

Sacramento County  
Community Corrections Partnership

One County, One Plan,  
**Many Voices**

CCP Advisory Board

May 2023

# Planning for Progress

- Sacramento County's AB 109 Plan must be updated each year
- Community members desire to understand and contribute to AB 109 spending decisions
- Continually improving AB 109 Plan Updates can better support and influence justice system partners and contribute toward meaningful progress in achieving overarching plan goals
- CCPAB seeks to strengthen its annual plan update recommendations by expanding upon recent efforts to increase community input into the plan development process, including input from formerly incarcerated individuals

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# Ad Hoc Committees



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## Public Awareness

- Increase community awareness of realignment, the AB 109 Plan, the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) & the CCP Advisory Board
- Engage community members through participation in meetings and plan development efforts

## Outreach to Justice-Involved Individuals

- Ensure that input from those with lived experience with the justice system and incarceration is valued, considered, and uplifted in developing the AB 109 Plan

# Public Awareness

- Moved to larger meeting space
- Added remote meeting participation options
- Developed & distributed flyer
- Hosted and recorded informational webinar
- Added meeting notification options
- Reviewed website (*Updates in progress*)
- Plan to support upcoming community workshop (*Date TBD*)

# Outreach to Justice-Involved Individuals

Sought input from those with lived experience to better understand:

- What would have prevented them from becoming involved in the justice system?
- During and after their justice-involvement:
  - What available programs, services, and supports worked?
  - What didn't work?
- What types of programs and services, if offered, would have been helpful and impactful?

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# Outreach Methods



- Easily distributed and accessible to wider audience
- Online and printable versions



- Specific outreach to ensure representation from different types of lived experience
- Small groups enable free-flowing, honest conversations

# Outreach Results

## 117 Surveys Completed

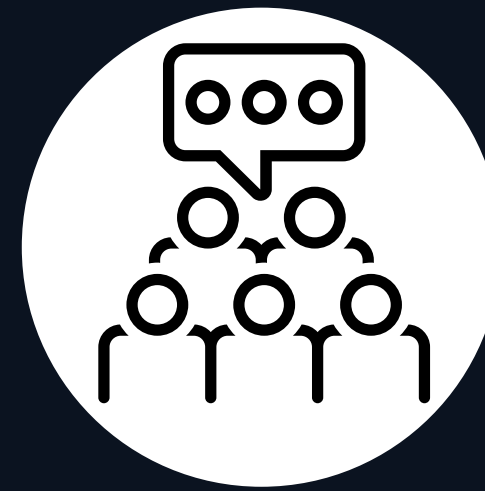


Surveys were distributed to more than 400 individuals and groups. The survey included 4 primary questions as well as optional demographics questions. A diverse group of individuals with a variety of life experiences completed the survey.

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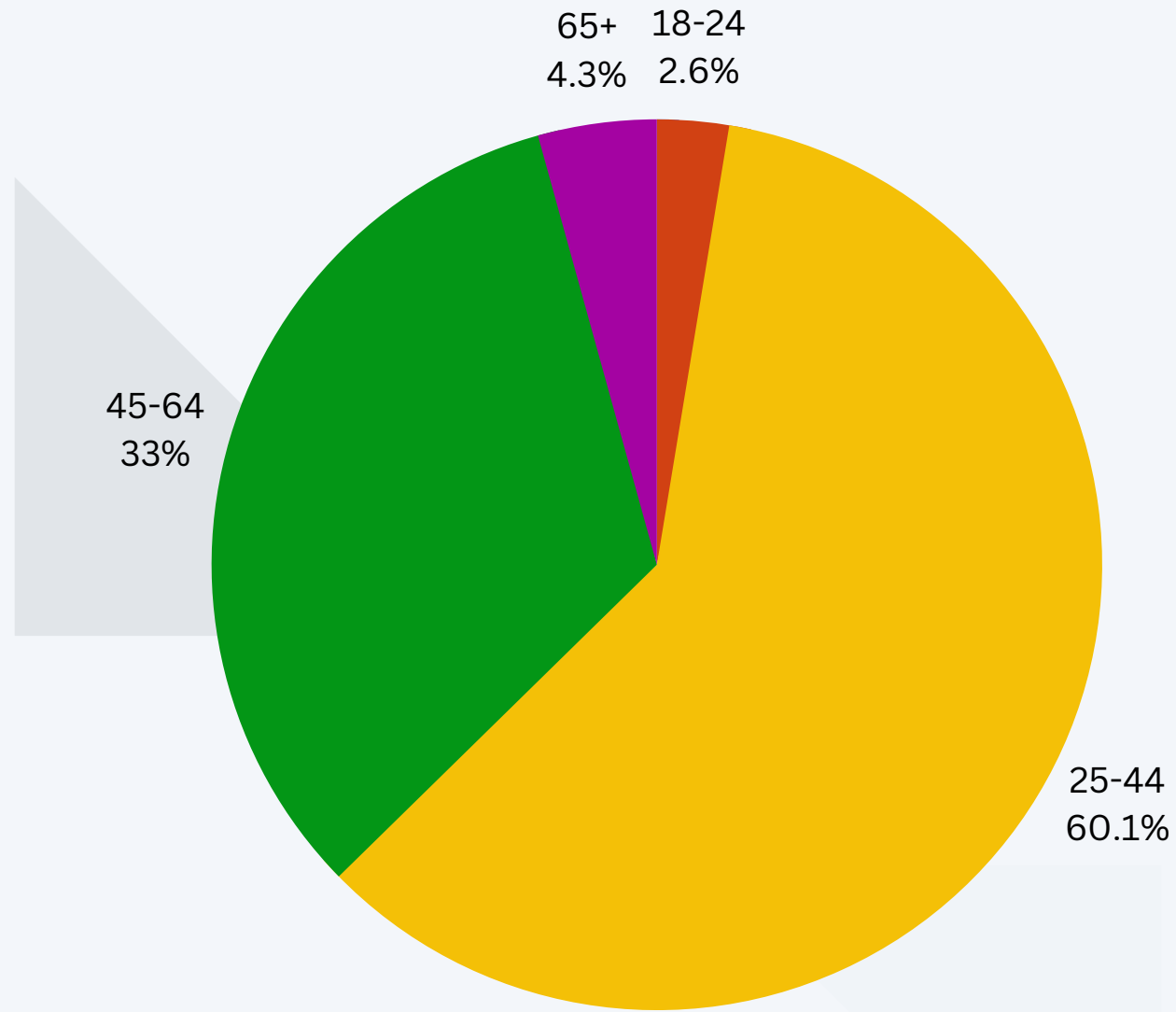
## 8 Focus Groups Held



