

Analysis of Consumer Shopping Behaviour

October 2024



Highlight

drawing attention



Summary

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**Objectives &
Methodology**

02

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CONTEXT

- ❖ Currently, we at **Highlight Agency** are known in the market for the **successful BTL projects we have developed and implemented for clients from all industries**: from in-store trade campaigns or brand activations to memorable experiences for consumers at major festivals.
- ❖ The agency's **most important clients come from various industries but are concentrated in the FMCG sphere** with a focus on the categories: beer, beverages, snacks, dairy, chocolate, spirits, cosmetics.
- ❖ Consumer behaviour in general, but also in Retail, is constantly changing. Moreover, **Generation Z is a "game changer" and comes with specific beliefs**, attitudes and behaviours, different from those of previous Generations.
- ❖ In order to be able to come up with the most relevant proposals to FMCG clients, **we want to make sure that we are up to date with the latest trends in consumer behaviour and that we have the right insights, specific to each Generation.**
- ❖ In this context we aim to have **a better understanding of consumer behaviour** (by Generation segments: gen Z, Y, X, baby boomers) in the **Retail segment** (offline and online), for our clients in the FMCG. industry.



OBJECTIVES

In The Trade area:

In-store visibility

- Where? Which are the areas that generate the highest product sales [main shelf/end of gondola with decoration implemented? impulse purchases made from special alley placements/product displays in the checkout area]
- How? Typologies of POSMS - simple, clean, non-information-laden elements/placements with special vs. additional visibility elements [lights, props, complex shapes]

Promotion mechanics:

- Trends regarding the types of registration in promotional campaigns. Own online registration platforms / WhatsApp? SMS? Instant Win

Prizes

- Trends regarding the types of prizes most desired by the participants in the promotional campaigns. Gadgets/money/experiences/products complementary to your own brand [e.g. chips-bowls, beer-pint]/digital prizes?

Consumer:

- Level/degree of receptivity regarding participation in the in-store campaigns
- Statistics regarding the perception of prizes/utility/accessibility values e.g.: hundreds of prizes perceived as tangible to be won vs. 1 prize with a very high perceived value – such as a car)



SAMPLE

45 Ethnographic visits to stores

3 visits in each city in:

- Carrefour
- Mega Image
- Profi

1006 interviews

National representative sample



METODOLOGY

Visit duration

20-60 minutes

Online self-administered questionnaires

CAWI

Average questionnaires duration

10-12 minutes



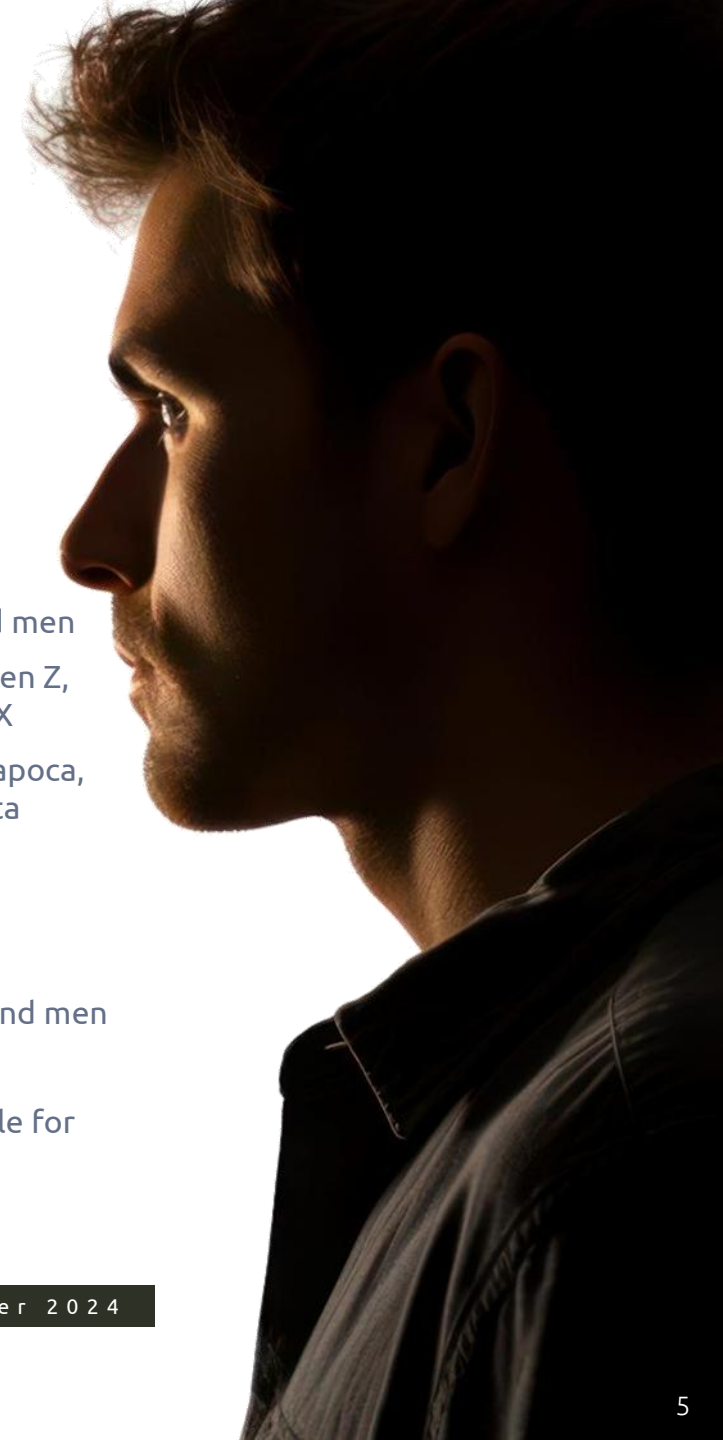
TARGET

B2C

- Gender: mix women and men
- Age: generational mix Gen Z, Gen Y/ Millennials, Gen X
- Cities: București, Cluj-Napoca, Iași, Timișoara, Constanța

- Gender: mix women and men
- Age: over 18 y.o
- Individuals, responsible for purchasing purchases

Collection period: September 2024



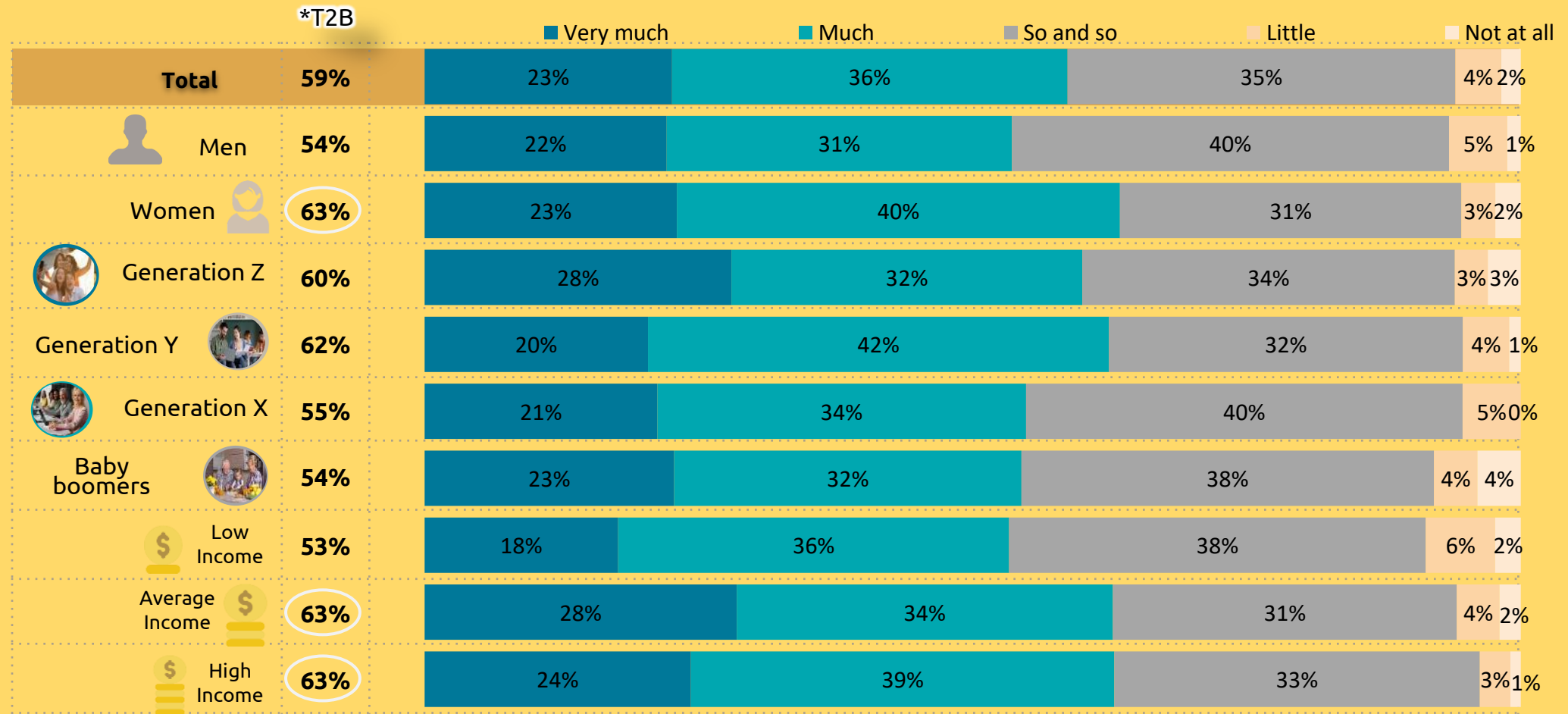
I. CONSUMPTION AND PURCHASING HABITS



The level of appreciation of the shopping experience

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: How much do you like to go shopping?



