

Community Your Say Survey

Full Report

Report written April 2024

The City of Hobart is developing a Climate Strategy. To help inform the Strategy, the City needed to learn about the Hobart community's attitudes and behaviours towards climate change. We sought community feedback through an online [Your Say survey](#).

The survey was open from the beginning of November until mid-December 2023.

This survey had four sections:

1. About you (demographic information)
2. What do you think and feel about climate change?
3. What are you doing to reduce emissions?
4. What are you doing to adapt to a changing climate?

Insights drawn from the Community Survey have been compiled and helped to inform priorities and actions of the Climate Strategy.

Below is everything we heard through the Community Your Say survey.

A summary of the Community Your Say Survey and more information on the collaboration approach taken to write the Climate Strategy can be found <[insert link to full report](#)>.



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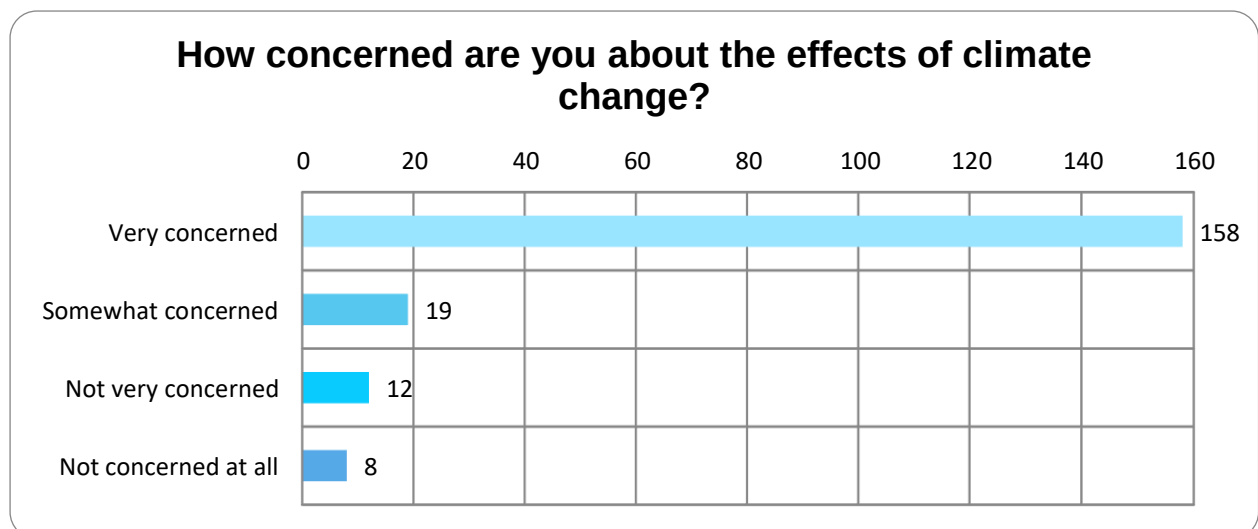
What we heard

197 people completed the Community Your Say Survey.

Section 1: What do you think and feel about climate change?

Q1. How concerned are you about the effects of climate change?

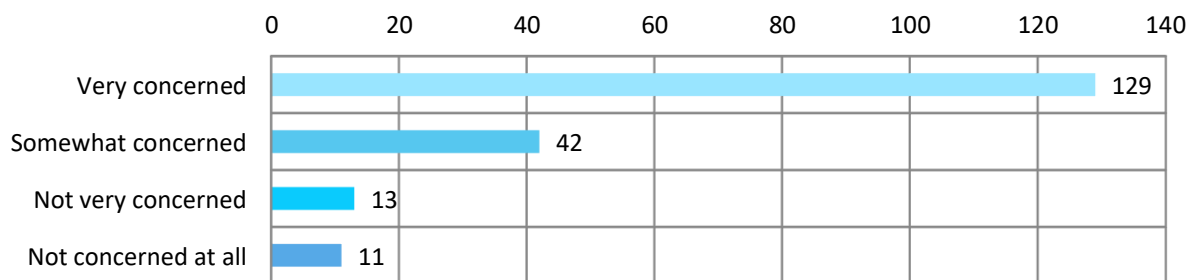
- Very concerned – 158
- Somewhat concerned – 19
- Not very concerned – 12
- Not concerned at all – 8



Q2. How concerned are you about the effects of climate change on Hobart?

- Very concerned – 129
- Somewhat concerned – 42
- Not very concerned – 13
- Not concerned at all – 11

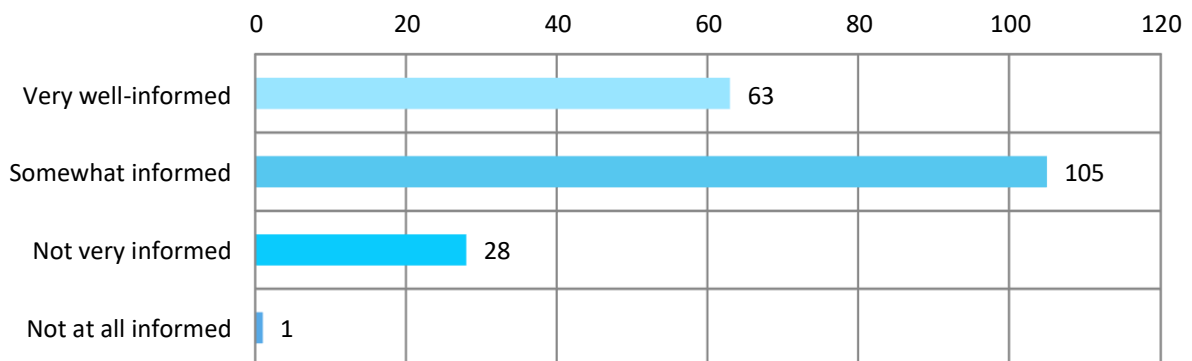
How concerned are you about the effects of climate change on Hobart?



Q3. How informed do you feel about climate change and its impacts on Hobart?

- Very well-informed - 63
- Somewhat informed - 105
- Not very informed - 28
- Not at all informed – 1

How informed do you feel about climate change and its impacts on Hobart?



