

Liard Aboriginal Women's Society Youth for Safety Project

Youth Feedback Survey Responses



DRAFT

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Executive Summary

Watson Lake Secondary School in partnership with community agencies have embarked on a three-year Youth-led learning project called “*Youth for Safety*” (YFS). YFS is based on learning topics of safety, dignity, justice, and violence against girls and women; it explores how men keep women safe and how women stay safe.

Youth gathered for the second introduction session about the YFS on Tuesday, December 15, 2015. One of the activities was a 12-question survey on safety. This report is a summary of those responses.

A total of 39 Youth shared their thoughts about safety in their homes, on the streets and at school. The group comprised of slightly more males, younger students and Kaska.

- **Grades 8/9** = 22 (56%) – Grades 10/11/12 = 17 (44%)
- **Males** = 18 (46%) – Females = 16 (41%) – ‘Other’ = 5 (13%)
- **Kaska** = 26 (67%) – 12 (31%)

When asked how their day was going, most were having a good to great day (34 or 87%), although a few were having a poor (3 or 8%) or very poor (2 or 5%) day. The males and the older students were having a bit of a better day, whereas more Kaska were having a very poor to poor day.

When asked how safe they were feeling in school, on the street and at home, as a group, they were feeling safe as 95% (36) felt safe enough to highly safe **in school**, 94% (37) felt safe enough to highly safe **on the street**, and 95% (36) felt safe enough to highly safe **at home**. When you add up the responses across the three locations, 46% felt safe enough, 22% felt very safe, and 27% felt highly safe. When we divided the responses up based on gender, grades and Kaska/non Kaska, the three groups all felt safest at home, followed by at school and lastly on the street. A few remarks:

- **Males felt safer** overall in all three locations than females
- **Older students felt safer** overall in all three locations than younger students
- **Non Kaska students felt safer** at school and at home than Kaska students, but the Kaska students felt safer on the street

When asked if the students have any personal safety issues in their lives ‘right now,’ the majority (74% or 29) said “No.” Only 18% (7) said “Yes.” Of the 7 students who said “Yes,” they were female (4) or ‘Other’ (3), the younger students (7), and Kaska (5 out of 7).

The students who identified a personal safety issue said most frequently that '**drugs / alcohol**' and '**verbal abuse**' were the issues followed by 'physical abuse' and 'bullying'.

When asked if they know a friend or relative who has a personal safety issue 'right now,' 59% (23) said "Yes," 33% (13) said "No," and 3 did not respond. **More females** than males know someone, **more students in Grades 8/9** than the senior grades know someone and **more Kaska** than non Kaska know someone.

When asked if they would get help if they had a personal safety issue, 64% (25) said "Yes," although 31% (12) said "No." Being male or female did not impact the response. **The older students and the non Kaska said they would get help**, whereas the younger students and the Kaska were divided.

When asked how to keep safe, in general, the ideas were around making good decisions, having healthy relationships with family and the community, and using the buddy system. On the street, they recommended not walking alone or in the dark and having more police and less drugs. At home, they recommended locking the doors and windows, having family around and staying in your room.

When asked how excited they were about the Youth for Safety Project, generally speaking, 85% (32) of the students thought the project should at least help to being highly excited about it. Only 6 students either were not sure or were not excited. Whether the student was male or female, in which grade and Kaska or not, the results basically replicated the overall results as each group thought the project should at least help to being highly excited about it.

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Introduction

Watson Lake Secondary School in partnership with community agencies have embarked on a three-year Youth-led learning project called “*Youth for Safety*” (YFS). YFS is based on learning topics of safety, dignity, justice, and violence against girls and women; it explores how men keep women safe and how women stay safe.

About 30 to 40 Kaska and non-Kaska Grade 8 to 12 students from Watson Secondary School are expected to join. It is also open to Youth currently not attending school. Families are encouraged to support Youth as well.

The project will celebrate and honour existing Youth strengths, knowledge, and strategies on how to stay safe. Youth will also learn new skills to increase safety in the community.

There will be a total of five two-day workshops from January to May 2016. All workshops will be in the class room and will explore about topics in an interactive way and using youth-led projects to address different aspects of safety in Watson Lake. Youth will propose and work on annual projects of their choice to increase safety in their community.

Introduction Session

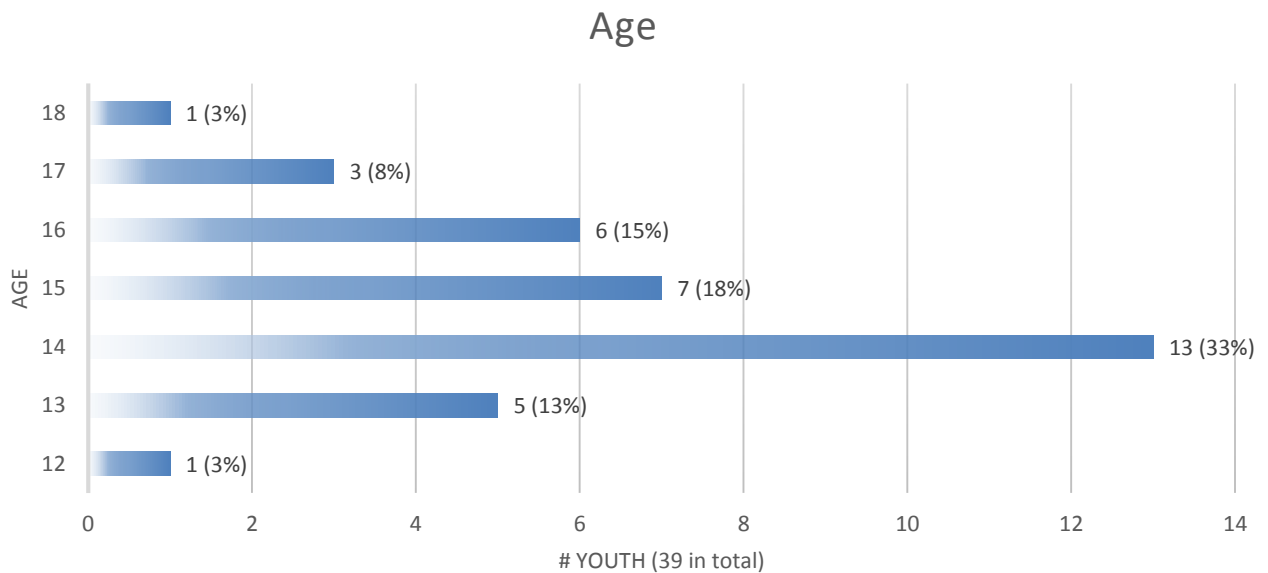
Youth gathered for the second introduction session on Tuesday, December 15, 2015. One of the activities was a 12-question survey on safety. The results of the survey will be used to get ready for the Program launch on January 21-22, 2016. The survey asked the students the following:

Thank you for sharing time together. It was a great day. We want to ask you a few questions to help us get ready for the first January workshop. You do not need to tell us your name. We ask that you share the truth so we can help make everyone feel safe in our community. What you write down will be confidential. We will share the combined results of this survey with you in January.

Who shared?

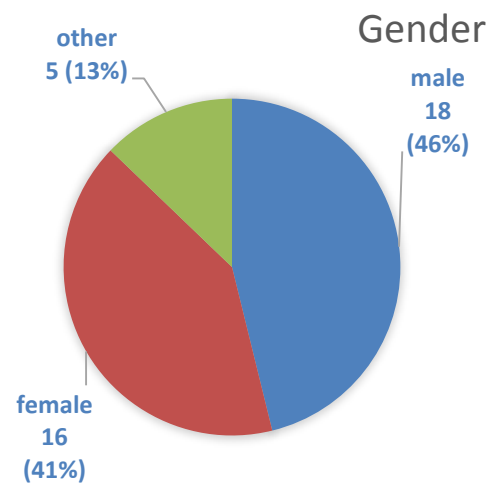
A total of 39 Youth ages 12 to 18, girls and boys, Kaska and non Kaska shared their thoughts about safety in their homes, on the streets and at school.

The Youth were divided into grades, with 22 in Grades 8/9 (56% ages 12 to 14) and 17 in Grades 10/11/12 (44% ages 15 to 18). The 14 year olds filled in the most surveys (13 or 33%).



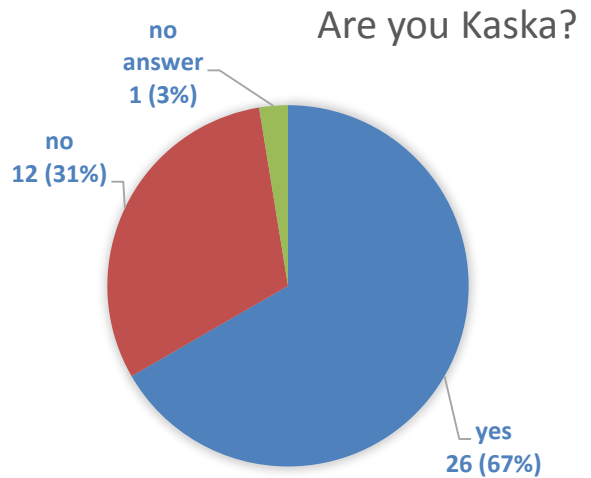
Of the 39 Youth, 18 were male (46%), 16 were female (41%) and 5 were 'other' (13%). There were more females than males in the younger group, and more males than females in the older group.

