



**Washington State  
Transportation Plan  
Public Opinion Poll  
2025 Findings**



**Washington State  
Transportation Commission**

# Methodology

- ▶ Quantitative, online survey (average survey length 12 minutes)
- ▶ Multiple groups of Washington State residents invited to participate
  - n1,334 FROG (Ferry Riders Opinion Group) panelists
  - n274 VOWS (Voice of Washington State) panelists
  - n193 Open-link shared on social media and WSTC partners' websites
  - n1,510 Statewide online opt-in research panel

Total Surveys Collected = 3,311

# Sampling Plan

- The statewide opt in panel was comprised of respondents throughout Washington State. To ensure respondents from all areas of the state were included in sufficient numbers to allow for analysis by region, a stratified sampling plan was followed.
- In addition, quotas were established by age and gender.
- To balance the sample to actual population proportions, a weighting scheme was developed and applied using 2022 Census population proportions on region, age, and gender. This weighting scheme is only used for the general population panel sample.
- The results from the WSTC research panels (FROG and VOWS) and those collected via social media and through partners using an open link are not weighted.

# WSDOT Regions

- The general population results were collected from residents across the state of Washington, and categorized into each of the six regions shown in the map to the right.



# Weighting

- In order to make the survey results from the general population panel sample proportionate to residents of Washington State overall, it was necessary to weight these respondents by age, gender, and region.
- The weighting scheme used is displayed below.

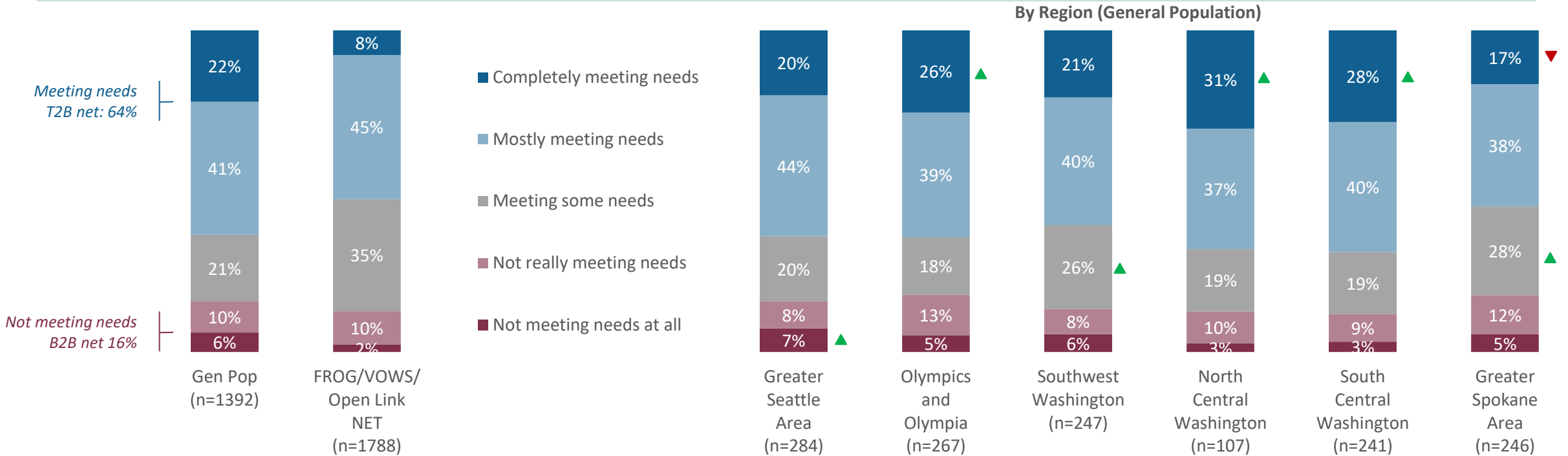
		Unweighted Count	Unweighted Percentage	Weighted Count	Weighted Percentage	RIM Weight
<b>Age</b>	18-24	158	10.46%	163	10.81%	0.10
	25-34	295	19.54%	292	19.35%	0.01
	35-44	284	18.81%	272	18.02%	-0.03
	45-54	240	15.89%	233	15.40%	-0.00
	55-64	212	14.04%	236	15.66%	0.10
	65-74	200	13.25%	192	12.73%	-0.07
	75+	121	8.01%	121	8.03%	-0.13
<b>Gender</b>	Male	665	44.04%	757	55.96%	0.05
	Female	845	50.10%	753	49.90%	-0.04
<b>Region</b>	Greater Seattle Area	296	19.60%	707	46.81%	1.38
	Olympics and Olympia	292	19.34%	342	22.66%	0.17
	Southwest WA	273	18.08%	149	9.86%	-0.45
	North Central WA	111	7.35%	50	3.28%	-0.55
	South Central WA	266	17.62%	128	8.45%	-0.53
	Greater Spokane Area	272	18.01%	135	8.94%	-0.50

# Report Conventions

- Percentages in charts and tables might not sum to 100 percent due to rounding and allowable multiple responses. Rounding follows conventional rounding rules with 0.5 rounded to the next whole number.
- Measures are reported based on the total number responding to each question (taking out those who did not answer a question or responded, “Don’t know” or “Refused”).
- Data from the FROG/VOWS and open-link is presented in aggregate and separately from the general population survey. Significant differences are noted where they occur.

# Is Transportation Meeting Needs

*Two thirds of the general population feel the transportation system is mostly or completely meeting their needs. FROG/VOWS/Open Link respondents are less likely to say that the system is completely or mostly meeting their needs and more likely to say it is only meeting some of their needs.*



VOWS more likely than Open Link to feel needs are being met (59% v. 42% T2B); Open Link more likely to feel 'some of their needs' are met (42% v. 24% VOWS). FROG Panelists fall in the middle.

Regionally... North Central, South Central and Olympics and Olympia residents are more likely to feel the transportation system is 'completely' meeting their needs, while those in Southwest WA and Greater Spokane are more inclined to say its meeting only 'some of their needs.'

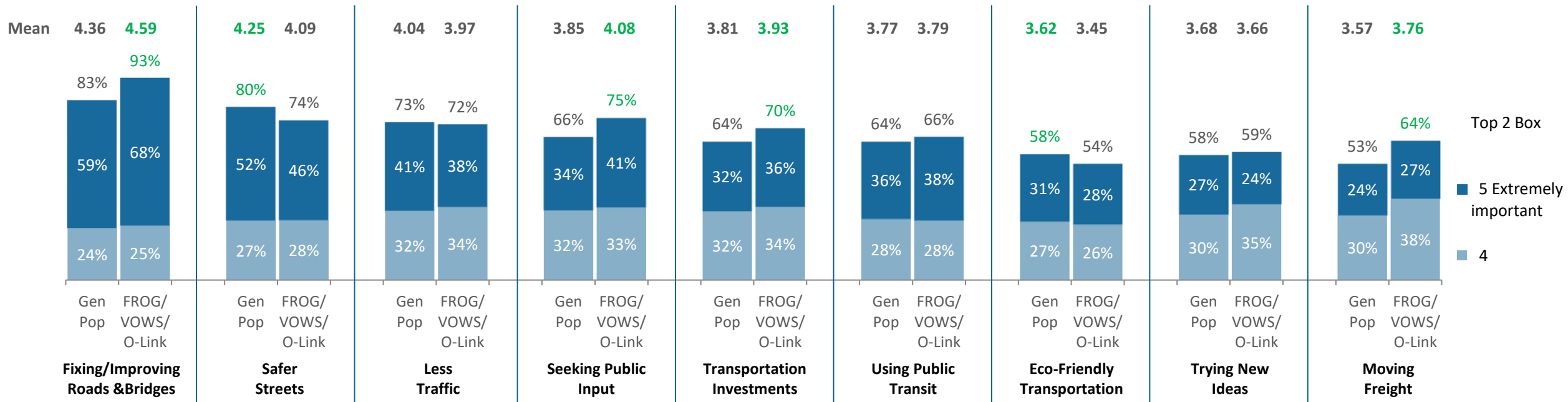
Q1. When it comes to transportation in Washington State, which of the following statements best describes how well the transportation system is meeting your needs?  
 Base: All respondents asked; percentages based to those giving a rating, as indicated.

