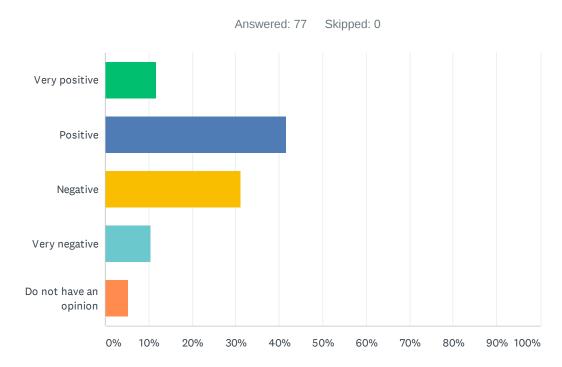
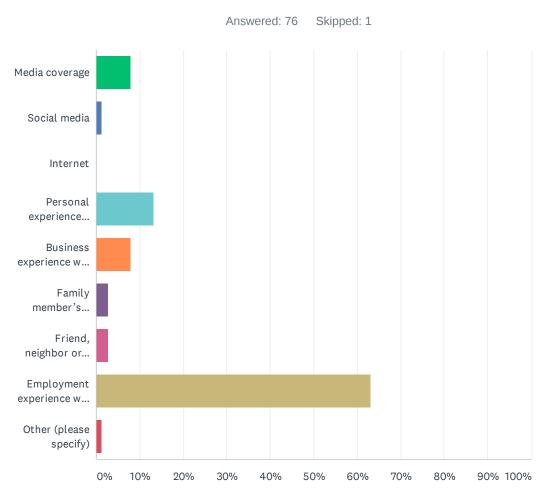
Q22 Overall, what is your opinion of the Department of Health and Human Services?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Very positive	11.69% 9
Positive	41.56% 32
Negative	31.17% 24
Very negative	10.39% 8
Do not have an opinion	5.19% 4
TOTAL	77

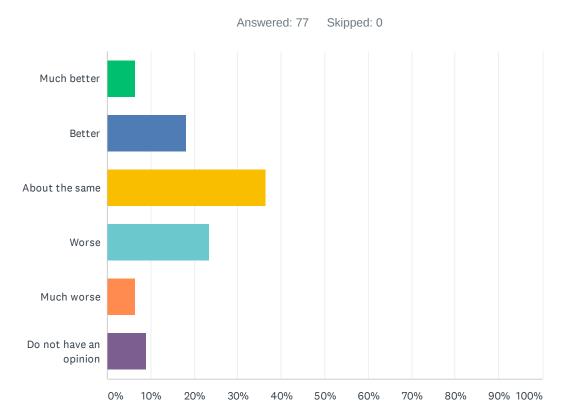
Q23 Which of the following has most influenced your opinion of the Department of Health and Human Services?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Media coverage	7.89%	6
Social media	1.32%	1
Internet	0.00%	0
Personal experience with/tour of the agency	13.16%	10
Business experience with the agency	7.89%	6
Family member's experience with the agency	2.63%	2
Friend, neighbor or colleague's experience with the agency	2.63%	2
Employment experience with the agency	63.16%	48
Other (please specify)	1.32%	1
TOTAL		76

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	During this hard time with school closures, my agency is making me use my paid leave if I need to be with my children. Why should I use my personal leave when it is no fault of my own the schools closed. Not fair for a struggling mother of 2 little kids.	3/20/2020 11:31 AM

Q24 How do you think the Department of Health and Human Services functions on an overall basis in comparison to other state agencies in South Carolina?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Much better	6.49%	5
Better	18.18%	14
About the same	36.36%	28
Worse	23.38%	18
Much worse	6.49%	5
Do not have an opinion	9.09%	7
TOTAL		77

Q25 Please list any comments, concerns, or suggestions you may have about the Department of Health and Human Services, including the ease of obtaining information online. Your response may be quoted verbatim in a Committee report.

