



Prevention of sexual harassment on public transport

Background

Law 17/2015, on effective equality between women and men

Article 18

Requires the administrations to approve a **procedure for the prevention of sexual harassment**.

Articles 53 and 55

Establish the obligations of the public administrations of Catalonia. These include:

- Organizing **gender perspective training** for technical and political staff who work in urban planning, mobility and housing.
- Planning urban development, housing and mobility based on statistics broken down by sex.
- Preparing **gender impact studies** and contemplating **corrective measures** in urban planning, housing or mobility action.
- Including a **gender perspective** in **surveys** and **analysis of security in public spaces**.
- Promoting a **security model** that incorporates the perspective of women in **urban planning**, and associates urban design and gender-based violence to prevent environments that could yield situations of insecurity for women.
- Implementing measures that guarantee visibility, proper lighting and alternative routes to **reduce the perception of insecurity in public spaces**.



Measures
against sexual
harassment on
public
transport Plan

Mobility and
gender strategic
plan 2028

Approved by the Government in July 2022

Objective: Women, girls and LGBTI groups must be guaranteed a feeling of security in certain transport infrastructures and **gender-sensitive strategies** must be designed for public transport systems to guarantee freedom and access for all **people without discrimination based on sex.**





Plan to counter sexual harassment on public transport

 **Generalitat
de Catalunya**

 **Àrea de Barcelona**
Autoritat del Transport
Metropolità

 **Àrea de Girona**
Autoritat
Territorial
de la Mobilitat

 **Camp de Tarragona**
Autoritat Territorial
de la Mobilitat

 **Àrea de Lleida**
Autoritat Territorial
de la Mobilitat

Phase 1: Awareness

Phase 2: Benchmarking

Phase 3: Unitary protocol

Phase 4: Plan of action

Survey on sexual harassment on public transport (EASTP) 2020

Survey on sexual harassment on public transport (EASTP) 2020

Objective: to gather information about situations of sexual harassment on public transport



Areas of knowledge

- **Testimony** and direct victimization for different harassment situations.
- **Opinion** on the frequency, seriousness and the environment where harassment occurs.
- **Assessment of fear.**
- Awareness and assessment of **security measures.**



Sample

6,224 interviews:
3,754 women regular users,
1,451 women occasional users
1,019 men



Population universe

People aged **16 years old or more:** women who are regular and occasional users or non-users of public transport and men



Territorial scope

Province of **Barcelona**



Period of execution

Autumn 2020

EASTP 2020: main results

57% of regular public transport women users have suffered some form of harassment at least once in the last 2 years.



64.3% of women



91.6 % of women aged between 16 and 25 had at some time suffered sexual harassment on public transport





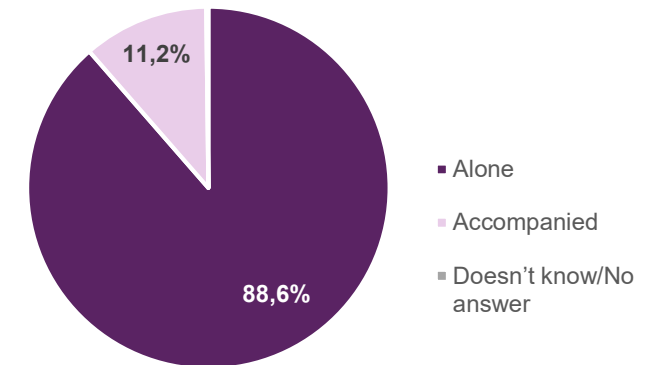
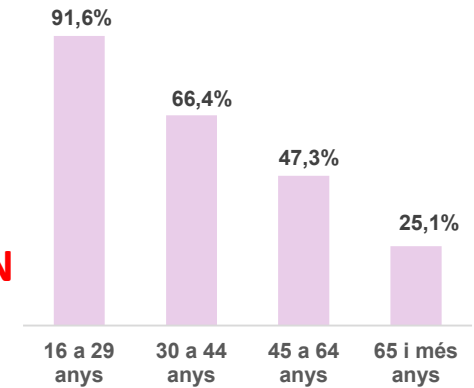
EASTP 2020: main results

Young women are the most victimized

88.6% of the women who experienced harassment were travelling alone.

The profile of the aggressor is that of a single adult man (in 62.4% of cases), followed by that of a single young man (12.5%). In 9.1% of cases, the aggressors were a group of young men.

