

Survey of N.C. Housing Inventory for Victims of Human Trafficking

A state-wide survey for organizations with human trafficking (HT) and/ or housing programs. The survey was designed to understand North Carolina's various housing programs and their capabilities in response to victim's needs.



Summary

- Background/ Purpose
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion/ Highlights
- Conclusion

Background

This project aims to evaluate North Carolina's ability to meet the housing needs of HT victims. The survey was designed to assess the current housing models and support structures available, determine the state's effectiveness and capacity in providing for these victims, identify service gaps, and suggest improvements. The motivation for this study is due to the lack of information on the housing support provided to HT victims, which in some available instances contained inconsistencies and inaccuracies. The goal was to gain a clear understanding and enhance North Carolina's capacity to support victims, enabling self-autonomy and determination.

Methods

- Used Smartsheet software for the creation, dissemination, and collection of survey/ responses
- Reviewed reports, surveys, and literature for housing programs in NC and across the US
- Drafted, reviewed, and edited the survey questions to maximize the amount of relevant information gathered
- Generated survey with 24 required questions with an additional 13 questions depending on responses
- Questions were a combination of open and closed-ended questions to allow respondents to give detailed answers and to compare responses easily

Methods Continued

- Compiled list of recipients based on the NCHTC Resource directory, and organizations listed on established housing program directories (218 sent)
- Categorizes were designated as Homeless, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DVSA), Substance Recovery, and Human Trafficking organizations with housing programs
- The survey was also sent to additional 1500 recipients off of the NCHTC email list serve
- Used purposive and snowball sampling methods to gather information from critical agencies and agencies that may not offer housing programs but were asked to send to relevant agencies

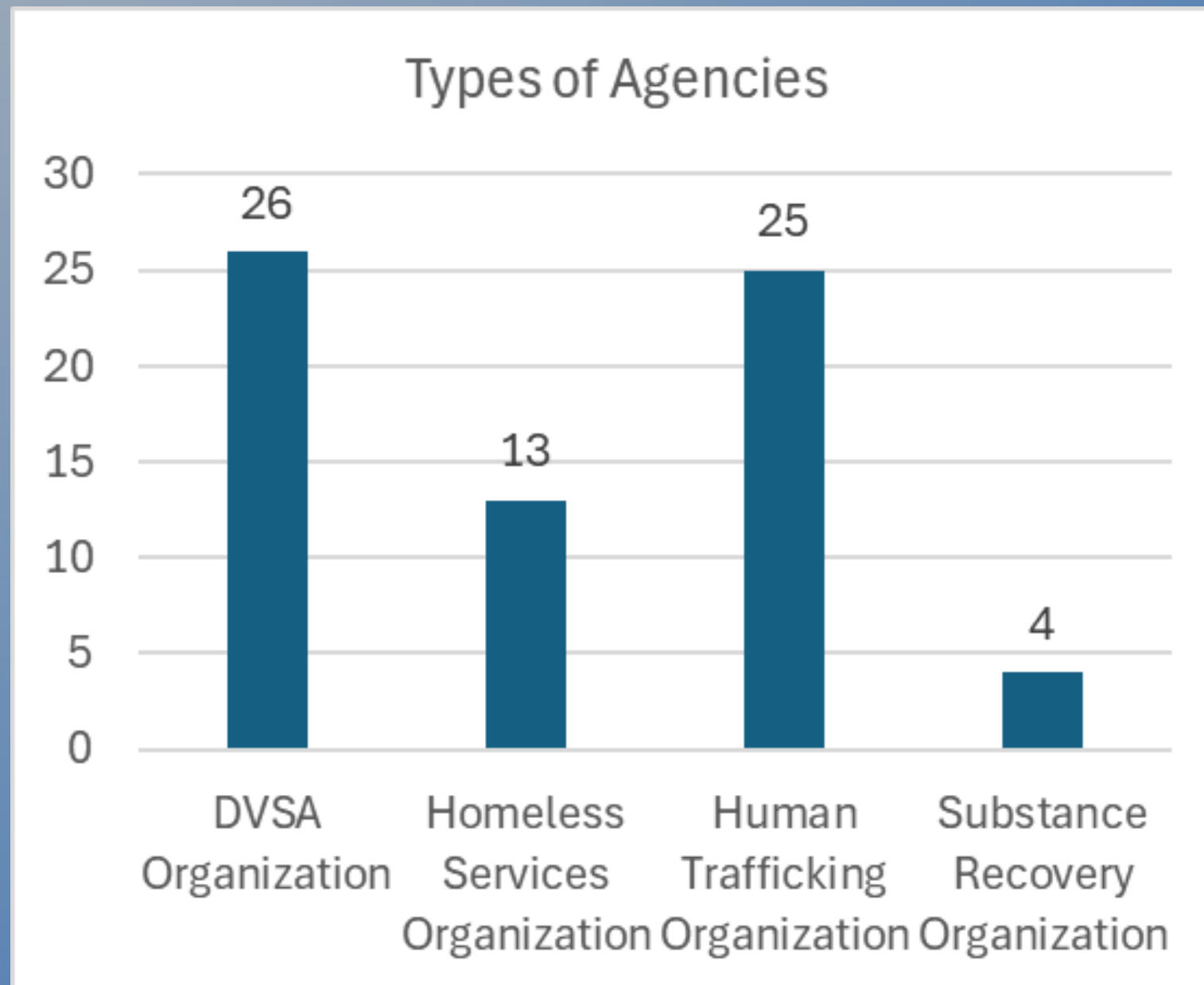
Methods Continued

- Sent survey through email March 10th, and a reminder email sent a week later
- Answered follow-up emails and questions to clarify deadlines and minimum information required
- Received survey responses to clean, organize, analyze and interpret data
- Used quantitative and qualitative analysis by calculating closed-ended questions into a spreadsheet and determined relationships between responses
- Categorized and coded open-ended questions to identify themes and relationships of the data and between responses

Results

The following slides coincide with the survey questions
There were 37 total questions Not all questions are
included in this report.

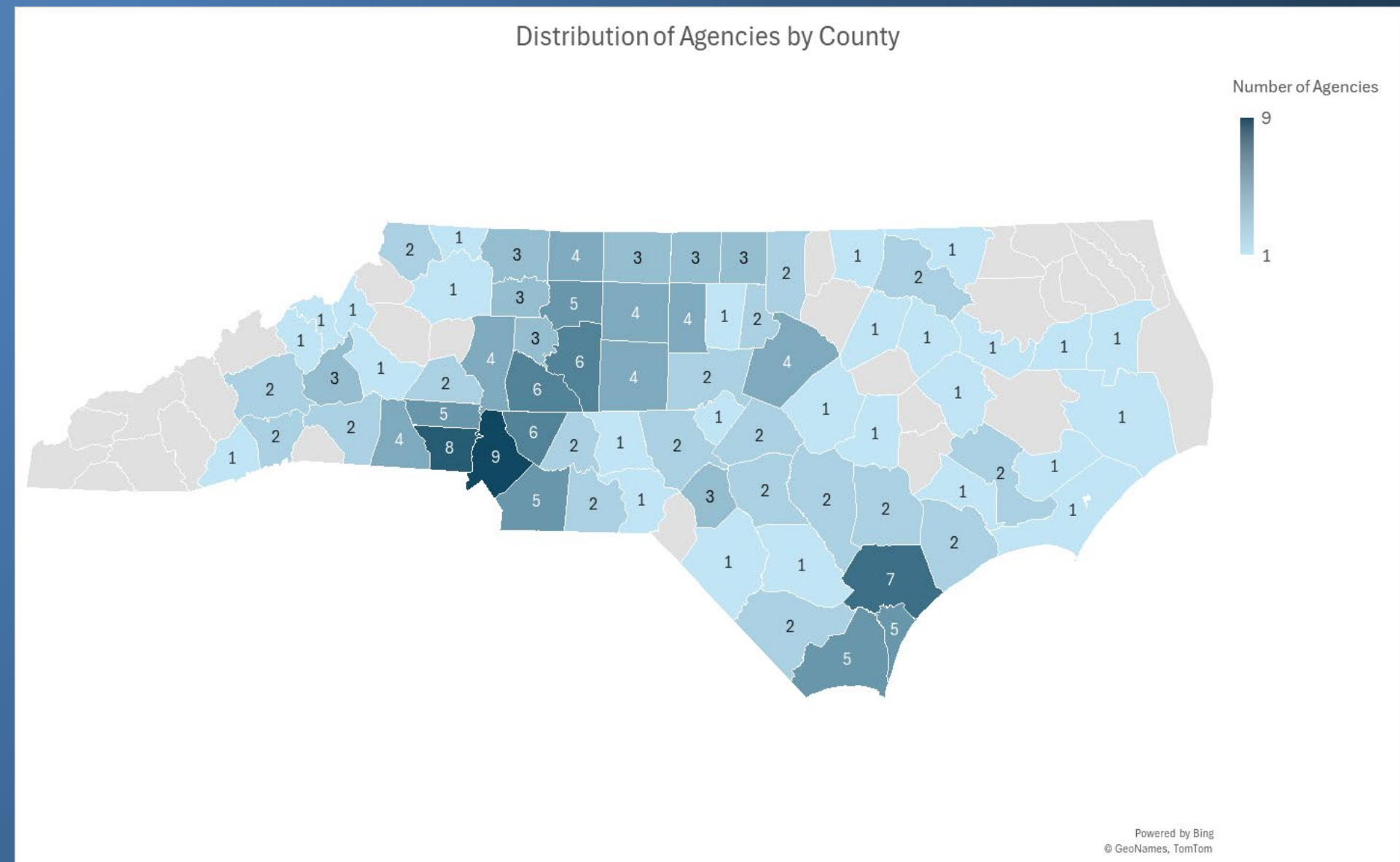
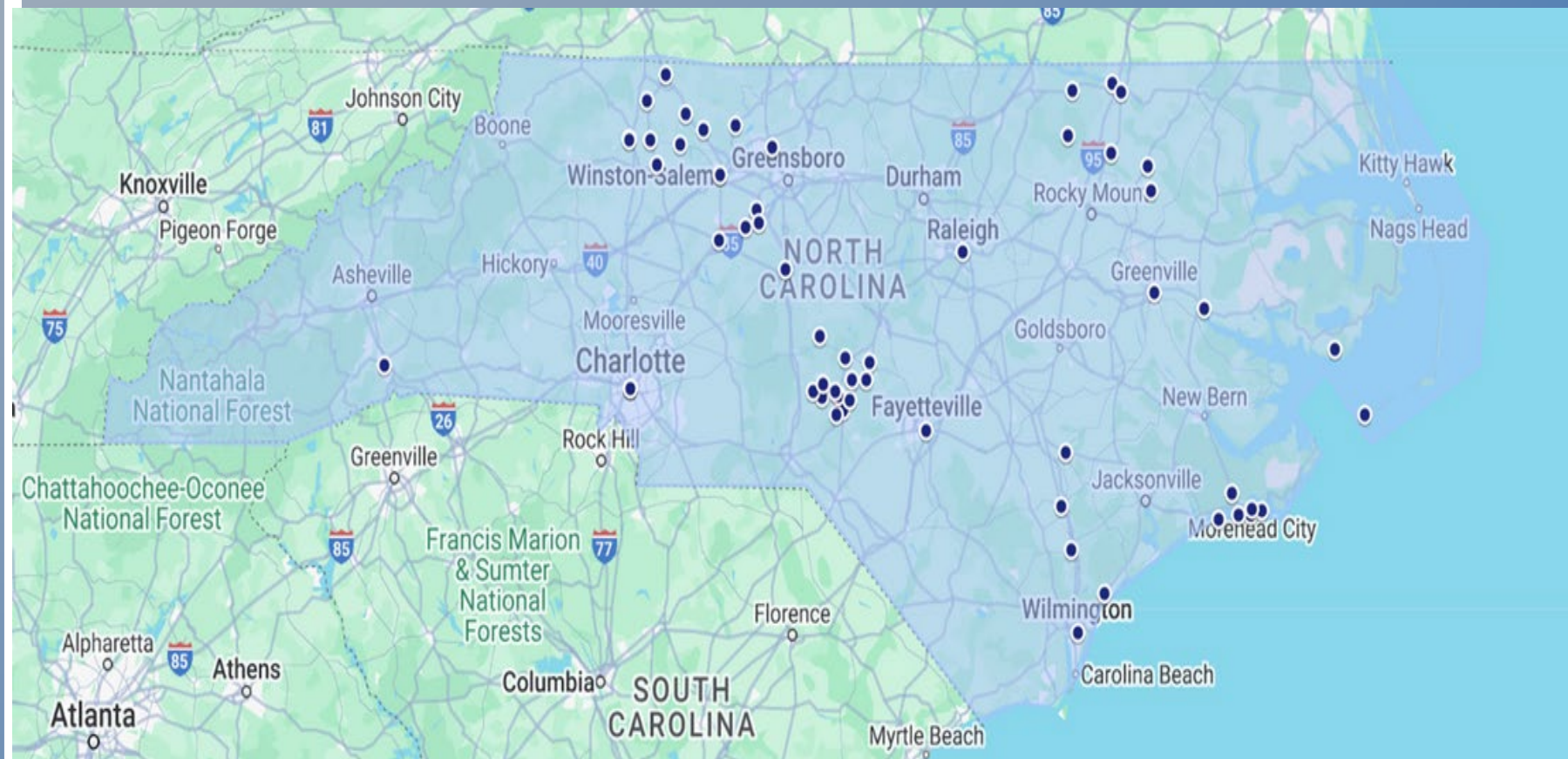
Q1: Please select the option that best represents your organization's primary focus. While we recognize that your organization may address multiple areas, we ask that you choose only one option that you identify with most.



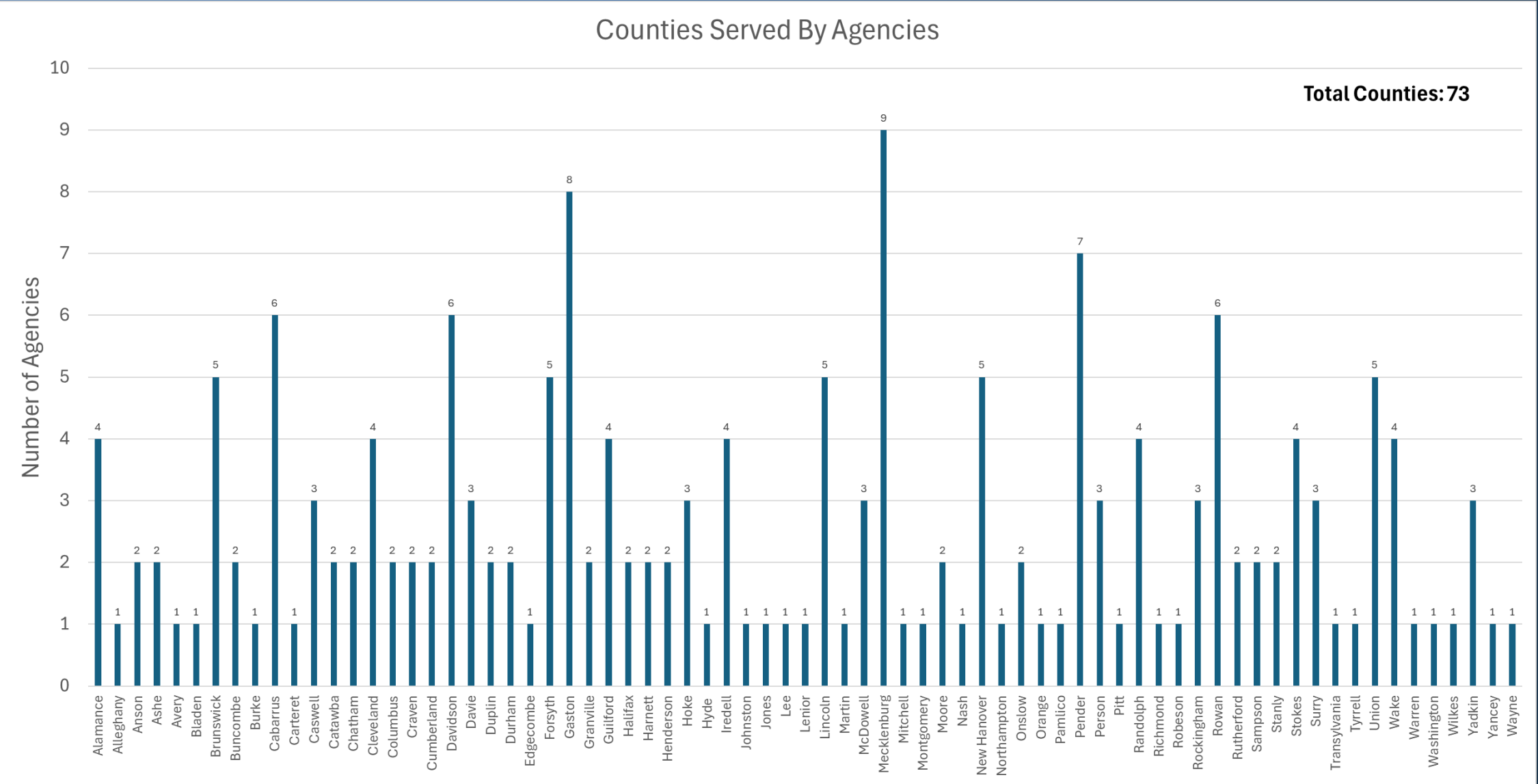
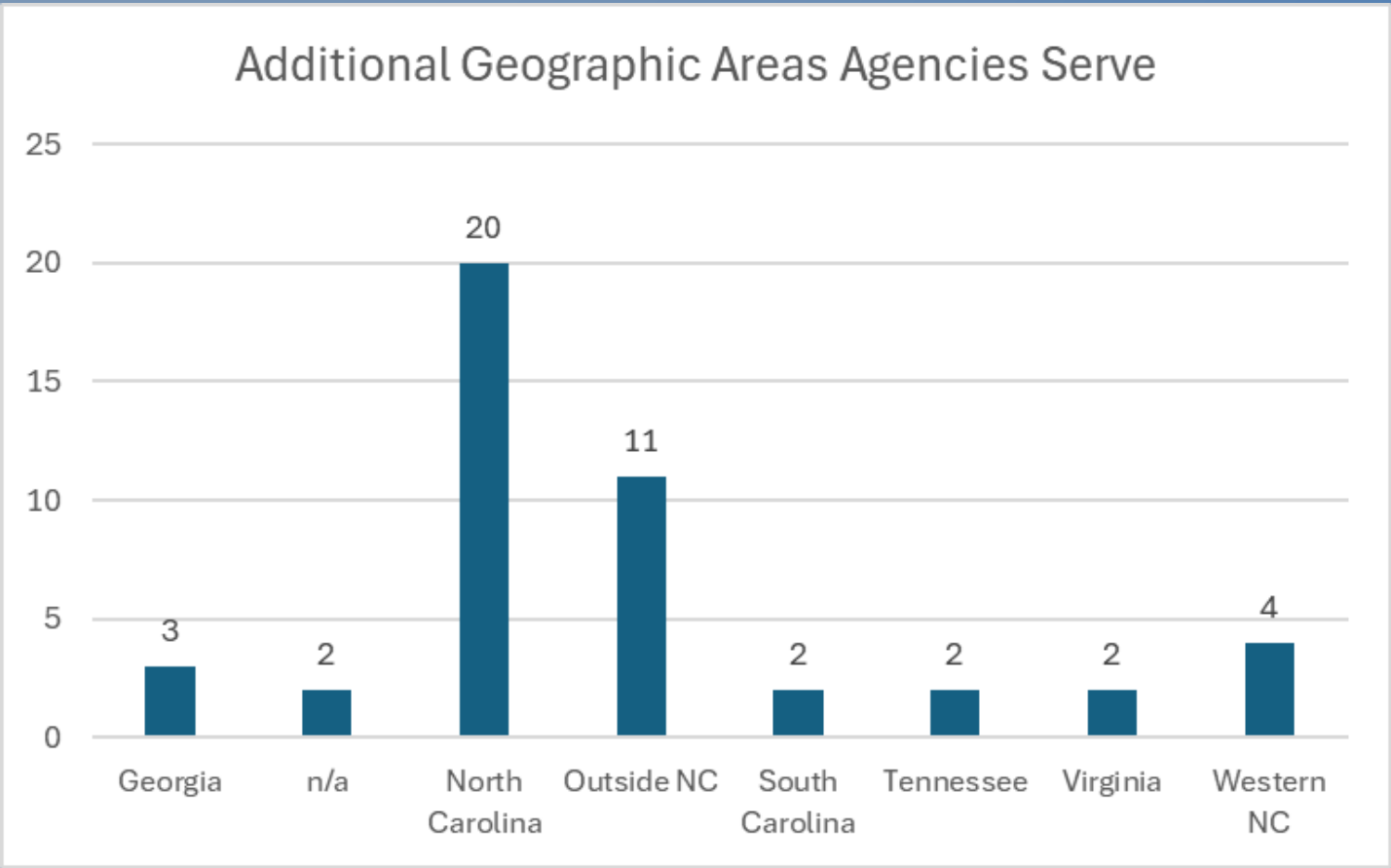
- We intentionally sent the survey to 53 HT specific orgs , 1 self identified with another type (Substance Recovery)
- 43 Specific DVSA organizations
- 48 Substance Recovery orgs
- 65 Homeless Service Orgs

Q2: Describe the geographic area your organization serves by cities, counties, regions, etc.

