



# RESULTS OF THE CENTRE REGION SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY

COMPLETED BY THE CENTRE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY - JULY 2021

FOR COLLEGE, FERGUSON, HALFMOON, HARRIS AND PATTON TOWNSHIPS  
AND THE BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE



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## Executive Summary

The Centre Regional Planning Agency (CRPA) sought resident input to gauge community knowledge of, and interest in sustainable practices for developing a regional Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. CRPA is creating a plan for the Centre Region that will identify strategies to reduce the region's greenhouse (GHG) emissions and adapt to a changing climate. Preparing for and managing climate change-related risks goes beyond local government and will require collective action from across our community. Public engagement is a key component to help create a relevant community action plan.

One way used to engage the public, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic, was through a survey. The survey took an average of 15 minutes and included questions related to:

- Sustainability strategies for buildings and energy, transportation, food, recycling, land use, and water
  - The factors that would affect the likelihood of respondents doing sustainable practices
  - the level of support for local government strategies
- Impacts of a changing climate
- Demographics

Two survey instruments were used to gather public opinion: a random sample mailed survey and a publicly advertised survey. Both surveys were conducted in the spring of 2021 and asked identical questions. After two months the surveys closed April 30, 2021, and a total of 1,824 responses were received: 744 from the mailed and 1,080 from the public survey. In return for completing the survey, respondents were entered to win a \$100 Downtown Improvement District gift card, a free energy audit, or a \$1,000 solar electric voucher.

### Results of Randomly Mailed Survey

#### Who did we hear from?

A postcard mailer was sent twice to 3,000 random residential addresses in College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris and Patton Townships and State College Borough in late February and March.

- We heard from 744 residents - 26% response rate.
- Most respondents were property owners (61%), over 26 years old (75%) and have lived in our community for more than 4 years (65%).
- Residents rated their concern about the impacts of climate change as 3.6 on a scale of 1 to 5, with a 5 being very concerned.
- 60% of the respondents agreed that climate change is happening. 15% were neutral on the topic.

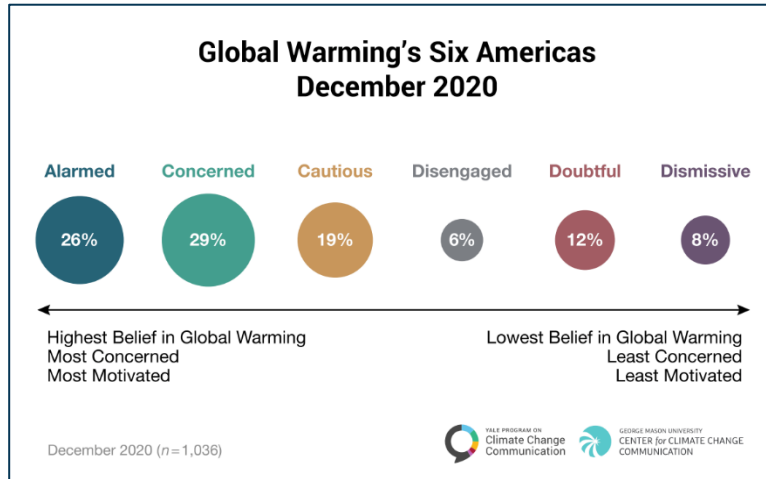
#### Is this a representative sample?

Yes. Based on the response rate, we achieved a 95% confidence level with 3.6% margin of error. To further understand our sample population, we also looked at available census data and it indicates that the demographics of survey respondents accurately reflects the makeup of the population based upon Census data.

And finally based on national public opinion polling completed by the [Yale Program on Climate Change Communication](#) and [George Mason University Center for Climate Change Communication](#) it was expected



potentially 80% of the community is neutral or agrees that climate change is happening (alarmed – disengaged = 80%). See image below.



- Many community members are doing sustainable practices (but not a majority) and education will likely have an impact on more people taking sustainable actions.
- The top 10 strategies that received broad support are listed below in order of their weighted average.

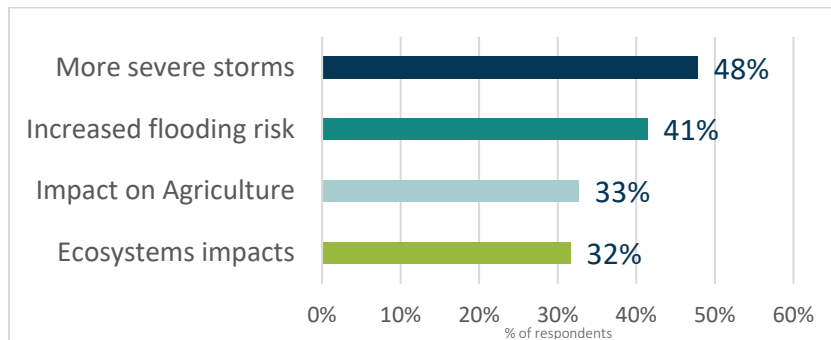
1 – Will not support

5 - Support

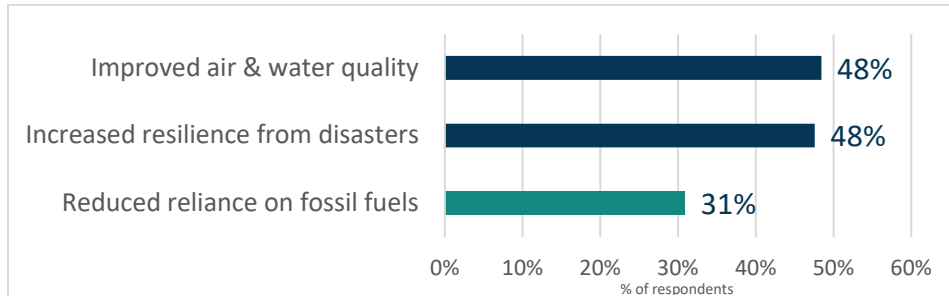


### What did we learn?

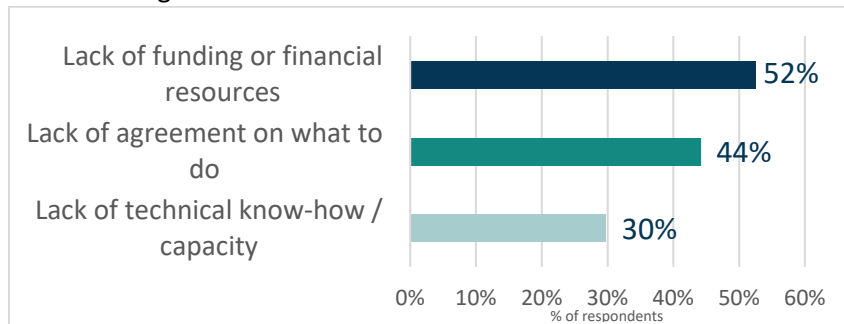
- Our community thinks the most significant impacts from a changing climate will be:



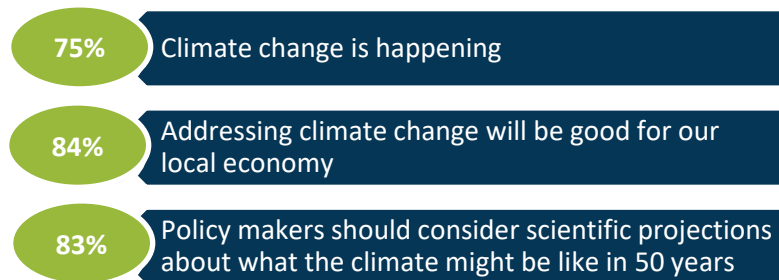
4. The community identified the 3 most important potential benefits by addressing climate change are:



5. They identified these 3 issues as most likely to prevent our community from taking action:



6. Below is the level of agreement for the following statements:



*Includes responses that were neutral, somewhat agreed and agreed with these statements.*

### Results of Publicly Advertised Survey

A total of 1,080 community members completed the on-line Public Opinion Survey. They live, work and study in College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris and Patton Townships and State College Borough.

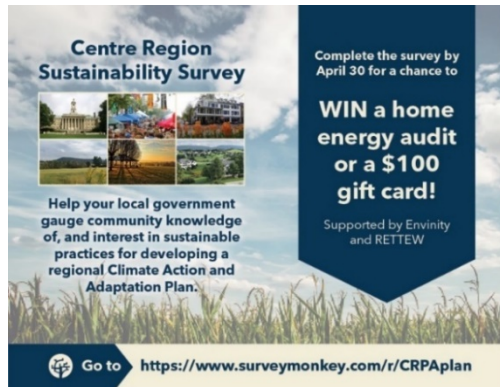
The responses aligned with the random mailed survey with the following noticeable differences:

- Residents rated their concern about the impacts of climate change as 3.9 rather than 3.6 out of five in the Random Sample Survey.
- The most significant impacts of climate change identified were: 1) Impacts on ecosystems, 2) Impacts on agriculture, 3) more severe storms and 4) health impacts.
- The top 10 strategies are basically the same.
  - The top strategy was ‘Identify high priority conservation lands’ with a weighted average of 4.48.
  - All strategies scored over 4 except for ‘Require gov’t to commit to 100% renewable energy’ which scored 3.86.
- The third issue identified as most likely to prevent our community from taking action was lack of political will, not technical know-how.
- 58% of the respondents were women and 35% were men, which is opposite from the random mailed survey.
- 83% of the respondents have a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 54% in the random mailed survey.

## Process: Randomly Sample Mailed Survey and Publicly Advertised Survey

### Random Sample Mailed Survey

A postcard mailer (image below) was sent to 3,000 random residential addresses on February 26 and March 29. Residents were asked to complete the survey through the link [www.surveymonkey.com/r/CRPAplan](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CRPAplan).



744 respondents received the postcard and took the survey resulting in a 26% response rate.

- 233 completed it from the mailed postcard link
  - 2 responses received after the 4/30 deadline were removed
- 511 completed it from the publicly advertised survey link
- 167 postcards were returned as undeliverable

Based on the response sample, we achieved a 95% confidence level with 3.6% margin of error.

Industry standard is 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error which would be 383 responses. The **confidence level** reveals how confident we can be that our community would select an answer within a certain range. The **margin of error** tells us how much we can expect our survey results to reflect the views of the overall population.

### Publicly Advertised Survey

Community members who did not receive the postcard had the option to complete the public survey beginning March 3, 2021. CRPA used traditional methods of outreach while increasing social media presence to inform the community about the survey. Community members were asked to complete the survey through the link: [centresustains.com/survey](https://centresustains.com/survey).

There were 1,080 responses to the publicly advertised survey.

The collage to the right highlights some of the outreach efforts.



### Next steps

The results will serve as the foundation for community ownership and commitment for actions in the CAAP, and will be a source of useful information going forward into the implementation phase of climate action and adaptation. The reports will be shared with the General Forum, municipal managers, authorities and other relevant stakeholders. A press release and social media updates will be sent out to direct the community to view the results. Both reports will be available on the COG website ([www.crcog.net/climateaction](http://www.crcog.net/climateaction) ) and [CentreSustains.com](http://CentreSustains.com).

The next step is to develop the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan and have the six municipalities adopt it. The Plan will be made available for public review in late summer, early fall for public feedback.

Continued active support of key stakeholders and inclusive community engagement will be necessary to design an effective Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. It's vitally important to have collaborations with governmental entities, businesses, community organizations and residents. Through these efforts and others, the Centre Region can achieve additional benefits beyond reducing emissions, including saving money and improving Centre Region's economic vitality and its quality of life.





# **CENTRE REGION SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY – RESULTS RANDOMLY MAILED RESPONSES**

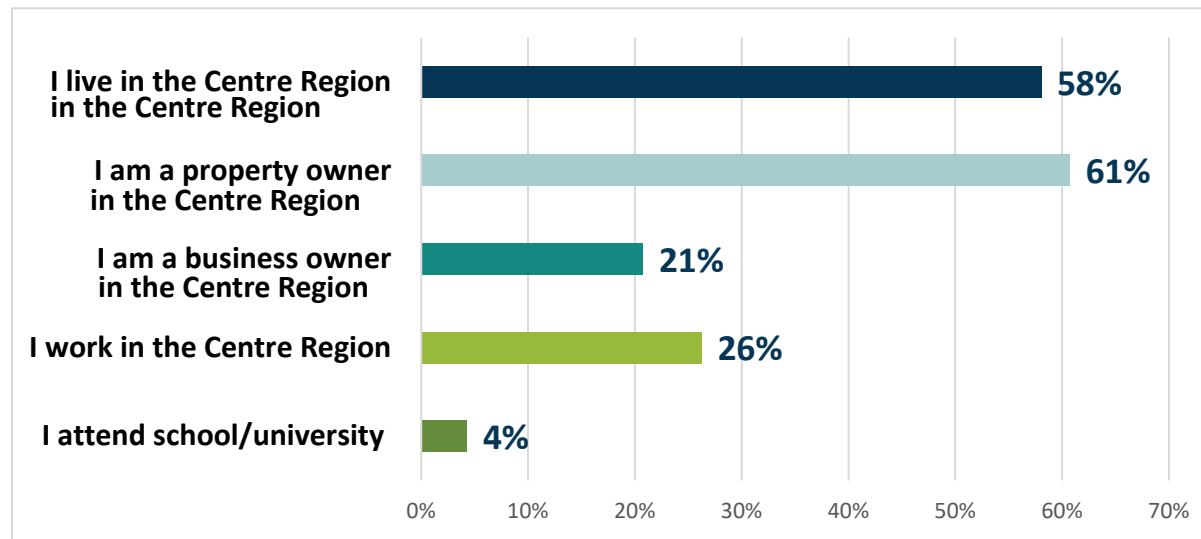
744 Total Responses  
Survey closed April 30, 2021



## Centre Region Sustainability Survey – Random Mailed Responses

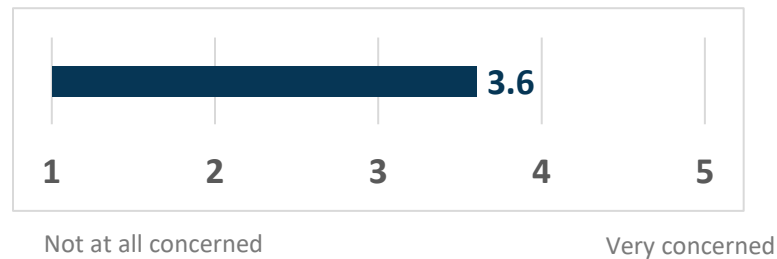
### 1. Which of the following describes you? *Check all that apply*

Answered: 744



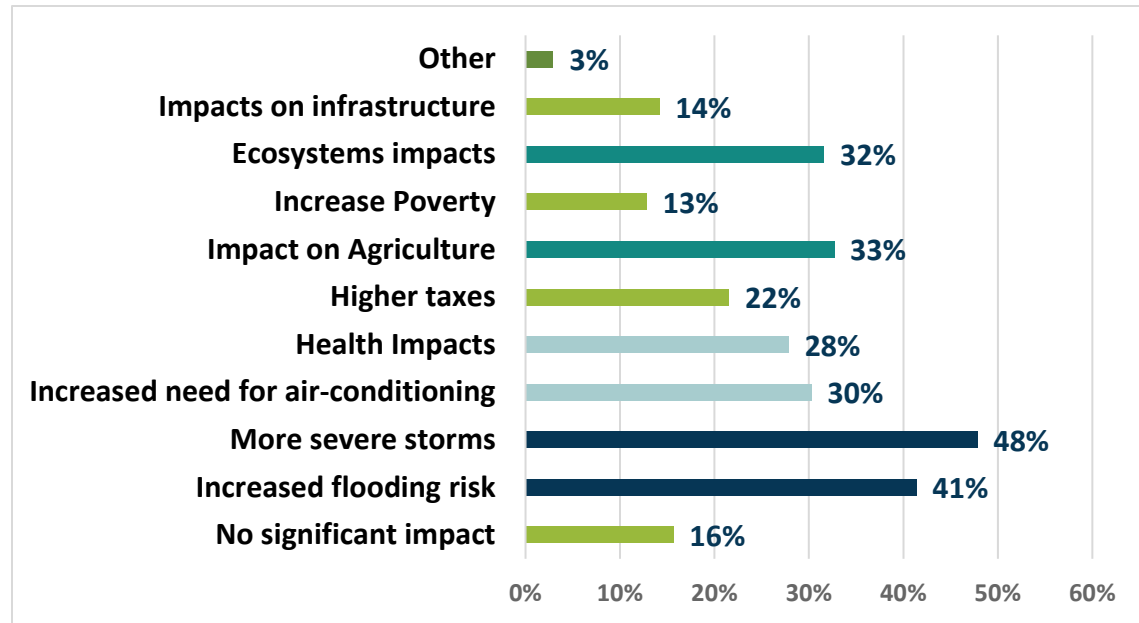
### 2. How concerned are you about the possible impacts a changing climate might have on the Centre Region?