▲ ▼ Higher/Lower than one or more region

# Transportation Priorities

**Fixing and improving roads and bridges** is the top priority among both the general population and the FROG/VOWS/Open Link (net), although the latter are more likely to rate it extremely important, while the general population place a somewhat higher priority on **safer streets** (their #2 priority). **Less traffic** and **seeking public input** round out the top four priorities in terms of importance.

*Eco-friendly transportation, trying new ideas and moving freight receive the lowest ratings across the nine priorities among both responding groups.*



Green indicates significantly higher than other population.

Q2. How important, if at all, are the following priorities when it comes to supporting your travels and use of the transportation system? (Rating scale: 5=Extremely important, 1=Not at all important)

Base: All respondents asked; percentages based to those giving a rating.

# Transportation Priorities

VOWS panel members give lower importance ratings to safer streets, public transit and eco-friendly transportation, but higher ratings to seeking public input and moving freight. FROG members give higher importance to less traffic, while Open-link respondents give higher ratings to safer streets.

Regional differences show those in the Greater Seattle area give higher ratings to less traffic (as do those in Olympics/Olympia), as well as to public transit and eco-friendly transportation. Reducing traffic is less important to those in North Central and South Central Washington and those in Spokane.

Top 2 Box Importance Rating and Mean Importance	FROG	VOWS	Open-link	Greater Seattle Area	Olympics and Olympia	Southwest Washington	North Central Washington	South Central Washington	Greater Spokane Area
Unweighted Total	1334	274	193	296	292	273	111	266	272
<b>Fixing and Improving Roads and Bridges</b>	93%	96%	86%	83%	83%	81%	77%	80%	86%
	4.60	4.69	4.42	4.39	4.32	4.32	4.24	4.29	4.48
<b>Safer Streets</b>	74%	66%	81%	82%	77%	78%	72%	77%	82%
	4.10	3.89	4.33	4.28	4.21	4.18	4.05	4.21	4.33
<b>Less Traffic</b>	75%	69%	50%	76%	74%	70%	61%	67%	65%
	4.07	3.86	3.42	4.09	4.10	3.98	3.80	3.90	3.92
<b>Seeking Public Input</b>	76%	82%	56%	69%	63%	63%	63%	63%	63%
	4.10	4.26	3.64	3.89	3.85	3.80	3.76	3.77	3.86
<b>Transportation Investments</b>	69%	73%	69%	66%	63%	66%	60%	56%	63%
	3.92	4.03	3.89	3.84	3.78	3.82	3.72	3.63	3.84
<b>Using Public Transit</b>	70%	43%	71%	69%	60%	57%	53%	62%	60%
	3.91	3.12	3.92	3.91	3.64	3.58	3.52	3.73	3.73
<b>Eco-Friendly Transportation</b>	57%	33%	61%	62%	56%	54%	50%	51%	53%
	3.54	2.82	3.65	3.73	3.58	3.53	3.43	3.47	3.44
<b>Trying New Ideas</b>	60%	54%	58%	58%	59%	54%	57%	58%	57%
	3.70	3.49	3.58	3.69	3.72	3.59	3.69	3.70	3.67
<b>Moving Freight</b>	63%	73%	62%	55%	53%	52%	54%	52%	54%
	3.72	4.03	3.66	3.57	3.58	3.55	3.60	3.57	3.54

Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other groups.

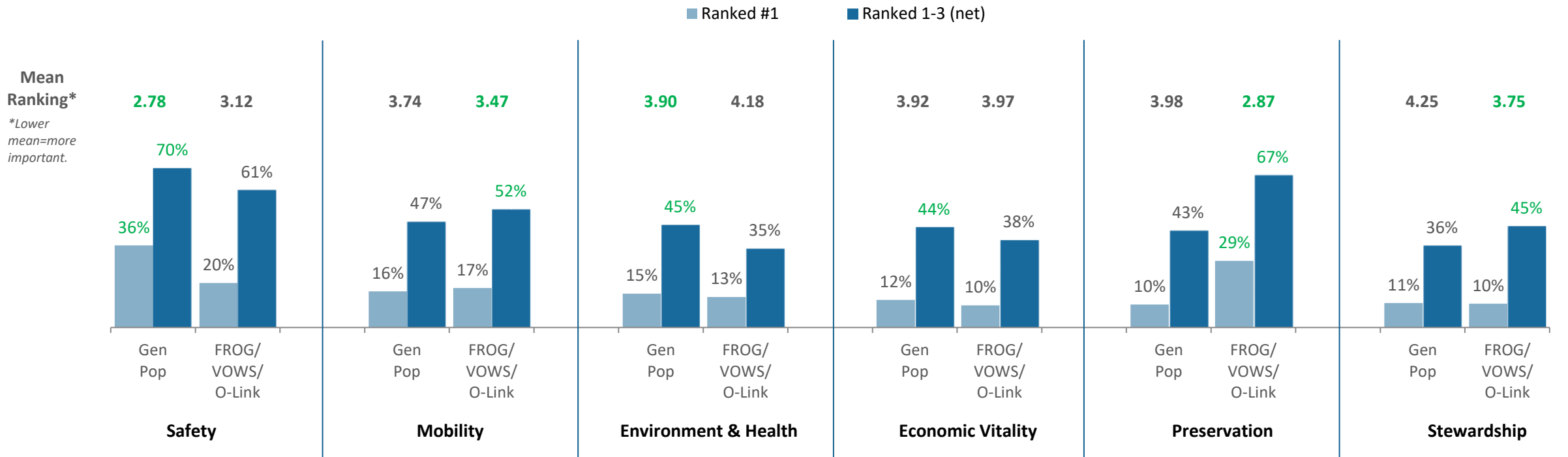
Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other regions.

Those living at or below 400% federal poverty level (FPL) are more likely to give higher importance to using public transit (66% T2B v. 55% for those >400% FPL).

Q2. How important, if at all, are the following priorities when it comes to supporting your travels and use of the transportation system? (Rating scale: 5=Extremely important, 1=Not at all important)

# Policy Goal Ranking

When it comes to transportation policy goals, **'safety'** tends to be ranked highest among the general population (36% rank it #1, 70% rank it in their top three). **'Preservation'** is more likely to receive the highest ranking among the FROG/VOWS/Open Link respondents (29% rank it #1, 67% rank it in their top three).



Green indicates significantly higher than other population.

Q3. Next, we are going to focus on the transportation policy goals in state law that establish the top priorities for our state's transportation system and its operations. Please rank the following state policy goals in terms of what is most important to you, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc.

Base: All respondents asked; percentages based to those giving a rating.

# Policy Goal Ranking

VOWS panel members are more likely to give comparatively higher ranking to **mobility** and **economic vitality**, and lower ranking to **environment and health**, while Frog panel members are more likely to give a higher ranking to **preservation** and a lower ranking to **safety**. There are relatively few regional differences – the only notable is that Safety is more important to Spokane residents and slightly less important to those in the Olympics and Olympia region.

Mean Ranking\*  
\*Lower mean=more important.

