



Perception of Safety on Campus

Group 4:

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Objectives

- Do university students have a greater sense of security on a campus that permits the legal licensed carrying of concealed firearms or on a campus that forbids legal licensed concealed firearms on school properties?
- How safe do Utah Valley University students perceive their campus to be?

Hypothesis

Utah Valley University

- Students will feel safer knowing there are legal concealed weapons on campus
- Most students will not know what the concealed carry policy is
- Republicans will feel safer with firearms more than any other political party
- Students are satisfied with the safety of their campus

Brigham Young University

- Students who live on campus feel safer
- Students will feel less safe knowing there are not legal concealed weapons on campus
- Students will feel BYU is a safe campus

Students who attend Utah Valley University feel safer on campus than students attending Brigham Young University.

Project Modification

- This project was intended to be a dual school study with one campus allowing concealed carry firearms and one campus not allowing concealed carry firearms. Utah Valley University and Brigham Young University are ideal campuses because they are in the same area and have similar enrollments. Unfortunately, gaining access to Brigham Young's IRB proved difficult and we only managed approval from Utah Valley.

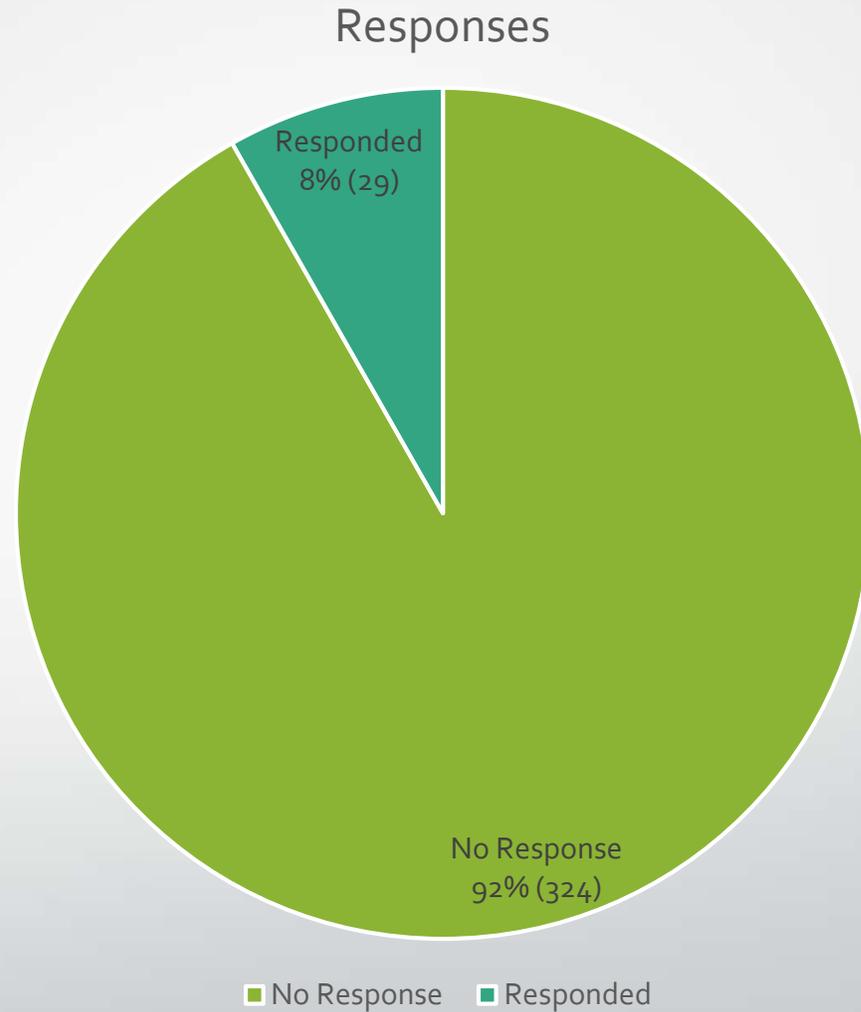
Research Method

- Email survey from Qualtrics
- Sent to 350 randomly selected Utah Valley University students
- 76 Questions (include yes/no, open ended, close ended, etc.)