Answered: 744



3. What do you think the most significant impacts of a possible change in climate might be for our community? (Please select up to 3 options)

Answered: 744

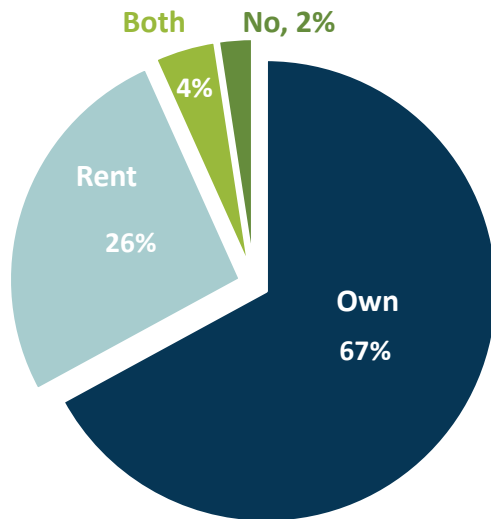


4. Did you receive a mailed postcard informing you about this survey?

744 answered - YES

5. Do you own or rent a home or business property in the Centre Region?

Answered: 744



	# of responses
Own	499
Rent	195
Both	32
No	18




## Buildings and energy **for property owners**



### 6. Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices? *Check all that apply*

Answered: 523

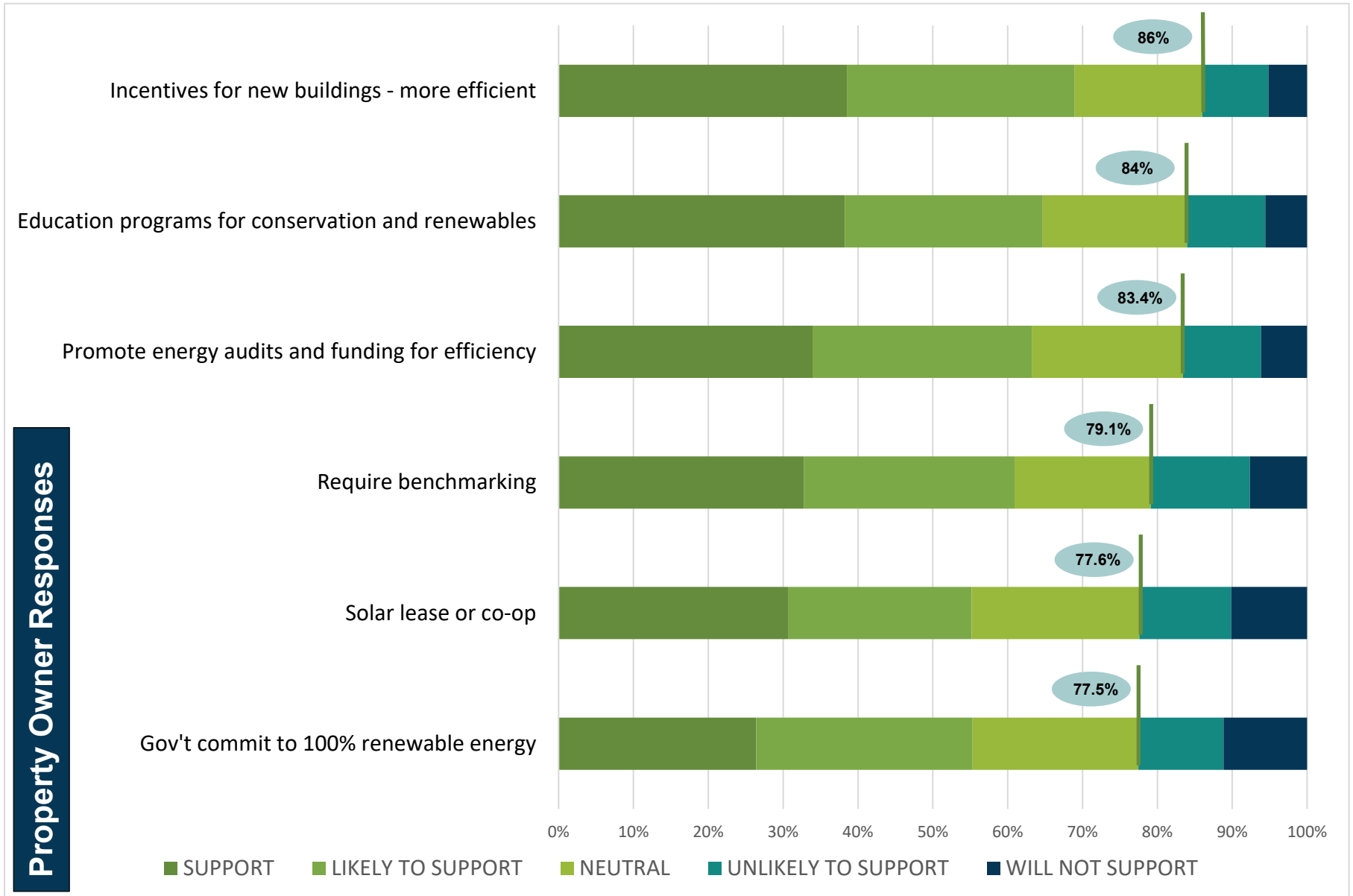
	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Use energy efficient light bulbs (LEDs or CFLs)	16%	10%	11%	11%	5%	56%	523
Complete an energy efficiency audit	18%	25%	19%	22%	8%	16%	518
Install solar panels	37%	15%	18%	18%	13%	10%	516
Purchase renewable energy through my utility bill (PA Power Switch)	25%	22%	15%	24%	10%	14%	520
Use a programmable thermostat to reduce my heating/cooling bills	12%	15%	12%	16%	14%	37%	521
Purchase ENERGY STAR appliances	11%	8%	10%	14%	8%	54%	519

 Teal colored boxes indicate the factors with the largest percentage of responses.



7. Indicate your level of support for potential strategies that your local government could consider making the Region's buildings more energy-efficient and increase our renewable energy use.

Answered: 528



## 8. What other actions should be considered as it relates to buildings and energy?

Answered: 220

- Layout of building (i.e efficiency of A/C units)
- Electrification (ban new natural gas hookups)
- Limit nighttime light pollution
- Greenspace
- Alternative energy
- Invest in older / low-income homes (better insulation, windows, bulbs, etc)
- Tax-deductible alternative energy for homeowners



Buildings and energy **for renters**



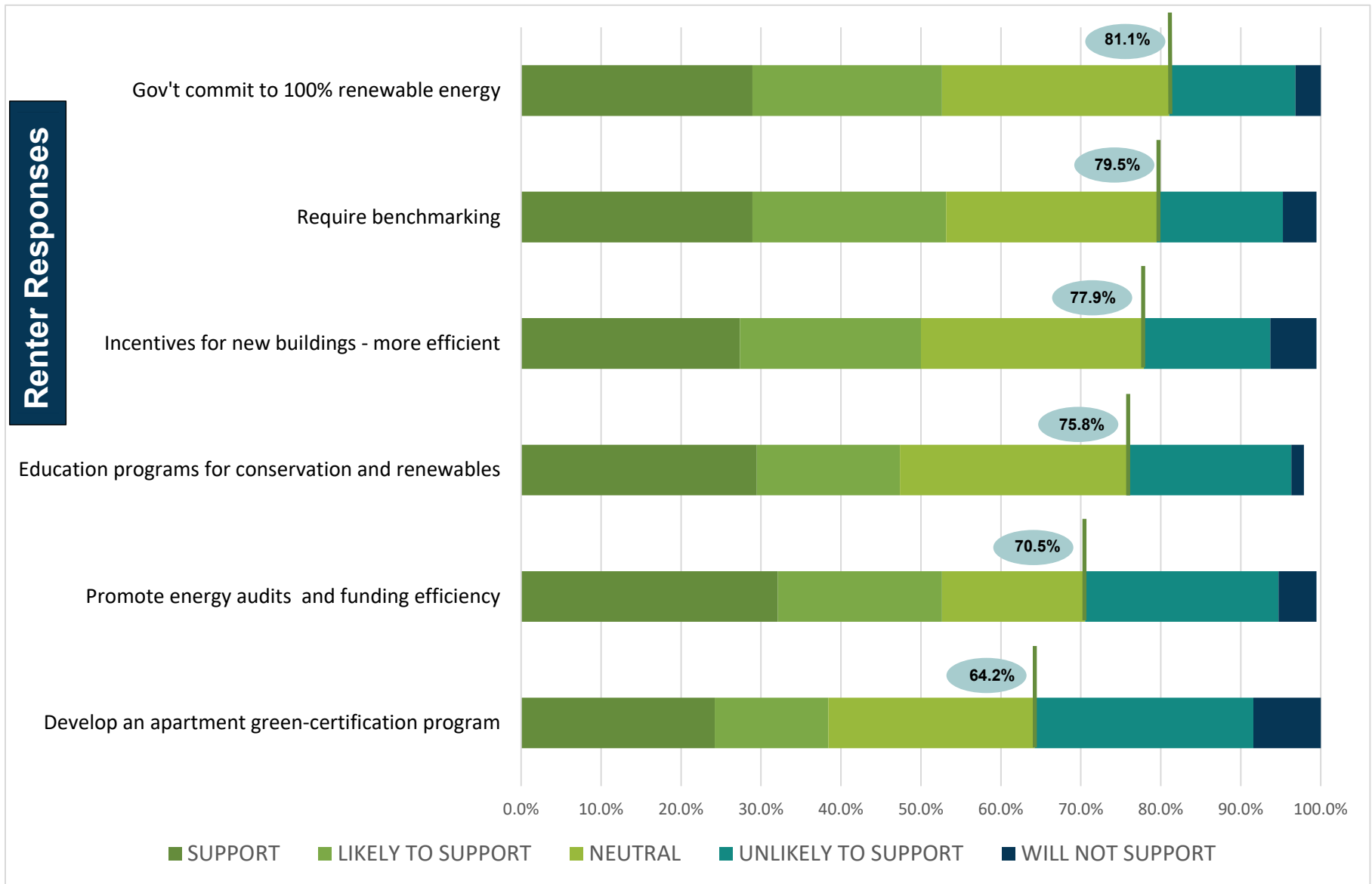
## 9. Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices? *Check all that apply*

Answered: 190

	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Use energy efficient light bulbs (LEDs or CFLs)	13%	29%	21%	14%	9%	20%	190
Conserve energy by turning off lights/electronics when I'm not using them	7%	18%	23%	21%	11%	22%	189
Purchase renewable energy through my utility bill (PA Power Switch)	10%	19%	24%	27%	17%	9%	190
Adjust my thermostat to save money on heating and cooling	7%	14%	23%	28%	12%	21%	190
Consider energy efficiency of the property when choosing where I rent	11%	21%	24%	22%	17%	10%	188

 Teal colored boxes indicate the factors with the largest percentage of responses.

10. Below are examples of strategies that your local government could consider making the region's buildings more energy-efficient and increase our renewable energy use. Please indicate your level of support for the potential strategies. Answered: 190






 Sustainable Transportation

**12. Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices?** *Check all that apply*

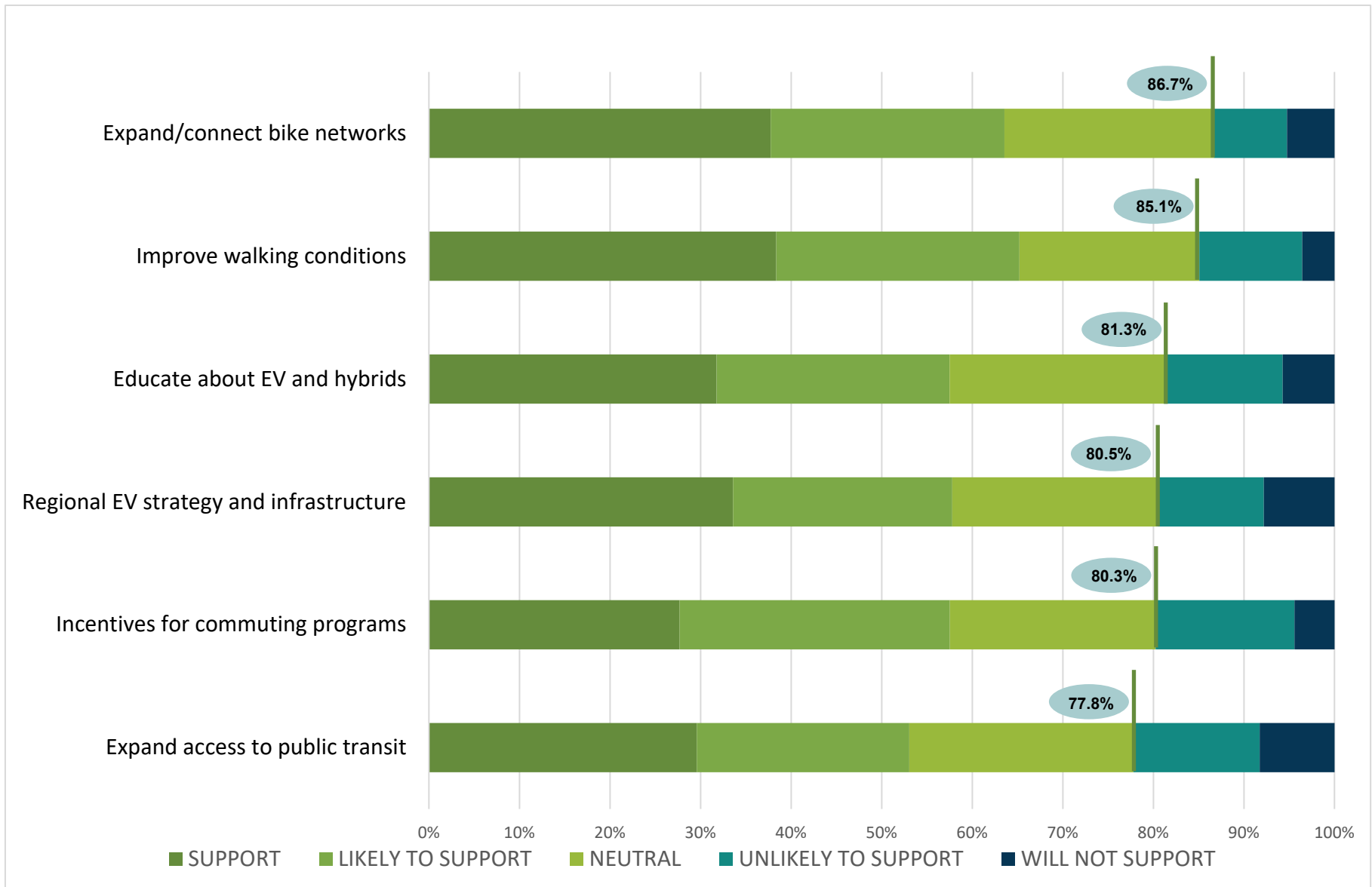
Answered: 706

	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Take the bus to work/school	11%	15%	21%	16%	29%	15%	687
Walk or bike to work/school	4%	12%	21%	18%	29%	21%	685
Carpool to work/school	4%	9%	19%	25%	37%	10%	677
Work remotely or have a modified office schedule	4%	10%	15%	19%	26%	30%	689
Drive a fuel-efficient car (>27 mpg)	15%	10%	15%	19%	15%	30%	694
Drive an alternative fuel (electric, hybrid, CNG) vehicle	26%	11%	14%	25%	16%	15%	690

 Teal colored boxes indicate the factors with the largest percentage of responses.

