



# ESAP SURVEY SUMMARY

---

The survey gathered community feedback on general environmental and sustainability level of knowledge and concerns, ESAP focus areas and collected new ideas for actions. Community input from the survey shaped plan priorities before drafting began and provided detailed input on key plan elements.

The survey was open for approximately three weeks, **May 1 – May 22, 2023**, and received **347 total survey responses**. The survey was published on the project webpage ([www.cityofpuyallup.org/2149/Environmental-Sustainability-Action-Plan](http://www.cityofpuyallup.org/2149/Environmental-Sustainability-Action-Plan)) and promoted through the City of Puyallup social media and e-newsletter. Physical flyers were also distributed throughout the community.

## Survey Objectives

- ▶ Gather early input to guide ESAP vision and goals
- ▶ Better understand community priorities and concerns for environmental and sustainability topics
- ▶ Collect new ideas for actions and opportunities for the ESAP

## Key themes

The following key themes, priorities, and concerns were gathered through this survey:

- ▶ Puyallup community members are informed and concerned about local environmental and sustainability issues and impacts.
- ▶ Survey respondents are most concerned about loss of agricultural lands, loss of urban trees and tree canopy, and litter and waste management.
- ▶ There is strong consensus from survey takers that improving the local environment and sustainability is good for the health and livability of the Puyallup community.
- ▶ Participants envision a sustainable Puyallup future as protecting natural systems, prioritizing sustainability, increased livability, enhanced transportation networks and infrastructure, improved waste management practices, and sustainable growth.
- ▶ Top sustainability strategies included preserving agricultural lands and promoting urban agriculture, clean up and restoration of local habitats, and increase urban tree canopy and plants for pollinators.
- ▶ Reducing traffic, improving air and water quality, increasing green space and parks for recreation, and sprawl/growth concerns are other top priorities for Puyallup community members.
- ▶ Survey participants expressed concerns for City growth, specifically land usage and city sprawl.
- ▶ Participants shared strong support for enhanced and increased transportation infrastructure and options, such as roads, public transit, and active modes of transportation.
- ▶ Survey respondents shared that equity and increased community outreach and education are critical components to ESAP success.



# Survey Results

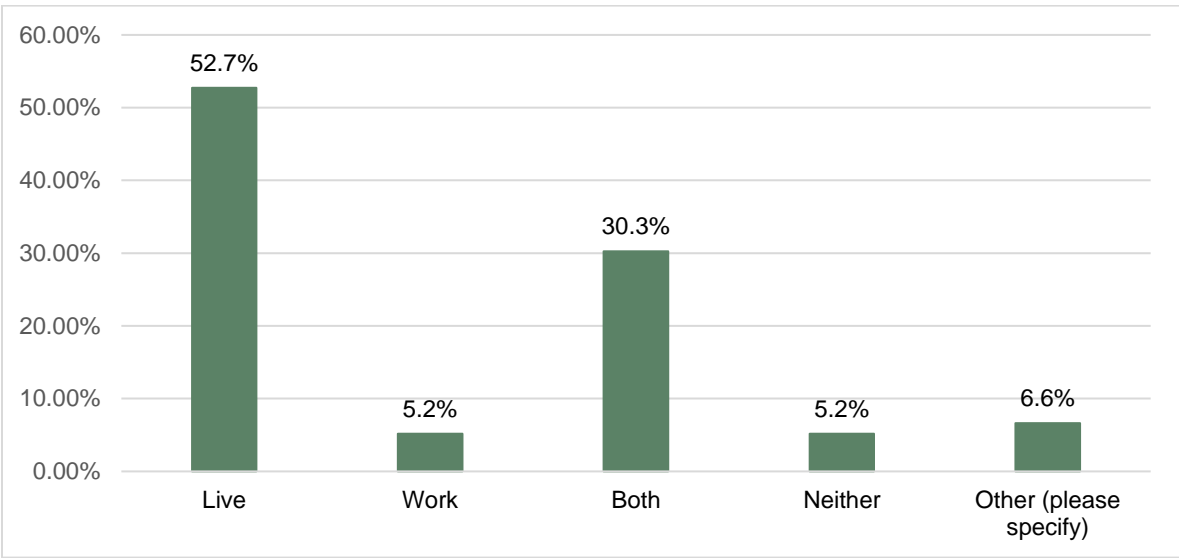
This section provides a detailed summary of each survey question and corresponding responses. Questions 1 – 3 asked for contact information of respondents that are not included in this survey summary.

## Section 1: Introduction

### Q4: Do you live or work in Puyallup?

347 answered, 0 skipped

- ▶ More than half (52.7%) of survey respondents live in Puyallup, with an additional 30.3% living and working in Puyallup.



### Q5: How would you best describe your awareness and understanding of local environmental issues and impacts?

347 answered, 0 skipped

- ▶ 67.14% of respondents felt familiar to well informed about local environmental impacts and issues.

Answer Choices	Responses
I am well-informed about local environmental impacts and issues.	18.44%
I am familiar with some local environmental issues and try to stay informed.	48.70%
I have heard about local environmental impacts, but don't know much about it.	21.04%
I am not knowing of the local issues surrounding environmental impacts.	10.37%
I prefer not to say	1.44%

