



drinkaware

Inappropriate behaviour in pubs, bars and clubs

September 2017

YouGov[®]

Executive summary

- **Close to three quarters (72%) of young adults who drink in pubs/bars/clubs have witnessed inappropriate sexual comments or touching on a night out in these venues.** Females are more likely to witness such behaviours (77%), but two-thirds of males (67%) have also witnessed them.
- **More than three quarters (79%) of female 18-24s think harassment is likely to happen to them/their female friends on a night out.** Over half of males (60%) also expect these behaviours to happen to their female friends.
 - By contrast, few young people of either gender think harassment is likely to happen to males in a pub/bar/club.
- **Close to two-thirds (63%) of female respondents have personally experienced inappropriate sexual behaviour in pubs/bars/clubs – along with a quarter (26%) of males.**
 - While female respondents typically reported being harassed by a male and vice versa for male respondents, a substantial amount of male respondents also reported a male harasser (29% of males who experienced harassment).
 - Female respondents who experienced harassment were most likely to feel disgust (76%) and anger (71%). Males who experienced this were most likely to feel surprised (45%).
- Very few 18-24s admit to inappropriate behaviours themselves while drunk in a pub/bar/club. However young males are more likely to be evicted from such venues due to their behaviour.

Background and Method

A quantitative online survey of adults aged 18-24 across the UK, conducted by YouGov on behalf of Drinkaware.

The objective of the study was to explore young adults' experiences and perceptions of sexual harassment in pubs, bars and clubs, including:

- Perceptions of how likely such behaviours are
- Experiences of witnessing harassment
- Experiences of personally being harassed

Fieldwork took place from 23rd June - 5th July 2017.

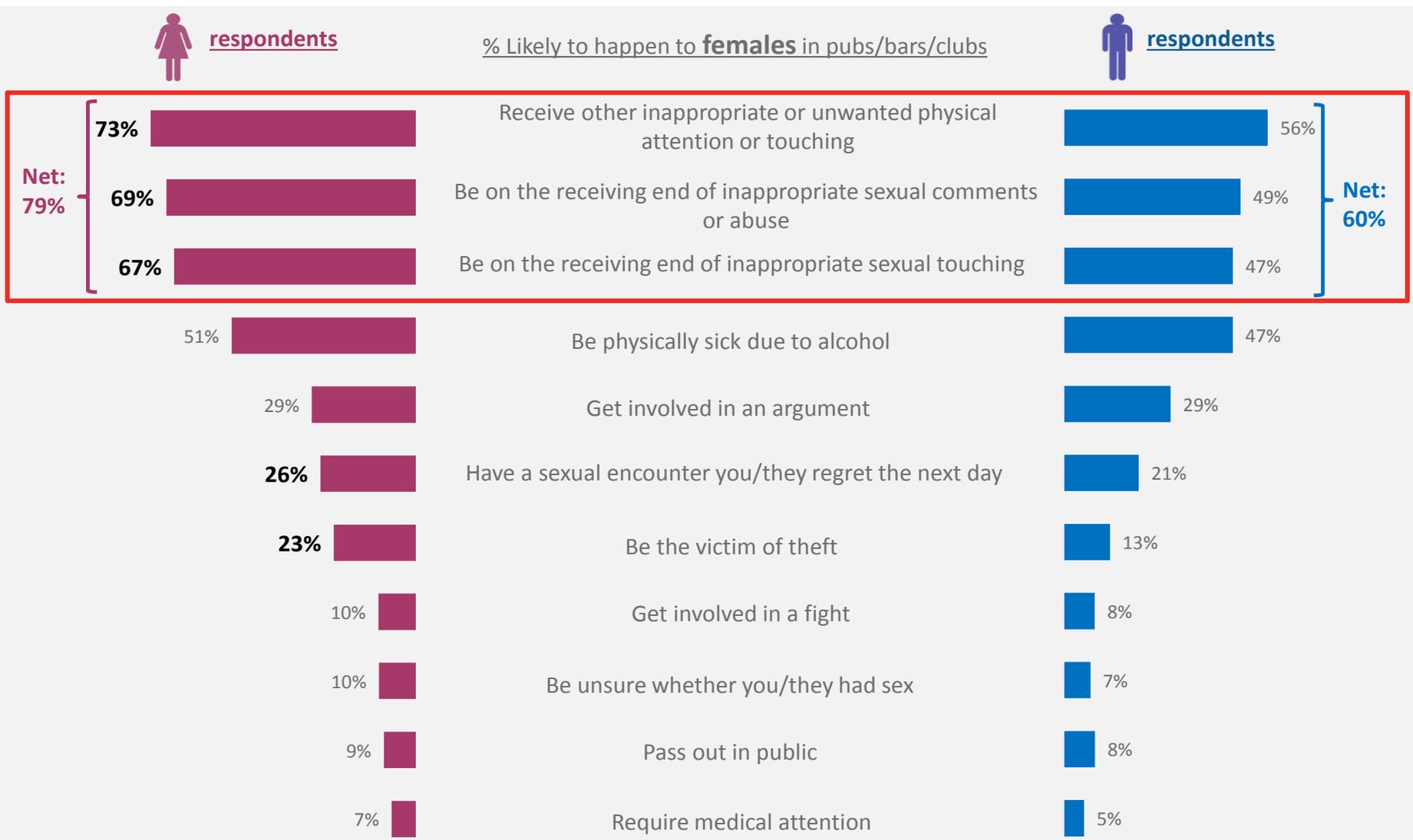
In total 2,013 18-24 year olds were interviewed. Data have been weighted to be representative by age, region and social grade. Achieved sample numbers are shown in the table below.