Priorities Ranking		FROG	VOWS	Open-link	Greater Seattle Area	Olympics and Olympia	Southwest Washington	North Central Washington	South Central Washington	Greater Spokane Area
Unweighted Total		1334	274	193	296	292	273	111	266	272
Safety	Ranked #1	18%	26%	25%	34%	35%	40%	42%	42%	38%
	Ranked 1-3	58%	66%	72%	70%	66%	74%	65%	73%	76%
	Mean Rank	3.21	2.96	2.77	2.76	2.98	2.61	2.86	2.70	2.56
Mobility	Ranked #1	16%	20%	20%	17%	18%	14%	13%	14%	13%
	Ranked 1-3	51%	64%	45%	45%	49%	44%	53%	47%	46%
	Mean Rank	3.53	3.08	3.63	3.71	3.70	3.91	3.73	3.82	3.76
Environment & Health	Ranked #1	15%	6%	16%	15%	14%	17%	12%	15%	13%
	Ranked 1-3	37%	20%	41%	49%	39%	45%	42%	44%	42%
	Mean Rank	4.07	4.92	3.89	3.74	4.15	3.82	4.17	3.97	4.00
Economic Vitality	Ranked #1	9%	15%	10%	12%	14%	11%	4%	12%	15%
	Ranked 1-3	37%	50%	35%	46%	44%	44%	35%	43%	39%
	Mean Rank	4.05	3.46	4.11	3.86	3.92	3.87	4.45	4.05	3.92
Preservation	Ranked #1	32%	21%	21%	10%	11%	11%	13%	6%	11%
	Ranked 1-3	69%	60%	63%	44%	41%	40%	42%	39%	43%
	Mean Rank	2.77	3.19	3.10	3.88	4.05	4.05	4.06	4.25	3.99
Stewardship	Ranked #1	10%	13%	8%	12%	9%	7%	16%	11%	9%
	Ranked 1-3	46%	38%	42%	36%	38%	34%	33%	32%	40%
	Mean Rank	3.71	3.93	3.81	4.22	4.25	4.38	4.32	4.39	4.06

Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other groups.

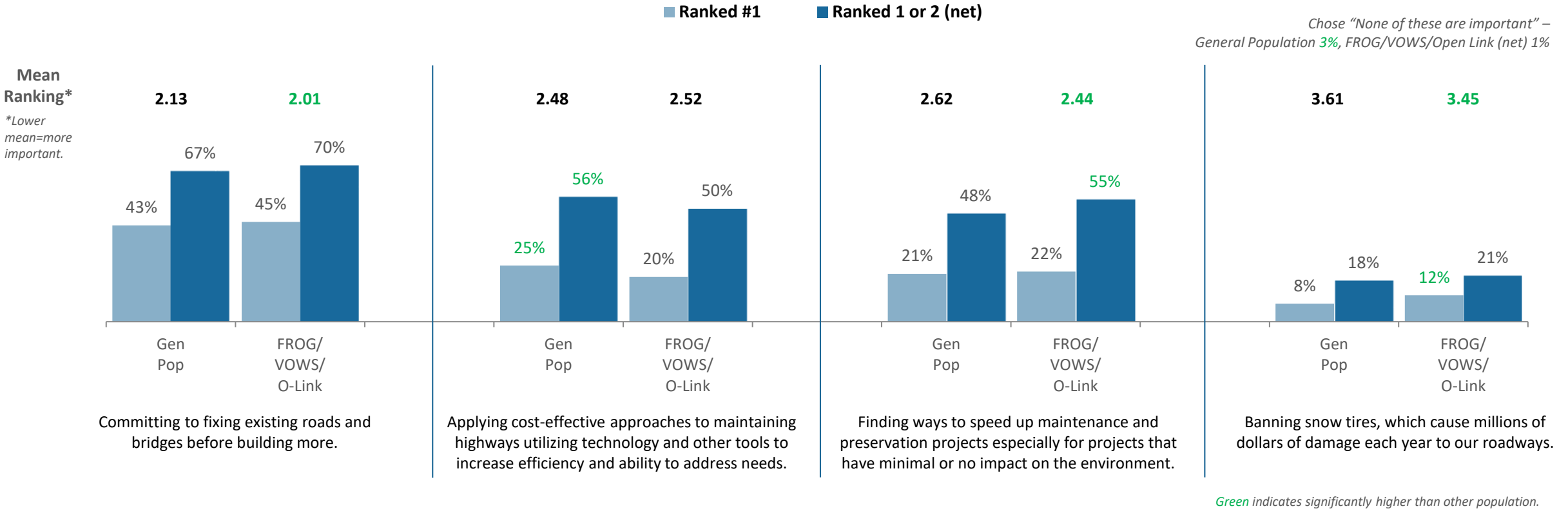
Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other regions.

Those living at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) give lower importance to preservation (mean = 4.34 v. 3.67 for those >400% FPL). Note: Lower mean=more important.

Q3. Next, we are going to focus on the transportation policy goals in state law that establish the top priorities for our state's transportation system and its operations.

# Preservation Strategies

For preservation strategies, both the general population and the FROG/VOWS/Open Link (net) respondents give their highest ranking to **committing to fixing existing roads and bridges before building more**. Banning snow tires is the lowest ranked strategy by all.



Q4 - Preservation. Considering the six transportation policy goals you just reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to **preserve our aging infrastructure**? Please rank the following in terms of what is most important to you, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc. Base: All respondents asked; percentages based to those giving a rating.

# Preservation Strategies

VOWS panel members are more likely to give comparatively higher ranking to **committing to fixing existing roads/bridges before building more**, and lower ranking to **finding ways to speed up projects – especially those with minimal or no impact on the environment**. This last strategy is more important among those in the Greater Seattle area compared to other regions.

**Mean Ranking\***  
\*Lower mean=more important.

Priorities Ranking		FROG	VOWS	Open-link		Greater Seattle Area	Olympics and Olympia	Southwest Washington	North Central Washington	South Central Washington	Greater Spokane Area
Unweighted Total		1334	274	193		296	292	273	111	266	272
Committing to fixing existing roads and bridges before building more.	Ranked #1	44%	51%	41%		42%	42%	44%	38%	49%	47%
	Ranked 1-2	69%	77%	67%		66%	66%	70%	63%	69%	71%
	Mean Rank	2.04	1.81	2.10		2.11	2.24	2.09	2.34	2.10	2.01
Applying cost-effective approaches to maintaining highways utilizing technology & other tools ...	Ranked #1	19%	21%	21%		25%	25%	23%	30%	27%	22%
	Ranked 1-2	50%	57%	44%		56%	57%	52%	59%	60%	53%
	Mean Rank	2.53	2.41	2.58		2.45	2.49	2.63	2.45	2.44	2.54
Finding ways to speed up maintenance and preservation projects especially for projects that have minimal or no impact on the environment.	Ranked #1	24%	13%	27%		25%	18%	21%	20%	15%	18%
	Ranked 1-2	56%	42%	62%		53%	44%	45%	44%	42%	46%
	Mean Rank	2.40	2.68	2.33		2.49	2.74	2.68	2.74	2.83	2.72
Banning snow tires, which cause millions of dollars of damage each year to our roadways.	Ranked #1	12%	14%	9%		7%	10%	7%	10%	6%	10%
	Ranked 1-2	21%	21%	20%		19%	19%	19%	19%	16%	18%
	Mean Rank	3.45	3.46	3.46		3.55	3.65	3.61	3.66	3.75	3.62

