

Basis for study - CONSUMERS

Category: Direct Sales

Made for:



June / July 2013



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 - Not Consumers
 - Occasional Consumers
 - Habitual consumers
 - Knowledge of brands
 - Purchasing habits and use of distribution channel
 - Direct sales distribution channel via Internet
 - Social impact
- Conclusions and recommendations

Situation Analysis



The Direct Selling Association, ASOEM objective is to know the direct sales market by means of quantification of market. Also to make a segmentation of market considering socio-demographic and socio-economic variables, and products commercialized in these areas.

After a meeting between ASOEM and Ipsos it is assumed that some objectives that the enterprise has, cannot be analyzed by Ipsos APOYO (For instance the area economic impact will not be measure), it is recommended to make the investigation based on two studies (a qualitative and a quantitative study):

1. **Basis for study of sales agents:** Based on four groups of main cities in the country and appreciate the distribution channel.
2. **Basis for study of consumers:** Based on surveys to habitual consumers, occasional consumers and not consumers and to know some aspects of demand.

It points out that objectives and questions that cannot be answered by Ipsos are detailed in each phase.

This report has all the study results based on consumers mentioned in the quantity phase.



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Executive Summary



ASOEM had the need to know the direct sales market, so 552 surveys has been perform among 18 and 60 year old women from different socio-economic levels in the four main cities of the country.

Investigation's main results are mentioned:

CATEGORY INTRODUCTION

8 out of 10 persons have purchased direct sales products, from which 6 are consider habitual consumers, they purchase at least once a month; most of them are from high socio-economic levels between 18 to 30 years old, mainly in La Paz and Santa Cruz.

16% of not consumers area admit that high prices and cannot touch, look or try the products are reasons for not using the distribution channel.

Among occasional consumers, the main reasons for a low purchasing frequency are: high prices, purchasing habits and a lack of contact with sales agents.

Occasional consumers also admit having seen in the catalogues information about cosmetic products, skin care products and personal care products.

KNOWLEDGE OF BRANDS

The consumer's top of mind enterprise is Yanbal, next Ésika and Avon.

USING AND PURCHASING HABITS

More than half of population has received direct sales product information in the last month; products of which the consumer has received more information are cosmetic products, personal care products and skin care products which are the most consumed among habitual consumers; including La Paz city as jewelry products and accessories.

The invested amount in the last purchase was Bs. 200 and the highest average amount was registered in Santa Cruz city was Bs. 250.

The average number of purchases during the year was 6 times , months that report a high index of sales are May and December due to Mother's Day and Christmas; the highest socio-economic level population increase sales in the period of March due to father's Day.

Population perceive Direct Sale products as high quality products, they appreciate personalized attention from sales agents and the comfortably way of purchasing.



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nary (3/3)

DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL ON INTERNET

Only 15% has seen catalogue on Internet and only 7% has requested a visit of a sales agent, this is because they prefer the printed catalogues or they do not know how to use Internet and/or do not have access to this service.

SOCIAL IMPACT

97% of population agrees that Direct Sales is an alternative of extra incomes.

Objectives and Methodology



“ **Principal objective**

To identify main variables of Direct Sales demand. Variables are detailed in the specific objectives.

“ **Specific objectives**

- To identify how Direct Sales are known and recall.
- To obtain indicators for the Direct Sales distribution channel:
 - Introduction of distribution channel
 - Access to the distribution channel information
 - Purchase frequency
 - Type of products that are purchased
 - Amount of purchasing
 - Purchase intensity
- To identify and set up a hierarchy for motivation drivers; the strengths and weakness of Direct Sales distribution channel.
- To measure the acceptance and rejection in Bolivia’s Direct sales distribution channel among consumers and no consumers.
- To identify the strengths and weakness that consumers and no consumers assign to Direct Sales distribution channel.

- “ **Type of Investigation:** Quantitative.
- “ **Scope of study:** 18 to 60 year old women from all socioeconomic levels of the population.
- “ **Geographic Scope:** Main cities from urban area (Santa Cruz, La Paz, El Alto y Cochabamba).
- “ **Technique:** Personal interviews.
- “ **Sampling method:** It uses a probabilistic sampling, computer random selection of blocks and a systematic selection of homes among the block.
- “ **Size sample:** 552 samples (366 habitual consumers, 96 occasional consumers and 91 no consumers)
- “ **Margin of error:** Sampling design and size allows to make estimation for total results with a margin of error of approximately $\pm 4,3\%$, considering a level of distrust of 95%, and the results maximum dispersion of $(p/q=1)$ and a probabilistic selection of interviewees.
- “ **Weighting:** Results have been weighted by city, age, and socioeconomic level accordingly to the actual population distribution.
- “ **Field work date:** Interviews were made between June 11 and July 5, 2013.

I Observations and area definitions

“ Type of consumers:

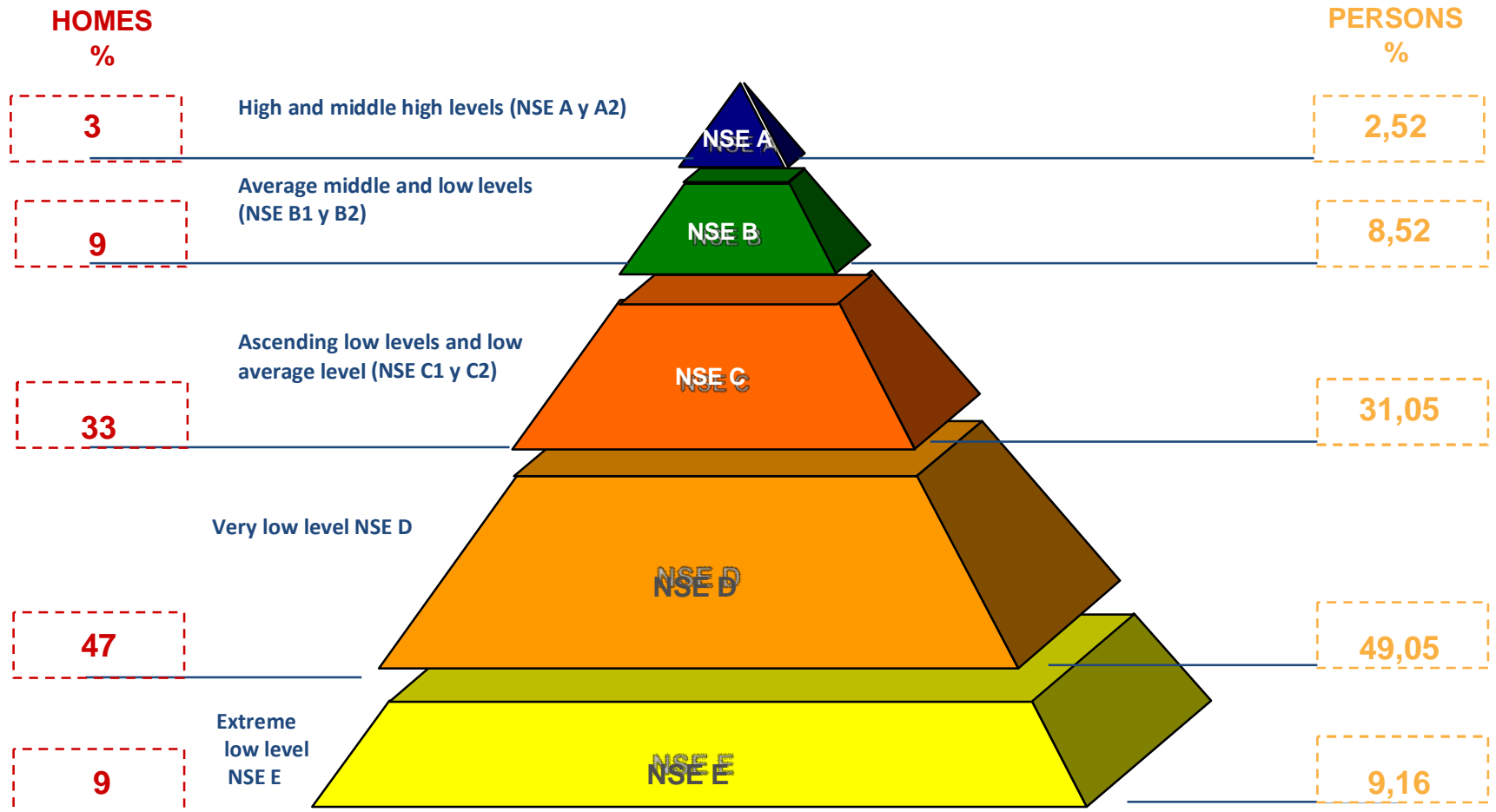
HABITUAL CONSUMERS: Women who purchase Direct Sales products at least three times a month

OCCASIONAL CONSUMERS: Women who purchase Direct Sales products once each six month

NO CONSUMERS: Women who do not purchase Direct Sales products in spite of having information about them.

“ Along the report the weighted basis are shown, taking into account the size of populations per city.

urban population in socioeconomic levels - Bolivia



Sources: Ipsos APOYO Opinión y Mercado Bolivia, Instituto Nacional de Estadística

Base: Total interviewees (2651)

urban population in socioeconomic levels

-Main country cities- (Disintegrated chart)

HOMES

NSE	Bolivia %	Main cities %	La Paz %	El Alto %	Cocha - bamba %	Santa Cruz %	Bolivia Valle* %	Bolivia Altiplano** %
A (A /A2)	2,6	2,4	4,2	0	2,9	2,7	2,7	2,9
B (B1/B2)	8,9	8,1	13,8	2,8	7,1	8,8	13,6	6,8
C (C1/C2)	32,8	31,5	31,2	18,5	41,0	34,9	38,1	31,9
D	47,1	49,6	46,9	62,5	40,7	48,5	37,3	48,9
E	8,6	8,4	3,9	16,2	8,3	5,1	8,3	9,5
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

* Bolivia Valle: Sucre and Tarija

** Bolivia Altiplano: Oruro and Potosí

Base: Total interviewees (2651)

According to socioeconomic levels

CARACTERÍSTICAS	NSE A	NSE B	NSE C	NSE D
FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS				
Number of families by home (Average)	1.3 homes	1.7 homes	1.8 homes	1.8 homes
Number of members (Average)	4.1 persons	3.9 persons	4.0 persons	4.4 persons
18 year older members (Average)	2.9 persons	2.8 persons	2.7 persons	2.8 persons
Members studying at high school (Average)	1.1 persons	1.7 persons	1.8 persons	2.2 persons
Principal source of income	Salary 15 days/monthly (68%)	Salary 15 days/monthly (64%)	Salary 15 days/monthly (53%)	Salary 15 days/monthly (43%)
Monthly familiar income (Average)	US\$ 2.014	US\$ 536	US\$ 327	US\$ 240
Monthly familiar income (Middle)	US\$ 1.786	US\$ 357	US\$ 250	US\$ 179
Expectative about minimum required income (Average)	US\$ 1.317	US\$ 746	US\$ 531	US\$ 422
Monthly nourishment spending (Net average)	US\$ 230	US\$ 137	US\$ 109	US\$ 100
Monthly transport spending (Net average)	US\$ 97	US\$ 50	US\$ 36	US\$ 28
Debt Possession	42%	45%	38%	34%
HOME CHARACTERISTICS				
Home property	Own (74%)	Own (60%)	Own (55%)	Own (62%)
Roof prevailing material	Tiles (65%)	Tiles (49%)	Corrugated Iron (49%)	Corrugated Iron (64%)
Floor prevailing material	Parquet or polished wood (77%)	Parquet or polished wood (54%)	Concrete (52%)	Concrete (69%)

Base: Total interviewees (2651)

According to socioeconomic levels (2/2)

CARACTERÍSTICAS	NSE A	NSE B	NSE C	NSE D
HOME CHARACTERISTICS				
Bedrooms (Net average)	3.3 bedrooms	2.7 bedrooms	2.3 bedrooms	2.1 bedrooms
Members by bedrooms (Average)	1.2 persons	1.5 persons	1.8 persons	2.2 persons
Public water service	100%	100%	96%	94%
Number of bathrooms (net average)	3.3 bathrooms	1.7 bathrooms	1.3 bathrooms	1.1 bathrooms
Members by bathrooms (Average)	1.2 persons	2.3 persons	3.1 persons	4.4 persons
Electric service	100%	100%	100%	100%
Domestic gas service	94%	98%	98%	99%
Plans of infrastructure improvement in the next 12 months	28%	17%	11%	10%
POSSESSION OF GOODS AND SERVICES				
Permanent or hourly maid service	74%	21%	3%	0%
Possession of refrigerator	99%	96%	69%	48%
Possession of washing machine	93%	43%	14%	2%
Possession of land phone	96%	71%	51%	29%
Possession of TV cable service	84%	52%	26%	11%
Possession of computer	86%	62%	37%	14%
Home internet access	67%	36%	21%	14%
Possession of personal automobile	61%	39%	19%	9%
Possession of pets	77%	65%	68%	74%

Base: Total interviewees (2651)

Analysis of results





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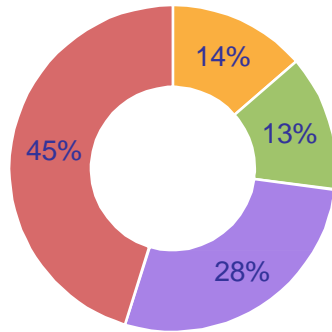
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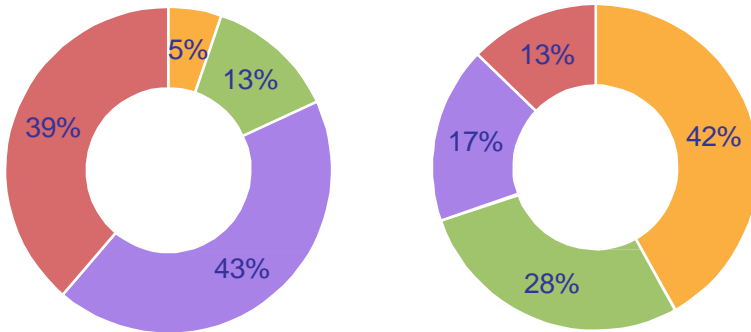
Category Penetration

Sample by city, age and socioeconomic level

Actual



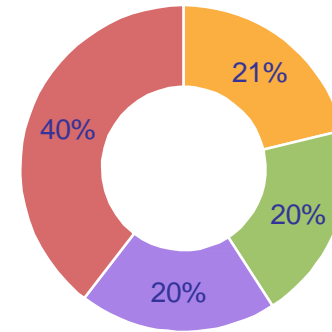
■ La Paz (75) ■ El Alto (74)
■ Cochabamba (153) ■ Santa Cruz (250)



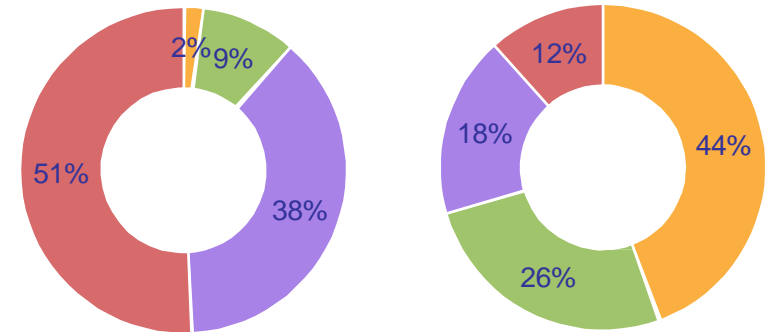
■ NSE A (29*) ■ NSE B (71) ■ 18 to 24 y.o. (231) ■ 25 to 34 y.o. (154)
■ NSE C (238) ■ NSE D (214) ■ 35 to 44 y.o. (96) ■ 45 to 60 y.o. (71)

*actual base: Total interviewees (552)

Weighted



■ La Paz (117) ■ El Alto (108)
■ Cochabamba (108) ■ Santa Cruz (218)



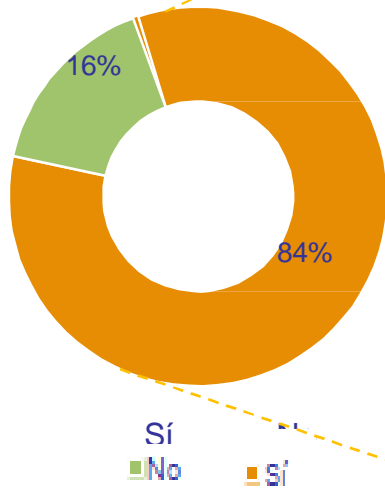
■ NSE A (11*) ■ NSE B (52) ■ 18 to 24 y.o. (244) ■ 25 to 34 y.o. (145)
■ NSE C (208) ■ NSE D (281) ■ 35 to 44 y.o. (99) ■ 45 to 60 y.o. (64)

Praised base: Total interviewees (552)

Direct Sales products

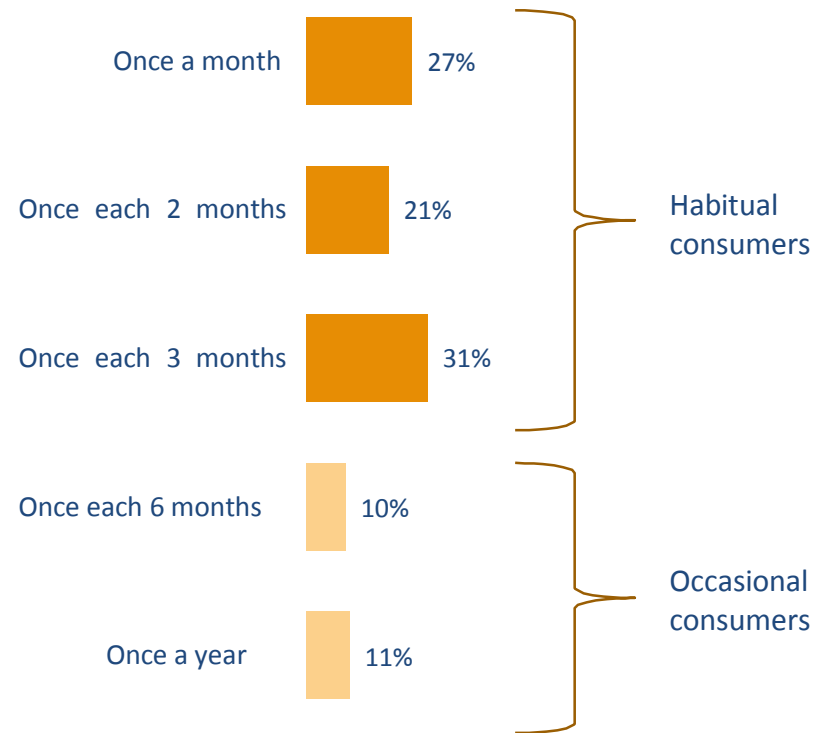
Had you ever purchased Direct Sales products

Total of consumers and no consumers



Base: Total interviewees (552)

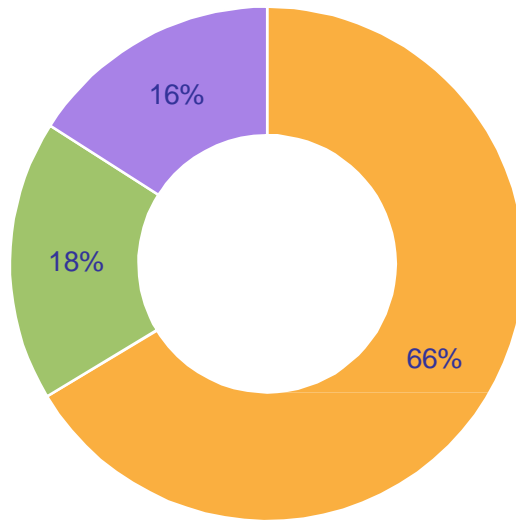
% Purchasing frequency



Base: Total consumers (461)