Answered: 45 Skipped: 32

#	RESPONSES	DATE
#	RESPONSES Based on experience and observation, this agency does not treat all employees fair and has made it an acceptable practice for superiors to use false information on official means to censure and intimidate subordinates. To include, ensuring the fair execution of the disciplinary process amongst employees: • I was censured in writing using false information. To include, censured for the action of a HR manager performing their duties that were not out of the ordinary and approved by their manager. I was censured for what could have happened. I refused to sign the document due its dishonesty. Weeks later, I was forced to sign a blank HR transaction form. • I was criticized on my last evaluation with false information. I requested factual information regarding statements. After multiple request and no response, I filed a general complaint with HR. I provided requested information to HR. Twice, I requested an extension to submit the information and received the okay from HR. Since then, I have requested a status update on the complaint at least three times from HR. I have not received a response. It has now been over eight months. This continues to be of great concern since the statements in questions have possible implications to a sensitive matter. My request was made known via the chain of command to the Agency Director. • I received an email from a Deputy Director with multiple false accusations regarding my work ethics. I requested documentation to substantiate the statements and filed a general complaint because the statements were so damaging. I never received verifications of the statements. Agent mutaget, the agency vertimed the casher check to me. Even when I explained that it was a mistake on my part, the agency staff which included information on tolls and provided clarification. The agency provide clarification to any employees that may have had the same misunderstanding. Later, the Deputy Director on a statewide call to managers informed everyone that if there was staff in violation of the O	DATE 3/31/2020 10:23 PM
2	The information pertaining to applications is available online to the public. This agency need to give the local eligibility employees making under \$50000 a raise.	3/23/2020 4:14 PM
3	This agency, like all state agencies, has a business as usual manner of operation. It is very difficult to implement new ideas at times. There are some programs covered that should be restructured in order to prevent the waste of tax payer funds. There is definitely room for improvement. Overall, I have a positive opinion about the Department of Health and Human Services.	3/22/2020 5:33 PM
4	During this "unknown virus" tragedy my Agency at the DHHS would like me to use my personal Leave if I have to be with my children because Of school closure. Why should I have to pay for the government closing my kids school? Why am I putting myself at risk when I have small children and an elderly mother that could be exposed? I feel that it is real selfish of the agency.	3/20/2020 11:31 AM
5	N/A	3/20/2020 11:30 AM
6	N/A	3/20/2020 11:30 AM
7	My concern is with the pay disparity within the agency. It is in my opinion not fair that a worker that has been with the agency for a long time and making the same amount as brand people coming into the agency. It is also bothersome that there are lot of new people coming into the agency as program managers and so on making more money than others whose been here and no policy and procedure to have to train the person that's just getting the job. I would be great if some of the ones who have been with the agency would be allowed to grow within the agency versus all of the top executives bringing in their family and friends to make the money that others who have been here for awhile are very capable of doing.	3/20/2020 11:29 AM
8	N\A	3/20/2020 11:02 AM
9	Challenges with Management turnover and delays in filling the slots affect the staff because there are gaps in getting direction or assistance, At times the communication from the Director is somewhat harsh and hearing more positive feedback and encouragement would help staff feel more valued.	3/20/2020 8:30 AM