- Grades 8/9: 8 males (36%), **10 females** (45%), 4 'other' (18%)
- Grades 10/11/12: **10 males** (59%), 6 females (35%), 1 'other' (6%)



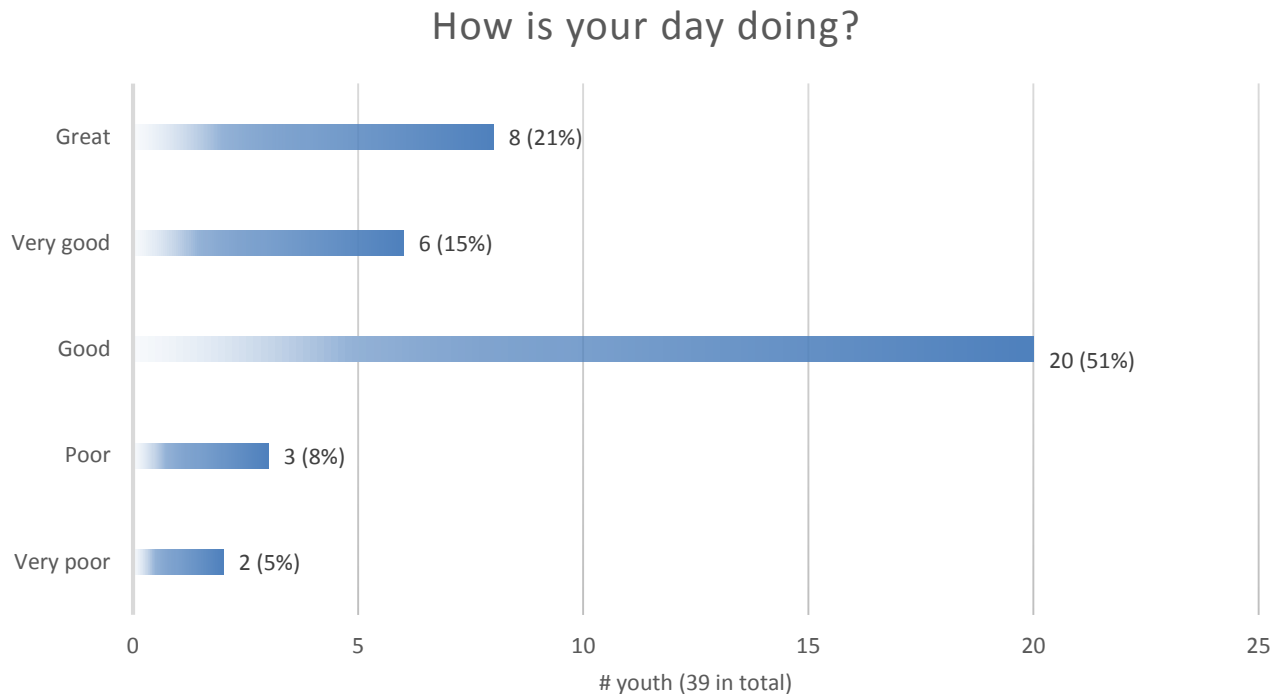
More Youth identified themselves as Kaska (26 or 67%) than non Kaska (12 or 31%) and there was a higher percentage of Kaska in the younger group (73% or 16) compared to the older group (59% or 10).

- Grades 8/9: **16 Kaska (73%)**, 5 non Kaska (23%), 1 did not respond
- Grades 10/11/12: **10 Kaska (59%)**, 7 non Kaska (41%)



4. How is your day going?

We asked the Youth how their day was going. Overall, most were having a good to great day (34 or 87%), although a few were having a poor (3 or 8%) or very poor (2 or 5%) day.

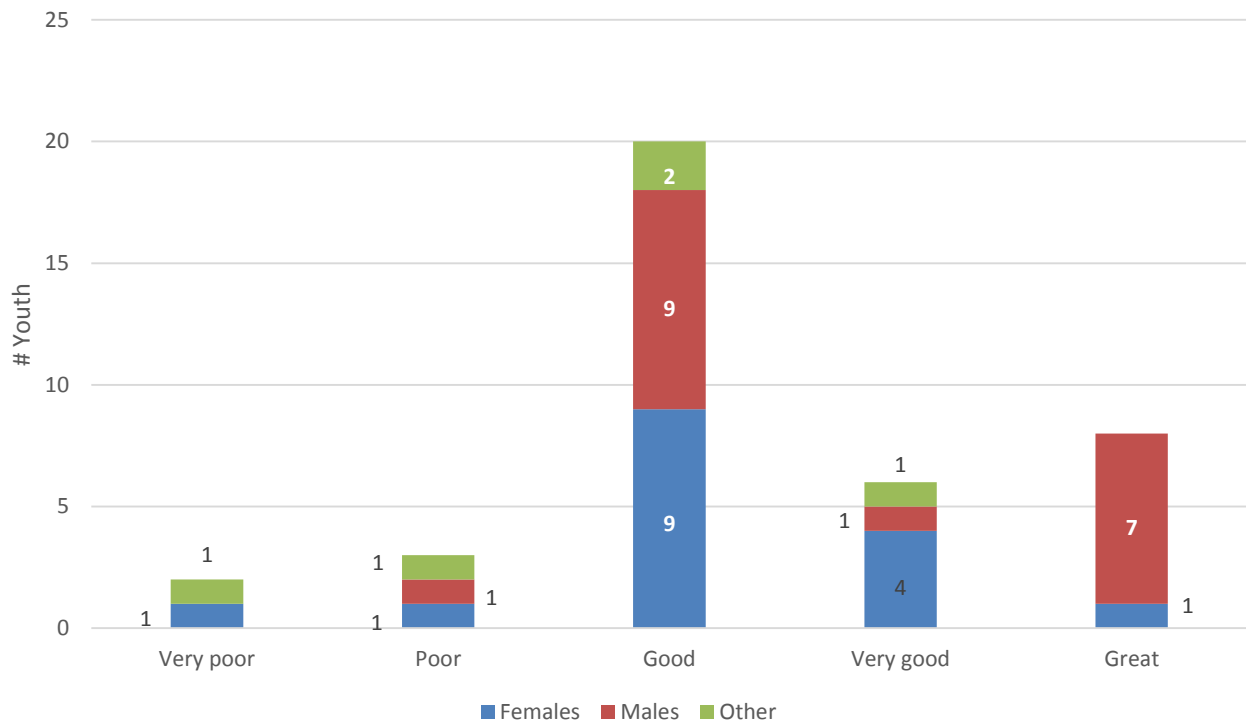


By Gender

When we looked to see if the females or males were having a better day, the males were having a bit of a better day (94% or 17) than the females (88% or 14), although more males (7) were having a 'great' day compared to the females (1).

	Females		Males		Other	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Very poor	1	6%	0	0%	1	20%
Poor	1	6%	1	6%	1	20%
Good	9	56%	9	50%	2	40%
Very good	4	25%	1	6%	1	20%
Great	1	6%	7	39%	0	0%
Total	16		18		5	

How is your day going - by gender

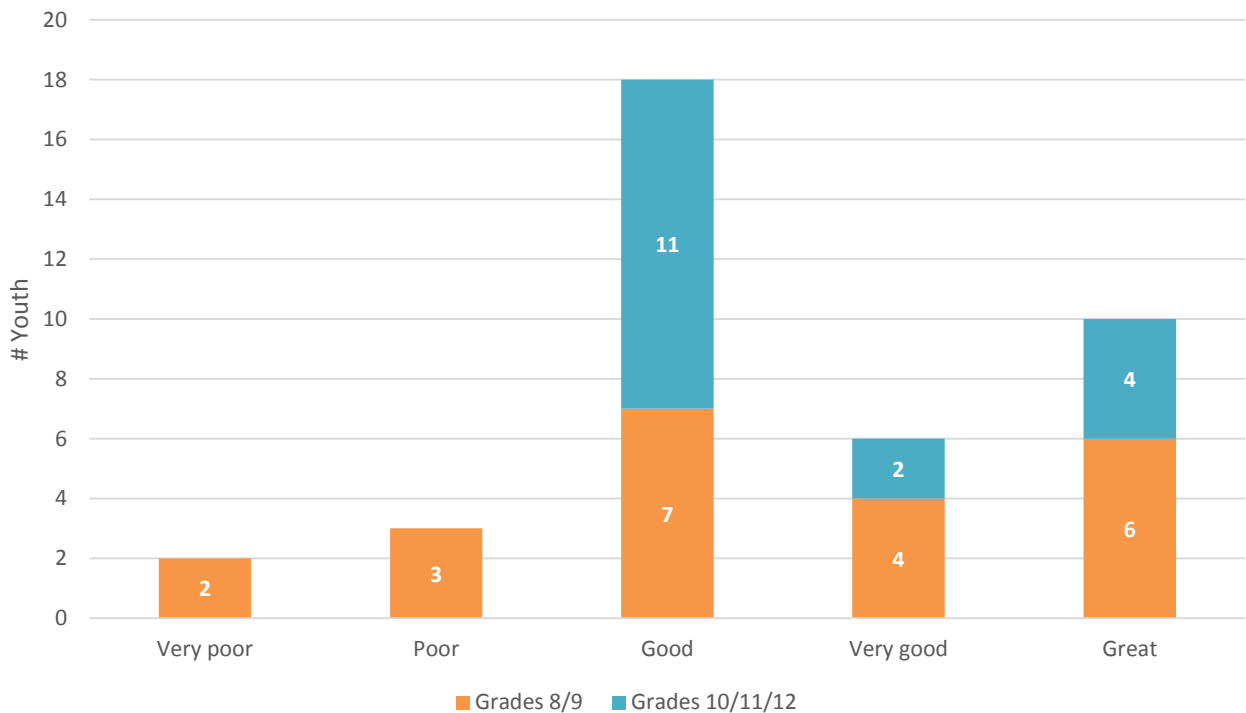


By Grade

We added up the responses to see if the younger grades or the older grades were having a better day – very clearly the older grades as 100% (17) were having a good to great day whereas 5 of the younger respondents (23%) were having a poor or very poor day.