Response Rates

Our survey was sent to **350** random Utah Valley University.

Currently, **29** have replied to the survey, which makes up approximately **8.3%** of our sample.

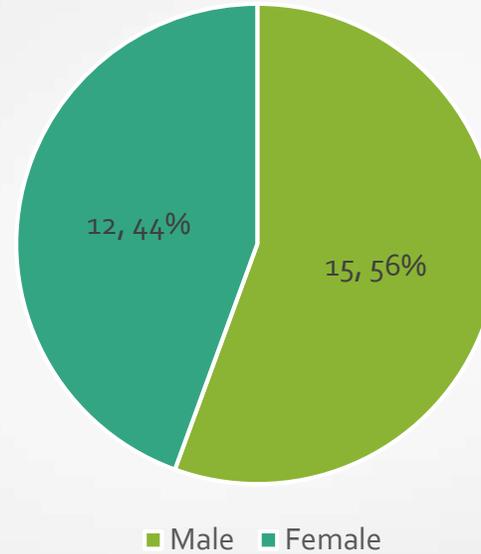


Demographics

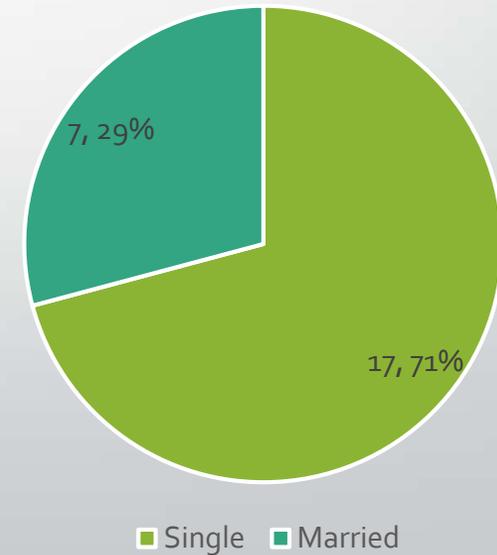
15 (56%) participants were **male** and 12 (44%) respondents were **female**.

According to responses, 10 (37%) individuals were married and 17 (63%) were considered single.

