

POLICE BODY CAMERAS

EFFECTIVENESS IN THE FIELD





THERE ARE MANY RESOURCES REGARDING THE STUDY OF BODY CAMERAS EFFECTIVENESS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE NEED FOR BODY CAMERAS HAS RISEN IN OUR COUNTRY, TO GAIN THE PUBLIC'S TRUST WITH POLICE INTERACTIONS. IF BODY CAMERAS CAN SUCCEED IN THIS TOPIC THAN ANY PRICE IS JUSTIFIED, HOWEVER OFFICERS SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO RISK THEIR SAFETY BECAUSE SOMEONE MAY NOT AGREE WITH THEIR DECISION IN A CRUCIAL INCIDENT. WE BELIEVE BODY CAMERAS CAN HELP WITH THE CURRENT CONTROVERSY AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS AND HOPEFULLY ANSWER QUESTIONS THE PUBLIC MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE ABOUT INTEGRITY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT. AT THE END OF THE DAY POLICE DO THEIR JOBS FOR ONE REASON, TO PROTECT AND SERVE. ULTIMATELY, BODY CAMERAS SHOULD HELP THEM ACHIEVE THIS GOAL AND CURRENT EVENTS WILL SHOW THAT.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- **DO BODY WORN CAMERAS BY OFFICERS HELP THE INTERACTIONS HAVE A MORE POSITIVE OUTCOME FOR ALL PARTIES INVOLVED?**
- **DO THEY PROTECT THE CITIZENS AGAINST UNFAIR TREATMENT?**
- **DO THEY PROTECT THE OFFICERS FROM FALSE ACCUSATIONS?**
- **DO THEY ASSIST OFFICERS IN MORE DETAILED DOCUMENTATION OF EVENTS?**



RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA COLLECTION



- **OUR RESEARCH WAS COMPILED USING A QUALTRICS SURVEY WITH VARIOUS QUESTIONS REGARDING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF BODY WORN CAMERAS USED BY THOSE OFFICERS DURING THEIR INTERACTIONS WITH THE PUBLIC.**
- **THE SURVEY WE CREATED WAS APPROVED THROUGH UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY'S INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD BEFORE BEING SENT TO ACTIVE POLICE OFFICERS IN UTAH AND STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED AT UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY.**
- **106 PARTICIPANTS TOOK THE SURVEY WE CREATED. THAT DATA FROM THE SURVEY WAS COLLECTED, ANALYZED AND THE MAJOR POINTS ARE DISCUSSED IN THIS PRESENTATION.**

SAMPLE SIZE

- **ALL PARTICIPANTS WERE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE**
- **SAMPLE SIZE - CIVILIAN 500**
- **PG OFFICER- 30**
- **SLCSO DEPUTY- 50**
- **TOTAL RECIPIENTS – 580**
- **TOTAL PARTICIPANTS - 106**



CONFIDENCE INTERVAL / LEVEL

- **OF THE 580 RECIPIENTS OF THE SURVEY, ONLY 106 PARTICIPATED IN TAKING THE SURVEY. THIS MEANS THAT ONLY ABOUT 18% OF THE RECIPIENTS TOOK THE TIME TO PARTICIPATE.**
- **DUE TO THE LARGE SAMPLE SIZE WE WERE HOPING FOR A HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF PARTICIPATION, THEREFORE A HIGHER CONFIDENCE INTERVAL, PERHAPS CLOSER TO 40-50%.**
- **TO INCREASE OUR CONFIDENCE LEVEL IN THIS STUDY, WE FEEL THAT MORE TIME FOR RESPONSES AND PERHAPS A SECONDARY OR REMINDER EMAIL WOULD REMIND RECIPIENTS TO PARTICIPATE.**





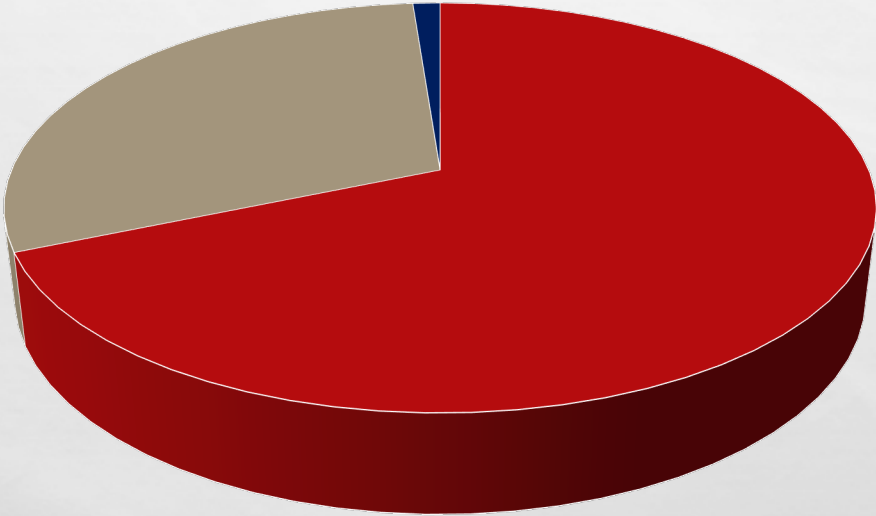
GENERAL INFORMATION



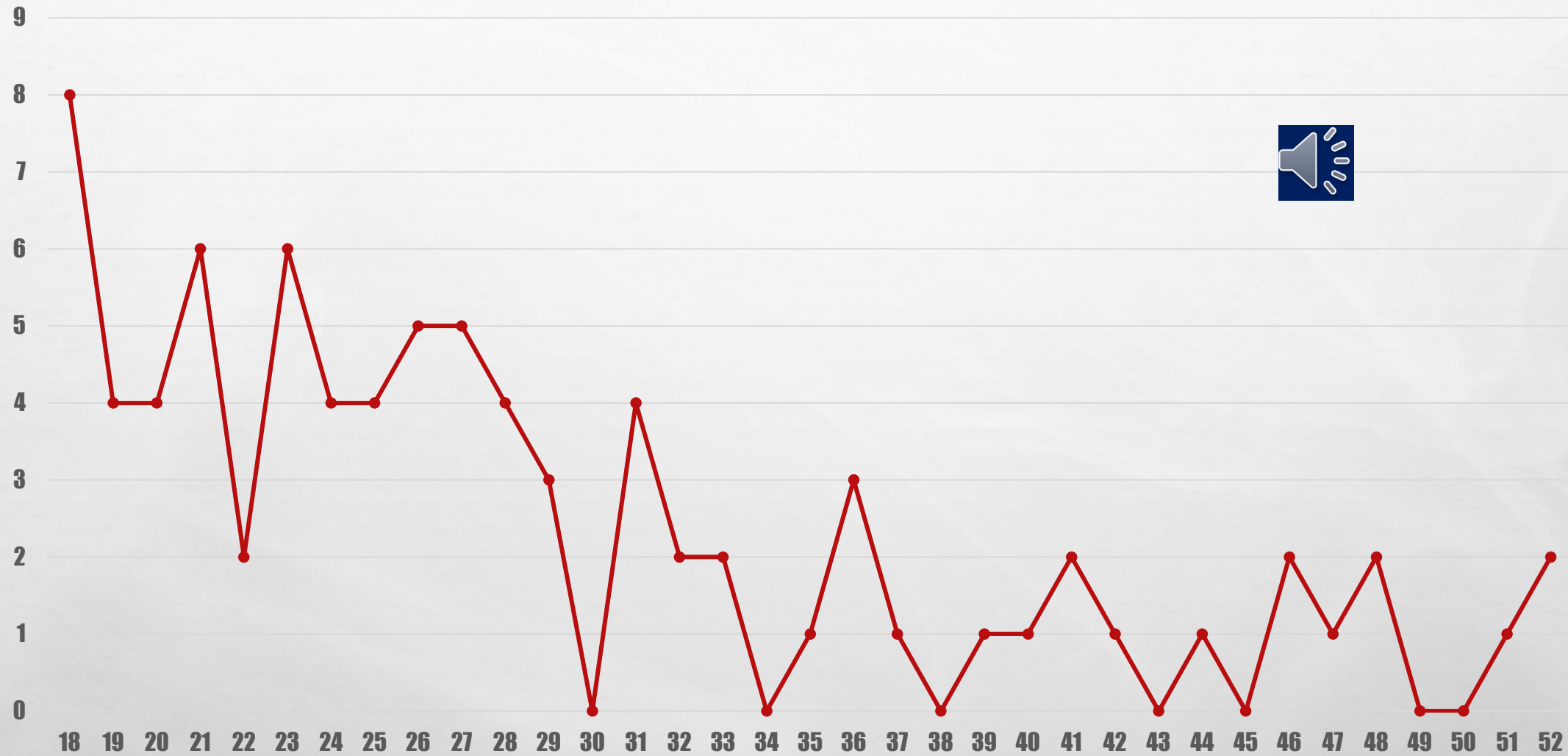
WHAT'S YOUR GENDER?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Male	68.67%	57
2	Female	30.12%	25
3	Other	1.20%	1

■ Male ■ Female ■ Other

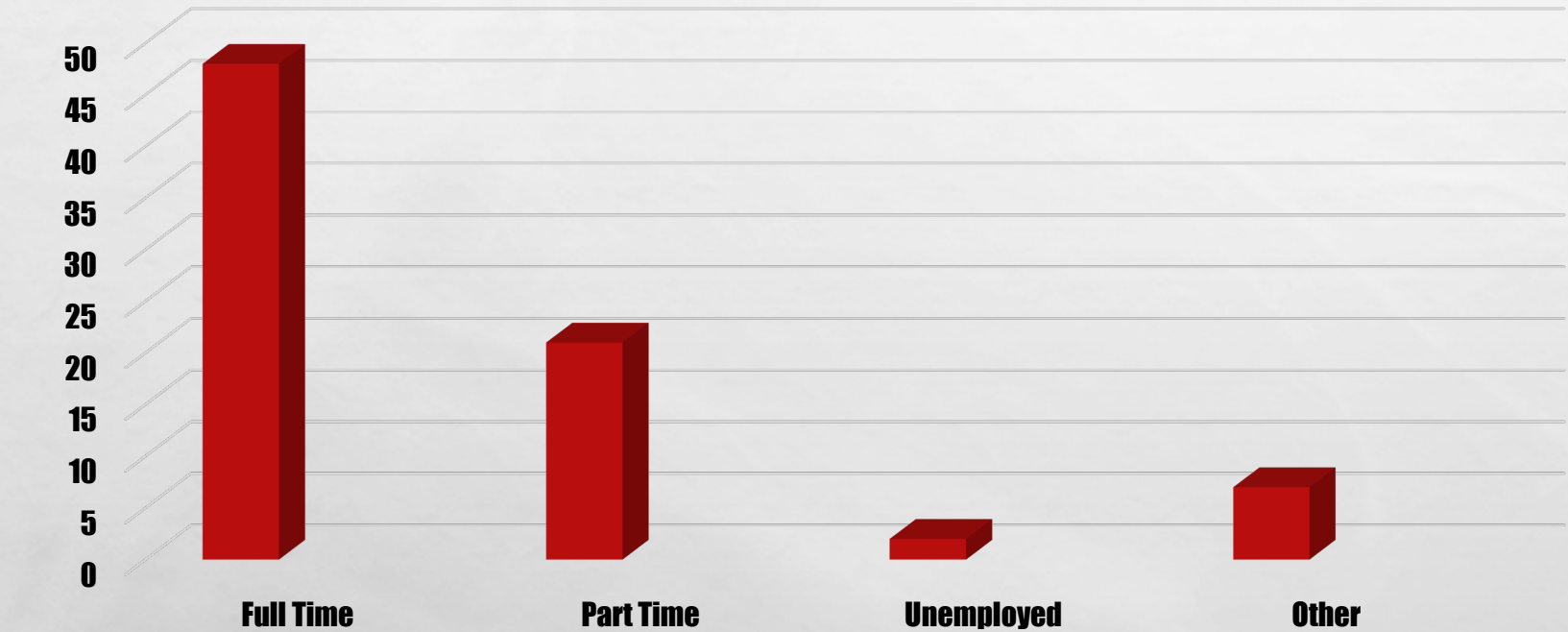


WHAT'S YOUR AGE?