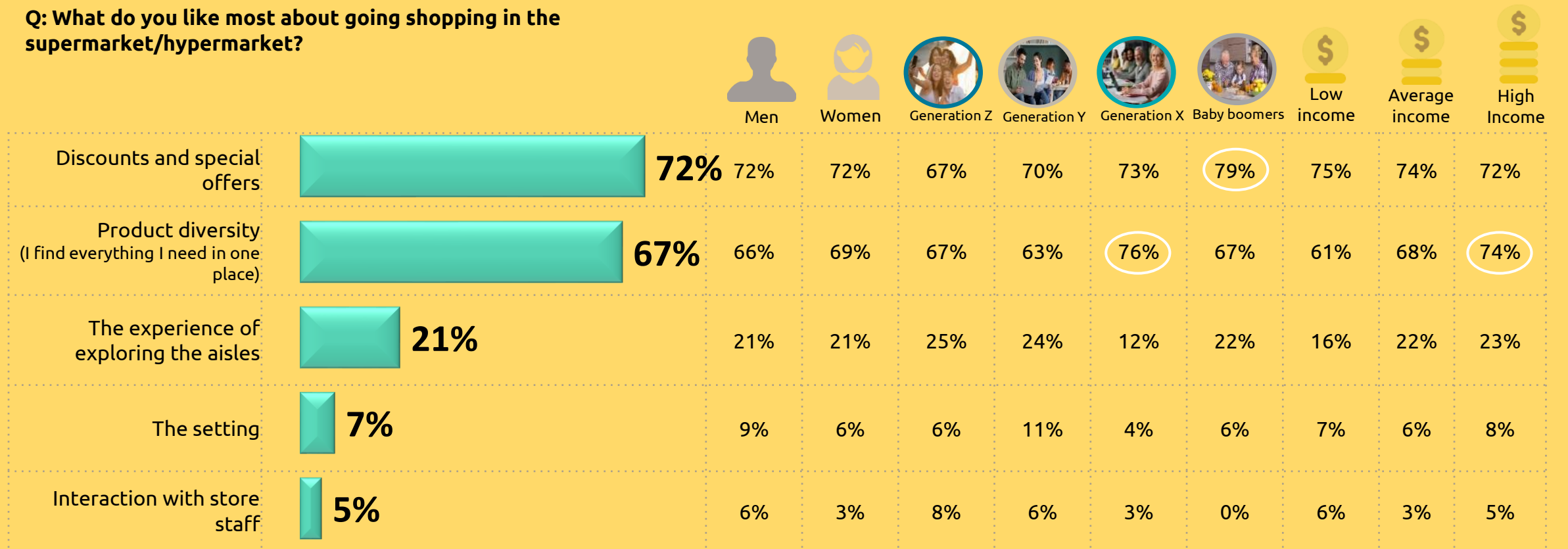
T2B = Much + Very Much

Significantly higher than Total sample

Aspects appreciated when shopping

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: What do you like most about going shopping in the supermarket/hypermarket?

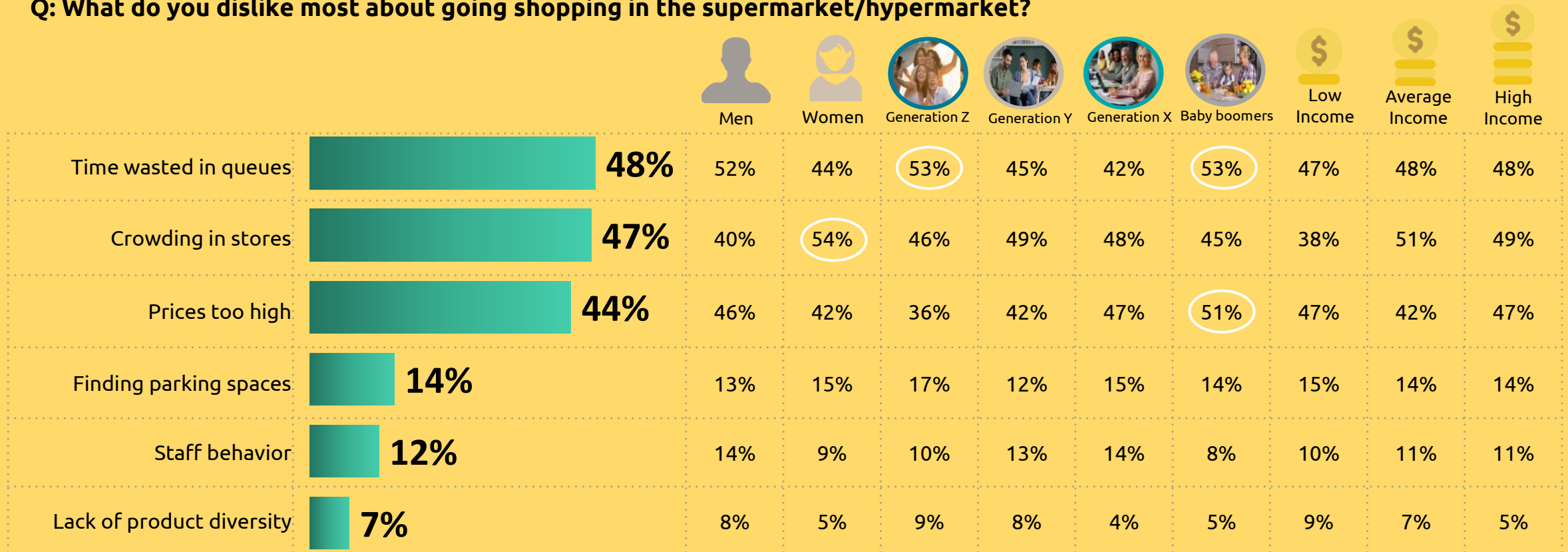


 Significantly higher than Total sample

Unpleasant aspects when shopping

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: What do you dislike most about going shopping in the supermarket/hypermarket?



Significantly higher than Total sample

Personal strategies and habits in shopping planning – route and shopping list

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: When you enter the supermarket/hypermarket, do you have a predetermined route in mind that you follow?



Yes, I have a predetermined route	49%	55%	44%	46%	54%	46%	47%	57%	47%	47%
No, I let myself be guided by the organization of the store	42%	39%	46%	43%	39%	48%	43%	35%	46%	43%
It depends on the occasion, sometimes I have a route, sometimes I don't (depending on the time I have).	8%	6%	11%	11%	7%	6%	11%	8%	7%	10%

Q: Usually, when you go shopping, do you have a shopping list ready?

I don't have a list ready on paper or on my phone, but I know what I need (in my mind)	35%	36%	34%	30%	33%	43%	35%	27%	37%	40%
Yes, on my phone	34%	34%	34%	56%	37%	26%	17%	35%	29%	36%
Yes, on paper	24%	24%	25%	10%	24%	24%	39%	30%	26%	17%
No, I don't prepare a list, I decide on the spot what to buy	7%	6%	7%	4%	6%	7%	10%	8%	8%	6%

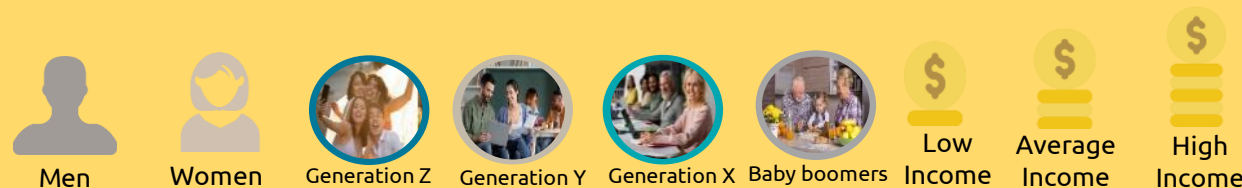
Significantly higher than Total sample

Shopping list and spontaneous purchases

Database: respondents who have a shopping list
N = 938 respondents

Q: What products do you usually have on your shopping list?
Q: And what products do you usually add impulsively (that are not on your shopping list)?

