

# 2024 Swan Valley Survey Report



CITY OF SWAN VALLEY

Updated: June 7th 2024



**CITY OF SWAN VALLEY, IDAHO**



# 2024 Swan Valley Survey Report

## Foreword

Dear Residents,

This report is the result of the survey that was recently sent to each citizen of Swan Valley, Irwin, as well as county addresses within the valley. It is my hope that with this data, we can better represent our citizens by making decisions based on your feedback and not simply from our own opinions.

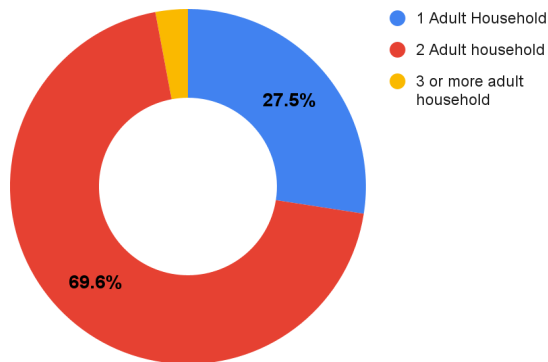
This data has been made publicly available for all residents - without disclosing any specific names. We would encourage its reference and utilization for not only city officials, but also citizens and businesses that operate within the valley.

Cameron Manwaring  
Mayor - Swan Valley

# Swan Valley Results

A total of 102 surveys from Swan Valley residents were submitted.

## 1. Adults per household

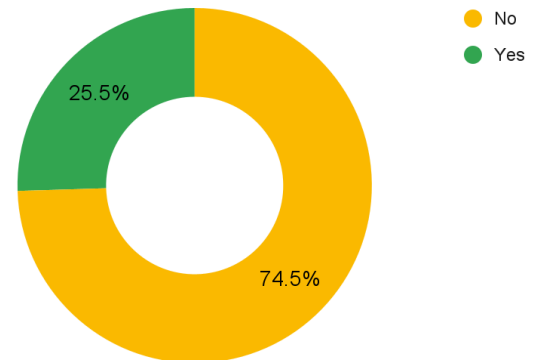


28 out of 102 respondents are the only adult in the household

71 out of 102 respondents are 2 adults in the household

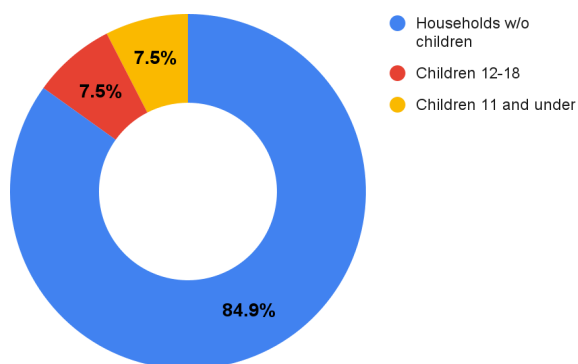
3 out of 102 respondents are 3+ adults in the household

## 3. Ancestors who lived in Swan Valley



26 out of 102 respondents have ancestors who lived in Swan Valley

## 2. Children the age of 12-18, and 11 and under

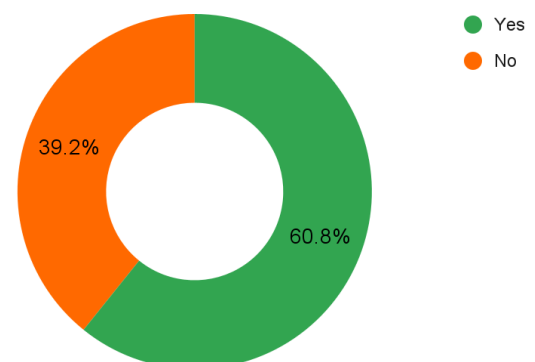


8 out of 102 respondents have children 11 and under

8 out of 102 respondents have children between the age of 12 and 18.

4 out of 102 respondents have children between the age of 12 and 18 as well as children 11 and under.

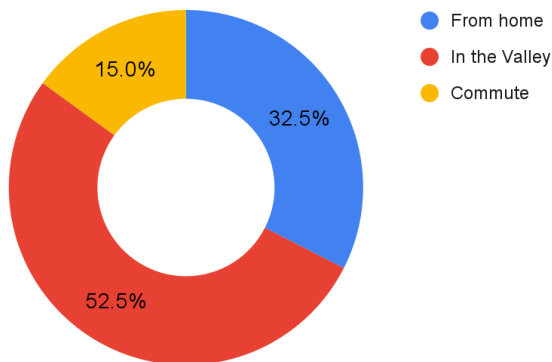
## 4. Retired vs Non-retired



62 out of 102 respondents are retired

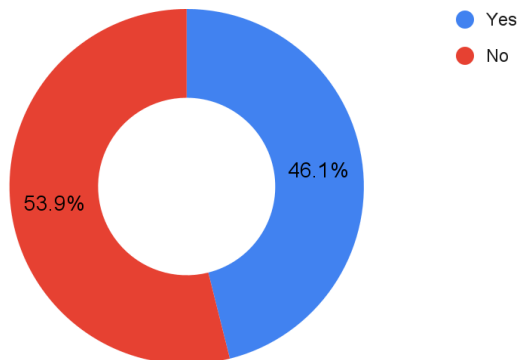
40 out of 102 respondents are not retired