13. Indicate your level of support for potential strategies that your local government could consider to help the community choose healthier and more sustainable modes of transportation.

Answered: 707



#### 14. What other actions should be considered as it relates to transportation?

Answered: 262

- Reduced parking fees for hybrids/EVs
- Vehicle-free public spaces
- Detached bike/ped lanes
- Rail link / Amtrak Station
- More money to support CATA




### Food and Recycling

#### 15. Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices? *Check all that apply*

Answered: 697

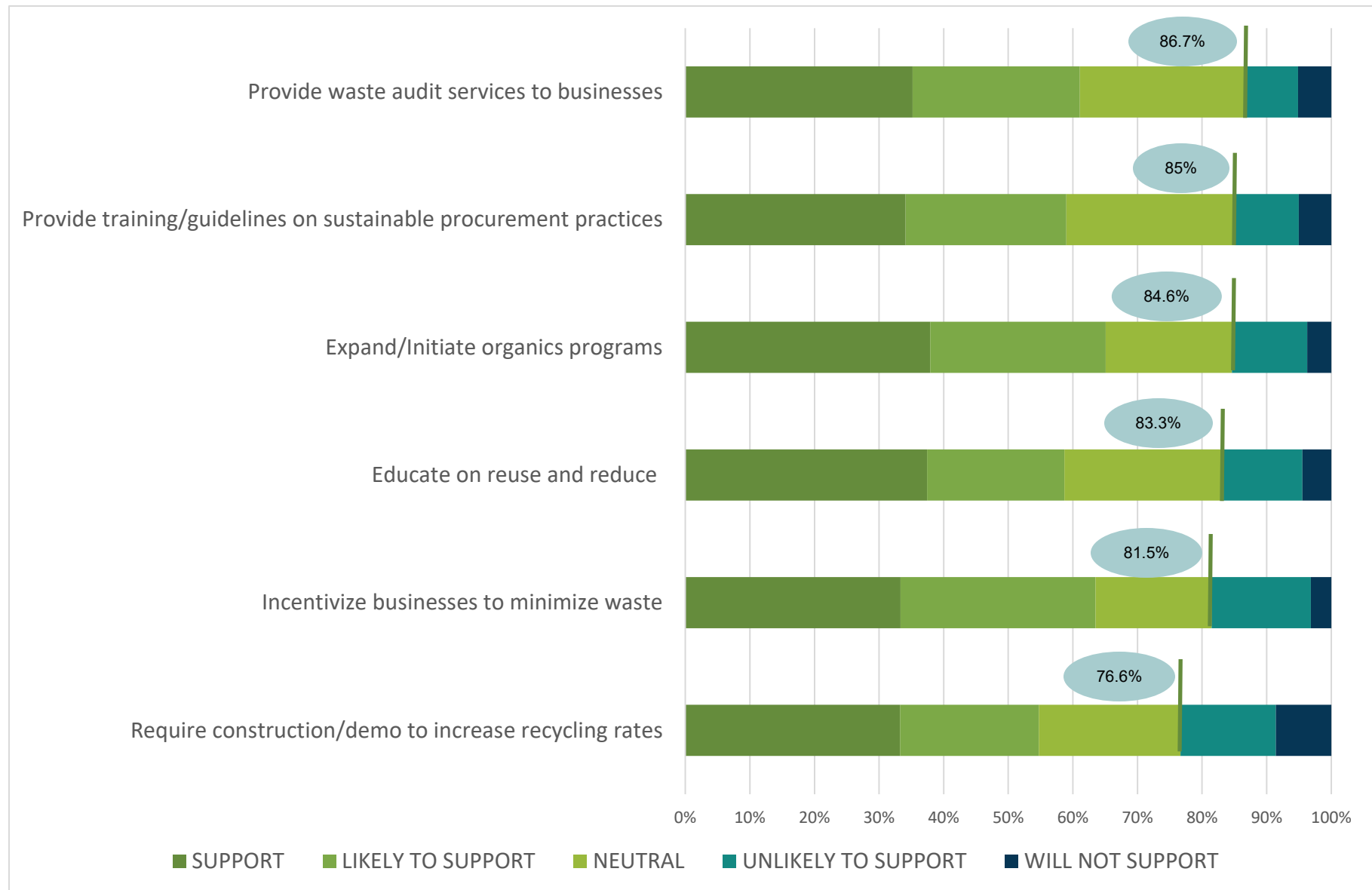
	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Recycle	11%	13%	13%	12%	5%	50%	678
Avoid single-use plastics-products	6%	16%	19%	17%	13%	36%	687
Reduce my food waste (change shopping habits)	4%	11%	19%	22%	8%	43%	692
Purchase locally grown food or grow my own	8%	13%	20%	17%	10%	41%	693
Eat a more plant-based diet (reduce meat consumption)	5%	9%	14%	29%	14%	35%	694

 Teal colored boxes indicate the factors with the largest percentage of responses.



16. Indicate your level of support for potential strategies that your local government could consider to help increase the community's recycling rate and reduce its food waste.

Answered: 699



### 17. What other actions should be considered as it relates to waste and recycling?

Answered: 265

- Community composting
- Reduce business waste (grocery stores, manufacturers)
- High concern about tax increases
- Focus on “reuse”
- Expanded recycling



Land Use and Water



### 18. Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices? *Check all that apply*

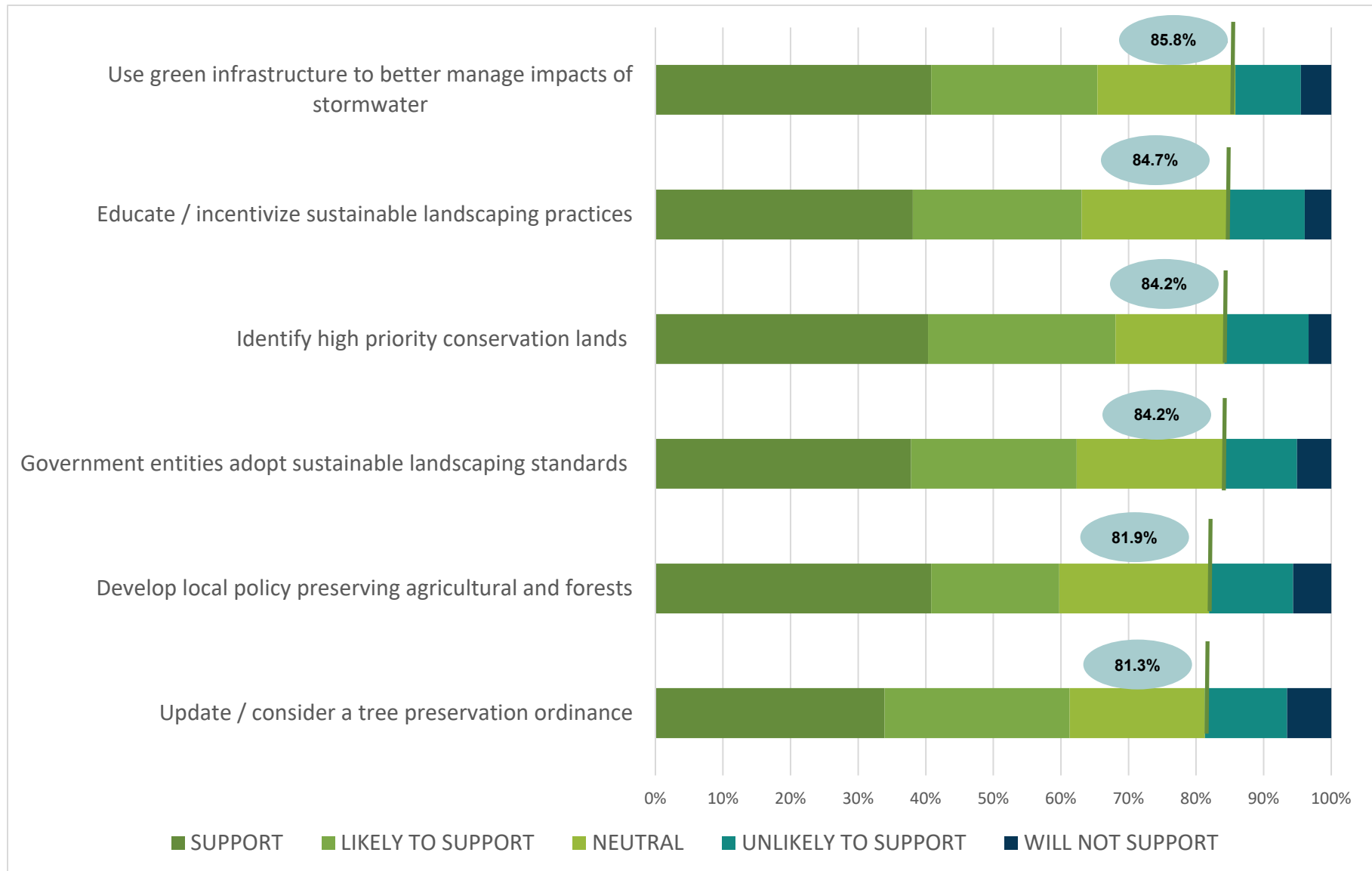
Answered: 691

	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Plant native flowers, shrubs and/or trees	12%	20%	17%	11%	9%	36%	687
Use rain barrels to collect stormwater for re-use	8%	20%	21%	28%	15%	15%	684
Install landscaping that reduces my need for watering	9%	17%	21%	19%	12%	28%	686
Install landscaping that reduces my lawn mowing needs	8%	17%	16%	23%	19%	24%	686
Use compost on my lawn and gardens instead of fertilizers	7%	14%	18%	20%	17%	30%	681

Teal colored boxes indicate the factors with the largest percentage of responses.

19. Indicate your level of support for potential strategies that your local government could consider helping find a workable balance among resource protection, agricultural production, economic growth, and community growth.

Answered: 692



20. What other actions should be considered as it relates to land use and water?

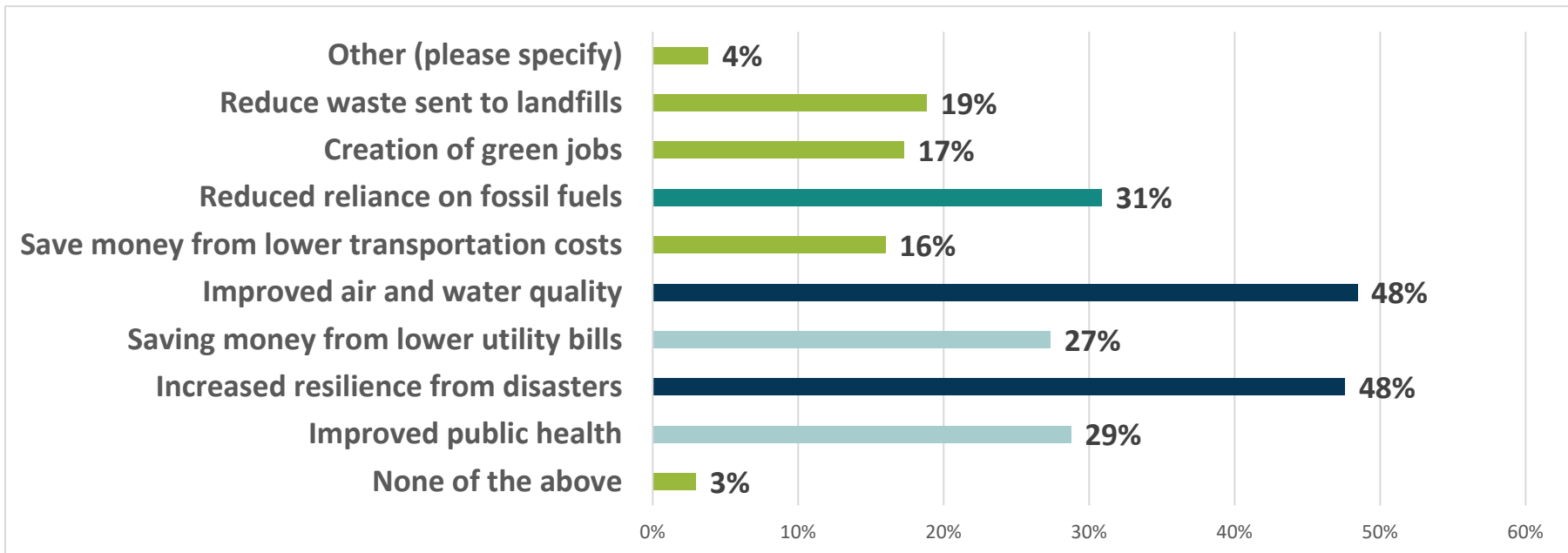
Answered: 257

- Native plants/biodiverse lawns & public parks
- Community education / Day of Caring
- Stormwater fees (50-50 split between support and not supporting)
- Ban / tax the use of “toxic” pesticides (such as Roundup, fertilizer, and lawn care treatments)
- Preserve healthy trees & limit spread of tree diseases
- Redevelop abandoned properties