### Q6: Generally, how concerned are you about local environmental sustainability issues and impacts?



346 answered, 1 skipped

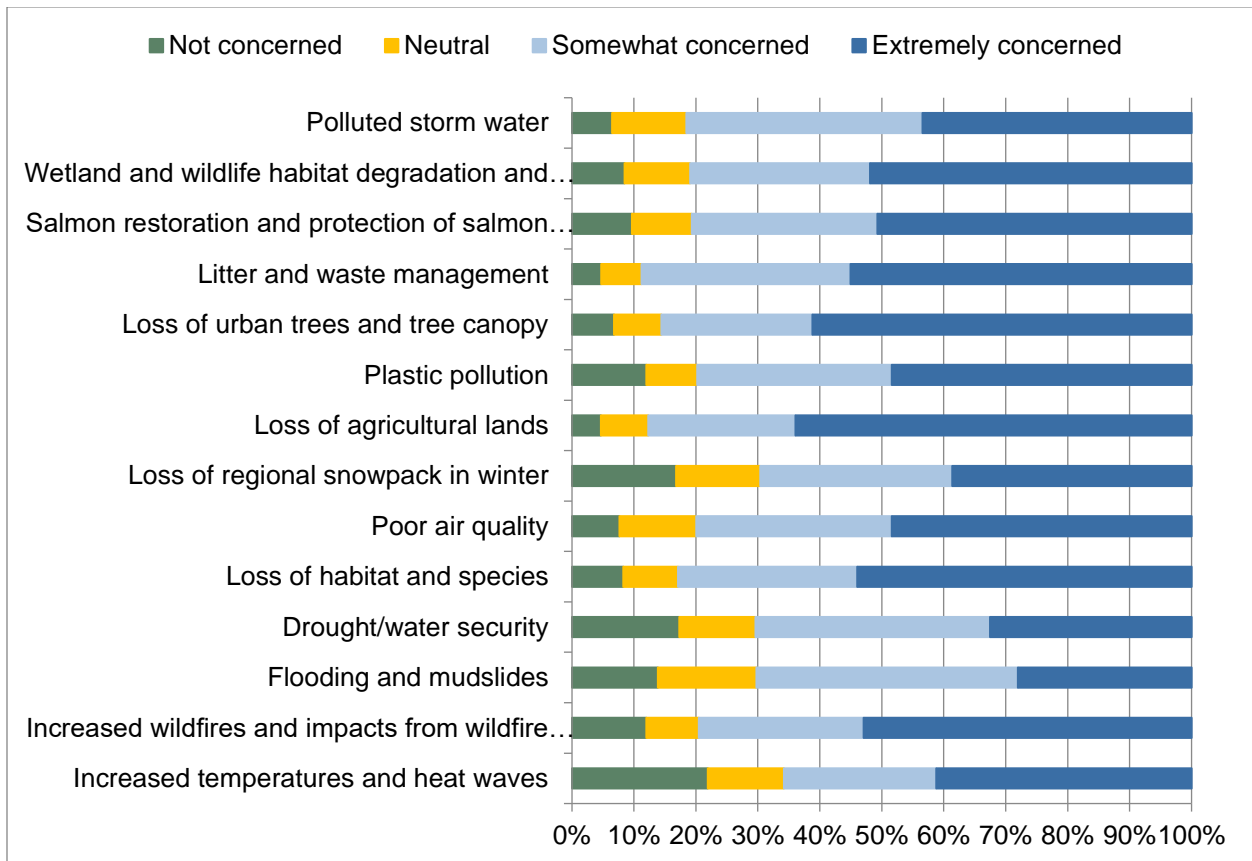
- ▶ 83.52% of respondents shared they are very concerned to somewhat concerned about local environmental impacts.

Answer Choices	Responses
I am very concerned about local environmental impacts	58.09%
I am somewhat concerned about local environmental impacts	25.43%
I am not concerned for myself, but for the next generation	4.91%
I am not concerned about local environmental impacts	11.56%

**Q7: How concerned are you with the following local environmental issues? Please check one box per impact.**

347 answered, 0 skipped

- ▶ Respondents are **most concerned** about these local environmental issues and impacts:
  - Loss of agricultural lands
  - Loss of urban trees and tree canopy
  - Litter and waste management
- ▶ Respondents are **least concerned** about the following local environmental impacts and issues:
  - Increased temperatures and heat waves
  - Drought/water security
  - Loss of regional snowpack in winter

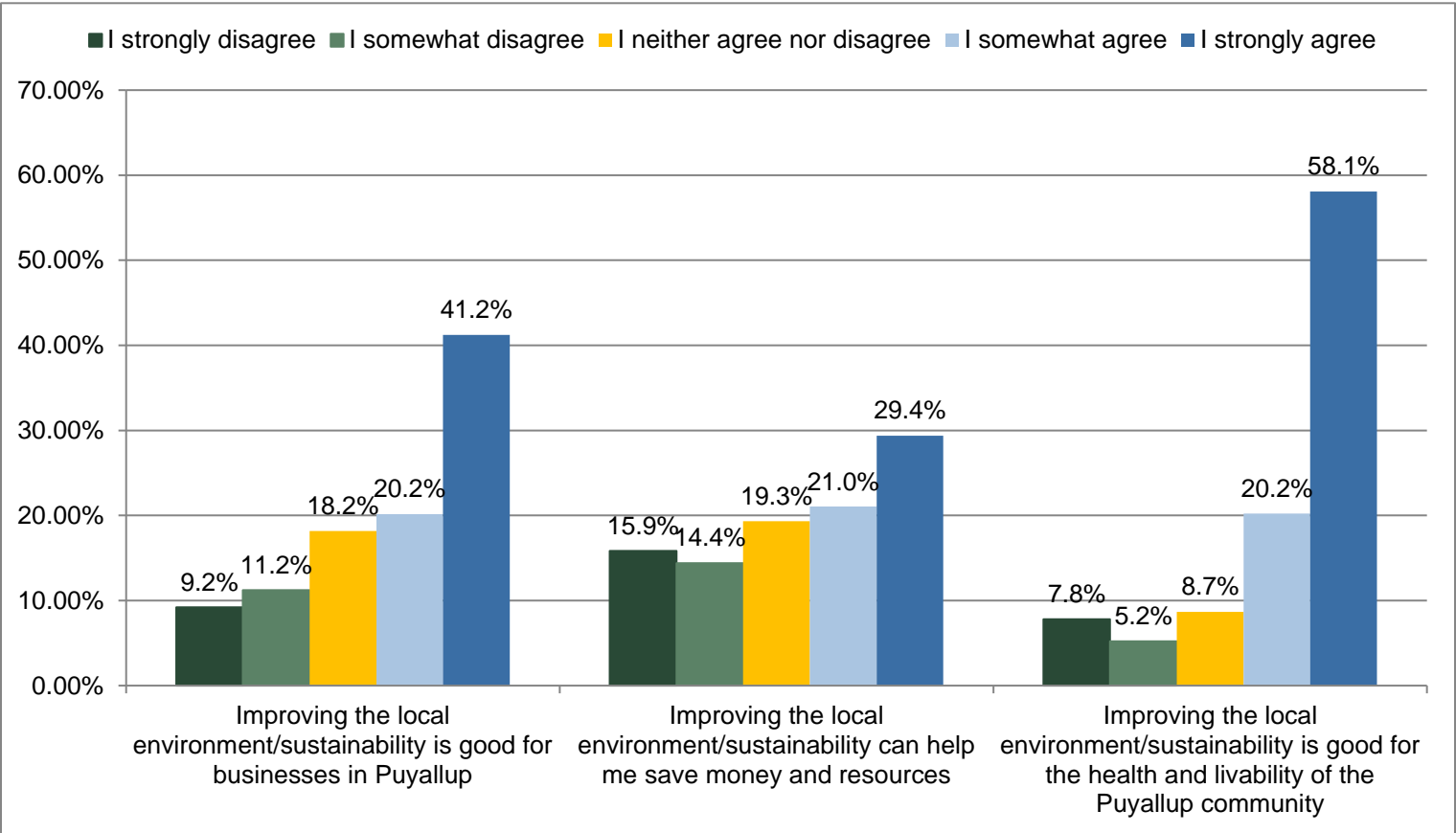




**Q8: Please rank your level of agreement with the following statements. For each statement, please select the option that best matches your view.**

