

2024 Comprehensive Plan

First Survey Final Results

32 responses

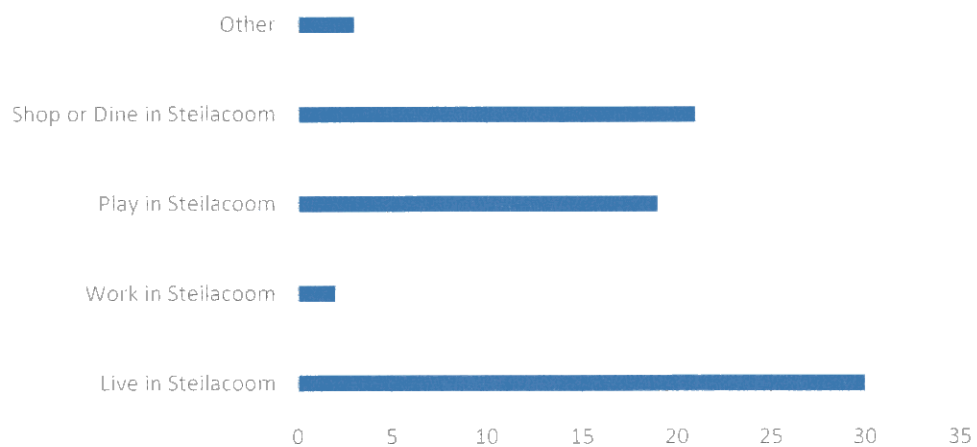
Comprehensive Plan First Survey Results

Question 1

What are your connections to Steilacoom ?

Live in Steilacoom	30	
Work in Steilacoom	2	
Play in Steilacoom	19	
Shop or Dine in Steilacoom	21	
Other	3	walk the paths Parents live here In-laws live here

Connections with Steilacoom



Comprehensive Plan First Survey Results

Question 2

What is your favorite thing about Steilacoom?

The small town vibe

Community spirit and interaction

Farrell's marsh

the view, friendliness, roads are safe summer and winter

quiet, friendly

pleasant environment, safe, community spirit

public access walks, lots of open green spaces, the quiet, proximity to JBLM

the location with views of mountains and water - trails and boats walking paths, parks, Farrell's Marsh - birds, (eagles), trees lots of varied habitat

the ambiance including view

charming, low crime, community events, beaches

The feeling 'small Town' friendliness, safety, participation, community activities

I love how safe I feel in Steilacoom

Ability to live quietly, peacefully without fear of crime, usually no utility issues, attentive (rest of comment cut off)

Views. Quiet. Small town feel.

The small town charm

The small town feel, the people, and the views!

The setting - the sound, the shops, the people overall

Views

Is a unique small town that doesn't look or feel like every other town

It feels like a community - I have great neighbors and everyone is friendly. So much better than Bellevue!!!!

The natural areas and the walking neighborhoods, and beautiful peaceful living

Lack of over-development; fabulous views

small town vibe - 4th of July!

The community. Our kids (3,5,7) love coming down for the 4th of July Parade every year and spending time at the beach.

Small town feel & local events, conservative values, respect for military

Emphasis on historical value, military support, small town feel, Kiwanis Club, recurring town events

We're a community! Local, accessible gov't, walkable streets

I love being part of our community. I feel safe here. Being a volunteer. Coffee/friends at Coffee Cabin.

Atmosphere of where I grew up in Los Altos CA

My wife and I love our property; that Steilacoom is quiet, but does have activity; neighbors are friendly, but no one we know is a busybody; that our interactions with the Town Administrator and Staff have always been positive and helpful; that the Town is well maintained.

History, sunsets, small town rural feel with proximity to urban resources, scenic beauty, annual celebrations, sense of community and volunteerism; buried utility lines; enforcement of height and tree ordinances; the people who love living here and show it in their community spirit and support.

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Question 3

What is your least favorite thing about Steilacoom?

