ENGAGEMENT REPORT

TransformTO Net Zero Strategy Action Plan 2026-2030 Public Consultation





March 2025





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Attachment 1. Results of completed online survey demographic questions

Thank you!

Thank you to every person, and the communities of people, who contributed to and participated in the public consultation process seeking feedback to help inform the City of Toronto's next TransformTO Net Zero Strategy Action Plan. The City's Climate Advisory Group provided strategic advice at key points that helped shape the consultation approach, as did other community leaders participating early on in the process. Every participant that took the time to share their thoughts helps to shape the City's path forward.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over 2,800 people participated in the City of Toronto's public consultation designed to share information and seek feedback to help inform the next 5-Year TransformTO Net Zero Strategy Action Plan (2026-2030), referred to "the Action Plan". This is an important moment in the City's climate change work since the March 2024 Annual TransformTO Net Zero Progress and Accountability Report anticipates that Toronto will fall short of meeting its 2030 emissions reduction targets.

The public consultation period lasted 13 weeks, from November 1st, 2024, through to January 31st, 2025. The public consultation process focused on the growing urgency of the climate crisis and provided some basic information about the cost of extreme weather events, where Toronto's emissions come from, and the fact that climate change amplifies existing socio-economic vulnerabilities and inequalities.

Hotter, Wetter, Wilder Weather

Most participants are feeling the impacts of the wilder weather on them or their families. Negative health impacts are the most common, as is financial strain. To manage these impacts, participants said they choose not to go outside in extreme heat or search out air conditioning. Many said they've had to increase spending on their property to adapt to the weather. There were a small number of participants who said they feel no impacts as well as those that said they prefer the milder winters.

Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions

There were a wide variety of actions that participants have taken or are planning on taking to reduce their GHG emissions. These range from everyday low cost activities focused on changing their behaviour at home, to one-time large investments that support things like switching from gas heating to heat pumps or from gasoline powered vehicles to hybrid vehicles.

Many participants said that their biggest barrier is the financial strain to either retrofit their home or switch to an electric vehicle. Other challenges and barriers faced include:

- Lack of control over home energy because they rent or live in condos.
- Knowledge, information, and industry experts are not easily available or accessible.
- People need their cars for travel.

- Not enough affordable electric vehicle infrastructure in Toronto to support a switch to electric vehicles.
- Removal of bike lanes.
- Feeling of helplessness and frustration that climate change is not a priority for many politicians.
- Concern that a lot of responsibility is being placed on individuals to reduce their GHG emissions, when compared to the impact that changes by large scale corporations could bring.

Accessing Resources and Supports

When asked about barriers or challenges to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, participants said they would like more awareness on where to find resources and supports related to climate change. Other suggestions included:

- City-wide education through more neighbourhood groups, workshops, climate ambassadors, community environment days and community events on climate change are needed in the city.
- Materials in a language that more people can understand (TransformTO materials were made available in French, Chinese, Persian, Portuguese, Spanish, and Tagalog).
- Learning more about climate actions in other cities.
- Acknowledging the critical role of City Councillors who understand climate change.
- Provincial government help with funding for green initiatives, both for individuals and institutions.

Other feedback and advice

Many participants were thankful to the team for the work being done to consult with communities not typically involved in climate change conversations.

Some participants said they do not believe the climate is changing or are not concerned about climate change. They expressed concerns that the survey questions were not designed for them.

Next Steps

All the feedback shared through the public consultation process is being considered by City staff as they work to develop the 2026-2030 Action Plan. Public feedback is one of several inputs the City considers when creating the Action Plan. The 2026-2030 Action Plan is expected to be considered by Toronto City Council in mid-2025.

INTRODUCTION

Over 2,800 people participated in the City of Toronto's public consultation designed to share information and seek feedback to help inform the next 5-Year TransformTO Net Zero Strategy Action Plan (2026-2030), referred to "the Action Plan". This is an important moment in the City's climate change work since the March 2024 Annual TransformTO Net Zero Progress and Accountability Report anticipates that Toronto will fall short of meeting it's 2030 emissions reduction targets.

The public consultation period lasted 13 weeks, from November 1st, 2024, through to January 31st, 2025. The public consultation process focused on the growing urgency of the climate crisis and provided some basic information about the cost of extreme weather events, where Toronto's emissions come from, and the fact that climate change amplifies existing socio-economic vulnerabilities and inequalities.

When seeking feedback, the public consultation asked participants to help the City better understand:

- If hotter, wetter, wilder weather is impacting people? If so, what actions are people taking to mitigate those impacts?
- What actions are people taking to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, with a particular focus on vehicular and home emissions? What challenges and barriers to people face to reducing their emissions? And what resources and supports could help?

The feedback from these questions was intended to strengthen the City's understanding of if and/or how people in Toronto experience the impacts of climate change and what actions they are taking, if any, to reduce their contributions to climate change by limiting their greenhouse gas emissions.

The insight gained through this public consultation process is one of many important inputs considered when developing the next Action Plan.

This Engagement Report was written by Third Party Public Inc., an independent engagement and facilitation team retained by the City of Toronto to support the public consultation process. It summarizes the feedback shared by people who engaged with public consultation process. For more information, visit toronto.ca/netzeroactionplan.

Information Shared

The following describes the information shared and materials to support meaningful public participation in the process.

Website

The City of Toronto had a dedicated webpage to the TransformTO public consultation process. There, participants could find the link to the survey, dates for engagement activities, links to engagement materials, and summaries of engagement feedback.

Info Sheet

The Info Sheet described the City of Toronto's public consultation process for the Action Plan. It included information on the climate crisis, how the hotter, wetter, wilder weather is impacting Toronto, the actions residents can take to reduce emission, an infographic of how emissions change when people drive less, and information on how residents can participate and provide feedback. The sheet was available in English and in other languages by request.

Post Card

Post Cards were handed out during pop-up events and shared the key questions the City was looking for public feedback on and information on the different ways to participate in the consultation.

Poster

Posters were distributed to the 100 branches in the Toronto Public Library system and to Toronto Community Recreation Centres. They encouraged people to participate in the process, asked key questions, and provided information on different ways to participate.

Group Discussion Guide

The Group Discussion Guide provided facilitation tips on how anyone could host a group discussion, as well as the questions from the City's TransformTO team.

Presentation

The City of Toronto prepared and shared a presentation with online participants during the webinars and orientation sessions. It included background information on TransformTO, as well as information and discussion questions on the public consultation.

Sample of information shared through the Action Plan Public Consultation



The City of Toronto is creating the next Action Plan for the TransformTO Net Zero Strategy, our community-wide long-

Help us understand your experiences and learn more about what we can do, together. Actions we take now will help us reduce our emissions to reach our climate targets, while preparing for and adapting to the changing weather conditions for current and future generations.

The climate crisis grows more urgent every year

Fuelled by greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, 2023 was the hottest year on emissions, 2023 was the nottest year on record globally. Extreme heat, wildfire, flooding, and storm events in Toronto, across Canada, and worldwide show how harmful and costly these weather events can be.

Preparing for the impacts of climate change, and reducing our contribution to these changes, is going to take a community-wide effort.

Total Maria

We want to hear from you!

This information sheet is part of the City's ongoing public consultation efforts on addressing climate change. Please take a moment to share your experiences and perspectives with us. It will help us achieve our community-wide climate goals, together,



Scan QR code or visit



Wed, Nov 13, 7 – 8 pm Deadline is Tues, Nov 19, 4 – 5 pm January 31, 2025. Scan QR code or visit website for link.

www.toronto.ca/netzeroactionplan

Host a group discussion Connect with others to discuss

How is hotter, wetter, wilder weather impacting Toronto?

The number of days per year with temperatures above 30°C in Toronto (extreme heat days) has already increased from an average of 8 days in the 1950s to about 18 days per year now. If global emissions continue to rise, extreme heat days could increase to 29 by the 2030s and to 54 days by the

Future weather will be warmer and wetter, with more intense rainstorms leading to more frequent and intense flooding. Flooding can cause damage to infrastructure, injuries, habitat degradation, degraded water quality, soil erosion and disruptions to services and the economic

and the economy.



