



Let there be light: Evaluation of UCSD Night-Safety Services



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INTRODUCTION

- Night safety is important for ensuring community wellbeing in a rapidly expanding and accessible campus
- Lighting surveys conducted periodically, but paper-based format limits timeliness and usefulness
- Perception and awareness of UCSD's night safety services and programs has never been examined

OBJECTIVES

- Examine students' **feelings of safety** at night
- Assess students' **perception, awareness, and usage** of night safety services and safety practices
- Determine campus feasibility of maintaining a centralized geo-mapping system for lighting and safety concerns

METHODS

- **10/19 - 01/20:** Developed ArcGIS Quickcapture app to geolocate campus safety concerns
 - Light fixtures out, dark areas, obstructing foliage, uneven surfaces, discolored lights, etc.
- **01/20 - 03/20:** Conducted Qualtrics survey of student perception based on time-location sampling (**n = 613**)

RESULTS

- **584** total points of concern (388 light fixtures out, 104 dark spots, 48 obstructing foliage)
- School of Medicine & Muir College had highest density of concerns
- Almost half perceived that campus night lighting is not adequate
- Female students were more likely to report feeling unsafe on campus compared to male students
- First-year students were less likely to have used escort programs than their upperclassmen peers

CONCLUSIONS

- The university should improve campus lighting and safety programs to increase student perception of safety
- A centralized GIS database for the campus would streamline lighting maintenance and reporting of safety concerns
- Additional measures should be taken to target specific groups of students who feel unsafe on campus to ensure awareness of available campus resources



FIGURES & FINDINGS

Map Legend

Points of Concern

- Construction Zone Impacts
- Dark Spot/Area
- Light Fixture Out
- Obstructing Foliage
- Uneven Surface
- Yellow/Discolored Light

