



# APTA RAIL CONFERENCE

## Boston Marriott Copley Place

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### TRACK SAFETY STUDY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Wednesday, June 15, 2011  
Boston, Massachusetts

# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has placed additional emphasis on RWP safety as a nation-wide concern.

In an effort to baseline Right-of-Way Worker Protection, various transit agencies were surveyed to demonstrate how they currently conduct RWP training.

**There were 21 agencies who responded to the survey**



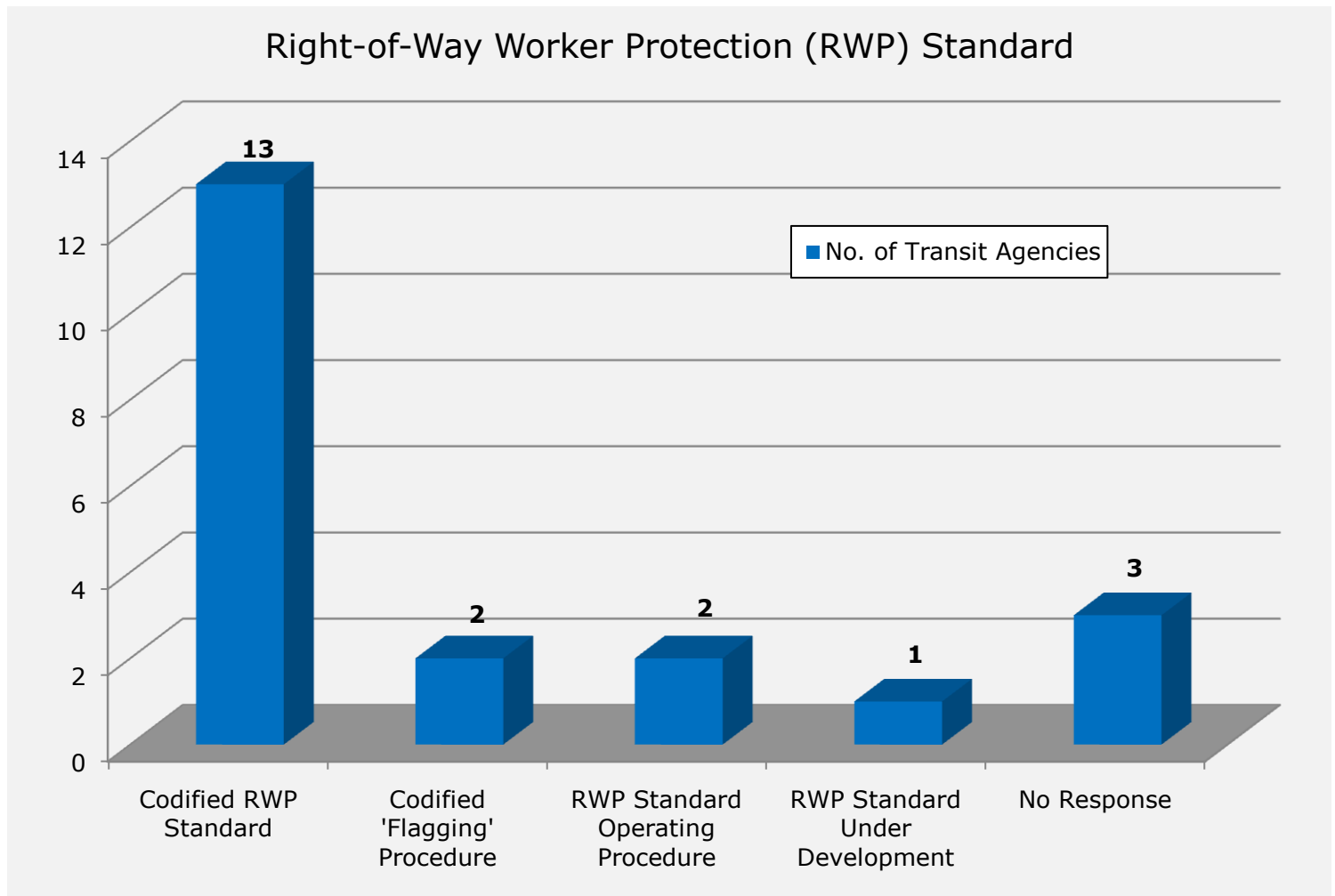
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- RWP Standard
  - 13 have a codified RWP Standard
  - 3 had no response
  - 2 have a codified “Flagging” Procedure
  - 2 has a RWP Standard Operating Procedure
  - 1 has a RWP Standard under development



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



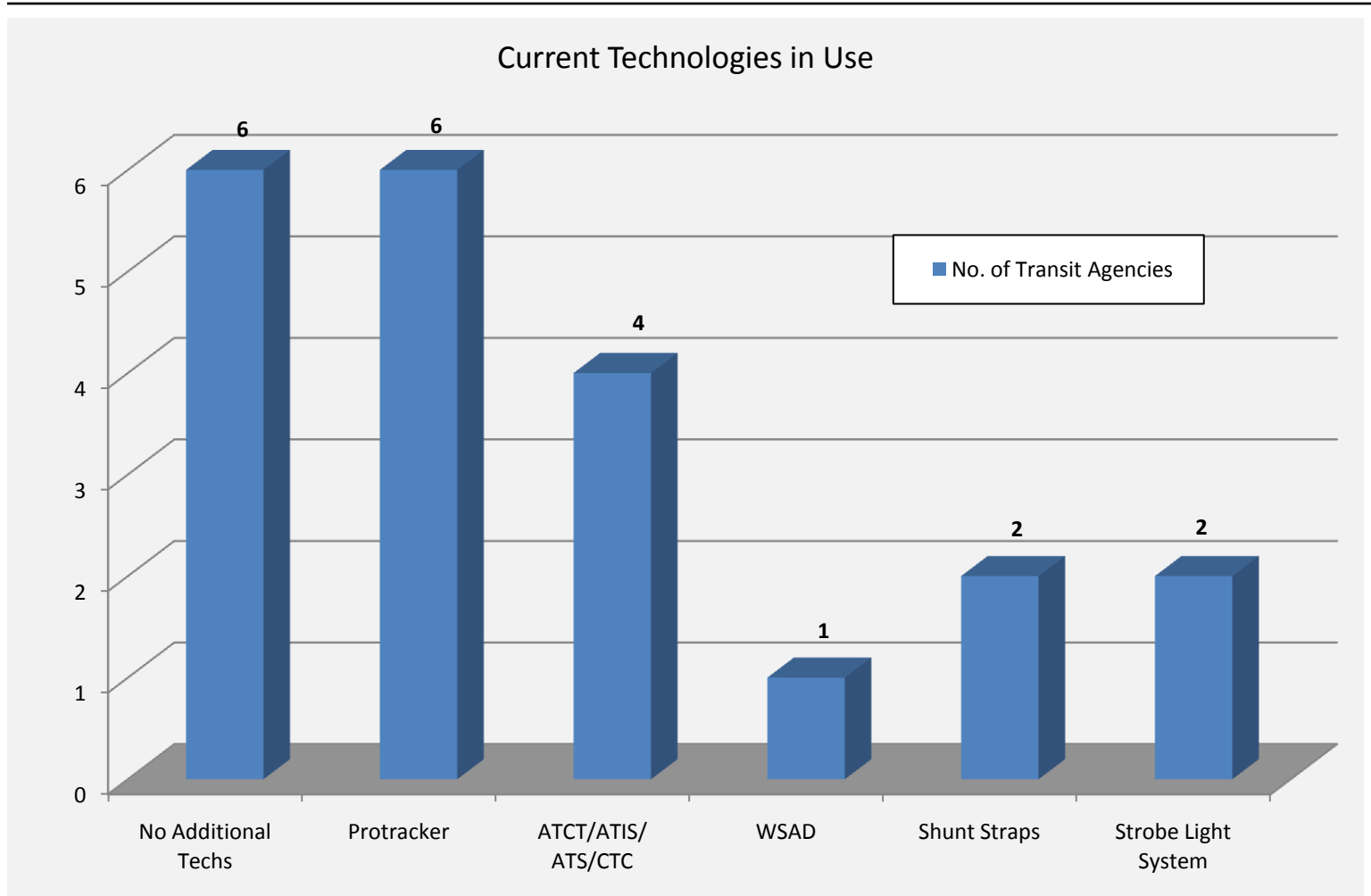
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Current Technologies in Use
  - 6 have no additional technologies in use
  - 6 have ProTracker either installed or being field tested
  - 4 have ATC/ATS/ATIS/CTC
  - 2 use strobe light system
  - 2 uses only shunt straps
  - 1 has a Wayside warning device