Q4. To what level do you believe that individuals have a responsibility to:

Reduce emission to address climate change:

- Strongly agree – 104
- Agree – 66
- Neither agree nor disagree – 17
- Disagree – 2
- Strongly disagree – 8

Be prepared for more extreme weather:

- Strongly agree – 119
- Agree – 60
- Neither agree nor disagree – 12
- Disagree – 3
- Strongly disagree – 3

Restore and protect nature:

- Strongly agree – 120
- Agree – 62
- Neither agree nor disagree – 10
- Disagree – 4
- Strongly disagree – 1

Mobilise your network to put in place climate solutions:

- Strongly agree – 79
- Agree – 65
- Neither agree nor disagree – 34
- Disagree – 8
- Strongly disagree – 11

Build equitable communities:

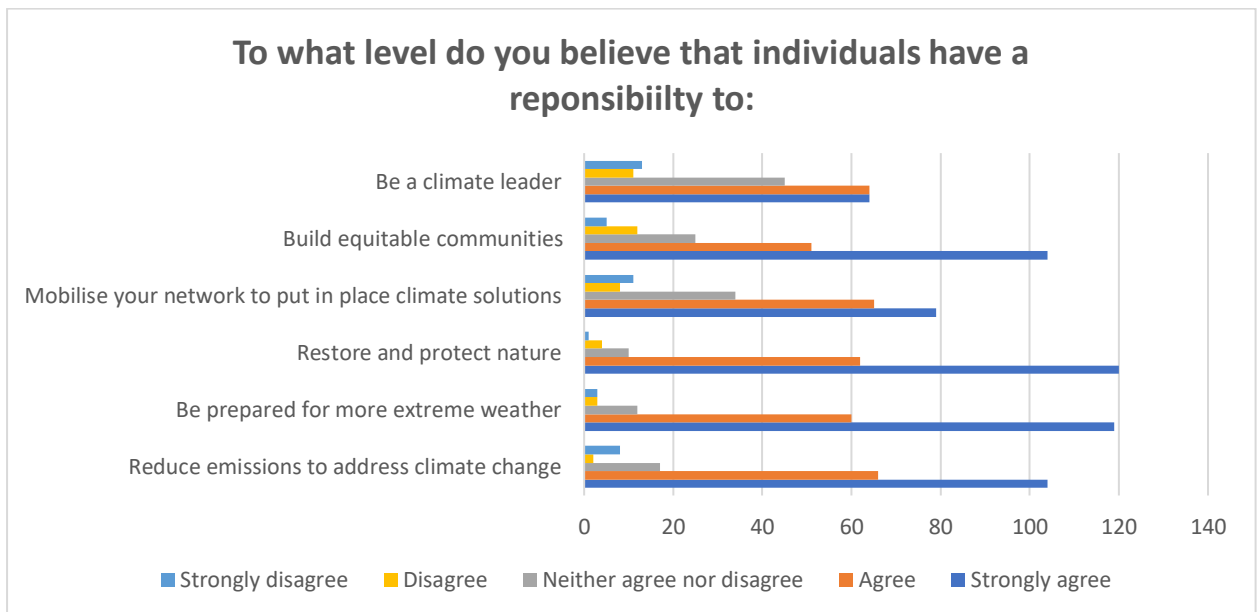
- Strongly agree – 104
- Agree – 51
- Neither agree nor disagree – 25



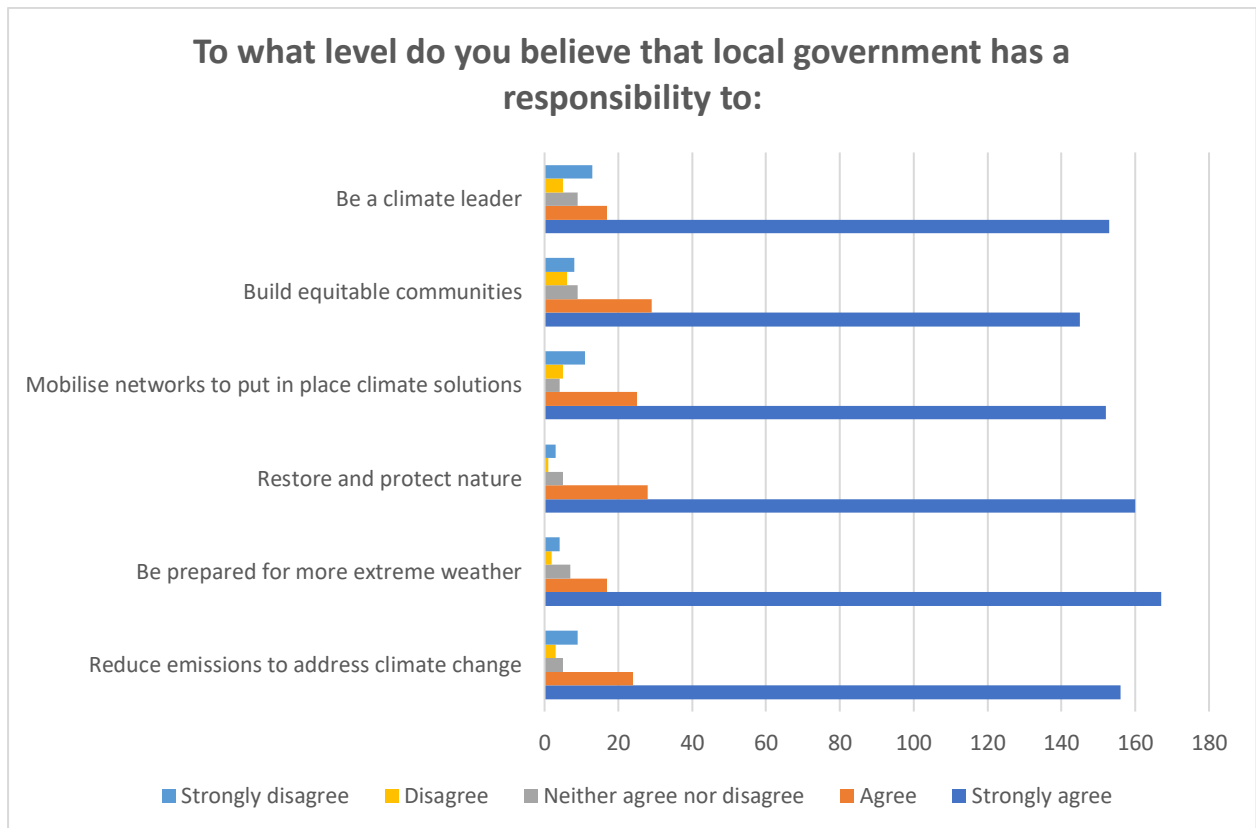
- Disagree – 12
- Strongly disagree – 5

Be a climate leader:

- Strongly agree – 64
- Agree – 64
- Neither agree nor disagree – 45
- Disagree – 11
- Strongly disagree – 13



Q5. To what level do you believe that local government has a responsibility to:

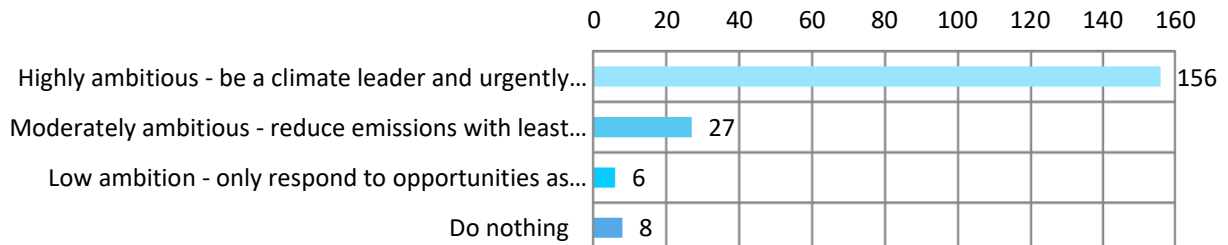


Q6. How ambitious should the City of Hobart be in reducing emissions to address climate change?

- Highly ambitious – be a climate leader and urgently reduce emissions to zero as quickly as possible and make sure all people in Hobart have access to solutions – 156
- Moderately ambitious – reduce emissions with least degree of cost, risk, intervention, and advocacy – 27
- Low ambition – only respond to opportunities as they present – 6
- Do nothing – 4



How ambitious should the City of Hobart be in reducing emissions to address climate change?



Q7. What priorities or actions would you most like to see included in the Climate Strategy?

To analyse this data, we tagged responses according to what was mentioned, and then grouped responses by those tags. This helps us find patterns and themes of what was discussed in over 100 open-ended comments.

The key themes that emerged were:

- Getting around the city (active transport, walking, reduce reliance on cars) – 182 tags
- CoH being a leader and going green – 66 tags
- Supporting community (incentives, education, funding) – 65 tags
- Increased green space and caring for nature – 61 tags
- Reduce emissions – 55 tags
- Prepare for and manage natural disasters – 38 tags
- Increased FOGO/recycling options – 36 tags
- Green planning and building – 20 tags
- Unhappy (climate skeptics and climate change not a local government issue) – 12 tags

It is worth noting that comments about getting around the city were almost 3 times more populous than the next key theme. This is clearly a priority for our community.

The above key themes came about based on individual comments. The top 15 comments are listed below.



Tag	# of tags	Key theme
Bike-friendly city	52	Getting around the city
Better public transport	51	Getting around the city
Increased green space	41	Increased green space and caring for nature
Better FOGO/recycling	32	Increased FOGO/recycling options
EV-friendly city	30	Getting around the city
Reduce reliance on cars	25	(Not included in key theme tally to avoid double-up)
Better climate education	21	Supporting community
Provide incentives	20	Supporting community
Bush fire management	18	Prepare for and manage natural disasters
Pedestrian-friendly city	18	Getting around the city
CoH prioritises green policies	17	CoH being a leader and going green
More solar	17	Reduce emissions
Electrify	14	Reduce emissions
Reduce emissions	14	Reduce emissions
CoH green fleet	12	CoH being a leader and going green

Q8. Is there anything else you want to share with us about how you feel about the effects of climate change on Hobart? If so, please share here.

As with question 7, we analysed this open question by tagging data. Below are the themes that arose through tagging. We have only shown the tags that had more than 1 response:

- Be a leader – 10 tags
- Urgent action needed – 9 tags
- Better education is needed – 8 tags
- Fear of bushfires – 7 tags
- This is not a local government issue – 6 tags
- Need more green space – 6 tags
- Prepare for climate refugees – 5 tags
- There is an inequity in impact – 4 tags
- Impact of extreme weather events – 4 tags
- Stadium – 4 tags



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- People have a personal responsibility – 3 tags
- Concern about climate change expressed – 3 tags
- Consult with palawa/Tasmanian Aboriginal people – 3 tags
- Skepticism about climate change expressed – 3 tags
- Bushfire management – 3 tags
- Need equitable action – 3 tags
- Need to influence big emitters – 3 tags
- Be transparent – 2 tags
- There is a lack of government action – 2 tags
- Water efficiency – 2 tags
- Medium density housing – 2 tags
- Bike friendly city – 2 tags
- Need space for nuanced conversation – 2 tags
- Temperature rise – 2 tags
- CoH to do advocacy – 2 tags



Section 2: What are you doing to reduce emissions?

Q9. Which of the following actions that reduce emissions do you currently do?
(Please select all that apply)

