

Public Engagement

Engaging the public is essential for effective transportation planning. This involves strategically engaging a diverse range of community members and leaders to gather valuable feedback. A collaborative approach helps to thoroughly understand the community's wants and needs, enabling the creation of a comprehensive transportation vision. Local staff and the project team reached out to residents, stakeholders, elected officials, and other community representatives throughout the planning process.

The engagement was divided into two distinct phases, each with different objectives and components to inform the development of the plan.

Phase 1: Project Visioning and Existing Conditions

Phase 1 of the engagement process revolved around raising awareness of the MTP and identifying transportation needs. Engagement strategies focused on outreach that informed the development of goals, visioning, and priorities, as well as began to identify needs for each transportation mode. The first phase of engagement lasted from July 2023 to December 2023.

Phase 1 included:

- Steering Committee #1 & #2
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Pop-Up Event #1
- Plan Update Presentations to TAC & TCC

Phase 2: Prioritizing Transportation Recommendations

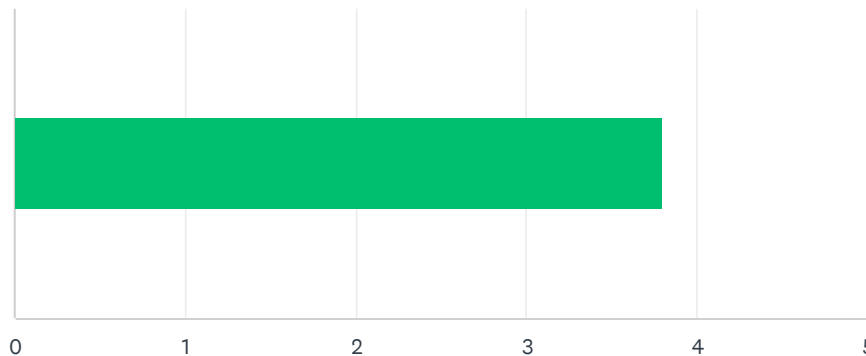
Phase 2 of the engagement process focused on informing and educating the public about the draft modal recommendations while seeking input on the project priorities. The second phase of engagement lasted from January 2024 to February 2025.

Phase 2 included:

- Steering Committee #3 & #4
- Online Survey
- Pop-Up Event #2
- Plan Update Presentations to TAC & TCC

Q1 On a scale from 1 to 5, how much do you agree that the recommended corridor projects would improve the transportation system?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	4	114	30
Total Respondents: 30			

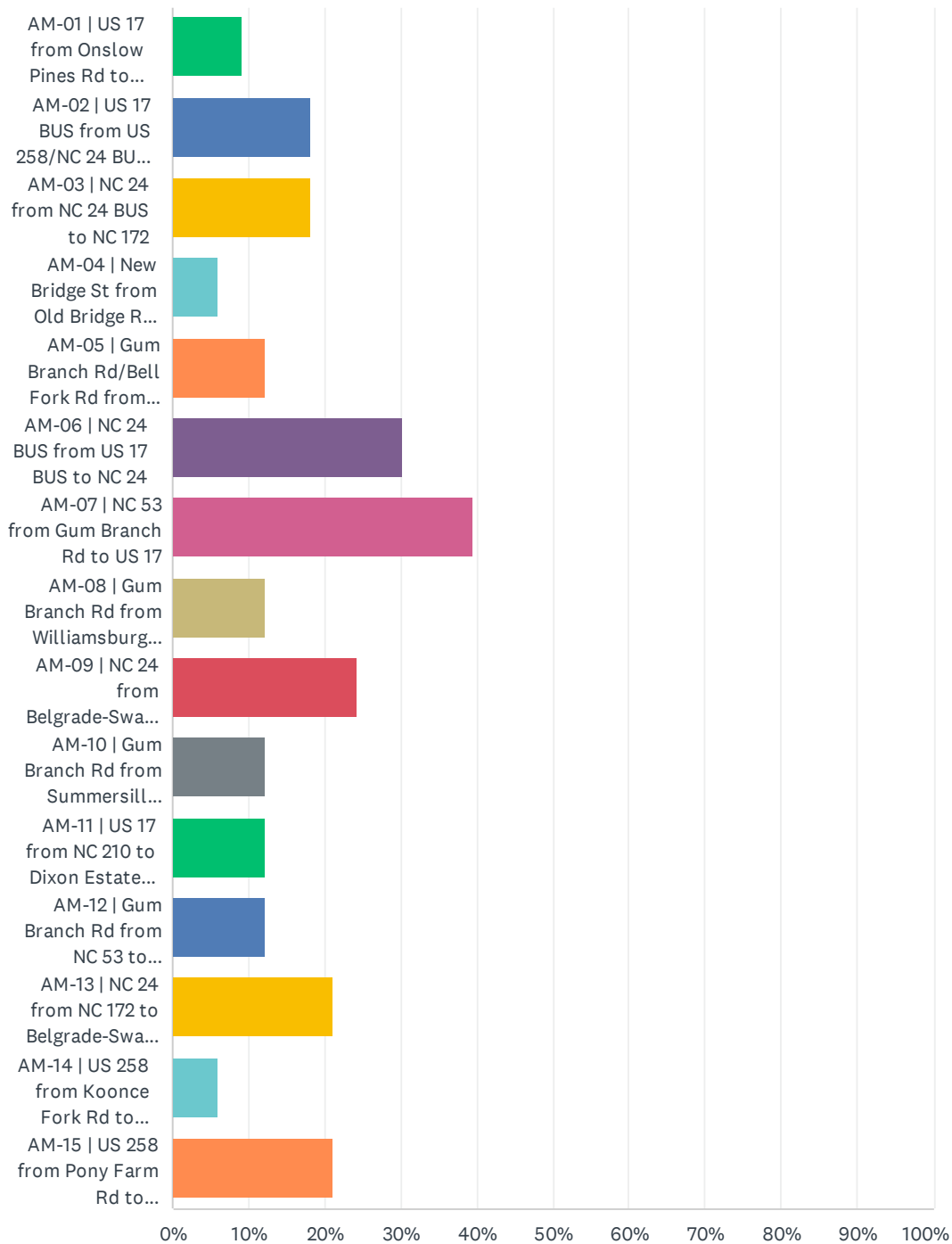
#		DATE
1	2	12/31/2024 11:00 AM
2	4	12/28/2024 12:27 PM
3	5	12/23/2024 11:15 AM
4	2	12/22/2024 12:05 PM
5	4	12/22/2024 9:25 AM
6	5	12/21/2024 6:09 PM
7	5	12/21/2024 1:23 PM
8	5	12/21/2024 11:13 AM
9	4	12/21/2024 10:48 AM
10	4	12/20/2024 10:33 PM
11	3	12/20/2024 7:01 PM
12	4	12/18/2024 5:35 PM
13	5	12/18/2024 4:11 PM
14	2	12/18/2024 3:52 PM
15	4	12/18/2024 3:38 PM
16	5	12/18/2024 3:37 PM
17	5	12/18/2024 1:39 PM
18	2	12/18/2024 1:32 PM
19	2	12/18/2024 12:28 PM

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20	4	12/18/2024 11:39 AM
21	3	12/18/2024 10:38 AM
22	5	12/18/2024 10:30 AM
23	4	12/13/2024 1:22 PM
24	4	12/12/2024 9:57 AM
25	5	12/12/2024 9:26 AM
26	3	12/12/2024 9:07 AM
27	5	12/11/2024 10:04 PM
28	4	12/11/2024 6:11 PM
29	3	12/11/2024 5:42 PM
30	2	12/11/2024 5:05 PM

