

Community Survey  
on  
Public Safety  
and  
Law Enforcement-  
Topeka 2020



# Why

- Survey template created by the Department of Justice
- Meant to measure and collect information about criminal victimization, residents' views about crime, and their willingness to report crime to the police.
- Allows law enforcement to find effective approaches toward crime and the allocation of agency resources
- Provides a view on what is important to the citizen and their expectations of their police force.

# Why

- SPCP had accomplished all goals in 2020 that were set before them in 2018.
- The community survey would be a tool toward creating new goals to assist the agency in improving police-community relations.

# How

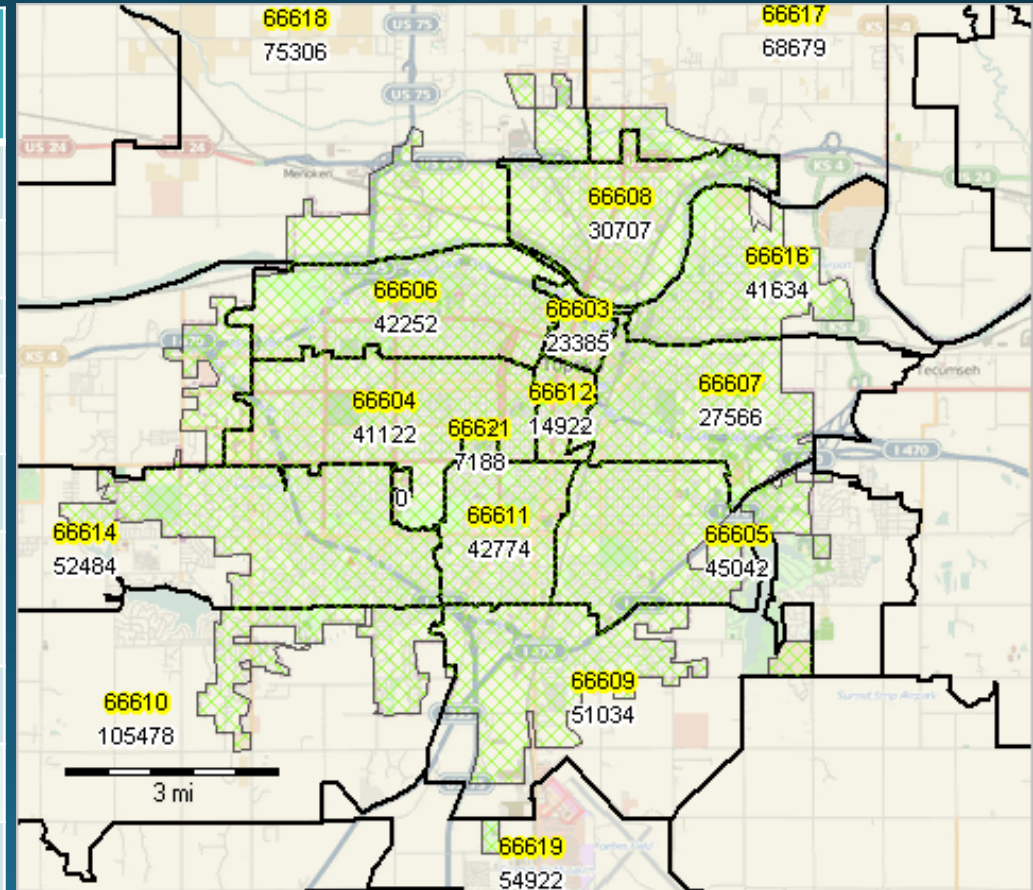
- Survey was presented at community meetings
  - Topeka City Channel 4
  - City of Topeka Facebook Live
  - City of Topeka social media
  - Paper copies of “QR” code at Holliday Building and Law Enforcement Center
- Google Survey
  - Provided anonymity- no need for email addresses or identifying information ( as with other survey mediums available)

# Results

- Over 1100 citizens responded.
- City Channel 4 personnel sorted the data into graphics for each question
- SPCP volunteers sifted through comments and created themes based on words used repeatedly

# Zipcode submissions reported

| Zip Code | Number |       |     | Zipcode outside Topeka (30) |
|----------|--------|-------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 66603    | 39     | 66614 | 206 | 66542 9 (Tecumseh)          |
| 66604    | 192    | 66615 | 12  | 66402 5 (Auburn)            |
| 66605    | 108    | 66616 | 44  | 66409 5 (Berryton)          |
| 66606    | 97     | 66617 | 42  | 66546 4 (Wakarusa)          |
| 66607    | 25     | 66618 | 70  | 66049 1 (Lawrence)          |
| 66608    | 43     | 66619 | 9   | 66413 1 (Burlingame)        |
| 66609    | 33     |       |     | 66436 1 (Holton)            |
| 66610    | 48     |       |     | 66504 1                     |
| 66611    | 60     |       |     | 66507 1 (Maple Hill)        |
| 66612    | 8      |       |     | 66512 1 (Meriden)           |
|          |        |       |     | 66536 1 (St Marys)          |

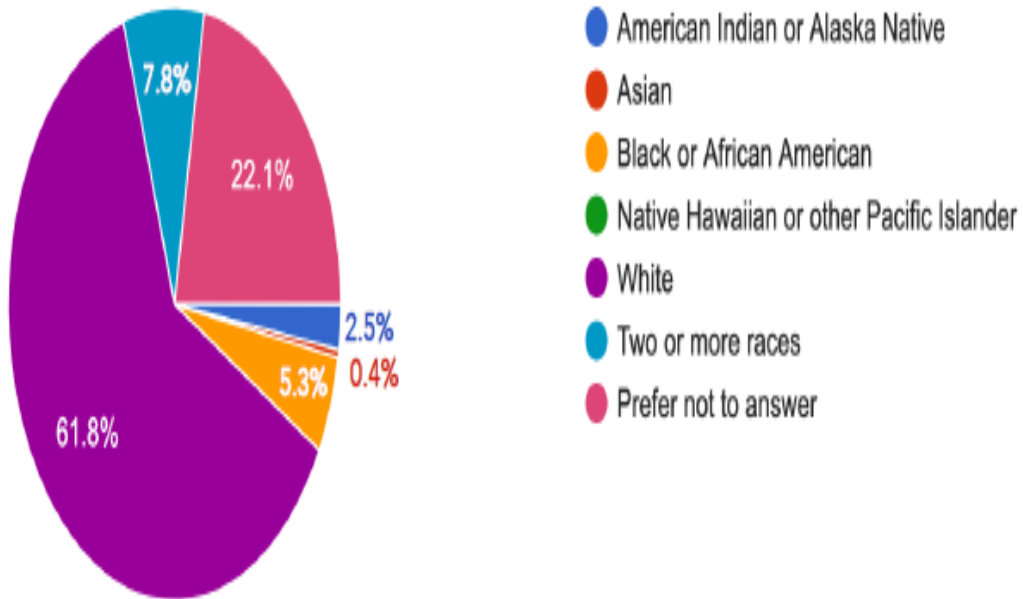


# Survey Demographics-Race

City of Topeka Census Data

28) What is your race?

