

The
key

Summer Report 2015

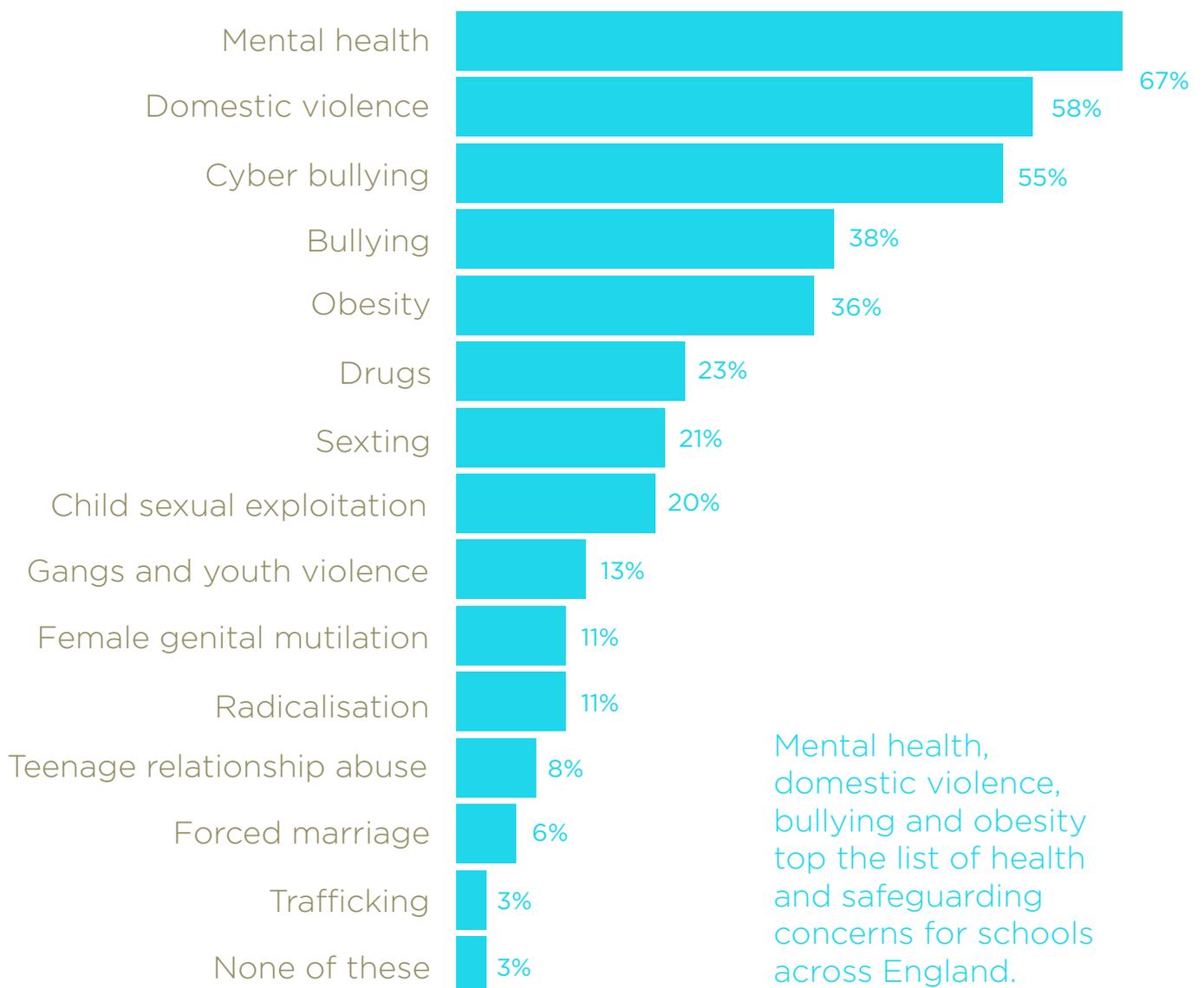
**School leaders' concerns
about pupil wellbeing**

School leaders voice concerns over pupil wellbeing in The Key's annual member survey

The Key surveyed its members to learn about their views on pupil wellbeing. School leaders were asked to select which out of a possible 14 health and safeguarding issues were concerning them.

