

MassBio 2019 Transportation Survey



MassBio[®]

MASSACHUSETTS BIOTECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

MassBio 2019

Transportation Survey

In July 2019, MassBio surveyed 2,133 professionals who work in or support the life sciences to get a better understanding of the current state of transportation in Massachusetts and how it may be impacting the industry's ability to recruit and retain talent. The findings below indicate that we are in fact at a tipping point—traffic congestion and failures on the MBTA are worse than ever, and employees are making decisions on where to work based on this. Employers are doing what they can to ease employee commutes, but there's still more that can be done, especially in the next few years as things will undoubtedly get worse before they get better. There is also a real need for government to come up with lasting solutions—not just to fix what's broken, but to support further growth.

Key Findings

Transportation in Massachusetts has been a problem for some time, but things seem to be worse than ever. Survey findings include:

- When asked if their average commute is better, the same or worse than last year, 59% of respondents say it's worse.
- 70% of those who use public transportation said their commute is worse today than a year ago. When only looking at those who take the subway, that percentage jumps to 75%.
- Traffic congestion is also increasing, with 55% of those who drive alone saying their average commute is worse than a year ago.
- Average commute times are also getting longer, with 61% of respondents commuting over 45 minutes and 39% over an hour. Nearly 50% (47%) of those who take public transportation commute for over an hour.

Delays on the MBTA are at an all-time-high, causing major frustration among commuters. For those that rely on public transportation, in the past month:

- 90% reported becoming "stressed, angry, or frustrated."
- 79% have been late for work due to delays on public transportation.
- 69% have been late for personal commitments after work.
- 61% had public transportation service break down at least once.
- 55% have had to spend their personal funds for alternative transportation.
- 58% of public transportation commuters who also have access to a car have considered switching to driving in the past month.
 - *Of those that drive, only 35% have considered changing to public transportation.*

The worsening transportation in Massachusetts is impacting employee satisfaction, hurting employers' ability to attract and retain talent.

- 60% of respondents would change jobs for a better commute.
- 76% of those who use the commuter rail as their primary mode of transport would change jobs for a better commute.
- Not surprisingly, the longer the commute, the more likely respondents are to change jobs for a better commute, with 72% of those who commute over 45 minutes saying they'd change jobs. For those that commute over 90 minutes, this percentage jumps to 80%.

- Nearly a quarter (23%) of respondents have even considered moving to a different state for a better commute. This percentage jumps to 29% for those who use public transportation.

Employers are taking steps to help ease their employees' commuting burden. However, there is room for growth, especially compared to other states as Massachusetts is still behind the nation in adopting formal work-from-home policies. Flex hours are more prevalent, but this has limited impact as the rush hour in Greater Boston lasts longer than ever.

- Only 28% of respondents can work from home at least one day a week, while 74% can work from home at least occasionally.
 - In Massachusetts, only 4.7% of the workforce telecommutes full time, lower than in 19 other states, according to a report from FlexJobs.

- 75% of respondents can work flex hours.

Transportation is top of mind for the Massachusetts state government, and residents of Massachusetts are clamoring for solutions.

- 82% of respondents do not think the Baker Administration and/or Legislature are doing enough to improve Massachusetts' transportation systems.
- 64% are likely or very likely to support increased taxes or fees to fix the transportation systems.

About Us.

MassBio's mission is to advance Massachusetts' leadership in the life sciences to grow the industry, add value to the healthcare system and improve patient lives.



Representing 1,200+ biotechnology companies, academic institutions, disease foundations and other organizations involved in life sciences and healthcare, MassBio leverages its unparalleled network of innovative companies and industry thought leaders to advance policy and promote education, while providing member programs, events, industry information, and services.

To learn more, visit [MassBio.org](https://massbio.org)



Appendix

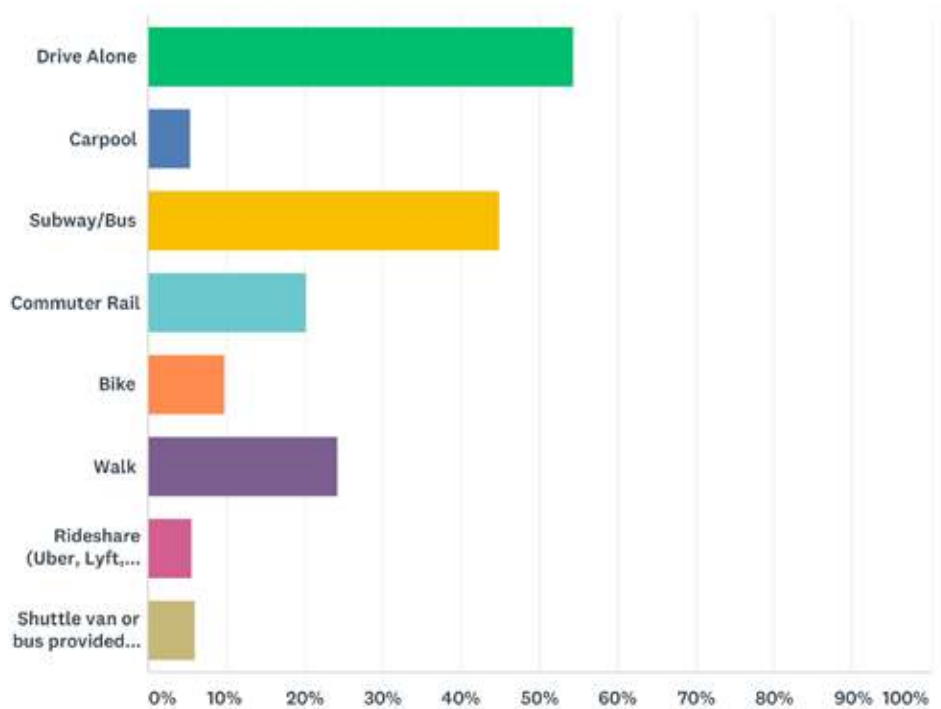
This survey used logic based on primary mode of transportation to determine what set of questions respondents saw. Because of this, the label “skipped” in the appendix data refers to

the number of respondents who were not given the option to answer the question, as well as respondents who chose to skip questions on their own.

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q1 On a typical day, which of the following means of transportation do you use to get to/from work? (Check all that apply.)

