

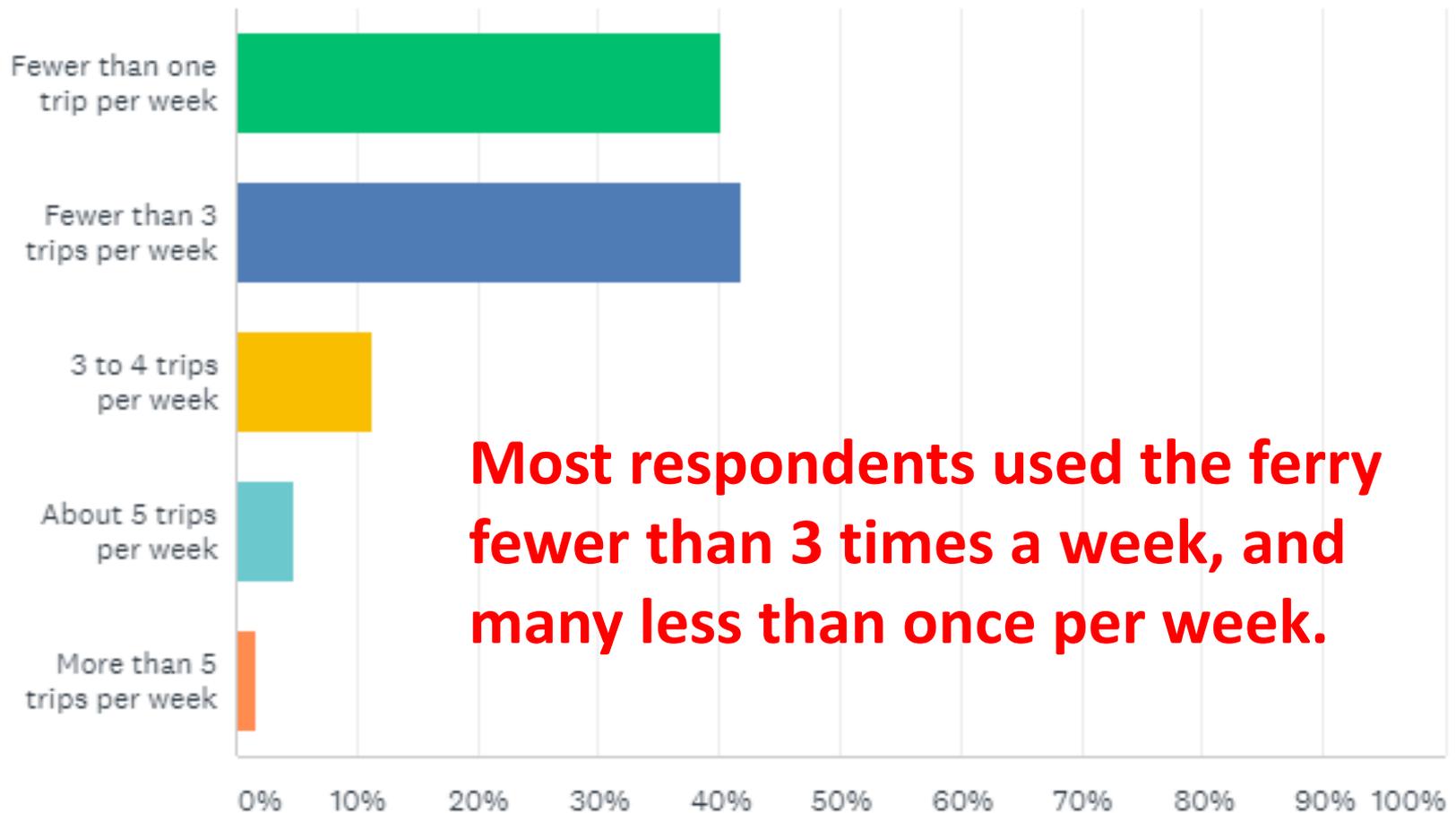
# **Gabriola FAC survey of island residents experiences during the summer of 2017**



315 responded to the survey between  
October 19<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> 2017.

