

**Targeting Aggressive and Distractive Driving (TADD)  
2013 Hispanic – Latino  
Highway Safety Survey Report**

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**SC COMMISSION FOR MINORITY AFFAIRS  
2013 TADD GRANT HISPANIC/LATINO  
HIGHWAY SAFETY SURVEY REPORT**

**Targeting Aggressive and Distractive Driving  
2013 Hispanic – Latino Highway Safety Survey Report**

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**Introduction**

This report provides a summary of findings from the TADD Grant Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey. This Highway Safety Survey was completed by participating Hispanic-Latino family respondents living in Greenville County. The Highway Safety Survey instrument was designed and constructed by the Hispanic-Latino Program Coordinator and Research Program Manager of the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs. The Survey was also included in the ninety (90) minute training curriculum as a part of the 2013 Targeting Aggressive and Distractive Driving (TADD) Grant. The TADD Grant was awarded to the SC Department of Public Safety (SCDPS) by the Federal Motor Carriers Services Administration (FMCSA) as a part of their High Priority Grants Program to States.

**Methodology**

The Research and Program Coordinator staff of the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs (CMA) developed a Highway Safety Survey tool that would help the CMA in conducting research regarding how well the Hispanic-Latino population understood the current laws regarding traffic safety. The purpose of the Survey was to identify what knowledge that the Hispanic-Latino population has in regards to driving on South Carolina roads and interstates. The Survey tool was administered on August 20 – 22, 2013 during the three Community Meetings held in various locations in Greenville County. These locations included:

- **August 20, 2013 - Greer, SC City Hall Government Complex (Greer, SC);**
- **August 21, 2013 – Sans Sebastian Church (Berea-Sans Souci Communities); and**
- **August 22, 2013 – Greenville Children’s Museum (Downtown Greenville, SC).**

The survey instrument included eighteen (18) questions. The questions focused broadly on:

- 1. Whether or not the Hispanic-Latino population had valid passenger or Commercial Driver’s Licenses (CDL);**
- 2. If the state driver’s test was available in their own language;**
- 3. If the Hispanic-Latino population understood basic local and state traffic and driving laws;**
- 4. How aware each Hispanic-Latino family respondent was to the current safety message regarding “Leave More Space” (*Dejas Mas Espacio*). The “Leave More Space” message was featured in radio, billboard, and television media throughout the summer months of June through September 2013;**

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- 5. If the Hispanic-Latino population was aware of the SC Department of Public Safety Highway Safety Awareness Initiative in general. The media advertisements were featured throughout the state of South Carolina;**
- 6. Whether or not Hispanic-Latino drivers had receive a traffic violation;**
- 7. The type of traffic violation received, if any; and**
- 8. The strictness of enforcement of the current South Carolina traffic and safety laws around trucks.**

Because of a major reduction in the TADD Grant budget and Scope of Work, the Highway Safety Survey was administered only in Greenville County. Based on the 2007-2011 5-Year estimates, Greenville County has the fourth highest percentage of Hispanic-Latino residents in the state (7.8%) relative to the percentage of commercial motor vehicle accidents, fatalities and economic loss.

The SC Commission for Minority Affairs partnered with the staff of the SC Department of Public Safety during each of the Community Meetings. In addition, the staff also partnered on a Community Outreach event at the White Horse Road (U. S. Highway 25) Flea Market. The U.S. Highway 25 Corridor is one of the high volume roadways that connect the western end of Greenville County, SC with Interstate 26 and Interstate 40 in North Carolina.

The Research Program Manager (Mr. Benjamin Washington, Jr.) and Hispanic-Latino Program Coordinator (Ms. Lee McElveen) designed several culturally specific questions for the Highway Safety Survey. In addition to these questions, over half of the questions were included from the Washington State Highway TACT Program Safety Survey. The Highway Safety Survey is included in a separate Appendix to this document in both English and Spanish.

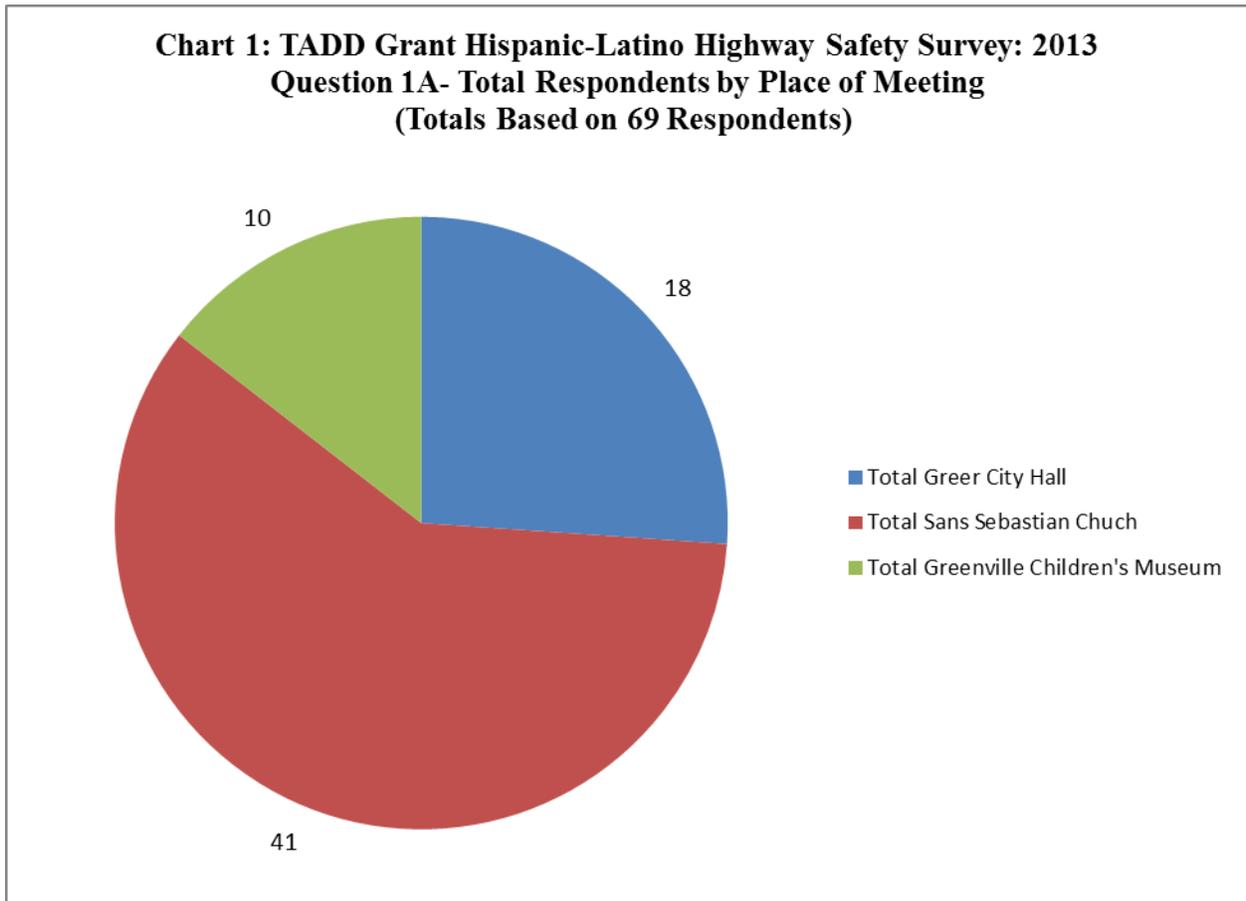
**Summary Information**

- A total of seventy (70) surveys were distributed to Hispanic-Latino family participants during each of the three Community Meetings.
- Each Community Meeting event featured a ninety (90) minute training session utilizing a culturally specific curriculum designed by Lee McElveen, Hispanic-Latino Program Coordinator at the SC Commission for Minority Affairs. Ms. McElveen also utilized Ms. Miriam Barrouet of Bilingual Connections, and representatives from the Unicom Media Group and the Hispanic-Latino newspaper (LaNacion) to develop and present the training utilizing Power Point.
- A estimated total of 180 families participated in the three Community Meetings at the three different locations in Greenville County.

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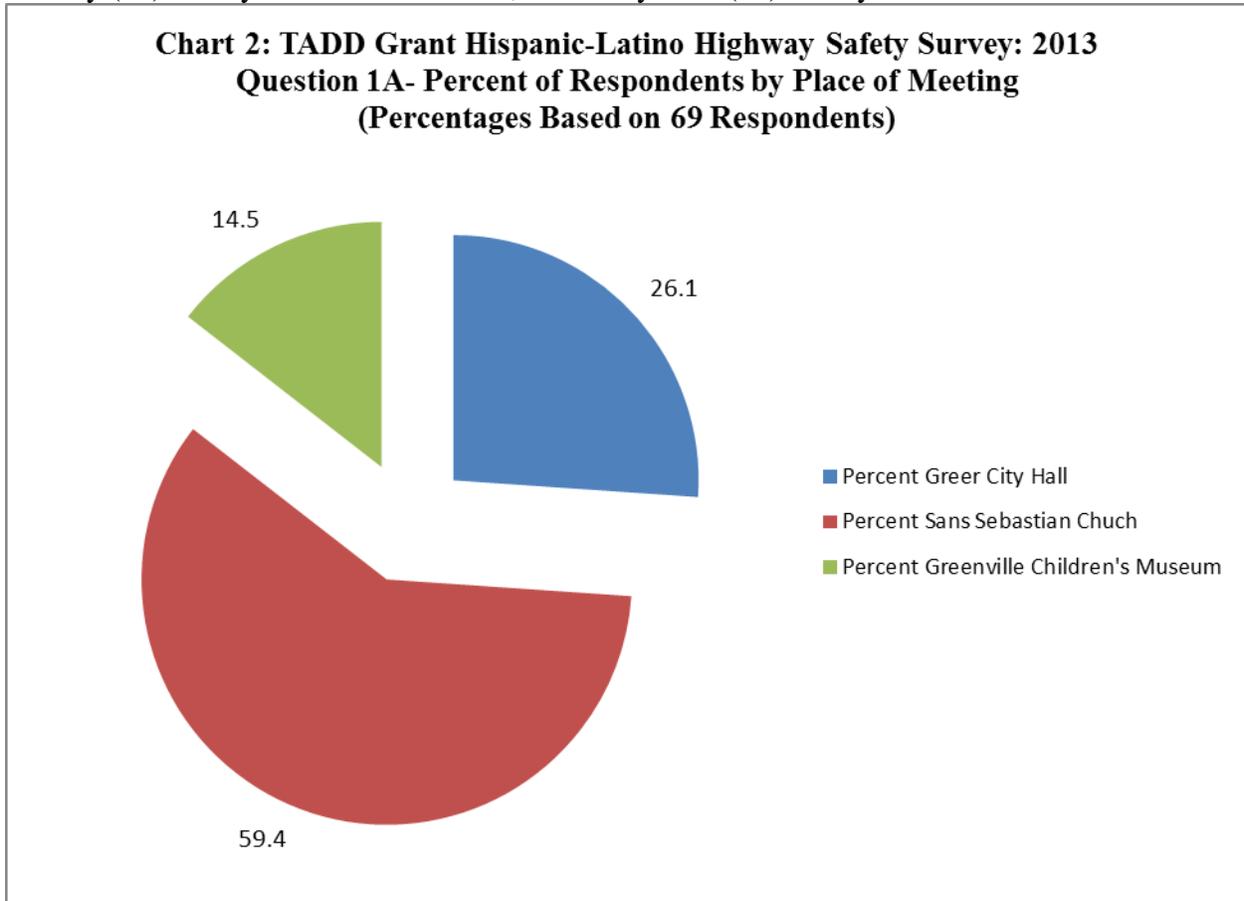
- Summary statistics on the total number of families who participated in the Highway Safety Survey Community Meetings are given by location. Chart 1 reveals the following information:
  1. A maximum total of sixty-nine (69) completed surveys were collected from the three Community Meeting locations: Greer, SC City Hall, the Sans Sebastian Catholic Church, and the Greenville Children’s Museum;
  2. An estimated 180 families received training from the Highway Safety curriculum. The curriculum was taught in Spanish and provided information pertaining to current South Carolina driving laws. Up to 40 percent of the curriculum Power Point contained visual examples, “audio presentations” (utilizing “You Tube”) and information on “Leave More Space” between passenger cars and trucks.

**Hispanic-Latino Respondents By Community Meeting Location**



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Chart 2 provides percentage statistics for the three Community Meeting Locations. A total of seventy (70) surveys were administered, with sixty-nine (69) surveys returned.



The percentages in Chart 2 reveal that:

- 59.4% of the Highway Safety Surveys were completed at the Sans Sebastian Church Community Meeting;
- 26.1% of the completed Surveys were collected at the Greer City Hall Community Meeting; and
- 14.5% of the Surveys were collected at the Greenville Children’s Museum Community Meeting (the smallest meeting venue).

Each of the Community Meetings provided an opportunity for Hispanic-Latino families to ask questions regarding South Carolina driving laws. Time was also allowed for local community residents to ask specific questions from the Department of Public Safety Officer in attendance about driving laws in general, but about leaving more space around commercial vehicles.

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The rest of this Report provides statistical totals and percentages for each of the questions contained in the Highway Safety Survey and completed by Hispanic-Latino families at each Community Meeting.

**Total Respondents By Zip Code and Community Location**

As mentioned earlier, a total of 70 surveys were administered to Hispanic-Latino family members during the three Community Meetings, but only sixty-nine (69) surveys were completed. The remainder of this report summarizes the key findings provided based on the total number of Hispanic-Latino families that completed that particular question or statement. Thus, it is important to note that the total number of Hispanic-Latino families completing each question or statement in the Highway Safety Survey could and did vary.

**Summary of Responses to Survey Questions**

A separate Appendix to the TADD Grant Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey Report contains the actual survey questionnaire that was distributed to each Hispanic-Latino family during the three Community Meetings held in Greenville County. The questionnaire contained a total of eighteen questions. However, one question (Question 12) was omitted from the Safety Survey due to the uncertainty of the respondents being able to fully understand and properly answer that question. Table 1 lists each of the eighteen (18) questions contained in the Safety Survey.

**Table 1: Targeting Aggressive and Distractive Driving (TADD) Highway Safety Survey**

<b>Question</b>	<b>Community Focus Questions From The Highway Safety Survey Questionnaire</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Write in the Zip Code where you live.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Please write in the community name where you live (if known).</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Your Sex (Gender) _____ Male _____ Female</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Please place an “X” beside your race and ethnicity.</b>
<b>Question</b>	<b>Questions Related to Possession of a Driver’s License and the License Exam</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Do you possess a South Carolina Driver’s License? _____ Yes _____ No</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>When you took the written Driver’s License Exam, were you able to take the exam in your own language? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Unsure</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Were you provided a language interpreter to assist you in taking and completing the written South Carolina Driver’s Exam? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Unsure</b>
<b>8a.</b>	<b>Do you currently possess a Commercial Driver’s License (CDL)? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Unsure</b>
<b>8b.</b>	<b>If yes, please list the state and country in which your (CDL) is valid.</b>
<b>Question</b>	<b>Questions Related To Type of Vehicle Driven and General Driver Safety</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>[Place an “X” beside] The type of vehicle you drive most often.</b>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Have you ever received a fine for not having your driver’s license in your possession? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Unsure</b>

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<b>11</b>	<b>How often do you use seat belts when you drive or ride in a car, van or sport utility vehicle (SUV), or pick-up truck?</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>(Omitted Question) When I pass a car on an interstate highway, I leave ____ feet or ____ car lengths before I pull back in.</b>
<b>Question</b>	<b>Questions Related to Highway Safety Regarding Leaving More Space When Passing Semi-Trucks</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Have you recently read, seen or heard about giving semi-trucks more space when you pass them? ____ Yes ____ No</b>
<b>14a.</b>	<b>If you answered “Yes”, where did you see or hear about giving semi-trucks more space when you pass them? Please check all of the items that apply to you.</b> ____ Newspaper ____ Radio ____ Road Sign ____ Brochure ____ Police ____ Billboard ____ Poster ____ Banner
<b>14b.</b>	<b>If you (also) answered “Yes” (above), what did the information say?</b> _____
<b>Question</b>	<b>Questions Related to Involvement With the SC Highway Patrol or Enforcement</b>
<b>15.</b>	<b>Have you ever been stopped by the police or SC Highway Patrol for driving too closely (tail gaiting) or cutting off a semi-truck. ____ Yes ____ No ____ Unsure</b>
<b>16.</b>	<b>If you have been stopped within the past two months, how have you changed your driving habits?</b>
<b>17.</b>	<b>If you answered “Yes”, please indicate who stopped you, and what was the type of violation you received?</b>
<b>18.</b>	<b>How strictly do you think that SC Highway Patrol enforces safe driving around trucks?</b>

**Respondents By Zip Code Location**

Question 1 of the Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey asked each of the respondent families to write in the Zip Code where they live. This information can help the staff of the Department of Public Safety to know how the Hispanic-Latino population is distributed throughout Greenville County relative to the three major high traffic-volume roadways. Charts 3 and 4 provide the total and percent distribution of respondent families returning the survey by Zip Code location.

An important trend occurring over the past decade has been the growth of the Hispanic-Latino population within the state of South Carolina. Between 2000 and 2010, the State of South Carolina ranked first in the nation in the growth of the Hispanic-Latino population (5.2%). Thus far, this trend has continued within certain parts of the state for various reasons. Since 2010, Greenville County has consistently ranked in the top five counties in South Carolina with the total number of Hispanic-Latino families. Specifically, the 2007-2011 5-year Census Bureau population estimates rank Greenville County number four in the state in terms of the total and percentage of Hispanic-Latino residents.