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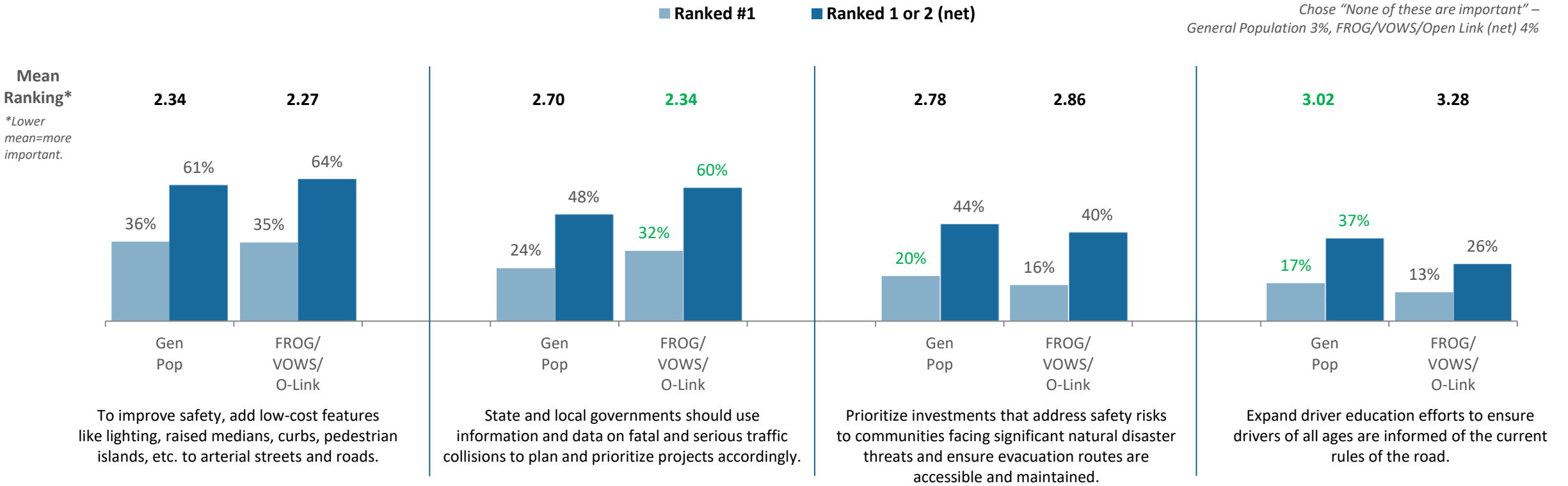
Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other regions.

Those living at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) give lower importance to fixing existing before building more (mean = 2.31 v. 2.00 for those >400% FPL). Note: Lower mean=more important.

Q4 - Preservation. Considering the six transportation policy goals you just reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to preserve our aging infrastructure?

# Safety Strategies

For safety strategies, both the general population and the FROG/VOWS/Open Link (net) give their highest ranking to **adding low-cost features to arterial streets and roads**, followed by **using data on fatal or serious traffic collisions to plan and prioritize projects**. Expanding driver education efforts is the lowest ranked strategy by both groups, although the general population rank it as more important than those responding through FROG, VOWS or the Open-Link.



Green indicates significantly higher than other population.

Q5 - Safety. Considering the six transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to address our **roadway safety challenges**? Please rank the following in terms of what is most important to you, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc. Base: All respondents asked; percentages based to those giving a rating.

# Safety Strategies

Open-Link respondents are more likely to give comparatively higher ranking to **adding low-cost features to arterial streets and roads**. Those in the North Central and Greater Seattle areas give comparatively higher importance to **prioritizing investments that address risks to communities facing natural disaster threats**, while this is of lesser importance to those in the Olympics/Olympia region.

Mean Ranking\*  
\*Lower mean=more important.

Priorities Ranking		FROG	VOWS	Open-link		Greater Seattle Area	Olympics and Olympia	Southwest Washington	North Central Washington	South Central Washington	Greater Spokane Area
Unweighted Total		1334	274	193		296	292	273	111	266	272
To improve safety, add low-cost features ... to arterial streets and roads.	Ranked #1	35%	30%	45%		34%	38%	37%	33%	37%	36%
	Ranked 1-2	63%	61%	72%		60%	63%	62%	55%	62%	60%
	Mean Rank	2.28	2.36	2.06		2.35	2.28	2.35	2.49	2.37	2.37
... Use information and data on fatal and serious traffic collisions to plan and prioritize projects accordingly.	Ranked #1	31%	36%	27%		24%	25%	24%	21%	19%	24%
	Ranked 1-2	59%	65%	55%		49%	48%	46%	41%	49%	47%
	Mean Rank	2.35	2.23	2.44		2.64	2.75	2.71	2.85	2.82	2.71
Prioritize investments that address safety risks to communities facing significant natural disaster threats ...	Ranked #1	16%	18%	13%		23%	16%	22%	28%	18%	18%
	Ranked 1-2	40%	38%	37%		47%	38%	46%	51%	39%	40%
	Mean Rank	2.86	2.82	2.97		2.65	2.94	2.79	2.67	2.95	2.93
Expand driver education efforts to ensure drivers of all ages are informed of the current rules of the road.	Ranked #1	13%	12%	11%		17%	17%	13%	16%	22%	15%
	Ranked 1-2	25%	28%	25%		38%	38%	34%	39%	37%	34%
	Mean Rank	3.30	3.21	3.26		2.97	3.05	3.06	3.15	2.94	3.12

Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other groups.

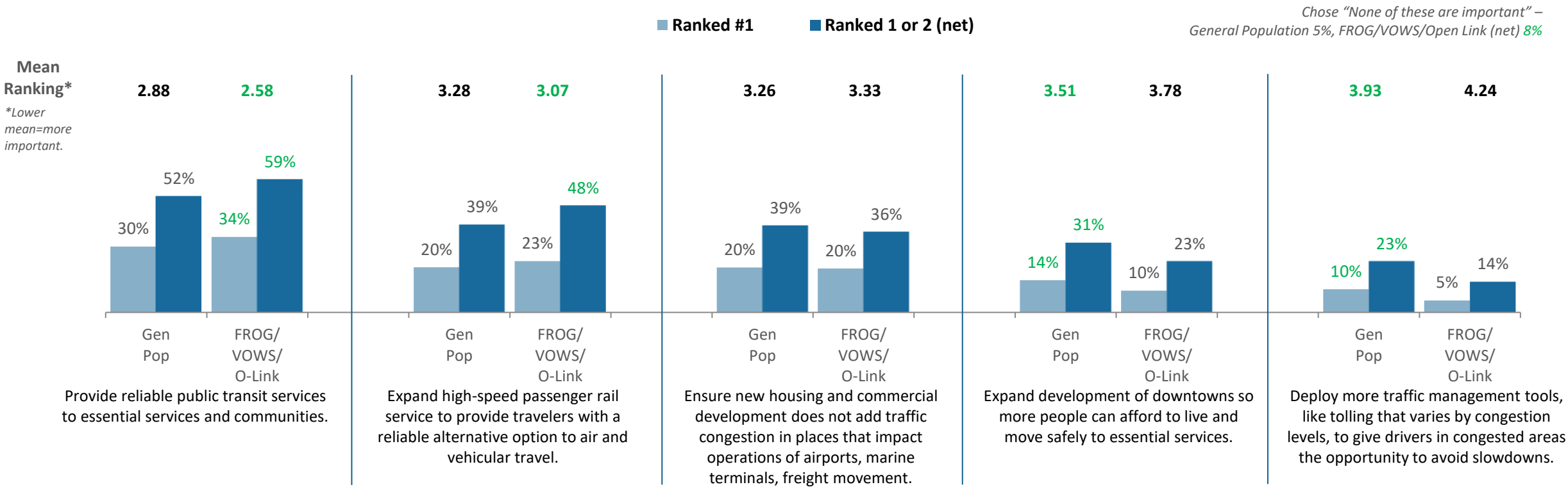
Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other regions.

Those living at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) give lower importance to using data on traffic collisions to prioritize projects (mean = 2.94 v. 2.59 for those >400% FPL) as well as to prioritizing investments that address natural disaster threats (mean = 2.97 v. 2.62 for those >400% FPL). Note: Lower mean=more important.

Q5 - Safety. Considering the six transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to address our roadway safety challenges?