COMPTES:
LITERALS EN
CATALÀ

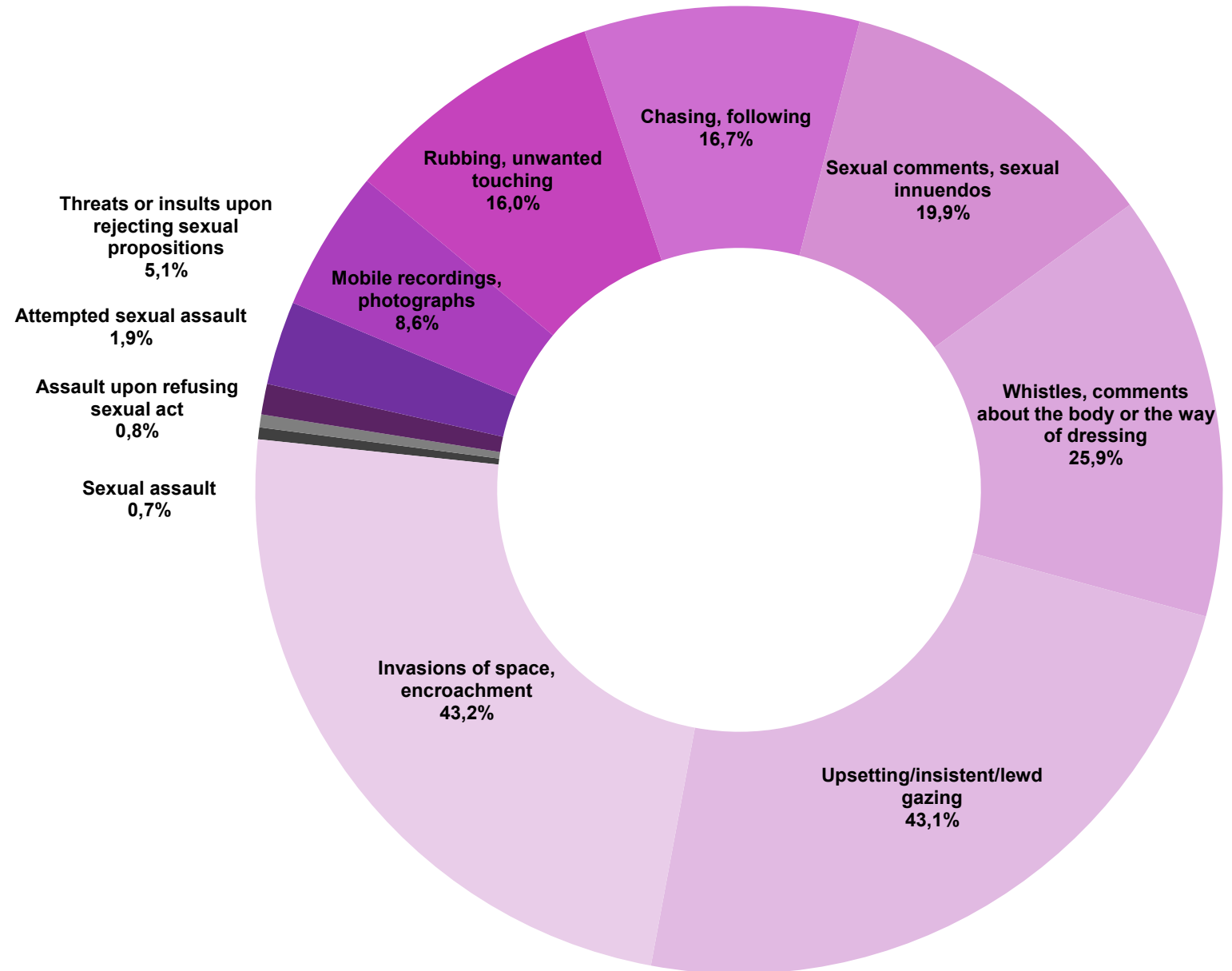


EASTP 2020: main results

■ **57% of women who regularly use public transport** have suffered some form of harassment at least once in the last 2 years.

■ **43.2% have at least once suffered invasions of space** or encroachment and 25.9% have been subject to whistles or comments about their body or the way they dress

■ The most violent events, such as sexual assaults, are much less frequent and have affected **under 5% of women users.**

