

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Mobility Survey



PARTNERSHIP
FOR MIAMI

In Feb. 2025, Partnership for Miami surveyed 603 active Miami-Dade voters for their views on traffic and transit. Respondents displayed a balanced range of demographics, including age, ethnicity, income, education, geography, gender, language preference and party affiliation.

The margin of error is +/- 4%. Data provided here is a sampling of a larger dataset.
Media and academic inquiries can be directed to news@partnershipformiami.com.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Why do people drive instead of ride?

Miami-Dade is heavily car dependent (86% drive their own car). Among those who either use transit infrequently or do not use it at all, "have my own car" (48%) was the top open-ended response as to why they rarely or never use public transit in Miami-Dade County - followed by "lack of connectivity" (16%), "no route to where I want to go" and "wait times/faster to drive" (8%).

Nearly three in four (73%) have used public train or bus service in Miami-Dade County before, however, much of that usage is infrequent. Almost half (49%) say they use it infrequently or rarely, 13% use it sometimes/a few times a month and only 10% use it frequently/everyday or almost every day.

There is a divergence between Miami-Dade County's transit "brand" and actual experiences of transit users. Broadly speaking, six in ten rate the County's transit service negatively, due to perceptions of connectivity, frequency, availability and reliability.

But 63% of public transit users rate their last experience on public transit positively on metrics like cost (68%), safety (63%), cleanliness (63%), hours of service (58%), reliability (57%) and modernization (54%). On the downside, wait times and connectivity of routes were rated negatively, 53% and 52%, respectively.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

How do residents feel about transit as a solution for traffic congestion?

Eight in ten agree that "increasing public transit options like trains and buses would reduce traffic in my community."

If public transit options were increased and improved, 49% would strongly consider using them more instead of driving places in a car. 41% see the benefits of increased and improved public transit, but still prefer to drive or use ridesharing services. Of the 27% who have never used transit before, 56% would consider using public transit if it were improved.

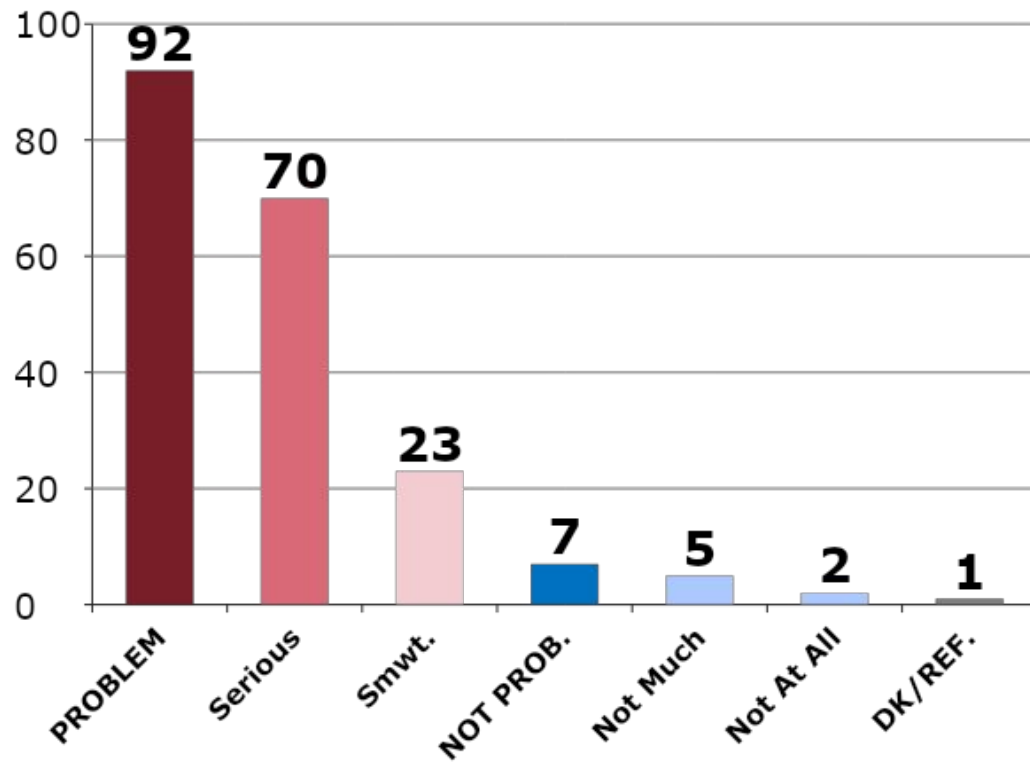
We also found a broad lack of knowledge about improvements to the system, such as the Better Bus Network (only 20% were aware) and less than half (42%) had heard about the half-penny sales tax passed in 2002 that funds much of the system. Among the minority who had heard of it, only 33% say the funds have been used properly for transit improvements compared to 46% who say they have been used improperly.

How do residents feel about paying for more transit?

Traffic congestion is a top issue that most agree would be reduced with expansion of transit options. However, with overall concerns about affordability ranking very high among voters and generally negative perceptions of the system largely from non users, most (75%) believe the County has enough money to make improvements without increasing taxes. The results suggest an opportunity for the County to educate residents, focus on pain points that discourage ridership and build toward broader support of the system as a traffic reduction solution.

WE ASKED MIAMI-DADE RESIDENTS

In your day-to-day life, would you say traffic is...?



When asked “**What word best describes how you are feeling when driving or commuting in your neighborhood**” – 62% feel **stressed or angry** when commuting.

