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Sexual Harassment Survey:

It's 2021, But How Safe do Malaysian Women Feel?

Centre for Governance and Political Studies (Cent-GPS)
in collaboration with All Women's Action Society (AWAM)



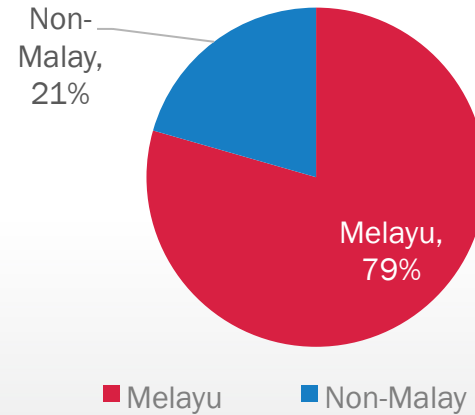
Methodology & Respondents

- Targeted population was women aged 18-30 across Malaysia.
- Enumerators were based in North, Central, South peninsula. East Malaysia was also represented. Enumerators utilized a computer assisted personalized interview method (CAPI). Respondents were asked in a language of their preference.
- Survey was run from Aug 24 – Sept 15 2021

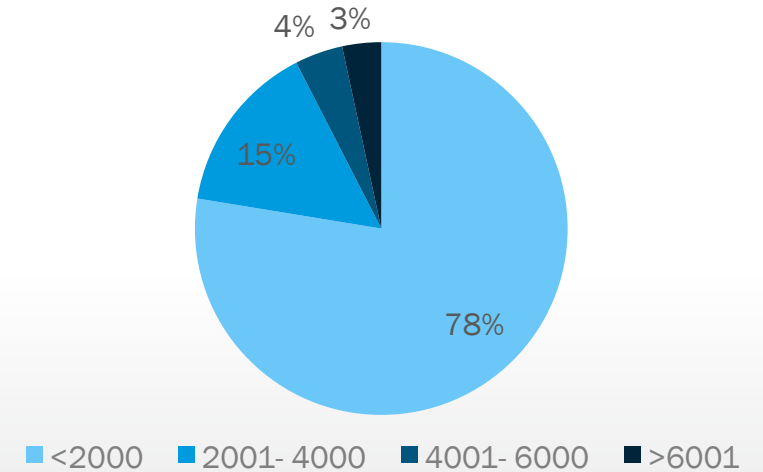
Methodology & Respondents

- 1056 women respondents were surveyed. All respondents are aged 18-29
- The survey was conducted August 24th 2021- 15th September 2021
- Respondents were selected through random sampling along the lines of state, ethnicity, level of income.
- 79% of respondents were Malay, 21% non-Malay.
- Income level of respondents, 78% earn below RM2000, 15% earn between RM2001-RM4000, 4% earn between RM4001-6000 and 3% earn more than RM6000
- All women studied are Malaysians. Respondents were given option to answer in BM or Eng.
- Survey margin of error is estimated at $\pm 3\%$