Dining options are so limited, we often go to Lakewood or U.P. instead

Derilict marina and tribal museum, sinking Ketron Is derelict ferry

housing development

loss of wild areas

traffic

traffic through town ... speeding ... loss of smaller homes

parking, traffic and relinquishment of right of ways

traffic cutting through from UP to Steilacoom/DuPont hwy

all these big houses crowding out the 'favorite things' mentioned above - like tasteless (*rest of comment cut off*)

Distance to grocery stores

lack of convience

I wish neighbors felt more positive about getting to know one another where I live

Traffic created by people using our town as a cut through to other destinations.

Sometimes the administration seems reactive instead of proactive. For instance, the city's preservation of views over urban forestry suggested in Sunnyside Park.

The amount of traffic moving through town

speeding espically by the beaches, rundown houses, litter, condition of neighborhood streets (potholes or multiple patch jobs vs. new roads)

our sidewalks

All of our green space being converted to housing

I can't complain - I wanted to be able to pay for utilities electronically, and now I can.

natural areas being destroyed by development/new homes

Signs of tendancy toward over-development

crime, ↑ traffic, ↑ builders

The lack of dining options downtown

Increasing traffic, increasing crime, having to drive through Lakewood

increasing population, traffic, building/new construction, crime (safety)

inconsistent rulings in building, lack of diversity in town mgt/gov/committees

Speeders, vandalism

Not enough forward thinking about environmental problems

It never ceases to amaze us how much traffic just passes through Town on a daily basis; not for purposes of coming to the Town or the ferry, but just driving through to get from Lakewood/UP side of Town to the Steilacoom-Dupont Road and vice versa. We live on Steilacoom Blvd. and often (typically in early morning and sometimes in the evening) one or more vehicles will drive well in excess of the speed limit. Most people drive at or reasonably close to the speed limit, but there are daily exceptions.

Loss of natural habitat; lack of walking/biking paths especially along waterfront; rising utility rates; lack of comprehensive town-wide information and communication directly affecting our lives here

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Question 4

What do you want to stay the same about Steilacoom?

the Parade, the Salmon Bake, walk-ability, friendliness

keep the trees

quiet, friendly

responsive public safety

public access walks, lots of open green spaces, the quiet, proximity to JBLM

small town atmosphere... families and children ... good neighbors

the ambiance

public events - like 4th of July, Apple Squeeze

places where folks can walk; small businesses; celebration of Washington state history (*rest of comment cut off*)

Historic character, friendly small town environment

low crime rate

It's government and the way it seeks our input on issues

Green space! Trees, parks, trails, etc...

People tend to know each other. Shop owners and town employees alike have personal relationships with members of the community.

No stoplights, easy walkability

The small town feel - the 4th of July, Apple Squeeze, the farmer's market

respecting laws

The small town atmosphere and green spaces; Stop converting walking trails to sidewalks; stop letting developers cut down trees to build housing developments; keep Farrell's Marsh alive and healthy; keep acting fiscally responsible and keeping up with maintenance; keep town activities like concerts, Apple Squeeze, 4th of July activities, etc.

I want to keep our wildlife and I fear that we are going to pave over all of the open space.

quiet small town friendliness, safety, beauty, nature and wildlife - off the beaten track, know your neighbors, limited commercial activity

space, views

small town vibe! Farmers market, apple squeeze, 4th of July, all town events that are high lighted on that cute reader board as you drive into Steilacoom

The small town feel. Feels like you could be friends with everyone.

See #2 above, maintain historical values

Everything in #2

The tree tunnel, our police chief, keep trees, the ferry

Police chief/ force, sense of community, historical aspects, trees, Vicki at P.O.

Keep the paving, sidewalks, and traffic lights at the minimum level the law allows. Los Altos has some of the most expensive real estate in the US. The town has very few sidewalks in some of its most exclusive neighborhoods. My parent's block universally urged the town not to put sidewalks in when City Hall wanted to put sidewalks in, and it has paid off.

We want Steilacoom to remain resident and residential friendly. Given that the Town does have a regular amount of outside traffic, it would be nice to attract more business to the historic downtown core of the Town; businesses and/or restaurants that could take advantage of the visibility and be synergistic with the Town's character.