1,134 responses



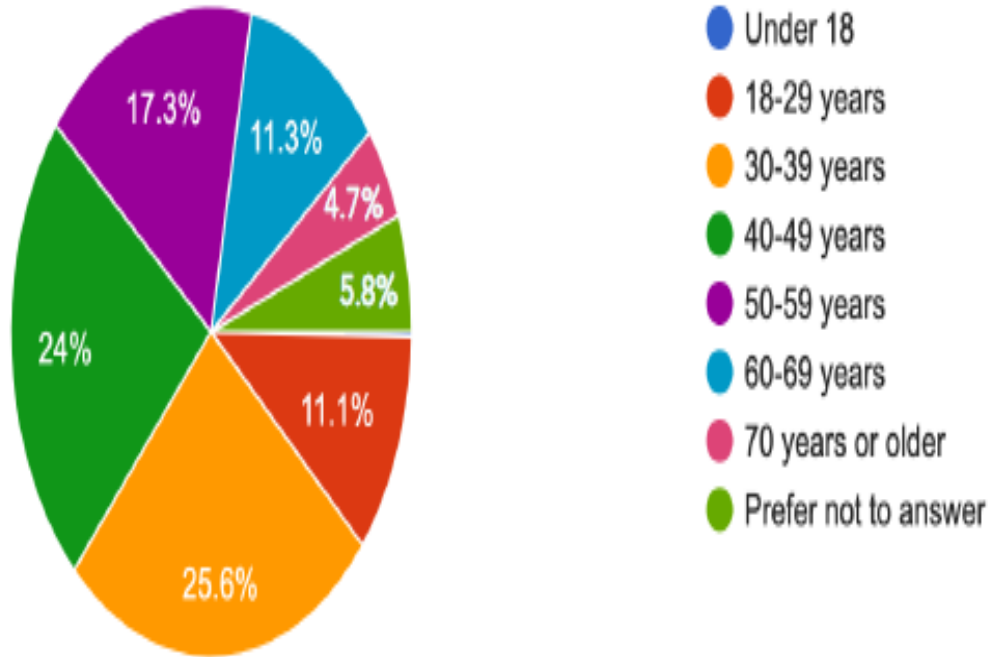
| Race and Hispanic Origin                                     | Percentage |
|--|------------|
| White alone, percent   | 78.4%      |
| Black or African American alone, percent(a)                  | 10.5%      |
| American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent(a)          | 1.1%       |
| Asian alone, percent(a)                                      | 1.8%       |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent(a) | 0.1%       |
| Two or More Races, percent                                   | 4.4%       |
| Hispanic or Latino, percent(b)                               | 15.4%      |
| White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent                 | 67.9%      |

# Survey Demographics- Age

City of Topeka Census Data

29) What is your age group?

1,134 responses



## Age and Sex

Persons under 5 years, percent

6.6%

Persons under 18 years, percent

22.9%

Persons 65 years and over, percent

17.4%

Female persons, percent

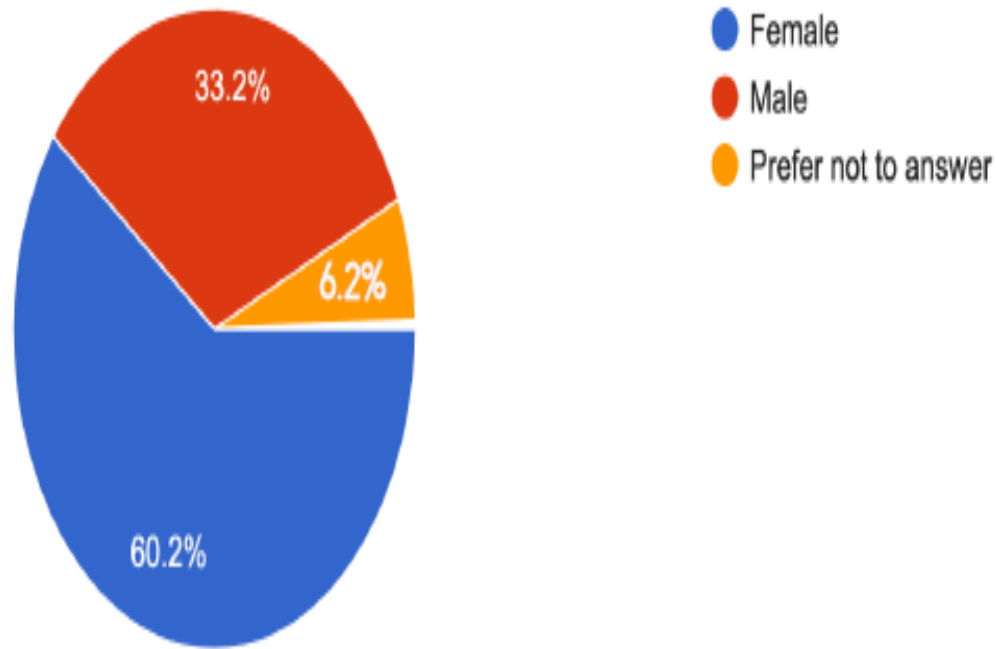
52.1%



# Survey Demographics- Gender

26) What is your gender?

