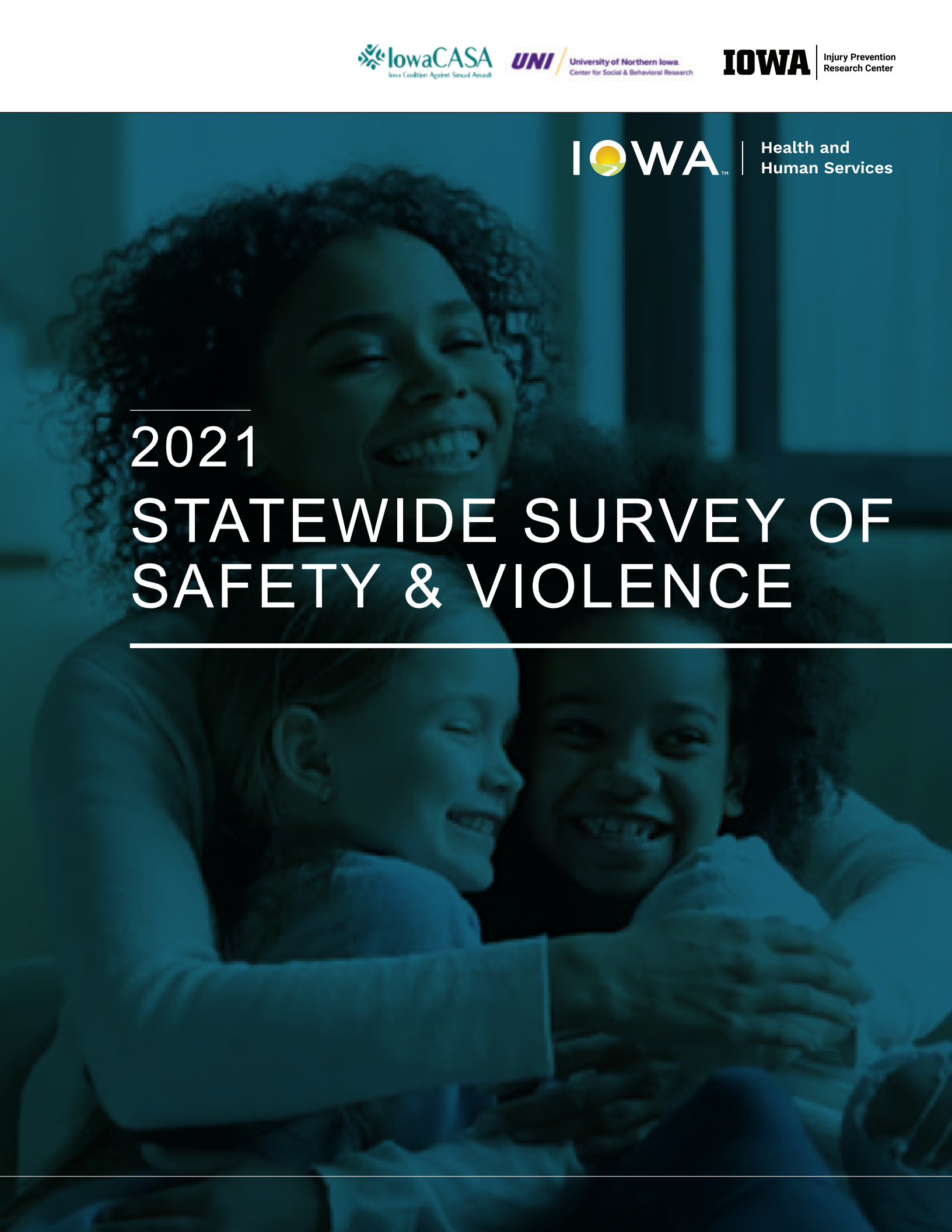


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2021

# STATEWIDE SURVEY OF SAFETY & VIOLENCE

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In order to understand the beliefs, attitudes, and experiences of Iowans on the issue of violence, a statewide survey was completed. A survey was facilitated to Iowa adults via a phone or online survey, and results are detailed in the following report.

Adult Iowans expressed that, as a whole, violence is a minimal problem within the state. However, their perspective on the severity and experience of distinctive types of violence vary. The largest reported concern of violence among Iowa communities is youth bullying. When addressing personal readiness, adults overwhelmingly responded that they would express concern if harm was committed to someone they knew. They were more likely to intervene if they saw physical harm committed than if there was verbal harm or harassment.

When asked at the end of the survey, Iowans reported a meaningful tie to the issue of violence. Almost 70% of Iowans reported personally knowing someone who had been physically, emotionally, or verbally abused. Of that, 40% had been abused themselves. Addressing violence and safety is a priority that affects the lives of Iowans—adult and child. Considering the size of the population effected, addressing violence as it is defined by our communities is of up-most importance.

To create sustainable safety in Iowa communities, children must be informed on how to navigate harm. More than 87% of the parents surveyed said they had spoken with their child about what to do if they experienced psychological violence or bullying. However, parents were less likely to speak to their children about what to do if they experienced sexual harm or non-consent, or physical and emotional abuse. Only 16% report discussing not perpetrating violence towards others, in the areas sexual harm, physical abuse, emotional abuse, or verbal abuse.

Iowa adults reported the highest concern of violence in youth bullying, and survey responses show that additional supports are needed for families to feel supported in this prevention area. Efforts are needed to inform communities on which organizations and resources can support the stopping of youth harm before it happens, particularly in youth populations.

## SURVEY BACKGROUND

As part of the evaluation of Iowa's Rape Prevention Education (RPE) program the University of Iowa partnered with the University of Northern Iowa Center for Social and Behavioral Research (CSBR) to conduct a cross-sectional survey about safety and violence in Iowa, the 2021 Statewide Survey of Safety & Violence (hereafter, 'survey'). The survey was designed to gather perceptions and feedback about topics including safety and violence in the community, direct experiences with various types of violence, and awareness of resources and prevention services in the state. A full survey is included in Appendix A. This report includes a brief overview of the methods used for the survey and the weighted descriptive results.

### What is Violence?

Violence is defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) as "the intentional use of physical force or power – threatened or actual — against oneself, another person, or against a group or community — that either result in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or deprivation."

There are many different types of violence and many terms that describe violence based on the individuals involved as either victims/survivors (individuals who experience harm) or perpetrators (individuals who cause harm). Different types of violence also sometimes reference the situations or relationships in which harm occurs.

**TABLE 1** provides the survey-specific definitions of various forms of violence that were included in the 2021 Statewide Survey of Safety & Violence. While these forms of violence are not the only forms of violence that occur in Iowa; they are some of the most common forms.

### Methods

The survey utilized a mixed-mode design that included participants self-administering an online survey or participating in a computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI). The online survey and CATI were available in English and Spanish. Further details on the methods have been published elsewhere.<sup>8</sup> All study procedures and materials were reviewed and approved by the University of Northern Iowa Institutional Review Board (Approval #20 - 00024).

### Population & Sampling Design

The survey focused on Iowans aged 18 to 65. The initial recruitment goal was roughly 1000 individuals; however, after experiencing lower than expected response rates, a revised target of 600 individuals was set and a \$10 contingent incentive was added to the study design. The sampling frame was obtained from Marketing Systems Group (MSG) and included 11,729 phone numbers. Both landline (20%) and wireless (80%) telephone numbers were included. Roughly half (51%) of these numbers were appended with residential addresses.

A total of 621 surveys were completed (386 telephone and 235 online, respectively) with respondents from 86 Iowa counties. The final dataset included 349 (90.4%) telephone interview surveys from the wireless random digit dialing sample, and 37 (9.6%) telephone interviews from the landline sample. A total of 13 telephone interviews were conducted in Spanish; there were no surveys completed online in Spanish. A total of 355, \$10 Amazon gift cards were emailed to respondents who opted to receive the compensation after completing the survey.

Response rates were calculated using the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) RR3 calculation.<sup>9</sup> The overall response rate for both modes combined was 33.3% (RR3, AAPOR, 2016). The overall cooperation rate (AAPOR CR3) was 83.2%.

TABLE 1. SURVEY DEFINITIONS FOR COMMON FORMS OF VIOLENCE

Violence Type	Survey Definition	Related forms of violence <sup>1</sup>	Number of Iowans Affected (Data Source)
<b>Child abuse/neglect</b>	The abuse or neglect of a child under age 18, by a caregiver, or other adult	Physical abuse, child sexual abuse (CSA), emotional abuse, neglect of a child's basic physical and emotional needs (child neglect), child maltreatment	11,271 children (individuals under age 18) in Iowa experienced maltreatment (2021) <sup>1</sup>  10,765 confirmed or founded cases of denial of critical care (neglect) and 7417 confirmed or founded for abuse (2022). <sup>2</sup> This does not count children experiencing abuse, but rather instances of abuse/neglect experienced. The total confirmed or founded child abuse reports for the state in 2022 was 18,182. <sup>2</sup>
<b>Elder abuse/neglect</b>	The abuse or neglect of an individual over age 60	Physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, neglect of basic needs, financial abuse <sup>1</sup>	380 elder abuse cases founded (abuse occurred, perpetrator registered) <sup>3,4</sup>  164 elder abuse cases confirmed (abuse occurred, perpetrator not registered) <sup>3,4</sup>  2,909 elder abuse reports unfounded (abuse did not occur according to state definition) <sup>3,4</sup>
<b>Intimate partner violence</b>	Physical, emotional, or verbal abuse that occurs between current or former romantic partners	Physical violence, sexual violence, psychological violence, threats of violence	<b>Experience SV, physical violence, and/or stalking by intimate partner:</b> Women: 35.3%, Men: 29.3%, <sup>5</sup>  <b>Experience psychological aggression by intimate partner:</b> Women: 45.4%, Men: 42% <sup>5</sup>
<b>Bullying</b>	Physical or psychological violence between young people 10 to 24 years old	Youth violence	15.9% youth electronically bullied (texting, social media) <sup>6</sup>  15% bullied at school <sup>6</sup>
<b>Sexual violence</b>	Sexual activity without consent or where consent was coerced	Contact or non-contact sexual abuse, attempted or completed sex acts	<b>Lifetime prevalence of rape in Iowans</b> Women: 16.9% estimated victims  <b>Lifetime prevalence of sexual violence other than rape in Iowans</b> Women: 33.1%, est victims Men: 19.8%, est victims <sup>5</sup>  <b>Among Iowa high school aged youth:</b> 12% experience sexual violence by anyone <sup>6</sup> 10% physical dating violence <sup>6</sup>
<b>Suicide</b>	Suicide or suicidal thoughts or ideation	Suicide ideation, suicide attempts	<b>Iowans 18+:</b> 131,165 experienced thoughts of suicide; 40,227 made a suicide plan; 13,165 attempted; 557 completed <sup>7</sup>  <b>Iowa Youth:</b> 22.2% seriously considered attempting suicide <sup>6</sup> 10.2% actually attempted suicide <sup>6</sup>

### Weighting Procedure

Weighting using standard Census metrics of Iowa's adult population was applied to the full survey sample yielding an overall correction and adjustment in the final weights which were used to compensate for under- or overrepresentation of demographic groups. This correction is observed in the side-by-side comparison of the unweighted and weighted distributions of respondents by demographic characteristics in **TABLE 2**.

The remainder of this report presents the weighted survey proportions according to the different domains that were included in the survey.

### Respondent Demographics

When asked about their current age, 14.9% of adult Iowans (hereafter referred to as Iowans) were between 18-24 years old, 19.6% between 25-34 years old, 20.6% between 35-44 years old, 19.6% between 45-54 years old, and 25.3% between 55-65 years old. Respondents were asked to select the answer they most identified by.

The majority of Iowans (82.4%) identified as White. This majority was followed by 3.8% Black or African American, 3.0% multiracial, 2.3% Asian, and 0.6% American Indian/Alaska Native. Multiracial Iowans were asked a follow-up question of which group "best represented" their race. 74.8% of this group answered White, 11.3% as Black or African American, 9.8% as American Indian or Alaska Native, and 4.2% as Asian.

Most Iowans completed an associate degree, trade schooling, or some college (38.2%), followed by a high school degree or equivalent (26.4%). Over 20% of Iowans completed a bachelor's degree, followed by 8.4% who completed a master's or other professional degree and 6.3% completing less than a high school degree.

Most Iowans reported working full-time (64.5%). This was followed by 10.1% who worked part-time, 7.1% who were retired, and 6.6% who were self-employed. The remaining portion of Iowans were current students (4.1%), unemployed/seeking work (4.1%), stay-at-home parents (2.5%), or were unemployed/not seeking work (2.2%).

