



TANTRAMAR, NEW BRUNSWICK, ADAPTATION PLAN

Your Climate Check-In: Adaptation Plan Questionnaire Results

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Introduction	2
Section 1: Impacts from the Changing Climate	2
Section 2: Emergency Preparedness	5
Section 3: Level of Concern	9
Section 4: General Respondent Profile	13
Section 5: Additional Thoughts & Opportunity for Additional Engagement	15

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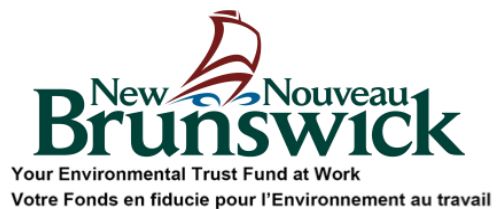
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Introduction

The *Your Climate Check-In* questionnaire was developed by the Municipality of Tantramar and EOS Eco-Energy. The questionnaire was intended for residents of the Municipality of Tantramar, New Brunswick or Amlamgog (Fort Folly) First Nation, who are over the age of 18. Participants were advised that only one member per household should complete the questionnaire.

The questionnaire was developed to gather an understanding of how residents have been impacted by recent drought, heat waves, flooding and severe storms, as well as an understanding of how prepared residents feel for future weather emergencies.

The questionnaire was released in mid-December 2025 and responses were accepted until mid-February 2026. In January 2026, postcard mailouts were sent to all homes, apartments, and farms in Tantramar (totalling 6,150 mailouts). The questionnaire was also promoted on the social media accounts and email newsletters of the Municipality of Tantramar and EOS Eco-Energy.

99 people in total filled out the questionnaire. All fields were optional, so the number of respondents varied for each question. 93 people completed the questionnaire online through the Maptionnaire platform, and 6 people completed the questionnaire on paper. For the questionnaires completed on paper, EOS staff input their responses into the online questionnaire.

Section 1: Impacts from the Changing Climate

Section 1.1 of the questionnaire asked participants about their experiences with the impacts of severe storms in Tantramar, as well as the severity of hurricane or severe storm impacts, and number of times they have experienced or noticed impacts from hurricanes or severe storms in Tantramar. Participants could also interact with a map to describe the places in Tantramar they have experienced or noticed damage from a hurricane or severe storm. The following subsections followed the same format as section 1.1, with a focus on different types of events- 1.2 focused on flooding, 1.3 heat waves, 1.4 drought, and 1.5 other climate change impacts.

The majority of respondents reported noticing direct impacts in Tantramar from severe storms, flooding and drought. For storms and drought, the majority of participants rated the severity of these impacts as moderate, and reported having experienced impacts 1-3 times. Whereas for flooding, participants reported having experienced these impacts 1-3 times at a low severity level.

For experiences with heat waves, the majority of respondents reported having experienced direct impacts on themselves and their families, followed by noticing an impact in their local neighborhood/community. Respondents equally reported low and moderate severity for these impacts, with the majority having experienced these impacts 1-3 times.

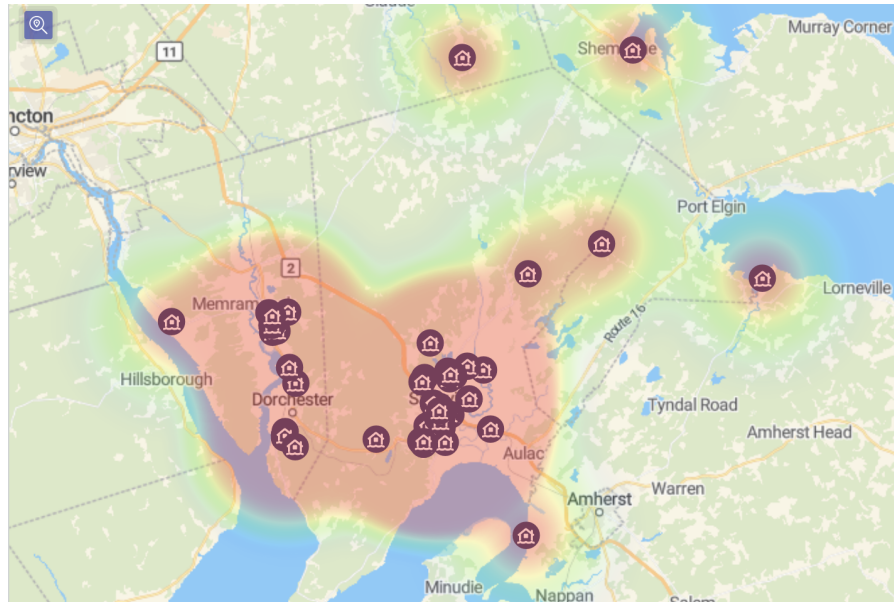


Figure 1: Locations where community engagement survey respondents have experienced or noticed flooding in the Tantramar region. (N=75).

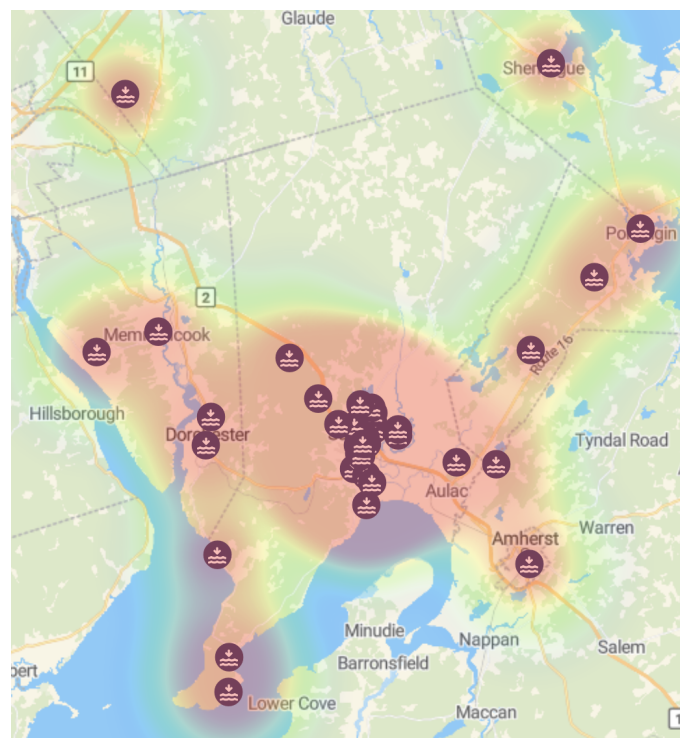


Figure 2: Locations identified by community engagement survey respondents experienced or noticed impacts from drought in the Tantramar region. The survey prompt provided examples of noticing a well go dry, a fishing spot that no longer sustains fish, crops or gardens suffering. (N=41).

