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What is Students on the Move

Study looking at how
transportation
impacts the
wellbeing and sense
of community for
Niagara's 30,000
post-secondary
students





Goals

1. To understand how transportation availability and modal options play a role in post-secondary student access to school, work, necessities and recreational activities
2. To understand how transportation experiences impact student well-being
3. To use what we have learned for policy, programs and initiatives that will improve transportation options within the Niagara Region

Partners

- Niagara College, faculty and student union
- Brock University, faculty and student union
- Steering committee

Brock Research ethics board
(file # 18-041), Niagara College
ethics board (file # NC2018-12),
& Niagara Region Public Health
ethics review committee



How we got here

- Between 20 and 40% of the population do not drive or have access to an automobile
- Feedback from municipal partners
- Comments about transit and active transportation facilities being disjointed resulting in lengthy travel
- Past Brock student intern research



2 Transportation Connecting People to Jobs & Services

- Recognize and promote secondary benefits that come with a unified transit system; improved access to health care, improved access to job opportunities across municipalities, reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, improved social engagement and reduction in congestion on major arteries
- Continue with the creation of a comprehensive inter-municipal transit system, integrated with the future GO route
- Ensure current and future transit is accessible, frequent and affordable, routes and schedules matched to needs of users
- Explore transportation alternatives, beyond buses, such as high-speed inter-city rail, ferry services and increasing usage of Niagara's airport



6 Active Transportation

- Promote utilization of active transportation through the creation of a transit supportive community with bike lanes, pathways, and trail networks integrated with public transportation
- Support connectivity between neighbourhoods, schools and workplaces to ensure residents can safely travel to daily destinations using active transportation
- Design future developments with a community planning lens; ensure new developments have sidewalks and community space

10 Quality of Life and Public Safety

- Quality of life is defined by respondents as being connected to their community, having access to housing, and feeling safe
- Respondents feel strongly about creating a sense of belonging for all residents and highlighted the need for inclusivity and empowering diverse populations
- Increase community belonging for residents and tourists through community and cultural events, festivals, supporting the arts, and preserving the cultural history of Niagara
- Police visibility and upstream police interventions to foster a feeling of safety
- Modifications such as lighting, increasing walkability and transit options will make people feel safer and more connected to their community

Status of the project

Complete

January 2018 - March 2018	Develop project steering committee
March 2018 - June 2018	Establish budget
April – July 2018	Develop survey tools and apply for ethics reviews
September 2018 – March 2019	Collect data
November 2018 – May 2019	Clean data and transcription
June 2019 - October 2019	Analyze data and write up final report

Survey tools – comments

- On-line survey –through school e-mail
- Photovoice



Preliminary on-line survey results

gender

1,020 students participated:

- 69.1% female
- 29% male
- 1% prefer not to answer
- 0.9% other

Preliminary on-line survey results... go to school

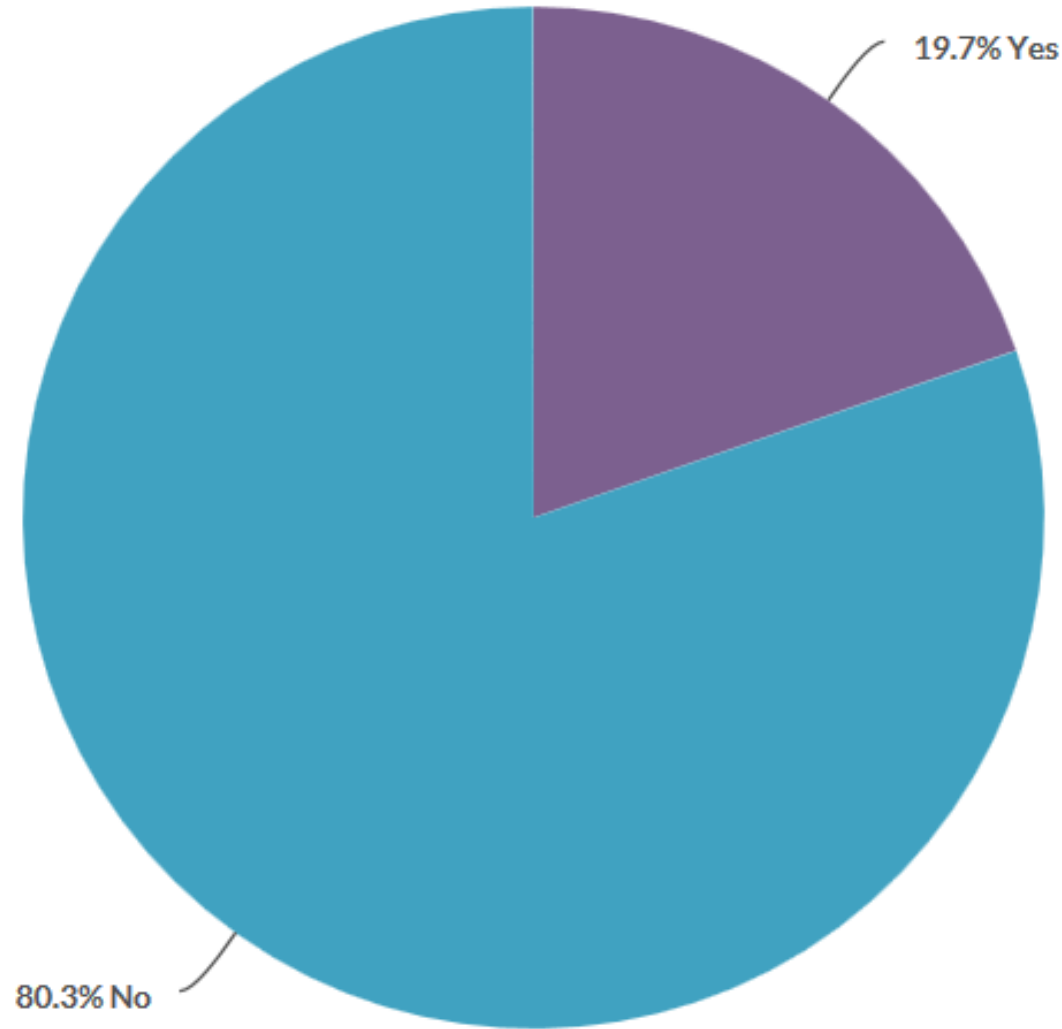


32.1%
NC

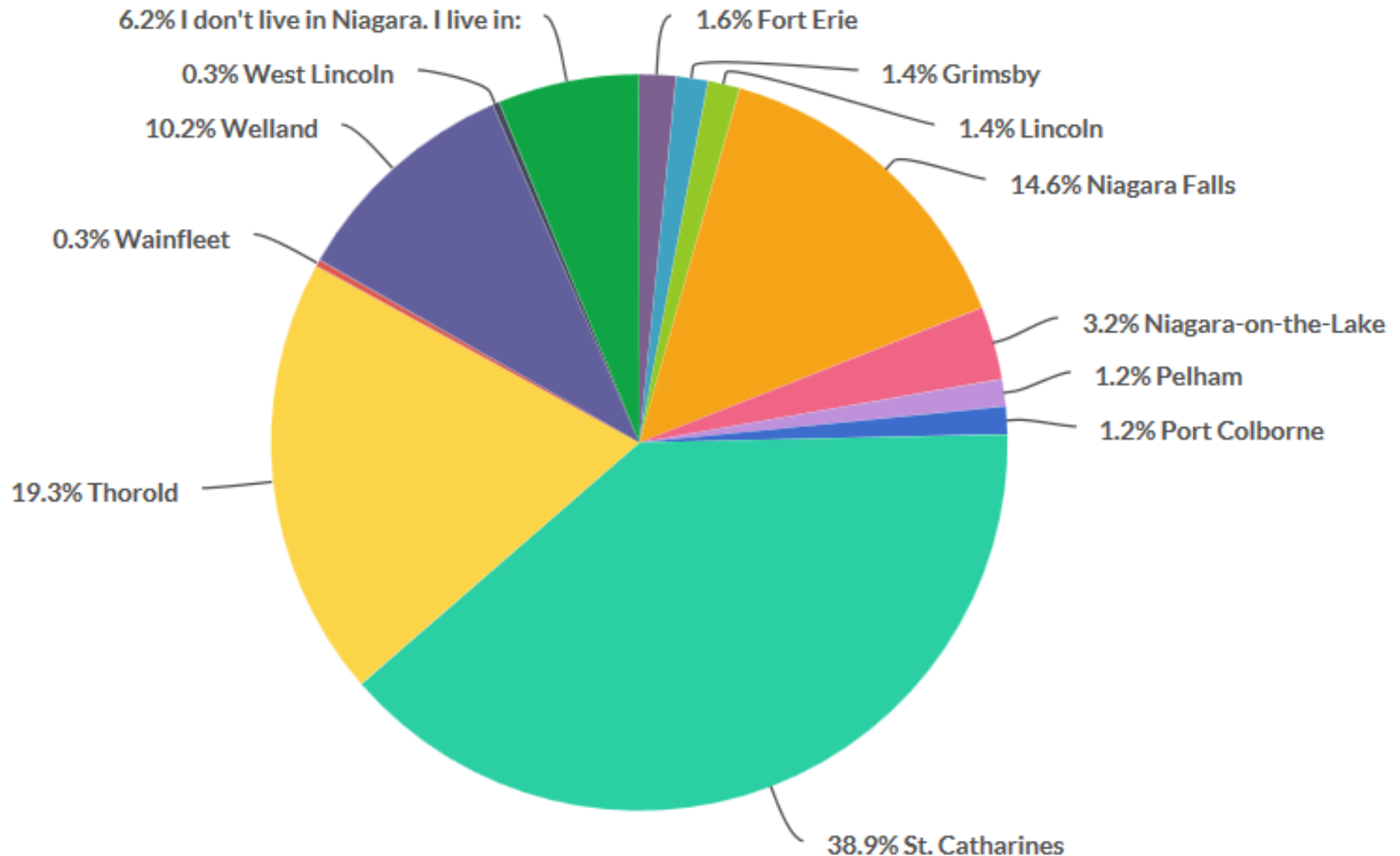
