

A Nationwide Survey on the Provision of Assistive Technology for Persons with Deafblindness: Focusing on Challenges Faced by Local Governments

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1. Objective

This research aims to clarify the actual conditions of assistive technology usage among persons with deafblindness in Japan, and to identify the challenges they face in accessing necessary daily living equipment.

2. Methods

In this study, a questionnaire survey was conducted in two phases. First, paper-based questionnaires were distributed to 112 individuals with deafblindness. Second, an online survey request was sent to 1741 local governments using the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare's official email distribution system (378 valid responses).

3. Result and Discussion

The findings suggested a discrepancy between the needs of individuals with deafblindness and the services provided by local governments.

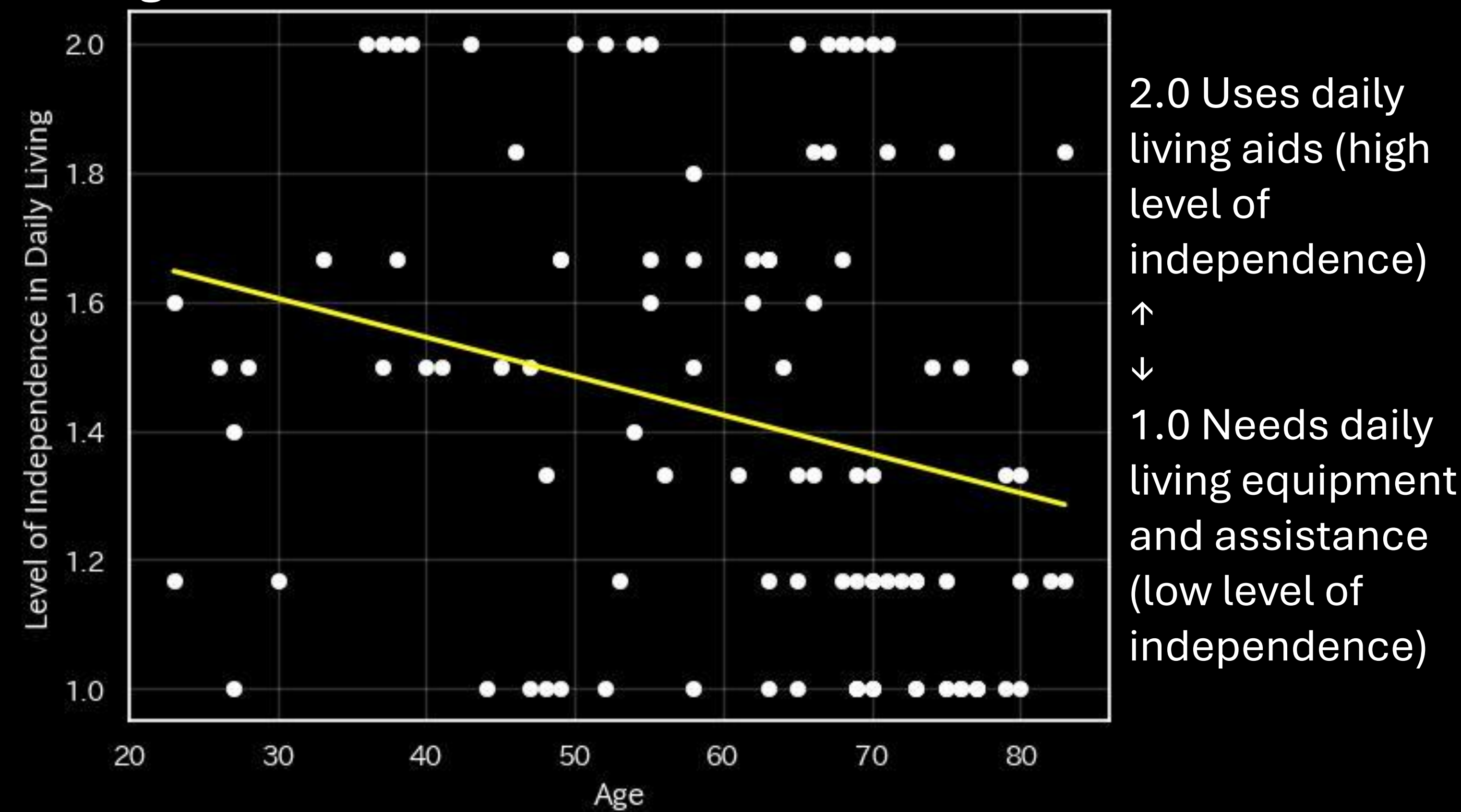


Figure 1: Correlation Diagram between Age and Level of Independence in Daily Living (Spearman's $r = -.325$, $p = .001$)