Gender

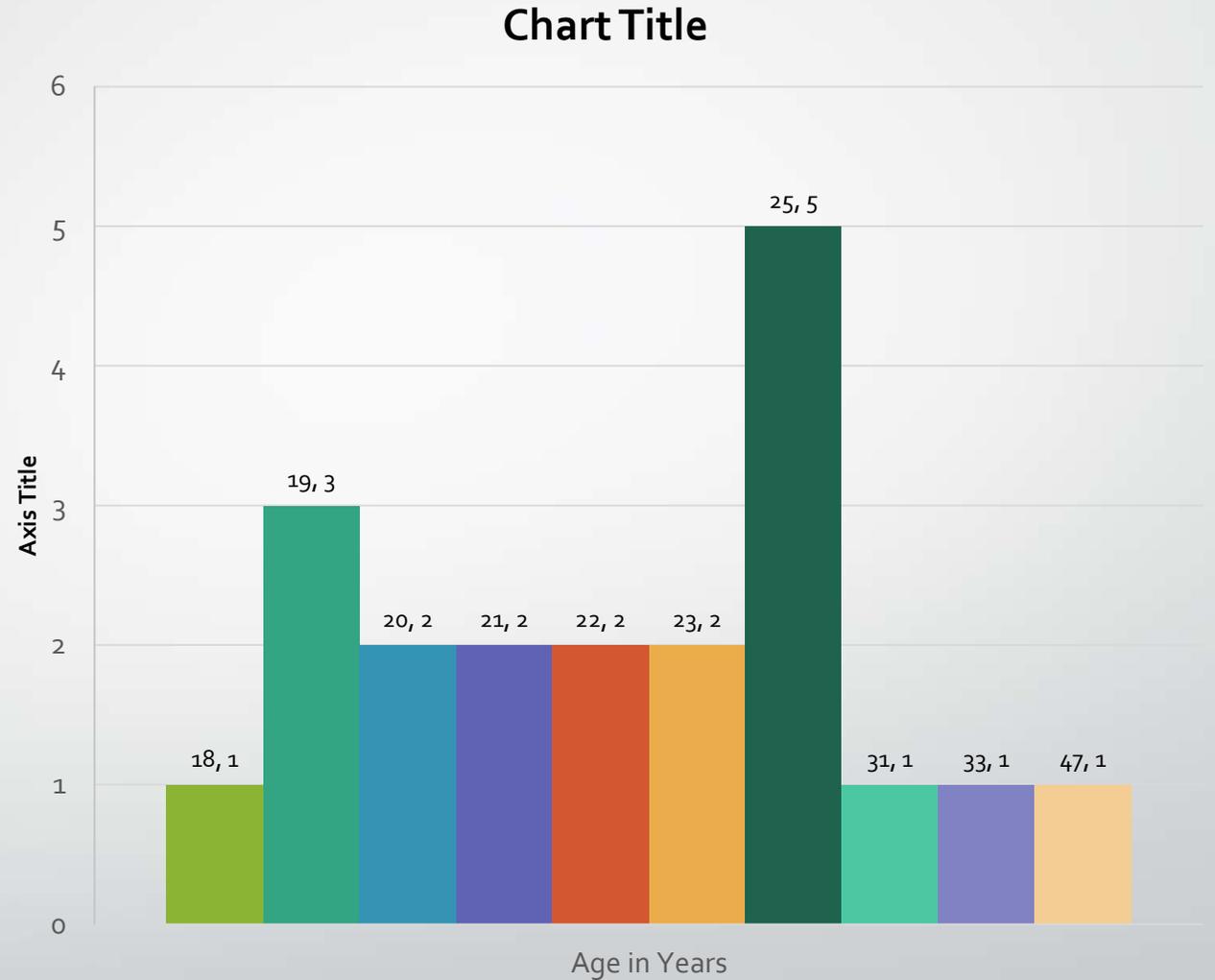


Marital Status



Demographics Continued

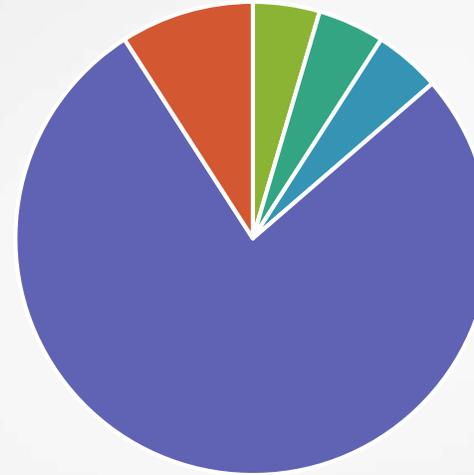
The majority of participants, **17** people total, were **between the ages of 18 and 25**, making up **81%** of respondents. These students fall into the category of “traditional” college students. There was **only 1 individual over the age of 40**.



