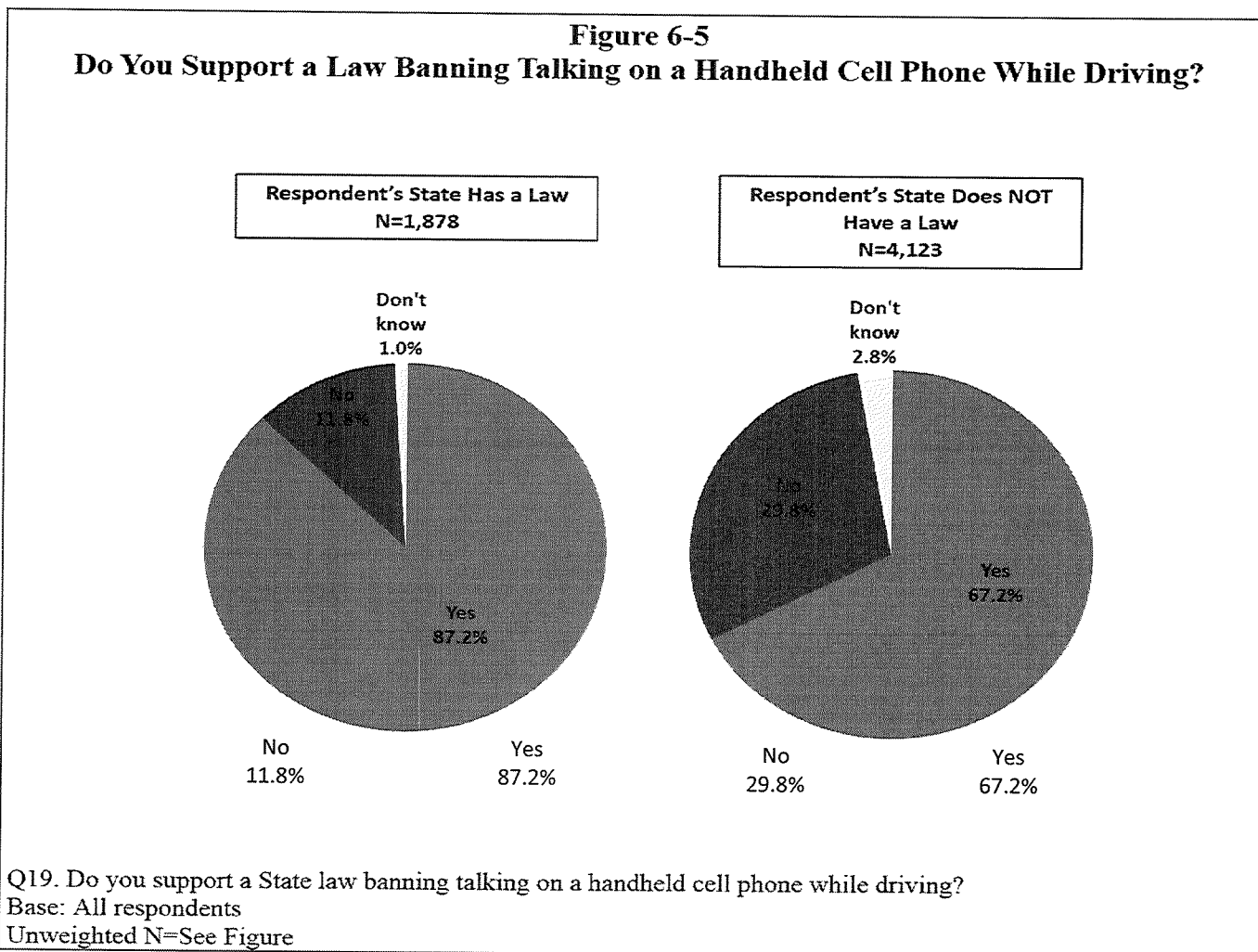


The survey also found 29.2% of those using phones while driving hold the phone in their hand.

The survey also collected passenger perception of safety when the driver is using a phone while driving. 41.9% of the respondents said the driver's use of a cell phone for a phone call made them feel very unsafe and another 22.8% said it made them feel somewhat unsafe. But when they were asked about when the driver used the phone handsfree to talk on the cell phone that dropped to 11.1% and 18.9% respectively.

Collectively, the feeling of being unsafe dropped by over half when the phone was used handsfree.

According to the Governors Highway Safety Administration, as of July 2023, 34 states prohibit all drivers from using handheld cellphones while driving. (Up from 22 in January 2021.) All but two are primary enforcement laws. They also report 49 states, ban text messaging for all drivers. All but six are primary enforcement laws.⁵⁶



In states with a law banning handheld use, 87.2% support the law. In states without such law, 67.2% said they would support such law.

We encourage you to recommend HB2499 favorably to pass.

Ed Klumpp
Legislative Liaison

⁵ Governors Highway Safety Administration: <https://www.ghsa.org/state-laws/issues/distracted%20driving>

⁶ Primary enforcement laws allow enforcement action without another violation occurring.