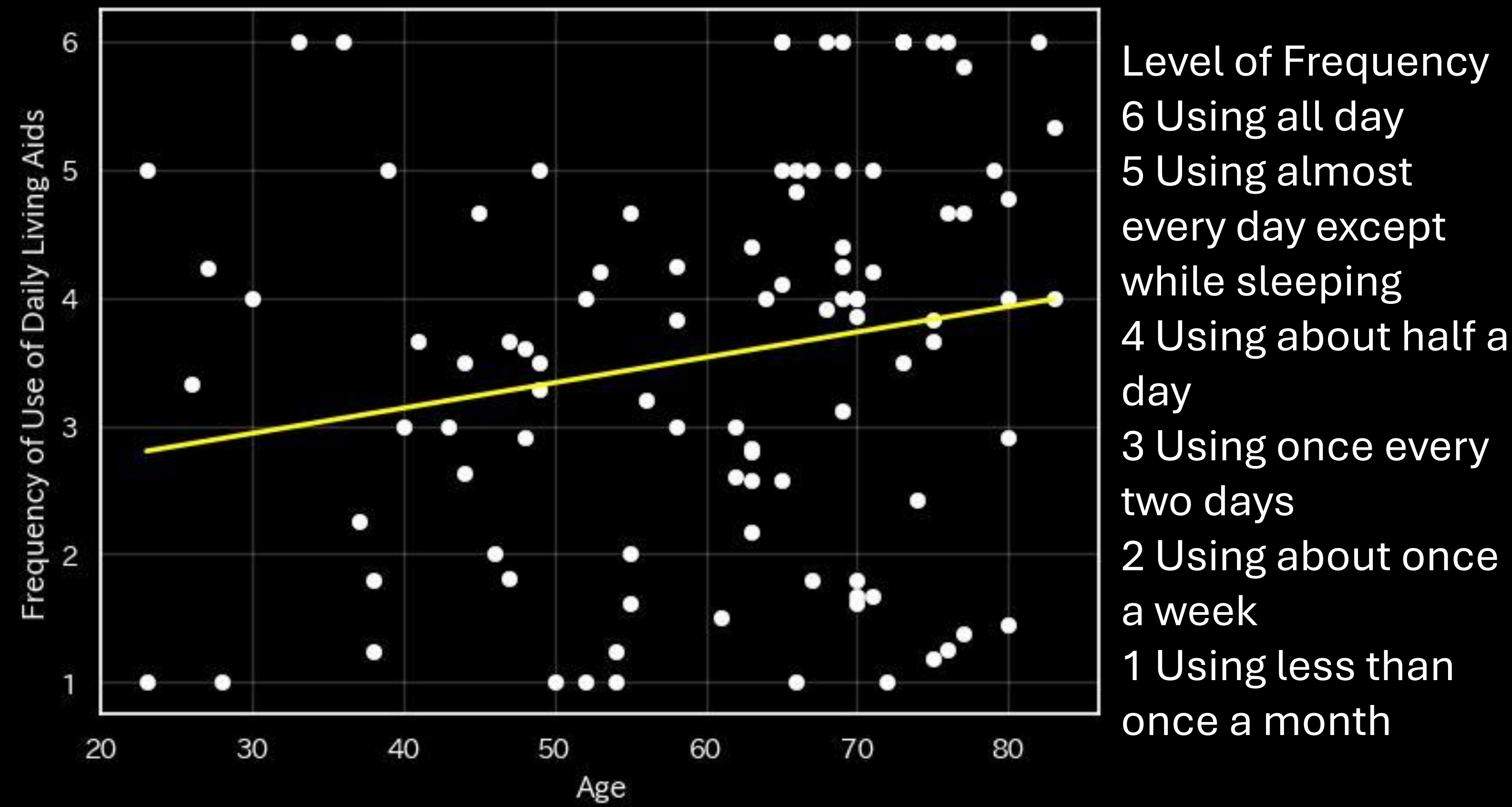


Figure 2: Correlation Diagram between Age and Frequency of Use of Daily Living Aids (Spearman's $r = .218$, $p = .03$)

