



STALNA KONFERENCIJA ROMSKIH UDRUŽENJA GRAĐANA
SAVAKHTUNI KONFERENCIA ROMANE DIZUTNENGE AMALIPE
STANDING CONFERENCE OF THE ROMA ASSOCIATIONS OF THE CITIZENS

SAFETY PROBLEMS IN ROMA COMMUNITY IN SERBIA

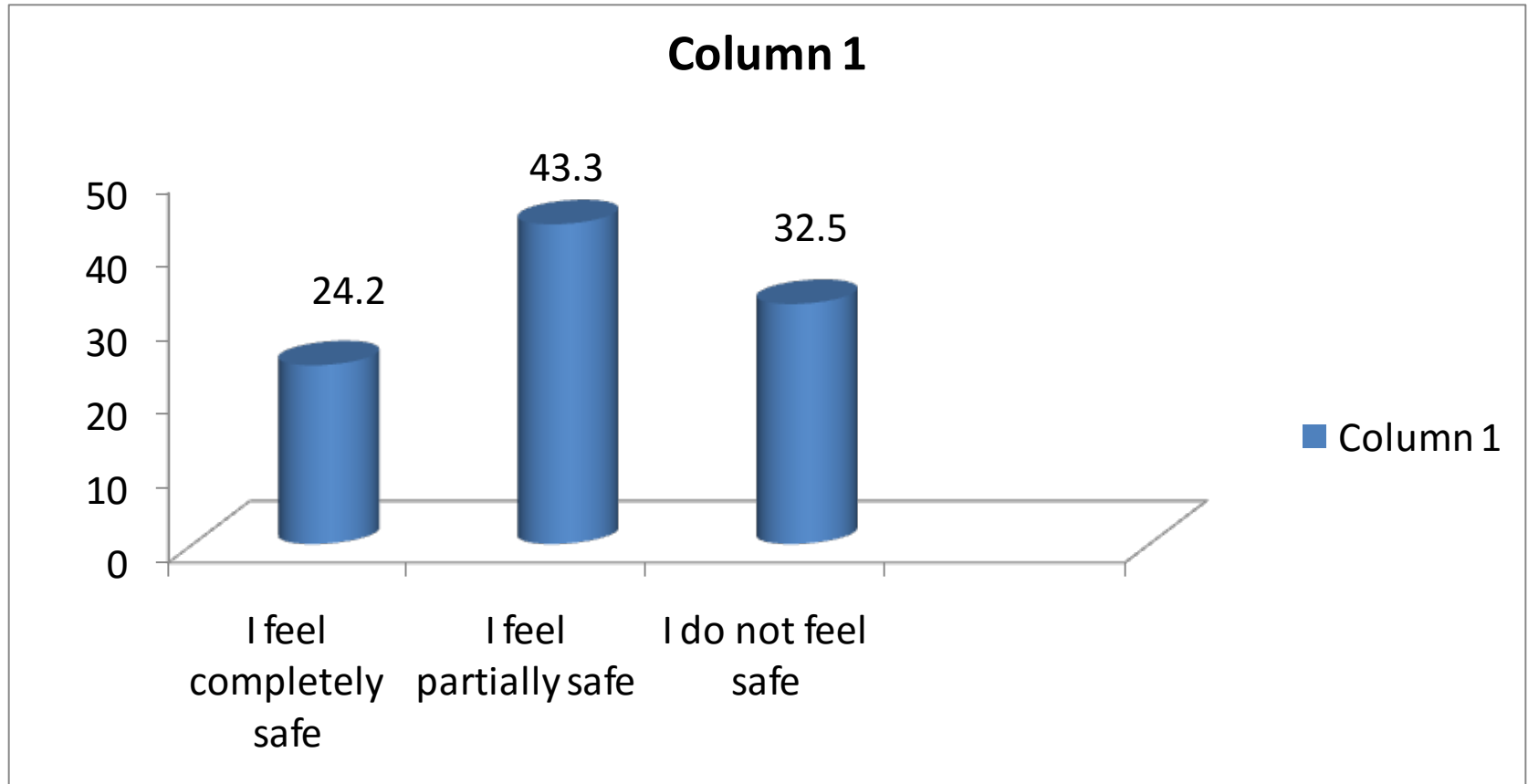
PODGORICA 2014

*Eng. Osman Balić
League of the Roma, Serbia*

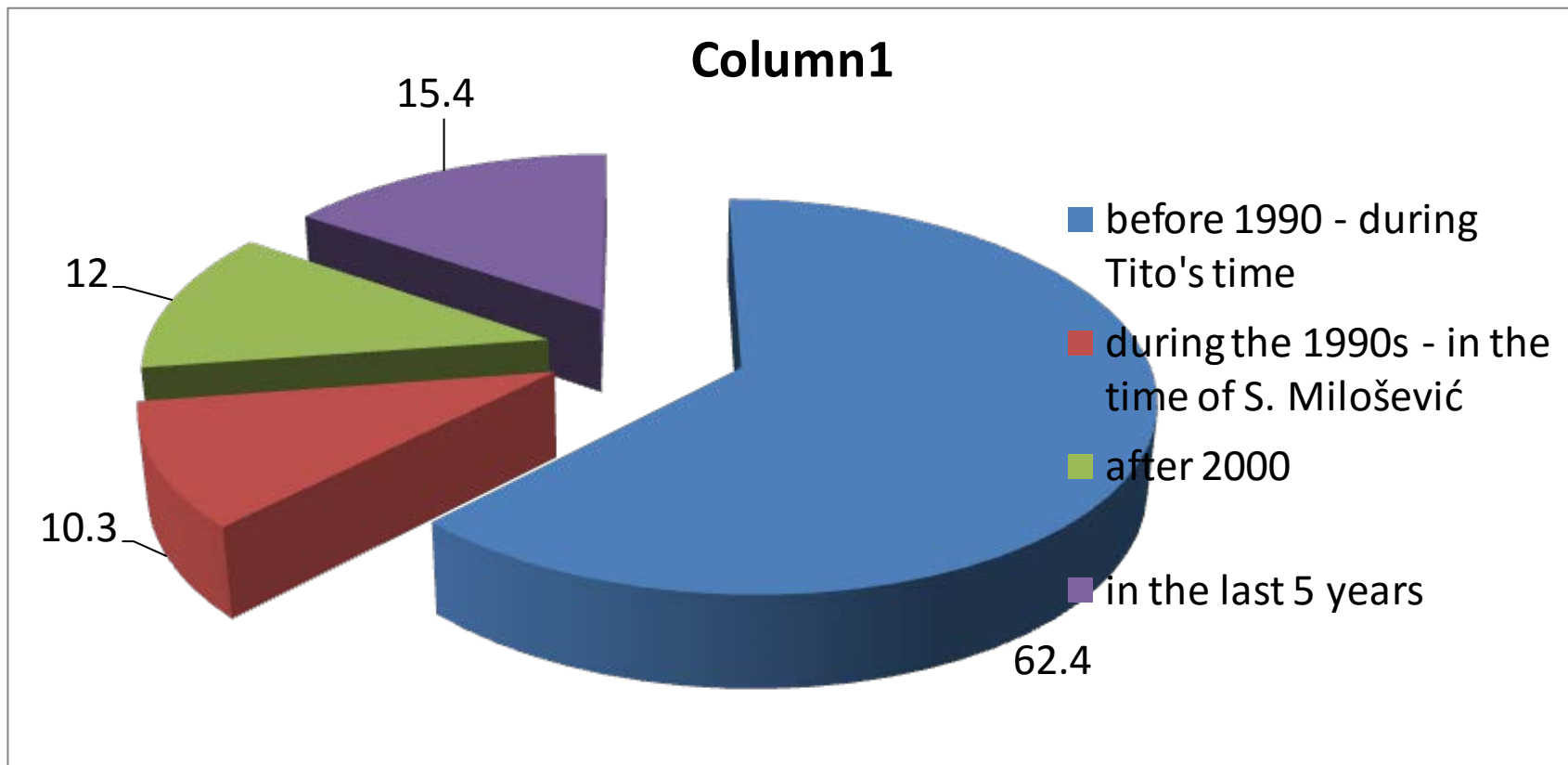
Main problems that characterise safety conditions of the Roma

- ▶ **Marginalisation of incidents** by political structures, which can be classified as:
 1. Intimidation
 2. Absence of adequate safety policies and their integration into wider political community
 3. Dysfunction of the courts and their ethnic bias
 4. Politicisation, instrumentalisation of media for the obstruction of reforms within the Decade of the Roma
 5. Political exclusivity and intolerance
 6. Absence of civil (and national) control of the work of police and intelligence services that burden political and public life
 7. Absence of political will and willingness to cooperate with the Roma civil organisations and to accept responsibility for tolerant and bias relation towards the perpetrators of ethnically motivated crimes

