



# The relationship between Public Perception and Law Enforcement

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# Outline

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- Research Questions
- Literature Review
- Research Design
- Survey Design
- Research Findings
- Final Conclusions

# Research Questions

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# Research Question

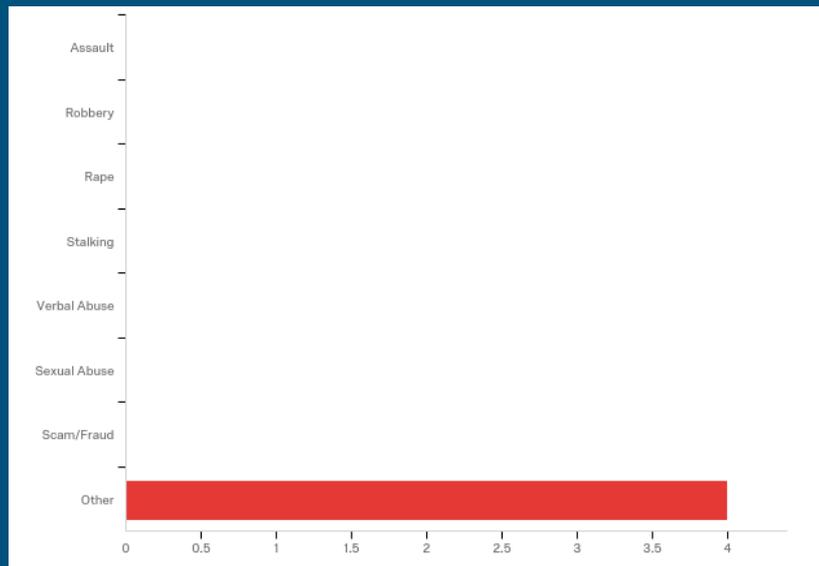
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Does the public perception of law enforcement by UVU students affect reporting of crime?

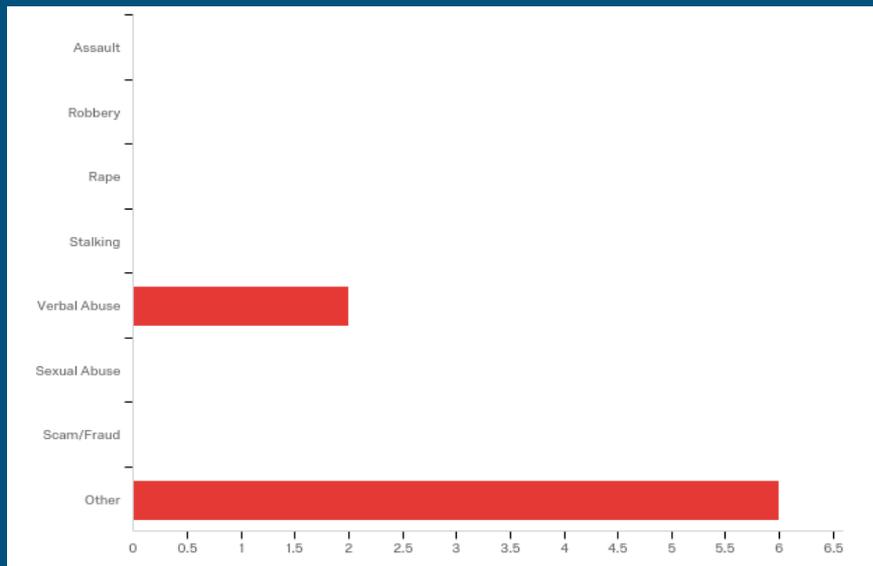


# Research Question: What crimes the victim has endured on campus

## Male



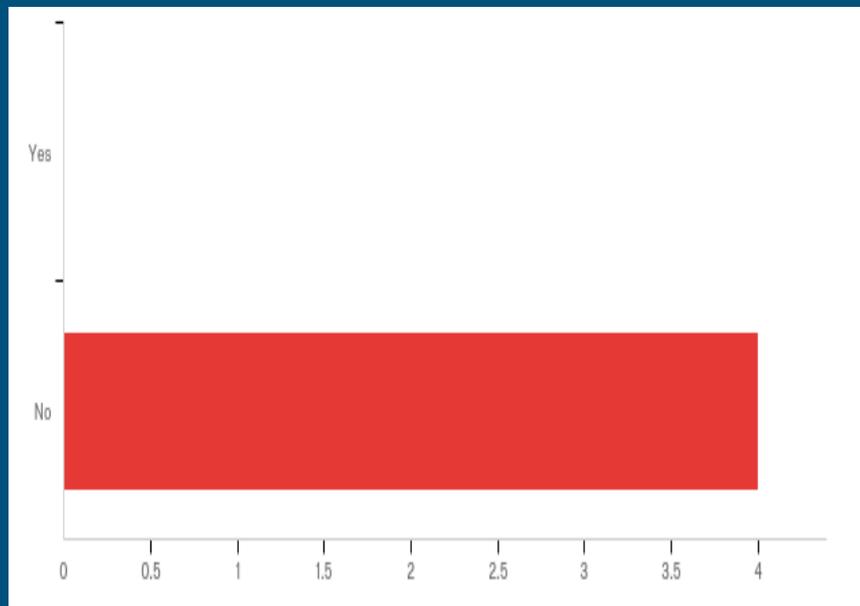
## Female





Research Question: Did they report the crime? To whom they reported it too?

Male



Female

- None of the Females reported their crimes.

Research Question: What reasoning they gave for reporting or not reporting the crime?

