

EMSA

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY



“To serve our communities’ pre-hospital needs through value-driven, compassionate, and clinically superior care.”

Discussion Points

- About EMSA
- Dangers
- Headlines
- International / National / Local Statistics
- What Can We Do?
- What Really Counts!



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- Coverage Area
 - 1,100 Sq. Miles
- Population
 - 1.6 million covered during the day
 - 1.2 million covered during the night
- Fleet
 - 108 Ambulances
 - 43 Support Vehicles & Equipment
- Calls / Transports (2018)
 - 217,857 Calls
 - 162,105 Transports
- EMSA Serves 14 Communities
 - Tulsa | Bixby | Jenks | Sand Springs*
 - OKC | Edmond | The Village | Nichols Hills*
 - Mustang | Piedmont | Valley Brook | Arcadia*
 - Lake Aluma | Deer Creek*



DANGERS OF EMS

➤ Understood Dangers

- Vehicle Crashes
- Lifting Injuries
- Infectious Disease Contamination
- Hazardous Material Exposure

➤ Unexpected Dangers

- Violence



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COMMON HEADLINES

Tulsa Man Arrested After Allegedly Pointing Gun At EMSA Paramedic

Tulsa man arrested after being accused of threatening EMSA employees

Man accused of trying to steal ambulances, biting EMSA employee

EMSA Medic Assaulted While Responding To Incident In Tulsa

EMSA paramedic assaulted, lost unborn child

Man Tased During Attack On EMSA Paramedics, OKC Officer

Woman arrested after allegedly assaulting EMSA medic, police say

Man Arrested for Attacking EMSA Medic

Increased Assault Calls In OKC Put EMSA Workers At Risk

Assaults On EMSA Medics Unexpectedly Common

An Oklahoma City man is accused of faking an illness to beat up an EMSA paramedic.

Paramedic attacked at wreck site



EMS Violence is a Global Concern



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EMS Violence - Internationally

➤ According to World Health Organization (WHO)

- 65% of EMS workers physically attacked on-duty
 - Almost 10% involve weapons
- Australia: 87% EMS Personnel face workplace violence. Highest injury or fatality rate than any other occupation.
- England: 5 year period: 14,433 crew assaults, 34% increase in violence.



EMS Violence - Nationally

- Violent Encounters of Some Kind = 40% - 90%
- EMS has a 22-times higher rate of occupational violence injuries.
- 3,500 EMS workers sent to the Hospital (2016).

- Austin-Travis County EMS – Austin, TX
 - 63% Assaulted on the Job



- Wake County EMS – Raleigh, NC
 - 20% do not feel safe coming to work.



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EMS Violence - EMSA

➤ Physical Assault

- 83% - EMS Career
- 79% - EMSA Career
- 68% - In Last 2 Year
- 69% - More than Once

➤ Verbal Assault

- 97% EMS Career
- 95% EMSA Career
- 91% - In Last 2 Years
- 96% More than Once



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EMS Violence - EMSA REPORTED

➤ Field Operations Supervisor

- Physically Assaulted
 - 44.5% - Yes
- Verbally Assaulted
 - 17% - Yes

➤ Law Enforcement

- Physically Assaulted
 - 23% - Yes



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EMS Violence – EMSA

INJURY

➤ Assaulted by

- 79% - Patient
- 3% - Patient Relative
- 1% - Bystander
- 17% - None of the Above

➤ Sustain Injury

- 30% - Yes

➤ Activity While Assaulted

- 75% - Direct Patient Care
- 4% - Moving Patient to Ambulance
- 2% - Entering-Exiting the Scene
- 19% - Other

➤ Seek Physician Care

- 10% - Yes

Results of EMS violence

➤ Physical

- Pain
- Disabilities
 - Short Term
 - Long Term
- Career Ending
- Life Ending

➤ Mental

- Anger
- Fear
- Depression
- PTSD – PTSI!



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WHAT WE CAN DO

➤ Now

- Awareness Training
- Self-Defense Training
- Chemical Restraint
- Physical Restraint
- Ballistic Vest

➤ Future

- Body Cameras
- Weapons
- Community Education (Grand Scale)
- Legislation



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What Really Counts

Everyone Goes Home!



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REFERENCES

1. Maguire BJ, Hunting KL, Smith GS, Levick NR. Occupational fatalities in emergency medical services: A hidden crisis. *Ann. Emerg. Med.* 2002;40(6):625-632
2. World Health Organization. *Emergency Medical Services Systems in the European Union.* 2008.
3. Maguire BJ. *Future Directions for EMS and the EMS Agenda for the Future.* U.S. Government: NHTSA. 2016. Available at. <https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=NHTSA-2016-0035-0015>. Accessed 30 June 2016
4. Jesse Roman. The Toll of Violence. *NFPA Journal*, January February 2019, <https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Publications-and-media/NFPA-Journal/2019/January-February-2019/Features/The-Toll-of-Violence>
5. University of Montreal. Consequences of Workplace Violence in the Health Sector. *Medical Express*, October 2014, <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-10-consequences-workplace-violence-health-sector.html>



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Questions & Discussion

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Chief of Staff**

**Emergency Medical Services Authority
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EMS Pre-Hospital Assault Survey

- Thursday, October 10, 2019

COMPLETE SURVEY RESULTS

Date Created:

- Tuesday, October 01, 2019

Emails Sent:

- 599

Complete Responses:

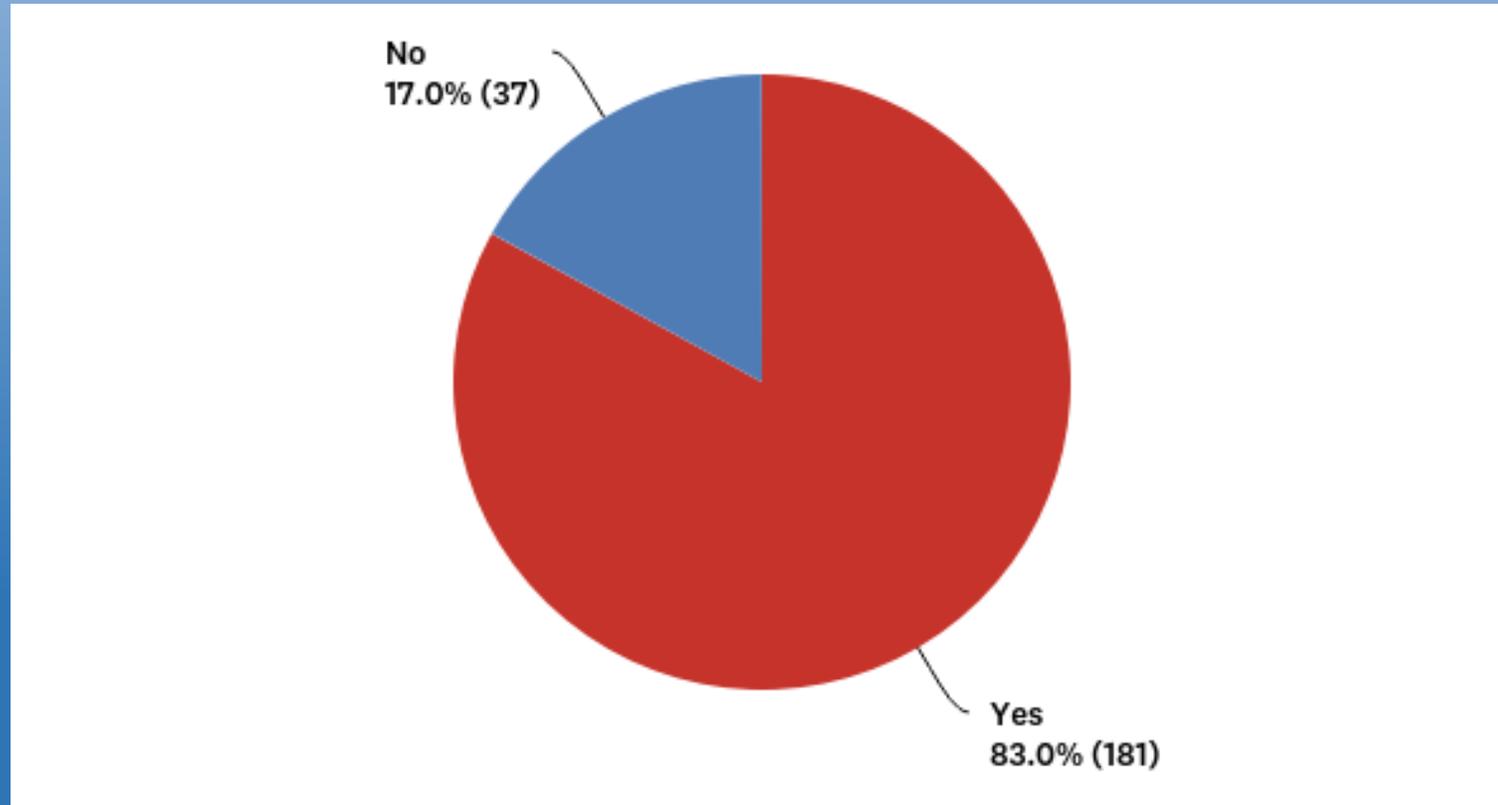
- 218

Response Percentage:

- 36%

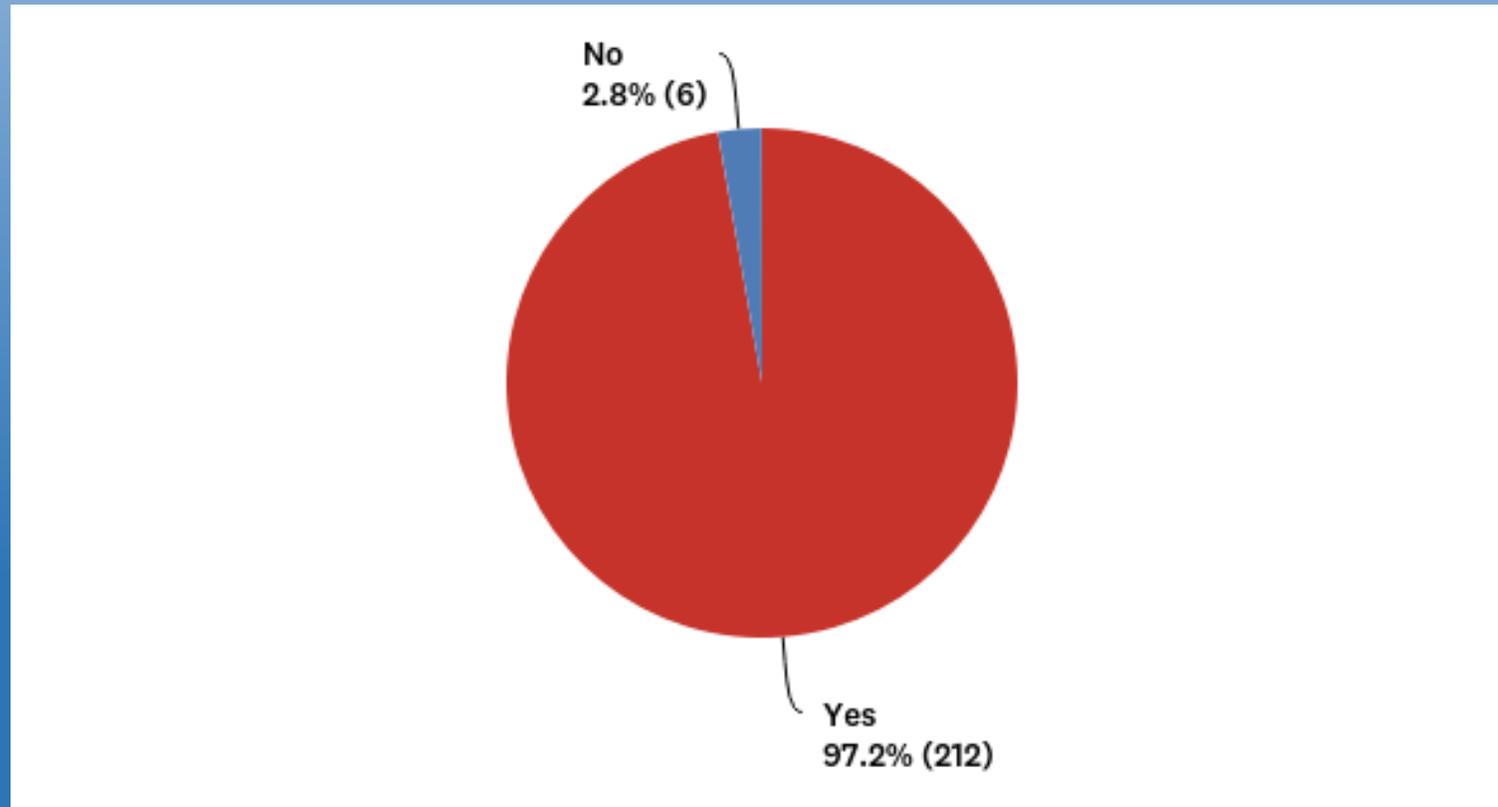
Q1: Have you been physically assaulted in your EMS career?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



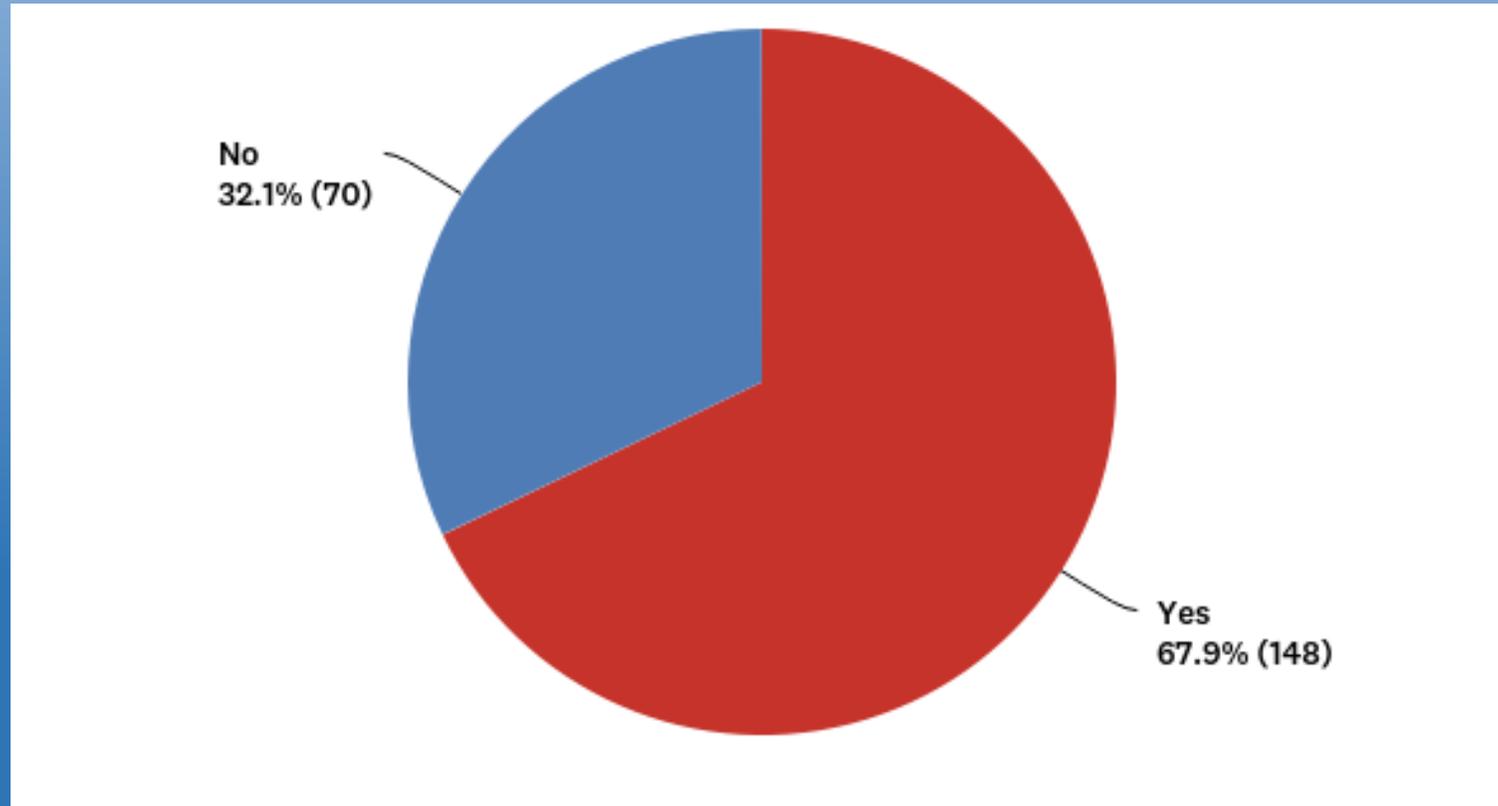
Q2: Have you been verbally assaulted in your EMS career?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



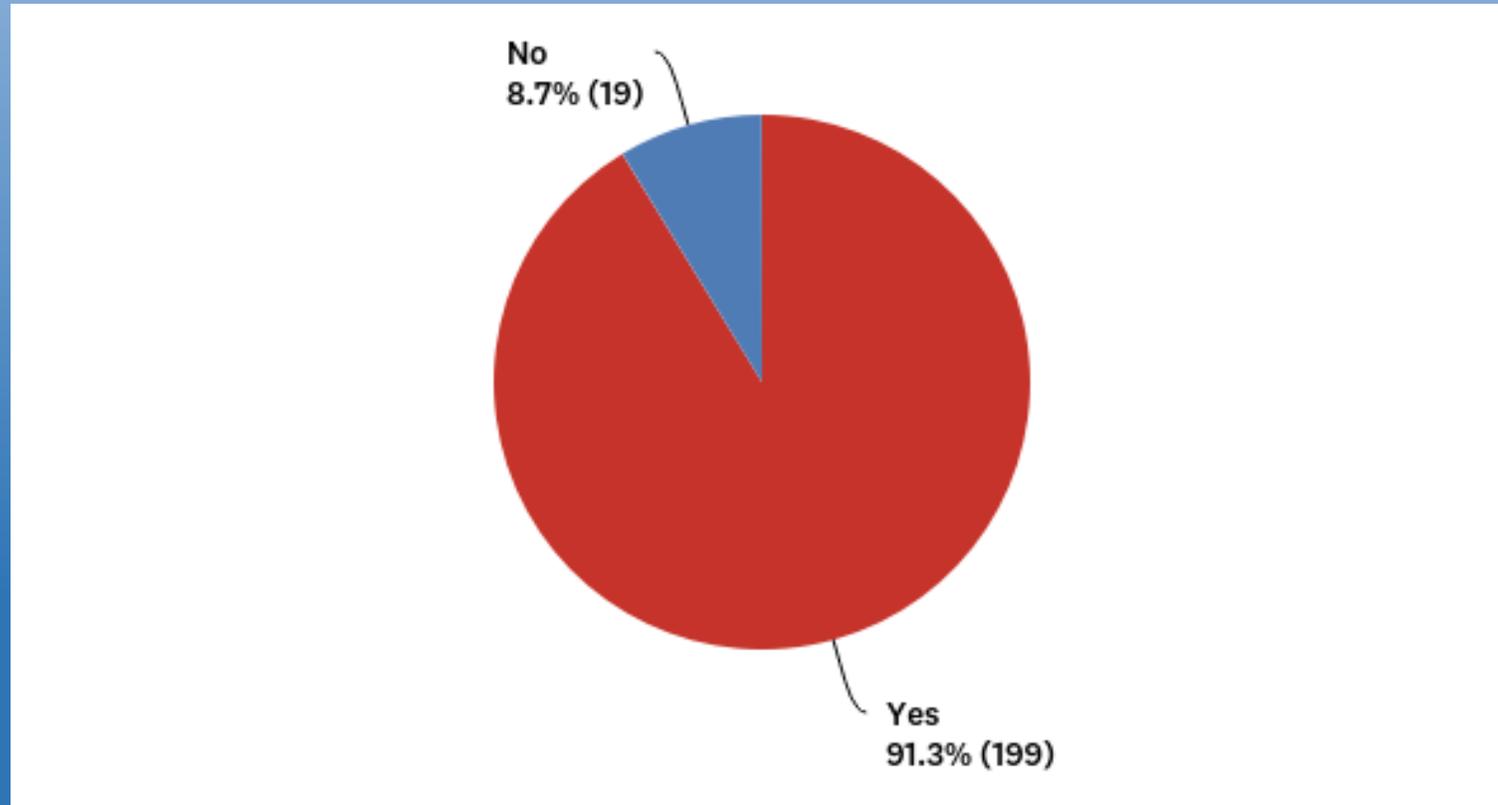
Q3: Have you been physically assaulted in the last 2 years?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