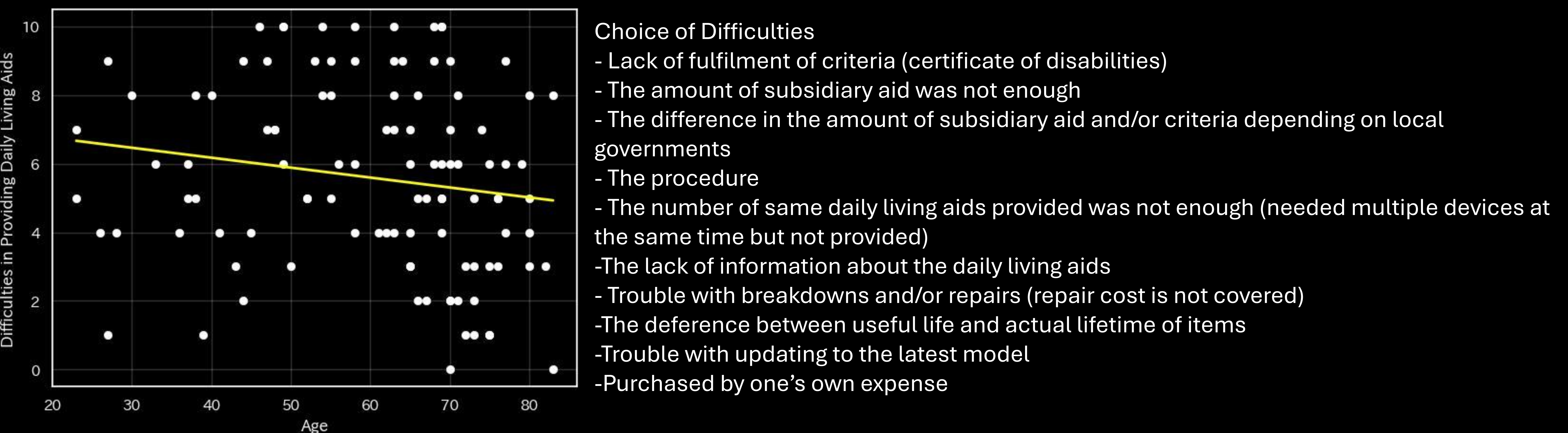


Figure 3: Correlation Diagram between Age and the Number of Difficulties in Providing Daily Living Aids (Spearman's $r = -.227$, $p = .021$)