Demographics Continued

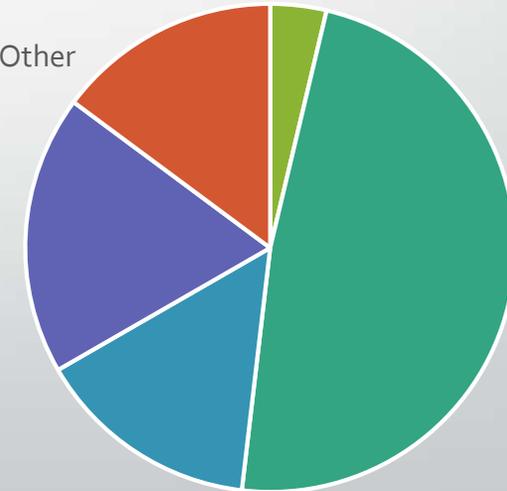
Out of the 29 individuals who completed the survey, **23 (85%)** associated with the **LDS church** and **13 (48%)** of them associated themselves with the **Republican Party**; making up the overwhelming majority of their respective demographics. There was **1 (4%)** person who considered themselves **atheist**, **1 (4%)** who was **Catholic**, and **1 (4%)** who **did not associate with a religion**. **2** respondents (**7%**) selected **"Other."** In respect to political parties, there was **1 (4%)** individual who considered themselves to belong to the **Democratic party**, **4 (15%)** to the **Independent party**, and **5 (19%)** to **no party** while **4 people (15%)** selected **"Other."**

Religious Preference



■ None ■ Atheist ■ Catholic ■ LDS ■ Other

Political Affiliation



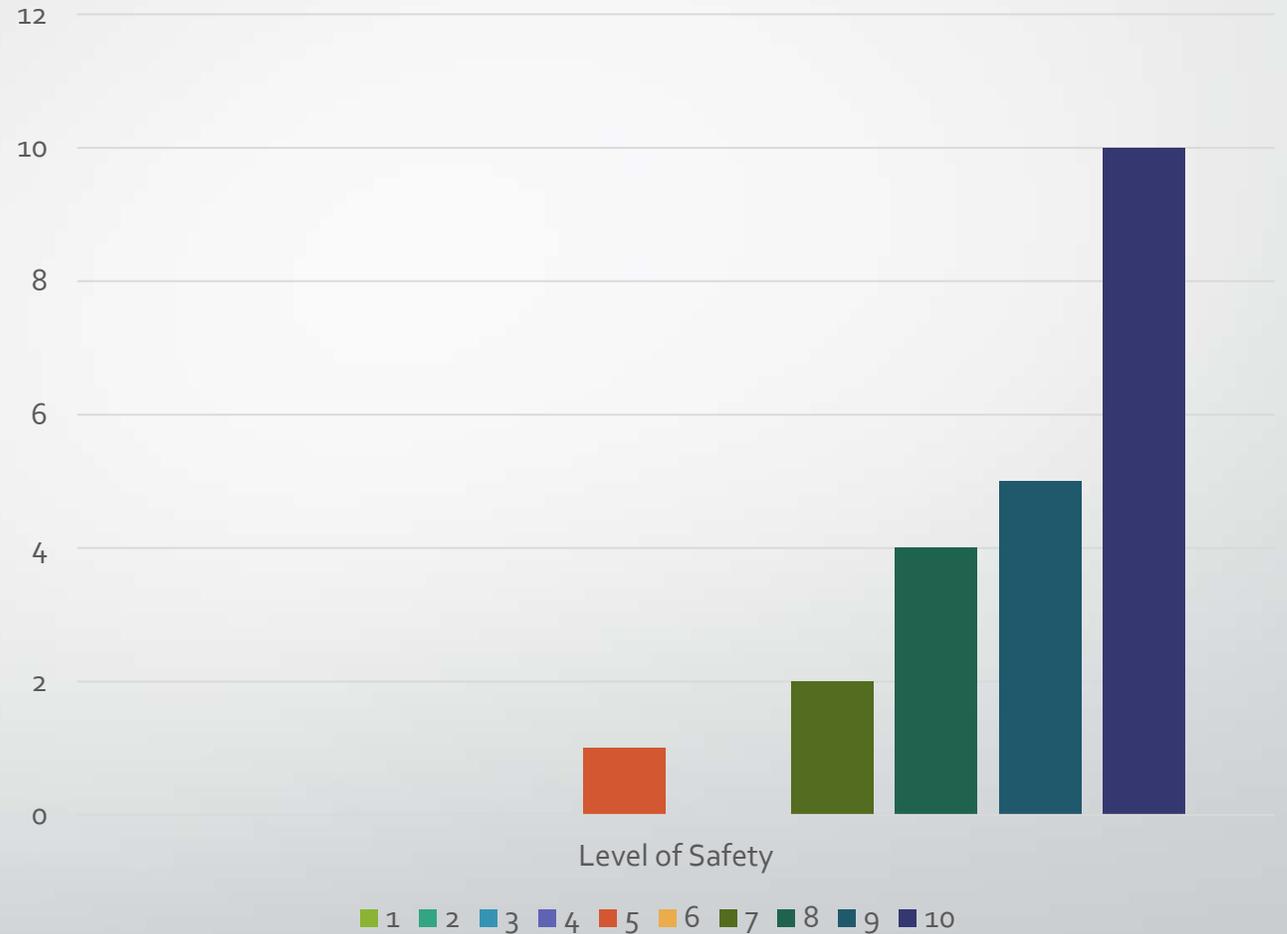
■ Democratic Party ■ Republican Party ■ Independent Party
■ None ■ Other