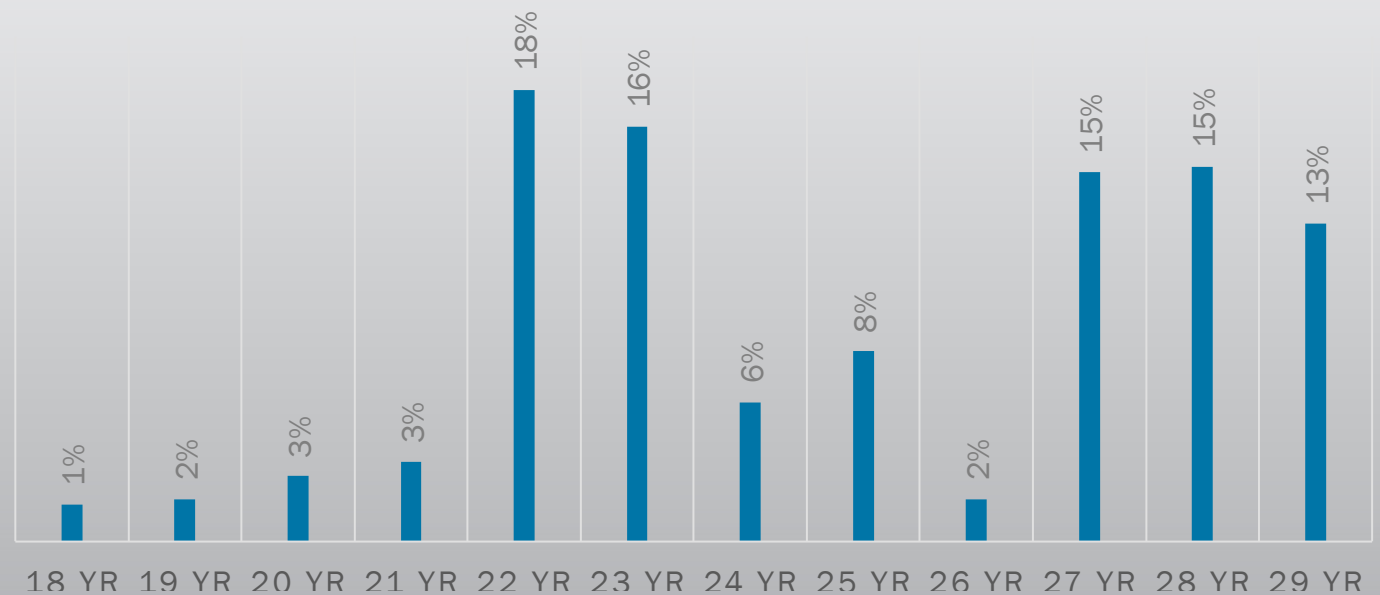
Ethnicity of Respondents



Income Level of Respondents



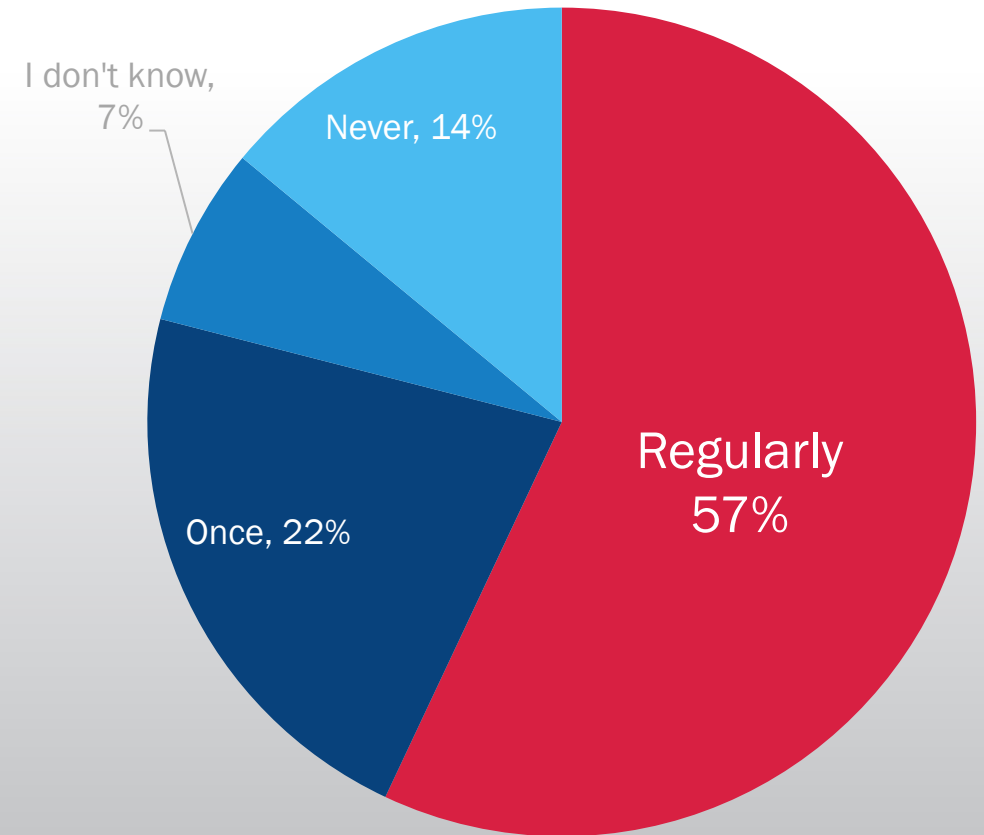
Age Of Respondents



Experienced Being Sexually Harassed Verbally When Walking on the Streets

When asked whether they have experienced being sexually harassed verbally when walking on the streets:

- 57% said they are sexually harassed verbally on a regular basis when walking on the streets
- 22% said they have been verbally sexually harassed at most, once when walking on the streets.
- 14% said never
- 7% said they did not know



