

4-24-2020

Attitudes of Boise State Students on the Exemption of Immunizations Law in Idaho

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AGE, HEALTH CONCERNS, AND RELIGION RELATING TO VACCINES

INTRODUCTION

- Exemption of Immunization Law: Any minor child whose parent or guardian has submitted a signed statement to school officials stating their objections on religious or other grounds shall be exempt from the provisions of this chapter. (Russell, 2019)
- Idaho has one of the highest rates of vaccination exemption with numbers continually increasing. (Devitt, 2018)

ANALYSIS / DATA -

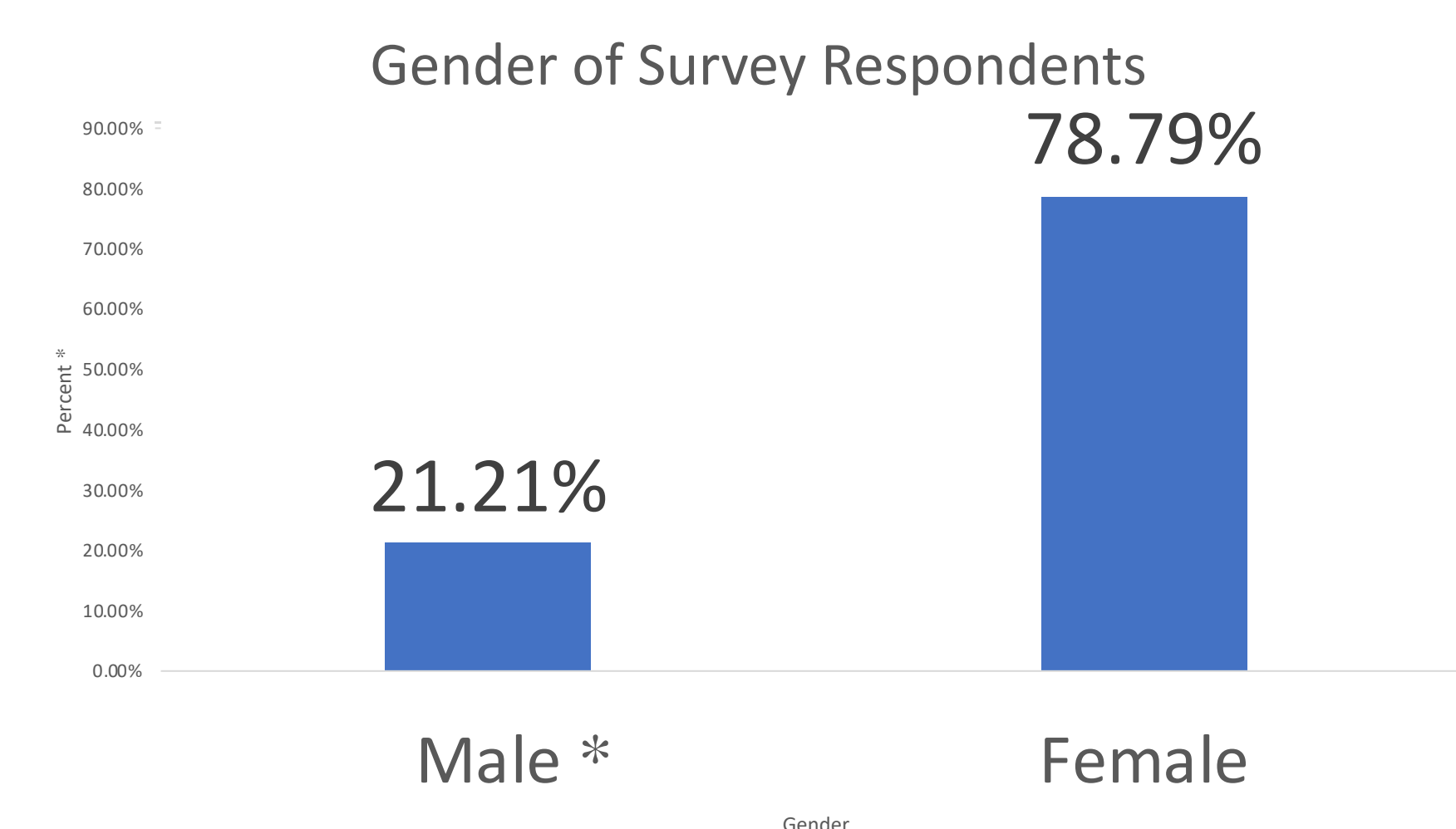
- Respondents largely agreed that it is important for everyone to get the recommended vaccines (M=4.52 * on a scale of 1 through 5). *
- Overall, respondents tended to agree that their personal religious and/or philosophical beliefs do not influence them to be exempt from immunizations (M=1.44 on a scale of 1 through 5)
- A majority of respondents identifying in the younger age ranges do not support the exemption of immunization law in Idaho (see Figure 3).