Lighting Condition

- Good Lighting
- Poor Lighting

Student Response: Unsafe Location

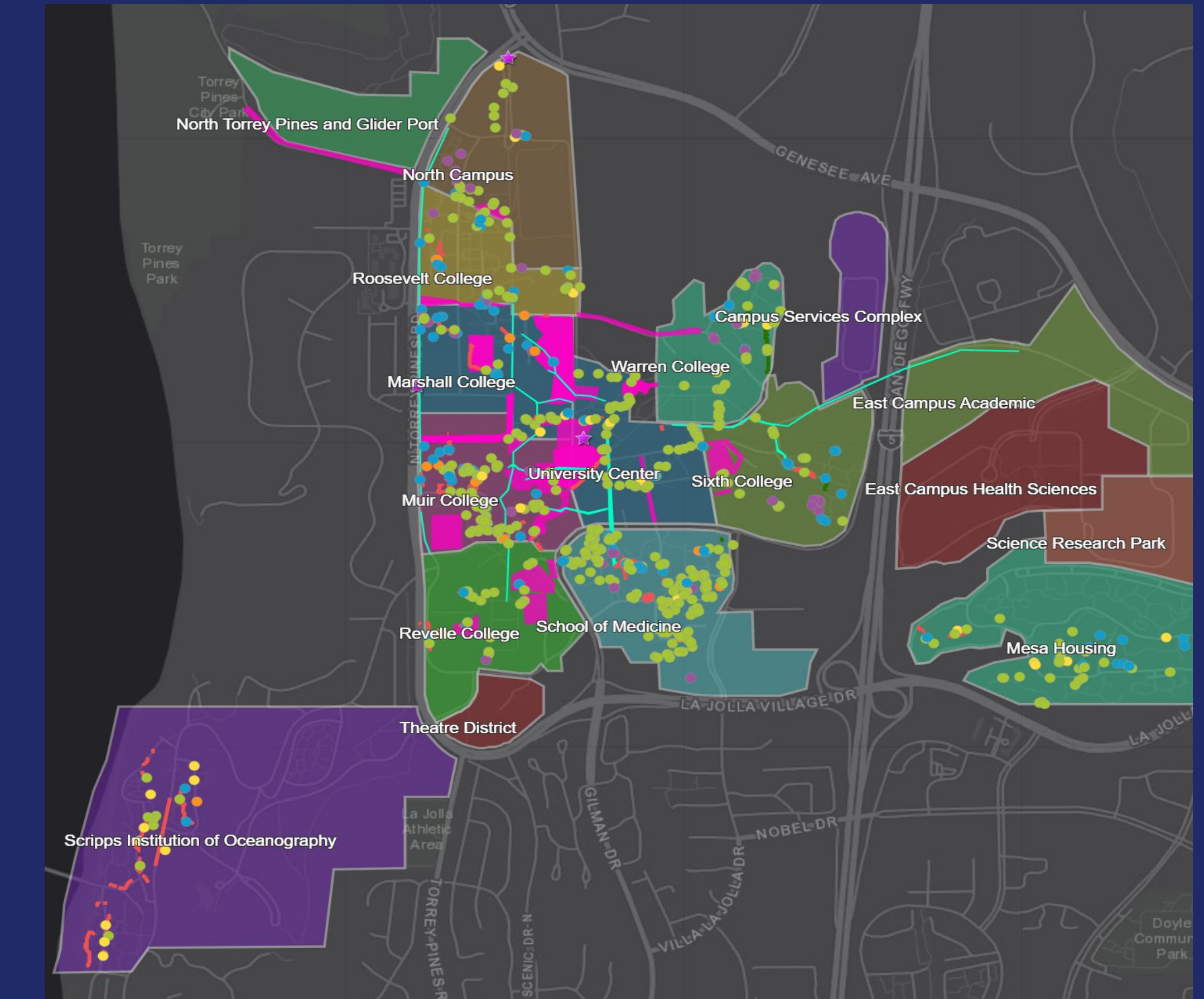
- Unsafe Location

Student Response: Unsafe Pathway

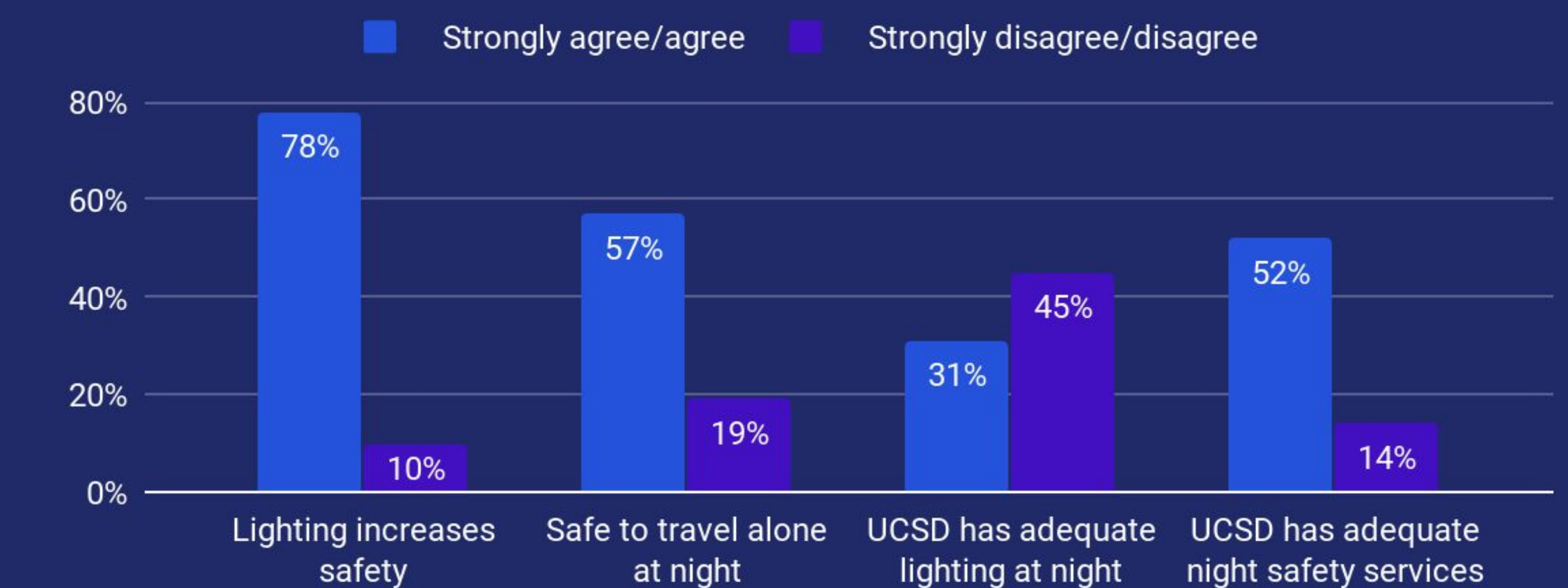
- Unsafe Pathway

Student Response: Unsafe Area