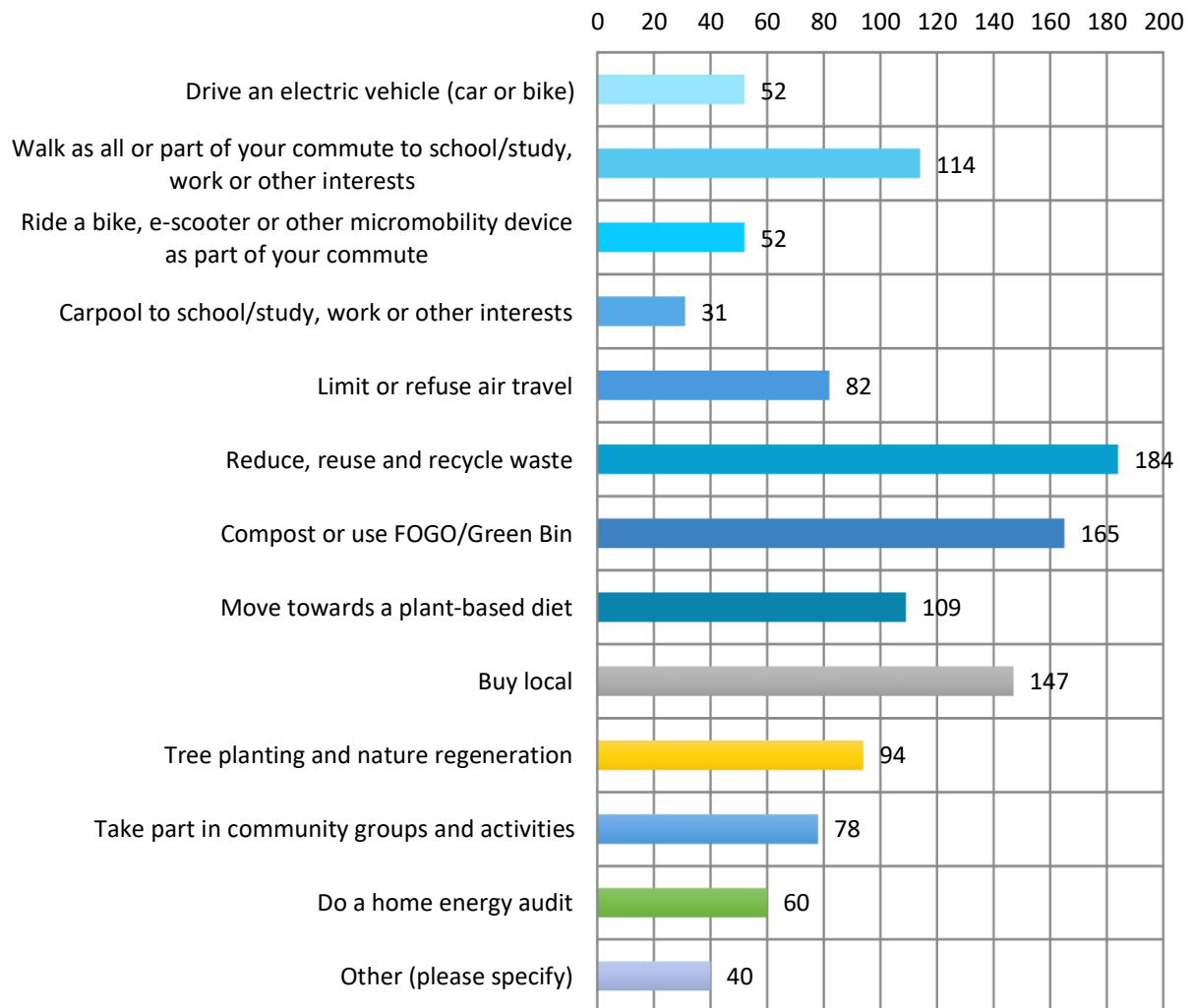
- Drive an electric vehicle (car or bike) – 52
- Walk as all or part of your commute to school/study, work or other interests – 114
- Ride a bike, e-scooter or other micromobility device as part of your commute – 52
- Carpool to school/study, work or other interests – 31
- Limit or refuse air travel – 82
- Reduce, reuse and recycle waste – 184
- Compost or use FOGO/Green Bin – 165
- Move towards a plant-based diet – 109
- Buy local – 147
- Tree planting and nature regeneration – 94
- Take part in community groups and activities – 78
- Do a home energy audit – 60
- Other (please specify) – 40

Other responses include:

- Sustainable banking or Superannuation
- Lobby against corporate interests
- Grow own food
- Work towards electrifying home and making home more energy efficient
- Work in the area of sustainability
- Buy fewer new clothes
- Educate myself
- Advocate to CoH about issues I care about
- Join climate action groups
- Live simply

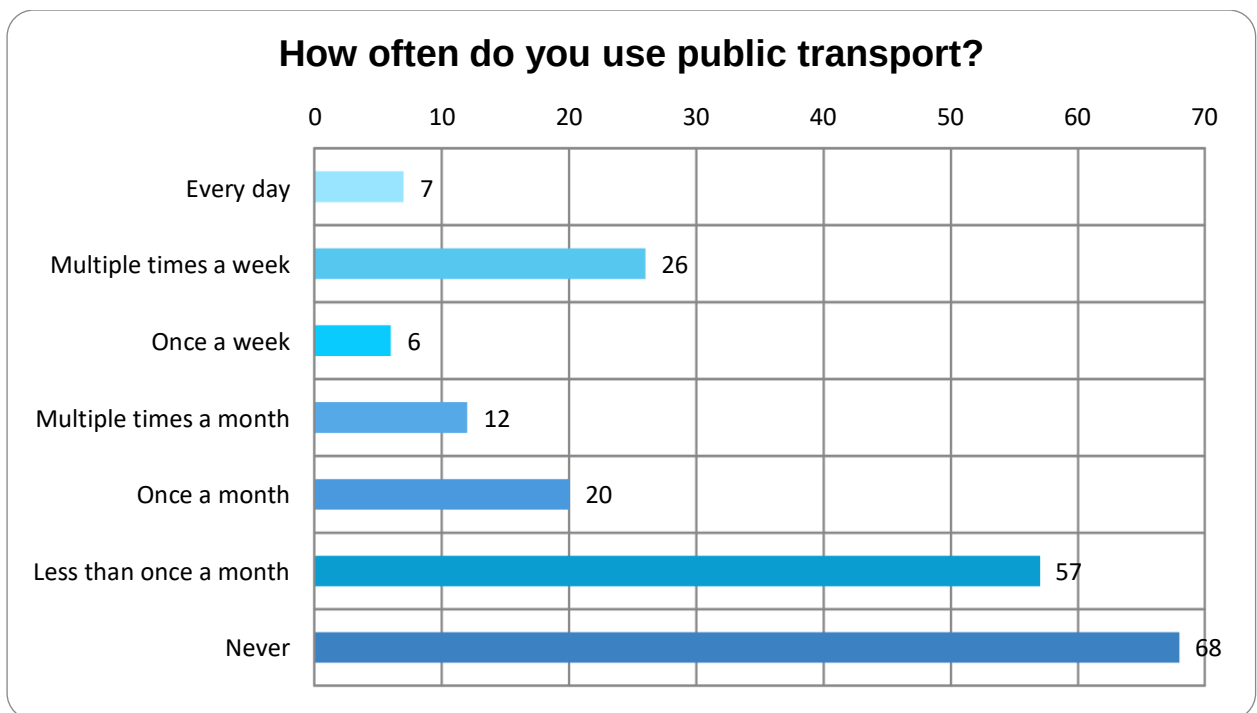


Which of the following actions that reduce emissions do you currently do? Please select all that apply