	N (unweighted)	N (weighted)
Male 18-21	512	574
Male 22-24	451	443
Female 18-21	588	564
Female 22-24	462	433

Perceptions of sexual harassment



When going out in pubs/bars/clubs, a large majority of women and over half of men think females are likely to be on the receiving end of inappropriate sexual behaviour



When it comes to males, both genders think the greater risk is to be sick due to alcohol or get involved in an argument/fight. Any inappropriate sexual behaviours come last.



respondents

% Likely to happen to **males** in pubs/bars/clubs



respondents

51%



Be physically sick due to alcohol

48%



49%



Get involved in an argument

34%



42%



Get involved in a fight

24%



28%



Have a sexual encounter you/they regret the next day

19%



21%



Be the victim of theft

14%



19%



Require medical attention

11%



18%



Pass out in public

15%



17%



Be unsure whether you/they had sex

12%



**Net:
15%**

12%



Receive other inappropriate or unwanted physical attention or touching

10%



9%



Be on the receiving end of inappropriate sexual comments or abuse

10%



9%



Be on the receiving end of inappropriate sexual touching

8%



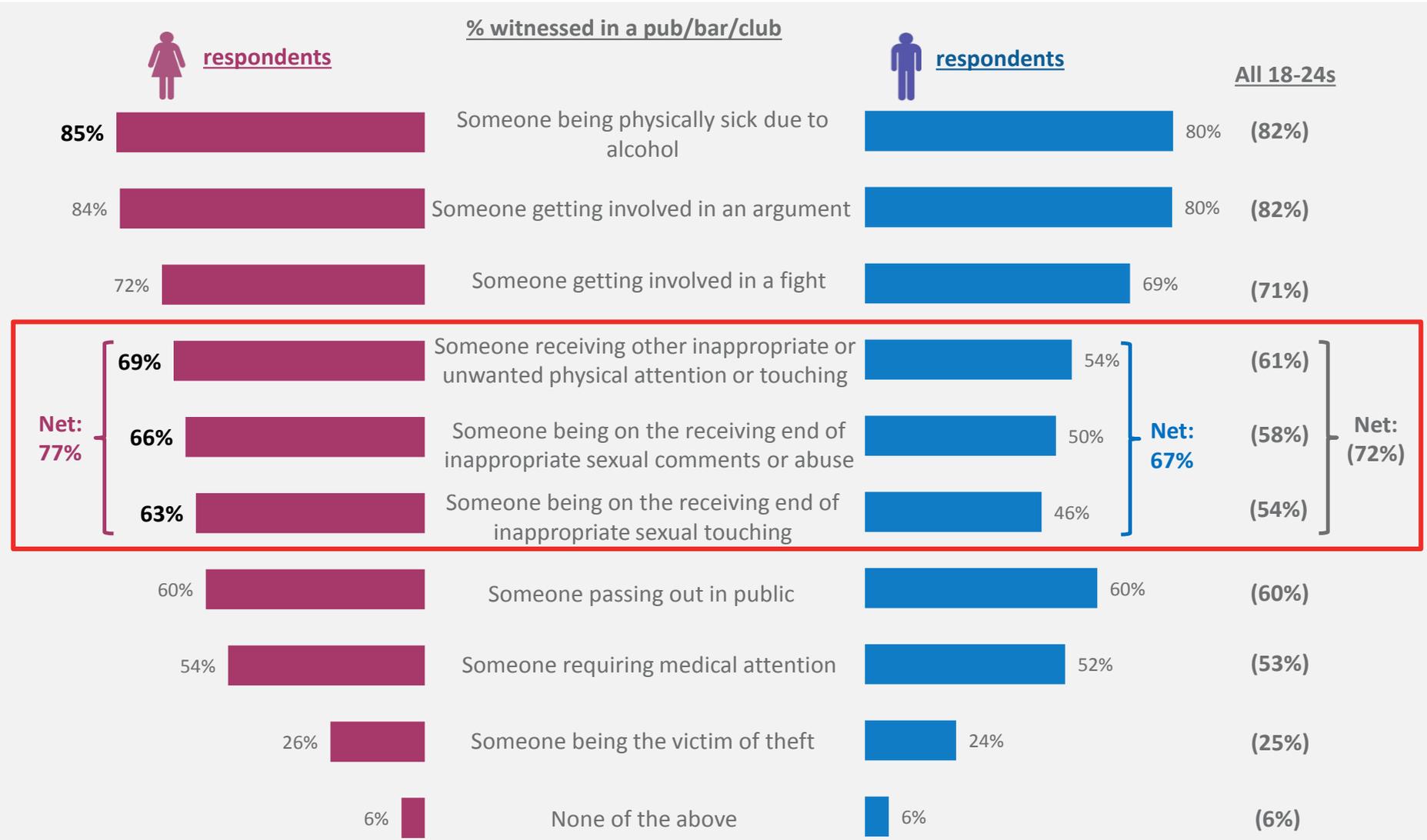
**Net:
14%**



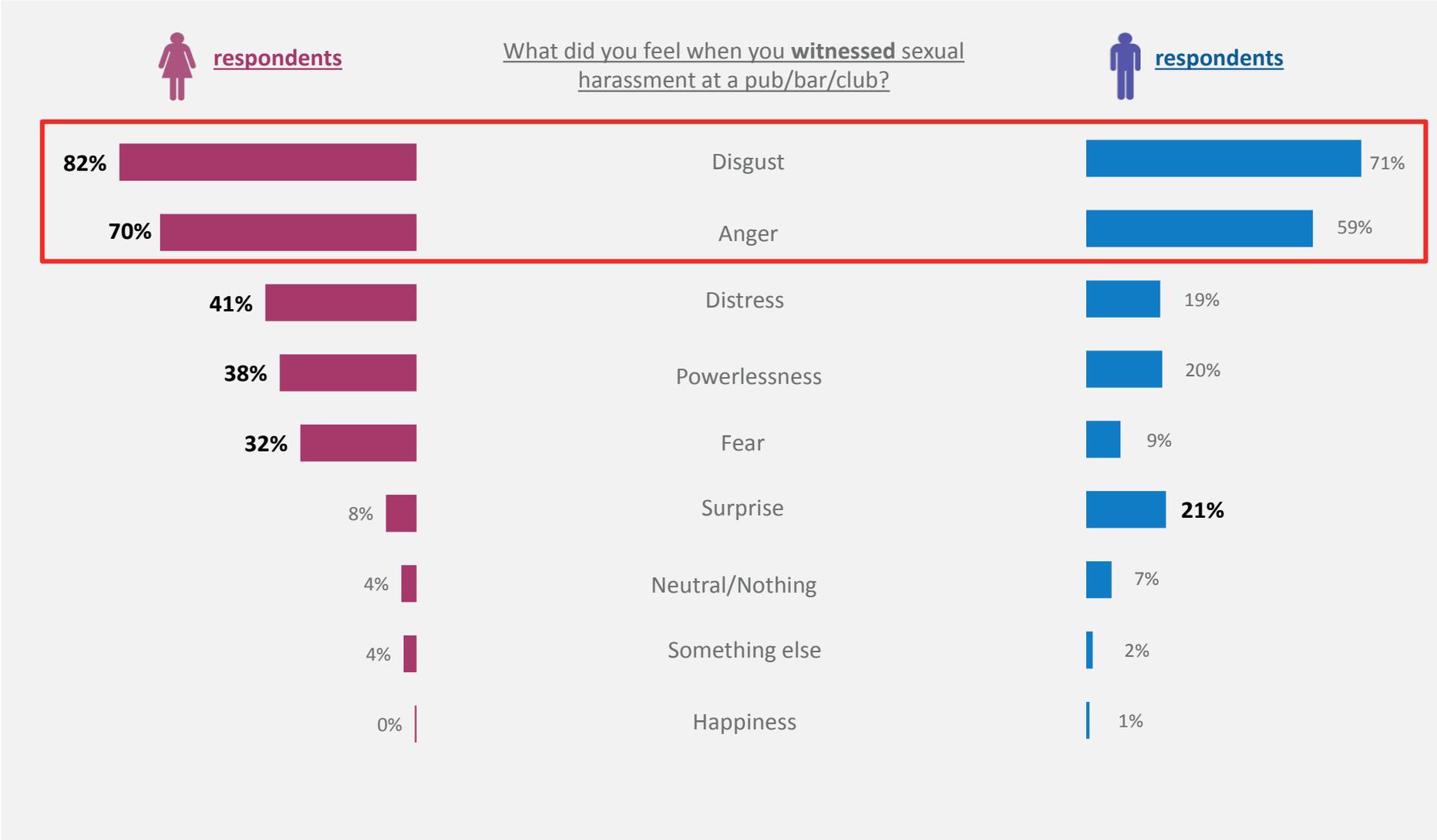
Witnessing sexual harassment



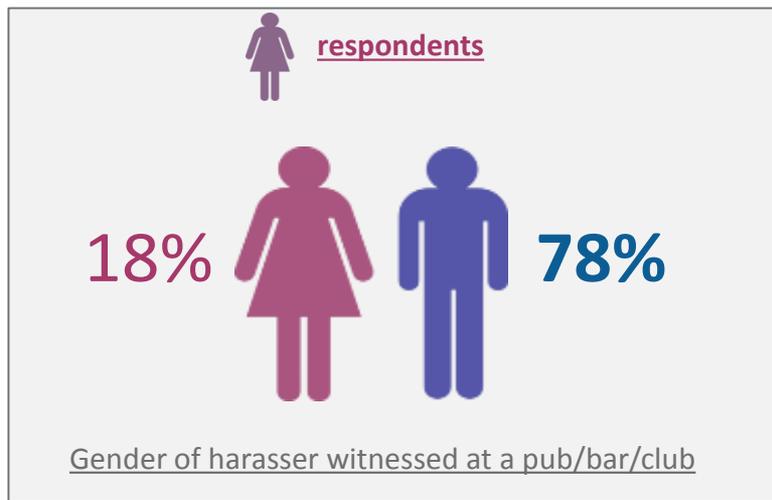
Close to three quarters (72%) of young adults have witnessed inappropriate sexual comments or touching in a pub/bar/club. Females are more likely to witness such behaviours.



The main feelings for both genders when witnessing sexual harassment are disgust and anger. Female respondents feel more distressed and powerless than males.

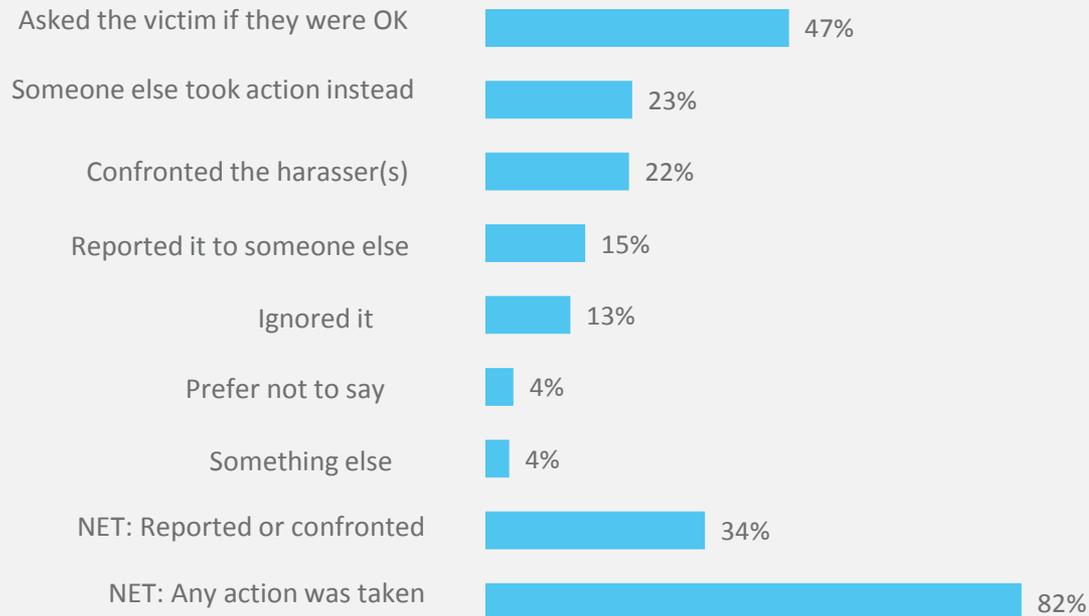


When inappropriate behaviours were witnessed, it was a male harasser around 3 in 4 times. However, female respondents were more likely to say it was a male harasser and vice versa for male respondents.