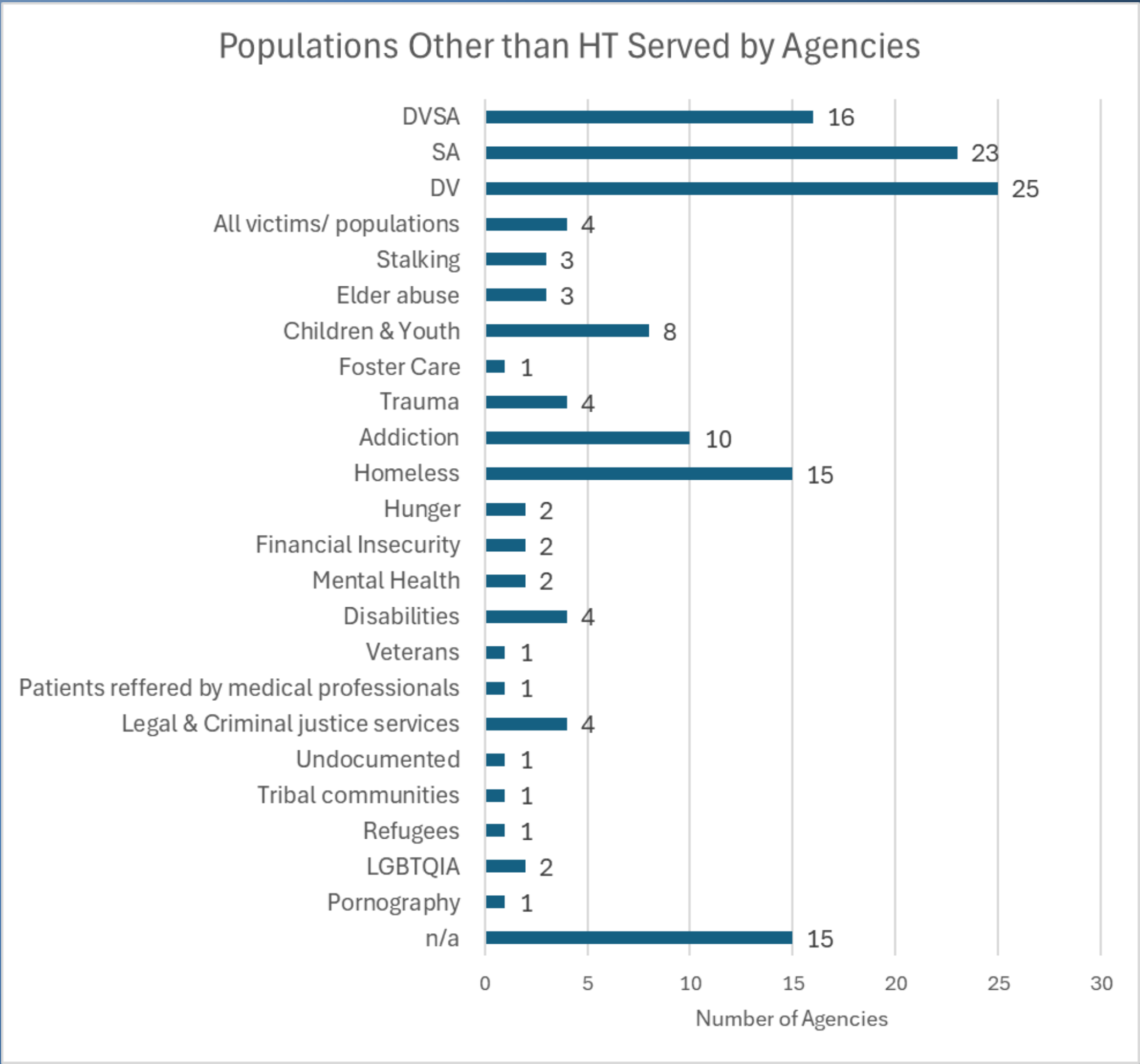
Primary Cities Served by Agencies



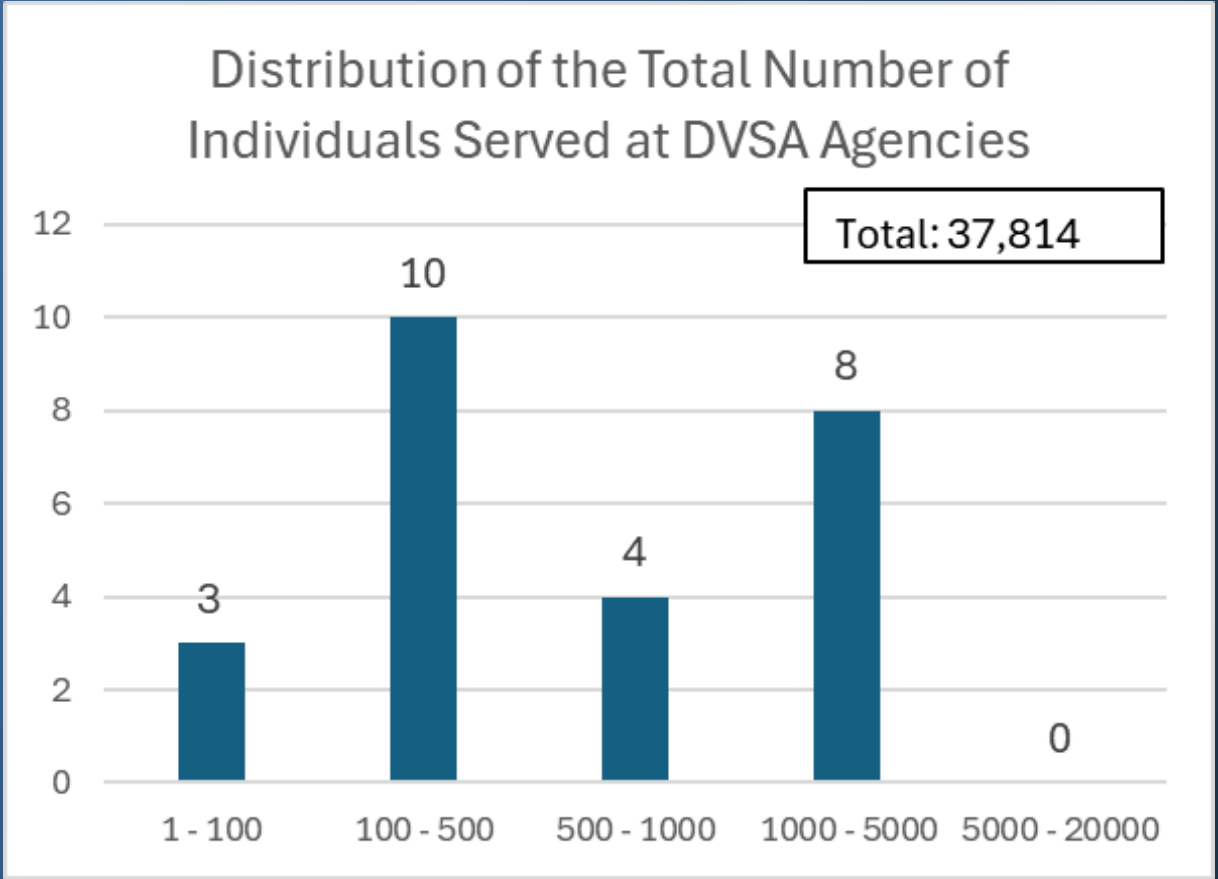
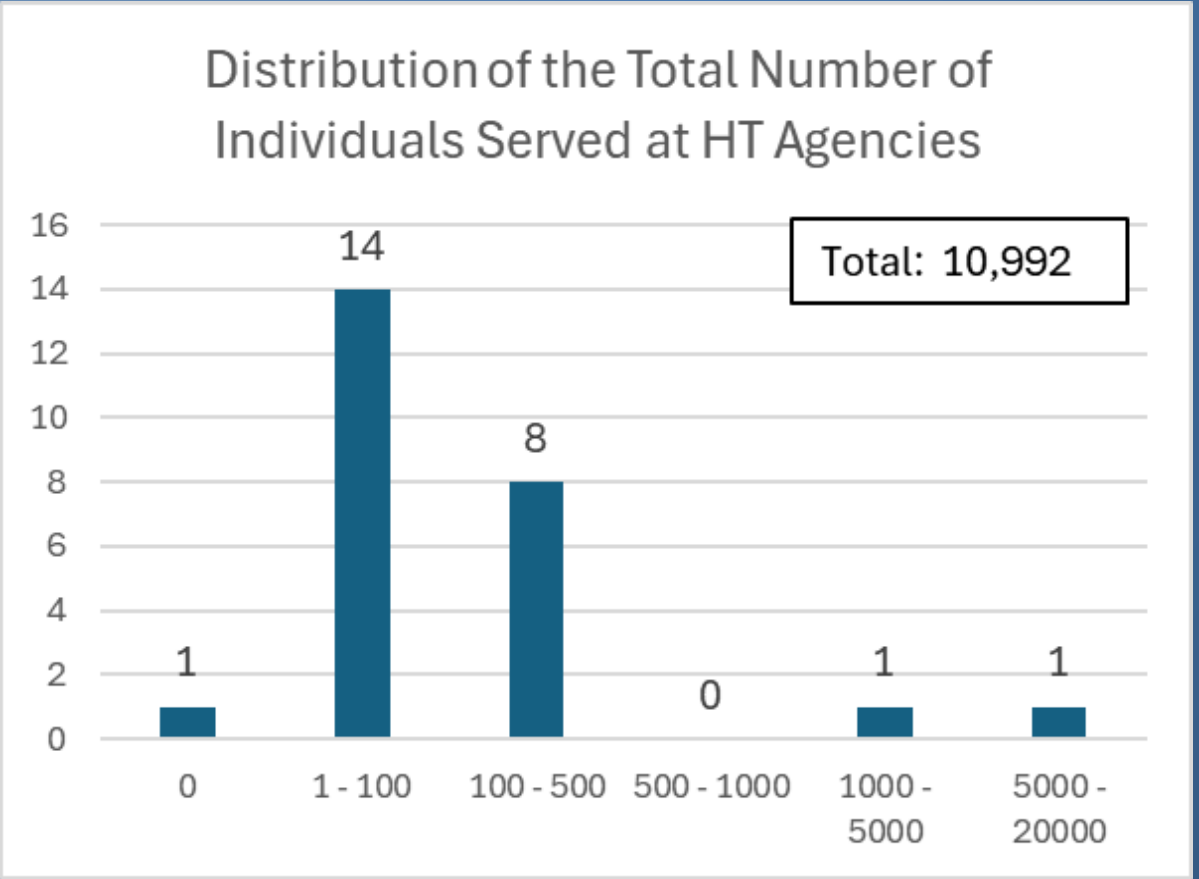
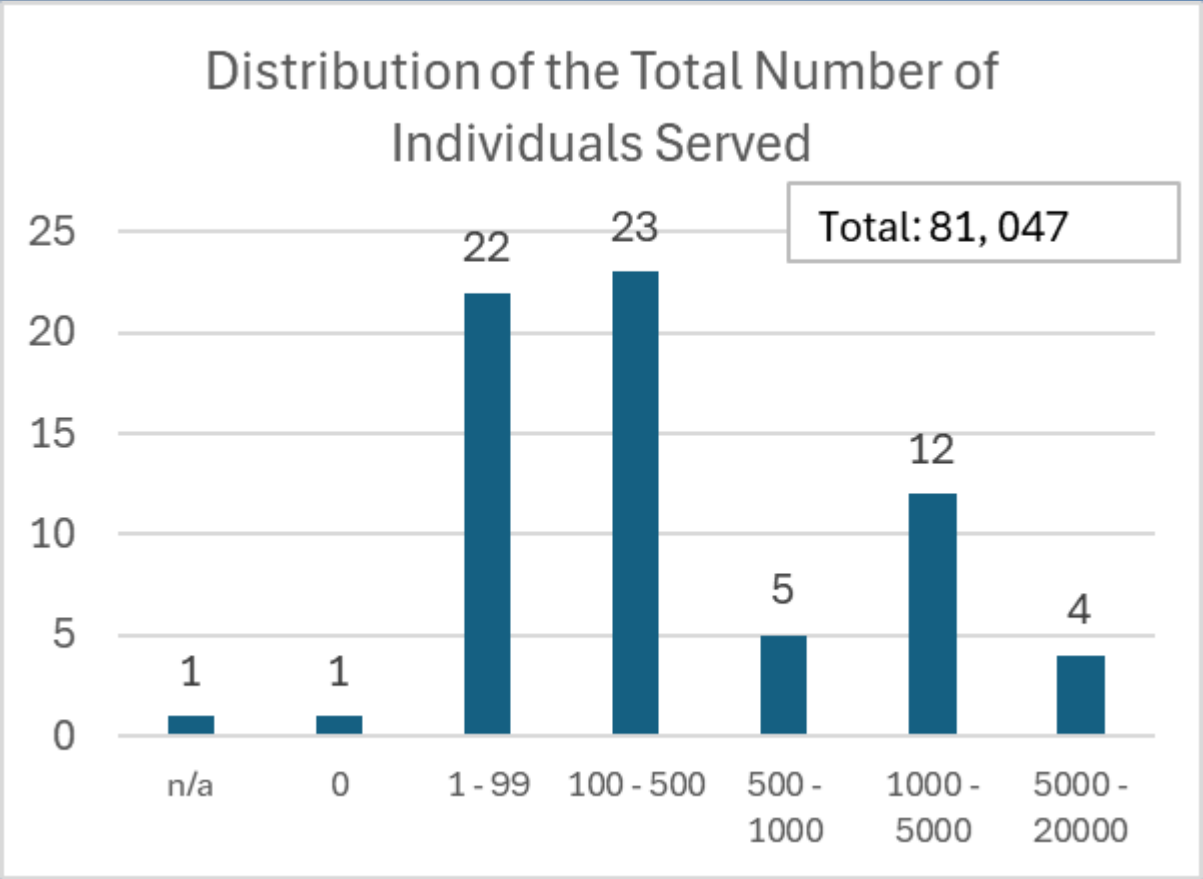
Q2: Describe the geographic area your organization serves by cities, counties, regions, etc.



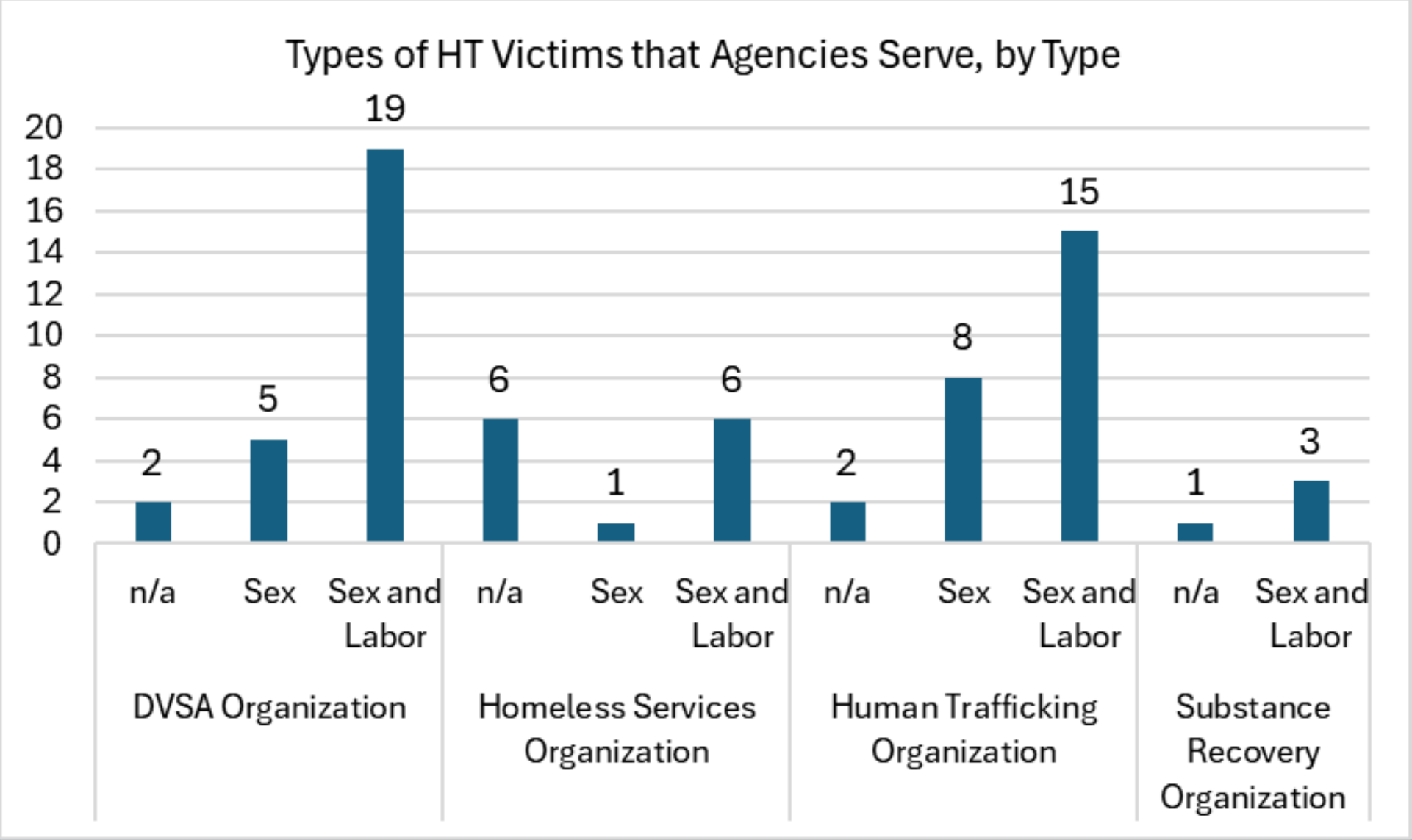
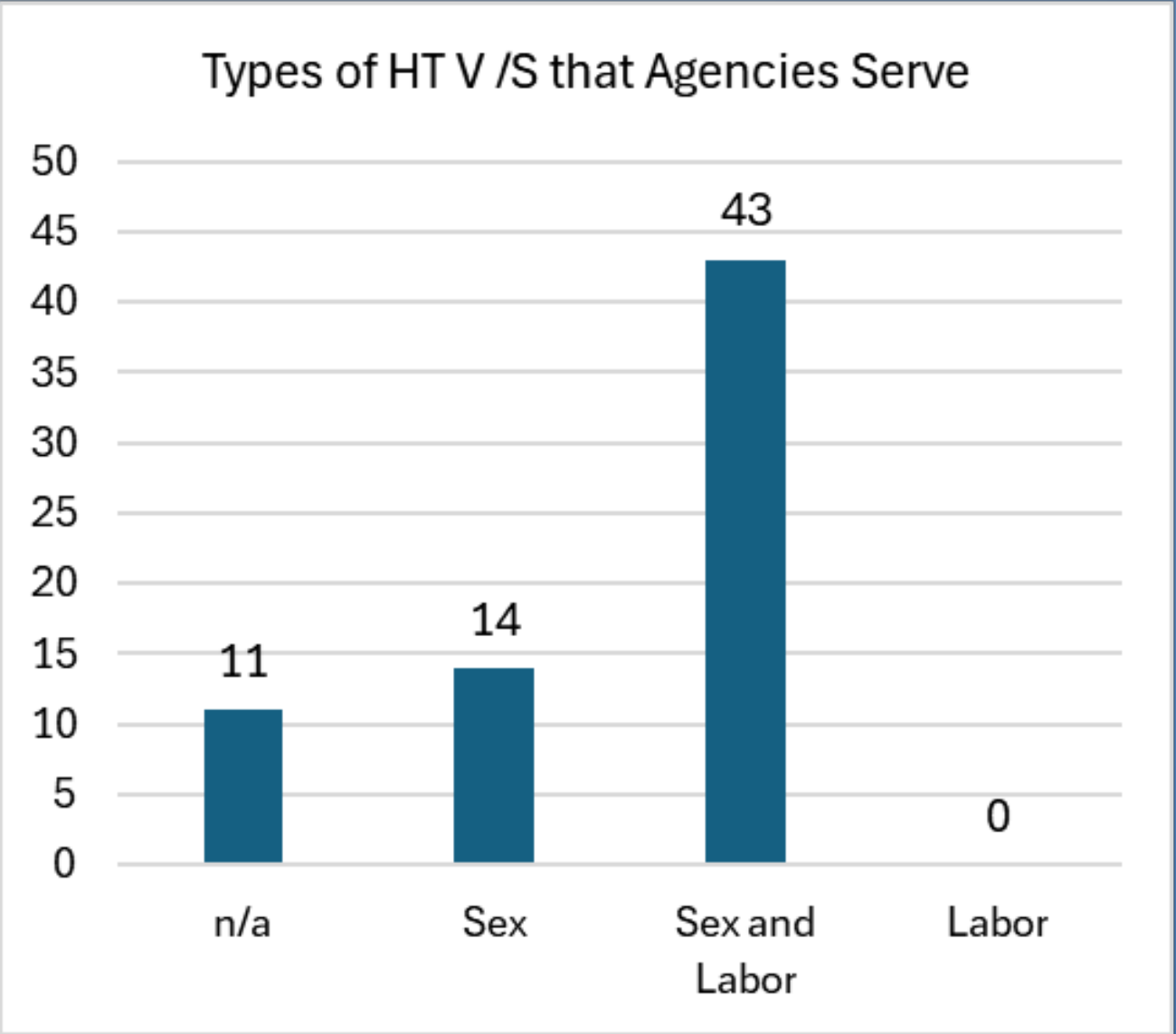
Q3: We understand many agencies serve multiple populations or have missions that are not specific to human trafficking. Please tell us about all of the populations your agency serves.