WHAT'S YOUR EMPLOYMENT STATUS?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Full time	61.54%	48
2	Part time	26.92%	21
3	Unemployed	2.56%	2
4	Other	8.97%	7
	Total	100%	78

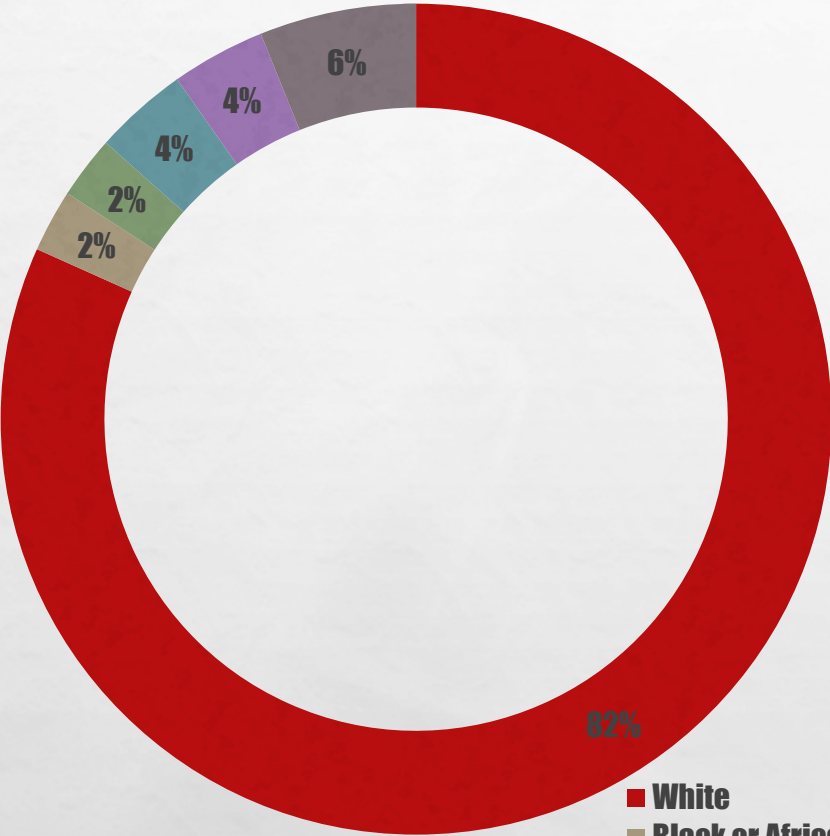


“OTHER” Responses

- Full time student
- Stay at home mom
- Homemaker



WHAT'S YOUR ETHNICITY?

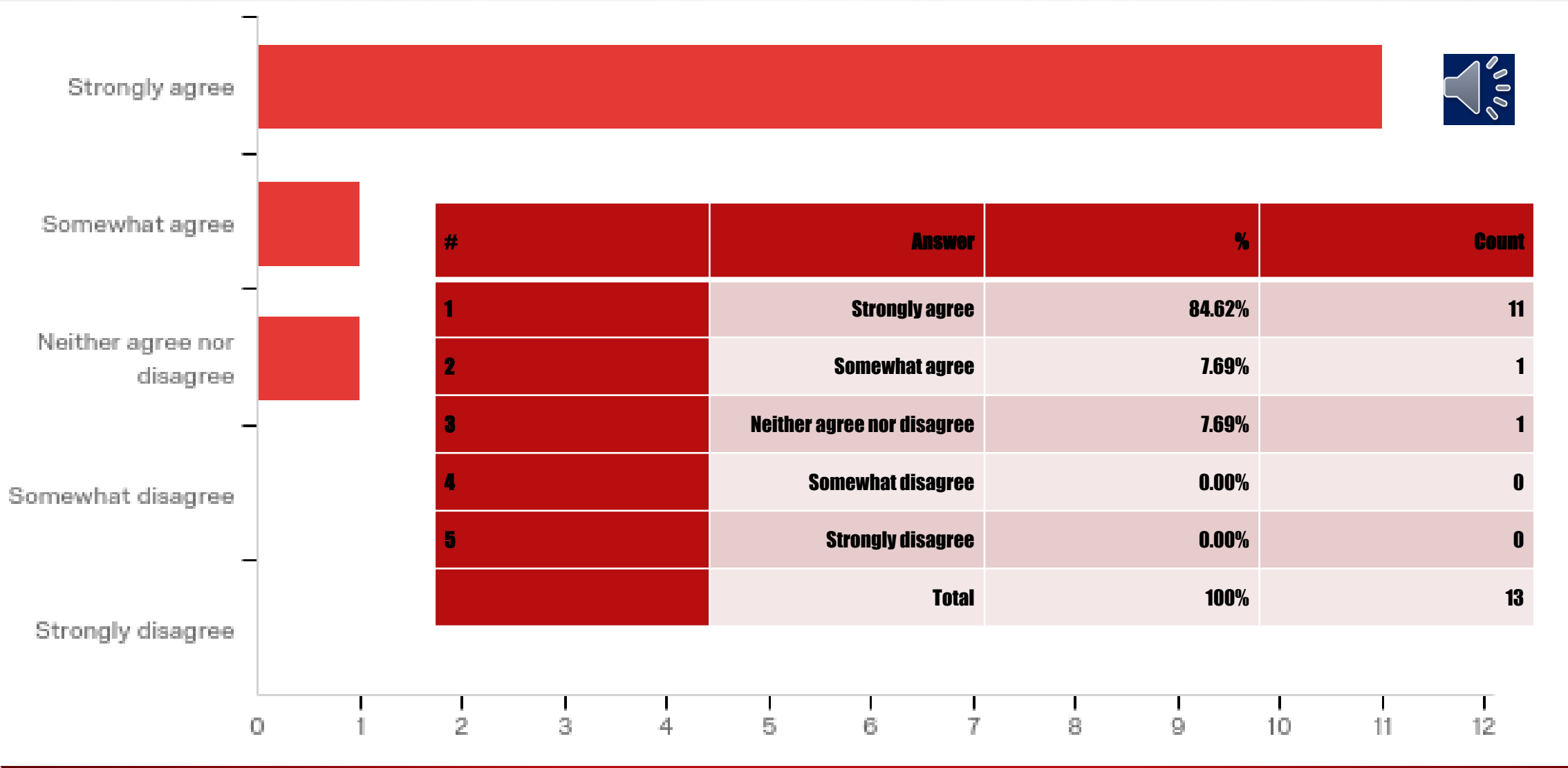


- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Other

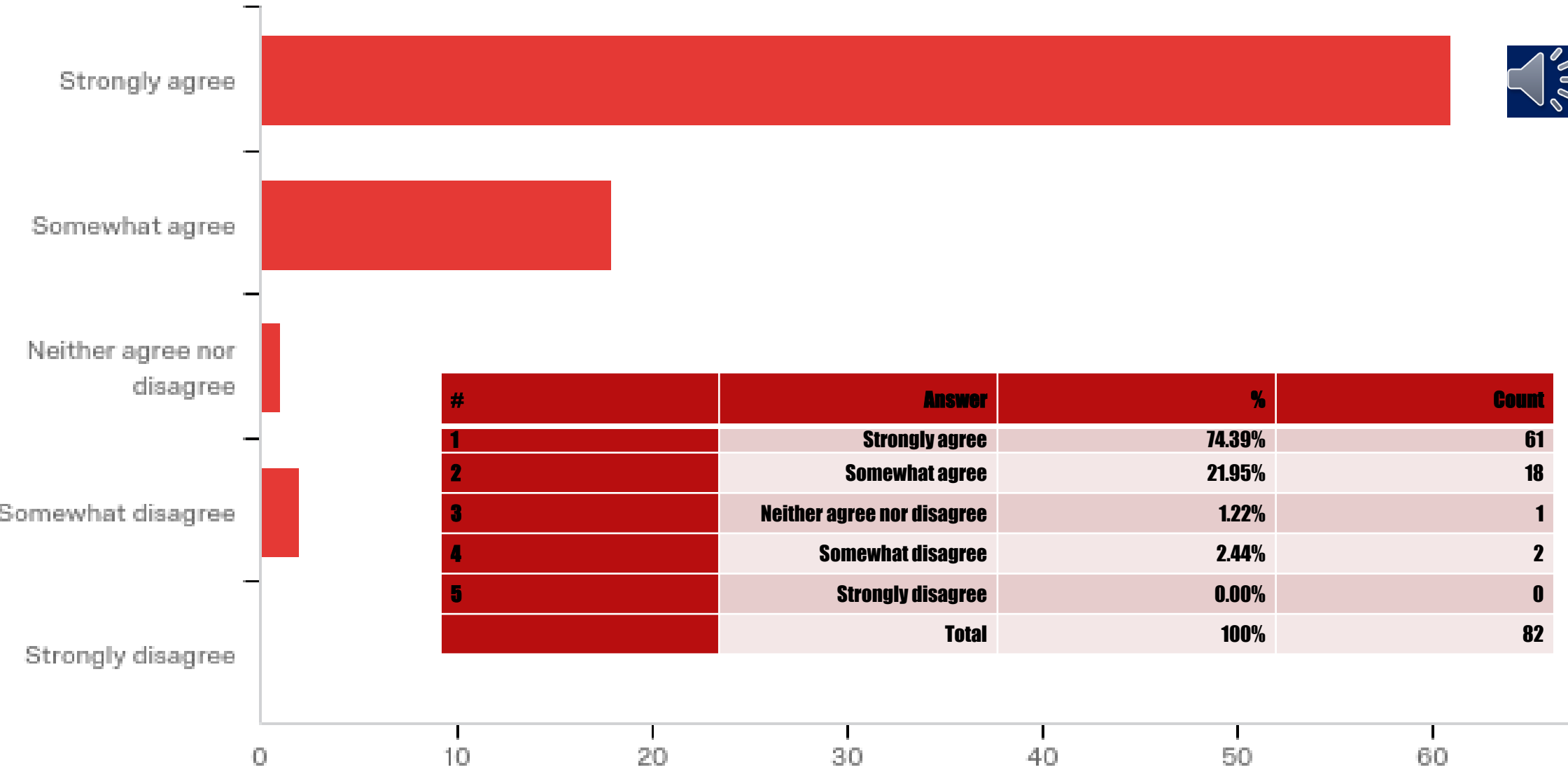
#	Answer	%	Count
1	White	81.71%	67
2	Black or African American	2.44%	2
3	American Indian or Alaska Native	2.44%	2
4	Asian	3.66%	3
5	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	3.66%	3
6	Other	6.10%	5
	Total	100%	82