10	The agency leadership style have created a culture of distruct fear and a total discoverd for	2/17/2020 0.21 DM
10	The agency leadership style have created a culture of distrust, fear and a total disregard for what is fair and reasonable.	3/17/2020 9:31 PM
11	There is a lack of organization, poor leadership, and communication within the entire agency. People in leadership don't have experience with processing Medicaid/Medicare and yet, they are making all of the decisions. I think that its time for South Carolina to model after other states whose agencies are more proficient in executing decisions, technologies are more advanced and better utilized, and efficient at overall operations. Lastly, most of the websites look very old and outdated and are not clear and concise about providing information. I've seen better and more navigable webpages from local colleges and universities. Instead of quick fixes for problems, change the processes and work on long-term solutions. I'm sure there are young and fresh minds out there who are willing to execute impactful change, but nobody wants to hire them.	3/17/2020 4:58 PM
12	This agencies has place several employees life at risk with the lack of support for those who fall under at-risk categories. as it pertains to COVID-19	3/17/2020 4:49 PM
13	Sometimes I feel like the employees are not appreciated.	3/17/2020 2:56 PM
14	I am a contracted admin for my county, for me I work hard and have been asked about being hired on but because we are not approved to have a full time admin I am not able to receive benefits I need for my family. We need an admin and an LTC worker in my county since it is mostly an older community. I also have policy opinions, I have noticed that in other states there is coverage between the ages of 19 and 65 without having to have children or be disabled. It is making people be more dependent on the government than themselves. Most people who work hard to provide for their families do so with little assistance but health care should be something they can have if their income does not allow them to purchase it. Yes children have access but what happens when the parent is sick, the children become a ward of the state and cost you more than just helping the original parent in the first place. Also, just drug test anyone who wants assistance. It will cut down on people selling their food stamps or receiving more hand outs just for being a non productive member of society. Sometimes a single mother needs assistance to people who are actually being a productive person and drug test anyone who wants assistance. It won't cut out all of the abusers but it will cut it down a whole lot.	3/17/2020 2:34 PM
15	Eligibility workers and administrative staff are far underpaid for the amount of work we are expected to do. More tasks are added to our already stressful jobs it seems on a weekly basis. I enjoy my job as an employee of the State, but I honestly feel undervalued.	3/17/2020 2:25 PM
16	I feel that the agency currently lacks organization and has put new systems and methods in place that are causing more problems than improvement. Part of the issue is that none of these implementations are being thought out before actually being put in place. Also, information on how to process case anomalies isn't made clear or in a lot of cases, changes literally minute by minute. This leads to inefficiency in work and in some situations a reprimand that is ultimately not the worker's fault. I've seen the mindset of casework from upper management slowly change from quality to quantity over the past few years, which speaks a lot on the actual care that's being placed in casework now for our citizens.	3/17/2020 10:17 AM
17	Make it easy as possible to understand.	3/17/2020 9:54 AM
18	Nursing shortage and low pay	3/17/2020 9:05 AM
19	I believe DHHS needs to have more workers for all categories available in all county offices to assist clients who come into the agency for help.	3/17/2020 9:02 AM
20	Inflexibility of executive management	3/17/2020 9:01 AM
21	We should be off during this time	3/17/2020 8:55 AM
22	We work in a Processing center with more than 50 employee and we are less than 6 feet apart. In addition the agency is not addressing this issue.	3/17/2020 8:51 AM
23	Uneducated and rude staff.	3/17/2020 8:44 AM
24	I have worked for this agency for 30 plus years in different capacities, but always with the Community Long Term Care division, now known as the Division of Long Term Living. I obviously believe in the waivered programs that we manage and have seen many participants continue to stay in their homes with our services in place. However, the overall mood and reflection from the topdirector Josh Baker, is one of a lack of understanding that we are a	3/12/2020 11:16 AM

	"people" oriented division. We have had major changes in our location of service and are housed as a "call center" versus a place that participants and family members can come to us for advice and service counseling. We have absolutely no privacy from Medicaid eligibility processing employees as we discuss protected health and personal information. I had hoped to retire from this agency, with the knowledge that we continue to always place our participants above all else. The poor morale that exists at the present, does not generate a positive work environment, which leads to top notch customer service. As a majority of our employees are vested in providing needed care and services to our participants, we will continue to move forward, even with the current atmosphere, until we are prevented entirely from doing so.	
25	It would be great if nurse can have upon hiring so no gaps in the expectation of the job.	3/10/2020 12:55 PM
26	I feel the agency is getting top heavy. Director Soura removed the many levels of management and now it seems the agency is going back to having 3 - 4 layers of management, especially in Eligibility. The goal is to help the citizens of SC in need so we need people in the county offices that can process application/reviews to meet that goal.	3/10/2020 8:44 AM
27	While employed at SCDHHS I have worked in conditions with very minimal staff yet the work product is still expected to be the same as if we were fully staffed. There has been a freeze on hiring for the agency since October 2018 per the director yet there has been new positions created, some posted and others not posted, hiring in certain program areas of the agency while other program areas are working with fifty percent of the staff from over a year ago and still expected to produce the same amount of work with the same quality. There has been a new Training Implementation Department established. Managers attempt to post positions by completing the 114. The 114 is approved by the deputy director and the positions get stuck in budgets and are never posted and/or approved. One program area has had a vacancy since March 2018 that has yet to be filled. A candidate interviewed for a position in September 2018. He was offered employment for the position in August 2019. The candidate countered the offer. The offer was then sent back to budgets and the only update we received was that the position was still in budgets. We have been told the hiring freeze will be lifted soon yet soon still hasn't come and it is now March 2020. Professional development has decreased since being employed at the agency through training request being denied and/or not finding out the status of the request prior to the deadline to register for the training.	3/9/2020 1:36 PM
28	They need to be better organized and efficient with state budget	3/9/2020 12:04 PM
28 29	They need to be better organized and efficient with state budget Personal Care Aide providers for the Community Long Term Care Waiver should be required to have a certificate of need in order to participate. There are too many providers for participants to consider, and this makes it more difficult for participants to make choices. It also makes it more challenging to oversee the providers and ensure that they are adhering to policy and abiding by proper billing practices. It would be advisable to review all providers in this manner, including contract case managers. In addition, there is a mandate that participants to have true informed consent; they are merely provided with a lengthy and burdensome list of providers for each service. I recommend a rating system for all providers which would be available for participants to review in order to make an informed decision which would be in keeping with the goal of person-centered planning.	3/9/2020 12:04 PM 3/9/2020 9:39 AM

