

## Background and Aims

- Given the prevalence of stroke cases in Nigeria, stroke awareness and timely emergency care are crucial for saving lives.
- The public's understanding of strokes and the functionality of the national emergency number, 112, remain unclear.
- This study aims to establish baseline awareness levels regarding strokes and the functionality of the emergency response number across Nigeria.

## Methodology

- A survey (with sections: Socio-demographics, Awareness of the national emergency number, and Stroke awareness) targeted Nigerian residents aged 20+ was distributed via snowball sampling.
- An initial sample of 15 participants were selected based on convenience and access to large networks, who referred other participants that met the criteria to complete the survey.

## Results

- There were 214 respondents aged 20-70, with a gender split of 52.34% male and 47.66% female.
- The majority of respondents were mainly from urban (70.56%) and semi-urban (22.43%) areas.
- Only 62.14% were aware of the existence of the national emergency number 112.
- Just 60.82% perceived the national emergency number 112 as functional.
- 87.38% believed emergency medical services were inadequate in their towns.
- While 86.11% could identify a stroke as a blood clot or bleeding in the brain, only 38.89% would call the emergency number in response to a stroke.
- This low percentage is despite 95.56% recognizing stroke as extremely serious and needing immediate action.
- 97.78% responded that a program that presents stroke symptoms using local languages and links them to the emergency number 112 would be useful.

