



TOWARD SHARED SAFETY

The First-Ever National Survey
of America's Safety Gaps

*Briefing to
San Francisco
Sentencing Commission*

October 7, 2020

Staff Introductions



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CSJ



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CALIFORNIANS FOR **SAFETY** AND **JUSTICE**

Californians for Safety and Justice (CSJ), a project of the Tides Center, is a nonprofit working with Californians from all walks of life to replace prison and justice system waste with common sense solutions that create safe neighborhoods and save public dollars. Through policy advocacy, grassroots mobilization, public education, alliances and support for local best practices, we promote strategies to stop the cycle of crime, reduce reliance on incarceration and build healthy communities.

We are a flagship organization of Alliance for Safety and Justice.

What is Shared Safety?



Less than

1 in 3

crime survivors report receiving help to recover

This includes either financial assistance, counseling, medical assistance, and other types of healing services that can help with recovery and stability.

Over 4,000 individuals surveyed across the U.S.

Nearly

4 in 10

adults responding to the survey reported that they experienced some mental health issue, but less than half of those with mental health needs received treatment

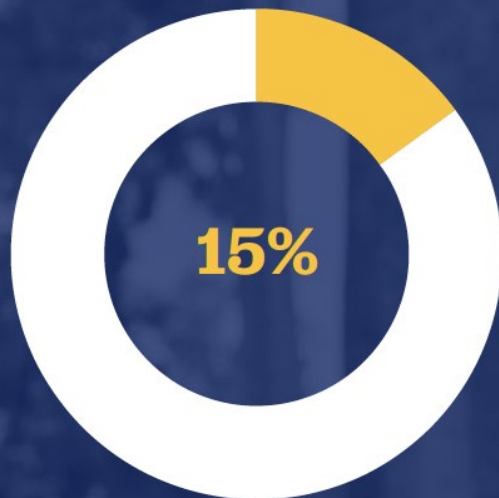
Among those whose most serious conviction was a felony, nearly

7 in 10

said they have had difficulty finding a job.

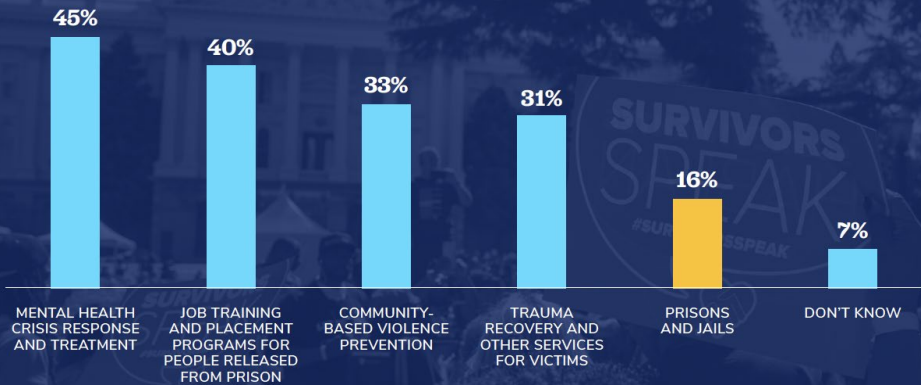
KEY GAPS

Fifteen percent of Americans responding to the survey indicated they had experienced substance abuse or addiction issues. Less than half received treatment.



More than four out of five voters prefer public safety investments focused on mental health reentry prevention and victims services, over prisons and jails.

When it comes specifically to public safety, which two of the following are most important to fund?

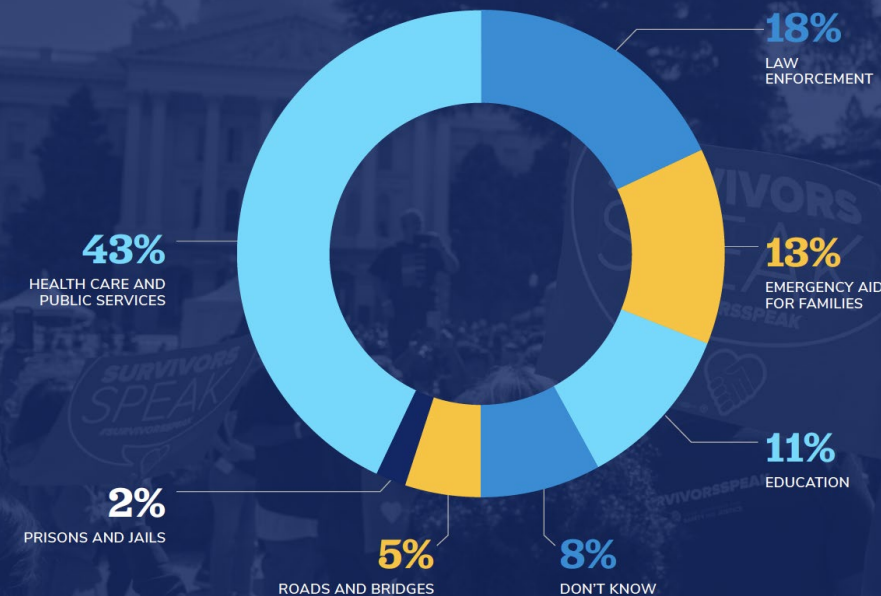


KEY FINDINGS

Ninety-eight percent of voters would not prioritize protecting prisons and jails from spending cuts.

