



# **Anne Arundel County Hate Crimes Prevention Program Community Survey**

Survey period: May 23, 2025 - June 30, 2025



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# Survey Content & Organization

- **Familiarity** with hate crime and hate bias incident terms
  - Includes perceived ability to define difference between hate crime & hate bias incident
- **Safety** in Anne Arundel County
  - Includes perceived level of safety in AACo
  - Includes whether respondents or their friends have experienced a hate bias incident/crime
- **Reporting** of experienced hate bias incident or hate crime
  - For respondents who have experienced incident, includes whether they reported it
  - Includes to whom they reported
- **Act** - what to do if witness/experience hate bias incident or hate crime
  - Includes how confident respondents feel they know what to do if witness/experience
  - Includes to whom they would report
- **Fears** that might affect a respondents' decision to report an experienced incident
- **Hear** - how did respondents hear about the survey

# Executive Summary



## Familiarity

**76.9%** of respondents are familiar with hate crime & hate bias

**81.1%** Black respondents know definition of hate crime (vs 76.3% of white respondents)

**57.0%** know difference between hate crime & hate bias incident

**68.9%** of Black respondents report they know the difference between an incident & crime (vs 52.6% of white respondents)

## Safety

**56.5%** of respondents feel somewhat, mostly, or very safe in AACo

**41.6%** of respondents have experienced hate crime/hate bias

Of those, **43.9%** occurred within last year & **36.0%** occurred in past 2-5 years

Older, men, and Black respondents more likely to report incidents



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# Executive Summary



## Reporting

**70.4%** of those who experienced hate crime/hate bias did not report

Of those who did report, **33.9%** reported to 911 (school officials & HR/ Management were the next most common)

Groups of privilege did not report due to **insufficient threat** (white, men, het, without disability)

Marginalized Groups (Black, women, queer & disabled) did not report because believe **nothing would happen**

## Act

**47.8%** of respondents confident know what to do if witness / victim of hate bias incident

**29.1%** of men are very confident know what to do (vs 13.3% of women)

**88.3%** of respondents would report to Police, followed by family & advocacy groups

**74.3%** of Black respondents would report to police (vs **91.9%** of White respondents)



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# Executive Summary



## Fears

**50.4%** of respondents would not report due to fear of retaliation

Younger (<46) & Black respondents would not report due to **distrust of law enforcement**

Women would not report because **concern about privacy /social repercussion**

People with disabilities would not report due to **fear of retaliation**

## Hear

**65.3%** of respondents heard of survey via email

**25%** of nonbinary respondents heard from AACPL, **50%** Hispanic via email & **55.6%** Jewish via email

**18.4%** of District 2 and **13.8%** of District 4 heard from County Website

Other avenues: Anne Arundel Community College; forwarded family/friend, County employees



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# Respondent Overview

	Race Ethnicity	Gender	Sexuality	Religion	Disability	Location
Subgroups	White & Black	Female & Male	Heterosexual & Prefer not to answer	Christian, Atheist/Non religious, Other, Prefer not to answer	With & No disability	Council districts 3,5,6,& 7
Sample size small	Prefer not to answer, 2+ races & Other	Prefer not to answer & Nonbinary	Queer (all non-hetero)	Jewish	Prefer not to answer	Council districts 1,2,4, & Prefer not to answer
No subgroup analysis	Hispanic respondents n=20					

# Cleaning process

**Total survey respondents:** 494

**Zip code:** 40 respondents listed zip codes that did not include residence in Anne Arundel County and were removed

**Other:** In questions with *Other* if the reason listed matched a provided response *Other* was recategorized

**Survey base for analysis:** 454

# Demographics

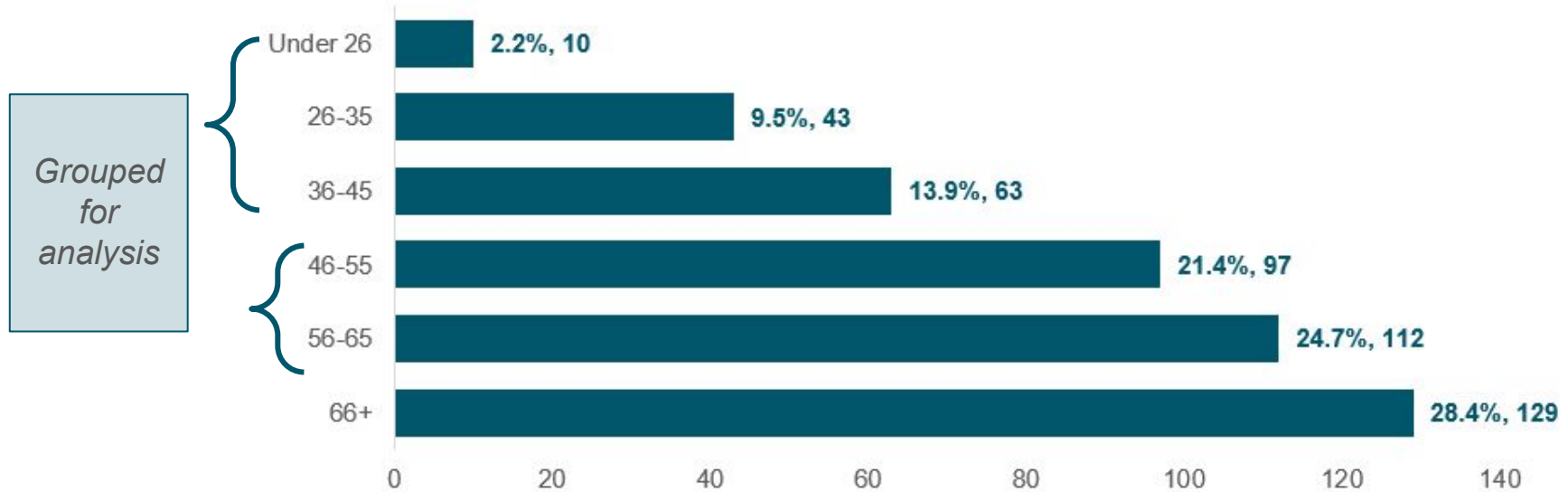
*Of survey respondents*

Respondents were more likely to not have a disability and be older, white, women, heterosexual, and Christian.