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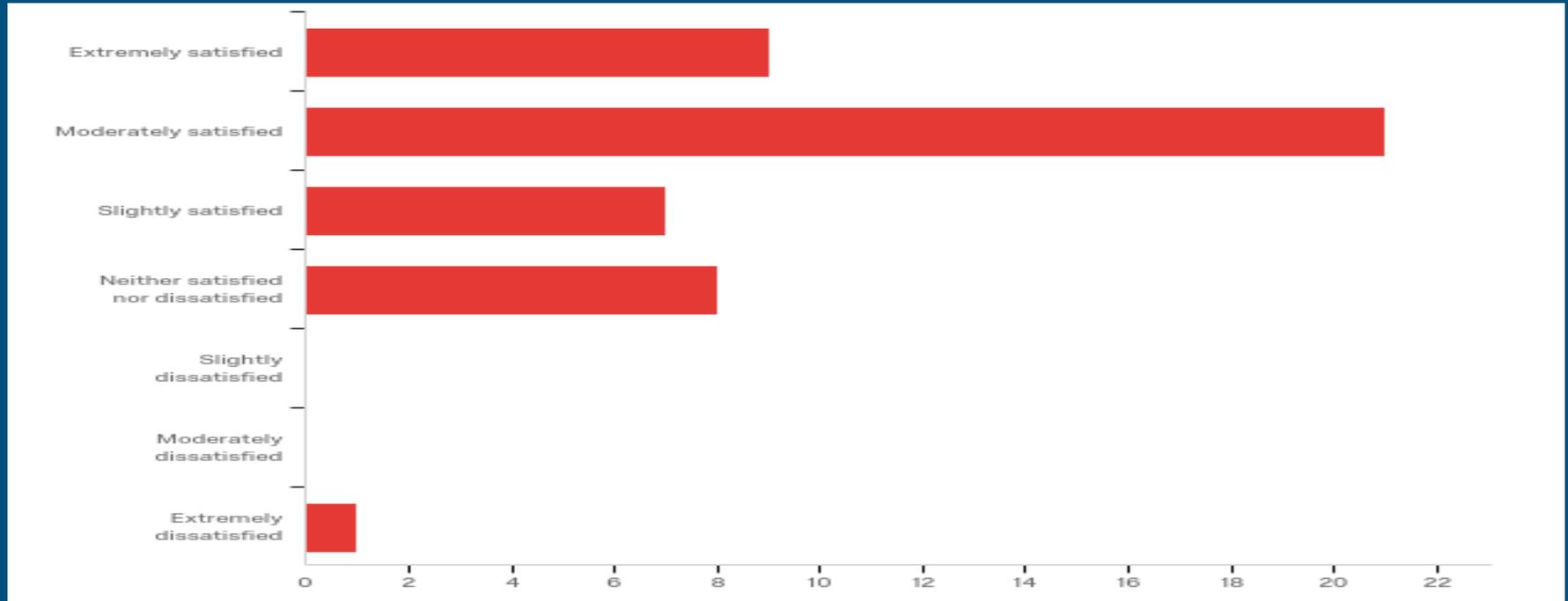
None of the males had experienced crimes on campus, and the 2 females that were victims of verbal abuse didn't answer the question as to why they didn't report it.

Research Question: What could be done differently to encourage them to report the crime?

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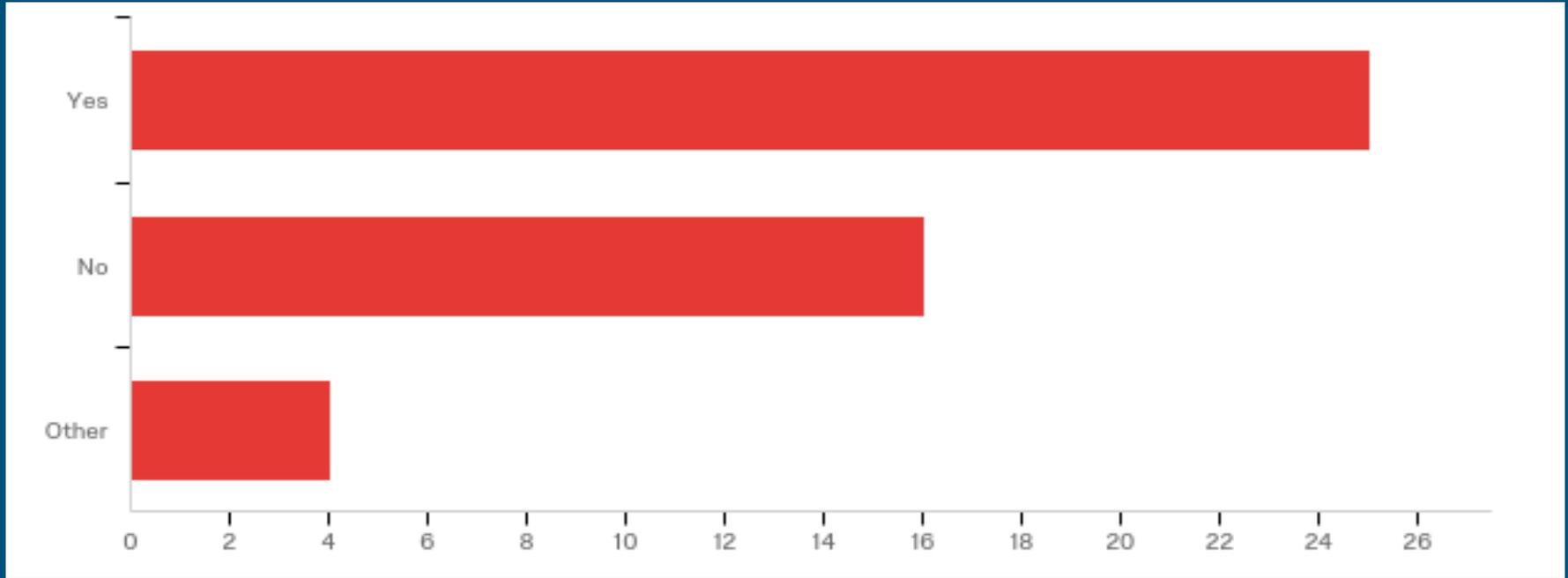
Nobody ranked what could be done differently to encourage them to report the crime.

# What is your perception of law enforcement?





Do you feel your perception of law enforcement would influence you to report a crime?



