



Results of the survey on the plastic ban in Pune city Feb 2019

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Maharashtra declared a ban on plastic disposables on 18 March 2018.

Has the ban on plastic disposable bags been effective in Pune? Are retail store owners and vegetable vendors respecting the ban? Are large chain grocery stores offering alternatives to plastic bags?

eCoexist conducted a survey online to find out how effective the plastic ban has been in Pune. 42 volunteers helped us to gather data via a phone based online survey .

Date of start of survey: 23rd November 2018

Date of end of survey: 23rd January 2019

PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

Bharati Vidyapeeth

Ecological Society

Fergusson College

Wadia College

Kaveri College

Team Swach Kalyani Nagar

Cummins India Ltd

Jeevit Nadi

OIKOS

Photo: Jorge Gamboa

IS PUNE FREE OF PLASTIC BAGS?

Starting from:

01
12
18

Join us in a survey to help us find out.

Volunteers welcome

Date: Any day in December & January
Venue : All across Pune

Organised by:
eCoexist Foundation
Oikos and Ecological Society



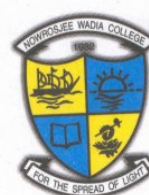
ecological society



eCoexist foundation



oikos for Ecological Services





32 **16**
Females **Males**

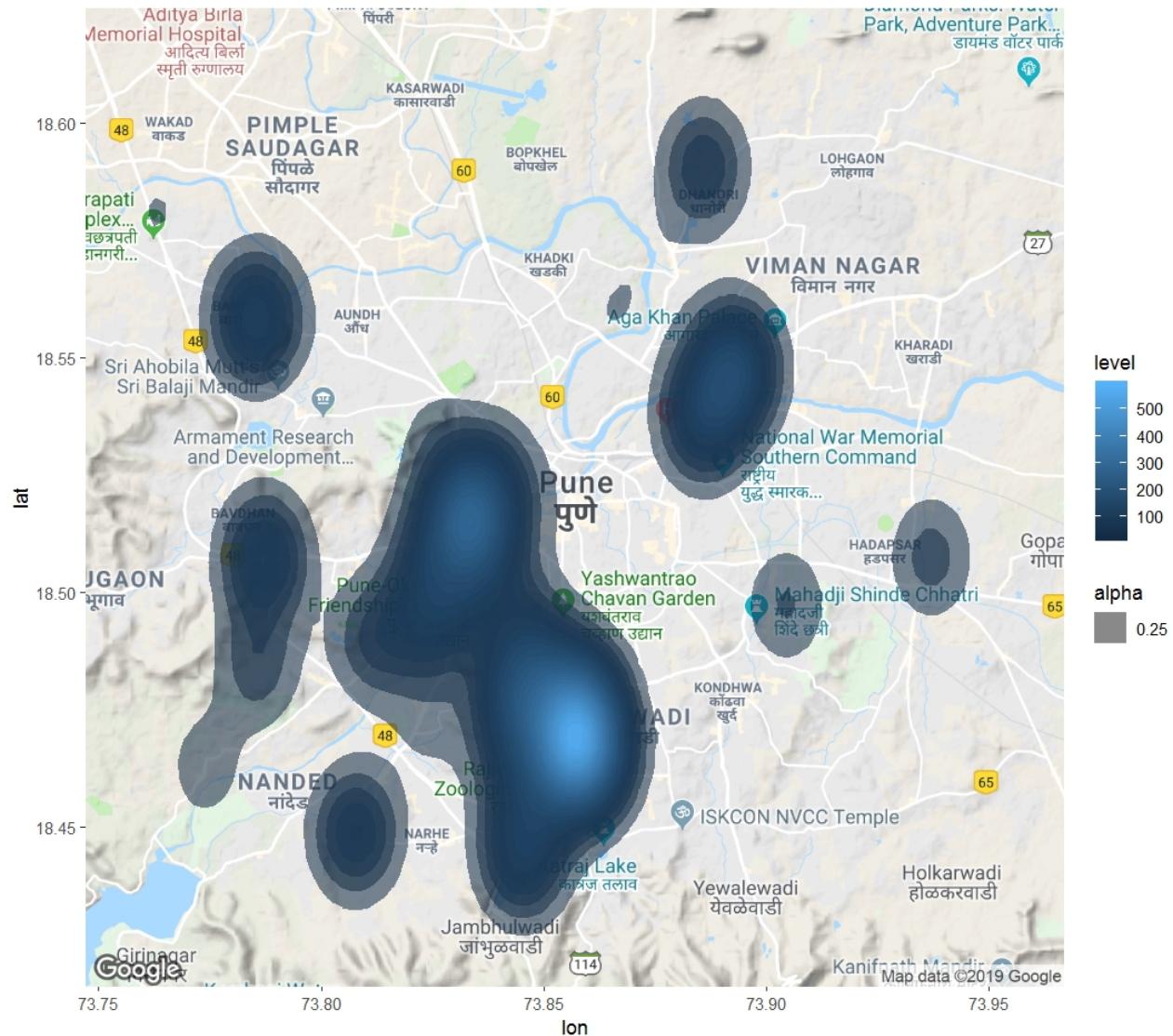
VOLUNTEERS
Aashutosh Panhalkar
Aayushman Dey
Aishwarya Patil
Akshay Paygude
Anjali Kothe
Anjali Venkatesh Gantla
Anjella Patel
Anusha Ashok Shetty
Arati
Atharva prabhune
Bhargavi Kulkarni
Chaitanya Ket
Divyanshu Pawar
Farhad Shaikh
Gayatri Mendhule

VOLUNTEERS
Harshita Patil
Jeneview Kaul
Jenoy Joykutty
Jignesh Solanki
Kunal Singh Rajput
Lipi Gandhi
Mallika Sharma
Maya ramchandani
Mounica
Nagma Parveen
Ninatchaka Ramakant Thengre
Parul Suresh Taank
Pooja Jagad
Pranav Lele
Puja Singh
Prativa Bomzon

VOLUNTEERS
Purusottam Tripathy
Rajesh B Deshmukh
Rasika rajesh nachankar
Rohan Kumar
Rohan Shinde
Rushikesh Vithal Dhumal
Sagar Pawar
Sapna Kharbas
Shabnam fazel
Shruti jadhav
Shubham Tandon
Smitha Naik
Snehal Tiwari
Sukanya
Vaishali Nadkarny
Vijaya Rao

1155

SHOPS INTERVIEWED

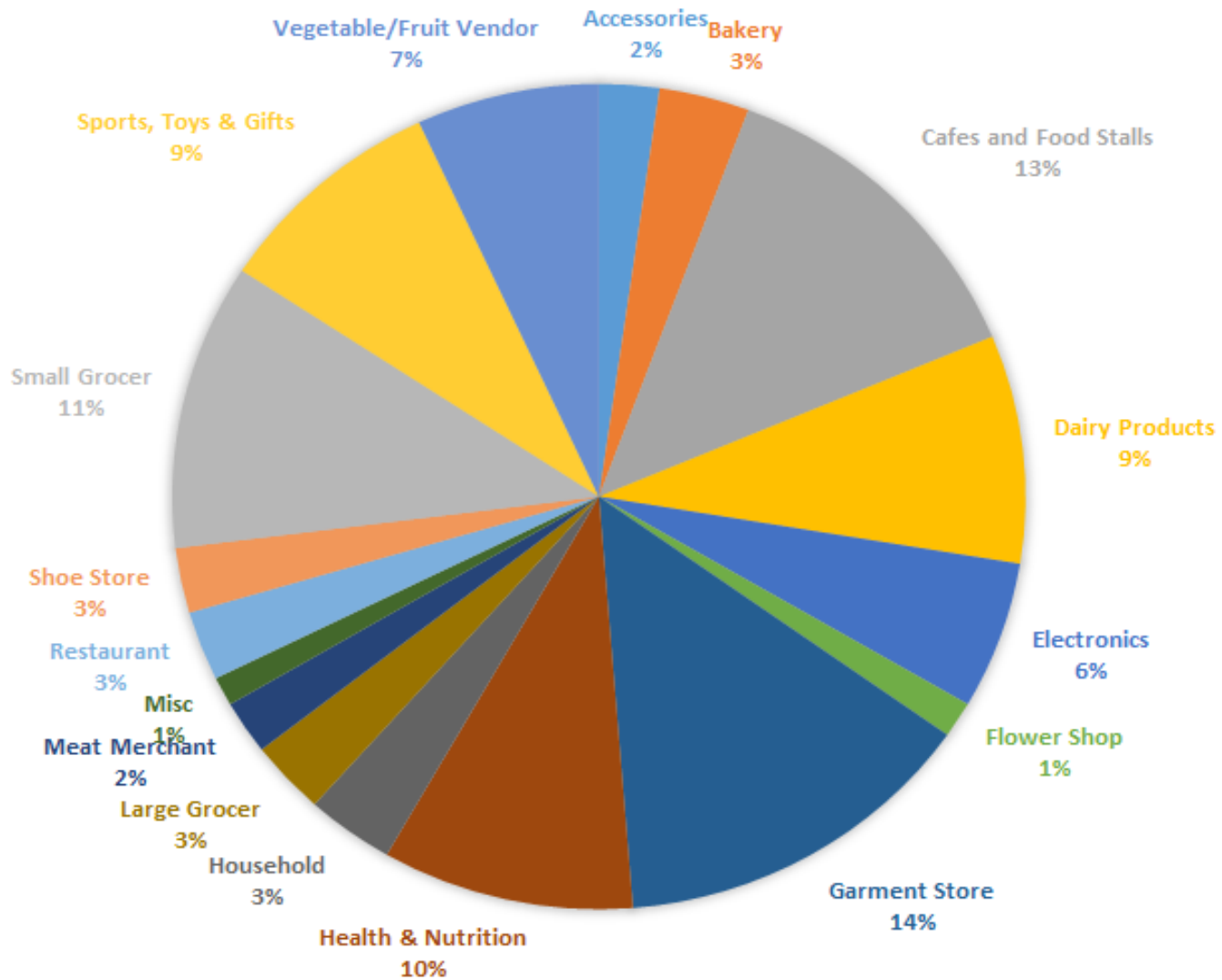


AREAS COVERED
Aranyeshwar
Aundh
Balaji Nagar
Balewadi
Baner
Bharti Vidyapeeth
Bhugaon
Bibwewadi
Dattawadi
Deccan
Dhankawadi
Dhanori
Erandwane
F.C. Road
Ganesh Nagar

AREAS COVERED
Hadapsar
Hinjewadi
Indira nagar
K K market
Kalyani Nagar
Karve Nagar
Katraj
Koregaon Park
Kothrud
Laxmi road
Malwadi
narayan peth
Narhe
Navi Peth
Pimple-Saudagar

AREAS COVERED
Pimpri Chinchwad
Pune station
S.B. Road
Sahakar Nagar
Satara Road
Shivajinagar
Shivane
Sus-Pashan
Tilak road
Trimurti chowk
Vishranthwadi
Wakad
Warje
Yerawada

SHOP TYPES



THE QUESTIONS

* 6. Do you know there is a plastic ban?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Further Comments

* 7. Do you think the ban is a good idea ?