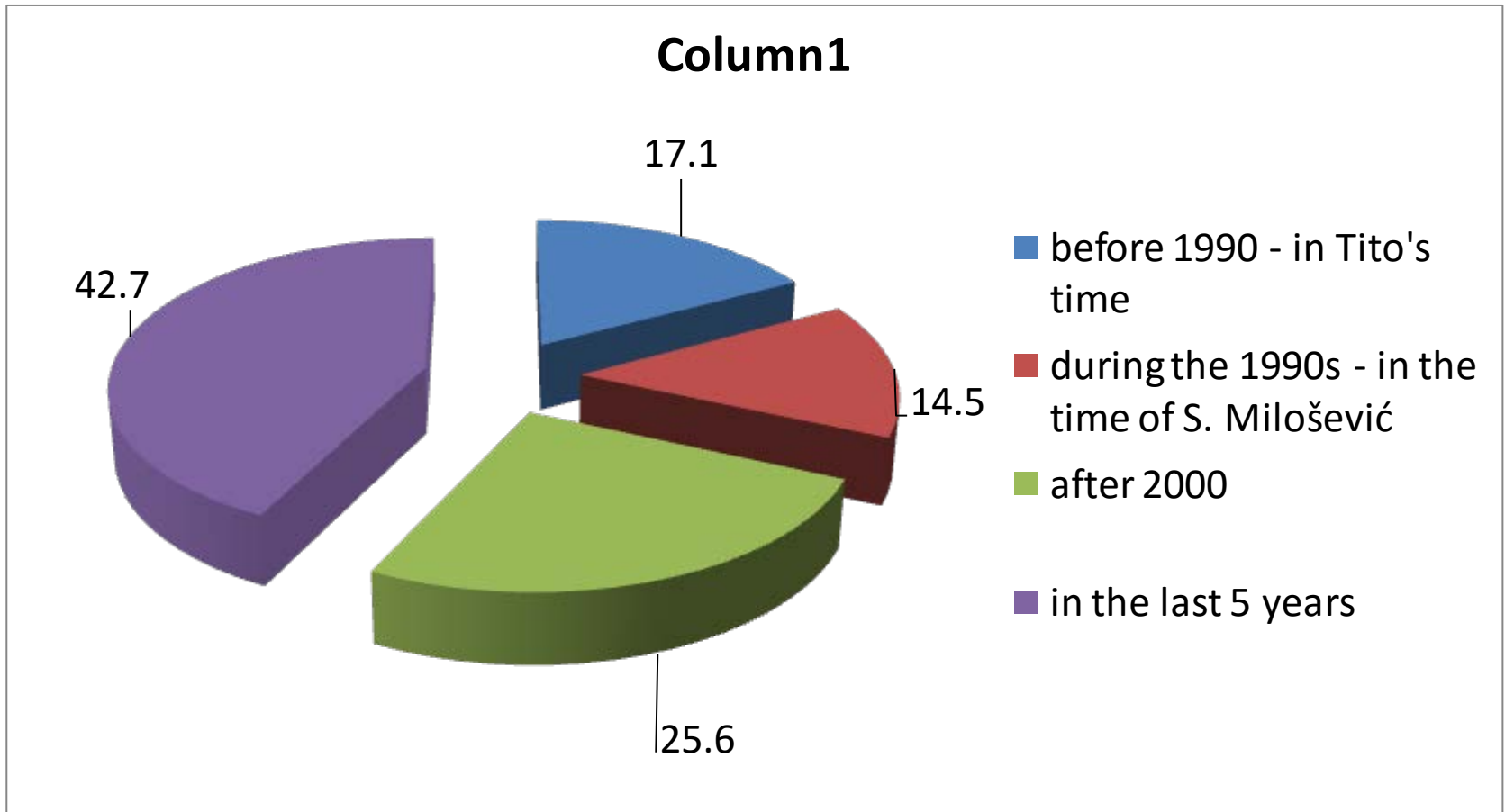
Do you personally feel safe?



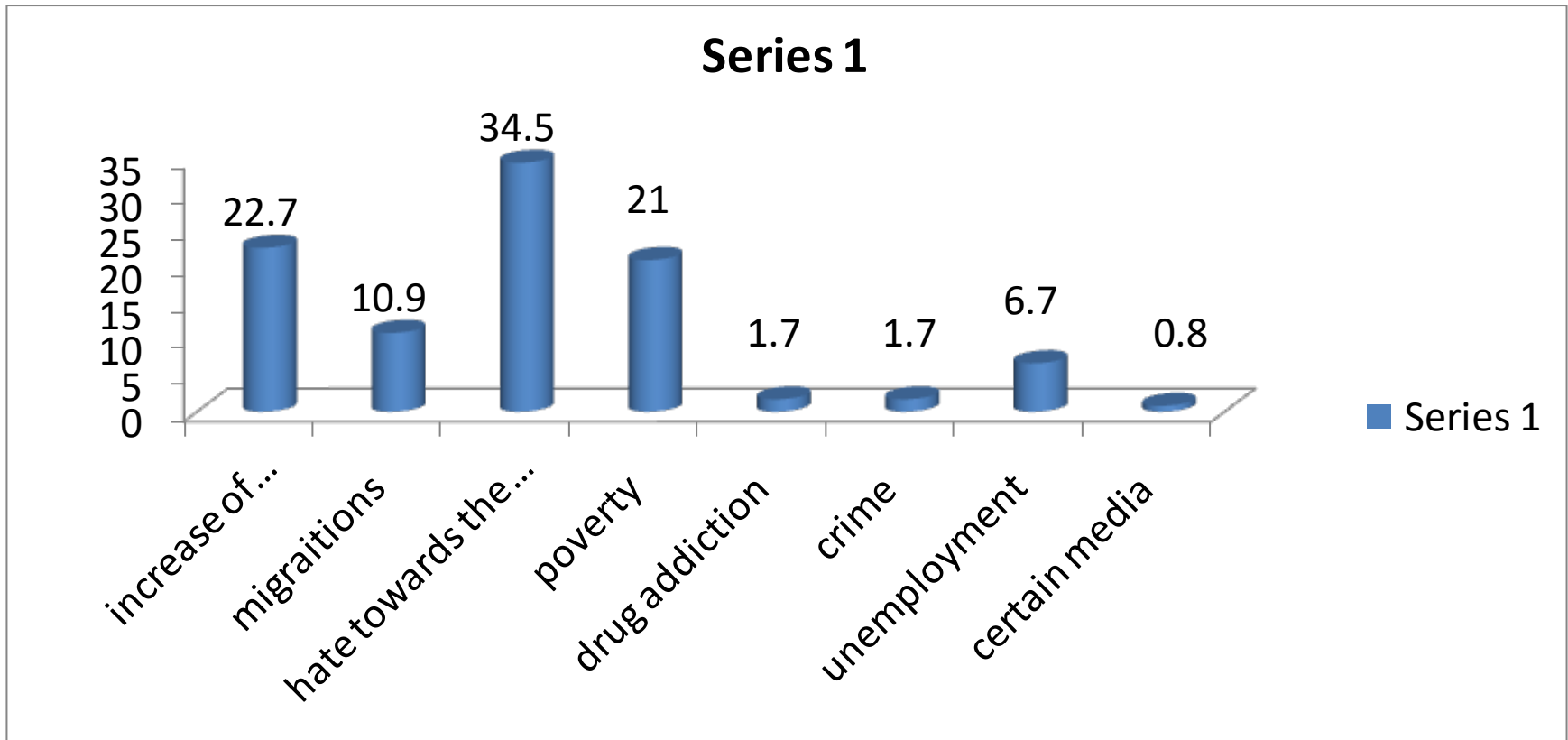
In which period did you feel the safest?



