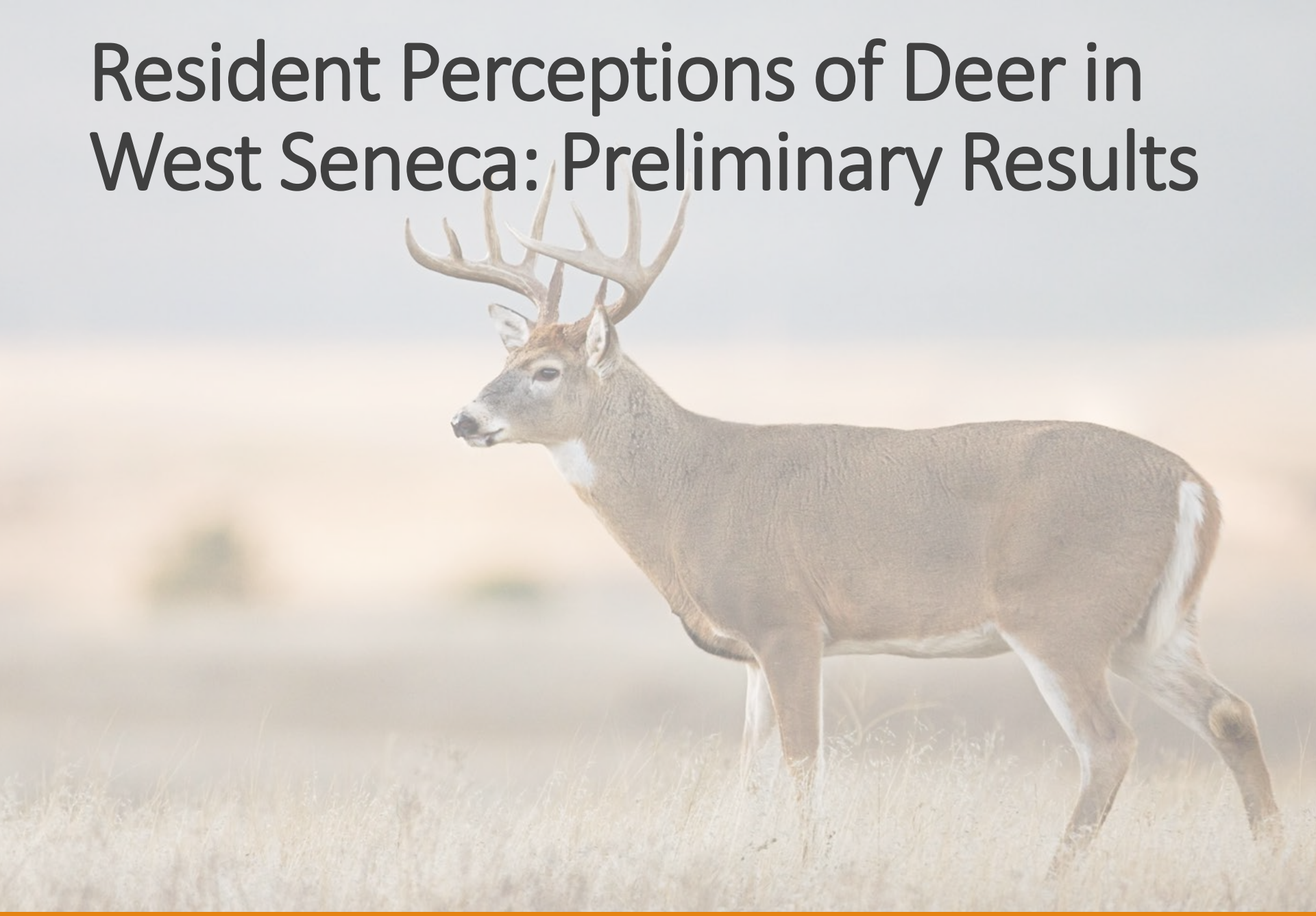
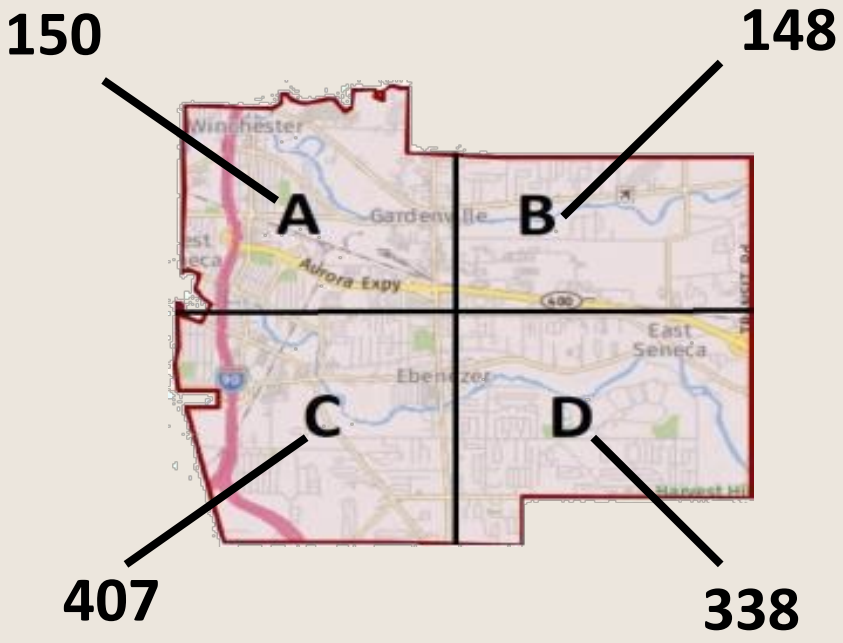
Resident Perceptions of Deer in West Seneca: Preliminary Results