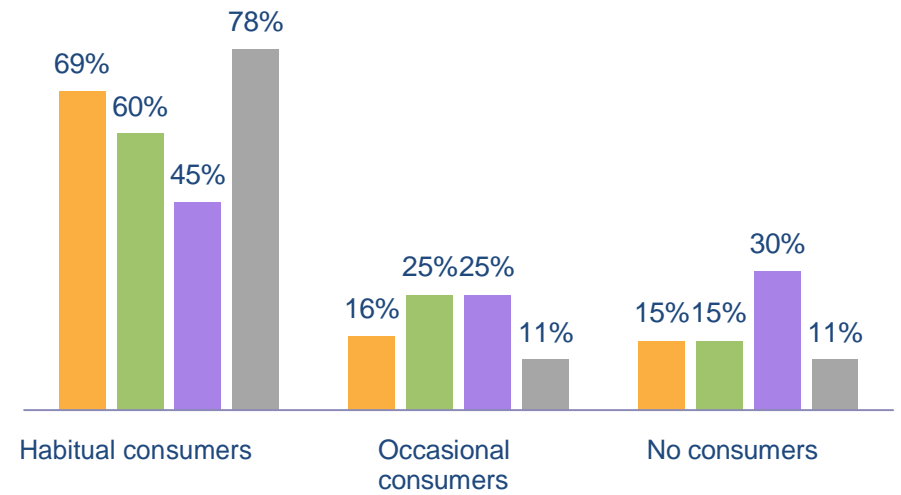
total category by cities

Segmentation



- Habitual consumers
- Occasional consumers
- No consumers

City

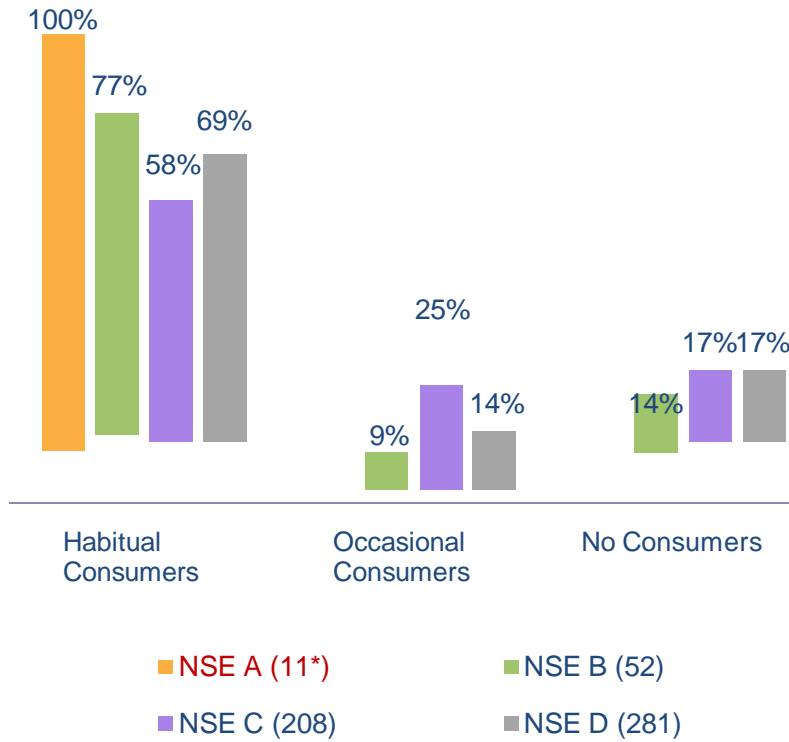


La Paz (117) El Alto (108)
 Cochabamba (108)
 Santa Cruz (218)

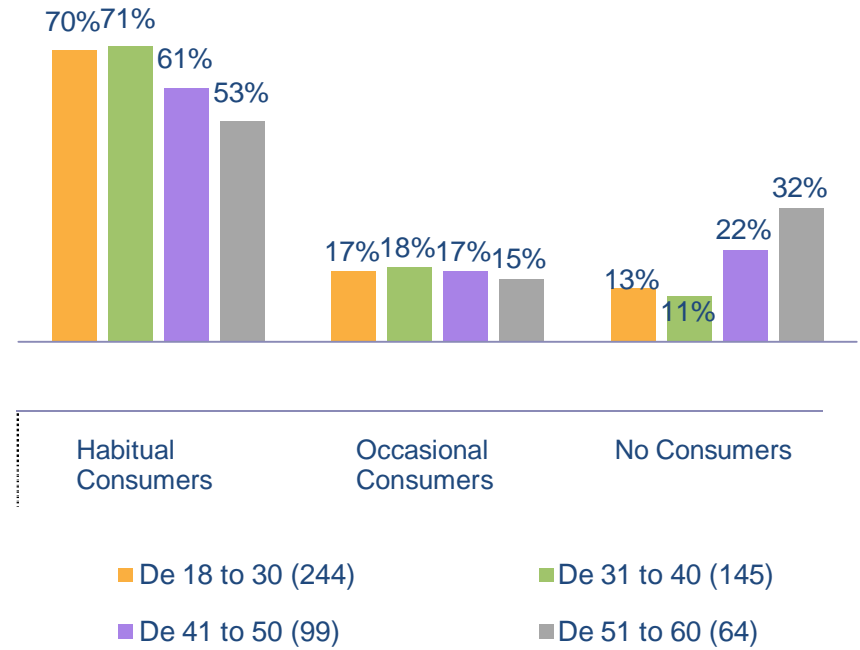
Base: Total interviewees (552)

category by Socioeconomic levels and age

Socioeconomic levels



Age



Base: Total interviewees (552)



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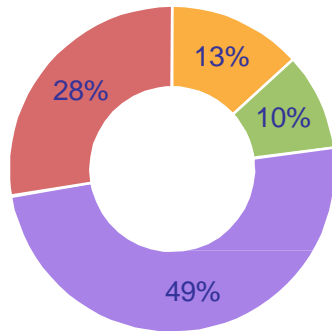
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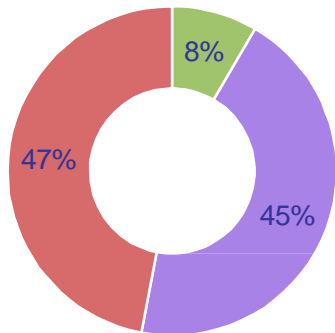
**No
Consumers**

o Consumers sample by city, age and socioeconomic level

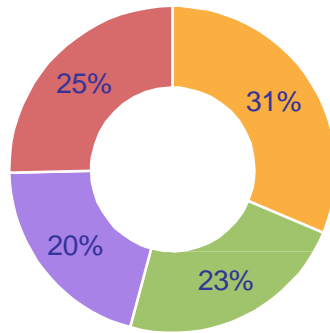
Actual



■ La Paz (11*) ■ El Alto (8*)
■ Cochabamba (41) ■ Santa Cruz (23*)

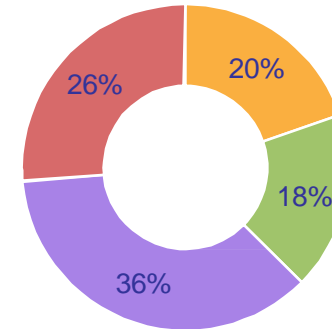


■ NSE B (7*) ■ NSE C (37)
■ NSE D (39)

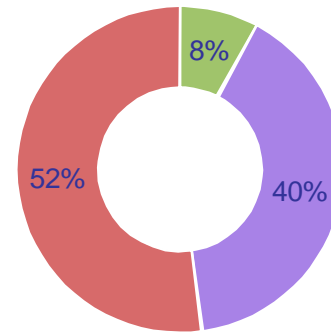


■ 18 to 24 y.o. (26*) ■ 25 to 34 y.o. (19*)
■ 35 to 44 y.o. (17*) ■ 45 to 60 y.o. (21*)

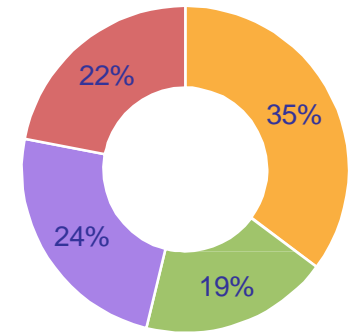
Weighted



■ La Paz (18*) ■ El Alto (16*)
■ Cochabamba (33) ■ Santa Cruz (24*)



■ NSE B (7*) ■ NSE C (36)
■ NSE D (47)



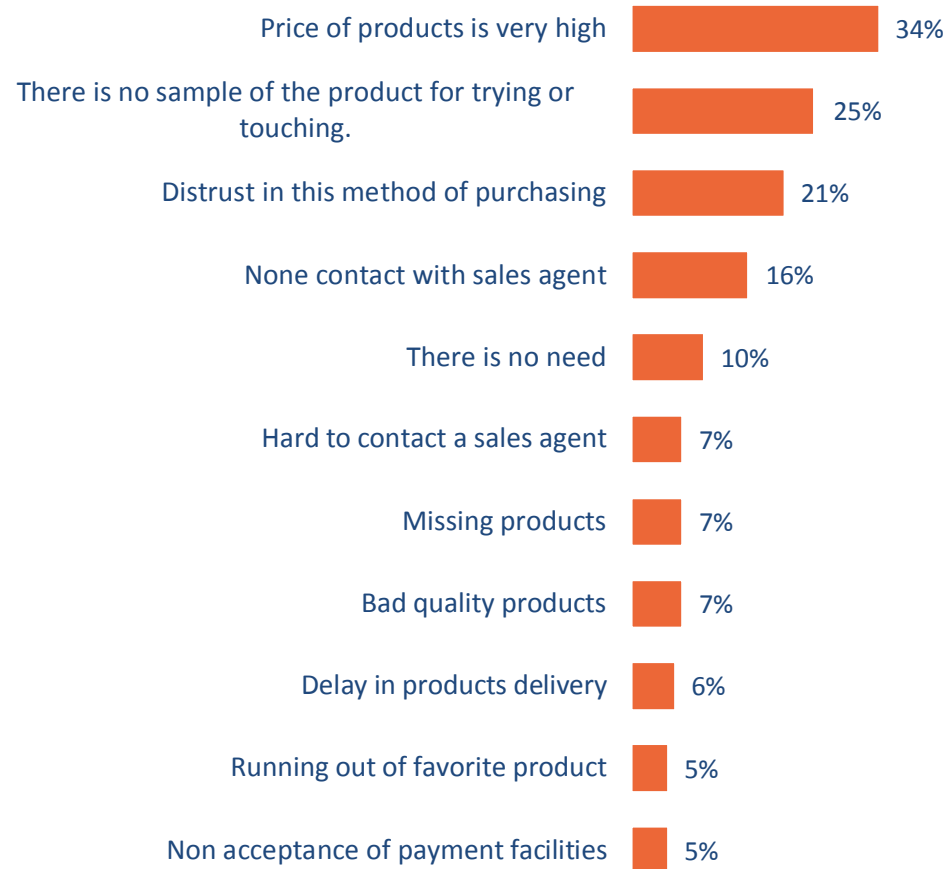
■ 18 to 24 y.o. (32) ■ 25 to 34 y.o. (17*)
■ 35 to 44 y.o. (22*) ■ 45 to 60 y.o. (20*)

Base actual: Total of no consumers (83)

Base weighted: Total of no consumers (91)

Not purchasing Direct Sales Products

Total of No Consumers (Main results)



Base: Total of no consumers (91)



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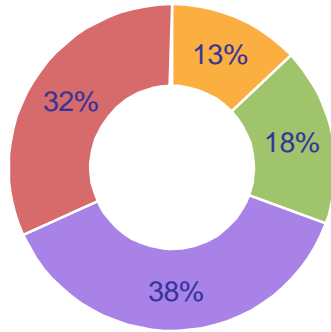
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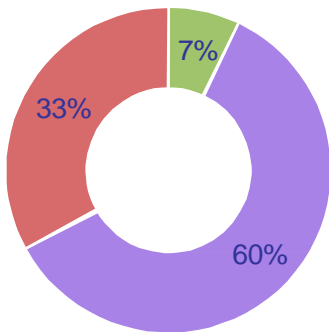
Occasional Consumers

Sample by city, age and socioeconomic level

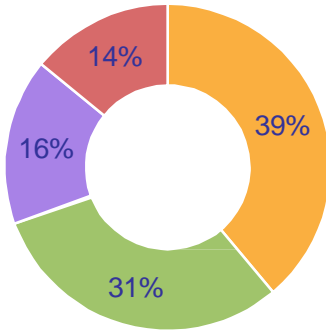
Actual



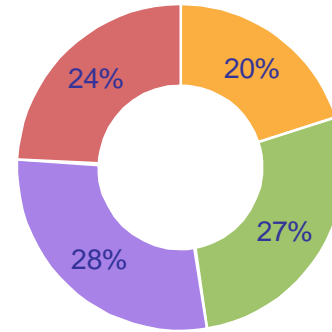
■ La Paz (11*) ■ El Alto (15*)
■ Cochabamba (32) ■ Santa Cruz (27*)



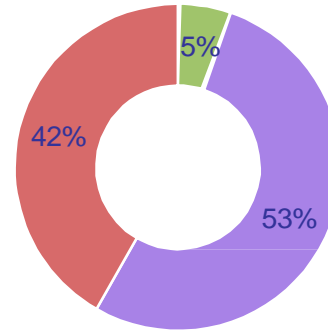
■ NSE B (6*) ■ NSE C (51) ■ 18 to 24 y.o. (33) ■ 25 to 34 y.o. (26*)
■ NSE D (28*)



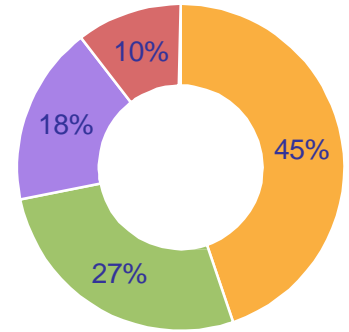
Weighted



■ La Paz (19*) ■ El Alto (26*)
■ Cochabamba (27*) ■ Santa Cruz (23*)



■ NSE B (5*) ■ NSE C (51) ■ 18 to 24 y.o. (43) ■ 25 to 34 y.o. (26*)
■ NSE D (40)



Actual base: Total of occasional consumers (85)

Weighted base: Total of occasional consumers (96)

Reasons for not purchasing Direct Sales Products frequently

Total of Occasional consumers (Main results)



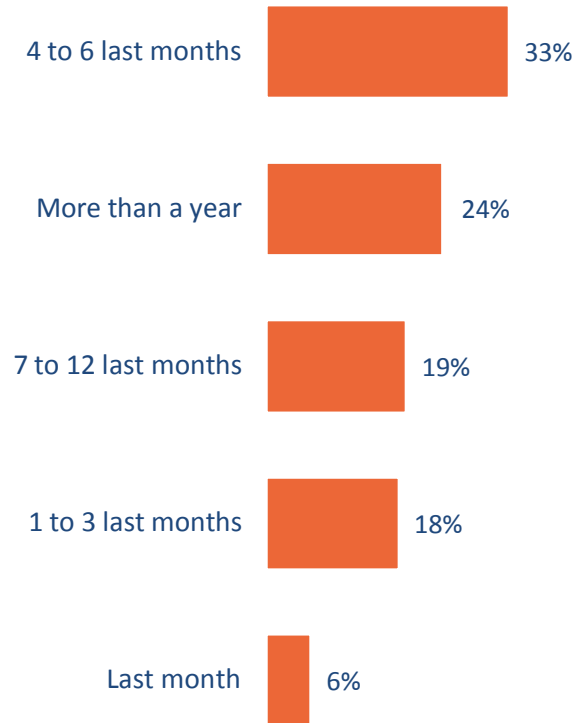


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es Purchase

Total Occasional consumers



Base: Total of occasional consumers (96) interviewees

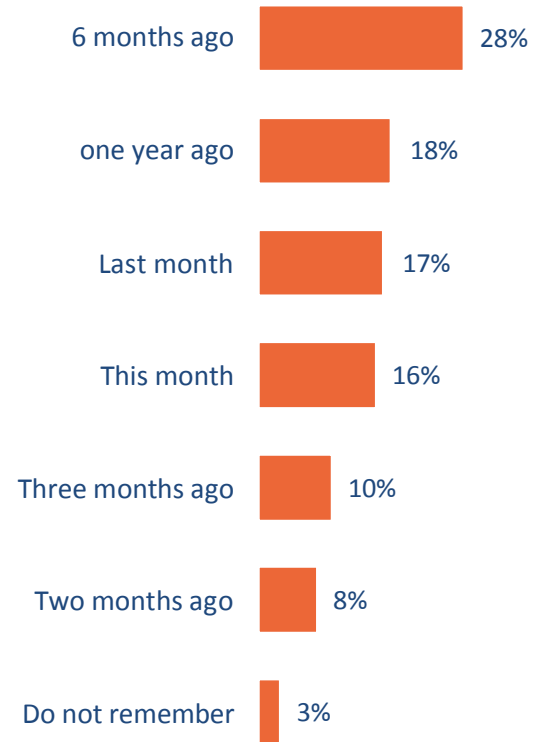


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Product Sales information

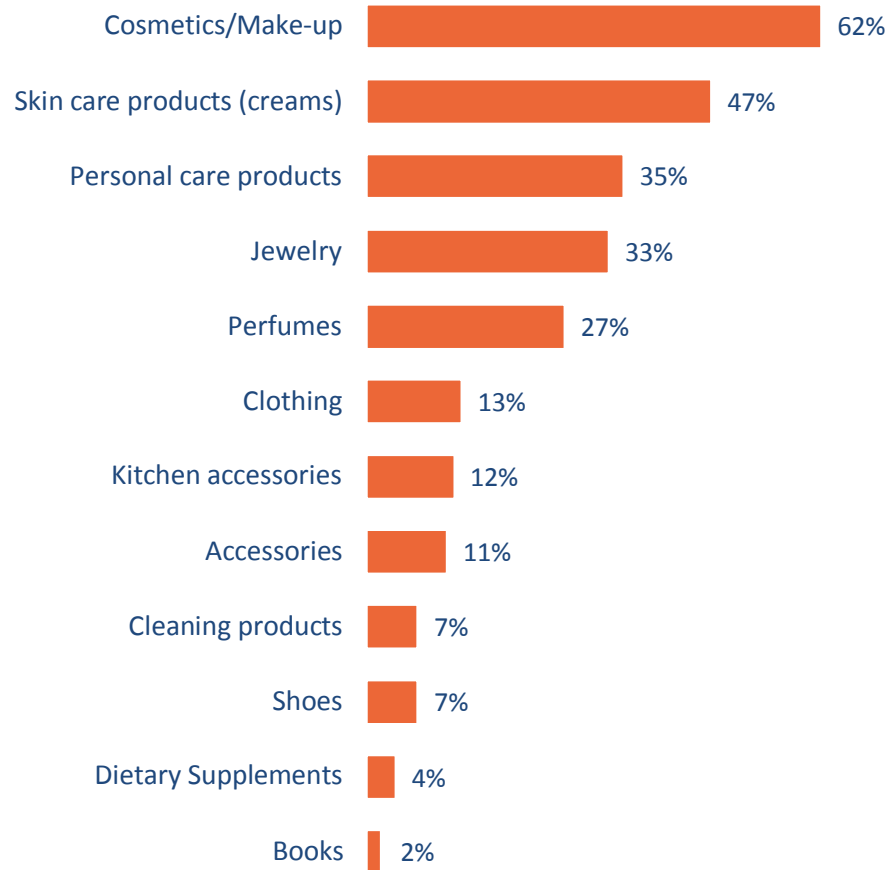
Total of occasional consumers



Base: Total of occasional consumers (96) interviewees

Items of which consumers demanded information

Total of occasional consumers



Base: Total of occasional consumers (96) interviewees



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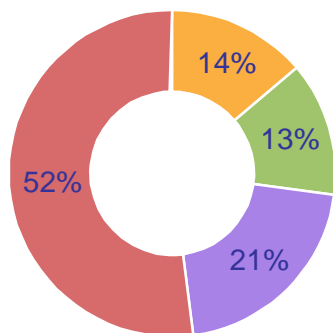
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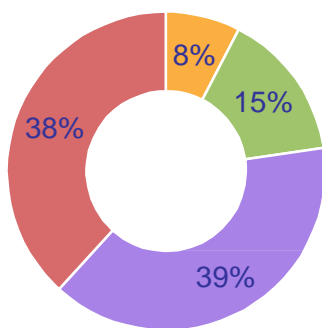
Habitual Consumers

Sample by city, age and socioeconomic level

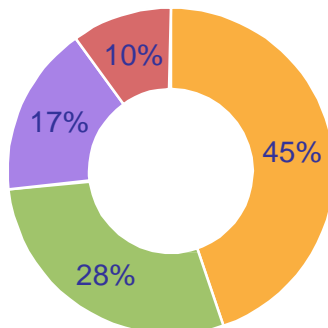
Actual



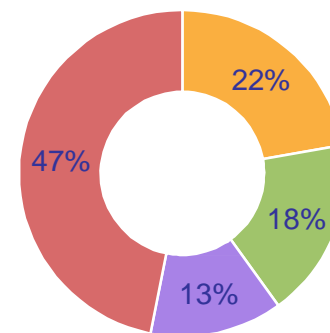
■ La Paz (53) ■ El Alto (51)
■ Cochabamba (80) ■ Santa Cruz (200)