67.8%
BU



Preliminary on-line survey results... (non)international students

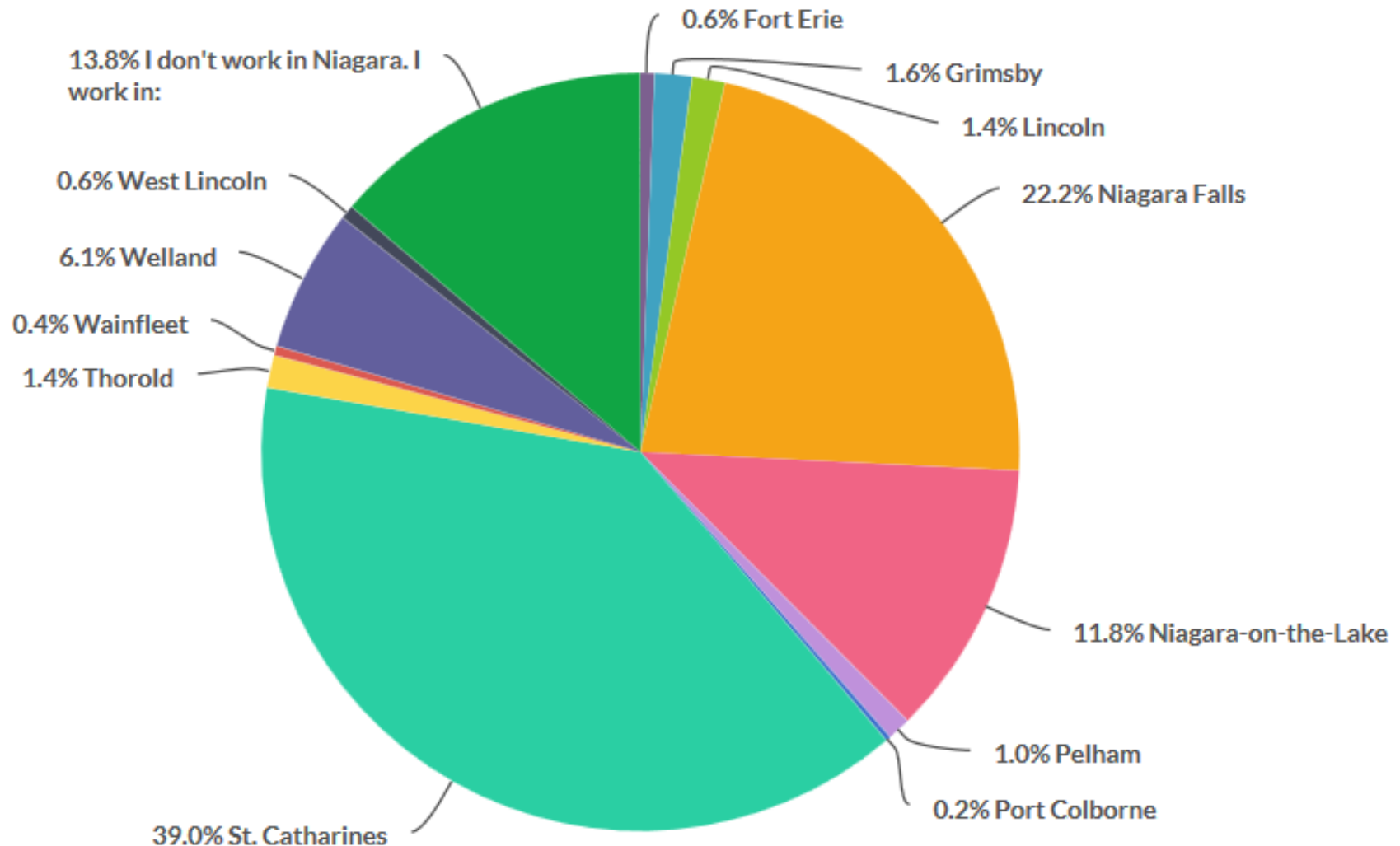


Preliminary on-line survey results... municipality students live in while in school



