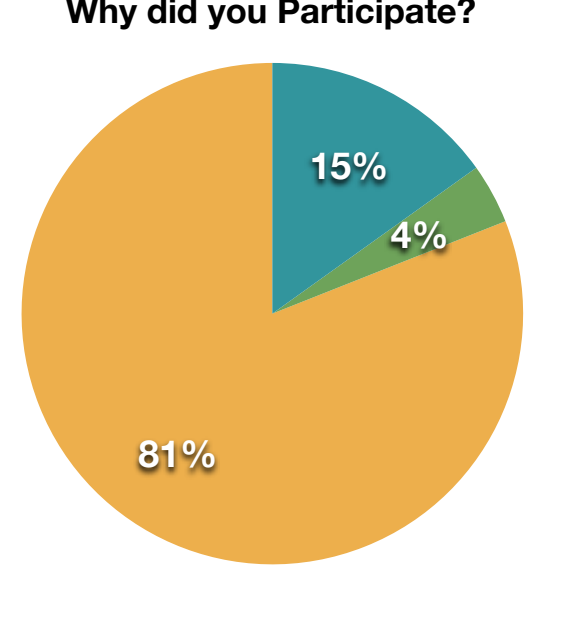


Flats and Handwashing Challenge 2012 Results

www.dirtydiaperlaundry.com

Region 1	39	10	208
	For advocacy.	For Fun.	Both.

Why did you Participate?

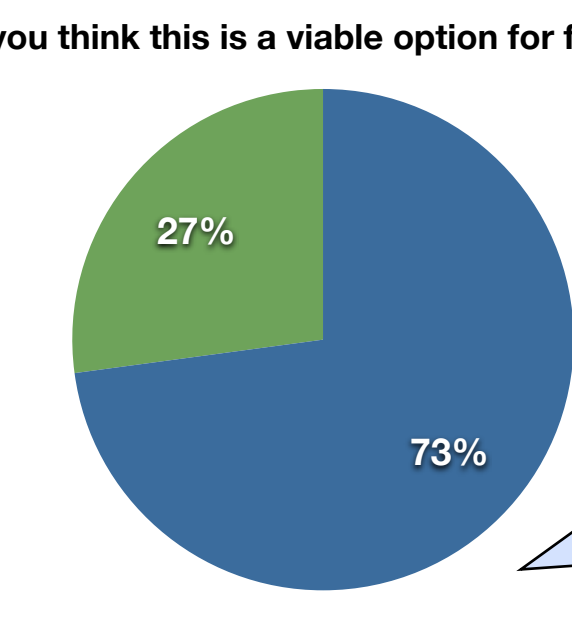


I would love to help raise awareness. I would also be able to know that I could diaper my baby in the event of an emergency where water was scarce, or there was no electricity. In a time like that I couldn't imagine how stressful trying to get all of the kinks out would be.

I own a cloth diaper store, teach classes, and am an RMA circle leader. I have also started a diaper bank and often hear that lower income families will not be able to wash the diapers. I want to experience that it can be done. I am hoping that I can teach others through my experiences.

Region 1	188	70	0
	Yes	Yes, With Mods	No

Do you think this is a viable option for families?