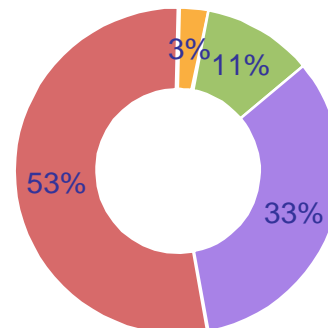
■ NSE A (29*) ■ NSE B (58) ■ 18 to 30 y.o.(172) ■ 31 to 40 y.o (109)
■ NSE C (150) ■ NSE D (147) ■ 41 to 50 y.o.(65) ■ 51 to 60 y.o (38)



Weighted



■ La Paz (81) ■ El Alto (65)
■ Cochabamba (48) ■ Santa Cruz (171)



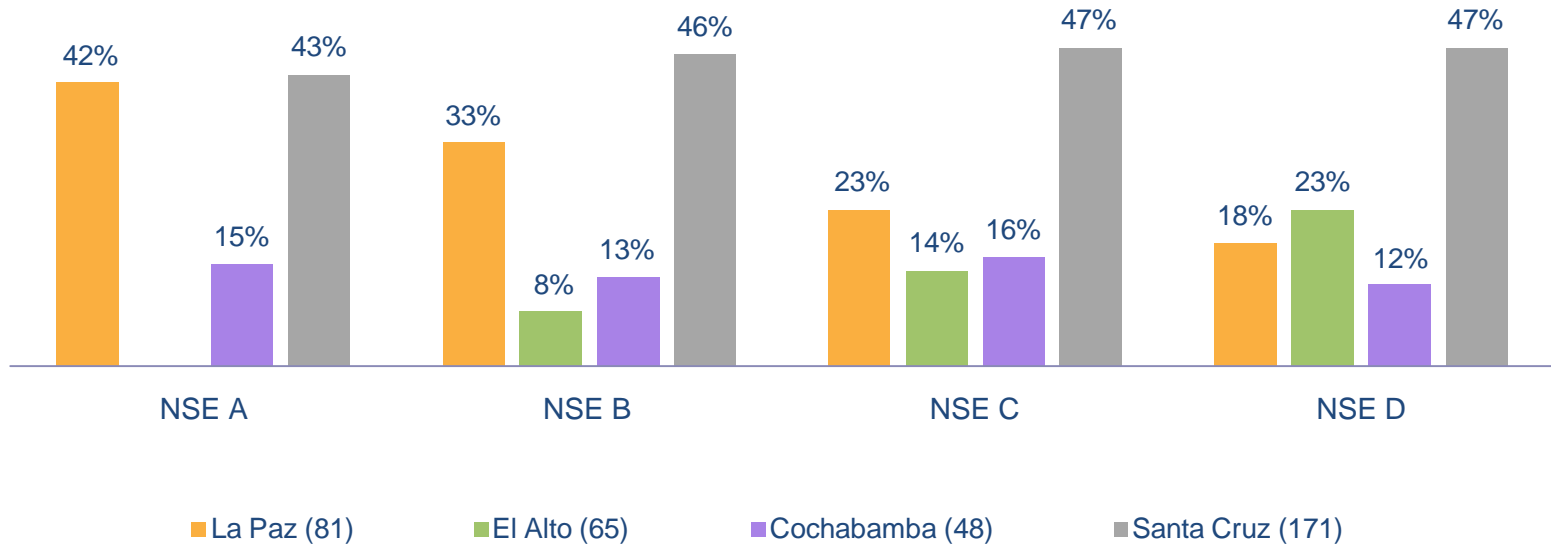
■ NSE A (11*) ■ NSE B (40) ■ 18 to 24 y.o (169) ■ 25 to 34 y.o (103)
■ NSE C (121) ■ NSE D (194) ■ 35 to 44 y.o (60) ■ 45 to 60 y.o (34)

Actual base: Total of habitual consumers (384) interviewees

Weighted base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

Simple by city and SEL (NSE)

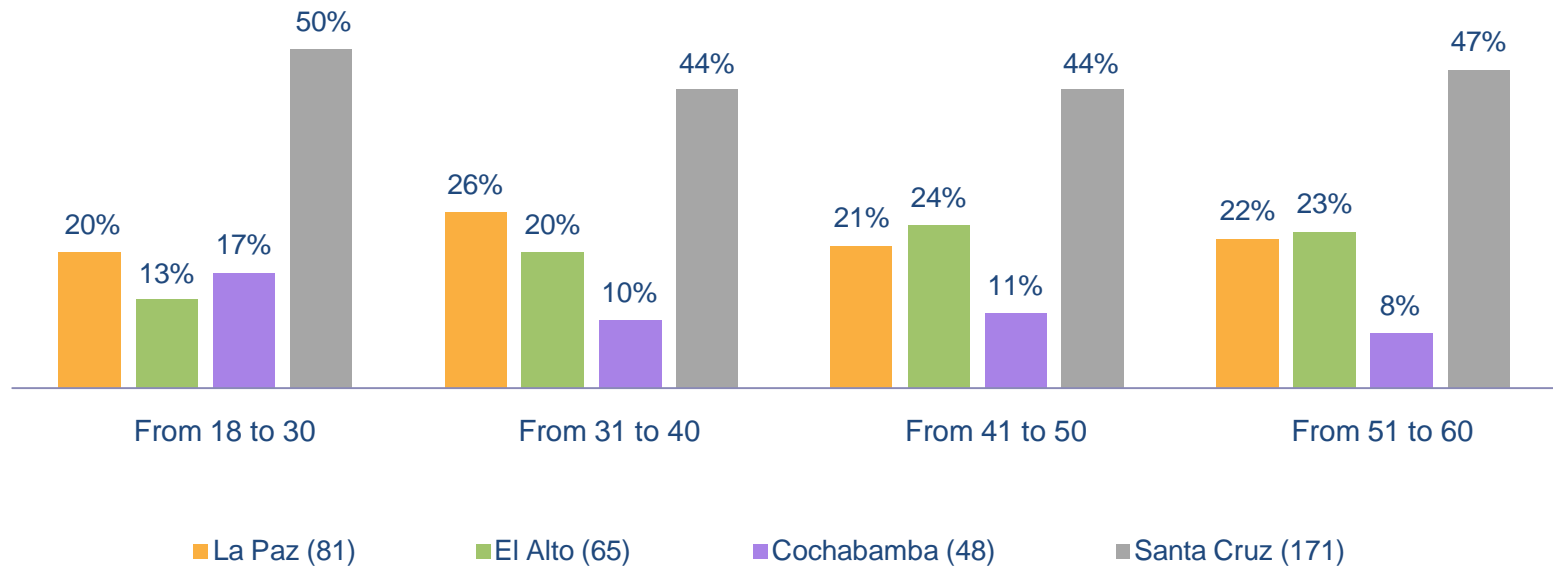
Composition of sample / Habitual consumers - SEL



Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

Simple by city and age

Composition of sample / Habitual consumers - Age



Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees



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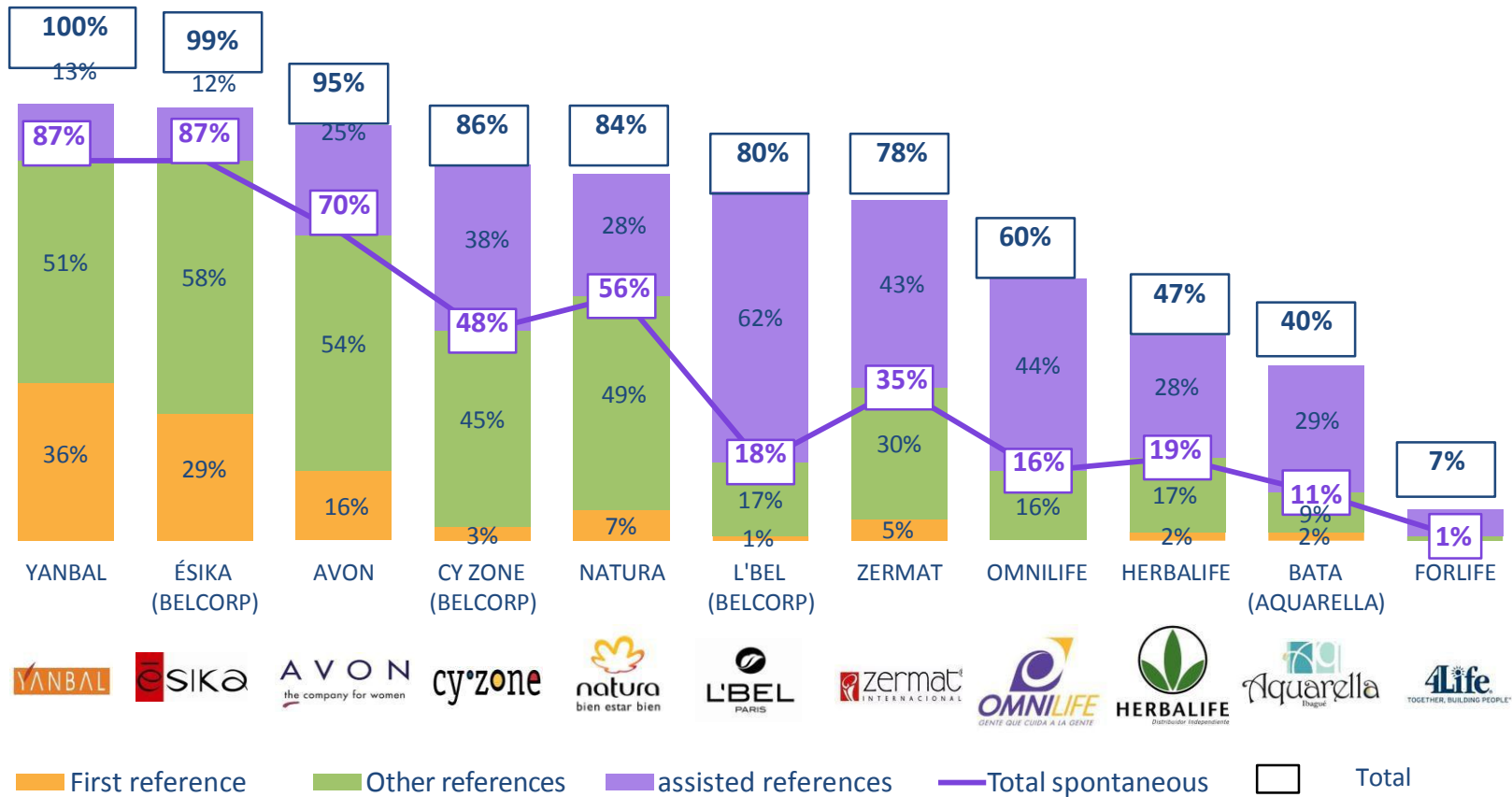
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Knowledge of brands

Brand awareness

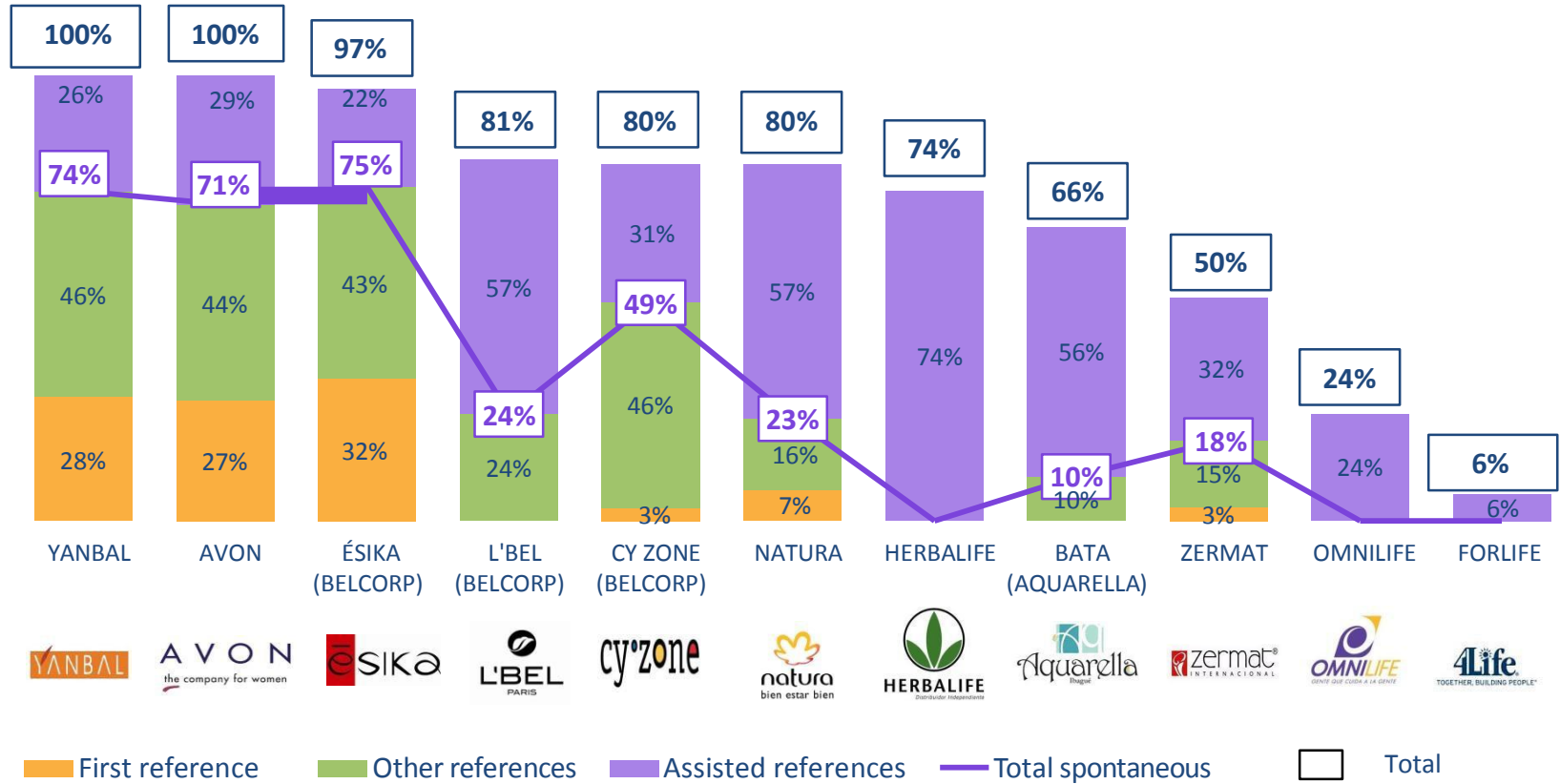
Brand awareness, spontaneous and assisted – Total (Main results)



Base: Total habitual consumers (366) interviewees

Brand awareness

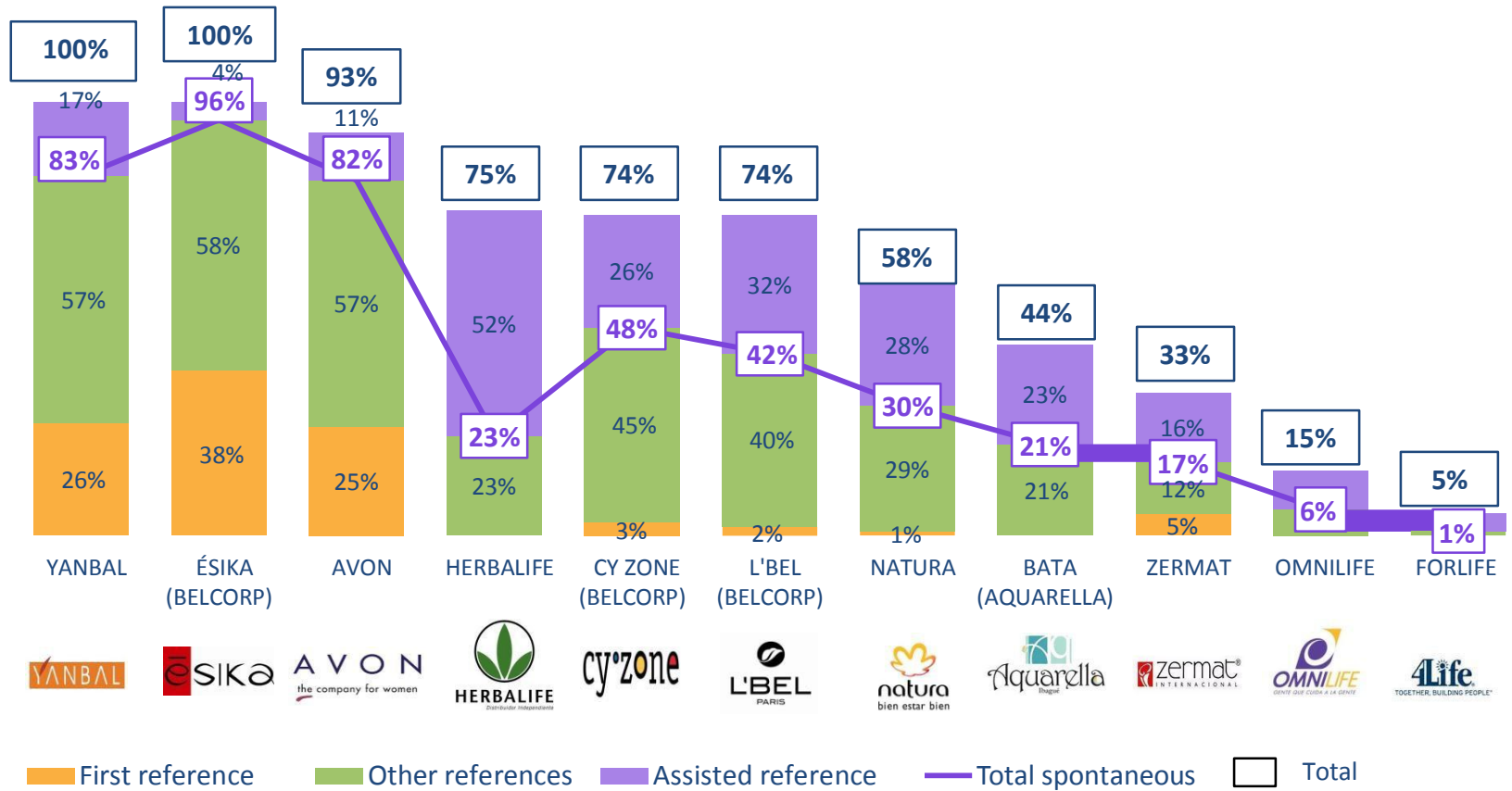
Brand awareness, spontaneous and assisted – La Paz (Main results)