Q2 What three access management projects are most important to you? (Identify IDs from the map)

Answered: 33 Skipped: 0

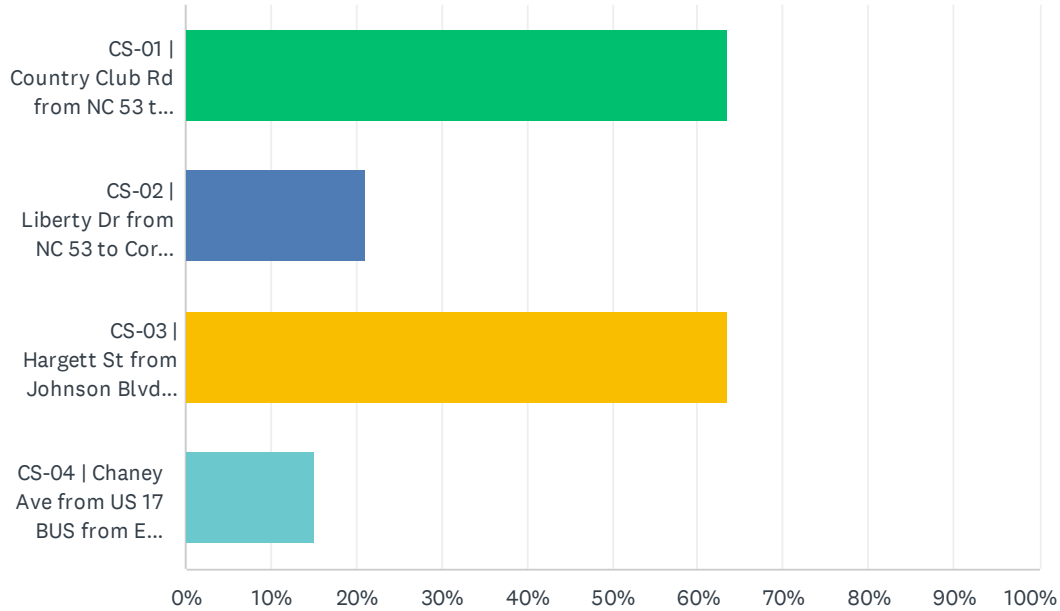


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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
AM-01 US 17 from Onslow Pines Rd to High Hill Rd	9.09%	3
AM-02 US 17 BUS from US 258/NC 24 BUS to US 17	18.18%	6
AM-03 NC 24 from NC 24 BUS to NC 172	18.18%	6
AM-04 New Bridge St from Old Bridge Rd to NC 24 BUS	6.06%	2
AM-05 Gum Branch Rd/Bell Fork Rd from Western Blvd to NC 24	12.12%	4
AM-06 NC 24 BUS from US 17 BUS to NC 24	30.30%	10
AM-07 NC 53 from Gum Branch Rd to US 17	39.39%	13
AM-08 Gum Branch Rd from Williamsburg Pkwy to Indian Dr	12.12%	4
AM-09 NC 24 from Belgrade-Swansboro Rd to Front St	24.24%	8
AM-10 Gum Branch Rd from Summersill School Rd to Ramsey Rd	12.12%	4
AM-11 US 17 from NC 210 to Dixon Estates Rd	12.12%	4
AM-12 Gum Branch Rd from NC 53 to Summersill School Rd	12.12%	4
AM-13 NC 24 from NC 172 to Belgrade-Swansboro Rd	21.21%	7
AM-14 US 258 from Koonce Fork Rd to South Wilmington St	6.06%	2
AM-15 US 258 from Pony Farm Rd to Rhodestown Fire Department Rd	21.21%	7
Total Respondents: 33		

Q3 What two complete street projects are most important to you? (Identify IDs from the map)

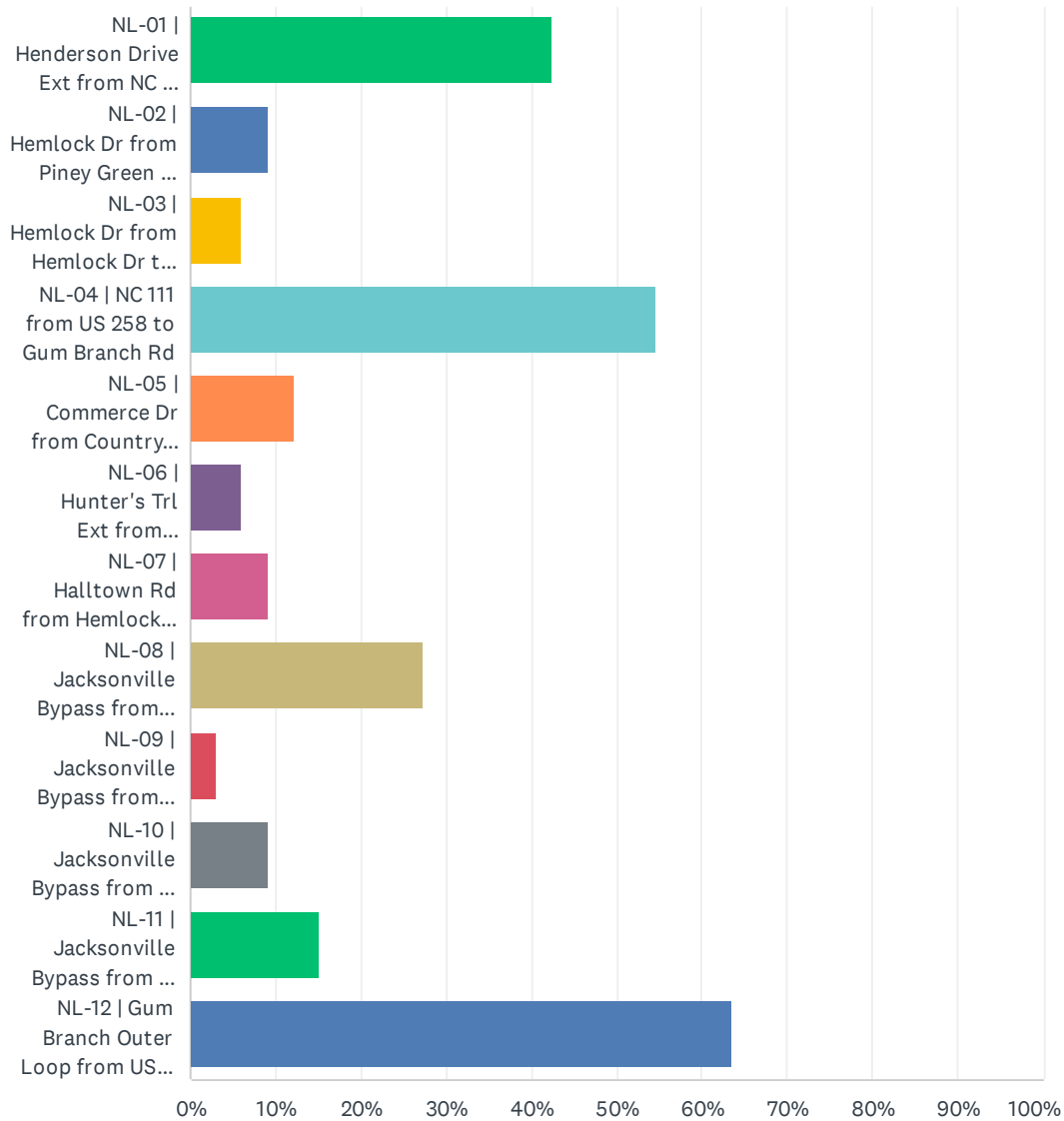
Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
CS-01 Country Club Rd from NC 53 to Piney Green Rd	63.64%	21
CS-02 Liberty Dr from NC 53 to Corbin St	21.21%	7
CS-03 Hargett St from Johnson Blvd to Bell Fork Rd	63.64%	21
CS-04 Chaney Ave from US 17 BUS from E Railroad St	15.15%	5
Total Respondents: 33		