Extreme weather events directly cost our city a combined \$228 million dollars between 2005-2017. Proactive adaptation could help avoid significant climate costs.





drive less.

In a fictional neighbo

Climate change is a global issue. As we reduce our emissions in Toronto, we will also need to remain focused on increasing our resilience and adapting to a changing climate.

When everyone drives (cars are shown as **red** dots), the large yellow and red clouds over the neighbourhood show the greenhouse gas emissions generated from burning gasoline/diesel.

The maps below show how emissions change when people





A lot is already happening!

- The Toronto Green Standard ensures new buildings generate fewer emissions.
 The TTC bus fleet is on track to becoming 50 per cent zero-emissions by 2030 and 100 per cent zero-emissions before 2040.
- emissions before ZUAU.

 Electric vehicles, charging infrastructure, bike lanes and transit service are expanding across the city. Standards are being developed to help transition existing buildings to low-emission technology like heat pumps and energy efficient windows and

What are the most important things we can do to reduce emissions?

There are many ways to reduce emissions, whether its small day-to-day habits such as using less electricity at home or reducing your waste, to bigger investments like renovating your home or driving an electric vehicle.

In Toronto, there are three big things that we know will really help:





🗐 🏂 🗞 😘









35%

The remaining 9% of emissions are generat

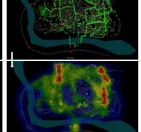




Each blue dot on the map represents a Neighbourhood Climate Action Champion (NCAC). The Champions are a group of Toronto residents working in their communities to inspire and encourage collective climate action. The City is recruiting the next group of NCACs in November 2024 Find out more at <a href="https://www.ncyconto.co/services-payments/yate-enjoronto-enjoronto-enjo

Where do Toronto's emissions come from?

bicycle one day a week instead of driving (people biking or walking are shown with green dots), the clouds of greenhouse gas emissions are much small



We want to hear from you!

How is the hotter, wetter, wilder weather affecting you and/or your family?

Sharing your responses to these and other questions will help the City of Toronto in developing the City's next TransformTO Net Zero Action Plan. Complete the survey by January 31, 2025 by scanning the QR code or visiting the website.

www.toronto.ca/netzeroactionplan



Questions or want more info? Scan the QR code to visit our project website or enter the URL nto your web browser. For email ontact the Environment & Climate division at the City of Toronto

Video. The landing page of the City's TransformTO Action Plan public consultation website included a short video that quickly showed how everyone can help Toronto meet our climate change goals. In 43 seconds, the video (which is still posted) shows the emissions generated in a neighbourhood when people mostly drive and compares that to the much lower emissions generated in that same neighbourhood when people mostly walk and bike.



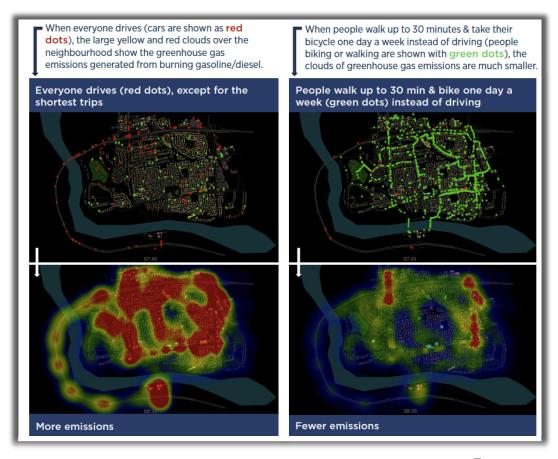
At left: Screenshot from the

toronto.ca/netzeroactionplan website showing the short infovideo illustrating how everyone can help Toronto meet its greenhouse gas emission reduction targets through their transportation

choices.

Below: Scenarios described in the video

and consultation Info Sheet.



Public Consultation Activities

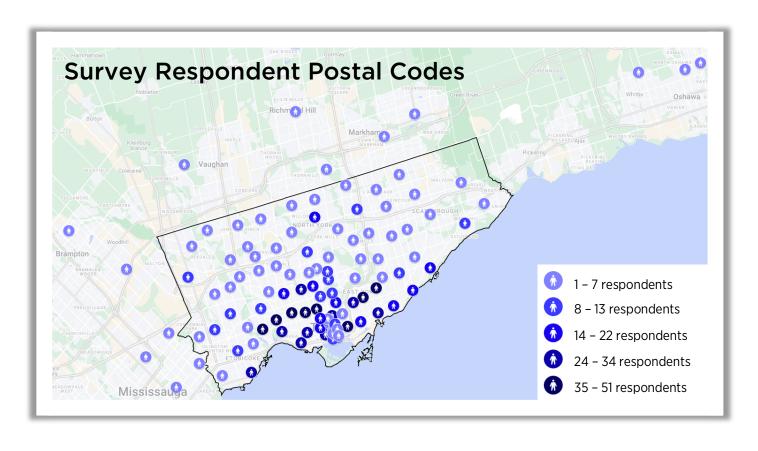
There were many ways to participate in the public consultation process, including an online survey, pop-ups in locations across the city, webinars, and community-led group discussions. The chart below summarizes the engagement tactics and the total number of people that attended the engagement activity.

Ways to Engage	Number of Participants	Percent of Participants
Online Survey (Individual responses) [November 1, 2025 - January 31, 2025]	1,858	65%
Host Your Own Group Discussion (participants) [32 group discussions held]	474	17%
In Person Pop-Ups [20 locations across Toronto]	460	16%
Webinars [2 online webinars]	30	1%
Online Orientation Sessions to Host Your Own Group Discussion [3 online orientation sessions]	16	<1%
Total	2838	100%

Online Survey

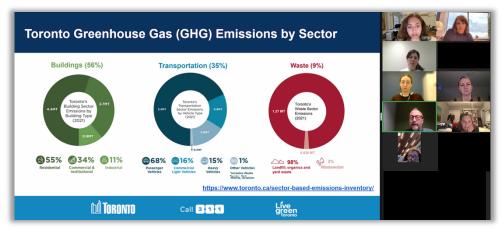
The survey link was accessible through the dedicated TransformTO webpage. It served as an opportunity for individuals to answer the feedback questions or for someone to report on the results of a group discussion. The survey also had branching options for those who identified as vehicle owners, homeowners, or neither.

There were 1,858 responses received (representing 65% of people who engaged in the public consultation process). The map below shows participation by location based on the 1,162 survey respondents provided their postal code information. Those located in Toronto are reflected on the map below. Other demographic information shared by people completing the online survey is included as Attachment A.



Webinars

The City hosted 2 webinar sessions on November 13 and November 19, 2024. The purpose was to share information about the public consultation, answer questions, and get feedback to help inform the development of the next Action Plan. Each webinar was one-hour in length and open to all. City staff provided an overview of the TransformTO Net Zero Strategy and the important role of public feedback in shaping the next 5-year Action Plan (2026-2030). The presentation was followed by a round of facilitated discussion where participants asked questions and provided feedback. Click here for a detailed look at the Webinar Summary. There were 30 people in total that joined the two webinars (about 1% of participants in the consultation). The screenshot below is from one of the two webinars.



Screenshot from webinar.