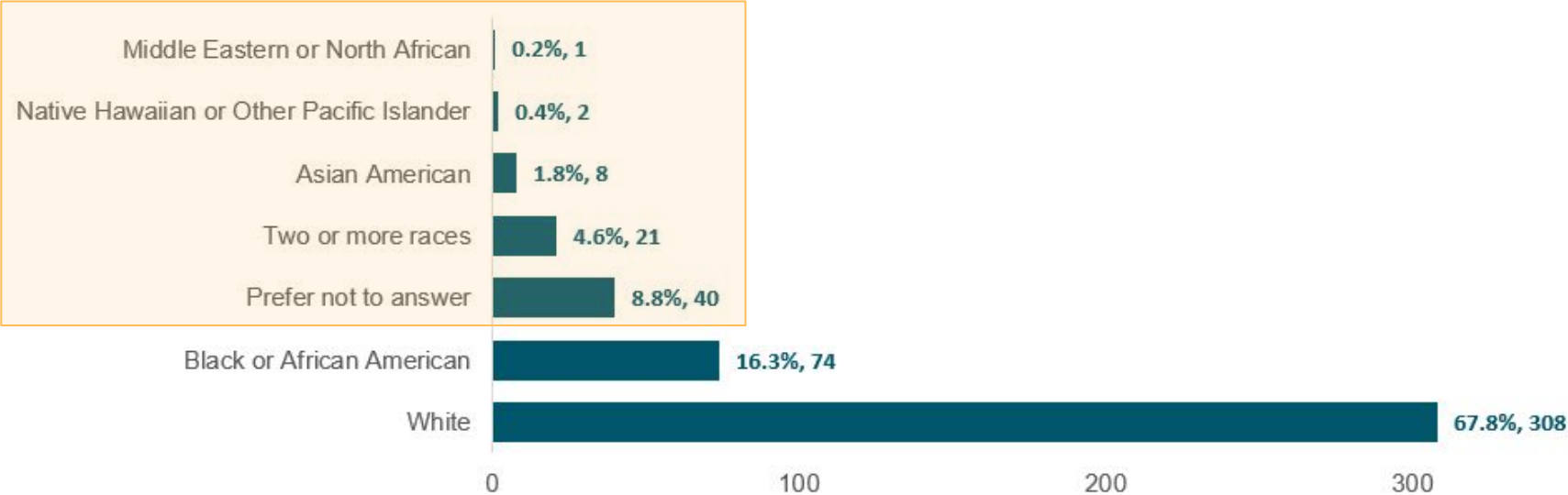
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## Respondents by Age: Over a Quarter were Over Age 66



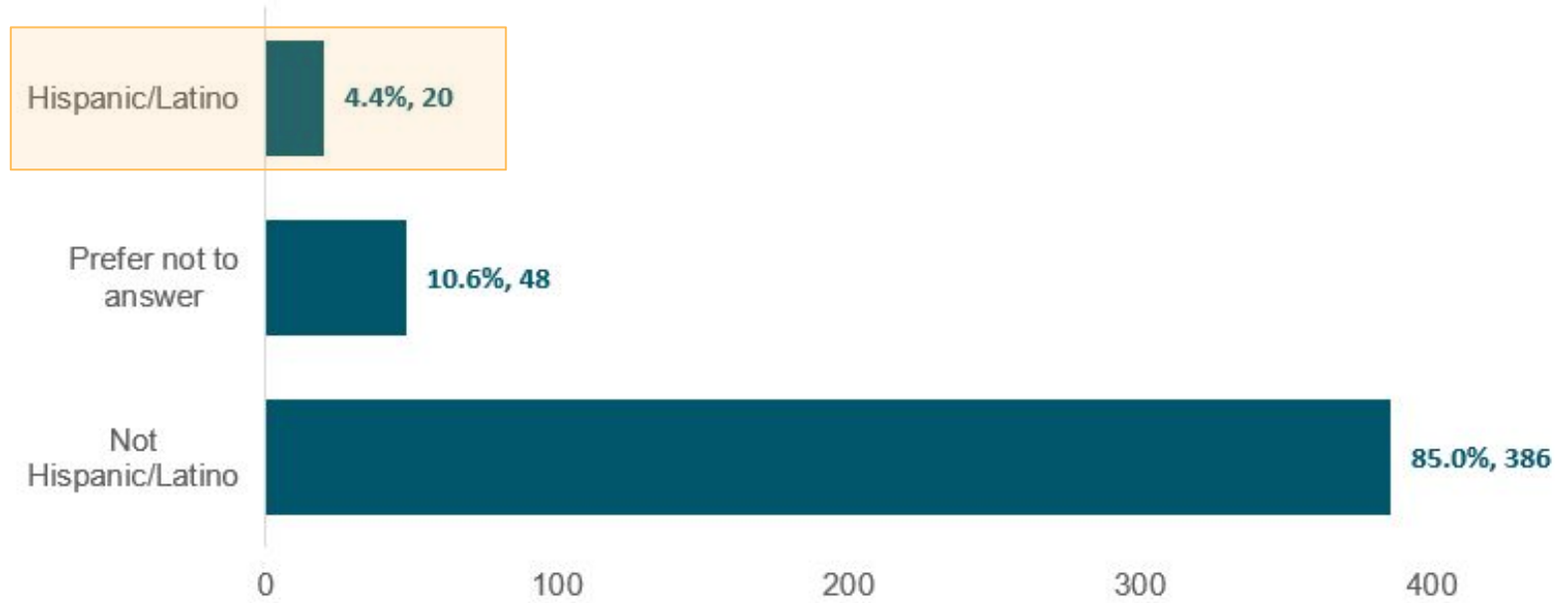
*Population too small to draw conclusions;  
not included in following analysis*

## Respondents by Race: Over Two-Thirds were White



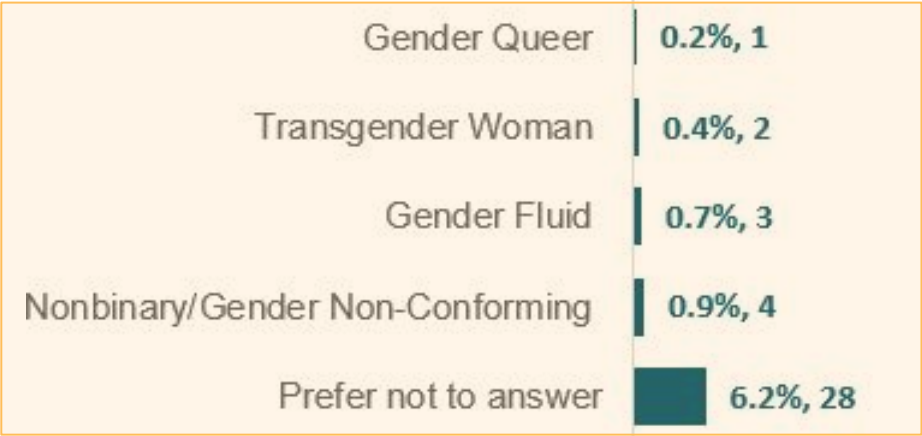
*Population too small to draw conclusions;  
not included in following analysis*

