Making Life Even Better

Cha7élkwnech/Gambier Island

SURVEY RESULTS
Preliminary

Sound Planning

SCARP
School of Community
And Regional Planning

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Survey Context

Cha7élkwnech/Gambier Island is located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Sḵwx̱wú7mesh **Ú**xwumixw (Squamish Nation). Currently, the island is inhabited by approximately 150* residents living in multiple communities, the southwest being the most populated region, and reaching up to approximately 600* during the summer.

The Gambier Island Community Association with the help of UBC Planning Studio developed and conducted an island-wide survey of residents and property owners about community-identified priorities for the island with the purpose of getting a strong understanding of what Gambier Islanders feel would make the island a more livable place as well as a more resilient community. The input received from the survey would inform the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure (REDIP) project which seeks the development of plans that address the most pressing priorities and advance livability for the communities.

The Survey was launched and conducted on an online format, with the option of receiving a printed copy if requested. It was carried out from August 4th to September 5th, 2023. The survey recorded 421 valid online responses and 3 physical (paper) responses for a total of 424.

The island has been divided into 4 regions for the purpose of analyzing the priorities of both island-wide and community/region-specific: Southwest, Bays, East and North. The distribution of responses is shown in Figure 1. The report is divided as follows:

- ❖ Demography
- ❖ Economic activity
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ Issues

*May vary from year to year

Introduction

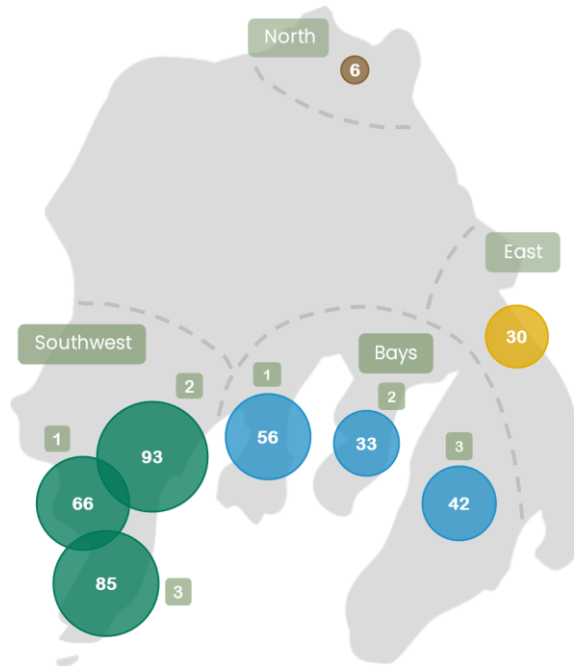## Communities per region

Figure 1. Geographic distribution of survey respondents

Southwest 1
- New Brighton
- Cotton Bay
- Austin Trails

Southwest 2
- West Bay

Southwest 3
- Gambier Harbour
- Burgess Cove
- Avalon Bay

Bays 1
- West Bay Landing
- Center Bay
- Carmelo Point

Bays 2
- Daisy Bay
- Mackenzie Cove
- Sea Ranch
- Long Bay
- Mitchell Cove
- Port Graves
- Poets Point
- East Bay

Bays 3
- Fircom Plateau
- Hope Point
- Halkett Bay
- Gambier Estates
- The Orchard
- Sunset Estates
- Richardson's Cove
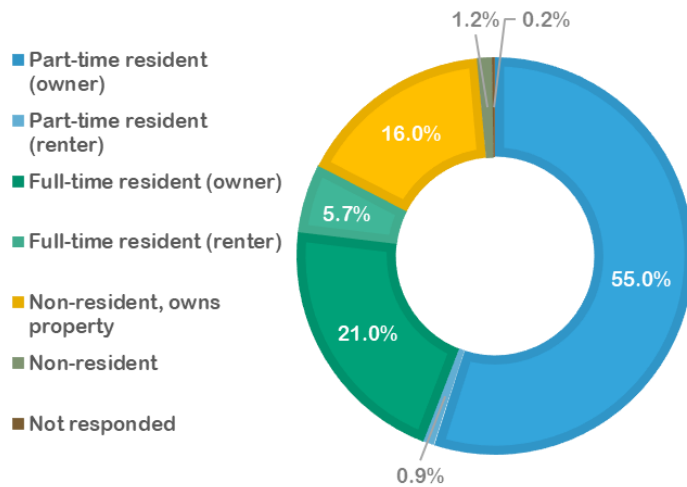- Camp Fircom