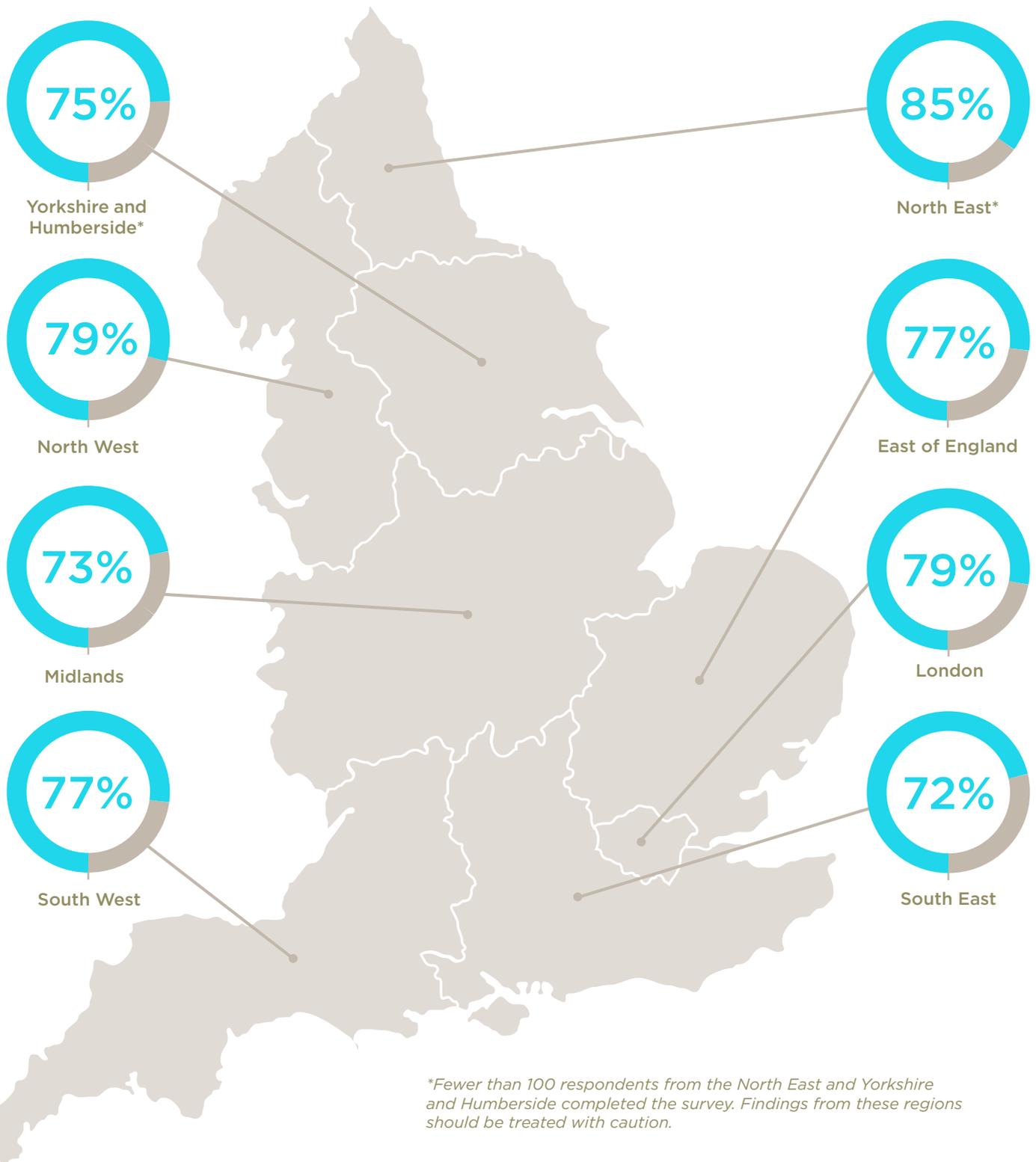
Summary of findings: national

We asked: Which of the following health and safeguarding issues that may affect your pupils are you concerned about?



Mental health: regional responses

Pupil mental health is consistently an issue of concern for the highest number of leaders across school types, phases and English regions.