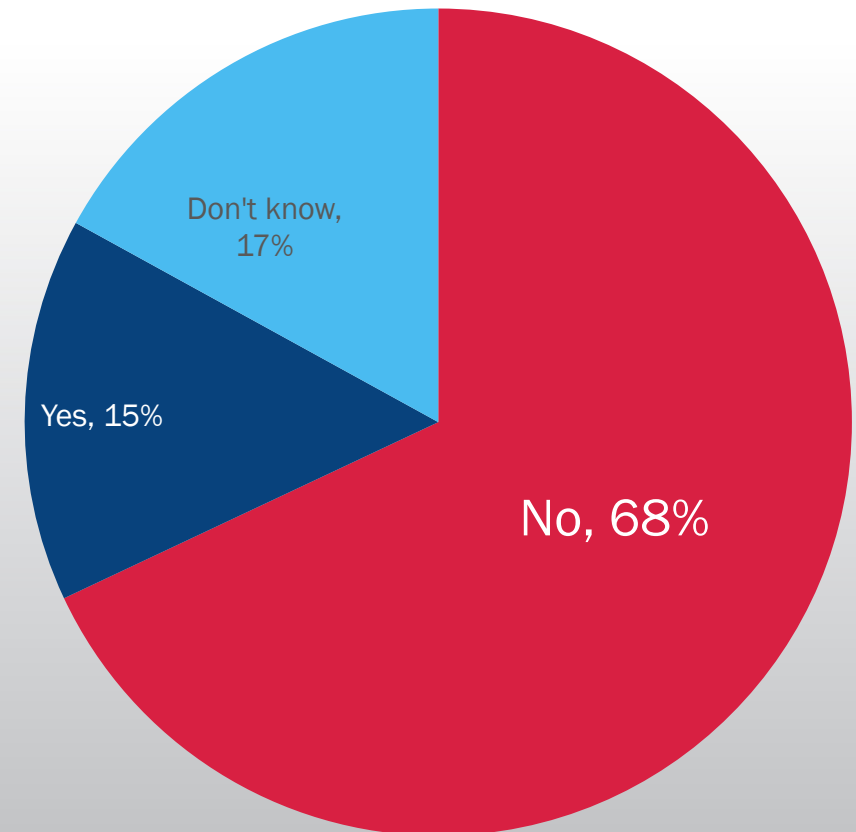
Feel Safe Driving Alone at Night

When asked whether they feel safe driving alone at night,

- 68% said they do not feel safe driving alone at night
- 17% said they do not know
- 15% said they do feel safe driving alone at night



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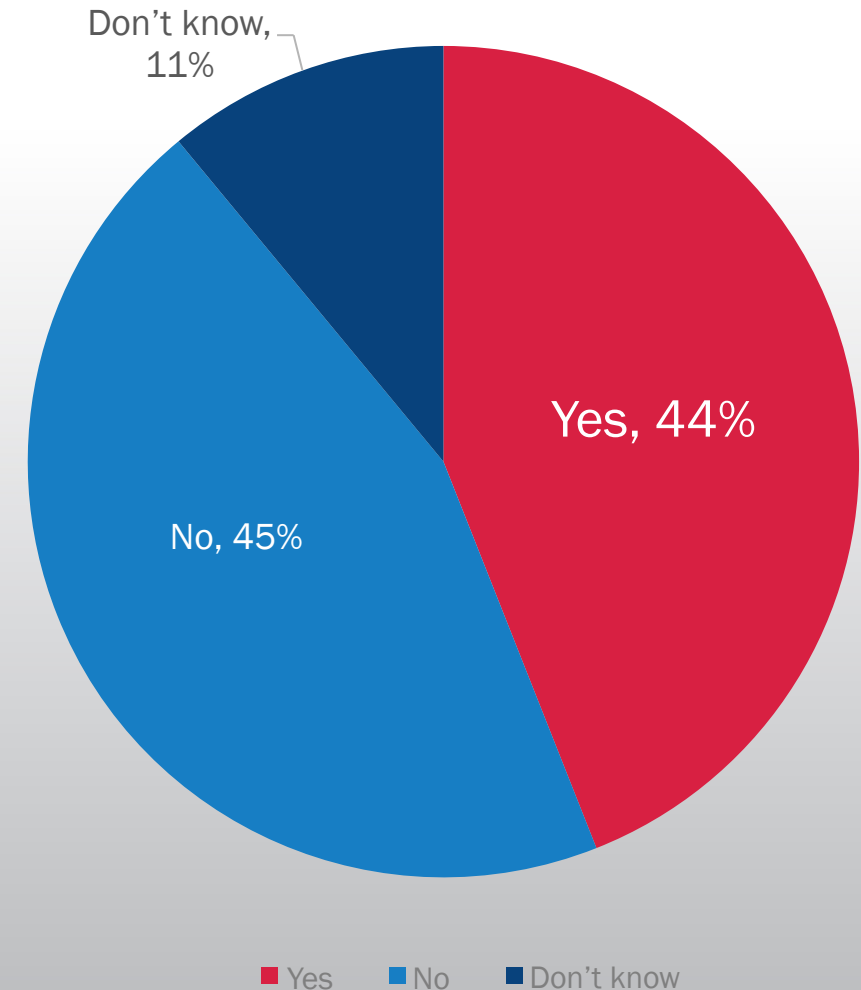


■ No ■ Yes ■ Don't know

Have Experienced their Teacher Make Sexually Provocative Jokes

When asked whether they have experienced or witnessed a teacher making sexually provocative jokes,

- 44% said yes, they have experienced their teacher making sexually provocative jokes
- 45% said no
- 11% were uncertain