Answered: 2,127 Skipped: 6

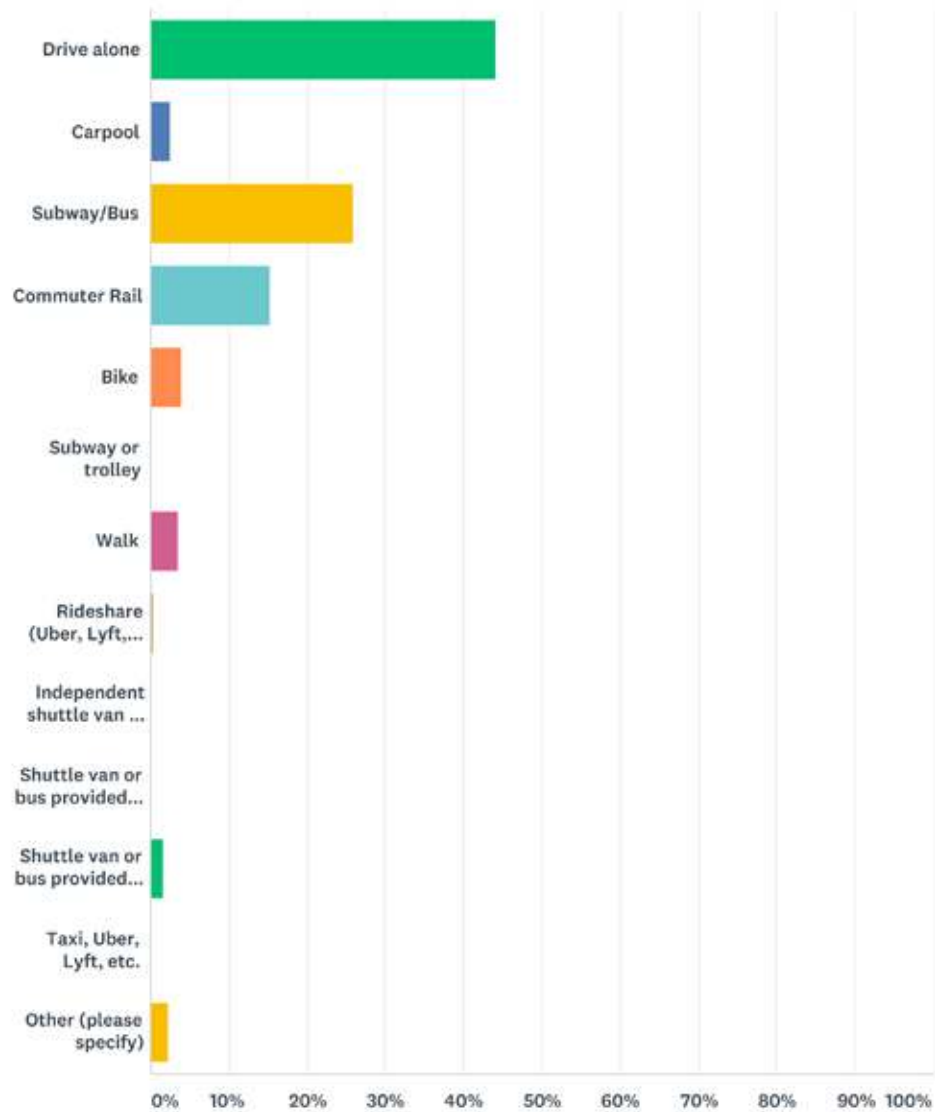


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Drive Alone	54.40%	1,157
Carpool	5.41%	115
Subway/Bus	44.90%	955
Commuter Rail	20.22%	430
Bike	9.78%	208
Walk	24.26%	516
Rideshare (Uber, Lyft, etc.)	5.55%	118
Shuttle van or bus provided by my employer	6.16%	131
Total Respondents: 2,127		

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q2 What is your primary means of transportation to/from work?

Answered: 2,131 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Drive alone	44.11%	940
Carpool	2.44%	52
Subway/Bus	26.00%	554
Commuter Rail	15.34%	327
Bike	3.94%	84
Subway or trolley	0.00%	0

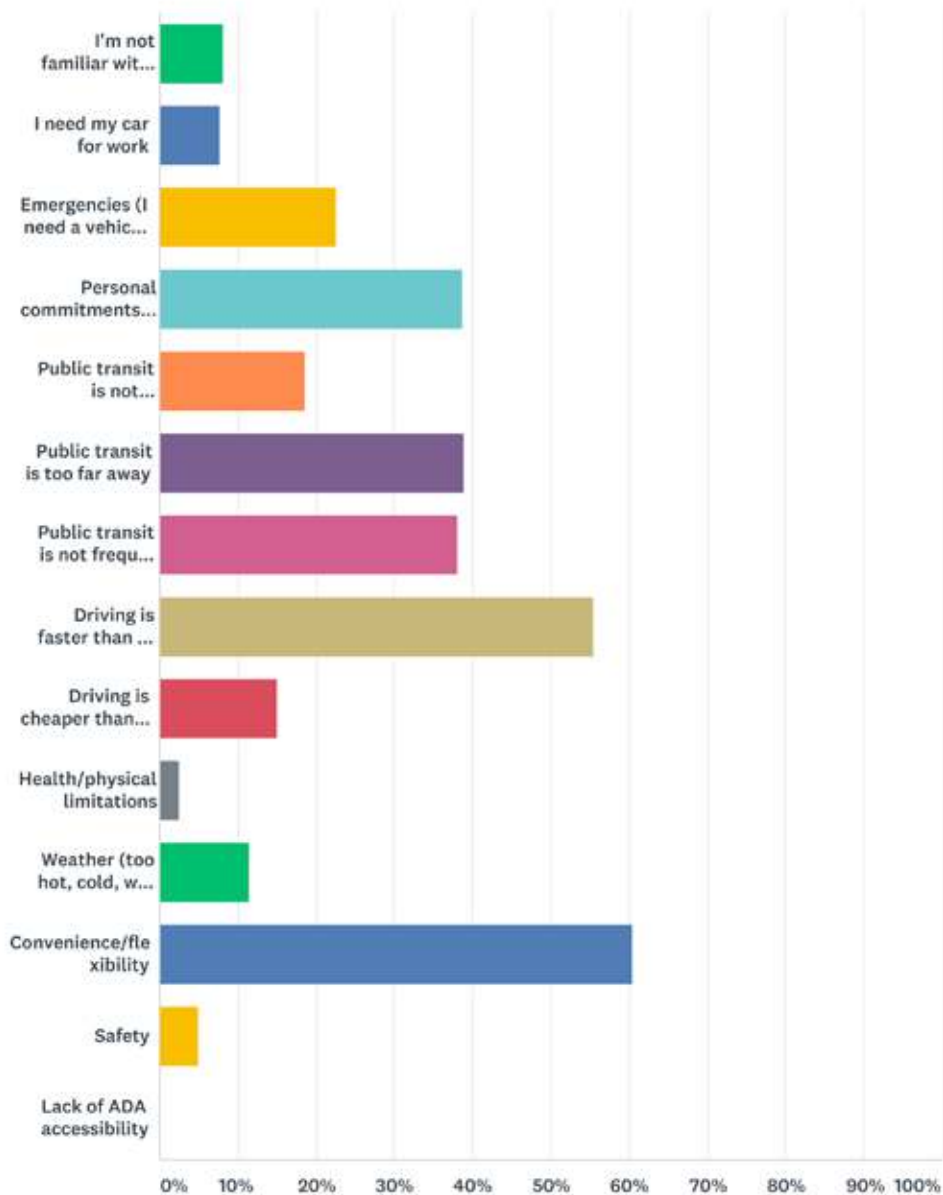
Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Walk	3.61%	77
Rideshare (Uber, Lyft, etc.)	0.47%	10
Independent shuttle van or bus	0.00%	0
Shuttle van or bus provided by my employer	0.00%	0
Shuttle van or bus provided by my employer	1.74%	37
Taxi, Uber, Lyft, etc.	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	2.35%	50
TOTAL		2,131

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q3 What are the reasons you choose to drive instead of choosing an alternative? (Check all that apply.)