Group Discussion Sessions (and online orientation sessions)

Group Discussion Sessions were an opportunity for anyone to host their own consultation discussion with their networks, groups, friends, or family on the Action Plan. Anyone interested could use the Group Discussion Guide + Info Sheet to discuss and collect feedback from their participants on the actions, barriers and challenges and supports they need to adapt to climate change and reduce their GHG emissions. The City also hosted three online sessions to orient those interested in hosting their own group discussion, on November 6 and November 26, 2024. Each online orientation was one-hour in length and open to all. City staff provided an overview of the TransformTO Net Zero Strategy and the important role of public feedback in shaping the next 5-year Action Plan (2026-2030) and was followed by an overview of the Group Discussion Guide and facilitation tips on how to host their own group discussion. There were 32 different discussions held by community

members, with a total of 474 participants (about 17% of total public consultation participants). The organizations and groups that hosted discussions included:

- Neighbourhood Climate Action Champions
- Don Valley West 4 Environmental Action
- Etobicoke Climate Action
- Financial District BIA
- Friends and Family
- Humber Polytechnic
- Junction Neighbourhood Watch
- Live Green Toronto Volunteers
- Net Zero Architects Network
- North Etobicoke Residents Council (NERC)
- Plant-Forward Future
- Regenerating Toronto
- St. James Town Climate Action Crew
- Thorncliffe Wellness Café Group
- Toronto350
- Toronto East Residents for Renewable Energy (TERRE)
- City of Toronto staff

Pop-Up Sessions

The City of Toronto hosted 20 pop-up events across the City to reach residents of Toronto not typically involved in climate-related conversations. The locations included, malls, community events and community recreation centres. City staff asked participants to stop and write down on a sticky note whether the hotter, wetter, wilder weather is impacting their lives, if they are taking actions to reduce GHG emissions, and what barriers they're facing to reduce emissions. There were about 460 participants (about 16 per cent of total public consultation participants) that stopped to talk to City staff and provide feedback. Below is a map of the Pop-Up sessions, including:

- Eco Fair at Wychwood Barns (November 3, 2024)
- Lawrence Allen Centre (November 15, 2024)
- Scarborough Town Centre (November 12, 2024)
- Fairfield Seniors Centre (November 29, 2024)
- Birchmount Community Centre (December 2, 2024)
- Trinity Community Recreation Centre (December 16, 2024)
- Ethennonnhawahstihnen' Community Recreation Centre and Library (January 7, 2025)
- Glen Long Community Centre (January 8, 2025)
- Joseph J. Piccininni Community Centre (January 9, 2025)
- East York Community Centre (January 14, 2025)



At top:

Pop-Up at the Scarborough Town Centre on November 12, 2024.

Above:

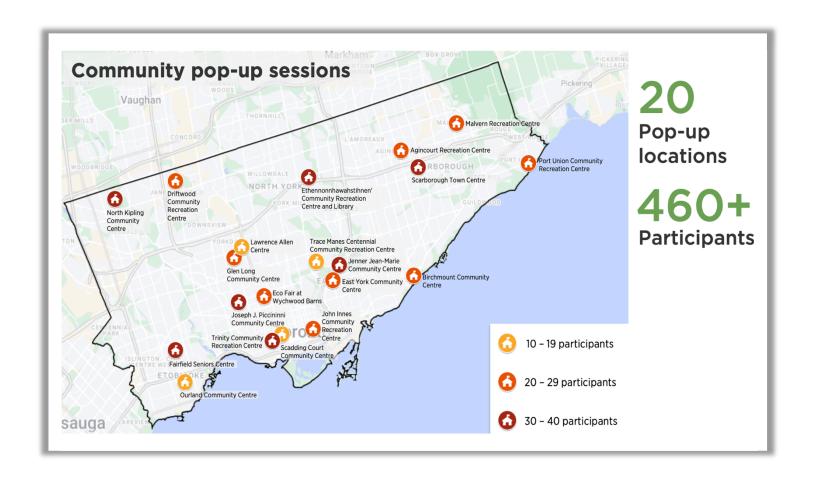
Pop-Up at the Lawrence Allen Centre on November 15, 2024.

Below:

Feedback from the John Innes Community Recreation Centre Pop-Up on January 29, 2025.



- North Kipling Community Centre (January 15, 2025)
- Malvern Recreation Centre (January 16, 2025)
- Scadding Court Community Centre (January 21, 2025)
- Agincourt Recreation Centre (January 21, 2025)
- Driftwood Community Recreation Centre (January 22, 2025)
- Port Union Community Recreation Centre (January 23, 2025)
- Trace Manes Centennial Community Recreation Centre (January 23, 2025)
- Ourland Community Centre (January 28, 2025)
- Jenner Jean-Marie Community Centre (January 28, 2025)
- John Innes Community Recreation Centre (January 29, 2025)



SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED

When seeking feedback, the public consultation asked participants to help the City better understand:

- If hotter, wetter, wilder weather is impacting people? If so, what actions are people taking to mitigate those impacts?
- What actions are people taking to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, with a particular focus on vehicular and home emissions? What challenges and barriers to people face to reducing their emissions? And what resources and supports could help?

These questions were asked in-person at pop-ups, during the webinars, through the online survey, and as part of community-led group discussions. This summary integrates feedback from all public consultation sources, identifying general themes and where differences emerged.

When reviewing the summary, it's important to note that not every participant was asked if they agreed or disagreed with what every other participant said, so there are always exceptions to the trends that are documented emerged here. Also, the feedback captures the thoughts of people who chose to participate in the consultation. During the inperson pop-ups, there were consistently people who did not stop to engage with the consultation, with some saying that they don't believe in climate change, don't care about it, or have other higher priorities in their life to deal with.



Post card used to promote the public consultation and how to participate in the process. These were distributed at pop-ups across the city.

Hotter, wetter, wilder weather

The first set of questions asked during the public consultation focused on the changing weather, and the impacts felt by Toronto residents and their families.

Impacts of hotter, wetter, wilder weather

Most participants said they are feeling the impacts of the wilder weather on them or their families, however there were a small number of participants who said they feel no impacts as well as those that said they prefer the milder winters.

Themes in the feedback include:

Negative health impacts are the most common impact.

Many people said that with the hotter and more humid weather, they are experiencing issues related to asthma, heat exhaustion, worsened allergies, worsened migraines, and general poor air quality affecting their breathing. This is especially true for seniors and children. Some participants also mentioned that their mental health is affected by the wilder weather, due to more anxiety as people worry about the weather, or because they must stay in due to the extreme weather not letting them go outside and socialize. Others feel a deep sense of dread and are infuriated by the thoughtlessness and carelessness of governments, society, and others in the community seem to have when it comes to climate change. Some said their outdoor activities (like sports) are sometimes cancelled due to extreme heat.

Financial strain is another major impact.

Many people said that repairing the damage caused by flooding along with increased costs associated with additional use of air conditioning and heating has impacted them financially. Flooding has caused damage to property, storage rooms, basements, cars, and gardens. The high and low temperatures have increased their utility bills. Others said they need to spend money on repairs to damaged gardens, plants, and trees due to extreme heat, or the windy, rainy weather.

A few people said they are stressed about global warming impacts in other countries.

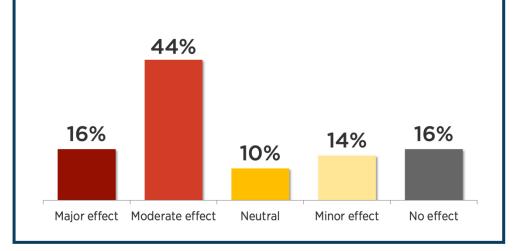
People originally from India and the Philippines shared concerns about the impacts of extreme heat in those countries. This is influencing decisions to travel, and even retirement plans, when temperatures are consistently over 50 degrees Celsius.

 There were people who said that although the weather is changing, it is not affecting Toronto all that much, and it is not so severe.

They said they have lived in Toronto for decades and have seen no change in weather. A few said that they have noticed milder winters but are not impacted by this change. Others have said they welcome the wetter weather, warmer winters, and general warmer weather.

Spotlight on survey responses: Rate the effect of wilder weather on you or your families

In the online survey, participants were asked to rate the effect the wilder weather is having on them or their families. 16% (286 people) said they feel a major effect, 44% (801 people) said they feel a moderate effect, 10% said they feel neutral (189 people), 14% (248 people), said they feel a minor effect, and 16% (286 people), said they feel no effect.



 There were also a few people who said they don't believe in climate change or care about it.