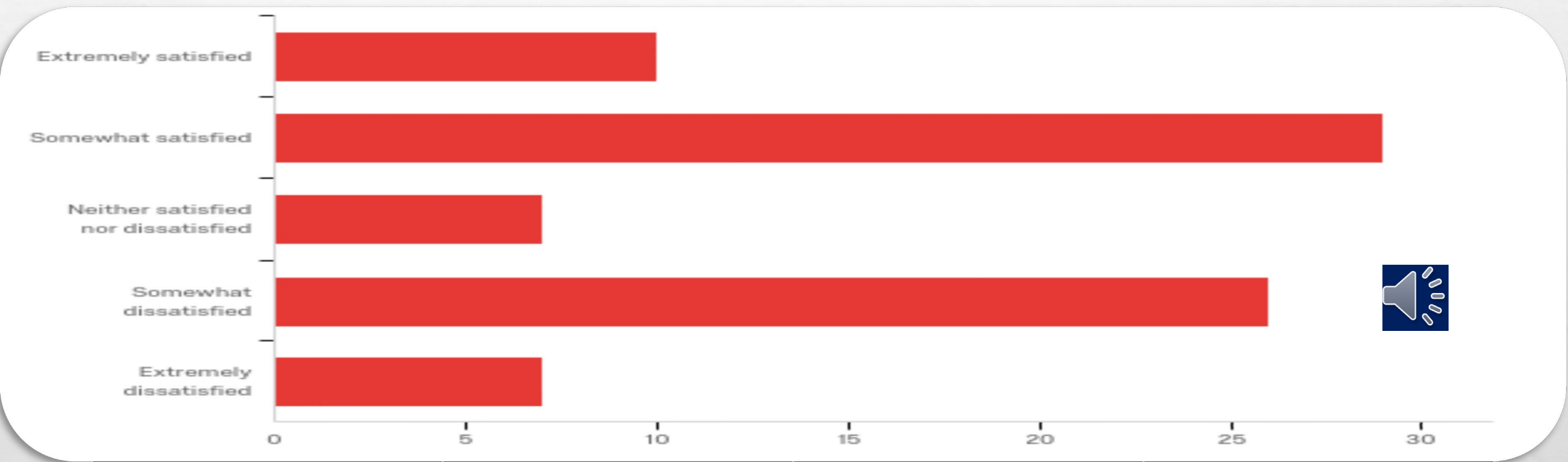
LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES USING BODY CAMERAS SHOULD HAVE A POLICY IN PLACE REGARDING THEIR USAGE



BODY CAMERAS ARE A USEFUL TOOL FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT



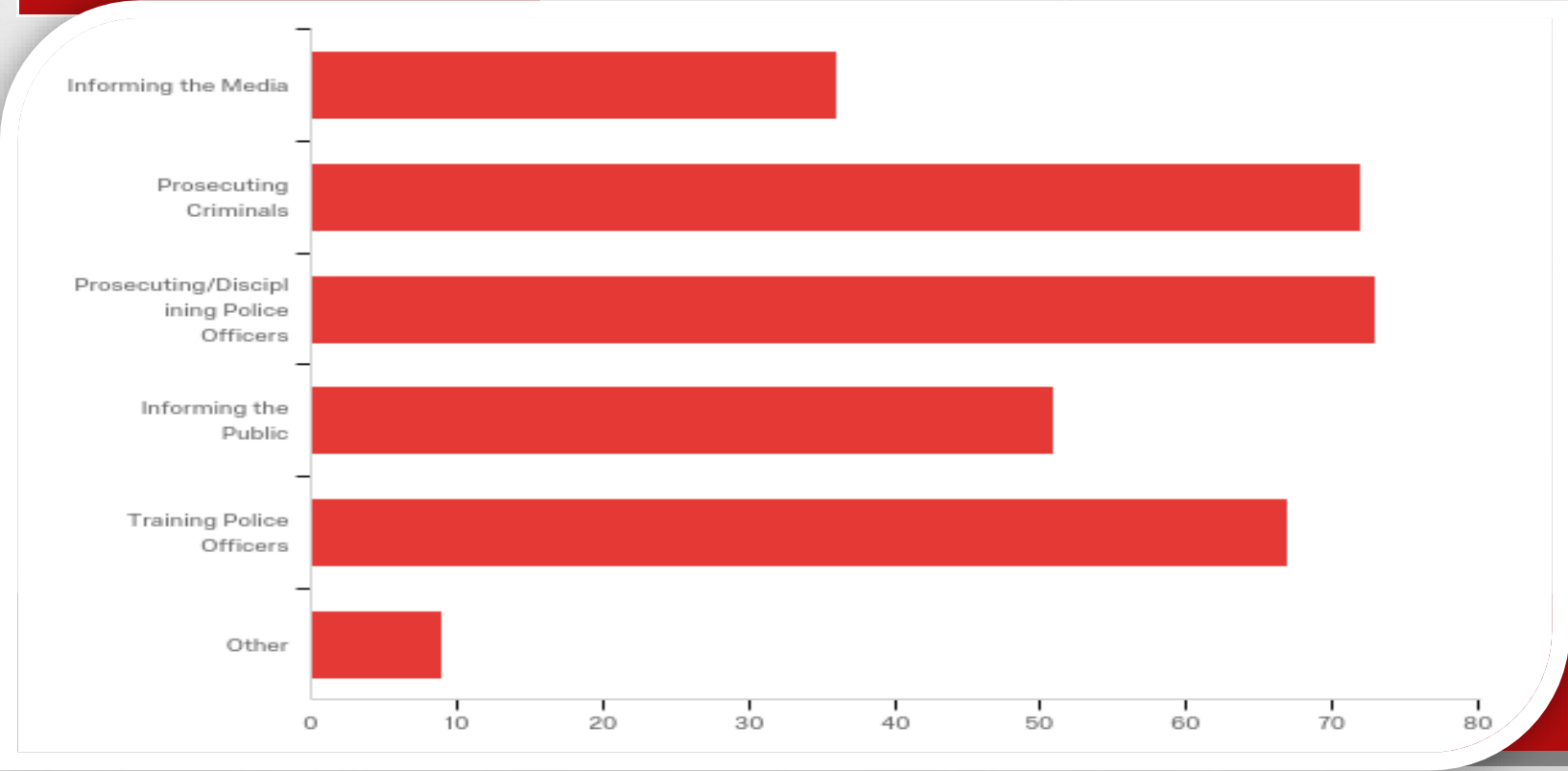
HOW SATISFIED DO YOU FEEL WITH THE CURRENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SOCIETY?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Extremely satisfied	12.66%	10
2	Somewhat satisfied	36.71%	29
3	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	8.86%	7
4	Somewhat dissatisfied	32.91%	26
5	Extremely dissatisfied	8.86%	7
	Total	100%	79

ACCEPTABLE USE FOR BODY CAMERAS?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Informing the Media	11.69%	36
2	Prosecuting Criminals	23.38%	72
3	Prosecuting/Disciplining Police Officers	23.70%	73
4	Informing the Public	16.56%	51
5	Training Police Officers	21.75%	67
6	Other	2.92%	9
	Total	100%	308



“OTHER” Responses

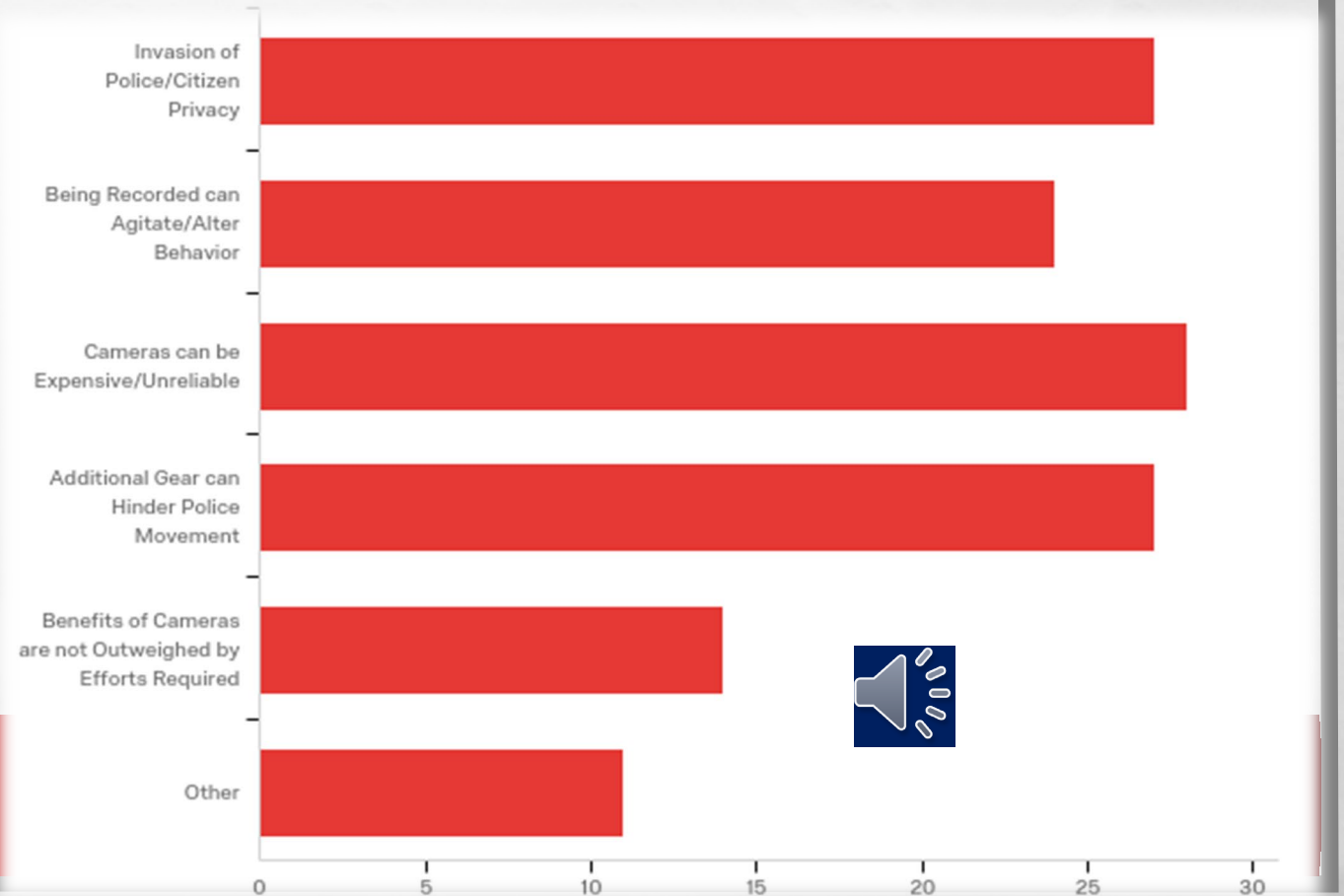
- **Officer Safety – Sometimes being recorded is a detriment**
- **Defending officers who have been wrongfully accused**
- **Exonerate false claims**

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WOULD BE A REASON NOT TO USE BODY CAMERAS?

