



2023-2024

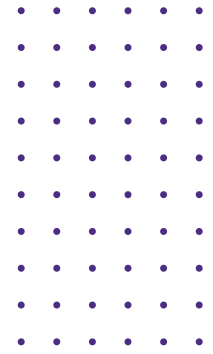
# STUDENT SAFETY DATA & RECOMMENDATIONS

PREPARED BY

**STUDENT SAFETY  
TASKFORCE**

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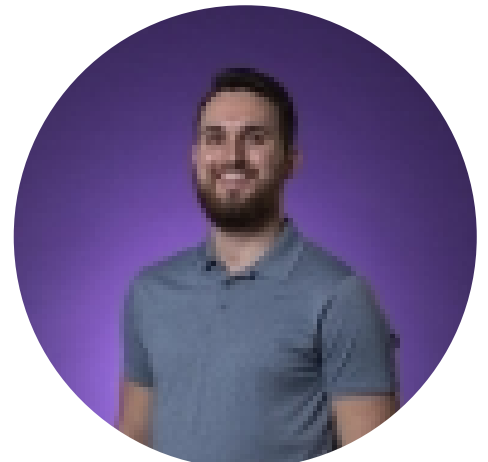
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**Enmanuel Mujica**



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# INTRODUCTION

The Student Safety Survey was created and conducted in response to the increase of crime on and around the University of Washington Tacoma campus. The survey was active and accepting responses during a period of increased vehicle break-ins, and during the beginning of Winter quarter (the month of January 2024), which is the darkest time of year.

The survey and its responses are being used to develop initiatives as well as recommendations to campus administration. ASUWT's procedures and actions are solely based on the student voice and perspective. We aim to act as the liaison between campus administration, our community, and UWT students and constituents.





## A WORD FROM THE TASKFORCE CHAIR

Thank you for taking the time to review the work that the ASUWT Student Safety Task Force has completed thus far. It has been an absolute pleasure to advocate on behalf of my fellow students this year.

I believe the survey results to be overall positive, but I do believe there is still something to gain from evaluating the logistics of the responses.

Although the results are positive, the focus on safety doesn't stop here. Retention and supplementation are key.

*Roland Heyne*

**DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS  
2023-2024**



# Survey Dissemination Information

The survey was conducted through DUBNET, UW Tacoma's student engagement platform, using the integrated survey feature. The decision to use this platform was strategically chosen over other platforms (ex. Qualtrics) to ensure easy accessibility for the UW Tacoma student body to use a platform they were already used to. Students could only access the survey using their UW NetID, ensuring that only students were completing the surveys. To maximize student participation, our promotional campaign combined several approaches to ensure all students were aware of the survey. Bi-weekly email blasts were sent through the PREZ-LINE to ensure regular, direct communication with students. On campus, daily tabling sessions during the survey period took place to offer students a face-to-face opportunity to engage with ASUWT and learn about the survey. To meet students where they were, ASUWT also conducted classroom and Registered Student Organization Presentations. Finally, a social media marketing campaign was implemented to increase the survey's visibility among students.

**The UW Tacoma Office of Institutional Research has confirmed that this survey's findings are generalizable to the current UW Tacoma student population.**

# Survey Demographics

## Race / Ethnicity

<b>3.27% (19)</b>	Indigenous
<b>2.24% (13)</b>	Pacific Islander
<b>8.61% (50)</b>	African American
<b>29.78% (173)</b>	White American
<b>20.48% (119)</b>	Asian American
<b>14.8% (86)</b>	Latino / Hispanic
<b>2.24% (13)</b>	International

## Class Standing

<b>12.39% (72)</b>	Freshman
<b>11.36% (66)</b>	Sophomore
<b>33.73% (196)</b>	Junior
<b>42.51% (247)</b>	Senior

