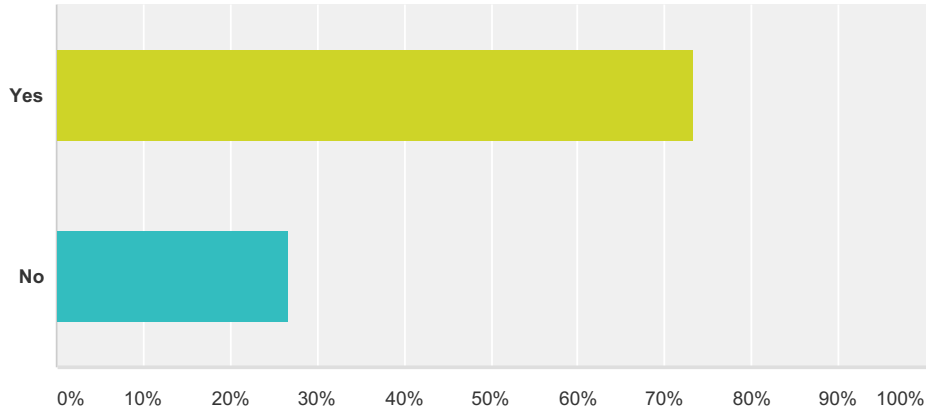


Q1 Would you like to provide input about the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs?

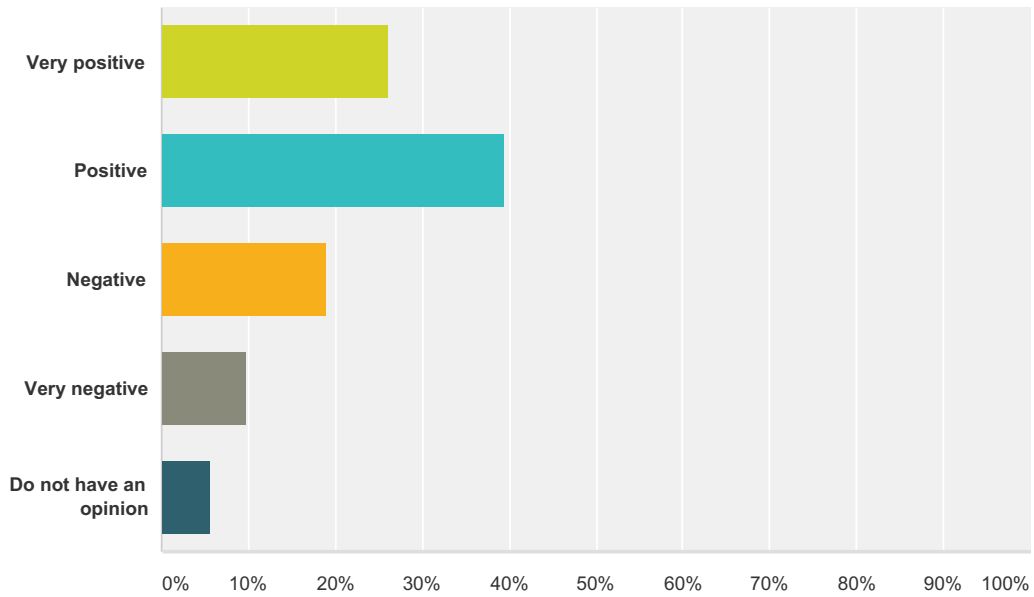
Answered: 619 Skipped: 10



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	73.18%	453
No	26.82%	166
Total		619

Q2 Overall, what is your opinion of the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs?

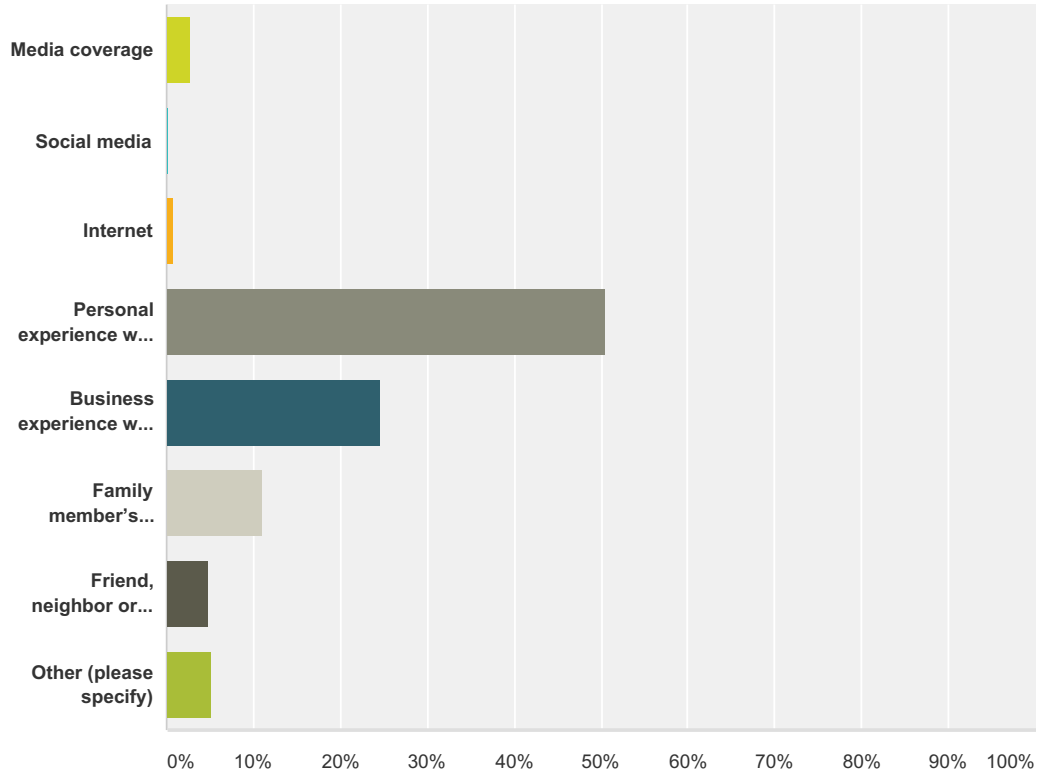
Answered: 377 Skipped: 252



Answer Choices	Responses	
Very positive	25.99%	98
Positive	39.52%	149
Negative	19.10%	72
Very negative	9.81%	37
Do not have an opinion	5.57%	21
Total		377

Q3 Which of the following has most influenced your opinion of the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs?

Answered: 378 Skipped: 251



Answer Choices	Responses
Media coverage	2.65% 10
Social media	0.26% 1
Internet	0.79% 3
Personal experience with the agency	50.53% 191
Business experience with the agency	24.60% 93
Family member's experience with the agency	11.11% 42
Friend, neighbor or colleague's experience with the agency	4.76% 18
Other (please specify)	5.29% 20
Total	378

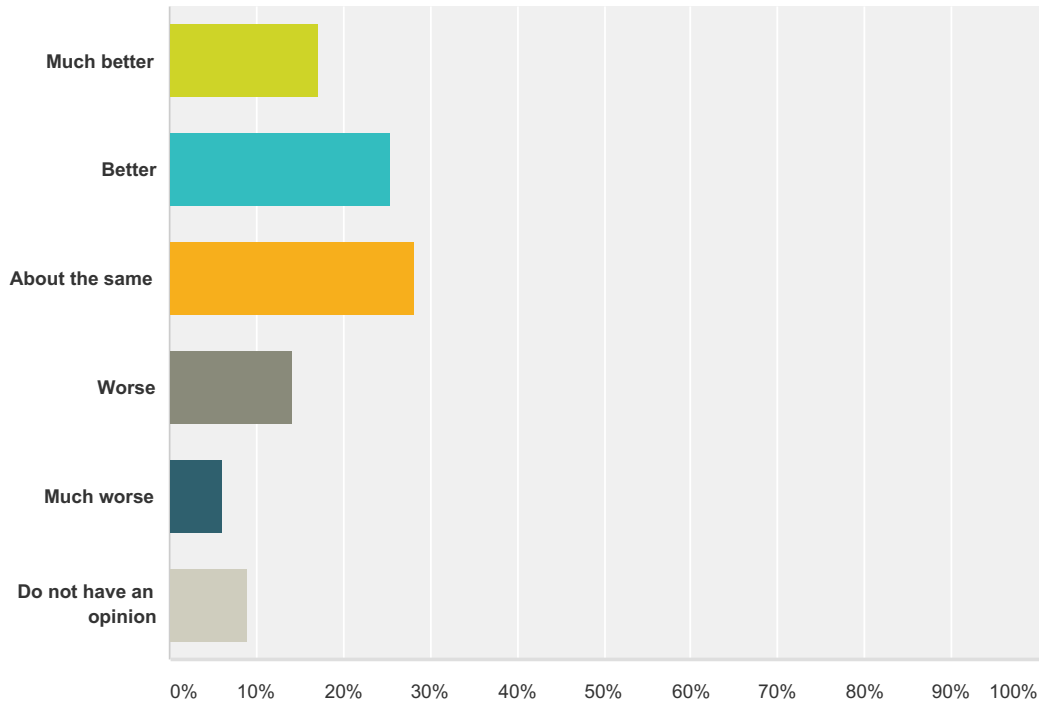
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	As a Special Education teacher, DDSN has served many of my former students. They are treated with love and respect and taught job skills and most live independently in group homes.	3/8/2017 5:25 PM
2	Lack of interaction with the agency	3/6/2017 11:08 PM
3	BIASC	3/3/2017 3:45 PM

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4	Being a provider	3/3/2017 1:26 PM
5	patients with disabilities	3/3/2017 12:57 PM
6	patients with disabilities	3/3/2017 12:55 PM
7	Employment	2/28/2017 1:50 PM
8	Personal experience, business experience and friend's experience with the agency	2/24/2017 10:00 AM
9	work experience	2/21/2017 10:49 AM
10	Community Board Experience	2/17/2017 10:47 AM
11	Interaction on many levels as try to help my child get into the system to qualify for benefits	2/16/2017 1:22 PM
12	Employee	2/15/2017 10:02 AM
13	More information should be communicated what benefits this department provides.	2/14/2017 1:05 PM
14	Early Interventionists	2/14/2017 12:14 PM
15	None. I have not heard or seen much about this department.	2/14/2017 12:02 PM
16	Lack of overall knowledge about the agency	2/13/2017 6:36 PM
17	work maintenance	2/13/2017 1:50 PM
18	Case Management	2/13/2017 12:06 PM
19	As a sitting Commissioner	2/10/2017 6:56 PM
20	Y	2/10/2017 11:01 AM

Q4 How do you think the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs functions on an overall basis in comparison to other state agencies in South Carolina?

Answered: 376 Skipped: 253



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Much better	17.02%	64
Better	25.53%	96
About the same	28.19%	106
Worse	14.10%	53
Much worse	6.12%	23
Do not have an opinion	9.04%	34
Total		376

Q5 Please list any comments, concerns, or suggestions you may have about the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs. Your response may be quoted verbatim in a Committee report.

Answered: 201 Skipped: 428

#	Responses	Date
1	1.DDSN has wait listed 5,000(+) people on the ID/RD Waiver with no expectation the persons will receive waiver supports or have access to programs in their lifetime. 2.DDSN has established waivers to fund ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) therapy services and resources to the Autism community and has missed the importance/effectiveness that other children with varying diagnoses respond favorably to ABA as well. 3.DDSN has been ineffective in increasing the number of medical and therapeutic providers in SC to serve the increasing #of families requiring assessments and intensive interventions. 4.DDSN does not provide sufficient day treatment services for ages 6 -21 b/c this group falls under the responsibility of the DOE. The DOE is not required to provide all the interventions medically prescribed and under the law provides service delivery based upon common curriculum assessments. It does not seem like there is too much concern for a child's overall LT development until they reach 22	3/13/2017 11:09 PM
2	I have lived here two and a half years, and my family has been through 6 different agencies, with absolutely no success, and with not even one hint of progress. There are simply not enough providers in the state to service the needs of the State of South Carolina. This is the basic and undeniable reality for families like ours. We need programs that have supported, visual evidence of progression toward a better quality of life.	3/13/2017 10:08 PM
3	DDSN and/or its case management agent Channel The Beacon suffered a major data security breach, resulting in the exposure of 61 children's case files, including sensitive medical history. That is 61 HIPAA violations! My son now needs credit monitoring to avoid the theft of his identity. This is irresponsible in the extreme.	3/13/2017 9:53 PM
4	There is not sufficient accountability for care services at the client level. There is not enough choice or flexibility for client services.	3/13/2017 5:24 PM
5	The media coverage appears very unfair. The same people always state the same old complaints. This seems like personal attacks instead of facts	3/13/2017 10:10 AM
6	More thorough screening of commission nominees by Senate to identify and not approve nominees with a political or personal agenda/vendetta against DDSN or staff. Most of the recent complaints are generated by just a few people, their political friends and their friends in the media. DDSN has competent qualified staff that does an excellent job in serving individuals with disabilities and special needs. DDSN needs more funds to try and eliminate some of the waiting lists. Commission needs to stay out of the day to day operation of the Agency. Local boards for the most part are functioning well. As with any large organization there will always be bumps in the road. Find a solution, smooth them out and move on. DDSN should not be a cabinet Agency! Thanks for the opportunity to comment.	3/13/2017 9:43 AM
7	Its worse because the some upper level staff can misuse funds of the Special Needs people they are supposed to care for.	3/13/2017 9:25 AM
8	The department does a very good job of assisting people with disabilities to help improve their quality of life.	3/12/2017 10:01 PM
9	As a past DDSN commissioner, I found Dr. Buscemi and her staff professional & responsive. They always met my needs for information. Although some stakeholders disagreed with actions taken by DDSN or how quickly decisions were made, I believe the staff reached fair decisions to provide the best service possible to the entire community. Issues that affect vulnerable loved are very emotional. Diverse needs competing for limited resources lead to strong differences of opinion. Changes imposed by the federal government have also stressed the system. In my opinion, these differences have led to accusations & negativism that is unfair to DDSN staff & counterproductive. In spite of this, the staff continues to do its best. I have observed them firsthand; my brother has been a resident of Whitten Center since 1970. My family is thankful & indebted to all of the staff from the state level to the direct caregivers who do so much for my brother & others who depend on DDSN.	3/12/2017 8:40 PM
10	Tribble Center, Seneca, SC...Clients are mistreated & scared of the staff which I have seen first hand. Not enough client/staff ratio. Expired food/meds given to clients. Overheard Jerry Mize boasting about how easy it was to get money from clients without family. Even one of the founders, LJ Powell, did not leave Tribble to care for his son! Please do an investigation of this center!	3/12/2017 8:29 PM

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11	The local board is not in tune with what is happening. There needs to be more oversight of the local boards. The board members seem to be serving the Executive Director. Programs for the disabled are not always in accordance with best practices, especially the workshops where elderly disabled and mentally challenged consumers spend many hours mostly sitting. And some board members have served many years and are now well into their eighties and not aware of new practices that need to be implemented.	3/11/2017 7:27 PM
12	For over 30 years I have been skeptical of how The Tribble Center in Seneca operates. Too much knowledge by director of consumers' finances, too pushy to get consumer in group trust and on Medicaid when family members not interested. A lot of questionable initiatives.	3/11/2017 5:35 PM
13	From the beginning I have questioned Jerry Mize's real intentions as director of The Tribble Center. He seems more concerned with the consumer's finances than worried about their well being. I have never had a good feeling about what's going on at The Tribble Center.	3/11/2017 5:27 PM
14	The state DDSN is out of touch with the local boards. Some local board members have served for decades and are merely figureheads who seem to rely on the local Executive Director to make every decision. Board members are not attuned to consumer needs. Direct staff are overworked and underpaid. There are few innovative programs. Consumers shuffle into the workshop and shuffle home. Those who are unable to work simply sit all day, coloring or watching TV. There are few opportunities for social activities. The activities provided are designed for higher functioning Consumers. It's obvious that leadership and accountability are missing at the local as well as state level.	3/11/2017 12:08 PM
15	My experience has been positive they return calls and provide adequate information. They process request timely.	3/9/2017 10:39 PM
16	Patient Vital Record Storage, Relationship with Private Providers, Relationship with MMO	3/9/2017 12:52 PM
17	i cannot say enough about the efficiency and effectiveness of this department. As previously stated, I am a retired high school Special Education teacher, so i have first hand knowledge of the positive influences this agency has had on the lives of these adults. Many would be destitute and unproductive citizens if not for the assistance, guidance, job skills training, and respect shown to these vulnerable individuals.	3/8/2017 5:25 PM
18	The administration and personnel are experienced and knowledgeable about the individuals supported. Considerable effort is made to communicate issues, changes and concerns with key stakeholders.	3/8/2017 2:10 PM
19	Do away with DDSN's Good Ole Boy system!	3/8/2017 11:53 AM
20	We deal specifically with CHESCO and i find them to be a well managed organization and very responsive to our state agency (DSS).	3/7/2017 4:35 PM
21	There needs to be more services for individuals with traumatic brain injury	3/7/2017 3:10 PM
22	Concerned that infrequent problems are being blown up and out of proportion compared to the total service hours and the audited services scores verifying good services are being provided by the Providers who are contracted with the Dept of Disabilities & Special Needs...someone has an agenda not based on the real facts and are blowing one time incidents out of proportion, and those doing this know little about the programs.	3/7/2017 9:29 AM
23	Communication needs to improve, oversight needs to be beefed up, DDSN administration has a very difficult task with given level of funding.	3/6/2017 6:11 PM
24	Several reports on DDSN blown out of proportion. Making it a cabinet agency will not rid perceived problem as other cabinet agencies such as DSS, DJJ and DMH regularly experience. Advocates such as McPherson and Harrison do more to hurt services for special needs individuals and to make a name for themselves.	3/6/2017 3:08 PM
25	I am an employee of the John De La Howe school in their equine program. The changes I see on a daily basis in the students of the school is absolutely amazing in this program. To be able to see a child interact for the first time with a horse (or cow, or pig or goat) is such a wonderful experience. These students have never seen a horse up close and for them to be able to work with the animals, groom them, perform barn chores and become close friends with these animals is an experience of a life time. On a weekly basis, we get new students that have never touched a horse and from day one, we take them from being timid with them to having them perform full care for them. Equine therapy is a proven form of positive therapy both physically and mentally. I couldn't be prouder of these kids for overcoming their fears and becoming responsible for these animals. To see this school close and this program come to an end would be a huge blow to these students.	3/6/2017 11:25 AM
26	The agency has a difficult mission where it is going to be impossible to please everyone. They have been audited many times. Health and Human Services has audited almost every complaint and while they have recommended some changes, they have not found retaliation or broken laws and issue. Parents care about there children as they should. But that does not mean they are without self interest. This work is hard. But this agency makes a difference in so many lives. And the state is better for this.	3/6/2017 11:23 AM

