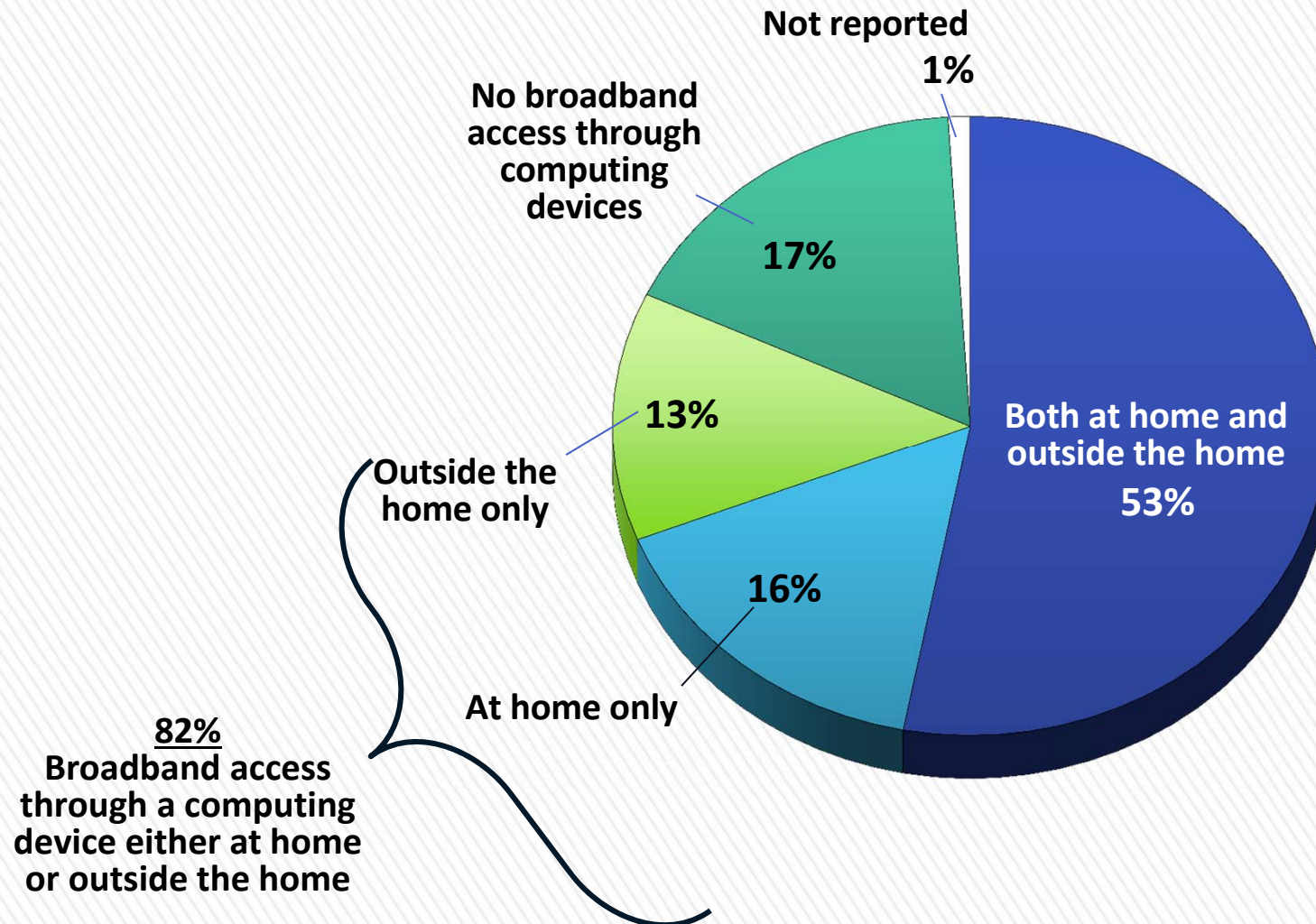
