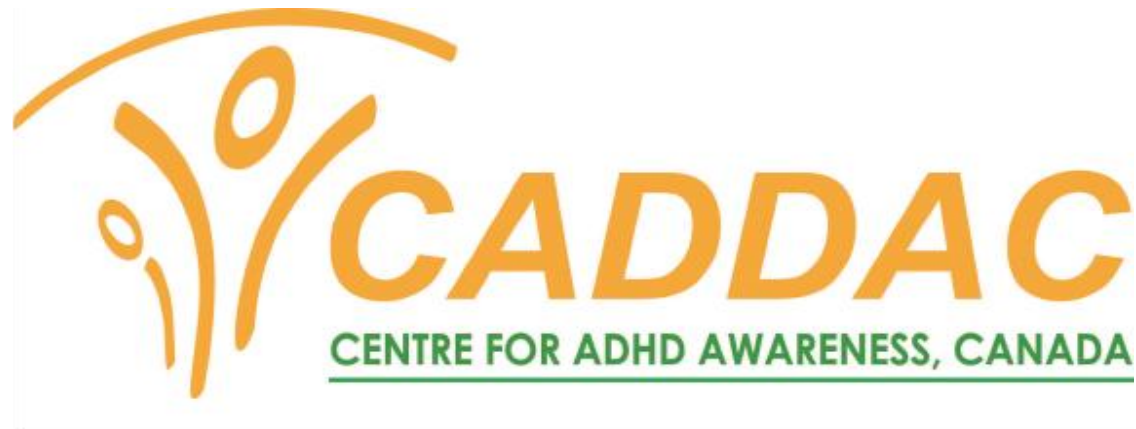


# ADHD Parents Survey Results

April 2012

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## **The Centre for ADHD Awareness, Canada**

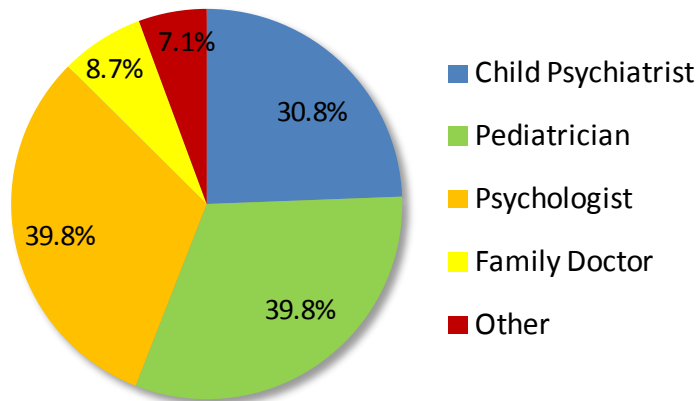
*Is a national not-for-profit organization providing leadership in education and advocacy for ADHD organizations and individuals with ADHD across Canada.*

# Survey Overview

- 735 online survey participants (Q2)
- 595 participants provided a response to all survey questions, some questions were optional
- All provinces represented(Q1)
- 18% of participants have more than one child with ADHD (Q2)
- **Note:** in this presentation, the term “respondents” is used to refer to the number of participants who completed the specific survey question being discussed

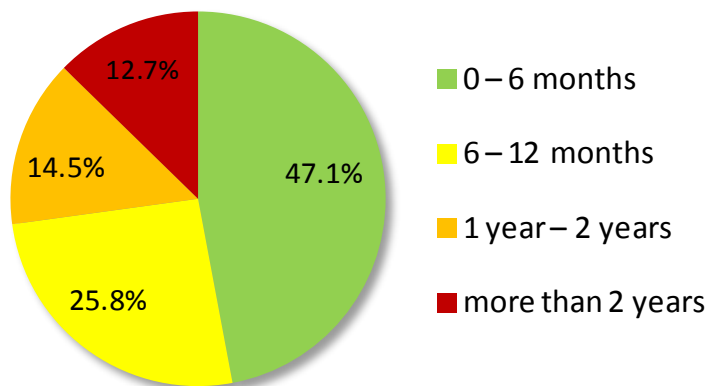
# Assessment & Diagnosis

- Respondent's children were diagnosed by: (Q3)