Compared to other cities or highly populated areas, **67% say the traffic in Miami-Dade County is worse**, including **47% who say "much worse."**

WE ASKED MIAMI-DADE RESIDENTS

From the following list of roads in Miami-Dade County, which would you say has the most traffic?

	Total	Area					Age			Transit Usage		
		North	Coastal	NW	West	South	Under 45	46-65	Over 65	Freq./Smt.	Infreq.	Never
I-95	31%	55%	43%	19%	17%	19%	28%	30%	37%	36%	31%	29%
Palmetto Expressway/826	27%	26%	13%	47%	28%	24%	30%	31%	20%	24%	29%	26%
US-1/S Dixie Hwy	15%	6%	26%	7%	15%	18%	16%	12%	17%	19%	14%	12%
Dolphin Expressway/836	10%	2%	6%	14%	17%	12%	13%	10%	7%	10%	12%	6%
Florida Turnpike	5%	1%	2%	2%	7%	15%	6%	6%	3%	3%	4%	8%

WE ASKED MIAMI-DADE RESIDENTS

Which do you believe is the best way to reduce traffic in Miami-Dade County?

	Total	Area					Age			Transit Usage		
		North	Coastal	NW	West	South	Under 45	46-65	Over 65	Freq./Smt.	Infreq.	Never
Increasing Transit Options like Train or Bus	39%	38%	43%	35%	45%	35%	42%	39%	37%	46%	42%	28%
Improving and Expanding Existing Roads and Highways	31%	32%	24%	34%	28%	37%	37%	31%	22%	27%	29%	37%
Increasing Connections to Existing Train/Bus	19%	24%	18%	22%	15%	16%	15%	21%	22%	19%	22%	15%
Improving Bike Lanes, Sidewalks and Trails	3%	2%	4%	1%	3%	4%	4%	1%	5%	4%	3%	3%
DK/REFUSED	8%	3%	11%	8%	9%	8%	3%	7%	14%	4%	5%	17%

WE ASKED MIAMI-DADE RESIDENTS

And from the same list, which do you believe is the most realistic for Miami-Dade County to deliver on?

	Total	Area					Age			Transit Usage		
		North	Coastal	NW	West	South	Under 45	46-65	Over 65	Freq./Smt.	Infreq.	Never
Increasing Transit Options like Train or Bus	35%	26%	36%	42%	39%	32%	31%	38%	36%	43%	36%	26%
Improving and Expanding Existing Roads and Highways	33%	32%	32%	32%	33%	37%	39%	32%	26%	27%	31%	43%
Increasing Connections to Existing Train/Bus	22%	32%	22%	19%	16%	18%	21%	20%	24%	23%	25%	15%
Improving Bike Lanes, Sidewalks and Trails	4%	9%	3%	2%	3%	2%	6%	2%	4%	2%	5%	3%
DK/REFUSED	7%	2%	6%	6%	10%	11%	2%	8%	10%	6%	4%	13%

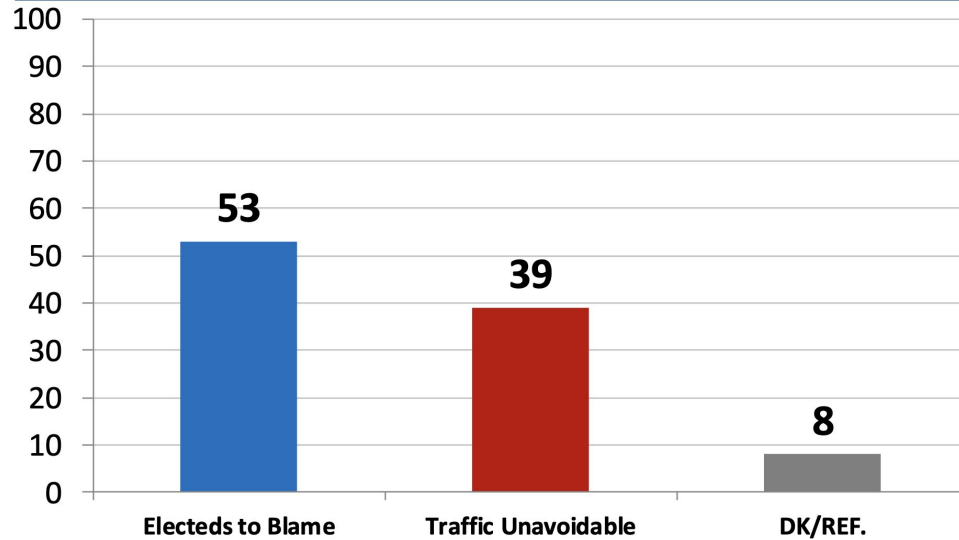
70% of residents believe that Miami-Dade's elected officials are the ones who can best fix traffic woes.

Which of the following comes closer to your opinion on traffic problems in your community?