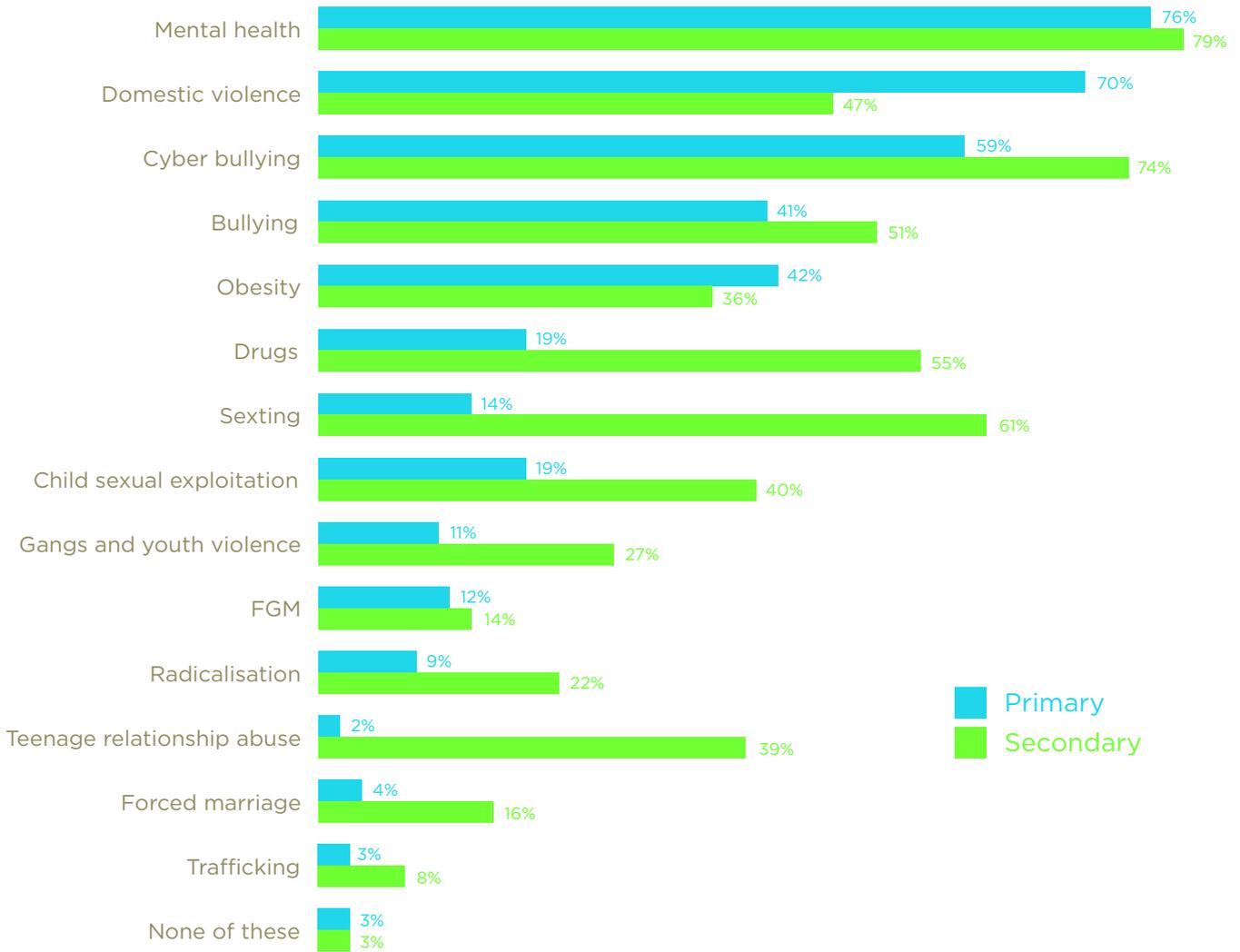


Mental health concerns aren't just an issue for pupils – school leaders are also feeling the strain. More than **three in five** (64%) school leaders say their mental health has been negatively affected by their role, and more than **three-quarters** (78%) say the same about their family life.

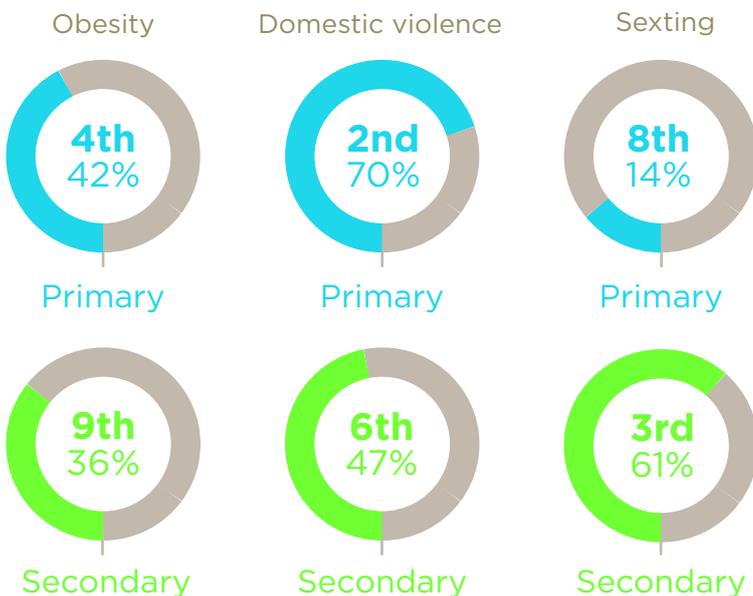
Read more in our State of Education report at www.thekeysupport.com/state-of-education-15