# Literature Review

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# An investigation of students' willingness to report threats of violence in campus communities

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Sulkowski studied the interaction of the following factors and college students' willingness to report threats of violence to campus authorities:

1. Trust in college support system
2. Campus connectedness
3. Self-efficacy toward service
4. Fear of negative evaluation
5. Delinquency

# Community Interaction with Law Enforcement

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1. Community attitudes toward law enforcement play a significant role in whether or not the community is willing to collaborate with the police.
2. If students have negative experiences with campus police their image of the campus police deteriorates and the police receive fewer reports from the students.

Meloni (2015)  
Ortimeier & Messe (2009)

# Examining the reasons for student responses to threatening behaviors on a college campus

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Students were found to report crimes on campus very rarely. The reasons they cited included:

1. A dangerous situation didn't appear likely
2. A dangerous situation appear immediate
3. I did not want to get involved
4. It seemed like a personal matter, not a police matter
5. I thought it might make the situation worse
6. My relationship with the threatening person

Hodges, H. J., Low, E. C., Vinas-Racionero, M. R., Hollister, B. A., Scalora, M. J. (2016)

# Continued

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When the students reported the crime they cited the following reasons:

1. A dangerous situation appeared immediate
2. My awareness of campus resources
3. The potentially dangerous individual had made serious and/or specific threats

Hodges, H.J., Low, E. C., Vinas-Racionero, M. R., Hollister, B. A., Scalora, M. J. (2016)

# Perceptions of Procedural Justice Mediate the Relationship Between local violent crime density and crime reporting intentions

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1. Procedural Justice increased the likelihood of contact and interaction with the police.
2. As the level of education, or age, of persons increased residents' intention to report crimes, or to interact with police officers outside of reporting crimes, increased.

Kruger, D. J., Crichlow, V. J.,  
McGarrell, E., Hollis, M., Jefferson, B.  
M., Reischl, T. M., & Zimmerman, M.  
A. (2016)

# Benefits of our research

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Our study narrows the focus to how students perception of law enforcement affects their willingness to report threats of violence.

# Research Design



# Research Design

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- Availability sampling method

Nonprobability sampling method

- Collected data through email survey

# Problems Encountered

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## Time frames

- IRB

- ~Needed for research approval

- IRI

- ~Needed for email list for UVU students

- Response

- ~The students who started the survey didn't finish the survey

# Survey Design

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If you conducted a survey talk about your sample size, confidence interval and level. You should also justify your response rate and discuss what you did to improve it.

Overview slide. The analysis of the survey determines the study as a qualitative research with an aim of learning crime reporting habits in UVU students.

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## Step one; Data collection

~In data collection, the study used a survey with a sample size of 500 students.

~For Ethical approval, the survey was sent to the IRB..

~After approval, the survey was sent to 500 emails.

~The sample size is convenient in acquiring and comparing the data to determine the confidence interval.

## Step two; data grouping and analysis

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~Using the collected data, the study would use a Z score and T score in determining the confidence interval for a true unknown mean of a specific population.

~Therefore, the results would eventually be used to define the level of measurement which will be interval.

## Step three; justification

~Therefore, this will narrow down the analysis to the successful questionnaires in the survey.