8 times in 10 some action was taken by either the witness or someone else, when seeing someone being sexually harassed at a pub/bar/club

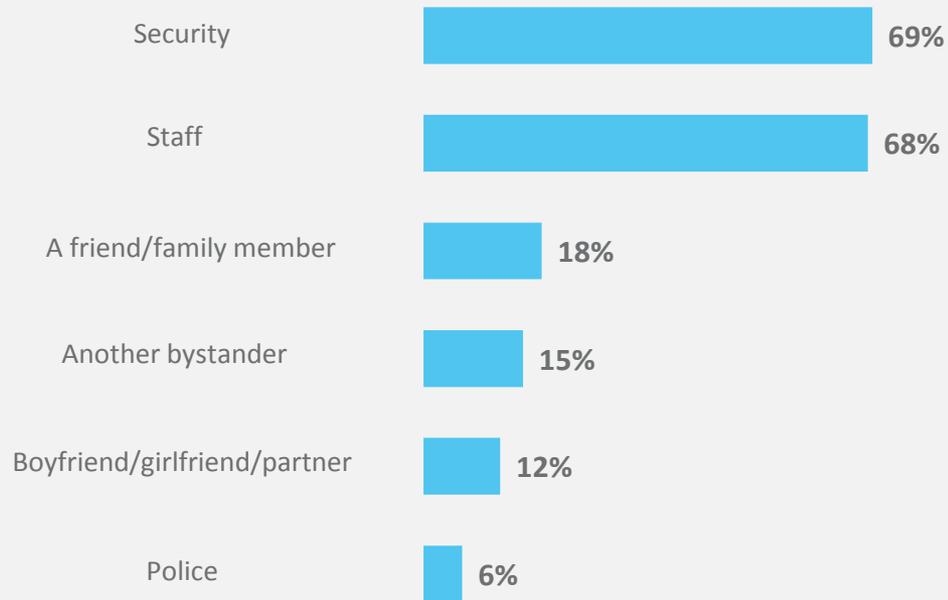
% action taken after witnessing sexual harassment



50% of females who witnessed someone being harassed asked if the victim was okay (vs. 43% of males). Females were also more likely to report the harassment to someone else (19% vs 12% for males).

Security and venue staff are the main people witnesses reported to when seeing someone being sexually harassed

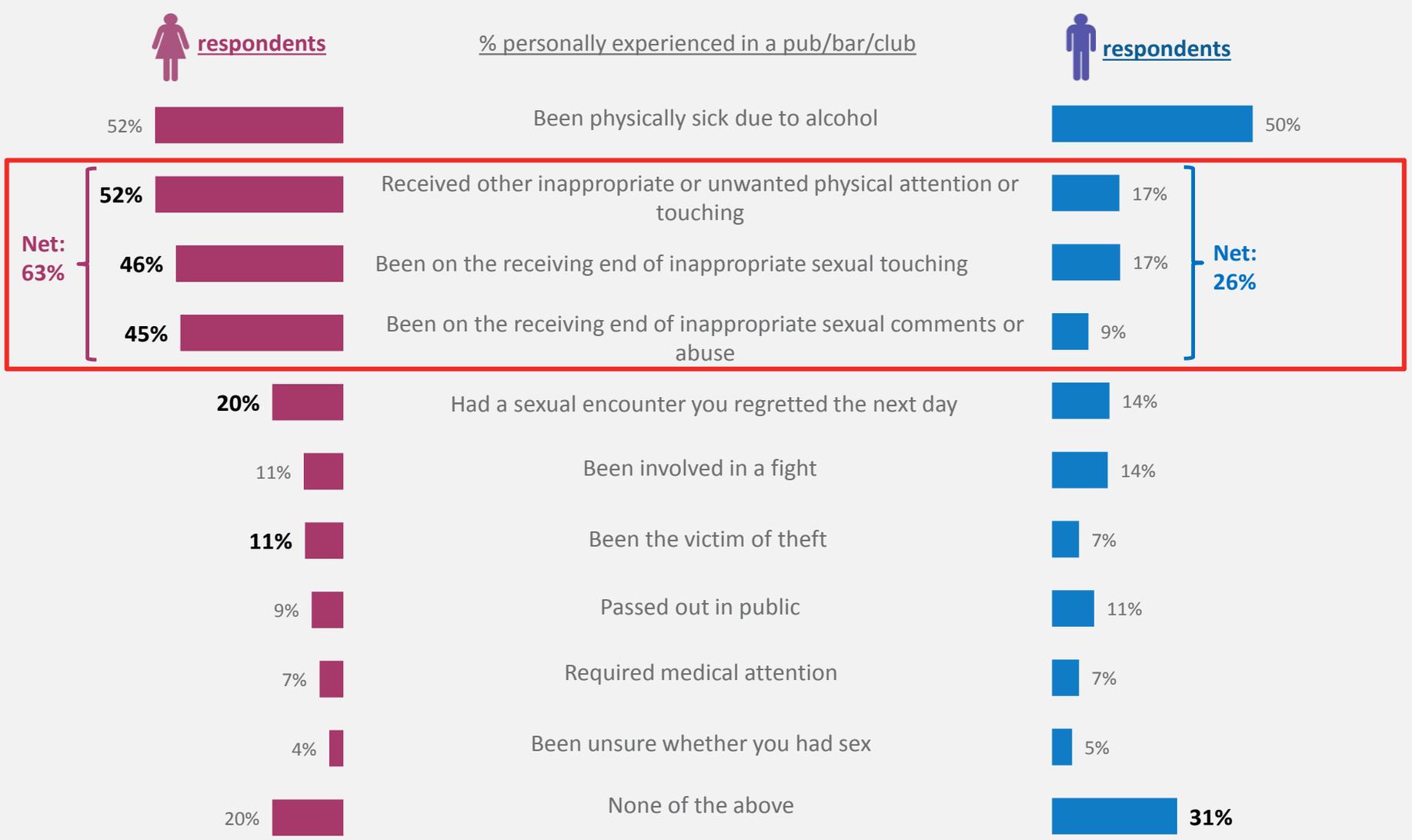
% reported to different people after witnessing sexual harassment



