

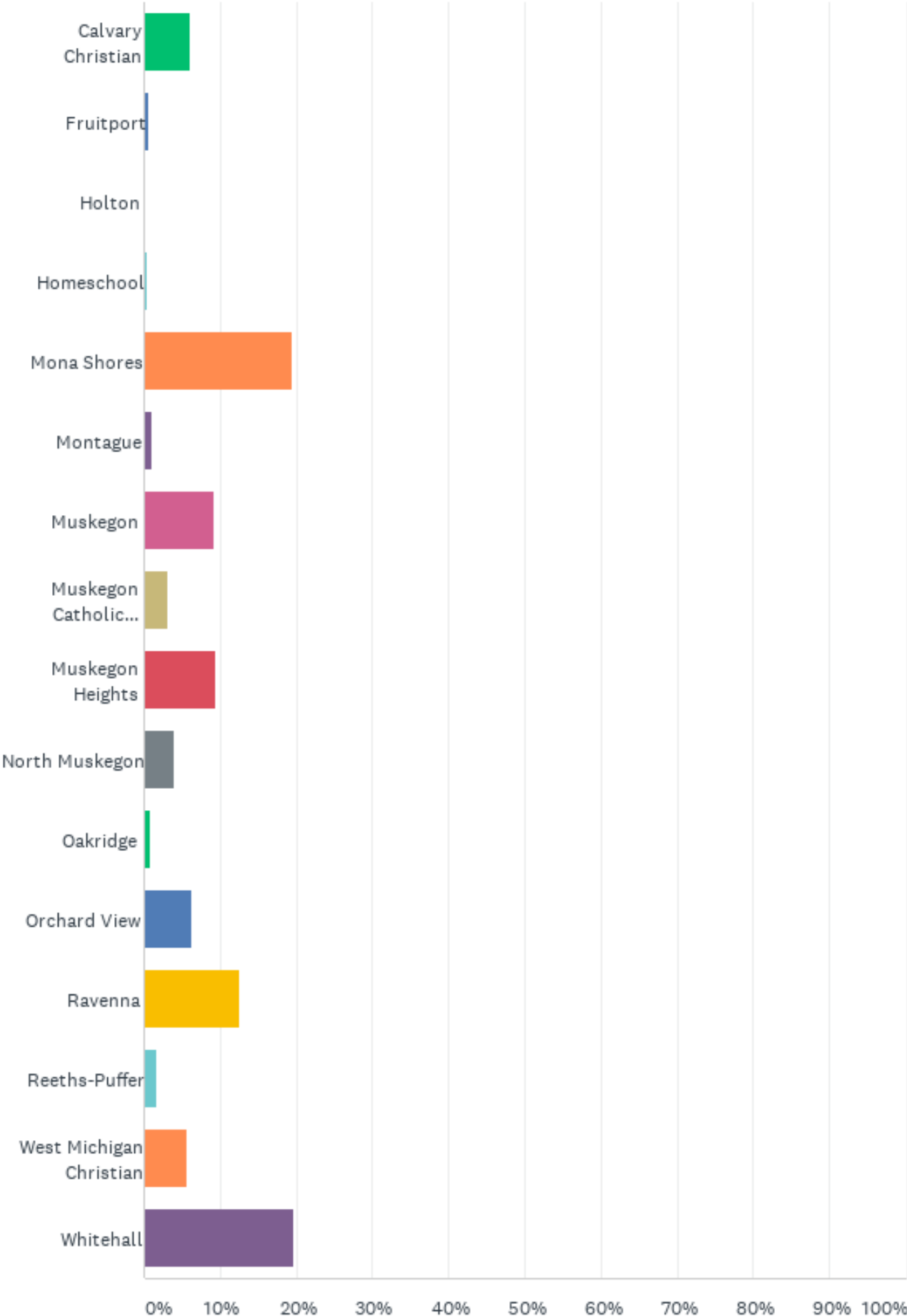
A photograph of a group of young people silhouetted against a sunset sky over a body of water. They are gathered around a campfire, with one person sitting in the center. The scene is peaceful and evokes a sense of community and outdoor activity.

YES we can!

