

# Human Impacts of Equine Influenza

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# Study Introduction (1)

- Why?
  - impacts of EI not '*just*' economic
  - disease not '*only*' affecting horses
- What?
  - internet-hosted questionnaire survey
  - extensive content

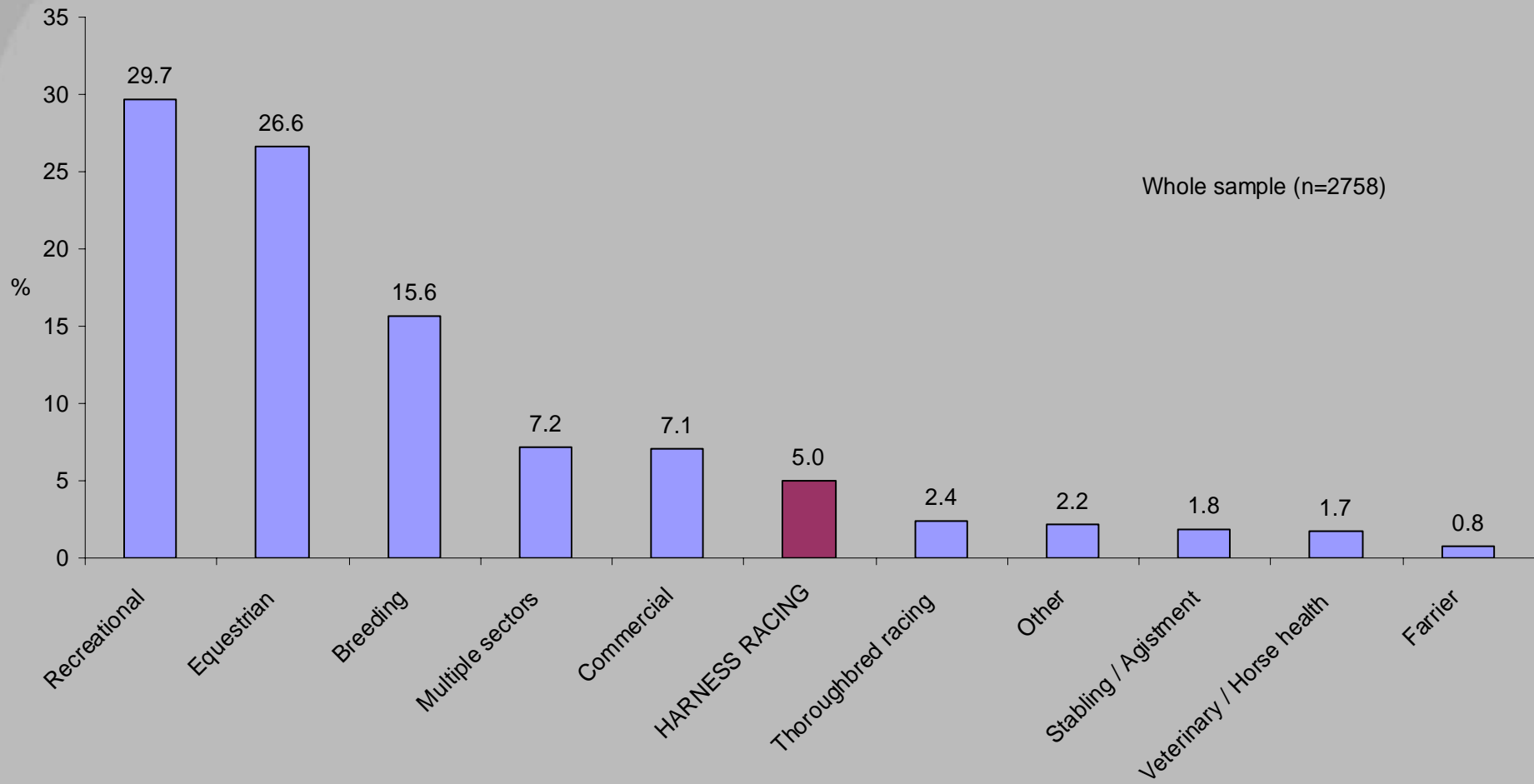
## Study Introduction (2)

- Who?
  - *anyone* involved with the horse industry
- How?
  - main route via AHIC alert (HECD)
  - then via websites EFA, EVA, AHRC, ARB
- When?
  - 15<sup>th</sup> November 2007 to 08 January 2008
  - Days 82 – 137 of EI outbreak