**5. If not retired, which of the following is most true in regards to where you work?**



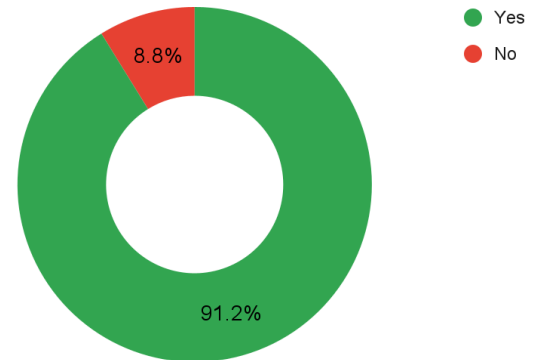
**21 out of 40** workers work in the valley  
**13 out of 40** workers work from home  
**6 out of 40** workers commute to work

**6. Do you live within an HOA**



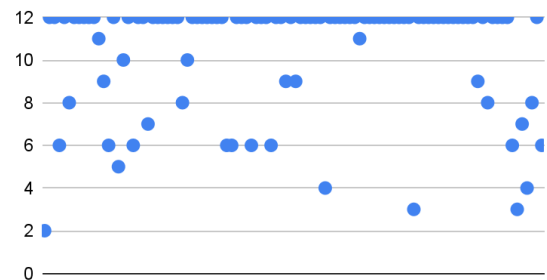
**47 out of 102** respondents live within an HOA  
**55 out of 102** respondents does NOT live within an HOA

**7. Do you intend to stay in the valley for the rest of your life?**



**93 out of 102** respondents intend to stay in the valley for the rest of their life.  
**9 out of 102** respondents do NOT intend to stay in the valley for the rest of their life.

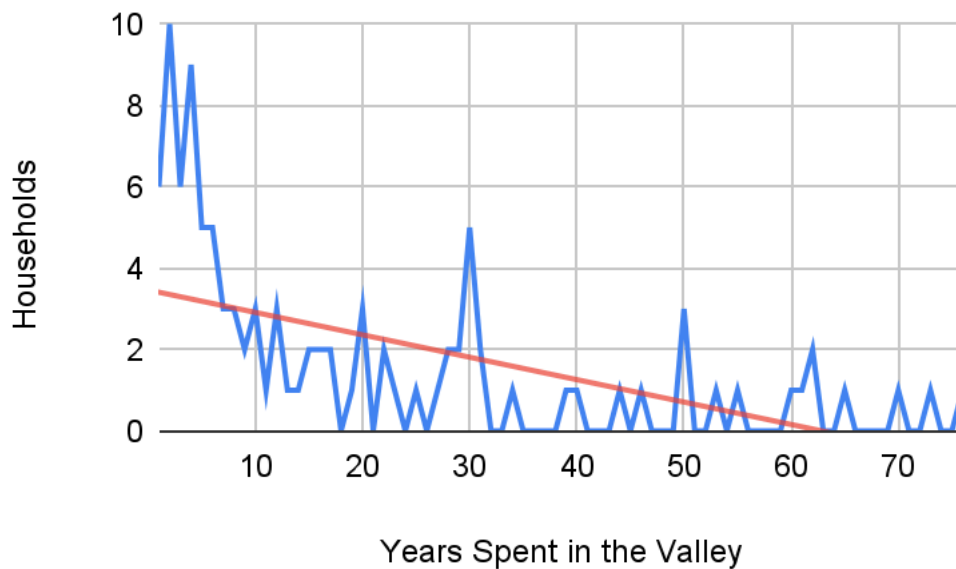
**8. Average amount of months spent in the valley per year**



On average, how many months of the year do you spend in the valley?

**71.57%** of respondents live 12 months of the year in the valley  
**7.84%** of respondents live 9-11 months/year in the valley  
**10.78%** of respondents live 6-8 months/year in the valley  
**4.90%** of respondents live 3-5 months/year in the valley  
**4.90%** of respondents live 2 months or less /year in the valley

## 9. Total years lived in Swan Valley



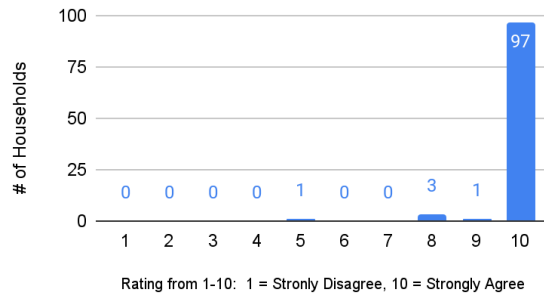
Looking at the graph, it is easy to see that our valley has experienced more growth over the last 5 years, than in the last 50 years prior. The number of years spent in the valley by households is a reflection of the current growth of the city and influx of new residents over the last few years.