☐ Yes, its good for the environment

☐ No, my business has suffered

☐ Yes, my costs have reduced

☐ No its the government's responsibility.

Specific Comments

* 8. Do customers still demand a plastic bag from you?

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 9. Have you stopped giving out plastic bags?

☐ Yes

☐ No

10. If you have stopped plastic bags, what alternatives are you providing to your customers?

☐ Cloth Bags

☐ Paper Bags

☐ Newspaper

☐ No alternative (people get their own bags)

☐ Other (please specify)

THE QUESTIONS

11. How much do you charge customers for the alternative bags that you provide?

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> No Charge | <input type="radio"/> Rs.10-20 |
| <input type="radio"/> Rs.1-5 | <input type="radio"/> More than Rs.20 |
| <input type="radio"/> Rs.5-10 | |

12. If you have **NOT** stopped plastic bags, what kind of plastic bags do you provide?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-woven | <input type="checkbox"/> Ziplock Bags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thin, One time use | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic Pouches (often used for open grains and sugar) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thick, Multiple use | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Garbage Bags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rice Sacks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

THE QUESTIONS

13. Do you charge for the plastic bags that you provide?

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 14. Did you know that non-woven bag is also a plastic bag?

☐ Yes

☐ No

* 15. Have any officials come to conduct a check on your store?

☐ Yes

☐ No

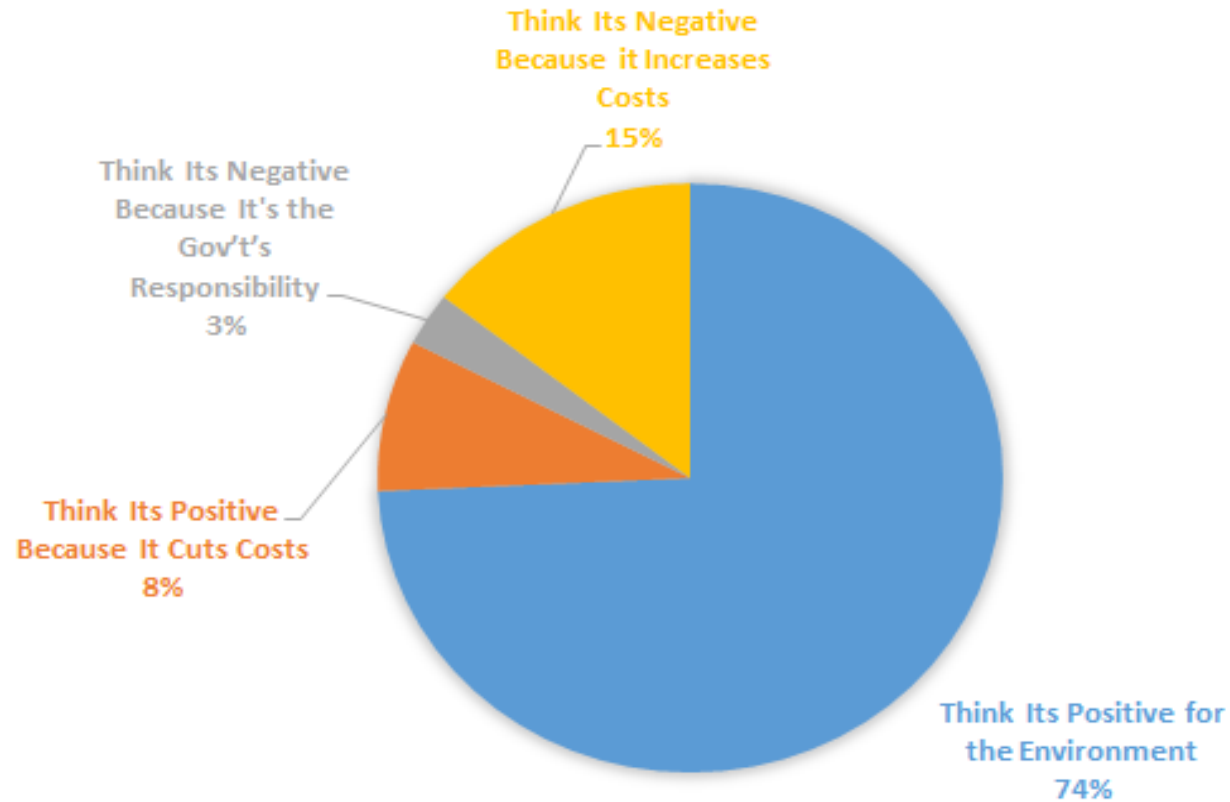
DO YOU KNOW THERE IS A BAN ON PLASTIC BAGS?

98%

DO YOU THINK THE BAN IS A GOOD IDEA?

83%

PERCEIVED EFFECTS OF THE BAG BAN



**DO CUSTOMERS STILL DEMAND A PLASTIC
BAG FROM YOU?**

61%

HAVE YOU STOPPED GIVING OUT PLASTIC BAGS?

61%

If you have stopped plastic bags, what alternatives are you providing to your customers?