	Grades 8/9		Grades 10/11/12	
	#	%	#	%
Very poor	2	9%	0	0%
Poor	3	14%	0	0%
Good	7	32%	11	65%
Very good	4	18%	2	12%
Great	6	27%	4	24%
Total	22		17	

How is your day going - by grade

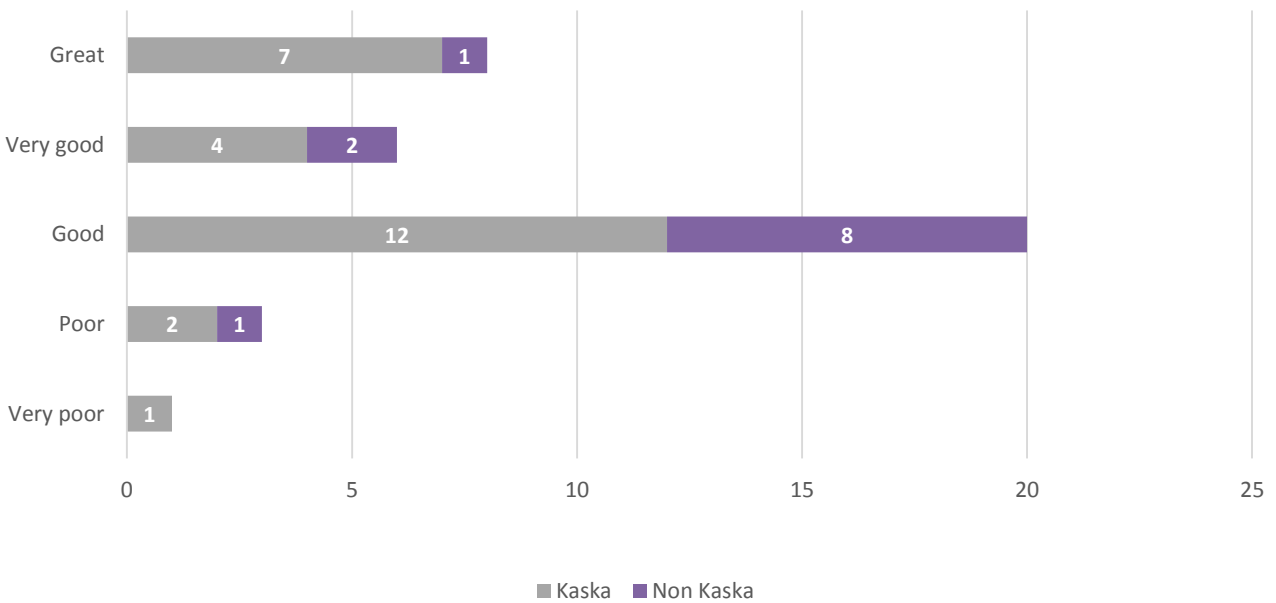


By Kaska

When we looked at those who said they were Kaska and those who were not, both groups were having a good to great day (88% or 23 of the Kaska and 92% or 11 of non Kaska) although more Kaska were having a poor or very poor day (3 Kaska to 1 non Kaska).

	Kaska		Non Kaska	
	#	%	#	%
Very poor	1	4%	0	0%
Poor	2	8%	1	8%
Good	12	46%	8	67%
Very good	4	15%	2	17%
Great	7	27%	1	8%
Total	26	1	12	1

How is your day going - by Kaska

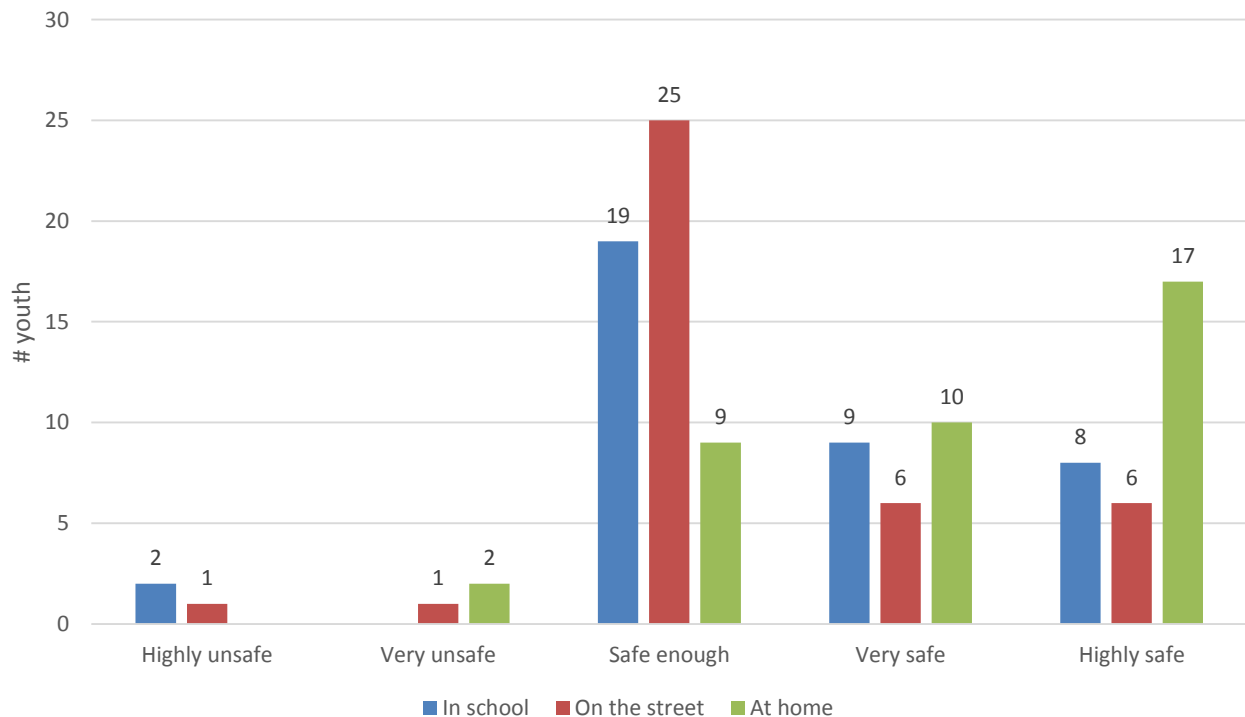


5, 6, 7. How safe are you feeling?

We asked the youth to tell us how safe they were feeling in school, on the street and at home. As a group, they were feeling safe as 95% (36) felt safe enough to highly safe **in school**, 94% (37) felt safe enough to highly safe **on the street**, and 95% (36) felt safe enough to highly safe **at home**. When you add up the responses across the three locations, 46% felt safe enough, 22% felt very safe, and 27% felt highly safe.

	In school		On the street		At home		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Highly unsafe	2	5%	1	3%	0	0%	3	3%
Very unsafe	0	0%	1	3%	2	5%	3	3%
Safe enough	19	50%	25	64%	9	24%	53	46%
Very safe	9	24%	6	15%	10	26%	25	22%
Highly safe	8	21%	6	15%	17	45%	31	27%
Total	38		39		38			

How safe do you feel?



By Gender

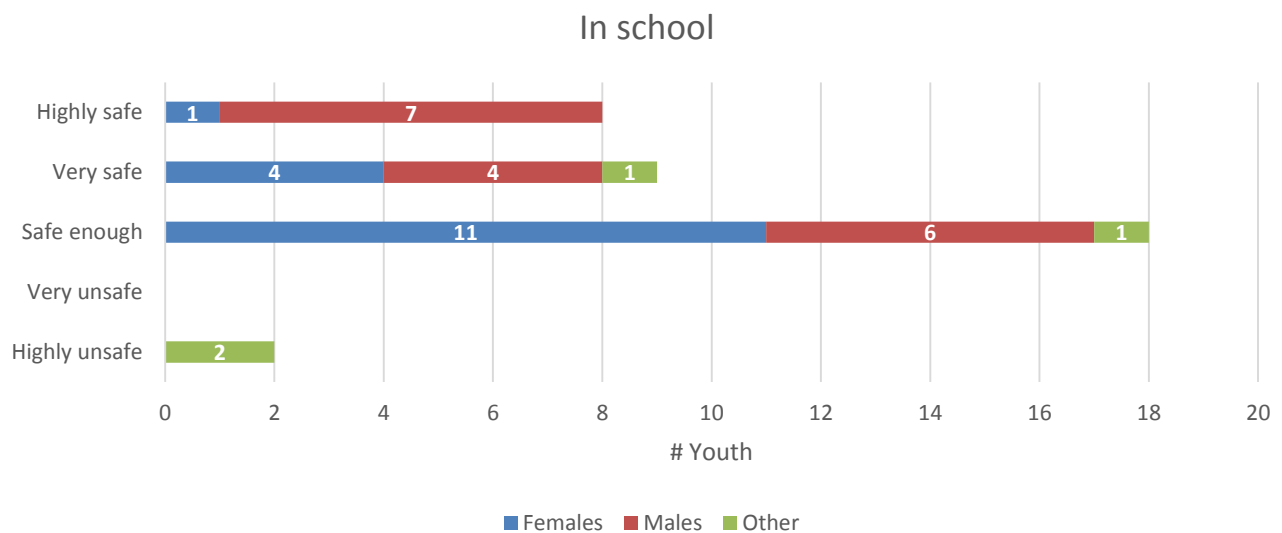
We wanted to break down how safe the Youth are feeling by gender to see if the survey results revealed any insights. We looked at how the results compared by gender for the three locations: in school, on the street and at home.

Overall, as illustrated in the table below, both females and males felt the most safe at home, followed by at school and lastly on the street. Most females (60%) felt 'safe enough' whereas the males felt equally 'safe enough' (35%) and 'highly safe' (38%). Note that as very few self-identified as 'Other', we did not make conclusions on that group.