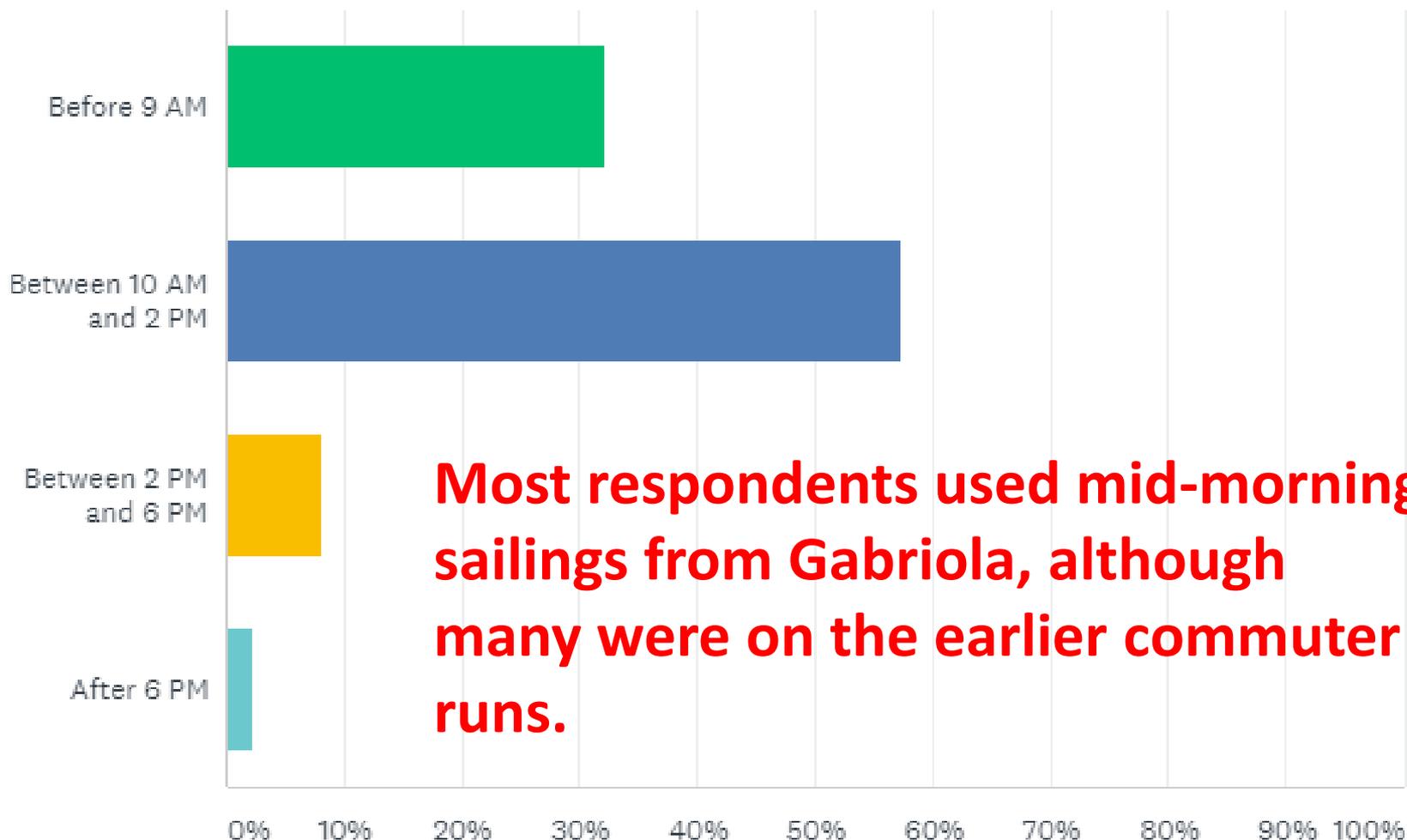
Approximately how frequently did you travel on the Quinsam over the past summer? (Consider one trip to be "there and back".)