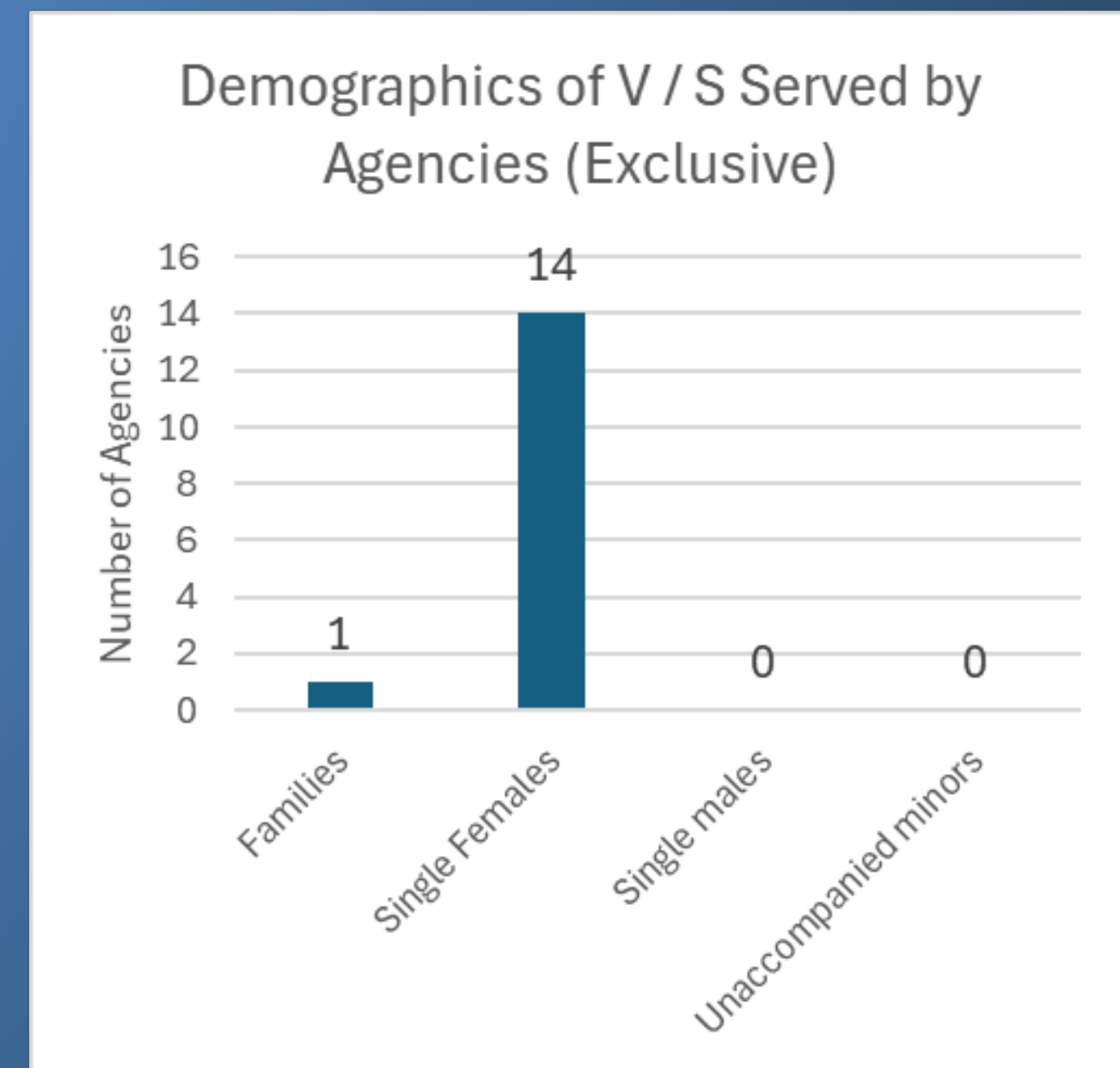
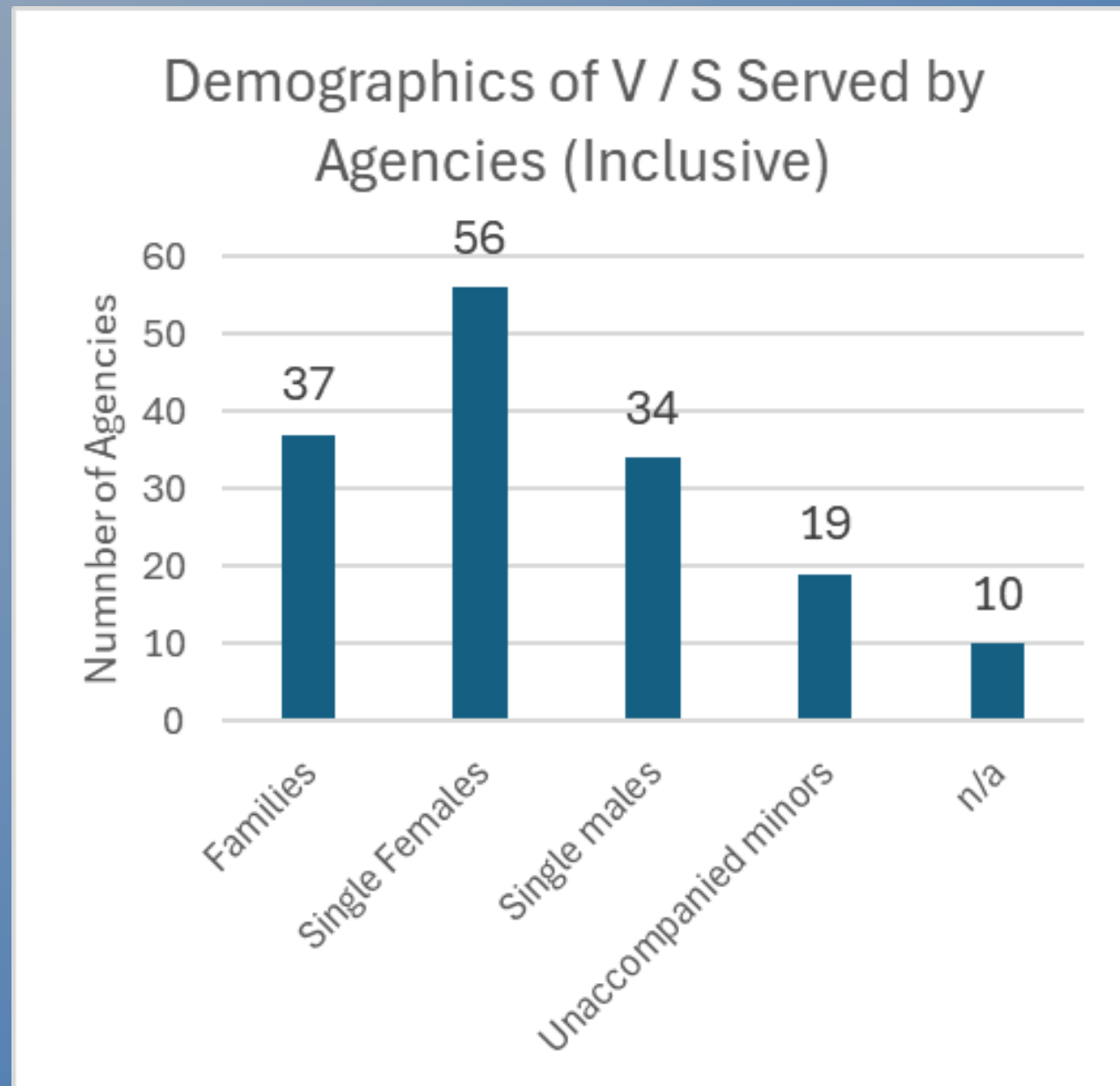
Q4: What is the total number of individuals served at your agency during the 2024 calendar year?



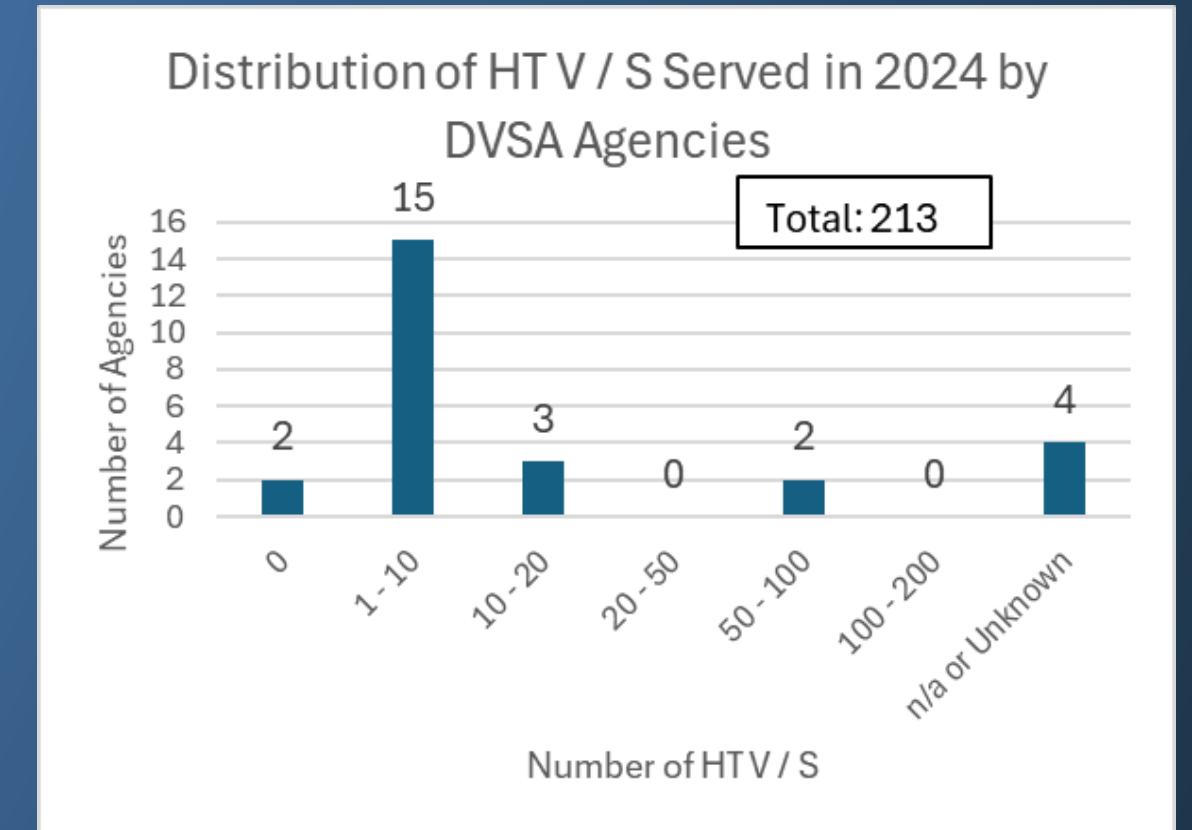
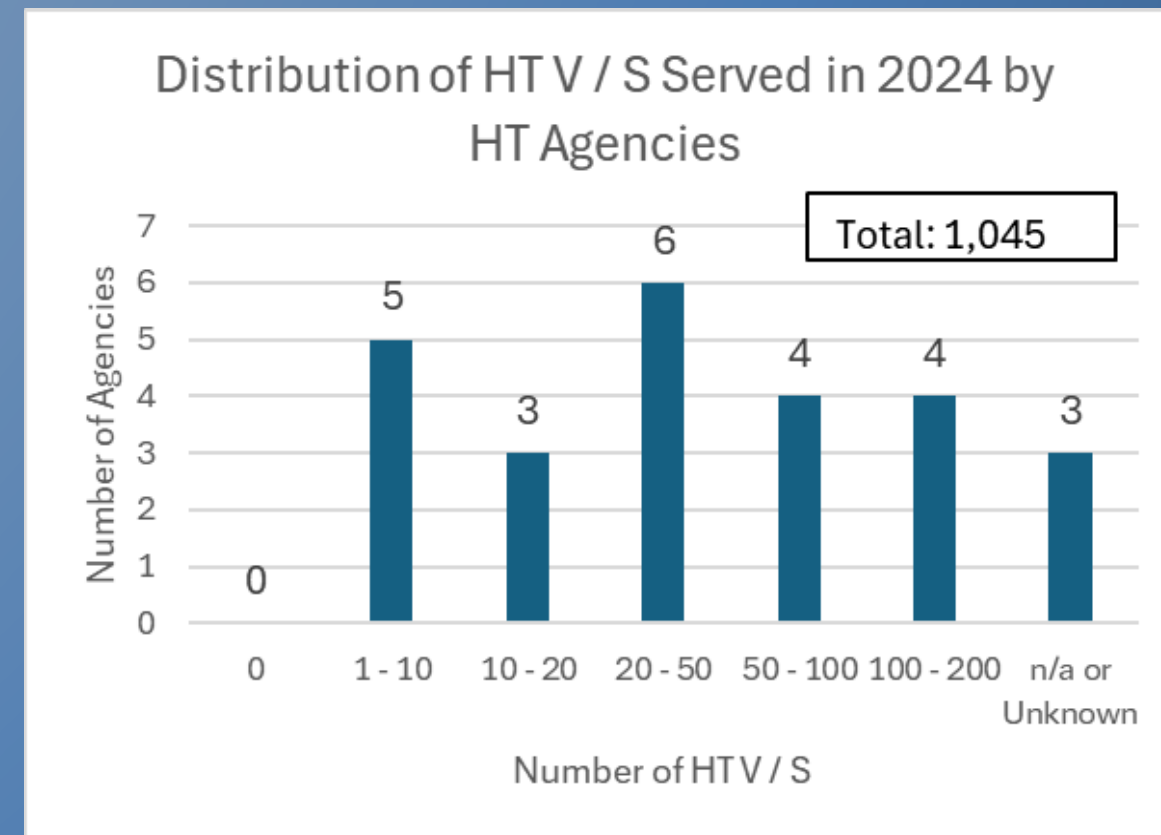
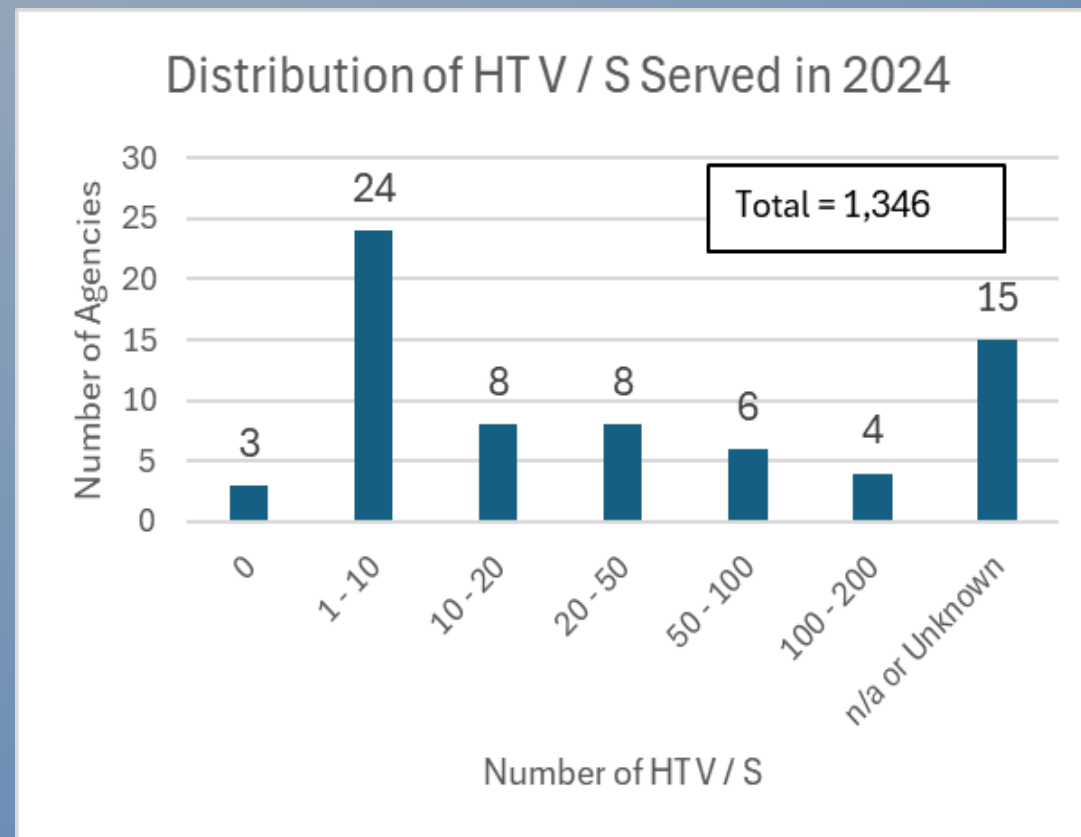
Q6: What type of victims of human trafficking do you serve?



Q7: Of the following, what demographics of human trafficking victims do you serve?

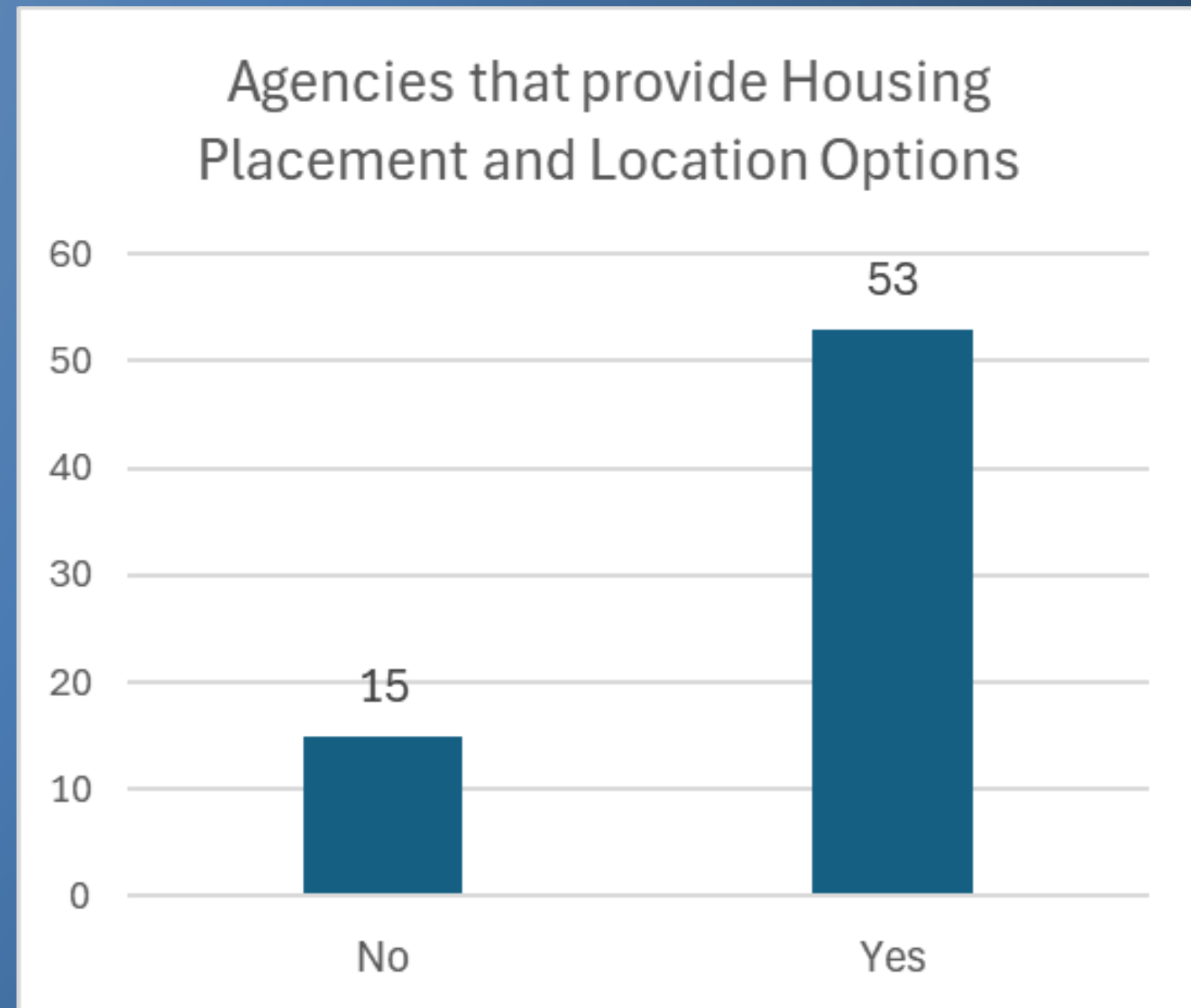


Q9: How many human trafficking victims/survivors did your agency serve during the 2024 calendar year?

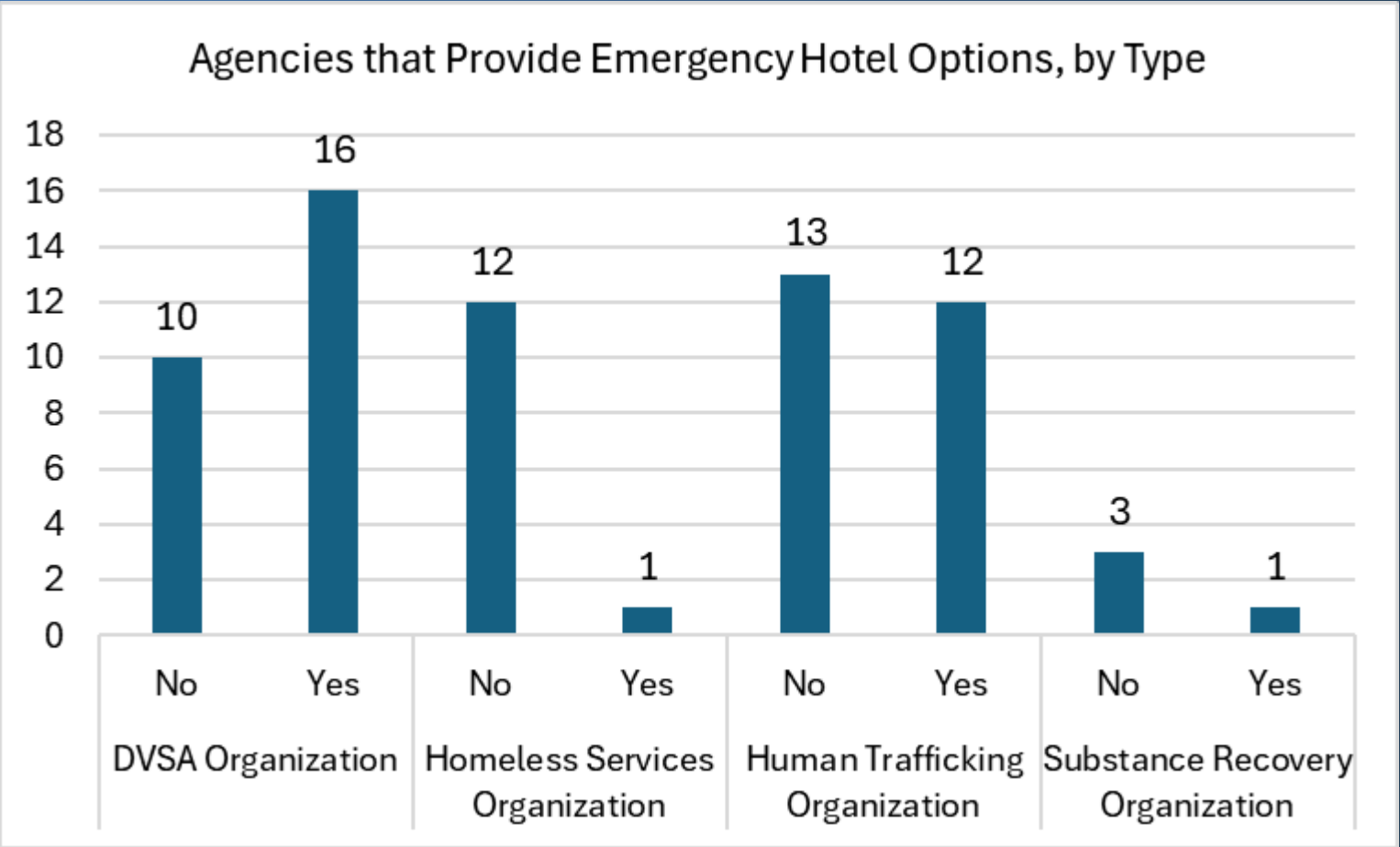
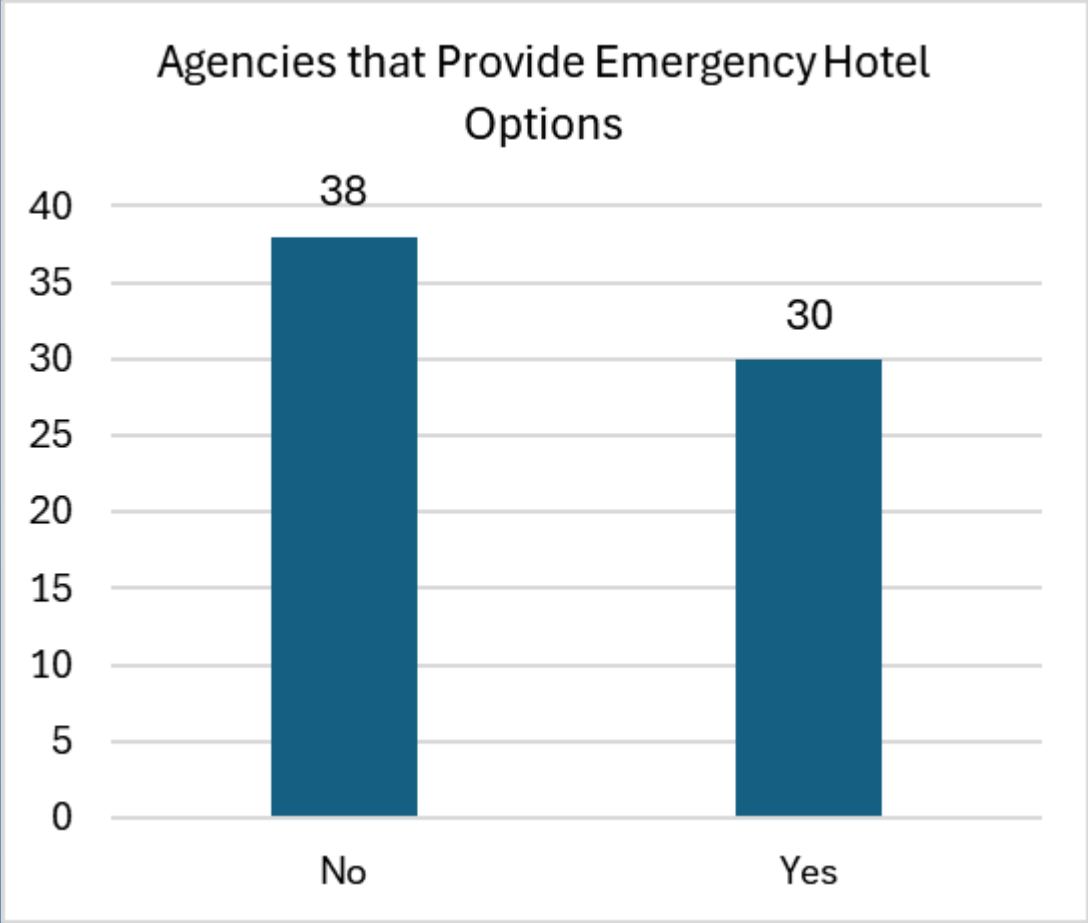


Q10: Does your agency
provide Housing Placement &
Location options?