Results by school phase

Primary vs secondary



Biggest variances between primary and secondary leaders

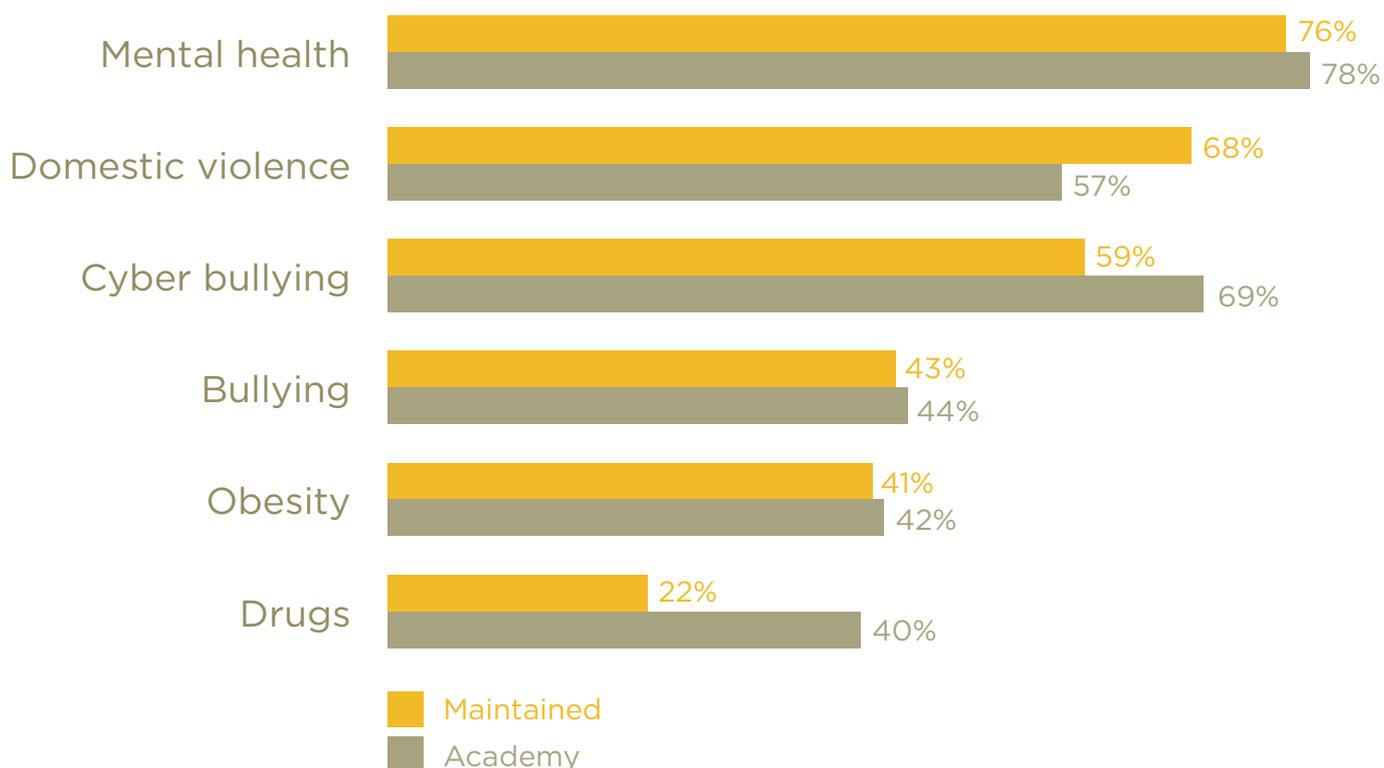


While **sexting** and **drugs** rank higher as concerns for **secondary school leaders** (61% and 55% respectively), **obesity** ranks higher among **primary school leaders** (42%)

Results by school type

Maintained vs academy

More than **two-thirds** (69%) of academy leaders surveyed are concerned about cyber bullying, second only to mental health.



“ If we are not careful a dangerous cycle will develop; students worrying and teachers suffering as they worry about not having the specialist skills to support students in need of mental health care.

Headteacher at a secondary school and sixth form in the West Midlands

“ The biggest issue is accessing what we need to support the children and young people in our care. We may identify a problem, but getting the expertise, advice or actual intervention is a problem.