Our elected officials are mostly to blame for failing to address this problem

OR

Traffic is mostly unavoidable in highly populated areas like Miami-Dade County and we just have to deal with it

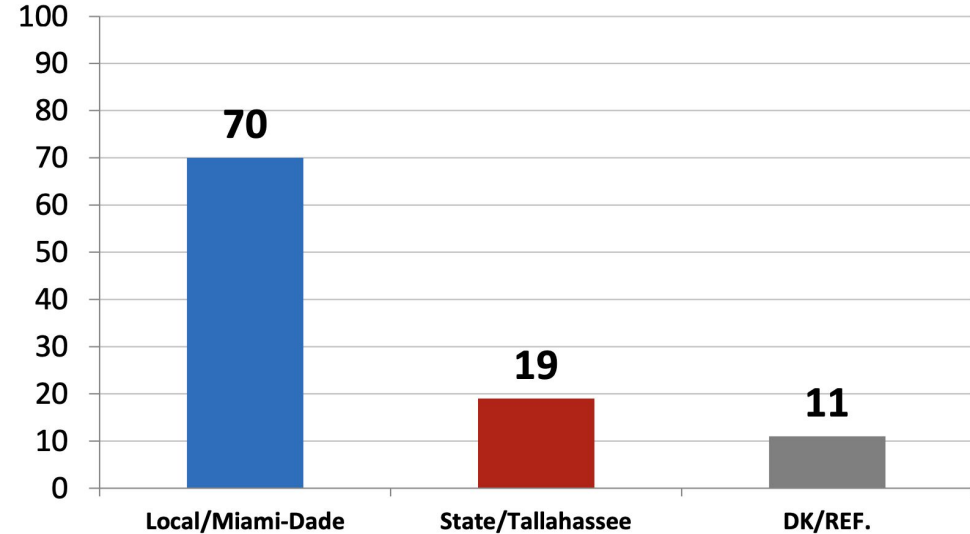


Generally speaking, who do you believe is better able to fix traffic problems in your community?

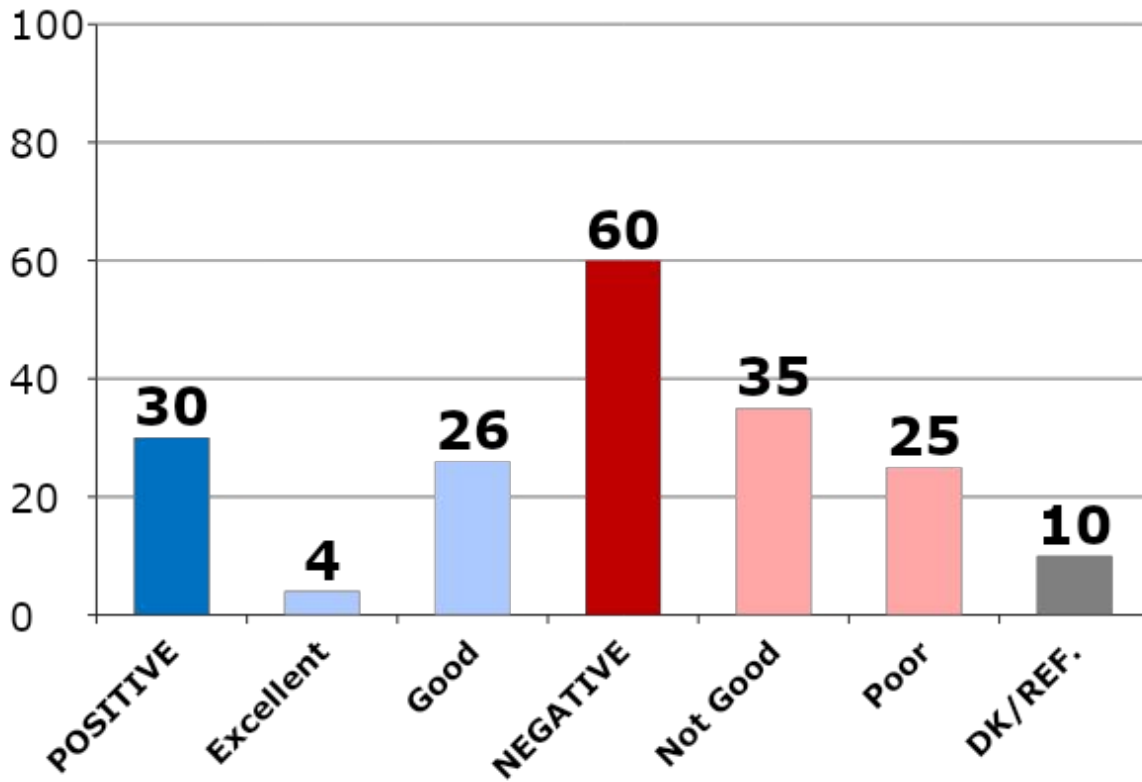
Your local government elected officials in Miami-Dade County

OR

Your state government elected officials in Tallahassee



Based on what you know, how would you rate Miami-Dade County's transit service?

