

Report on 2024 Field Safety Surveys

April 2024

2023-2024 ESPM Field Safety Committee (alphabetical by last name)

Mel Baldino

Benjamin Wong Blonder

Alejo García

Alastair Iles

Kristen Shive

Erin Westeen

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The topics discussed in this report may bring up difficult memories or experiences. Support can be found at the PATH to Care Center ((510) 642-1988) or the Office for the Prevention of Harassment & Discrimination (<https://ophd.berkeley.edu/>). Additional resources can be found at the end of this document.

Purpose

The purpose of this set of surveys was to better understand the experience of researchers and students in field studies, field courses, and excursions while at UC Berkeley. It is our hope that the results of this campaign will identify areas for improvement in relation to field safety in RCNR and IB.

Methods

Two surveys were sent out regarding fieldwork at UC Berkeley. One focused on researcher and worker experiences and was sent to all faculty, staff, and graduate student researchers in RCNR and IB. The other focused on fieldwork in undergraduate classes and was sent to all students who have taken RCNR or IB courses involving fieldwork in the last three years. Survey responses were accepted from February 7th to March 1st, 2024.

Results for researchers

- 270 survey responses were received, of which 179 reported doing fieldwork. Of these, $\frac{2}{3}$ were from ESPM and $\frac{1}{3}$ from other departments; responses were evenly distributed among faculty, graduate student researchers, and undergraduate student researchers.
- Women and LGBTQ+ people are more likely to feel unsafe or have experienced unsafe events in the field.
- Approximately $\frac{1}{3}$ of respondents do not consult a field safety plan.
- $\frac{2}{3}$ of respondents with field safety plans do not consider identity-based risks in their plan.
- Field safety plans are least common in ERG and ESPM and more common in IB and for people with multiple departmental affiliations.
- Injuries are most commonly reported in IB or for people with multiple departmental affiliations.
- Approximately $\frac{1}{5}$ of respondents report some sort of injury occurring during fieldwork, which may include physical violence, harassment, or sexual assault.
- Respondents with post-tenure faculty supervisors are about $\frac{1}{3}$ more likely to have experienced an injury in the field.
- Respondents with post-tenure faculty supervisors are about $\frac{1}{4}$ less likely to feel comfortable reporting an unsafe situation to their supervisor.
- Respondents ranked natural and built environment hazards as most common, but people external to UCB who are encountered in the field are also perceived as a common hazard.
- Most respondents want more trainings and physical resources.

- Some respondents want changes in relationships or practices of supervisor, or in team culture.
- About $\frac{1}{3}$ of respondents pay personally for all their field safety trainings and supplies.

Results for teaching

- Injuries are reported in 6/40 classes, including 1 class with 11 injuries reported in 2 years.
- Students report feeling unsafe in 7/40 classes.
- Sexual assault, bullying, and harassment are reported in 6/40 classes, at rates not exceeding one incident per class per semester.
- Bullying and harassment are more commonly reported for people with LGBTQ identities.
- Only women and non-binary respondents, but not men, report harassment, bullying, and sexual assault.
- Approximately 24/40 of field classes do not have a sufficient field safety plan from the perspective of the students.
- Of classes with field safety plans, approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ are reported to not include any consideration of identity-based risks.

Conclusion

There are substantial, serious, and common safety issues found in both research and teaching settings across the surveyed departments. These issues are more severe for women and non-binary individuals, reflecting the intersection of field safety with campus equity and inclusion priorities.

Changes to institutional culture and risk management processes are potentially valuable methods to effect change. The high prevalence of reported minor incidents and near misses suggests that future safety incidents with low probability but high severity are possible unless immediate changes are made.

METHODOLOGY

Purpose

These surveys were developed by the ESPM field safety committee, in collaboration with ERG, IB, and the RCNR and L&S deans' offices. The purpose of both surveys was to better understand the experience of researchers and students in field studies, field courses, and excursions while at UC Berkeley. For the sake of the surveys, fieldwork was defined as “**involving travel off-campus to a non-laboratory setting for research, teaching, or coursework.**” The intention was to understand current challenges experienced during fieldwork as well as on our institutional climate. The results of this survey will be used to guide policy changes and resource allocation decisions.

Distribution

Two surveys were created for the purpose of this report: one focused on researcher and worker experiences and one focused on student experiences. Both were distributed via email. Multiple emails were sent to remind potential respondents of the deadline after the initial email. Both surveys were sent out on February 7th, 2024. Responses were accepted until March 1st, 2024.

The research survey was sent to all faculty, staff, and graduate student researchers in the Rausser College of Natural Resources and the department of Integrative Biology in the College of Letters and Science. The student survey was sent to all undergraduate students in field classes and classes with known field travel in the Rausser College of Natural Resources and the department of Integrative Biology in the College of Letters and Science within the last three years.

Survey Structure

A blank version of both complete surveys is available as an Appendix of this report. The beginning of each survey included a definition of fieldwork, a statement on confidentiality, and the intended distribution of the aggregated findings. It also included a statement providing resources should the survey bring up challenging or difficult memories.

Researchers and Workers

Those with multiple departmental affiliations or roles were permitted to fill out the survey multiple times, once for each affiliation or role.

The survey was separated into three sections. The first collected background information on the respondent's position at UC Berkeley. This included the role they were reporting on (undergraduate researcher, graduate student instructor, graduate student researcher, postdoctoral scholar, staff research position, or faculty), their home department, and whether they conduct fieldwork. All questions in this section were mandatory.

The second section was the core survey. All questions in this section were optional. Multiple questions asked about the general study subjects, locations, and field crew structure of the work.

The next questions asked about injuries, near-misses, and feelings of unsafety during the fieldwork. Hazards that caused these experiences were identified. The respondent was asked about their comfort reporting any injuries, near-misses, or unsafe moments to their supervisor. There were also questions inquiring about the formation and use of a field safety plan and any support or pushback received by their community in doing so. The final questions asked about culture of safety in their work and lab. There was a question with no text limit where respondents could share anything else related to the fieldwork that they felt relevant.

The third section collected demographic information. All questions in this section were optional.

Students in Classes

Those with multiple experiences in courses with field components at UC Berkeley were permitted to fill out the survey multiple times, once for each class.

This survey was split into three sections. The first section asked the respondent to identify the class they were reporting on and the semester that the class was taken. Both questions in this section were mandatory.

The second section was the core survey. All questions in this section were optional. The first questions asked about any observed injuries, near-misses, or experiences feeling unsafe while on class fieldwork. The next questions identified the hazards that caused the incidents, near-misses, and unsafe experiences. Whether or not a safety plan was created, reviewed, and followed was determined. There was a question with no text limit where students could share anything else related to the class that they felt relevant.

The third section collected demographic information. All questions in this section were optional.

Analysis

The members of the ESPM 2023-2024 Field Safety Committee were the only people who viewed the survey responses. Department names and class names were standardized, and some response categories were aggregated to improve interpretability. Non-RCNR/IB classes and department responses were not included. The results shown are aggregated across all survey respondents and not limited to ESPM particularly. Responses were similar across departments.

Data were aggregated for this report to prevent breaches of confidentiality. Limited cross-tabulation is publicly reported to mitigate the risk of identifying respondents. Free-response comments were read by the committee but not shared publicly; no mandatory reporting issues were identified in this feedback. For class data, responses are not disaggregated by semester or course number to avoid publicly identifying instructors. This information has instead been provided to department chairs on a confidential basis.

Notes on interpretation

There is clear response rate variation among demographic groups in both datasets. It is likely some people may be more likely to provide a response to a survey like this than others, so

caution should be taken around interpretation of absolute rates. However any reported incidents are likely to reflect real challenges. Responses also reflect respondent perception and experience, which may differ among individuals and lead to some variation in how responses should be interpreted.

RESULTS

Researchers and Workers

Key findings

About $\frac{1}{3}$ of respondents report having experienced some form of injury, violence, harassment, or sexual assault while conducting fieldwork for UC Berkeley (**Figures 1-2**). Women and people with LGBTQ+ identities were most likely to feel unsafe or have experienced unsafe events, incidents, or harassment (**Figures 3-8**). There was no clear effect of race, ethnicity, disability, or neurodivergence on incident experiences. We have included figures for the effect of ethnicity on responses (**Figures 9-11**).

Injuries are most commonly reported from IB and researchers with multiple departmental affiliations (**Figure 12**). The most common hazards experienced in fieldwork were natural and built environment hazards (**Figure 13**). However, encounters with people outside of UCB while in the field was also identified as a common hazard.

Depending on the department, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ of respondents do not consult a field safety plan (**Figures 14-15**). Field safety plans are least common in the ERG and ESPM departments. $\frac{2}{3}$ of respondents who do consult a safety plan do not consider identity-based risks (**Figure 16**).

When considering the culture of field safety within labs, respondents with post-tenure faculty were about $\frac{1}{3}$ more likely to experience an injury in the field and $\frac{1}{4}$ less likely to feel comfortable reporting an unsafe situation to that supervisor (**Figures 17-19**).

In response to additional resources that would make respondents feel safe, most reported wanting more trainings and physical resources (**Figure 20**). About $\frac{1}{5}$ of respondents wanted changes in relationships or practices with their supervisor as well as changes in team culture. When asked about access to safety equipment, about $\frac{1}{3}$ of respondents reported having to pay personally for all field safety trainings and supplies (**Figure 21**).

Have you or someone you supervised been injured during fieldwork An injury is defined as an event that caused physical or emotional harm

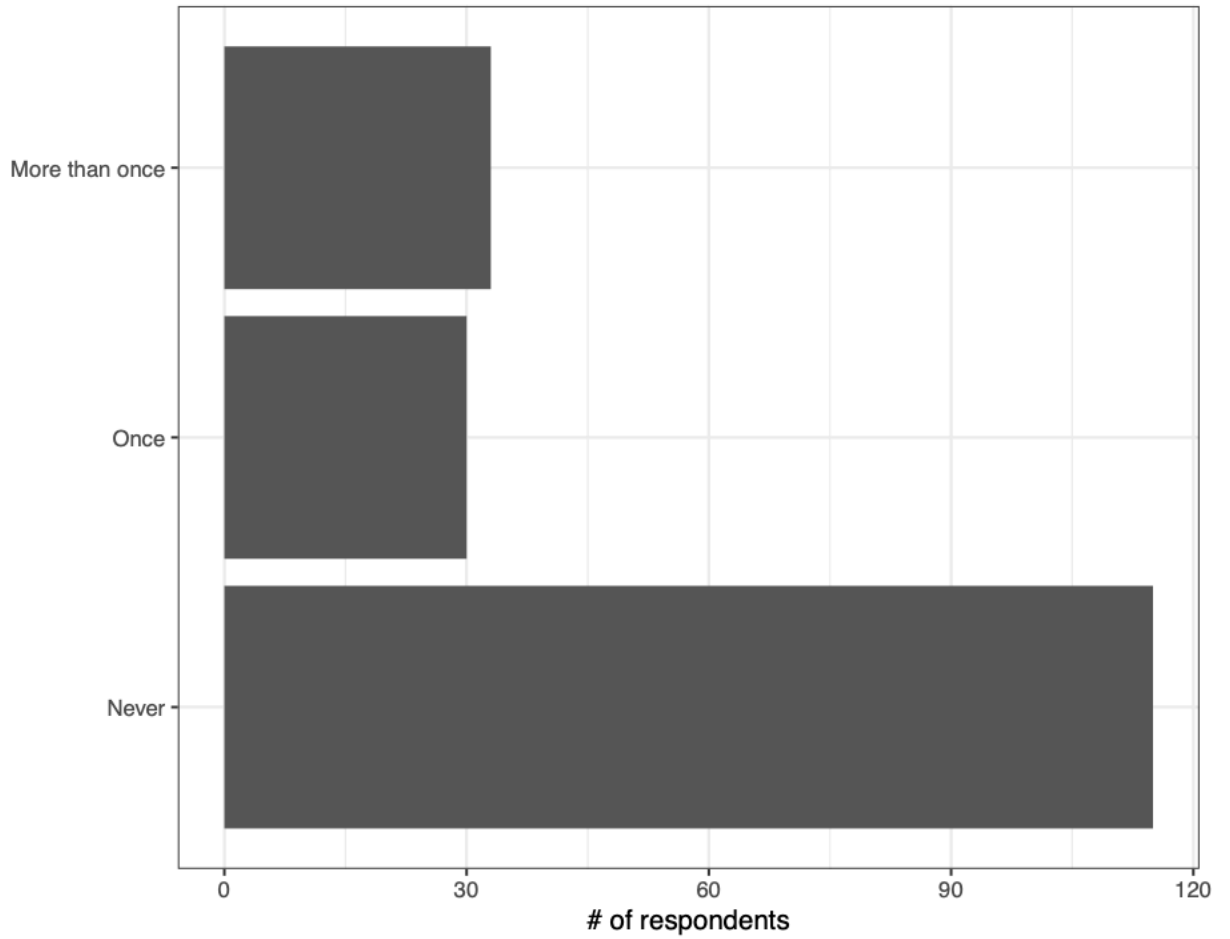


Figure 1. Distribution of respondents' answers to "Have you or someone you supervised been injured during fieldwork?"

Have you experienced or observed any of the below types injuries during field work select multiple

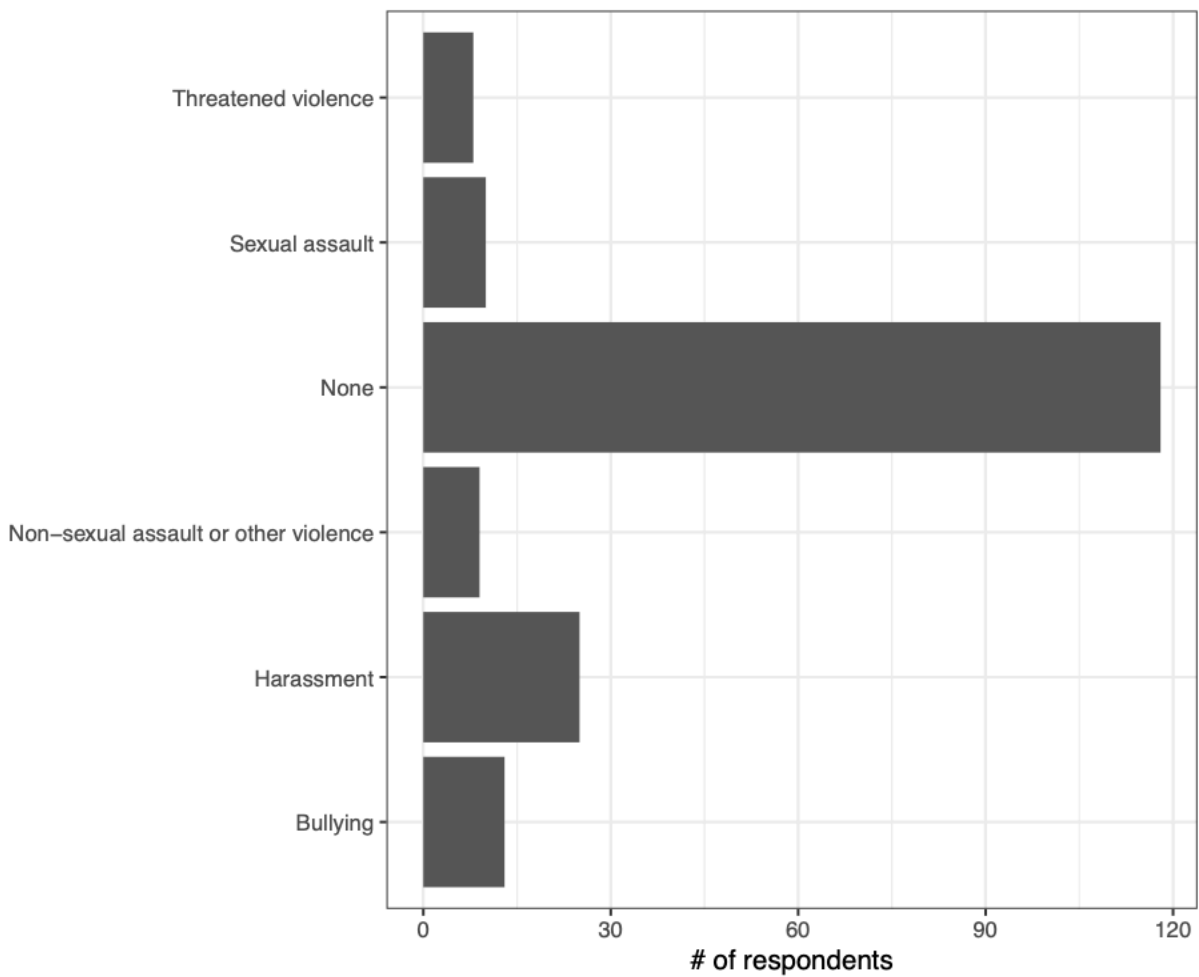


Figure 2. Survey responses to experiencing and observing injuries in the field. Respondents could choose multiple answers.

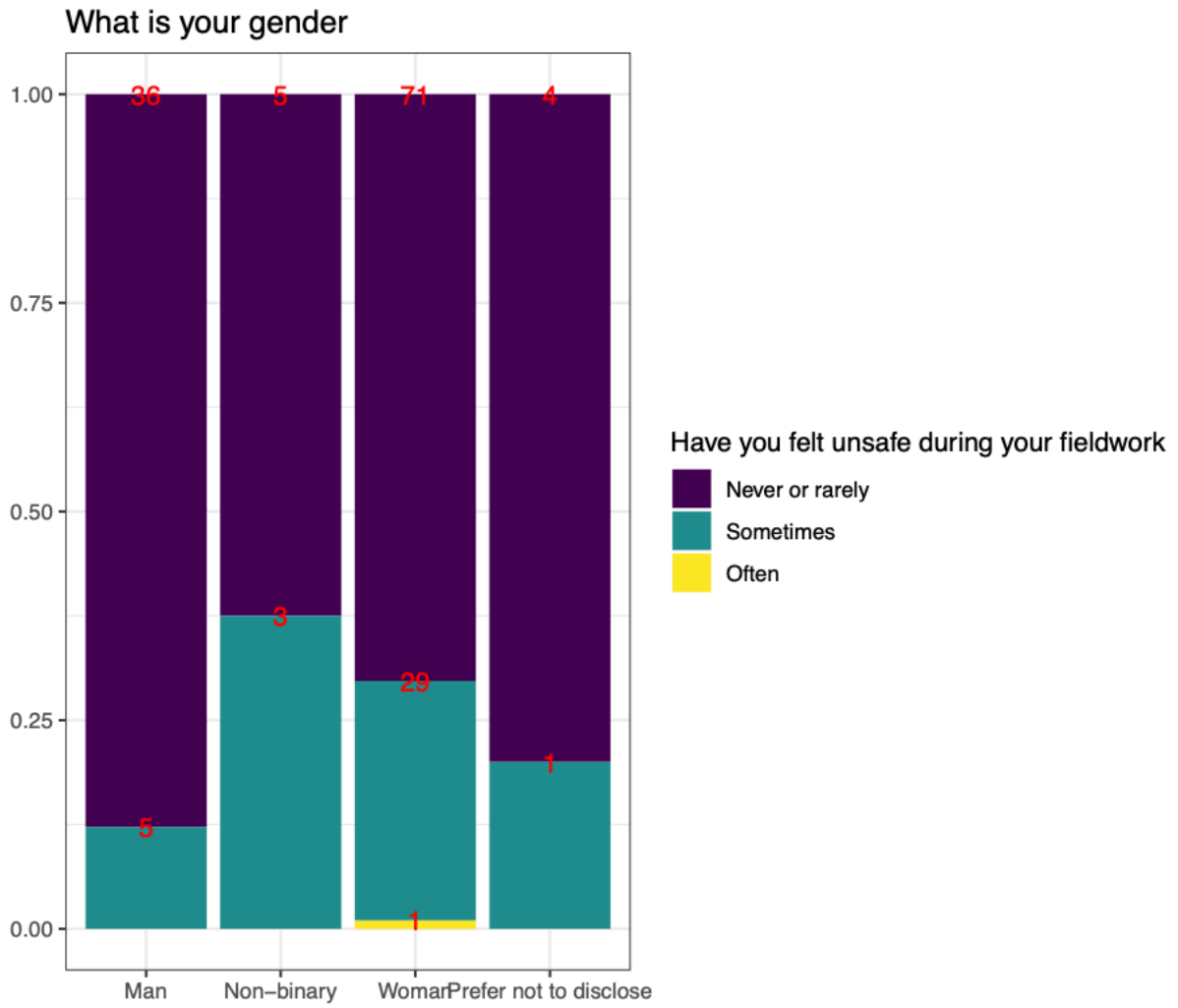


Figure 3. Survey responses to the question "Have you felt unsafe during your field work?" split by reported gender.

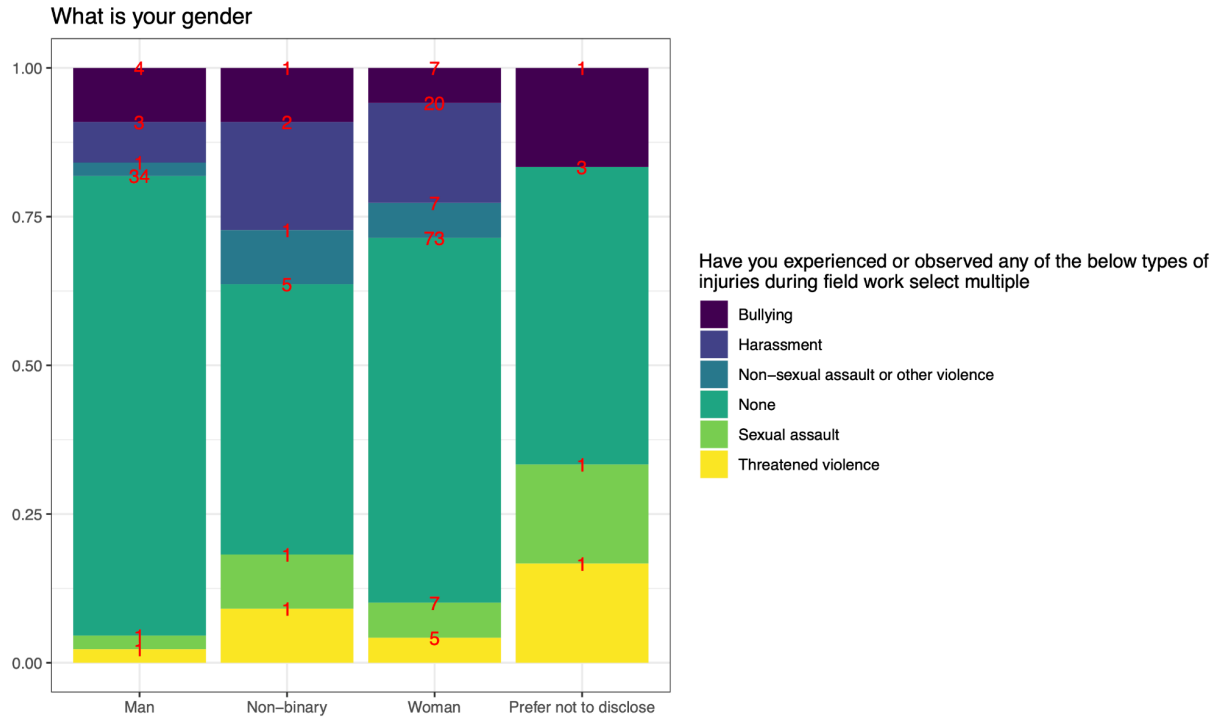


Figure 4. Survey responses to the question "Have you experienced or observed any of the below types of injuries during field work?" split by reported gender. Respondents could choose multiple responses.