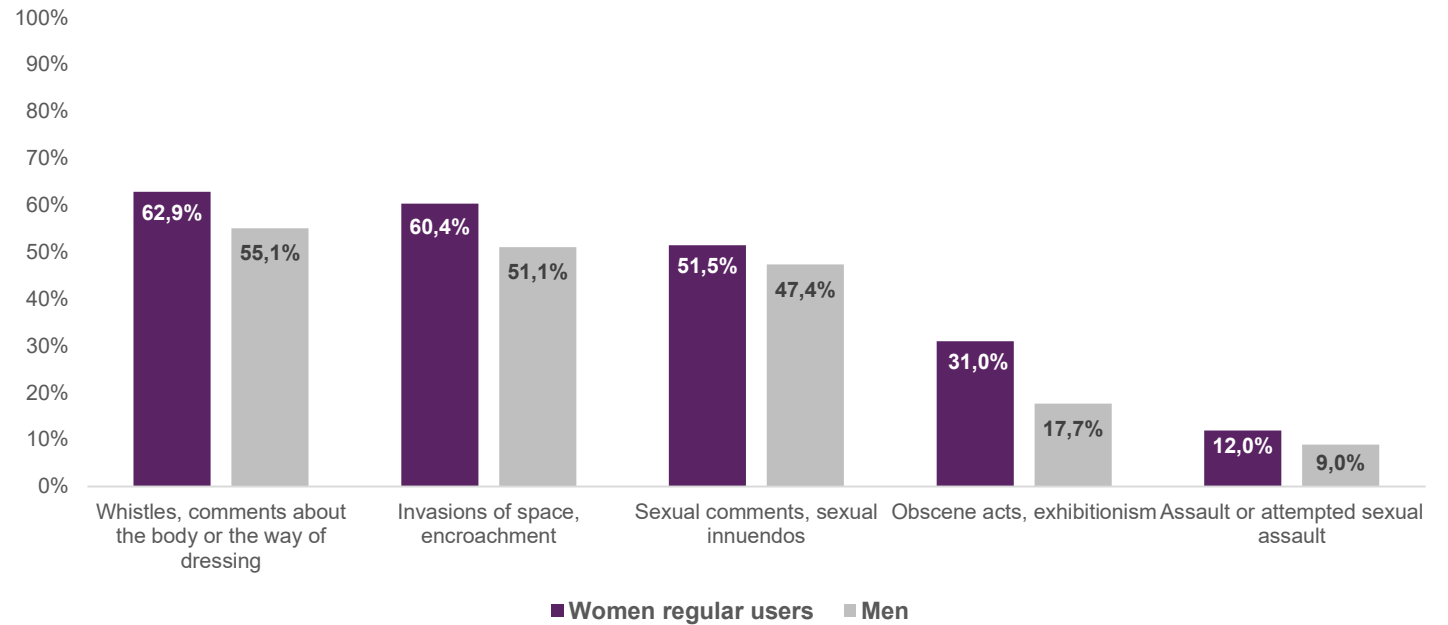


EASTP 2020: observer role

Over 70% of women regular users of public transport state they have been subject to some form of sexual harassment **at least once in the last 2 years.**

Among male users this percentage is 68.6%.

12% of women have witnessed an assault or attempted sexual assault on public transport.



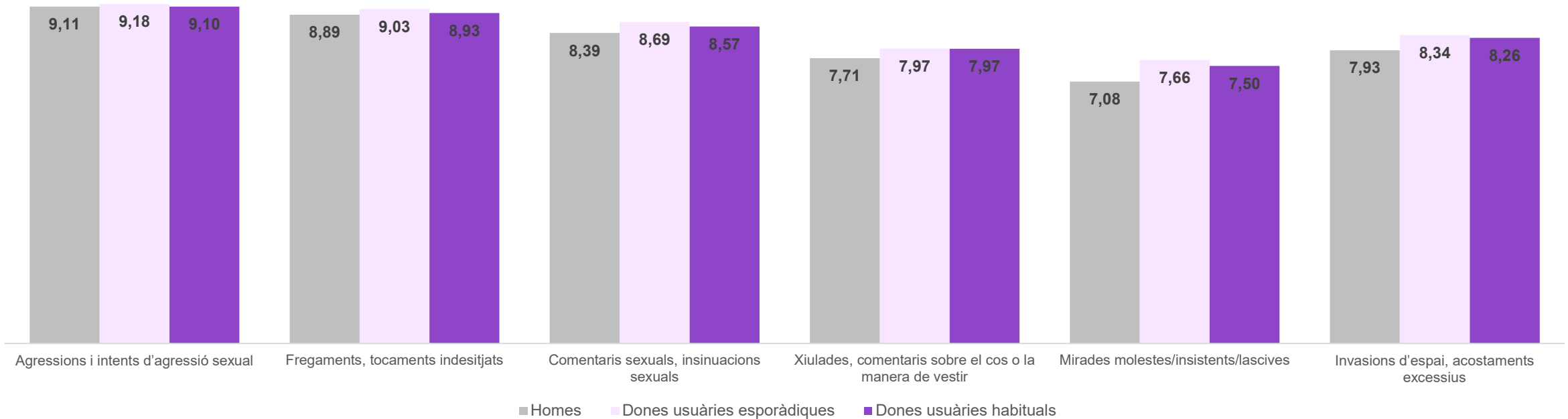
EASTP 2020: percepció de gravetat

PENDENT DE TRADUIR

Tots els tipus d'assetjament es consideren greus, des de les mirades lascives fins a les agressions i els intents d'agressió sexual.

Les dones atorguen més gravetat que els homes a les diferents situacions, si bé el nivell de gravetat relatat pels homes és elevat.