Years spent in the valley	# of households	% of total respondents
Less than 5 years	31	30.39%
5-9 years	18	17.65%
10-19 years	16	15.69%
20-29 years	12	11.76%
30-39 years	9	8.82%
40-49 years	3	2.94%
50+ years	13	12.75%

The following section presents a series of questions in which residents were asked to express their level of agreement on a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 indicates 'Strongly Disagree' and 10 signifies 'Strongly Agree'.

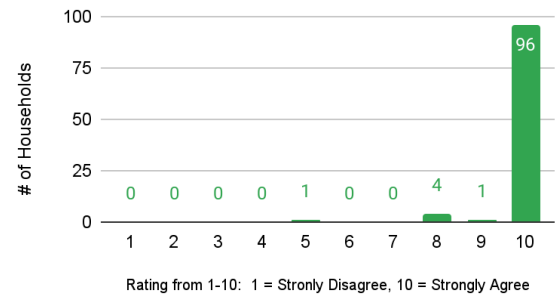
#### 10. I value being surrounded by nature

I value being surrounded by nature.



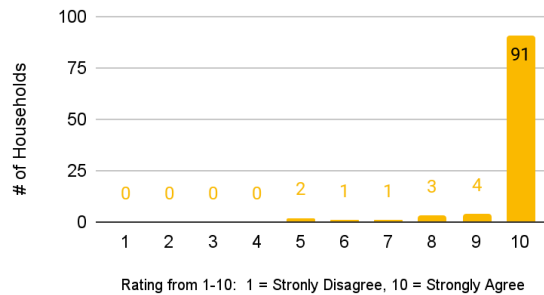
#### 12. I value being close to wildlife and seeing wildlife regularly

I value being close to wildlife and seeing wildlife regularly.



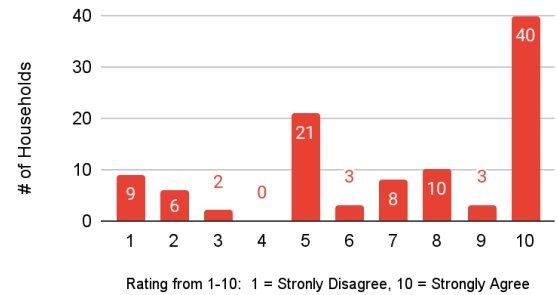
#### 11. I value easy access to national forests and public land

I value easy access to national forests and public land.

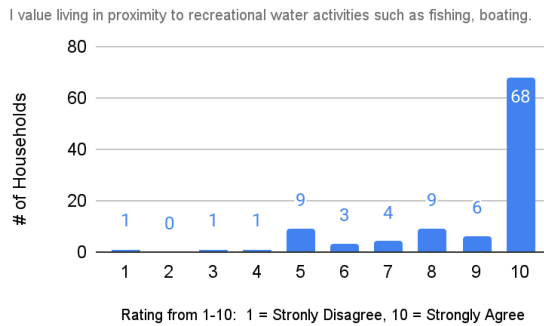


#### 13. I value overnight recreation such as camping (tent, camper, RV)

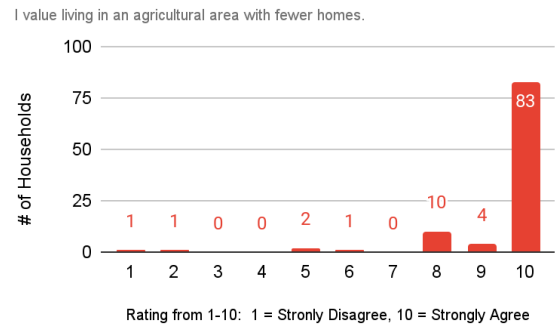
I value overnight recreation such as camping (tent, camper, RV).



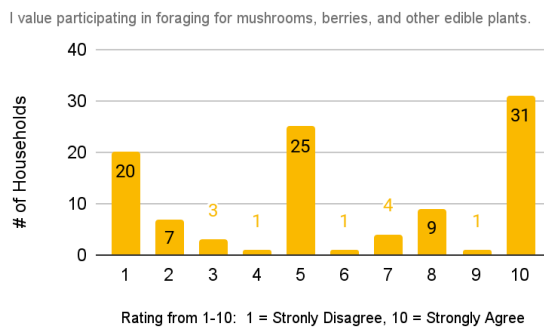
**14. I value living in proximity to recreational water activities such as fishing, boating.**



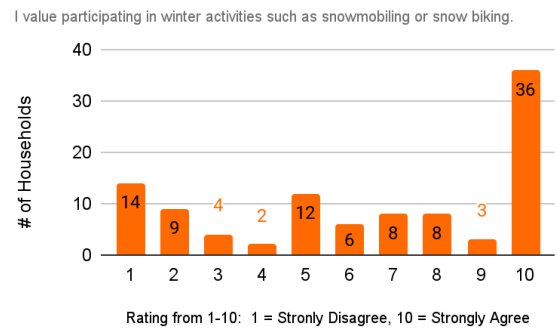
**17. I value living in an agricultural area with fewer homes.**



