



2025-2030 Parks and Open Space Plan Survey Summary & Responses

SUMMARY

Dane County Parks posted an online public survey for feedback on the 2025-2030 Parks and Open Space Plan update. The survey opened on January 29th, 2024 and closed on May 1st, 2024 and was available in both English and Spanish.

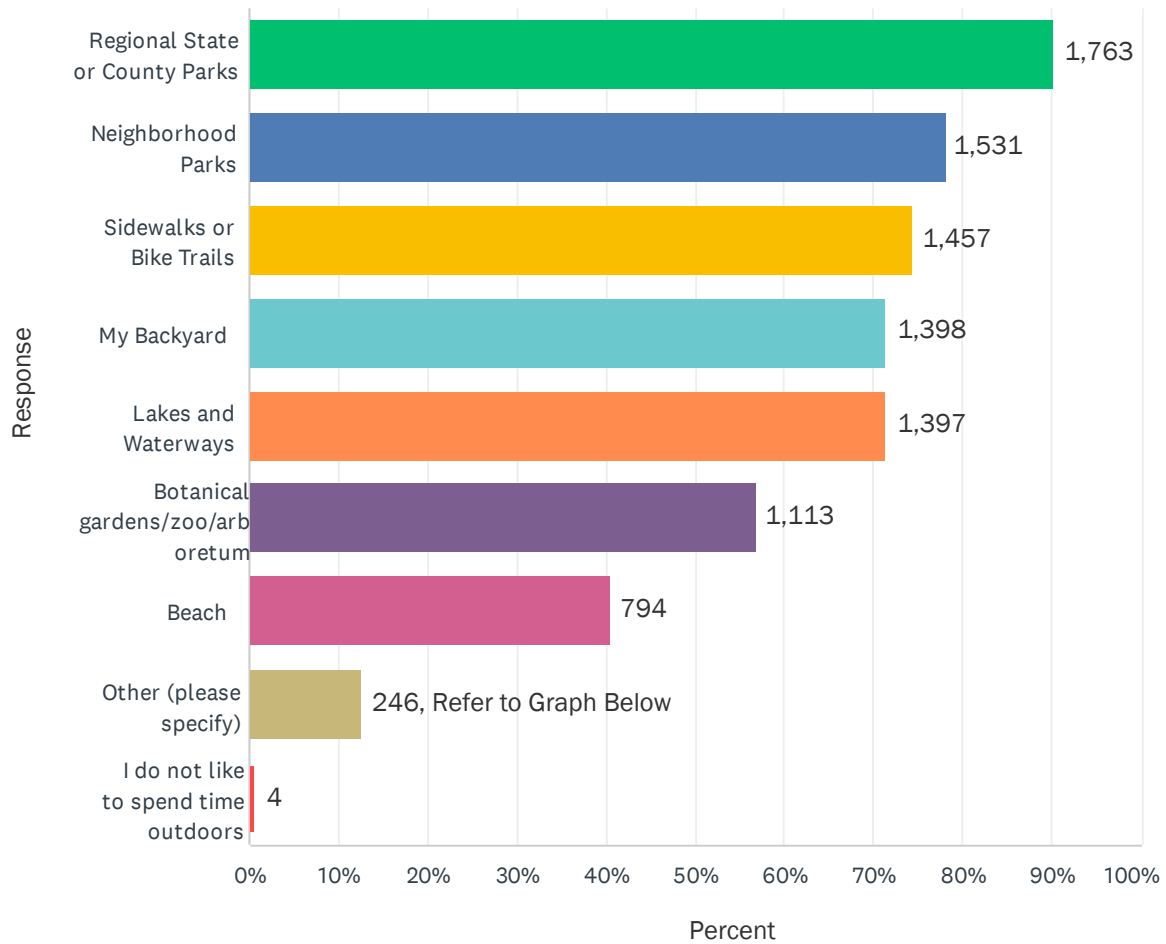
The survey link was posted on the Dane County Parks website. Staff also distributed flyers with QR codes at events including, Wisconsin Fishing Expo, Centro Hispano, Parks and Open Space public information meetings held in West, Central, and East Dane County, and other Land and Water Resources Department (LWRD) led events.

The survey was partially or completely filled out and submitted by 1,958 respondents, with the majority being residents from Dane County.

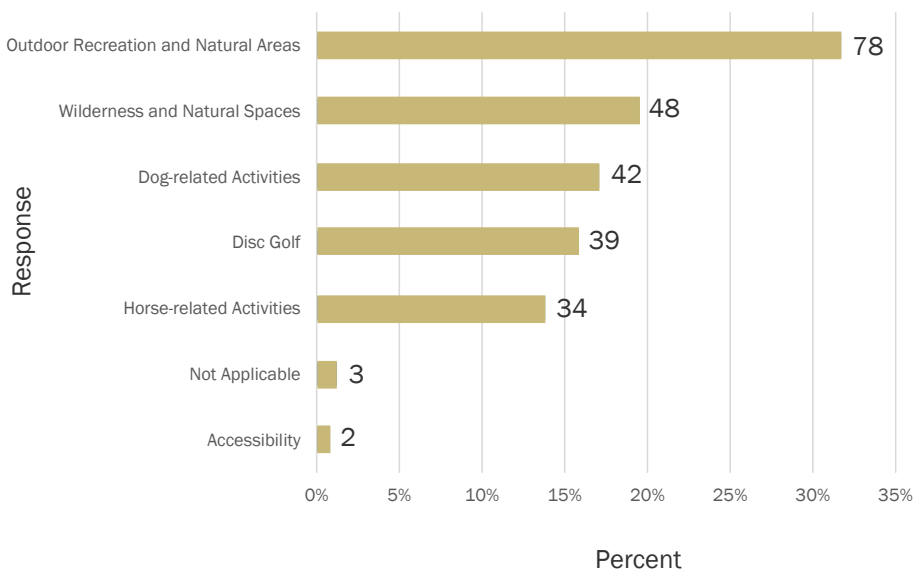
Attached, are the results of the survey. For each question on the survey, Dane County Parks reviewed the write-in responses, categorized them, and provided a graph of the results.

Q1 Where do you like to go outdoors? (select all that apply)

Answered: 1,956 Skipped: 2



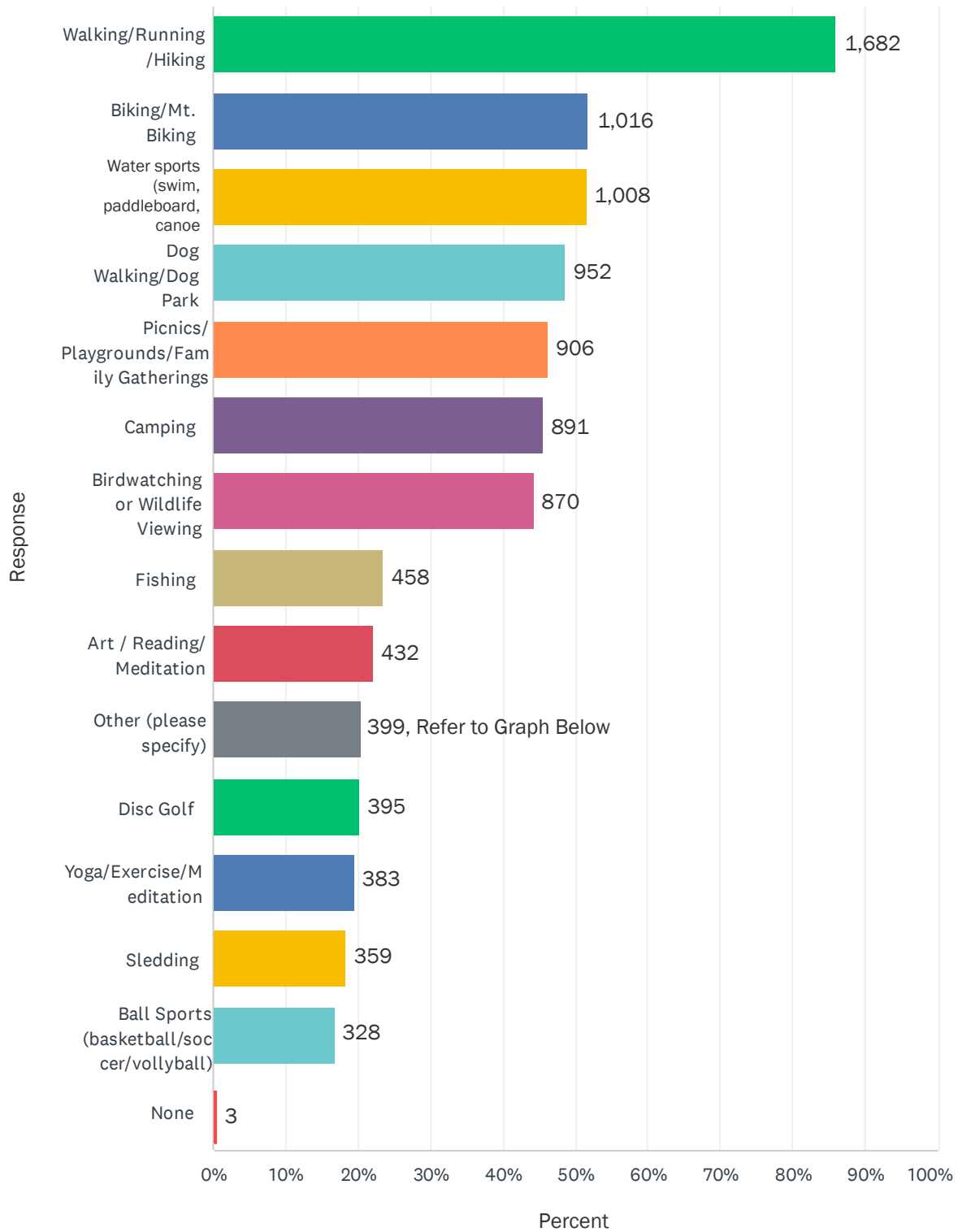
Where do you like to go outdoors? 'Other' Themes



246 'Other' responses were received with write-in responses. From the information received, the category was broken down into seven different themes and displayed in the graph on the left.