40%

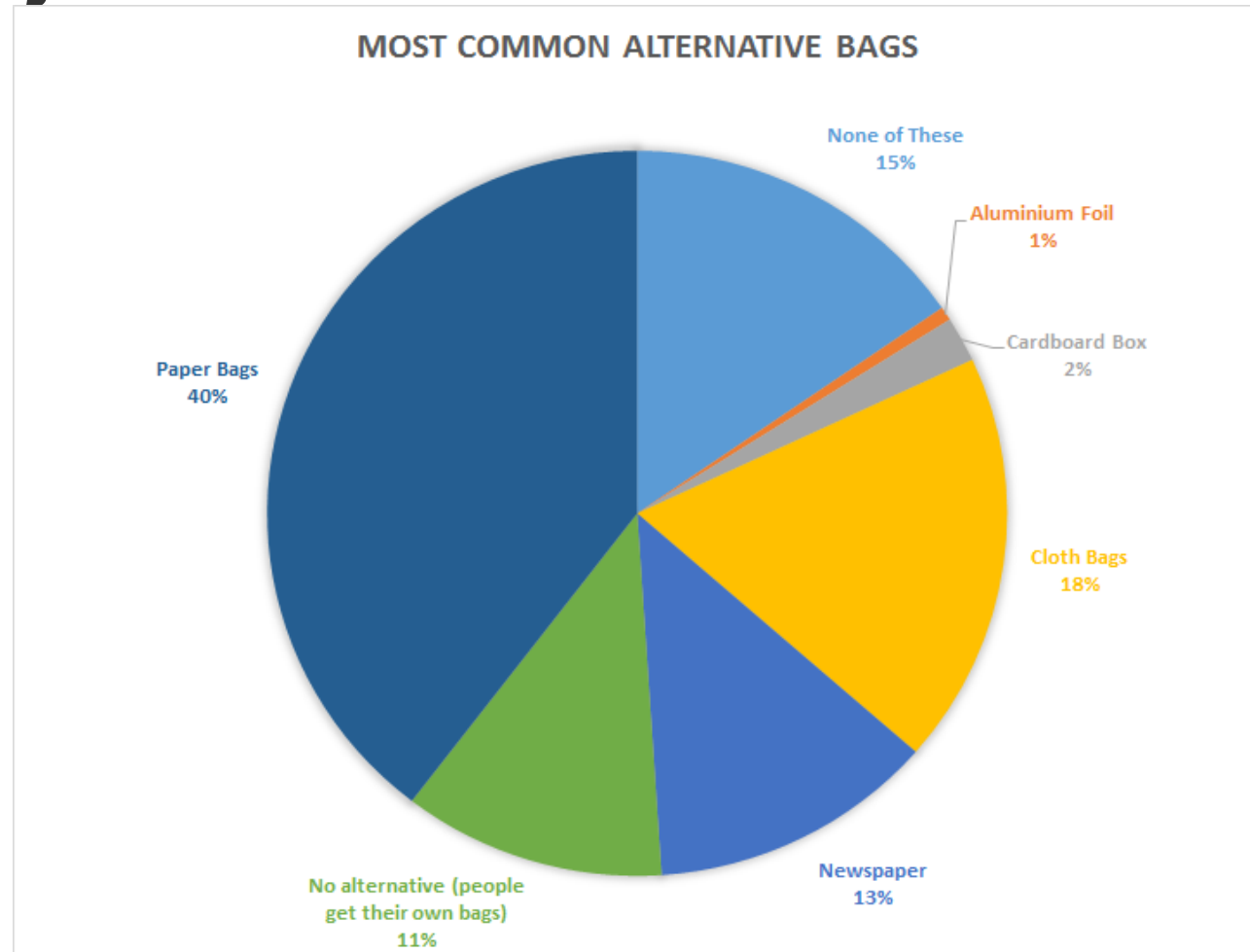
Paper

18%

Cloth bags

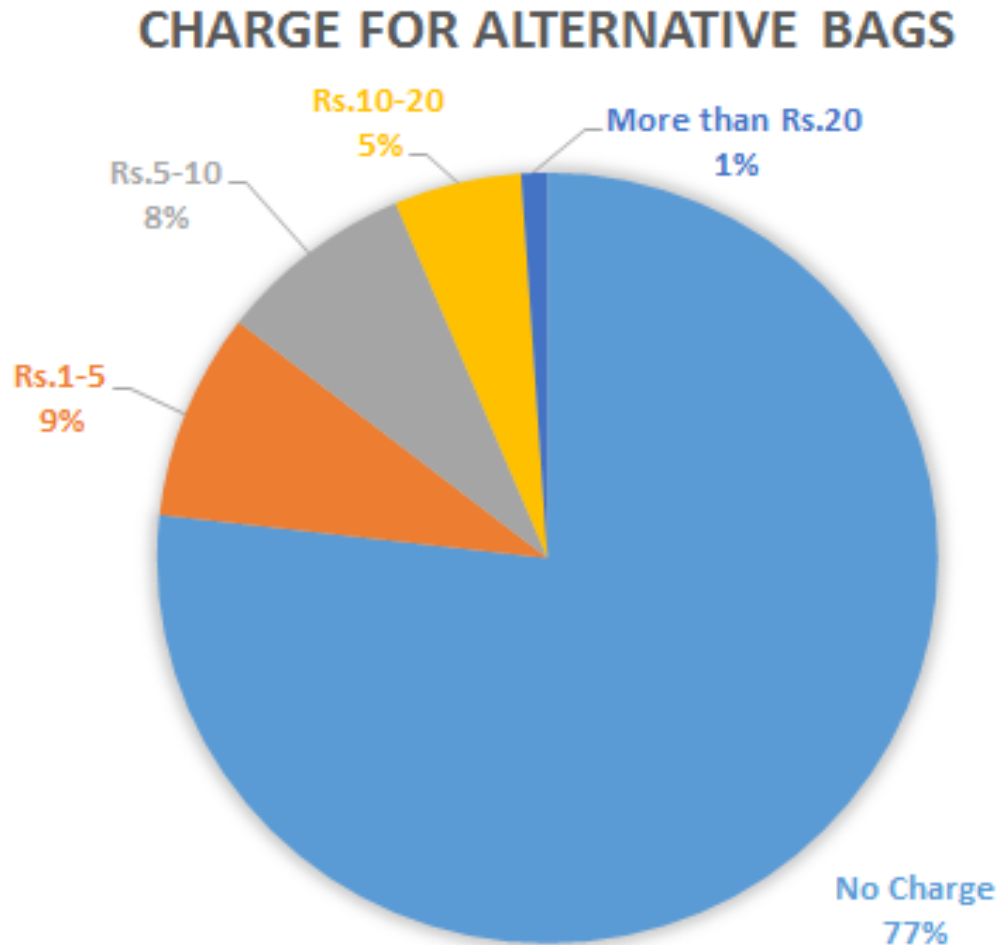
11%

None



How much do you charge customers for the alternative bags that you provide?

77%
No charge



Have any officials come to conduct a check on your store?

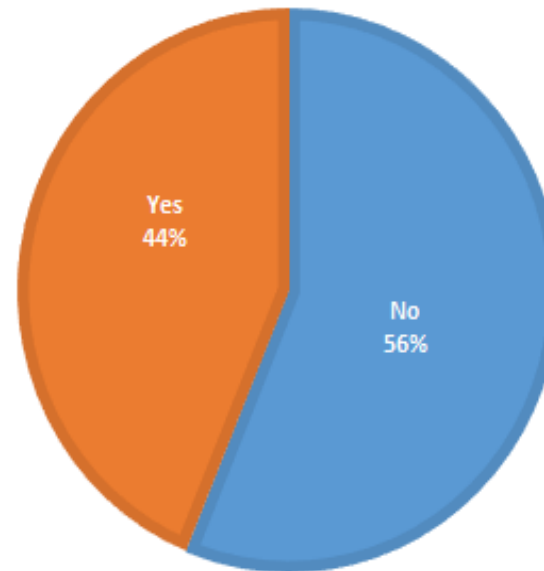
HAVE ANY OFFICIALS COME TO CONDUCT A CHECK ON YOUR STORE?