## Study Introduction (3)

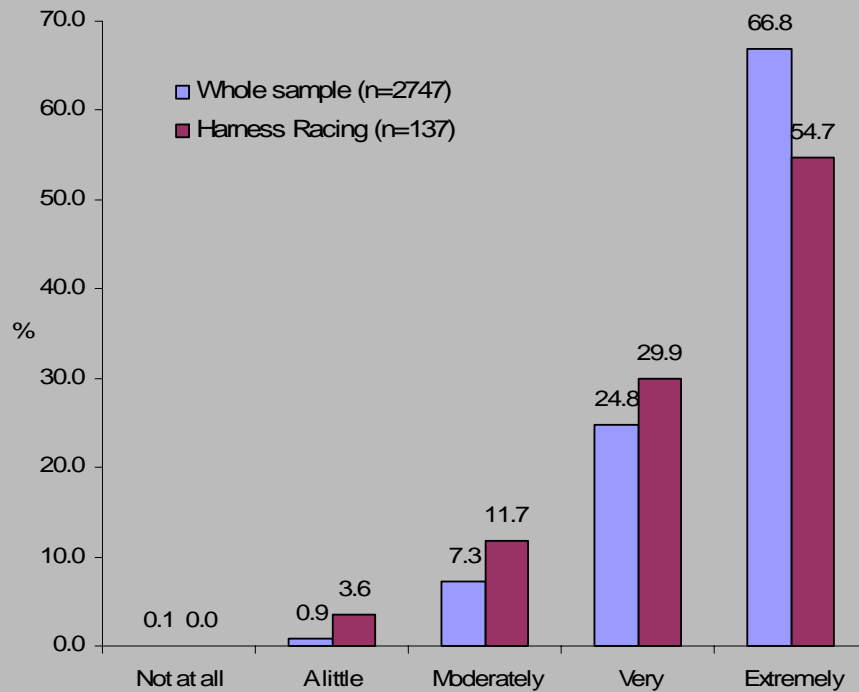
- This presentation
  - Comparison of whole sample (All) data with Harness Racing (HR) data
- Considerations for interpretation of HR data
  - **Sample sizes:** HR small (n=139) compared to All (n=2758)
  - **Timing:** HR later (Day 106+) compared to All (Day 82+)
  - **Gender:** HR mostly male (66%) compared to All (15%)

# Study sample: Industry Sectors

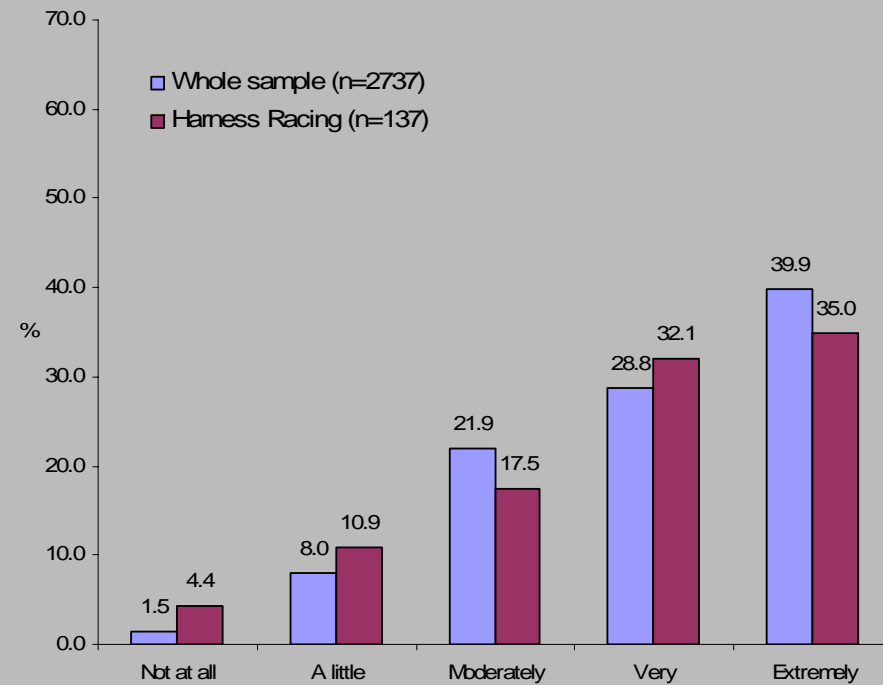


# General attitudes to equine influenza outbreak: Perceived seriousness and vulnerability

How serious do you think the current equine influenza situation is?

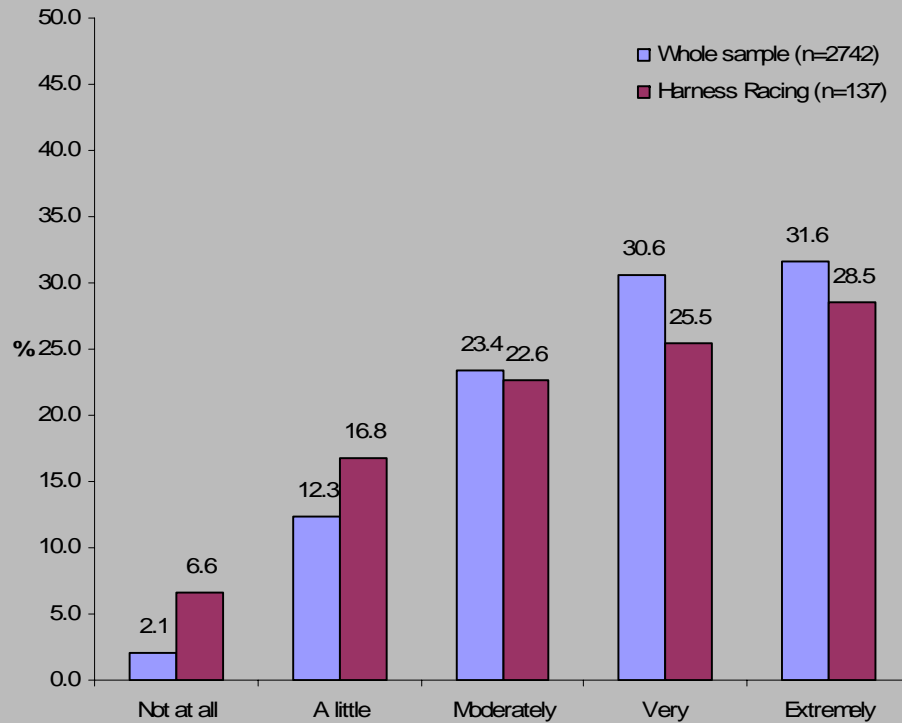


How vulnerable do you feel you are to the impacts of equine influenza?