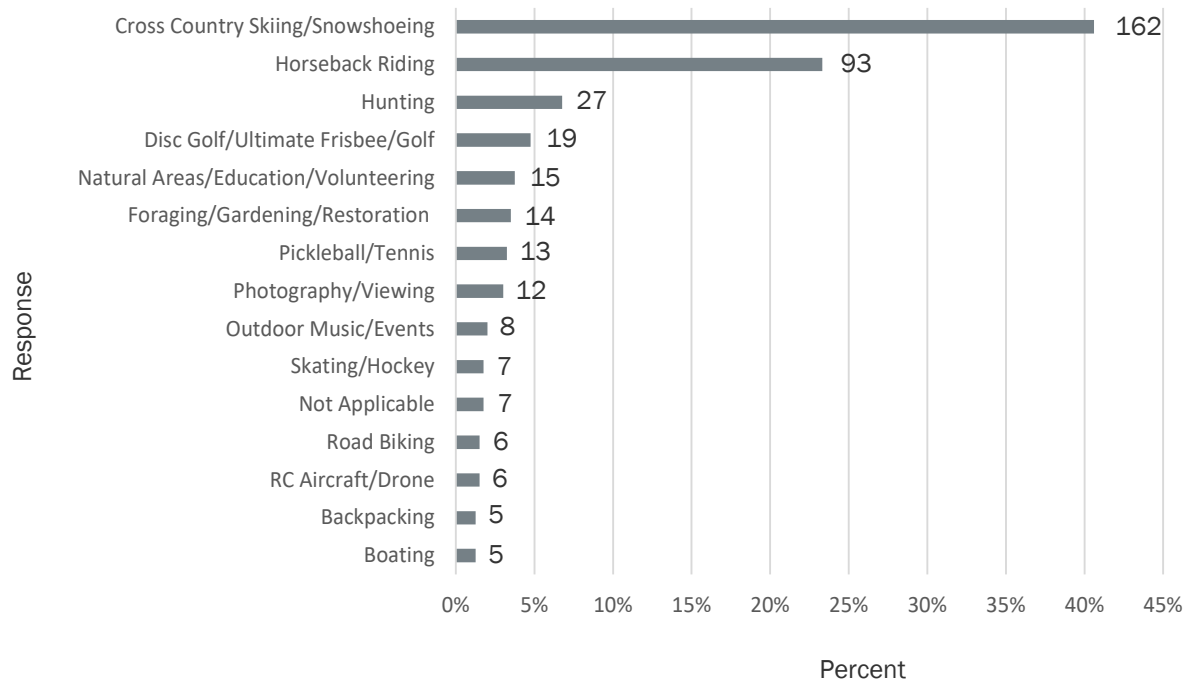
Q2 What outdoor activities do you like to do? (select all that apply)

Answered: 1,957 Skipped: 1



Q2 What outdoor activities do you like to do? (continued)

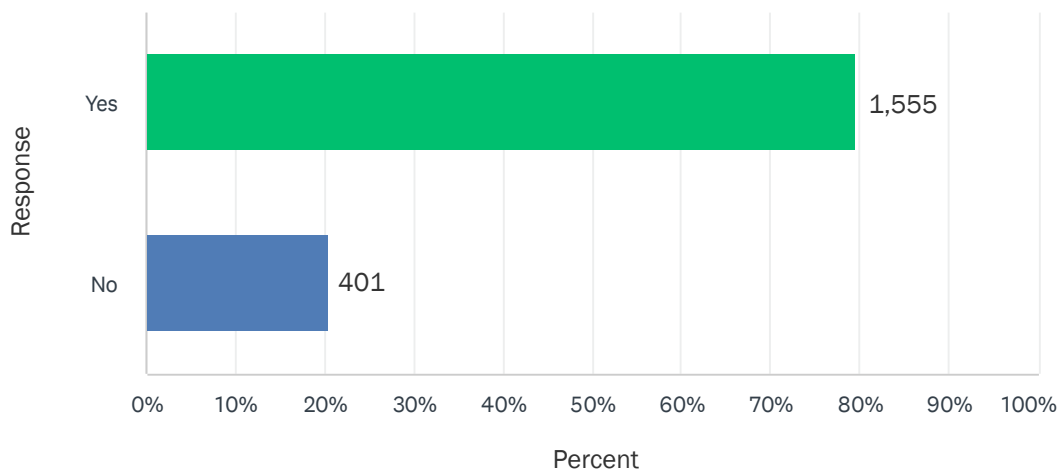
What outdoor activities do you like to do? 'Other' Themes



399 'Other' responses were received with write-in responses. From the information received, the category was broken down into fifteen different themes and are displayed in the graph above.

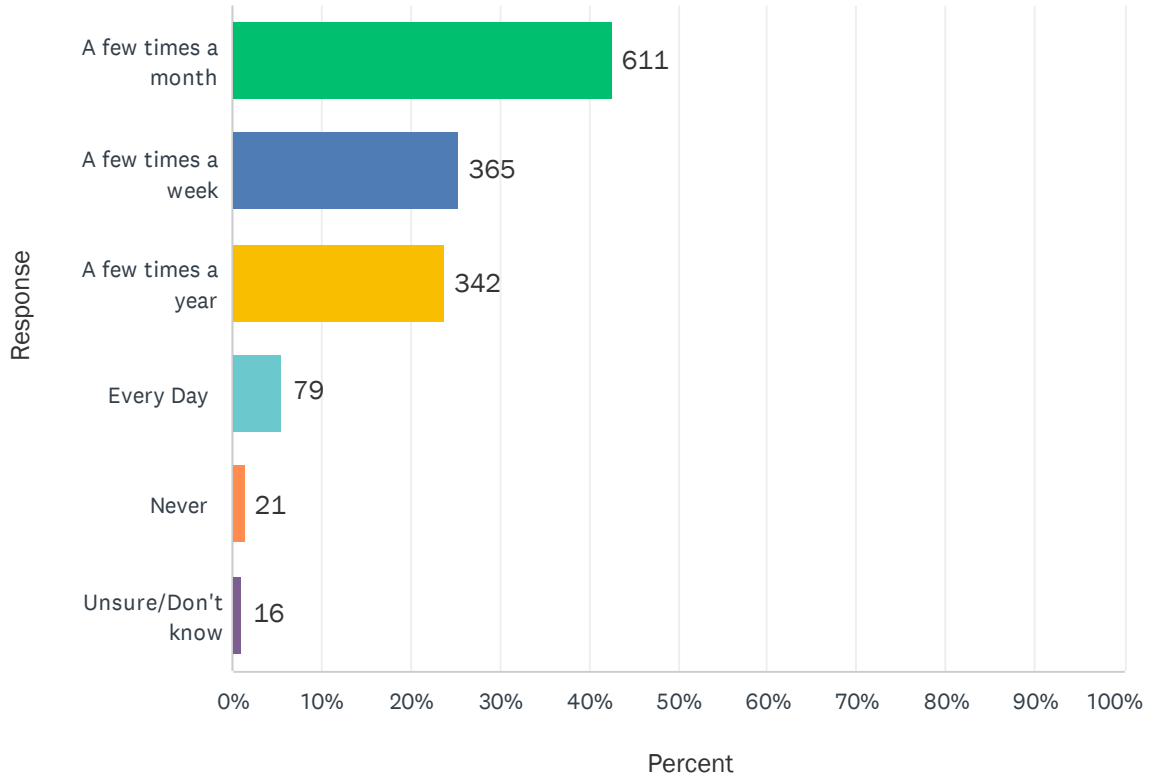
Q3 Are you aware of which parks are in the Dane County Park System (vs city parks or state parks)?