44%

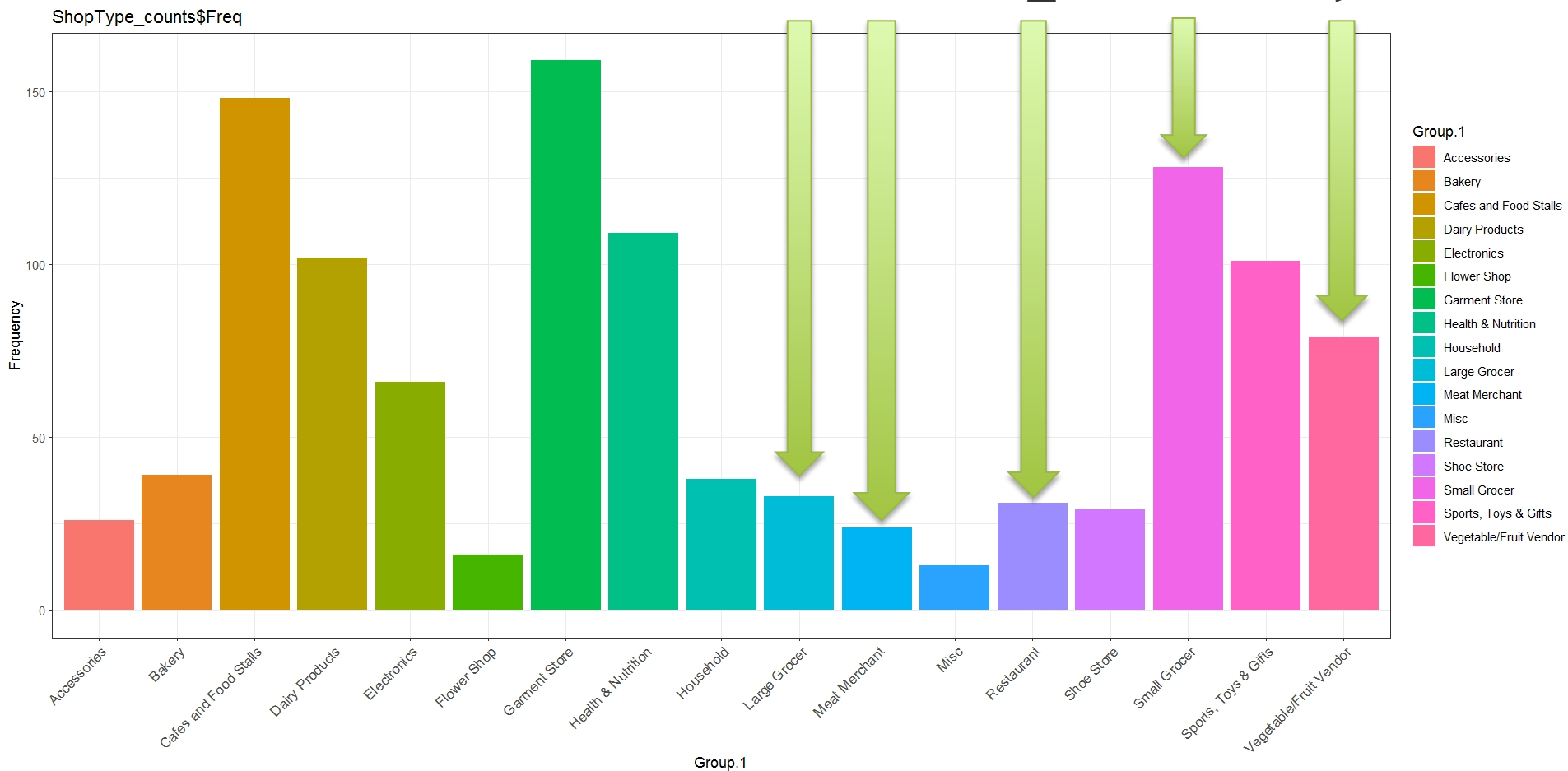
Yes

56%

No

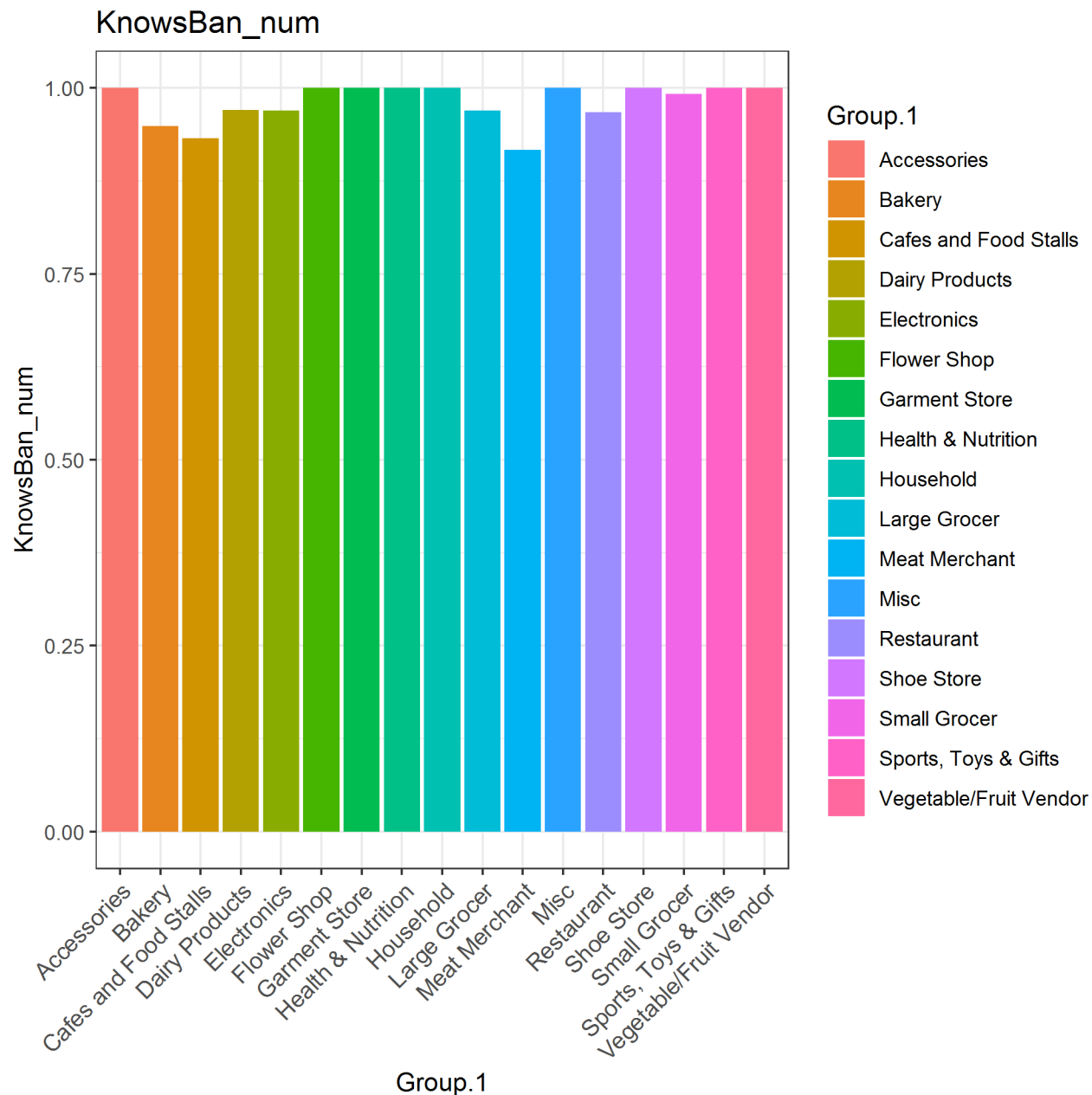


SHOP TYPES

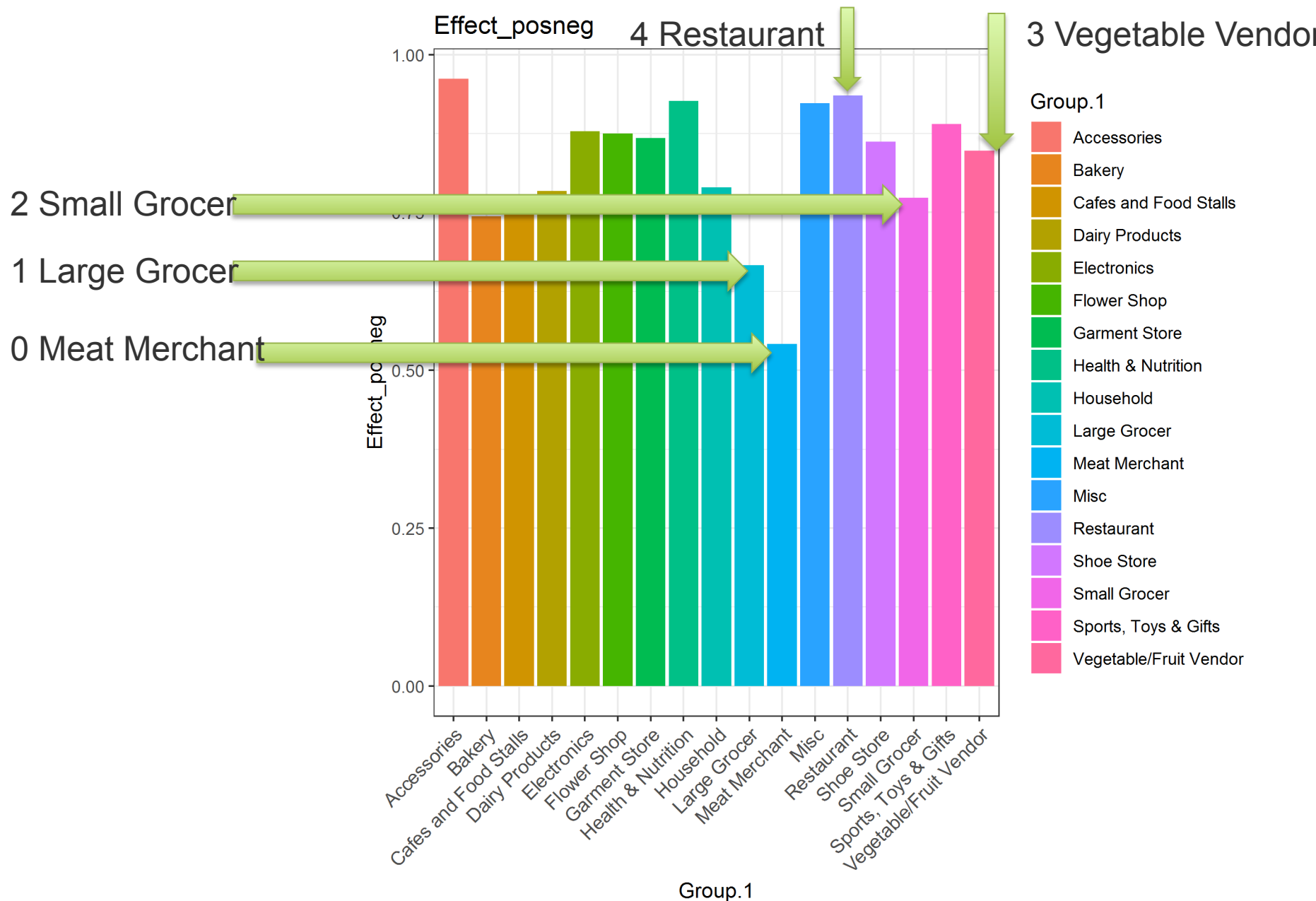


DO YOU KNOW THERE IS A BAN ON PLASTIC BAGS?