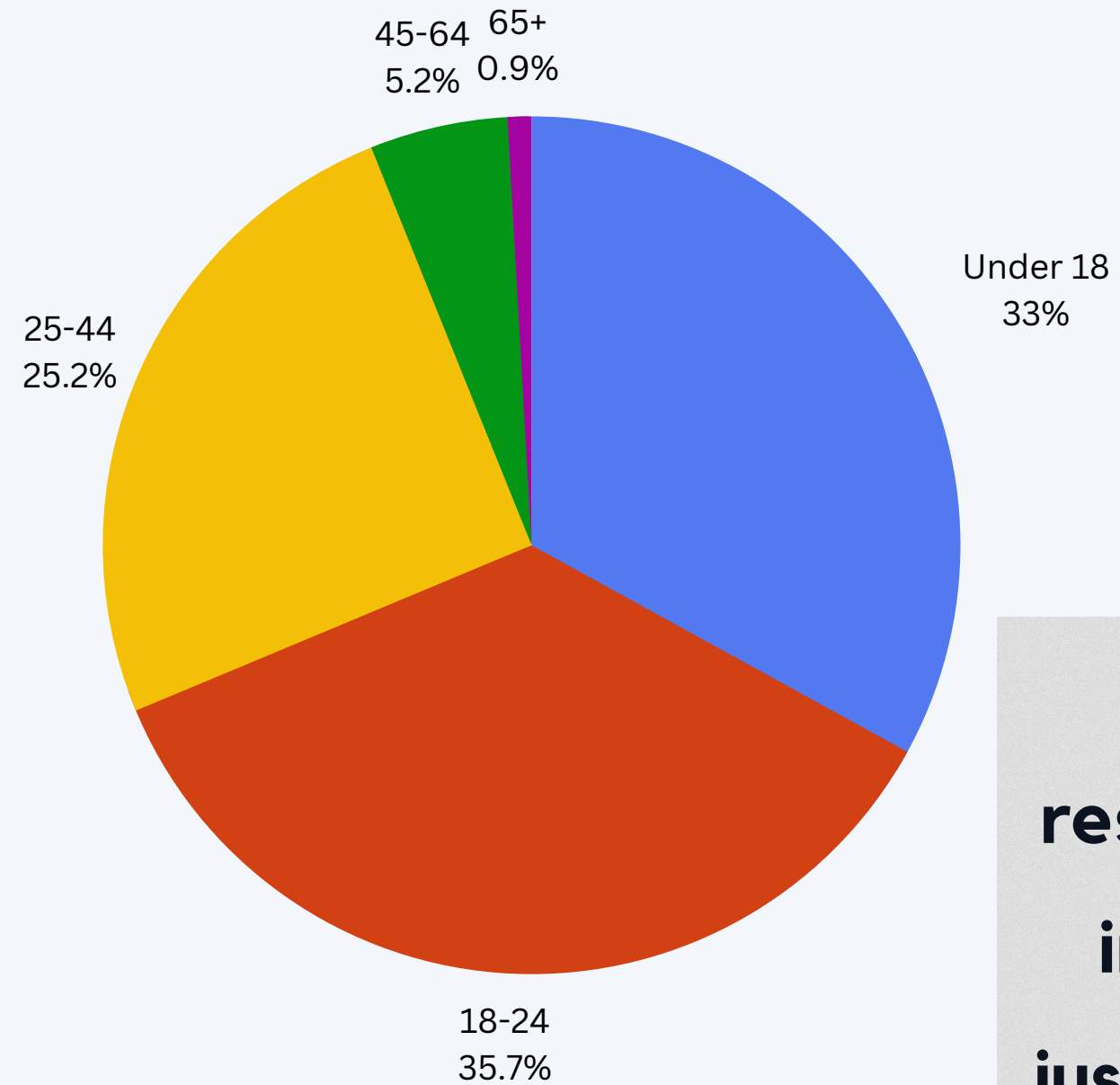
- Adult Day Reporting Center
- Alpha Oaks Residential Treatment
  - Clients
  - Providers
- Bridges Professional Treatment Services
- Clean & Sober Transitional Living
- Loaves and Fishes
- Rio Cosumnes Correctional Center
- River City Recovery Center

