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## INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVE

According to the World Health Organization, growing children are more sensitive to environmental hazards than adults, for three reasons:

1° sun exposure during childhood and adolescence appears to set the stage for the development of both melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers in later life

2° a significant part of a person's lifetime exposure occurs before age 18, and

3° children have more time to develop diseases with long latency, more years of life to be lost and more suffering to be endured as a result of impaired health.

The aim of this study is to describe the children's behavior towards the use of sunscreens.

## MATERIAL & METHODS

This multinational, cross-sectional study was conducted using a web-based online survey on a representative sample of parents and grandparents of children aged 12 or under, who cared for their children/grandchildren for at least 2 weeks during the summer of 2021, in seven countries.

To take into account the summer period, the survey was conducted at the end of August 2021 in the 5 countries of the Northern Hemisphere: France, Germany, Spain, Italy and the United States and in January 2022 in the 2 countries of the Southern Hemisphere: in Australia and Brazil.

Institutional review board approvals were not required since the study did not involve any clinical examination and used anonymized data.

## RESULTS

A total of 8,120 parents/grandparents answered the survey related to the behavior of children towards the use of sunscreen.

Of these, 98.0% acknowledged that their children were exposed to the sun in some way, and 70.0% were at the hottest hours of the day of whom, only 32.7% were used one sun protection measure.

Globally, 96.7% of children were sun protected used at least one mean of protection; hat or cap (76,6%), sunglasses (58.6%), and sunscreen (94.6%).

From those using sunscreen, 86.4% used a product specifically labelled for children. Surprisingly, only 18.5% received repeated applications of sunscreen (every 2 hours) during sunny days falling to 10,5% on days where the sun was hidden by clouds.

## DISCUSSION

For more than 30 years, health authorities have been conducting annual sun prevention campaigns, but we note that many do not comply with them.

This particular information is a matter of hope in the success of future public health campaigns aiming to alert on the risk of skin cancer associated with sun exposure.

### References:

1 <https://www.who.int/news-room/questions-and-answers/item/radiation-sun-protection>

Populations	Parents		Grand parents	
	N	%	N	%
Australia	562	75.2	185	24.8
Brazil	996	84.2	187	15.8
France	1019	85.7	170	14.3
Germany	958	81.7	214	18.3
Italy	939	81.6	212	18.4
Spain	998	83.9	192	16.1
USA	1190	80.0	298	20.0