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27	This agency must be put in the cabinet. The amount of federal and state revenue received by DDSN and the critical nature of the services provided require cabinet level oversight. DDSN serves some of the most vulnerable people in this state and warrants cabinet level oversight. DDSN's Commission should be made to serve as an advisory Board and serve as the voice of the families and as an advocacy group. The LAC should review all prior audits both federal and state in nature and compile results. By doing so it will be clear, through pattern and practice, that this agency continues to fail to evolve and improve.	3/6/2017 11:06 AM
28	DDSN denies placement to persons needing services as adults, especially those served by DSS. DSS is not equipped to provide special needs services to vulnerable adults or to children aging out of foster care.	3/5/2017 11:50 PM
29	Web information is old, the department has no task force, getting statistics is jumping through hoops, many years ago a statewide stakeholders meeting was held with being told when the information and feedback would be on the website, weeks that has not come to fruition to this date. Information is not disseminated downward to families. It is very frustrating maneuvering the system. More contact with families of children with autism and questions answered and the best possible assistance provided. It feels the employees are in the big building and only communicate with whom they choose. Get out of the Offices. Lastly, put more pressure on SC Autism Society, Resources. Many people do not know what is out there and available.	3/5/2017 11:38 PM
30	Sometimes more concerned with numbers than the actual care of individuals.	3/5/2017 3:25 PM
31	DDSN provides services to clients that takes care of all of their need--it is especially good for those that do not have a family to help care for them.	3/4/2017 8:45 PM
32	The Dept needs to focus more on consumer outcome and less on paper.	3/4/2017 5:24 PM
33	still not enough handicapped parking spaces and bathrooms in restaurants are pitiful	3/4/2017 3:11 PM
34	I really don't have any dealings with them that I know of , I may have had unknowingly so	3/4/2017 1:25 PM
35	SCDDSN needs to be accountable to their consumers providers the taxpayers and the public the present commission format does not provide this. Moving the agency to the Governor's cabinet would provide for direct line authority and accountability. The present management group is authoritative vindictive and totally resistant to change. They make decisions with their bloated structure as the first priority and their consumers a distant second.	3/4/2017 11:36 AM
36	Greater accountability and oversight from the Commission is needed. I received the following statement in an email: Fwd: Fwd: They say Carmen mcutchen had been assigned to us regarding the house oversight. They think she doesn't like us so much. She worked with LAC and was one of the auditors during our last audit. I wonder how she would feel to know they lied about the number of deaths? It appears from the statement made by a Central Office staff member that the DDSN administration lied about the number of deaths that had occurred in its report to the LAC. How many other things has the DDSN administration lied about?	3/3/2017 8:42 PM
37	Seem to be committed people running it	3/3/2017 8:00 PM
38	DDSN needs to be made a cabinet agency under the Governor. The present system with commission members does not work. There needs to be more accountability.	3/3/2017 3:42 PM
39	DDSN should ensure more money should go to the local Boards. We are clinging by our fingertips. The Boards should have more money to support the folks who live in the residential homes. The staff do not make enough with all the duties which are required. Please think about it. People with Mental Illness can take medicine to help them function on a daily basis. But people with Intellectual Disabilities will stay the same until the day they die. No medicine can help Intellectual-Developmental Disabilities	3/3/2017 3:36 PM
40	DDSN commission meetings have become a joke. No issues are addressed and no information (minus gossip) comes from the meetings. It in no way assists the providers or consumers. At this time DDSN has failed our individuals with special needs by allowing the commission to continue.	3/3/2017 3:24 PM
41	They seem not to care about the real providers of service. They can pay whatever they want to their employees but do not provide sufficient funding to providers. They create positions and do not properly advertise or advertise in house and then hire from outside of the agency, They need more accountability.	3/3/2017 3:23 PM
42	glad to see new staff come in that are not influenced by biased opinions of others	3/3/2017 3:12 PM
43	I have served as volunteer, worked for and received services from many agencies over the years. DDSN and the provider system is by far superior to most other entities in S.C.	3/3/2017 2:56 PM
44	closer monitorship of capital grant funds are needed to ensure timely and proper use of these funds.	3/3/2017 2:47 PM
45	Would be helpful for General Assembly to allocate more funds to DDSN to raise pay level for Direct Support Staff.	3/3/2017 2:45 PM
46	DDSN provided compassionate and timely services for our son who sustained a moderate to severe TBI. What is lacking though is a continuum of services that help a TBI victim become gainfully reemployed or a decision that that will not happen.	3/3/2017 1:54 PM

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47	SCDDSN keeps too much money that should go to providing services. We are also told how much we can pay staff and how much we can retain each year and a cap on that once a certain amount is reached. The Commission does not seem to have any authority over the director. It is evident that the executive staff makes decisions and the Commission, or at least most, supports those decisions without fact checking. DDSNs spending is out of control and wasteful. Their is no support from DDSN when some providers have issues. This was especially true when the HUD issue related to room and board mistakes were made. Those providers were made to repay thousands when DDSN should have paid the total amount and not 1/2 as that training was provided by them. Some providers seem to be used as scapegoats.	3/3/2017 1:26 PM
48	A local arm of the agency closed down a program that was benefitting my disabled adult child on some kind of technical nonsense. Four weeks later, they were open again without much explanation. To the state agency's credit, they responded fairly quickly (for a state agency) to alleviate the "technical issue", but in the meantime my wife was in tears and having a breakdown because of the closure. The state doesn't provide squat diddley for my son, and I am not asking for anything at this point, but when the state interferes with private programs that ARE providing services, it is very frustrating.	3/3/2017 1:19 PM
49	very detacated people who work long hours	3/3/2017 1:06 PM
50	Information to the public needs to be more forthcoming on the services provided/available. Human contact and guidance is essential. Information on computers is great, however not everyone knows how to dig it up.	3/3/2017 12:52 PM
51	Upper level management in the ID/RD is very friendly and are passionate about their work. They do need to increase partnerships with providers and partners to insure that decisions are not made that have negative impact. Making decision without fully understanding the programs impacted creates delays in services and unnecessary work for providers and partners. Increased communication and ongoing support would be appreciated.	3/3/2017 12:20 PM
52	DDSN provides an invaluable service to individuals with disabilities and their families.	3/3/2017 11:40 AM
53	The process for applying for Medicaid TEFRA is too confusing and it takes too long to complete. It took us a year to get our son approved. There was no one place to go and get a list of all the steps to follow or what to expect. So I just kept filling out forms and waiting two weeks for the next list of instructions, bear in mind I am juggling a very emotional autistic boy with a full time job and applying for help because I am reaching the end of my rope too. This is a very stressful process where parents feel like anything they say or do could cost their child much needed care.	3/2/2017 3:27 PM
54	Employment opportunities need to be more accessible to people outside of the State System.	3/2/2017 1:42 PM
55	Sometimes I feel that the staff who work in the residential and day programs are under appreciated. Having to assist and support a vast array of individuals with many different special needs requires patience and empathy. It takes a lot out of a person to do this job, but we continue to do so everyday. I think that the current rate of pay for DSP's and HSP's should be increased.	3/2/2017 1:38 PM
56	Great help with young children, could have been more helpful in teen years.	3/1/2017 8:25 PM
57	DDSN is faced with limited funds and unlimited need -- a dauntless task	3/1/2017 4:06 PM
58	The pay rate is not where it needs to be. I'm in this field because I have a heart for people with special needs but due to the lack of raises and incentives, it makes working here difficult. this however, does not detract from the genuine love that I have for the consumers I provide services for. My compassion will always rank high and I will always go above and beyond to keep them safe.	3/1/2017 4:04 PM
59	With dealing with DDSN you have to reach the right person. If you reach an employee who doesn't care to help you any further or doesn't want to take the time to help (which is to often) you don't get the help. However, if you reach an employee who cares about your concern they will go above and beyond to help you. There services especially for Autism is needed, but it takes jumping through so many hoops before you find someone to help you. As a parent with a special needs child it's heart breaking to feel as if no one cares to help, not even the agency that is setup to help you.	3/1/2017 2:22 PM
60	Concern that administration changes the rules depending on the circumstances.	3/1/2017 11:53 AM
61	It takes people with compassion, concern and a love for people in general to work with individuals with special needs and for the most part my co-workers and I have these qualities. However, due to the lack of revenues allotted for salary increases, it's hard to keep qualified people. I do believe that salary increases and or merit raises will make a difference in the quality of services provided. Let me perfectly clear: I'm not saying that it's all about the money or that the money should be a determining factor but suffice it to say if I'm working at an agency making \$10 an hour, been there for 10, 20 years and someone walks in off the street and makes the same as I do, i will feel some type of way and my level of input may not be the same. I will not love my individuals any less, but my quality of work may not be the same.	3/1/2017 9:40 AM
62	Agency is committed to serving its clients. Too bad families are sometimes bitter.	2/28/2017 10:08 PM

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63	Stop governing by audit. Focus on meaningful quality outcomes for consumers . Reduce time and resource waste auditing local boards that are stable and functional. Use tiered supervision/auditing based on consumer outcomes, and board fiscal stability. Allow boards to retain at least 6 months of funds in order to prepare for growth in consumer demand. Relieve state bottleneck on waivers. Allow direct billing for Medicaid reimbursed services.	2/28/2017 6:17 PM
64	The people that work there, while often stuck in the bureaucracy of State Government, really care for the people they are serving. They make their decisions based on what they think will be best for those they serve using the information that is available to them. If anything they are too kind to their provider network and often that kindness is only returned with spite. Overall the agency does more good than harm and is an asset to South Carolinians with Disabilities.	2/28/2017 2:58 PM
65	None	2/28/2017 1:50 PM
66	No concerns	2/28/2017 1:41 PM
67	Support for South Carolinians' with disabilities and special needs is an absolute must.	2/28/2017 1:24 PM
68	Employees in residential facilities need more money to be able to make a difference and to lure staff to make a career with special needs individuals.	2/27/2017 11:04 PM
69	I do not live in SC but a family members in SC including a sister with severe developmental disabilities and physical limitations (cannot perform any activities of daily living, including walking, eating, drinking, toileting) who lives in Whitten Center. My parents are both gone now, and neither I nor my sisters are able to care for Katie, who has a feeding tube and needs 24-hour nursing care.I understand DDSN is talking of moving more toward in-home services, possibly at the cost of regional centers. In-home services are important, but regional centers cannot be shut down. There is a segment of the population who will always need them. Also, DDSN should not become a cabinet agency under the supervision of the Governor, with leadership and staff hired at the Governor's wishes. This is not a political football -- these are real people that need steady services that are not subject to political whims.	2/27/2017 6:54 PM
70	The agency works diligently to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and special needs.	2/27/2017 2:01 PM
71	Without the services of the SC DDSN my twins would not receive the services that they do.	2/27/2017 1:14 AM
72	I'm unsure why the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs only serves a few types of disabilities (autism, TBI, etc.). This is confusing.	2/25/2017 6:03 PM
73	This is a department that is vital to the well-being of our most vulnerable South Carolinians.	2/25/2017 12:22 PM
74	Overall, services are very positive. I do feel that more funding for additional therapies should be made available (ie equine, music, art, dance therapies)	2/25/2017 12:04 PM
75	I needed this agency!! My child is special needs and would not have gotten accommodations if it weren't for the services provided by this agency!	2/25/2017 12:03 PM
76	The DDSN is drastically underfunded, therefore understaffed, therefore carrying too large a client/staff work load, therefore not able to give the attention, care and service that we as a state need to provide for those they are trying to care for. It is an embarrassment that the great state of SC can do no better in their care of some of the most needy citizens of our state.	2/24/2017 5:14 PM
77	The service contractor model is a problem because it does not provide for the capacity to have enough oversight controls. Staff quality is only as good as the service contractor management. Management is not selected by the state agency. Improve this and the system can be made stronger and better. It would also be helpful is the legislative members spent more time with the Agency leadership to understand the system and support it rather than having knee jerk reactions to problems and being manipulated by complainers. This only distracts the staff from doing the work they need to so to move the agency forward.	2/24/2017 5:02 PM
78	Issues: High expectations for providers, low rates . Rate of pay for direct support staff and the risk they take on when serving high risk people. We are expected to deliver individualized care while paying 10.11 per hr.Lack of behavior support providers due to the USC process for certifying new providers . National credentials are not accepted in SC and limit who can provide. (That process is arbitrary.) Our DDSN District Office Director (Coastal/Pee Dee) is exceptional and supports us as we need help. I find DDSN to always be responsive to our agency.	2/24/2017 10:39 AM
79	The "consumer" is first with DDSN including his/her services and assuring he/she is treated with dignity and respect. DDSN is a very good steward of State funds seeing that the disabled are provided the best services and care. DDSN strives to keep and care for people in their homes with Medicaid Waiver supports/services instead of institutions/including providing respite and behavioral support services. DDSN should remain a separate agency and not be in the Governor's Cabinet. Meet with families in your community so you can see the good services and supports provided by DDSN.	2/24/2017 10:00 AM

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80	My son is living at Whitten Center, and we have been very pleased with the care he has received there. These regional centers are vitally important to the group of individuals who have such extensive medical needs that they require 24 hour nursing care. These centers provide a wonderful option for families in having their loved ones cared for. Also, I am concerned about the amendments being proposed in Bill 180. If DDSN is moved under the oversight of the governor, with no clear guidelines for a director's qualifications, I am concerned about the lack of stability that could result, should this person not be as "in tune" with individuals with special needs.	2/23/2017 10:40 PM
81	Our son is a resident at Whitten Center and we are tremendously satisfied with the care he receives there.	2/23/2017 10:03 PM
82	The DDSN system is in desperate need of more facilities to house individuals with special needs. It seems a person must be in a crisis situation before being eligible for placement, and even then, stay on a wait list for months. Having so few regional centers, and a majority "contracted" facilities is a huge detriment to the system because the contracted agencies have the option of being very selective in whom they serve. Unfortunately, the clients and their struggling families suffer greatly because of it.	2/23/2017 8:12 PM
83	needs more focus on people receiving services	2/23/2017 12:04 PM
84	I have concerns for the way workers comp claims are done, when a person with a concern voices it and then how it is handled, these are two more recent concerns.	2/23/2017 10:04 AM
85	I work at the midlands center. I note poor resources to allow work to be completed (one printer for 40+ people to use), refusing to provide several employees with reasonable workplace accommodations, filth (mold growth due to roof leaking for at least 4 years), roach problems due to water/mold, ceiling tiles falling due to leaks, unclean/sanitary bathrooms, and some employees working on 3 to 4 hours daily (Brian Hawkins/nepotistic behavior).	2/23/2017 9:15 AM
86	Consumers treated very well, however staff especially residential are not treated well and their pay is pitiful	2/22/2017 3:55 PM
87	This agency is a much agency that need to continue providing the services they do.	2/22/2017 3:36 PM
88	not transparent; fails to be fully accountable to public and the Legislature; maintains contracts at the expense of patient safety; is management top-heavy and should consider spreading high salaries to direct-care staff in the field/Regional Centers;	2/22/2017 1:37 PM
89	Medicaid services are more difficult to access when provided by DDSN. DDSN imposes additional requirements, over and above Medicaid requirements. If you are a Medicaid eligible individual and want to receive a Medicaid waiver service you are required to go through DDSN - unnecessary step(s) and cumbersome process. If the vast majority (+75%) of services DDSN provides are Medicaid funded, why have DDSN as a middle man increasing the cost of service? They are an administrative burden, with high personnel salaries. Shift the funding to Medicaid and have a uniform process for access and service delivery.	2/22/2017 12:57 PM
90	I believe South Carolina needs to step up more and make sure extensive resources are available to families that have children with special needs and/or disabilities.	2/22/2017 12:54 PM
91	Overall, DDSN is a great facility for those who are intellectually disabled. They receive great care. My concern is that staff and professionals are very underpaid. The professional staff pay is well below the salary compared to other state agencies, as well as, in the private sector. Most employees that work for this agency have been there for years because they love the consumers that they serve; the pay is NOT a factor and most all employees have to work a second job to make their ends meet.	2/22/2017 10:58 AM
92	While DDSN has assisted many clients over the years, they lack the backing from their administration and treat their employees horribly.	2/21/2017 7:05 PM
93	I would like to see staff members work together more, as a team, to insure a better quality of life for the consumers.	2/21/2017 4:32 PM
94	As a provider you are held to a standard and expected to follow any and all demands from DDSN, however, those same standards and demands are not reciprocated.	2/21/2017 1:09 PM
95	extreme difficulty in keeping facilities staffed due to low pay rate and forced OT hours	2/21/2017 12:06 PM
96	The Department needs to invest in a quality training and supervision of their employees on each level, starting from direct care, through middle management, QIDPS, and professional personal such as nurses and others. The Department needs to provide quality supervision which it doesn't. The high management is mostly interested in collecting high salaries, their presence in some centers is minimal, communication minimal and appreciation of the workers non-existent. The Department needs to also invest in team building training. right now it is every man for themselves. It has not been that way when I first started working here 15 years ago.	2/21/2017 10:49 AM