## Respondents by Ethnicity: Majority were Not Hispanic

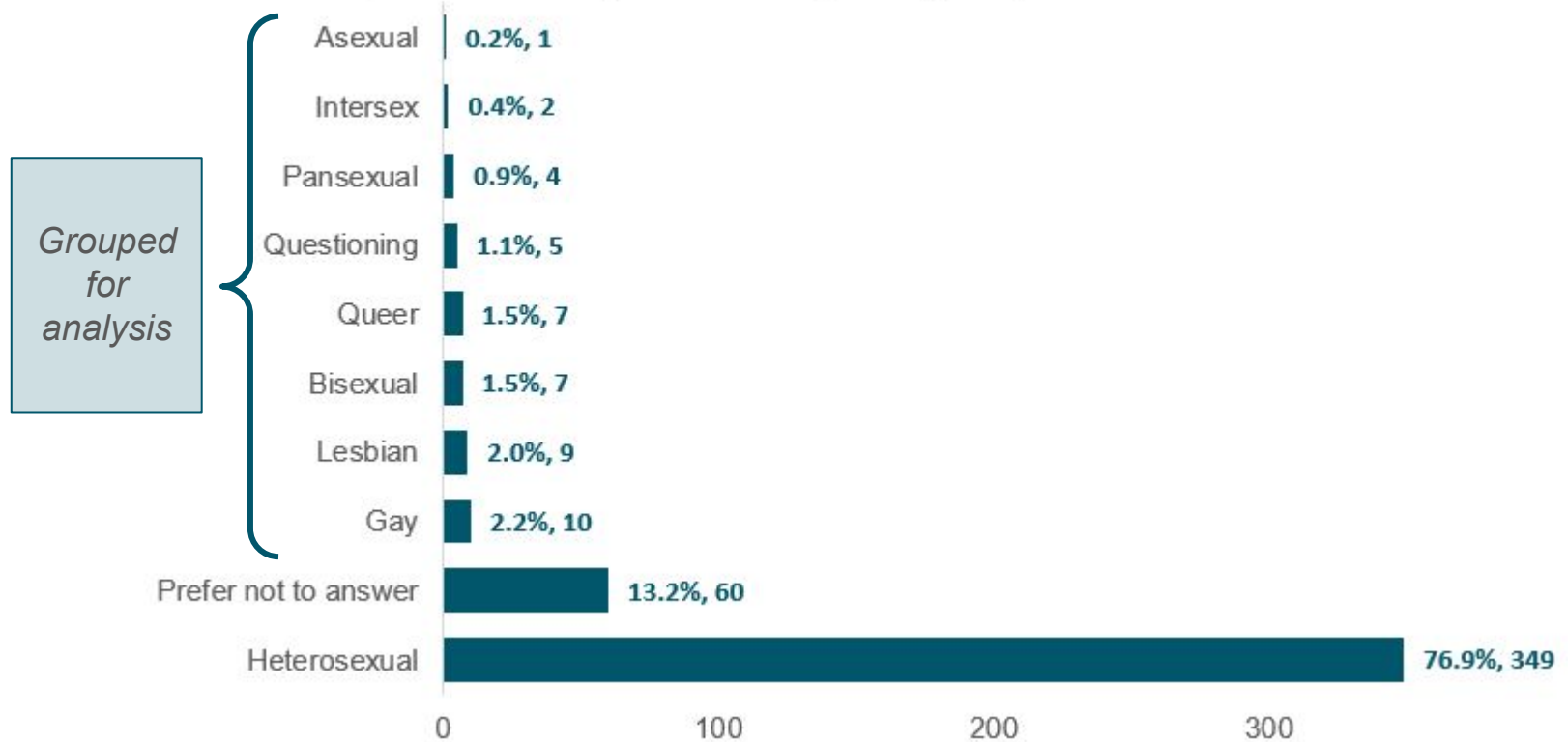


*Population too small to draw conclusions;  
not included in following analysis*

## Respondents by Gender: Majority were Women

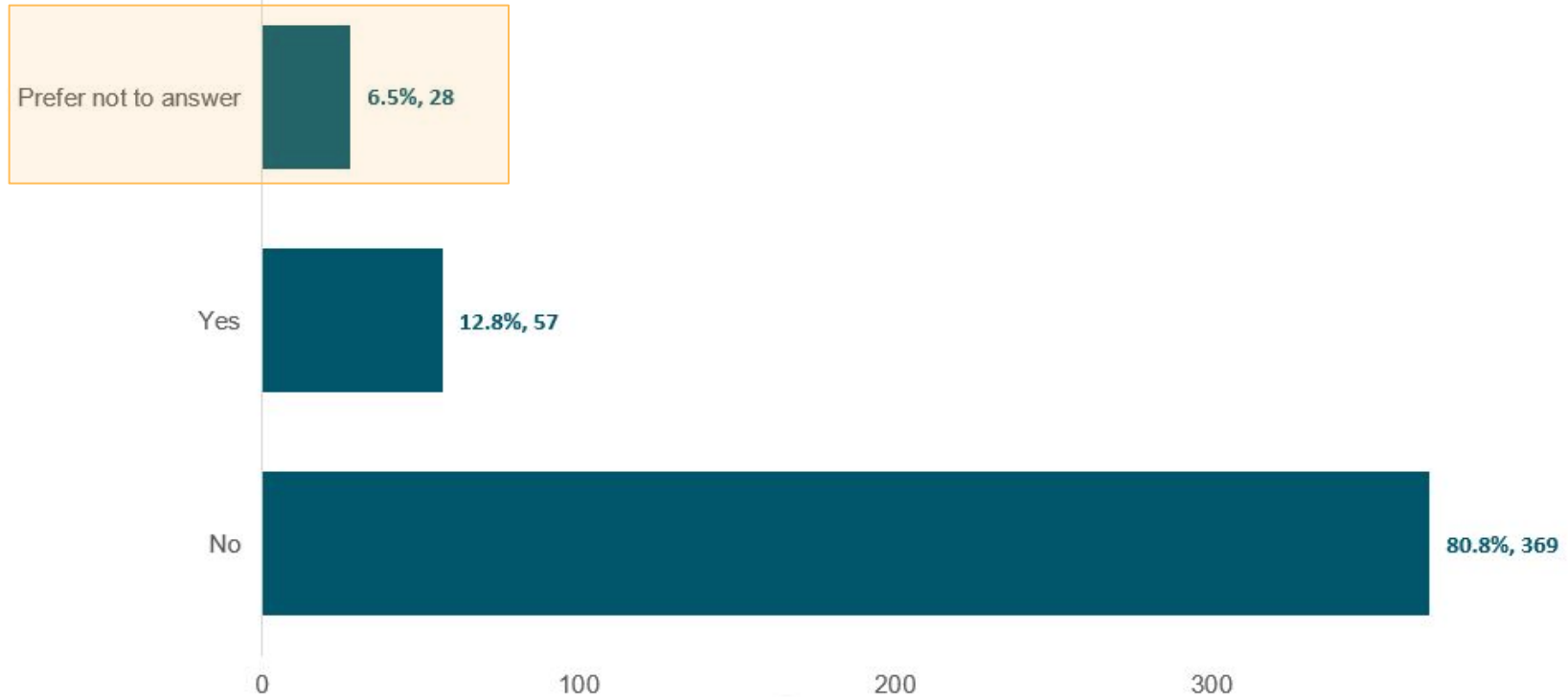


## Respondents by Sexuality: Majority were Heterosexual



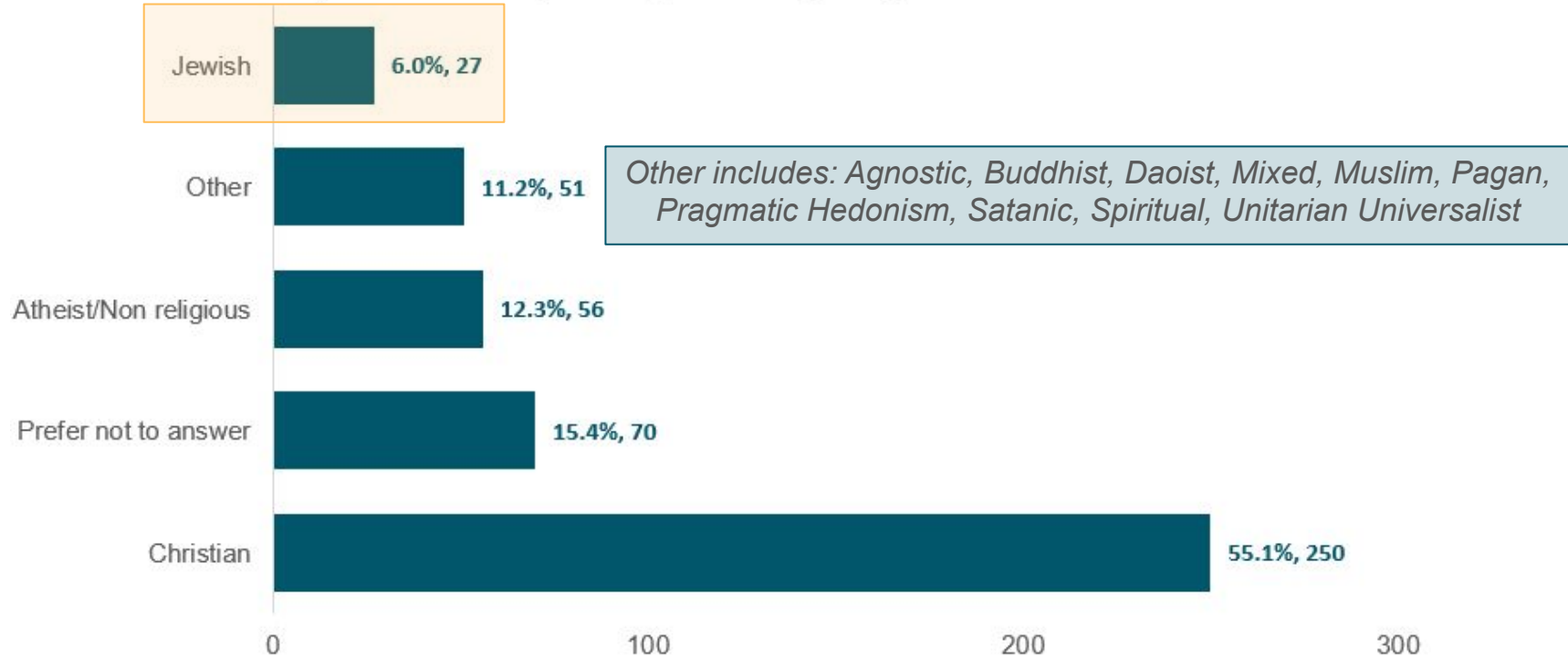
*Population too small to draw conclusions;  
not included in following analysis*

## Respondents by Disability Status: Majority did not have Disability



*Population too small to draw conclusions;  