1,134 responses



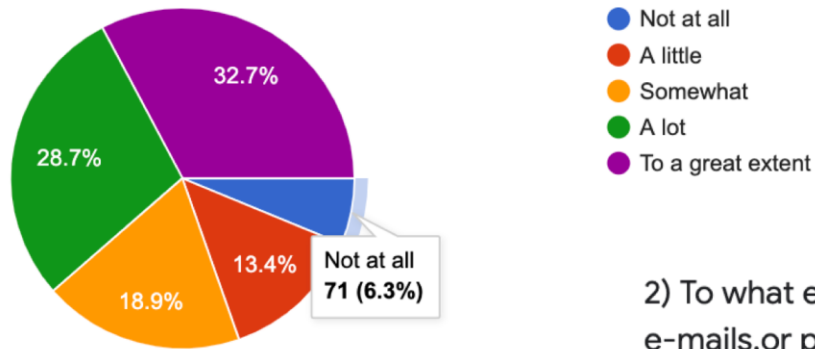
- Female persons, percent 52.1%

# Survey Results- Relationships with Community

1) To what extent does TPD develop relationships with community members (e.g., residents, organizations, and groups)?



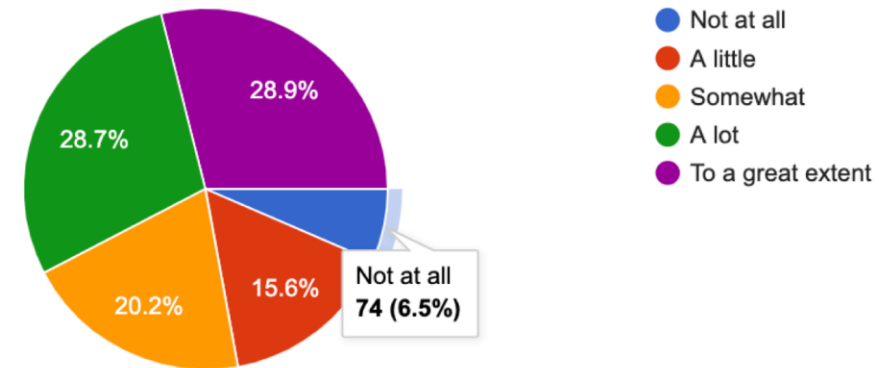
1,134 responses



2) To what extent does TPD regularly communicate with community members (e.g., websites, e-mails, or public meetings)?



1,134 responses

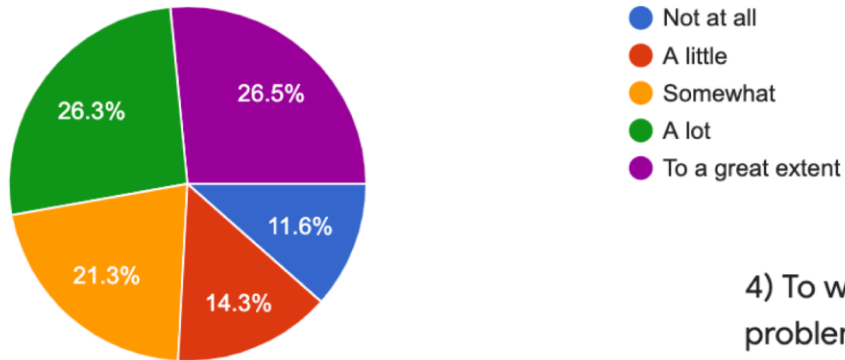


# Survey Results

## Relationship with Community

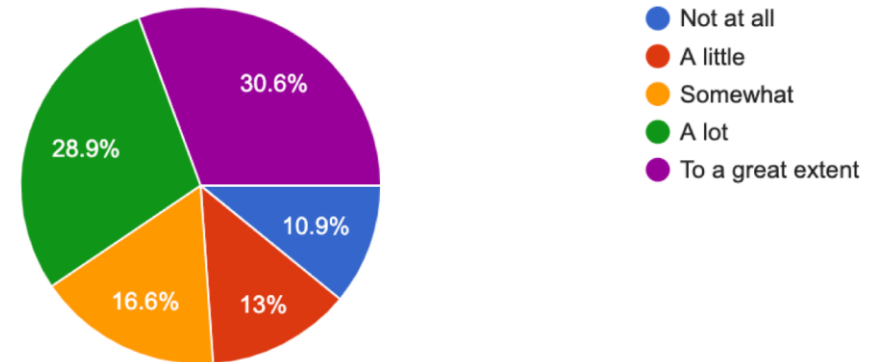
3) To what extent does TPD make it easy for community members to provide input (e.g., comments, suggestions, and concerns)?

1,134 responses



4) To what extent does TPD work together with community members to solve local problems?

1,134 responses

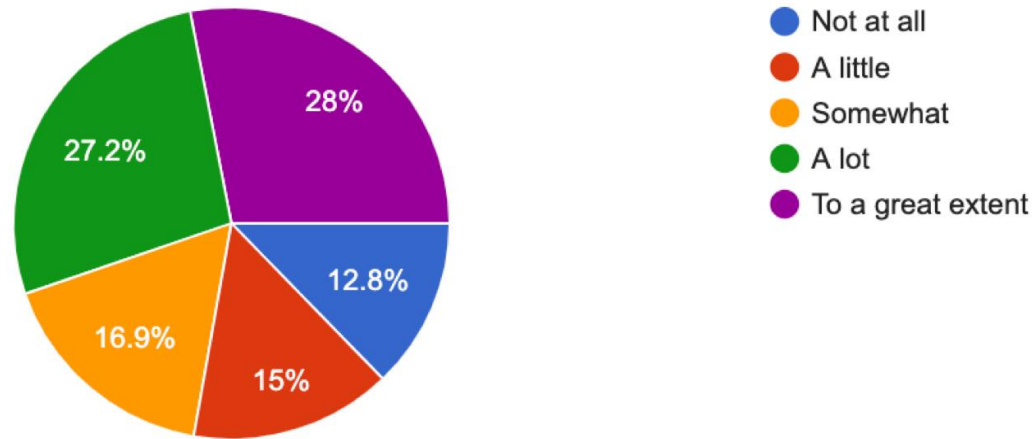


# Survey Results

## Community Policing

5) Community policing involves officers in your law enforcement agency working with the community to address the causes of crime in an effort to reduce the problems themselves through a wide range of activities. Based on this definition, to what extent do you think TPD practices community policing?