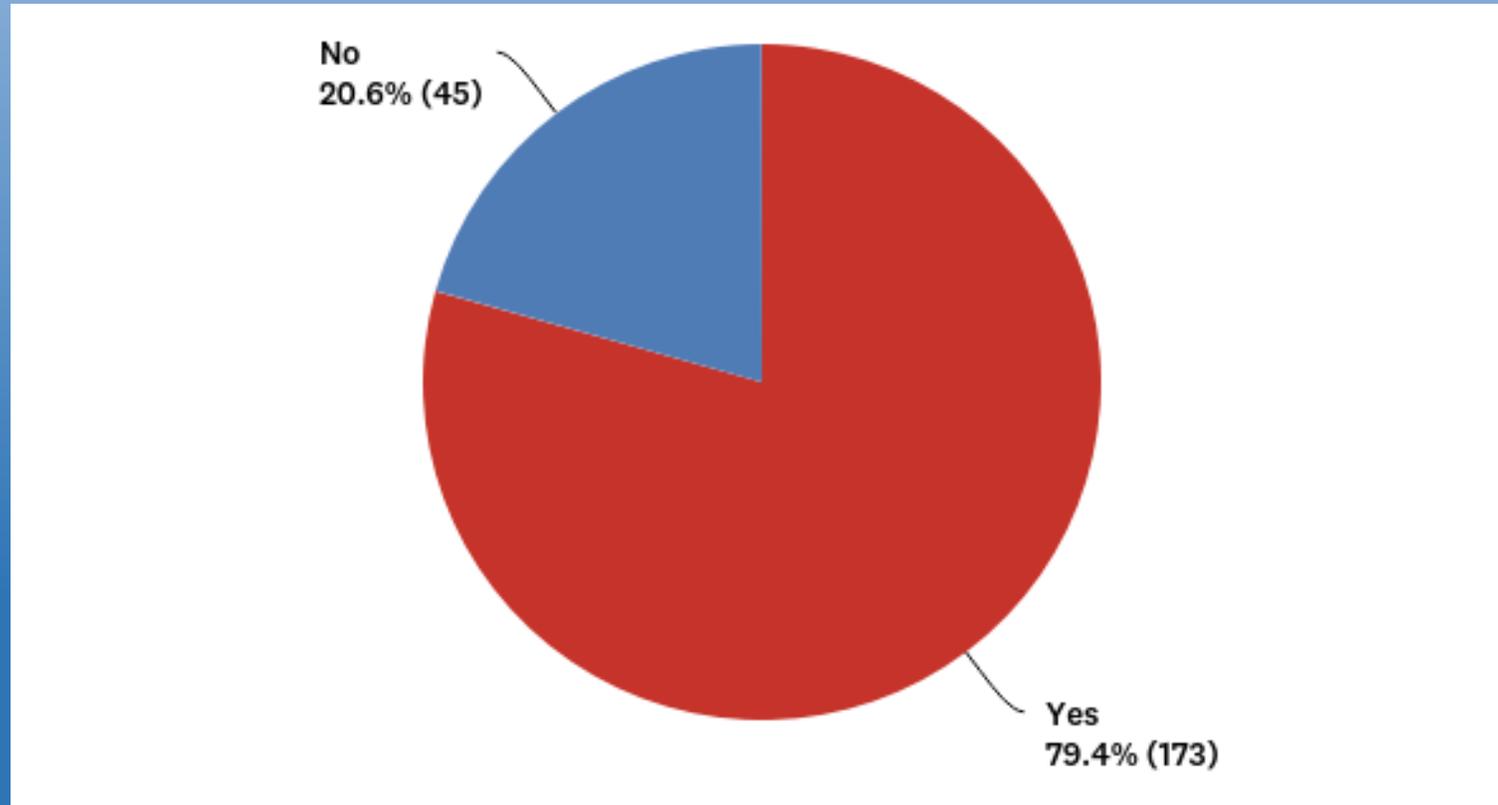
Q4: Have you been verbally assaulted in the last 2 years?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



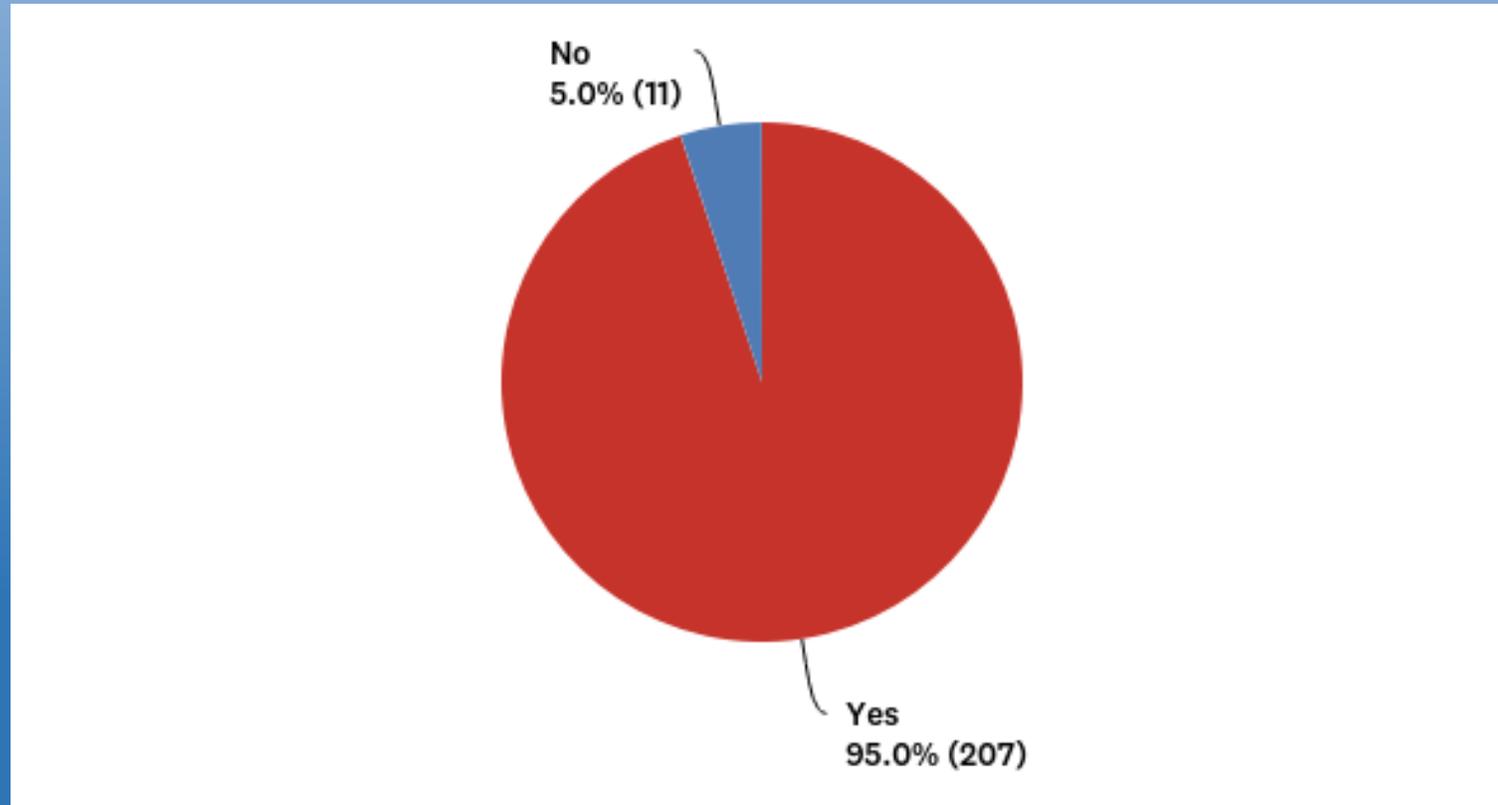
Q5: Have you been physically assaulted during your EMSA career?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



