

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Poll: Gateway Projects Most Important Regional Transportation Priority**

*New survey also finds 80% support national infrastructure plan but have little faith it will be realized before 2020*

NEWARK, NJ – In a new survey released by the Gateway Program Development Corporation, 45% of respondents rated the “Gateway Tunnel” and Portal North Bridge Projects as the most important transportation priorities in the region, surpassing the next most popular priority by more than 15%.

The survey of 463 adults in New York, New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania also found that national infrastructure spending is either “extremely important” or “very important” to 79% of respondents. The most popular method of paying for such a plan is through repeal of federal tax legislation passed in 2018.

Other key findings of the survey include:

- More than 70% of respondents want the “Gateway Tunnel” project built now, with about half of those saying trim the cost as well and the other half saying “stop the arguing and build it.”
- Faster/Better trains and roads were far and away the leading improvements respondents would make if they could “wave a magic wand.”
- Almost 60% think a national infrastructure plan is unlikely to be passed before the 2020 elections
- Rail is considered the mode of transportation in the region “in the most urgent need of modernization” (37%), followed by roads (28%) and “bridges & tunnels” (21%).
- Of those who take NJ Transit and/or Amtrak, well over half of respondents would switch to driving or riding the bus, PATH or a ferry if one of the existing North River tunnel tubes was closed, adding an even greater burden to congestion in the region.

“In this era of divided politics, one thing that unifies everyone is the need for better, more reliable, modern transportation,” said GDC Chairman Jerry Zaro. “That’s why we, our partners, our Governors, elected officials and leaders up and down the Northeast Corridor are working so hard to get Gateway funded and built. It’s the most urgent infrastructure need in the region and the nation, and – when built – will be a statement that America can do great things again.”

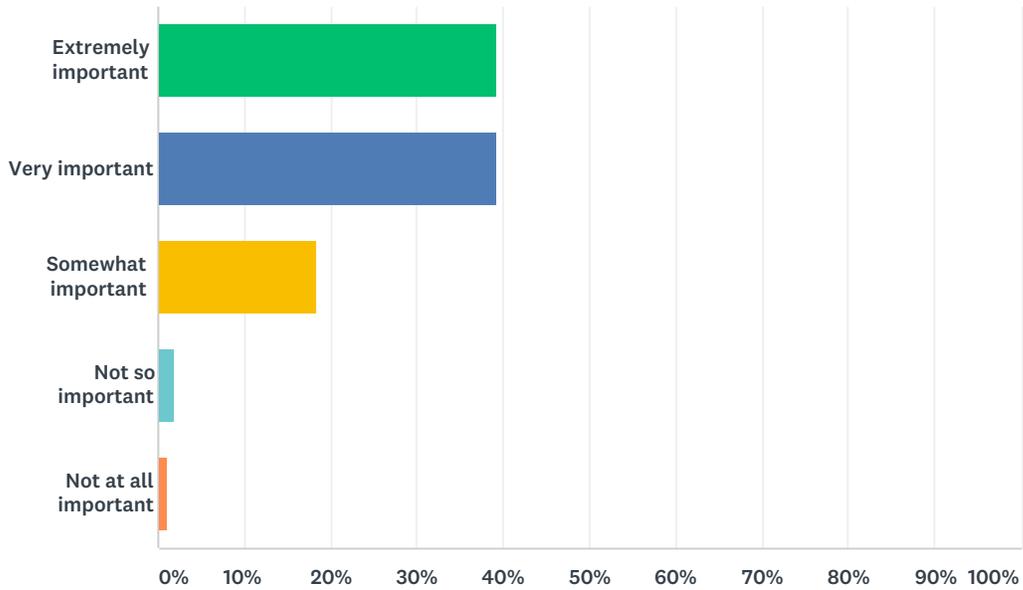
The survey was conducted July 11-13 by SurveyMonkey of a representative sample of 463 adults living in New York, New Jersey and northeastern Pennsylvania. Respondents were randomly selected and represent a balance of gender, age, education and income levels. The complete results are attached.

# # #

*The Gateway Program is the most urgent infrastructure program in the country – a comprehensive rail investment program that will improve commuter and intercity services, add needed resiliency and create new capacity for the busiest section of the Northeast Corridor (NEC). The NEC is the most heavily used passenger rail line in the country hosting more than 2,200 train movements and 800,000 passenger trips daily. The Gateway Program Development Corporation (GDC) is a New Jersey not-for-profit entity with Board members representing Amtrak and the States of New York and New Jersey. It was incorporated in 2016 to oversee and effectuate the Gateway Program in coordination with federal and local partner agencies. Follow the GDC on Twitter [@GatewayProgNews](https://twitter.com/GatewayProgNews).*

## How important is a national infrastructure spending plan?

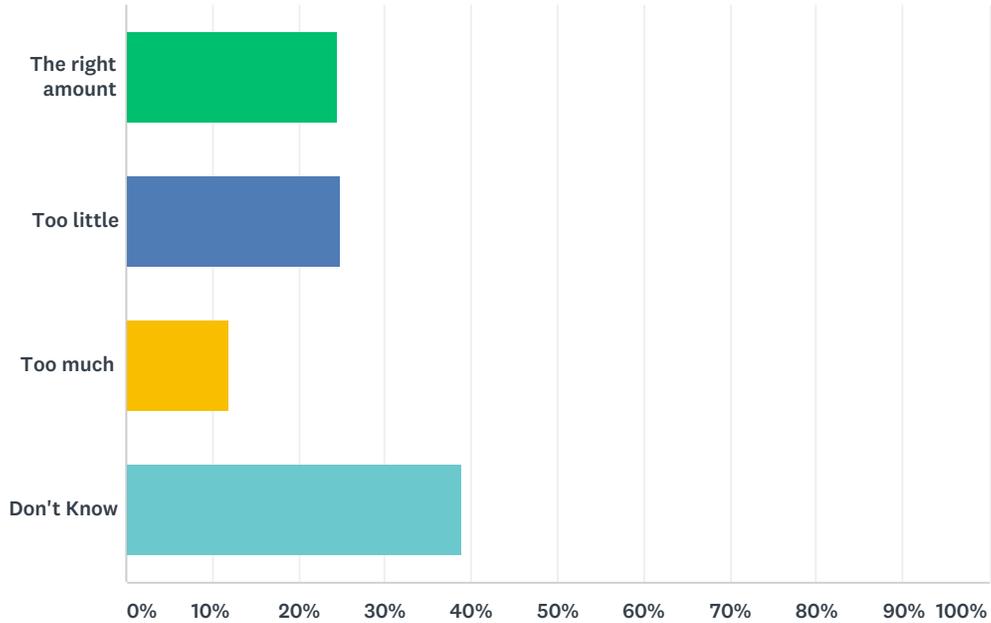
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely important	39.31%	182
Very important	39.31%	182
Somewhat important	18.36%	85
Not so important	1.94%	9
Not at all important	1.08%	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>