**Community Interest**

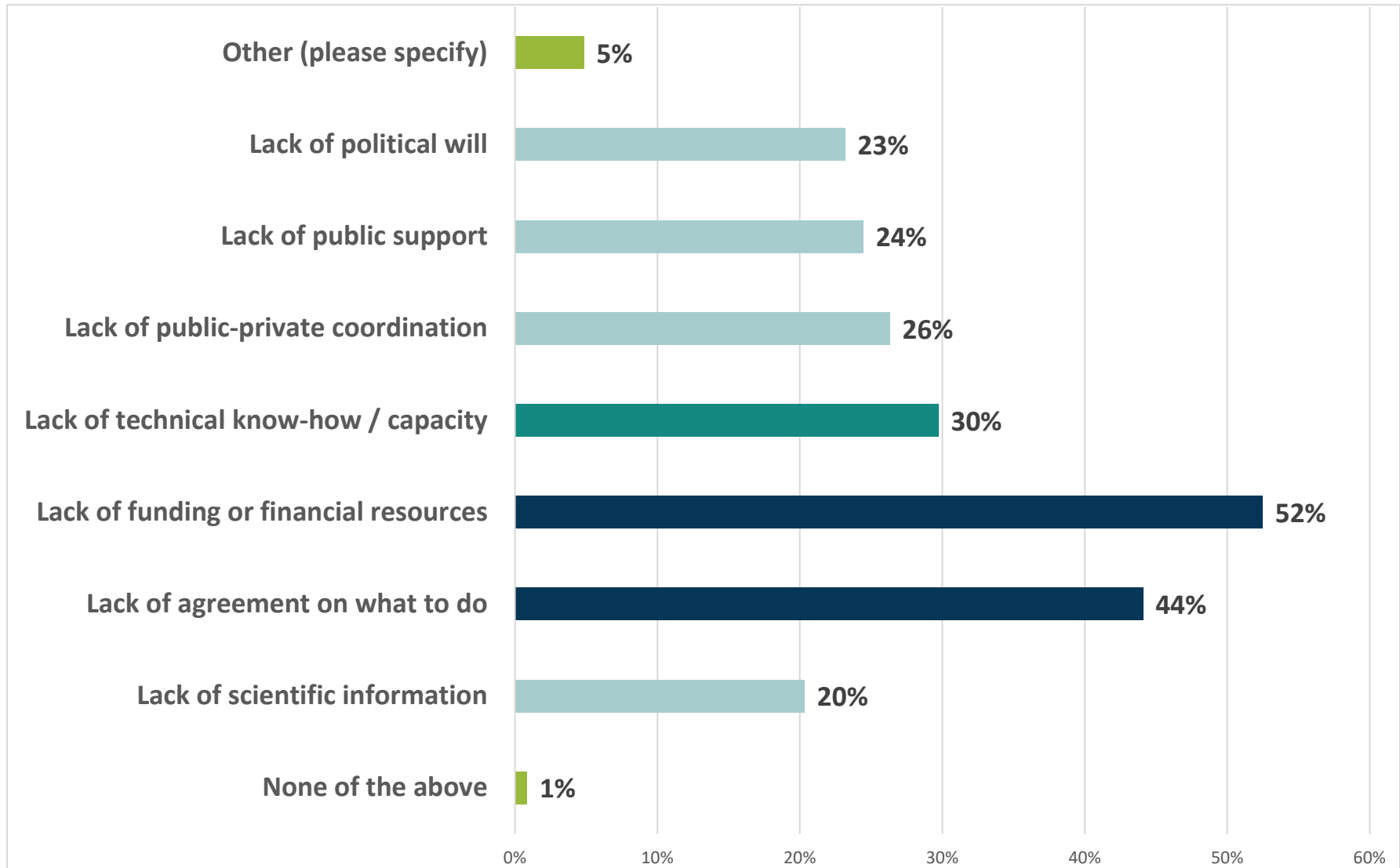
21. Of the many potential benefits experienced by addressing climate change, select the 3 that are most important to you.

Answered: 706



22. What is most likely to prevent your community from taking action to address climate change? (please select no more than 3)

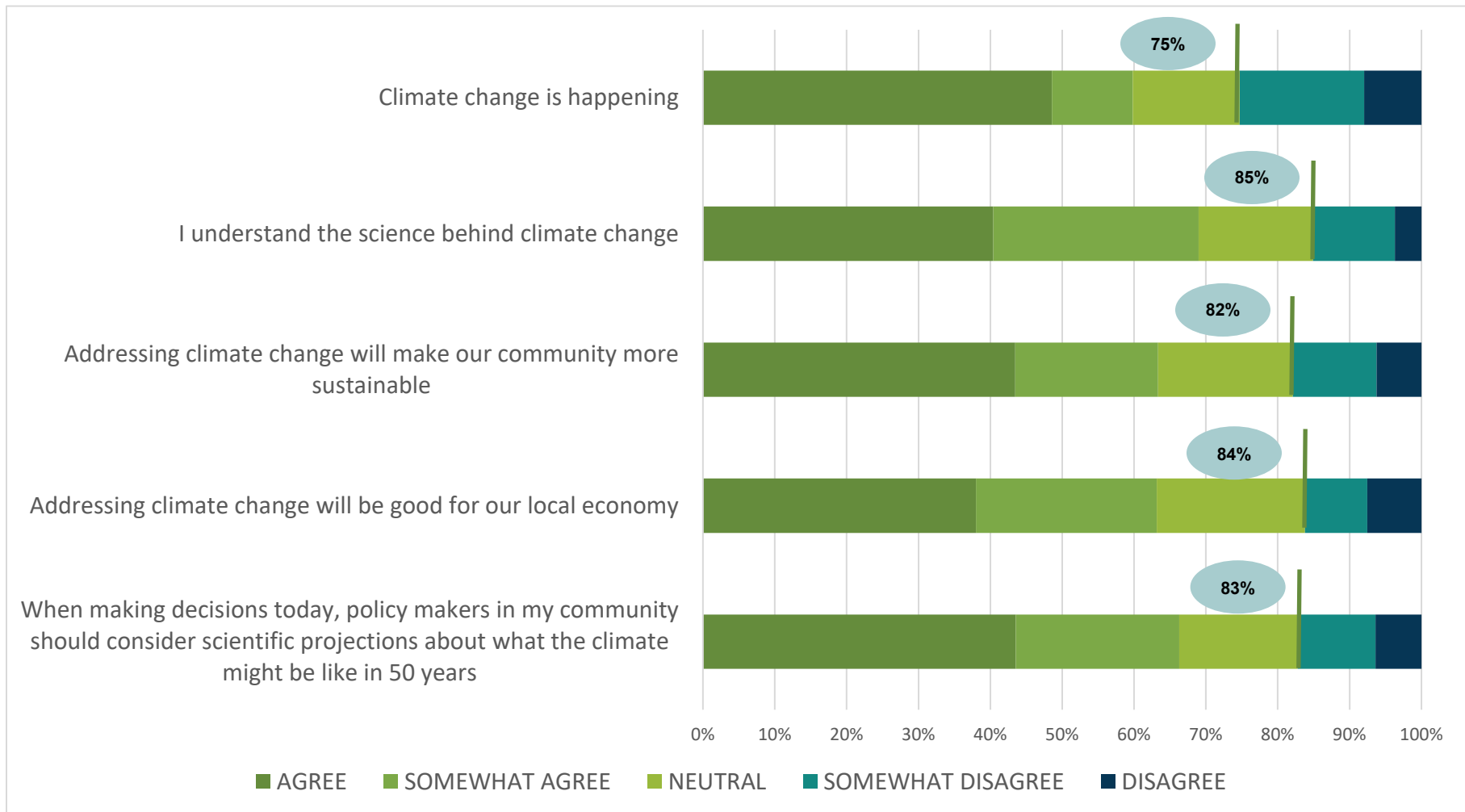
Answered: 703





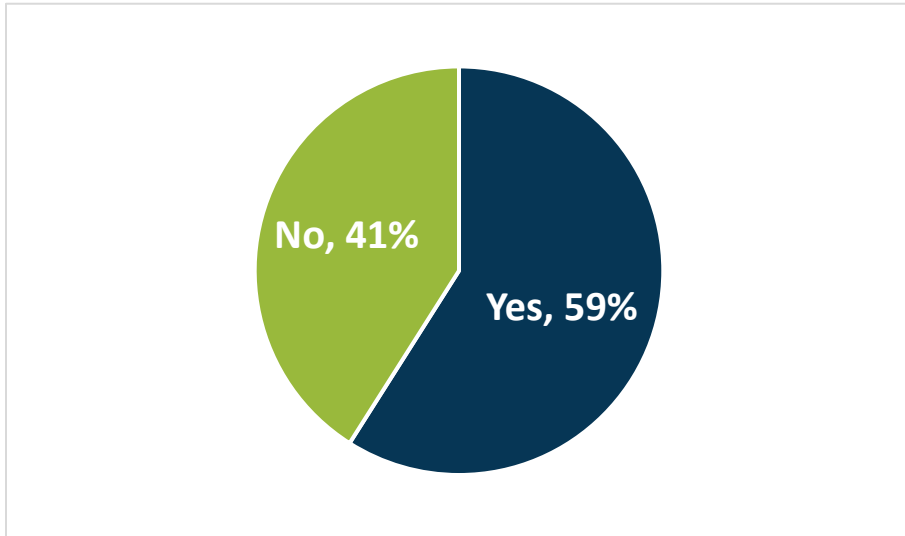
23. Please state your level of agreement for the following statements

Answered: 706



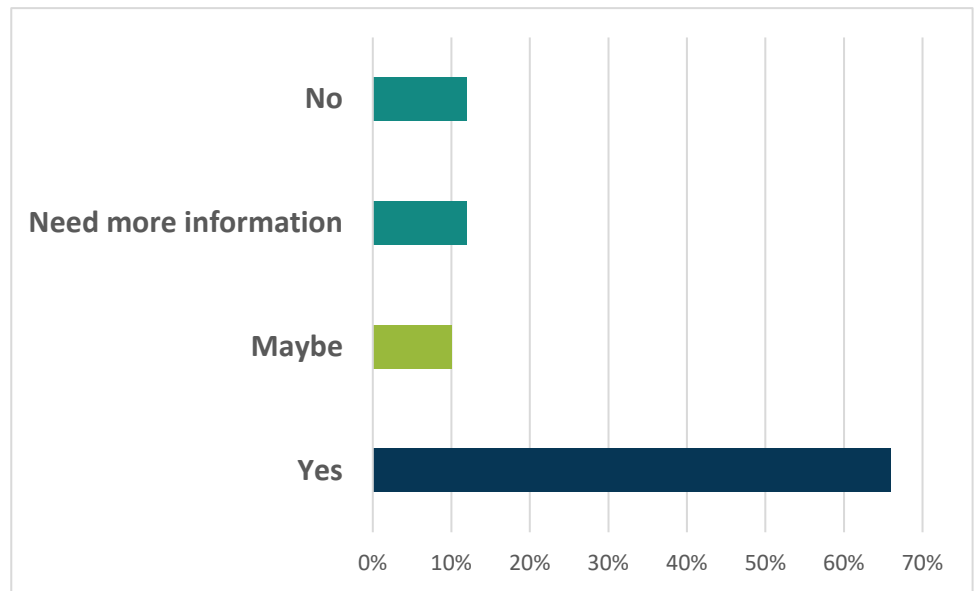
**24. Do you or have you ever paid for carbon offsets before?**

Answered: 701



**25. Would you support a local carbon offset program that would use the funds generated to support projects that reduce our community's emissions such as local reforestation, low-income weatherization projects, and public renewable energy installations?**

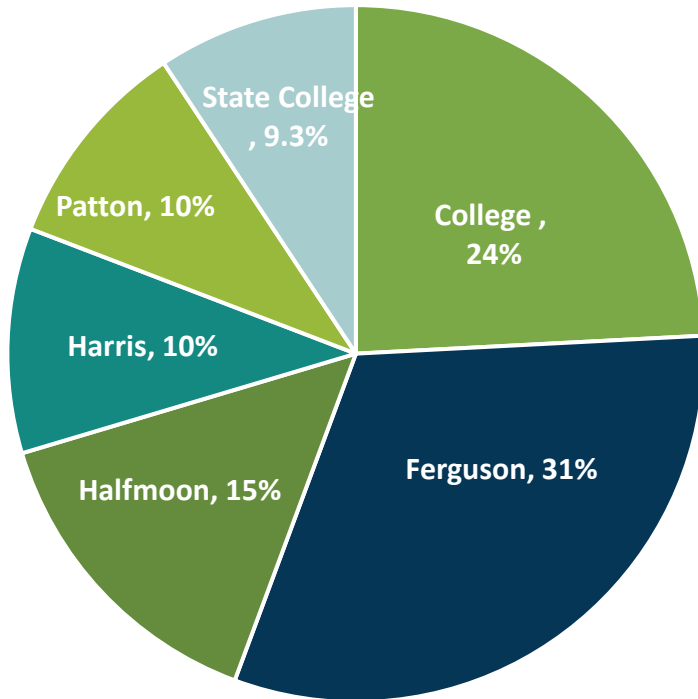
Answered: 705



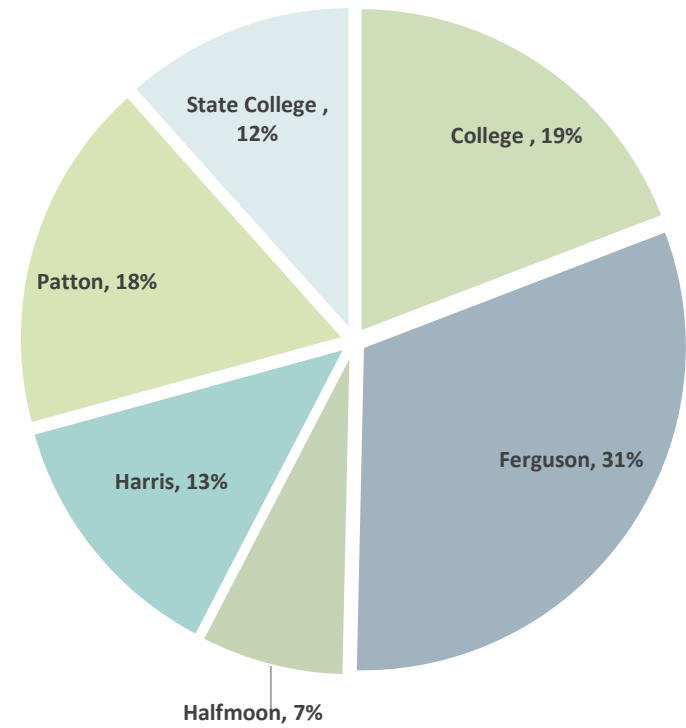
# Demographics

28. If you live in the Centre Region, which municipality do you live in?

Answered: 699

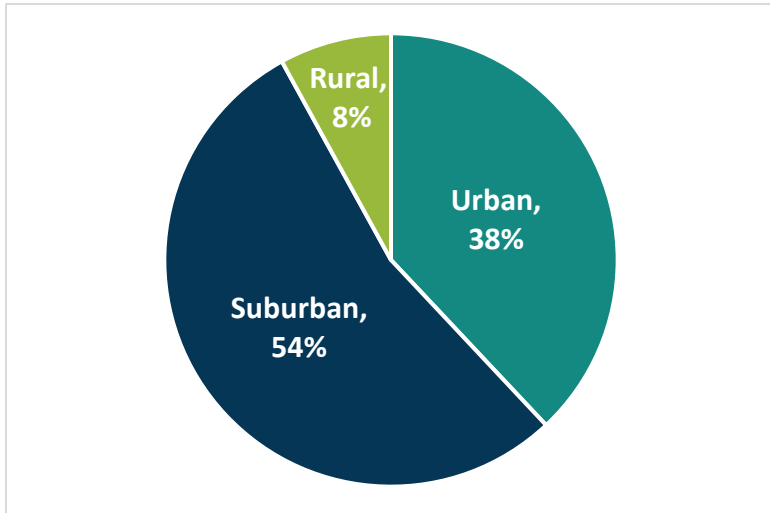


Owner occupied census population (for comparison)



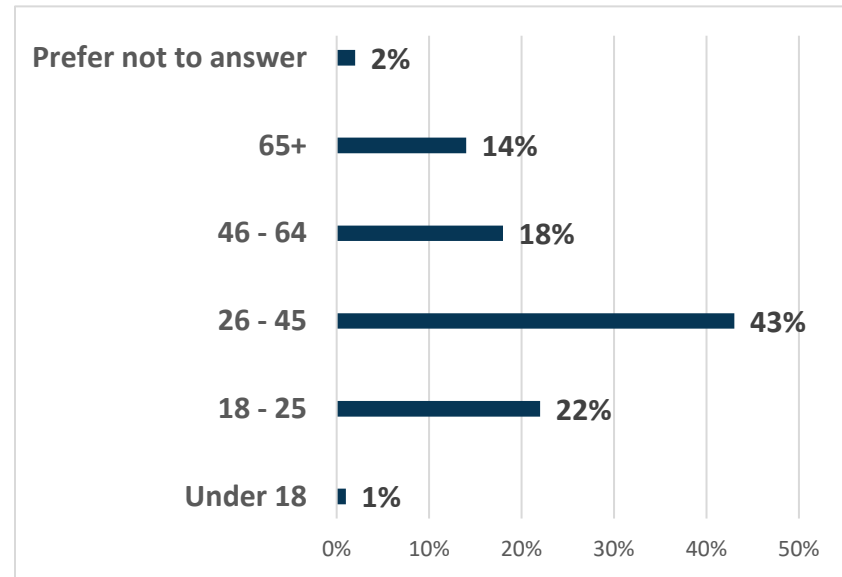
29. How would you describe where you live?