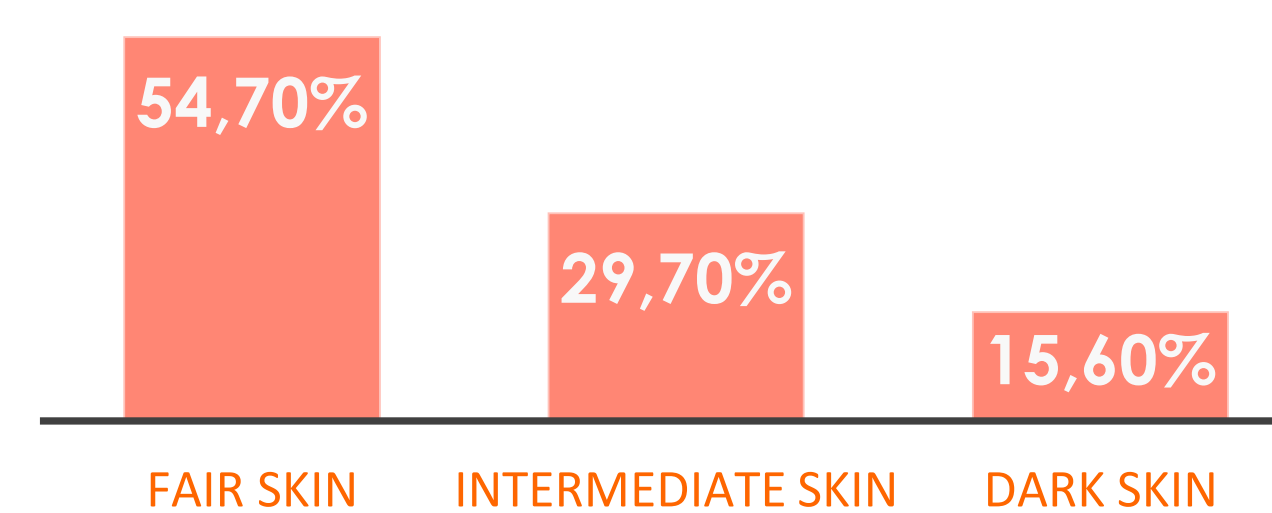
### POPULATIONS OF THE SAFE PROJECT

Parents

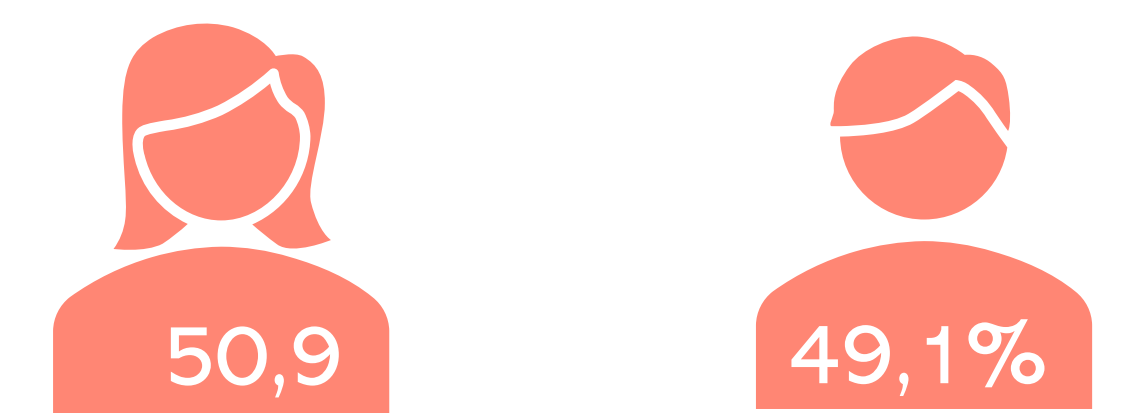


Global age of participant : 6.5