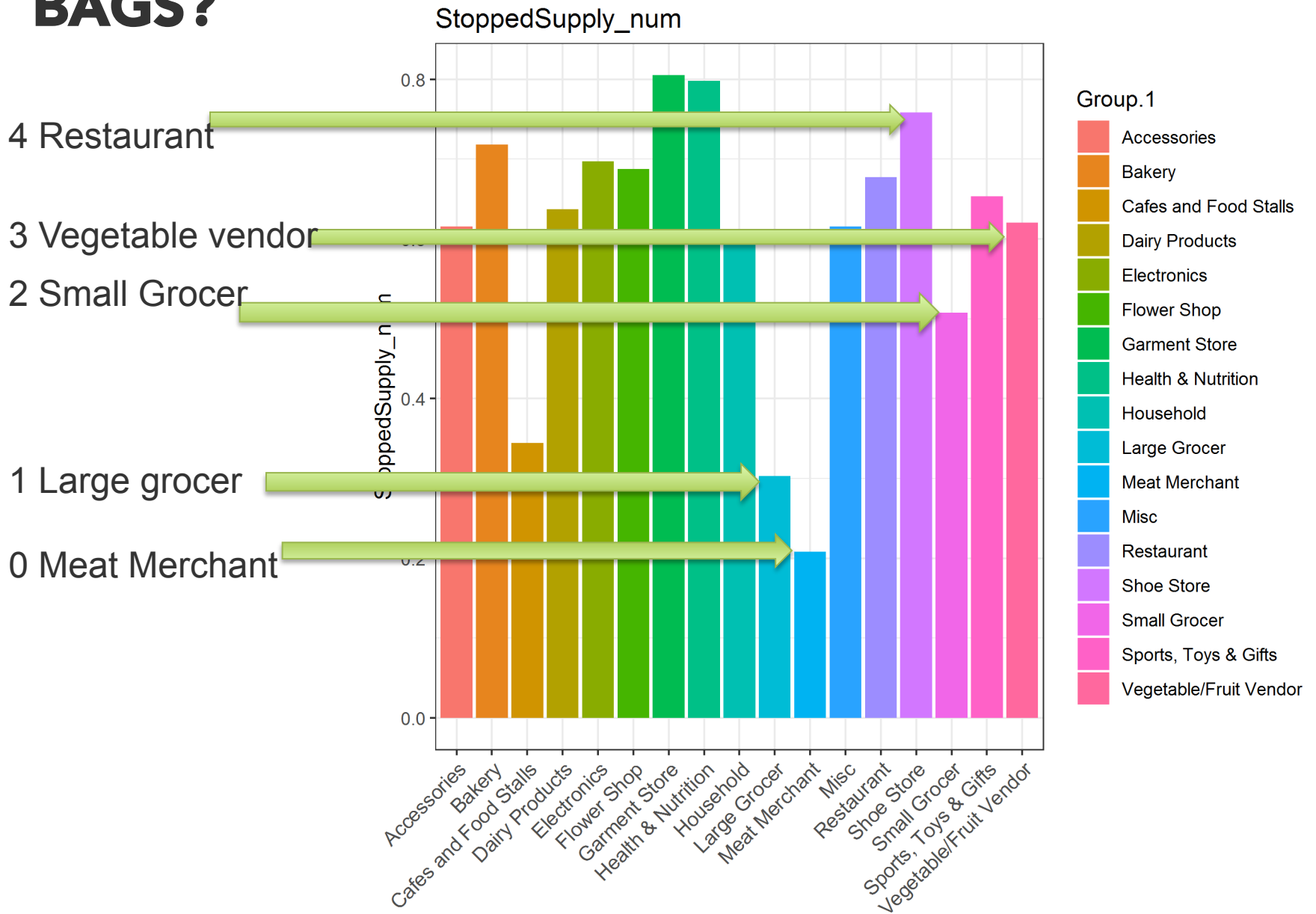
98%



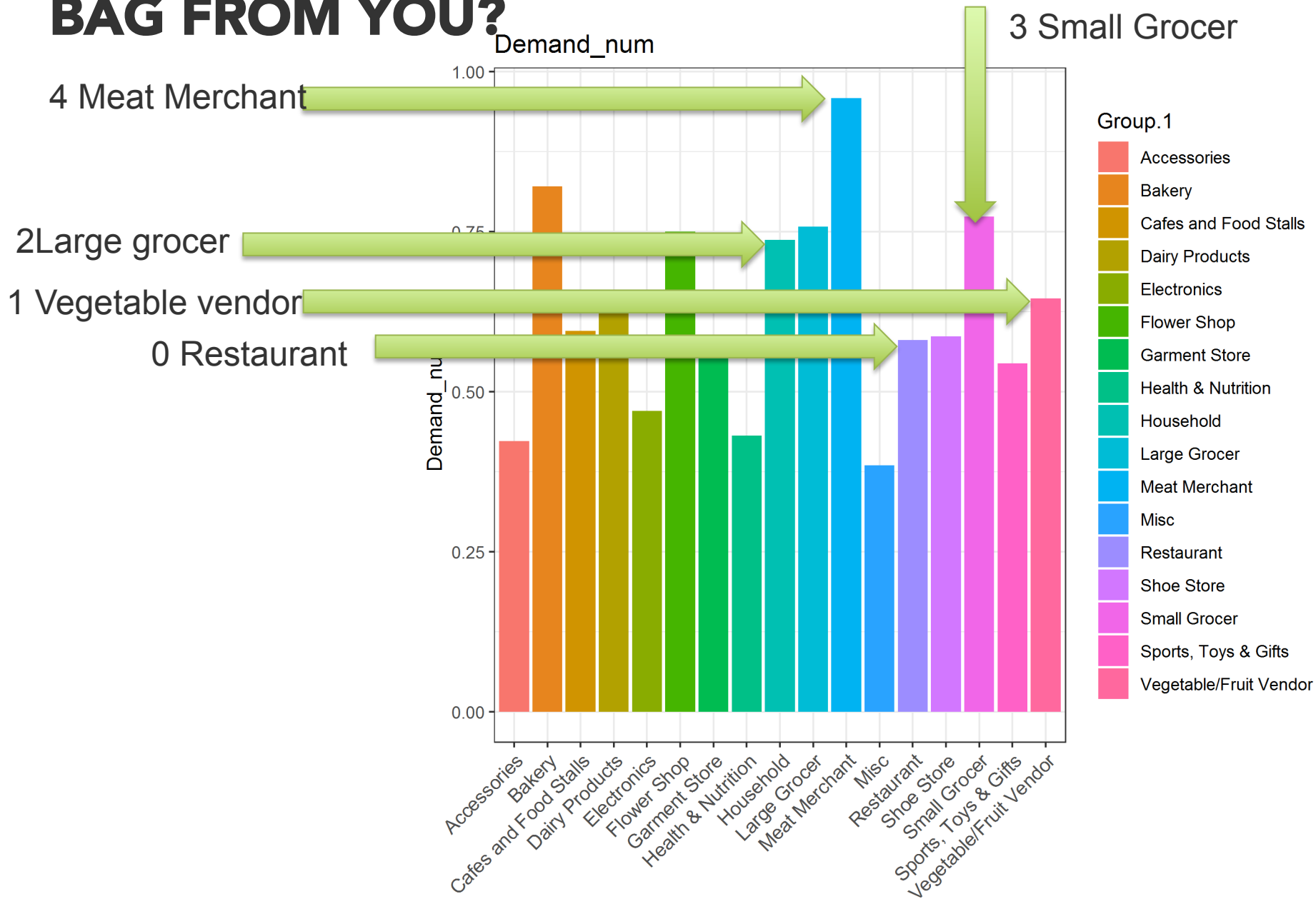
DO YOU THINK THE BAN IS A GOOD IDEA?



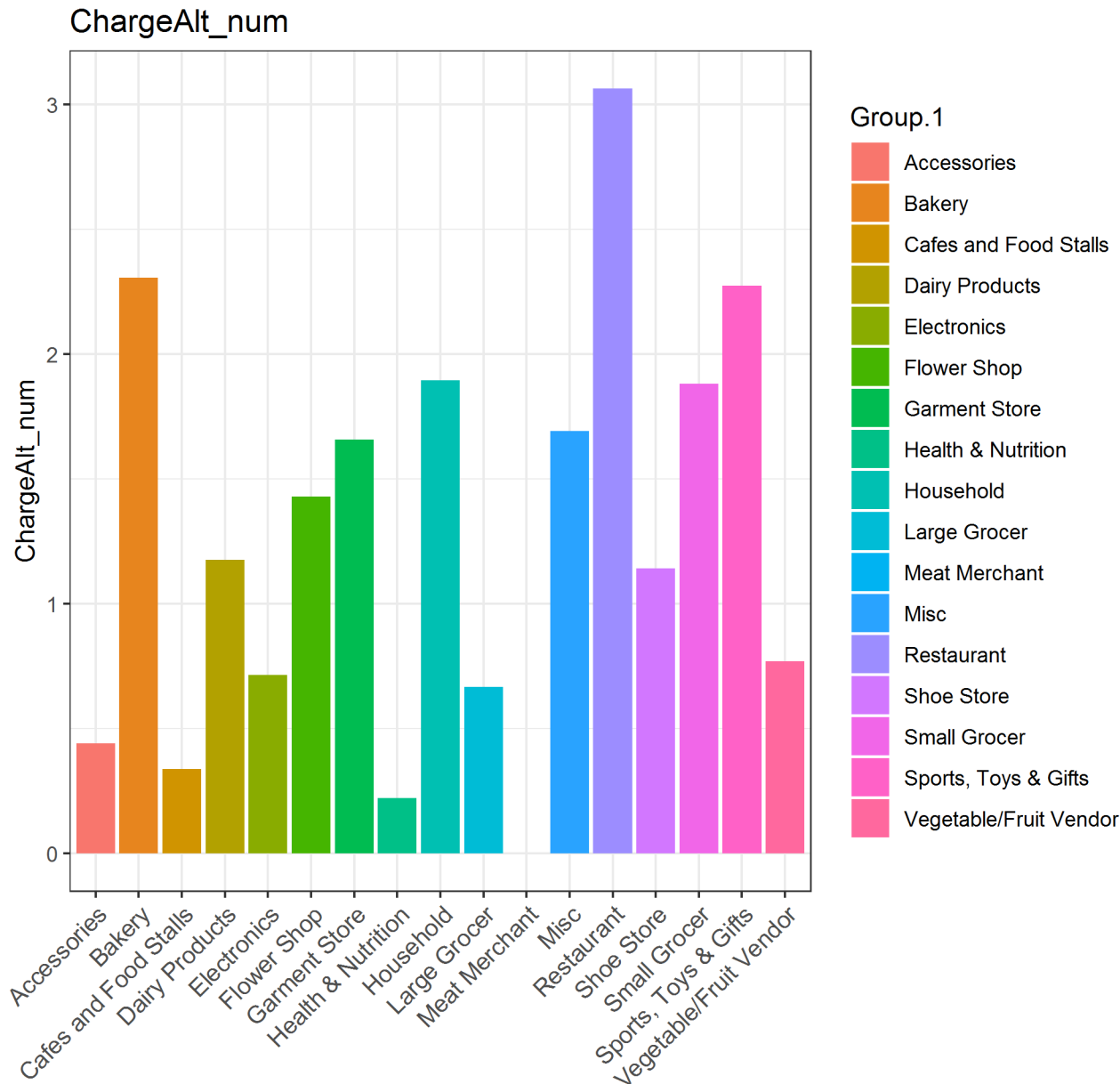
HAVE YOU STOPPED GIVING OUT PLASTIC BAGS?



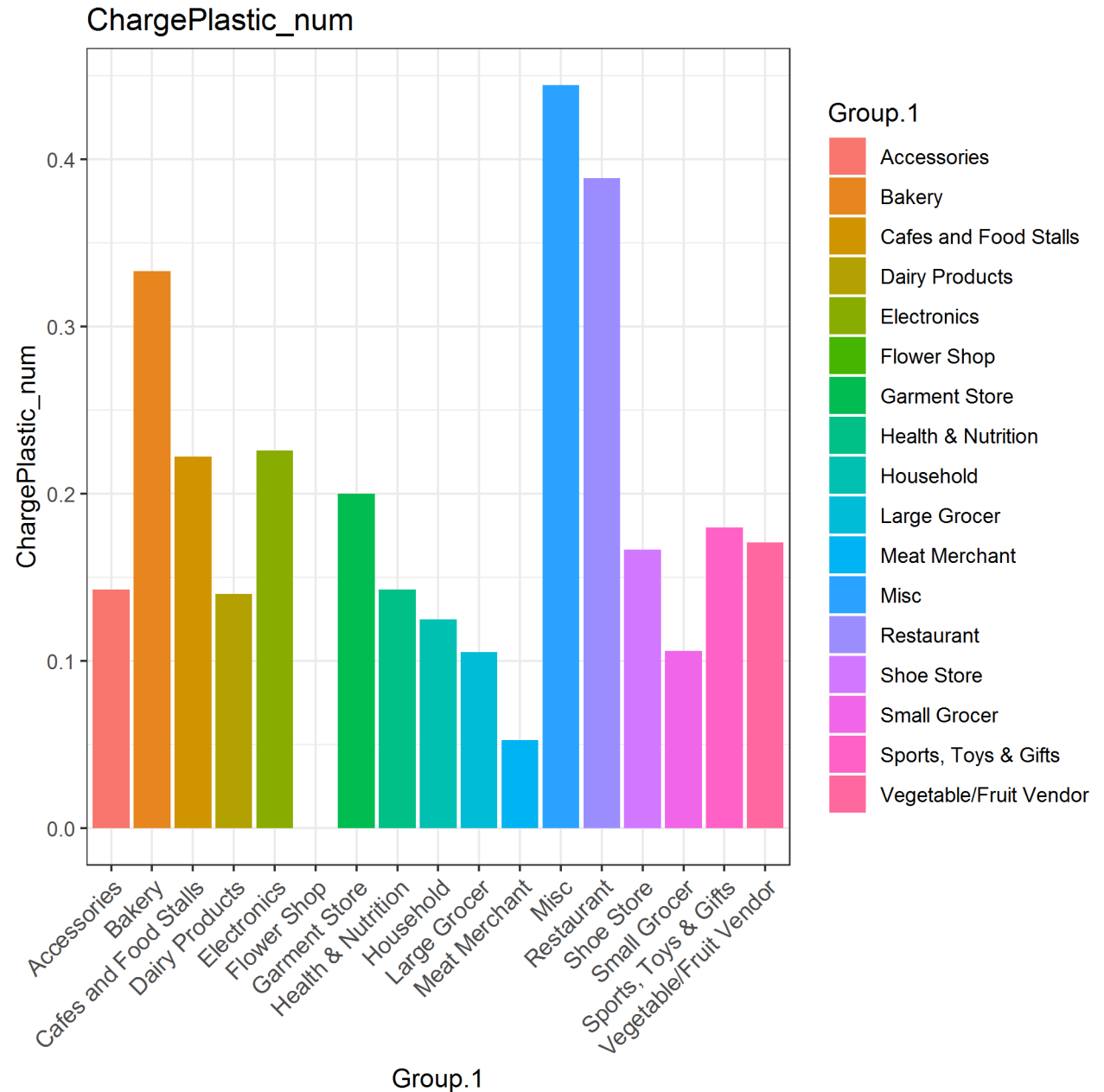
DO CUSTOMERS STILL DEMAND A PLASTIC BAG FROM YOU?



