



# Results of WNA Quick Poll – Nurse Safety Coming and Leaving Work

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**110 YEARS**  
1909-2019

# Background



- In 2012 and 2017 Wisconsin Nurses were invited to participate in an on-line survey that examined nurses experience of workplace violence.
- The results of the survey indicated that nurses were being physically, verbally and sexually assaulted in the workplace.
- The surveys did not examine instances of workplace violence when arriving or leaving their place of work.
- WNA was interested in knowing if nurses felt safe coming and leaving in relation to the location of where they parked their car.

# Survey Methodology



- WNA created a brief survey to identify the extent of nurses feeling safe when coming and going from their workplace.
- There were four survey questions and one field to add comments. The survey questions were:
  - What shift do you work?
  - What city do you work in?
  - On a scale of 1 – 5 how safe do you feel when arriving and leaving work?
  - What preventative measures do you take when walking to and from your vehicle?
  - Any additional comments regarding thoughts and feelings on safety. (Open-ended response)

# Survey Methodology



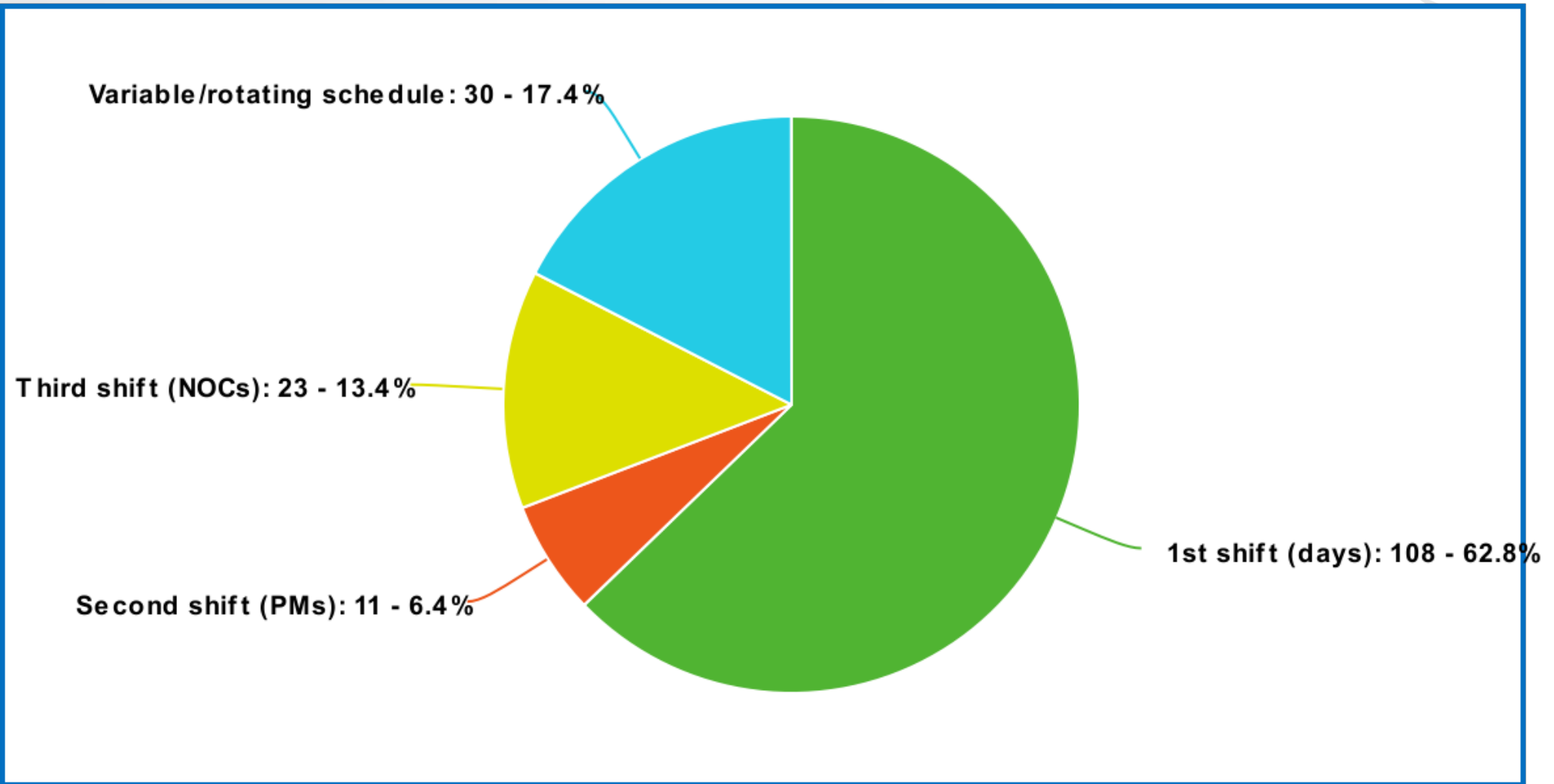
- WNA sent out an electronic messages to WNA members inviting them to participate in an on-line “Quick Poll” about Nurse Safety.
- Other nurses were invited to participate using WNA’s social media sites.
- Nurses had access to the survey from September 30, 2019 to October 7, 2019.