METHODS

- Observational study administered via Qualtrics.
- The study population is a sample of 33 adult students enrolled in HLTH 382.
- Students have access to survey by a shared anonymous link to Qualtrics via Blackboard in order to complete.
- Students provide consent at the beginning of survey * by clicking an option that acknowledges their own * informed consent.
- Statistical testing using chi-square test of percentages were used for the findings.

GENDER

- Male, 21.21%
- Female, 78.79%



RELIGION AND VACCINATIONS

- Respondents affiliated with a religion had higher rates of not supporting the exemption of immunization law in Idaho (see Figure 1).
- Respondents affiliated with atheism had an equal ratio of support and not supporting the exemption of immunization in Idaho (see Figure 1).

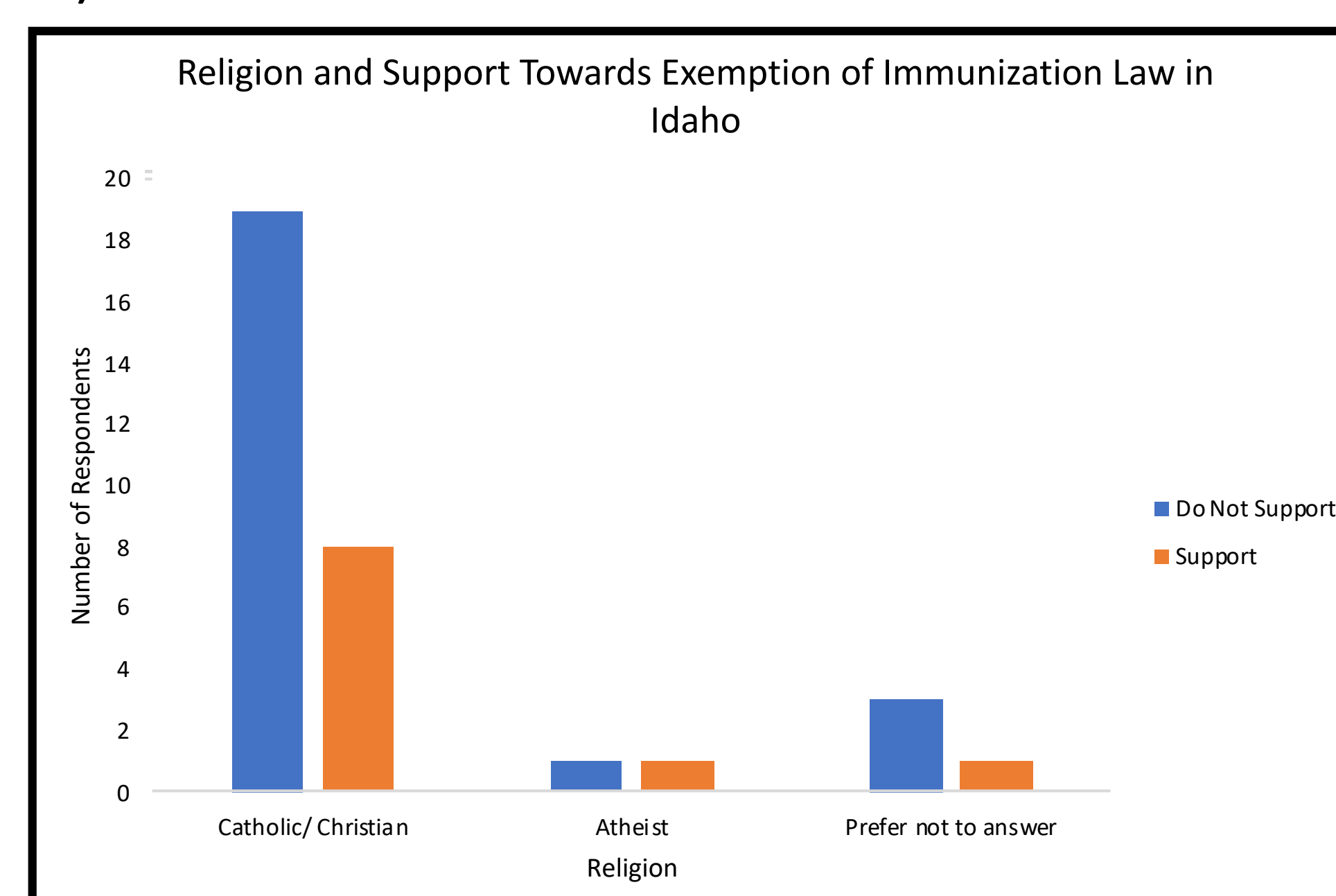


Figure 1

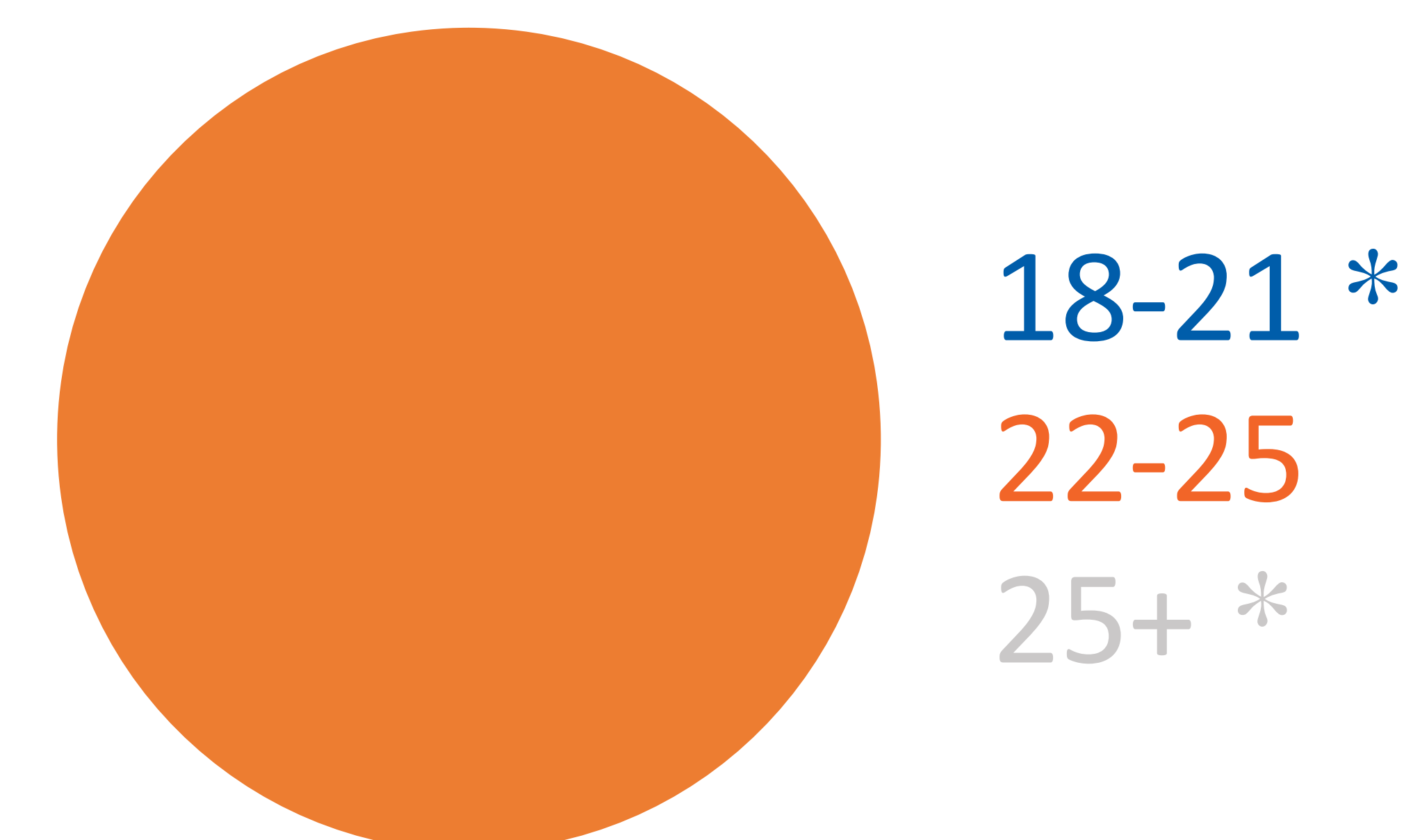
CONCLUSION

- Religion is not related to whether or not undergraduate Boise State health students support the exemption of immunization law in Idaho.
- Respondents identifying with the younger age ranges tend to not support the exemption of immunization law more than the older age range who has a balanced ratio of support.
- A majority of respondents do not believe vaccines can cause more harm than good as well as do not support the exemption of immunization law.
- Further research could allow for a greater sample size * with a variety of different majors involved instead of solely health.