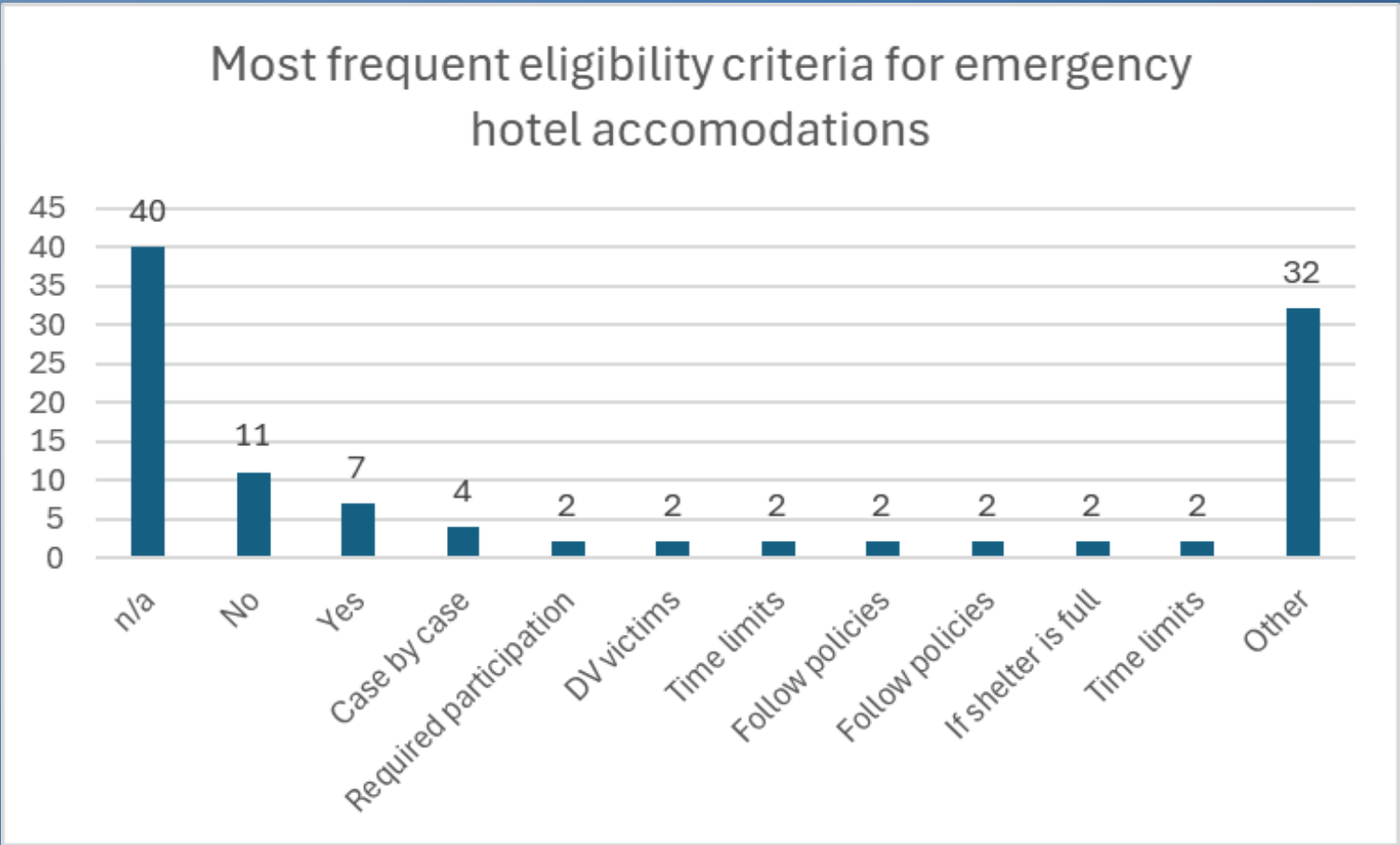
(Housing Placement &
Location rather than offering
direct housing for victims or
hotel stay)



Q11: Does your agency provide emergency hotel accommodations?

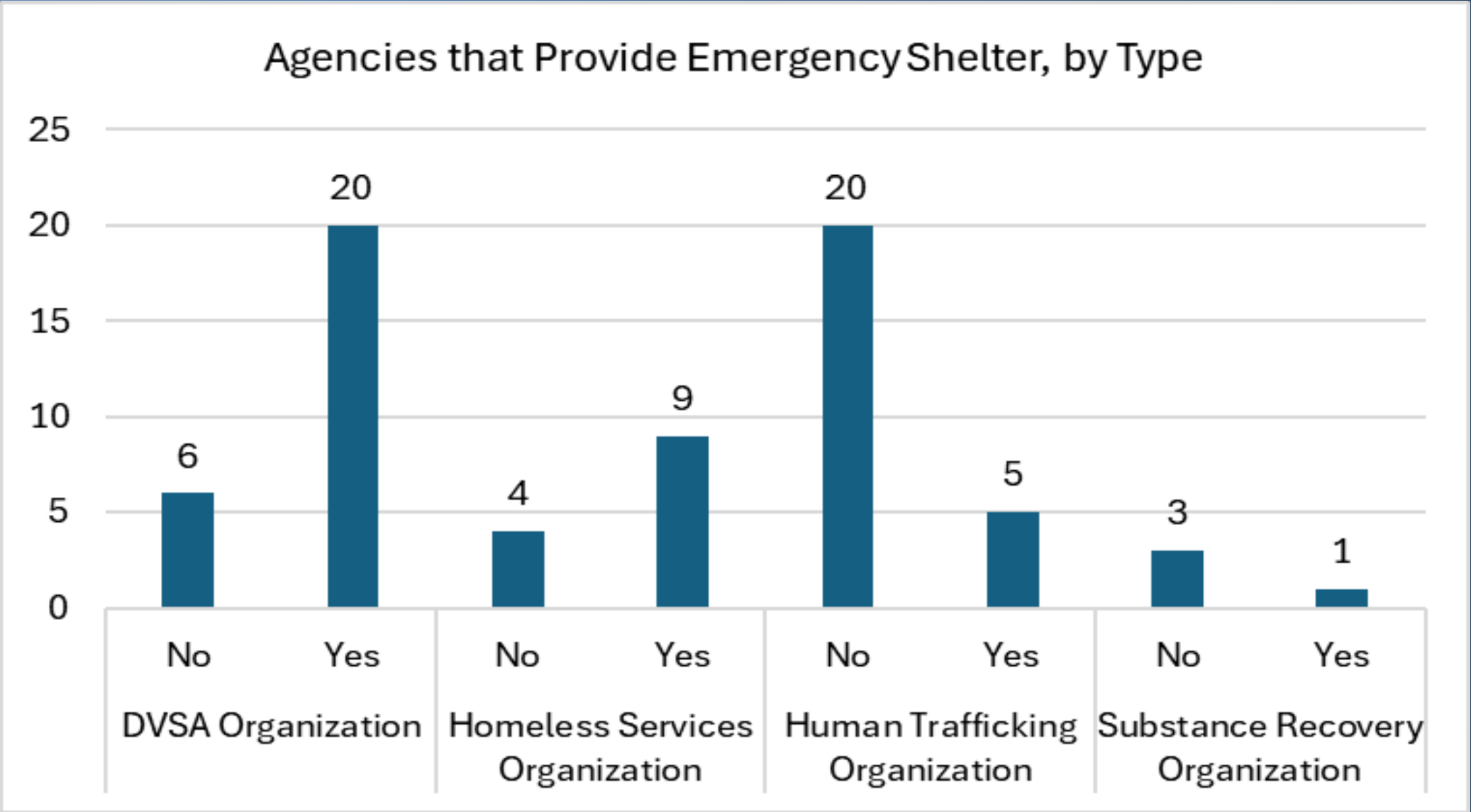
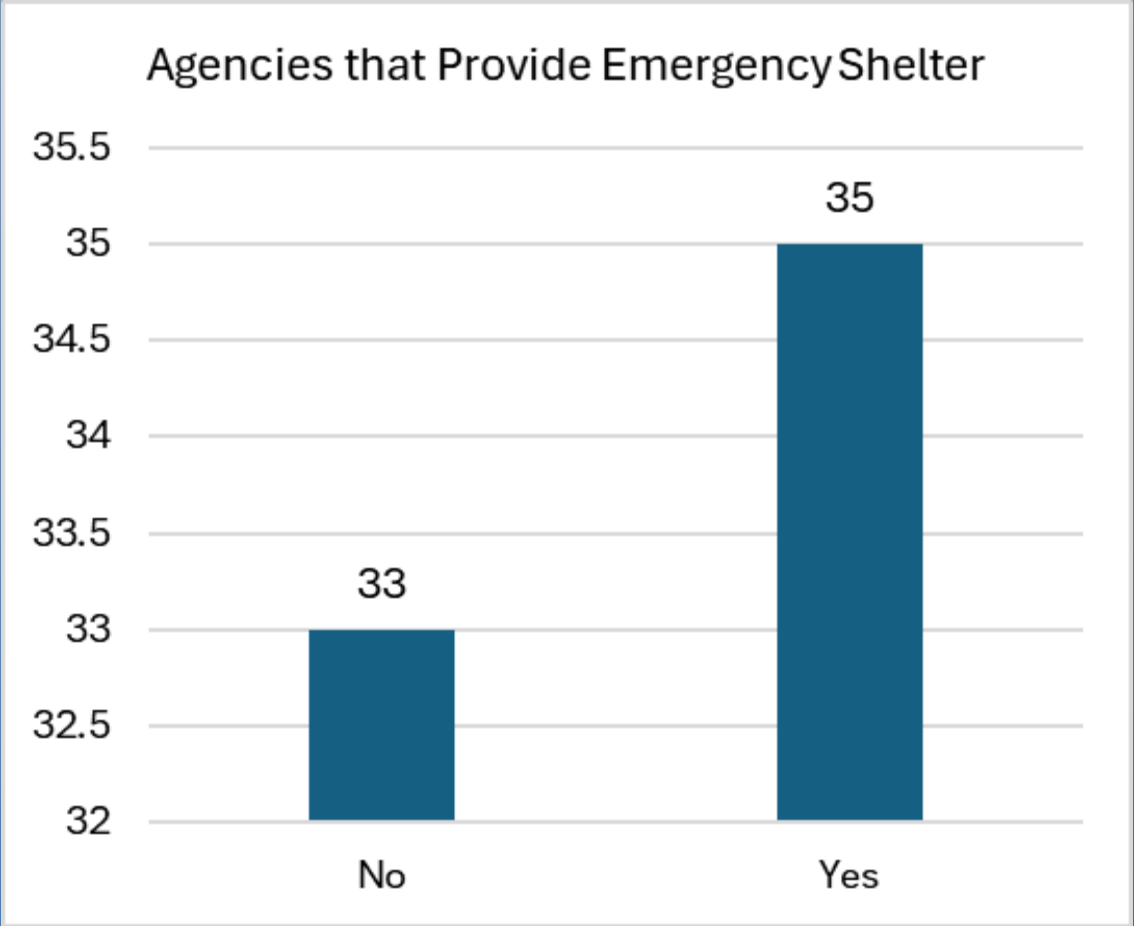


Q12: Does your organization have eligibility criteria for emergency hotel accommodations?

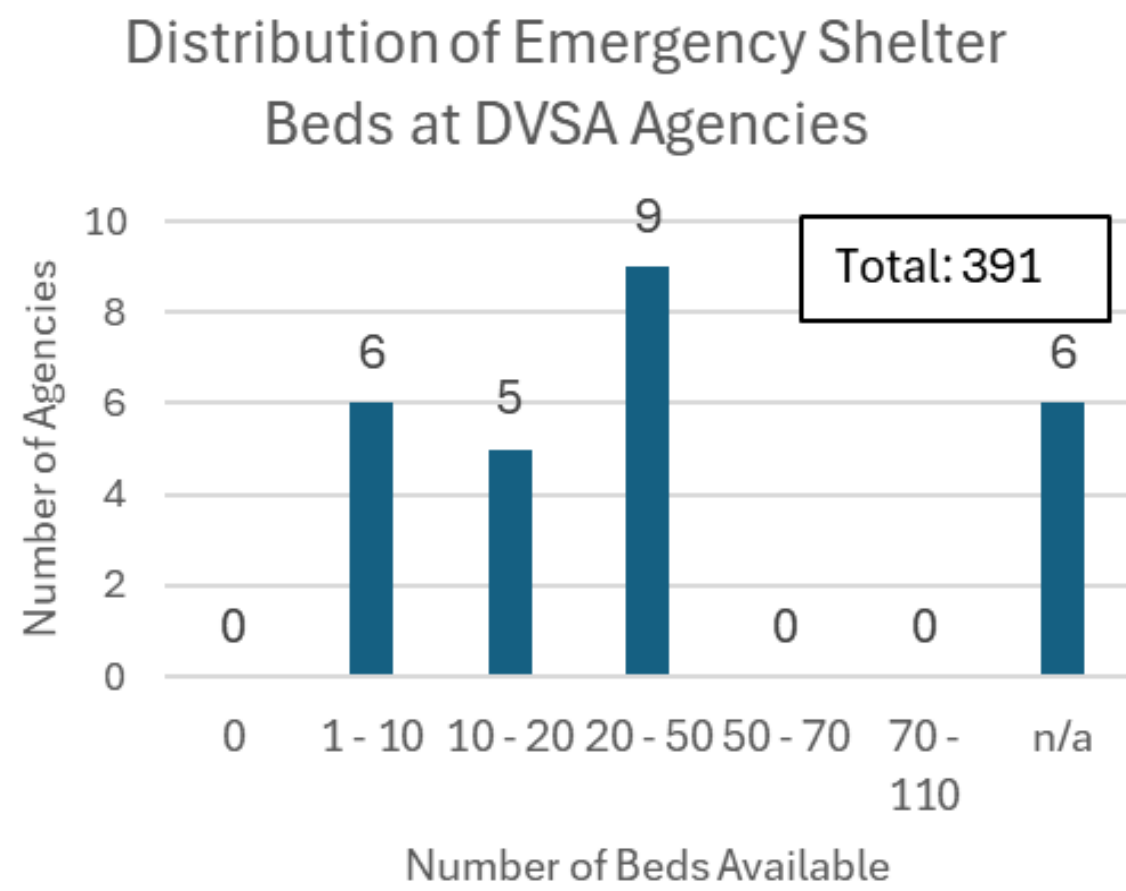
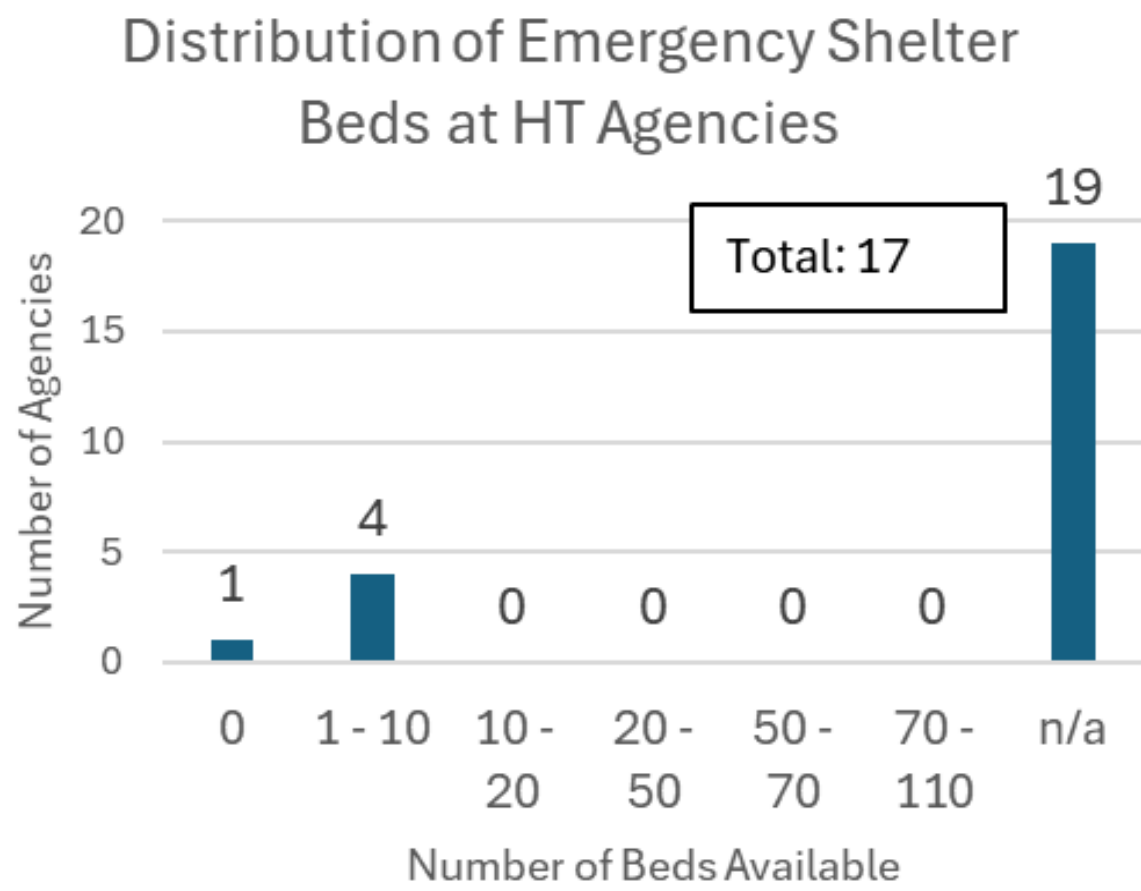
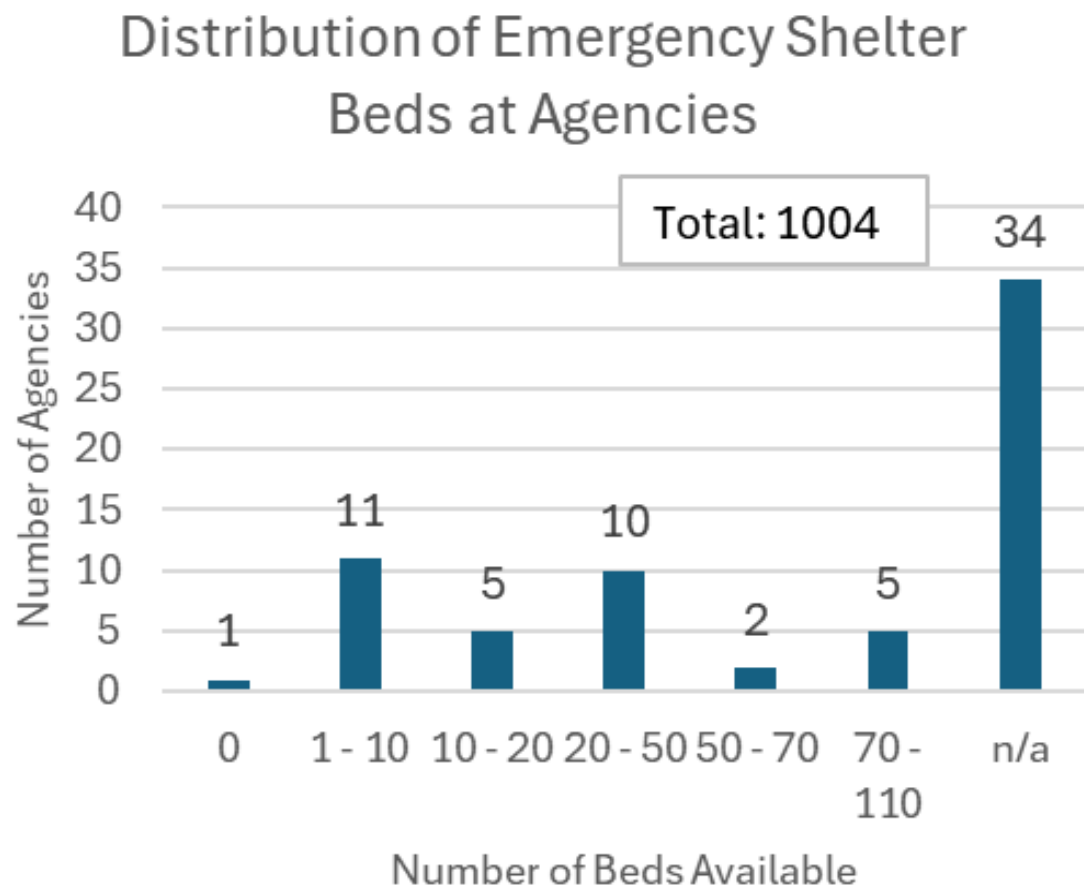


Q13: Does your agency provide Emergency Shelter?