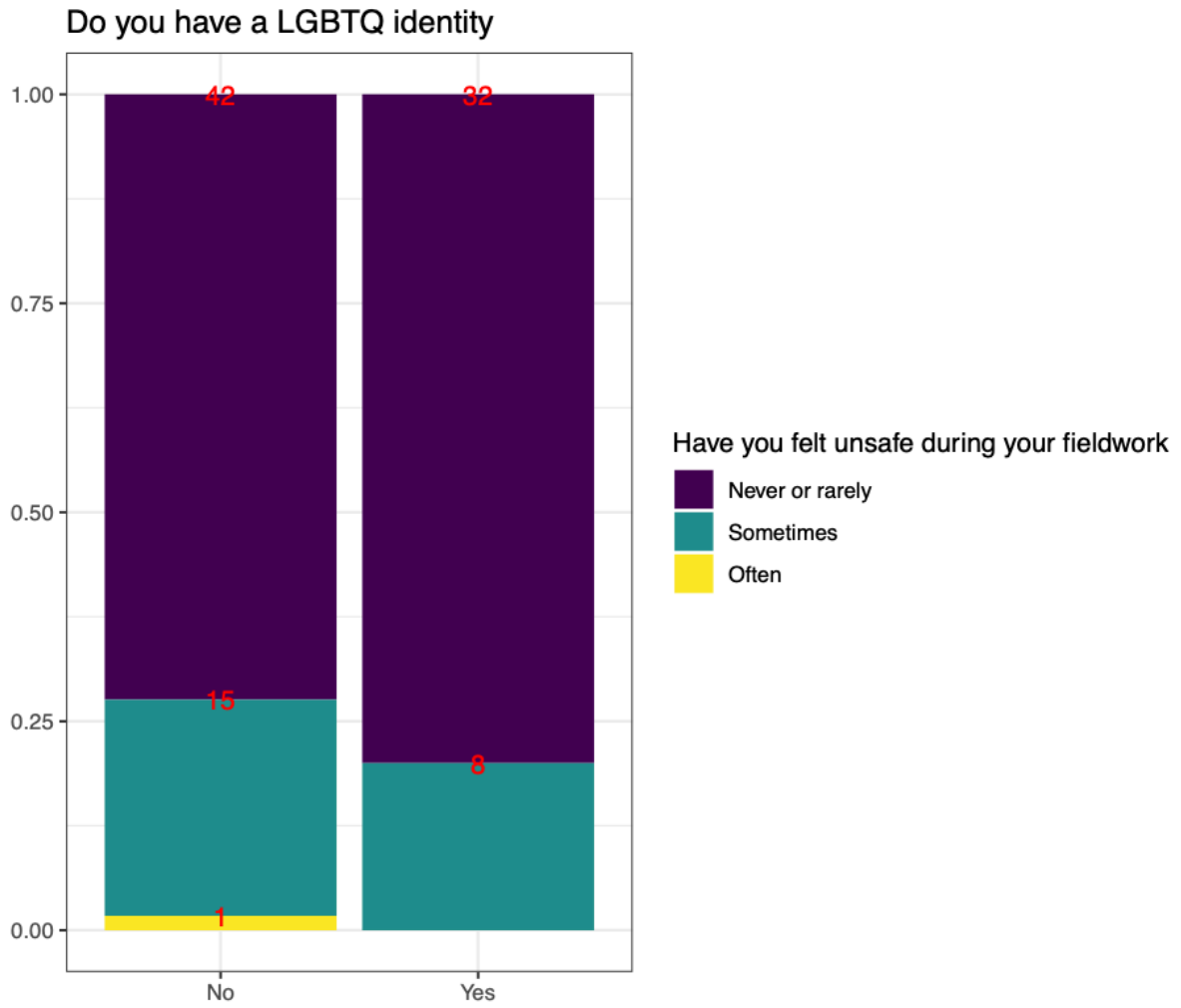


Figure 5. Survey responses to the question "Have you felt unsafe during your field work?" divided by whether respondents identified as LGBTQ+.

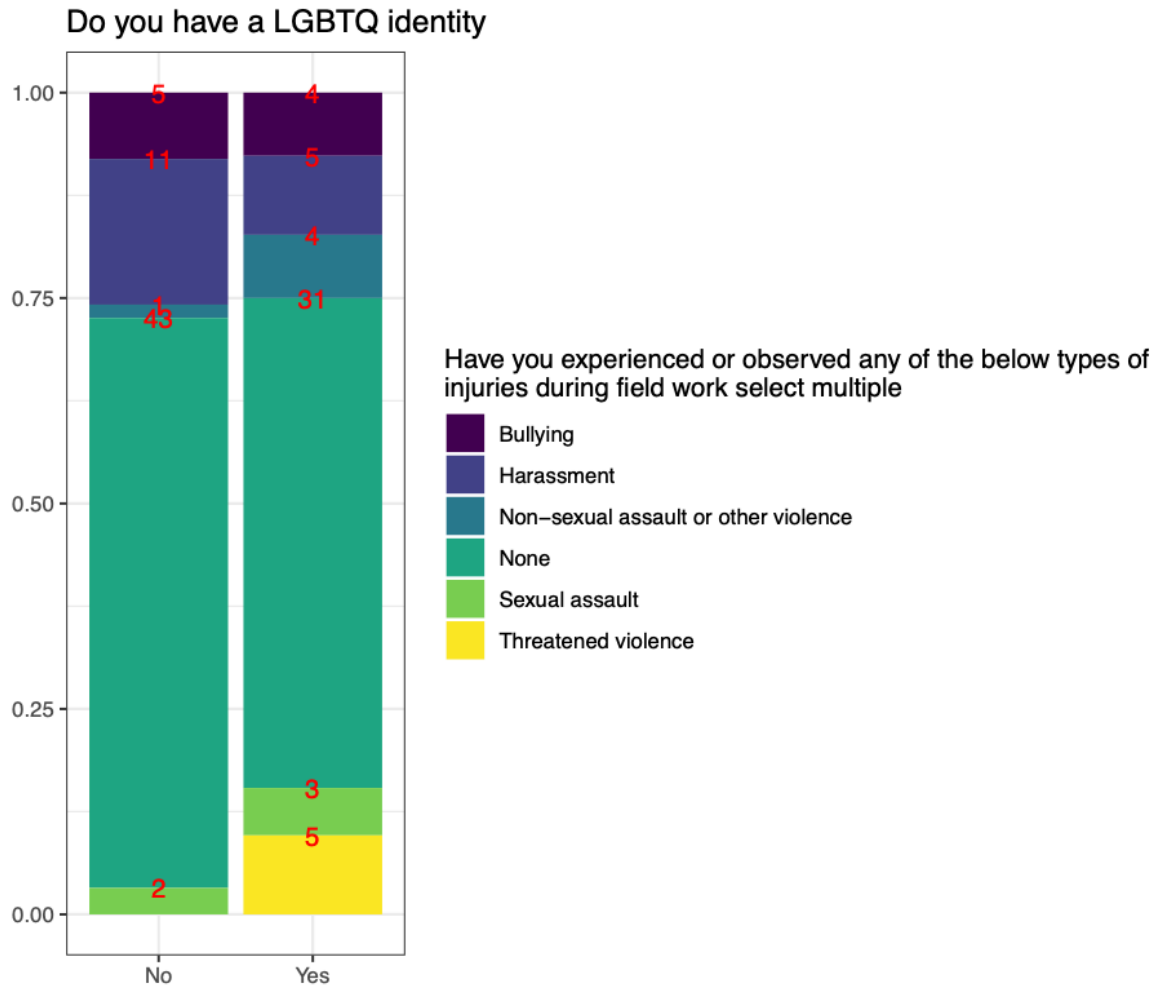


Figure 6. Survey responses to the question "Have you experienced or observed any of the below types of injuries during field work?" divided based on whether the respondent identified as LGBTQ+. Respondents could choose multiple responses.

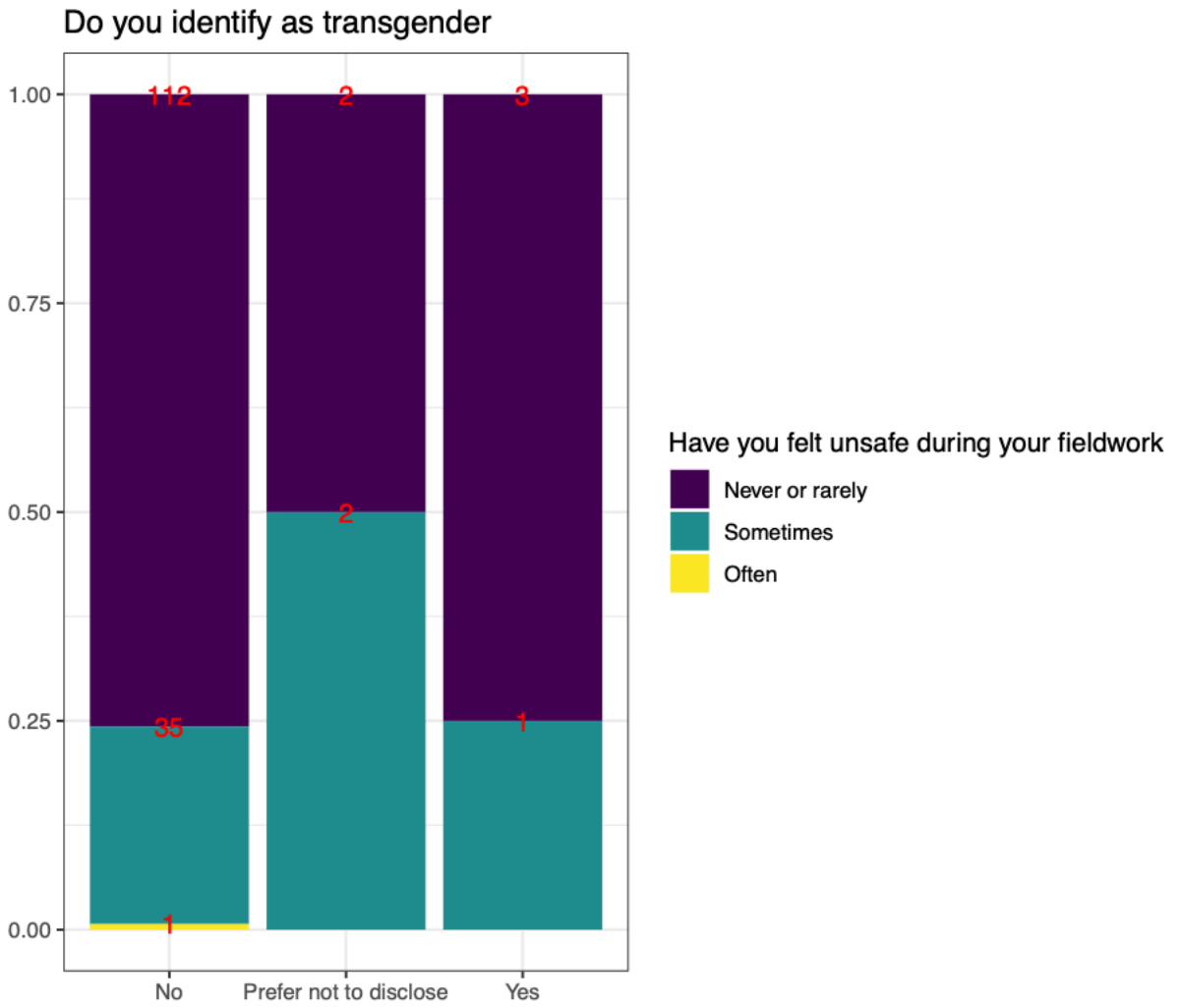


Figure 7. Survey responses to the question "Have you felt unsafe during your field work?" divided by whether respondent identified as transgender.

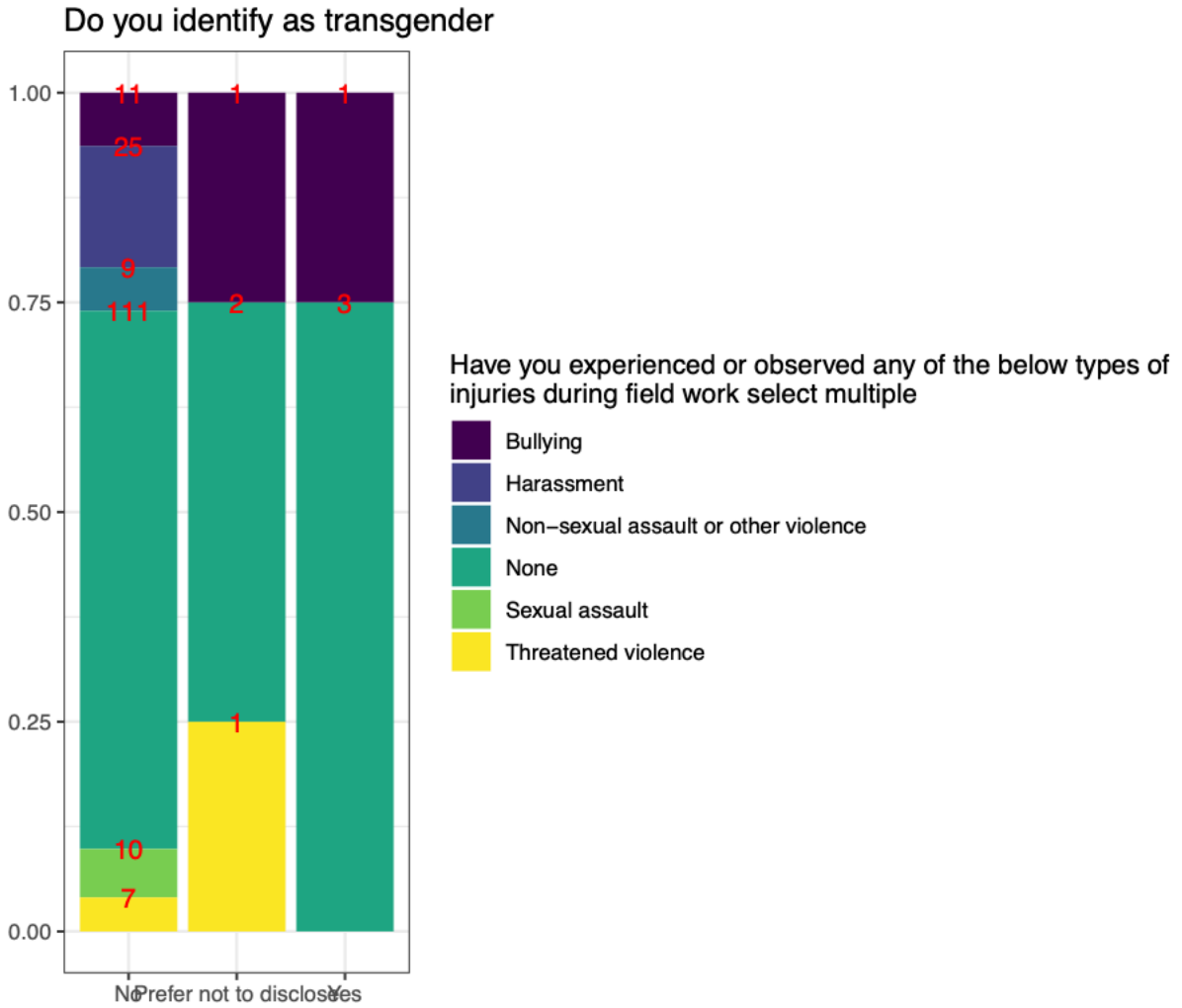


Figure 8. Survey responses to the question "Have you experienced or observed any of the below types of injuries during field work?" divided based on whether the respondent identified as transgender. Respondents could choose multiple responses.

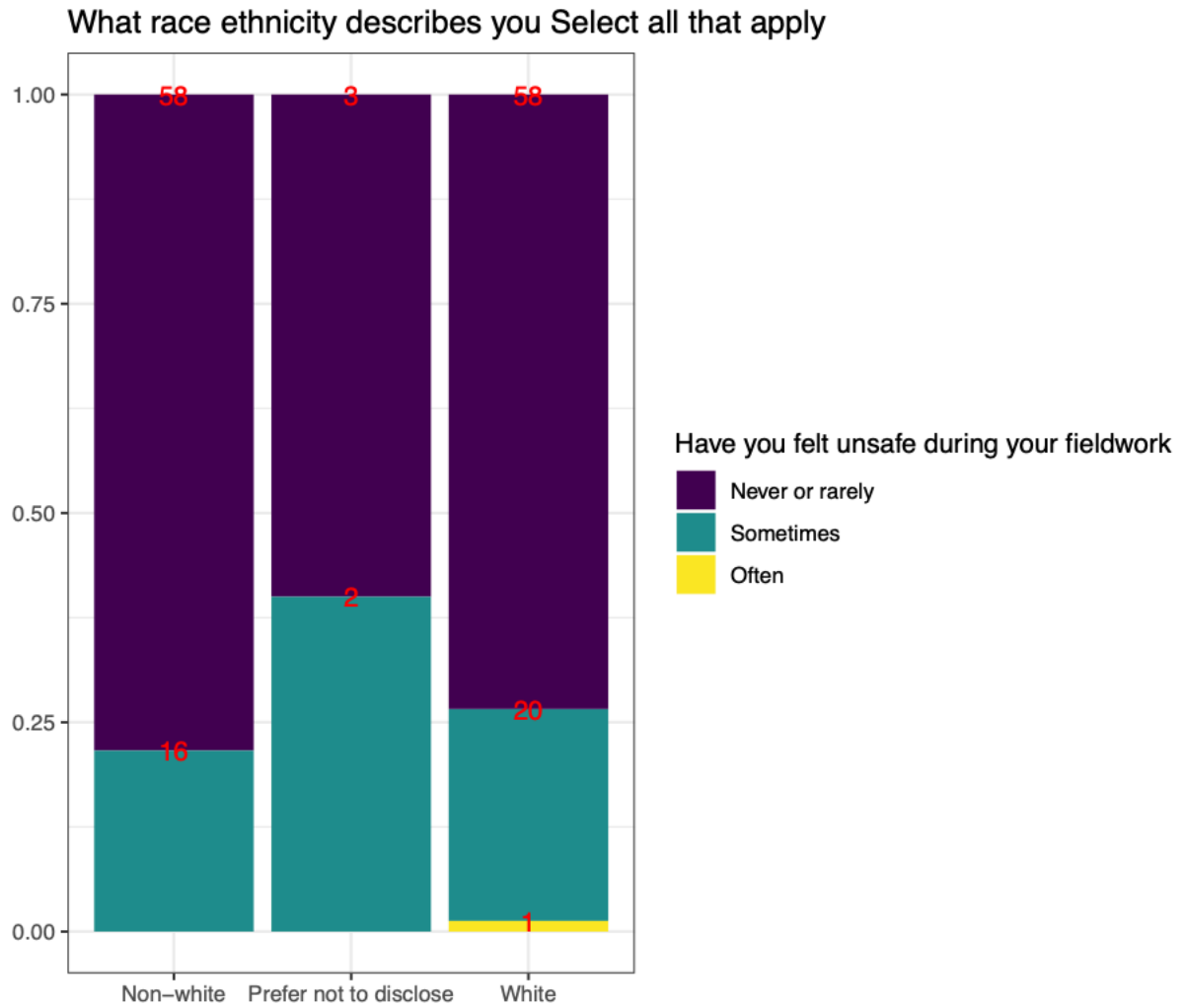


Figure 9. Survey responses to the question "Have you felt unsafe during your field work?" divided by whether respondents identified as white or non-white.

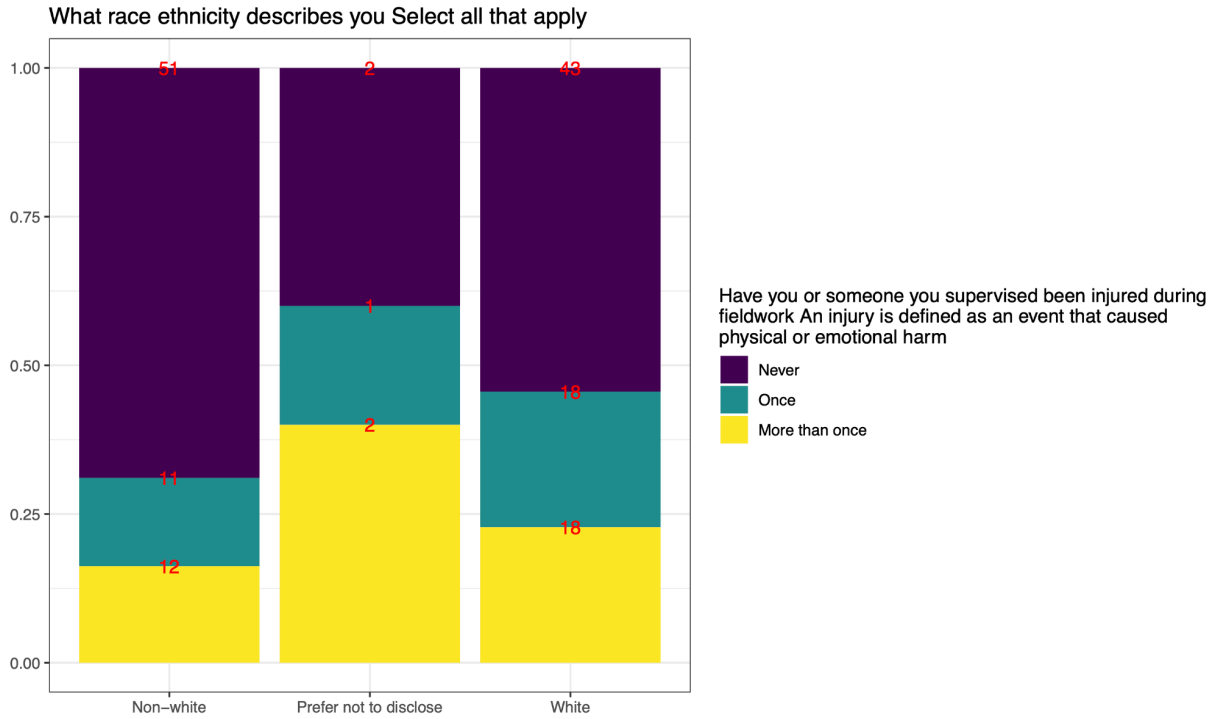


Figure 10. Survey responses to the question "Have you or someone you supervised been injured during fieldwork?" divided based on whether the respondent identified as white or non-white.

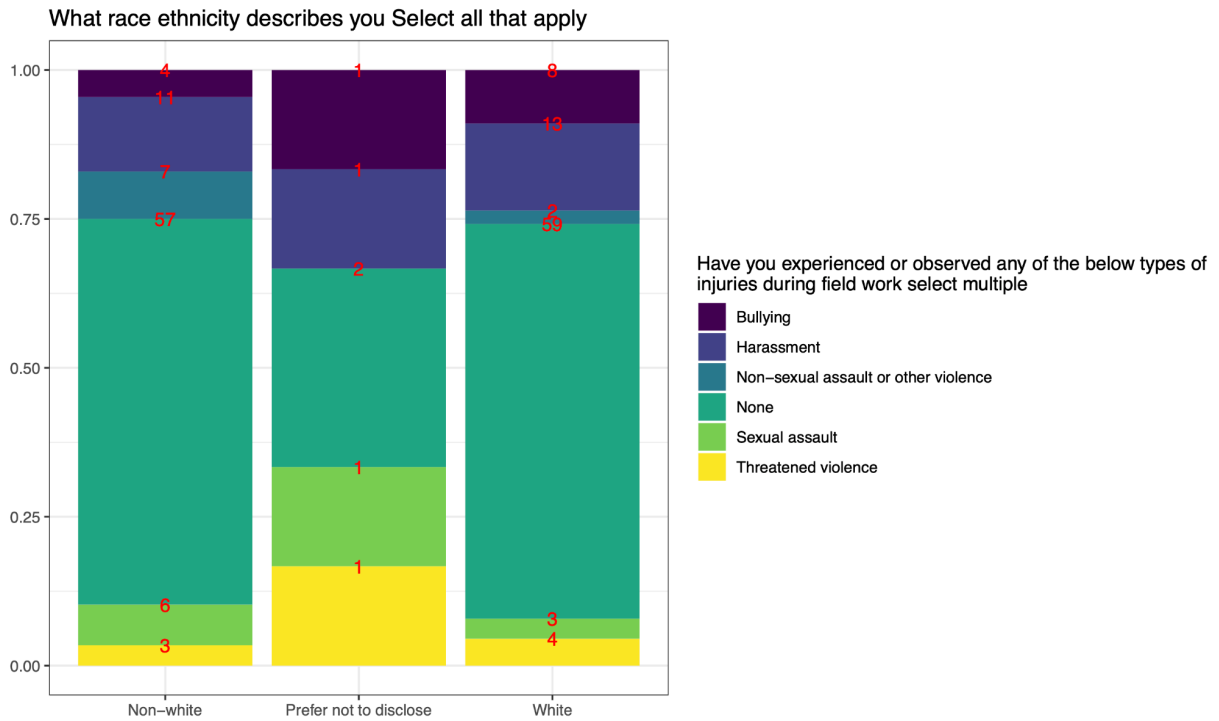


Figure 11. Survey responses to the question "Have you experienced or observed any of the below types of injuries during field work?" divided based on whether the respondent identified as white or non-white. Respondents could choose multiple responses.