MUSKEGON COUNTY
YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

**2021 YOUTH EMPOWERMENT
SURVEY RESULTS**

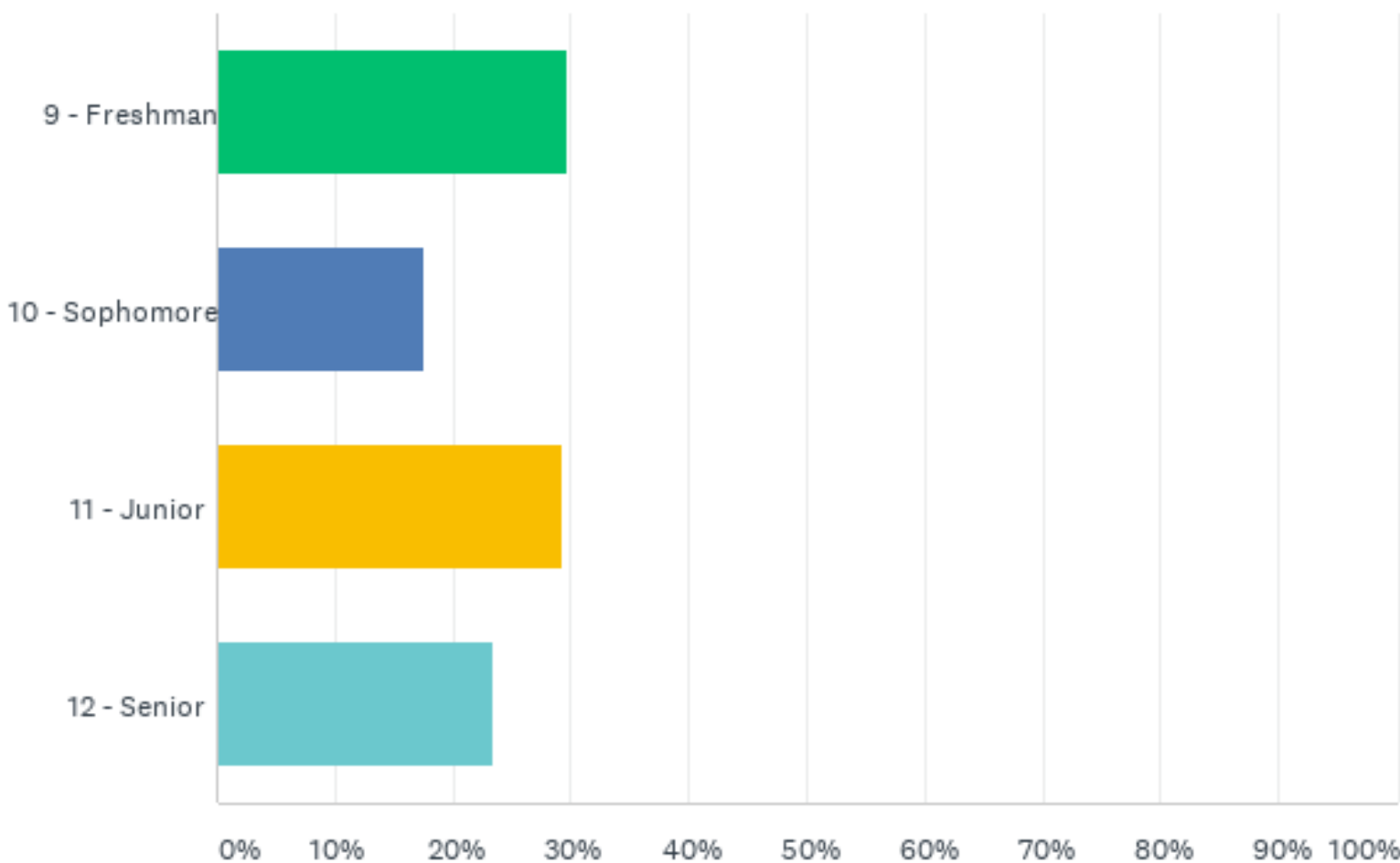
Q1 What school do you attend?



Q1 What school do you attend?

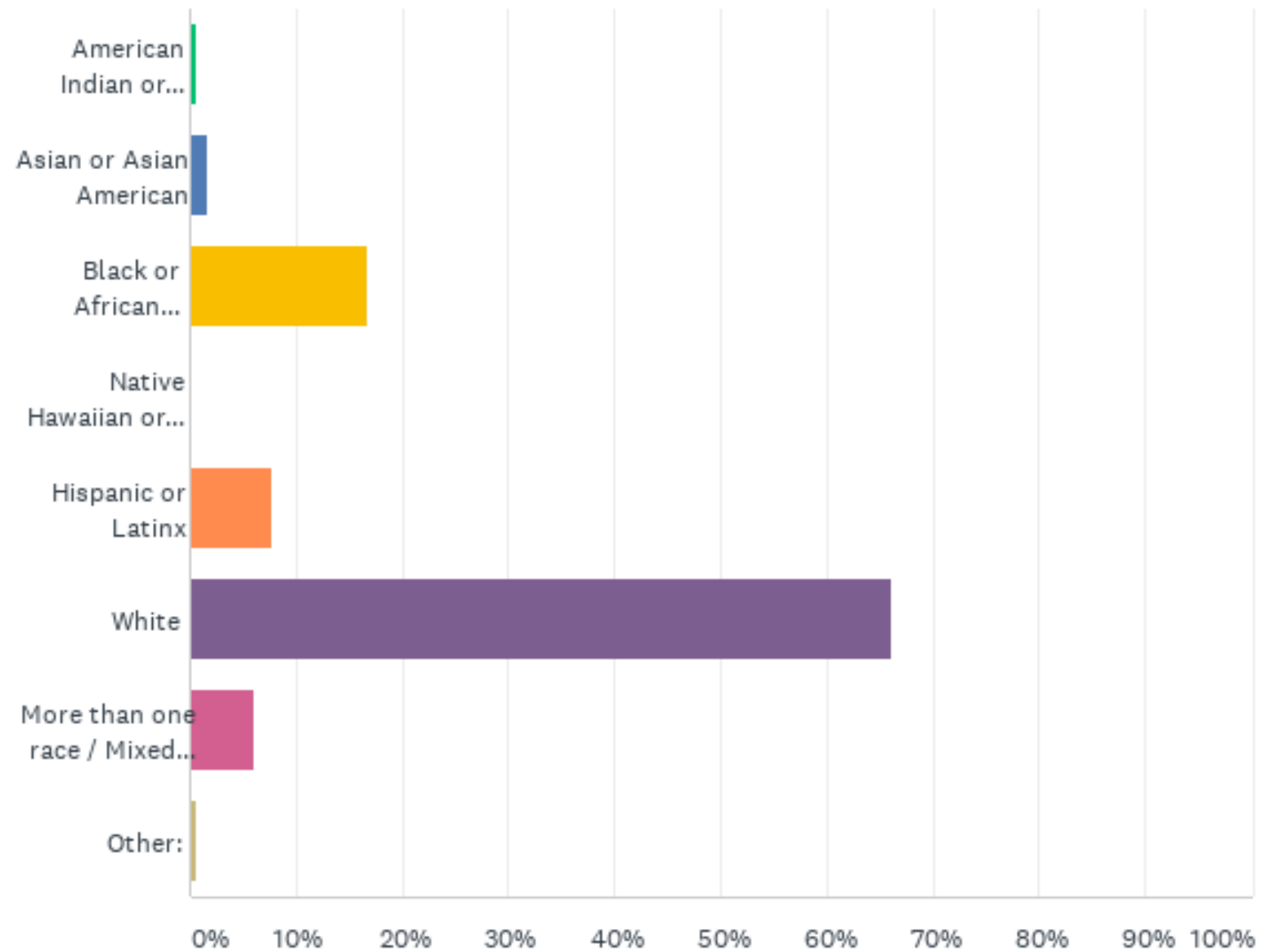
ANSWER CHOICES ▼	RESPONSES ▼
▼ Calvary Christian	6.07% 28
▼ Fruitport	0.65% 3
▼ Holton	0.00% 0
▼ Homeschool	0.43% 2
▼ Mona Shores	19.52% 90
▼ Montague	1.08% 5
▼ Muskegon	9.11% 42
▼ Muskegon Catholic Central	3.04% 14
▼ Muskegon Heights	9.33% 43
▼ North Muskegon	3.90% 18
▼ Oakridge	0.87% 4
▼ Orchard View	6.29% 29
▼ Ravenna	12.58% 58
▼ Reeths-Puffer	1.74% 8
▼ West Michigan Christian	5.64% 26
▼ Whitehall	19.74% 91
TOTAL	461