- 27% of respondent's children waited more than 1 year for an ADHD assessment from a qualified medical professional: (Q8)

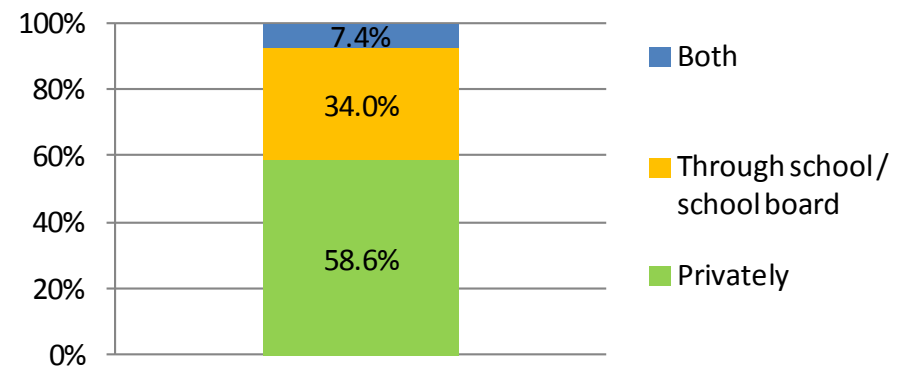
Wait time for child's ADHD assessment



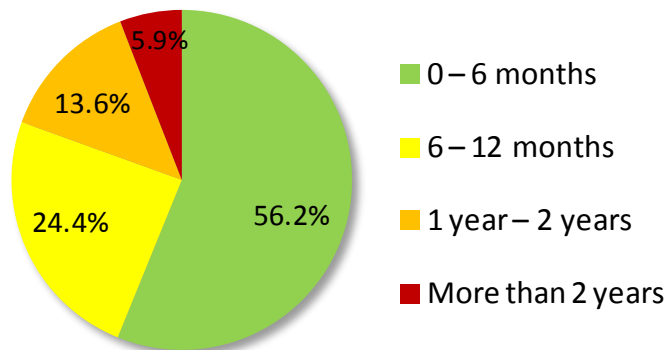
# Assessment & Diagnosis

- 59% of respondent's children received a psycho-educational assessment for ADHD & Learning Disabilities (Q10 & Q11)

How did your child receive the psycho-educational assessment for ADHD & Learning Disabilities?



Wait time for child's psycho-education assessment for ADHD & Learning Disabilities



- 20% of respondent's children waited more than 1 year for for a psycho-educational assessment for ADHD and Learning Disabilities (Q12) - percentage of private testing and wait times 6 months or less appear to correlate

# Treatment

- Respondent's children are being treated by: (Q5 & Q6)

Treatment Type		Treatment Professional	
Medication	73%	Pediatrician	51%
School Accommodations	53%	Family Doctor	37%
Behavioral Strategies	39%	Child Psychiatrist	25%
Information on ADHD	38%	Other	16%
Tutoring	19%	Psychologist	14%
Other	16%	Social Worker	12%
Behavioral Therapy	15%	Coach	4%
Talk Therapy	13%		
Not Being Treated for ADHD	10%		

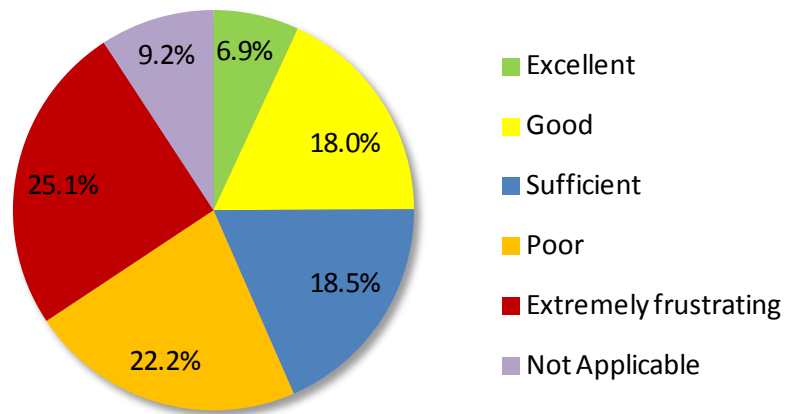
# Treatment

- Respondents indicated their children experience difficulty in the following areas: (Q9)