DO YOU CHARGE FOR THE ALTERNATIVES YOU OFFER?



DO YOU CHARGE FOR PLASTIC BAGS?



DO YOU KNOW THAT NON WOVEN IS PLASTIC?

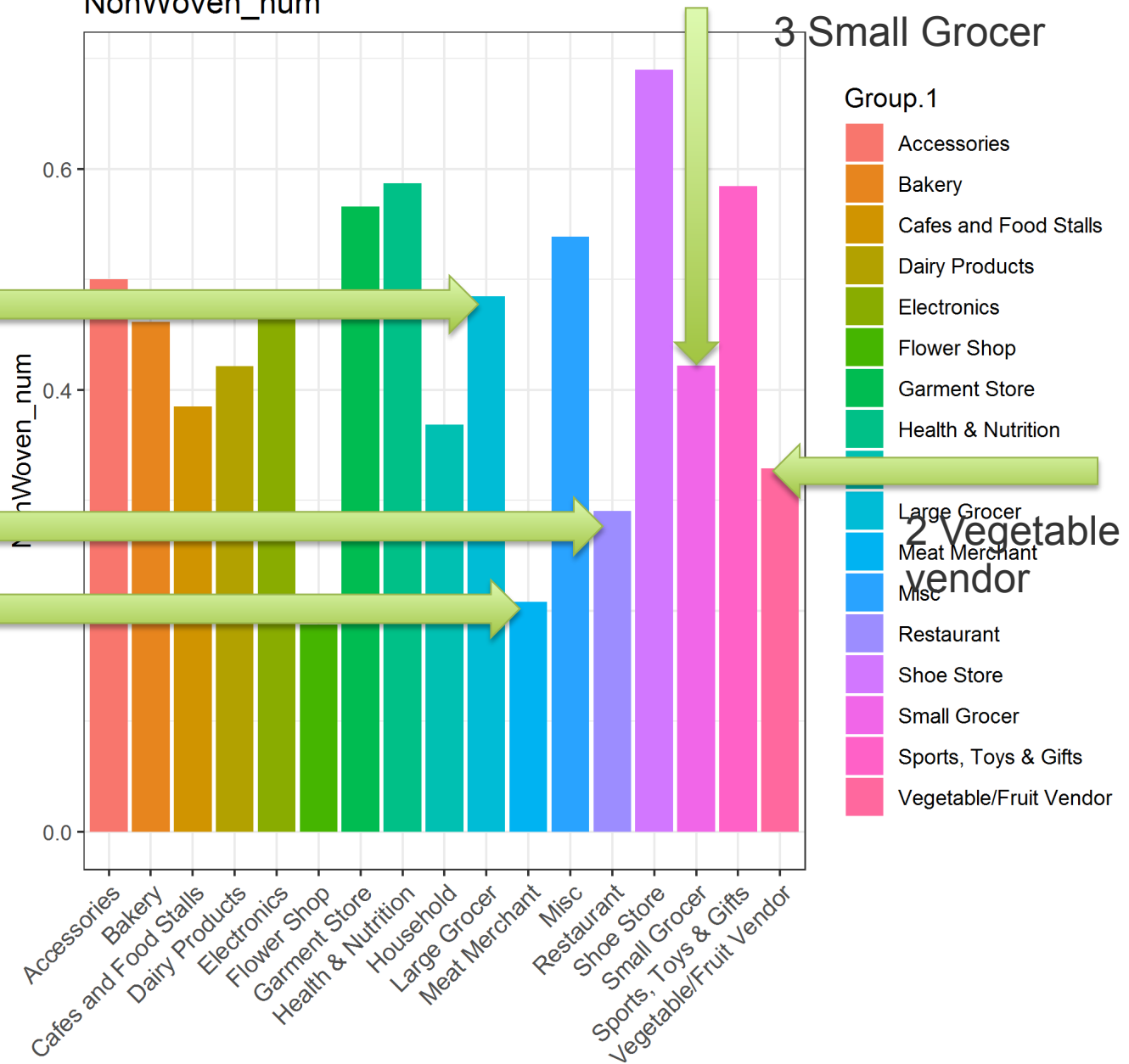
NonWoven_num

4 Large grocer

1 Restaurant

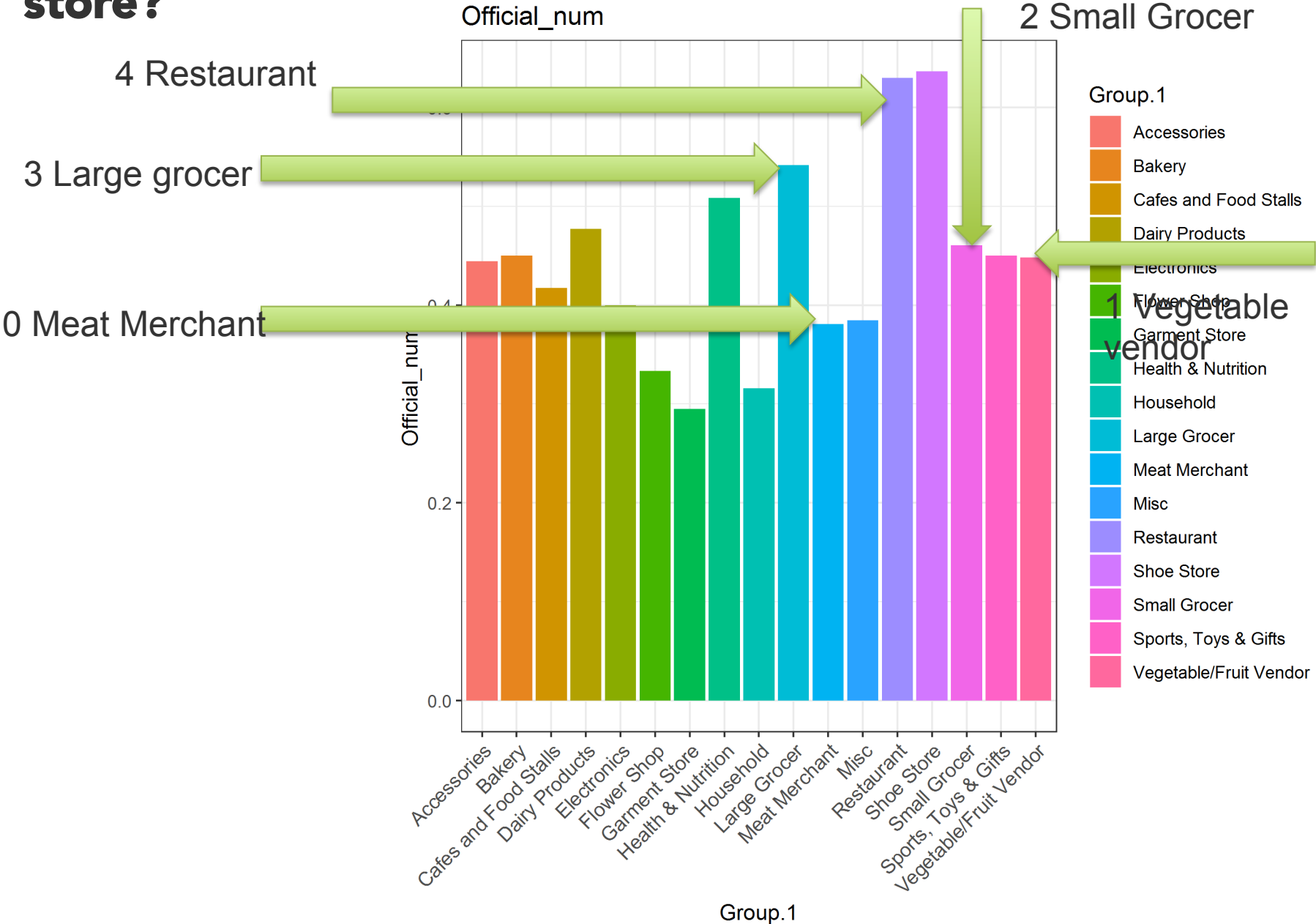
0 Meat Merchant

3 Small Grocer



Group.1

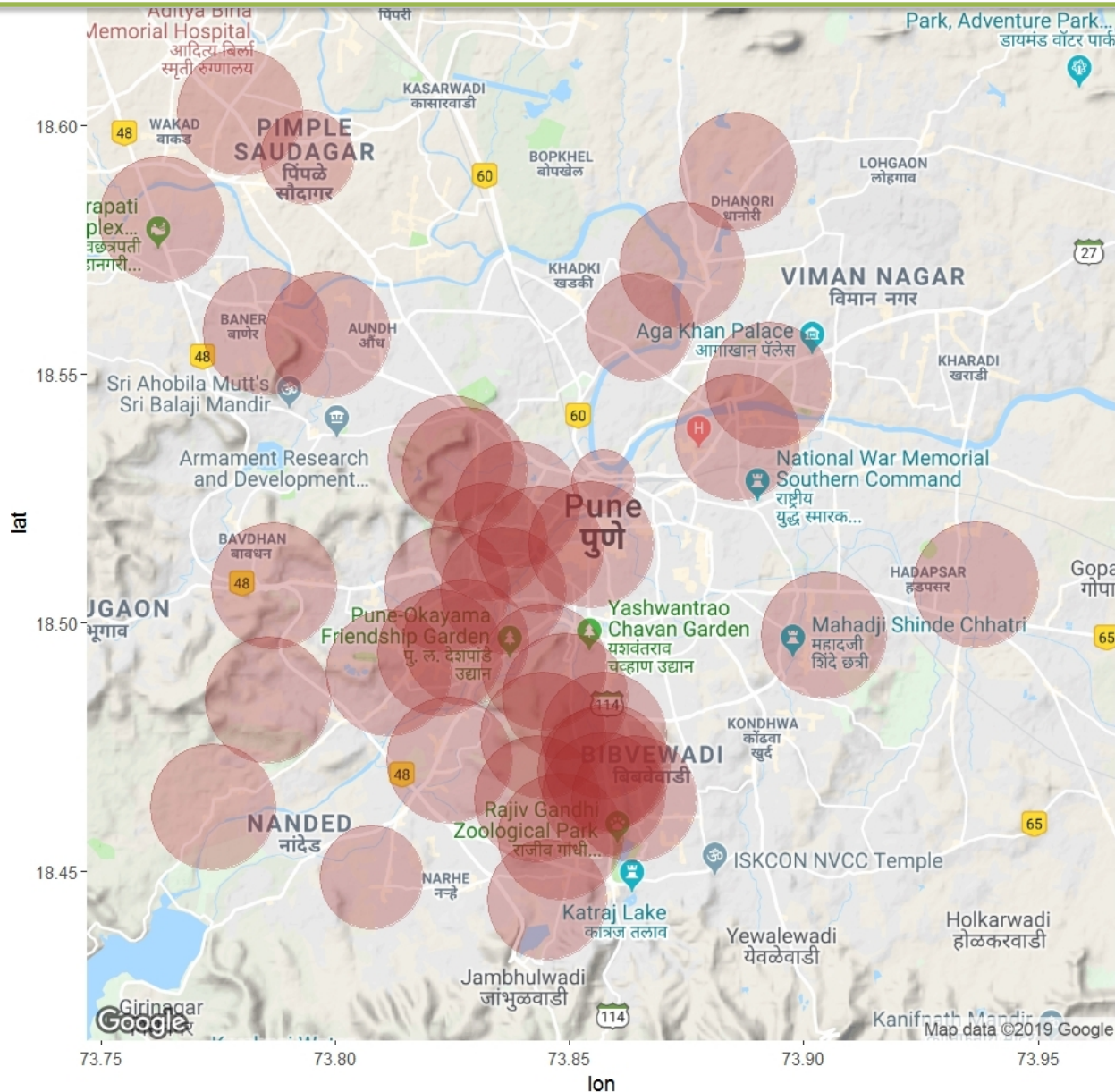
Have any officials come to conduct a check on your store?