# Do you think \$2 trillion to fix the nation's infrastructure is?

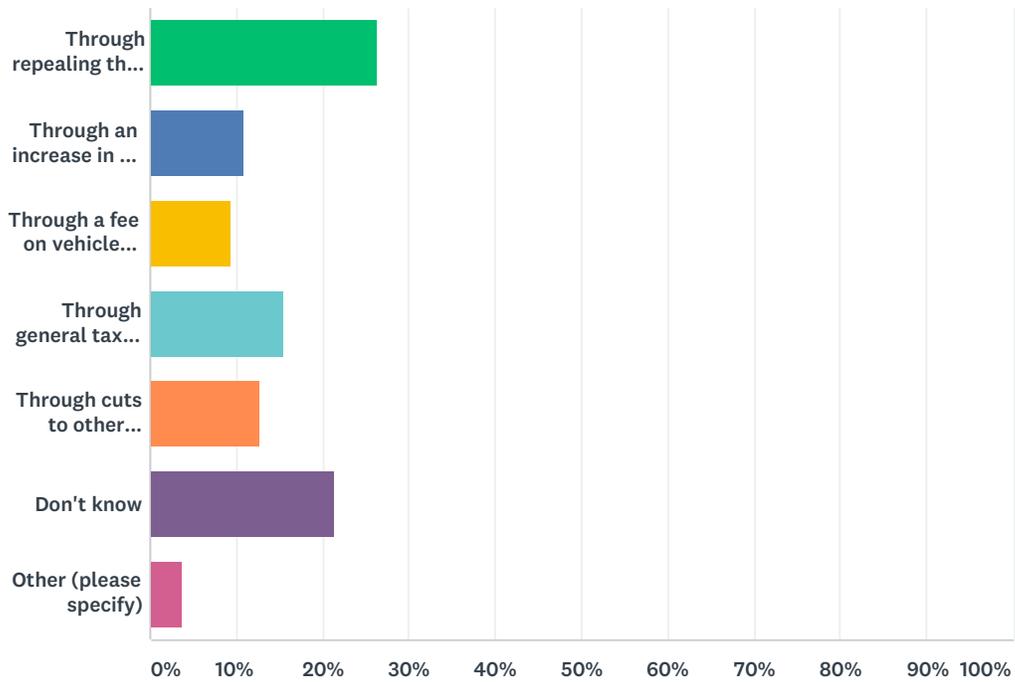
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
The right amount	24.41% 113
Too little	24.84% 115
Too much	11.88% 55
Don't Know	38.88% 180
TOTAL	463

# How would you most like to see a national infrastructure spending plan funded?

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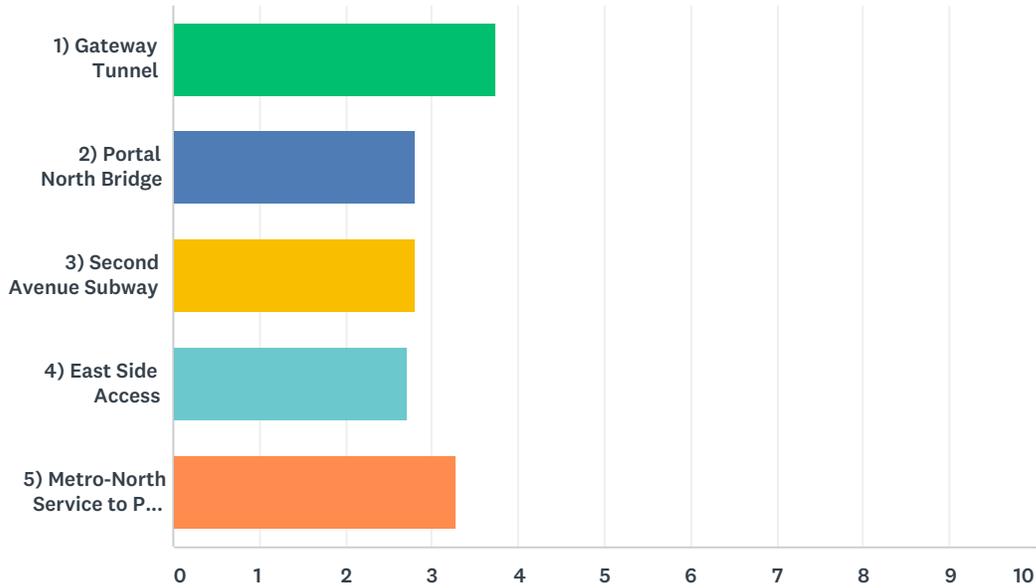


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Through repealing the tax bill that was passed in 2018	26.35%	122
Through an increase in the national gas tax	10.80%	50
Through a fee on vehicle miles driven by cars and trucks	9.50%	44
Through general tax revenues	15.55%	72
Through cuts to other programs	12.74%	59
Don't know	21.38%	99
Other (please specify)	3.67%	17
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>

Infrastructure Bill Priorities

Please rank what you believe to be the most important transportation projects in New York/New Jersey to fund through a national infrastructure spending plan (1 being the most important).