	Females (16 youth)				Males (18 youth)			
	In school	On the street	At home	Total	In school	On the street	At home	Total
Highly unsafe	0	1 (6%)	0	1 (2%)	0	0	0	0
Very unsafe	0	0	1 (6%)	1 (2%)	0	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	2 (4%)
Safe enough	11 (69%)	14 (88%)	4 (25%)	29 (60%)	6 (35%)	9 (50%)	3 (18%)	18 (35%)
Very safe	4 (25%)	0	5 (31%)	9 (19%)	4 (24%)	5 (28%)	3 (18%)	12 (23%)
Highly safe	1 (6%)	1 (6%)	6 (38%)	8 (17%)	7 (41%)	3 (17%)	10 (59%)	20 (38%)

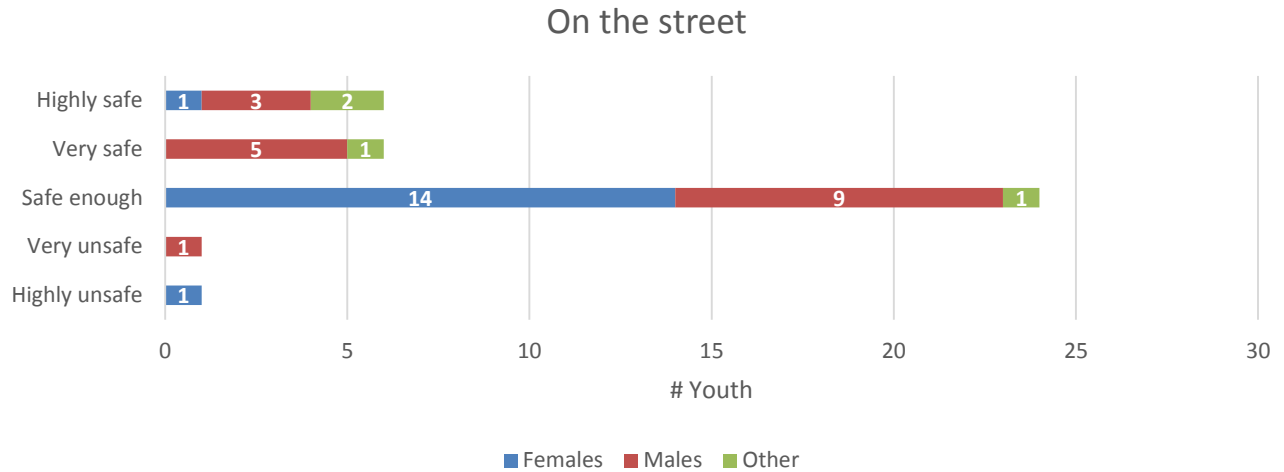
In school

Females did not feel as safe at school as the males – 41% of males (7) felt highly safe whereas only 1 female (6%) did. In opposition, 69% of females (11) felt safe enough (the lowest point on the positive side of the scale) where only 35% (6) males were at this point.



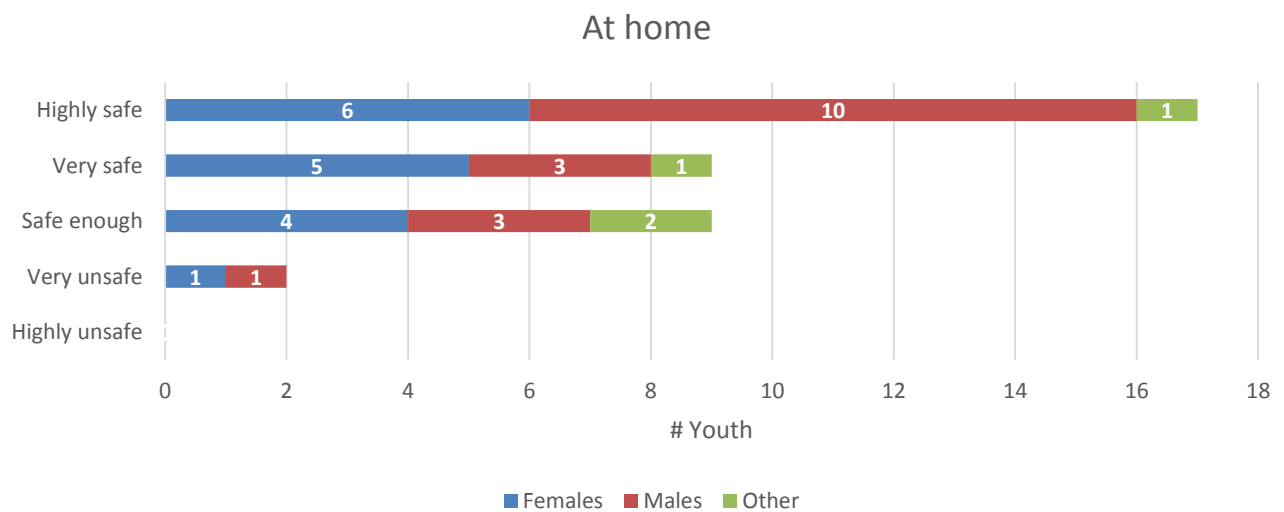
On the street

Similar to at school, the females did not feel as safe as the males on the street. We see 88% (14 out of 16) of the females only felt 'safe enough' on the street, whereas 45% of the males (8 out of 18) felt very safe or highly safe and 50% (9) felt safe enough.



At home

The females felt the safest at home, with 69% (11 out of 16) feeling very safe or highly safe. Only 1 felt very unsafe (6%) and 4 felt safe enough (25%). The males also felt the safest at home as 59% (10) felt highly safe and they had a higher feeling of safety than the females as 77% (13) felt very safe or highly safe.



By Age

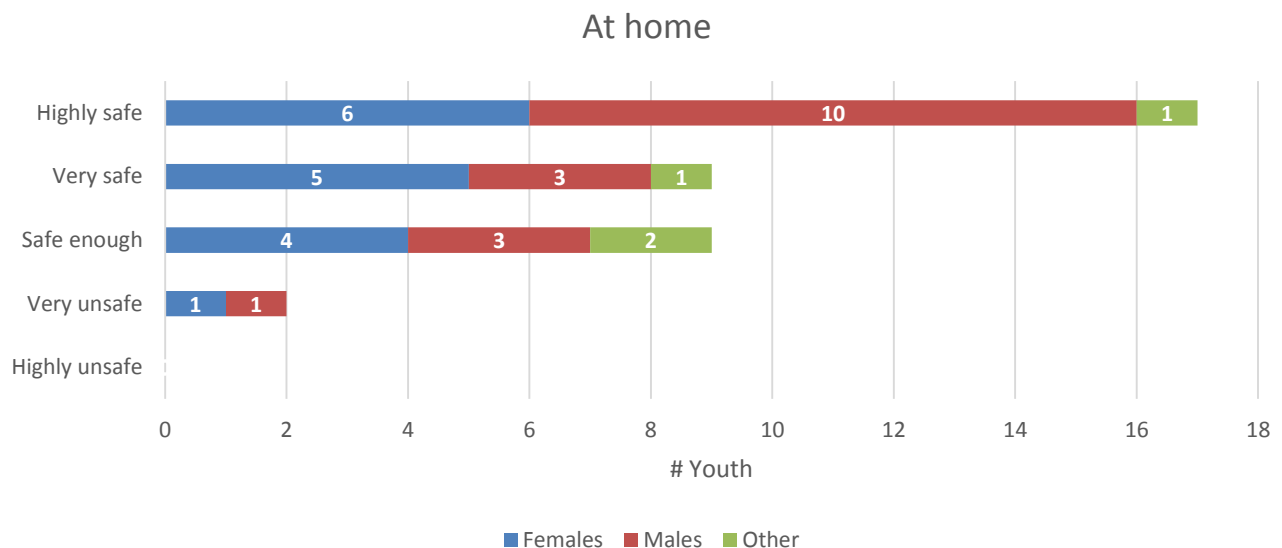
We wanted to break down how safe the Youth are feeling by age to see if the survey results revealed any insights. We looked at how the results compared for the three locations: in school, on the street and at home.

Both age groups felt the most safe at home, followed by at school and then on the street. No older students felt unsafe, whereas responses by the younger students illustrate they did not feel as safe at any of the three locations as the older students.

	Grades 8/9 (22 youth)				Grades 10/11/12 (17 youth)			
	In school	On the street	At home	Total	In school	On the street	At home	Total
Highly unsafe	2 (10%)	1 (5%)	0	3 (5%)	0	0	0	0
Very unsafe	0	1 (5%)	2 (10%)	3 (5%)	0	0	0	0
Safe enough	12 (57%)	15 (68%)	6 (29%)	33 (52%)	7 (41%)	10 (59%)	3 (18%)	20 (39%)
Very safe	4 (19%)	2 (9%)	5 (24%)	11 (17%)	5 (29%)	4 (24%)	5 (29%)	14 (27%)
Highly safe	3 (14%)	3 (14%)	8 (38%)	14 (22%)	5 (29%)	3 (18%)	9 (53%)	17 (33%)

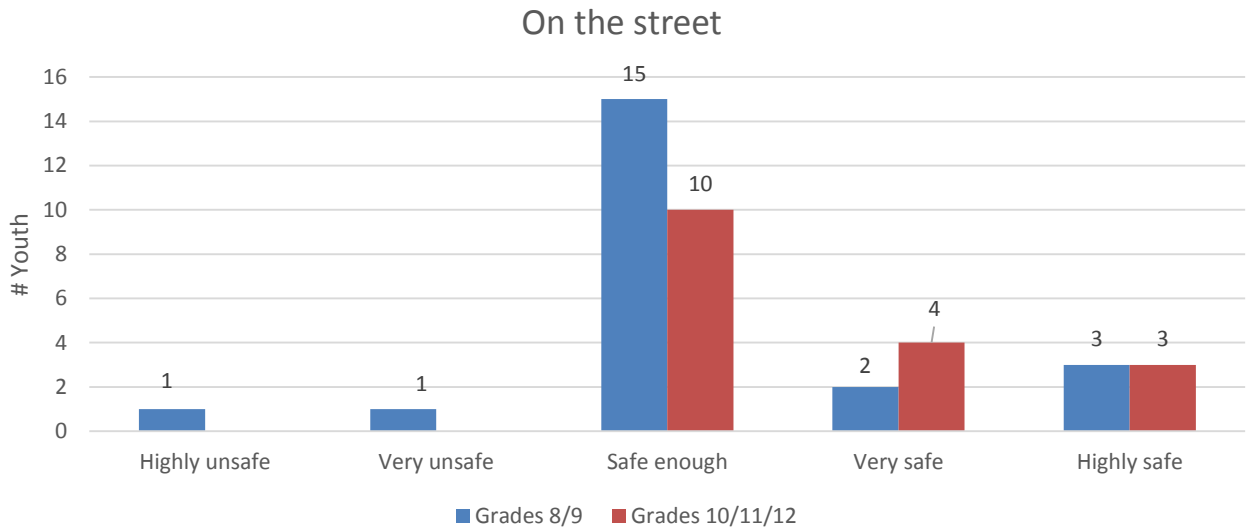
In school

The older students feel more safe in school with 58% (10) feeling very safe to highly safe and 41% (7) feeling safe enough. For the younger students though, most (57% or 12) feel safe enough with only 33% (7) feeling more safe.