Rural, small town feel; celebrations; historical preservation; stillness; beauty

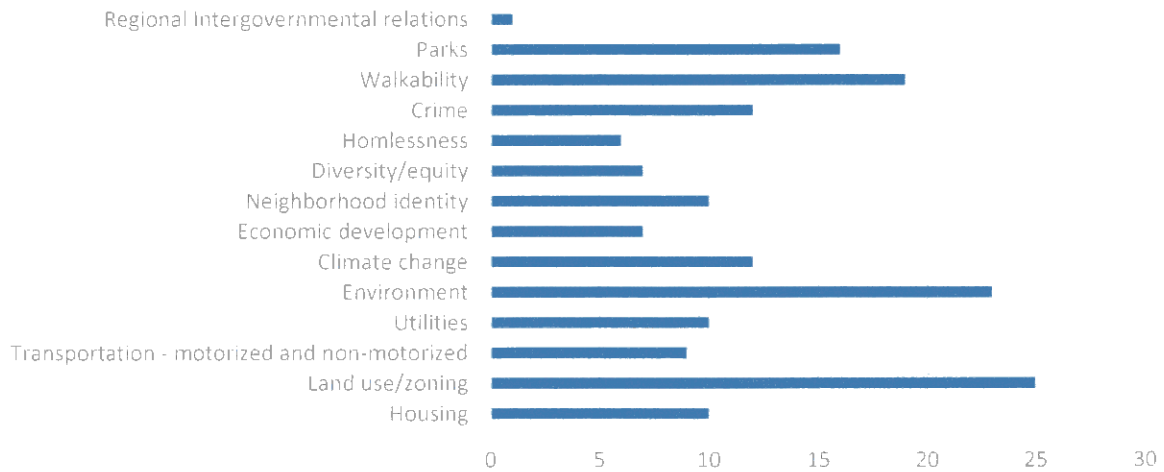
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Question 5

What topics interest you most? Please choose your top 5

Housing	10
Land use/zoning	25
Transportation - motorized and non-motorized	9
Utilities	10
Environment	23
Climate change	12
Economic development	7
Neighborhood identity	10
Diversity/equity	7
Homelessness	6
Crime	12
Walkability	19
Parks	16
Regional Intergovernmental relations	1

Preferred Topics



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Question 6

What areas or issues do you feel are adversely impacting Steilacoom the most?

growth

traffic

over development of new housing

rising costs, culture change

pressure from growth/increase in houses

I know this is unpopular, but I dislike all the crowds that our festivals bring in (esp July 4) but I'm kind of a hermit. That's why I like this place

land use and development and vacating rights of way

traffic

tree canopy being removed!

Commission & Council's 'sliding scale' as to building height/land around houses, *disre (rest of comment cut off)*

spotty development, reduction in open space, vegetation

Lack of rentals. I have many peers that would love to live here but can't

Filling every pasture, lot with housing. Not enough room between houses

Traffic derelict properties

The Salter's Point Marina is a disaster that has not been effectively remedied since it occurred.

The amount of traffic, particularly loud and fast vehicles accelerating through town during summer

Derelect houses left unattended or abandoned

Visitors that don't respect our speed limits, environment (litter)

Everyday noise such as lawn mowers, leaf blowers, barking dogs, etc.

Houses being built on soggy sites (like Champion and next to the trail connecting Jackson to Union) reduce the habitat for our wildlife.

Losing natural areas, tree canopy destruction for view/development, no sign of replacement activities

over-development

Being close to Lakewood & mental hospital

Increased population, traffic

Outside pressure to change and become more "woke"

See #3

Rapid growth in Lakewood & UP, the vacant mill, derelict Marina

Mill, Crime in Lakewood, people from other areas (prob Steilacoom too) that leave trash like at Sunnyside, speeders, loud cars

No apparent preparation for rising sea levels; no stormwater treatment; not enough incentivizing for solar power like the Town used to have.

Outside traffic patterns that just pass through the Town.

McMansions; loss of open spaces; inadequate development, expansion and maintenance of local parks/waterfront

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Question 7

What would you recommend to resolve them?