Answered: 958 Skipped: 1,175



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I'm not familiar with any alternative commuting methods in my area	8.25%	79
I need my car for work	7.83%	75
Emergencies (I need a vehicle if I need to go somewhere unexpectedly)	22.55%	216
Personal commitments required a car before/during/after work	38.73%	371

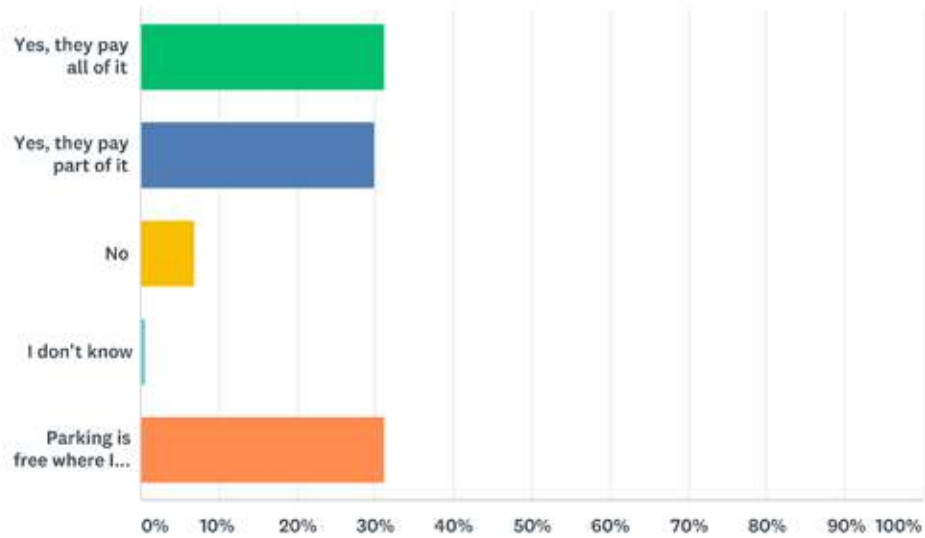
Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Public transit is not available where I work	18.68%	179
Public transit is too far away	38.94%	373
Public transit is not frequent enough	38.00%	364
Driving is faster than the alternatives	55.53%	532
Driving is cheaper than the alternatives	15.03%	144
Health/physical limitations	2.51%	24
Weather (too hot, cold, wet, etc.)	11.48%	110
Convenience/flexibility	60.54%	580
Safety	5.11%	49
Lack of ADA accessibility	0.10%	1
Total Respondents: 958		

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q4 Does your employer subsidize parking at your place of work?

Answered: 958 Skipped: 1,175

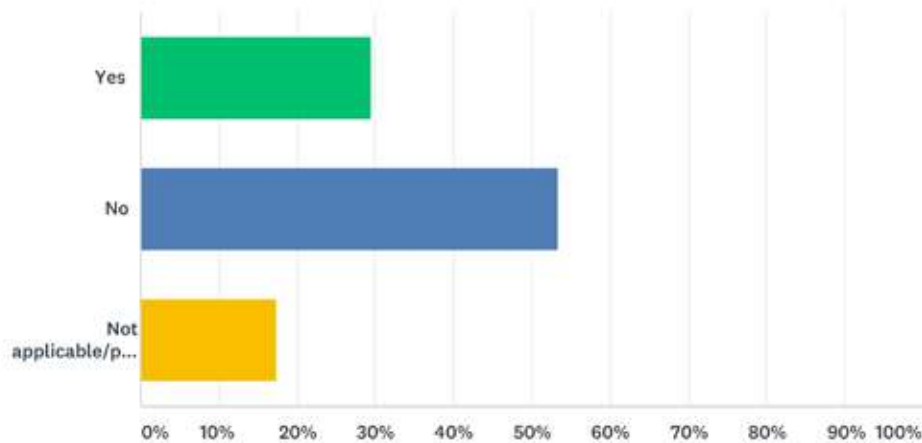


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, they pay all of it	31.21%	299
Yes, they pay part of it	29.85%	286
No	6.99%	67
I don't know	0.73%	7
Parking is free where I work	31.21%	299
TOTAL		958

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q5 In the last year, have you considered switching from driving to work to taking public transportation?

Answered: 950 Skipped: 1,183

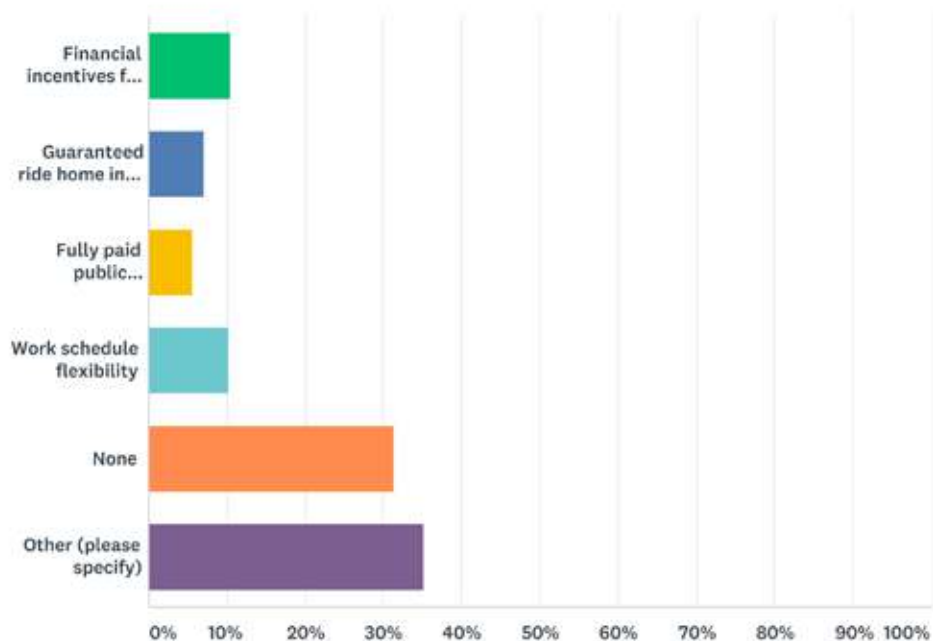


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	29.47%	280
No	53.26%	506
Not applicable/public transportation is not available where I work	17.26%	164
TOTAL		950

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q6 What incentives would be most likely to encourage you to use public transportation?