## Other Factors

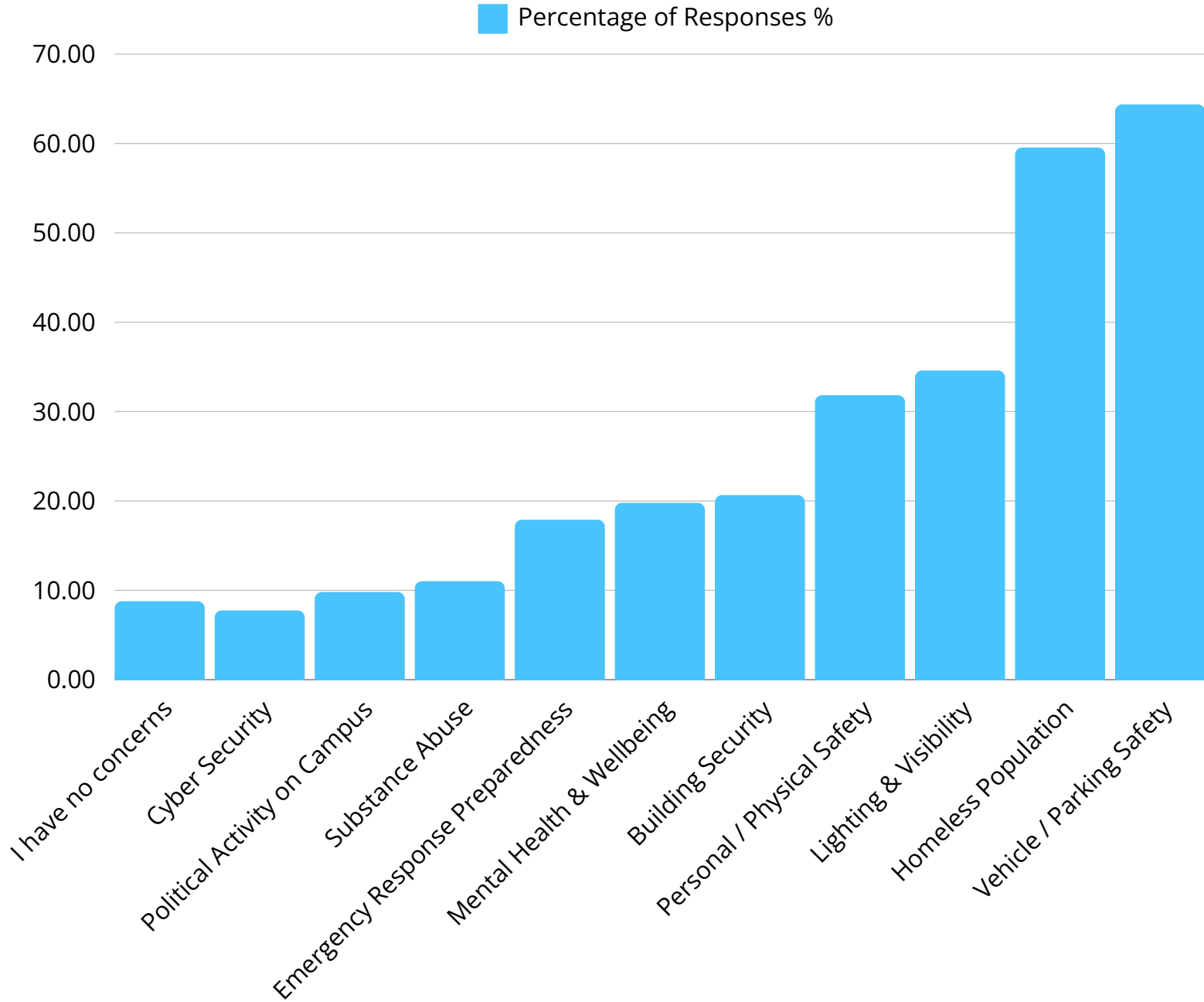
<b>6.54% (38)</b>	Veteran
<b>4.3% (25)</b>	Age => 40
<b>14.29% (83)</b>	ESL
<b>9.81% (57)</b>	Disabled
<b>17.9% (104)</b>	LGBTQ+