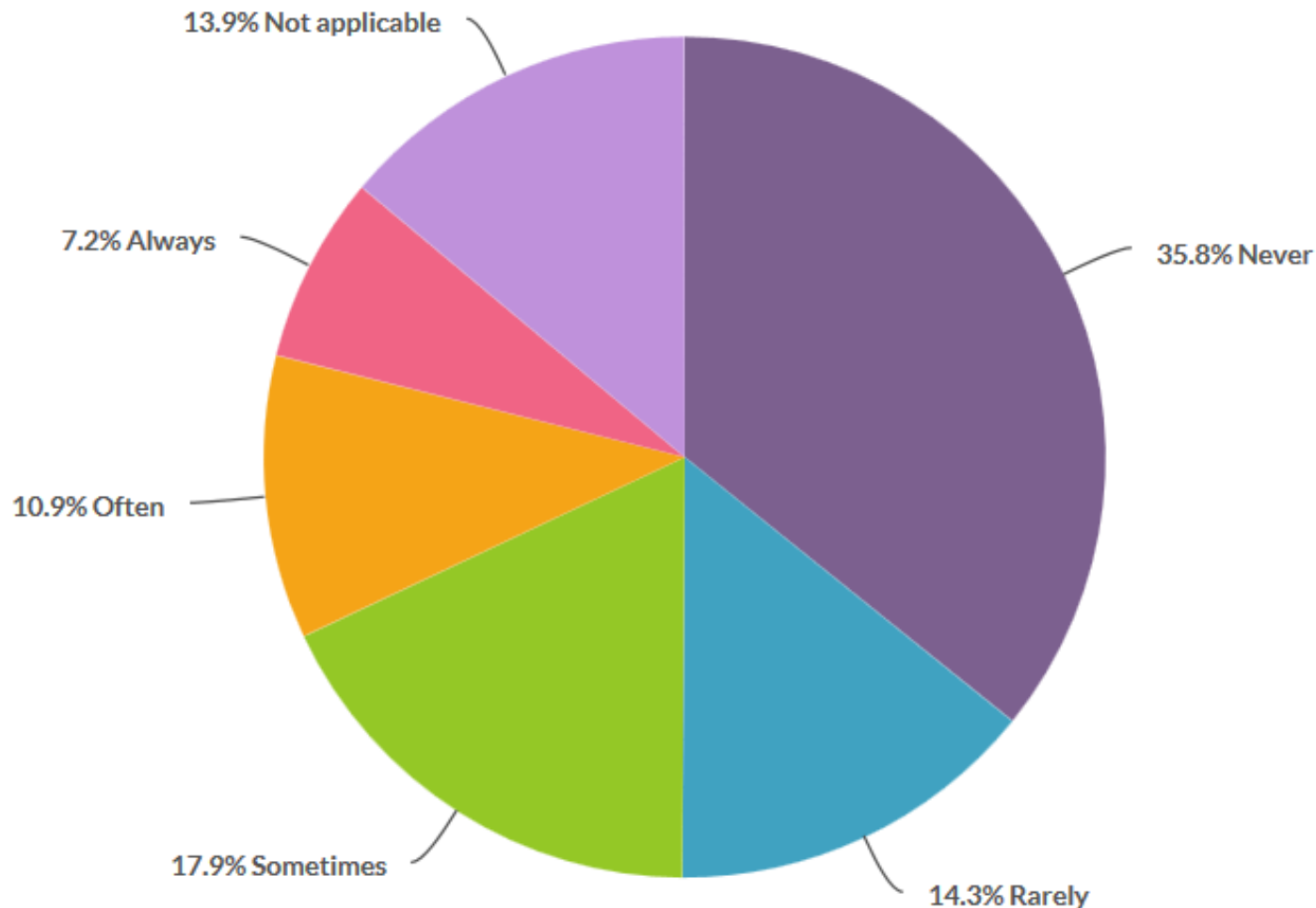
Preliminary on-line survey results...