Puntuació de la gravetat

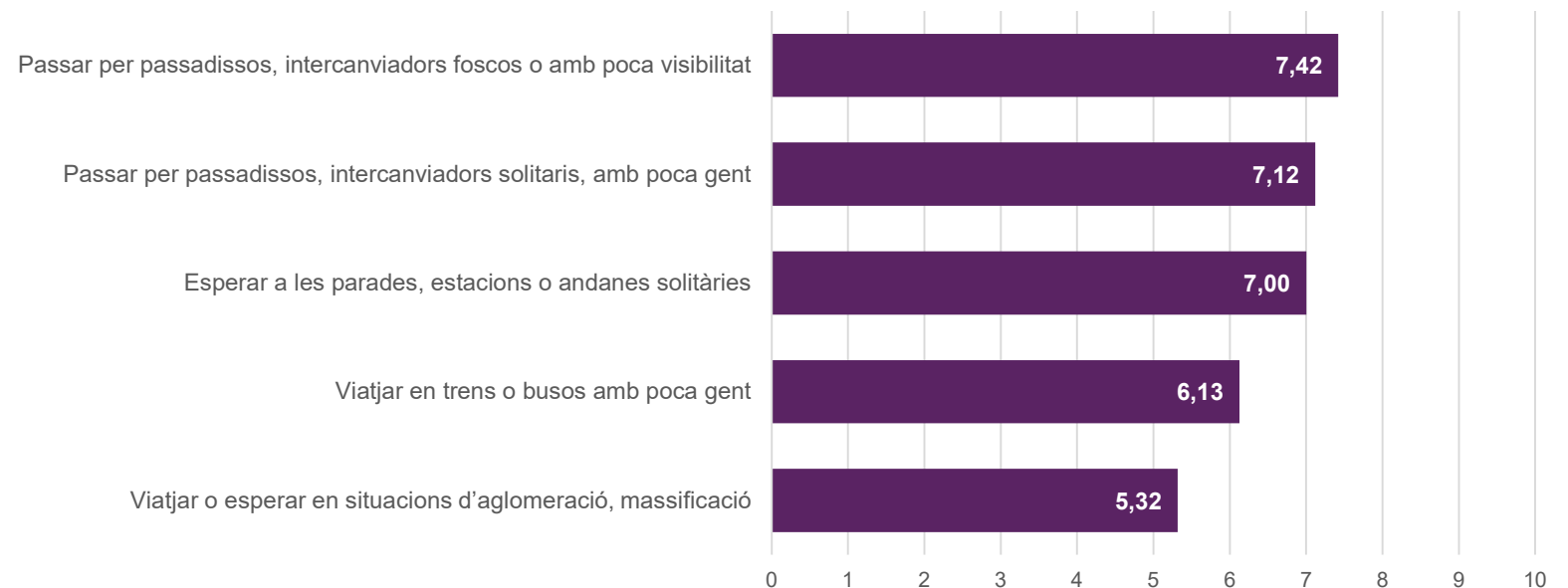


EASTP 2020: perception of danger: fear

Places with **low visibility and few people** are the areas that evoke the highest level of fear, especially **interchange points or corridors**, but also **platforms, stops and stations**. The most frightening aspect, given that it is sexual assault, is much more associated with lonely, dark or unsupervised environments.

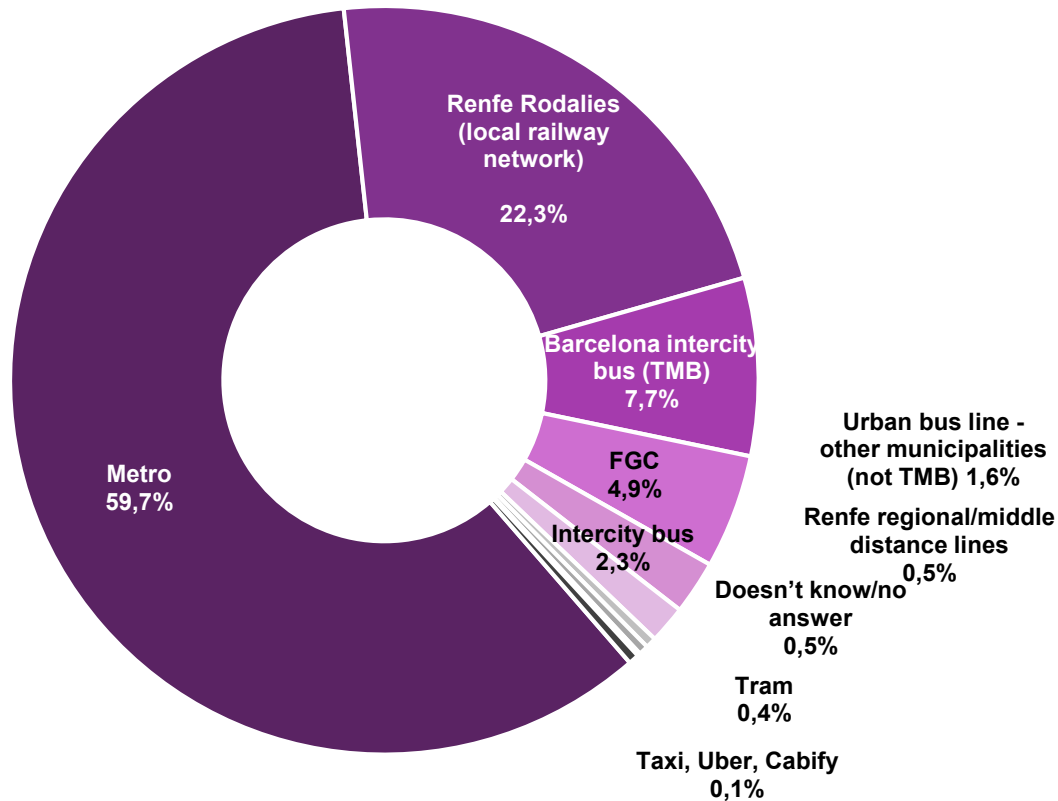
Fear is experienced mainly by users who **usually travel at night or early in the morning** and also by users who usually **take intercity routes**.