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Census data by Census Designated Place (CDP) sheds additional light on this trend. This data was compiled for Greenville County for each CDP by the Research Program Manager at the SC Commission for Minority Affairs and is available upon request. Hispanic-Latino percentage growth rates between 2000 and 2010 along the major high traffic volume corridors of Greenville County are as follows:

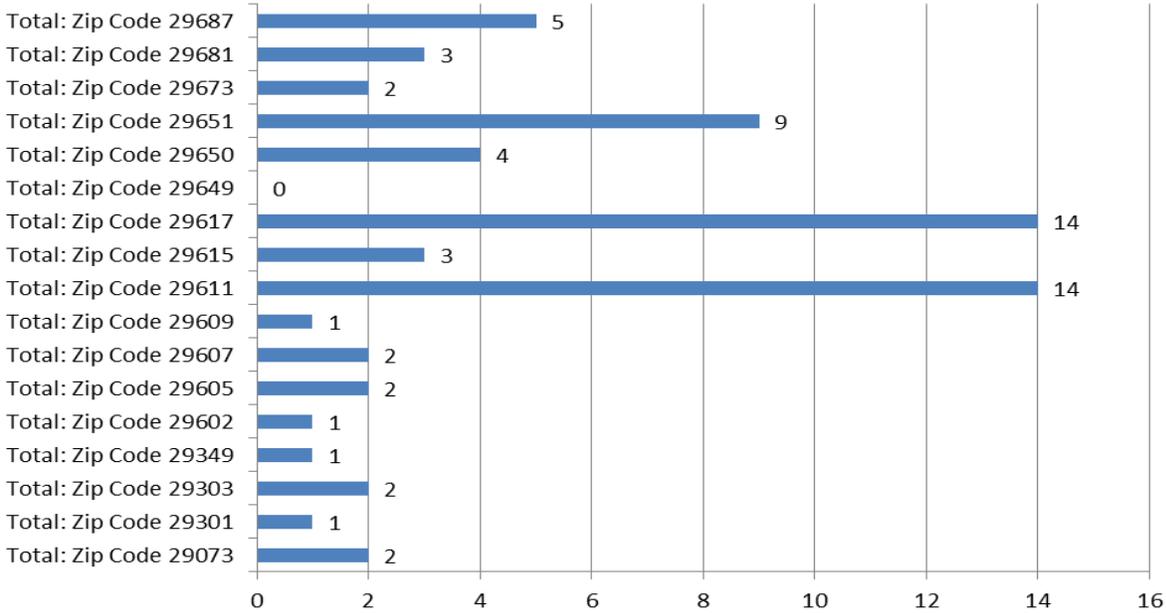
- **U. S. Highway 25** – Hispanic-Latino population growth rates between 2000 and 2010 ranged from a low of 63.0% (City of Greenville) to 316.2% (Gantt, SC CDP);
- **Interstate 85 Anderson - Greenville – Spartanburt County Line** – Hispanic-Latino population growth rates between 2000 and 2010 ranges from a low of 91.2% (Piedmont, SC), 187.1% (Taylors, SC), 154.6% (Greer, SC) to 308.7% (Golden Grove, SC CDP); and
- **Interstate 385 Greenville County South to Laurens County Line** – Hispanic-Latino population growth rates between 2000 and 2010 ranges from a low of 128.7% (Simpsonville, SC), 198.7% (Fountain Inn, SC), 197.0% (Five Forks, SC), and 290.2% (Mauldin, SC).

Charts 3 and 4 provided total and percentage statistics by Zip Code for Hispanic-Latino families completing the Highway Safety Survey. Chart 3 indicates that from the 70 Surveys distributed during the three sessions, 66 Hispanic-Latino families provided Zip Code information regarding where they live relative to the three major roads in Greenville (U. S. 25 – White Horse Road, Interstate 85, and Interstate 385). Chart 3 and 4 indicates that Hispanic-Latino families completing the survey reside within communities located in seventeen different Zip Code (tabulation) areas. The top Zip Code (tabulation) areas represented Hispanic-Latino families were located in the following Census Designated Places:

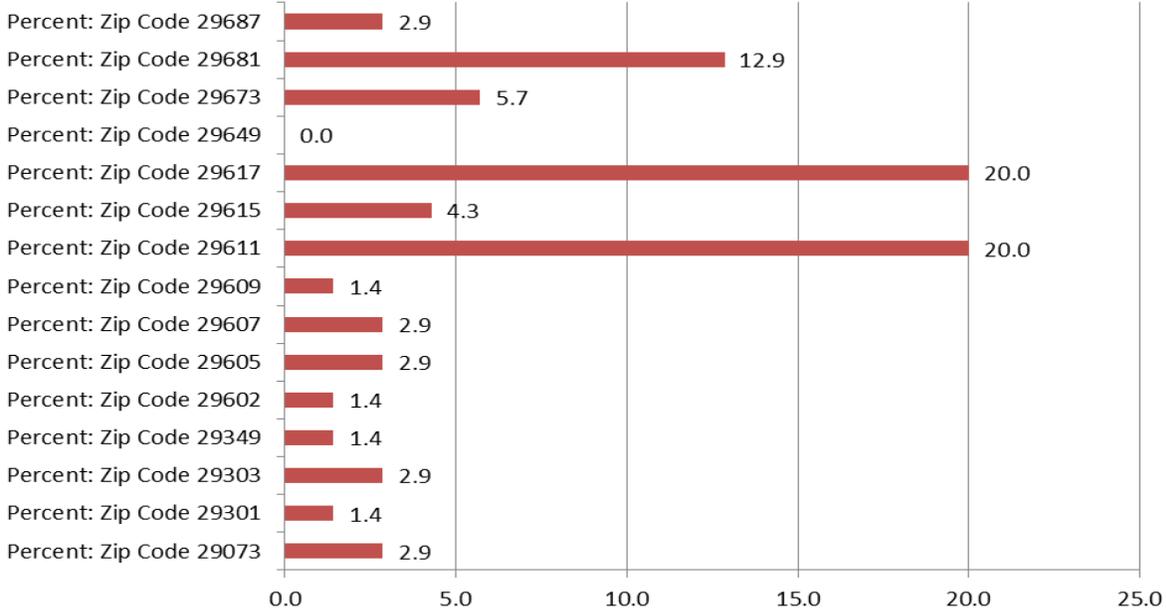
- Berea CDP – Zip Code 29611 – 14 Hispanic-Latino families, 20.0% of all respondents;
- Berea CDP – Zip Code 29617 – 14 Hispanic-Latino families, 20.0% of all respondents;
- City of Greer, SC – Zip Code 29651 – 9 Hispanic-Latino families, 12.9% of all respondents;
- Taylors, SC – Zip Code 29687– 5 Hispanic-Latino families, 7.1% of all respondents;
- City of Greer, SC – Zip Code 29650 – 4 Hispanic-Latino families, 5.7% of all respondents;
- City of Greenville, SC – Zip Code 29615 – 3 Hispanic-Latino families, 4.3% of all respondents;

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**Chart 3: TADD Grant Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey: 2013  
Question 1B - Total Respondents by Zip Code  
(Totals Based on 70 Respondents)**



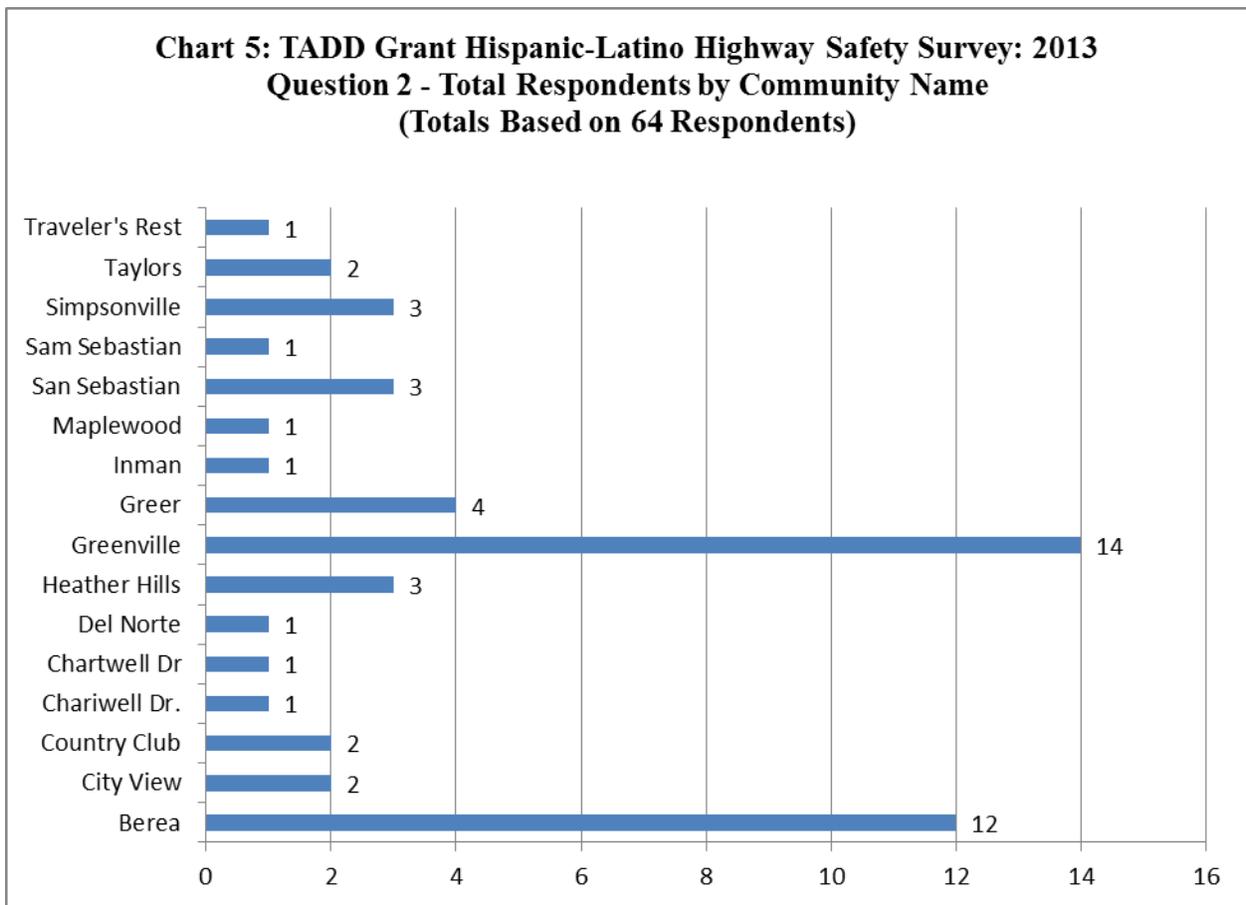
**Chart 4: TADD Grant Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey: 2013  
Question 1B - Percentage of Respondents by Zip Code  
(Percentages Based on 70 Respondents)**



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- City of Greenville (Downtown, South and West) – Zip Codes 29603, 29605, and 29607 – 2 Hispanic-Latino families each, 2.9% of all respondents;
- Piedmont, SC (Southwest Greenville County) - Zip Code 29673 – 2 Hispanic-Latino families, 2.9% of all respondents.

Question 2 of the TADD Grant Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey sought information from respondents regarding the name of the community in which they live. Charts 5 and 6 provide totals and percentage statistics from the respondents who answered this question.

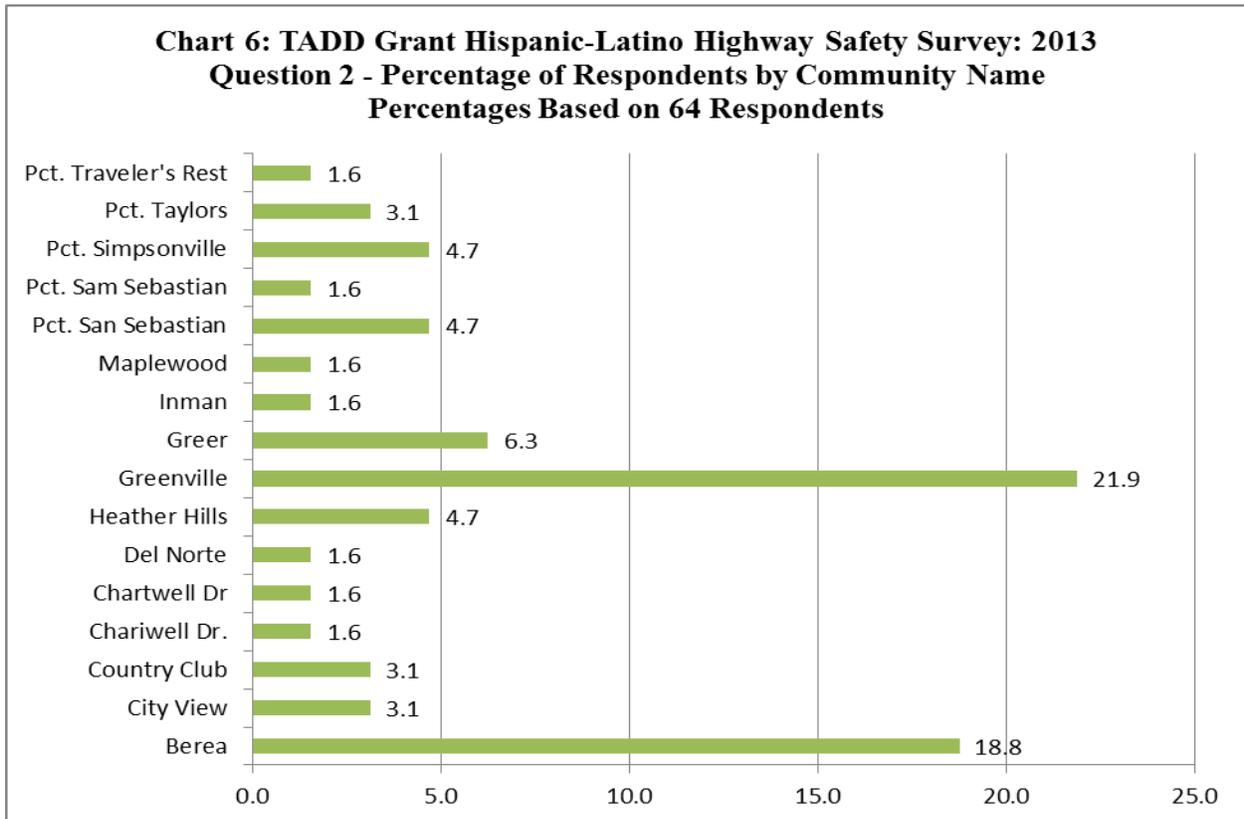


The statistical data in Charts 5 and 6 reveal that of the 64 respondent Hispanic-Lation families that identified the community name in which they live:

- 14 respondent families indicated that they resided in various communities in the City limits of Greenville, SC - 21.9% of all respondents;

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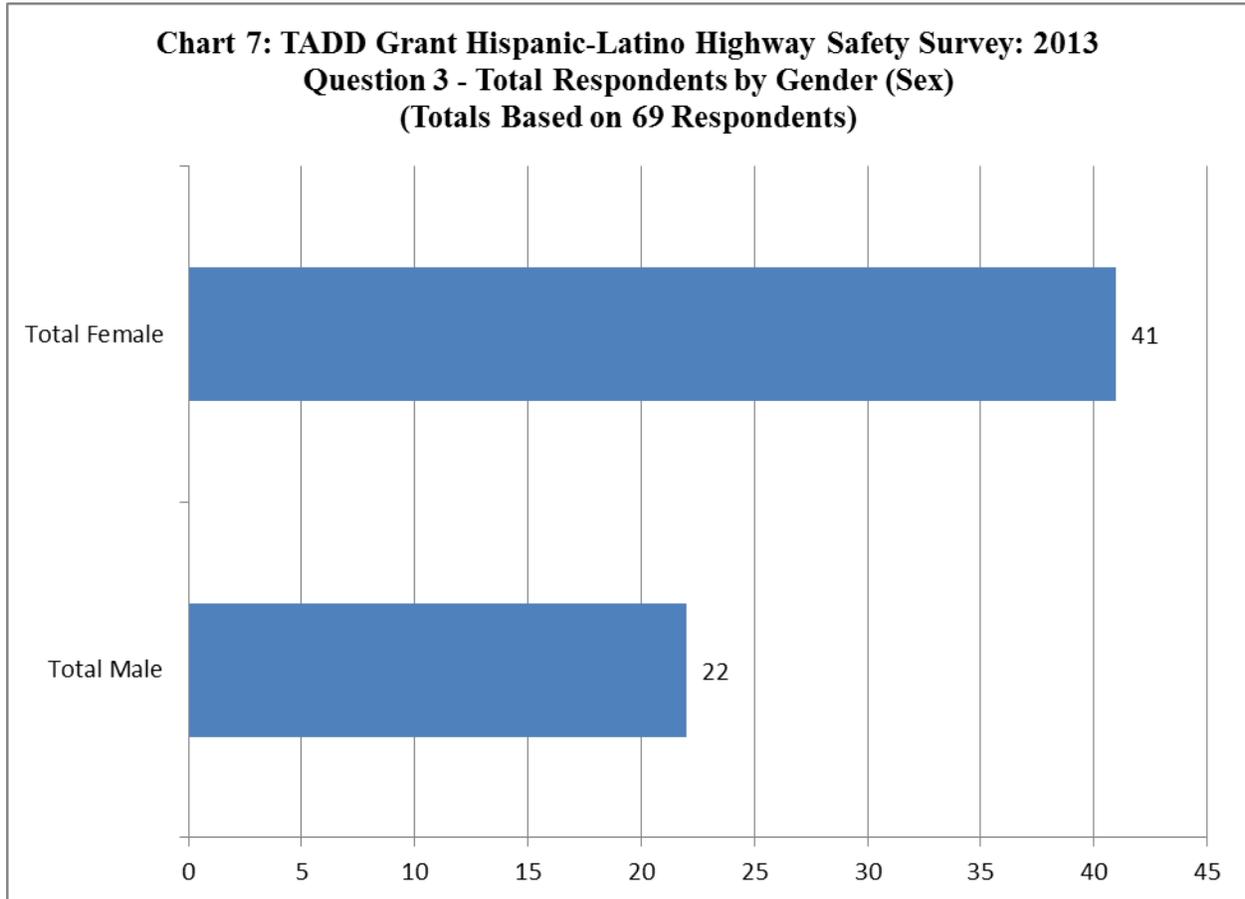
- 12 respondent families indicated that they lived in the Berea and Sans Souci communities of the City of Greenville, SC and Greenville County – 18.8% of all respondents;
- 4 respondent families indicated that they live in communities located in Greer, SC – 6.3% of all respondents;
- 3 respondent families each indicated that they resided in communities located in Greenville County: Sans Souci, Sans Sebastian Church, and Simpsonville, SC, 4.7% of all respondents;
- 2 respondent families each indicated that they resided in the communities located in Taylors, City View, and Country Club – 3.1% of all respondents;
- 1 respondent family each indicated that they resided within other communities in Greenville County – 1.6% of all residents;
- Six respondent families did not provide an answer on which community that they resided in.



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**Gender of Respondents Completing the Highway Safety Survey**

Questions 3 of the Highway Safety Survey asked respondents to provide information on their sex or gender. Charts 7 and 8 provides total and percentage statistics for this question.



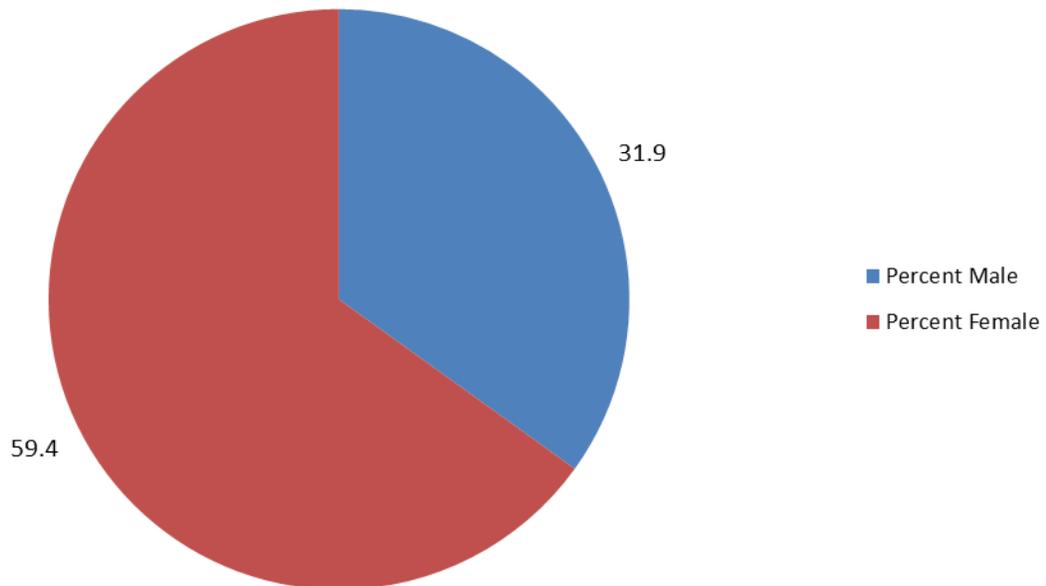
A total of sixty-nine (69) respondents completed Question 3 of the Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey. A total of 6 respondents did not complete this question.