not included in following analysis*

## Respondents by Religion: Majority were Christian



# Familiarity

*With hate crime and hate bias incident terms. Includes perceived ability to define difference between hate crime & hate bias incident.*

Most respondents (76.9%) stated that they had heard of the term “hate crime” and knew what it meant.

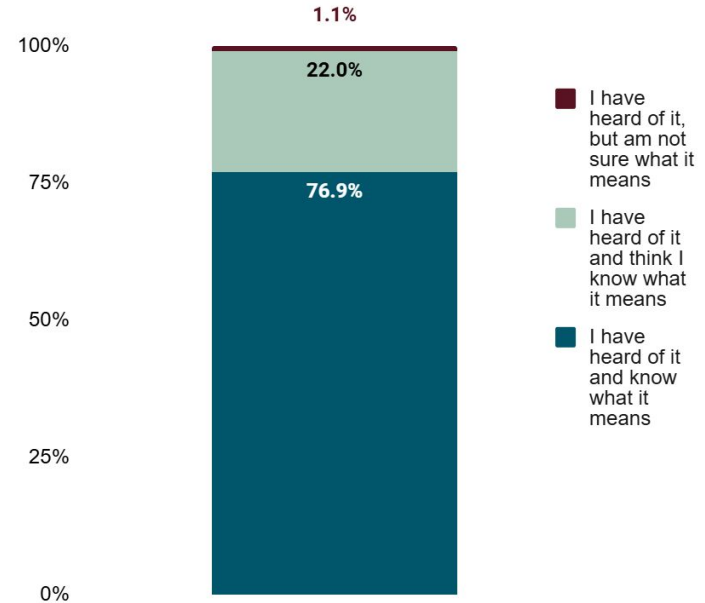
A smaller majority of respondents (57.0%) said they knew the difference between a “hate bias incident” and a “hate crime.”