Study Results

Participants were asked to rate how safe they feel at Utah Valley University's campus on a scale of 1-10 with 1 being the least safe.

21 of the 22 respondents rated the school's safety as a **7 or higher**. **45%** rated the campus as a **10** in safety.

Level of Safety at UVU

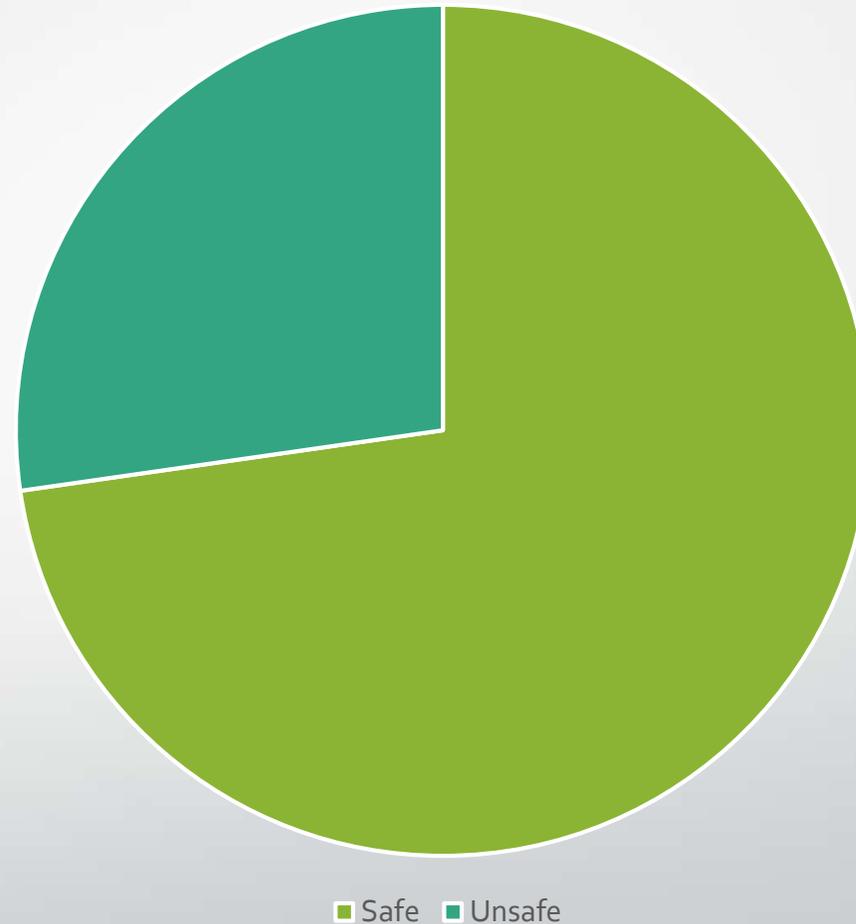


Study Results Continued

An early question asked whether participants felt SAFE or UNSAFE while on campus knowing that students and faculty were carrying concealed firearms.