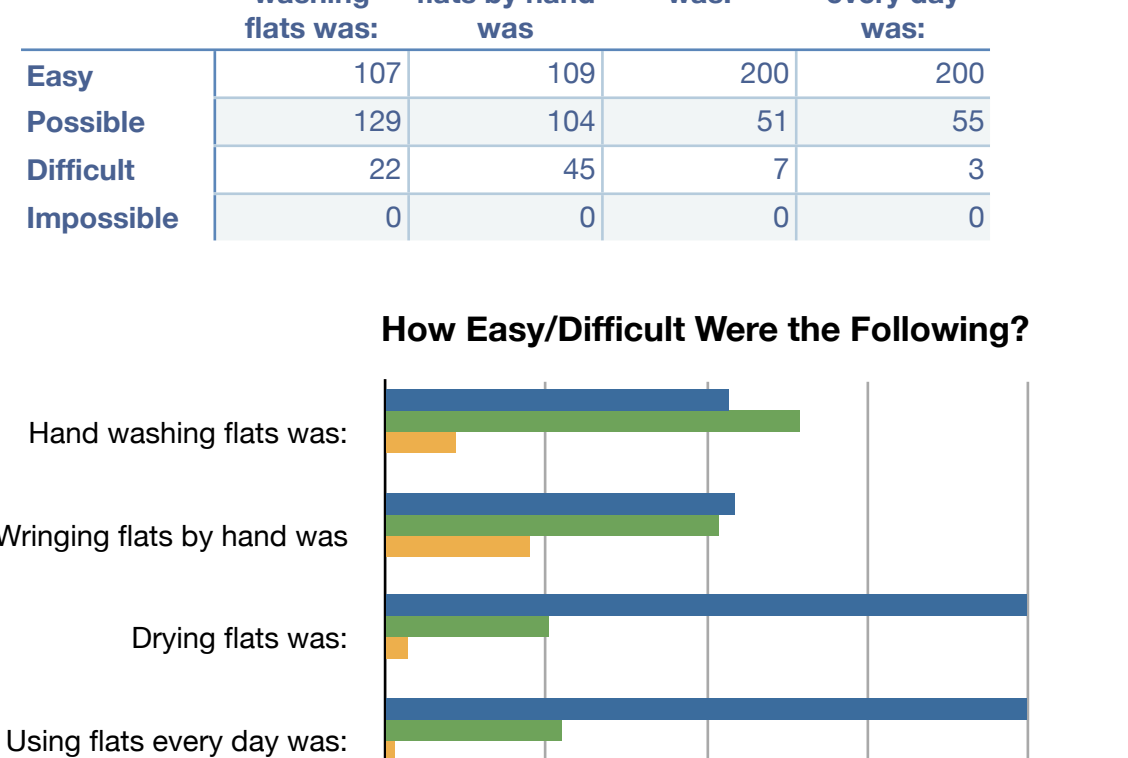


I think that a family in need for whatever reason could definitely find a way to make this work. While initially using flats, covers, & handwashing seems too hard or overwhelming, I found that it was much easier than I had anticipated.

I decided to do this a whole month instead of a week. I also have 5 kids--two being 3 year old twins. If I can find 45 minutes a day to hand wash, anyone can. :)

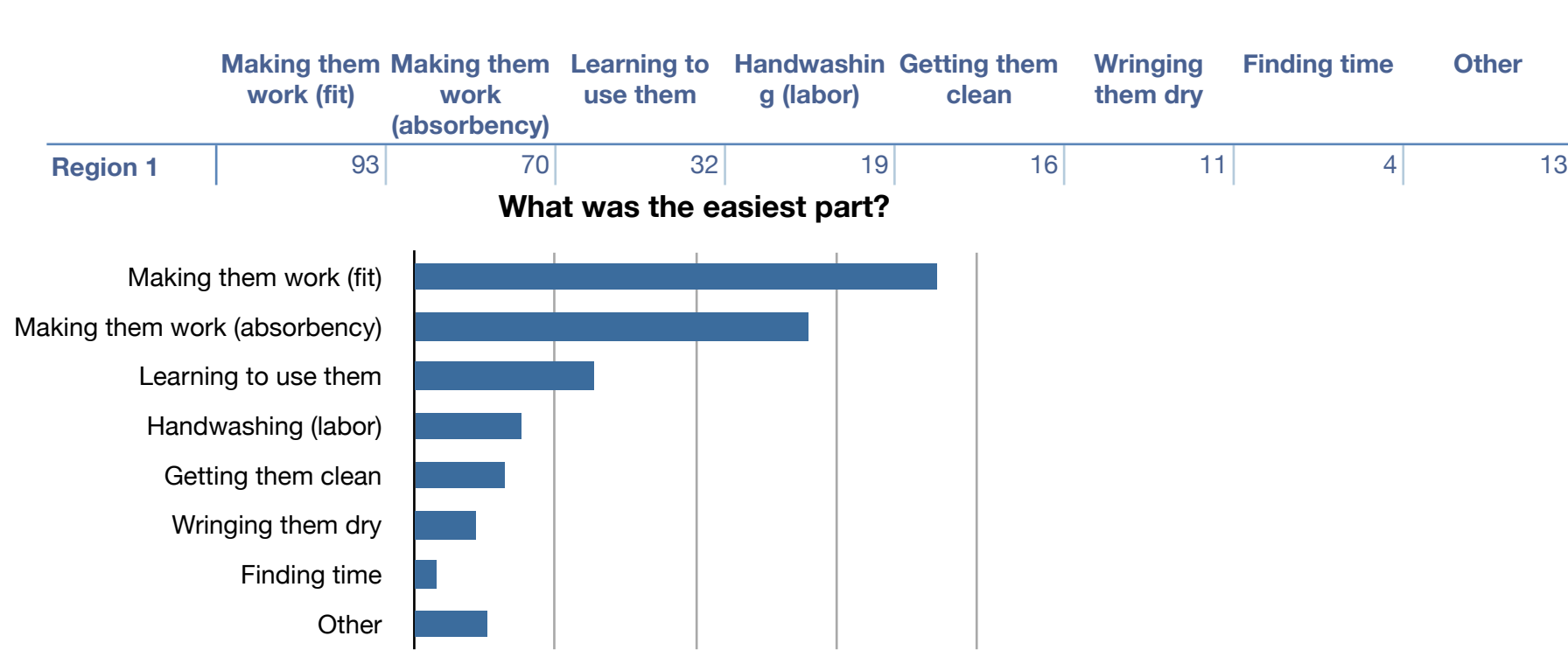
	Hand washing flats was:	Wringing flats by hand was:	Drying flats was:	Using flats every day was:
Easy	107	109	200	200
Possible	129	104	51	55
Difficult	22	45	7	3
Impossible	0	0	0	0