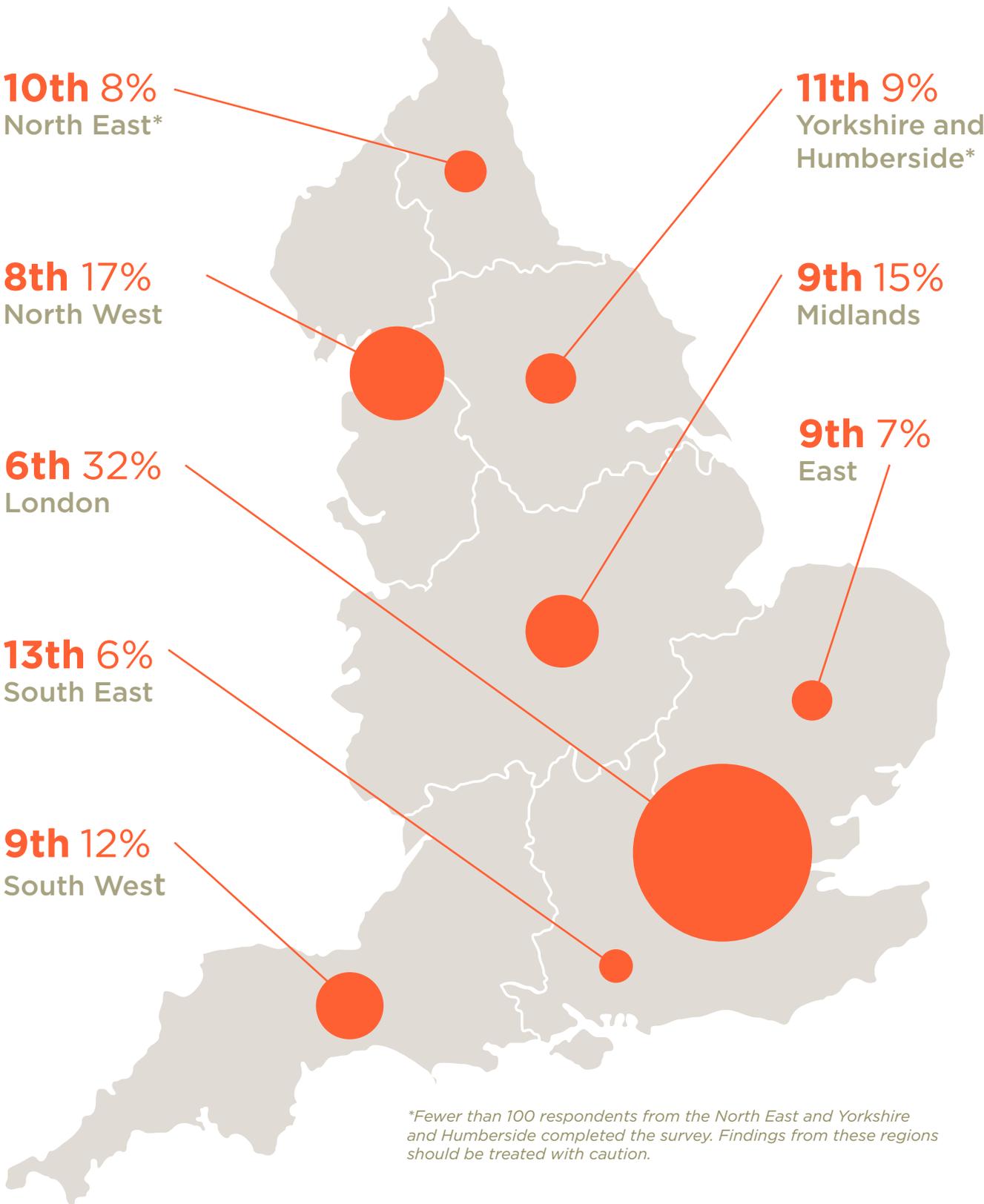
Associate headteacher at a secondary school in North London

Results by region

School leaders in London are more concerned about gangs and youth violence (32%), female genital mutilation (27%) and radicalisation (26%) than those in any other region, with these issues ranking 6th, 8th and 9th respectively.