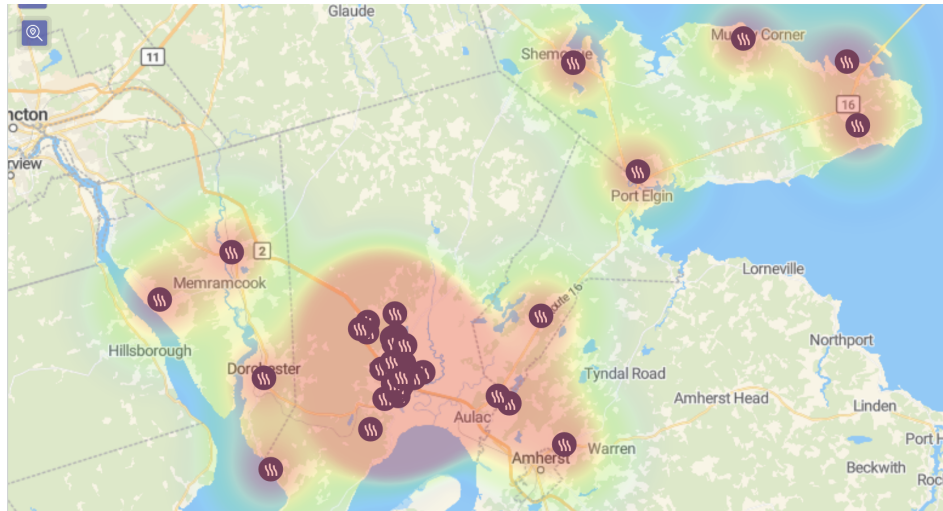


Figure 3: Locations where community engagement survey respondents experienced difficulty coping during a heat wave. The survey prompt provided examples of heat preventing recreational activities or a building that became too hot without AC. (N=54).

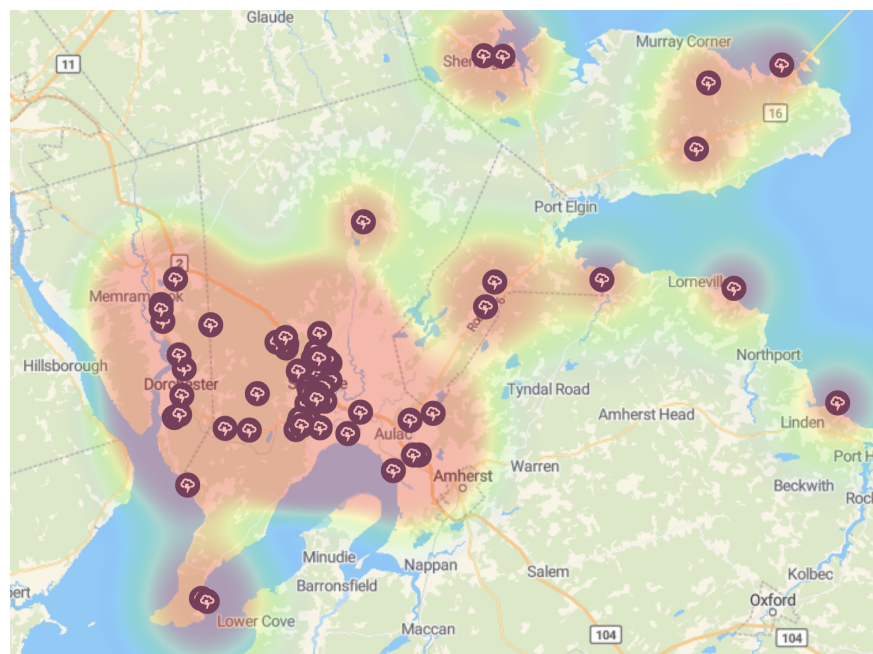


Figure 4: Locations where community engagement survey respondents have experienced or noticed damage from a hurricane or severe storm. (N=82).

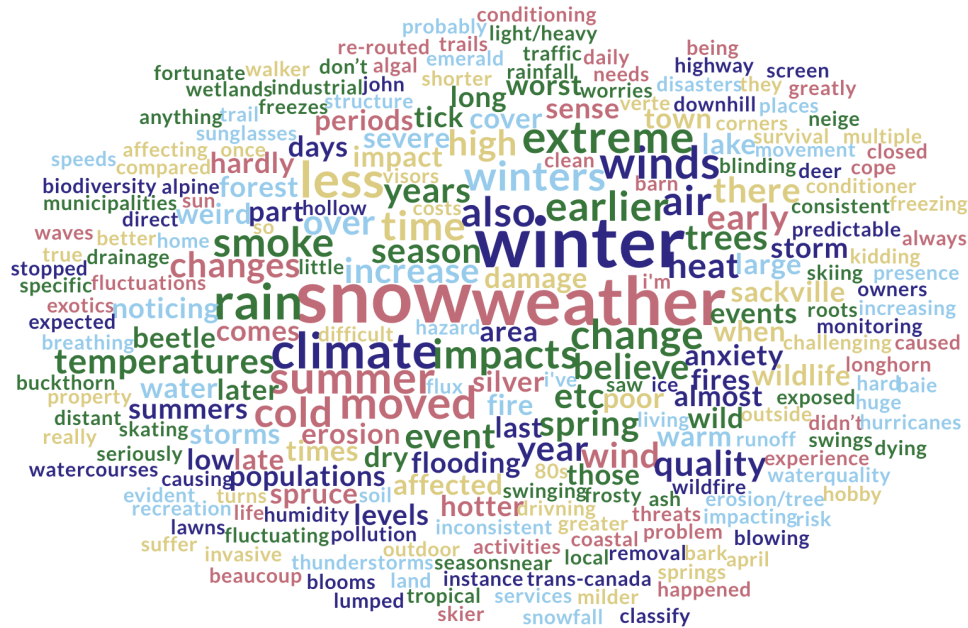


Figure 5: Word cloud representing the most common words used in response to asking respondents if they have experienced or noticed any other impacts from climate change.