Charts 7 and 8 reveal the following information:

- 41 respondent families completing Question 3 were female – 59.4% of all respondents;
- 22 respondent families completing Question 3 were male - 31.9% of all respondents; and
- 6 respondent families did not complete Question 3 – 8.7% of all respondents.

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**Chart 8: TADD Grant Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey: 2013  
Question 3 - Percentage of Respondents by Gender (Sex)  
(Percentages Based on 69 Respondents)**



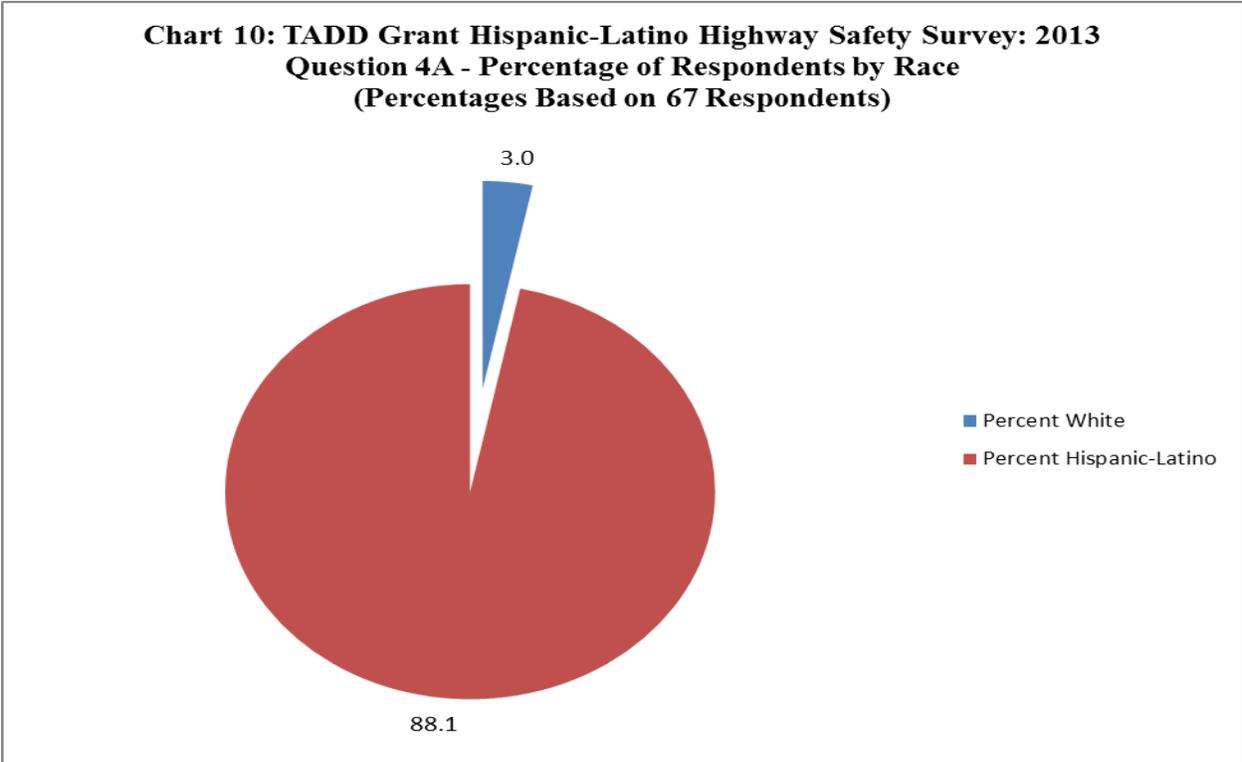
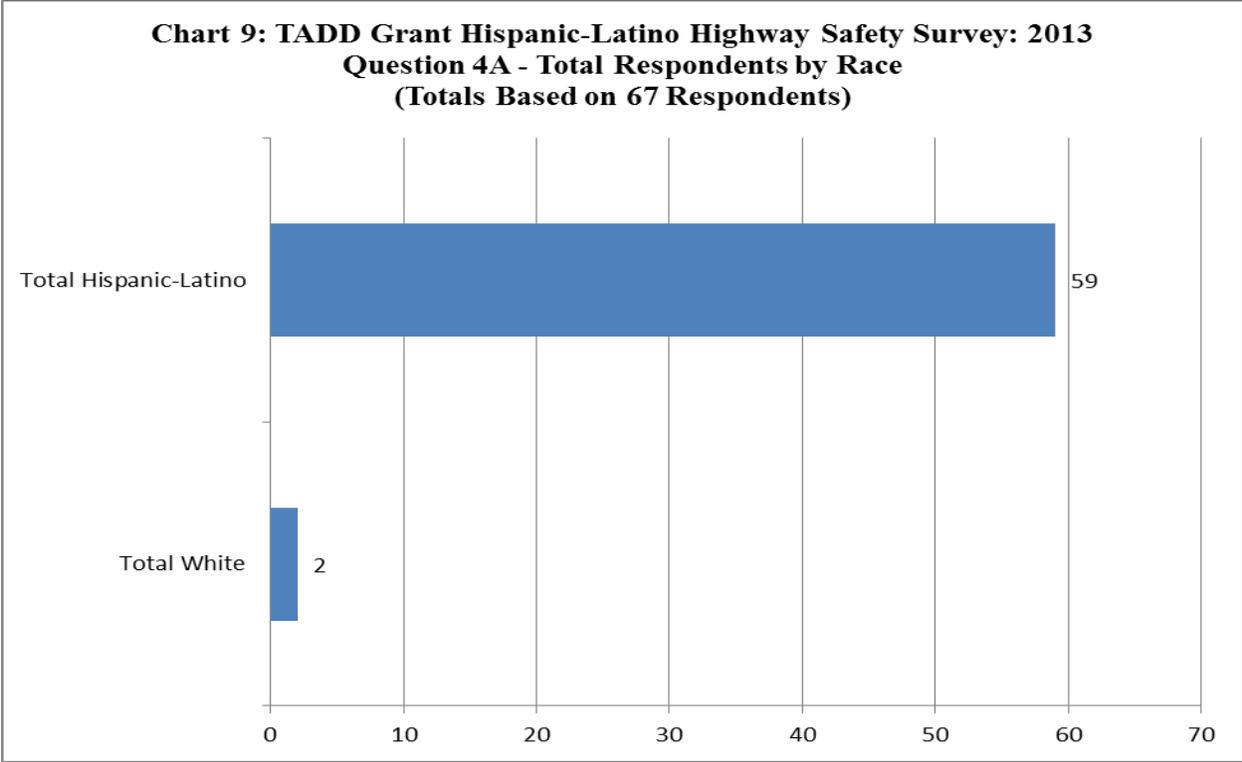
**Race of Respondents Completing the Highway Safety Survey**

Questions 4A and 4B of the Hispanic Highway Safety Survey was divided into two parts. Question 4A asked respondents to provide information related to their race, ethnicity and country of origin. Charts 9 and 10 provides total and percentage statistics by race and ethnic origin. It is important to note that the Hispanic-Latino population is an ethnic group and not a race. Therefore, the Hispanic-Latino population can be of any race.

Charts 9 and 10 indicate that

- 59 families that completed the Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey on behalf of their families was of Hispanic-Latino origin – 88.1% of respondents;
- 2 families that completed the Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey on behalf of their families self identified themselves as White – 3.1% of respondents;
- 8 respondent families did not indicate what their race or ethnic origin was – 8.8% of respondents.

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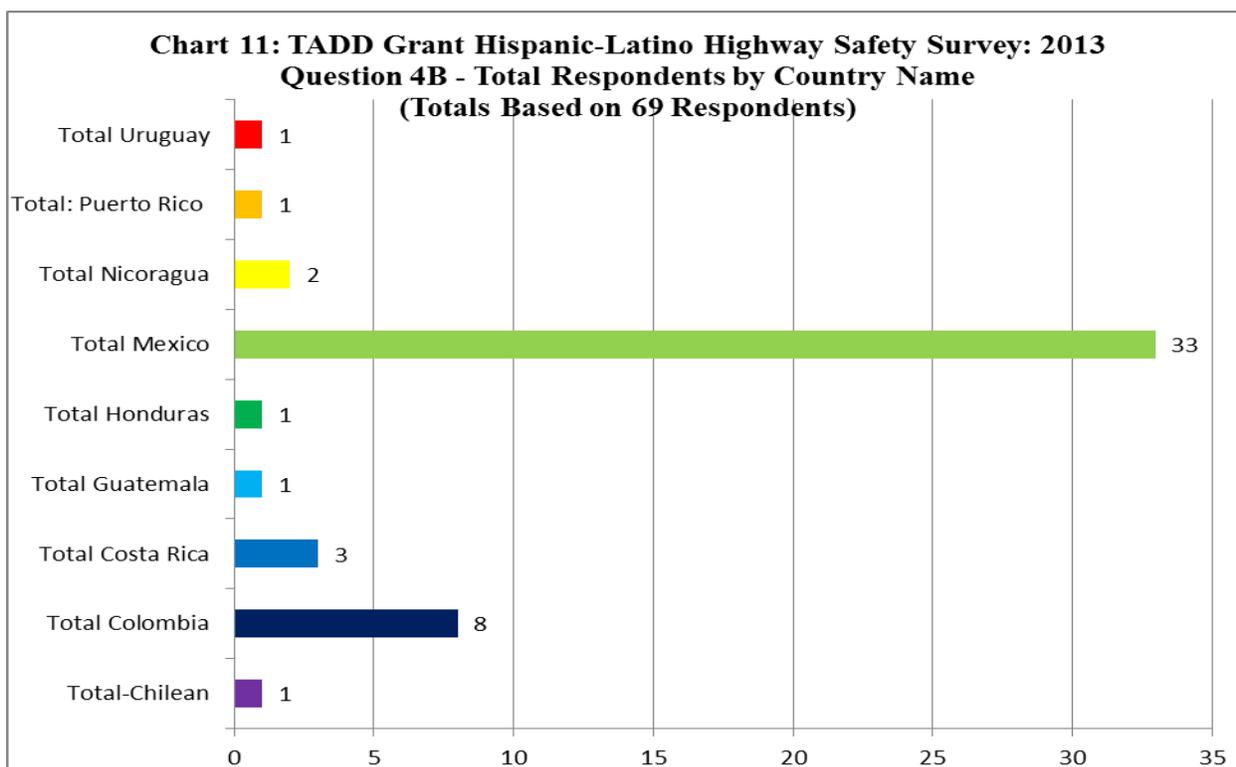
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The second part of Question 4 (Question 4B) asked Hispanic-Latino respondent families completing the Highway Safety Survey to indicate their country of origin. The indication of the country of origin by respondents shows the diversity of countries and cultures that characterizes the Hispanic-Latino population. Because of these unique differences, the Program Coordinator and Research Program Manager of the SC Commission for Minority Affairs included this question in order to help ensure that the safety training and curriculum would be designed in order to assist the Hispanic-Latino population, regardless of the country of origin of the families.

Charts 11 and 12 provide respectively, the total number and percentage of Hispanic-Latino families that completed the Highway Safety Survey by country of origin.

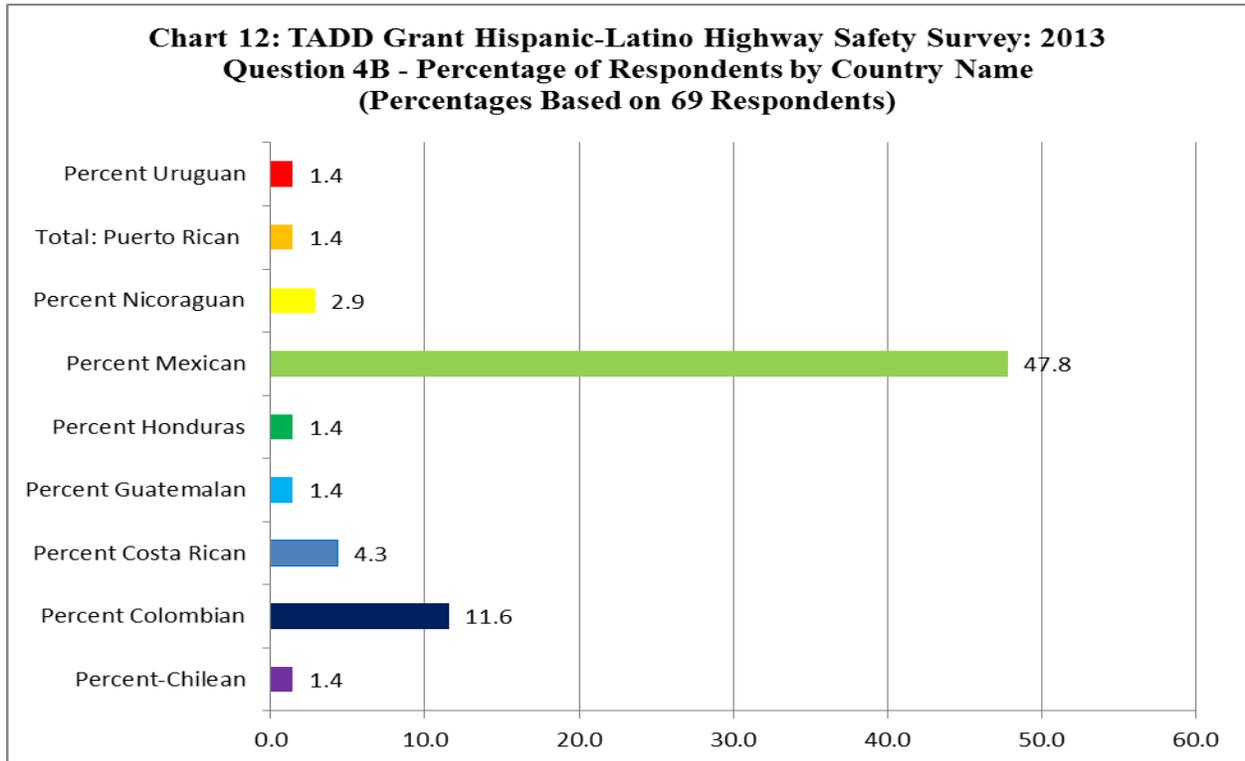
The data in both Charts reveal the following:

- A total of nine different countries were represented through the families in attendance at each of the three Community events in which the Highway Safety Training was provided: (Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, and Uruguay);
- Families from the country of Mexico represented the largest population that participated in Highway Safety Training. A total of 33 families – 47.8% of all families participated in the training and completed the Survey;



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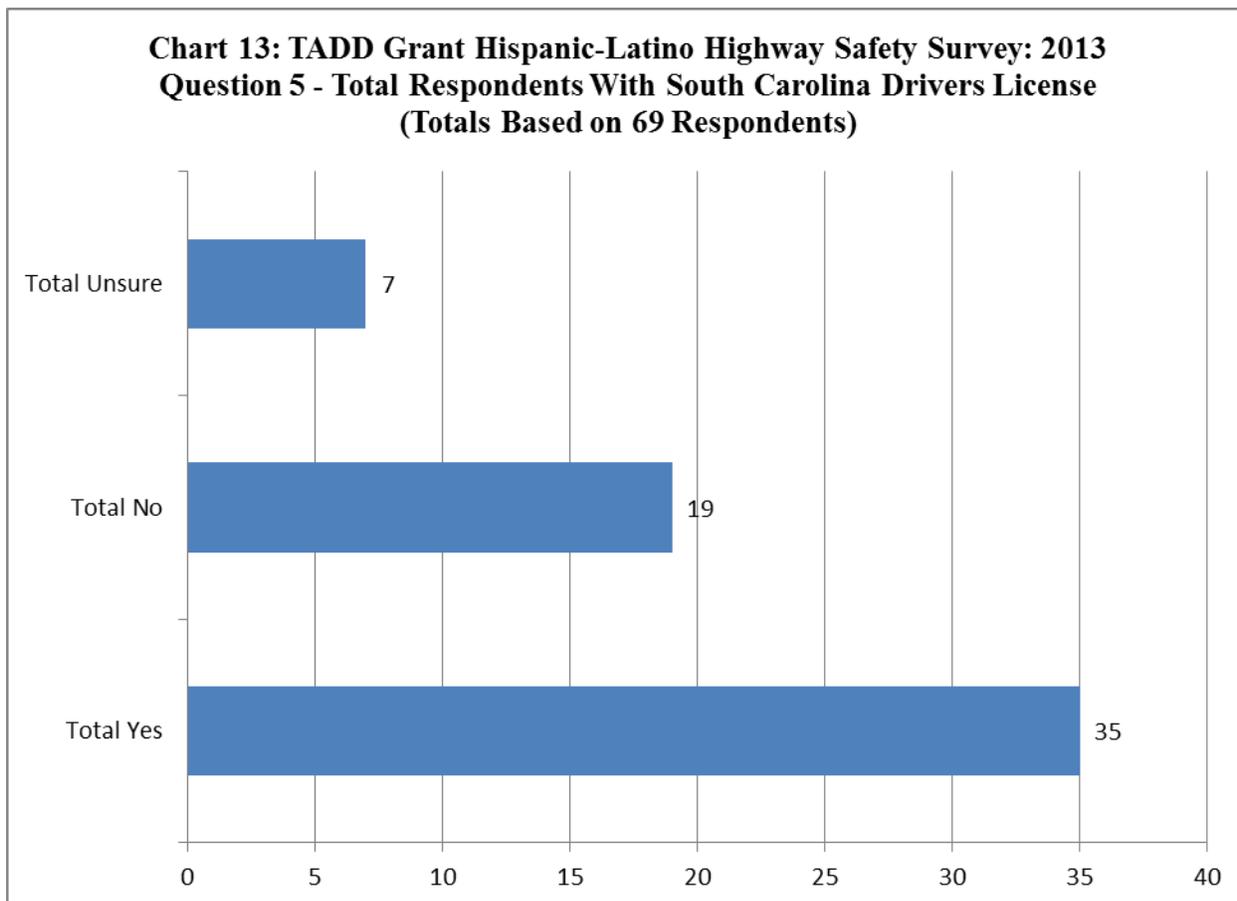
- Families from the country of Colombia, South America represented the second largest Hispanic-Latino population that participated in Highway Safety Training. A total of 8 families – 11.6% of all families participated in the training and completed the Survey;



- Families from the countries of Costa Rica and Nicaragua represents the third and fourth largest populations of Hispanic-Latino origin that participated in Highway Safety Training. A total of 3 families from Costa Rico and 2 families from Nicaragua were in attendance and participated in the Safety Training held at the Community Meetings – These totals represented 4.3% and 2.9% respectively of all respondents who participated in the Safety Training and completed the Survey;
- The remaining Hispanic-Latino families who participated in the Highway Safety Training were each from five countries: Chile, Guatemala, Honduras, Puerto Rico and Uruguay. In each of these cases, one family from each of these countries completed the Survey. Each of these families represented 1.4% of all participants from each country.
- A total of eighteen (18) families did not provide information on their country of origin. This represents 26.1% of all respondents that participated in the Safety Training. This was due to time constraints surrounding where the training events were held (particularly at the Sans Sebastian Church), and the placement of more emphasis on ensuring that participants understood the training curriculum.