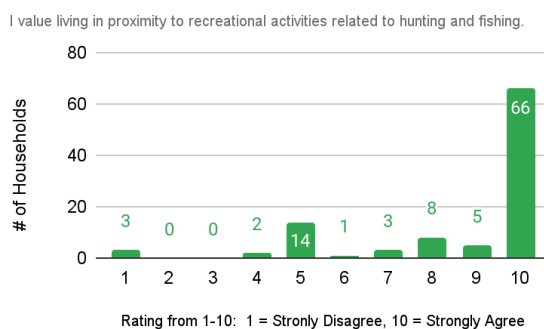
**15. I value participating in foraging for mushrooms, berries, and other edible plants.**



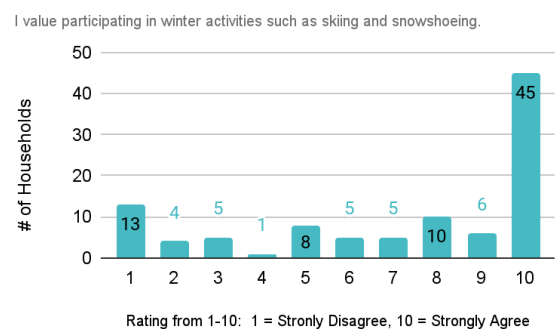
**18. I value participating in winter activities such as snowmobiling or snow biking.**



**16. I value living in proximity to recreational activities related to hunting and fishing.**

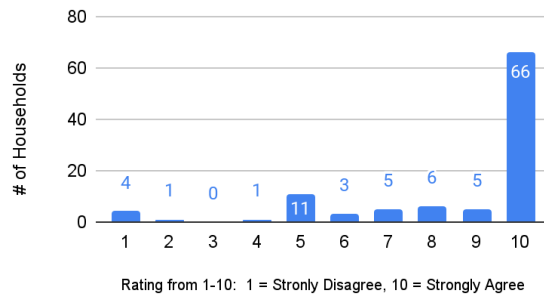


**19. I value participating in winter activities such as skiing and snowshoeing.**



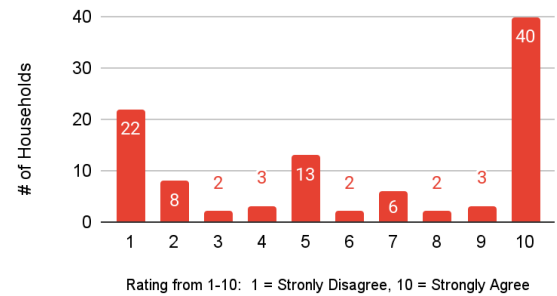
## 20. I value living close to a variety of hiking trails

I value living close to a variety of hiking trails.



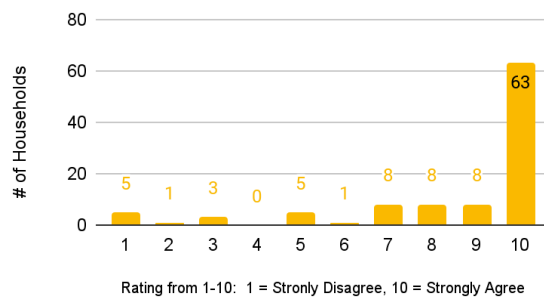
## 23. I value participating in horseback riding and other equestrian activities

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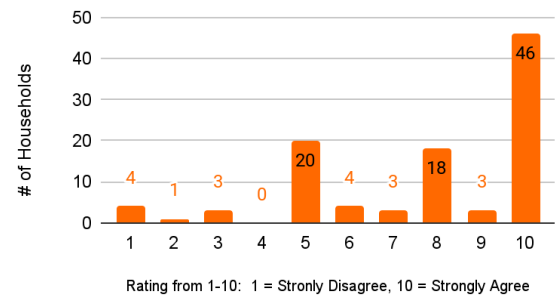
## 21. I value participating in walking and/or running for leisure or exercise

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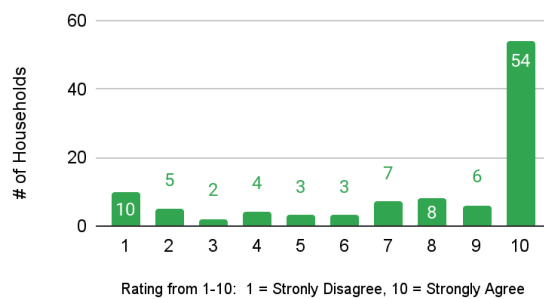
## 24. I value opportunities to serve and contribute to my community

I value opportunities to serve and contribute to my community.