Because the survey administration period took place during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic (during which many lowans' employment was affected) lowans were also asked whether the COVID-19 pandemic "negatively impacted" their employment. Among those working part-time or were unemployed, over 40% confirmed their job was negatively affected by the pandemic. This may mean that the proportions of individuals that reported certain employment statuses (e.g., unemployed or working part-time) may have been higher than normal for the respondents to this survey.

Over 18.9% of Iowa households made \$100,000 to less than \$150,000, and 16.1% reported \$50,000 to less than \$75,000. 15.7% reported \$75,000 to less than \$100,000, and 14.3% reported \$150,000 or more. 10.8% of Iowa households reported \$35,000 to less than \$50,000, and 9.1% made less than \$15,000. 5.9% reported \$15,000 to less than \$25,000, and 6% made \$25,000 to less than \$35,000.

In terms of the 31 respondents that did not feel comfortable providing an estimate using the income bands above, most of these survey respondents (42.8%) made more than \$50,000 annually (n=16), followed by 19.7% who made less than \$50,000 dollars (n=8). 17.7% made equal to \$50,000 (n=7).

Most lowans reside in either a rural area (37.7%), in a city of 50,000 to less than 150,000 people (26%), or in a large town of 5,000 to less than 25,000 people (20.6%). The remaining portion of lowans identified their place of residence as either a city of 25,000 to less than 50,000 people (8.1%) or a city of 150,000 people or more (7.5%). From a different perspective, 66.4% of lowans identified their place of residence as having less than 50,000 people, and 33.6% in an area with greater than 50,000 people. The counties with the greatest representation were Polk County (15.9%), Linn County (9.1%), and Blackhawk County (5.2%).

Most lowans identified as a male (48.7%) or female (50.7%), while 0.2% identified as genderqueer/gender-nonconforming or non-binary/other. When asked about sexual orientation, most lowans identified as straight/heterosexual (91%). This majority was followed by individuals who identified as lesbian/gay (3.2%), bisexual (2.9%), and queer/pansexual/questioning (1.8%).

Half of lowans (55.1%) identified as married, followed by single and not living with a partner (16.8%), single and living with a partner (14.6%), and divorced (8.5%). A very small percentage of lowans identified as separated (3.4%) or widowed (1.5%).

TABLE 2. DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

	SAMPLE SIZE <sup>[1]</sup> (N)	UNWEIGHTED %	POP. ESTIMATE %
<b>TOTAL SAMPLE</b>	<b>621</b>		
<b>GENDER/SEX</b>			
Male	272	43.8%	49.2%
Female	349	56.2%	50.8%
Other			
<b>AGE GROUP</b>			
18-24	49	7.9%	14.9%
25-34	90	15.5%	19.6%
35-44	128	20.6%	20.6%
45-54	147	23.7%	19.6%
55-65	207	33.3%	25.3%
<b>ETHNICITY</b>			
Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin	37	6.0%	5.9%
Non-Hispanic	584	94.0%	94.1%
<b>RACE</b> (further racial demographic breakdown is in the narrative)			
White	584	94.0%	90.2%
Non-White	37	6.0%	9.8%
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
No college	146	23.5%	32.1%
Some college	200	32.2%	38.5%
Bachelor's degree	174	28.0%	20.7%
Master's degree	101	16.3%	8.7%



	SAMPLE SIZE <sup>[1]</sup> (N)	UNWEIGHTED %	POP. ESTIMATE %
<b>TOTAL SAMPLE</b>	<b>621</b>		
<b>INCOME</b>			
Less than \$25,000	80	12.9%	14.2%
\$25,000 to less than \$35,000	36	5.8%	5.6%
\$35,000 to less than \$50,000	68	11.0%	11.0%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	105	16.9%	17.5%
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	102	16.4%	16.6%
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000	141	22.7%	20.6%
\$250,000 or more	89	14.3%	14.5%
<b>MARITAL STATUS</b>			
Married	386	62.2%	55.2%
Divorced, widowed, separated	68	11.0%	13.3%
Single, not living with a partner	105	16.9%	16.7%
Single, living with a partner	62	10.0%	14.8%
<b>PLACE OF RESIDENCE</b>			
Rural	149	24.0%	19.3%
Less than 5,000 population	115	18.5%	19.5%
5,000 to less than 24,999 population	103	16.6%	19.8%
25,000 to less than 49,999 population	76	12.2%	8.1%
50,000 to less than 149,999 population	106	17.1%	25.9%
150,000 population or more	72	11.6%	7.4%

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SECTION 1

# PERCEPTIONS OF VIOLENCE

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Iowans' perceptions of violence and resources around violence prevention and response are important components of understanding how to most effectively prevent and respond to violence in Iowa's communities.

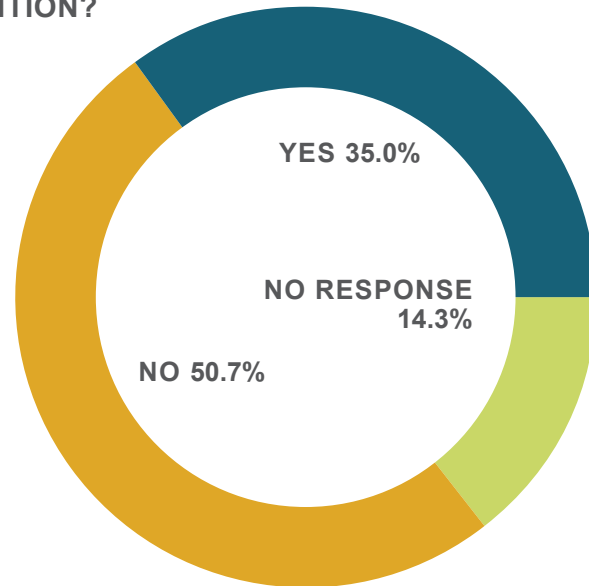


Iowans were asked if they knew of any organizations/groups in their community that worked to prevent violence, as well as organizations that provided support to survivors of violence. If they answered 'yes' to either question, they were asked to follow up with the name of the organization (if they could recall it) and what types of violence that organization worked to prevent or respond to. **FIGURE 1** displays the breakdown of responses.

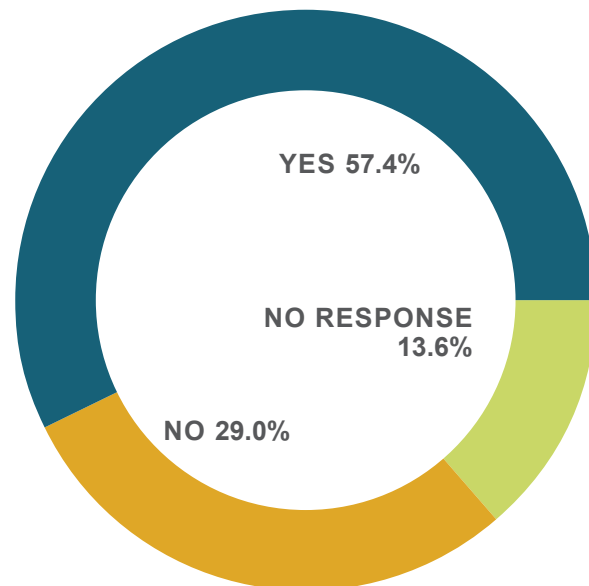
**Iowans appeared to be more aware of specific organizations that provide victim services than prevention.** 57.4% confirmed they knew an organization or group that worked in victim/survivor services, while 35% confirmed they knew an organization or group that worked in violence prevention.

**FIGURE 1**  
**DO YOU KNOW OF AN ORGANIZATION OR GROUP ...**

**THAT WORKS IN VIOLENCE PREVENTION?**



**THAT WORKS IN VICTIM/SURVIVOR SERVICES?**



Iowans were asked how large of a problem they found different forms of violence to be in their home communities. The four-point response scale ranged from ‘not a problem’, ‘a small problem’, ‘a moderate problem’, to ‘a very big problem’. **FIGURE 2** displays the breakdown of responses.

**Overall, Iowans perceived the forms of violence very differently.** Child abuse/neglect and sexual violence were most frequently perceived as ‘a small problem’; (36.3% and 36.8% respectively). Intimate partner violence was perceived near equally as ‘a small problem’, (32.7%) and ‘a moderate problem’ (33.9%), as was suicide/ideation, with 34.3% of Iowans viewing the topic as ‘a small problem’, and 32.7% as ‘a moderate problem’. Elder abuse/neglect was mostly perceived as ‘a small problem’ (40.9%), while youth violence/bullying was largely perceived as ‘a moderate problem’ (38.5%). Intimate partner violence (45.9%), suicide/suicide ideation (47.4%), and youth violence and bullying (58%) were reported as moderate to very big problems. Youth violence/bullying and suicide/ideation have the highest reporting percentages for ‘a very big problem’ with 19.5% and 14.7%, respectively.

The vast majority of Iowans rated their knowledge of resources as ‘moderate’, specifically for the topics of child abuse/neglect (34.4%), intimate partner violence (34.5%), sexual violence (34.8%), youth violence/bullying (36.0%), and suicide ideation (38.4%). One area that did not follow this trend was elder abuse/neglect, which most Iowans rated their knowledge of as ‘low’ (35.3%).

**FIGURE 2**



**HOW BIG OF A PROBLEM IS ...**

**CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT?**



**INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE?**



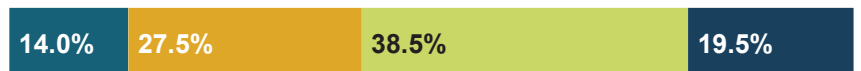
**SEXUAL VIOLENCE?**



**ELDERLY ABUSE/NEGLECT?**



**YOUTH VIOLENCE/BULLYING?**



**SUICIDE/SUICIDE IDEATION?**

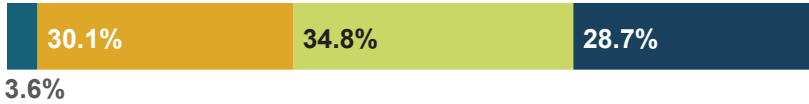


**FIGURE 3**



**HOW MUCH CAN BE PREVENTED?**

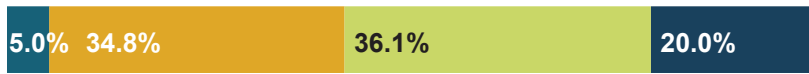
**CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT**



**INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE**



**SEXUAL VIOLENCE**



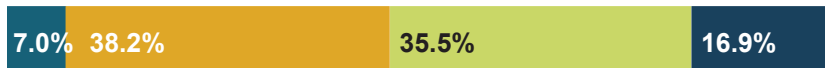
**ELDERLY ABUSE/NEGLECT**



**YOUTH VIOLENCE/BULLYING**



**SUICIDE/ATTEMPTED SUICIDE**



Iowans were asked to rate the degree to which they believed various forms of violence could be prevented. The four-point response scale ranged from ‘little or none can be prevented,’ ‘some can be prevented,’ ‘most can be prevented,’ to ‘almost all can be prevented.’