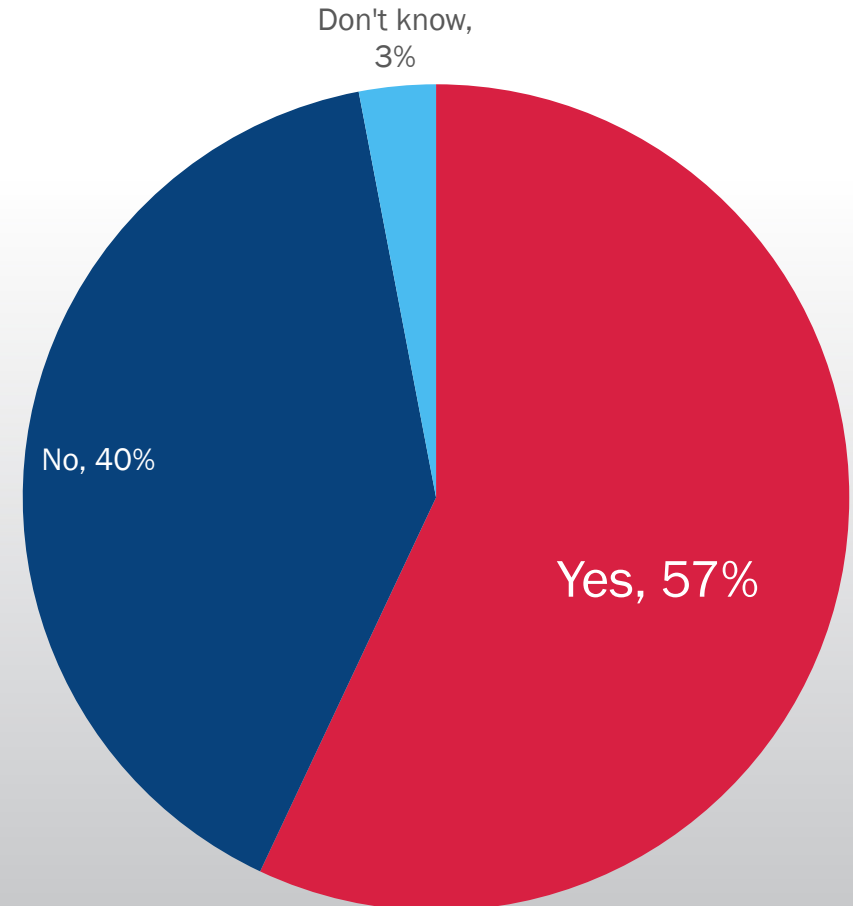
Have Experienced Unwanted Touching (example, placing hand on lower back or knee)

When asked whether they have experienced unwanted touching

- 57% said yes, they have received unwanted touching
- 40% said no
- 3% said they do not know



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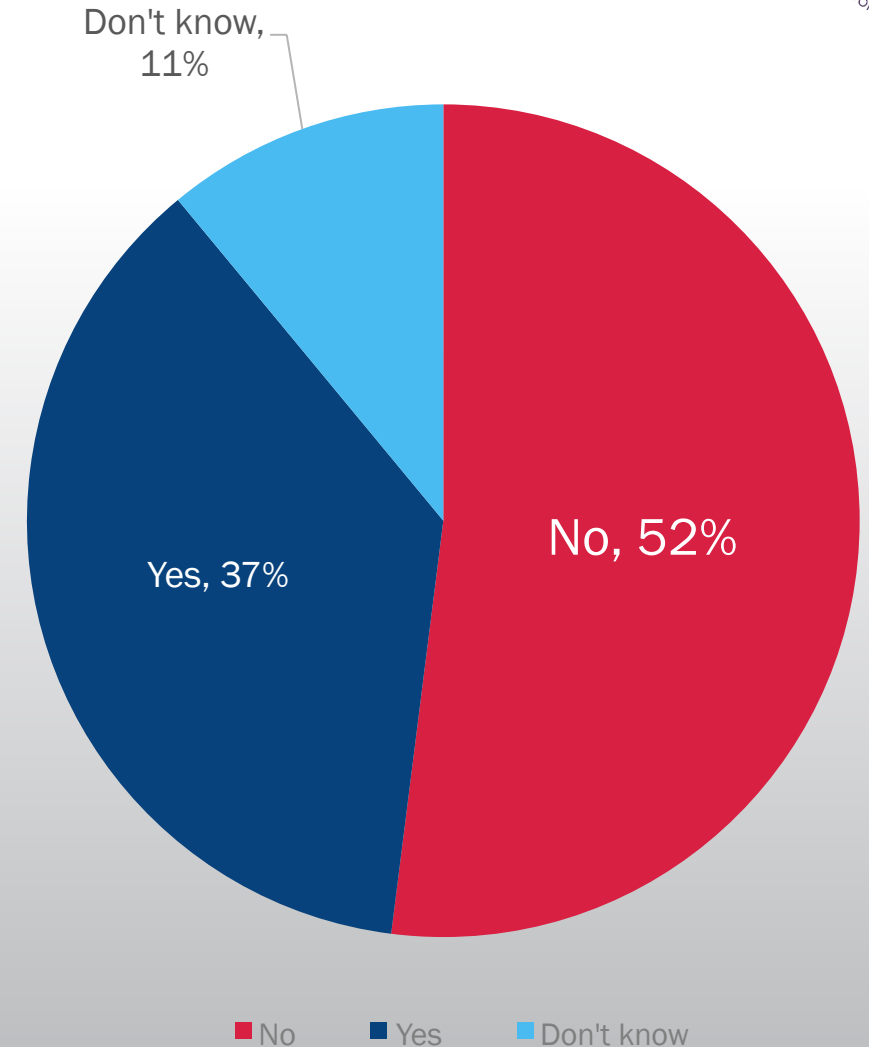