Median : 6 Standard deviation : 3.5

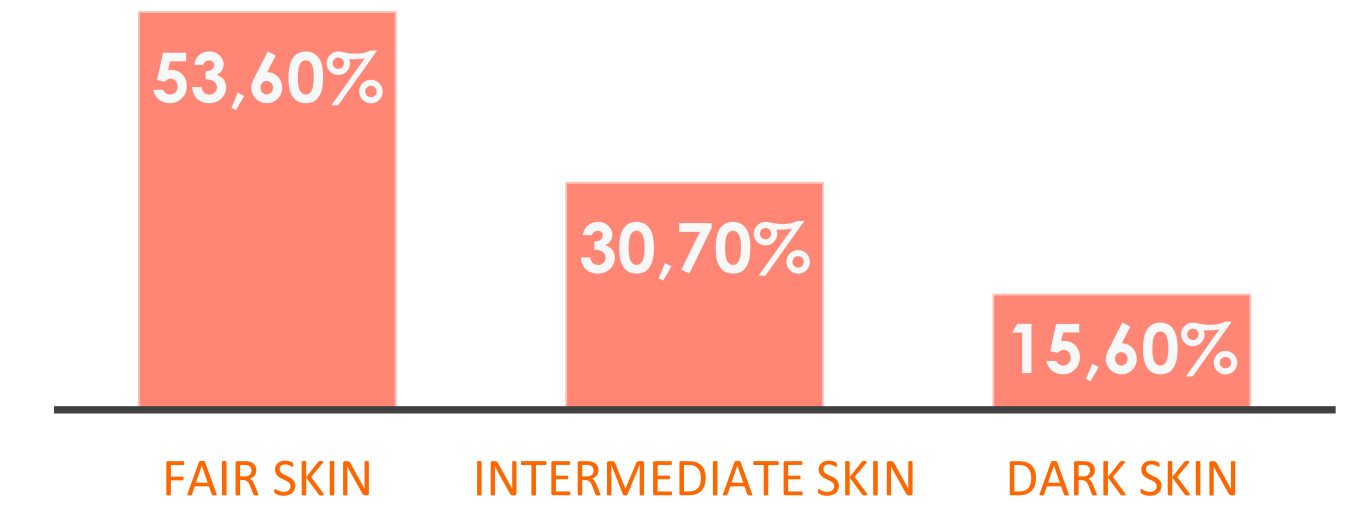


Grand Parents



Global age of participant : 5.3

Median : 5 Standard deviation : 3.2