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97	There have been many multi-million \$errors made by the staff at SCDDSN such as:2012 OIG investigation regarding administrative cost allocations; the infamous HUD fiasco; not maximizing the Fed Medicaid match in 2009 2010 by cutting provider reimbursement rates; LAC audits where recommends go unheeded; move functions around without fully understanding the implications; hiring the SIG Director, Pat Maley, who has been investigating DDSN activities for the past 2 years ethics concerns; running 2 expensive inadequate computer systems because they refused to work with DHHS and their Phoenix system; a district director who is spending all of his time at the local country club in Laurens country, drinking at the 19th hole and getting in a state vehicle to drive home is being allowed to retire without investigation. What we have ended up with is a shadow agency in the SC state government operating outside the fences of accountability.	2/20/2017 4:36 PM
98	Initially, the experience was negative due to staff turn-over. My son's case was transferred three times in as many months and information was not carried over. However, once the staff remained, the experience was much more positive.	2/20/2017 10:44 AM
99	Funding for individuals does not include enoughguardian awareness	2/20/2017 9:12 AM
100	There needs to be additional funding to increase direct care wages. These individuals are the backbone for the direct care services provided to the consumers.	2/20/2017 1:31 AM
101	SCDDSN has worked to improve services and involve numerous stakeholders.	2/19/2017 9:38 PM
102	The DDSN seems to work extremely hard to make sure those persons with a disability and/or special need are cared for properly and appropriately. This department has an awesome task due to the varying degrees of disabilities and special needs in the population that it serves. From what I have observed, the focus of this department has been to assure that the needs of this population are met, whether it be in a residential center, community based group home, or in home assistance.	2/18/2017 11:17 AM
103	I think that the huge overturn of employees could be prevented with a higher pay rate. For all of the responsibilities that we as direct support and house supervisors have.	2/18/2017 8:06 AM
104	DDSN does not need to control funding for individuals with disabilities that comes from DHHS. That simply introduces another layer of cost and confusion. My personal experience with DDSN as a paretn of a child with disabilities is that it is an extremely slow and inefficient agency. I am NOT talking about the regional board, but the central DDSN in Columbia.	2/17/2017 2:12 PM
105	They are a vital source of help for me to live a happy fulfilling life despite my disability	2/17/2017 1:06 PM
106	Need to focus on funding and direct care wages	2/17/2017 10:47 AM
107	My two boys were served over 34 years by DDSN. Always helpful, open door policy, willing to work with parents. Truly understand the many unique needs of the people they serve. I understood that there was one pot of money that had to be divided among 36,000 other people with developmental disabilities, so I couldn't have it all. DDSN director and staff have great knowledge of policy and practices. They have to work with other state and federal agencies and that can be challenging when services are needed immediately. I will always be grateful for the compassion and care that I received for many years as my children's needs changed, DDSN was there to provide services to meet those needs. I am so impressed with their mission that I continue to support them even after the passing of my two children. There are few states that give the care that DDSN does. Thanks to the General Assembly for their funding for DDSN.	2/17/2017 10:30 AM
108	The oversight of the agencies supported by DDSN is very unprofessional and not consistent with other public and private organizations.	2/17/2017 9:33 AM
109	I have seen 1st hand how DDSN support of organizations like The Charles Lea Center can change and enhance lives. I've talked to the individuals they serve at Charles Lea and I am inspired by the work they do and the value they contribute. Thank you for supporting those individuals AND their families!	2/17/2017 9:26 AM
110	The DDSN has the potential to operate at a much higher level of functioning to provide services to those in need. There are too many errors and too much confusion. Sometimes it seems there are too many chiefs and not enough braves. There are policies that need to be reviewed, rewritten, or completely gotten rid of. There are people in charge who seem out of touch with the reality of the way things actually function. There are too many errors that carry the consequences of harming those they are meant to benefit. There needs to be investigations into practices to make the DDSN function more efficiently for those who they serve as well as those employed by the DDSN who suffer from the lack of proper administration	2/17/2017 4:52 AM
111	The DDS needs to be followed more closely and held more accountable for how they use their financial assets and resources, as they tend to misappropriate their finances.	2/17/2017 12:15 AM
112	DDSN must continue to work with the legislature to improve the salaries for direct care staff so that the providers can compete with other alternative employment opportunities that are available to these individuals.	2/16/2017 9:13 PM
113	I think the Commission selection process needs to be re-evaluated. It is concerning that Commission membes are influencing decisions based on their pesonal interests and bias.	2/16/2017 4:06 PM

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114	I feel that the intention of the Department is good, but overall planning of the efforts needed is not. Therefore, follow through is not strong, or needs many revisions.	2/16/2017 3:58 PM
115	A self-advocate's father reports that he had thought about moving to Florida. He checked with the the Florida Agency for Persons with Disabilities. The person he spoke with told him that he needed to keep his son in South Carolina because the SCDDSN was one of the top rated programs in the nation. I am not sure where this person got their information however, if it is true, we have a lot to be proud of in South Carolina. The legislature has made it possible for us to move folks off of the Medicaid Waiver waiting lists and more and more folks are receiving needed services.	2/16/2017 3:52 PM
116	Staff are friendly and want to help but wait time for services can be very long and frustrating	2/16/2017 3:22 PM
117	The agency needs to be overhauled. It's disjointed. No consistency among providers. It should be run like other state agencies. Far more accountability is needed.	2/16/2017 3:10 PM
118	They are there to protect the concerns of the Dept of Ed	2/16/2017 2:43 PM
119	Over loaded with cases. Staff is spread too thin.	2/16/2017 2:33 PM
120	DDSN is a much needed agency as it was instituted to advocate for and provide services to those who have lifelong developmental disabilities. Please do not consider combining it with another agency because it is unique in its approach to our children/adults needs. No other agency can do what DDSN can do.	2/16/2017 1:46 PM
121	Make ABA therapy available to children with an autism diagnosis only and not children labeled as at risk.	2/16/2017 1:45 PM
122	DDSN has done a good job of caring for our loved one while meeting state and federal regulations. Even with limited funds they have done a good job addressing waiting lists.	2/16/2017 1:40 PM
123	All of the employees need to get on the same page. All of the departments need to understand the individual functions of each individual department. There is no consistency and many times there are conflicting responses within the agency.	2/16/2017 1:34 PM
124	DSN does not understand the current environment for disability needs with regards to planning and implementing person centered programming. It would be valuable to have an agency like DSN who's role was to be on the leading edge of what's appropriate in today's society versus an agency that does not want to be dragged forward.	2/16/2017 1:33 PM
125	Residential placement needs to be a priority. The emotional and physical toll on families caring for adults unable to live independently is substantial and we need a resolution that doesn't involve death or the potential for death of a primary caregiver. Or we need the ability to say no to life-saving medical care for our special-needs population (from the very beginning). My therapist and psychiatrist bills are substantial and the situation isn't sustainable for the next 10/20/30 years.	2/16/2017 1:32 PM
126	More funding is needed in this area	2/16/2017 1:27 PM
127	There needs to be a chart or checklist of the steps one needs to take when entering under the DDSN agency. There are so many things you can't easily find out with multiple calls to multiple people. Even they say they do not know the answers sometimes and are frustrated with their own agency. The transparency needs to be for within the agency itself as well as for hose trying to get help. It is so very complicated.	2/16/2017 1:22 PM
128	They change policy without thinking of how it will affect all aspects of the agency. They don't follow up with problems in a itmely manner. There are EI agencies who have repeatedly failed families and there is no consequence for that.	2/16/2017 1:20 PM
129	Had difficulties in obtaining an advocate or assistance for family and self	2/16/2017 1:20 PM
130	cannot get a worker to call back, minimum care for patients	2/16/2017 1:12 PM
131	Unfortunately, the people who are in higher positions don't tell the truth, their salaries are over the top. When someone in the agency does something wrong, they leave that position, only to be hired by another department within the agency instead of being fired. It happens over and over again. The sad part are the employees who are working directly w/our loved ones make next to nothing while the people at the top are making a lot of money. The entire agency needs to be revamped.	2/16/2017 9:40 AM
132	Direct care Staffing is very poor to provide proper care for the consumer. Staff being held shift after shift puts the consumer at a greater risk for injuries, proper care, and more behavioral issues.	2/16/2017 5:19 AM
133	The Department needs to change. Nothing positive happens.	2/15/2017 7:51 PM
134	DDSN serves a wide variety of disabled citizens. They cannot be all served in the same manner. The director and administrative staff do an excellent job keeping aware and best serving all of these disabled citizens within the guidelines of the state and federal regulations. It is a very complex system, but individuals depend on the care provided by DDSN for their quality of life and often for basic survival needs.	2/15/2017 6:06 PM

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135	The Department of Disabilities & Special Needs SERVES the UNDERSERVED is South Carolina. No longer keep our family members with developmental and or Intellectual disabilities locked in the back room or placed in some institution where they are treated less than human. We now serve them at home, have programs they can attend, they are welcome in our communities, we have residential HOMES they can take pride and ownership in. Our Intellectual disabled populations have so, so many positive options these days and SCDDSN plays a vital roll in making sure that population is served with dignity and respect.	2/15/2017 5:24 PM
136	Too much tax money wasted--top management overpaid leaving little for the needs of disabled individuals	2/15/2017 10:44 AM
137	As an employee, having worked briefly with the school district, and now priviledged to return, I think accountability is our greatest strength. Most of the people I have worked with care deeply, and behave ethically for the people we serve.	2/15/2017 10:02 AM
138	Working with the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs is a very rewarding job. However, we do not get paid enough for what all we do.	2/15/2017 8:46 AM
139	It saddens me that a few disgruntled former DDSN employees are creating so much negativity against an agency that ranks 8th in the nation in providing services. These people are only hurting the people we serve.	2/15/2017 8:13 AM
140	Continues to provide a variety of quality services to people with special needs and disabilities and it is very important that regional centers remain open to meet the needs of challenging clients and to serve as a safety net for the community	2/14/2017 8:11 PM
141	The Department of Disabilities and Special Needs is enriching the lives of people who don't have a voice. They are leading productive lives and are able to do much more for themselves with the assistance of people who are employed with the SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs.	2/14/2017 5:39 PM
142	DDSN provides services for individuals with disabilities and special needs that other states are not able to provide. Some staff members are the only "family" that the individual has.	2/14/2017 4:02 PM
143	The reported incidents of abuse, neglect and injury last year increased by 25%. The Department head should be under direct hiring and firing by the Governor.	2/14/2017 3:23 PM
144	DDSN has a hard time putting people with disabilities first. They seem more concerned with budget than the clients. They are slow to respond to concerns and communicate poorly.	2/14/2017 2:46 PM
145	Better communication is needed on how this department serves it's citizens.	2/14/2017 1:05 PM
146	Appears to based on a buddy system at lower levels, such as contractual agencies	2/14/2017 12:34 PM
147	I have had a disability since 2004. I find that in the state of South Carolina there are very minimal opportunities and activities for persons with disabilities. Of the opportunities that are available, I find that they are difficult to find and are not broadcast very well. I am a very active person with my disability and would love to see more opportunities and activities for persons with disabilities in the state I would like to see them gain more exposure.	2/14/2017 12:02 PM
148	I believe that staff should be paid based off of there knowledge and not a degree. Doing such will allow the emoloyee to see that there knowledge is valuable and acknowledged. I can personally say that I am an employed with an agency that pays people based on a degree but allows individuals to work for little or no compensation at all for what he/she knows.	2/14/2017 11:28 AM
149	they are never there win you need them!	2/14/2017 11:12 AM
150	Department has improved the technical support to providers and more services to persons with disabilities.	2/14/2017 9:12 AM
151	I think this is a very needed program on the community.	2/14/2017 8:39 AM
152	Spinal Cord Injury is different for everyone...Sometimes the cookie cutter you use does not fit...My husbands experience has been laden with long time delays the DDSN counselor says is out of her hands...Approval...mostly denial...	2/14/2017 8:29 AM
153	Most of the agency dollars are kept at Central Office and wasted on staff who are clueless about the regional centers and community programs.	2/13/2017 8:06 PM
154	The agency no longer provides adequate or appropriate services for the individuals they serve. Although the money is available it is not being used for purpose ntended.	2/13/2017 7:39 PM
155	Agency is doing a great job for a population of our state that has many unique needs that must be provided.	2/13/2017 7:02 PM
156	More advocacy and awareness campaigns are needed to make the public aware of your agency and any resources you may offer	2/13/2017 6:36 PM
157	does not put patients first, does not have adequate staffing, very dangerous schedules for staff coming in at 3am	2/13/2017 3:51 PM

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158	DDSN is the victim of biased reporting by the Greenville News. While there are issues that need to be addressed, the agency, as a whole is running efficiently and effectively. The Commission, however, is not running smoothly. One member of the Commission is feeding inappropriate information to the media and does not conduct herself appropriately in public meetings. Her behavior has caused major harm to the Agency's public image.	2/13/2017 3:09 PM
159	I have had the pleasure of sitting across the table from Dr. Beverly Buscemi, DDSN State Director, during meetings of high importance. I have listened to her words and looked her in the eye. She is a highly intelligent person, able to synthesize large amounts of data and multiple pieces of information, and make sense of them to everyone present. She listens with her intellect as well as with her heart. As Albert Einstein said, "If you can't explain something simply, you don't understand it well enough." Dr. Buscemi understands and she can explain even the most complex set of issues in an understandable way. She is compassionate and she has what it takes to lead a diverse set of providers and stakeholders to provide high quality supports to citizens with lifelong disabilities and their family members.	2/13/2017 2:43 PM
160	My concerns center around the lack of care for people that are housed in the group homes. I have had several clients that have lived in group homes and each one states there is a problem with lack of supervision. This lack of supervision led to anything from residents having sex with one another to residents having very poor personal hygiene. I have had several reports that kids from DJJ are housed with kids with mental disabilities. This coupled with a lack of supervision is a dangerous mix.	2/13/2017 1:52 PM
161	It seems with proper design, homes would be better if designed and were built from the ground up, rather than remodel of older homes, to suite the needs of consumers, And would be more cost effective to the state/tax payers in the long outcome. Totally designed to accomplish the meeting of all goals and of the care of the consumers as mandated by the State. We live in an ever changing society and the needs of every one are different. The goal should be to stay ahead of them, not behind changing something already done. Thank you for this opportunity to express my views.	2/13/2017 1:50 PM
162	Ease of communication needs to improve. Sometimes it is difficult to figure out who to call or where to get specific information. However, once I get hold of the correct person, I get the information I need. Our case manager is awesome, but sometimes I have a general question that I feel should be able to be answered in a "handbook" or through a basic listing of services on a website.	2/13/2017 12:53 PM
163	I feel like DDSN is out of touch with reality when it comes to the individual provider agencies and the boards. A visit from the State level officials with the Direct Caregivers would be beneficial to both.	2/13/2017 12:28 PM
164	There needs to be more outside monitorship of how things are managed besides auditors, such as links to other successful programs for the adults in the sheltered workshop. Realizing that each board is managed differently, but having the workshop open for the adults should provide more activities.	2/13/2017 12:06 PM
165	The upper management!	2/13/2017 10:37 AM
166	professional staff such as case managers have case loads that are too high and are asked to keep up with impossible amount of workload for minimal pay	2/13/2017 10:26 AM
167	There is a SEVERE staffing shortage in the residential units at our staff's regional facilities. The sad part is the direct care staff who provide daily living needs, supervise, behavioral support, and currently work mandatory overtime at state regional facilities (despite having family and personal lives of their own) get paid the least. This is an ongoing problem and placing more employment adds is not the answer. Everyone deserves a LIVING WAGE! Especially if they are changing diapers, dealing with aggression, completing documentation, and cleaning up for 8 hours per day (often having to stay an extra 4 or 8 hours unexpectedly with no regards to their personal obligations) several days a week. The problem will continue unless we value our direct care as much as we value the individuals in offices making the rules and most of the money.	2/13/2017 10:18 AM
168	Cut down on the hoops parents have to jump through to get services. Simplify the service access.	2/13/2017 10:04 AM
169	I feel that people within the agencies are not considered fairly for raises. Most people are not paid for their experience, quality of work and or knowledge of the field of work they are in .	2/13/2017 9:59 AM
170	I think most people are not paid for their quality of work or self worth. It appears that some get raises and those that deserve a raise do not get one.	2/13/2017 9:59 AM
171	Senate Bill 180 (to make DDSN a cabinet agency) is currently in sub-committee. Two recent hearings were held with this bill being continued each time. I think S180 should not be voted on until the House and Senate Oversight Committee reviews of DDSN are complete.	2/13/2017 9:56 AM