■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

Feel Safe Watching Movies Alone in the Cinema

When asked whether they feel safe watching movies alone in cinemas,

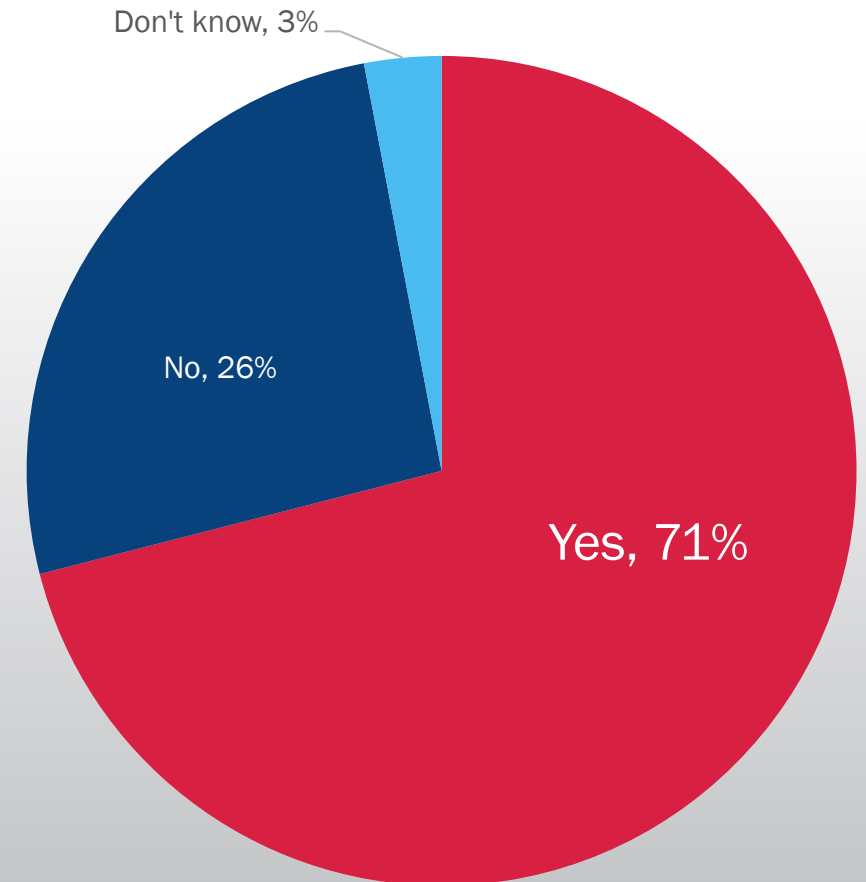
- 52% said no, they do not feel safe alone in cinemas
- 37% said yes
- 11% said they do not know



Have Had to Change Travel Route or Routines Due to Fear of being Sexually Harassed

When asked whether they have had to change their travel routes or routines due to fear of being sexually harassed,

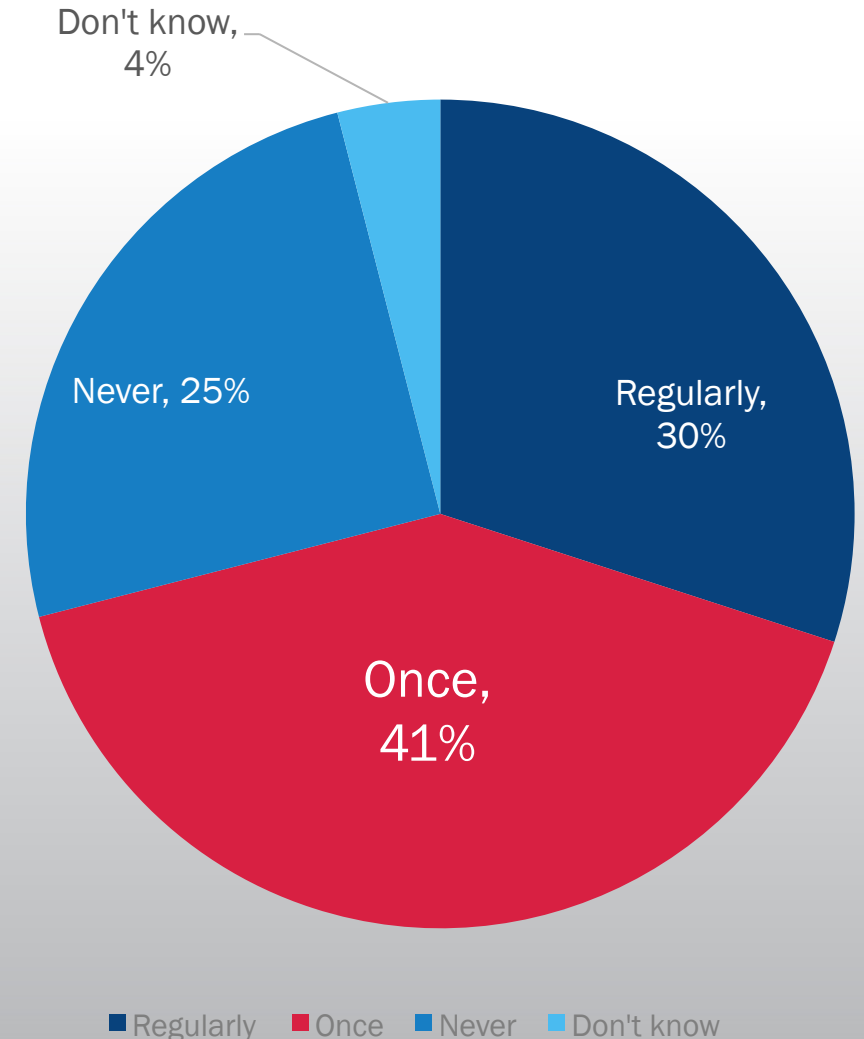
- 71% said yes
- 3% said they do not know
- 26% said no