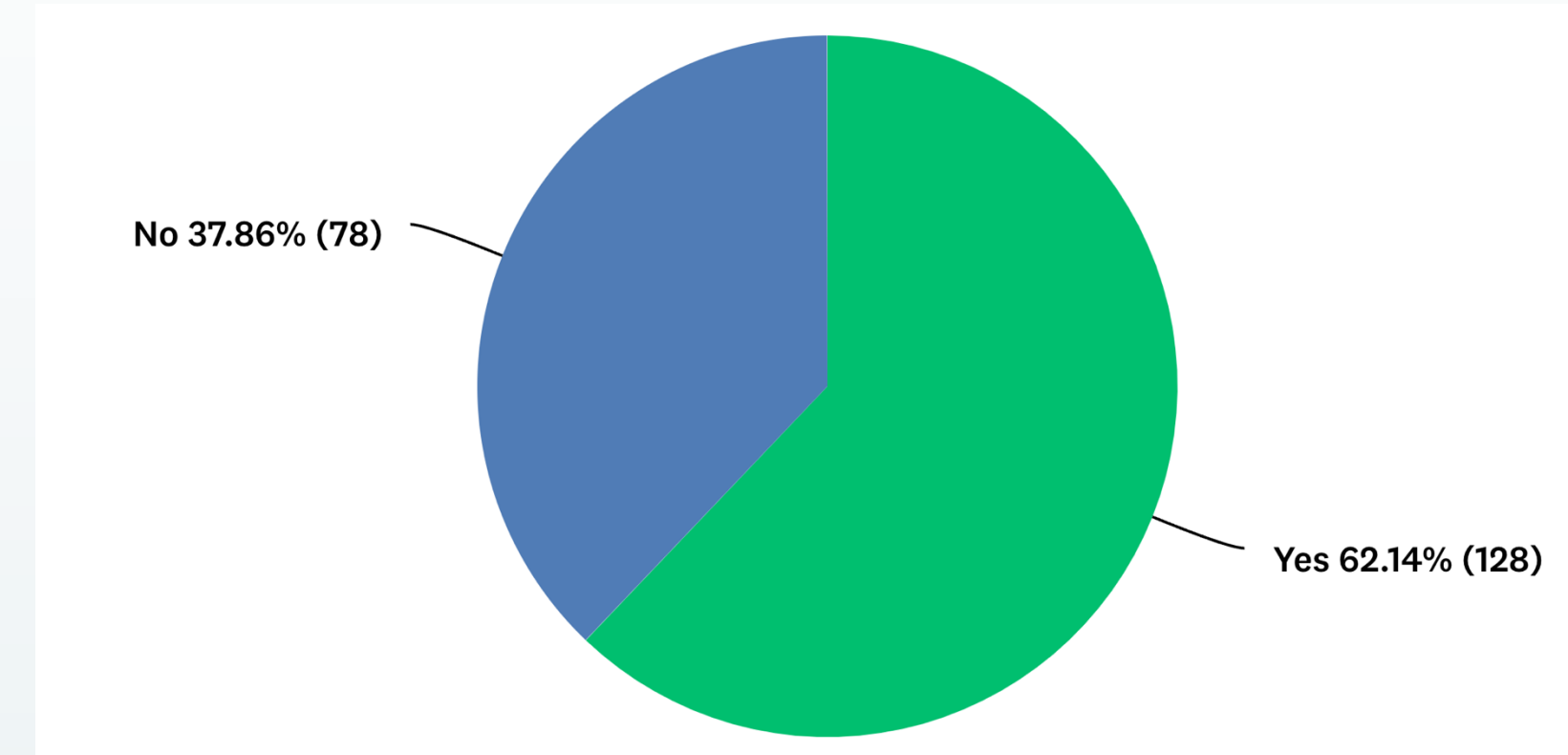


Figure 1. 62.14% of responders were aware of the existence of the national emergency number 112.

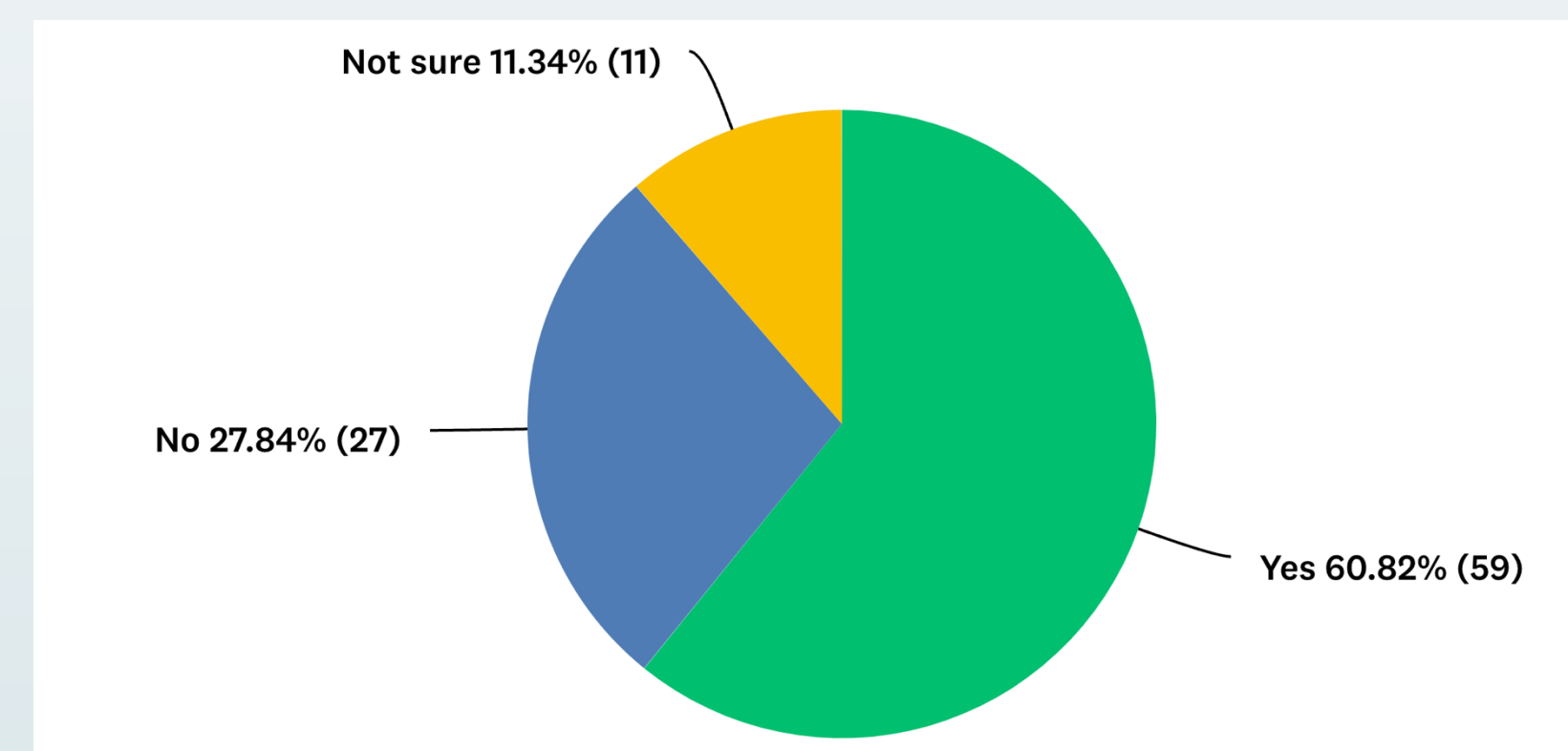


Figure 2. 60.82% of responders perceived the national emergency number 112 as functional.