Answered: 308 Skipped: 6



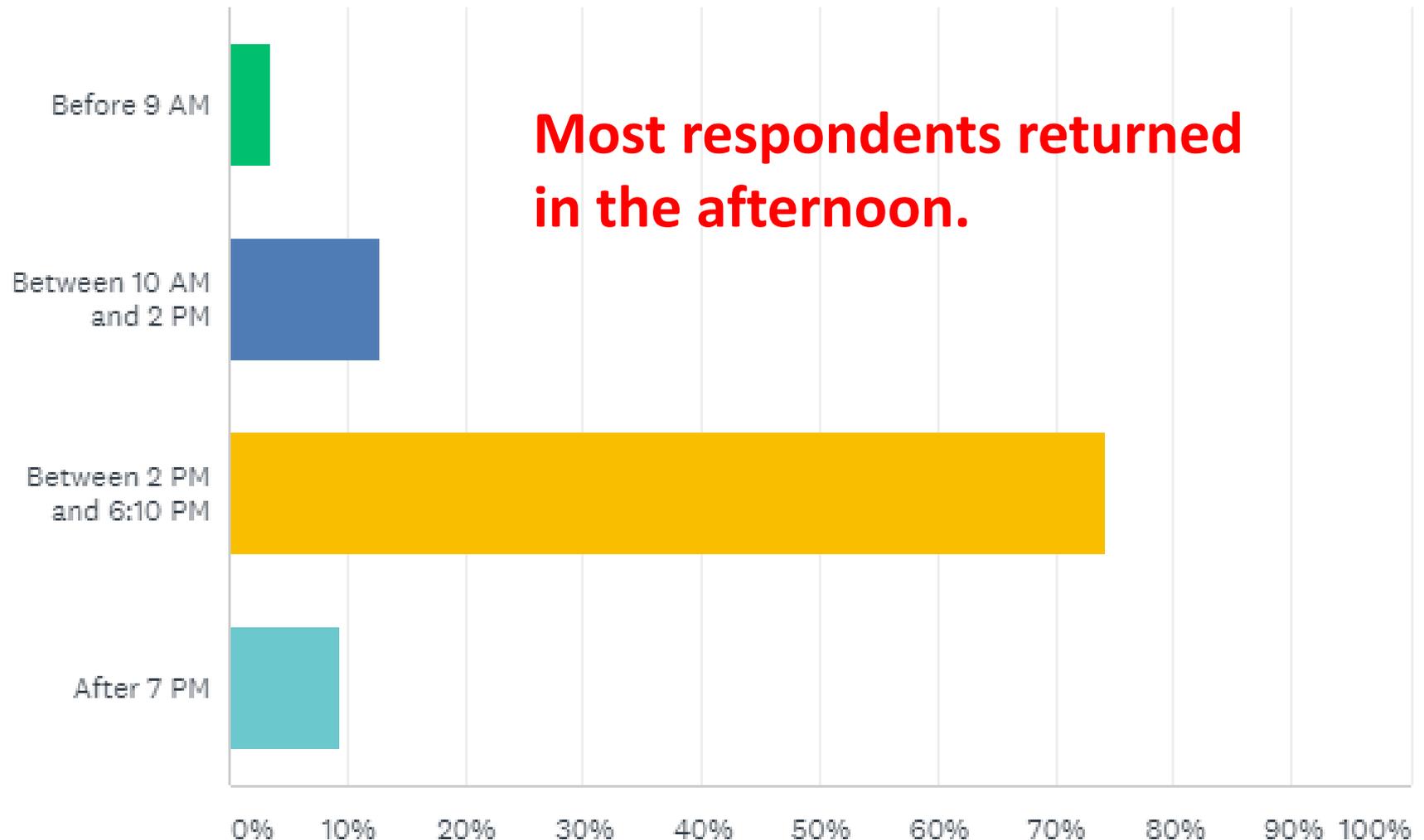
# What time of day were your typical trips from Gabriola?