AGE -

- 54.55% were ages 18-21
- 33.33% were ages 22-25
- Remaining 12.12% were age 25 or older *

Age of Respondents *



HEALTH CONCERNS

- A majority of the respondents disagree that vaccinations can cause more harm than good when related to the health of an individual.
- 70% of respondents reported they do not support the exemption of immunization law (see Figure 2).

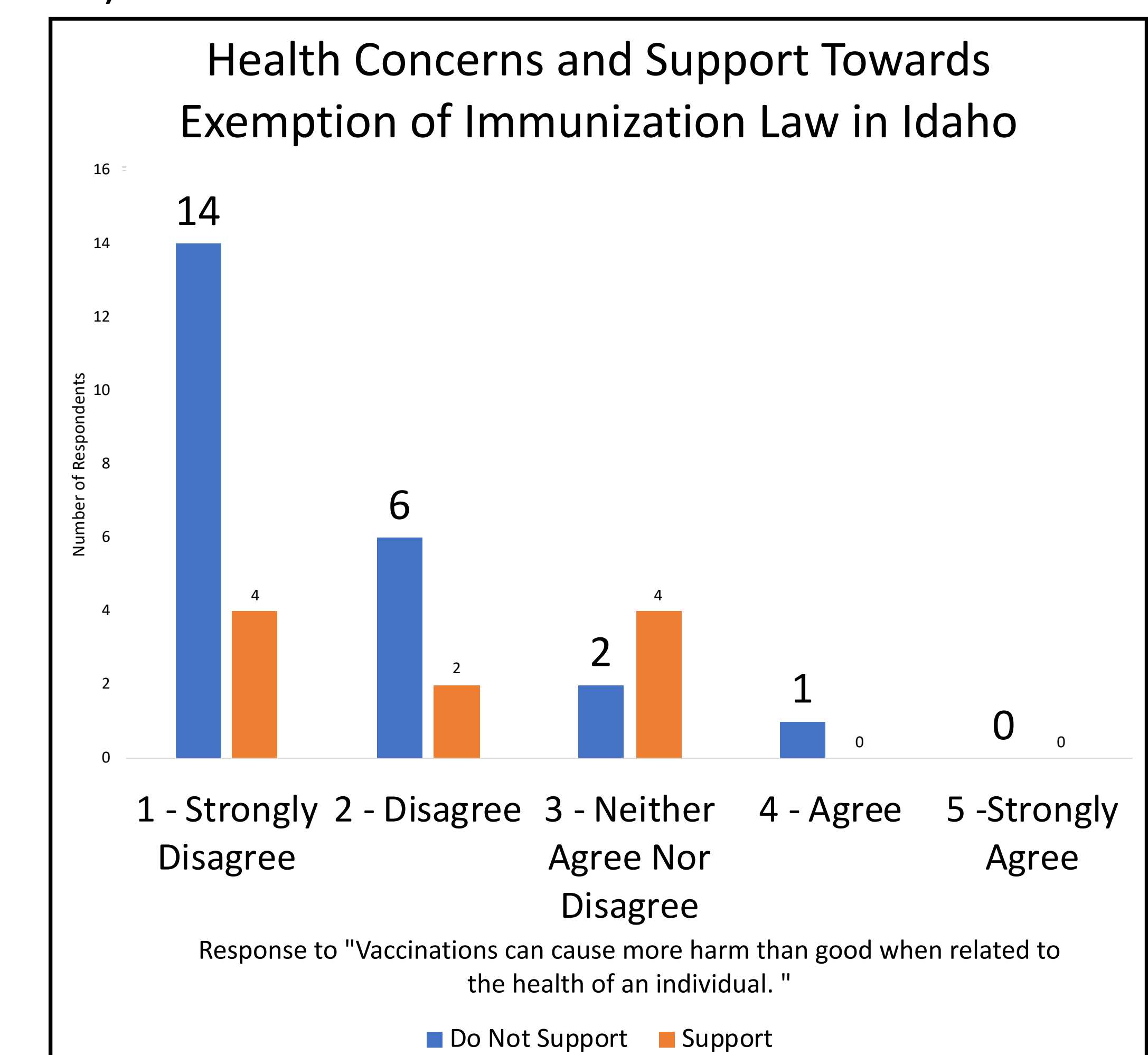


Figure 2 *

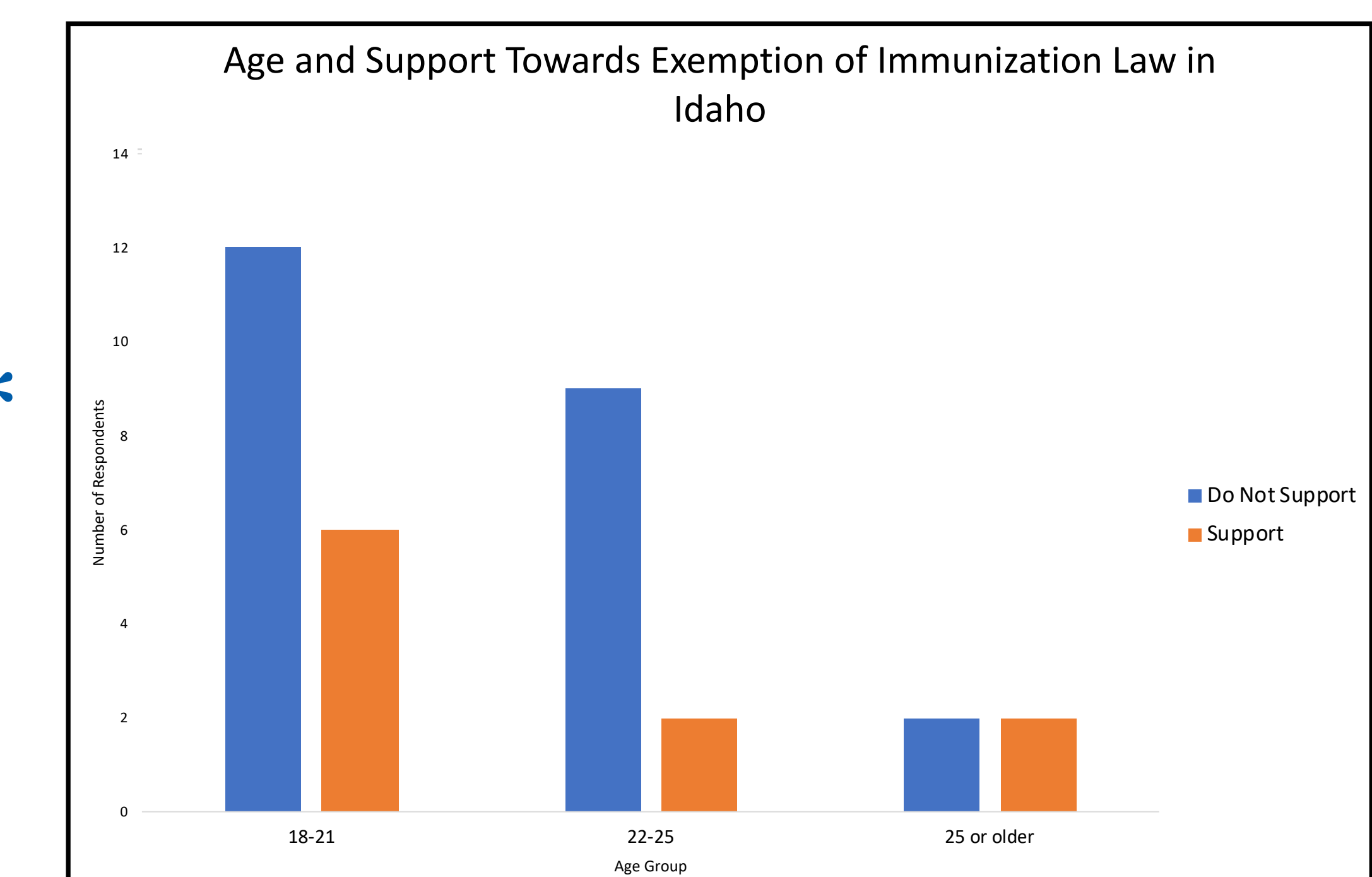


Figure 3