Q4 What three new location projects are most important to you? (Identify IDs from the map)

Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
NL-01 Henderson Drive Ext from NC 53 to Jacksonville Pkwy	42.42%	14
NL-02 Hemlock Dr from Piney Green Rd to Waters Rd	9.09%	3
NL-03 Hemlock Dr from Hemlock Dr to Corbin St	6.06%	2
NL-04 NC 111 from US 258 to Gum Branch Rd	54.55%	18
NL-05 Commerce Dr from Country Club Rd to Huff Dr	12.12%	4
NL-06 Hunter's Trl Ext from Hunter's Trl to Hunter's Trl	6.06%	2
NL-07 Halltown Rd from Hemlock Dr Ext to Old 30 Rd	9.09%	3
NL-08 Jacksonville Bypass from Riggs Rd to Old 30 Rd	27.27%	9
NL-09 Jacksonville Bypass from Waters Rd to US 17	3.03%	1
NL-10 Jacksonville Bypass from Old 30 Rd to Waters Rd	9.09%	3
NL-11 Jacksonville Bypass from NC 24 to Riggs Rd	15.15%	5
NL-12 Gum Branch Outer Loop from US 258 to US 17	63.64%	21
Total Respondents: 33		

Q5 Do you have any comments about the realignment project on NC 111 from Haw Branch Rd to Albert J Ellis Airport Rd?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 20

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Excellent for OAJ	12/23/2024 11:15 AM
2	Waste of money.	12/22/2024 12:05 PM
3	It's needed due to the amount of traffic	12/21/2024 10:48 AM
4	Not at the moment.	12/20/2024 10:33 PM
5	No	12/19/2024 12:53 AM
6	Um idc	12/18/2024 4:11 PM
7	We need a new road from Hwy 53 to Catherine Lake road to the airport, need more than one road to airport	12/18/2024 1:39 PM
8	no	12/18/2024 12:28 PM
9	No	12/18/2024 10:38 AM
10	I am excited to this come to fruition in conjunction with the runway extension at OAJ.	12/13/2024 1:22 PM
11	None	12/12/2024 9:07 AM
12	It's long overdue	12/11/2024 6:11 PM
13	Definitely needed for safety, especially at night and in the evenings of winter.	12/11/2024 5:05 PM

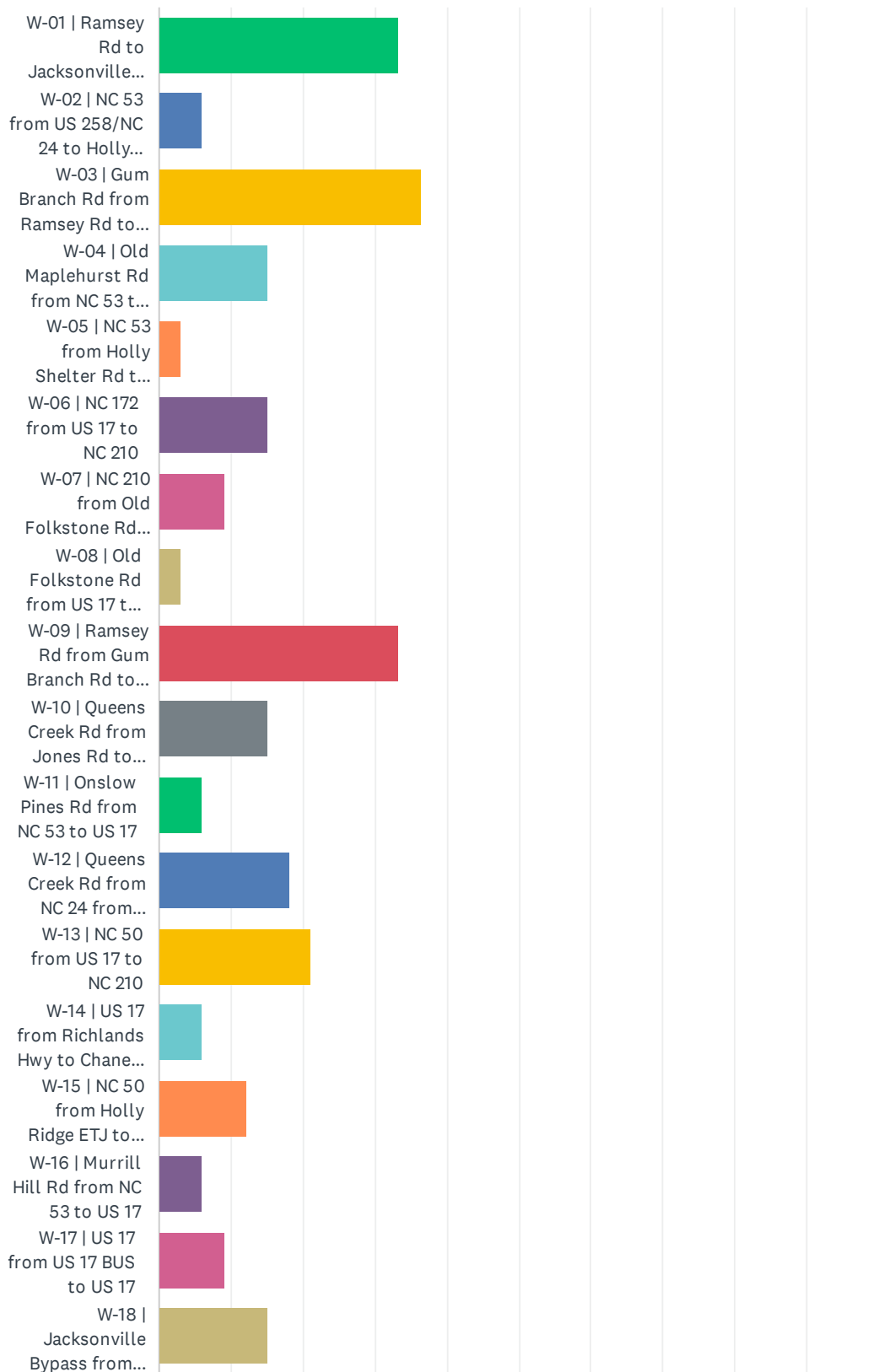
Q6 Do you have any comments about the upgrade to interstate project on NC 24 from Onslow County Boundary to NC 24?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 20