# Mobility Strategies

For mobility strategies, both the general population and the FROG/VOWS/Open Link respondents give their highest ranking to **providing reliable public transit services to essential services/communities**, with the FROG/VOWS/Open Link (net) giving it comparatively higher importance. **Expanding high-speed passenger rail service** falls into second place for the FROG/VOWS/Open Link (net) while the general population are fairly split between that option and **ensuring development does not add traffic congestion** in places that impact operation of airports, terminals and freight.



Q6 - Mobility. Considering the transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to **efficiently move people and freight** throughout our transportation system? Please rank the following in terms of what is most important to you, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc. Base: All respondents asked; percentages based to those giving a rating.

# Mobility Strategies

VOWS panel members are more likely to give comparatively higher ranking to **ensuring new development doesn't add traffic congestion**, and **lower ranking to providing reliable transit services to essential services and communities** and to **expanding high-speed rail service**. Open-Link respondents give comparatively higher importance to **expanding the development of downtowns**. There are relatively few regional differences, although Greater Seattle residents give higher importance to **expanding high-speed rail**.

Mean Ranking\*

\*Lower mean=more important.

Priorities Ranking		FROG	VOWS	Open-link	Greater Seattle Area	Olympics and Olympia	Southwest Washington	North Central Washington	South Central Washington	Greater Spokane Area
Unweighted Total		1334	274	193	296	292	273	111	266	272
Provide reliable public transit services to essential services and communities.	Ranked #1	36%	23%	37%	31%	30%	23%	26%	28%	31%
	Ranked 1-2	62%	41%	66%	54%	51%	47%	49%	48%	53%
	Mean Rank	2.47	3.26	2.38	2.79	2.91	3.09	3.18	3.07	2.79
Expand high-speed passenger rail service to provide travelers with a reliable alternative option to air and vehicular travel.	Ranked #1	24%	18%	22%	23%	18%	17%	18%	19%	18%
	Ranked 1-2	50%	38%	48%	44%	36%	33%	35%	34%	38%
	Mean Rank	2.98	3.61	2.96	3.04	3.45	3.59	3.55	3.54	3.42
Ensure new... development does not add traffic congestion in places that impact operations of airports, marine terminals, freight movement.	Ranked #1	19%	27%	10%	17%	21%	28%	25%	21%	22%
	Ranked 1-2	36%	43%	24%	37%	40%	44%	36%	38%	43%
	Mean Rank	3.29	3.22	3.78	3.27	3.26	3.14	3.47	3.36	3.18
Expand development of downtowns so more people can afford to live and move safely to essential services.	Ranked #1	9%	8%	20%	16%	11%	15%	18%	15%	16%
	Ranked 1-2	21%	23%	36%	30%	31%	35%	34%	32%	31%
	Mean Rank	3.81	4.04	3.27	3.44	3.63	3.45	3.55	3.66	3.47
Deploy more traffic management tools... to give drivers in congested areas the opportunity to avoid slowdowns.	Ranked #1	5%	7%	4%	10%	12%	10%	7%	12%	6%
	Ranked 1-2	14%	15%	10%	23%	25%	20%	21%	28%	16%
	Mean Rank	4.23	4.36	4.17	3.87	3.93	4.00	4.22	3.77	4.20

Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other groups.

Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other regions.

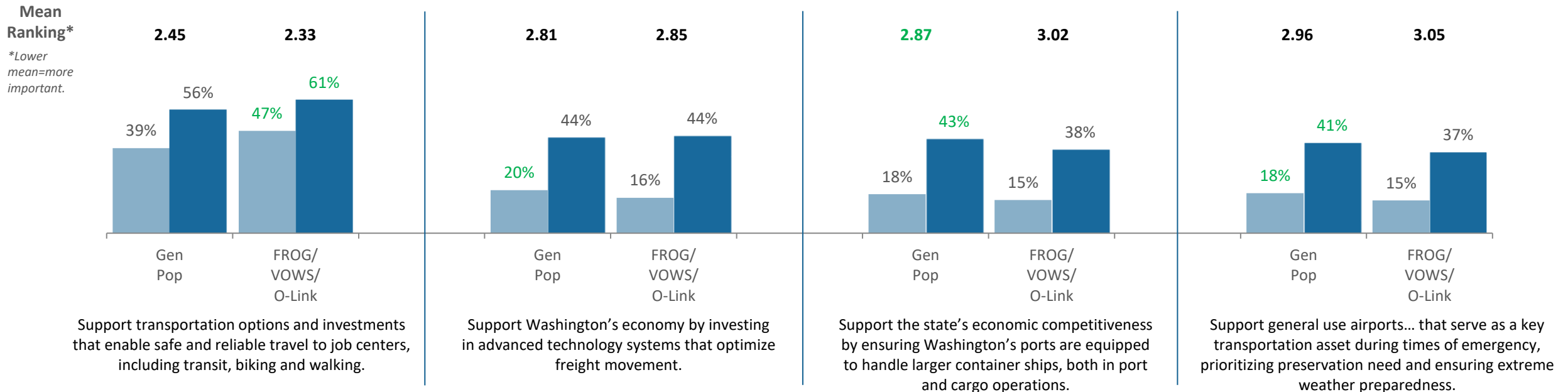
Those living at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) give lower priority to expanding high-speed passenger rail service... (mean = 3.49 v. 3.11 for those >400% FPL). Note: Lower mean=more important.

Q6 - Mobility. Considering the transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to efficiently move people and freight throughout our transportation system?

# Economic Vitality Strategies

For economic vitality strategies, both the general population and the FROG/VOWS/Open Link respondents say it is most important to **support transportation options and investments that enable safe and reliable travel to job centers**, with the FROG/VOWS/Open Link (net) giving it comparatively higher importance. There is not a lot of distinction between the other three options in terms of percent ranking them either number one or combined first/second.

Chose "None of these are important" –  
General Population 5%, FROG/VOWS/Open Link (net) 7%



Green indicates significantly higher than other population.

Q8 – Economic Vitality. Considering the transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out **to support and stimulate our statewide economy**? Please rank the following in terms of what is most important to you, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc.  
Base: All respondents asked; percentages based to those giving a rating.

# Economic Vitality Strategies

Open-Link respondents are more likely to give comparatively higher ranking to **options and investments that enable safe/reliable travel to job centers**, while VOWS panel members are more likely to give comparatively higher ranking to **ensuring ports are equipped to handle larger container ships**. There are relatively few regional differences, though those in the Seattle area are less likely than those in Spokane to say that Washington should first prioritize **investments in advanced technology that optimize freight movement**.

Mean Ranking\*  
\*Lower mean=more important.

Priorities Ranking		FROG	VOWS	Open-link		Greater Seattle Area	Olympics and Olympia	Southwest Washington	North Central Washington	South Central Washington	Greater Spokane Area
Unweighted Total		1334	274	193		296	292	273	111	266	272
Support transportation options and investments that enable safe and reliable travel to job centers...	Ranked #1	48%	31%	64%		41%	36%	35%	44%	33%	41%
	Ranked 1-2	62%	44%	74%		57%	56%	52%	63%	54%	58%
	Mean Rank	2.29	2.84	1.88		2.35	2.56	2.56	2.26	2.61	2.45
Support Washington's economy by investing in advanced technology systems that optimize freight movement.	Ranked #1	16%	22%	13%		17%	24%	17%	15%	22%	26%
	Ranked 1-2	43%	49%	45%		44%	45%	43%	37%	40%	47%
	Mean Rank	2.88	2.69	2.82		2.77	2.82	2.90	3.16	2.92	2.70
Support the state's economic competitiveness by ensuring ports are equipped to handle larger container ships, both in port and cargo operations.	Ranked #1	14%	23%	9%		17%	19%	19%	21%	21%	14%
	Ranked 1-2	37%	53%	30%		44%	42%	43%	39%	44%	39%
	Mean Rank	3.07	2.67	3.21		2.82	2.88	2.93	2.99	2.88	2.99
Support general use airports... that serve as a key transportation asset during times of emergency...	Ranked #1	15%	17%	9%		20%	16%	21%	16%	19%	13%
	Ranked 1-2	37%	35%	36%		43%	39%	42%	40%	43%	35%
	Mean Rank	3.05	3.02	3.09		2.87	3.05	2.97	3.04	3.00	3.12

Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other groups.

Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other regions.

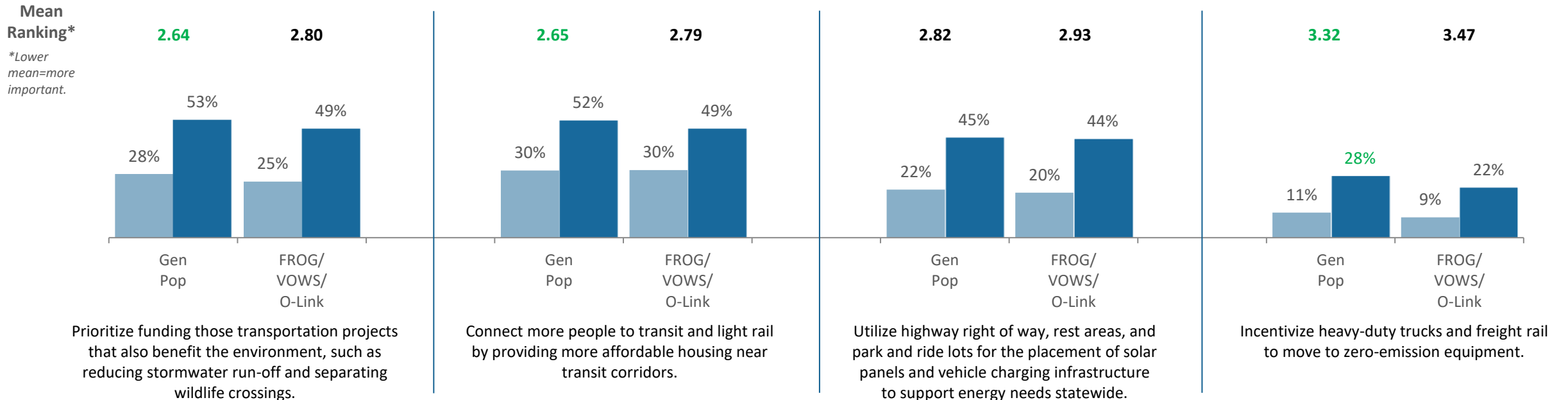
Those living at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) give lower importance to investing in advanced technology systems that optimize freight movement (mean = 2.88 v. 2.58 for those >400% FPL) as well as to ensuring ports can handle larger container ships (mean = 3.04 v. 2.68 for those >400% FPL). Note: Lower mean=more important.

Q8 – Economic Vitality. Considering the transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to support and stimulate our statewide economy?

# Environment Strategies

For environment strategies, the general population tends to give equal priority to **funding transportation projects that also benefit the environment** and to **connecting more people to transit and light rail via affordable housing near transit corridors**. Both of these are also the top two priorities among the FROG/VOWS/Open Link (net), although to a comparatively lesser degree, on average. Incentivizing heavy-duty trucks and freight rail to move to zero-emission equipment is the lowest ranked strategy by both groups.

Chose "None of these are important" –  
General Population 9%, FROG/VOWS/Open Link (net) 15%



Green indicates significantly higher than other population.

Q9 – Environment. Considering the transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to **protect the environment and natural resources**? Please rank the following in terms of what is most important to you, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc.  
Base: All respondents asked; percentages based to those giving a rating.

# Environment Strategies

VOWS panel members give a comparatively lower ranking, on average, to each strategy. Open-Link respondents give comparatively higher ranking to **connecting more people to transit and light rail by providing more affordable housing near transit corridors**. Those in the Greater Seattle area also tend to give a higher ranking to this strategy. Those in the Greater Spokane area give lower ranking to **funding those transportation projects that also benefit the environment**.

Mean Ranking\*  
\*Lower mean=more important.

Priorities Ranking		FROG	VOWS	Open-link		Greater Seattle Area	Olympics and Olympia	Southwest Washington	North Central Washington	South Central Washington	Greater Spokane Area
Unweighted Total		1334	274	193		296	292	273	111	266	272
Prioritize funding those transportation projects that also benefit the environment...	Ranked #1	26%	24%	23%		30%	29%	29%	24%	25%	22%
	Ranked 1-2	50%	40%	51%		54%	54%	52%	47%	53%	43%
	Mean Rank	2.75	3.15	2.67		2.53	2.67	2.65	2.91	2.75	2.92
Connect more people to transit and light rail by providing more affordable housing near transit corridors.	Ranked #1	31%	18%	46%		33%	28%	25%	25%	28%	28%
	Ranked 1-2	50%	32%	62%		58%	50%	42%	44%	46%	50%
	Mean Rank	2.74	3.38	2.33		2.47	2.70	2.98	2.99	2.85	2.79
Utilize highway right of way, rest areas, and park and ride lots for the placement of solar panels and vehicle charging infrastructure...	Ranked #1	21%	23%	12%		21%	20%	22%	27%	22%	23%
	Ranked 1-2	45%	43%	39%		44%	43%	51%	49%	43%	45%
	Mean Rank	2.87	3.17	2.98		2.78	2.90	2.74	2.82	2.90	2.88
Incentivize heavy-duty trucks and freight rail to move to zero-emission equipment.	Ranked #1	10%	7%	8%		10%	12%	14%	13%	15%	12%
	Ranked 1-2	23%	20%	23%		27%	27%	28%	24%	31%	29%
	Mean Rank	3.43	3.68	3.44		3.26	3.40	3.36	3.48	3.29	3.37

Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other groups.

Green=significantly higher/Red=significantly lower than two other regions.

No significant differences were found between those living at or below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and those >400% FPL.

Q9 – Environment. Considering the transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to protect the environment and natural resources?

# Additional Comments

	Gen Pop	FROG	VOWS	Open-Link
<b>Unweighted Total Giving Comment</b>	n440	n456	n107	n76
Road Maintenance, Expansion, and Conditions	25%	13%	30%	20%
Public Transportation Infrastructure and Services	17%	43%	8%	28%
General Safety and Security	15%	10%	13%	20%
Funding, Budgeting, and Taxation Concerns	13%	18%	26%	25%
Congestion and Traffic Management	13%	12%	16%	14%
Transportation Needs Across Different Regions (Rural, Eastern WA, etc.)	7%	7%	14%	9%
Environmental and Sustainability Concerns	7%	7%	7%	22%
Accessibility and Inclusivity (seniors, disabled, at risk, low income, etc.)	5%	3%	3%	--
Technology and Innovation	3%	3%	1%	3%
Public Feedback and Involvement	1%	1%	2%	4%
<b>Not Related to Transportation (positive)</b>	5%	8%	9%	11%
<b>Not Related to Transportation (negative)</b>	12%	4%	1%	--
Other	3%	5%	5%	1%

# Sample Representative Comments

*“Building and maintaining infrastructure should be paramount.” - FROG*

*“We need more easily accessible public transit, and less cars on the road.”*

- Gen Pop Greater Seattle Area

*“The environment, people and wildlife should be foremost in planning.”*

- Gen Pop Southwest Washington

*“Listen to the public and not just lobby people.”*

- Gen Pop Southwest Washington

*“As long as Safety comes first and the decisions are fair for everybody, or most folks.”*

- Gen Pop Greater Seattle Area

*“Easier access to rail and city transportation for seniors and disabled.”*

- Gen Pop Southwest Washington

*“From an Eastern WA concept, we need more long distance transportation with public transit that allows travel to other urban centers or connecting routes.”*