How Easy/Difficult Were the Following?



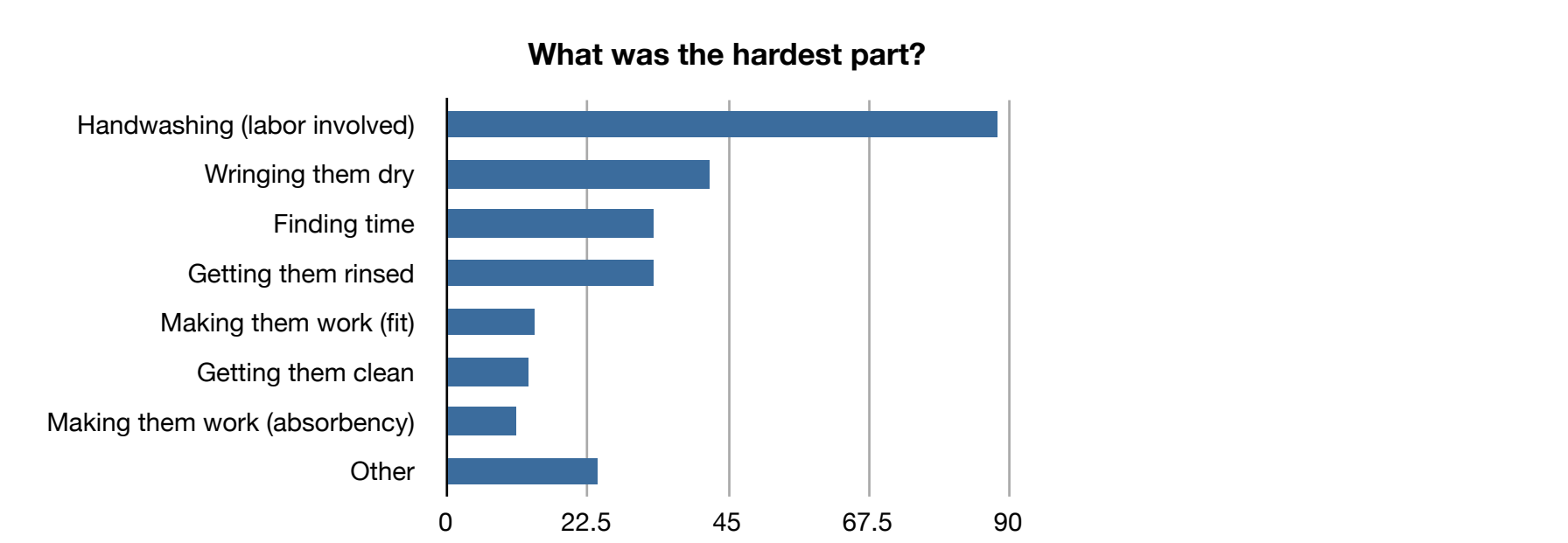
Region 1	93	70	32	19	16	11	4	13
	Making them work (fit)	Making them work (absorbency)	Learning to use them	Handwashing (labor)	Getting them clean	Wringing them dry	Finding time	Other

What was the easiest part?



