

Mount Seymour Provincial Park

Recreation Facility Plan

Community Input Summary
June, 2024



BC Parks

URBAN
SYSTEMS



Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that Mount Seymour Provincial Park is within the ancestral territory of the **xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam)**, **skwxwú7mesh (Squamish)**, **səl̓ílwətał (Tsleil-Waututh)**, and **Stó:lō Nations**.

BC Parks is committed to conducting this project in a manner that contributes to lasting reconciliation with the First Nations of this region and in alignment with the principles of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Engagement Summary

Key Strengths

- Proximity to Metro Vancouver
- Year-round recreation options for many user groups
- Access to nature and backcountry including alpine areas

Key Challenges

- Parking and traffic
- High use
- Trail conditions

Top Objectives

- Improve access to and condition of existing facilities
- Protect environmental values
- Opportunities for Indigenous collaboration and access

Top Facility Suggestions

- Expansion of trails with more and better signage (including backcountry etiquette, safety)
- More washroom facilities
- More parking

Engagement



**339 surveys,
1,070 comments**

**44 workshop
participants**



A vertical photograph of a hiker with a blue backpack and a red flag on a rocky mountain trail. The hiker is positioned on the left side of the image, climbing a steep, rocky slope. The trail is narrow and rocky, with patches of green moss and small plants. The background shows more of the mountain and some evergreen trees under a clear blue sky.

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Background


- BC Parks is working on a Recreation Facility Plan to identify what facilities and services are needed to:
 - provide a range of enjoyable, high-quality, and safe outdoor recreation opportunities for visitors, and
 - help manage the increasing number of visitors to protect the environmental and cultural integrity of the park.
- The Recreation Facility Plan will identify and recommend facility improvement projects to potentially complete in the future. The plan will consider existing visitor use challenges and recommend facilities that provide practical solutions to problems.
- An online survey was hosted on the Let's Talk BC Parks website from March 21 to May 23, 2023 to collect community input on this project. The survey responses, reported here, will help guide the Recreation Facility Plan.
- Virtual workshops, summarized here, were held with interest holder and resident groups from April to August, 2023.
- Engagement with First Nations governments is happening separately to ensure BC Parks meets its consultation obligations in alignment with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. The results of that engagement are not included in this report.
- Engagement with equity, diversity, and inclusion groups will be happening separately to help BC Parks improve accessibility and inclusion in keeping with the BC Parks Commitment to Inclusion.

Engagement Process

First Nations Engagement

 **Initial stage**
informing and
emails /
conversations
Spring 2023

Preliminary review stage
sending and reviewing
draft text related to First
Nations interests
 Fall 2023

 **Plan review
stage**
circulation of
draft plan for
review


Communications


**Let's Talk BC Parks'
Project Page**


**Park
webpages**


**BC Parks social
media (Facebook
and Instagram)**

Community Survey


**Community survey with
mapping tool**
May 2023
339 respondents
1,070 comments

Outreach


**Direct emails to
interest holders and Snap
Ad mail mailing inviting
residents to participate
in workshops**
March 2023

In the Wild



**In-park
posters**

Workshops and Interviews


**Interest Holder
Workshops**
April 2023
19 participants


**Resident
Workshops**
April 2023
44 participants


**Interviews with
key interest
holders,
park operators**


**Community Survey
Summary posted**


**Public posting
of Draft Plan**


**Public posting
of Final Plan**

Results

Workshops Summary

The following is a synthesis of workshop input. The details of individual workshops will be in the final project report.



Park Strengths

- Proximity to Vancouver and North Shore
- Access to activities year-round
- Diverse trails including hiking and mountain biking
- Options for many different user groups, e.g., all ages and abilities, families, newcomers to Canada
- Access to nature and backcountry including alpine areas
- Good relationships among BC Parks, resort, community, local agencies, and outdoor groups
- Day use pass

Park Challenges and Barriers

- Parking and traffic congestion
- High levels of use
- Trail quality and conditions (runoff, erosion, lack of maintenance)
- Day use pass
- Limited areas for dogs off-leash, lack of dog control
- Safety, e.g., unprepared visitors, one road access
- Gate opens too late in the morning in winter
- Not enough washrooms / accessible washrooms
- Insufficient or ineffective signage
- Limited access points and connections to other jurisdictions



Objectives For New Facilities

- Preserve environmental values
- Manage use within capacity
- Address access, transit, and parking
- Improve wayfinding and signage/education
- Collaborate among land managers
- Indigenous collaboration and access for cultural use
- Address safety
- Improve condition and standards of facilities (e.g., trails, washrooms)

Ideas For The Future

- More parking and shuttle locations
- Information and interpretive signs
- Upgrade trails; more and better washrooms
- More trails up the mountain, including from P1; loop trails
- Improve road, for cycling, traffic flow and safety
- Welcome building for gathering and education
- Lower mountain parking (Mile Zero parking opposed by residents)

Community Survey Summary





Community Survey Summary

Most Popular Activities: Hiking, snowshoeing, skiing

Most Popular Trails: Dog Mountain, Mount Seymour, Old Buck, Baden Powell Trail

Important Values:

- Avoid impacts to environmental resources
- Support recreation opportunities
- Retain locations for peaceful enjoyment

Facilities Satisfaction: Hiking trails, parking location, washrooms, and parking availability

Facilities Dissatisfaction: Parking availability, parking locations, washrooms, and hiking trails

Park Services Strengths: Year-round opportunities, winter day use pass, and dog walking

Park Services Challenges: Winter day use pass, transit access to the park, and dog walking

Top Strategies:

- Improve existing park facilities like washrooms, signage, trails

Top facility suggestions:

- Expansion of trails
- More washroom facilities
- More and improved signage
- More parking