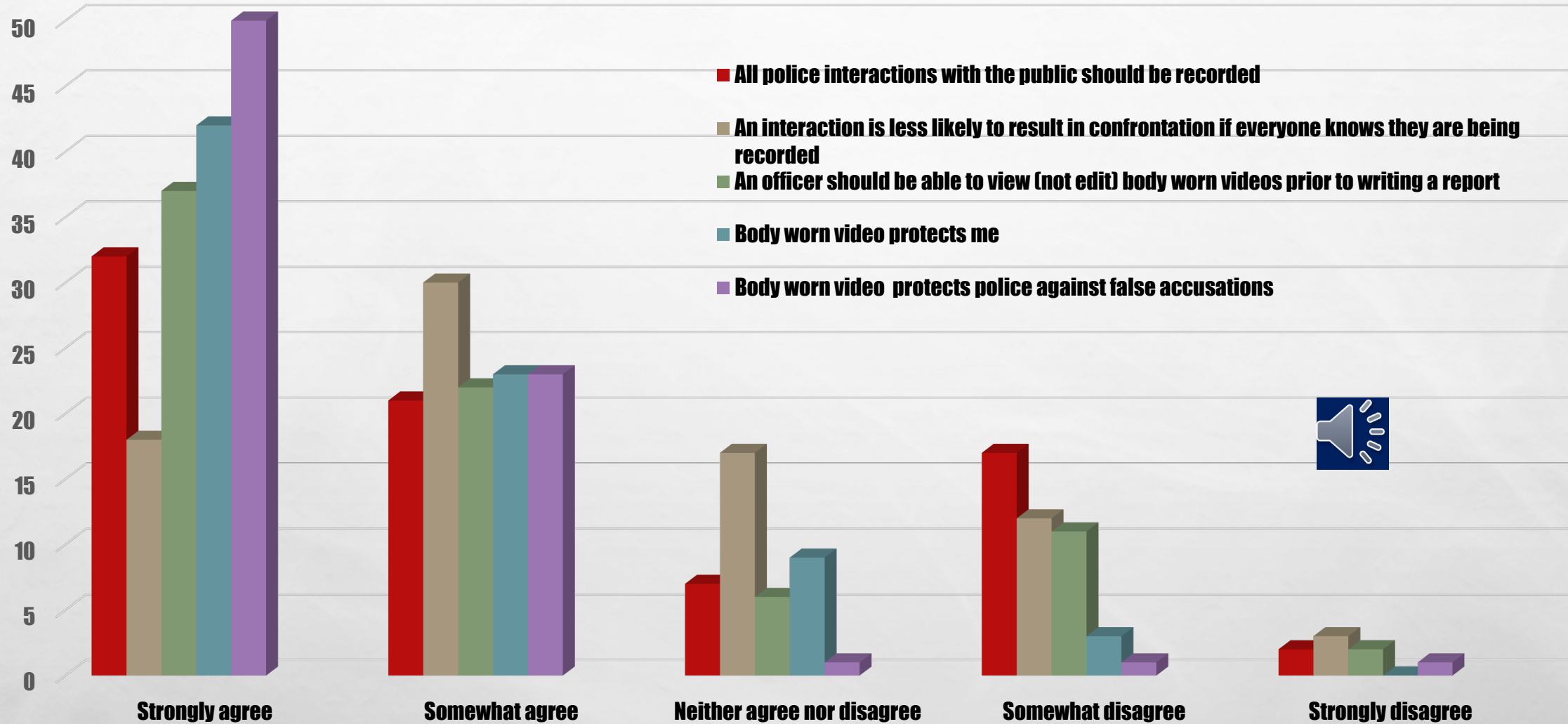
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Invasion of Police/Citizen Privacy	20.61%	27
2	Being Recorded can Agitate/Alter Behavior	18.32%	24
3	Cameras can be Expensive/Unreliable	21.37%	28
4	Additional Gear can Hinder Police Movement	20.61%	27
5	Benefits of Cameras are not Outweighed by Efforts Required	10.69%	14
6	Other	8.40%	11
	Total	100%	131

“OTHER” Responses

- The ability to edit footage
- No reason not to
- Cameras do not tell the whole story – can bias the situation
- Footage is not properly backed up to prevent data loss
- Should be recording at all times the officer is on duty or no point to having it
- Extremely expensive to maintain, costing around \$400,000 per year to outfit
- Forgetting to activate the camera could be thought of as intentional



HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FOLLOWING?



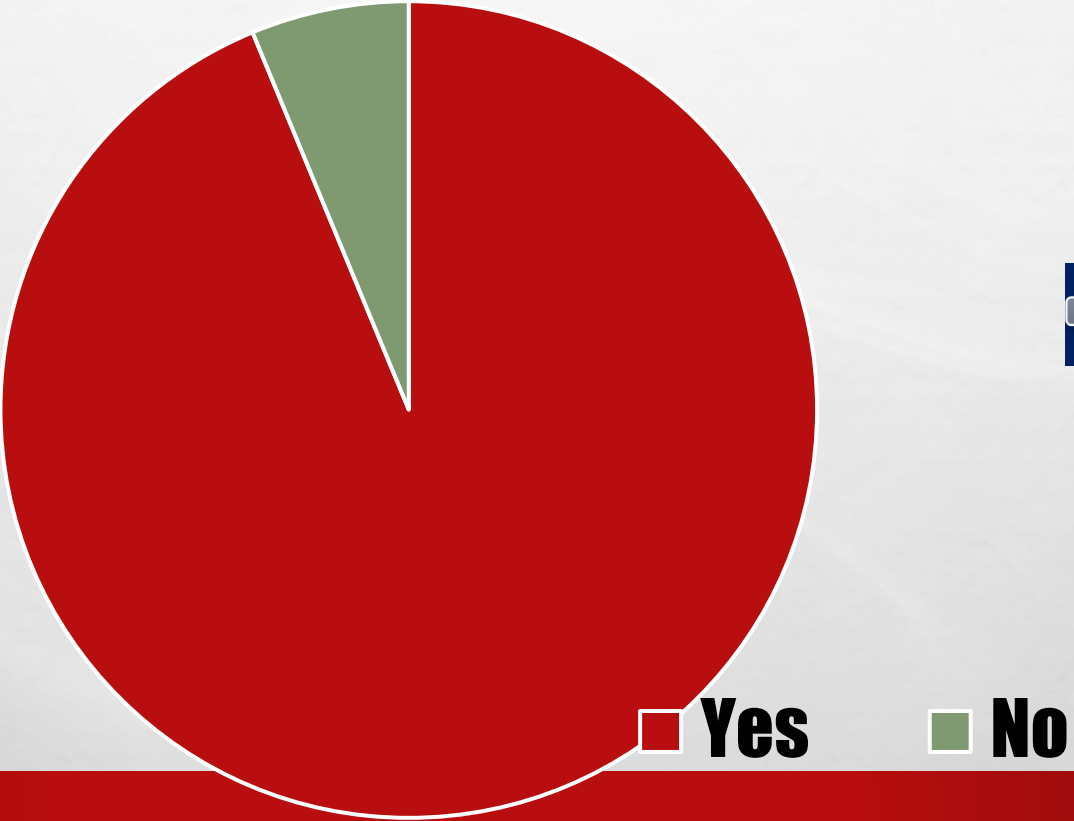


CIVILIAN



HAVE YOU EVER HAD AN INTERACTION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	81.36%	48
2	No	18.64%	11
	Total	100%	59



WHAT AGENCIES HAVE YOU HAD INTERACTION WITH?

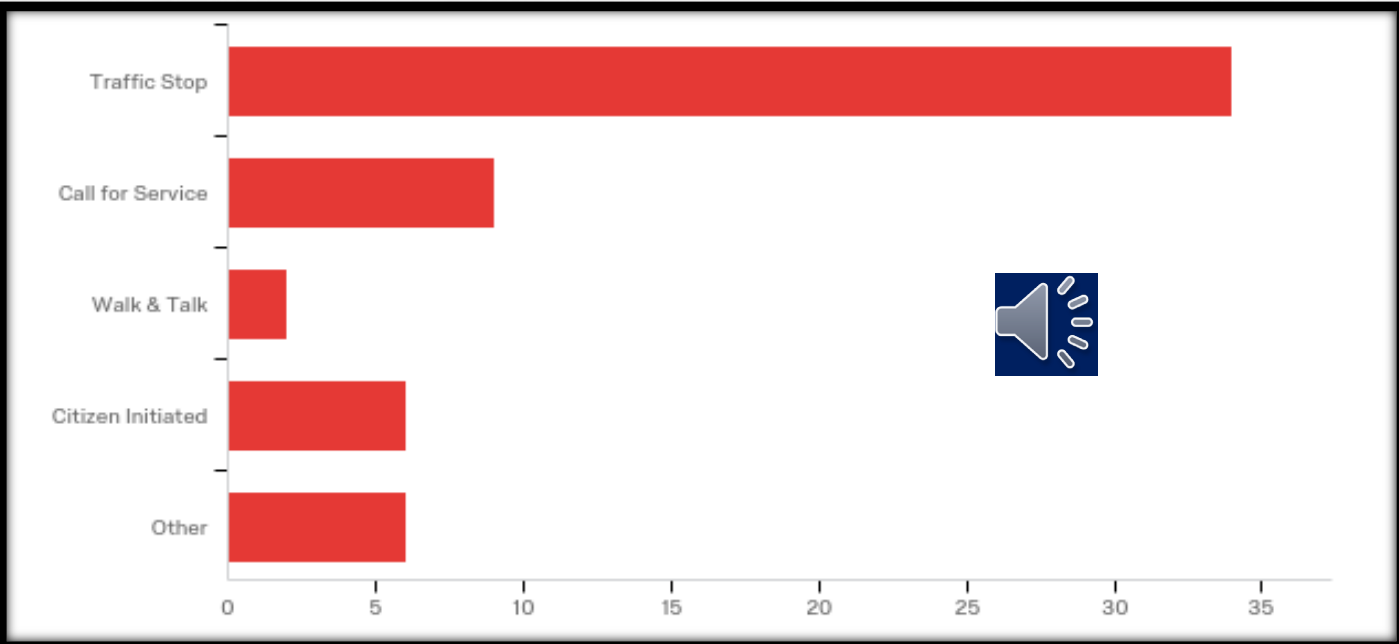
BYU police	#	Answer	%	Count
Provo PD				
Las Vegas PD	1	Salt Lake County Sheriff	5.08%	3
Springville PD				
Saratoga Springs Police Department				
Lehi Police Department	2	Utah Highway Patrol	33.90%	20
Various in California, Washington DC and Maryland				
Clearfield Police Department				
Tooele County Police Department	3	Pleasant Grove Police Department	10.17%	6
Orem Police Department				
Wyoming an Idaho Highway patrol				
Utah County	4	I Don't Remember	8.47%	5
California Highway Patrol				
Many other Police Departments				
Alaska State trooper	5	Other	42.37%	25
Goshen Police Department				
Saratoga Springs				
Provo, Orem, Springville police department		Total	100%	59



0115 TEXT - Other

WHAT WAS THE NATURE OF THE CONTACT?

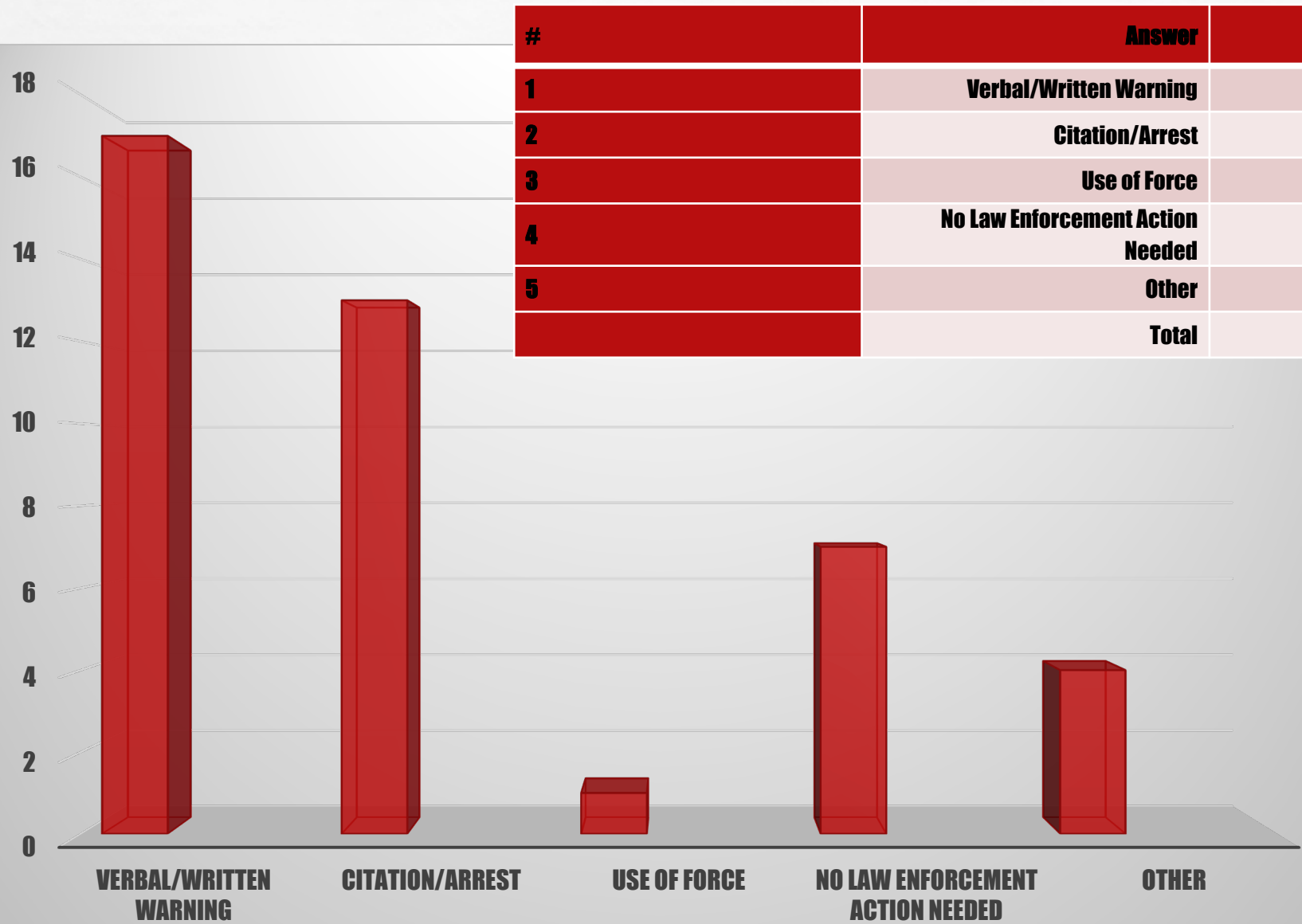
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Traffic Stop	59.65%	34
2	Call for Service	15.79%	9
3	Walk & Talk	3.51%	2
4	Citizen Initiated	10.53%	6
5	Other	10.53%	6
	Total	100%	57



