

# **INCHES / ISDE**

## **Strategies and Activities**

### **Experiences in Latin America**

**Lilian Corra**

*Asociación Argentina de Médicos por el Medio Ambiente, **AAMMA***

*International Society of Doctors for the Environment, **ISDE***

*International Network on Children's Health Environment and Safety, **INCHES***



# **INCHES / ISDE**

## **Strategies and Activities**

### **in Latin America**

#### **INCHES / ISDE in Latin America**

##### **Strategies**

“Action in Partnership”

Build Alliances

Regional replicability

Multisectorial participation

##### **Tools**

Education

Information

Materials in Spanish and Portuguese

Advocacy

Promotion of research with intervention in the community

Promotion of preventive actions

# **INCHES / ISDE Strategies and Activities in Latin America**

## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

- **Training for Pediatricians**
- **Degree and Post degree education at universities**
- **General Public and other NGOs**
- **Media / communicators**
- **Professional Associations** (engineers, lawyers)
- **Promote organization of CEH Units (PEHSU)**

# **INCHES / ISDE**

## **Strategies and Activities in Latin America**

### **Education and training**

#### **TOOLS**

- **Training Package for Health Care Providers** (Spanish/English, WHO)
- **Pediatric Environmental History** (English, WHO)
- **"Green Format" for Children EH Diagnosis** (Spanish, English, WHO)
- **Environmental Component of the Integral Management of Childhood Illness** (Under preparation - Pilot) IMCI-WHO (in Spanish) (WHO)
- **AAMMA and ISDE Website:** in Spanish and English on EH. Is organized as a "Newspaper or journal webpage"
- **IPCS Pesticides Interactive Course** (*Preparing Spanish version*)

***Materials in Spanish!!??, always a problem...***

# **CEH initiatives in Latin America**

## **ISDE and INCHEs:**

- Identified the **central role of paediatricians** on CEH
- **Established very strong (and fruitful) links** with the Paediatric Societies in Latin America.
- **Promoted actions and created alliances** (networking) with professional/scientific NGOs
- **Identified and established links with authorities** (Ministries of Health and Environment) of Argentina

# **CEH initiatives**

## **Among the important initiatives**

(there are many but only 3 will be stressed for the sake of time):

### **Training paediatrician (and other health care providers)**

(building capacity to recognize, assess and manage paediatric diseases linked to the environment)

### **Promoting Paediatric Environmental History and Green Page**

(under pilot testing in an Argentinean province)

### **Setting up CEH centres**

The Minister of Health and Environment of Argentina is setting up a net of PEHSUs in Argentina

### **CEH Profiles (Perfil SANA)**

**Declaration on CEH by the Presidents  
of the Pediatric Societies of the South Cone  
Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay  
and Peru**

**Mar del Plata, Argentina – 2 October 2003**

The analysis of the environmental risks to children's health in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay and Peru have shown that common environmental problems are threatening the current and future health of our children and communities.

The Pediatric Societies of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay express their commitment to work together in the following areas:

- Education and training of their members.
- Research on the main problems.
- Advocacy on Children's Environmental Health at the level of governments, and national and international organizations.
- Promote actions for a better knowledge and protection of the environments where children are born, grow up, play and learn in the community.

***Children are the future of our Nations  
and protecting their health is our commitment.***

# **INCHES / ISDE Strategies and Activities in Latin America**

**2005**

- **HEMA**

Health and Environment Ministers of the Americas  
meeting (Argentina, Mar del Plata, June 2005):

**CEH and Chemical Safety** were two of three main topics

- **AAMMA / ISDE/ INCHES** participated in the NGOs WG and Redacted the Document of the Public Interest NGOs of the Americas

# **INCHS / ISDE Strategies and Activities in Latin America**

**2006**

## **Editing CHE Profile in Argentina**

(ready Sept 2007)

**Partners: Ministry of Health and Environment  
Argentinean Society of Pediatrics  
National Universities of El Litoral and Misiones**