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



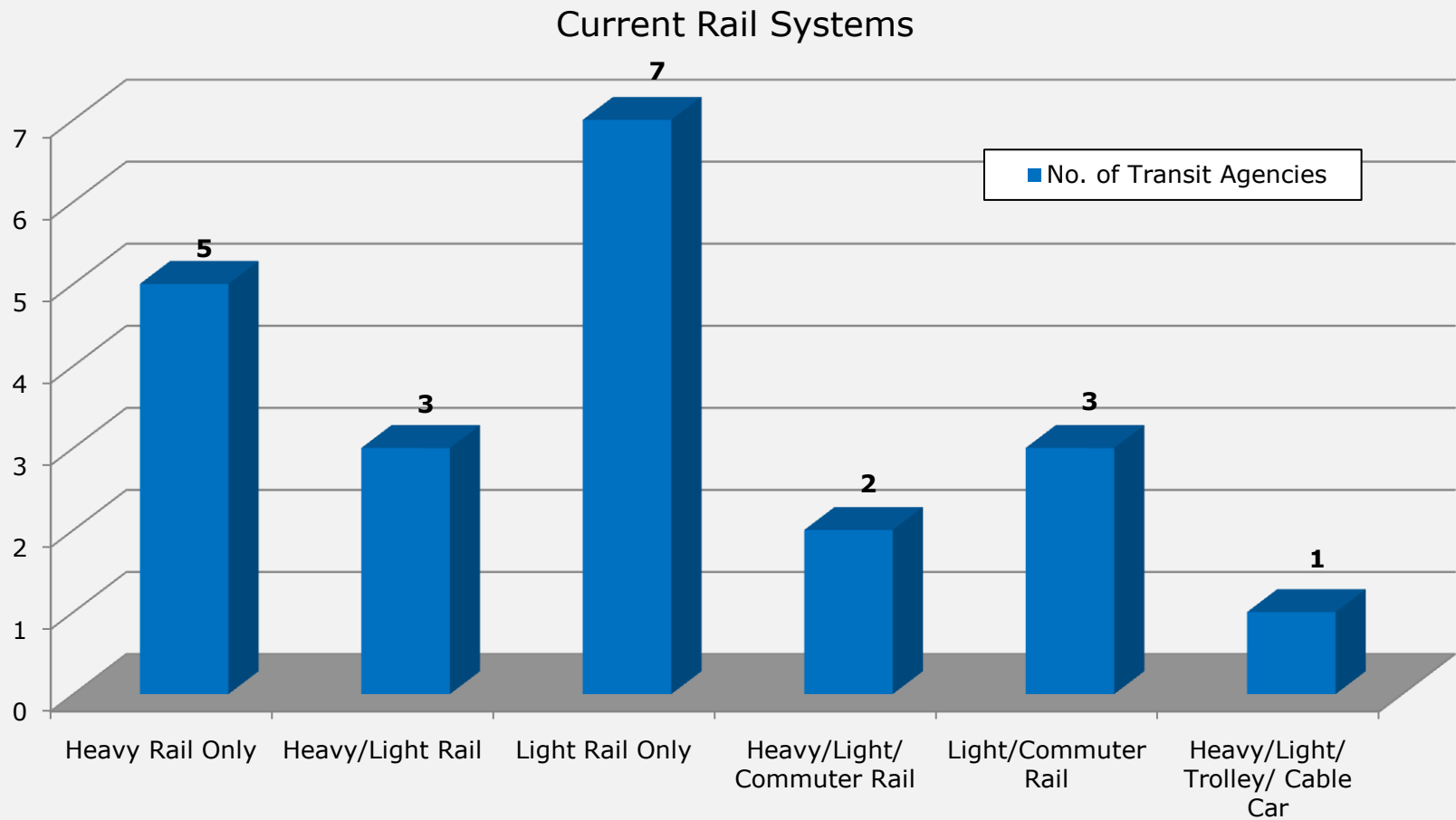
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Current Rail System(s)
  - 7 are Light Rail only
  - 5 are Heavy Rail only
  - 3 have Heavy/Light Rail systems
  - 3 have Light/Commuter Rail systems
  - 2 have Heavy/Light/Commuter Rail systems
  - 1 has Heavy/Light/Trolley/Cable Car systems



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results





# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Length of RWP Training
  - Varies from 1 hour to 40 hours
  - Less than one-half of those surveyed included a field exercise to complement the classroom training



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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## ○ Pass Rate

- Varied from 70% to 100%
- Only 1 required a 100% pass rate for contractors
- Only 1 required a 100% pass rate for ALL!
- Only 1 required a 100% pass rate for its Signals Test



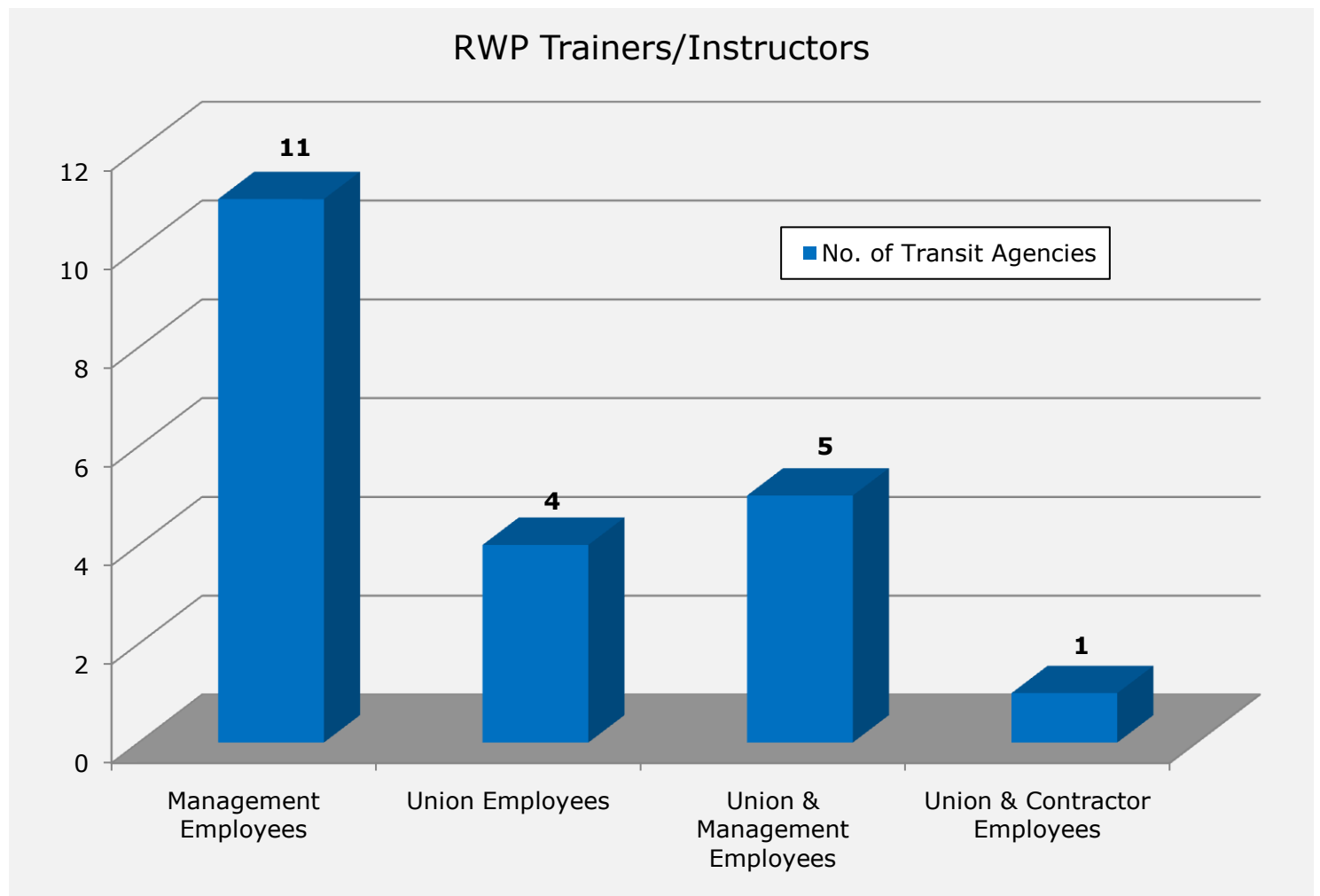
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- RWP Trainers/Instructors
  - 11 use Management employees
  - 5 use both Union & Management employees
  - 4 use Union employees
  - 1 uses both Union & Contractor employees