As a result of the coronavirus, many states are facing budget shortfalls that could require cuts in government spending.

Which of the following areas should be protected from any spending cuts?



Recommendations

1

REASSESS Require Shared Safety impact statements and annual reporting on safety gaps.

2

REDESIGN Require joint responsibility and community partnerships in safety planning.

3

REALLOCATE Use incentives and relief to reallocate resources to new safety priorities.

See the full report at: <http://wesharesafety.us/>

CALIFORNIANS ARE JOINING TOGETHER

to deepen criminal justice reforms and build a foundation for shared
safety



California Shared Safety Coalition: How We Create Change

- Establish a statewide coalition of diverse stakeholders including survivor leaders, formerly incarcerated leaders, trauma services, reentry providers, mental health providers, and others who represent new public safety priorities to advocate for investments at local and state level.
- Expand the narrative on public safety by uplifting Shared Safety and elevating the voices of leaders and stakeholders in our coalition.
- Form regional advocacy teams of coalition members who can work together to push a local agenda.
- Mobilize our communities to vote and to advance our agenda in CA.

How Will CSJ Support:

- Provide information, resources and tool kits to support advocacy efforts.
- Provide training and technical assistance to elevate coalition members in media and public conversations.
- Help build coalition members build relationship with federal, state and local stakeholders.

Questions or Feedback? Please contact us!



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Victim Impact Survey

SFDA VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

Victim Impact Survey: Overview

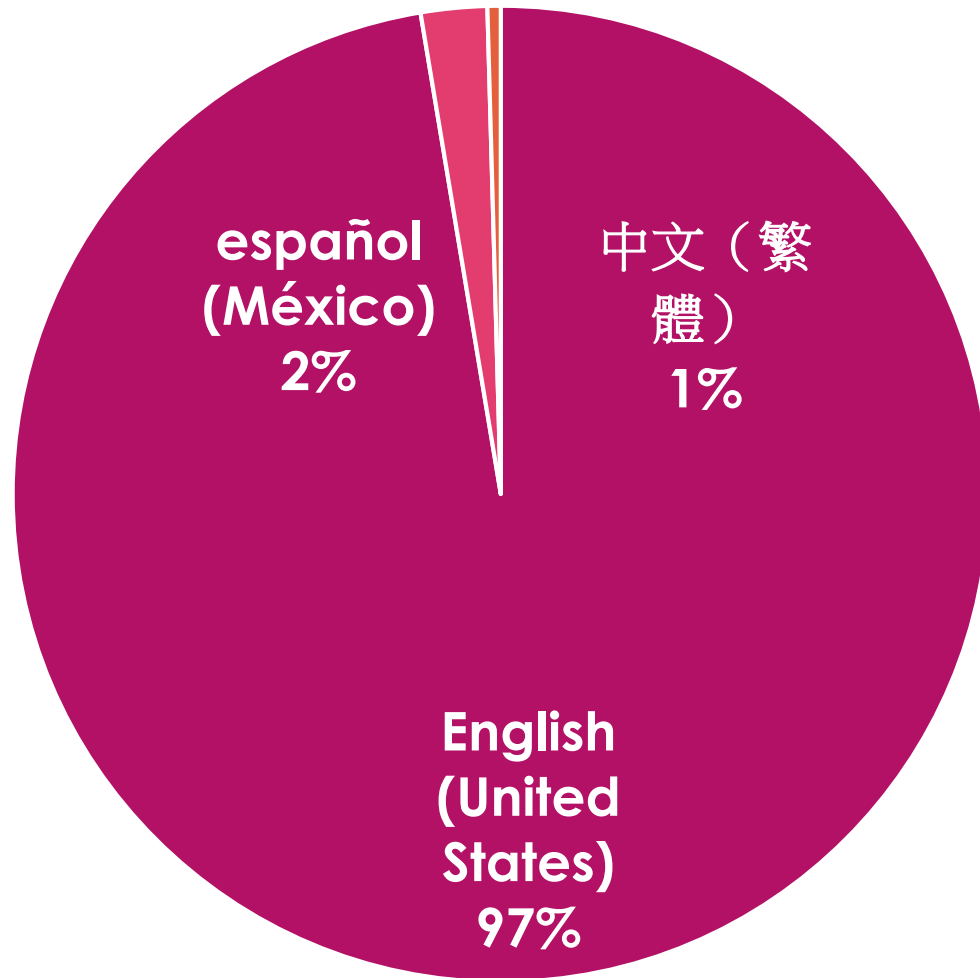
- ▶ Approximately 50 questions
 - ▶ Dynamic, so questions change depending on participants' responses
- ▶ Survey available in 3 languages: English, Spanish, Chinese (traditional)
- ▶ Voluntary and anonymous
- ▶ Open for responses until 10/31
- ▶ Open to all Californians and those who were victims of crime in California