Answered: 1,956 Skipped: 2



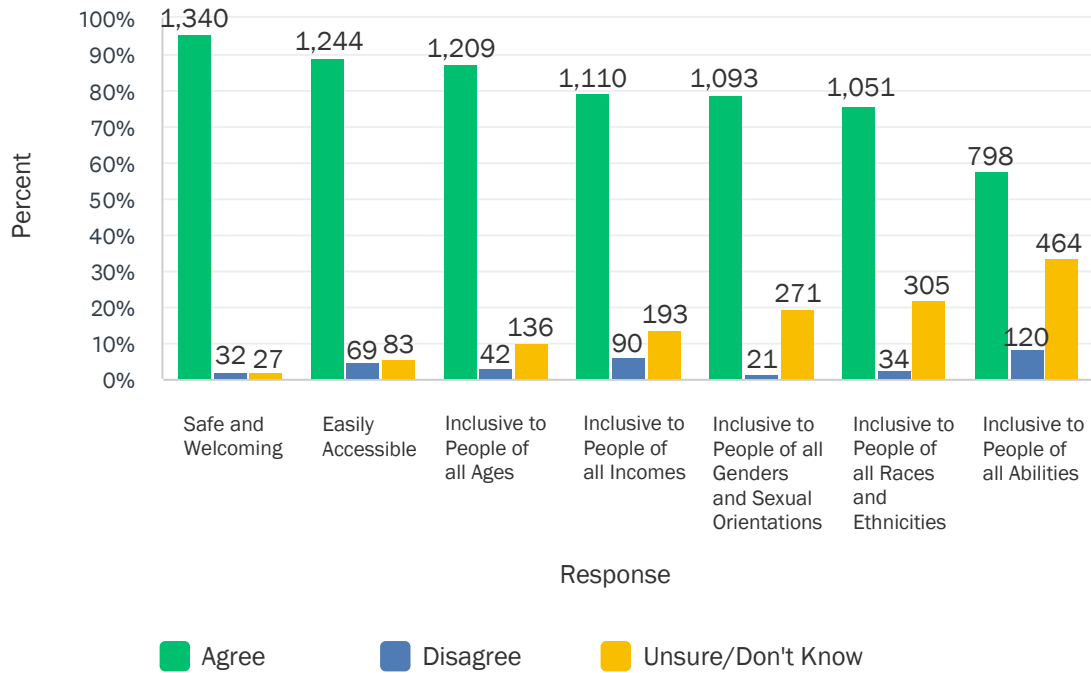
Q4 Over the past year, please estimate the number of times you visited a Dane County Park property or the Lussier Family Heritage Center facility.

Answered: 1,434 Skipped: 524



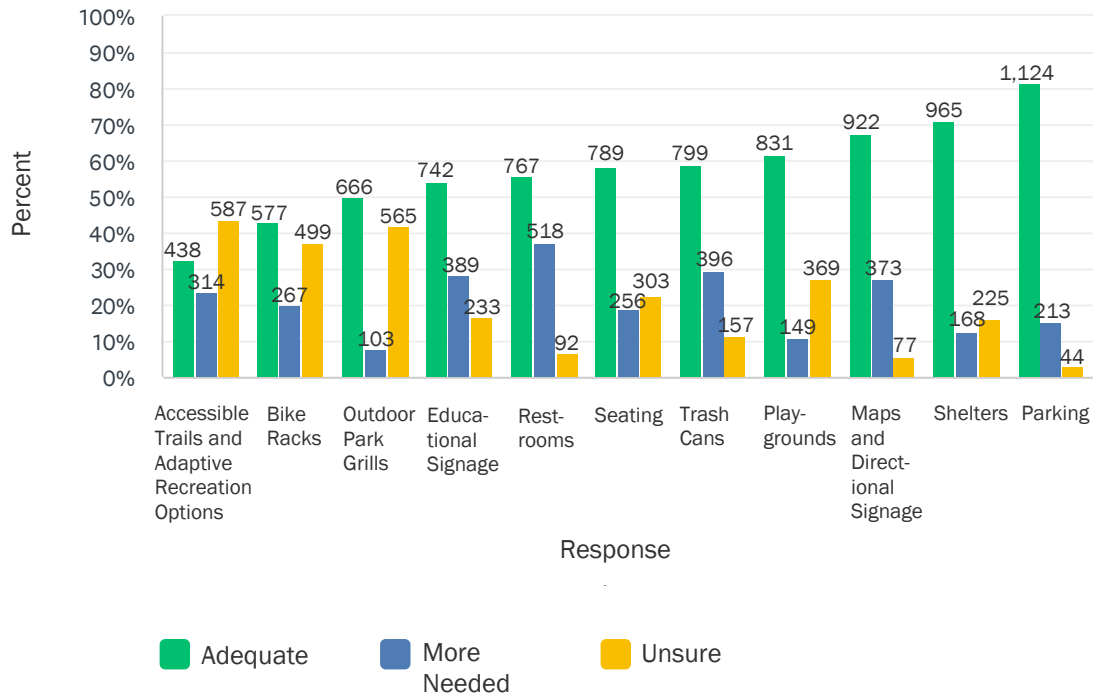
Q5 Please select an option for each statement below. My overall experience with Dane County Parks and recreation facilities is that they are...

Answered: 1,403 Skipped: 555

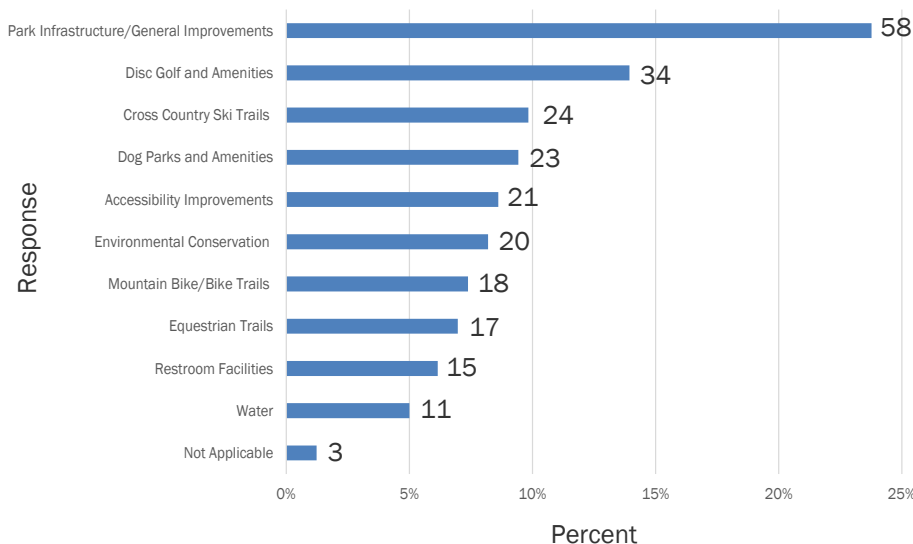


Q6 Consider the amenities provided at Dane County Parks and share your opinion on whether you believe the current features are adequate or if additional ones are required.

