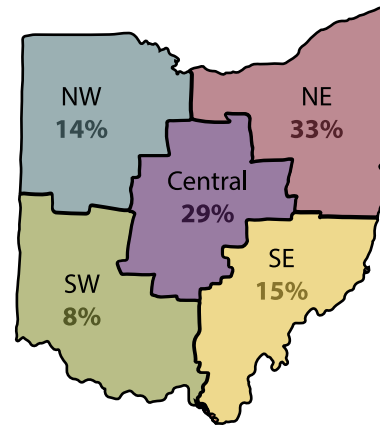
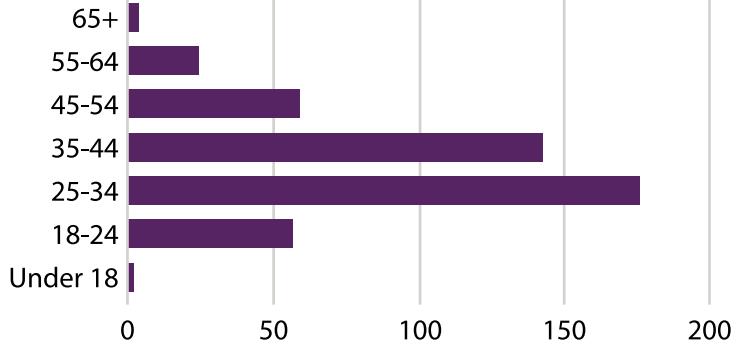


ODVN Needs Assessment Survey Results

October 2021 • N=505

The majority of respondents were between **25 and 34**.



The greatest number of respondents came from **Northeast Ohio**.

54% of respondents were White women

31% of respondents were Black/African American women

15% were non-Black women of color

60% of respondents called 911 for their current DV situation. The rest reached out to family and friends, stayed in the situation, or fled.

Overall, **85%** had police involved in either their current or previous DV incidents



Based on the response of 911 dispatchers, **84%** of respondents would call again.

55% knew Ohio was a preferred arrest state.

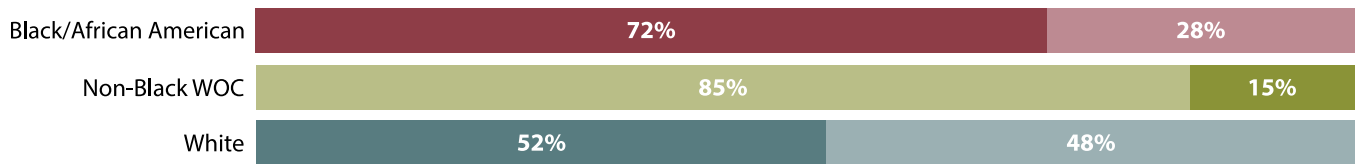
81% would still call if they knew Ohio was a preferred arrest state.



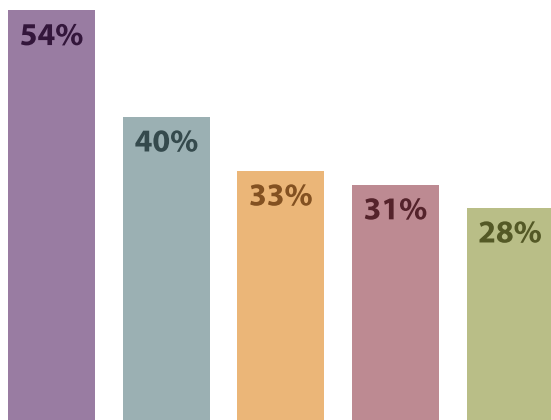
13% respondents identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community

Results were based on responses from 505 domestic violence survivors who were asked about their experiences with law enforcement, the court system and child protective services. The survey was conducted between May and August of 2021. This resource was produced under grant 2019- WF-VA4-V8192 and 2018-JG-E01-V6553 awarded by the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services.

Non-Black WOC and Black/African American women are more likely to call 911/the police in a domestic violence situation than White women

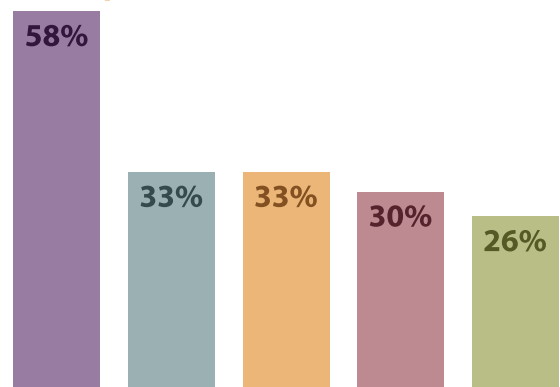


The biggest barrier that would prevent **WHITE** survivors from calling the police in the future is **further harm from their abuser** followed by **fear of arrest** and **fear their children will be taken**.