(growth) keep communicating with residents

(housing) just stop it/ reduce it

(growth) strong land use laws that preserve the natural environment

(festivals) nothing - money is the driving force

(land use) a more critical review ahead of permitting

(traffic) speed bumps & more marked crosswalks

(tree canopy) require new developments to leave more trees! Plant more natives on city owned land

(commission) have more guts when comes to dealing with Big Money developers and zoning approval *(rest of comment cut off)*

(Spotty development) I'll listen

(rentals) More affordable housing options

(housing) Issue fewer building permits per square feet of land

(traffic) Enforce signage. Photo enforcement

(Marina) Involving legislative representatives to draw attention, hold the owner accountable to clean it up and draw public attention to get results.

(traffic) one-way streets around downtown, stop sign at all intersections in downtown (ie, Wilkes & Lafayette)

(Derelict houses) Notices to homeowners of consequences and available help or resources

(speed limits) speed bumps, major fines if caught

(noise) I would love for Steilacoom to become a leader in fighting secondhand noise. Just like secondhand smoke negatively impacts human's health, secondhand noise also causes health issues; hearing loss, increased risk of heart attacks and hypertension. We should become a Quiet Community. For a town like Steilacoom, the most bang for our buck would be to ban all gas leaf blowers, or, at the very minimum, not allow motorized equipment above 60 decibels and hold dog owners accountable (i.e.fined) for their barking dogs.

(soggy) Have the city buy the wetland properties that are for sale and preserve them. Plant small trees along popular walkways (Martin, Commercial) so we have shade to walk in.

(losing) incentivize landowners keeping areas natural - 50 year commitment for less taxes, requiring trees be replaced when removed, ensuring 30 - 50% of land remains natural, ensuring animal pathways through neighborhoods to water and surrounding land etc.

(over-develop) stricter rules governing development
(Lakewood) ↑ police funding & more security in neighborhoods
(increasing pop) Limit transient housing, rentals
(outside pressure) More support for police
(#3) Strong mayor/city counsel who solicits thoughts from our citizens
(rapid growth) Sell & develop the mill, continue good relations with neighboring jurisdictions
(Mill) Clean up mill, traffic enforcement, at busy times or even early am, continue commitment to work with Lakewood, UP
(no preparation) Start now preparing for rising sea levels by putting together a working group of people with right educational background. Get town into stormwater runoff treatment. Renew previous solar production incentive.
(outside traffic) Speed limit enforcement and perhaps speed bumps that would force compliance with posted speed limits on major arterials.
(McMansions) Increase/establish priorities to enhance historical and aesthetic value attracting visitors and supporting/encouraging small businesses; architectural zoning standards; more green space; Steilacoom doesn't need to be a Pt. Townsend or Poulsbo, but it can and should be more of a destination for east Puget Sounders to visit, shop, eat, picnic...

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Question 8

How would you like to participate in the 2024 update process? *Select all that apply*