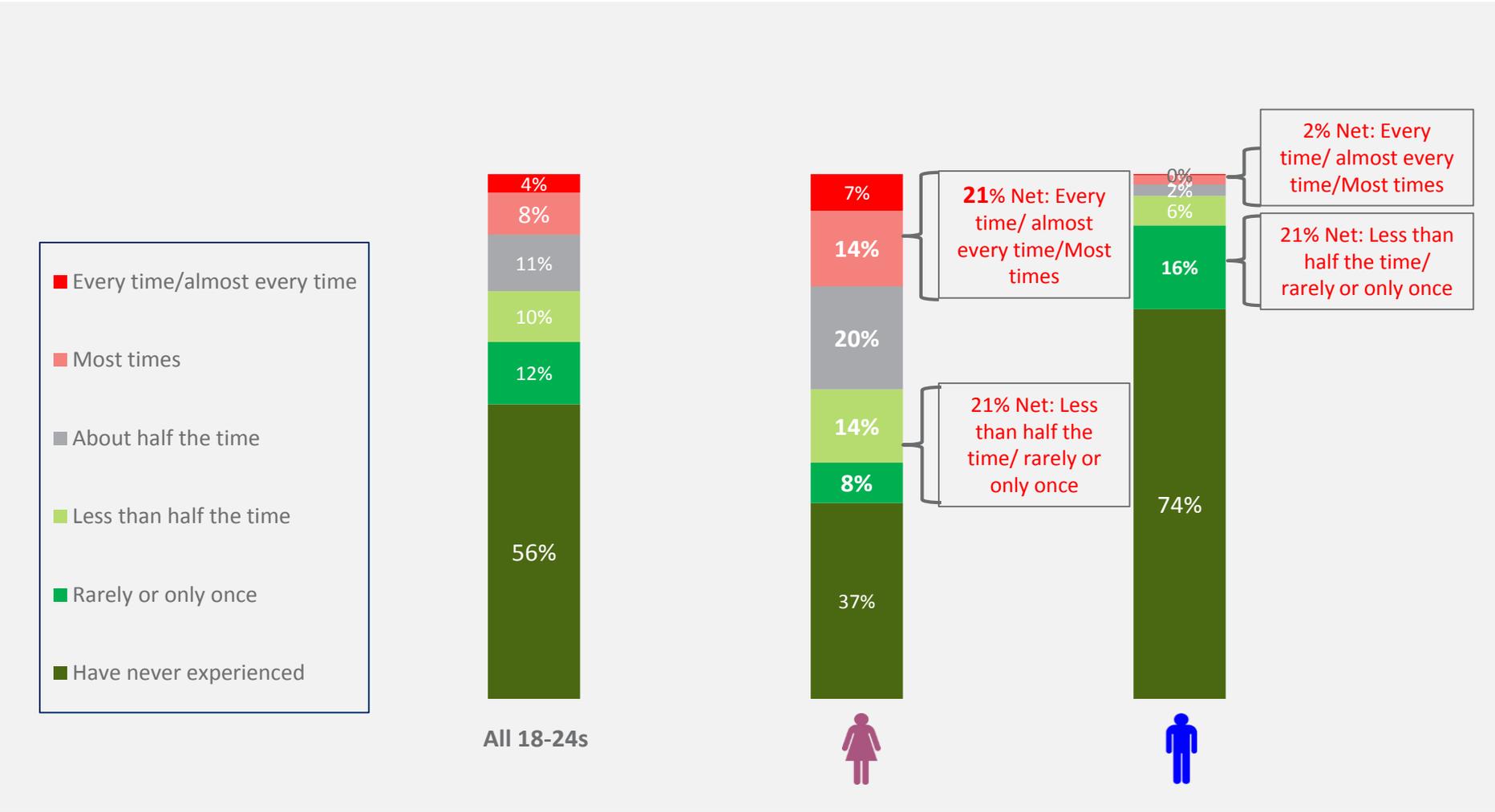
Experiencing sexual harassment



Close to two-thirds of female respondents have personally experienced inappropriate sexual behaviour in pubs/bars/clubs – along with a quarter of males



Among those experiencing sexual harassment, female respondents are also likely to experience it with a higher frequency than males.



3 times in 4 when young women experienced sexual harassment at a pub/bar/club, they felt disgusted or angry. Males were more likely to feel surprised.