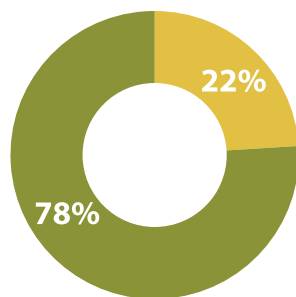
Fear of further abuse from my abuser
 Fear I will be arrested instead of the abuser
 Fear my children will be taken away
 Fear the police won't believe me
 I don't trust the system

The biggest barrier that would prevent **BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN** survivors from calling the police in the future is **further harm from their abuser** followed by **fear their children will be taken** and **fear of violence from the police**.



Fear of further abuse from my abuser
 Fear my children will be taken away
 Fear of violence from the police
 Fear I will be arrested instead of the abuser
 I don't trust the system

78% of the respondents had children



25% of respondents with children said the questions asked by police were inappropriate, or they could not hear the police questioning the children.

20% of domestic violence survivors said someone threatened to take their children away after they sought help. Most often the threat came from:

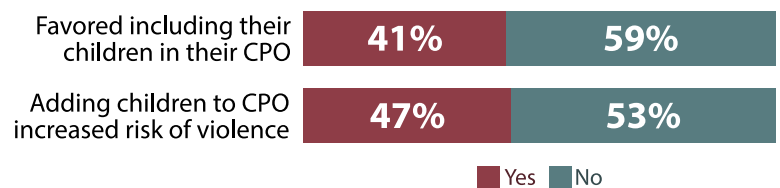
- Child protective services**
- The child's other parent**
- Respondent's partner**



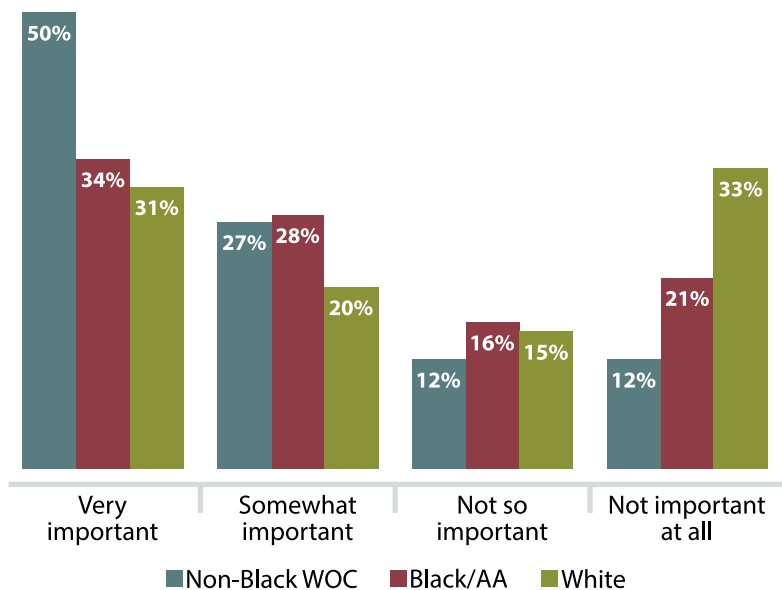
Women of color (including Black/African American women) with children are more likely to call police in a DV situation, and **75%** of WOC with children said they called the police in their most recent DV situation.

42% of survivors with children listed the fear of having their children taken away as a barrier to contacting the police.