Answered: 1,393 Skipped: 565



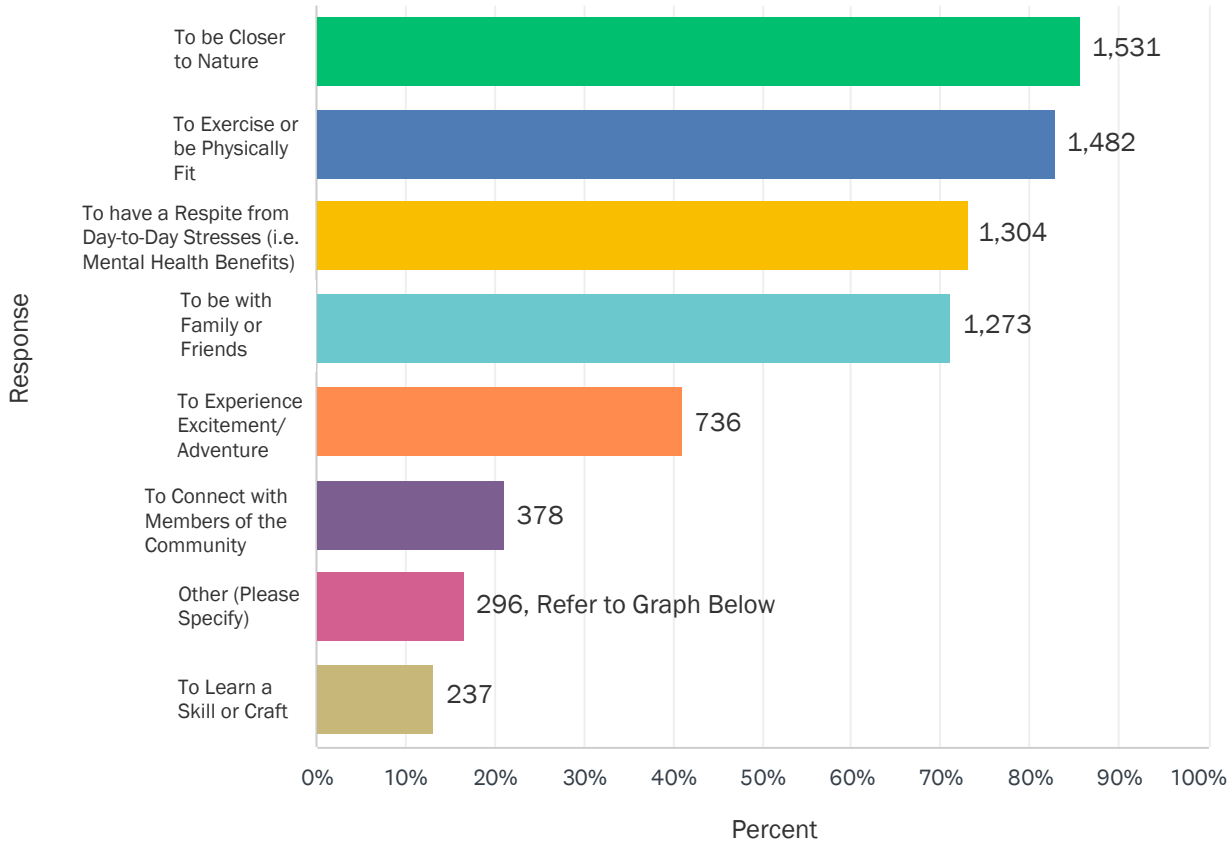
Summary of Write-in Responses



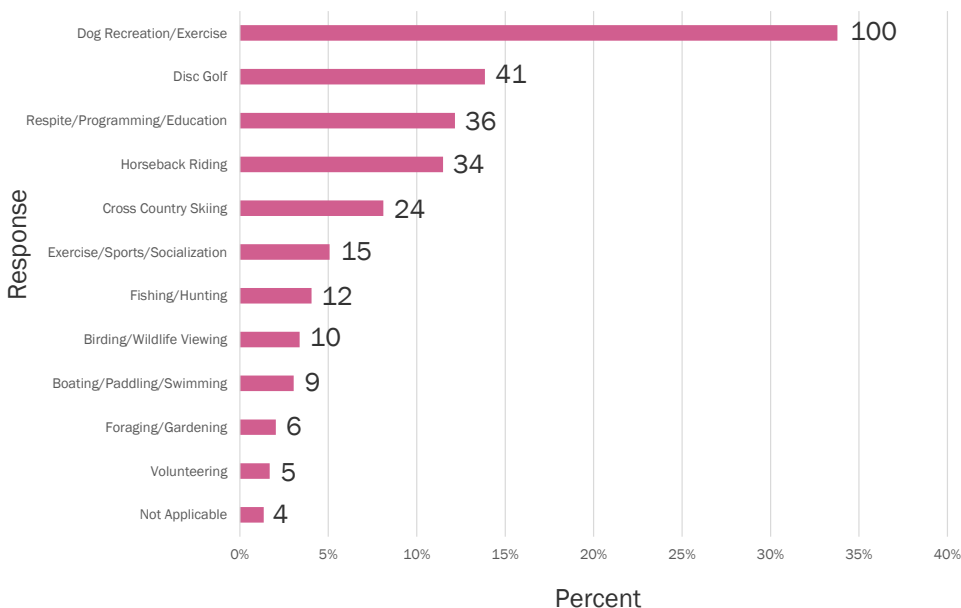
244 write-in comments were received for more amenities or additional improvements to be made to the Dane County Parks system. From the information received, the category was broken down into eleven different themes and displayed on the graph to the left.

Q7 Which of the following are reasons why you visit a local park and/or recreation facilities areas? (select all that apply)

Answered: 1,785 Skipped: 173



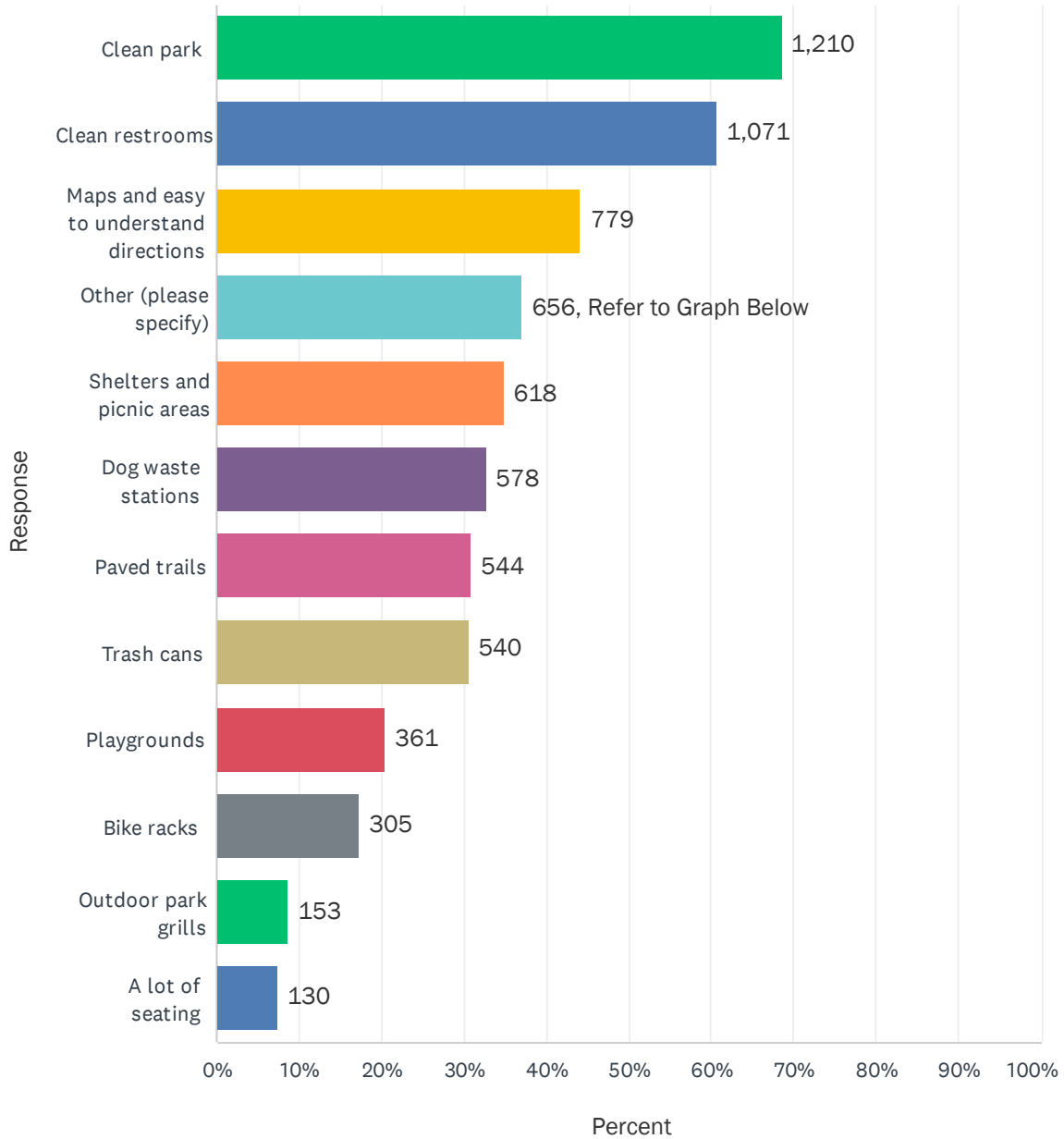
Reasons why you visit parks? 'Other' Themes



296 'Other' responses were received with write-in responses. From the information received, the category was broken down into twelve different themes and displayed on the graph to the left.