*347 answered, 0 skipped*

- ▶ Respondents **strongly agree** (58.1%) that improving the local environment and sustainability is good for the health and livability of the Puyallup community.
- ▶ Respondents **strongly disagree** (15.9%) that improving the local environment and sustainability can help save money and resources.



## Section 2: Vision & Sector Priorities

**Q9: Looking into the future, what does an environmentally sustainable Puyallup look like to you? Please complete the following sentence: "In 2050, the City of Puyallup will be \_\_\_\_\_"**

*273 answered, 74 skipped*

- ▶ Key themes from the open-responses included:
  - A cleaner and greener city with increased livability
  - Enhanced transportation infrastructure and network (public transit, pedestrian access, bike access, etc.)



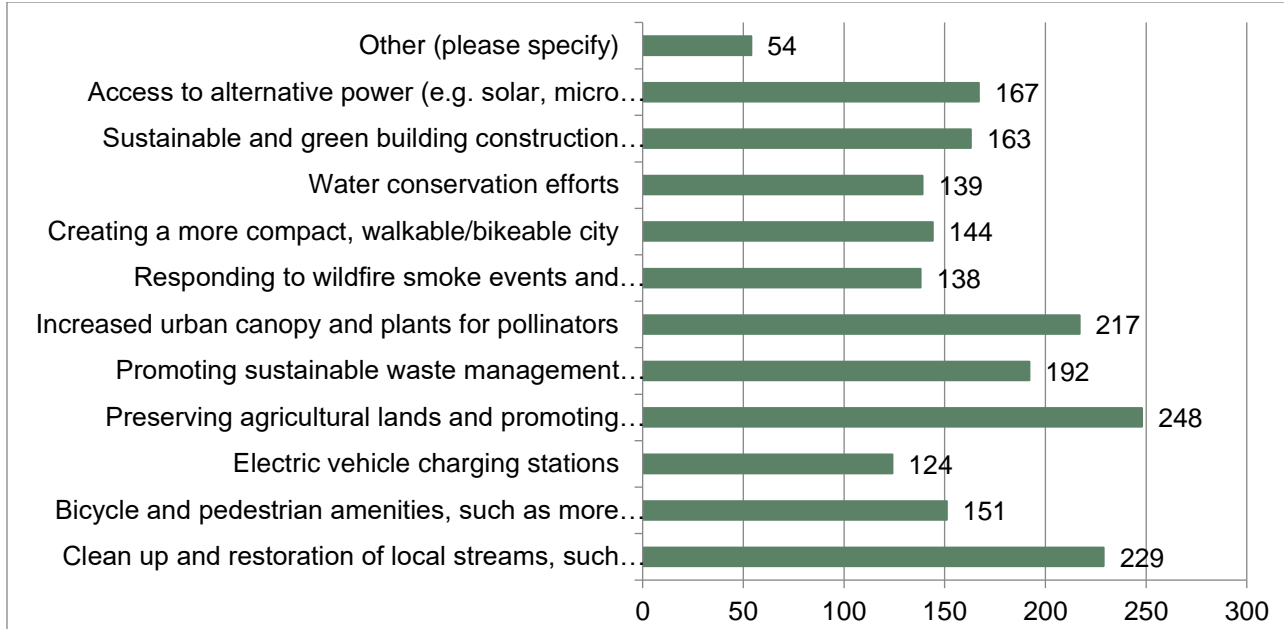
- Enhanced waste management practices, including recycling and composting
- Concerns over continued City growth and land usage for warehouses
- Prioritizing environmental sustainability efforts and initiatives
- Protecting natural systems
- Engaged in sustainable energy solutions across all sectors

**Q10: What types of local, sustainability, and environmental strategies should Puyallup be a leader in and prioritize through the ESAP? Select all that you support.**

- ▶ *Clean up and restoration of local streams, such as cleaning Clark's Creek, protecting salmon habitat and installing rain gardens*
- ▶ *Bicycle and pedestrian amenities, such as more protected bike lanes, trails, and sidewalks*
- ▶ *Electric vehicle charging stations*
- ▶ *Preserving agricultural lands and promoting urban agriculture (e.g. community gardens, CSA's, etc.)*
- ▶ *Promoting sustainable waste management practice, such as composting, recycling and reducing plastic waste*
- ▶ *Increased urban canopy and plants for pollinators*
- ▶ *Responding to wildfire smoke events and extreme heat waves with mitigation strategies, such as cooling centers and air quality centers for local residents to use during extreme heat and wildfire smoke events*
- ▶ *Creating a more compact, walkable/bikeable city*
- ▶ *Water conservation efforts*
- ▶ *Sustainable and green building construction and operations*
- ▶ *Access to alternative power (e.g. solar, micro wind turbine)*
- ▶ *Other (please specify)*

*298 answered, 49 skipped*

- ▶ Respondents most frequently supported:
  - Preserving agricultural lands and promoting urban agriculture
  - Clean up and restoration of local streams, such as cleaning Clark's Creek, protecting salmon habitat and installing rain gardens
  - Increased urban canopy and plants for pollinators
- ▶ Open response submission topics included:
  - Enhanced Transportation infrastructure (public transit, roads, pedestrian modes of transit)
  - Enhanced waste management
  - Growth concerns
  - Protecting natural systems