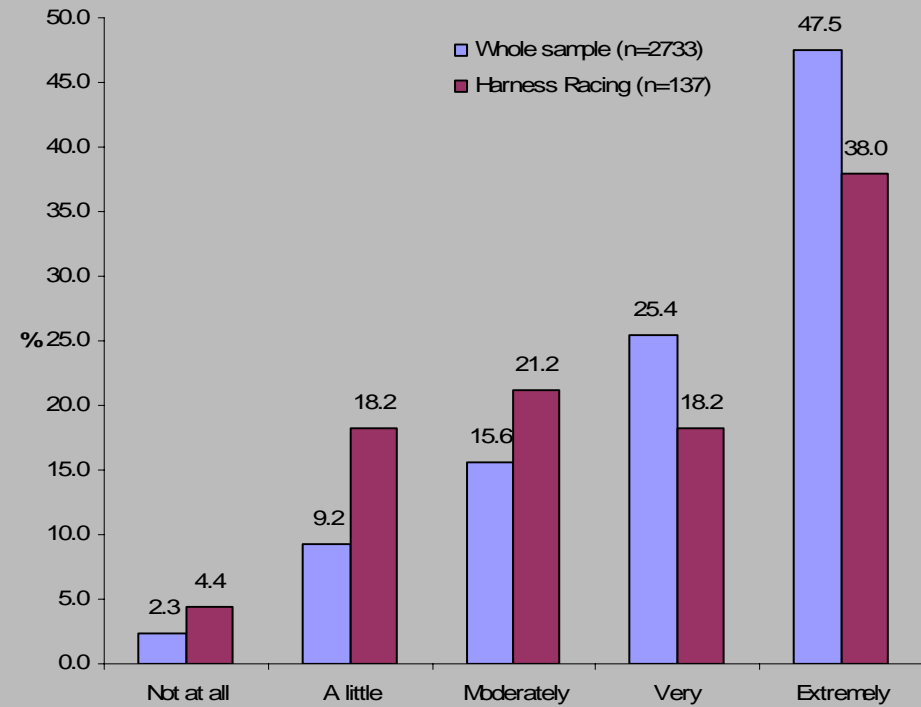


# General concerns about equine influenza

How concerned are you that equine influenza will worsen in Australia?

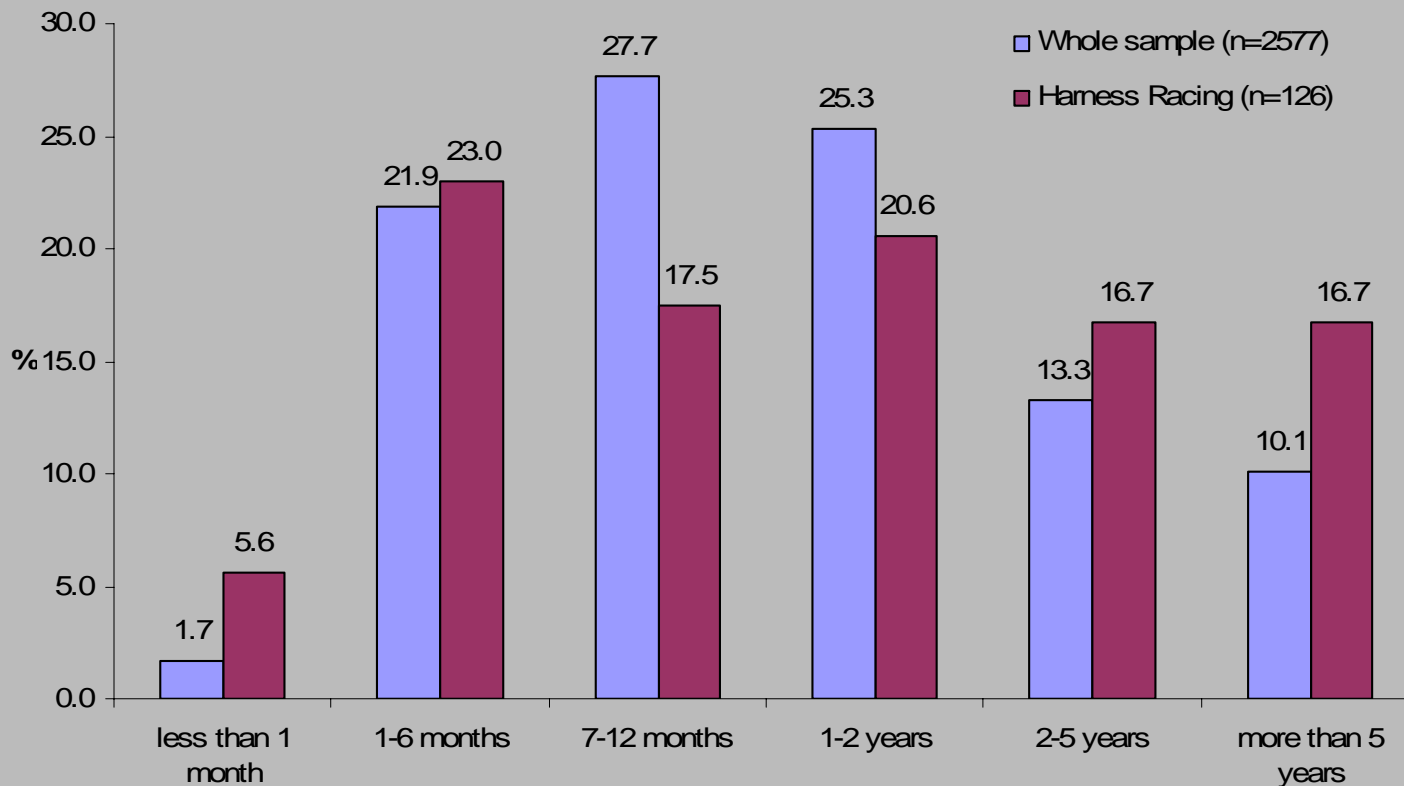


How concerned are you that equine influenza will become a permanent equine disease in Australia?