What is the home department or program of your supervisor

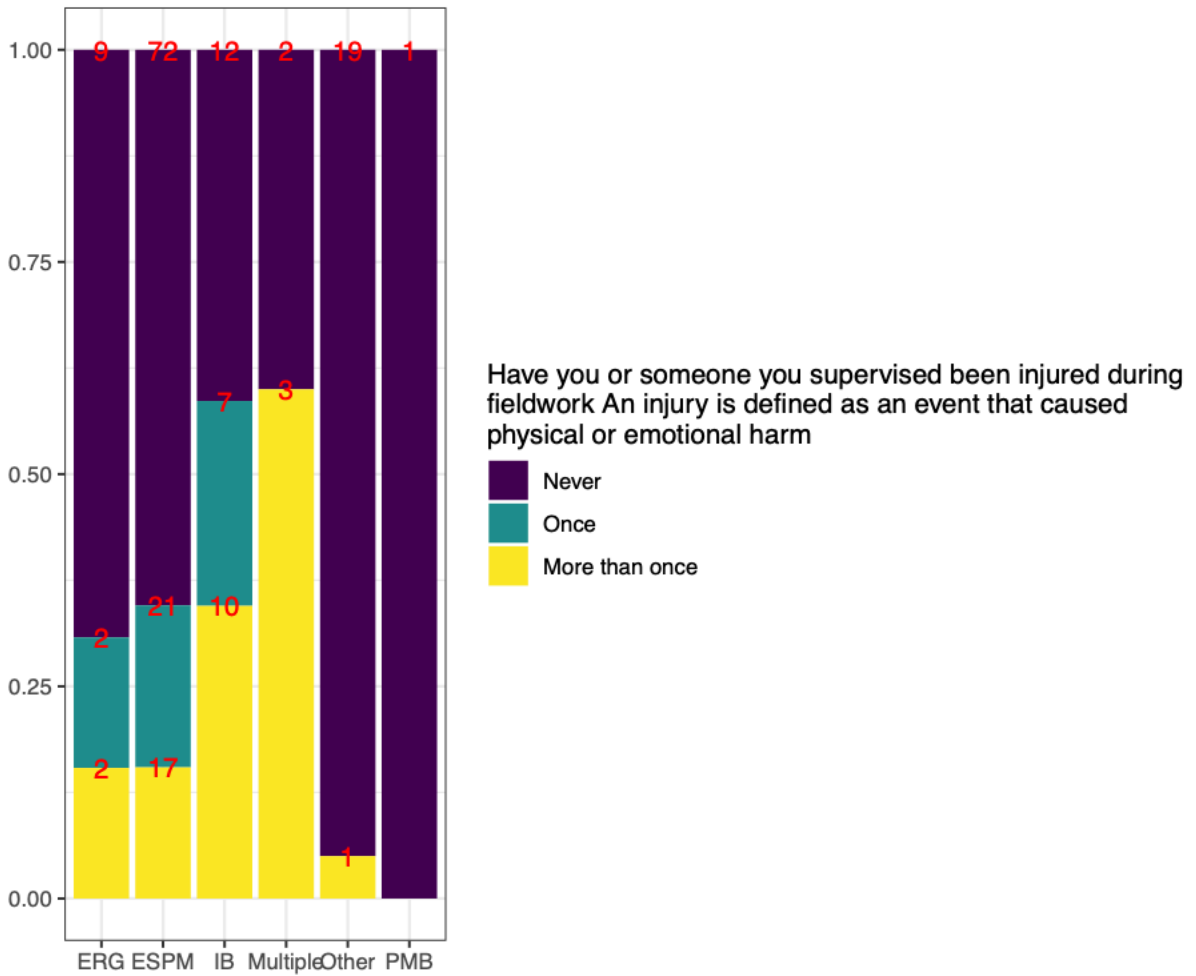


Figure 12. Survey response to the question "Have you or someone you supervised been injured during fieldwork?" divided by the home department of the supervisor of the respondent.

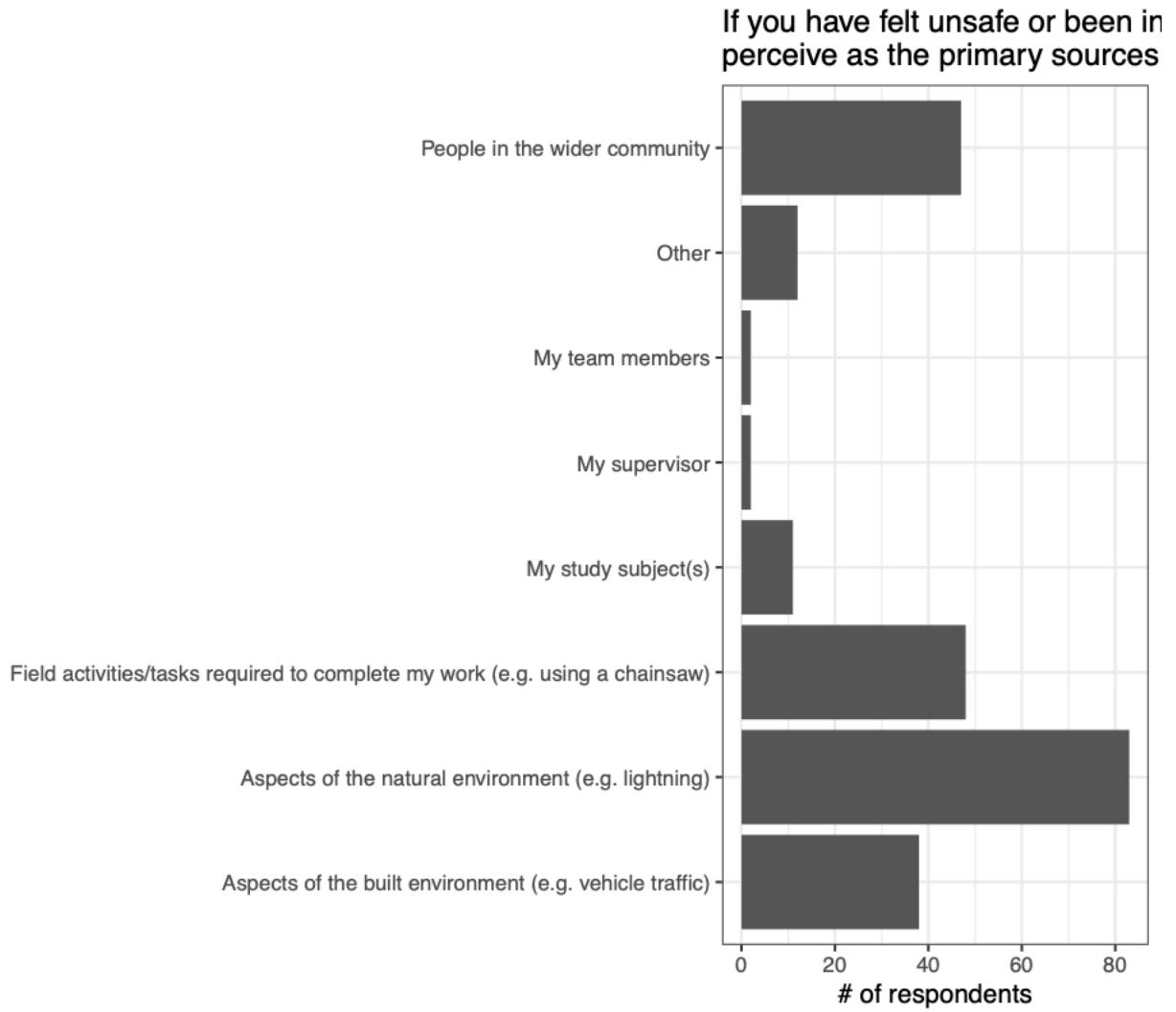


Figure 13. Response to "What do you perceive as the primary source of hazards?" given that the respondent had felt unsafe or been injured previously. Respondents could select multiple responses.

Do you or your supervisor instructor advisor have a field safety plan for your fieldwork or do you typically discuss safety before starting fieldwork

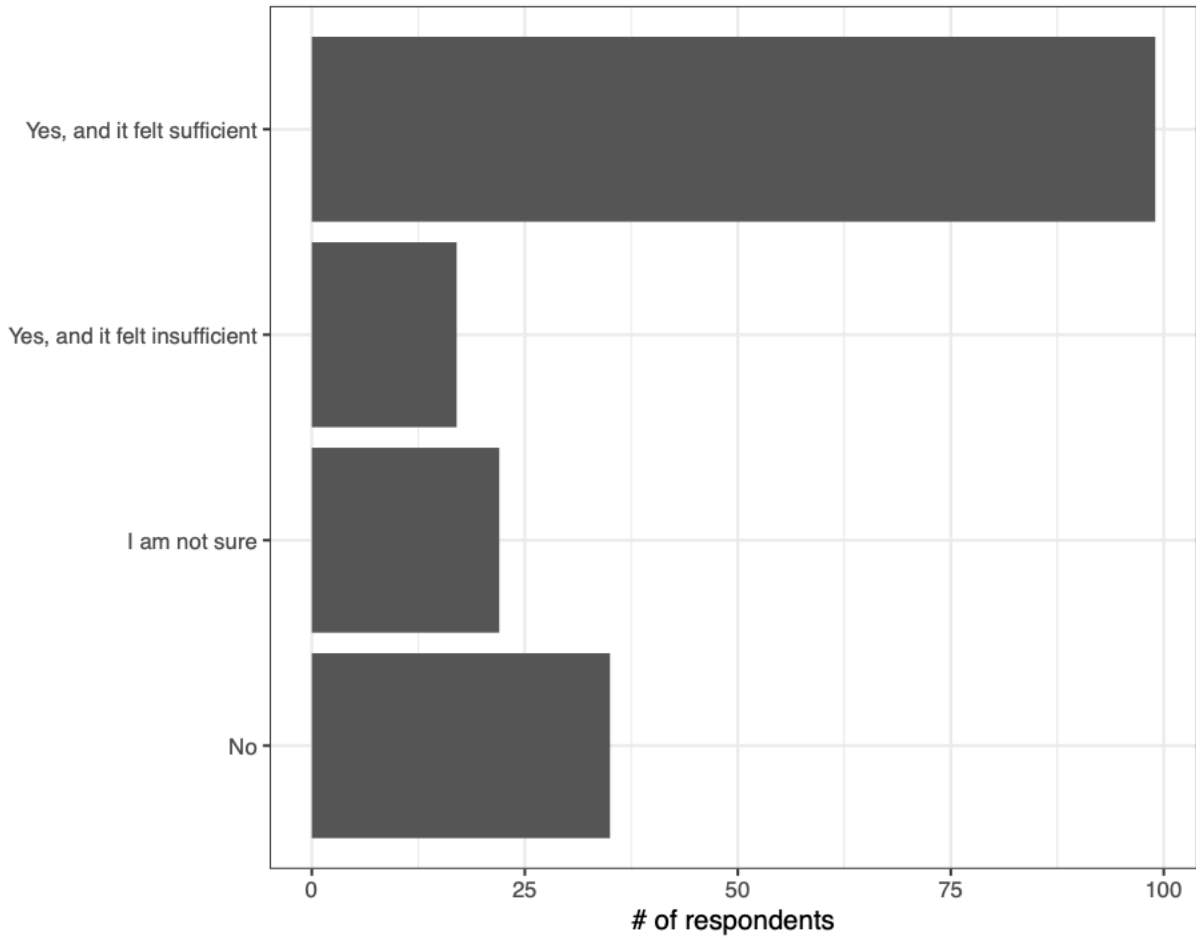


Figure 14. Response to "Do you or your supervisor/instructor/advisor have a field safety plan for your fieldwork or do you typically discuss safety before starting fieldwork?"

What is the home department or program of your supervisor

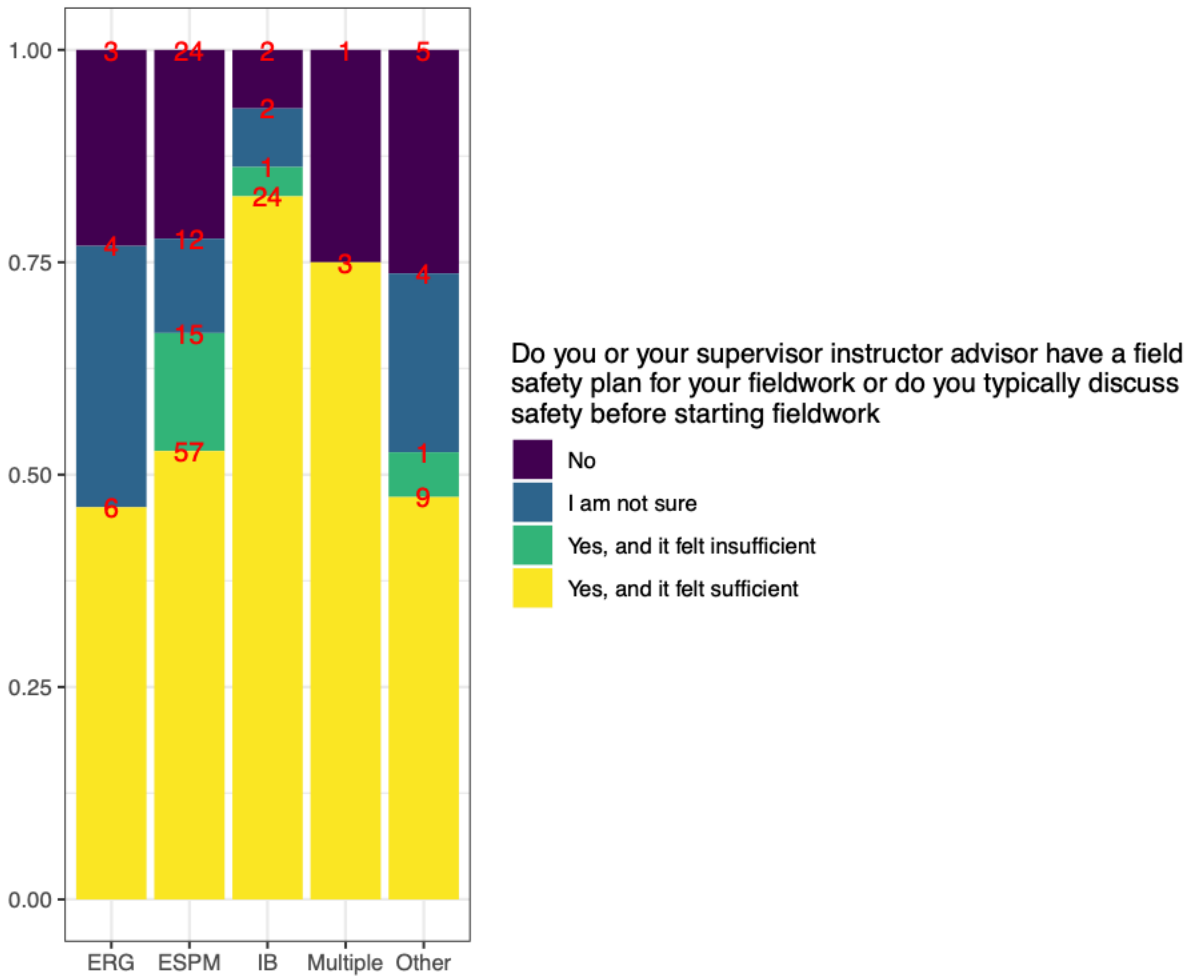


Figure 15. Response to "Do you or your supervisor/instructor/advisor have a field safety plan for your fieldwork or do you typically discuss safety before starting fieldwork?" divided by the home department of the respondent's supervisor.

Does your field safety plan include consideration of identity based risks i.e those that depend on your identity as a person

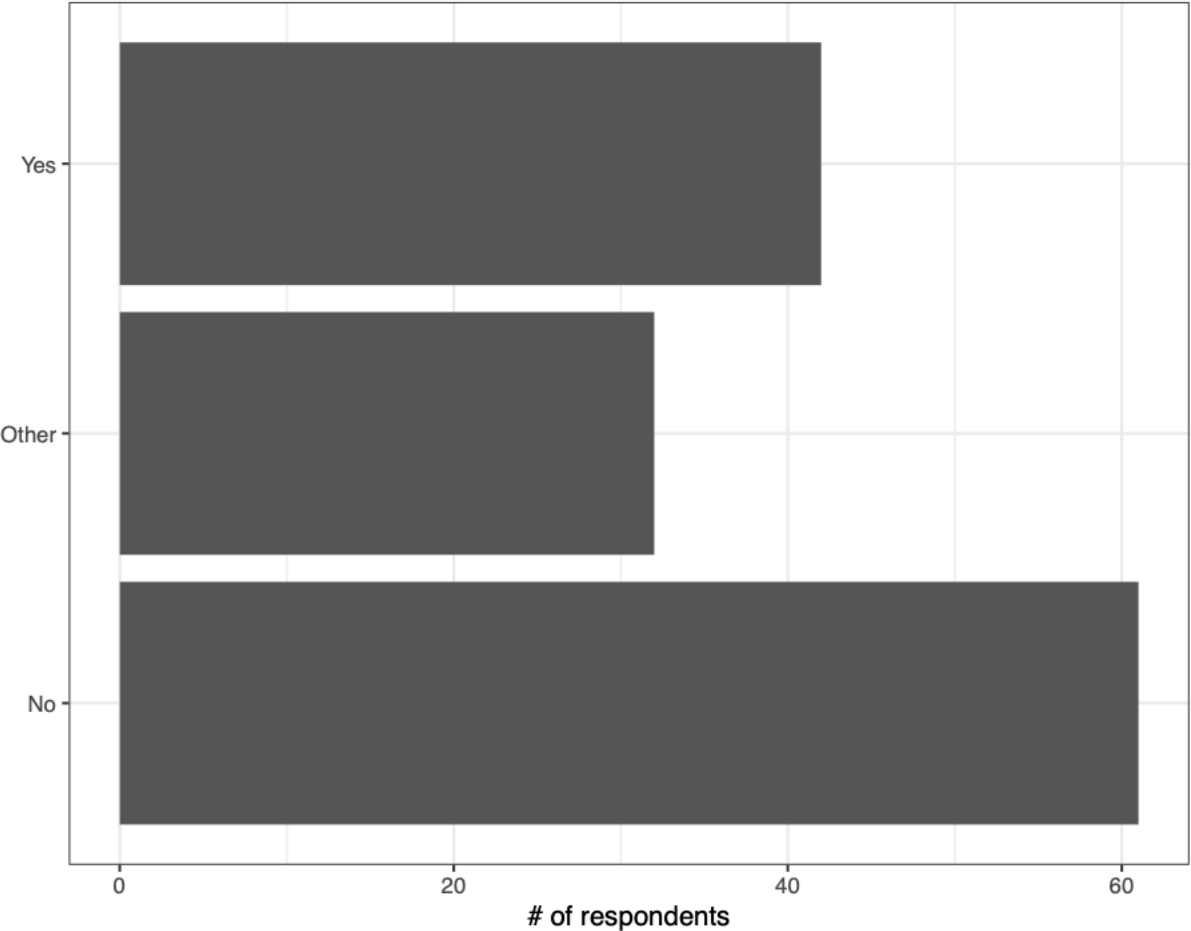


Figure 16. Response to "Does your field safety plan include consideration of identity based risks (i.e. those that depend on your identity as a person)?"

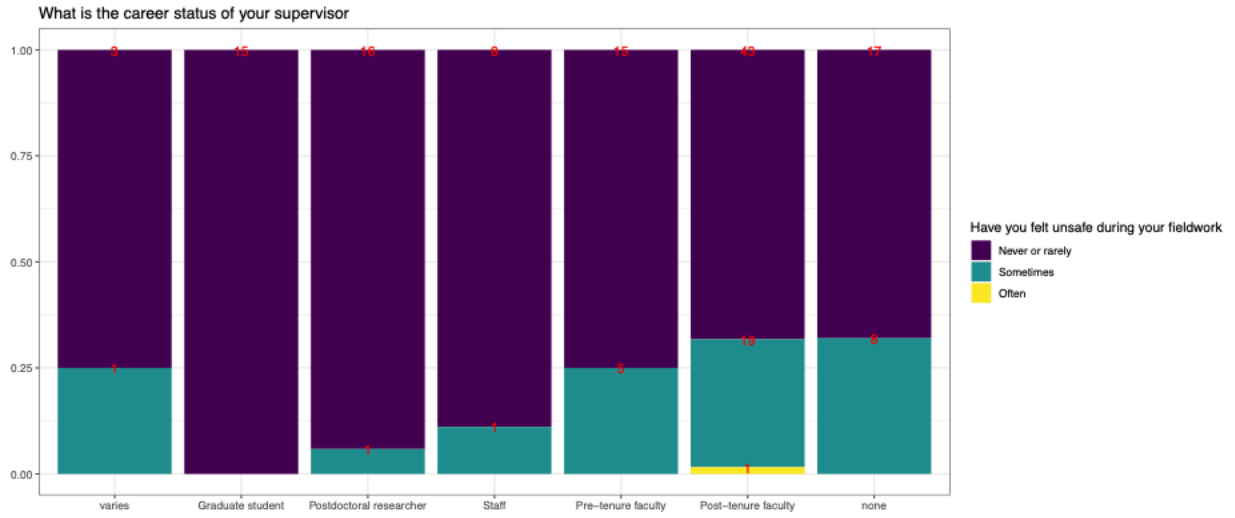


Figure 17. Response to "Have you felt unsafe during your fieldwork?" divided by the career status of the respondent's supervisor.

If you did feel unsafe during fieldwork did you feel comfortable reporting the situation to your supervisor

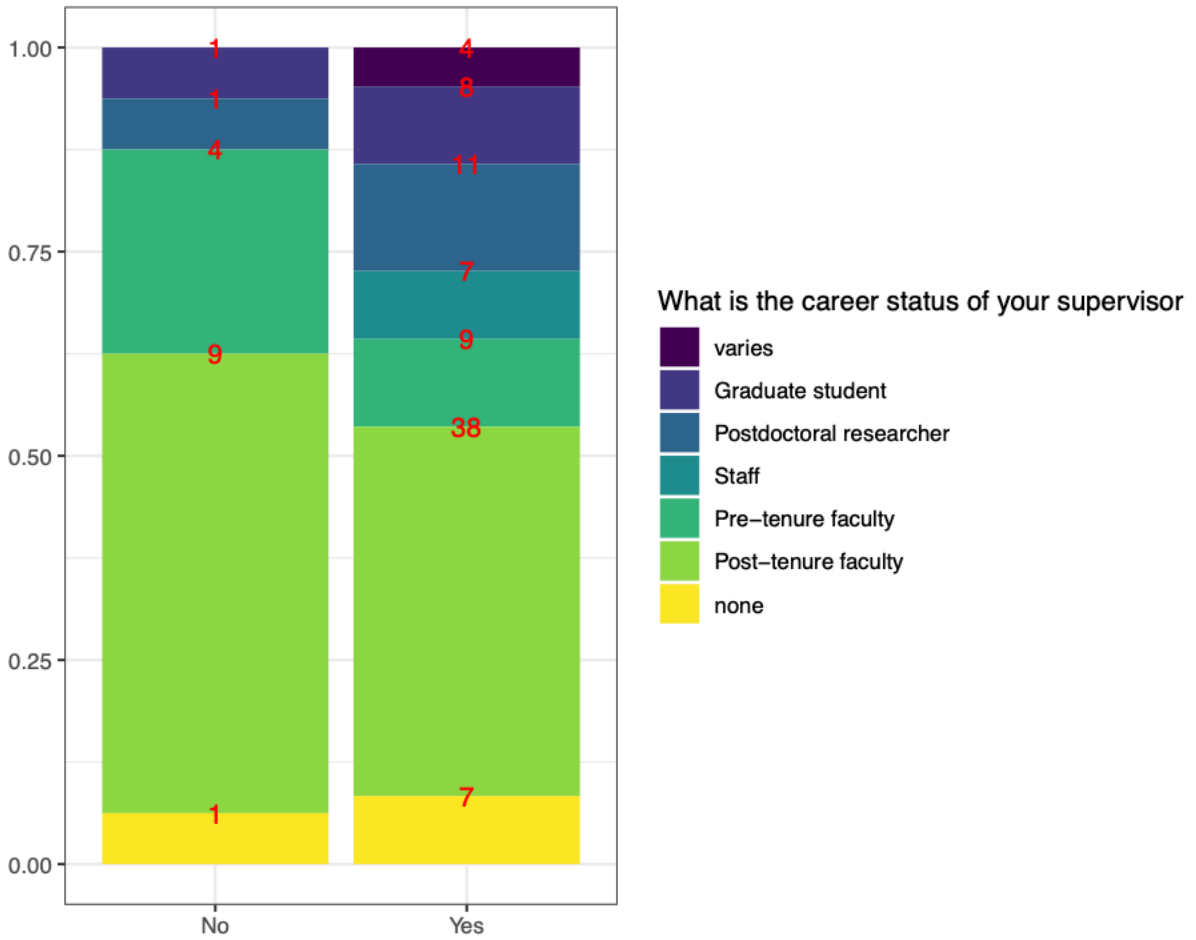


Figure 18. Response to "Did you feel comfortable reporting the situation to your supervisor?" given that the respondent had felt unsafe during fieldwork divided by the career status of the respondent's supervisor.