municipality of paid employment



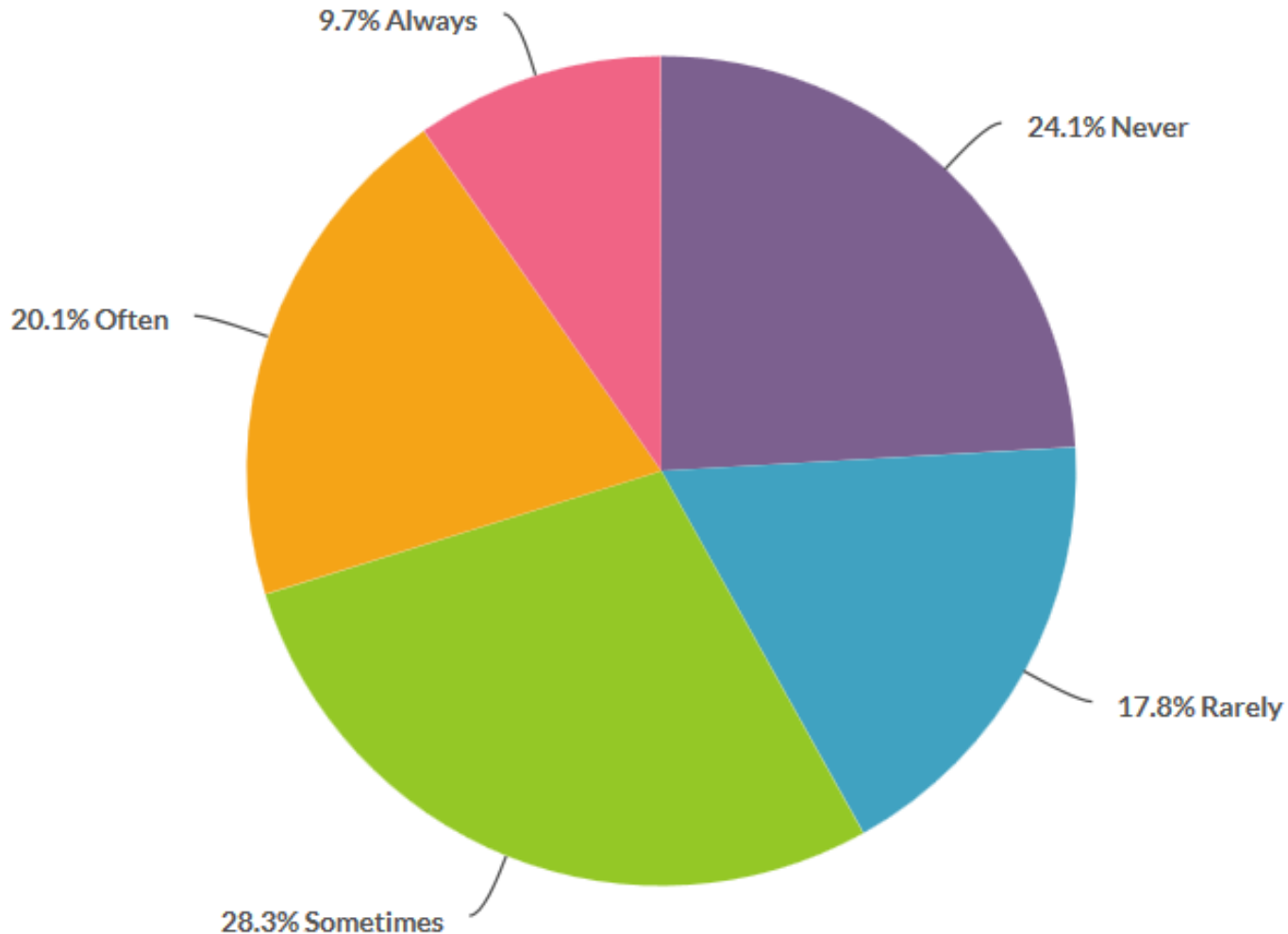
Preliminary on-line survey results...