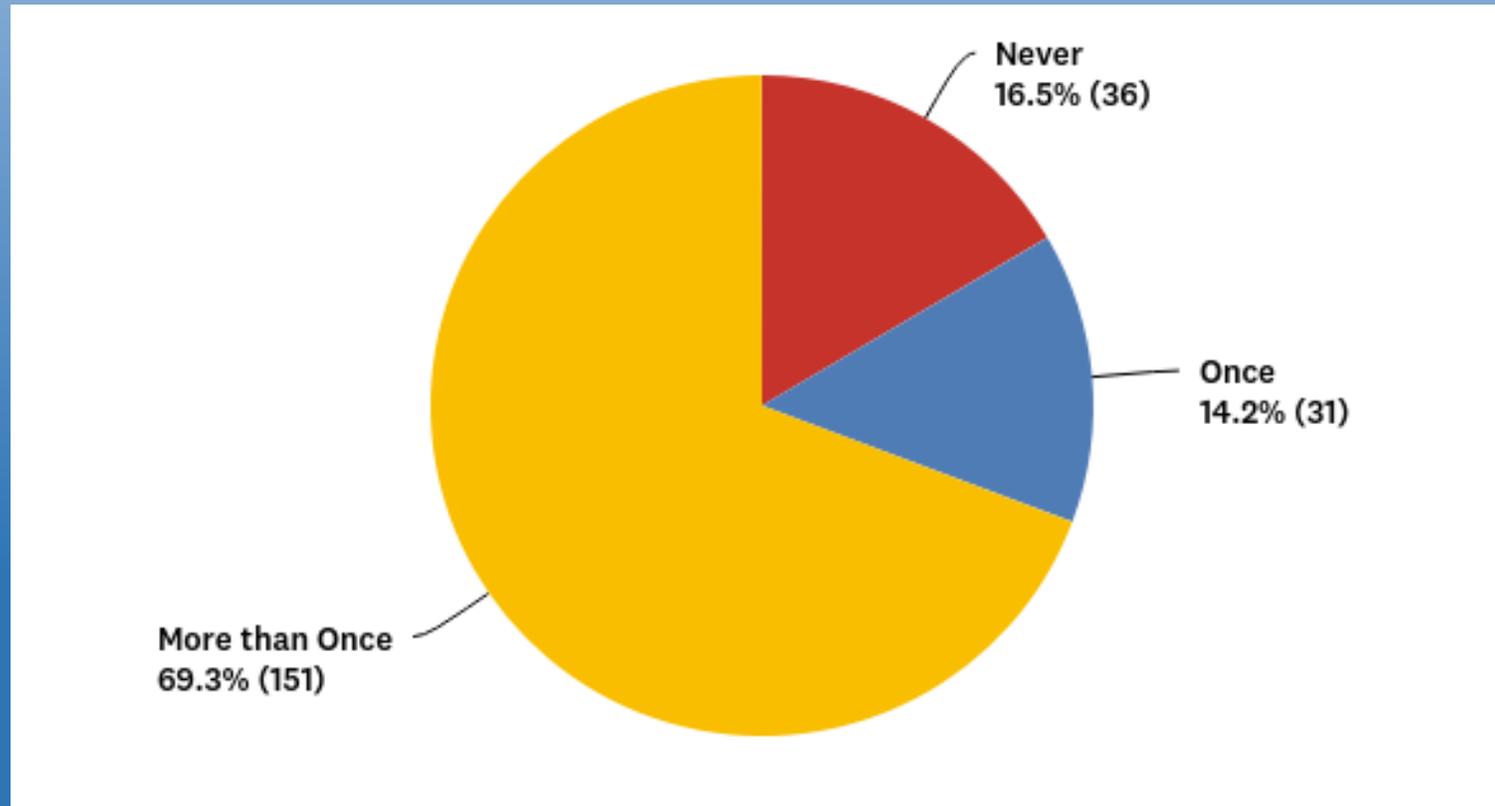
Q6: Have you been verbally assaulted during your EMSA career?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



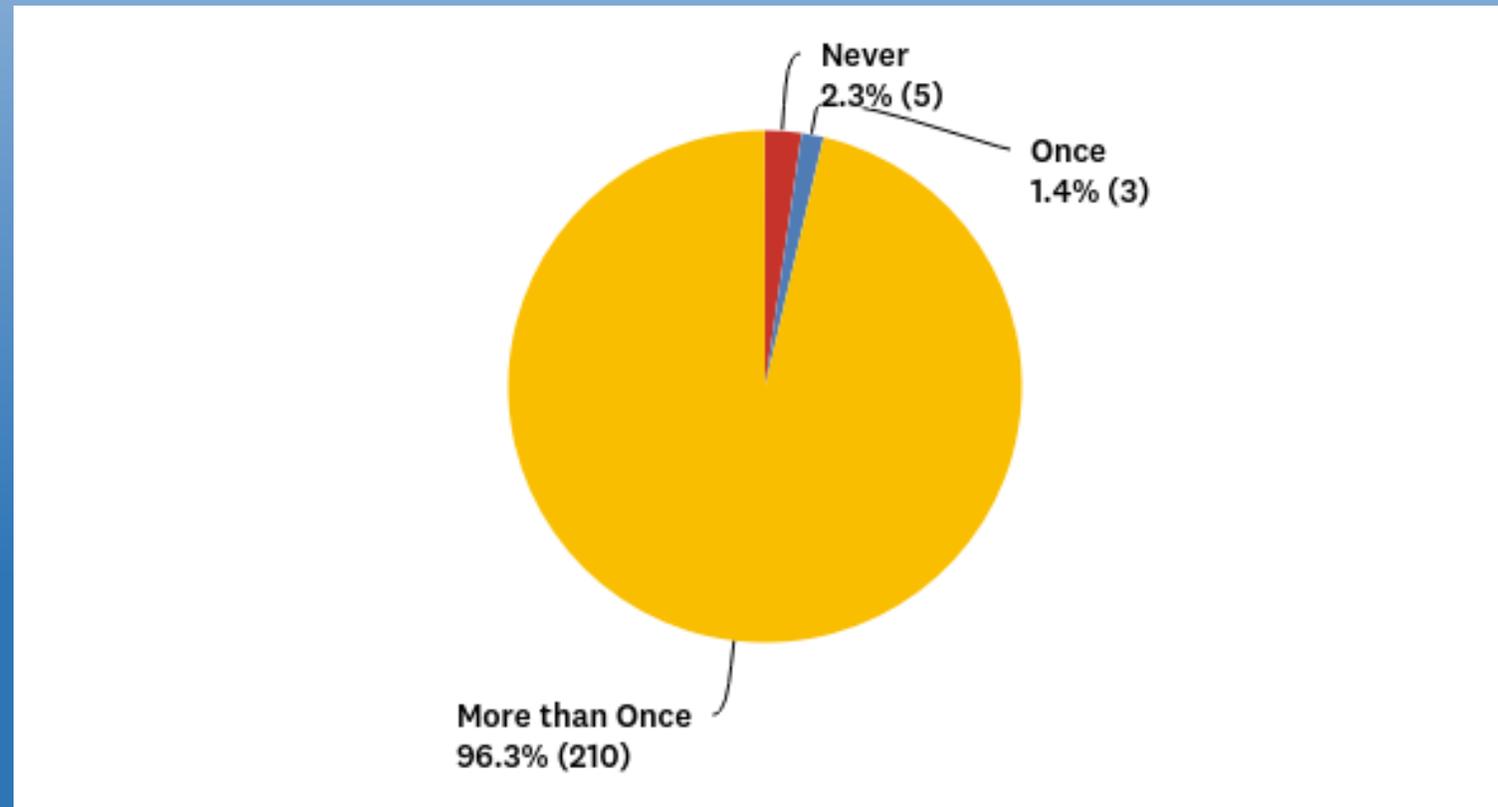
Q7: How often have you been physically assaulted in EMS?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



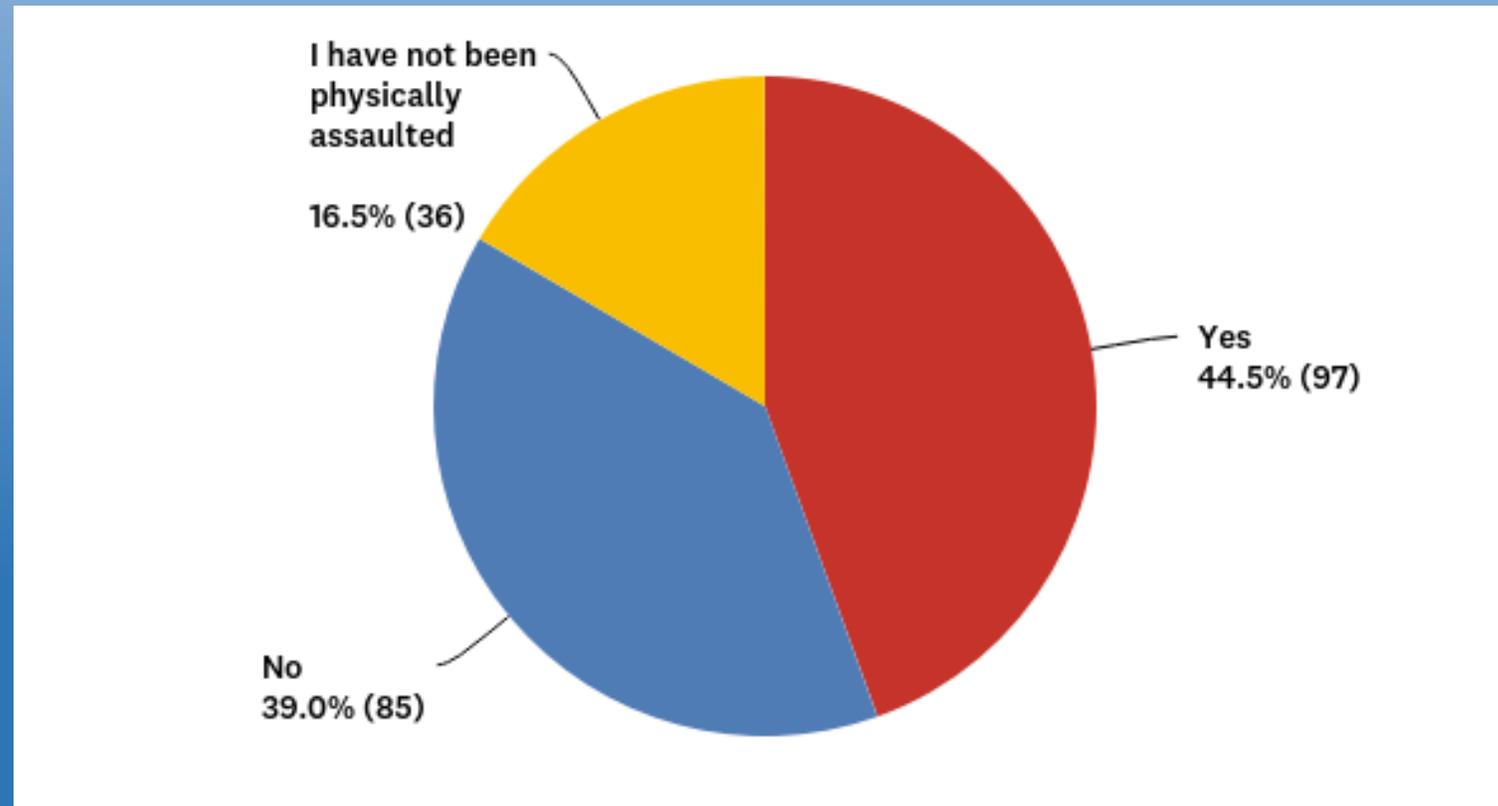
Q8: How often have you been verbally assaulted in EMS?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