# Duration of impacts

For how much longer do you think the impacts of equine influenza will be felt by you?



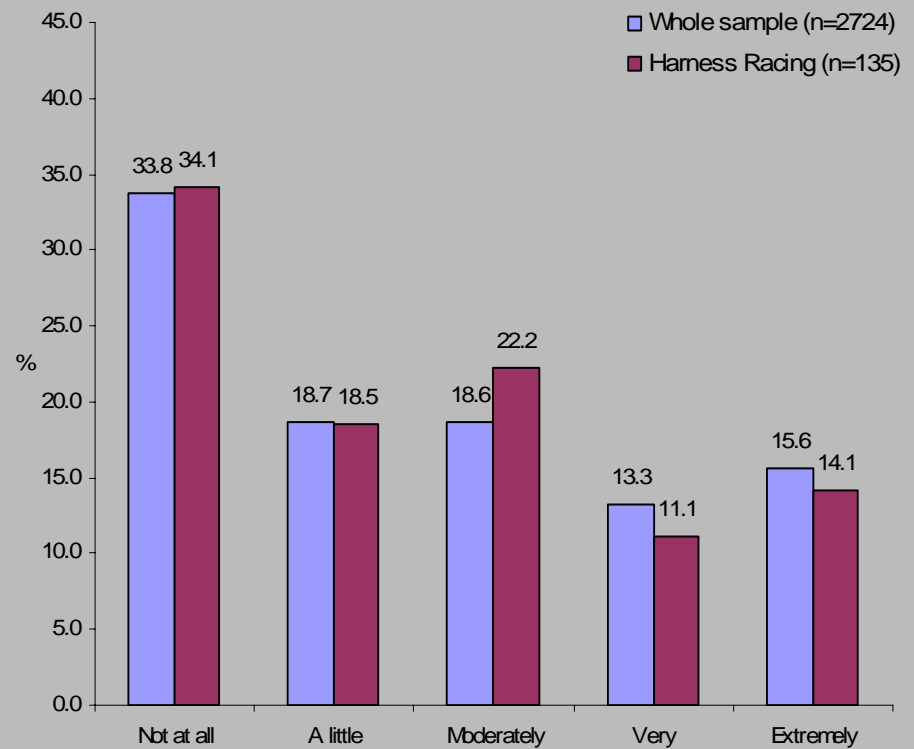
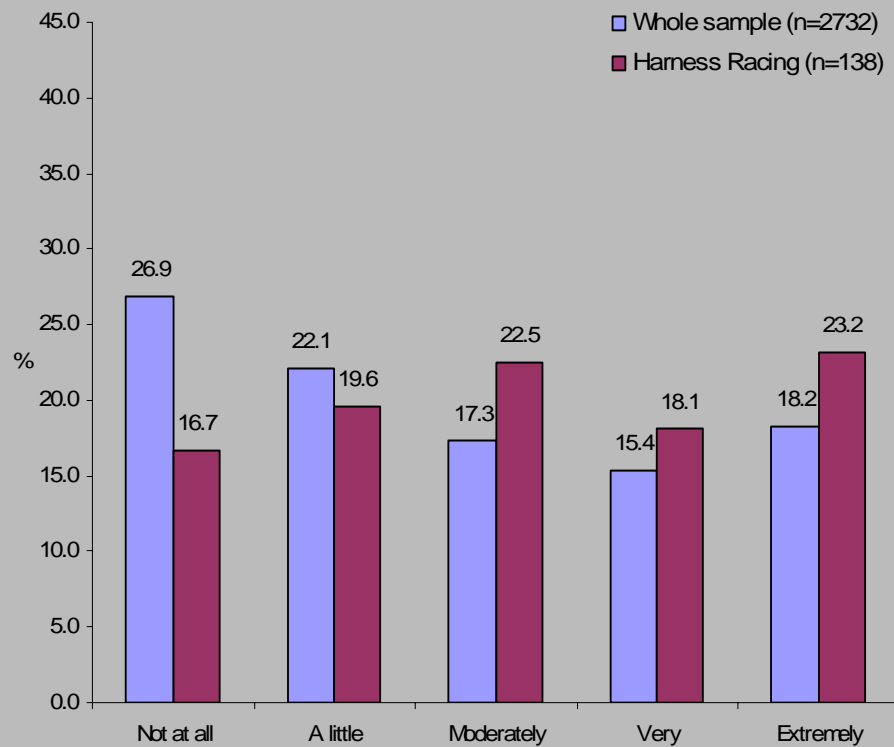


# Impacts: Financial and Daily routines

Has equine influenza affected your...

... current financial situation?