Base: Total habitual consumers La Paz city (81) interviewees

Brand awareness

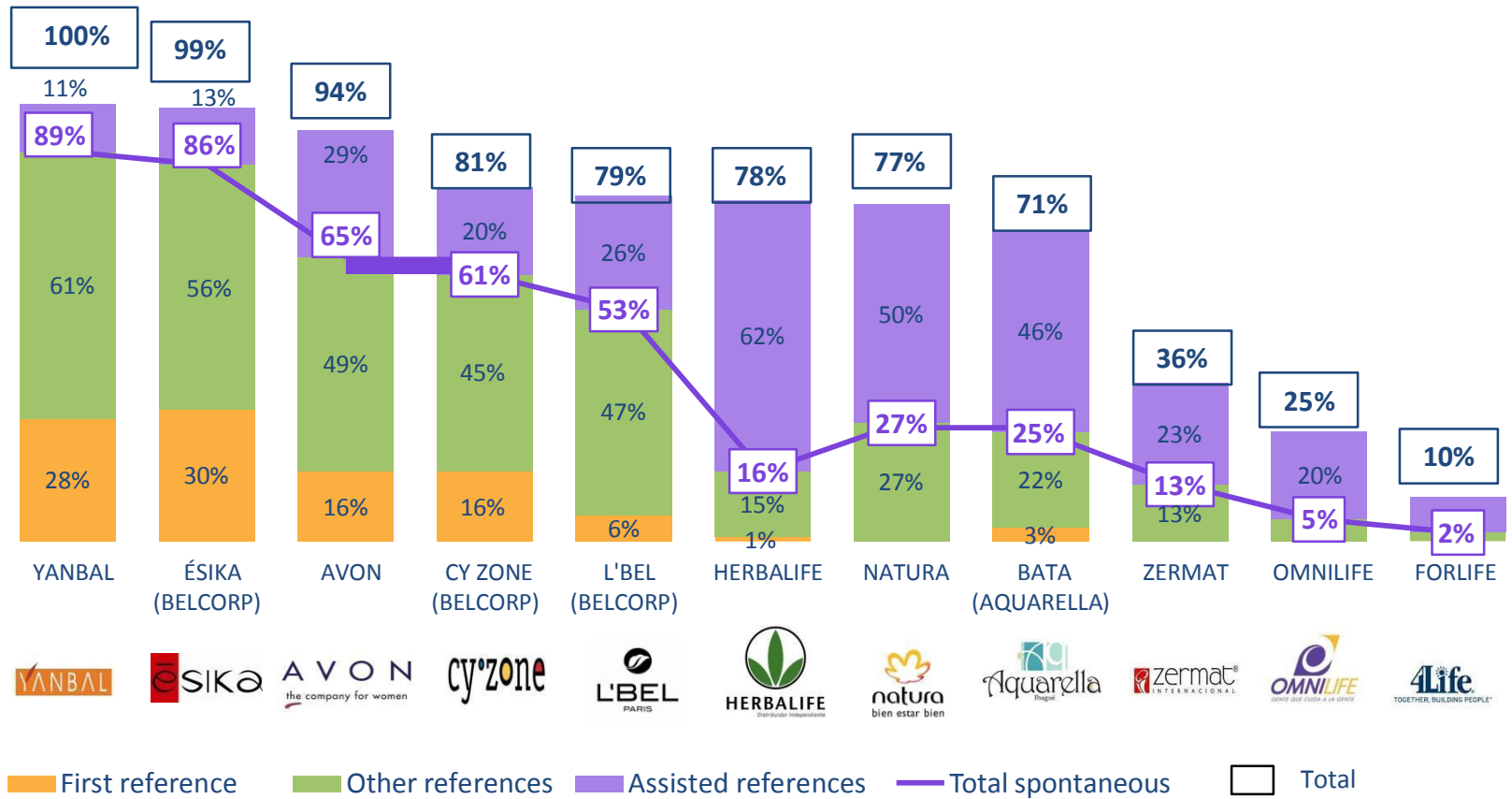
Brand awareness, spontaneous and assisted – El Alto (Main results)



Base: Total of habitual consumers El Alto city (65) interviewees

Brand awareness

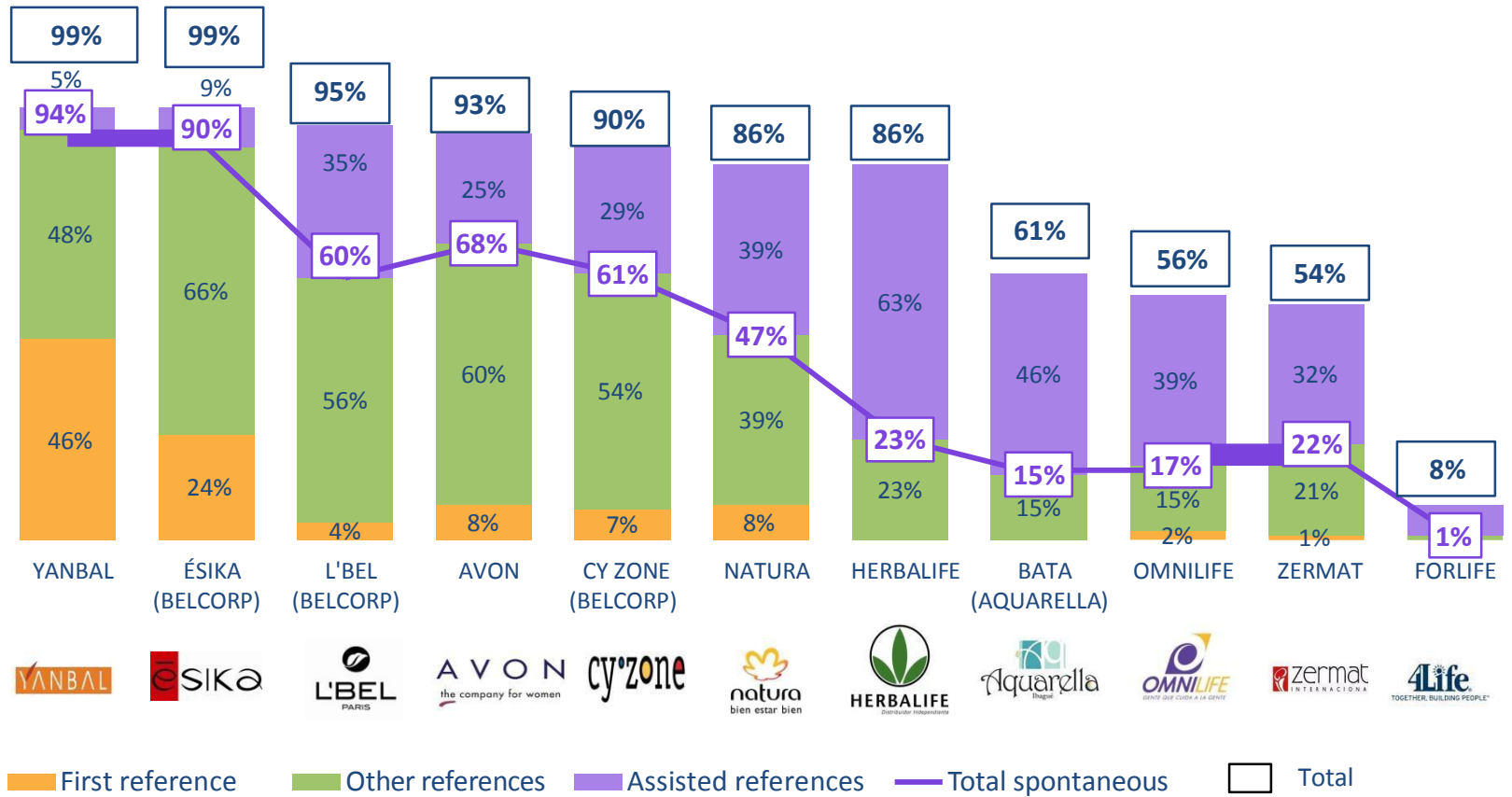
Brand awareness, spontaneous and assisted – Cochabamba (Main results)



Base: Total of habitual consumers Cochabamba (48) interviewees

Brand awareness

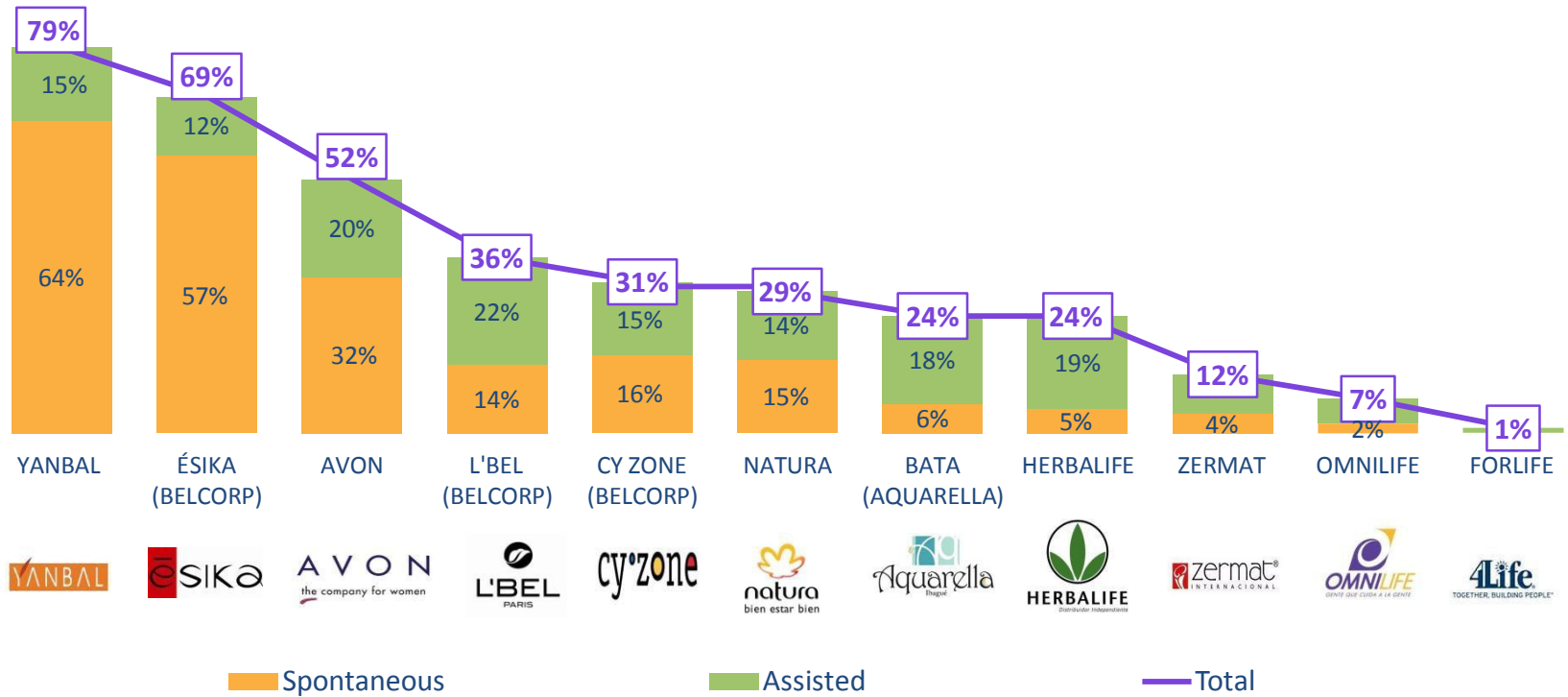
Brand awareness, spontaneous and assisted – Santa Cruz (Main results)



Base: Total of habitual consumers Santa Cruz city. (171) interviewees

Surprises Advertising Awareness

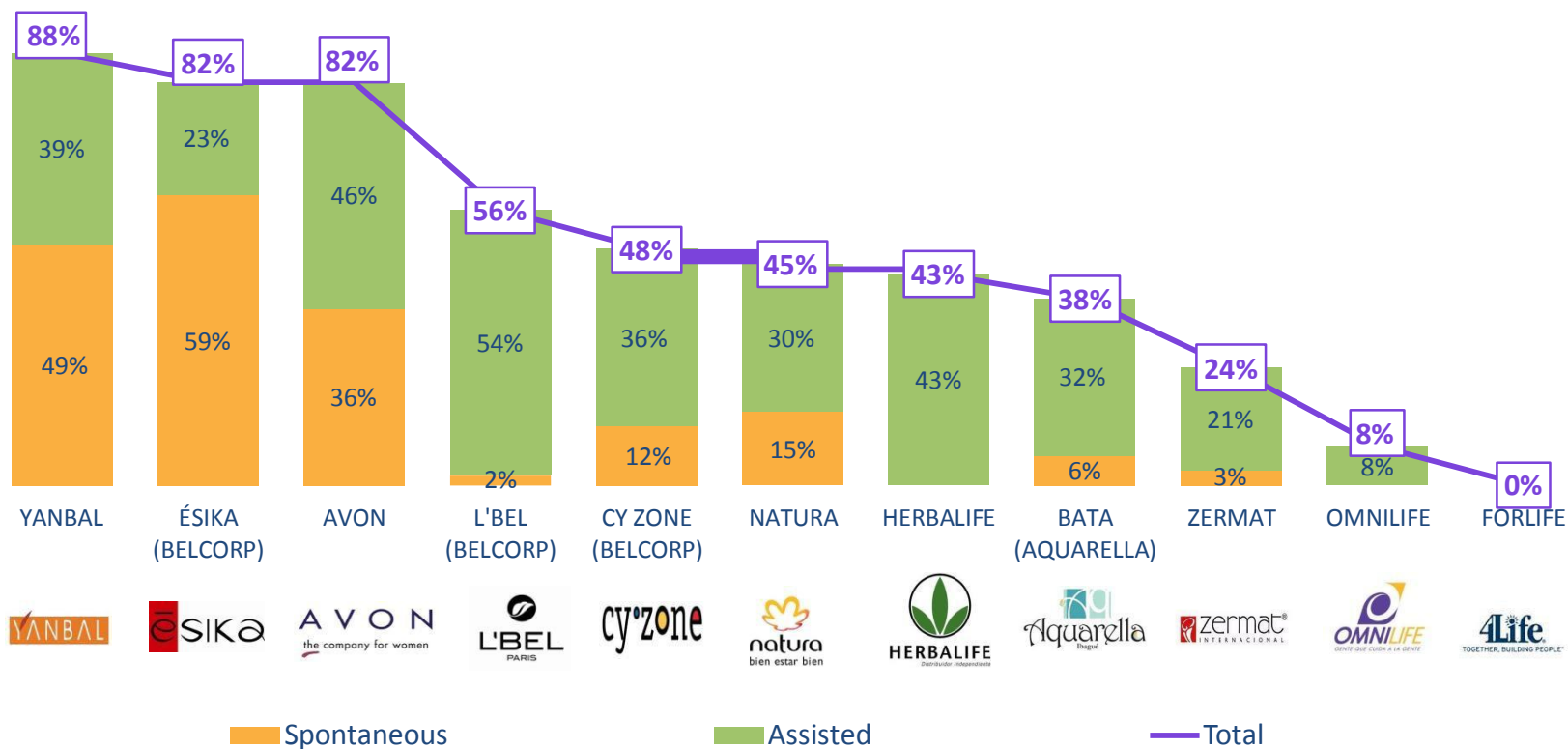
Advertising awareness of brands, spontaneous and assisted – Total (Main results)



Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

Surprises Advertising Awareness

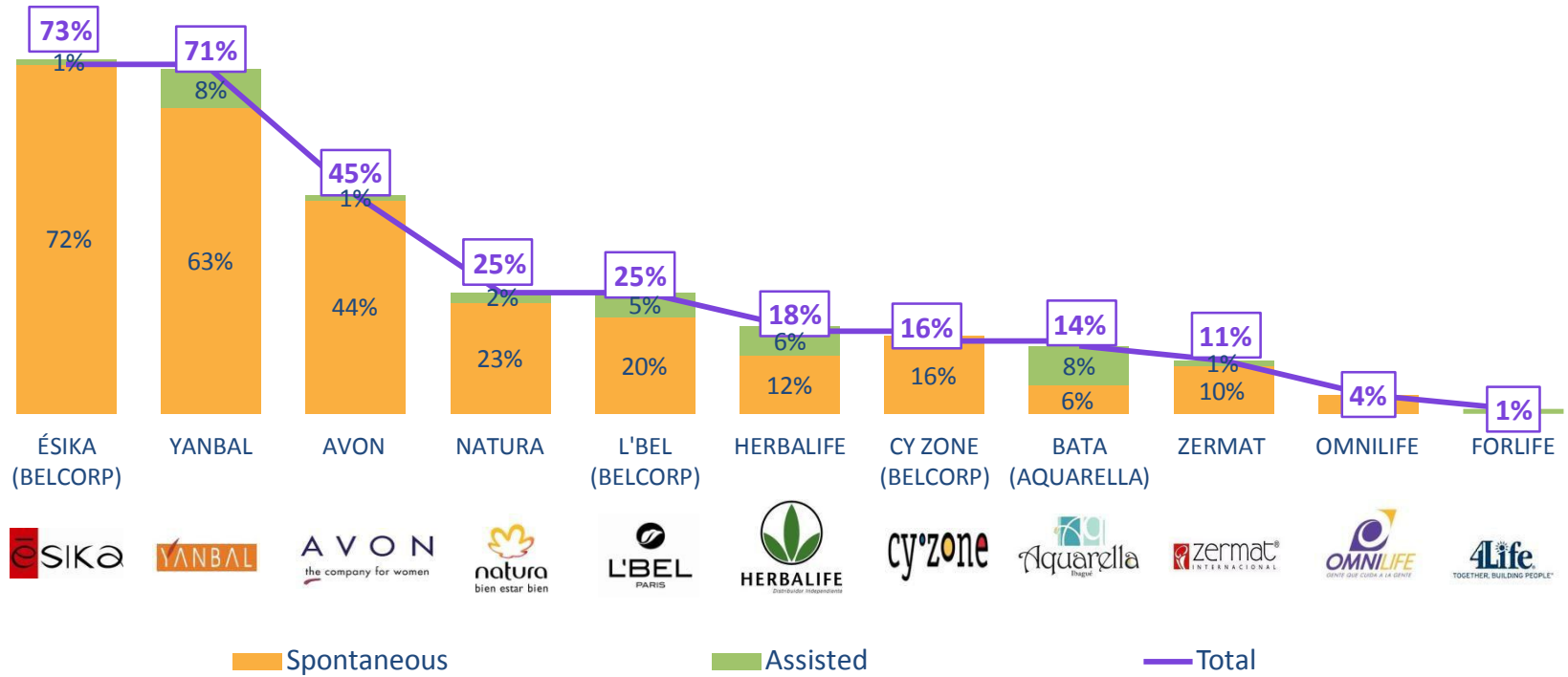
Advertising awareness of brands, spontaneous and assisted – La Paz (Main results)



Base: Total of habitual consumers La Paz city (81) interviewees

Surprises Advertising Awareness

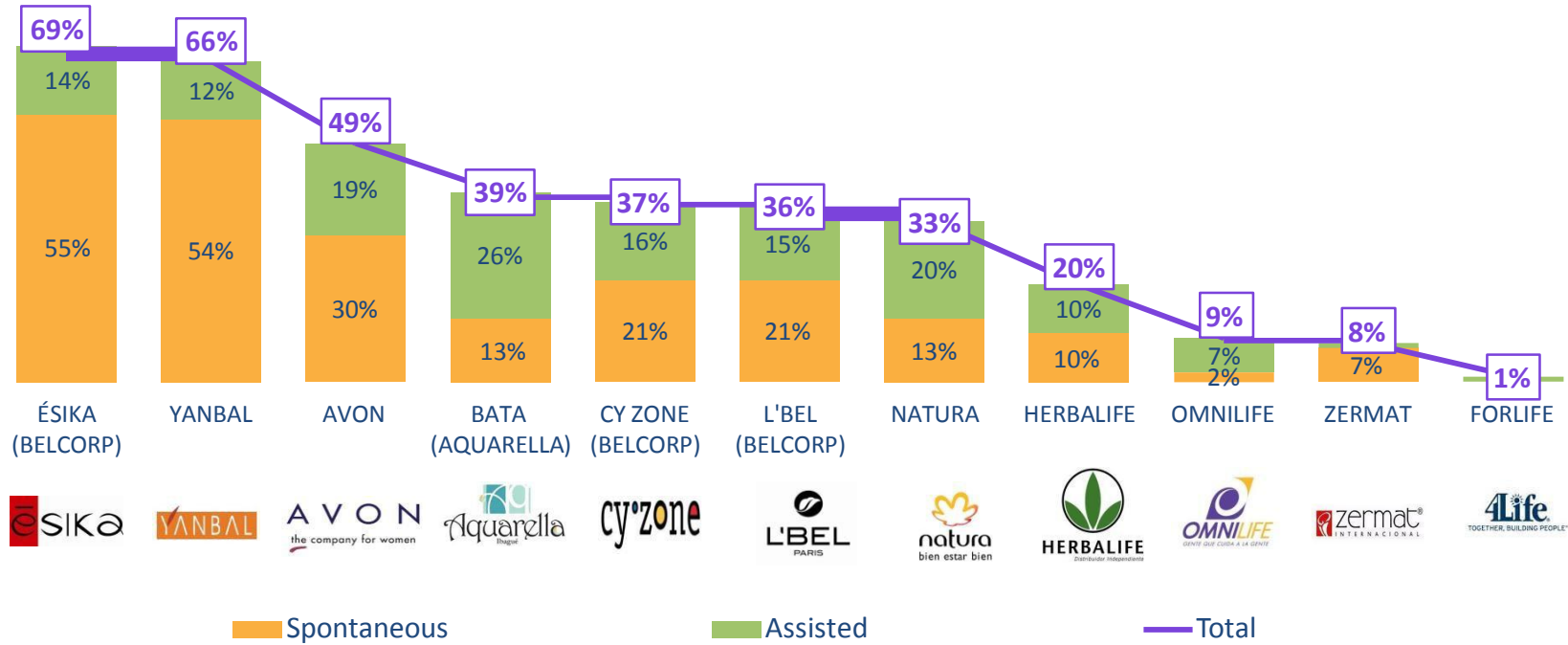
Advertising awareness of brands, spontaneous and assisted – El Alto (Main results)