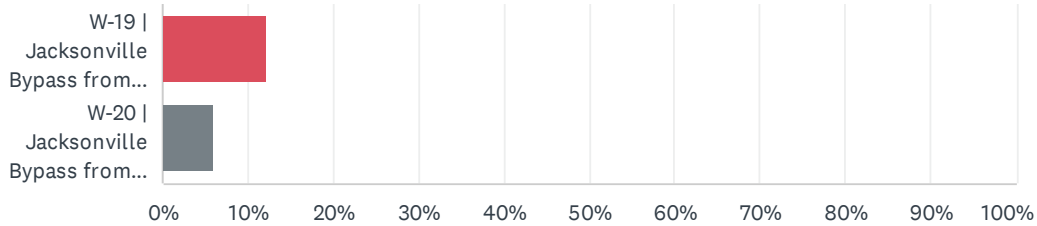
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Urgently NEEDED!	12/23/2024 11:15 AM
2	Which end of the boundary?	12/22/2024 12:05 PM
3	Explore ways to modify NL-12 so that it includes by-pass across the White-oak river into Carteret County and be a connector between Hwy 58 and 258. The boundary line is a line of governance not a line of natural drift or path of logistical needs. Partnership with Carteret and taking a look at the bigger picture might provide a better vision. If I lived in the western or central part of the state and were headed to the beaches I would attempt to avoid 35 mph zones that exist in places like Cedar Point and Swansboro as well as provide alt commuters route. A second route to cross the White Oak river between Maysville and Cedar Point will accomplish that but we will need Carteret to join that line of effort.	12/22/2024 9:25 AM
4	It should help ease congestion and improve flow	12/21/2024 10:48 AM
5	Not at the moment.	12/20/2024 10:33 PM
6	Not now	12/20/2024 7:01 PM
7	No	12/19/2024 12:53 AM
8	Um idc	12/18/2024 4:11 PM
9	no	12/18/2024 12:28 PM
10	No	12/18/2024 10:38 AM
11	I am not sure of the purpose of upgrading to interstate unless we plan to bring in industry and tie I-40 into Onslow County.	12/13/2024 1:22 PM
12	None	12/12/2024 9:07 AM
13	It's needed, but concerned about the property owners who already were impacted by road widening a few years ago and how that will impact traffic the lower income area (especially after the butterfly intersection goes in at 53/258). Sharing public information on what exactly goes into upgrading to an interstate will be helpful for transparency, along with putting in appropriate medians/signage for u-turns and turnabouts will be extremely helpful. Want it be easier for business and traffic to flow, but want to make sure residents, rural agricultural land, and property owners are being considered.	12/11/2024 5:05 PM

Q7 What three widening projects are most important to you? (Identify IDs from the map)

Answered: 33 Skipped: 0



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
W-01 Ramsey Rd to Jacksonville Pkwy to US 17	33.33%	11
W-02 NC 53 from US 258/NC 24 to Holly Shelter Rd	6.06%	2
W-03 Gum Branch Rd from Ramsey Rd to Country Club Rd	36.36%	12
W-04 Old Maplehurst Rd from NC 53 to US 17	15.15%	5
W-05 NC 53 from Holly Shelter Rd to Onslow County Boundary	3.03%	1
W-06 NC 172 from US 17 to NC 210	15.15%	5
W-07 NC 210 from Old Folkstone Rd to North Shore Dr	9.09%	3
W-08 Old Folkstone Rd from US 17 to Ennett Ln	3.03%	1
W-09 Ramsey Rd from Gum Branch Rd to Jacksonville Pkwy	33.33%	11
W-10 Queens Creek Rd from Jones Rd to Smallwood Rd	15.15%	5
W-11 Onslow Pines Rd from NC 53 to US 17	6.06%	2
W-12 Queens Creek Rd from NC 24 from Jones Rd	18.18%	6
W-13 NC 50 from US 17 to NC 210	21.21%	7
W-14 US 17 from Richlands Hwy to Chaney Ave	6.06%	2
W-15 NC 50 from Holly Ridge ETJ to US 17	12.12%	4
W-16 Murrill Hill Rd from NC 53 to US 17	6.06%	2
W-17 US 17 from US 17 BUS to US 17	9.09%	3
W-18 Jacksonville Bypass from Blue Haven Dr to Gillcrest Ln	15.15%	5
W-19 Jacksonville Bypass from Rocky Run Rd to Silver Hills Dr	12.12%	4
W-20 Jacksonville Bypass from Garrett Dr to Tad Ln	6.06%	2
Total Respondents: 33		

Q8 Do you have any other comments about the corridor projects?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 20

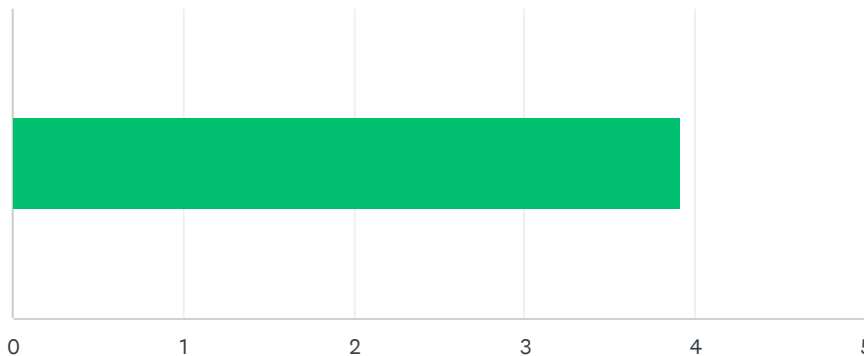
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	We need an ongoing roadside trash pickup program. The amount of trash on our roads and highways is disgusting.	12/31/2024 11:00 AM
2	You need to improve widen and provide better traffic management of 24, and Queens Creek Rd and stop approving new large neighborhood development as our infrastructure cannot handle the traffic. Especially Queens Creek Road.	12/22/2024 12:05 PM
3	Explore ways to modify NL-12 so that it includes by-pass across the White-oak river into Carteret County and be a connector between Hwy 58 and 258. The boundary line is a line of governance not a line of natural drift or path of logistical needs. Partnership with Carteret and taking a look at the bigger picture might provide a better vision. If I lived in the western or central part of the state and were headed to the beaches I would attempt to avoid 35 mph zones that exist in places like Cedar Point and Swansboro as well as provide alt commuters route.	12/22/2024 9:25 AM
4	Address the Queens Creek Bridge	12/21/2024 11:13 AM
5	Would love to see focus and action on Queens Creek Rd , Swansboro Loop Rd, Main Street Extension,Belgrade Swansboro Rd and Hwy 24 in Swansboro	12/21/2024 10:48 AM
6	Not at the moment.	12/20/2024 10:33 PM
7	Nope	12/18/2024 4:11 PM
8	Belgrade Swansboro Rd should be considered for the proposed Jacksonville Bypass rather than the Riggs Rd/Smith Rd alignment. The Rocky Run Rd/Old 30 Rd area has become heavily developed with additional development proposed. Congestion in this area is already a cause for concern. Additional traffic flow through the area would exacerbate the problem.	12/18/2024 3:52 PM
9	Need to move more business off of western blvd to other parts of town to help with traffic	12/18/2024 1:39 PM
10	The intersection of Blue Creek Road and Richlands Hwy needs to be addressed for traffic turning left off Blue Creek Road onto Richlands Hwy. I understand there is access management and operations scheduled further down Richlands Hwy, however; it does not address the need for a road widening at the end of Blue Creek Road at Richlands Hwy so traffic is not sitting through multiple light cycles. This is occuring because only two or three vehicles can fit in the left turn lane.	12/13/2024 1:22 PM
11	I do not	12/12/2024 9:07 AM
12	Thank you for all you do for the community!	12/11/2024 6:11 PM
13	Major concern is that a lot of these widening projects and new streets are passing through farm lands and roads where commercial buildings have already been put in place with thriving new businesses. N Topsail is low lying coastal land surrounded by marsh and there are over populated commercial zoning popping up that probably should have paused until roads were widened in the first place. There's a lot of development going on and quickly, and makes me concerned for the potential flooding in that area and improper drainage, along with protecting the inner coastal wetlands, which is a natural barrier from hurricanes/major storms on that side of the bridge. Not thrilled about the roads going through Ramsey/connecting to Maysville, but understand the need. There are minimal housing developments/residents that may be impacted compared to the other locations, so it could also help with traffic overflow coming into Jacksonville or spreading out some residential traffic with the interstate upgrades to 258. Most of these recommendations are also going through poverty areas, which is a concern on how we are going to take care of those residents and protect our farmers and agricultural lands. Extending the life of roads, minimizing safety hazards, creating safer roadways are important, but so are taking care of our residents and businesses. It's not just about letting out of towners pass through the beaches, but making sure the backbone of our community is also	12/11/2024 5:05 PM