○ Significantly higher than Total sample



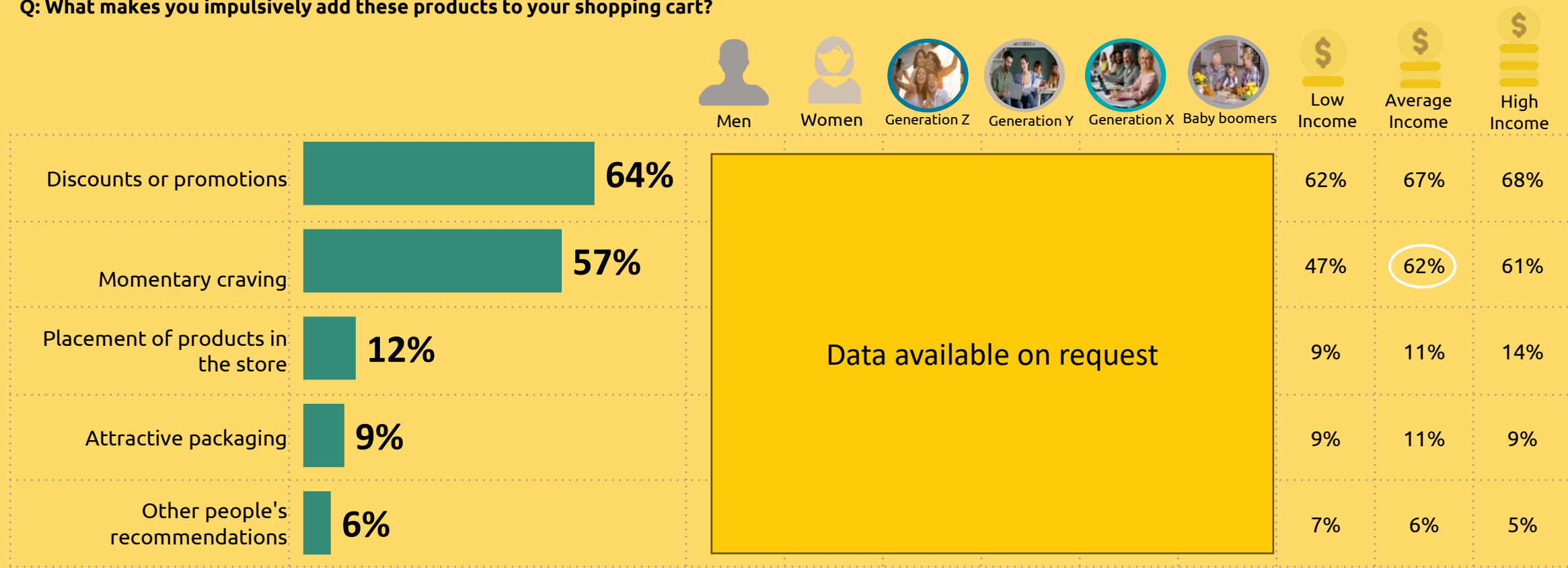
			Men	Women	Generation Z	Generation Y	Generation X	Baby boomers	Low Income	Average Income	High Income
Fruits or vegetables	19%	88%	84%	92%	89%	81%	91%	97%	86%	87%	91%
Dairy products	13%	82%	76%	88%	79%	76%	87%	91%	80%	83%	84%
Cleaning products (detergents, disinfectants, air fresheners, etc)	16%	68%	61%	74%	63%	64%	76%	70%	68%	66%	69%
Sweets (chocolate, candies, biscuits, etc)	50%	56%	57%	55%	59%	57%	51%	55%	58%	60%	52%
Carbonated soft drinks (juices, etc)	27%	48%	54%	42%	55%	44%	51%	43%	47%	48%	51%
Cosmetics and personal care products (shampoo, conditioner, etc.)	21%	47%	42%	52%	47%	45%	53%	45%	41%	51%	49%
Snacks (chips, puffed snacks, peanuts, etc)	37%	42%	49%	37%	50%	44%	44%	31%	36%	48%	46%
Frozen products (pizza, ice cream, frozen vegetables, etc.)	23%	42%	45%	39%	44%	45%	38%	40%	44%	40%	47%
Alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, spirits, etc)	22%	35%	47%	22%	25%	36%	44%	32%	28%	37%	42%
Sauces and condiments (ketchup, mayonnaise, etc)	17%	34%	39%	29%	38%	36%	31%	27%	31%	35%	37%
Children's toys or products	11%	12%	10%	15%	14%	19%	5%	8%	15%	12%	11%

□ Listă cumpărături
■ Cumpărături din impuls

Factors that influence impulse purchases

Database: respondents with a shopping list
N = 938 respondents

Q: What makes you impulsively add these products to your shopping cart?



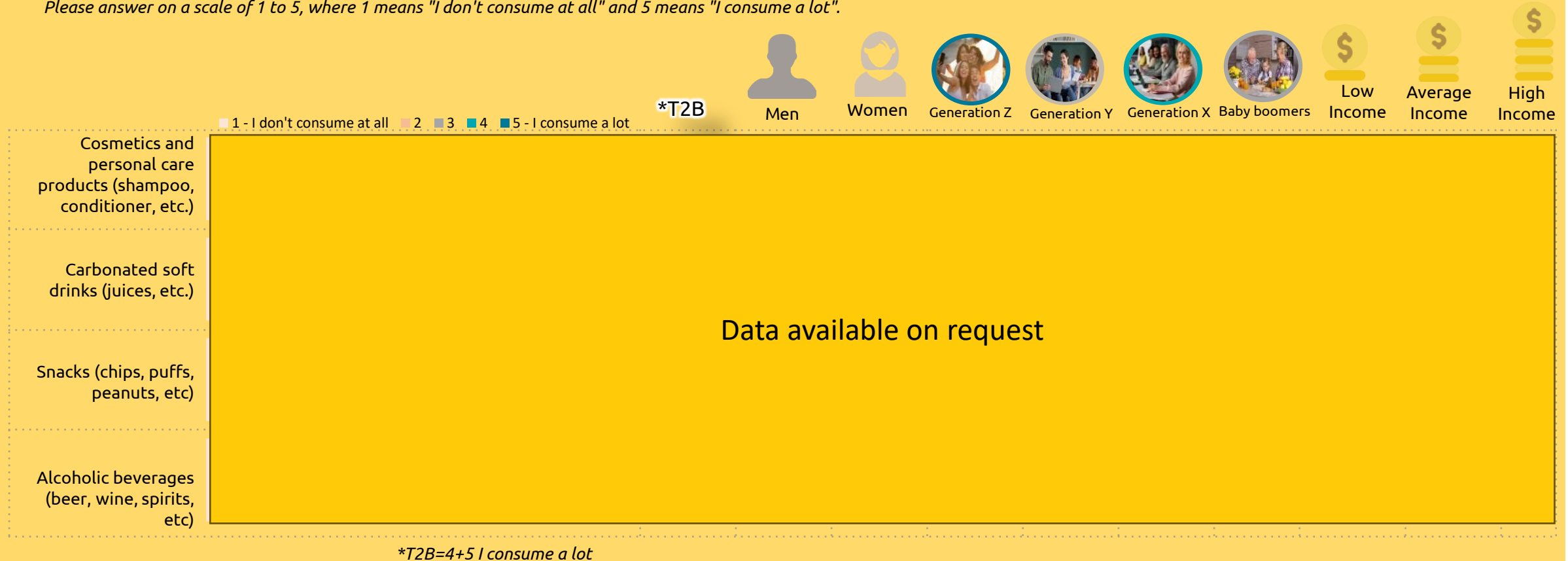
○ Significantly higher than Total sample

Frequency of consumption: cosmetics, soft and alcoholic beverages, snacks

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: How often do you generally consume/use the following product categories?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "I don't consume at all" and 5 means "I consume a lot".



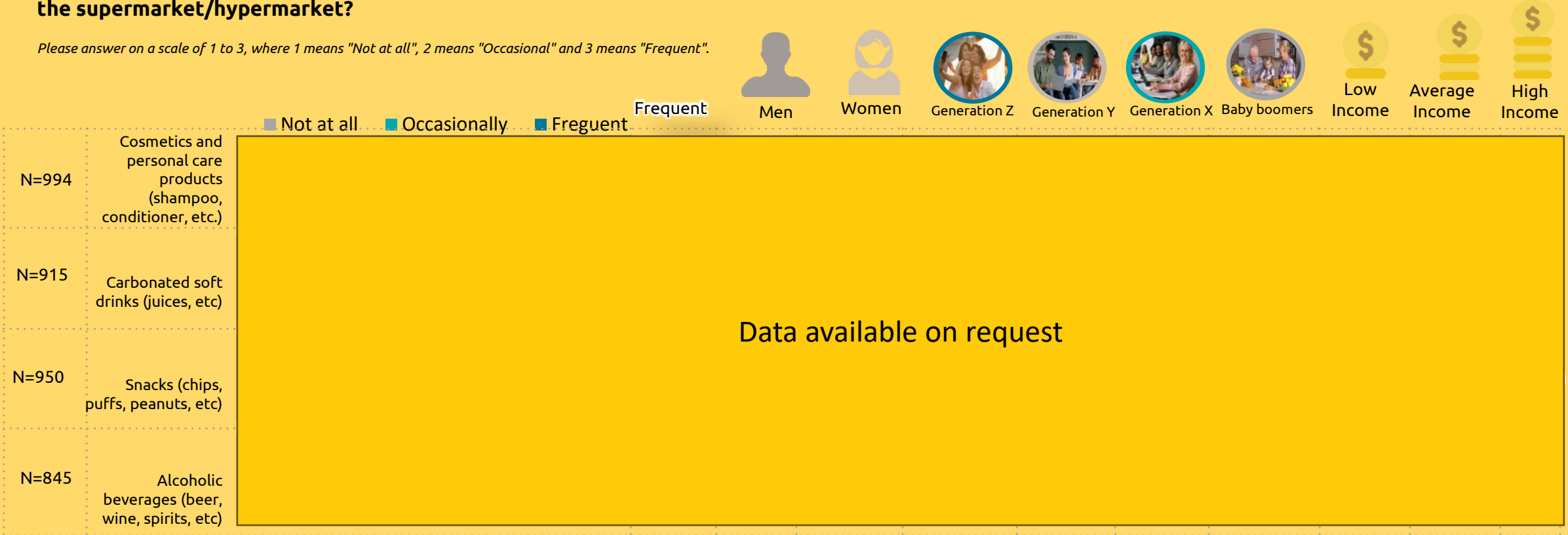
○ Significantly higher than Total sample

Frequency of purchase: cosmetics, soft drinks and alcoholic beverages, snacks

Database: Respondents Who Consume/Use Product Categories

Q: And how often do you buy the following product categories from the supermarket/hypermarket?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 3, where 1 means "Not at all", 2 means "Occasional" and 3 means "Frequent".