# How familiar are you with the term “hate crime”?

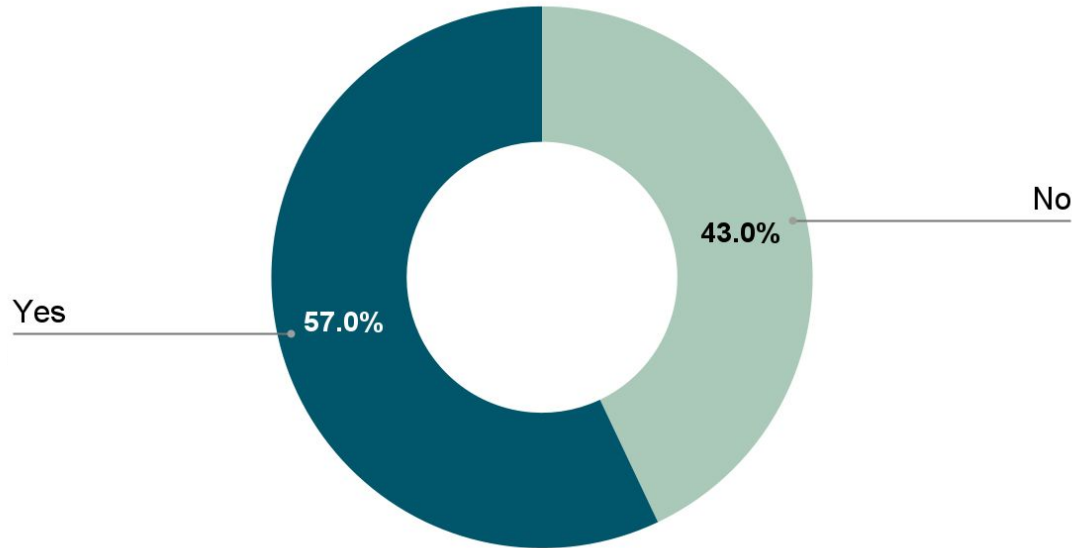
- I have heard of it and **know** what it means
- I have heard of it and **think I know** what it means
- I have heard of it, but am **not sure** what it means
- I have **not** heard of it

Most respondents have heard of the term “hate crime” and know what it means



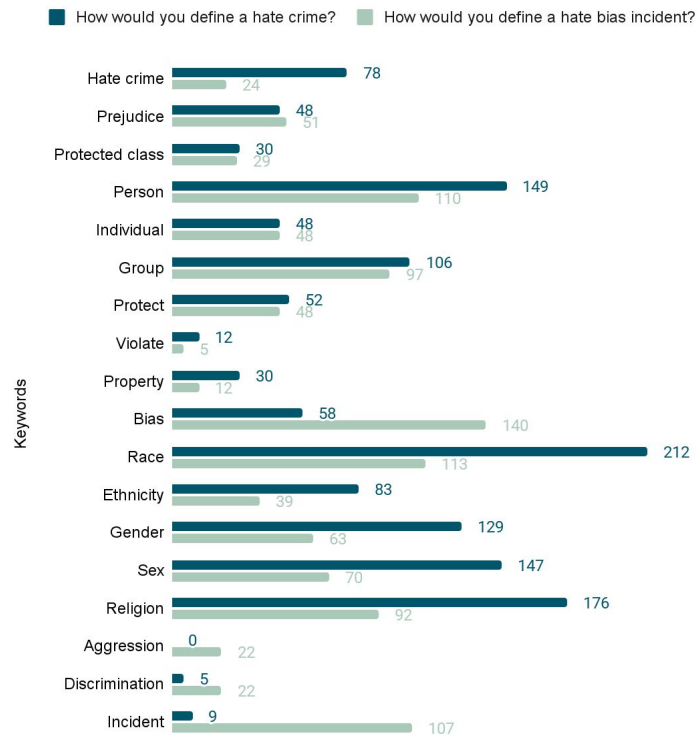
# Do you know the difference between a hate bias incident vs a hate crime?

Most respondents say they know the difference between a hate bias incident and a hate crime



# Short answer: How would you define a hate crime? & How would you define a hate bias incident?

## Keywords from "How would you define a hate crime?" and "How would you define a hate bias incident?"



*Word variations were included for the following: protect, violate and discriminate*



# Safety

***In Anne Arundel County. Includes perceived level of safety in AACo and whether respondents or their friends have experienced a hate bias incident/crime***

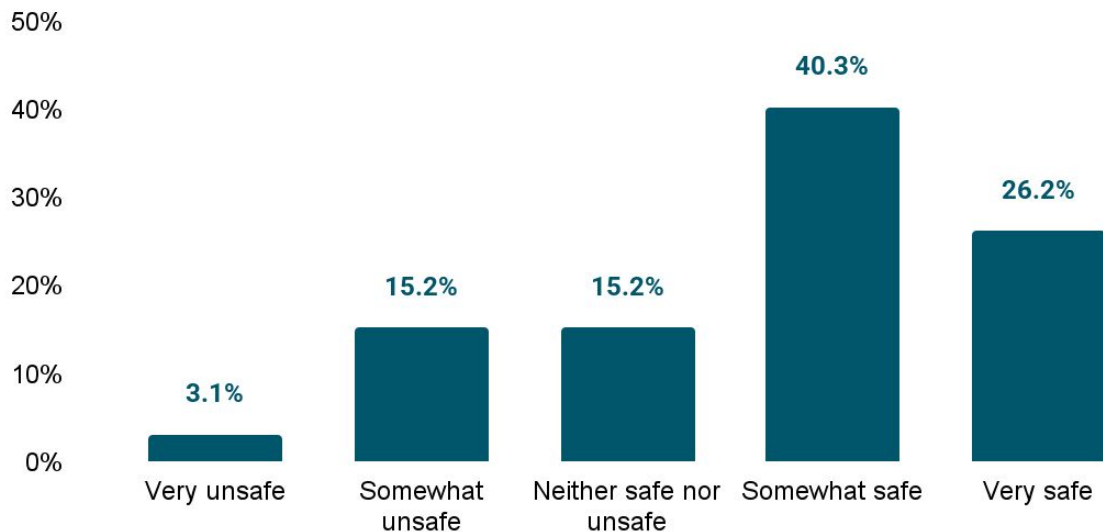
The majority of respondents (66.5%) reported feeling “somewhat” or “very” safe in Anne Arundel County.

Less than 20% of respondents reported feeling “somewhat unsafe” (15.2%) or “very unsafe” (3.1%).