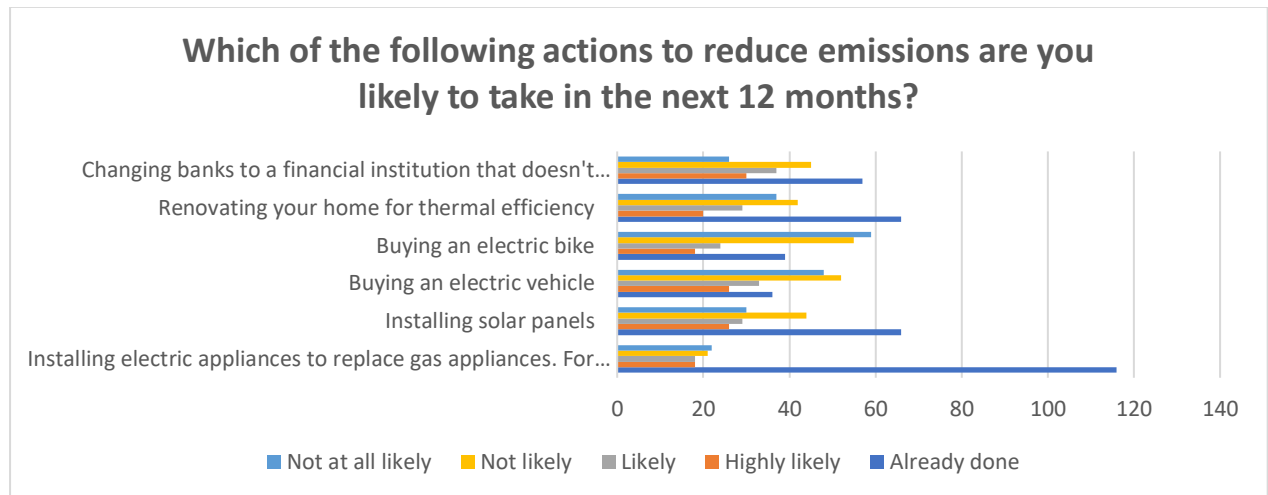


Q10. How often do you use public transport?

- Every day – 7
- Multiple times a week – 26
- Once a week – 6
- Multiple times a month – 12
- Once a month – 20
- Less than once a month – 57
- Never – 68



Q11. Below is a list of actions you might take to reduce your emissions. What is the likelihood of you doing any of the below in the next 12 months?



Q12. Which of the following barriers prevent you from taking action to reduce emissions? Please select all that apply.

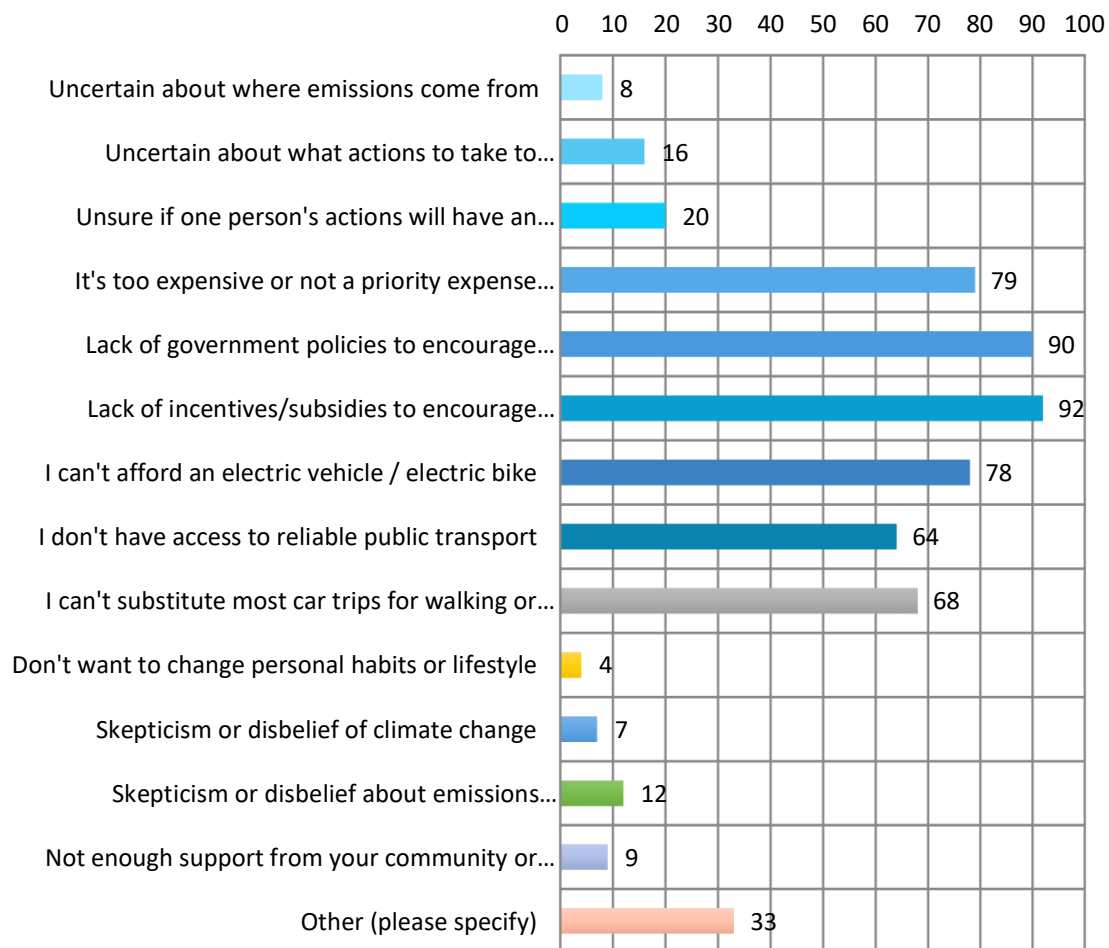
- Uncertain about where emissions come from – 8
- Uncertain about what actions to take to reduce emissions – 16
- Unsure if one person's actions will have an impact on emissions – 20
- It's too expensive or not a priority expense right now – 79
- Lack of government policies to encourage emission reduction – 90
- Lack of incentives/subsidies to encourage emission reduction – 92
- I can't afford an electric vehicle/electric bike – 78
- I don't have access to reliable public transport – 64
- I can't substitute most car trips for walking or cycling – 68
- Don't want to change personal habits or lifestyle – 4
- Skepticism or disbelief of climate change – 7
- Skepticism or disbelief about emissions reduction actions – 12
- Not enough support from your community or social network – 9
- Other (please specify) – 33

Other responses include:



- Difficult to take certain actions when renting or living in a retirement village
- Difficult to take public transport when dogs cannot ride public transport
- EVs not practical in a rural setting
- As an older person bike riding and walking options are limited
- Skepticism about the impacts of individual actions when systemic changes are also needed

Which of the following barriers prevent you from taking action to reduce emissions? Please select all that apply.