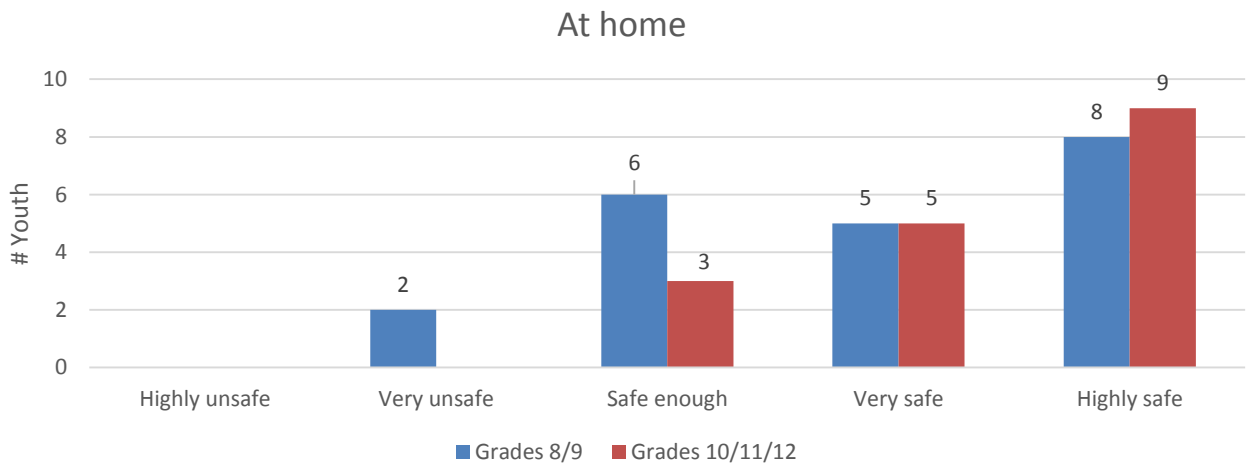
On the street

Again, the older students feel more safe on the street than the younger students, although there is not as much variation as most of the students in both groups feel safe enough (68% younger students and 59% older students) with less significantly less students feeling very safe or highly safe.



At home

Although both groups feel the safest at home, the older students feel safer at home than the younger students as the older students are very safe to highly safe (82% or 14) compared to 62% (14) for the younger students.



By Kaska

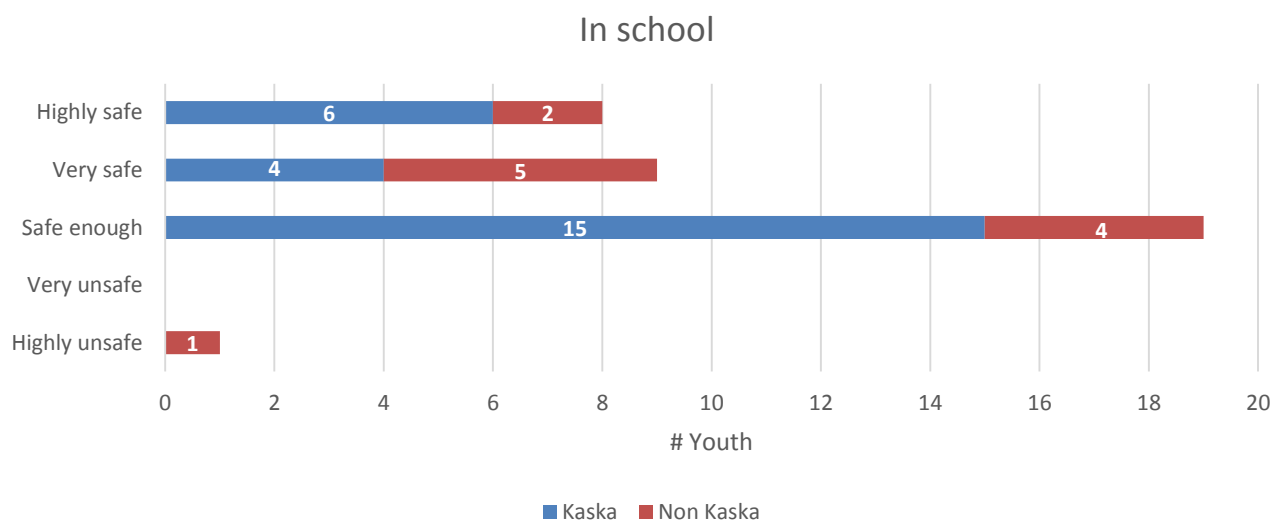
We wanted to break down how safe the Youth are feeling by whether they identified as Kaska or not to see if the survey results revealed any insights. We looked at how the results compared for the three locations: in school, on the street and at home.

Both groups have a few students who did not feel safe, but the majority of the Kaska felt 'safe enough' (40 or 53%) compared to 12 (33%) of non Kaska, whereas the non Kaska had 61% who felt very to highly safe compared to 43% of Kaska. Both groups felt the safest at home, followed by at school and then in the street.

	Kaska (26 youth)				Non Kaska (12 youth)			
	In school	On the street	At home	Total	In school	On the street	At home	Total
Highly unsafe	0	1 (4%)	0	1 (1%)	1 (8%)	0	0	1 (3%)
Very unsafe	0	0	2 (8%)	2 (3%)	0	1 (8%)	0	1 (3%)
Safe enough	15 (60%)	17 (65%)	8 (32%)	40 (53%)	4 (33%)	8 (67%)	0	12 (33%)
Very safe	4 (16%)	4 (15%)	5 (20%)	13 (17%)	5 (42%)	2 (17%)	5 (42%)	12 (33%)
Highly safe	6 (24%)	4 (15%)	10 (40%)	20 (26%)	2 (17%)	1 (8%)	7 (58%)	10 (28%)

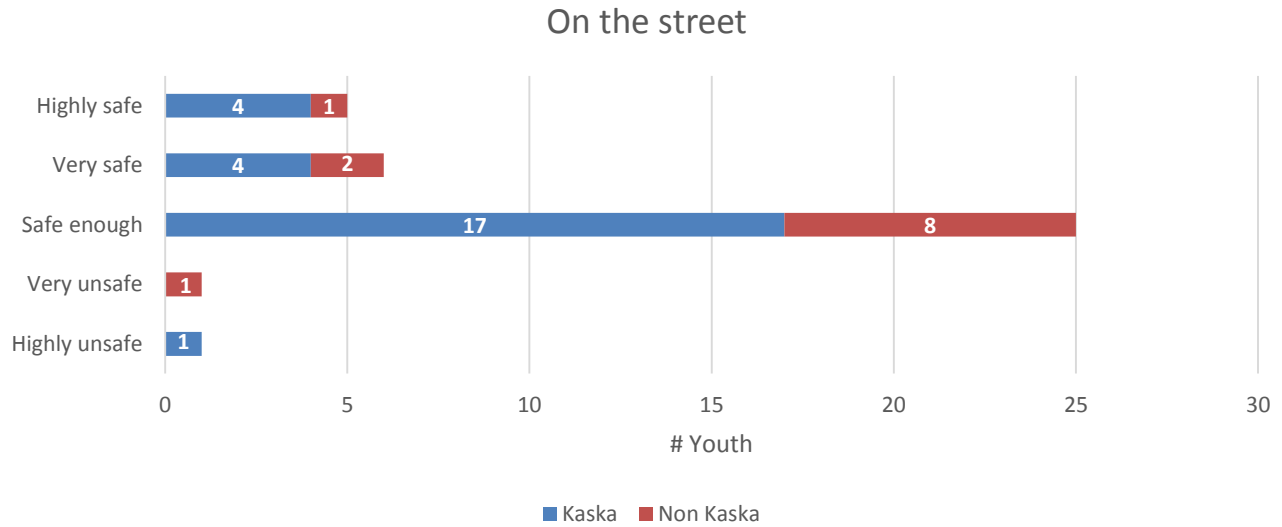
In school

In school, the non Kaska students felt safer (59% or 7 felt very or highly safe) versus 40% or 10 of the Kaska students.