means of transportation negatively impact your ability to access employment



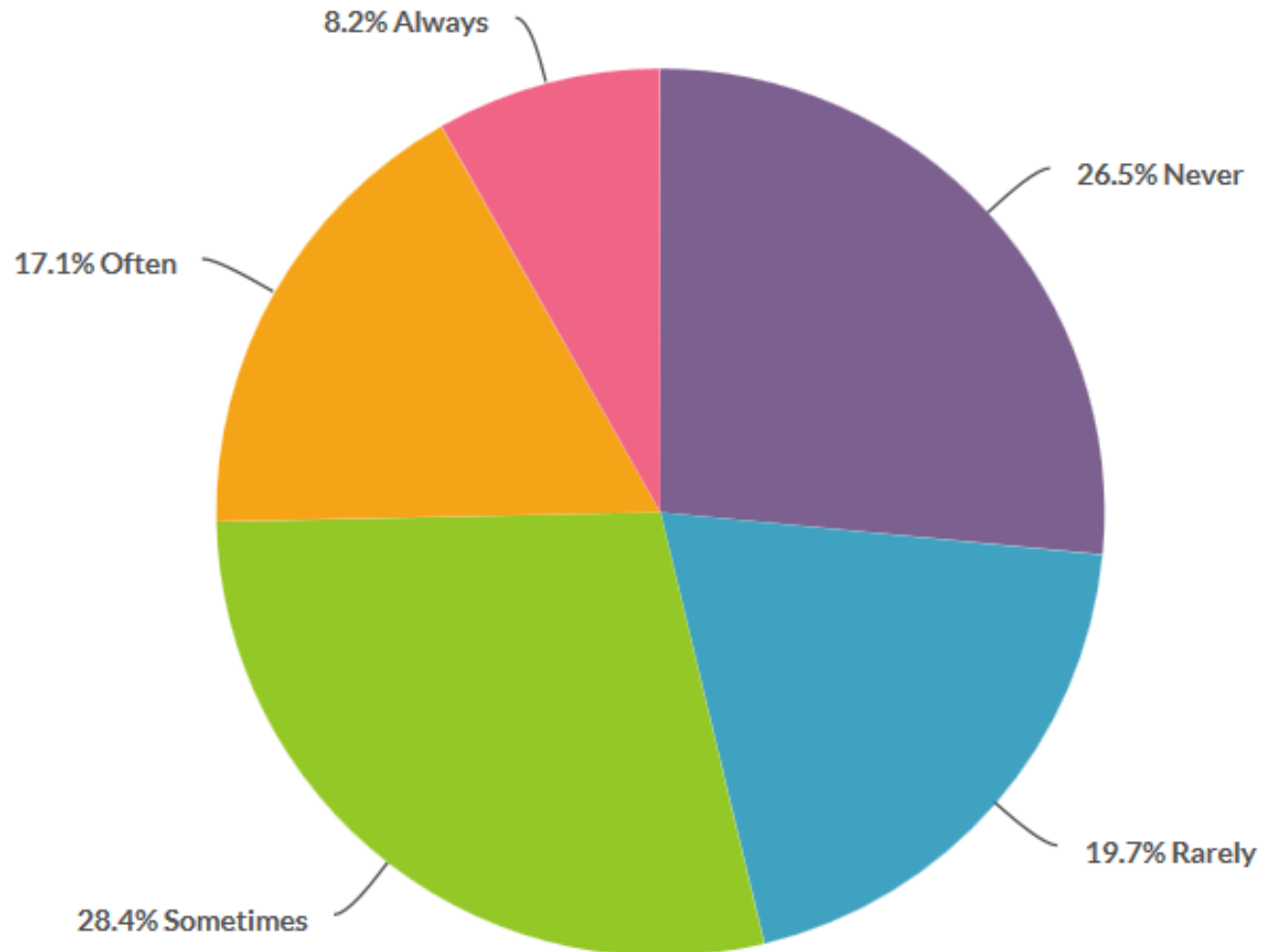
Preliminary on-line survey results...

