

2010 TRIANGLE TRANSPORTATION SURVEY
Durham, Orange, and Wake Counties, North Carolina
3/7 – 3/10/2010

n=901, +/- 3.26%

Registered Voters

(percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding)



www.FallonResearch.com

Q. 1. Generally speaking, would you say that your community is going in the right direction, or has it gotten off onto the wrong track?

69% Right direction
16 Wrong track
5 Mixed/both (volunteered)
9 Unsure/no answer

Q. 2. What do you think should be the top priority for local elected officials to work on right now? Do you think it is...

(randomly rotated)

32% Improving the quality of public education
30 Attracting more businesses and jobs to the area
5 Reducing traffic congestion
6 Preventing home foreclosures
7 Expanding public transportation systems
15 Lowering taxes
4 Other (volunteered)
1 Unsure/no answer

Q. 3. How often do you use local public transportation, such as bus services, that are available in your area? Would you say that you use public transportation very frequently, somewhat frequently, not very frequently, not at all or only on special occasions?

5% Very
4 Somewhat
7 Not very
69 Not at all
14 Only on special occasions
1 Unsure/no answer

Thinking more about transportation...

As you may or may not know, there was a bill recently passed by the North Carolina State Legislature to allow Durham, Orange and Wake Counties to ask voters for approval to levy

a sales tax for public transportation systems.

Q. 4. Do you agree or disagree with people who say that more public transportation choices will improve the quality of life in (Durham/Orange/Wake) County?

- 65% Agree
- 28 Disagree
- 7 Unsure/no answer

Q. 5. Which of the following would you say is the biggest benefit from new or expanded public transportation? Is it...

(randomly rotated)

- 31% Less traffic congestion
- 20 Better air quality and environmental preservation
- 11 Lower commuting costs
- 20 Greater convenience and more travel options
- 10 More efficient land-use planning for future growth
- 1 Other (volunteered)
- 2 No benefit (volunteered)
- 4 Unsure/no answer
- 1 All of the above

Q. 6. Which of the following routes do you think should be the highest priority for a new or expanded public transportation system? Is it...

(randomly rotated)

- 27% Traveling to and from the Research Triangle Park area
- 14 Traveling to and from the Raleigh Durham Airport
- 7 Traveling to and from the Raleigh downtown area
- 29 Traveling between Durham, Orange and Wake Counties
- 14 Traveling within the county where you live
- 1 Other (volunteered)
- 2 No priority (volunteered)
- 5 Unsure/no answer

Thinking about the types of transportation systems that could be built or expanded for the Triangle area...

(ROTATED BATTERIES 7-9 AND 10-14)

Q. 7. Do you favor or oppose more buses and bus routes for commuting for travel? Follow-up: Would you say that you strongly favor/oppose it, or just somewhat favor/oppose it?

69% TOTAL FAVOR

- 31 Strongly favor
- 38 Somewhat favor

24% TOTAL OPPOSE

- 14 Somewhat oppose
- 10 Strongly oppose

8% Unsure/no answer

Q. 8. How often do you think you might use an expanded bus system for commuting and travel? Would you say that you will use it...(rotated response options in sequence)...very frequently, somewhat frequently, not very frequently, not at all or only on special occasions?

- 9% Very
- 23 Somewhat
- 14 Not very
- 31 Not at all
- 23 Only on special occasions
- 1 Unsure/no answer

Q. 9. Thinking more about the choice between trains and more buses, if you had to choose between the two, would say that it is more important to have...(rotated)...more bus routes and areas that are served by them...or...more train routes and areas that are served by them?

- 43% More buses
- 48 More trains
- 2 Both/mixed (volunteered)
- 6 Unsure/no answer

Q. 10. Do you favor or oppose a train system for commuting for travel? Follow-up: Would you say that you strongly favor/oppose it, or just somewhat favor/oppose it?

78% TOTAL FAVOR

- 43 Strongly favor
- 35 Somewhat favor

18% TOTAL OPPOSE

- 10 Somewhat oppose
- 8 Strongly oppose

4% Unsure/no answer

Q. 11. Do you favor or oppose a combined system of trains for major destinations and connector buses to individual neighborhoods? Follow-up: Would you say that you strongly favor/oppose it, or just somewhat favor/oppose it?