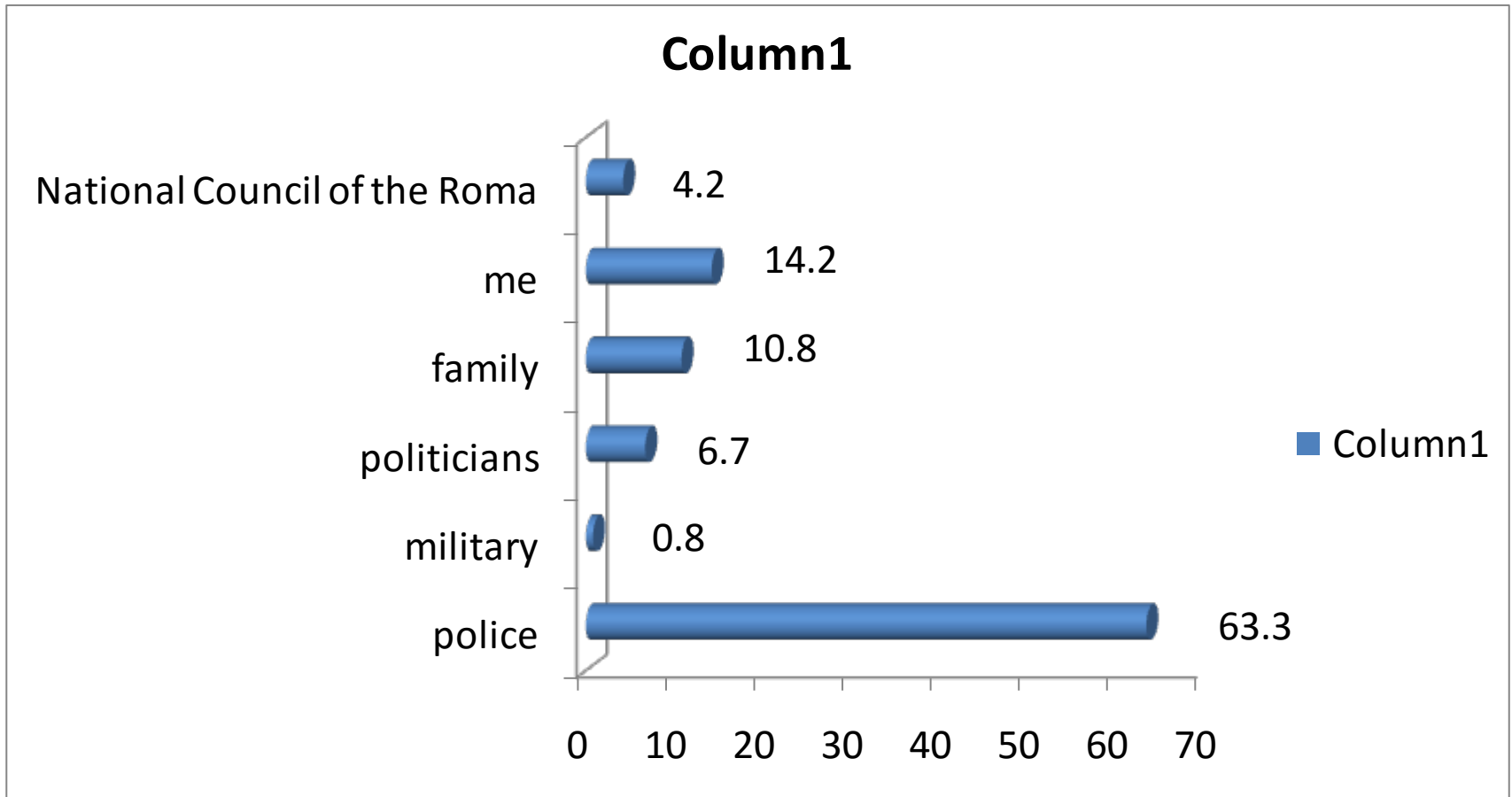
In which period did you feel the least safe?



What is the main threat for safety of the Roma?