## Gender Identity

<b>56.11% (326)</b>	Female
<b>39.59% (230)</b>	Male
<b>3.96% (23)</b>	Nonbinary

# Survey Data

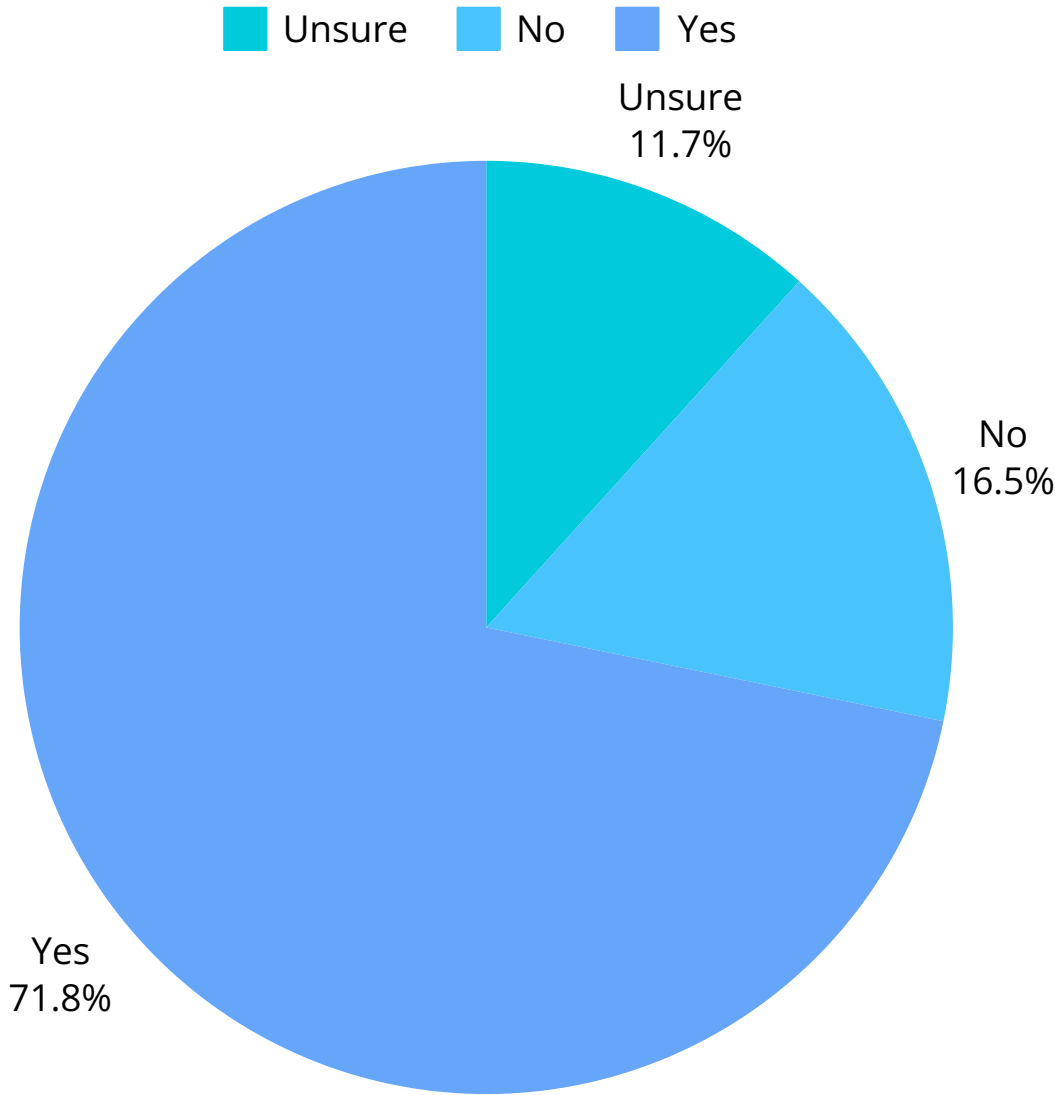
CHART 1.0 REPORTED PRIMARY SAFETY CONCERNS ON CAMPUS



Question: What are your primary safety concerns on campus? (Select all that apply)