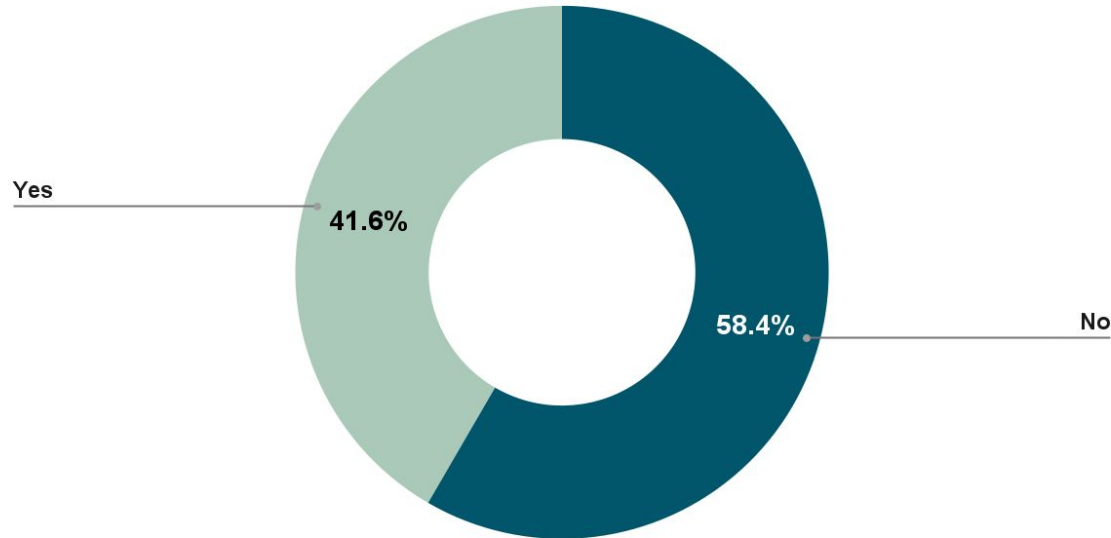
# How safe do you feel in Anne Arundel County (in terms of hate bias incidents and hate crimes)?

Most respondents feel "somewhat" or "very safe" in Anne Arundel County



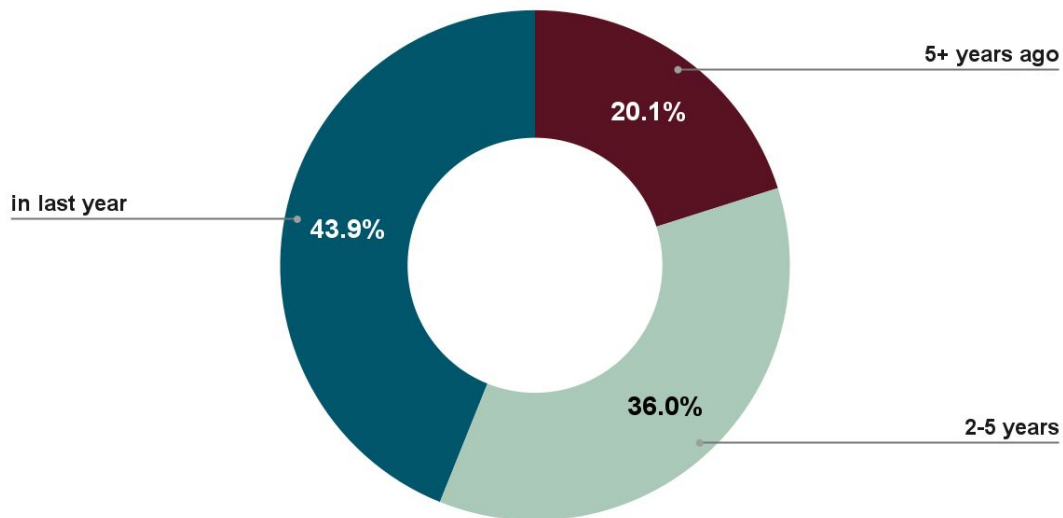
# Have you or anyone you know ever experienced a hate bias incident or hate crime in Anne Arundel County?

189 respondents say they have experienced a hate bias incident or hate crime in AA County



# When did the most recent hate bias incident or hate crime occur?

83 respondents (43.9%) say they experienced a hate bias incident/crime within a year



# Reporting

*Of experienced hate bias incident or hate crime. For respondents who have experienced incident, includes whether they reported it and to whom they reported.*

Less than half of respondents (41.6%) reported that they or someone they knew had experienced a hate bias incident or hate crime in Anne Arundel County.

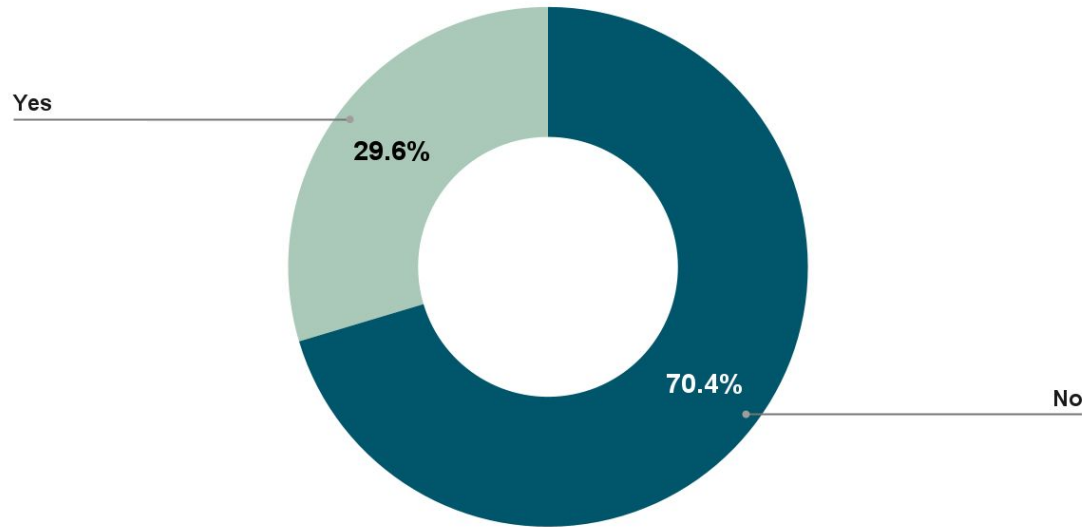
Of those who experienced an incident, just 29.6% reported the incident.

The most common reporting methods included the police (33.9% via 911 and 8.9% via a police station), school officials (17.9%), HR/management (12.5%), and advocacy or other justice organizations (10.7%).