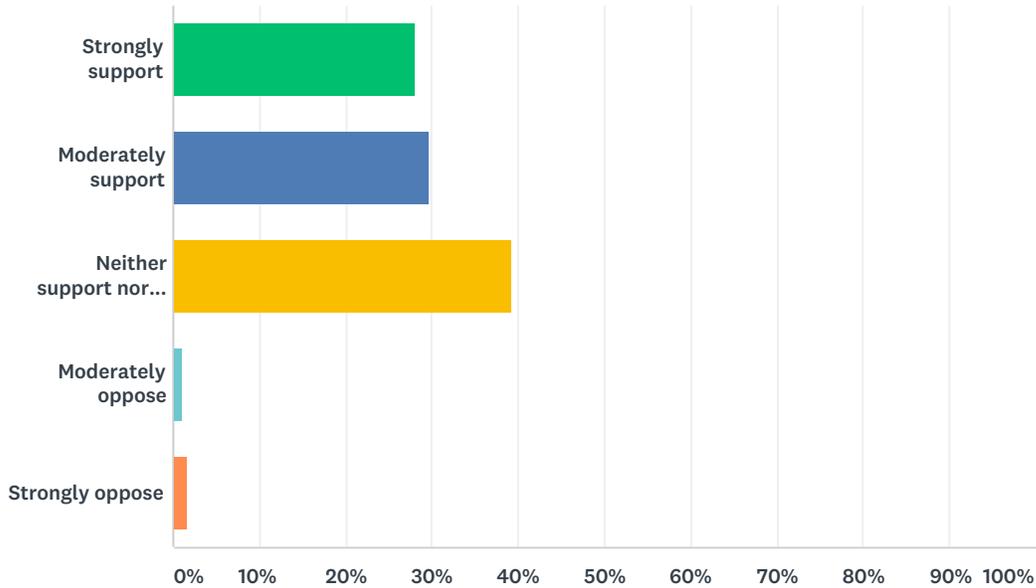
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	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	TOTAL	SCORE
1) Gateway Tunnel	36.29% 168	17.49% 81	15.12% 70	12.74% 59	6.05% 28	12.31% 57	463	3.74
2) Portal North Bridge	8.42% 39	23.11% 107	19.44% 90	16.41% 76	20.52% 95	12.10% 56	463	2.80
3) Second Avenue Subway	9.94% 46	17.49% 81	25.05% 116	19.87% 92	17.06% 79	10.58% 49	463	2.81
4) East Side Access	9.72% 45	16.41% 76	19.65% 91	25.92% 120	17.93% 83	10.37% 48	463	2.71
5) Metro-North Service to Penn Station New York	29.37% 136	17.28% 80	11.23% 52	13.17% 61	18.79% 87	10.15% 47	463	3.28

U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Peter DeFazio recently said that funding for the Gateway Program would be included in a national infrastructure spending plan. How strongly do you support or oppose this statement?

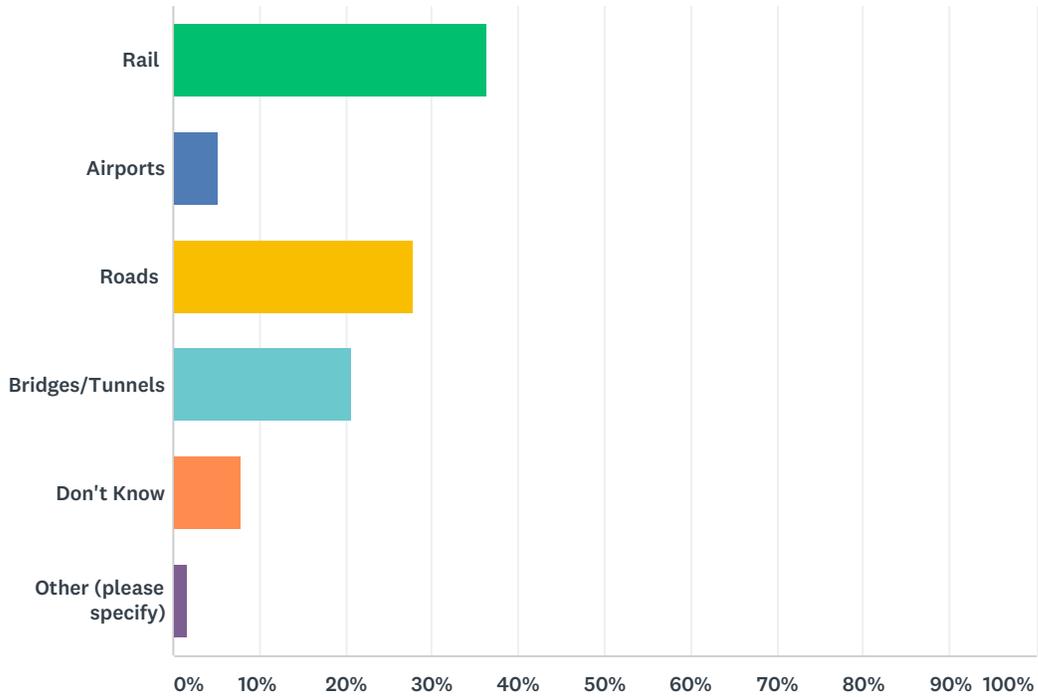
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly support	28.08%	130
Moderately support	29.81%	138
Neither support nor oppose	39.31%	182
Moderately oppose	1.08%	5
Strongly oppose	1.73%	8
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>

# What mode of transportation infrastructure in New York/New Jersey is in the most urgent need of modernization?

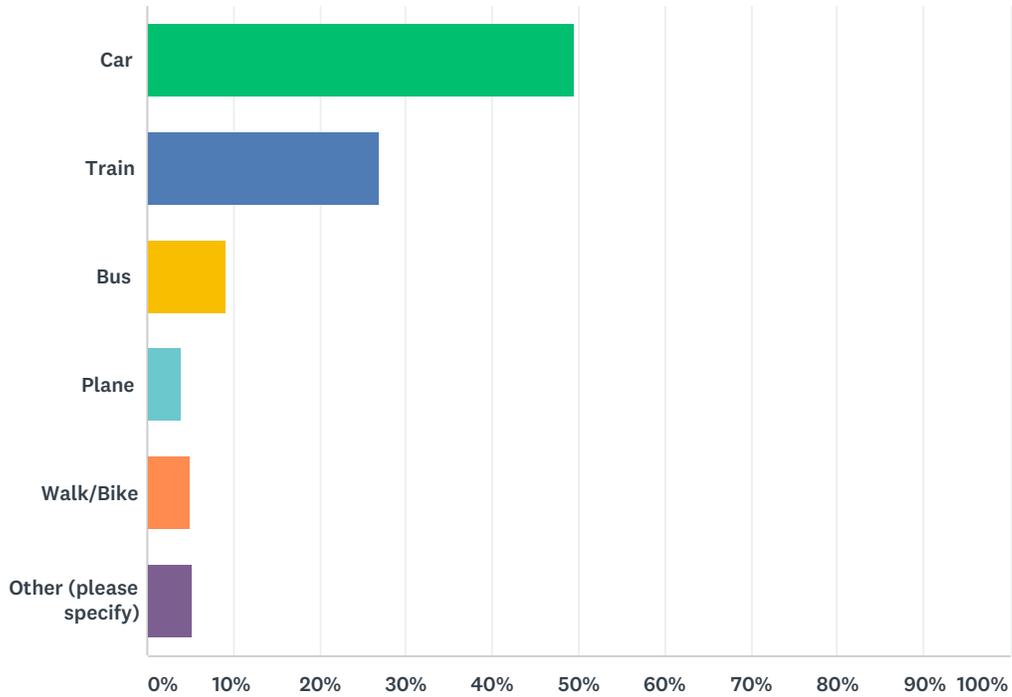
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Rail	36.50%	169
Airports	5.18%	24
Roads	27.86%	129
Bridges/Tunnels	20.73%	96
Don't Know	7.99%	37
Other (please specify)	1.73%	8
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>