13. Is there anything else you want to share with us about reducing emissions in Hobart?

We analysed this open question by tagging data. Below are the themes that arose through tagging. We have only shown the tags that had more than 1 response:

- Better public transport needed – 13
- Affordability is an issue – 11
- Green policies are needed – 11
- Need better traffic management – 8
- Need better supports for renters to take action - 7
- Need a bike-friendly city – 6
- Provide incentives – 5
- City of Hobart to be a climate leader – 4
- Lack of corporate action – 4
- More green space – 4
- FOGO – 3
- More nuanced conversations – 3
- Influence big emitters – 3
- This is not a local government issue – 3
- Lack of government action – 2
- Be transparent – 2
- Local solutions – 2



Section 3: What are you doing to adapt to the changing climate?

Q14. Which of the following actions to adapt to a changing climate are you currently doing? Please select all that apply.

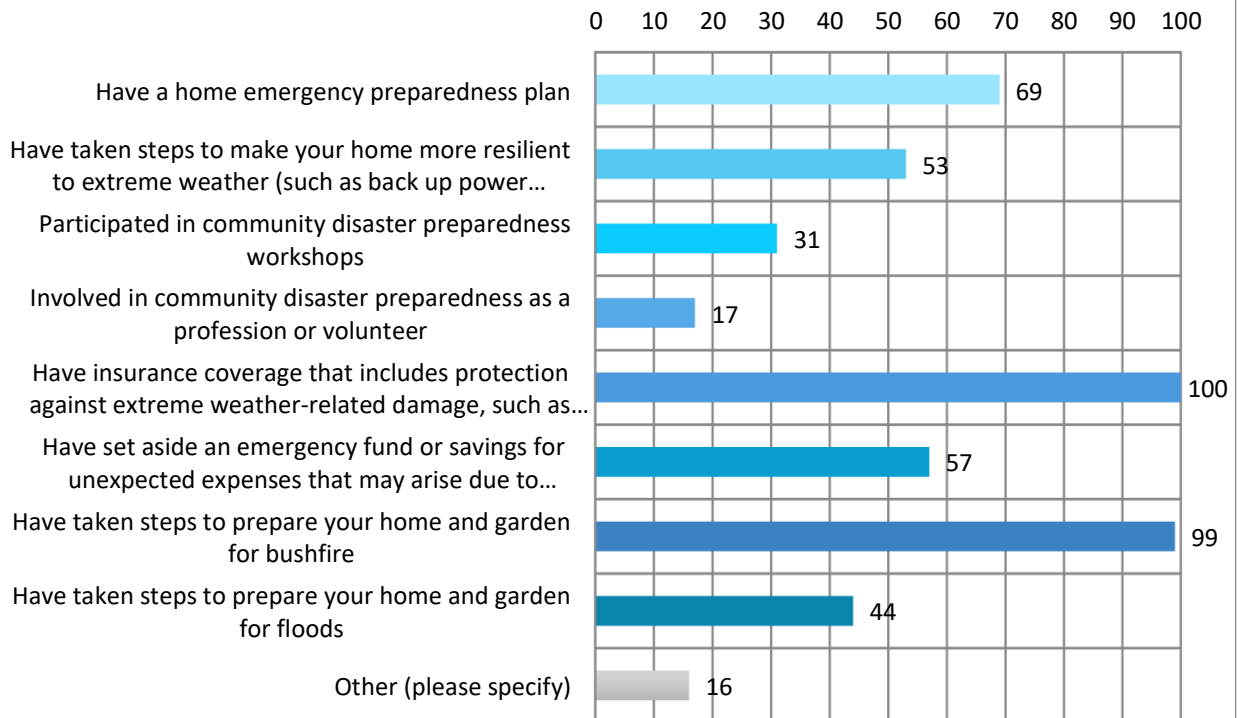
- Have a home emergency preparedness plan – 69
- Have taken steps to make your home more resilient to extreme weather events – 53
- Participated in community disaster preparedness workshops – 31
- Involved in community disaster preparedness as a profession of volunteer – 17
- Have insurance coverage that includes protection against extreme weather-related damage, such as flood insurance or bushfire – 100
- Have set aside an emergency fund or savings for unexpected expenses that may arise due to extreme weather events – 57
- Have taken steps to prepare your home and garden for bushfire – 99
- Have taken steps to prepare your home and garden for floods – 44
- Other (please specify) – 16

Other responses include:

- Planted a water wise garden of natives and groundcovers
- Designed house for cross ventilation on hot days
- Prioritise communal living



Which of the following actions to adapt to a changing climate are you currently doing? Select all that apply.



Q15. Which of the following barriers prevent you from taking action to adapt to a changing climate? Please select all that apply.

- Lack of information or awareness about why I should act – 11
- Uncertain about what actions to take to adapt to a changing climate – 42
- Uncertain about the effectiveness of individual actions to adapt to a changing climate – 23
- It's too expensive or not a priority expense right now – 62
- Lack of government policies to encourage adapting to a changing climate – 69
- Lack of incentives/subsidies to encourage adapting to a changing climate – 78
- Limited access to services to adapt to a changing climate – 40
- Resistance to change in personal habits or lifestyle – 4
- Skepticism or disbelief of climate change – 3



- Skepticism or disbelief of information about the need to adapt to a changing climate – 7
- Not enough support from your community or social network – 9
- Other (please specify) – 27

Other responses include:

- Limited with actions one can take when living in a rental house or retirement village
- Limited with actions one can take when house is listed as heritage
- Lack of community awareness
- Temptations of travel
- Homelessness
- Older age and poor health
- Difficult Council planning regulations

Q16. Is there anything else you want to share with us about adapting to a changing climate in Hobart?