Victim Impact Survey: Overview

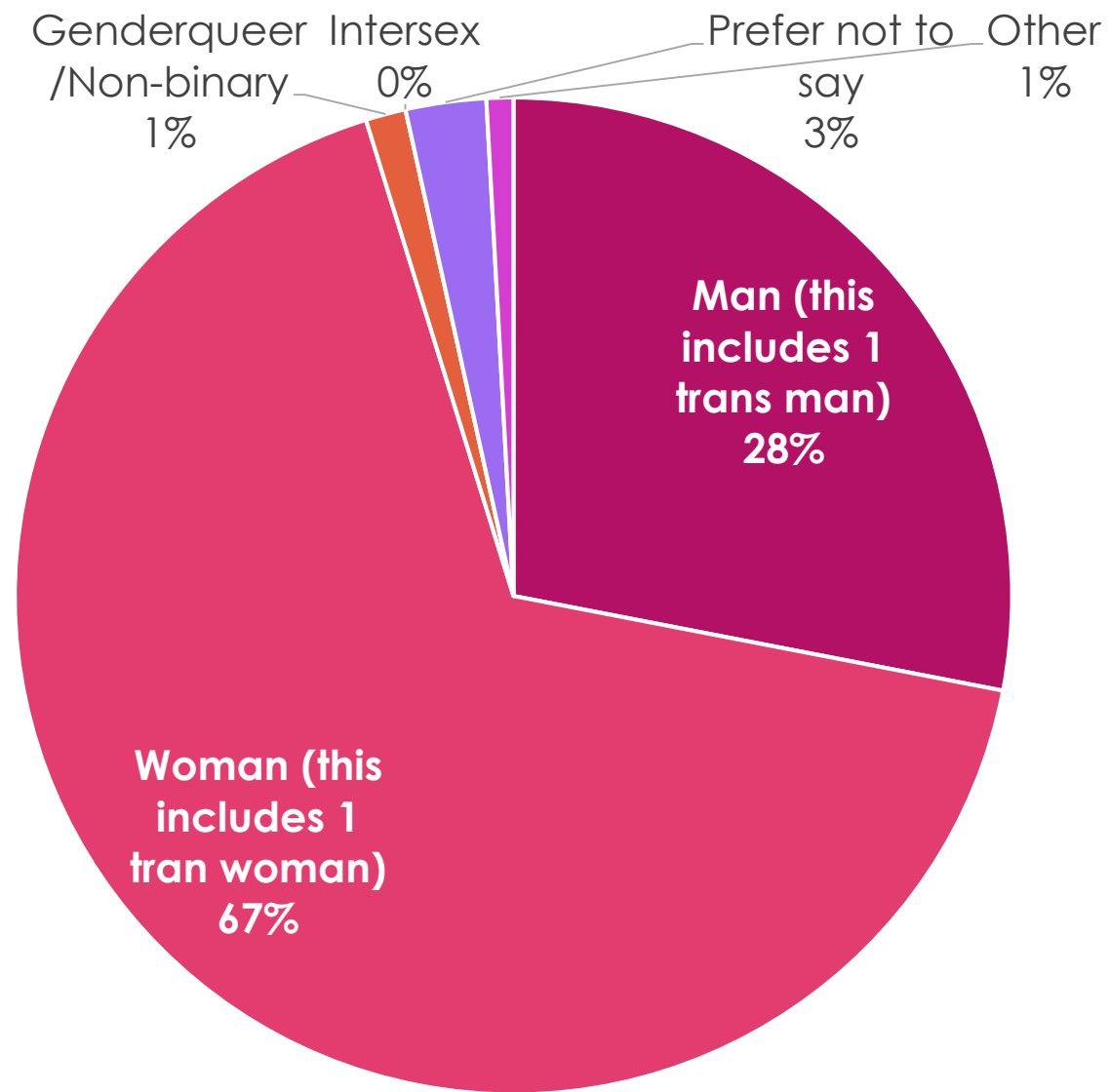
- ▶ Asks about:
 - ▶ Experience with criminal legal system (i.e. if they reported the crime, if it was charged by a DA, etc.)
 - ▶ Type and extent of harm caused by crime
 - ▶ Resources accessed (ex. crime victims' compensation, victim/witness advocates, etc.)
 - ▶ Opinions on various criminal legal system reform ideas
 - ▶ Demographic and lived experience information



Participants Thus Far ($n=456$)