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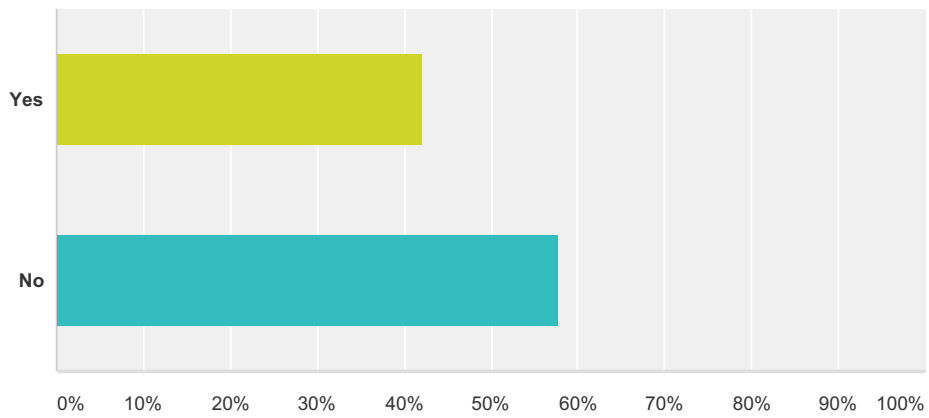
172	The main issue is that needs to be addressed, is that better pay should be provided for persons who are providing direct care services to persons with developmental disabilities. Why? For this agency, the director makes almost six to seven times more than what a direct care staff makes. However, if there were no direct care staff, who would provide care for these persons, who need (24/7) assistance? I feel that a staff "Advisory Group" (not a political group) needs to be assembled and provide recommendations to the DDSN Commissioners regarding ways the agency could improve their direct care services. The agency needs to provide better pay to bring in more qualified individuals who perform the brunt of the work. Finally, putting the agency under a cabinet is not going to improve it, better salaries and benefits will motivate folks.	2/13/2017 9:56 AM
173	All employees are not treated the same. Employees who make over \$50,000 get raises continually throughout the year, while some employees go years without raises.	2/13/2017 9:51 AM
174	I feel that DDSN does a wonderful job.	2/13/2017 9:33 AM
175	Does an excellent job of addressing needed services to people with lifelong disabling conditions. Paperwork and procedures need to be streamlined.	2/13/2017 9:33 AM
176	There are many clients and persons within this department that desperately need the life line called DDSN. So, many of these persons can not and do not have the necessary basic skills to operate effectively within the Community. Alone, without the services of DDSN, these individuals would be lost, ostracized or improperly forced into community or worse wrongly imprisoned due to their inability to cope, understand basic rules/law, etc. It is very clear that the population that DDSN services needs DDSN. It operates as "the" life line. The place of comfort, protection, guidance and balance to a very rigid world that has very little consideration, compassion or understanding for/of their very real and often times difficult conditions. Facilities such as Midlands Center, Whitten Center and others are and remain absolutely vital to caring for, protecting, educating and being "the Home" for many of these persons whom society has all but forgotten.	2/13/2017 9:32 AM
177	There is a male psychologist in the Sequoia building at the Midlands center who never puts in more than half a day. He will either take a lunch and another 2 hour break to play at the gym..Or just leave for home at the half day mark twice a week. There are limitations in equipment too. For instance, a building of fifty will have one printer. People with visible disabilities are also denied accommodations. The furniture for clients to sit on is filthy. Many areas of the Midlands center buildings smell of toxic mold. The roof on the Sequoia building has been leaking for years. People wear load perfume when dealing with sensitive populations.	2/13/2017 9:29 AM
178	DDSN focuses on specific needs of those who cannot help themselves, which is essential for America to maintain its moral integrity.	2/13/2017 9:22 AM
179	Pay rates lower than other state agencies. No annual or merit based raises provided to compensate for increased cost of living or recognition of service. Will be seeking alternative employment opportunities for this reason, despite enjoying my job.	2/13/2017 9:18 AM
180	DDSN is reactive to issues rather than proactive.	2/13/2017 9:01 AM
181	Very responsive to needs & approachable	2/13/2017 8:53 AM
182	I have always found working with DDSN a positive experience. Dr. Buscemi and others have listen to concerns and worked with community leaders to improve problems on the state and local level. A good example is how DDSN helped Greenville County reorganize after a failure of local leadership. DDSN has also worked with the Autism Community to improve services to the best of their ability and within their limitations.	2/13/2017 8:44 AM
183	I find that the eligibility Division works tirelessly on a daily basis. Very thorough and detailed in decision making...Represent the agency and standards of practice in determinations and when needed in appeal decisions. Decisions hold to statute and to psychological standards in the field...very consistent. I have been in the Division for 10 years and have served in state gov. for 21 years. I believe it has been the most consistent place of employment that I have been involved in with prior employment at DJJ and DSS.	2/13/2017 8:33 AM
184	My concern is because the lack of funding provided to the Department of special needs persons with special needs are not getting immediate attention. Employers are underpaid as well.	2/13/2017 8:31 AM
185	not ADA compliant	2/13/2017 8:22 AM
186	DDSN operates much better than similar agency's with governor appointed heads (i.e. DSS, DJJ, etc.). Moving this function into a governor appointed situation will create chaos much like it has for DSS over the years.	2/13/2017 8:17 AM
187	Although the media seems to have a negative attitude toward SCDDSN and the provider network, I think the providers do an excellent job of taking care of people with disabilities in our State. There are always a few agencies that need more oversight and some employees that give the rest a bad name, but I think that 98% of the agencies and employees do an outstanding job.	2/13/2017 8:16 AM
188	Would like for DDSN to be more transparent and willing to back providers in their overall day to day operations.	2/13/2017 8:01 AM

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189	Psychiatric services for consumers need to be dramatically improved. There are an insufficient number of professionals available to support the population living in residential homes. The few that are available have case loads that do not allow the professionals to give quality care. Any follow-up on the department needs to study this issue, particularly in rural areas of the state.	2/13/2017 7:48 AM
190	Overall training when policies and procedures are altered is lacking but the staff appear to adjust well in the chaos.	2/13/2017 7:44 AM
191	DDSN needs to short changing their consumers by short changing the local providers. Local providers are penalized for managing their money well via not being allowed to keep an appropriate reserve.	2/12/2017 10:47 PM
192	Restructuring would be an essential part of changing the dynamics of the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs. I would also look at why this particular State Agency is allowed to have a stand alone computer system when they paid the Budget and Control Board several million dollars to buy into the SC Centralized System - a system that would have brought greater transparency, but in this age of technology they have a mainframe system. Lastly, a system of accountability is needed and not just lip service to change like we hear at every Senate Oversight Committee. Yes we have fixed all the issues that were raised in the Legislative Audit Council findings. When in fact they have not been addressed and we have greater risk for death in group homes than we had 2 years ago. This Department is broken from the top down to the local boards with an agenda to cover up critical incidents rather than fix the system than perpetuates them.	2/12/2017 9:15 PM
193	Four people are pushing a negative campaign which will falsely influence many people, and you!	2/12/2017 6:26 PM
194	Time Clocks are Needed and Management accountability	2/12/2017 2:15 AM
195	The current leadership of SCDDSN acts in a dictatorial fashion. They do not seek stakeholder involvement in decisions. They are unresponsive to concerns expressed about directives. Their internal audit function is out of control citing everything without basis for many of the citations. They also have no concept of materiality. They do not allow for any measure of human error and expect perfection. None of the leadership of SCDDSN has worked in the provider network and thus are way out of touch with the agencies that they contract with.	2/11/2017 5:30 PM
196	I served as a Commissioner from the 1st Congressional District for DDSN from 2009-2012. From that vantage point I can state that this agency would benefit by moving it to the Governor's cabinet in order to have oversight.	2/11/2017 4:55 PM
197	When you look at the structure of DDSN and the accountability they expect of providers in comparison to other agencies they have a great deal more oversight and safety policies and procedures in place. They hold providers accountable and have an expectation of performance.	2/11/2017 2:03 PM
198	Needs additional staff and more compassionate staff.	2/11/2017 10:09 AM
199	I would like to meet with committee members to share my experiences. DDSN pays no attention to state or federal law, they retaliate against anyone who complains about their services. There has been no accountability for the funds paid to DDSN. The problems identified in the 2008 LAC audit continue, without improvement. Nothing has gotten better since the current director was hired.	2/11/2017 12:49 AM
200	The Department has a personal and vested interest in supporting people with disabilities and their families. While the Department has always been responsive and genuine advocates of people with disabilities and special needs, the Department seems to be distracted by the demands of the disjointed Commission who has lost sight of the true intent of the Department which is to ensure quality services.	2/10/2017 9:53 PM
201	Lack of transparency, lack of accountability by staff, overall defiant attitude towards any kind of authority, only 5 policies allowed by Commissioners, lack of meaningful reporting	2/10/2017 6:56 PM

Q6 Would you like to provide input about the Election Commission?

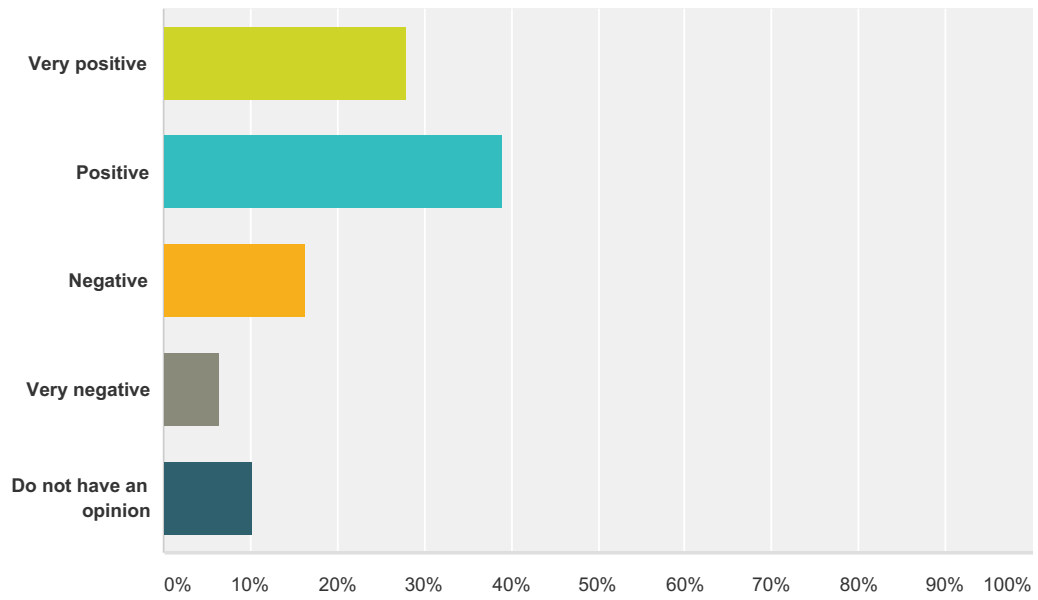
Answered: 534 Skipped: 95



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	42.13% 225
No	57.87% 309
Total	534

Q7 Overall, what is your opinion of the Election Commission?

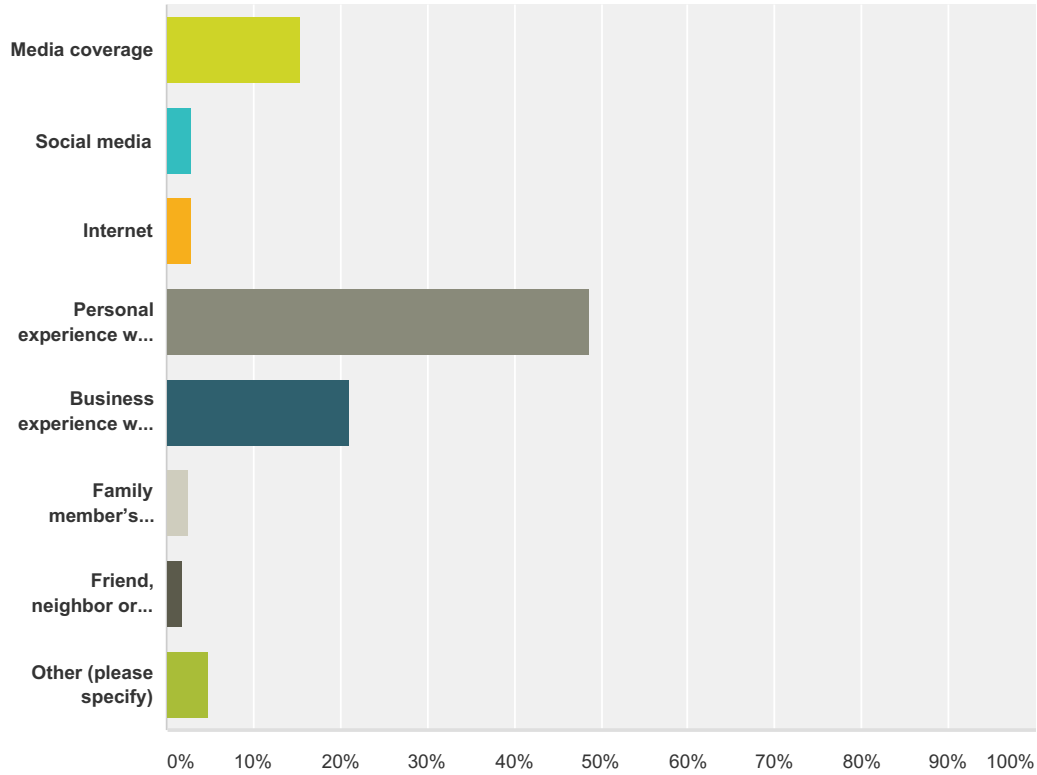
Answered: 215 Skipped: 414



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Very positive	27.91%	60
Positive	39.07%	84
Negative	16.28%	35
Very negative	6.51%	14
Do not have an opinion	10.23%	22
Total		215

Q8 Which of the following has most influenced your opinion of the Election Commission?

Answered: 208 Skipped: 421



Answer Choices	Responses
Media coverage	15.38% 32
Social media	2.88% 6
Internet	2.88% 6
Personal experience with the agency	48.56% 101
Business experience with the agency	21.15% 44
Family member's experience with the agency	2.40% 5
Friend, neighbor or colleague's experience with the agency	1.92% 4
Other (please specify)	4.81% 10
Total	208

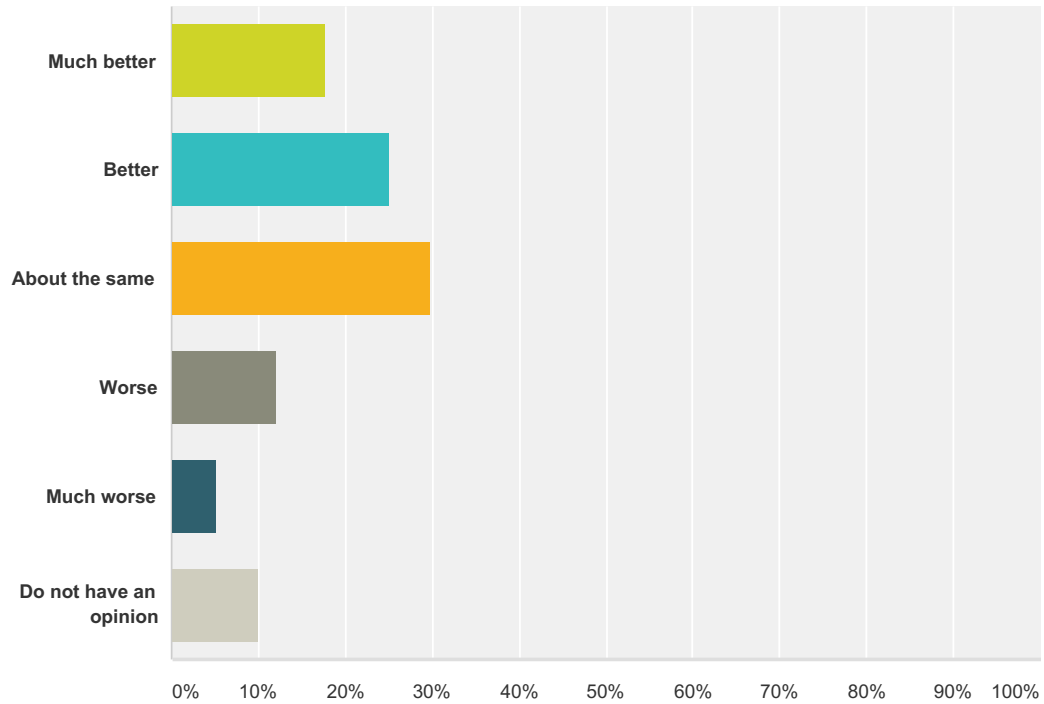
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	don't know much about it.	3/4/2017 3:16 PM
2	I have never even heard of it !	3/4/2017 1:27 PM
3	Need to be more visible as they are out of touch with centers	2/22/2017 3:57 PM

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4	Don't know much about this committee	2/17/2017 1:08 PM
5	na	2/15/2017 10:03 AM
6	Employee	2/15/2017 9:04 AM
7	employee	2/14/2017 11:43 AM
8	Who are they?	2/11/2017 4:37 AM
9	my role as VP of the League of Women Voters of SC has led to interaction over a period of 5 years	2/10/2017 7:22 PM
10	I was appointed to county board and saw first hand the corruption and favoritism.	2/10/2017 11:03 AM

Q9 How do you think the Election Commission functions on an overall basis in comparison to other state agencies in South Carolina?