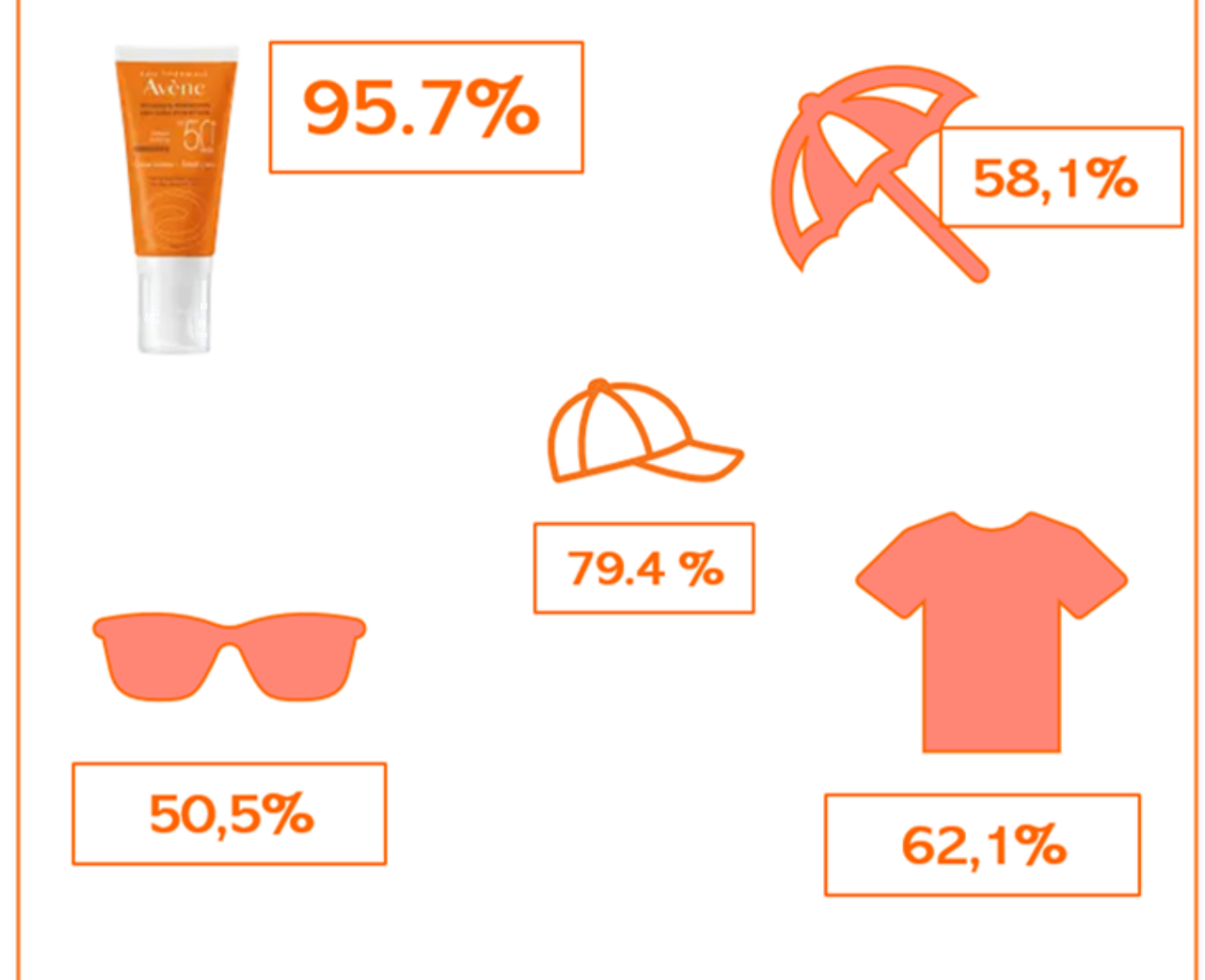


### PROTECTION OF THE CHILD IN THE SUN

Parents



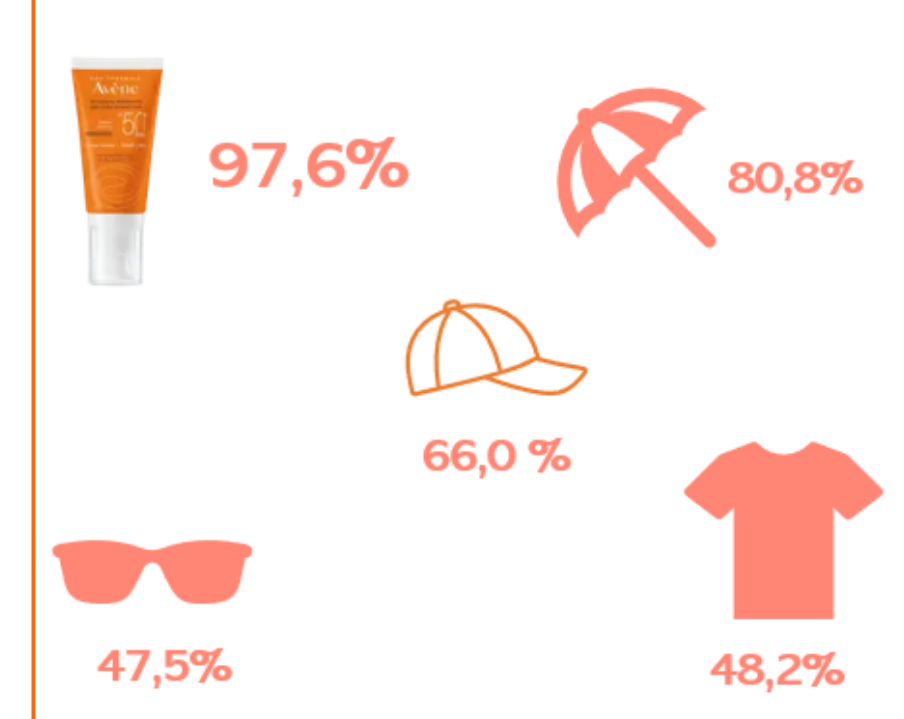
Grand Parents



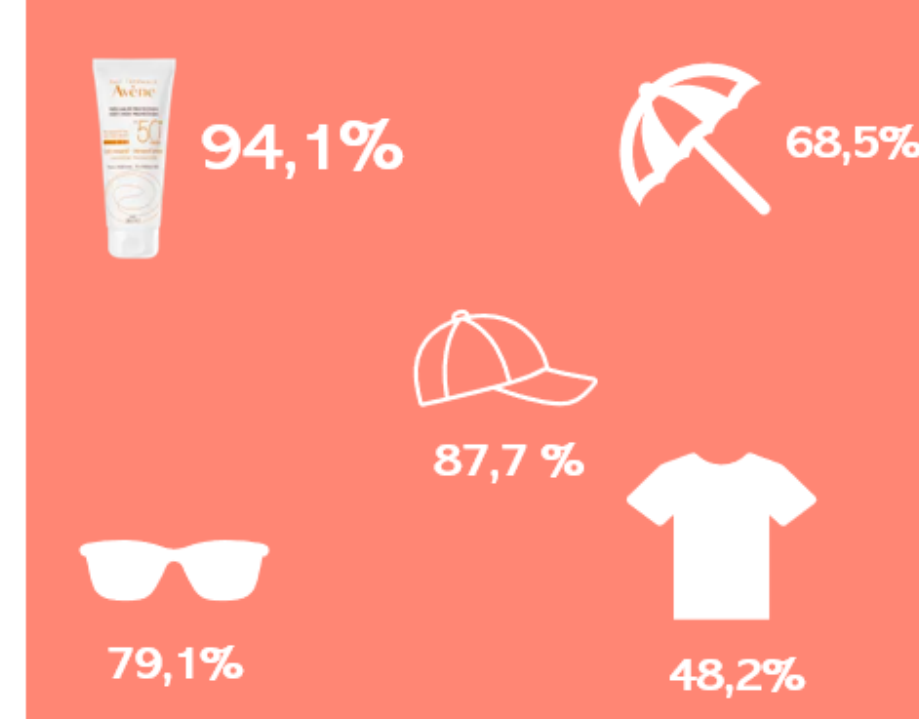