Emergency Shelter means a facility, the primary purpose of which is to provide a temporary shelter for safety and initial stabilization. Such placements are low barrier for entry and do not require occupants to sign leases. (Not hotel)

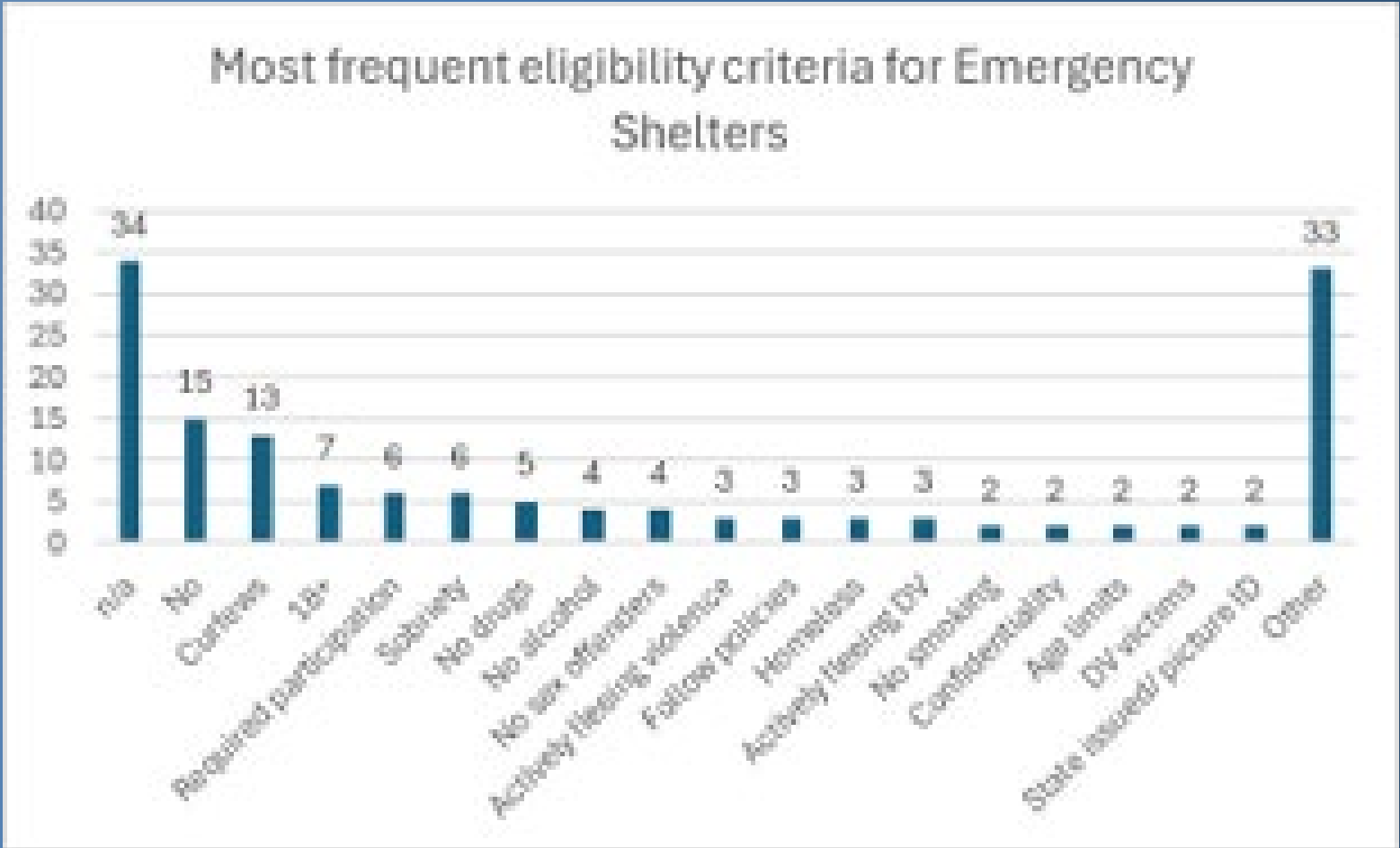


Q14: How many emergency shelter specific beds/units does your agency have?

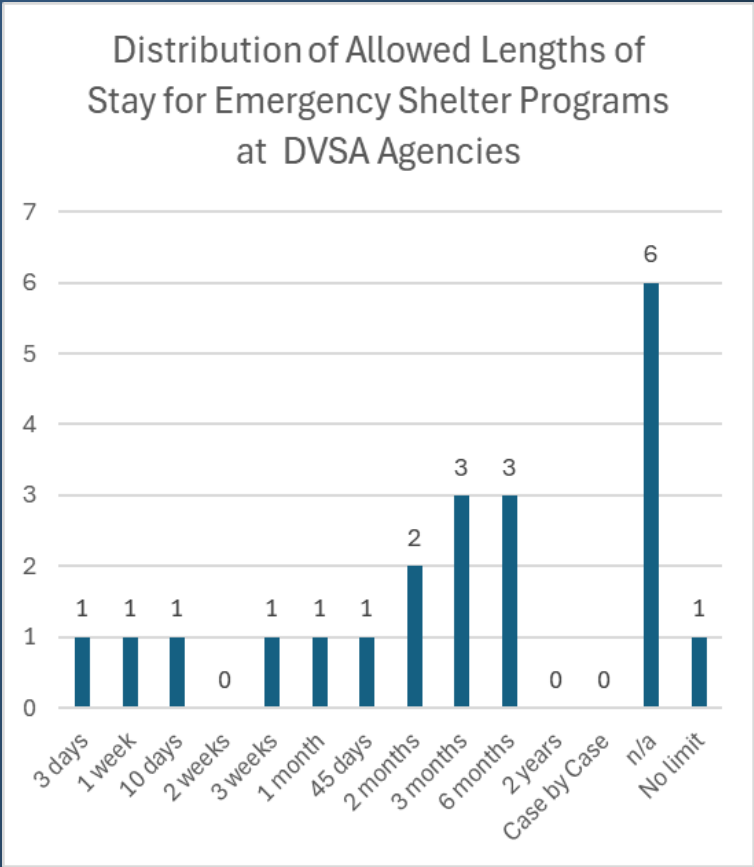
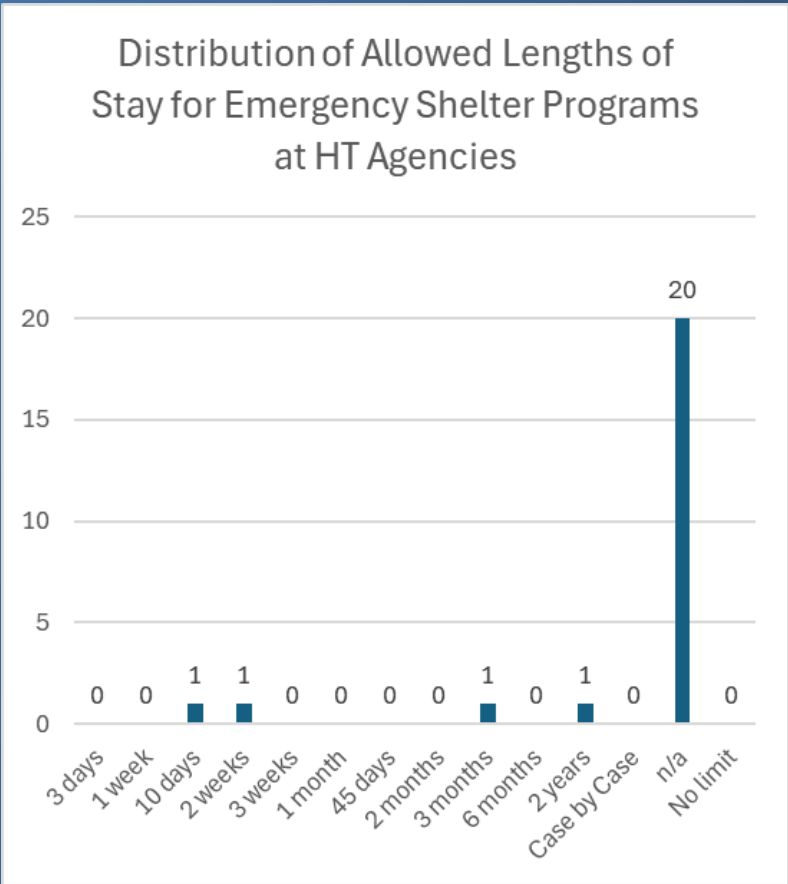
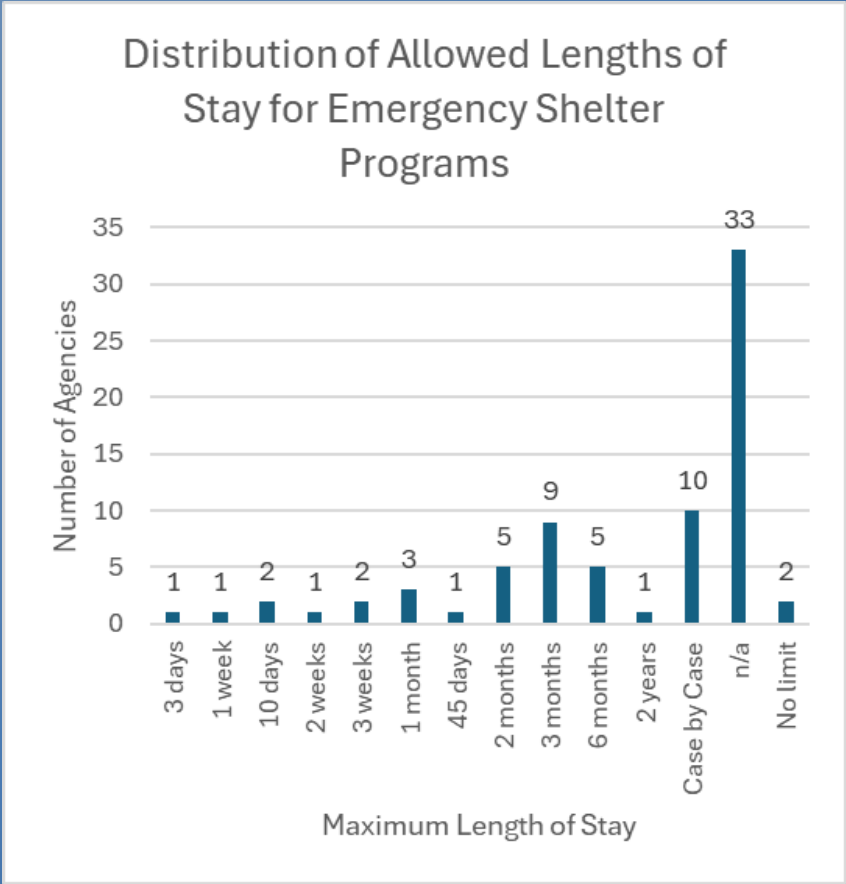


Q15: Does your organization have eligibility criteria for emergency shelters?

For example, sobriety, curfews, income status, required participation in programming, prior legal history, age limits, other identifiers, etc.

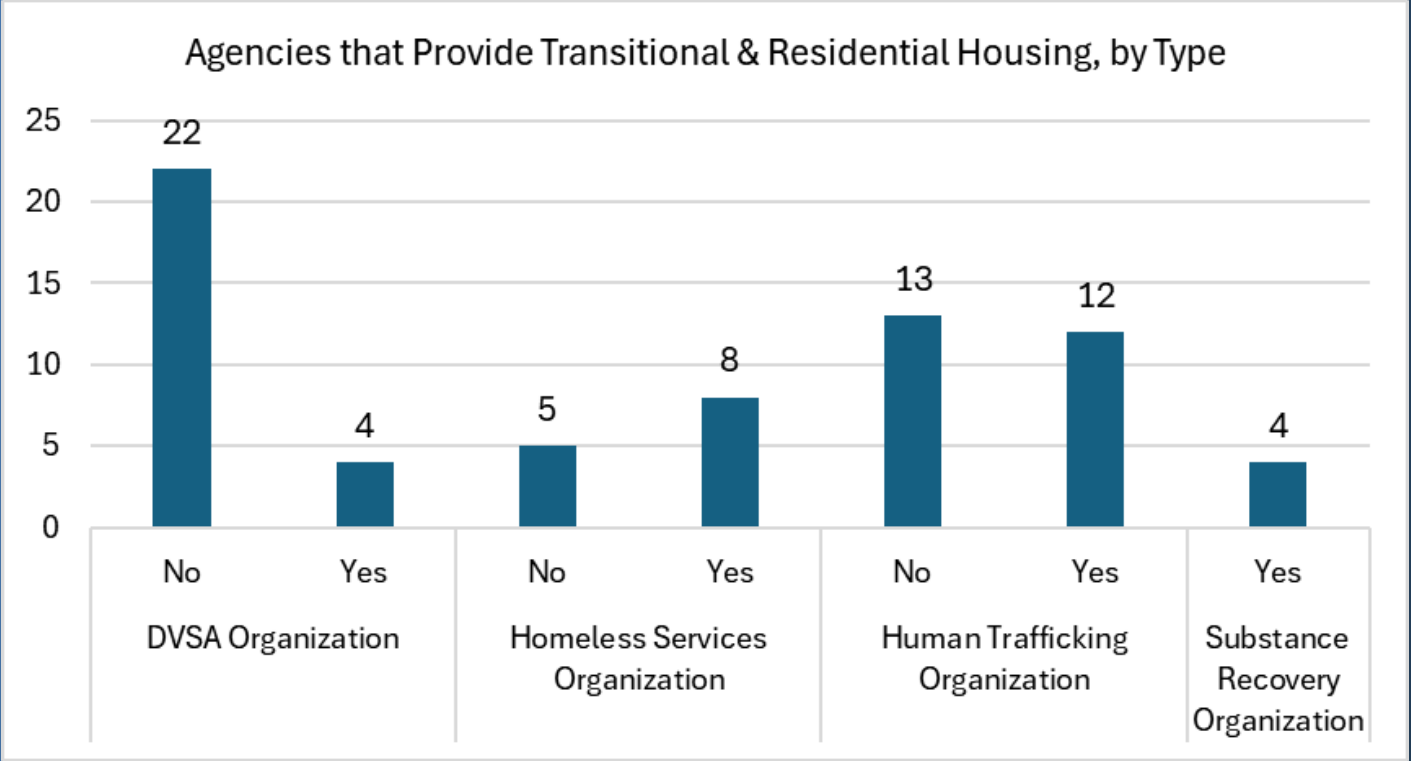
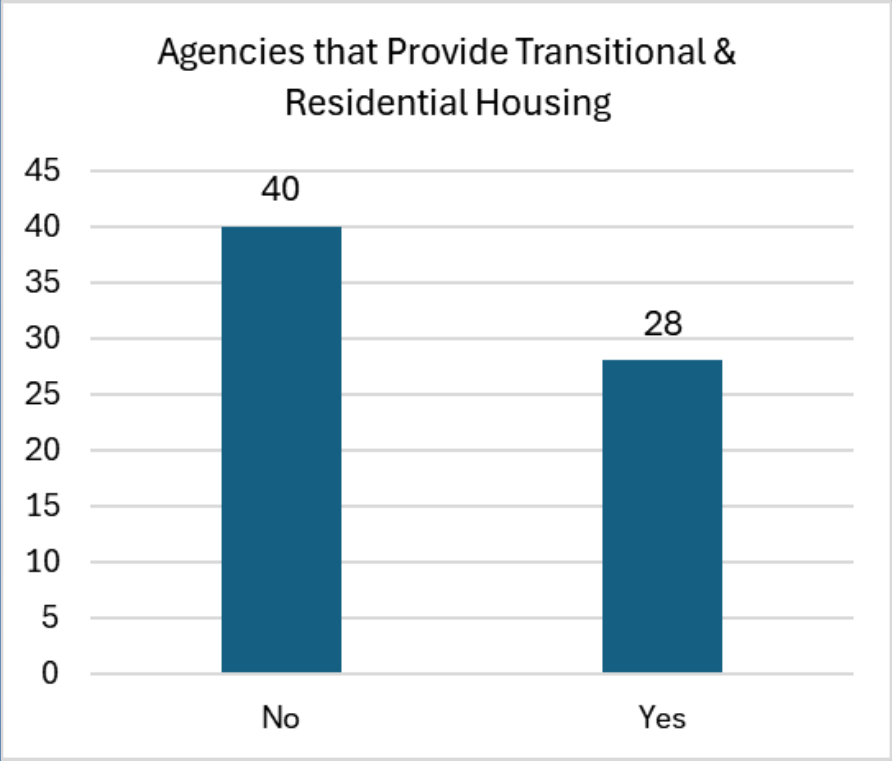


Q16: What is the allowed length of stay for individuals in your emergency shelter program?

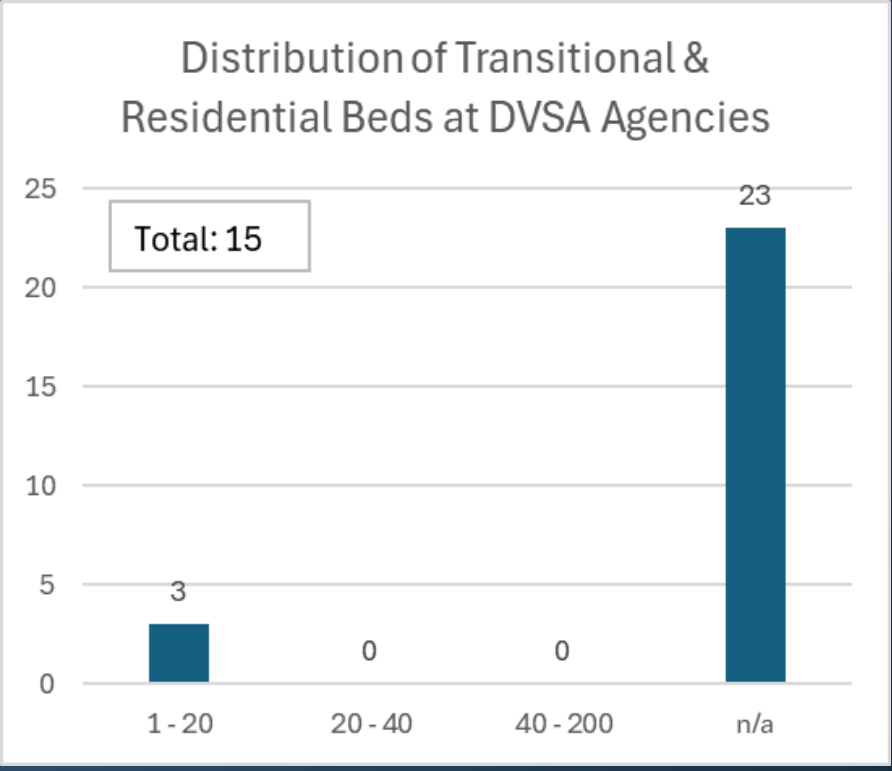
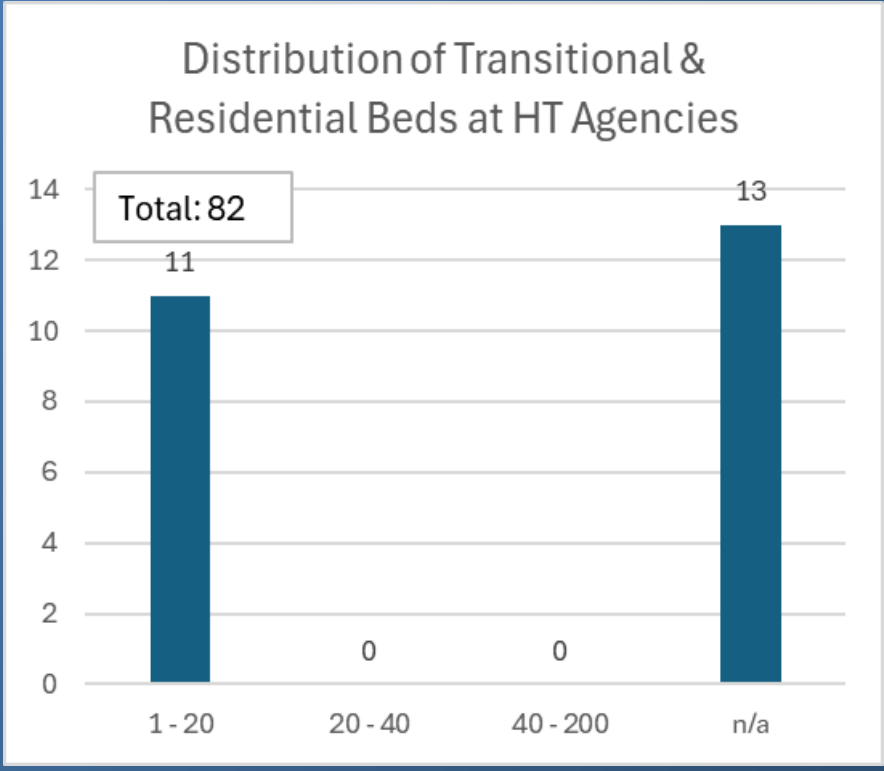
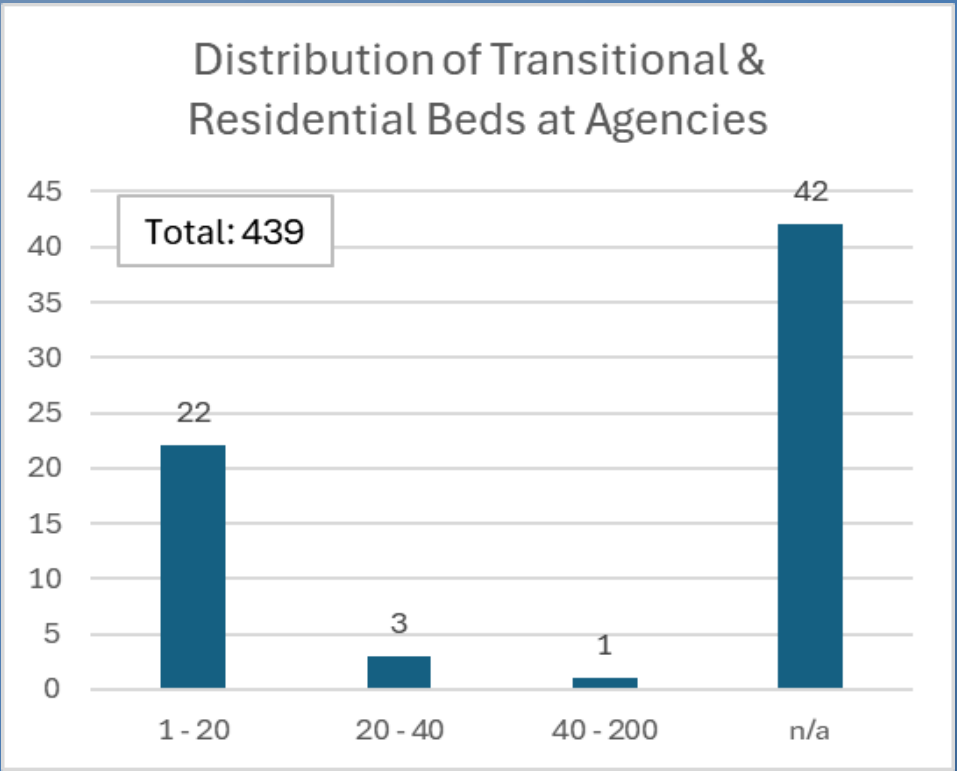


Q17: Does your agency provide Transitional and Residential Housing?