Have you or someone you supervised been injured during fieldwork An injury is defined as an event that caused physical or emotional harm

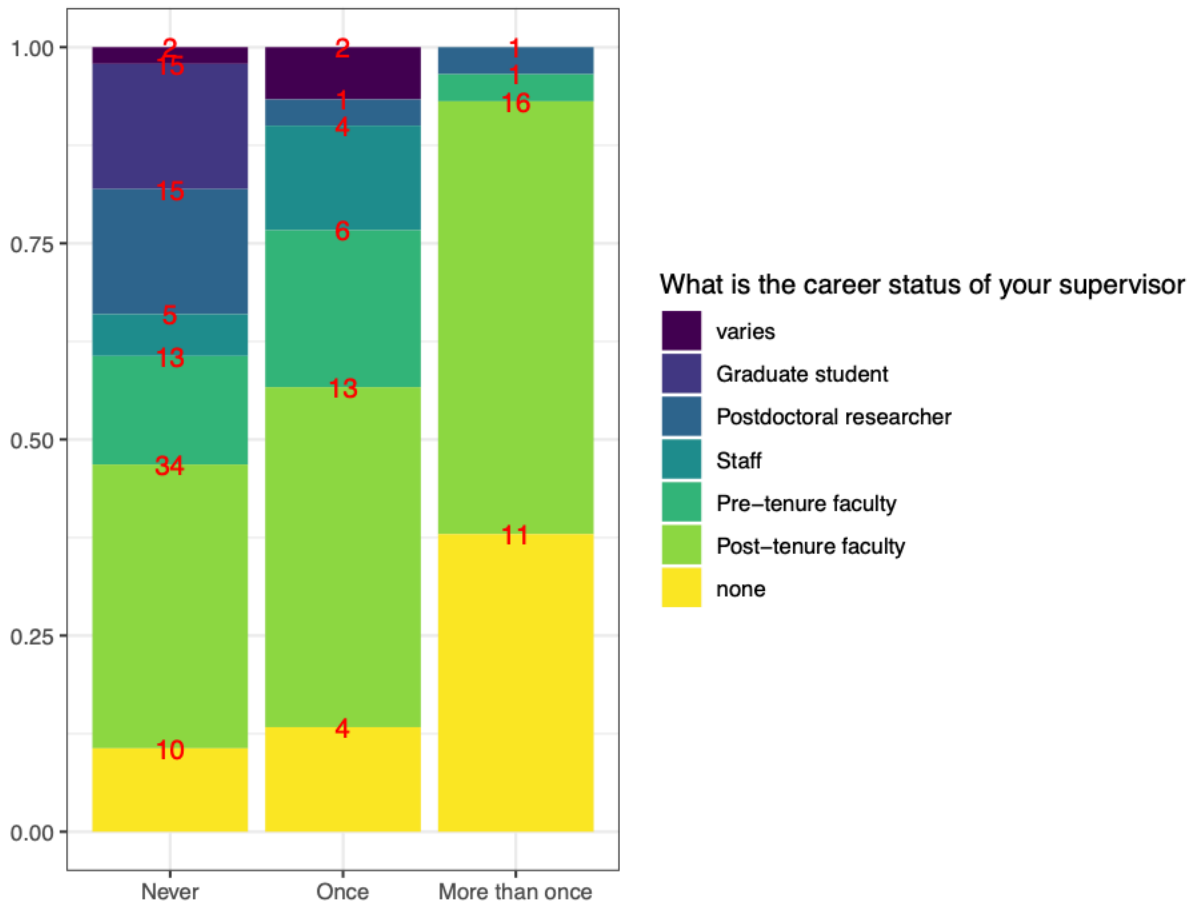


Figure 19. Response to "Have you or someone you supervised been injured during fieldwork?" divided by the career status of the respondent's supervisor.

Which of the following if any would help you feel more safe or confident while doing fieldwork select multiple

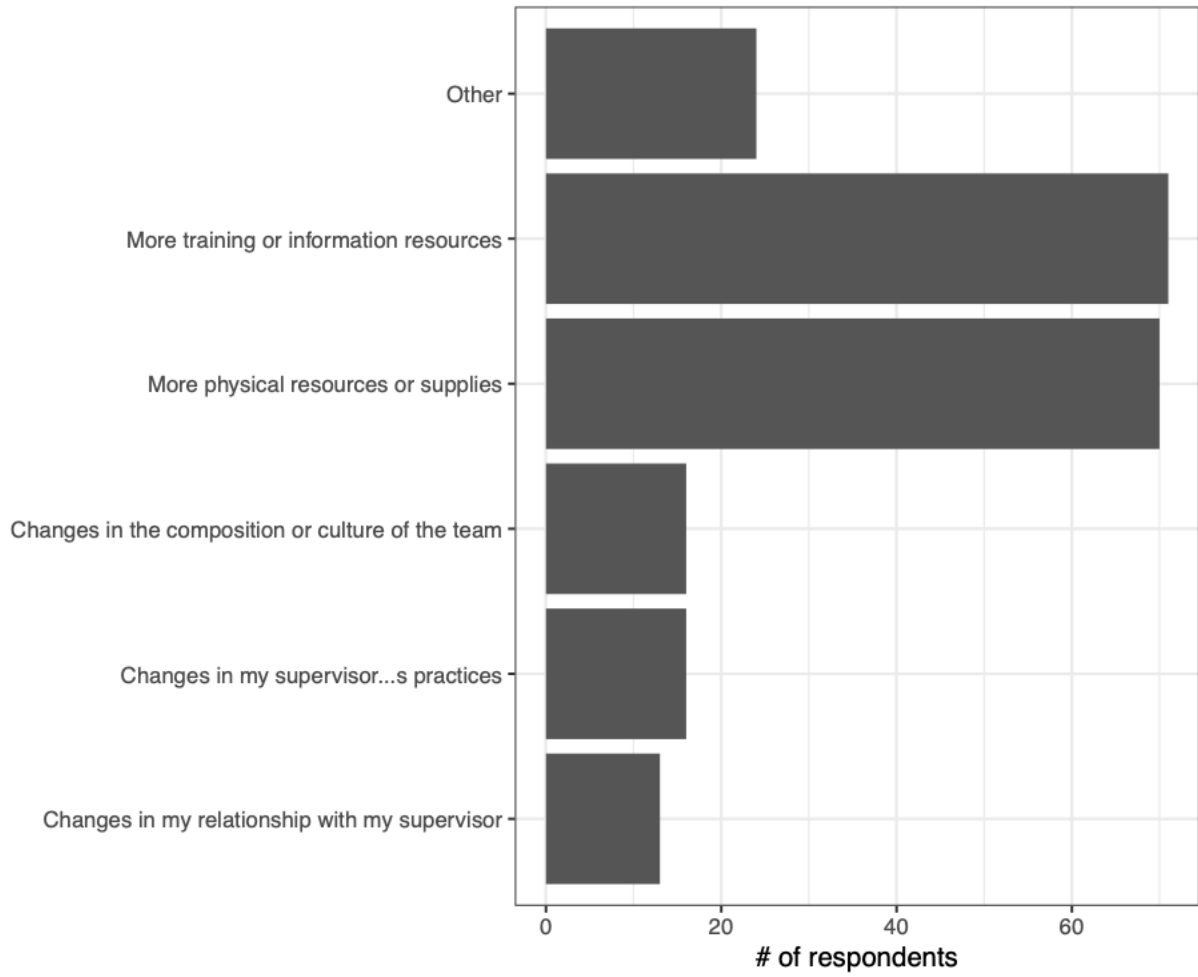


Figure 20. Response to "Which of the following if any would help you feel more safe or confident while doing fieldwork?" Respondents could select multiple responses.

Who pays for training and supplies relevant to your safety
 e.g first aid classes communication equipment special
 clothing select multiple

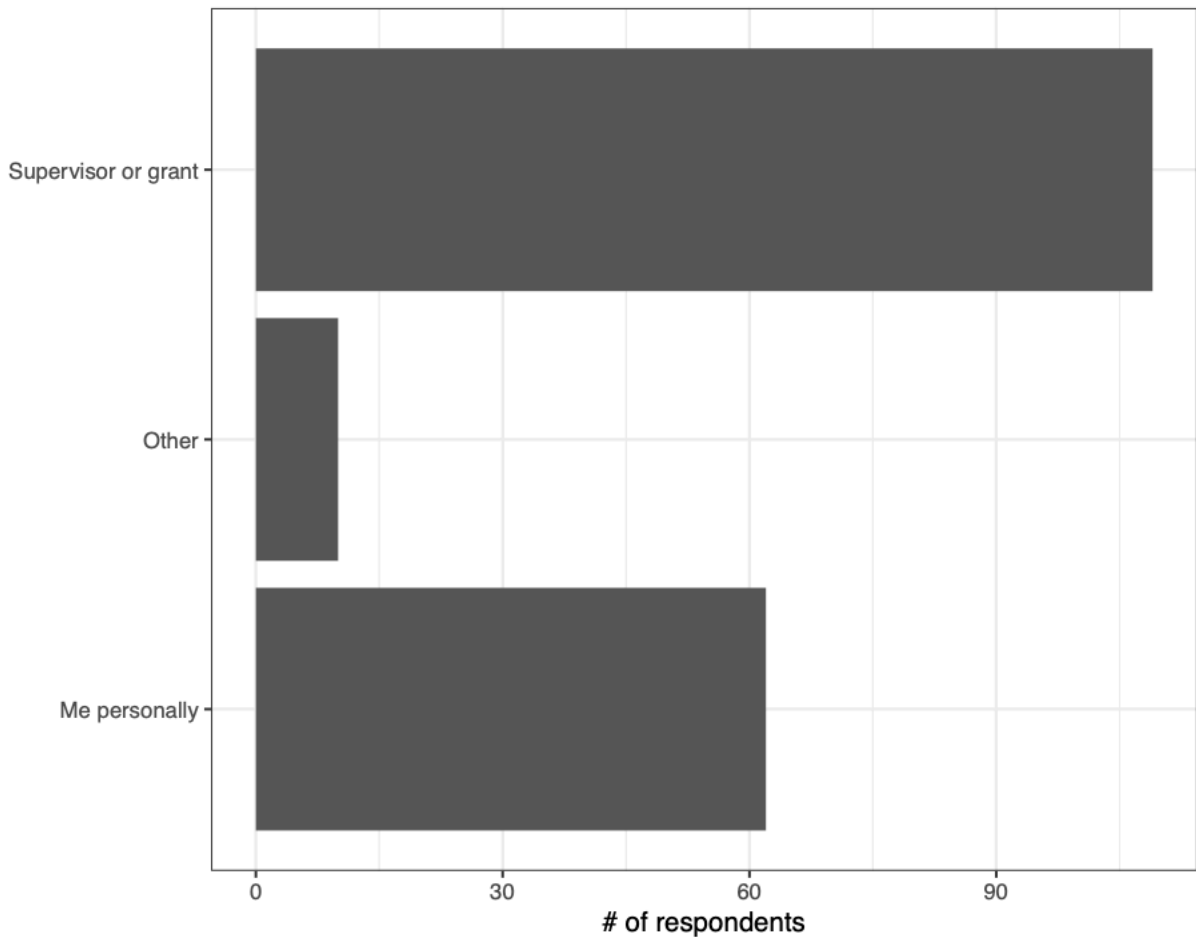


Figure 21. Response to "Who pays for training and supplies relevant to your safety (e.g. first aid classes, communication equipment, special clothing)?" Respondents could select multiple options.

Responses

We received $n=270$ responses to the research survey. There were responses from outside of the departments that the survey was sent to, which were not included in this report.

Demographic information was optional in the survey. Of those who chose to respond, a majority were aged 35 and below (**Figure 22**). A majority of respondents were graduate and undergraduate students (**Figure 23**). There was a near even split of white and non-white respondents (**Figure 24**). A majority of respondents did not identify as having a disability (**Figure 25**). A majority of respondents did not identify as being neurodivergent (**Figure 26**). Of those who responded, over 100 respondents identified as women, with less than 50 male or non-binary respondents (**Figure 27**). A majority of respondents did not identify as transgender (**Figure 28**), but $\frac{1}{3}$ of respondents identified as a part of the LGBTQ+ community (**Figure 29**).

What is your age

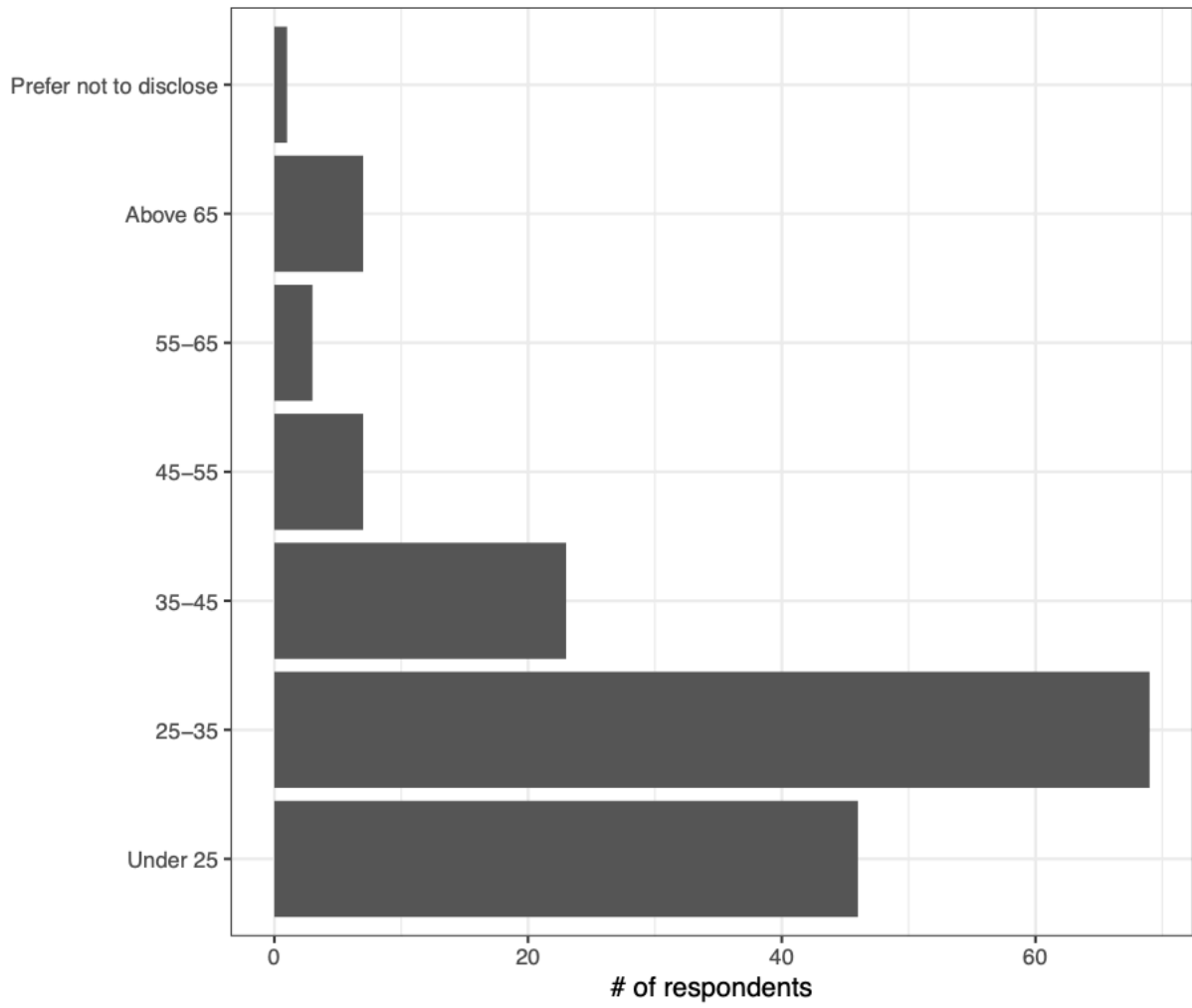


Figure 22. Distribution of ages of survey respondents (optional question)

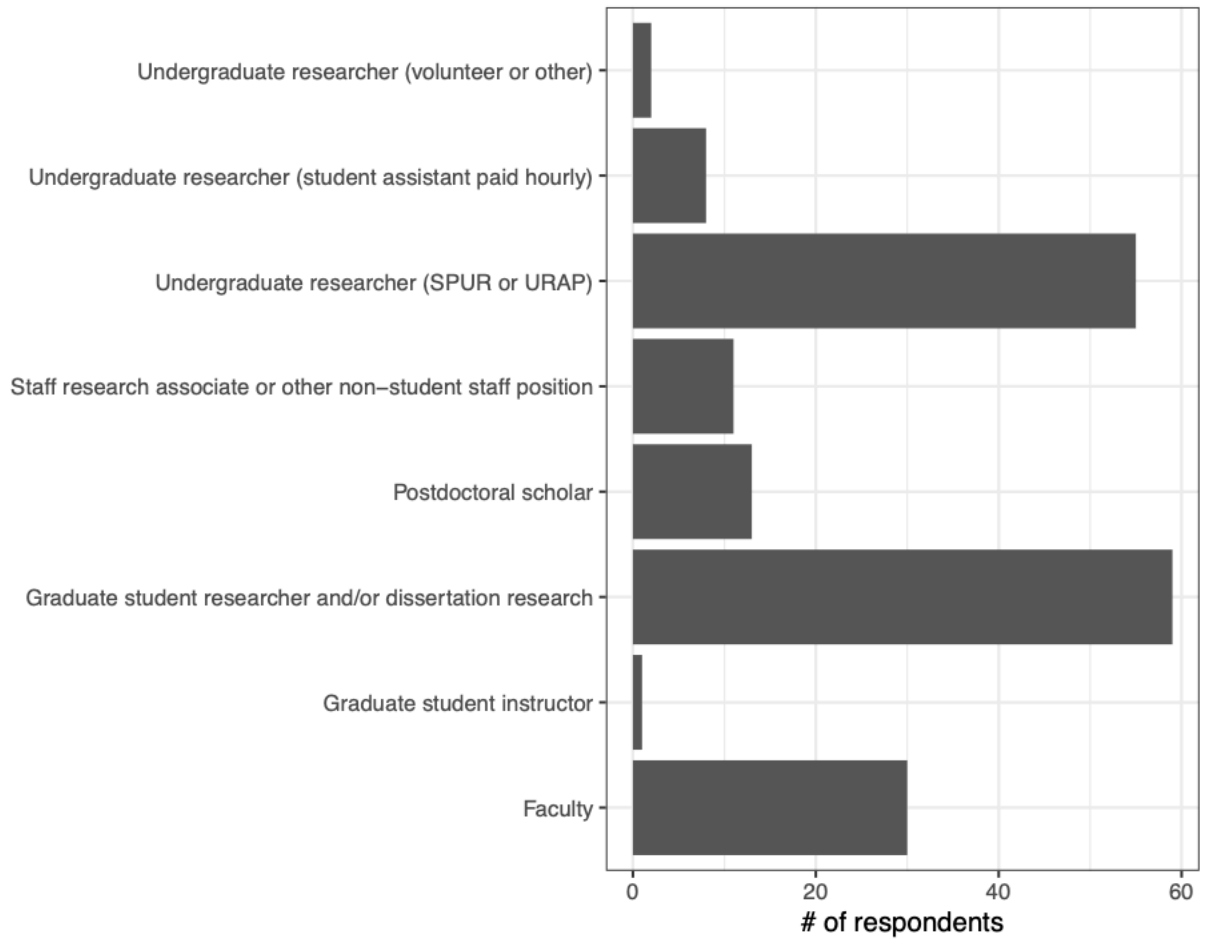


Figure 23. Distribution of role of survey respondents (optional question)

What race ethnicity describes you Select all that apply

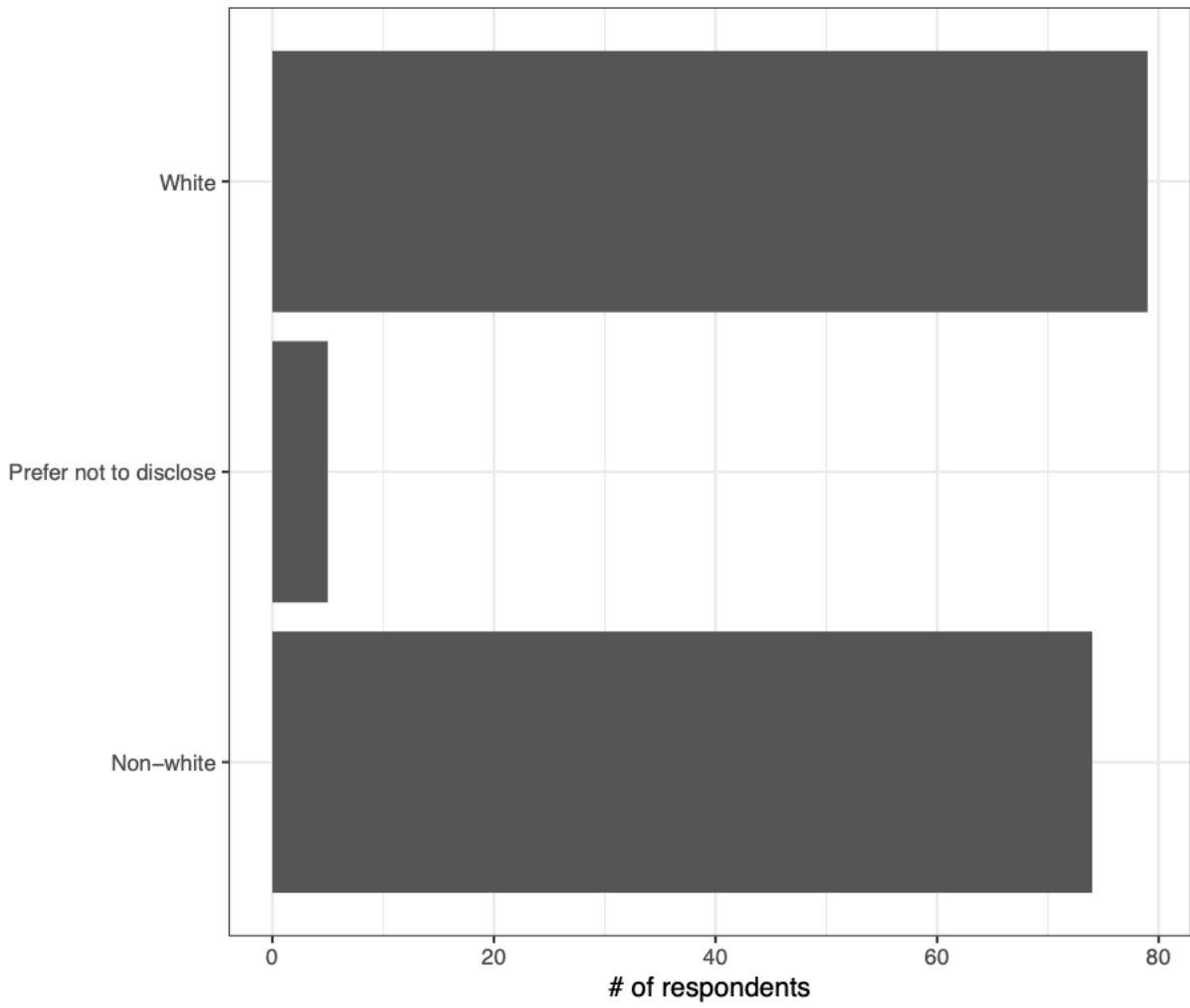


Figure 24. Distribution of ethnicities of survey respondents (optional question)