Have Received Unwanted Messages of Sexual Nature on Social Media

When asked whether they have received unwanted messages of sexual nature on social media,

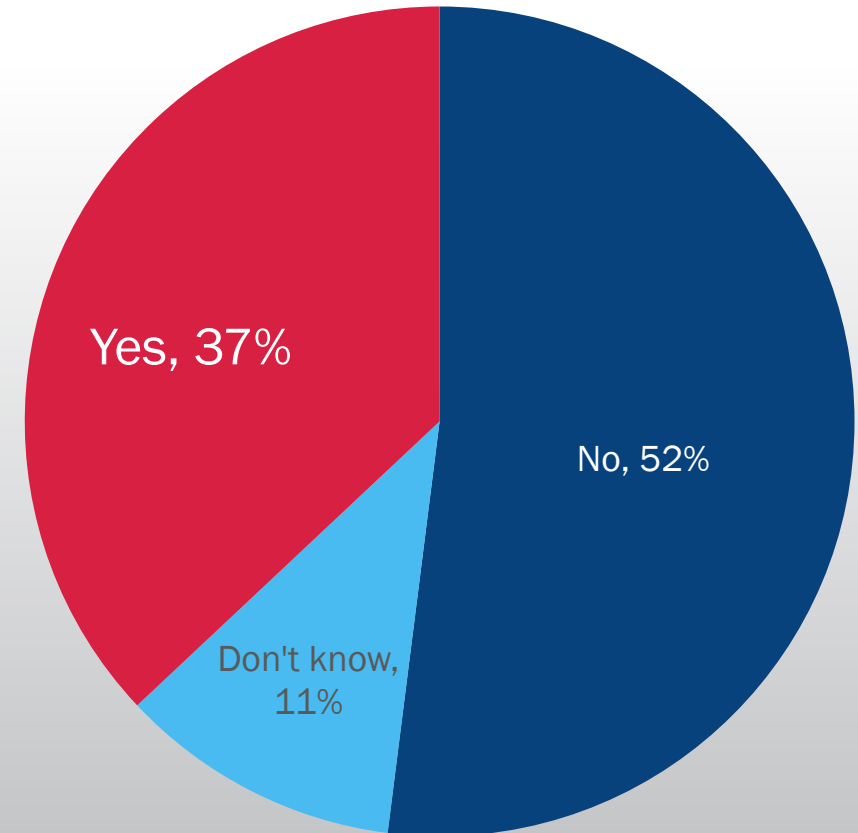
- 41% said they have received unwanted sexual messages on social media once
- 30% said they receive unwanted sexual messages on social media regularly
- 25% said they have never
- 4% do not know.



Have Felt Unsafe Whilst Being Treated by a Male Doctor

When asked whether they have felt unsafe whilst being treated by a male doctor,

- 37% said yes
- 11% were uncertain
- 52% said no



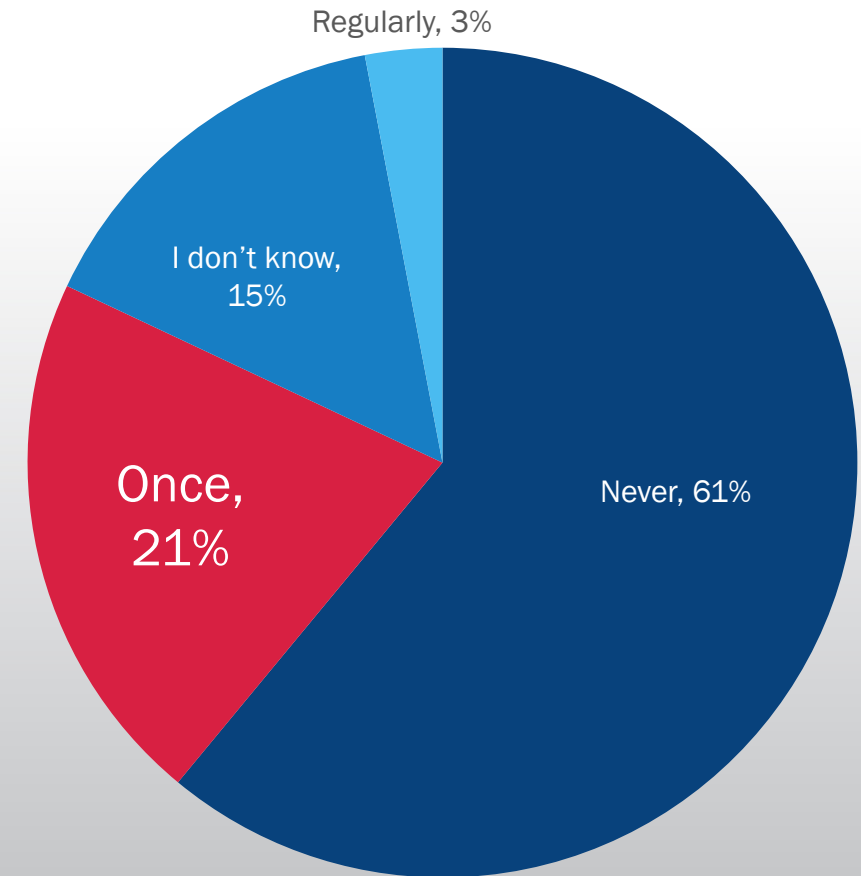
Experienced Being Followed to the Car

When asked whether they have experienced being followed to their car

- 21% said they have been followed to their cars at most, once.
- 15% said they do not know
- 3% said they have experienced being followed to the car regularly
- 61% said they have never been followed to the car