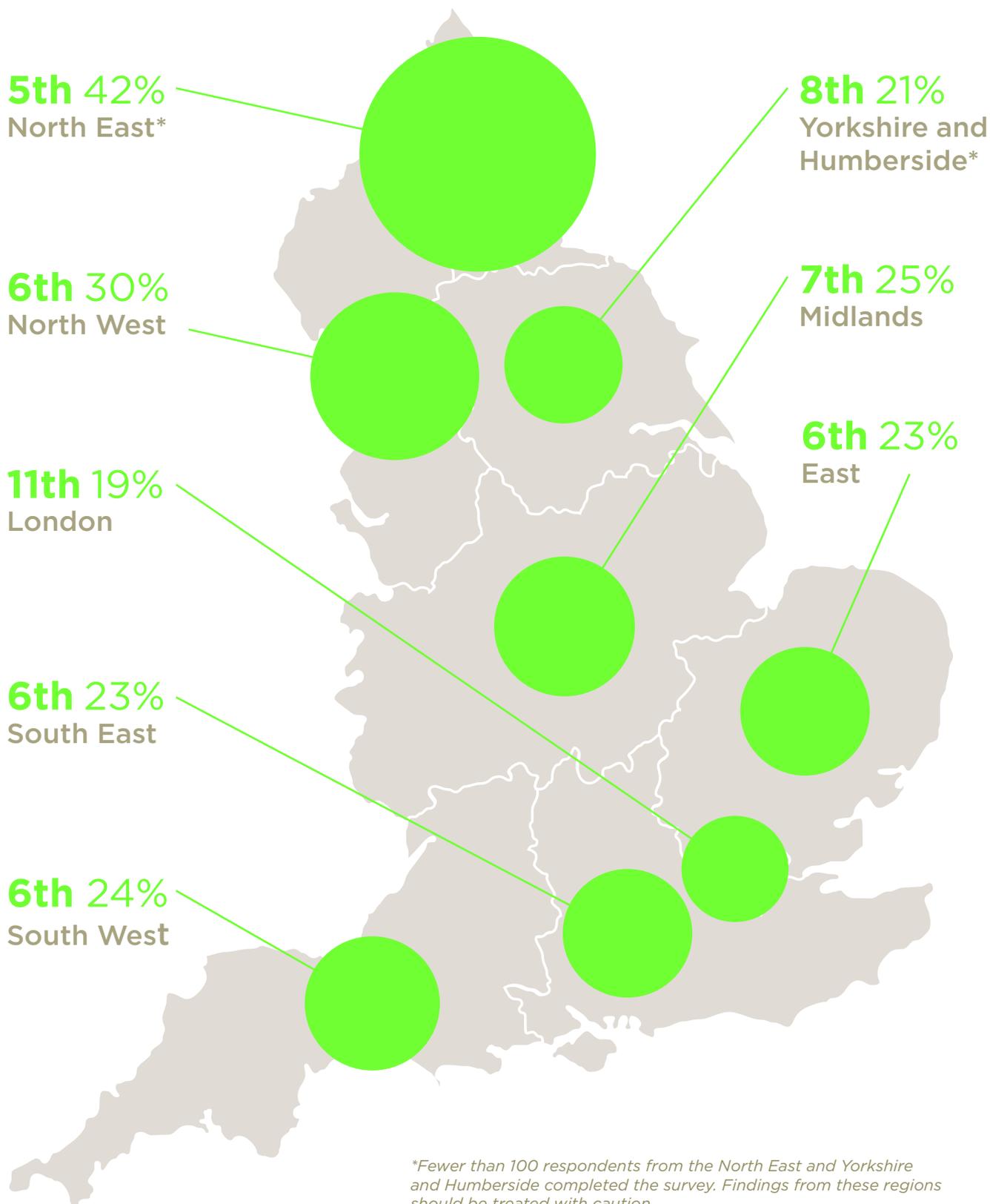
In the wider south east region, however, gangs and youth violence and radicalisation ranked 13th and 14th respectively, with 6% of school leaders indicating these as areas of concern.

1. Regional concern over gangs and youth violence affecting pupils



2. Regional concern over drugs affecting pupils

Drugs are of concern to school leaders across the country, ranking as the 6th most worrying issue for respondents in most regions. A notable exception is London – the only region where drugs is ranked outside of the top 10 (11th).



"I find school leaders' high levels of concern about mental health and domestic violence particularly worrying. We cannot expect school staff to play the role of mental health professionals, social workers or police officers, but pupils need to feel safe and happy in order to learn. Many schools are doing great work in putting pupil wellbeing initiatives in place, but they cannot protect children alone."

Fern Barber, researcher specialising in safeguarding at The Key

"We have seen a sustained interest in safeguarding issues from school leaders over the last year, mostly in response to the publication of the Department for Education's latest statutory guidance on safeguarding. Checklists, training requirements and interview questions to ask about safeguarding were among the most popular requests from school leaders in this area."

Nathan Easey, insights manager at The Key

"Such widespread concern among school leaders about pupils' wellbeing should be a wake-up call to society as a whole. Mental health issues, domestic violence, bullying and drugs have implications that reach far beyond the school gates, and can have a serious impact on the future prospects of those children affected."

Fergal Roche, chief executive of The Key

About the survey

A sample of 14,507 school leaders from The Key's membership database was invited to take part in an online survey in February 2015. 1,180 school leaders completed the survey.

The survey findings represent the views of school leaders working in schools registered with The Key. The data has been weighted to match the population profile of schools in England in terms of region, school phase and school type. The profile of The Key's membership database is similar to the profile of schools across England.

The survey was designed, administered and analysed by The Key. Ipsos MORI provided advice on sampling, questionnaire design and weighting.

