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Know Your Rights

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# Community Consultation Feedback Summary

December 20th, 2020



**KNOW  
YOUR  
RIGHTS**

The graphic features the text "KNOW YOUR RIGHTS" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Each letter is a cut-out shape that reveals a different scene. The 'K' shows a person with colorful balls. The 'N' shows a man in a suit. The 'O' shows a person in a red and yellow outfit. The 'W' shows a man's profile. The 'Y' shows a group of people in blue uniforms. The 'O' shows a police officer with a "POLICE" badge. The 'U' shows a person speaking into a microphone. The 'R' shows a person in a blue uniform. The 'I' shows a person in a blue uniform. The 'G' shows a police officer's helmet. The 'H' shows a person in a blue uniform. The 'T' shows a person in a blue uniform. The 'S' shows a police officer's helmet.

# Introduction

After speaking with many young people and community members in communities within the City of Toronto, we have summarized the questions community members want to know regarding their rights when interacting with Police officers.

Many of these questions were about how community members interact with the Police, and in particular questions about policies and procedures that exist on Toronto community housing and city property .

We connected with multiple groups of people across the GTA to make sure that we heard the questions and understood what questions people were asking.

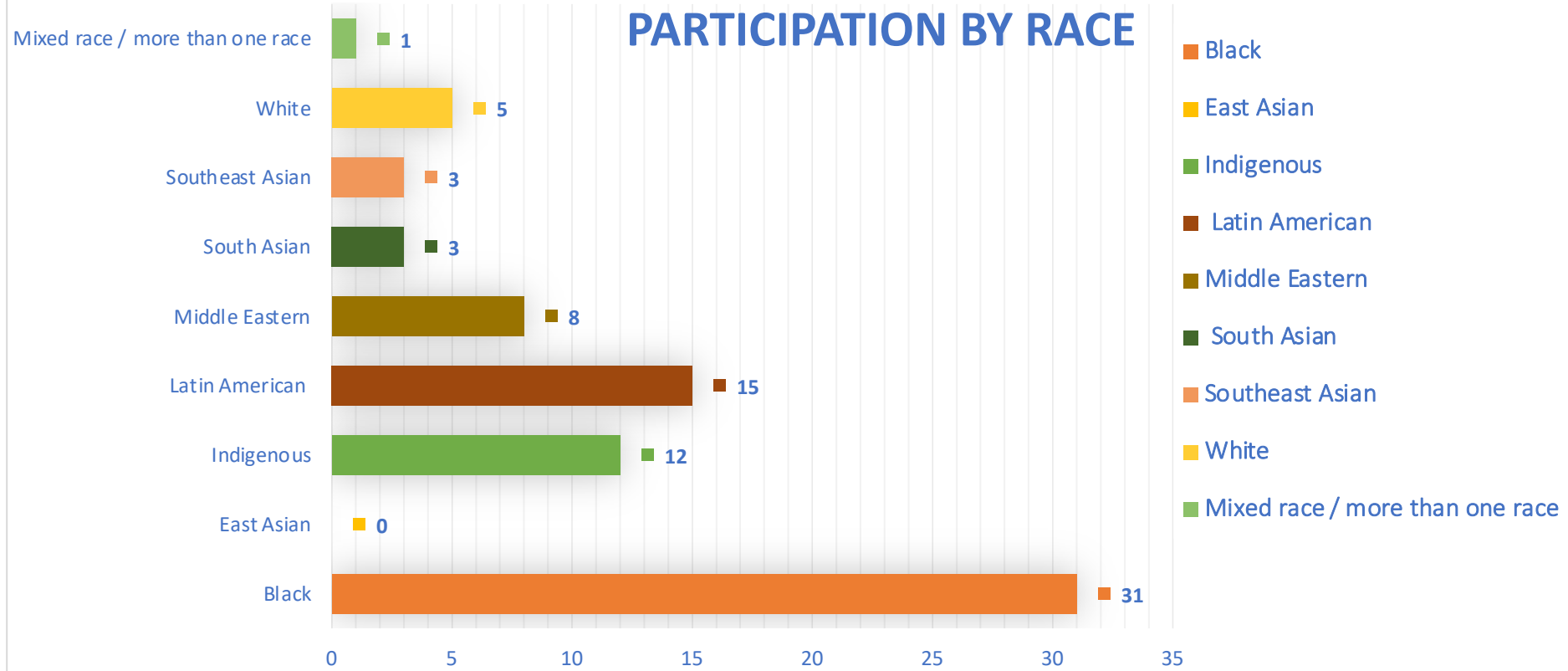




Special thanks to:



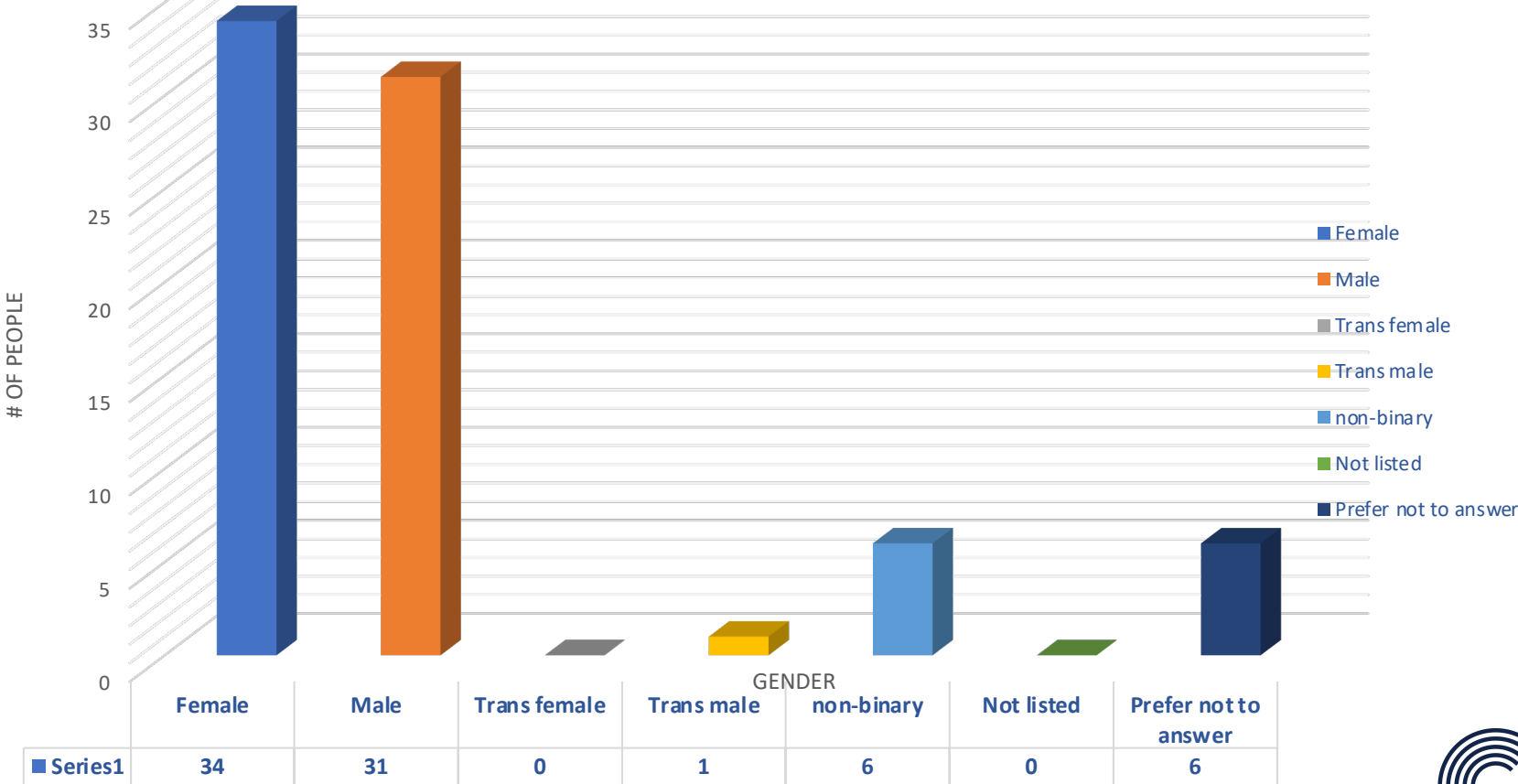
# Consultation Demographics



	Black	East Asian	Indigenous	Latin American	Middle Eastern	South Asian	Southeast Asian	White	Mixed race / more than one race
Series1	31	0	12	15	8	3	3	5	1

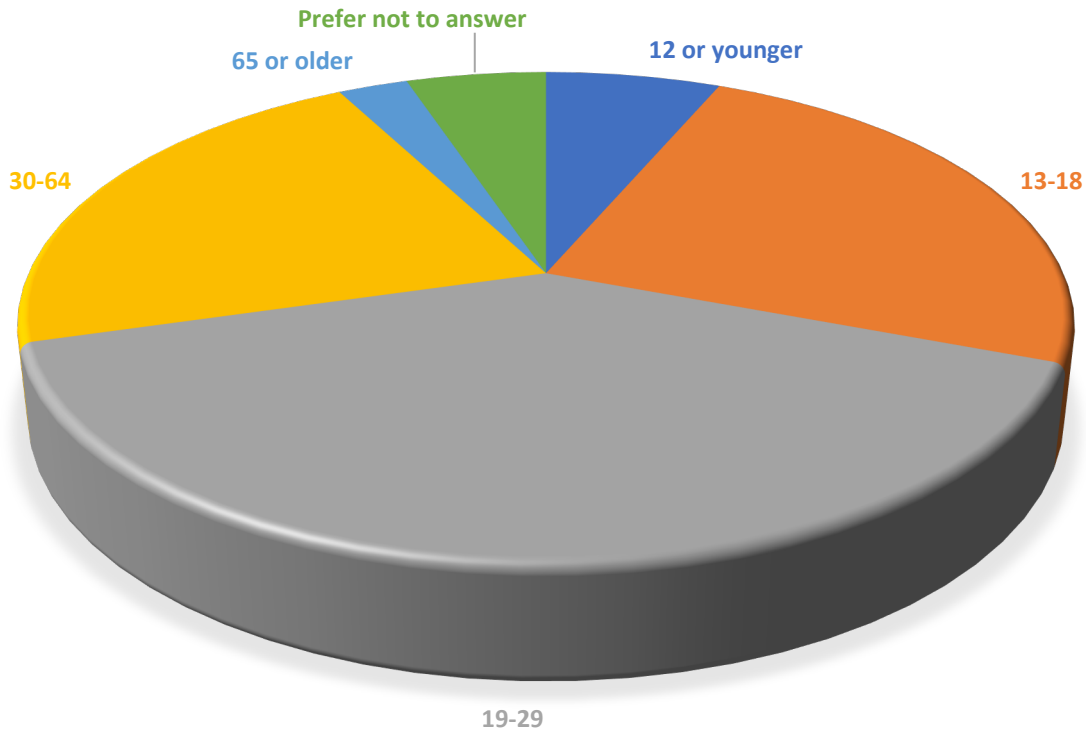
# Consultation Demographics

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER



# Consultation Demographics

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE



12 or younger	13-18	19-29	30-64	65 or older	Prefer not to answer
5	19	31	17	2	4





# Street Checks

1. If I was walking on the street wearing a black hoodie and a Police officer were to come up to me and asks for information, how would I respond?
2. What are Legal grounds for stopping me?
3. Can I ask the officer to show evidence that I match a description of someone they are looking for?
4. When I invoke my rights am I legally obligated to continue the conversation, or can I walk away ?
5. If I'm in my parking lot, and in my stationary vehicle can the officer ask for my ID, is this considered a traffic stop if I wasn't on the road yet?
6. What are my rights if I'm parked on private property?
7. What are my rights if I'm parked on TCHC or city owned property?
8. What are the minimum questions that I have to answer if an officer approaches me while I'm hanging out with my friends ?
9. How can I hold the Police officer accountable if they stopped me for looking native in certa



# Street Checks

10. What is the standard in terms of how to engage to not get in trouble when interacting with the Police
11. How long do Police officers have to inform me of my rights when I'm detained, should they inform me that I can talk with a lawyer and provide an opportunity to do so ?
12. What if I lie about my name or address, when Police randomly stop me, can I be charged with obstructing justice or obstructing the Police?
13. If a Police Officer is questioning me and I feel like I have answered all of their questions, do I have the right to leave?
14. What identification do I have to show if a Police officer stops me ?
15. What if I don't have any identification on me, what can I do ?
16. What if a Police officer places his hands on me for no reason , can I defend myself ?
17. Are you allowed to say no if they ask for ID ?
18. Are you allowed to say no, If they ask you too many questions ?