Answered: 947 Skipped: 1,186

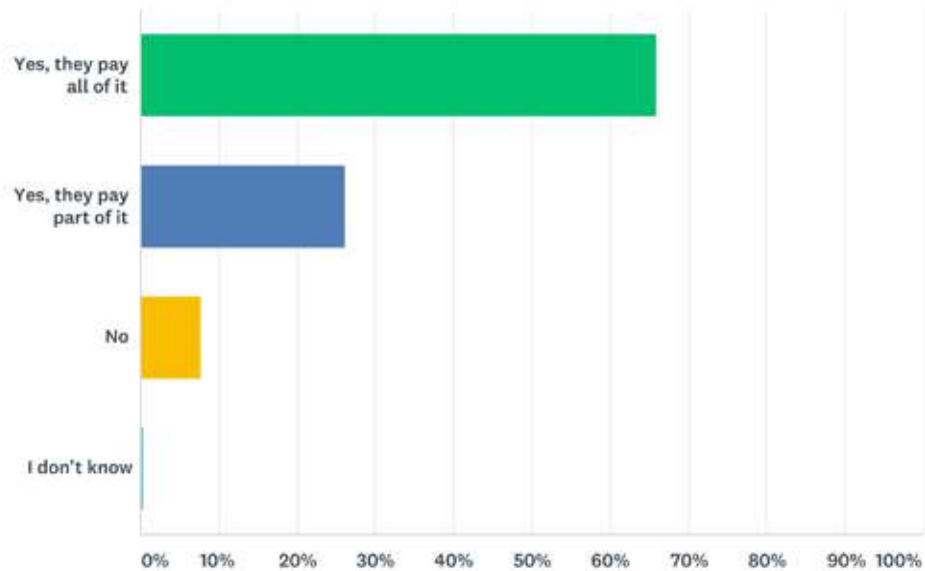


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Financial incentives from employer (e.g. cash bonus)	10.45%	99
Guaranteed ride home in an emergency	7.18%	68
Fully paid public transportation pass (if not already applicable)	5.70%	54
Work schedule flexibility	10.24%	97
None	31.36%	297
Other (please specify)	35.06%	332
TOTAL		947

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q7 Does your employer subsidize your public transportation costs?

Answered: 860 Skipped: 1,273

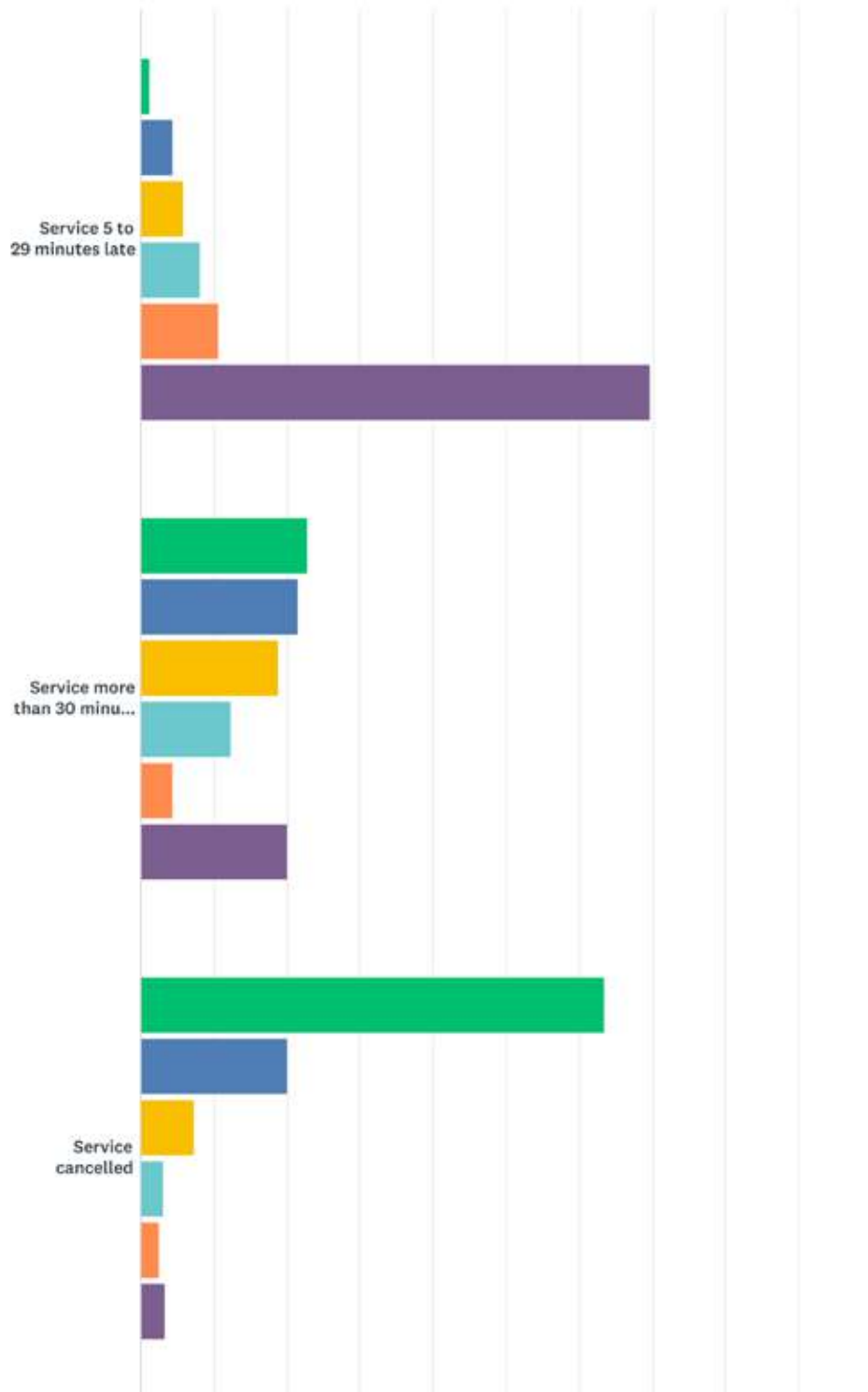


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, they pay all of it	65.81%	566
Yes, they pay part of it	26.05%	224
No	7.67%	66
I don't know	0.47%	4
TOTAL		860