stakeholders with this arbitrary and ridiculous prohibition. We already have to fight for conference room space and now it will be diminished by 20% as one full day of the week is lost. This edict goes into effect March 16–please save us from this ridiculous prohibition. Finally as he scrambles to hide his epic mismanagement from the House Oversight Committee he is micromanaging staff development requests in a way that further reduces morale and detracts from growing his agency talent. This used to be a challenging but rewarding place to work. Josh Baker has run it into the ground.

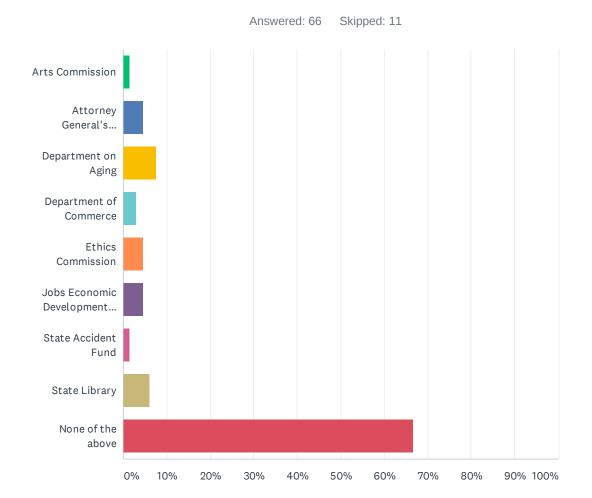
	Baker has full it into the ground.	
31	Lack of training and follow-up to do job accordingly and there is outdated information on the web you have to constantly search for. This agency does not hire from within nor support its employees. The only people who get promotions are the same recycled folks who already make 50 K or more.	3/6/2020 8:51 AM
32	In the summer of 2019, the agency began opening Eligibility processing centers to make the processing of eligibility applications more efficient and allowing processing times to be reduced. Three processing centers were opened in Columbia, SC (Richland Co.), Aiken, SC and Spartanburg, SC. The agency conducted a mass hiring through the employment agency Apple One to fill these processing centers with eligibility staff. These workers were hired under the guise that they would only be doing data entry and customer service work. Since the hiring of these processing center workers, the level and quality of work has decreased, resulting in beneficiaries having their cases closed, coverage interrupted, and Medicare premiums coming out of their checks. All these issues stem from the processing center workers sesentially not knowing how to process Medicaid and neither do the supervisors who were hired without any Medicaid experience to oversee their work. The entire processing center team are people from outside the agency. The DHHS inadequately trained these workers, placing them in a four to five-week training sessions that included case processing and policy training. The workers were given cookie cutter cases which did not accurately reflect the workflow that they would be receiving. This lack of training and comprehensive knowledge of the application of the Medicaid Policy Manual has resulted in increased processing times, redundancy in processing of cases, and low morale among the experienced workers. It seems that the agency relaxed their hiring practices and hired the processing center workers and now expect those with Medicaid experience to clean up the mess. The FTE Eligibility Specialists are under increased pressure to process cases in a timely manner and process a certain number of cases daily due to the institution of an incentive-based pay increase. This incentive-based pay increase has created a lack of integrity within the agency and has resulted in morale among the agency to drop drastically. Workers a	3/5/2020 10:41 AM
33	Regarding the 2020 House Legislative Oversight Study for SC DHHS, please consider a Salary Comparison Study for the Nurse Consultants, RN1 & RN2 Positions. Approximately 2 ½ years ago, CLTC Medicaid (Community Long Term Care) merged under the Long Term Living Division (LTL). CLTC Nurses quickly learned that the LTL Nurses and Staff made \$5000-\$10,000 more annually, which is more or equal to some CLTC Supervisors/Lead Team Nurse Consultants. LTL Nurses make more money although they have less years of professional nursing experience, less education level, less years as a State Employee, along with less job duties. When following up with LTL Senior Leadership, CLTC Nurses were told the salary differences depended on who wrote the Nurse Job Descriptions. However, even after our concerns were shared, year later there's still new part-time LTL Nurses with one-year experience being hired making several thousands of dollars more annually, than seasoned Nurses, and with less job duties. This is not morally right or fair. Since all Nurses are now under	3/4/2020 2:13 PM

