

October, 2021

# Tufts University Police Department

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ARMING SURVEY

FOR TUFTS UNIVERSITY INTERNAL USE ONLY



# Methodology

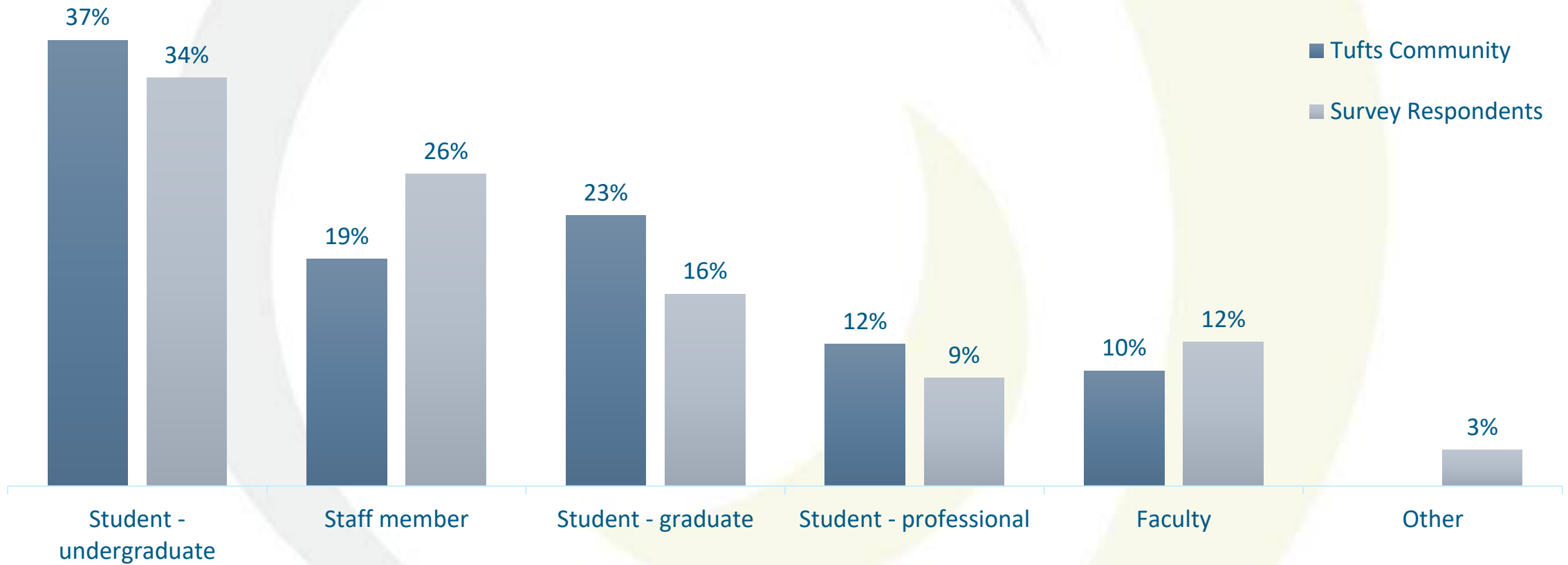
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- Multi-question survey developed to measure:
  - Community comfort with armed TUPD officers
  - Comfort with having local PD response on campus
  - Perceptions of campus safety with armed TUPD
  - Preferred response to common TUPD calls (armed/unarmed)
- Survey emailed to Tufts students, faculty and staff in September 2021
- Reminders sent multiple times during a two-week window

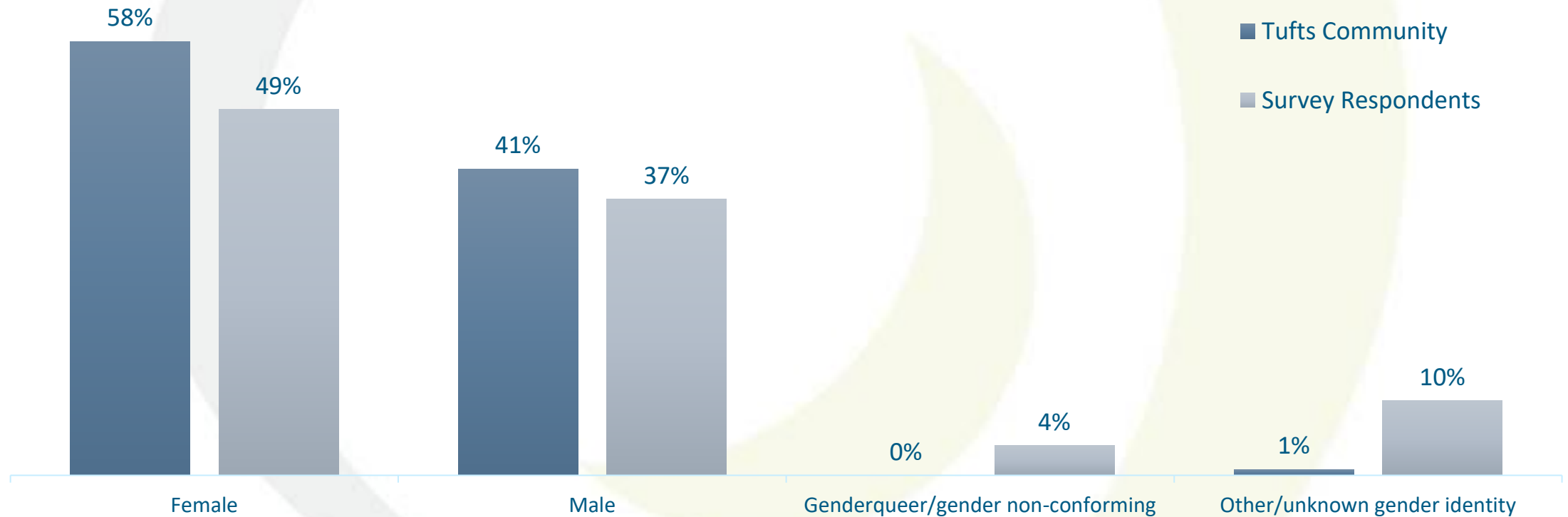
## TUPD Arming Survey responses

|                                      | Student -<br>Undergraduate | Student<br>-Graduate | Student-<br>Graduate,<br>professional<br>school | Faculty member | Staff member | Other    | Grand Total   |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---|----------------|--------------|----------|---------------|
| Boston Health Sciences               | 0%<br>5                    | 3%<br>91             | 5%<br>151                                       | 4%<br>128      | 6%<br>168    | 1%<br>15 | 19%<br>553    |
| Grafton                              |                            | 1%<br>28             | 2%<br>63  | 1%<br>27       | 4%<br>109    | 0%<br>5  | 8%<br>232     |
| Medford/Somerville                   | 32%<br>950                 | 12%<br>341           | 1%<br>37  | 7%<br>194      | 15%<br>447   | 2%<br>71 | 69%<br>2,040  |
| Multiple                             | 1%<br>31                   | 0%<br>6              | 0%<br>4   | 0%<br>1        | 1%<br>27     | 0%<br>2  | 2%<br>71      |
| School of the Museum of Fine<br>Arts | 1%<br>21                   | 0%<br>9              |   | 0%<br>9        | 1%<br>21     | 0%<br>3  | 2%<br>63      |
| Grand Total                          | 34%<br>1,007               | 16%<br>475           | 9%<br>255                                       | 12%<br>354     | 26%<br>772   | 3%<br>96 | 100%<br>2,959 |

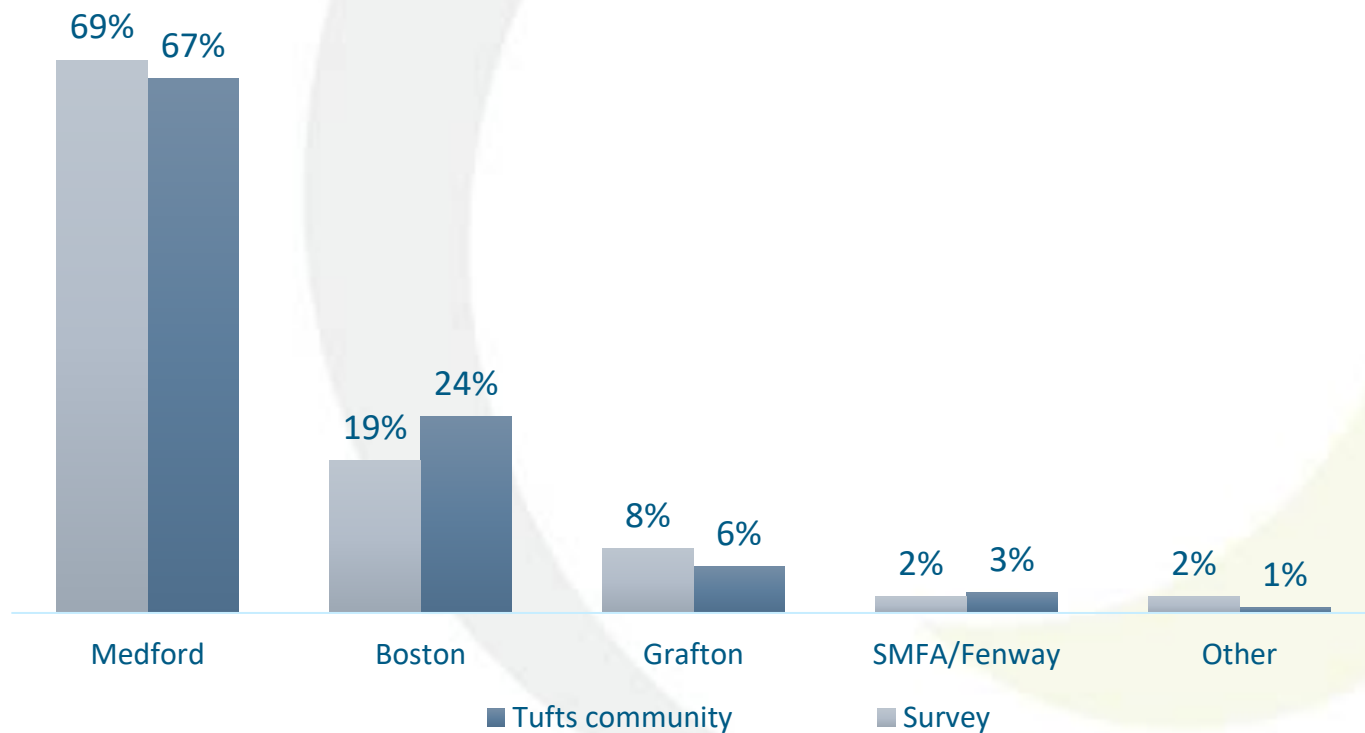
# Respondent demographics - Role



# Respondent demographics - Gender



# Respondent demographics – Campus and Race/Ethnicity



|                              | Tufts Community | Survey |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------|
| White                        | 53%             | 62%    |
| Asian                        | 13%             | 9%     |
| Other                        | 11%             | 3%     |
| Hispanic/Latinx              | 8%              | 3%     |
| Prefer not to answer/Unknown | 6%              | 12%    |
| Black or African American    | 6%              | 3%     |
| Two or more races            | 4%              | 7%     |

# Potential Data Limitations

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- “Ballot stuffing”
- Sample mismatches
- Short timeframe
- Short survey
- Large, heterogenous community
- Sensitive topic
- None of these factors undermine the representativeness of the data in this report.

# Accounting for unmatched data

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- Looked for:
  - Identical locations
  - Non-local responses
  - Response streams
  - Identical responses





Dashboard Data

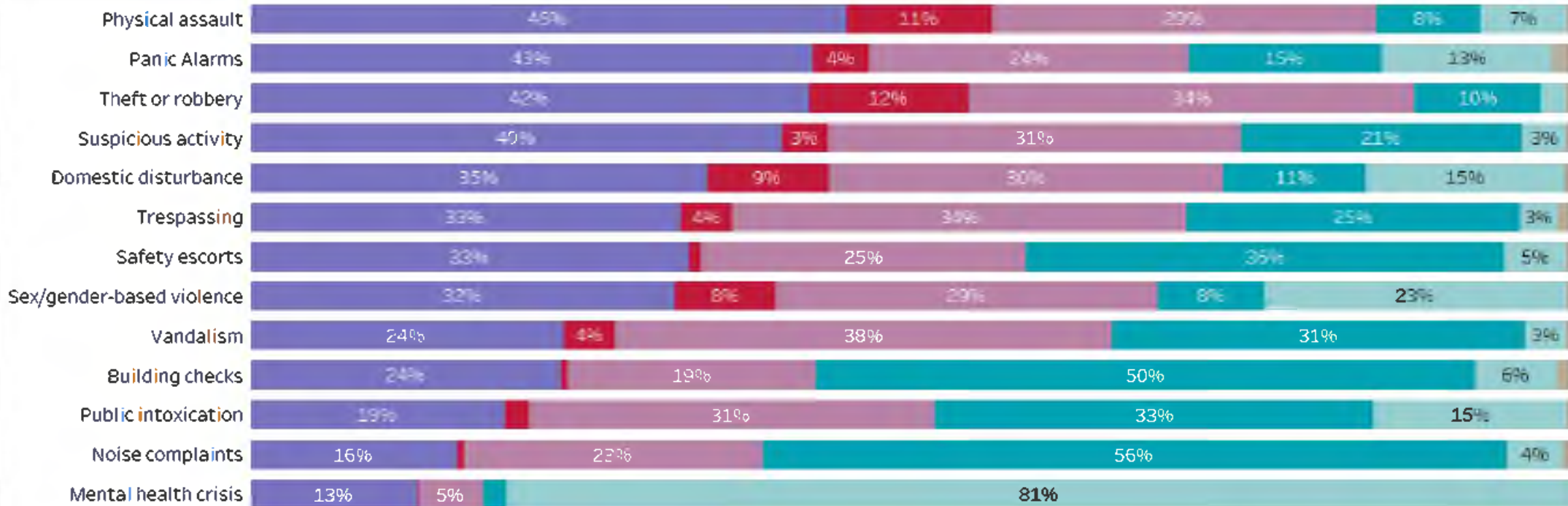
All Respondents

# TUPD Arming Survey

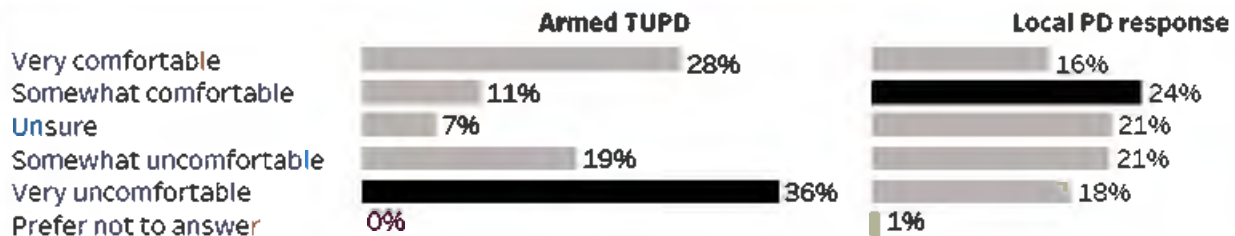
2959

■ Armed TUPD 
 ■ Local PD 
 ■ Unarmed TUPD 
 ■ Campus Security 
 ■ MH professionals 
 ■ Null

## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



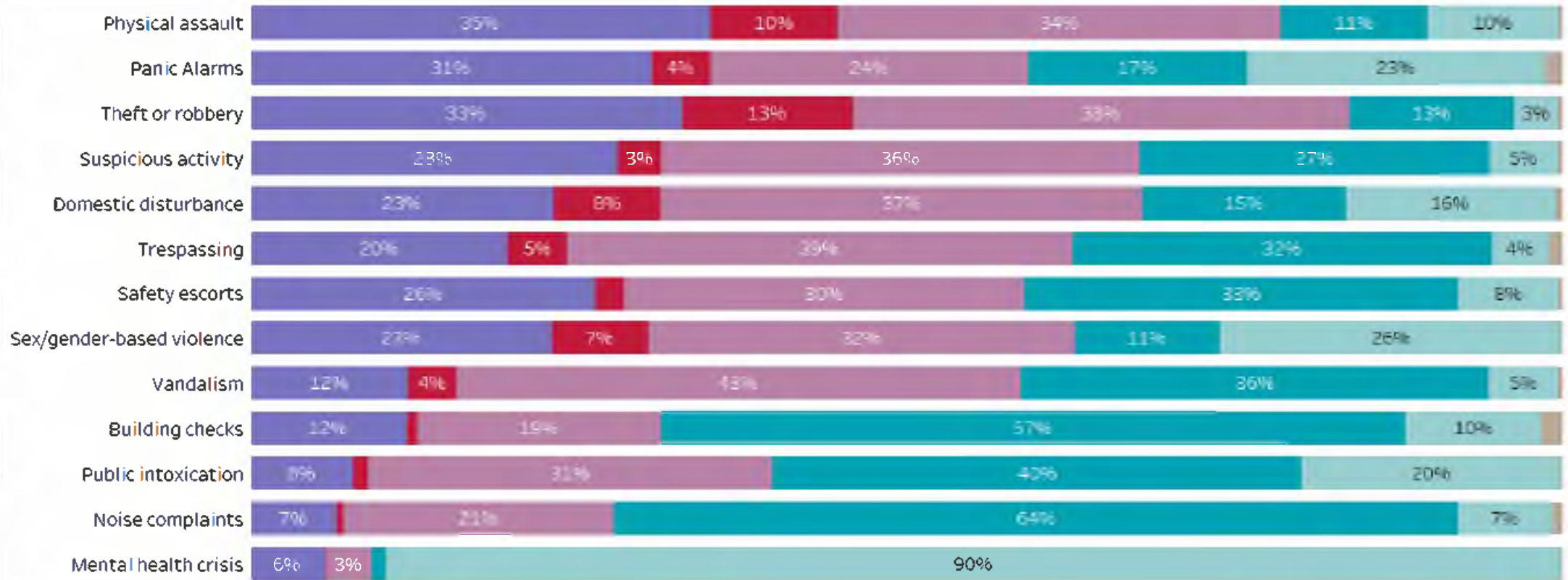


# Role on Campus

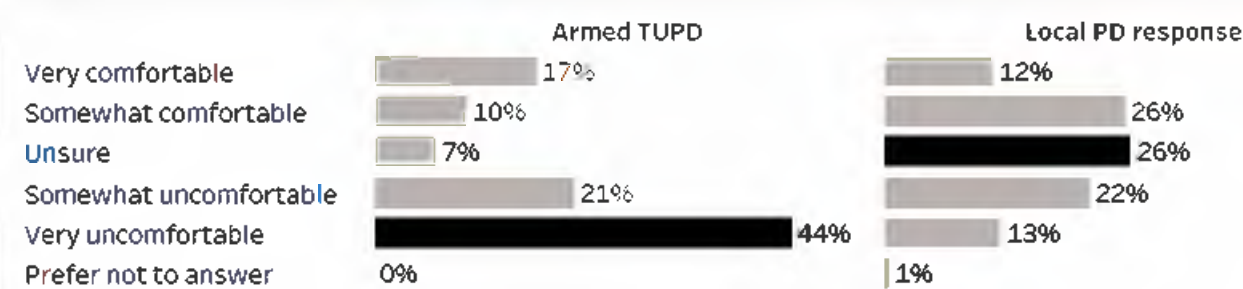
Student - Undergradu



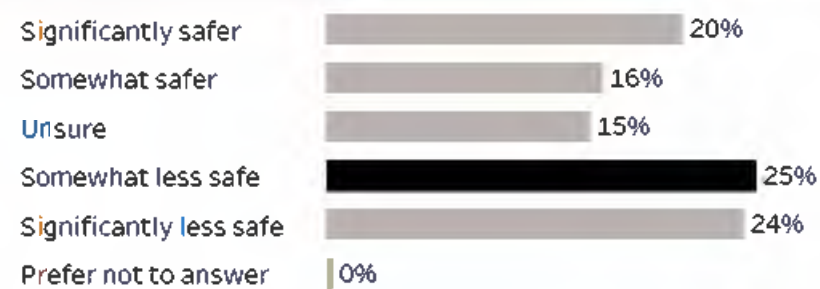
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



Campus

All

Gender

All

Race / Ethnicity

All

Age

All

Time affiliated

All

Transgender

All

Country

All

Student-Graduate, pr.

■ Armed TUPD
 ■ Local PD
 ■ Unarmed TUPD
 ■ Campus Security
 ■ MH professionals
 ■ Null

## Preferred response

Campus

All

Gender

All

Race / Ethnicity

All

Age

All

Time affiliated

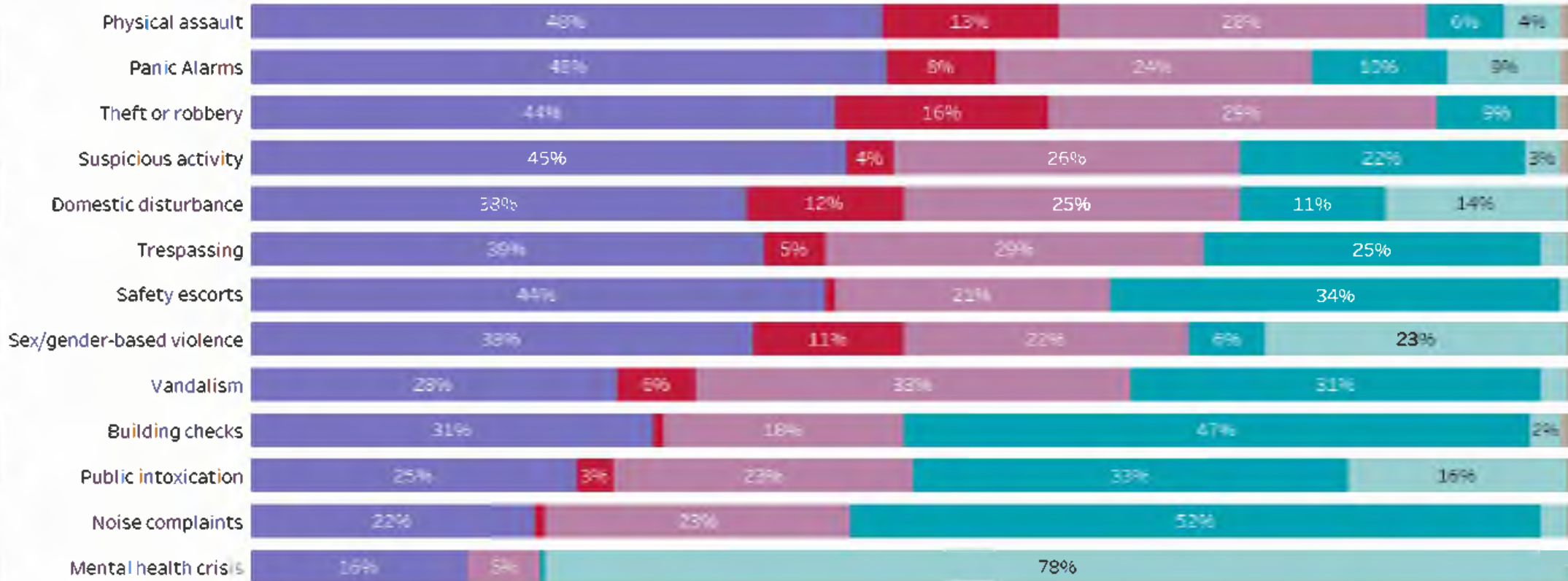
All

Transgender

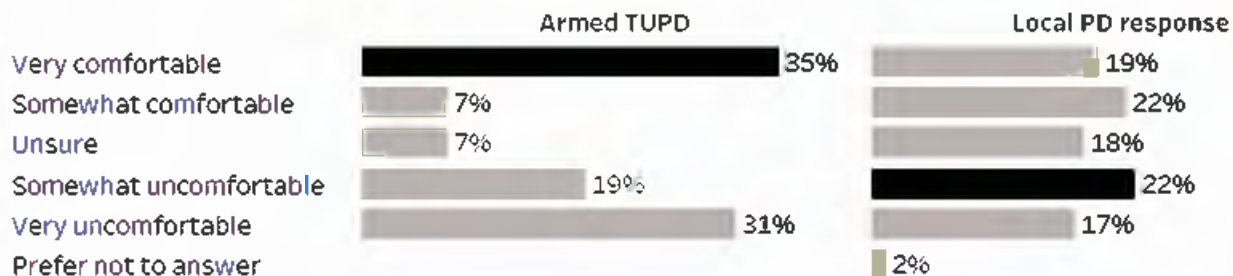
All

Country

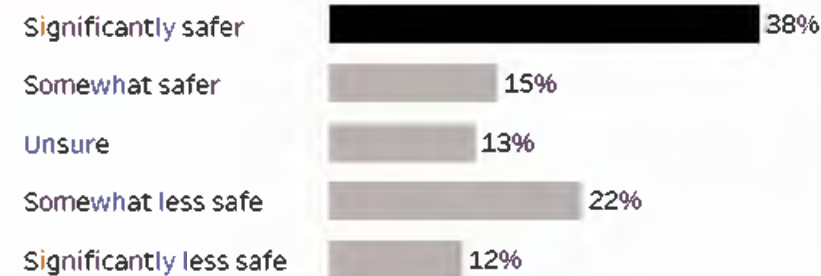
All



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts

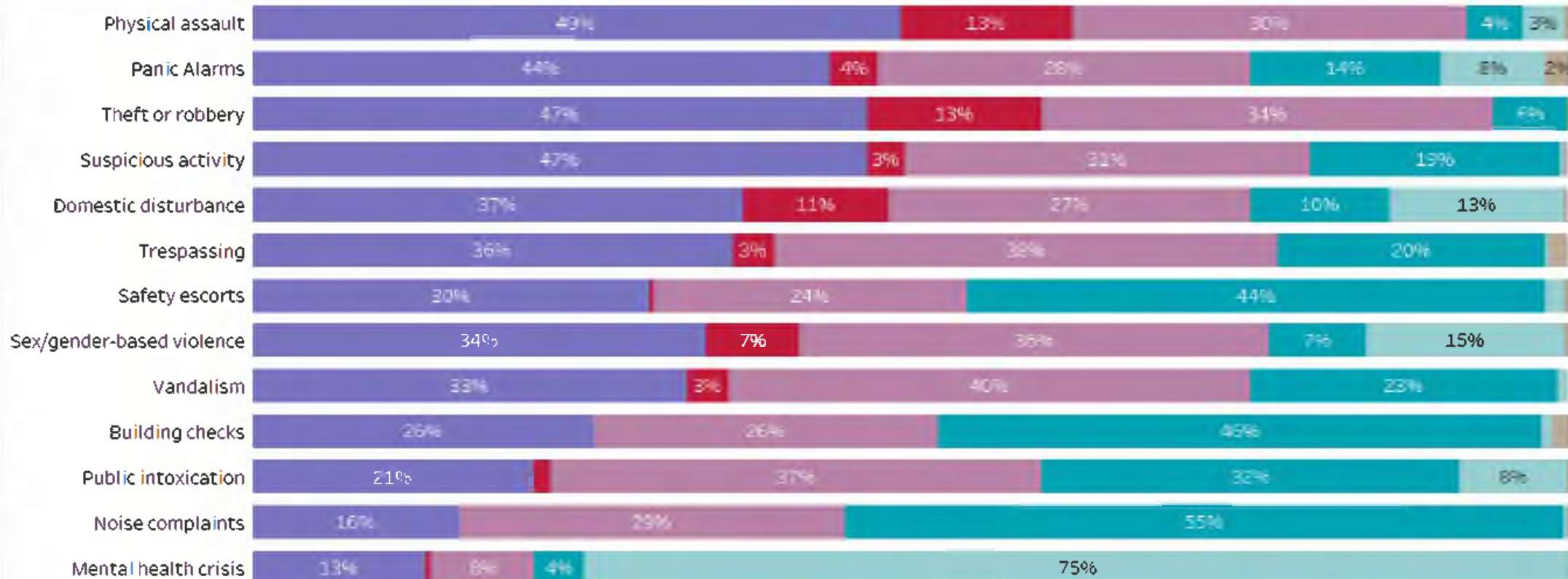




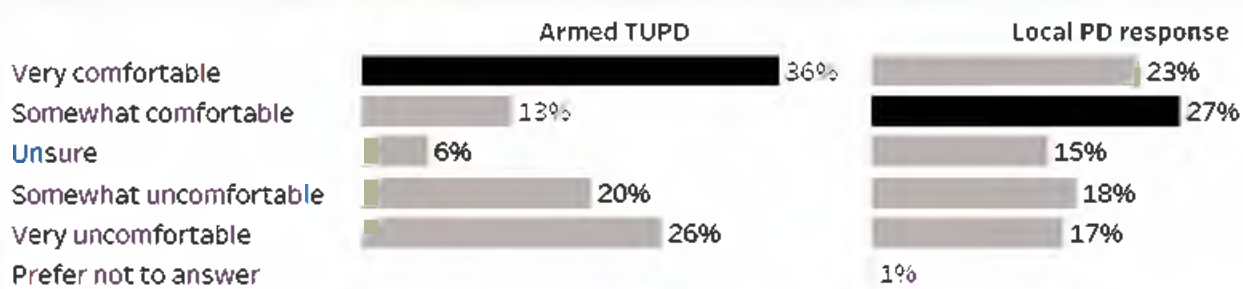
Faculty member



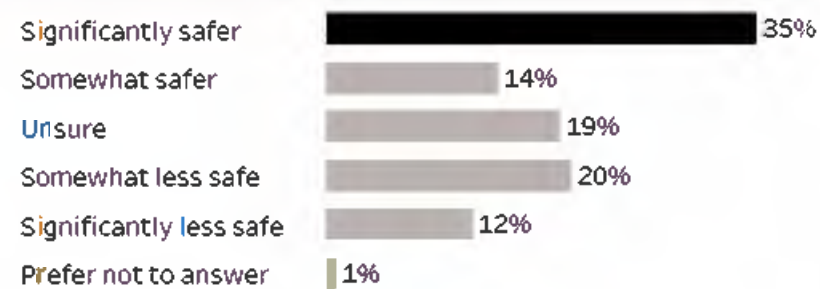
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