Australia



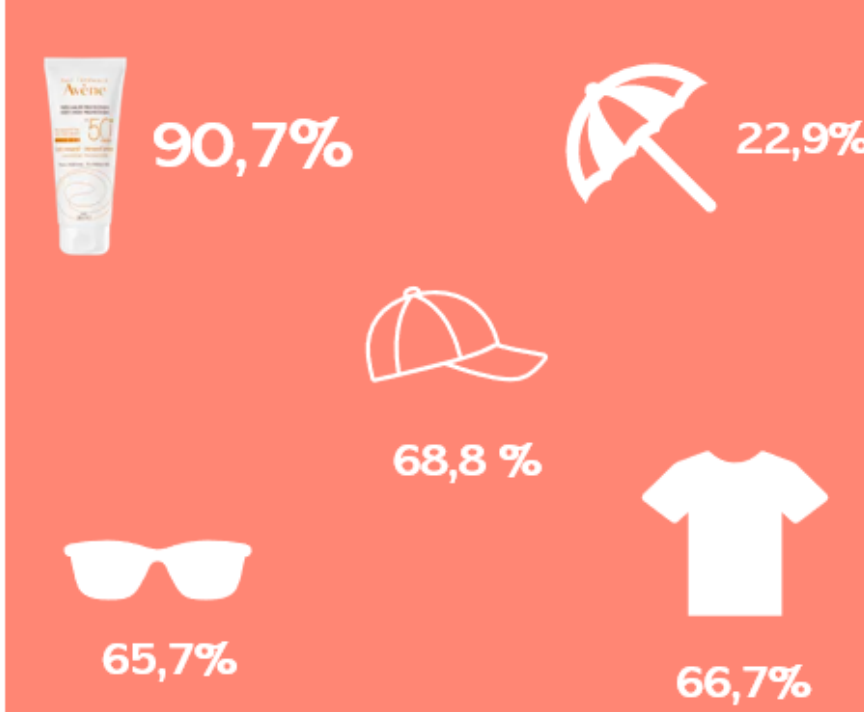
Spain



France



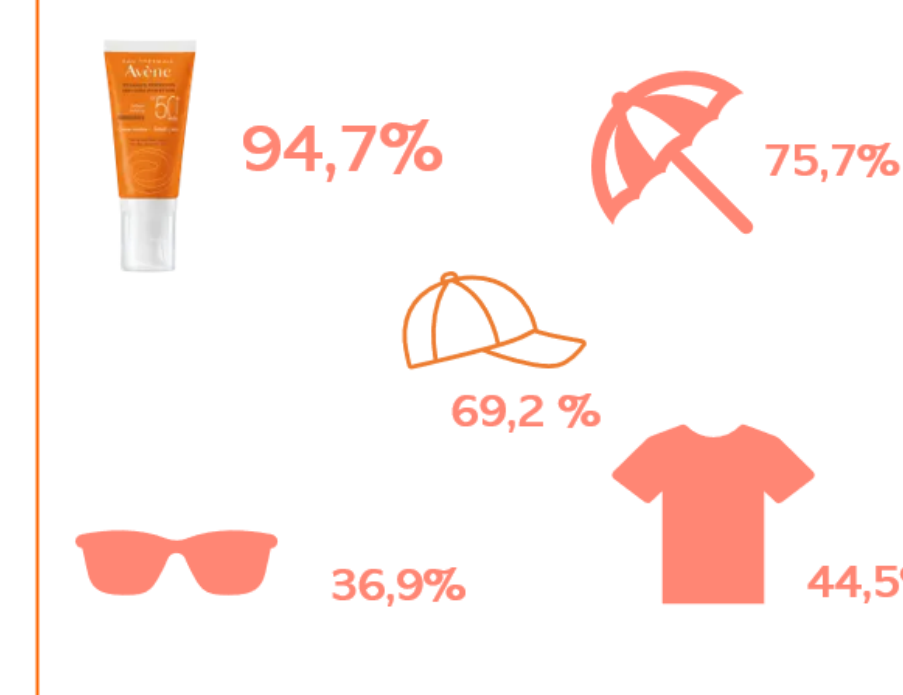
USA



Germany



Brazil



Italy