We analysed this open question by tagging data. Below are the themes that arose through tagging. We have only shown the tags that had more than 1 response:

- Fear of bushfire expressed – 5
- Need better communications about climate change – 5
- Skepticism about climate change expressed – 5
- Need support for renters to take action – 4
- Local solutions needed – 3
- Affordability is a problem – 4
- Concern for wildlife expressed – 2
- Need a bike-friendly city – 2
- Need bush fire management – 2

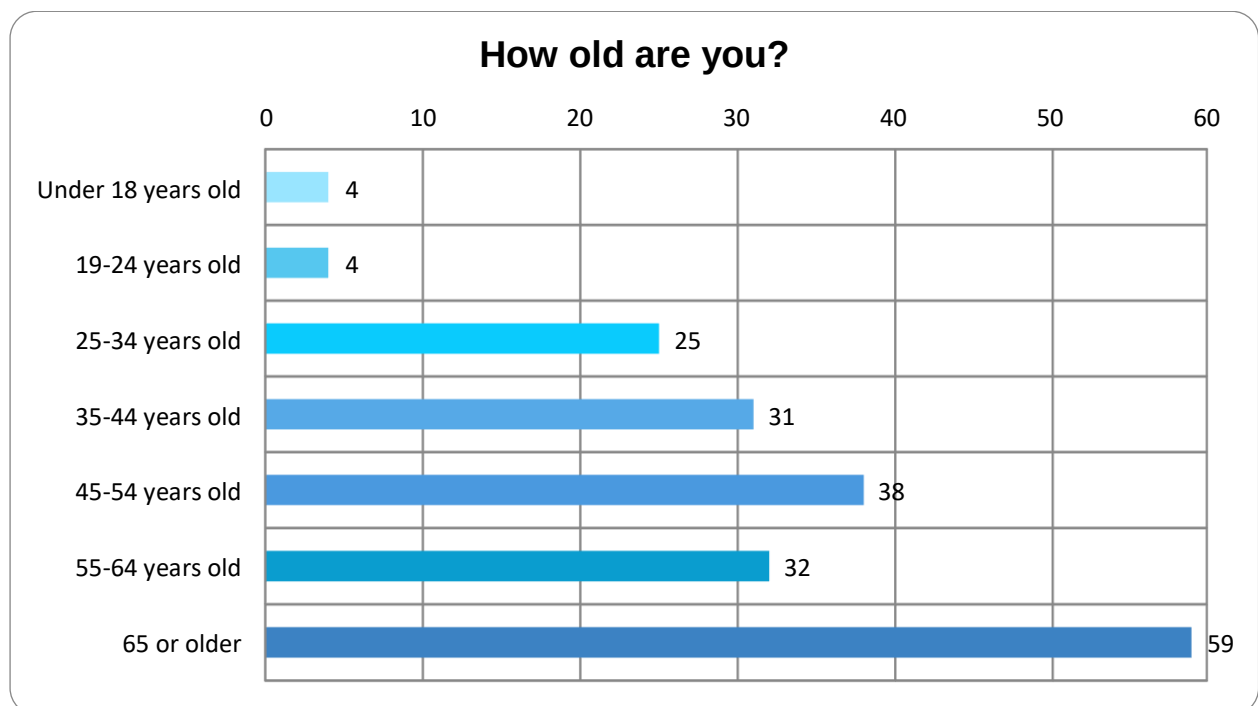


Who we heard from

197 people completed the Community Your Say Survey.

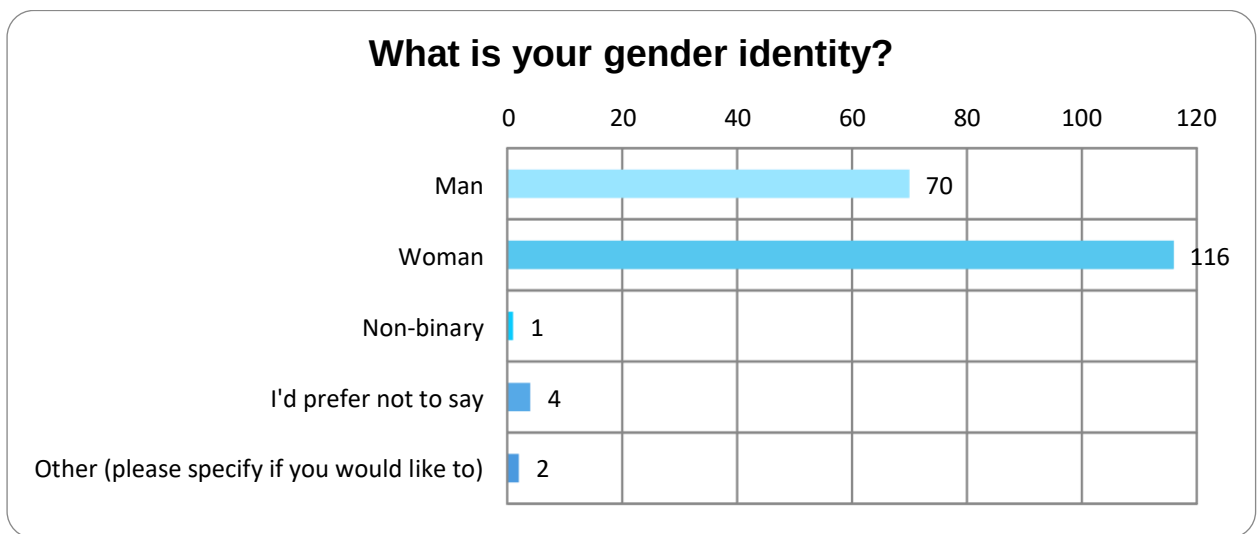
Q17. How old are you?

- Under 18 years old – 4
- 19-24 years old – 4
- 25-35 years old – 25
- 35-44 years old – 31
- 45-54 years old – 38
- 55-64 years old – 32
- 65 or older – 59



Q18. What is your gender identity?

- Man – 70
- Woman – 116
- Non-binary – 1
- I'd prefer not to say – 4
- Other (please specify if you would like to) – 2



Q19. Do you speak a language other than English at home?