“OTHER” Responses

- Auto Accident
- Former Police officer
- Ride Along

WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME?



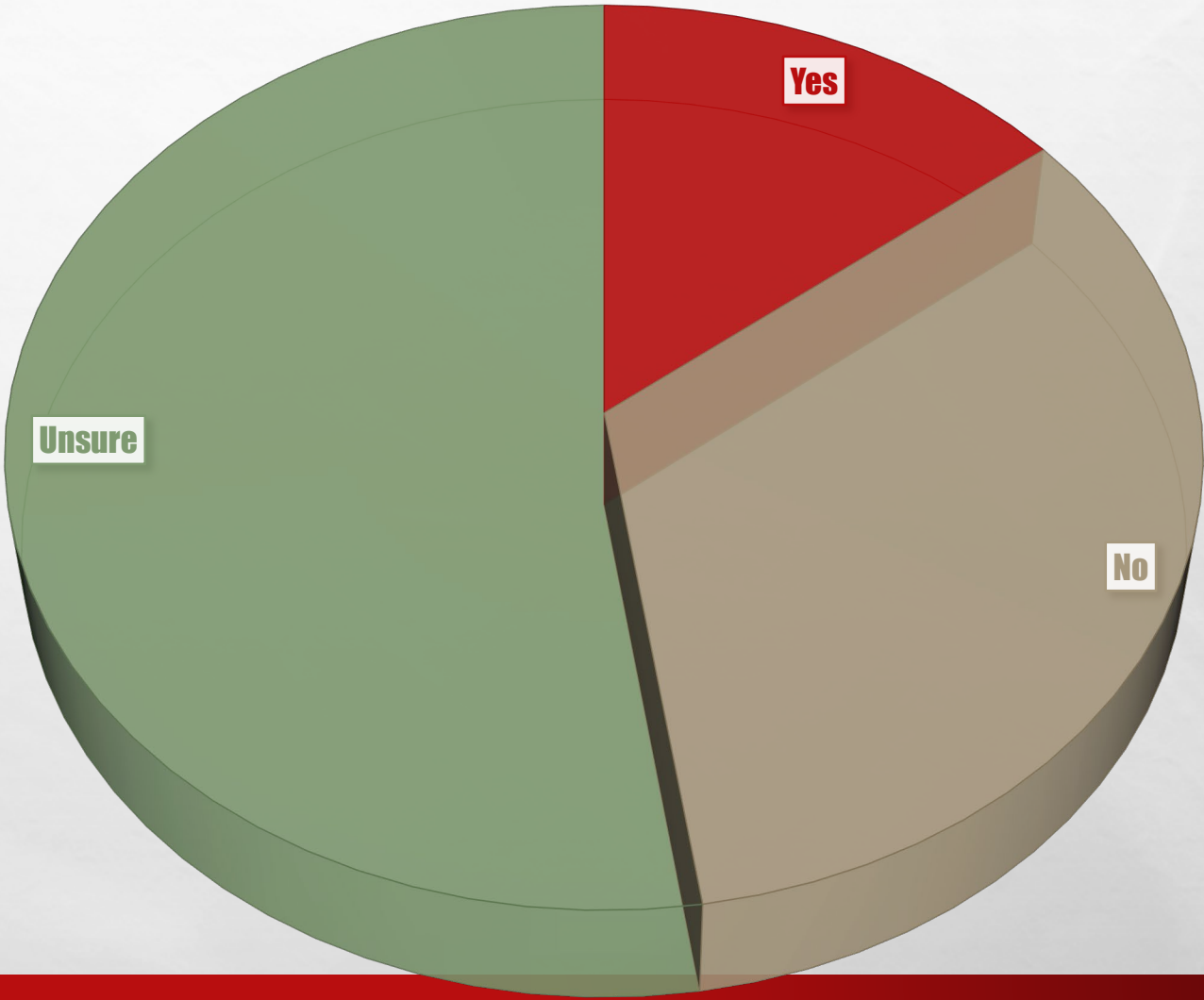
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Verbal/Written Warning	40.48%	17
2	Citation/Arrest	30.95%	13
3	Use of Force	2.38%	1
4	No Law Enforcement Action Needed	16.67%	7
5	Other	9.52%	4
	Total	100%	42



WERE BODY CAMERAS BEING USED BY THE RESPONDING OFFICERS?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	14.29%	6
2	No	33.33%	14
3	Unsure	52.38%	22
	Total	100%	42

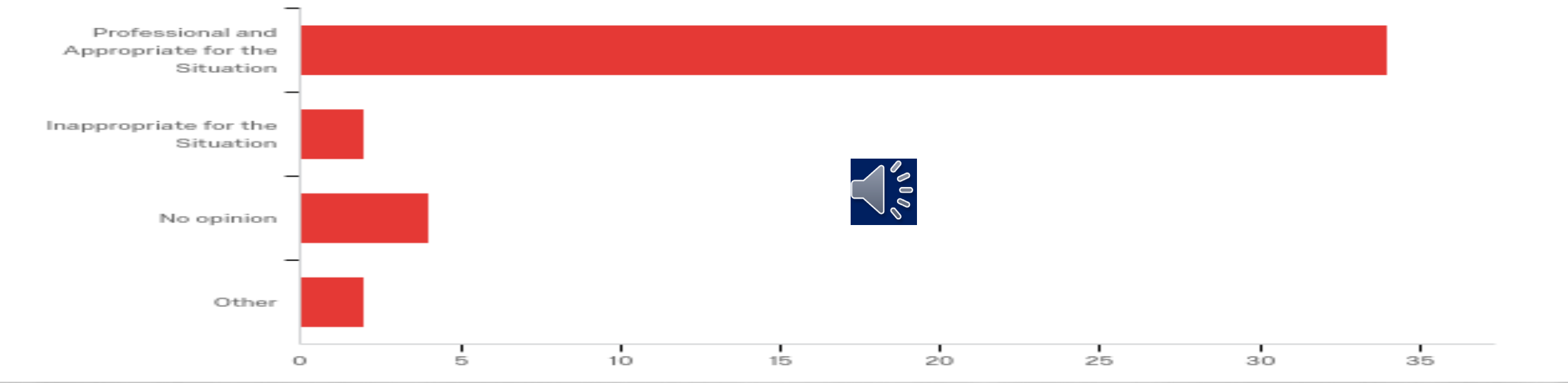


HOW DID THE OFFICERS REPRESENT THEMSELVES?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Professional and Appropriate for the Situation	80.95%	34
2	Inappropriate for the Situation	4.76%	2
3	No opinion	9.52%	4
4	Other	4.76%	2
	Total	100%	42

I had just been in a fender bender. After exchanging insurance with the other driver I had pulled next exit to contact insurance and family. In the process I was pulled over for failure to come to a complete stop. I was then given a ticket for “failure to repair a damaged airbag” that had happened not even 10 minutes before. I decided to appear in court for the ticket and the citation was immediately thrown out. Not the worst thing to happen to someone but I thought the citation was a bit ridiculous given the circumstances.

Sometimes both depending on the situation. Not me other officers when I was approached.