Out of the 29 respondents to this question, only 6 (21%) felt unsafe knowing that there were concealed firearms on campus whereas 23 participants (79%) felt safe knowing that there were firearms on campus.

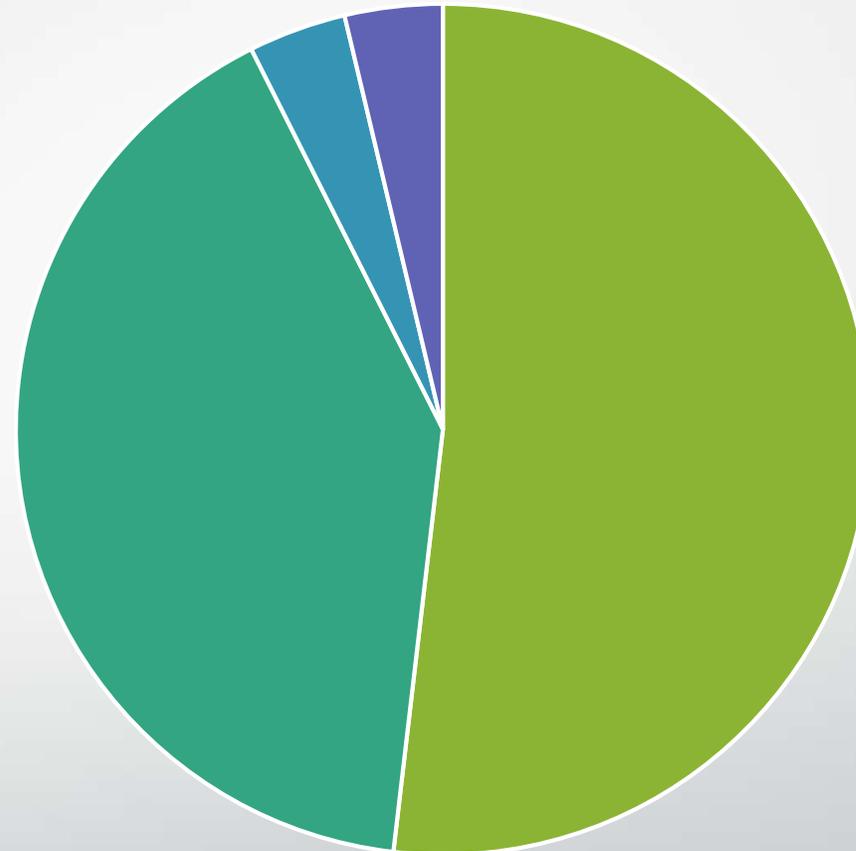
Feeling of Safety Around Concealed Firearms



Study Results Continued

Students were asked if they felt that they had a responsibility to report a crime if they witnessed it. While **none** of the 22 respondents **strongly disagreed**, **1 (4%) disagreed**, **1 (4%) neither agreed nor disagreed**, **11 (41%) agreed**, and **14 (52%) strongly agreed**.