Section 2: Emergency Preparedness

Section 2 asked participants the following questions:

- Have you had to access emergency and/or health services during an extreme weather event? If so, which?
- Do you know the designated emergency escape routes if an evacuation is needed?
- Do you know where the nearest emergency shelter is?
- Do you have a 72-hour emergency kit?
- Did you know the Tantramar Veterans Civic Center is equipped as an emergency overnight shelter for the community?
- Do you think there are adequate, accessible heating and cooling locations/emergency centers in your community?
- Do you have a home/family emergency plan?

The majority of respondents have never had to access emergency and/or health services during an extreme weather event, do not know the designated emergency escape routes, do not know where the nearest emergency shelter is, were not previously aware that the Tantrammar Veterans Civic Centre is equipped as an emergency overnight shelter, and do not have a home family emergency plan. The majority of respondents were unsure whether there are adequate, accessible heating and cooling locations/emergency centres in their community.

Have you had to access emergency and/or health services during an extreme weather event? If so, which? Select all that apply.

Submitted respondents: 67

Total respondents: 71

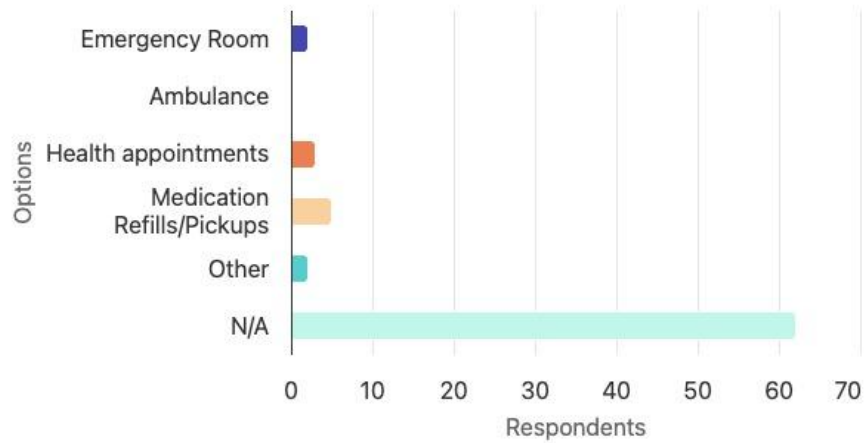


Figure 6: Respondents' answer to the question "Have you had to access emergency and/or health services during an extreme weather event? If so, which?" (N=71).

Do you know the designated emergency escape routes if an evacuation is needed?

Submitted respondents: 69

Total respondents: 74

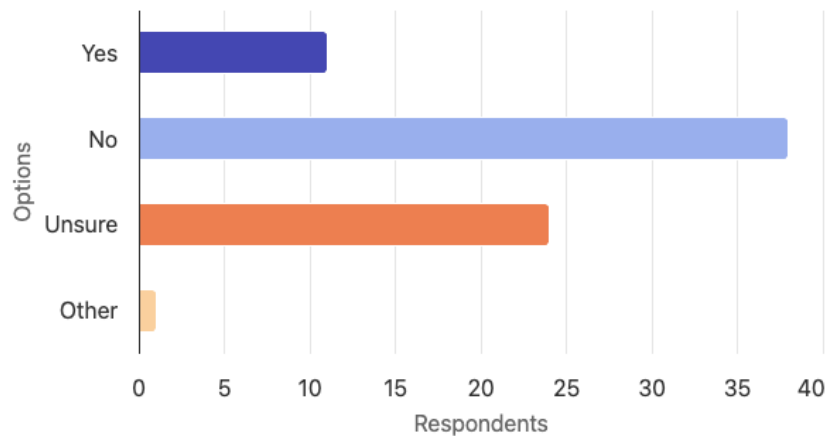


Figure 7: Respondents' answer to the question "Do you know the designated emergency escape routes if an evacuation is needed?" (N=74). In the optional "Please specify" prompt, one respondent stated: "I guess it would depend on the reason for the evacuation."

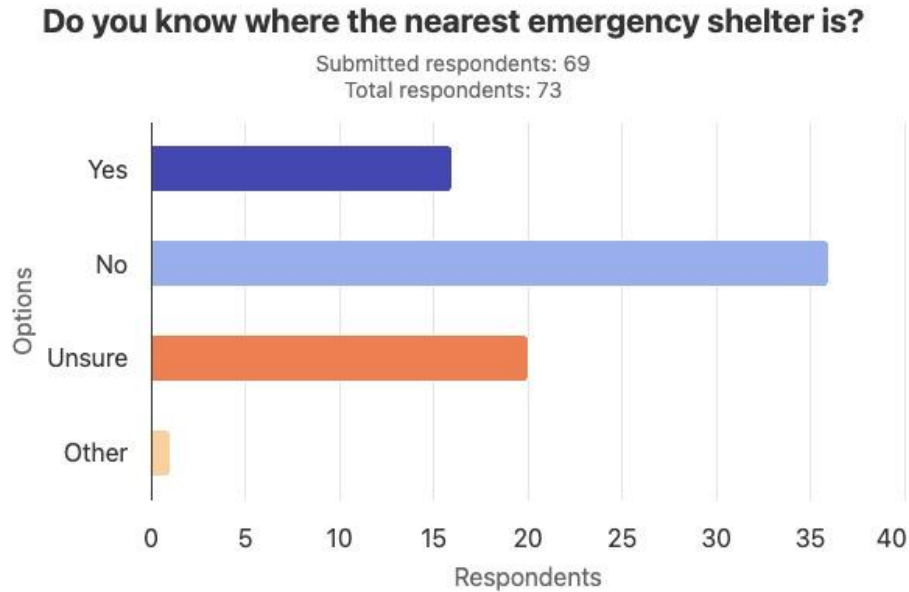


Figure 8: Respondents' answer to the question "Do you know where the nearest emergency shelter is?" (N=73). In the optional "Please specify" prompt, one respondent stated: "I had no idea there were emergency shelters."