# Survey Results



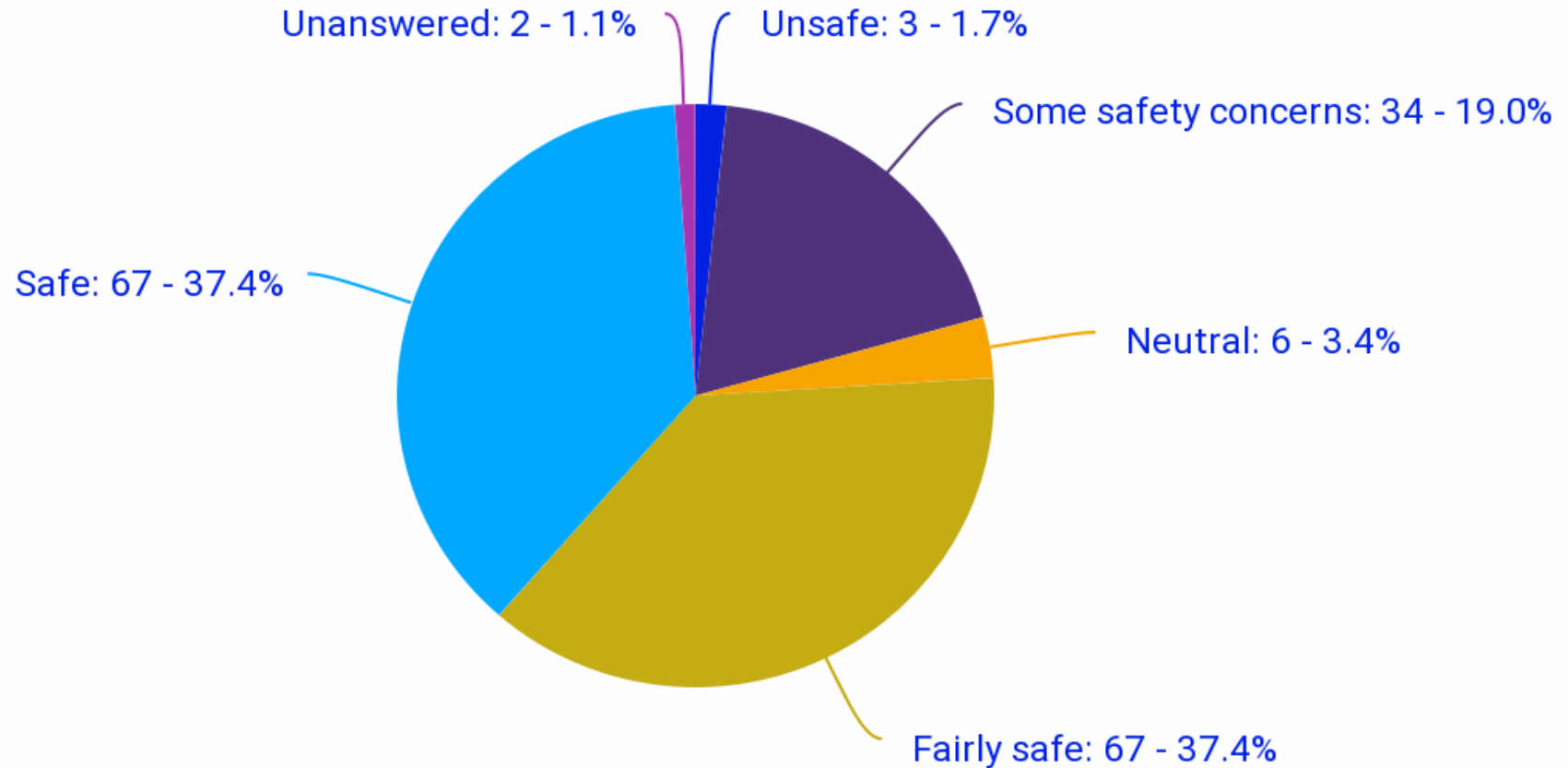
- 182 nurses completed the survey.
- Respondents worked in cities throughout Wisconsin.
- Respondents worked in a variety of settings.
- Respondents worked shifts that included days, pm and night.
- Comparisons between geographic regions and reports of safety were also measured.