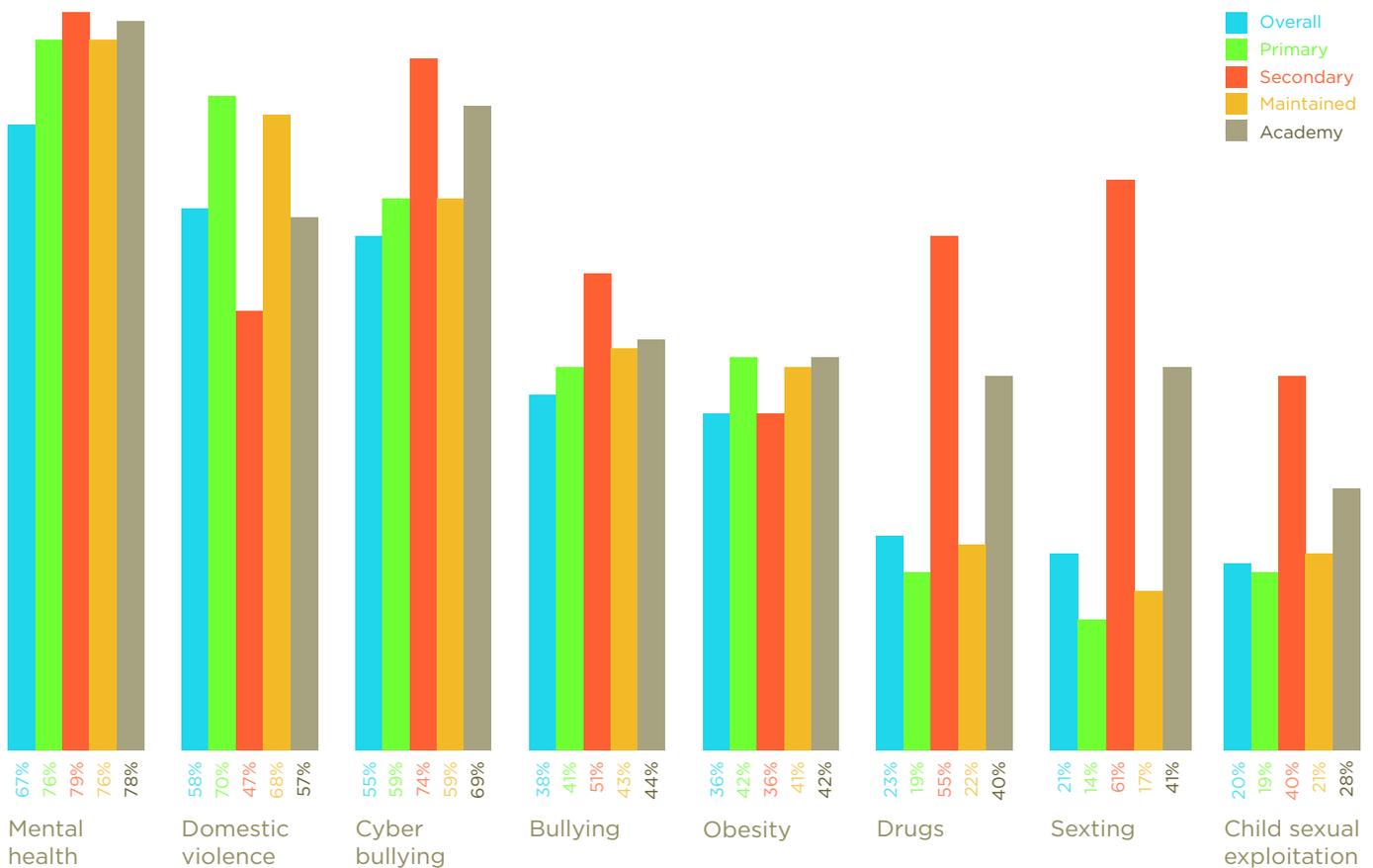
'School leaders' include headteachers, assistant and deputy headteachers, school business managers, heads of year/department and other staff in senior leadership teams in schools.

About The Key

The Key provides impartial, trusted leadership and management support to over a third of the schools in England and Wales. Our high-quality information, guidance and events help busy school leaders and governors work with increased confidence, knowledge and capacity. At the heart of everything we do is a passionate commitment to supporting schools in delivering better outcomes for children and young people. For more information please go to www.thekeysupport.com