**Q11: Which of the below strategies would you most support? Please select your top 3.**

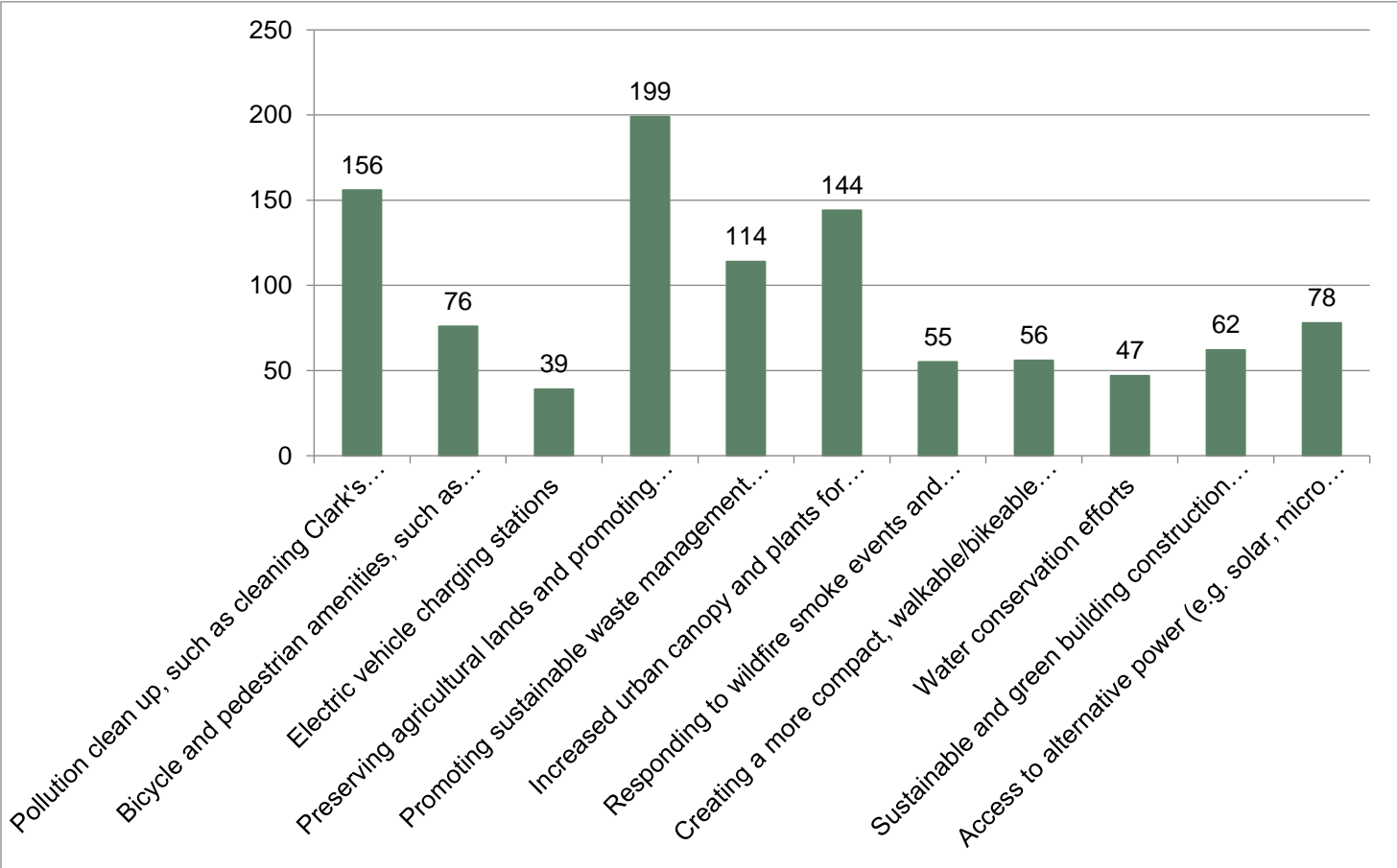
- ▶ *Pollution cleanup, such as cleaning Clark’s Creek, protecting salmon habitat and installing rain gardens*
- ▶ *Bicycle and pedestrian amenities, such as more protected bike lanes, trails, and sidewalks*
- ▶ *Electric vehicle charging stations*
- ▶ *Preserving agricultural lands and promoting urban agriculture (e.g. community gardens, CSA’s, etc.)*
- ▶ *Promoting sustainable waste management practices, such as composting, recycling and reducing plastic waste*
- ▶ *Increased urban canopy and plants for pollinators*
- ▶ *Responding to wildfire smoke events and extreme heat waves with mitigation strategies*
- ▶ *Creating a more compact, walkable/bikeable city*
- ▶ *Water conservation efforts*
- ▶ *Sustainable and green building construction and operations*
- ▶ *Access to alternative power (e.g. solar, micro wind turbine)*

*299 answered, 48 skipped*

- ▶ Preserving agricultural lands and promoting urban agriculture ranked the highest, followed by pollution clean up and promoting sustainable waste management practices.



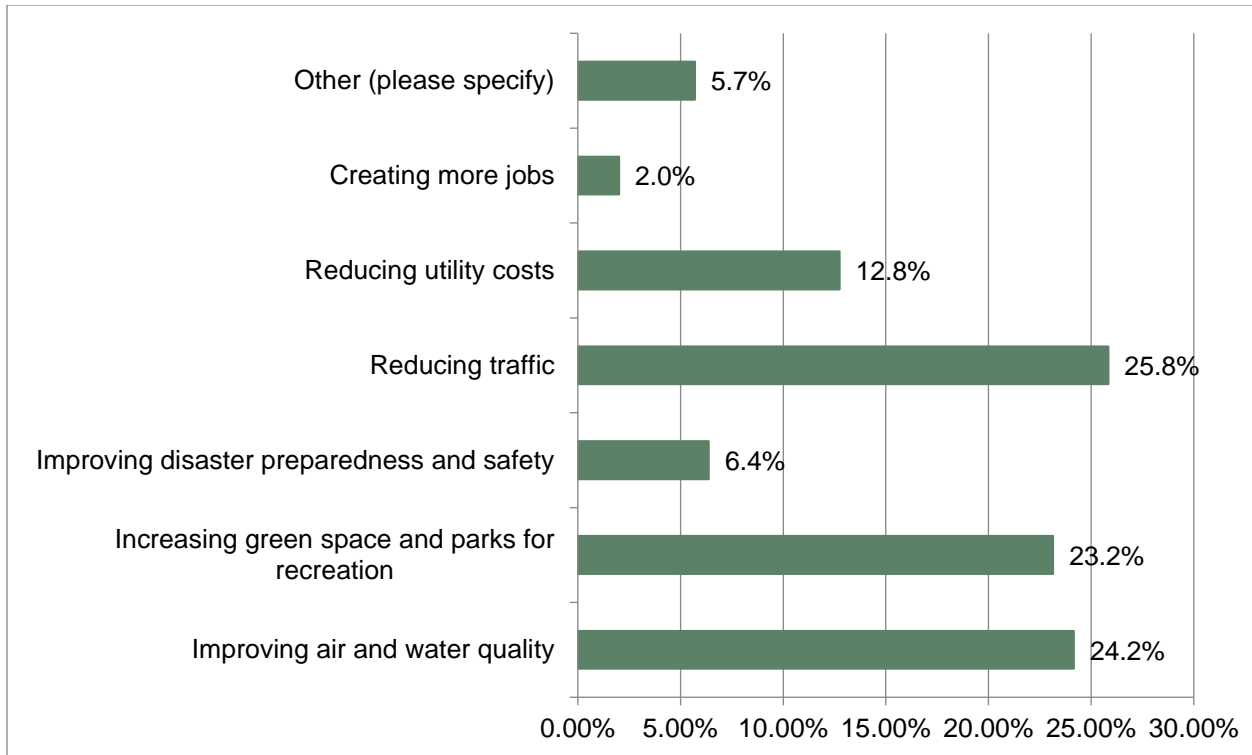
► Electric vehicle charging stations ranked the lowest.