# Street Checks

19. If they say you are not being detained but still are trying to ask you questions, what should I do ?
20. If the Police say “you are not being detained” and then I walk away, is that a problem ?
21. If I say my whereabouts are not your concern and you don't answer anymore of their questions are they allowed to hold you longer ?
22. Can officers just come up to you and ask for a conversation ?
23. During the conversation with Police , voices are raised, the officers place their hands on their firearms, what should the group of young men do?
24. If they detain you, are they allowed to go through your phone?



# Traffic Stops

1. If I am a passenger in a vehicle, do I have to answer a Police officer's questions?
2. If I get pulled over and you are in the passenger seat and they ask you questions, are you obliged to reply ?
3. What if you don't reply or comply, what should I say if I don't want to give them any of my information?
4. If I'm at a gas station and not in my vehicle , can an officer issue me a traffic ticket or ask for my ID?
5. Do I have to give them any details is an officer asks me where I am heading too?
6. Do you have to answer where are you going – and what happens if you do not answer ?
7. Does it make it harder if you do not answer the question where are you going to or where are you coming from
8. What are the minimum questions that I have to answer during a traffic stop ?
9. If you are parked at the side of the road legally – are they allowed to ask you for ID and ask what are you doing ?



# Police Search

1. Are officers trained to psychologically detain someone?
2. Can police officers search me if I'm falsely accused by someone of taking their property because im the only black person in the vicinity?
3. What is considered an illegal search, can someone search you without a search warrant?
4. What rights do I have if a officer wants to search my vehicle?
5. If a officers says they suspect there are drug or guns in the Vehicle, how can I challenge that that assumption?
6. If a gun or drugs are found during a illegal search, can I challenge it ?
7. What are someone's rights to fair treatment while in custody ?
8. What are my rights If I am falsely charged because the officer thinks I'm intoxicated,
9. Can an officer charge me, if I'm unconscious or passed out ?
10. What if they search you on suspicion of having drugs, because they smelled weed odour, but find nothing, how can I hold these officers accountable?
11. How long are they allowed to detain me?
12. What's the minimum identification I must show if a Police Officer stops me?



# Police Search

12. Can I request a social worker if I'm being detained for "my own safety" ?
13. When do I have to show identification to a Police Officer?
14. What if I don't have identification, how can I prove my identity without being arrested?
15. Under what circumstances can a officer search my car?
16. Can they search my phone when they are searching my car ?
17. How soon can I request a lawyer ?
18. When is a Police Officer allowed to put their hands on me?
19. Can the Police search my car and in what scenario can they not?
20. Can an officer retaliate cause I know my rights , if he does how can I hold them accountable?
21. The Police have a search warrant, do they have to put my stuff back after they complete their search ?
22. Are Police liable for damaged property during a search warrant ?
23. When can a Police Officer search me, what can I do if I feel a Police Officer has illegally searched me?
24. How you can someone answer Police questions with minimal information in a way that does incriminate ?



# Trespassing

1. Am I allowed to to distribute information on TCHC property or city property ?
2. Are we allowed to protest on TCHC property ?
3. Can Police trespass me within my own building apartment?
4. Can I refuse to let the officer in my home if they are responding to a wellness call?
5. What are my rights when a Police Officer wants to can enter my home ?
6. If I am in a public park , City property or TCHC property, does a Police Officer have the right to tell me to leave?
7. When can the Police enter my home?
8. If you are stopped by the Police while you are on TCHC or City property ?
9. Are the rules different on City and TCHC properties compared to private property?
10. Do I have to leave City property if Police tell me to?
11. If A group of youth runs away as the Police cars enter the community at a high rate of speed, then they catch up to us, what are my rights?
12. Can I be arrested at a protest ? On city property ? On the street ? In a park ?



# Access to Information

1. Where do we find out about the type of Police reform that is happening?
2. Can a citizen gain access to transcripts on Police and the complaints they have received?
3. Can we access information regarding Police use of force and when it would be deemed to be excessive?
4. When are officers allowed to use excessive use of force, and what are the rules are we allowed to defend ourselves or should we just get beat down?
5. Are they allowed to take our phones away when we recording an incident ?
6. What's the youngest age a Police officer can place hang cuffs on a citizen ?
7. Can officers remove children from their homes ?
8. How much focus is on de-escalation – how are officers trained on defusing the tension/situation?
9. What are the capabilities of the camera / Does it have facial recognition software and if so what is the margin of error?
10. What powers are different between special constable vs Police officers ?
11. Can a city parking officer arrest me ? Are they Police ?
12. Are TCHC special constables , part of Toronto Police ?





# Accountability & Complaints

1. What protocol is in place for holding an officer accountable if they smash my phone or confiscate my phone ?
2. How can I report a officer's racist conduct towards me ?
3. A group of youth witness the Police engaging with residents in a rough and hostile manner. What are your rights and responsibilities as an observer or onlooker?
4. If I have a criminal record, am I allowed to submit a complaint or does my record impact my complaint ?
5. What are my privacy rights, what access do Policers have to my digital footprint ?
6. How can I can find out what personal information the Police have collected about me
7. What if my personal information has been wrongly accessed by toronto Police ?
8. What can I do if a Police Officer is calling me racist names and takes my phone away while im trying to record the encounter?
9. Are Police Officers allowed to take our phones or break them if we record them harassing someone on the street?
10. If I file a Police complaint how do I stop a Police Officer and all of their friends from harassing me?



# Accountability & Complaints

10. If a Police Officer breaks my phone, how do I get them to pay for a new one?
11. When engaging with the Police, the officers are physically and verbally abusive to the group of youth, what can the youth do at that moment ?
12. Police are using unethical tactics to question and gather information ?
13. Can a community member request assistance from Police regarding a ex boyfriend drug dealer and known to Police, has come out of jail and is threatening her ?
14. What right do I have to challenge Police when they are using social media activities to keep tabs on community members and activist ?
15. Can Police use cellphone hacking technology ?
16. How can I lodge a complaint on an officers, what's the process and is there transparency to the process?
17. What things can I compliant about ?