# Age

## Current Age



## Age of First Involvement with Justice System



**Most survey respondents became involved with the justice system before age 25.**



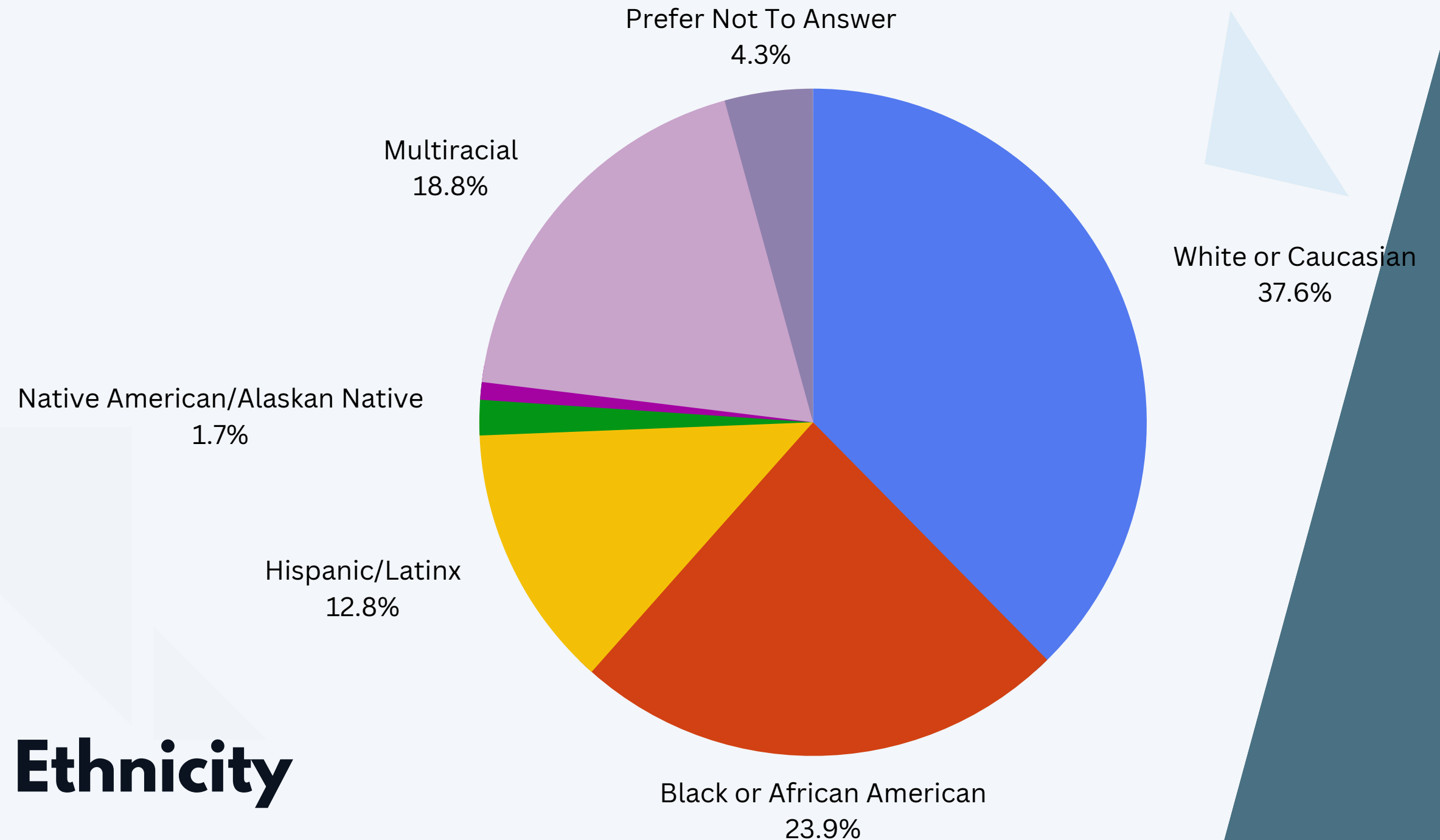
# Gender & Ethnicity

## Gender Identity

- 74% Men
- 23.5% Women