Q2 What grade are you in?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ 9 - Freshman	29.72%	137
▼ 10 - Sophomore	17.57%	81
▼ 11 - Junior	29.28%	135
▼ 12 - Senior	23.43%	108
TOTAL	461	

Q3 What's your race or cultural identity?

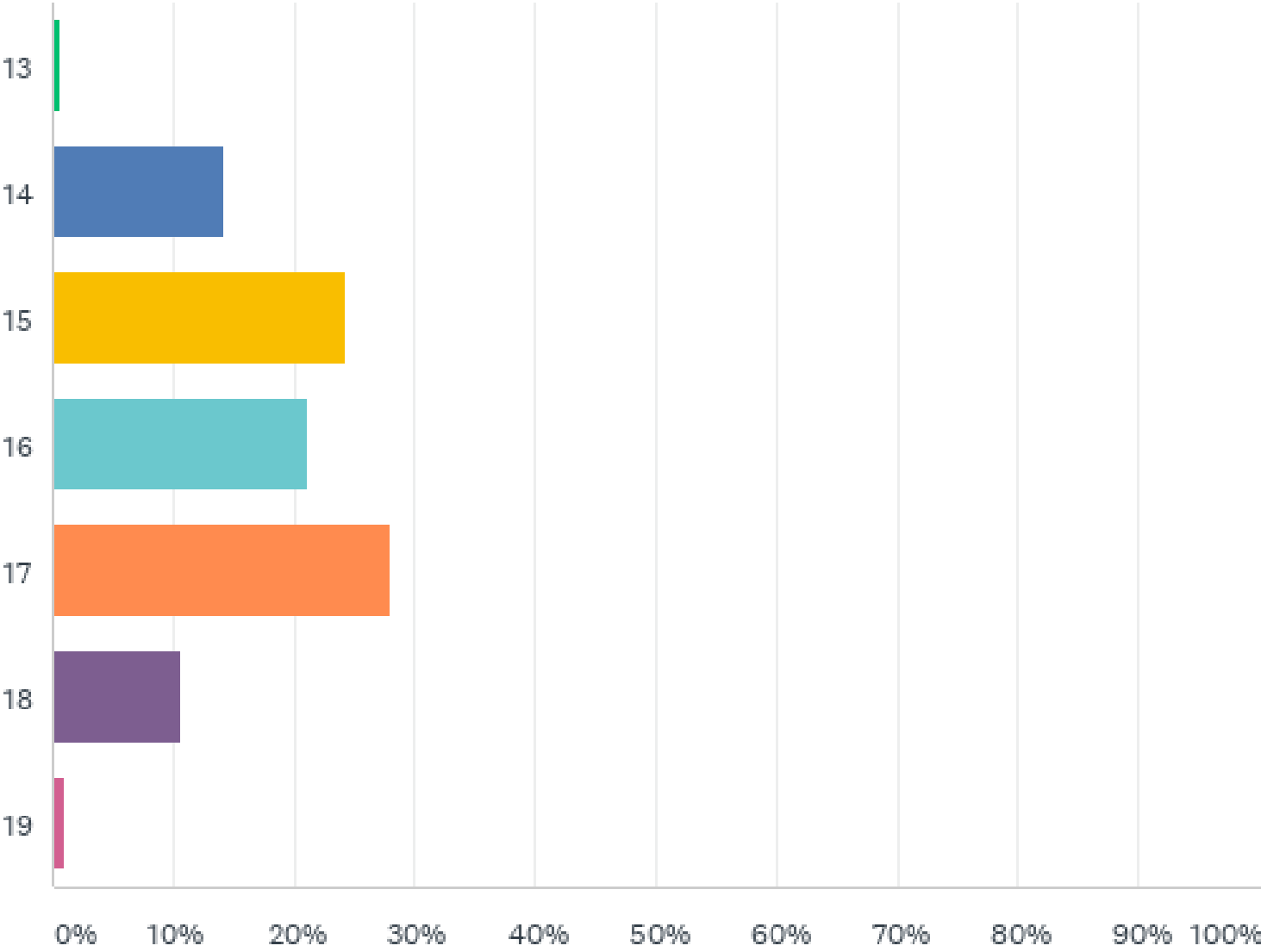


Q3 What's your race or cultural identity?

ANSWER CHOICES	▼	RESPONSES	▼
▼ American Indian or Alaska Native		0.65%	3
▼ Asian or Asian American		1.74%	8
▼ Black or African American		16.70%	77
▼ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander		0.22%	1