**Coordinated by AAMMA / ISDE and CICH**

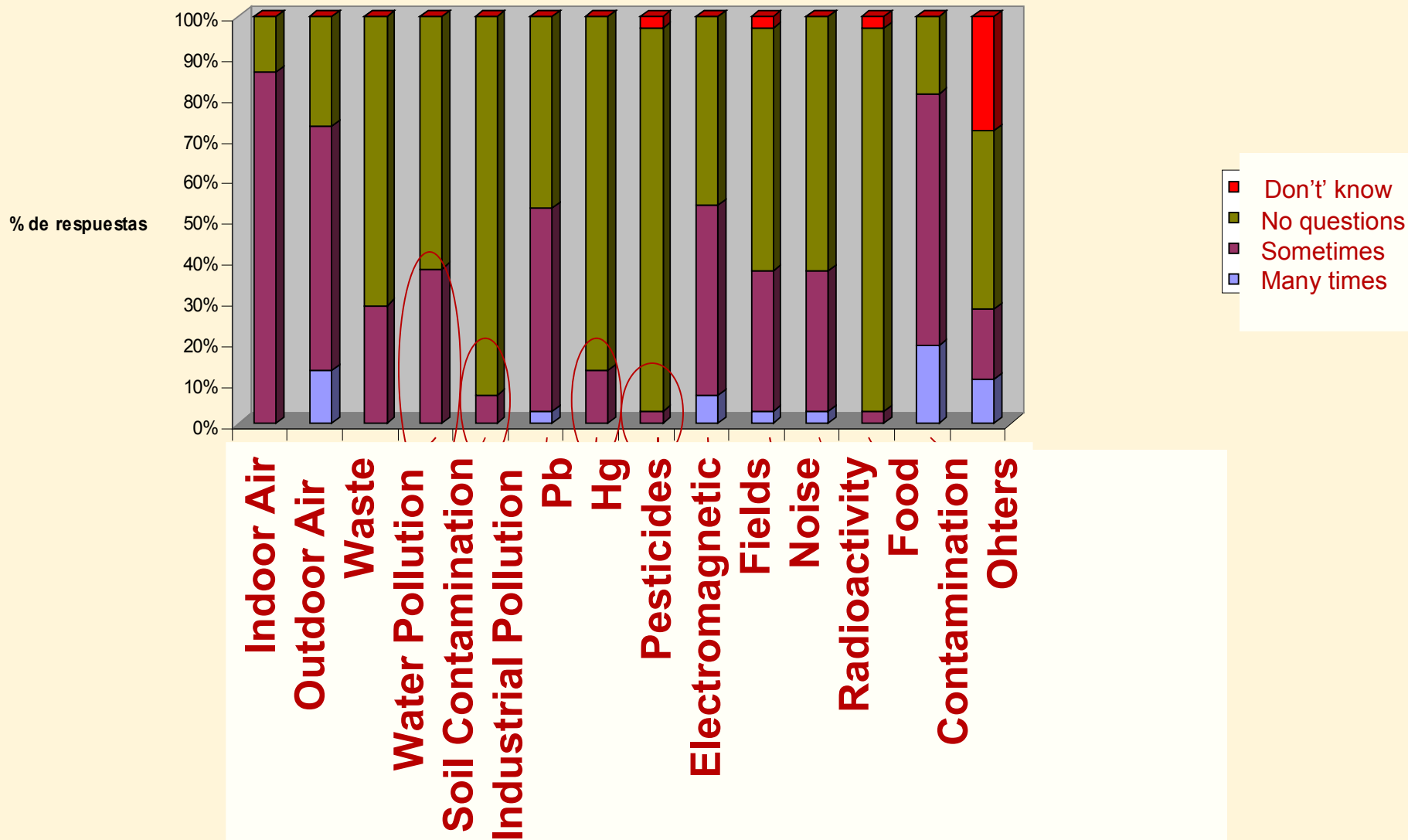
Includes

- **Survey to pediatrician** (What do they know?, what is their perception on environmental factors that affects children's health?, what is the perception of the families and communities?)
- **Two fields studies**
  - Bio-monitoring
    - Lead in children
    - Pesticides in children
- **Literature review** publications on children's exposure to environmental factors (chemicals and others)