- 2.5% Other

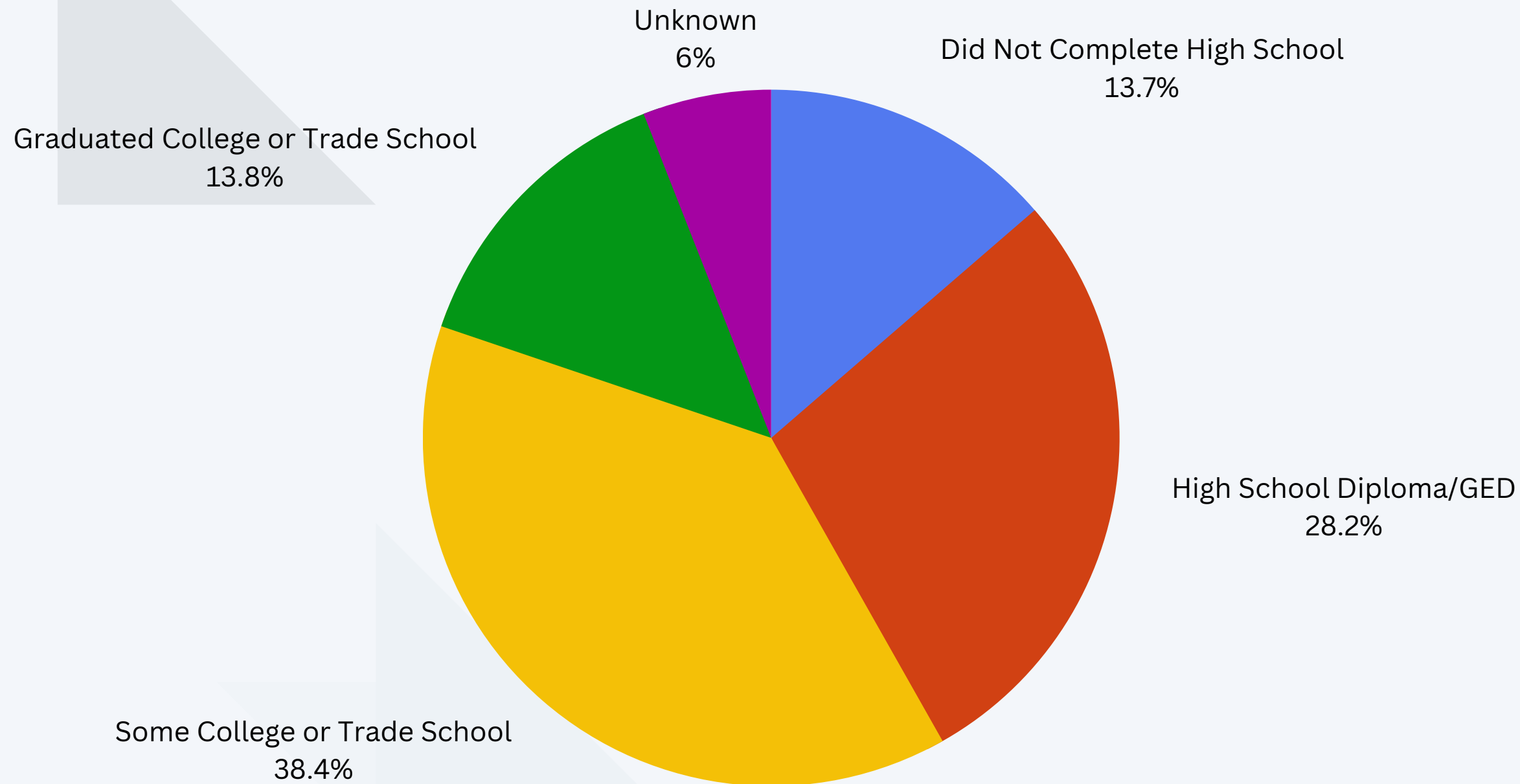
Gender Identity

## Ethnicity



# Education

## Highest Level of Education Completed



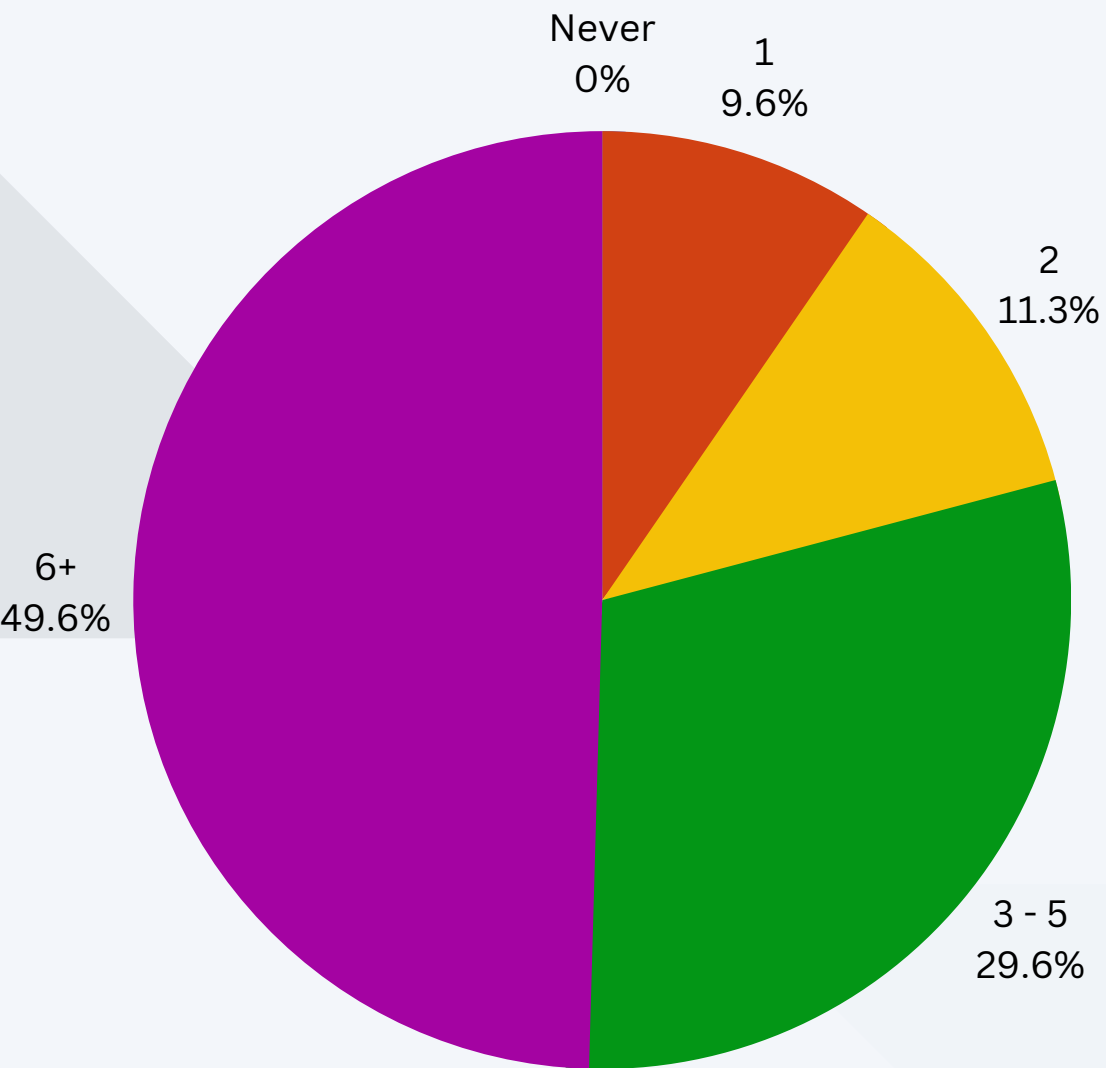
**Over half of survey respondents have some level of postsecondary education**

Of those...