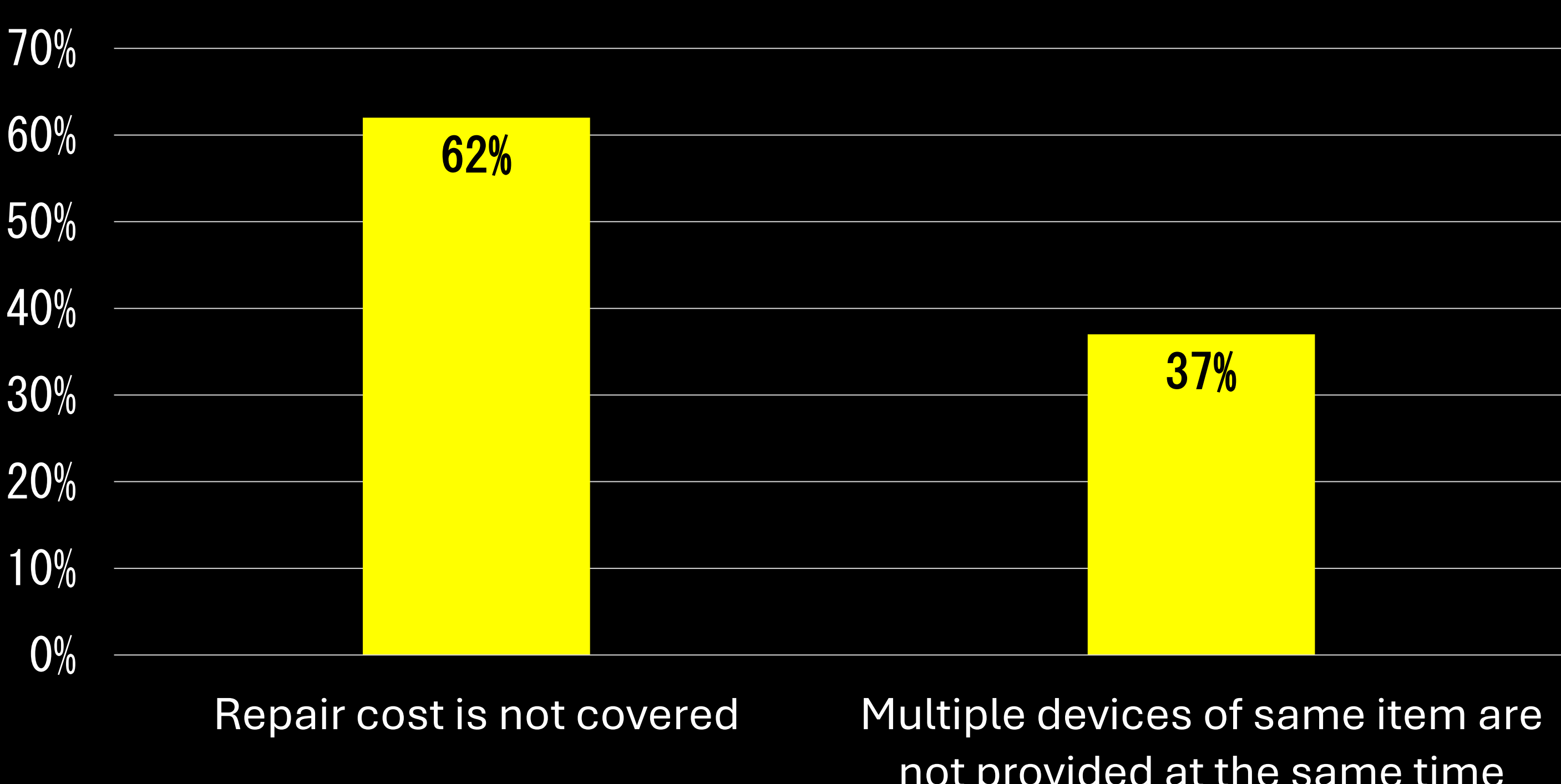


Figure 4: Percentage of Person with Deafblindness who has Difficulties in Providing Daily Living Aids: Details, N=112, multiple answers, excerpted