○ Significantly higher than Total sample

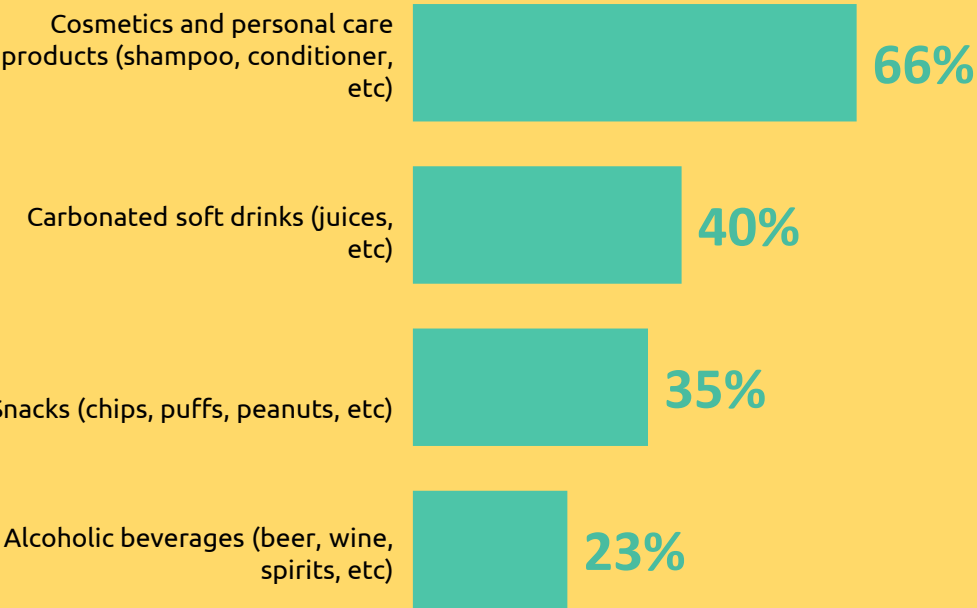
Consumption vs. purchase: cosmetics, soft drinks and alcoholic beverages, snacks

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: How often do you generally consume the following product categories?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "I don't consume at all" and 5 means "I consume very, very much".

*Consumption



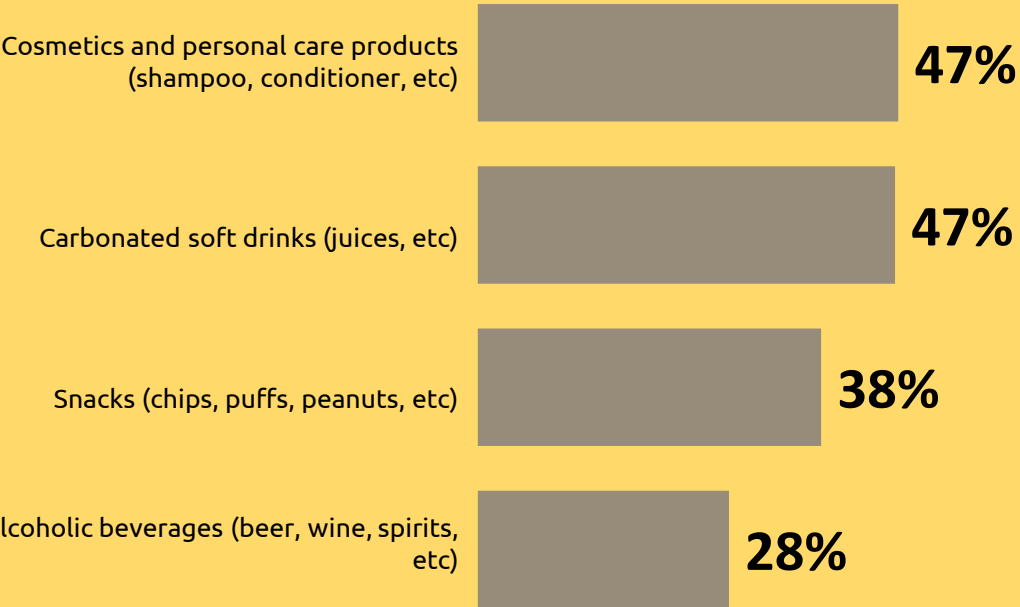
**data are represented for T2B (4 + 5 - very high consumption).*

Database: Respondents Who Consume/Use Product Categories

Q: And how often do you buy the following product categories from the supermarket/hypermarket?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 3, where 1 means "Not at all", 2 means "Occasional" and 3 means "Frequent".

*Acquisition

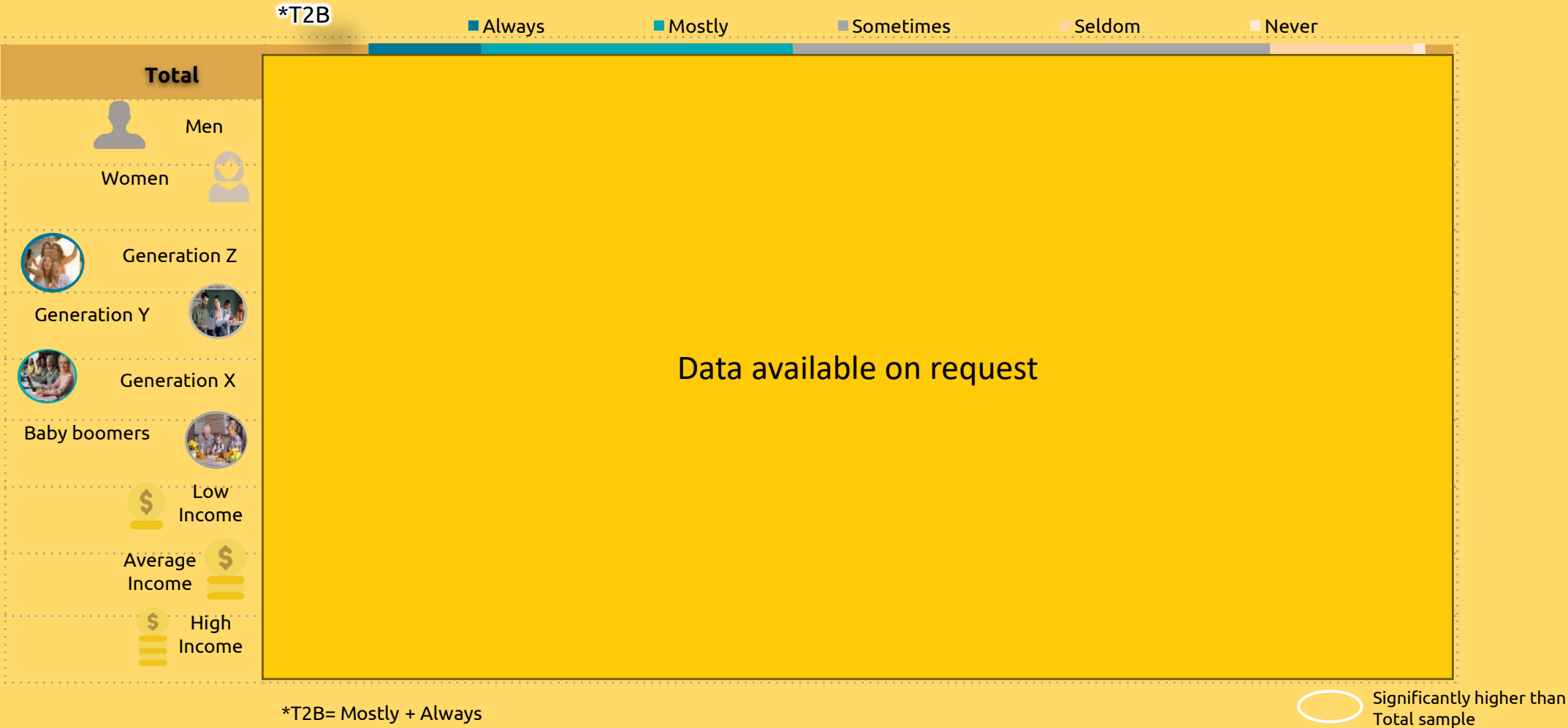


**Data is represented for frequent purchase mentions.*

The attractiveness of the products displayed at the cash registers

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

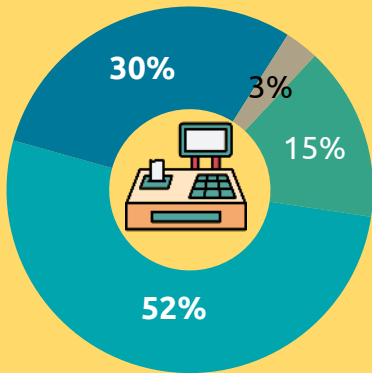
Q: To what extent do the products displayed in the cash register area attract your attention?



Frequency of purchase of products from the cash register area

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: Have you ever bought products from the cash register area?



	Total	Men	Women	Generation Z	Generation Y	Generation X	Baby boomers	Low Income	Average Income	High Income
*T2B (Yes, frequently + Yes, occasionally)	67%	66%	68%	70%	72%	69%	53%	68%	65%	68%
Yes, frequently	15%	15%	16%	17%	17%	14%	12%	14%	16%	17%
Yes, occasionally	52%	52%	52%	53%	55%	55%	42%	54%	50%	50%
Yes, but very rarely	30%	32%	27%	28%	26%	30%	37%	27%	32%	30%
No, never	3%	2%	4%	2%	1%	1%	10%	5%	3%	2%

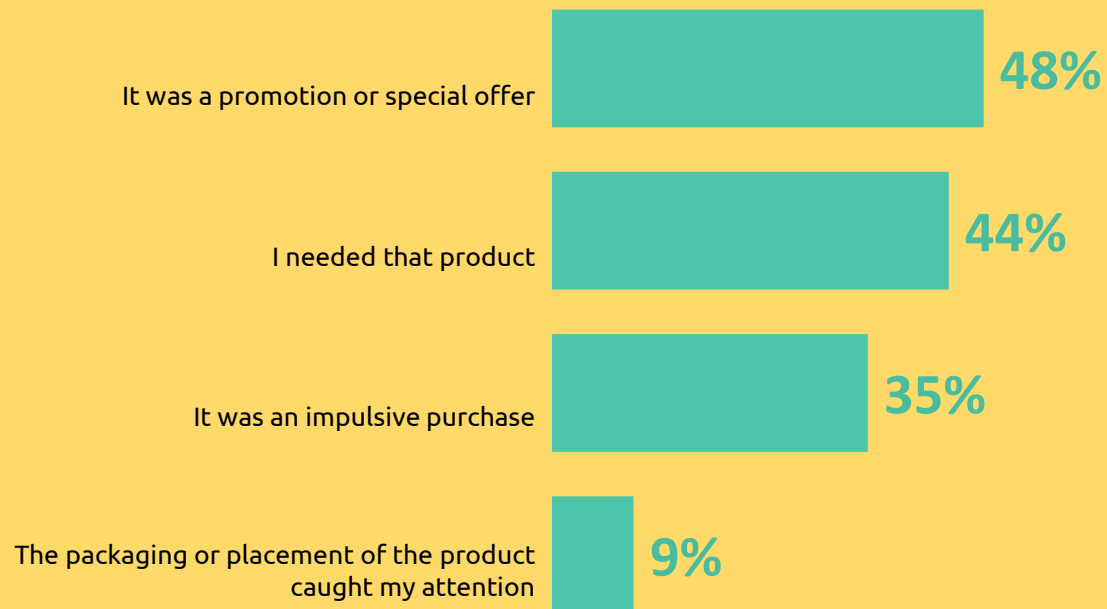
 Significantly higher than Total sample

Reasons for purchasing products in the area of cash registers and barriers

Database: respondents who bought products from the cash register area
N = 976 respondents

Q: What were the main reasons why you bought products from the cash register area?