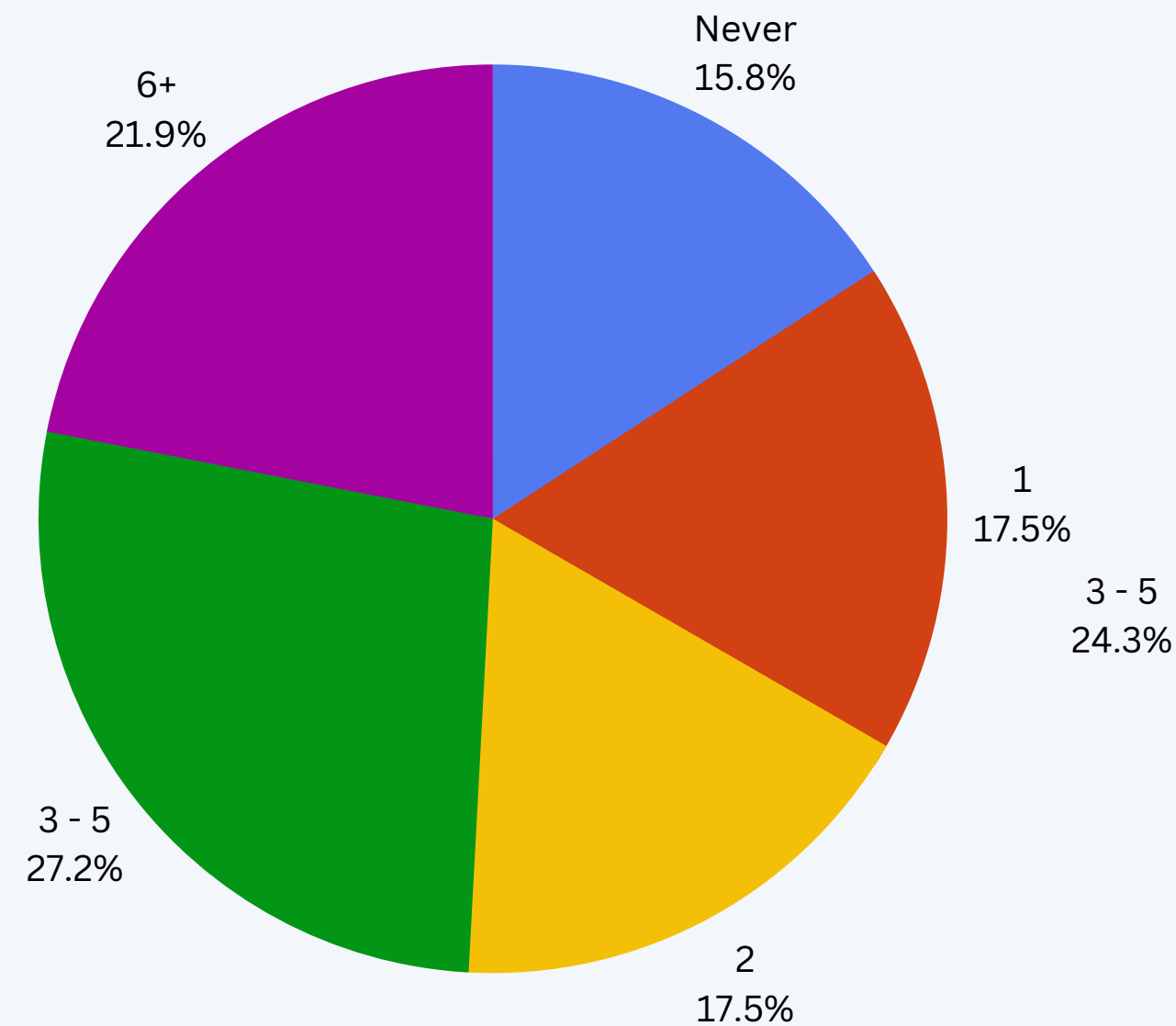
- 13% Some Trade School
- 6.5% Completed Trade School
- 54% Some College
- 20% Graduated college
- 6.5% Completed Graduate School