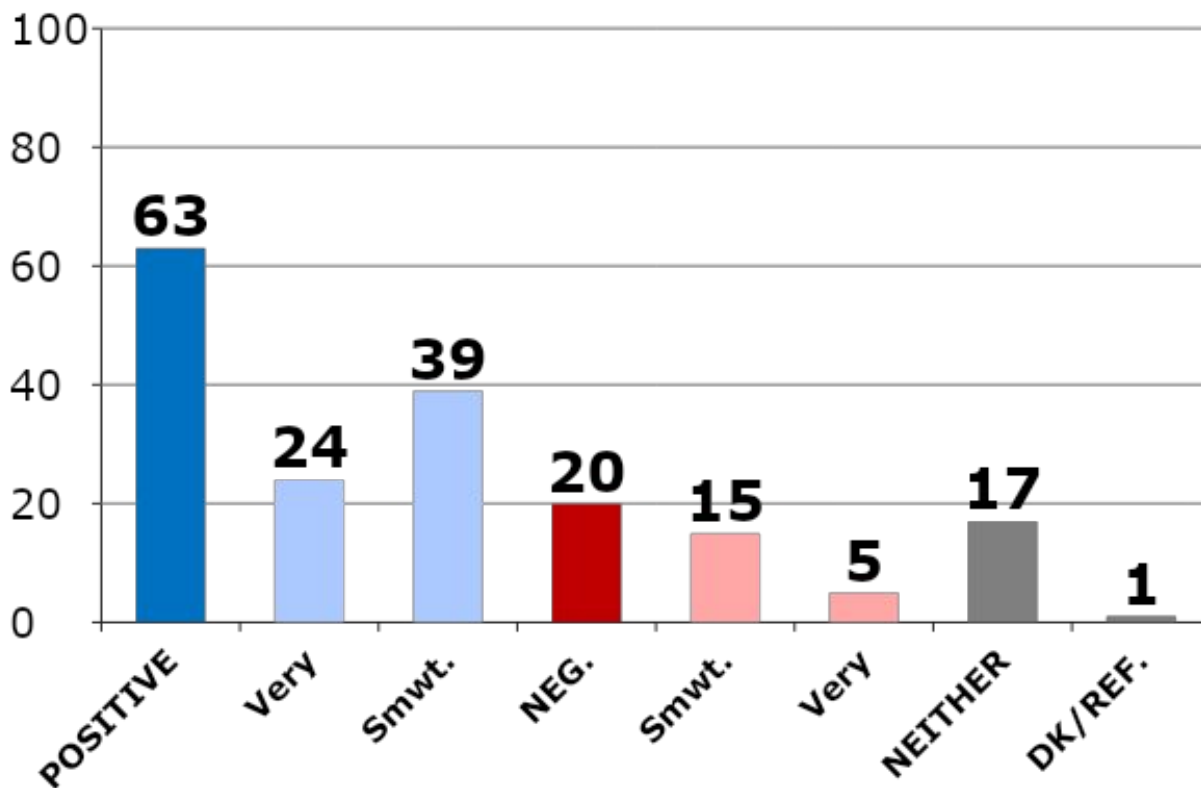


What is the biggest reason?

Coded Responses	Total
Long Wait Times/Infrequent Passes	21%
Not Enough Connections/Coverage/Access	20%
Lack of Transportation Options/Very Limited	14%
Doesn't Arrive on Time/Unreliable	11%
Traffic Congestion Affects Transit Service	11%
Not Enough Busses or Trains	9%
Not Enough Routes	8%
Poor Urban Planning/Lack of Plan from Electeds	4%
Not Enough Stops	4%
Limitations of Metrorail	4%
Poor Customer Service	3%
Hours of Operations Not Convenient	3%
Cleanliness Concerns/Unsanitary	3%
Costs Associated Are High	2%
Safety Concerns/Dangerous	2%

How would you rate your last experience on a public train or bus in Miami-Dade County?

(Among Public Transit Users)



How would you rate your experience on the following metrics?

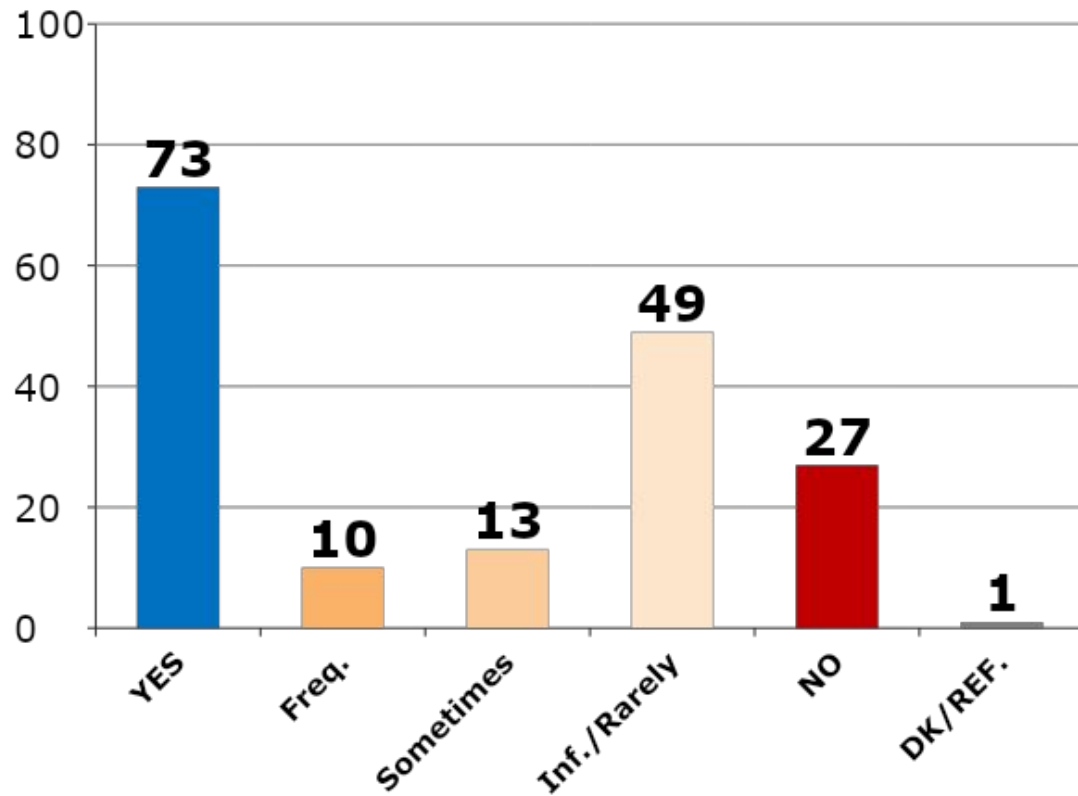
Positive

- Cost (68%)
- Safety (63%)
- Cleanliness (63%)
- Hours of service (58%)
- Reliability (57%)
- Modernization (54%)