**FIGURE 3** displays the breakdown of responses.

**For the topics of child abuse/neglect (34.8%), elder abuse/neglect (37.3%), and youth violence/bullying (37.6%), Iowans believed ‘most can be prevented.’**

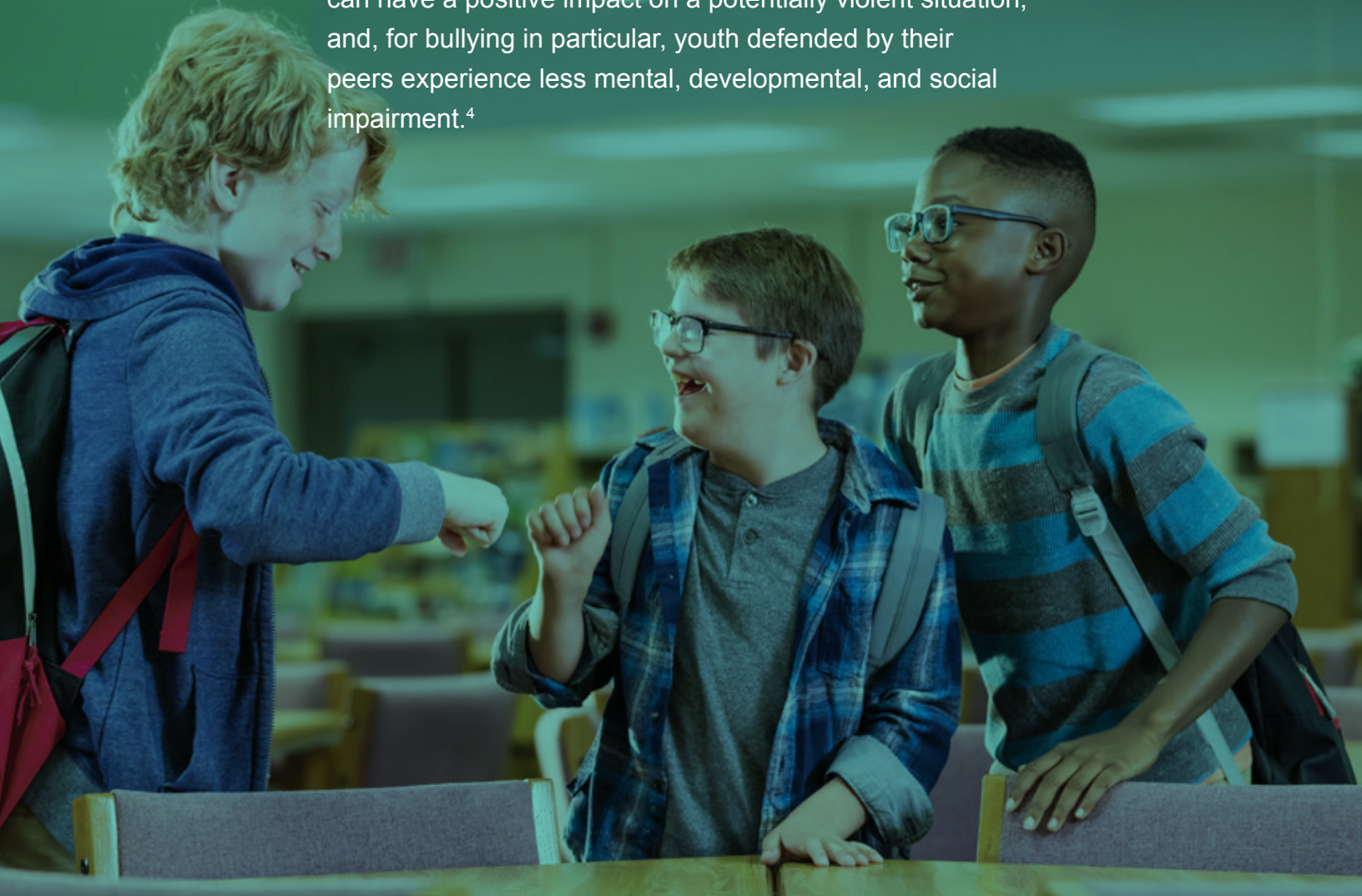
For the topics of intimate partner violence and suicide/attempted suicide, 39.7% and 38.2% of Iowans believed ‘some can be prevented’. Interestingly, sexual violence had near equal responses of ‘some can be prevented’ (34.8%) and ‘most can be prevented’ (36.1%).

## SECTION 2

# BYSTANDER BEHAVIORS

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According to the American Psychological Association (APA), a bystander is defined as “an individual who observes or witnesses a situation of discrimination or violence committed by a perpetrator towards a victim, and has the opportunity to either condone, intervene, or do nothing”.<sup>2</sup> Evidence shows effective bystander intervention, sometimes called “upstanding,” can result in reduced perpetration and victimization, as well as reduce the cultural acceptance of violence.<sup>3</sup> An effective bystander can have a positive impact on a potentially violent situation, and, for bullying in particular, youth defended by their peers experience less mental, developmental, and social impairment.<sup>4</sup>

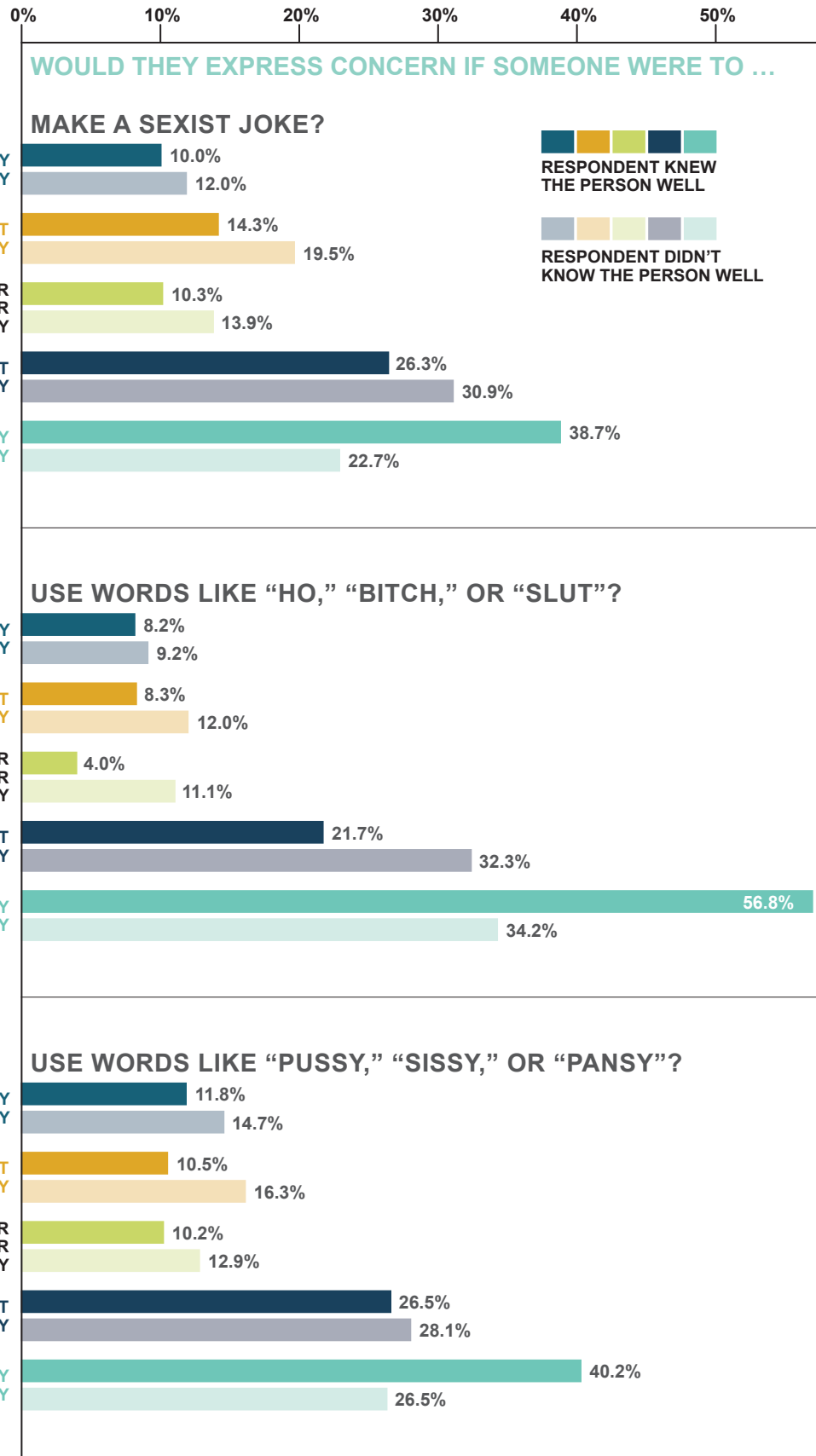


lowans were asked how likely or unlikely they would be to “express concern” if present during specified violence. The five-point response scale ranged from ‘very unlikely,’ ‘somewhat unlikely,’ ‘neither likely nor unlikely,’ ‘somewhat likely,’ to ‘very likely’ to express concern. **FIGURE 4** displays the breakdown of responses.

**lowans had a greater overall tendency to express concern than ignore the respective event, particularly if they knew the other person well.**

For example, one-third of lowans (38.7%) were ‘very likely’ to speak up if someone they knew well were to make a sexist joke, but fewer lowans (30.9%) were ‘somewhat likely’ to speak up if they didn’t know the person well. In another example, a majority of lowans (56.8%) were ‘very likely’ to express concern if someone they knew well were to use words such as ‘ho,’ ‘bitch,’ or ‘slut,’ whereas 32.3% of lowans were ‘somewhat likely’ and 34.2% were ‘very likely’ to intervene if the offender was someone they didn’t know well. For the last example, 40.2% of lowans were ‘very likely’ to speak up if someone they knew well were to use words such as ‘pussy,’ ‘sissy,’ or ‘pansy,’ and 28.1% and 26.5% were ‘somewhat likely’ and ‘very likely’ to speak up if they didn’t know the person well.

**FIGURE 4**



Iowans were also asked how likely or unlikely they were to intervene if witnessing specified types of violence. The five-point response scale ranged from 'very unlikely,' 'somewhat unlikely,' 'neither likely nor unlikely,' 'somewhat likely,' to 'very likely' to intervene. **FIGURE 5** displays the breakdown of responses.

The vast majority of Iowans reported they were 'very likely' to intervene regardless of the specified violence. 87.2% of Iowans were 'very likely' to offer assistance if someone they knew was having suicidal thoughts, 83.3% were 'very likely' to report suspected abuse or neglect of a child under 18, and 81.1% were 'very likely' to protect an impaired friend from harm. For other types of violence, 76.6% of Iowans were 'very likely' to step in if a friend was

FIGURE 5



HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO ...

OFFER ASSISTANCE IF SOMEONE YOU KNOW WAS HAVING SUICIDAL THOUGHTS?



STEP IN IF YOU SAW OR HEARD A FRIEND BEING VIOLENT TOWARDS THEIR ROMANTIC PARTNER?



STEP IN IF YOU SAW OR HEARD A FRIEND'S ROMANTIC PARTNER BEING VIOLENT TOWARD THE FRIEND?



REPORT A CASE OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF AN ADULT OVER AGE 60?



REPORT A CASE OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF A CHILD UNDER 18?



MAKE SURE A FRIEND WHO IS IMPAIRED BY ALCOHOL OR DRUGS IS KEPT AWAY FROM PEOPLE WHO COULD HARM THEM?



MAKE SURE A FRIEND WHO IS IMPAIRED BY ALCOHOL OR DRUGS IS KEPT AWAY FROM PEOPLE WHO THEY COULD HARM?





subjected to violence at the hands of their partner, and 76.3% were 'very likely' to step in if a friend was being violent towards their partner. An even 76.0% of lowans were 'very likely' to report suspected abuse or neglect of an adult over age 60.

### Individual Patterns with Consent

lowans were asked how likely or unlikely they were to engage in several behaviors specifically related to sexual violence. The five-point response scale ranged from 'very unlikely,' 'somewhat unlikely,' 'neither likely nor unlikely,' 'somewhat likely,' or 'very likely' to perpetrate. **FIGURE 6** displays the breakdown of responses.

When asked about consent, the vast majority of lowans were 'very likely' to ask for verbal consent prior to sexual activity (76.3%), and to refrain from engaging in sexual activity if their partner were impaired from drugs or alcohol (66.5%). Similarly, most lowans were 'very likely' to stop sexual activity when asked, even if already aroused (89.1%), or if the activity began consensually (92.4%). When asked about using derogatory language, the majority of lowans were 'very unlikely' to use words like 'ho,' 'bitch,' or 'slut' to describe females (71.4%), or use words like 'pussy,' 'sissy,' or 'pansy' to describe people perceived as weak (71.6%).

**FIGURE 6**



### HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO ...

ASK FOR VERBAL CONSENT BEFORE SEXUAL ACTIVITY?



STOP SEXUAL ACTIVITY WHEN ASKED TO EVEN IF YOU WERE ALREADY SEXUALLY AROUSED?



STOP HAVING SEX WITH A PARTNER IF THEY SAY TO STOP, EVEN IF IT STARTED CONSENSUALLY?



DECIDE NOT TO ENGAGE IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH A PARTNER IF THEY ARE IMPAIRED FROM ALCOHOL OR DRUGS?



USE WORDS LIKE "HO," "BITCH," OR "SLUT" TO DESCRIBE WOMEN OR GIRLS?



USE WORDS LIKE "PUSSY," "SISSY," OR "PANSY" TO DESCRIBE PEOPLE WHO ARE WEAK OR FRAGILE?