1,134 responses

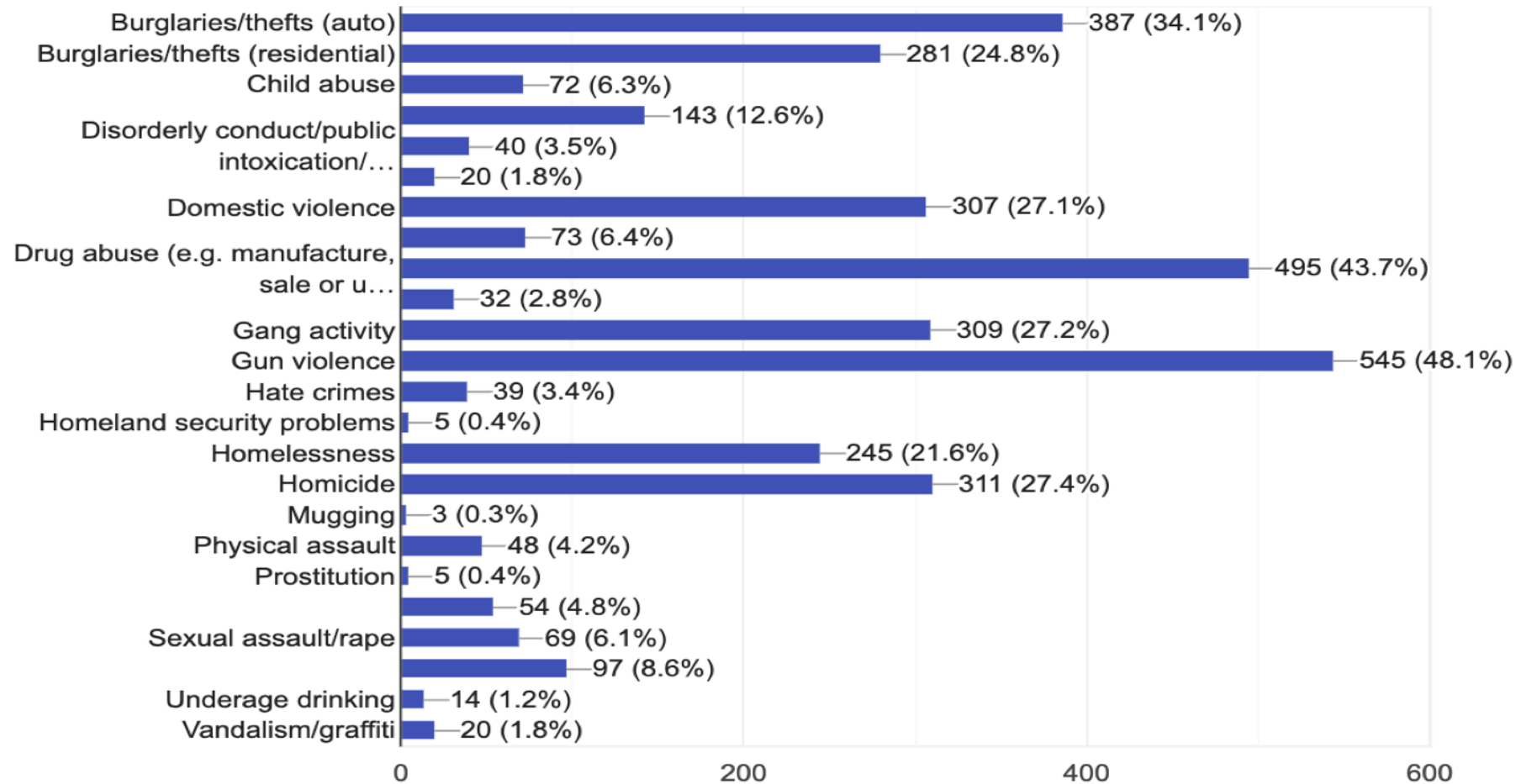


# Survey Results

## Greatest Concerns

6) Please select the three (3) issues you think are the greatest problems within your community

1,134 responses



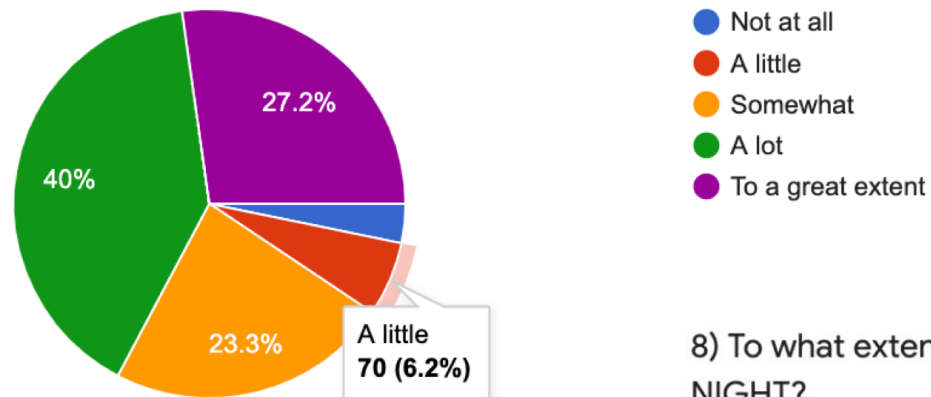
# Survey Results

## Perception of Safety

7) To what extent do you feel safe in your community when you are outside alone during the DAY?

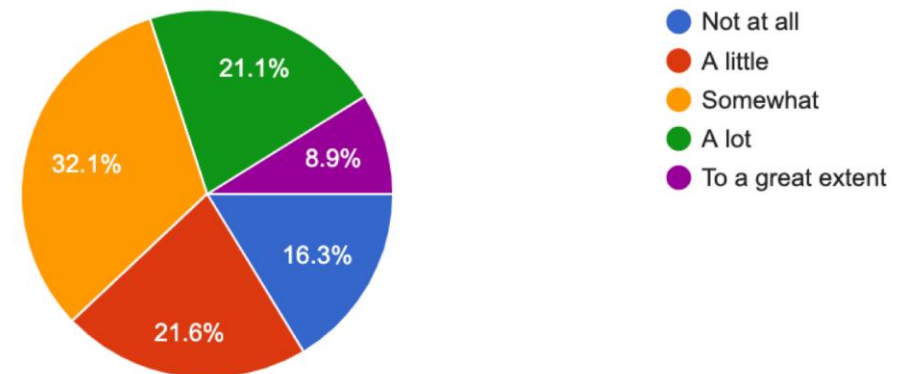


1,134 responses



8) To what extent do you feel safe in your community when you are outside alone during the NIGHT?