Answered: 310 Skipped: 4



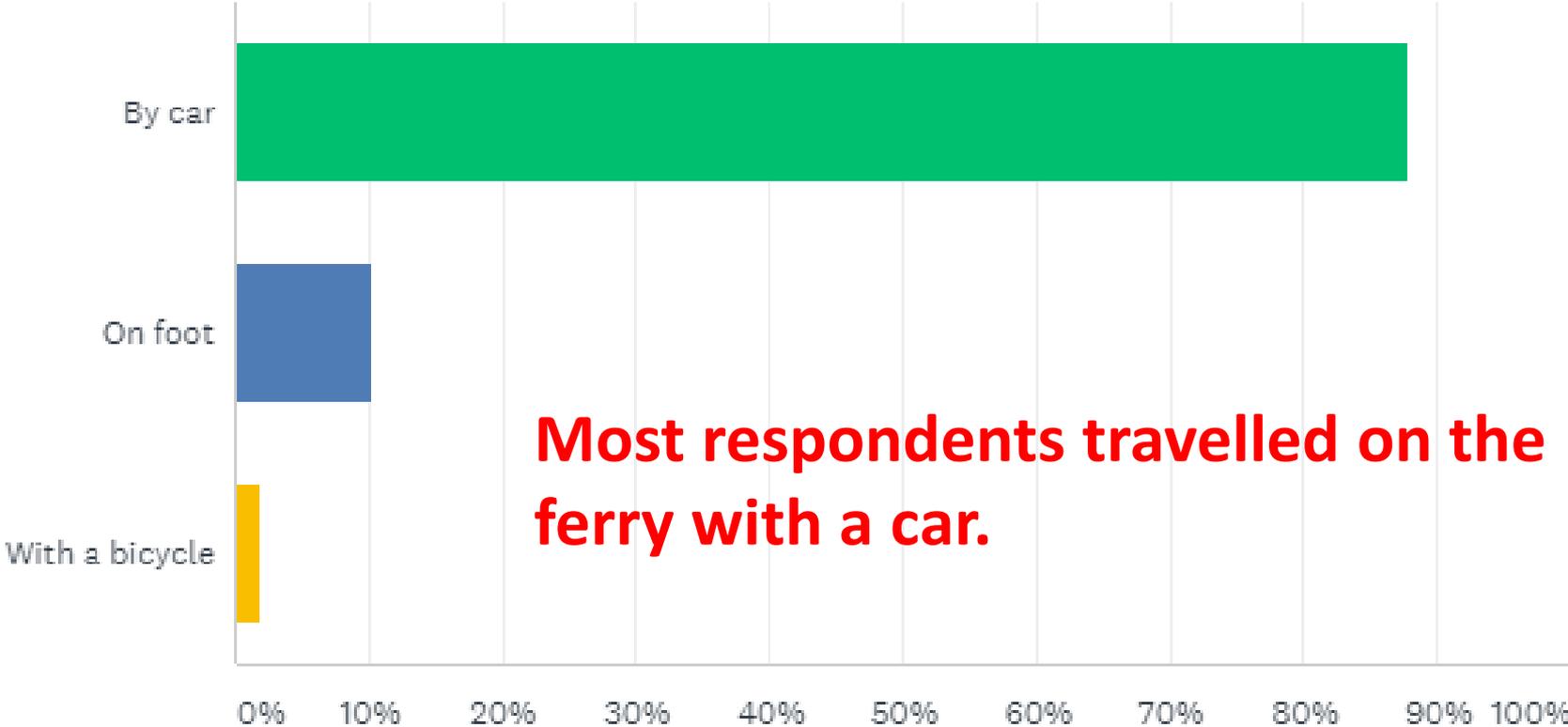
# What time of day were your typical trips from Nanaimo?