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being considered. If road expansion could be done in phases AFTER adding appropriate sidewalks, pedestrian lights, guided turn-about, and medians, that might make an easier transition when we really have to expand the roadways for traffic. Prioritize 258, widening of roads near the airport, creating the ramsey/17 connector might be the best start as well. Then leaving the smaller considerations until later to see how the flow of traffic and flood tables adjust to the adjustments and development. There also needs to be a discussion of balancing this with the growth of apartment buildings and new construction, because there seems to be a disconnect between providing adequate housing and making sure we understand the long term impacts of our flood plain/roadways with that population increase.

Q9 On a scale from 1 to 5, how much do you agree that the recommended intersection projects would improve the transportation system?

Answered: 23 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	4	90	23
Total Respondents: 23			

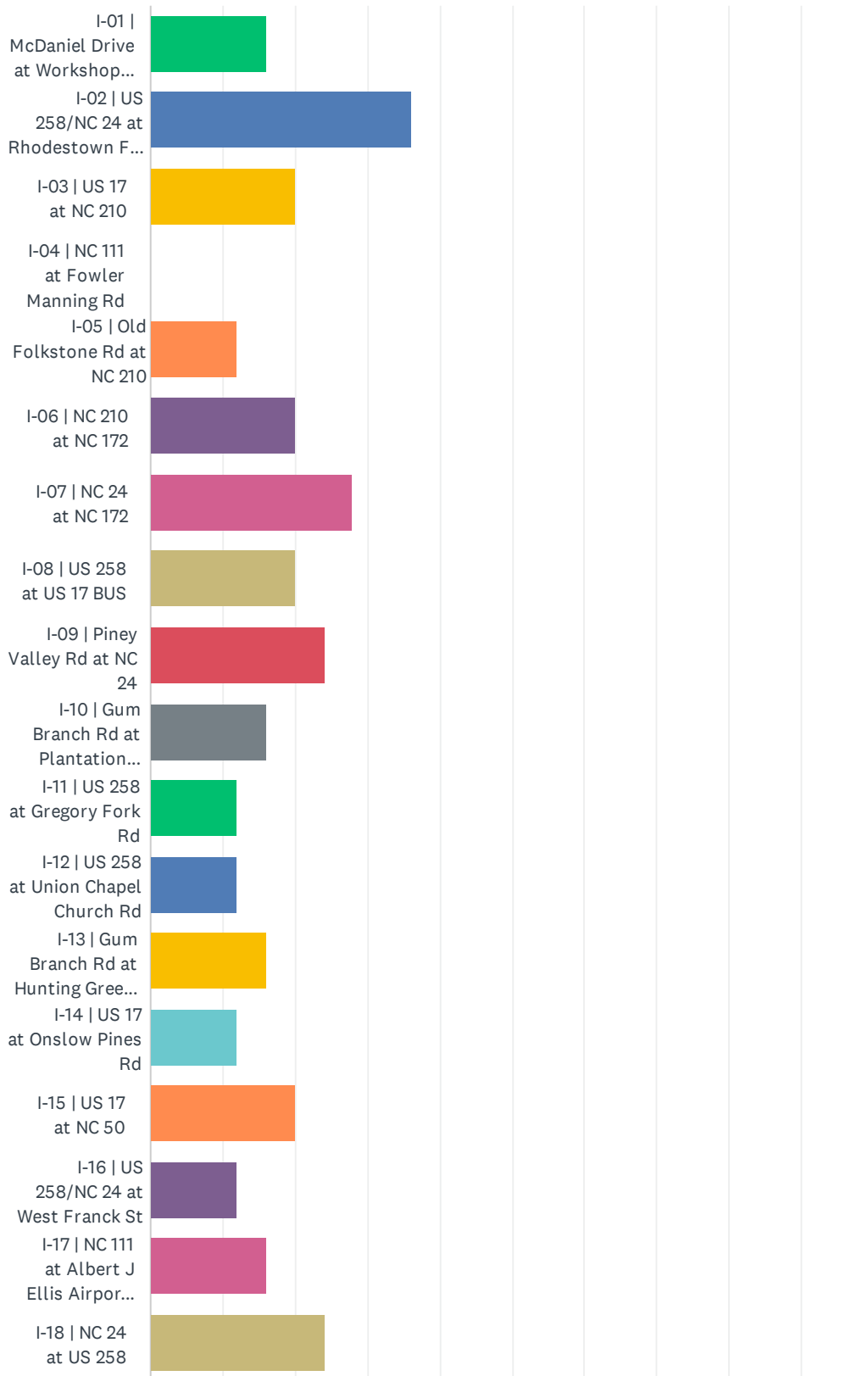
#		DATE
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3	3	12/23/2024 11:17 AM
4	3	12/22/2024 9:27 AM
5	5	12/21/2024 1:23 PM
6	5	12/21/2024 10:53 AM
7	5	12/21/2024 6:14 AM
8	3	12/20/2024 7:03 PM
9	2	12/19/2024 12:55 AM
10	4	12/18/2024 5:41 PM
11	3	12/18/2024 3:55 PM
12	5	12/18/2024 3:42 PM
13	5	12/18/2024 3:37 PM
14	4	12/18/2024 1:32 PM
15	4	12/18/2024 11:41 AM
16	5	12/18/2024 10:39 AM
17	4	12/13/2024 1:23 PM
18	5	12/12/2024 9:27 AM
19	3	12/12/2024 9:12 AM

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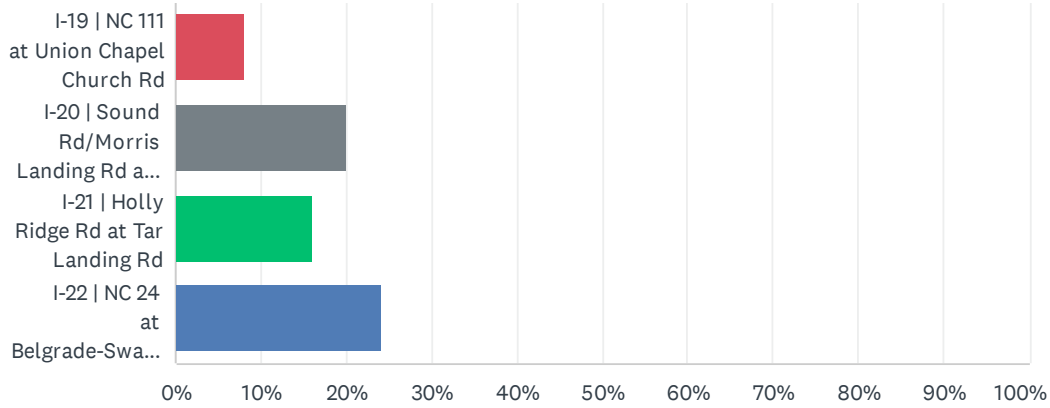
20	5	12/11/2024 10:07 PM
21	4	12/11/2024 6:12 PM
22	2	12/11/2024 5:43 PM
23	4	12/11/2024 5:07 PM