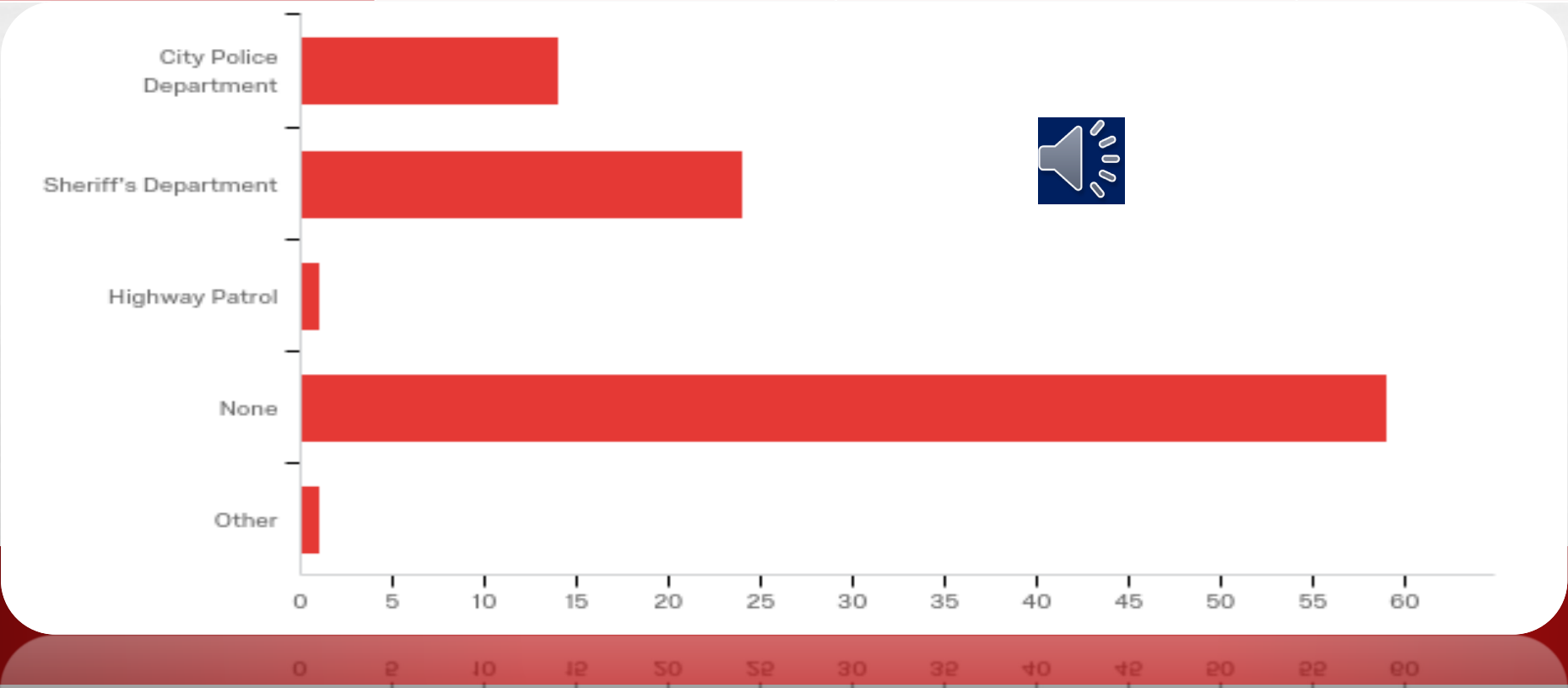


LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

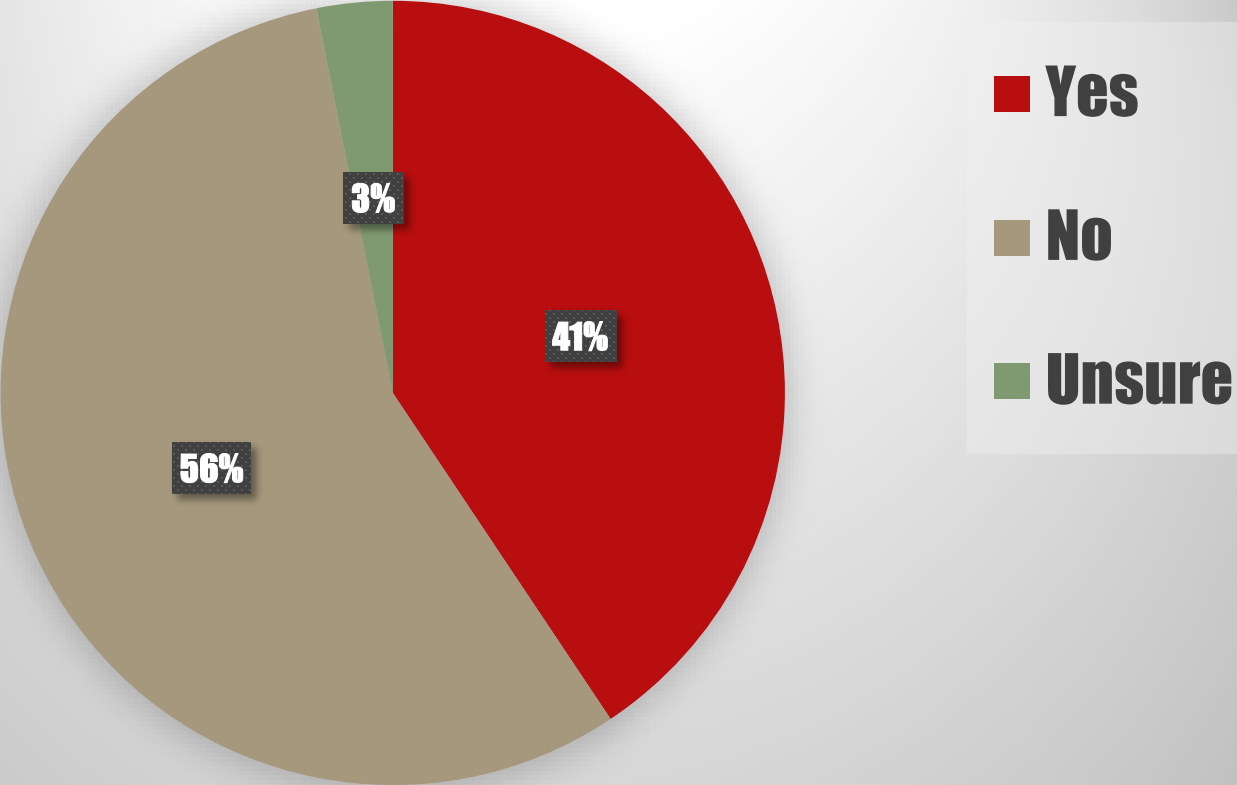


WHICH TYPE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT DO YOU WORK FOR?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	City Police Department	14.14%	14
2	Sheriff's Department	24.24%	24
3	Highway Patrol	1.01%	1
4	None	59.60%	59
5	Other	1.01%	1
	Total	100%	99

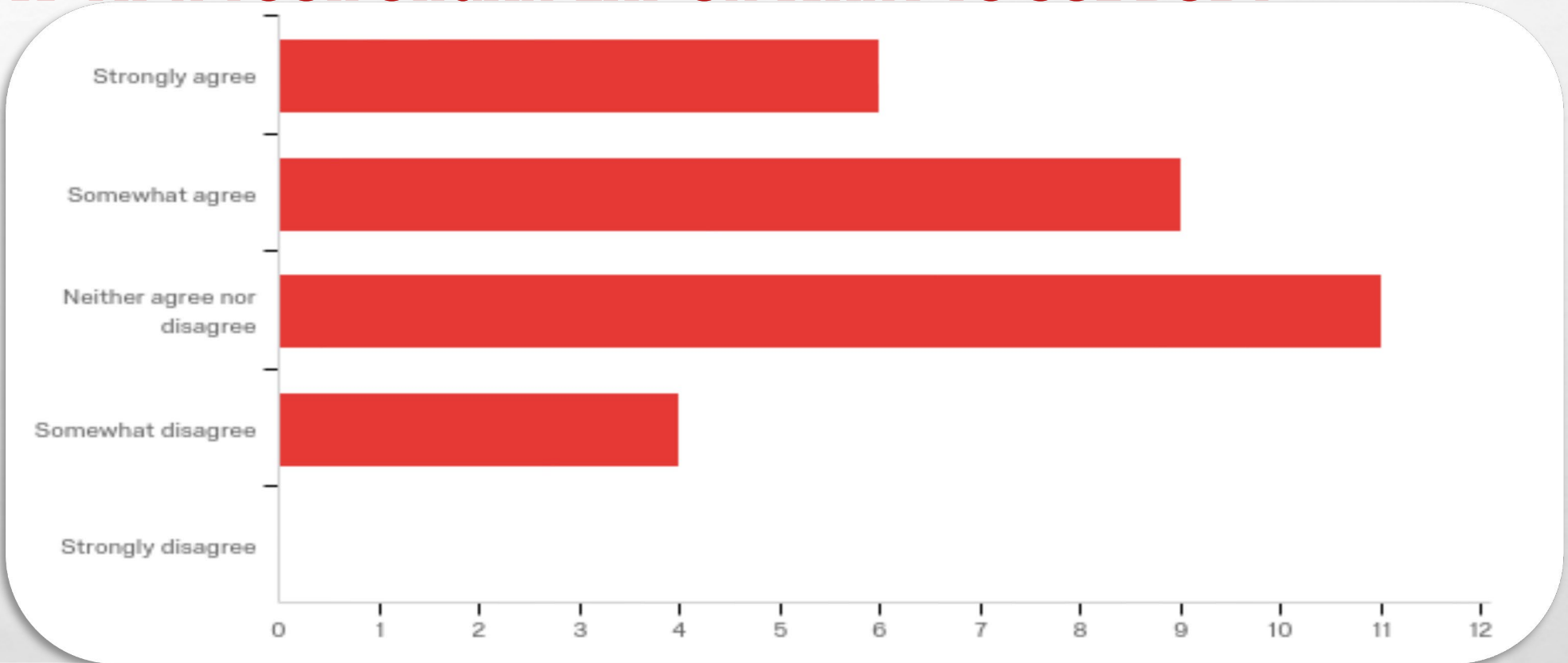


DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION REQUIRE THE USE OF BODY CAMERAS?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	40.63%	13
2	No	56.25%	18
3	Not sure	3.13%	1
	Total	100%	32