77% TOTAL FAVOR

42 Strongly favor
35 Somewhat favor

18% TOTAL OPPOSE

9 Somewhat oppose
9 Strongly oppose

5% Unsure/no answer

Q. 12. How often do you think you might use a train system for commuting and travel? Would you say that you will use it...(rotated response options in sequence)...very frequently, somewhat frequently, not very frequently, not at all or only on special occasions?

12% Very
31 Somewhat
12 Not very
16 Not at all
27 Only on special occasions
2 Unsure/no answer

Q. 13. Thinking more about train systems for commuting, if you had to choose between the two, would say that it is more important to have...(rotated)...more routes with fewer pick-up times and stops...or...fewer routes with more pick-up times and stops?

49% More routes/fewer pick-ups
42 Fewer routes/more pick-ups
1 Both/mixed (volunteered)
8 Unsure/no answer

Q. 14. Would you say that it is more important to...(rotated)...begin with a cheaper, shorter rail system, in order to prove that the concept would work here... or...develop a more expensive, comprehensive rail system, in order to serve more areas?

65% Cheaper/shorter/serves some
28 More expensive/serves all
7 Unsure/no answer

Q. 15. I would like to read you two things that people have said. After I am done, please tell me which opinion comes closest to yours...(rotated)...

...(Some/other) people say that increasing the amount of housing density near possible transit stops is a good idea since it will increase ridership, and use land more efficiently, so more of it can be preserved...

... (Other/some) people say that increasing the amount of housing density near possible transit stops is a bad idea since it will create crowded neighborhoods with too little space between homes and lower property values...

Which opinion comes closest to yours?

59% Increasing housing density is a good idea
35 Increasing housing density is a bad idea
6 Unsure/no answer

Thinking about ways to pay for a new or expanded public transportation system for the Triangle area...

Q. 16. Would you vote for or against a sale tax increase of one-half of a percent to pay for new or expanded public transportation, if one was on the ballot in your county?

58% For
39 Against
3 Unsure/no answer

Q. 17. What is the biggest reason that you would vote against it?

n=352

49% Taxes are already too high/do not want new taxes
16 Do not/would not use transit
5 There are other priorities for tax dollars
5 Would not be a good use of tax dollars
5 Not enough need for it/not enough demand to support system
8 Transit should not be funded with sales taxes/should not be publicly-funded
4 Bad timing due to economy
7 Other
1 Unsure/no answer

(WAKE COUNTY ONLY) Q. 18. Would you vote for or against sales tax increases totaling three-quarters of a percent to pay for new or expanded public transportation, new school construction and the purchase of open space for preservation, if they were on the ballot in your county?

n=308

53% For
41 Against
6 Unsure/no answer

Q. 19. Do you agree or disagree with people who say that they could not vote for any funding plan for new or expanded public transportation that would allow tax money collected in their county to be spent in nearby counties?

40% Agree
53 Disagree
7 Unsure/no answer

Q. 20. Prior to this survey, have you ever heard of the agency named Triangle Transit, also known by the initials T-T-A? Follow-up if yes: Would you say that you approve or disapprove of the work that it does?

60% Yes, approve
4 Yes, disapprove
1 Yes, mixed opinion (volunteered)
20 Yes, heard/no opinion (volunteered)
13 No, never heard
1 Unsure/no answer

Finally, I have a few short questions for statistical purposes...

Q. 21. I would like to read you a list of age groups. Please stop me when I get to the one you are in.

18% 18 to 29
27 30 to 44
30 45 to 59
24 60 and older
1 Refused
0 Unsure

Q. 22. What is your main racial or ethnic heritage? Is it...

65% White
22 African-American
3 Hispanic
5 Something else

1 Mixed race (volunteered)
3 Refused
1 Unsure

Q. 23. Thinking about your current occupational status, are you currently employed working outside the home?

58% Yes
40 No
2 Unsure/no answer

Gender:

48% Men
52 Women