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Questions 5 through 8 of the Highway Safety Survey focuses on whether or not Hispanic-Latino individuals and families possess a state issued SC Driver's License or a Commercial Driver's License.



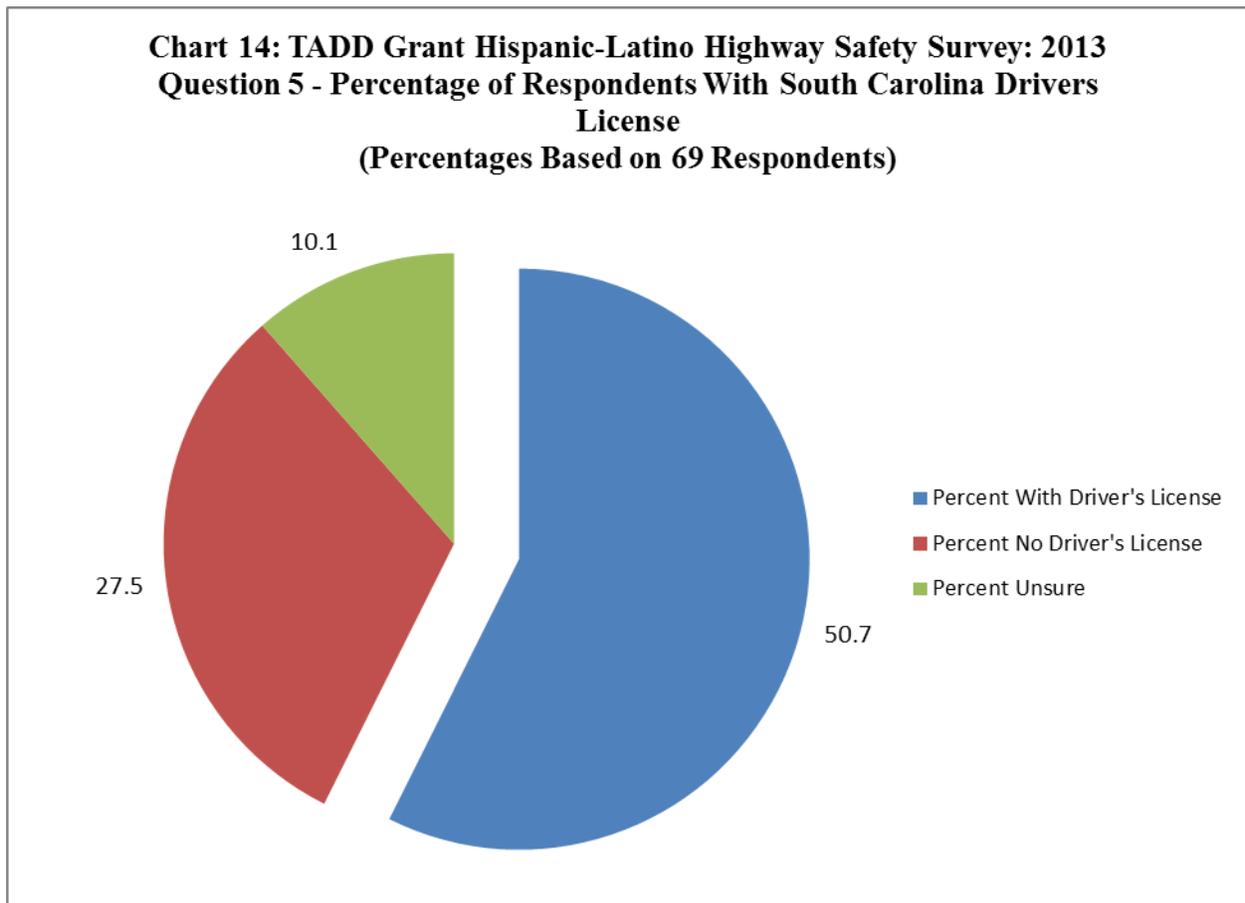
**Current Possession of South Carolina Driver's License**

Question 5 of the TADD Grant Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey sought information from each Hispanic-Latino respondent family in regards to whether or not they currently possess a valid South Carolina Driver's License. Charts 13 and 14 provide total and percentage response information. The following information was provided by participants in the Highway Safety Training:

- A total of 8 families did not provide an answer to Question 5. This represented 11.6% of all Hispanic-Latino families that participated in the Highway Safety Training during the three Community Meetings held at the various locations;

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- Thirty-five (35) family respondents indicated that they currently possessed a valid South Carolina driver’s license. This total represented 50.7% of all Hispanic-Latino families that participated in the Highway Safety training events (Chart 13);
- Nineteen (19) family respondents indicated that they did not currently possess a valid South Carolina driver’s license. This total represented 27.5%, or slightly above one-out-of-every-four Hispanic-Latino families that participated in the Highway Safety training events (Chart 14).



**Availability to Take the State Driver’s License Exam in Spanish**

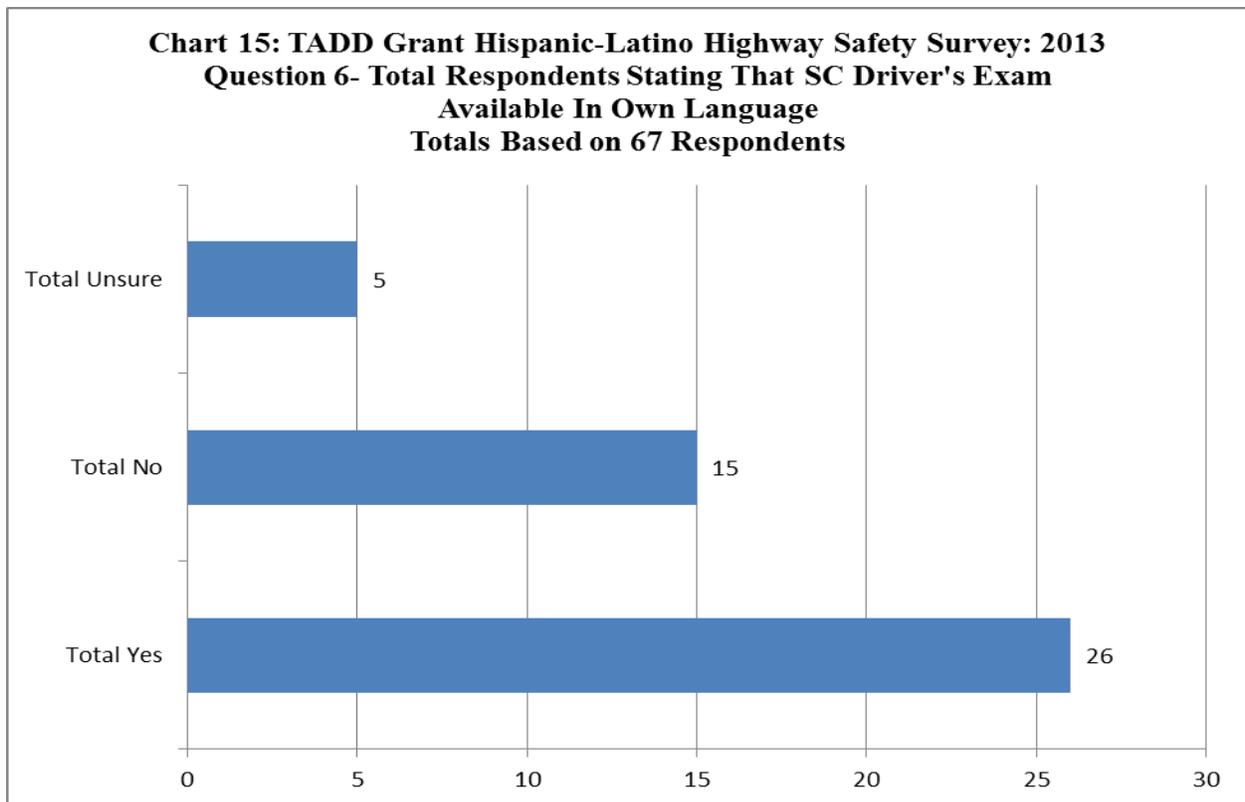
Question 6 asked Hispanic-Latino family respondents who took the Driver’s License Exam if they were able to take the South Carolina driver’s exam in their own language. The ability to take the exam in one’s native language demonstrates that:

1. The State of South Carolina understands how diverse its population is becoming;

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2. The impact of population changes on communities not only in Greenville County, but across the state of South Carolina; and
3. The ability for the Department of Public Safety and the SC Highway Patrol to work together with the Hispanic-Latino population to improve safety and cut down on the number of accidents and fatalities between commercial motor vehicles and passenger cars.

Charts 15 and 16 provide feedback from the Highway Safety Survey on the ability for Hispanic-Latino families to take the South Carolina driver's license exam in Spanish, or their native language.

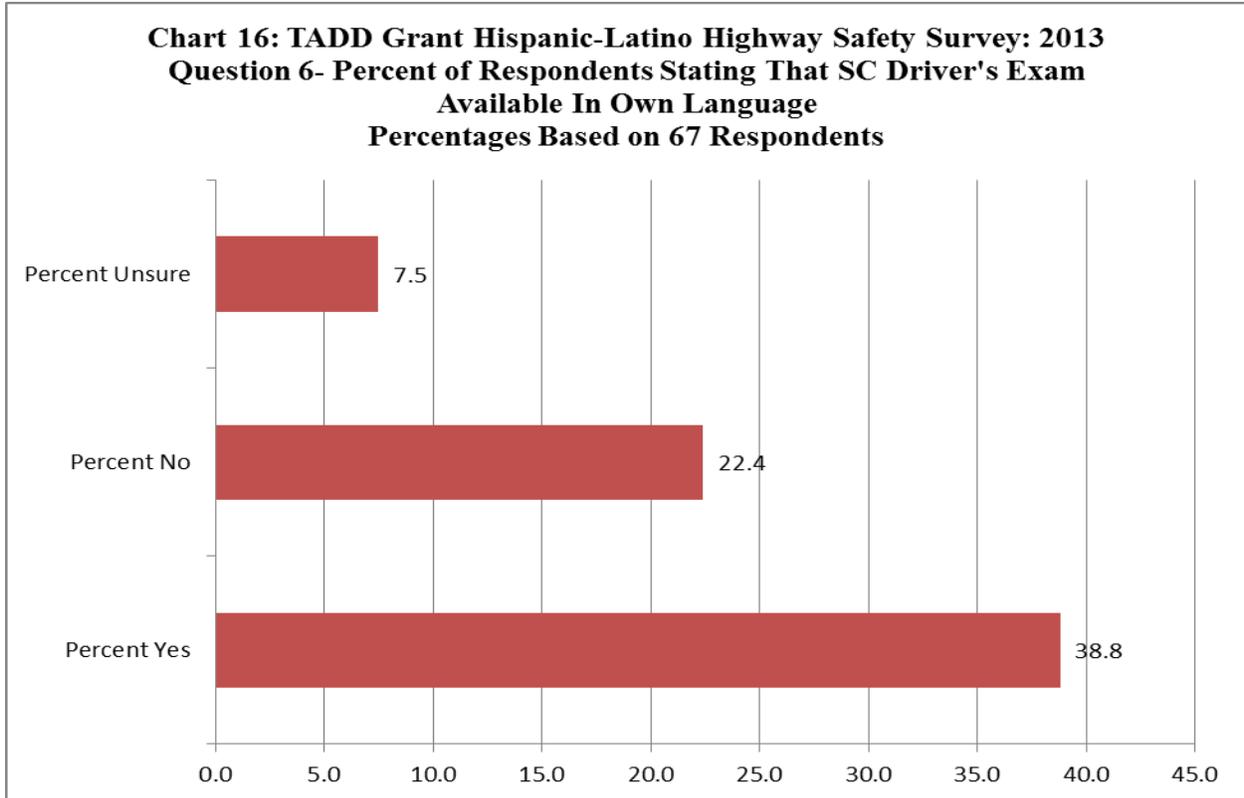


Charts 15 and 16 provides the following information regarding the availability of Hispanic-Latino families surveyed:

- A total of 21 Hispanic-Latino families (31.3%) did not provide an answer in regards to whether or not the SC Drivers' License examination was available in their own language;
- Twenty-six (26) Hispanic-Latino families that participated in the Community Meetings indicated that they were able to take the SC Driver's License exam in their own language.

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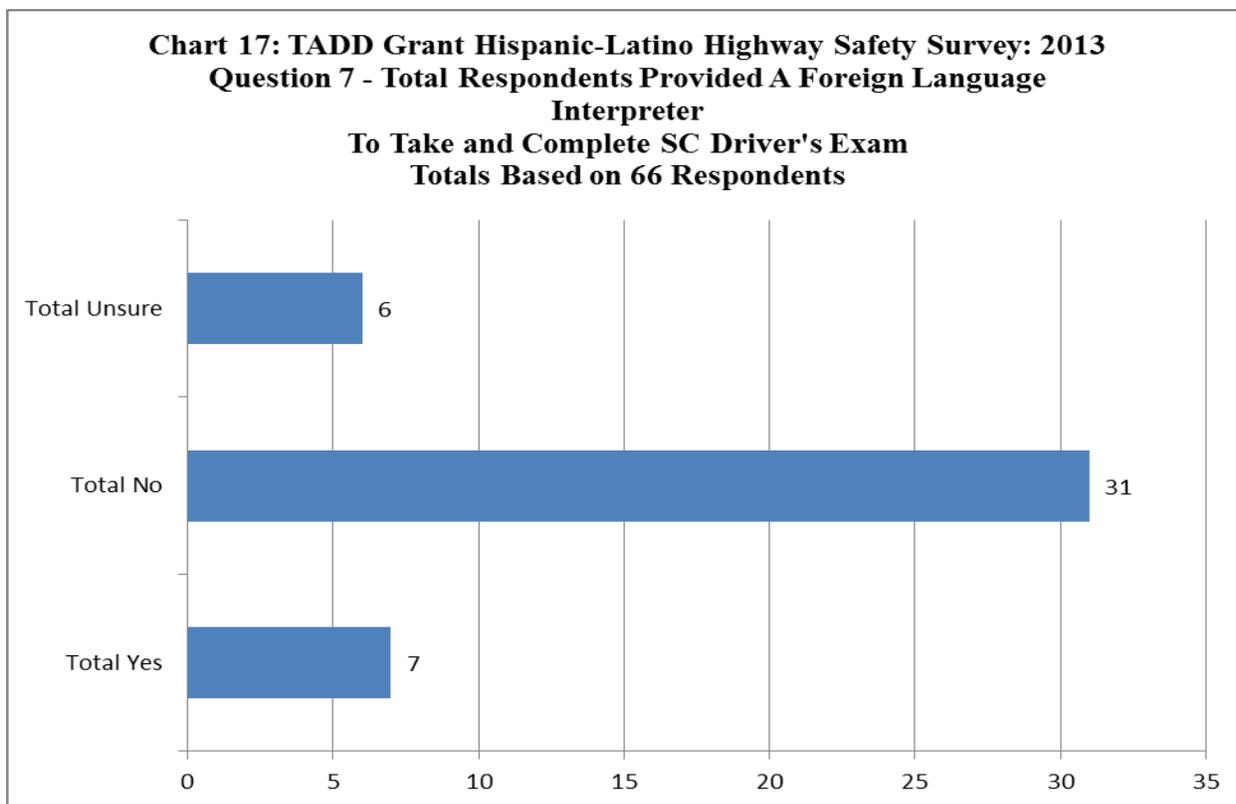
Chart 16 reveals that this is 38.8 percent of respondents, or nearly four out of ten respondents;



- Fifteen (15) Hispanic-Latino families that participated in the Community Meetings indicated that they were not able to take the SC Driver's License exam in their own language. Chart 16 reveals that this is 22.4% percent of respondents, or slightly less than one out of every five respondents who participated in the Highway Safety training;
- Five (5) Hispanic-Latino families that participated in the Community Meetings stated that they were unsure if the SC Driver's License exam was available in Spanish. Chart 16 indicated that this was 7.5% or one out of every thirteen respondents.

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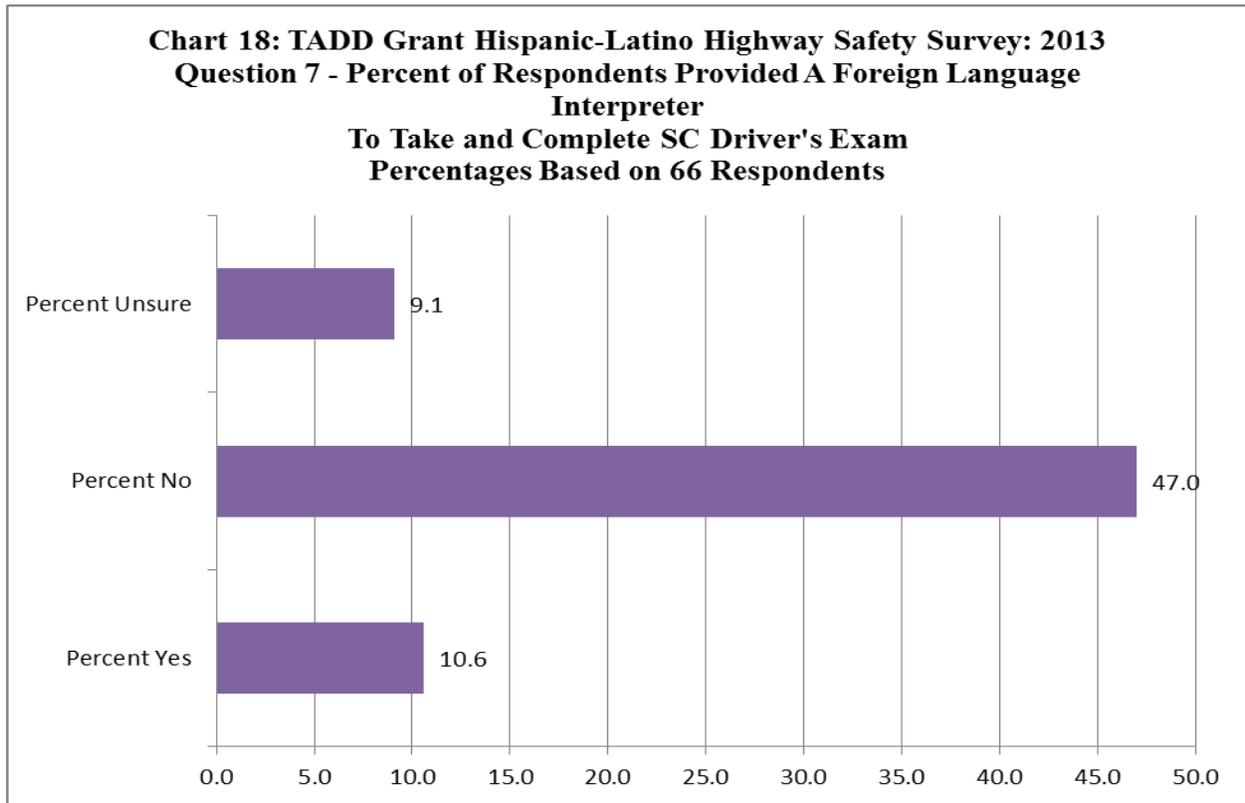
**Provision of a Foreign Language Interpreter to Take and Complete the Driver's Exam**



Question 7 asked Hispanic-Latino family respondents whether or not they were provided a foreign language interpreter to assist them in taking and completing the written SC Driver's license exam. The ability to have one or more foreign language interpreters on hand at the SC Department of Motor Vehicles for residents who do not speak English demonstrates that the state recognizes that its population is becoming more diverse. In addition, foreign language interpreters and translators could help more persons to become legal drivers on the highways and interstates. This in turn can directly impact the total number of Hispanic-Latino families who properly know how to drive on South Carolina highways, roads and interstates, and thus minimize traffic fatalities and collisions between commercial motor vehicles and passenger cars.