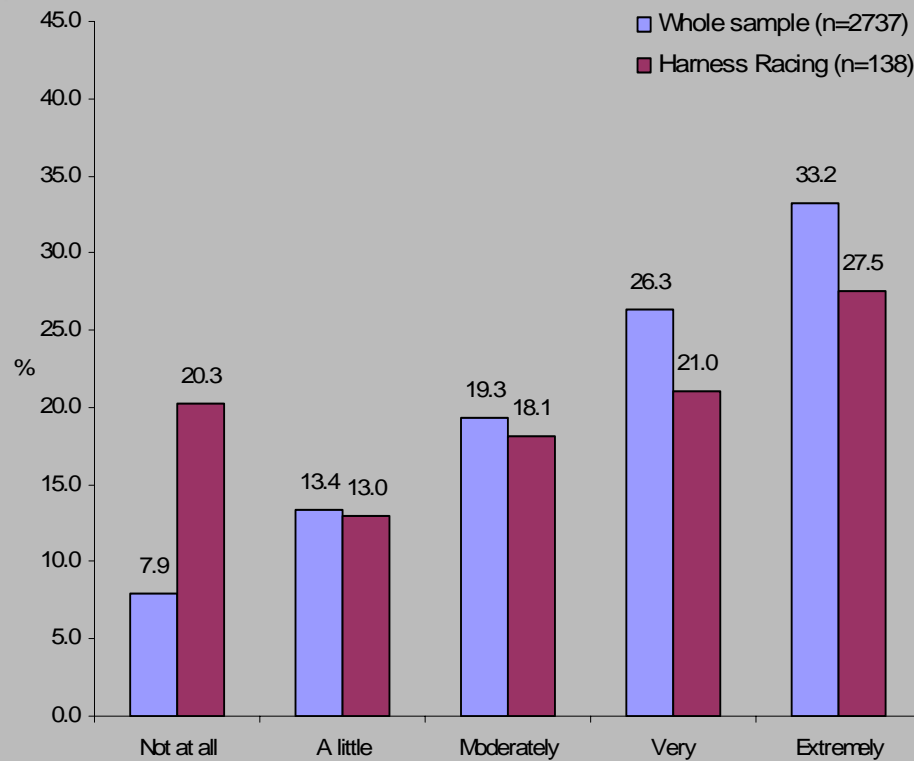
... daily/normal routines?



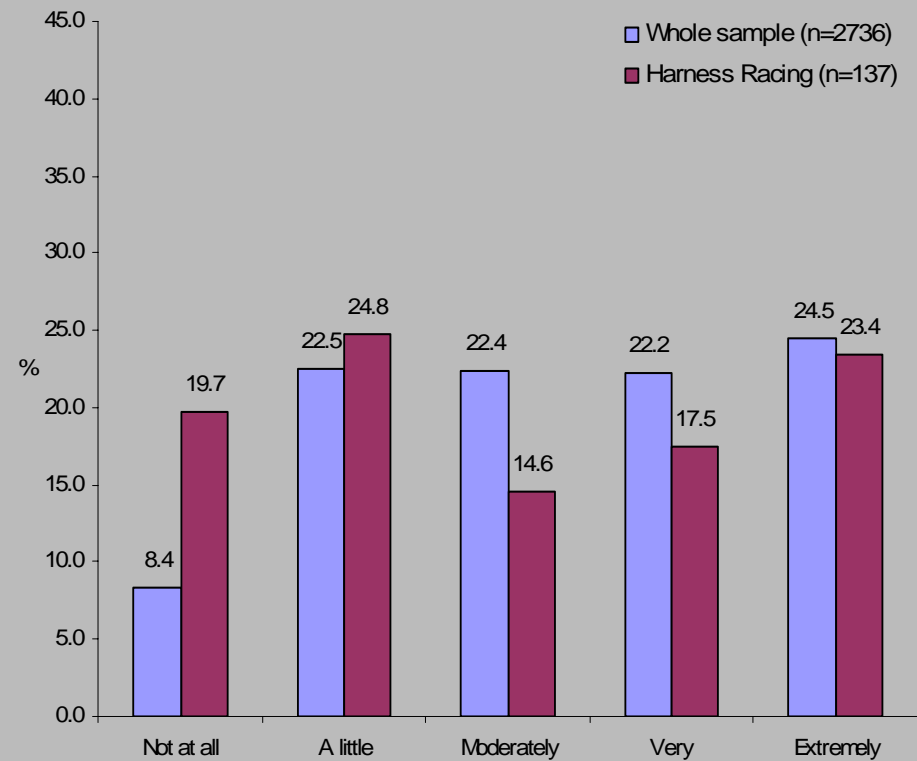
# Impacts: Social and Emotional

Has equine influenza affected your...

... social situation?



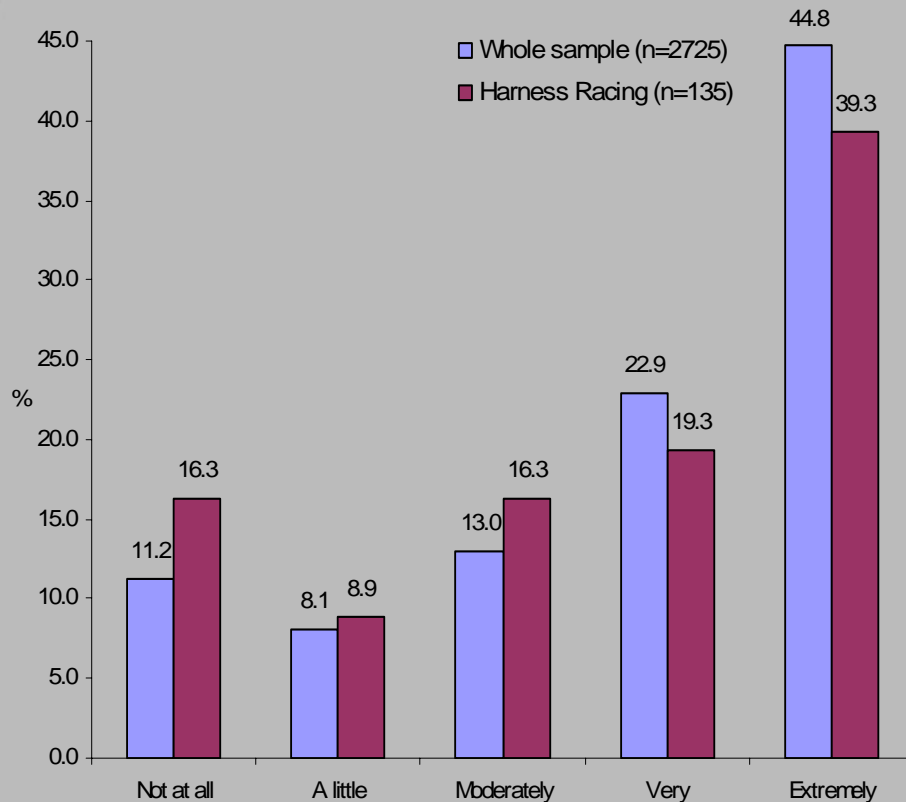
... emotional state?