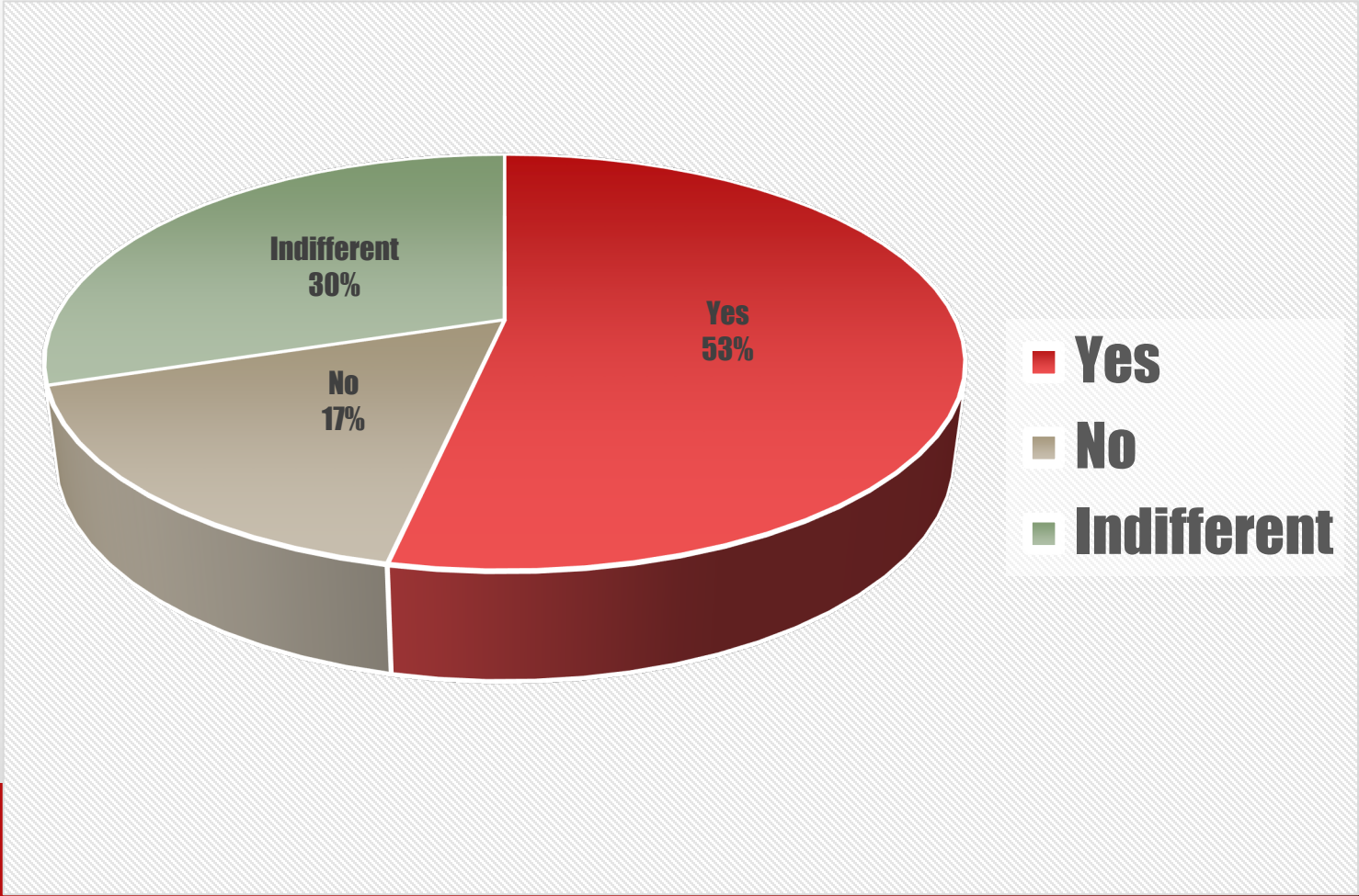
OFFICERS WITHIN YOUR ORGANIZATION WANT TO USE BODY CAMERAS



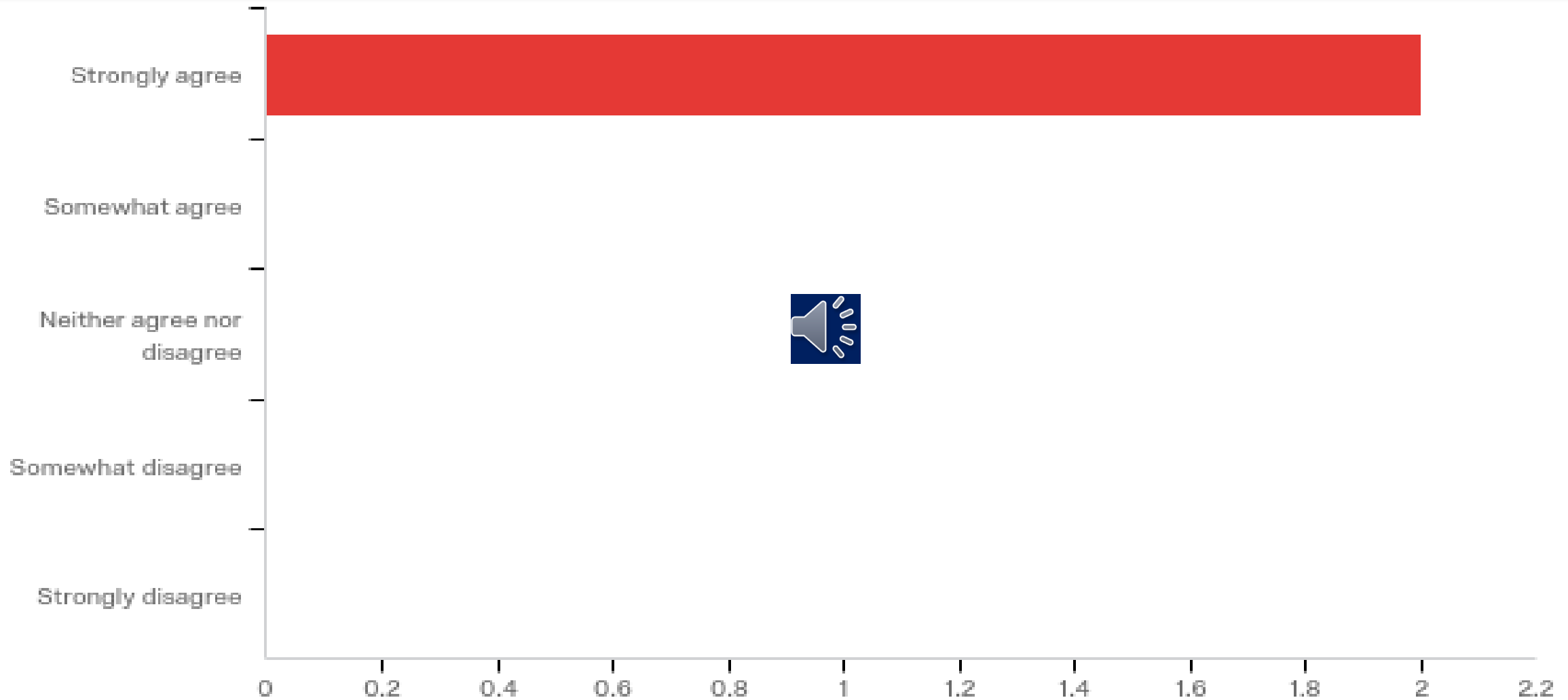
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Strongly agree	20.00%	6
2	Somewhat agree	30.00%	9
3	Neither agree nor disagree	36.67%	11
4	Somewhat disagree	13.33%	4
5	Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	30

DO YOU PREFER TO WEAR A BODY CAMERA?

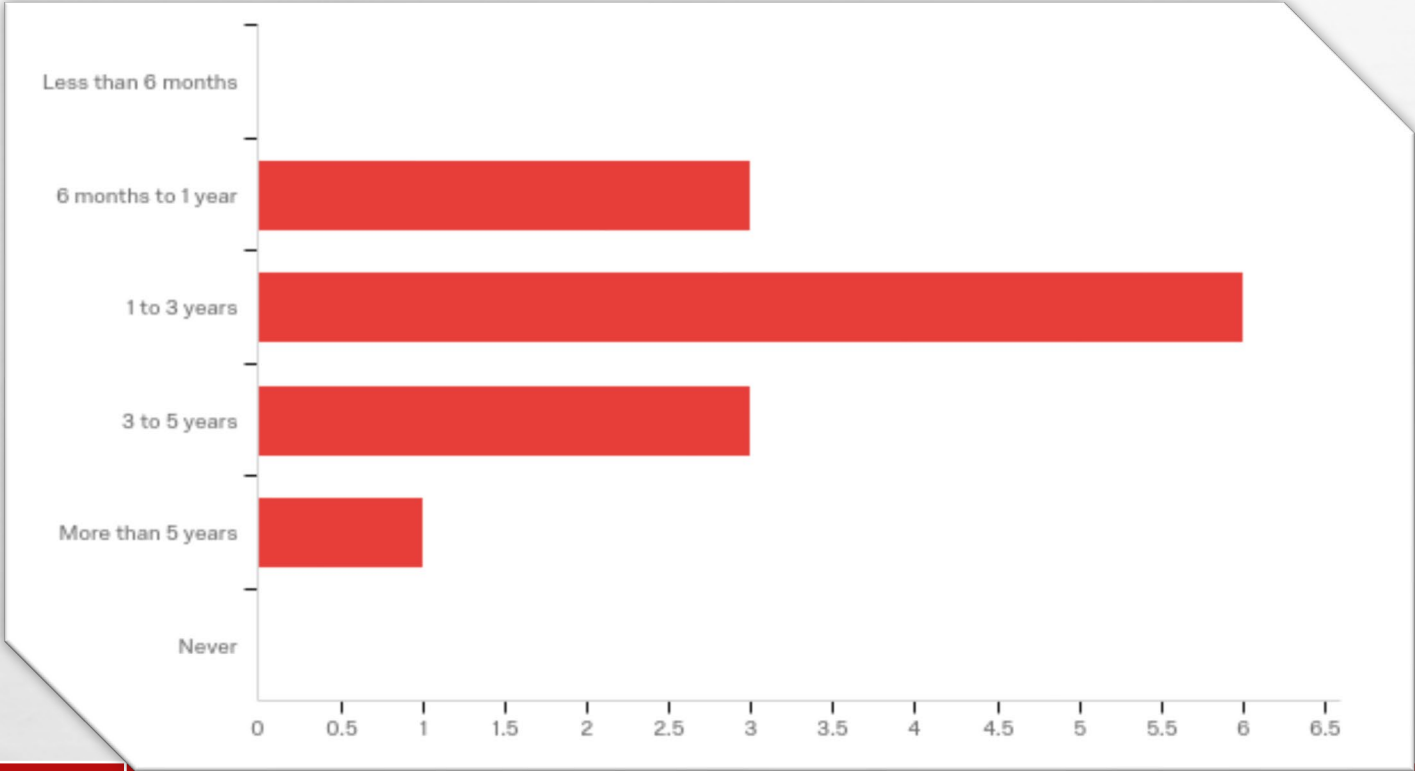
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	53.33%	16
2	No	16.67%	5
3	Indifferent	30.00%	9
	Total	100%	30



BODY CAMERAS HELP ILLUSTRATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF YOUR USE OF FORCE



HOW LONG HAS YOUR DEPARTMENT USED BODY CAMERAS?

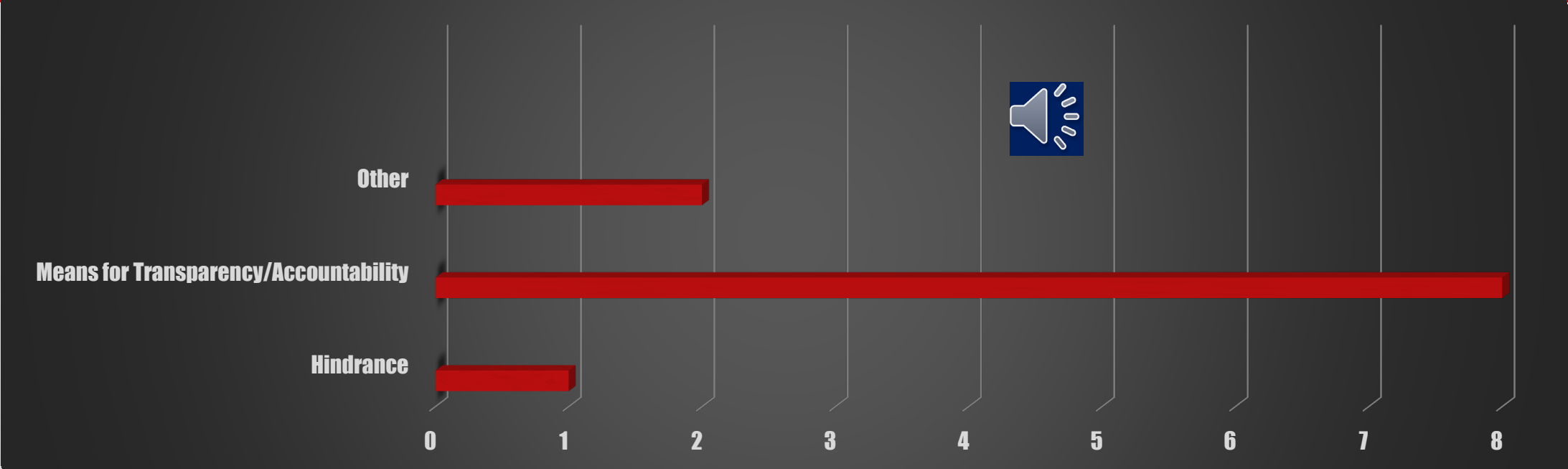


#	Answer	%	Count
1	Less than 6 months	0.00%	0
2	6 months to 1 year	23.08%	3
3	1 to 3 years	46.15%	6
4	3 to 5 years	23.08%	3
5	More than 5 years	7.69%	1
6	Never	0.00%	0

DO YOU FIND IT A HINDRANCE OR A MEANS FOR TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY? WHY?

“Great for accountability, however can cause issue when officers are so worried about turning it on that it posses a safety concern in fast pace incidents”

“I see it as a little of both. I’m all for transparency and being held accountable, but it has inadvertently caused a battle against my integrity. The public/administration puts off this vibe like if it’s not on camera then I’m lying or it didn’t happen. And to me that’s unfortunate.”



#	Answer	%	Count
4	Hindrance	9.09%	1
5	Means for transparency/accountability	72.73%	8
6	Other	18.18%	2
	Total	100%	11

ISSUES



- **ONE OF THE MAJOR ISSUES FOR A DISCUSSION REGARDING BODY WORN CAMERAS AND THE POLICE WAS THE POOL OF PARTICIPANTS BEING LIMITED TO UTAH POLICE AND UTAH COLLEGE STUDENTS. WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT BEING PRESENT NATIONWIDE AND DEALING WITH DIVERSE SITUATIONS, IT WOULD BE MORE BENEFICIAL FOR DATA COLLECTION TO BE AT A NATIONAL LEVEL.**
- **WE ONLY HAD ABOUT A FIFTH RESPONSE RATE OF THE TOTAL PARTICIPANTS WHO RECEIVED THE SURVEY.**

LITERATURE REVIEW

LAW ENFORCEMENT HAS BEEN CRUCIAL IN ENSURING PEACE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITIES. WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, CHAOS WOULD OVERCOME THE GOOD. THAT BEING SAID, RECENT HISTORY WITHIN THE LAST COUPLE OF DECADES HAS SHOWN A DECREASE IN TRUST TOWARDS THE POLICE AMONG CITIZENS AND SOME BELIEVE THEY ARE NOT MAKING GOOD DECISIONS. MANY DIFFERENT STRATEGIES HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN AN EFFORT TO PROTECT THE INTEGRITY OF THE WORK POLICE OFFICERS ARE INVOLVED IN. ONE OF THOSE MORE RECENT STRATEGIES IS THE USE OF BODY WORN CAMERAS BY OFFICERS DURING THEIR DAILY DUTIES. THE QUESTION ARISES REGARDING THE EFFECTIVENESS AND PROS/CONS OF BODY CAMERAS IN PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY OF THE OFFICERS WITH THE SITUATIONS THEY ENCOUNTER INVOLVING THE PUBLIC.