Campus

All

Gender

All

Race / Ethnicity

All

Age

All

Time affiliated

All

Transgender

All

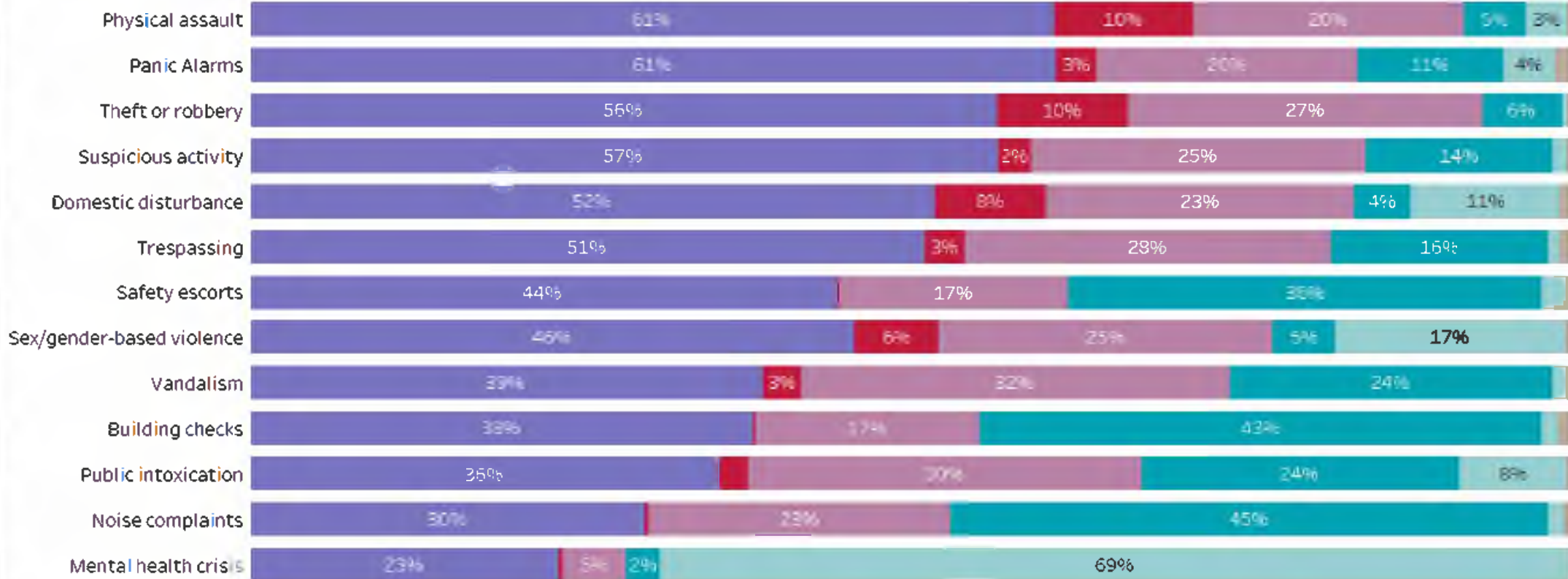
Country

All

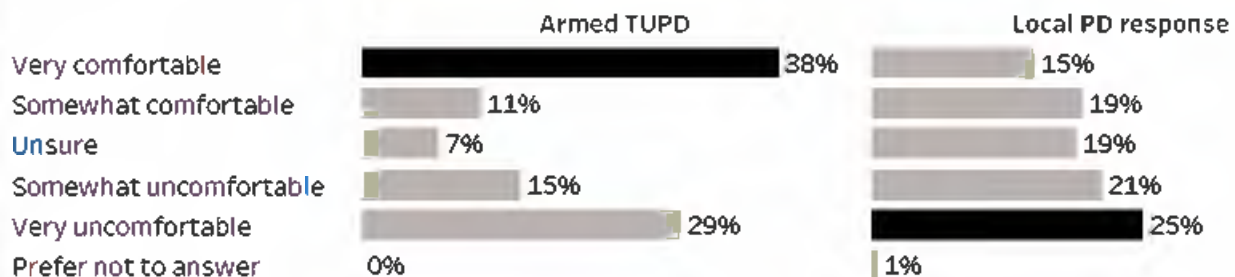
# TUPD Arming Survey

■ Armed TUPD
 ■ Local PD
 ■ Unarmed TUPD
 ■ Campus Security
 ■ MH professionals
 ■ Null

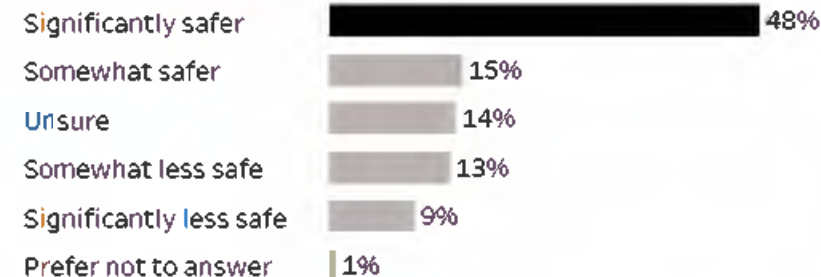
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



Campus

All

Gender

All

Race / Ethnicity

All

Age

All

Time affiliated

All

Transgender

All

Country

All



# Campus



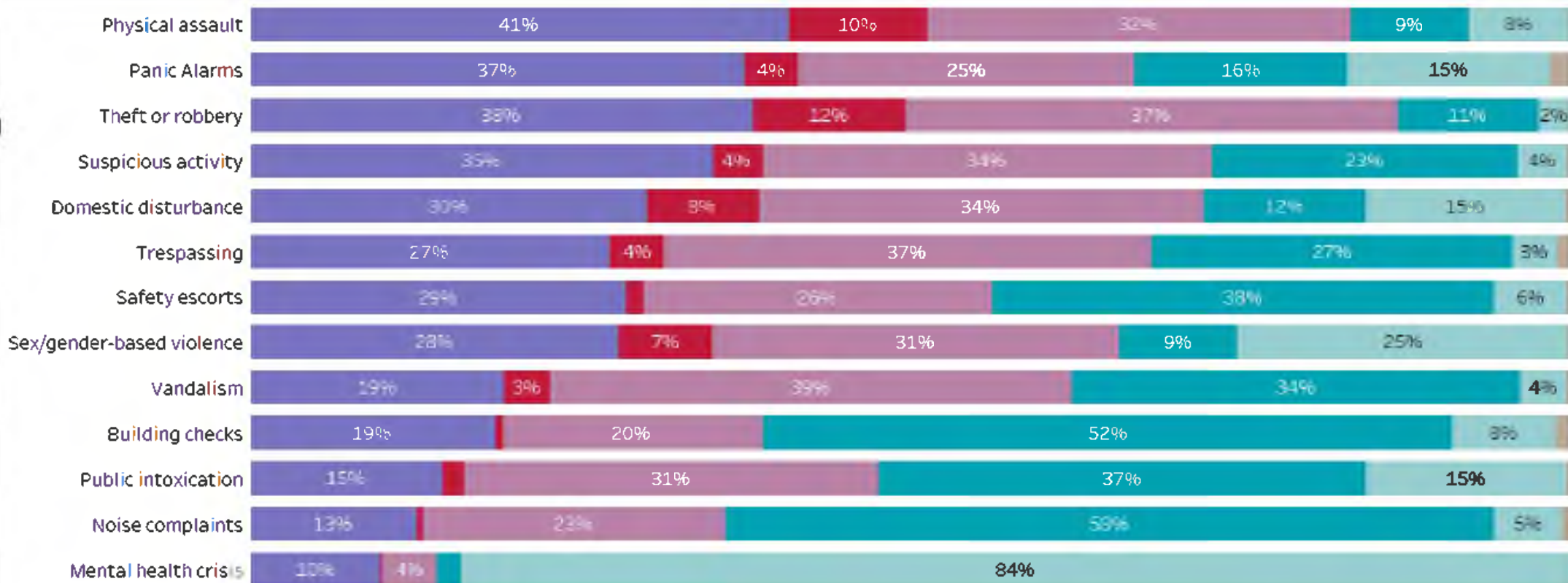
# TUPD Arming Survey

2040

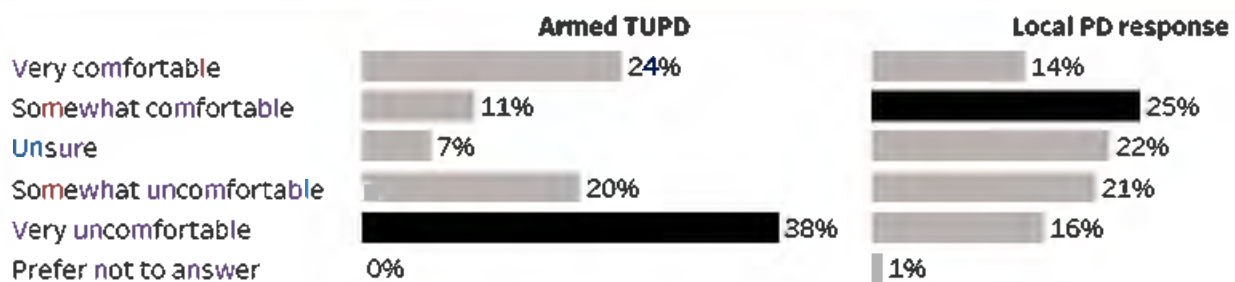
- Role
- All
- Campus
- Medford/Somerville
- Gender
- All
- Race / Ethnicity
- All
- Age
- All
- Time affiliated
- All
- Transgender
- All
- Country
- All

Armed TUPD Local PD Unarmed TUPD Campus Security MH professionals Null

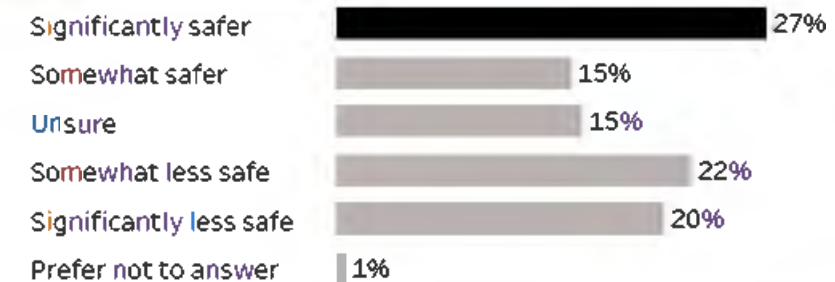
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts

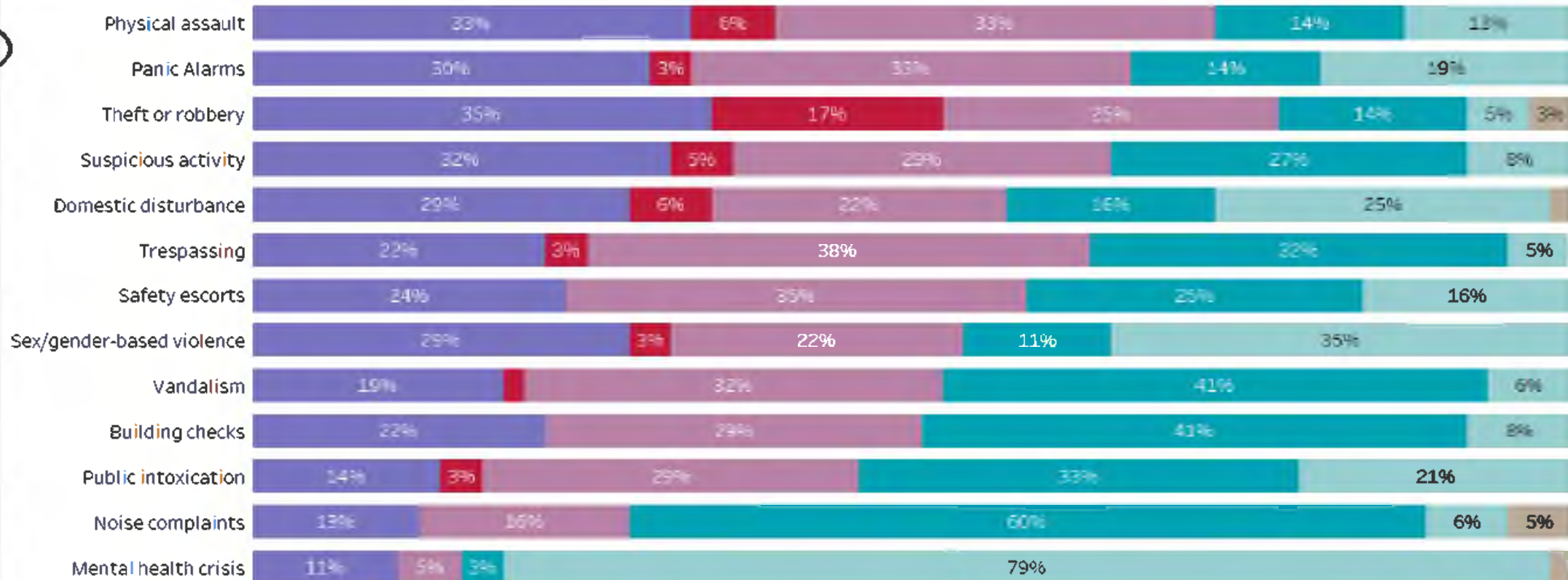


# TUPD Arming Survey

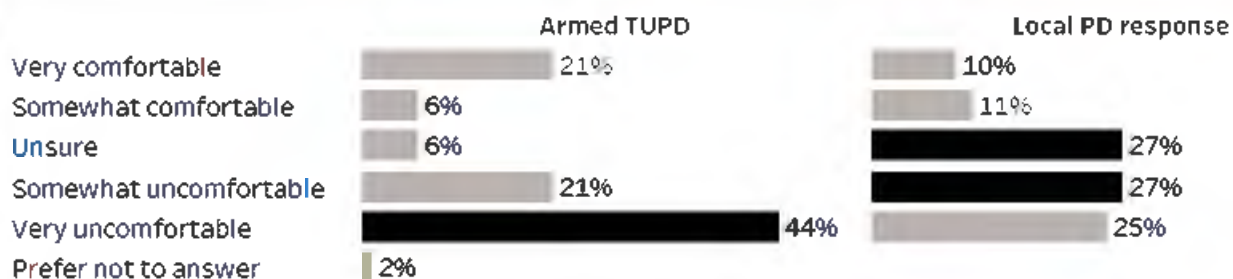
63

■ Armed TUPD 
 ■ Local PD 
 ■ Unarmed TUPD 
 ■ Campus Security 
 ■ MH professionals 
 ■ Null