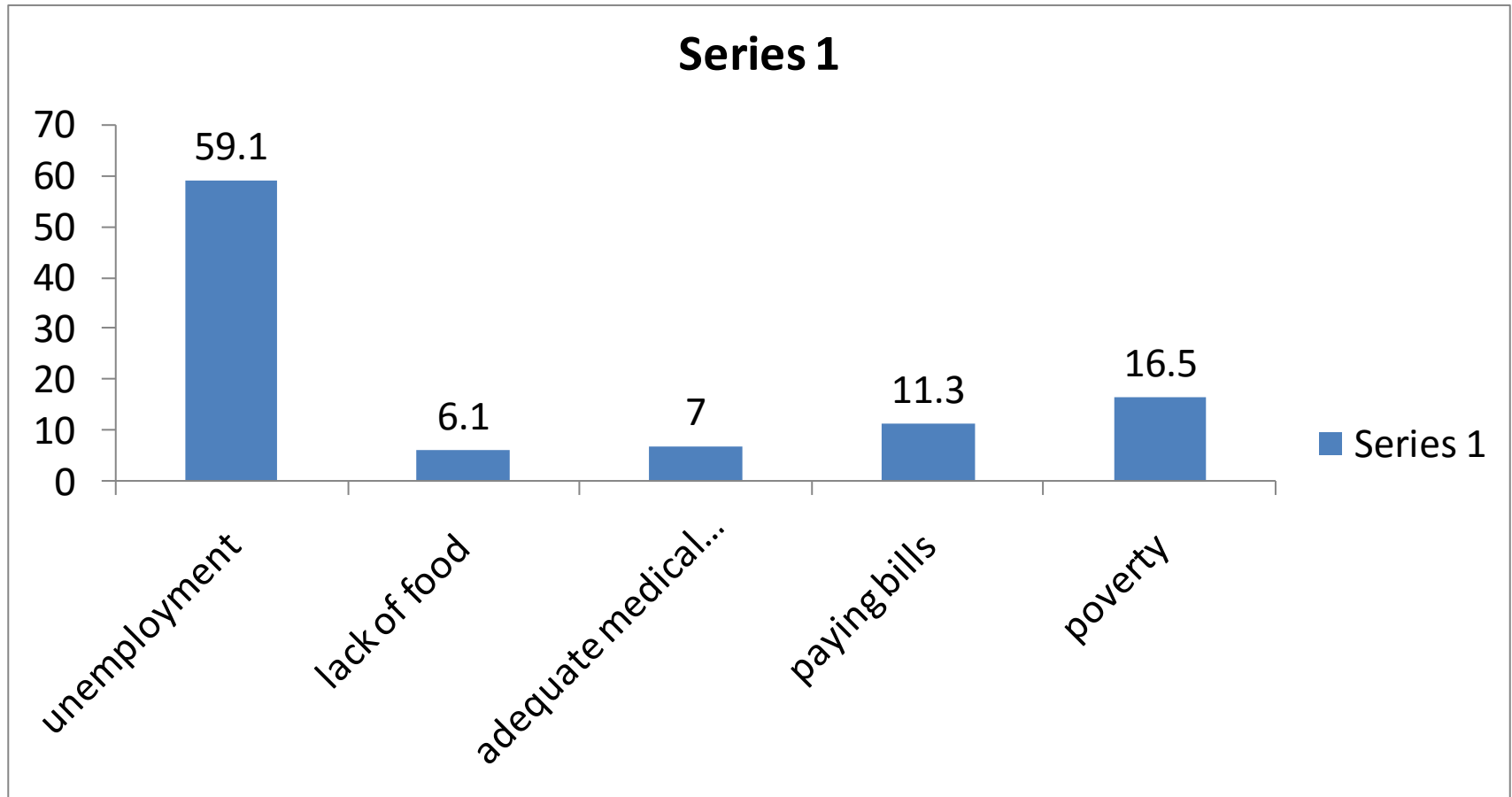
Who is responsible for you personal safety?



The most common problems related to increasing safety and security of the Roma in your town are:

Problems	Percent
Lack of information about rights and obligations	32.5
The police are not interested in safety of the Roma	25.8
The police maltreat us	5.8
There is not enough Roma policemen	15.0
Large number of criminals among the Roma	4.2
Everyone is silent and does not want to speak up	5.0
Insufficient motivation of the Roma to take actions	5.0
We have no representatives in the Town Hall	6.7
Total	100.0