# Survey Data

CHART 2.0 CAMPUS SAFETY RESOURCE AWARENESS

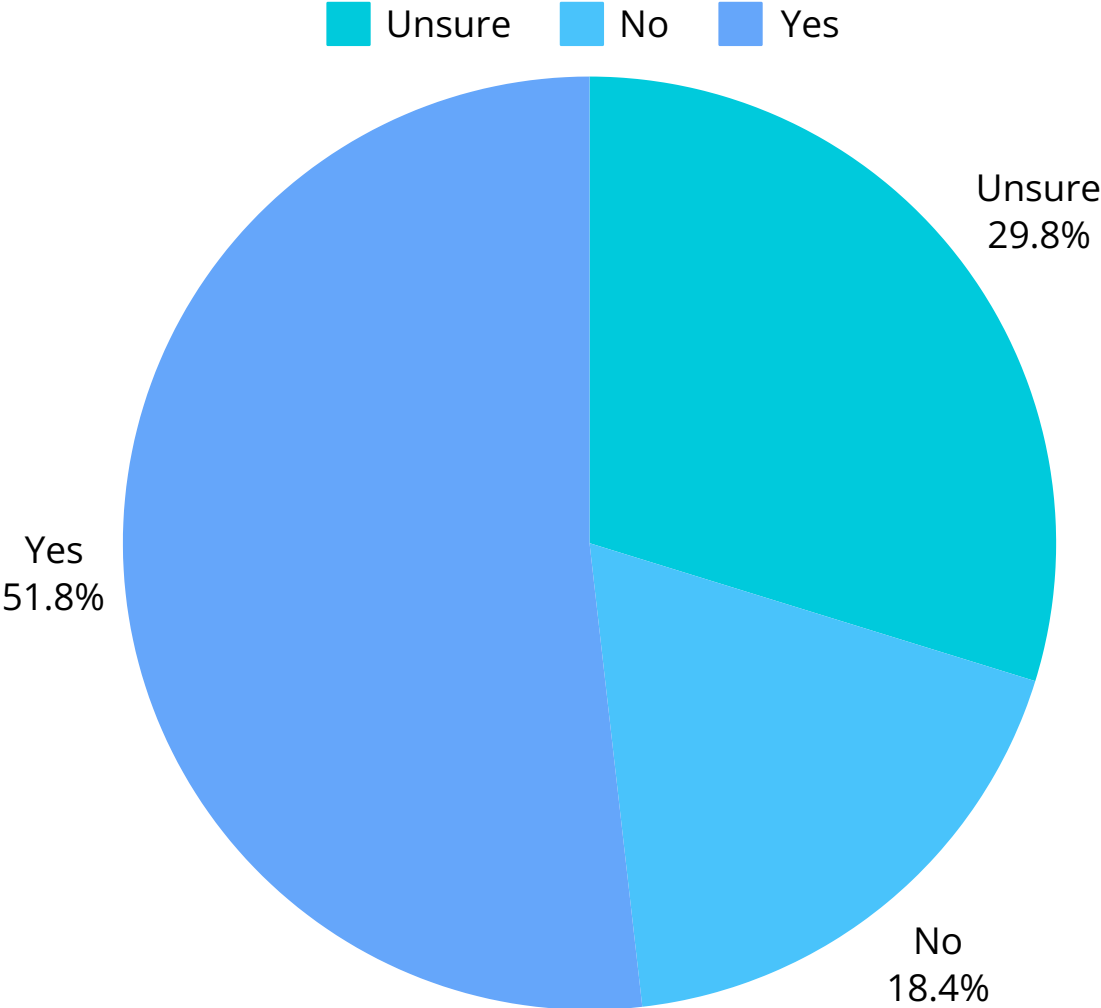


Question: Are you aware of the campus safety services and resources available to