East
- Brigade Bay

North
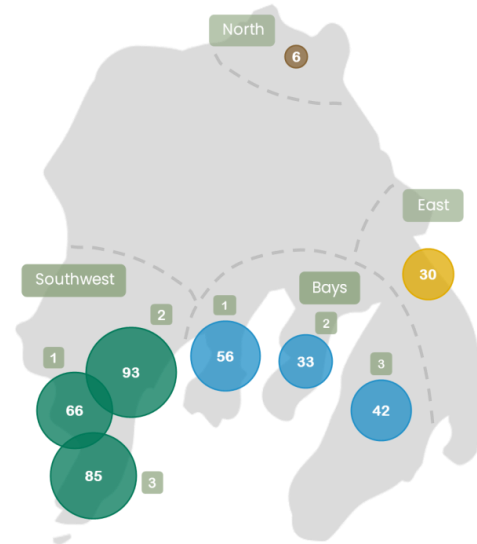- Douglas Bay
- Ekins Point
- Camp Latona

Demography

Residency & Home Ownership

*Response rate: **99.76%***

- Part-time resident (owner)
- Part-time resident (renter)
- Full-time resident (owner)
- Full-time resident (renter)
- Non-resident, owns property
- Non-resident
- Not responded

1.2% — 0.2%
16.0%
5.7%
21.0%
55.0%
0.9%

Where do they live?

*Response rate: **98.56%***

North — 6
East — 30
Southwest — 2
1
93
66
85
3
1
56
Bays — 2
33
3
42
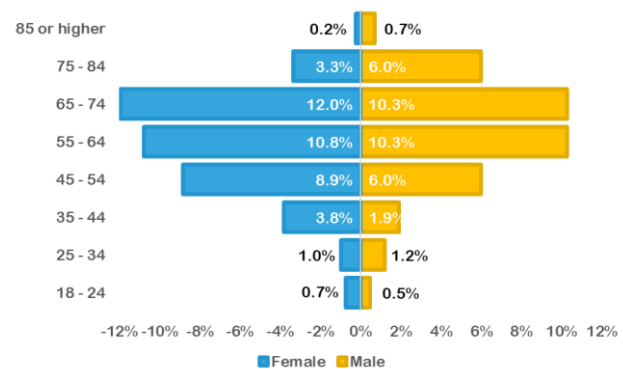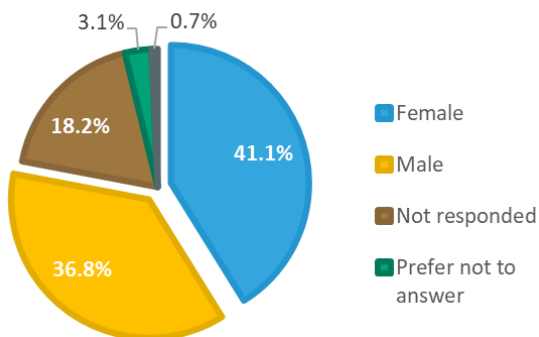
★ **Major concentration** of population is in the **southwestern** peninsula.
★ **More than half** of respondents are **floating population**.
★ **92%** of respondents **own property** on Gambier.

Gender and Age distribution

*Response rate: **80.66%** and **81.13%** respectively*

3.1% — 0.7%
18.2%
41.1%
36.8%

- Female
- Male
- Not responded
- Prefer not to answer

Age	Female	Male
85 or higher	0.2%	0.7%
75 - 84	3.3%	6.0%
65 - 74	12.0%	10.3%
55 - 64	10.8%	10.3%
45 - 54	8.9%	6.0%
35 - 44	3.8%	1.9%
25 - 34	1.0%	1.2%
18 - 24	0.7%	0.5%