Base: Total of habitual consumers El Alto city (65) interviewees

Surprises Advertising Awareness

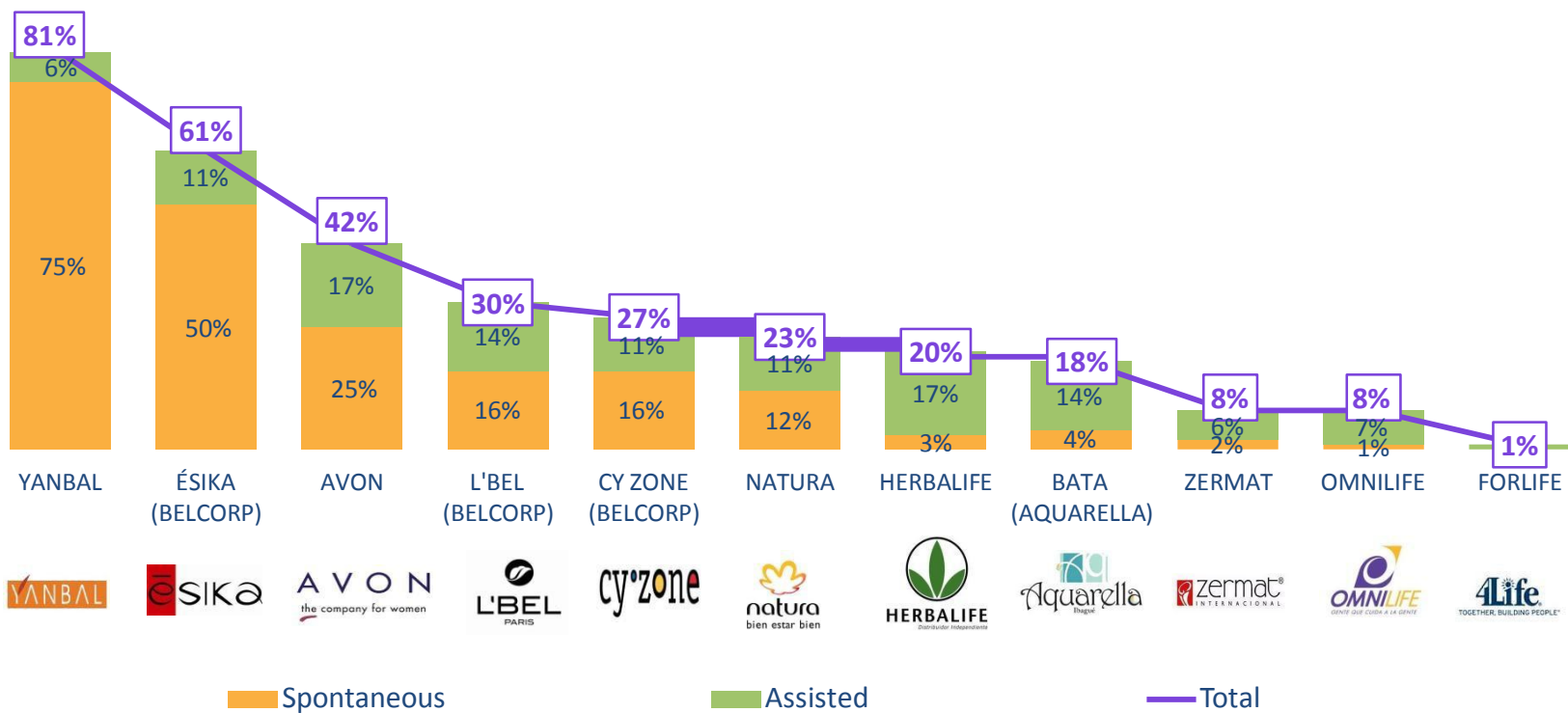
Advertising awareness of brands, spontaneous and assisted – Cochabamba (Main results)



Base: Total of habitual consumers Cochabamba city (48) interviewees

Surprises Advertising Awareness

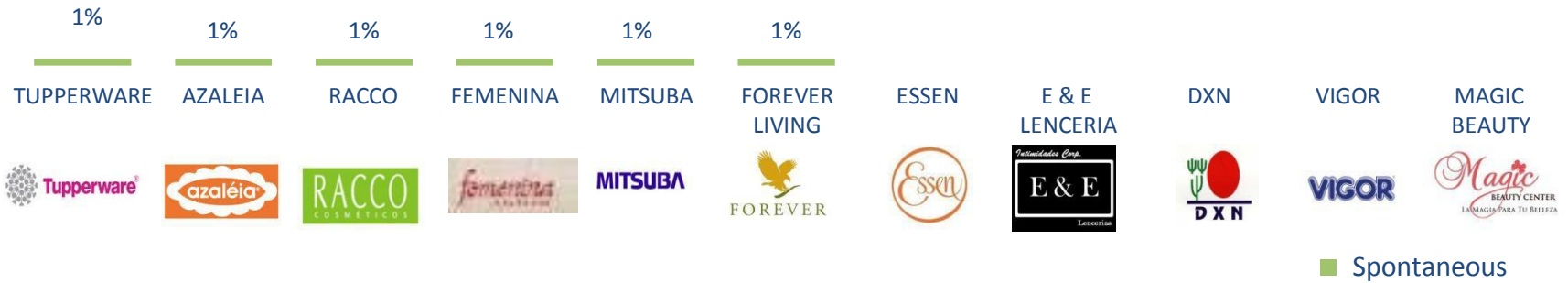
Advertising awareness of brands, spontaneous and assisted – Santa Cruz (Main results)



Base: Total of habitual consumers Santa Cruz (171) interviewees

Direct Sales Enterprises

Brand awareness, spontaneous – Total (Additional enterprises)



Brand awareness, spontaneous – La Paz (Additional enterprises)



Direct Sales Enterprises

Brand awareness, spontaneous – El Alto (Additional enterprises)



Brand awareness, spontaneous – Cochabamba (Additional enterprises)



Direct Sales Enterprises

Brand awareness, spontaneous – Santa Cruz (Additional enterprises)





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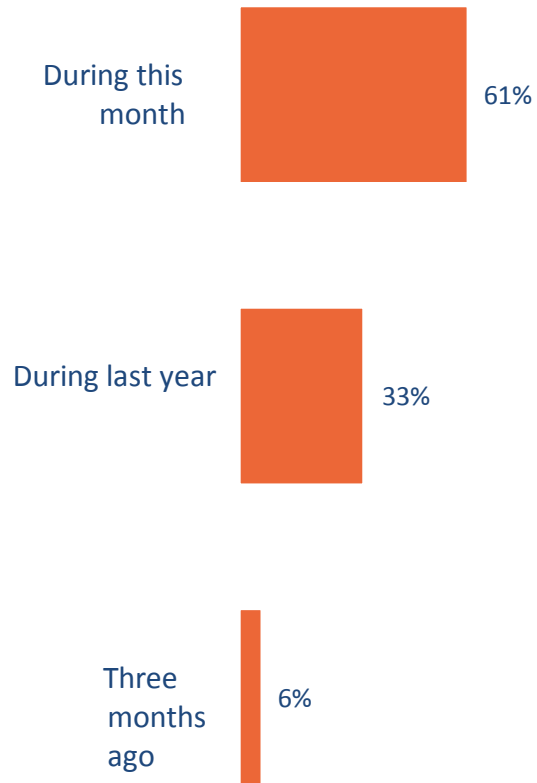
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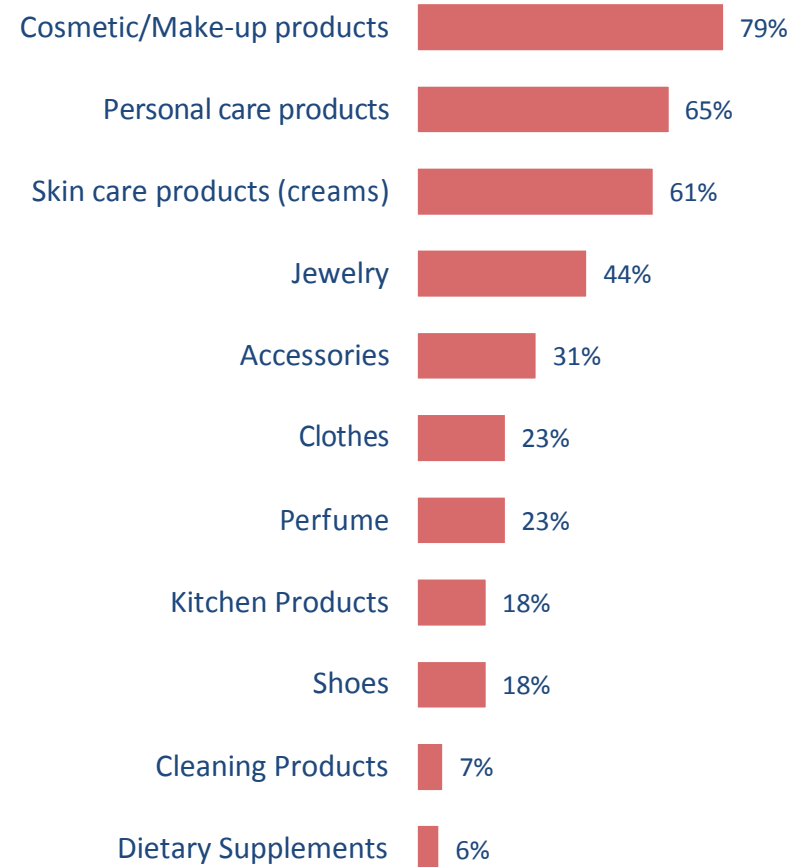
Purchasing and Using Habits

Information Access and Type of Products that Consumer have bought

Information Access - Total



Type of products – Total (Main results)

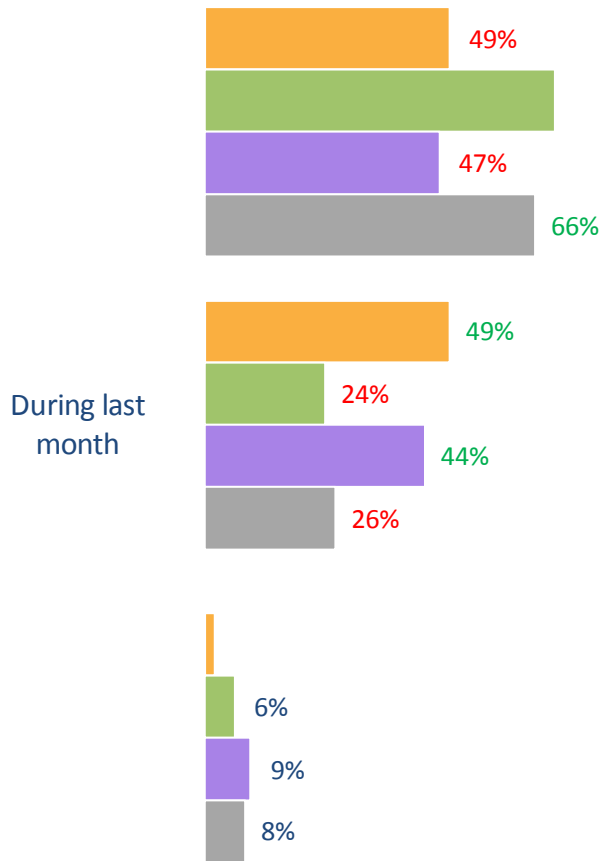


Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

Information Access and Type of Products that Consumer have

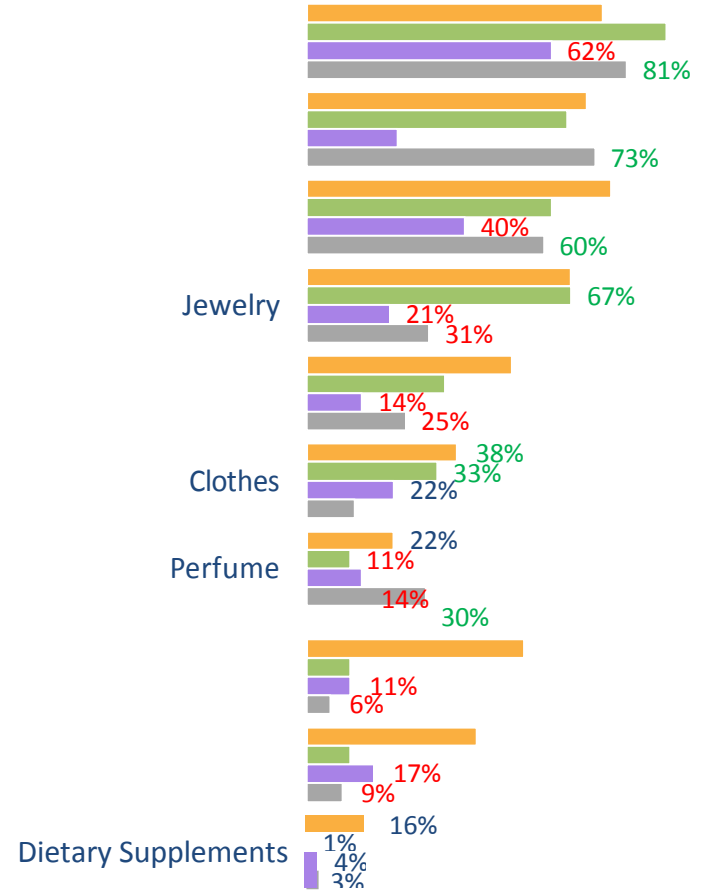
Logues

Information Access - City



■ La Paz (81) ■ El Alto (65)
■ Cochabamba (48) ■ Santa Cruz (171)

Type of products – City (Main Results)

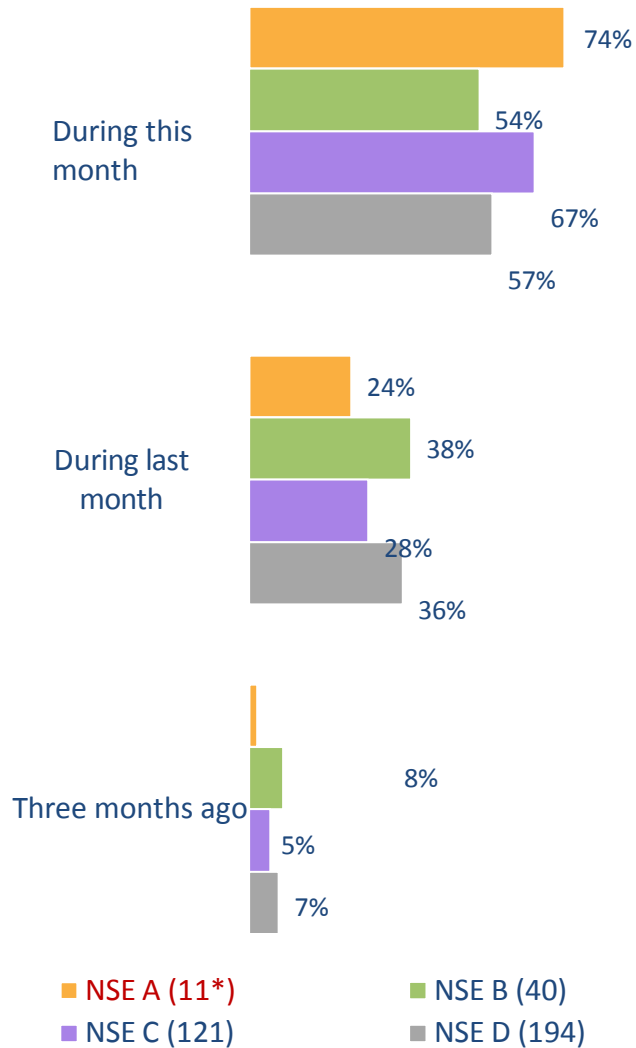


■ La Paz (81) ■ El Alto (65)
■ Cochabamba (48) ■ Santa Cruz (171)

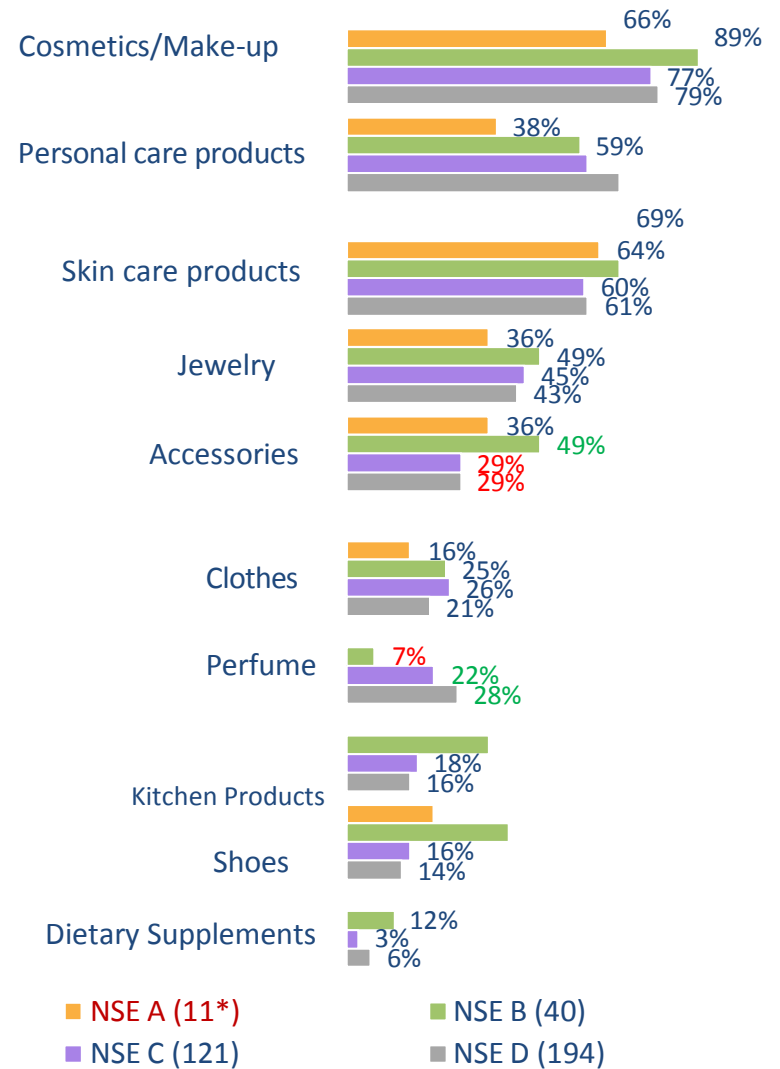
Information Access and Type of Products that Consumer have

Logues

Information Access – SEL/NSE



Type of Products – SEL/NSE (Main Results)



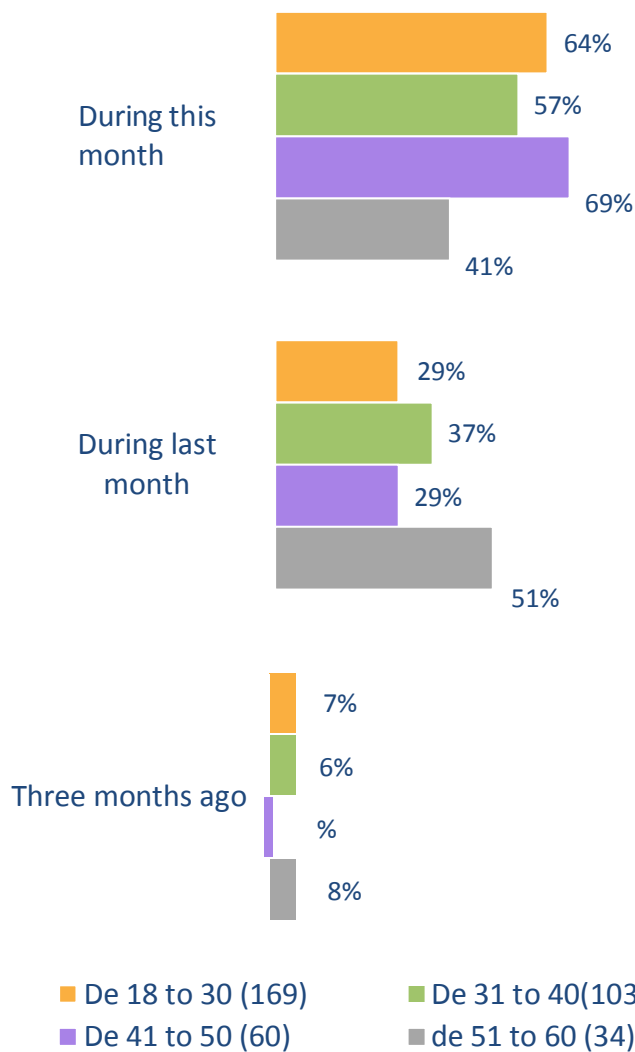
Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees *No representative sample less than 30