students, such as emergency call boxes, campus security, safety escorts, or safety workshops?



# Survey Data

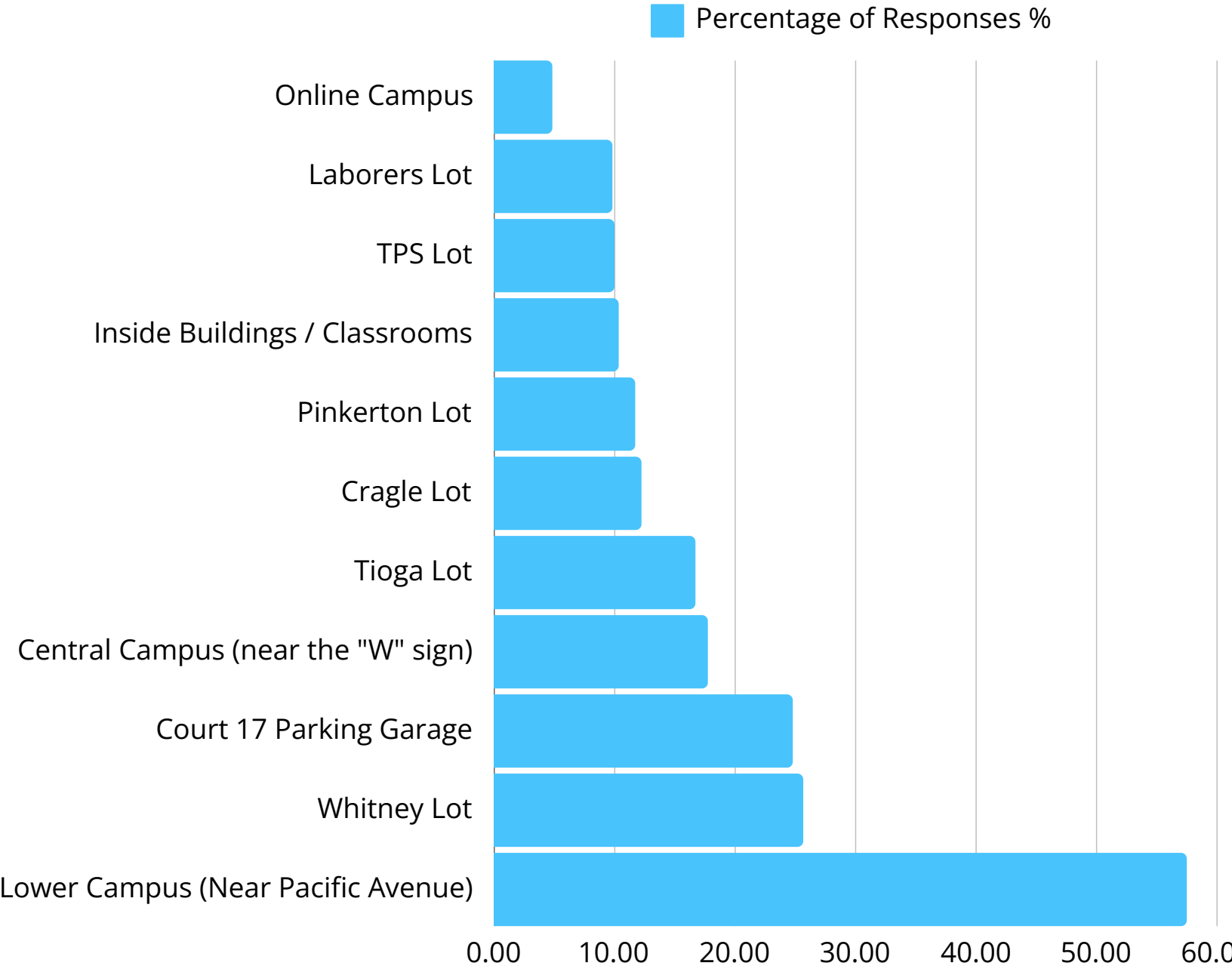
CHART 3.0 EMERGENCY SITUATION CONFIDENCE