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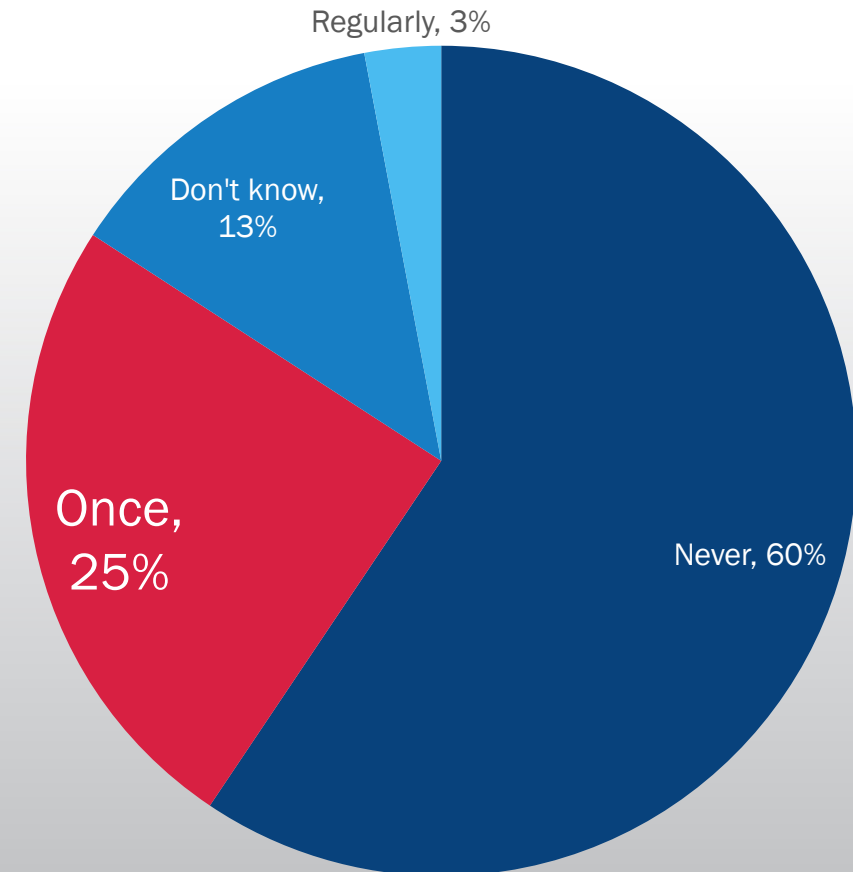


■ Never ■ Once ■ I don't know ■ Regularly

Experienced Being Followed Home

When asked whether they have experienced being followed home,

- 25% said they have been followed home once
- 13% do not know
- 3% said they are followed home more than one occasion
- 60 said never



■ Never ■ Once ■ Don't know ■ Regularly

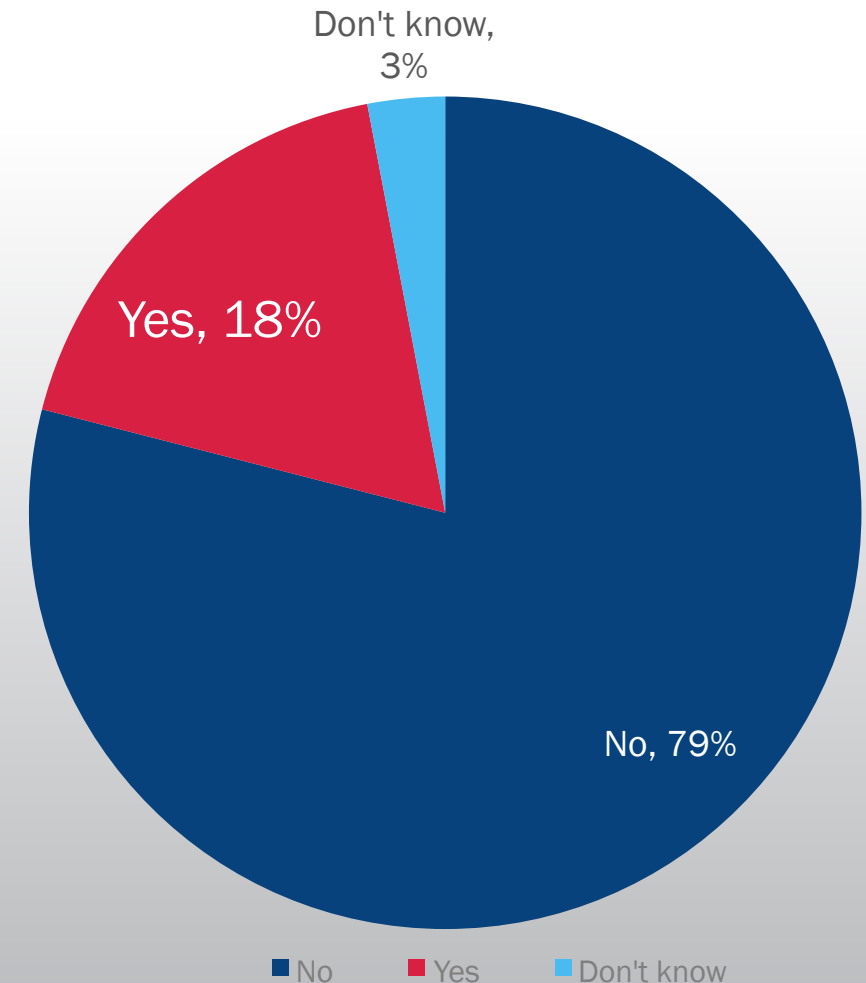
Have Received Unwanted Touching or Sexual Provocations from Family Member