Charts 17 and 18 provides totals and percentage information related to the availability of a foreign language interpreter at the SC Department of Motor Vehicles (SCDMV) for individual family members to take the SC Driver's License examination.

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An examination of Charts 17 and 18 indicates that:

- Nearly half of Hispanic-Latino families that participated in the three Community Meetings and completed the Highway Safety Survey – 31 respondents (47.0%) stated that a foreign language interpreter was not available;
- Seven Hispanic-Latino families that participated indicated that a foreign language interpreter was made available for them to take the state Driver’s License exam. Chart 18 indicates that the total percentage of respondents is 10.6%;
- Six respondents (9.1% of respondents) were unsure if a foreign language interpreter was available for them to take the state Driver’s License exam.

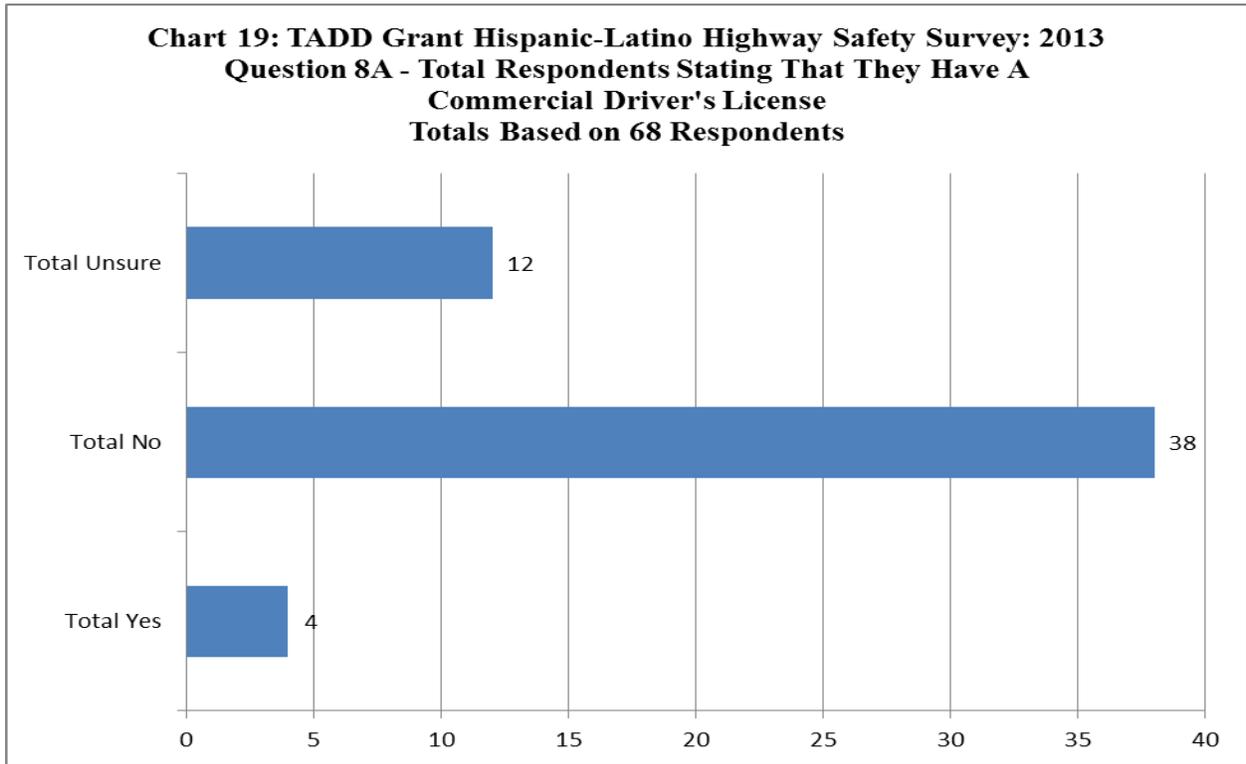
Collectively, without complete knowledge of what human resources are available at the SC DMV to assist Hispanic-Latino families, it is difficult to conclude how well Hispanic-Latino families can be served at testing locations. This can have an adverse negative impact on Hispanic-Latino families as shown in the Highway Safety Survey data collected at the three Community Meetings held in Greenville.

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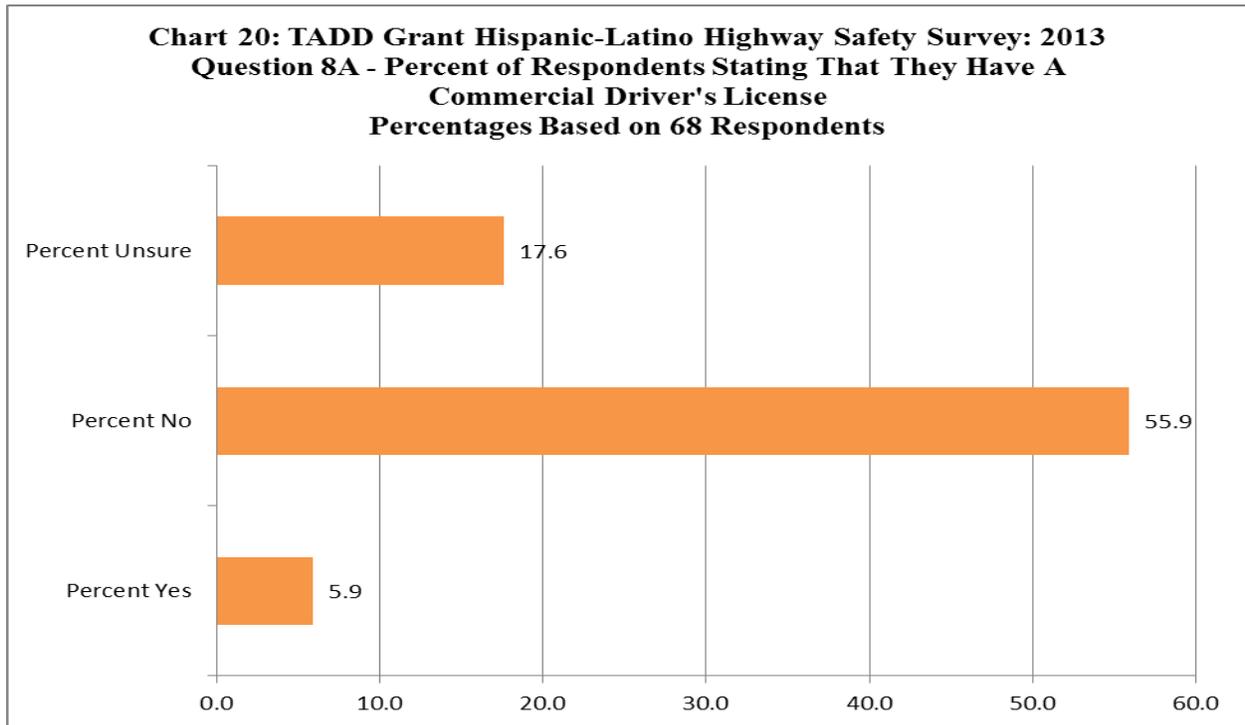
In addition, the economic loss of life and property, the reduction in vehicle collisions, and related goals and objectives of the SC Department of Public Safety, and the Federal Motor Carriers Services Administration can only be realized as more Hispanic-Latino families, and other foreign citizens can be able to take the state Driver’s Exam in their own language.

**Country of Origin for Driver’s License and Commercial Driver’s License**

Question 8 was divided into two parts. First, Question 8A asked Hispanic-Latino families that participated in completing the Highway Safety Survey whether or not they possessed a valid state issued Commercial Driver’s License (CDL). Question 8B asked Hispanic-Latino participants with a CDL to provide information regarding the state and country where the Commercial Drivers’ License was issued. Charts 19 and 20 provide respectively, total and percentage response information to Question 8a.



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A close examination of the returned sample data revealed the following information in regards to the country of origin for Commercial Driver's Licenses. The statistical data provided in Charts 19 and 20 reveal that:

- Of the 68 Hispanic-Latino families that completed this question, only 4 (5.9% of respondents) stated with certainty that they currently possessed a state issued Commercial Drivers' License (CDL);
- Of the remaining respondent families, slightly over half (38 Hispanic-Latino families – 55.9% of respondents) stated that they did not possess a state issued Commercial Driver's License;
- Twelve (12) respondent Hispanic-Latino families (17.6% of respondents) that completed the Safety Survey stated that they were unsure of whether or not they possessed a Commercial Drivers' License;
- Fourteen respondent Hispanic-Latino families did not provide an answer to this question. This represented (20.6%) of all Hispanic-Latino families who participated in the three Community Meeting in which the Highway Safety Training was provided.

When Question 8A is considered in its full context, one important point may be the unique cultural differences between South Carolina laws regarding CDL's and the Hispanic-Latino population's understanding of what a Commercial Driver's License really is.

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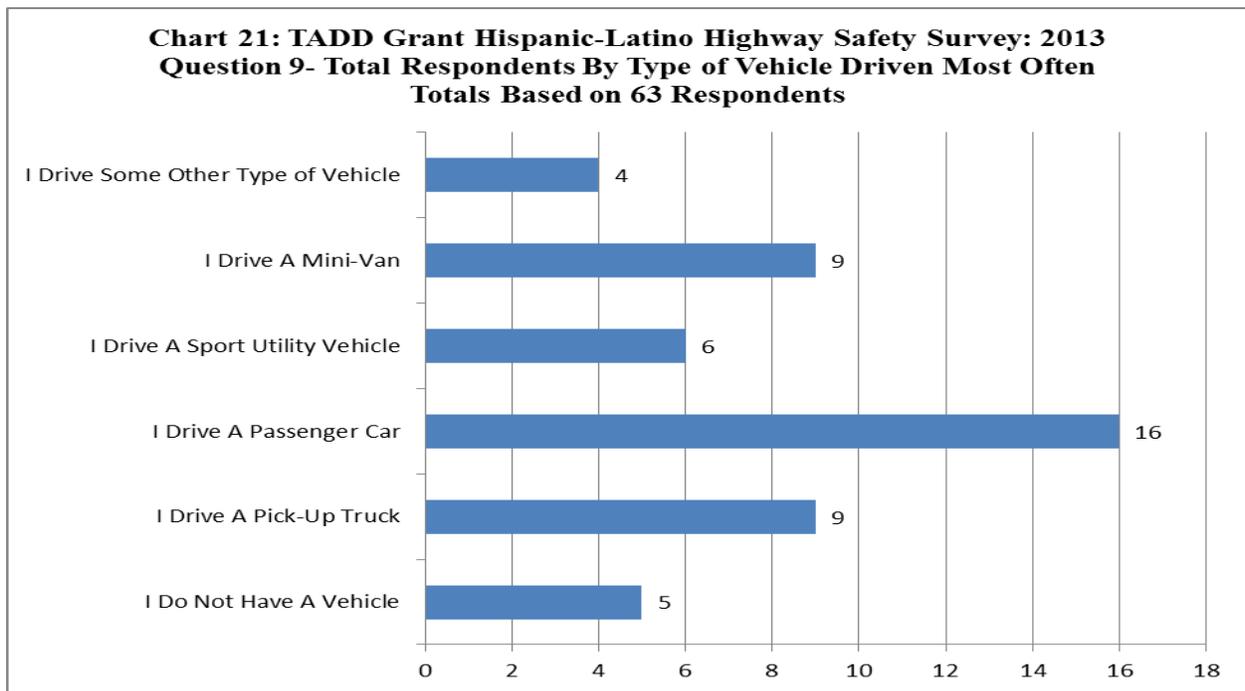
Secondly, it is possible that the number of participating Hispanic and Latino families who were in attendance at the Community Meetings, may not be representative of all Hispanic-Latino families in Greenville County, or in the state of South Carolina as a whole.

To examine these two points more closely, Question 8b sought information from those Hispanic-Latino families in attendance about the state and country in which the issued CDL was valid. An inspection of this question reveals that only 11 respondents provided information to this question. Of the 11 respondents:

- Nine (9) of the eleven Hispanic-Latino families had Commercial Driver’s Licenses issued within states located within the United States;
- Two (2) of the eleven Hispanic-Latino families had Commercial Driver’s Licenses issued from the country of Mexico.

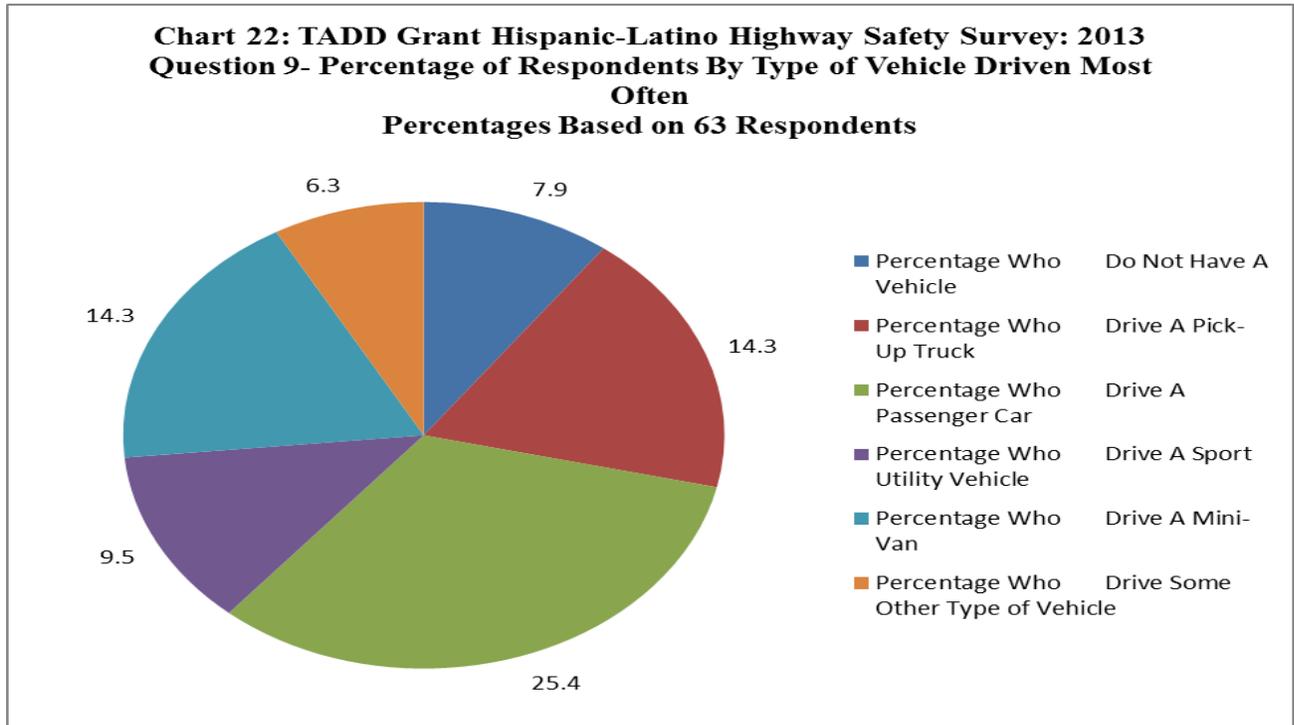
To summarize, part of the difficulty in ensuring that existing traffic laws regarding commercial motor vehicles and passengers reduces fatal accidents and economic loss could be due to differences in laws pertaining to the issuance of driver’s licenses in general, and CDL’s. Also as was shown in Charts 17 and 18, the inability for Hispanic-Latino individuals and families to take, complete and pass the existing drivers’ test in Spanish could also contribute to problems with properly understanding traffic laws and thus may contribute to persons becoming involved in traffic accidents.

**Type of Vehicle That Is Driven Most Often By Respondents**



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Question 9 of the Highway Safety Survey asked Hispanic-Latino families the particular type of vehicle that the person with the Driver's License drives most often. Charts 21 and 22 provide total and percentage statistics based on respondents that completed this question.

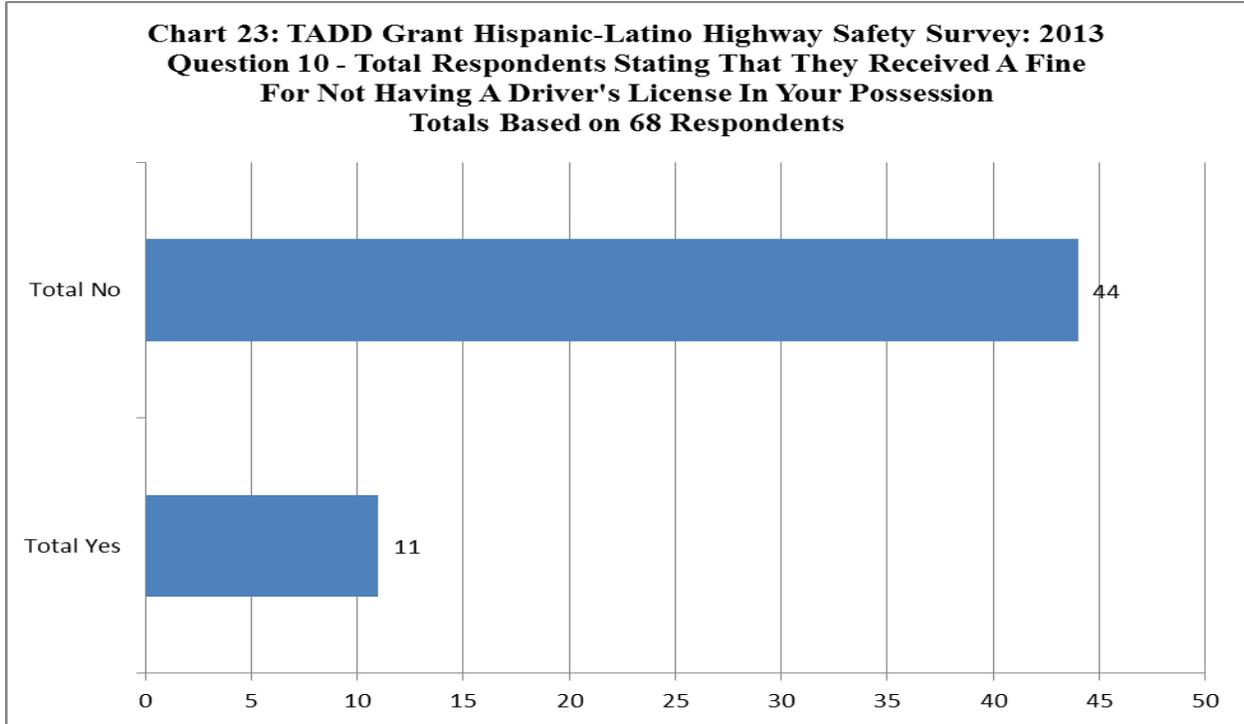


A total of 63 Hispanic-Latino respondents that attended the three Community Meetings completed Question 9. Of those completing the Question;

- Fourteen respondent families (22.2%) or one in five persons did not provide an answer to this Question;
- Among the remaining respondent families, sixteen (16) respondents, or 25.4% of all respondents stated that they drove a passenger car most often;
- Nine (9) respondent families each stated that they respectively, drove a pick-up truck and a mini-van most often – 14.3% of all respondents each;
- Six (6) respondent families - stated that they drove a sport utility vehicle (SUV) – this represented 9.5% of all respondents; and
- Four (4) respondent families – 6.3% of all respondents stated that they drove some other type of vehicle.