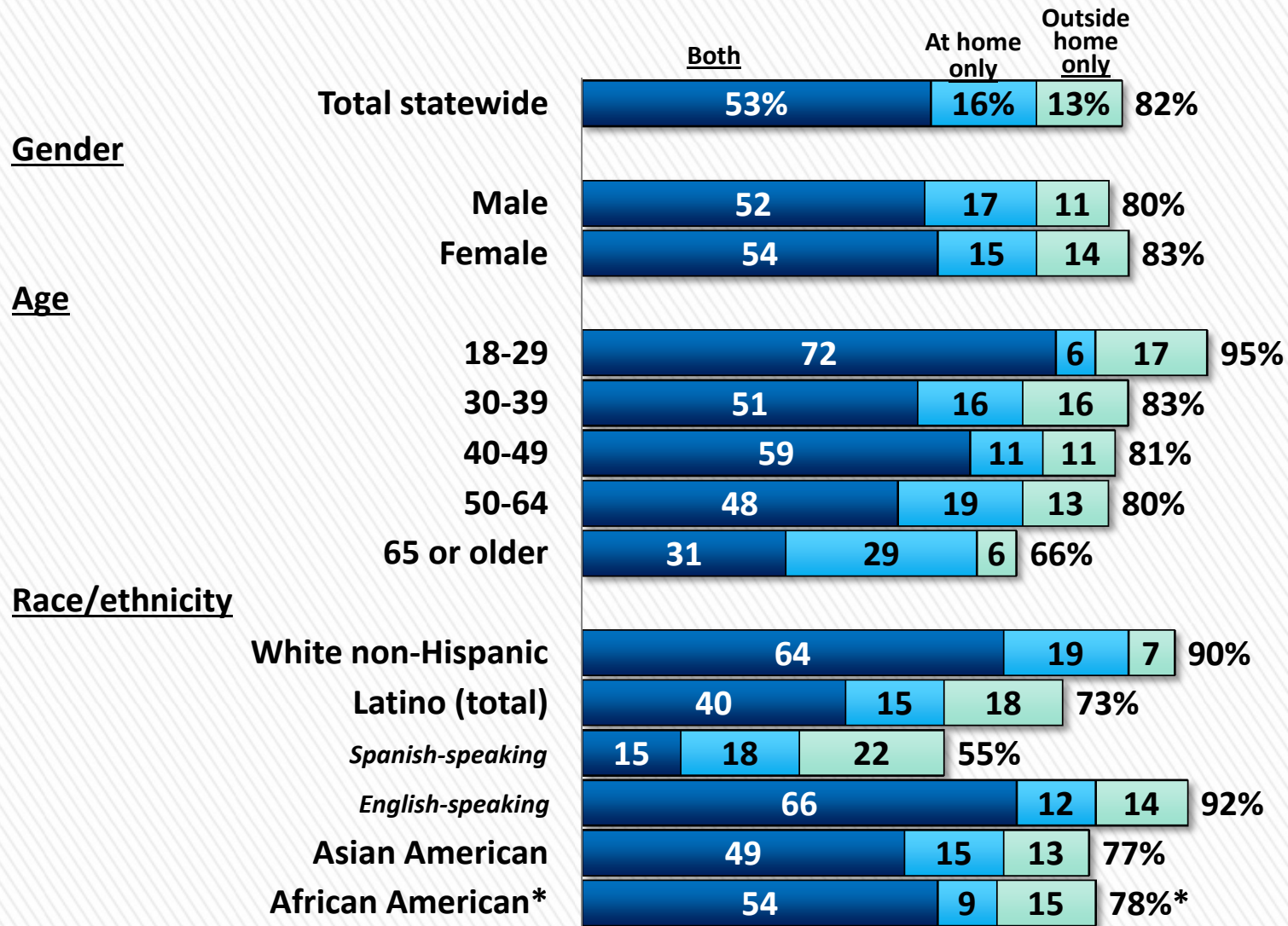