Change in travel habits for safety reasons



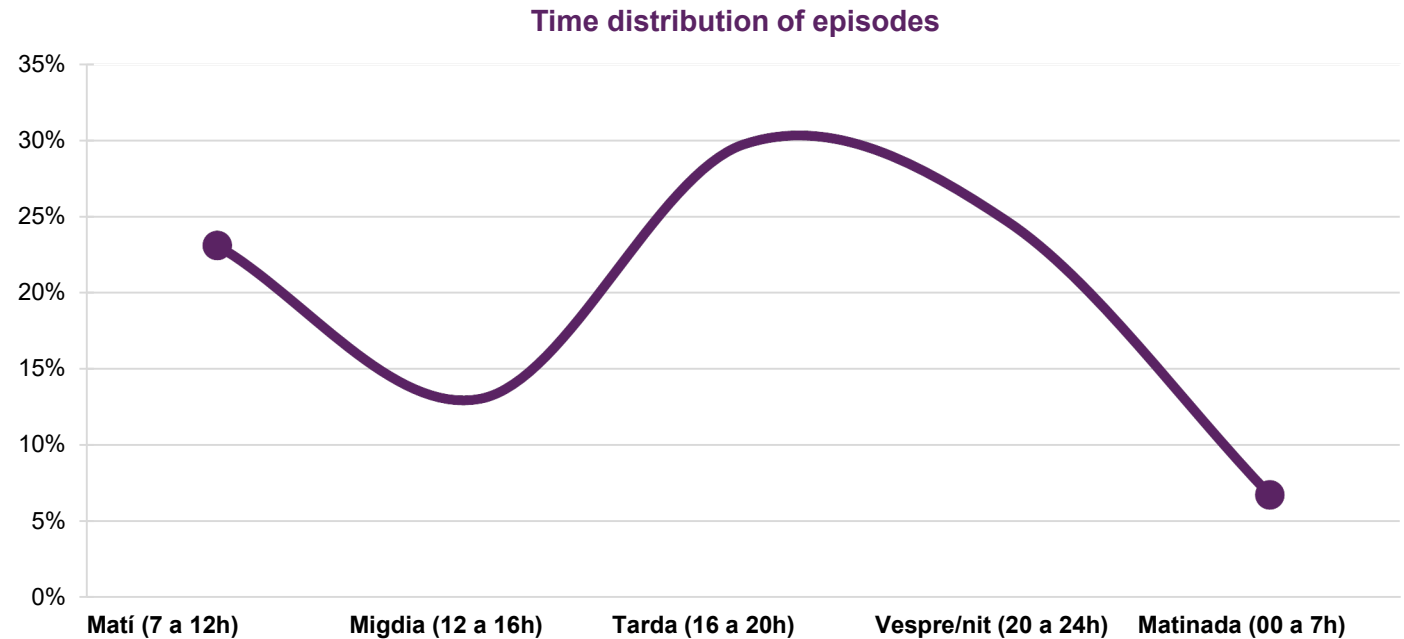
EASTP 2020: where the assaults take place

The **metro** is the means of transport where the most situations of sexual harassment to women have occurred (almost 60%), followed by the **Rodalies** local train network (22.3%).



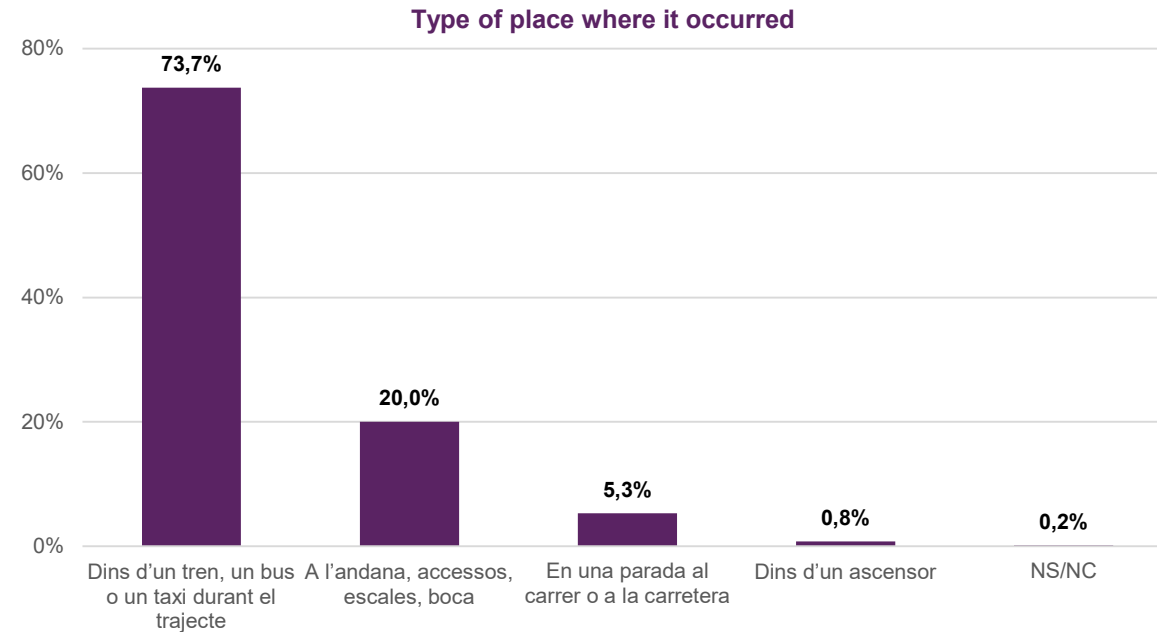
EASTP 2020: where the assaults take place

Harassment occurs mainly in the afternoon and evening (from 4 pm to 12 am). It does, however, occur at all times.