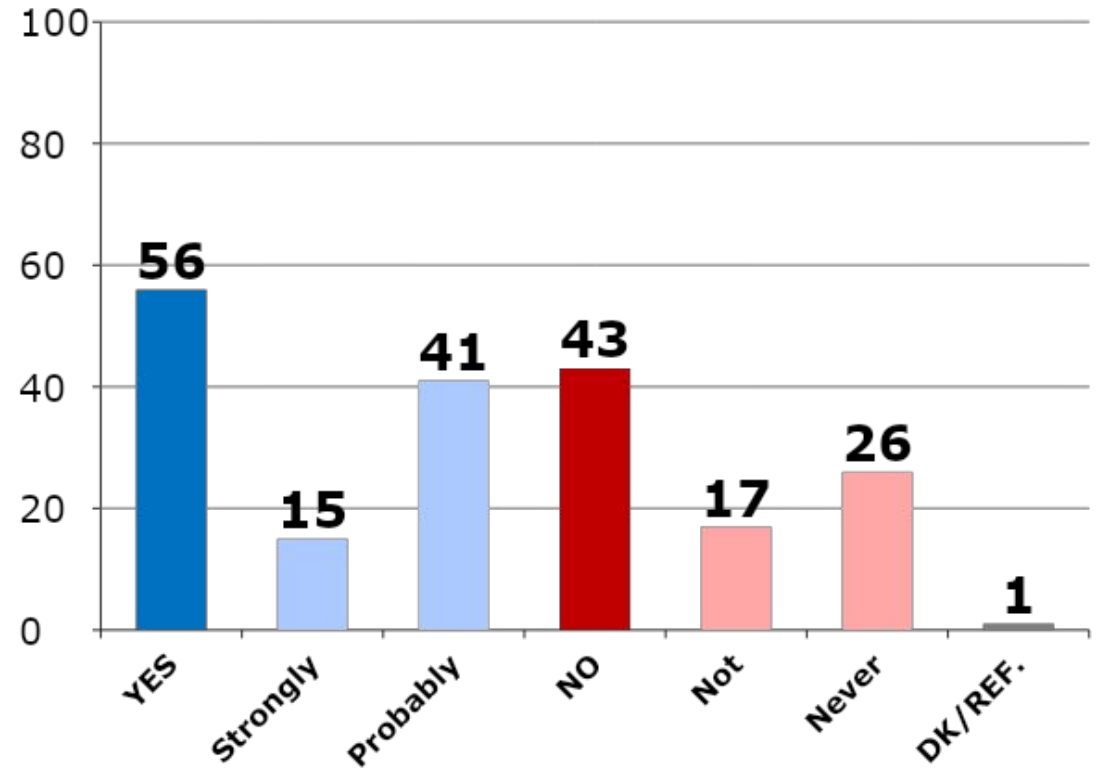
Negative

- Wait times (53%)
- Connectivity of routes (52%)

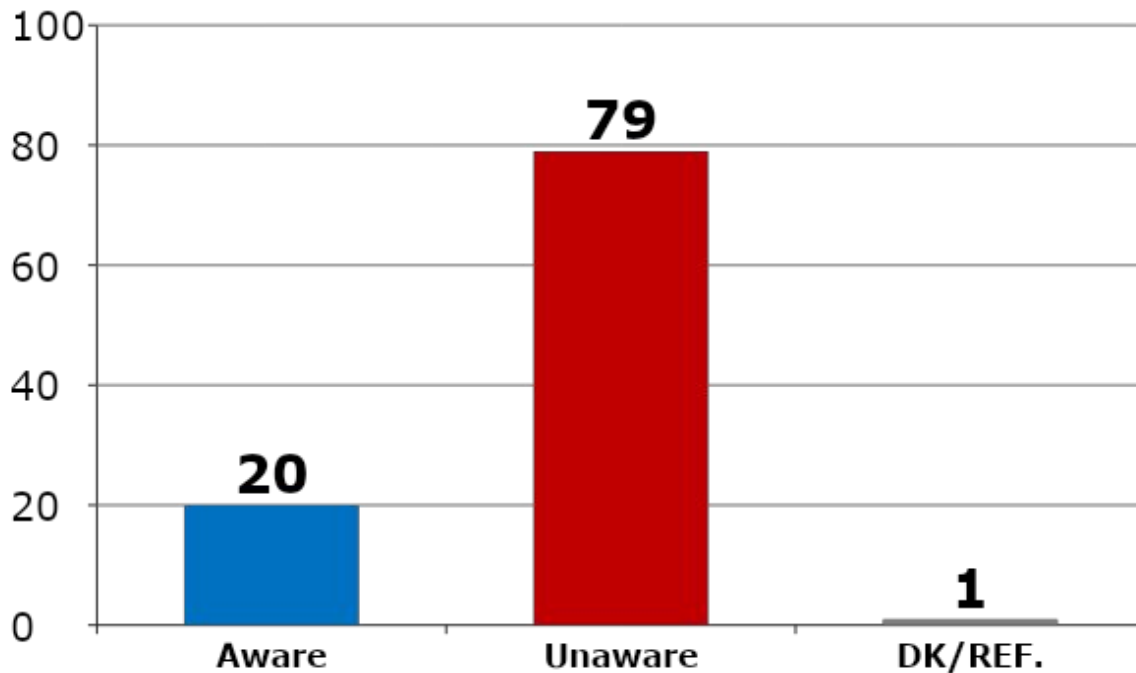
Have you ever used public train or bus service in Miami-Dade County?