# What shift do you work?



■ 1st shift (days) ■ Second shift (PMs) ■ Third shift (NOCs)  
■ Variable/rotating schedule

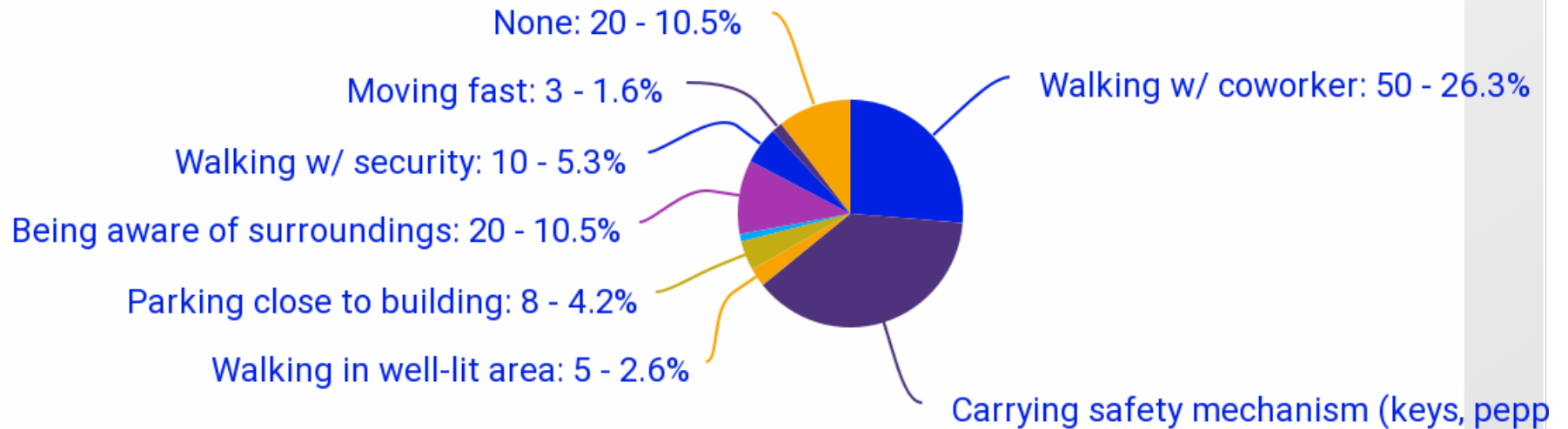
## How safe do you feel coming/going from work?



Unsafe   Some safety concerns   Neutral   Fairly safe   Safe   Unanswered

meta-chart.com

# What do you do to promote safety



- Walking w/ coworker
- Carrying safety mechanism (keys, pepper spray, phone)
- Walking in well-lit area
- Parking close to building
- Talking on phone
- Being aware of surroundings
- Walking w/ security
- Moving fast
- None

