

Background

- It is difficult to get an abortion in NSWⁱ. Abortion is:
 - still on the criminal code in NSWⁱⁱ
 - rarely performed in public hospitalsⁱⁱⁱ
 - centralised in metro centres^{iv}
- It is expensive to get an abortion^{*}
 - Limited bulk billed medical abortion providers and GP providers
 - Medical abortion[#] \$350-555
 - Surgical abortion \$400-2400
 - Surgical abortion over 20-24 weeks – not available in private clinics in NSW
- There is limited research about people accessing abortion in Australia/ NSW.^{iv}

Aim

- The study aims to understand what influences people to utilise abortion services to inform service development and implementation.

Methods

- An online survey was sent to consumers who made enquiries to Family Planning NSW Talkline phone and email service requesting information related to unintended pregnancy and/or abortion and consented to participate in the survey.
- The online survey was conducted from Oct. 2018 to May 2019

Results

Demographic data – Overview (N=33)

	Total responses
Born overseas	38% (n=10)
Working full time or part time	81% (n=21)
31-40 years old	52% (n=17)
18-30 years old	42% (n=18)
People with a disability	4% (n=1)
Heterosexual	76% (n=19)
Bisexual	16% (n=4)
Asexual	8% (n=2)
Gender non-binary	1 (4%)

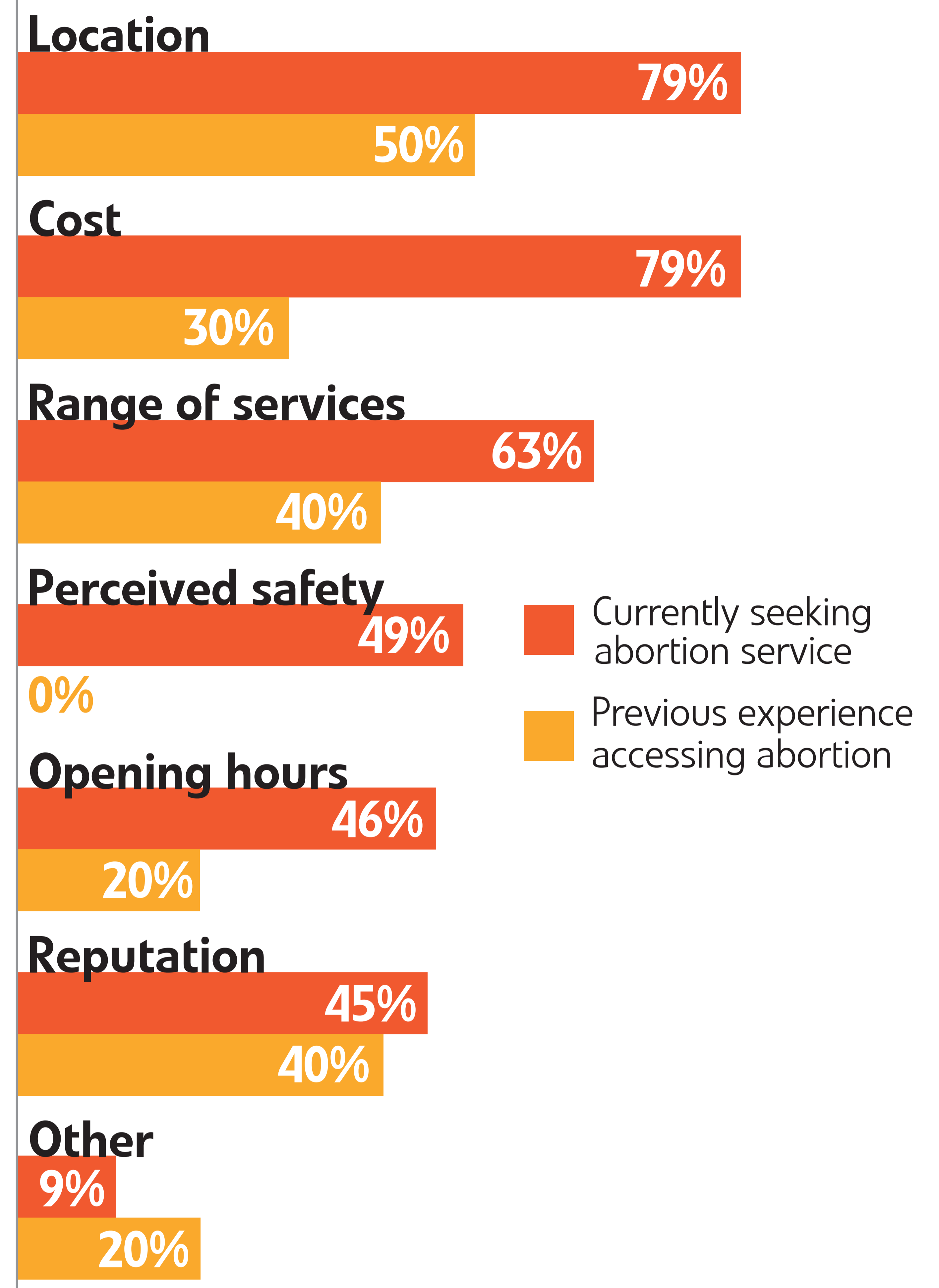
Respondents outlined that other than Talkline that they would contact a combination of the following:

- GP 70%
- Online: Google or website 70%
- Other health professional 21%

Consumers identified that they needed more information about:

- the type of abortion procedures available (including procedure method, side effects, risks and legality)
- cost
- where they could access an abortion and if services were available their local area.

What factors influence individuals choice of abortion service provider?



Conclusion

- Other than Talkline, GP and Online sources were the most common places to seek information about abortion
- Consumers want reliable and accessible information about abortion services
- Cost, location and availability of a range of services were identified as crucial factors by consumers seeking an abortion

References

- van Herwijnen, L.M (2018) Factors that Influence the Accessibility of the Abortion System In Australia: Exploratory research about the healthcare barriers and facilitators of the Australian abortion system.
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- Newman L, Morrell S, Munot S, Estoesta J, Brassil A. (2011). Reproductive and Sexual Health in New South Wales and Australia. Differentials, Trends and Assessment of Data Sources.
- Doran, F., & Hornibrook, J. (2014). Rural New South Wales women's access to abortion services: Highlights from an exploratory qualitative study. Australian Journal of Rural Health, 22(3), 121-126.

* Estimated figures based on current information provided by FPNSW Talkline as of May 2019
Costs for MToPs provided by a ToPs service