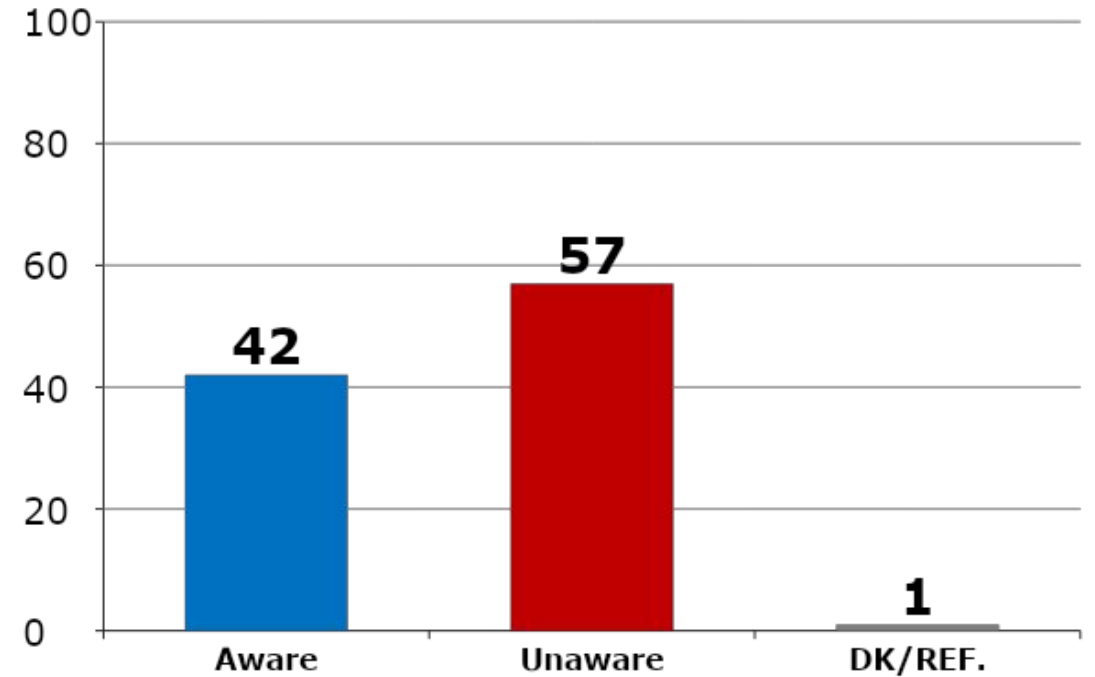
Would you ever consider using public transit in Miami-Dade County? *(Among Non-Transit Users)*



As you may know, Miami-Dade County has made improvements recently to the train and bus systems. One improvement is called the Better Bus Network. Are you aware or unaware of the Better Bus Network?

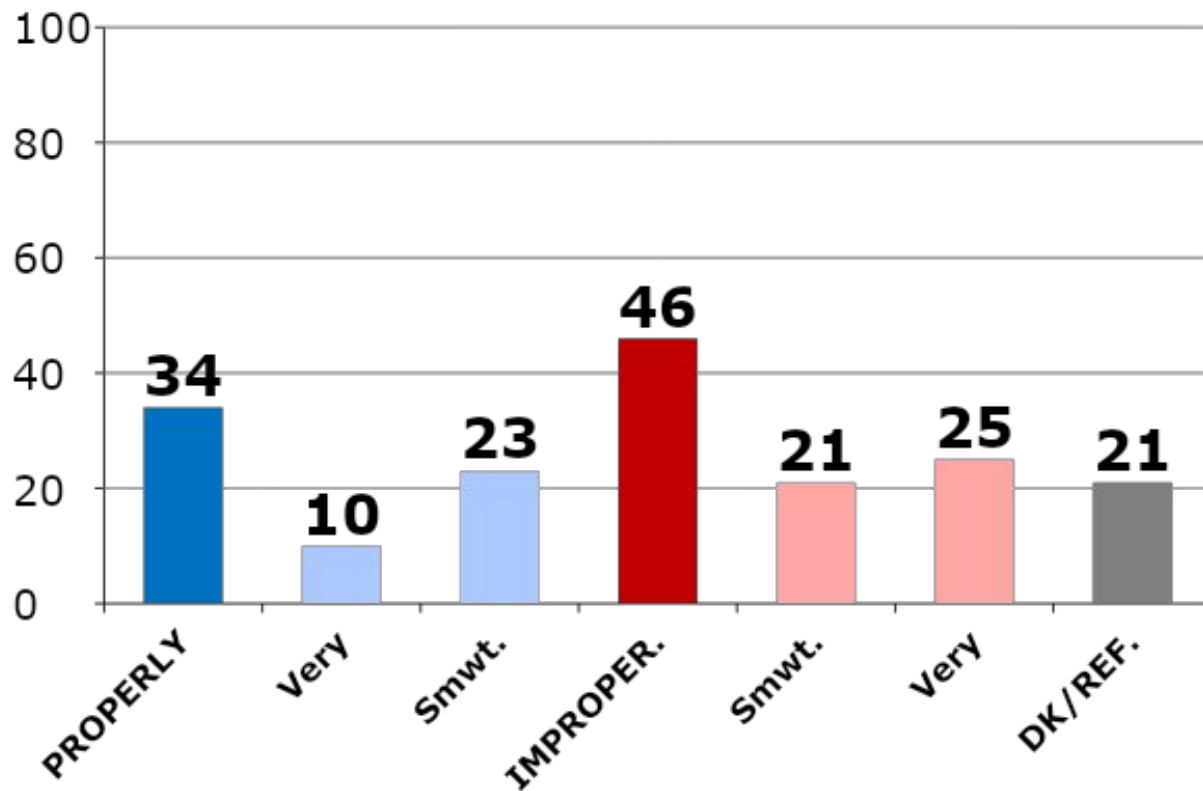


Are you aware or unaware of the half-penny sales tax passed in 2002 that funds the public transit system in Miami-Dade County?