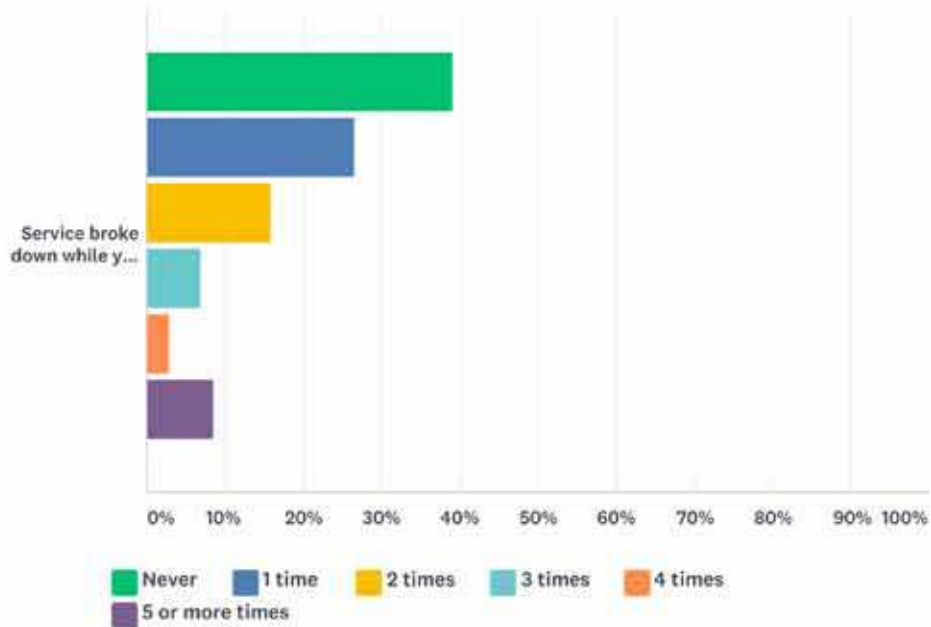
Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q8 In the last month of taking public transportation, how many times has the following happened (if at all)?

Answered: 853 Skipped: 1,280



Membership Transportation Survey 2019

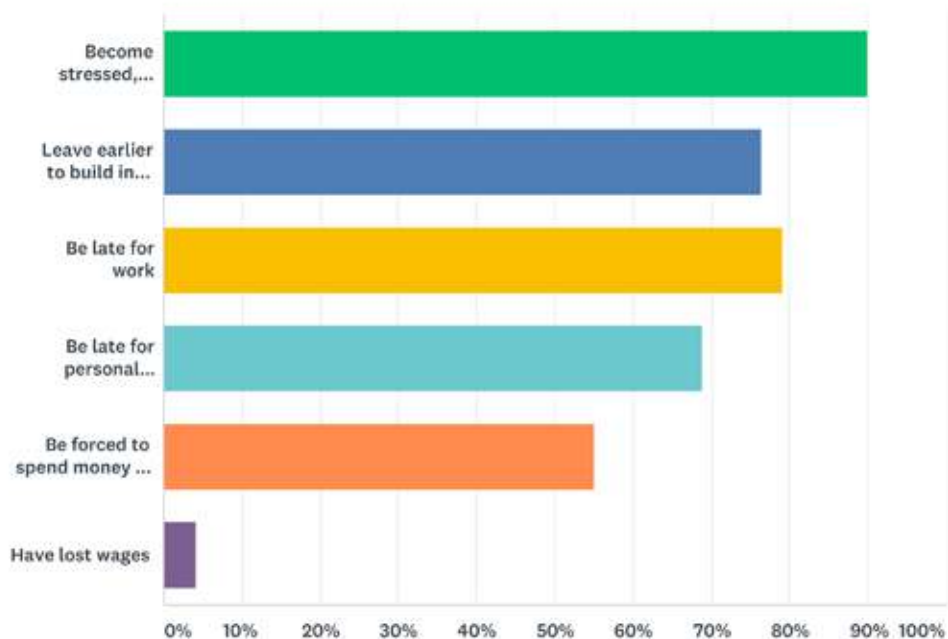


	NEVER	1 TIME	2 TIMES	3 TIMES	4 TIMES	5 OR MORE TIMES	TOTAL
Service 5 to 29 minutes late	1.19% 10	4.40% 37	5.95% 50	8.21% 69	10.60% 89	69.64% 585	840
Service more than 30 minutes late	22.73% 168	21.65% 160	18.81% 139	12.31% 91	4.33% 32	20.16% 149	739
Service cancelled	63.46% 436	20.09% 138	7.42% 51	3.20% 22	2.47% 17	3.35% 23	687
Service broke down while you were riding it	39.21% 287	26.50% 194	15.85% 116	6.97% 51	2.87% 21	8.61% 63	732

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q9 In the past month, have delays on public transportation caused you any of the following? (Check all that apply.)

Answered: 833 Skipped: 1,300

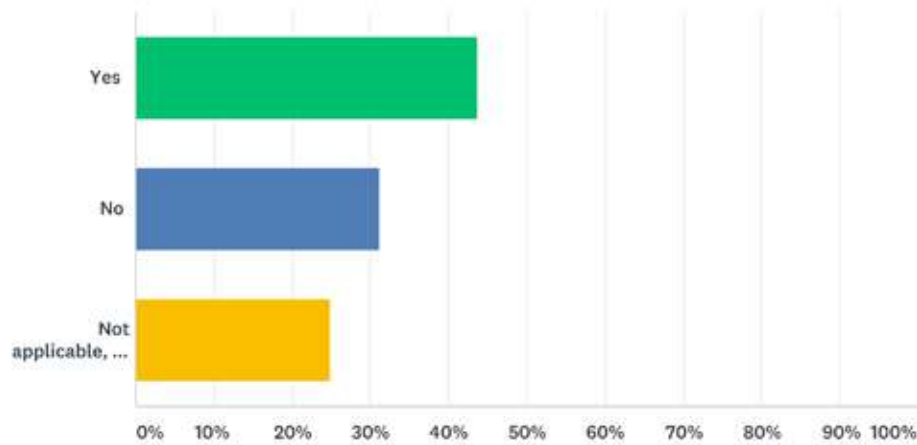


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Become stressed, angry, or frustrated	90.04%	750
Leave earlier to build in extra time	76.35%	636
Be late for work	78.99%	658
Be late for personal commitments after work	68.91%	574
Be forced to spend money on out of pocket alternative transportation (e.g. Uber, Lyft, etc.)	54.98%	458
Have lost wages	4.08%	34
Total Respondents: 833		

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q10 In the last year, have you considered switching from taking public transportation to driving to work?

Answered: 856 Skipped: 1,277



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	43.81%	375
No	31.19%	267
Not applicable, I don't have access to a car on a daily basis	25.00%	214
TOTAL		856

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q11 From what zip code do you start your commute? (Your home zip code.)