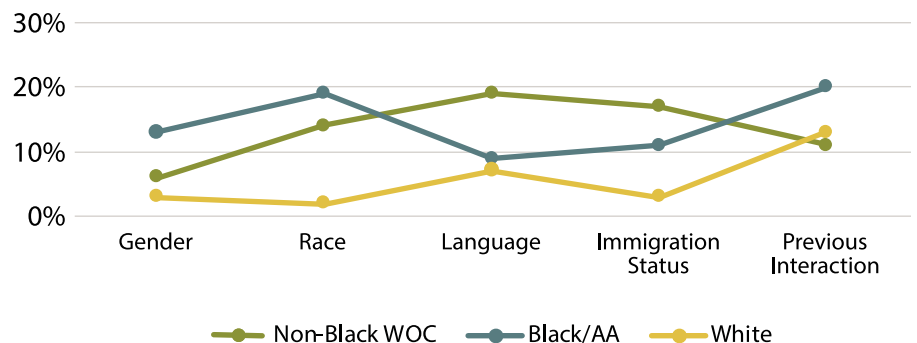
Women with children **were divided** on whether they should include their children in their CPO, and **47%** felt **adding their children would increase the risk of violence toward themselves.**

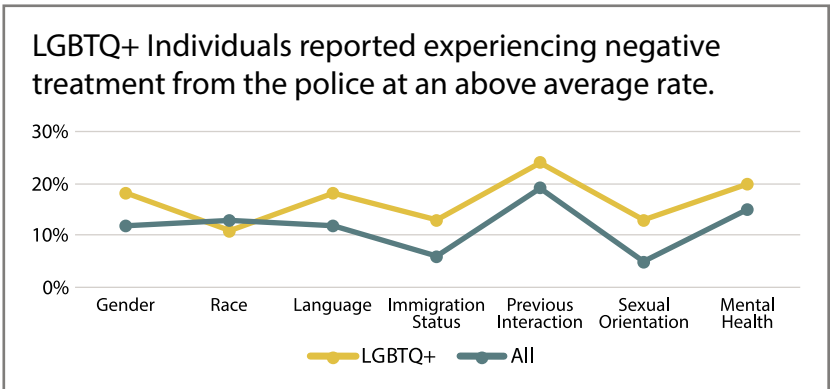
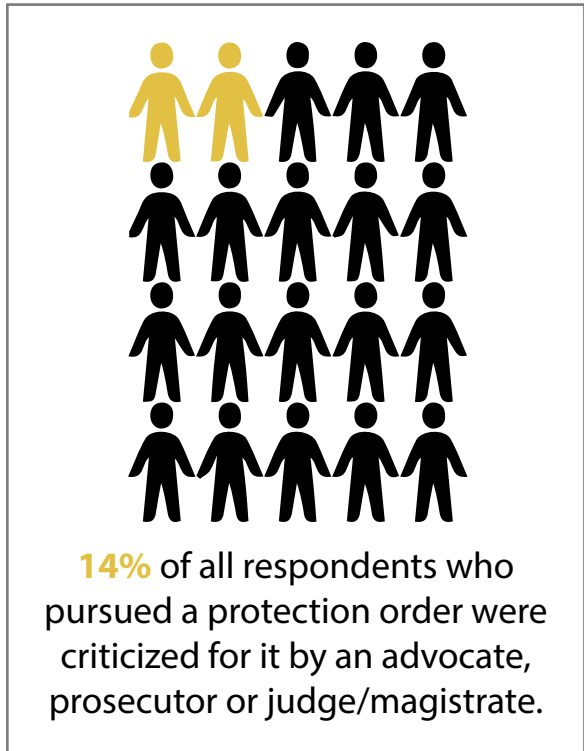
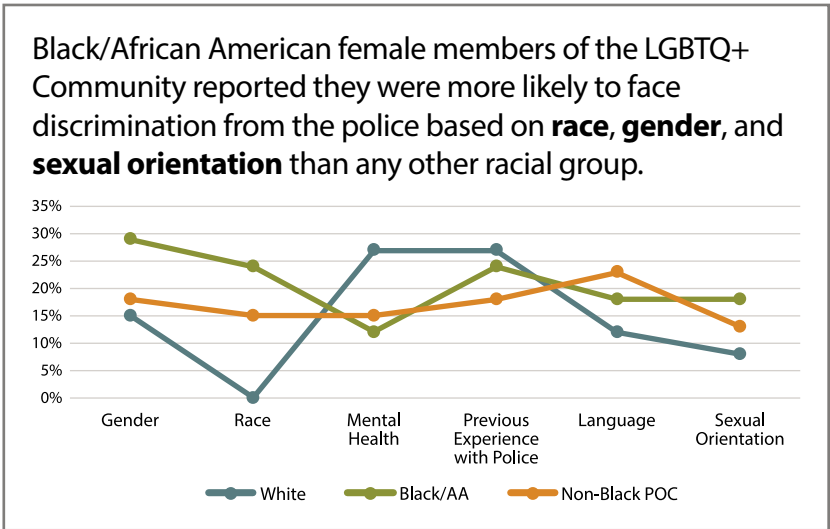