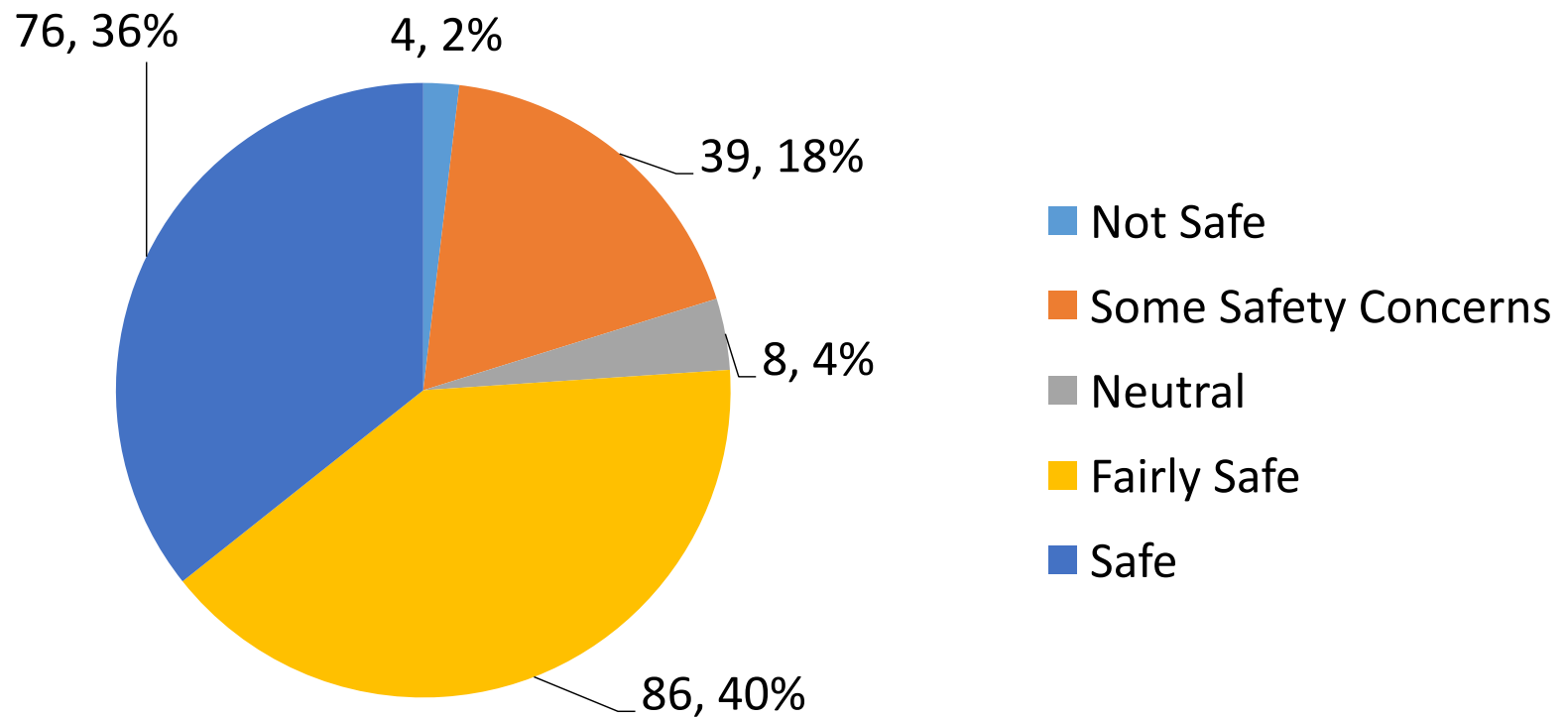
meta-chart.com



# Perceptions of Nurse Safety by Region