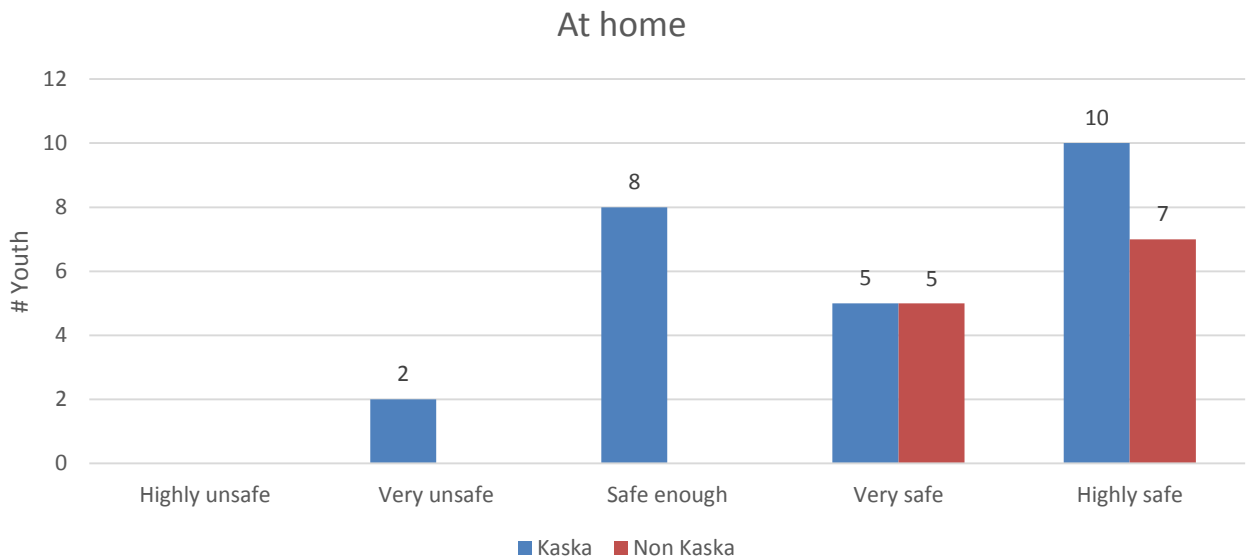
On the street

On the street, both groups basically felt the same level of safety although the non Kaska students felt slightly less safe as there are fewer students who said they felt very or highly safe (25%) than with the Kaska group (30%).



At home

At home, the non Kaska students felt safer as 100% identified as feeling very or highly safe, whereas only 60% (15) of the Kaska students said the same, with 32% (8) feeling safe enough.

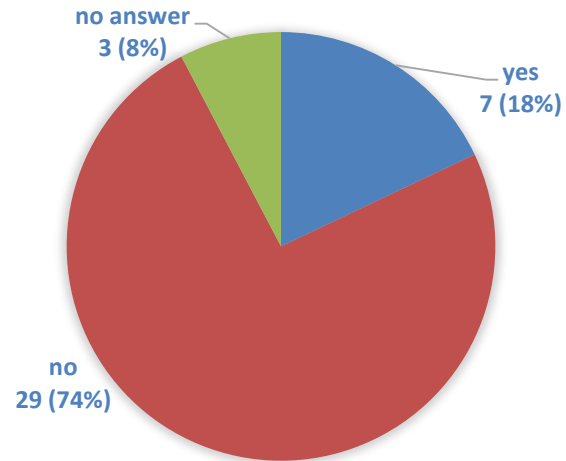


8. Do you have any personal safety issue right now in your life?

When asked if the students have any personal safety issues in their lives 'right now,' the majority (74% or 29) said "No." Only 18% (7) said "Yes."

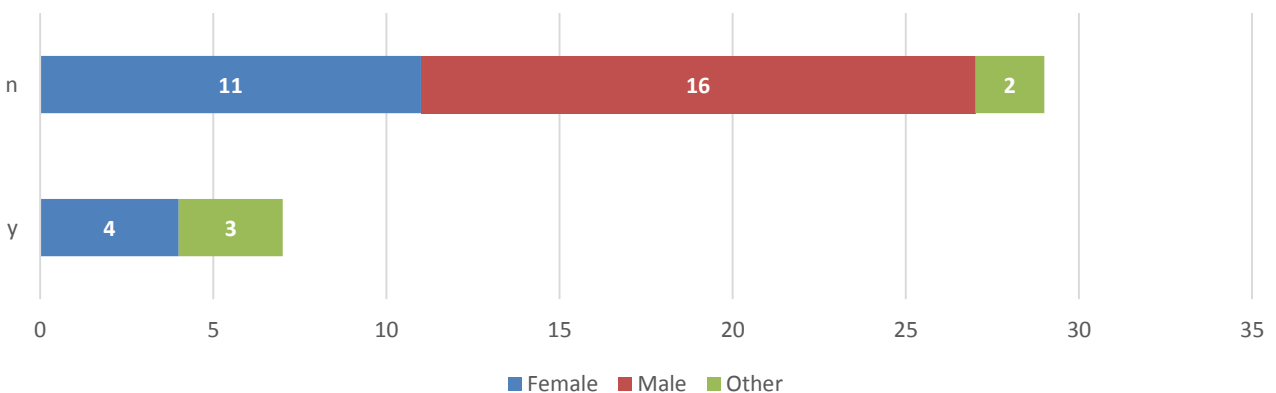
We divided the responses up by male and female and found that it was the **females** who said "Yes" (4 responses) and those who indicated their gender was 'Other' (3 responses). When looking at the group divided into their grades, it was the younger students in **Grades 8/9** (7 responses) who said "Yes." Lastly, the students who identified as **Kaska** primarily said "Yes" with 5 out of the 7 positive responses. Only 1 non Kaska said "Yes" and 1 student who did not say if he or she was Kaska.

Do you have a personal safety issue right now in your life?

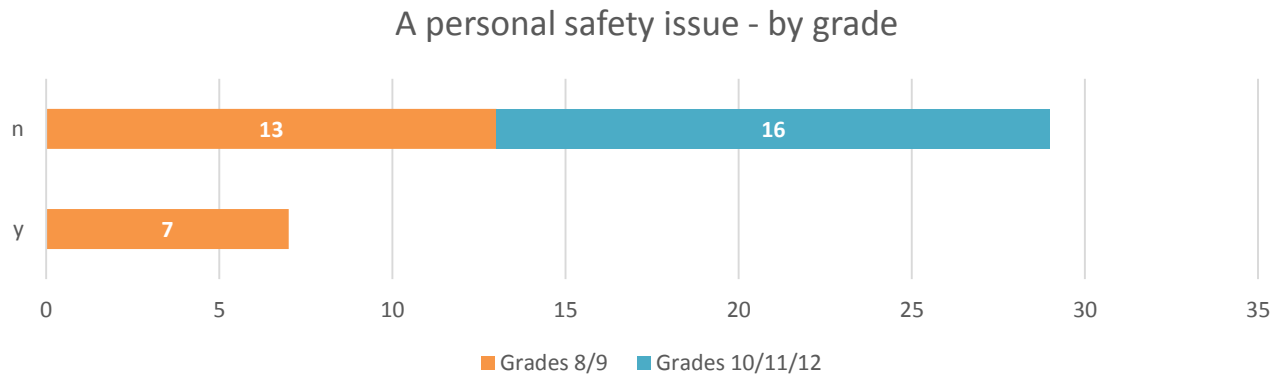


By Gender

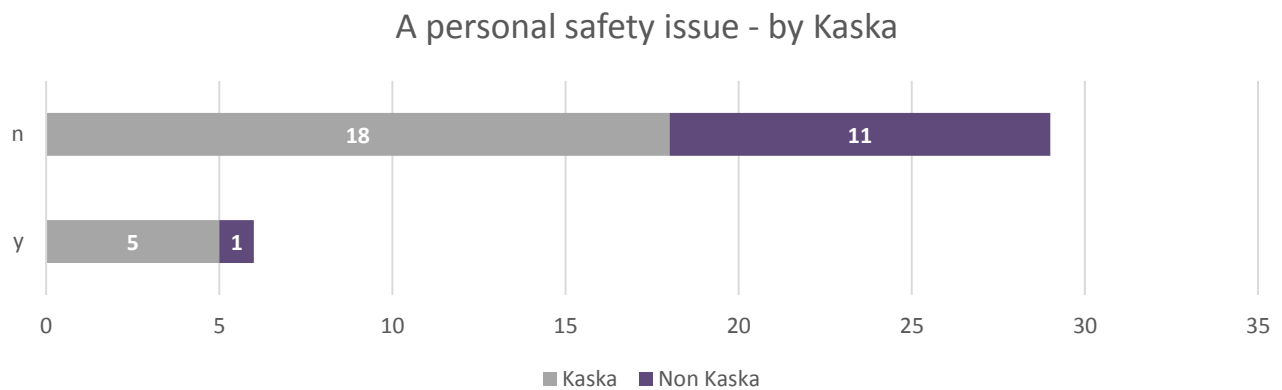
A personal safety issue - by gender



By Grade



By Kaska



If yes, what kind of issue?

Of the 7 students who said they had a personal issue, 4 specified one issue, 2 specified more than one issue and 1 did not specify. Five students said they did not have a personal safety issue, but then identified one or more issues. As such, the results from this question need to be interpreted carefully. That said, it does give an indication of the types of safety issues students face.

The students who identified a personal safety issue said most frequently that ‘drugs / alcohol’ and ‘verbal abuse’ as the issues (with 5 responses each) followed by ‘physical abuse’ and ‘bullying’ with 4 responses each.

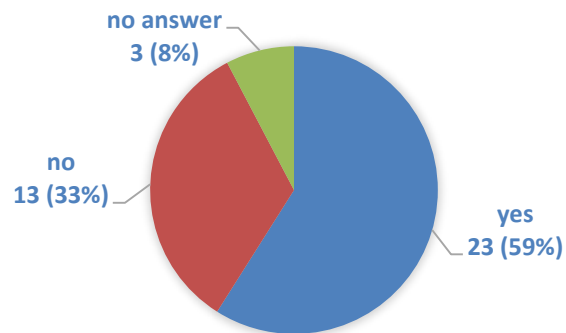
	Yes I have a personal safety issue	No I do not have a personal safety issue (but indicated one anyways)	Total
Drugs / Alcohol	3	2	5
Verbal abuse	2	3	5
Physical abuse	3	1	4
Bullying	2	2	4
Sexual	0	1	1
Other	1	0	1
Total	11	9	20

9. Do you know a friend/relative that has a personal safety issue right now?

When asked if they know a friend or relative who has a personal safety issue 'right now,' 59% (23) said "Yes," 33% (13) said "No," and 3 did not respond.