# Criminal Justice History

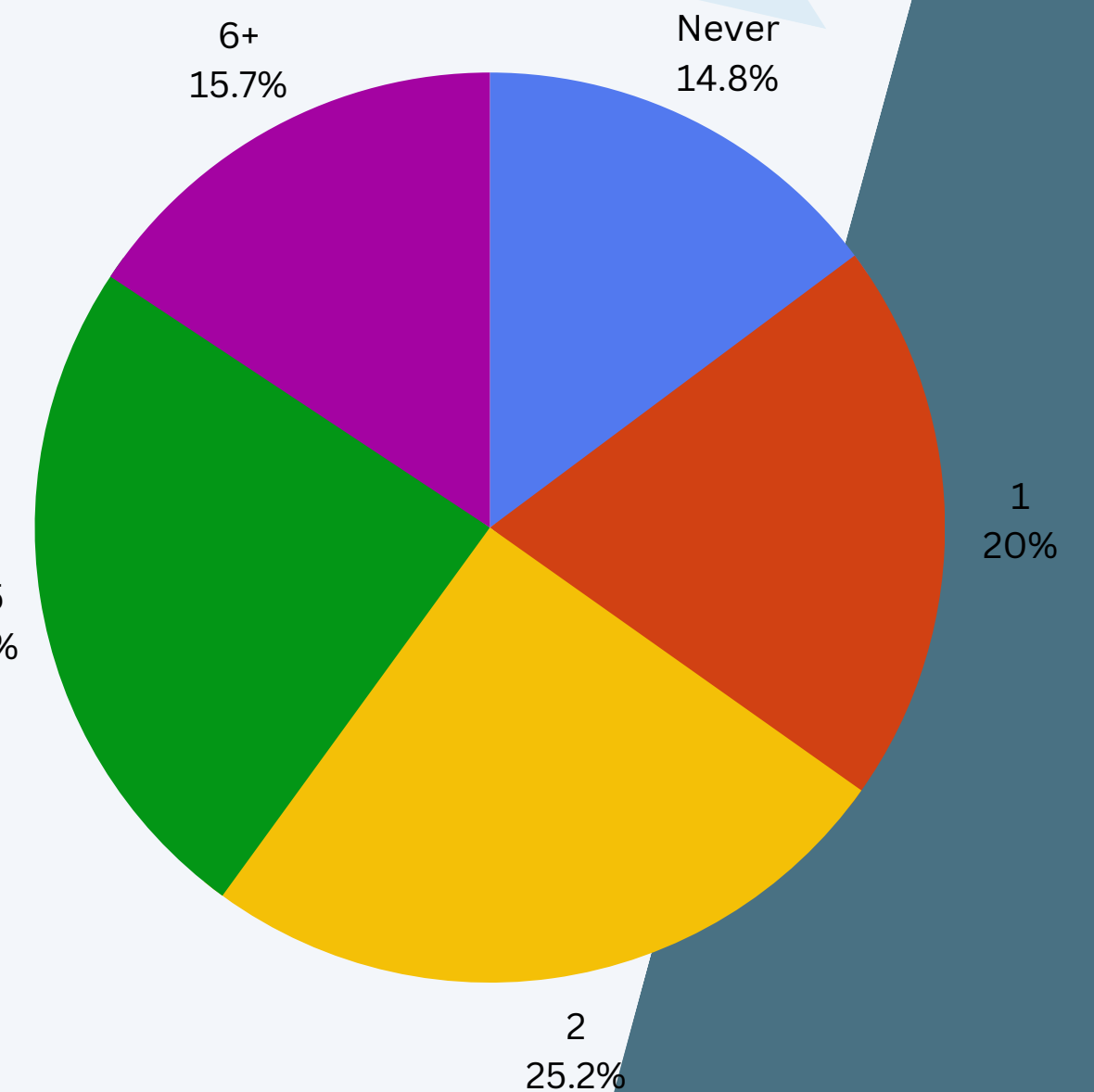
## Arrests



## Sentences Served in Correctional Facility



## Times on Probation or Parole



Half of survey respondents reported being arrested 6 or more times.