Answered: 2,009 Skipped: 124

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

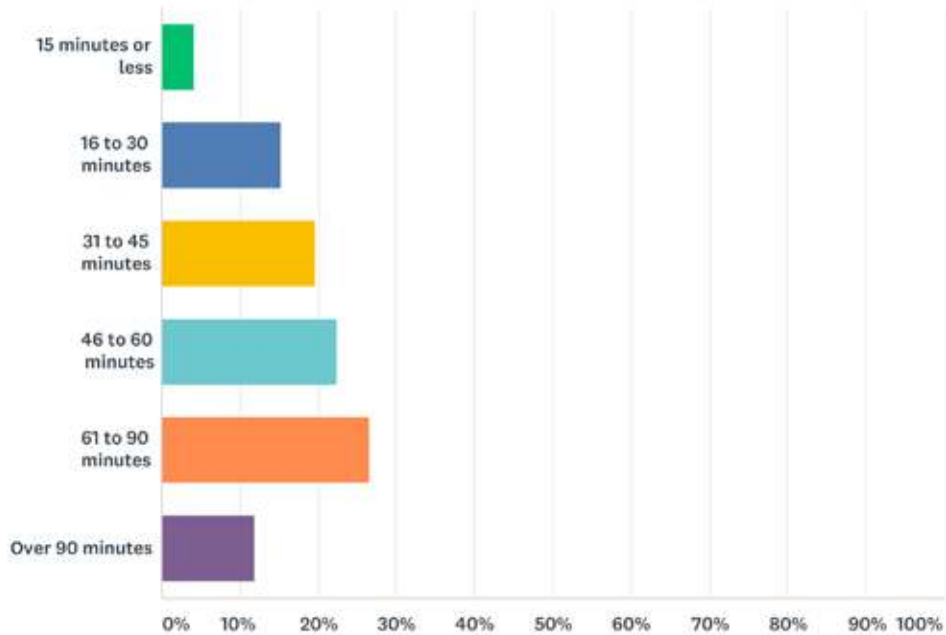
Q12 At what zip code do you end your commute? (Your organization's zip code.)

Answered: 1,997 Skipped: 136

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q13 How long does your typical commute take, door to door?

Answered: 2,023 Skipped: 110

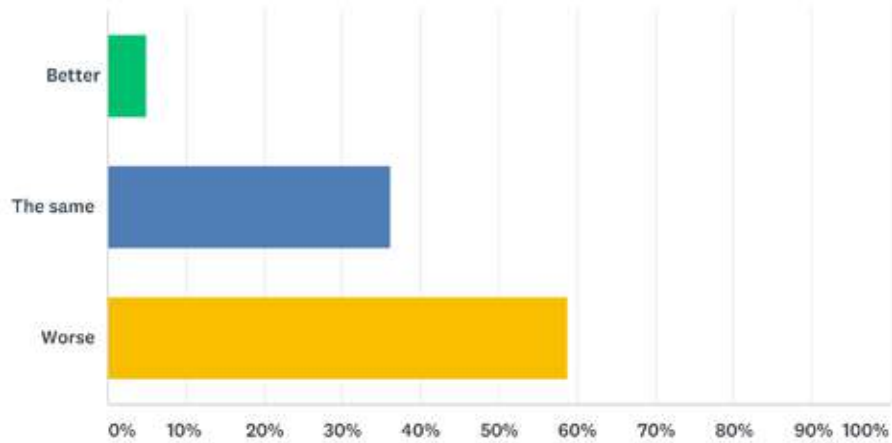


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
15 minutes or less	4.10%	83
16 to 30 minutes	15.18%	307
31 to 45 minutes	19.67%	398
46 to 60 minutes	22.44%	454
61 to 90 minutes	26.64%	539
Over 90 minutes	11.96%	242
TOTAL		2,023

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q14 Compared to last year, is your average commute now better, the same, or worse?

Answered: 2,009 Skipped: 124

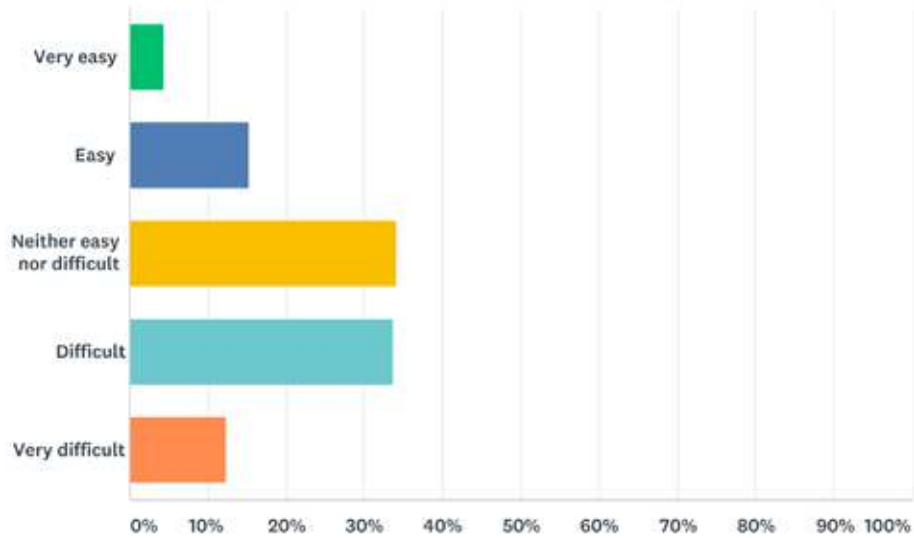


ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES
Better		4.98% 100
The same		36.29% 729
Worse		58.74% 1,180
TOTAL		2,009

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q15 How would you describe your commute?

Answered: 2,021 Skipped: 112

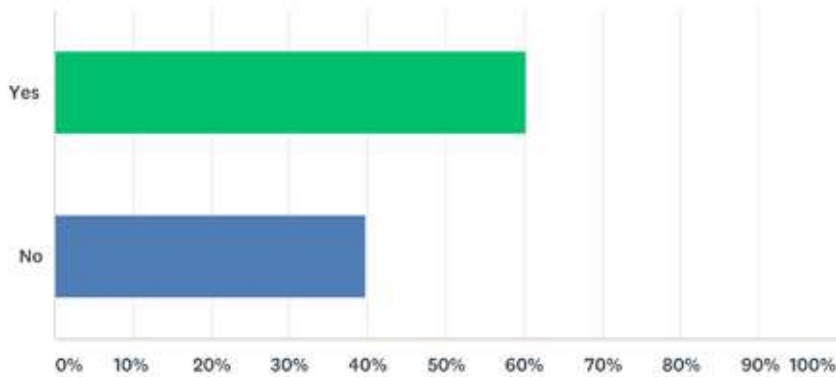


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very easy	4.45%	90
Easy	15.24%	308
Neither easy nor difficult	34.19%	691
Difficult	33.75%	682
Very difficult	12.37%	250
TOTAL		2,021

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q16 Would you consider changing jobs if it would provide you with a better commute?

Answered: 2,014 Skipped: 119

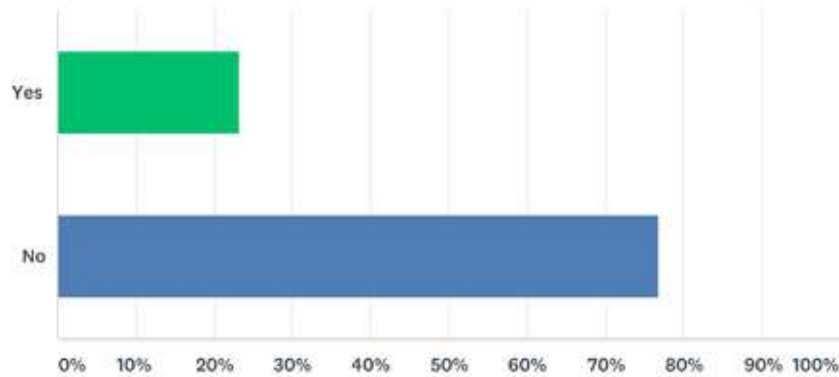


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	60.28%	1,214
No	39.72%	800
TOTAL		2,014

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q17 Within the last year, have you considered moving to a different state to obtain a better commute?