# Survey to pediatricians

## Questions from your patients on environmental risk

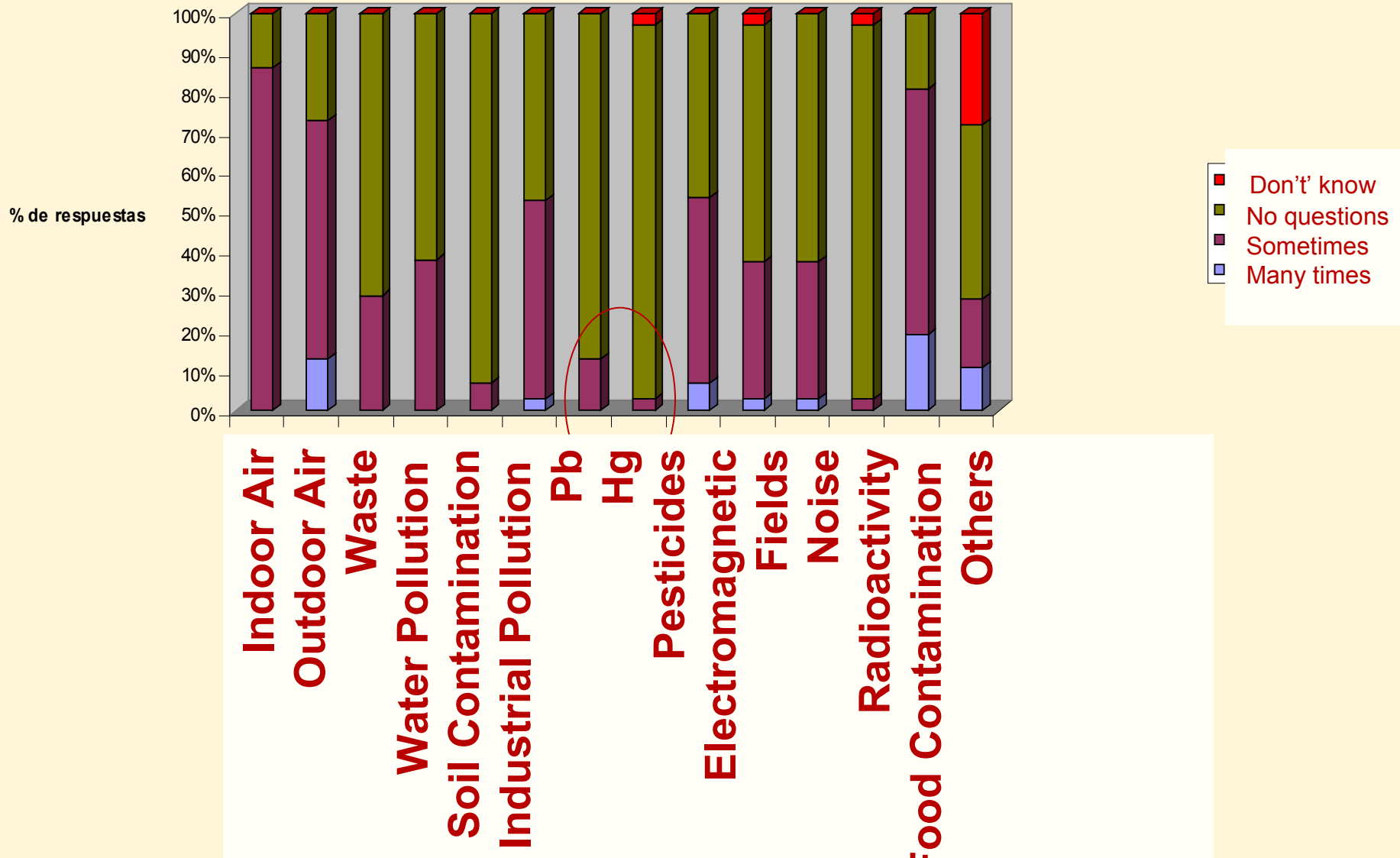
### ARGENTINA



# Survey to pediatricians

## Questions from your patients on environmental risk

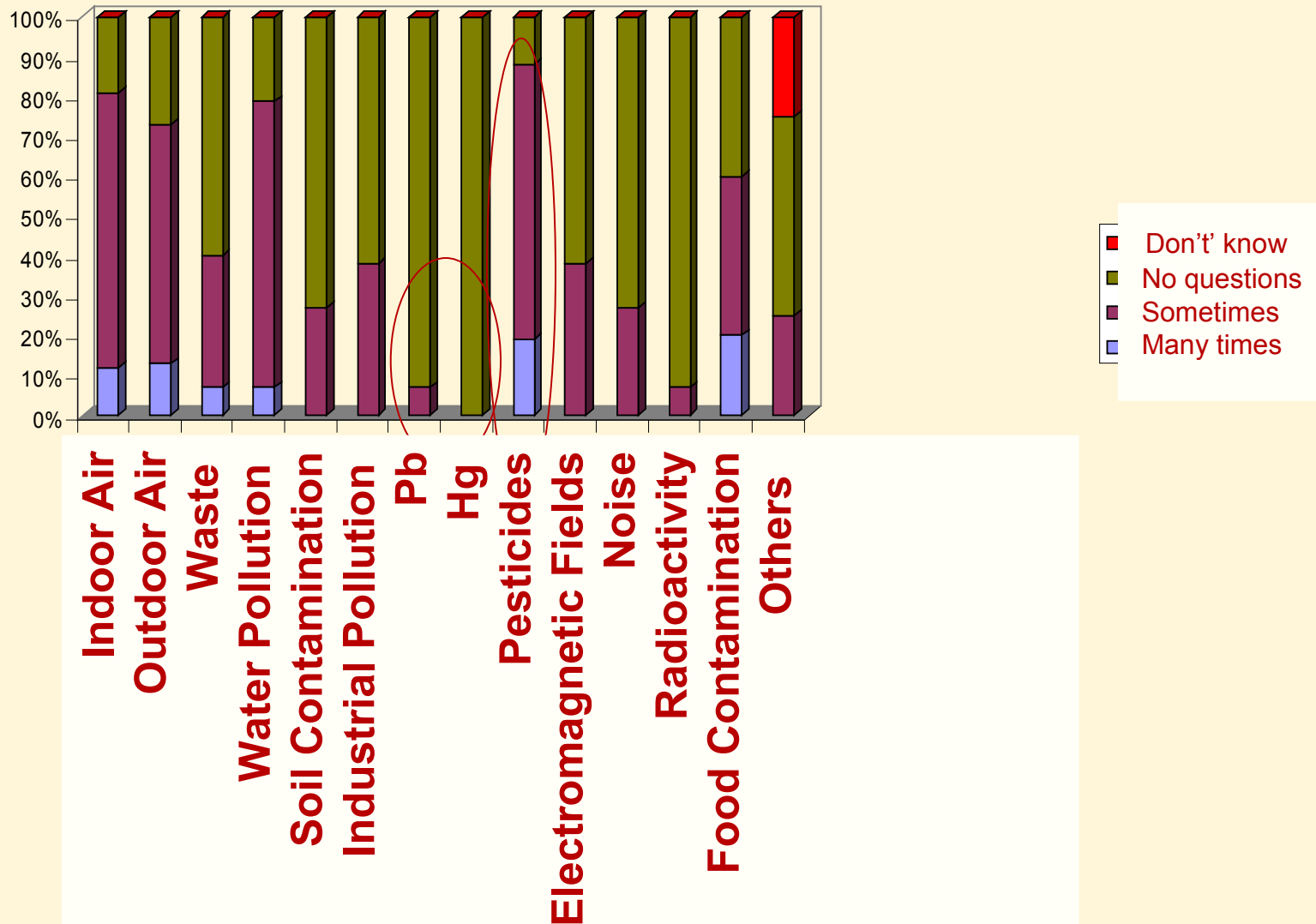
### CHILE



# Survey to pediatricians

## Questions from your patients on environmental risk

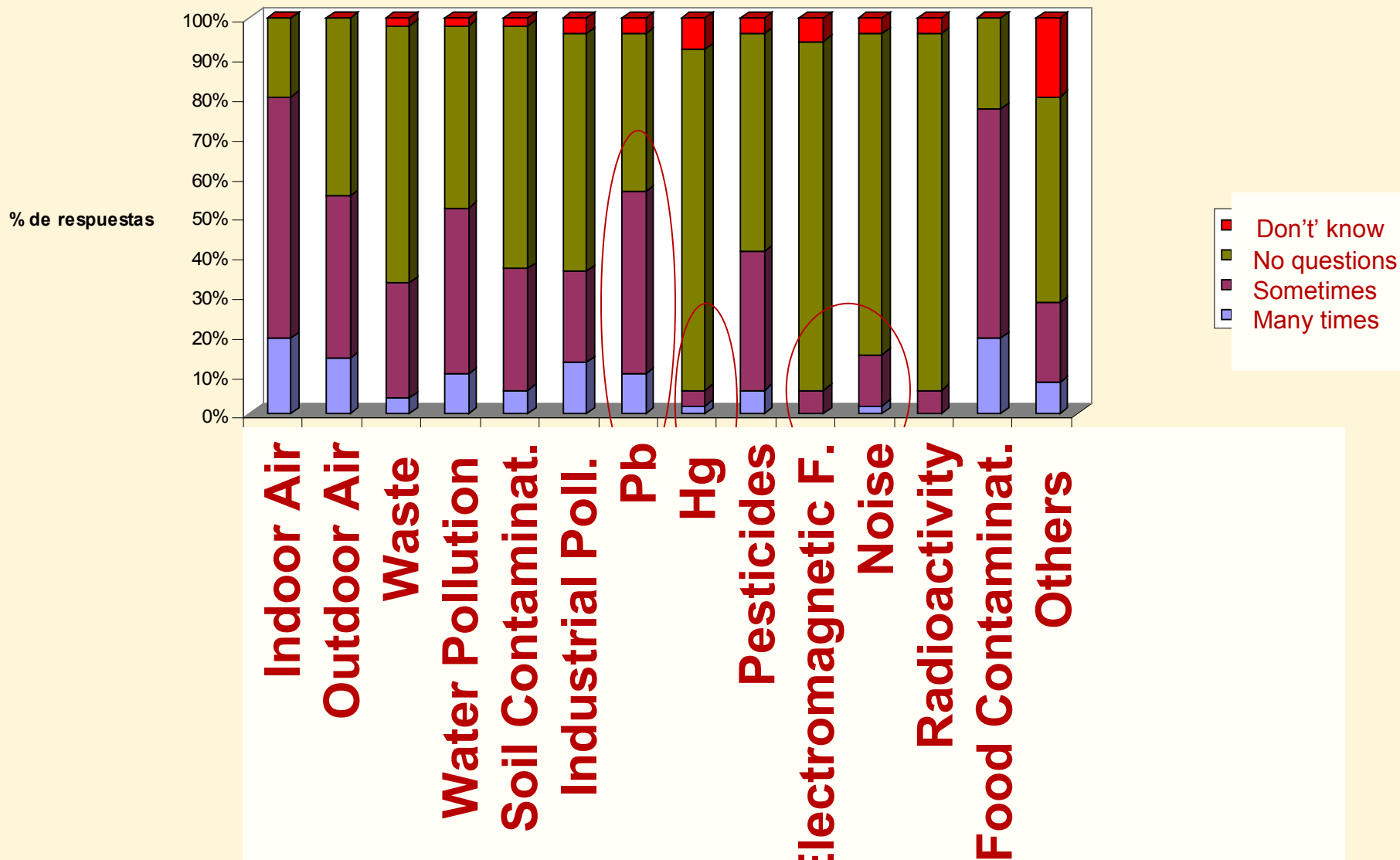
### PARAGUAY



# Survey to pediatricians

## Questions from your patients on environmental risk

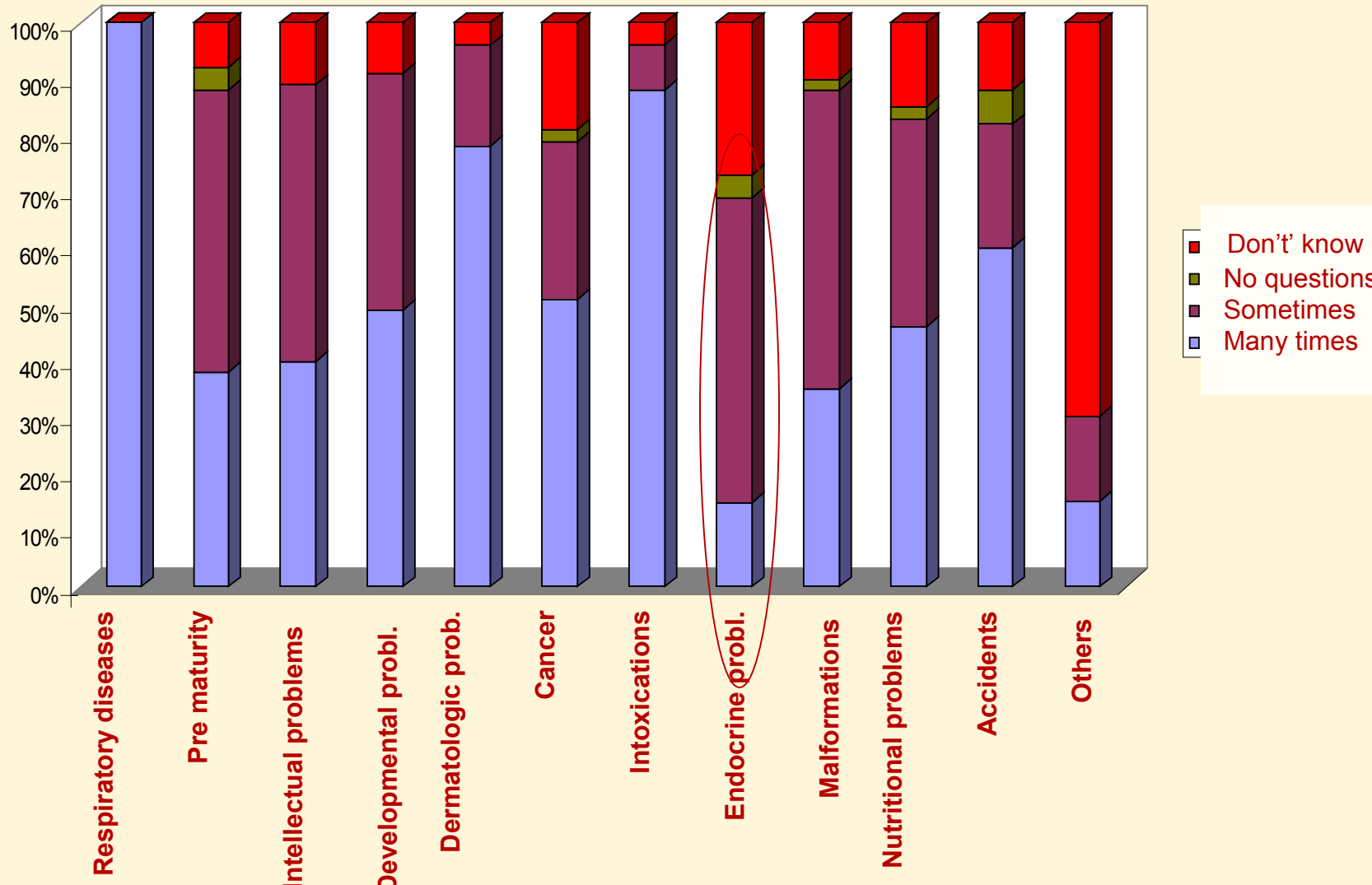
### URUGUAY



# Survey to pediatricians

## What environmental problems do you identify that are affecting children's health?

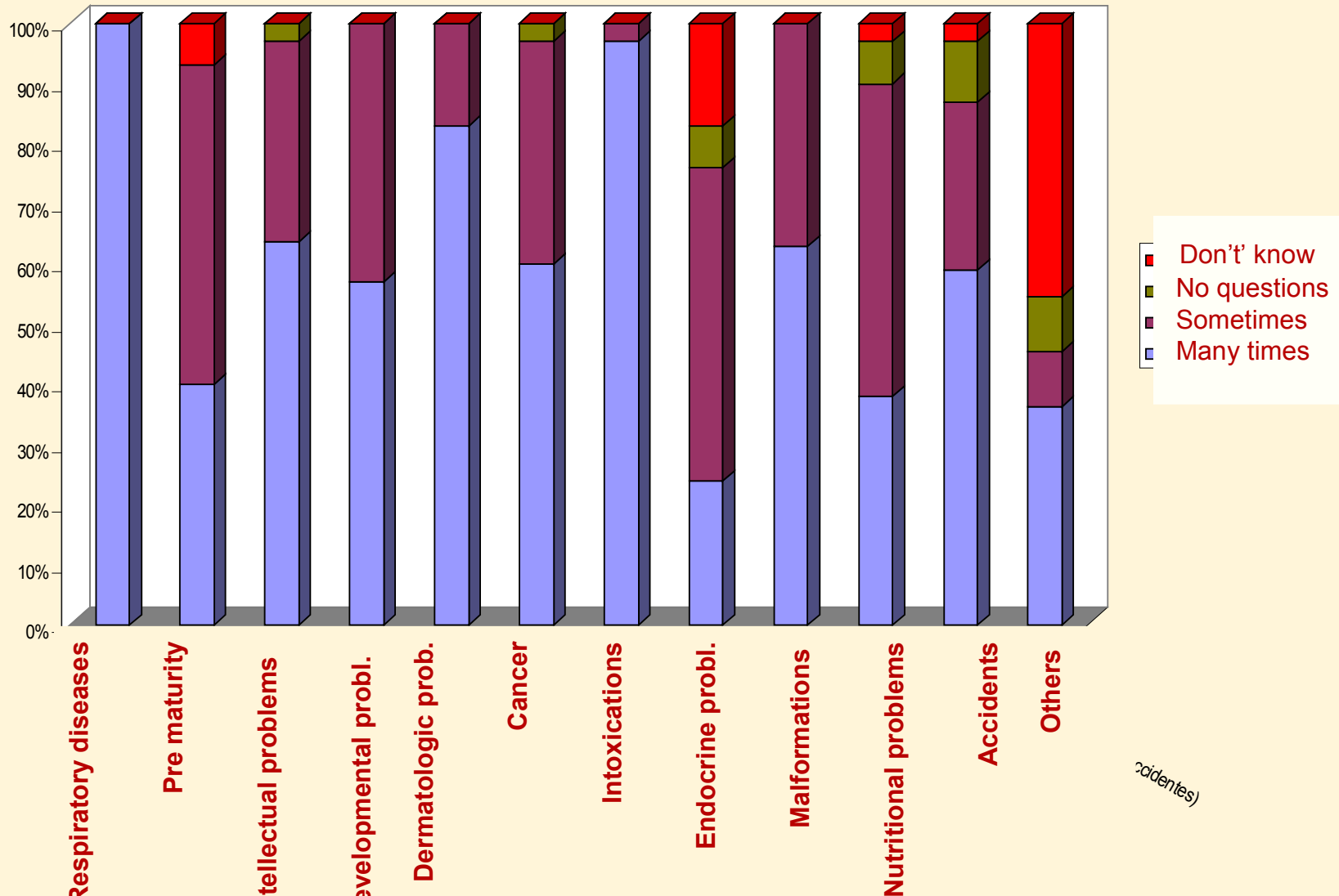