In person meetings 15

Virtual meetings 12

Hybrid meetings 11

Surveys/email 24

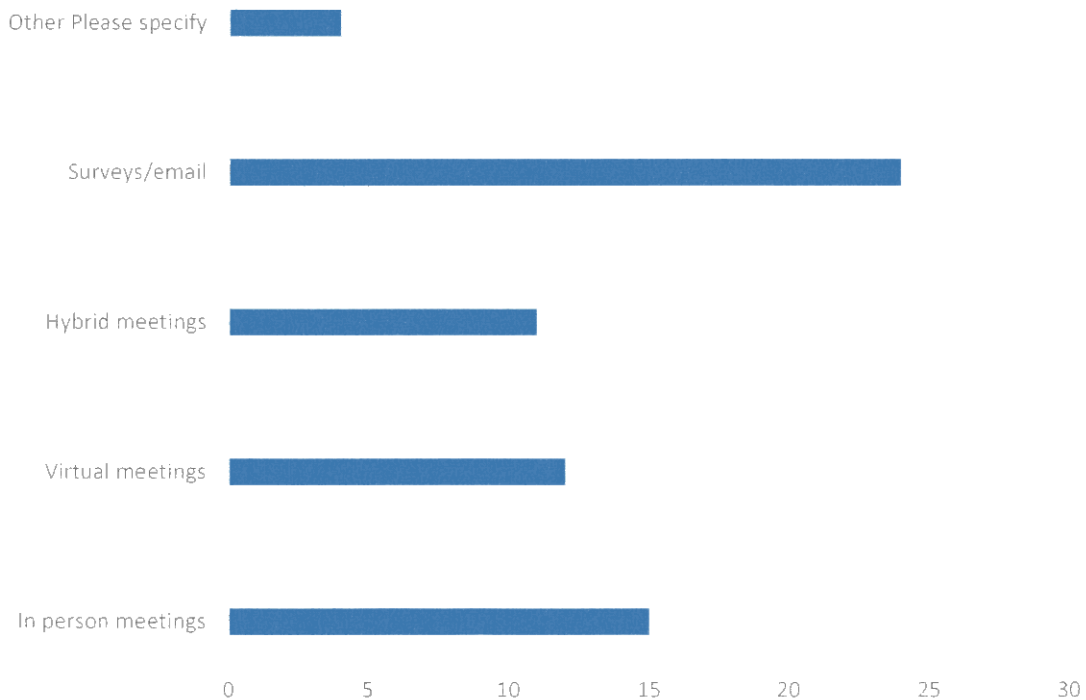
Other *Please specify* 4

whatever works for you and the commission
? can I

I want to be on a committee studying rising sea levels. BA in Biology and Oceanography. MS
in Systems Management

Available to participate in any ad-hoc or other citizens' committees related to the Comp Plan
process. See my cover email with this survey for my relevant experience.

Participation Preference

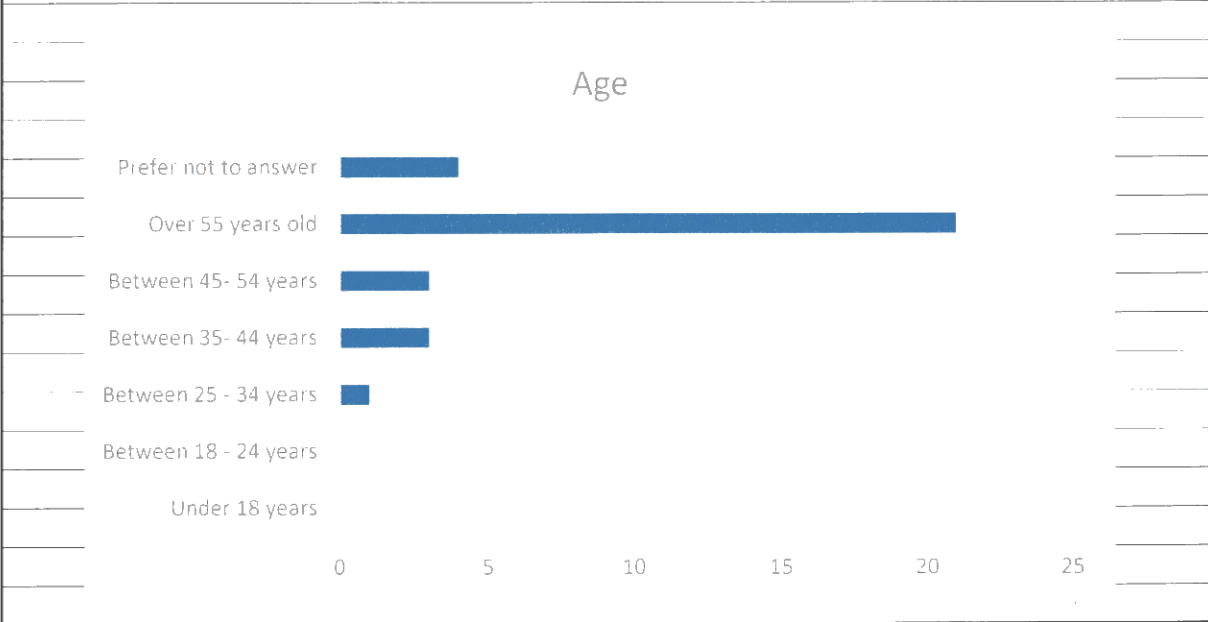


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Question 9

What is your age?

