

Effects and experiences of unequal access to clean energy in three municipalities in Colombia.

Darashagam Nahal¹, Diego Lucumi², and Godfred Boateng, PhD³

(1)The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX, (2)Universidad De Los Andes Colombia, BOGOTA D.C., COLO, (3)York University, Toronto, ON, Canada



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Introduction

- The Republic of Colombia is undergoing an energy crisis that has made it difficult for citizens to meet basic energy needs.
- Citizens are enduring issues that relate to the inaccessibility and unreliability of energy.
- The effects of the energy crisis have been particularly harmful for women.
- Therefore, we examined patterns of energy use among 34 women in three Colombian municipalities: a) Medio Atrato, b) Sipí, and c) Unguía.

Research Goal

To understand the patterns associated with energy use across three Colombian municipalities in Chocó Department of Western Colombia.

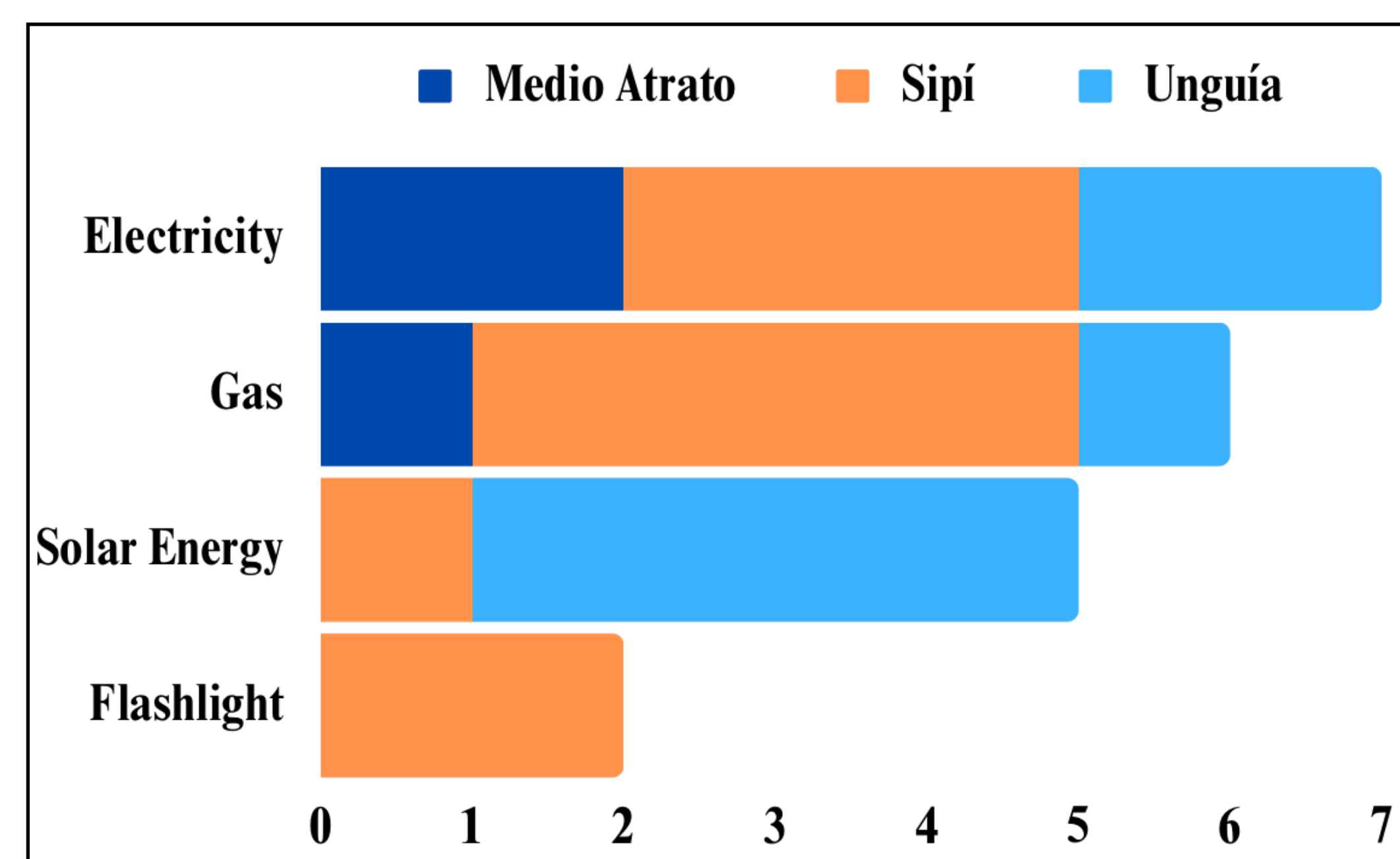
Methods

- Data:**
- N = 34 (Unguía [n=11], Sipí [n=10], Medio Atrato [n=13])
 - Data collected between 2020 and 2021
 - All respondents were female
- Data analysis:**
- Phenomenological design
 - Use of MAXQDA for mixed methods analysis

Figures and Results

* Some respondents gave more than one answer.