Do you identify as having a disability

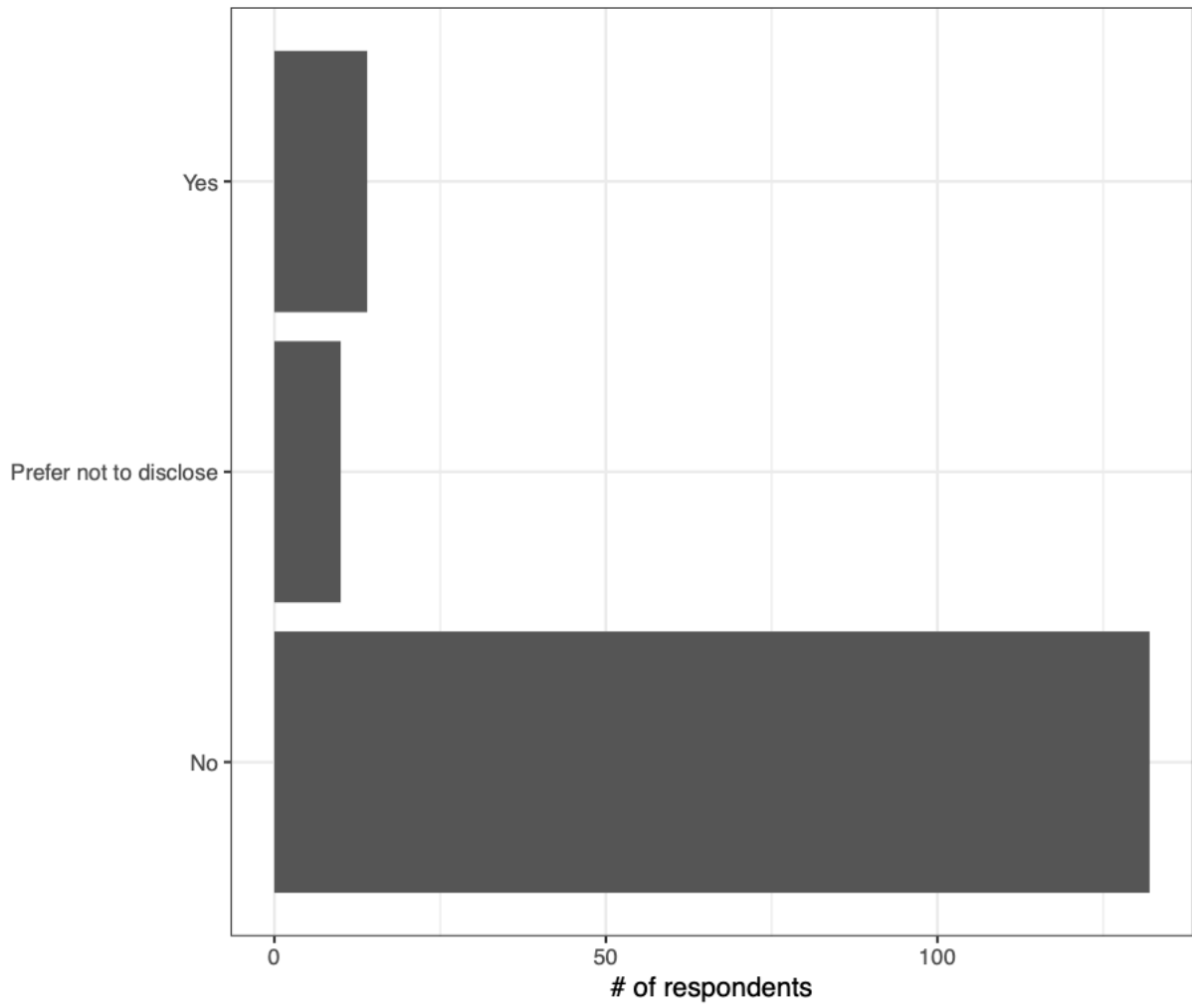


Figure 25. Distribution of survey respondents who identified as having a disability (optional question)

Do you identify as neurodivergent

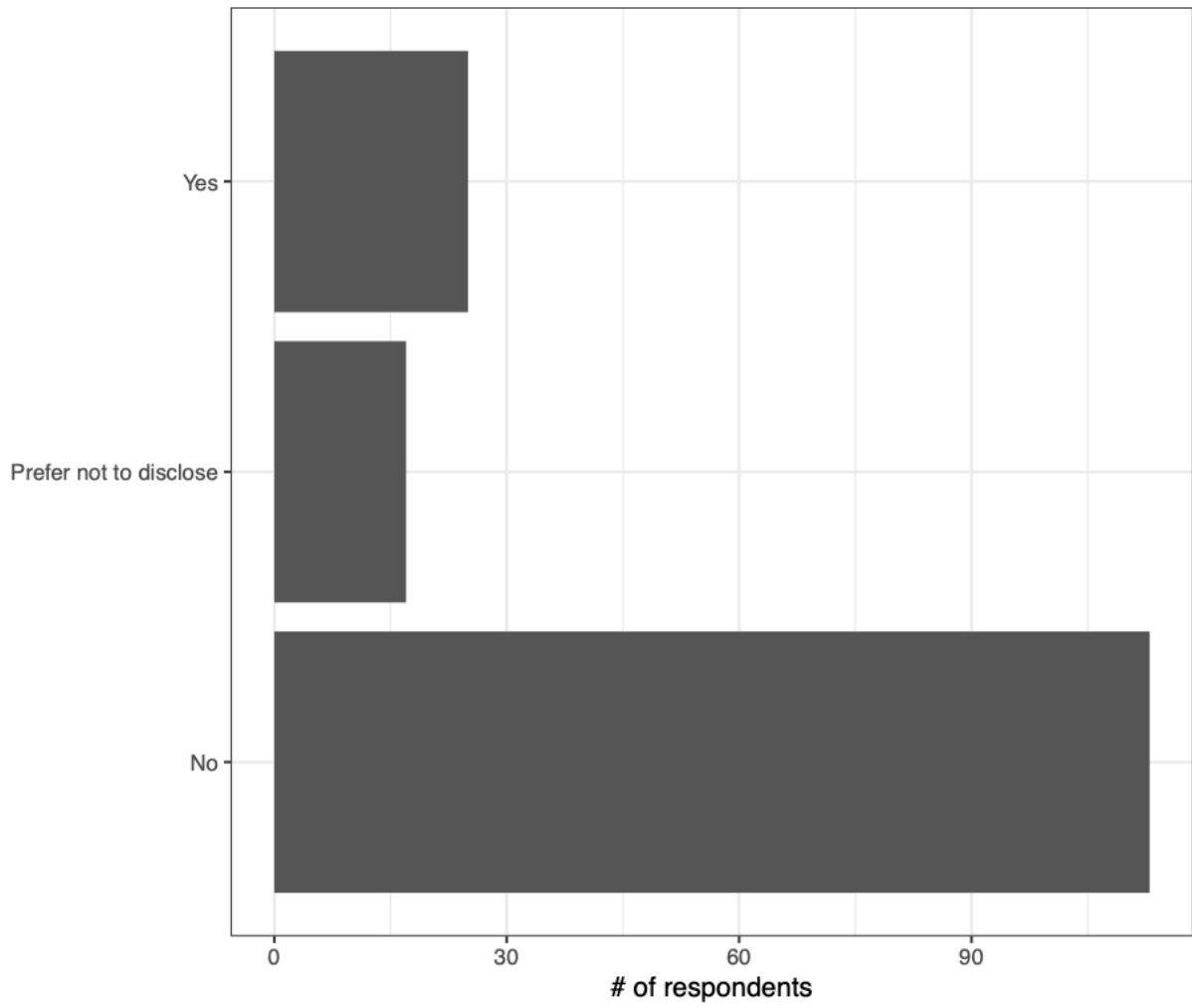


Figure 26. Distribution of survey respondents who identified as neurodivergent (optional question)

What is your gender

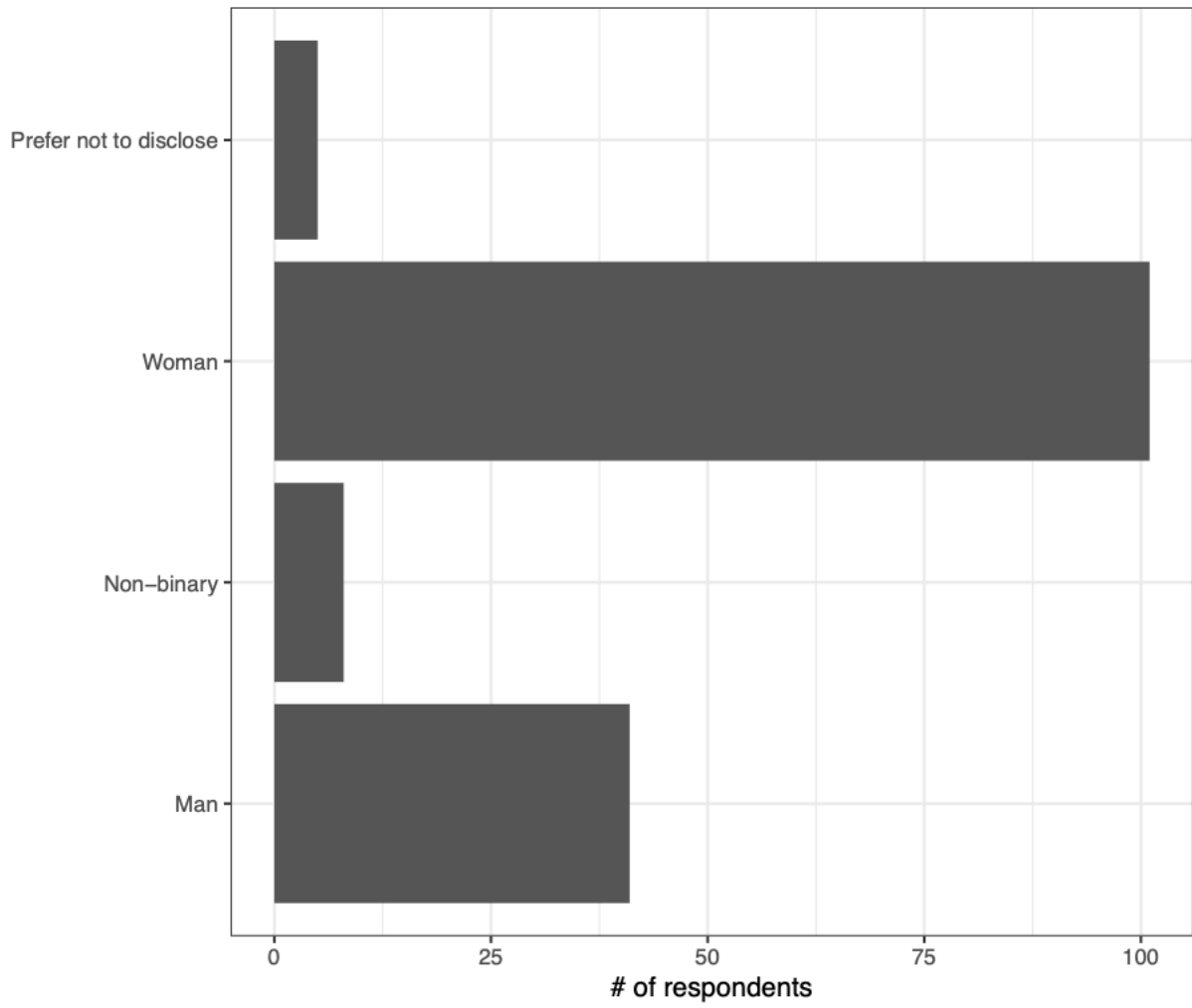


Figure 27. Distribution of genders of survey respondents (optional question)

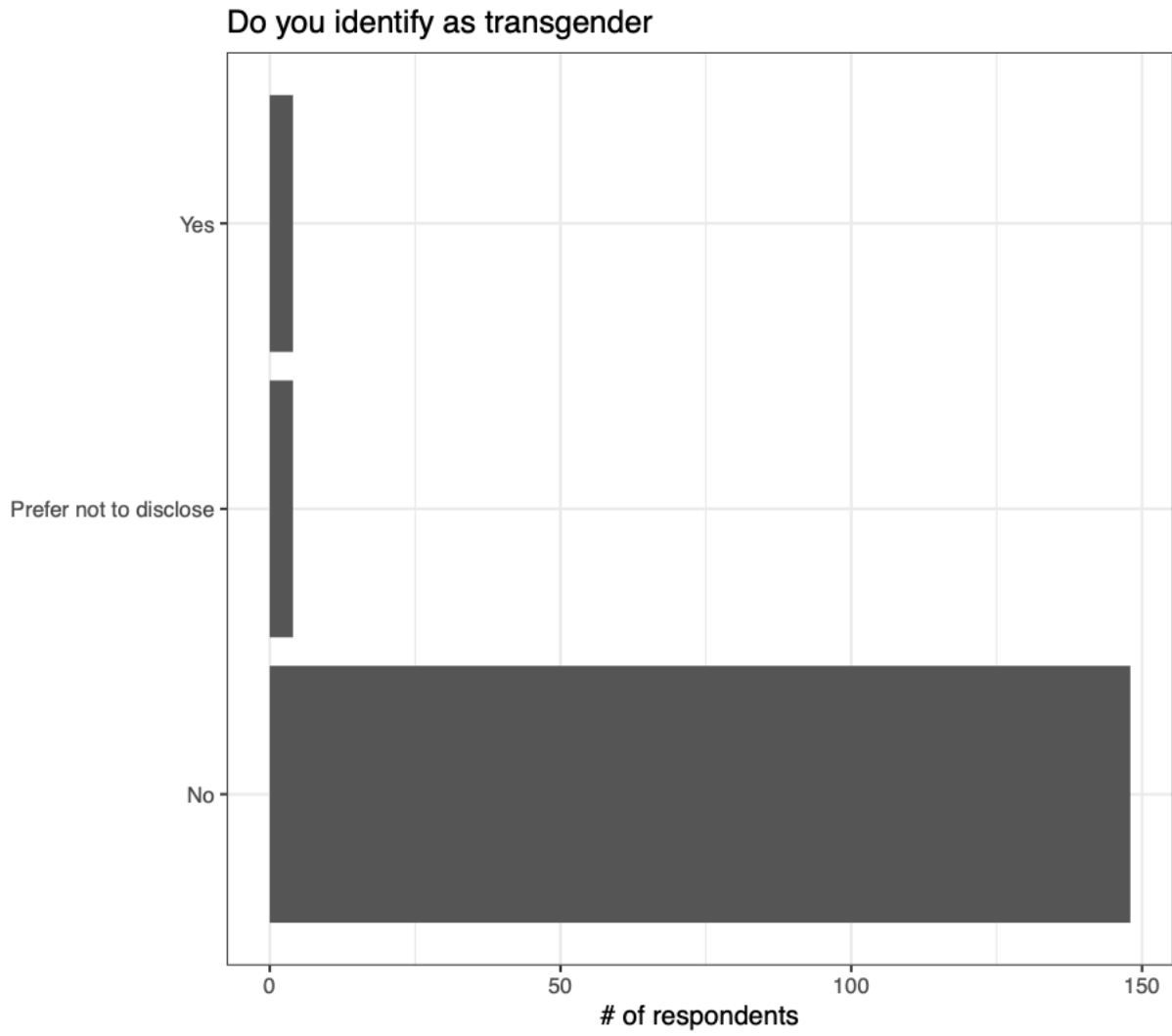


Figure 28. Distribution of survey respondents who identified as transgender (optional question)

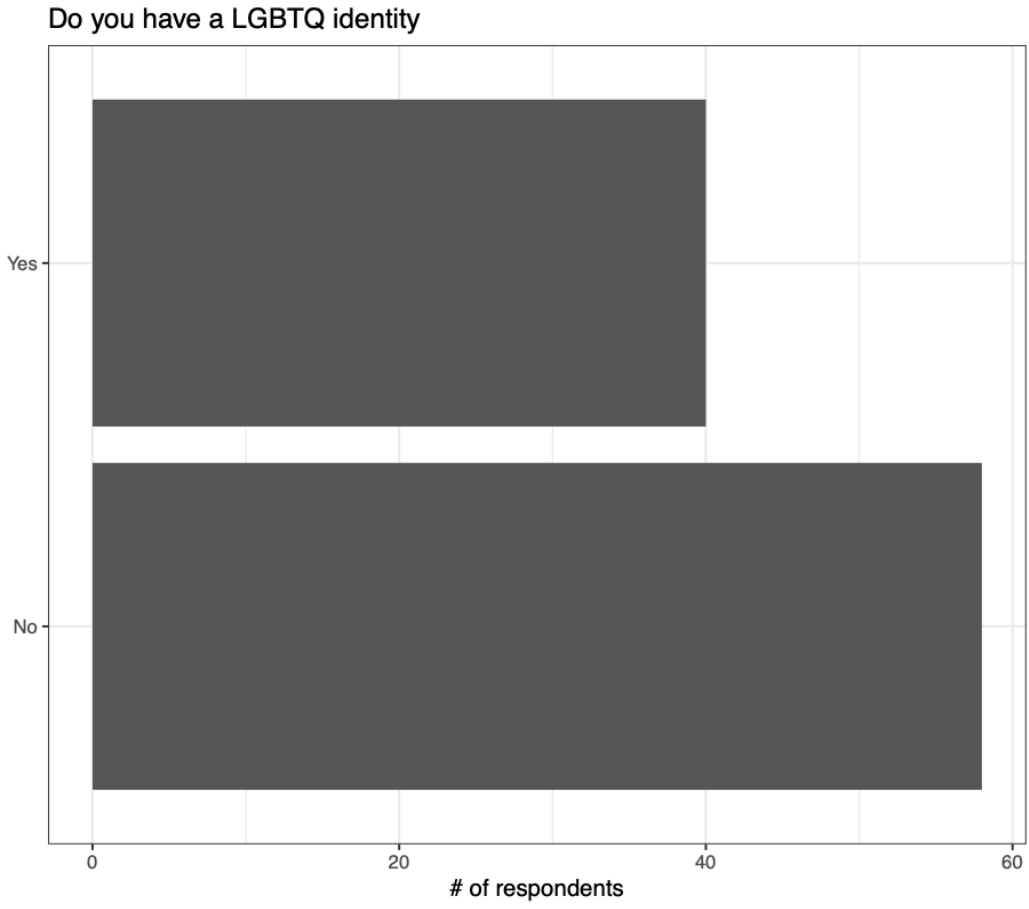


Figure 29. Distribution of survey respondents who identified as LGBTQ+ (optional question)

Students in Classes

Key findings

A total of 144 responses were received from a total of 40 classes, of which more than half were from women and approximately half from people with LBTQ+ identities and $\frac{2}{3}$ from non-white people. Approximately 10% of respondents reported having a disability.

Students in multiple courses reported injuries during their class fieldwork (**Figure 30**). In addition, students in multiple courses reported sexual assault, bullying, and harassment while conducting fieldwork (**Figures 31-32**). Bullying and harassment were more common for respondents who identified as LGBTQ+ (**Figures 33-34**). No men experienced more than one injury, but non-binary and women respondents did (**Figure 35**). Only women and non-binary identified respondents reported bullying, harassment, and sexual assault (**Figure 36**). Respondents of all genders reported feeling unsafe on courses (**Figure 37**). There was no other clear effect of other demographic information on reported incidents. We have included figures for the effect of ethnicity on responses (**Figures 38-39**). Multiple students reported feeling unsafe in courses that did and did not have incidents of injuries, bullying, harassment, and sexual assault.

About $\frac{1}{4}$ of field courses do not include any safety plan reviewed by the instructor (**Figure 40**). In some cases, a field safety plan was discussed but did not seem adequate to the student. In classes with a field safety plan, more than half of the plans do not have any consideration of identity-based risks (**Figure 41**).

Were you injured during this field class or did you observe someone who was injured An injury is defined as an event that caused you physical or emotional harm

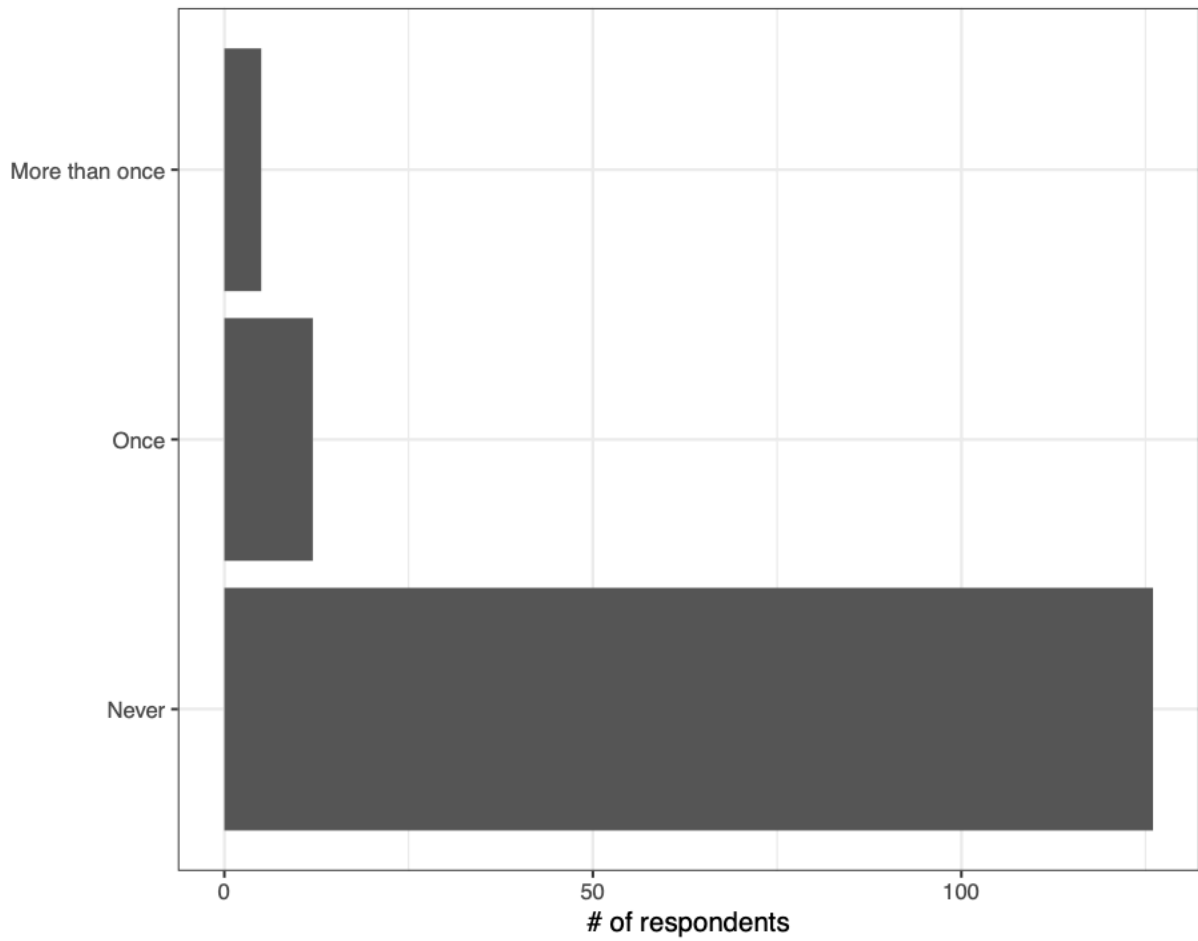


Figure 30. Responses to "Were you injured during this field class or did you observe someone who was injured?"

Did you experience or observe any of the below types of injuries during this class select multiple

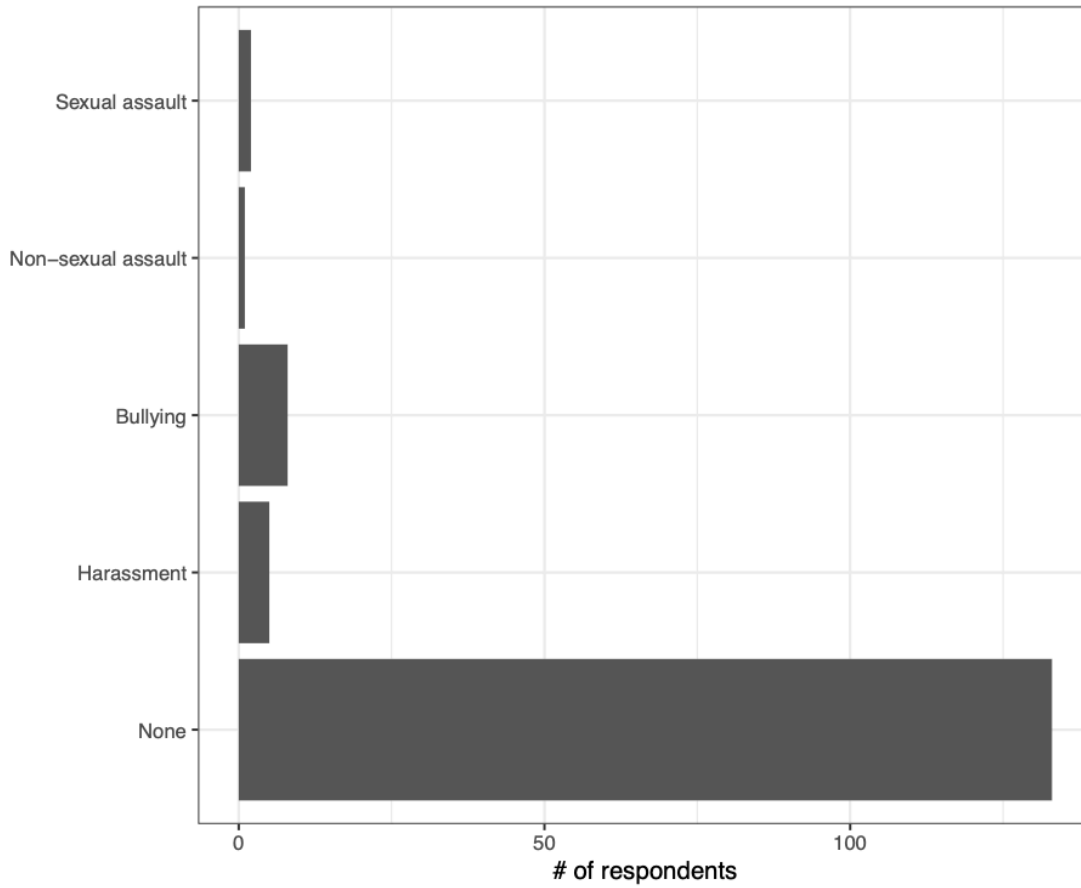


Figure 31. Response to "Did you experience or observe any of the below types of injuries during this class?" Respondents were allowed to select multiple choices.