# Recommendations

1. Police training for mental health training
2. Police need to be trained on coping strategies
3. Body camera process must be transparent, and public should have a way to request access to the footage
4. Complaints against officers should be accessible to the public
5. Conversation in the schools starting with grade 7 & 8
6. An app to house different scenarios on your rights
7. Advocacy around the school system -to have the law and know your rights programs
8. A know your rights program that helps people of all ages know their legal rights, and how to properly interact with Police
9. Education programs
  - Parent councils
  - School board trustees
  - Training our people
  - Investigation tactics
  - Language and terms



# Recommendations

10. I think a textbook with not just about Police, but all of our rights. A pocket size textbook where we can keep it with us at all times and get information on all of our rights.”
11. I think more visuals are helpful and when I can see the organizations doing the work, like Positive Vibes, and Collective impact, I find it more comfortable because I know it's trustworthy organization I can interact with.”
12. “A workshop on how to interact and be confident with Police officers. Non-BIPOC people have the privilege of voicing their concerns, not answering Police questions, telling Police their rights.
13. We're seen as aggressive when we stand our ground, and what I've been told is to be quiet.”
14. Not enough information to tell you what “You Don't have to do”
15. Should have a public reviews on Police similar to “rate my prof”
16. App to track these interactions , so we can see patterns & hold them accountable
17. We need to train our community on how to manage our emotions
18. Package a Developed a mental help resource toolkit
19. Police committees must be inclusive and people been through the system should her able to seat on them



# Recommendations

20. Social media is the best way, don't think a booklet would work, people don't really read booklets, find a way to incorporate it into social media
21. Target audience – mail to specific communities, put these questions with the answers to these questions great example: tax returns with questions around organ donations is received by everyone
22. People are still relying on making sure someone is educated – important to ensure that people who can mentor have this information
23. Police seem to prey on those who don't know or can't articulate their rights. Make sure they are as armed with knowledge as everyone else is.
24. If we can get information out about COVID-19 because not having the information could kill you, then we should be as serious as getting information out about knowing your rights as we have seen that not knowing your rights has ended up killing people based on their interaction with the Police
25. There is so many ways to get this information out that we should not be getting wrong – we should be doing commercials on CP24 and Youtube channels

# Recommendations

26. Offer Schools free training or have free legal clinics
27. Target neighborhoods – facilitate workshops, do community workshops in identified areas
28. Train the trainer structure to educate community
29. Priority neighborhoods – one thing to know your rights, some people don't have the resources to learn about their rights, teach them – have a mentor for each community (know your rights ambassador)
30. Build capacity in order to have access to someone who know their rights – to each group someone that can be accessed easily
31. Not enough people sharing and providing resources
32. For high school kids that's when you have a lot of encounters
33. Education In a school assembly , Age 16 – 21 its valuable because we have not had as many encounters – have not seen everything they have seen, so there is a need to know more about know your rights
34. Age group matters in delivering education
  - Public speaking
  - Use simple terminology



# Recommendations

35. App is very important, so people can download it / could use it in scenarios
36. Who should own the app to educate communities and should not be owned by the Police, should be owned by any organizations
37. Should be owned by the City of Toronto or the Province, similar to the covid notifications
38. Community organizations – Multiple community organizations (collaborative, everyone is a stakeholder)
39. All Executive Directors sign off on it and host it on the website or on their app
40. Videos where people are trying to protect themselves using their rights – by quoting or stating your rights some seem to actually work
41. Change community perspective of Feeling of hopelessness
42. Too much legal terms does not make it very transparent
43. Plain language that a 10-year-old and a 50 year old
44. Know Your Rights should be taught in Civics classes
45. You can get information their rights through print media, email or verbal however if rights are not being followed and there is no follow up on the complaints process then what is the point