Question: Do you feel confident in your knowledge of what to do in an emergency situation?

# Survey Data

CHART 4.0 LEAST SAFE LOCATIONS ON CAMPUS

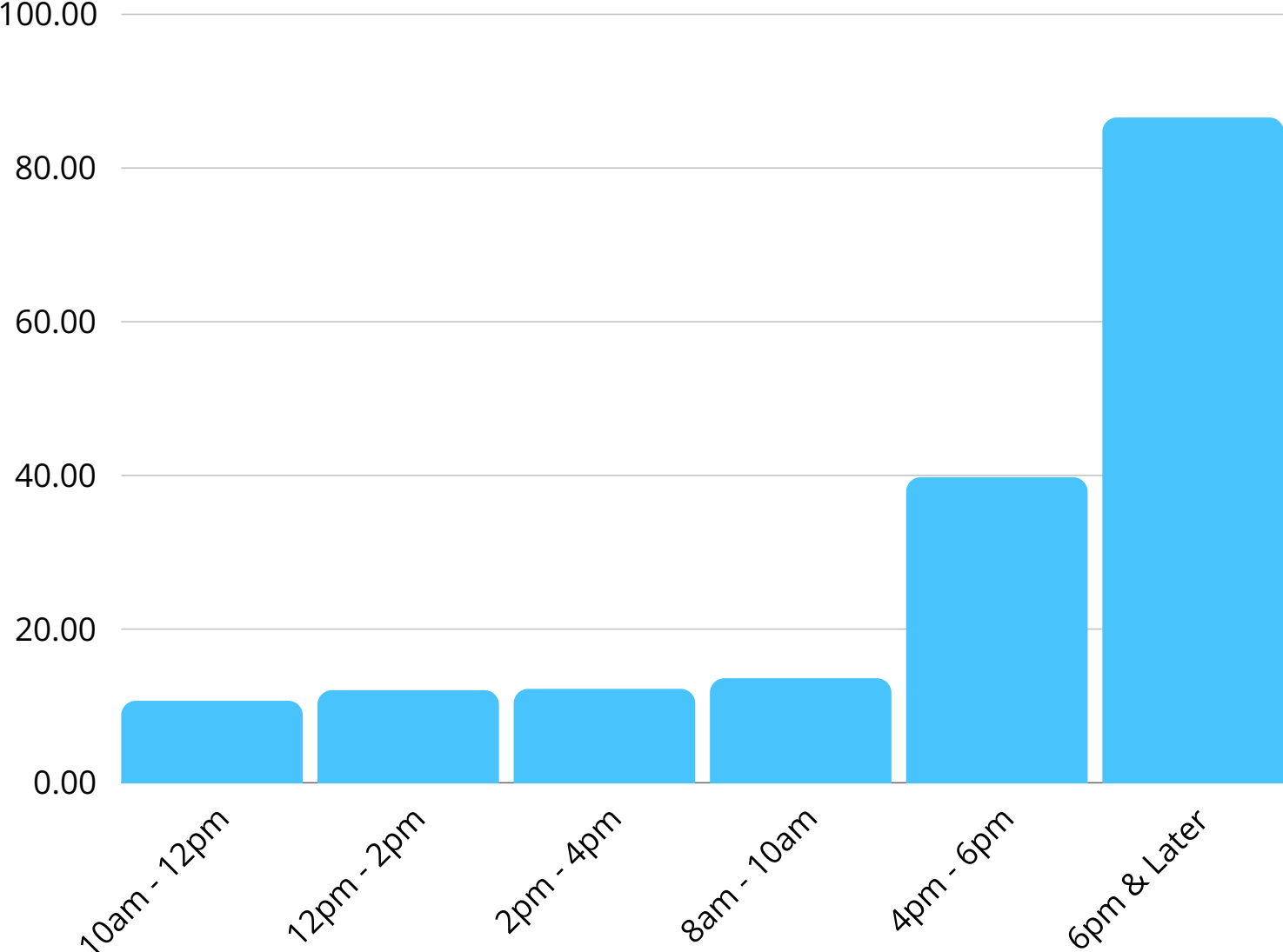


Question: Which location(s) do you feel least safe at on campus?