Response Rate



339

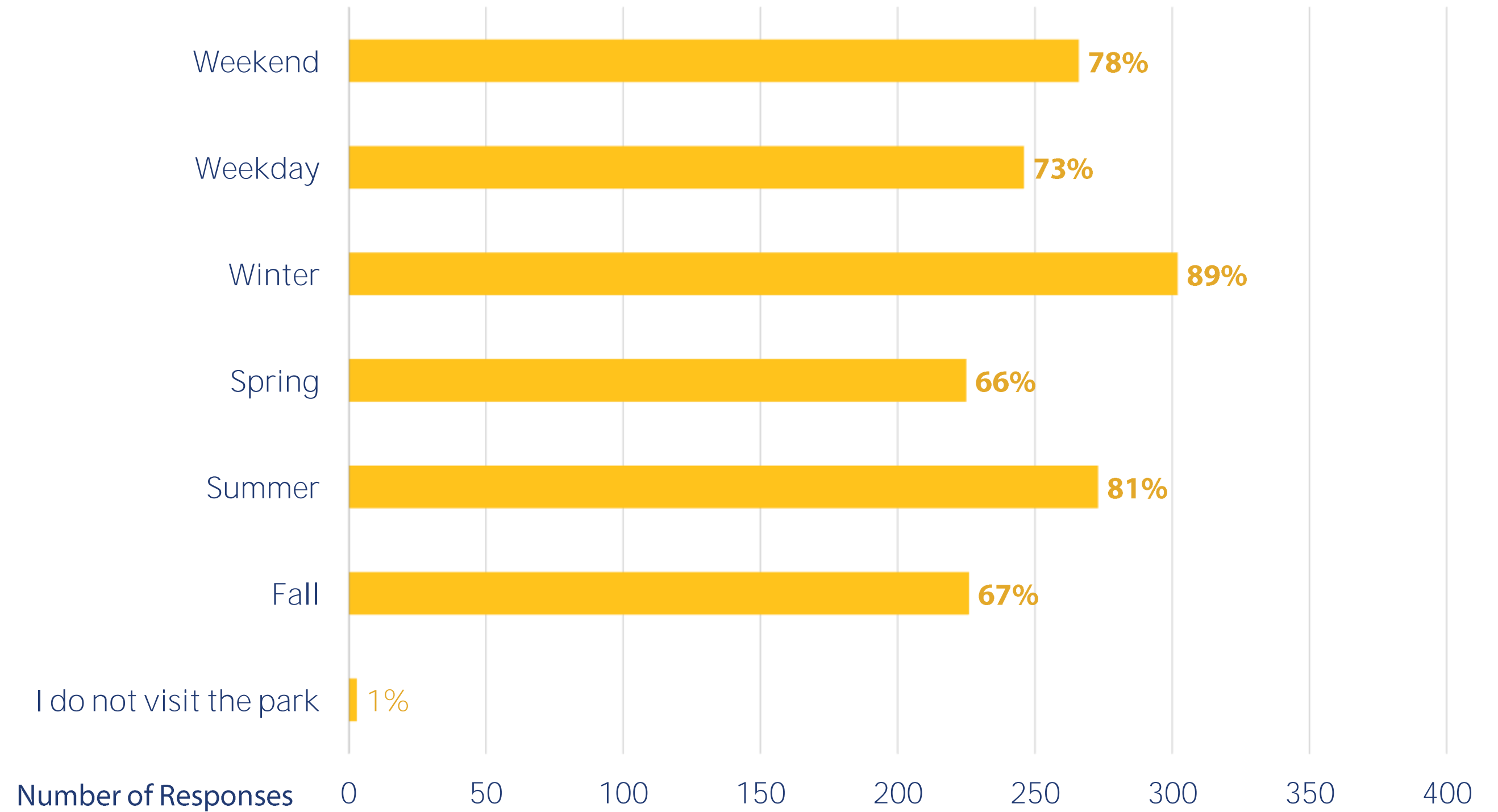
RESPONDENTS



1,070

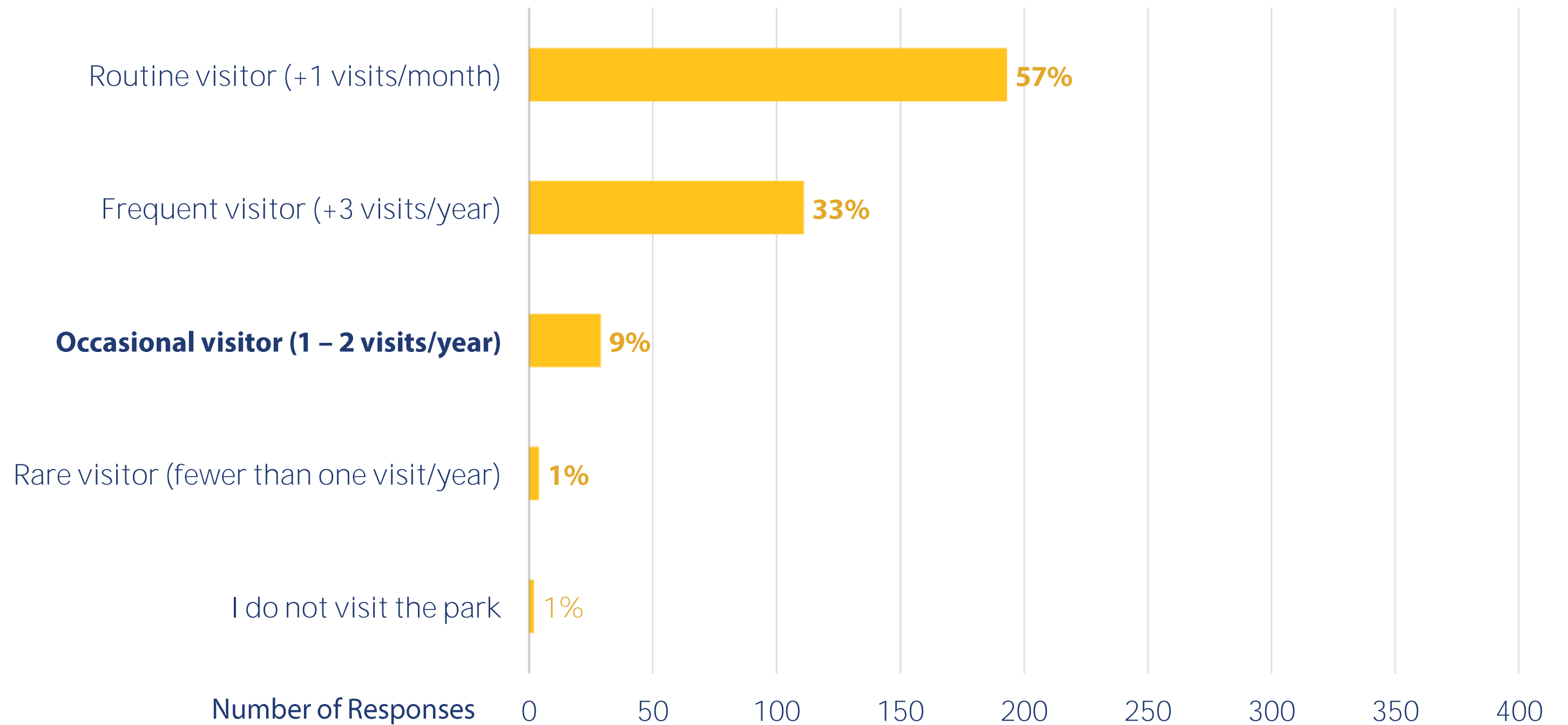
COMMENTS

Timing of Visit



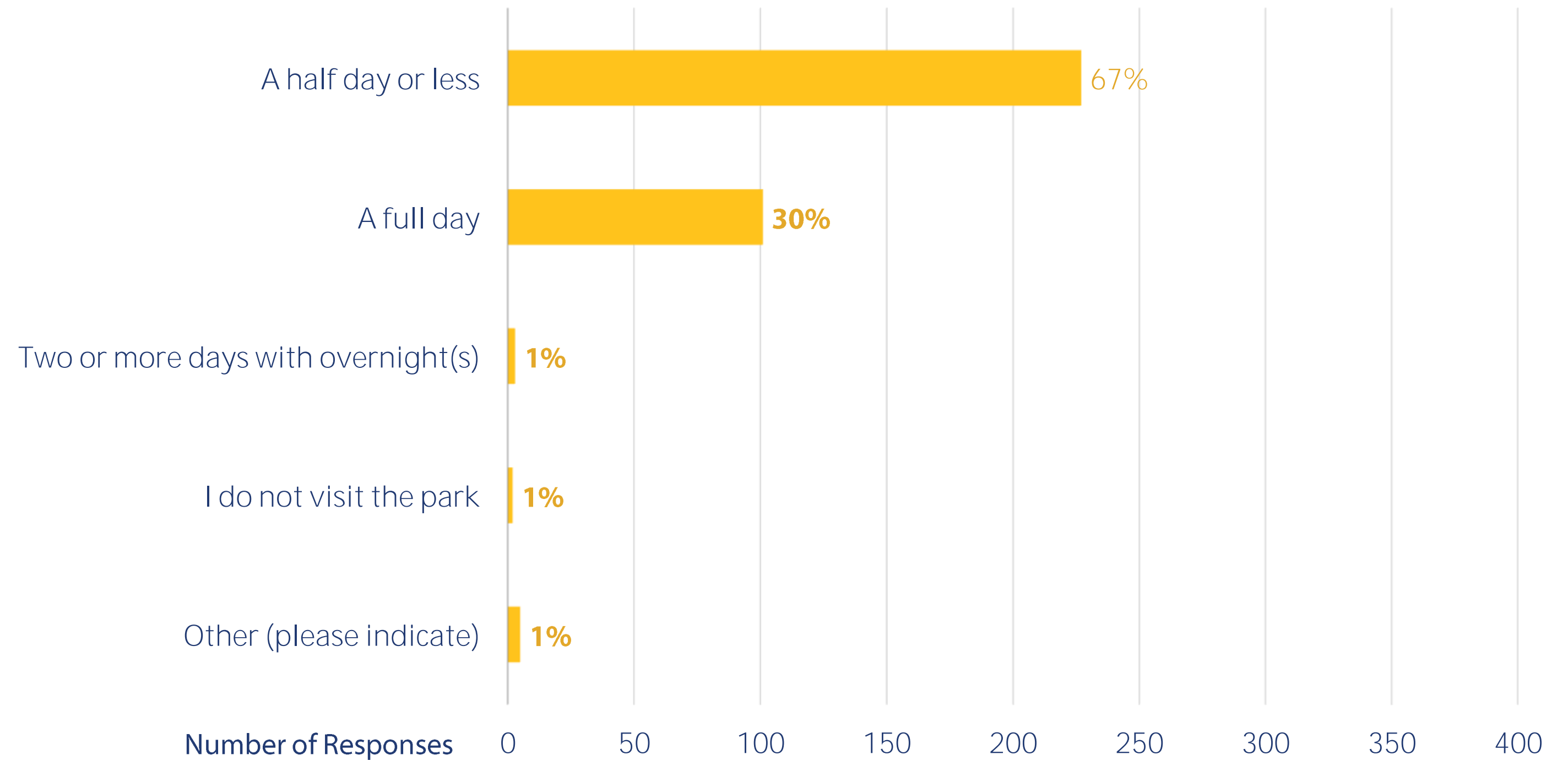
Q: When do you typically visit Mount Seymour Provincial Park? (check all that apply)
N (number of responses): 336

Frequency of Visit



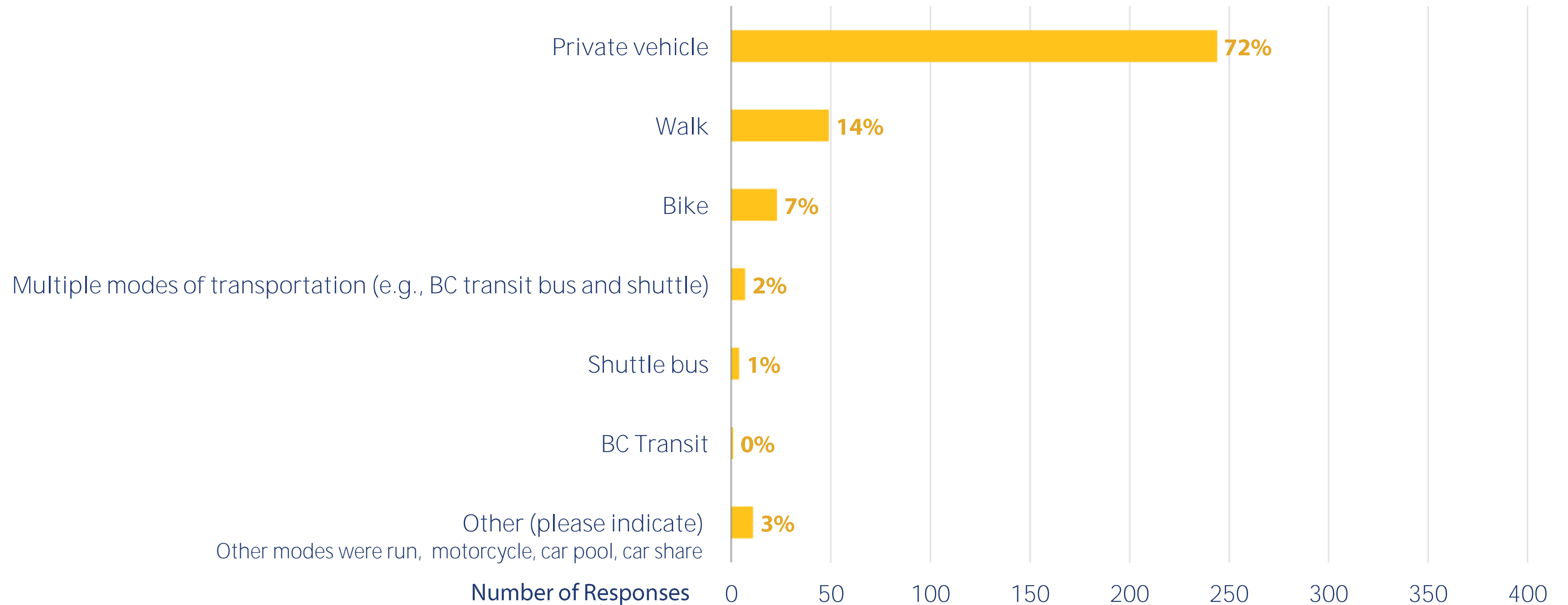
Q: How often do you visit Mount Seymour Provincial Park?
N: 336