Were you or did you observe someone who was made to feel unsafe during this field class

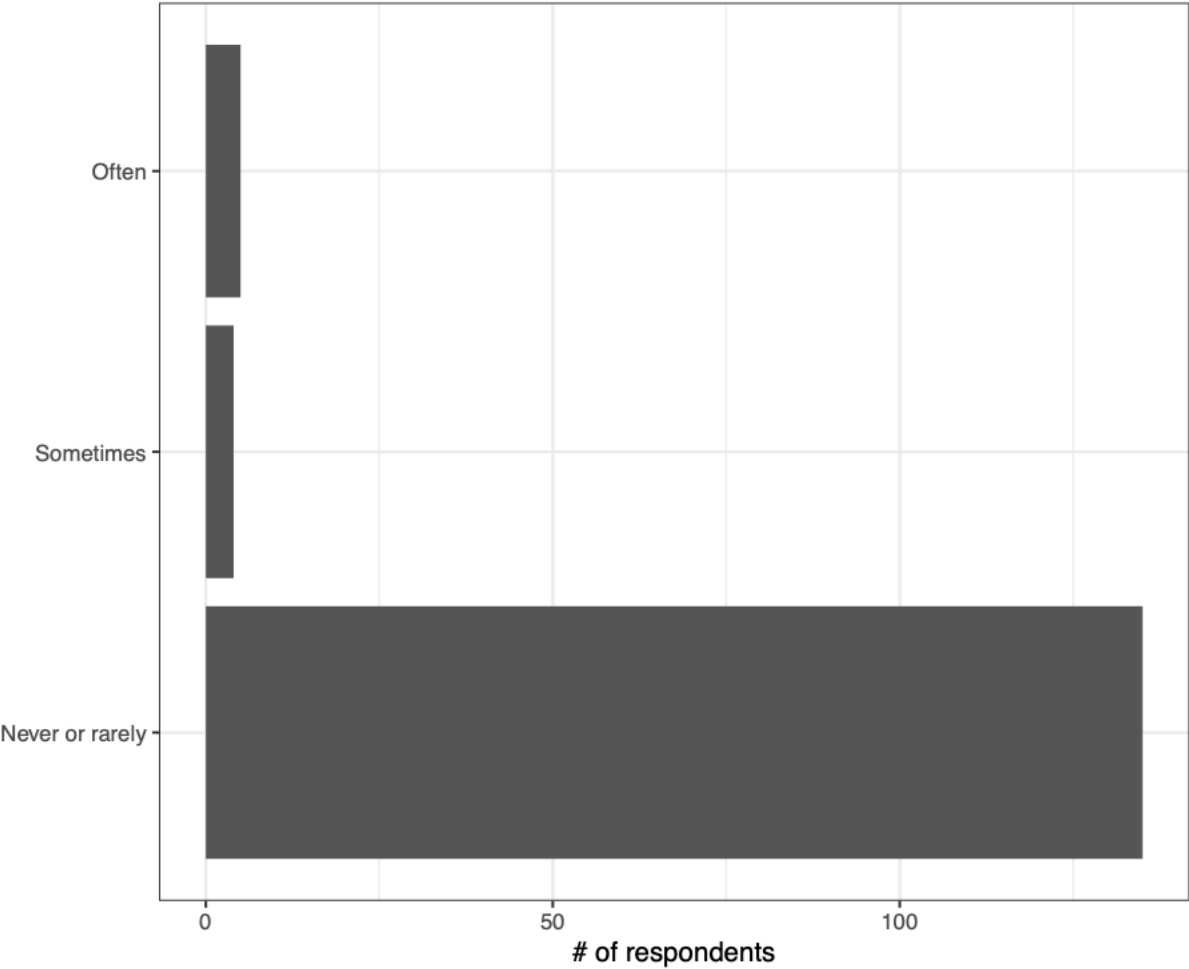


Figure 32. Response to "Were you or did you observe someone who was made to feel unsafe during this field class?"

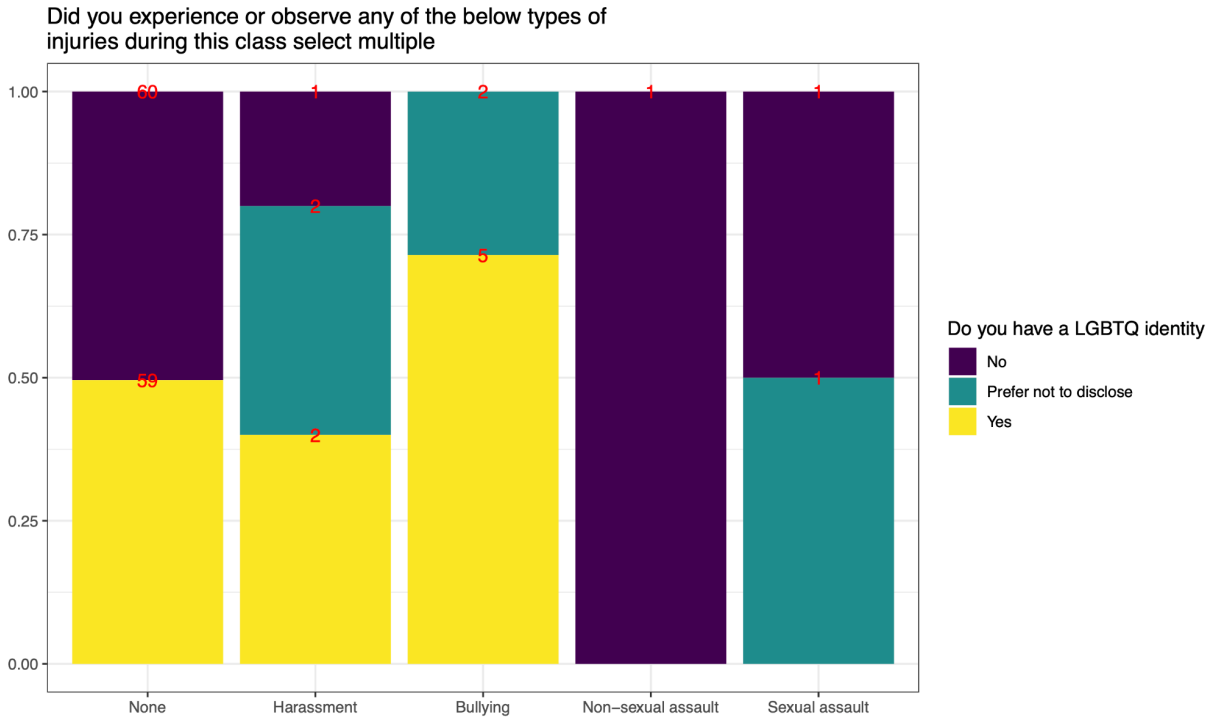


Figure 33. Response to "Did you experience or observe any of the below types of injuries during this class?" divided by whether the respondent identified as LGBTQ+. Respondents could select multiple options.

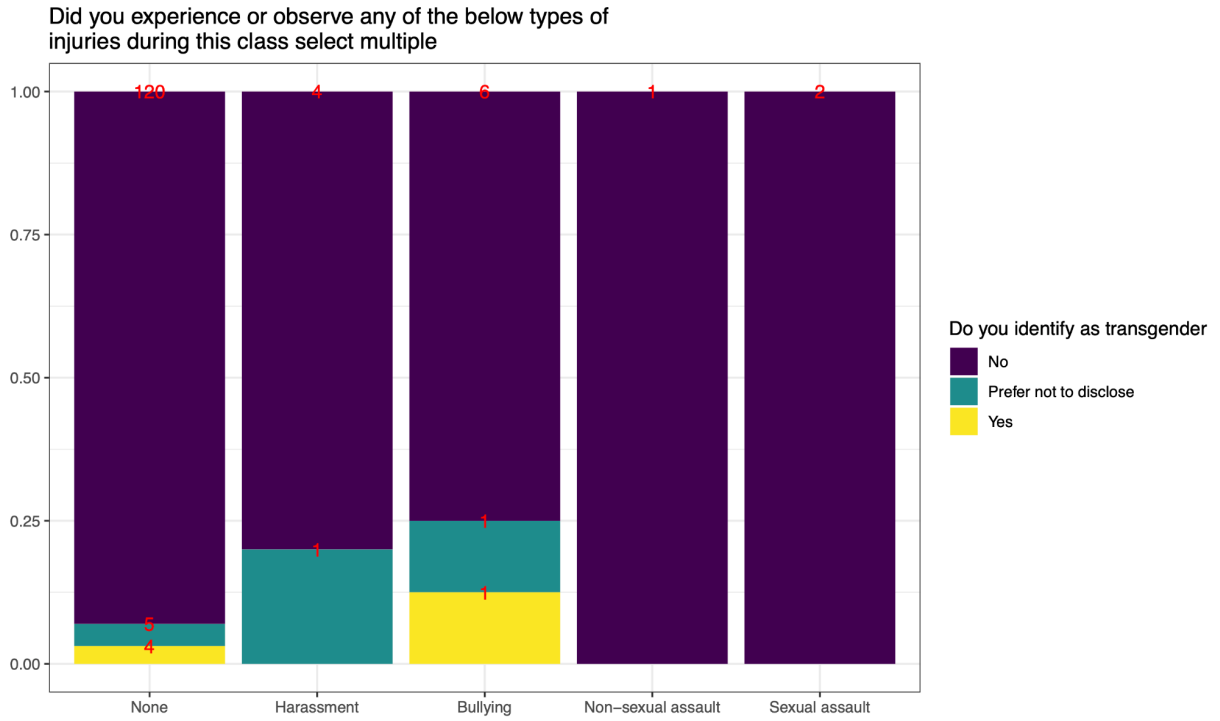


Figure 34. Response to "Did you experience or observe any of the below types of injuries during this class?" divided by whether the respondent identified as transgender. Respondents could select multiple options.

Were you injured during this field class or did you observe someone who was injured An injury is defined as an event that caused you physical or emotional harm

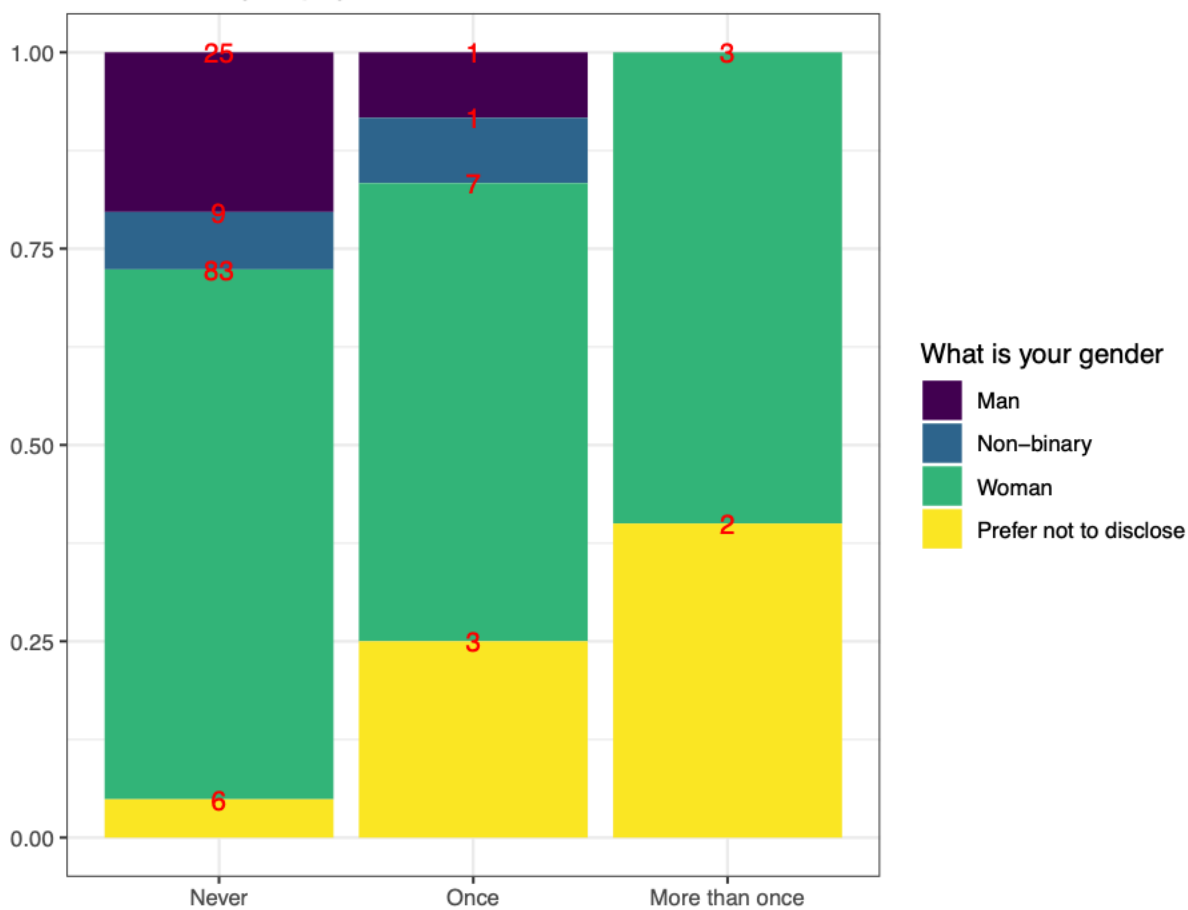


Figure 35. Response to "Were you injured during this field class or did you observe someone who was injured?" divided by gender of the respondent.

Did you experience or observe any of the below types of injuries during this class select multiple

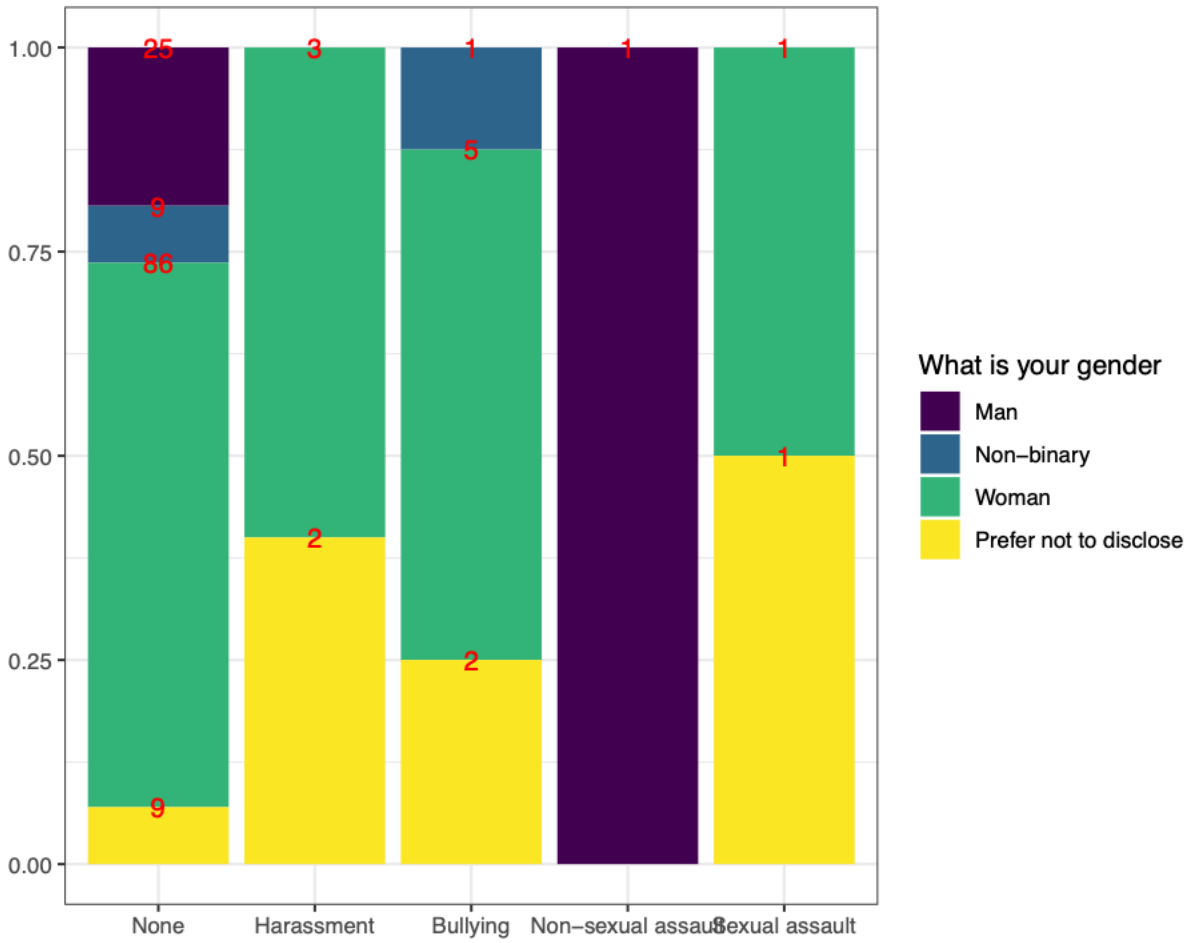


Figure 36. Response to "Did you experience or observe any of the below types of injuries during this class?" divided by the gender of the respondent. Respondents could select multiple options.

Were you or did you observe someone who was made to feel unsafe during this field class

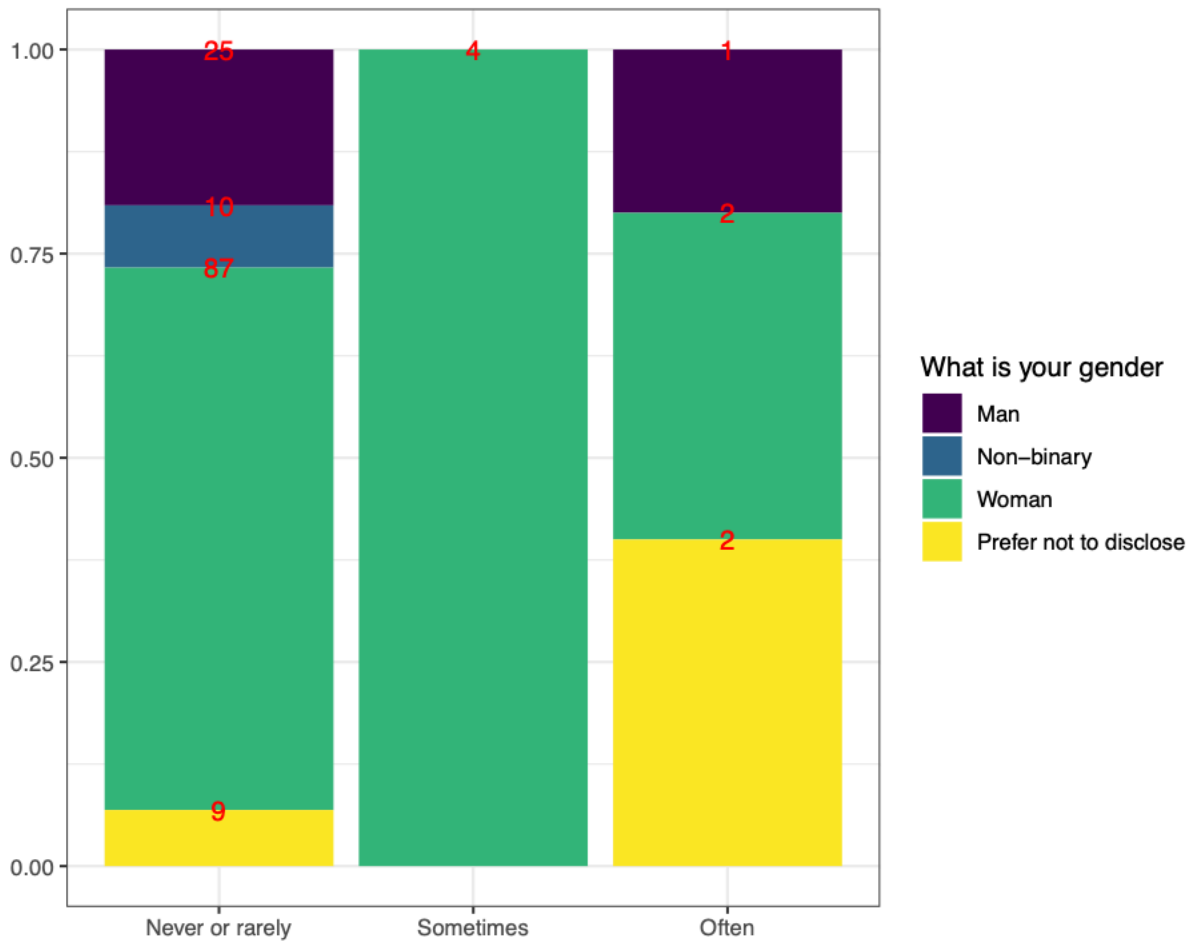


Figure 37. Response to "Were you or did you observe someone who was made to feel unsafe during this field class?" divided by the gender of the respondent.

Were you injured during this field class or did you observe someone who was injured An injury is defined as an event that caused you physical or emotional harm

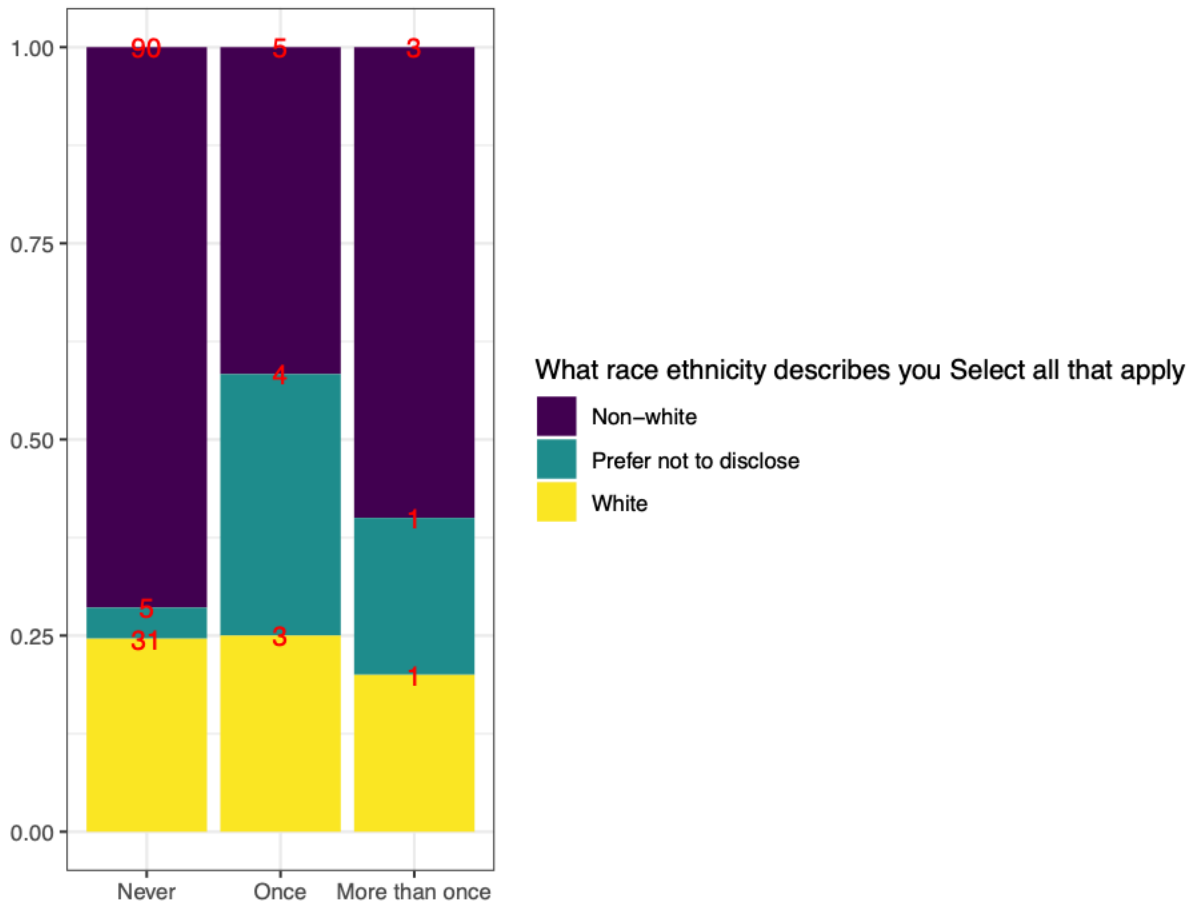


Figure 38. Response to "Were you injured during this field class or did you observe someone who was injured?" divided by whether respondent identified as non-white or white.