Answered: 696

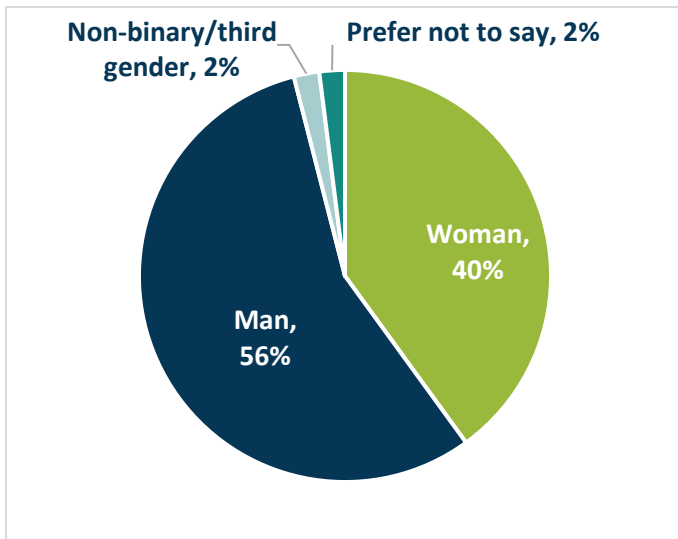


30. What is your age group?

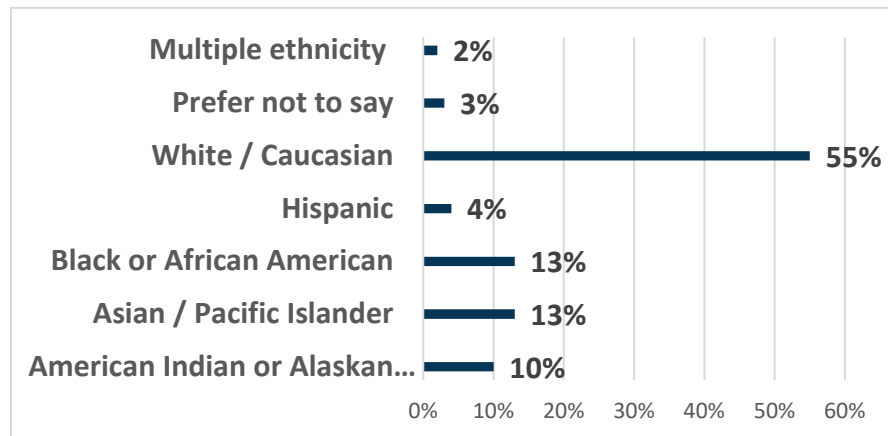
Answered: 703



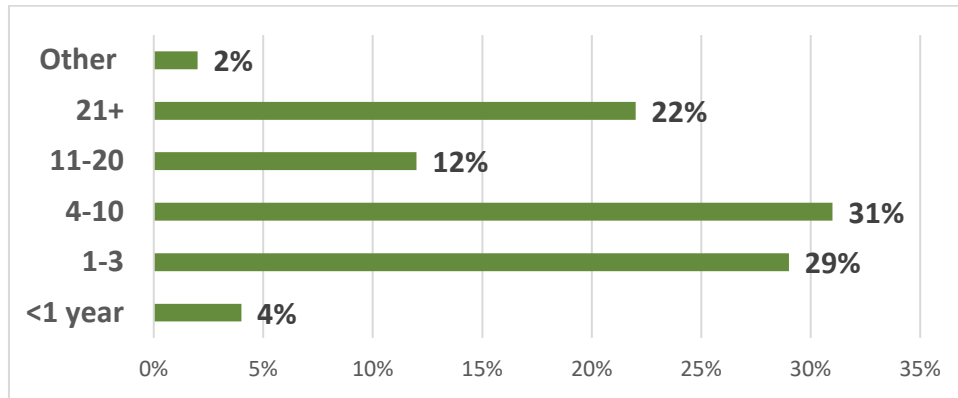
31. What is your gender? Answered: 700



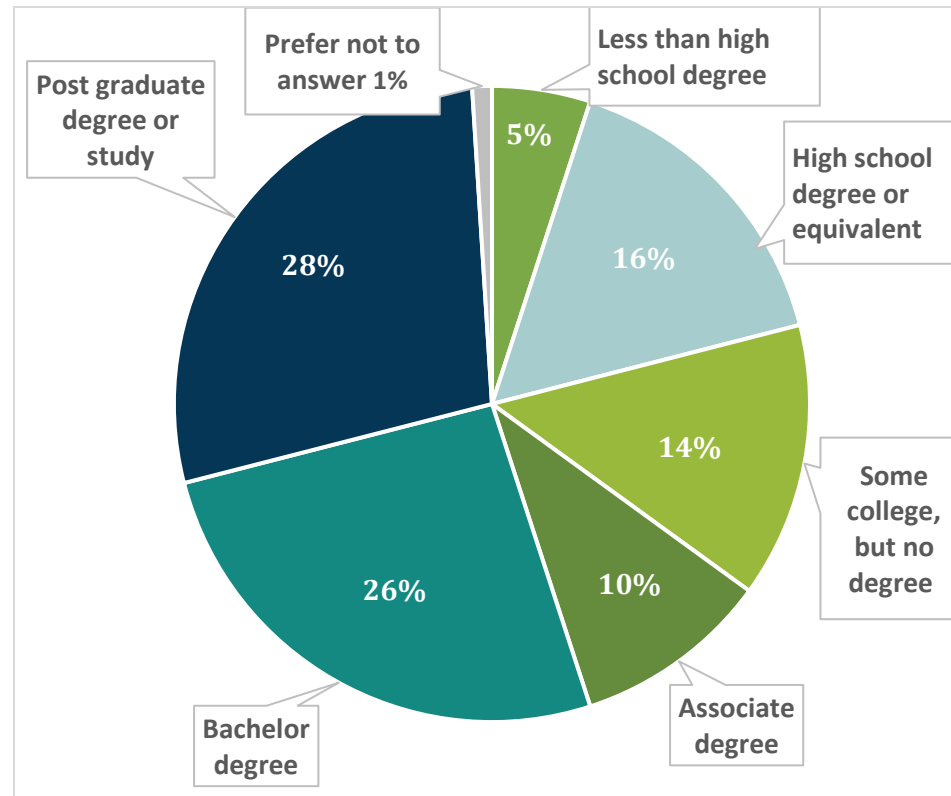
32. Which race/ethnicity best describes you? Answered: 705



33. How long have you been a member of this community? Answered: 704



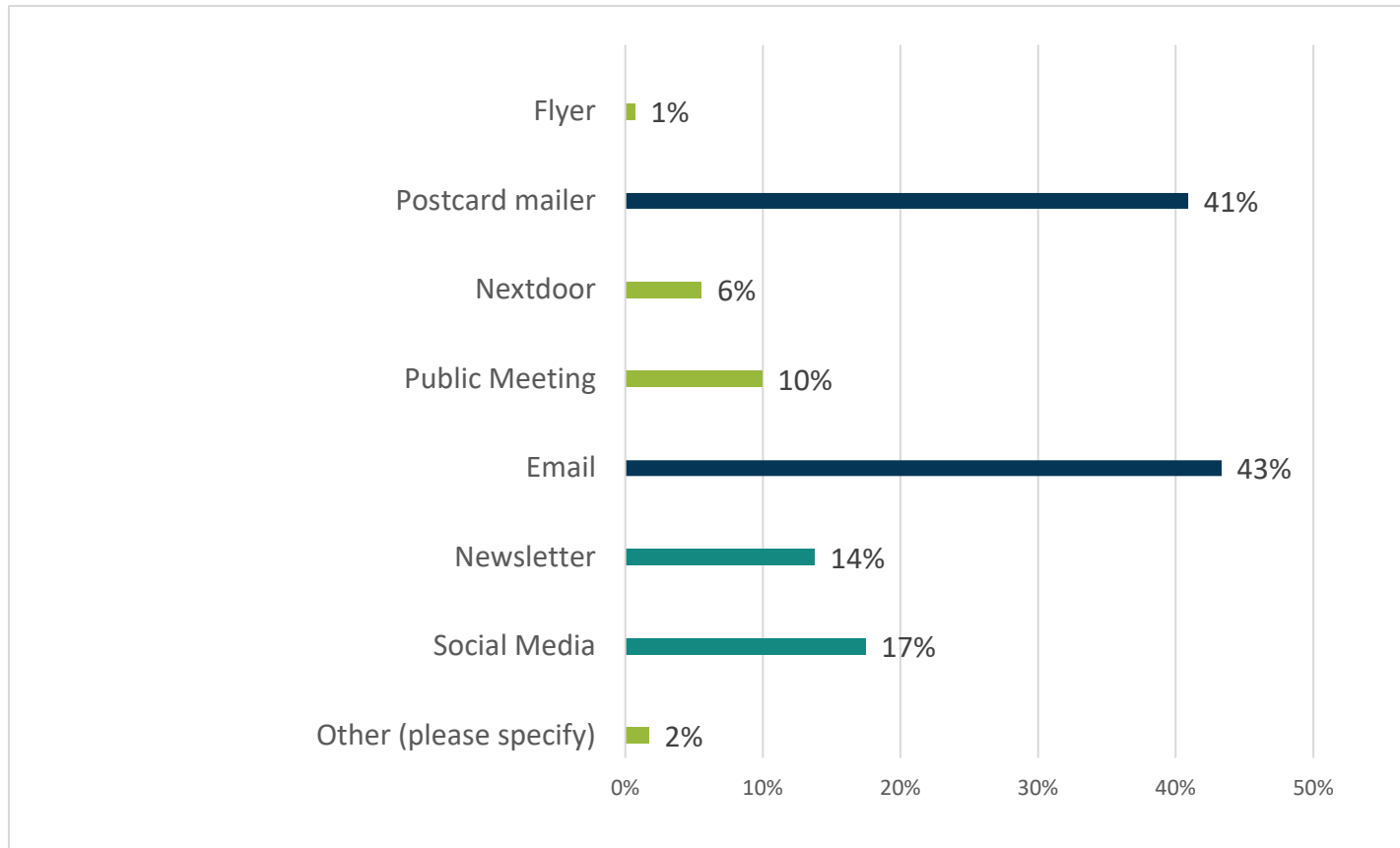
34. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received? Answered: 705





**35. How did you hear about this survey?** *Check all that apply*

Answered: 704



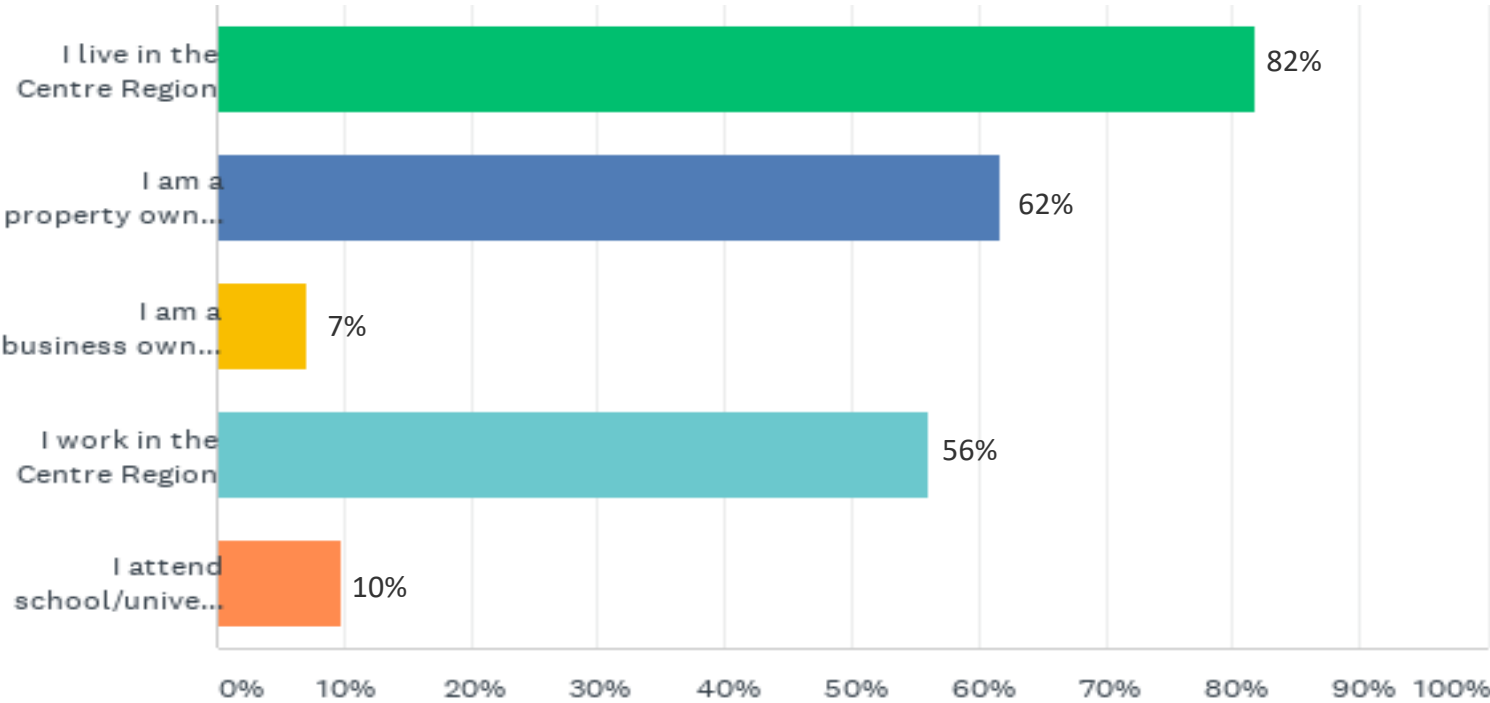


**CENTRE REGION  
SUSTAINABILITY SURVEY – RESULTS  
PUBLICLY ADVERTISED RESPONSES**

1,080 Total Responses  
Survey closed April 30, 2021

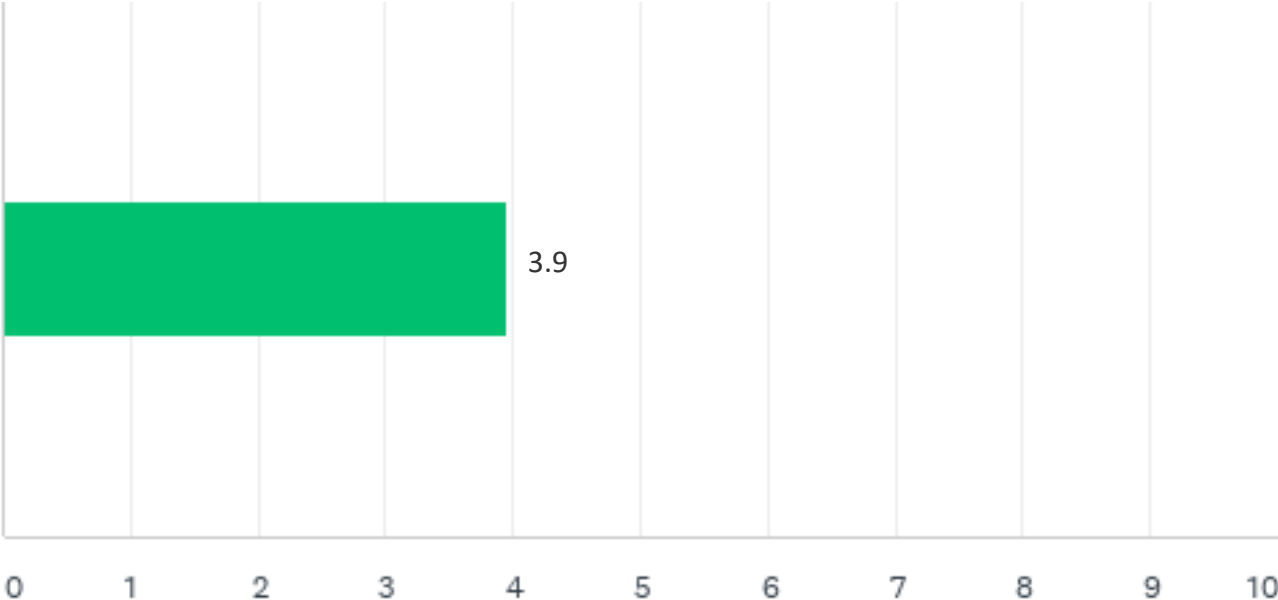
**Q1: Which of the following describes you? Check all that apply. Note that the Centre Region is defined as College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton Townships and State College Borough (it is basically the State College Area School District).**

