

Table 7.4: Emotional Support: Presence and Type of Confidant and Perceived Adequacy of Support (Percent)^{1,2}

Indicator of Emotional Support	Total (N=1002)	Age Group			Disability Level		
		65-74 (N=388)	75-84 (N=311)	85+ (N=303)	Moderate ³ (N=343)	ADL Difficulty	
						Receives No Help (N=478)	Receives Help (N=181)
Is there any one special person you know that you feel very close and intimate with someone you share confidences and feelings with, someone you feel you can depend on? ⁴							
No	9.0	7.9	9.4	11.3	5.7	11.5	8.9
Yes	91.0	92.1	90.6	88.7	94.3	88.5	91.1
Who is this person? ⁵							
Spouse	5.0	7.0	4.2	1.1	4.2	4.7	7.2
Child	28.9	29.8	27.4	30.3	27.9	28.6	32.0
Other relative	24.3	21.3	27.0	25.9	28.7	20.8	25.1
Friend/neighbor	30.8	32.7	29.6	28.2	32.3	32.1	23.8
Other	2.0	1.3	2.5	3.2	1.2	2.4	2.9
Could you have used more emotional support than you received in the last year? ⁴							
No	68.1	63.7	70.1	75.4	73.2	69.0	54.6
Yes	32.0	36.3	29.9	24.6	26.8	31.0	45.4
Would you say you needed . . . ? ⁵							
A lot more	8.7	9.2	10.1	3.7	8.0	7.4	14.1
Some more	10.9	11.5	9.8	12.0	8.2	11.5	14.9
A little more	12.3	15.7	10.0	8.9	10.6	12.2	16.5

(Women's Health and Aging Study, baseline interview, 1992-1995)

¹ All variables have less than 1% missing data. Results are based on non-missing data.

² Descriptive statistics are based on weighted data.

³ No ADL difficulty; disabled in two or more domains (see Chapter 1).

⁴ Categories may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

⁵ Categories may not add up to percent "Yes" above due to rounding.