Answered: 208 Skipped: 421



Answer Choices	Responses
Much better	17.79% 37
Better	25.00% 52
About the same	29.81% 62
Worse	12.02% 25
Much worse	5.29% 11
Do not have an opinion	10.10% 21
Total	208

Public Survey About Agencies Under Study February 2017

Q10 Please list any comments, concerns, or suggestions you may have about the Election Commission. Your response may be quoted verbatim in a Committee report.

Answered: 69 Skipped: 560

#	Responses	Date
1	Too partisan.Richland County Election Commission is incompetent, rude to voters and should NOT come under the Richland Legislators.It should come under the Control of Richland County Council	3/13/2017 4:41 PM
2	County boundary lines need to conform to county precinct lines. An example is the dispute of Ms. Kim Murphy located in Richland Co but not allowed to vote in Richland Co.	3/13/2017 3:45 PM
3	Needs total overhaul with trained staff	3/13/2017 10:11 AM
4	Need to have more control & fire Jerry Mize	3/12/2017 8:47 PM
5	What is there functional purpose.	3/9/2017 10:40 PM
6	Bring under the oversight of the Governor	3/8/2017 12:10 PM
7	Commissions provide oversight and need to insure legislators understand the real facts. Commissioners shold not have their own agenda that does not agree with the level of good services provided....have some personal problem with someone or something, not the system. Commissioners need to listen to Providers and review the audit scores from Alliant, and realize the percentage of incidents compared to the total service hours across the State shows incidents are few and far between, and realize in the business where you pay direct care only \$10.11 you will have some measure of incidents but it is very, very small compared to the total hours of service rendered.	3/7/2017 9:34 AM
8	The State Election Commission is the finest example of what public service is all about. The men and woment of theis agemncy should be commended for their outstanding service, civility, focus on a common goal.	3/5/2017 8:08 PM
9	some South Carolinians are taking advantage of the disability programs that we are so fortunate to have.	3/4/2017 3:16 PM
10	Make your organization known to the grunts .	3/4/2017 1:27 PM
11	The State Election Commission runs very well with the resources that it has available. They have to work with old equipment as well as underpaid poll workers and staff in the counties.	3/3/2017 2:21 PM
12	they need to interact with other agencies aboutproblem they has esseciallt the DOT who lies to it's consumers	3/3/2017 1:08 PM
13	Greenwood County Election Commission is very helpful.	3/3/2017 12:53 PM
14	There are local regualtions which need to be overhauled to streamline the election process.	3/3/2017 11:41 AM
15	I want to see the voting process to be more streamlined. We need more voting booths onsite, people should not have to stand in line for so long. Perhaps a live feed on election days showing the people traffic would allow people the option to decide the least busy time to come vote.	3/2/2017 3:35 PM
16	Well run, non partisan agency. A model for other states.	2/28/2017 10:09 PM
17	My biggest concern is that the public's faith in the Election Commission's mission as a necessary function, is being shaken and undermined by unethical persons.	2/28/2017 3:48 PM
18	SC needs open early voting to accommodate working voters. Voter ID laws are discrimantory and unccessary.	2/28/2017 1:24 PM
19	How about we have some working [f.....] voting machines?	2/25/2017 12:04 PM
20	We saw a dramatic improvement in our last election cycle!	2/25/2017 12:04 PM
21	None	2/24/2017 11:49 AM
22	All voting precincts be equiped with electronic voters lists	2/23/2017 4:16 PM
23	there needs to be an easier way for people to get registered to vote...ID Pics on SS Cards to prevent fraud..etc.; state need to be connected in a network to prevent fraud too.	2/23/2017 9:17 AM
24	This agency has a big responsibility without adequate staff and pays low wages compared to other agencies.	2/22/2017 10:15 PM

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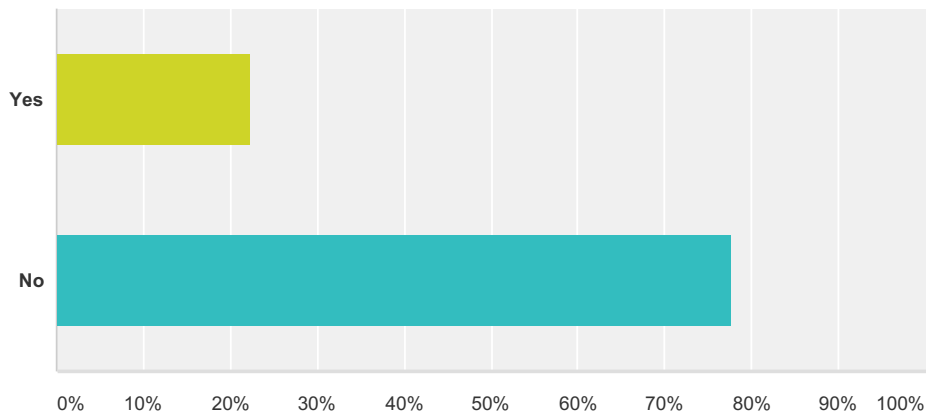
25	They have established a core team and consistency in their election processes that I do not see much in other states	2/22/2017 7:06 PM
26	Would love to have them more visible to the centers	2/22/2017 3:57 PM
27	excellent in response to questions and/or concerns	2/22/2017 12:23 PM
28	I feel that my tax money is well spent for the Election Commission	2/20/2017 4:27 PM
29	The Election Commission always appears to be fully dedicated to secure and accurate elections.	2/20/2017 10:51 AM
30	It seems the voice of those they represent is not included or valued.	2/20/2017 10:45 AM
31	Need to reach out to the community so people can be more aware of its purpose and mission	2/17/2017 1:08 PM
32	The State Election Commission (SEC) has done an excellent job working in a non-partisan manner on behalf of the voters of South Carolina. In addition, the SEC continues to advocate on behalf of county election officials, poll workers, and the election's process as a whole. As the lead agency overseeing elections in this state, I would like our legislators to be more supportive of agency initiatives such as early voting and the planning of the replacement of the statewide voting system. The State Election Commission has been repeating the need for both of these year after year to no avail. I believe our legislators hold a great deal of respect for the State Election Commission as a state agency, but I do not feel our legislators (as a whole) value the SEC with equal importance and significance compared to other state agencies. The State Election Commission deserves better.	2/16/2017 4:36 PM
33	There is no reason or justification as to why individuals should not be issued a proper form of identification during the electoral process	2/16/2017 1:21 PM
34	I think SEC is doing a great job with the counties to enhance the election process. Their motto has always been to ensure every vote matters and every vote counts by providing quality training and support to all counties in the state of South Carolina.	2/16/2017 9:03 AM
35	More attention needs to be placed on accommodations for people with disabilities at polling locations.	2/15/2017 7:48 PM
36	Efficient and well managed organization. Good stewarts of the State's resources.	2/15/2017 3:57 PM
37	Funding is key to survival of any organization. The Election Commission is a vital part of democracy and without adequate funding the integrity of the elections in SC runs a risk of becoming tarnished in the eyes of voters, the nation and the world. We not only stand the chance of losing confidence in our voters but in the entire electoral process nationwide.	2/15/2017 1:19 PM
38	They implement changes to the voter registration system on very short timelines and often very close to large elections which don't give the counties much time to implement changes without often requiring overtime.	2/15/2017 10:29 AM
39	Very helpful, in assisting the Counties with elections	2/15/2017 9:54 AM
40	Liz Simmons with SCEC is a valuable asset and has always been very helpful.	2/15/2017 9:47 AM
41	Our ability to remain politically neutral in all ways is very important to our successful elections.	2/15/2017 8:41 AM
42	They simply do NOT offer enough of the required Core Training classes each year. AND they allow only 30 adults in each classes they offer. Now if there are 46 counties in SC and folks all over the state need these classes, how many are left out annually. The staff was quite rude, unbending (stating they were following state law!). In the year that I was not in good standing, i contined to do everything required of me. The entire situation was embarrassing and should have been avoidable if they would only offer more of the required training!!	2/14/2017 7:07 PM
43	I interface with election commissions of almost all of the states in the US. The SC Election Commission has always been very responsive with accurate information.	2/14/2017 3:28 PM
44	There are many including the Executive Director, that advise the counties on issues that deal with day to day operations of county offices. Many staff members of the EC do not have the knowledge of elections laws needed to run the office or give "advise" to those that work in the county offices. It is mandated by state law that all election workers be certified with 18 months of employment but the classes do not meet the needs of the county agencies which they serve. Most of the certification classes are taught by the EC staff who again do not have the knowledge needed to teach the classes.	2/14/2017 2:50 PM
45	Very frugal within the confines of its allocated budget	2/14/2017 2:17 PM
46	They continue to not be influenced by any particular elected official and/or political party . Would like them to make recommendations to strengthen our citizens' confidence in our voting system- especially purchasing voting machines that can be audited with a paper backup .	2/14/2017 1:04 PM
47	Hard working commisson and very professional staff	2/14/2017 12:04 PM
48	Lack of opportunity for growth within the agency. Atmosphere becomes stagnant.	2/14/2017 12:03 PM

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49	Keep up the great work.	2/14/2017 11:51 AM
50	The filing process between candidate's, the state election commission and the state political parties needs to be reviewed. The candidate qualifications and actual filing process should be better streamlined.	2/14/2017 11:21 AM
51	What are the security of the polling machines? Who does the programming? Overall, is all the polls performing to regulations?	2/14/2017 9:30 AM
52	Our precinct is not able to offer Disability curbside service...They are to small and old...Sure, The sign is out on the side walk behind all the crowd but no one is there...I am not able to vote curbside myself...So I must go past the crowd...Of which they DO NOT LIKE...To ask for help with Handicapped curbside...Then go get in line and we both wait and wait...So we vote absentee ballot now...	2/14/2017 8:32 AM
53	I worry about corruption and innaccuracy in our electoral process (whether intentional or not)	2/13/2017 6:38 PM
54	Would it save money if various elections were held at the same time vs. different elections during different "months"?	2/13/2017 2:38 PM
55	After 20 years +/- working in this enviroment, I have to say it is nothing like turning hamburgers. Once you see what these workers do to care for someone elses relatives.In no way does the type of work come close to the pay they receive. I know the caregivers/ Staff do it because of love. At any given time it could be one of us needing care.	2/13/2017 2:03 PM
56	The election commision is important to maintaining the integrity of elections.	2/13/2017 12:55 PM
57	This is a comission that is responsible for ensuring "every citizen" is provided an opportunity vote because that is their right. As well having procedures and rules in place for all county officials to abide by. If anything needs to be changed, it is to stop voter supression via our "DC" legislators and pay more money for working on election day(s);although that is not their responsibility. The second thing would be to start exposing and training people to run this commision and to work at the polls. Finally, people need to become mor einformed, but f they are not reading an dimparting knowledge upon themselves, then that is their fault.	2/13/2017 10:02 AM
58	Voters should be assisted to get IDs and transportation should be made available to those without it.	2/13/2017 9:31 AM
59	What's an election commission?	2/11/2017 4:37 AM
60	SC is very fortunate to have an independent, very professional and responsible state elections commission. Their work in overseeing elections, training election personnel throughout the state, and overseeing voting technology is exceptionally important and they do it very well indeed.	2/10/2017 7:22 PM
61	Regarding the Election Commission, I would say that proper training and education of poll workers is critical, particularly when it comes to precincts with two different ballots in an election.	2/10/2017 2:39 PM
62	The Elections Commission does an excellent job of providing guidance for the 46 county election commissions. They have also been very responsible in the way in which they purge citizens who have moved our of state or died from the voter registration rolls.	2/10/2017 1:13 PM
63	It's a small agency with a critical mission. Living in Richland County, I know from personal experience what happens when local elections are botched and how hard the State Election Commission staff worked to mitigate a situation they were not responsible for but determined to address in a professional manner. Leadership worked to address issues not persons or personalities. I was impressed and reassured. I also appreciated how they handled the silliness over dead voters. Took the issue seriously and addressed it directly and again professionally.	2/10/2017 12:44 PM
64	The SC Election Commission has taken advantage of the available media, including online voter registration and mobile device applications in order to make voter registration and other functions easier and more accessible to the public.	2/10/2017 12:07 PM
65	The State Election Commission presented itself in a posititive and informed manner internally and publically during the General and Primary Elections in 2016.	2/10/2017 11:54 AM
66	The SC Election Commission does an outstanding job informing the public on election activities - including registration, voting requirements, locations to vote, etc...	2/10/2017 11:31 AM
67	I am very impressed with the South Carolina election commission and their important work to assist the voters of South Carolina. I have worked extensively with executive director Marci Andino over the last 3 years as she has participated on a national working group to assist military and overseas voters. Ms. Andino and her staff do an excellent job in assisting all voters and ensuring the Integrity of her state's election process.	2/10/2017 10:45 AM
68	The Election Commission has a national reputation for outstanding leadership and commitment to the voters of South Carolina.	2/10/2017 10:40 AM
69	My overall impression of the local voting agency is positive. The workers are helpful, knowledgeable and courteous. I am a bit disappointed that the state level did not follow through with my new photo Id voter card, but my local representatives have consistently been high quality.	2/10/2017 5:17 AM

Q11 Would you like to provide input about the Human Affairs Commission?

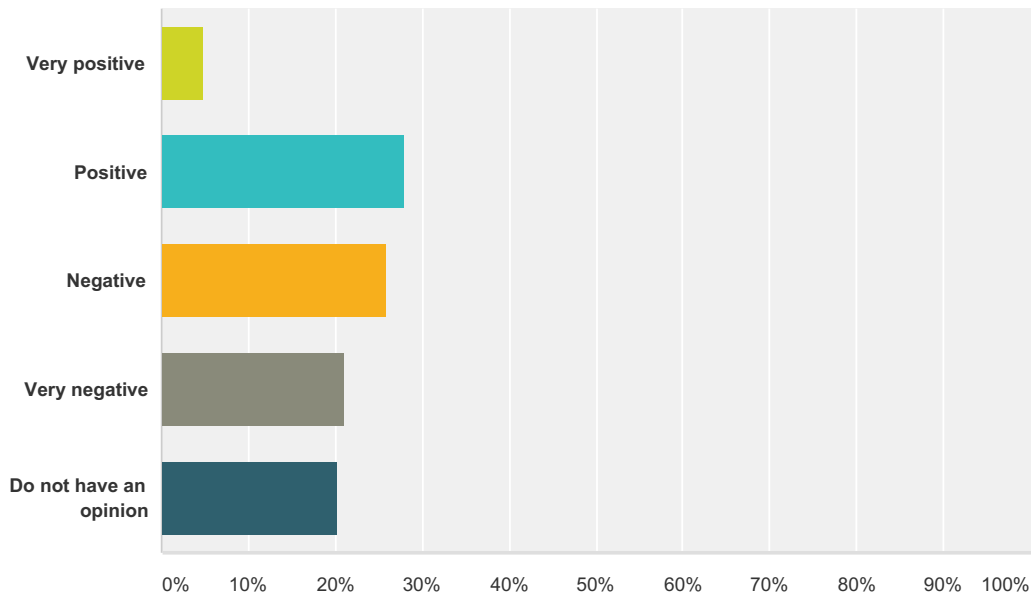
Answered: 505 Skipped: 124



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	22.38%	113
No	77.62%	392
Total		505

Q12 Overall, what is your opinion of the Human Affairs Commission?

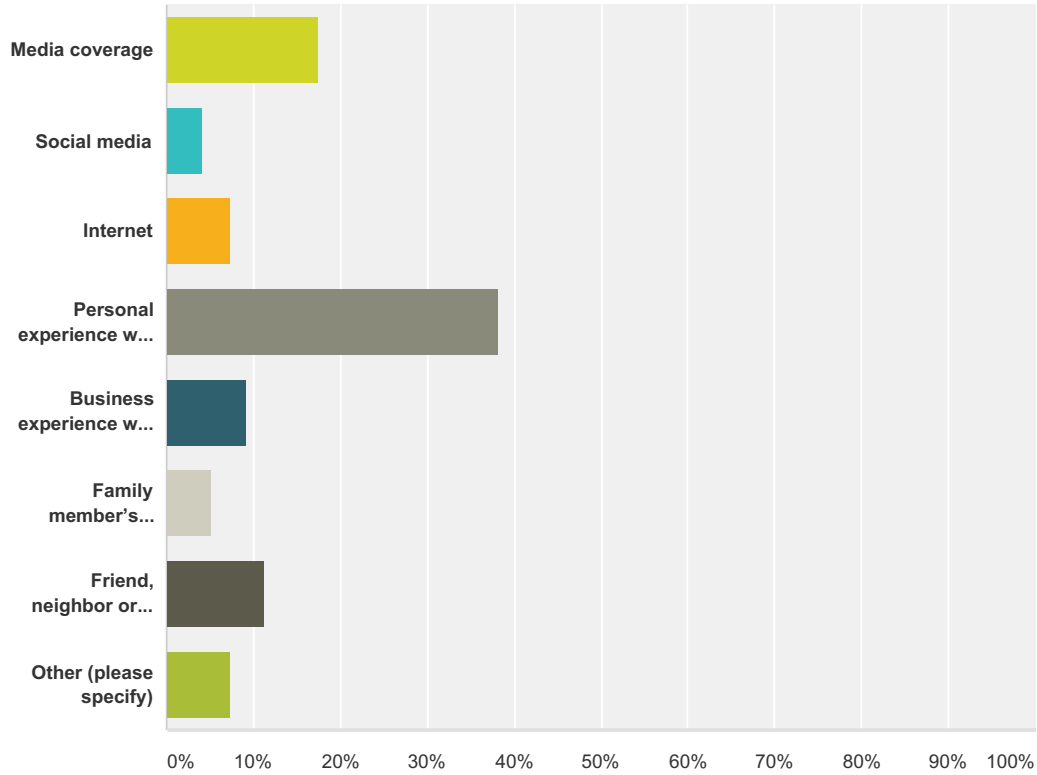
Answered: 104 Skipped: 525



Answer Choices	Responses	
Very positive	4.81%	5
Positive	27.88%	29
Negative	25.96%	27
Very negative	21.15%	22
Do not have an opinion	20.19%	21
Total		104

Q13 Which of the following has most influenced your opinion of the Human Affairs Commission?