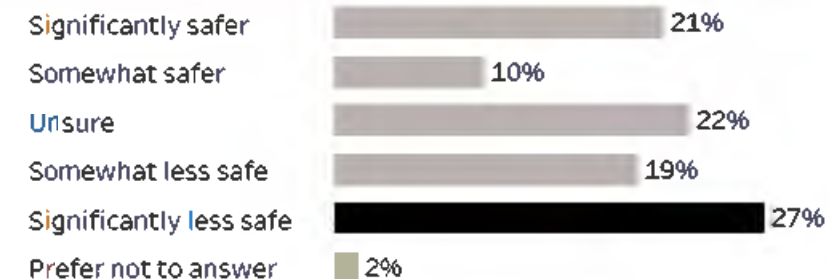
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



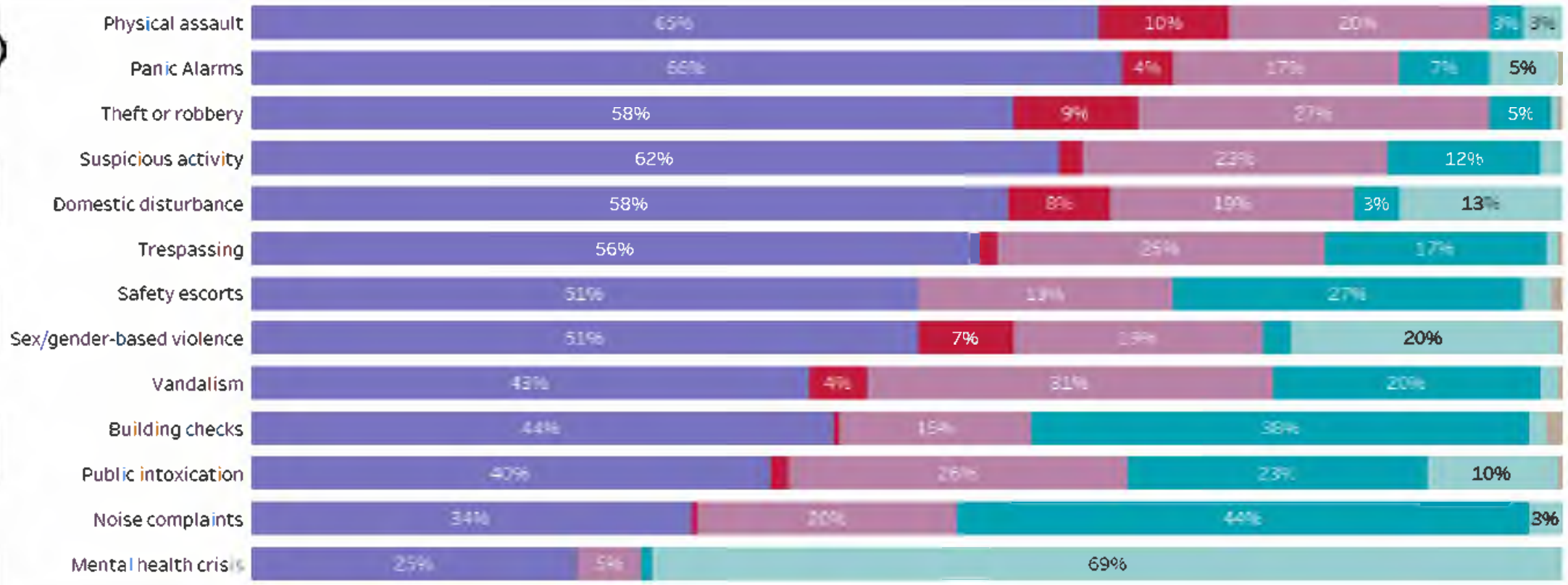
# TUPD Arming Survey

232

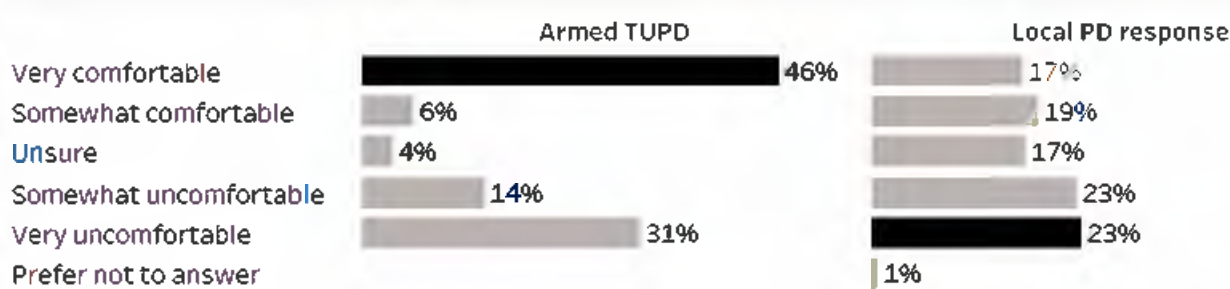
- Role
- All
- Campus
- Grafton
- Gender
- All
- Race / Ethnicity
- All
- Age
- All
- Time affiliated
- All
- Transgender
- All
- Country
- All

Armed TUPD Local PD Unarmed TUPD Campus Security MH professionals Null

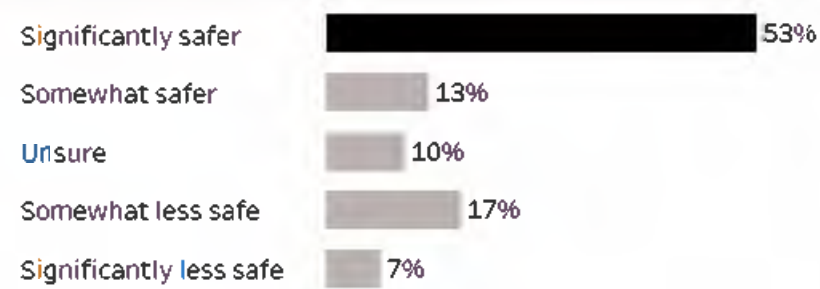
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts





# TUPD Arming Survey

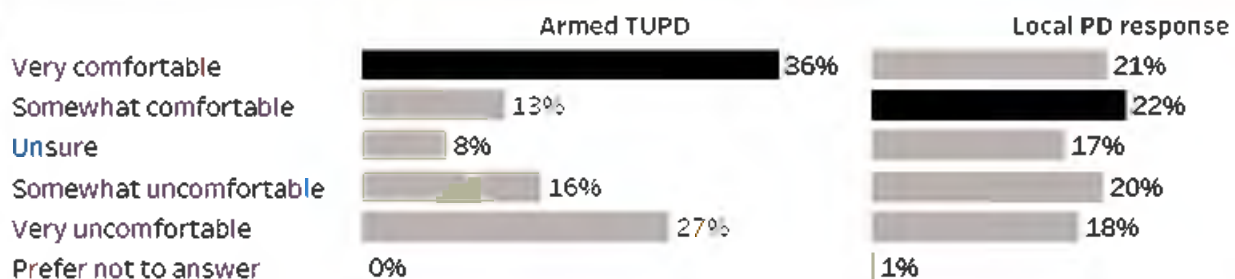
553

■ Armed TUPD
 ■ Local PD
 ■ Unarmed TUPD
 ■ Campus Security
 ■ MH professionals
 ■ Null

## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



- Role
- All
- Campus
- Boston Health Sciences
- Gender
- All
- Race / Ethnicity
- All
- Age
- All
- Time affiliated
- All
- Transgender
- All
- Country
- All



# Gender Identity

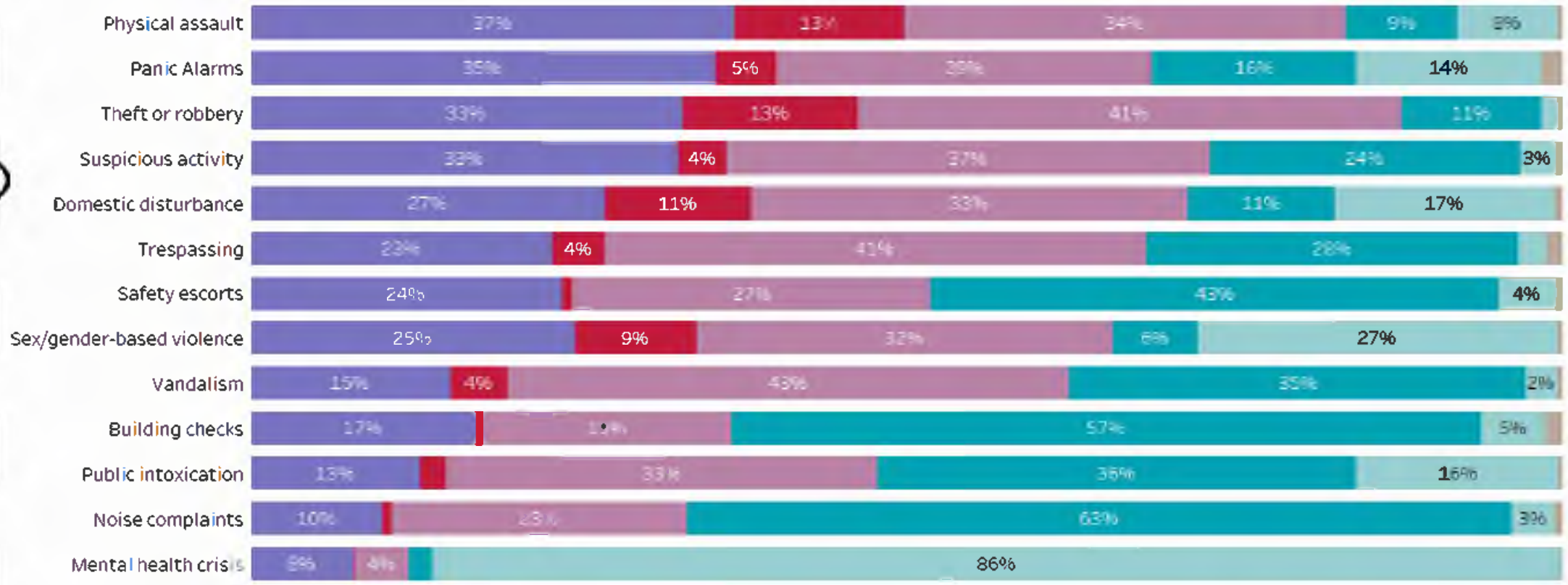
# TUPD Arming Survey

1444

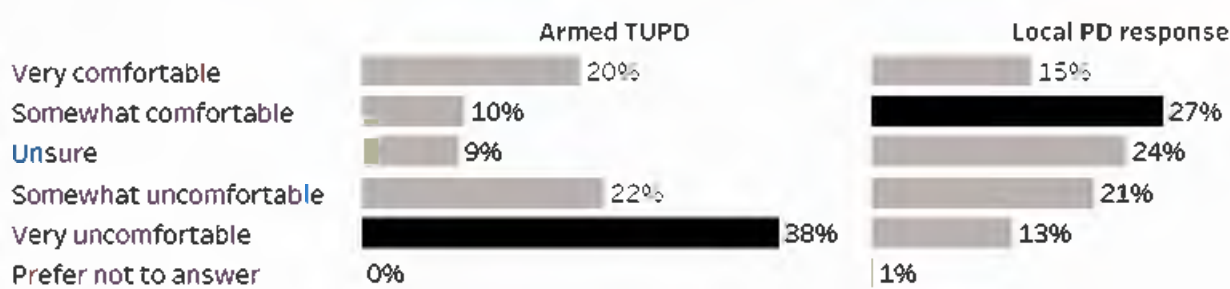
- Role
- All
- Campus
- All
- Gender
- Woman
- Race / Ethnicity
- All
- Age
- All
- Time affiliated
- All
- Transgender
- All
- Country
- All

Armed TUPD Local PD Unarmed TUPD Campus Security MH professionals Null

## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts

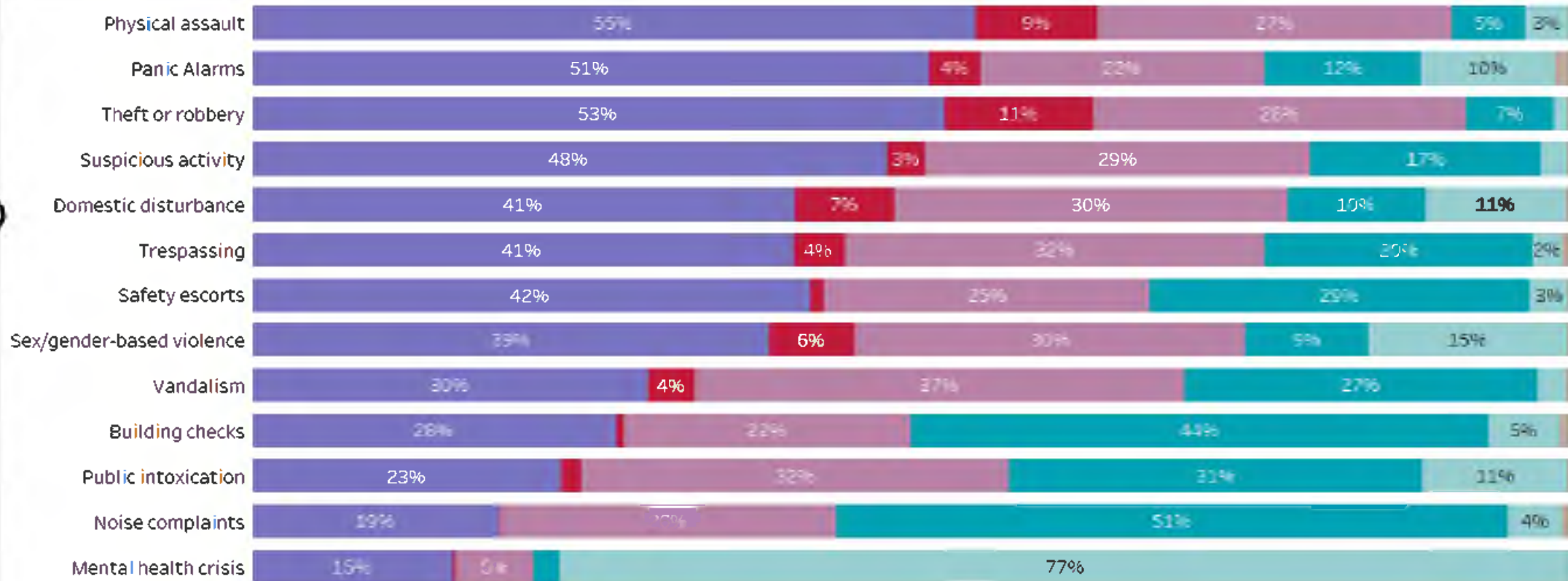


# TUPD Arming Survey

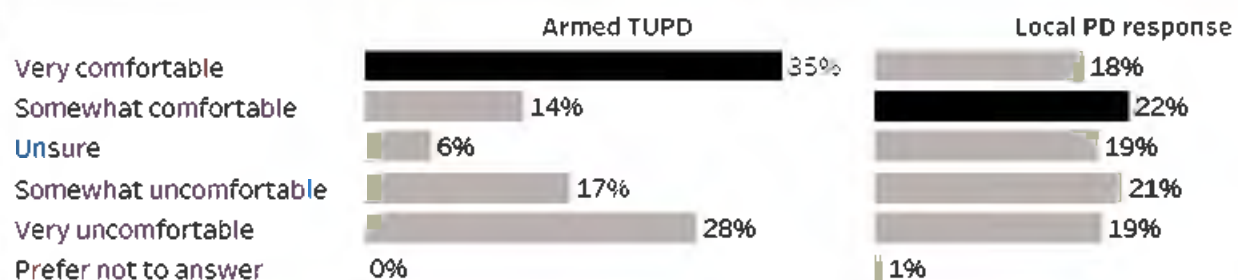
1100

■ Armed TUPD
 ■ Local PD
 ■ Unarmed TUPD
 ■ Campus Security
 ■ MH professionals
 ■ Null