means of travelling negatively impact your ability to participate in events outside of the campus



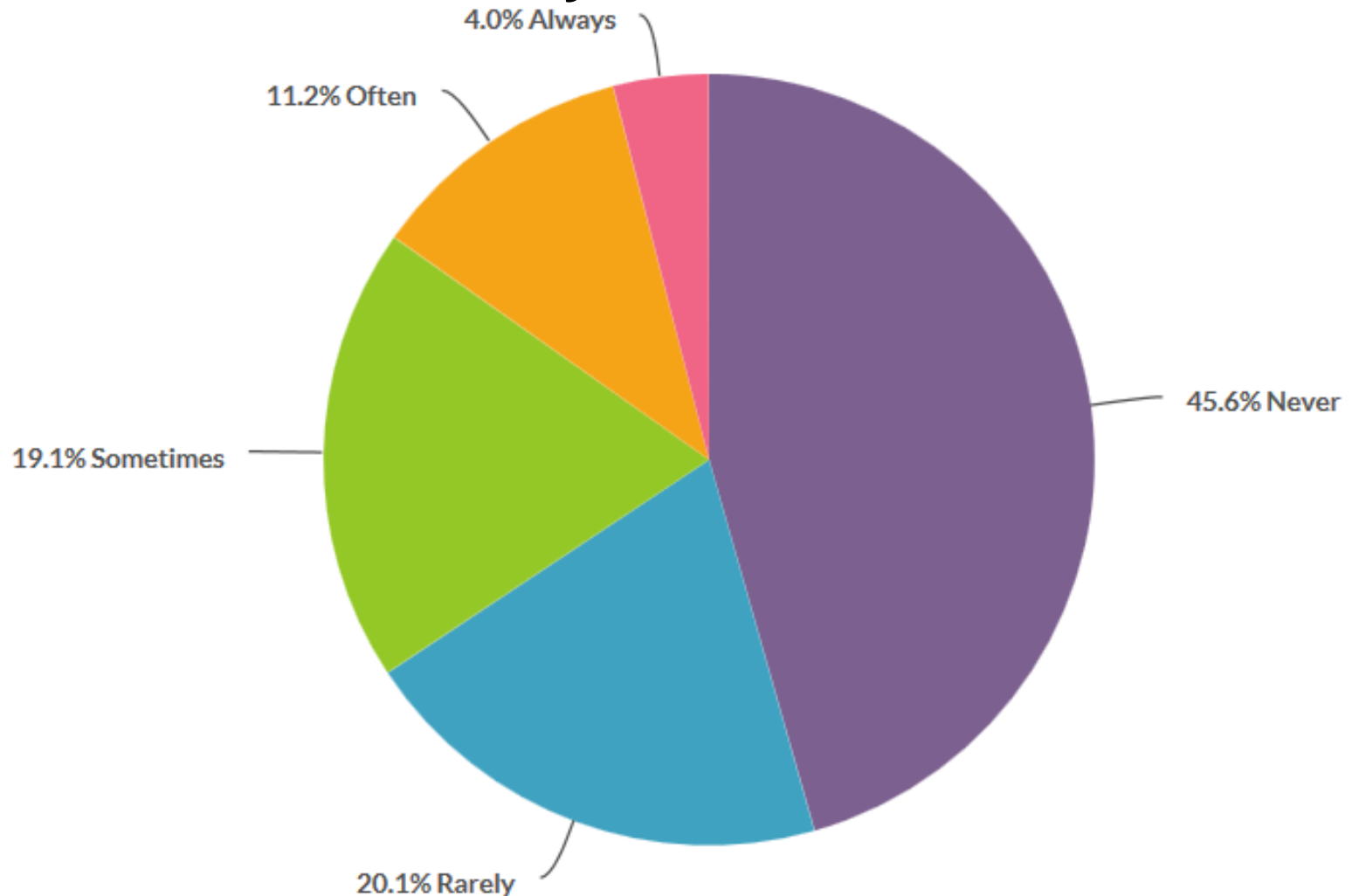
Preliminary on-line survey results...