Answered: 97 Skipped: 532



Answer Choices	Responses
Media coverage	17.53% 17
Social media	4.12% 4
Internet	7.22% 7
Personal experience with the agency	38.14% 37
Business experience with the agency	9.28% 9
Family member's experience with the agency	5.15% 5
Friend, neighbor or colleague's experience with the agency	11.34% 11
Other (please specify)	7.22% 7
Total	97

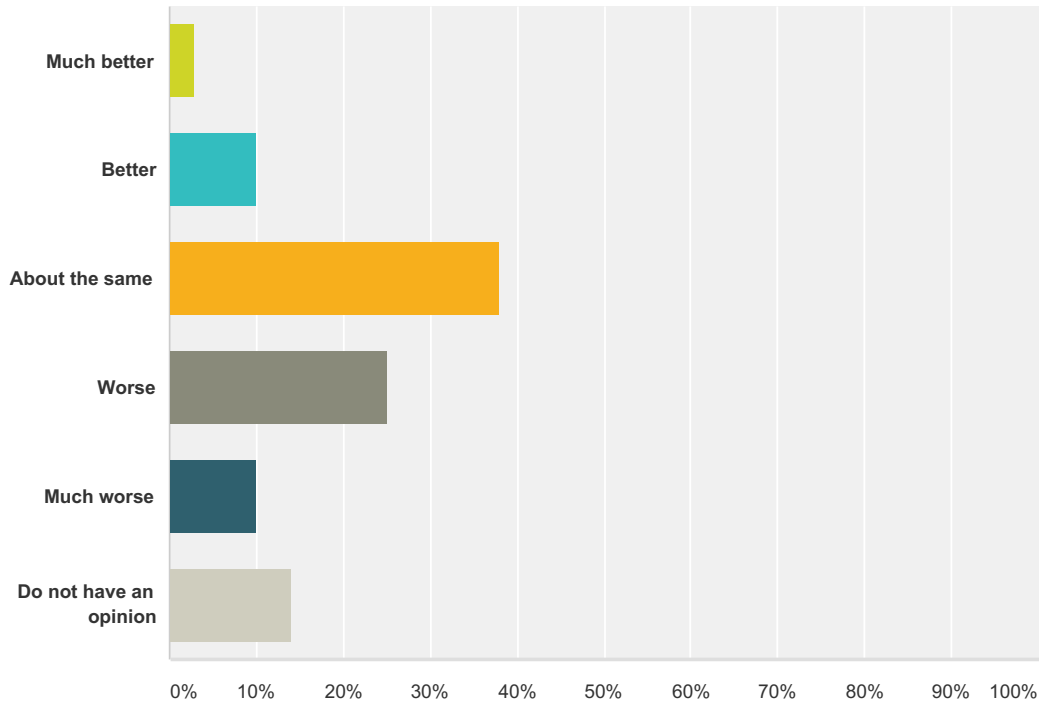
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	I've have had limited personal experience and experience it through friends and colleagues	3/13/2017 10:01 AM
2	none	3/8/2017 12:12 PM
3	Investigators are treated unfairly and are excluded from social activities within the agency	3/7/2017 3:25 PM

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4	My family takes the place of Human Affairs .	3/4/2017 1:30 PM
5	Don't know much about it	2/17/2017 1:10 PM
6	None	2/14/2017 12:04 PM
7	Have not heard anything about this agency	2/10/2017 3:58 PM

Q14 How do you think the Human Affairs Commission functions on an overall basis in comparison to state agencies in South Carolina?

Answered: 100 Skipped: 529



Answer Choices	Responses	
Much better	3.00%	3
Better	10.00%	10
About the same	38.00%	38
Worse	25.00%	25
Much worse	10.00%	10
Do not have an opinion	14.00%	14
Total		100

Q15 Please list any comments, concerns, or suggestions you may have about the Human Affairs Commission. Your response may be quoted verbatim in a Committee report.

Answered: 41 Skipped: 588

#	Responses	Date
1	The Human Affairs Committee failed to investigaty14 charges of mistreatment and racial discrimination at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. The personal racism of some managers and the institutional racism of MUSC need to be investigated and dealt with. And do not be fooled by the"window dressing" of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee--it avoids dealing with the mistreatment of the largely black and female workforce there. A real and full investigation of MUSC is needed!	3/14/2017 1:11 AM
2	The agency I complained about had twenty individuals who filed similar complaints alleging discrimination and retaliation. However, all of the claims were dismissed. I was told my case showed cause for retaliation by an investigator at Human Affairs. I was also told that my case would be forwarded to EEOC and they would make the final decision. I filed my complaint with human affairs and they should have followed through with the findings they communicated to me. I don't feel like the agency is fulfilling the purpose for which they were created.	3/13/2017 9:20 PM
3	The Commissioner is duplicitous. He causes disharmony by seeking employees to spy on other employees, and he rewards his spies by giving them either raises, promotions, or bonuses. He favors white employees over black ones. He is more interested in closing employment cases quickly without a thorough investigation than seeing that the cases are fully investigated. When some employees bring concerns of inequities to his attention, he uses subterfuge, delaying tactics, or outright lies to avoid dealing with the issues. Consequently, this causes poor morale, distrust and frustration. This is counter-productive to the administration of justice to employees and the public. It is ironic that the agency entrusted to eradicate discrimination is headed by a Commissioner who seems to be committed to being unjust, sexist, and racist.	3/13/2017 8:40 PM
4	My intake was lost by the director. Eeoc. From Greenville sent Human Affairs an investigation. That was sent to Human Affairs. They closed my case in 3 days I have the paper work to show human Affairs tried to cover up for Sodexo. Please let me show. You the details of paper work I have. Please I beg you.	3/13/2017 5:16 PM
5	They discriminate against Blacks. Uncaring whites like Dan Koon run the agency. The Commissioner Ray Buxton is NOT concerned about his staff or Charging Party.They only care about receiving money from EEOC for no cause cases. Cases aren't thoroughly investigated.All employees under TERRA should be discharged! Too many hires based on fraternity connections and positions in the community instead of qualifications.Cherey Dow doesn't meet the bare minimum qualifications for her job.The Commissioner's secretary is overpaid.The Legislative Audit Council failed to interview the right people for an accurate view of the agency.Finally, just because the Commissioner is African-American there is NO reason to accept Incompetence or be afraid to CUT their budget.The agency should be CLOSED and Rep. Leon Howard should Stop defending them!The current Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner are ruining the great Legacy of Rep. James E . Clyburn.	3/13/2017 4:56 PM
6	The Commissioner allegedly covered up for a while male who used agency equipment to view pornography. He pays (though trying to cover it up now) males more than black females. He causes disharmony.	3/13/2017 4:55 PM
7	It was my understanding that the Human Affairs Commission Office protects an employee from employment discrimination when it involves unfair treatment, harassment, and/or retaliation because of race, age, sex, color, disability, retaliation and a few other types of discrimination. It has been proven that this is not the case. Revisit the many reported discriminated and retaliation cases that have been sent to this office from Medical University of South Carolina. This office needs to be thoroughly investigated. Once this office receives complaints regarding the employer, the investigations are not properly handled. Many (if not all) of these cases are not handled in a timely manner. It is the belief of many that this office works solely for the employer not the employee. It is a waste of the employee time and taxpayer's dollars.	3/13/2017 4:23 PM

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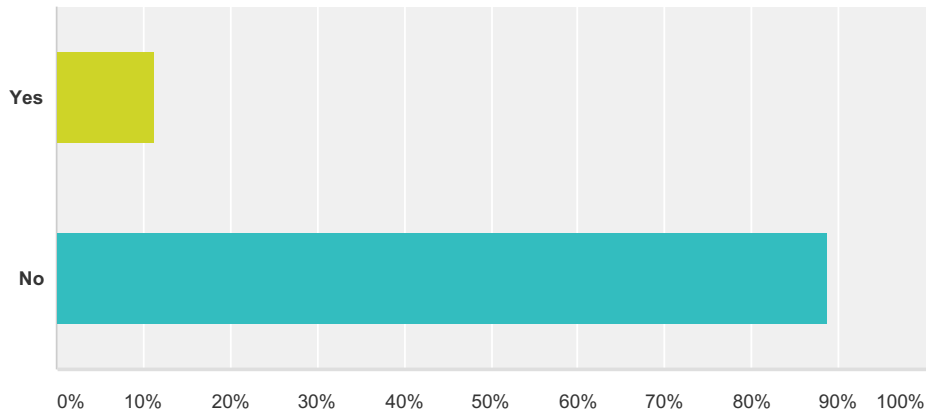
8	My experience is the commission is ineffective, biased towards state employees, and does not serve its purpose in addressing racial discrimination concerns. The commission seems to operate in a mode of 'red tape' denying all racial discrimination complaints and ruling in favor of the state agency. The investigation process is ineffective. The process depends on witnesses who fear retaliation to come forward rather than using resources to investigate and address concerns. I have had this poor experience twice over the years in attempts to address problems at the MUSC. Most recently, staff from the commission's housing unit was sent to take statements regarding racial discrimination. They were not equipped to answer important questions. In coming to a conclusion, the employee information is given to the agency and the employee does not gain an understanding of the employer's response. The employee is left exposed to face to retaliation.	3/13/2017 10:34 AM
9	HAC is severely under staffed and as a result they are very slow and lethargic about responding to complaints. I've witness investigations that last much too long and we're definitely not well done. They have in some cases not contacted pertinent parties to the investigation.	3/13/2017 10:01 AM
10	Employees need to pass a training period, better pay & less clients per employee.	3/12/2017 8:56 PM
11	They need to follow through when complaints are made against agencies.	3/12/2017 8:02 PM
12	Improper investigations about MUSC discrimination and termination of African Americans especially the African American females. Poor promotion and hiring practices. Discriminatory treatment of patients.	3/12/2017 7:36 PM
13	The Commissioner is vindictive. His actions cause poor morale among staff. He pretends to want to know how things can be better, but when employees give their opinions, if it doesn't agree with Commissioner's, he retaliates. He should be replaced with someone competent and committed to the agency's mission. He's well known for "alternative facts." The Committee should look into pay disparities based on race, national origin, and gender.	3/12/2017 6:58 PM
14	Current commissioner's attitude and treatment of some employees is antithetical to the mission of SHAC. He gives preferential treatment to white employees. He should be replaced for the good of the agency.	3/12/2017 6:52 PM
15	They are not very helpful. They are judgemental before getting all the facts. They are biased if you are filing a claim against a state agency because they are a state agency. They judged me because I once filed a claim against a state agency, when I came to an interview with SHAC the person who took my claim was on the interview panel and recognized me. Next thing I know the manager literally kicked me out before I could finish the skills test I was taking for the job. How is that for an agency protecting equal opportunity!	3/9/2017 10:52 PM
16	The SCHAC leadership is the main problem with the agency success or lack of leadership. The leadership lack the knowledge or compassion in actually following its mission of trying to prevent and eliminate discrimination. There is discrimination within its own agency.	3/9/2017 1:00 PM
17	The agency is sexist, racist. The board members serve for several years beyond their time. They are ineffective. Employees are told not to have ANY contact with the board; therefore, when the Commissioner refuses to deal with internal problems, there is no one to turn to. The Commissioner threatens employees to file a complaint with EEOC if they don't like what he does.	3/8/2017 9:46 PM
18	none	3/8/2017 12:12 PM
19	A review of the salaries since Commissioner Buxton came to the Agency will show that essential personnel (investigators) have received lesser money in pay raises than the nonessential employees.	3/7/2017 10:16 PM
20	The agency is unfair and some positions are made and should not exist. Other sections make decisions for the investigators that should not be allowed to make those decisions. Although investigators bring in revenue, they are treated poorly.	3/7/2017 3:25 PM
21	Take into consideration the number of hours of service compared to the extremely small number of incidents considering this level of services 24/7, 365 days per year.	3/7/2017 9:35 AM
22	none	3/4/2017 1:30 PM
23	Make it more about the people and not the legal system.	3/3/2017 12:54 PM
24	I know so little about this commission that I don't know what it does! What is its purpose?	3/2/2017 1:45 PM
25	Policies should be in place to ensure that employees are being paid fairly.	3/1/2017 4:08 PM
26	There seems to be a lack of management structure that supports whatever their mission is at this time. Basically I see no purpose for the agency.	3/1/2017 11:54 AM
27	I've seen them personally in court fighting for human rights protection. This is a must in a society so easily preyed on by big business.	2/25/2017 12:05 PM
28	Not an effective agency	2/24/2017 9:17 AM
29	They should be protecting ADA rights but do not investigate complaints	2/23/2017 9:18 AM

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30	Oversight of salaries; how money distributed once budget approved	2/20/2017 9:15 AM
31	4. A review of the pay increases for the past 5 years will show the partiality and the discriminatory treatment with reference to unequal pay/unfair wages; this crucial evidence (contact Human Affairs HR). African American, essential employees with tenure of 16+ years, (i.e., females age 40+), were given lesser percentage than Caucasian and male employees (who were more nonessential than essential) will be obvious in these reports. Collusion among the Commissioner, Board Chair, and management team to discriminate against certain groups of people is contradictory to Section 1-13-20, Declaration of Policy of the South Carolina Human Affairs Law. To correct the injustice done to these violated employees, make them whole by giving them equal pay in accordance with the services they have rendered to the Commission that they were not compensated for the past 5 years.	2/17/2017 5:55 PM
32	Reach out to the community more	2/17/2017 1:10 PM
33	I am concerned about the ill treatment of select female employees; compensation afforded upper level administrators, seemingly at the expense of neglecting lower level staff members; and closed communications to staff below the leadership level	2/15/2017 2:39 PM
34	NA	2/15/2017 1:04 PM
35	a. Commissioner Buxton asked for input from the employees for a SWOT analysis and then after they gave him their feedback, he proceeded to badger certain employees simply because he disagreed that the input included concerns about the existing discriminatory treatment of certain employees who currently work at the Agency. Were these actions intended to intimidate the employee(s)? Are these the actions of an unstable person? Is this a perfect example of an Abuse of Power?	2/13/2017 6:15 PM
36	Agency Audit and Restructuring	2/13/2017 12:17 PM
37	they need to be more helpful to employees who have been discriminated against	2/13/2017 10:27 AM
38	It is largely invisible. By virtue of its name, many of the wrongs and atrocities are left unpunished; often time even allowing the victim(s) to be blamed or mistreated. Where is the accountability. Where exactly is this department helping?	2/13/2017 9:32 AM
39	HAC needs to have a bigger role in performing the mission. Not many people have heard of the HAC.	2/13/2017 8:20 AM
40	Extremely positive experience each time that our agency works with the Human Affairs Commission. The employees have a solid response time to my questions, concerns, and complete the course of their work with an open mind and open door philosophy.	2/13/2017 8:03 AM
41	Management has allowed Customer Service to deteriorate at Human Affairs. Constituents who come to the Agency as customers/complainants for assistance are being denied the use of the restrooms. Just recently, the children of an African American Complainant who was there for Mediation were denied the use of the restroom by a Caucasian female manager. Management needs to be reminded that the Agency is there to serve the constituents and without the constituents, the Human Affairs Commission is not needed. Further, the Caucasian female manager needs to be properly trained in customer service and reminded that she is employed to serve the customers and not to offend them.	2/12/2017 11:08 PM

Q16 Would you like to provide input about the John de La Howe School?