1,134 responses



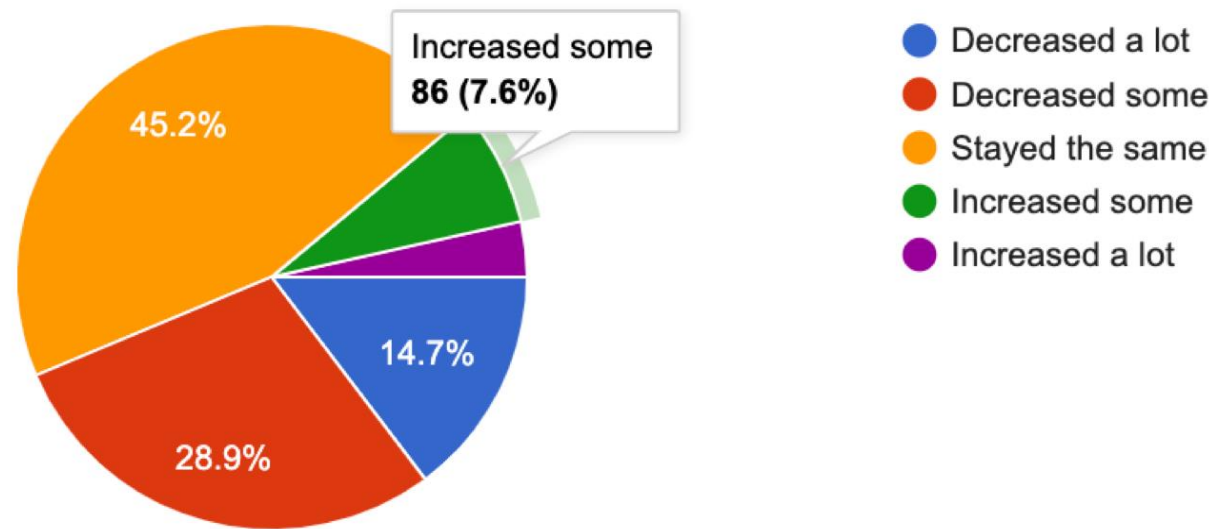
# Survey Results

## Perception of Safety

9) Over the last 12 months, to what extent have your feelings of safety in your community increased, decreased, or stayed the same?



1,134 responses



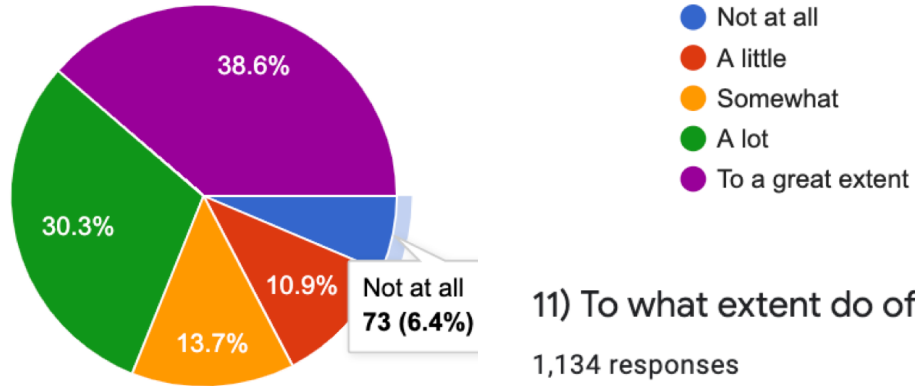
# Survey Results

## Procedural Justice

### Trust, Respect, Fairness

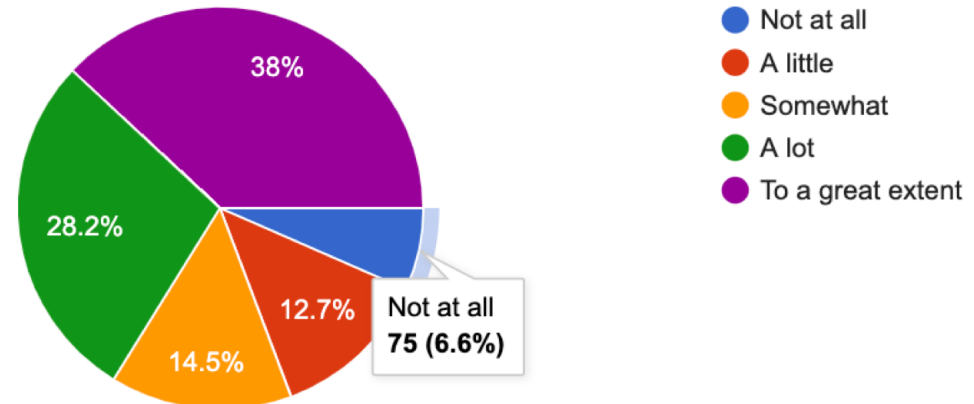
10) To what extent do officers at TPD treat people fairly?

1,134 responses



11) To what extent do officers at TPD show concern for community members?

1,134 responses





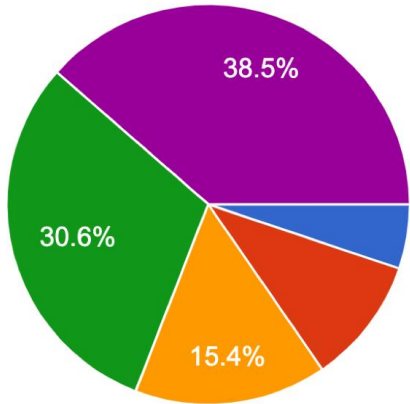
# Survey Results

## Procedural Justice

### Trust, Respect, Fairness

12) To what extent are officers at TPD respectful?