Q10 What five intersection projects are most important to you? (Identify IDs from the map)

Answered: 25 Skipped: 8



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I-01 McDaniel Drive at Workshop Lane	16.00%	4
I-02 US 258/NC 24 at Rhodestown Fire Department Road	36.00%	9
I-03 US 17 at NC 210	20.00%	5
I-04 NC 111 at Fowler Manning Rd	0.00%	0
I-05 Old Folkstone Rd at NC 210	12.00%	3
I-06 NC 210 at NC 172	20.00%	5
I-07 NC 24 at NC 172	28.00%	7
I-08 US 258 at US 17 BUS	20.00%	5
I-09 Piney Valley Rd at NC 24	24.00%	6
I-10 Gum Branch Rd at Plantation Blvd/Community Dr	16.00%	4
I-11 US 258 at Gregory Fork Rd	12.00%	3
I-12 US 258 at Union Chapel Church Rd	12.00%	3
I-13 Gum Branch Rd at Hunting Green Dr/Ramsey Dr	16.00%	4
I-14 US 17 at Onslow Pines Rd	12.00%	3
I-15 US 17 at NC 50	20.00%	5
I-16 US 258/NC 24 at West Franck St	12.00%	3
I-17 NC 111 at Albert J Ellis Airport Rd	16.00%	4
I-18 NC 24 at US 258	24.00%	6
I-19 NC 111 at Union Chapel Church Rd	8.00%	2
I-20 Sound Rd/Morris Landing Rd at Holly Ridge Rd	20.00%	5
I-21 Holly Ridge Rd at Tar Landing Rd	16.00%	4
I-22 NC 24 at Belgrade-Swansboro Rd	24.00%	6
Total Respondents: 25		

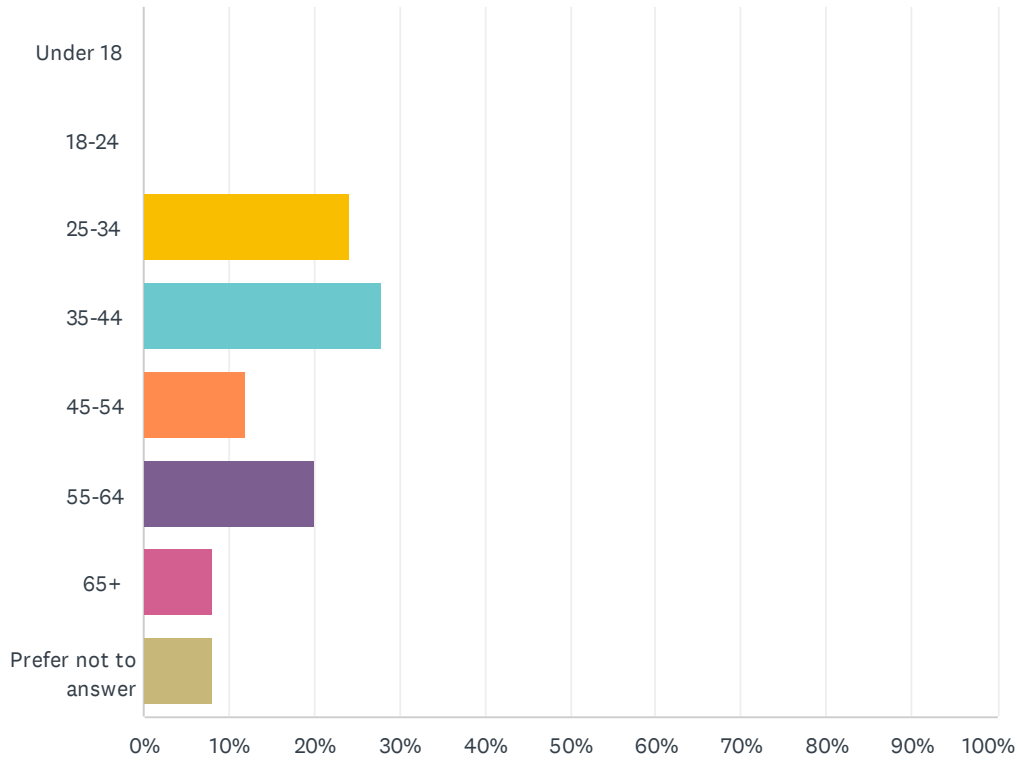
Q11 Do you have any other comments about the intersection projects?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 28

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Sound Road and Morris Landing 100% need attention, ASAP	12/28/2024 12:29 PM
2	Look at Hwy 24 and Belgrade Rd intersection, Queens Creek Rd and 24 intersection, Main St Ext and Swansboro Loop Td	12/21/2024 10:53 AM
3	Holly Ridge, North Topsail, Sneads Ferry and Surf City are bursting at the seams during tourist season. Please stop treating this area like the wicked stepchild	12/20/2024 7:03 PM
4	No	12/18/2024 10:39 AM
5	Please prioritize I-13. It is so hard to get in and out of my neighborhood sometimes.	12/12/2024 9:12 AM

Q12 What is your age?

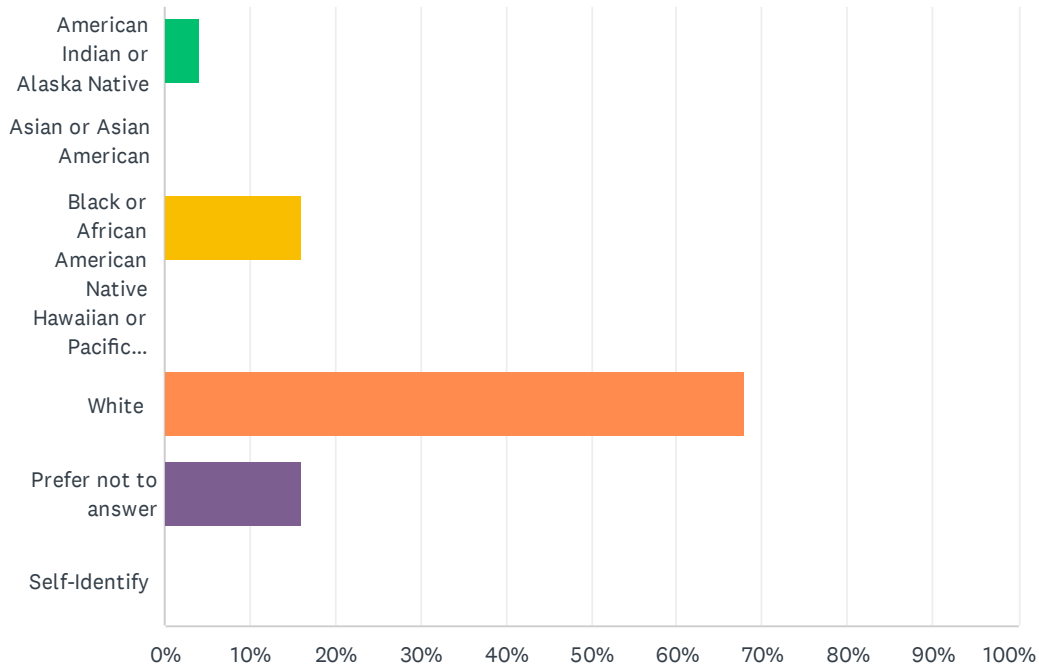
Answered: 25 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	0.00%	0
18-24	0.00%	0
25-34	24.00%	6
35-44	28.00%	7
45-54	12.00%	3
55-64	20.00%	5
65+	8.00%	2
Prefer not to answer	8.00%	2
TOTAL		25