Table 9a

# Broadband Internet Connectivity through a Computing Device Either at Home or Outside the Home (by gender, age and race/ethnicity)



\* Results based on small sample base.

Table 9b

# Broadband Internet Connectivity Through a Computing Device Either at Home or Outside the Home (by nativity, educational attainment and disability status)

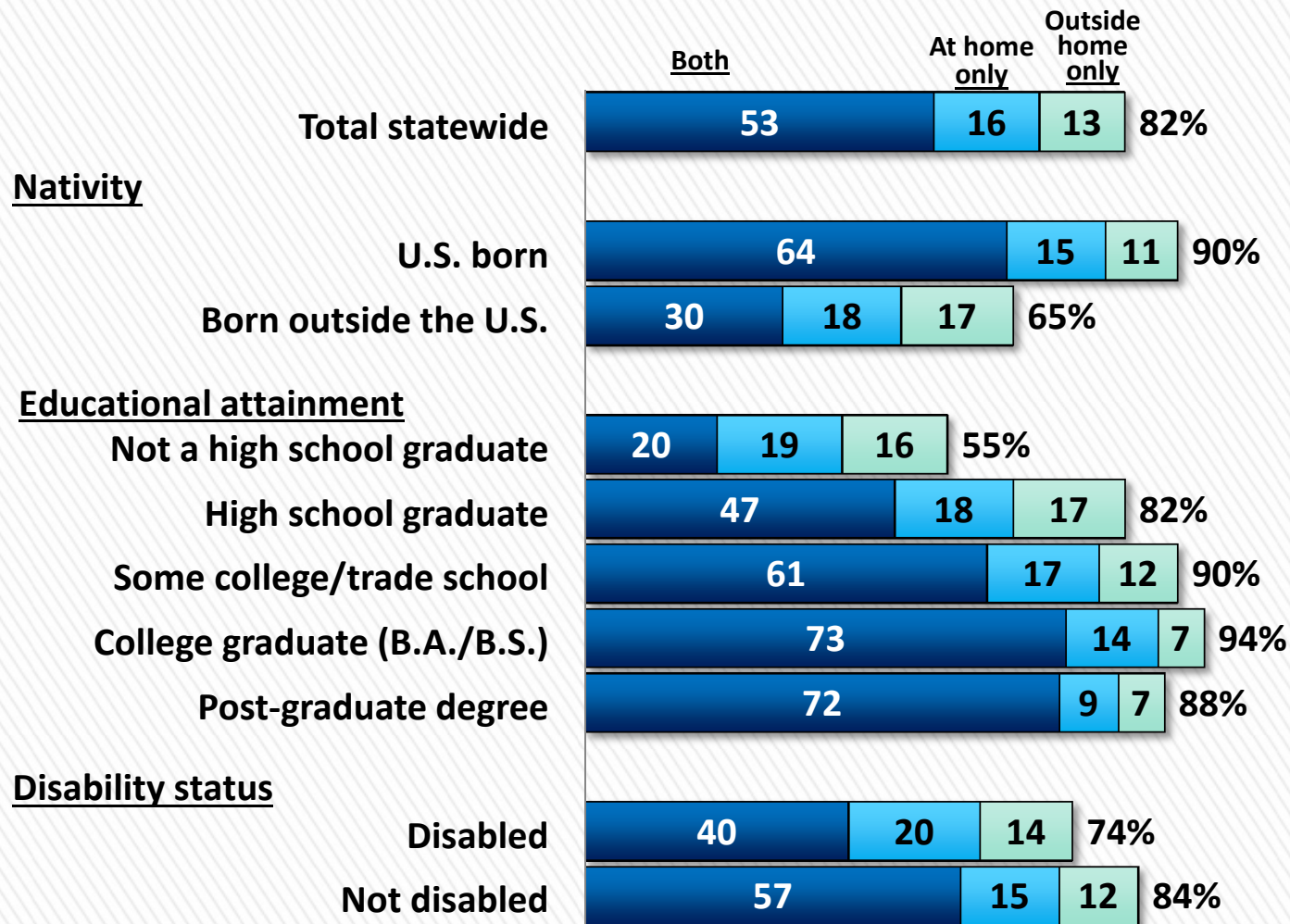


Table 9c

# Broadband Internet Connectivity Through a Computing Device Either at Home or Outside the Home *(by marital and parental status and household income)*