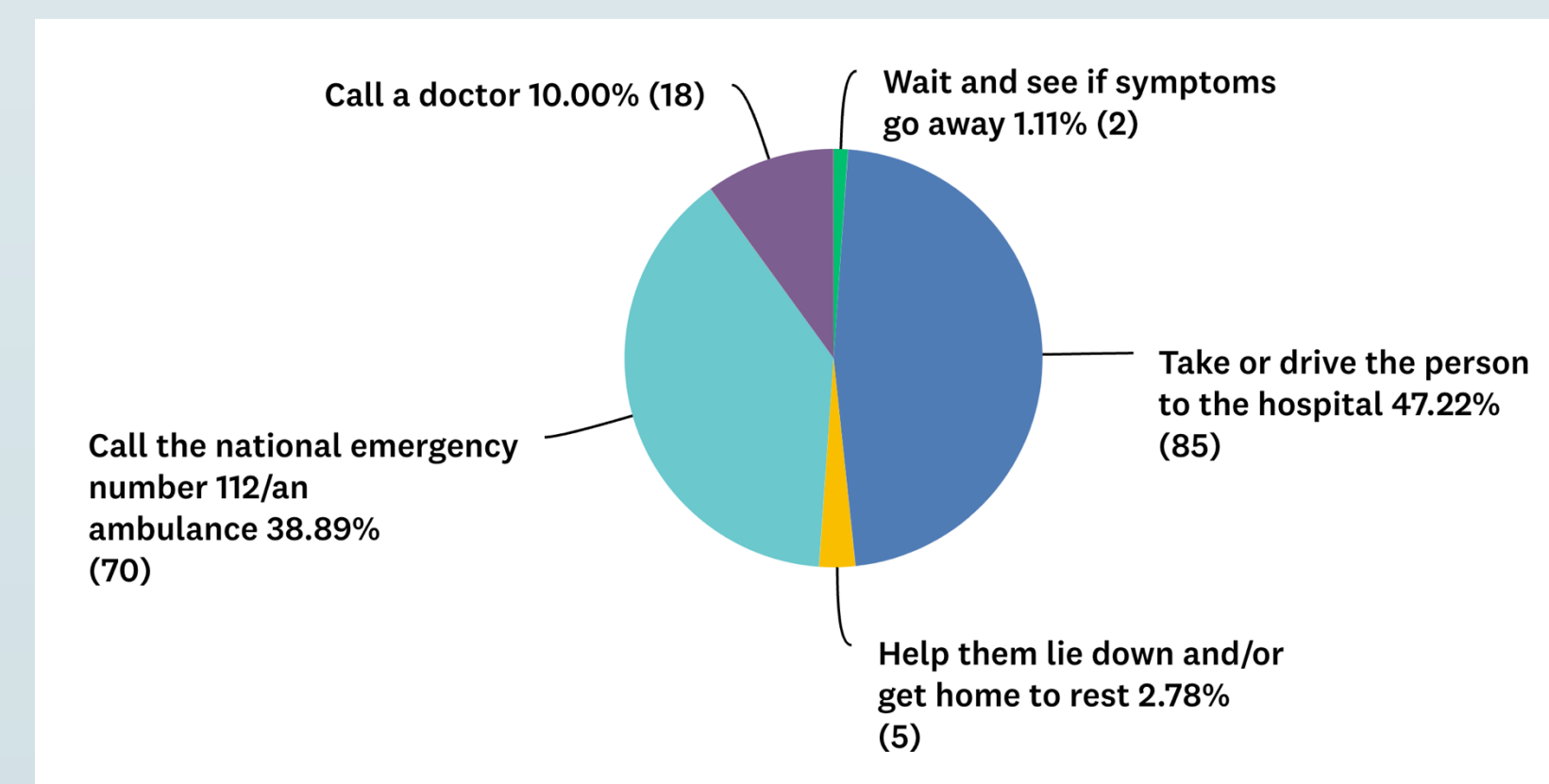


Figure 3. Only 38.89% of responders would call the emergency number in response to a stroke.