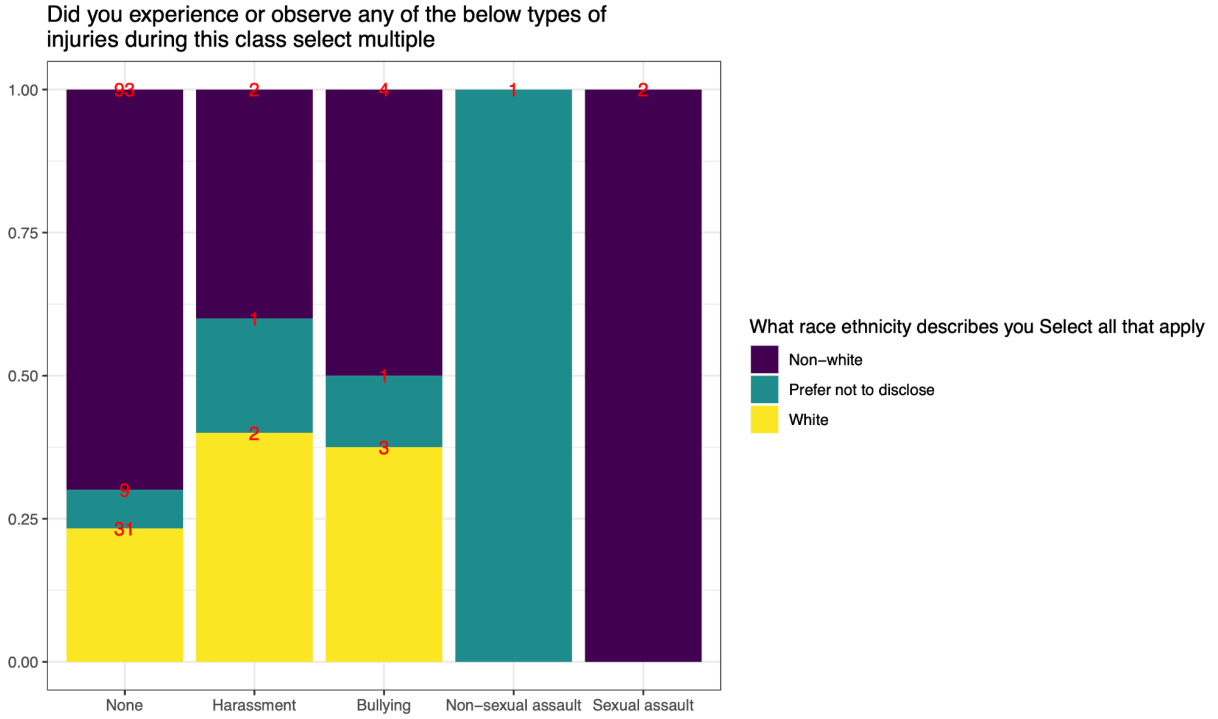


Figure 39. Response to "Did you experience or observe any of the below types of injuries during this class?" divided by whether the respondent identified as non-white or white. Respondents could select multiple options.

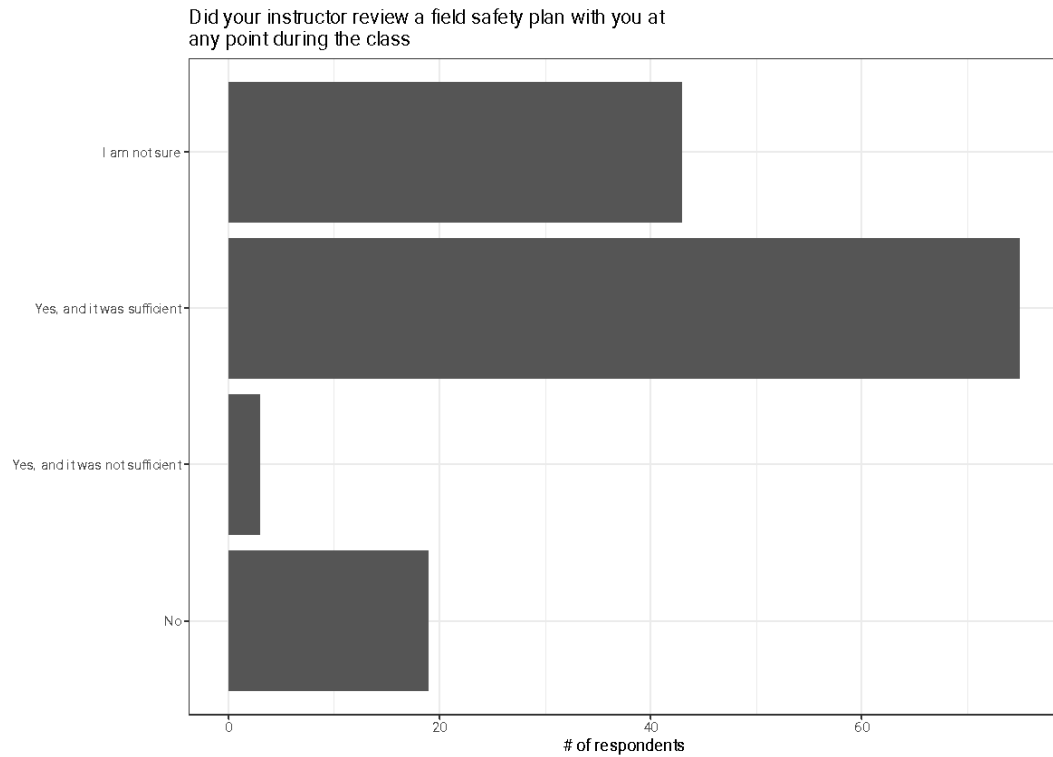


Figure 40. Response to "Did your instructor review a field safety plan with you at any point during the class?"

If there was a field safety plan did it include consideration of identity based risks i.e those that depend on aspects of your identity like your gender or race

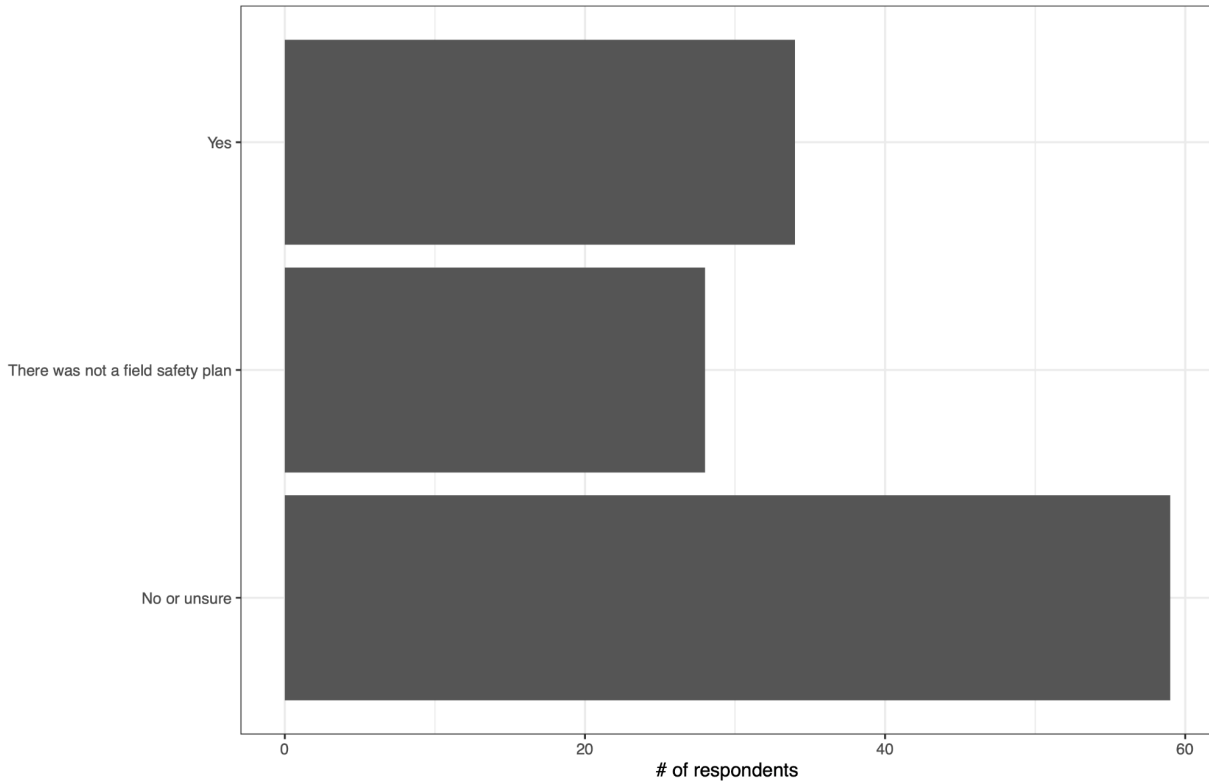


Figure 41. Responses to "If there was a field safety plan, did it include consideration of identity-based risks?"

Responses

We received n=144 responses to the student survey. We anticipate that some students who have graduated may not have responded due to losing access to their Berkeley email.

Demographic information was optional in the survey. Of those who answered the question, a majority were under 25 years old (**Figure 42**). About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the respondents identified as non-white (**Figure 43**). A majority of respondents did not identify as having a disability (**Figure 44**). About $\frac{1}{4}$ of respondents identified as neurodivergent (**Figure 45**). A majority of respondents identified as women (**Figure 46**). A majority of respondents did not identify as transgender (**Figure 47**). There was a nearly even split between respondents who identified as LGBTQ+ and those who did not (**Figure 48**). You can see a comparison between respondent numbers for undergraduate classes by department and what role that research survey respondents filled in that department (**Figure 49**).

What is your age

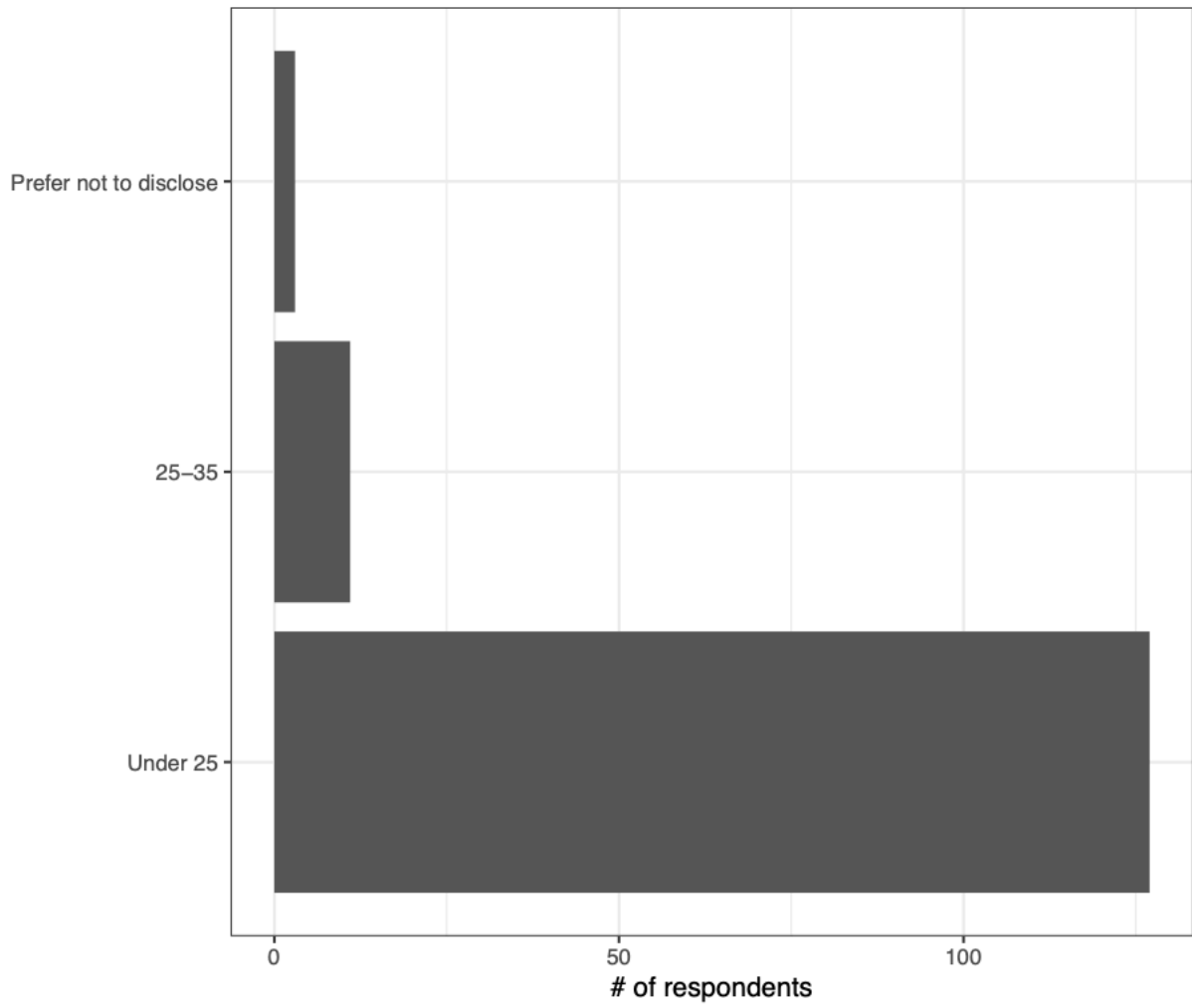


Figure 42. Distribution of ages of survey respondents (optional question)

What race ethnicity describes you Select all that apply

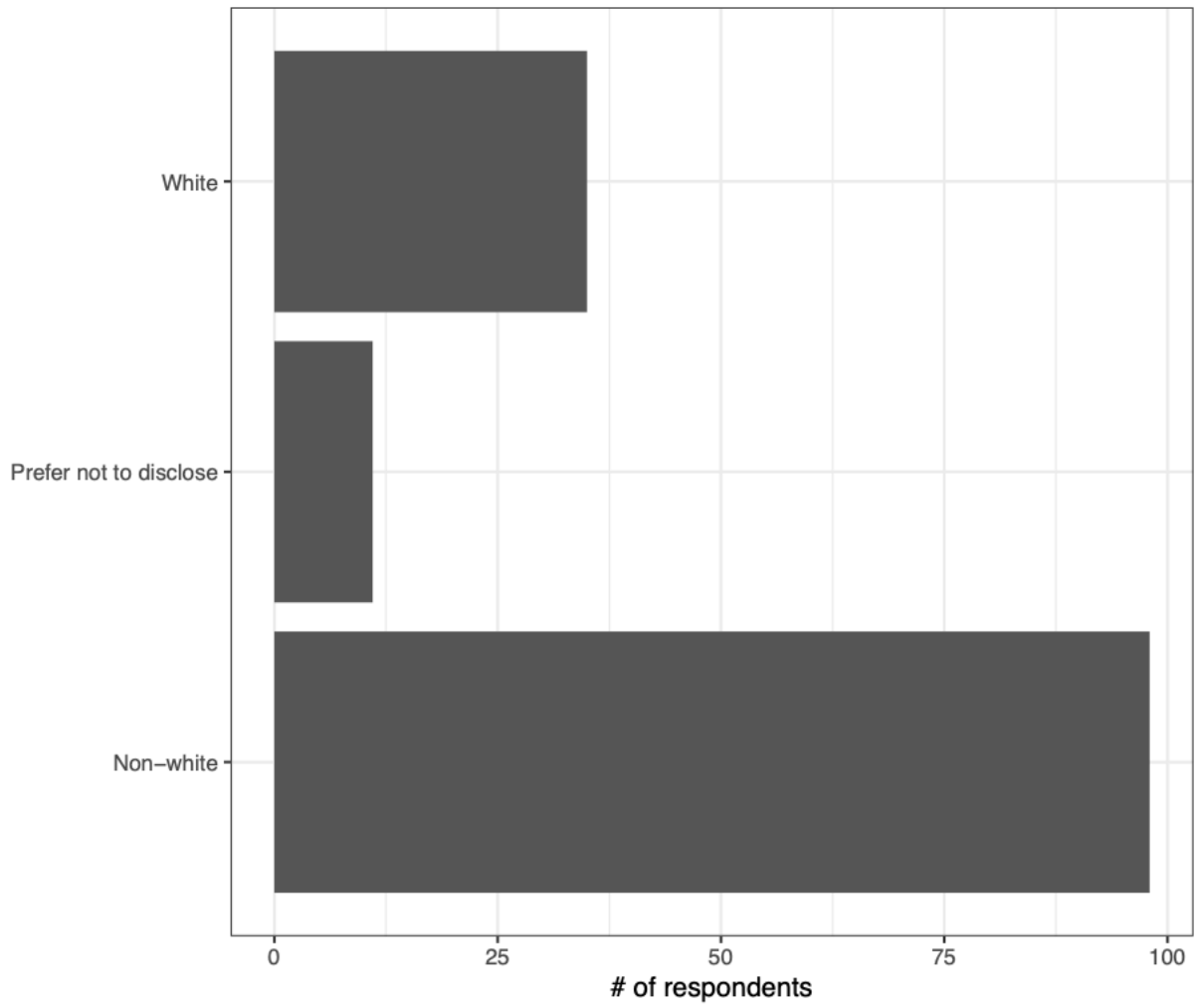


Figure 43. Distribution of ethnicity of survey respondents (optional question)

Do you identify as having a disability

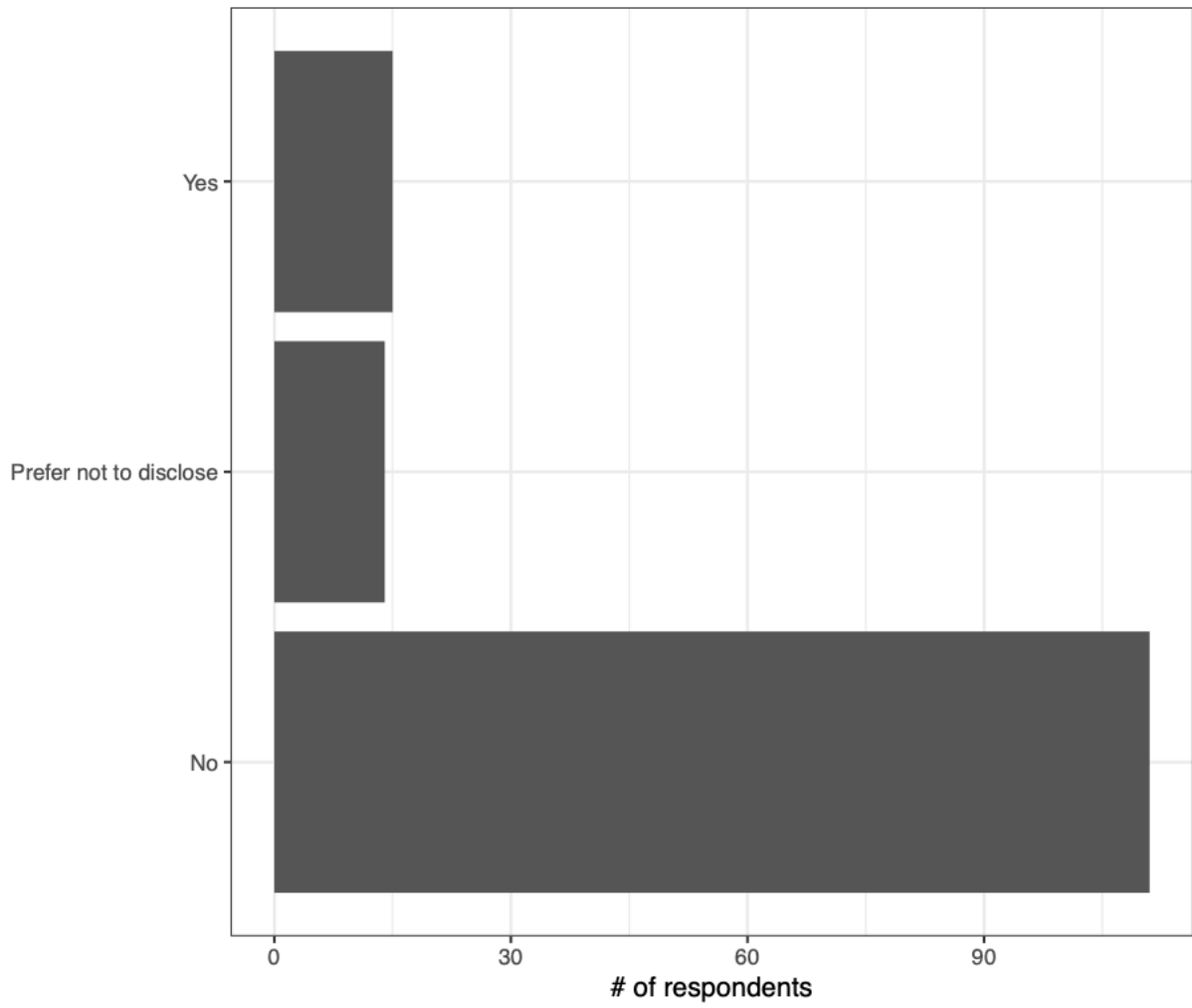


Figure 44. Distribution of survey respondents who identified as having a disability (optional question)

Do you identify as neurodivergent

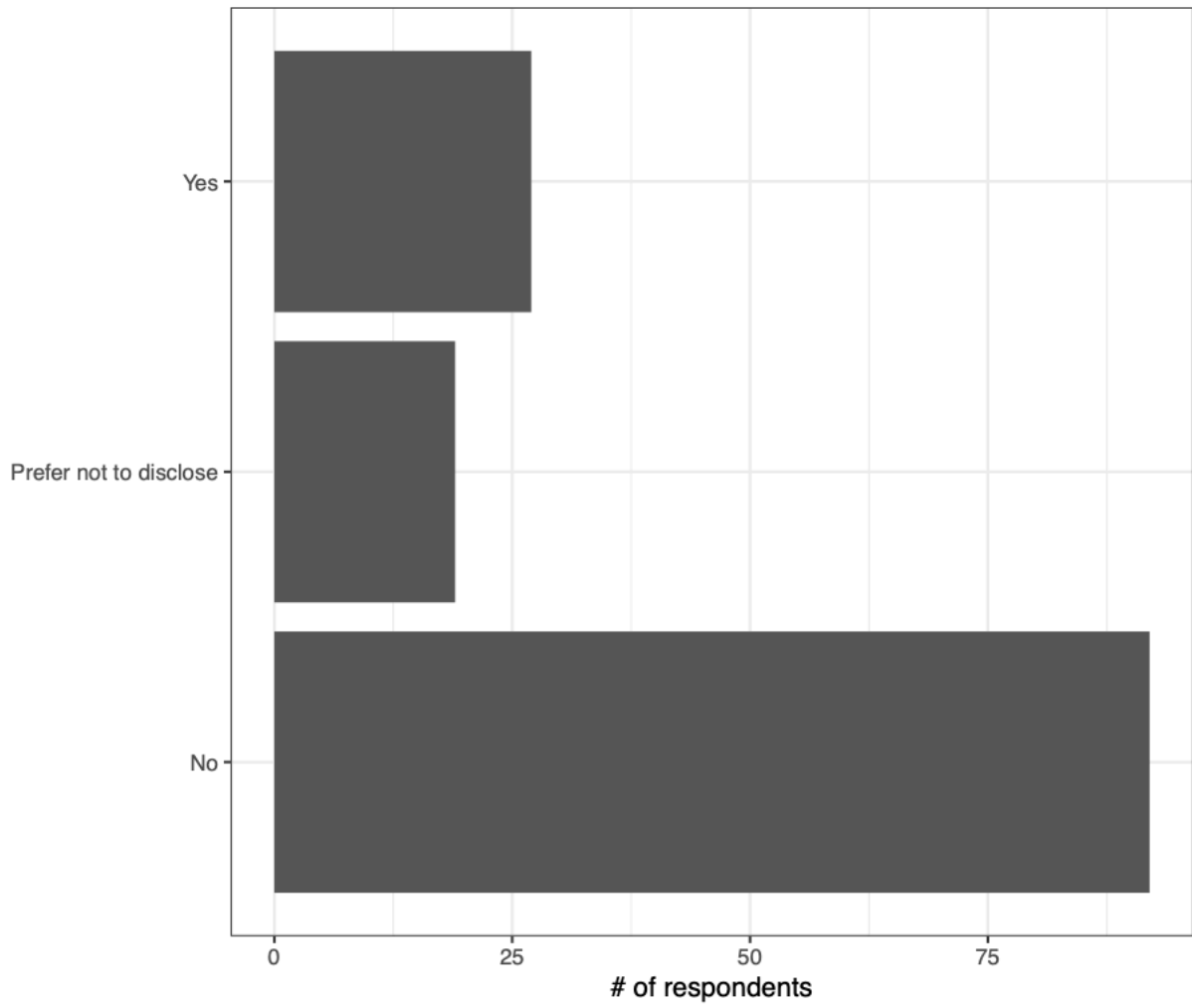


Figure 45. Distribution of survey respondents who identified as neurodivergent (optional question)