Answered: 2,017 Skipped: 116

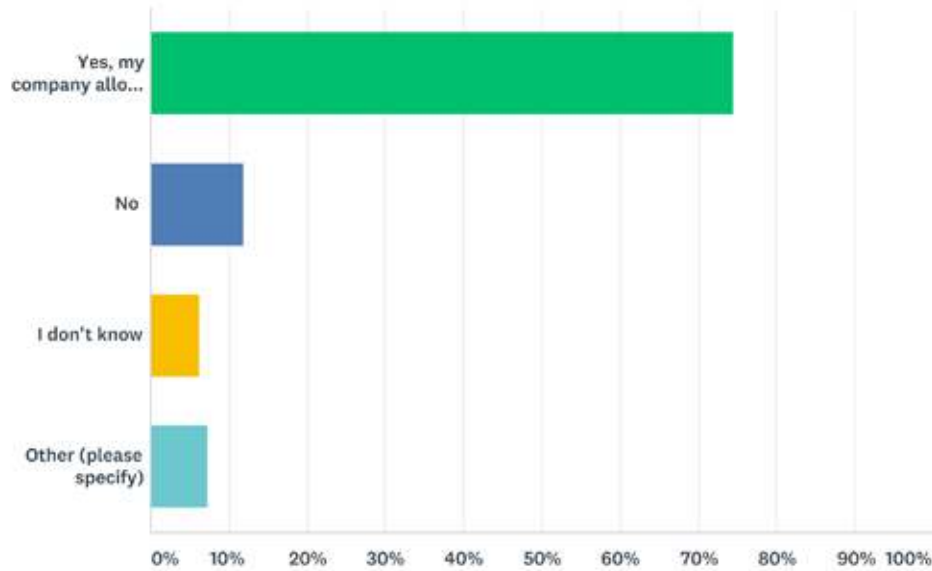


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	23.30%	470
No	76.70%	1,547
TOTAL		2,017

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q18 Does your employer offer flexible hours?

Answered: 2,005 Skipped: 128

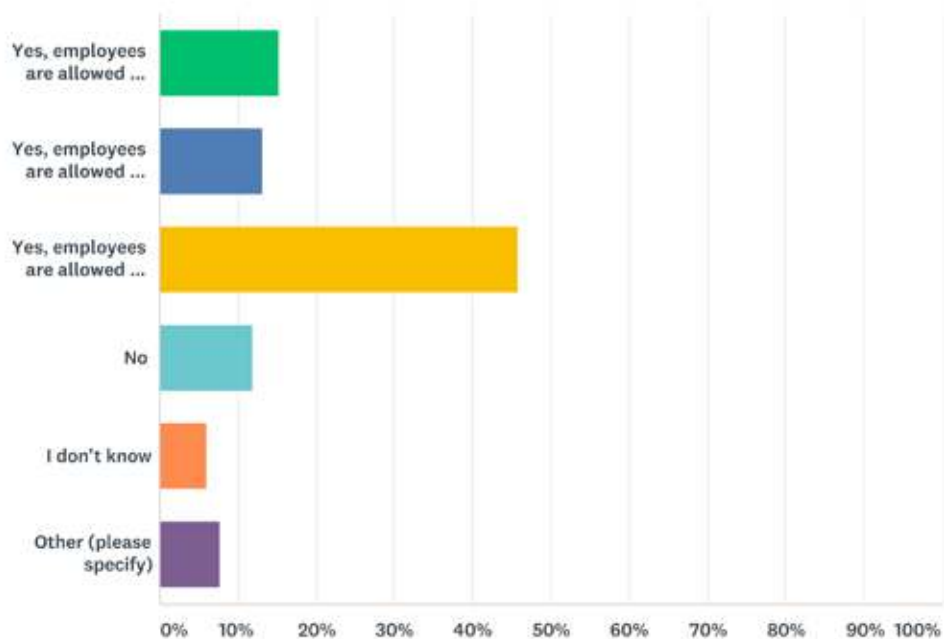


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, my company allow employees to shift working hours	74.56%	1,495
No	11.92%	239
I don't know	6.18%	124
Other (please specify)	7.33%	147
TOTAL		2,005

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q19 Does your employer have a work from home policy?

Answered: 2,009 Skipped: 124

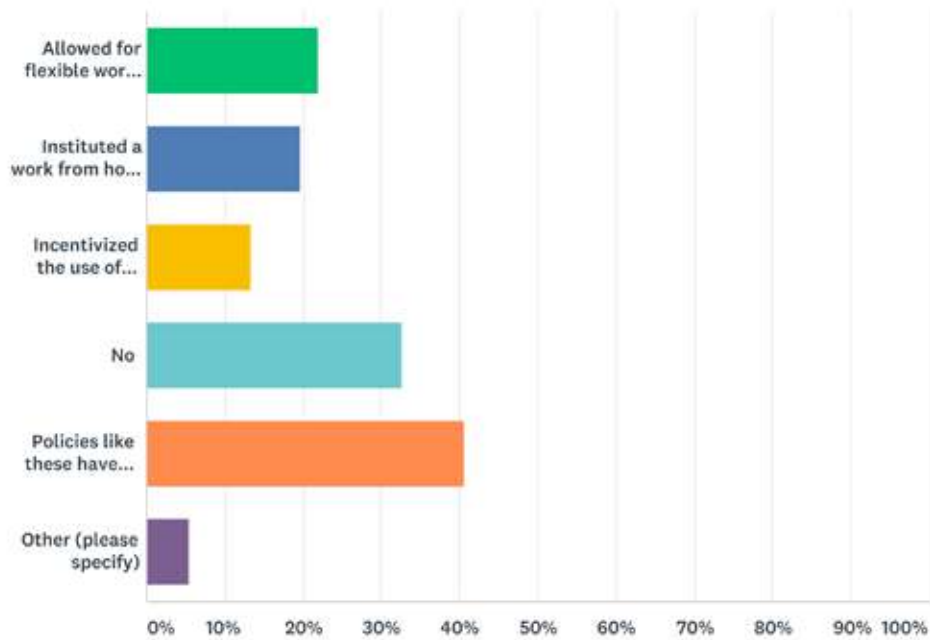


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, employees are allowed to work from home 2 or more days a week	15.18%	305
Yes, employees are allowed to work from home 1 day a week	13.19%	265
Yes, employees are allowed to work from home occasionally	45.74%	919
No	11.95%	240
I don't know	6.12%	123
Other (please specify)	7.81%	157
TOTAL		2,009

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q20 Within the last year, has you employer instituted any new polices that have the potential to ease employee's commuting burden? (Check all that apply.)