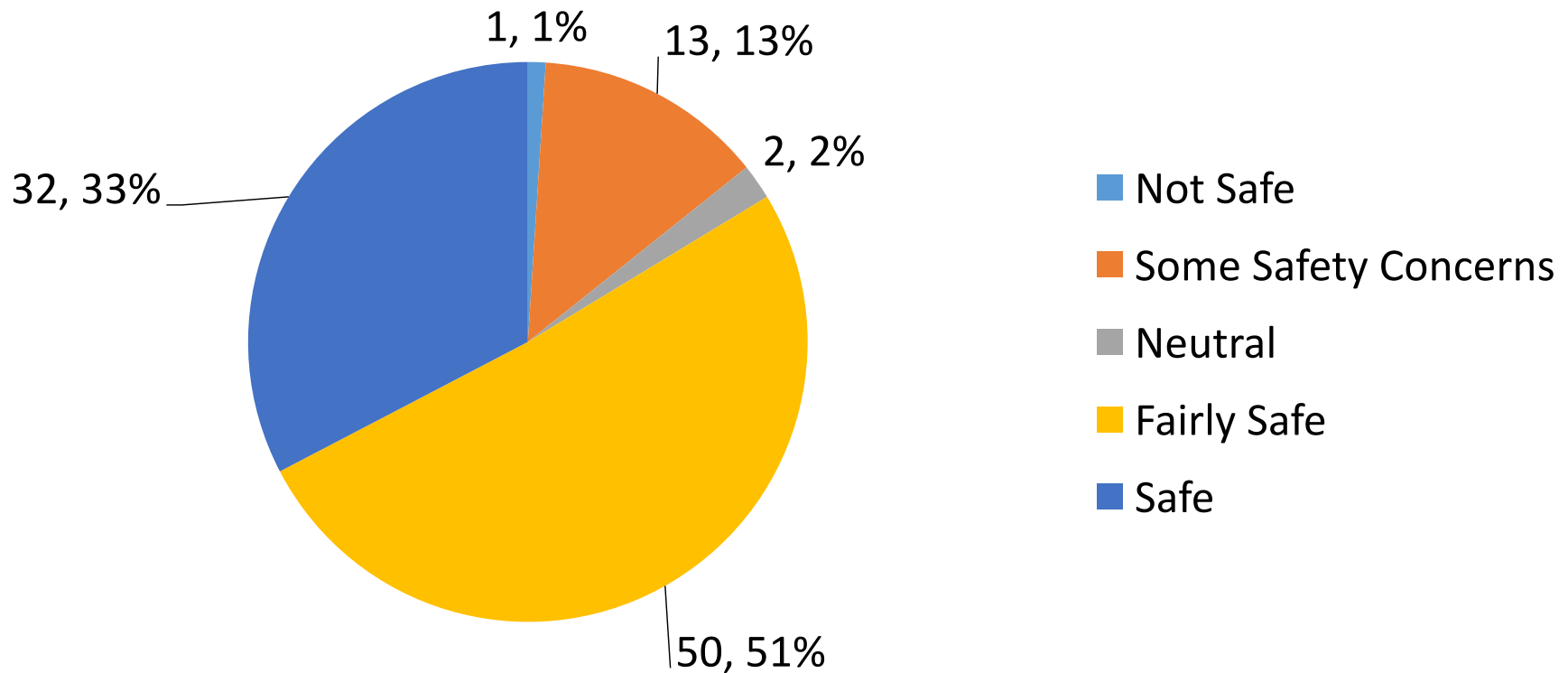
All Regions n = 213



# Perceptions of Nurse Safety by Region