▼ Hispanic or Latinx		7.81%	36
▼ White		66.16%	305
▼ More than one race / Mixed race		6.07%	28
▼ Other:	Responses	0.65%	3
TOTAL			461

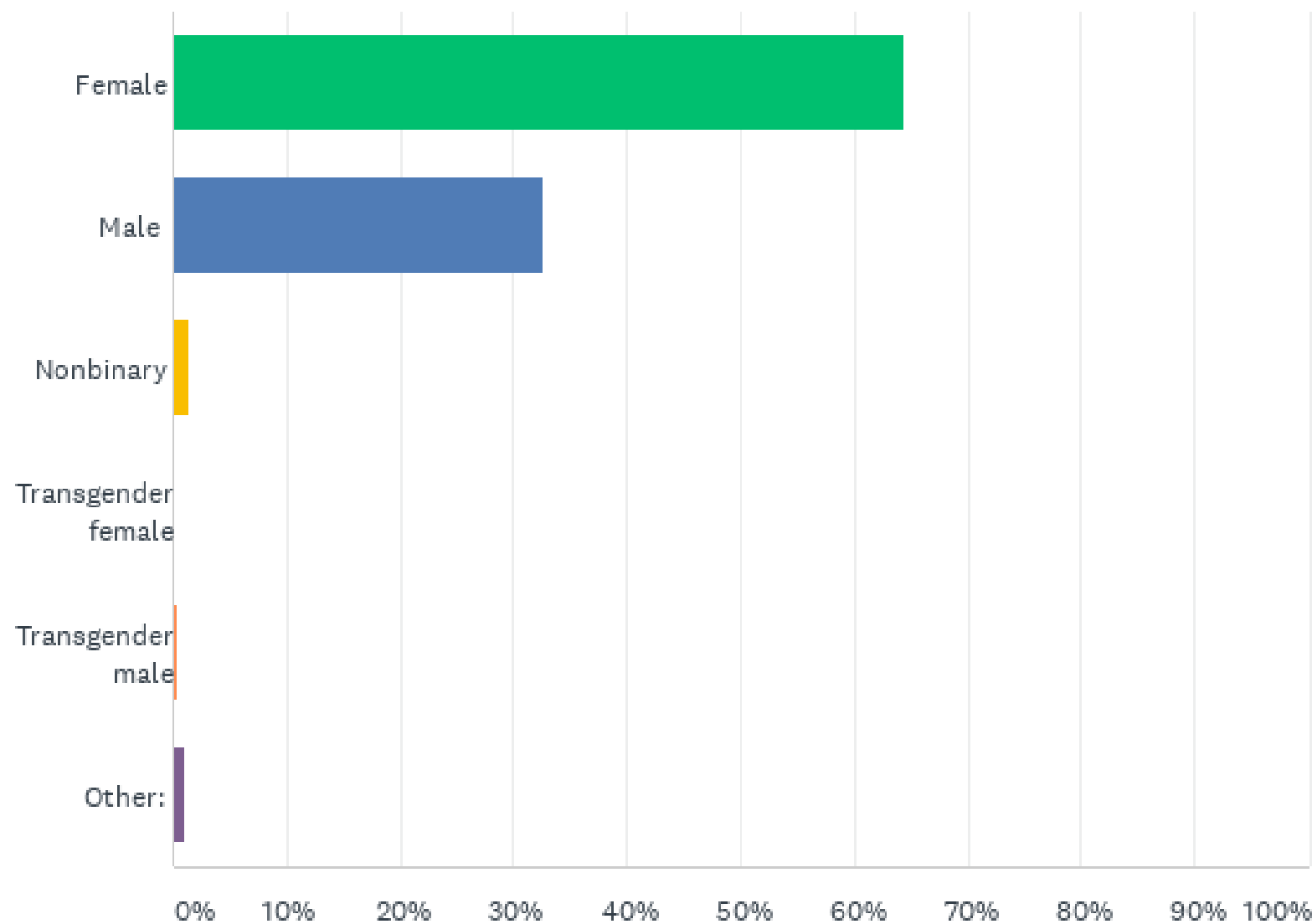
<input type="checkbox"/>	Middle Eastern	3/30/2021 8:47 AM	View respondent's answers	Add tags ▼
<input type="checkbox"/>	All the above	2/26/2021 10:17 AM	View respondent's answers	Add tags ▼
<input type="checkbox"/>	spaniard	2/25/2021 10:34 AM	View respondent's answers	Add tags ▼

Q4 What's your age?