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



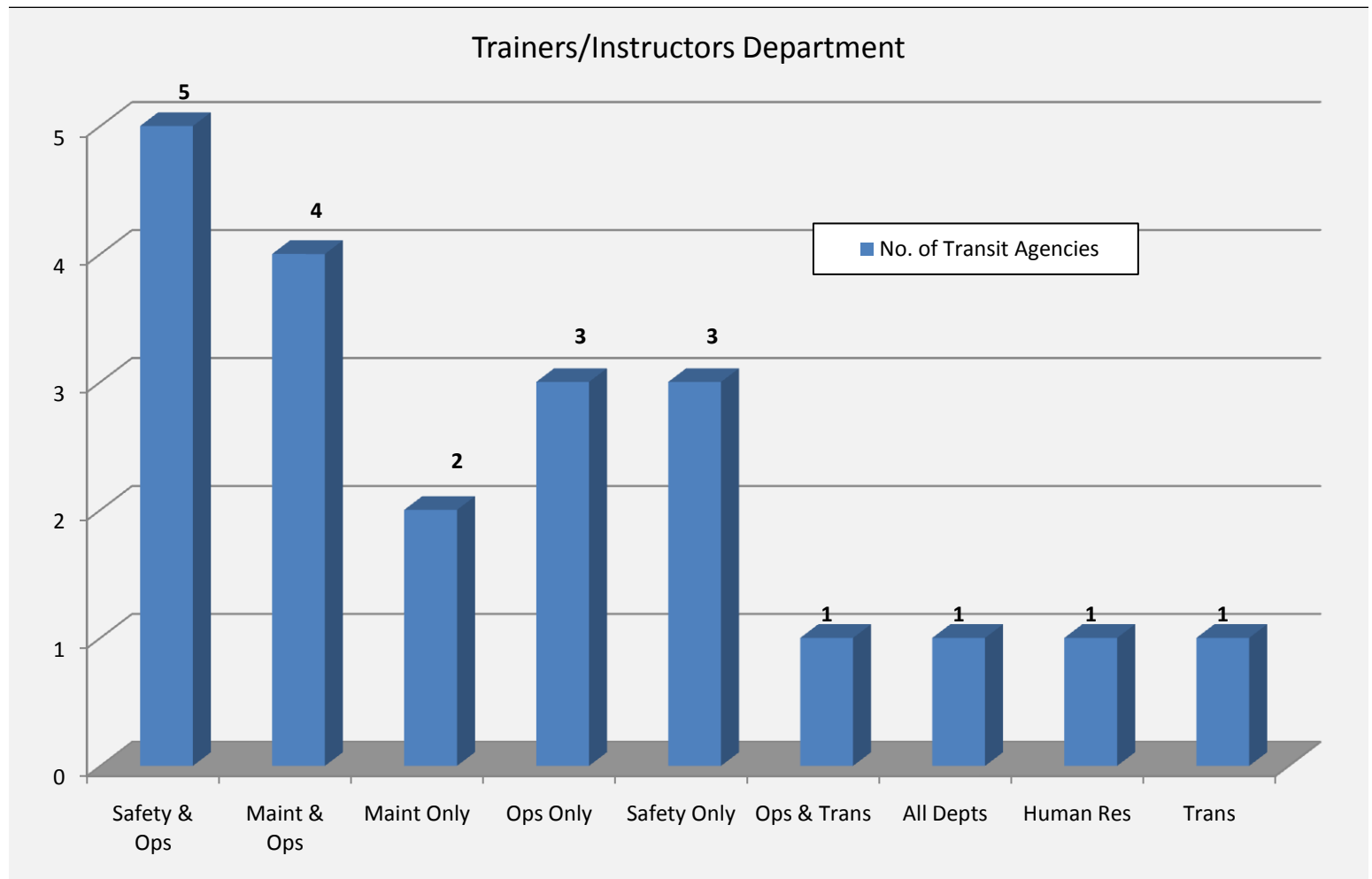
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- From which department(s) do your Trainers/Instructors originate?
  - 5 stated Safety and Ops
  - 4 stated Maintenance and Ops
  - 3 stated Ops only
  - 3 stated Safety only
  - 2 stated Maintenance only
  - 1 stated Ops and Transportation
  - 1 stated Transportation only
  - 1 stated Human Resources
  - 1 stated Every department



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



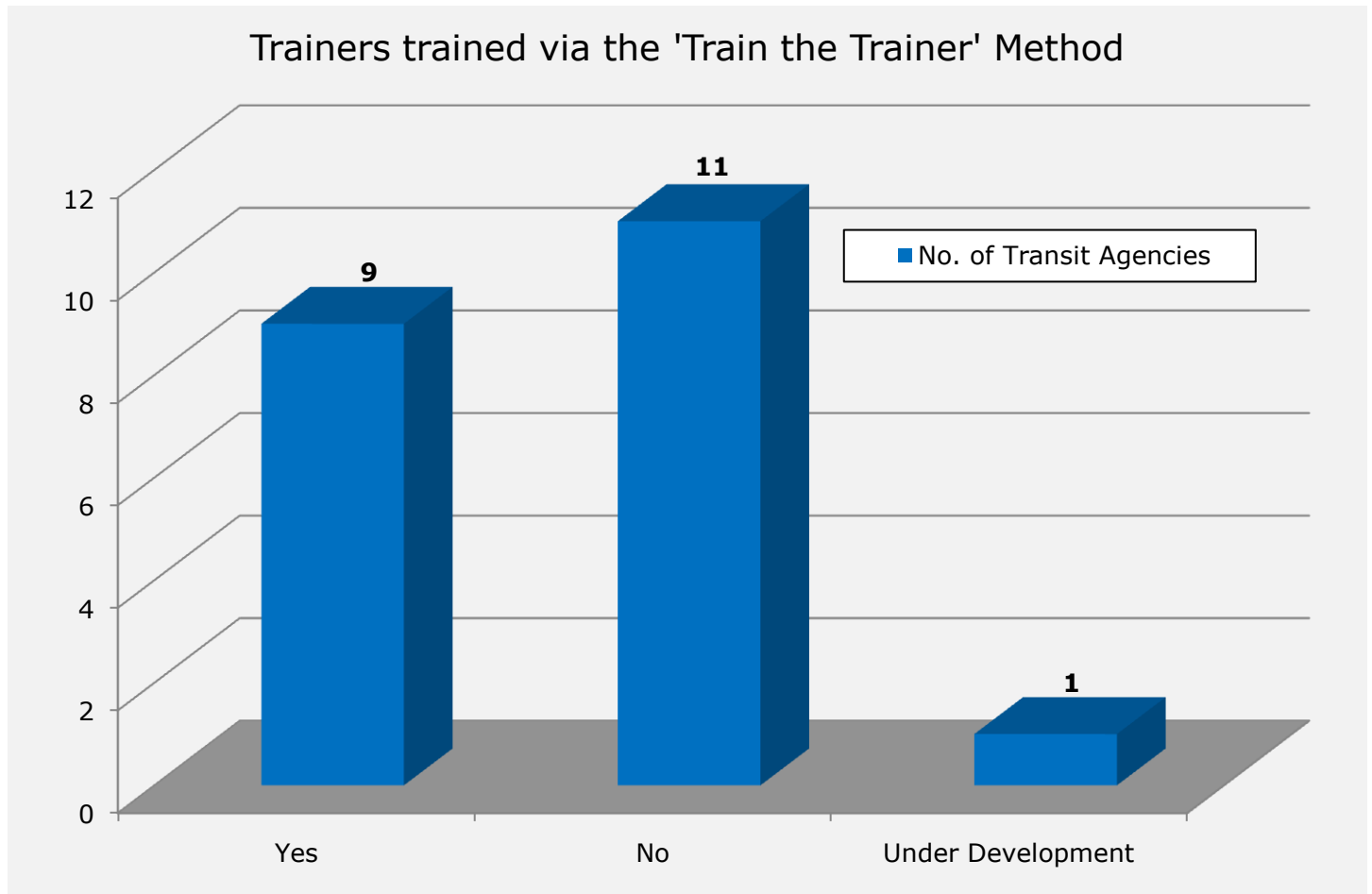
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Trainers/Instructors trained via the “Train-the-Trainer” method
  - 11 stated “No” w/1 requiring trainer certification
  - 9 stated “Yes” w/3 requiring trainer certification
  - 1 stated their requirements are still under development