When asked whether they have been victims of unwanted touching or sexual provocations from a family member,

- 18% said yes
- 3% did not know
- 79% said no



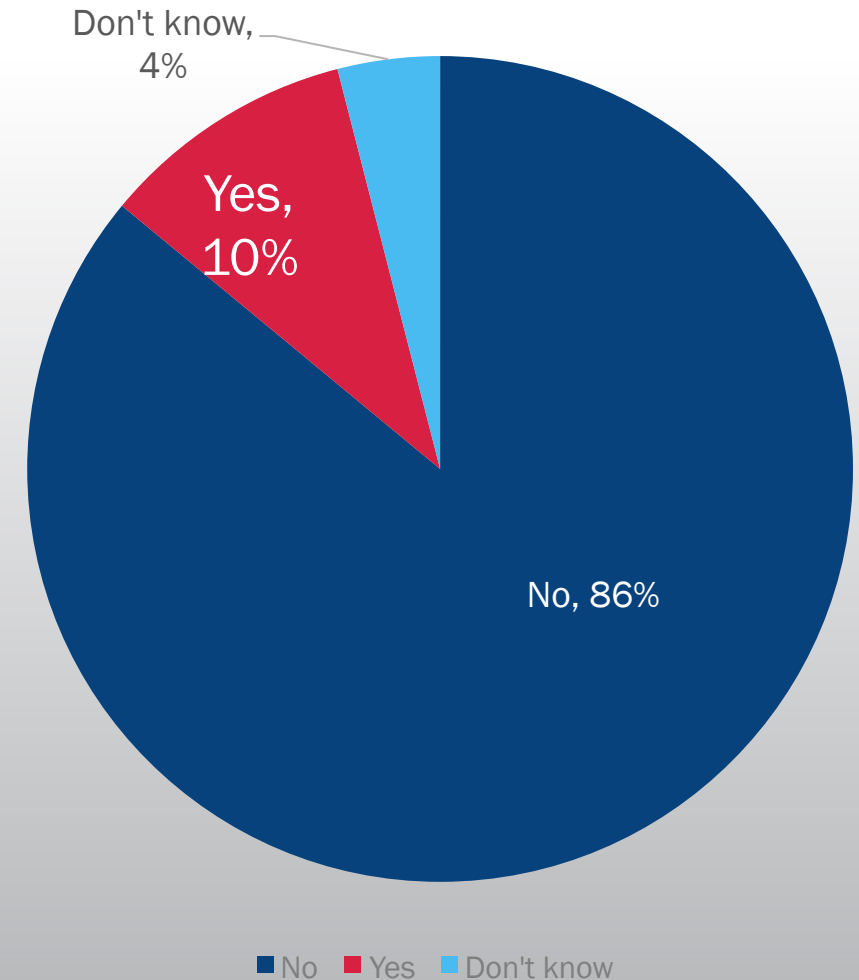
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Have Experienced Sexual Harassment in Elevators

When asked whether they have been sexually harassed in elevators,

- 10% reportedly said yes,
- 4% said uncertain
- 86% said no



Comments & Improvements

- Every question in this quick preliminary survey is vital. Often, we take for granted the kind of difficulties half our population faces daily. For many (men), it is incomprehensible that a women would have to change their daily routines or routes to work for fear of being sexually harassed. It is incomprehensible that a simple thing such as watching a movie alone in the cinema is an unobtainable privilege.
- We hope, if anything, this quick preliminary survey will help open the eyes of many Malaysians, especially parents whose children are of the age of 18-30 as well as our male-dominant leaders.

Improvements:

- This is a preliminary survey, for future work, we recommend improvements in these key focuses:
 - Elevator. When asked about being sexually harassed in an elevator, its also important to ask whether the respondents would feel safe if a male stranger would to be in an elevator with them.
 - When asked if respondents were followed home, to further check if they live in apartment, alone, or with family
 - Regarding being followed to the car, its also important to ask whether they feel safer when given women-only parking.