IN ANY RESEARCH STUDY, IT IS CRITICAL TO EXAMINE BOTH SIDES OF THE ARGUMENT. THIS STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE ICMA GIVES FAIR CONSENSUS TO THE POSITIVES AND NEGATIVES OF THE APPLICATION OF BODY WORN CAMERAS. OUR BELIEF IS THAT THEY ARE A SUPPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, BUT OUR AIM IS TO DETERMINE THE BEST WAY TO COMBAT CRIME, WHETHER IT BE BY USING CAMERAS OR NOT. THIS RESEARCH STUDY WILL BE A HUGE SUPPORT AS THEY HAVE ALREADY CONDUCTED THE STUDY TO SEE WHAT IS BENEFICIAL AND WHAT ISN'T.

ONE OF THE MORE CONSISTENT ARGUMENTS REGARDING BODY WORN CAMERAS WITHIN THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS WE ARE SEEING INVOLVES THE COST OF THIS TECHNOLOGY. ACCORDING TO AN ARTICLE FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES, "THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN POLICE DEPARTMENTS MORE THAN \$40 MILLION TO INVEST IN BODY CAMERAS, AND STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES HAVE SPENT MANY MILLIONS MORE." (TRIPLE AND WILLIAMS, 2017). EVERY ATTEMPT IN AIDING THE POLICE TO PROTECT THEIR INTEGRITY IS GOING TO COME WITH A COST AND BODY CAMERAS ARE A BIG ONE. THESE CAMERAS ARE ADVANCED AND THEY ARE COSTING A LOT OF MONEY, HOWEVER REGARDLESS OF COST, IF THEY GET THE JOB DONE THEY MAY BE WORTH IT.

PERF IS A RESEARCH ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS DELVED INTO THIS VERY SUBJECT MATTER. THEY HAVE ORGANIZED A VAST STUDY INTO THE COST VERSUS WHAT THESE CAMERAS CAN OFFER. THE INFORMATION GATHERED IS INVALUABLE TO ILLUSTRATE OUR CLAIMS THAT THE EXPENSES AND EFFORTS REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT BODY CAMERAS INTO AS MANY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AS POSSIBLE ARE VINDICATED BY THE BENEFITS THEY PRODUCE.

ANOTHER TOPIC OF DISCUSSION REGARDING BODY WORN CAMERAS WILL BE PUBLIC PERCEPTION ON THEIR EFFECTIVENESS. IN REALITY, THE NEED FOR BODY CAMERAS COMES DUE TO THE WAR ON POLICE TAKING PLACE AROUND THE NATION. IN ORDER TO APPEAL MORE TO THE PUBLIC EYE, BODY CAMERAS ARE UTILIZED AS ANOTHER OPINION ON A POLICE OFFICER ACTIONS WHETHER THEY BE GOOD OR BAD. THE QUESTION IS IF THIS STRATEGY OF BODY CAMERAS HAS ANSWERED THE PUBLIC CRY, AND IF SO, WILL IT CONTINUE TO DO SO? THE MAJORITY OF CITIZENS BELIEVE THAT BODY WORN CAMERAS WILL ALSO PROTECT THE POLICE FROM CITIZENS WITH LESS THAN FAVORABLE INTERACTIONS WITH THEM.

THIS STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE CATO AT LIBERTY ORGANIZATION ADDRESSES THE PUBLIC VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS STUDY. IT'S FINDINGS DETERMINED 65% OF AMERICANS SAY THERE IS A "WAR ON POLICE" WHICH AT THE VERY LEAST ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE MAJORITY BELIEVE THERE IS A PROBLEM THAT NEEDS FIXING. UNDERSTANDING THE PUBLIC ROLE IS HALF THE CHALLENGE OF REMEDYING THE RIFT BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THOSE WHOM THEY SERVE. THIS STUDY COULD BE INSTRUMENTAL IN DEMONSTRATING ITS RELEVANCE. IT EVEN CONCLUDES THAT THERE IS A 92% SUPPORT RATING FOR POLICE IMPLEMENTING BODY CAMERAS.

JUST AS IMPORTANT AS PUBLIC PERCEPTION IS THE OPINION OF POLICE OFFICERS WHO ARE USING THE BODY WORN CAMERAS AND THE EFFECTIVENESS IN KEEPING THEM SAFE. KEEPING THEM SAFE INCLUDES THE ABILITY TO REACT TO A THREAT WITHOUT FEAR OF PERSECUTION WHILE TRYING TO DO THE RIGHT THING. THERE ARE MANY EXAMPLES OF POLICE OFFICERS BEING UNABLE TO QUICKLY REACT TO A DEADLY SITUATION DUE TO FEAR OF THE PUBLIC EYE. CONSISTENT STUDIES ARE SHOWING OFFICERS FEAR OF USING FORCE DESPITE CONFIDENCE IN TRAINING, EVEN WHEN THE SITUATION IS APPROPRIATE FOR SAID FORCE.

THIS SURVEY COULD PROVE CRITICAL AS IT DEMONSTRATES THE LAW ENFORCEMENT VIEW OF WHAT A BODY CAMERA COULD MEAN. THE PEW RESEARCH STUDY FOUND THAT 76% OF OFFICERS ARE RELUCTANT TO USE FORCE, EVEN WHEN IT'S APPROPRIATE. BY UTILIZING BODY WORN CAMERAS, THEIR ARTICULATION OF THE EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRED WITH ALTERCATIONS WITH THE PUBLIC ARE NO LONGER ALL THAT THEY CAN HOLD TO. VIDEO DESCRIBES THE EXACT DETAILS OF THE EVENTS WITH PRECISION AND ACCURACY, AND CAN HELP PROTECT THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE OFFICER, DEPARTMENT AND PARTICIPANTS. OR LIKEWISE IT CAN HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS AND PROMOTE MORE INTEGRITY AMONGST POLICE WHO KNOW THEY ARE BEING RECORDED.

ARE OFFICER LIVES AT A HIGHER RISK IN FEAR OF PUBLIC PERCEPTION? WILL BODY CAMERAS HELP RESOLVE THIS ISSUE? POLICE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN QUOTED IN FEARING SCRUTINY FROM THE PUBLIC BEING THE REASON FOR NOT APPROPRIATELY ACTING. ONE EXAMPLE COMES TO MIND INVOLVES A FEMALE CHICAGO POLICE OFFICER WHO WAS SLAMMED TO THE GROUND BY HER HAIR, BEING BEATEN FOR MINUTES AND DID NOT USE APPROPRIATE FORCE FOR THIS EXACT REASON. THE OFFICER'S PARTNER WHO WAS ALSO INVOLVED IN THIS SITUATION IN CHICAGO IS QUOTED SAYING, "SHE LOOKED AT ME AND SAID SHE THOUGHT SHE WAS GOING TO DIE, AND SHE KNEW THAT SHE SHOULD SHOOT THIS GUY, BUT SHE CHOSE NOT TO BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T WANT HER FAMILY OR THE DEPARTMENT TO HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE SCRUTINY THE NEXT DAY ON NATIONAL NEWS" (CRIMESIDER STAFF, 2016). A POLICE OFFICER DOING THEIR BEST TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC AND RISK THEIR OWN LIFE SHOULD NEVER HAVE TO FEAR PUBLIC SCRUTINY, ESPECIALLY AT THIS LEVEL WHERE THEIR OWN LIFE IS AT RISK.

WHO BETTER TO GET AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE WAY THESE CAMERAS COULD CONTRIBUTE THAN BY A STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE CHIEF OF POLICE? EXECUTIVE FELLOW CHIEF TONY FARRAR'S STUDY, TAKEN FROM THE SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL OF QUANTITATIVE CRIMINOLOGY, RESEARCHES THE EFFECTS OF BODY-WORN CAMERAS TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE NOT THE CAUSE OF ADVERSE EFFECTS IN THE BEHAVIOR OF OFFICERS WHO WEAR THEM. A CRITICAL PART OF A RESEARCH STUDY IS RECOGNIZING THE CONSTANT AND MAKING SURE THAT THE NEWLY INTRODUCED ELEMENTS TO THE STUDY ARE INFLUENCING THE BEHAVIOR, BUT NOT THE CAUSE OF IT. FARRAR'S STUDY WAS STEERED TO IMPROVING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN PUBLIC AND POLICE, BUT WE HOPE TO EXEMPLIFY THAT IT MAKES BETTER OFFICERS AS WELL.

LITERATURE REVIEW DISCUSSION



- **IS THE COST OF BODY WORN CAMERAS WORTH THE VINDICATION FOR BOTH CIVILIANS AND OFFICERS? THE MAJORITY SAY YES.**
- **WILL BODY WORN CAMERAS HELP END THE “WAR ON POLICE”? MOST OF THE DATA COLLECTED SHOWS IT WILL.**
- **OFFICERS OPINIONS ON BODY WORN CAMERAS? MOST OF THE OFFICERS WHO TOOK OUR SURVEY FEEL THAT THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH BODY CAMERAS HAS HELPED THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PUBLIC. MOST OFFICERS DON’T HAVE AN ISSUE WITH WEARING CAMERAS DURING THEIR INTERACTIONS.**

CONCLUSION

THIS RESEARCH STUDY WAS CONDUCTED IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CIVILIANS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT BY DEMONSTRATING POLICE BODY CAMERAS AS A VIABLE TOOL. OUR HOPE WAS TO FIND THAT THESE TOOLS COULD BE BENEFICIAL IN IMPROVING THE BOND BETWEEN OFFICERS AND THE ONES THEY SERVE TO MAKE THEM MORE EFFICIENT AT PROVIDING SAFETY AND SECURITY.

WHEN WE BEGAN THIS STUDY, WE DID SO WITH THE CONCERN FOR THE PROTECTION OF OFFICER AND CITIZEN ALIKE. WE WANTED TO KNOW IF BODY CAMERAS WOULD BE A MEANS OF DETERRING FALSE ACCUSATIONS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND UNFAIR TREATMENT TOWARDS THOSE THEY INTERACT WITH. RESULTS FROM OUR SURVEY DETERMINE THAT AN OVERWHELMING PERCENTAGE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND CIVILIANS ALIKE BELIEVE IN THE VALUE OF THESE CAMERAS TO BE A MEANS OF IMPROVING THAT RELATIONSHIP AND INSURING A POSITIVE OUTCOME IN ALL POLICE INTERACTIONS. THEY PROVIDE A MORE DETAILED DOCUMENTATION OF THE EVENTS THAT TRANSPIRED IN A WAY THAT IS LESS SUSCEPTIBLE TO ACCUSATIONS OR MISINTERPRETATION. PEOPLE ARE GENERALLY HAPPY WITH THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SOCIETY BUT NEARLY ALL OF THEM SEE A NEED FOR IMPROVEMENT.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THOSE WITH AUTHORITY AND THOSE WHO HAVE TO OCCASIONALLY INTERACT WITH IT WILL ALWAYS BE ONE OF TENSION, BUT OVERALL IT SEEMS THAT UTILIZING AS MANY TOOLS AS ARE AT ONE'S DISPOSAL AS POSSIBLE WILL LEAD TO GREATER SUCCESS AND MORE EFFICIENT CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

OUR PROGRESSION OF THE RESEARCH WAS SLOW AS WE DEVELOPED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROCESS AND IN INTERPRETING OUR RESPONSES BUT WE WORKED FLUIDLY AS A TEAM AND GAINED SOME GREAT INSIGHTS. IN THE FUTURE WE WOULD WORK TO TRY AND MAKE OUR SURVEY MORE APPEALING TO GET A GREATER RESPONSE AND HAVE MORE RAW DATA TO WORK WITH. THIS WAS AN INVALUABLE TASK THAT TAUGHT US HOW TO WORK TOGETHER AND PERFORM THESE TYPES OF STUDIES.



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