# What mode of transportation do you primarily take to commute to work?

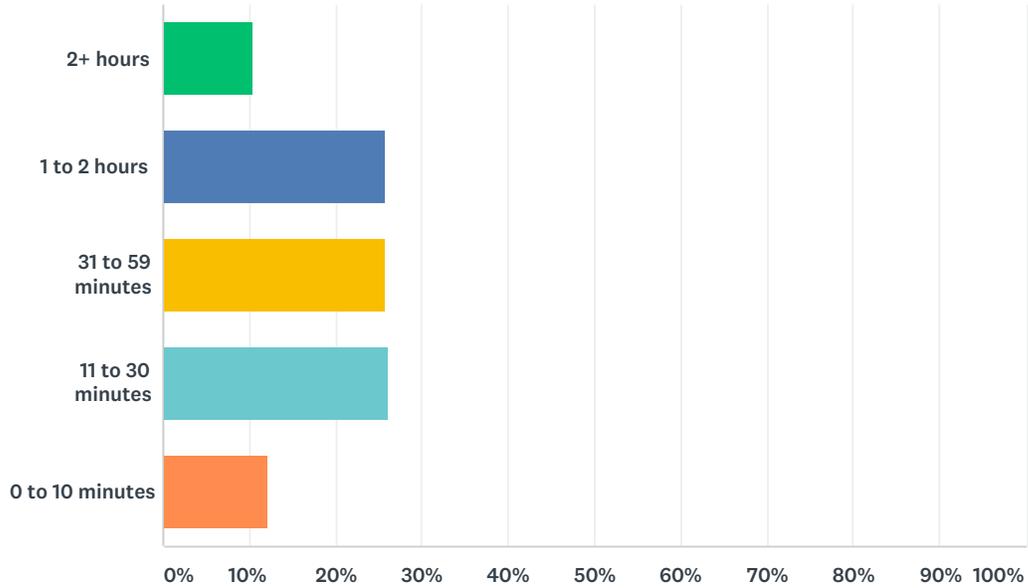
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Car	49.68%	230
Train	27.00%	125
Bus	9.29%	43
Plane	3.89%	18
Walk/Bike	4.97%	23
Other (please specify)	5.18%	24
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>

# How long does your commute take on a typical day?

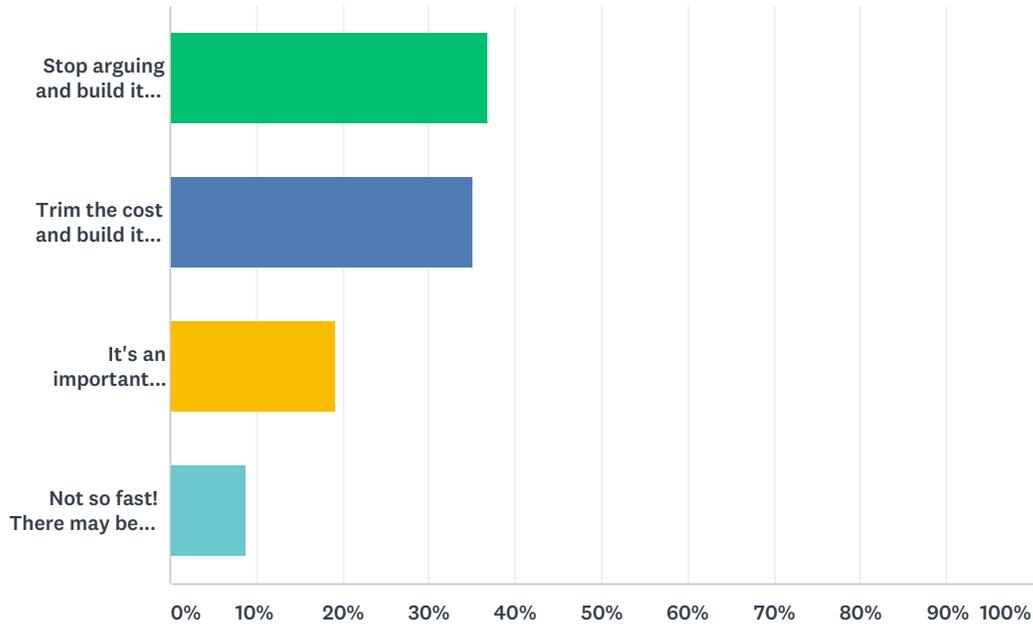
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
2+ hours	10.37%	48
1 to 2 hours	25.70%	119
31 to 59 minutes	25.70%	119
11 to 30 minutes	26.13%	121
0 to 10 minutes	12.10%	56
TOTAL		463

## Which of the following statements most accurately describes your view of the Gateway Tunnel project?

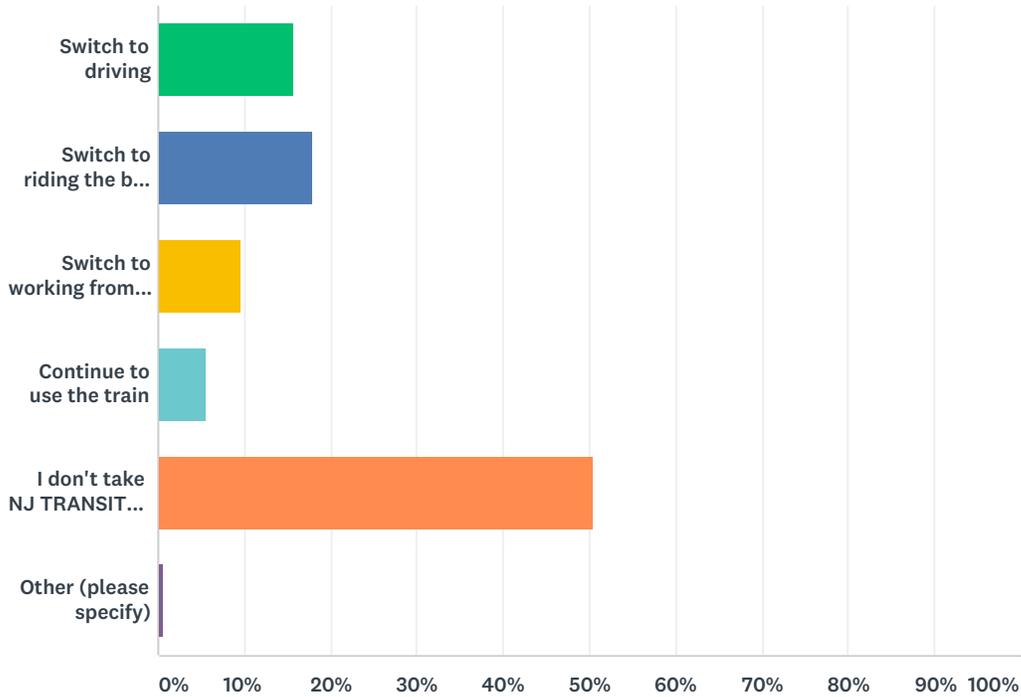
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Stop arguing and build it already! A new tunnel is a vital necessity that must be funded and built as soon as possible.	36.72% 170
Trim the cost and build it now. A new tunnel is critical to the region and nation.	35.21% 163
It's an important project but too expensive for us to take on right now. Focus on other priorities.	19.22% 89
Not so fast! There may be other ways to keep the current one-track-in, one-track-out system working longer without building a new tunnel.	8.86% 41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>463</b>