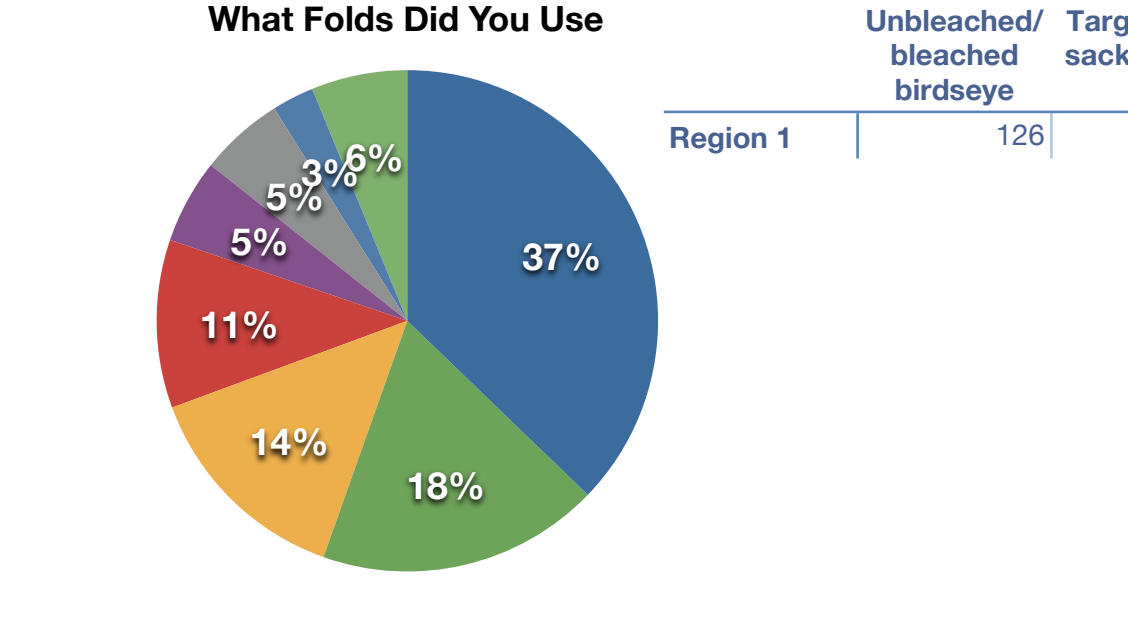
Region 1	88	42	33	33	14	13	11	24
	Handwashing (labor involved)	Wringing them dry	Finding time	Getting them rinsed	Getting them clean	Making them work (fit)	Making them work (absorbency)	Other

What was the hardest part?



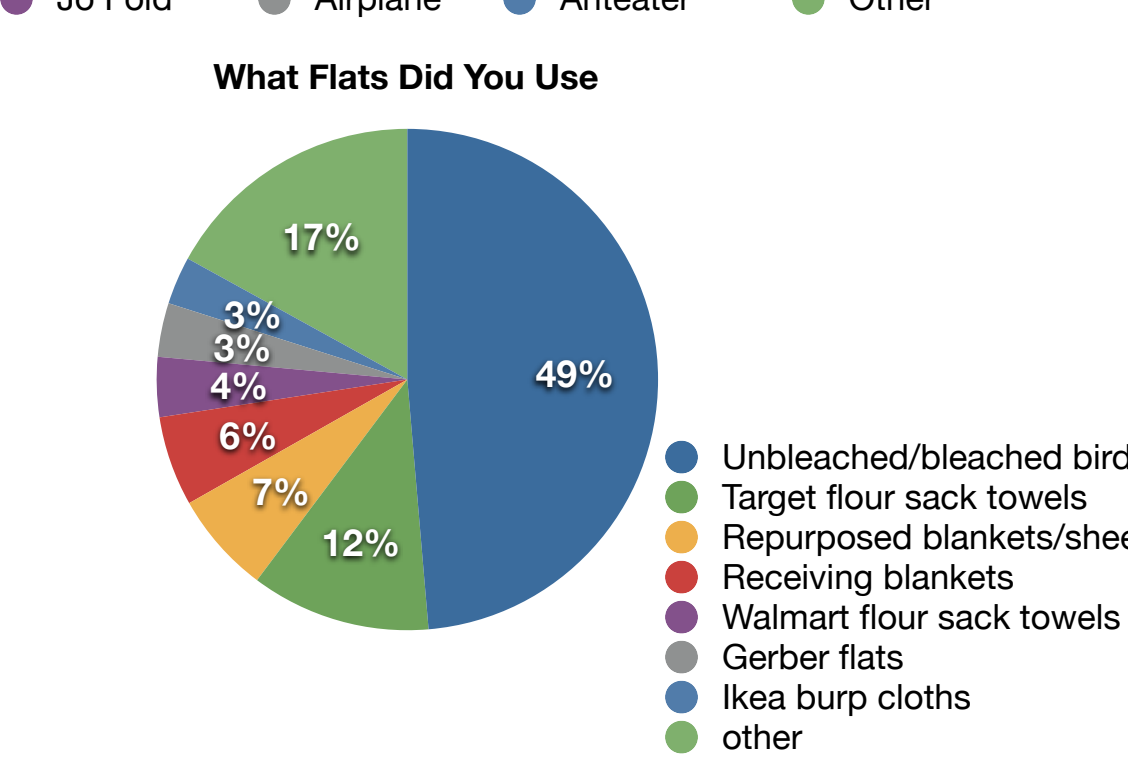
Region 1	96	47	36	28	14	14	7	16
	Pad Fold	Origami	Diaper bag	Kite	Jo Fold	Airplane	Anteater	Other