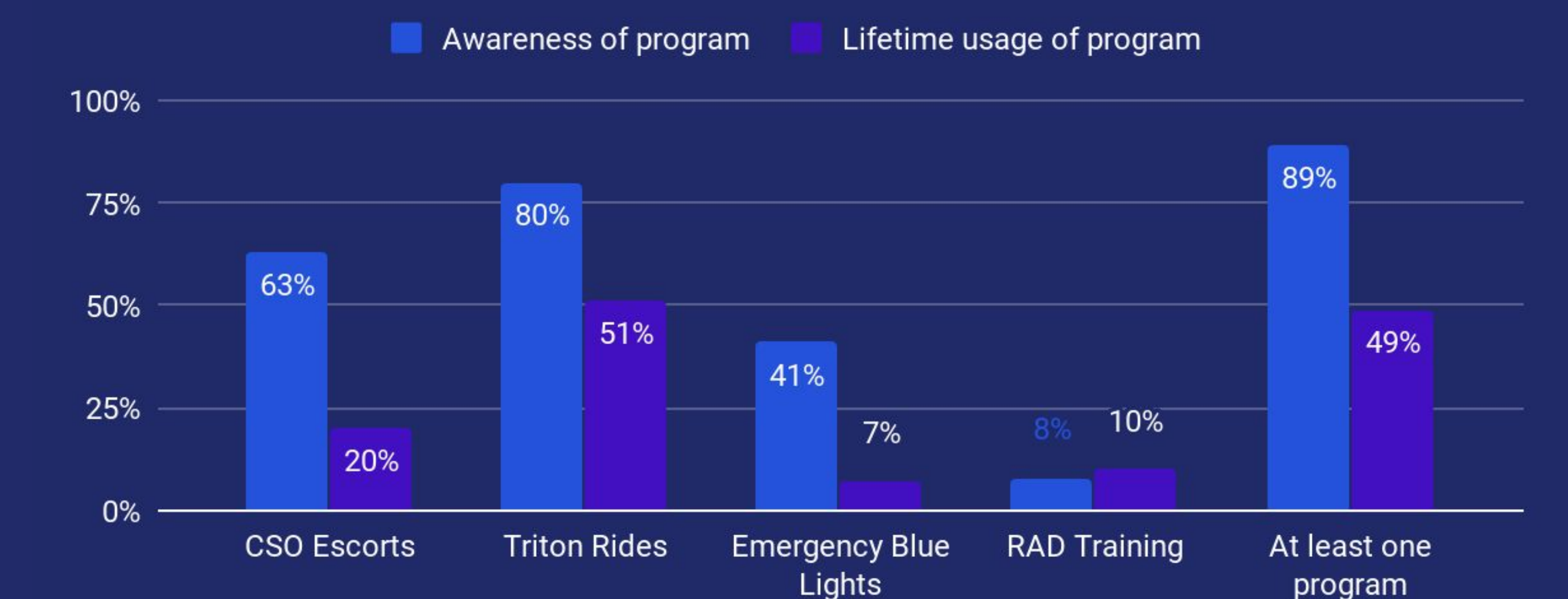
- Unsafe Area



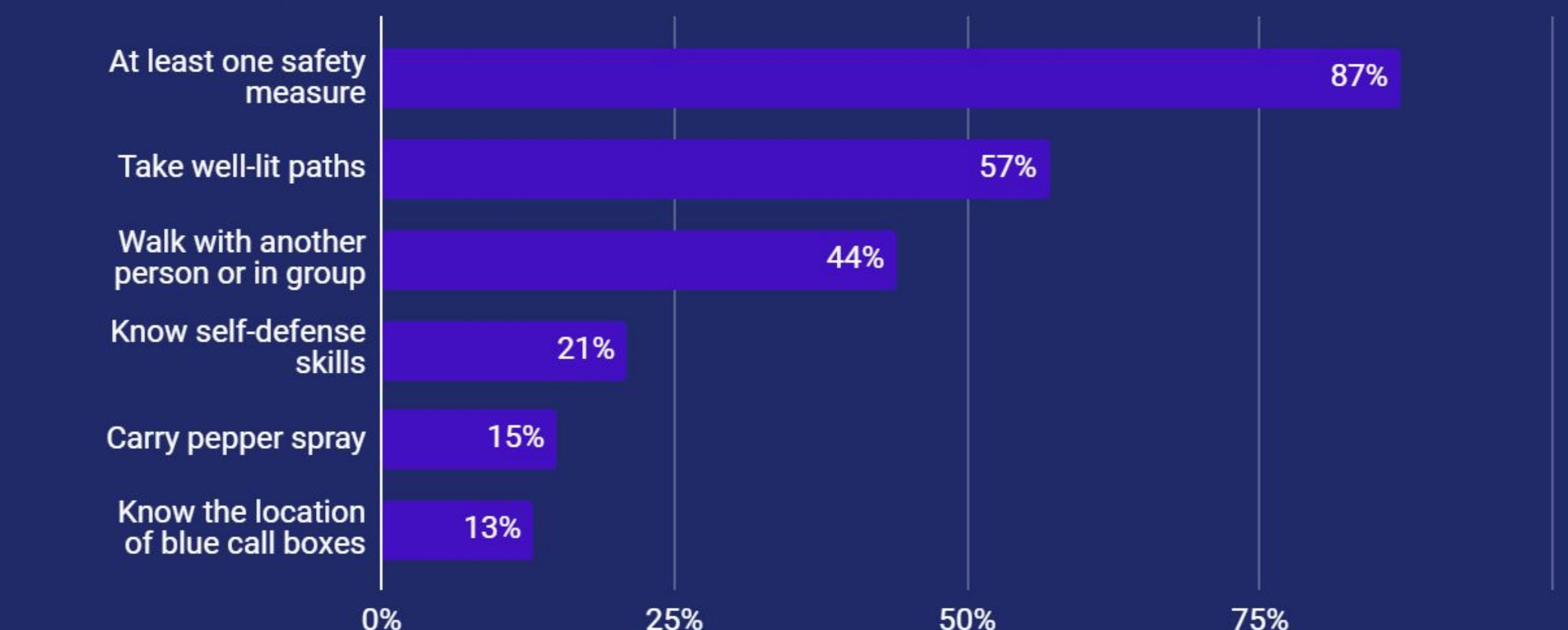
Student perception of night safety



Student awareness & usage of safety programs



Student practice of various safety measures



Evaluation was done in collaboration with...