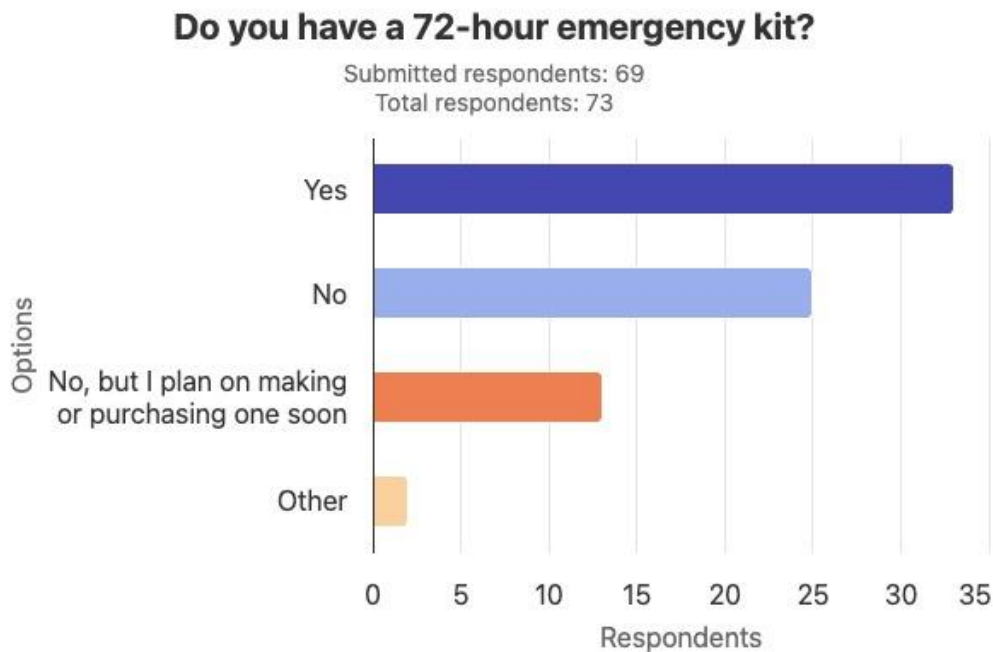


Figure 9: Respondents' answer to the question "Do you have a 72-hour emergency kit?" (N=73). In the optional "Please specify" prompt, one respondent stated: "Since the pandemic, our household is pretty much always prepared to be trapped."

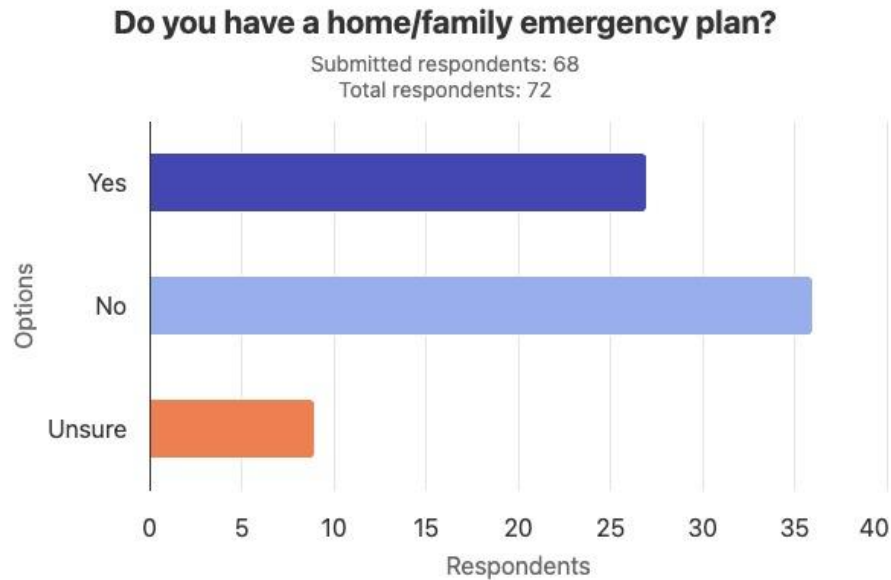


Figure 10: Respondents' answer to the question "Do you have a home/family emergency plan?" (N=72). In the optional "Please specify" prompt, respondents stated: "Loosely, we keep in touch and have options, depending on the severity of the emergency," "Depends what the emergency is," "We have a 72 hour kit but need to review specific actions in the event of an emergency," and "If there is a fire i'm not sure which direction to go. There is no way to make a left turn off King St onto Main St in an emergency. There would be too much traffic on Main St heading for the highway."

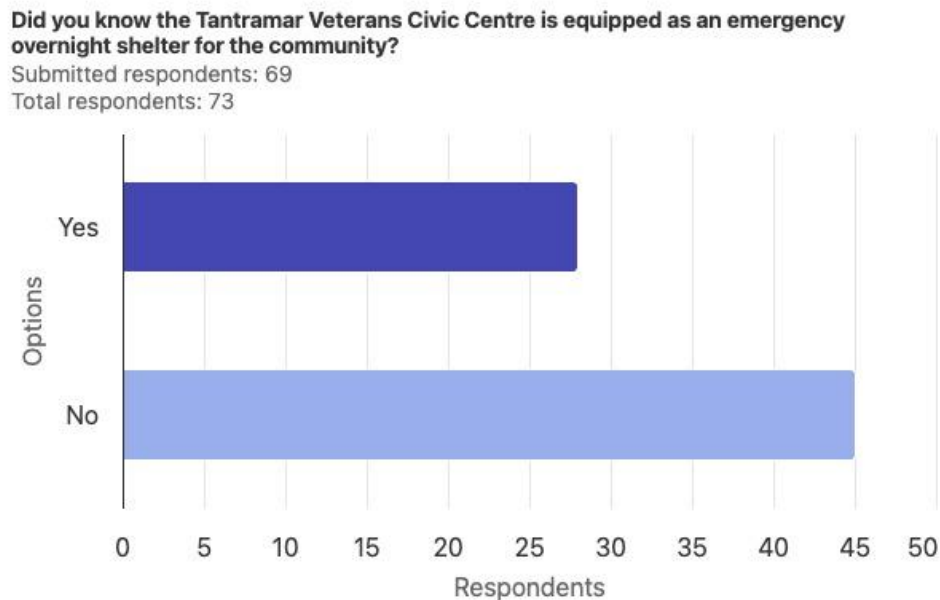


Figure 11: Respondents' answer to the question "Did you know the Tantramar Veterans Civic Centre is equipped as an emergency overnight shelter for the community?" (N=73).