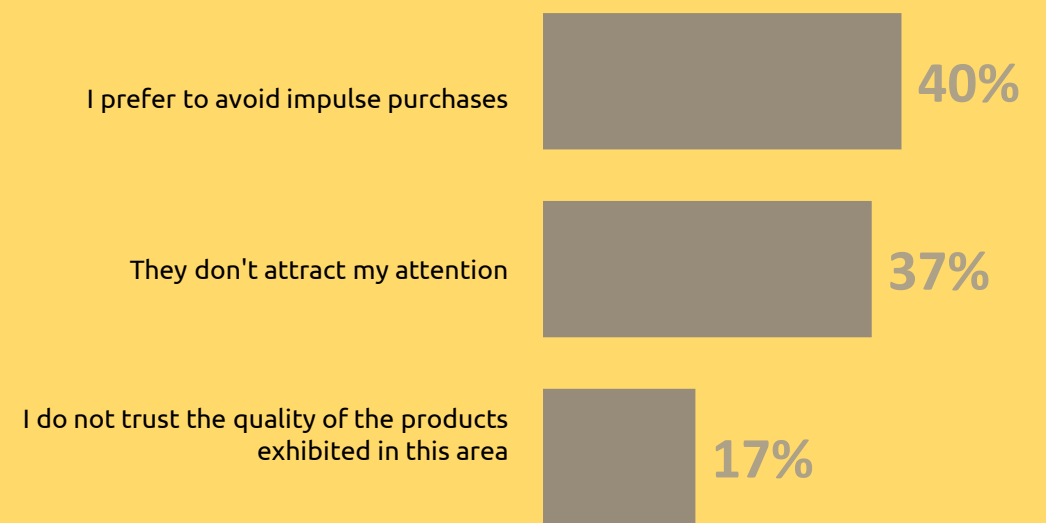
Reasons for purchase



Database: respondents who did not buy products from the cash register area
N = 30 respondents

Q: What were the reasons why you never bought products from the cash register area?

Acquisition barriers





KEY INSIGHTS

I. CONSUMPTION AND PURCHASING HABITS





Overall conclusion

Consumers respond strongly to visual stimuli and in-store promotions!

The analysis of **buying behaviour** shows that **discounts and promotions** continue to be **highly effective** in attracting consumers' attention (72%) and determine impulse purchases (64%).

Key insights (I)

Degree of appreciation of the shopping experience:

- ❑ **Over half of respondents (59%)** appreciate the experience of going shopping, especially women.
- ❑ **Generation X and Baby Boomers** are **less enthusiastic about shopping** compared to the other age groups.
- ❑ **People with medium and high incomes** have a **higher degree of appreciation** for going shopping (63%), indicating that income can play a role in the perception of the shopping experience.

Aspects appreciated when shopping:

- ❑ **Discounts and special offers** are the **most popular aspects of shopping**, mentioned by about three-quarters of respondents.
- ❑ **Product diversity** is also an **important aspect**, with a significant percentage (**67%**) of all respondents appreciating the wide availability of products.

Unpleasant aspects when shopping:

- ❑ **Time wasted in queues and crowding in stores** are **disturbing aspects** for shoppers, with almost **half of respondents** expressing **dissatisfaction**.
- ❑ **44%** of respondents consider **high prices to be an important negative factor**.

OVERALL CONCLUSION:

The shopping experience is generally appreciated, with a focus on **special offers and product diversity** that appeal to consumers.

Logistical aspects such as queues and congestion, along with **high prices**, remain the main **points of dissatisfaction**.



Key Insights(II)

Route supermarket/ hypermarket:

- ❑ About **half of respondents** (49%) enter the supermarket/hypermarket with a **predetermined route**, especially **men** (55%) and people with **low incomes** (57%).
- ❑ A **large proportion of respondents (42%)** let themselves be **guided by the organization of the store**, which suggests an openness to exploring new offers and arrangements.

Shopping list:

- ❑ More than **half of respondents** (58%) said they use a shopping list, either on paper or on their phone.
- ❑ **Gen Z** respondents use **lists on their phones** more than other segments (56%).

Shopping list and spontaneous purchases:

- ❑ **Fruits and vegetables** are predominantly on the shopping list, with **88%** of respondents including them regularly.
- ❑ **Dairy** are also **largely planned** (82%), indicating a constant need.
- ❑ **Sweets** (50%) and **snacks** (37%) are the products **bought impulsively most often**.

OVERALL CONCLUSION:

There is a balance between structure and flexibility, there are no major differences between those who have a well-established route in the supermarket and those who are influenced by the arrangements in the store.

The clear trend for impulse purchases, especially for sweets and snacks, suggests **opportunities** for **optimizing product placement** and promotions.



Key Insights(III)

Factors that influence impulse purchases:

Data available on request

Frequency of consumption and purchase (cosmetics, soft and alcoholic beverages, snacks):

Data available on request

OVERALL CONCLUSION:

Data available on request



II. SPECIAL PLACEMENTS

- the special shelves on the central alleys, end of gondolas, at the end of each category or the products displayed in the cash register area -

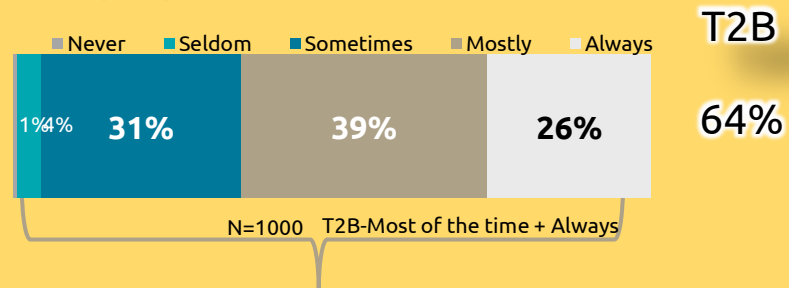


Special placements in the supermarket/hypermarket: the degree of observation and attractiveness

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: How often have you noticed special product placements when you went shopping in a supermarket/hypermarket?

Q: What special placements catch your attention the most in the supermarket/hypermarket?



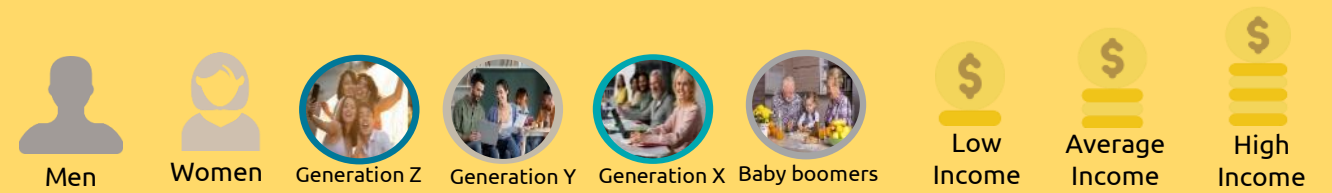
		Men	Women	Generation Z	Generation Y	Generation X	Baby boomers	Low Income	Average Income	High Income
Special placements in store alleys	45%	44%	46%	52%	44%	39%	45%	45%	46%	45%
End of gondolas	40%	41%	39%	31%	39%	44%	48%	39%	41%	40%
Display of products in the cash register area	15%	15%	15%	17%	17%	17%	8%	15%	13%	14%

Significantly higher than Total sample

Attractive elements of special placements in stores

Database: respondents who noticed special placements
N = 1000 respondents

Q: When you notice special product placements in the store, what attracts your attention the most?