Based on 1004 completed surveys

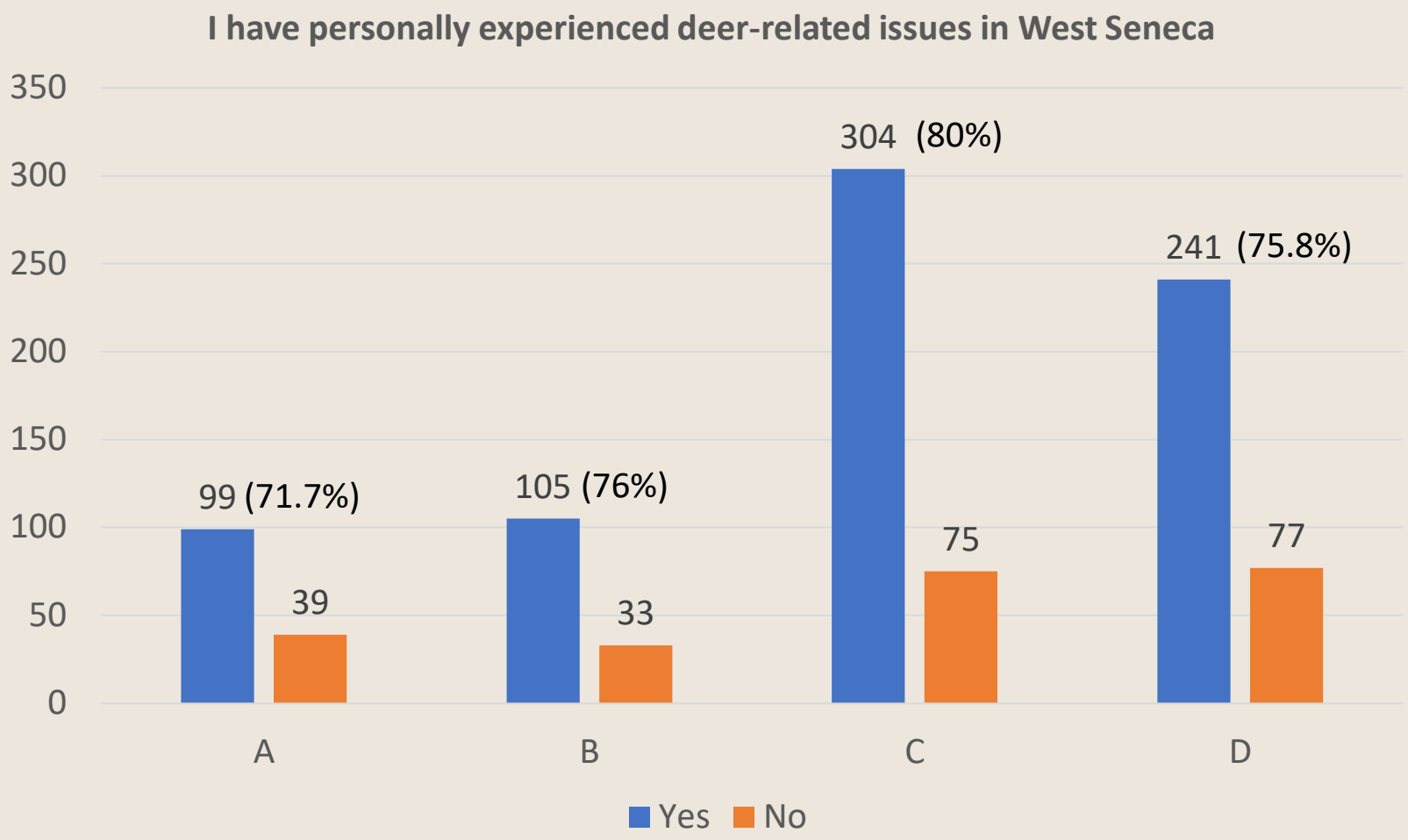