Length of Visit



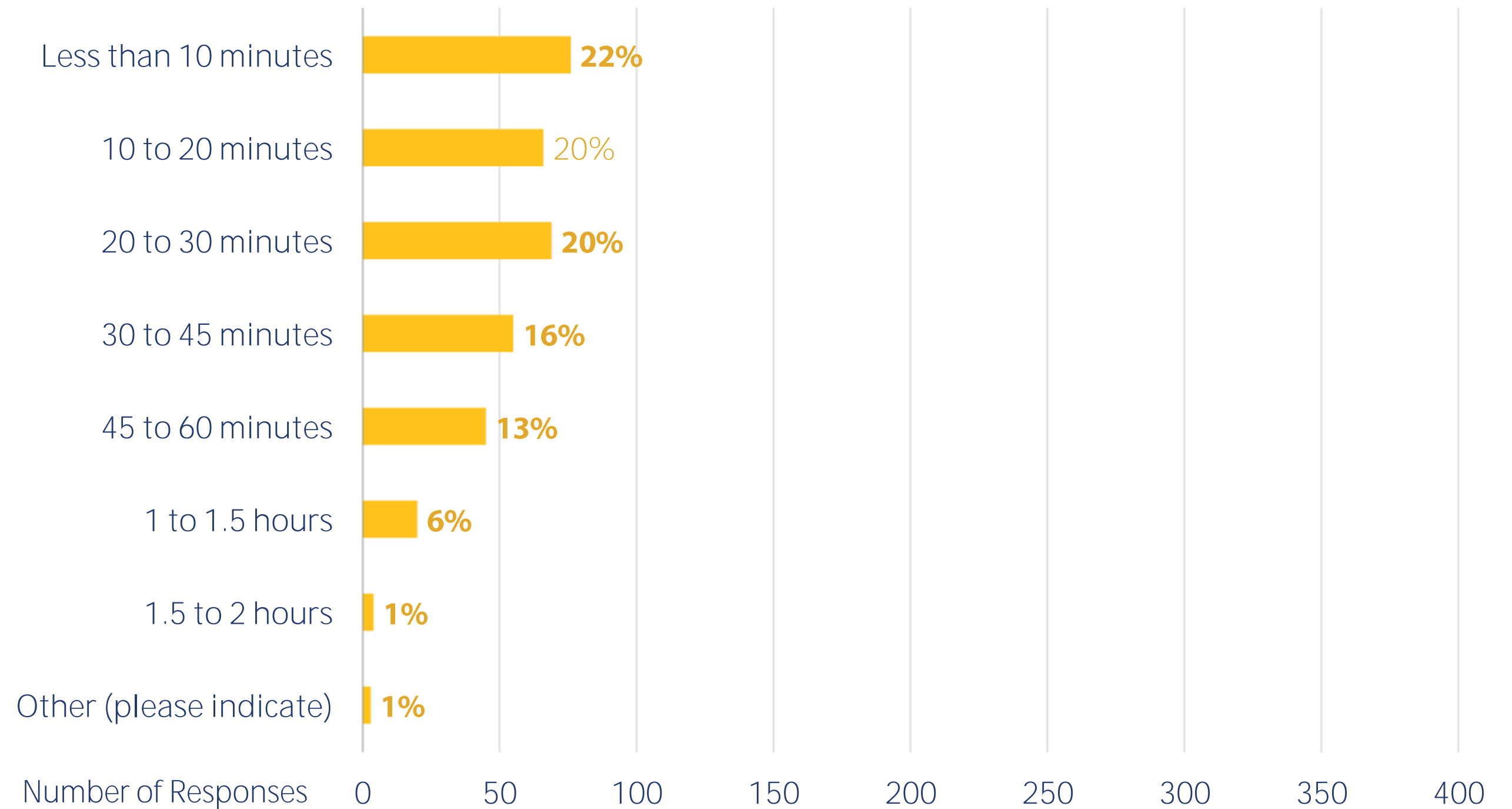
Q: How long is your typical visit to Mount Seymour Provincial Park?
N: 330

Mode of Access



Q: How do you most often access Mount Seymour Provincial Park?
N: 325

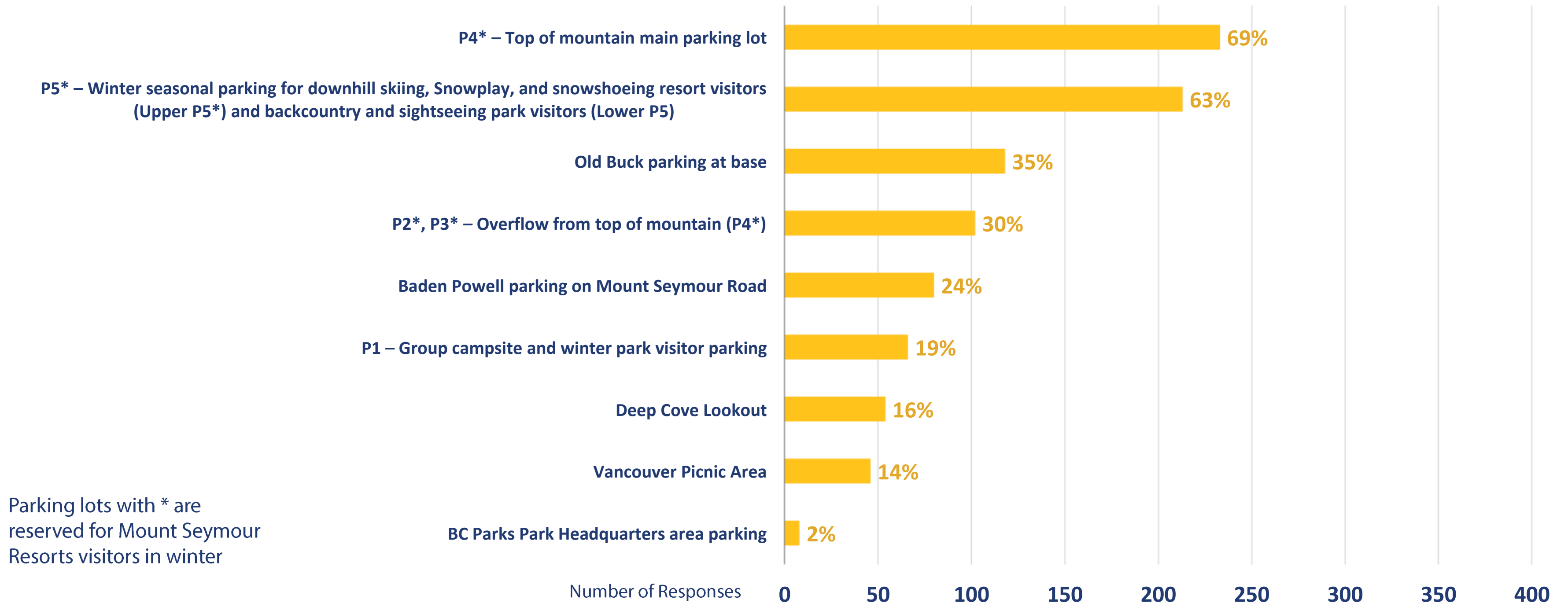
Travel Time to Park



Q: On average, how long is your trip from your home to Mount Seymour Provincial Park (for the travel mode you identified in the previous question)?