Do you think there are adequate, accessible heating and cooling locations/emergency centers in your community?

Submitted respondents: 69

Total respondents: 73

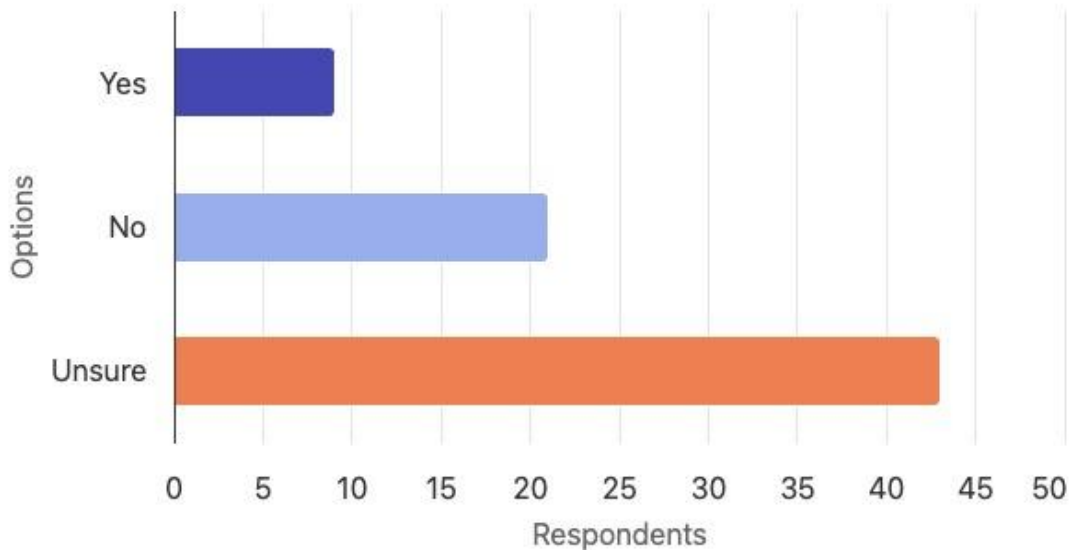


Figure 12: Respondents' answer to the question "Do you think there are adequate, accessible heating and cooling locations/emergency centers in your community?" (N=73). In the optional "Please specify" prompt, respondents stated: "I'm not sure how much is available and what the demand might be. Also access - elderly or mobility issues," "I am only aware of the Vets Civic Centre which in an extreme storm, may be hard for some people to get to," "Not sure of cooling locations," "Not easily accessible to all," and "Beyond the civic centre and hospital (if during operational hours) I can't think of any."

Section 3: Level of Concern

Section 3 asked participants how concerned they are about the changing climate and extreme weather emergencies in our community, with the majority of respondents reporting they are extremely concerned. It then asked participants to rank whether they were not concerned, moderately concerned, or severely concerned about the following topics:

- Impacts to nature from climate change impacts
- Health impacts from heat and forest fire smoke
- Damage or loss of homes due to flooding, forest fires, extreme weather events
- Evacuation and emergency response during floods and wildfires
- Food access and water security due to flooding, heat, drought, and shipping disruptions
- Impacts to local agriculture from flooding, fires, heat, and drought
- Increase in vector-borne diseases

The following figure shows respondents' responses to these questions. Notably, the majority of respondents are very concerned about the impacts of climate change for all of the topics mentioned.

Multiple-choice grid on page 9 position 4

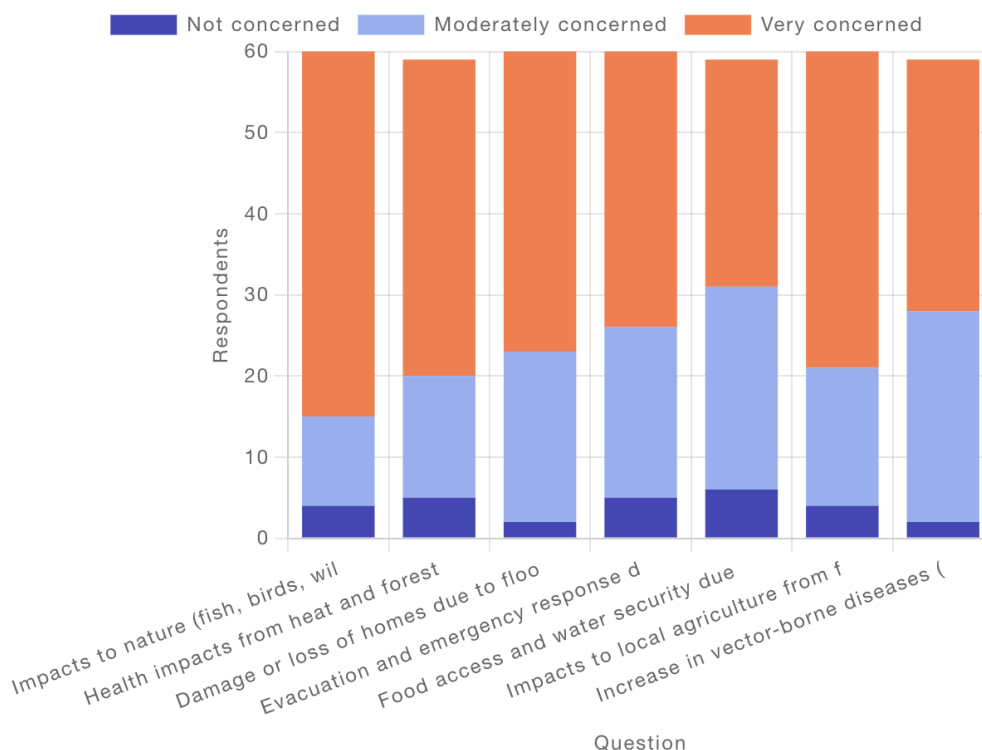


Figure 13: Respondents' level of concern regarding seven climate change impacts (impacts to nature, health impacts, damage or loss of homes due to flooding, evacuation and emergency response, food access and water security, impacts to local agriculture, and increase in vector-borne diseases). (N=61).