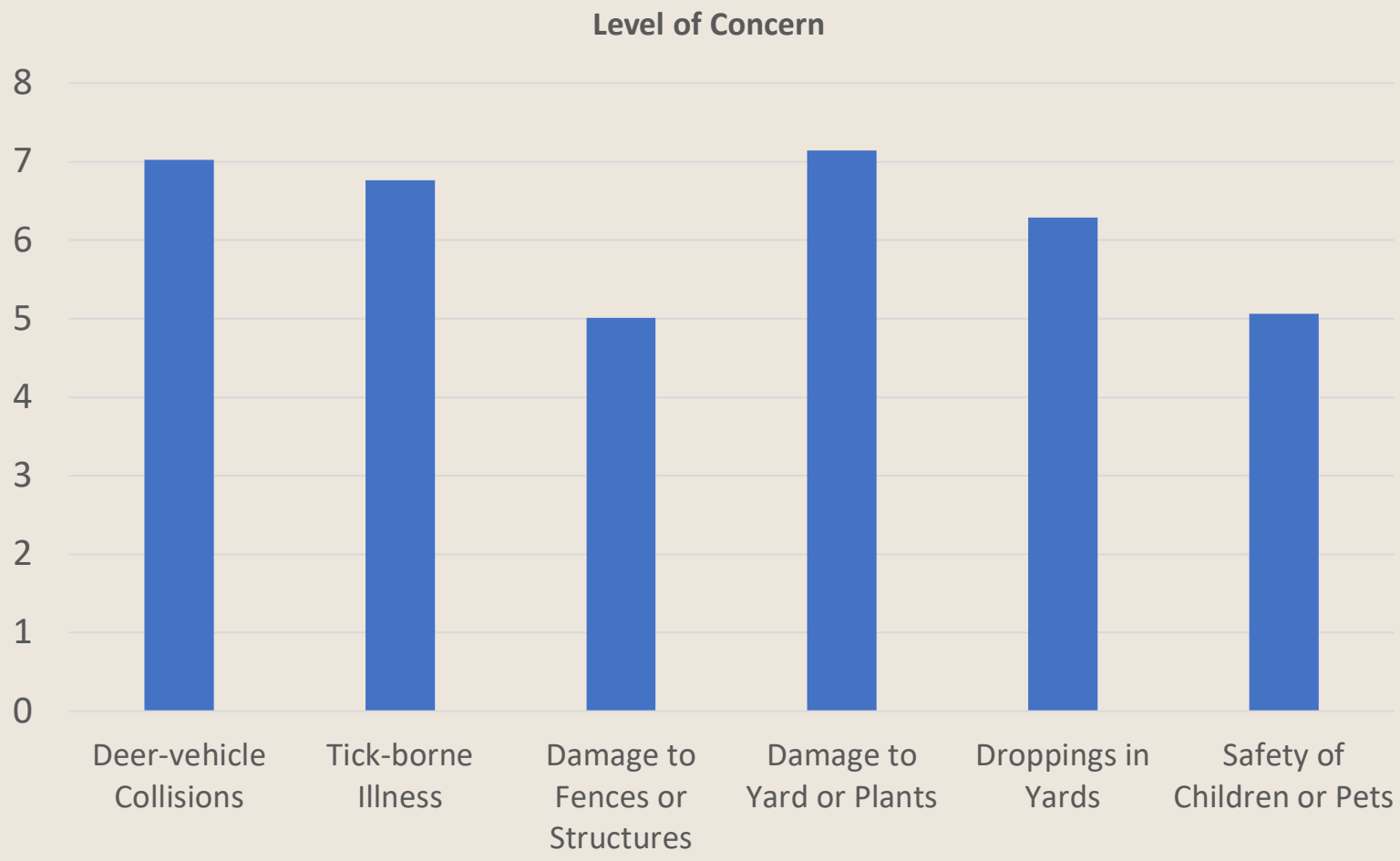
Addressing these issues:

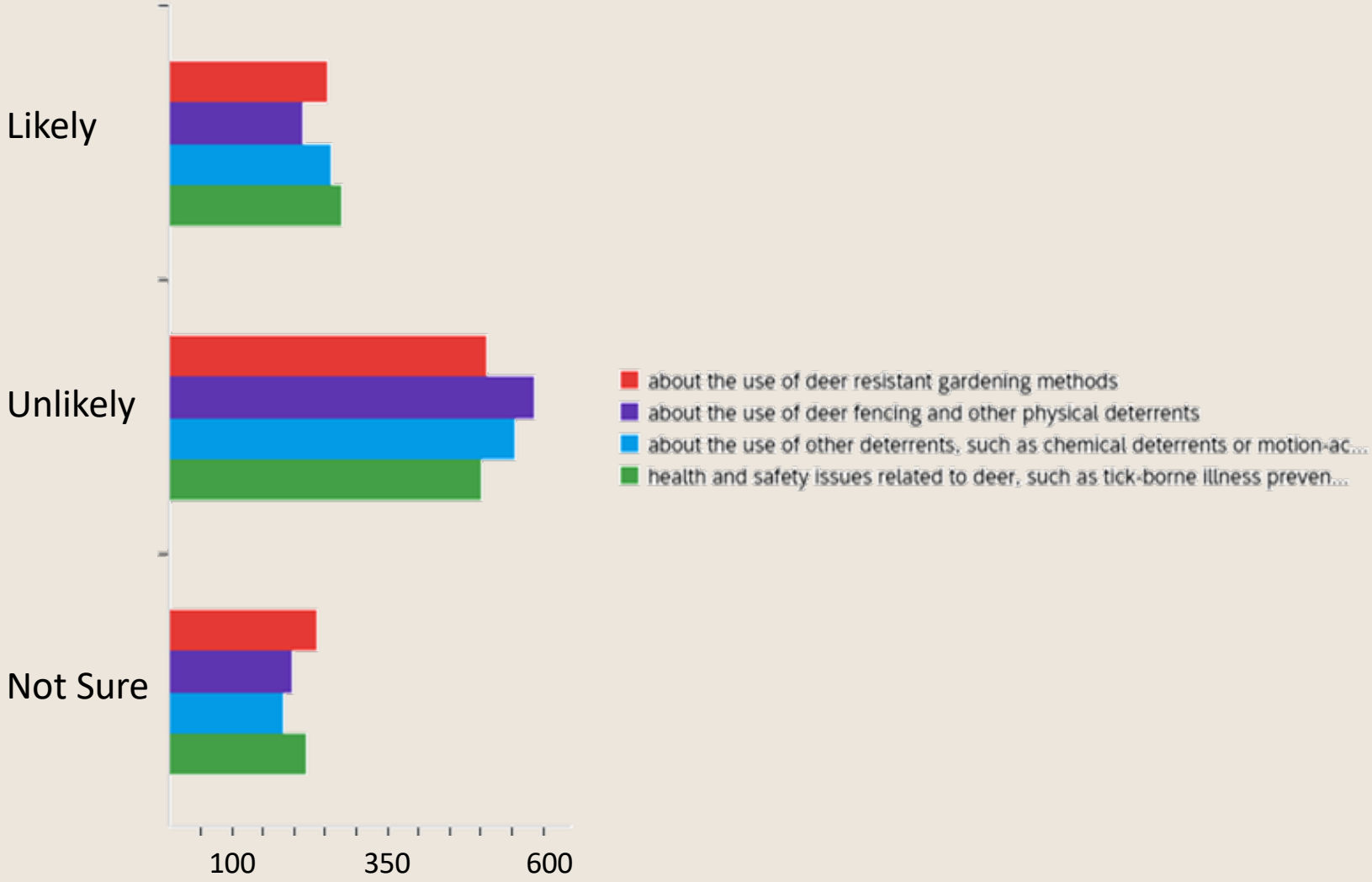
- Is there a better way to advertise the survey to people in sections A and B?
- Poll crashing: although we do not actively collect IP addresses for identification, computer can validate multiple submissions…BUT that could be multiple people in the same household