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## SECTION 3

# PARENT/CHILD COMMUNICATION ABOUT VIOLENCE

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Research suggests parent-child communication can have significant influence on child behaviors regarding violence. According to Cross et al. (2018) quality parent-child communication can act as a protective factor, and parents who start discussions about bullying earlier in their child's life can lead to improved "behavioral and social outcomes in later childhood and adolescence." Another study by Padilla-Walker et al. (2020) suggests that "sexual socialization" by communication in the home can establish a foundation for adolescent decisions regarding sexual activity, and adolescents who have conversations with their parents are "more likely to endorse their parents' ideas about sexuality". And Babin and Palazzolo (2012) found parent communication skills can influence their child's intimate relationships later on.



Iowans were first asked about parental status (i.e., if they had any children under age 25), and, if so, the number and age range of their children. In addition, Iowans with children were asked whether they had spoken to their child with the intention of preventing them from harming others. **FIGURES 7 and 8** display the breakdown of responses for parental status and age range of their children, and **FIGURE 9** displays the breakdown of responses for whether parents had spoken to their children with the intention of preventing harm.

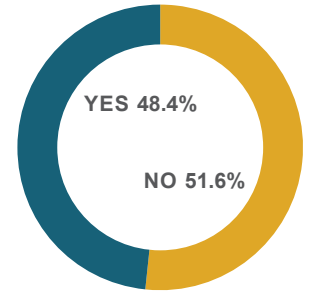
**Roughly half of all Iowans indicated they were parents of children under the age of 25 (48.4%).** Of these Iowans, 23.4% had children aged 2 or younger, 28.4% had children aged 3-5, 39.6% had children aged 6-10, 24.5% had children aged 11-13, 31.7% had children aged 14-17, and 37.4% had children aged 18-24. The majority of Iowa parents (83.8%) answered 'yes' when asked if they'd spoken to their children with the intention of preventing them from harming others.

Iowans with children under age 25 were also asked if they had ever spoken to their child about suicide, suicidal thoughts, or suicide ideation, as well as how old their child was when the first conversation took place. **FIGURES 10 and 11** display the breakdown of responses.

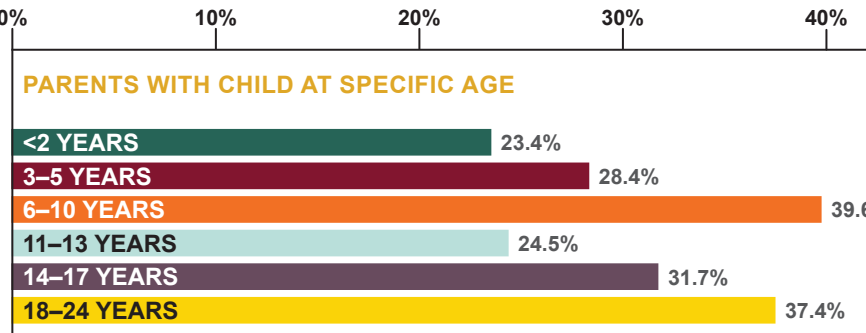
**Over half of Iowans (56.8%) answered 'yes' when asked if they'd spoken with their child about suicide or suicidal thoughts/ideation.** Children were most frequently 12-13 years old when this conversation took place. According to 2019 YRBS data, 20.0% (CI: 17.6-22.7) of Iowa teens have seriously considered suicide, a rate which is higher than the national average of 18.8%.

**FIGURE 7**

**ARE YOU THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF ANY CHILDREN UNDER 25?**

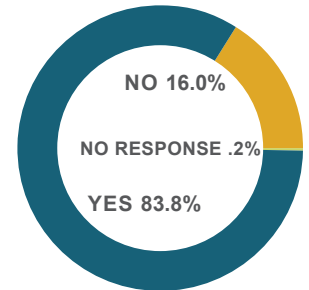


**FIGURE 8**



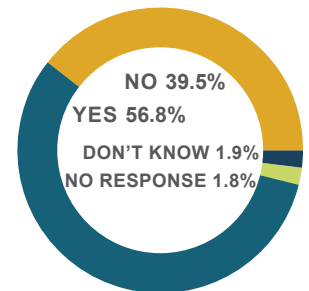
**FIGURE 9**

**HAVE YOU EVER TALKED WITH YOUR CHILD WITH THE GOAL OF PREVENTING THEM FROM HARMING OTHERS?**

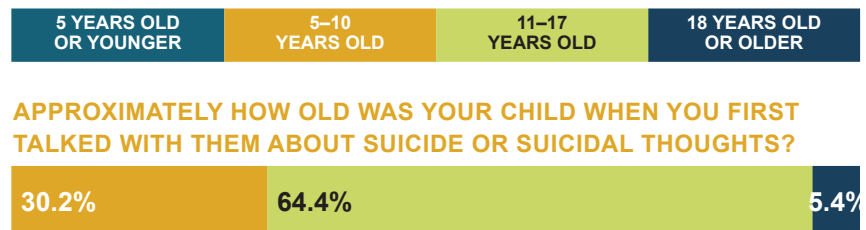


**FIGURE 10**

**HAVE YOU EVER TALKED WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT SUICIDE OR SUICIDAL THOUGHTS OR IDEATION?**



**FIGURE 11**

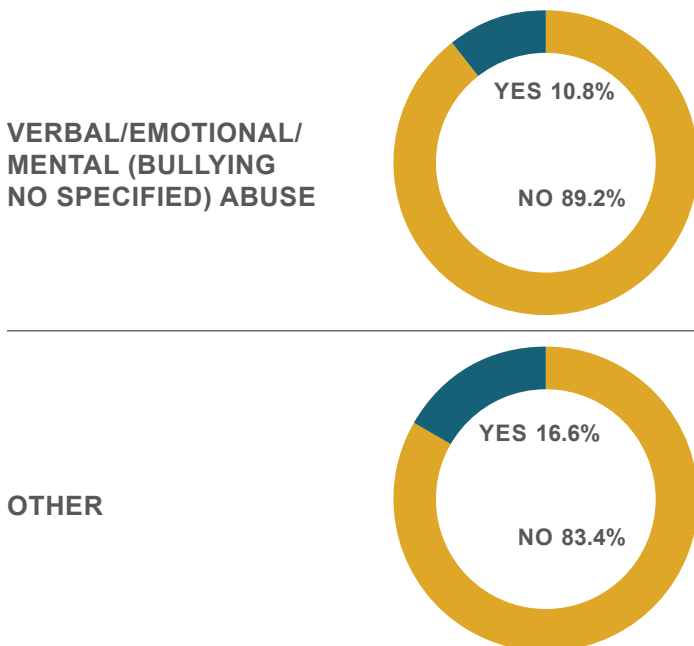


**APPROXIMATELY HOW OLD WAS YOUR CHILD WHEN YOU FIRST TALKED WITH THEM ABOUT SUICIDE OR SUICIDAL THOUGHTS?**

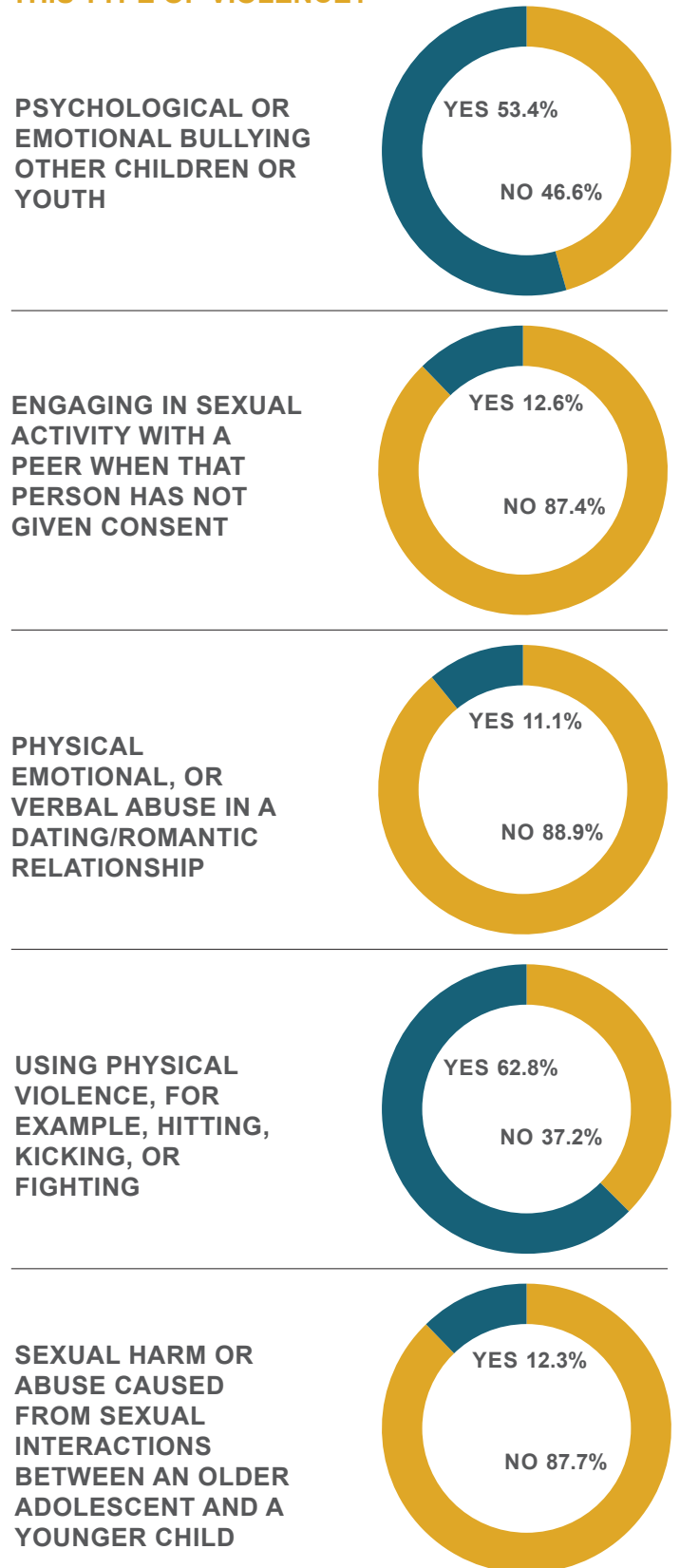
For lowans who had spoken to their children with the intention of preventing them from harming others, they were asked whether they had discussed specific types of violence. Participants who had multiple children were asked to answer with respect to their oldest child. **FIGURE 12** displays the breakdown of responses.

**A majority of lowans (62.8%) mentioned discussing a qualifying form of physical violence (i.e. hitting, kicking, fighting), and 53.4% mentioned discussing psychological or emotional bullying.** Far fewer lowans, however, mentioned the remaining categories. For questions surrounding sexual violence, only 12.3% mentioned discussing sexual interactions between older adolescents and younger children, and 12.6% mentioned discussing non-consensual sexual activity with a peer. 11.1% mentioned discussing physical, emotional, or verbal abuse in a relationship, 10.8% mentioned discussing non-bullying specified verbal, emotional, or mental abuse, and 16.6% mentioned a topic that qualified as “other.”