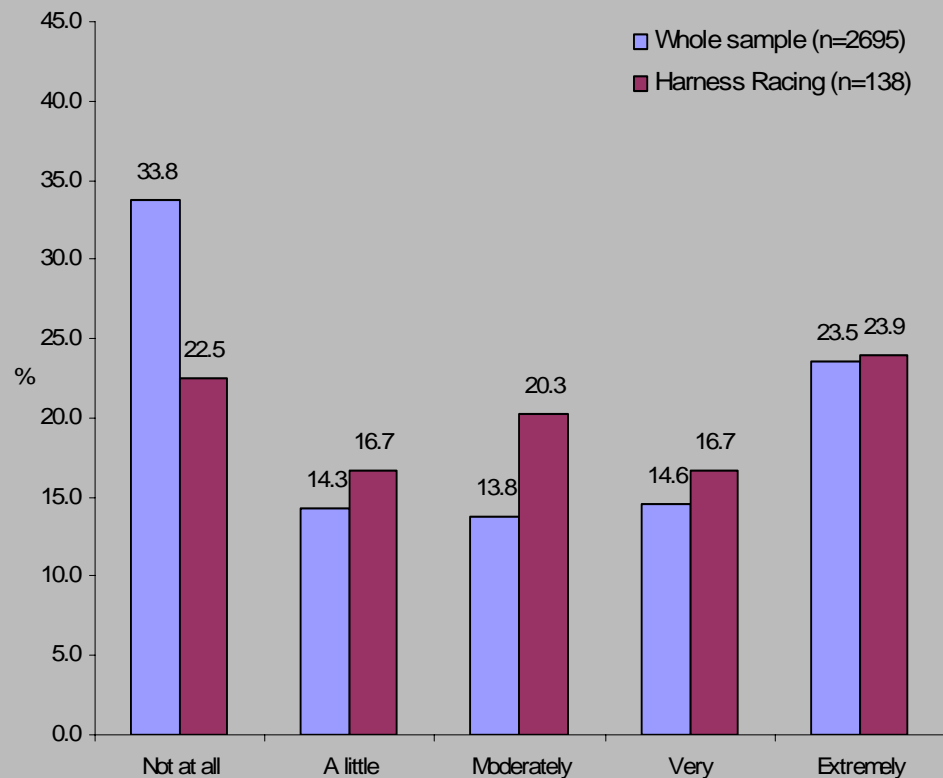
# Impacts: Aspirations - sporting and business/professional

Has equine influenza affected your...

... sporting aspirations?



... business/professional aspirations?



# Vaccination

Percentage reporting 'yes' to the questions

	ALL	HR
Have your horses received vaccination?	19.1%	46.7%
Do you think that vaccination will be effective at controlling the spread of the disease?	51.4%	62.6%
If vaccinations were generally available, would you buy them for your horses?	60.2%	60.6%
Would you be prepared, in future, to pay annually for equine influenza vaccinations for your horses?	50.6%	51.9%