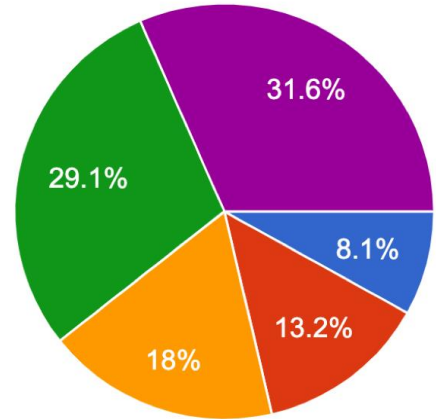
1,134 responses



- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- To a great extent

13) To what extent is TPD responsive to the concerns of community members?

1,134 responses



- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- To a great extent

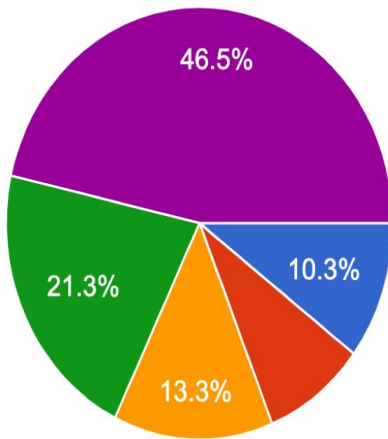
# Survey Results

## Procedural Justice

### Trust, Respect, Fairness

14) To what extent do you trust TPD?

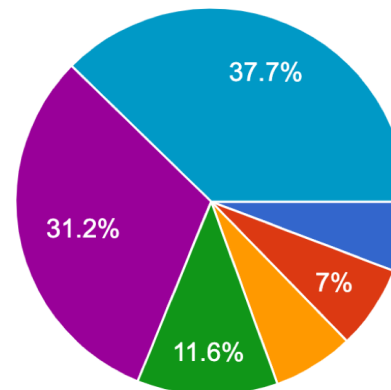
1,134 responses



- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- To a great extent

15) If you had contact with an officer from TPD during the last 12 months, to what extent did the officer sufficiently explain his or her actions and procedures?

1,134 responses



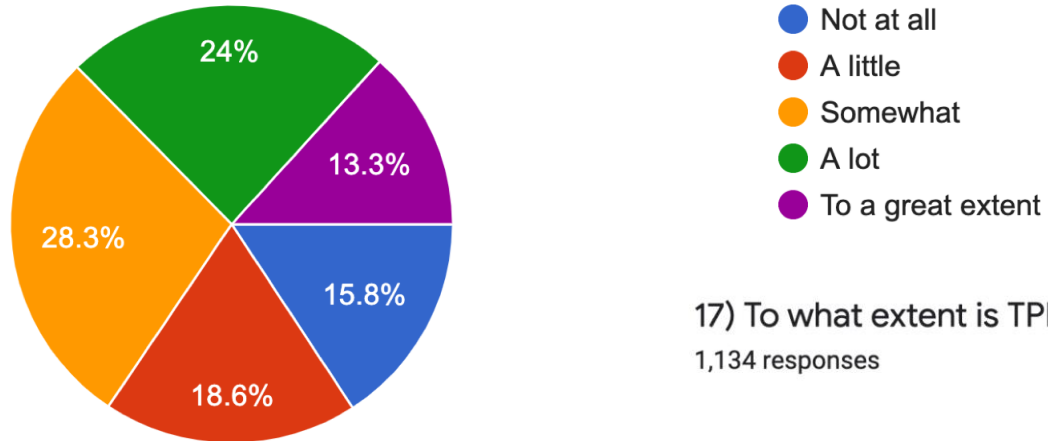
- Not at all
- A little
- Somewhat
- A lot
- To a great extent
- N/A

# Survey Results

## Crime Prevention

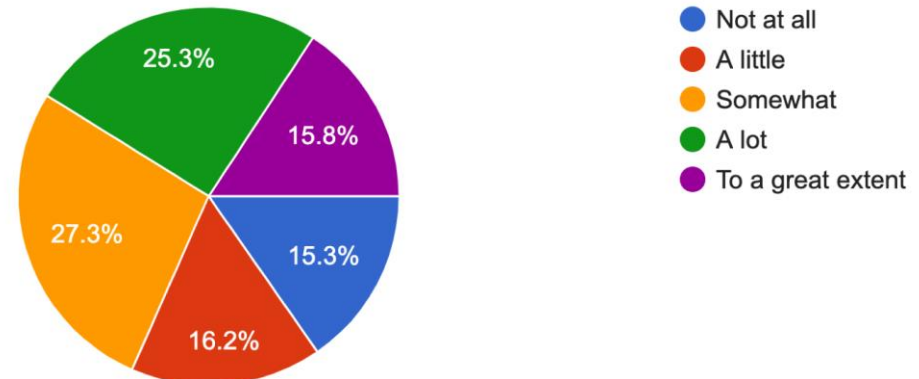
16) To what extent is TPD effective at proactively preventing crime?

1,134 responses



17) To what extent is TPD addressing the problems that really concern you?