Answered: 1,080 Skipped: 0



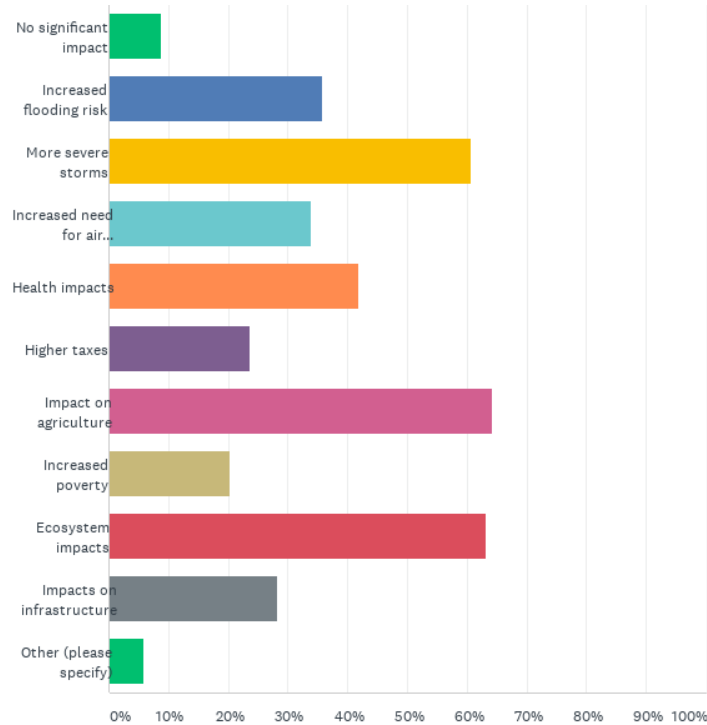
# Q2: How concerned are you about the possible impacts a changing climate might have on the Centre Region?

Answered: 1,080 Skipped: 0



### Q3: What do you think the most significant impacts of a possible change in climate might be for our community? (Please select up to 3 options)

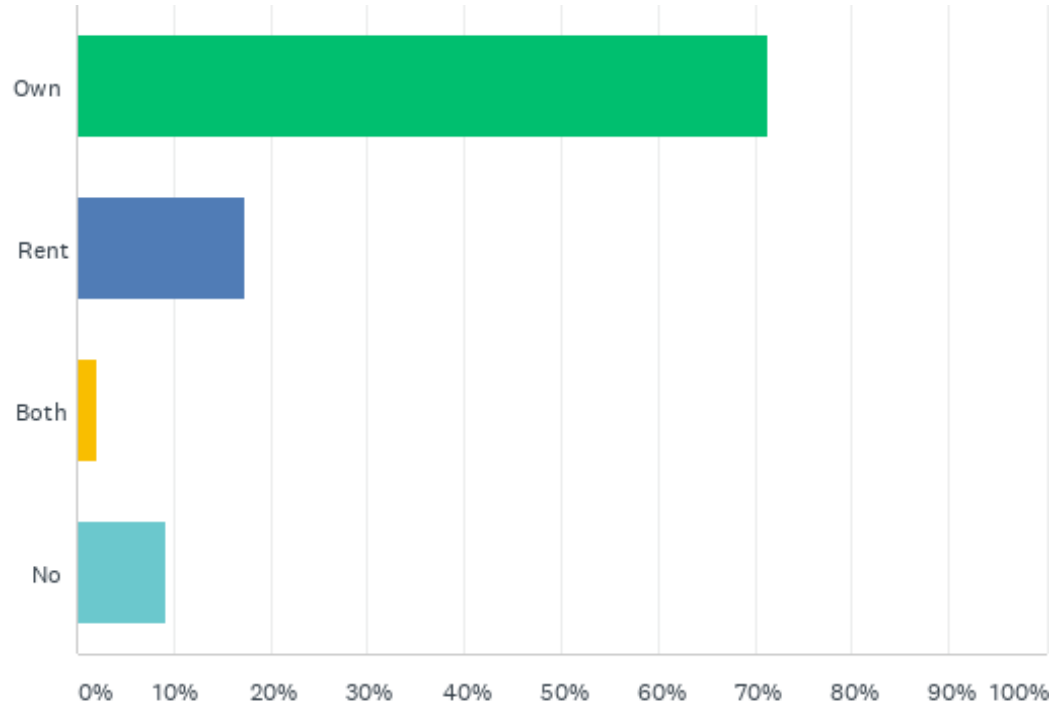
Answered: 1,080 Skipped: 0





## Q5: Do you own or rent a home or business property in the Centre Region?

Answered: 1,080 Skipped: 0



## Q6: Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 774 Skipped: 306

	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Use energy efficient light bulbs (LEDs or CFLs)	9.06% 70	2.33% 18	1.29% 10	2.85% 22	0.65% 5	89.52% 692	773
Complete an energy efficiency audit	26.25% 200	33.73% 257	13.91% 106	12.20% 93	3.02% 23	24.93% 190	762
Install solar panels	62.45% 479	15.91% 122	4.30% 33	8.60% 66	17.34% 133	7.82% 60	767
Purchase renewable energy through my utility bill (PA Power Switch)	28.03% 215	37.55% 288	4.95% 38	9.39% 72	4.30% 33	25.29% 194	767
Use a programmable thermostat to reduce my heating/cooling bills	10.69% 82	9.13% 70	4.43% 34	7.30% 56	8.87% 68	64.93% 498	767
Purchase ENERGY STAR appliances	9.75% 75	2.47% 19	1.17% 9	2.73% 21	1.43% 11	85.83% 660	769



**Q7: Below are examples of strategies that your local government could consider to make the Region's buildings more energy-efficient and increase our renewable energy use. Please indicate your level of support for the potential strategies.**

Answered: 775 Skipped: 305

	WILL NOT SUPPORT	UNLIKELY TO SUPPORT	NEUTRAL	LIKELY TO SUPPORT	SUPPORT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Offer government leasing programs or solar cooperatives to make it cost effective to install solar panels for residents	6.98% 54	5.94% 46	10.72% 83	28.94% 224	47.42% 367	774	4.04
Require large commercial buildings to track energy usage and reach certain energy efficiency standards	7.64% 59	6.61% 51	10.10% 78	26.17% 202	49.48% 382	772	4.03
Require government entities commit to using 100% renewable energy	10.22% 79	6.47% 50	11.25% 87	30.79% 238	41.27% 319	773	3.86
Promote energy audit programs and funding options to upgrade homes/businesses to be more energy efficient	6.10% 47	3.37% 26	7.91% 61	31.52% 243	51.10% 394	771	4.18
Provide incentives for new buildings to be more energy efficient	4.66% 36	2.85% 22	6.09% 47	26.17% 202	60.23% 465	772	4.34
Offer education programs on energy conservation and renewable energy	3.36% 26	2.72% 21	11.00% 85	22.51% 174	60.41% 467	773	4.34



## Q9: Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices?

Answered: 180 Skipped: 900

	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Use energy efficient light bulbs (LEDs or CFLs)	14.44% 26	8.33% 15	5.56% 10	3.89% 7	5.00% 9	72.78% 131	180
Conserve energy by turning off lights/electronics when I'm not using them	3.89% 7	3.33% 6	3.33% 6	6.67% 12	1.67% 3	85.56% 154	180
Purchase renewable energy through my utility bill (PA Power Switch)	27.78% 50	35.56% 64	7.22% 13	10.00% 18	26.11% 47	13.89% 25	180
Adjust my thermostat to save money on heating and cooling	3.35% 6	4.47% 8	2.79% 5	6.15% 11	6.15% 11	80.45% 144	179
Consider energy efficiency of the property when choosing where I rent	29.38% 52	26.55% 47	7.34% 13	5.08% 9	32.77% 58	20.34% 36	177



**Q10: Below are examples of strategies that your local government could consider to make the region's buildings more energy-efficient and increase our renewable energy use. Please indicate your level of support for the potential strategies.**

Answered: 181 Skipped: 899

	WILL NOT SUPPORT	UNLIKELY TO SUPPORT	NEUTRAL	LIKELY TO SUPPORT	WILL SUPPORT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Develop an apartment green-certification program that evaluates its energy efficiency, renewable energy use, and recycling / composting options.	1.10% 2	4.42% 8	8.29% 15	25.41% 46	60.77% 110	181	4.40
Require large commercial buildings to track energy usage and reach certain energy efficiency standards	2.21% 4	1.66% 3	7.18% 13	23.20% 42	65.75% 119	181	4.49
Require government entities commit to using 100% renewable energy	2.21% 4	8.29% 15	11.60% 21	22.65% 41	55.25% 100	181	4.20
Promote energy audit programs and funding options to upgrade homes/businesses to be more energy efficient	2.21% 4	6.08% 11	6.08% 11	25.41% 46	60.22% 109	181	4.35
Provide incentives for new buildings to be more energy efficient	2.25% 4	1.12% 2	7.30% 13	20.79% 37	68.54% 122	178	4.52
Offer education programs on energy conservation and renewable energy	1.10% 2	2.76% 5	6.63% 12	18.23% 33	71.27% 129	181	4.56



## Q12: Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices?

Answered: 941 Skipped: 139

	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Take the bus to work/school	5.20% 47	2.33% 21	21.04% 190	13.95% 126	49.50% 447	16.06% 145	903
Walk or bike to work/school	1.42% 13	1.20% 11	18.16% 166	7.22% 66	45.62% 417	31.18% 285	914
Carpool to work/school	1.13% 10	3.60% 32	8.00% 71	20.83% 185	57.88% 514	12.39% 110	888
Work remotely or have a modified office schedule	0.77% 7	1.42% 13	1.64% 15	4.15% 38	31.37% 287	63.17% 578	915
Drive a fuel-efficient car (>27 mpg)	28.70% 264	2.07% 19	1.74% 16	6.85% 63	10.87% 100	53.80% 495	920
Drive an alternative fuel (electric, hybrid, CNG) vehicle	57.41% 519	6.08% 55	1.55% 14	10.07% 91	13.16% 119	17.92% 162	904





**Q13: Below are examples of strategies that your local government could consider to help the community choose healthier and more sustainable modes of transportation. Please indicate your level of support for the potential strategies.**

Answered: 945 Skipped: 135

	WILL NOT SUPPORT	UNLIKELY TO SUPPORT	NEUTRAL	LIKELY TO SUPPORT	WILL SUPPORT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Expand access to public transit (increase availability, offer reduced cost CATA bus passes through my employer/school)	4.03% 38	4.25% 40	15.29% 144	27.92% 263	48.51% 457	942	4.13
Provide incentives to businesses for sustainable commuting programs	4.46% 42	3.72% 35	13.69% 129	31.95% 301	46.18% 435	942	4.12
Expand and connect bike network (routes, lanes, shared use paths)	3.39% 32	2.23% 21	8.48% 80	21.63% 204	64.26% 606	943	4.41
Improve walking conditions (sidewalk safety, lighting, more routes)	2.34% 22	2.02% 19	10.20% 96	20.51% 193	64.93% 611	941	4.44
Develop a regional strategy to expand electric vehicle (EV) fleets and charging infrastructure	6.37% 60	5.84% 55	14.12% 133	22.40% 211	51.27% 483	942	4.06
Offer education programs about electric and hybrid vehicles and available incentive programs	5.74% 54	5.11% 48	16.60% 156	24.89% 234	47.66% 448	940	4.04



## Q15: Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices?

Answered: 938 Skipped: 142

	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Recycle	2.46% 22	1.90% 17	3.13% 28	3.13% 28	1.23% 11	91.72% 820	894
Avoid single-use plastics-products	9.98% 91	8.88% 81	10.75% 98	7.46% 68	11.18% 102	64.47% 588	912
Reduce my food waste (change shopping habits, compost)	4.61% 43	6.33% 59	8.69% 81	6.44% 60	4.18% 39	76.50% 713	932
Purchase locally grown food or grow my own	12.23% 114	6.65% 62	13.52% 126	6.65% 62	5.04% 47	72.21% 673	932
Eat a more plant-based diet (reduce meat consumption)	3.70% 34	4.36% 40	4.03% 37	26.69% 245	7.63% 70	61.55% 565	918



**Q16: Below are examples of strategies that your local government could consider to increase the community's recycling rate and reduce its food waste. Please indicate your level of support for the potential strategies.**

Answered: 939 Skipped: 141

	WILL NOT SUPPORT	UNLIKELY TO SUPPORT	NEUTRAL	LIKELY TO SUPPORT	WILL SUPPORT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Require construction and demolition projects to increase their recycling rates	4.79% 45	3.83% 36	9.80% 92	23.64% 222	57.93% 544	939	4.26
Incentivize businesses to pursue strategies that minimize their waste	3.31% 31	2.99% 28	7.16% 67	28.10% 263	58.44% 547	936	4.35
Provide businesses with waste audit services to identify waste minimization opportunities	3.63% 34	2.88% 27	9.71% 91	27.53% 258	56.24% 527	937	4.30
Expand/Initiate programs that divert food waste and other organics from landfills	2.99% 28	2.14% 20	8.33% 78	21.69% 203	64.85% 607	936	4.43
Provide training and guidelines on sustainable procurement practices for businesses	3.42% 32	2.99% 28	13.03% 122	26.07% 244	54.49% 510	936	4.25
Offer education programs on reuse and reduce actions homeowners and businesses can take	3.23% 30	2.58% 24	10.00% 93	24.30% 226	59.89% 557	930	4.35