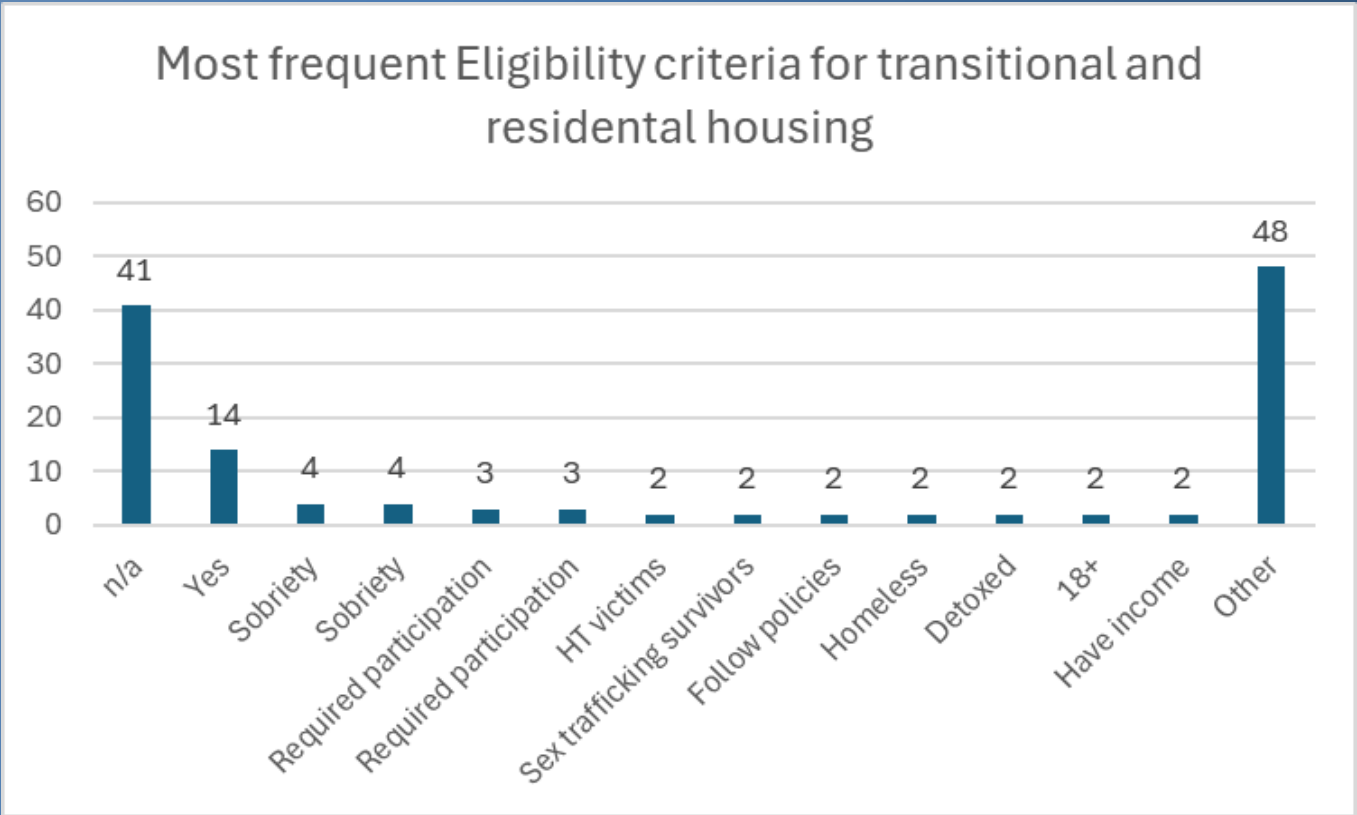
Transitional and Residential Housing refer to the activities and / or programs that provide housing for survivors after emergency stabilization has occurred. This type of housing offers auxiliary programming to aid survivors such as life skills, support for substance use, therapy, groups, employment, or job training / placement, etc. In some settings, schooling or other educational options may also be included.



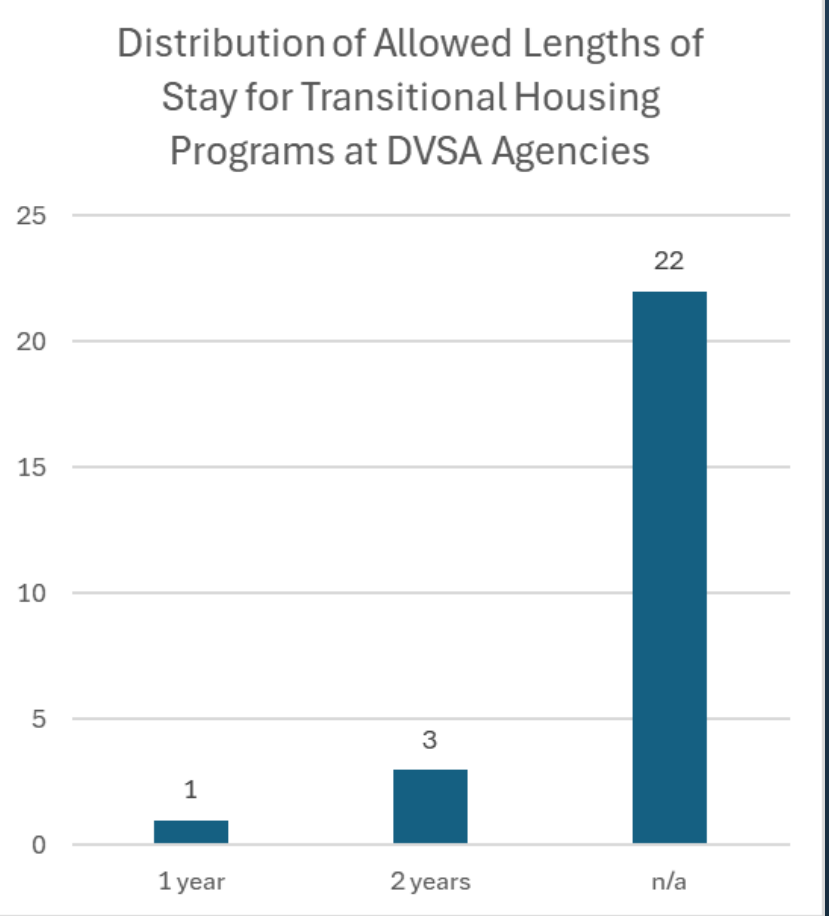
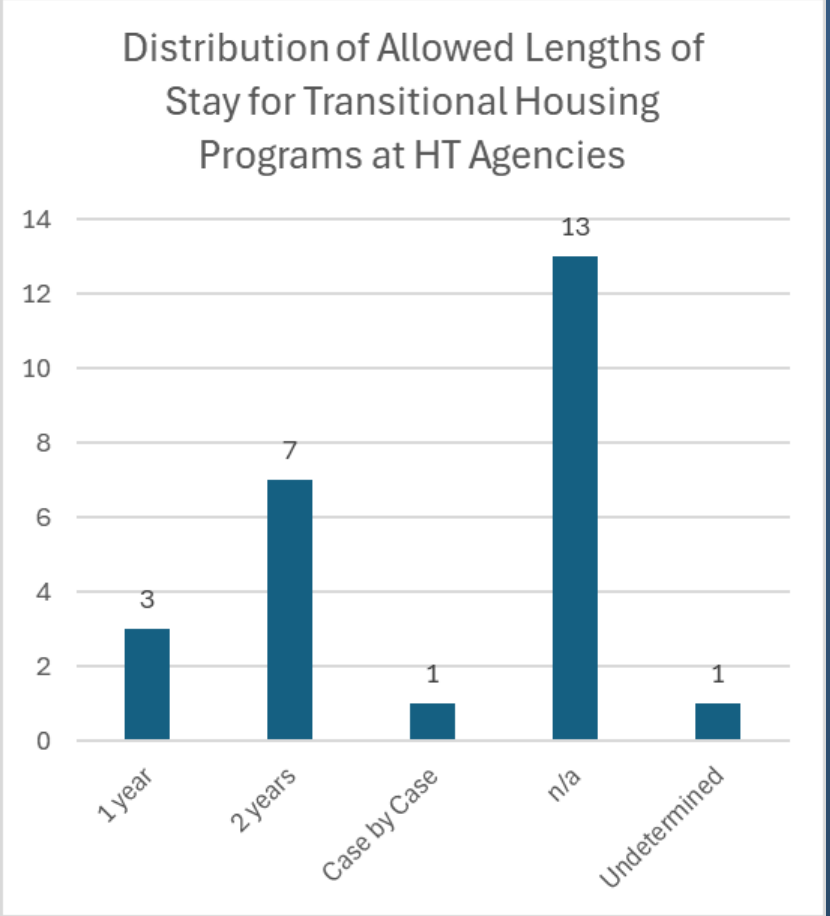
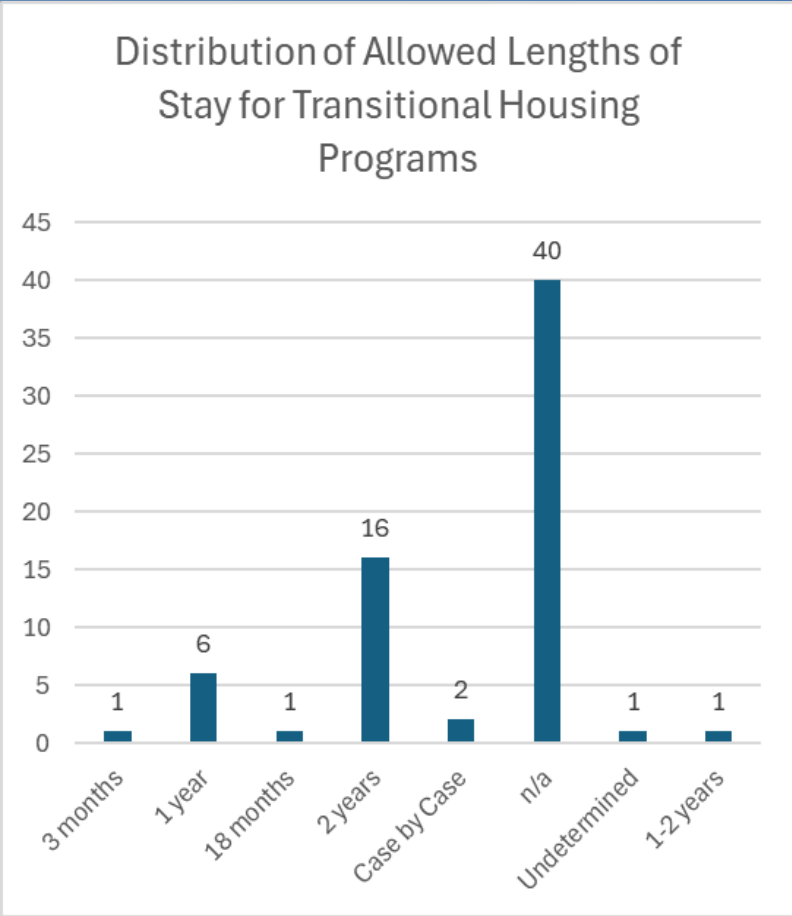
Q18: How many transitional and residential housing specific beds/units does your agency have?



Q19: Does your agency have eligibility criteria for transitional and residential housing?

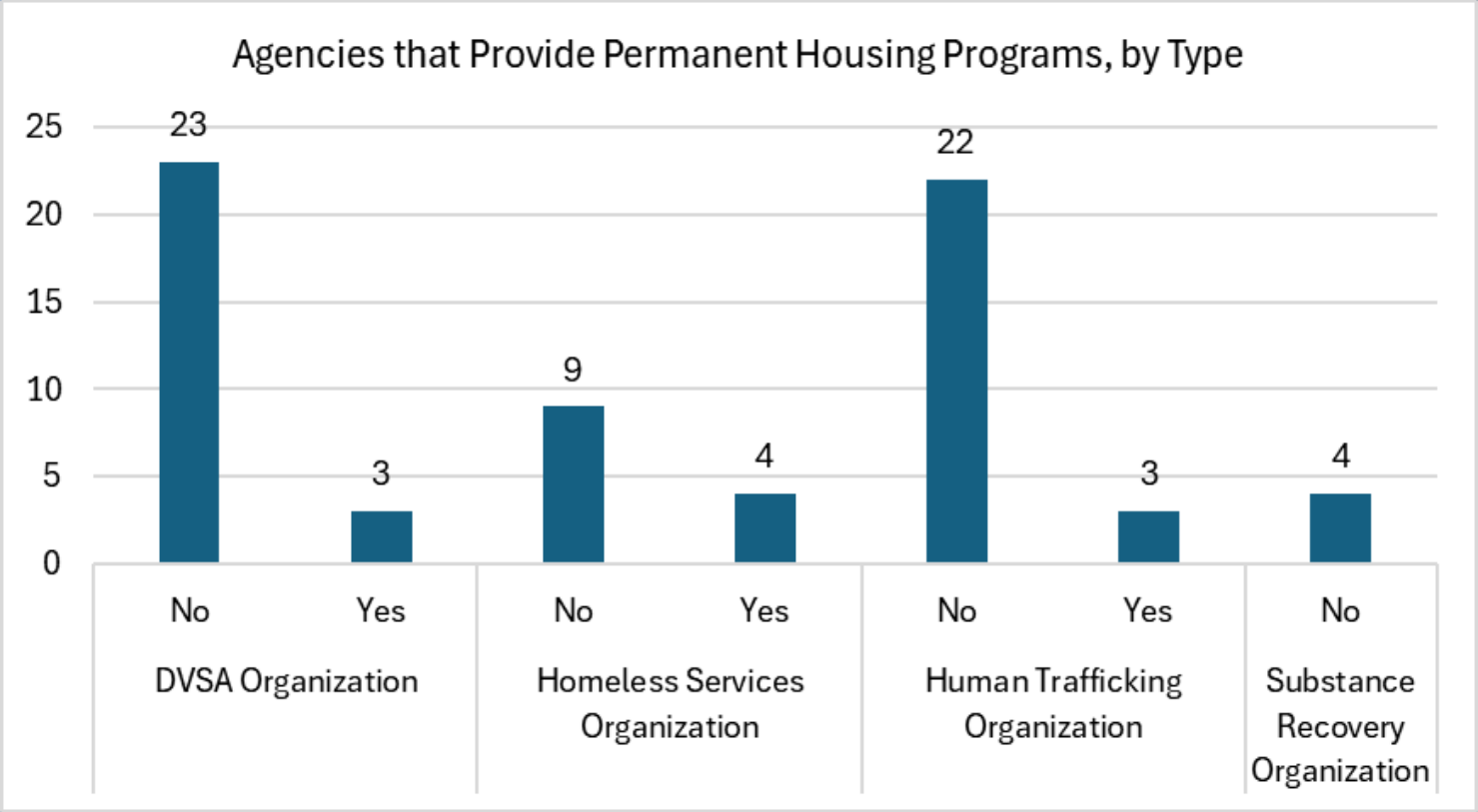
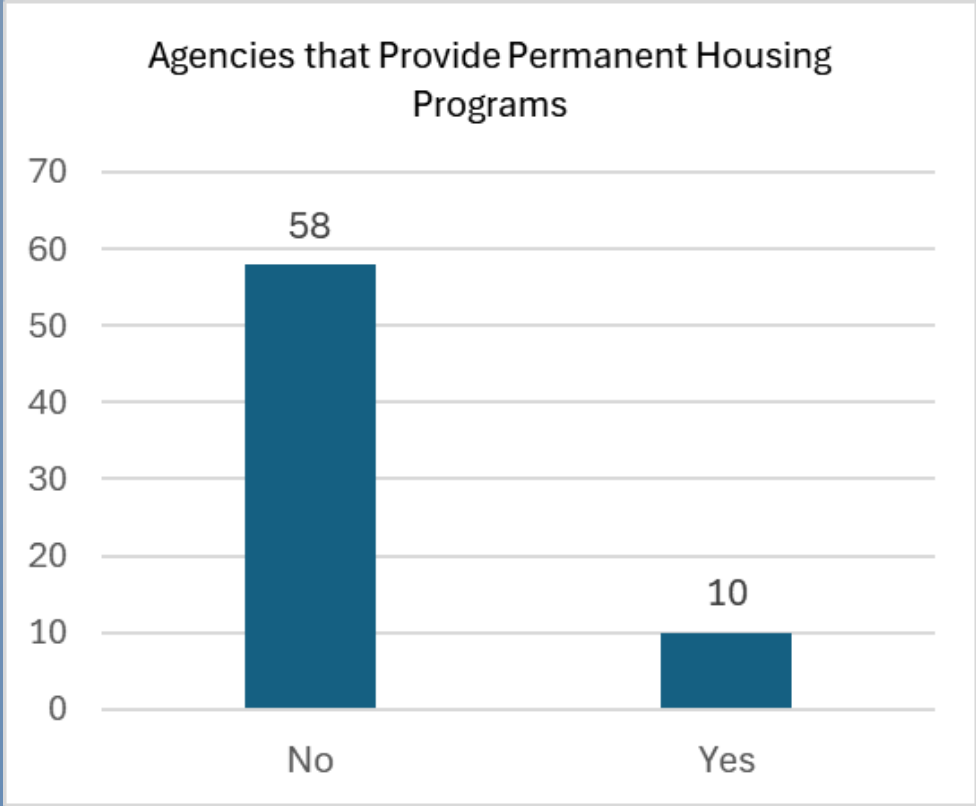


Q20: What is the allowed length of stay for individuals in your transitional and residential housing program?

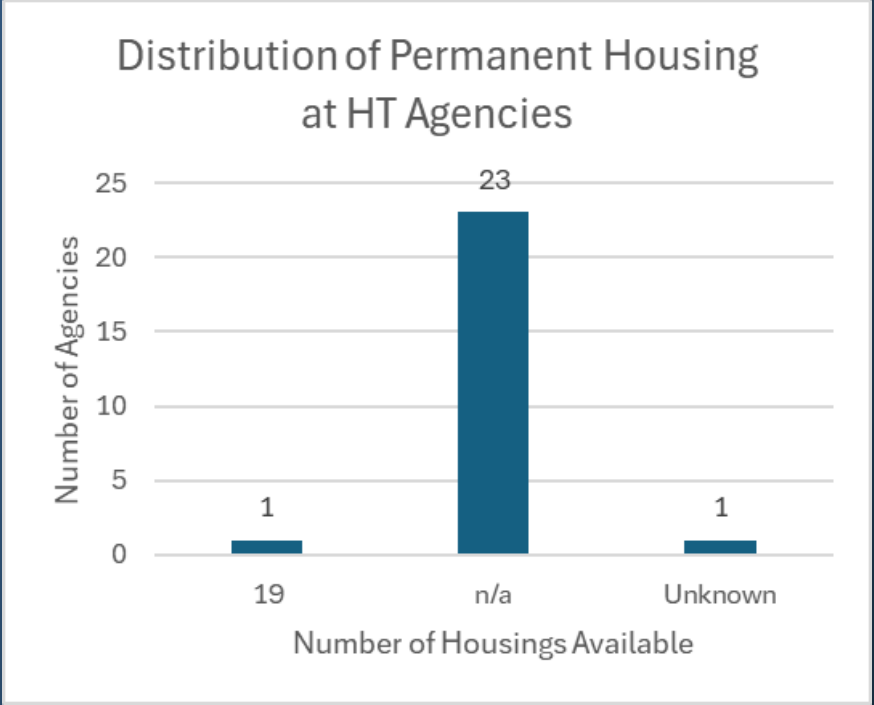
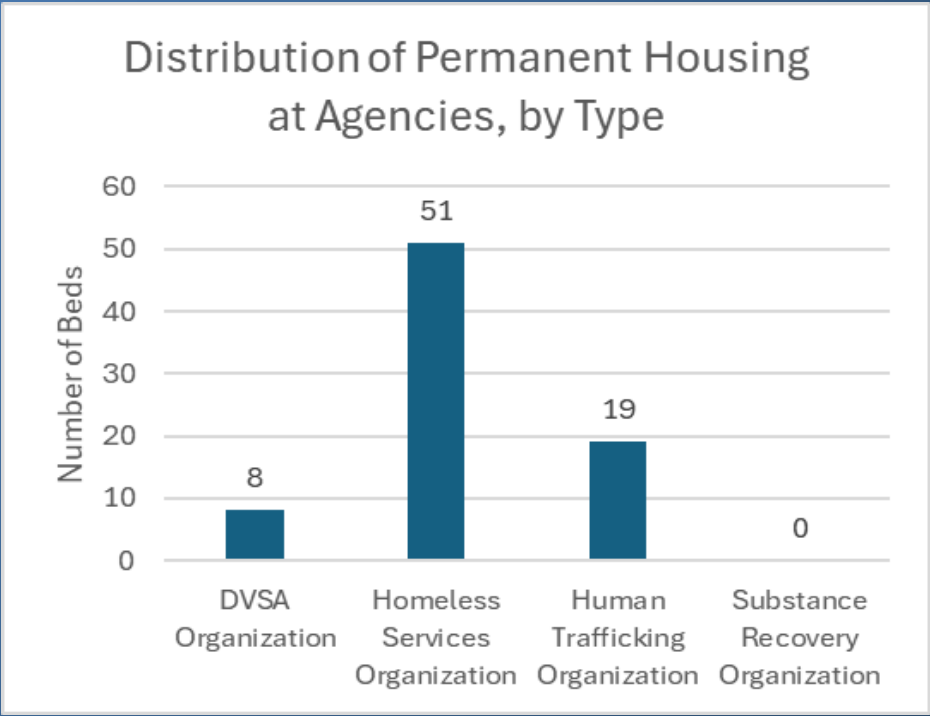
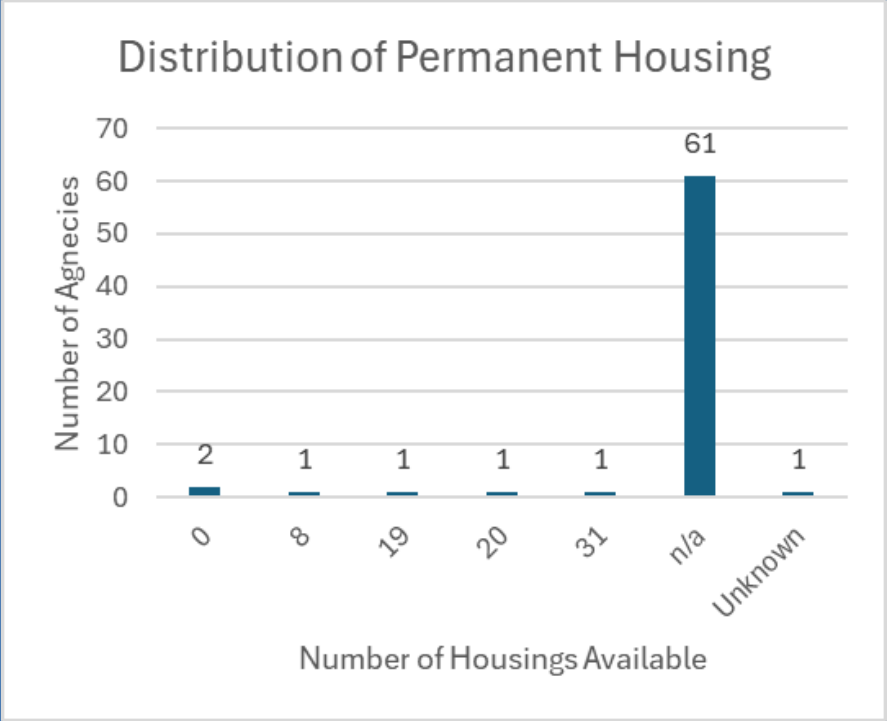


Q21: Does your agency provide Permanent Housing Programs?