**Q12: The ESAP may include specific actions and strategies for Puyallup local environmental sustainability. These strategies will also have many additional co-benefits. Which of the following co-benefits are the most important to you?**

*298 answered, 49 skipped*

- Reducing traffic ranked highest for action co-benefits, followed by improving air and water quality, and increasing green space and parks for recreation.
- For those who submitted an open response submission, the topics included:
  - City growth concerns, land usage and city sprawl
  - Protection of natural systems
  - Increased pedestrian infrastructure



**Q13: Please indicate your level of support for the including in the ESAP the following focus areas:**

1. *The Buildings & Energy focus area will include strategies that promote clean and reliable energy and sustainable building development.*
2. *The Transportation & Land Use focus area will aim to make transportation options more sustainable, accessible, and safe.*
3. *The Natural Environment focus area will focus on strategies that protect and enhance our waterways and natural systems and resources.*
4. *The Consumption & Waste focus area will include strategies that promote recycling, composting, and reuse.*
5. *The Community Wellbeing & Resilience focus area will focus on enhancing public health, emergency preparedness, and addressing disproportionate impacts to the city’s most vulnerable communities.*

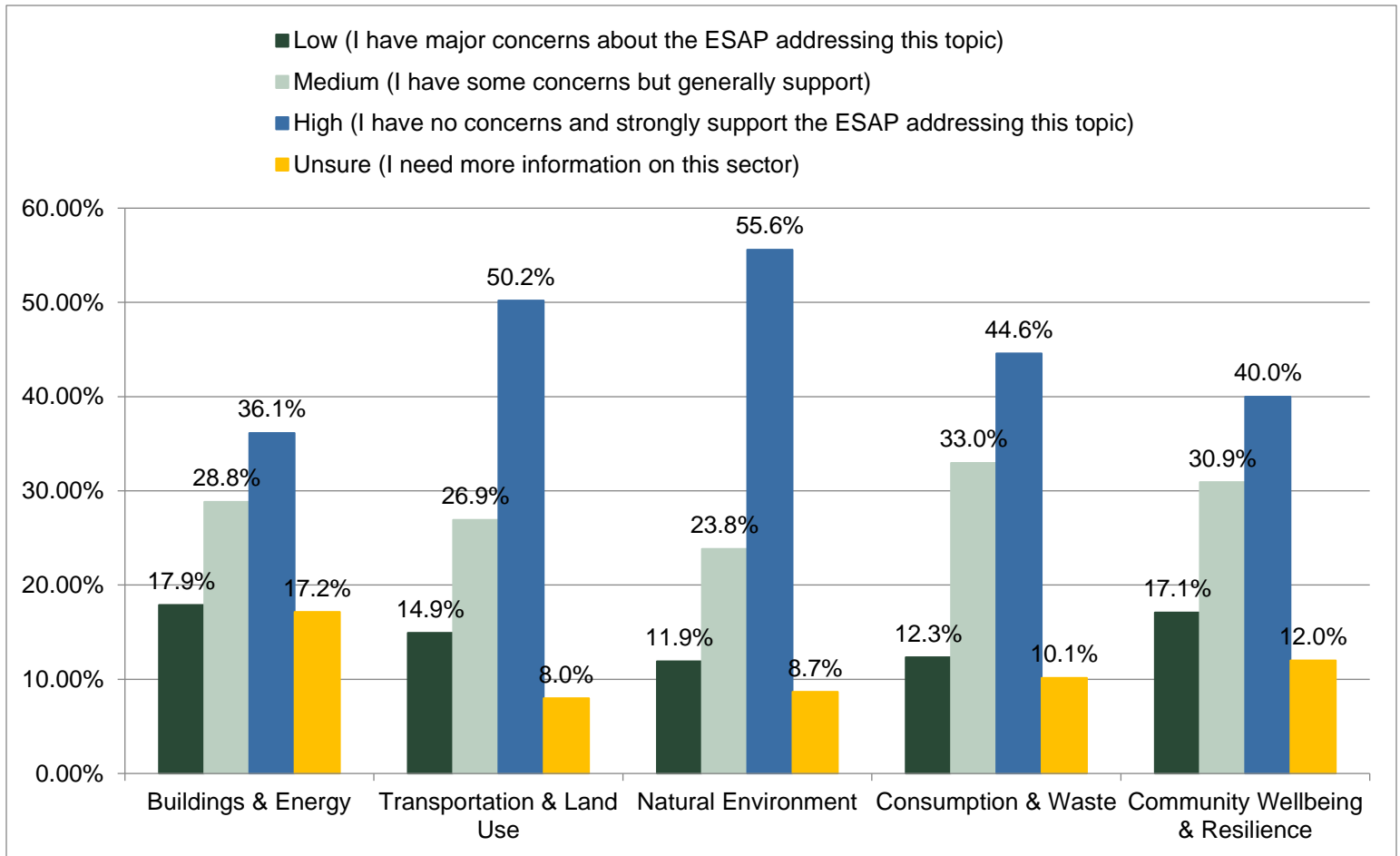
*279 answered, 69 skipped*

- ▶ Natural Environment and Transportation and Land Use focus areas received the strongest support.