EASTP 2020: where the assaults take place

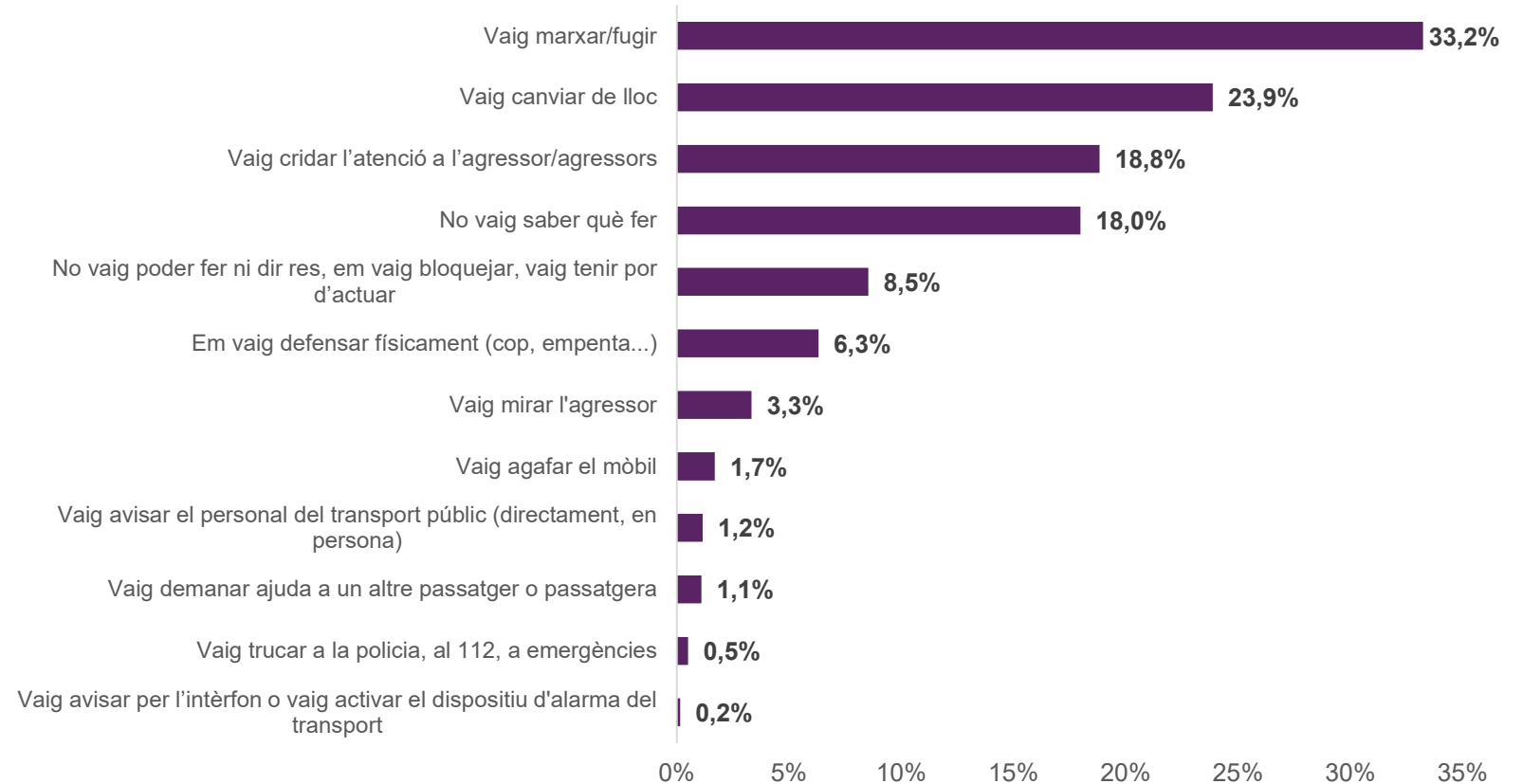
Harassment occurs **mainly inside vehicles (73.7%)** and, **to a lesser extent, on access roads and platforms (20%)** or **stops in the street (5.3%)**.



EASTP 2020: victims' reactions

The **main reaction** of women subject to situations of harassment is to **flee** (33.2% of cases) or to **change place** (23.9%).