## Q18: Which of these factors affect your likelihood of doing the following sustainable practices?

Answered: 920 Skipped: 160

	COST	LACK OF INFORMATION	LACK OF TIME	LACK OF INTEREST	NOT AN OPTION	I'M DOING THIS	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Plant native flowers, shrubs and/or trees	7.77% 71	14.33% 131	8.42% 77	7.44% 68	12.47% 114	59.96% 548	914
Use rain barrels to collect stormwater for re-use	10.86% 98	23.06% 208	14.97% 135	20.07% 181	23.06% 208	19.51% 176	902
Install landscaping that reduces my need for watering	11.10% 101	19.01% 173	5.71% 52	7.69% 70	18.24% 166	46.26% 421	910
Install landscaping that reduces my lawn mowing needs	13.91% 127	17.09% 156	7.78% 71	11.61% 106	23.77% 217	35.27% 322	913
Use compost on my lawn and gardens instead of fertilizers	4.30% 39	14.33% 130	7.28% 66	9.04% 82	17.75% 161	54.91% 498	907



**Q19: Below are examples of strategies that your local government could consider to help find a workable balance among resource protection, agricultural production, economic growth, and community growth. Please indicate your level of support for the potential strategies.**

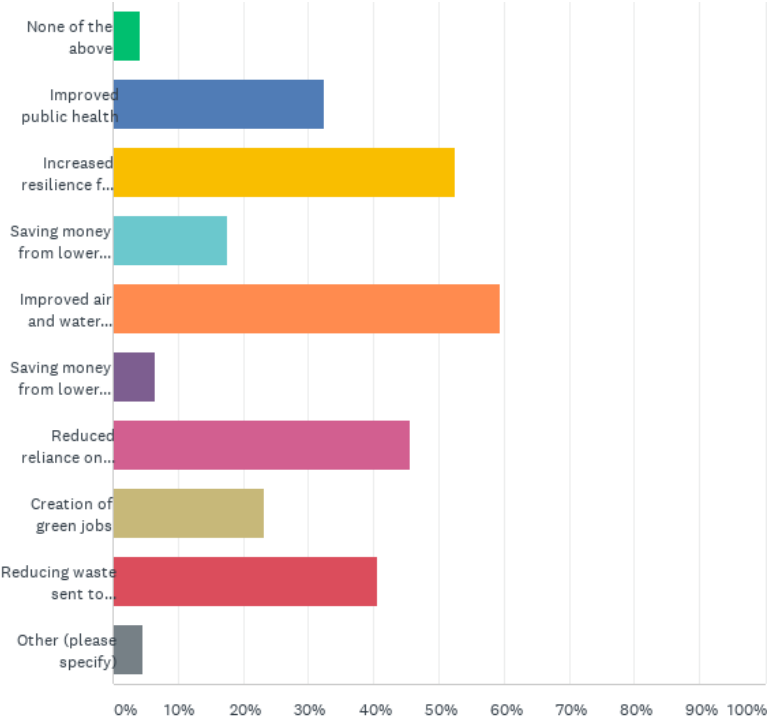
Answered: 921 Skipped: 159

	WILL NOT SUPPORT	UNLIKELY TO SUPPORT	NEUTRAL	LIKELY TO SUPPORT	WILL SUPPORT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Develop local policy strengthening the preservation of agricultural and forested properties	2.61% 24	1.52% 14	8.25% 76	20.20% 186	67.43% 621	921	4.48
Identify high priority conservation lands to manage flooding	1.96% 18	2.28% 21	8.59% 79	20.00% 184	67.17% 618	920	4.48
Use green infrastructure such as rain gardens and permeable pavement to better manage impacts of stormwater	2.82% 26	1.95% 18	7.82% 72	20.20% 186	67.21% 619	921	4.47
Update and/or consider a tree preservation ordinance	5.54% 51	4.56% 42	12.27% 113	20.74% 191	56.89% 524	921	4.19
Require government entities to adopt sustainable landscaping standards for reducing water consumption and chemical use	5.89% 54	3.16% 29	7.96% 73	19.74% 181	63.25% 580	917	4.31
Partner with local landscapers to offer education and incentive programs on native plants and sustainable landscaping practices	2.74% 25	1.97% 18	10.41% 95	24.97% 228	59.91% 547	913	4.37



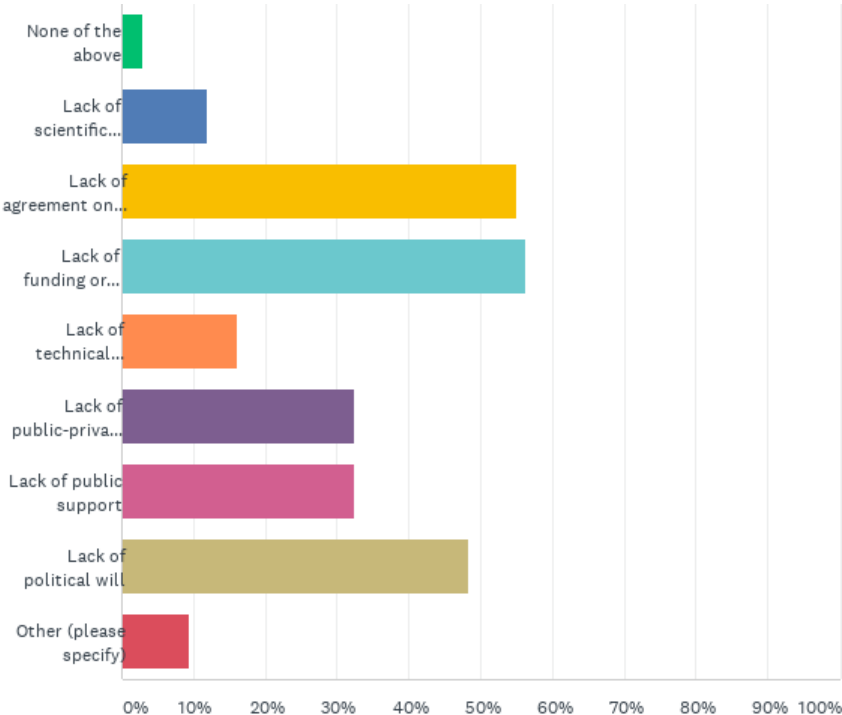
# Q21: Of the many potential benefits experienced by addressing climate change, select the 3 that are most important to you.

Answered: 1,009 Skipped: 71



# Q22: What is most likely to prevent your community from taking action to address climate change? (please select no more than 3)

Answered: 1,006 Skipped: 74





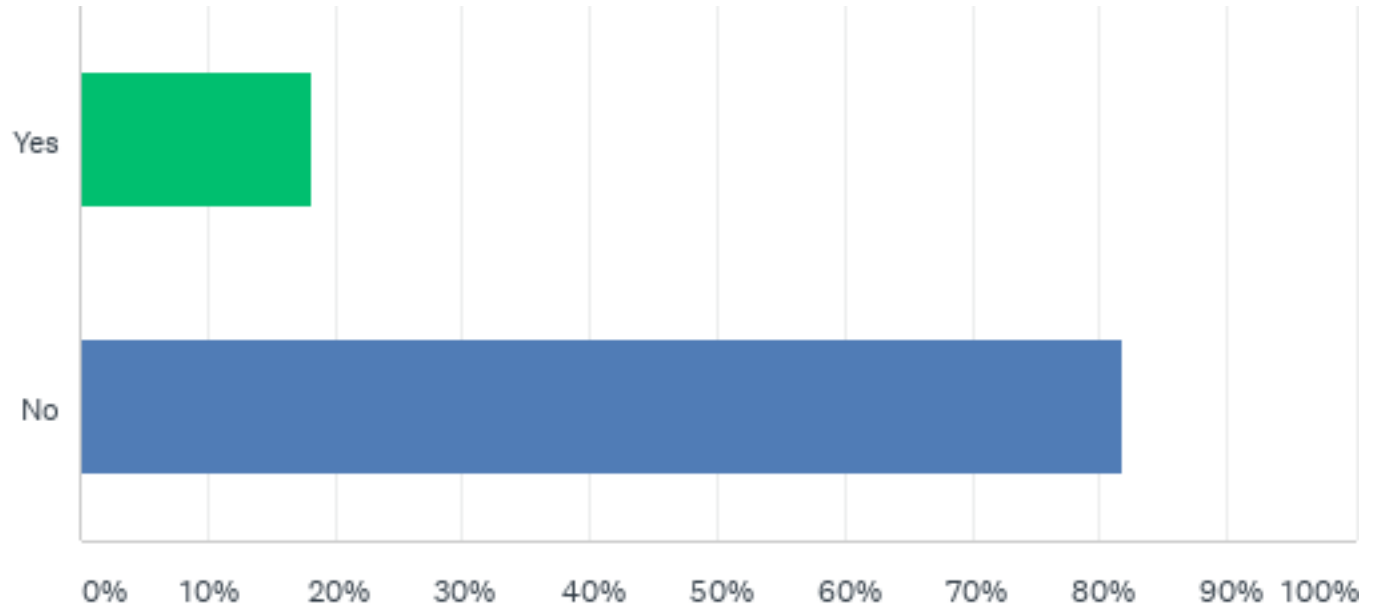
## Q23: Please state your level of agreement for the following statements

Answered: 1,009 Skipped: 71

	DISAGREE	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT AGREE	AGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Climate change is happening	3.57% 36	3.47% 35	4.07% 41	7.94% 80	80.95% 816	1,008	4.59
I understand the science behind climate change	1.19% 12	1.59% 16	6.75% 68	27.71% 279	62.76% 632	1,007	4.49
Addressing climate change will make our community more sustainable	6.45% 65	3.27% 33	6.55% 66	12.90% 130	70.83% 714	1,008	4.38
Addressing climate change will be good for our local economy	7.24% 73	5.95% 60	9.03% 91	14.09% 142	63.69% 642	1,008	4.21
When making decisions today, policy makers in my community should consider scientific projections about what the climate might be like in 50 years	6.55% 66	3.28% 33	5.66% 57	10.63% 107	73.88% 744	1,007	4.42

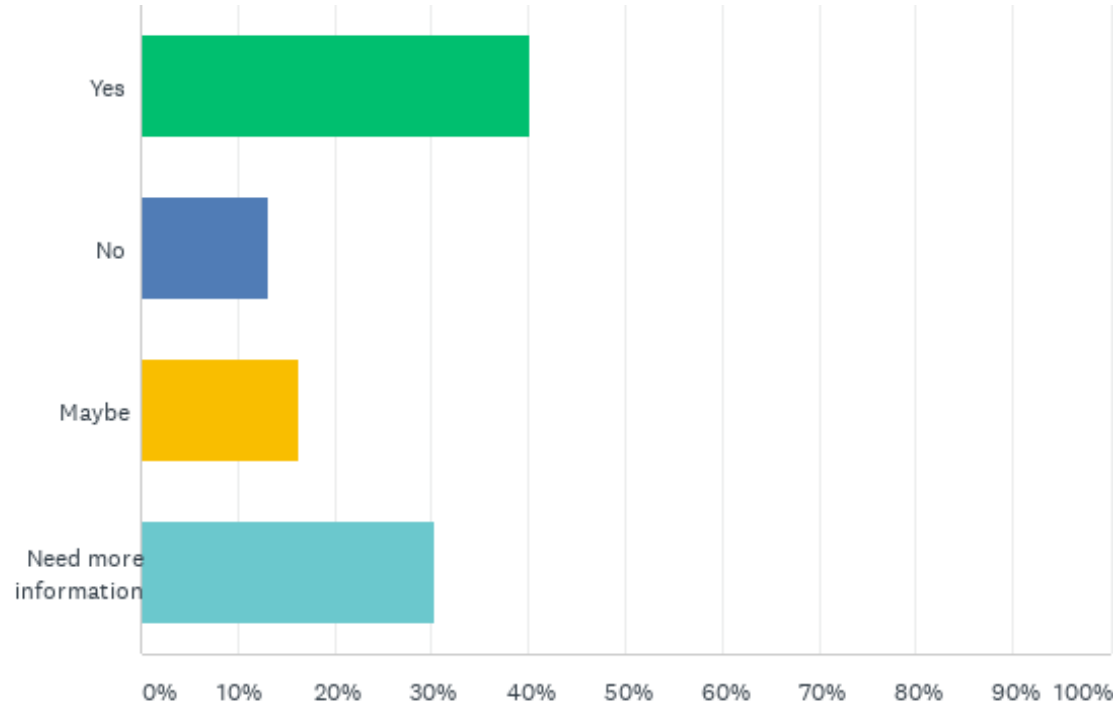
## Q24: Carbon offset programs let individuals and businesses offset their environmental footprint by paying to reduce greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere. Do you or have you ever paid for carbon offsets before?

Answered: 1,006 Skipped: 74



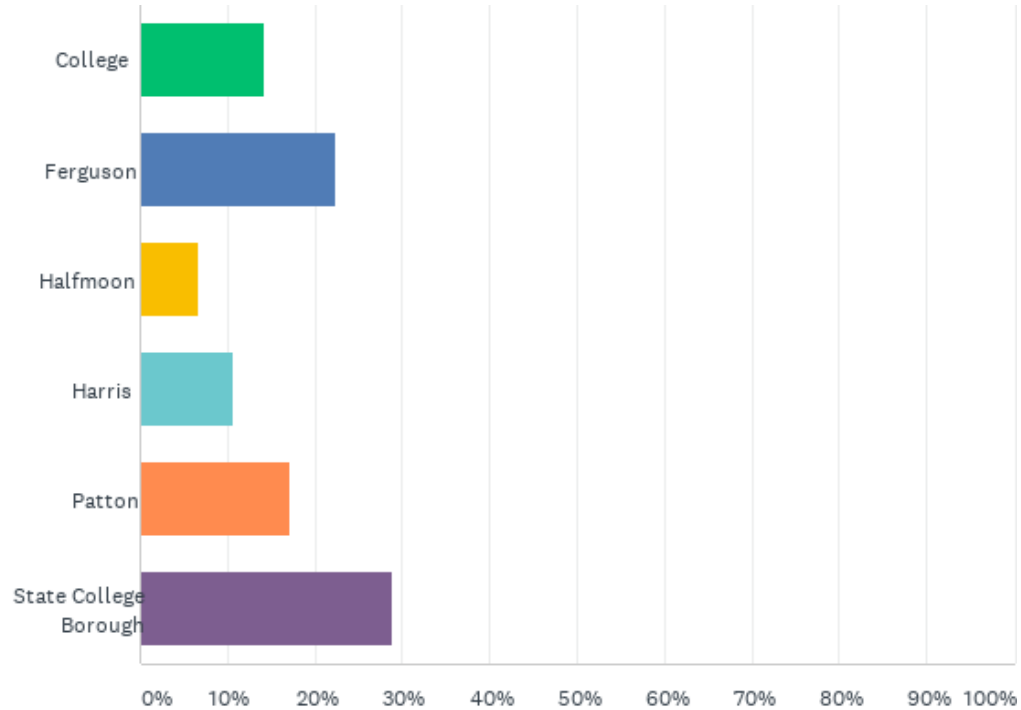
## Q25: Would you support a local carbon offset program that would use the funds generated to support projects that reduce our community's emissions such as local reforestation, low income weatherization projects, and public renewable energy installations?