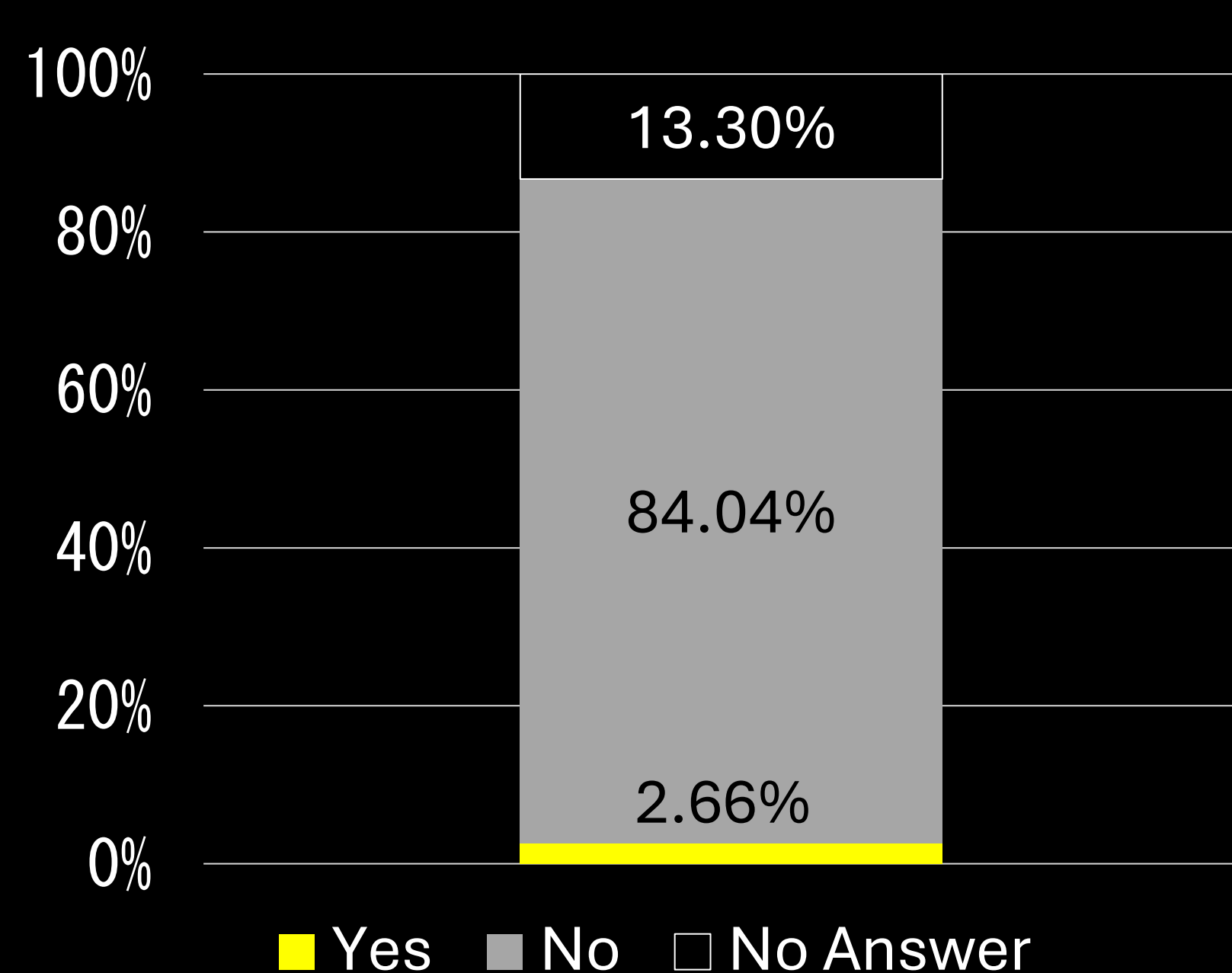


Figure 5: Percentage of Local Governments which Support for Repair Cost of Braille Display, N=376