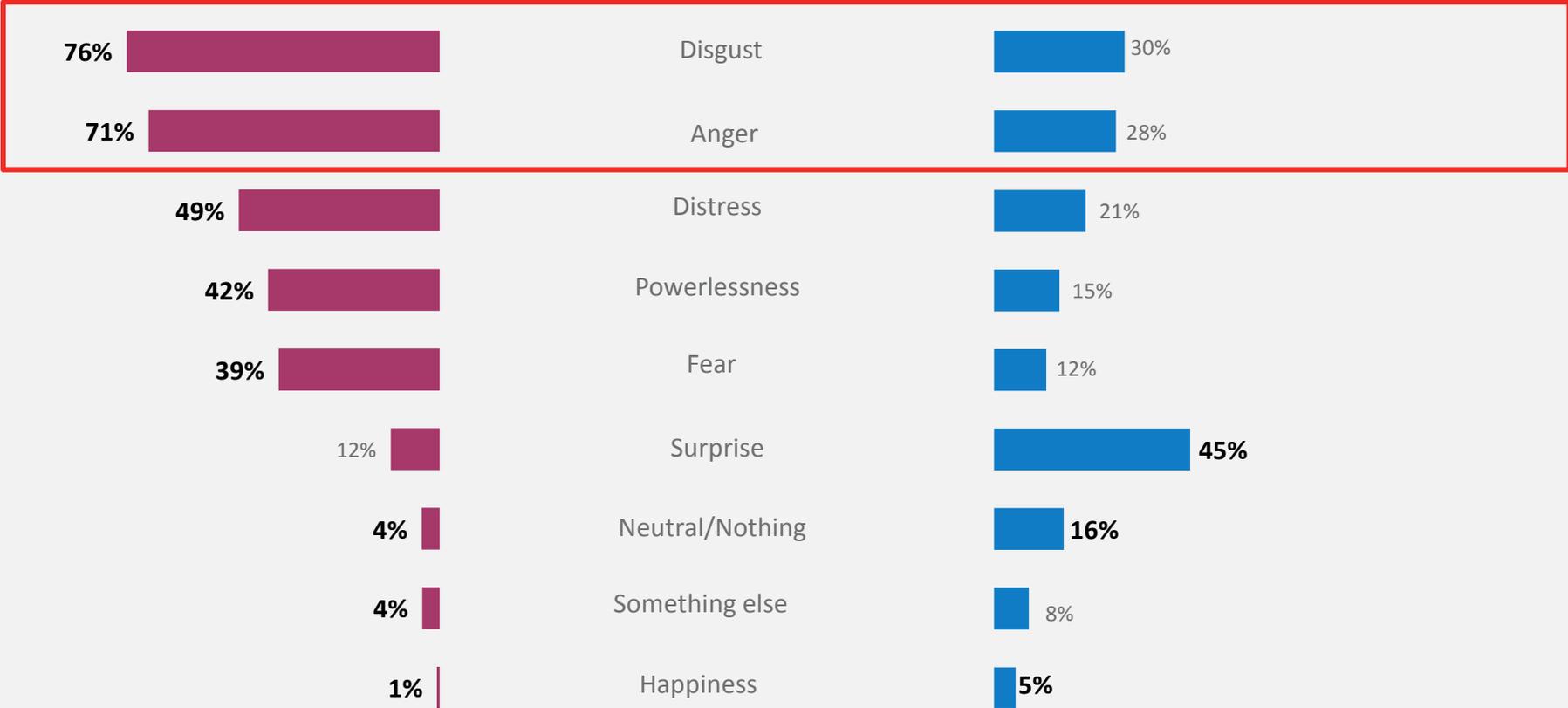


respondents

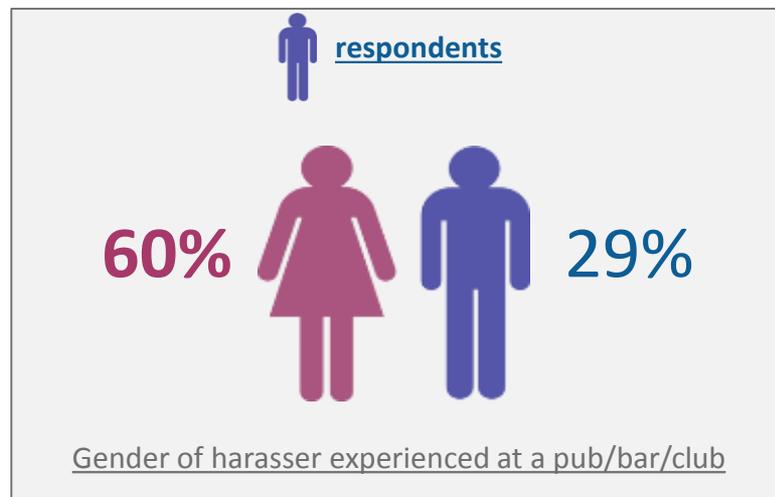
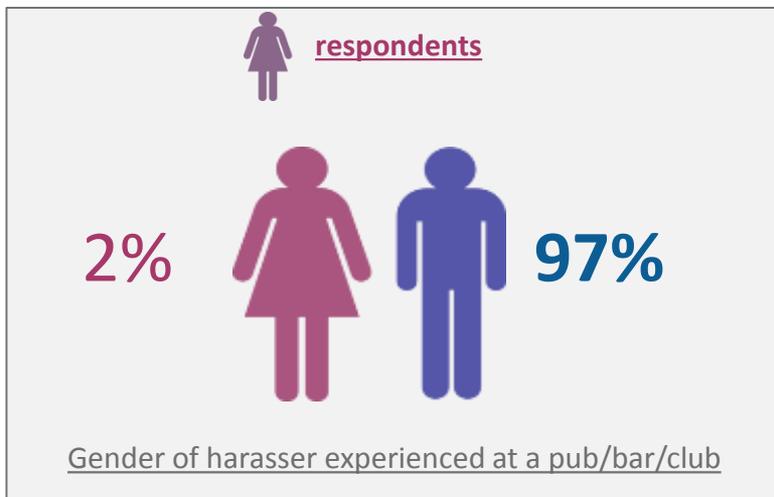
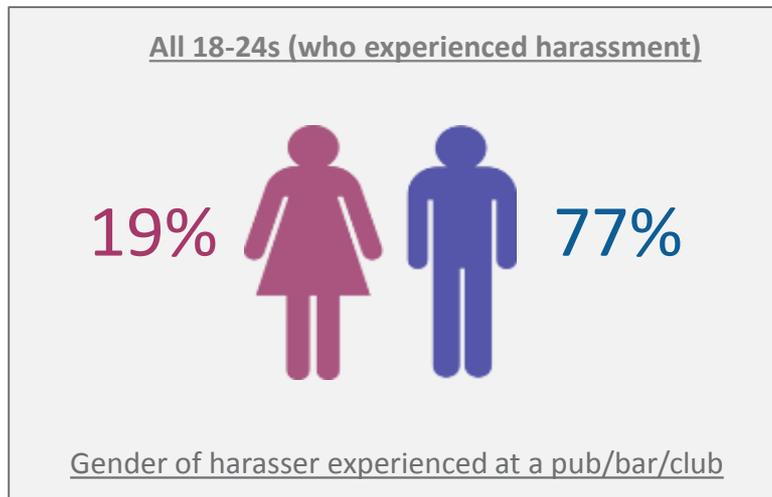
What did you feel last time you experienced sexual harassment?



respondents

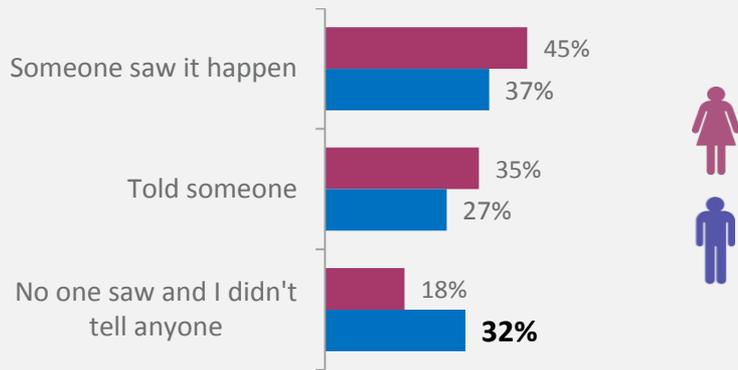


When experiencing inappropriate behaviours, it was a male harasser in around 3 out of 4 times. While female respondents were more likely to say it was a male harasser and vice versa for male respondents, a substantial amount of male respondents also reported a male harasser.