On a scale of 0-5, 0 being not concerned at all and 5 being extremely concerned, participants were asked the following questions:

- How concerned are you about the impacts of climate change on your property or rented living space? (Figure 7)
- How concerned are you about the impacts of climate change on your school or workplace? (Figure 8)
- How concerned are you about the impacts of climate change on the health and safety of you, your friends, and your family in Tantramar? (Figure 9)

On a scale of 0-5, how concerned are you about the impacts of climate change on your property or rented living space? (0= not concerned at all, 5= extremely concerned).

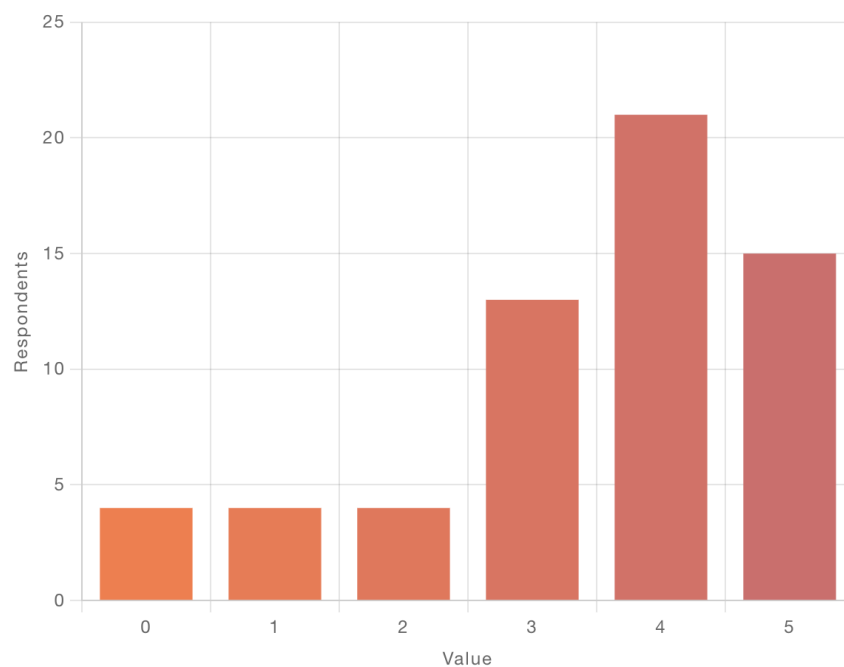


Figure 14: Respondents' level of concern about the impacts of climate change on their property or rented living space. (N=61).

The majority of respondents reported that they feel moderately to extremely concerned about the impacts of climate change on their property or rented living space.

On a scale of 0-5, how concerned are you about the impacts of climate change on your school or workplace? (0= not concerned at all, 5= extremely concerned).

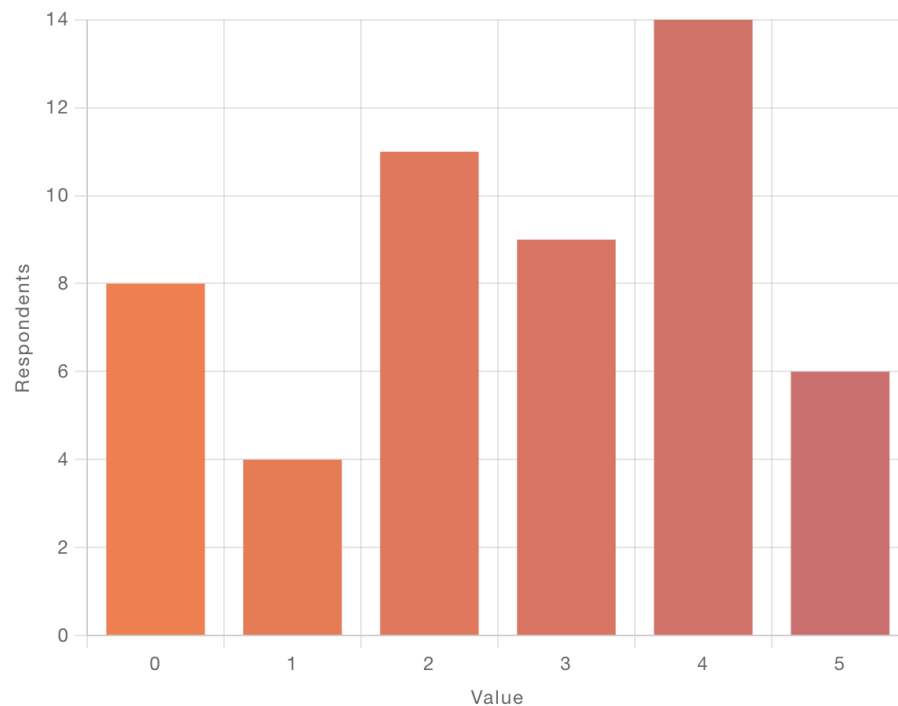


Figure 15: Respondents' level of concern about the impacts of climate change on their school or workplace. (N=52).

Respondents had a wide range of responses to this question, ranging from not concerned at all to extremely concerned about the impact of climate change on their school or workplace climate.

On a scale of 0-5, how concerned are you about the impacts of climate change on the health and safety of you, your friends, and your family in Tantramar? (0= not concerned at all, 5= extremely concerned).