Academic		Coexisting disorders		Psychosocial	
Staying focused at school	92%	Anxiety	55%	Behavioural issues / Impulsivity	81%
Completing school work	85%	Learning Disabilities	40%	Frustration	80%
Executive functioning / Organization / Time management / Problem solving	82%	Depression	23%	Anger / Outbursts / Meltdowns	72%
Does not have a diagnosed LD, but struggles academically at school	74%	Central Auditory Processing Disorder	13%	Hyperactivity	56%
Understanding & following instructions	26%	Other neurobiological disorder(s)	9%	Interacting with parents	54%
				Making & keeping friends	48%
				Relationship with siblings	48%
				Interacting with authority figures	38%

# Treatment

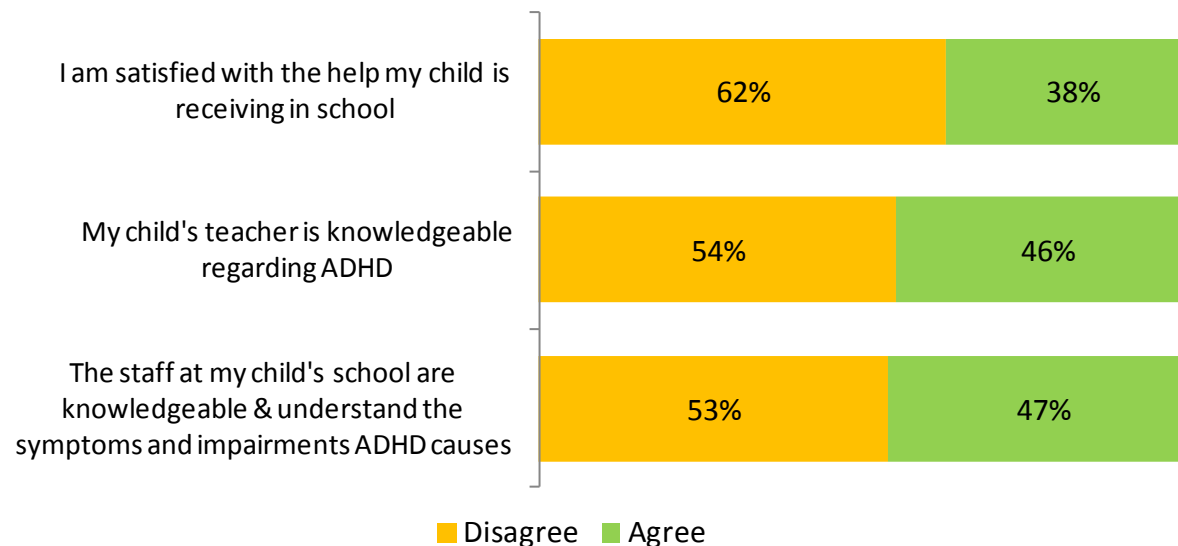
- 55% of parents feel they have not received sufficient information on ADHD from the physician treating their child (Q15)
- Almost half of parents have had a negative experience receiving help from their health care provider with navigating the school system & obtaining assistance for their child: (Q18)