- ▶ Respondents were most unsure and need more information for the Buildings and Energy focus area.



**Q14: Do you have any additional feedback on these focus areas? (Your response is optional).**

*98 answered, 249 skipped*

Participants submitted additional feedback for the following areas:

- ▶ **City growth.** Participants were specifically concerned about land usage and the development of new housing.
- ▶ **Transportation.** Participants shared support for improving infrastructure for public transit, roads, and pedestrian modes of transportation.
- ▶ **Increased community outreach.** Participants shared that increased community outreach is a critical element that needs to be paired with the actions.
- ▶ **Waste management.** Participants indicated they support stronger recycling programs, single-use plastic reduction, and composting programs.

**Q15: Are there any additional focus areas not listed here that you recommend adding?**

*93 answered, 254 skipped*



Participants submitted additional focus area comments for the following areas:

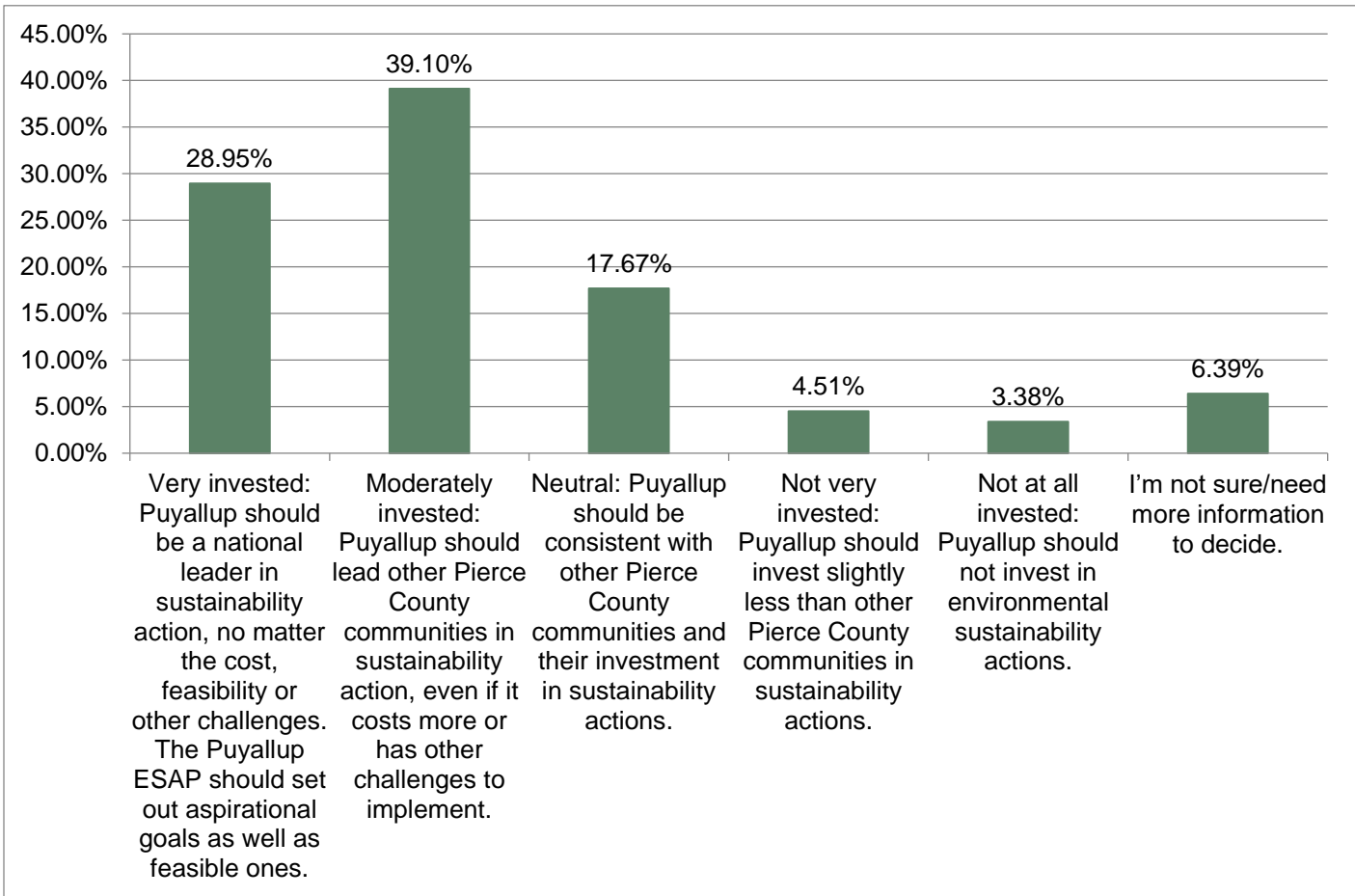
- ▶ **Equity.** Participants voiced concerns for the role of equity in the ESAP, specifically identifying the unhouse population in Puyallup.
- ▶ **City growth.** Participants reiterated concerns for land usage and the development of new housing in Puyallup.
- ▶ **Transportation.** Respondents shared support for enhanced transportation networks, improved infrastructure, and the active transportation network.

### Section 3: Barriers & Challenges

**Q16: How invested should the Puyallup community be in pursuing your top priority environmental sustainability actions? Please select the option that best matches your view.**

*266 answered, 81 skipped*

- ▶ Respondents most strongly agreed that Puyallup should be moderately invested in pursuing environmental and sustainability action.