↑ ↓ Significant superior/inferior

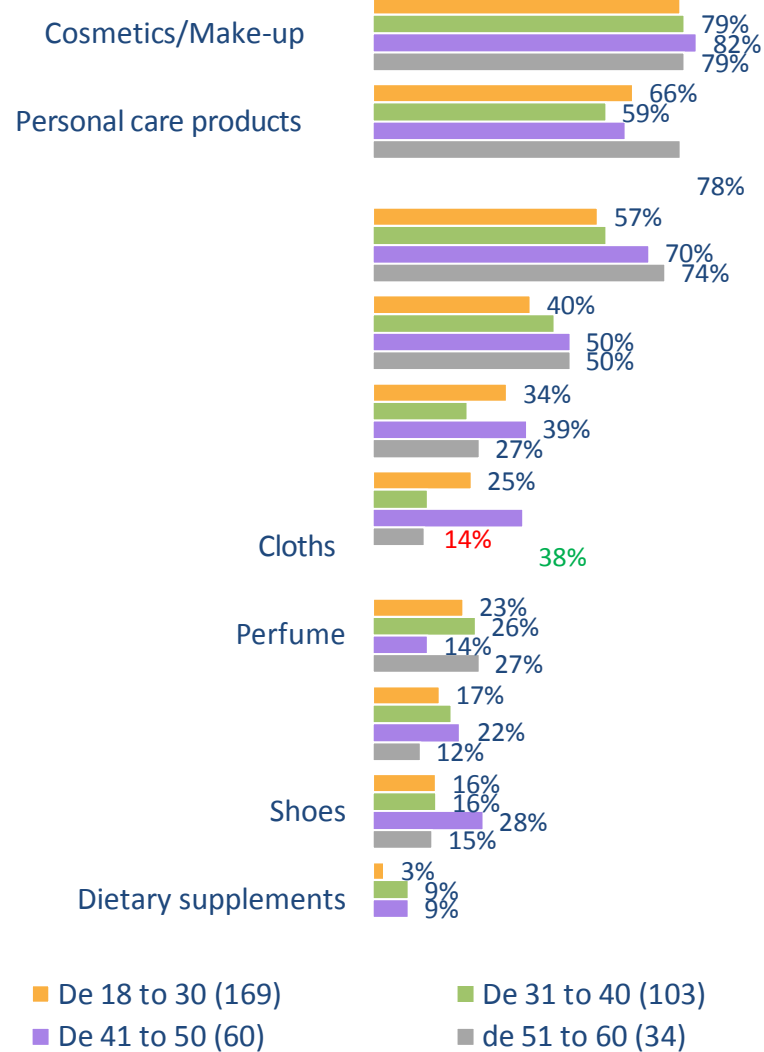
Information Access and Type of Products that Consumer have

Logues

Information Access - Age



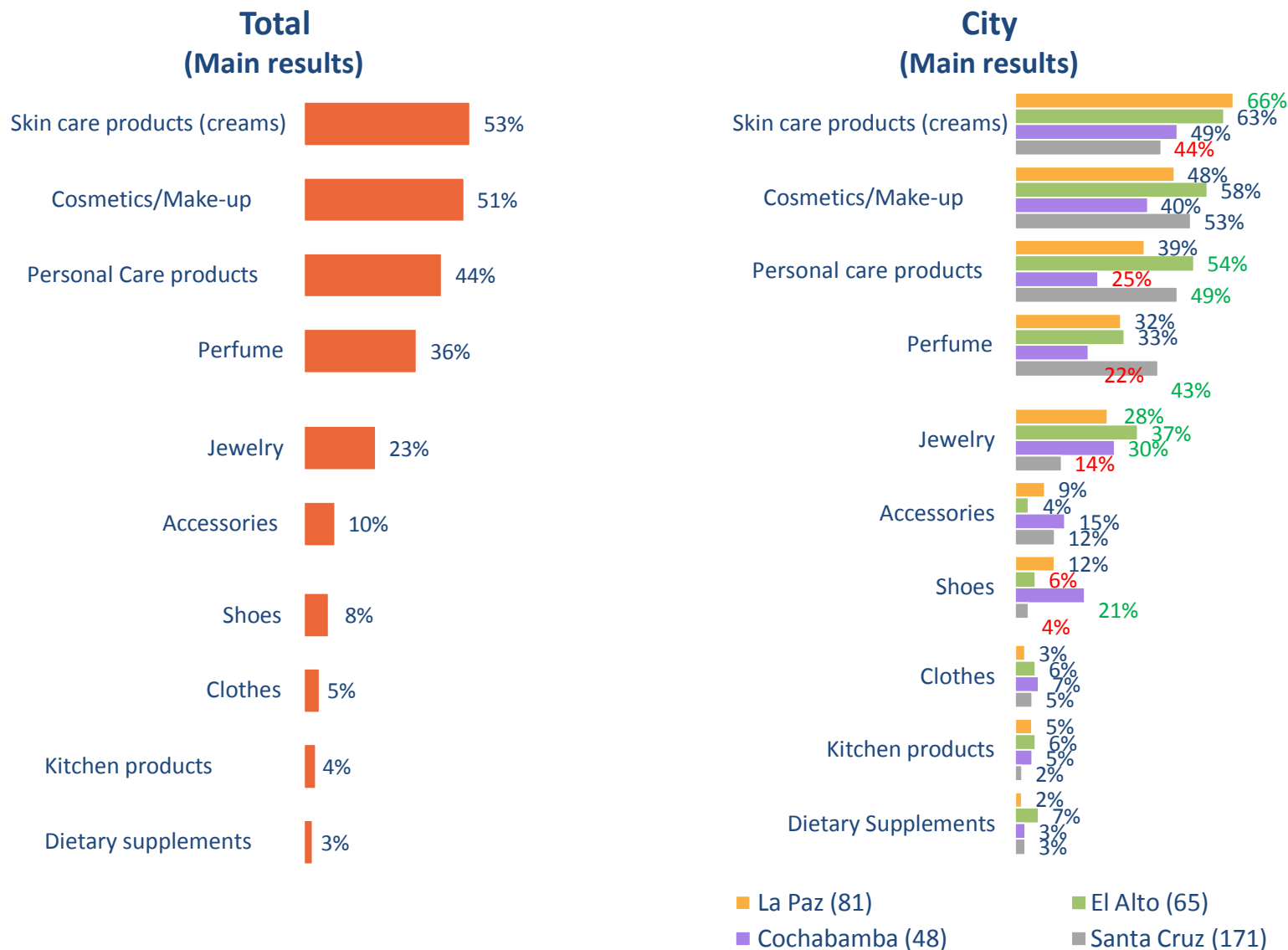
Type of Products – Age (Main results)



Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees *No representative sample less than 30

↑ ↓ Significant superior/inferior

Products acquired in the last purchase through Direct Sales

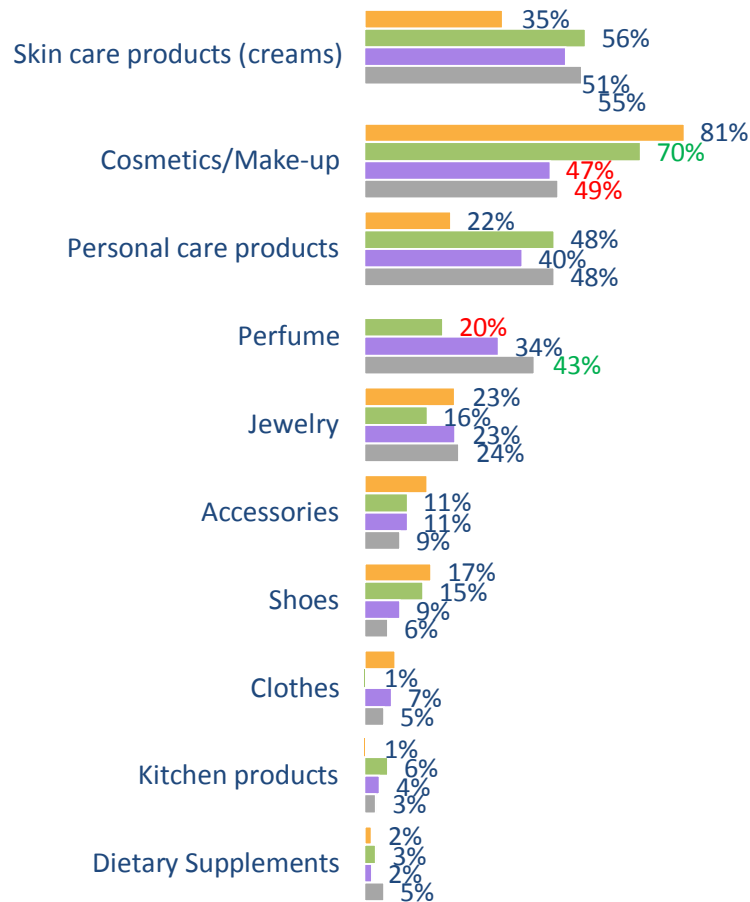


Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees *No representative sample less than 30

↑ ↓ Significant superior/inferior

Products acquired in the last purchase through Direct Sales

Socioeconomic level (NSE) (Main results)

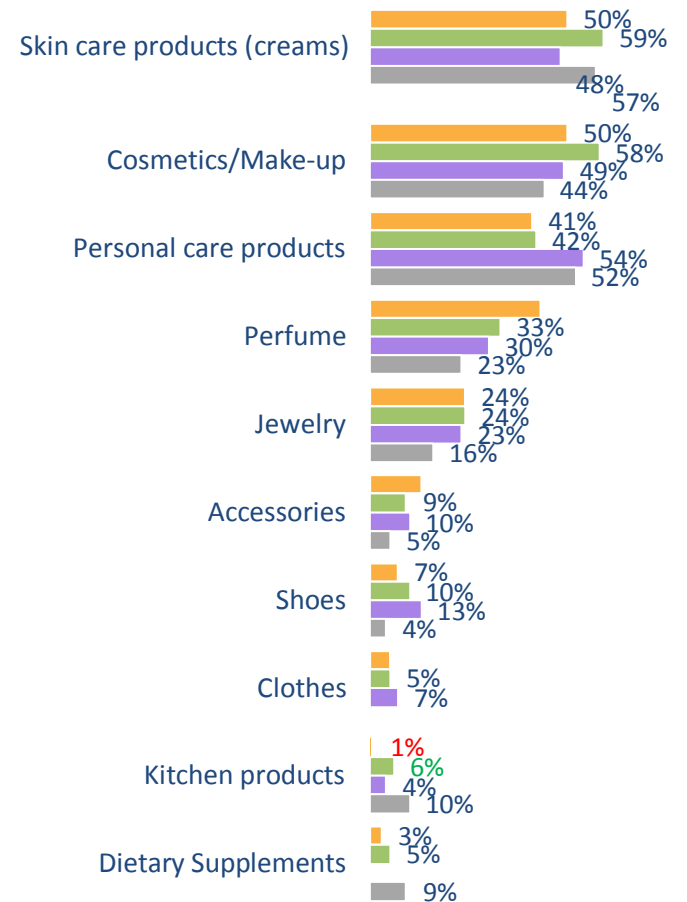


■ NSE A (11*) ■ NSE B (40) ■ NSE C (121) ■ NSE D (194)

*No representative sample less than 30

Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

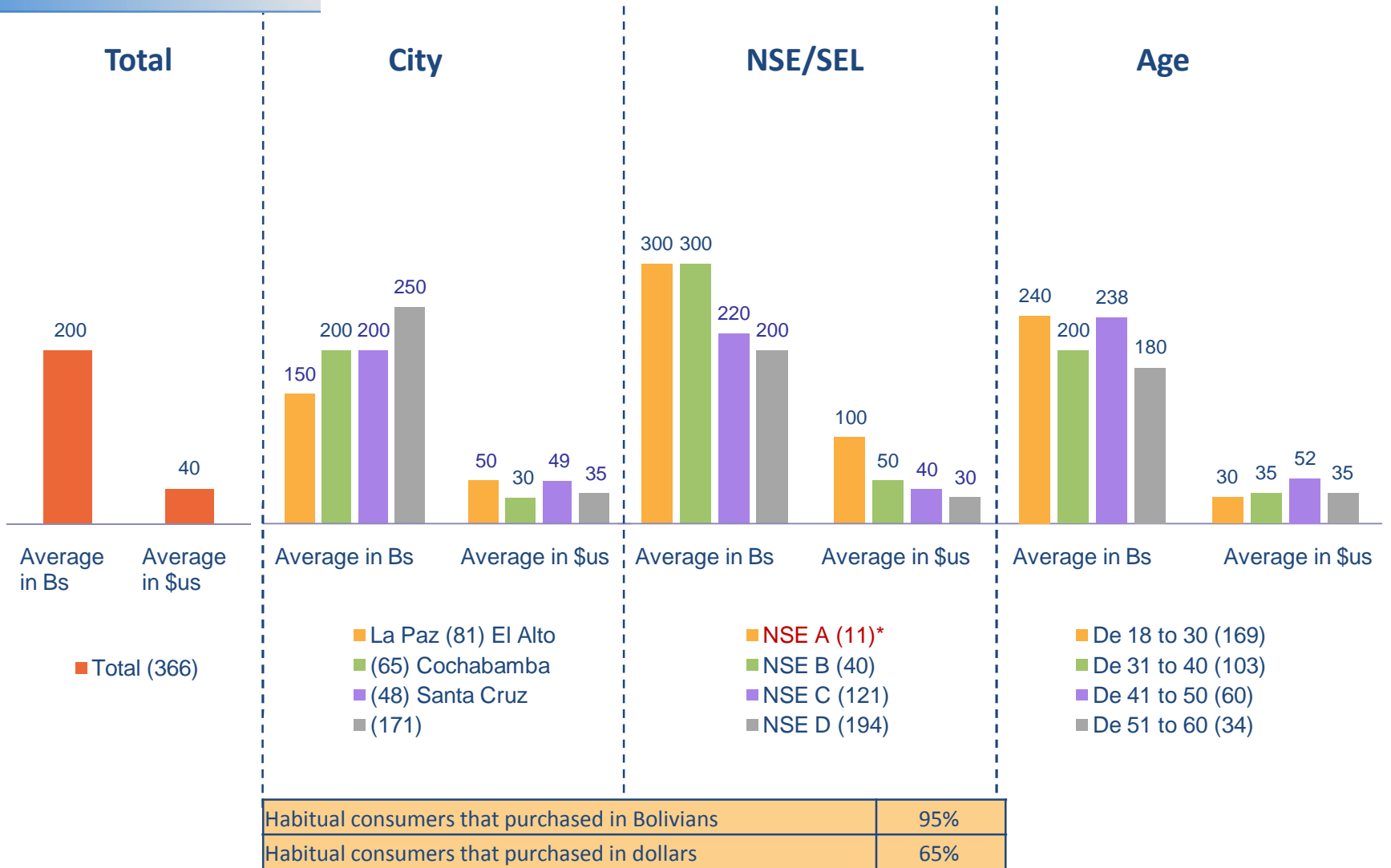
Age (Main results)



■ De 18 to 30 (169) ■ De 31 to 40 (103)
■ De 41 to 50 (60) ■ De 51 to 60 (34)

↑ ↓ Significant superior/inferior

Average Amount in the last purchase through Direct Sales



*No representative samples less than 30

Base: Total of habitual consumers interviewees (366)

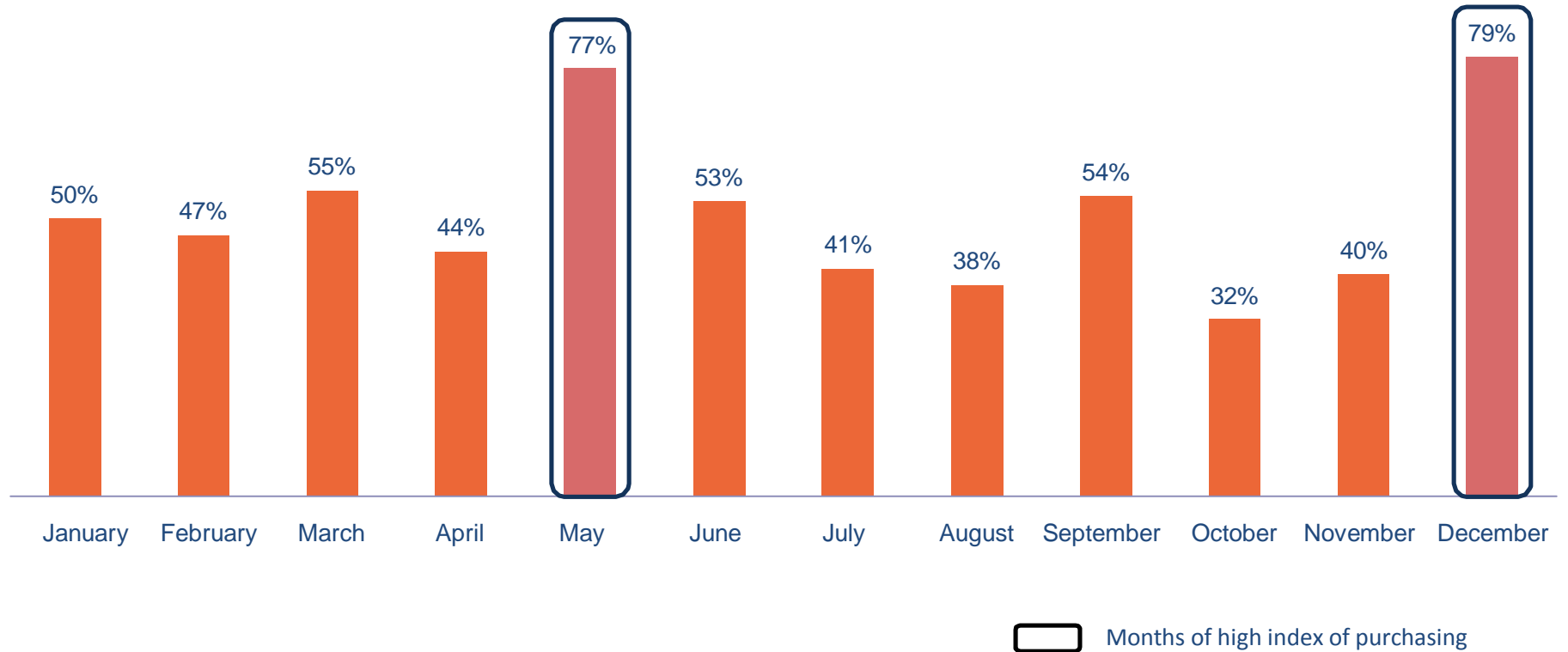
chases through Direct Sales in the last year



*No representative samples less than 30
Base: Total of habitual consumers interviewees