Q13 What is your race? (Select all that apply)

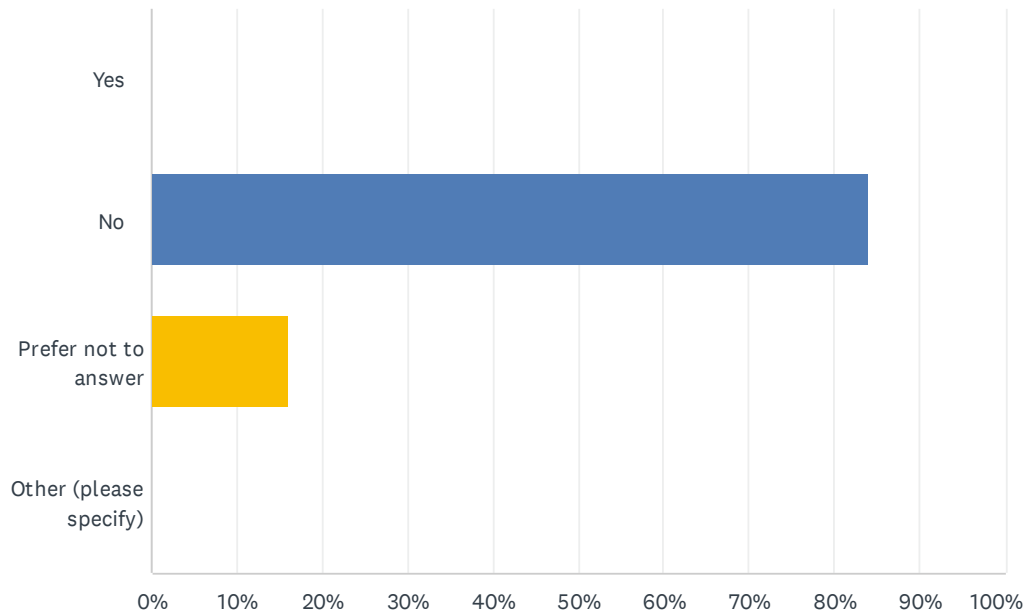
Answered: 25 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
American Indian or Alaska Native	4.00%	1
Asian or Asian American	0.00%	0
Black or African American	16.00%	4
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
White	68.00%	17
Prefer not to answer	16.00%	4
Self-Identify	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 25		

Q14 Do you identify as someone of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin?

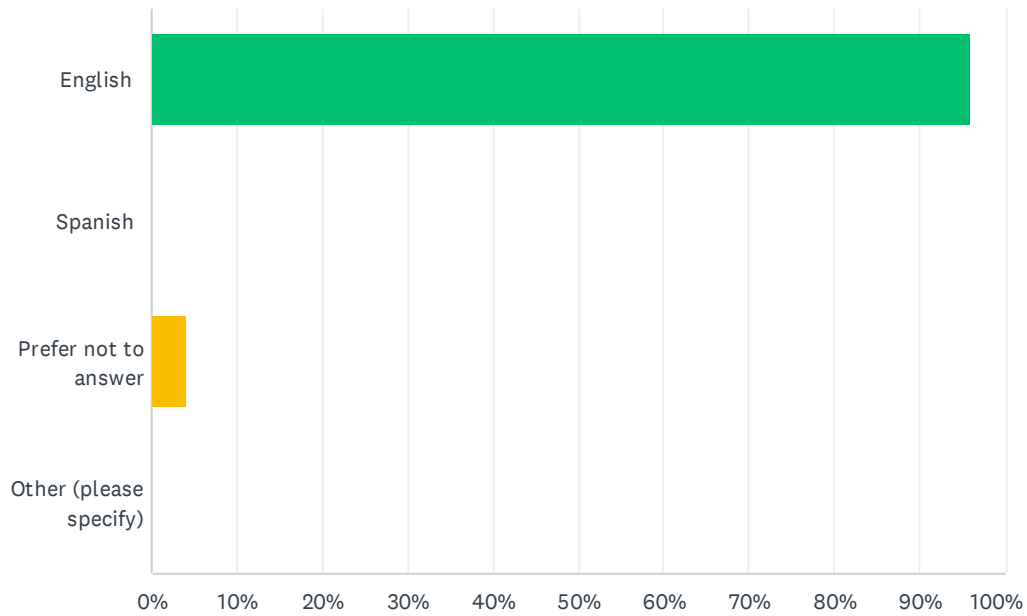
Answered: 25 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	0.00% 0
No	84.00% 21
Prefer not to answer	16.00% 4
Other (please specify)	0.00% 0
TOTAL	25

Q15 What language do you primarily speak at home?

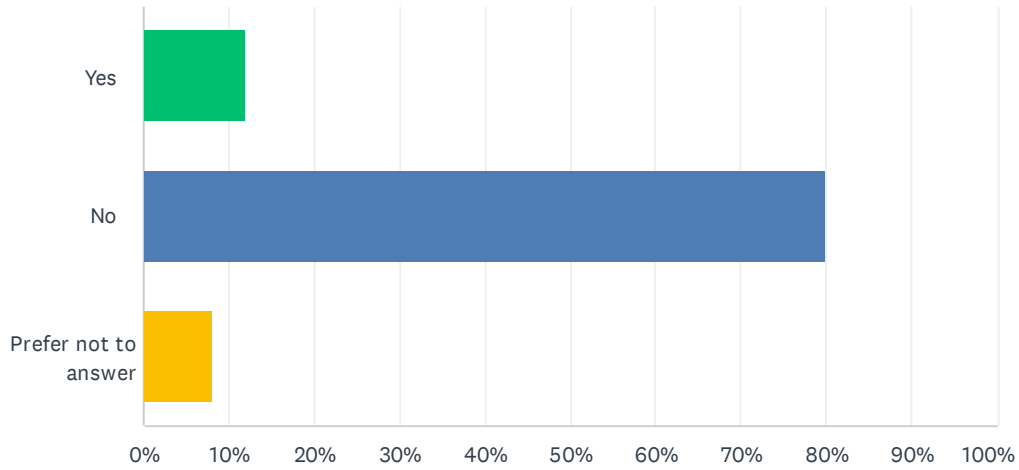
Answered: 25 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
English	96.00%	24
Spanish	0.00%	0
Prefer not to answer	4.00%	1
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		25

Q16 Do you consider yourself a person with a disability?