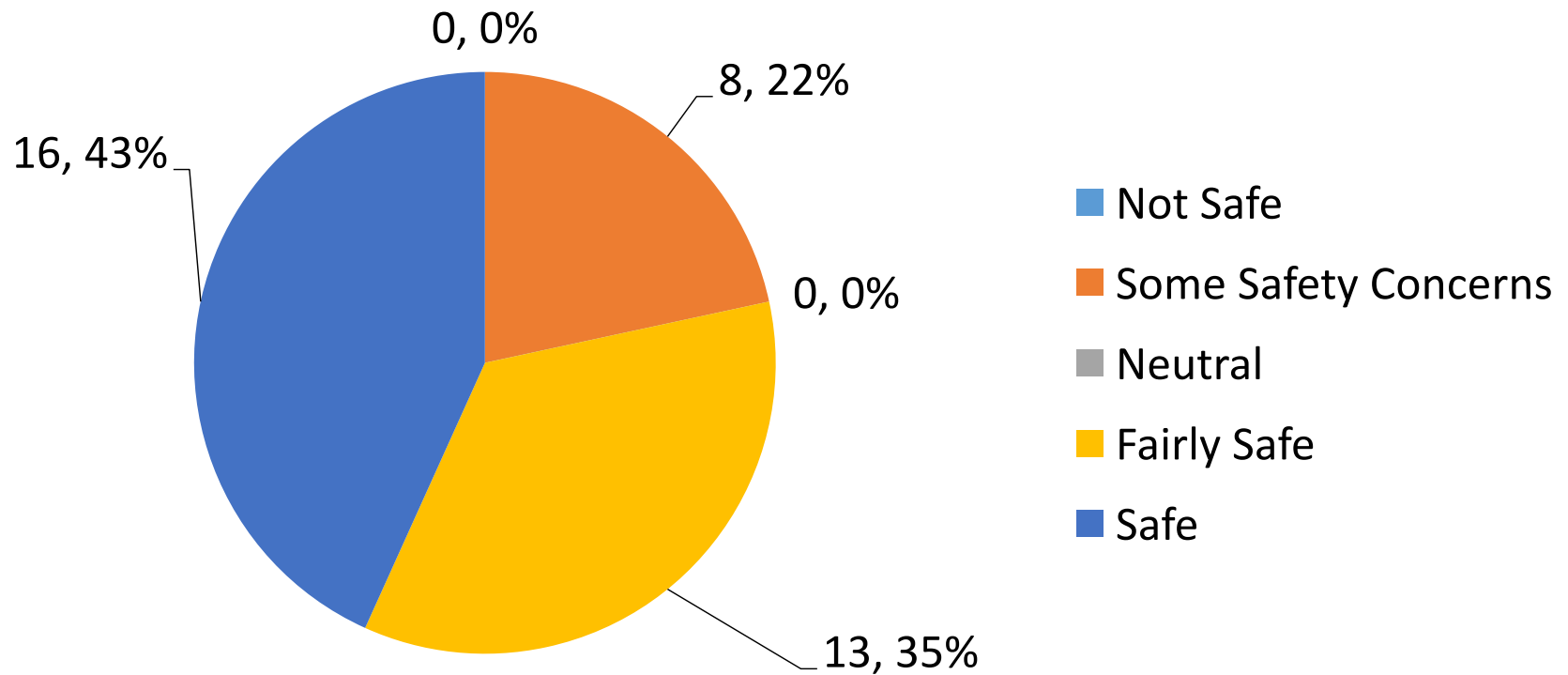
**Southeastern n=98**



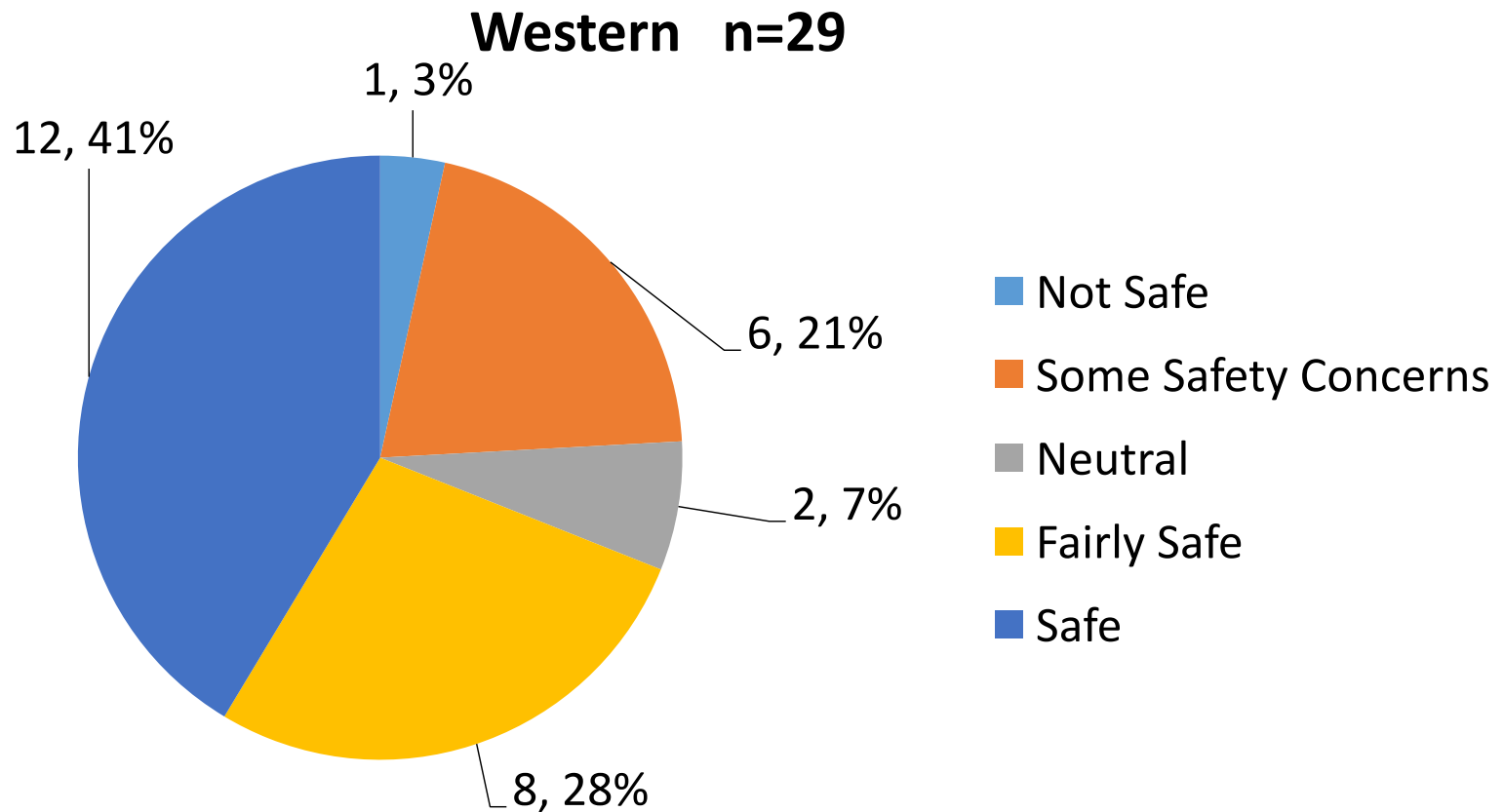