What Folds Did You Use



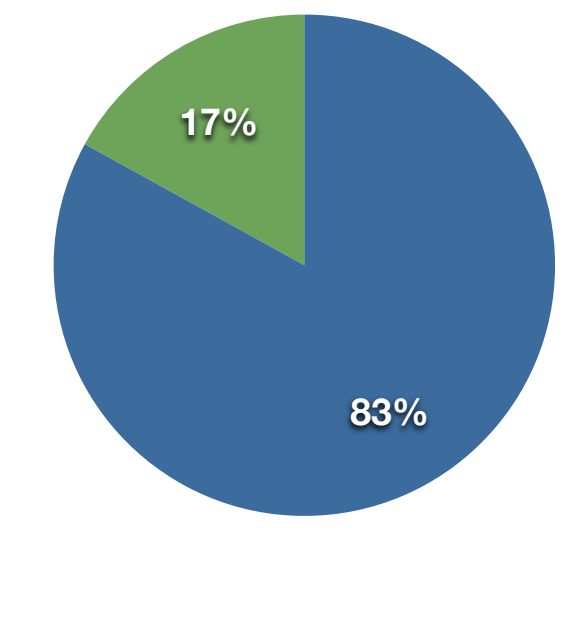
Region 1	126	30	17	15	10	9	8	44
	Unbleached/bleached birdseye	Target flour sack towels	Repurposed blankets/sheets/shirts	Receiving blankets	Walmart flour sack towels	Gerber flats	Ikea burp cloths	other

What Flats Did You Use



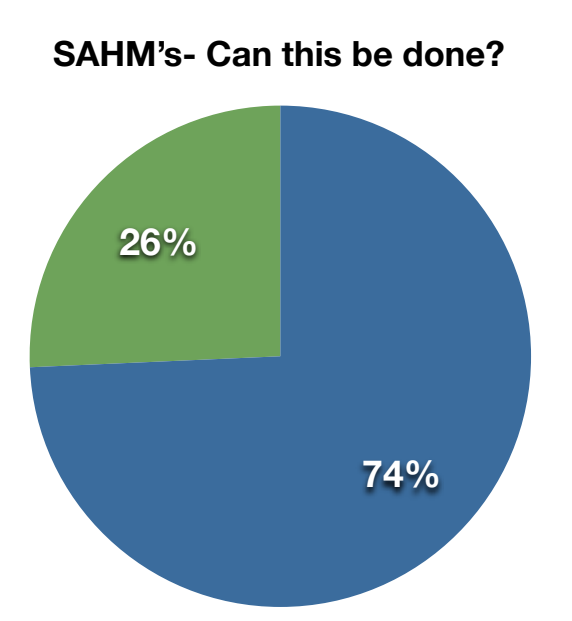
SAHM	44	9	0
	Yes	Yes w/ Mods	No

WAHM's- Can this be done?