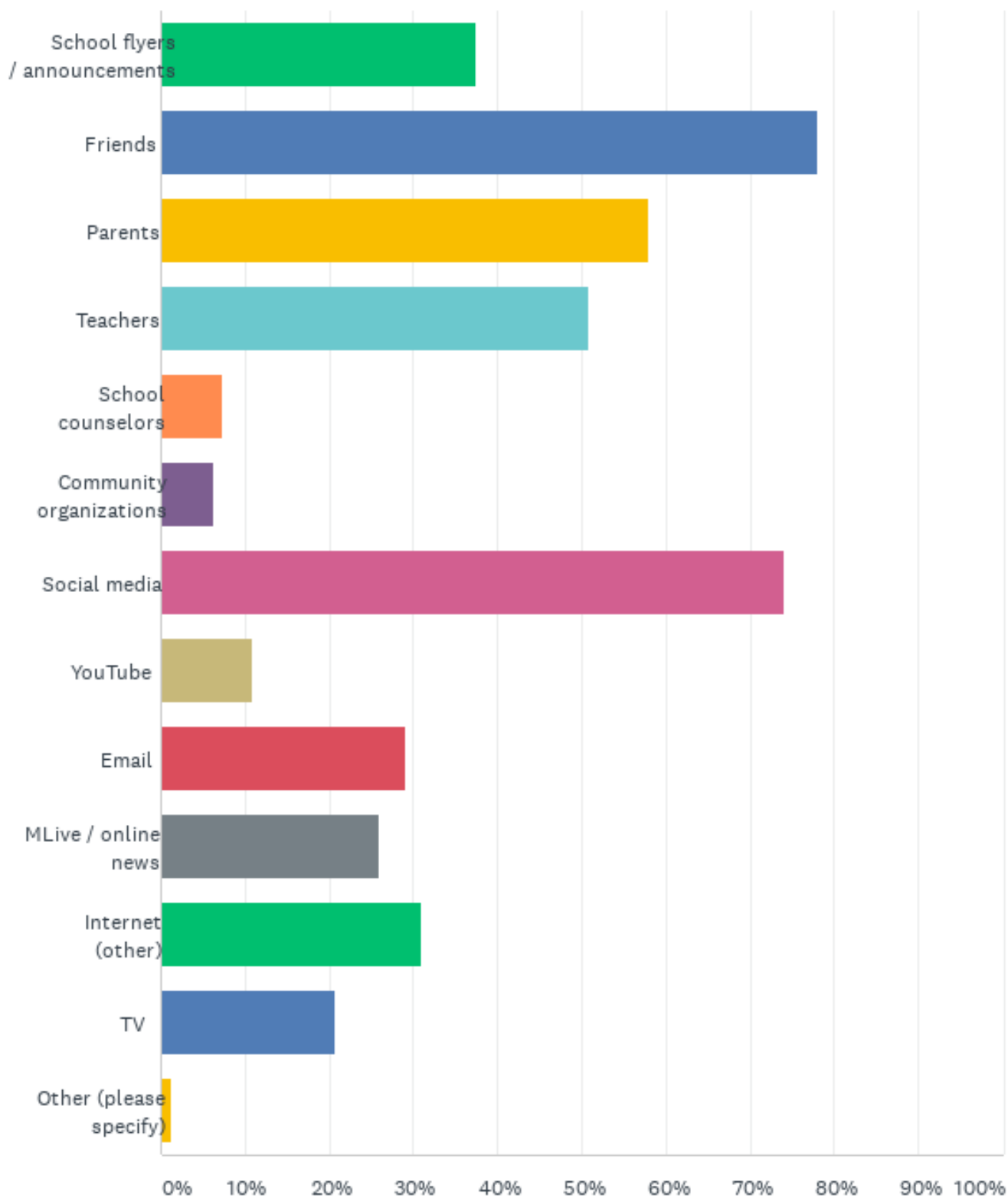
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ 13	0.65%	3
▼ 14	14.32%	66
▼ 15	24.30%	112
▼ 16	21.04%	97
▼ 17	27.98%	129
▼ 18	10.63%	49
▼ 19	1.08%	5
TOTAL	461	

Q5 What's your gender?



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
▼	Female	64.43%	297
▼	Male	32.54%	150
▼	Nonbinary	1.52%	7
▼	Transgender female	0.00%	0
▼	Transgender male	0.43%	2
▼	Other:	1.08%	5

Q6 How do you find out about what's happening in the community?