Answered: 308 Skipped: 6



# How do you normally travel on the Gabriola-Nanaimo ferry?

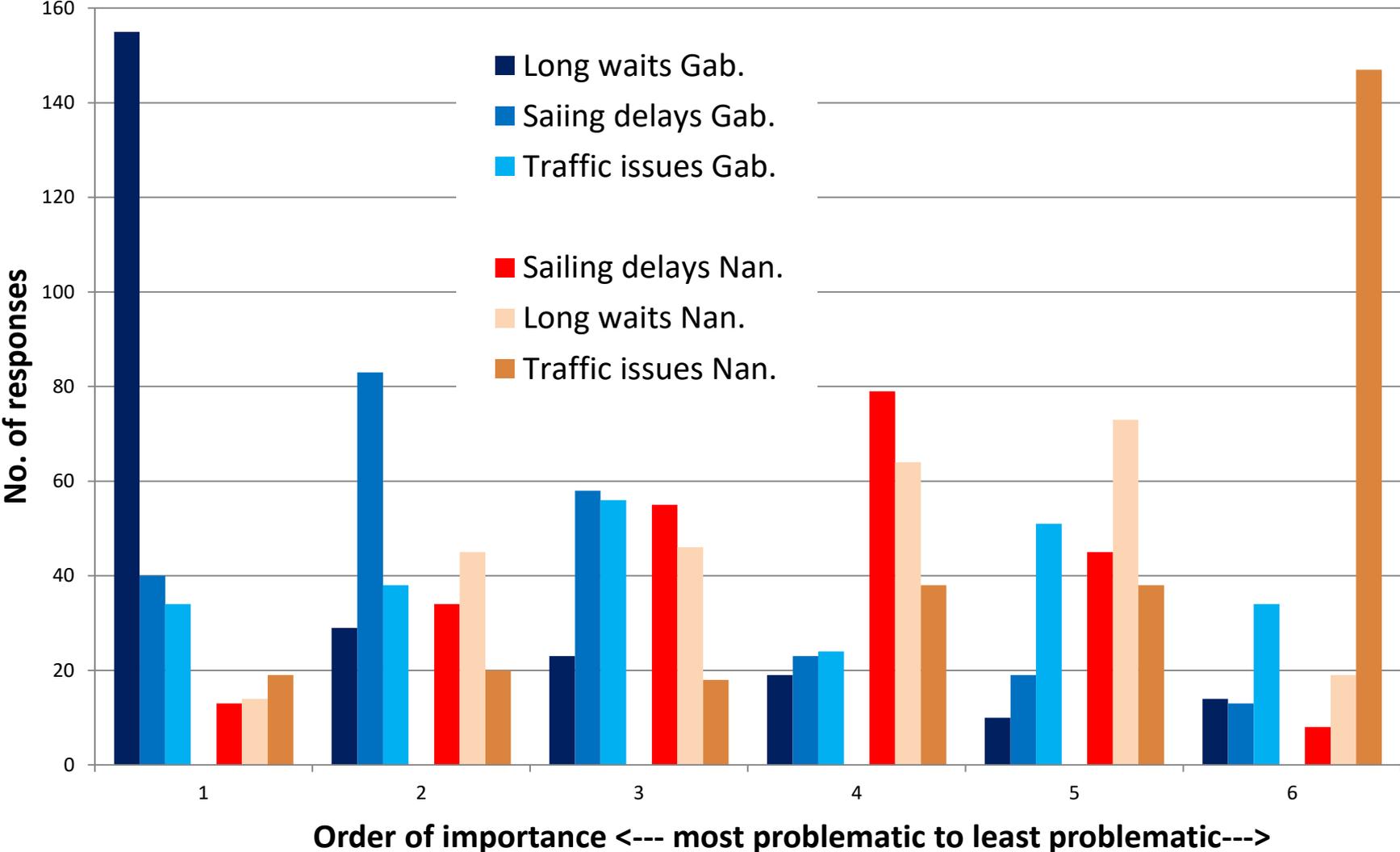
Answered: 312 Skipped: 2



**Most respondents travelled on the ferry with a car.**

# Results

There were some serious capacity issues on our ferry this summer. Rank the following issues from "1" for most problematic to "6" for least problematic for you.