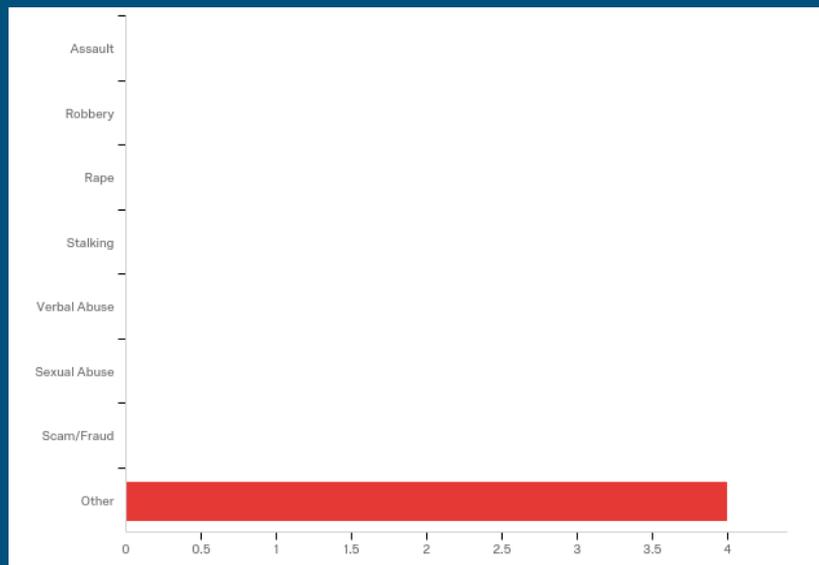
# Research Findings



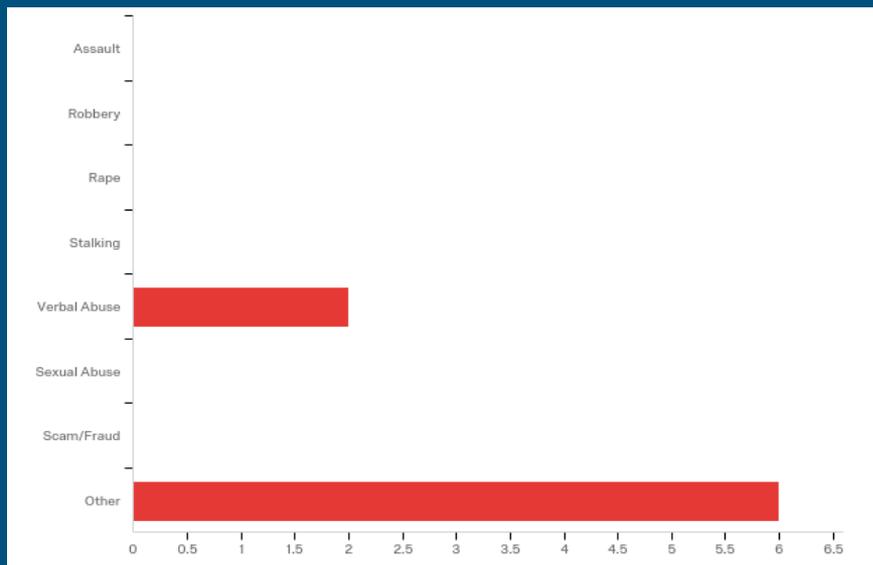


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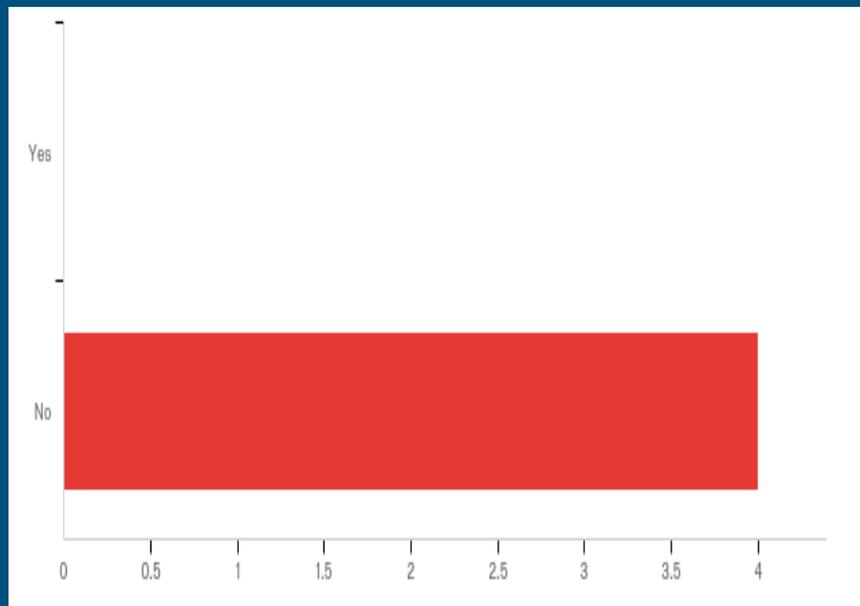
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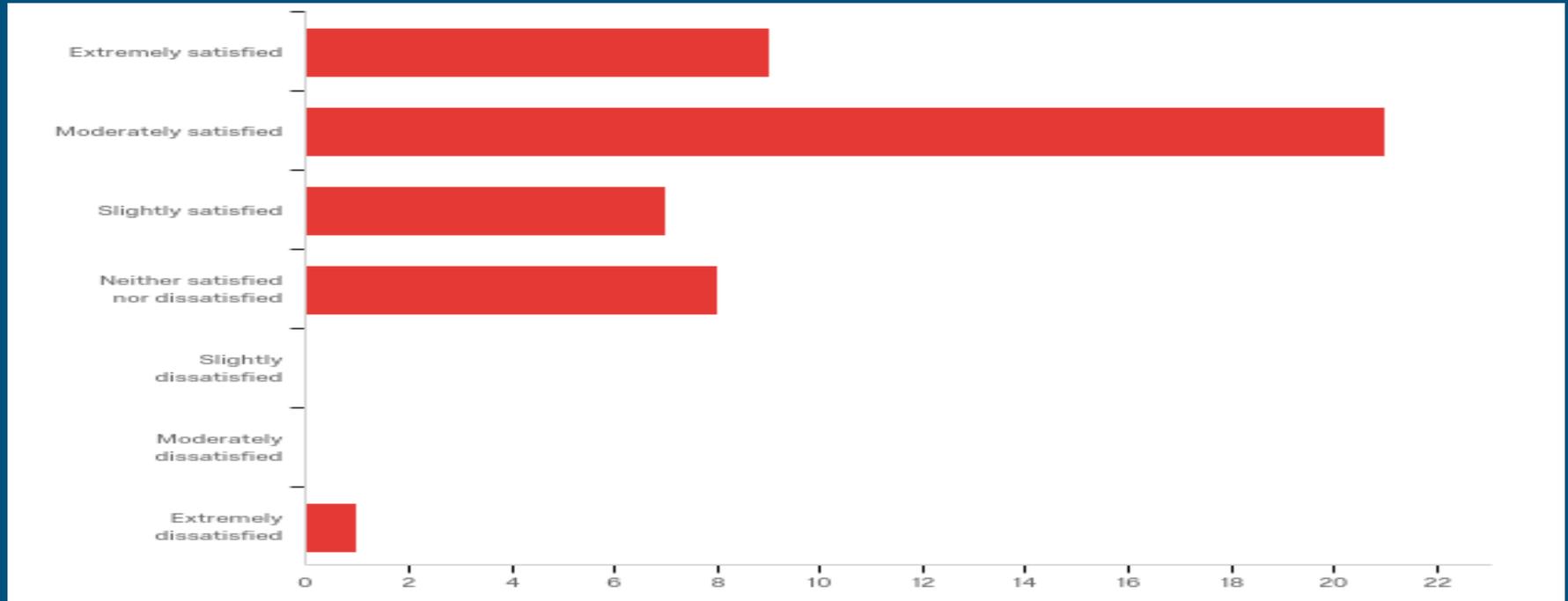
Male