If you take NJ TRANSIT and/or Amtrak into New York, how would you primarily get to work if 75% of Amtrak & NJ TRANSIT trains into New York were cancelled on a daily basis because of a long-term closure of the existing rail tunnel under the Hudson River?

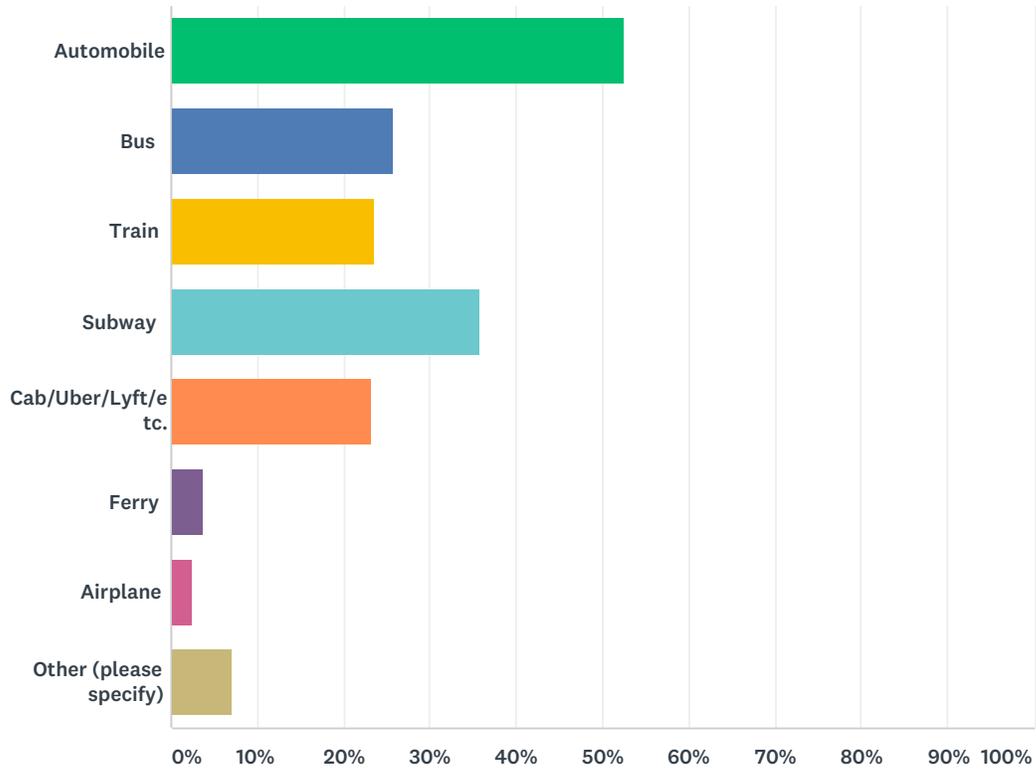
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Switch to driving	15.77%	73
Switch to riding the bus, PATH train, or ferry	17.93%	83
Switch to working from home	9.72%	45
Continue to use the train	5.62%	26
I don't take NJ TRANSIT and/or Amtrak in to New York to get to work	50.32%	233
Other (please specify)	0.65%	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>

## In a typical day, which of the following forms of transportation do you use? (Check all that apply)

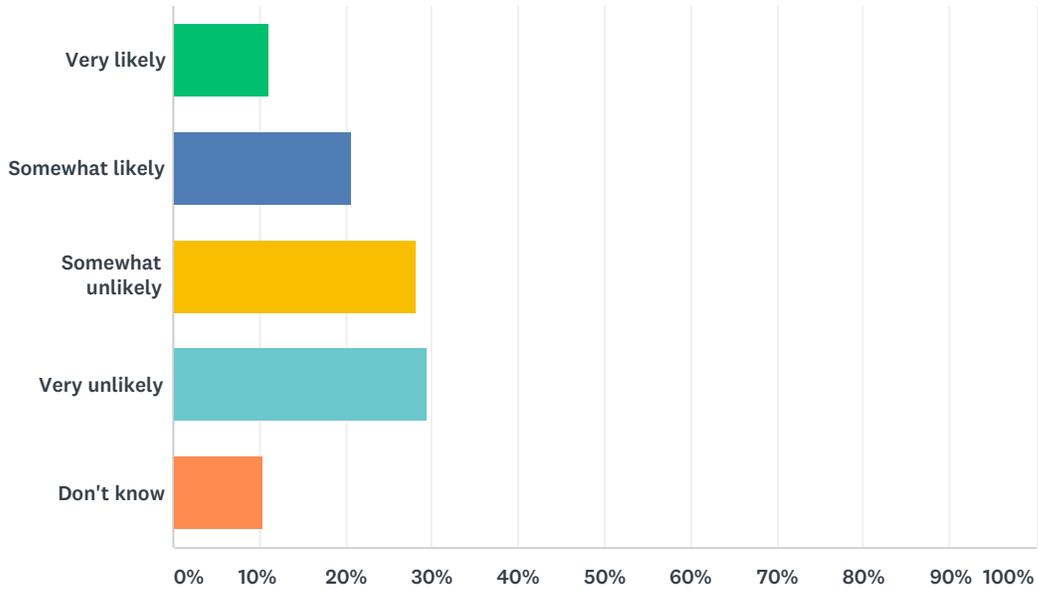
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Automobile	52.48%	243
Bus	25.70%	119
Train	23.54%	109
Subway	35.85%	166
Cab/Uber/Lyft/etc.	23.33%	108
Ferry	3.67%	17
Airplane	2.59%	12
Other (please specify)	7.13%	33
Total Respondents: 463		