Do you think the funds have been used properly or improperly for transit improvements?

(Among Those Aware of Half Penny)



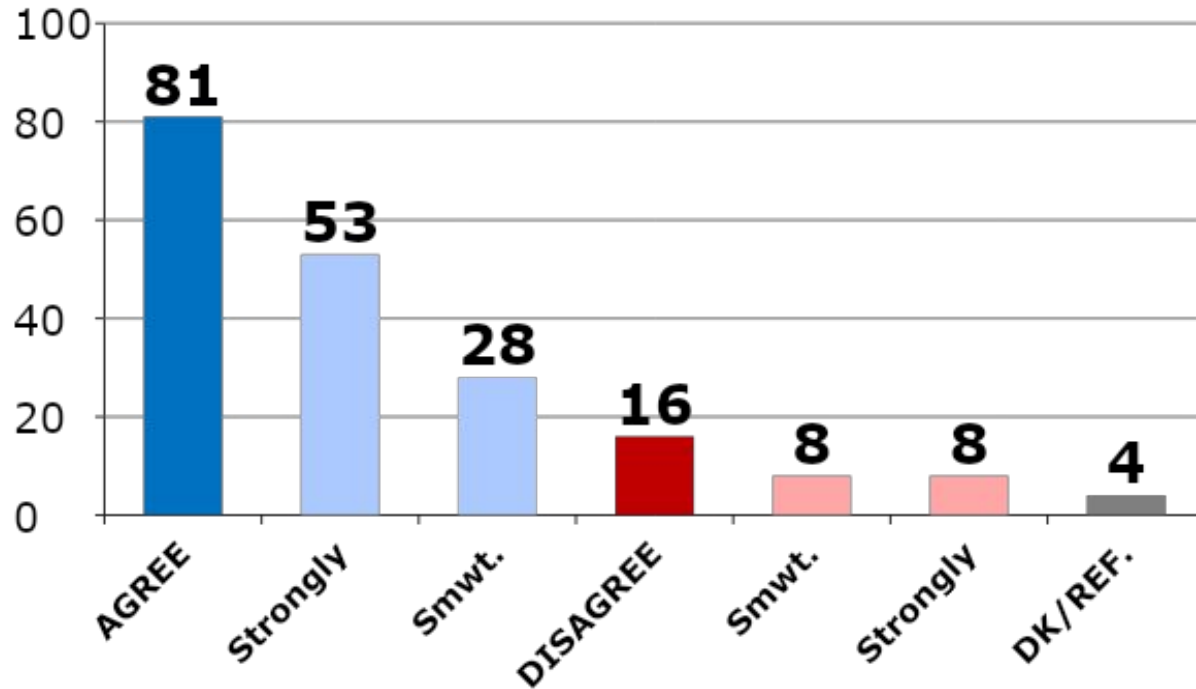
Negative opinions about the use of the tax among those who had heard of it were highest among:

- +20-year residents (50%)
- Non-Cuban Hispanics (56%)
- English-speaking Hispanics (55%)
- Anglo men (53%)
- Voters under 45 (51%)

Positive opinions about the use of the tax among those who had heard of it were highest among:

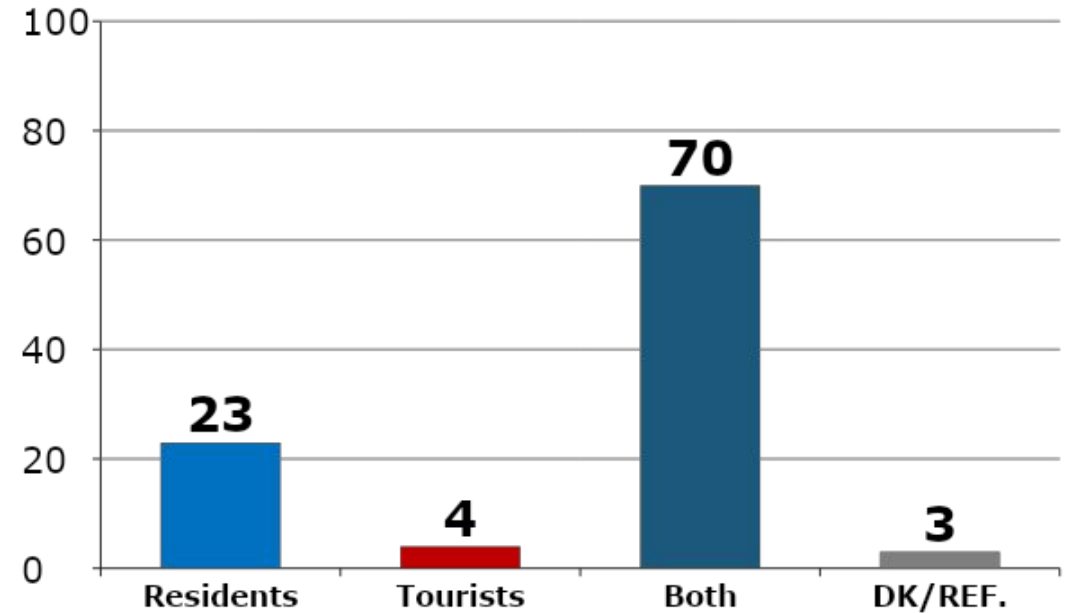
- <10-year residents (52%)
- Black voters (61%)
- Voters 46-55 years old (47%)
- People earning under \$50,000 (40%)

Increasing public transit options like trains and buses would reduce traffic in my community.