Female

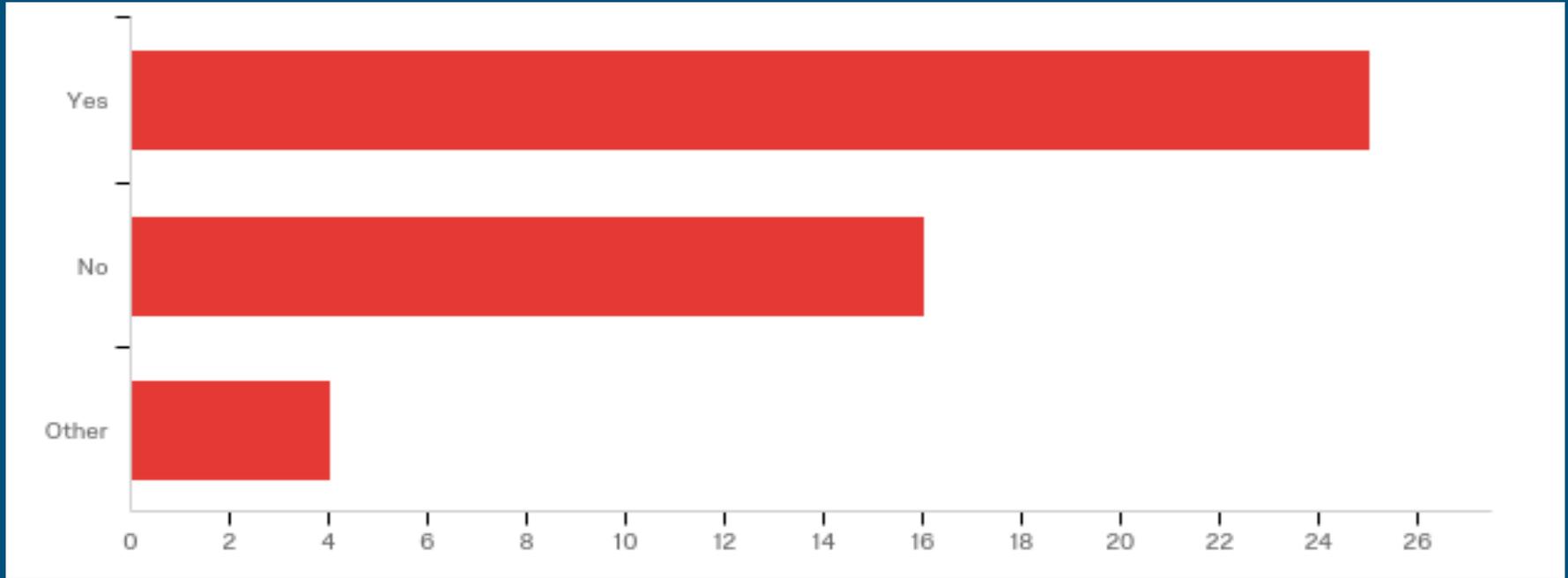
- None of the Females reported their crimes.