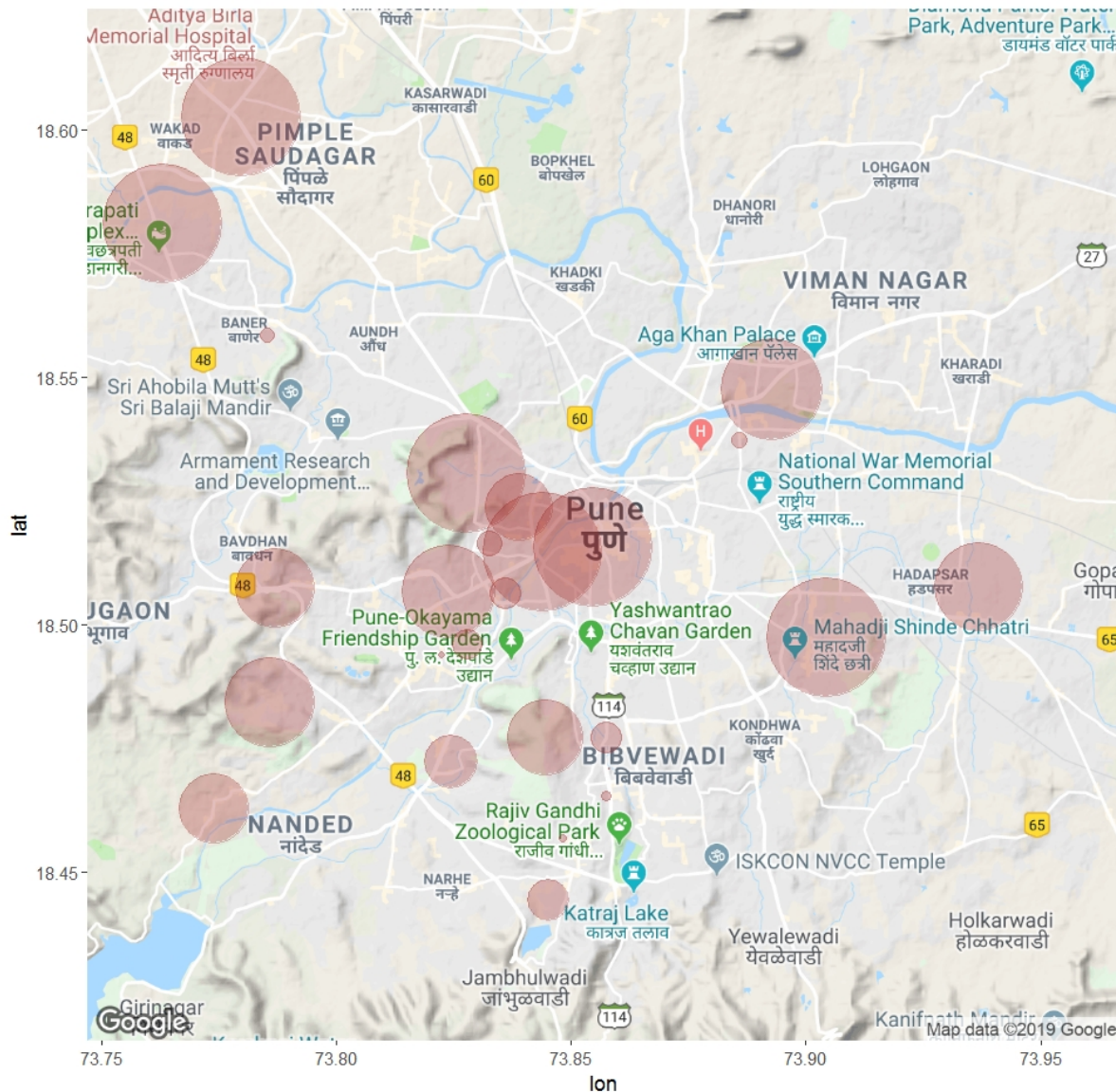
	Restaurants	Large Grocer	Small Grocer	Meat seller	Vegetable vendor
Ban is good	4	1	2	0	3
Stopped Supply	4	1	2	0	3
Customer demand	0	3	2	4	1
Non woven is plastic	1	4	3	0	2
Official check	4	3	2	0	1