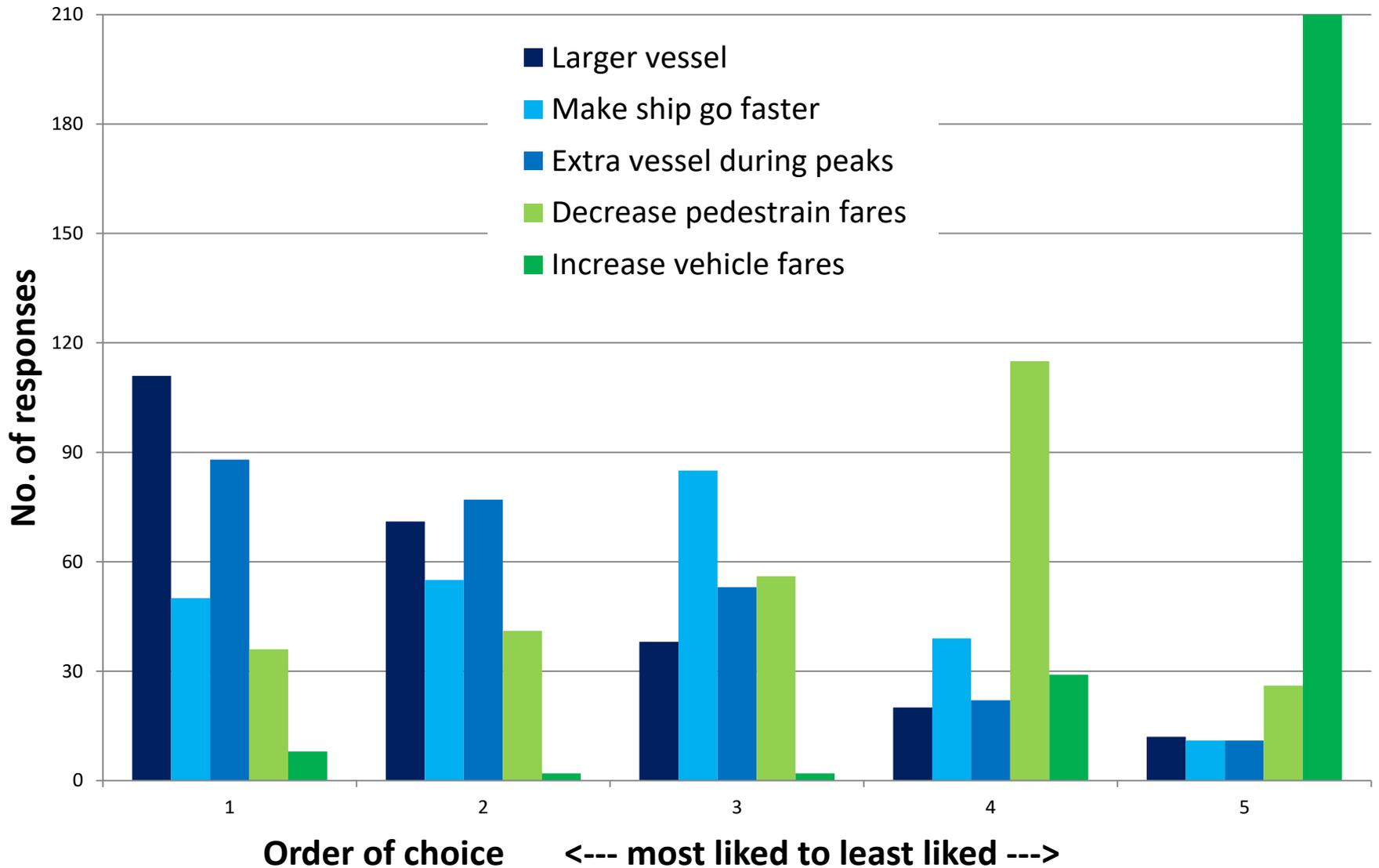
# Examples of 28 comments on the traffic safety issue on Taylor Bay Road

- “Extremely dangerous to drive Taylor Bay Road when ferry traffic is parked along the curves.”
- “Taylor Bay Rd is dangerous. The walking area is narrow with cliffs. I have children I have to get there over an hour early and then its unsafe to exit my vehicle.”
- “The U-turns were a huge issue when I drove from Berry Point to the village, and I had several close calls, even driving at a slow speed.”
- “U-turns on Taylor Bay Rd. Very dangerous!”
- “We need to move the line up to up past the Post Office. The cliffs and corners are dangerous!”

# Examples of 22 comments on the multi-sailing waits and sailing delays

- “Had to leave home 2 hours before sailing in order to catch ferry.”
- “I simply couldn't rely on the ferry to make it to appointments or work in town on time and I wasn't able to take employment contracts.”
- “Having to be in the ferry lineup at least one hour before sailing was a severe annoyance for ourselves and our visitors.”
- “Didn't get off island for fun stuff as much this summer due to the horrid ferry lineups.”

We're not expecting anyone to provide significant solutions to this summer's capacity problems by next summer, but we'd like to know what you think some of the solutions might be.