- Yes – 17
- No – 174

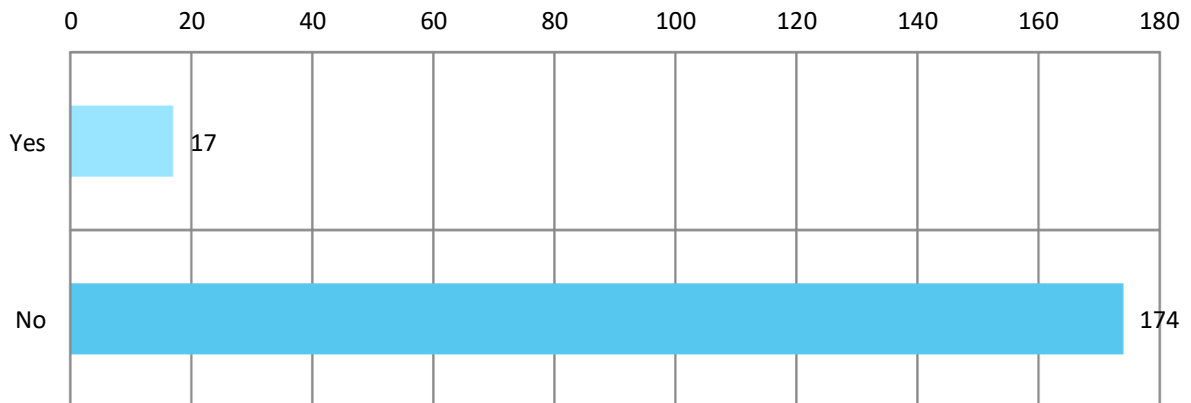
Languages spoken by people who speak a language other than English at home:

- German – 3
- French - 3
- Portuguese – 2
- Greek – 2
- Bahasa – 1
- Dutch – 1



- Mandarin – 1
- Spanish – 1
- Swedish – 1

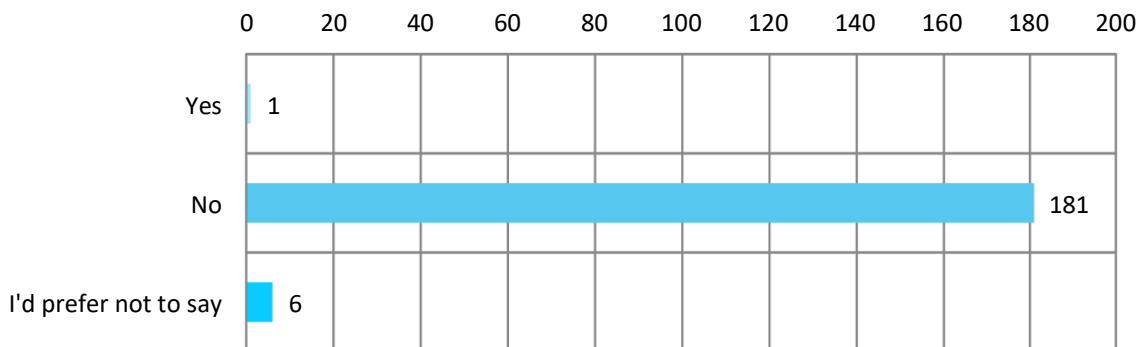
Do you speak a language other than English at home?



Q20. Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

- Yes – 1
- No – 181
- I'd prefer not to say – 6

Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?



Q21. What suburb do you live in?

- Allens Rivulet – 1
- Battery Point – 4
- Bellerive – 4
- Berriedale – 1
- Blackmans Bay – 2
- Bonnet Hill – 1
- Carlton – 1
- Claremont – 2
- Derwent Park – 2
- Dodges Ferry – 1
- Dynnyrne – 4
- Fern Tree – 6
- Franklin – 1
- Geilston Bay – 2
- Glebe – 3
- Glenorchy – 2
- Granton -1
- Hobart – 15
- Howrah – 2
- Judbury – 1
- Lenah Valley – 12
- Kingston – 5
- Margate – 2
- Moonah – 2
- Mount Nelson – 8
- Mount Stuart – 6
- New Town – 13
- North Hobart – 5
- Opossum Bay – 1
- Pelverata – 1
- Richmond – 1
- Ridgeway – 1



- Sandy Bay – 15
- South Hobart – 27
- Surges Bay – 1
- Taroona – 2
- Tinderbox – 1
- Tranmere – 2
- Warrane – 2
- West Hobart - 20

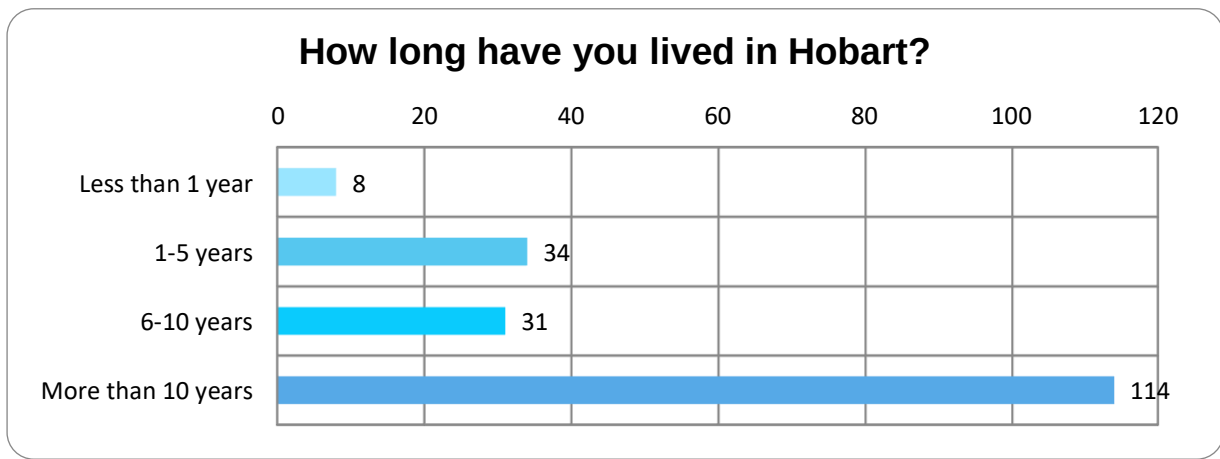
Local government area catchments:

- 139 people were from the Hobart LGA
- 14 people were from Clarence and Kingborough LGAs
- 10 people were from Glenorchy LGA
- 2 people were from Sorell LGA
- 3 people were from Huon Valley LGA



Q22. How long have you lived in Hobart?

- Less than 1 year – 8
- 1-5 years – 34
- 6-10 years – 31
- More than 10 years – 114



Q23. What best describes your living situation?

- Homeowner - 151
- Renter – 29
- Social housing – 1
- Other (please specify) – 11

Other responses:

- Living with parents - 4
- Boarder looking for social housing
- Retirement home
- Living on a boat
- Living in a vehicle



What best describes your living situation?