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**Respondents That Have Received A Fine for Not Possessing Their Driver’s License**



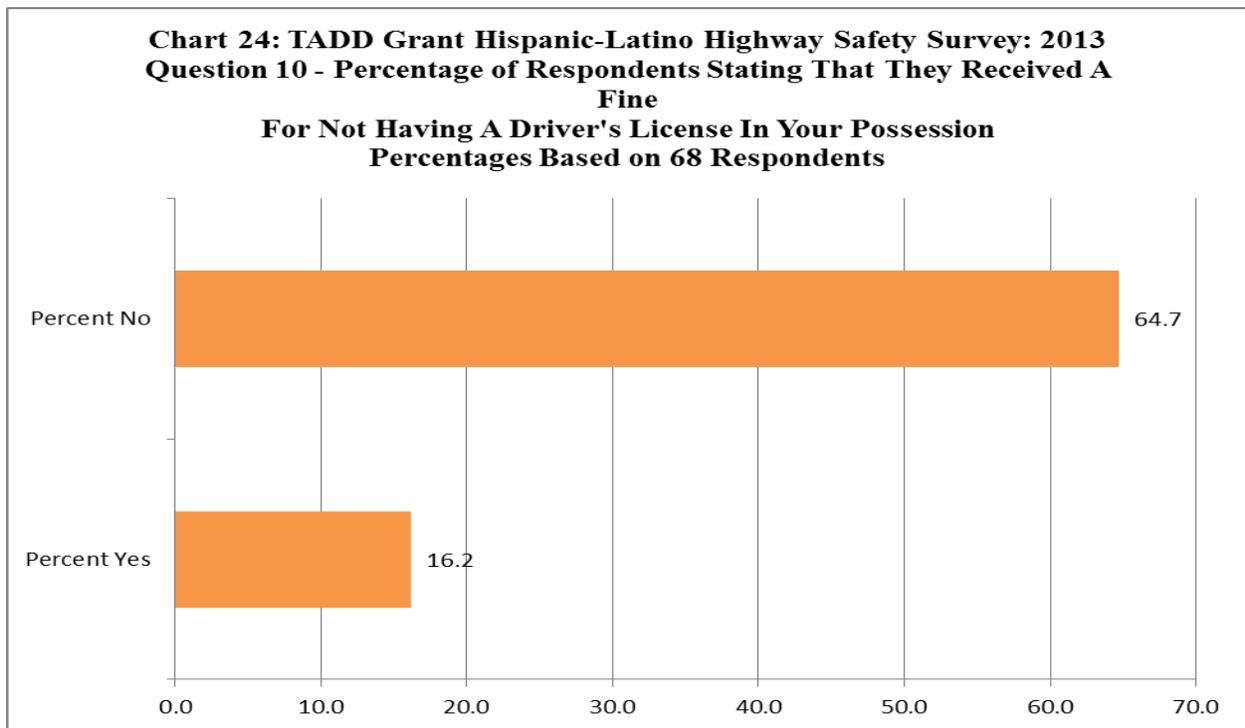
Question 10 of the Highway Safety Survey marks the first question of the remaining half of the Survey. As stated in the Introduction of this document, that the primary goal of the Targeting Aggressive and Distractive Driving Grant (TADD) is to reduce economic loss of property, reduce the number of traffic accidents, and reduce the number of traffic fatalities which can occur between commercial motor vehicles, passenger cars and trucks. One aspect that should be considered when seeking to achieve the goals and objectives of the TADD Grant, is the role that drivers can play if they are driving illegally, or operating a vehicle in a way that can endanger not only the driver, but passengers and family members. In this case, officers from the SC Department of Public Safety, State Transport Police, and the SC Highway Patrol have the ability to issue fines to drivers who may be in violation of the driving laws.

Charts 23 and 24 provide total and percentage statistics on Hispanic-Latino participants that completed Question 10. It is important to note that while 68 respondents completed this question, the sample of persons that participated in the three Community Events can not necessarily be used to generalize to the entire population of Hispanic-Latino families across South Carolina. Namely:

- Only 11 Hispanic-Latino respondent families (16.2% of all respondents) indicated that they received a fine for not having a Driver’s License in their possession.

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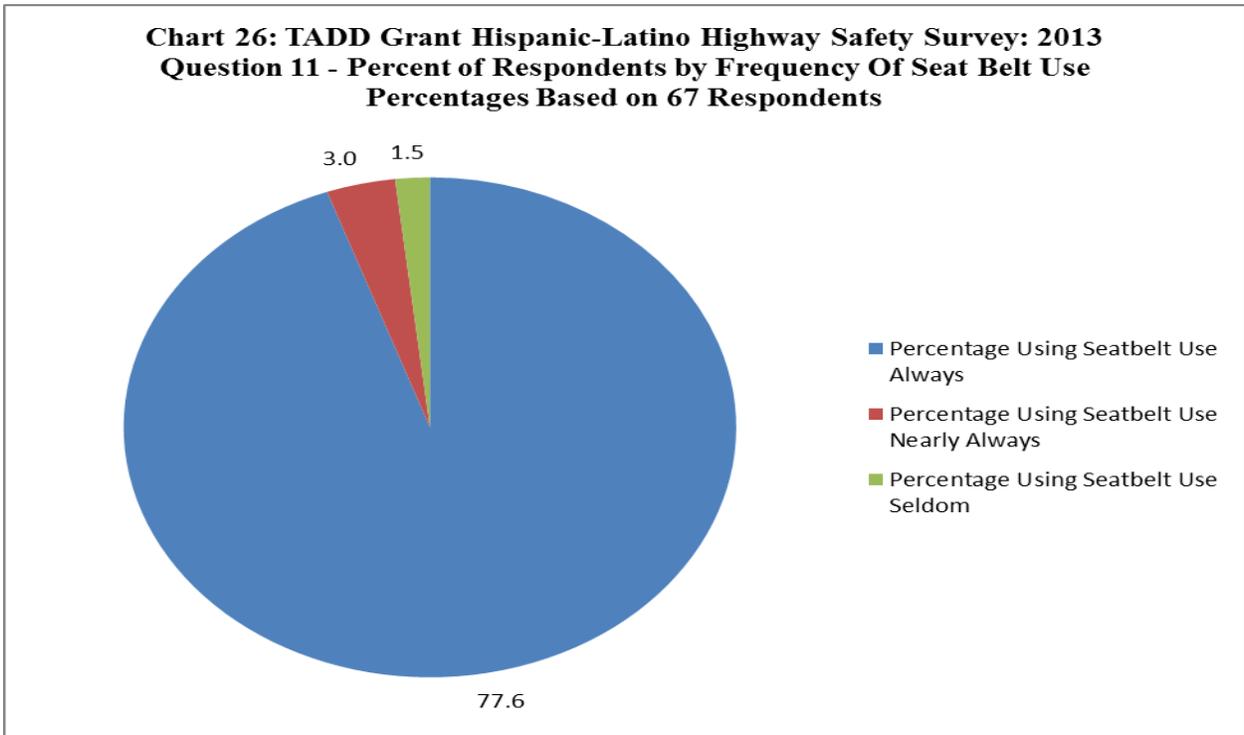
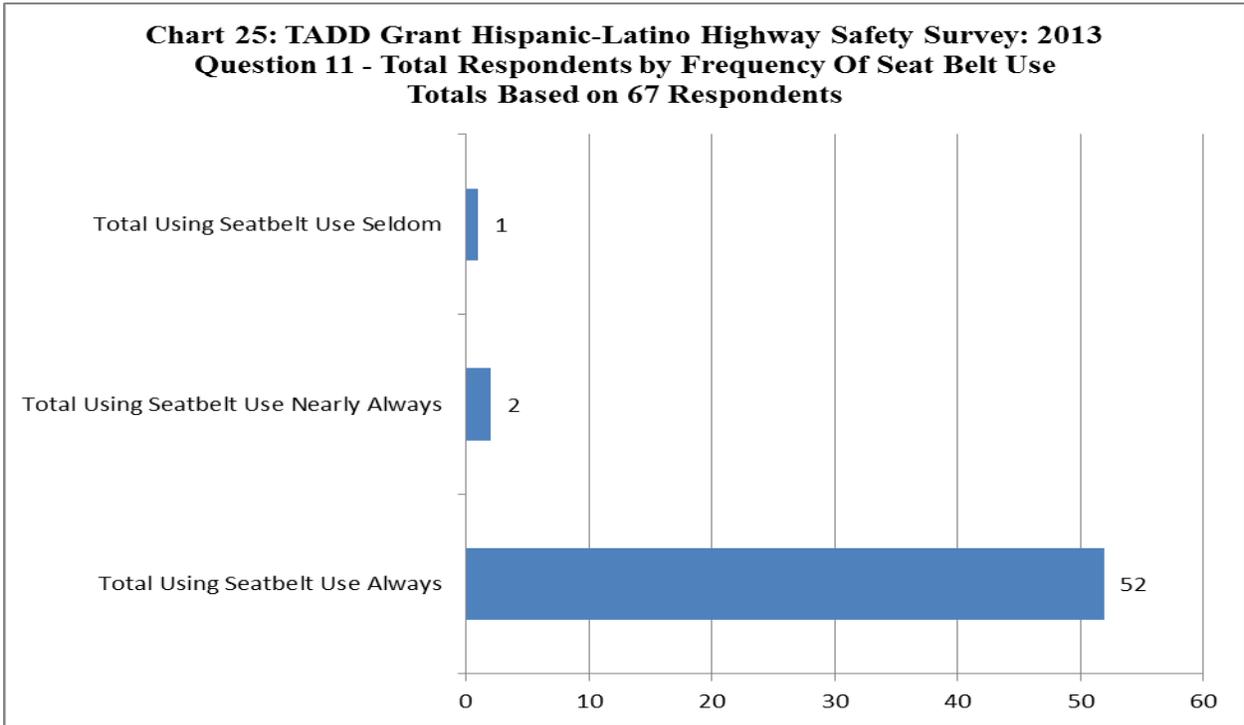
- Forty-four (44) respondent families (64.7% of all respondents) revealed that they have not received a fine. We can infer that of those in attendance at the Highway Safety Training, that most individual participants with a driver's license are aware that they should keep their driver's license in their possession;
- Thirteen (13) respondent families (19.1% of all respondents) did not provide an answer to Question 10. Some Hispanic-Latino families may have been hesitant to provide an answer to this question. However, extra care was taken by officers from the SC Department of Public Safety to provide answers to any questions that individuals and family members had during the Community Meetings.



**Frequency of Seat Belt Use By Hispanic-Latino Individual and Family Drivers**

Question 11 of the Highway Safety Survey sought information from those in attendance at the Community Meetings regarding their frequency of seat belt use. Simply stated, the use of vehicle safety belts save lives, especially when children and family members are involved. In addition, the use of seat belts, in combination with other safety measures covered during the training can decrease the likelihood that major traffic fatalities, damage to property, and other forms of economic loss can occur. Charts 25 and 26 provide total and percentage statistics for Question 11. Both Charts reveal that:

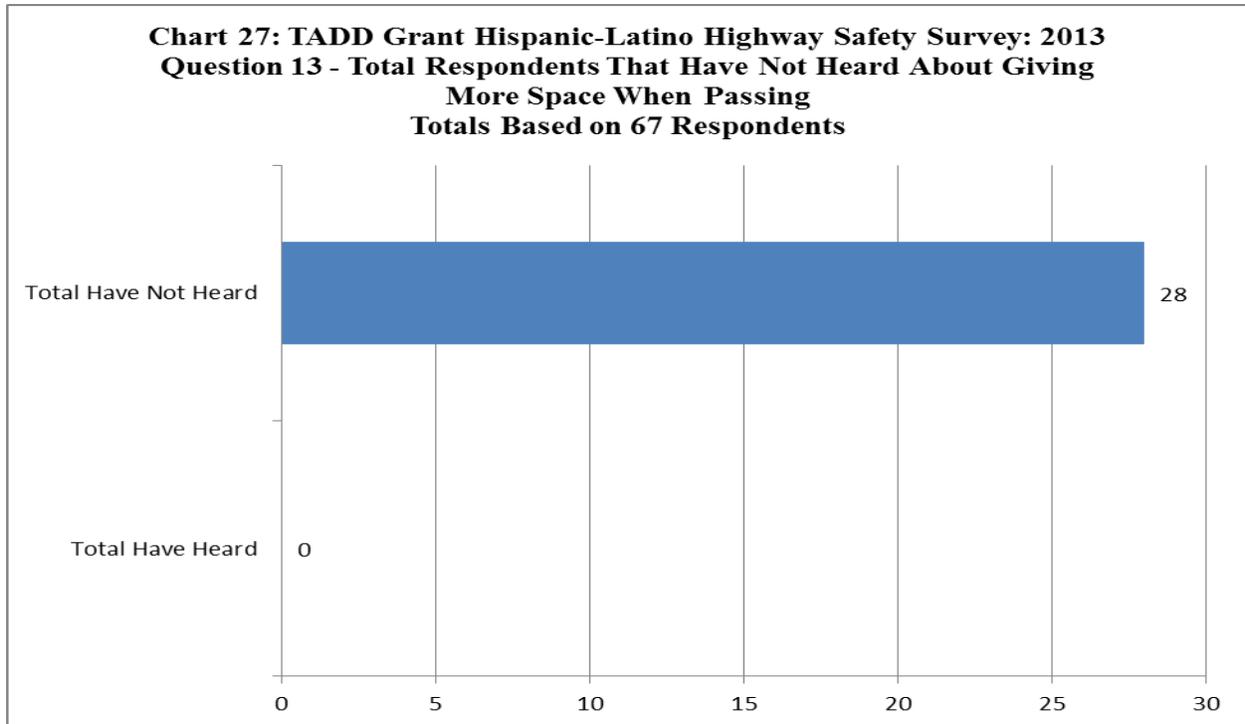
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- Slightly more than three-out-of-four Hispanic-Latino families completing the survey (77.6% - 52 of 67 respondents) indicated that they use safety belts “Always”;

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- Two (2) out of 67 respondent families (3.0%) stated that they use seat belts “Nearly Always”
- [Only] One (1) out of 67 respondent families (1.5%) stated that they use seat belts “Seldom”.



**Responses Pertaining to Safe Distance Between Cars and Trucks (Leave More Space)**

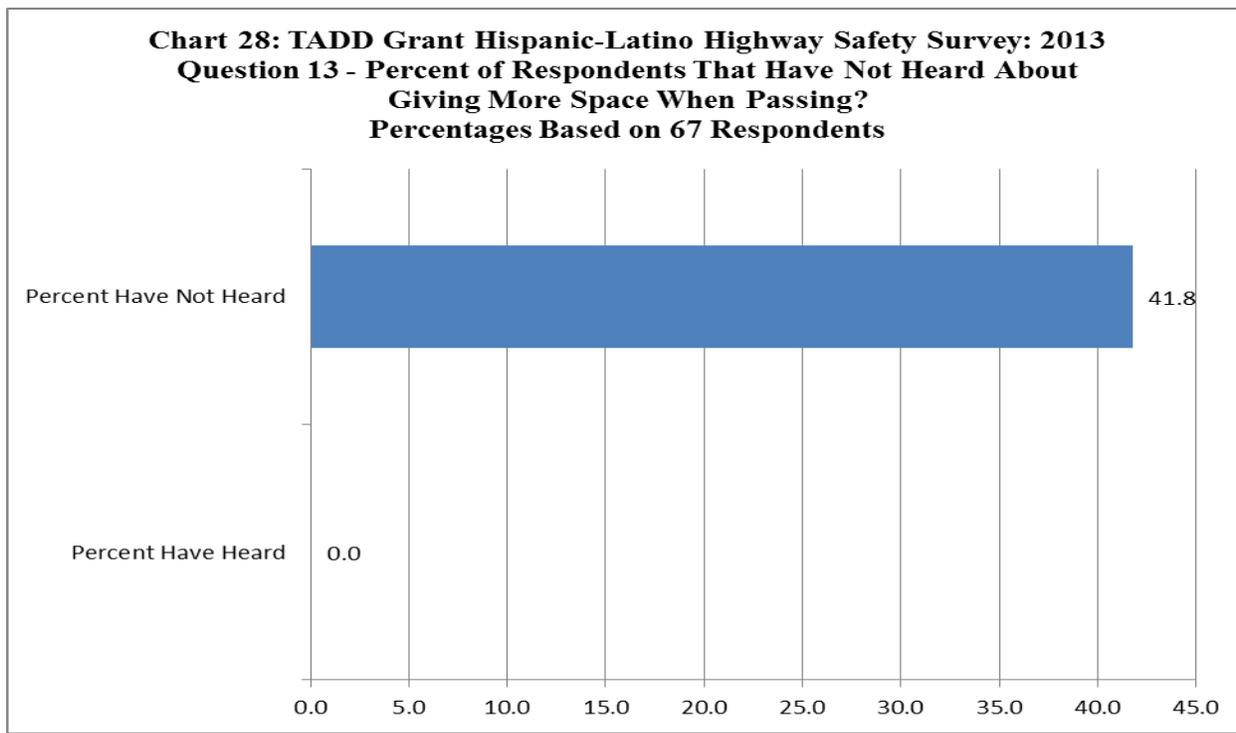
As stated in the Methodolgy section of this Report, there was a concern regarding one of the questions included in the Washington State Survey. The specific question is as follows:

***(Question 12) “When I pass a car on the interstate highway, I leave \_\_\_ feet or \_\_\_ car lengths before I pull back in (to traffic or another lane)”.***

Question 12 was omitted from the Highway Safety Survey for two reasons. First, the training held during the three Community Meetings covered the topics of proper passing and changing lanes between vehicles. Special emphasis was also discussed during the training of Hispanic-Latino families in regards to “Leave[ing] More Space” between vehicles. [Secondly] The “Leave More Space” advertising campaign was a comprehensive campaign implemented by the SC Department of Public Safety, State Transport Police and the SC Highway Patrol. The campaign utilized print media, radio, electronic billboards and television advertisements.

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The campaign was run daily during the months of June through early September, 2013. The general advertisement did not cover specific distances that drivers should leave when seeking to pass cars and commercial vehicles.