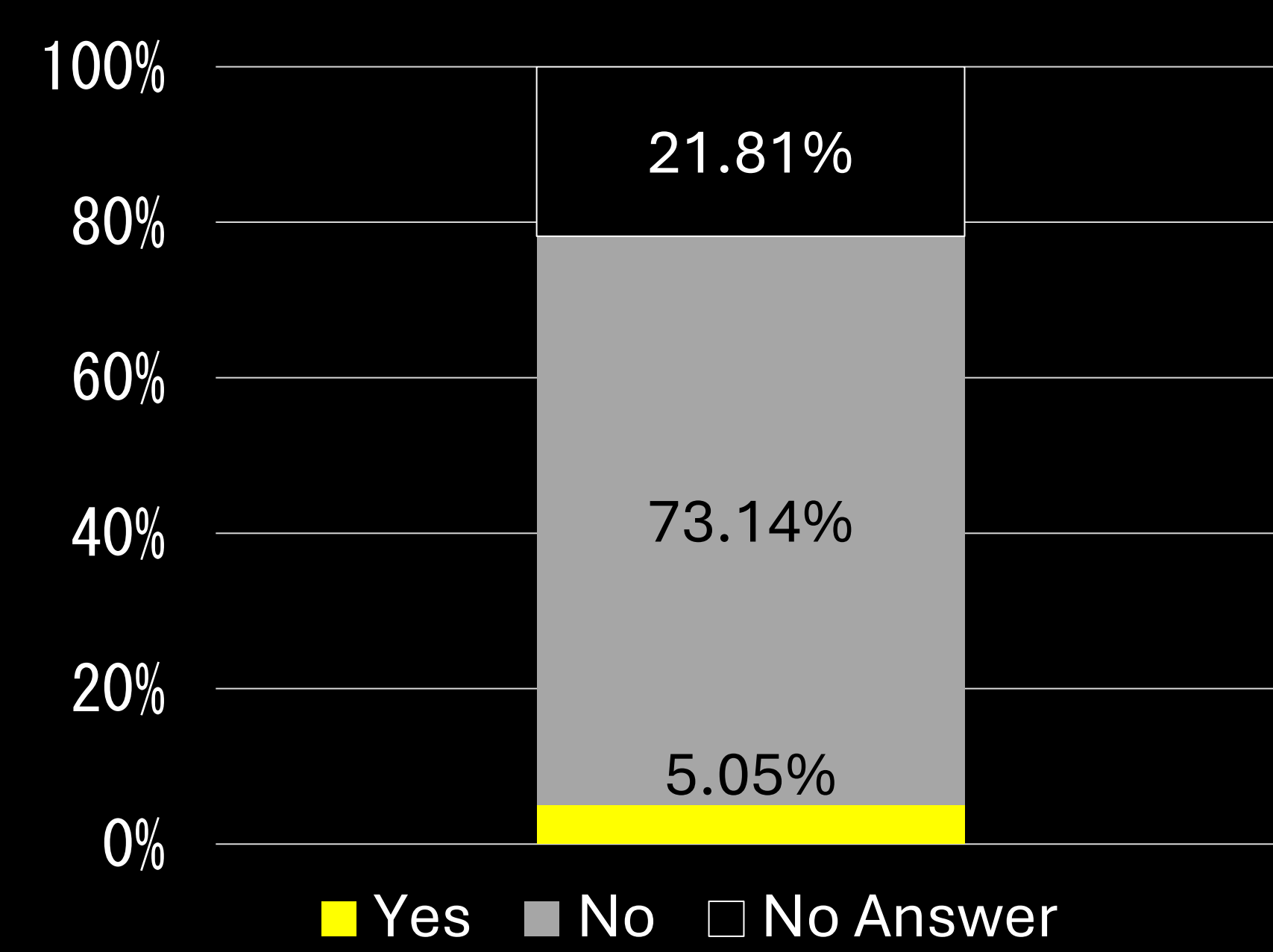


Figure 6: Percentage of Local Governments which Allow for Use of Multiple Braille Displays, N=376

4. Acknowledgement

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The full report is available (Japanese only)