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
▼	School flyers / announcements	37.53%	173
▼	Friends	78.09%	360
▼	Parents	57.92%	267
▼	Teachers	50.76%	234
▼	School counselors	7.38%	34
▼	Community organizations	6.29%	29
▼	Social media	73.97%	341
▼	YouTube	10.85%	50
▼	Email	29.07%	134
▼	MLive / online news	26.03%	120
▼	Internet (other)	31.02%	143
▼	TV	20.61%	95
▼	Other (please specify)	Responses	1.30% 6

☐ I rarely use social media, as I try not to involve myself in some of the negativity.
 3/31/2021 7:53 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)

☐ Tiktok
 3/2/2021 4:53 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)

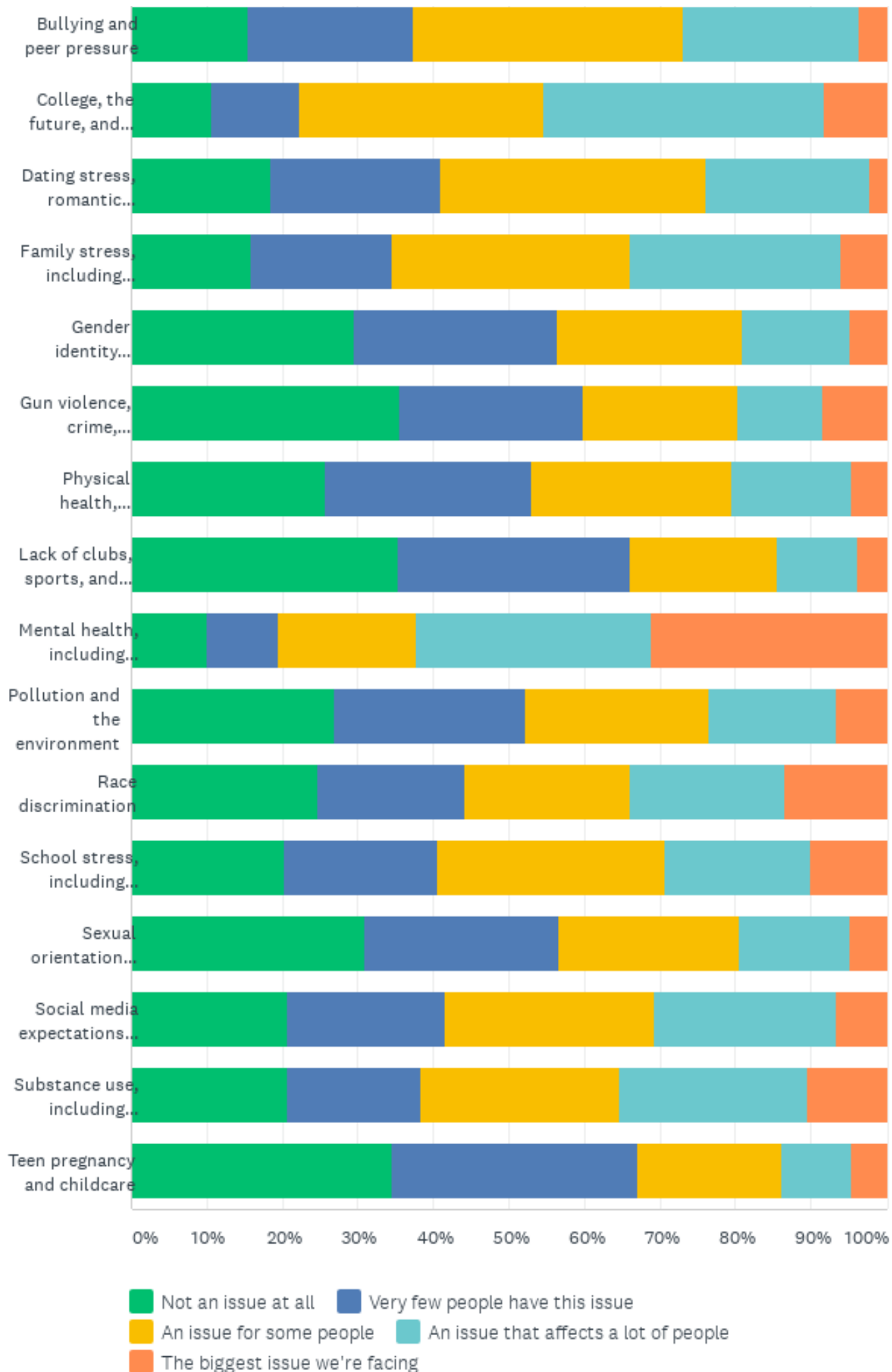
☐ local paper
 3/1/2021 10:10 AM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)

☐ My job
 2/25/2021 10:41 AM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)

☐ Tiktok
 2/24/2021 9:42 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)

☐ Social media, news, school, tv, parents
 2/15/2021 5:02 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)

Q7 What issues do you and/or your peers face? Rate how serious these issues are for kids and teens.



Q7 What issues do you and/or your peers face? Rate how serious these issues are for kids and teens.