means of travelling negatively impact your ability to participate in campus events

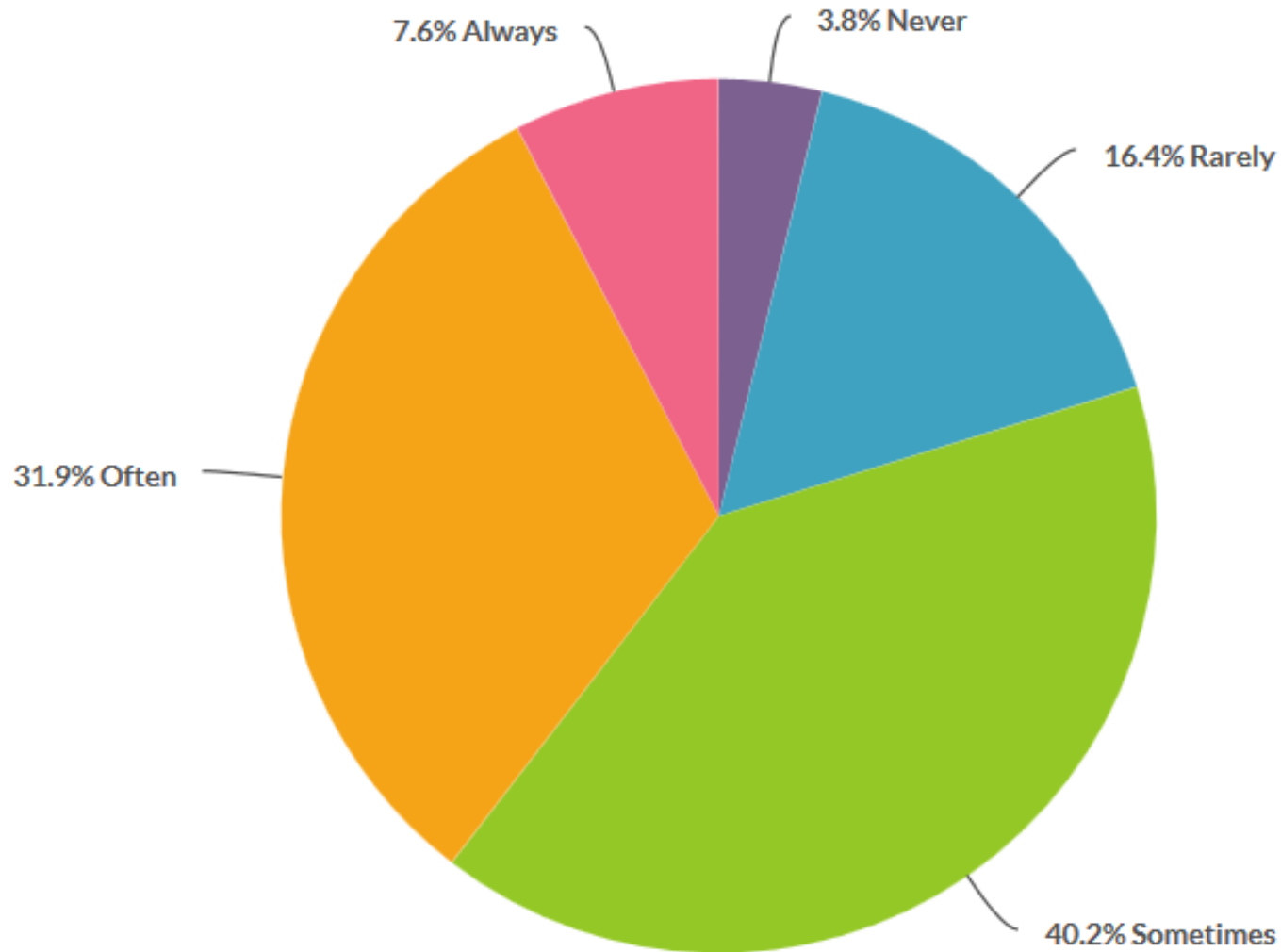


Preliminary on-line survey results...

means of transportation negatively impact your ability to access food

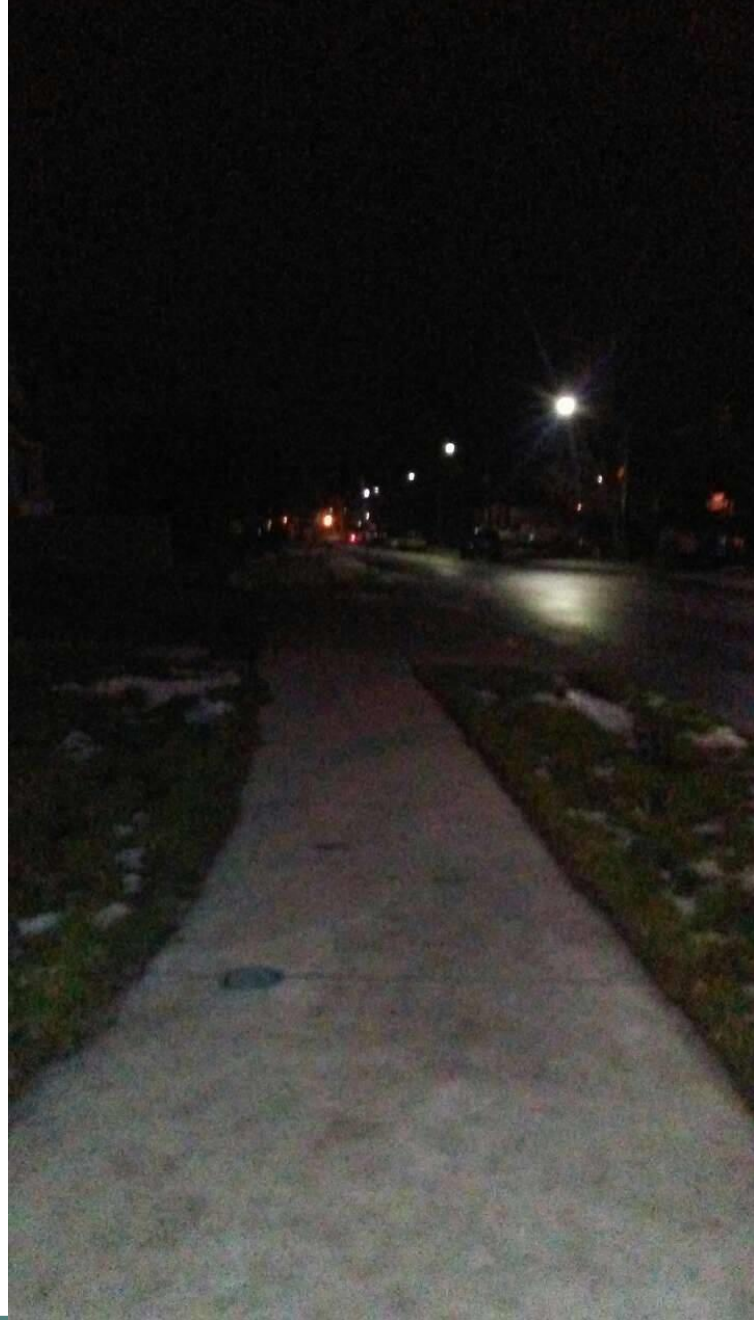


Preliminary on-line survey results... accepted and valued in the community



Photovoice

Walking alone at night
Dorothy Street, Welland



Photovoice



Taking the bus between municipalities - Barrick and West Side street flag stop

Photovoice



Needing to change modes of transportation

Photovoice

*If he can
do it I can
too!*



Photovoice



Driving the 406 in the dark

Photovoice

*No bus
service on
Sundays*



Photovoice

Wayfinding and maps



Next steps

- Complete data cleaning for on-line survey and travel logs and begin analysis
- Current on-line survey started at Brock and Niagara College – closes April 15
- Currently conducting photovoice interviews
- It is anticipated that there will be results to share in the fall of 2019



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