**Q17: Please describe any opportunities you think would make Puyallup more environmentally friendly.**

*144 answered, 203 skipped*

Participants submitted the following topics as opportunities for the ESAP:

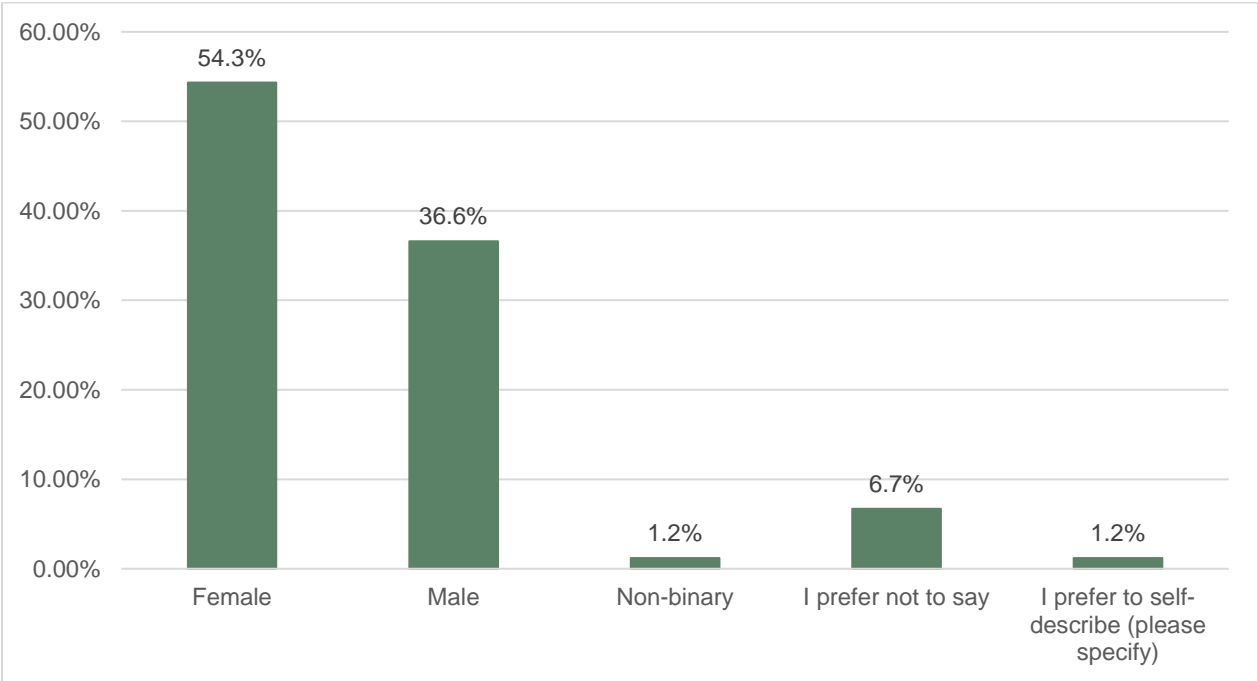
- ▶ Sustainable landscaping
- ▶ Sustainable energy solutions
- ▶ Protecting and increasing green spaces
- ▶ Prioritizing sustainable initiatives
- ▶ Increased community outreach and communication
- ▶ City growth concerns
- ▶ Increased waste management
- ▶ Improving transportation infrastructure (public transit, roads, and pedestrian modes of transit like walking and biking)

**Section 4: Optional Demographics**

**Q18: What is your gender?**

*254 answered, 93 skipped*

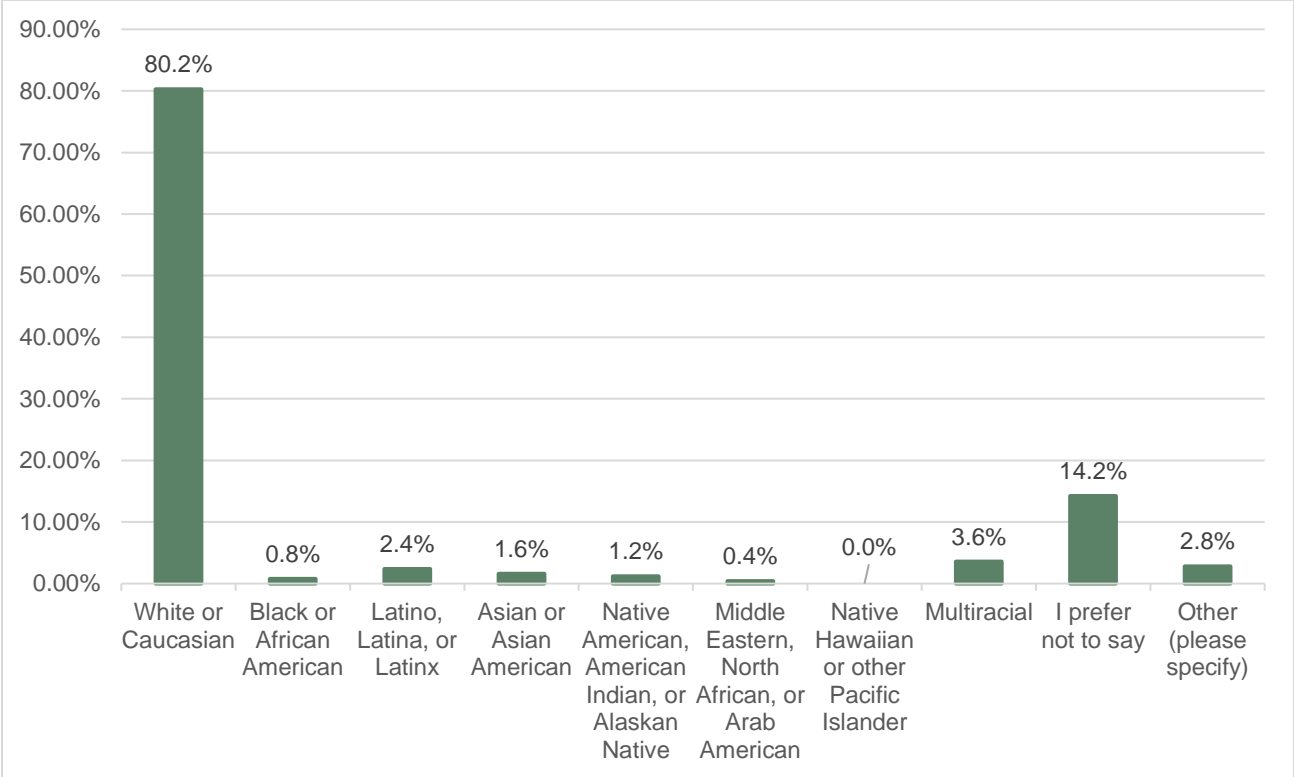
- ▶ 54.3% of survey respondents were female, and 36.6% were male