# Personal History

Disability/Physical Health Condition

Financial Instability

Gang Affiliation

Housing Instability

Juvenile Dependency/Foster Care

Juvenile Justice Involvement

Mental Health Condition

Significant Trauma

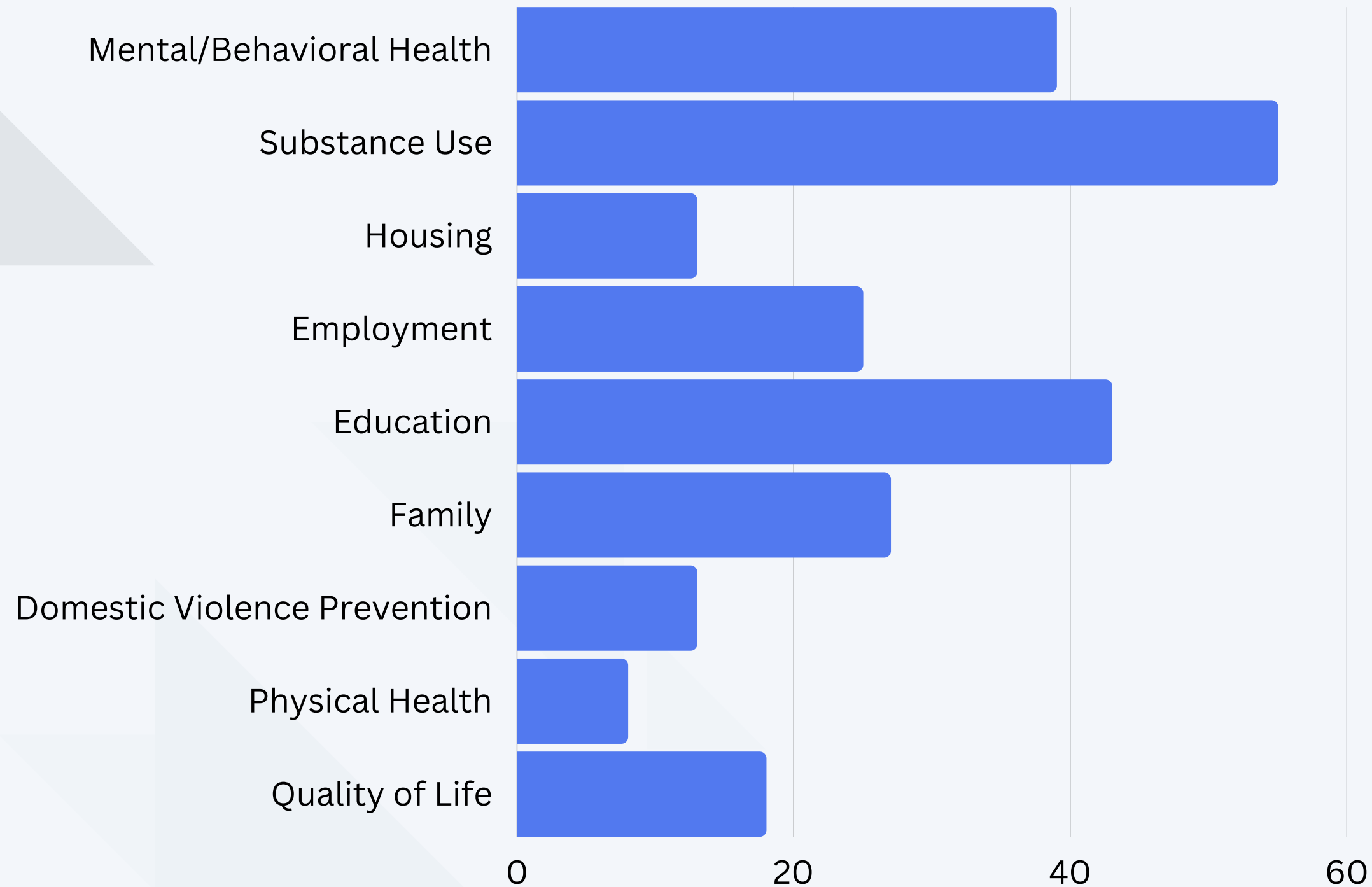
Substance Use

Victim of a Crime

0 25 50 75

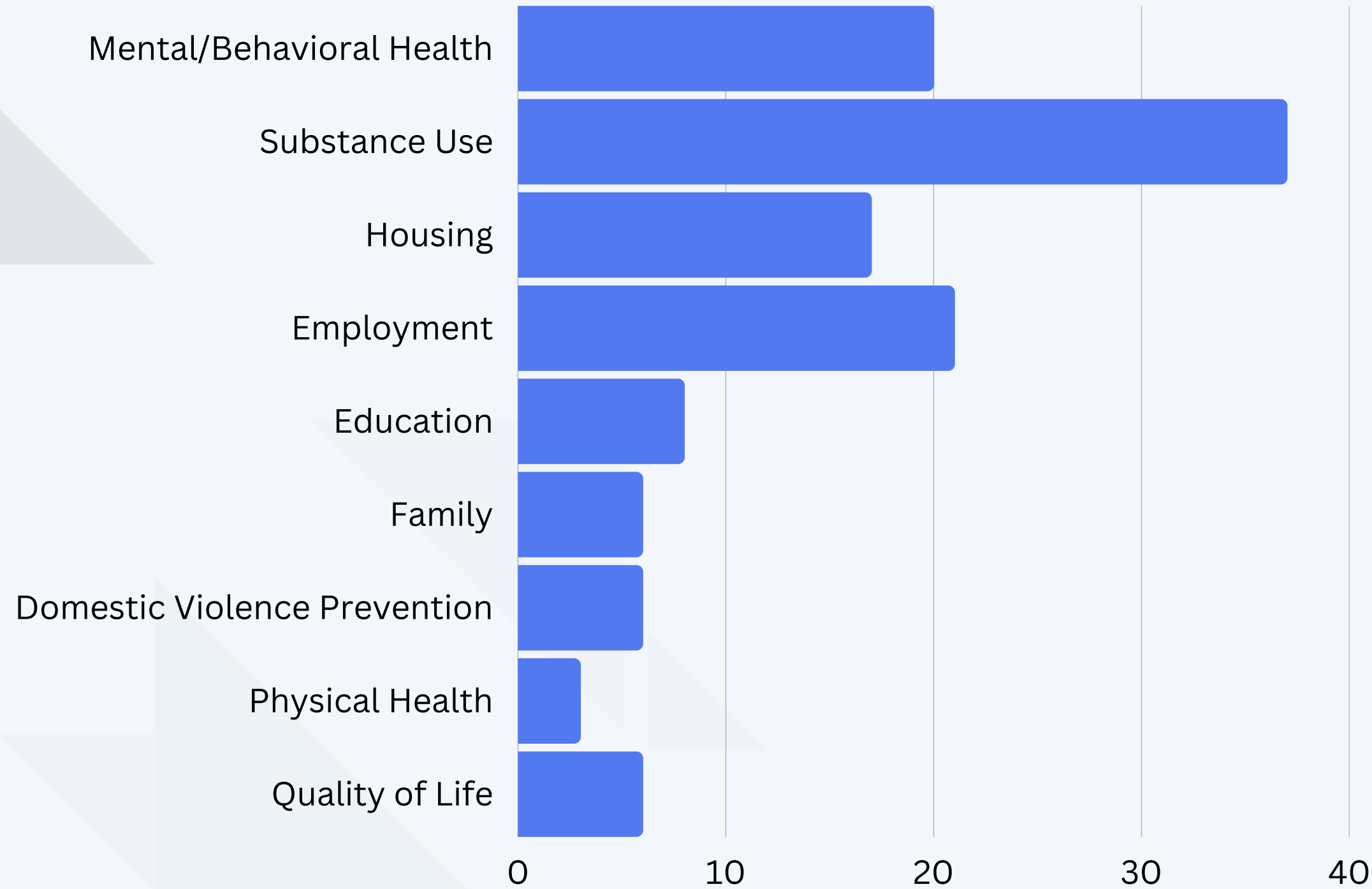
**93% of survey  
respondents shared  
at least 1 personal  
history element**