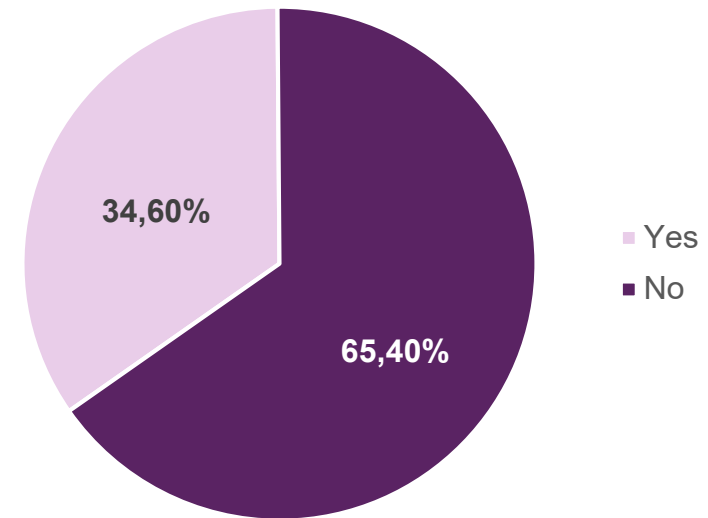
3% of women appeal to **other people, security forces or use communication systems**.





EASTP 2020: victims' reactions

Nearly 35% of victims did not talk to anyone about what had happened. Not to the police, to the transport services, or to family or friends



EASTP 2020: evaluation of the measures

■ **The presence of surveillance personnel and on-demand stops** are the measures **rated highest**, above 8.5 points on average. On-site campaigns and mobile apps are the measures rated lowest (7.36 and 7.64, respectively).



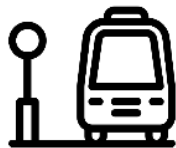
Benchmarking

International benchmarking of measures

Governance



Design and operations
(infrastructure and vehicles)



Prevention and warning systems



Technological tools and digitization



Awareness and education



International benchmarking of measures Reference cases

Transport strategy for London addressed to women users



Governance

- Administration policies and strategic plans
- Equality clauses in public contracts
- Management structures
- Extending awareness and diagnosis of the situation
- Empowerment of women in the sector
- Expanding the presence of women in the sector



Action on Equality: TfL's commitments to 2020

International benchmarking of measures

Reference cases

Inclusive bus shelters and bus stops in Toronto



Design and operations

- Planning with gender criteria
- Integrating public transport with the rest of public space
- Safe, accessible and well-lit infrastructures
- Vehicle interior adapted to women's needs
- Specific transport services for women
- Infrastructure reserved for women



International benchmarking of measures Reference cases

Gender-oriented control mechanism and care modules in Mexico City



Prevention
warning
systems

- Agreements with the security forces
- Alarm and warning systems
- Specific action protocols
- Support for victims



International benchmarking of measures

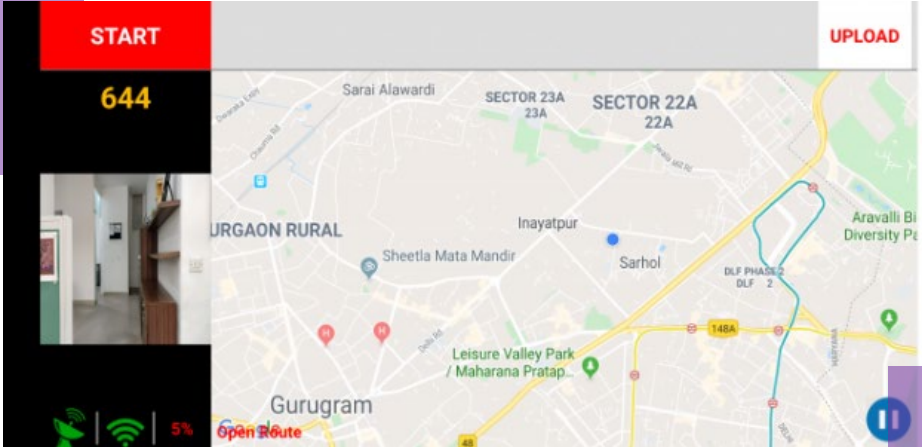
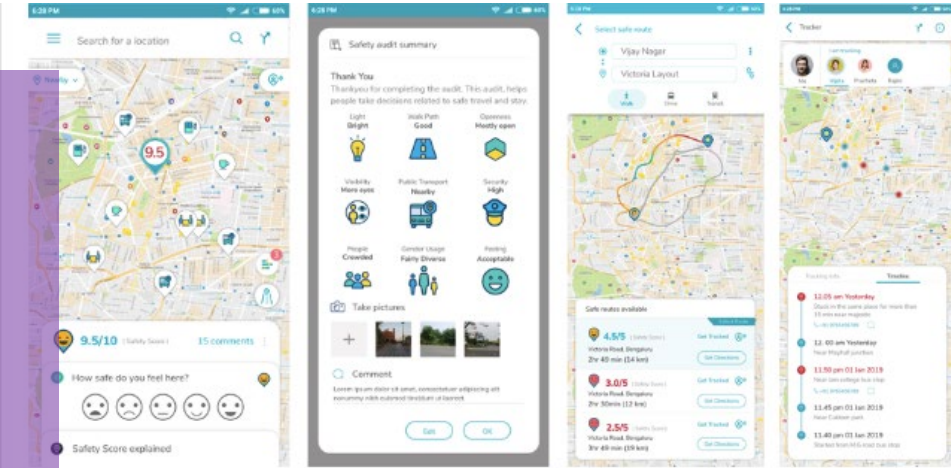
Reference cases

My Safetipin, Safetipin Nite and Safetipin Site



Technological tools and digitization

- Web pages, mobile applications and collective forums
- Digitization of attacks and of critical points