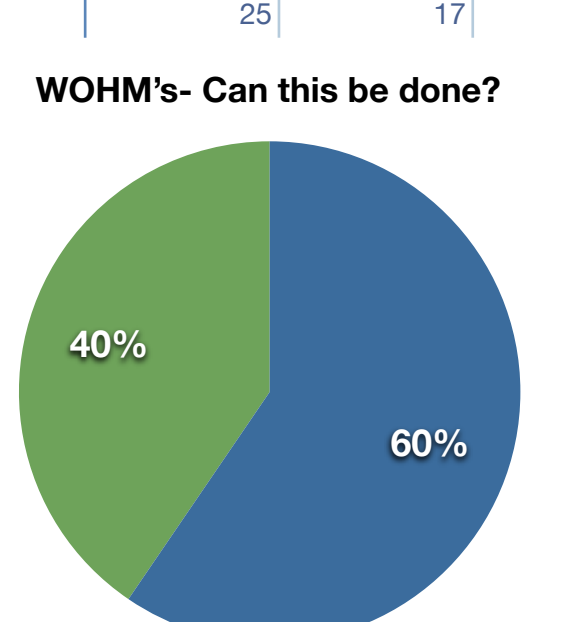
SAHM	133	46	0
	Yes	Yes w/ mods	No

SAHM's- Can this be done?

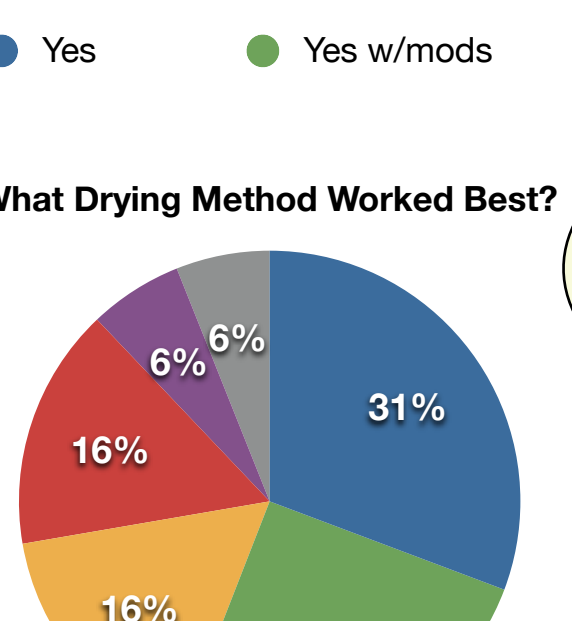


WOHM	25	17	0
	Yes	Yes w/mods	No

WOHM's- Can this be done?



What Drying Method Worked Best?



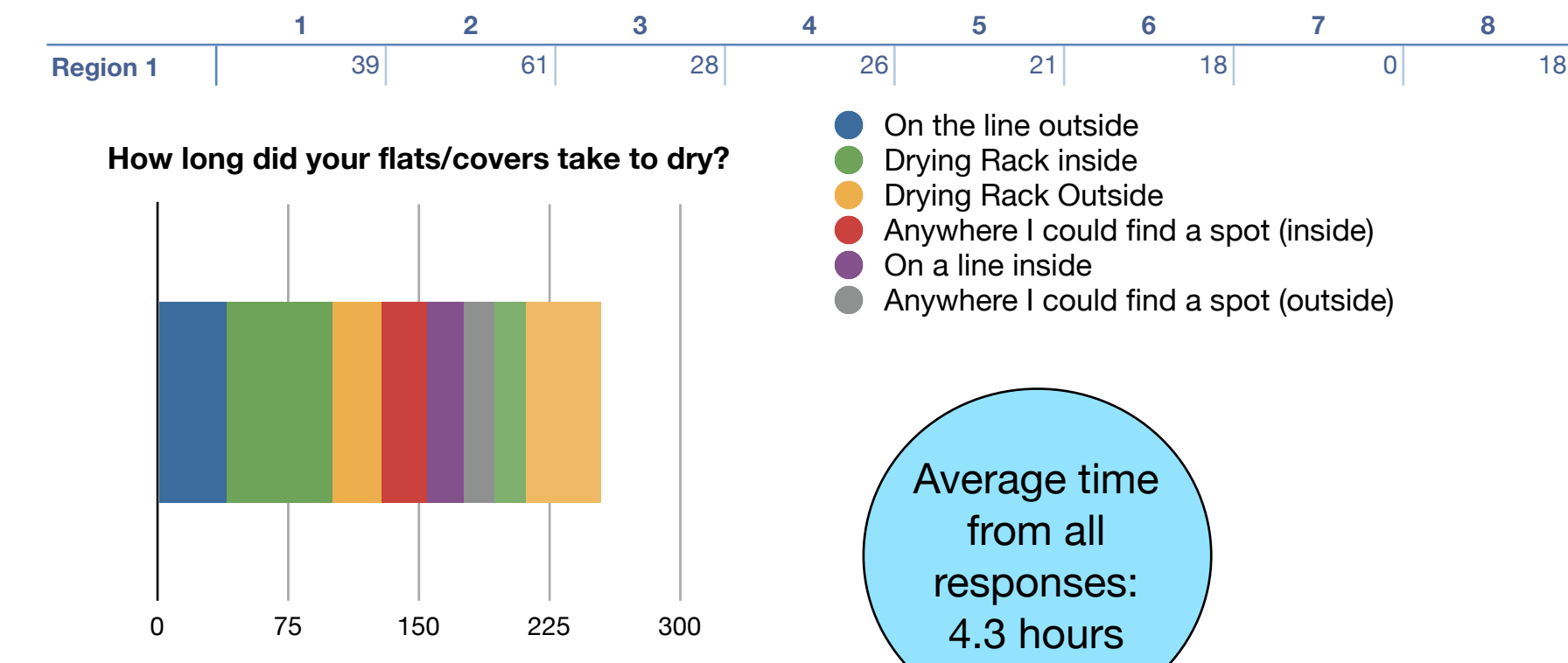
If you don't like wringing diapers and are not in a hurry to have them dry, leave them pretty wet and they dry stower and are softer.