**FIGURE 12**  
**HAVE YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN DISCUSSED THIS TYPE OF VIOLENCE?**

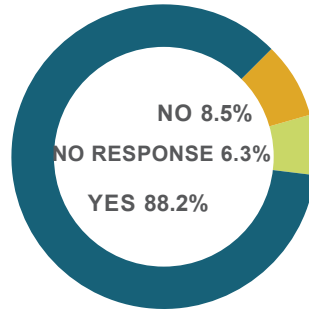


**FIGURE 12, CONTINUED**  
**HAVE YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN DISCUSSED THIS TYPE OF VIOLENCE?**

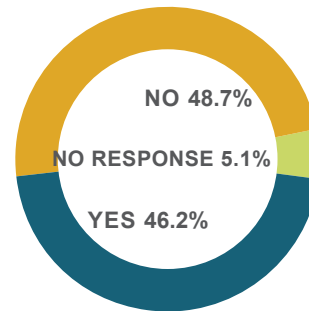


**FIGURE 13**  
**HAVE YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN DISCUSSED REFRAINING FROM THIS TYPE OF VIOLENCE?**

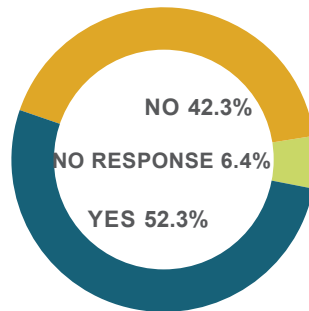
PSYCHOLOGICAL OR EMOTIONAL BULLYING OTHER CHILDREN OR YOUTH



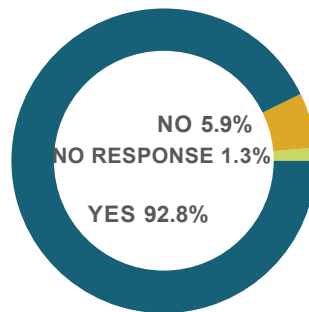
ENGAGING IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY WITH A PEER WHEN THAT PERSON HAS NOT GIVEN CONSENT



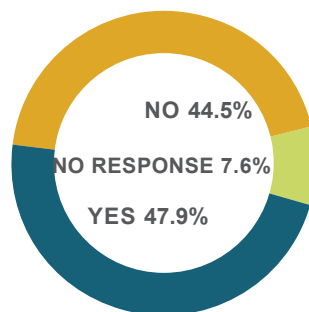
PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, OR VERBAL ABUSE IN A DATING/ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP



USING PHYSICAL VIOLENCE, FOR EXAMPLE HITTING, KICKING, OR FIGHTING



SEXUAL HARM OR ABUSE CAUSED FROM SEXUAL INTERACTIONS BETWEEN AN OLDER ADOLESCENT AND A YOUNGER CHILD



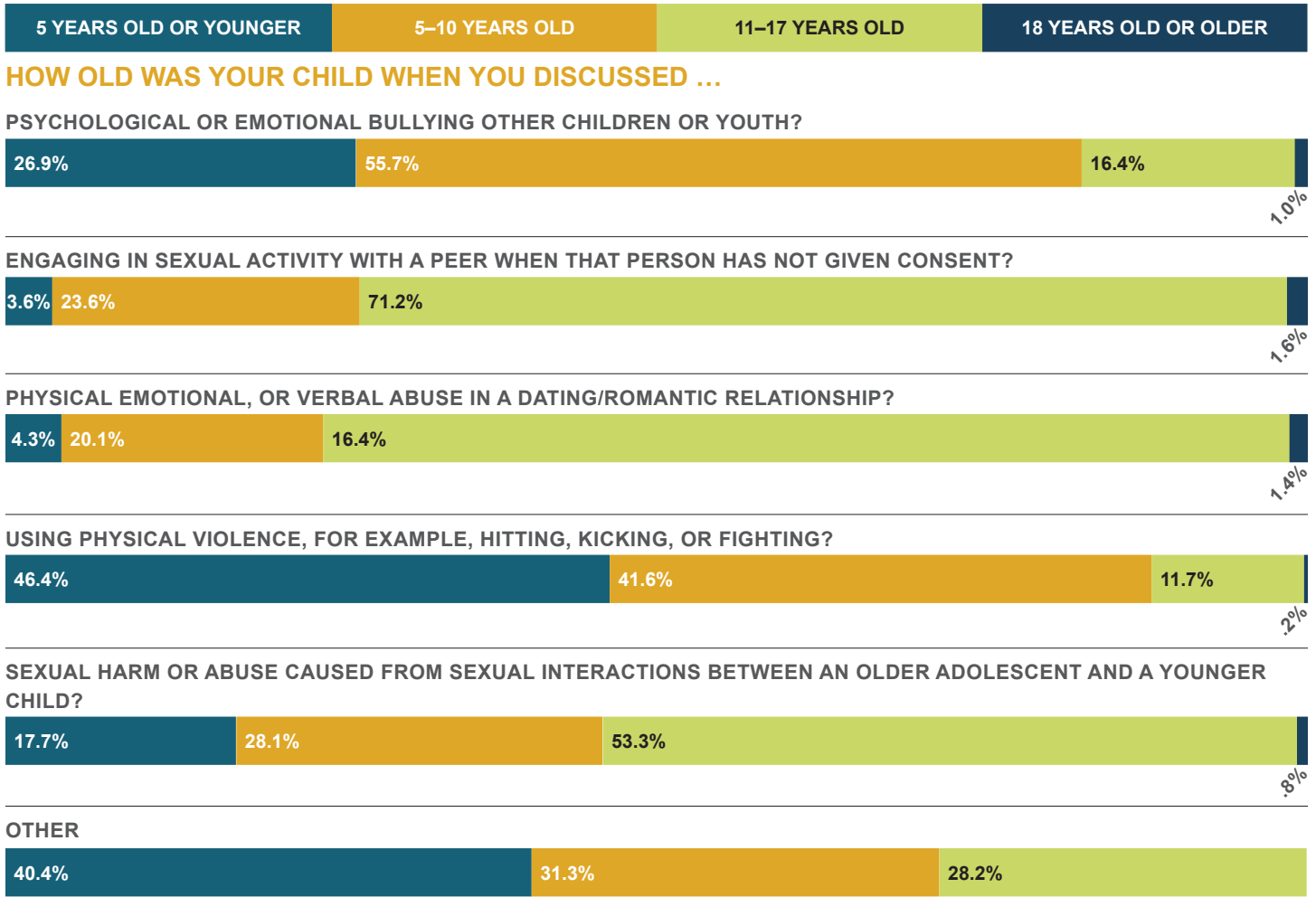
lowans with children under 25 were asked if they'd ever spoken to their child about refraining from specific types of violence. Categories included psychological or emotional bullying, physical violence, sexual interactions between an older adolescent and a younger child, non-consensual sexual activity, and intimate partner violence. lowans who had multiple children were asked to answer with respect to their oldest child. **FIGURE 13** displays the breakdown of responses.

**For the topics of psychological or emotional bullying and using physical violence, the majority of lowans (88.2%, and 92.8%, respectively) indicated that they had spoken with their child about not engaging in this type of violence.** For topics involving sexual and dating violence, parents indicated speaking with their children about not engaging in these types of perpetration behaviors much less frequently. Approximately 48% of parents answered 'yes' when asked about speaking with their child about not causing sexual harm/sexually abusing younger children while 46.2% answered 'yes' when asked about speaking to their child about non-consensual sexual activity with peers. When asked about causing physical, emotional, or verbal abuse in relationships, 52.3% of parents answered 'yes', indicating that they had spoken to their child about this topic.

Iowans with children under 25 were asked how old their child was when they first initiated a conversation with their child about specific types of violence. **FIGURE 14** displays the breakdown of responses.

On average, Iowans spoke with their child at around age 7 about psychological or emotional bullying, age 5 about physical violence, and at age 11 about sexual harm between an older adolescent and younger child. Topics of consent in sexual activity with peers and physical, verbal, and emotional abuse in relationships both took place around ages 12 to 14.

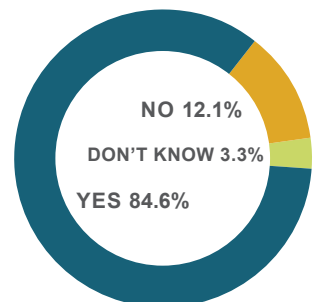
**FIGURE 14**



Iowans with children under age 25 were also asked whether they had spoken with their children about protecting themselves from experiencing violence. Participants who had multiple children were asked to answer with respect to their oldest child. **FIGURE 15** displays the breakdown of responses.

The majority of Iowans with children under 25 (84.5%) have talked to their children about how to protect themselves from violence.

**FIGURE 15**  
**HAVE YOU EVER TALKED WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT HOW TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM EXPERIENCING VIOLENCE?**

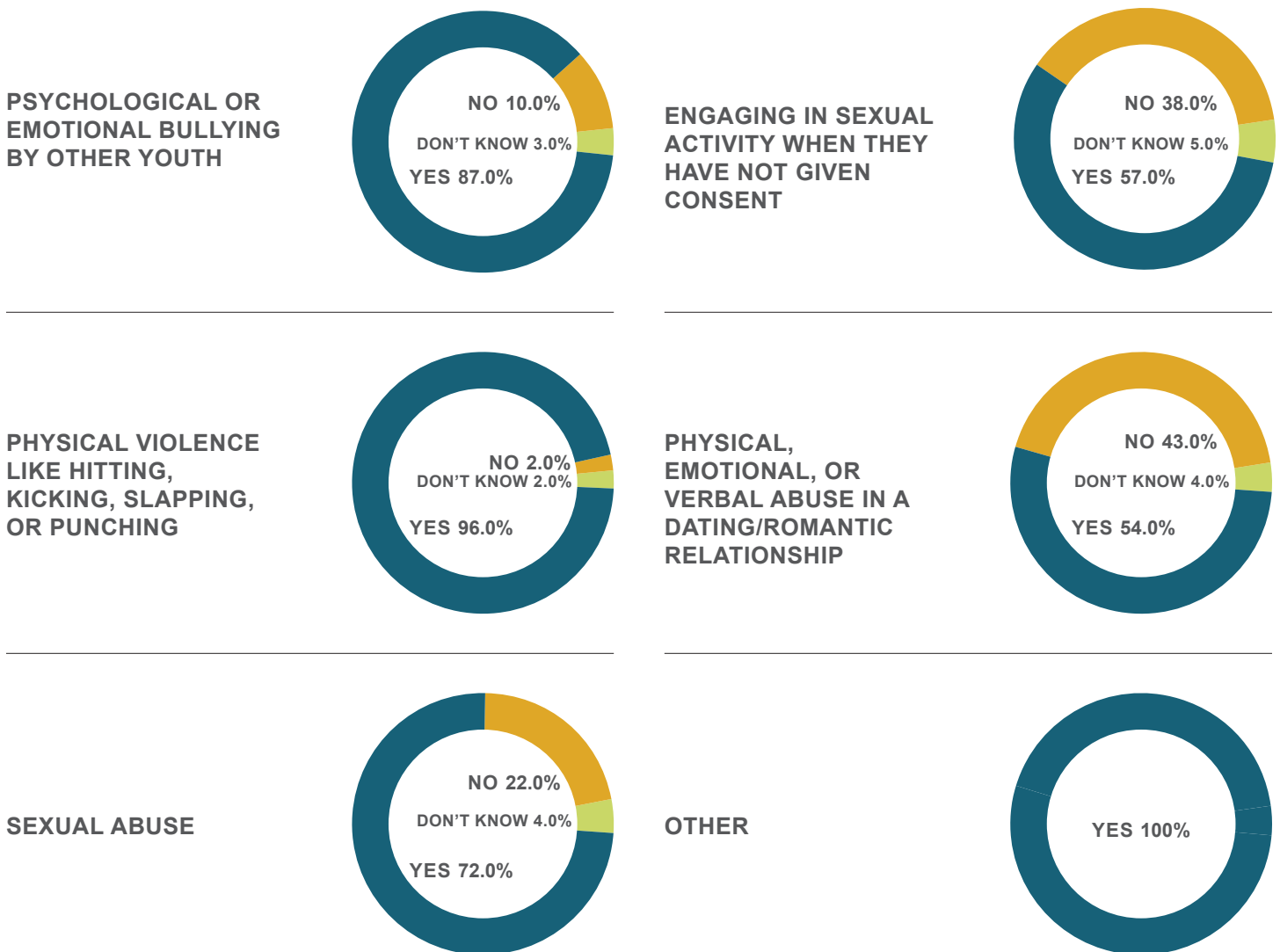


As a follow-up to the previous question, lowans who had spoken to their children about protecting themselves from violence were asked if specific types of violence were mentioned, including psychological or emotional bullying, physical violence, sexual abuse, non-consensual sexual activity, and intimate partner violence. **FIGURE 16** displays the breakdown of responses.

**The vast majority of lowans answered ‘yes’ when asked if they’d discussed psychological**

**or emotional bullying (86.7%) and physical violence (i.e., hitting, kicking, slapping, or fighting) (96.2%).** Following these, 74.3% answered ‘yes’ when asked whether they’d discussed sexual abuse. When asked about sexual and dating violence, responses were more evenly distributed. 56.8% answered ‘yes’ and 38.2% answered ‘no’ when asked whether they had discussed non-consensual sexual activity; and 53.4% answered ‘yes’ and 42.9% answered ‘no’ when asked if they had discussed physical, emotional, or verbal abuse in a dating relationship.