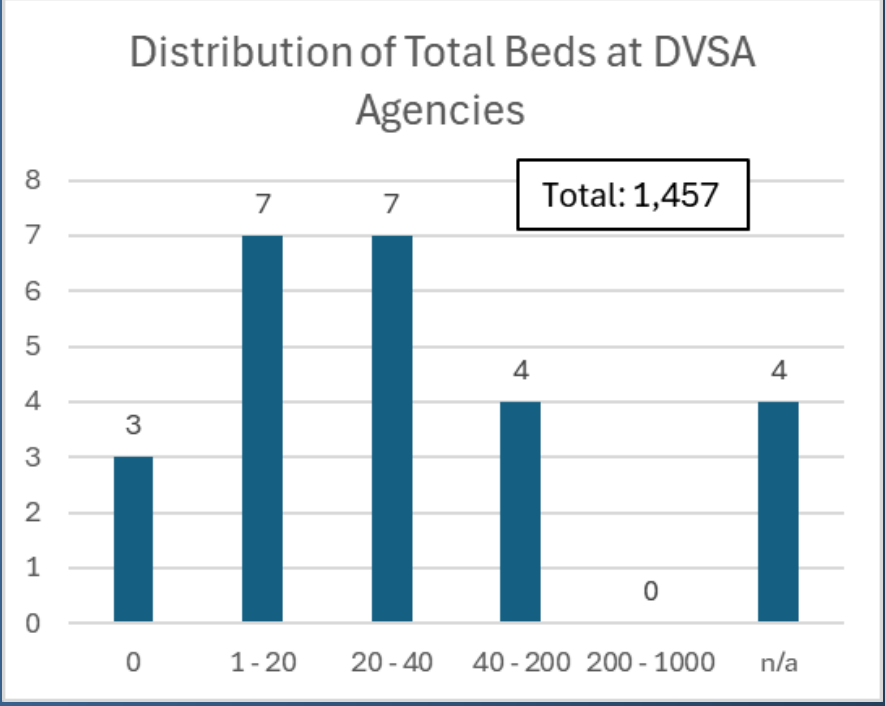
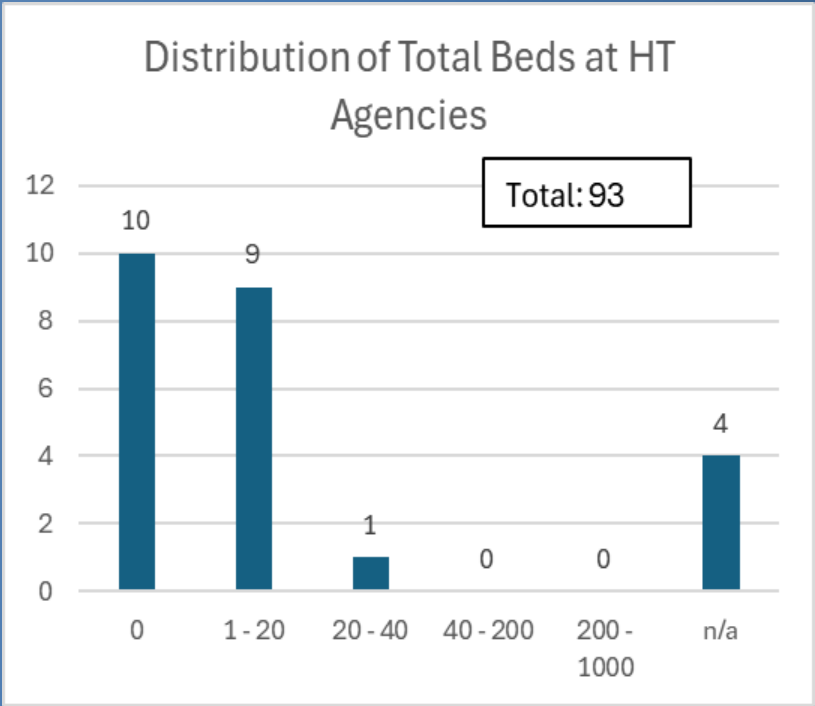
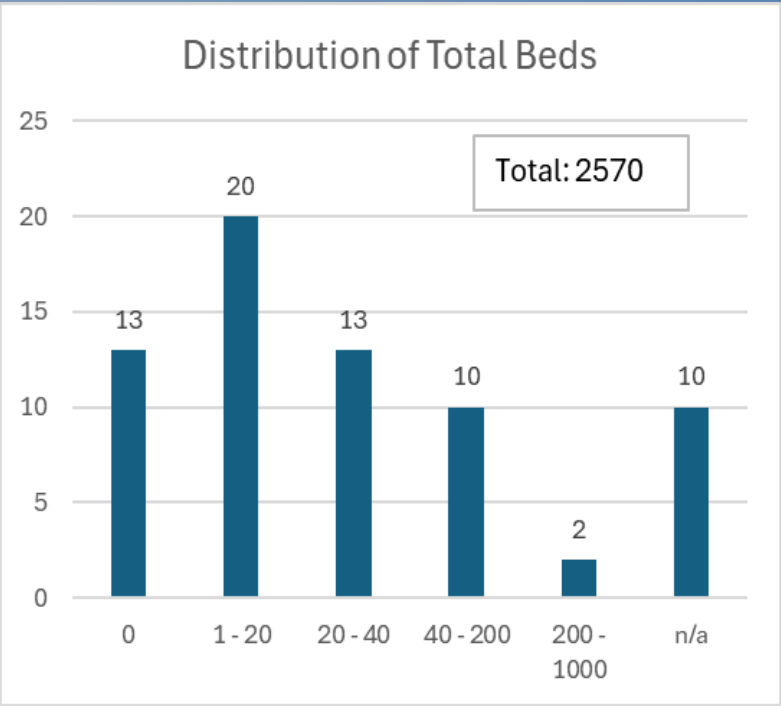
Permanent Housing Programs offer private housing for survivors ready to move into independent living. This would include programs where the apartment / house is in the organization's name and the survivor becomes a sublessee or where the original lease is in the survivor's name. The organization may also provide after-care or rental assistance for a period in this category.



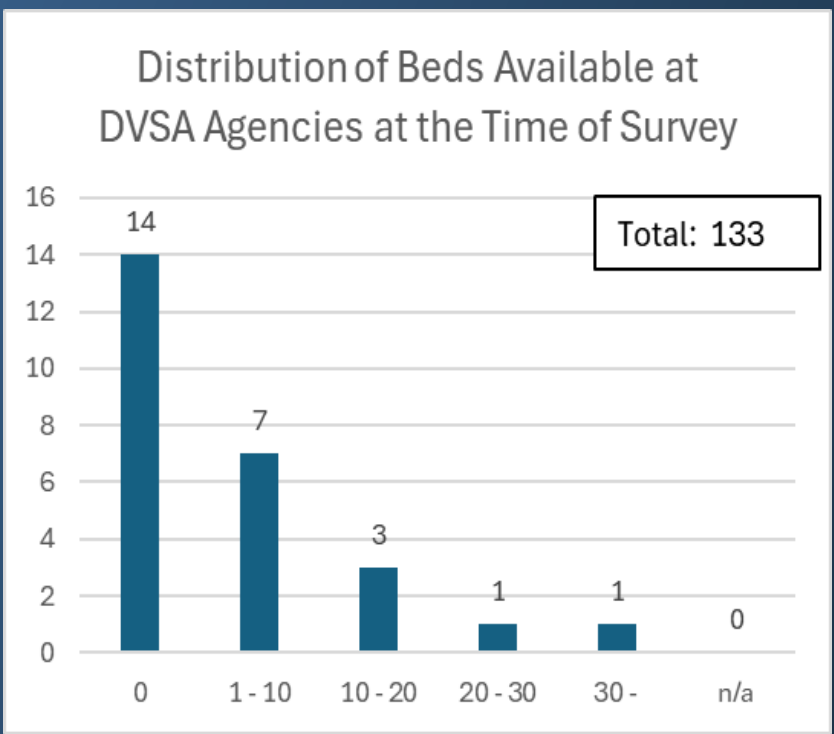
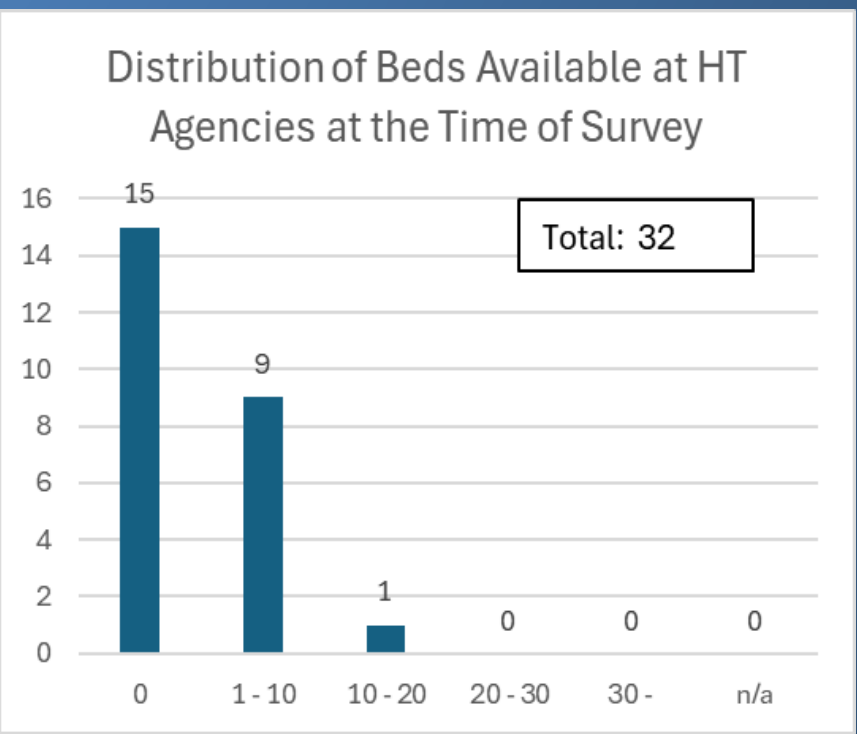
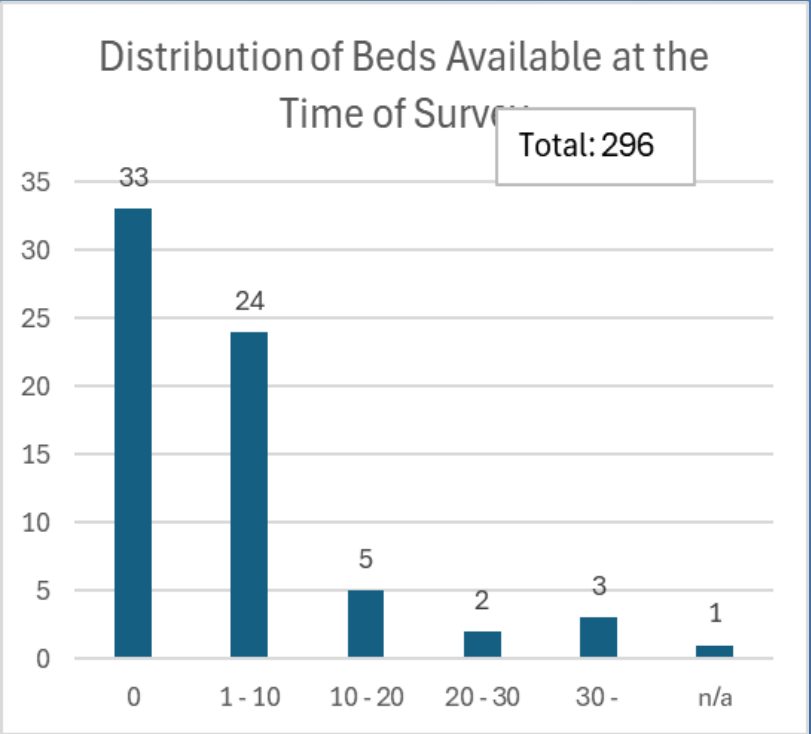
Q22: How many permanent housing program specific housing units does your agency have?



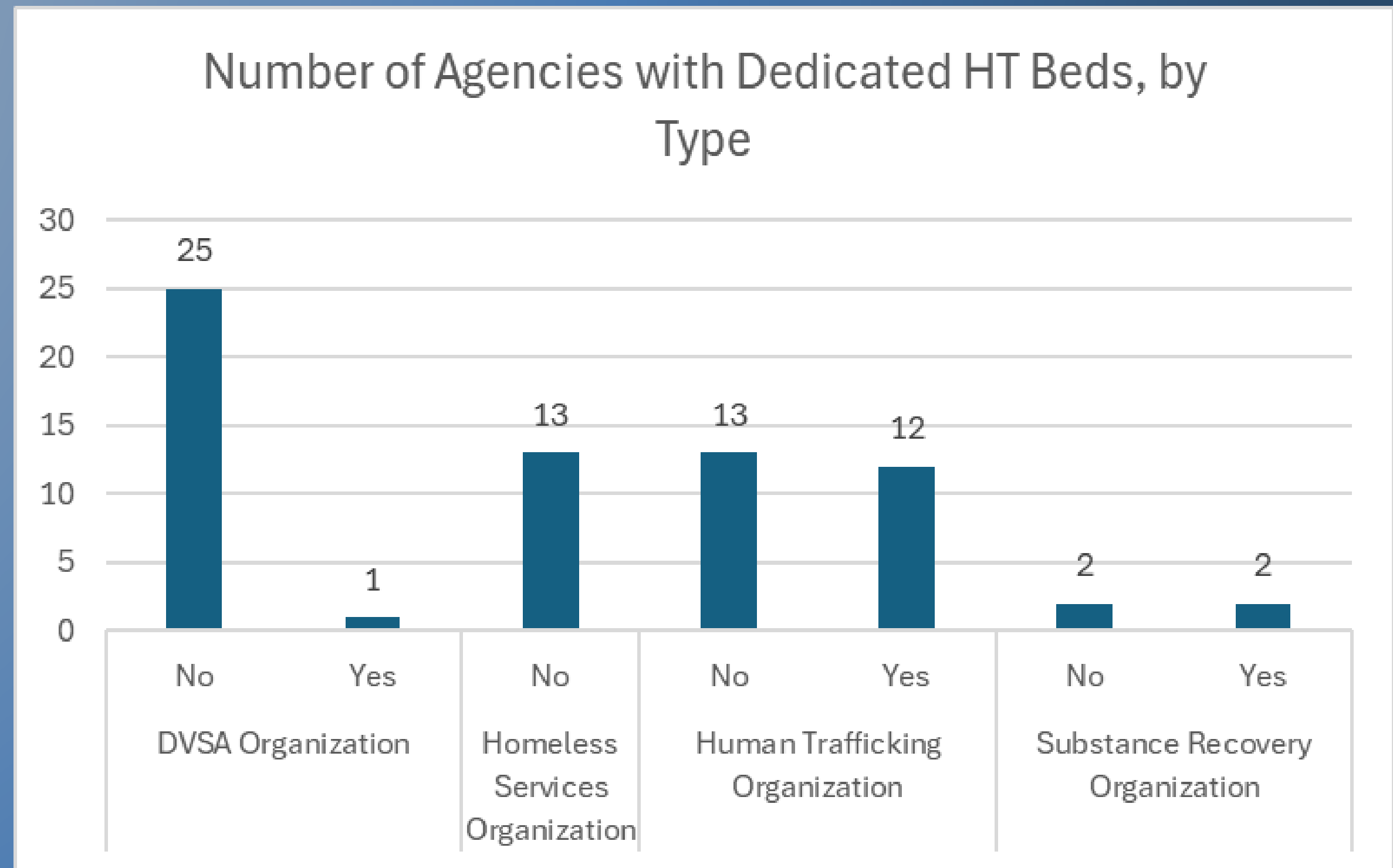
Q24: How many total beds does your agency have?



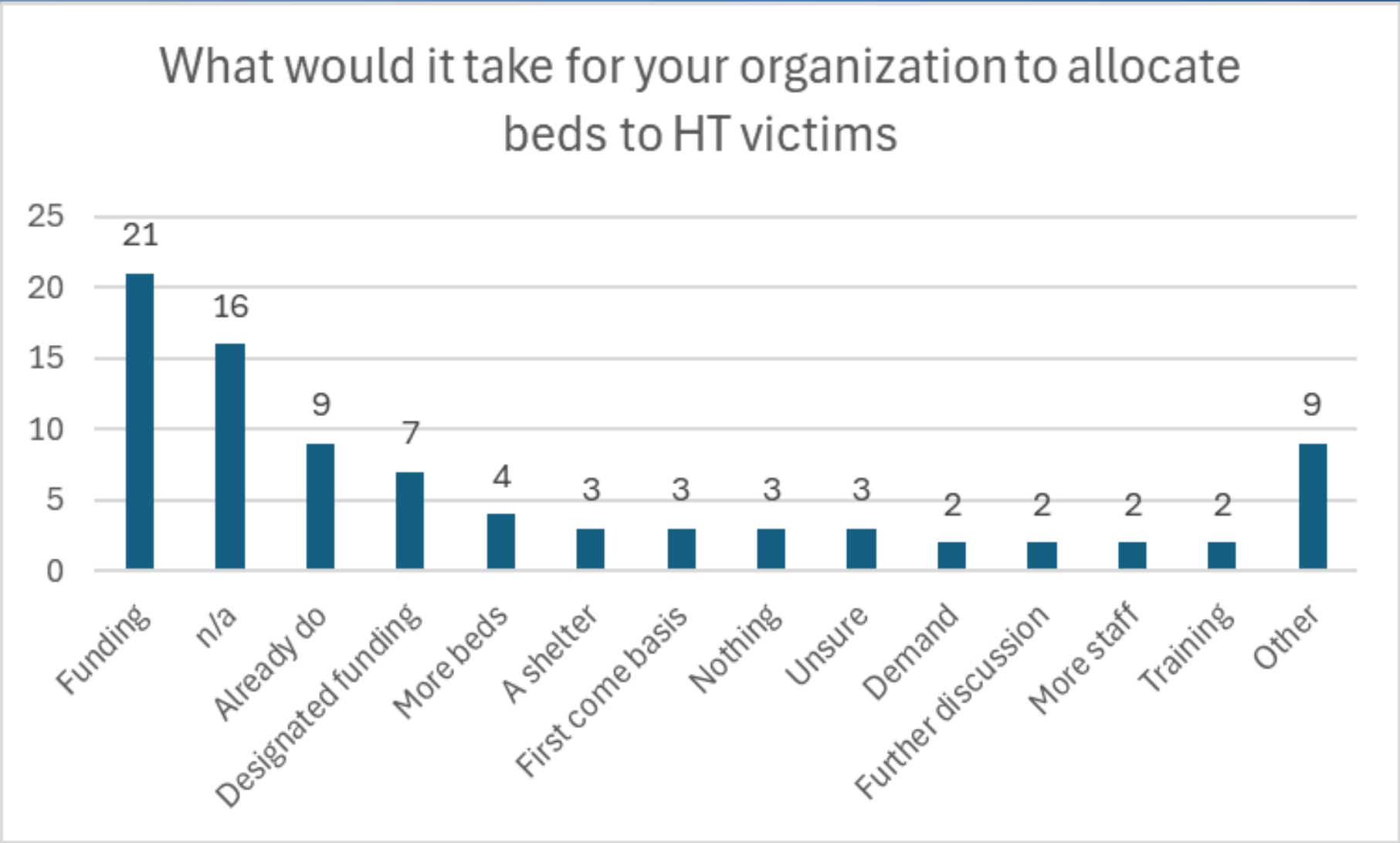
Q25: How many beds are currently available at your agency?