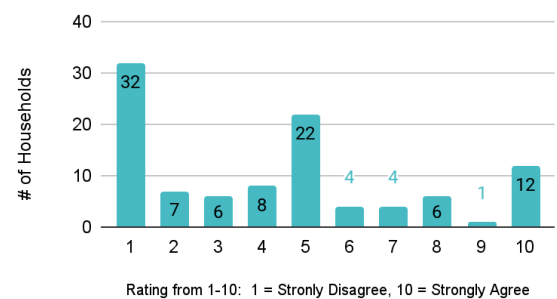
## 22. I value having access to ATV and off road trails/roads

I value having access to ATV and off road trails/roads.



## 25. I value having a large selection of businesses and professional services in my city

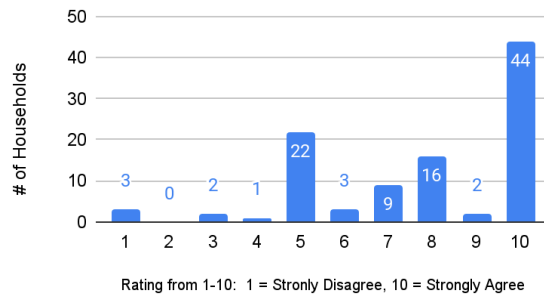
I value having a large selection of businesses and professional services in my city.





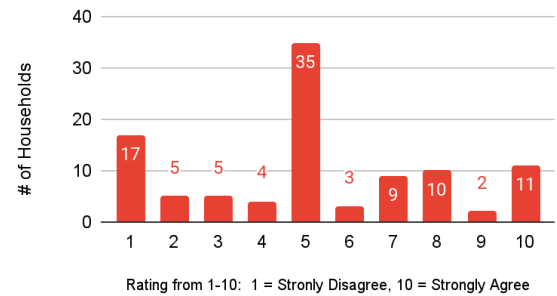
## 26. I value knowing and interacting with my neighbors

I value knowing and interacting with my neighbors.



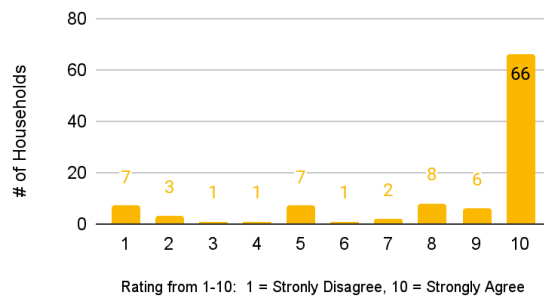
## 29. I value my city government and regularly attend public meetings

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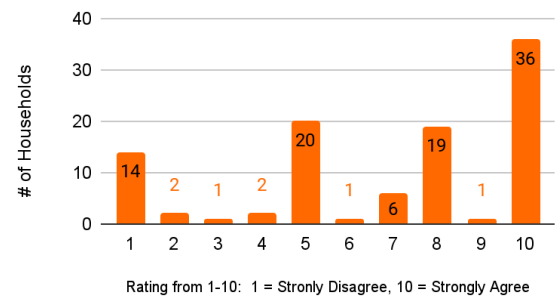
## 27. I value a strong educational system for youth within my community

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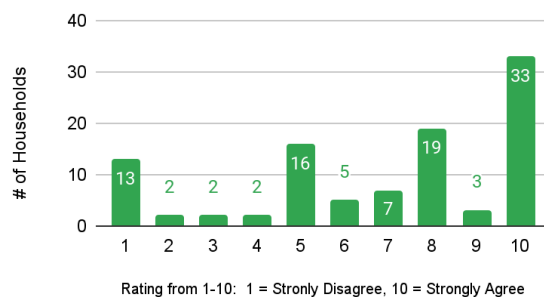
## 30. I value having my voice heard in my community

I value having my voice heard in my community.



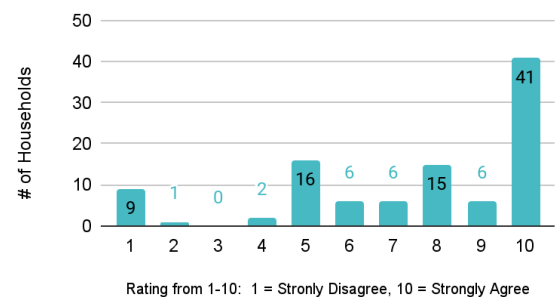
## 28. I value having access to medical facilities and medical care

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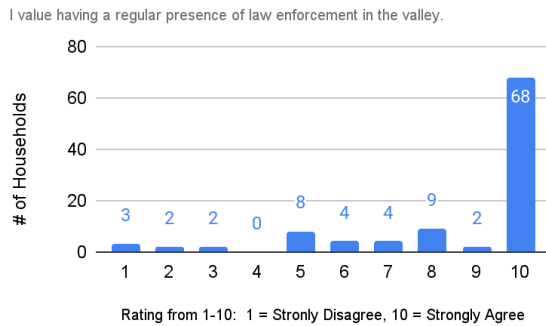