-12% -10% -8% -6% -4% -2% 0% 2% 4% 6% 8% 10% 12%
■Female ■Male

★ **58.1%** of respondents are aged between **45-74** with a **Median Age** of **60.7**
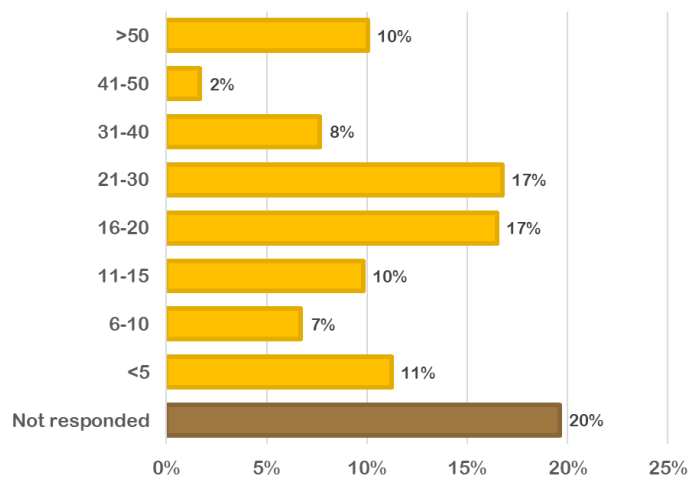
Demography

Household size

*Response rate: **95.6%***
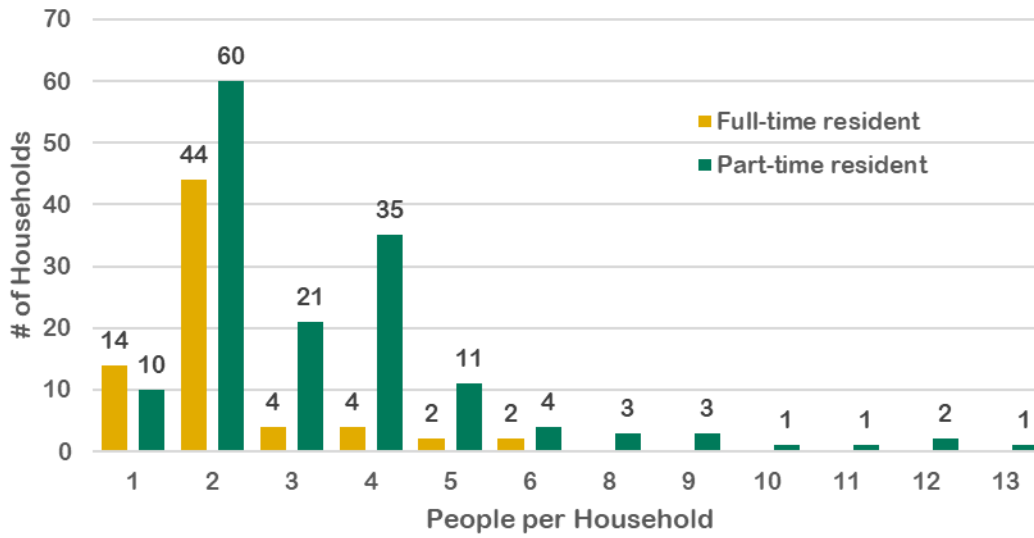
★ **46.9%** of households are **2-person households.**

Years living or owning on Gambier Island
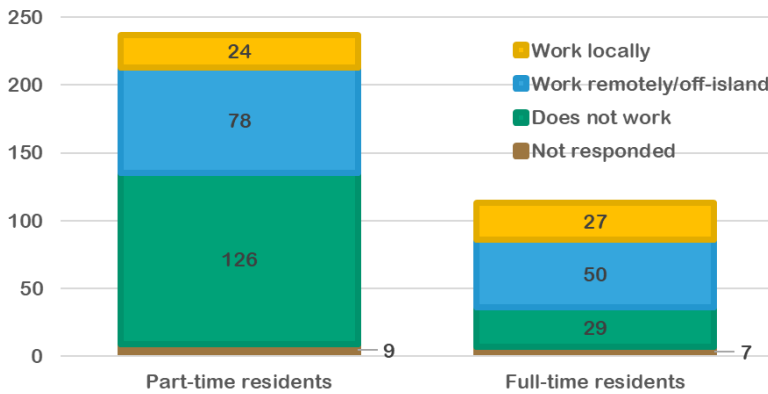
*Response rate: **80.4%***

★ Respondents have **lived/owned** for **24.4 years** in average.

Economic activities

How do they work?