N: 332

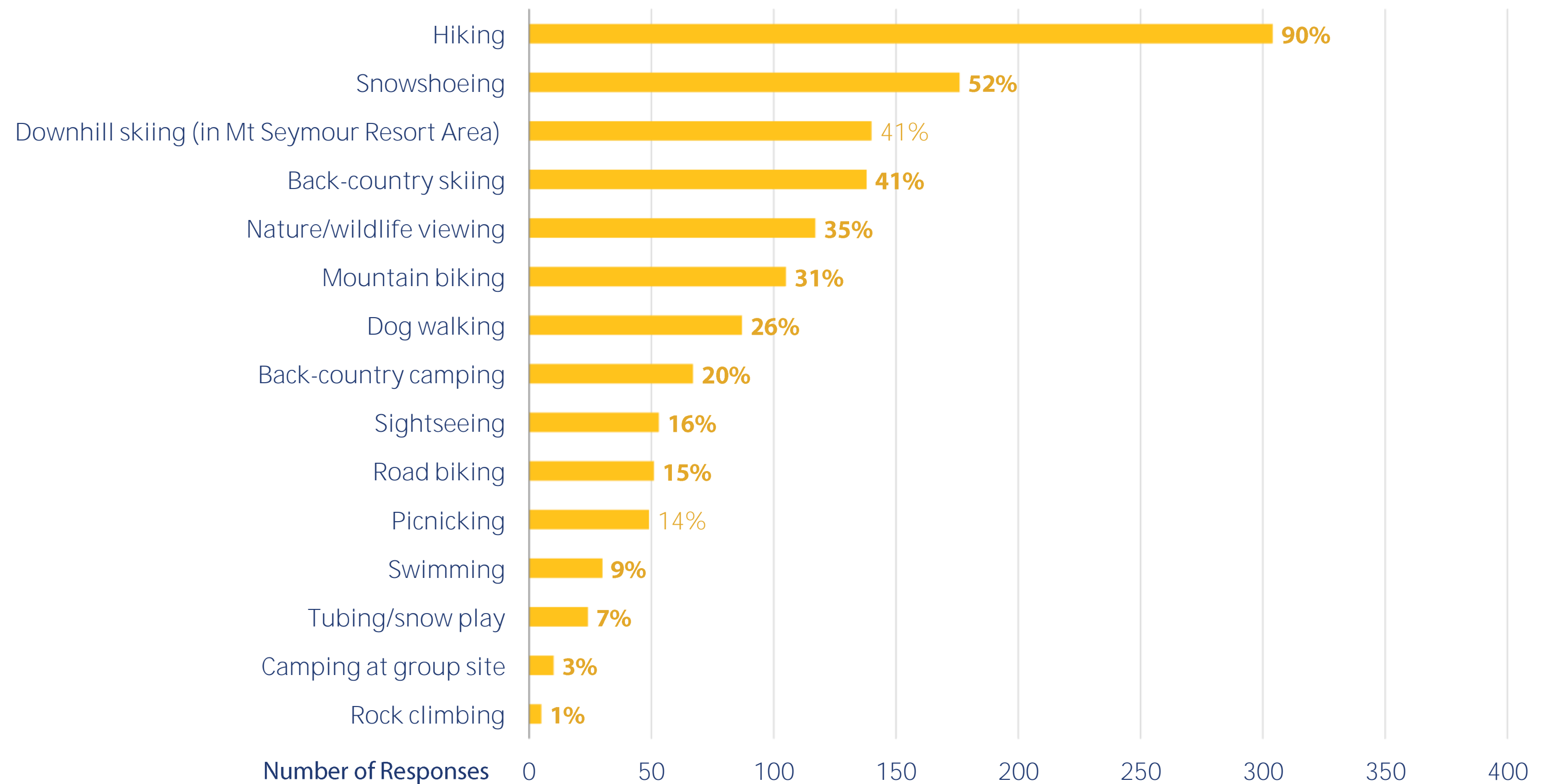
Parking Location



Q: Which parking lots in Mount Seymour Provincial Park do you use? (check all that apply)

N: 316

Outdoor Activities



Q: What activities do you participate in when visiting Mount Seymour Provincial Park? (check all that apply)

N: 333

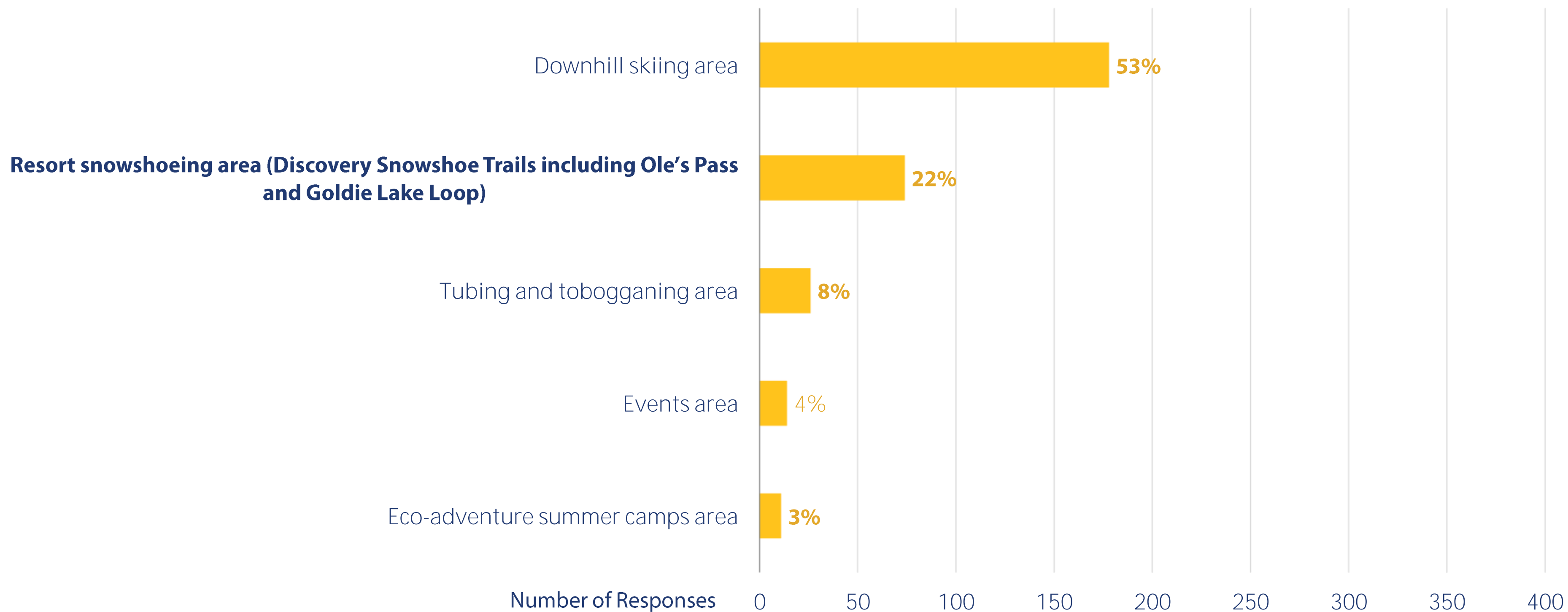
Other Activities

- **Trail running (18)**
- **Photography (4)**
- **Restaurant (2)**

Comments mentioned once:

- Avalanche training
- Cabin owner
- History learning
- Orienteering
- Search and Rescue (SAR)
- Sketching
- Snow building activities
- Snowboarding
- Trail repairs

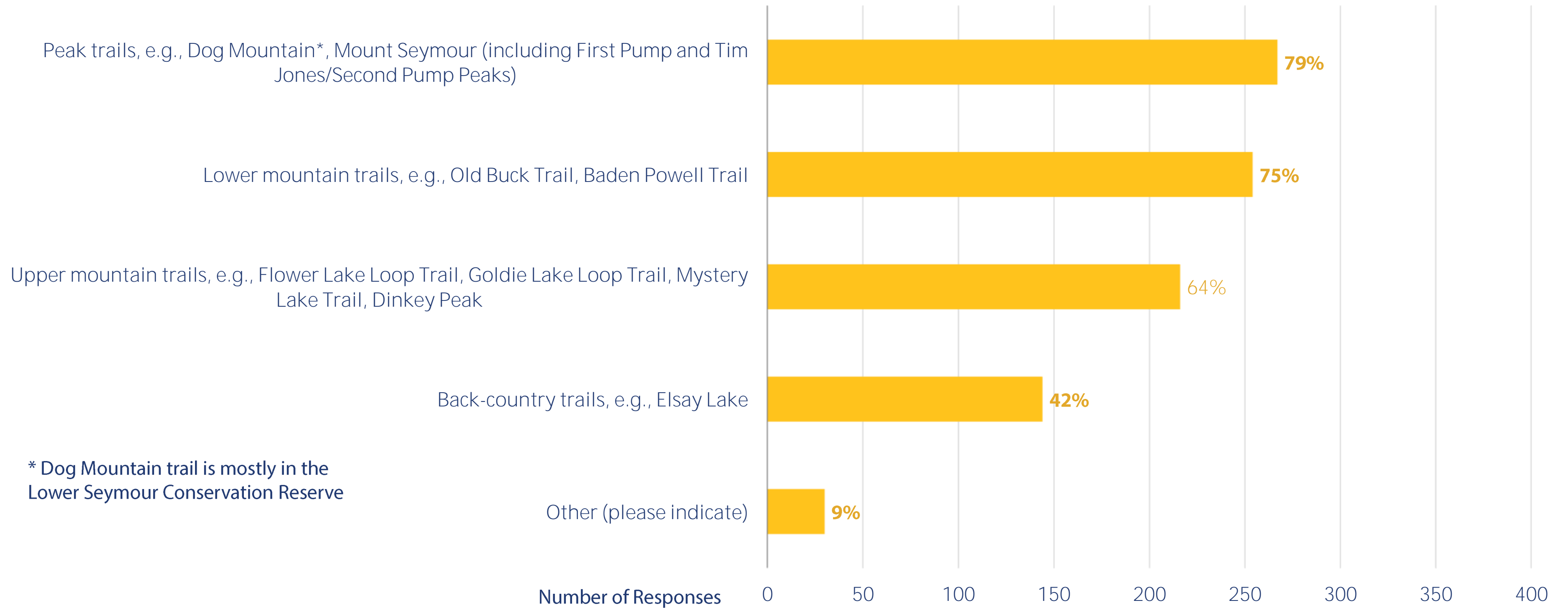
Resort Facilities Used



Q: Which facility locations in Mt Seymour Resort do you use? (check all that apply)