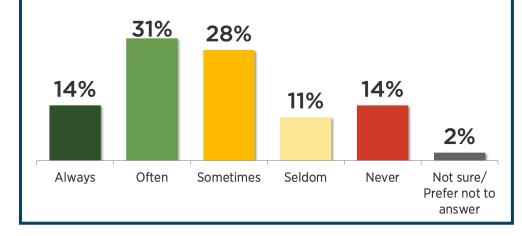
These participants said that climate change is a hoax by the government and that the climate is always changing. Others said they are not concerned with climate change as it's something that will affect the future generations, not them. A small subset of these participants also said that the weather changes are due to human geo-engineering, seen by planes in the sky controlling the weather with cloud seeding or chemtrails.

Changes to daily lives to adapt to the changing climate

As part of all engagement activities, participants were asked if they were taking action to adapt to the changing climate. Most participants said they were making changes, while fewer participants said they are not. Important to note that there is not a much of an explanation from those who said they are not making any changes.

Spotlight on survey responses: Adapting to climate change In the online survey, participants wer making changes in their day-to-day I

In the online survey, participants were asked to rate how often they're making changes in their day-to-day life to adapt to the changing climate. 14% (262 people) said they are always making changes, 31% (555 people), said they are often making changes, 28% (512 people), said they are sometimes making changes, 11% (204 people), said they seldom make changes, 14% (262 people), said they never make changes, 2% (25 people), said they're not sure/prefer not to answer.



People don't go outside.

People said they are choosing not to go outside during the summer heat waves and instead are staying in with AC (air conditioning) or are choosing to leave home early in the morning or late in the evening to avoid the sun. They said that this protects their health from the extreme heat or low quality air they may breathe. Some avoid walking their dogs. Some said they choose to leave their home to find air conditioning in public places like a library, coffee shop or mall or they spend more time in a pool to cool down.

Some are also choosing not to walk to their destination and instead drive short distances to use the AC in their car. Some said they continuously check the weather reports for any changes in the weather or for a report on the air quality, or to be prepared with the appropriate clothing for any changes.

Some participants said warmer winters prevents them from participating in outdoor winter sports, like skiing or skating.

 Many participants also said they've had to increase their spending on their property to either adapt to the weather or prepare for extreme weather.

Participants said that they have spent on things such as:

- backwater valve installation,
- improved drainage,
- rain gardens,
- re-routing eavestroughs,
- running the air conditioning more often,
- running heat more often,
- choosing to drive instead of taking transit when it's too hot,
- buying light-blocking blinds for condo windows (to mitigate heat),
- replacing old windows and doors to prevent air leakage,
- preparing for power outages and/or not being able to leave home for a few days with extra food and other supplies, and
- moving valuables to a higher level or storing them in plastic containers.
- Those who said they are seldom making changes, or never making changes primarily said so because they do not believe in climate change.

For those that provided an explanation, they said that they adapt to the changing weather the way they always have, by checking the weather, dressing appropriately, and planning accordingly.

Spotlight on survey responses:

Do, learn, can - adapting to the changing climate

In the online survey, participants were asked whether they want to do more to adapt to the changing climate, want to learn more on how to adapt and whether they feel they can make changes to adapt to the changing climate.

71% (1,279 people) Either strongly agree (47%, 846 people) or somewhat agree (24%, 433 people)

that they want to **DO** more to adapt to the changing climate.

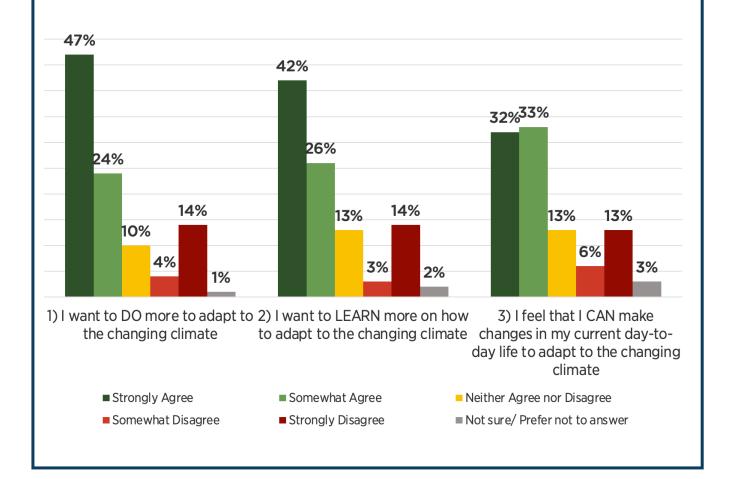
68% (1,227 people) Either strongly agree (42%, 752 people) or somewhat agree (26%, 475 people)

that they want to **LEARN** more on how to adapt to the changing climate.

65% (1,166 people) Either strongly agree (32%, 572 people) or somewhat agree (33%, 594 people)

that they feel they **CAN** make changes in their day-to-day life to adapt to the

changing climate.



Reducing greenhouse gas emissions

The second set of questions asked during the public consultation focused on greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). Participants were asked about any actions they are currently taking to reduce their GHG emissions, whether they are facing challenges or barriers to reducing their GHG emissions, and whether they have accessed or would like to access supports to reduce their GHG emissions.

Actions to reduce GHG emissions

There were a wide variety of actions that participants have taken or are planning on taking to reduce their GHG emissions. These range from everyday low cost activities focused on changing their behaviour at home, to one-time large investments that support things like switching from gas heating to heat pumps or from gasoline powered vehicles to hybrid vehicles.

The following feedback is taken from all engagement activities and includes the wide range of actions people are taking. For a more detailed look at survey responses to the actions people are taking for vehicle and building emissions, please continue on to the following sections.

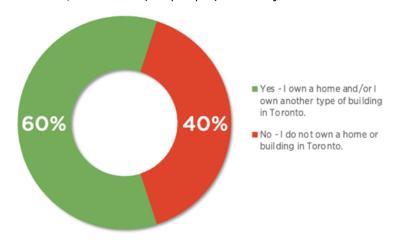
 Many participants have said that they do every day, lowcost actions to try and reduce their GHG emissions.

The types of actions range on whether they own property, rent, take transit, or own a personal vehicle. Examples of what participants said they are doing includes:

- Growing their own food,
- Being a vegetarian,
- Using active transportation where possible, such as walking, biking, or taking transit,
- Carpooling,
- Reducing waste, recycling, and composting where possible,
- Being more aware of their consumerism, such as by thrifting, clothing swaps, buying items second hand, or by sharing food with friends before it spoils,
- Reducing water consumption by using rain barrels,
- Advocating through climate action groups and speaking to their friends and family about how to be more climate friendly, and
- Educating themselves on how to be more climate friendly with their day-to-day lives.

Spotlight on survey responses: Reducing GHG emissions from Buildings

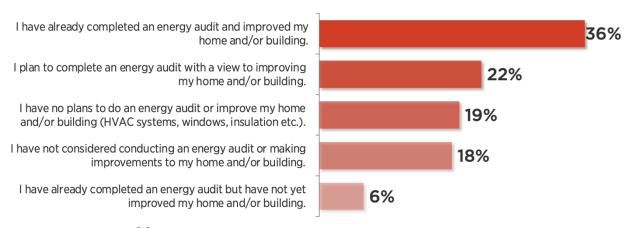
In the online survey, participants were asked to identify whether they were homeowners, and if so, more specific questions followed. Most people that completed the survey were homeowners. 60% (1,100 people) said yes, they own a home or another type of property in Toronto, while 40% (731 people) said they do not.



Spotlight on survey responses: Home Energy audits

Participants who identified as homeowners were asked if they have completed any home energy audits.

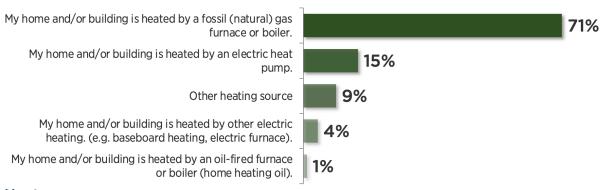
36% (368 people) said they have already completed and energy audit and have improved their home/building, followed by 22% (229 people) who said they plan to complete an energy audit with a view to improve their home/building. 19% (199 people) said they have no plans to do an energy audit or improve their home/building, 18% (182 people) said they have not considered conducting an energy audit or making improvements to their homes/buildings, and 6% (57 people) said they have already completed an energy audit but have not yet improved their home/building.