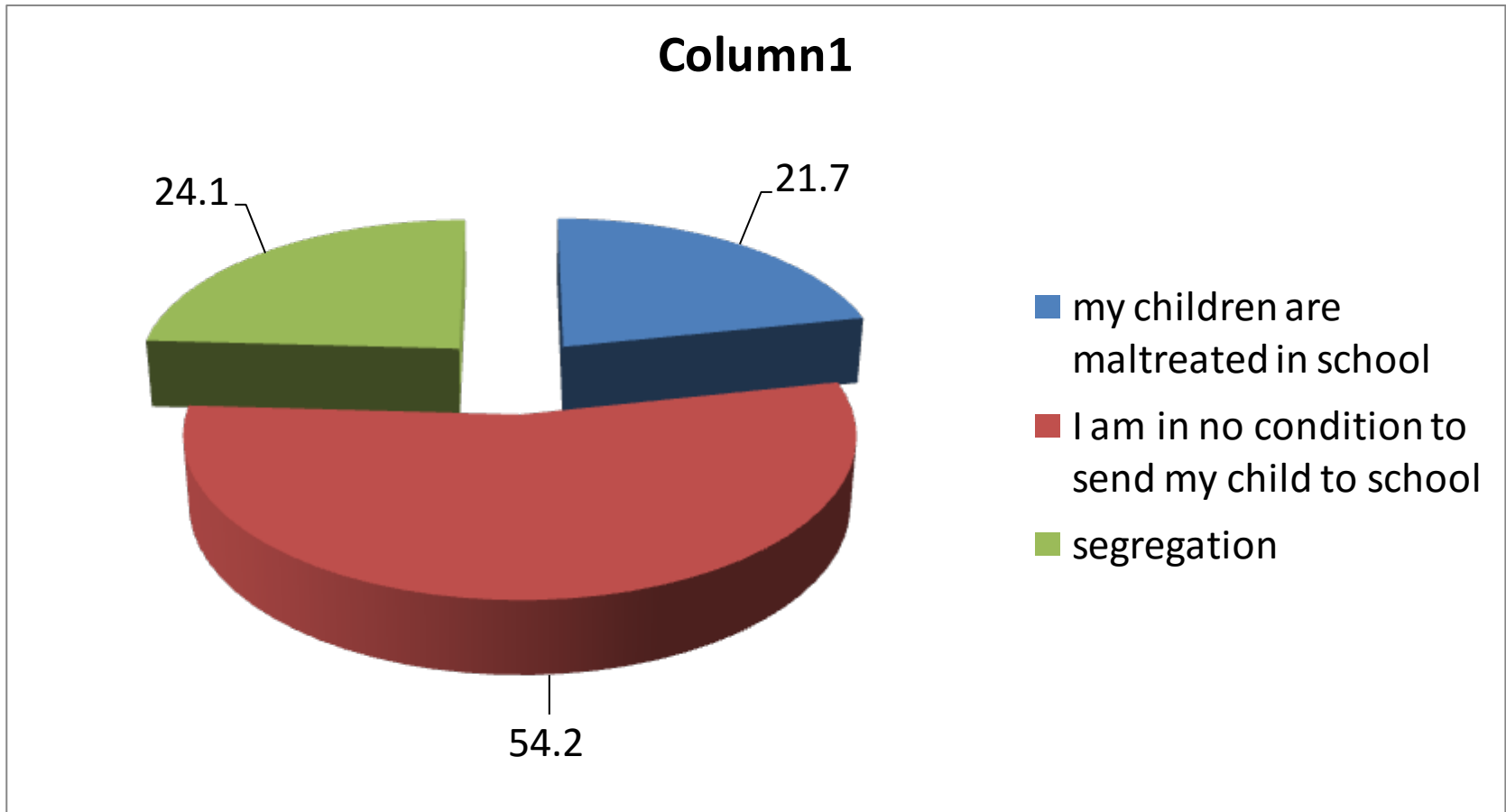
Within the economic and health care, we are mostly anxious about and scared of:



Within the environment we are mostly anxious about and scared of:

Problems	Percent
Inadequate housing	47.6
I do not have running water and toilet in the house, drug addiction	17.1
Police stop me without reason and maltreat me	14.3
They do not respect me in the Town Hall, Centre for Social Work	21.0
Total	100.0

In the area of education I am mostly anxious about and scared of:



Within the social safety I am most anxious about and scared of:

Problems	Percent
I share house with an alcoholic and drug addict	5.2
The Centre for Social Work does not provide me with material support	30.2
People insult and underestimate me because I am of Roma nationality	35.4
People insult and curse me on the street	4.2
Violence and bullies in mahala	11.5
Begging	3.1
Human trafficking	3.1
Violence in family	7.3
Total	100.0

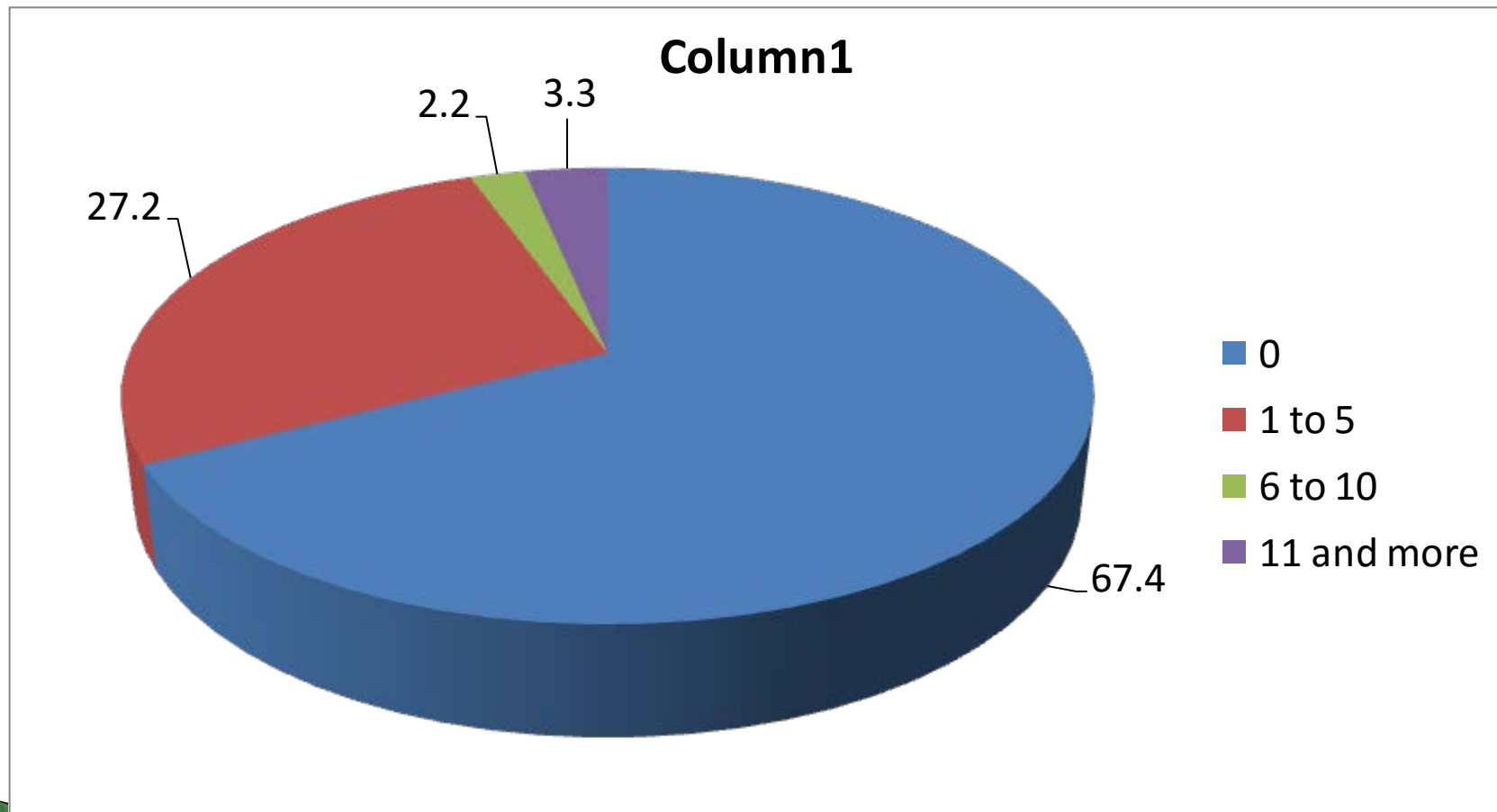
Within political safety I am mostly anxious about and afraid of:

Problems	Percent
Neo-fascist parties and movements	34.4
Fan groups that are against the Roma	8.6
Parties and authorities are silent and approve their actions	25.8
Roma of mahala are paying us to vote for particular parties	31.2
Total	100.0

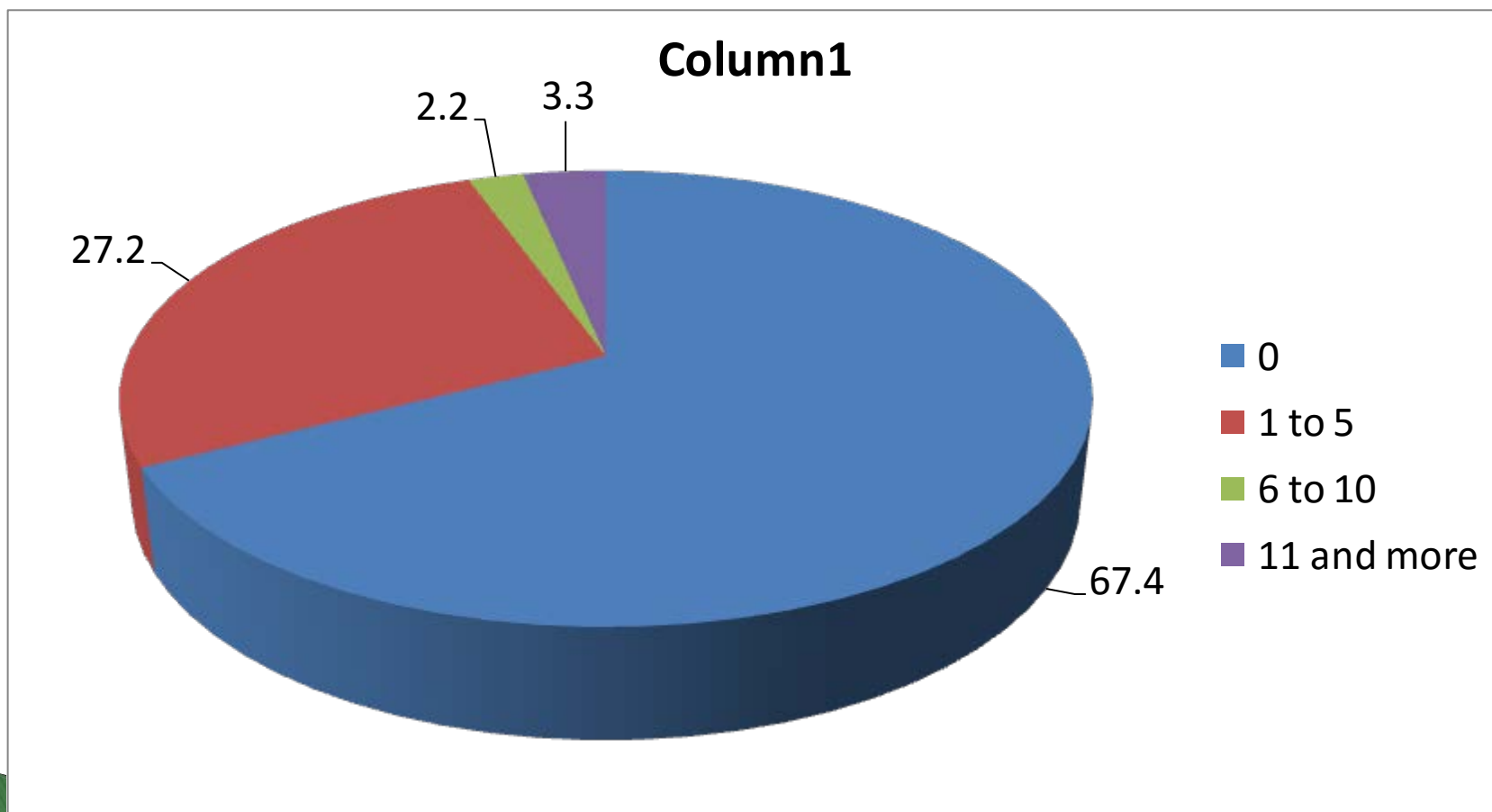
Within personal and collective safety I am mostly anxious about and afraid of:

Problems	Percent
Crime and violence in mahala	31.9
Juvenile crime	27.5
Number of children that do drugs	22.0
Prostitution	5.5
Usury	3.3
Racketeering	4.4
STDs	3.3
A lot of guns in mahala	2.2
Total	100.0

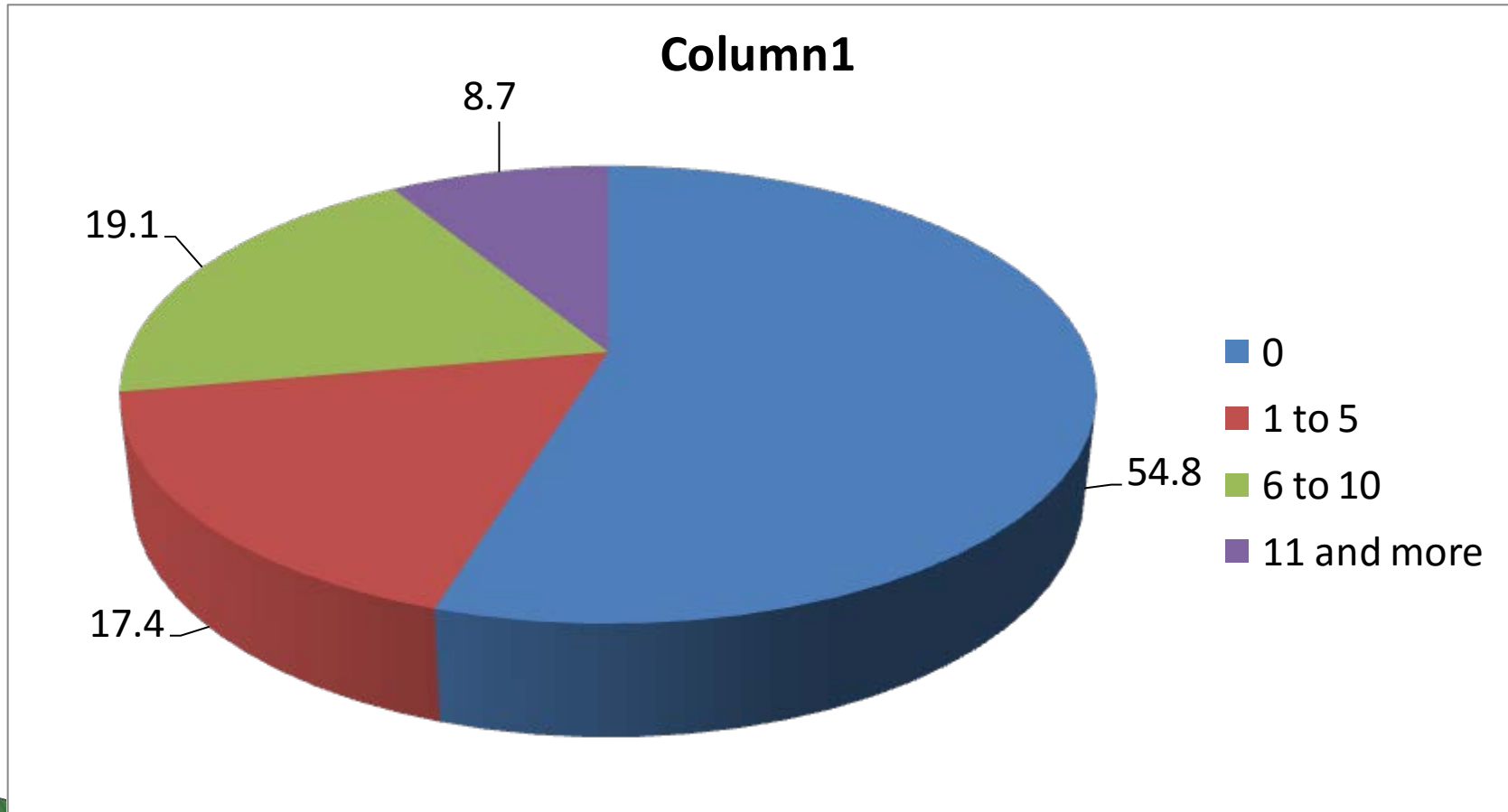
How many ethnic incidents there were in 2012 and 2013 in your town in total?



In how many, out of total number of incidents in 2012 and 2013 was the perpetrator found and punished?



How many incidents – ethnic conflicts there were in the first three months of 2014?



What are we to do?

- ▶ Roma NGO – official registers of violence that are racially motivated
- ▶ Constant and substantiated notifications for national and international organisations
- ▶ Legal teams for initiation of judicial proceedings and monitoring proceedings
- ▶ Roma in the Ministries of police and safety national structures (not Roma policemen on the streets)
- ▶ Political action

Thanks for your (in)attention!