# Survey Data

CHART 5.0 LEAST SAFE TIMES ON CAMPUS

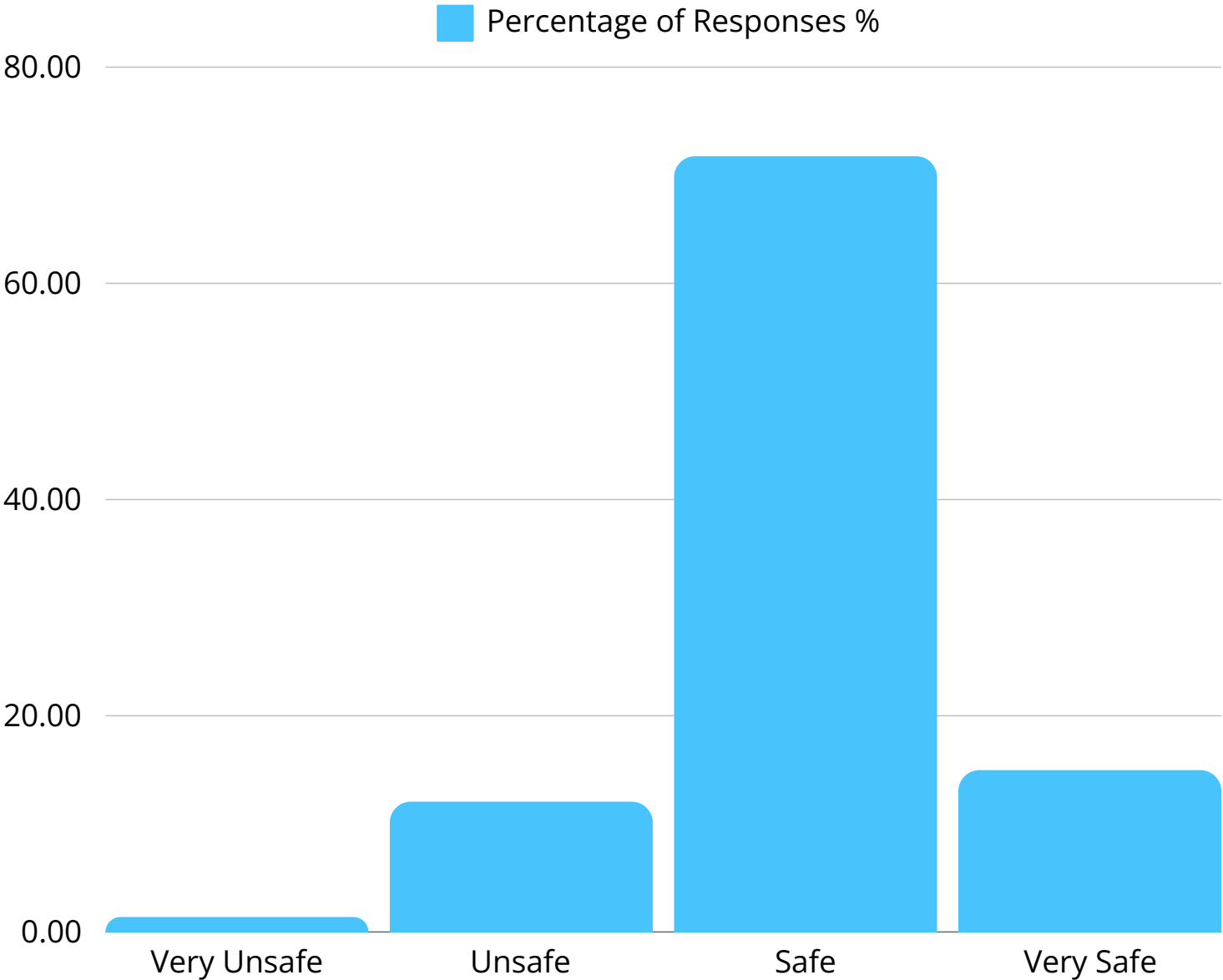
Percentage of Responses %



Question: What time(s) do you feel least safe at on campus?

# Survey Data

CHART 6.0 OVERALL SAFETY RATING



Question: How safe do you feel on campus?

# Qualitative Data Processing Methodology

## Survey Questions

After being asked how safe they felt on campus, students were provided the opportunity to elaborate on their choice/a personal experience. If students did not want to respond, they were instructed to say “N/A”.

## Preprocessing of Responses

Before formal analysis, responses underwent several preprocessing steps:

- Normalization of Text: This involved converting all text to a consistent format to ensure it was easily readable by the software.
- Removal of Irrelevant Responses: Any responses marked as “N/A” were excluded from the analysis to ensure data quality and relevance.

## Natural Language Processing (NLP)

The preprocessed data was then analyzed using Natural Language Processing using Python tools Natural Language Toolkit (NLTK) and TextBlob to do the following:

- Sentiment Analysis: Assessed the sentiments expressed in the text, categorizing them as positive, negative, or neutral.
- Keyword Extraction: Identified key words in the text that were commonly used across the responses.

## Categorization Based on Themes

Finally, the responses were categorized based on common themes detected through the Natural Language Processing that created actionable categories based on the survey question and responses.

# Please elaborate on your choice (Feel free to share a personal experience if you would like) Otherwise, type "N/A".

Question: How safe do you feel on campus?

## N/A (30.0%)

Students did not choose to elaborate or share a personal experience, and did as instructed by typing "N/A".

## General Safety (24.9%)

Students shared mixed feelings or factual statements about specific incidents regarding their safety on campus.

Many students discussed aspects like feeling unsafe at times on campus, interactions with the homeless, and the presence of campus safety, highlighting both positive and negative experiences.

## Safety During Different Times (19.6%)

Students shared their feelings about campus safety during various times of day. They expressed concerns about walking to and from campus during late hours, the safety of parking areas, and how these factors influenced their class attendance or decision to participate in evening activities on campus.

## Property Safety (11.0%)

Students expressed concerns regarding issues with car break-ins and theft. Concerns were raised about the reliability of these security measures to prevent theft and break-ins.

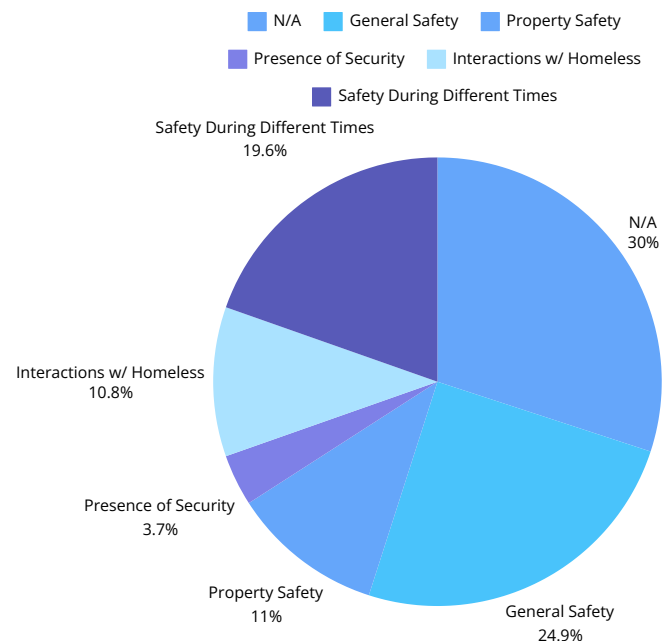
## Interactions w/ Homeless (10.8%)

Students mentioned how interactions with homeless individuals around campus areas affected their sense of security while on campus and in the surrounding community.