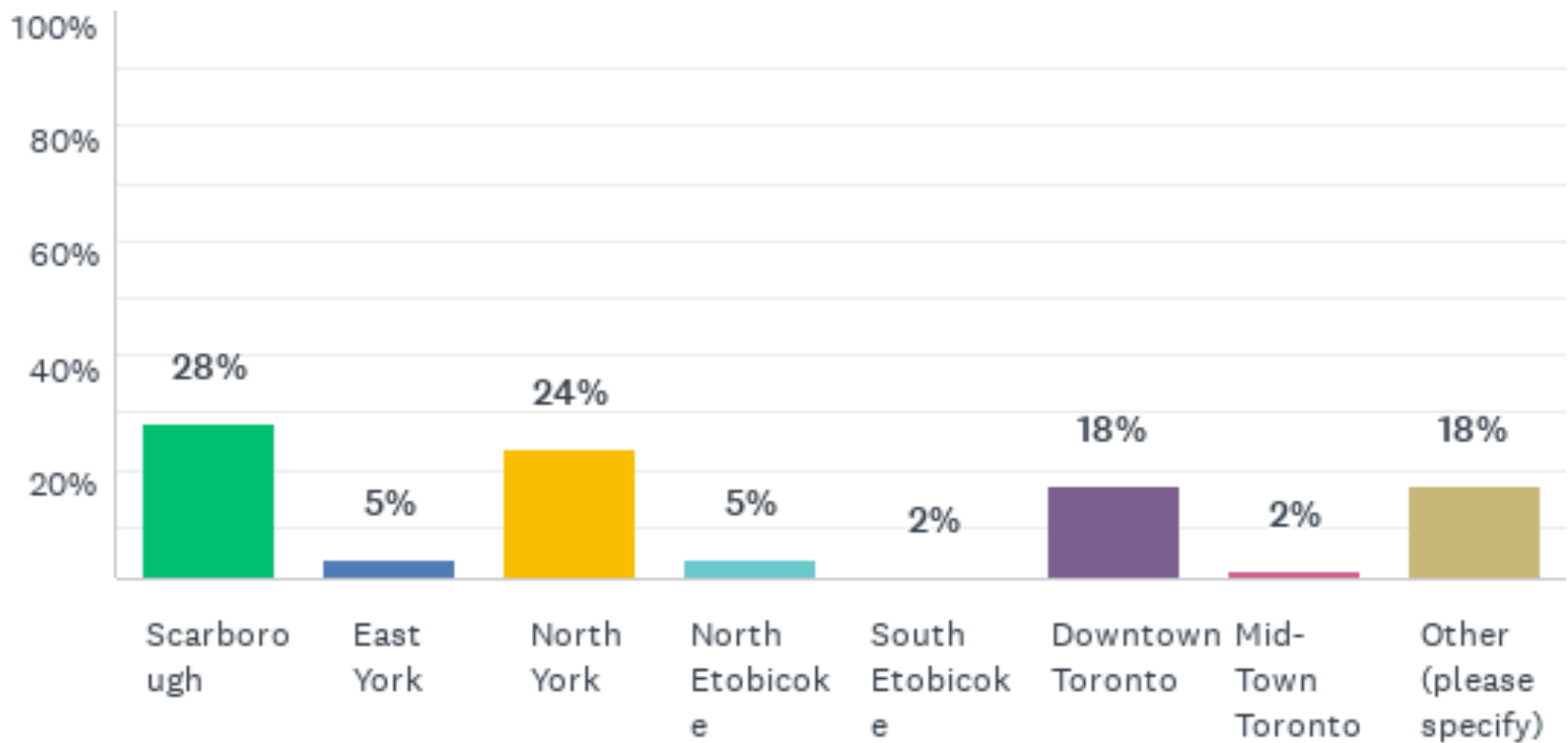
## Survey Results





## Q1: What area of the Toronto do you live in

• Answered: 131 Skipped: 0



## Q1: What area of the Toronto do you live in

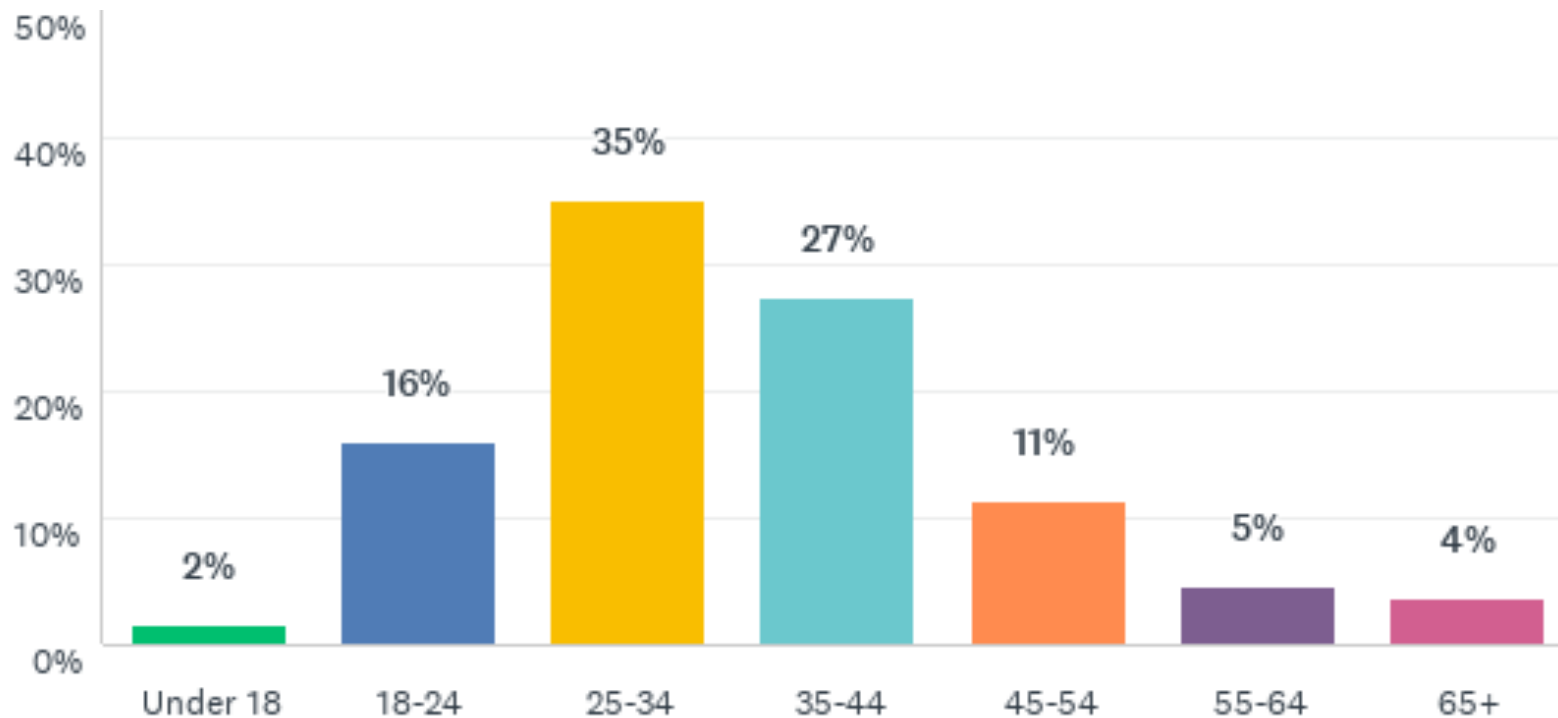
- Answered: 131 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Scarborough	28%	37
East York	5%	6
North York	24%	31
North Etobicoke	5%	6
South Etobicoke	2%	2
Downtown Toronto	18%	23
Mid-Town Toronto	2%	3
Other (please specify)	18%	23
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>131</b>