Awareness of the ban by locality



All localities appear to be aware of the ban

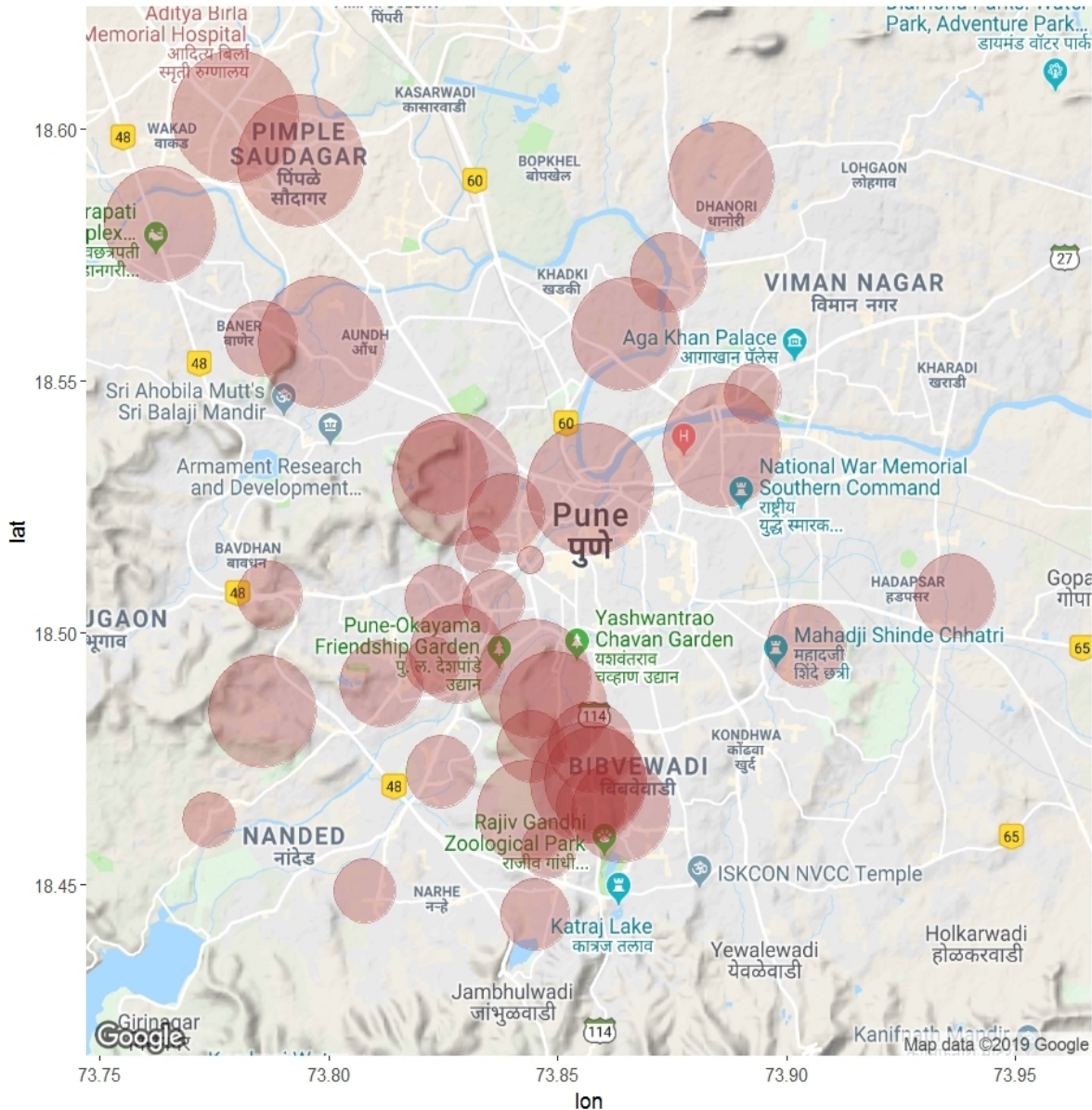
Approval of the ban by locality



Areas south of Central Pune seem to be most likely to disapprove of the ban

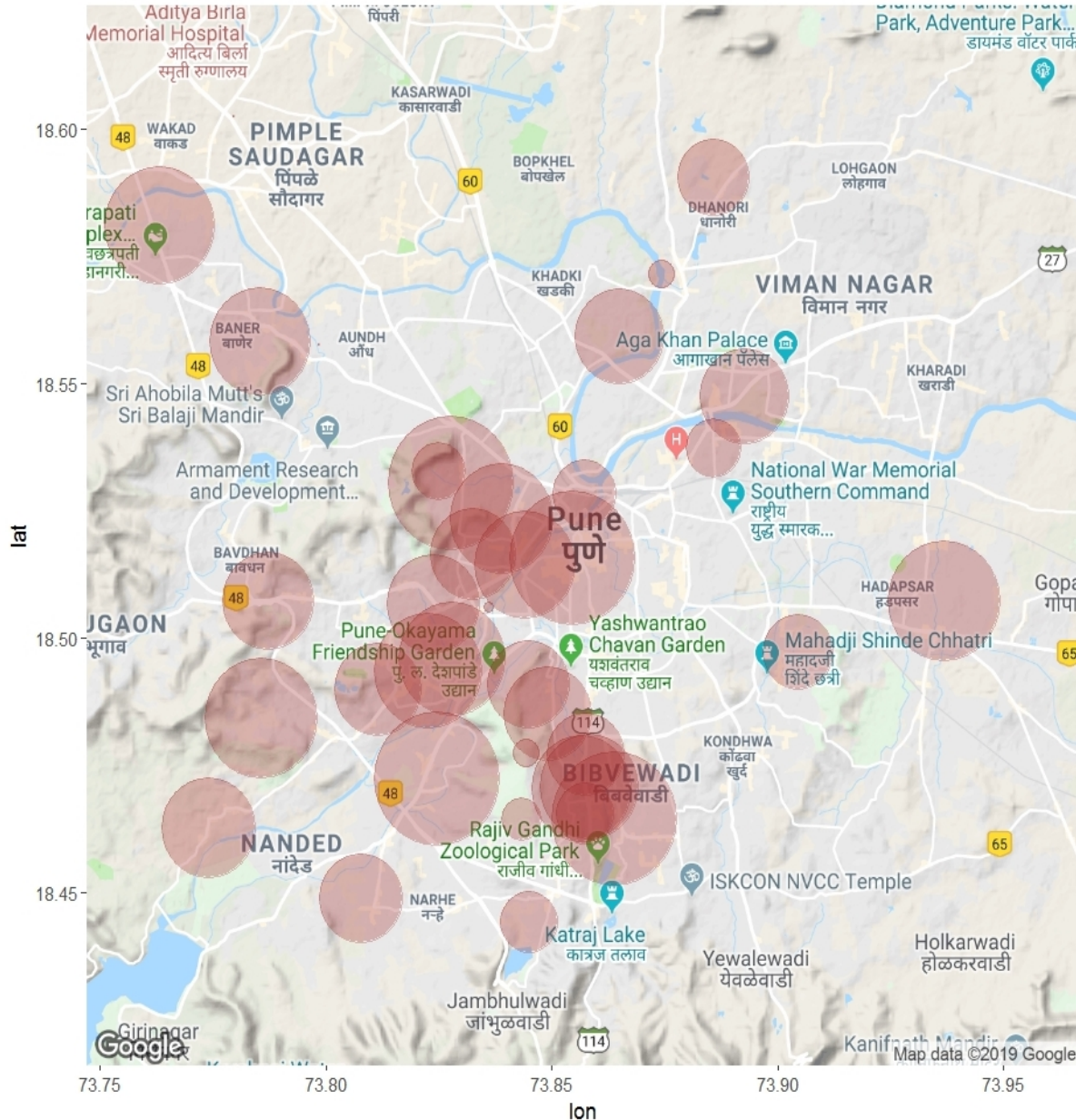
Demand for plastic bags by locality

Customer Demand of Plastic Bags



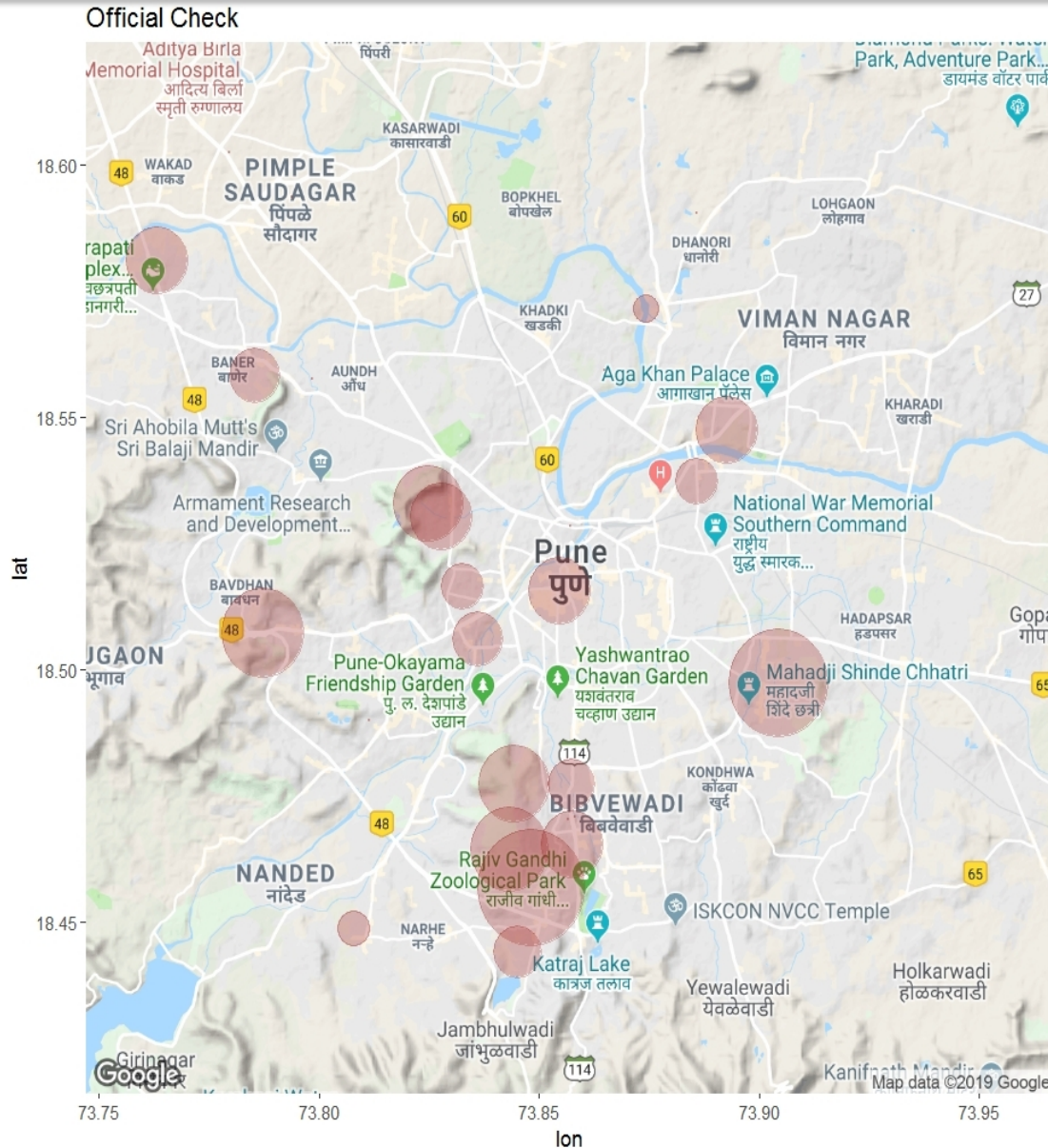
STOPPED SUPPLY OF PLASTIC BAGS

Stopped Supply of Plastic Bags



Supply of plastic bags is greatest in areas where customer demand is high

OFFICIAL CHECKS BY LOCALITY



Officials have not done too many checks but in areas south of Central Pune there have been some – this is the area where the ban is viewed most negatively

OBSERVATIONS FROM DATA

- Everybody surveyed knows about the Plastic Bag Ban
- Demand for Plastic Bags and Perception of the Positive/Negative Effect of the Bag Ban are Inversely Correlated
- Meat Shops/Florists Least Likely to have Stopped Supply of Plastic Bags
- The amount shops charge for alternative bags is related to shop type and the mean property rates in a given area

OBSERVATIONS FROM VOLUNTEERS

- People are in agreement but are asking for **affordable alternatives**
- Shopkeepers are more willing to respect the ban than customers
- Small vendors suffer from loss of clientele as well as high penalty and are more open to following the ban
- There is a **fear of penalty** also
- Plastic bags are still reaching the market – available at Market Yard – giving out mixed message about the ban
- Thin black garbage bags available at signals
- Some shopkeepers suggested that there be a buy back or recycling systems for bags as well
- Some shopkeepers are wrapping their items in plastic and then putting that into a paper bag

OBSERVATIONS FROM VOLUNTEERS

- When the **owner of the shop** was present the interview was more effective but when it was just workers or employees they did not have the answers
- **Brown pouches** have replaced plastic carry bags and some newspaper bags too – the relative cost of these as compare to plastic bags is not known – need to verify – as these are also being given out for free by shopkeepers
- There is an **influence** of one shopkeeper on the neighbours – so if there is a line of shops – either they are all giving out plastic bags or they have all stopped
- **Younger generation** of shopkeepers are more aware and cautious about plastic bags than older shopkeepers

CREATIVE ALTERNATIVES

Some shopkeepers are offering plastic bags as a loyalty reward to regular customers!!

One shopkeeper started to collect old calenders and convert them into paper bags for his clients

Fish suppliers are using banana leaves wrapped in paper bags to avoid using plastic

Cloth bags are never offered for free

Some shopkeepers have started trying the system of renting out a bag and taking it back from the customers

Those grocers who offered home delivery might also be able to put a bag rental system in place as they have a constant contact with their regular clients

WILL A SHOPKEEPER STOP GIVING PLASTIC BAGS?

YES

NO

Belief in positive effect
of ban
+0.17

Overall Waste
generated by locality
+0.23

Property rates in area
+0.1

Customers Demand
for Plastic Bags
-0.12

No impact with

Literacy of locality

Official Checks

Amount they charge
for alternatives

NEXT STEPS

1. Need to connect with grocery shop associations to go over the challenges faced by stores to implement the ban
2. Extend the survey to study the situation with other plastic disposable items such as plastic cutlery, thermocol etc
3. Extend the study to other cities in Maharashtra in partnership with local NGOs / Comparative study
4. Report to the Pune Municipal Corporation on status of ban on ground.
5. Identify next steps to ensure 100% implementation
6. Web based dissemination of report.

www.e-coexist.com