Appendix

1. Detailed findings by school phase and type



Most concern	OVERALL	PRIMARY	SECONDARY	MAINTAINED	ACADEMY
1st	Mental health (67%)	Mental health (76%)	Mental health (79%)	Mental health (76%)	Mental health (78%)
2nd	Domestic violence (58%)	Domestic violence (70%)	Cyber bullying (74%)	Domestic violence (68%)	Cyber bullying (69%)
3rd	Cyber bullying (55%)	Cyber bullying (59%)	Sexting (61%)	Cyber bullying (59%)	Domestic violence (57%)
4th	Bullying (38%)	Obesity (42%)	Drugs (55%)	Bullying (43%)	Bullying (44%)
5th	Obesity (36%)	Bullying (41%)	Bullying (51%)	Obesity (41%)	Obesity (42%)
6th	Drugs (23%)	Drugs (19%)	Domestic violence (47%)	Drugs (22%)	Sexting (41%)
7th	Sexting (21%)	Child sexual exploitation (19%)	Child sexual exploitation (40%)	Child sexual exploitation (21%)	Drugs (40%)
8th	Child sexual exploitation (20%)	Sexting (14%)	Teenage relationship abuse (39%)	Sexting (17%)	Child sexual exploitation (28%)
9th	Gangs and youth violence (13%)	Female genital mutilation (12%)	Obesity (36%)	Female genital mutilation (13%)	Teenage relationship abuse (20%)
10th	Female genital mutilation (11%)	Gangs and youth violence (11%)	Gangs and youth violence (27%)	Gangs and youth violence (13%)	Gangs and youth violence (18%)
11th	Radicalisation (11%)	Radicalisation (9%)	Radicalisation (22%)	Radicalisation (10%)	Radicalisation (15%)
12th	Teenage relationship abuse (8%)	Forced marriage (4%)	Forced marriage (16%)	Forced marriage (5%)	Female genital mutilation (10%)
13th	Forced marriage (6%)	None of these (3%)	Female genital mutilation (14%)	Teenage relationship abuse (5%)	Forced marriage (10%)
14th	Trafficking (3%)	Trafficking (3%)	Trafficking (8%)	None of these (4%)	Trafficking (5%)
15th	None of these (3%)	Teenage relationship abuse (2%)	None of these (3%)	Trafficking (3%)	None of these (2%)

2. Detailed findings by region

Most concern	London	South East	South West	East	Midlands	North East*	North West	Yorkshire & Humberside*
1st	Mental health (79%)	Mental health (72%)	Mental health (77%)	Mental health (77%)	Mental health (73%)	Mental health (85%)	Mental health (79%)	Mental health (75%)
2nd	Domestic violence (69%)	Domestic violence (59%)	Domestic violence (66%)	Domestic violence (69%)	Cyber bullying (68%)	Domestic violence (75%)	Domestic violence (73%)	Domestic violence (68%)
3rd	Cyber bullying (63%)	Cyber bullying (55%)	Cyber bullying (62%)	Cyber bullying (62%)	Domestic violence (59%)	Cyber bullying (64%)	Cyber bullying (60%)	Cyber bullying (57%)
4th	Bullying (44%)	Bullying (38%)	Obesity (42%)	Bullying (54%)	Bullying (45%)	Obesity (56%)	Obesity (44%)	Bullying (41%)
5th	Obesity (42%)	Obesity (35%)	Bullying (40%)	Obesity (36%)	Obesity (42%)	Drugs (42%)	Bullying (41%)	Obesity (38%)
6th	Gangs and youth violence (32%)	Drugs (23%)	Drugs (24%)	Drugs (23%)	Child sexual exploitation (25%)	Bullying (40%)	Drugs (30%)	Sexting (27%)
7th	Sexting (29%)	Sexting (18%)	Child sexual exploitation (22%)	Child sexual exploitation (21%)	Drugs (25%)	Sexting (35%)	Child sexual exploitation (18%)	Child sexual exploitation (23%)
8th	Female genital mutilation (27%)	Child sexual exploitation (17%)	Sexting (22%)	Sexting (21%)	Sexting (19%)	Child sexual exploitation (35%)	Gangs and youth violence (17%)	Drugs (21%)
9th	Radicalisation (26%)	Female genital mutilation (10%)	Gangs and youth violence (12%)	Gangs and youth violence (7%)	Gangs and youth violence (15%)	Teenage relationship abuse (10%)	Sexting (15%)	Female genital mutilation (11%)
10th	Child sexual exploitation (23%)	Forced marriage (7%)	Female genital mutilation (12%)	Female genital mutilation (7%)	Radicalisation (12%)	Gangs and youth violence (8%)	Female genital mutilation (14%)	Radicalisation (11%)
11th	Drugs (19%)	Teenage relationship abuse (6%)	Teenage relationship abuse (9%)	Teenage relationship abuse (6%)	Female genital mutilation (10%)	Female genital mutilation (6%)	Radicalisation (14%)	Gangs and youth violence (9%)
12th	Teenage relationship abuse (11%)	None of these (6%)	Forced marriage (7%)	Radicalisation (5%)	Teenage relationship abuse (10%)	None of these (6%)	Forced marriage (6%)	Teenage relationship abuse (5%)
13th	Forced marriage (8%)	Gangs and youth violence (6%)	Radicalisation (7%)	Forced marriage (4%)	Forced marriage (6%)	Radicalisation (4%)	Teenage relationship abuse (5%)	Forced marriage (5%)
14th	Trafficking (5%)	Radicalisation (6%)	Trafficking (7%)	Trafficking (3%)	Trafficking (4%)	Forced marriage (2%)	None of these (4%)	None of these (2%)
15th	None of these (2%)	Trafficking (2%)	None of these (2%)	None of these (2%)	None of these (3%)	Trafficking (2%)	Trafficking (2%)	Trafficking (1%)

*Fewer than 100 respondents from the North East and Yorkshire and Humberside completed the survey. Findings from these regions should be treated with caution.