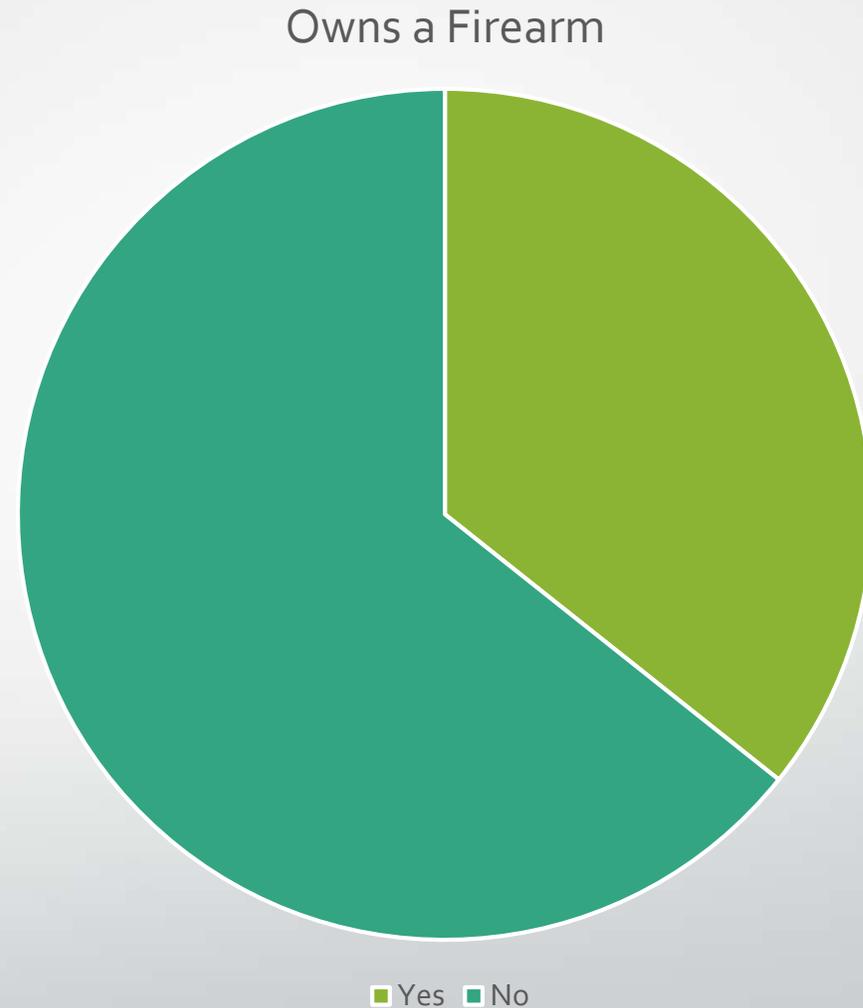
Responsible to Report Crime



■ Strongly Agree ■ Agree ■ Neither Agree Nor Disagree ■ Disagree

Study Results Continued

Out of 28 individuals, 10 (36%) replied that they **do own** a firearm while 18 (64%) indicated that they **do not own** a firearm.