International benchmarking of measures Reference cases

Communication campaign of Île-de-France Mobilités



Awareness and
education

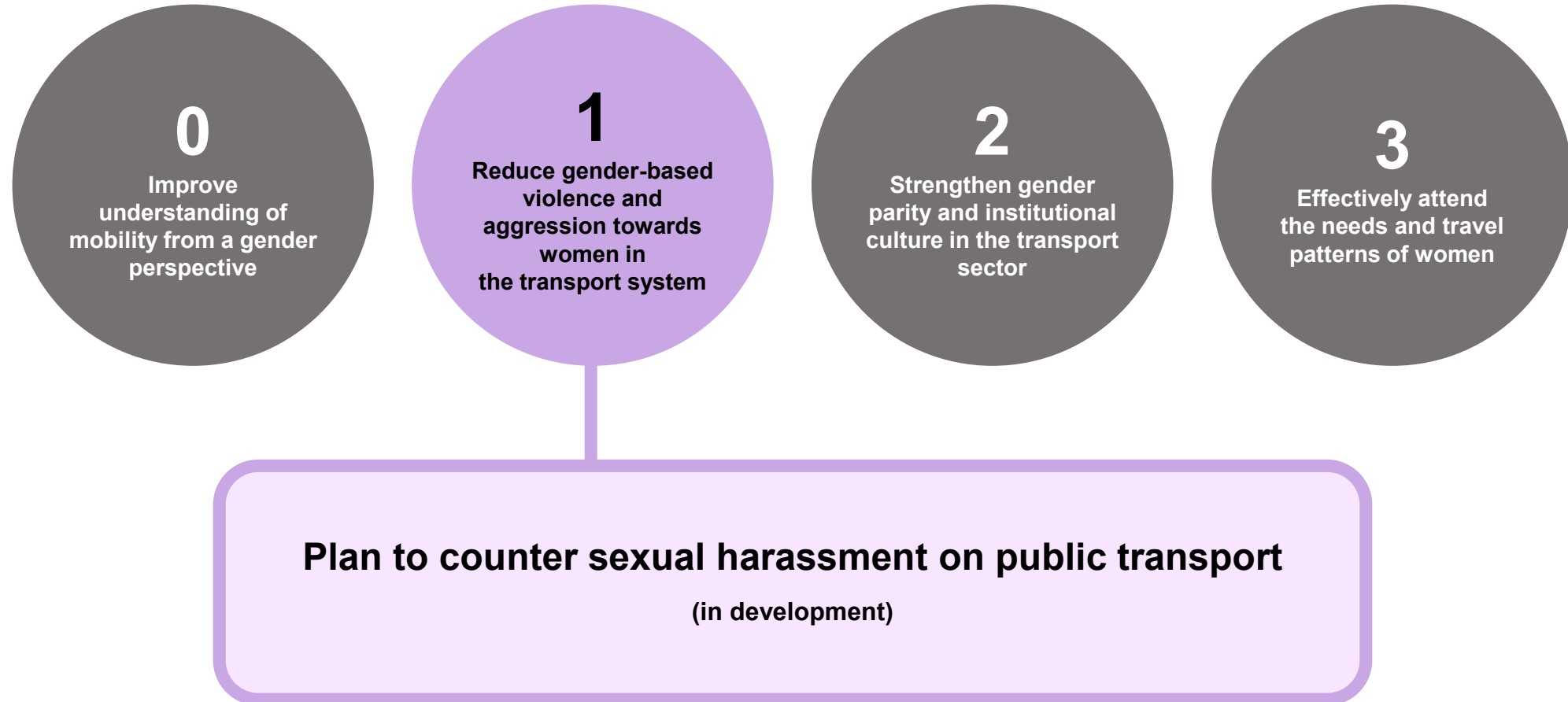
- Training of staff, the Administration and society
- Awareness campaigns
- Campaigns to encourage reporting of cases



Mobility and gender strategic plan *Measures*

Mobility and gender strategic plan 2028

Strategic core areas



Implementation of the Plan's measures

Implemented

- **Protocol of action** for an episode of harassment on public transport
- [Guide for the design of public spaces from an intersectional gender perspective](#)
- [Recommendations for mobility by bicycle and personal transporter from a gender perspective in Catalonia](#)



Implementation of the Plan's measures

Under implementation

- MMR Project for the **acquisition of cameras** for night-time transport services, amounting to 1 million euros in 2023 (in procurement phase).
- **Antisocial behaviour warning** (panic button) on all means of transport (in design phase).
- **Training** for staff of transport **operating companies** and **communication campaign** for users.*
- **Design guide** for non-service roadside rest areas from an intersectional gender perspective.*
- **Guide** of measures to **prevent** sexual harassment of **women delivery drivers** and **Guides** of measures to prevent sexual harassment of **women truck and bus drivers in roadside rest areas** and bus parking areas (pending tender).*
- **On-demand night bus stops** and analysis of **dark spots** in the network.*
- Creation of a **specific mailbox** for reporting (under development)

* Measures under implementation in 2023 with a budget of 150,000 euros from the State Pact against Gender Violence.



**Generalitat
de Catalunya**

**Per la igualtat,
sempre endavant**

