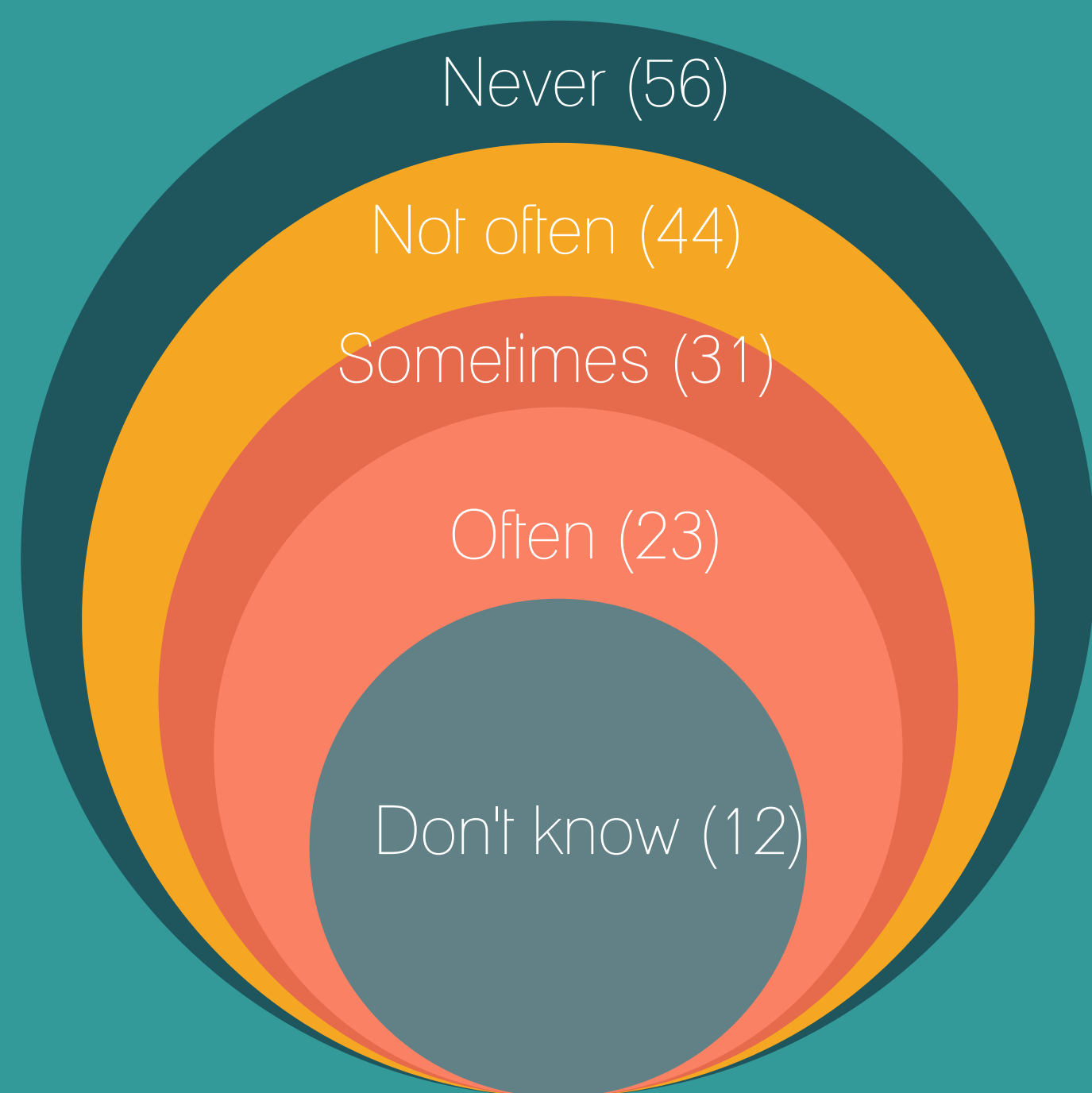


GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN RENTAL HOUSING COMMUNITIES OF PHNOM PENH

Findings from a research study by Klahaan, PIN and UPWD in February 2019*

Factsheet 3/4

Prevalence of sexual harassment in public spaces



Some 60% of respondents think that harassment takes place in nearby public spaces (streets, alleyways), though the frequency varied widely: 26% felt it did not happen often, whereas only 14% felt it was a frequent occurrence.

The household survey data indicates that the prevalence of sexual harassment in an area correlates with how safe that area is perceived by its residents. For instance, the area with the highest reported levels of sexual harassment was also considered the 'least safe' for women at night.