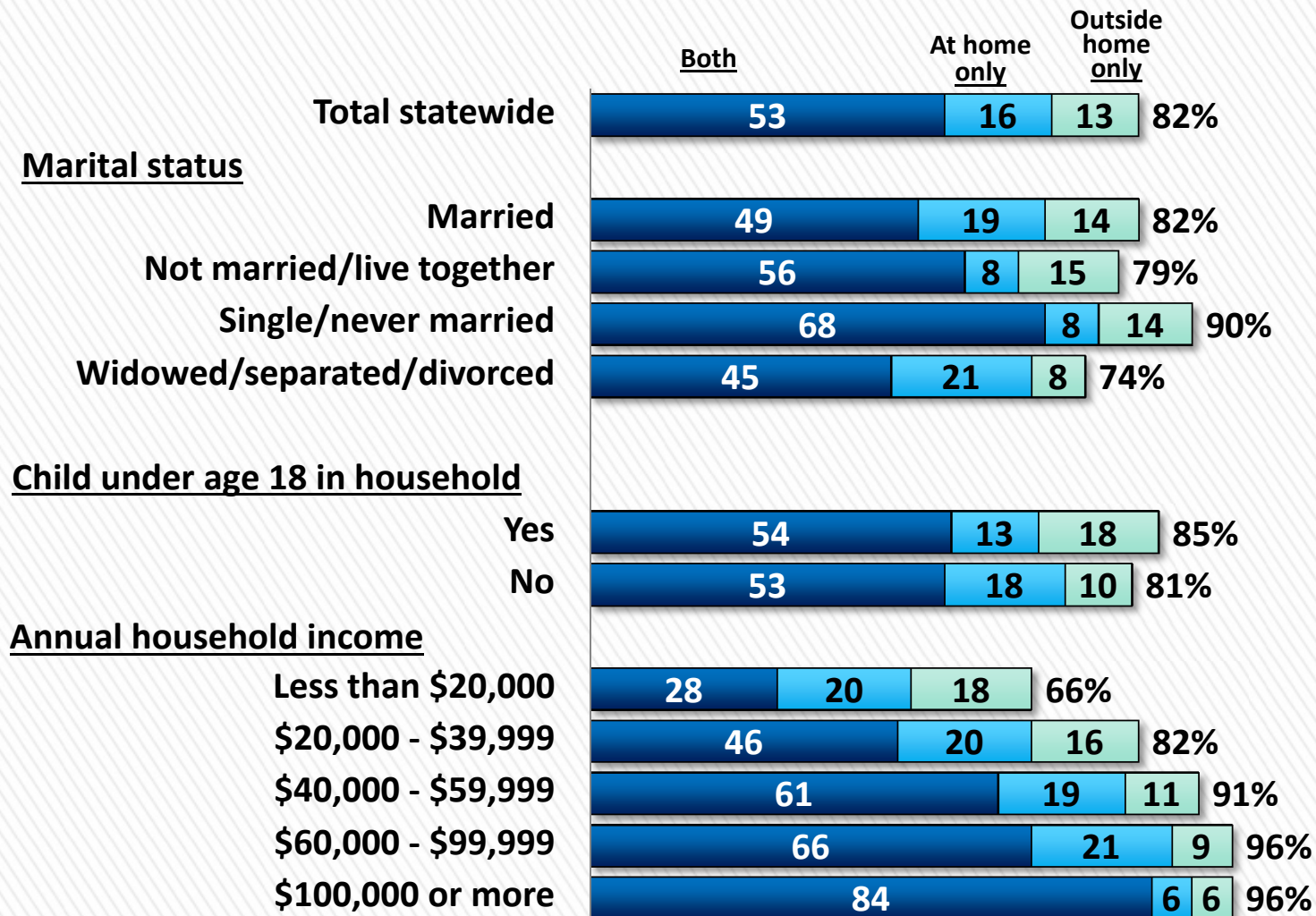


Table 8e

## Broadband Internet Connectivity Through a Computing Device Either at Home or Outside the Home *(by region, area, and tenure)*