# What is your perception of law enforcement?

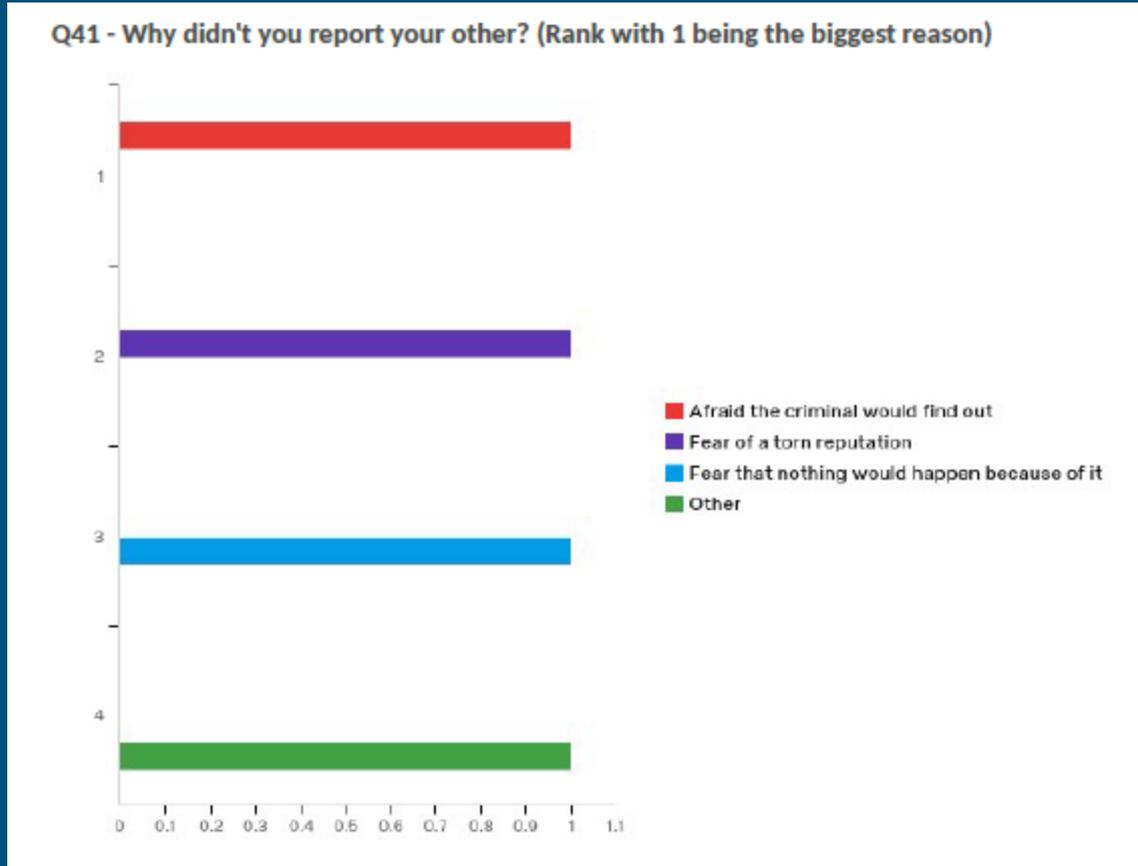




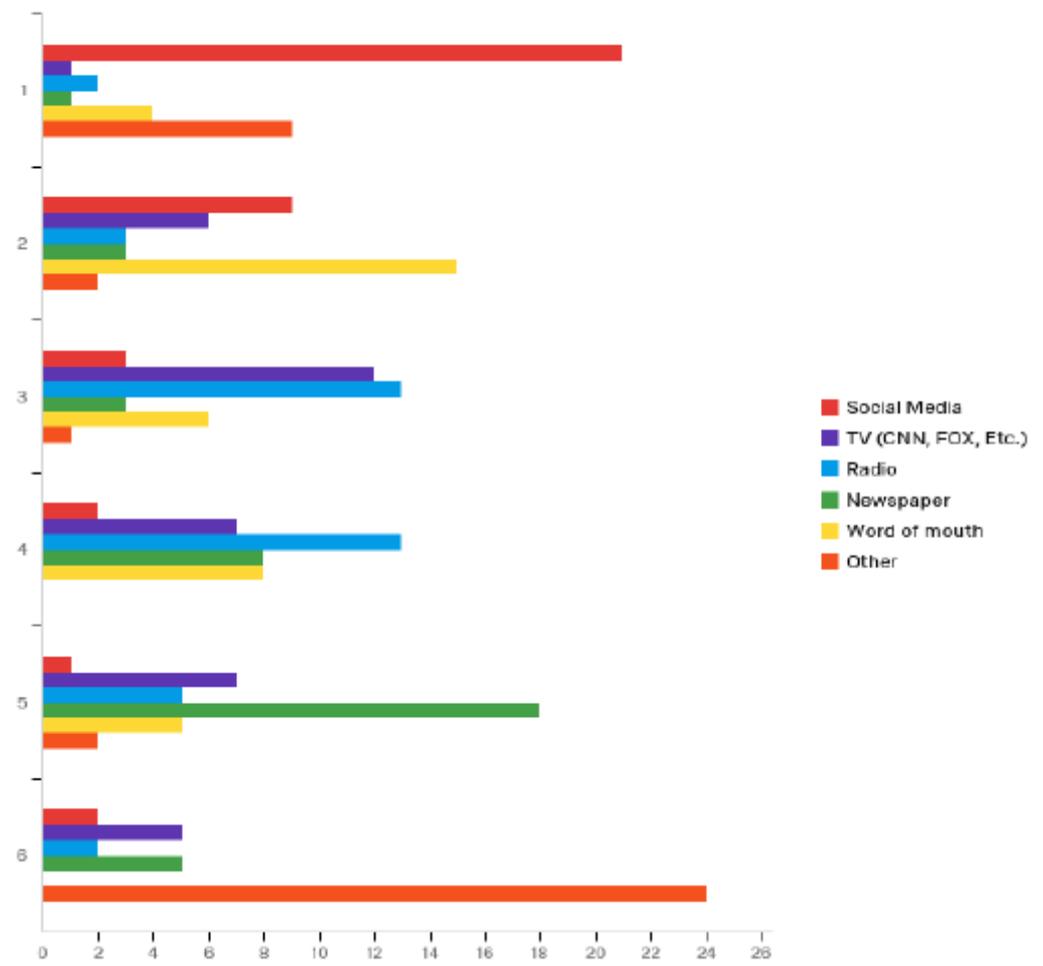
Do you feel your perception of law enforcement would influence you to report a crime?



# Why didn't you report ... Other reasons



Q52 - Rank where you obtain the majority of your media knowledge. 1 being the most & 6 being the least



# Other Sources of News

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- Different Internet Sources
- Youtube
- News Sites
- Family

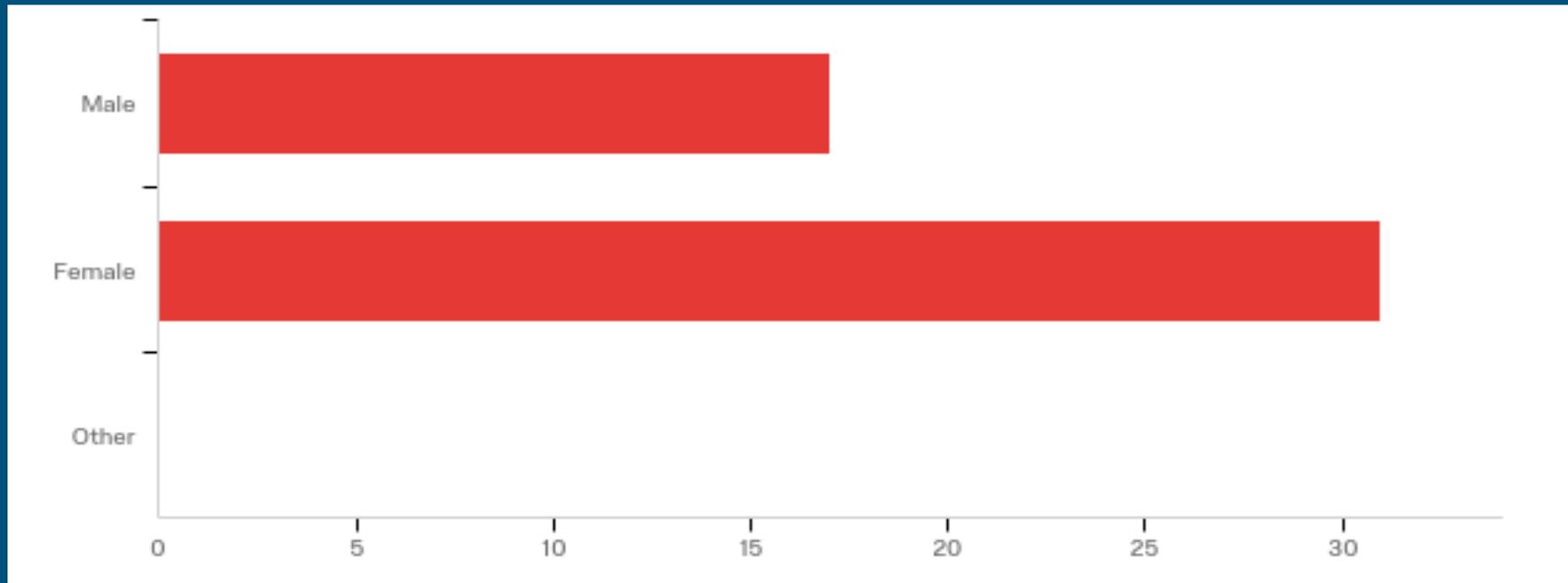
**Research Question:** Does the public perception of law enforcement by UVU students affect reporting of crime?

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From the data we collected 55% of people believe that their perception of law enforcement would in fact influence their decision to report a crime. We can then conclude that the perception of law enforcement by UVU students does in fact affect their willingness to report a crime.