**FIGURE 16**  
**IF YOU HAVE TALKED WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT HOW TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM EXPERIENCING VIOLENCE, WHAT TYPES OF VIOLENCE DID YOU TALK ABOUT?**



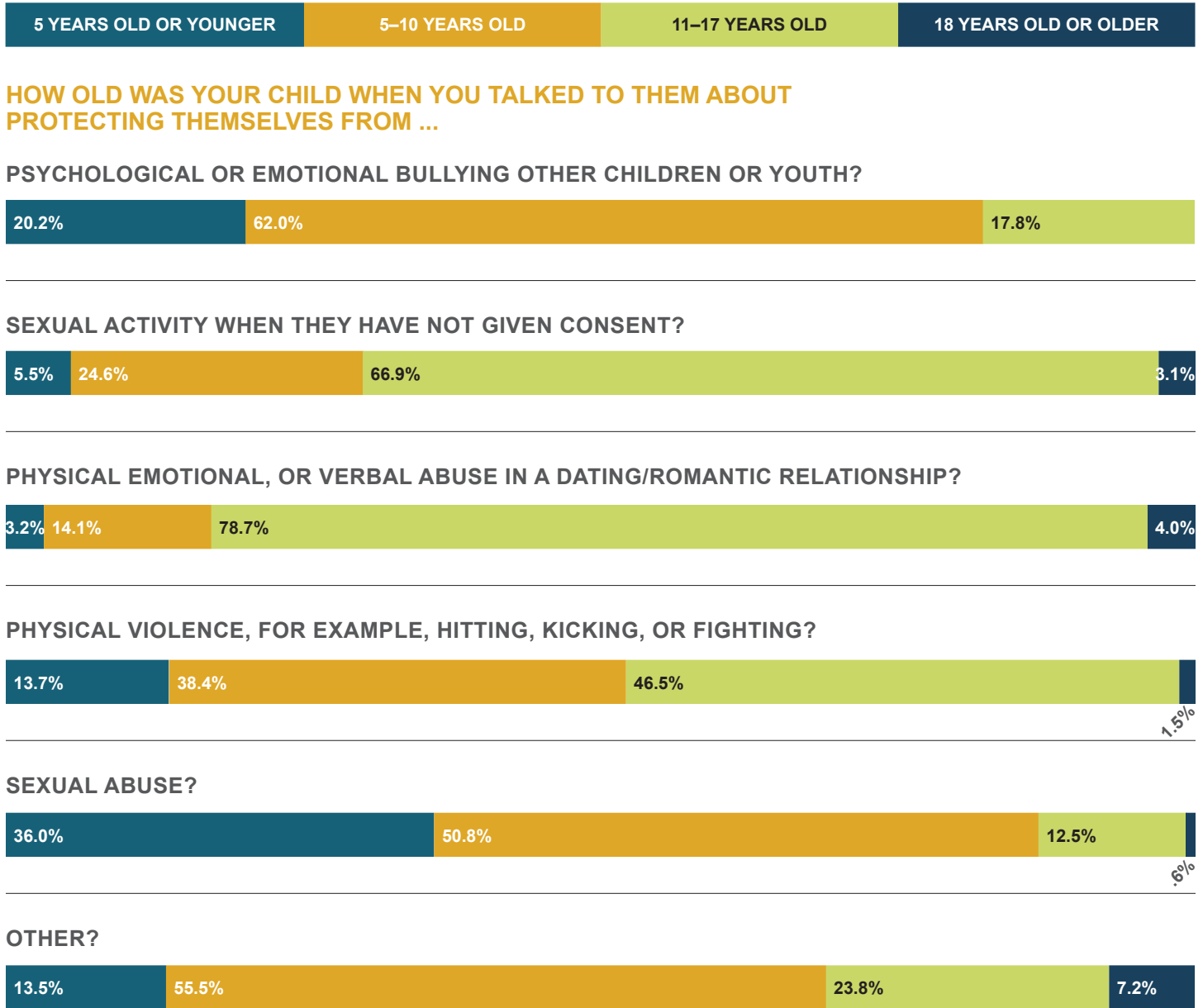
For context, data from the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBS) indicates 16.8% (CI: 15.2-18.6) of Iowan teens have been in a physical fight, and 7.3% (CI: 6.0-9.0) have been threatened or injured with a weapon while on school property within the last year. Comparatively, the national average of teens involved in physical fights within the last year sits higher at 21.9%. The national average of teens threatened or injured on school property is very similar, at 7.4%. 18.6% (CI: 16.3-21.1) of Iowa teens have been electronically bullied within the last year, a rate higher than the national average of 15.7%. For sexual violence, 2019 YRBS data shows 9.9% (CI: 7.9-12.5) of Iowan teens have been physically forced into sexual intercourse while 10.2% (CI: 8.1-12.8) have experienced generalized sexual violence sometime within the previous year. 7.3% national average of physically forced intercourse and 10.8% national average of generalized sexual violence. Iowa teens have experienced similar rates of physical dating violence (6.0%, CI: 4.4-8.1), and sexual dating violence (5.7%, CI: 4.4-7.5). National rates for both physical and dating violence in teens are identical at 8.2%.<sup>5</sup>

Iowans who had had conversations with their children about protecting themselves from violence were also asked at what age this conversation took place. Participants were invited to give the specific age of the child, as opposed to an age range. **FIGURE 17** displays the breakdown of responses.

Depending on the topic, these conversations between Iowans and their children took place at different ages. **Iowans most frequently spoke to their children about psychological and emotional bullying at age 6, physical violence at age 4, and non-consensual sexual activity at age 14.** When asked about sexual abuse, Iowans' most frequent responses were split between ages 4 and 13.



**FIGURE 17**



## SECTION 4

# EXPERIENCES WITH VIOLENCE

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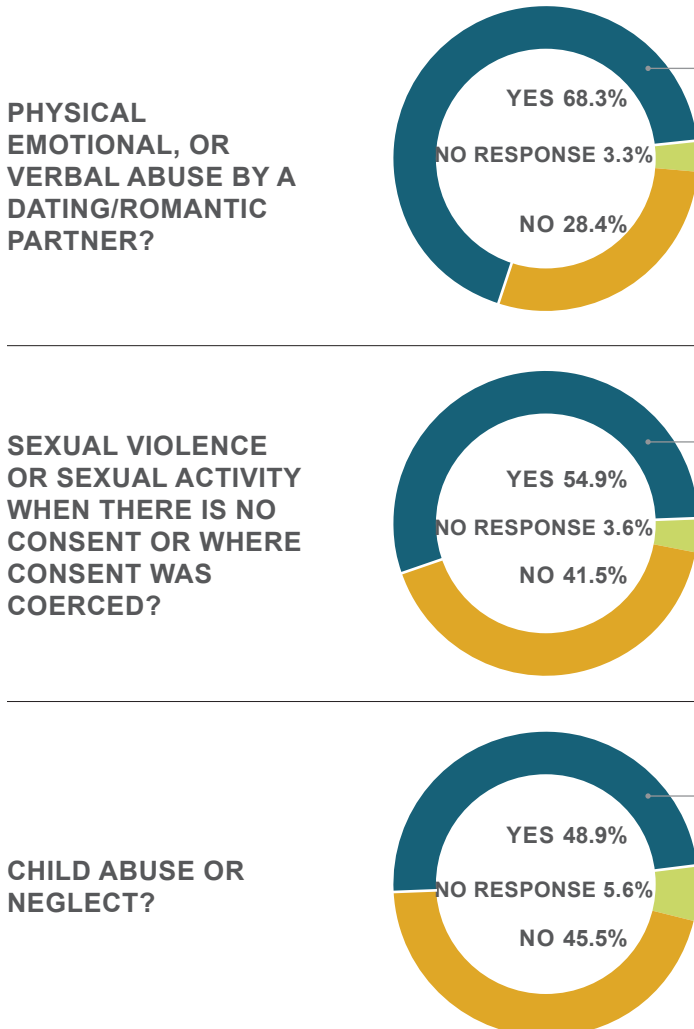
In this section, Iowans were asked about their personal experiences of violence. Due to the sensitive nature of these questions, and the possibility of ongoing victimization, information for free resources including Your Life Iowa and the Iowa Victim Service Call Center was made available to participants.



Iowans were asked if they knew anyone who had personally experienced specific types of violence — specifically intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or child abuse/neglect. **FIGURE 18** displays the breakdown of responses.

**Among Iowans, 68.3% answered ‘yes’ when asked if they knew someone who had been a victim of intimate partner violence, while 54.9% answered ‘yes’ when asked if they knew someone who had been the victim of non-consensual sexual activity.** 48.9% answered ‘yes’ when asked if they knew someone who had suffered child abuse/neglect.

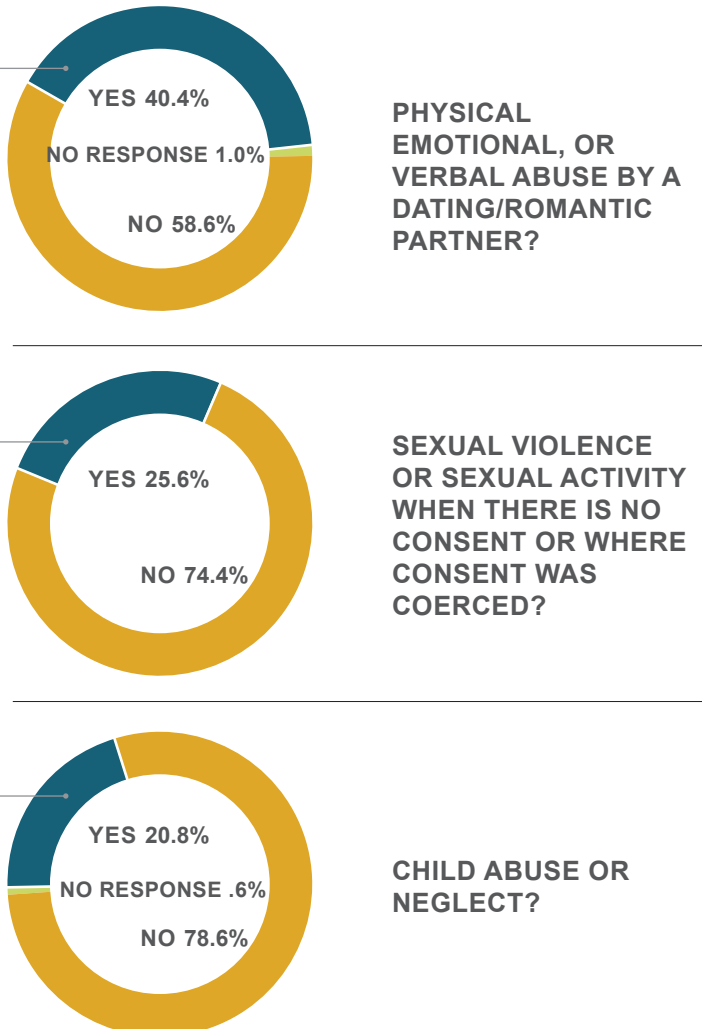
**FIGURE 18**  
**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN THE VICTIM OF ...**



Iowans were also asked if they had personally experienced specific types of violence, including intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or child abuse/neglect. **FIGURE 19** displays the breakdown of responses.

**On the whole, most Iowans answered ‘no’ when asked if they’d experienced intimate partner violence (58.6%), non-consensual sexual activity (74.4%), and child abuse or neglect (78.6%).** Among Iowans who had experienced violence, 40.4% answered ‘yes’ to intimate partner violence, 25.6% to non-consensual sexual activity, and 20.8% to child abuse/neglect.

**FIGURE 19**  
**HAVE YOU PERSONALLY EXPERIENCED ...**



According to 2012 data from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), 33.3% of Iowa women have experienced contact sexual violence at some point within their lifetime (approximately 394,000 victims). Among these women, 45.3% (approximately 102,000) experienced sexual violence at the hands of a current or former intimate partner. For Iowa men, approximately 14.5% (164,000) have experienced sexual violence within their lifetime, and among those, 40.9% (67,000) experienced sexual violence through a current or former intimate partner.<sup>6</sup>

Iowans who had personally experienced violence were asked the follow-up questions of whether their victimization was a past experience or ongoing, as well as whether they had experienced this violence more or less often than the year before. **FIGURE 20** displays the breakdown of responses.

**Of Iowans who had personally experienced violence, the vast majority indicated their experiences happened in the past.** 96% of Iowans answered 'only in the past' for intimate partner violence and 99.8% answered the same for sexual violence. A very small portion of Iowans identified their experience of violence as ongoing, with 4% continuing to experience intimate partner violence and 0.2% continuing to experience sexual violence.

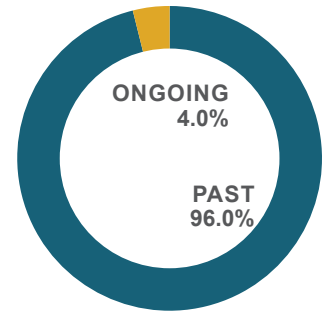
Compared to the previous year, among those experiencing intimate partner violence, 73% of Iowans stated their experiences of intimate partner violence happened more often at the time of the survey than in the year before, while 27% were experiencing intimate partner violence less often than the year before.