Under 18 years	0
Between 18 - 24 years	0
Between 25 - 34 years	1
Between 35- 44 years	3
Between 45- 54 years	3
Over 55 years old	21
Prefer not to answer	4



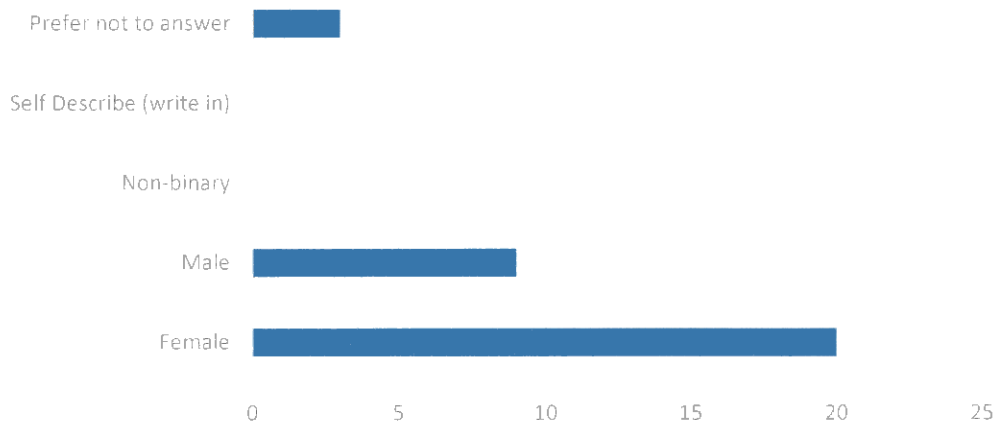
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Question 10

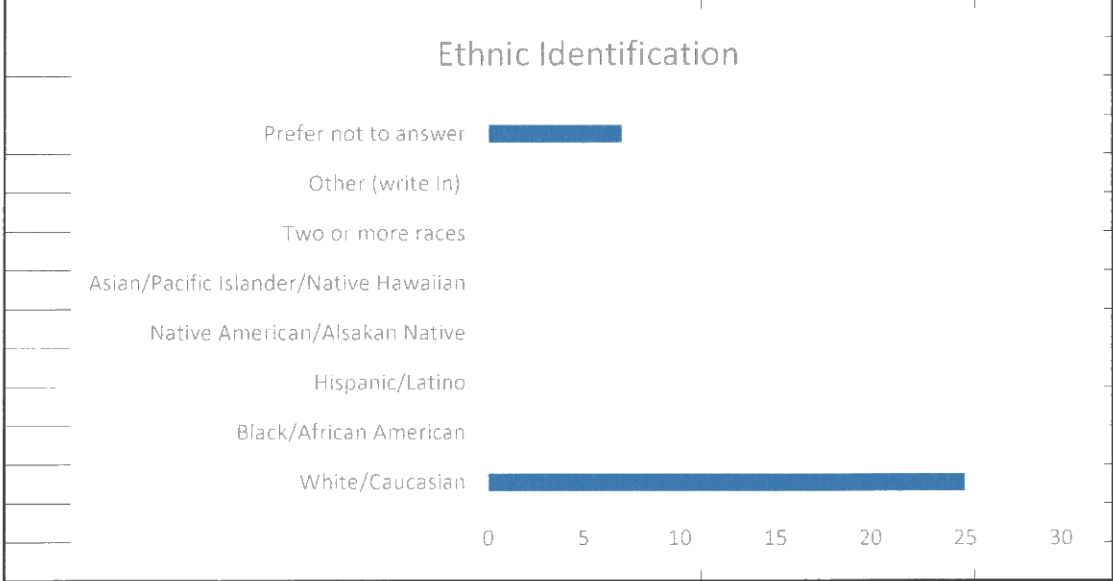
Gender identification

Female	20
Male	9
Non-binary	0
Self Describe (write in)	0
Prefer not to answer	3

Gender Identification



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Question 11		
Ethnic Identification		
White/Caucasian	25	
Black/African American	0	
Hispanic/Latino	0	
Native American/Alaskan Native	0	
Asian/Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian	0	
Two or more races	0	
Other (write In)	0	
Prefer not to answer	7	