Answered: 1,011 Skipped: 69



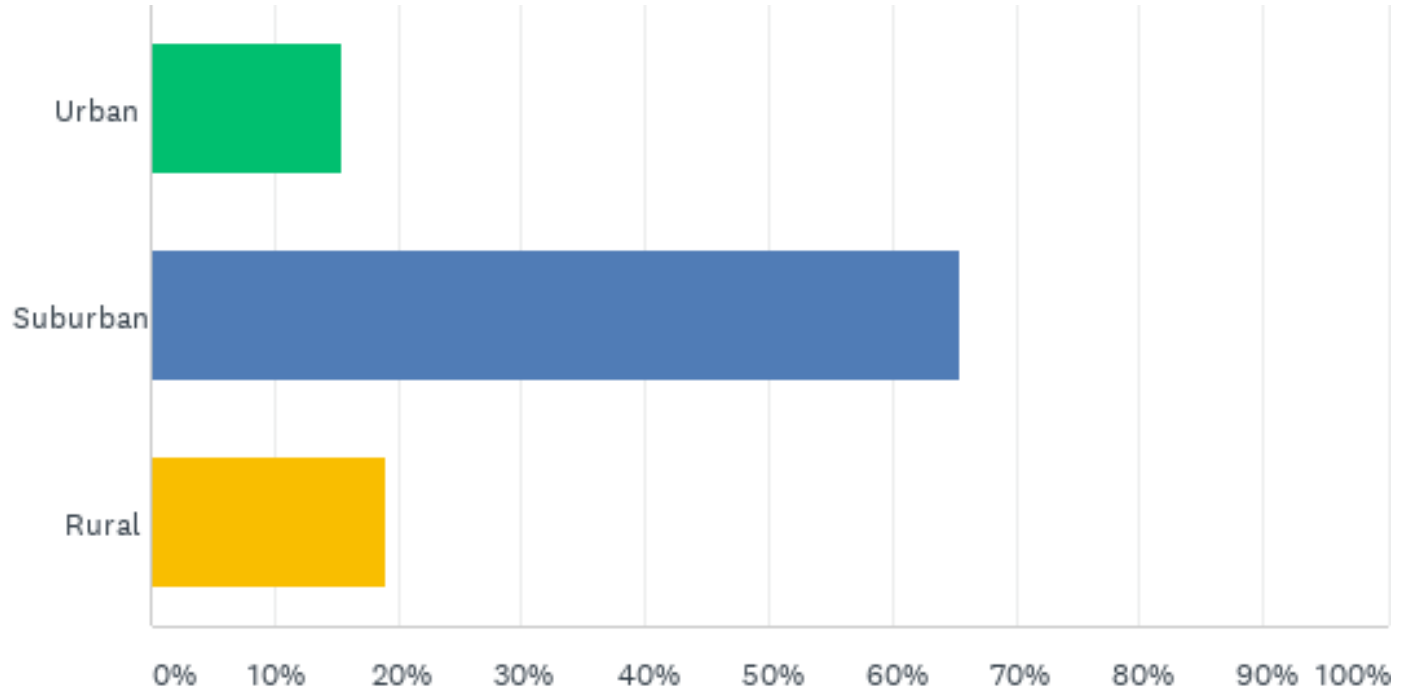
## Q28: What municipality to you live in?

Answered: 891 Skipped: 189



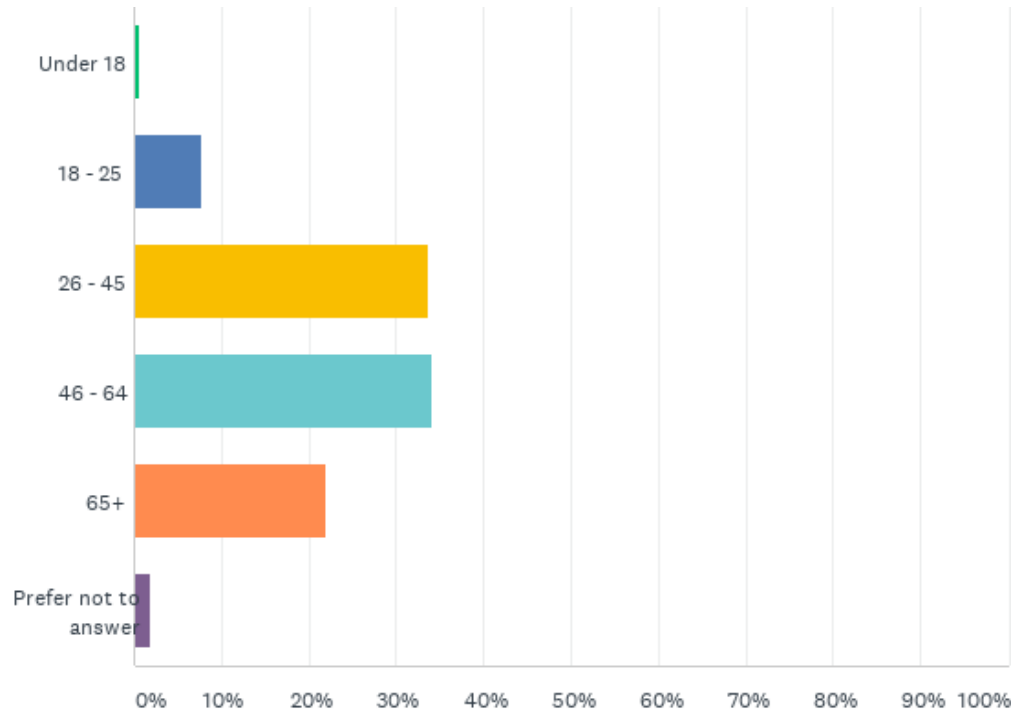
## Q29: How would you describe where you live?

Answered: 998 Skipped: 82



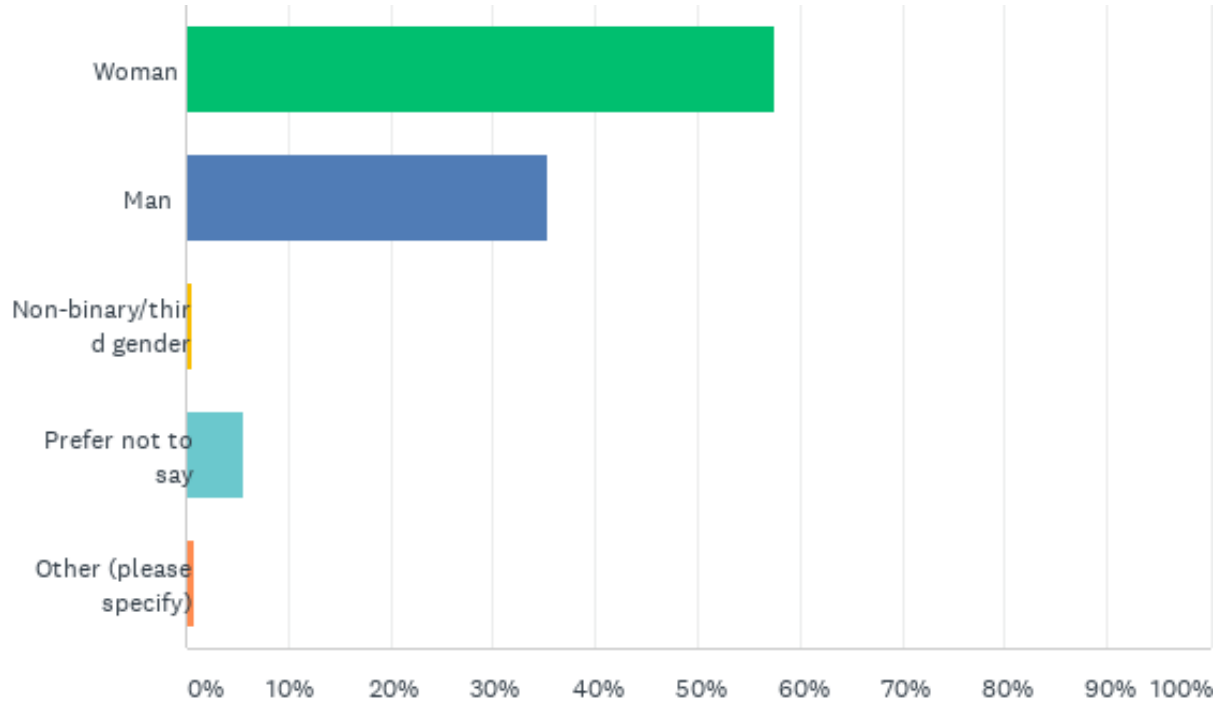
## Q30: What is your age group?

Answered: 1,003 Skipped: 77



## Q31: What is your gender?

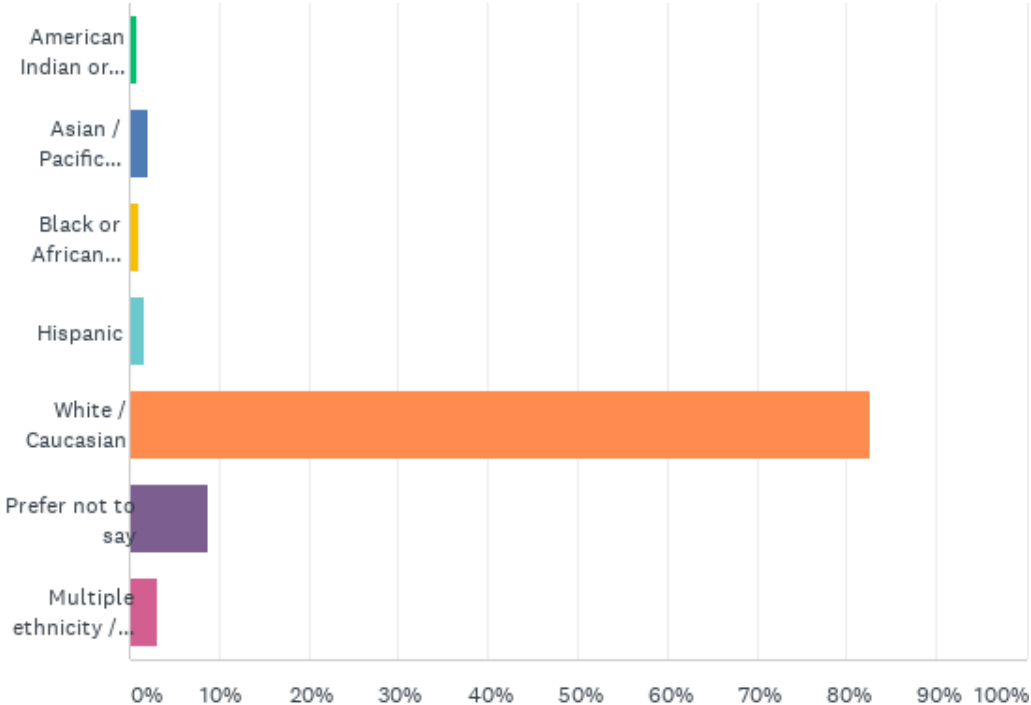
Answered: 1,004 Skipped: 76





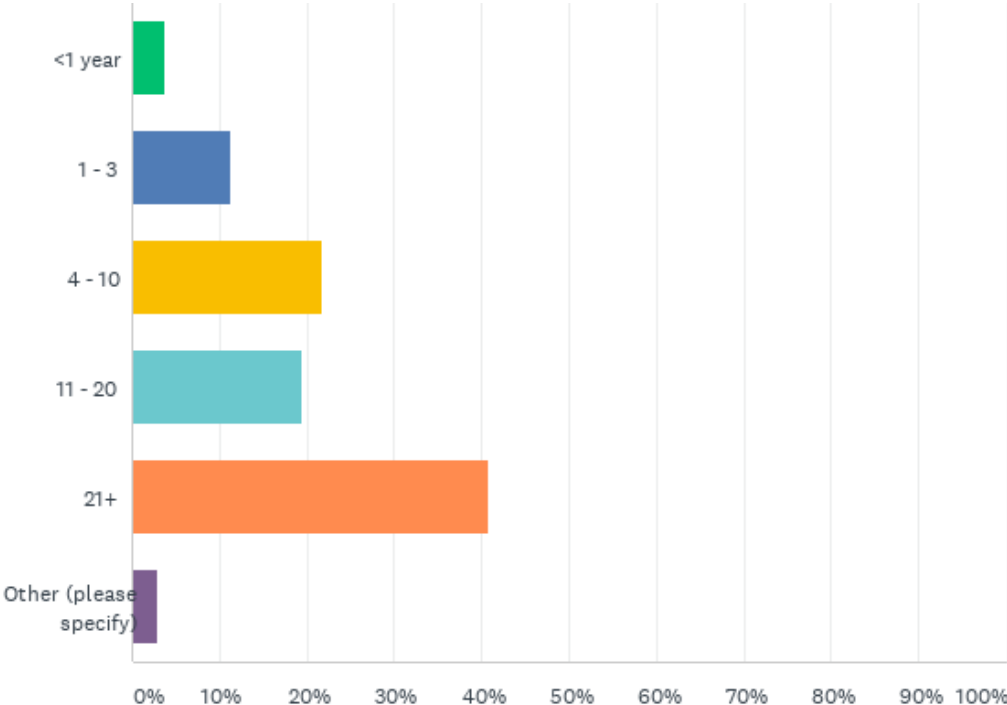
### Q32: Which race/ethnicity best describes you? (Please choose only one.)

Answered: 999 Skipped: 81



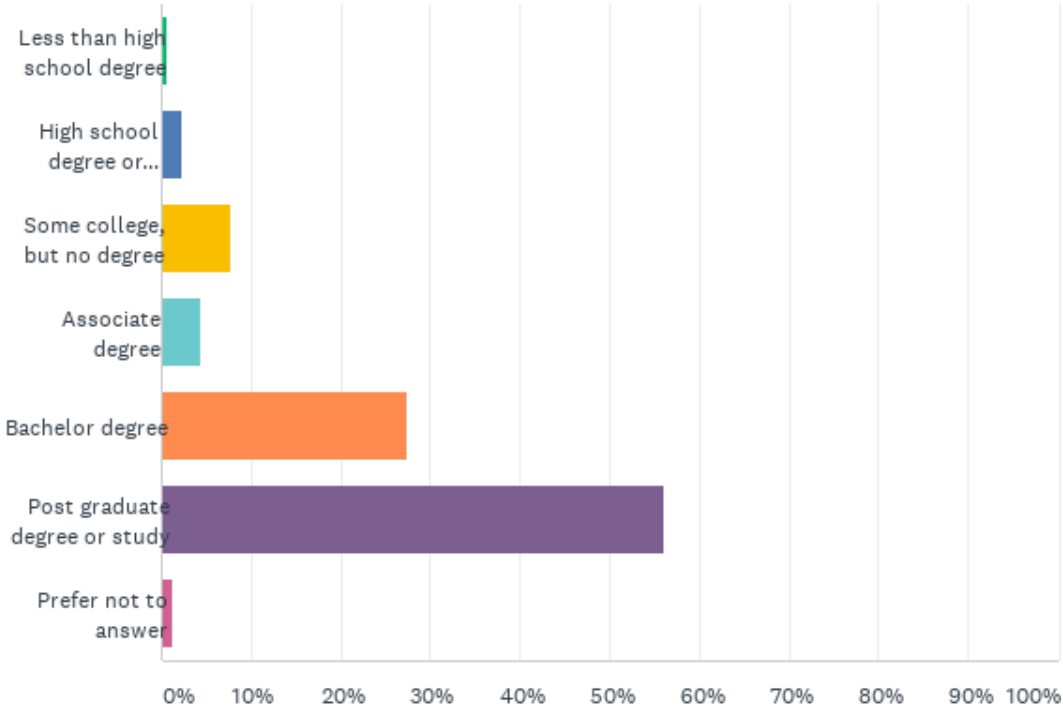
### Q33: How long have you been a member of this community?

Answered: 1,004 Skipped: 76



# Q34: What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

Answered: 1,003 Skipped: 77



# Q35: How did you hear about this survey? Check all that apply

Answered: 1,002 Skipped: 78