# School System

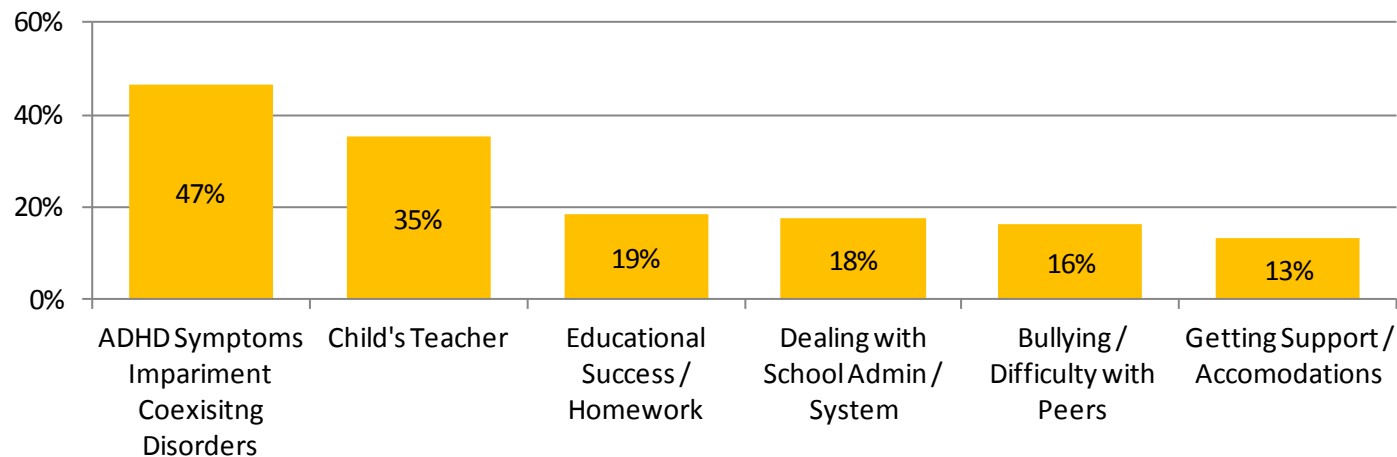
- Half of respondent's children are currently receiving assistance in the school system with their ADHD learning difficulties (Q19)
- More than 50% of parents disagreed with the following statements regarding knowledge of ADHD & assistance for their children from schools: (Q21)



# School System

- When preparing their children for the upcoming school year parents most commonly stress over their child's symptoms and impairments : (Q22)

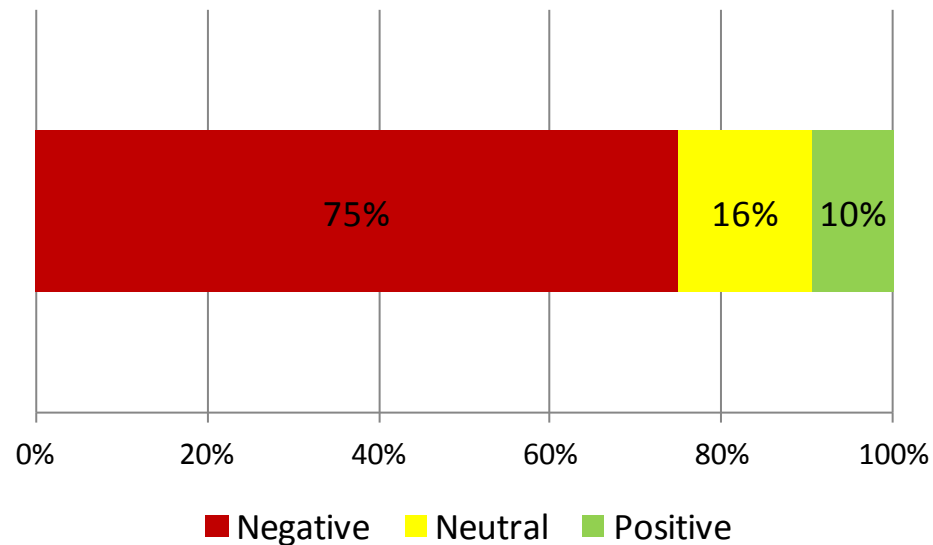
What do you stress about when anticipating your child's return to school?



- 25% of parents have had their child suspended from school & 5% have been expelled (Q23)