## Q3: What Age group ?

- Answered: 131 Skipped: 0



### Q3: What Age group ?

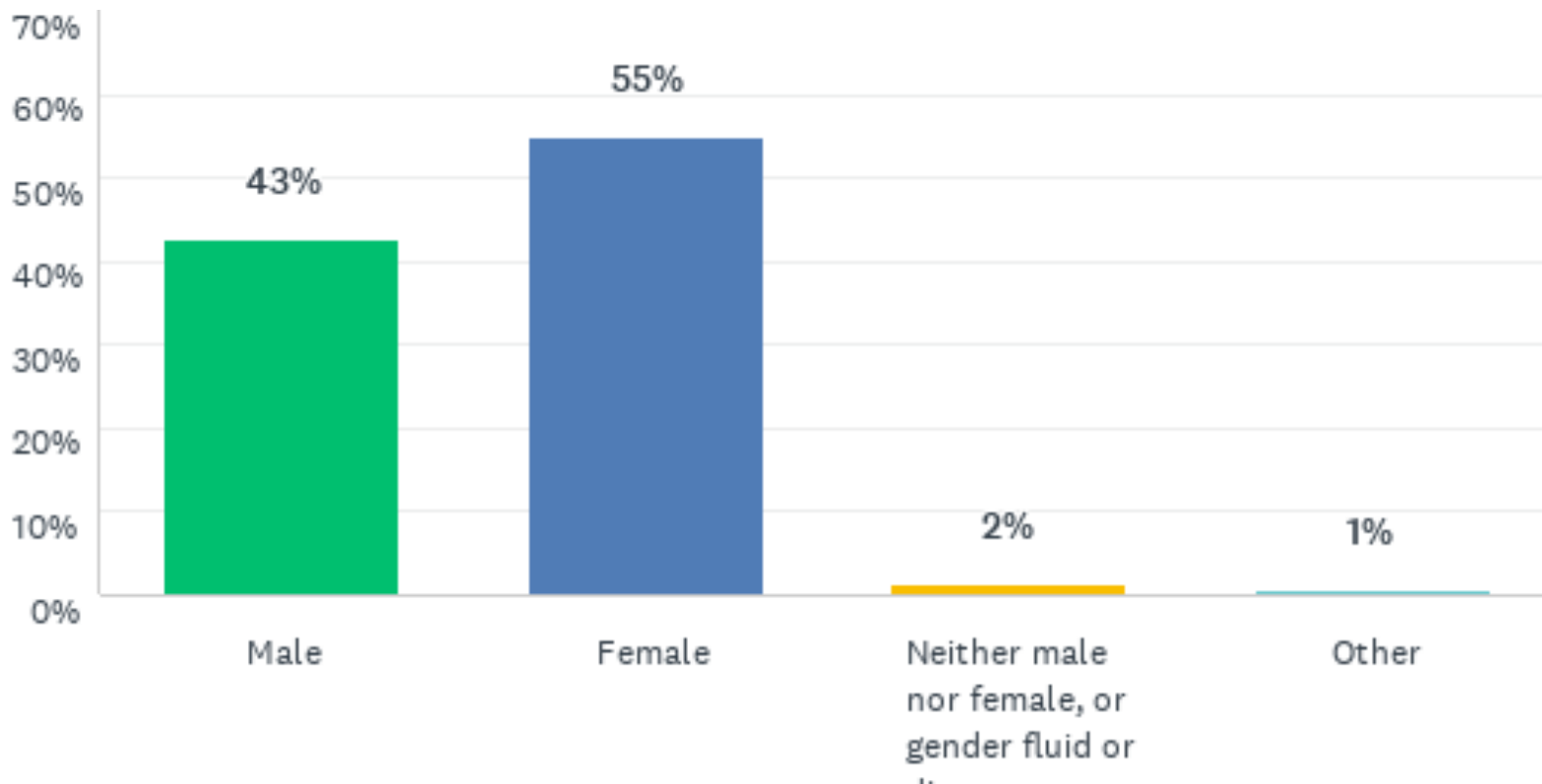
- Answered: 131 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	2%	2
18-24	16%	21
25-34	35%	46
35-44	27%	36
45-54	11%	15
55-64	5%	6
65+	4%	5
TOTAL		131



## Q4: How would you describe your current gender identity?

- Answered: 131 Skipped: 0



## Q4: How would you describe your current gender identity?

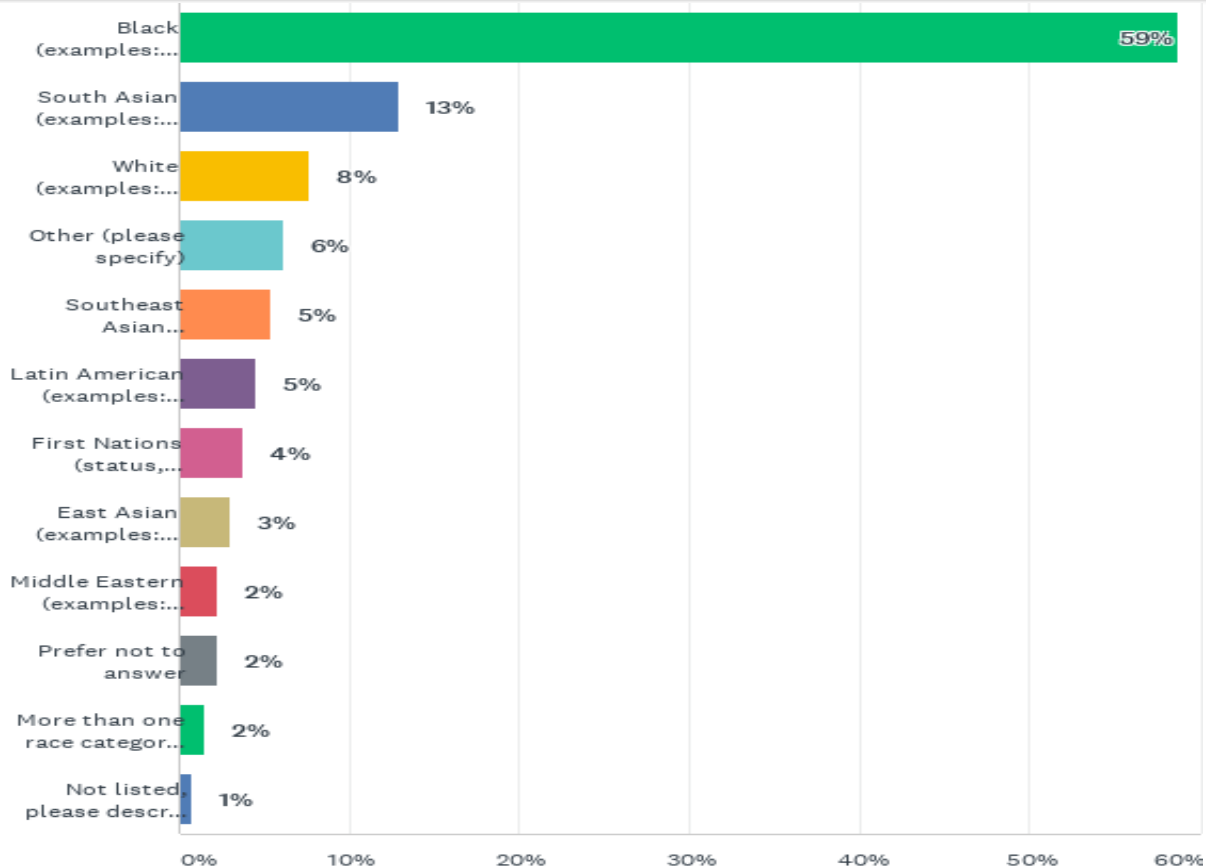
- Answered: 131 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	43%	56
Female	55%	72
Neither male nor female, or gender fluid or diverse	2%	2
Other	1%	1
TOTAL		131