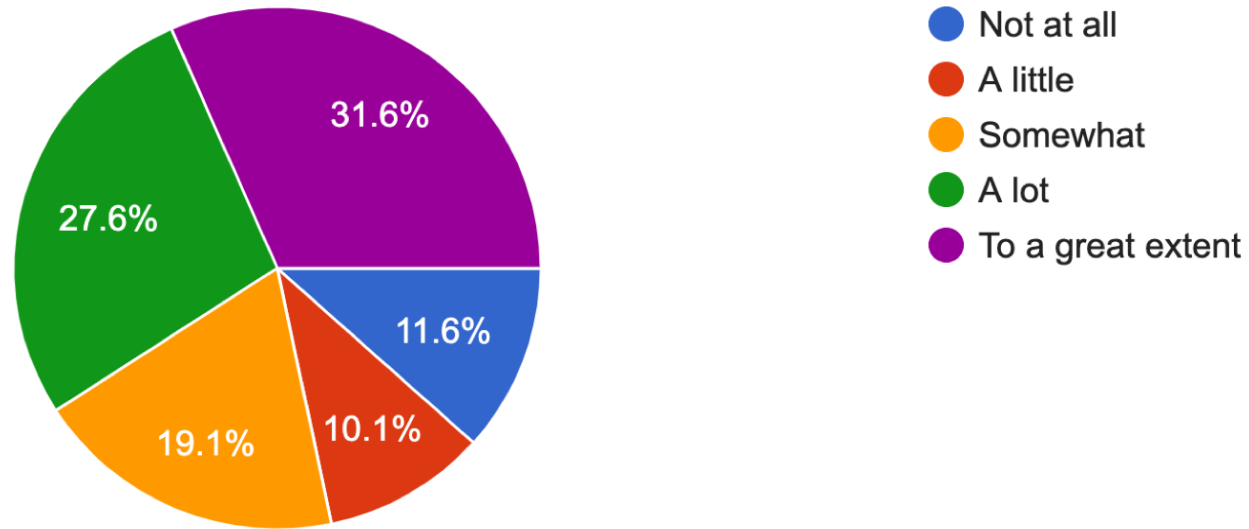
1,134 responses



# Survey Results Performance

18) To what extent are you satisfied with the overall performance of your law enforcement agency?

1,134 responses

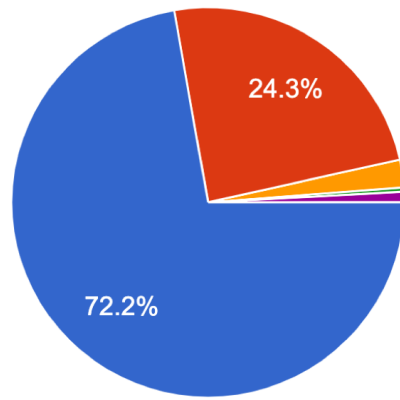


# Survey Results

## Traffic

19a) How many times in the past 12 months have you had contact with TPD for TRAFFIC ISSUES?  
(e.g.: citation, warning, or vehicle crash?)

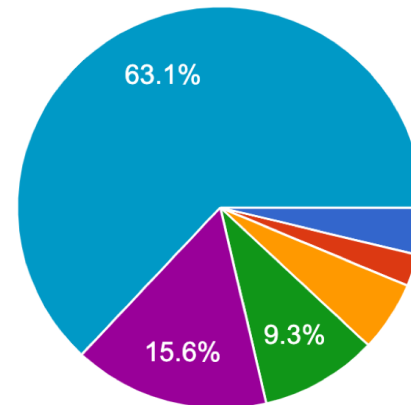
1,134 responses



- 0 times (If 0, mark N/A on question 19b)
- 1-2 times
- 3-4 times
- 5-6 times
- 7 or more times

19b) To what extent are you satisfied with your interaction with TPD for TRAFFIC ISSUES? (e.g.: citation, warning, or vehicle crash?)

1,134 responses



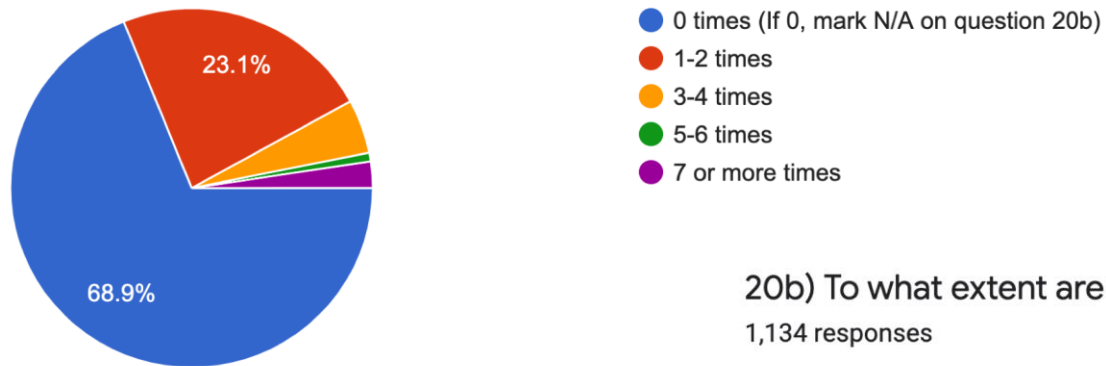
- Very dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Satisfied
- Very satisfied
- N/A

# Survey Results

## Emergency Contact

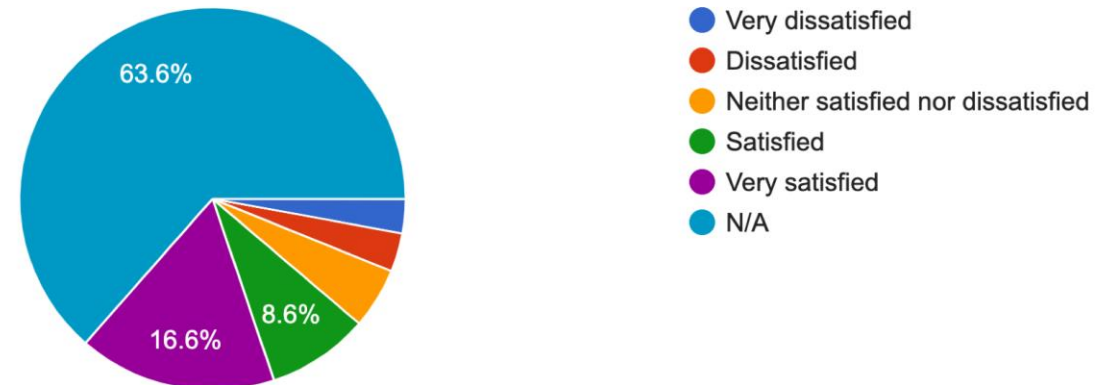
20a) How many times in the past 12 months have you had contact with TPD for 911 EMERGENCY CALLS?

1,134 responses



20b) To what extent are you satisfied with your interaction with TPD for 911 EMERGENCY CALLS?