N: 213

Trails Used



* Dog Mountain trail is mostly in the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve

Q: Which trails in Mount Seymour Provincial Park do you use? (check all that apply)

N: 323

Other Trails Used

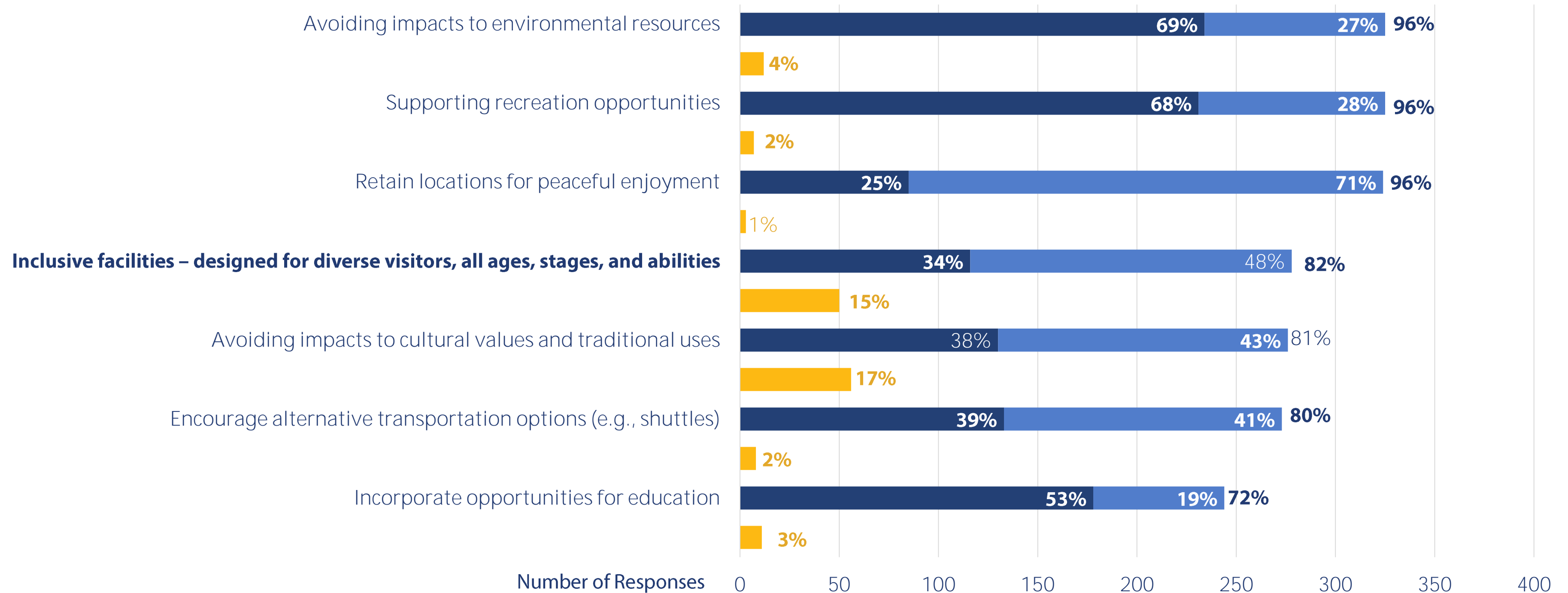
- **Mountain biking trails (6)**
- **Unmarked trails (4)**
- **Old Cabin trail (3)**
- **Darkside trails (e.g., Indian Arm trail, Pineapple trail, Frank's trail, Mad Girls trail, and Three Chop trail) (3)**
- **Ski trails (3)**
- **Deep Cove trails (3)**
- **Suicide Bluffs (2)**

Comments mentioned once:

- Boogieman mountain biking trail
- CBC mountain biking trail
- Corkscrew mountain biking trail
- De Pencier Bluffs
- John Deer mountain biking trail
- Mount Elsay
- Old Mount Seymour main trail
- Pangor mountain biking trail
- Park Headquarters to Old Buck trail
- Perimeter trail
- Snowshoe trails

Values

■ *Very Important* ■ *Somewhat Important* ■ *Not at all Important*



Q: How important is each of the following values to planning future facilities of Mount Seymour Provincial Park?

N: 336

Responses are shown only for those with important values or not, and exclude those who are not sure.

Other Values

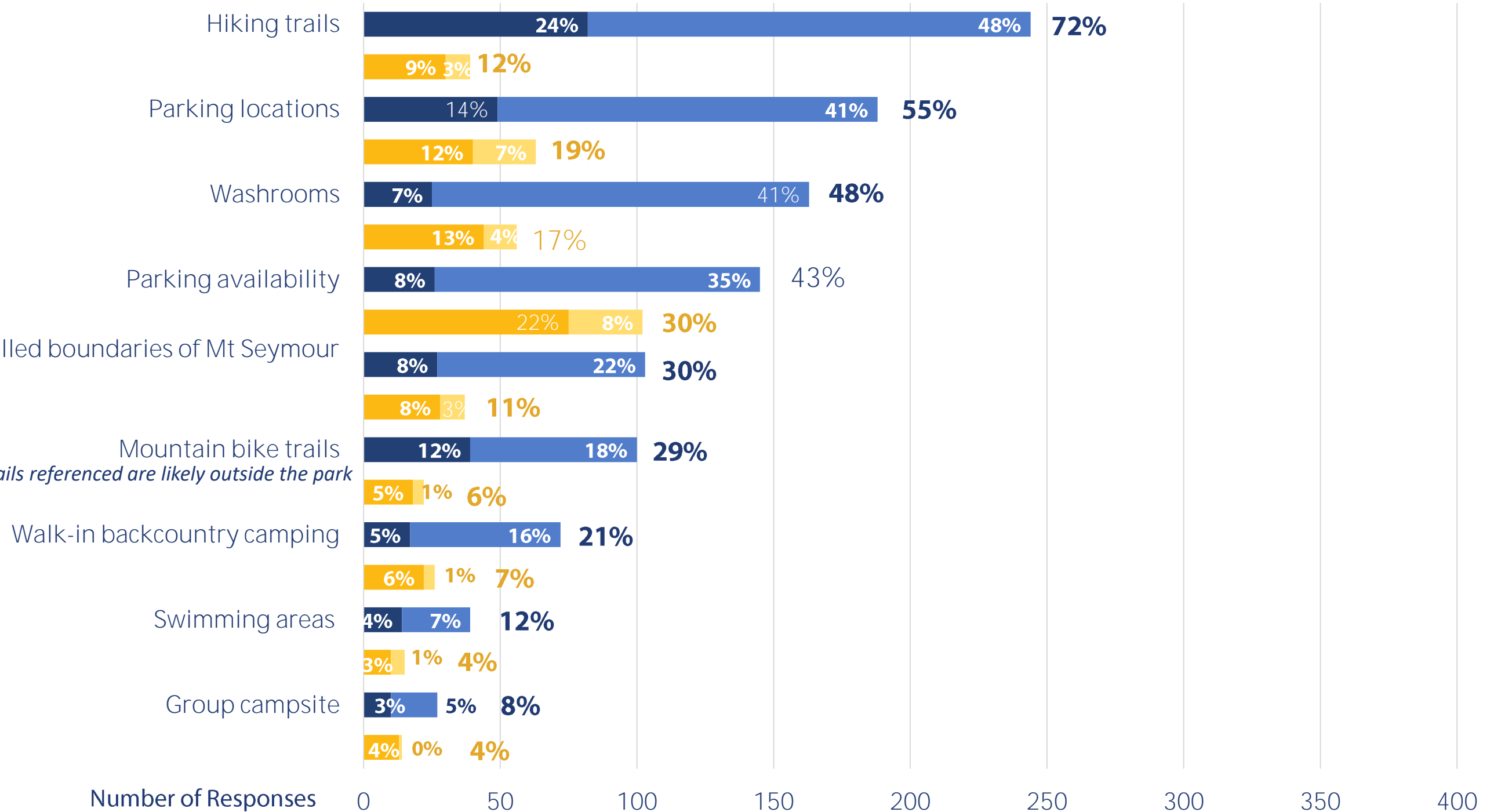
- **Allow earlier access in winter (25)**
- **Respect nature (20)**
- **Support local residential use (19)**
- **Improve accessibility (14)**
- **Expand trails (12)**
- **Better collaboration among agencies (9)**
- **Encourage safety education (9)**
- **Maintain trails (8)**
- **Cleaner facilities (7)**
- **More parking (7)**
- **Improve road safety for cyclists (6)**
- **Reduce crowding (6)**
- **Encourage park etiquette (5)**
- Mile Zero traffic improvements (5)
- Multiuse collaboration (5)
- Too many off-leash dogs on trails (4)
- More and better signage (incl etiquette, safety) (4)
- More transit options (4)
- Support day use pass (3)
- Encourage individual responsibility (2)
- Reduce traffic (2)
- Support backcountry access (2)
- More food options (2)
- More garbage disposal facilities (2)

Comments mentioned once:

- Family-friendly opportunities
- Maintain free parking
- Maintain recreational infrastructure
- More accessible washrooms
- Park interpretive information
- Reduce traffic congestion
- Support Indigenous use and values

Satisfaction with Facilities

■ Very Satisfied ■ Satisfied ■ Dissatisfied ■ Very Dissatisfied



Q: *The list only includes facilities owned by BC Parks. Mt Seymour Resort is privately owned and operated and their facilities (downhill runs, chair lifts, snow sliding, and associated facilities) are not included.