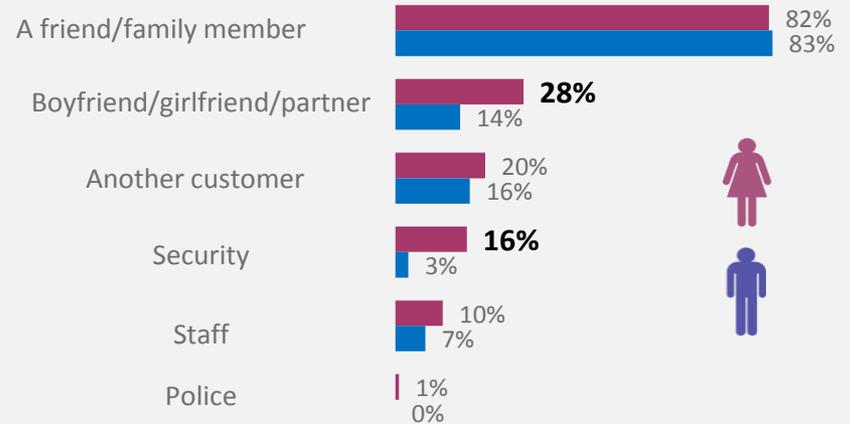


18-24 males are less disposed to tell about the harassment they experienced in a pub/bar/club. Also, when someone witnessed a young male being harassed, a third of the time the witness took no action.

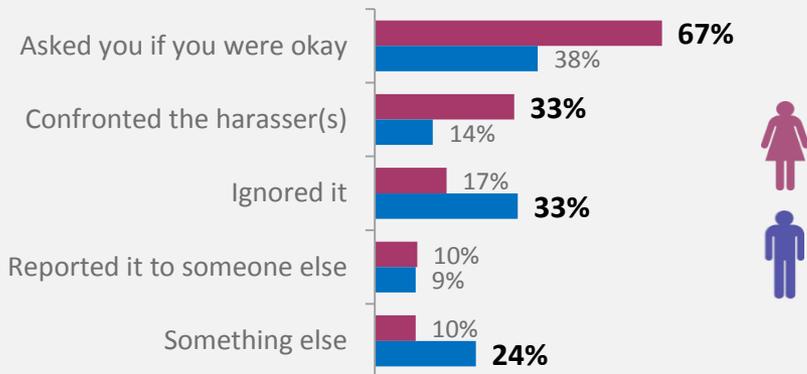
% Did someone see this happen or did you tell anyone at the time



% who saw this happen or did you tell



% action taken by person who saw/was told



- 32% of males who experienced sexual harassment in a pub/bar/club did not have any witnesses and did not tell anyone
- Among those telling anyone, 8 in 10 report to a friend/family member. Females are more inclined to tell security (16%) or their partner (28%) than males
- In cases where someone saw the harassment or was told about it, the witness confronted the harasser a third of the time when the victim was female. In 67% of cases the witness asked if the female victim was okay. With male victims, in a third of cases (33%) the witness ignored it or did something else (24%)

D5. Did someone see this happen, or did you tell anyone at the time?

Base: All who experienced harassment in a pub/bar/club: female (n=544), male (n=203)

D6. Who saw this happen, or who did you tell? D7. What did the person/people you told or who saw it happen do?

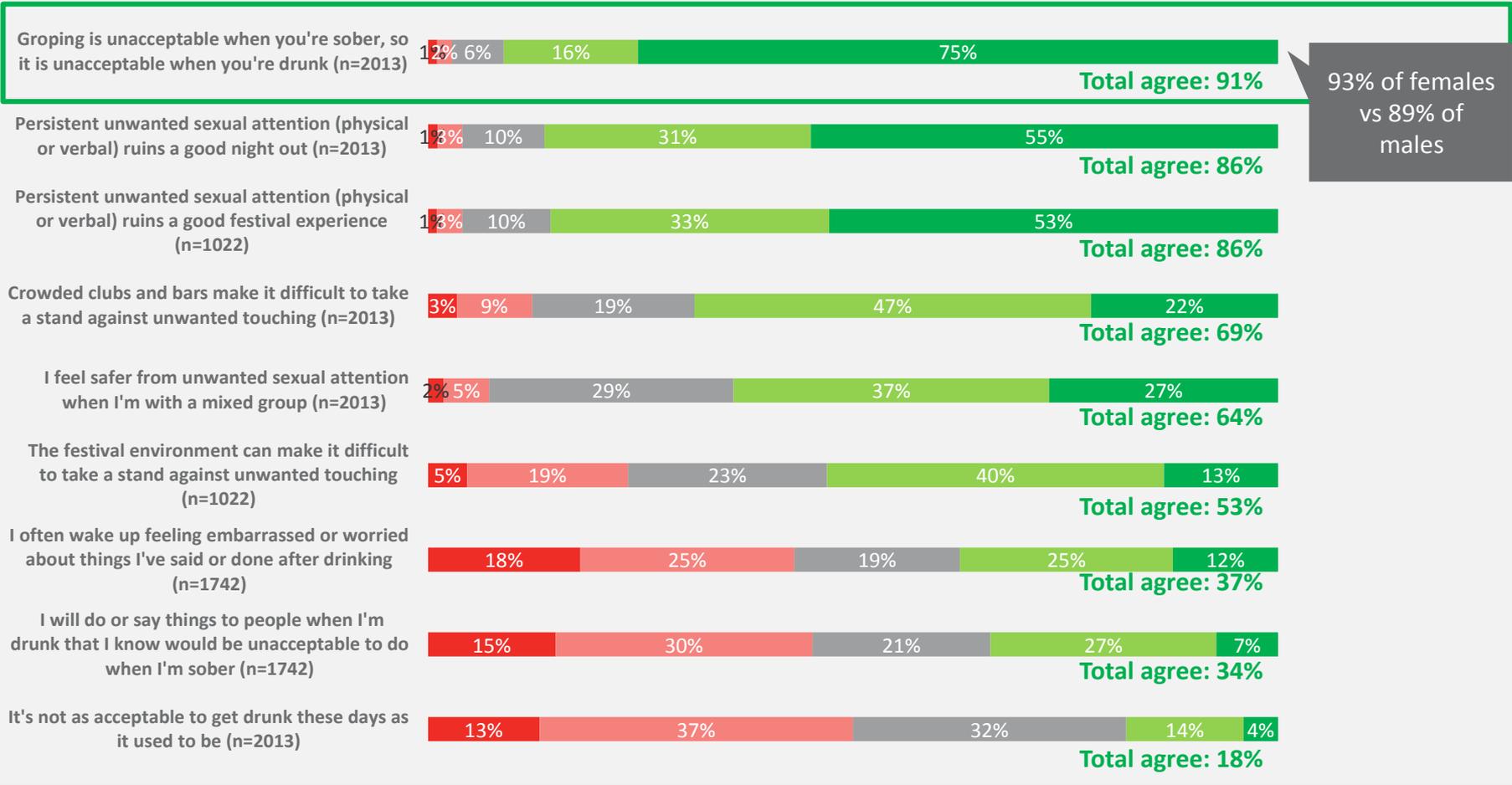
Base: all who told someone or someone saw in a pub/bar/club: female (n=418), male (n=127)