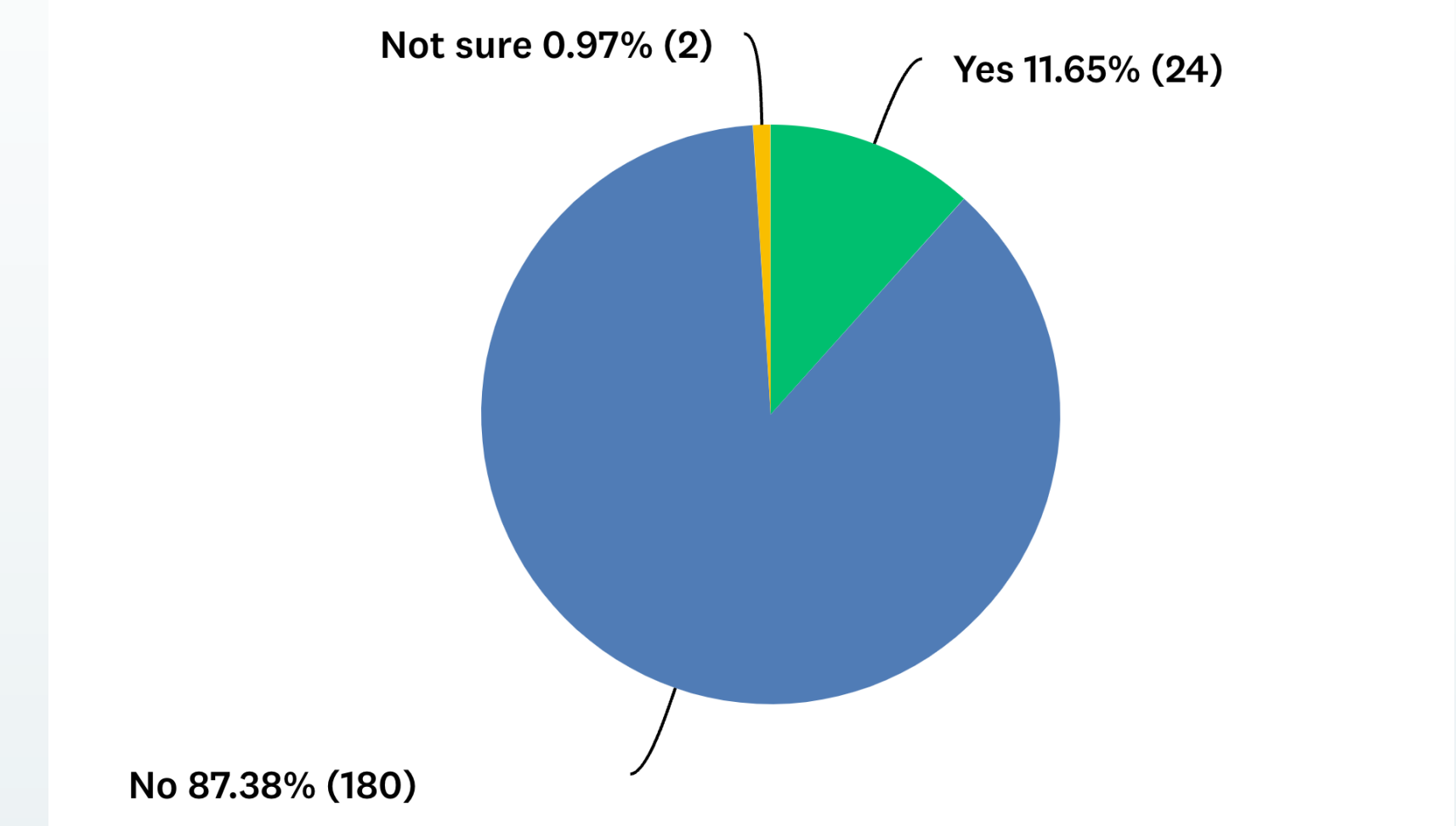


Figure 4. 87.38% of responders believed emergency medical services were inadequate in their towns.

## Conclusion

- The study reveals a lack of awareness regarding the national emergency number and limited knowledge on responding to strokes among Nigerians.
- Urgent improvements in public education efforts and emergency medical services infrastructure are essential to address the pressing issue of stroke care in Nigeria.

## Acknowledgements

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