*Response rate: **96.20%** for part-time + **93.81%** for full-time*

Part-time residents
- Work locally: 24
- Work remotely/off-island: 78
- Does not work: 126
- Not responded: 9

Full-time residents
- Work locally: 27
- Work remotely/off-island: 50
- Does not work: 29
- Not responded: 7

Have Pets/Livestock

*Response rate: **81.7%***

- Yes: 51.7%
- No: 30.0%
- Not respondend: 18.3%
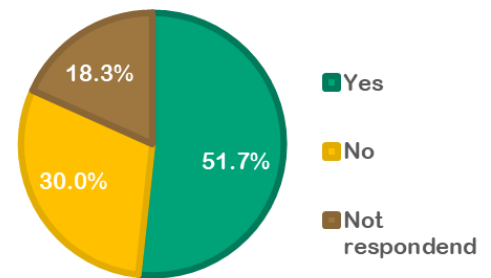
✷ Only **14.6%** of respondents **work locally**.

Locations for groceries

*Response rate: **82.3%***

- Lower Mainland: 64%
- Gibsons: 41%
- Local vendors: 15%
- Other places on the Sunshine Coast: 10%
- Other: 9%
- Grocery delivery: 8%
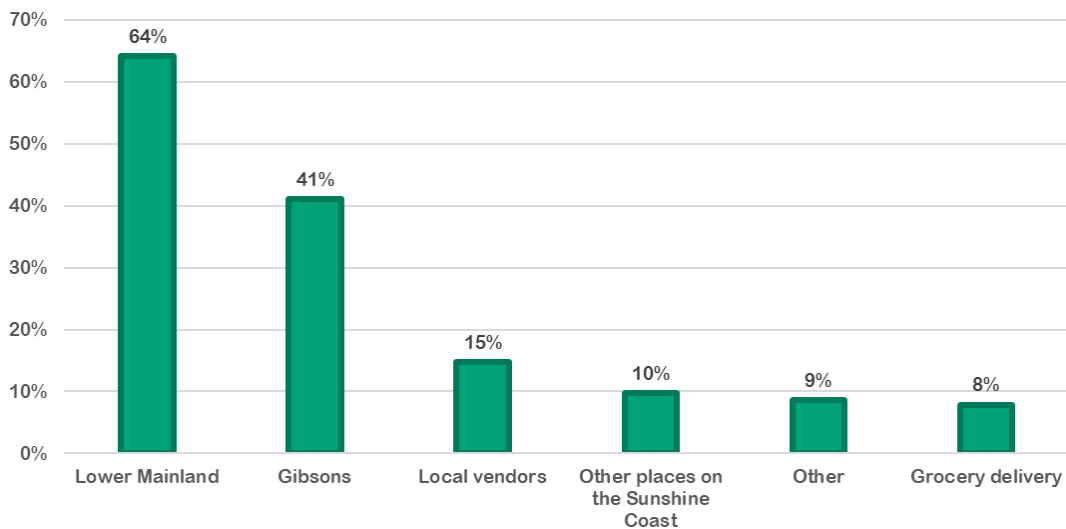
✷ Only **15%** of respondents **buy groceries locally**.

Transportation

Times leaving the island (full-time)

*Response rate: **95.6%***

- 1-2 times a week
- Once every two weeks
- 3 or more times a week
- Once a month
- Less than once a month
- Other
- Not responded

50%, 21%, 14%, 6%, 2%, 2%, 4%
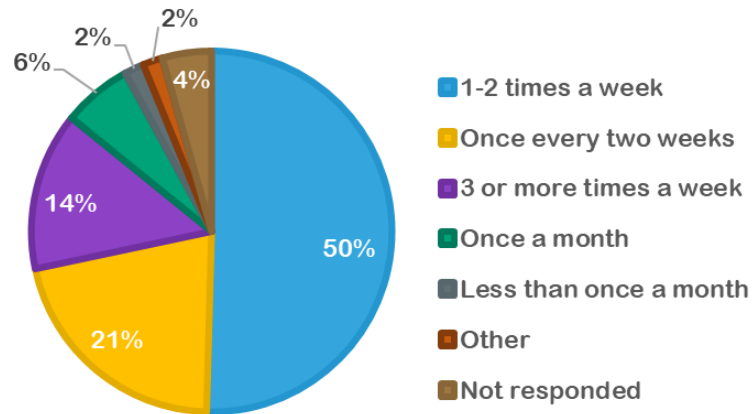
✴ **64%** of full-time residents **commute weekly** from the island.