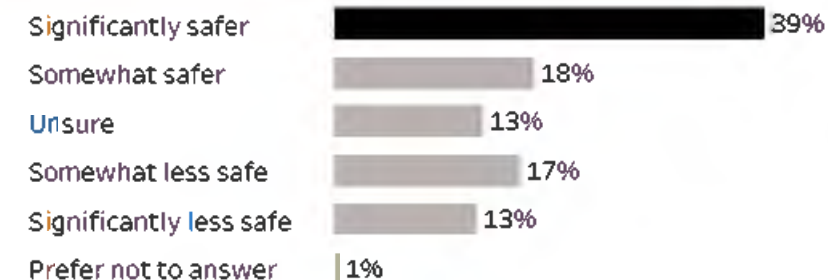
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



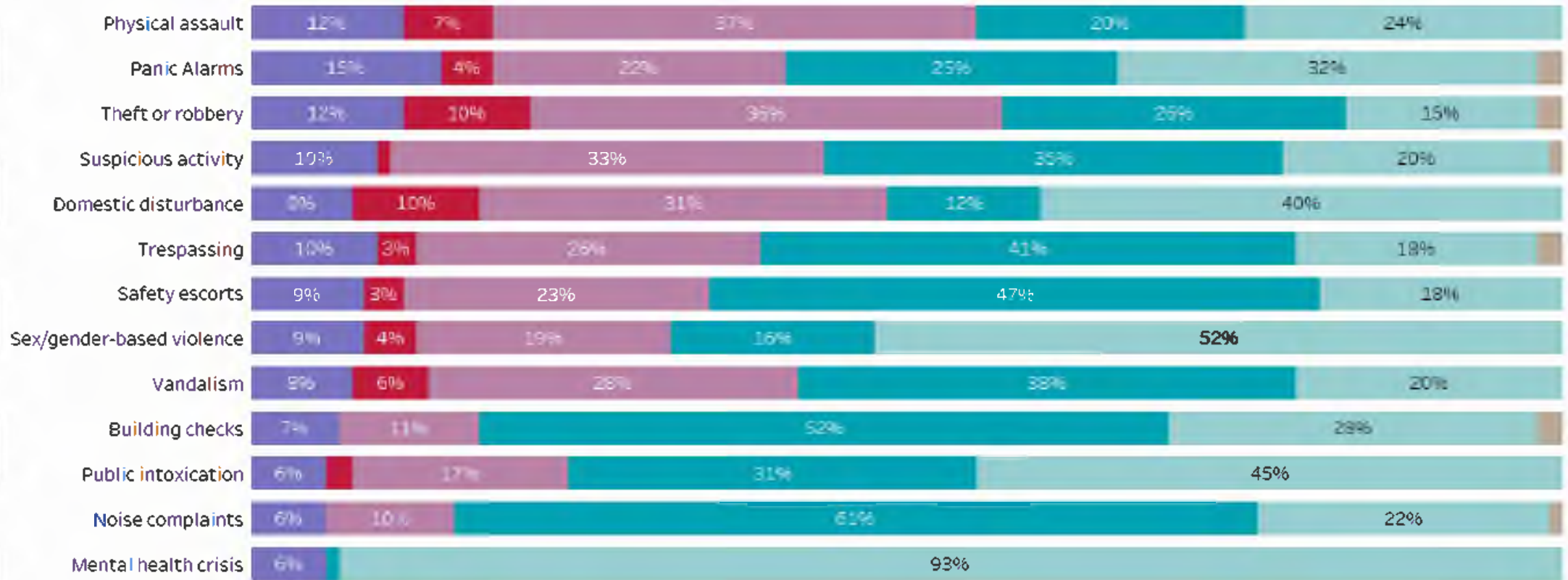


# TUPD Arming Survey

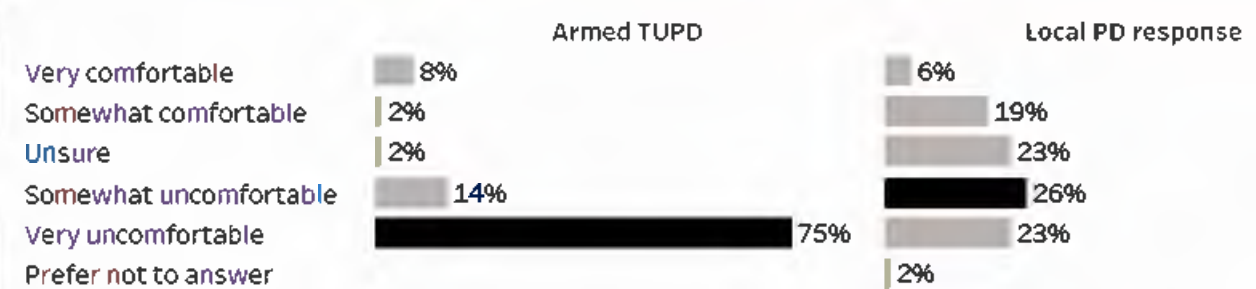
103

■ Armed TUPD 
 ■ Local PD 
 ■ Unarmed TUPD 
 ■ Campus Security 
 ■ MH professionals 
 ■ Null

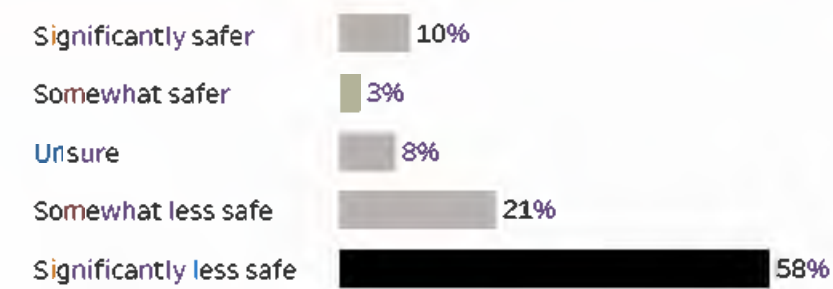
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



- Role
- All
- Campus
- All
- Gender
- All
- Race / Ethnicity
- All
- Age
- All
- Time affiliated
- All
- Transgender
- Yes
- Country
- All





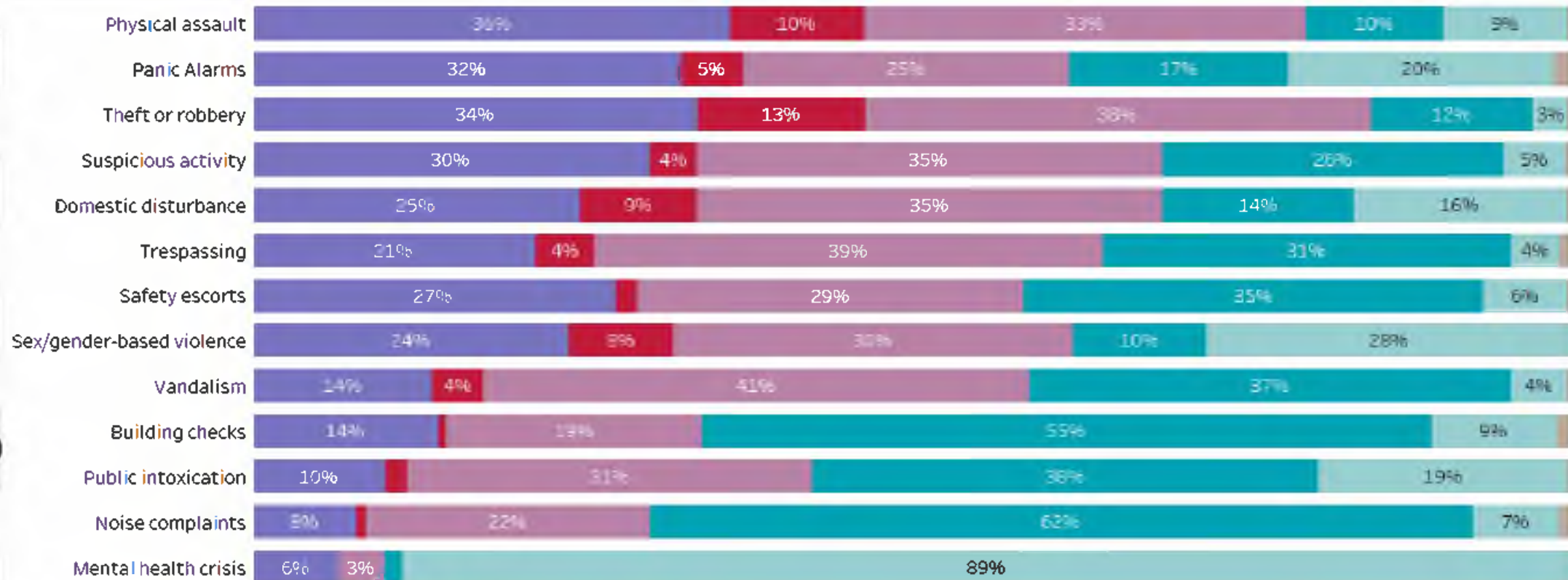
Age

# TUPD Arming Survey

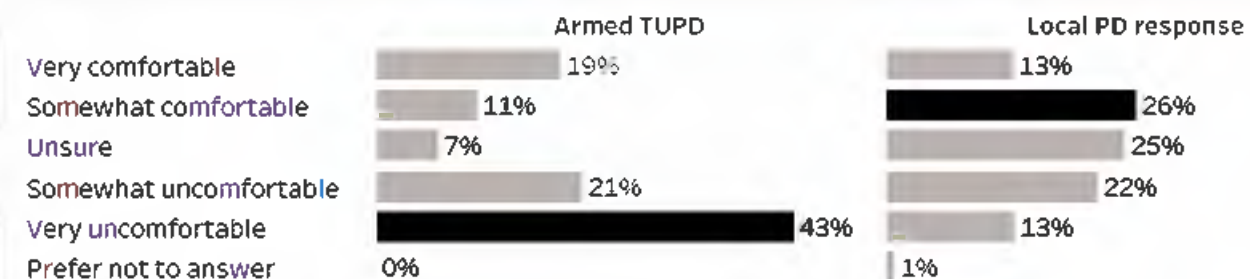
1416

■ Armed TUPD
 ■ Local PD
 ■ Unarmed TUPD
 ■ Campus Security
 ■ MH professionals
 ■ Null

## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



# TUPD Arming Survey

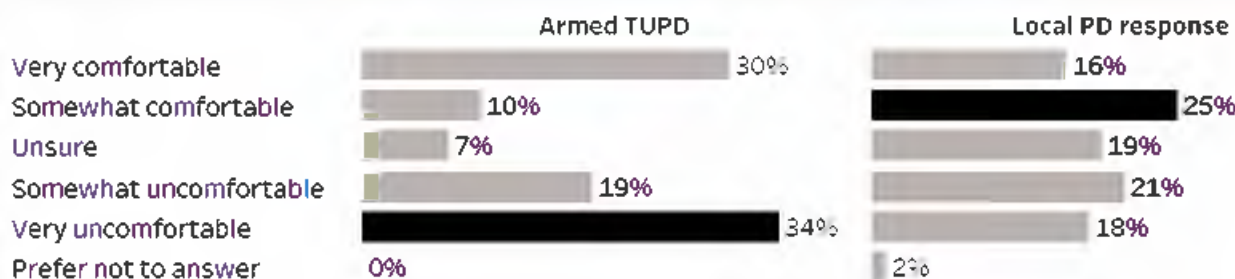
876

■ Armed TUPD 
 ■ Local PD 
 ■ Unarmed TUPD 
 ■ Campus Security 
 ■ MH professionals 
 ■ Null

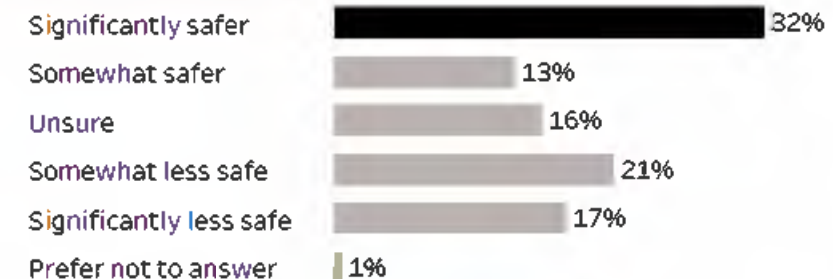
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts

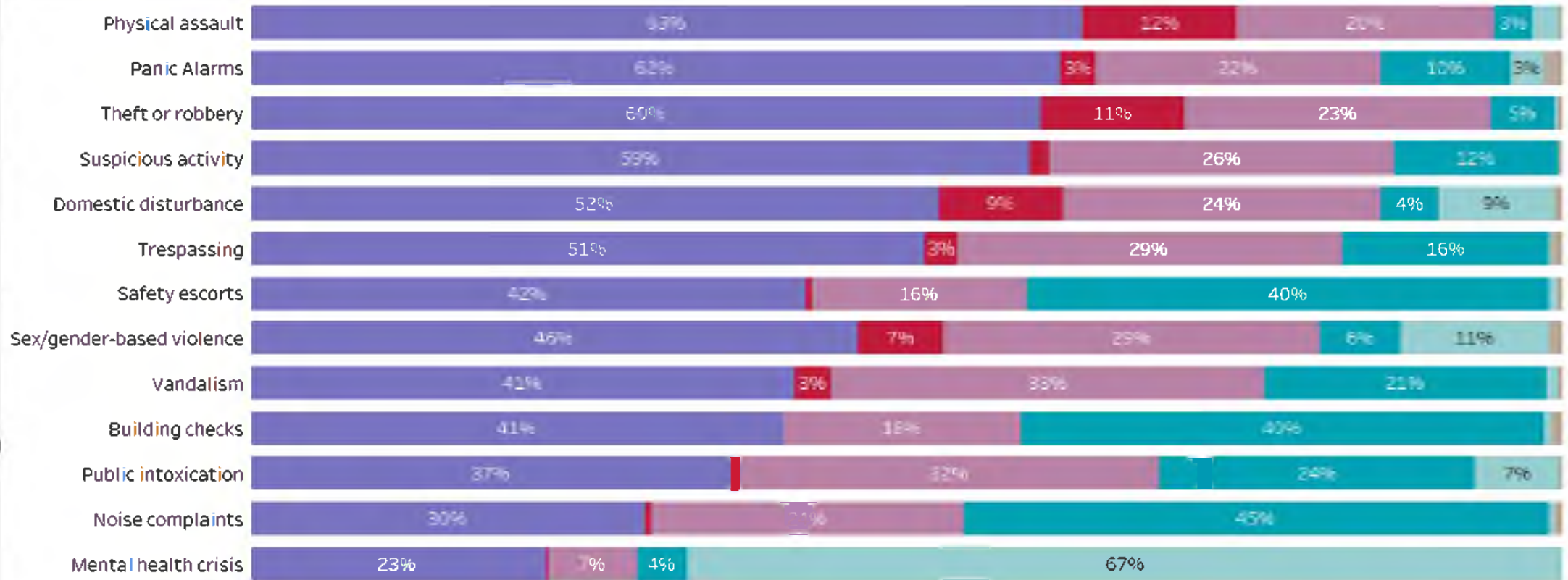


# TUPD Arming Survey

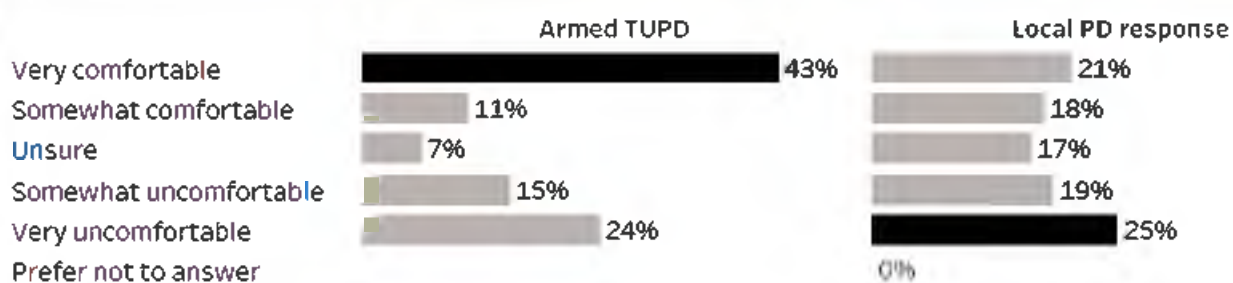
475

■ Armed TUPD 
 ■ Local PD 
 ■ Unarmed TUPD 
 ■ Campus Security 
 ■ MH professionals 
 ■ Null

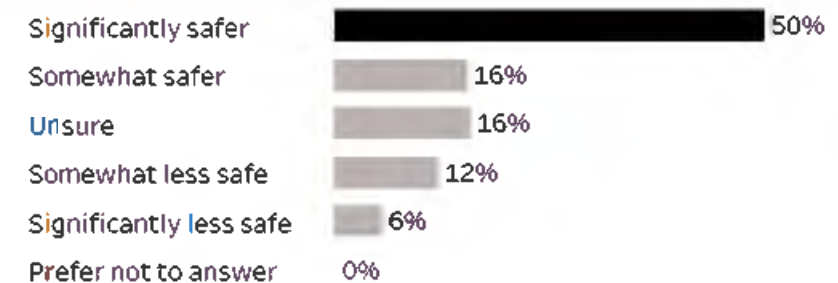
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



- Role
- All
- Campus
- All
- Gender
- All
- Race / Ethnicity
- All
- Age
- 45-65
- Time affiliated
- All
- Transgender
- All
- Country
- All

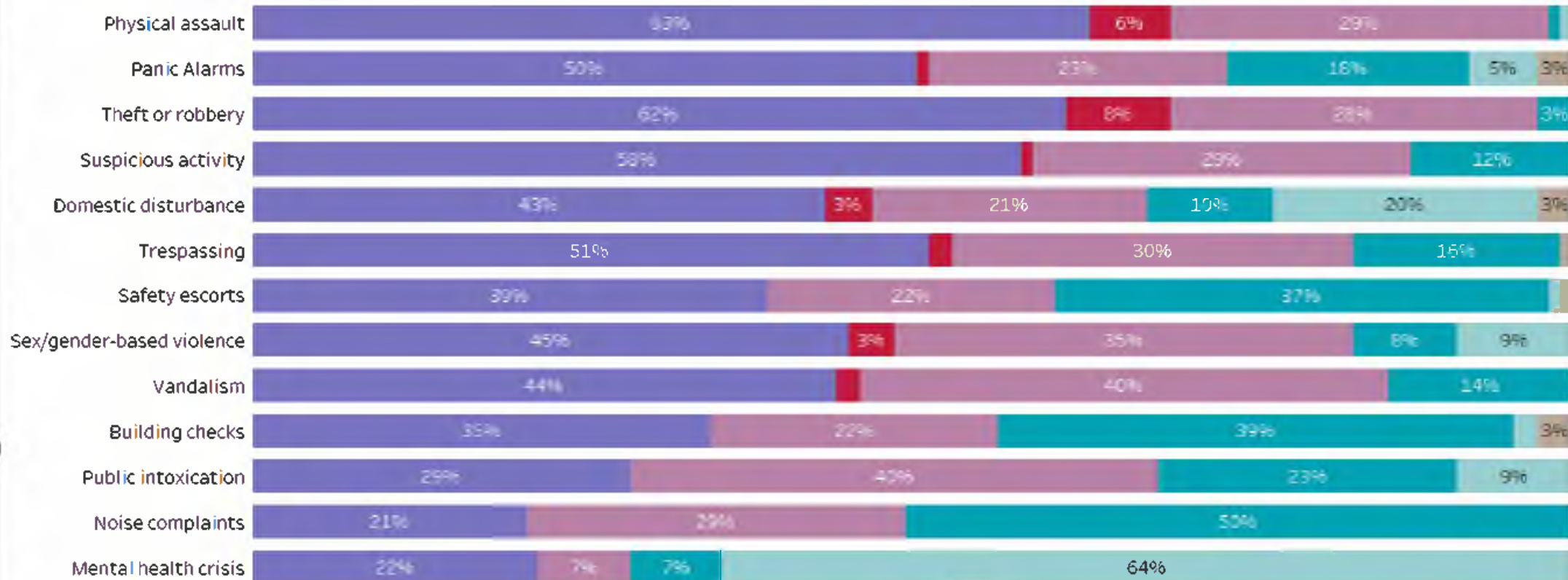


# TUPD Arming Survey

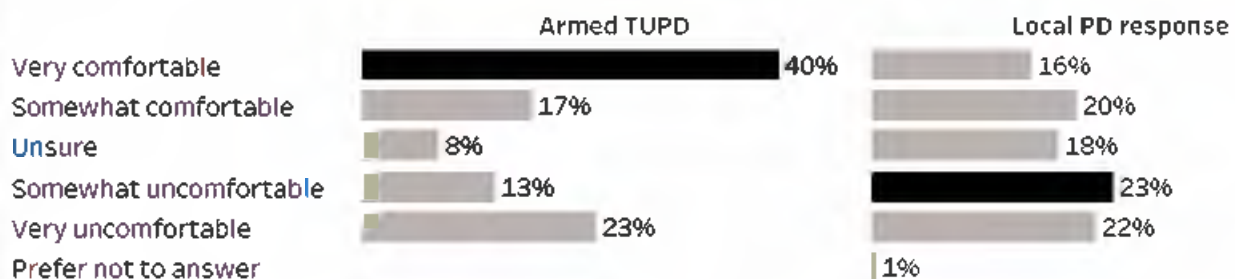
115

■ Armed TUPD 
 ■ Local PD 
 ■ Unarmed TUPD 
 ■ Campus Security 
 ■ MH professionals 
 ■ Null

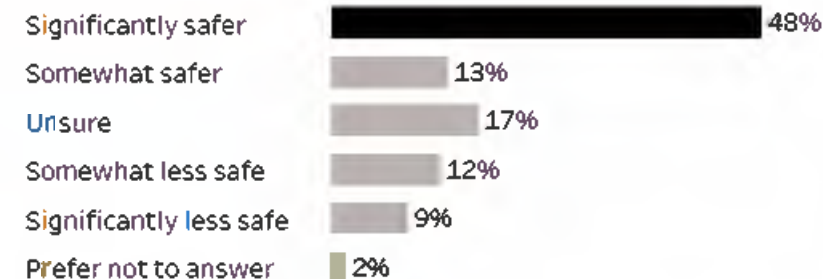
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts





# Race & Ethnicity

# TUPD Arming Survey

101

Role

All

Armed TUPD Local PD Unarmed TUPD Campus Security MH professionals Null

## Preferred response

Campus

All

Gender

All

Race / Ethnicity

African American/Afri.