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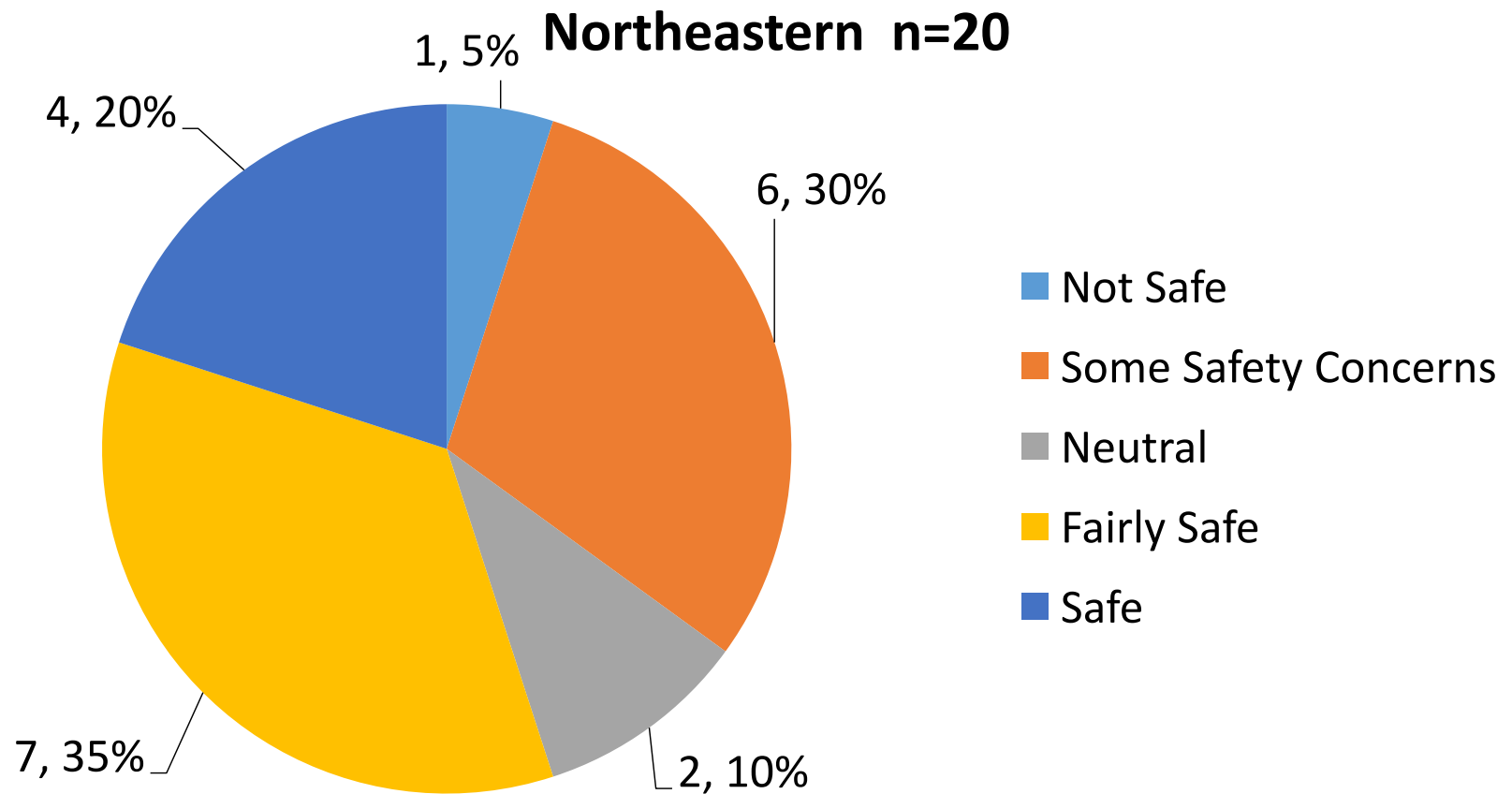
Southern n=37