LTL Division, and Senior Management stresses the importance of us being viewed as ONE TEAM, salaries should reflect this oneness as well. Our annual performance appraisals also do not include merit increases. Your immediate assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

	not include merit increases. Your immediate assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.	
34	I feel like overall, the agency does a great job managing the State's Medicaid programs. I'm especially impressed with how the agency was able to turn around BabyNet and really make great strides in improving BabyNet services. I think the agency's strength in managing and administering large, complex programs provides an excellent opportunity to absorb the functions of the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs. I think the 1915(c) waivers could do a better job supporting people with disabilities were they totally managed by DHHS.	3/4/2020 12:49 PM
35	As an employee of the agency, I have found a lot of frustration on the part of those seeking to apply for Medicaid or one of the programs because they have difficulty getting answers or responses.	3/4/2020 11:54 AM
36	I needed my Birth Certificate updated, they were so helpful to get this corrected for me, this is not easy.	3/4/2020 10:54 AM
37	HHS needs to partner with other agencies. They need to consider what is best for the citizens they serve and work with other agencies who also serve the same citizens.	3/4/2020 9:26 AM
38	DHHS has been bias in hiring practices versus other state agencies. They do not hire in a majority capacity internal. The hiring has been selected group of people who have no idea or functions of HHS. Customer service to the clients has went away because numbers have to be pushed to make quota. Reports are juvenile with the agency and redundant asking same thing over and over. People with seniority feels as though mgmt is trying to push older staff out the door by adding more and more stress on them and causing health issue. We have processing centers with Supervisors starting at 42 thousand or more with no experience. County office sups 35 thousand or depending and more responsibility. They (pc)do have 15 or more staff but they do not have any public interaction which is seem as more valuable to the agency. When talking to superior to support you there is none. Always this what Elizabeth or Josh wants. No one will speak up because they are actually afraid or fear they will lose their jobs. County offices suffer from lack of admin support because per say hiring freeze announced in Sept 2019 but hiring hasn't ceased in processing centers and upper mgmt. Isn't a freeze a freeze and all are includedNO!. Such unfairness but what will you dohmmmm. no actions ever unless citizens complain and legislature jump on it not to lose a vote. This agency need to know, people still exist and are machines. I feel the ideology is machines, people. Replace. But most of all, you cant replace knowledge and expect people to roll over and die and get out of here. No longer needed. You baby boomers. Enough said. I vented Nothing resolved as usual. Worst administration I been under since my tenure. People dont matter or knowledge. Money is good but respect to each other goes a long way. Ijs(I'm just saying)	3/3/2020 8:23 PM
39	Nurses salaries should be comparable since CLTC under LTL Division. LTL Nurses make more.	3/3/2020 7:57 PM
40	Just seem to be taking up space.	3/3/2020 4:13 PM
41	When receiving notices in the mail, they were hard to understand - I wish everything was written in "lay-man's" terms! Also, the agency requested info from me - apparently - but I missed it. The form that was sent to me did not CLEARLY mark what was being requested - it all blended together.	3/3/2020 2:32 PM
42	DHEC SURVEYS IN NURSING HOMES ARE A WASTE OF TIME AND MONEY. THEY LOOK AT DOCUMENTATION AND THERE IS NO WAY THEY CAN COME IN ANNOUNCED, USUALLY EXPECTED AND GET AN IDEA OF HOW THE RESIDENTS ARE CARED FOR. THE ONLY WAY THEY WILL EVER KNOW HOW RESIDENTS ARE CARED FOR IS TO PUT CAMERAS IN WITH STAFF UNAWARE OR GO IN UNANNOUNCED OR PLACE STAFF UNDER COVER IN THE NURSING HOMES WORKING, I HAVE WORKED IN THEM OVER 20 YEARS, I KNOW HOW IT WORKS, NOT TO THE BENIFIT OF RESIDENTS	3/3/2020 12:18 PM
43	The agency is moving into doing more and more assessments for waiver services and Medicaid Eligibility by phone. Elderly and disabled applicants have difficulty understanding phone calls and may not be able to answer the questions asked on the phone. Since November, 2019 there has been a freeze on hiring staff to replace staff who have left the agency. This has slowed the enrollment of applicants into waivers and decisions of financial eligibility and led to staff feeling that their work is not appreciated or understood by upper management. There is a very clear disconnect between the leadership of the agency and the front line workers of the agency. The	3/2/2020 7:15 PM

Director does not provide a positive work environment, ie when opening up a question session he responded negatively to a question he did not like, shaking his finger at the questioner.