Age

All

Time affiliated

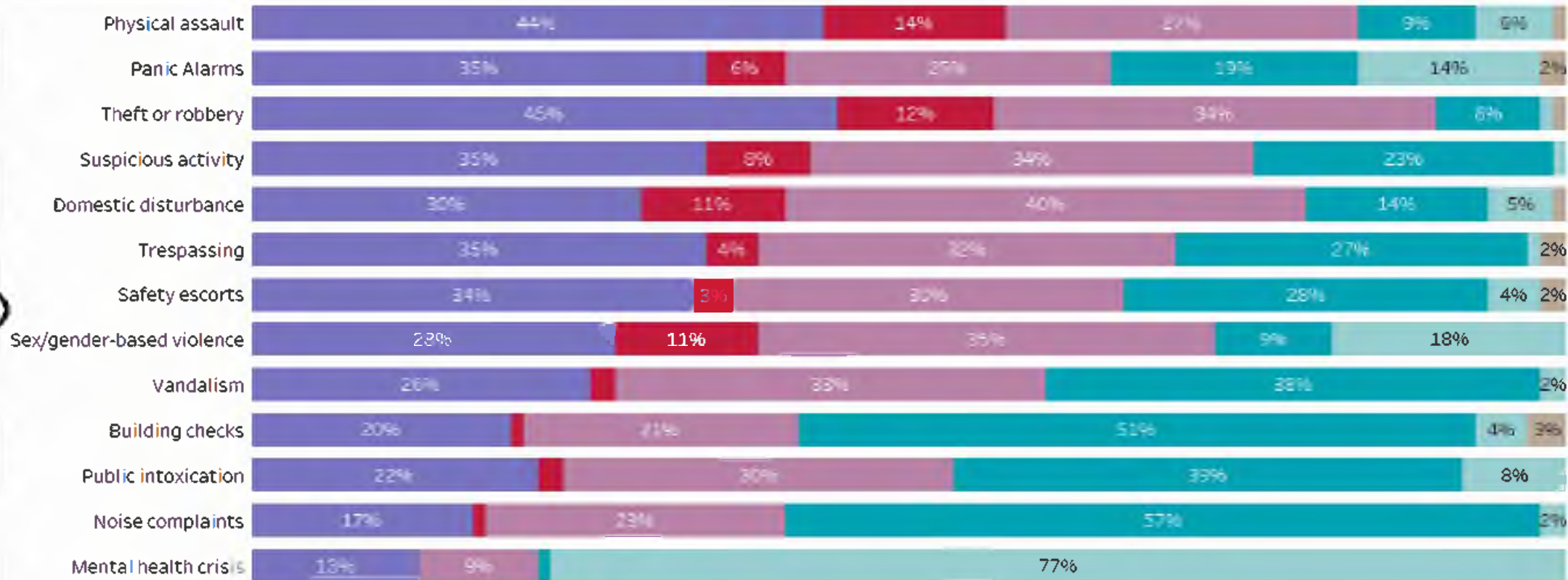
All

Transgender

All

Country

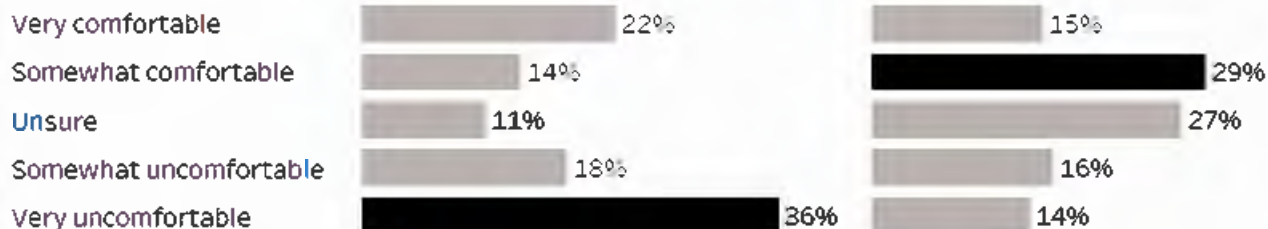
All



## Comfort with

Armed TUPD

Local PD response



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts

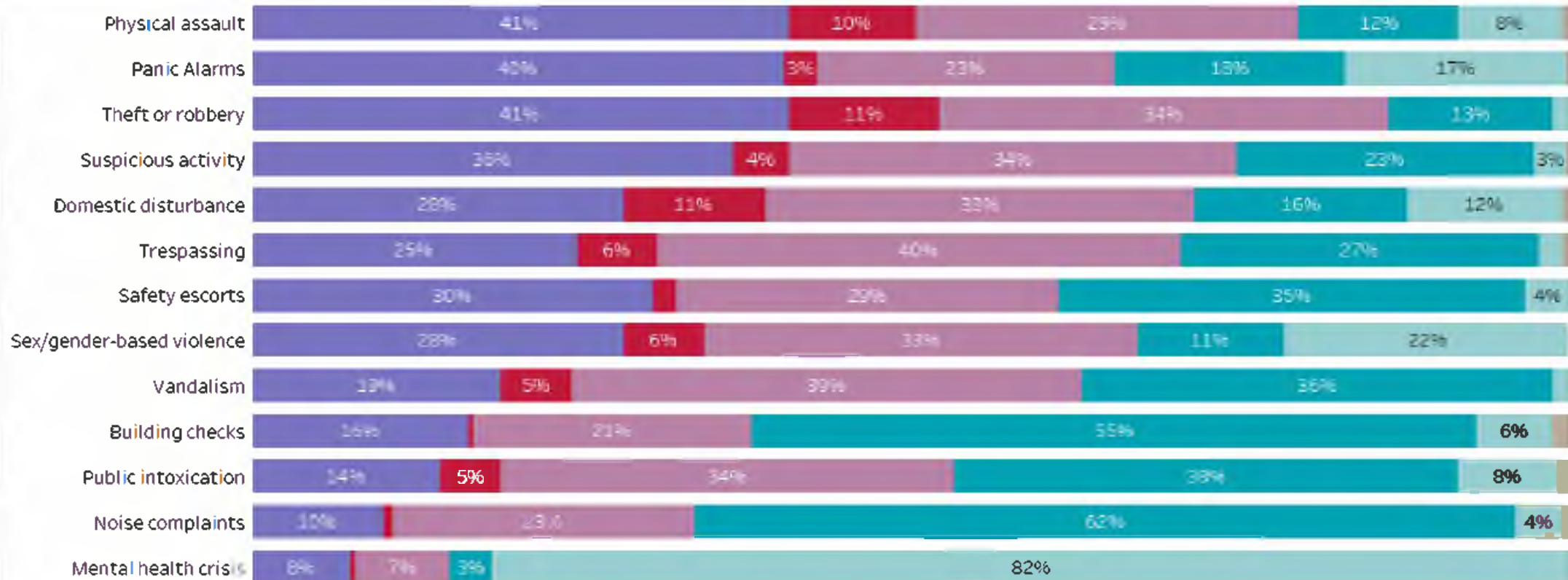


# TUPD Arming Survey

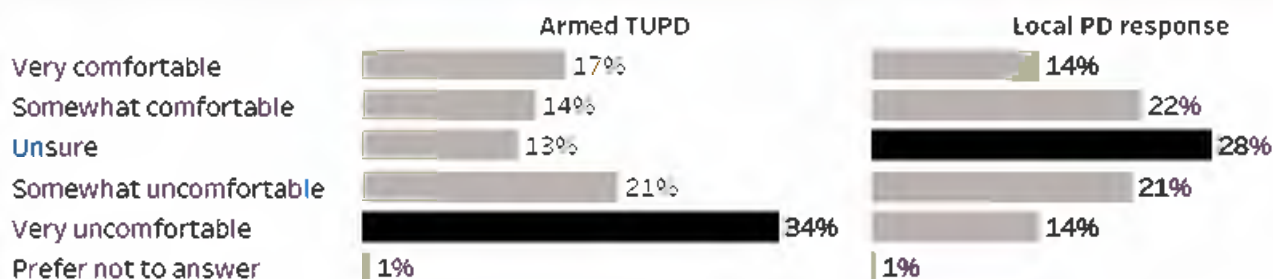
280

Armed TUPD Local PD Unarmed TUPD Campus Security MH professionals Null

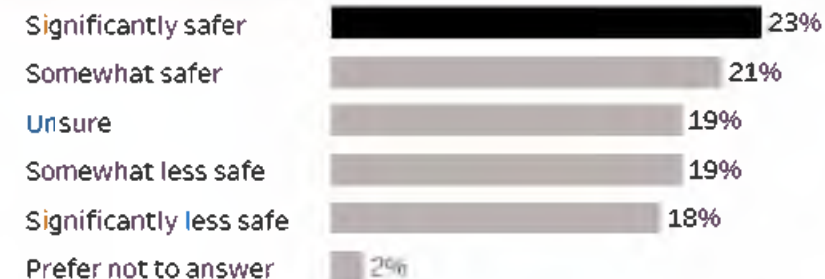
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



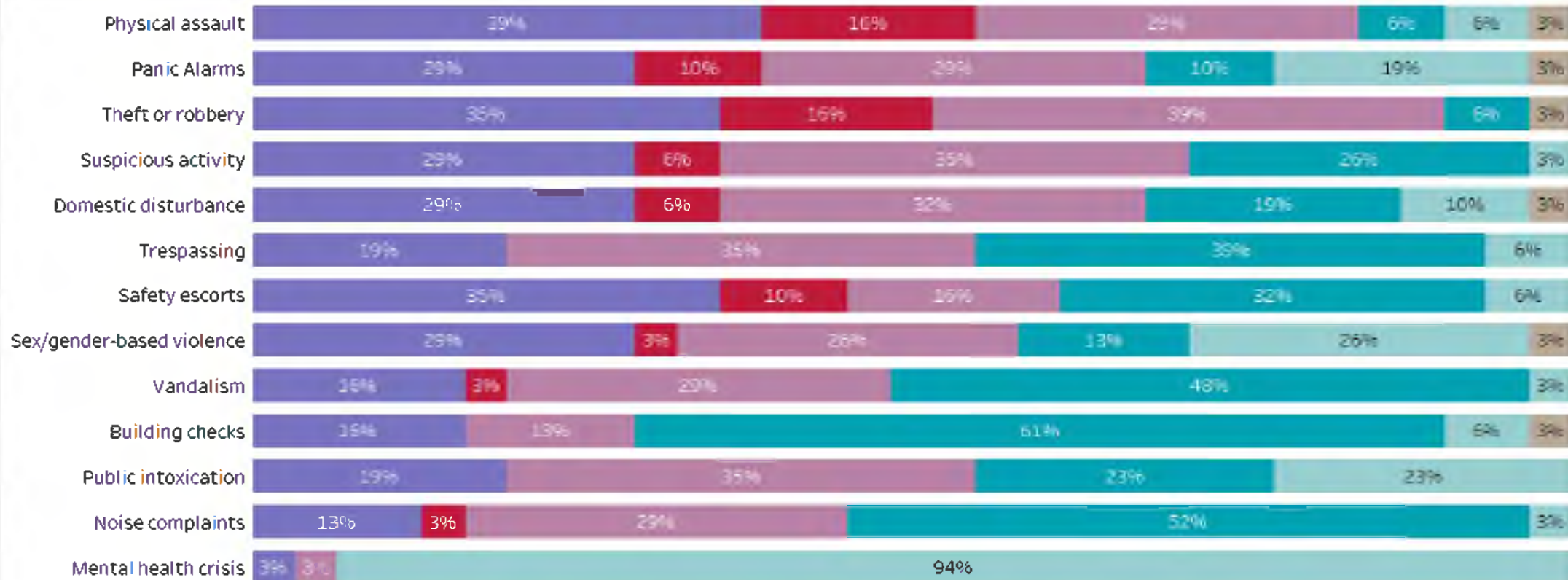


# TUPD Arming Survey

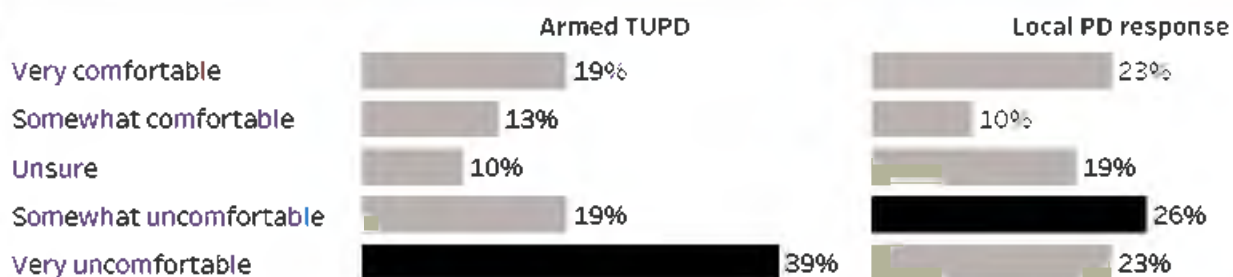
31

■ Armed TUPD 
 ■ Local PD 
 ■ Unarmed TUPD 
 ■ Campus Security 
 ■ MH professionals 
 ■ Null

## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



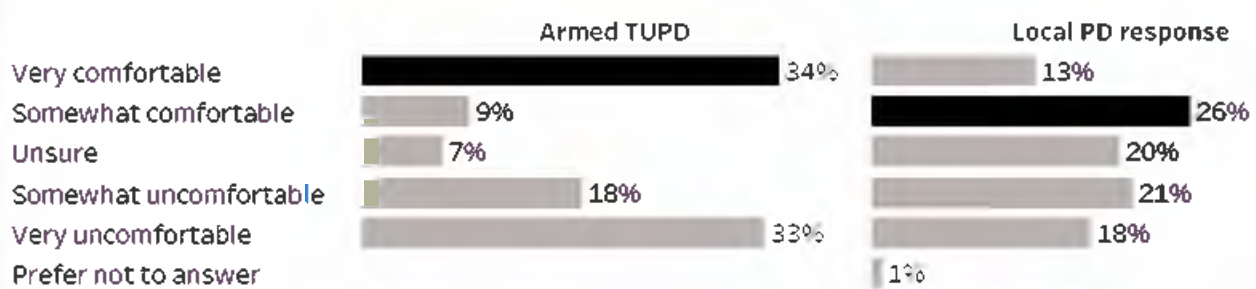
# TUPD Arming Survey

■ Armed TUPD 
 ■ Local PD 
 ■ Unarmed TUPD 
 ■ Campus Security 
 ■ MH professionals 
 ■ Null

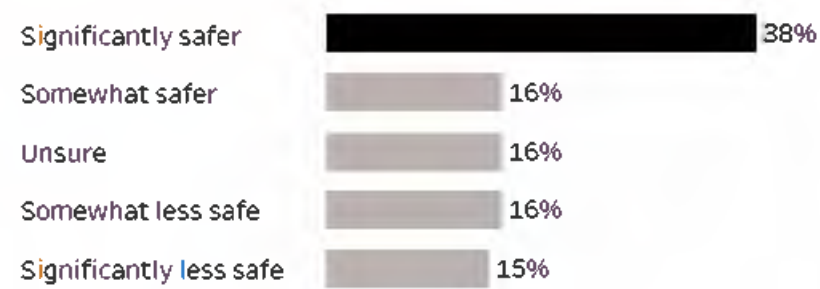
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts



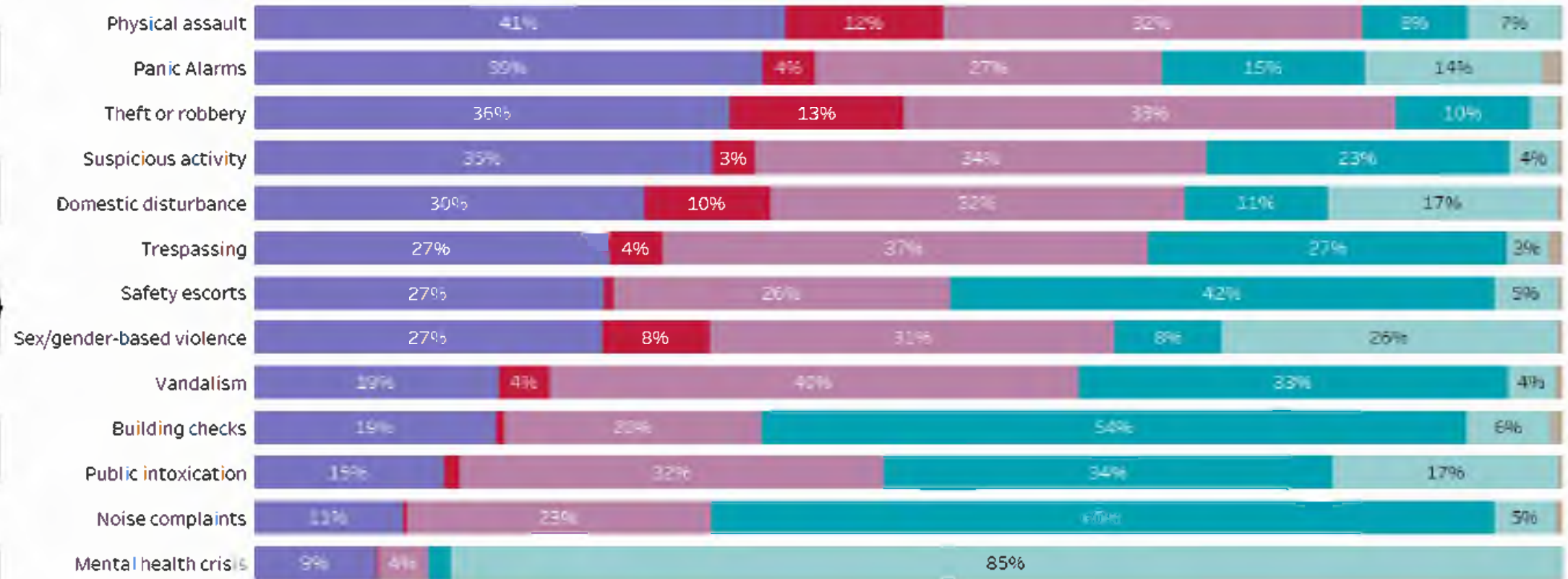
# TUPD Arming Survey

1825

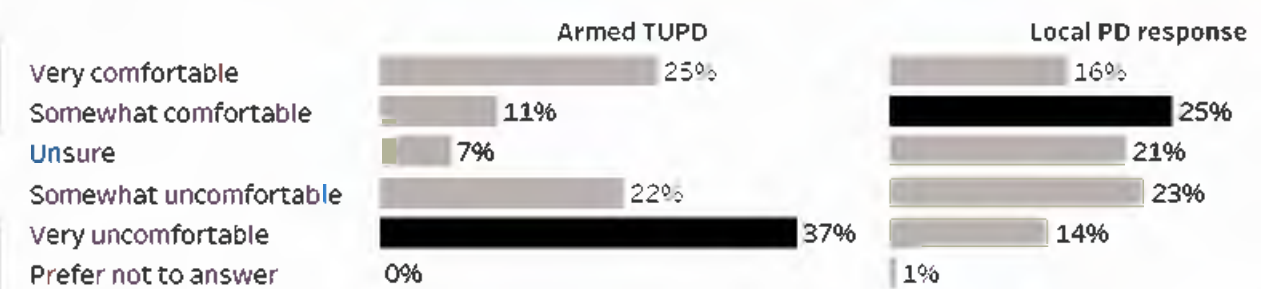
- Role
- All
- Campus
- All
- Gender
- All
- Race / Ethnicity
- White
- Age
- All
- Time affiliated
- All
- Transgender
- All
- Country
- All



## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts





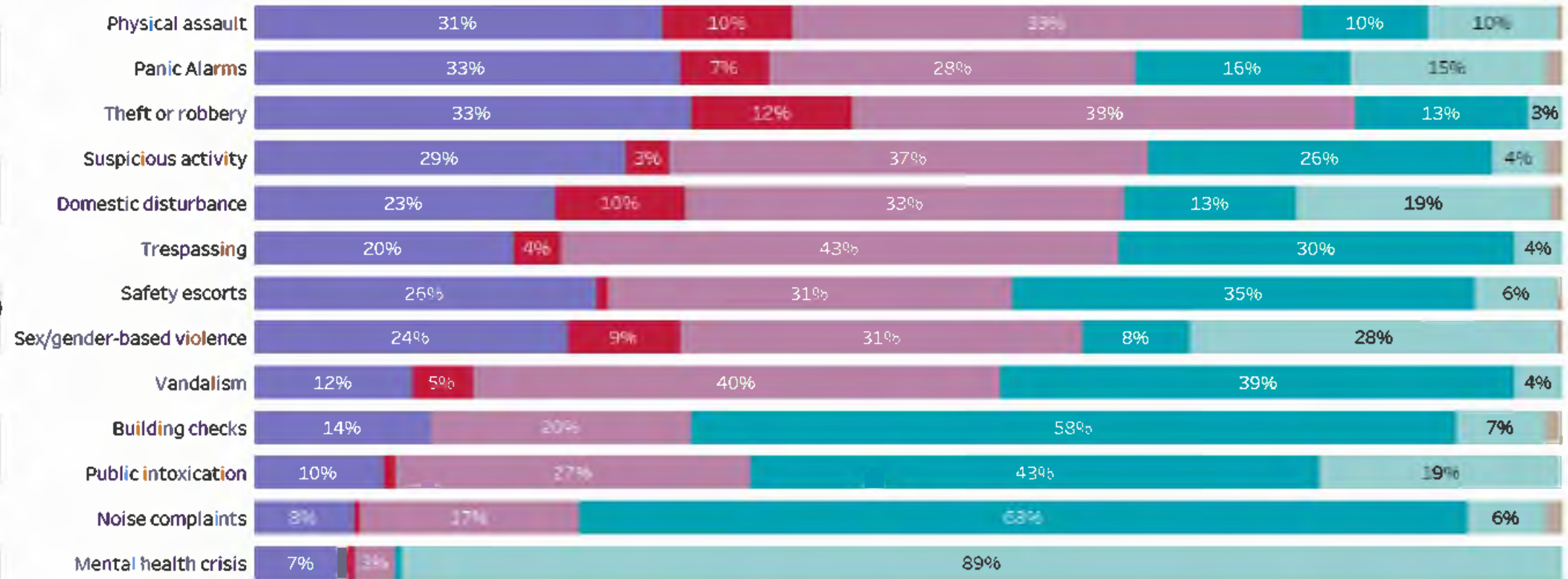
# TUPD Arming Survey

221

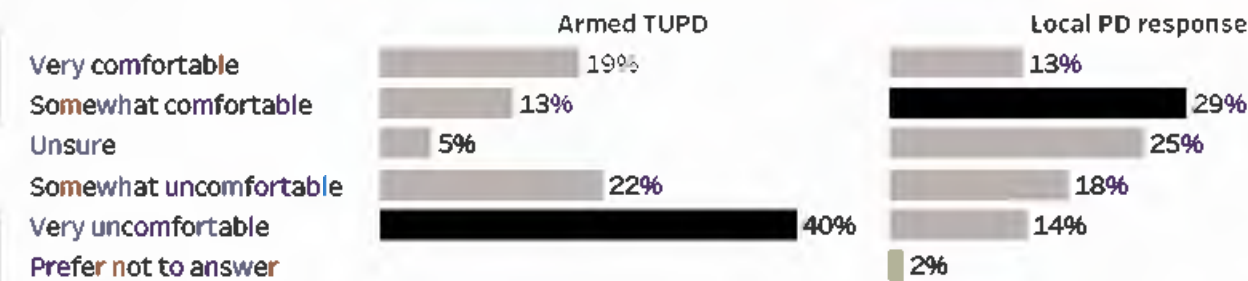
- Role
- All
- Campus
- All
- Gender
- All
- Race/Ethnicity
- Multiple races/Ethnic...
- Age
- All
- Time affiliated
- All
- Transgender
- All
- Country
- All



## Preferred response



## Comfort with



## Armed TUPD makes Tufts

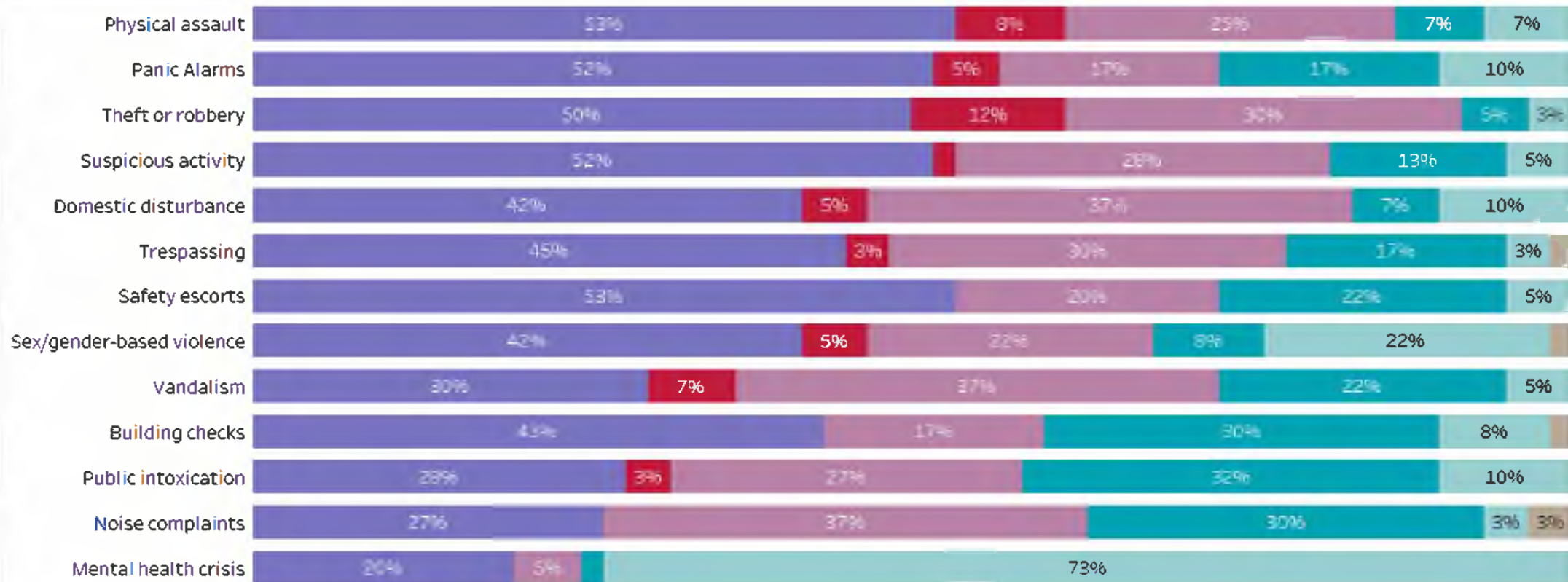


# TUPD Arming Survey

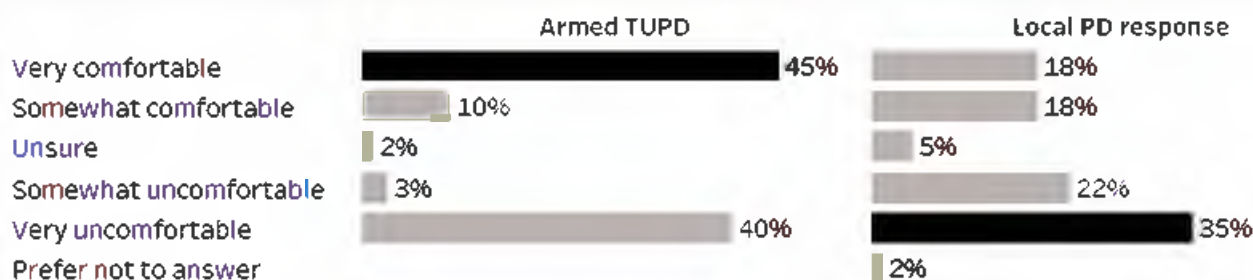
60

■ Armed TUPD 
 ■ Local PD 
 ■ Unarmed TUPD 
 ■ Campus Security 
 ■ MH professionals 
 ■ Null

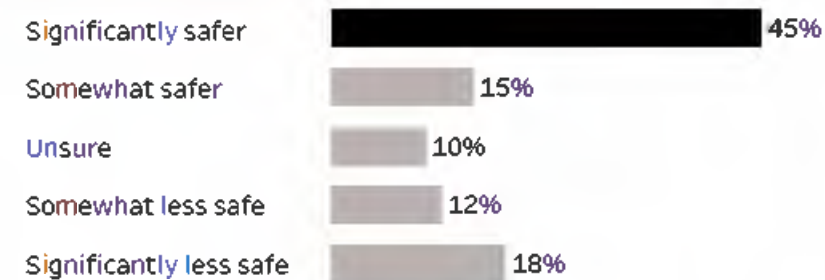
## Preferred response



## Comfort with



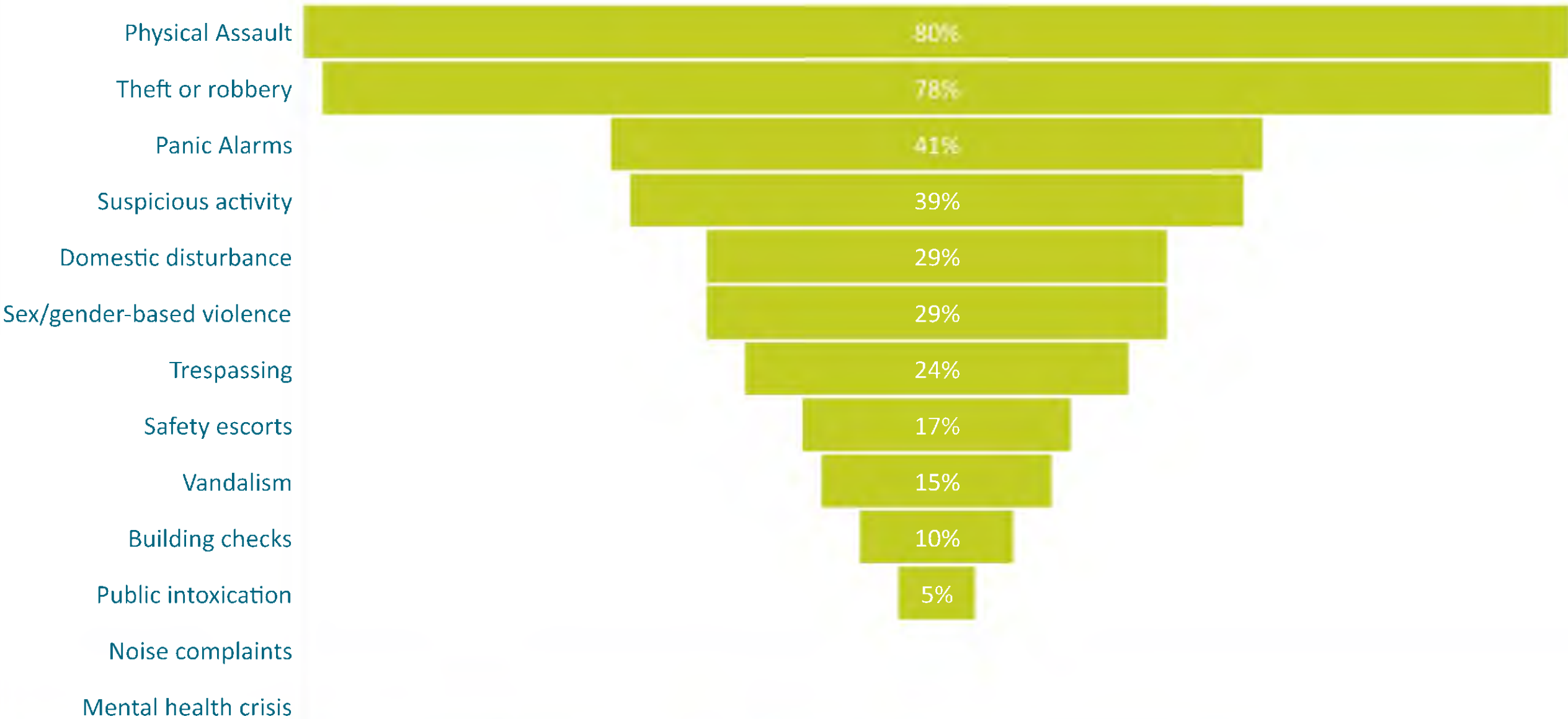
## Armed TUPD makes Tufts





# Summary Data

# Frequency of support for arming across all groups



# Armed response preferred by campus

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## Medford/Somerville

- Physical Assault
- Theft/Robbery

## SMFA

- Theft/Robbery

## Grafton

- Physical Assault
- Theft/Robbery
- Panic Alarms
- Suspicious Activity
- Domestic Disturbance
- Trespass
- Safety Escorts
- Sex/Gender-based violence

## Boston Health

### Science:

- Physical Assault
- Theft/Robbery
- Panic Alarms
- Suspicious Activity
- Domestic disturbance
- Sex/Gender-based violence





# Qualitative Data

# Qualitative responses

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- Strong opinions expressed on all sides
- Many people expressed their opinions (63% of respondents)
- Opinions were both polarized and mixed

# Qualitative responses-All groups

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## Advantages

- Armed TUPD = safe campus
- Armed police may de-escalate situations
- Rapid response is key
- Concerns about mass shootings
- Concerns about specific incidents
- TUPD is trusted much more than external police forces

## Disadvantages

- Armed TUPD = unsafe campus
- Arming increases danger
- Police may escalate situations
- A real threat for racial and cultural minorities
- The presence of guns is retraumatizing

# Qualitative responses-All groups

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## Other key perceptions of respondents

- Safety is important to everyone, how to feel safe varies
- Overemphasis on feelings of some over safety of all
- Limited understanding of the real threat posed to some groups
- Training officers is key, but is it a reasonable expectation
- Environmental variables affect the need for arming
- Some feel this topic shouldn't be up for debate

# Qualitative responses- African-American/Black respondents

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## Advantages

- Rapid response is key
- Concerns about mass shootings
- Concerns about specific incidents
- Arming is a deterrent
- TUPD is trusted much more than external police forces

## Disadvantages

- Arming increases danger
- Less likely to call TUPD
- Police may escalate situations
- A real, personal threat
- The presence of guns is retraumatizing





Thank You!

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