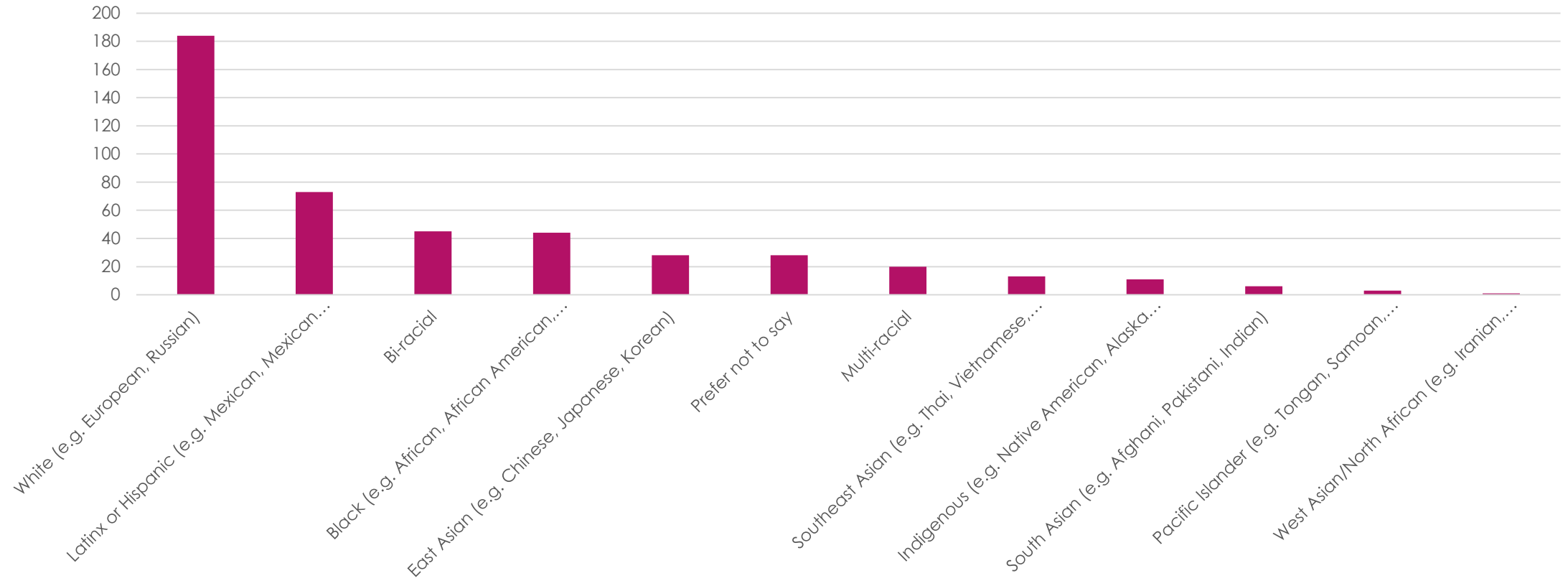


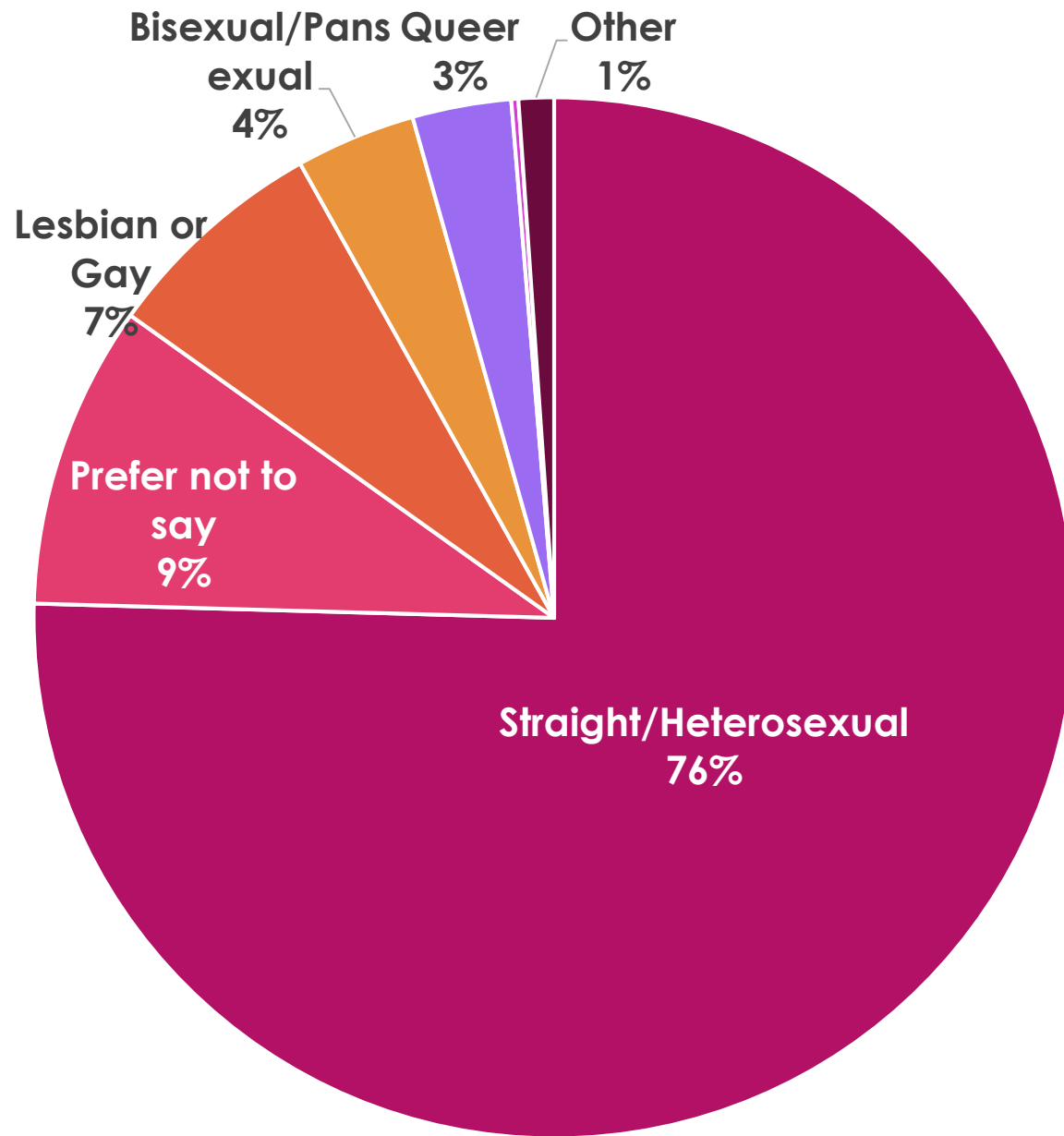
Completed
Surveys by
Language



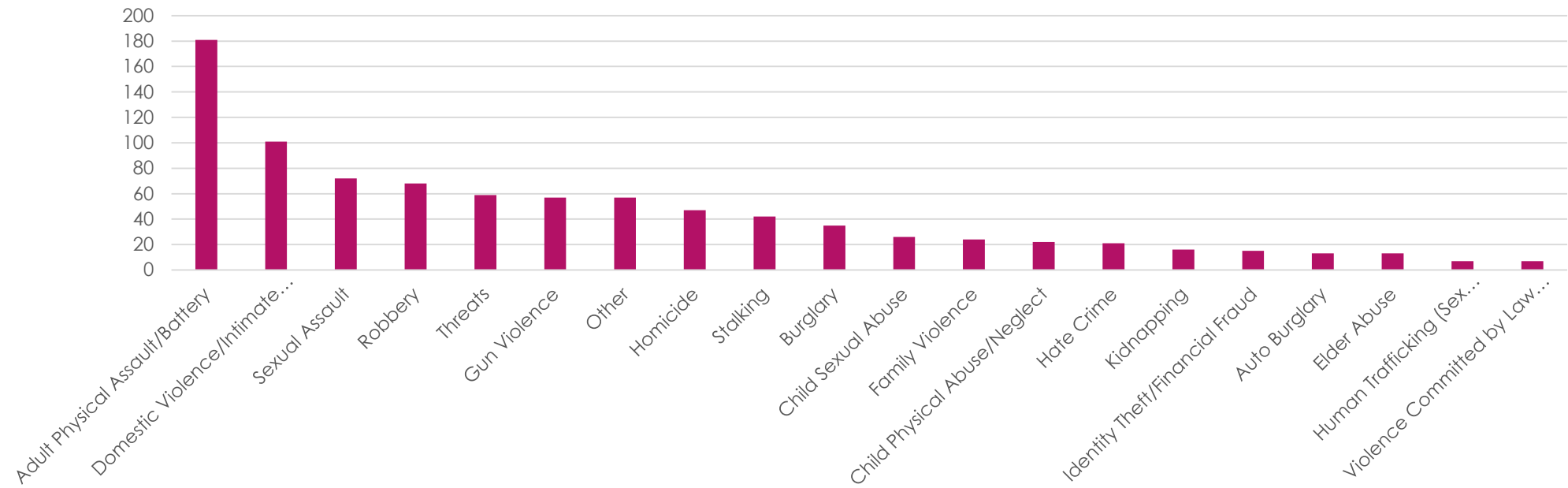
Gender

Race and Ethnicity

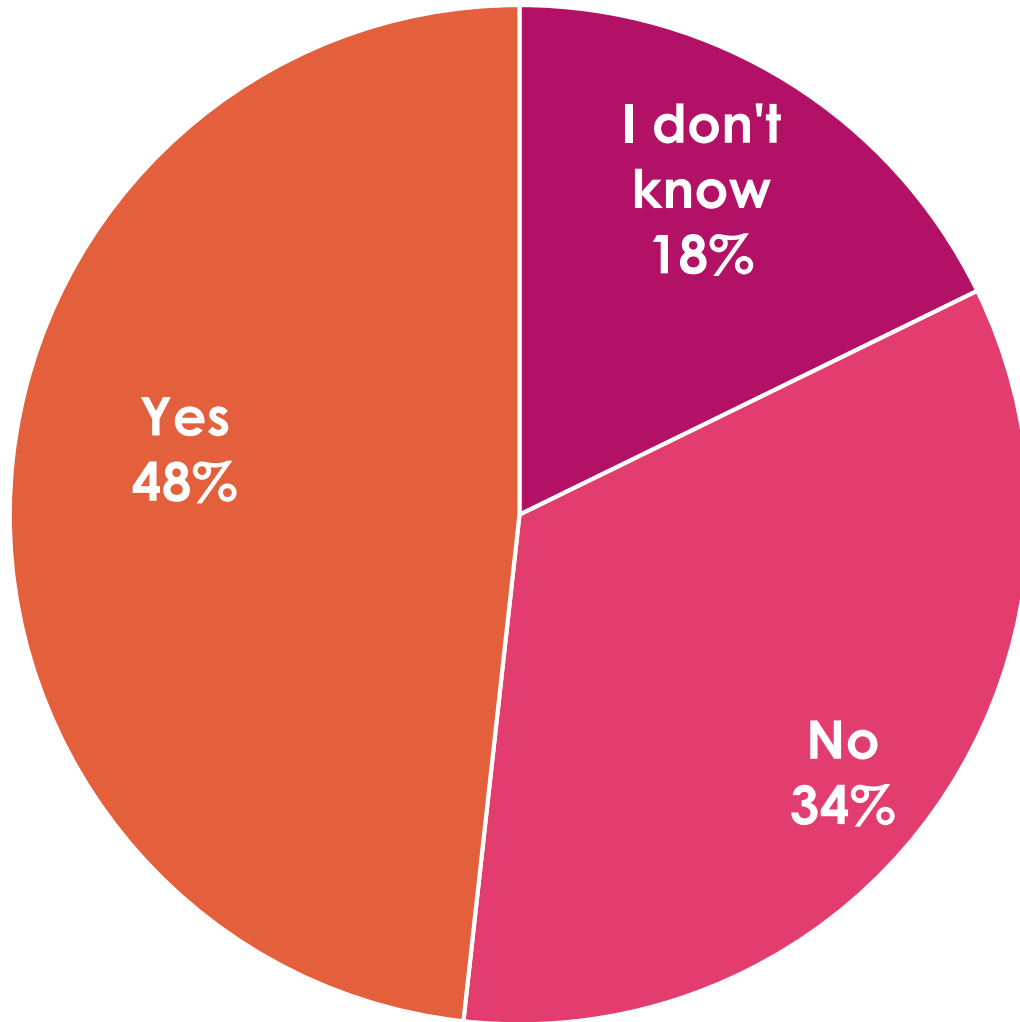




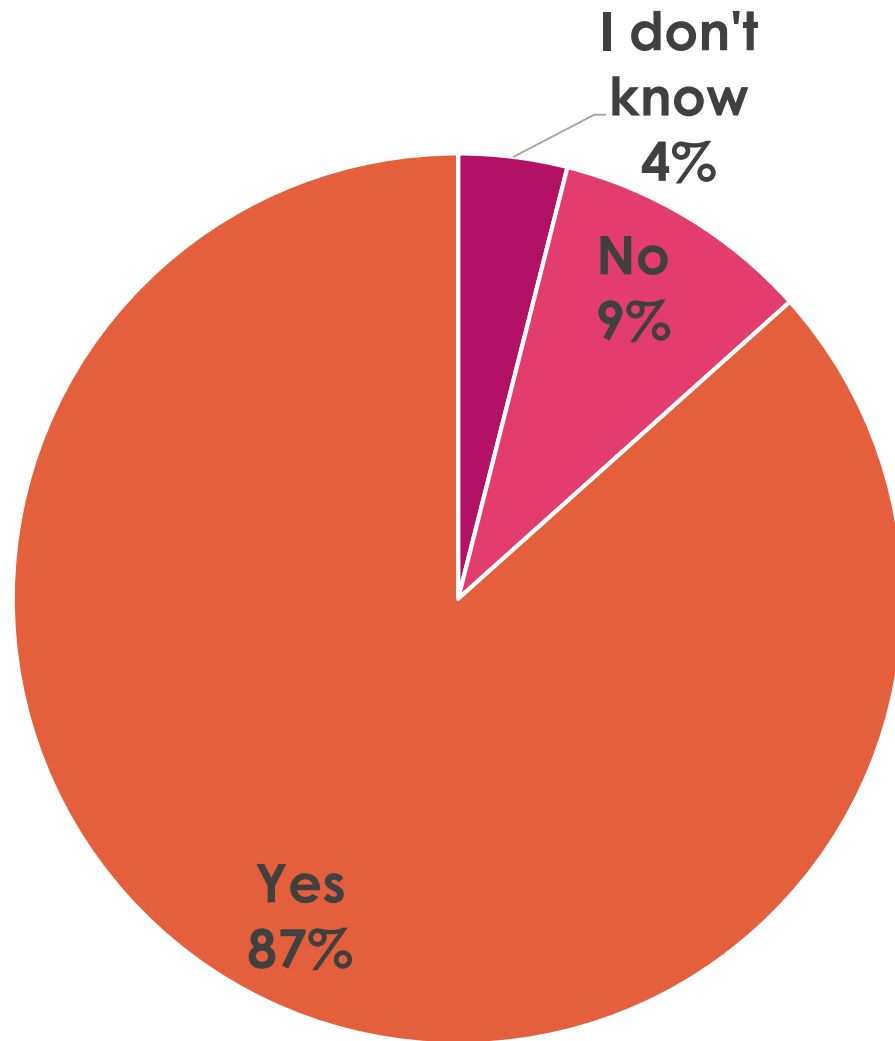
Sexual Orientation



Crime Types Experienced by Survey Participants



Was this
case
charged by
the District
Attorney's
Office?



Did you or
the victim
file a police
report?



Participant Feedback

18. Please respond to the following statements about your understanding of Marsy's Rights. *

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Prefer not to answer
I understood that I have rights as a victim of crime.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I knew how to request to use my Marsy's Rights.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I was provided enough information about Marsy's Rights.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

23. Did you receive services from a District Attorney Victim Services or Victim/Witness advocate? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't Know

24. Which California county did you work with a Victim Services or Victim/Witness Advocate? *

Select your answer



26. How well did your Victim Advocate provide the following services: *

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Not applicable
Provide you with information about your case	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Help you understand the criminal justice system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Direct you to resources and referrals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



33. Do you think incarceration is helpful in deterring criminal behavior? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

34. Do you support alternatives to incarceration like substance abuse or mental health treatment? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I don't know

37. How likely would you be to support expansion of California Crime Victim Compensation (CalVCB) to include victims of police/law enforcement violence? *


1=very unlikely, 2=not likely, 3=neutral, 4=likely, 5=very likely

very unlikely 1 2 3 4 5 very likely
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

38. How likely would you be to support the expansion of California Crime Victims Compensation (CalVCB) to include victims who were currently on felony probation or parole? *

1=very unlikely, 2=not likely, 3=neutral, 4=likely, 5=very likely

very unlikely 1 2 3 4 5 very likely
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐



39. Rank the priorities you think District Attorney's office should be working on. To rank them, you can drag and re-order the options or use the arrows to prioritize options below.