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results





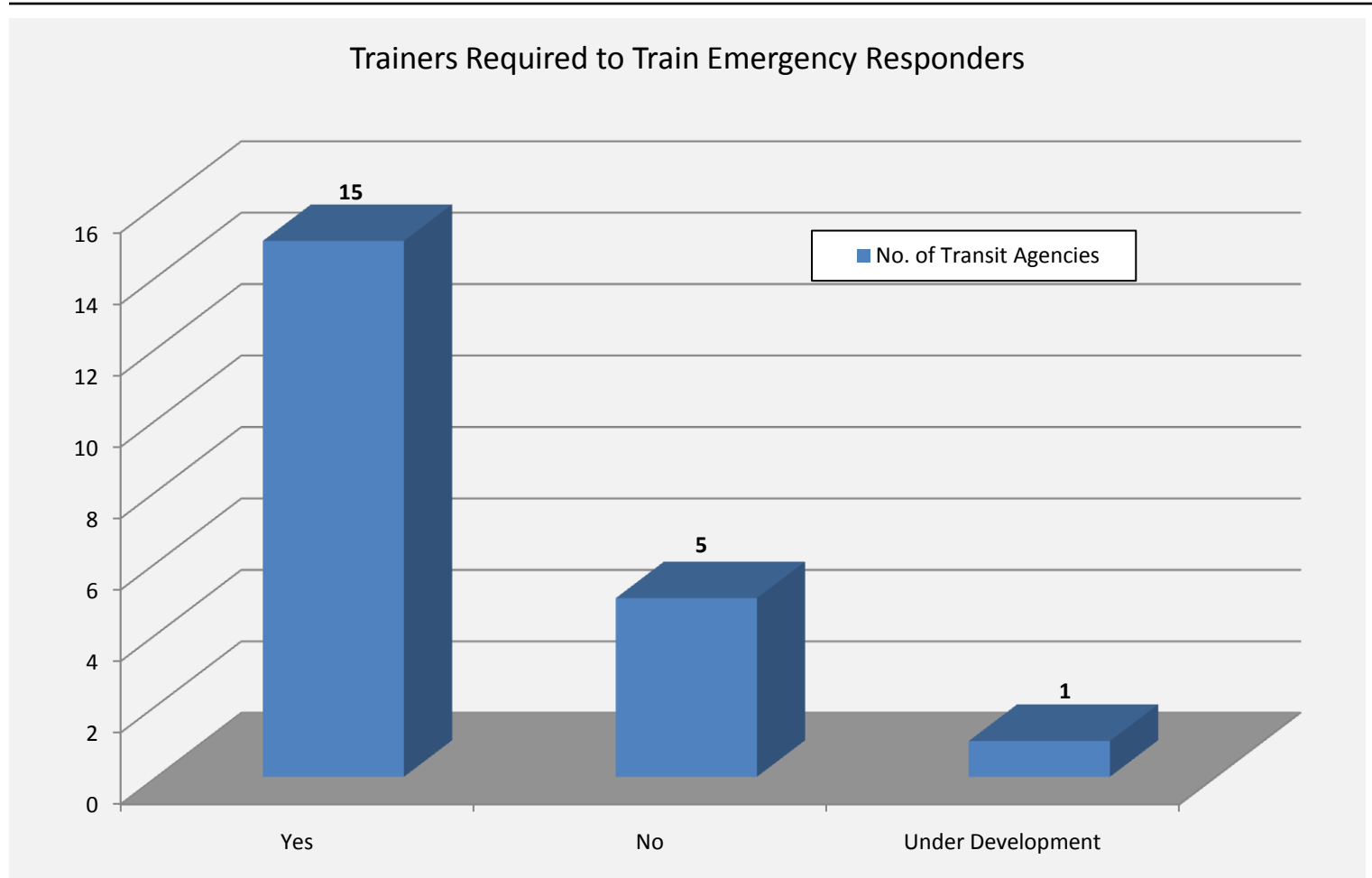
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Trainers/Instructors required to train Emergency Responders?
  - 15 stated "Yes" w/1 required to train DHS personnel
  - 5 stated "No" w/1 having Safety to conduct ER training
  - 1 stated their requirements are still under development



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



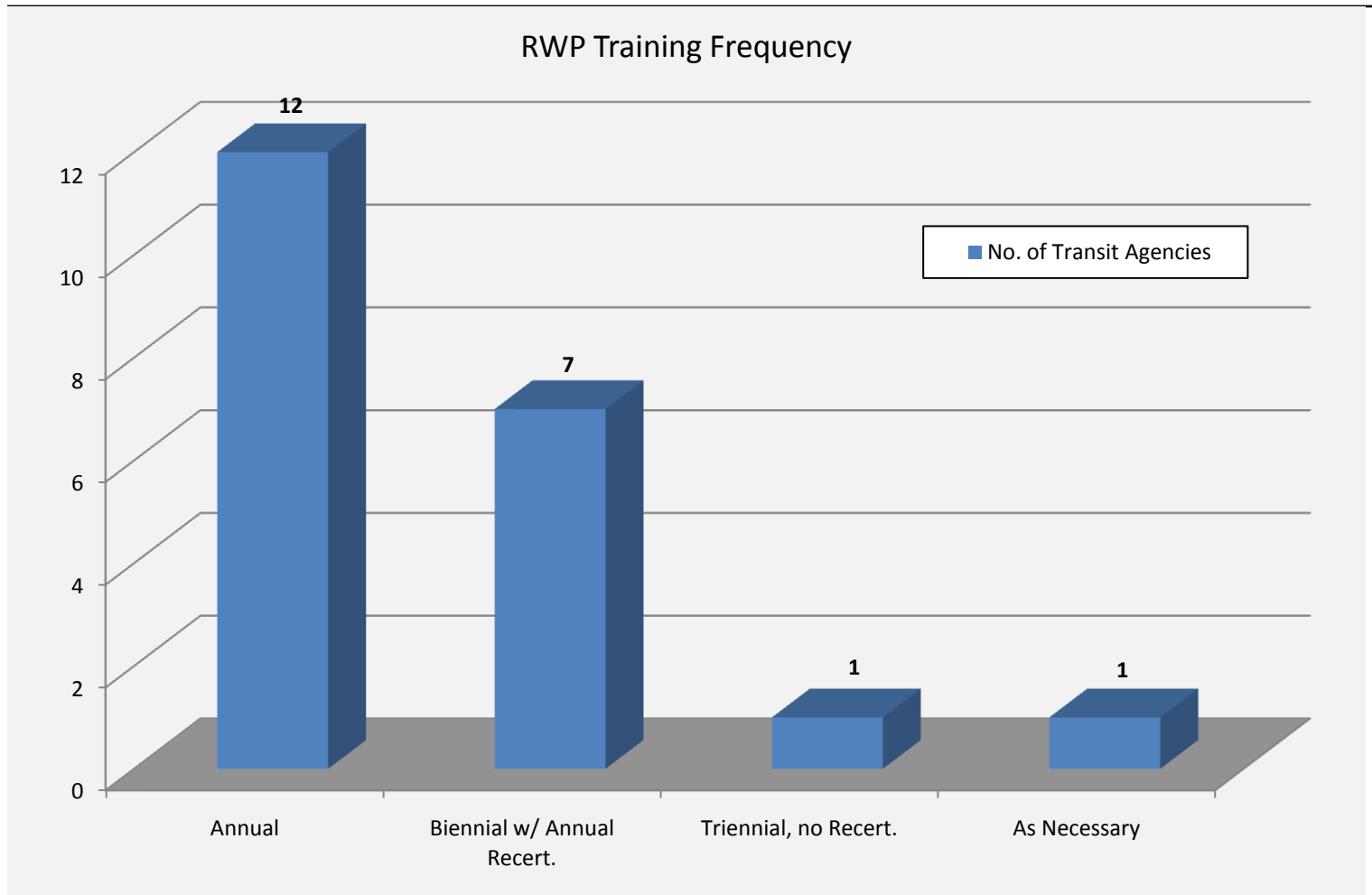
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- RWP Training Annual or Biennial?
  - 12 have annual RWP Training
  - 7 have biennial RWP Training w/annual recertification w/1 having a 5 year cycle for Level 1 RWP Training
  - 1 has triennial RWP Training with no recertification
  - 1 stated “As necessary”