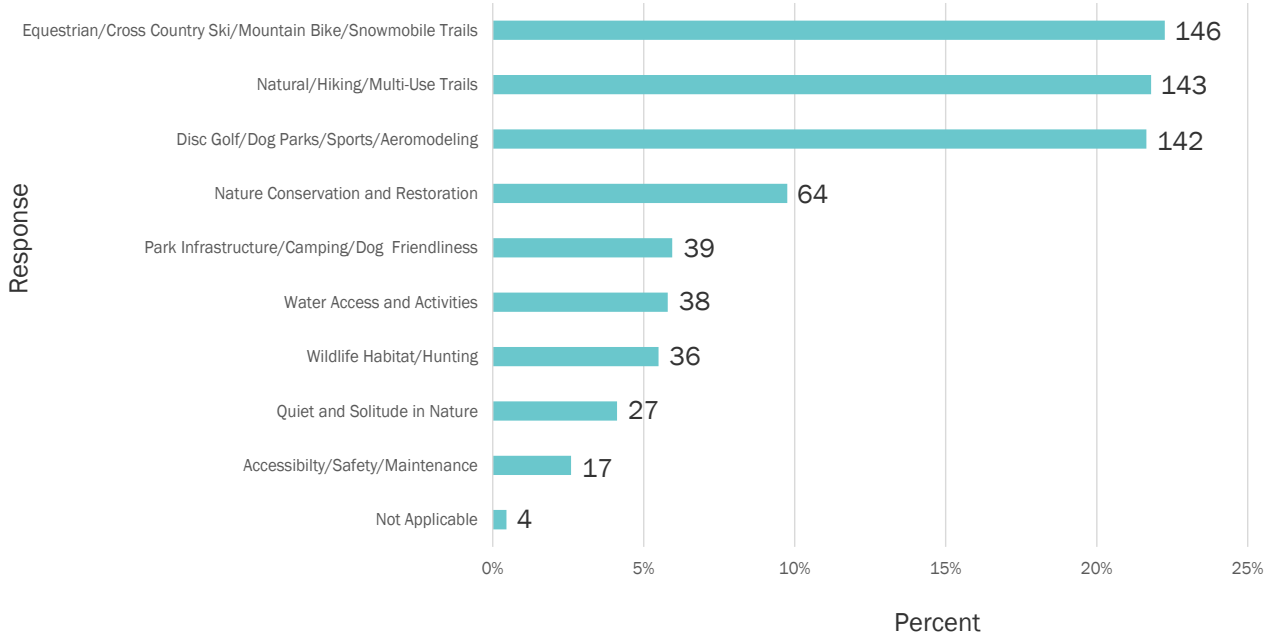
Q8 What are the facilities or features that attract you to a park? (select all that apply)

Answered: 1,764 Skipped: 194



Q8 What are the facilities or features that attract you to a park? (continued)

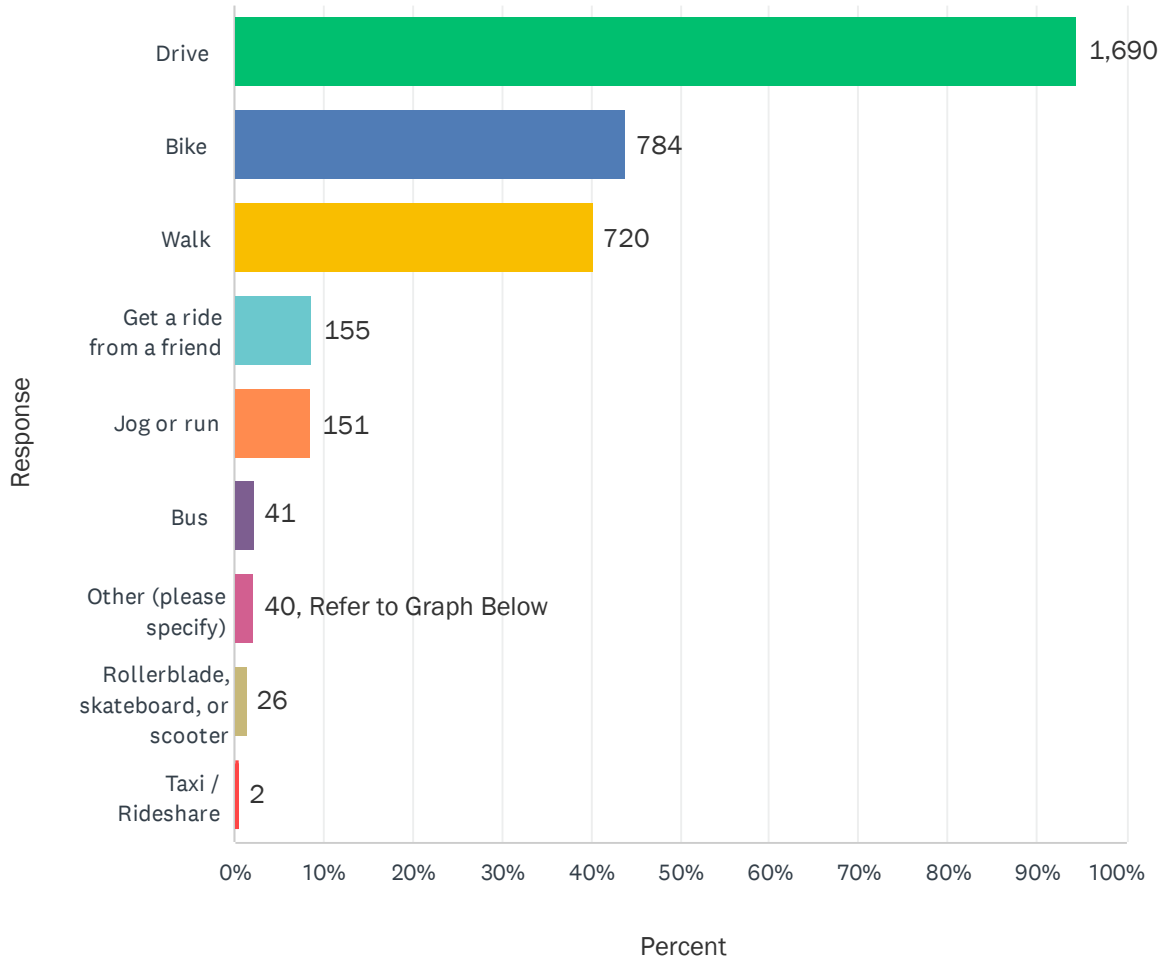
What attracts you to a park? 'Other' Themes



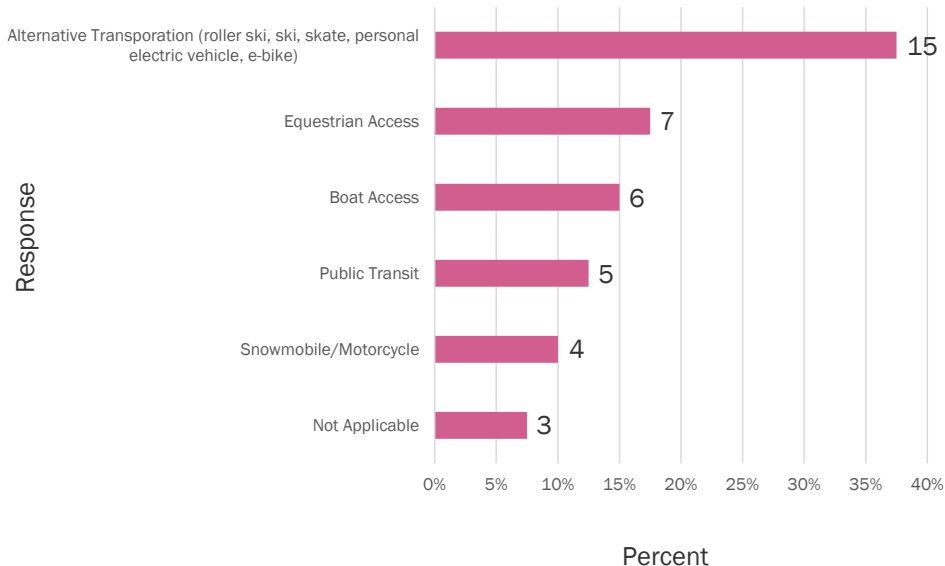
656 'Other' responses were received with write-in responses. From the information received, the category was broken down into ten different themes and are displayed in the graph above.

Q9 How do you typically travel from your home to parks, playgrounds, open spaces or recreation centers? (select all that apply)