## 31. I value community activities and events

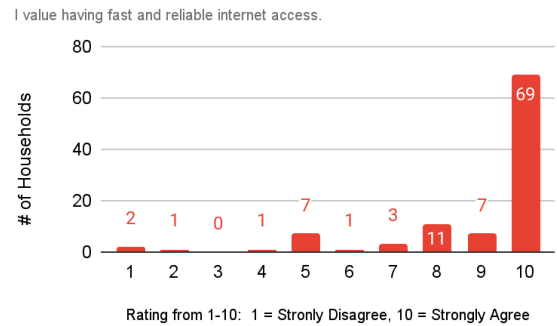
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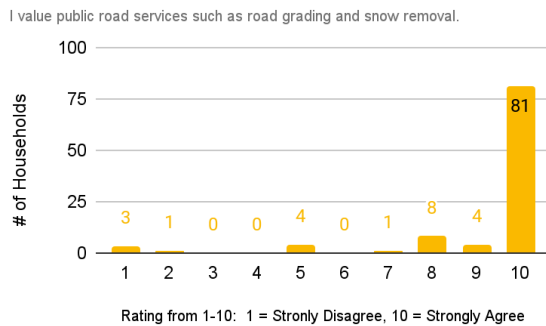
**32. I value having a regular presence of law enforcement in the valley.**



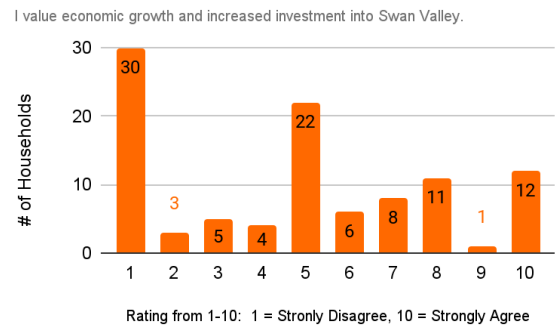
**35. I value having fast and reliable internet access.**



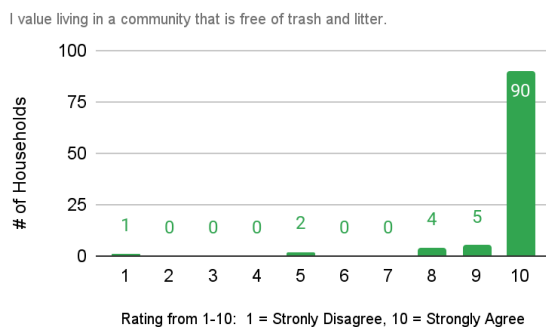
**33. I value public road services such as road grading and snow removal.**



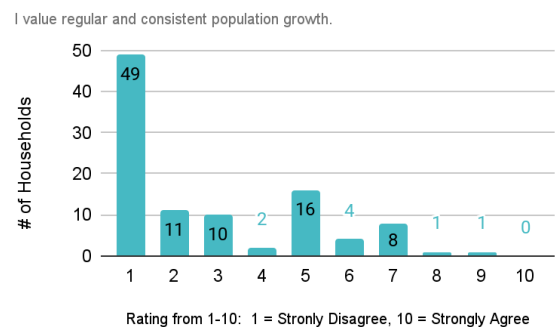
**36. I value economic growth and increased investment into Swan Valley.**



**34. I value living in a community that is free of trash and litter.**

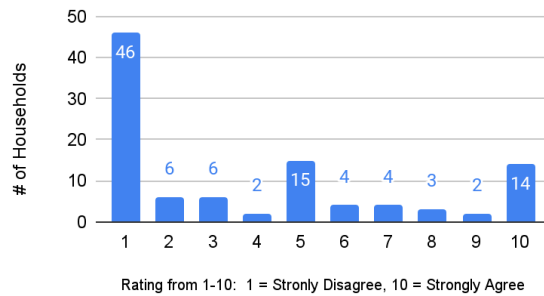


**37. I value regular and consistent population growth.**



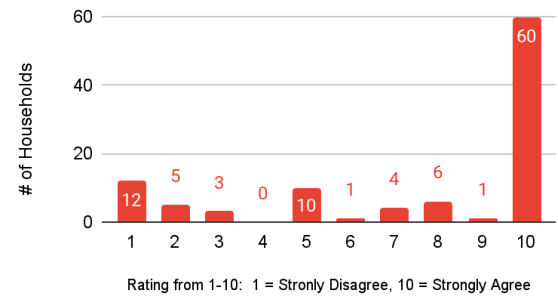
### 38. I value subdivisions with strict covenants and regulations.

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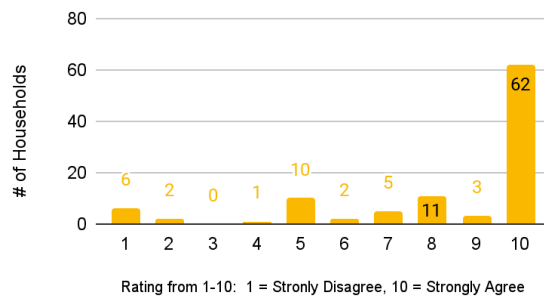
### 41. I value the ability to raise my own animals.

I value the ability to raise my own animals.