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

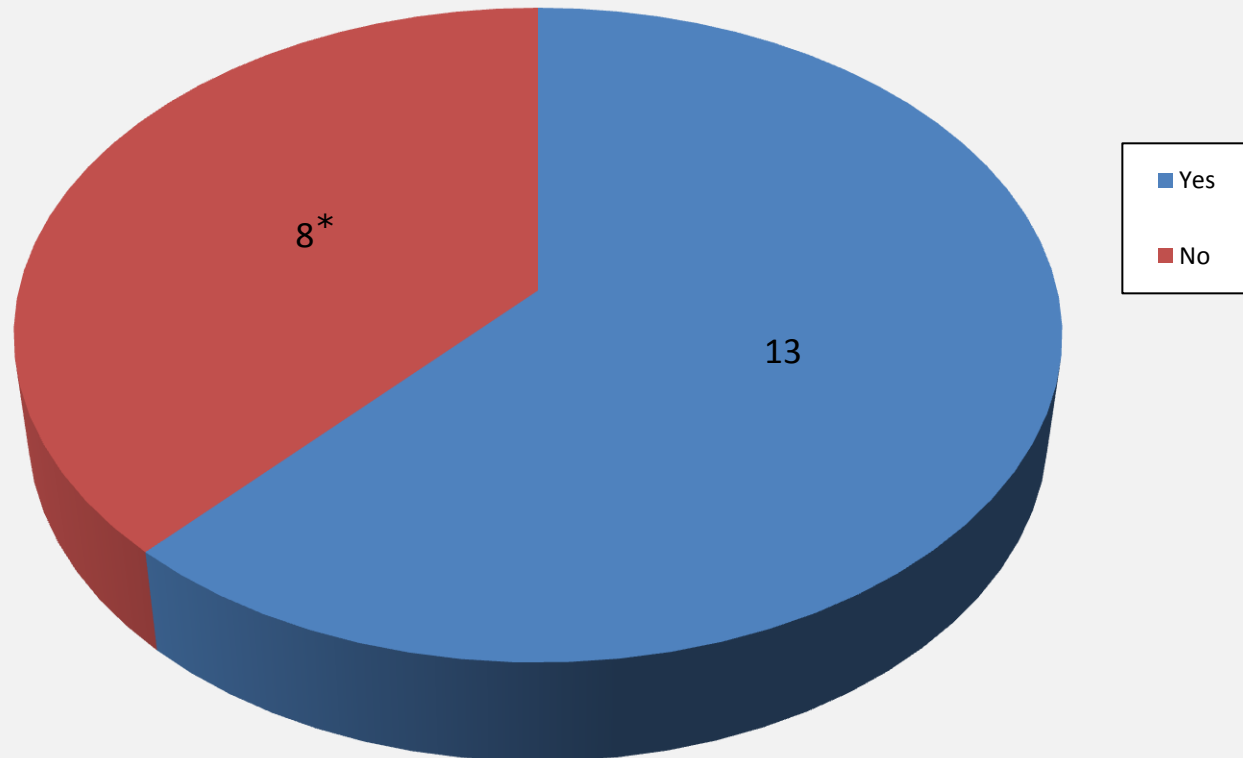
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- RWP Training include FTA's "A Knock at your Door" video?
  - 13 stated "Yes"
  - 8 stated "No" w/1 currently using the "Funeral for a Friend" video and another posting the FTA video to the agency's web page for all employees to view



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

RWP Training includes FTW 'Knock at Your Door' Video



\*Of the 8 'No' responses one is currently using the "Funeral for a Friend" video and another is posting the FTA video to the agency's web page for all employees to view.

# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Number of employees/contractors fatally injured while in the ROW during the past 5 years (the numbers represent all responders)
  - 14 agency employees
  - 0 contractor employees



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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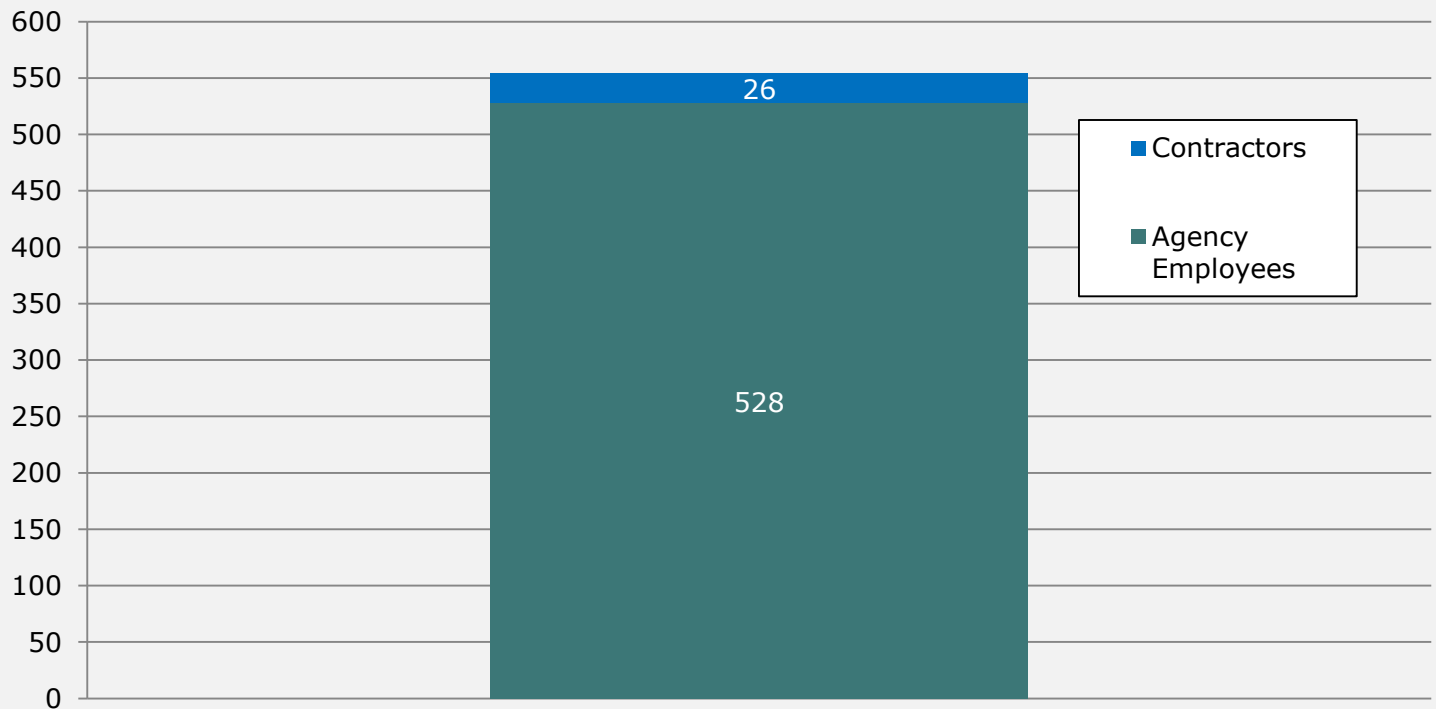
- Number of employees/contractors injured while in the ROW during the past 5 years (the numbers represent all responders)
  - 528 agency employees
  - 26 contractor employees





# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

Number of employees/contractors injured while in the ROW during the past 5 years (the numbers represent all responders)