	NOT AN ISSUE AT ALL	VERY FEW PEOPLE HAVE THIS ISSUE	AN ISSUE FOR SOME PEOPLE	AN ISSUE THAT AFFECTS A LOT OF PEOPLE	THE BIGGEST ISSUE WE'RE FACING	TOTAL
▼ Bullying and peer pressure	15.43% 71	21.96% 101	35.65% 164	23.26% 107	3.70% 17	460
▼ College, the future, and jobs	10.70% 49	11.57% 53	32.31% 148	37.12% 170	8.30% 38	458
▼ Dating stress, romantic partner abuse	18.48% 85	22.39% 103	35.22% 162	21.74% 100	2.17% 10	460
▼ Family stress, including abuse, poverty, and shelter	15.94% 73	18.56% 85	31.66% 145	27.73% 127	6.11% 28	458
▼ Gender identity discrimination	29.52% 134	26.87% 122	24.45% 111	14.32% 65	4.85% 22	454
▼ Gun violence, crime, neighborhood safety	35.59% 163	24.24% 111	20.52% 94	11.14% 51	8.52% 39	458
▼ Physical health, including STDs/STIs and eating disorders	25.71% 118	27.23% 125	26.58% 122	15.90% 73	4.58% 21	459
▼ Lack of clubs, sports, and other extracurriculars	35.36% 163	30.80% 142	19.31% 89	10.63% 49	3.90% 18	461
▼ Mental health, including depression and anxiety	10.04% 46	9.39% 43	18.34% 84	31.00% 142	31.22% 143	458
▼ Pollution and the environment	26.91% 123	25.38% 116	24.29% 111	16.85% 77	6.56% 30	457
▼ Race discrimination	24.78% 112	19.47% 88	21.90% 99	20.35% 92	13.50% 61	452
▼ School stress, including illiteracy and dropping out	20.26% 93	20.26% 93	30.07% 138	19.39% 89	10.02% 46	459
▼ Sexual orientation discrimination	30.85% 141	25.82% 118	23.85% 109	14.66% 67	4.81% 22	457
▼ Social media expectations, cyberbullying	20.61% 95	21.04% 97	27.55% 127	24.08% 111	6.72% 31	461
▼ Substance use, including alcohol and drugs	20.70% 95	17.65% 81	26.36% 121	24.84% 114	10.46% 48	459
▼ Teen pregnancy and childcare	34.49% 159	32.54% 150	19.09% 88	9.33% 43	4.56% 21	461

Q7 What issues do you and/or your peers face? Rate how serious these issues are for kids and teens.

Showing 6 responses

- ☐ **Lack of more mental health help hospital in muskegon**
3/2/2021 4:55 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)
-
- ☐ **Not having good lunch....**
2/26/2021 10:08 AM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)
-
- ☐ **people mostly bully online with anonymous insta accounts or snap stories.**
2/25/2021 12:16 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)
-
- ☐ **No sympathy from a good 95% of faculty members. Yes we're kids but we have a lot going on, we have lives that we go back to when we leave school. School only takes up not even a full 7 hours of our day that leaves 17 other hours for everything else, and for a lot of us that entails, practice, work, helping out around the house, and whatever else we have to do during the day, then school work or studying, which usually doesn't happen until later on in the day and that's either before or after dinner. So at this point it's usually pretty late at night so we spend around 2 or 3 hours studying or doing homework depending on the student thought it's a majority of us and by the time we get done we have to shower or we go to sleep and wake up at least 45 minutes earlier than normal and normal is usually around 5 o'clock or 5:30 and that's before covid and God forbid out of over almost 5 months you have more than 11 absences excused or not, because then you have to get a C+. Yep, you miss 11 days out of 135 and you face redoing a class no matter if you have a 115% in the class or a %60. NOW couple in covid. Because it cut into our previous school year there was no way to improve our gpa's so now even those of us that had the potential to qualify for the Muskegon promise now can only qualify if they get a 4.0 from here on out. And not to mention the fact that some student's gpa's dropped when covid hit unexpectedly and school faculty members are writing it off and saying it isn't possible. And the lack of understanding and failure to take into mind how certain decisions about US will affect US is one of the leading reasons that so many students suffer from psychological and anxiety disorders. So if something can be done about that, I know a lot of us would greatly appreciate it.**
2/15/2021 5:25 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)
-
- ☐ **Favoritism and sexism**
2/15/2021 5:04 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)
-
- ☐ **sending nudes, or child pornography around to other students**
2/15/2021 5:02 PM [View respondent's answers](#) [Add tags ▼](#)
-

Q7 What issues do you and/or your peers face? Rate how serious these issues are for kids and teens.