# Perceptions of Nurse Safety by Region



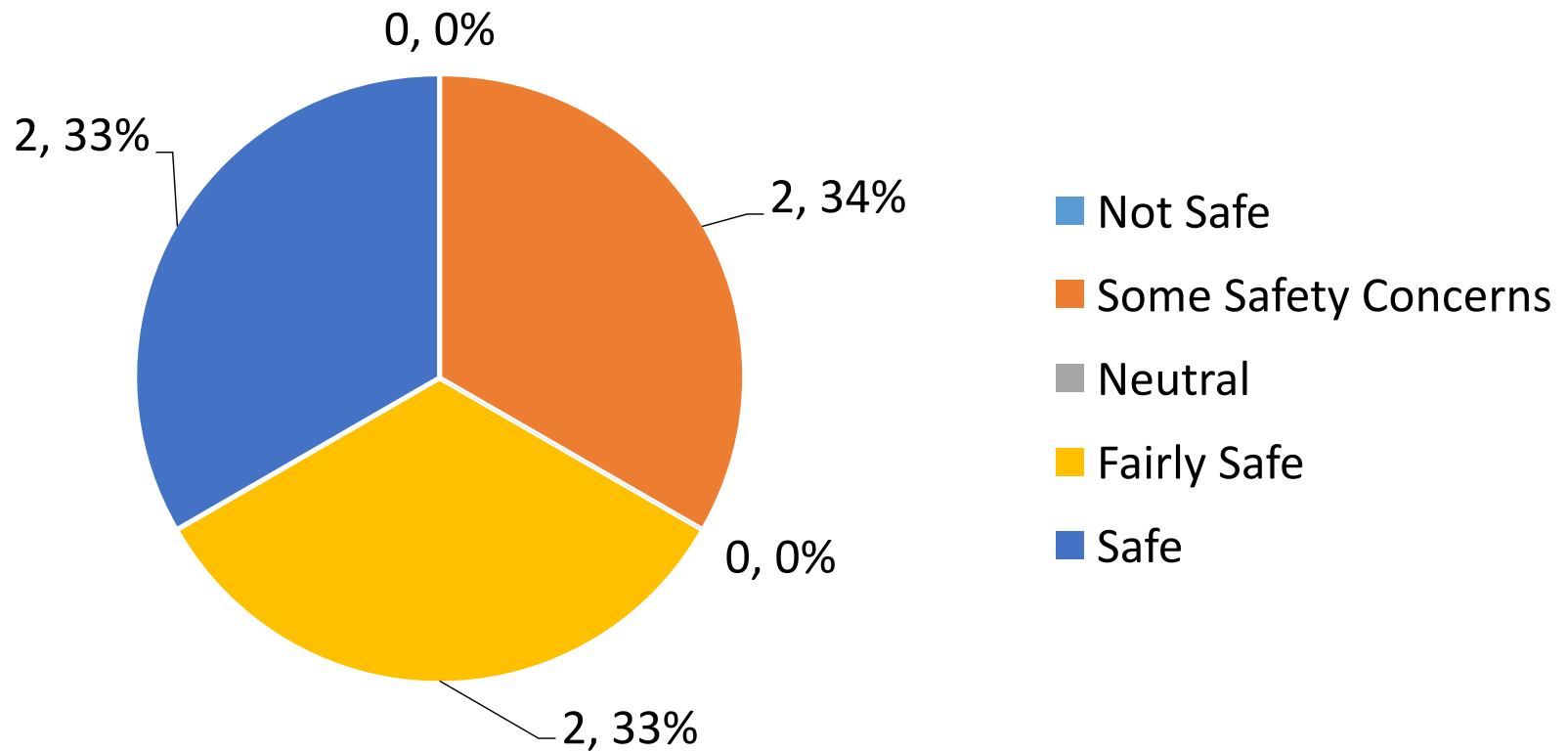
# Perceptions of Nurse Safety by Region



# Perceptions of Nurse Safety by Region



Northern n=6



# Comments



- “I feel the public can come and go too easily the places I can go, I don’t always feel safe”
- “Lighting is always an issue”
- “scared that if something were to happen, no one would find me until it is too late. I also have to park really far away in uncovered parking which is challenging when I get out of work and it is dark out or dark when I get to work”

# Comments



- “I really think that it would be beneficial for organizations to be more proactive on keeping nurses safe than reactive. I have always ensured that my family knows when to expect me and basic self-defense.”
- “In general, I have worked in many hospitals on many shifts in some terrible neighborhoods. I feel more unsafe today as a nurse than in the past because the public no longer respects the nurse or does anything to protect us.”



# Comments



- “I park in a parking structure and overall, I feel fairly safe. However, in thinking of how our structure is set up, the emergency alert areas are a pretty good distance from where I normally park. If being attacked in the structure, you would have to be able to get away from your attacker to run to the emergency alert system, That doesn’t seem very plausible and I rarely see any security officers patrolling the structures.”

For more information go to  
[wisconsinnurses.org](http://wisconsinnurses.org)  
or [info@wisconsinnurses.org](mailto:info@wisconsinnurses.org)

