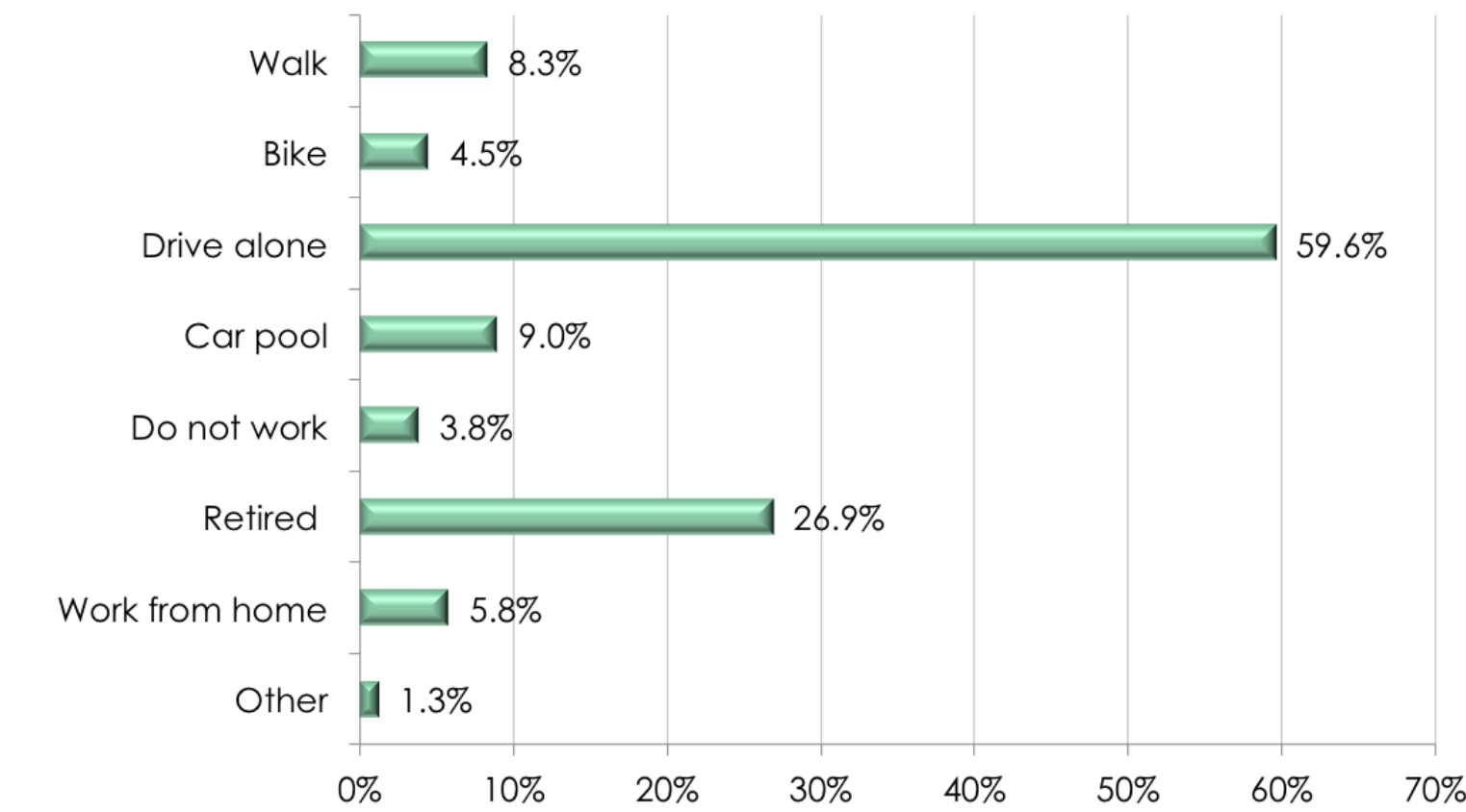


Map Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, "Natural Resources Geographic Information Systems Library," accessed May 2015, <http://www.igsb.uiowa.edu/nrgislib/>. Route data derived from the 2015 Designing Livable Communities survey conducted by Iowa State University.

Respondents modes of commuting (156 responses)



The figure above shows the modes of transportation that Osage respondents use to get to work. Nearly 60% of survey respondents drive alone to work. Other modes of transportation were each identified by less than 10% of participants. Please note that some respondents indicated that they use more than one mode of transportation to get to work; therefore, percentages add up to more than 100%.

Preferred Commuting Routes

This map shows the commuting routes identified in the survey. The frequency that the routes are used is depicted by their thickness, with most frequently used routes being the thickest. The most commonly used route among respondents is Highway 346 through town. Some commuters go west on Highway 36 to US 218/Hwy 27 and go either north or south. Some respondents take Addison Blvd to go north rather than US 218. Some people who drive east on Highway 346 go north on County Road T76. Some respondents take Greeley St south to the school.

The circulation patterns that emerge when survey participants biking, running, walking, and commuting routes are overlaid are useful indicators of important areas where transportation enhancements may be employed. Such improvements could include reducing the conflicts between vehicular and pedestrian traffic by creating better visibility, defining crossing points, and improving signage.

Demographic information

	ISU Survey	US Census
Average age	56.7	37.9
Gender		
Female	33.3%	56.0%
Male	66.7%	44.0%
Marital status		
Married	64.4%	59.8%
Single/divorced	21.1%	30.1%
Widowed	13.4%	10.1%
Average household size	2.41	2.29

The demographics of the respondents are somewhat different from those obtained from the 2013 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimate. The respondents' average age is 56.7, while the 2013 estimated average age is only 37.9. The distribution of participants by marital status is similar to that of the census estimate. The percentage of married participants exceeds the census data by approximately 5%, and the percentage of widowed participants exceeds the census by only 3.3%. The average household size of respondents is notably higher than the estimated average.

Methodology

With assistance from Iowa State University's Survey and Behavioral Research Service, ISU visioning program staff conducted a survey to better understand the transportation patterns and behaviors, needs and desires of Osage residents. Surveys were mailed to 400 randomly selected residents living in Osage and the surrounding area. To increase the response rate, the study was publicized through the local media and follow-up packets were mailed to nonrespondents.

With adjustments for ineligible respondents (e.g., incorrect addresses, no longer living in the community), the final sample size was 341. A total of 156 people returned surveys, for a response rate of 45.7%.

Nashua

Transportation Behavior and Needs | 1. Preferred Commuting Routes