Spotlight on survey responses: Home heating

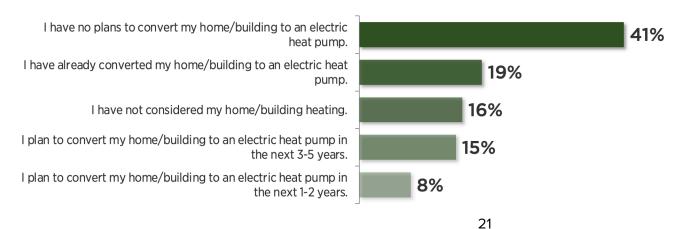
Participants were asked the type of heating they use in their current home/building. 71% (741 people) said their home is heated by a fossil gas furnace or a boiler, 15% (155 people) said their home is heated by an electric pump, 4% (37 people) said their home is heated by other electric heating, and 1% (14 people) said their home is heated by an oil-fired furnace or boiler (home heating oil).

9% (99 people) said they used another type of heating source (i.e., both an electric heat pump and a natural gas boiler; natural gas for some appliances and an electric heat pump for the rest of their home; natural gas in the winter months and use an electric heater for the other seasons; and one person said they use a solar panel for hot water).



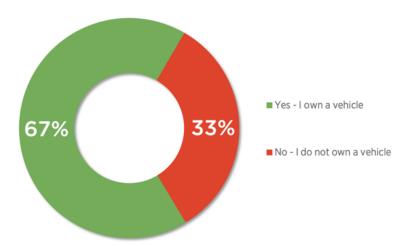
Heat pumps

Homeowners were also asked about their plans on converting to a heat pump for their home/building. 41% (423 people) said they have no plans to convert their home/building to an electric heat pump, 19% (199 people) said they have already converted their home to an electric heat pump, 16% (157 people) said they have not considered their home/building heating, 15% (165 people) said they plan to convert their home/building to an electric heat pump in the next 3-5years, and 8% (81 people) said they plan to convert to an electric heat pump in the next 1-2 years.



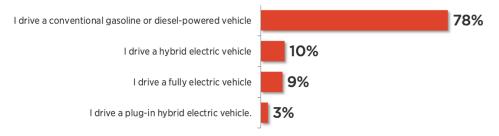
Spotlight on survey responses: Vehicles owners

In the online survey, participants were asked whether they owned a vehicle. 67% (1,203 people) said yes, while 33% (596 people) said no.



Primary vehicle type

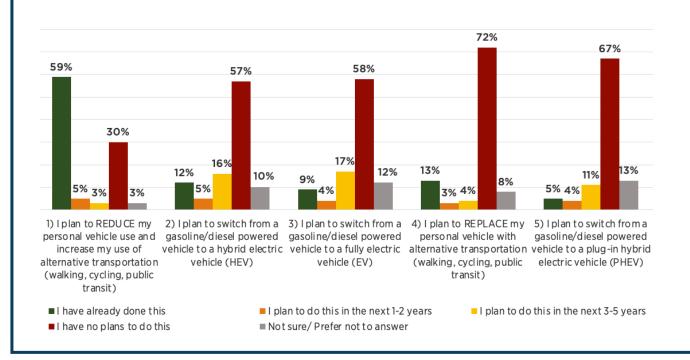
Participants who identified as vehicle owners were then asked the type of vehicle they use. 78% (921 people) said they drive a conventional gas or diesel-powered vehicle, 10% (122 people) said they drive a hybrid electric vehicle, 9% (101 people) said they drive a fully electric vehicle, and 3% (31 people) said they drive a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle.



Spotlight on survey responses: Transportation action and timeframe

Participants were asked to choose between statements and identify which best reflects their future plans for their personal vehicle use. They were asked whether they plan on switching from a gasoline/diesel vehicle to a hybrid electric vehicle, a fully electric vehicle, a plug in hybrid electric vehicle, or whether they plan to replace their vehicle with alternative transportation or reduce their personal vehicle use and increase their alternative transportation options. The bar graph shows the full extent of the choices participants selected about their transportation action. Some key reflections on this include:

- 59% (663 people) said they have already reduced their personal vehicle use and increased use of alternative transportation (walking, cycling, public transit). While 30% (334 people) said they have no plans to do this.
- **57%** (621 people) said they **have no plans** to switch from a gasoline/diesel powered vehicle to a hybrid electric vehicle. While **12%** (131 people) said they **have already made the switch.**
- **58**% (609 people) said they **have no plans** to switch from a gasoline/diesel powered vehicle to a fully electric vehicle. While **9**% (96 people) said they **have already done this.**
- 72% (766 people) said they have no plans to replace their vehicle with alternative transportation. While 13% (134 people) said they have already done this.
- **67%** (694 people) said they **have no plans** to switch from a gasoline/diesel powered vehicle to a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle. While **5%** (51 people) said **they have already done this.**



Challenges and barriers to reducing GHG emissions

Important to the public consultation was learning more about why people are not doing more or cannot do more to reduce their GHG emissions.

Participants at all engagement activities were asked to describe the barriers and challenges they are facing when trying to reduce their GHG emissions.

 Many participants said that their biggest barrier is the financial strain to either retrofit their home or switch to an electric vehicle.

They said that they cannot afford the cost of heat pumps, solar panels, purchasing an electric vehicle or even installing chargers for an electric vehicle. Some would like to access financial incentives from the government to help with retrofitting, but find it difficult to apply, or are unsure of how to apply. Some of the solutions to these issues may be beyond people's financial or technical reach.

Challenges and barriers with retrofitting homes

 Many participants said they don't have control over their home energy because they either rent or live in condos.

Some said although they would love to do more, they are unable to because they don't have the option. This also extends to waste management, as some have mentioned they are unable to compost with their building's waste system.

 Knowledge, information, and industry experts are not easily available or accessible.

Some people said that they were unaware that heat pumps were even an option. For example, a participant at a pop-up engagement heard about heat pumps for the first time by speaking to City staff; they said that had they known it existed they would have made the switch when they had to replace their gas furnace. Others said that applying for financial programs to help with retrofitting can be complicated and onerous. Some also said that they don't have access to industry experts that can fuel-switch a home. Some participants said they don't trust the contractors/industry to fuel switch because of the high prices.

Challenges and barriers related to transportation changes

People need their cars for travel.

Some people said they require their cars to shuttle around their kids and aging parents and cannot use active transportation for this. Compared to the systems currently supporting the use of gaspowered vehicles, electric vehicles are not easily or economically available to consider. Others would like to use more transit, but the current public transit is inadequate, with some referencing it as slow, dirty, expensive, unsafe and not convenient.

 Some said there is not enough affordable electric vehicle infrastructure in Toronto to support a switch to electric vehicles.

These people said that it currently requires too much planning and searching for charging stations to consider switching to an electric vehicle. Others said that switching to an electric car is too expensive.

• A few people fear the removal of bike lanes. These people said that they already have safety fears when commuting to work by bike and if the lanes are torn down then it will be worse.

Public challenges and barriers

 Some feel helpless and frustrated that climate change is not a priority for many politicians.

These people said that they feel climate change conversations have dropped off the political realm radar. They don't think governments put enough pressure/regulations on big business and industries to reduce their emissions. Some said that writing an email to politicians about climate change feels ineffective. Some said that climate decisions should be made by professionals instead of politicians.

 Some said that there is a lot of responsibility placed on an individual level to reduce their GHG emissions.

There were participants who acknowledged that there are smaller actions individuals can do, but that these do not impact GHG emissions as much as large scale change by corporations.

Other challenges and barriers

 Some residents do not believe the climate is changing or are not concerned about climate change.