General attitudes/own behaviour



A large majority of 18-24s agree that being drunk is no excuse to behave inappropriately. 7 in 10 agree that being in crowded bars/clubs makes it difficult to prevent unwanted touching

■ Strongly disagree
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Neither agree nor disagree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Strongly agree



Very few 18-24s admit to inappropriate behaviours while drunk in a pub/bar/club. Young males are more likely to be evicted from such venues due to their behaviour, however.



respondents

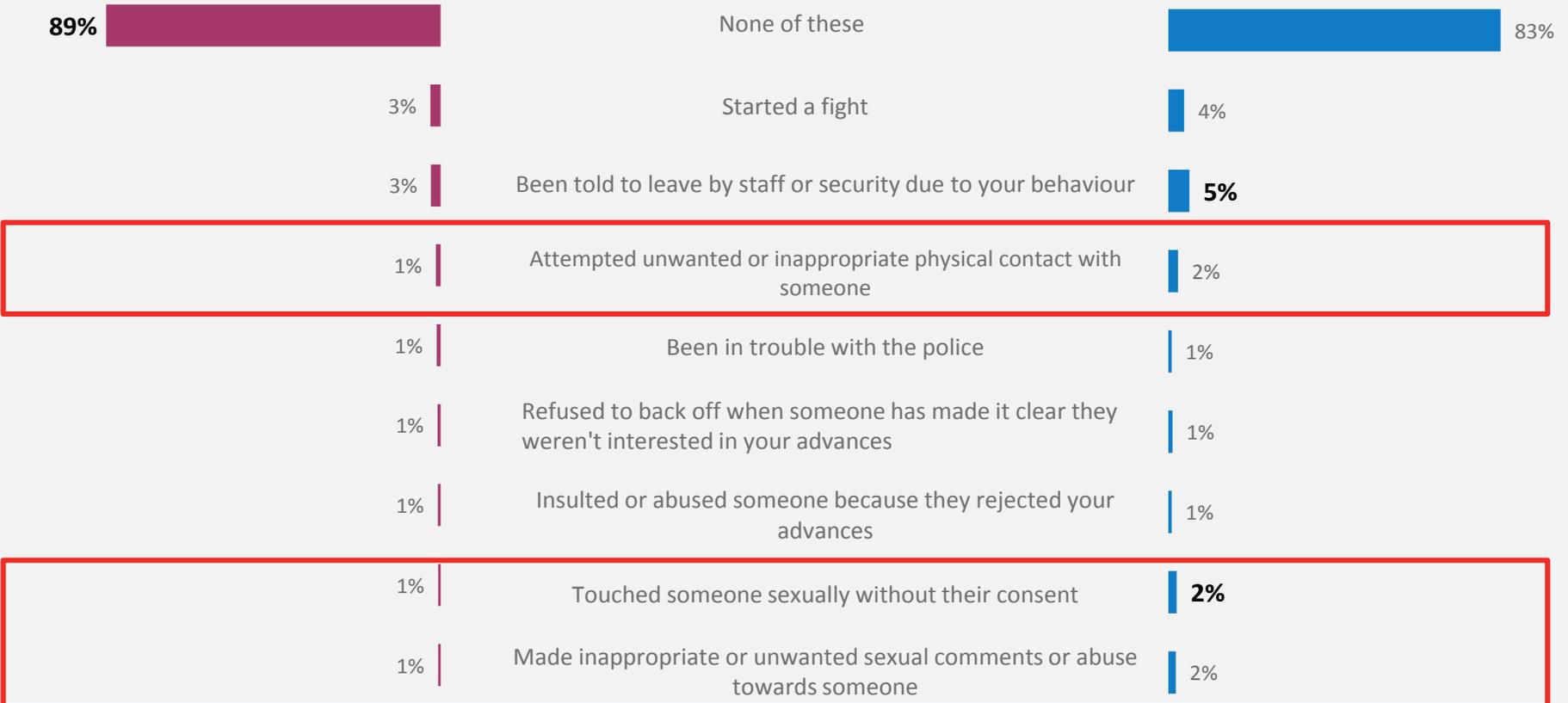
% What have you done in last 12 months while drunk in a pub/bar/club



respondents

2% Net inappropriate or sexual comments or touching

5% Net inappropriate or sexual comments or touching



Haven't been in the last 12 month: 4%,
Prefer not to say: 2%

Haven't been in the last 12 month: 3%,
Prefer not to say: 4%