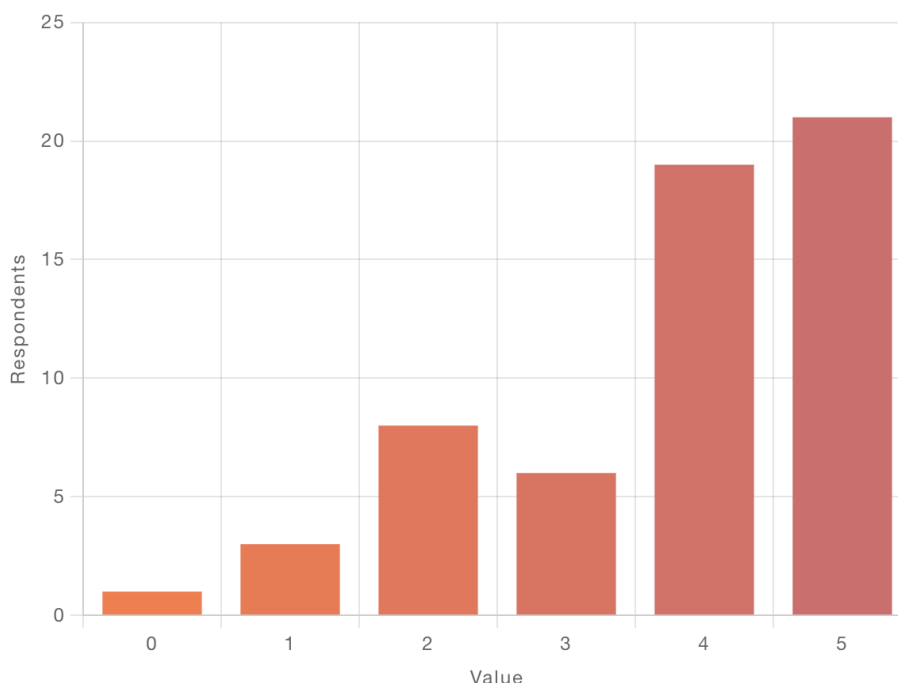


Figure 16: Respondents' level of concern about the impacts of climate change on the health and safety of you, your friends, and your family in Tantramar. (N=58).

The majority of respondents reported that they are extremely concerned about the impacts of climate change on the health and safety of themselves, their friends and family in Tantramar.

Section 4: General Respondent Profile

Participants were asked the following questions to allow us to better understand and address the needs and concerns of specific populations within our community:

- What community do you live in?
 - The majority of respondents reported that they live within Sackville
- How long have you resided in Tantramar?
 - The majority of respondents have resided within Tantramar for 16+ years, followed by the range of 6-10 years, then 1-5 years.
- Are you an outdoor worker or do you spend a significant amount of time outside as part of your job?
 - The majority of respondents responded no to this question.
- Do you reside on a floodplain?

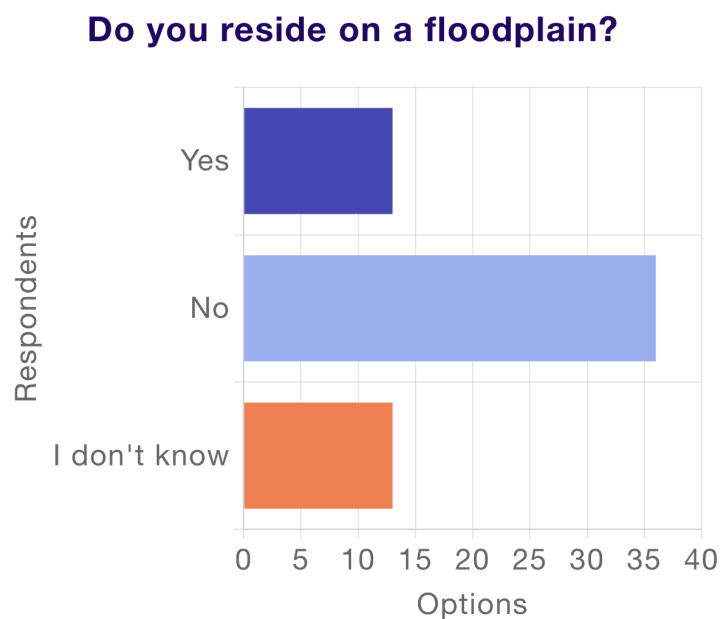


Figure 17: Responses to the question, “do you reside on a floodplain?” (N=62).

This figure shows that the majority of respondents reported that they do not live on a floodplain, while respondents equally responded to the options yes and I don’t know.

- How old are you?

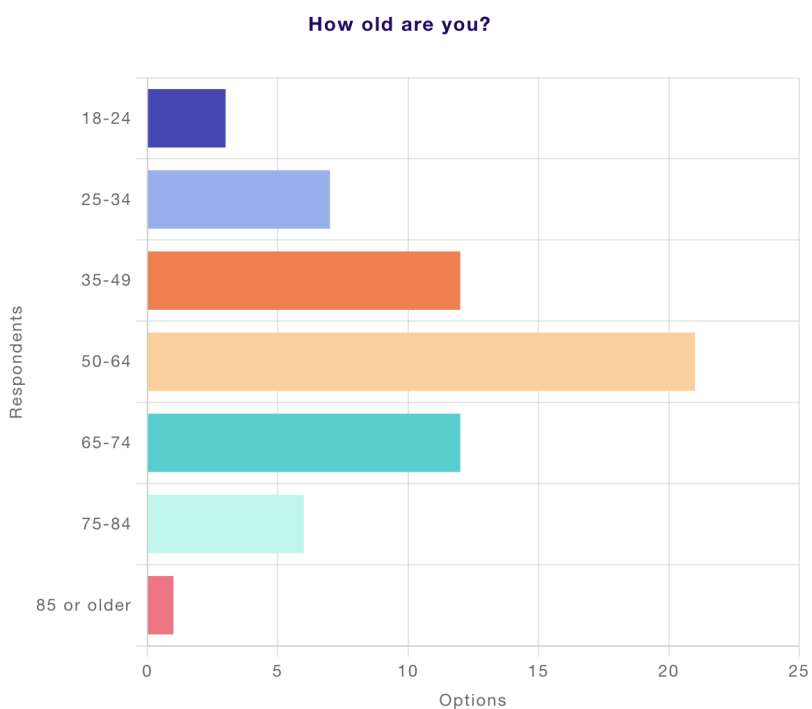


Figure 18: Age of questionnaire respondents. (N=62).

This figure charts the age of respondents, with 50-64 being the age range of the majority of respondents followed by ranges 35-49 and 65-74. Respondents between the age ranges of 18-24 and 85 and older were the lowest.

- What is your household income?