Figure 1. Preferred energy sources



Figures and Results

Figure 2. Constantly accessible energy sources

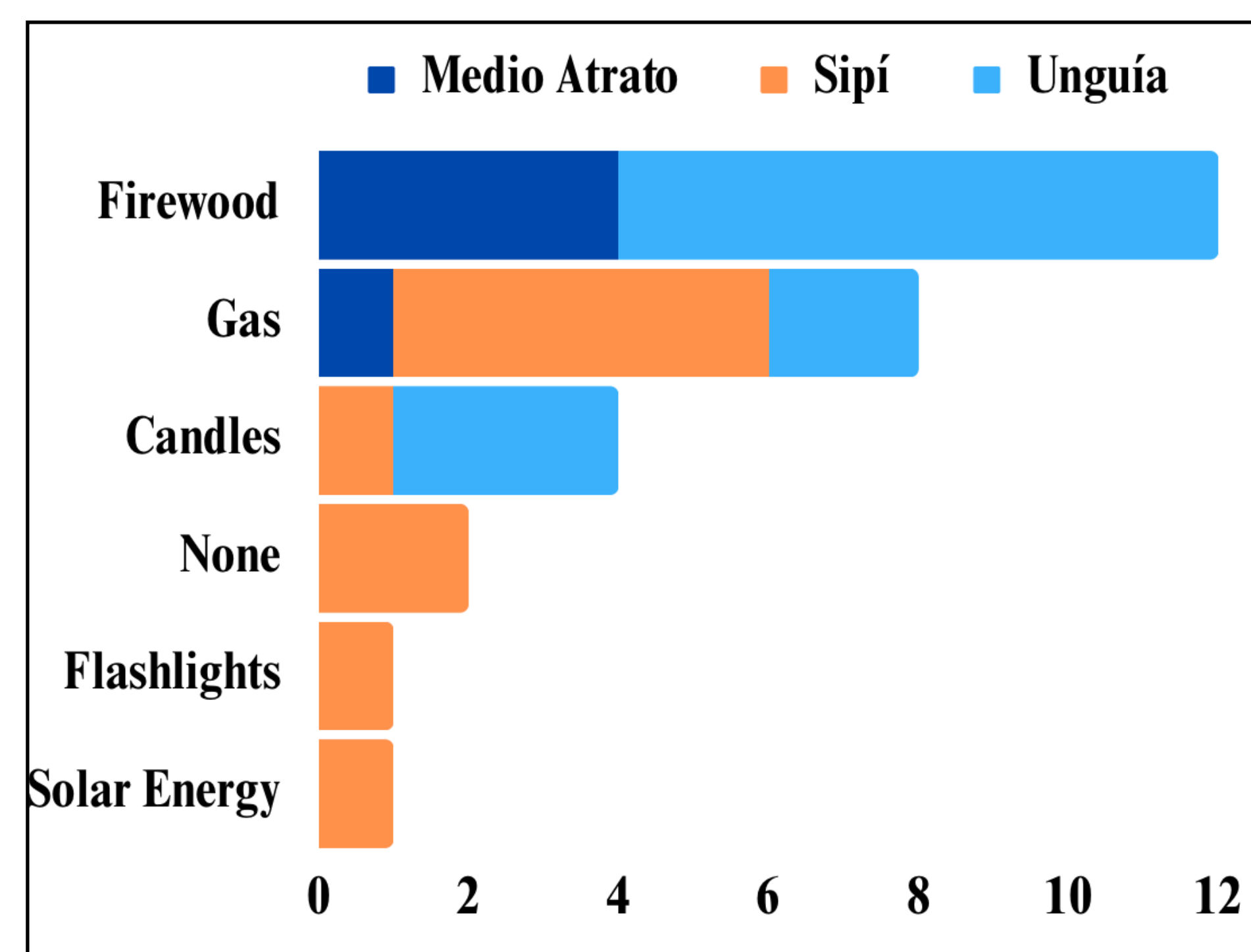


Figure 3. Personal and observed issues in getting or using energy

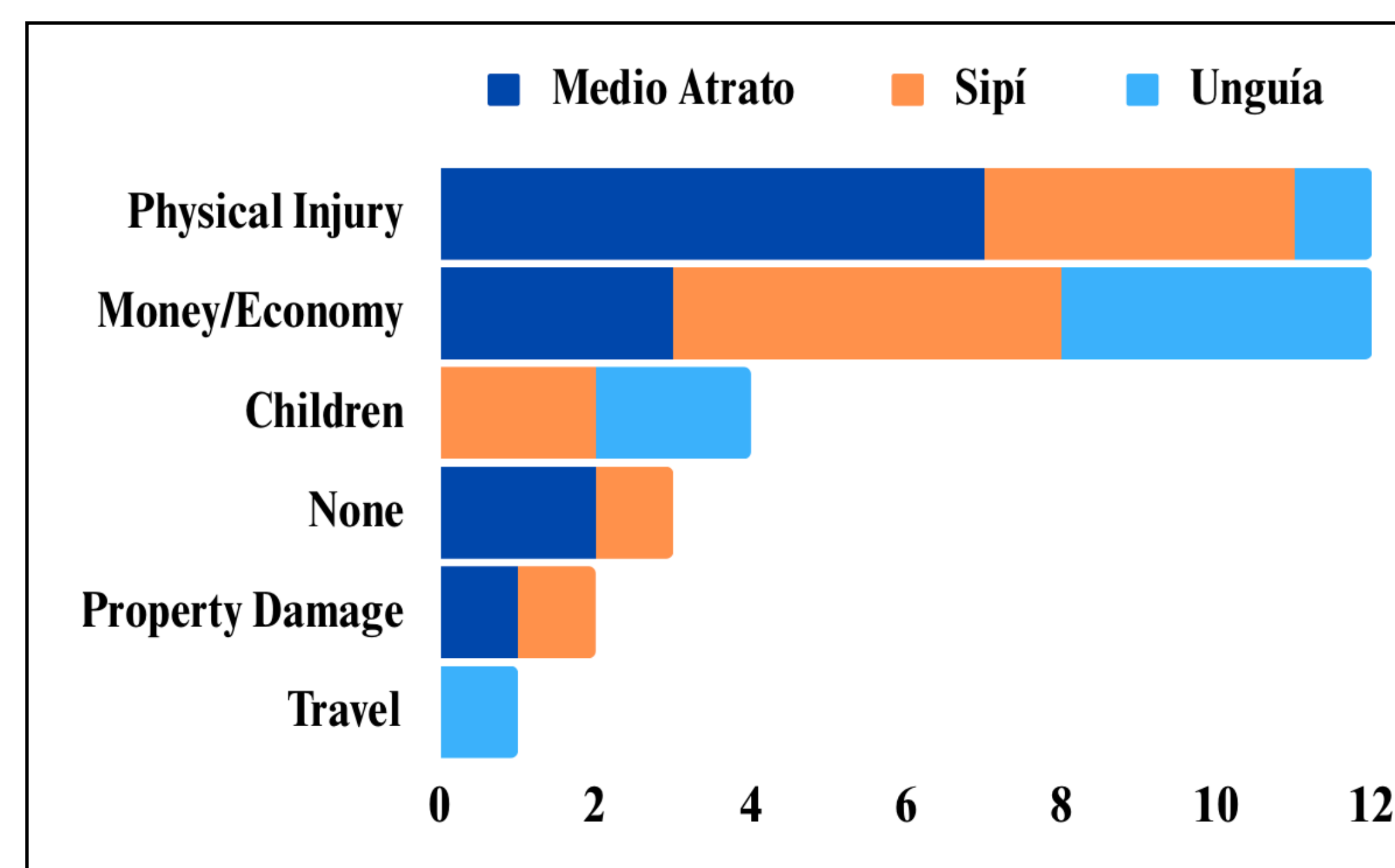