Nonresponse Bias: "the mistake one expects to make in estimating a population characteristic based on a sample of survey data in which, due to non-response, certain types of survey respondents are under-represented" (Berg 2010)

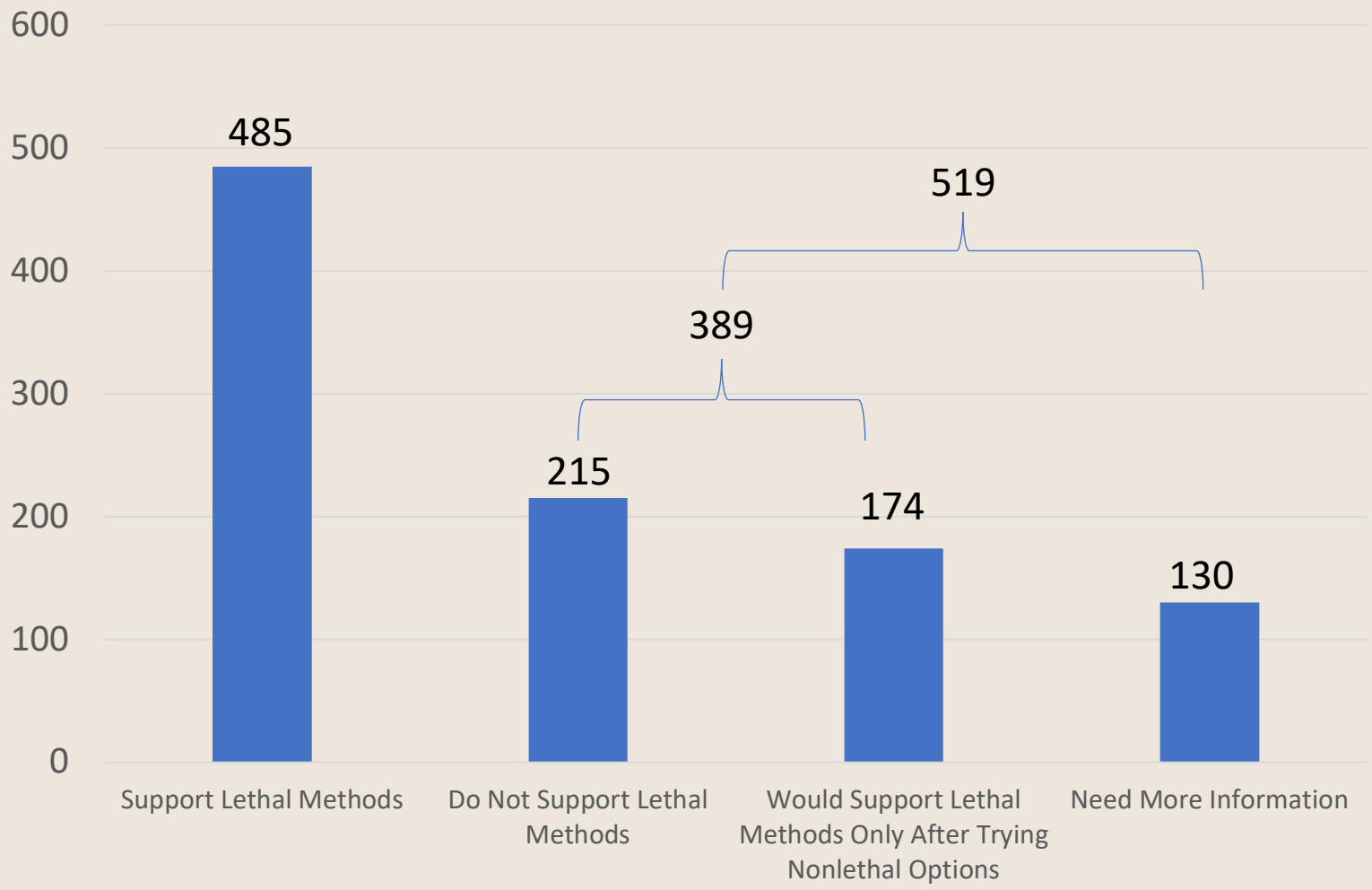
- Much higher representation from southern half of town
- This **MAY** indicate that people in different areas of town perceive the issue differently
- People are more likely to respond if they have a vested interest in the topic (Saleh and Bista 2017)
- "Poll Crashing": people with a vested interest may "cheat" and take the survey multiple times (Duda and Nobile 2010)