## Q5: Which race category best describes you?

• Answered: 131 Skipped: 0



## Q5: Which race category best describes you?

- Answered: 131 Skipped: 0

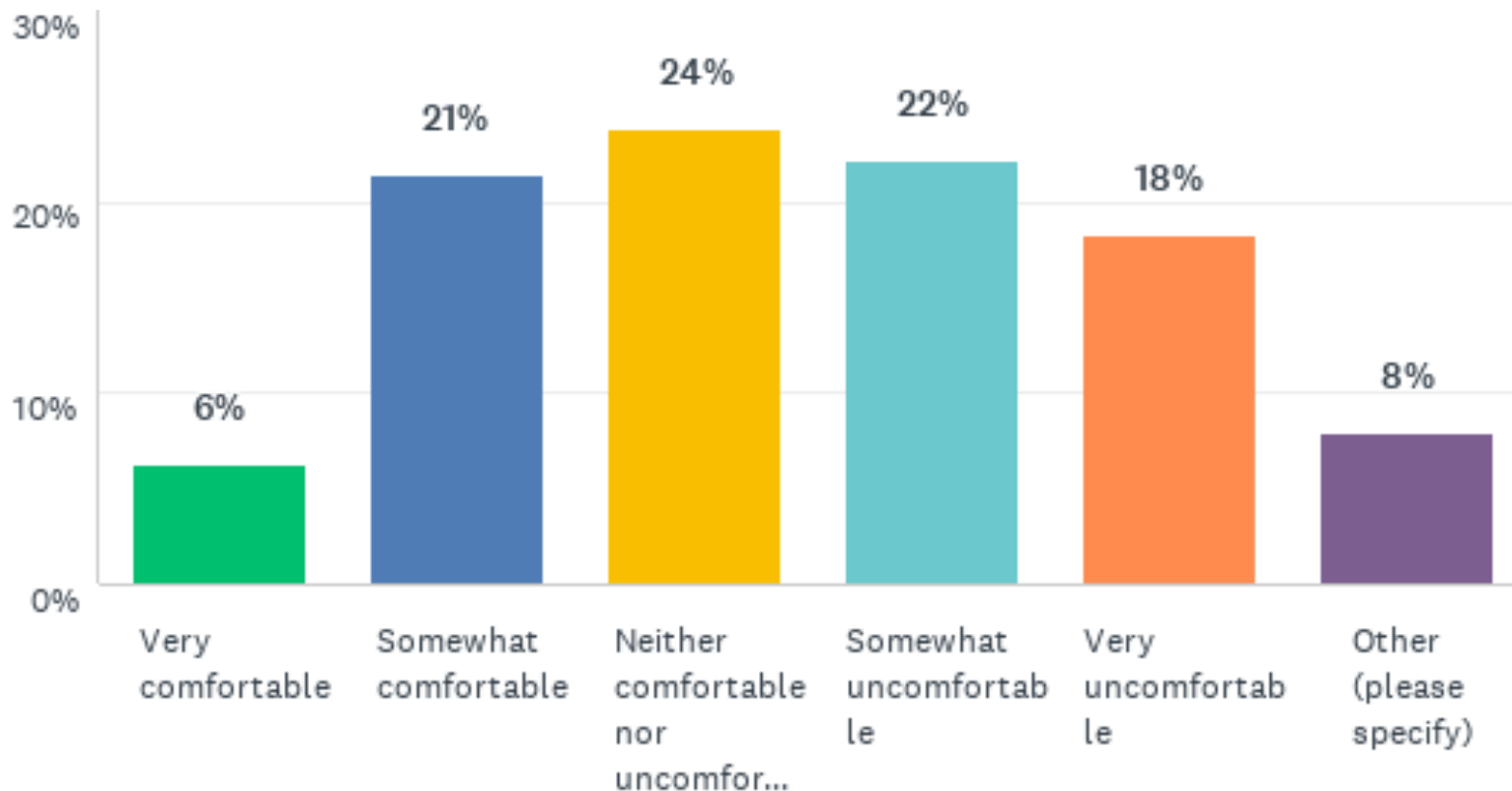
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Black (examples: African, African-Canadian, Caribbean)	59%	77
South Asian (examples: Bangladeshi, Indian, Indian-Caribbean such as Guyanese, Pakistani, Sri Lankan)	13%	17
White (examples: English, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Slovakian)	8%	10
Other (please specify)	6%	8
Southeast Asian (examples: Filipino, Malaysian, Singaporean, Thai, Vietnamese)	5%	7
Latin American (examples: Colombian, Cuban, Mexican, Peruvian)	5%	6
First Nations (status, non-status, treaty or non-treaty) Inuit or Métis	4%	5
East Asian (examples: Chinese, Japanese, Korean )	3%	4
Middle Eastern (examples: Afghan, Iranian, Lebanese, Saudi Arabian, Syrian)	2%	3
Prefer not to answer	2%	3
More than one race category or mixed race, please describe below	2%	2
Not listed, please describe below	1%	1
Total Respondents: 131		