Answered: 1,973 Skipped: 160

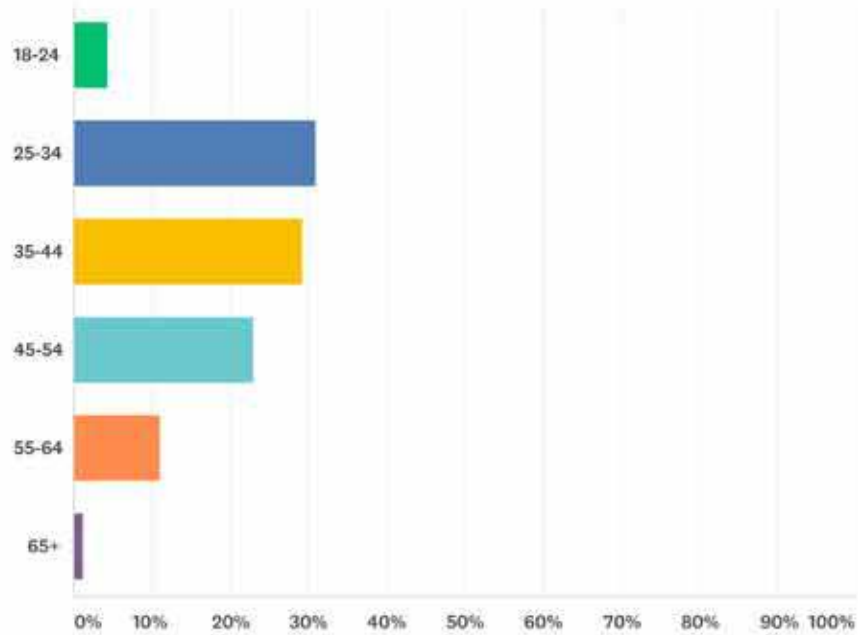


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Allowed for flexible work hours	22.05%	435
Instituted a work from home policy	19.67%	388
Incentivized the use of public transportation	13.38%	264
No	32.54%	642
Policies like these have existed at my company for more than a year	40.60%	801
Other (please specify)	5.52%	109
Total Respondents: 1,973		

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q21 How old are you?

Answered: 1,996 Skipped: 137

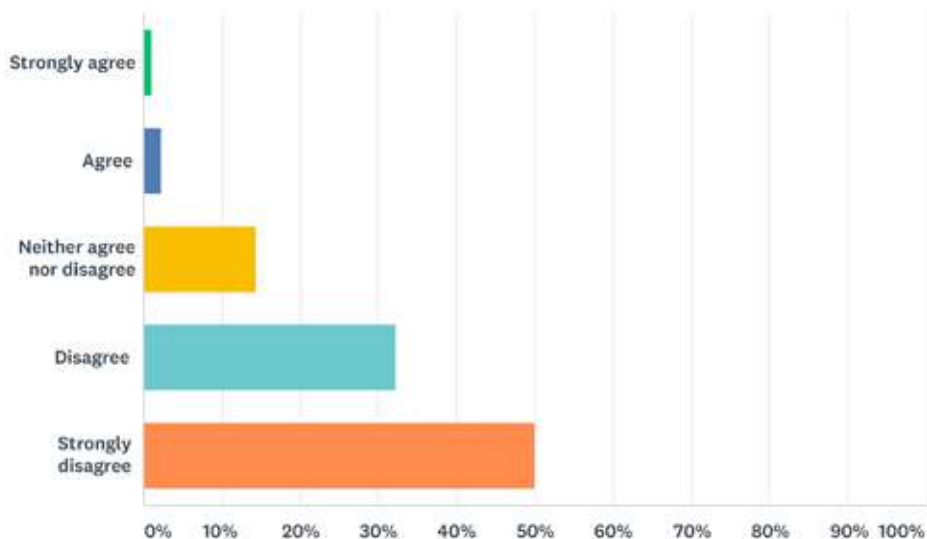


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
18-24	4.36%	87
25-34	30.96%	618
35-44	29.36%	586
45-54	22.95%	458
55-64	11.12%	222
65+	1.25%	25
TOTAL		1,996

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q22 How do you feel about the following statement: The Massachusetts state government (Baker Administration and/or the Legislature) is doing enough to improve Massachusetts' transportation systems.

Answered: 1,998 Skipped: 135

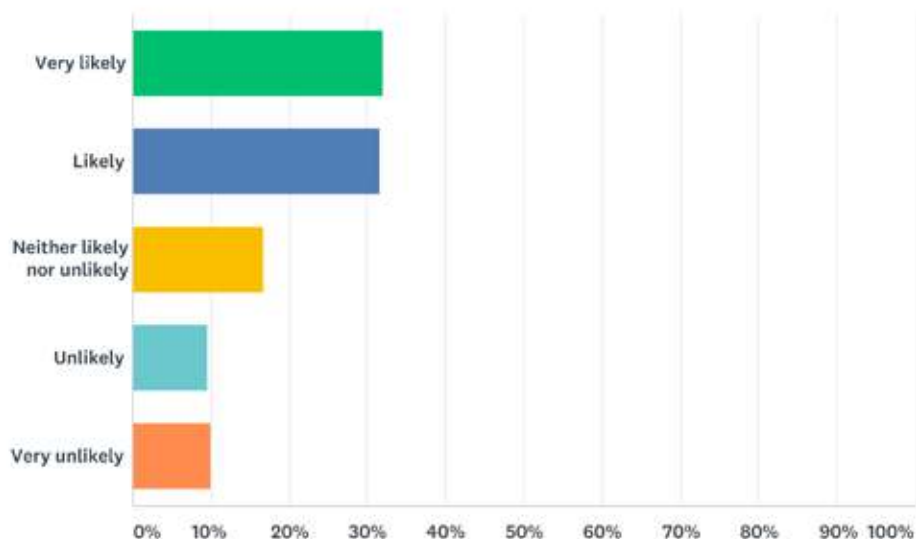


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	0.95%	19
Agree	2.35%	47
Neither agree nor disagree	14.36%	287
Disagree	32.23%	644
Strongly disagree	50.10%	1,001
TOTAL		1,998

Membership Transportation Survey 2019

Q23 Various state proposals are being considered that would raise new tax revenue to fund transportation infrastructure improvements (such as better roads and bridges, and accelerating the repairs and improvements of subways and buses). How likely would you be to support these increased taxes or fees (such as the gas tax or congestion pricing), if the new revenue was used to fix Massachusetts' transportation system?

Answered: 1,996 Skipped: 137



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely	31.91%	637
Likely	31.66%	632
Neither likely nor unlikely	16.68%	333
Unlikely	9.67%	193
Very unlikely	10.07%	201
TOTAL		1,996