N: 335

Responses are shown only for those satisfied or not, and exclude those who do not use certain facilities or services.

Comments on Facility Satisfaction

- Dissatisfied with parking (32)
- Insufficient trail maintenance (28)
- Expand trails (27)
- Allow earlier access in winter (23)
- Better collaboration among agencies (18)
- Limited accessibility (17)
- Trails in poor condition (14)
- Facilities need upgrades (11)
- Satisfied with trails (9)
- More and better signage (incl etiquette, safety) (8)

- **Satisfied with park (8)**
- **Safety concerns on trails (7)**
- **Expand tent pads (7)**
- **Satisfied with parking (6)**
- **Support day use pass (4)**
- **Better multiuse collaboration (4)**
- **Dissatisfied with day use pass (3)**
- **Reduce crowding (2)**
- **Dissatisfied with shuttle locations (2)**
- **Insufficient signage (2)**

Comments mentioned once:

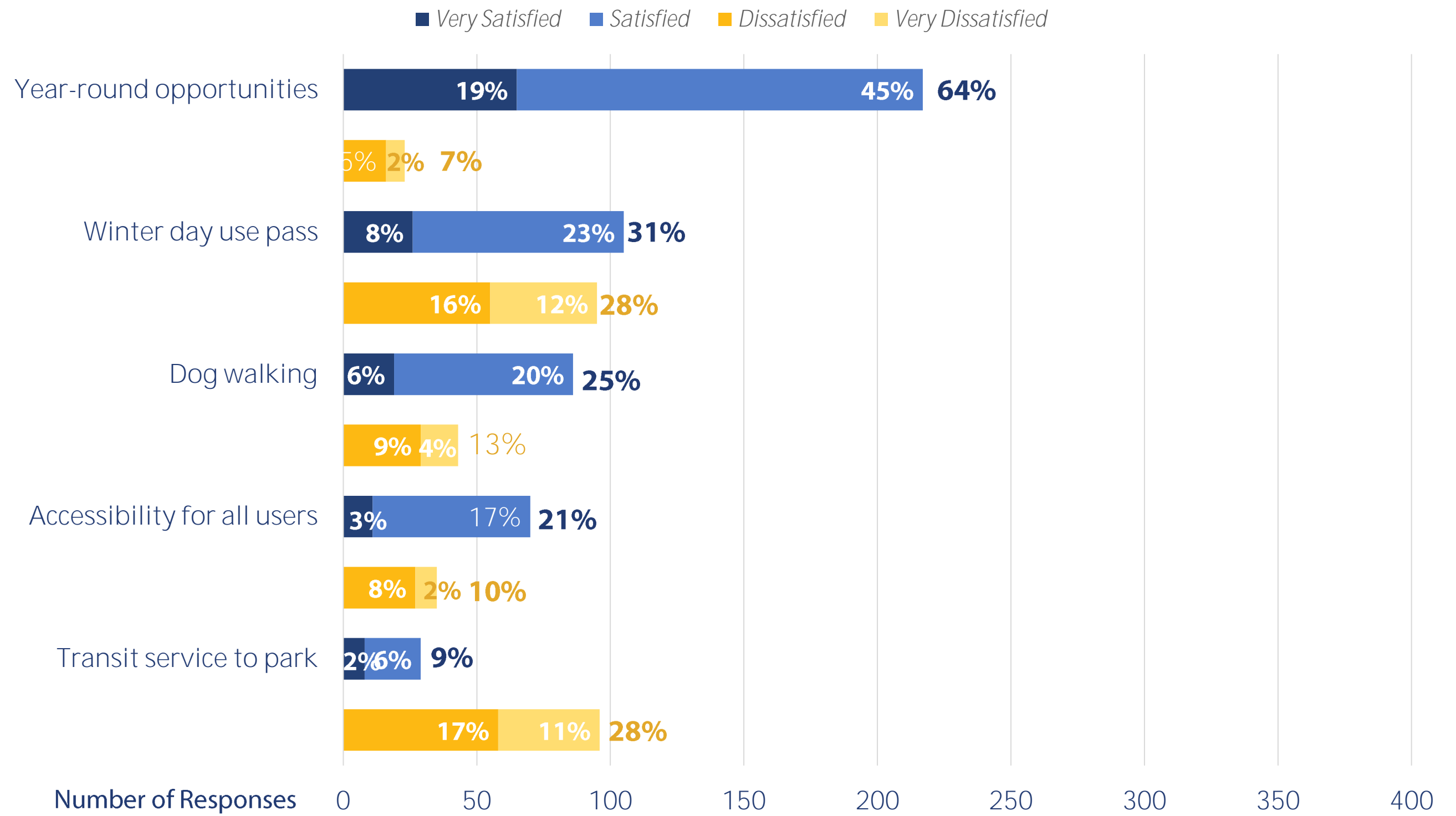
- Too many off-leash dogs on trails
- Support local residential use
- Improve road safety for cyclists
- Mile Zero traffic improvements
- More food options
- More recreation opportunities
- Concern with forest fires
- Lacking enforcement over illegal trails
- Lacking wildlife education

Q: *The list only includes facilities owned by BC Parks. Mt Seymour Resort is privately owned and operated and their facilities (downhill runs, chair lifts, snow sliding, and associated facilities) are not included. Other (Please Indicate).

N: 232

Number in brackets represent the number of times a comment was mentioned

Satisfaction with Services



Q: What is your level of satisfaction with the following services and management in Mount Seymour Provincial Park?
N: 329

Responses are shown only for those satisfied or not, and exclude those who do not use certain facilities or services.

Comments on Services Satisfaction

- **Dissatisfied with day use pass (27)**
- **Too many off-leash dogs on trails (24)**
- **More transit options (21)**
- **Limited accessibility (16)**
- **Allow earlier access in winter (15)**
- **More shuttles needed (13)**
- **Support day use pass (13)**
- **Dissatisfied with parking (11)**
- **Expand trails (5)**
- **Insufficient trail maintenance (5)**
- **Satisfied with improvements in accessibility (4)**
- **Satisfied with park (3)**
- **More and better signage (incl. etiquette, safety) (3)**
- **Safety concerns on trails (3)**
- **Better multiuse collaboration (3)**
- **More summer activities (2)**
- **Satisfied with shuttle (2)**
- **Support local residential use (2)**
- **Respect nature (2)**

Comments mentioned once:

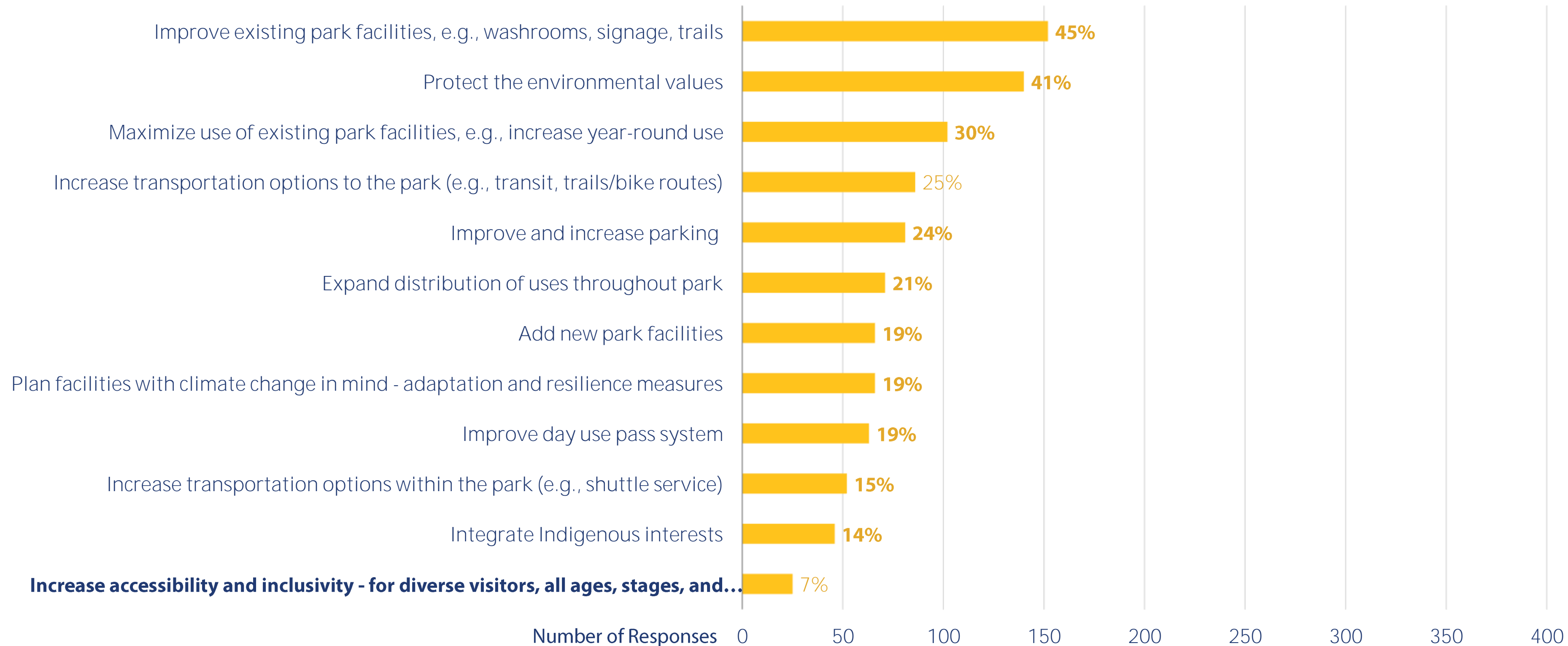
- Better collaboration among agencies
- Expand tent pads
- Facilities need upgrades
- Mile Zero traffic improvements
- More food options
- Park is not over capacity
- Reduce crowding
- Reduce traffic
- Satisfied with parking

Q: Please explain the reasons for your satisfaction ratings above or provide comments on other aspects of the park if you wish. *Other (Please Indicate).*

N: 174

Number in brackets represent the number of times a comment was mentioned

Strategies



Q: Out of the following potential strategies for Mount Seymour Provincial Park, please select your top three priorities.