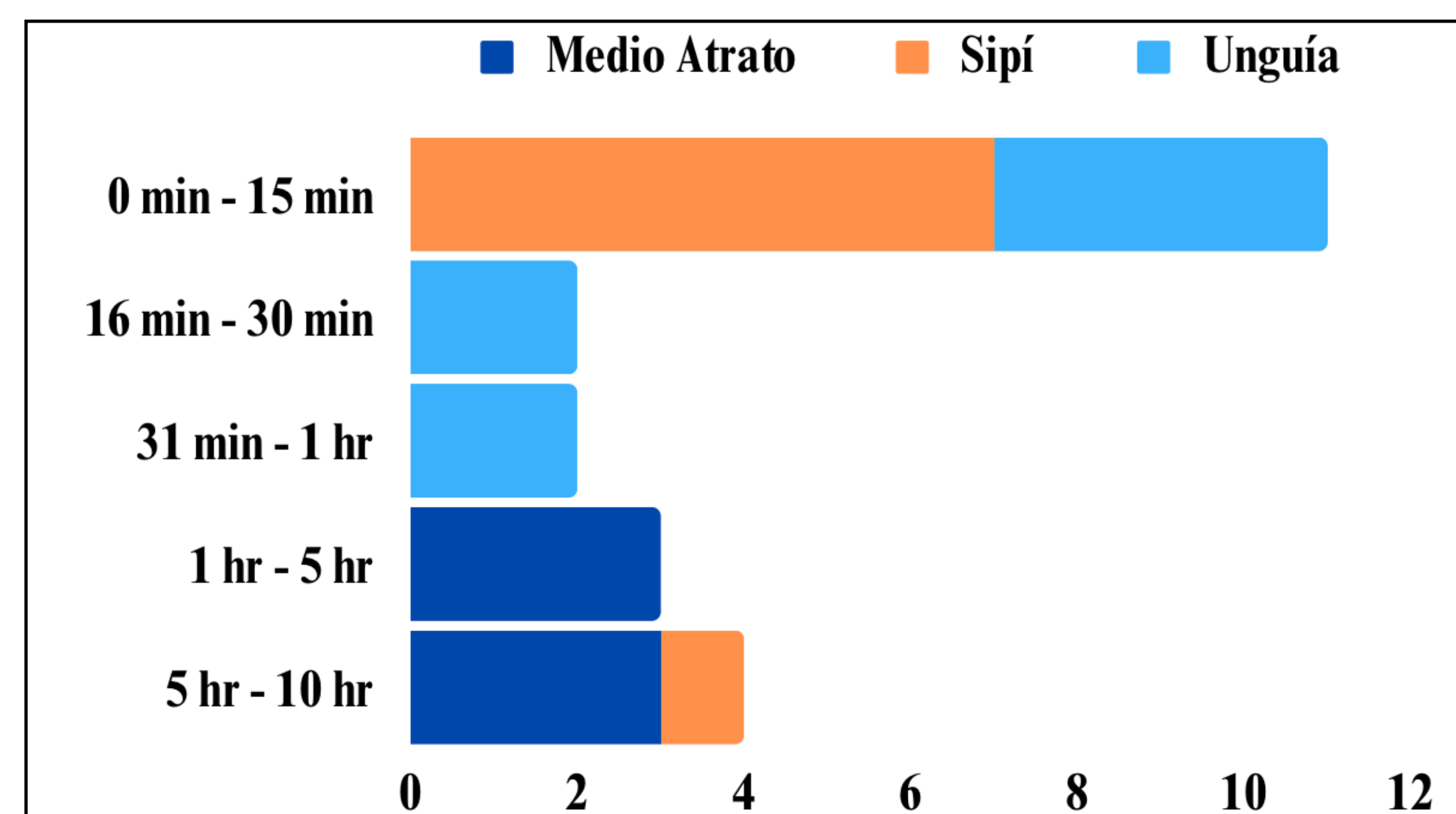
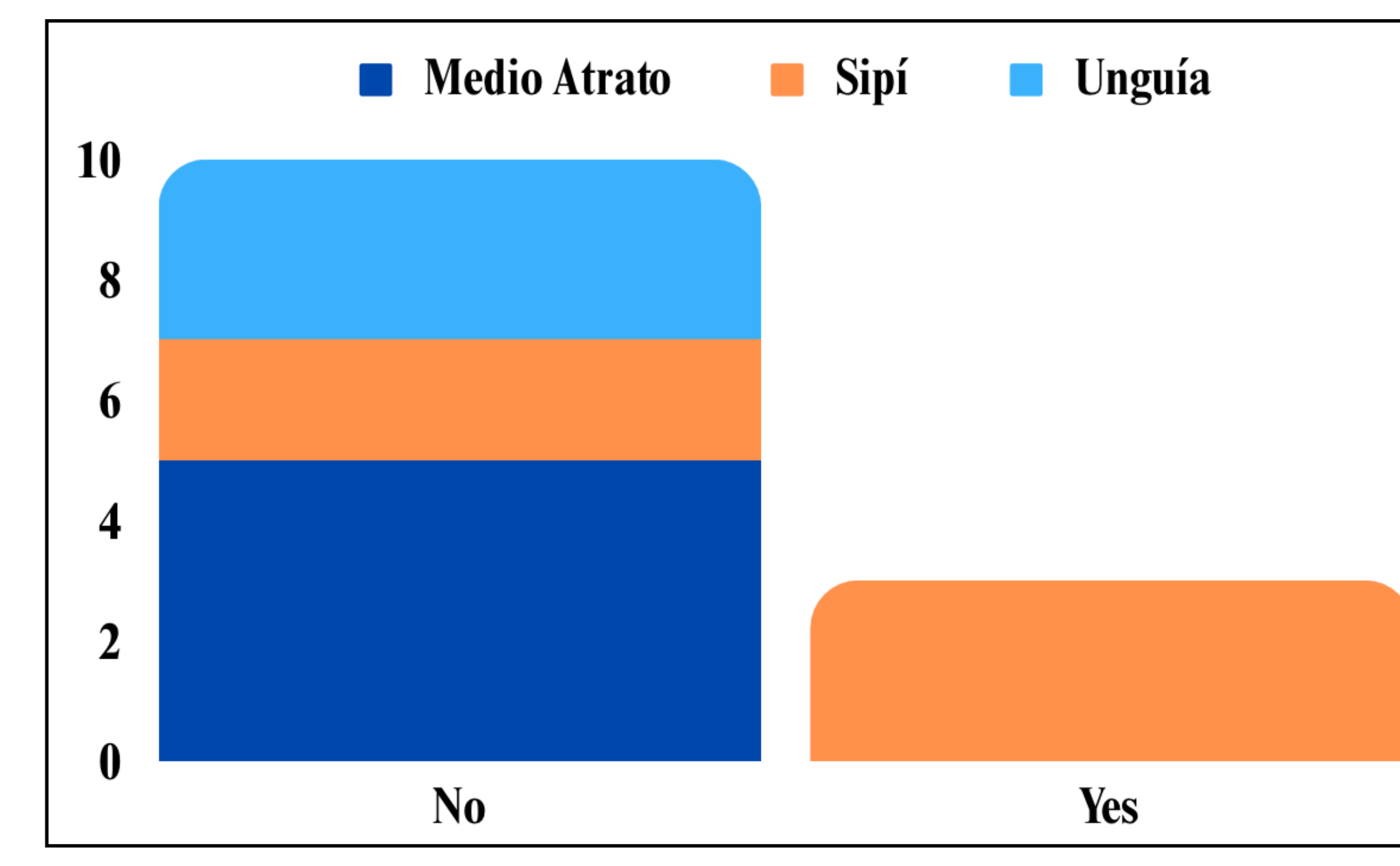


Figure 4. Time for energy acquisition



Figures and Results

Figure 5. Do you think that the energy sources you use are safe?



Conclusion

1. Despite being the most accessible energy source, firewood was not preferred by any respondents.
2. Medio Atrato had the highest occurrence of physical injury (burns, cuts, inhalation of firewood fumes, blindness, child miscarriage, etc.) among all municipalities.
3. Sipí has better access to energy than Medio Atrato and Unguía:
 - Lowest time for energy acquisition
 - Greater feelings of safe energy
 - Limited use of firewood
 - Increased access to gas and solar energy

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