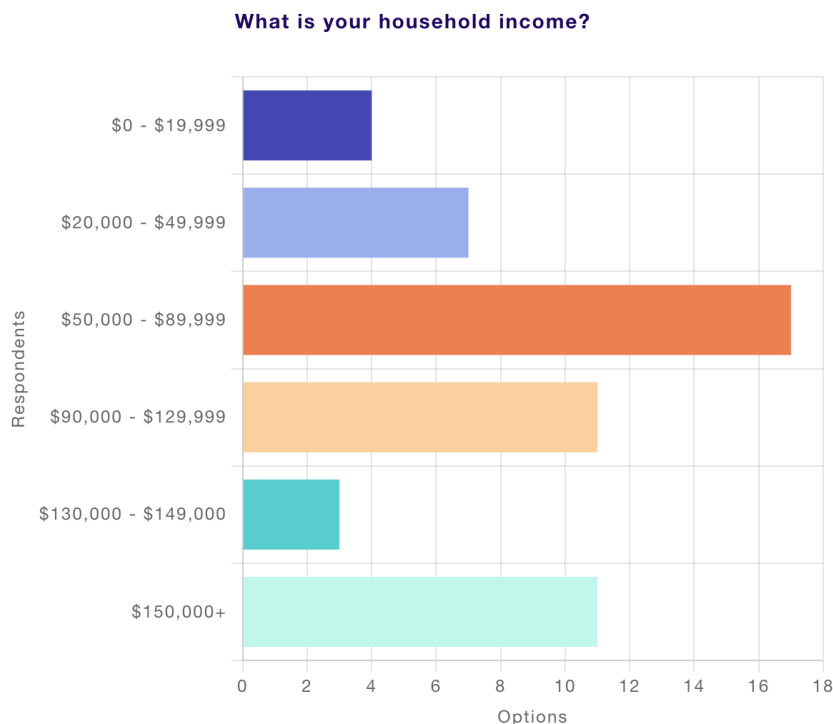


Figure 19: Household income of questionnaire respondents. (N=53).

Section 5: Additional Thoughts & Opportunity for Additional Engagement

Lastly, participants were given the opportunity to let us know any further information about themselves, their experiences and/or worries regarding climate change impacts. They were also asked if they would like to be contacted to learn more about opportunities to be engaged in this climate change adaptation process.

Key concerns:

- Climate change impacts:
 - Frequent worries about flooding, including personal experiences with basement flooding and concerns about displacement.
 - Significant concern about the increasing frequency and magnitude of wildfires.
 - Observations of severe drought impacting water levels in natural systems like bogs, springs, and rivers.
 - Concerns about the impacts of hurricanes on regional infrastructure and trade, particularly concerning the Chignecto Isthmus and potential for dyke failure.
 - Impacts of extreme heat on local resources, such as well water.

- Vulnerability and equity:
 - Concerns about vulnerable populations, specifically seniors lacking resources in emergencies and low-income individuals in Tantramar.
- Infrastructure and local issues:
 - The Chignecto Isthmus was frequently mentioned, both in terms of its importance for maritime trade and connectivity, and the need for greater public awareness about its significance.
 - Specific local infrastructure concerns included a deteriorated bridge and flood-prone roads in Rockport.
 - Environmental concerns were raised about a proposed gas plant near Midgic, fearing additional strain on local resources and other environmental impacts.
 - A need for air quality monitors in Sackville was suggested.
- Awareness, education, and development:
 - Some respondents felt there's a gap in public awareness, particularly among urban dwellers, regarding the real effects of drought and other climate impacts.
 - A feeling of not knowing enough about climate change concerns beyond widely publicized "big things" like the Isthmus was expressed.
 - Strong concerns were raised about the impact of development, such as clear-cutting and the replacement of natural areas with asphalt and concrete, leading to loss of natural cooling and destruction of critical wetland/spring areas.
 - The need for better healthcare access in general was highlighted as a major concern.

Suggested actions and solutions:

- Emergency preparedness:
 - Develop and distribute a comprehensive emergency guide to every business and household to ensure readiness for extreme events.
 - Ensure resources and support are available for vulnerable groups during emergencies.
- Mitigation and adaptation strategies:
 - Invest in decentralizing renewable energy production and transmission.
 - Prioritize building climate resilience into watershed and forest stewardship.
 - Implement better municipal land use planning and policies.
 - Bolster infrastructure improvements with robust land use policies, outreach, and incentives for land stewards.
- Monitoring and education:
 - Install air quality monitors in underserved areas like Sackville.
 - Continue and enhance outreach and education to keep climate change issues on the community's radar and improve public understanding.

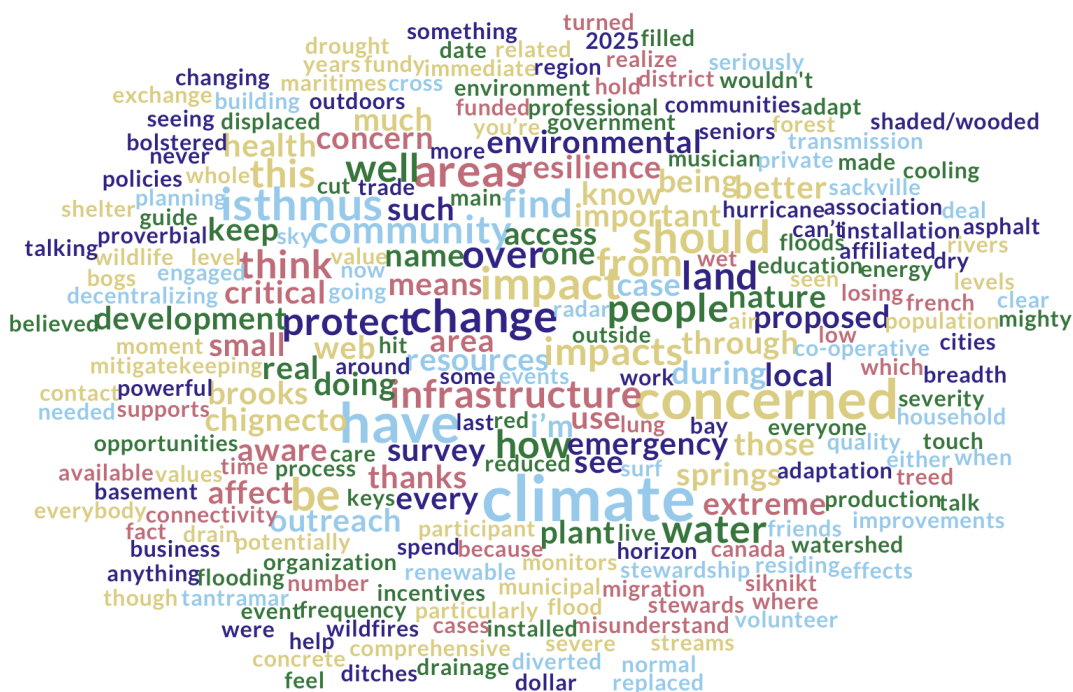


Figure 20: Word cloud featuring most commonly used words in participants' responses when prompted to share more details and concerns.