Iowans were asked if they had ever been employed by, or volunteered with, an organization that provided prevention or crisis services to survivors of sexual violence. **FIGURE 21** displays the breakdown of responses.

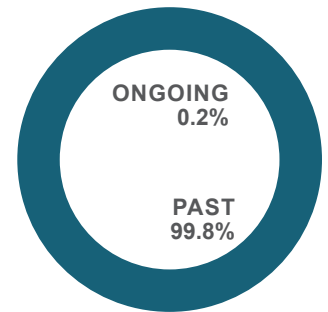
**Most Iowans (80%) answered 'no', while 9.1% answered 'yes' when asked if they'd ever worked or volunteered for a prevention or crisis services organization.**

**FIGURE 20**

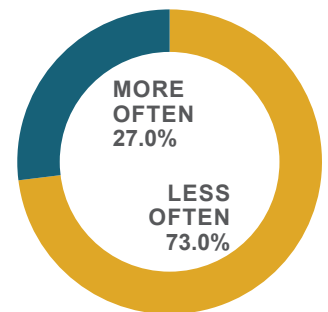
IS THE INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE ONGOING OR ONLY IN THE PAST?



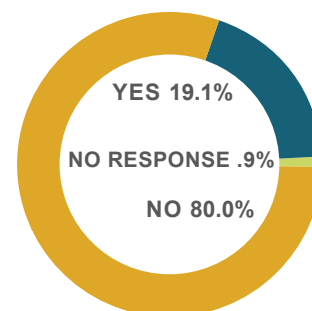
IS THE SEXUAL VIOLENCE ONGOING OR ONLY IN THE PAST?



OVER THE PAST YEAR, HAS THIS BEEN MORE OR LESS OFTEN THAN THE YEAR BEFORE?

**FIGURE 21**

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN EMPLOYED BY OR VOLUNTEERED WITH AN ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES PREVENTION OR CRISIS SERVICES TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED SEXUAL VIOLENCE?



## LIMITATIONS

Iowa Statewide Survey participants were representative of the state adult demographics. Still, there is potential for bias among those answering the survey. For example, those answering the survey may be more likely to engage with invitations to participate in the survey because have been personally harmed, known someone who has experienced harm or have volunteered with a harm reduction coalition than the general population of Iowa. Especially for phone interview respondents, factors such as social desirability and fear to report harm may have impacted response rates and reliability.

Another limitation was identified during the data analysis stage. Questions were directed at individual's belief on whether they would say something if they saw harm occurring and did not measure their actual behaviors on intervening. Thus, actions and experiences with prevention are not described with current data.

## CONCLUSION

When thinking about general violence and safety, Iowan adults feel safe in their communities and confident about addressing acts of violence. Despite this, many adults reported directly experiencing or knowing someone who has experienced violence. This indicates that occurrences of violence are a significant issue that is relevant to Iowans. When reporting the type of violence most significant to their communities, youth violence was reported as of highest concern. Questions were asked to adults who had children regarding the kind of conversations they had about preventing violence. Reports suggest that parents are much more likely to speak with their children about being harmed (victim prevention) than causing harm (perpetration prevention).

Further understanding is needed on how to increase parent communication for prevention of harm, specifically in how not to cause harm to other youth, while acknowledging and building in supports for the sensitivity of the information collected. In addition, the lived experience and association with experienced violence is significantly high in Iowa, yet perceptions of violence in Iowa communities is low. More exploration is necessary to understand where and when this experience takes place, as well as the actions taken by the community to prevent the violence.

APPENDIX A: GRAPHIC OF SURVEY DISTRIBUTION

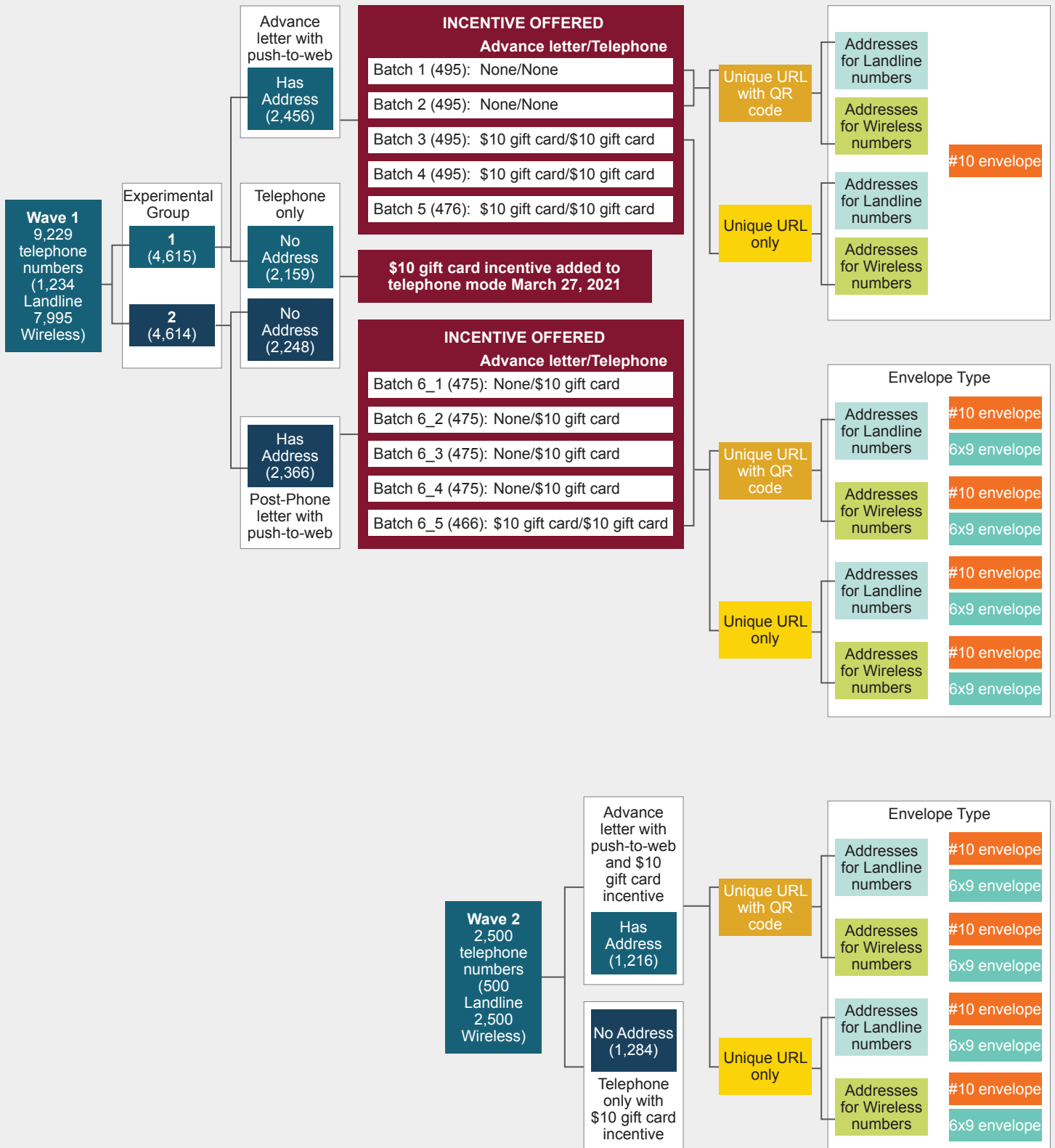


FIGURE 1. STUDY DESIGN

## APPENDIX B: SURVEY INSTRUMENT

### Section A. Perceptions of safety and violence

**[CATI]** We are going to be talking about topics related to safety and violence, which includes suicide and sexual abuse. If at any point you want to move ahead, skip an item, or stop – just let me know. To begin, my first question is...

**[Online]** We are going to be asking about topics related to safety and violence, which includes suicide and sexual abuse. You may skip any question you do not want to answer by selecting 'prefer not to respond' or 'continue without answering.'

**A1.** Thinking about health and safety in your community over the past year, what issues or risks to residents come to mind, if any? [Interviewer note: Community is defined as however the respondent wants to define it.] [Interviewer note: List up to 3.]

**A2.** [CATI] I'm going to list several types of safety concerns, please tell me how much, if at all, do you think it's a problem in the community where you live. [Randomize List a.-f.]

**[ONLINE]** How much, if at all, do you think each of the following is a problem in the community where you live? [Randomize List a.-f.]

- a. The abuse or neglect of a child under age 18, by a caregiver, or other adult
- b. Physical, emotional, or verbal abuse that occurs between current or former romantic partners, also called intimate partner violence
- c. Sexual activity without consent or where consent was coerced, also called sexual violence
- d. The abuse or neglect of an individual over age 60
- e. Youth violence and/or bullying between young people 10 to 24 years old
- f. Suicide or suicidal thoughts or ideation
- g. [Online only] [Programing note: always last] Any other type of safety concerns I haven't mentioned that you believe is a problem in the community where you live? [Specify]

Would you say ...

1. Not a problem,
2. A small problem,
3. A moderate problem, or
4. A very big problem in the community where you live?
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

### Section B. Knowledge

**B1.** [CATI] Next, I have a list of examples of individuals who have experienced different forms of violence or threats to their safety. Please rate your knowledge of the resources or support available to help an individual like this. Use a knowledge rating of very low, low, moderate, high or very high. The first example is: [Randomize List]

[Online] Next is a list of examples of individuals who have experienced different forms of violence or threats to their safety. Please rate your knowledge of the resources or support available to help an individual like this.

(If needed, repeat the question): How would you rate your knowledge of the resources or support available to help [ ]:

- a. A child who is experiencing or has experienced child abuse or neglect
- b. A person who is experiencing or has experienced intimate partner violence
- c. A person who is experiencing or has experienced sexual violence
- d. A person who is experiencing or has experienced elder abuse and/or neglect
- e. A person who is experiencing or has experienced youth violence and/or bullying
- f. A person who is having suicidal thoughts

Would you rate your knowledge as...

1. Very low
2. Low
3. Moderate
4. High, or
5. Very high?
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

[SPLIT HALF – Half of respondents get B2-B4 and Half get B5-B7]

**B2.** Do you know of any organizations or groups in or around your community that work to prevent violence?

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**B3.** [If B2=yes] If you recall, what is the name of the organization?

**B4.** [If B2=yes] Do you recall what types of violence they work to prevent?

**B5.** Do you know of any organizations or groups in or around your community that provide support or assistance to someone who has experienced violence of any kind?

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**B6.** [If B5=yes] If you recall, what is the name of the organization?

**B7.** [If B5=yes] Do you recall what types of violence they focus on for the support or assistance they provide in their work?



**B8.** Please tell us the extent to which each of the following can be prevented [Randomize list]:

- a. child abuse or neglect
- b. intimate partner violence
- c. sexual violence
- d. elder abuse or neglect
- e. youth violence or bullying
- f. suicide or attempted suicide

Would you say...

1. Little or none can be prevented
2. Some can be prevented
3. Most can be prevented
4. Almost all can be prevented
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

[Interviewer Note: Definitions to have on hand

- a. The abuse or neglect of a child under age 18, caregiver, or other adult
- b. Physical, emotional, or verbal abuse that occurs between current or former romantic partners, also called intimate partner violence
- c. Sexual activity when there is no consent or where consent was coerced, also called sexual violence
- d. The abuse or neglect of an individual aged 60 years or older by a caregiver or other person
- e. Youth violence and/or bullying between young people 10 to 24 years old]

## Section C. Behaviors

Now I would like to ask you the extent to which you are likely or unlikely to do the following. Please indicate if you are very unlikely, somewhat unlikely, neither likely nor unlikely, somewhat likely, or very likely to do the behavior described in the following statements:

1. Very unlikely
2. Somewhat unlikely
3. Neither likely nor unlikely
4. Somewhat likely
5. Very likely
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**C1.** Bystanding [Randomize pairs within block, i.e. keep a/b together, cd, ef]

Jokes and Language

- a. Express your concern if someone you know well makes a sexist joke
- b. Express your concern if someone you don't know, or don't know well, makes a sexist joke
- c. Express your concern if someone you know well uses words like "ho, bitch, or slut" to describe women or girls
- d. Express your concern if someone you don't know, or don't know well, uses words like "ho, bitch, or slut" to describe women or girls

- e. Express your concern if someone you know well uses words like “pussies, sissies, or pansies” to describe people they think are weak or fragile
- f. Express your concern if someone you don’t know, or don’t know well, uses words like “pussies, sissies, or pansies” to describe people they think are weak or fragile

**C2. Higher risk situations [Randomize list within block]**

- a. Offer assistance if you suspected a friend or someone you know was having suicidal thoughts
- b. Step in if you saw or heard a friend being violent towards their romantic partner
- c. Step in if you saw or heard a friend’s romantic partner being violent toward the friend
- d. Report a case of suspected abuse or neglect of a child under 18
- e. Report a case of suspected abuse or neglect of an adult over age 60
- f. Make sure a friend who is impaired by alcohol or drugs is kept away from people who could harm them
- g. Make sure a friend who is impaired by alcohol or drugs is kept away from people they might harm

**C3. Perpetration [Randomize list within block]**

- a. Ask for verbal consent before sexual activity with a partner
- b. Stop sexual activity when asked to, even if you were already sexually aroused
- c. Stop having sex with a partner if they say to stop, even if it started consensually
- d. Decide not to engage in sexual activity with a partner if they are impaired from alcohol or drugs
- e. Use words like “ho, bitch, or slut” to describe women or girls
- f. Use words like “pussies, sissies, or pansies” to describe people who are weak or fragile

## Section D. Parent Communication and Self-Efficacy

The next section is about conversations you may have had.