## Q6: How comfortable are you when interacting with Toronto Police Officers

- Answered: 126 Skipped: 5



## Q6: How comfortable are you when interacting with Toronto Police Officers

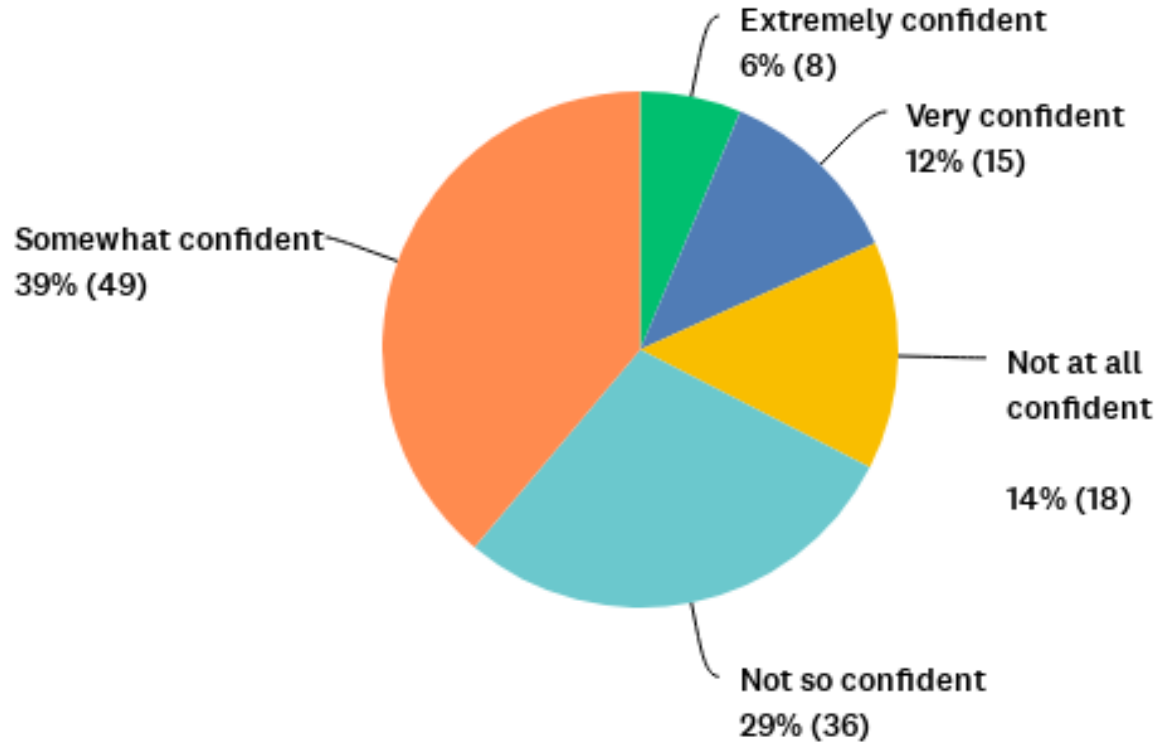
- Answered: 126 Skipped: 5

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very comfortable	6%	8
Somewhat comfortable	21%	27
Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable	24%	30
Somewhat uncomfortable	22%	28
Very uncomfortable	18%	23
Other (please specify)	8%	10
TOTAL		126



## Q7: How confident do you feel in terms of knowing your rights when interacting with Toronto Police Officers

- Answered: 126 Skipped: 5



## Q7: How confident do you feel in terms of knowing your rights when interacting with Toronto Police Officers

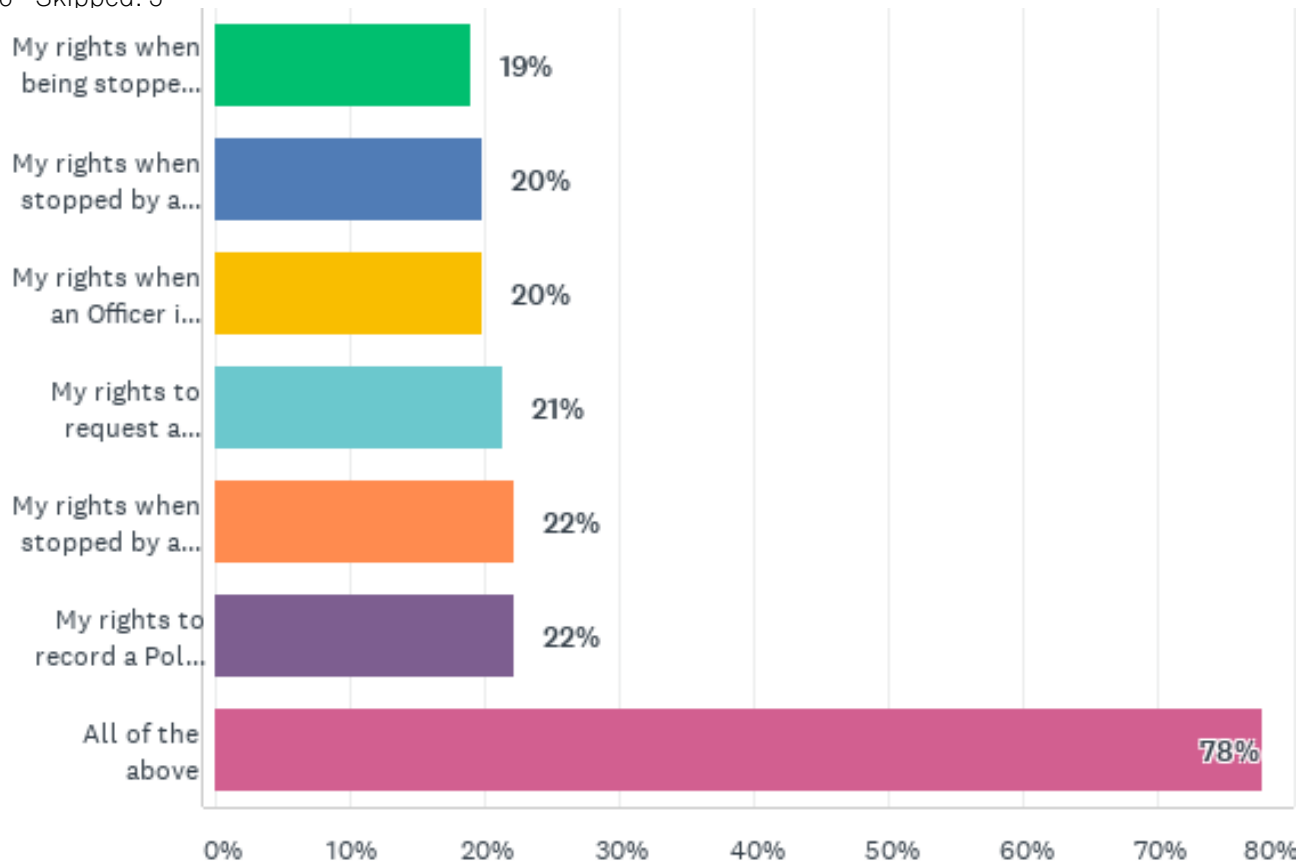
- Answered: 126 Skipped: 5

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely confident	6%	8
Very confident	12%	15
Not at all confident	14%	18
Not so confident	29%	36
Somewhat confident	39%	49
TOTAL		126



## Q8: What would you like to know about interacting with Toronto Police Officers

• Answered: 126 Skipped: 5



## Q8: What would you like to know about interacting with Toronto Police Officers

- Answered: 126 Skipped: 5

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
My rights when being stopped and driving	19%	24
My rights when stopped by a Police Officer on private property	20%	25
My rights when an Officer is recording an interaction with a body worn camera	20%	25
My rights to request a Police Officers name and badge number	21%	27
My rights when stopped by a Police Officer on public property	22%	28
My rights to record a Police interaction	22%	28
All of the above	78%	98
Total Respondents: 126		