# Sources of help

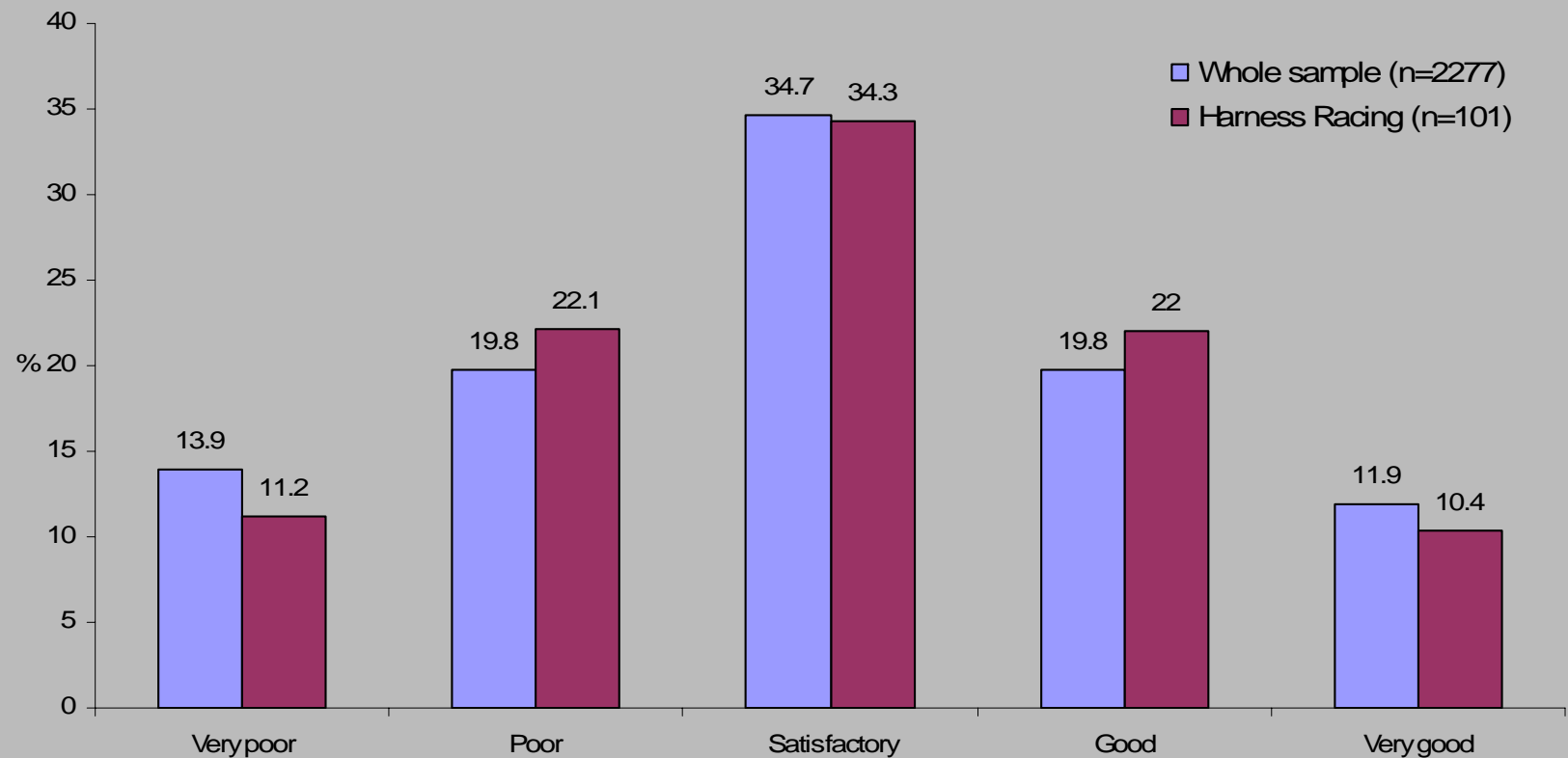
How helpful have you found the following sources of support during the current equine influenza outbreak?

(responses are % reporting helpful + very helpful, and only include those who used these sources of support)

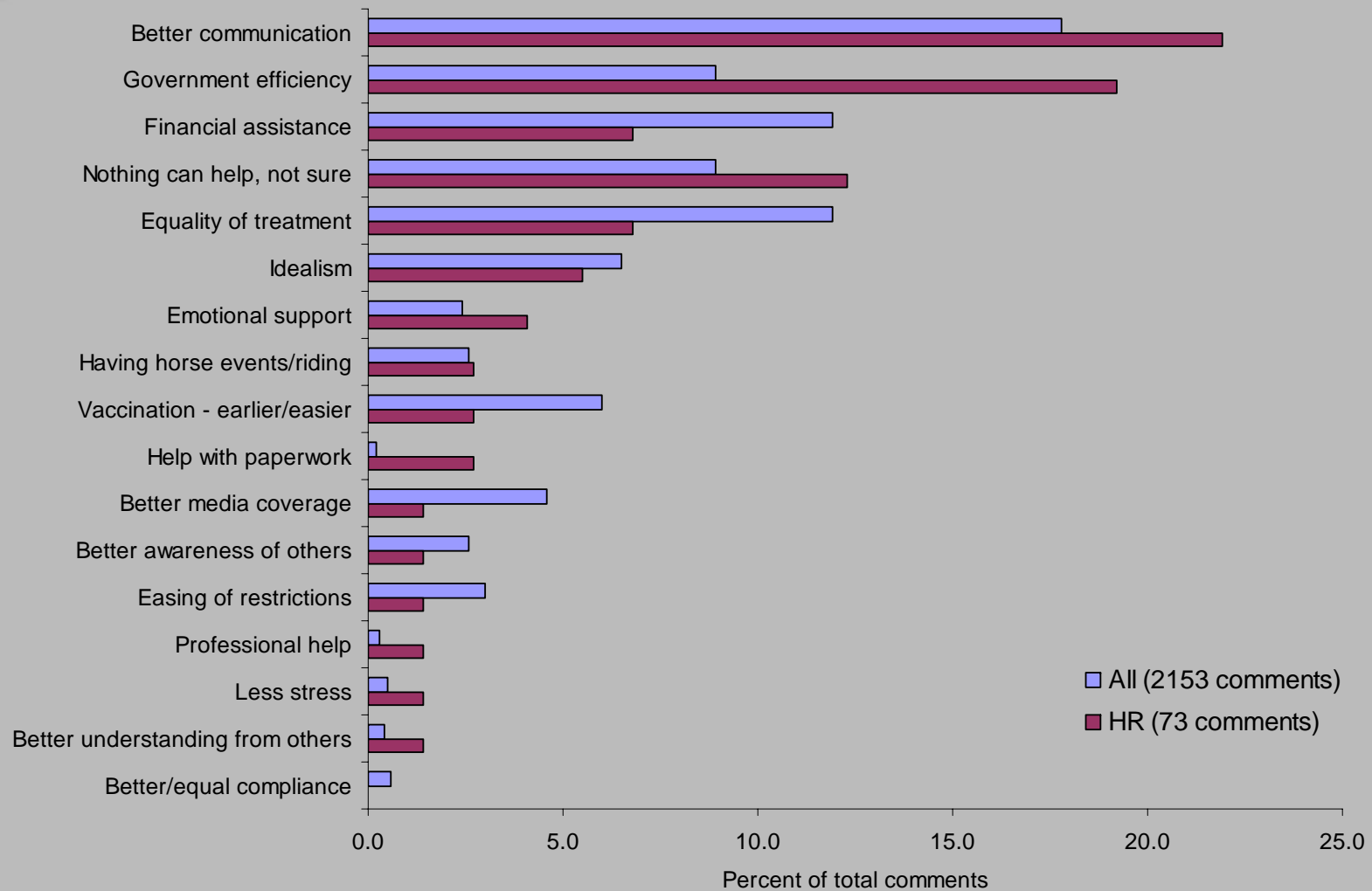
	All	HR
...State/Territory lead Govt. Dept. (e.g. DPI)	77.0	67.3
...Centrelink	52.0	58.1
...Industry groups/representatives	80.2	80.5
...Local media	45.7	67.9
...National media	45.5	68.6
...Your vet	90.9	89.2
...Others similarly affected	95.1	88.9
...Friends	95.4	94.3