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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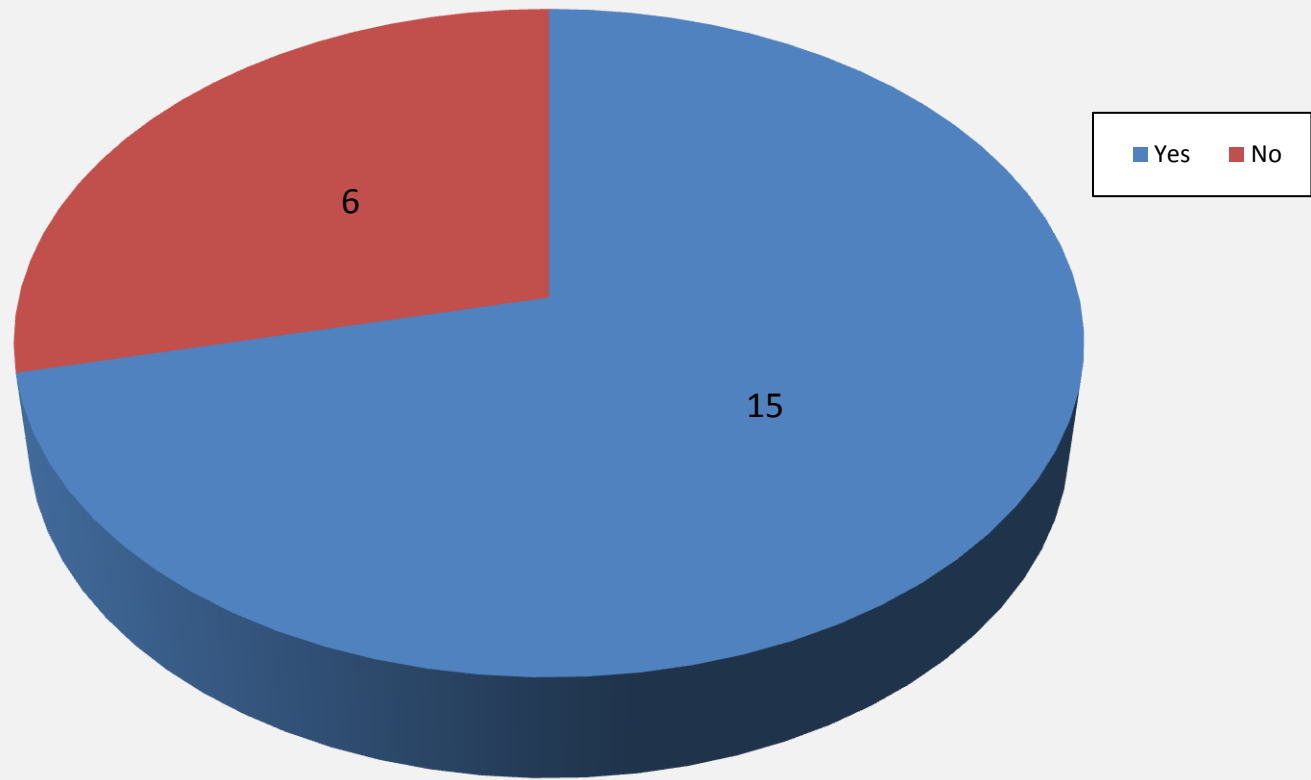
- Does various levels of RWP Training exist at your agency?
  - 15 stated "Yes"
  - 6 stated "No"



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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Does various levels of RWP Training exist at your agency?



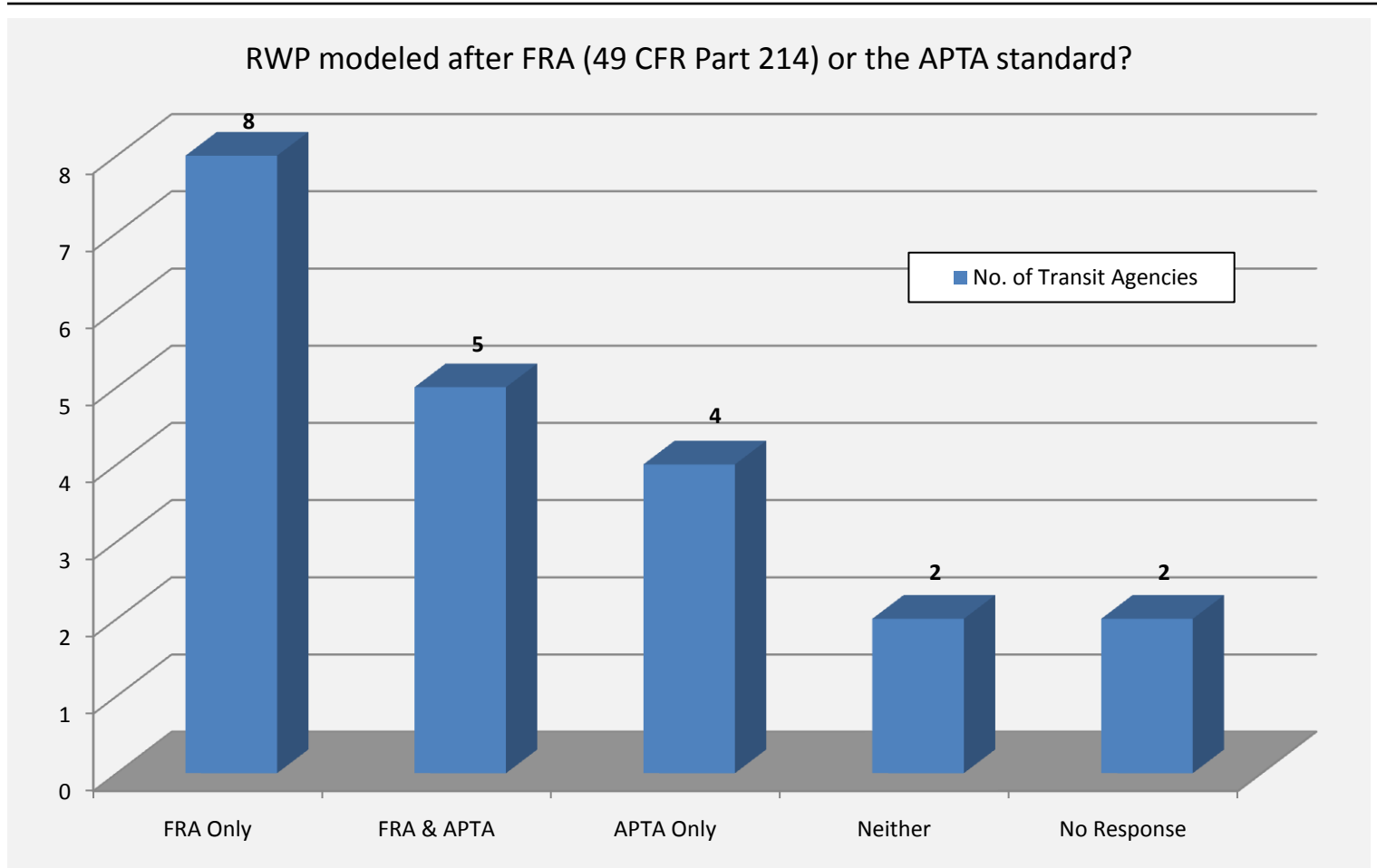
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- RWP modeled after FRA (49 CFR Part 214) or the APTA standard?
  - 8 FRA only
  - 5 use a combination of the two standards
  - 4 APTA only
  - 2 Neither
  - 2 Did not respond to the question