Wringing out the water and good air circulation are essential to fast drying. Rolling covers in a towel then kneeling/stepping on them is a must if you have fewer covers.

Region 1	122	100	65	62	24	24
	On the line outside	Drying Rack inside	Drying Rack Outside	Anywhere I could find a spot (inside)	On a line inside	Anywhere I could find a spot (outside)

Region 1	1	39	61	28	26	21	18	0	18	43
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	other	

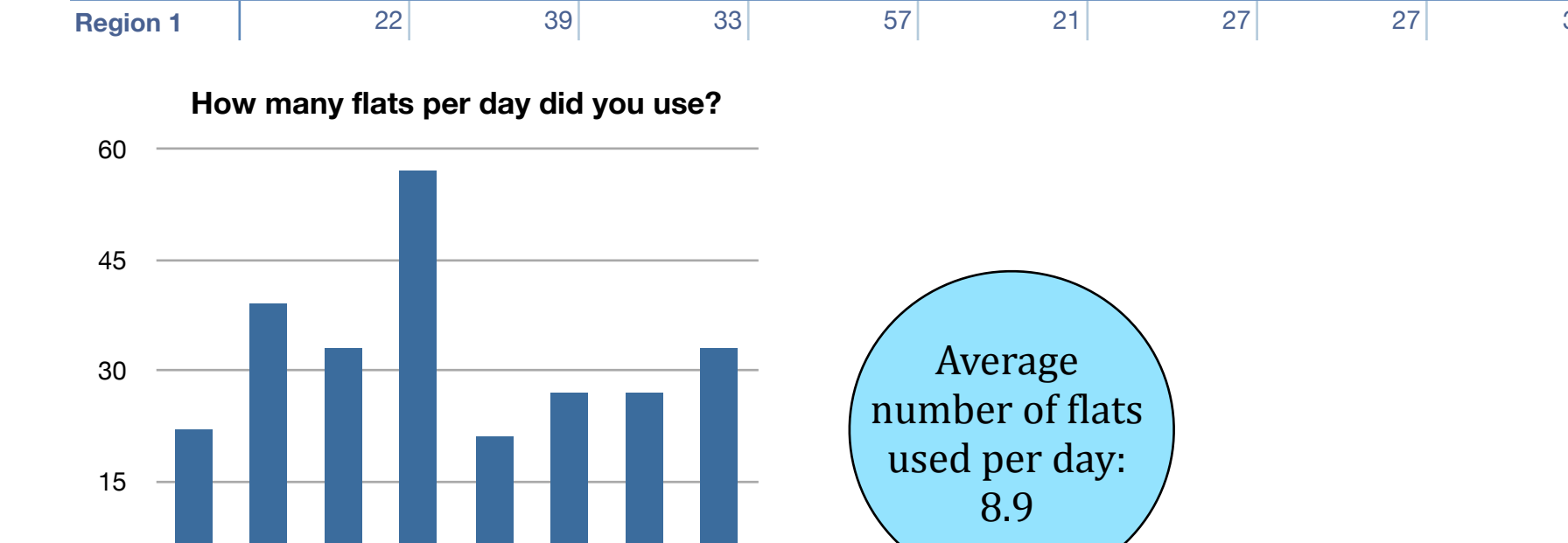
How long did your flats/covers take to dry?