**Q19: Which of the following best represents your racial or ethnic heritage? (Select all that apply).**

*253 answered, 94 skipped*

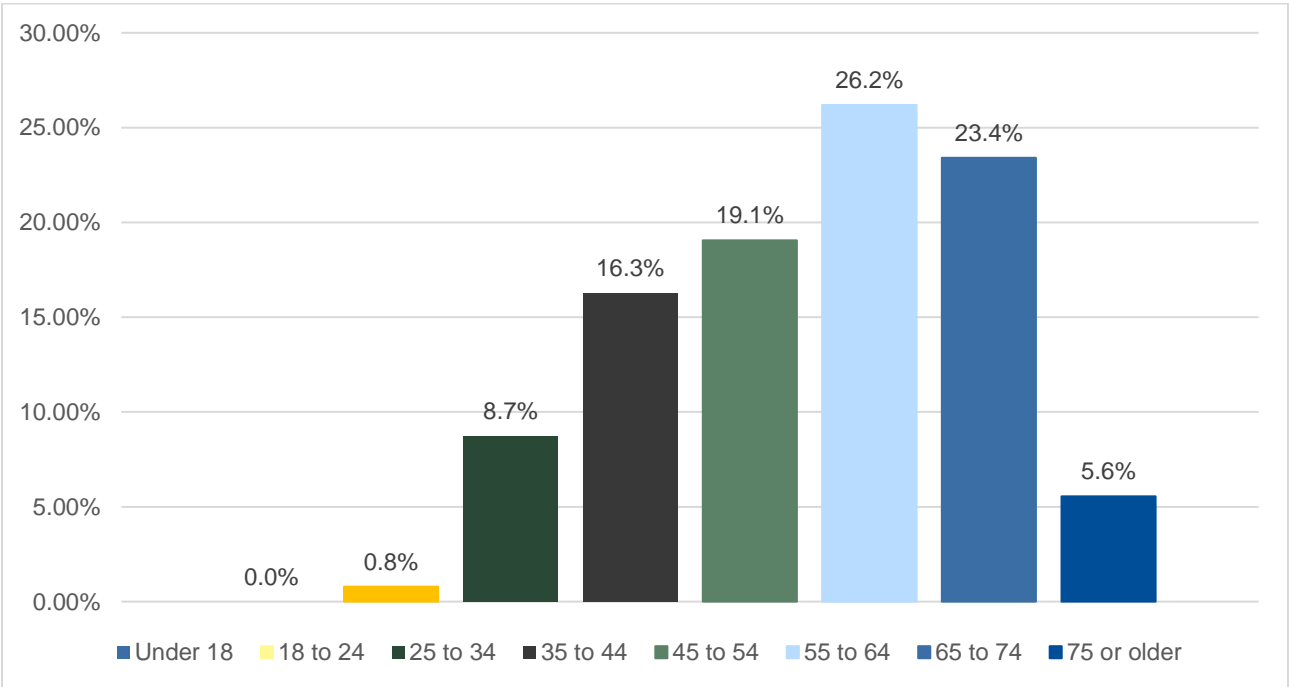
- ▶ 80.2% of survey respondents were White or Caucasian



**Q20: What is your age?**

254 answered, 93 skipped

- ▶ 55 to 64 (26.2%) was the most common age group of survey respondents, followed by 65 to 74 years old (23.4%).

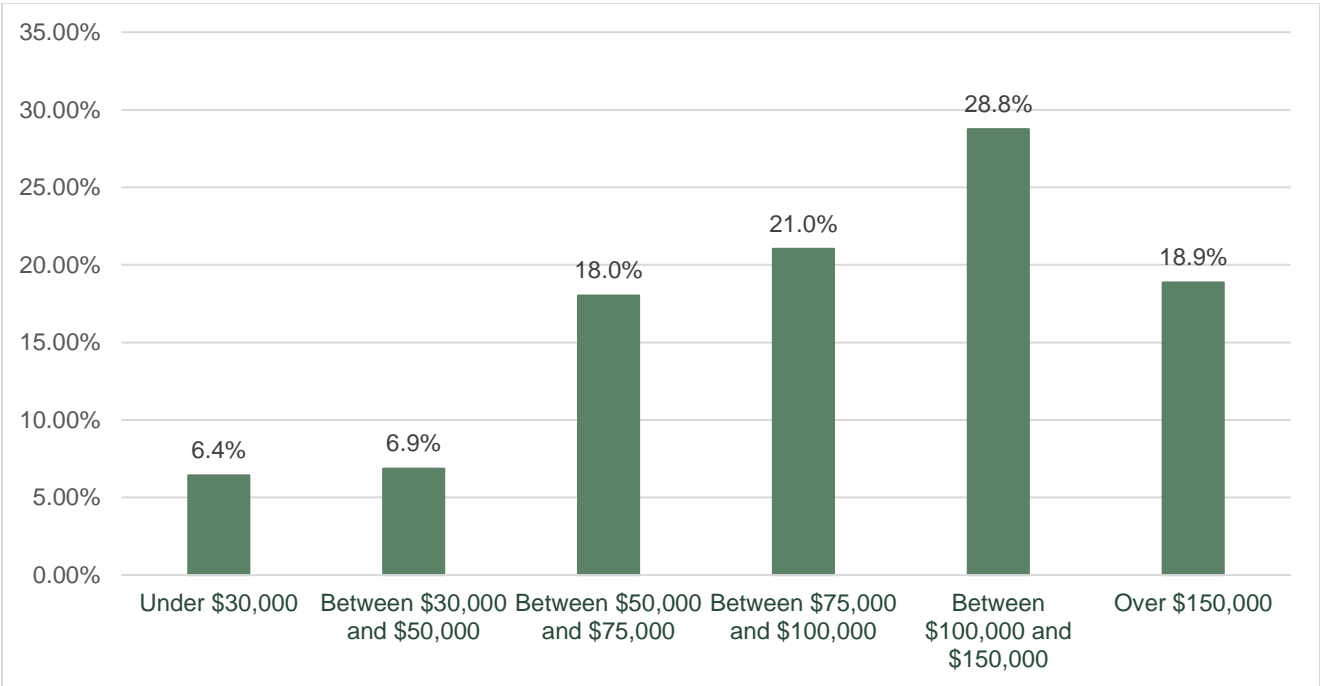




**Q21: What is your approximate household income?**

233 answered, 114 skipped

- ▶ Average household income between \$100,000 and \$150,000 was the most common (28.8%) followed by an average household income between \$75,000 and \$100,000 (21.0%).



**Q22: Do you rent or own the place that you live?**

255 answered, 92 skipped

- ▶ 83.9% of survey respondents own the place that they live, 12.2% rent, and 3.9% neither.
- ▶ Other responses included:
  - Living with someone who owns
- ▶ Dependent individuals, living somewhere for free