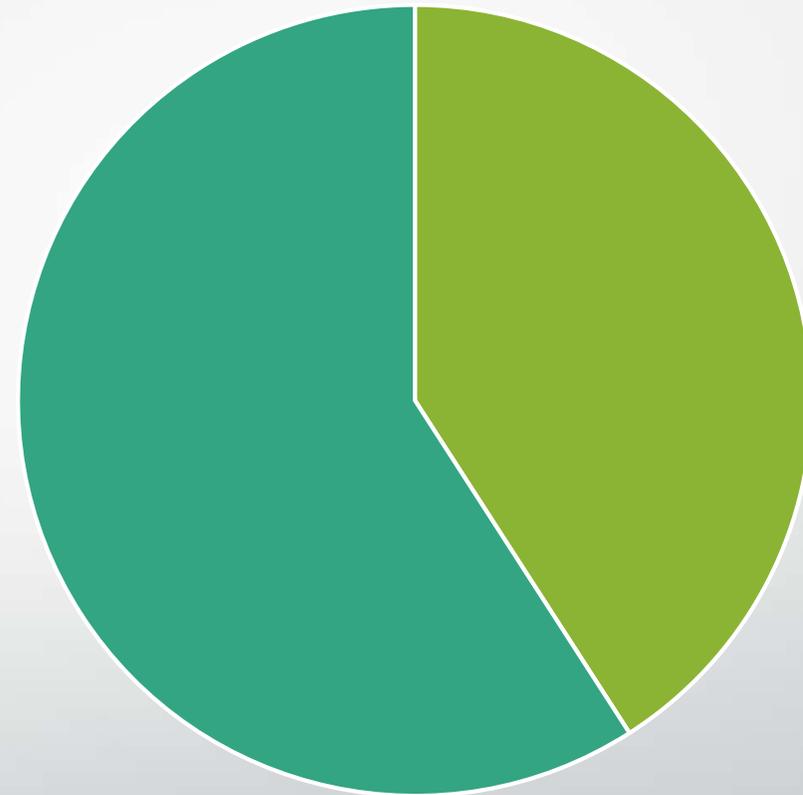


Study Results Continued

27 people responded to the question asking whether or not they carried a form of protection other than a firearm.

9 (33%) said that they **do** while 18 (67%) said that they **do not**.

Do You Carry a Form of Protection Other Than a Firearm

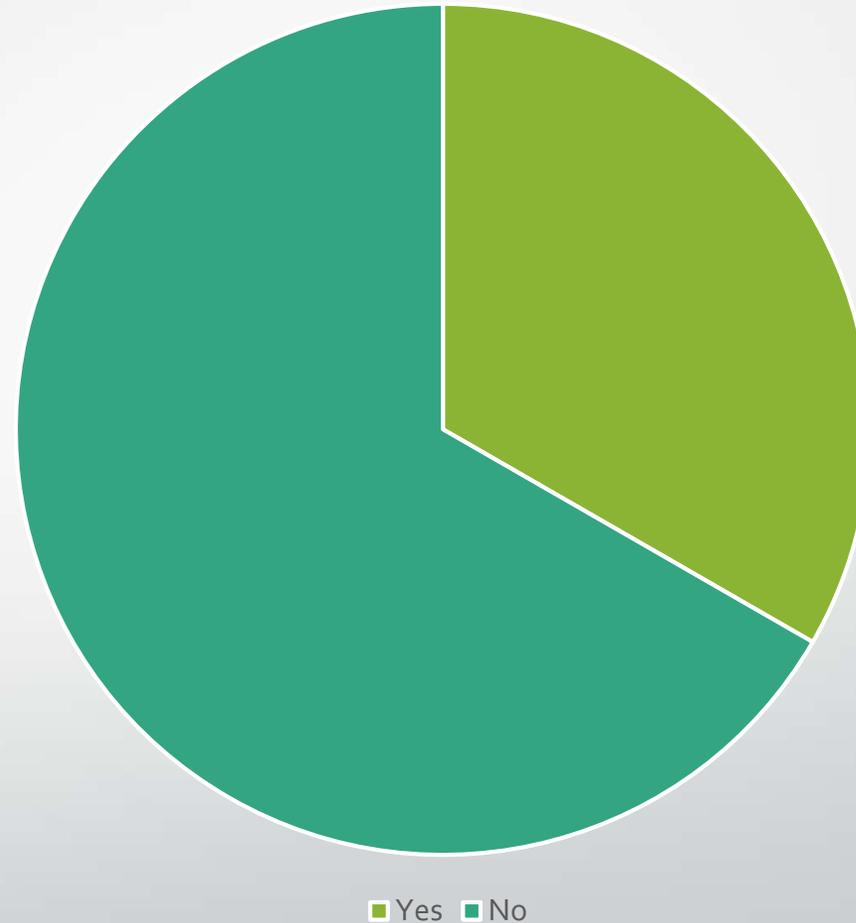


■ Yes ■ No

Study Results Continued

When asked if they knew what Utah Valley University's concealed carry policy was 8 (30%) of 27 individuals said they **do know** what the policy was while the other 19 (70%) people said they **do not**.

Aware of Firearms Policy



Summary

- Most respondents were traditional students of the LDS faith and associated with the Republican Party.
- The majority of students felt safe while on campus knowing that it was a concealed carry campus.
- Though students felt safe, most did not know the policy about concealed weapons.

Changes and Improvements

- Making students more aware of firearms policies
- Using data to provide officers with an understand of student perception
- Cross institutional study