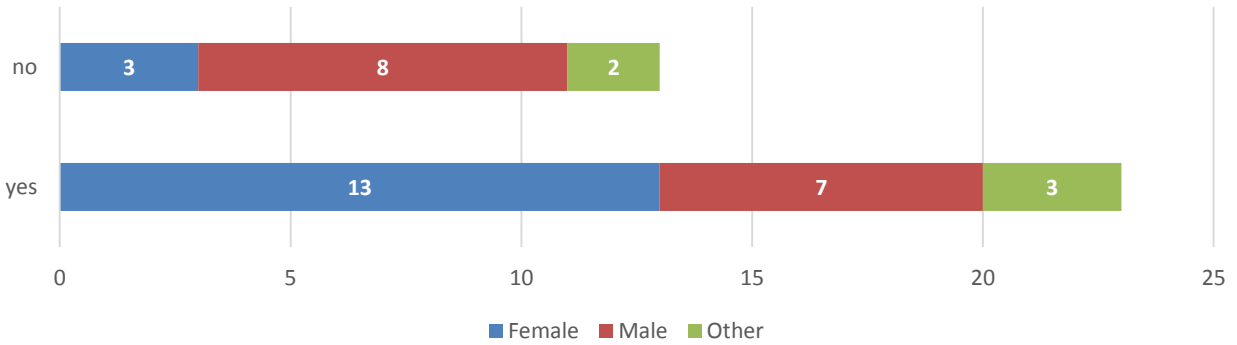
More **females** than males know someone (13 to 7), more students in **Grades 8/9** than the senior grades (13 to 10) know someone and more **Kaska** than non Kaska know someone (15 to 8).

Do you know a friend/relative that has a personal safety issue right now?



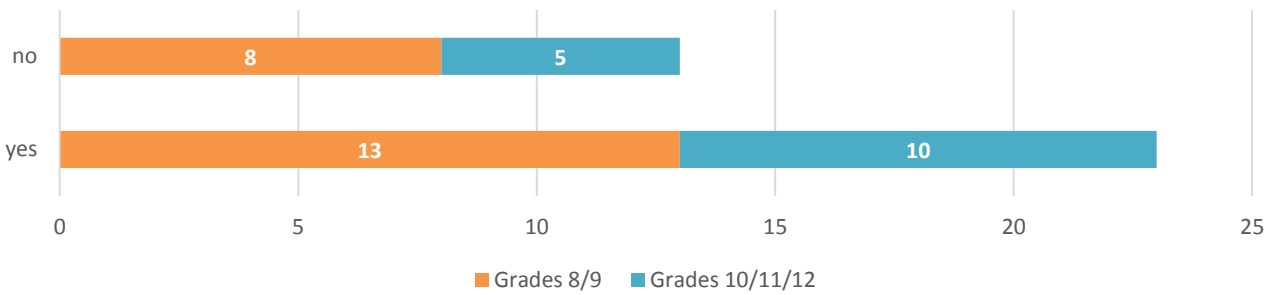
By Gender

A friend or relative has a personal safety issue - by gender



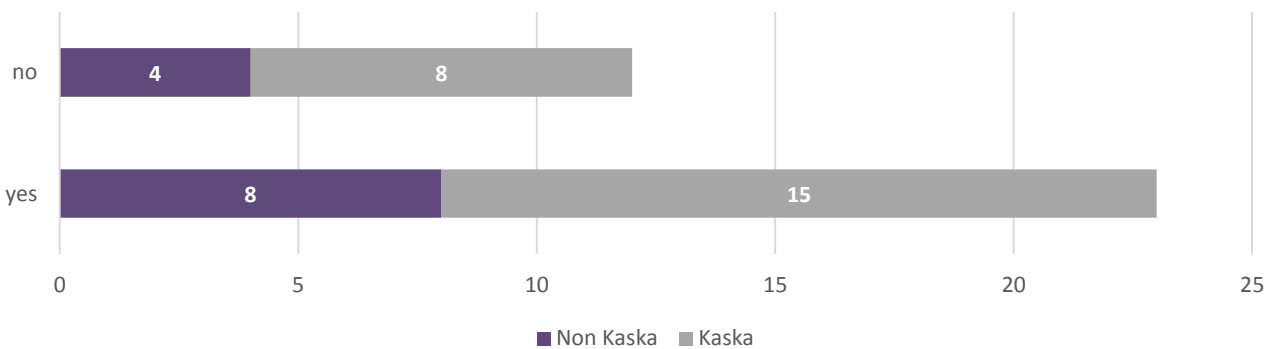
By Grade

A friend or relative has a personal safety issue - by age



By Kaska

A friend or relative has a personal safety issue - by Kaska

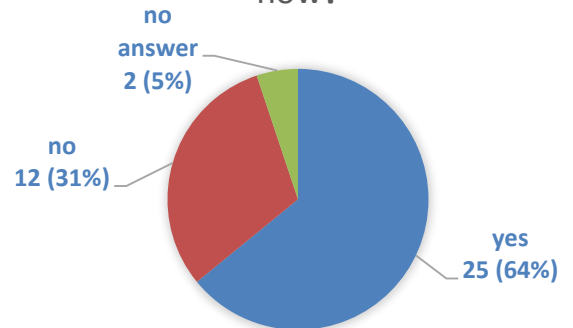


10. Would you get help if you had a personal safety issue right now?

When asked if they would get help if they had a personal safety issue, 64% (25) said “Yes,” although 31% (12) said “No.”

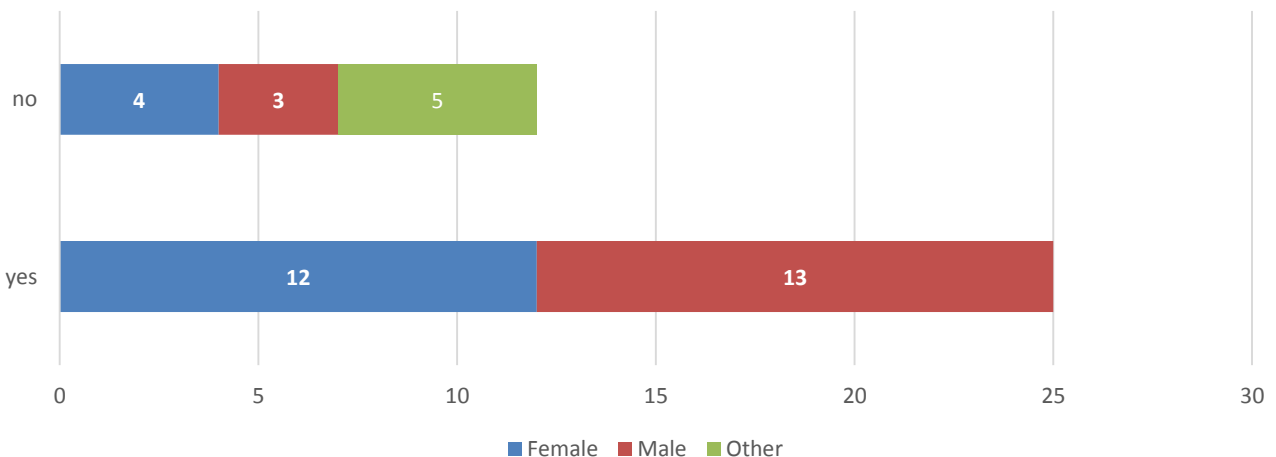
Being male or female did not influence the response as it was almost equal for those who said “Yes” or “No,” although those who identified as ‘Other’ said “No.” The **younger students** though were divided in their response as 12 said they would get help but 10 said they would not, whereas the older students said they would get help (13 said “Yes” versus 2 who said “No”). The same applies to those who said they were **Kaska**, as 15 said they would get help but 10 said they would not, whereas almost all of the non Kaska said they would get help (10 “Yes” to 1 “No”).

Would you get help if you had a personal safety issue right now?