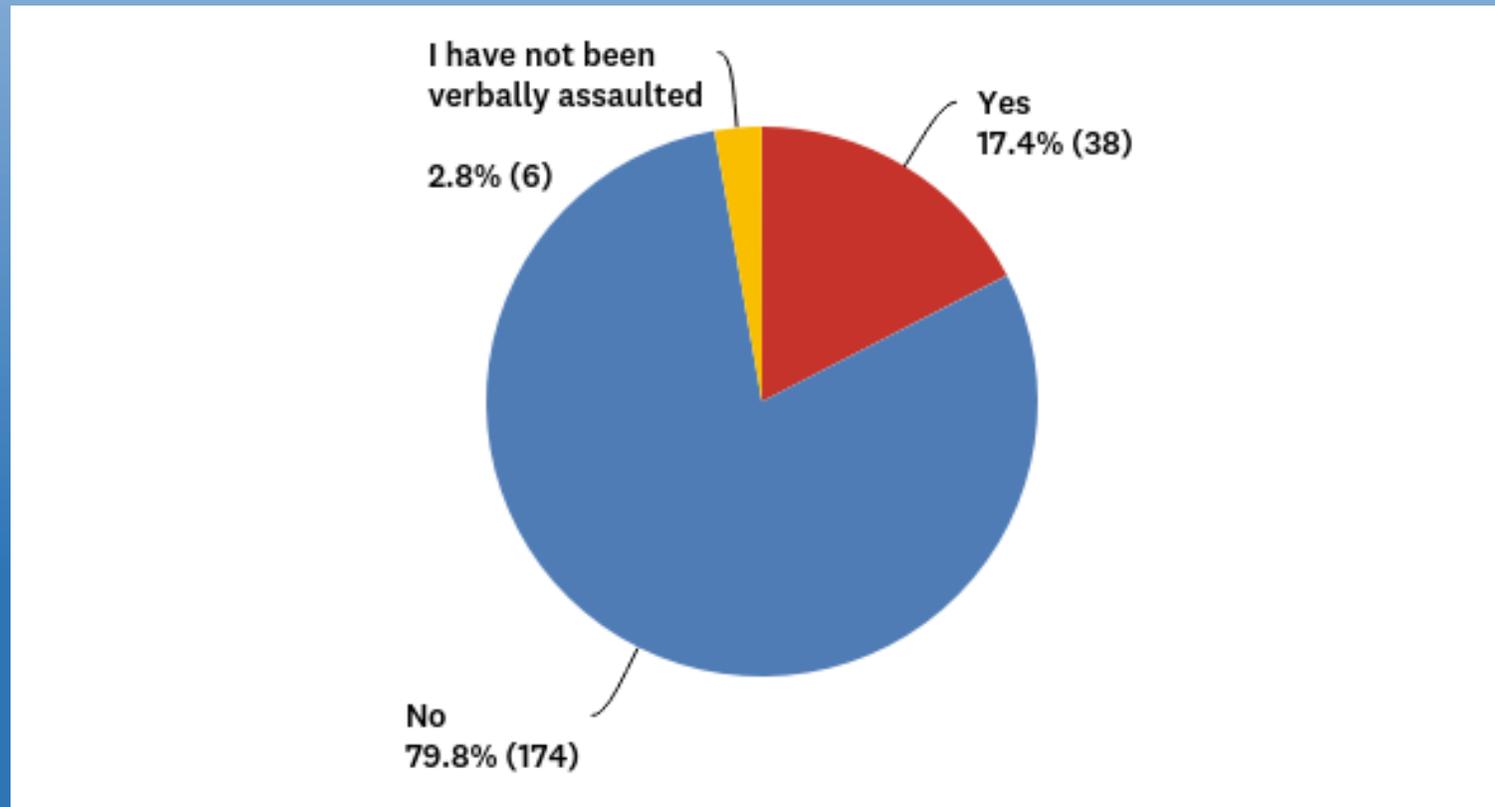
Q9: If you were physically assaulted, did you report it to your supervisor?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



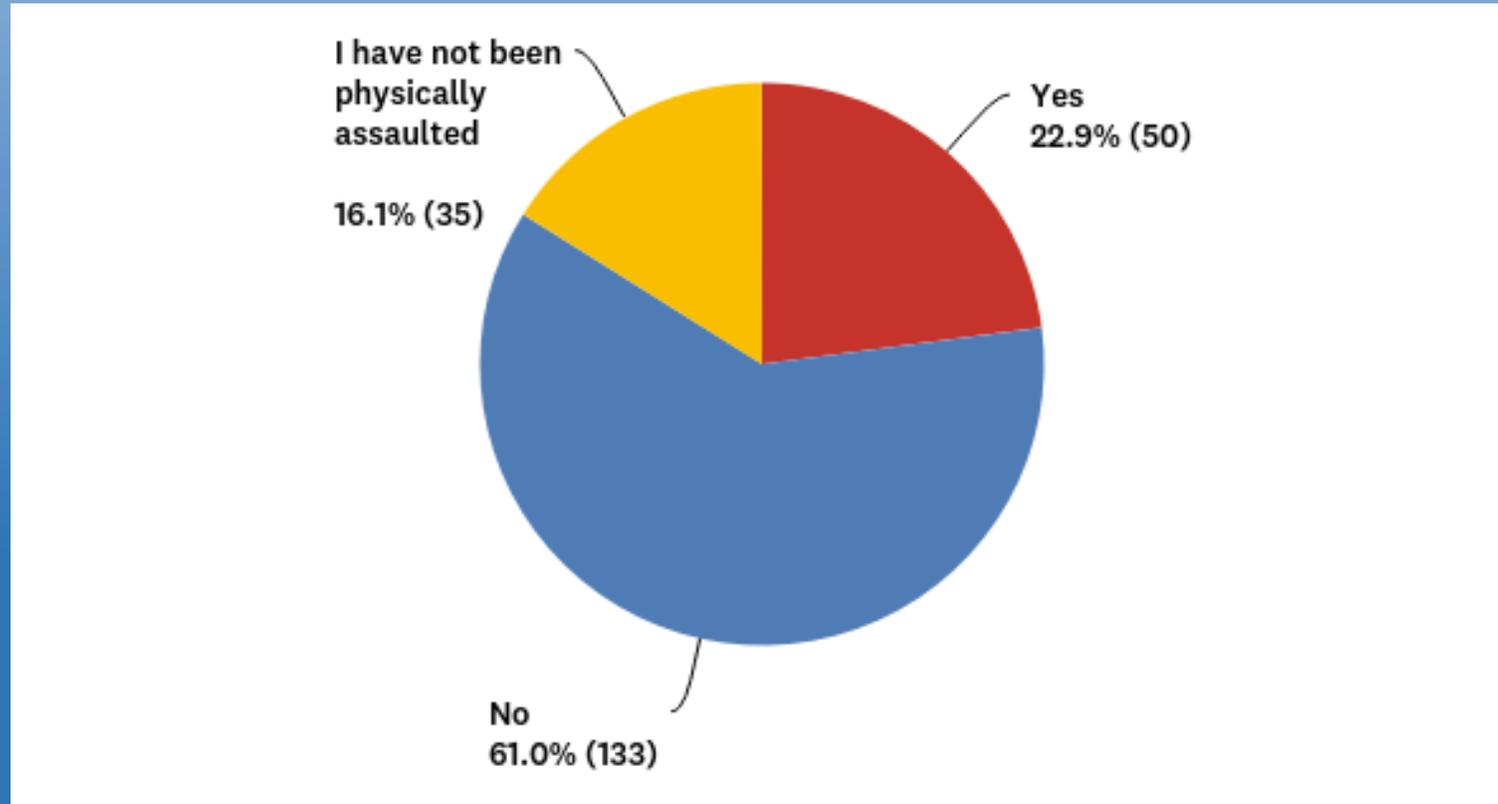
Q10: If you were verbally assaulted, did you report it to your supervisor?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