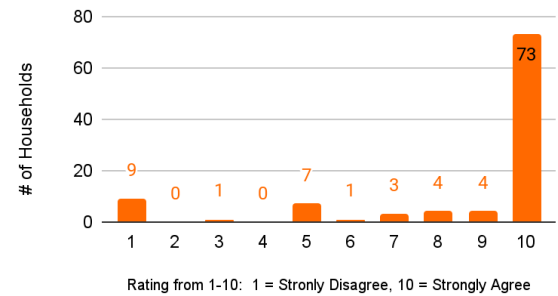
### 39. I value the ability to have a garden and grow my own food.

I value the ability to have a garden and grow my own food.



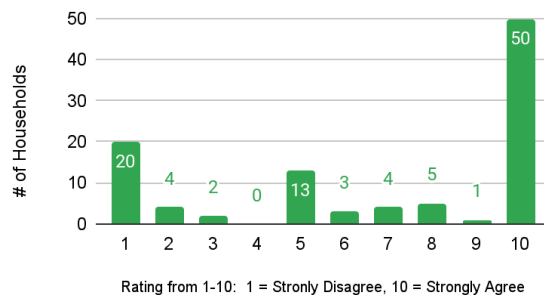
### 42. I value living in a community that takes care of their homes and landscapes.

I value living in a community that takes care of their homes and landscapes.



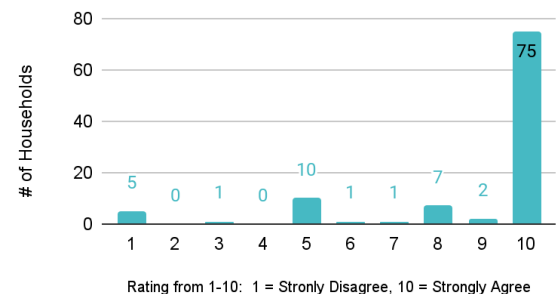
### 40. I value having a church or place of worship that I can attend regularly.

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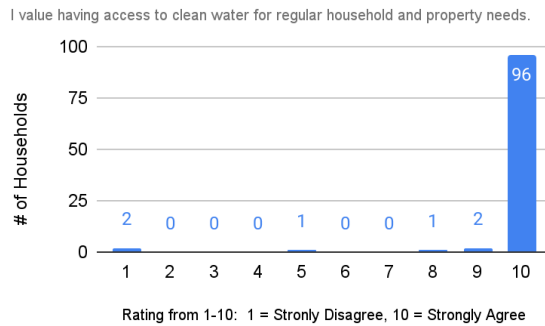


### 43. I value pet ownership.

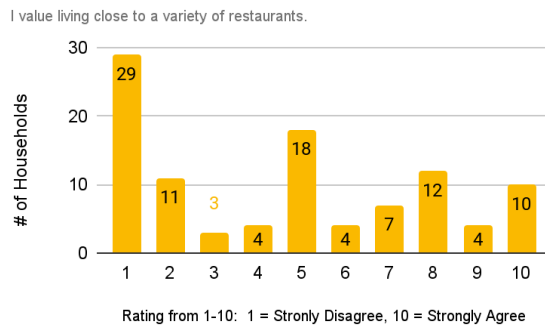
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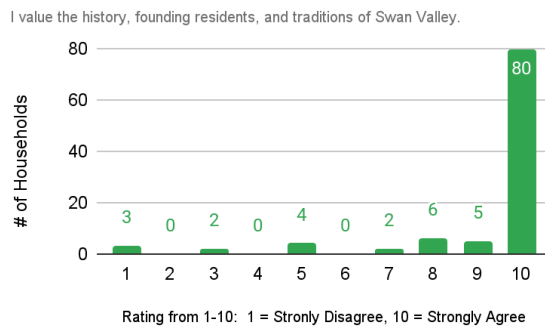
**44. I value having access to clean water for regular household and property needs.**