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



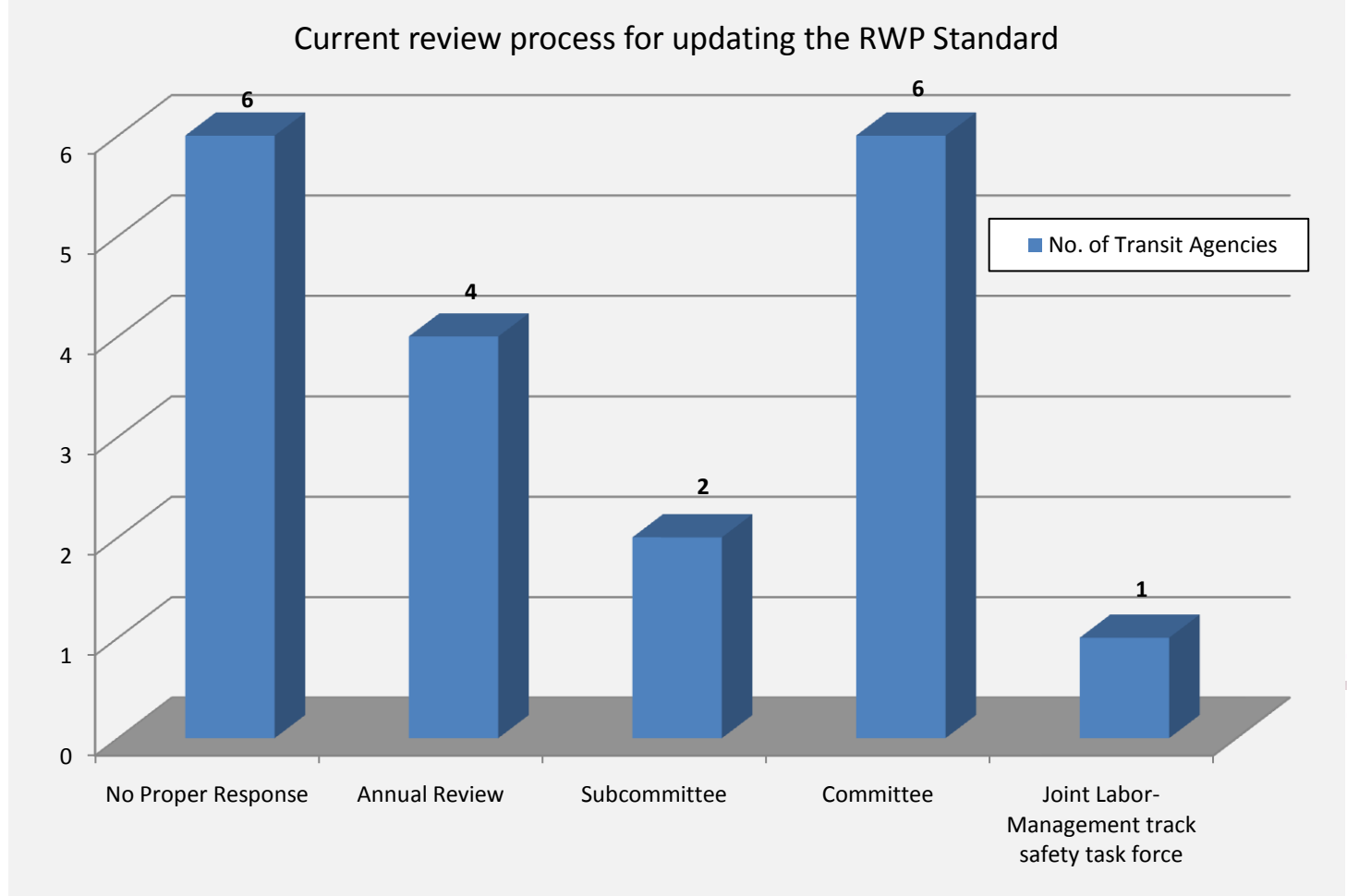
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Current review process for updating the RWP Standard
  - 6 Did not properly respond to the question
  - 6 stated by committee
  - 4 stated an annual review
  - 2 stated by subcommittee
  - 2 stated a triennial review
  - 1 stated by a joint Labor-Management track safety task force



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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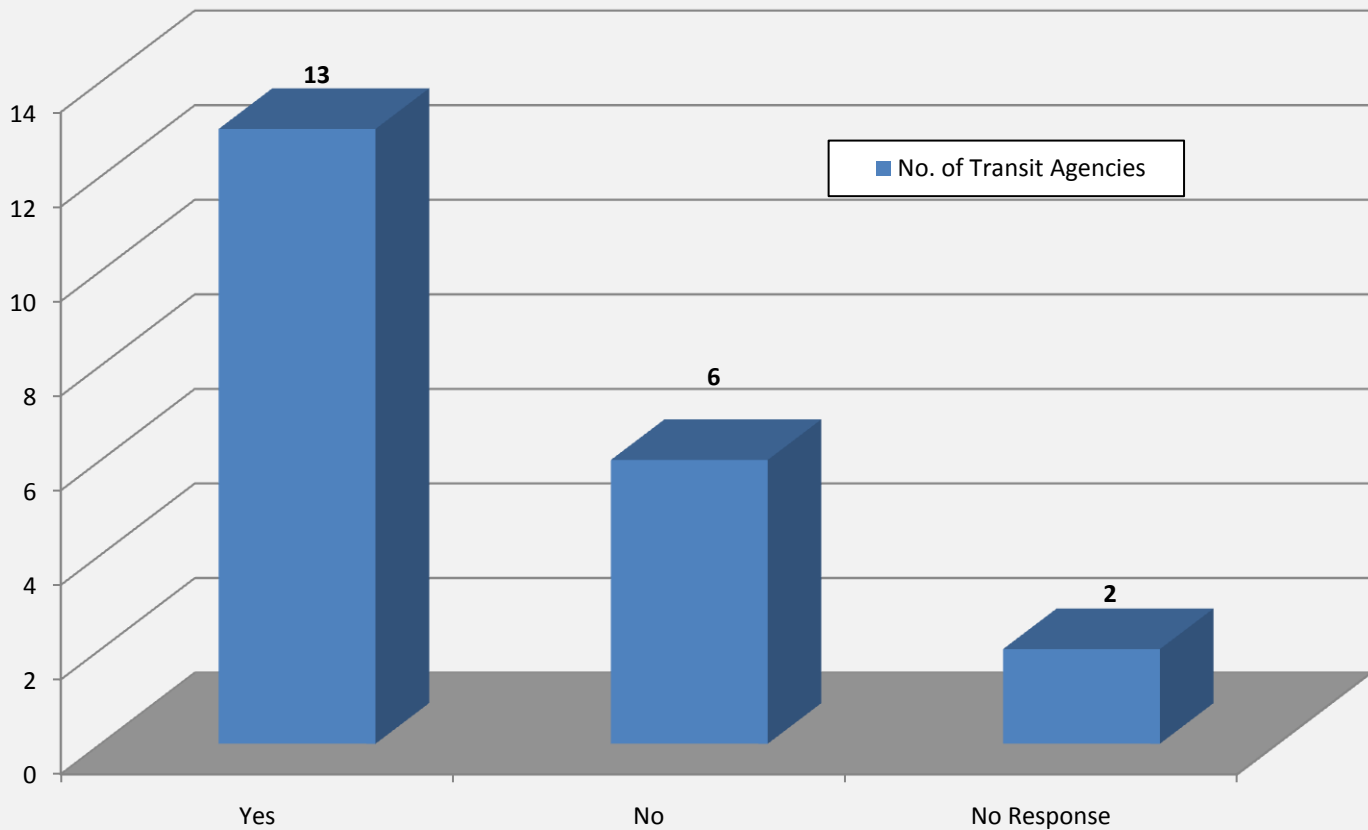
- Are your agency's "Red Tag" procedures tied to the RWP Standard?
  - 13 stated "Yes"
  - 6 stated "No"
  - 2 Did not respond to the question





# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

Are your agency's "Red Tag" procedures tied to the RWP Standard?