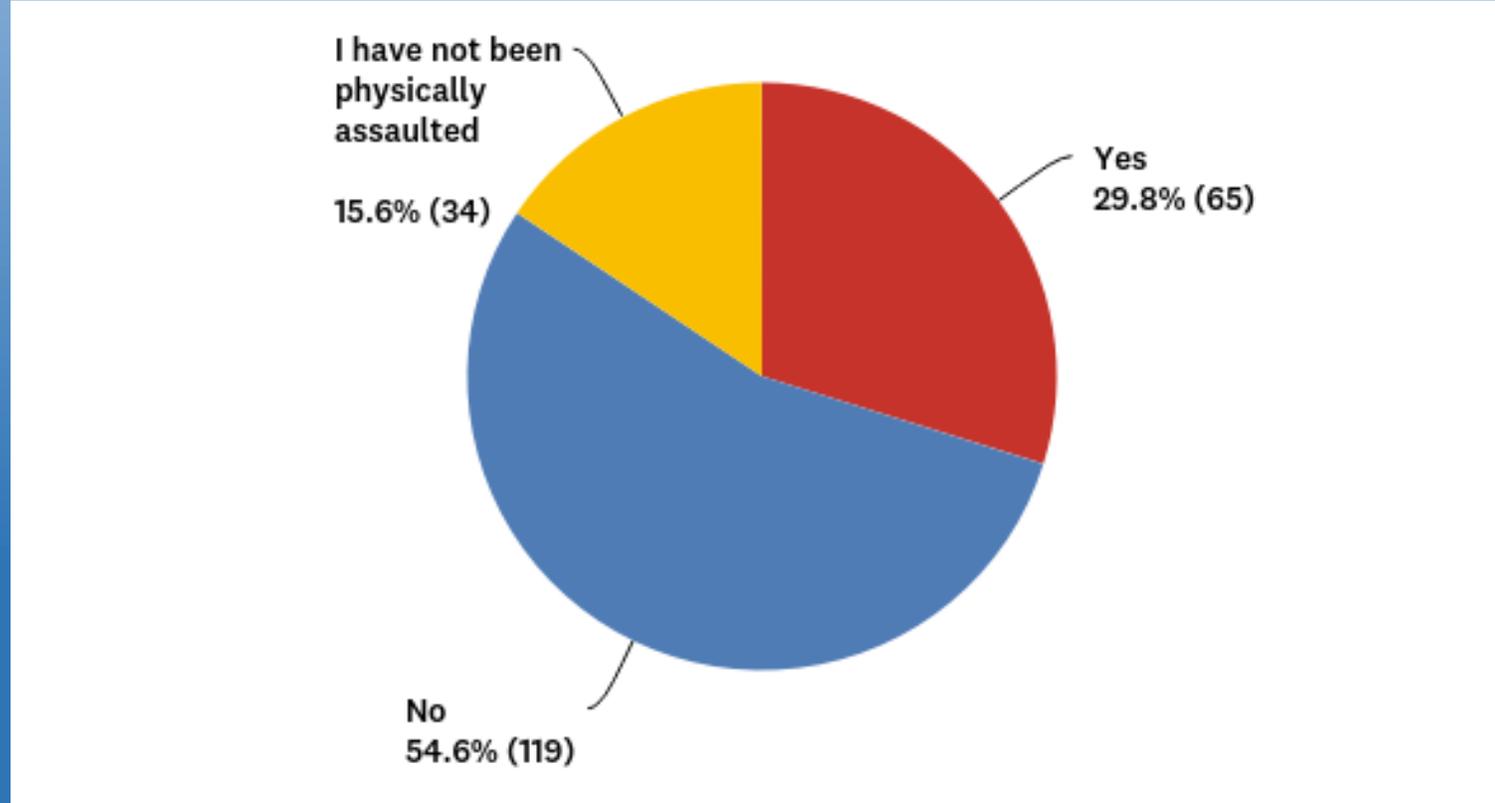
Q11: If you were physically assaulted, did you file a police report?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



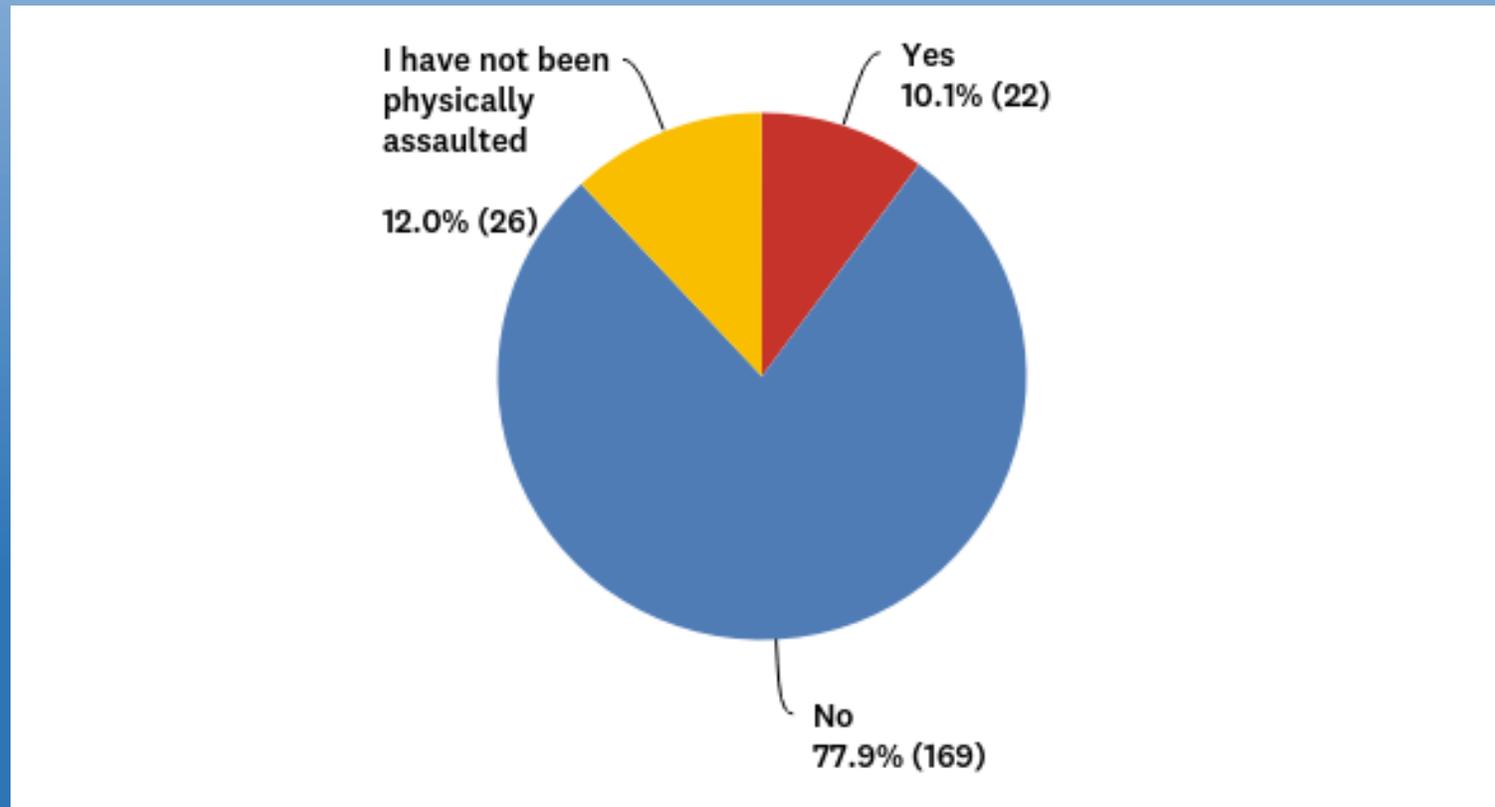
Q12: Did you sustain an injury from a physical assault?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



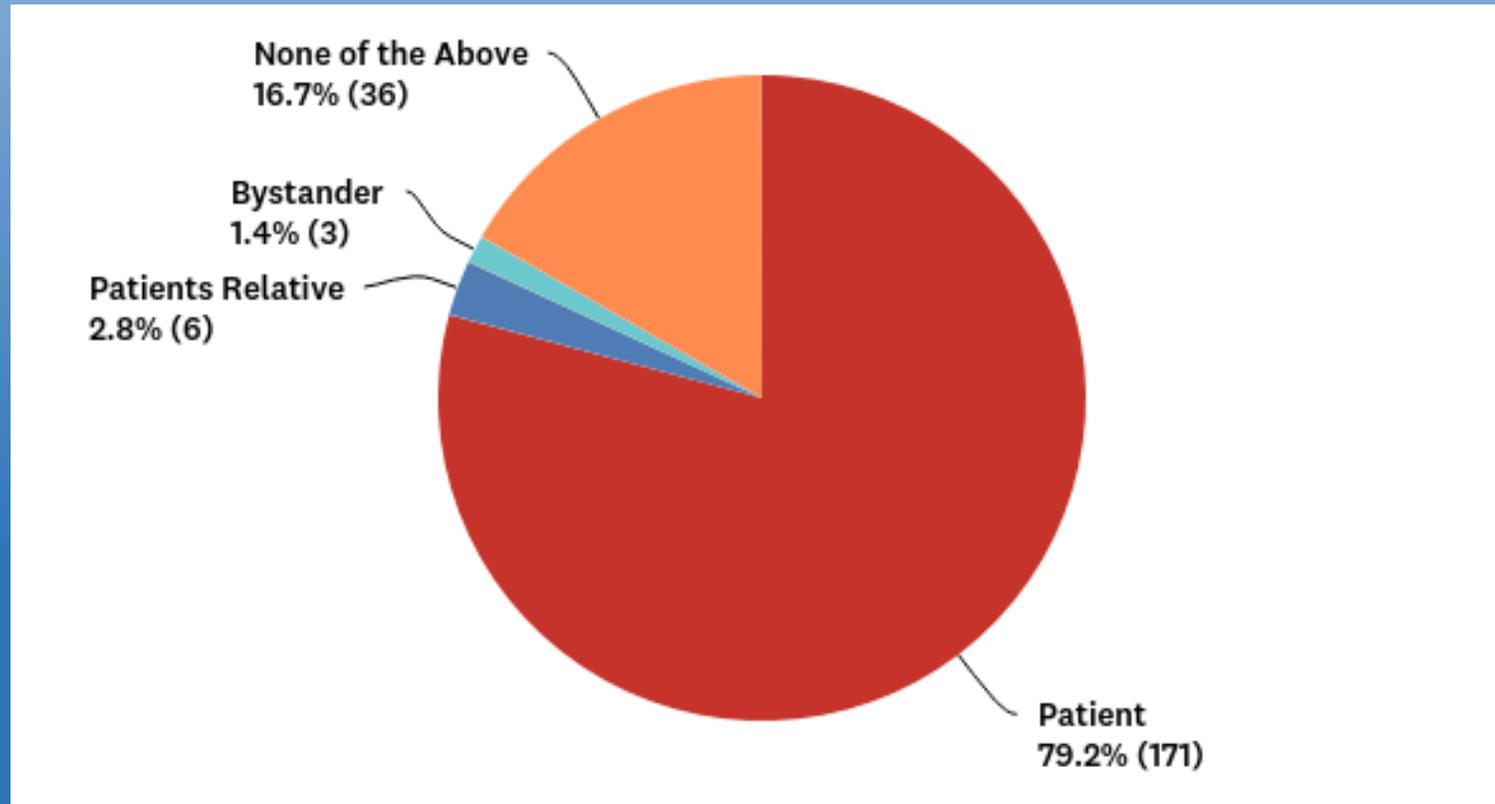
Q13: If you have been physically assaulted, did you seek care from a physician?