This was seen at pop-up events where some did not want to stop and talk, others said they don't believe in climate change, and others said they are not concerned with it right now as it will impact the future generations and not them. This is also reflected in the survey responses, where some participants said they have not felt the effects of the weather impacting them, or they said they have not made changes to adapt to the changing weather.

 There are barriers and challenges to the composting program in Toronto.

Many businesses are not required to have compost bins in their offices. There is a lack of knowledge on how to properly compost and there are not enough compost bins in public spaces for use. The City should consider allowing bamboo to be accepted into the composting program.

 Some said that they find many people don't really understand the impacts of climate change on health.

They advise the City to find a way to educate people to help them understand how GHG emissions are impacting their long term health, which may then incentivize people to reduce their GHG emissions.

 GHG emission reductions are not quantified enough for people to understand the difference they are actually making.

There needs to be a tool to help quantify the impact of certain actions to reduce GHG emissions, that way people will know what impact their actions have. This would be extremely helpful information to support local community climate challenge.

Spotlight on survey responses: Challenges and barriers to reducing GHG emissions

In the online survey, participants were asked to rank the main barriers they are facing when trying to take action to reduce their GHG emissions. They were asked to rank the pre-selected barriers with 1 for the most significant barrier, 2 for the second most significant barrier, and 3 for the third most significant barrier.

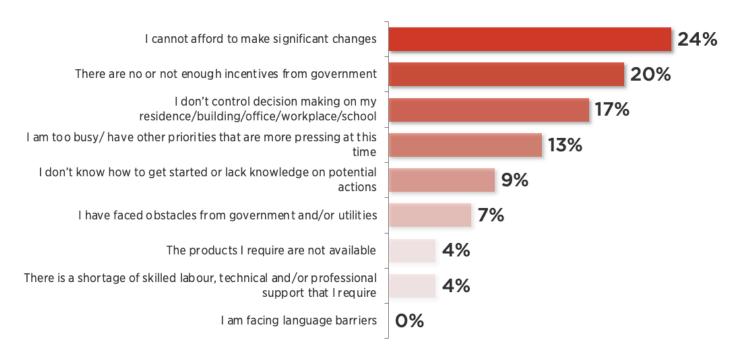
The **top ranking barrier** that participants faced was that they cannot afford to make significant changes, with 24% (914 people) identifying this as a barrier.

The **second ranking barrier** that participants faced was that there are not enough incentives from the government, with 20% (862 people) identifying this as a barrier.

The **third ranking barrier** that participants faced was that they do not control decision making at their residence/building/office/workplace/school, with 17% (648 people) identifying this as a barrier.

The **least identified barrier** that participants faced was identified as a language barrier, with less than 1% (16 people) identifying this as a barrier.

Following these top three barrier, 13% (542 people) identified that they are too busy/have other pressing priorities as a barrier, 9% (397 people) identified that they don't know how to get started or lack knowledge on potential actions, 7% (313 people) said they have faced obstacles from governments/utilities, and 4% identified that the products they require are not available (193 people) and that there is a shortage of labour or technical support required (173 people).



Accessing resources and supports

The City of Toronto TransformTO team is interested in understanding the resources or supports participants have accessed or are planning on accessing in the future. This question was asked at all engagement activities to understand what could help people take more action to reduce their GHG emissions.

 Some people said they would like more awareness on where to find resources and supports.

Some suggested an online platform to be able to find and access these supports. This can include more information on the costs and standard rates for any type of work that is meant to make homes or cars greener. It could also include a list of reliable suppliers. Some people suggested it be managed by the government, with references to experiences where people have lost trust in private companies claiming to provide services to help improve home energy. Some people suggested that resources and supports be tailored to condo owners as well, as they have limited control on how to reduce their GHG emissions.

 Some suggested city-wide education through more neighbourhood groups, workshops, climate ambassadors, community environment days and community events on climate change are needed in the city.

This can provide people with more advice and knowledge on how to make climate related changes. One participant suggested the City provide people with simple guidelines or templates to calculate the emissions reduced in a household basis on transportation and home energy use so that people could see their emission improvements and be encouraged to act.

• Some would like to see materials in a language that more people can understand.

Toronto is diverse and there is a need for language-specific materials to reach more of the population. The City did respond to this suggestion by providing translated TransformTO materials in French, Chinese, Persian, Portuguese, Spanish, and Tagalog.

 A few people said they would like to learn more about climate actions in other cities.

They said it is important for Toronto residents to understand what other cities are doing for climate change. Cities like Winnipeg, Vancouver and Montreal are working on reports to see what it would take to get their buildings off fossil fuels. Sharing these with the public would be helpful.

 Some said that City Councillors who understand their role and climate change in the city are critical.

Councillors should be scientifically informed and on the same page when it comes to climate change.

 Some people would like to see the provincial government help with funding for green initiatives, both for individuals and institutions.

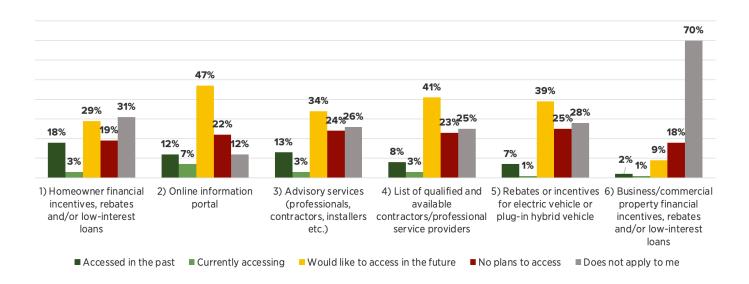
They said that the province can provide tax incentives for individuals willing to electrify their home or switch to an EV car. It is also important to think about the contribution that schools make to Toronto's GHG emissions, particularly older TDSB schools, and to understand what funding is required to support building retrofits.

Spotlight on survey responses: Accessing resources and supplies

In the online survey, participants were asked to select the types of resources and supports they have accessed, are currently accessing, would like to access, or have no plans of accessing.

The most accessed resource was homeowner financial incentives, rebates, or low interest, with 18% (302 people) indicating that they have accessed it. The resource that has been the least accessed is business/commercial property financial incentives, rebates and/or low-interest loans, with 2% (35 people) indicating they have accessed it.

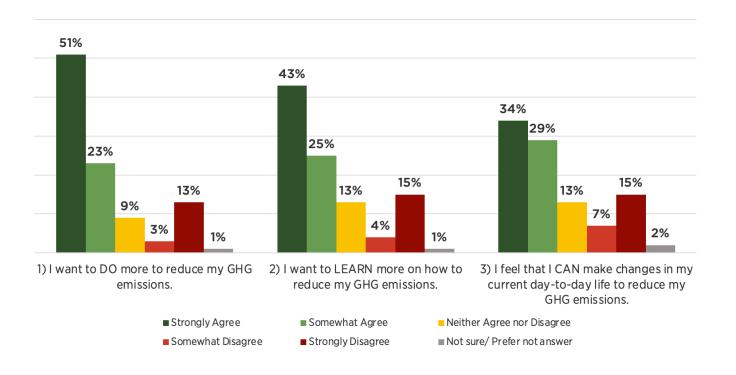
The top resources that participants said they would like to access in the future is an online information portal with 47% (766 people) selecting this. This is followed by 41% (677 people) choosing a list of qualified and available contractors/professional service providers, and 39% (637 people) choosing rebates or incentives for electric vehicle or plug-in hybrid vehicle.



Spotlight on survey responses: Do, learn, can - reducing GHG emissions

In the online survey, participants were asked to rate on whether they want to do more to reduce GHG emissions, want to learn more on how to reduce GHG emissions, and whether they feel if they can make changes to reduce their GHG emissions.