Answered: 1,788 Skipped: 170



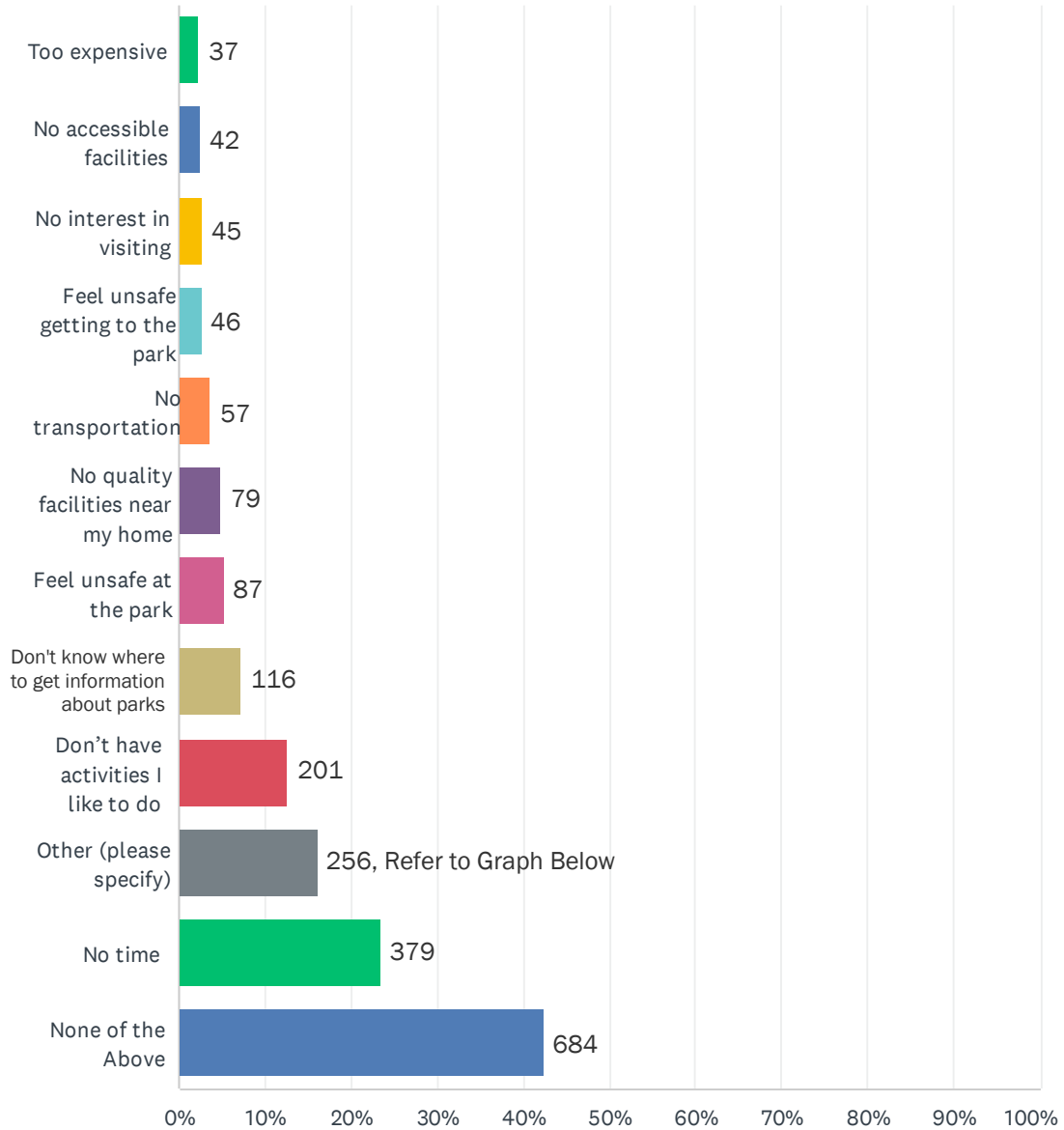
How do you typically travel? 'Other' Themes



40 'Other' responses were received with write-in responses. From the information received, the category was broken down into six different themes and displayed on the graph to the left.

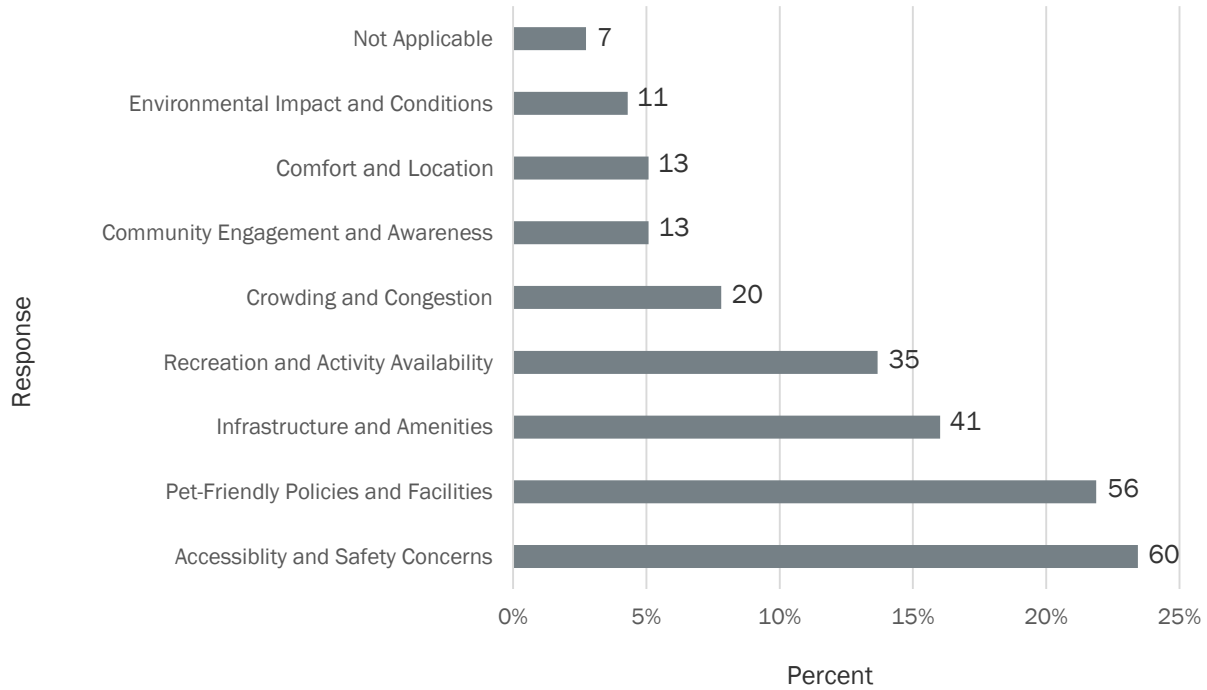
Q10 Are there any barriers that prevent you from visiting parks or from exploring new parks? (Select any that apply)

Answered: 1,611 Skipped: 347



Q10 Are there any barriers that prevent you from visiting parks or from exploring new parks? (continued)

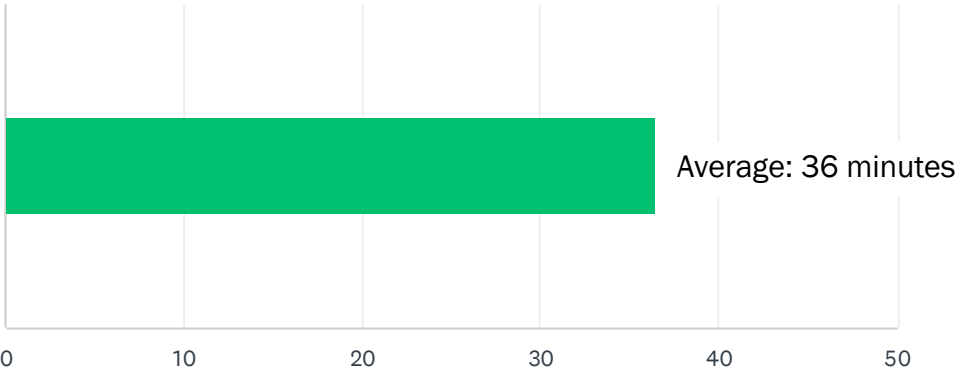
Are there any barriers? 'Other' Themes



256 'Other' responses were received with write-in responses. From the information received, the category was broken down into nine different themes and are displayed in the graph above.

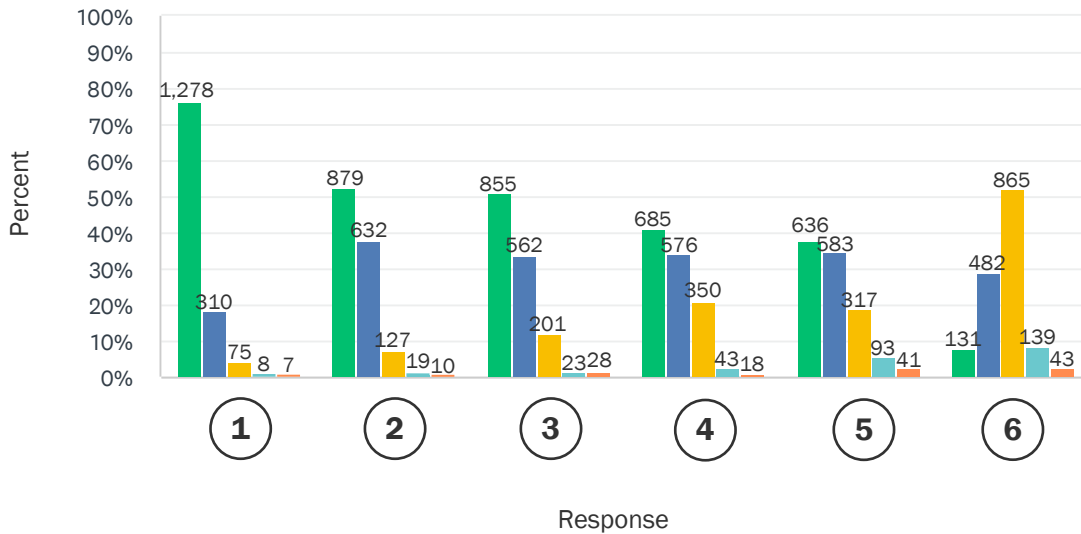
Q11 How much time are you willing to spend driving to a park?