- Answered: 217 Skipped: 1



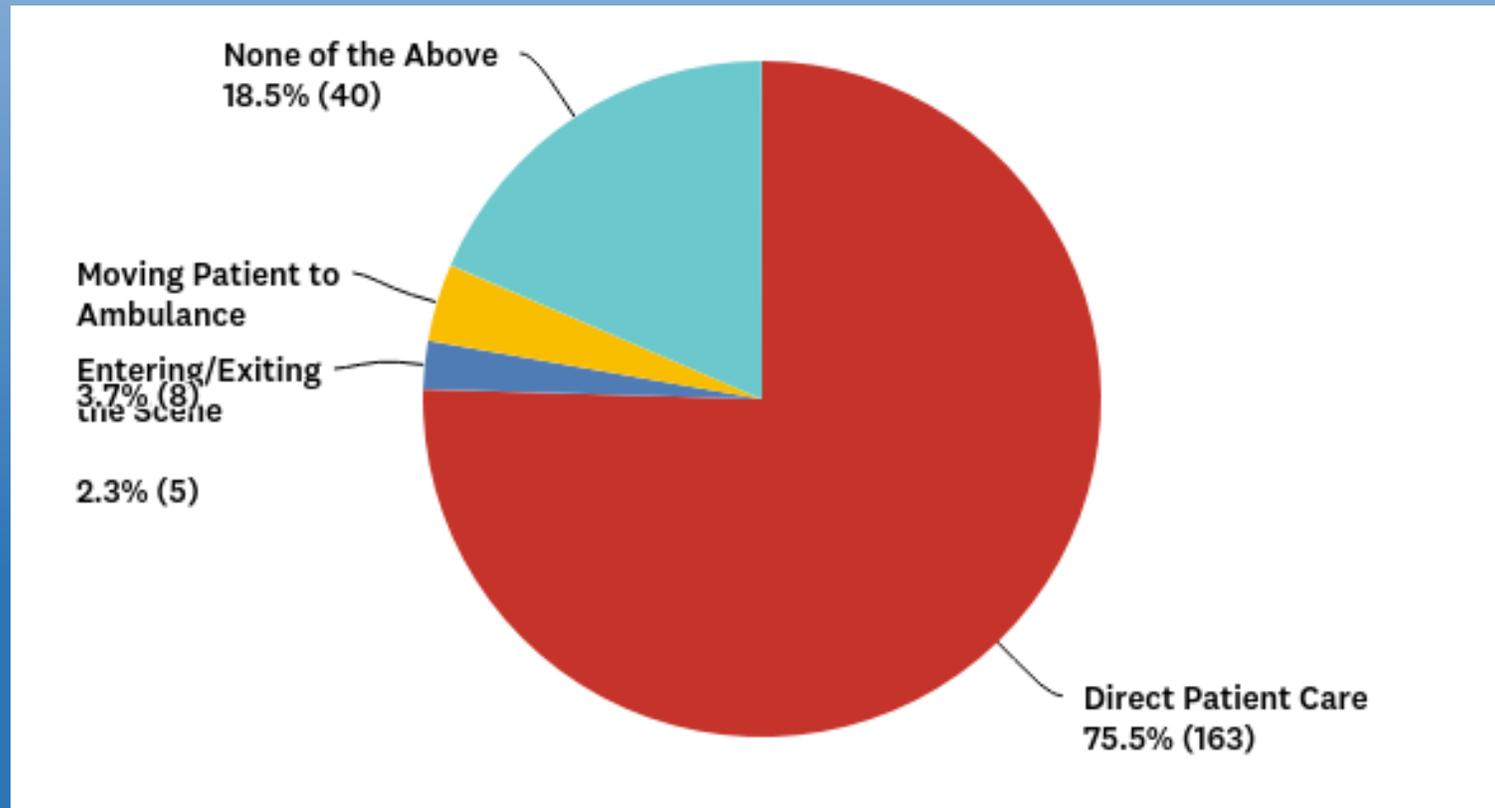
Q14: Who physically assaulted you?

- Answered: 216 Skipped: 2



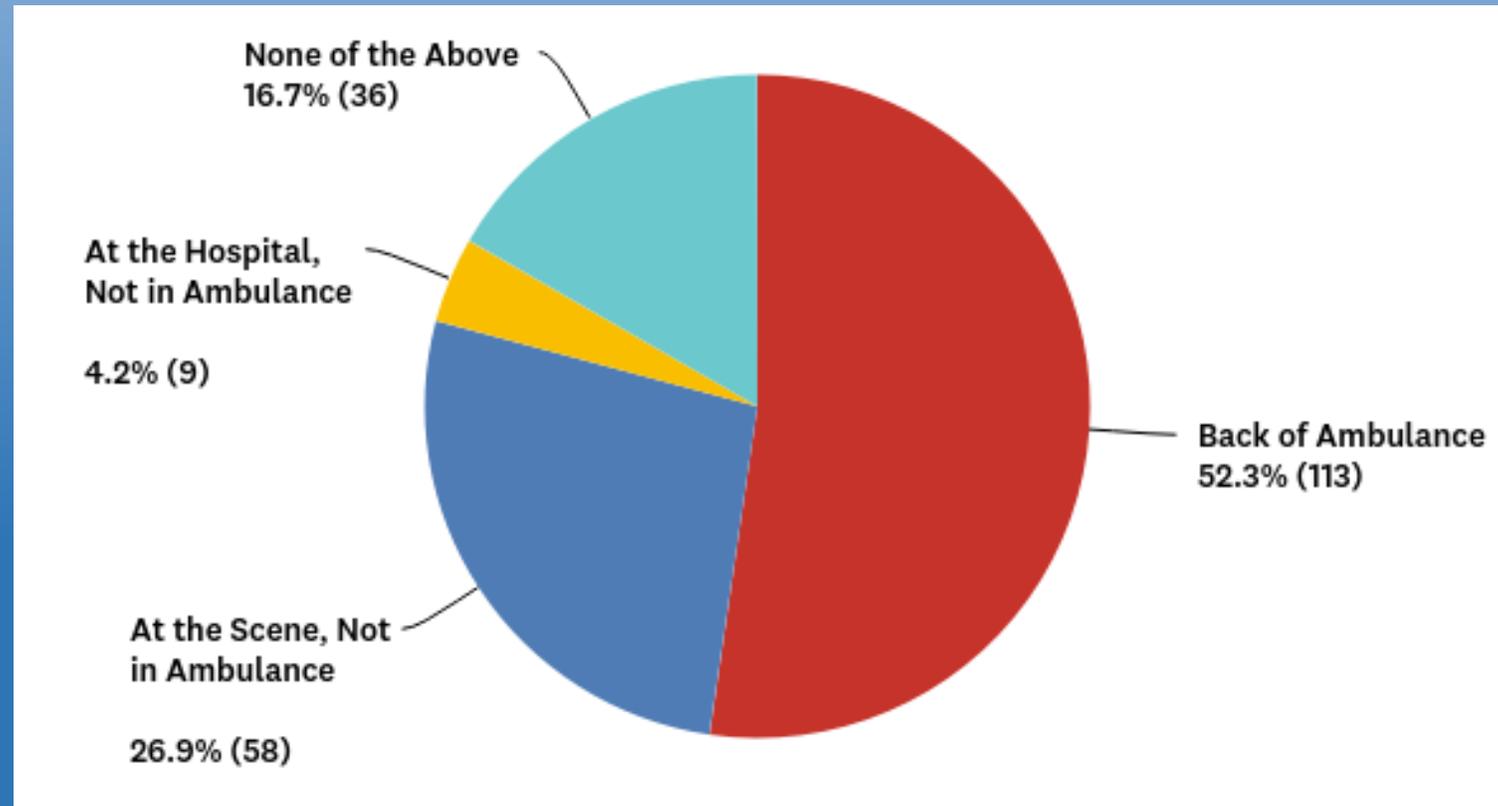
Q15: When physically assaulted, what were you doing?

- Answered: 216 Skipped: 2



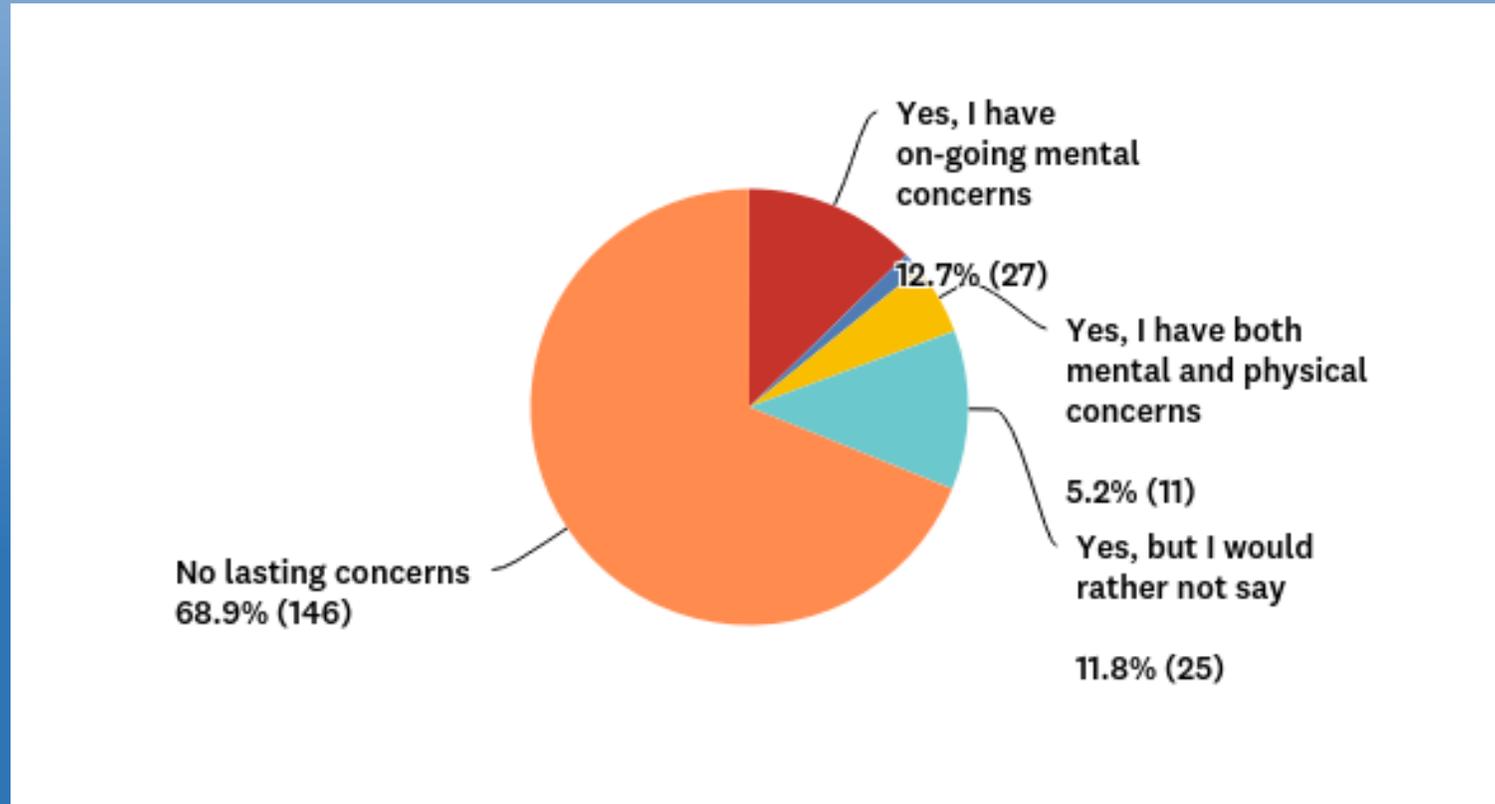
Q16: Where were you physically assaulted?