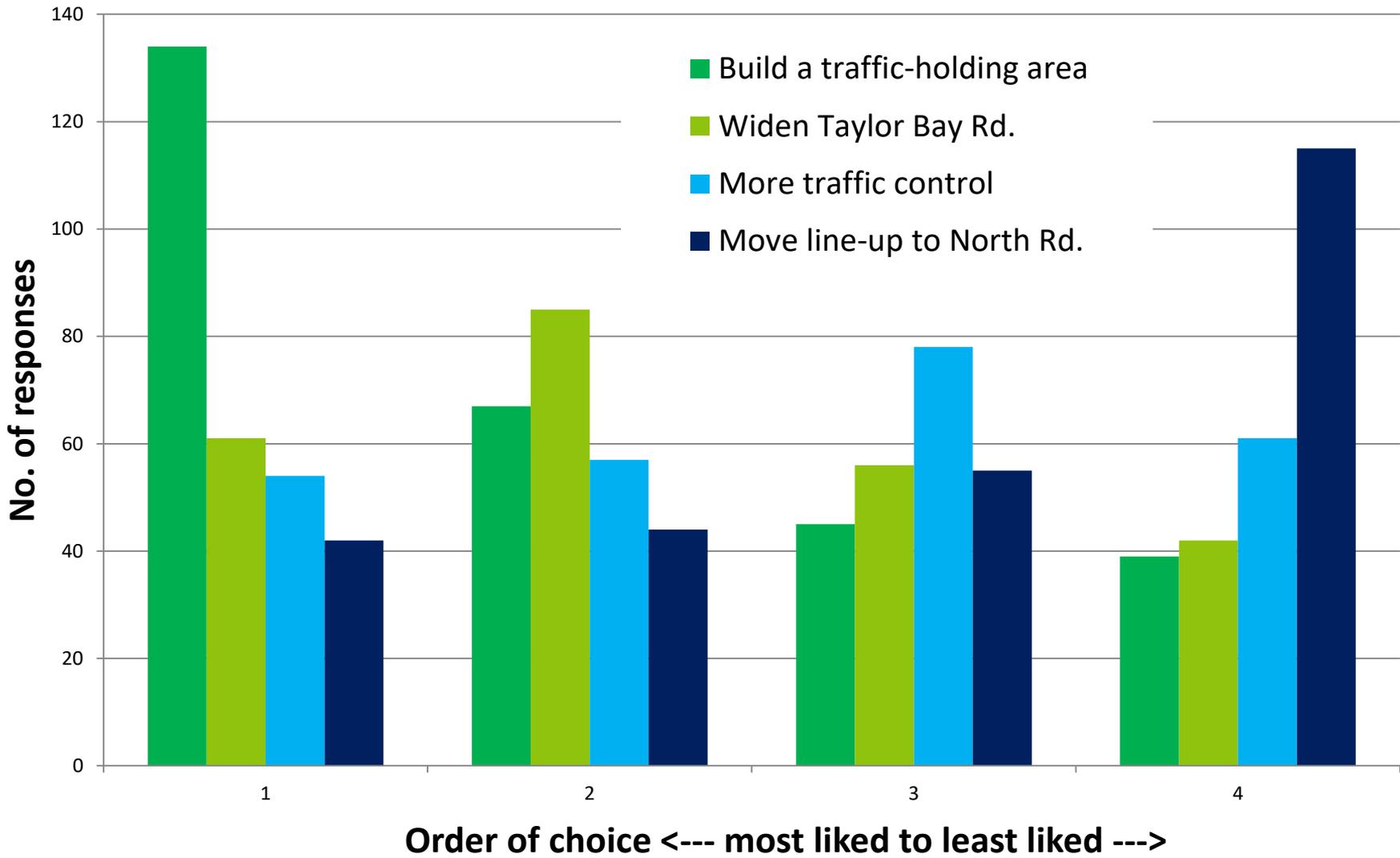
## **Of those that left comments::**

**47 are in favour of having a larger ferry,**

**30 are in favour of putting on a second  
boat at peak times during the summer,  
and**

**9 are in favour of speeding up the boat to  
accommodate more sailings.**

The FAC is very concerned about traffic safety on the Gabriola side, and has been pushing BC Ferries and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to make some changes. There is no certainty that any changes will be made, but please rank the following in order.



## **Of those that left comments:**

**21 suggested better traffic enforcement,  
16 recommend construction of a holding area,  
14 would like to see a divider down the middle  
of Taylor Bay Road,  
10 suggested making Taylor Bay Rd. wider, and  
7 are in favour of moving the line-up to North  
Rd.**

# **Of those that left general comments:**

## **13 cited issues around medical appointments :**

**Missed appointment, overheated while waiting for the ferry. Travelling with seniors is dangerous in hot weather due to excessive ferry waits**

**We missed specialist appointments. My husband has mobility issues and had to walk on and take a cab to the hospital.**

## **13 cited issues around costs to businesses:**

**As the owners of the largest employer on Gabriola, we found that suppliers and service people were reluctant or refused to come to Gabriola.**

**If a truck misses a ferry the cost per load almost doubles. That cost is paid for by our customers. The cost of bringing a truck over is prohibitive when the ferry is busy. We have refused to take on work due to the heavy summertime traffic. This has an effect on the local building costs and the local economy.**