74% (1,243 people) Either strongly agree (51%, 861 people) or somewhat agree (23%, 382 people) that they want to DO MORE to reduce their GHG emissions.
68% (1,122 people) Either strongly agree (43%, 712 people) or somewhat agree (25%, 410 people) that they want to LEARN more on how to reduce their GHG emissions.
63% (1,063 people) Either strongly agree (34%, 569 people) or somewhat agree (29%, 494 people) that they feel that they CAN make changes in their day-to-day life to reduce their GHG emissions.



Other feedback and advice

The following summarizes other feedback and advice shared.

 Many participants were thankful to the team for the work being done to consult with communities not typically involved in climate change conversations.

They were supportive of engagement happening in malls and rec centres to get feedback from those not part of climate groups.

 The survey questions and limited answer options implies that the expectation is that individuals have control over climate change.

Some said that they see a double standard when it comes to asking individuals to spend money to decarbonize their homes, but developers have less onerous requirements. Many of these actions to reduce GHG emissions are not financially feasible for over 50% of Toronto residents who make less than \$48,000 a year. Instead, regulations and fines should be imposed on developers that build for profit and pollute the city.

· Some had some issues with the online survey.

Some who don't agree with climate change said that the survey was leading to conclusions and limited in terms of what answers people could give. Others said the survey didn't give condo owners appropriate questions.

 The City should consider providing community members with resources to host group discussion Sessions.

Some said it is getting harder to get people to participate without providing them with an honorarium. Other resources that would help increase participation include translated materials, printed materials, free space to host a meeting, and having subject matter experts attend Group Discussions.

 Reach out to leaders of cultural groups to share information about the urgency of climate change - there are many across the City.

They can then bring this message to their community on cultural days or days of worship. Many of these people will not be looking at the City of Toronto websites for information so getting the message to where people are at is important.

- Direct engagement with councillors is important.
 - These next five years are as important as the City budget, and councillors should know that their constituents care about this and want them to be involved in discussions.
- Some participants said that collaboration between City divisions and agencies, with Councillors, and between different levels of government is important to ensure that Toronto meets the TransformTO goals.

NEXT STEPS

All the feedback shared through the public consultation process is being considered by City staff as they work to develop the 2026-2030 Action Plan. Public feedback is one of several inputs the City considers when creating the Action Plan. The 2026-2030 Action Plan is expected to be considered by Toronto City Council in mid-2025.

ATTACHMENT 1.

RESULTS OF COMPLETED ONLINE SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS QUESTIONS

The following demographic summary is specific to those who completed these questions as part of the online survey representing 65% of the total number of public consultation participants.

Snapshot of survey participants who chose to answer the demographic questions:

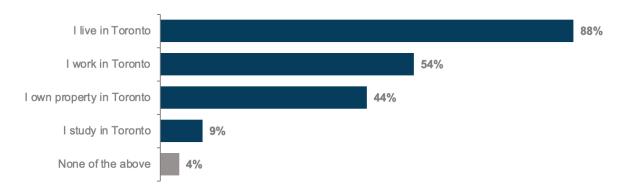
- 88% live in Toronto,
- 30% are under 40 years old, 24% are 40-55 years old, and 39% are 56 years old or over,
- 64% are from a White racial background, with 26% from 9 other racial backgrounds,
- 14% have a disability, 76% do not,
- 52% are women, 34% are men, and the remainder were gender nonbinary, trans women, trans men, Two-Spirited, or chose not to answer,
- 62% are homeowners, 27% rent,
- 12% earned less than \$49,999 in 2024 and 25% earned \$150,000 or more in 2024, and
- 44% had a degree or diploma from a college or university.

Postal Code

The map on page 7 of the Summary Report provides a visual representation of the first three-digits of the postal codes provided by survey participants. A total of 1,162 participants provided their postal code. Participants were from across Toronto, with some residing outside of Toronto, including Markham, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, Mississauga, Brampton, Oshawa, Oakville, Newmarket, Burlington, Hamilton, St. Catharines, Guelph, Stratford, London, Simcoe, Belleville, Kingston, British Columbia, and Alberta (not captured in the map). Most participants were from Toronto-St. Paul's (51 people from M6G), Beaches-East York (42 people from M4C), Toronto-Danforth (39 people from M4J), and Parkdale-High Park (39 people from M6S).

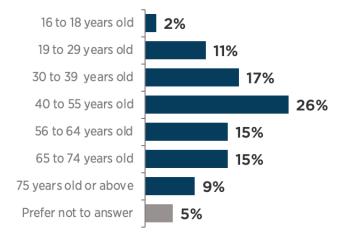
Live, work or study in Toronto

Participants were asked to identify whether they live, work, own property, or study in Toronto. 88% (1,455 people) that responded to this question identified themselves as living in Toronto. 54% (900 people) said they work in Toronto, 44% (731 people) said they own property in Toronto, 9% (148 people) said they study in Toronto and 4% (70 people) said they belong to none of the above options.



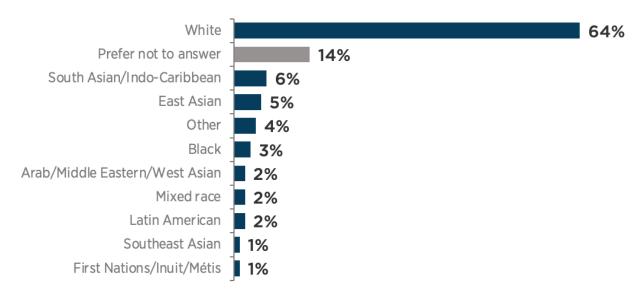
Age

26% (436 people) that responded to this question identified themselves as being between 40-55 years old. 2% (29 people) identified themselves as being between 16 to 18 years old, 11% (175 people) said they were between 19 to 29 years old, 17% (277 people) said they were between 30 to 39 years old, 15% (254 people) said they were between 56 to 64 years old, 15% (257 people) said they were between 65 to 74 years old, 9% (142 people) said they were over 75 years old, and 5% (91 people) preferred not to answer.



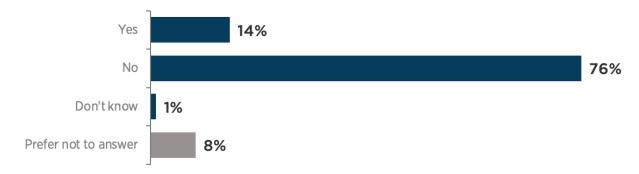
Race

64% (1,100) that responded to this question identified themselves as white. 14% (235 people) said they prefer not to answer, 6% (91 people) said they identify as South Asian or Indo-Caribbean, 5% (87 people) said they identify as East Asian, 4% (66 people) identified as other, 3% (48 people) said they identify as Black, 2% (40 people) identify as Arab, Middle Eastern or West Asian, 2% (36 people) said they identify as mixed race, 2% (27 people) said they identify as Latin American, 1% (24 people) said they are South Asian and 1% (16 people) said they identify as First Nation, Inuit or Metis.



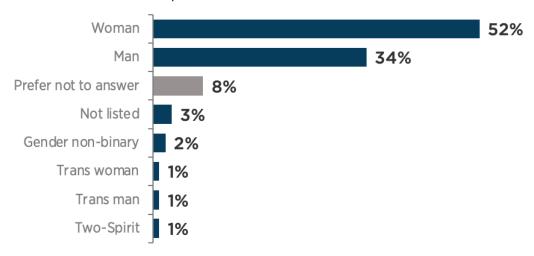
Disability

76% (1264 people) that responded to this question said they do <u>not</u> identify themselves as a person with a disability. 14% (229 people) said they do identify as a person with a disability, 8% (139 people) said they prefer not to answer, and 1% (24 people) said they don't know.



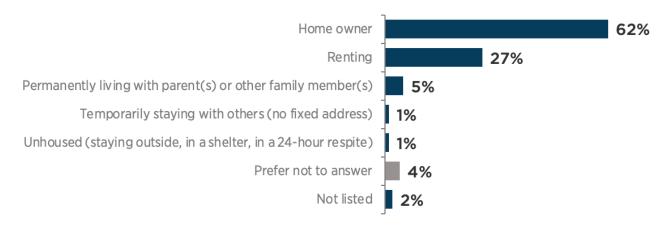
Gender

52% (865 people) that responded to this question identified as a woman. Following this 34% (565 people) identified as a man, 8% (137 people) preferred not to answer, 3% (47 people) said their gender is not listed, 2% (26 people) identified as gender non-binary, 1% (7 people) identify as trans woman, 1% (4 people) identified as trans man, and 1% (2 people) identified as Two-Spirit.