# Programs/Services Received in Custody



**80% of survey respondents reported receiving at least one program or service while in custody**

# Programs/Services Connected To Upon Release



**54% of survey respondents reported receiving at least one program or service upon release**

# What would have prevented you from entering the justice system?

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- Nothing
- Sobriety; Not using drugs and/or alcohol
- Early & affordable mental health intervention
- Positive role models & better family support
- Choosing different friends/partners
- More education and after-school activities
- Stable housing and employment
- Knowledge of the law and legal system

**During and after your justice involvement, what available programs, services, and supports worked for you?**

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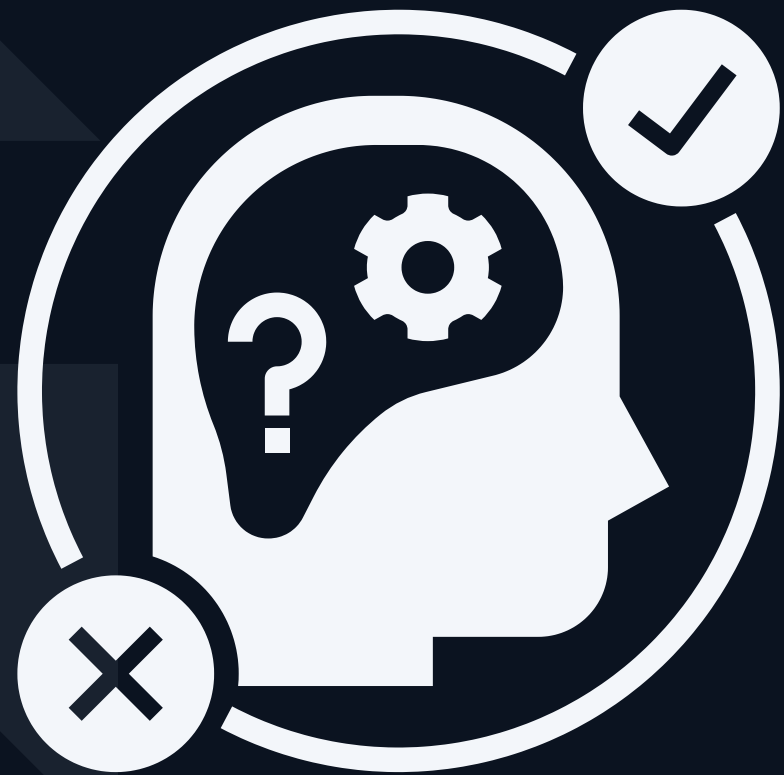
**What did not work for you?**

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# Readiness to Change



When asked which programs, services, and supports worked and didn't work, focus group participants and survey respondents consistently expressed the importance of a justice-involved individual being **ready and willing to change their life, behaviors, and habits**. Without it, very few programs and services will yield results and long-term impacts. Respondents also identified that it is difficult to predict when a person will be ready, but it is important to services available for when they are.

# What Works



## People Who Care

- Reliable, consistent, and attentive support systems who understand that the path forward is rarely linear
- Counselors, instructors, reentry specialists, and probation officers who are sincere and invested in seeing someone succeed



## People Who Have "Been There"

- Peer support, particularly for those in recovery, is critical
- It is easier to relate to, confide in, and believe others who have experienced similar life challenges

# What additional services would have improved your experience while incarcerated or supported you upon release?

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## In Custody

- Access to treatment, programs, and services regardless of charge and dispositional status (pretrial vs. sentenced)
  - Immediate access to NA/AA and religious services
  - Activities to keep busy/more day room programs
  - Access to counseling in addition to medication
  - Jobs/career training programs
  - Life skill, family & self-improvement courses
  - Nutrition classes and healthy food options
  - Education/academic training
- Free/cheap phone calls
- Needs assessments and peer navigators

## Mandatory Programming Could Help Reduce Wasted/Lost Time

*Numerous participants felt they could not pursue programs and services while in custody (particularly in prison) due to the social pressures that occur while incarcerated. Pursuing self-improvement causes an inmate to stand out, which may have repercussions for the inmate's health and safety. Though not all inmates would take the programs seriously, those who were ready to change could benefit greatly.*

# What additional services would have improved your experience while incarcerated or supported you upon release?

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## Upon Release

- Assistance securing safe and affordable housing
  - Extend time allowances for transitional housing / sober living environments
  - Provide rent assistance
  - Help with credit repair
- Transportation assistance
- Relocation authorization and support
- Access to clothing closet
- Assistance finding meaningful and stable employment

## Careers vs. Jobs

*Job training options can be very limited while in custody, particularly for women.*

*Finding gainful employment after incarceration is difficult and viewed as less profitable than activities that could result in additional criminal charges.*

*Several participants expressed a desire to pursue entrepreneurship and would value training and support to start their own businesses.*

# Connection and Appreciation

Many focus group participants commended the CCPAB for seeking out those with lived experience in the justice system to provide input into the plan. Several participants stated that it was the first time they had ever been asked to share their experiences and ideas. Others noted that they would be interested in reading the plan once it is available and would welcome future opportunities to provide feedback. Participants largely recognized that change does not happen over night; many expressed gratitude that there are people who are willing to listen and desire to make things better.



# Ideas for Future Outreach Efforts

1.

Extend outreach efforts to others impacted by the justice system, including family members and crime survivors

2.

Conduct specific outreach to Sacramento County's AB 109 population

3.

Seek feedback from justice-involved individuals on specific programs and services offered in Sacramento County

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**Questions?**  
**Ideas?**

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