Means of transportation from/to Gambier

*Response rate: **83.3%***

- Personal boat: 49.8%
- The Stormaway: 42.6%
- Water taxi scheduled run: 41.6%
- Chartered water taxi: 21.3%
- Not responded: 16.7%

✴ **75.6%** of respondents use **public transportation** services (Stormaway/Scheduled Water Taxi).

Transportation

Docks used by residents
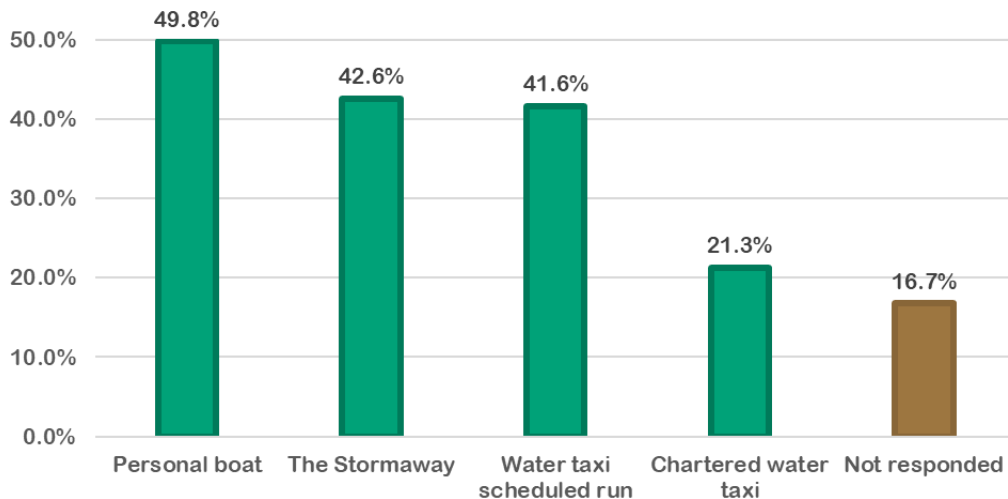
Response rate: **59.3%**
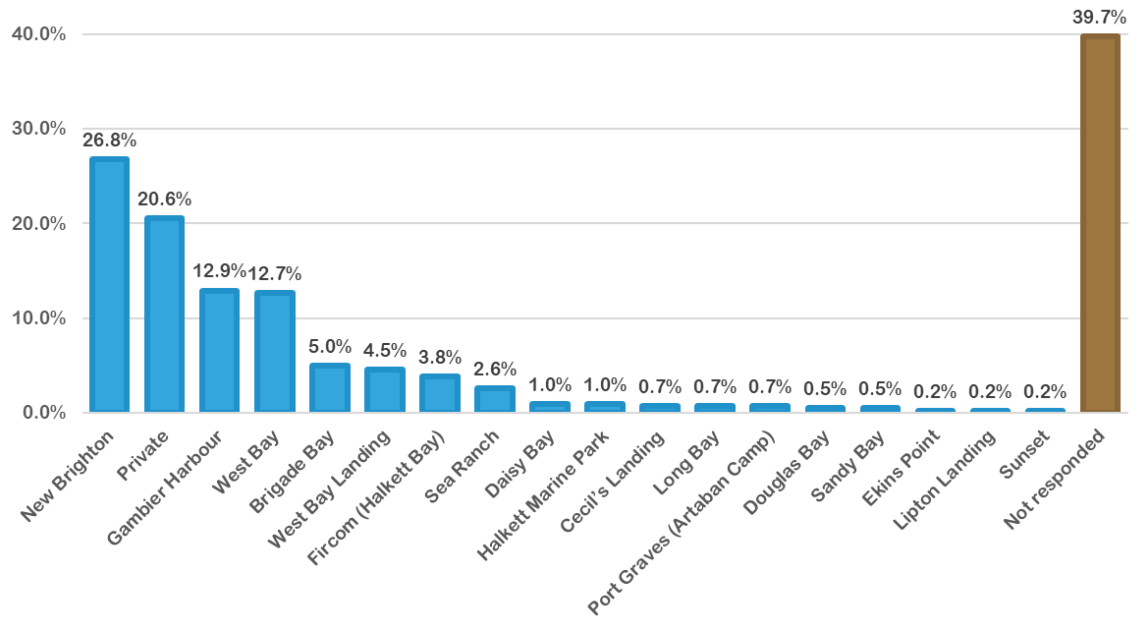
★ **Southwest docks** are the **most used** public docks.