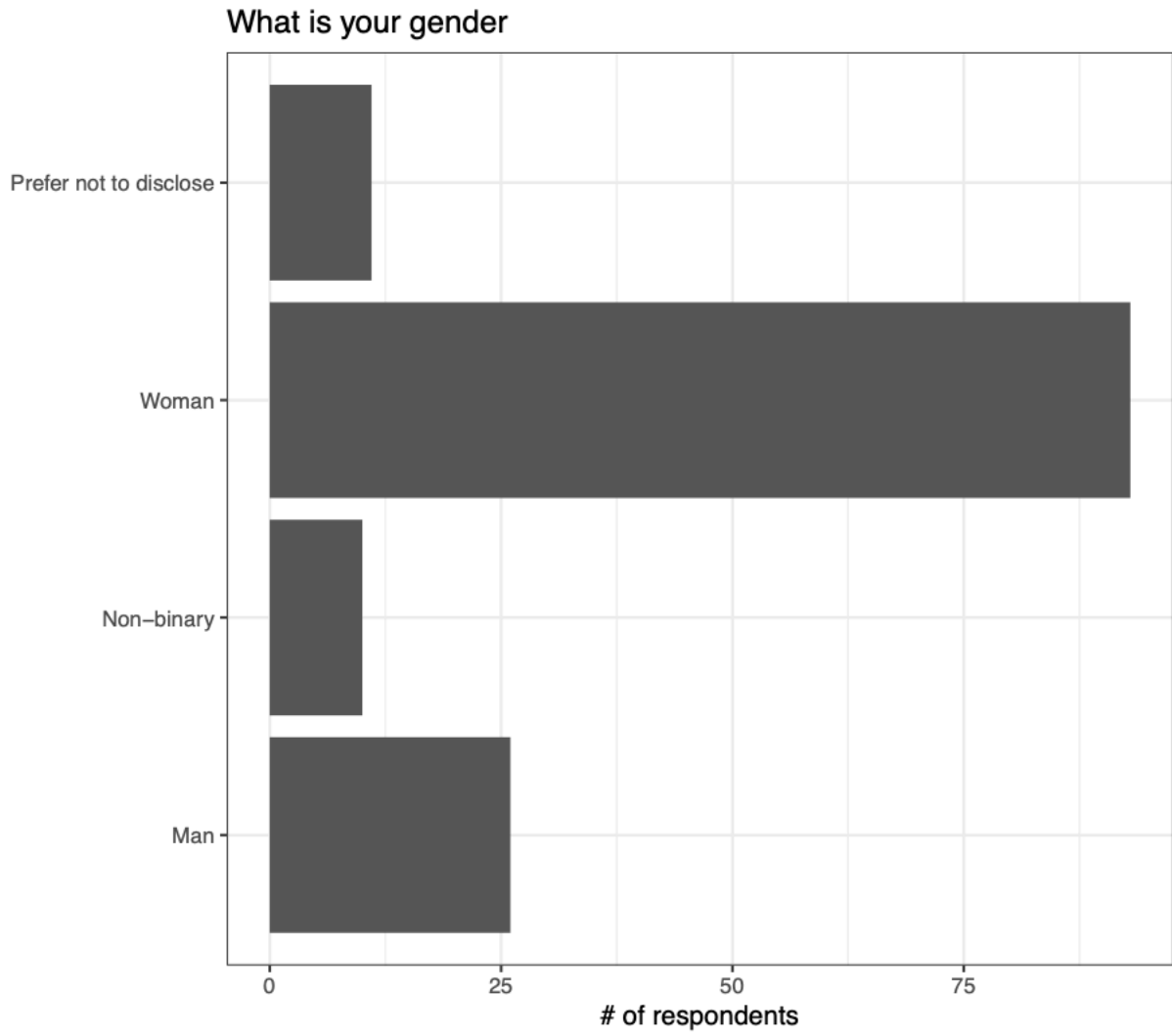


Figure 46. Distribution of genders of survey respondents (optional question)

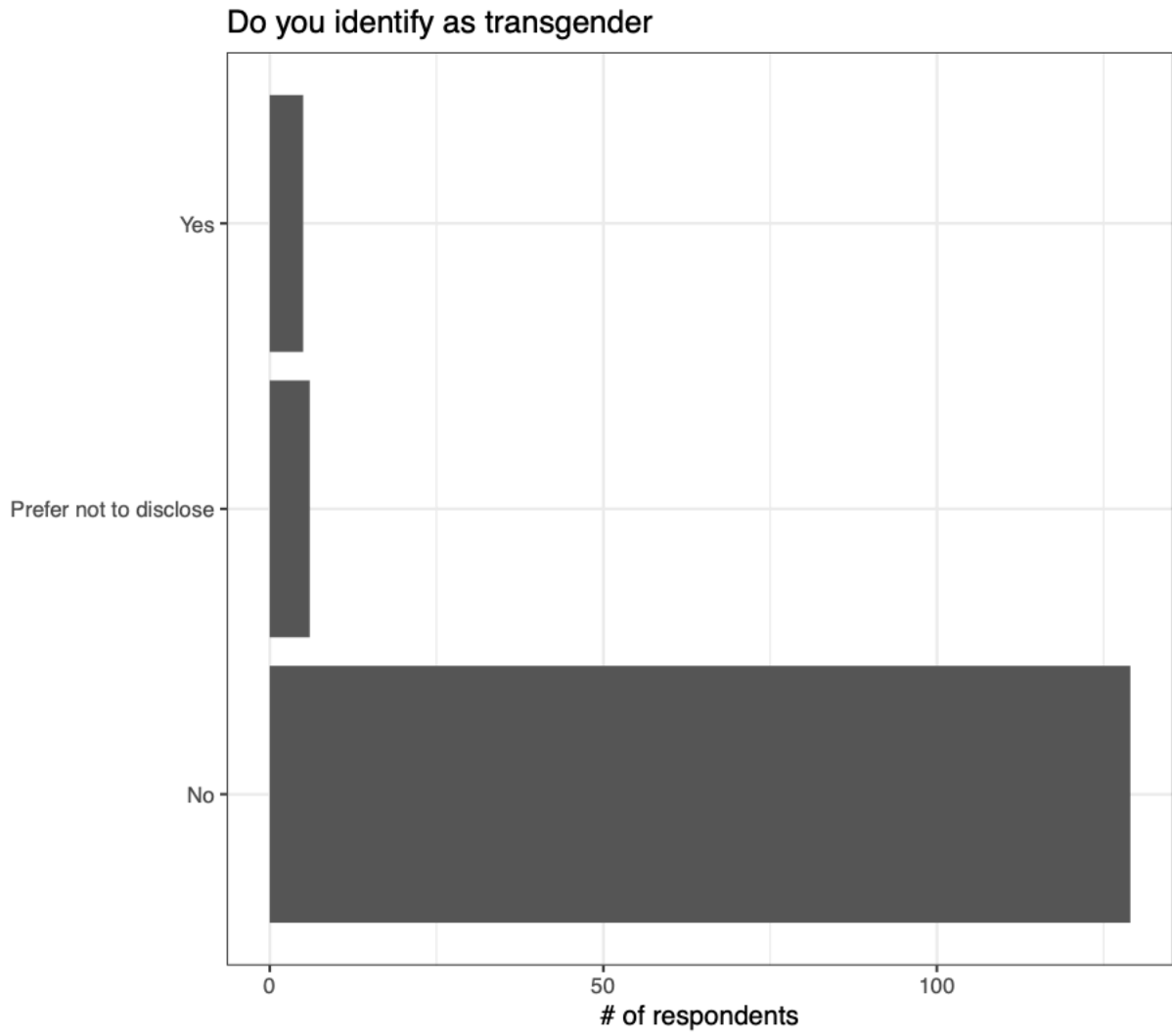


Figure 47. Distribution of survey respondents who identified as transgender (optional question)

Do you have a LGBTQ identity

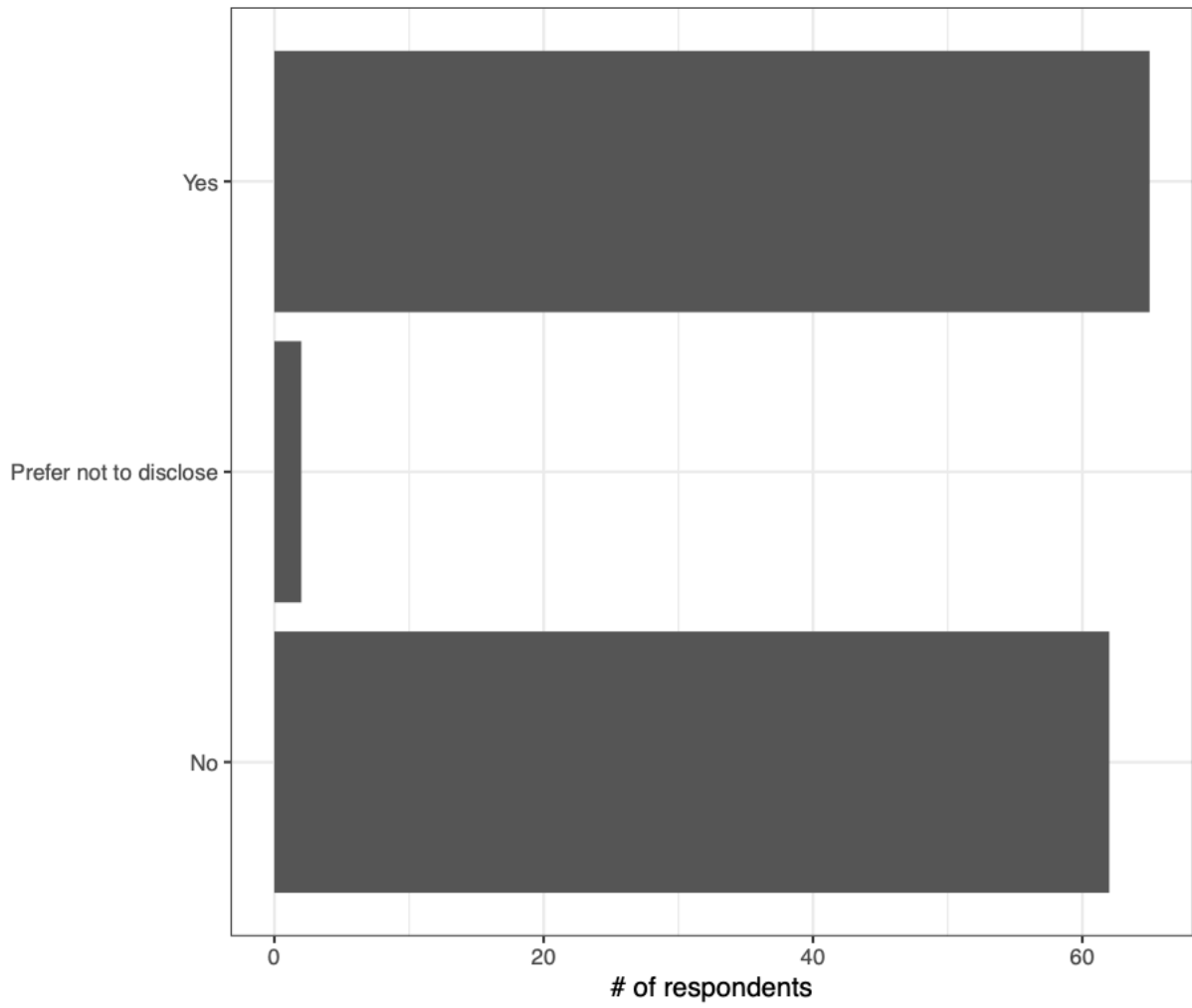


Figure 48. Distribution of survey respondents who identified as LGBTQ+ (optional question)

What is the home department or program of your supervisor

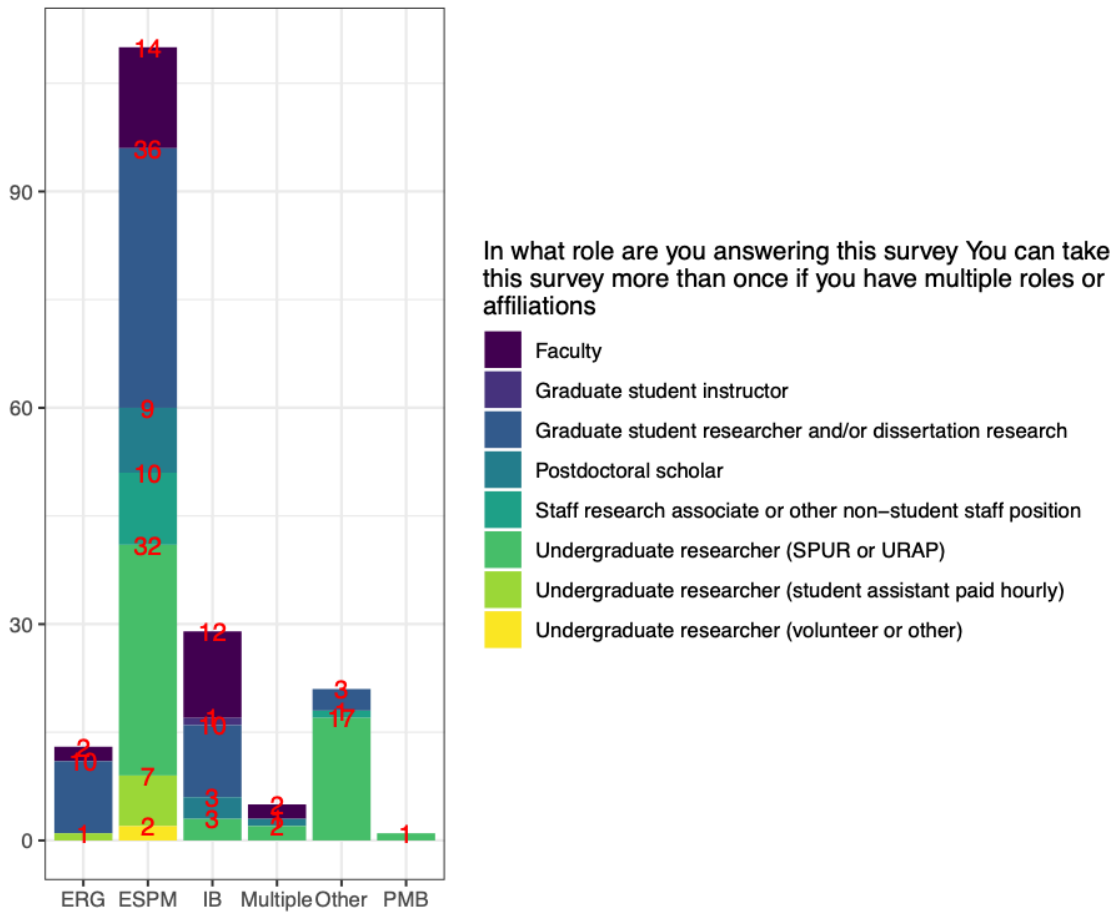


Figure 49. Distribution of undergraduate survey respondents in each department based on what roles researcher respondents represented in that department

APPENDIX - Resources

Gender Equity Resource Center

<https://campusclimate.berkeley.edu/students/ejce/geneq>

Path to Care: Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment

<http://sexualviolence.berkeley.edu/2/resources>

Office for the Prevention of Harassment and Discrimination (OPHD)

<https://ophd.berkeley.edu/>

OPHD info for students, staff, and faculty

<https://ophd.berkeley.edu/policies-and-procedures>

University Health Services: Counseling and Psychological Services

<https://uhs.berkeley.edu/counseling>

Centers for Educational Justice & Community Engagement

<https://campusclimate.berkeley.edu/students/ejce>

APPENDIX - Survey instrument #1 (for researchers)

UC Berkeley field safety survey for researchers and workers

We ask you to respond to this survey in regards to your experience doing fieldwork only as part of the Berkeley community (i.e. not including experiences you have had prior to or after joining the university).

Fieldwork is defined here as involving travel off-campus to a non-laboratory setting for research, teaching, or coursework.

This survey may bring up difficult memories or experiences. You can skip questions as needed. You can also get in touch with the PATH to Care Center at (510) 642-1988 or contact the Office for the Prevention of Harassment & Discrimination (<https://ophd.berkeley.edu/>).

The survey responses will be kept anonymous. Unattributed responses may appear in internal university documents, with aggregated findings potentially being made public. Please note that if you have chosen to identify yourself in the final question, and have described an instance of inappropriate behavior (<https://svsh.berkeley.edu/understanding-reporting-obligations>), we are legally required to report it to the campus.

Your participation provides valuable information for future actions to improve field safety at our institution.

If you have multiple departmental affiliations or roles, you can fill out this survey multiple times.

*** Indicates required question**

1. In what role are you answering this survey? *

You can take this survey more than once if you have multiple roles or affiliations.

Mark only one oval.

- Undergraduate researcher (SPUR or URAP)
- Undergraduate researcher (student assistant paid hourly)
- Undergraduate researcher (volunteer or other)
- Graduate student instructor
- Graduate student researcher and/or dissertation research Postdoctoral scholar

- Staff research associate or other non-student staff position
Faculty
- Other: _____

2. What is the home department or program of your supervisor? *

Mark only one oval.

- ESPM
- ERG
- IB
- I am not sure
- Other: _____

3. Do you do fieldwork? Fieldwork is defined here as involving travel off-campus to a non-laboratory setting for research, teaching or coursework. *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

Core Survey

4. Does your fieldwork involve studying, teaching or learning about: (select multiple)

Check all that apply

- The natural world
- People
- Technology or the built environment
- Other: _____

5. Does your fieldwork typically involve working: (select multiple)

Check all that apply

- Alone
- As a team member
- In charge of a team
- Other: _____

6. Where does your fieldwork occur?

Check all that apply.

- In California
- Out of California, in the United States
- Out of the United States

7. Have you or someone you supervised been injured during fieldwork? An injury is defined as an event that caused physical or emotional harm.

Mark only one oval.

- Never
- Once
- More than once

8. Have you or someone you supervised had a near-miss during fieldwork? A near-miss is defined as an event that almost caused you an injury, but narrowly did not.

Mark only one oval.

- Never
- Once
- More than once

9. Have you felt unsafe during your fieldwork?

Mark only one oval.

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Often

10. If you did feel unsafe during fieldwork, did you feel comfortable reporting the situation to your supervisor?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

11. If you have felt unsafe or been injured, what do you perceive as the primary sources of hazards? (select multiple)

Check all that apply.

- My supervisor
- My team members
- My study subject(s)
- Field activities/tasks required to complete my work (e.g., using a chainsaw)
- People in the wider community
- Aspects of the built environment (e.g., vehicle traffic)
- Aspects of the natural environment (e.g., lightning)
- Other: _____

12. Have you experienced or observed any of the below types of injuries during field work?

(select multiple)

Check all that apply.

- Bullying
- Harassment
- Sexual assault
- Non-sexual assault or other violence
- Threatened violence

13. Have you ever withdrawn from a project because you felt the working conditions were unsafe?

Mark only one oval.

- Never
- Once
- More than once

14. Do you consult or develop a field safety plan prior to doing fieldwork?

Mark only one oval.

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Often

**15. If you do assess safety before doing fieldwork, where do you get your guidance?
(select multiple)**

Check all that apply.

- My supervisor or instructor
- UC Berkeley resources
- Government resources
- Collaborators, institutions, or informants at the field site
- News media
- My own experience
- Not applicable
- Other: _____

16. Do you or your supervisor/instructor/advisor have a field safety plan for your fieldwork, or do you typically discuss safety before starting fieldwork?

Mark only one oval.

- No
- I am not sure
- Yes, and it felt insufficient
- Yes, and it felt sufficient

17. Does your field safety plan include consideration of identity-based risks, i.e. those that depend on your identity as a person?

Mark only one oval.

- Not applicable, I do not have a field safety plan
- No
- Yes
- Other: _____

18. Who pays for training and supplies for your safety (e.g. first aid classes, communication equipment, special clothing)? (select multiple)

Check all that apply.

- Me personally
- Supervisor, department, or project grant
- Other: _____

19. Which of the following, if any, would help you feel more safe or confident while doing fieldwork? (select multiple)

Check all that apply.

- More training or information resources
- More physical resources or supplies
- Changes in my relationship with my supervisor
- Changes in my supervisor's practices
- Changes in the composition or culture of the team
- Other: _____

20. What is the career status of your supervisor?

Mark only one oval.

- Graduate student
- Postdoctoral researcher
- Pre-tenure faculty
- Post-tenure faculty
- Staff (<5 years experience)
- Staff (>5 years experience)
- I do not have a supervisor
- Not Sure
- Other: _____

21. Is there anything else you would like to share or would you like to elaborate on any of your answers?

Demographics

22. What race/ethnicity describes you? Select all that apply.

Check all that apply.

- African American/African/Black
- American Indian/Alaskan Native
- Asian/Asian American
- Hispanic/Latino
- Middle Eastern/Southwest Asian/North African
- Pacific Islander
- White
- Unknown
- Prefer not to disclose
- Other: _____

23. Do you identify as neurodivergent?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to disclose

24. Do you identify as having a disability?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to disclose

25. Do you identify as transgender?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to disclose

26. What is your gender?

Mark only one oval.

- Man
- Woman
- Non-binary
- Additional category not listed
- Prefer not to disclose

27. What is your age?

Mark only one oval.

- Under 25
- 25-35
- 35-45
- 45-55
- 55-65
- Above 65
- Prefer not to disclose

28. Do you have a LGBTQ+ identity?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Other: _____

APPENDIX - Survey instrument #2 (for students)

UC Berkeley field safety survey for student experiences in classes

We ask you to respond to this survey in regards to your experience doing fieldwork *only* as part of the Berkeley community (i.e. not including experiences you have had prior to or after joining the university).

Fieldwork is defined here as involving travel off-campus to a non-laboratory setting for research, teaching, or coursework.

This survey may bring up difficult memories or experiences. You can skip questions as needed. You can also get in touch with the PATH to Care Center at (510) 642-1988 or contact the Office for the Prevention of Harassment & Discrimination (<https://ophd.berkeley.edu/>).

The survey responses will be kept anonymous. Unattributed responses may appear in internal university documents, with aggregated findings potentially being made public. Please note that if you have chosen to identify yourself in the final question, and have described an instance of inappropriate behavior (<https://svsh.berkeley.edu/understanding-reporting-obligations>), we are legally required to report it to the campus.

Your participation provides valuable information for future actions to improve field safety at our institution.

If you want to respond about multiple classes, you can fill out this survey multiple times.

* Indicates required question

-
1. What class are you providing a response about? (write either the name or the course number e.g., 'BIO 1 B', 'Forestry Camp')*

2. What semester/year did you take the class? *

Mark only one oval.

- Spring 2021
 - Summer 2021
 - Fall 2021
 - Spring 2022
 - Summer 2022
 - Fall 2022
 - Spring 2023
 - Summer 2023
 - Fall 2023
 - Spring 2024
 - Other: _____
-

Core Survey

3. Were you injured during this class, or did you observe someone who was injured?

An injury is defined as an event that caused physical or emotional harm.

Mark only one oval.

- Never
- Once
- More than once

4. Did you have a near-miss during this field class, or did you observe someone who had a near-miss? A near-miss is defined as an event that almost caused you an injury, but narrowly did not.

Mark only one oval.

- Never
- Once
- More than once

5. Were you, or did you observe someone, who was made to feel unsafe during this class?

Mark only one oval.

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Often

6. If you felt unsafe or were injured, what do you perceive as the primary sources of hazards? (select multiple)

Check all that apply.

- My faculty instructor(s)
- The GSI/TA(s)
- Other students in the class
- The study subject(s)
- People in the wider community
- Aspects of the built environment (e.g., vehicle traffic)
- Aspects of the natural environment (e.g., lightning)
- Other: _____

7. Have you experienced or observed any of the below types of injuries during field work?

(select multiple)

Check all that apply.

- Bullying
- Harassment
- Sexual assault
- Non-sexual assault

8. Did you ever skip a class session or leave early because you felt the conditions were unsafe?

Mark only one oval.

- Never
- Once
- More than once

9. Did your instructor review a field safety plan with you at any point during the class?

Mark only one oval.

- No
- I am not sure
- Yes, and it felt insufficient
- Yes, and it felt sufficient

10. If there was a field safety plan, did it include consideration of identity-based risks, i.e. those that depend on your identity as a person (like your gender or race)?

Mark only one oval.

- There was not a field safety plan
- No
- Yes
- Other: _____

11. Is there anything else you would like to share or would you like to elaborate on any of your answers?

Demographics

12. What race/ethnicity describes you? Select all that apply.

Check all that apply.

- African American/African/Black
- American Indian/Alaskan Native
- Asian/Asian American
- Hispanic/Latino
- Middle Eastern/Southwest Asian/North African
- Pacific Islander
- White
- Unknown
- Prefer not to disclose
- Other: _____

13. Do you identify as neurodivergent?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to disclose

14. Do you identify as having a disability?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to disclose

15. Do you identify as transgender?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to disclose

16. What is your gender?

Mark only one oval.

- Man
- Woman
- Non-binary
- Additional category not listed
- Prefer not to disclose

17. What is your age?

Mark only one oval.

- Under 25
- 25-35
- 35-45
- 45-55
- 55-65
- Above 65
- Prefer not to disclose

18. Do you have a LGBTQ+ identity?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

19. Other: _____