- VOWS

*“Provide better means of moving traffic through urban counties much faster.”*

- Gen Pop Southwest Washington

*“Emerging technologies will play a very big role in 2050 and Washington needs to be investing in them now.”*

- Open-link

*“WSDOT officials must find ways to effectively utilize EXISTING funding! Our roads are in sad shape and getting worse each year...where are our tax dollars going?”*

- Open-link

# Questionnaire (1 of 7)

WSTC Planning Study 2025  
Questionnaire FINAL  
April 9, 2027

Scope

- Quantitative, online survey
- Multiple groups of residents will be invited to participate
  - FROG panelists
  - VOWS panelists
  - Open-Link to WSTC to be shared on their platforms and with their partners
  - Statewide online opt-in panel
    - 1,500 surveys from the opt-in panel
- Respondent Qualification:
  - All respondents in Washington State will be eligible to participate from the FROG and VOWS panel, as well as from the open link.
  - However, respondents from the “statewide online opt-in panel” residents must meet the following criteria to be eligible to participate:
    - Age 18+
    - Live in WA state
    - Quotas will be used to balance age and gender to the latest US census projections
    - Additionally, quotas will be used to ensure a minimum of n=150 completed surveys from each of the six WA transportation regions. After minimums are met, the remainder will be balanced to the latest US census projections in each of the regions.
- 10-minute maximum survey length

Intro / Screener

**INTRO**  
**SHOW IF ONLINE PANEL; SKIP TO Q1 IF FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK**  
**ScreenerIntro.**

**INTRO**  
**SHOW ALL**  
**MainIntro.**

**Thank you for taking part in this survey hosted by the Washington State Transportation Commission.** Your input will help transportation planners throughout the state better understand the transportation needs, priorities, and opinions of Washington residents — including you.

The feedback you provide today will help shape the **Washington Transportation Plan**, a 20-year transportation policy plan that serves as the state's roadmap for the future of our statewide transportation system, including roads, public airports, transit, rail, freight, ferries, bike lanes and sidewalks.

To help us better understand who is responding to this survey, we would like to learn a little bit about you. Your responses are anonymous and will not be shared.  
Please click 'next' to continue.

**PANEL AGE**  
**SHOW IF ONLINE PANEL**

**S1.**  
First, could you tell us your age?  
Enter a number below.

[RANGE 1-120]	TERMINATE IF 1-17
999 Prefer not to say	TERMINATE

**PANEL AGE BANDS**  
**HIDDEN**

**S1A.**  
Hidden age bands for quotas and analysis

1	Under 18	TERMINATE
2	18-24	
3	25-34	
4	35-44	
5	45-54	
6	55-64	
7	65-74	
8	75+	

# Questionnaire (2 of 7)

## PANEL GENDER

SHOW IF ONLINE PANEL

S2.

Which gender do you identify with?

Select one.

1	Male	
2	Female	
3	Gender-fluid / non-conforming / non-binary	
4	Prefer to self-describe (please specify)	OPEN-END
5	Prefer not to say	

## PANEL PRIMARY ZIP CODE

SHOW IF ONLINE PANEL

S5.

What is the zip code of your primary residence?

Enter below.

		ENSURE WA ZIP CODE, OTHERWISE
	[RANGE 5-DIGIT]	TERMINATE
0	Prefer not to say	TERMINATE

## PANEL REGION

HIDDEN

S6.

REGION - based on zip code (S5)

Select one.

1	Greater Seattle Area	
2	Olympics and Olympia	
3	Southwest Washington	
4	North Central Washington	
5	South Central Washington	
6	Greater Spokane Area	

Transportation Priorities

## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OPINION

ASK ALL

Q1.

When it comes to transportation in Washington State, which of the following statements best describes how well the transportation system is meeting your needs?

Select one.

5	Completely meeting your needs	
4	Mostly meeting your needs	
3	Meeting some of your needs	
2	Not really meeting your needs	
1	Not meeting your needs at all	
9	Don't know	

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## TRANSPORTATION CONCERNS

ASK ALL

Q2.

Next, we would like you to think about your travels and how you use the transportation system in Washington State.

How important, if at all, are the following priorities when it comes to supporting your travels and use of the transportation system?

Please indicate your support using the scale below where '5' means "extremely important" and '1' means "not at all important". Select one for each.

RANDOMIZE ROWS

		Not at all important	2	3	4	Extremely important
		1				5
1	<b>Fixing and Improving Roads and Bridges:</b> Making sure our highways, roads, and bridges are in good shape and fixing them when needed.					
2	<b>Using Public Transit:</b> Increasing access to and reliability of transit and ensuring riders can easily and conveniently make their full trip with minimal gaps in service.					
3	<b>Less Traffic:</b> Finding ways to reduce traffic jams so that drivers can more efficiently get from point A to point B.					
4	<b>Eco-Friendly Transportation:</b> Encouraging the use of clean transportation options to help reduce pollution and negative environmental impacts.					
5	<b>Safer Streets:</b> Making streets safer, whether you are driving, biking, or walking.					
6	<b>Transportation Investments:</b> Making sure funding is equitably distributed over time in support of community needs statewide.					
7	<b>Moving Freight:</b> Support improvements that help businesses grow and move freight across our state to ports and distribution centers.					
8	<b>Seeking Public Input:</b> Engaging Washington State residents on a regular basis to make sure decision-making aligns with citizen priorities.					
9	<b>Trying New Ideas:</b> Advancing new transportation solutions and technologies that make travel easier and safer.					

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# Questionnaire (3 of 7)

## POLICY GOAL RANKING

ASK ALL

Q3.

Next, we are going to focus on the transportation policy goals in state law that establish the top priorities for our state's transportation system and its operations.

Please rank the following state policy goals in terms of what is **most important to you**, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc.

RANDOMIZE ROWS; RANK MIN 1, MAX 6

1	<b>Economic Vitality:</b> To promote and develop transportation systems that stimulate, support, and enhance the movement of people and goods to ensure a prosperous economy.
2	<b>Preservation:</b> To maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services, including the state ferry system.
3	<b>Safety:</b> To provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation customers and the transportation system.
4	<b>Mobility:</b> To improve the predictable movement of goods and people throughout Washington state, including congestion relief and improved freight mobility.
5	<b>Environment &amp; Health:</b> To enhance Washington's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment.
6	<b>Stewardship:</b> To continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, resiliency, and efficiency of our transportation system.

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## PRESERVATION

Q4.

ASK ALL

RANDOMIZE

Considering the six transportation policy goals you just reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to **preserve our aging infrastructure**?

Please rank the following in terms of what is **most important to you**, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc. Please click on each item in order of your priority, and it will automatically order them accordingly. If you want to change the order, you can drag and drop the item where you want it.

RANDOMIZE ROWS; RANK MIN 1, MAX 4

1	Applying cost-effective approaches to maintaining highways utilizing technology and other tools to increase efficiency and ability to address needs.	
2	Committing to fixing existing roads and bridges before building more.	
3	Finding ways to speed up maintenance and preservation projects especially for projects that have minimal or no impact on the environment.	
4	Banning snow tires, which cause millions of dollars of damage each year to our roadways.	
5	None of these are important	EXCLUSIVE

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# Questionnaire (4 of 7)

## SAFETY

Q5.

ASK ALL

RANDOMIZE

Considering the six transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to address our **roadway safety challenges**?

Please rank the following in terms of what is **most important to you**, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc. Please click on each item in order of your priority, and it will automatically order them accordingly. If you want to change the order, you can drag and drop the item where you want it.