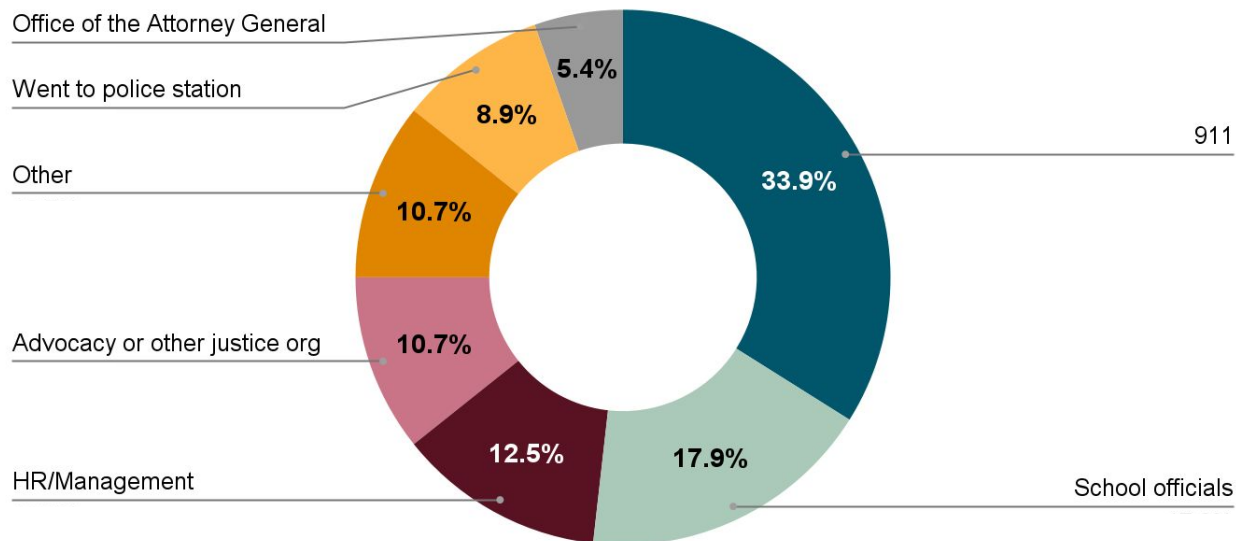
# Did you or your friend report the hate bias incident or hate crime?

133 respondents say they or their friends did not report the hate bias incident/crime



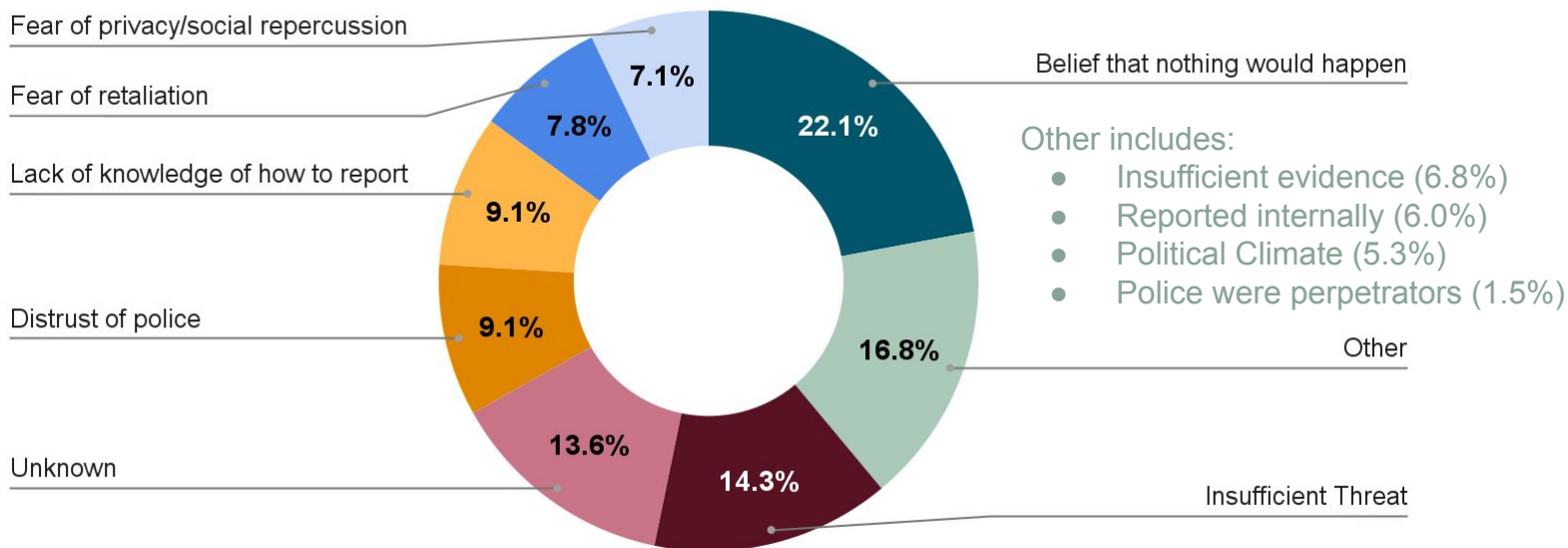
# How did you or your friend report the hate bias incident or hate crime?

Among those who reported the hate crime they experienced, the most common reporting method was via police (911 or in person)



# Why did you and/or your friend choose not to report the hate bias incident or hate crime?

**Most respondents who chose not to report a hate bias incident did so because they believed nothing would happen**



# Act

*What respondents would do if witness/experience hate bias incident or hate crime and to whom they would report.*

About half of respondents felt “mostly” (29.7%) or “very” (18.8%) confident that they knew what to do if they were the victim or witness of a hate bias incident or hate crime. About half of respondents felt “slightly” (26.9%) or “not at all” (18.8%) confident.

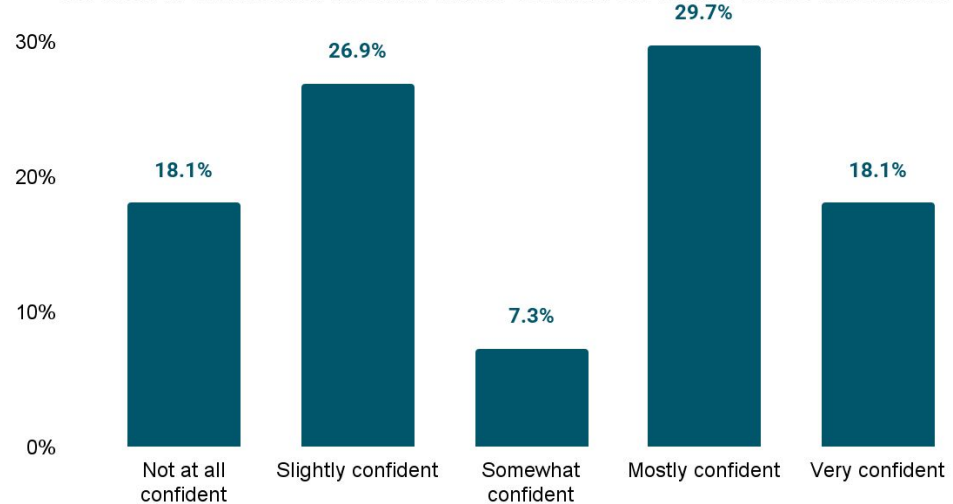
When asked who they would report an incident to, should they want to report it, the most common answer was to the police (88.3%). The next most common answer was selected by less than half as many respondents: family member (42.7%).