Which Direct Sales products are purchased

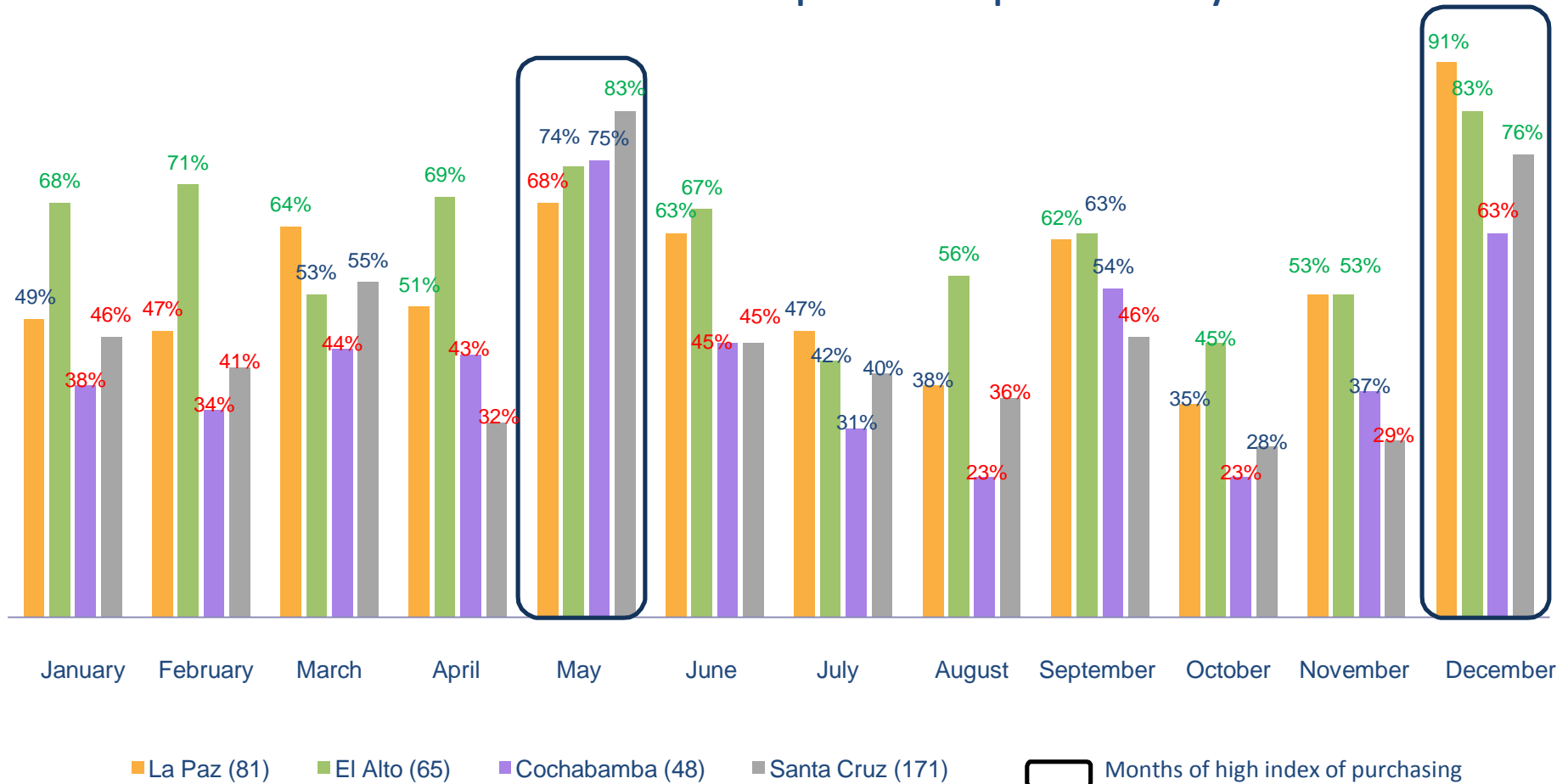
Months in which Direct Sales products are purchased - Total



Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

Which Direct Sales products are purchased by city

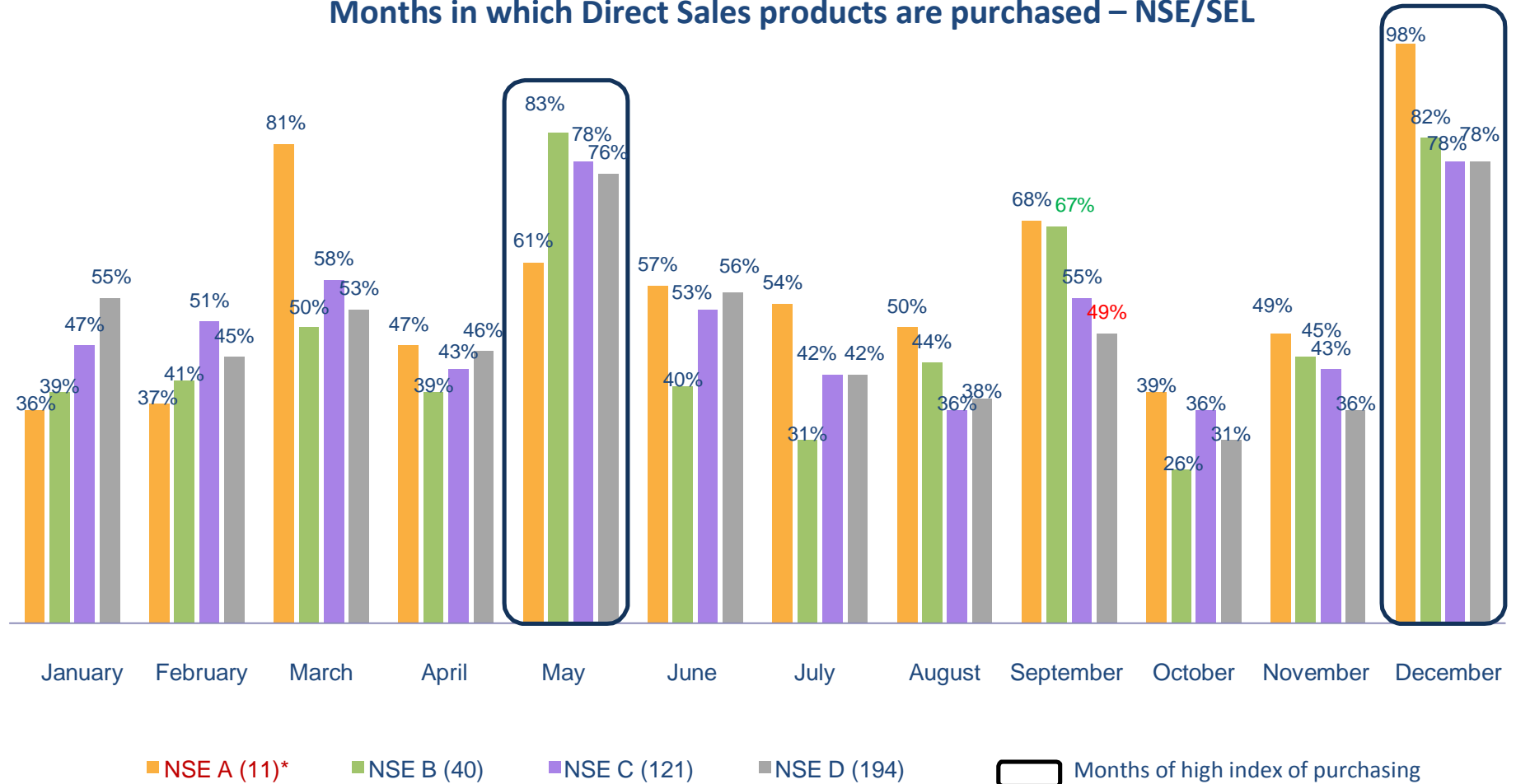
Months in which Direct Sales products are purchased- City



Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

Which Direct Sales products are purchased by level

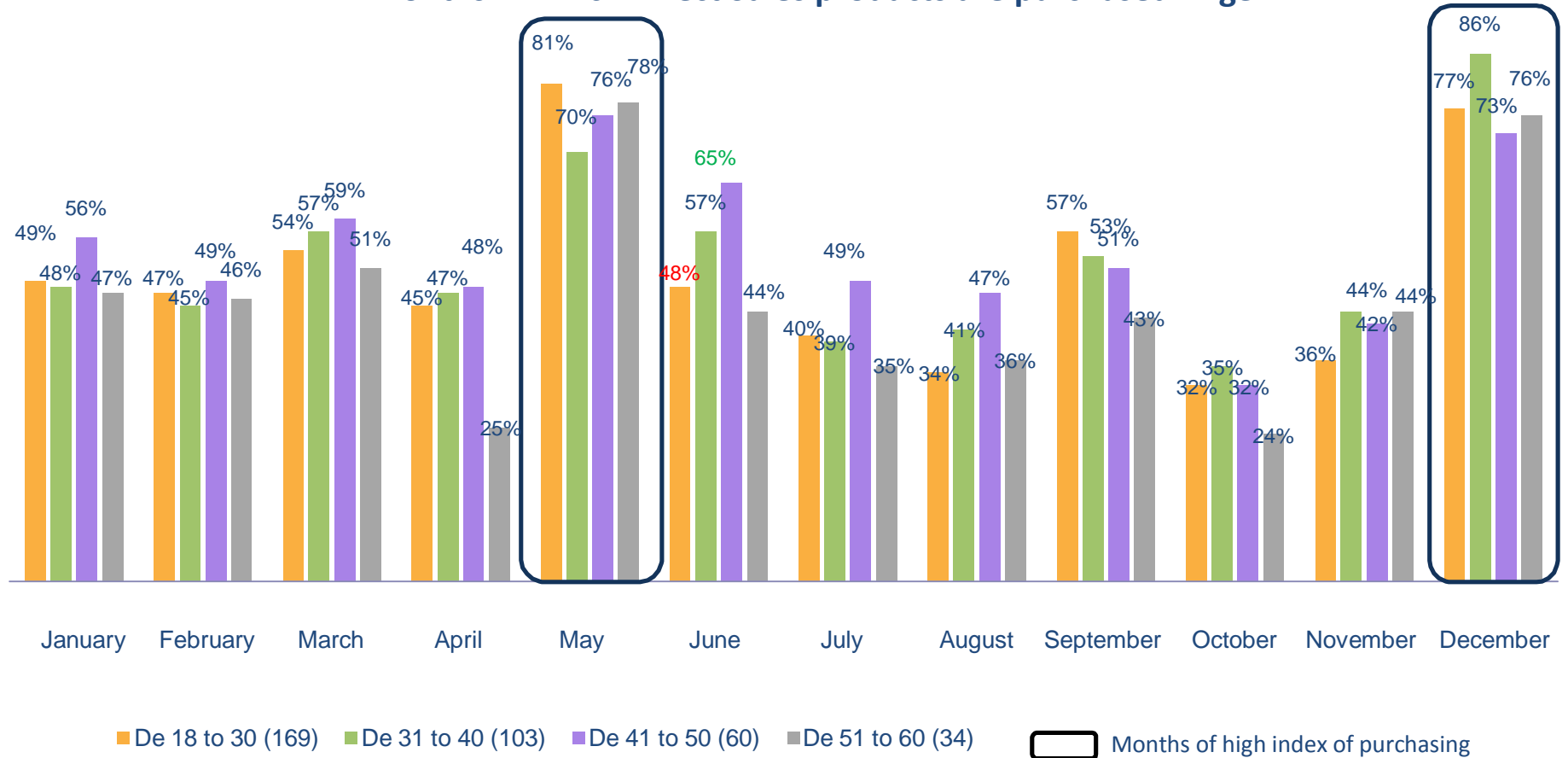
Months in which Direct Sales products are purchased – NSE/SEL



*No representative samples less than 30
Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

¿Cuándo compra productos de Venta Directa por Edad

Months in which Direct Sales products are purchased - Age



Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

General perception - Total

Perception – Total Bottom two box* / Top two box**



*Bottom two box (4 points scale. 1 means “Totally disagree ”)

**Top two box (4 pontis scale. 4 means “Totally agree”)

Base: Total of habitual consumers (366) interviewees

General perception – La Paz

Perception – La Paz Bottom two box* / Top two box**



*Bottom two box (4 points scale. 1 means “Totally disagree”)

**Top two box (4 points scale. 4 means “Totally agree”)

Base: Total of habitual consumers La Paz (81) interviewees

General perception – El Alto

Perception – El Alto Bottom two box* / Top two box**



*Bottom two box (4 points scale. 1 means “Totally disagree”)

**Top two box (4 points scale. 4 means “Totally agree”)

Base: Total of habitual consumers El Alto (65) interviewees

General perception - Cochabamba

Perception – Cochabamba Bottom two box* / Top two box**



*Bottom two box (4 points scale. 1 means “Totally disagree”)

**Top two box (4 points scale. 4 means “Totally agree”)

Base: Total of habitual consumers Cochabamba (48) interviewees

General perception – Santa Cruz

Perception – Santa Cruz Bottom two box* / Top two box**



*Bottom two box (4 points scale. 1 means "Totally disagree")

**Top two box (4 points scale. 4 means "Totally agree")

Base: Total of habitual consumers interviewees Santa Cruz (171)



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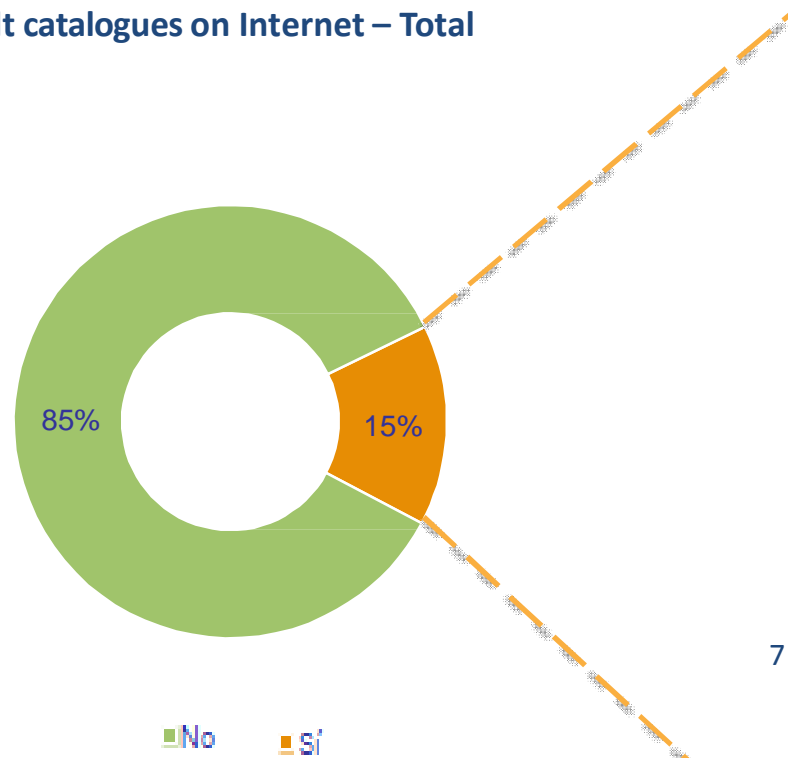
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Direct Sales Distribution Channel Via Internet