# How likely do you think it is that a national infrastructure spending plan will get passed before the 2020 elections?

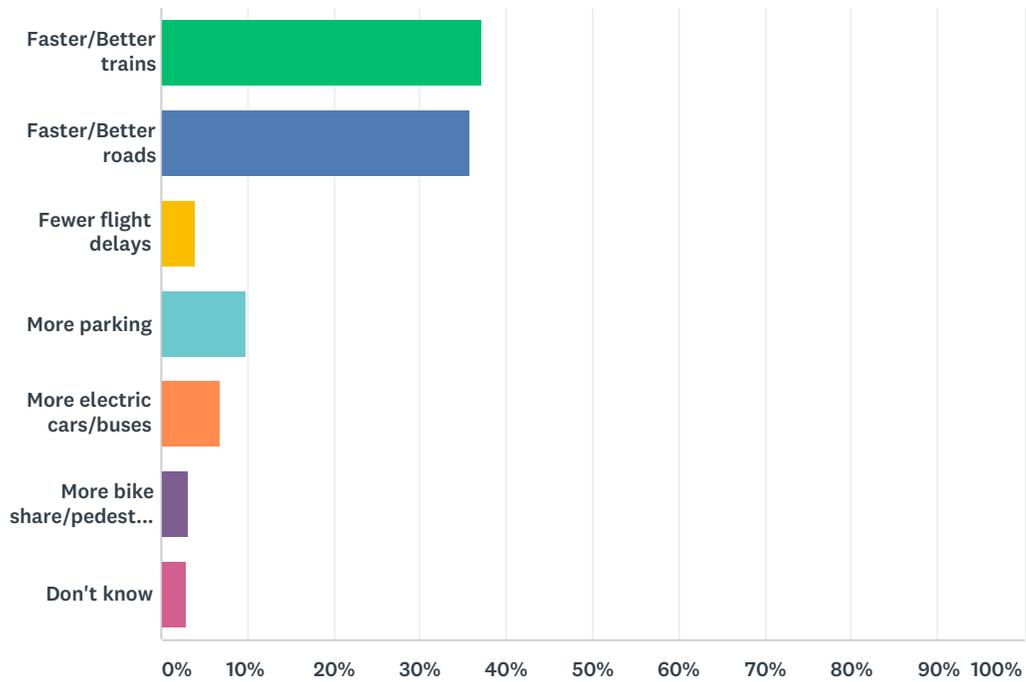
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely	11.02%	51
Somewhat likely	20.73%	96
Somewhat unlikely	28.29%	131
Very unlikely	29.59%	137
Don't know	10.37%	48
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>

## If you could wave a magic wand and make one of these improvements to commuting and travel, which would you choose?

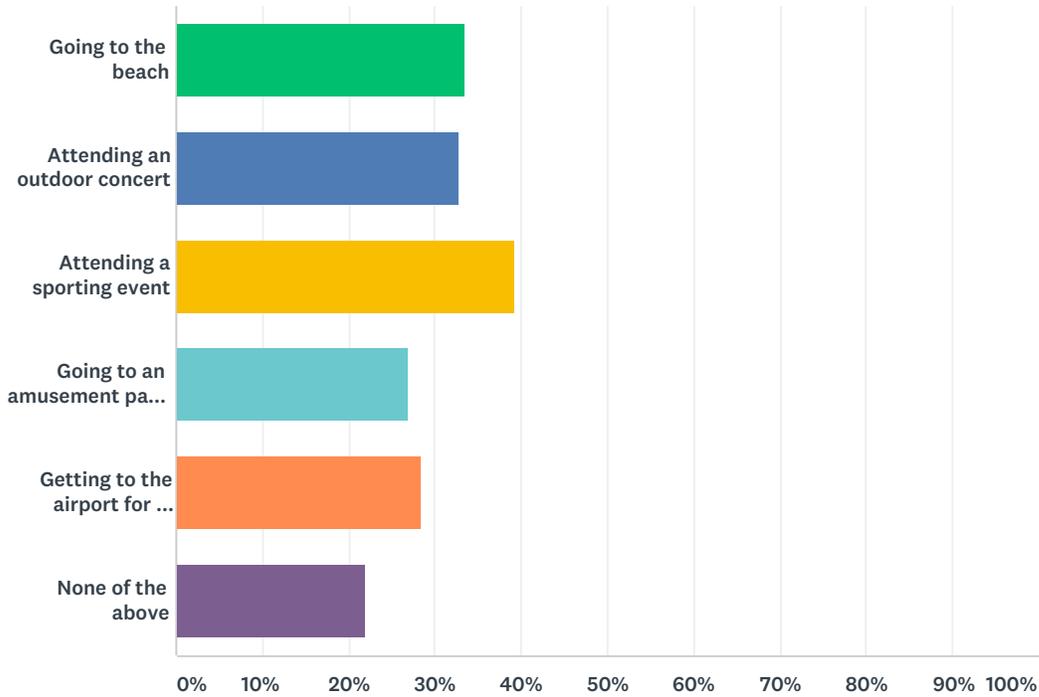
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Faster/Better trains	37.15%	172
Faster/Better roads	35.85%	166
Fewer flight delays	3.89%	18
More parking	9.94%	46
More electric cars/buses	6.91%	32
More bike share/pedestrian improvements	3.24%	15
Don't know	3.02%	14
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>