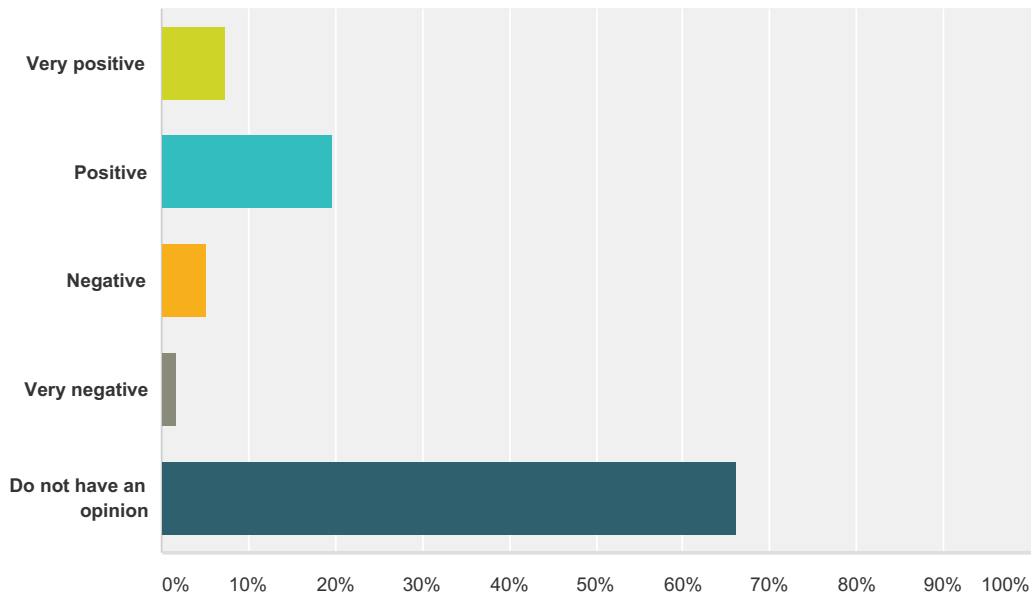
Answered: 486 Skipped: 143



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	11.32%	55
No	88.68%	431
Total		486

Q17 Overall, what is your opinion of the John de La Howe School?

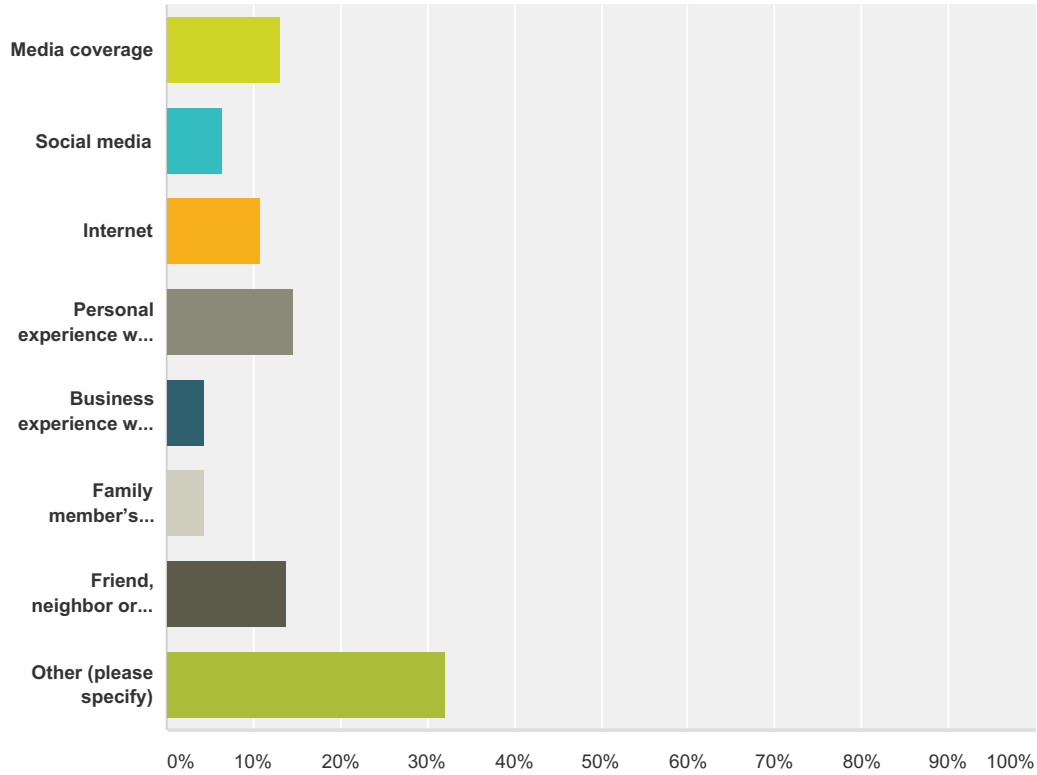
Answered: 189 Skipped: 440



Answer Choices	Responses
Very positive	7.41% 14
Positive	19.58% 37
Negative	5.29% 10
Very negative	1.59% 3
Do not have an opinion	66.14% 125
Total	189

Q18 Which of the following has most influenced your opinion of the John de La Howe School?

Answered: 137 Skipped: 492



Answer Choices	Responses
Media coverage	13.14% 18
Social media	6.57% 9
Internet	10.95% 15
Personal experience with the agency	14.60% 20
Business experience with the agency	4.38% 6
Family member's experience with the agency	4.38% 6
Friend, neighbor or colleague's experience with the agency	13.87% 19
Other (please specify)	32.12% 44
Total	137

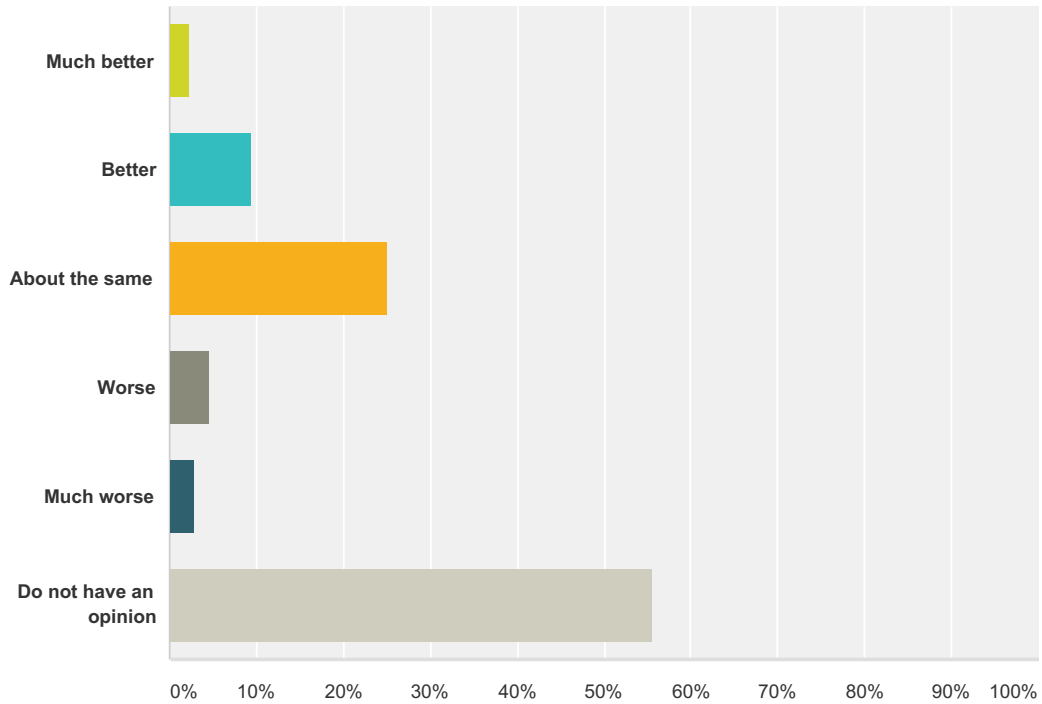
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Just research on my own	3/3/2017 3:49 PM
2	Research I have personally done on the history of the school along with the media coverage.	3/3/2017 12:58 PM
3	work with clients who have used their services	3/1/2017 11:56 AM

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4	No opinion	2/27/2017 11:48 AM
5	N/a	2/16/2017 1:46 PM
6	Never heard of it.	2/16/2017 1:33 PM
7	None	2/15/2017 7:49 PM
8	None	2/15/2017 7:27 PM
9	I'm not familiar with the John de La Howe Shcool. I WILL research it once I complete this survey	2/15/2017 5:26 PM
10	no influence	2/15/2017 8:18 AM
11	I've never heard of it till now.	2/14/2017 3:49 PM
12	none	2/14/2017 2:19 PM
13	None	2/14/2017 12:04 PM
14	N/A	2/14/2017 11:52 AM
15	never have heard of it before	2/14/2017 11:15 AM
16	Hit no on previous page	2/14/2017 10:24 AM
17	do not know what this School is about	2/14/2017 9:31 AM
18	no opinion	2/14/2017 8:33 AM
19	No knowledge to speak of	2/13/2017 6:40 PM
20	no opinion	2/13/2017 3:10 PM
21	n/a	2/13/2017 2:05 PM
22	i never heard of the school.	2/13/2017 10:41 AM
23	no knowledge	2/13/2017 10:27 AM
24	it is in my hometown	2/13/2017 10:25 AM
25	Didn't know this existed	2/13/2017 10:08 AM
26	I have never heard of them.	2/13/2017 10:03 AM
27	Do not have an opinion.	2/13/2017 10:02 AM
28	no opinion	2/13/2017 10:00 AM
29	no opinion	2/13/2017 9:59 AM
30	N/A	2/13/2017 9:35 AM
31	Not familiar with this school.	2/13/2017 9:19 AM
32	Do not know anything about it.	2/13/2017 8:45 AM
33	not familar with the school	2/13/2017 8:43 AM
34	no opinion	2/13/2017 7:58 AM
35	NA	2/12/2017 10:48 PM
36	v	2/12/2017 6:29 PM
37	none	2/11/2017 5:31 PM
38	none	2/11/2017 12:53 PM
39	No experience	2/11/2017 10:12 AM
40	What's that?	2/11/2017 4:37 AM
41	Not a relevant question for DDSN	2/10/2017 6:59 PM
42	N/A	2/10/2017 6:35 PM
43	Never heard of it	2/10/2017 3:59 PM
44	Don't know what it is.	2/10/2017 11:31 AM

Q19 How do you think the John de La Howe School functions on an overall basis in comparison to other state agencies in South Carolina?

Answered: 171 Skipped: 458



Answer Choices	Responses
Much better	2.34% 4
Better	9.36% 16
About the same	25.15% 43
Worse	4.68% 8
Much worse	2.92% 5
Do not have an opinion	55.56% 95
Total	171

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Q20 Please list any comments, concerns, or suggestions you may have about the John de La Howe School. Your response may be quoted verbatim in a Committee report.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 599

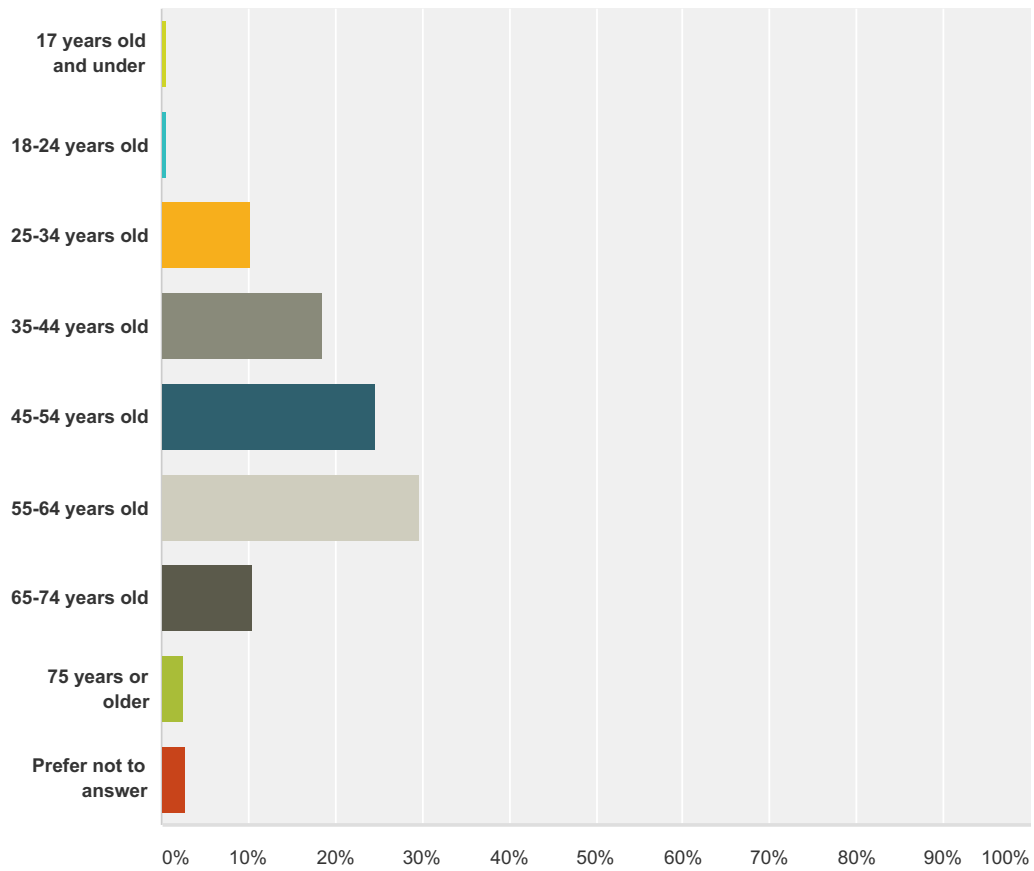
#	Responses	Date
1	In addition to my previous comments, it would be an absolute travesty for these kids to loose out on the benefits of the equine and agricultural programs that the De La How School has to offer. The mismanagement of the Brice School should be corrected and the programs that make this school special and assist these kids in ways no other facility can, should be addressed and corrected to the children aren't the ones to suffer due to the mismanagement of the educational part of the school. There are so many opportunities that have been missed at JDLH and the kids are the ones that will suffer.	3/6/2017 11:33 AM
2	Enrollment process at John de La Howe should be streamlined. John de La Howe should accept more foater children.	3/5/2017 11:52 PM
3	I am very concerned that the school could close or change to no longer provide services to troubled children. We desperately need this facility. There are little to no other places to serve these children. I believe this was obviously the intent of the land donor, who served orphans and poor children in need. I have custody of an orphaned child with difficulties who very much needs this type of facility, as do I. I cannot meet his needs and don't know of any other option for kids in this situation in our area. We need to keep this school running and serving the same population. Improve the school. Don't close it or change who it serves!	3/4/2017 10:45 PM
4	It would be nice to have a house for adult folks with ID	3/3/2017 3:49 PM
5	John de La Howe School does not need the government/taxpayer dollars being involved in it. Leave it operate on its own and if it does not have the funds, let them come up with he monies or let it go under. Government should only insure it has the proper license, teacher certifications, but no funding.	3/3/2017 12:58 PM
6	Historically they have provided much needed services to youth with few resources that meet their needs.	3/1/2017 11:56 AM
7	I very much support the mission of the John de La Howe School.	2/28/2017 1:25 PM
8	Lack of Leadership and commitment to meeting the needs of the children in our State. They have had several different leaders in the past ten years. I have helped raise money through the work of the Lions Club for JDLH. You can tell by walking on campus that they are not fully investing in our youth. Mis management of funds. This should be a model School for the State of SC. Needs upgrades, new programs on site where children can get the help they need to become productive citizens. Invest and hire quality leaders who put the needs of children first.	2/23/2017 10:25 PM
9	JDLH is being set up for failure from outside the agency while simultaneously educating and correcting student's behaviors.	2/23/2017 1:39 PM
10	They have a difficult job and are not supported by many. Especially in the Legislature.	2/22/2017 10:35 PM
11	There have been instances where the JDLHS admin. has sought guidance with compliance to a myriad of requests with minimal cooperation from the same entities requiring that compliance. There seems to be a different set of rules that the JDLH has to adhere to relevant to other Agencies and school systems. There seems to be a neg. relationship b/w some of the governing bodies and the JDLHS. Those poor relationships have led to some negative press (and premature info leaks). The JDLHS has seen significant turnover and a decline in student pop. directly correlated to this neg press. There has to be a collaboration b/w all vested entities including those with oversight. I believe this has been the largest hindrance to the success of the JDLHS in its recent past. With cooperation and support from the governing bodies, the JDLHS could make substantial progress towards suppling our young people with an opportunity to be successful and marketable in today's social and vocational environments.	2/21/2017 10:37 PM
12	N/A	2/15/2017 5:26 PM
13	NA	2/15/2017 1:05 PM
14	Excellent option for some of the most vulnerable youth in our state...truly a gem!	2/14/2017 5:06 PM
15	It needs more publicity	2/14/2017 3:49 PM
16	none	2/14/2017 2:19 PM
17	I have never here of this school , before what do they do?	2/14/2017 11:15 AM

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18	None	2/14/2017 9:17 AM
19	No comments	2/13/2017 7:41 PM
20	N/a	2/13/2017 6:40 PM
21	N/A	2/13/2017 12:09 PM
22	Do not have any comments or concerns. The sole suggestion would be better pay for staff.or	2/13/2017 10:02 AM
23	There are a large number of familes in this state that need the help of JDLH school, but JDLH also needs help. With the proper investment, lost and misguided adolesent males and females can find there way back towards being productive, non violent, cooperative students instead of being left on the track of junvenile and deliquent which only leads to more tax payer funds being wasted in housing these same persons in jails and prisons. The financial investment will be made in one way or the other. Either through front end rehabilitation through teaching, training, non adversive methods, proper counsel, etc. in JDLH or through rehabilitation through the justice department.	2/13/2017 9:32 AM
24	It is an essential function of the State, but tends to have terrible management and oversight. The employees bifurcate on the excellent or the negligent.	2/13/2017 9:24 AM
25	None	2/13/2017 9:19 AM
26	Need to look at overall performance in last few years. Seems like some operational leadership issues.	2/13/2017 8:24 AM
27	NA	2/12/2017 10:48 PM
28	v	2/12/2017 6:29 PM
29	told you i did not want to give input but this thing still popped up	2/11/2017 5:31 PM
30	Should not be asking this question in a DDSN survey!	2/10/2017 6:59 PM

Q21 What is your age?