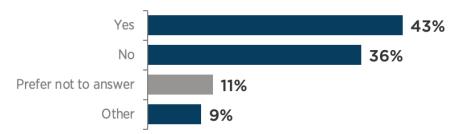
Current housing situation

62% (1,000 people) that responded to this question identified themselves as a homeowner. Following this, 27% (451 people) said they are renting, 5% (81 people) said they are permanently living with their parents/family, 4% (65 people) said they prefer not to answer, 2% (27 people) said their situation is not listed, 1% (5 people) are temporarily staying with others, and 1% (1 people) said they are unhoused. Of those who said their situation is not listed, many have said that they are condo owners, few have said they belong to a co-operative, and few said they are in community housing.



Community groups or organizations

43% (716 people) that responded to this question identified that they belong to a community group or organization, followed by 36% (594 people) who said that they do not, and 11% (185 people) who said they prefer not to answer.



Organizations identified included:

3R Ambassadors

Anglican Church

Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club Association of Energy Engineers

Bedford Park Ratepayers Association

Blantyre/Hunt Club Association

BOLD Build Ontario Line Differently

Bruce Trail

Canadian Federation of Musicians

CPRS (Canadian Public Relations Society)

Canadian Society of Landscape Architects

Centre 55

Centre for Sustainable Health Systems

Seven Day Adventist Church

Citizens' Climate Lobby

Cliffcrest|Scarborough Village Residents Association

CALL (Climate Action for Lifelong Learners)

Climate Action Group

Climate Change Wellness Café Group

Climate Collective Climate Fast

Climate Reality Leadership Corp Coalition for Green Health Care Community Waste Reduction Group

Cycle Toronto

Don Valley West for Environmental Action Eglinton-Lawrence Climate Action Group

Elementary Teachers Federation

Etobicoke Climate Action For Our Kids Toronto Friends of Cedarvale Park Friends of Humber Bay Park

GASP - Grandmothers 4 Saving the Planet Governors Bridge Ratepayers Association

Grange Community Association Greater Toronto Health Coalition

Green 11

Green 13

Green Neighbours Network

Harbord Village Residents' Association

High Park Ski Club Holy Blossom Temple **Human Rights Organization**

IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers)

Independent Jewish Voices

Jamii Hub Karma Coop

Kensington Gardens Long Term Care Home

LEED Accredited Professional & Association of Engineers

LIFE Institute

Lions Gate Tenants Association Mimico Residents Association

National Yacht Club

NZAN (Net Zero Architects Network)

Not-for-Profit Environmental Organizations OAA (Ontario Association of Architects)

OACETT (Ontario Association of Certified Engineering

Technicians and Technologists)

OCCSW (Ontario College of Social Workers)

OCTIA (Ontario College of Teachers Independent

Association)

Ontario Association of Physics Teachers

Ontario College of Teachers

OPPI (Ontario Professional Planners Institute)

Organization Advocating for Food Safety and the

Environment

Palmerston Residents Association

PARA (Professional Association of Residents of Alberta)

Paws for Parks

PEACH Health (Partnerships for Environmental Action on

Community Health) Pocket Change Project Pocket Community Association

Professional Engineer

PEO (Professional Engineers Ontario)

Project Management Institute

Project Swallowtail

RNAO (Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario)

Residents' Association

Retired Professional Organization Member

Safe Parkside

SCAN (Seniors for Climate Action Now)

Seaton Village Residents Association

Seniors Group

Online Writing Group Retiree Association

Société d'histoire de Toronto

St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association Taylor Massey Residents Wellness Council

The United Church of Canada Toronto East End Arts Toronto Field Naturalists **Toronto Home Retrofits**

Toronto Nature Stewards Toronto Quaker Meeting Toronto Ratepayers Association

Toronto Yacht Club

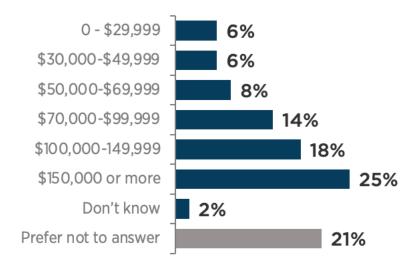
Trinity-St. Paul's United Church University of Toronto

Writers Guild of Canada

YQNA (York Quay Neighbourhood Association)

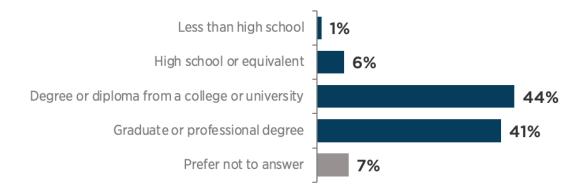
Total household income before taxes in 2024

25% (410 people) that responded to this question identified that they made \$150,000 or more in 2024. Following this, 21% (346 people) said they prefer not to answer, 18% (303 people) said they made between \$100,000-149,999, 14% (231 people) said they made between \$70,000-\$99,999, 8% (125 people) said they made between \$50,000-\$69,000, 6% (106 people) said they made \$0-\$29,000, 6% (100 people) said they made between \$30,000-\$49,000, and 2% (31 people) said they don't know how much they made last year.



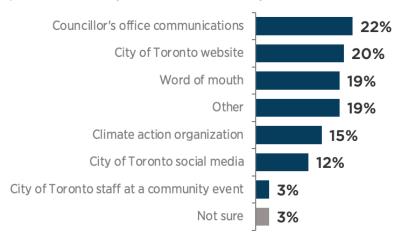
Highest level of education

44% (732 people) that responded to this question said they completed their degree or diploma from a college or university, 41% (673 people) said they graduated with a graduate or professional degree, 7% (122 people) said they prefer not to answer, 6% (107 people) said they completed high school or equivalent, and 1% (21 people) said they have less than a high school education.



How did you hear about the survey

22% (365 people), said they heard about the survey from their Councillor's office communication, followed by 20% (334 people) who heard from the City of Toronto website, 19% (307 people) who heard by word of mouth, 10% (306 people) that selected other, 15% (249 people) that heard through a climate action organization, 12% (190 people) who heard through the City of Toronto's social media, 3% (55 people) heard about it through City of Toronto staff at a community event, and 3% (45 people) that said they are usure on how they heard about the survey.



The climate action groups identified and the number of people who identified that group are included below.

Climate Fast (35)

Toronto Climate Action Network (34)

Live Green Toronto (28)

Toronto Environmental Alliance (21)

Seniors For Climate Action Now! Toronto

Chapter (7)

The Atmospheric Fund (7)

For Our Kids Toronto (6)

Women4climateto (6)

Etobicoke Climate Action (5)

TransformTO (5)

Citizens Climate Lobby (5)

Green Neighbours (3)

Humber Office Of Sustainability (3)

OCEC (3)

Plant Based Treaty Toronto (3)

Ontario Clean Air Alliance (3)

3rs Ambassador (2)

Blue Dot (2)

Don Valley West For Environmental Action (2)

Green 11 (2)

Green Mimico (2)

NCAC Program (2)

Strong Towns Toronto (2)

Trinity-St Paul's Climate Action Group (2)

Climate Action For Lifelong Learners (2)

Environmental Committee At Church Or

Synagogue (2)

Sustainability And Climate Action Network

(SCAN) - OISE (2)

Climate Advisory Group (1)

Connecting Environmental Professionals (1)

Earthcare (1)

Eglinton-Lawrence Climate Action (1)

En-Roads (1)

Greenpeace (1)

Greenspiration (1)

Terre (1)

Toronto Retrofits (1)

Toronto350 (1)