### ARGENTINA



# Survey to pediatricians

## What environmental problems do you identify that are affecting children's health?

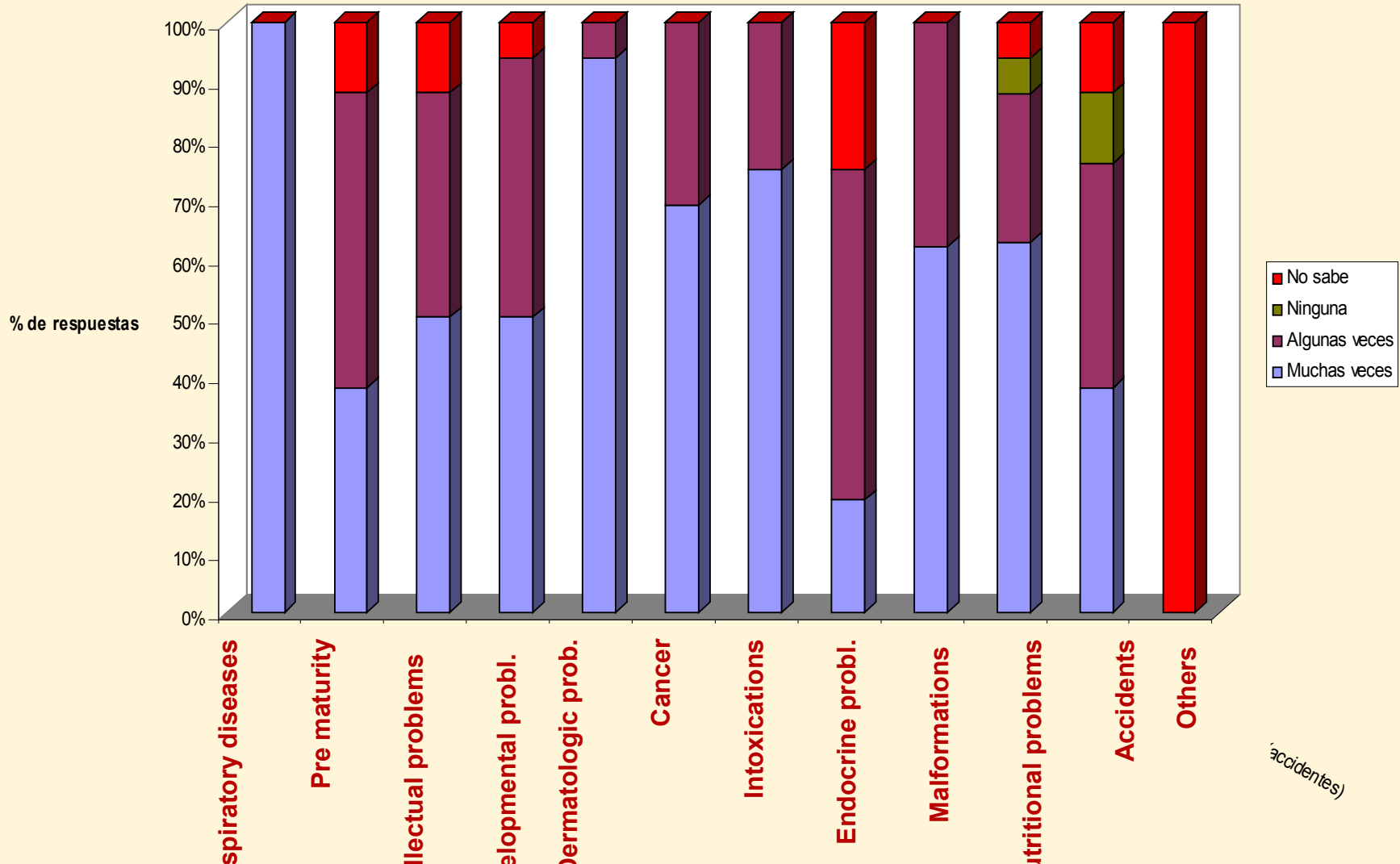
### CHILE



# Survey to pediatricians

## What environmental problems do you identify that are affecting children's health?

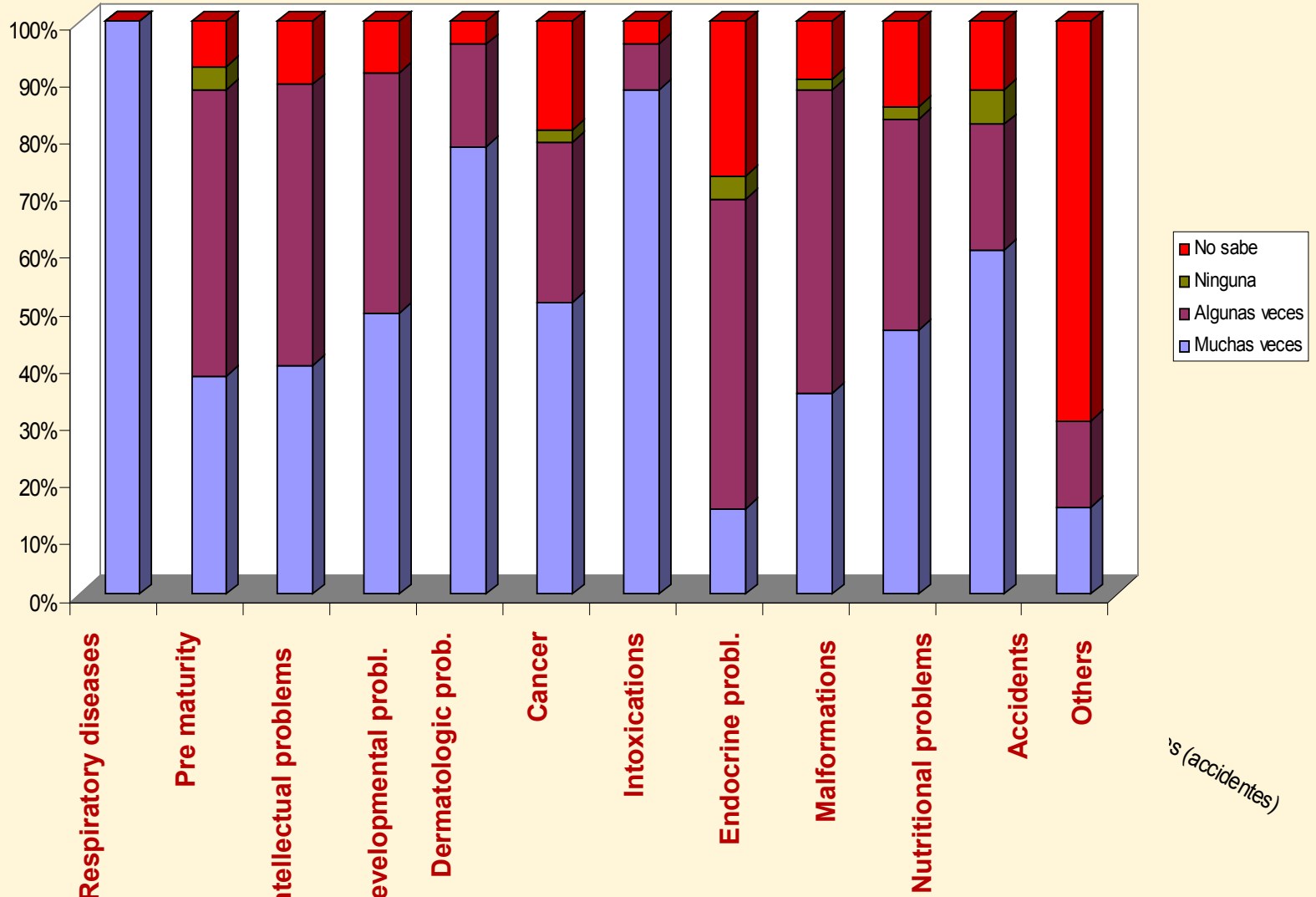
### PARAGUAY



# Survey to pediatricians

## What environmental problems do you identify that are affecting children's health?

### URUGUAY



's (accidentes)

**Strategies, tools, actions and programs**  
**Analysis of the work done 1998-2006**

**New scenarios - new goals**  
**New strategies - new tools**

**1998** – First Conference on CEH  
Organized by ISDE  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands



**1998** - ISDE and WHO participated in INCHEs

**2002** - ISDE and INCHEs contributes to HECA  
WSSD, Johannesburg, South Africa

- **Conference in Washington DC, 2001**
- **Conference in London, 2004**
- **Conference in Vienna, 2007**
  
- **WHO I CEH Conference, Thailand 2003**
- **WHO II CEH Conference, Argentina 2005**

# **WHO initiatives helped enormously the role of NGOs which are working on the subject.**

**The alliance was very successful since the beginning:**

- Contributed to reach decision makers and pediatricians and other partners**
- Facilitated visibility of materials**
- Promoted regional-local actions**
- Helped to establish regional and global policies**

# **CEH initiatives**

## **LESSONS LEARNED**

Thanks to WHO's vision, guidance provided and the strong technical and logistic support many countries and organizations are taking action.

However, CEH issues need more recognition and action - there are lots to be done, and we look forward to further collaboration.

***“Translating knowledge into action”***

**Children can not wait!**

# **CEH initiatives**

## **LESSONS LEARNED**

### **PROMOTING A DIALOGUE**

Which sometimes may be difficult due to the complexities of the CEH issues – where many sectors are involved and has a role to play.

# **CEH initiatives**

## **LESSONS LEARNED**

## **PROMOTING NETWORKS**

Including all sectors:

government, academia, health, environment, NGOs,  
industry and community

Inspiring mutual trust and confidence in cooperation,