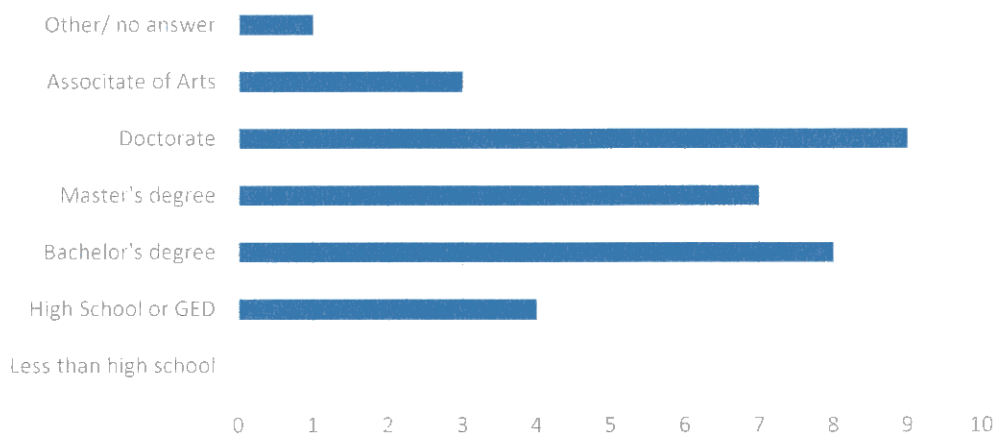
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Question 12

What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?

Less than high school	0
High School or GED	4
Bachelor's degree	8
Master's degree	7
Doctorate	9
Associate of Arts	3
Other/ no answer	1

Education

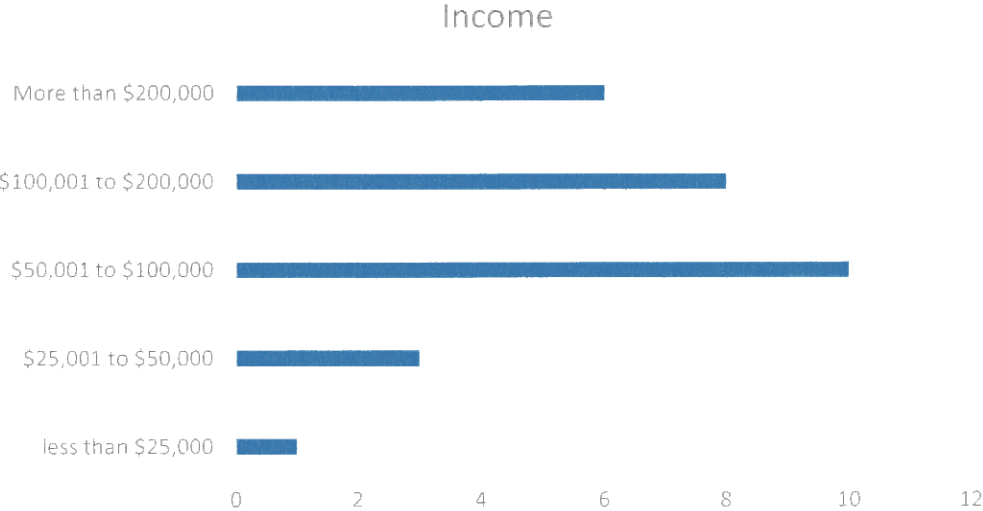


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Question 13

What is your average yearly household income?

less than \$25,000	1
\$25,001 to \$50,000	3
\$50,001 to \$100,000	10
\$100,001 to \$200,000	8
More than \$200,000	6



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Question 14			
Do you currently own or rent your residence?			
Own	28		
Rent	2		
Other, <i>please specify</i>	0		