## Campus Security Presence (3.7%)

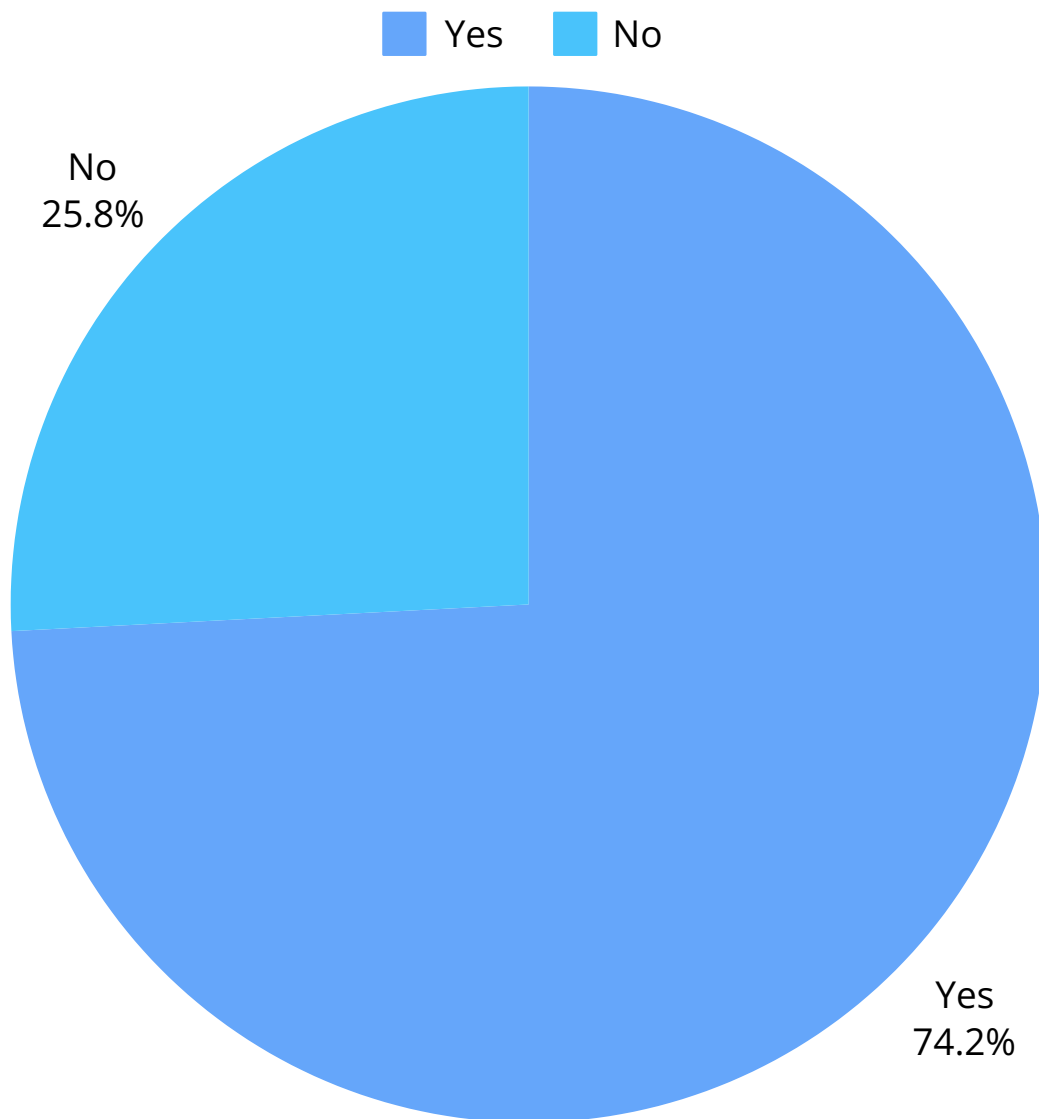
Students expressed that the presence of security personnel was generally positive. However, some concerns were raised about the effectiveness of security personnel during specific incidents, such as interactions with homeless individuals and thefts that occurred on campus.

CHART 7.0 FREE RESPONSE SENTIMENTS



# Survey Data

CHART 7.0 CAMPUS SHUTTLE



Question: UW Seattle has recently developed a shuttle system where students can dial for a ride. Would this be something that you think UW Tacoma students will benefit from? The shuttle would theoretically be able to pick students up from anywhere on campus and transport them to other campus locations.