Prioritizing rehabilitation over punishment

Providing restorative justice options for victims of crime

Increasing alternatives to prison (e.g. treatment and services)

Increasing services for victims of crime

Increasing financial resources for victims of crime

Questions?

- ▶ You can find the survey @ bit.ly/2020VictimImpact
- ▶ Contact me
 - ▶ Paige Allmendinger, Paige.Allmendinger@sfgov.org

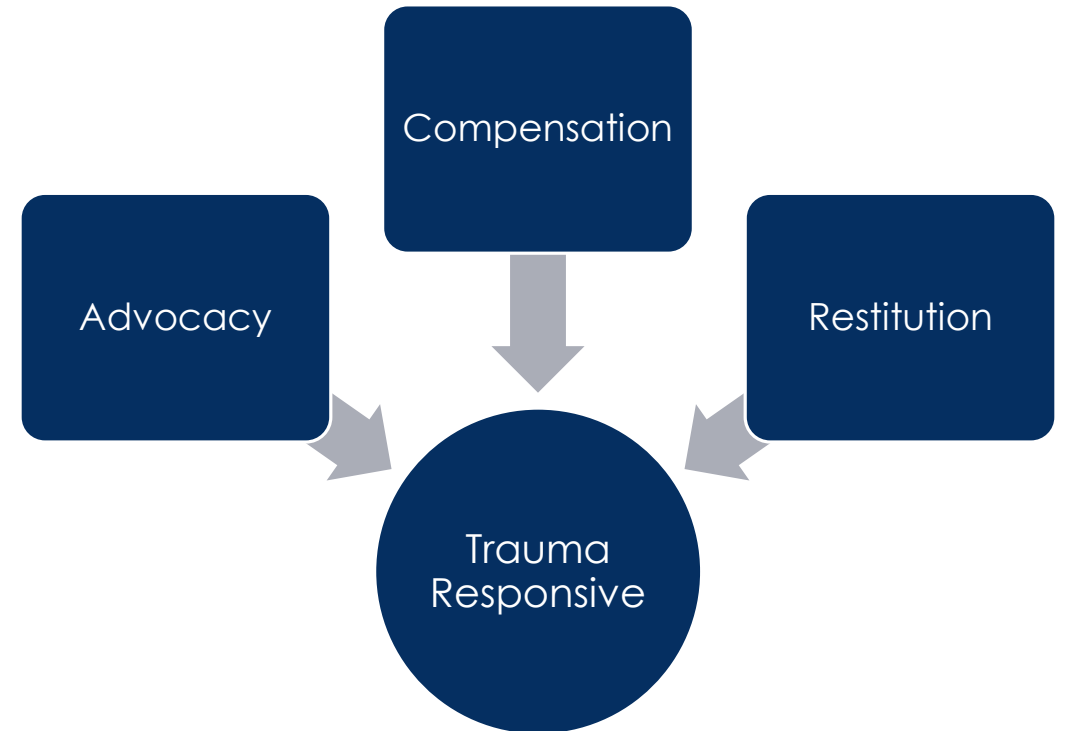


SAN
FRANCISCO
DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S
OFFICE

Victim Services
Division

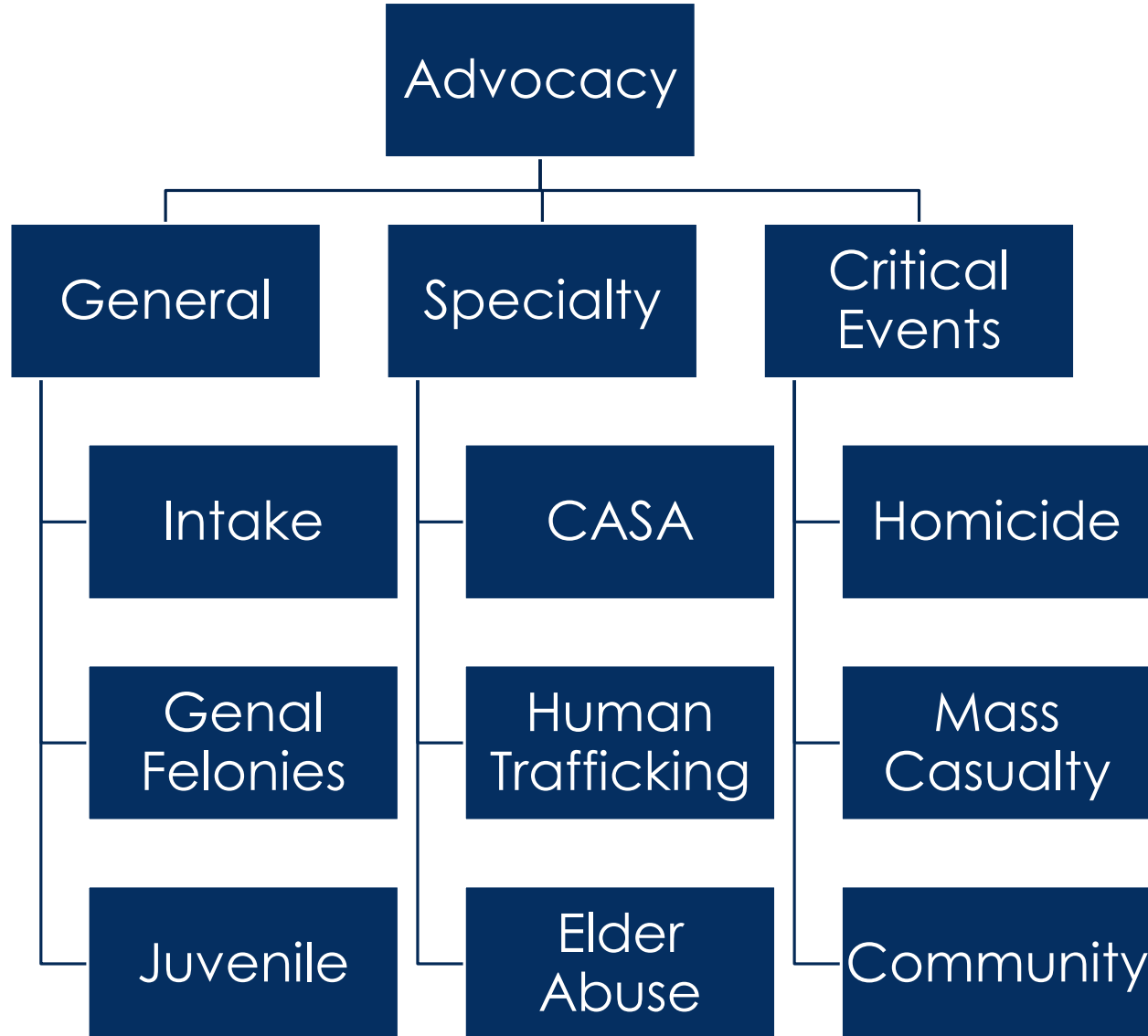
Dr. Gena Castro Rodriguez, PsyD
Chief of Victim Services

The mission of the SFDA Victim Services Division is to help victims of crime mitigate their trauma, navigate the criminal justice system and rebuild their lives.



2019 STATISTICS

- ▶ 8,551 Victims of Violent Crime
 - ▶ 40% increase over the past five years
- ▶ Approximately 49% charged/51% uncharged
- ▶ 1125 Claims for Victim Compensation processed
- ▶ \$1.3 Million in Victim of Crime Compensation
- ▶ 2400 hours of professional development
- ▶ Over 500 community presentations and trainings
- ▶ 1877 hours of volunteer assistance



Crisis support services and counseling
Guidance to navigate the criminal Justice system
Referrals to local resources and services
Assistance in preparing a victim impact statement (for the sentencing phase)
Crime Prevention Information
Temporary Restraining Order Assistance
Restitution
Emergency Assistance
Funeral/Burial Arrangements
Assistance with the CA Victim Compensation Program Applications (CalVCP)

CALIFORNIA VICTIM'S CRIME COMPENSATION