Internet Sales products catalogue via Internet

To consult catalogues on Internet – Total

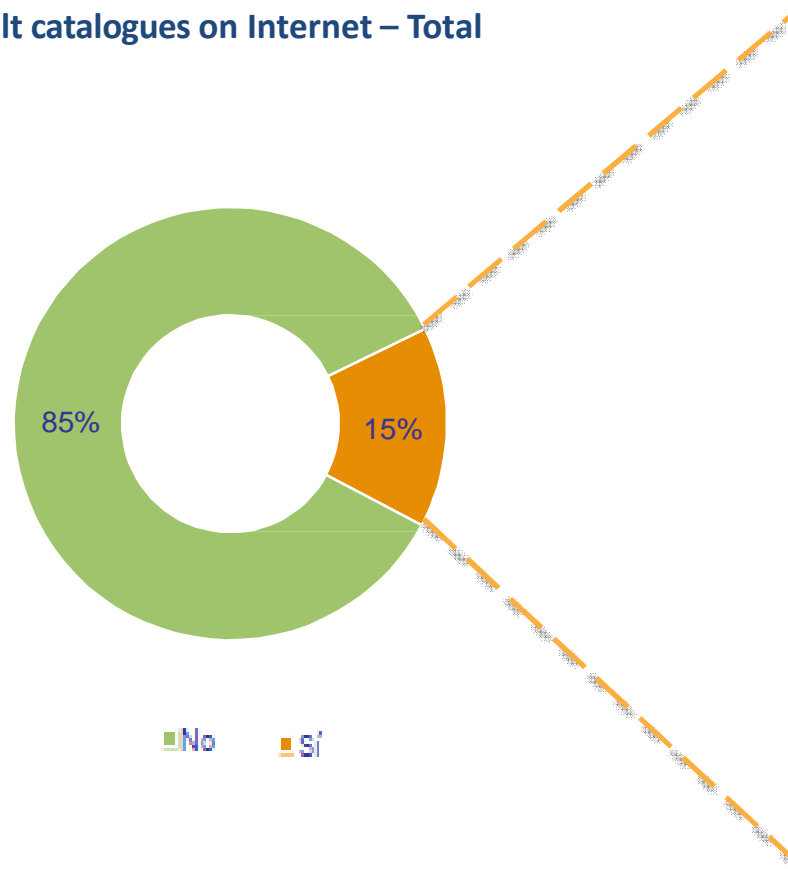


To consult Direct Sales products catalogue on Internet - Total

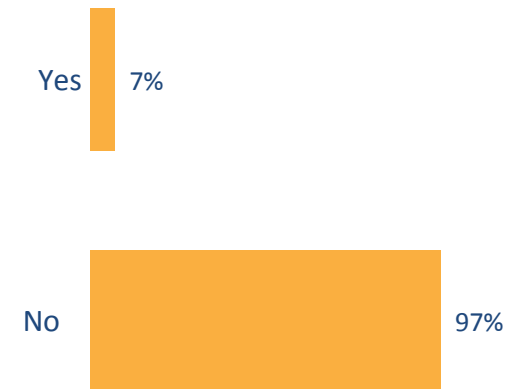


Direct Sales products catalogue via Internet

To consult catalogues on Internet – Total

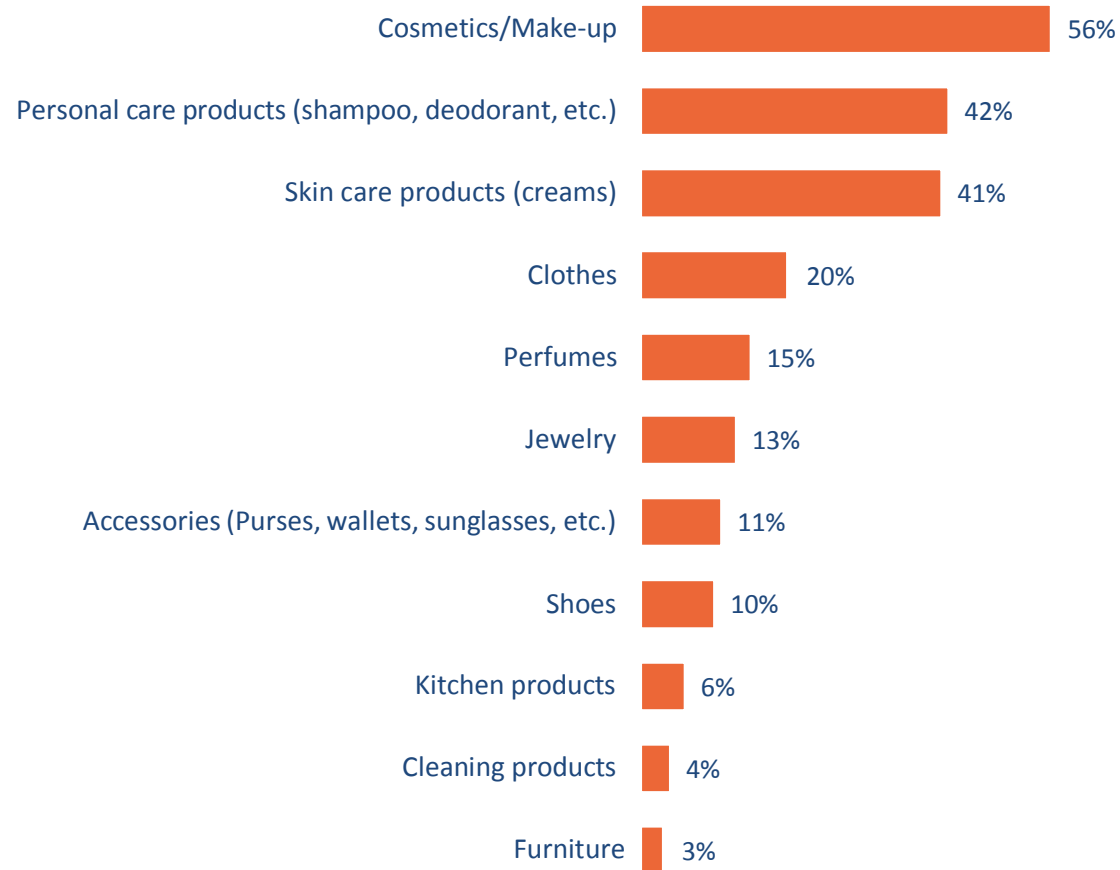


To consult Direct Sales products catalogue on Internet – Total



Products that consumers consulted on Internet

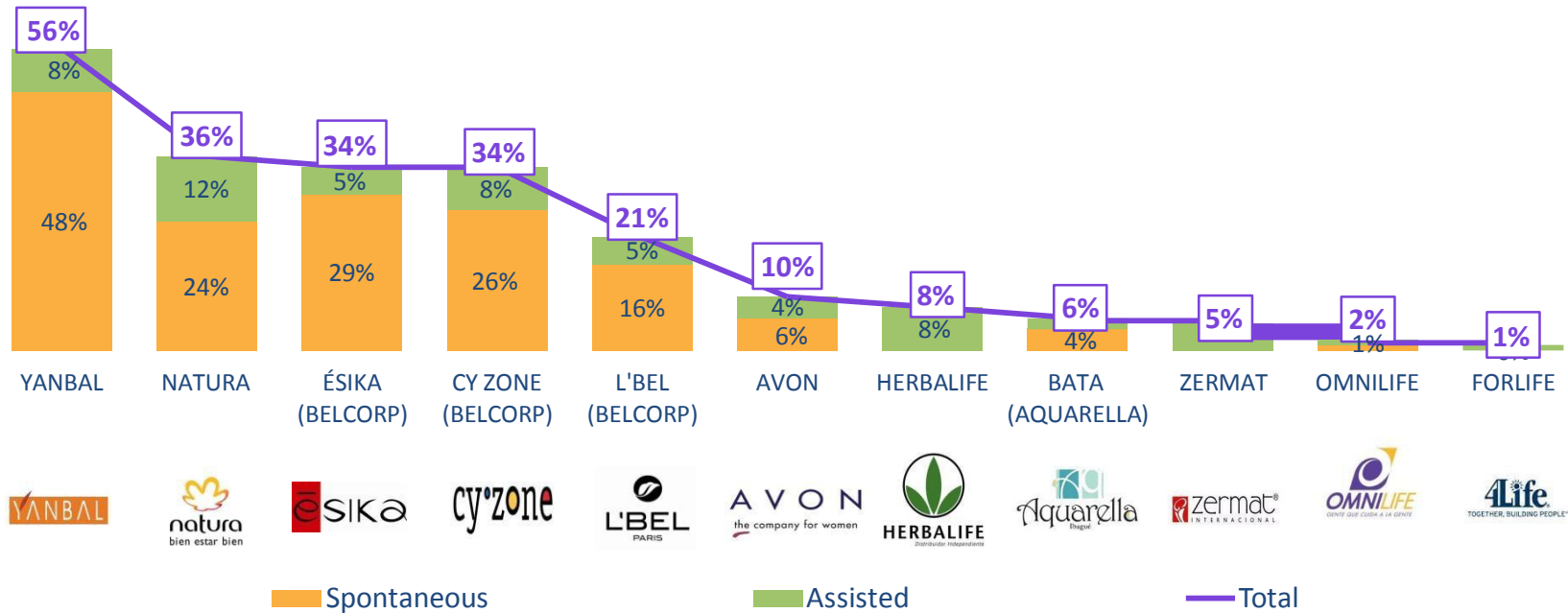
Total (Main results)



Base: Total of consumers that consulted catalogues on internet interviewees (52)

ose catalogues were consulted on Internet

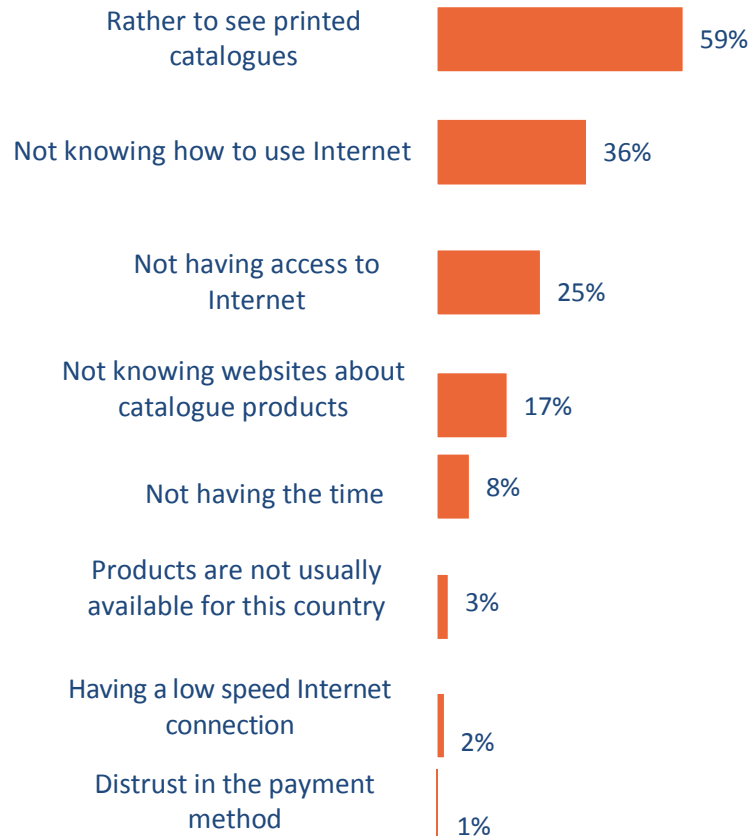
Enterprises awareness, spontaneous and assisted – Total (Main results)



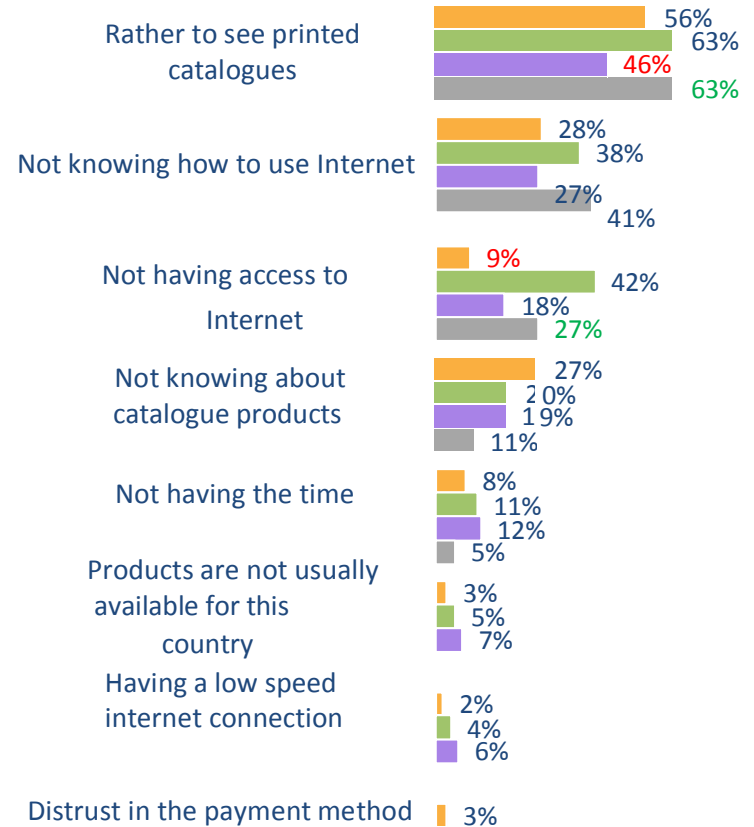
Base: Total of consumers that consulted catalogues on internet (52) interviewees

Not consulting catalogues on Internet

**Total
(Main results)**



**City
(Main results)**



La Paz (81)

Cochabamba (48)

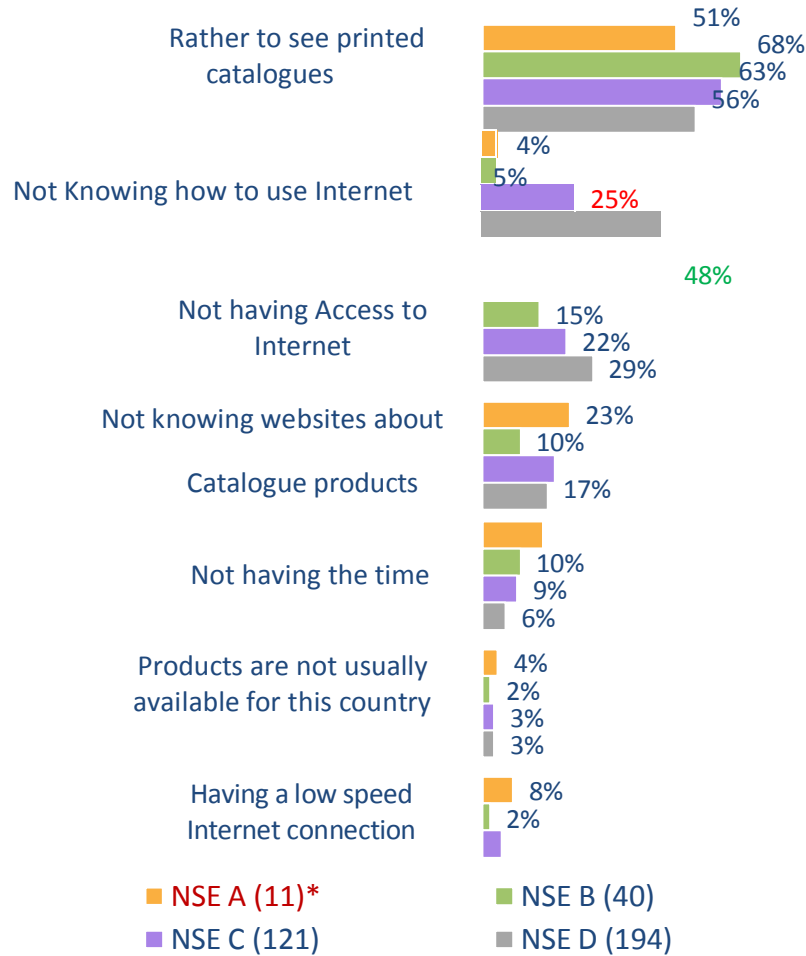
El Alto (65)

Santa Cruz (171)

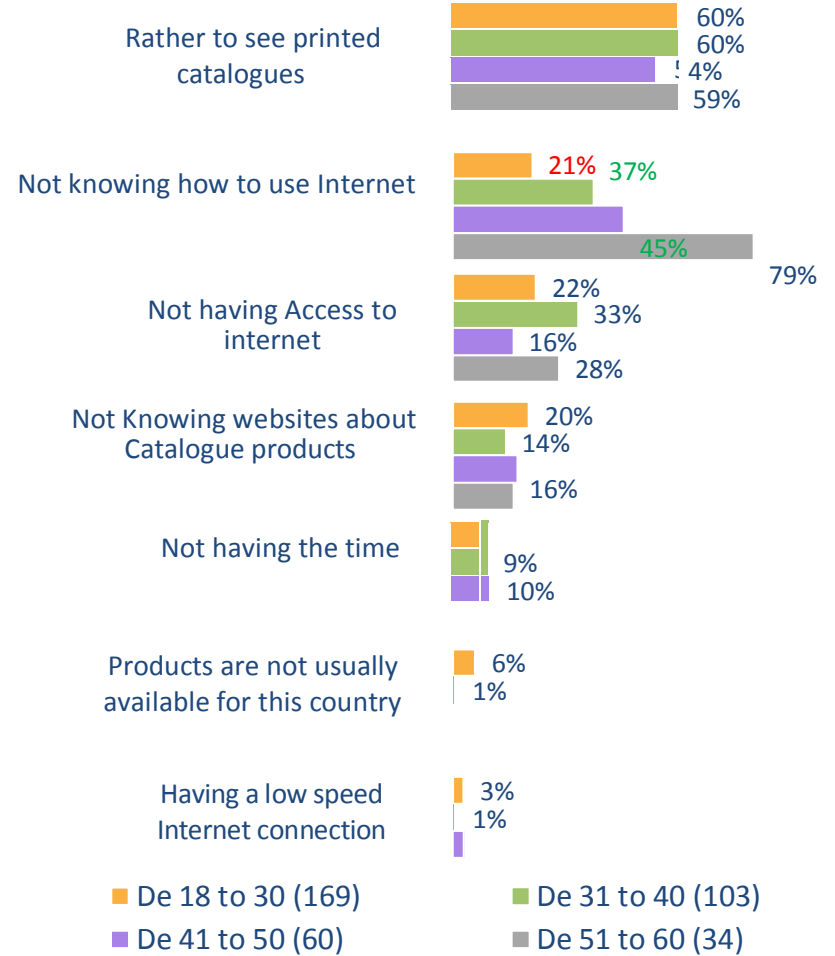
Base: Total of consumers that do not consulted catalogues on Internet (311) interviewees

Not consulting catalogues on Internet

Socioeconomic level (Main results)



Age (Main results)



*No representative samples less than 30

Base: Total of consumers that do not consulted catalogues on Internet (311) interviewees



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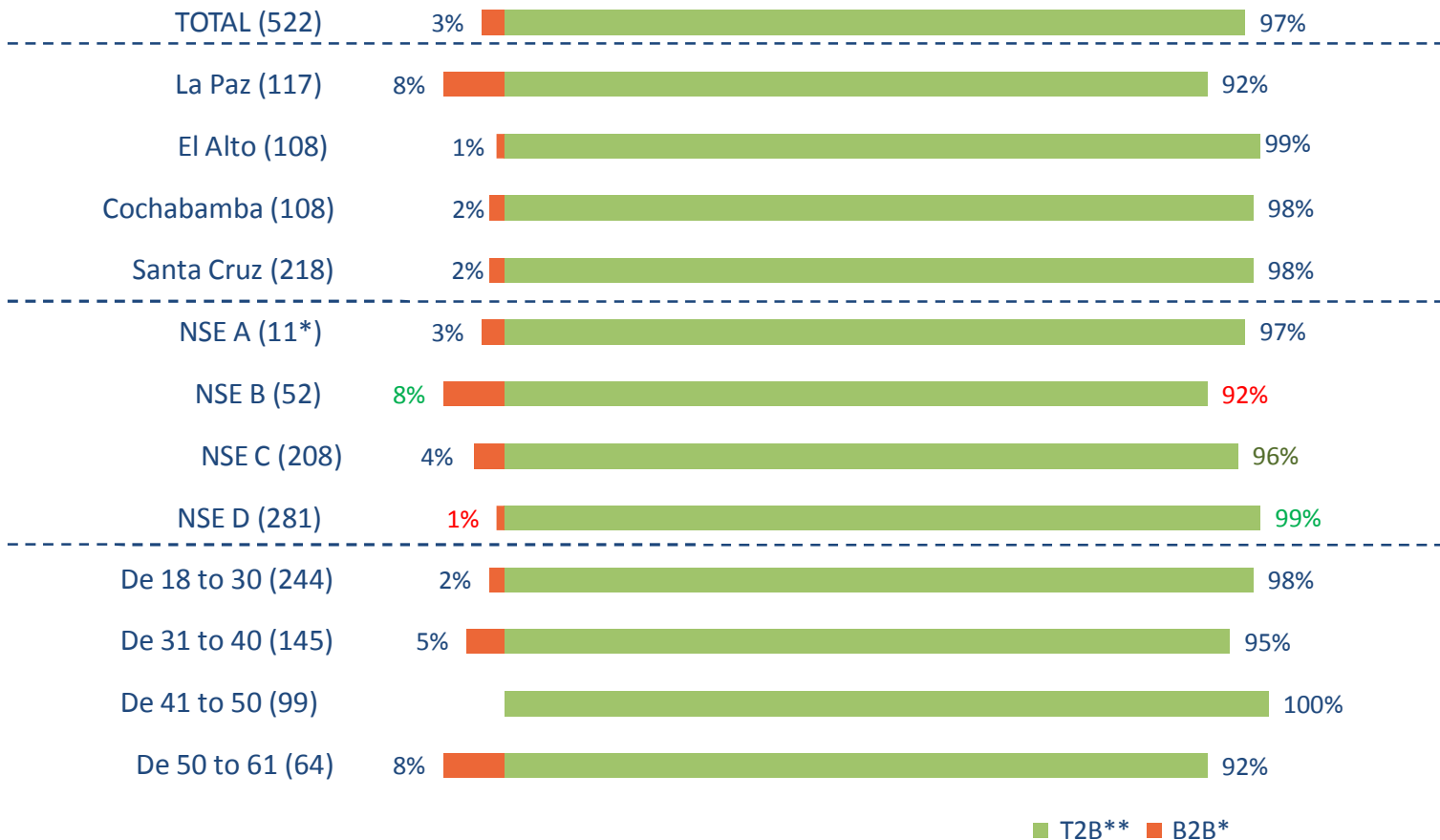
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Social Impact

Direct Sales as an alternative for extra incomes

Perception of Direct Sales Bottom two box* / Top two box**



*Bottom two box (4 points scale. 1 means "Totally disagree")

**Top two box (4 points scale. 4 means "Totally agree")

*No representative samples less than 30

Base: Total of consumers (522) interviewees

 Significant superior/inferior

Conclusions and Recommendations



- Almost total population knows or has purchased some Direct Sales product; this is a very popular category among young woman from La Paz and Santa Cruz.

THE NO CONSUMERS

- This is a small part of population, the major part belong to low socio-economic levels between 41 to 60 years old, the reason for not purchase this products are high prices and the impossibility **of touching, trying or touching the products**, this generates distrust which is a barrier.
- The major population of no consumers is located in Cochabamba city.

THE OCCASIONAL CONSUMERS

- They are located in El alto and Cochabamba, they are not frequent Direct Sales consumers because the idea of high prices and due to they do not have contact with any sales agent.

- The most known Direct Sales products among occasional consumers are: cosmetic products, skin care products and personal care products.

THE HABITUAL CONSUMERS

- Direct Sales **habitual consumers** are mainly high socio-economic levels 18 to 30 year old women, since prices and Access to information don not represent any problem for purchasing products.

KNOWLEDGE OF BRANDS

- Three Direct Sales enterprises are the most known by consumers, they are: **Yanbal**, in spite it does not have the most accessible prices, its diversity and its antiquity keep this Enterprise in the mind of consumers; **Ésika** pertains to Belcorp group. **Avon** has diversification in its products and a great advertisement. And Cy Zone and Natura stand up for guidance in their products.
- The enterprise that has the most high brand awareness is **Yanbal**, then **Ésika and Avon**.

- More than half of population had Access to Direct Sales product information during the period of this month.
- Products with the most diffusion are skin care products, cosmetic products, make-up products and personal care products, of which six out of ten persons has received the information.

USAGE OF DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL

- Persons who had Access to Direct Sales information, more than a half has purchased through this distribution channel at least once in the last three months.
- The amount invested in the last purchase was **Bs. 200**; average purchases are made once each two months. The months of high index of purchasing are May and December, due to Mother's Day and Christmas.
- Taking into account that the average amount invested on each purchase rises at 17% of minimum national income, and makes evident the importance that consumers assign to the different Direct Sales product in the sense of feeling and looking good.

- The main attributes of Direct Sales considered by consumers are:
 - The quality of products,
 - The personalized attention from sales agents,
 - The comfortable way of purchasing;
 - And products novelties.
- Nevertheless, a negative point in the distribution channel is the delay of products delivery.

USAGE OF DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL ON INTERNET

- This method is not very popular among the system, only a 15% have seen catalogue on Internet and only a 7% have requested the visit of a sales agent.
- The most important facts are: do not know how to use the Internet and do not have the accessibility to the service.

SOCIAL IMPACT

- Almost the majority of interviewees, consumers or no consumers, agree that Direct Sales is an alternative for generating extra incomes and admit that the distribution channel is a mean of empowerment for women.

- Since no consumers and occasional consumers consider the fact that is not possible to touch or try any product; it is recommended to include a wide range of samples, and try to eliminate this barrier.
- The delay in delivery products, is out of enterprises' control, even this is a negative aspect in Direct Sales, so in this sense, it must implement a **time record** considering how much time is devoted in the distribution of products by sales agents.
- The use of Internet in Direct Sales products is not recommended. Nevertheless, taking into account that **41% of 18 to 60 year old women from different socio-economic levels has entered to the Internet in the last 30 days from which 61% have visited Facebook***, it confirms the great potential of Internet in disseminating the different products, especially through social networks.

* Source: Media General Study January-Dicember 2011 - IPSOS

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