Identifying problems and also the solutions!

Installing the topic for and in the community.

# Goals on 1998

- Introduction CEH as an issue
- Inclusion of CEH topics in Governmental agendas
- Pediatrician as main partner
- Capacity building

# **We need new strategies**

- Different scenarios
- Different alliances
- Who is who in CEH? What are the initiatives?
- What are the results: materials, commitments?

# **We need new strategies**

## **What is missing?**

- Strategies at decision level
- More “actions in partnership”
- Integration of the parts for actions
- Strategies and projects that include young people and children in actions
- Identification, analysis and replication of successful strategies

# **What is missing?**

- **To put science into action**
- **Strength the bridge between academia and actors**
- **Too many Declarations and few real commitments**
  
- **No inclusion in the medical curricula**
- **PEHSUs net in development but need to be sustained**
  
- **No budget to deliver the tools developed**
- **No budget to maintain action in networks created**
- **Lack of Good an sustainable funds (complex and long mechanism)**
  
- **Situation at risk of becoming “stuck”**

# **New strategies and goals 2006 on... 5 years?**

- **International forum**
- **Actions in the field**
- **Identification, make visible and replication of successful experiences**
- **Create new tools**
- **Incentive and encourage multi-sectorial actions**
- **Incentive local actions**
- **.....**