		Men	Women	Generation Z	Generation Y	Generation X	Baby boomers	Low Income	Average Income	High Income
Discounts or promotions displayed	69%	64%	74%	62%	64%	73%	81%	62%	68%	76%
Placement of products at eye level	25%	25%	25%	27%	22%	31%	21%	22%	29%	25%
Markings or signage around products	22%	24%	21%	23%	24%	21%	20%	22%	21%	26%
Large quantity of products on display	15%	16%	14%	13%	17%	14%	14%	12%	20%	13%
Product packaging	15%	17%	13%	18%	21%	7%	9%	14%	14%	15%

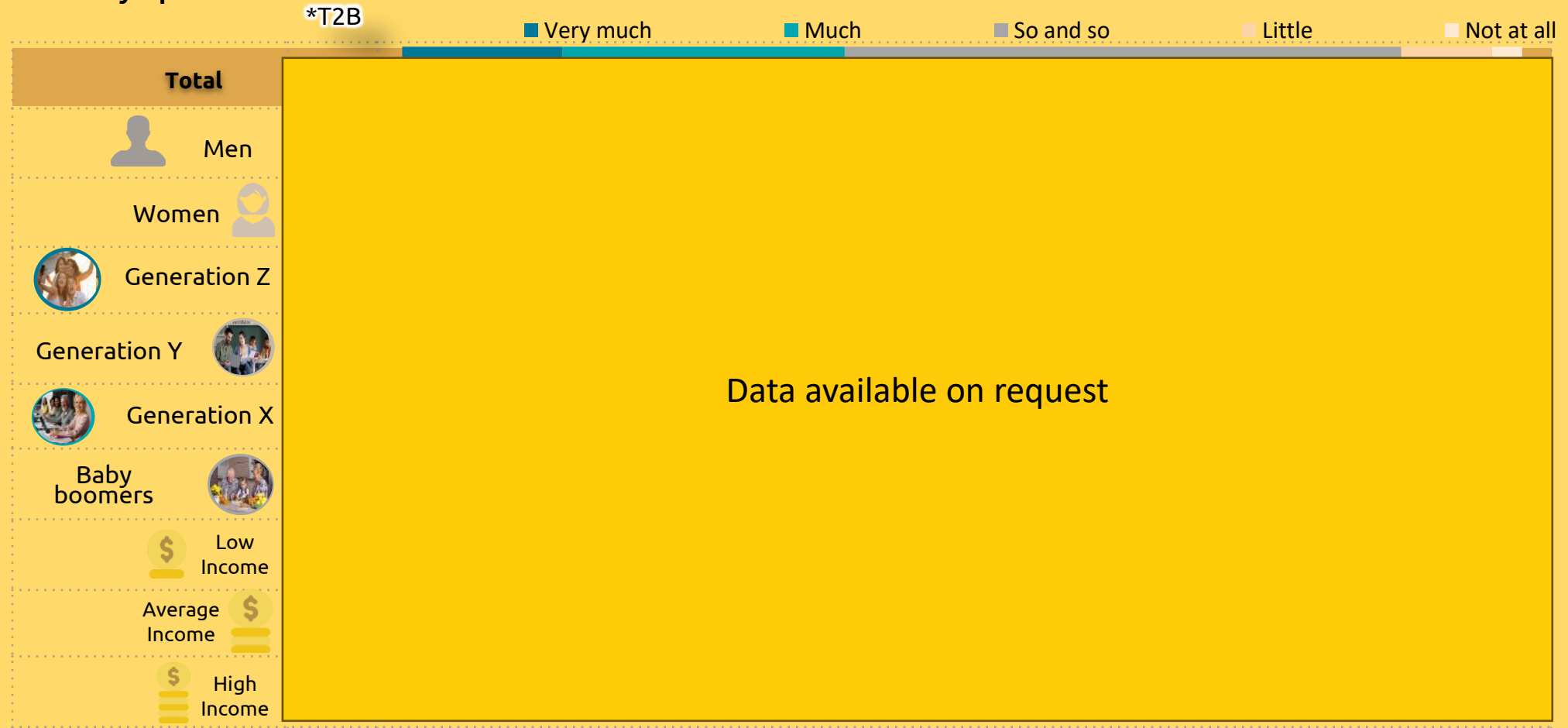
Significantly higher than Total sample

Impact of special placements on buying decisions

Database: respondents who noticed special placements

N = 1000 respondents

Q: To what extent do such special placements (on central aisles, end of gondola, cash register area) influence your decision to buy a product?



Data available on request

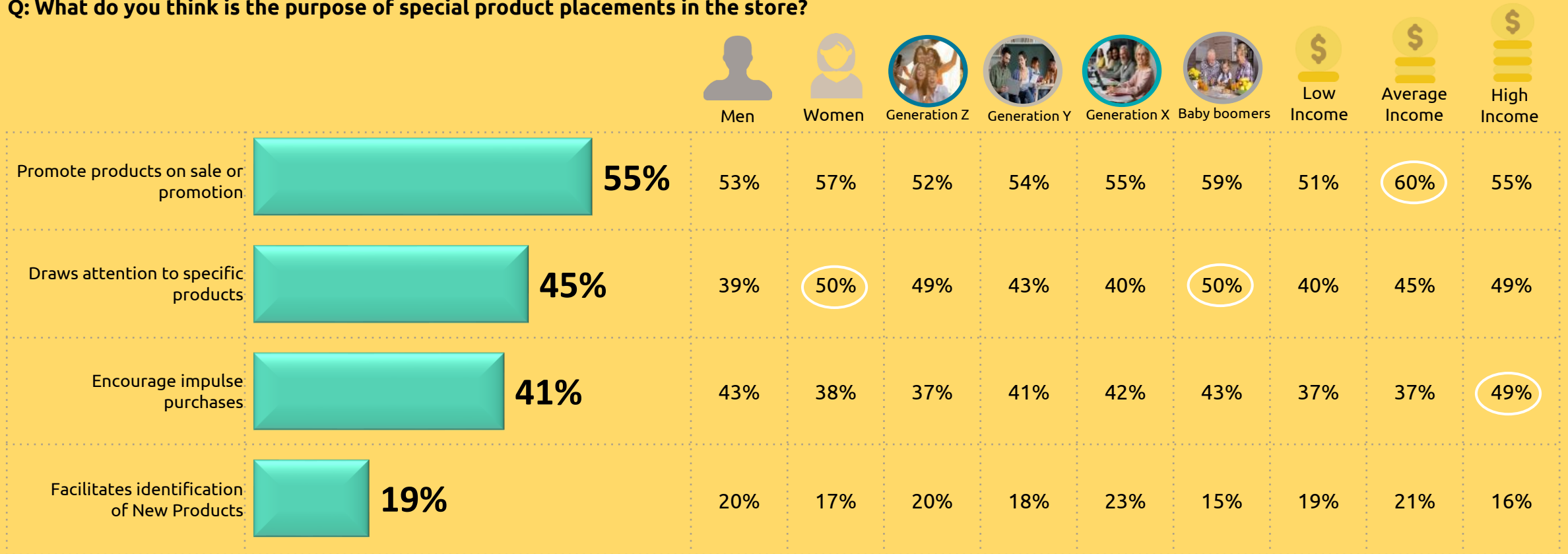
T2B = Much + Very much

○ Significantly higher than Total sample

Perceptions of store special placement goals

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: What do you think is the purpose of special product placements in the store?



 Significantly higher than Total sample

Factors influencing the rebranding of products in stores

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: When you are in a supermarket/hypermarket, to what extent does each of the following criteria influence your decision to change the brand of products you usually purchase?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "It doesn't influence me at all" and 5 means "It influences me a lot."



Price	Data available on request
Quality	
Previous experience with the product	
Promotions	
Promotional campaigns	
Brand	
Recommendations or reviews	
Promotional materials on the shelf	
How they are arranged on the shelf	
Packaging	

*T2B=4+5 – It influences me a lot

Significantly higher than Total sample

KEY INSIGHTS

II. SPECIAL PLACEMENTS

- the special shelves on the central alleys, end of gondolas or the products displayed in the cash register area -





Overall conclusion

Special placements catalyse quick purchases by exploiting spontaneous trends of consumers!

Strategic placement elements, such as end of gondola placements or in the cash register area, not only **attract attention** but also **shape brand loyalty**, encouraging impulse purchases (67%).

Key Insights (I)

Special placements in the supermarket/hypermarket: degree of observation and attractiveness:

- ❑ **The majority of respondents frequently notice special placements** in stores, with 64% indicating that they notice them most of the time or always.
- ❑ **Special placements on central aisles and end of gondolas are the most appealing to consumers** (mentioned by more than 40% of respondents).

Attractive elements of special placements in stores:

- ❑ **The discounts or promotions displayed** are the **most attractive elements** for 69% of consumers, to a greater extent **for women** (74%).
- ❑ Both **strategic placement** (at eye level) and **markings or signage around products** play an important role in **attracting attention** for about **a quarter** of consumers.

Impact of special placements on purchasing decisions:

Data available on request

OVERALL CONCLUSION:

Data available on request



Key Insights (II)

Perceptions of the goals of special placements in stores:

- ❑ **The majority of respondents** (55%) perceive special placements as **strategies to promote products on offer or promotion**, which underlines the effectiveness of these tactics in attracting consumers' attention.
- ❑ Almost half of respondents believe that the **main purpose of special placements** is to **draw attention to certain products** (45%) and **encourage impulse purchases** (41%), indicating the importance of visibility in purchasing decisions.

Factors influencing the rebranding of products in stores:

Data available on request

OVERALL CONCLUSION:

Data available on request



Key Insights (III)

The attractiveness of the products displayed at the cash registers:

- ❑ **40% of respondents** said they are often **attracted to products displayed at cash registers**, to a greater extent respondents with medium and high incomes.

Frequency of purchase of products from the cash register area:

Data available on request

Reasons for purchasing products in the area of cash registers and barriers:

Data available on request

OVERALL CONCLUSION:

Data available on request



III. PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS

- Products participating in the contest -



How do consumers define promotions?