The California Victim Compensation Board (CalVCB) is a state program dedicated to providing reimbursement for many crime-related expenses to eligible victims who suffer physical injury or threat of physical injury as a direct result of a violent crime.

Our Victim Services Claims Unit assists victims with the processing of their victim compensation claims and any losses that are crime related.

- Crime scene clean up (up to \$1,000)
- Dental
- Funeral and burial (up to \$7,500)
- Home or vehicle modification
- Income loss
- Loss of support for dependents
- Medical
- Medical equipment
- Mental health
- Relocation (up to \$2,000)



Restitution may include but is not limited to: the replacement or repair cost of stolen or damaged property; funeral expenses; ambulance or hospital bills, counseling and therapy expenses; relocation expenses; and lost wages for time spent assisting the police or prosecution.

RESTITUTION

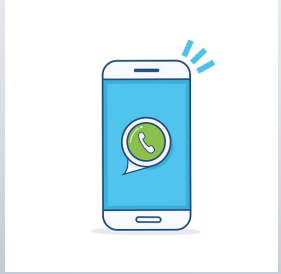
IN PERSON

Forensic Interviews

- CASARC/CAC

Court

- Hearings/Trials



SERVICES DURING COVID-19

3/18/19-9/18/19

- ▶ 3677 new cases during this time period
- ▶ 3493 new victims during this time period
- ▶ Of the 3493 victims, 151 of the victims had 2+ new cases during the time period

3/18/20-9/18/20

- ▶ 3464 new cases during this time period
- ▶ 3307 new victims during this time period
- ▶ Of the 3307 victims, 132 had 2+ new cases during the time period

TIME COMPARISON OF SERVICES

A series of three parallel diagonal lines in the bottom right corner of the slide, slanting upwards from left to right.

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