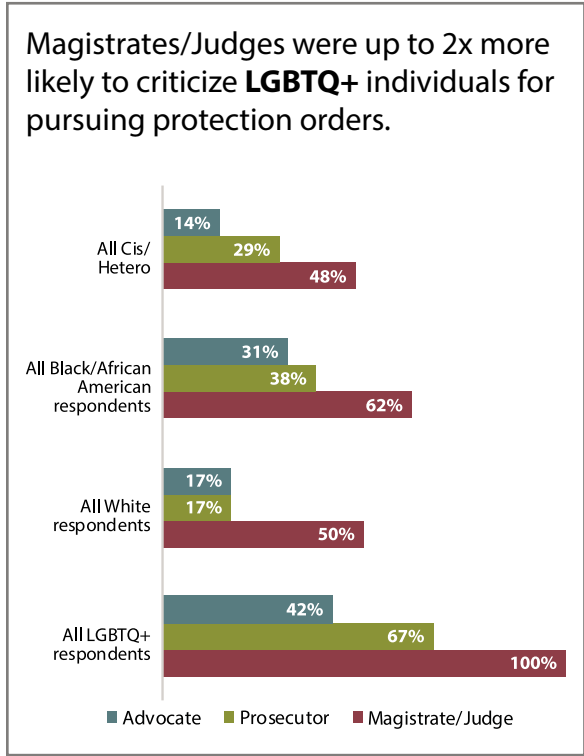
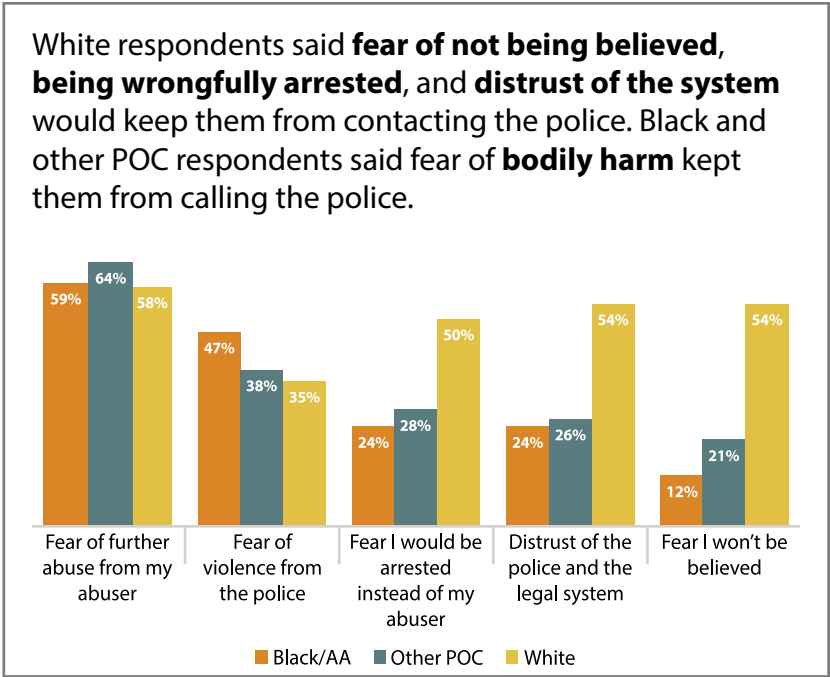
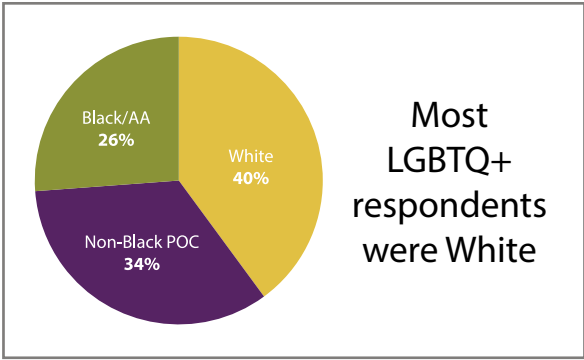


WOC (including Black/African American women) with children believed that the racial and gender identities of the first responders were **very important** or **somewhat important** to their children's feeling of safety.