Means to get around the island

Response rate: **81.1%**
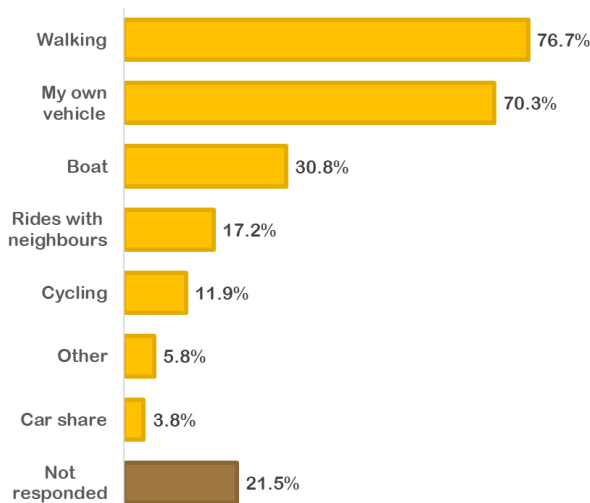
Types of vehicles

Response rate: **57.9%**
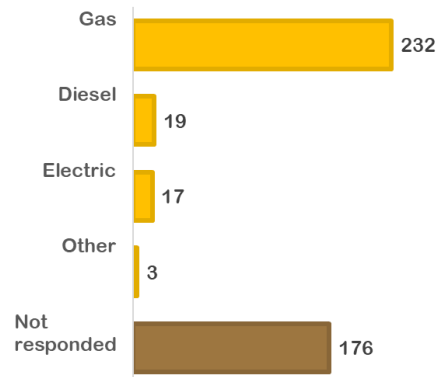
★ **Walking** is the preferred means to move around the island.

Transportation

Interaction between communities/regions

Response rate: **69.1%**

* **More than half** of the residents in **Bays 3** region **don't interact** with other regions.
* Communities in **Southwest region interact the most** with each other.
* Theres is **low interaction** between the **Southwest region** and the **other regions.**