# School System

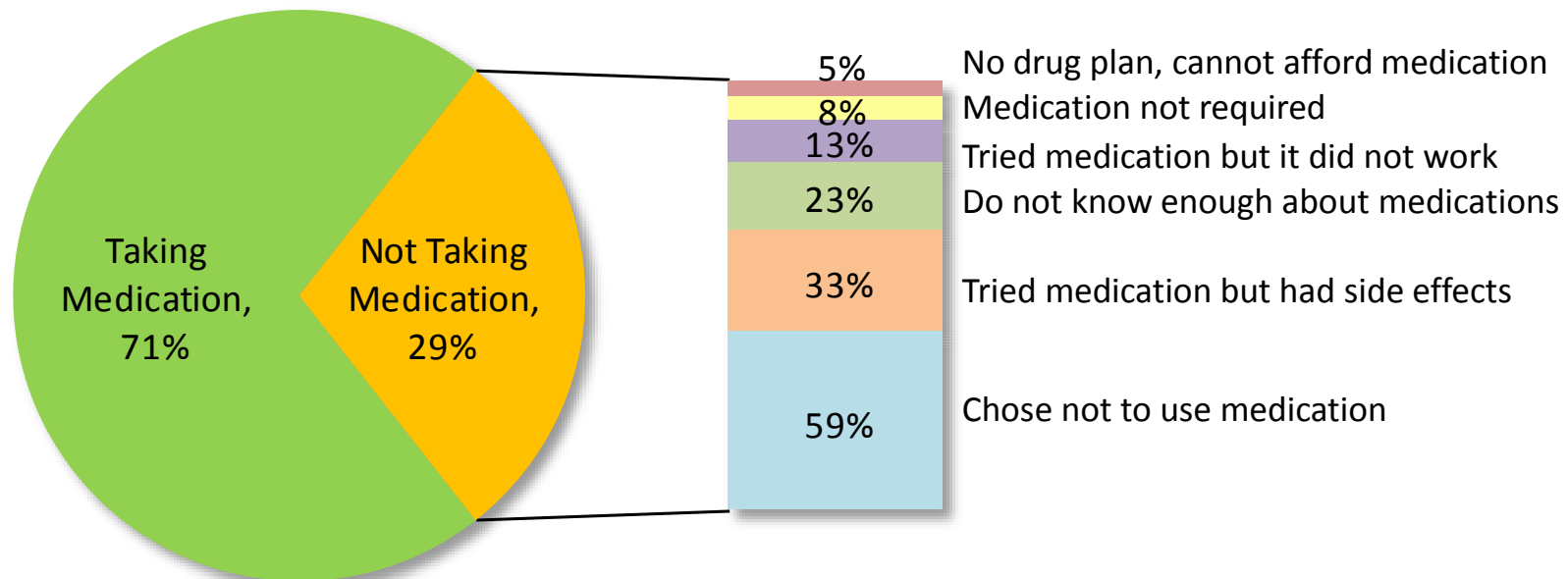
- Feedback was overwhelmingly negative when parent's were asked to write a brief description regarding their family's experiences and feelings with the school system and their child with ADHD: (Q26)



# Medication

- 71% of parents have children who are currently on an ADHD medication (Q28 & Q29)

Parent's reasons for not using medication as part of their child's ADHD treatment