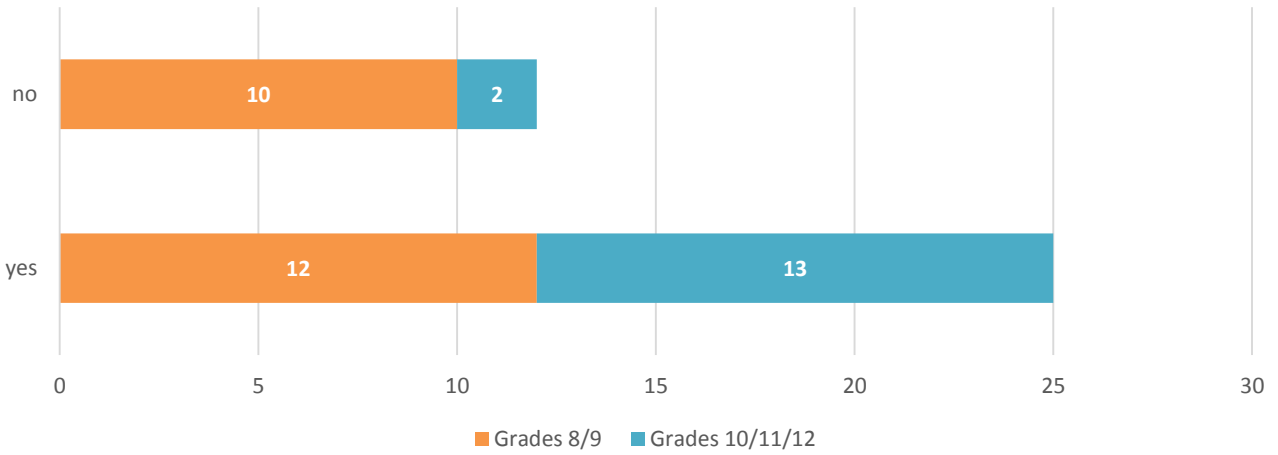
By Gender

Would you get help - by gender



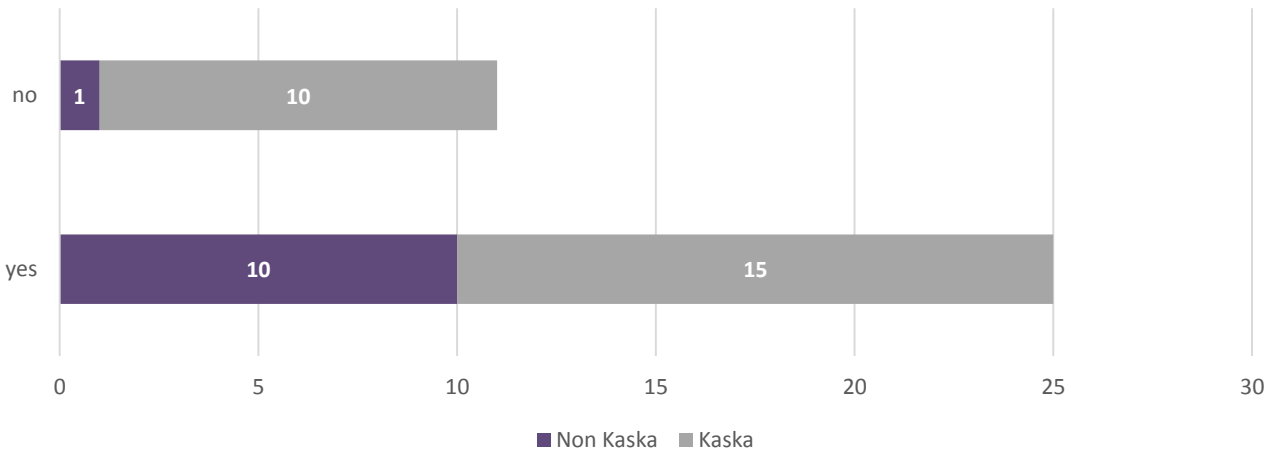
By Grade

Would you get help - by grade



By Kaska

Would you get help - by Kaska



11. What are the best ways you keep safe in your home, on the streets, or in school?

While some of the responses were meant to be sarcastic, many of the responses were good ideas on how best to keep safe. In general, the ideas were around making good decisions, having healthy relationships with family and the community, and using the buddy system. On the street, they recommended not walking alone or in the dark and having more police and less drugs. At home, they recommended locking the doors and windows, having family around and staying in your room.

In General:

Buddy system (2)
Try to put yourself in good situations
Alcohol and drug free, being respectful, keeping an open mind, being confidential
Keep healthy relationships with my family, keep healthy relationships with people in general
Have friends and family that would help you
Know people
Be with friends
Tell anyone you trust know where you are
You can't eliminate human behaviour or nature
Don't be dumb
Don't talk to strangers
Being strong I guess

On the Street:

Don't walk alone when its dark and/or late (2)
Walk around with a friend
Walk with someone
More Police, less drugs

At Home:

Lock your doors (4)
Lock all doors and windows (2)
At home if I'm alone I lock the doors if feeling watched or unsafe
My dad and brother
I sleep and stay in my room all day

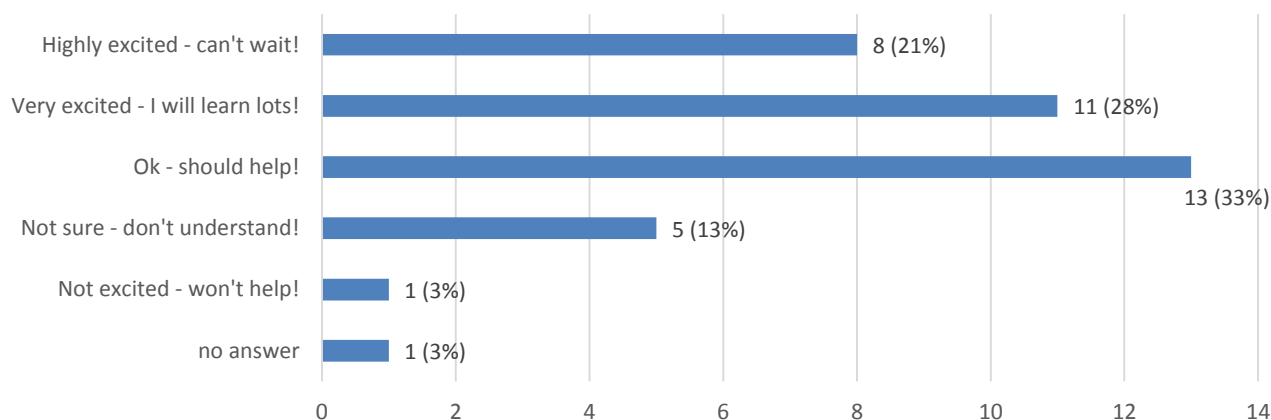
Other:

I got a gun in my room
1000 SWAT
The only things I am safe with are my fistacuffs
Fight people
At home play some PS3
44 mag under my pillow
Have a knife
Kill it with fire
I pack my safety
I don't know (3)

12. How excited are you feeling about the Youth for Safety Project?

The last question asked the students how excited they were about the Youth for Safety Project. Generally speaking, 85% (32) of the students thought the project should at least help to being highly excited about it. Only 6 students either were not sure or were not excited.

How excited are you feeling about the Youth Safety Project?

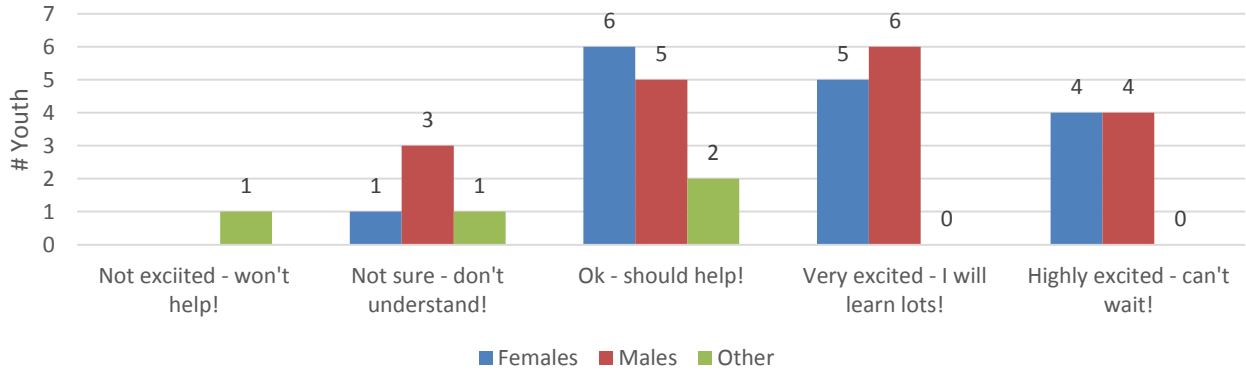


Whether the student was male or female, in which grade and Kaska or not, the results basically replicated the overall results as each group thought the project should at least help to being highly excited about it. The slight variations are with grades, as there were more youth in Grades 8/9 who are 'highly excited' (29%) compared to the older students at 12%, versus older students where the higher percentage were 'very excited' (47%).

	Gender			Grade		Kaska		Total
	Female	Male	Other	8/9	10/11/12	Kaska	Non Kaska	
Not excited - won't help!	0	0	1 (25%)	1 (5%)	0	1 (4%)	0	3 (3%)
Not sure - don't understand!	1 (6%)	3 (17%)	1 (25%)	3 (14%)	2 (12%)	2 (8%)	2 (18%)	14 (12%)
Ok - should help!	6 (38%)	5 (28%)	2 (50%)	8 (38%)	5 (29%)	10 (38%)	3 (27%)	39 (35%)
Very excited - I will learn lots!	5 (31%)	6 (33%)	0	3 (14%)	8 (47%)	7 (27%)	4 (36%)	33 (29%)
Highly excited - can't wait!	4 (25%)	4 (22%)	0	6 (29%)	2 (12%)	6 (23%)	2 (18%)	24 (21%)
Total	16	18	4	21	17	26	11	113

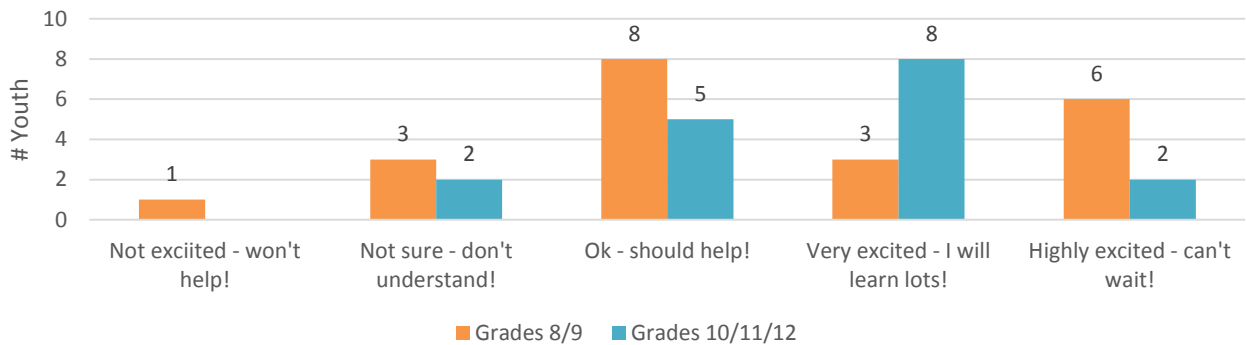
By Gender

Excited about the Youth for Safety Project - by gender



By Grade

Excited about Youth for Safety Project - by age



By Kaska

Excited about Youth for Safety Project - by Kaska