Issues

Issues ranked by the communities

*Response rate: **88.7%***

Island-wide

Ranking Score*

Fire
Ferry/water taxi services
General Emergency Services
Trash & recycling
Internet
Roads
Evacuation planning
Conservation
Store/cafe
Health
Other transportation infrastructure
Parking
Water
Hiking trails
Community trails
Biodiversity
Water testing kits
Grocery delivery
Hazardous waste disposal
Boats
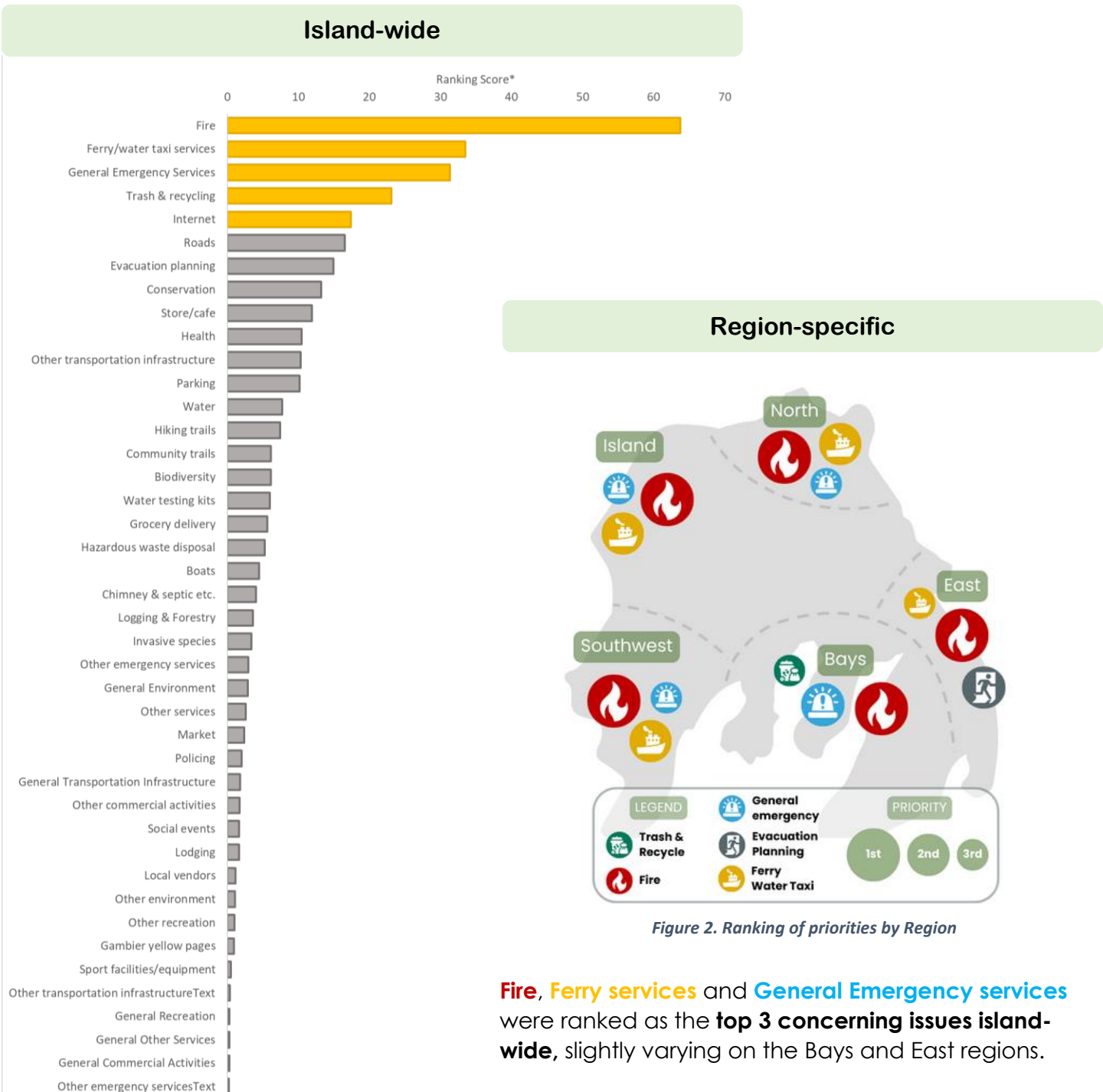Chimney & septic etc.
Logging & Forestry
Invasive species
Other emergency services
General Environment
Other services
Market
Policing
General Transportation Infrastructure
Other commercial activities
Social events
Lodging
Local vendors
Other environment
Other recreation
Gambier yellow pages
Sport facilities/equipment
Other transportation infrastructureText
General Recreation
General Other Services
General Commercial Activities
Other emergency servicesText

Region-specific

Figure 2. Ranking of priorities by Region

Fire, **Ferry services** and **General Emergency services** were ranked as the **top 3 concerning issues island-wide,** slightly varying on the Bays and East regions.

Issues

*Ranking score methodology

In the survey, participants were asked to: 1) Select their 7 most concerning issues out of a list of 40, and 2) Rank the 7 issues from 1 to 7, 1 being the highest priority. The first question provides information about **how frequent a particular issue was selected** within the 7 most concerning issues. The second question gives more insight into the **relative importance of each one of them compared to the others**. Both the frequency and the relative importance were considered to obtain the relative ranking score for each issue, using a **rank ordering weights method** which is considered to convert the ordinal ranking of a number of elements into numerical weights.

A ranking method weight determination involves **two steps**: ranking the elements according to their importance and weighting the elements from their ranks using a rank order weighting formula. The first step was conducted during the survey by each individual respondent. For the second step, the **rank-order centroid (ROC)** method/formula was used, as it is considered to be superior in terms of accuracy, ease of use, and in decision quality among multiple researchers (Roszkowska, 2013).

Equation 1. Rank-order centroid formula (Roszkowska, 2013)

$$w_j(\underline{ROC}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=j}^{n} \frac{1}{r_k}$$

Based on the ranking used in the survey (1 to 7), a weight was applied to each rank value using Equation 1, resulting In the relative weights shown in Table 1. Each relative weight was applied to the particular issue as a score depending on the given individual rank, and then all the individual scores were totaled to have the overall ranking score for each issue. For example, if one respondent ranked Fire as 1 and two ranked it as 2, its ranking score would be 0.37+0.23+0.23=0.83

Table 1. Relative weights per rank value

Ranking order by importance	Relative weights w_j
1	0.37
2	0.23
3	0.16
4	0.11
5	0.07
6	0.04
7	0.02

References

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http://www.datasmith.org/2018/06/02/a-bold-chord-diagram-generator/

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