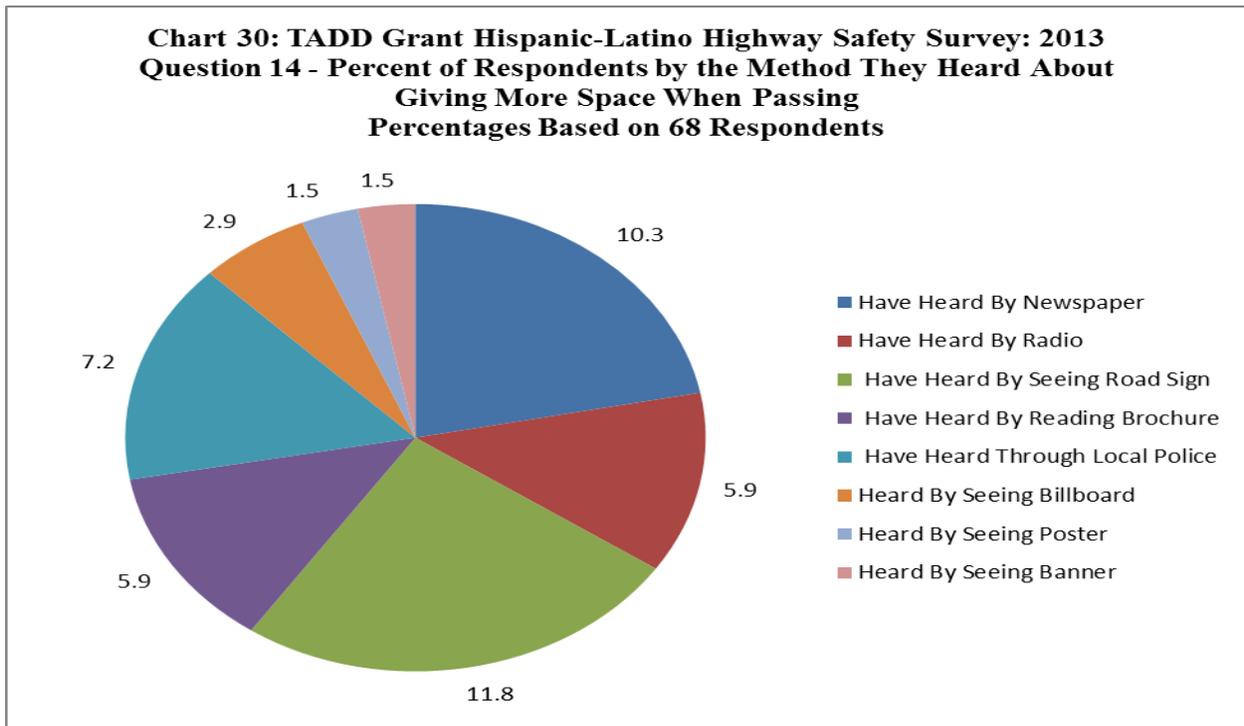
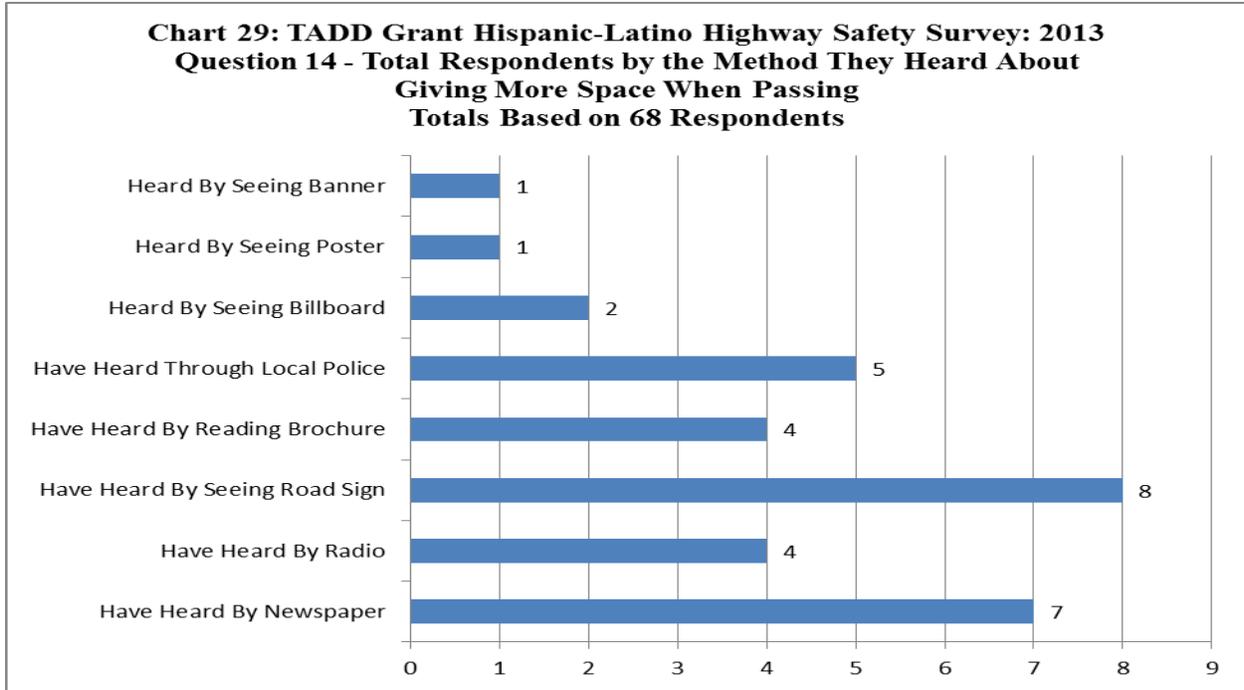
Charts 27 and 28 provide total and percentage statistics regarding Question 13. Question 13 asked Hispanic-Latino respondents whether or not they have read, seen or heard anything about giving (leaving) semi-trucks more space when you pass them. Charts 29 and 30 provide total and percentage statistics on the method in which Hispanic-Latino respondents stated that they have heard about giving or leaving more space when passing semi-trucks.

First, in regards to Question 13, among the 67 respondents participating in the Highway Safety Training Community Meetings, twenty-eight (28) participant families stated that they have not heard anything about giving semi-trucks more space when passing. This represented 41.8% of all persons in attendance at the three Community Meetings.

Question 14 provides information from those Hispanic-Latino who answered “Yes” in regards to having read, seen or heard anything about giving (leaving) semi-trucks more space when you pass them. Charts 29 and 30 respectively, provides total and percentage statistics regarding the method in which Hispanic-Latino population heard about giving (leaving) more space when passing. These Charts show the following information compiled from the Highway Safety Survey:

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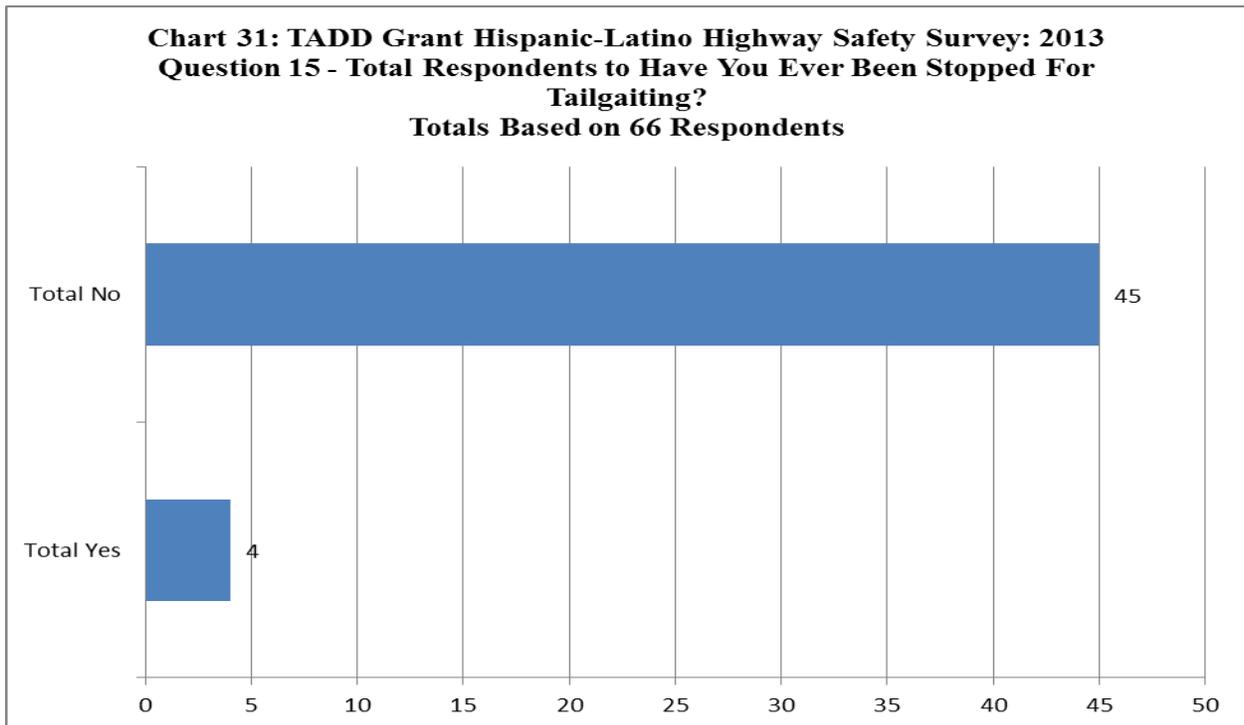
- Eight (8) Hispanic-Latino families stated that they heard about leaving more space by seeing a road sign – 11.8% of all families;



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- Seven (7) Hispanic-Latino families stated that they have heard about leaving more space through reading the newspaper – 10.8% of all families;
- Five (5) Hispanic-Latino families stated that they have heard about leaving more space through the local police – 7.2% of all families;
- Four (4) Hispanic-Latino families stated that they have heard about leaving more space through both reading a brochure and by hearing a message on the radio – respectively 5.9% of all families;
- Two (2) respondents of Hispanic-Latino families stated that they have heard about leaving more space through seeing the message on a billboard – 2.9% of all families; and
- One Hispanic-Latino respondent family each both reading a brochure and by seeing the message on a banner and seeing the message on a poster – respectively 1.5% of all families.

In addition to seeking information from the Hispanic-Latino population on whether they saw or heard any information regarding giving (leaving) more space when they pass semi-trucks, the Highway Safety Survey also sought detailed and specific information on what they heard. In this regard, a total of five respondents gave specific detailed information. All five (5) Hispanic-Latino respondents stated specifically that they had heard about the “Leave More Space” (Deja Mas Espacio). This represented 7.4% of all respondents.



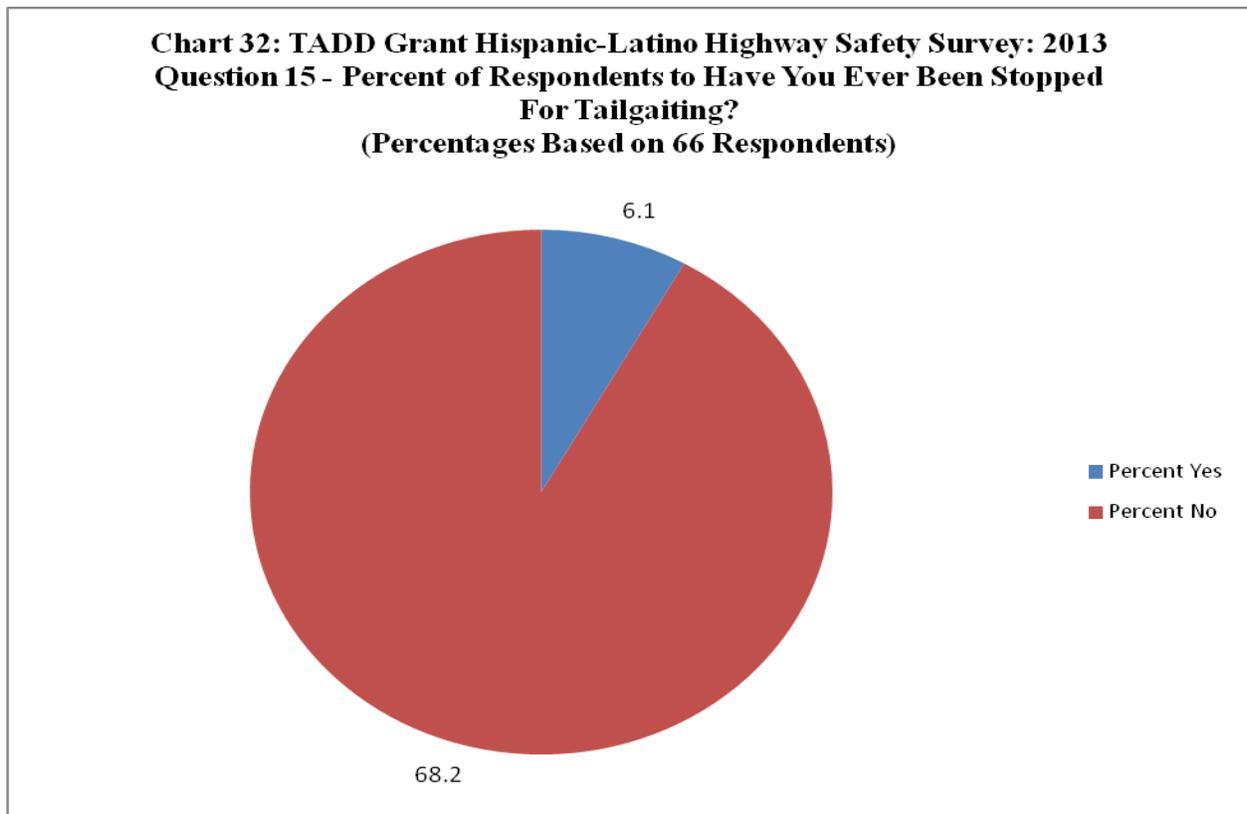
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**Enforcement of Driving Laws for Tailgaiting By Local Police and the SC Highway Patrol**

One of the key components of the training provided to Hispanic-Latino participants during the three Community Meetings was information related to the driving laws in South Carolina. A major part of the training by the Hispanic-Latino Program Coordinator was the presentations in Spanish of Power Point slides related to driving too closely or “tailgaiting”. The concepts of “leave more space” when passing commercial motor vehicles, trucks and sport utility vehicles and not tailgaiting comprised at least thirty minutes (up to one third) of the ninety minute training. In addition, Hispanic-Latino families were given the opportunity to ask questions from Department of Public Safety Officers.

Charts 31 and 32 provide total and percentage statistics relating to Question 15 of the Highway Safety Survey. Question 15 asked each Hispanic-Latino family member participating in the training the following question:

***(Question 15) “Have you ever been stopped by the police or the SC Highway Patrol for driving too close (tailgaiting) or cutting off a semi-truck?”***



Charts 31 and 32 indicates that only 4 Hispanic-Latino respondents (6.1%) indicated that they had been stopped for tailgaiting. A total of 45 Hispanic-Latino respondents (68.2% of respondents) indicated that they had not been stopped for tailgaiting or cutting off a semi-truck.

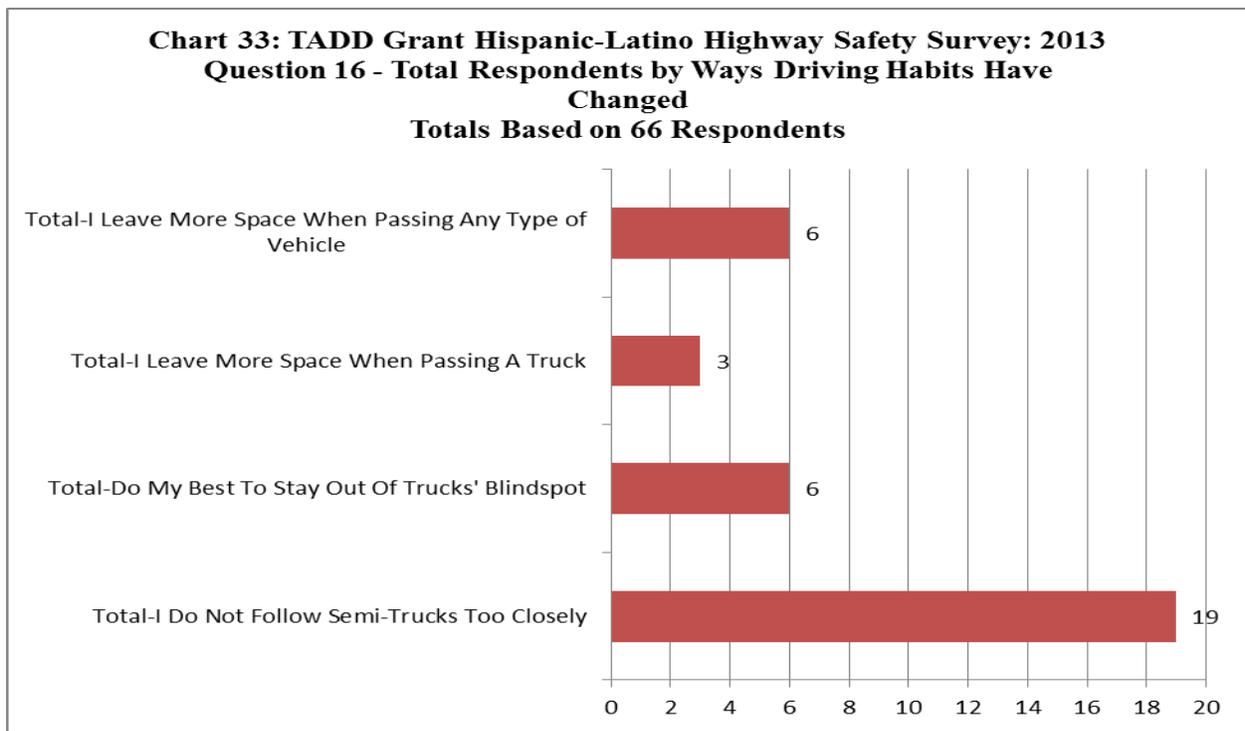
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Seventeen (17) respondent families or 25.8% of Hispanic-Latino families surveyed did not provide an answer to this question. It is important to recognize that more information would need to be collected in other communities around South Carolina where the Hispanic-Latino population resides. In particular, there may be a reluctance for individuals, regardless of race or ethnic origin to admit that they may tailgate or cut off trucks and other commercial vehicles. Future training of the Hispanic-Latino population in high growth urban and rural communities could help to reduce traffic violations and the potential economic loss of life and property.

**Hispanic-Latino Families and Changes in Driving Habits**

An additional set of information that helps to ensure Highway Safety is trying to collect information on changes in driving behavior. Specifically, if individuals are provided information on dangerous driving habits, then even when they receive warnings from local police, SC Highway Patrol or Department of Public Safety-Transport Police Officers, this could encourage them to make changes to their driving habits. These changes can also help reduce the number of traffic collisions, and minimize traffic fatalities and the economic loss of property.