## Demographic: Gender

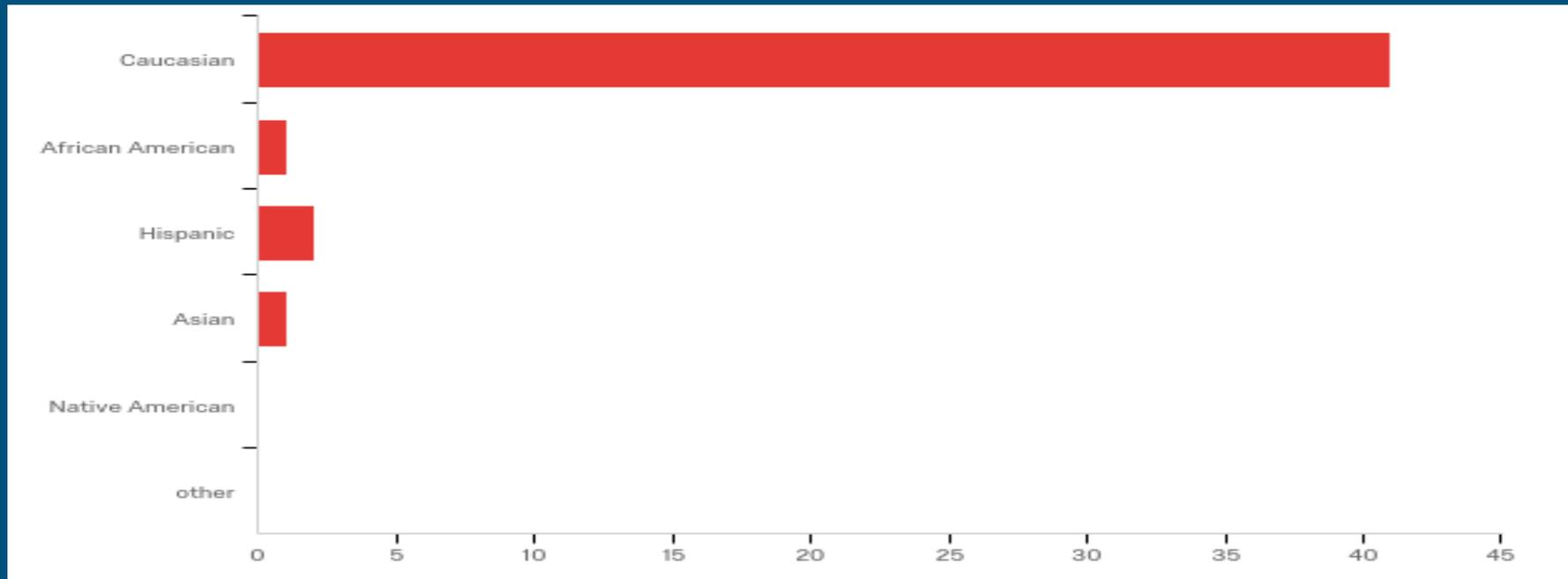




## Demographic: Age

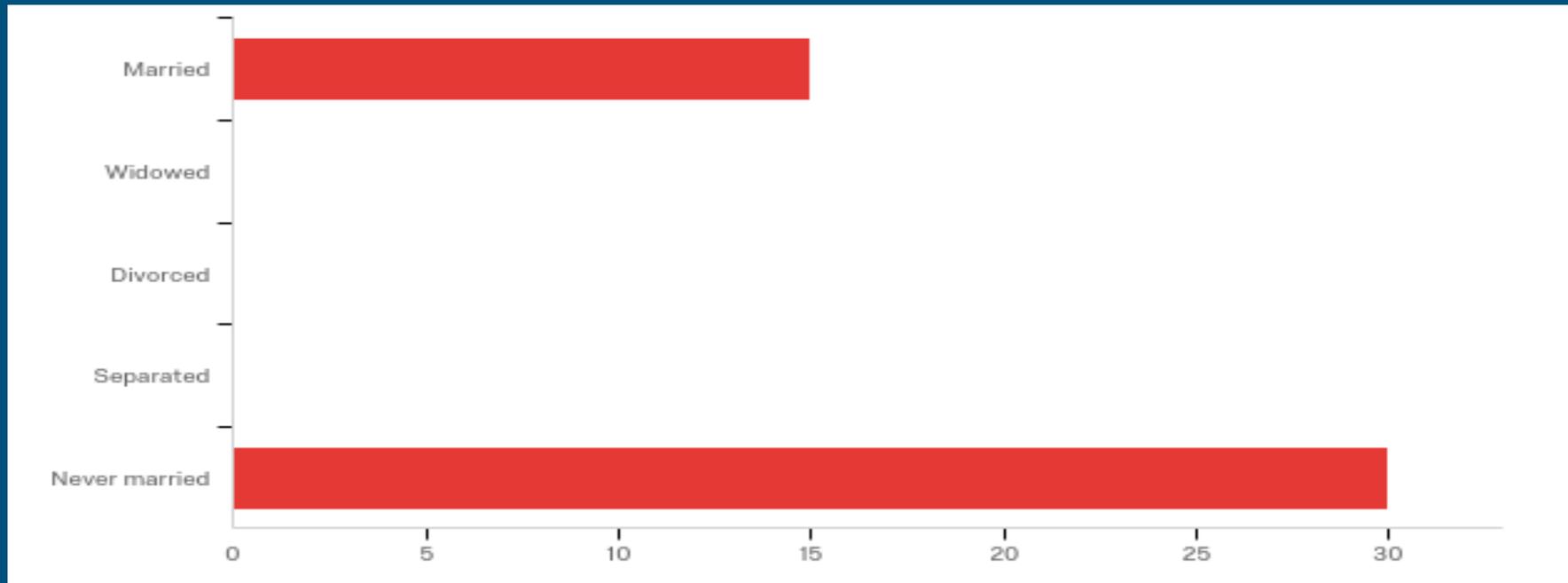


## Demographic: Race



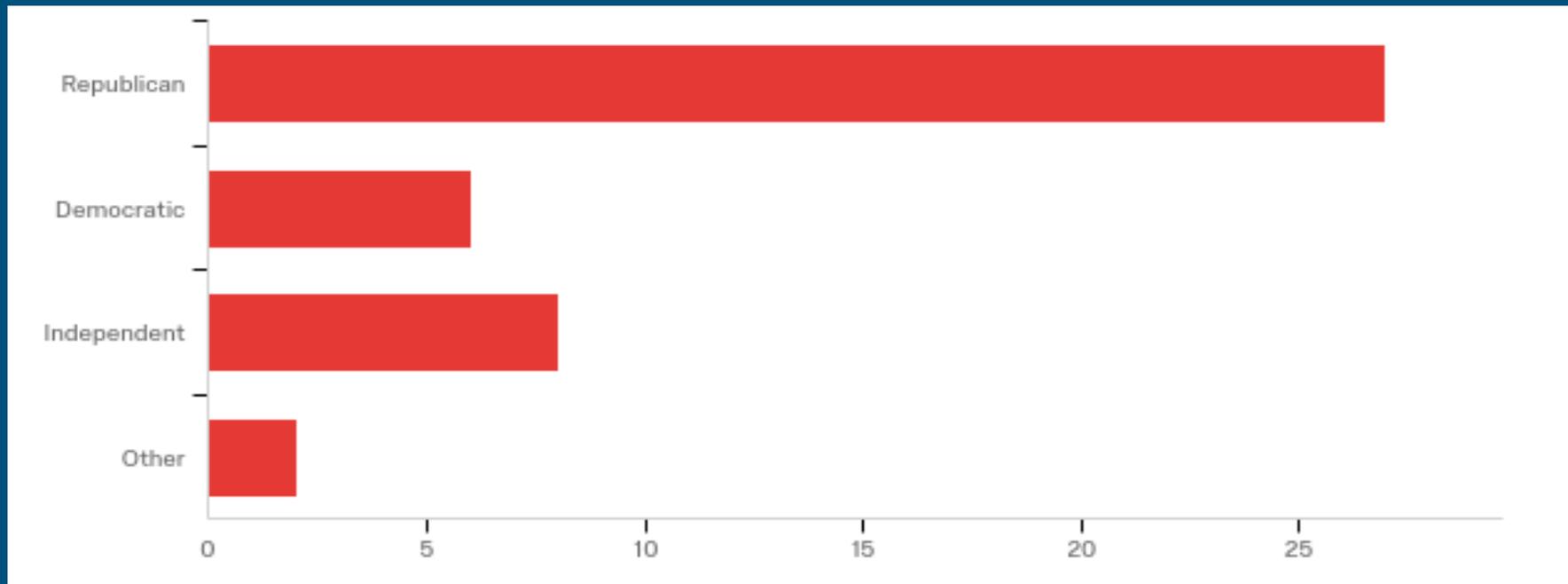


## Demographic: Marital Status



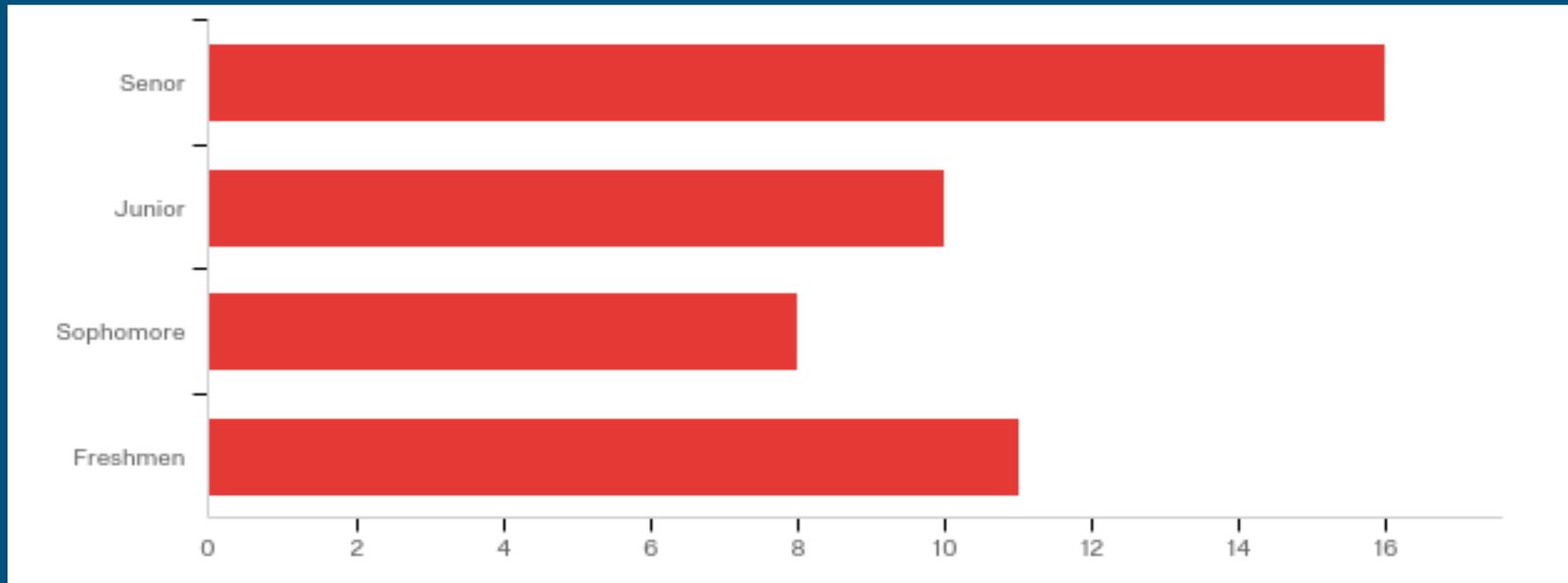


## Demographic: Political Affiliation





## Demographic: Year at UVU



# Final Conclusions

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# Final Project Conclusions

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- Public Perception does influence UVU students to report crime.

# Where do we go from here?

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- Further research will be required to better determine how perception affects reporting.
- Law Enforcement can better improve perception through improved outreach

Please post any questions  
in the comments section.

Thank you.