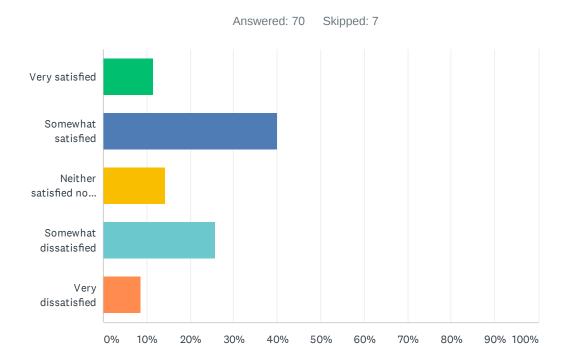
44	In fairness SCDHHS is a large agency that performs a set mission. I don't see that they have a lot of opportunity to come up with ways to improve their service	3/2/2020 2:27 PM
45	Distressed by the inability to access shots for travel abroad through my local health department.	2/28/2020 11:01 PM



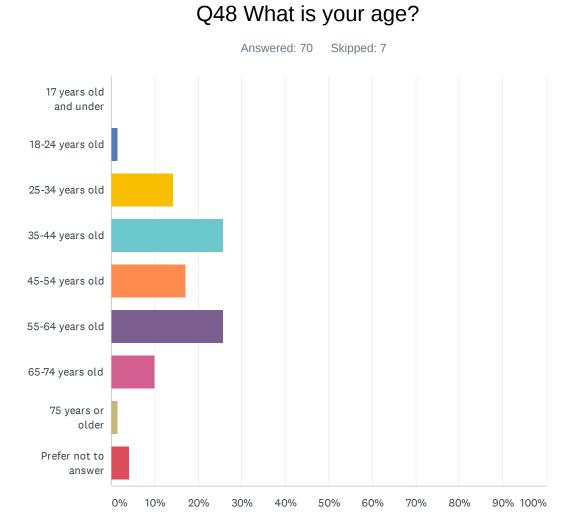
Q26 Which agency would you like to provide input about next?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Arts Commission	1.52%	1
Attorney General's Office	4.55%	3
Department on Aging	7.58%	5
Department of Commerce	3.03%	2
Ethics Commission	4.55%	3
Jobs Economic Development Authority	4.55%	3
State Accident Fund	1.52%	1
State Library	6.06%	4
None of the above	66.67%	44
TOTAL		66

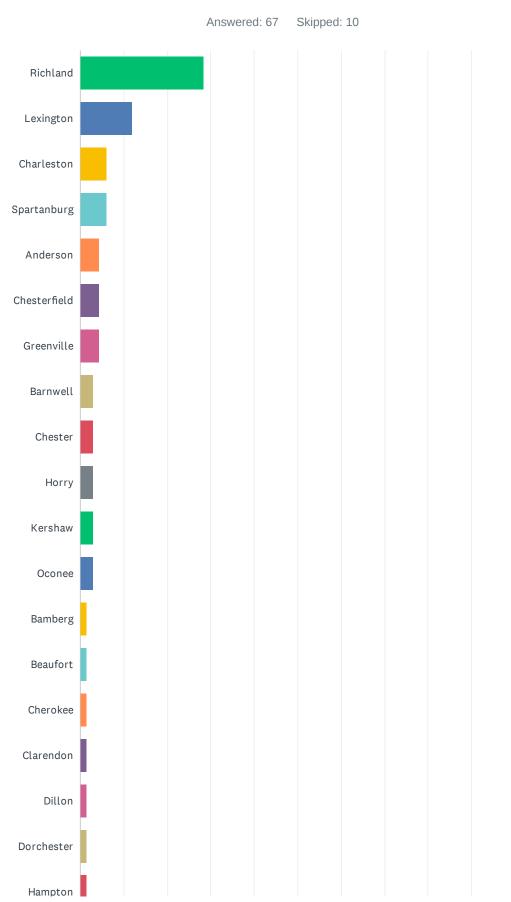
Q47 Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with state government?