**45. I value living close to a variety of restaurants.**



**46. I value the history, founding residents, and traditions of Swan Valley.**



## Direct quotes from Swan Valley, Irwin and County Address residents to why they live in/ chose to move to the Valley.

- Outdoor activities. Beauty of the area
- We love living in a rural community with an opportunity to raise animals, grow food, and eat from local farms. It was luck that we ended up in Swan Valley, but we don't ever want to leave.
- It's our favorite place in the world. We love the scenery and the people. We wake up every morning grateful to live here.
- Family in the valley. Recreational outdoor opportunities. It's Gorgeous.
- Fishing, hunting, open space, hiking, skiing, and to run dogs.
- River
- Higher humidity than northern nevada. beautiful scenery and a sense of calmness when we saw the area. My husband has been an avid hunter in Idaho for 40 years.
- For the beauty, the community and nature.
- Absolutely beautiful scenery every day I wake up. Semi secluded from others. Very peaceful.
- Bought property to move from political/unfavorable location and built on property.
- Family
- River, mountains, proximity to Grand Targhee, Jackson
- Peach and quiet
- Location to Jackson/Driggs
- Chose after living in Jackson Hole for 30 years.
- Over the past 50 years I spent many summers and winters in Wilson WY and in Swan Valley - I love the mountains and the sparsely populated valley.
- I have been in this area since 1971
- My husband grew up here and always wanted to move back. After 30 years of our marriage his mother passed away and we moved into her home in 1998.
- Moved here after retirement. Own a business and ranch.
- Love the mountains and graduated from Jackson Hole so familiar with the area
- Beautiful valley, small community, enjoy fly fishing.
- Wanted out of the city where crime and drugs were growing. Wanted a small rural community where people look after each other - also bought a condemned building and started a small business.
- Love the area. originally came and got a job at Palisades power plant.
- Work
- Fished here as a youth and thought it might be heaven.
- Being from IF, swan valley was always part of our family from hunting to boating and fishing, etc. Our favorite place to recreate. Know many folks in the valley that we have known for many years. We will always have our place in Swan Valley.
- It is where I grew up and I love it here.
- Owned ground 45 years.
- Grew up here
- Love the country life. Fishing, floating the river, wildlife, low population
- It's a beautiful place but were moving- too remote
- My first husband's new job. His mother lived here.
- Wanted to be close to the tetons. Land was in the perfect location.
- Born and Raised
- Born and raised here. took over running the family farm when father was killed in an accident.
- I spent many summers here fishing and hunting with my dad and decided this is where i wanted to be
- For the slow pace and lack of people. rivers and streams and lake for fly fishing and boating
- My career with National Forest brought me here. We farmed on my father in law property till they sold it. I retired here.
- Small Town. Outdoor Activities
- Small town, friendly people, beautiful mountains, valleys, rivers, and lakes.
- Husband from Swan Valley
- Work, outdoor lifestyle
- Mountain views and low population, low crime



- The quiet beauty, outdoor opportunities, friends
- I grew up playing on the palisades. Fishing and hiking in the valley. Grandparents owned property above palisades since 1970
- Ranch
- We moved back to the valley because Dusty loved growing up here. We have family here. small school and jacobson history. hunting and Dirt biking and snowmobiling.
- Yes when retired
- Initial stop to review the area
- I wanted to be away from close neighbors and closer to the wildlife and mountains.
- Summer / winter outdoor activities
- Old friends who live here
- was affordable at the time
- Was born and raised on the same ground. my mothers family here
- Away from the city, better environment for raising kids
- Husband used to come hunting here with a friend and moved here because of the beautiful area and clean living.
- Own property, fond memories of past and present, want to share ownership of property with my posterity.
- Wanted a more conservative lifestyle, a non woke school for our kids and a cheaper cost of living.
- We believe the lord brought us - we had never heard of swan valley and wanted to live in a less expensive place and my husband retired in 2016 from the fire department in Oregon and wanted a conservative community away from liberals that are ruining everything for our community.
- Parents purchased land in the 1980s. Raised cows and horses and enjoyed their children. parents passed away - presently selling property.
- Cheap land in 2008
- I was born and raised in the Swan Valley. Our grandparents and parents lived here. We were happy to raise a family here.
- Close to water, the small community
- Less people, farming and ranching is accepted. beautiful location. We enjoy nature and fishing.
- We moved here because I was born here and own a ranch and business. We moved from California where the politicians have taken one of the most beautiful states and turned into an unsafe cesspool. I hope people moving here are not bringing those ideas with them.
- Have been coming here for over 30 years and fell in love with the people, politics, scenery, and solitude.
- Got hit by a train
- Low population, views, no multi family complexes
- Cost of living, moved from victor. Work in alpine
- To escape the growing city of Idaho Falls and be closer to all our favorite activities. To give our dogs a better lifestyle. Relax more and enjoy nature.
- Peace, mountains
- Work, a better job
- I was born here. Dad had to move for work and then moved back in 1995
- The mountains are so close. Relatives living in the valley. National forest. Small town, fewer people.
- Born and raised in idaho falls, moved away after high school, military, 40 years working in the workforce and needed to slow down
- small community
- Grew up here
- Kery was one of the first guides on the river. Our first date was floating down the river. We got married in Beasley's Boyd's house in 1987
- We loved this valley all of our lives and spent many days fishing and camping in the area.
- Scenery, fishing, hunting
- Get out of HOA's and control freaks!!!
- Lived here my whole life and love it. Also for ease of access to the forest to hunt and fish and recreate.
- Fly fishing, the most beautiful valley we have even seen
- Retirement, peaceful, nature, beautiful valley
- 5th generation, family settled here on the bench
- For retirement, leave metro area
- We are smitten! Beautiful, gorgeous valley! Great people! Fishin!
- We wanted a summer escape from Louisiana and a place in the mountains with the country atmosphere.
- Living close to nature and the river



- Fished the Snake River in 1994. My buddy had just built a log cabin. I quested with him for years. Beauty, quiet, friendly.
- To be close to work at first - Don't ever want to leave.
- Chose it. Love it here
- Nature, open feel, farm land, forest, river, fishing, wildlife,
- Nature, community, great people that care, proximity
- Best place in the west that we could find where we were looking