Easy to obtain Hard to obtain			
Promotion Type	Buy and win an instant prize	(temporary) price reduction Bonus Package Multiple Acquisition Gift Combo Package	Collect and get Contest with prizes
Mechanic	Win an instant prize when purchasing a product	The product has a % discount on the price Additional quantity for the same price More products from the same category at a lower price (2 for the price of 1) Additional product or a gift	Collect points or codes and enter the contest for a prize Send codes via SMS/enter codes on an online platform to enter the contest for a prize
Strengths	+ Instant reward; + Efficient (time), reliable (everyone wins); + Increase loyalty.	+ Common and "useful" promotions; + Prizes are guaranteed.	+ Attractive prizes with a high perceived value (e.g. cars, holidays, household appliances, etc.). - Old mechanism, quite unattractive; - Long and complicated process; - It consumes a lot of energy, requires additional effort (e.g. collection, storage of receipts, sending/entering codes); - Lower chances of winning; - Lack of transparency (if winning the prize involves the lottery system).
Weaknesses		- The additional product may be unnecessary or irrelevant to the consumer.	
High engagement Low engagement			



Preferences and reluctance to participate in promotional campaigns

Database: Total sample

N = 1006 respondents

Q: What is your preferred way to enter promotional campaigns (products that can be entered into a contest)?



Men



Women



Generation Z



Generation Y



Generația X



Baby boomers



Low
Income



Average
Income



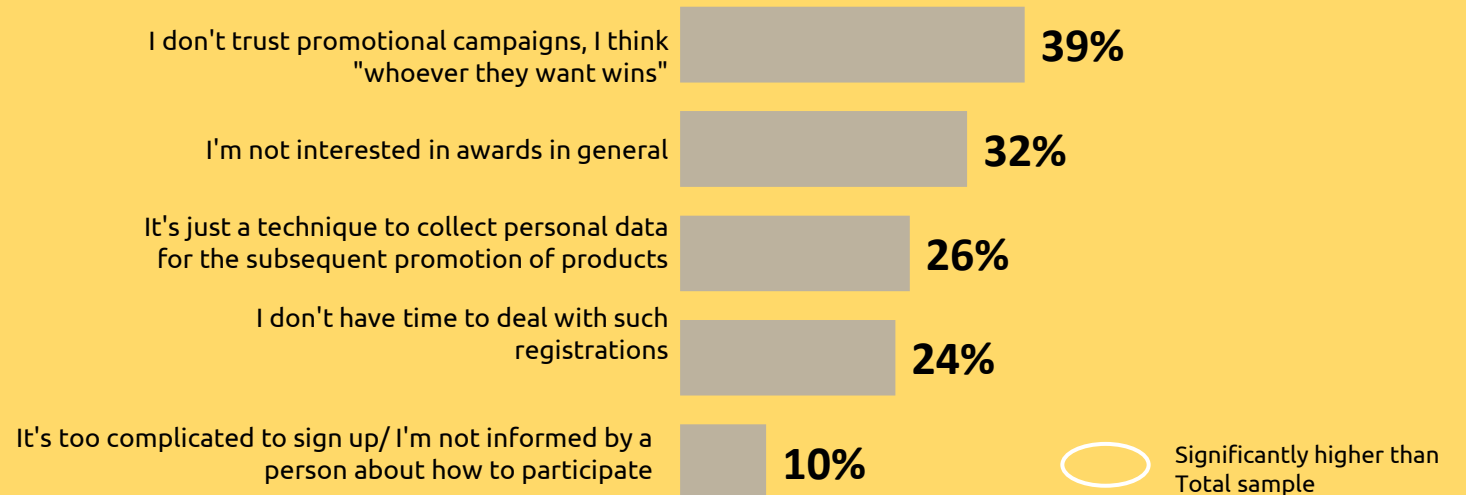
High
Income



Q: What are the reasons why you have never signed up for promotional campaigns (products that can be entered into a contest)?

Database: respondents who do not register for competitions

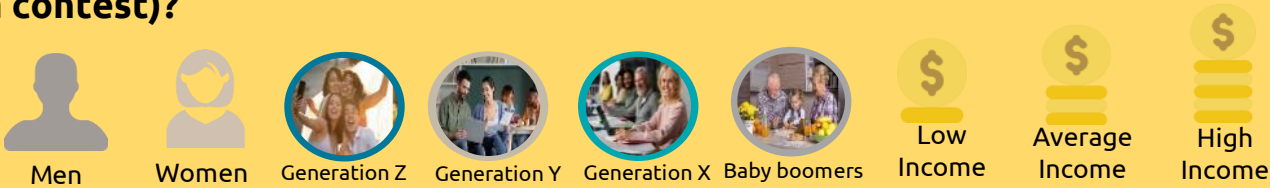
N = 62 respondents



Preferences for prize types in promotional campaigns

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: What types of prizes do you find attractive and would motivate you to participate in a promotional campaign (products that can be entered in a contest)?



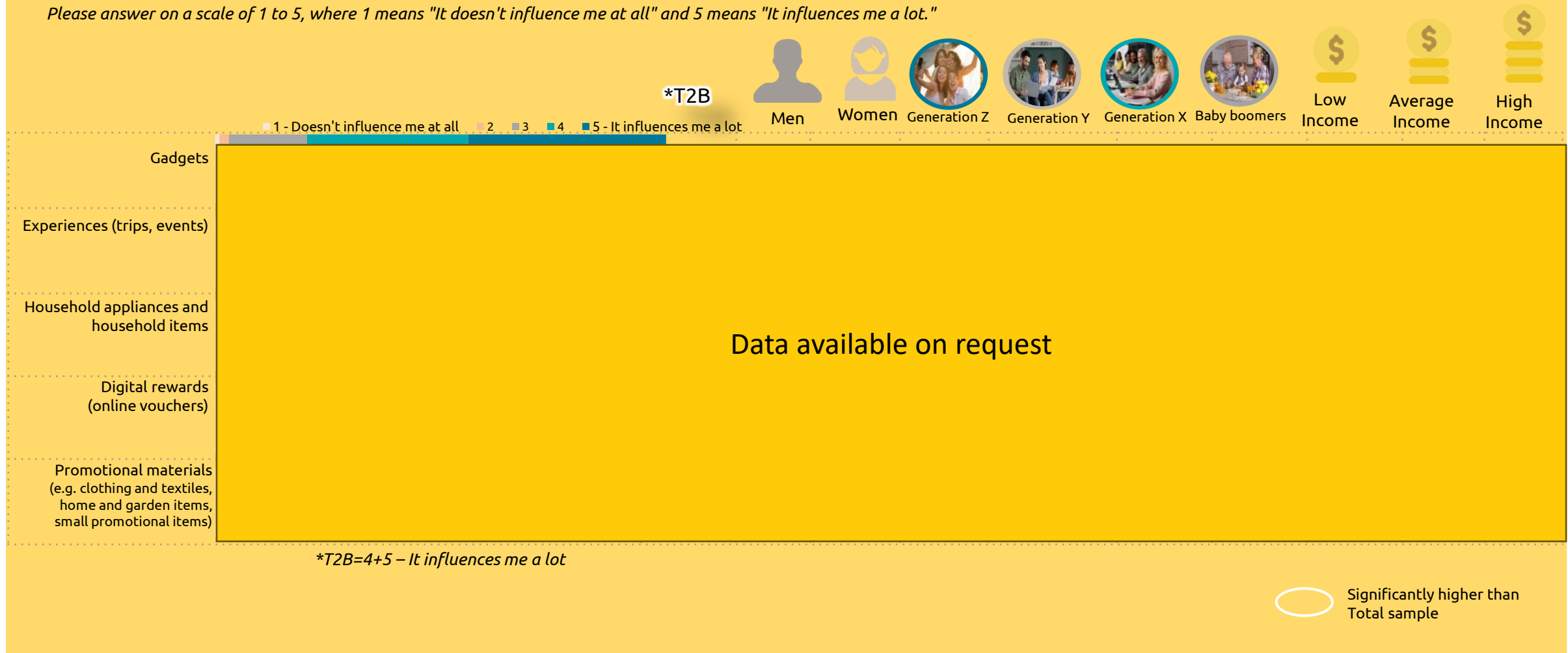
○ Significantly higher than Total sample

Impact of awards on brand loyalty

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: To what extent can each of the following types of prizes in promotional campaigns (products that can be entered into a contest) influence your decision to change the brand of products you usually purchase?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "It doesn't influence me at all" and 5 means "It influences me a lot."



Key Insights

Preferences and reluctance to participate in promotional campaigns:

- ❑ Data available on request
- ❑ Data available on request
- ❑ The main reason why respondents avoid entering competitions is distrust in their transparency (39%), suggesting a significant trust barrier from potential participants.

Preferences for the types of prizes in promotional campaigns:

- ❑ Data available on request

Impact of awards on brand loyalty:

- ❑ Data available on request

OVERALL CONCLUSION:

Transparency in the organization of **contests**, together with the **offer of valuable rewards**, can **turn initial reluctance into long-term loyalty**, amplifying consumer engagement with the brand and stimulating active participation.