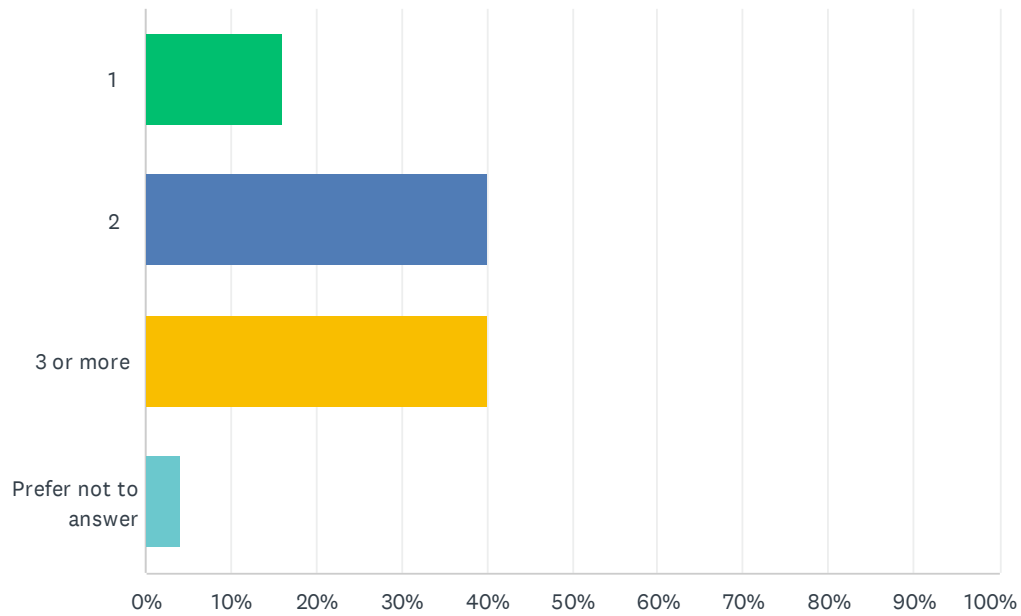
Answered: 25 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	12.00%	3
No	80.00%	20
Prefer not to answer	8.00%	2
TOTAL		25

Q17 How many cars are available in your household to use?

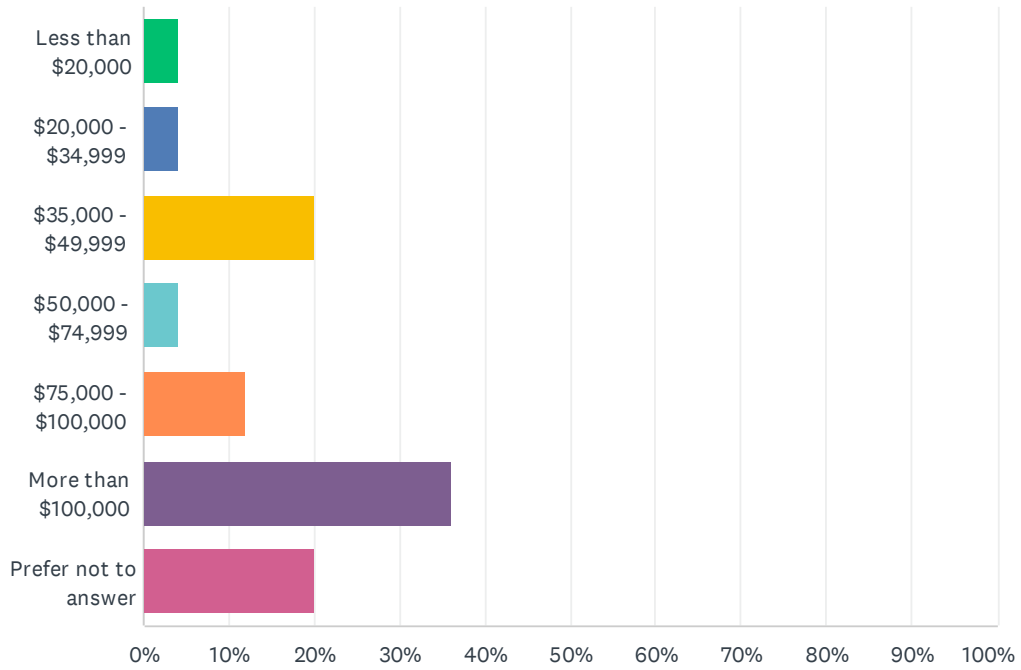
Answered: 25 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1	16.00%	4
2	40.00%	10
3 or more	40.00%	10
Prefer not to answer	4.00%	1
TOTAL		25

Q18 What is your household income?

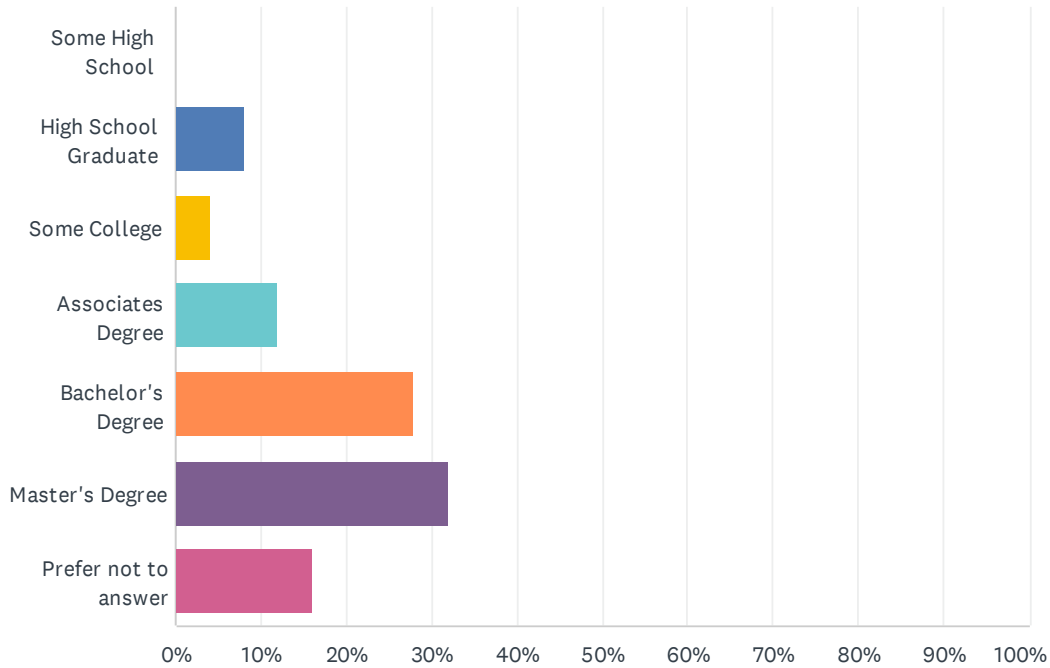
Answered: 25 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Less than \$20,000	4.00%	1
\$20,000 - \$34,999	4.00%	1
\$35,000 - \$49,999	20.00%	5
\$50,000 - \$74,999	4.00%	1
\$75,000 - \$100,000	12.00%	3
More than \$100,000	36.00%	9
Prefer not to answer	20.00%	5
TOTAL		25

Q19 What level of education or training have you completed?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Some High School	0.00%	0
High School Graduate	8.00%	2
Some College	4.00%	1
Associates Degree	12.00%	3
Bachelor's Degree	28.00%	7
Master's Degree	32.00%	8
Prefer not to answer	16.00%	4
TOTAL		25