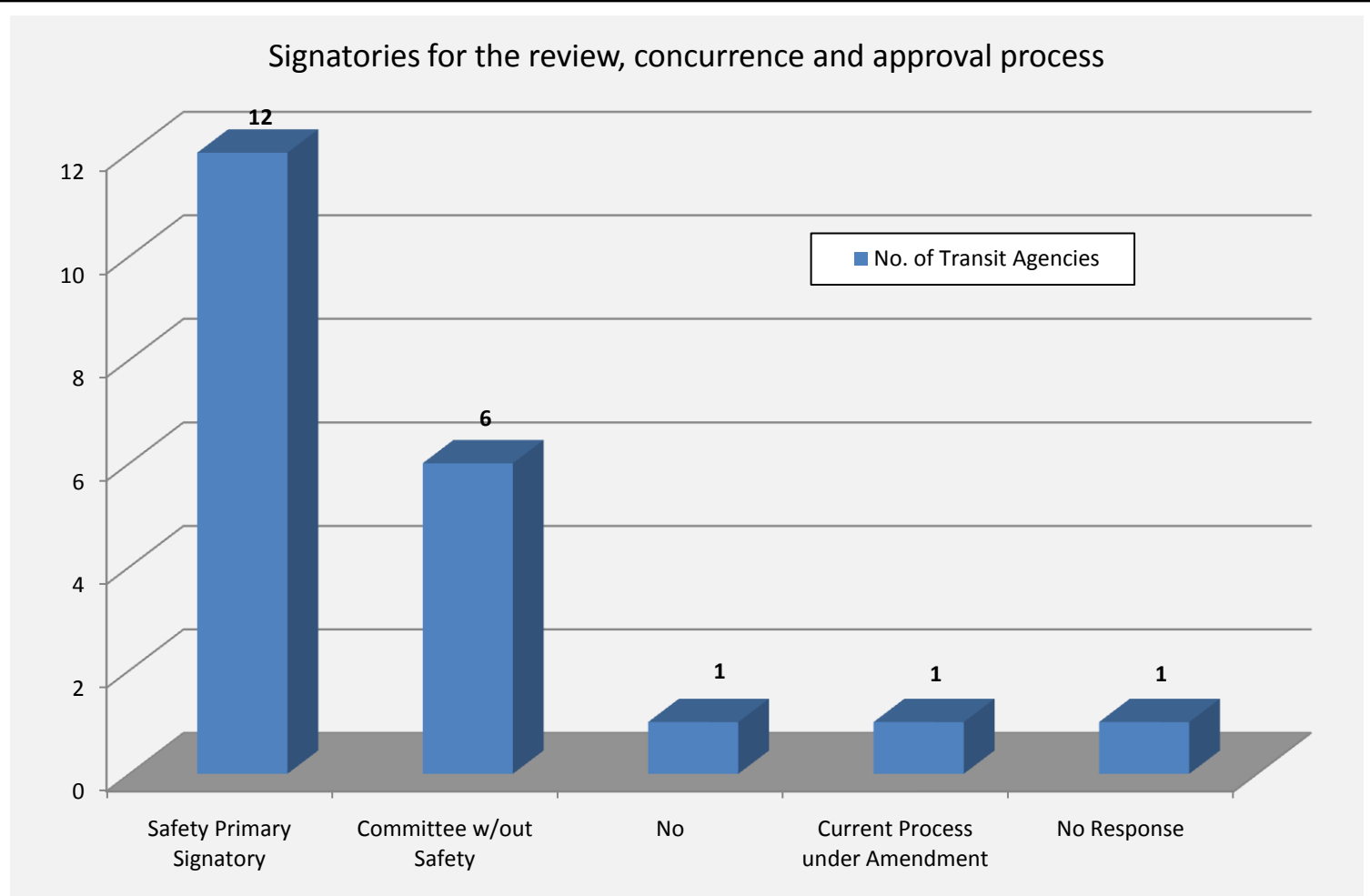
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Signatories for the review, concurrence and approval process
  - 12 stated that Safety was the primary signatory
  - 6 stated by a committee that does not include safety
  - 1 stated "No"
  - 1 stated that the current process is being amended
  - 1 Did not respond to the question



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



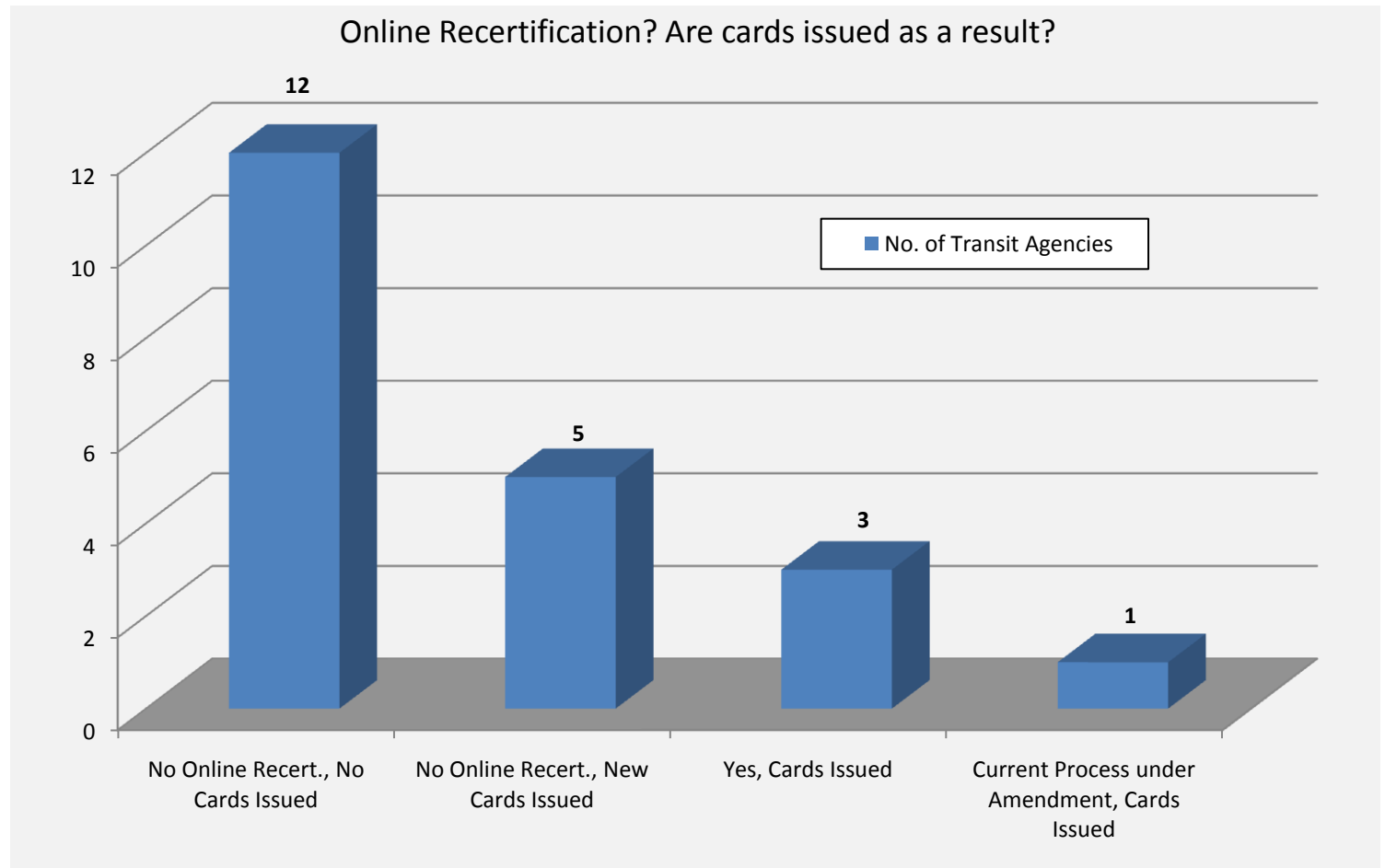
# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Online Recertification? Are cards issued as a result?
  - 17 stated no online recertification w/5 issuing certification/recertification cards
  - 3 stated yes they have online recertification and they all issue ID cards
  - 1 stated that the current process is being amended but currently issues photo ID cards



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Summary - RWP Standard
  - Only 62% of those surveyed have a codified RWP standard but ALL transit agencies should have a codified standard modeled after the FRA or the APTA standard. This MUST be a mandated requirement.



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Summary – Current Technologies in Use
  - Although 31% of those surveyed are using the ProTracker system; NO agency mentioned the use of BETTER/MORE supervision or the use of clearly identified “SAFE ZONES/NO CLEARANCE ZONES.”



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Summary – Length of RWP Training
  - Less than 50% of those surveyed stated that their RWP training included a “Field Exercise.” ALL RWP training, regardless of level or classroom length, **MUST** include a “Field Exercise.” This **MUST** be a mandated requirement.





# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Summary – Pass Rate
  - Less than 10% of those surveyed required a 100% pass rate. A minimum Pass Rate of 90% **MUST** be required for RWP training.” This **MUST** be a mandated requirement.



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Summary – Trainers/Instructors
  - ALL RWP Trainers/Instructors MUST be qualified AND certified. This MUST be a mandated requirement.



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Summary – RWP Training Annual or Biennial
  - RWP training MUST be annual with a qualifying exam and MUST include a photo ID card WITH an expiration date. During the year there should be a mandatory online “refresher” track safety awareness course.



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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- Summary – Fatalities/Injuries
  - During the past 5 years of those agencies surveyed, there have been 13 fatalities AND 554 injuries to agency employees/contractors. NO agency stated the use of or implementation of a “Near-Miss” committee.



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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**THANK YOU!**



# APTA Rail Safety Committee Survey Results

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Questions/Comments?