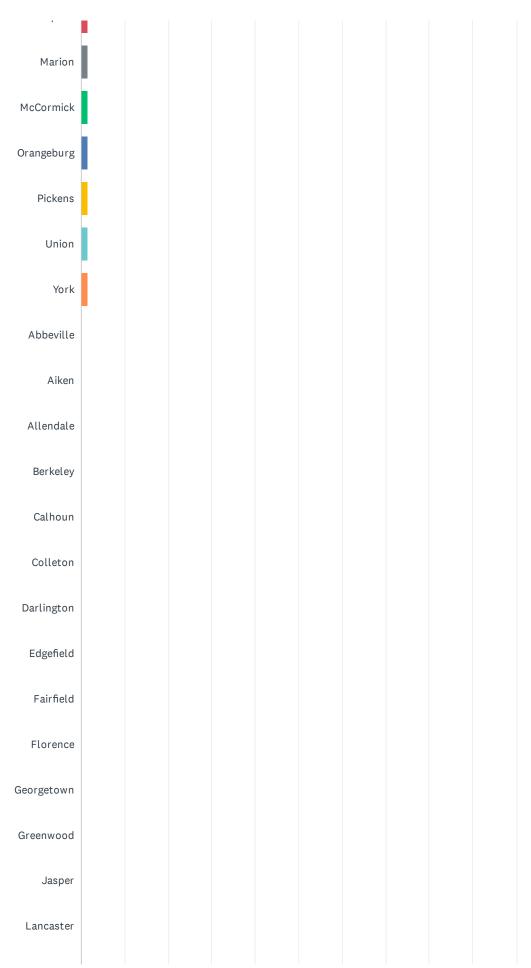
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Very satisfied	11.43% 8
Somewhat satisfied	40.00% 28
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	14.29% 10
Somewhat dissatisfied	25.71% 18
Very dissatisfied	8.57% 6
TOTAL	70

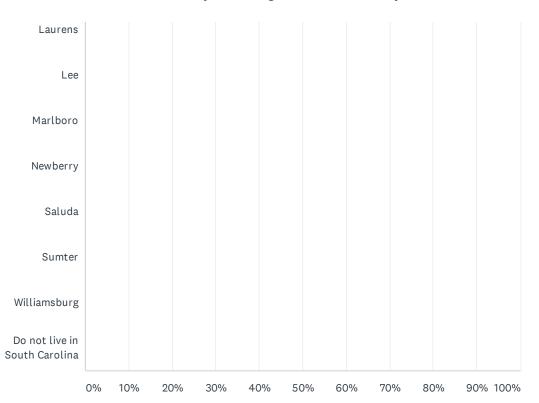


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
17 years old and under	0.00%	0
18-24 years old	1.43%	1
25-34 years old	14.29%	10
35-44 years old	25.71%	18
45-54 years old	17.14%	12
55-64 years old	25.71%	18
65-74 years old	10.00%	7
75 years or older	1.43%	1
Prefer not to answer	4.29%	3
TOTAL		70



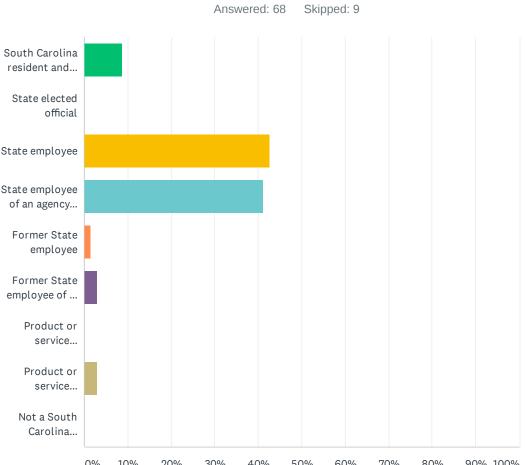
Q49 In which county do you live?





ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Richland	28.36%	19
Lexington	11.94%	8
Charleston	5.97%	4
Spartanburg	5.97%	4
Anderson	4.48%	3
Chesterfield	4.48%	3
Greenville	4.48%	3
Barnwell	2.99%	2
Chester	2.99%	2
Horry	2.99%	2
Kershaw	2.99%	2
Oconee	2.99%	2
Bamberg	1.49%	1
Beaufort	1.49%	1
Cherokee	1.49%	1
Clarendon	1.49%	1
Dillon	1.49%	1
Dorchester	1.49%	1
Hampton	1.49%	1
Marion	1.49%	1
McCormick	1.49%	1
Orangeburg	1.49%	1
Pickens	1.49%	1
Union	1.49%	1
York	1.49%	1
Abbeville	0.00%	0
Aiken	0.00%	0
Allendale	0.00%	0
Berkeley	0.00%	0
Calhoun	0.00%	0
Colleton	0.00%	0
Darlington	0.00%	0