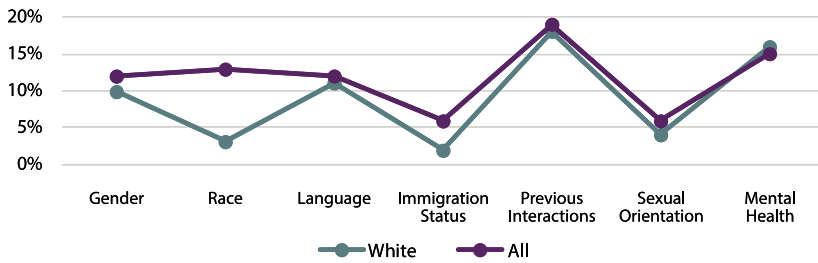
Women of color (including Black/African American women) with children reported higher amounts of discrimination toward their children based on **gender, race, language, and immigration status** than white women with children.



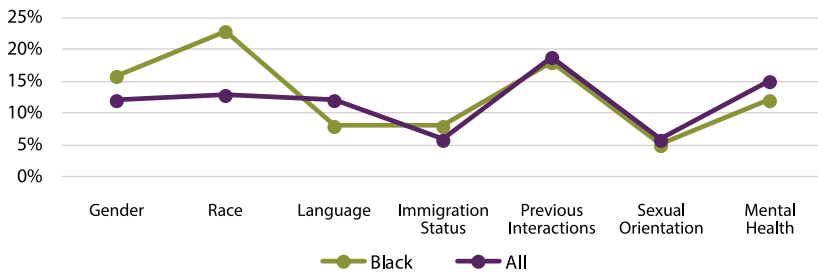


All the Native American LGBTQ+ individuals reported being **criticized for pursuing a protection order.**

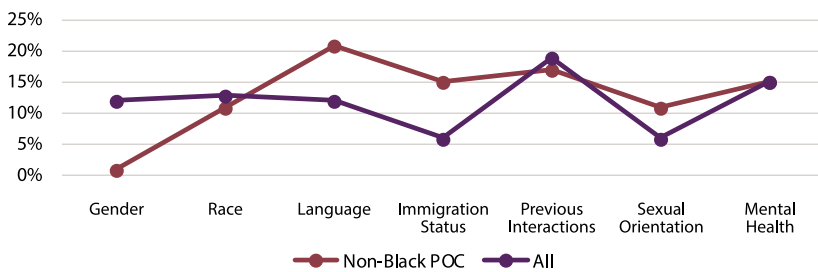
Generally, **White women** reported experiencing negative treatment by the police based on different identity markers at a **below average rate**.



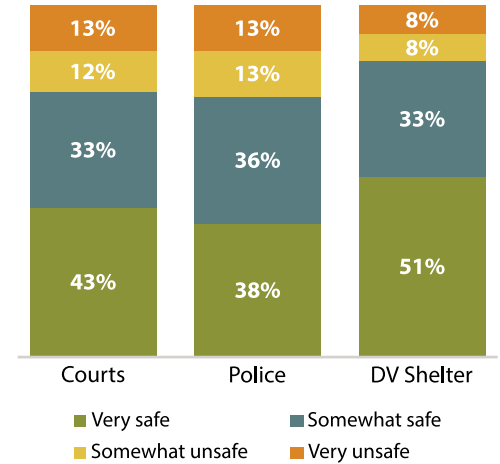
Black/African American women reported experiencing negative treatment from the police based on **race** and **gender** at an above average rate.



Non-Black women of color reported experiencing negative treatment based on **language** and **immigration status** at an above average rate.



Survivors felt safer in a DV shelter than they did in the court system or with the police.



76% of Black/African American respondents felt safe in the **court system**
74% felt safe with the police
87% felt safe at a Domestic Violence shelter



77% of Non-Black WOC respondents felt safe in the **court system**
65% felt safe with the police
87% felt safe at a Domestic Violence shelter



76% of White respondents felt safe in the **court system**
77% felt safe with the police
85% felt safe at a Domestic Violence shelter



The **biggest fear** keeping all demographic groups from accessing available resources was fear of **further abuse from their abuser**.

Being blamed or not believed was commonly reported at every stage of a survivors recovery and restoration. Survivors reported fear of this as a **barrier to accessing services**.

Black/African American respondents' secondary fear in accessing aid was fear **no one could/would help them**, or they would be **discriminated against by different agencies**. For many, this fear was **based on previous experience**.

Safety, protection & empathy were the most common themes respondents mentioned for **changes needed in DV response systems**. When people reported **good experiences** they felt **listened to & cared about**.