Who do you believe would benefit more if public transit options like trains and buses were increased and improved in Miami-Dade County?

Residents who are commuting on a daily basis
Tourists who are visiting for a short time



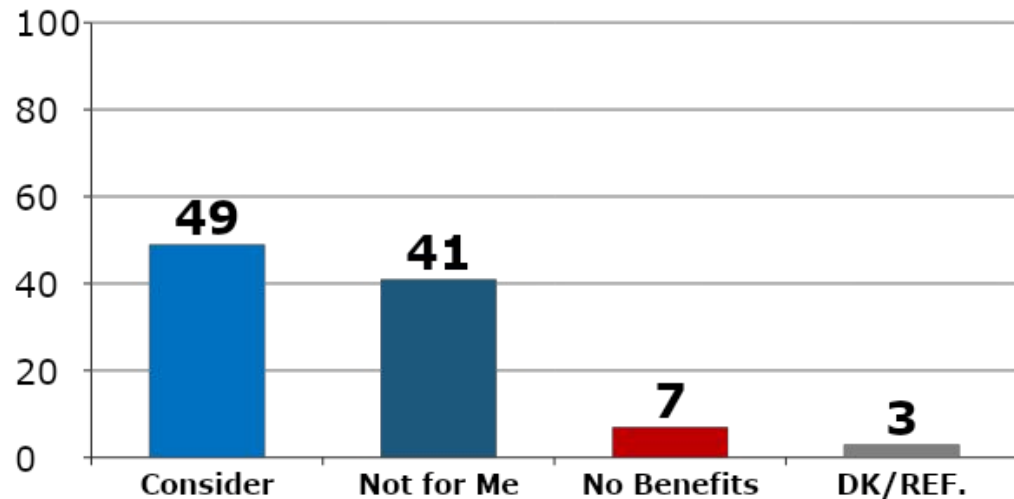
If public transit options were increased and improved, I would strongly consider using them more instead of driving.

OR

Even though I see the benefits of increased and improved public transit options, it is not for me. I prefer to drive or rideshare.

OR

I do not believe there are any significant benefits to increasing and improving public transit options.



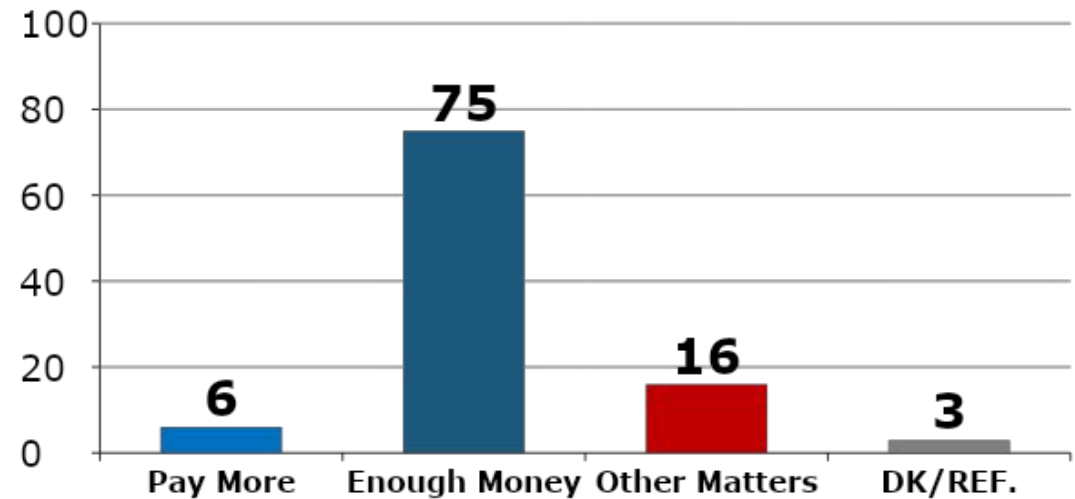
Traffic is a serious problem and I would be willing to pay more in property taxes to increase transit options and reduce traffic.

OR

While traffic is a serious problem, I believe Miami-Dade County government has enough money to increase public transit options and reduce traffic without having to raise taxes.

OR

Traffic is not one of my top concerns and I prefer my elected officials focus on other matters.



Affordability is the top issue for all voters.

What is the ONE thing your elected officials in Miami-Dade County should focus on to help you and your family?

- Affordability - related to housing costs, property taxes and inflation broadly - is the predominant concern among voters. About 61% named an issue related to affordability.
- Traffic and transit are secondary, but significant concerns. About 26% named an issue related to traffic, transit or roads.
- Prioritization of issues was similar in both open-ended and closed-ended questions.

Coded Responses	Total
Affordable Housing/Housing Costs/Rent	23%
Traffic	11%
Cost of Living/Inflation	10%
High Taxes/High Property Taxes	9%
Lack Of/Improve Public Transportation	8%
Improve Public Safety/Reduce Crime	8%
Economy	7%
High Home/Auto Insurance Costs	6%
Education/Schools	5%
Roads/Infrastructure	5%
Immigration	3%
Affordable Healthcare/Preventative Care	3%
Efficiency in Government	2%
Climate Change/Environment	2%
Construction/Overdevelopment	2%

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