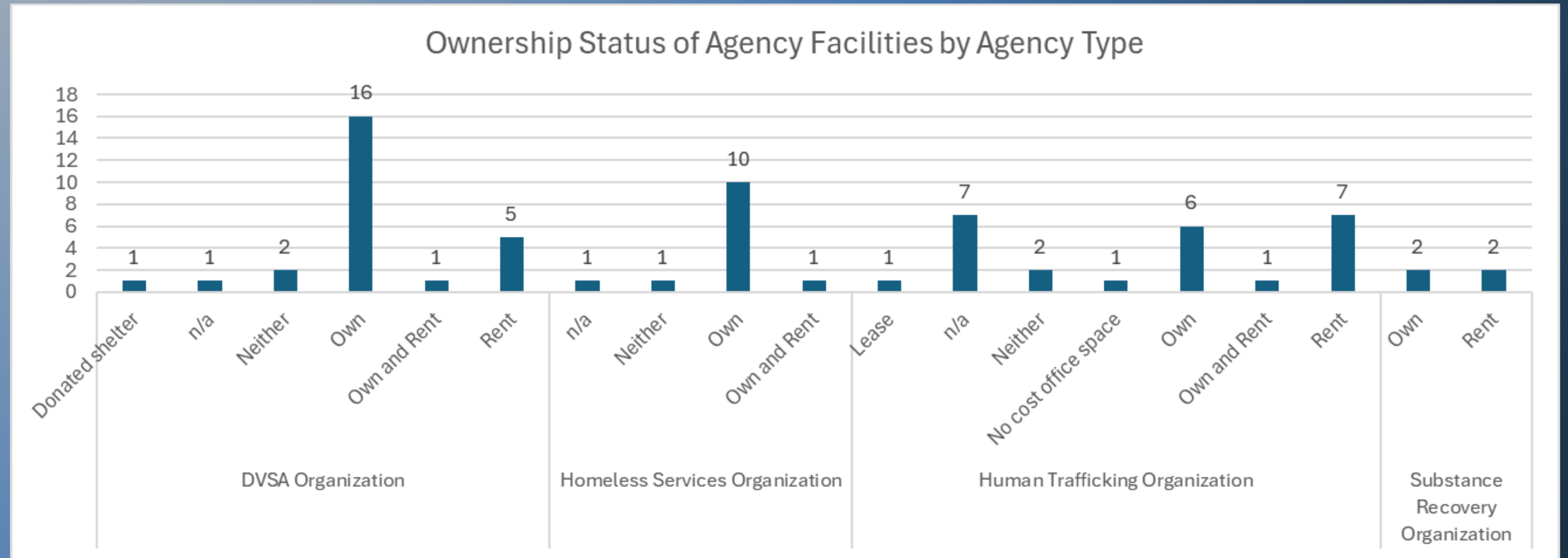
Q26: Are any of your beds specifically dedicated to human trafficking survivors?



Q27: What would it take for your organization to allocate beds to human trafficking victims and survivors?

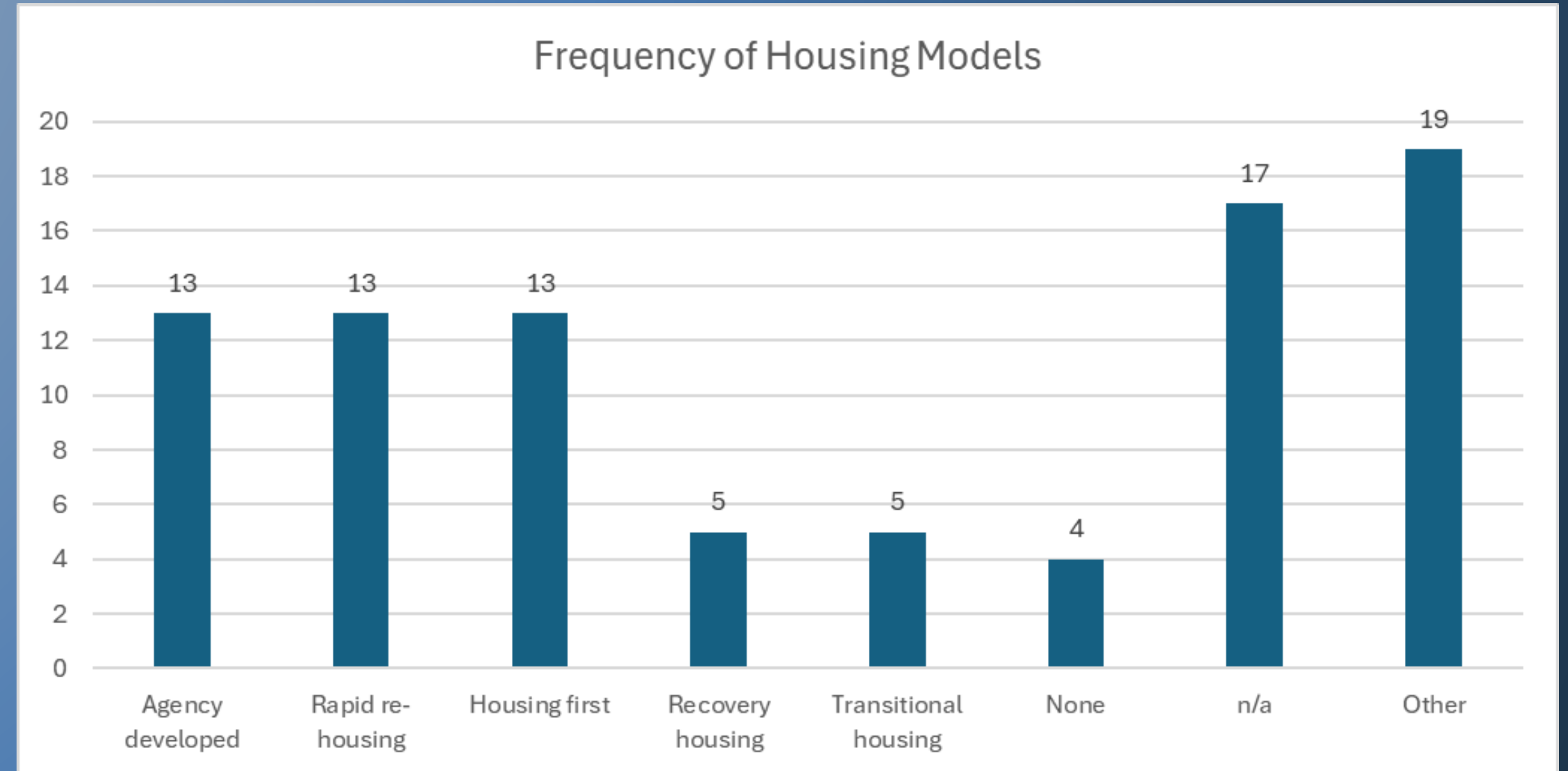


Q28: Does your agency rent or own the facilities?



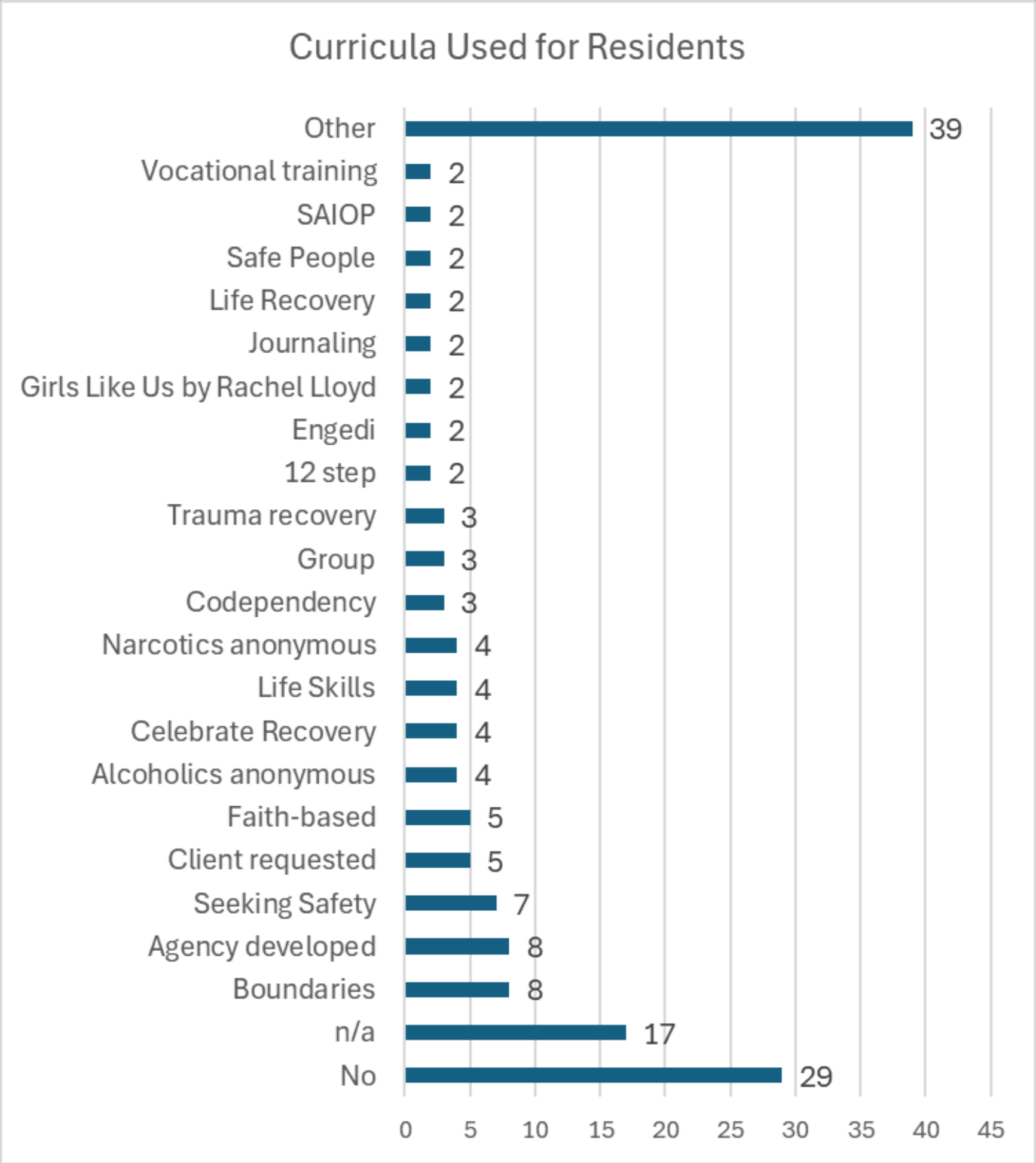
Q32: Please list any housing models your agency uses. If your model is agency developed, please describe it.

For example, Rapid Re Housing, Housing First, Recovery housing, or an agency developed model etc.

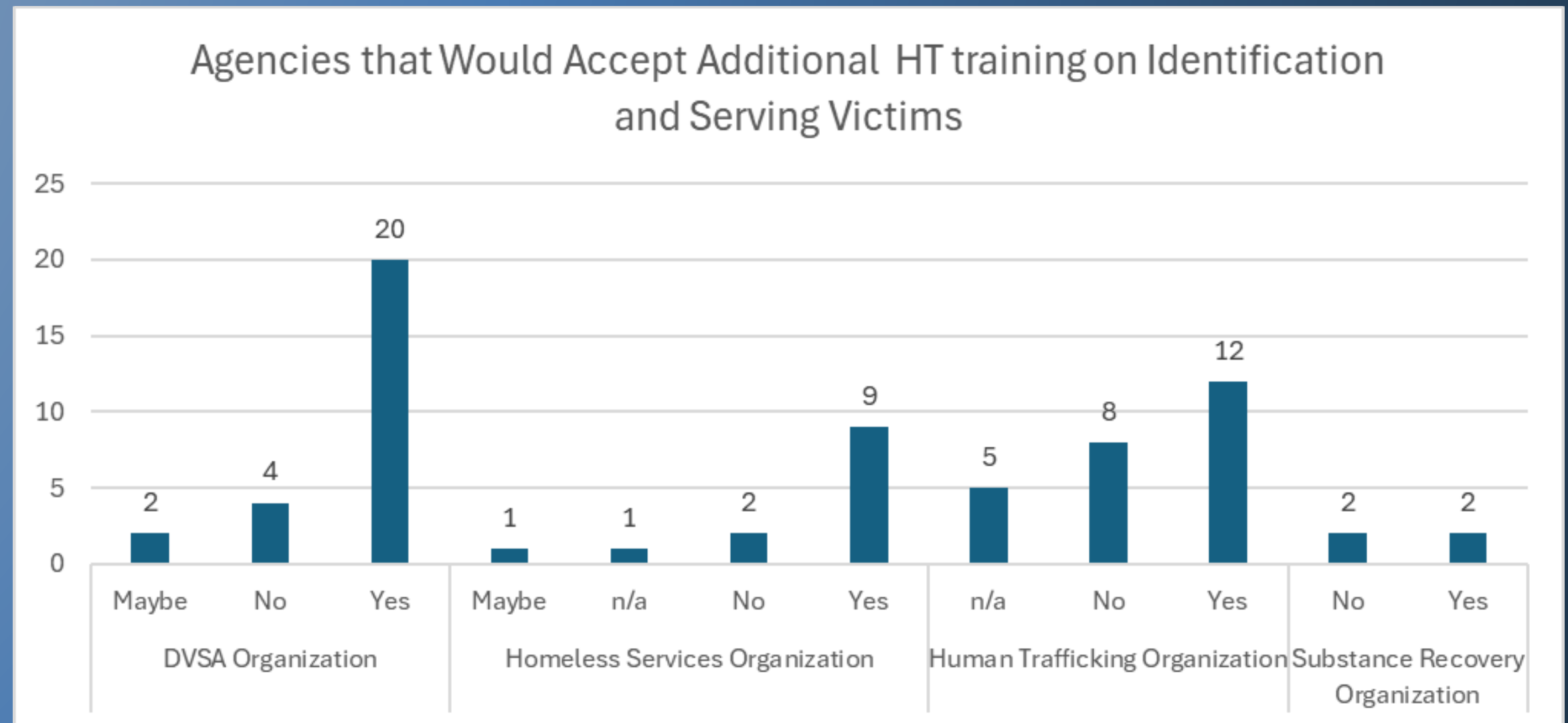


Q33: Does your agency use curricula for residents in the housing program?

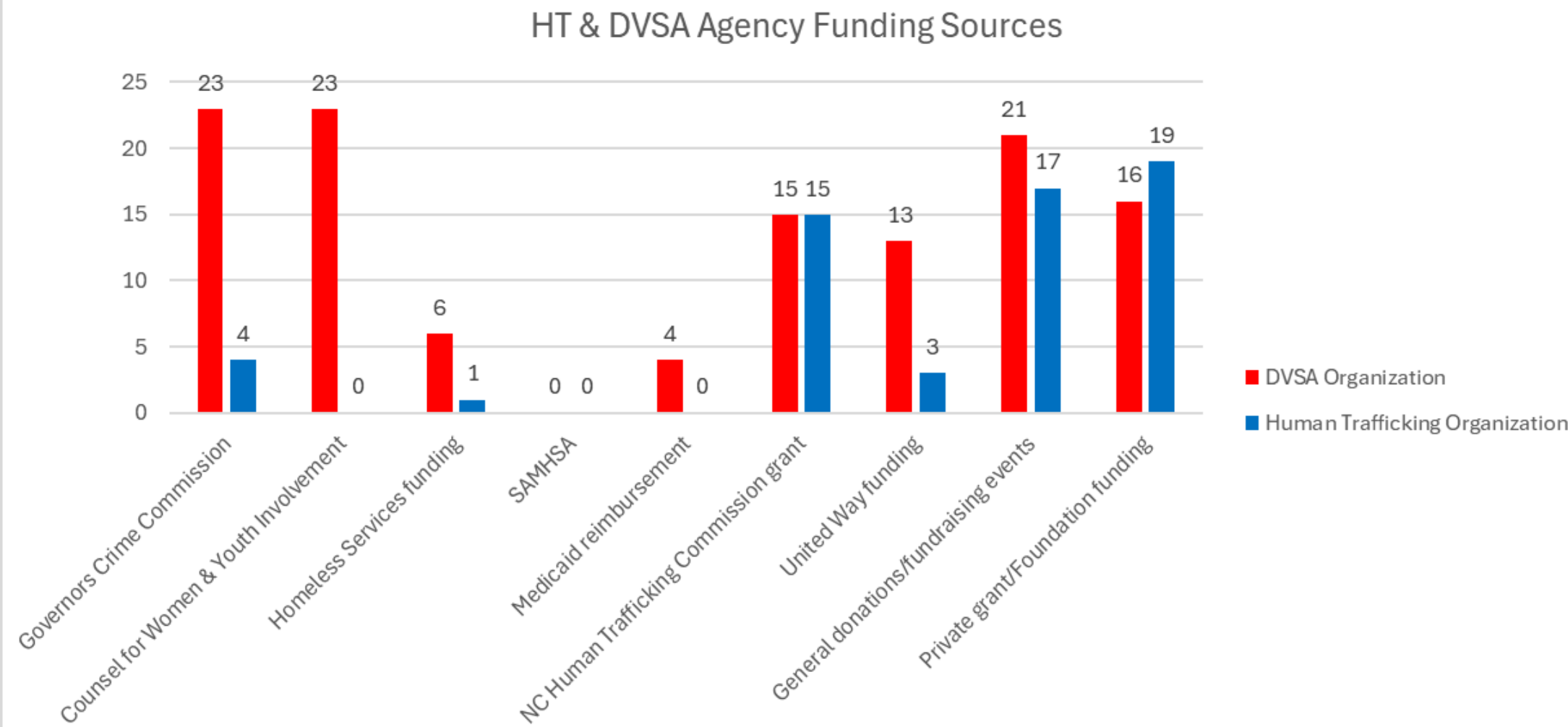
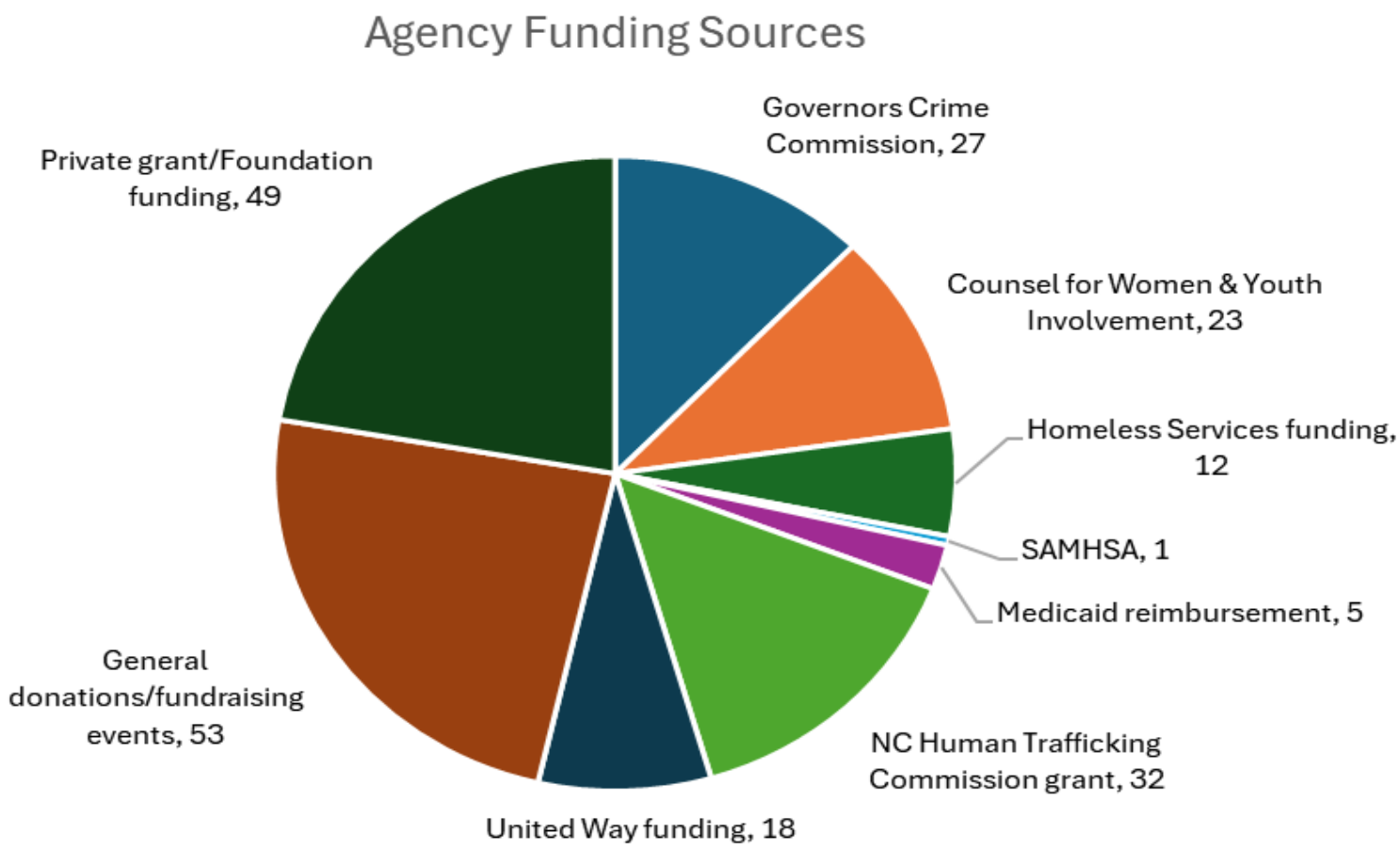
Please name the curricula your agency uses. Curriculum can be a series or compilation of materials such as books, workbooks, textbooks, guided journals, videos, and websites. Some examples are, Narcotics Anonymous and Alcoholics Anonymous materials, Seeking Safety by Lisa M. Najavits, Boundaries by Henry Cloud & John Townsend, Rebecca Bender's materials, The Body Keeps the Score, or Engedi. If your agency has developed its own curriculum, please describe it as well.



Q34: Would your organization like more training on human trafficking identification and or serving victims of trafficking?



Q35: How is your program funded?



Discussion

Most organizations do not provide HT dedicated beds, unless HT is their main focus. The total number of beds was 2570 , with 296 available at the time of the survey. Most agencies have multiple types of funding sources, with 14 agencies that had one funding source. Out of NC's 100 counties, 73 counties were shown to serve victims, with 20 agencies serving statewide and 20 outside of NC. NC's furthest Western and North Eastern counties did not have dedicated agencies.

Gaps

We sent out the survey to 218 agencies offering housing services and an additional 1500 people in the career field who could send the survey to potential housing organizations we unintentionally left out. $68/218 = 31.2\%$ and $68/1718 = 4\%$. There is further work to be done to have a more complete understanding of NC's housing capability for HT victims. We received responses from agencies that indicated they served other states, which implies that agencies in other states may serve NC that we do not know. We did target the survey to foster care or group homes, which could also give a better understanding of the state of housing for HT victims.

Conclusion

- There is more work to do for HT victims, specifically for males, people in rural locations, and victims of labor trafficking.
- Recommendations to better help victims escape HT situations would include a more significant number of beds/housing programs dedicated to HT victims.
- Organizations should attempt to diversify their funding sources to grow in size and scope. Respondents that are specific to human trafficking report fewer funding sources than other organizations.
- Human trafficking organizations own property at lower percentages than homeless services and domestic violence / sexual assault agencies.
- Standardization for length of stay in programs could prevent victims from moving from program to program.