Answered: 1,680 Skipped: 278



Q12 The primary goals of our last Parks and Open Space Plan (2018-2023) are listed below. Please rank how important you think each of these goals should be for the parks program.

Answered: 1,681 Skipped: 277

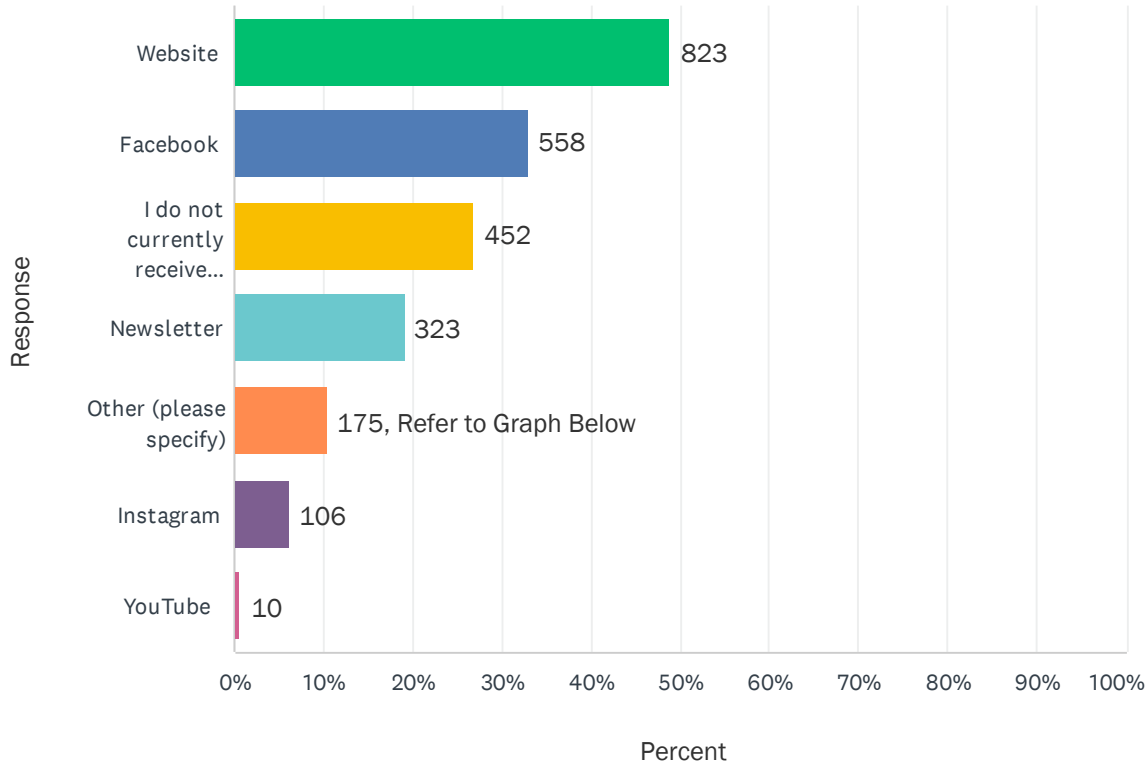


■ Extremely Important
 ■ Very Important
 ■ Somewhat Important
 ■ Not Important
 ■ Unsure/Don't Know

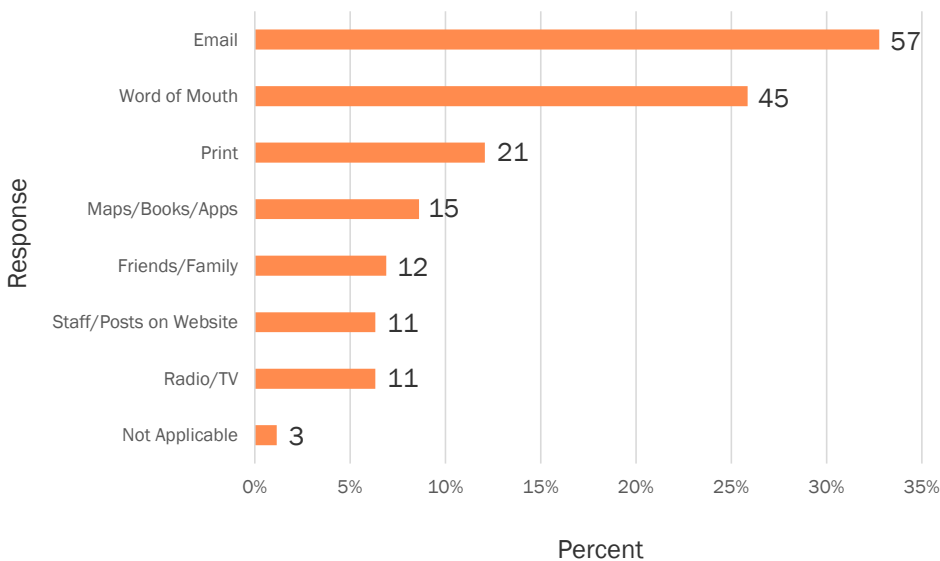
- 1
 Protect lakes, rivers, and streams, including shorelines, wetlands, high infiltration areas and associated vegetative buffers to maintain high water quality, manage water quality, and sustain water-related recreation throughout Dane County
- 2
 Provide sufficient park land and recreation facilities to meet the demand of Dane County residents without adversely affecting existing natural and cultural resources.
- 3
 Preserve large tracts of natural and agricultural rural landscapes at urban fringe areas that will provide regional resource protection and recreation benefits.
- 4
 Preserve for posterity the characteristics and diversity of the natural, cultural, and historical resources of Dane County.
- 5
 Provide an inclusive parks system for all Dane County residents, regardless of age, race, gender or gender identity, national origin, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, political affiliation, place of residence, veteran status, physical ability, cognitive capacity, or family, marital, or economic status.
- 6
 Provide volunteer opportunities and stewardship education to all county residents.

Q13 How do you receive information about Dane County Park updates, projects and events?

Answered: 1,688 Skipped: 270



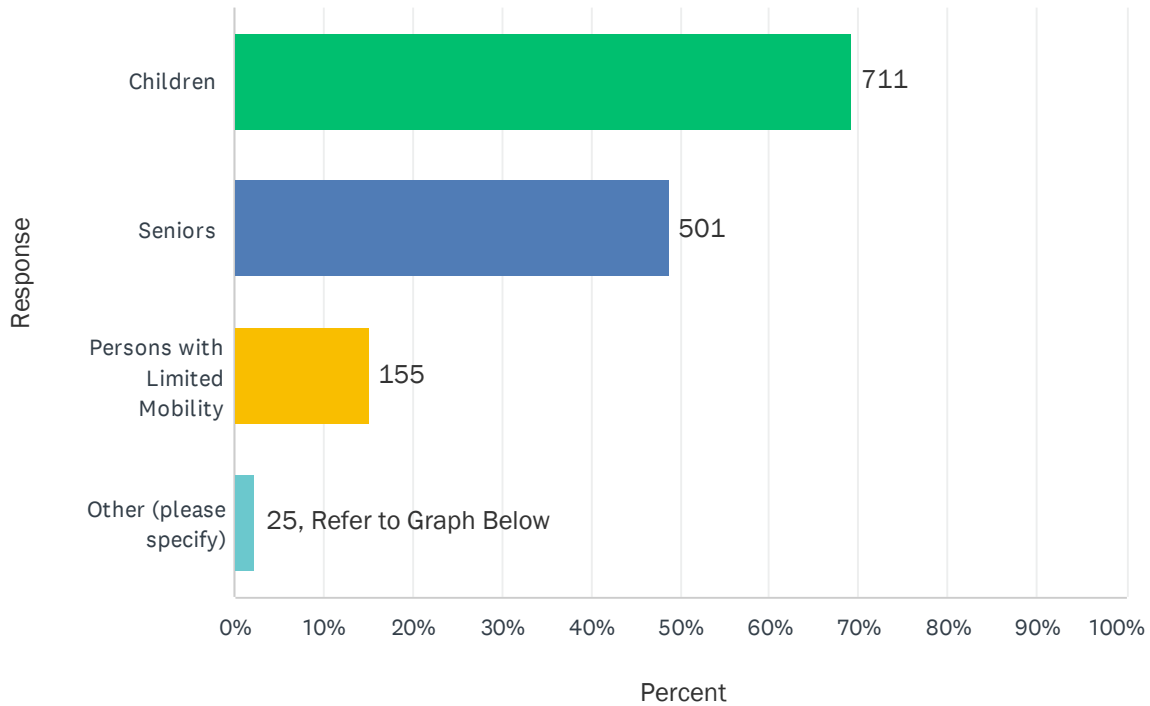
How do you receive information? 'Other' Themes