# Level of support available

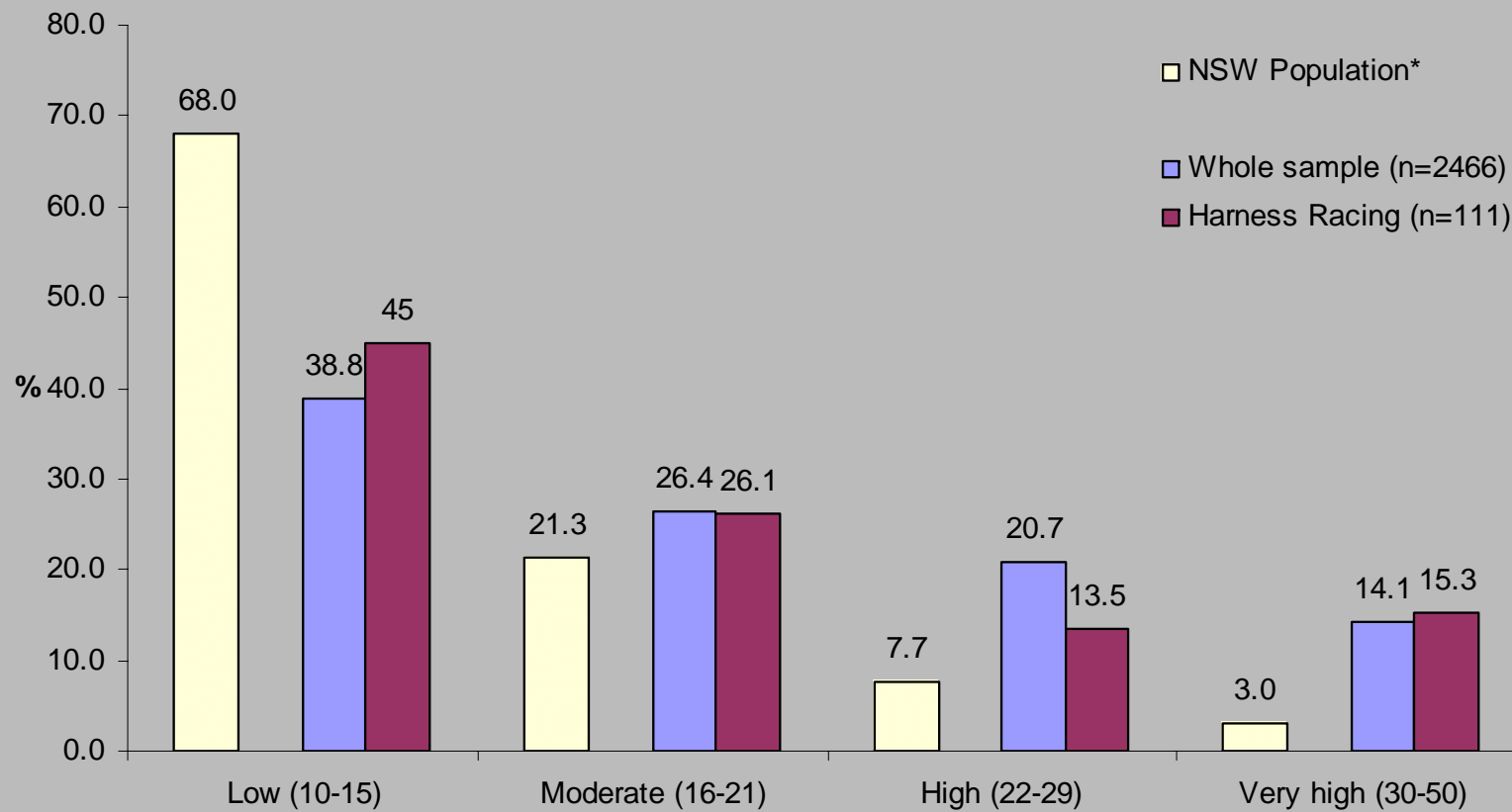
How would you rate the overall level of support that has been available to you during the current equine influenza situation?



# Making coping with EI easier



# Mental health impacts: Psychological distress



\*NSW Adult Population Health Survey (2006)- representative population survey data



## The future: Next steps

- Reporting
  - Complete summary report
  - Disseminate results
  - Publish
- Follow-up
  - 55% willing for follow-up / e-mail details
  - Assess recovery – across sectors and zones
  - Is the psychological distress enduring? What are the protective factors, what aids recovery?