RANDOMIZE ROWS; RANK MIN 1, MAX 4

1	To improve safety, add low-cost features like lighting, raised medians, curbs, pedestrian islands, etc. to arterial streets and roads.	
2	Expand driver education efforts to ensure drivers of all ages are informed of the current rules of the road.	
3	State and local governments should use information and data on fatal and serious traffic collisions to plan and prioritize projects accordingly.	
4	Prioritize investments that address safety risks to communities facing significant natural disaster threats and ensure evacuation routes are accessible and maintained.	
5	None of these are important	EXCLUSIVE

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## MOBILITY

Q6.

ASK ALL

RANDOMIZE

Considering the transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to **efficiently move people and freight** throughout our transportation system?

Please rank the following in terms of what is **most important to you**, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc. Please click on each item in order of your priority, and it will automatically order them accordingly. If you want to change the order, you can drag and drop the item where you want it.

RANDOMIZE ROWS; RANK MIN 1, MAX 5

1	Provide reliable public transit services to essential services and communities.	
2	Expand high-speed passenger rail service to provide travelers with a reliable alternative option to air and vehicular travel.	
3	Expand development of downtowns so more people can afford to live and move safely to essential services.	
4	Deploy more traffic management tools, like tolling that varies by congestion levels, to give drivers in congested areas the opportunity to avoid slowdowns.	
5	Ensure new housing and commercial development does not add traffic congestion in places that impact operations of airports, marine terminals, freight movement.	
6	None of these are important	EXCLUSIVE

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# Questionnaire (5 of 7)

## ECONOMIC VITALITY

Q8.

ASK ALL

RANDOMIZE

Considering the transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to **support and stimulate our statewide economy**?

Please rank the following in terms of what is **most important to you**, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc. Please click on each item in order of your priority, and it will automatically order them accordingly. If you want to change the order, you can drag and drop the item where you want it.

RANDOMIZE ROWS; RANK MIN 1, MAX 4

1	Support Washington's economy by investing in advanced technology systems that optimize freight movement.	
2	Support transportation options and investments that enable safe and reliable travel to job centers, including transit, biking and walking.	
3	Support general use airports, including community and regional airports, that serve as a key transportation asset during times of emergency, prioritizing preservation need and ensuring extreme weather preparedness.	
4.	Support the state's economic competitiveness by ensuring Washington's ports are equipped to handle larger container ships, both in port and cargo operations.	
5	None of these are important	EXCLUSIVE

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## ENVIRONMENT

Q9.

ASK ALL

RANDOMIZE

Considering the transportation policy goals you reviewed, what strategies do you think the state should carry out to **protect the environment and natural resources**?

Please rank the following in terms of what is **most important to you**, with 1 being the most important, 2 being the second most important, etc. Please click on each item in order of your priority, and it will automatically order them accordingly. If you want to change the order, you can drag and drop the item where you want it.

RANDOMIZE ROWS; RANK MIN 1, MAX 4

1	Connect more people to transit and light rail by providing more affordable housing near transit corridors	
2	Prioritize funding those transportation projects that also benefit the environment, such as reducing stormwater runoff and separating wildlife crossings.	
3	Incentivize heavy-duty trucks and freight rail to move to zero-emission equipment.	
4	Utilize highway right of way, rest areas, and park and ride lots for the placement of solar panels and vehicle charging infrastructure to support energy needs statewide.	
5	None of these are important	EXCLUSIVE

## ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

ASK ALL

Q10.

Please use the box below to provide any additional comments you would like to pass along to the Washington State Transportation Committee and state decision makers.

	[OPEN-END]	
99	No additional comments	EXCLUSIVE

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# Questionnaire (6 of 7)

## DEMOGRAPHICS

### DEMO INTRO

#### SHOW ALL

#### DEMO INTRO.

Thank you for your participation today. We just have a few final questions that will help us analyze the survey data. Your answers will not be connected to you personally.

Please click 'next' to continue.

**SHOW IF FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK:** Please note, all of these questions are completely voluntary and help us ensure we speak to all types of residents across Washington State. The information you provide is used only for this survey and all results are viewed in the aggregate.

Please click 'next' to continue.

### COMMUTING

ASK ALL; OPTIONAL FOR FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK

#### D1.

How often do you commute to work or school?

Select one.

1	One day	
2	Two days	
3	Three days	
4	Four days	
5	Five days	
6	Six days	
7	Seven days	
8	Depends	
9	Never - I do not commute outside my home for work or school	
10	Prefer not to say	

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### PRIMARY MODE OF COMMUTING

ASK IF EVER COMMUTE (D1=1-8); OPTIONAL FOR FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK

#### D2.

What is your primary mode of transportation for getting to work or school?

Select one.

1	Drive alone	
2	Drive or ride in a vehicle with 2-4 people (carpool)	
3	Drive or ride in a vehicle with 5 or more people (vanpool)	
4	Ride a bike (to commute to work/school, not for exercise alone)	
5	Ride on public transit (bus, train, ferry, etc.)	
6	Ride in a rideshare (Uber, Lyft)	
7	Walk (to commute to work/school, not for exercise alone)	
8	Other (please specify)	OPEN-END

### HH SIZE

ASK ALL; OPTIONAL FOR FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK

#### D3.

Including yourself, how many people reside in your immediate household?

Select one.

1	One	
2	Two	
3	Three	
4	Four or more	
5	Prefer not to say	

### CHILDREN IN HH

ASK IF TWO, THREE, OR FOUR OR MORE LIVE IN HH (D3=2-4); SKIP IF ONE/PREFER NOT TO ANSWER AT D3; OPTIONAL FOR FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK

#### D4.

How many of those in your household are under 18 years of age?

Select one.

VALUE CANNOT BE GREATER OR EQUAL TO D3 (e.g. IF D3=2, SHOW VALUE 1 'None', 2 'One' and 5 'Prefer not to say')

1	None	
2	One	
3	Two	
4	Three or more	
5	Prefer not to say	ALWAYS SHOW

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# Questionnaire (7 of 7)

## EMPLOYMENT STATUS

ASK ALL; OPTIONAL FOR FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK

D5.

Which of the following best describes your current employment or education status?

Select one.

1	Employed full time	
2	Employed part time	
3	Self-employed full time	
4	Self-employed part time	
5	Retired	
6	Student	
7	Not employed outside the home	
8	Disabled or unable to work	
9	Other, please specify	OPEN-END
10	Prefer not to say	

## URBAN/SUBURBAN/RURAL

ASK ALL; OPTIONAL FOR FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK

D6.

Which of the following describes where you live?

Select one.

1	Urban	
2	Suburban	
3	Rural	
4	Prefer not to say	

## RACE/ETHNICITY

ASK ALL; OPTIONAL FOR FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK

D7.

Which of the following describes your race or ethnic background?

Select all that apply.

1	American Indian or Alaska Native	
2	Asian	
3	Black or African-American	
4	Hispanic, Latino, Latina, or Latinx	
5	Middle Eastern or North African	
6	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	
7	White	
8	Other (please specify)	OPEN-END
9	Prefer not to answer	EXCLUSIVE

## HOUSEHOLD INCOME

ASK ALL; OPTIONAL FOR FROG, VOWS, OR OPEN-LINK

D8.

What is your approximate total household income before taxes?

Select one.

1	Under \$15,000	
2	\$15,000 - \$24,999	
3	\$25,000 - \$34,999	
4	\$35,000 - \$49,999	
5	\$50,000 - \$74,999	
6	\$75,000 - \$99,999	
7	\$100,000 - \$149,999	
8	\$150,000 - \$199,999	
9	\$200,000 - \$249,999	
10	\$250,000 or more	
11	Prefer not to answer	

## CLOSING

SHOW ALL

CLOSE.

Thank you for completing our survey! Your feedback is greatly appreciated and valued.

Please visit the Washington State Transportation Commission's web site at [wstc.wa.gov](http://wstc.wa.gov) to learn more about the Commission and the state's 20-year transportation plan.

Please click 'next' to finish and submit this survey.