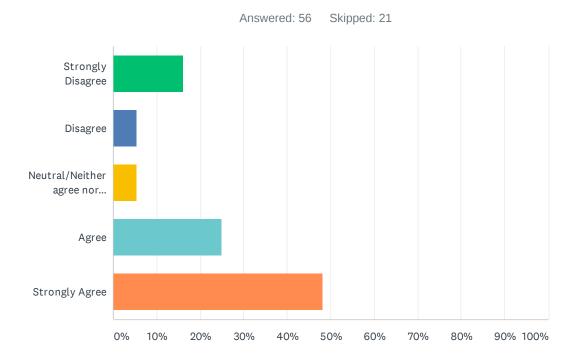
Edgefield	0.00%	0
Fairfield	0.00%	0
Florence	0.00%	0
Georgetown	0.00%	0
Greenwood	0.00%	0
Jasper	0.00%	0
Lancaster	0.00%	0
Laurens	0.00%	0
Lee	0.00%	0
Marlboro	0.00%	0
Newberry	0.00%	0
Saluda	0.00%	0
Sumter	0.00%	0
Williamsburg	0.00%	0
Do not live in South Carolina	0.00%	0
TOTAL		67



State employee														
State employee of an agency														
Former State employee														
Former State employee of														
Product or service														
Product or service														
Not a South Carolina														
	0%	10%	6 20)%	30%	409	6 5	0%	60%	70%	80%	90	0% 100%	
CHOICES														RE
lina resident and do	not fa	all int	o any c	of the	catego	ries b	elow							8.8
ed official														0.0
yee														42.
oyee of an agency ir	nclude	d in	the sur	vey										41.
te employee														1.4

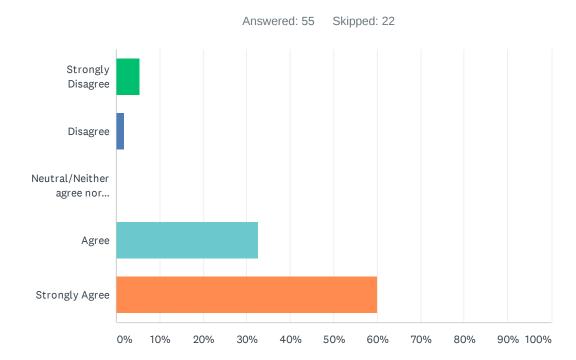
Q50 Which best describes your current role?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
South Carolina resident and do not fall into any of the categories below	8.82%	6
State elected official	0.00%	0
State employee	42.65%	29
State employee of an agency included in the survey	41.18%	28
Former State employee	1.47%	1
Former State employee of an agency included in the survey	2.94%	2
Product or service provider or other partner to a State agency	0.00%	0
Product or service provider or other partner of a State agency included in the survey	2.94%	2
Not a South Carolina resident and do not fall into any of the categories above	0.00%	0
TOTAL		68



Q51 My organization's work positively impacts people's lives.

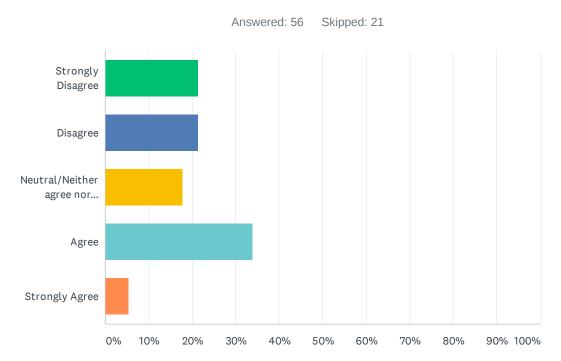
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	16.07%	9
Disagree	5.36%	3
Neutral/Neither agree nor disagree	5.36%	3
Agree	25.00%	14
Strongly Agree	48.21%	27
TOTAL		56



Q52 I understand how my work impacts the organization's goals.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	5.45%	3
Disagree	1.82%	1
Neutral/Neither agree nor disagree	0.00%	0
Agree	32.73%	18
Strongly Agree	60.00%	33
TOTAL		55

Q53 Communication between senior leaders and employees is good in my organization.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	21.43%	12
Disagree	21.43%	12
Neutral/Neither agree nor disagree	17.86%	10
Agree	33.93%	19
Strongly Agree	5.36%	3
TOTAL		56