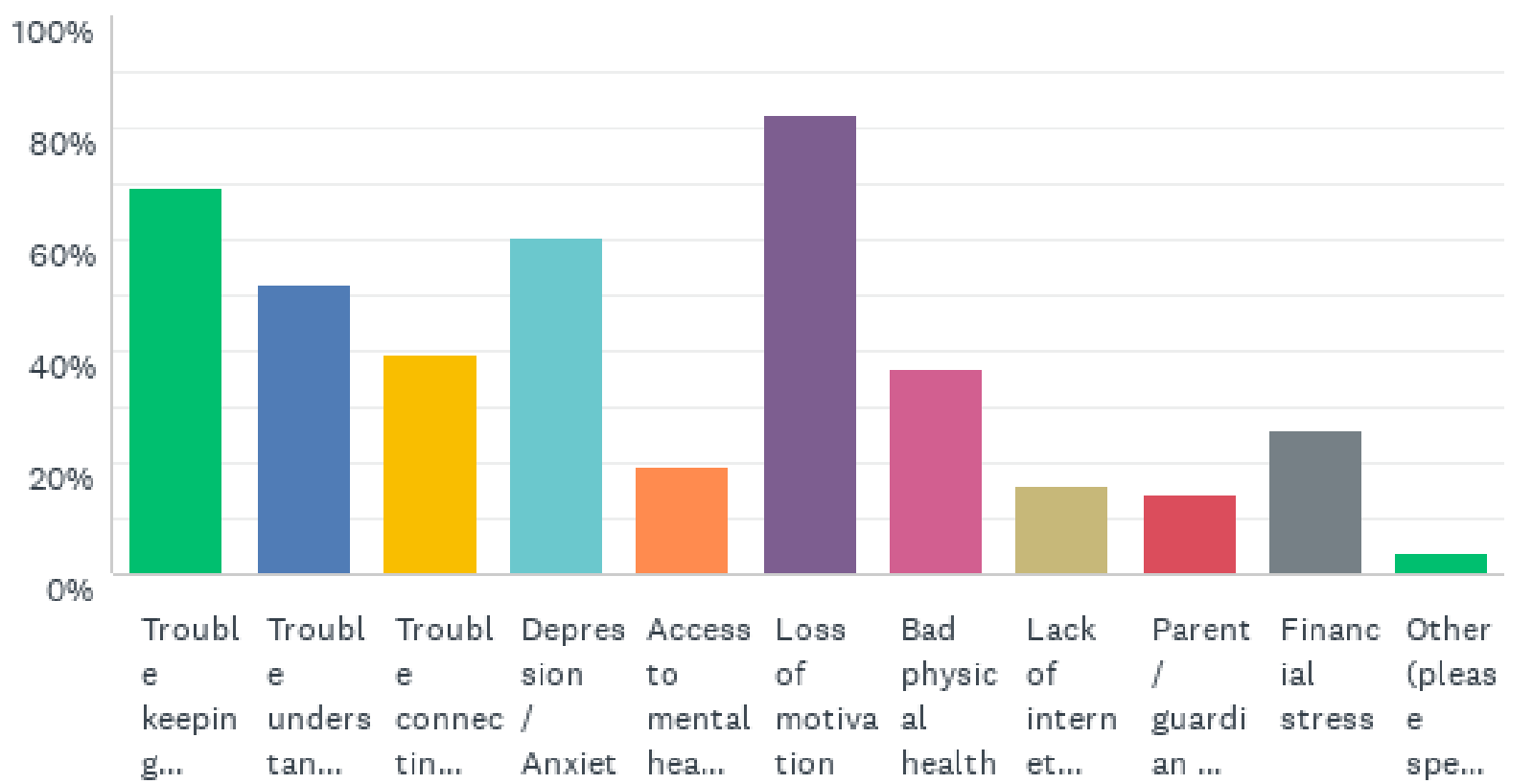
When calculating a weighted average - using the two most severe rating categories - the following were determined to be the top 3 issues Muskegon County youth face based on the 2021 YES:

1. Mental health, including depression and anxiety
2. Substance use, including alcohol and drugs
3. Race discrimination

The remaining top 10 issues are:

4. College, the future, and jobs
5. School stress, including illiteracy and dropping out
6. Family stress, including abuse, poverty, and shelter
7. Social media expectations, cyberbullying
8. Gun violence, crime, neighborhood safety
9. Pollution and the environment
10. Bullying and peer pressure

Q8 As a result of the pandemic, which of the following have become issues that you and/or your peers face?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Trouble keeping track of assignments	69.63%	321
▼ Trouble understanding or showing up for virtual school	51.84%	239
▼ Trouble connecting with peers	39.48%	182
▼ Depression / Anxiety (related to the pandemic)	60.52%	279
▼ Access to mental health resources (like therapists)	19.31%	89
▼ Loss of motivation	82.65%	381
▼ Bad physical health	36.88%	170
▼ Lack of internet access or technology needs	16.05%	74
▼ Parent / guardian job loss	14.53%	67
▼ Financial stress	25.81%	119
▼ Other (please specify)	4.12%	19
Total Respondents: 461		

Q8 As a result of the pandemic, which of the following have become issues that you and/or your peers face?

Showing 19 responses

☐

None apply to me, nor do any apply to my peers (to my knowledge).

3/31/2021 7:53 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

Teachers can't/won't adapt to current situation of online learning, which makes it extremely difficult for students to learn in school

3/31/2021 1:20 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

College

3/2/2021 4:55 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

Grades tanking

2/28/2021 9:44 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

Masks are annoying to deal with in school.

2/25/2021 10:05 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

Not effected

2/25/2021 1:27 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

none

2/26/2021 11:59 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

Q8 As a result of the pandemic, which of the following have become issues that you and/or your peers face?

☐

Nothing

2/25/2021 8:51 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

to much stress from school

2/24/2021 7:09 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

Parent Divorce

2/24/2021 6:10 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

anxiety in general

2/15/2021 5:41 PM

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☐

None

☐

Decisions made concerning covid negatively affected my gpa and there was nothing I could do about it because no matter how much work I did, or how many 100% I could've turned in, my gpa wouldn't be affected. And I missed the Friday before covid hit so any assignment that was due and I didn't turn it in was an automatic F and it brought my gpa down and I had no way of making it up because not even turning it in by email would've done anything.

2/15/2021 5:25 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

It's very hard

2/15/2021 5:02 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

Q8 As a result of the pandemic, which of the following have become issues that you and/or your peers face?

☐

the will to try anymore.

2/25/2021 12:16 PM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

none of this for me im good

2/25/2021 10:04 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

none of these i don't have

2/25/2021 9:17 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)

☐

None of these just lost a lot of being social and lost sports.

2/25/2021 8:52 AM

[View respondent's answers](#)

[Add tags ▼](#)