1,134 responses

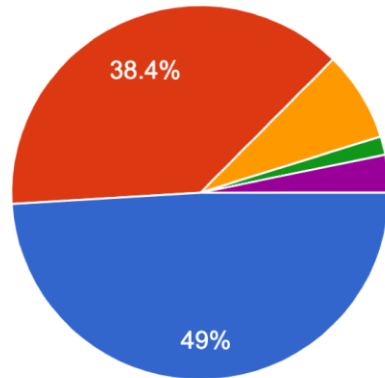


# Survey Results

## Non emergency contact

21a) How many times in the past 12 months have you had contact with TPD for NON-EMERGENCY CALLS? (e.g.: to report a crime or suspicious activity)

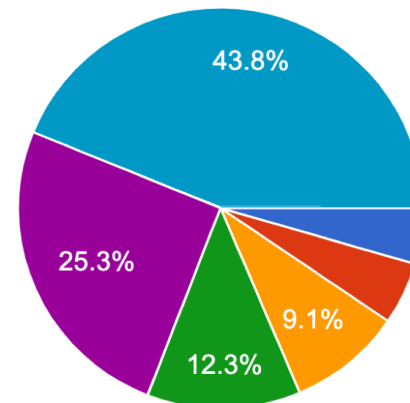
1,134 responses



- 0 times (If 0, mark N/A on question 21b)
- 1-2 times
- 3-4 times
- 5-6 times
- 7 or more times

21b) To what extent are you satisfied with your interaction with TPD for NON-EMERGENCY CALLS? (e.g.: to report a crime or suspicious activity)

1,134 responses

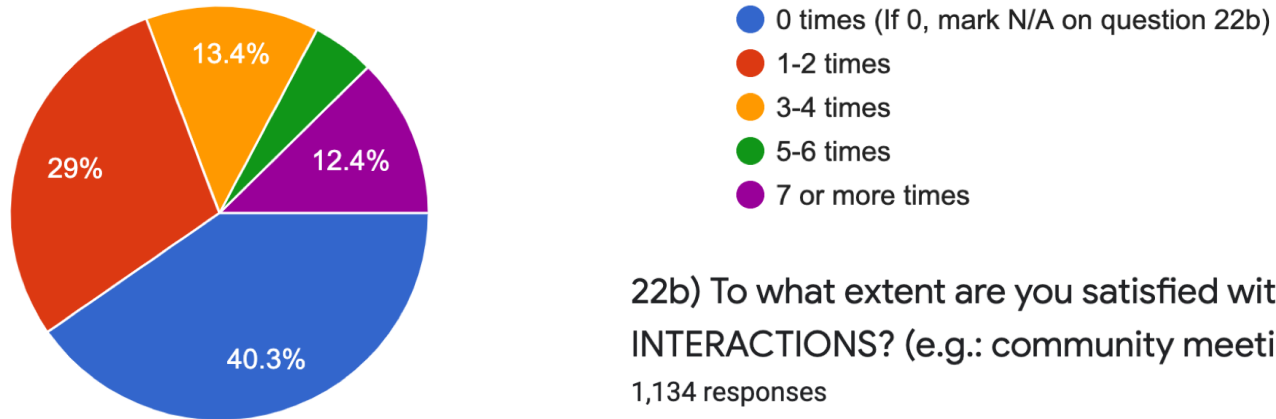


- Very dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Satisfied
- Very satisfied
- N/A

# Survey Results Other Contact

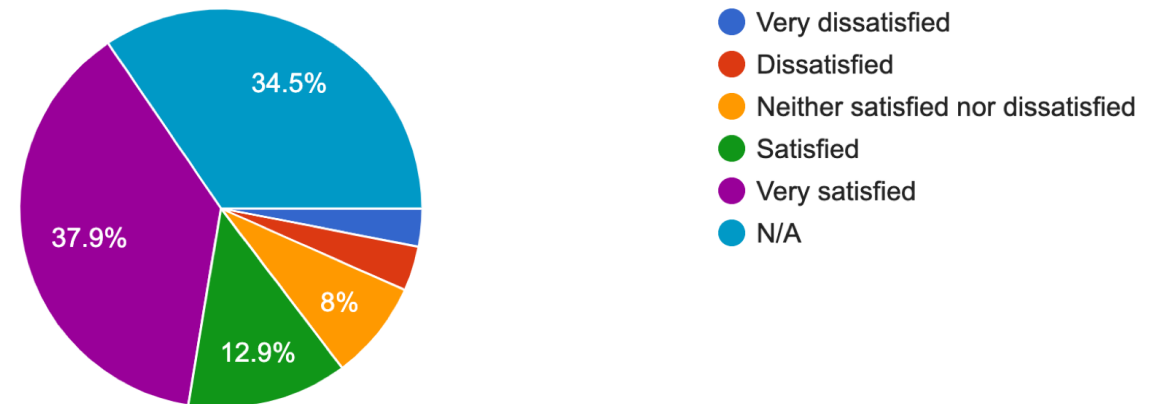
22a) How many times in the past 12 months have you had contact with TPD for OTHER CONTACTS OR INTERACTIONS? (e.g.: community meeting or talk with an officer on patrol)

1,134 responses



22b) To what extent are you satisfied with your interaction with TPD for OTHER CONTACTS OR INTERACTIONS? (e.g.: community meeting or talk with an officer on patrol)

1,134 responses





*In what ways can TPD improve? OR anything else you'd like to add?*

*\*Of the responses received, the below numbers indicate how many times a specific topic was mentioned. It is important to note that not all 1,100+ surveys included responses to the above question.\**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Community policing-increase positive interactions in the community  | 130 |
| Higher wages/more officers/faster response time   | 120 |
| Proactive policing-Specialized units designed to target specific crime such as bike unit, drug unit, and violent crime unit | 101 |
| Increase training for officers focusing on-de-escalation, implicit bias, mental health                                      | 86  |
| Treat community members with fairness, respect, and compassion  | 62  |
| Increase officer accountability   | 55  |
| Expand the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)   | 50  |
| Improve communication between the department and the community  | 33  |
| Listen to the community's feedback  | 23  |
| Increase transparency by the department   | 17  |

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Focus on youth engagement and programs                              | 13 |
| Increase diversity within the department                            | 13 |
| Focus on the mental, physical, and emotional well-being of officers | 10 |
| Establish a Citizens Review Board (CRB)                             | 8  |
| Hold officers to the same standard of the law                       | 7  |
| Demilitarize the department   | 5  |
| Education on processes and procedures by the dept to the community  | 5  |
| Hire/Identify a LGBTQ officer contact                               | 2  |