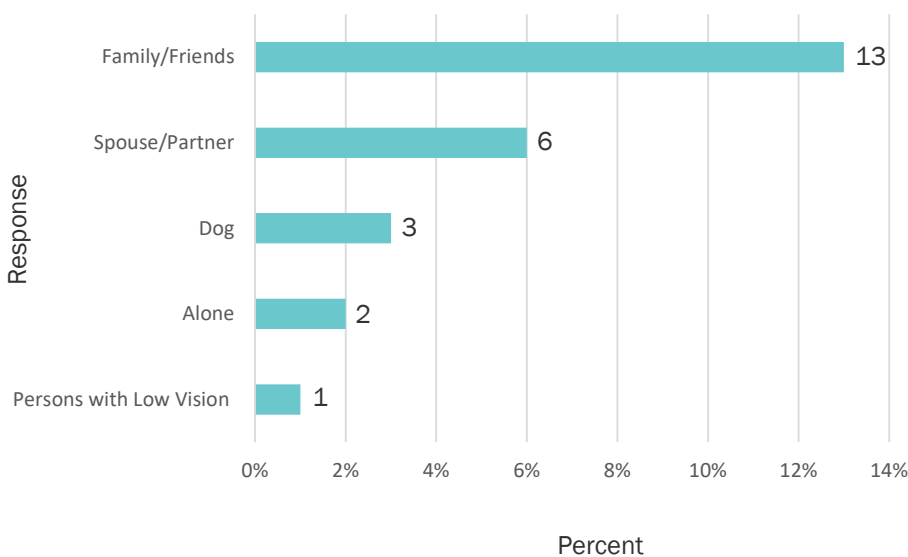
175 'Other' responses were received with write-in responses. From the information received, the category was broken down into eight different themes and displayed on the graph to the left.

Q14 Who, if anyone, goes with you when you visit a park? (select all that apply, if any)

Answered: 1,026 Skipped: 932



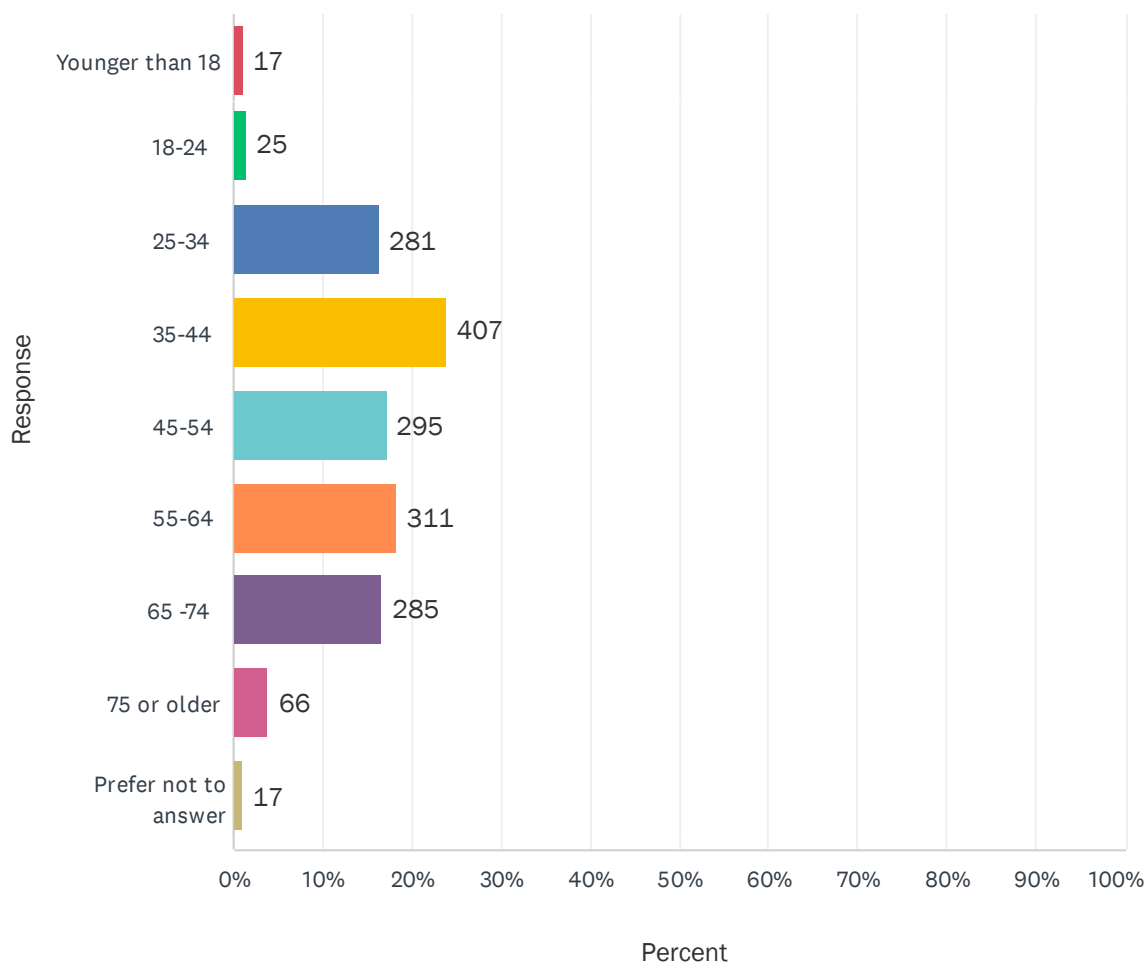
Who goes with you to parks? 'Other' Themes



25 'Other' responses were received with write-in responses. From the information received, the category was broken down into five different themes and displayed on the graph to the left.

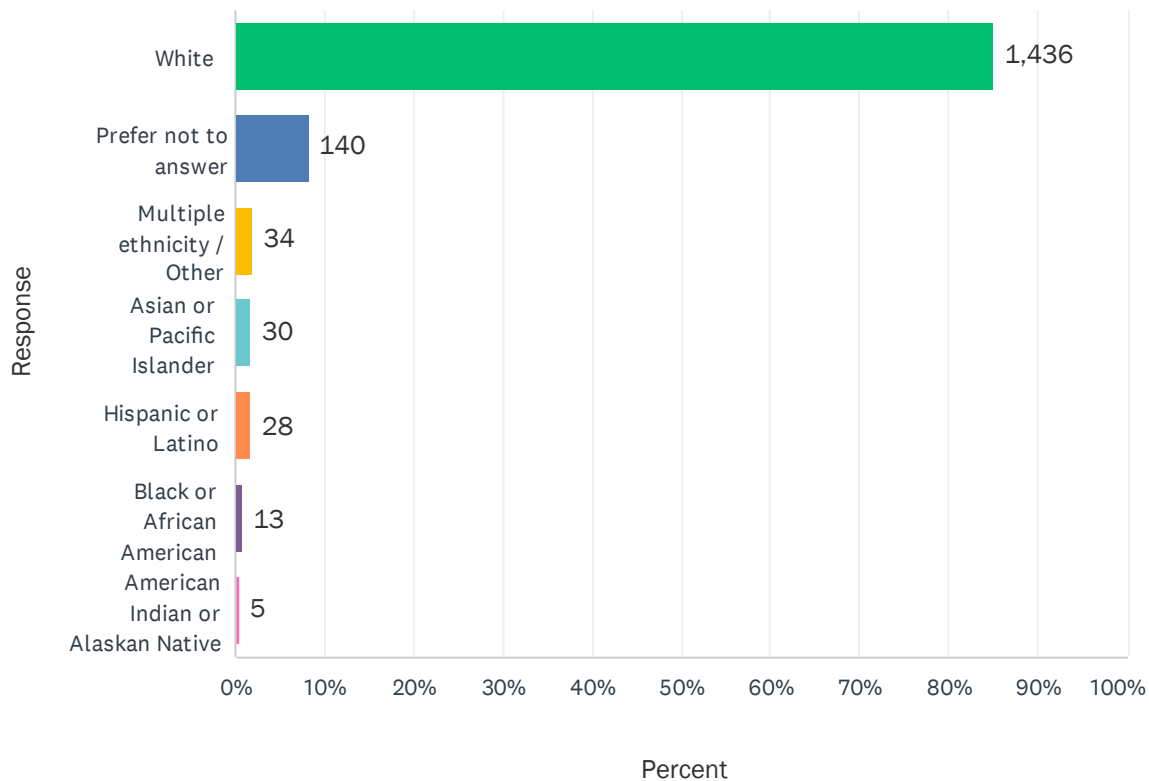
Q15 What is your age?

Answered: 1,704 Skipped: 254



Q16 Ethnicity

Answered: 1,686 Skipped: 272



Q17 In what ZIP code do you live?

Answered: 1,662 Skipped: 296

Below is a map of survey respondent zip code locations created by Dane County Parks.