N: 332

Comments on Strategies

- Expand trails (24)
- More transit options (19)
- More parking (19)
- Allow earlier access in winter (17)
- More shuttles needed (15)
- Remove day use pass (13)
- Protect nature (13)
- Improve accessibility (7)
- Mile Zero traffic improvements (5)
- More and better signage (incl. etiquette, safety) (5)
- More facilities (5)
- Improve day use pass (5)

- **Better collaboration among agencies (5)**
- **Encourage safety education (5)**
- **Reduce traffic (4)**
- **Expand tent pads (3)**
- **Improve road safety for cyclists (3)**
- **Reduce crowding (2)**
- **Maintain park (2)**
- **Better multiuse collaboration (2)**
- **Encourage park etiquette (2)**
- **More educational programming (2)**
- **Increase accessibility (2)**

Comments mentioned once:

- Charge for parking
- Too many off-leash dogs on trails
- Improve neighbouring parks to divert traffic
- Make shuttle free
- More enforcement
- Park charge for non-BC residents
- Remove parking limits
- Shuttle for bikes

Q: Please select your top three priorities. Please elaborate on the strategies above or suggest additional strategies if you wish. *Other (Please Indicate).*

N: 179

Number in brackets represent the number of times a comment was mentioned

Facility Suggestions

- **Expand trails (38)**
- **More washroom facilities (20)**
- **More and better signage (incl. etiquette, safety) (17)**
- **More parking (14)**
- **Front country camping (11)**
- **More food options (8)**
- **Bike park in summer (6)**
- **Expand tent pads (5)**
- **Maintain trails (3)**
- **Improve road safety for cyclists (3)**
- **More picnic areas (2)**

Comments mentioned once:

- EV charging
- Improve trail maintenance
- More garbage disposal facilities
- More recreation opportunities
- Museum
- Phone charging stations

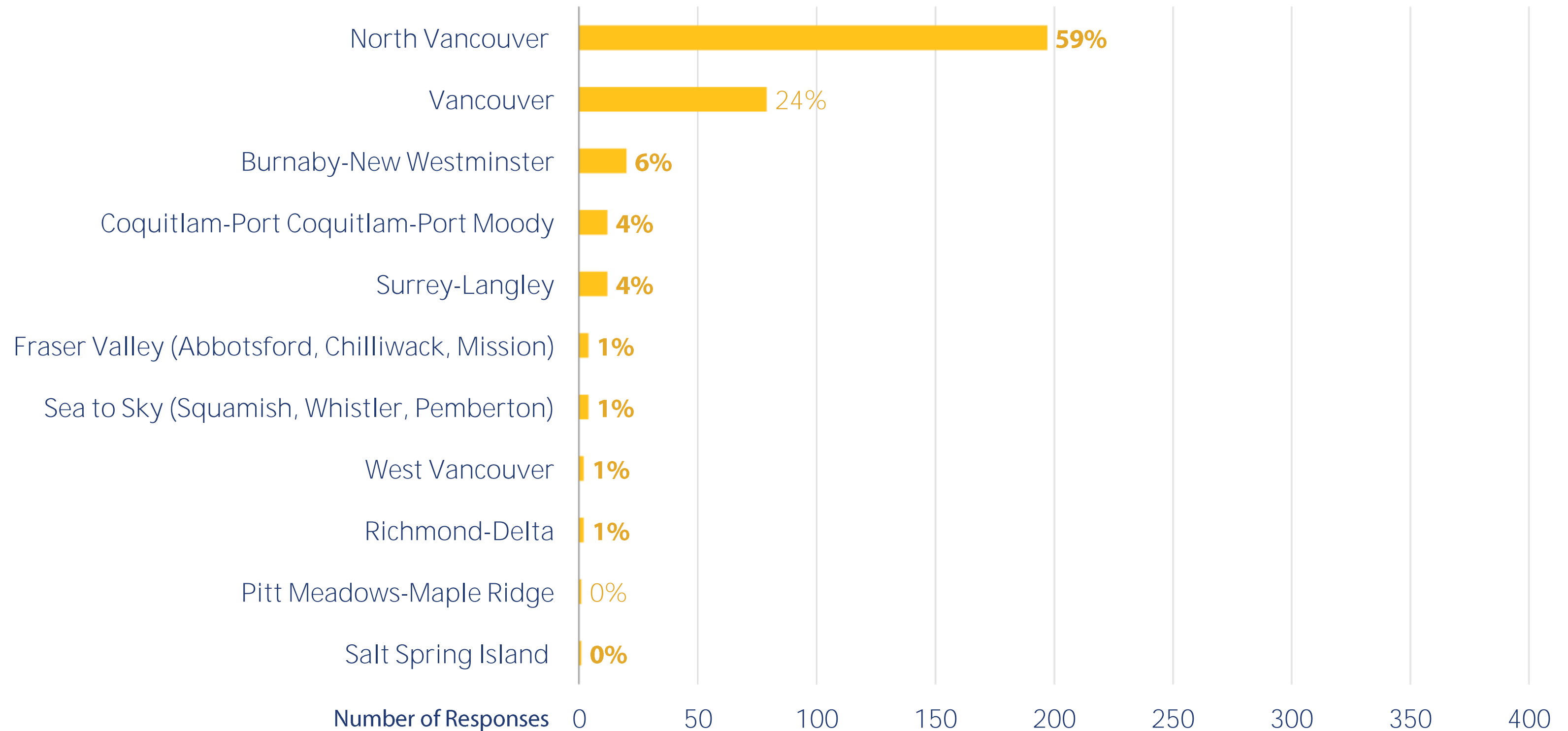
Strategy Suggestions

- **Better collaboration among agencies (18)**
- **Allow earlier access in winter (17)**
- **Retain local residential use (12)**
- **Protect nature (12)**
- **More shuttles needed (10)**
- **Remove day use pass (8)**
- **More transit options (8)**
- **Encourage safety education (7)**
- **Mile Zero traffic improvements (6)**
- **More educational programming (5)**
- **Improve accessibility (5)**
- **Dog management (5)**
- **Year-round shuttle (3)**
- **Improve day use pass (3)**
- **Better multiuse collaboration (3)**
- **Family-friendly opportunities (2)**
- **Shuttle for bikes (2)**
- **Retain Indigenous use and values (2)**

Comments mentioned once:

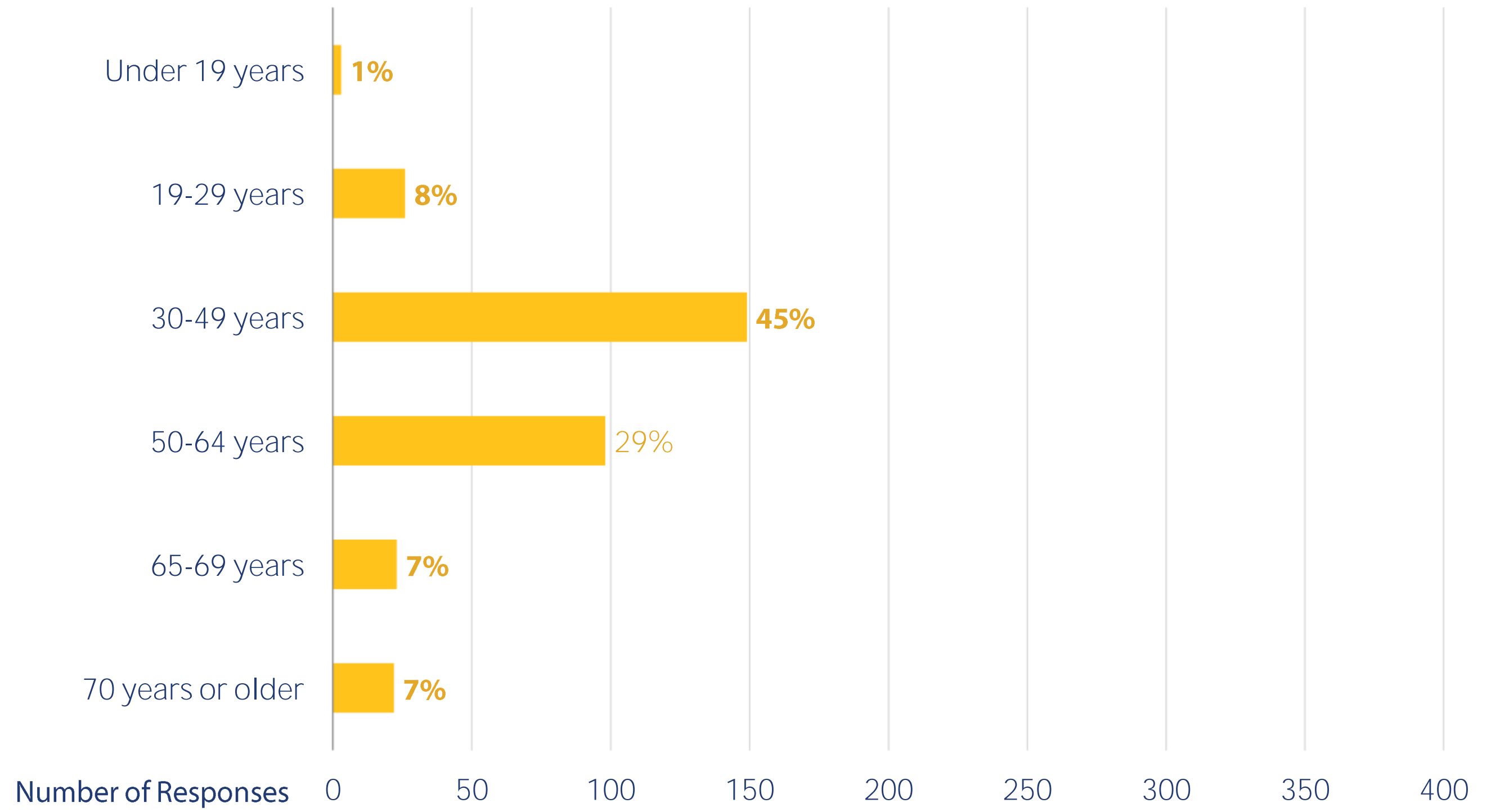
- Charge for parking
- Encourage park etiquette
- Fire hazard control
- Limit parking
- More recreation
- Reduce crowding
- Reduce traffic
- Remove parking limits
- Retain day use pass
- Satisfied with shuttle