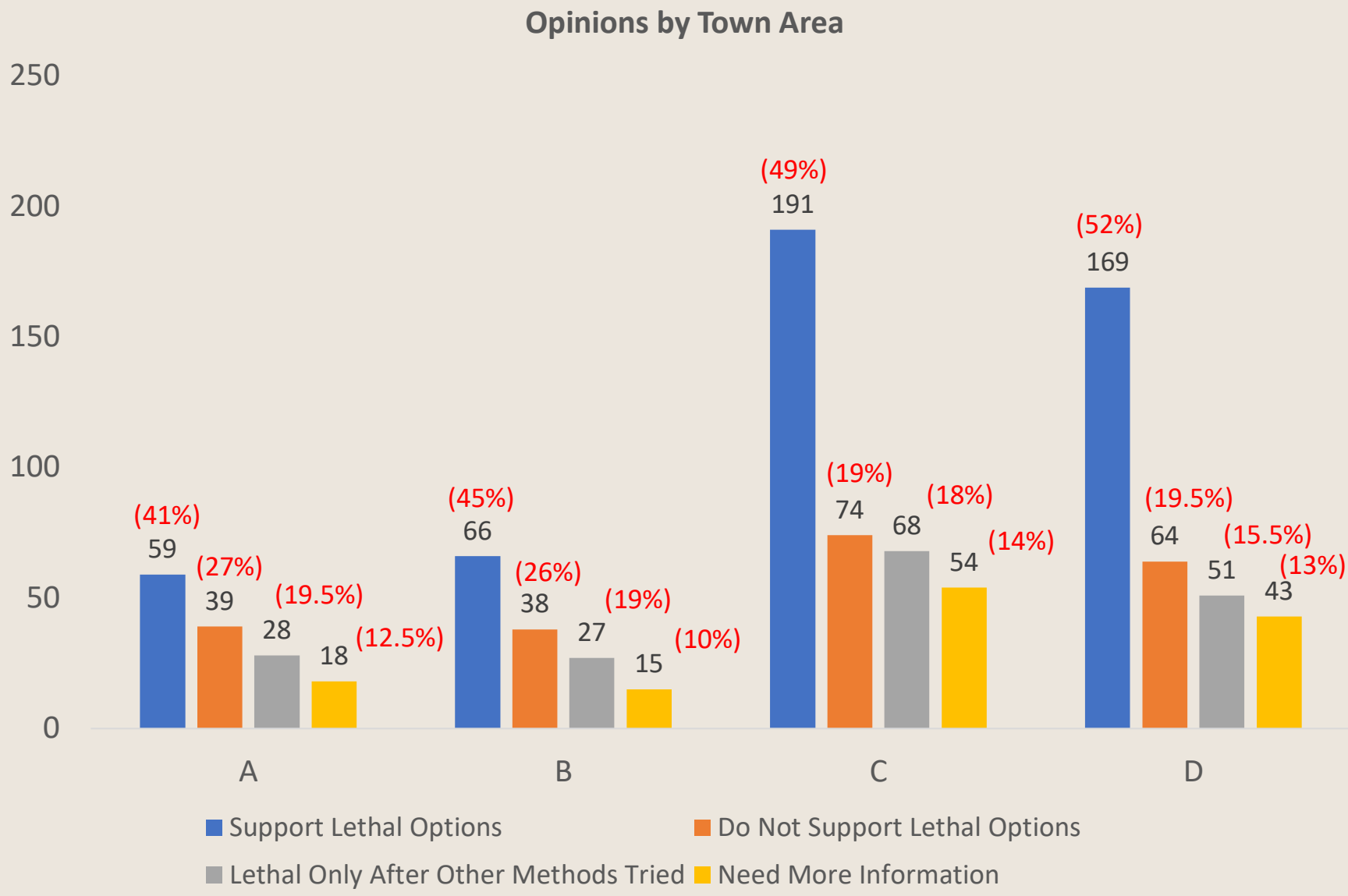

I have personally experienced deer-related issues in West Seneca
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
99 (71.7%)
39
105 (76%)
33
304 (80%)
75
241 (75.8%)
77
A
B
C
D
Yes
No


Level of Concern
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
0
Deer-vehicle Collisions
Tick-borne Illness
Damage to Fences or Structures
Damage to Yard or Plants
Droppings in Yards
Safety of Children or Pets

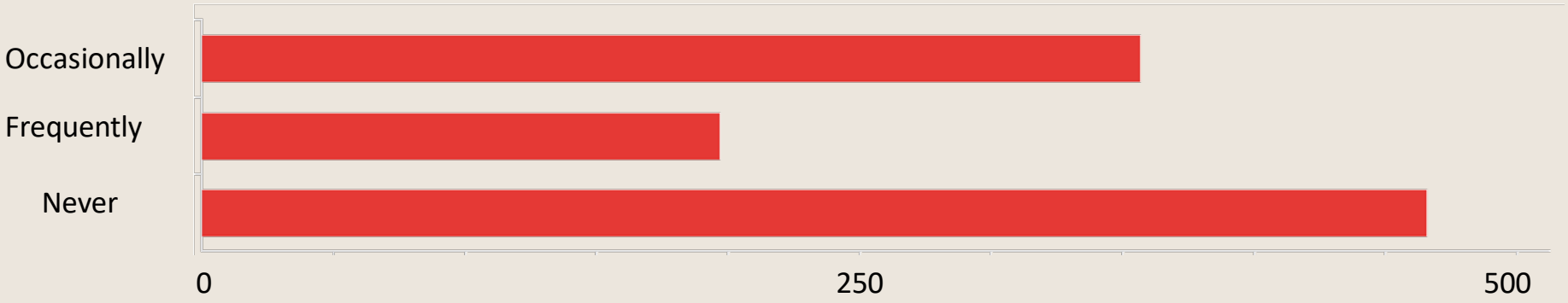

Likely
Unlikely
Not Sure
100
350
600
about the use of deer resistant gardening methods
about the use of deer fencing and other physical deterrents
about the use of other deterrents, such as chemical deterrents or motion-ac...
health and safety issues related to deer, such as tick-borne illness preven...

Management Opinions




Opinions by Town Area
250
200
150
100
50
0
(41%)
59
(27%)
39
(19.5%)
28
18
(12.5%)
(45%)
66
(26%)
38
27
(19%)
15
(10%)
(49%)
191
(19%)
74
68
(18%)
54
(14%)
(52%)
169
64
(19.5%)
51
(15.5%)
43
(13%)
A
B
C
D
Support Lethal Options
Do Not Support Lethal Options
Lethal Only After Other Methods Tried
Need More Information

I have observed others feeding deer in West Seneca:



71 people have reported feeding deer