IV. Promotional activities

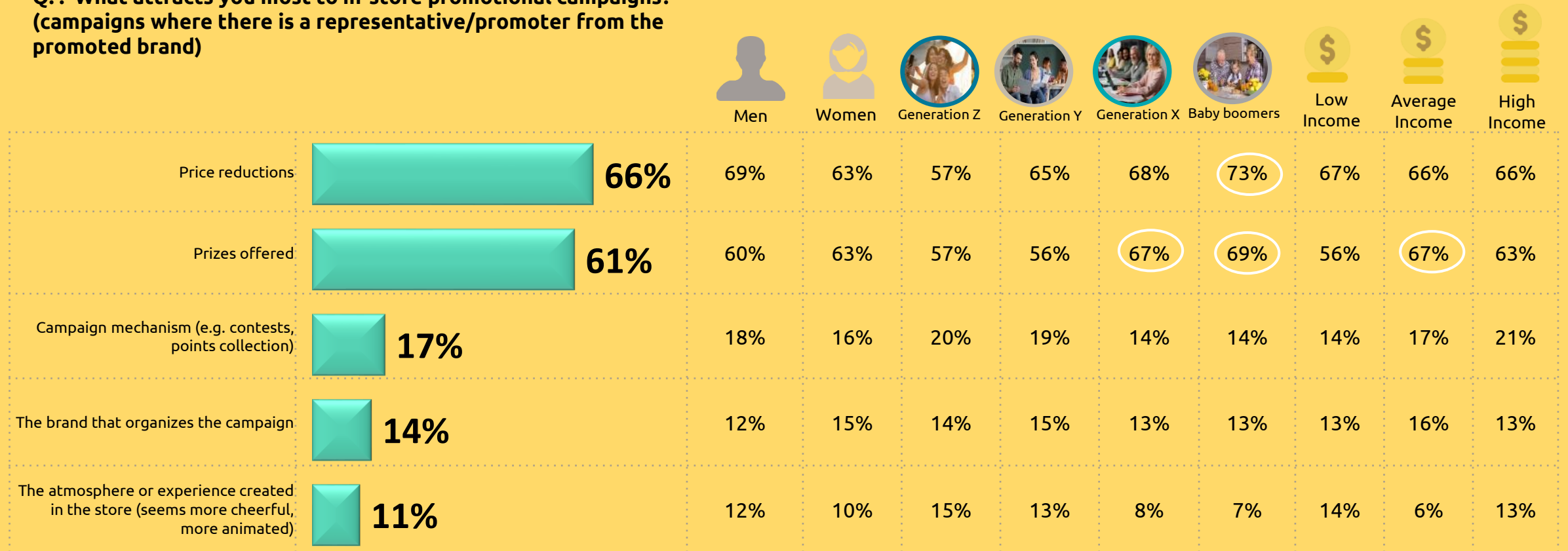
- campaigns where there is a representative/promoter from the promoted brand -



Attractive elements of promotional campaigns with an in-store representative

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

**Q: . What attracts you most to in-store promotional campaigns?
(campaigns where there is a representative/promoter from the
promoted brand)**



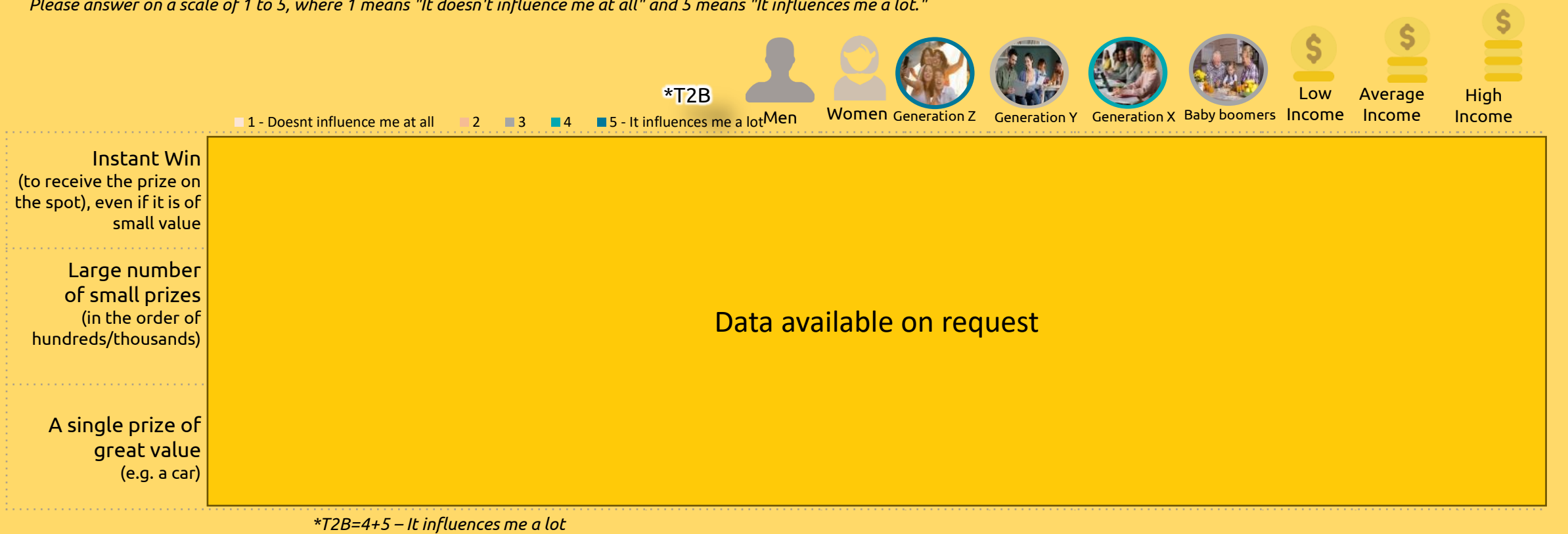
 Significantly higher than Total sample

Impact of Promotional Campaign Awards on Brand Loyalty

Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

Q: To what extent can each of the following types of prizes in in-store promotional campaigns (campaigns where there is a representative/promoter from the promoted brand) influence your decision to change the brand of products you usually purchase?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "It doesn't influence me at all" and 5 means "It influences me a lot."



Key Insights

Attractive elements of promotional campaigns with an in-store representative:

- ❑ **The price reductions and prizes offered** remain the most influential, attracting the attention of over 60% of respondents for promotional campaigns in the store, where there is a promoter.
- ❑ **The brand that organizes the in-store promotion does not have an important role** in attracting customers, **only 11% of respondents mentioned this aspect.**

Impact of Promotional Campaign Awards on Brand Loyalty:

Data available on request

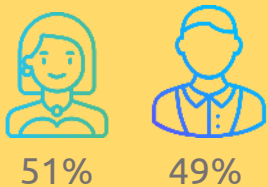
OVERALL CONCLUSION:

Data available on request



Database: Total sample
N = 1006 respondents

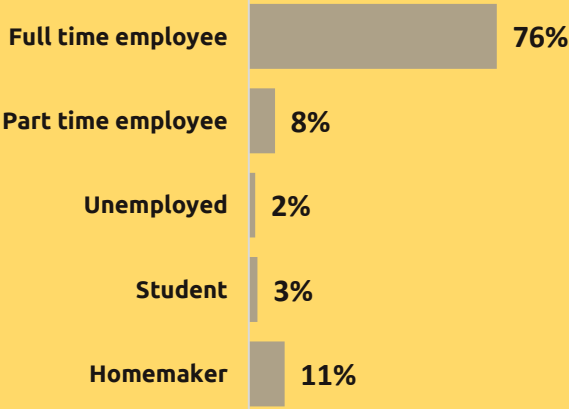
Gender



Particularities of the sample



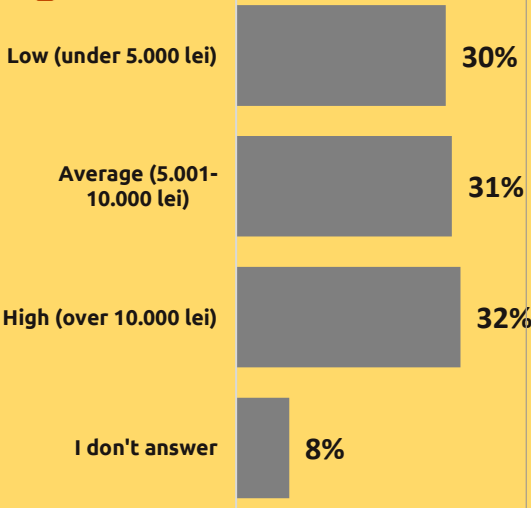
OCCUPATION



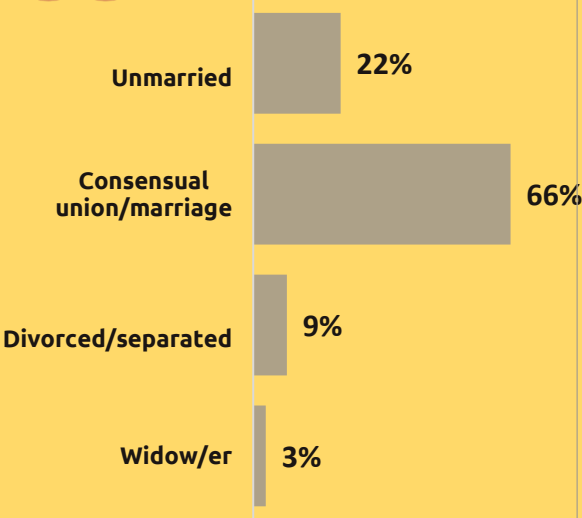
MINOR CHILDREN



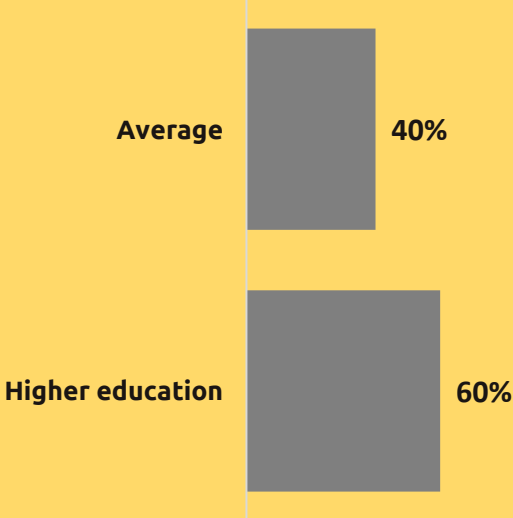
MONTHLY INCOME/HOUSEHOLD



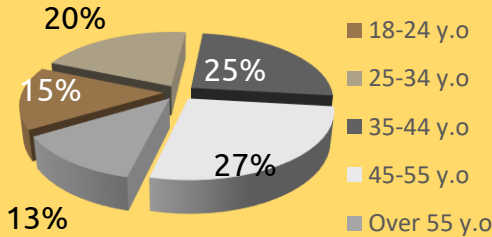
MARITAL STATUS



EDUCATION



Respondents AGE





Thank you!