# How confident do you feel that you know what to do if you witness or are a victim of a hate bias incident or hate crime?

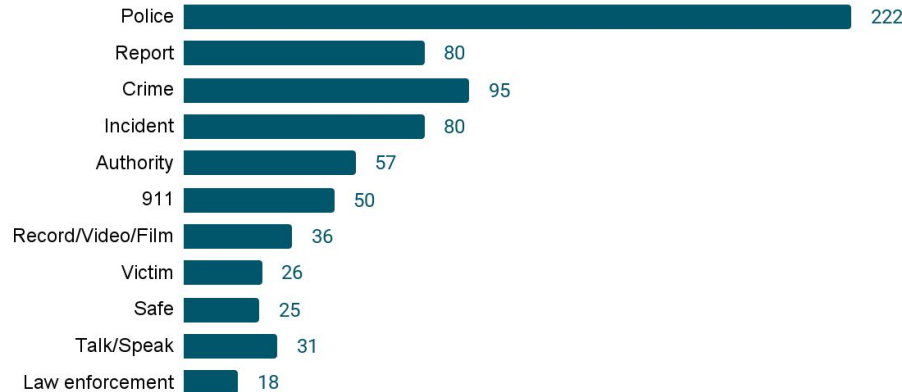
- Not at all confident
- Slightly confident
- Somewhat confident
- Mostly confident
- Very confident

**Majority of respondents have confidence they'd know how to act if witness/victim hate crime or hate bias incident**



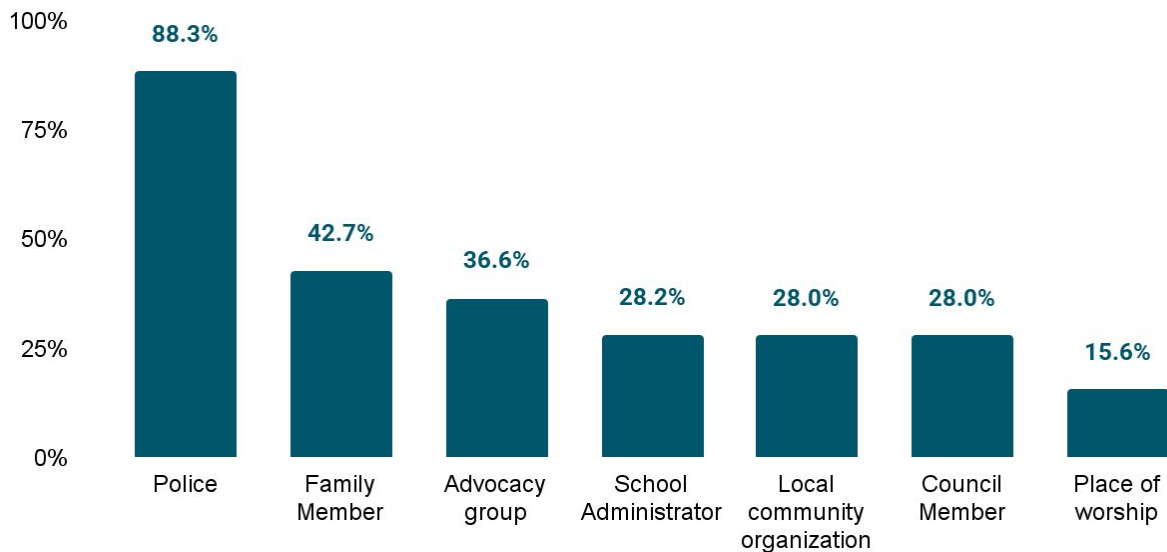
# Long answer: If you or someone you know experienced a hate bias incident or hate crime, what would you do?

Keywords "If you or someone you know experienced a hate bias incident or hate crime, what would you do?"



# If you wanted to report a hate bias incident or hate crime, who would you tell? (Please select all apply)

Respondents would primarily tell "Police" before "Family Member" and "Advocacy group"



# Fears

*That might affect a respondents' decision to report an experienced incident*

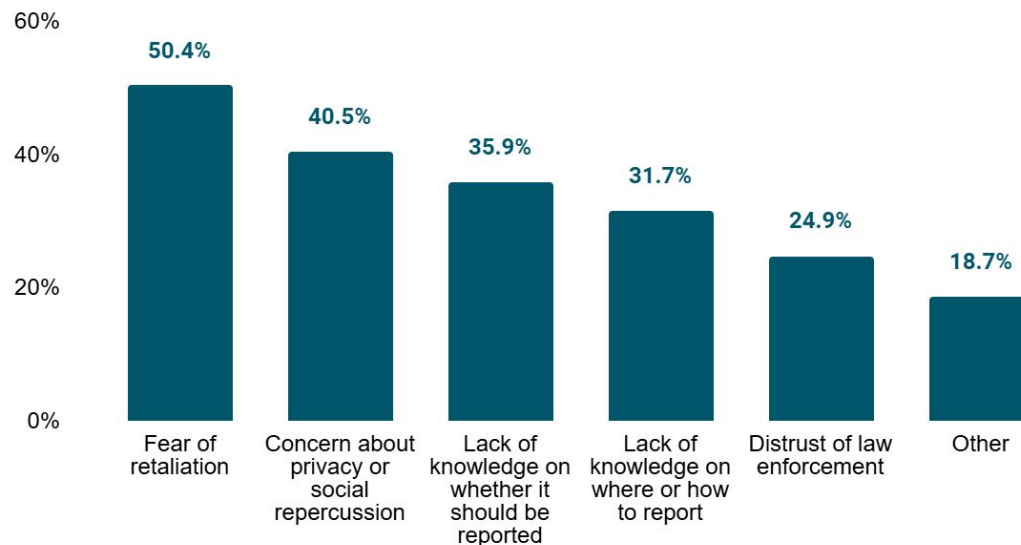
When asked why they might not report a hate bias incident, respondents selected fear of retaliation as the most common reason (50.4%), followed by concern about privacy or social repercussion (40.5%), lack of knowledge on whether it should be reported (35.9%), and lack of knowledge on where or how to report (31.7%).



# Select up to 3 reasons why you would not report a hate bias incident or hate crime.

**"Fear of retaliation" is major reason why people wouldn't report incidents**

When Other was broken down (39) respondents would always report, (18) said fear nothing would happen / be outcome in reporting



# Hear

*How respondents heard about the survey*

Most respondents (62.6%) heard about the survey via email.



# How did you hear about this survey?

**Most respondents heard about the survey via email**