"WOMEN FEEL UNSAFE, ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO USE SHARED BATHROOMS ON ANOTHER FLOOR"

Community Leader, Chrang Chamres

Reported risks of bystander intervention:

Of note is the common perception that it is highly dangerous, especially for women, to try and interfere in cases of GBV that they witness. The risks posed by attempting bystander intervention were mentioned in a number of responses, including one woman who was physically beaten after trying to prevent her neighbour from being assaulted by her husband.

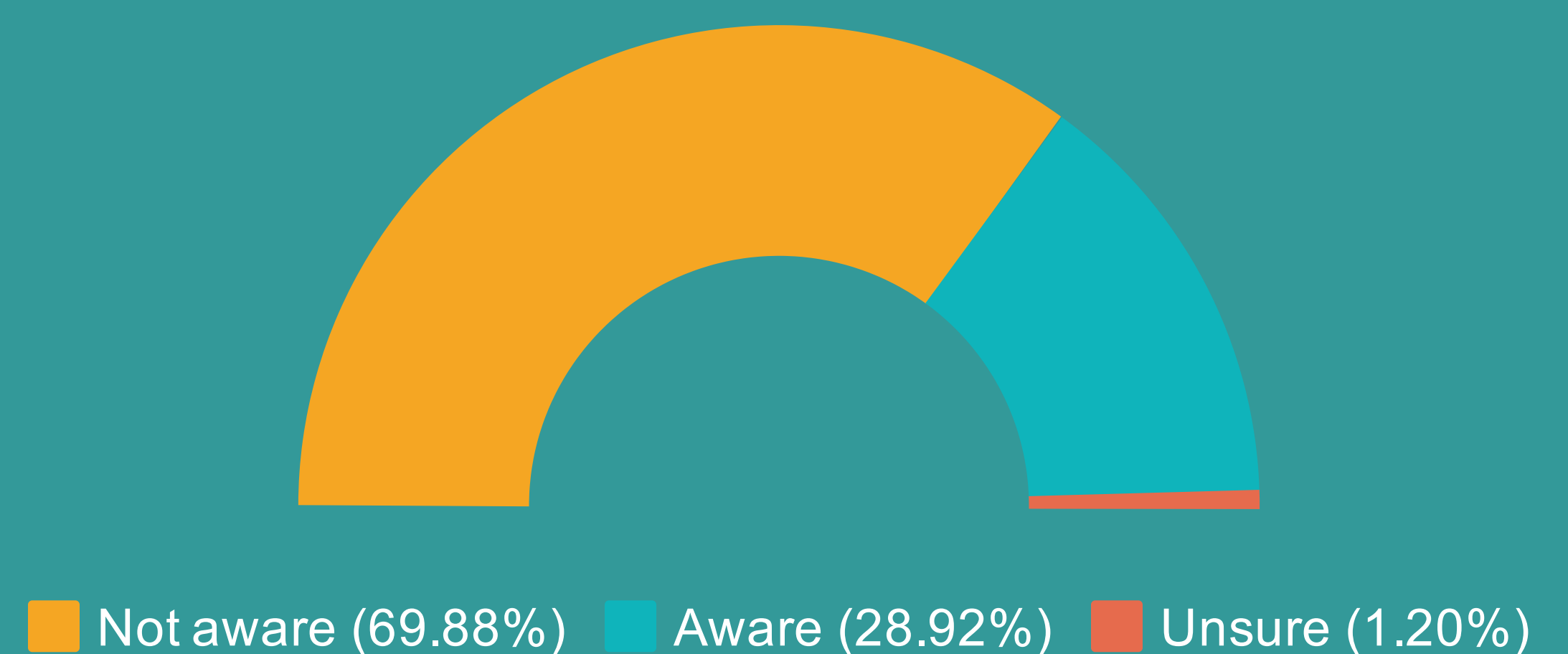
"IT IS UNSAFE INSIDE THE ROOM. RAPISTS AND THIEVES COULD BREAK INTO OUR ROOM AS IT IS NOT WELL-BUILT."

Male FGD respondent, Choeung Ek

Awareness of instances of violence/ harassment occurring in areas around local rental rooms

Some 48 respondents (29%) indicated that they were personally aware of or had witnessed violence or harassment in the public areas around local rental rooms. This is 10 respondents fewer than those who reported having witnessed domestic violence.

This means that while tenants were more fearful of 'stranger danger,' (as per Factsheet 1), in reality they were more likely to personally witness domestic violence in their own communities.



*Study consisted of 167 household surveys, six focus group discussions and 20 key informant interviews. For full methodology and findings, you can find the report online at www.klahaan.org/publications