Location of Residence



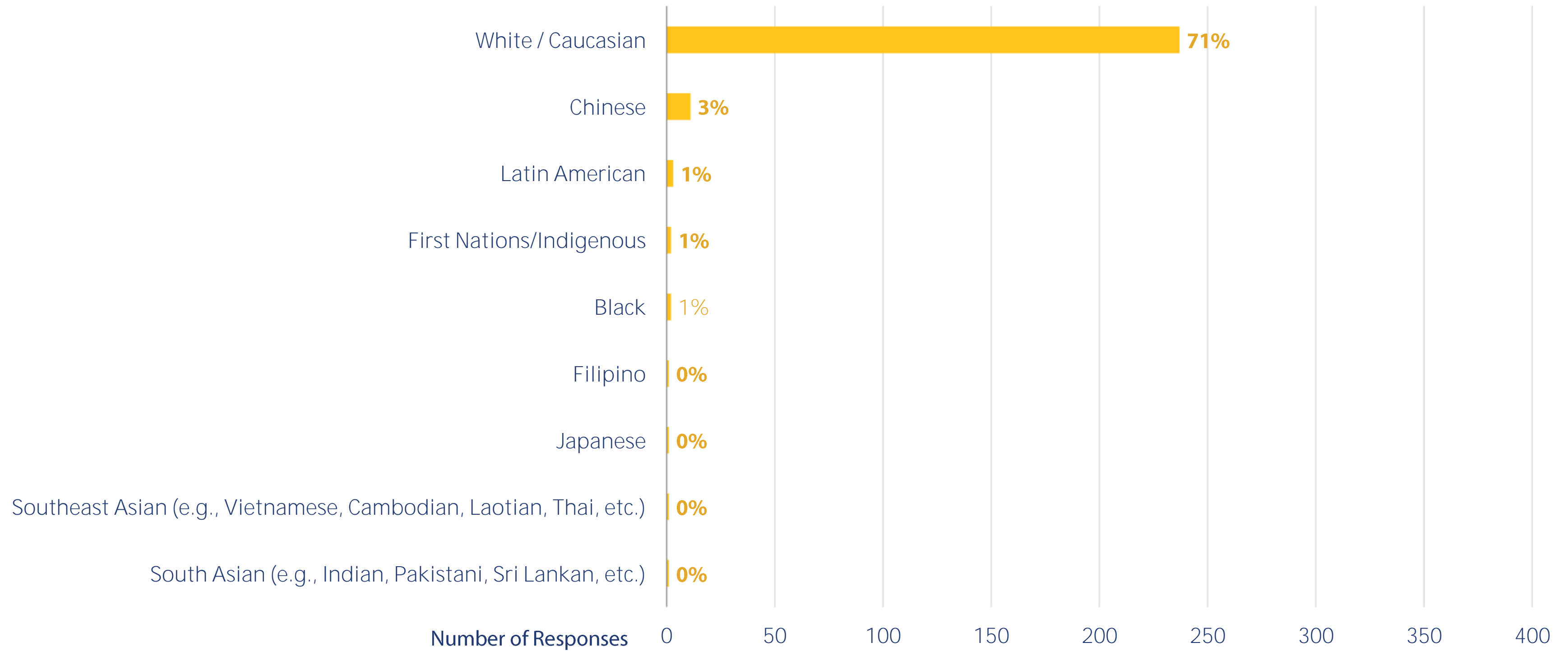
Q: Where do you live?
N: 334

Age

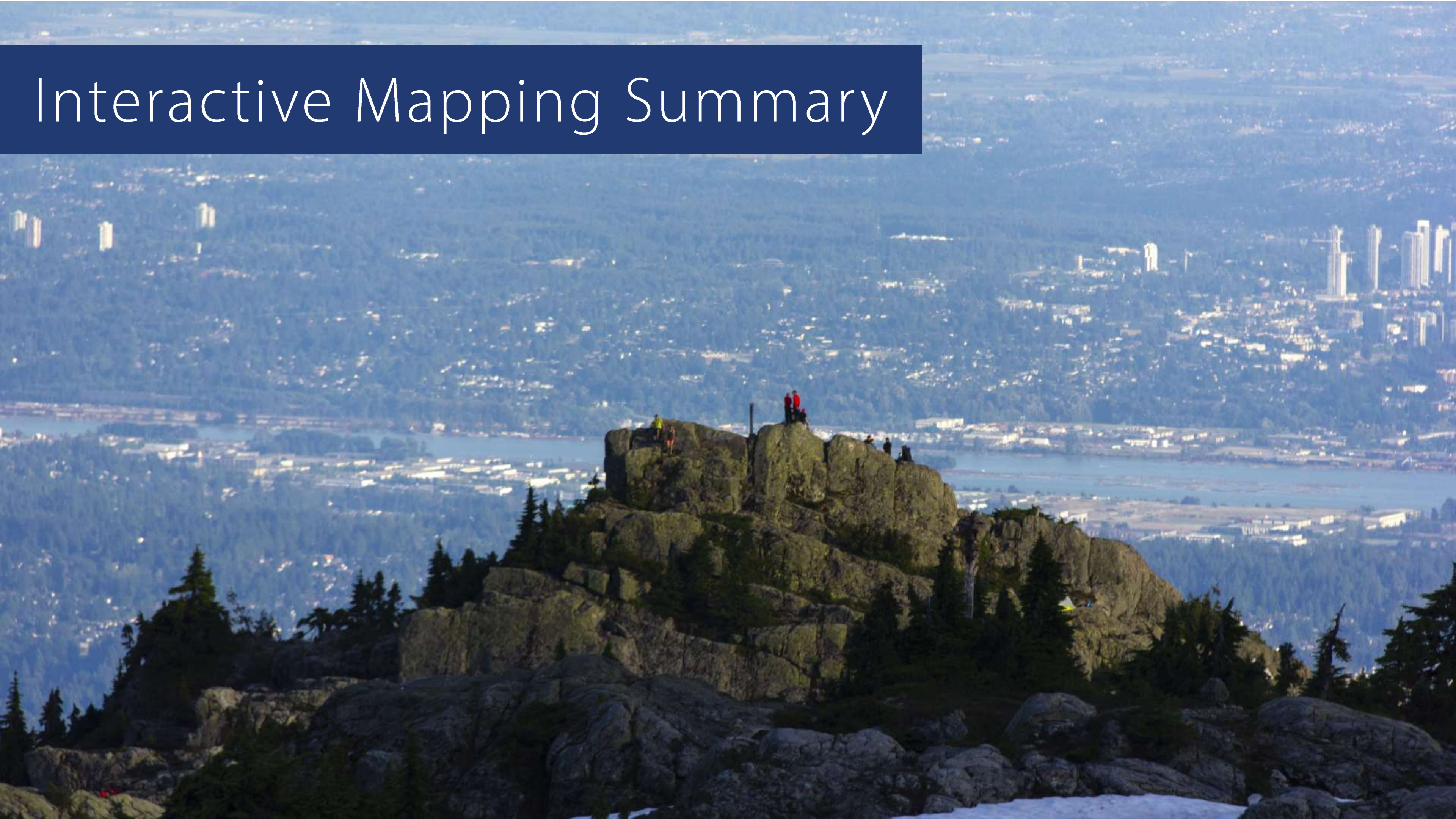


Q: What is your age?
N: 321

Culture



Q: Which of the following best describes you?
N: 259



Interactive Mapping Summary

Interactive Map Comments



37
COMMENTS

Number in brackets represent the number of times a comment was mentioned