- Answered: 216 Skipped: 2



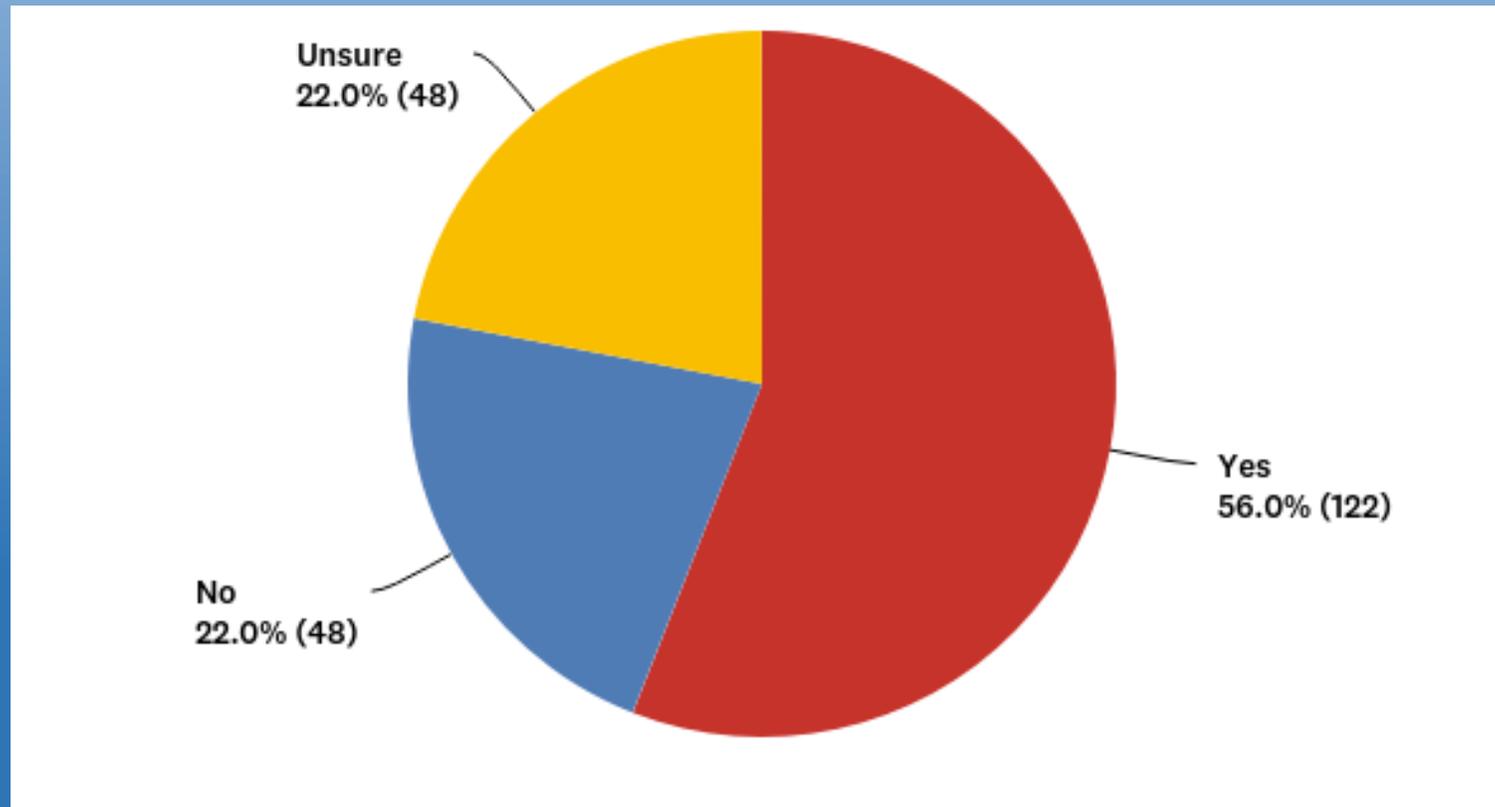
Q17: If you have been physically assaulted, do you have on-going issues or concerns?

- Answered: 212 Skipped: 6



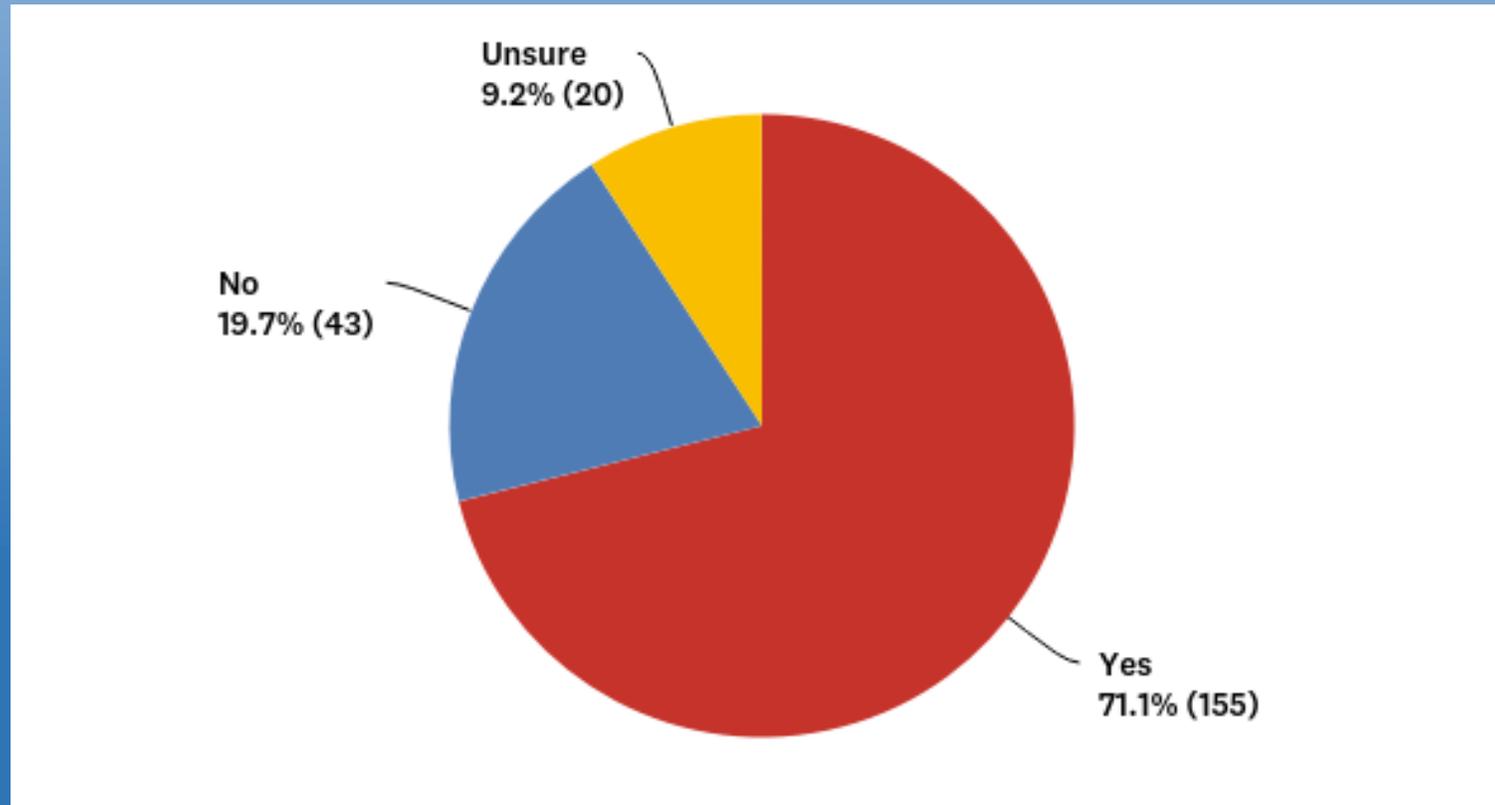
Q18: Do you feel physical assaults are an unavoidable risk in EMS?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



Q19: Do you feel verbal assault is an unavoidable risk in EMS?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0



Q20: How long have you been an EMSA team member?

- Answered: 218 Skipped: 0