Average time from all responses: 4.3 hours

Region 1	5	22	6	39	33	8	57	21	10	27	12	27	33
	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	other					

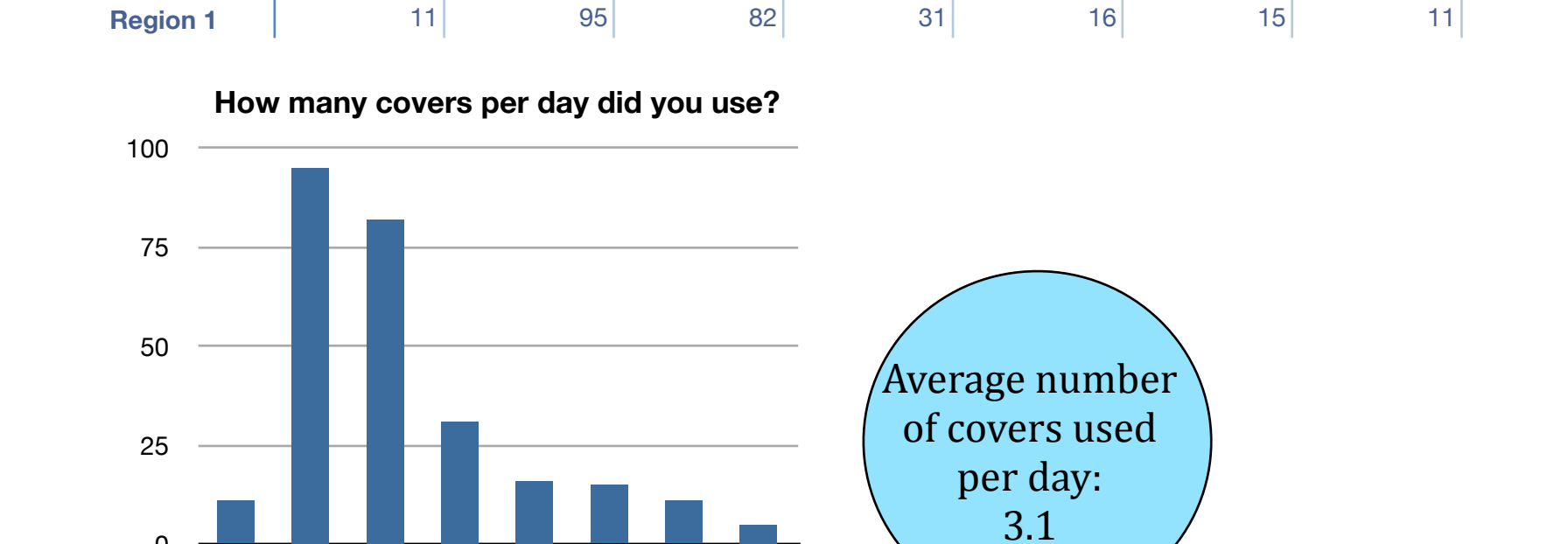
How many flats per day did you use?



Average number of flats used per day: 8.9

Region 1	1	11	95	82	4	31	16	6	15	8	11	5
	1	2	3	4	5	6	8	other				

How many covers per day did you use?



Average number of covers used per day: 3.1

Average Value of diapers used: \$38.38

8.38: Average number times washed in 7 days

260- Individuals took the Challenge
297- Babies wore flats

Observations:

Based on the average number of diapers used per child a family could purchase 20 flats (0.00-\$2.00 each) and 4-6 One Size covers (Econonum, \$8.95 each) and be completely set for less than \$50.00 (if flats were free or covers are less expensive. Under \$100 is a good place to start.)

The most popular washing method was the Camp Style Bucket Washer and Plunger.

Drying times can be cut down by using a line outside, rolling wet covers in a towel, or drying inside in a room with good air circulation.

When participants were asked to alter this system to make it easier for families the answers given most frequently were- "Use flushable liners for the poop" and "Soak the diapers before washing."

Making this doable for every family has a major stumbling block-access to wipeable, one size covers and Snappi's in retail stores nation/worldwide. Flats can be found in many stores, even as flour sack towels, but dependable covers can not. Most families would need to order them online or use pull-on Gerber pants sold in Big Box Stores. Snappi's are also hard to find outside of cloth diaper stores but they make cloth diapering easy for the masses.