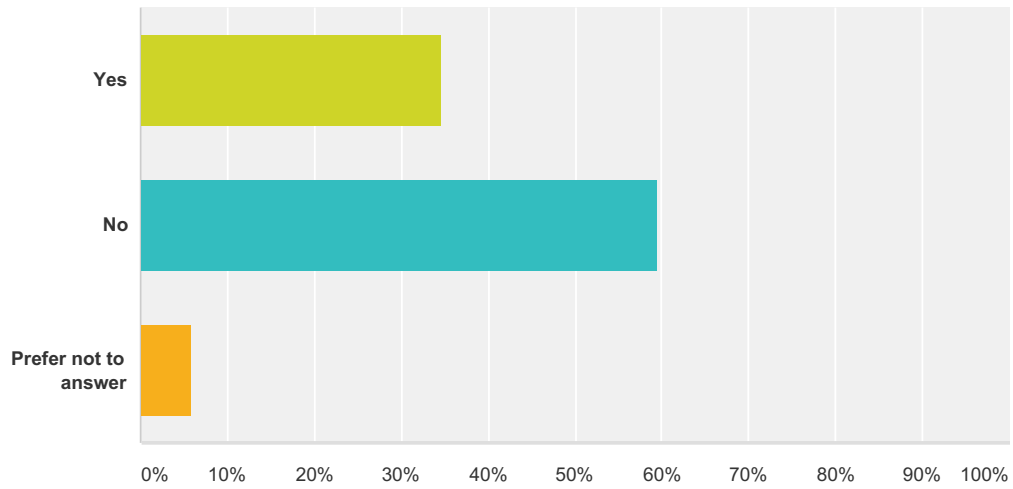
Answered: 464 Skipped: 165



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
17 years old and under	0.65%	3
18-24 years old	0.65%	3
25-34 years old	10.13%	47
35-44 years old	18.53%	86
45-54 years old	24.57%	114
55-64 years old	29.74%	138
65-74 years old	10.34%	48
75 years or older	2.59%	12
Prefer not to answer	2.80%	13
Total		464

Q22 Are there any children, seventeen years old and under, currently living in your home?

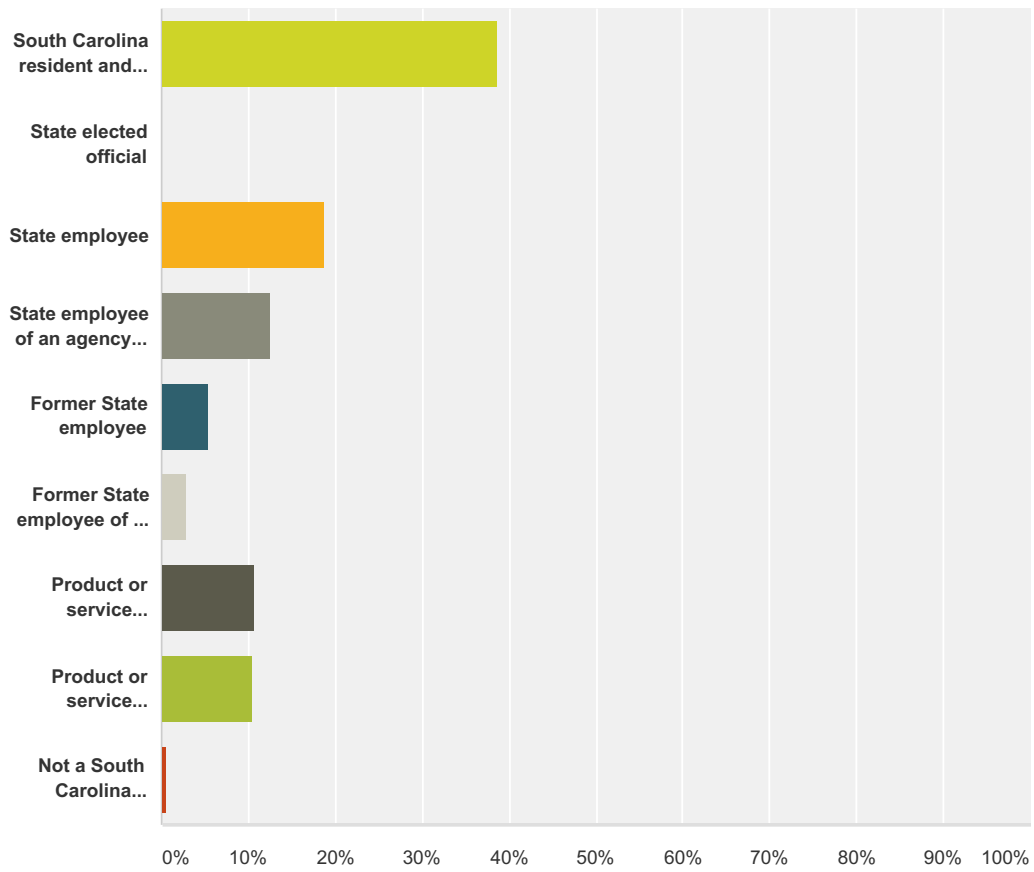
Answered: 460 Skipped: 169



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	34.57%	159
No	59.57%	274
Prefer not to answer	5.87%	27
Total		460

Q23 Which best describes your current role?

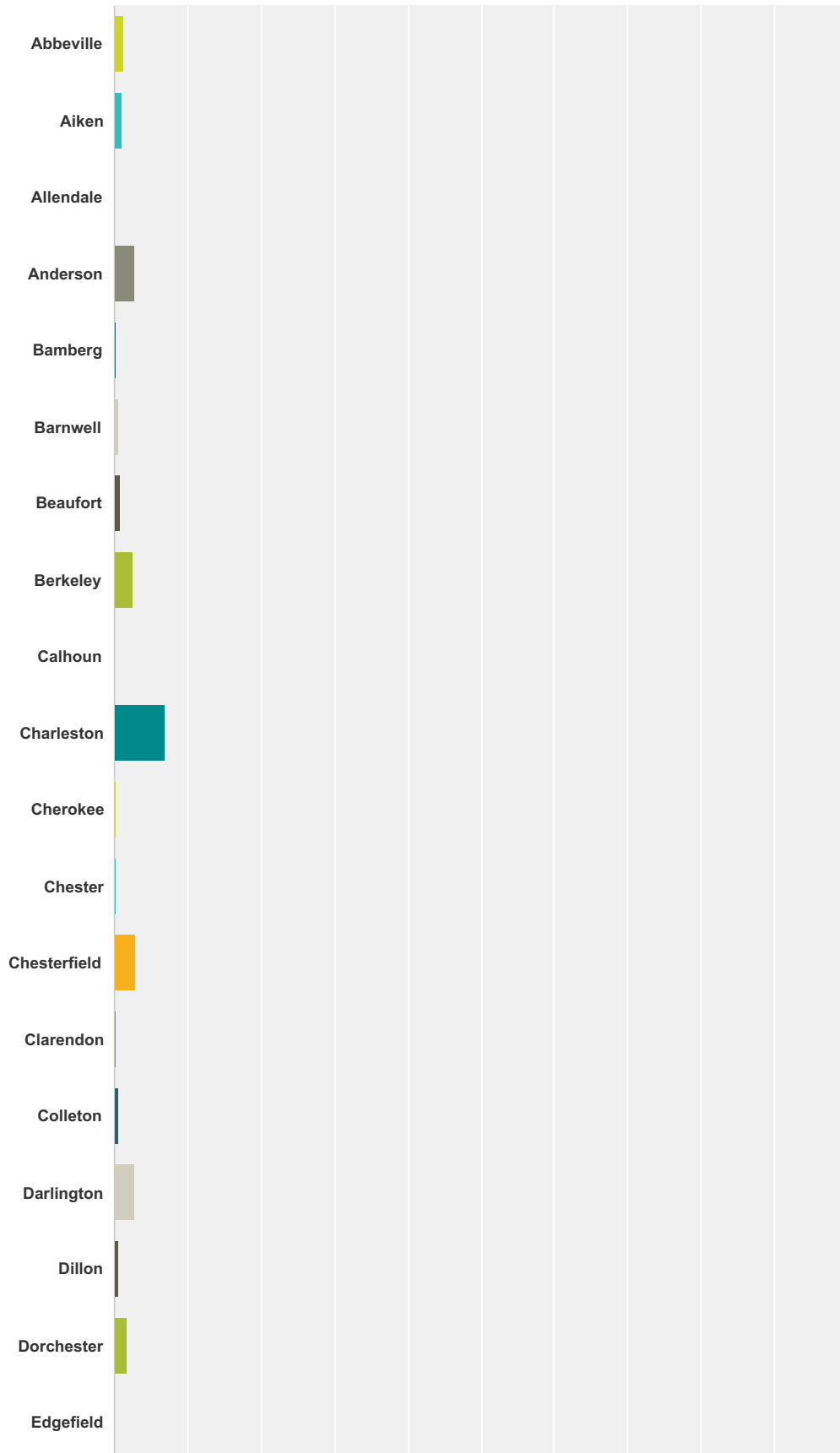
Answered: 450 Skipped: 179



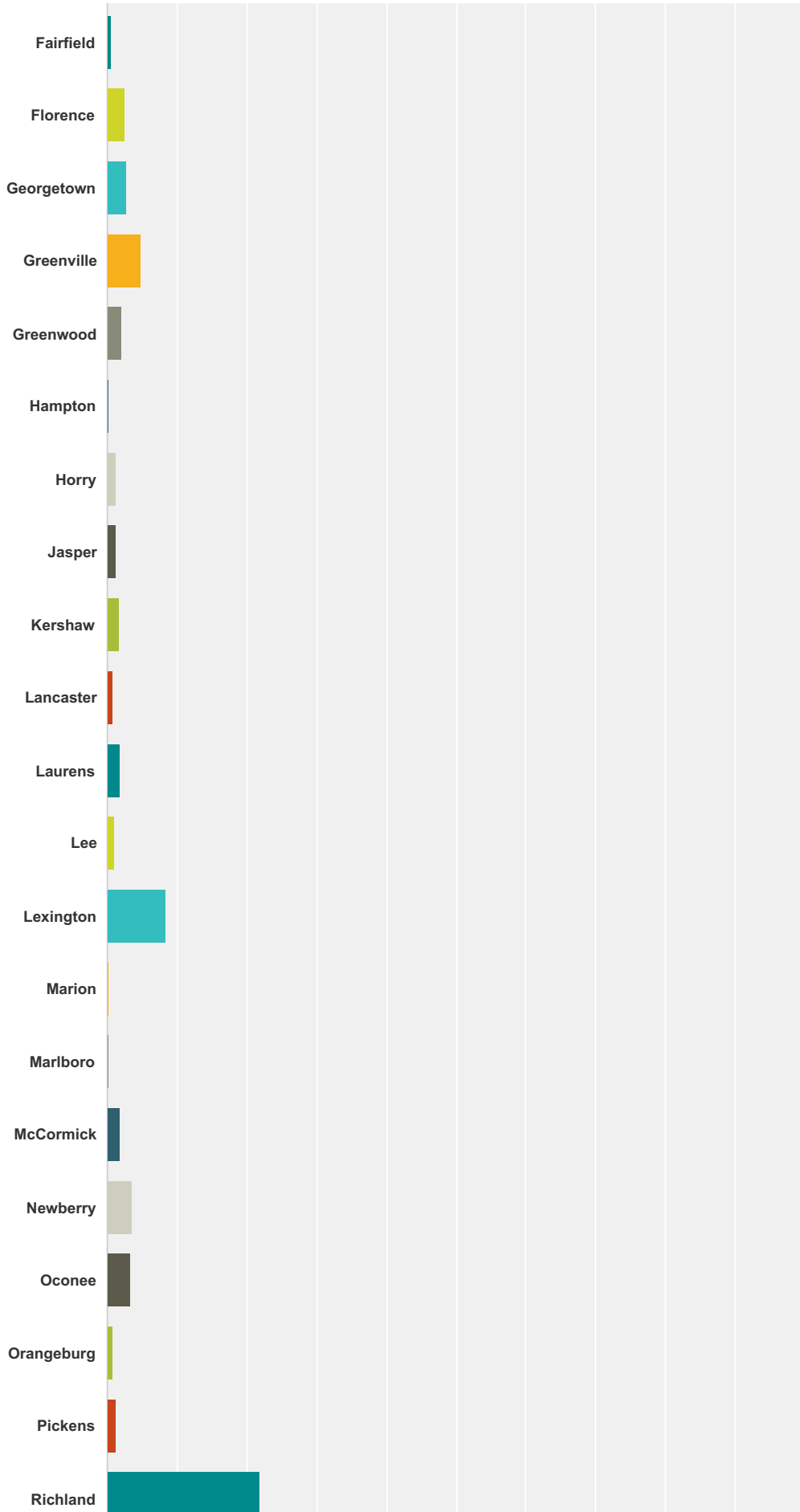
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
South Carolina resident and do not fall into any of the categories below	38.67%	174
State elected official	0.00%	0
State employee	18.89%	85
State employee of an agency under study	12.44%	56
Former State employee	5.33%	24
Former State employee of an agency under study	2.89%	13
Product or service provider or other partner to a State agency	10.67%	48
Product or service provider or other partner of a State agency under study	10.44%	47
Not a South Carolina resident and do not fall into any of the categories above	0.67%	3
Total		450

Q24 In which county do you live?

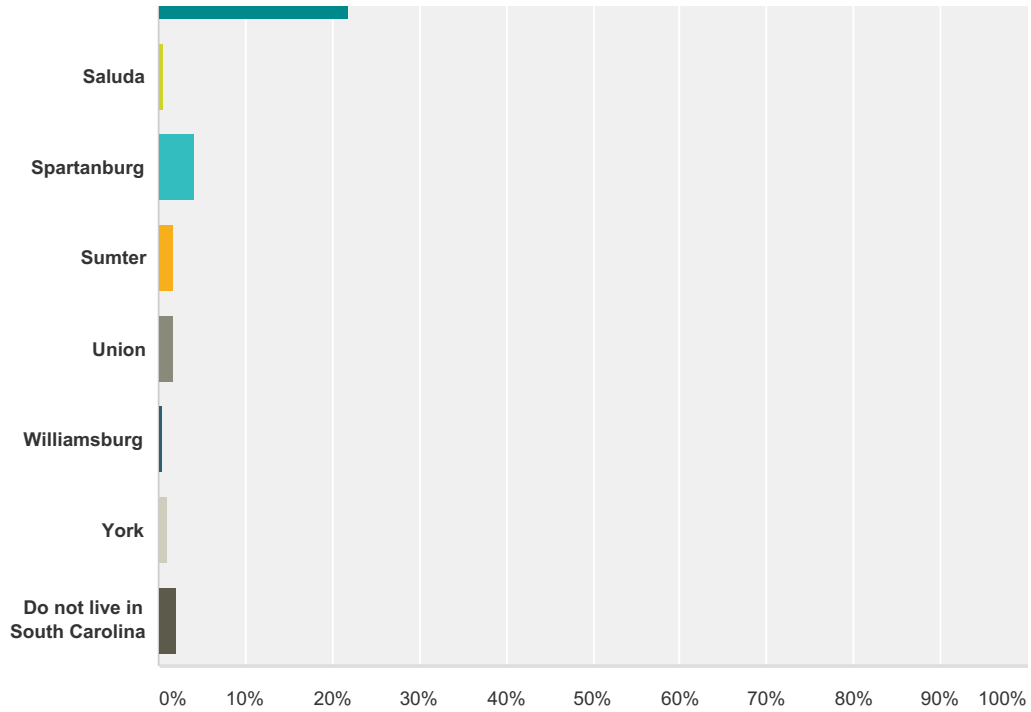
Answered: 444 Skipped: 185



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Answer Choices	Responses	
Abbeville	1.35%	6
Aiken	1.13%	5
Allendale	0.00%	0
Anderson	2.70%	12
Bamberg	0.23%	1
Barnwell	0.68%	3
Beaufort	0.90%	4
Berkeley	2.48%	11
Calhoun	0.00%	0
Charleston	6.98%	31
Cherokee	0.23%	1
Chester	0.23%	1
Chesterfield	2.93%	13
Clarendon	0.23%	1
Colleton	0.68%	3
Darlington	2.70%	12
Dillon	0.68%	3
Dorchester	1.58%	7
Edgefield	0.00%	0

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Fairfield	0.68%	3
Florence	2.48%	11
Georgetown	2.70%	12
Greenville	4.73%	21
Greenwood	2.03%	9
Hampton	0.23%	1
Horry	1.35%	6
Jasper	1.35%	6
Kershaw	1.58%	7
Lancaster	0.90%	4
Laurens	1.80%	8
Lee	1.13%	5
Lexington	8.33%	37
Marion	0.23%	1
Marlboro	0.23%	1
McCormick	1.80%	8
Newberry	3.60%	16
Oconee	3.38%	15
Orangeburg	0.90%	4
Pickens	1.35%	6
Richland	21.85%	97
Saluda	0.68%	3
Spartanburg	4.28%	19
Sumter	1.58%	7
Union	1.58%	7
Williamsburg	0.45%	2
York	1.13%	5
Do not live in South Carolina	2.03%	9
Total		444