**D1. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under 25?**

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 9. REFUSED

[IF D2 >= 2, SKIP TO Section E]

**D2. If Yes, How many children**

- a. 2 years old or under [ ] = NUMBER OF CHILDREN / 99. REFUSED
- b. 3-5 years old [ ] = NUMBER OF CHILDREN / 99. REFUSED
- c. 6 – 10 years old [ ] = NUMBER OF CHILDREN / 99. REFUSED
- d. 11-13 years old [ ] = NUMBER OF CHILDREN / 99. REFUSED
- e. 14-17 years old [ ] = NUMBER OF CHILDREN / 99. REFUSED
- f. 18-24 years old [ ] = NUMBER OF CHILDREN / 99. REFUSED

[If ALL children under 2, skip to Section E]

**D3.** [Thinking about your oldest child] Have you ever talked with your child with the goal of preventing them from harming others?

1. Yes
2. No [SKIP TO D7]
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE [SKIP TO D7]
9. REFUSED [SKIP TO D7]

**D4.** Thinking about conversations you have had with your child about not harming others, what kinds of violence have you talked with your child about? [If more than one child, ask about oldest child. For online, display instructions] [Interviewers: Field code; Qualtrics – Open-ended]]

1. Psychological or emotional bullying other children or youth
2. Using physical violence, for example hitting, kicking, or fighting
3. Sexual harm or abuse caused from sexual interactions between an older adolescent and a younger child
4. Engaging in sexual activity with a peer when that person has not given consent
5. Physical, emotional, or verbal abuse in a dating/romantic relationship
6. Other [specify]
9. REFUSED

**D5.** Now I'm going to list some specific kinds of violence. For each form thinking about conversations about not harming others, please tell me if you have talked with your child about... [Randomize list]

[If not selected in D4, ask. If D4a-f selected or Da-e=1, ask at what age (D6)?]

[As needed] Have you talked with your child about not harming others from...

- a. Psychological or emotional bullying other children or youth
- b. Using physical violence, for example hitting, kicking, slapping, or punching
- c. Sexual harm or abuse caused from sexual interactions between an older adolescent and a younger child
- d. Engaging in sexual activity with a peer when that person has not given consent
- e. Physical, emotional, or verbal abuse in a dating/romantic relationship

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**D6.** ASK FOR EACH [IF D4a-f=1 or D5a-e = 1] Approximately how old was your child when you first had a conversation or talked with them?

[ ] = Age

99. REFUSED

[Interviewer note: First set of questions is about conversations surrounding their child's perpetration of violence followed by questions about conversations preventing their child's experiencing violence]

**D7.** [Thinking about your oldest child] Have you ever talked with your child about how to protect themselves from experiencing violence?

1. Yes
2. No [SKIP TO D11]
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE [SKIP TO D11]
9. REFUSED [SKIP TO D11]

**D8.** About what kinds of violence have you talked with your child about how to protect themselves from experiencing violence?

[If more than one child, ask about oldest child]

[Interviewers: Field code; Qualtrics – Open-ended]]

1. Psychological or emotional bullying by other children or youth
2. Physical violence, for example hitting, kicking, slapping, or punching
3. Sexual abuse
4. Engaging in sexual activity when they have not given consent
5. Physical, emotional, or verbal abuse in a dating/romantic relationship
6. Other [specify]
9. REFUSED

**D9.** Now I'm going to list some specific kinds of violence. For each form, please tell me if you have talked with your child about how to protect themselves from experiencing that type of violence? [Randomize list]

[If not selected in D8, ask. If D81-6 selected or D9a-e=1, ask at what age (D10)?

[As needed] Have you talked with your child about about how to protect themselves from...

- a. Psychological or emotional bullying by other children or youth
- b. Physical violence, for example hitting, kicking, slapping, or punching
- c. Sexual abuse
- d. Engaging in sexual activity when they have not given consent
- e. Physical, emotional, or verbal abuse in a dating/romantic relationship

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**D10.** [IF D81-6=selected or D9a-e = 1] Approximately how old was your child when you first had a conversation or talked with them?

[ ] = Age

99. REFUSED

**D11.** Have you ever talked with your child about suicide or suicidal thoughts or ideation?

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**D12.** [If D11=1] Approximately how old was your child when you first had a conversation or talked with them?

[ ] = Age

99. REFUSED

## Section E. History of violence

We have just a few more questions before moving on to background questions. In this section, I am going to ask you about your experience with specific types of personal or sexual violence.

There are some free resources available to you if you need them now or in the future. I can provide contact information for these at any time.

[Make this info available as needed] One option is Your Life Iowa (call: 855-581-8111, text: 855-895- 8398, online: yourlifeiowa.org) and the other is the Iowa Victim Service Call Center (1-800-770-1650 or text "iowaahelp" to 20121).]

**E1.** Do you know anyone who has ever personally experienced...

- a. Physical, emotional, or verbal abuse by a current or former dating or romantic partner
- b. Sexual violence or sexual activity when there is no consent or where consent was coerced
- c. Child abuse or neglect

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**E2.** Have any of the following types of violence ever happened to you?

- a. Physical, emotional, or verbal abuse by a current or former dating or romantic partner
- b. Sexual violence or sexual activity when there is no consent or where consent was coerced
- c. Abuse or neglect as a child

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

[If E2a-b = 1]

**E3.** Is it ongoing, or only in the past?

1. Ongoing
2. Only in the past?
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**E4.** [If E3a-b = 1] Over the past year, has this been more or less often than the year before?

1. More often than the year before
2. About the same
3. Less often than the year before
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**E5.** Have you ever been employed by or volunteered with an organization that provides prevention or crisis services to people who have experienced sexual violence?

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

## Section F. Demographics

Now, I have a few background questions and we'll be finished.

**F1.** What is your current age?

- [ ] = AGE [18-65]  
99. REFUSED

**F2.** Which of the following best describes your gender identity?

1. Man
2. Woman
3. Genderqueer or gender non-conforming
4. Transgender man (female-to-male)
5. Transgender woman (male-to-female)
6. Non-binary or another gender identity [SPECIFY]
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F3.** What sex were you assigned at birth?

1. Male
2. Female
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F4.** Are you Hispanic or Latino/a?

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F5** Which one or more of the following would you say is your race? [SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]

Would you say...

1. White,
2. Black or African American,
3. Asian,
4. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander,
5. American Indian or Alaska Native, Or
6. Other [SPECIFY] \_\_\_\_\_?
7. DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

[CATI note: If more than one response to F5; continue. Otherwise, go to F7.]

**F6.** Which one of these groups would you say best represents your race?

1. White
2. Black or African American
3. Asian
4. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
5. American Indian or Alaska Native
6. Other [SPECIFY] \_\_\_\_\_
7. DON'T KNOW / NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F7.** What is the highest grade or year of school you completed?

1. Less than high school
2. High school graduate or equivalent
3. Some college, trade school or Associate's degree
4. Bachelor's degree
5. Master's or other professional degree
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F8.** Which of the following best describes where you live? Do you live...

11. On a farm,
12. In a rural setting, not on a farm,
13. In a rural subdivision outside of city limits,
14. In a small town of less than 5,000 people,
15. In a large town of 5,000 to less than 25,000 people,
16. In a city of 25,000 to less than 50,000 people,
17. In a city of 50,000 to less than 150,000 people, or
18. In a city of 150,000 or more people?
77. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
99. REFUSED

**F9.** What is your current employment status? (Select all that apply)

- 11.. Full-time
12. Part-time
13. Self-employed
14. Homemaker/Stay-at-home parent
15. Disabled (on Disability) or on Medical Leave
16. Unemployed, not seeking work
17. Unemployed/Laid-off, seeking work
18. Student
19. Retired
77. Don't know
99. Refused

**F10.** [IF F9=12, 16, 17] Has your employment status been negatively impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic?

1. Yes
2. No
9. REFUSED

**F11.** Do you have a long-lasting or chronic condition that substantially limits one or more of your major life activities?

[Interviewer note: chronic condition =such as physical, visual, auditory, cognitive or mental, emotional, or other. Life activities = that is, your ability to see, hear, or speak; to learn, remember, or concentrate]

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F12.** What was your annual household income from all sources before taxes last year? Is it...

11. Less than \$15,000,
12. \$15,000 to less than \$25,000,
13. \$25,000 to less than \$35,000,
14. \$35,000 to less than \$50,000,
15. \$50,000 to less than \$75,000,
16. \$75,000 to less than \$100,000,
17. \$100,000 to less than \$150,000, or
18. \$150,000 or more?
77. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
99. REFUSED

[IF F12 < 77, SKIP TO F14]

**F13.** Can you tell me if your annual household income is less than, equal to, or greater than \$50,000?

1. Less than \$50,000
2. Equal to \$50,000
3. More than \$50,000
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F14.** What county do you live in?

\_\_\_\_\_ County

**F15.** Do you think of yourself as:

1. Straight or heterosexual
2. Lesbian or gay
3. Bisexual
4. Queer, pansexual, and/or questioning
5. Something else; please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Don't know
9. Decline to answer



**F16.** Are you currently...

1. Married
2. Divorced
3. Widowed
4. Separated
5. Single, not living with partner, or
6. Single, living with a partner
9. REFUSED

[NOTE: If talking to respondent on cell phone, skip to F18]

**F17.** [CATI] Do you have a cell phone or can you also be reached via cell phone?

[Read only if necessary: Do you have a cell phone for personal or business use?]

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW /NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

[NOTE: If talking to respondent on landline, skip to F19]

**F18.** [CATI only] Does the house you live in also have a residential landline telephone?

1. Yes
2. No
7. DON'T KNOW /NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

[ONLINE only] Did you access this online questionnaire by typing in the URL or scanning QR code?

- 1- TinyURL
- 2 QR code

[ONLINE only] Thinking about your phone service, do you have...?

1. A landline and a cell phone
2. Cell phone only
3. Landline only
4. No landline or cell phone service

**F19a.** [Split half] Some people responding to surveys find them not at all burdensome, others find it extremely burdensome. How burdensome, if at all, was it to complete this survey? Would you say...

1. Not at all
2. A little
3. Moderately
4. Very , or
5. Extremely burdensome
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F19b.** [Split half] In general, how easy or difficult was it to answer the questions in this survey? Would you say...

1. Very difficult
2. Somewhat difficult
3. Neither difficult nor easy
4. Somewhat easy
5. Very easy
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F20a/b.** What about the survey made it [very or extremely burdensome] / [somewhat or very difficult]? [Field Code]

1. Time consuming
2. Sensitivity of topic
3. Questions were too complex
4. Other [Specify]
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

**F21.** Sometimes participants take their survey participation very seriously and sometimes less so, instead providing humorous or insincere answers to some or all questions. Completing this survey today, how seriously would you say you responded to the questions? Would you say you...

1. Rarely or never gave a serious response
2. Gave a serious response to some of the questions
3. Gave a serious response to about half the questions
4. Gave a serious response to most of the questions
5. Gave a serious response to all or almost all of the questions
7. DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
9. REFUSED

## Close

This completes the interview. Everyone's answers will be combined to give us information about Iowans' views on safety and violence.

Thank you for your time and cooperation. Good-bye.

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