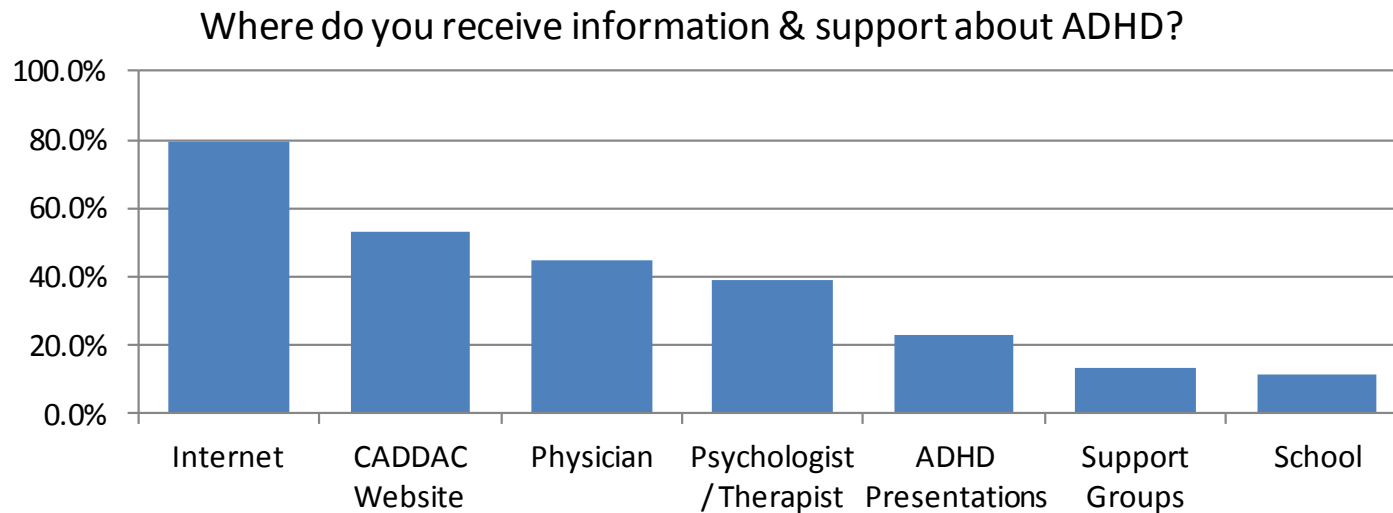


# Medication

- 18% of these parents indicated their children had been switched to a generic form of the brand name medication they were originally prescribed and 14% were unsure. (Q33)
  - Only 13% of parents are pleased with the switch (Q34)
  - 35% said the change was made without their knowledge or consent (Q34)
  - 45% responded that their insurance provider or provincial plan would no longer cover the cost of the name brand (Q34)
  
- 15% parents pay for their child's medication completely out of pocket, while 44% have partial coverage (Q30)

# Advocacy, Awareness, Stigma

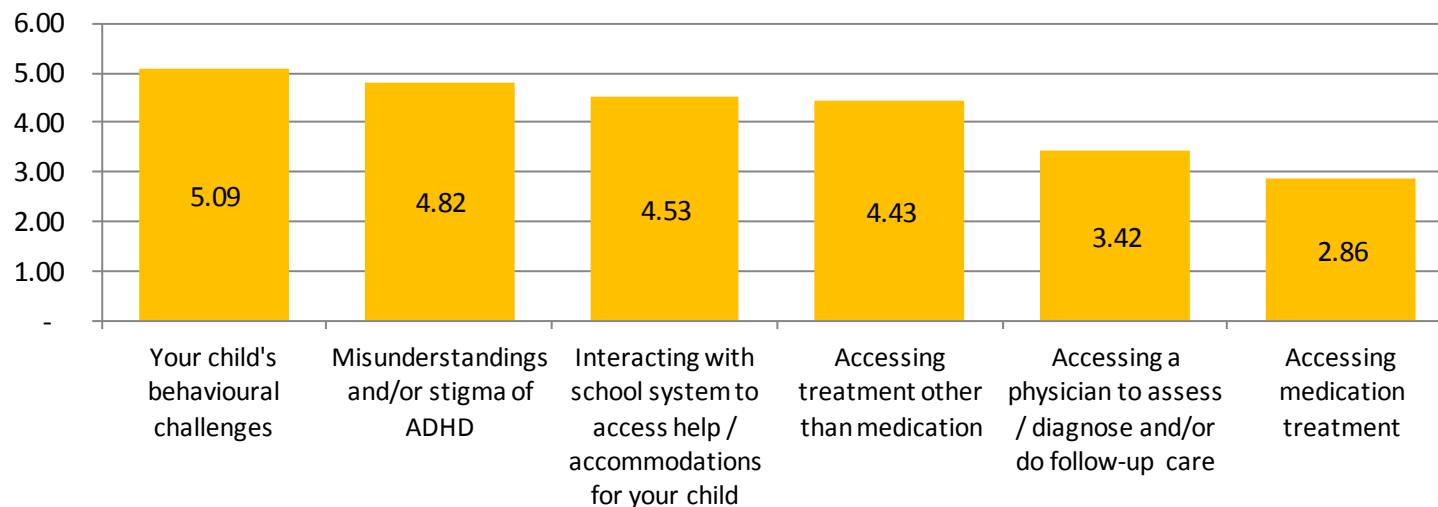
- The most common sources of ADHD information for parents are the internet & the CADDAC website:



# Advocacy, Awareness, Stigma

- Parents felt that dealing with misunderstandings and/or the stigma of ADHD is almost as stressful as dealing with their child’s behavioural challenges
- School interactions and accessing non-medication treatments were only slightly less stressful

Please rate the following statements in the order of "most stressful" to "least stressful"



\*The graph shows the average rating indicated by parents for each statement, with possible values ranging from 1 to 6 for least stressful to most stressful

Thanks for listening  
[www.caddac.ca](http://www.caddac.ca)