# Which of these summertime activities would you trust mass transit to get you to/from?

Answered: 463 Skipped: 0

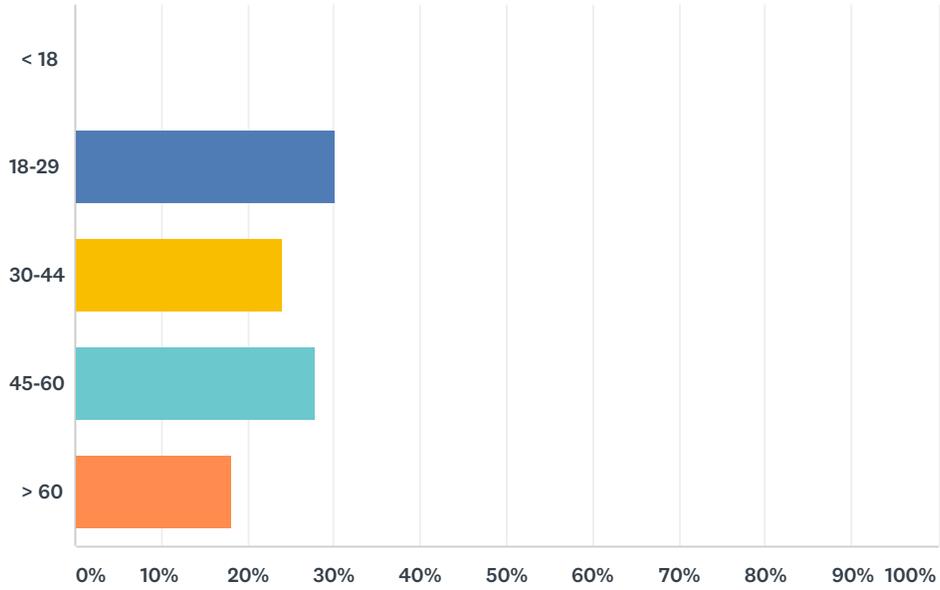


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Going to the beach	33.48%	155
Attending an outdoor concert	32.83%	152
Attending a sporting event	39.31%	182
Going to an amusement park or carnival	27.00%	125
Getting to the airport for a family vacation	28.51%	132
None of the above	22.03%	102
Total Respondents: 463		

# Infrastructure Bill Priorities

## Age

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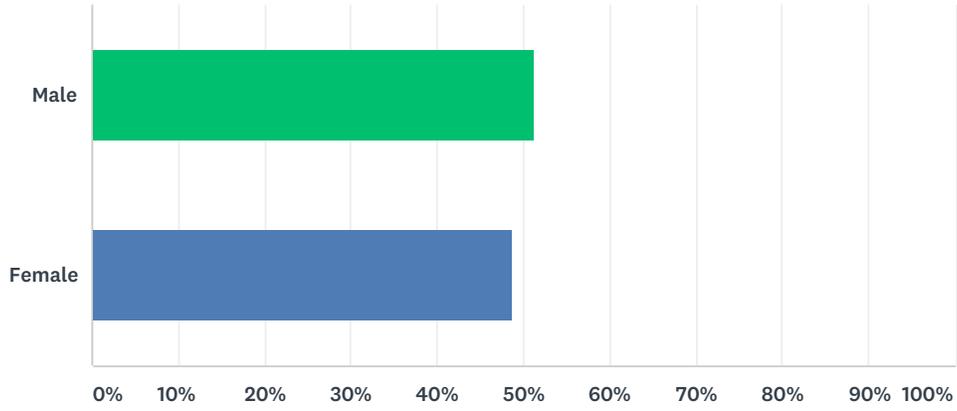


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
< 18	0.00%	0
18-29	30.02%	139
30-44	23.97%	111
45-60	27.86%	129
> 60	18.14%	84
TOTAL		463

# Infrastructure Bill Priorities

## Gender

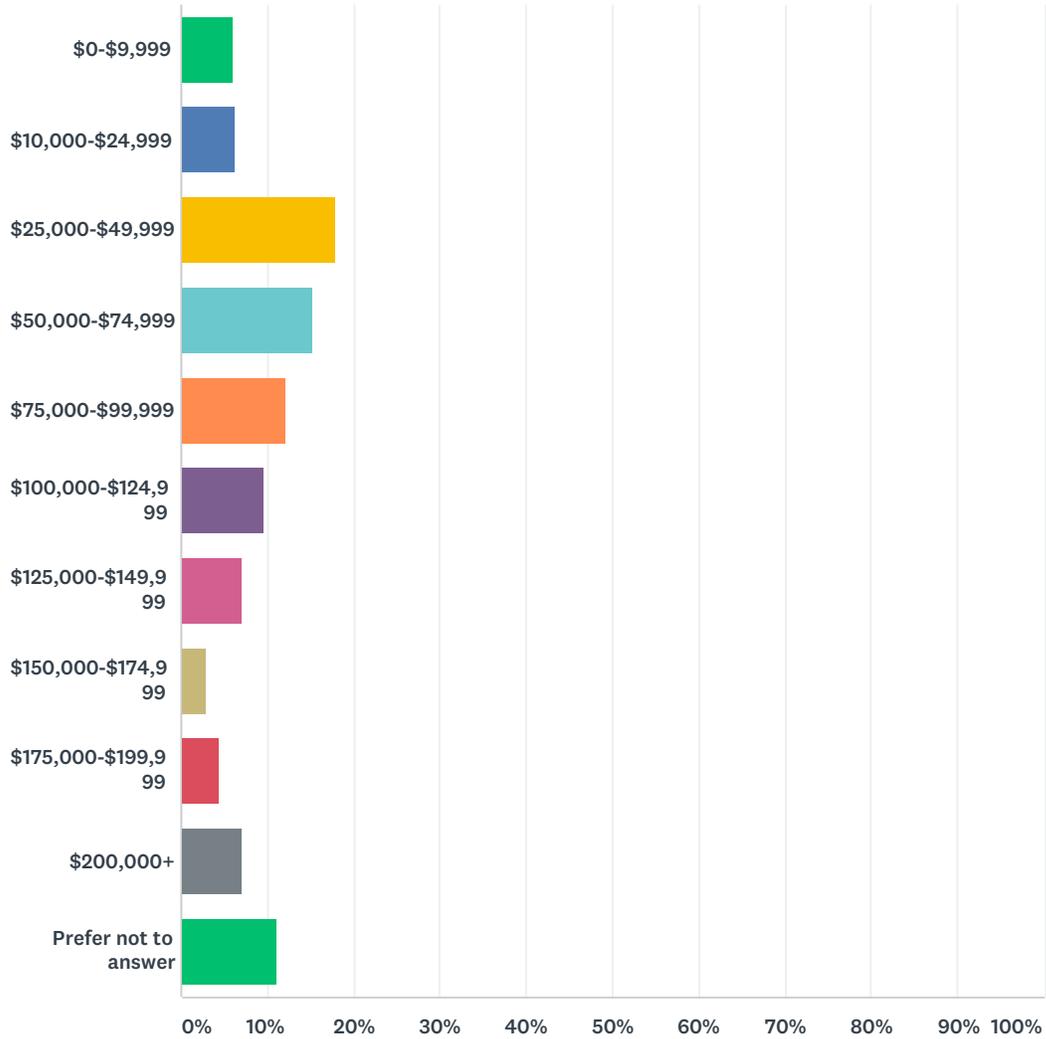
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	51.19%	237
Female	48.81%	226
TOTAL		463

# Household Income

Answered: 463 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
\$0-\$9,999	6.05%	28
\$10,000-\$24,999	6.26%	29
\$25,000-\$49,999	17.93%	83
\$50,000-\$74,999	15.33%	71
\$75,000-\$99,999	12.10%	56
\$100,000-\$124,999	9.72%	45
\$125,000-\$149,999	7.13%	33
\$150,000-\$174,999	3.02%	14
\$175,000-\$199,999	4.32%	20
\$200,000+	7.13%	33

Infrastructure Bill Priorities

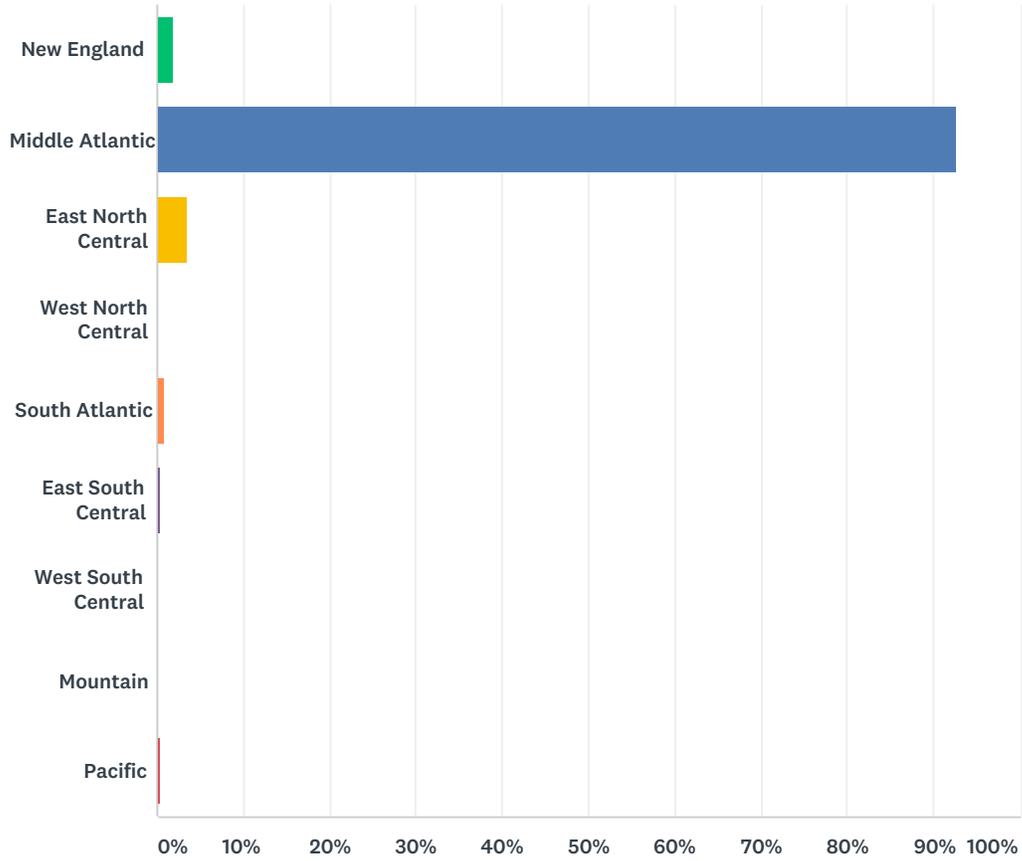
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Prefer not to answer	11.02%	51
TOTAL		463

# Infrastructure Bill Priorities

## Region

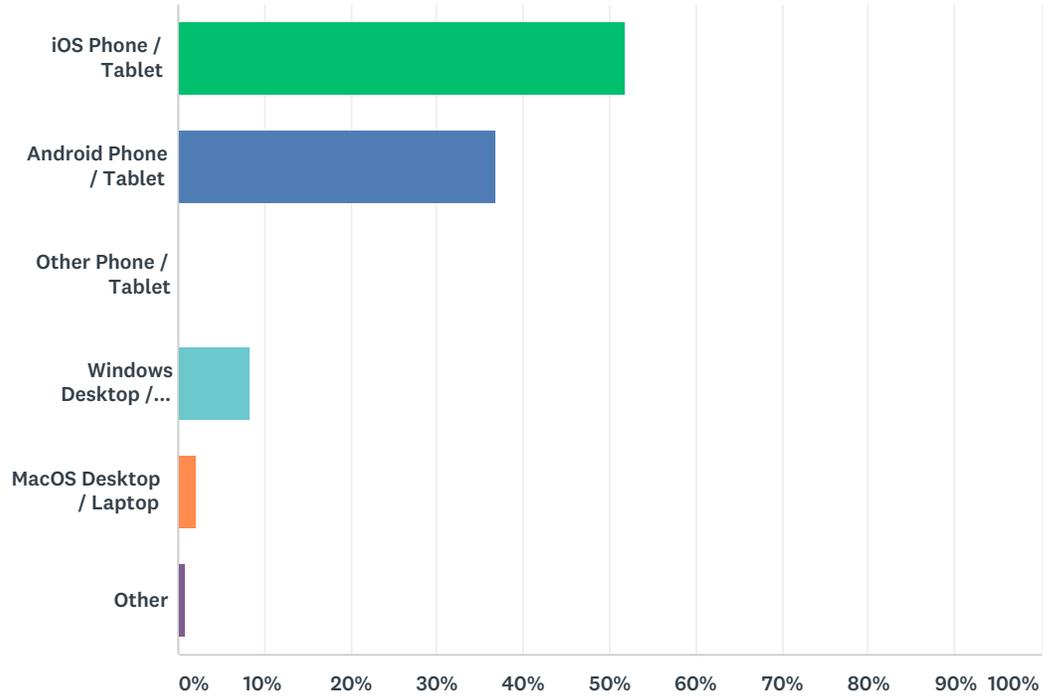
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
New England	1.94%	9
Middle Atlantic	92.66%	429
East North Central	3.46%	16
West North Central	0.22%	1
South Atlantic	0.86%	4
East South Central	0.43%	2
West South Central	0.00%	0
Mountain	0.00%	0
Pacific	0.43%	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>

## Device Type

Answered: 463 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
iOS Phone / Tablet	51.84%	240
Android Phone / Tablet	36.72%	170
Other Phone / Tablet	0.00%	0
Windows Desktop / Laptop	8.42%	39
MacOS Desktop / Laptop	2.16%	10
Other	0.86%	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>463</b>