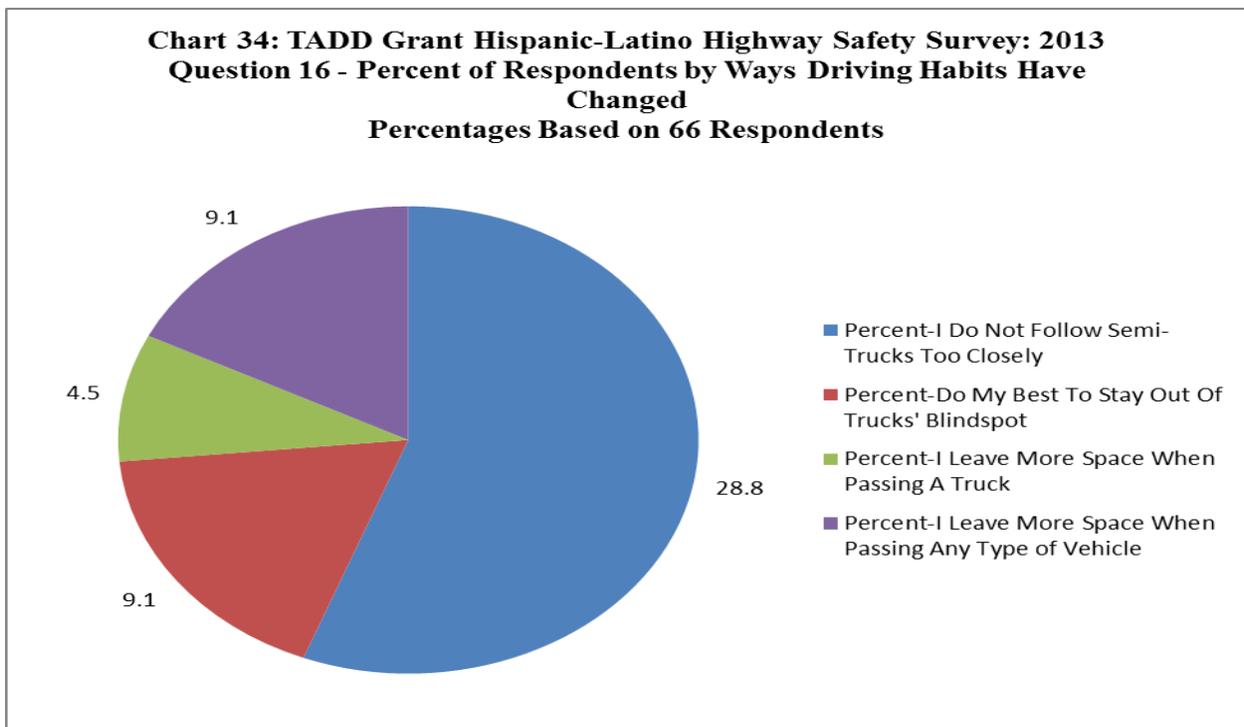
Charts 33 and 34 provide total and percentage information to Question 16 – whether or not an individual has changed their driving habits based on having been stopped within the past two months by the police or SC Highway Patrol. A total of 66 Hispanic-Latino respondents completed this question. Of this total, 32 Hispanic-Latino families (48.5% of respondents) did not answer this question.



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Of those Hispanic-Latino families who did complete Question 16:

- Nineteen (19) respondent families stated that they “Do not follow semi-trucks too closely. This represents 28.8% of respondent Hispanic-Latino families;
- Six (6) Hispanic-Latino families stated that they either “Do their best to stay out of truck’s blindspot” and/or “They leave more space when passing any type of vehicle”. In both cases, each of these six (6) Hispanic-Latino families represents 9.1% of all respondents that completed this question;
- Three (3) Hispanic-Latino families stated that they “Leave more space when passing a truck”. This represents 4.5% of all respondents that completed this question.



**The Types of Violations In Which The Hispanic-Latino Population Have Been Involved**

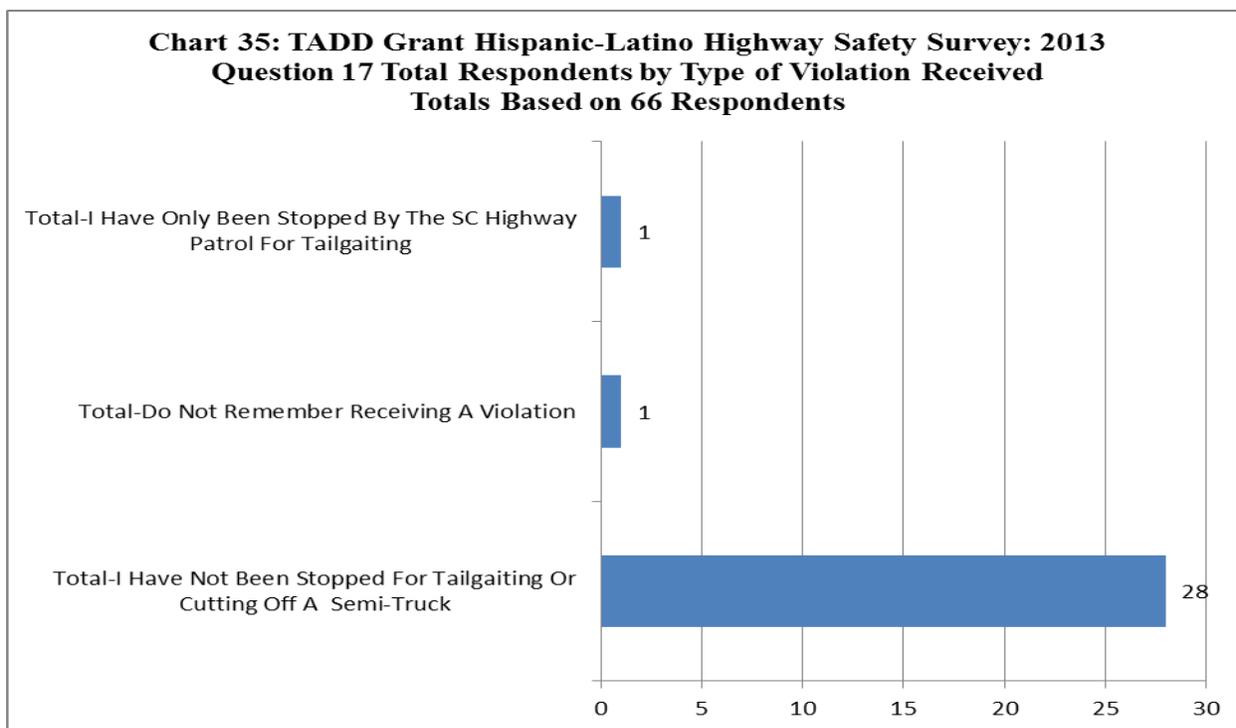
During the Highway Safety Training, a mutual understanding was generated between the families who participated in the three Community Meetings, and the officers present from the Department of Public Safety. The two Public Safety Officers who participated in the Community Meetings spent a great deal of time was answering questions regarding general traffic safety, as well as specific issues that can arise on the busier roads and interstate highways, not only along the three roads in Greenville County that the TADD Grant focused on (I-85, I-385, and U. S. 25), but also on feeder and secondary roads in the Upstate region of South Carolina as well.

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Because of issues such as language barriers, unfamiliarity with the driving laws of South Carolina, and different driving and road conditions of the various countries in which the Hispanic-Latino families may have relocated to South Carolina from, the increased likelihood of traffic accidents and traffic violations should be understood as something that can occur. Question 17 of the Highway Safety Survey sought information from Hispanic-Latino families in regards to the type of violation that they received when they were stopped by local police or the SC Highway Patrol.

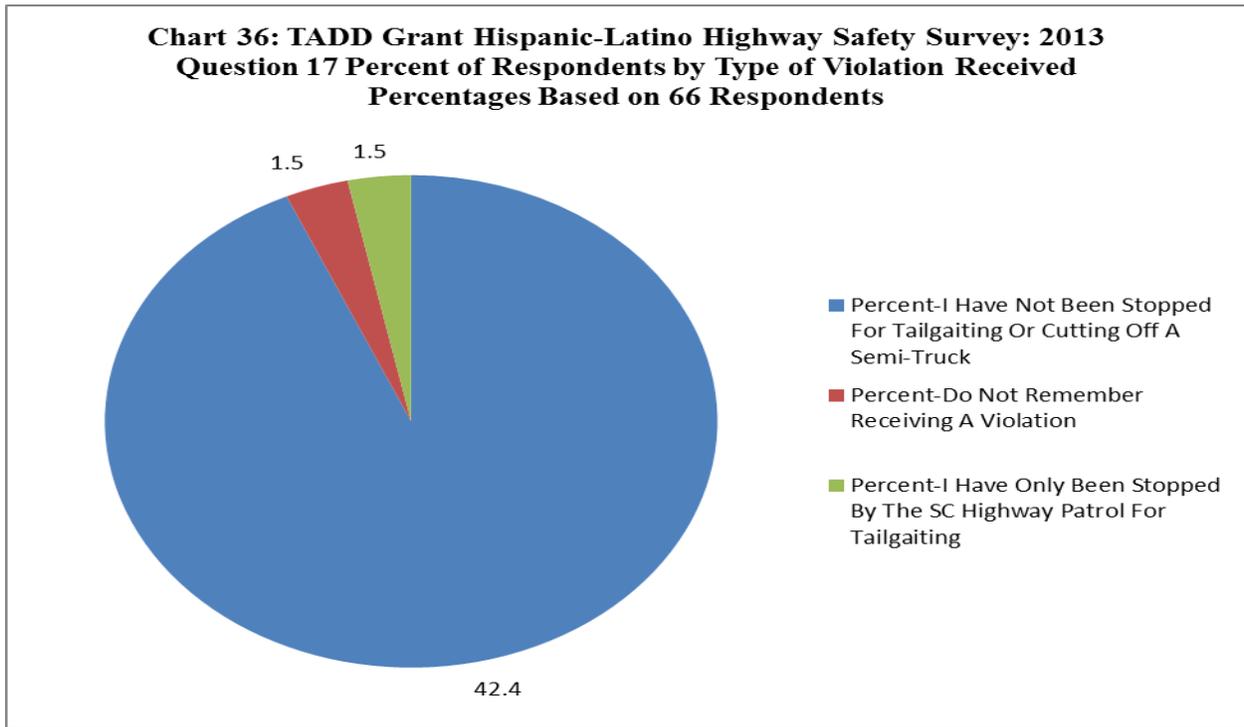
Charts 35 and 36 provides total and percentage statistics for those Hispanic-Latino families who completed this Question. Of the 66 respondent Hispanic-Latino families:

- Thirty-six (36) respondent families did not provide an answer to whether or not that they have been stopped by the local police or the SC Highway Patrol and received a violation;
- Among those Hispanic-Latino families that did provide an answer to Question 17, twenty-eight (28) families (42.4% of respondent families) stated that they have not been stopped for tailgating or cutting off a semi-truck;



- One Hispanic-Latino family (1.5% of respondents) stated that they do not remember ever receiving a violation for tailgating or cutting off a semi-truck;
- One Hispanic-Latino family (1.5% of respondents) stated that they had been stopped by the SC Highway Patrol for tailgating or cutting off a semi-truck.

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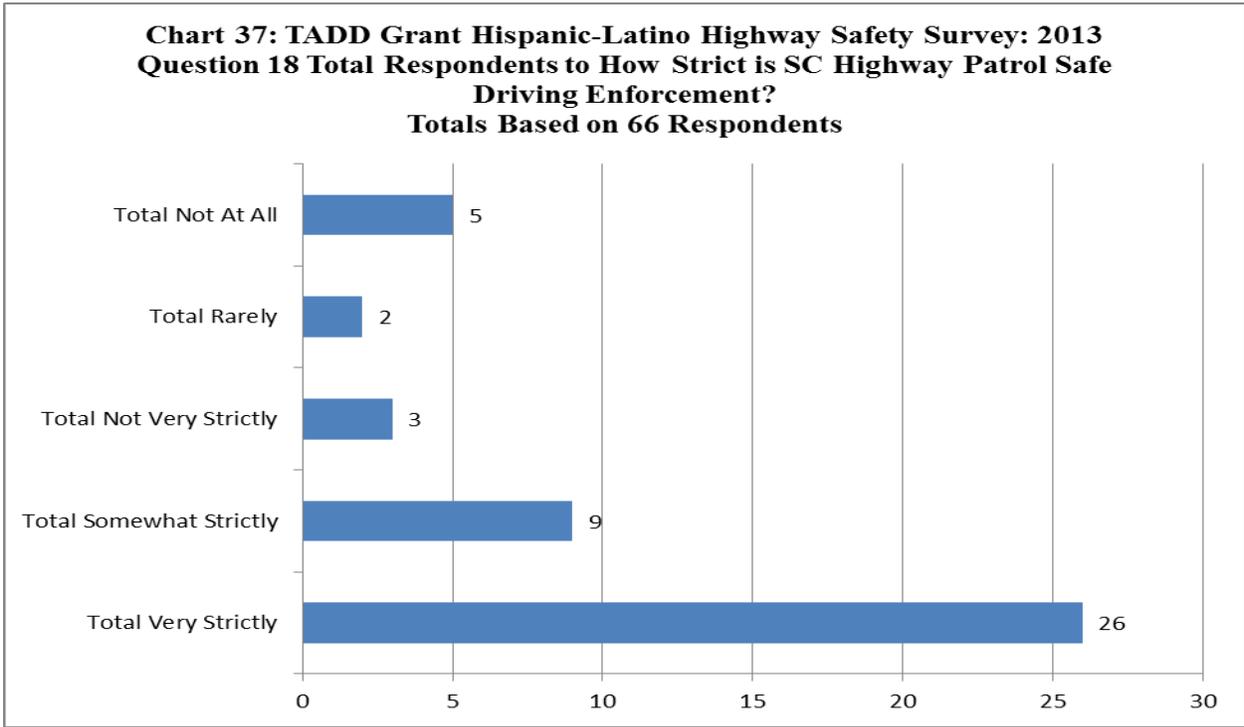


To gain a clear understanding of the perceptions of the enforcement components of of the Targeting Aggressive and Distractive Driving (TADD) Grant, the Highway Safety Survey included one (last) question regarding enforcement. Specifically, Question 18 asked Hispanic-Latino families:

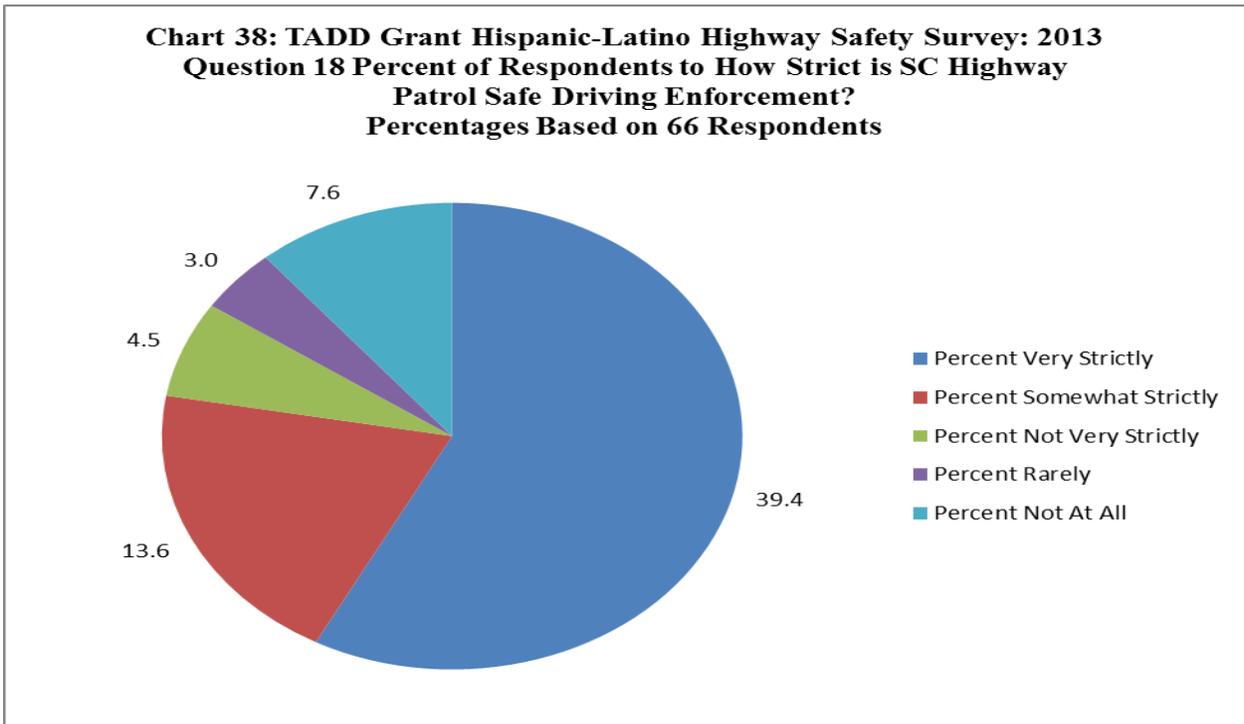
***(Question 18) – “How strictly do you think that the South Carolina Highway Patrol enforces safe driving around trucks”?***

The purpose of this question was to gain some insight from Hispanic-Latino families who do drive vehicles as to their views on how the SC Highway Patrol enforces the current laws regarding passenger cars and how safe that they drive around trucks. During the Highway Safety Training, the Hispanic-Latino Program Coordinator (Lee McElveen) and Miriam Barrouet of Bilingual Connections spent a lot of time providing examples in Spanish on how Hispanic-Latino drivers of passenger cars, minivans, trucks and Sport Utility Vehicles (SUV’s) should increase their passing distance around both passenger trucks and commercial trucks. In addition, examples were provided by both persons about the “No Zone” areas around large commercial trucks during each of the three Community Meetings. Finally, several demonstrations were also provided during the “Leave More Space” Saturday event held at the U. S. 25 White Horse Road Flea Market (the old Greenville County Fairgrounds) in Greenville SC. During these presentations, Public Safety Officer J. D. Hand and Ms. McElveen, Hispanic Latino Program Coordinator demonstrated to Hispanic-Latino families the “No Zone” area around large trucks, and provided translated demonstrations to an additional 350 persons.

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Charts 37 and 38 provide total and percentage information related to how strict the Hispanic-Latino population view the enforcement of safe driving laws around trucks.



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A total of 66 Hispanic-Latino respondents provided answers to Question 18. The data reveals that:

- Twenty-six (26) respondent Hispanic-Latino families (39.4% of respondents) stated that they felt that the SC Highway Patrol *very strictly enforces* the laws regarding safe driving around trucks;
- Nine (9) respondent Hispanic-Latino families (13.6% of respondents) stated that they felt that the SC Highway Patrol enforces the laws regarding safe driving around trucks *somewhat strictly*;
- Three (3) respondent Hispanic-Latino families (4.5% of respondents) stated that they felt that the SC Highway Patrol enforces the laws regarding safe driving around trucks *not very strictly*;
- Two (2) respondent Hispanic-Latino families (4.5% of respondents) stated that they felt that the SC Highway Patrol *rarely enforces* the laws regarding safe driving around trucks; and
- Five (5) respondent Hispanic-Latino families (7.6% of respondents) stated that they felt that the SC Highway Patrol *does not enforce* the laws regarding safe driving around at all;

When looking at the response information for Question 18, it is important to note that twenty-one (21) Hispanic-Latino families did not provide an answer to this question. This represented 31.8%, or one out of every three families that attended the Community Meetings. It is hard to explain why they chose not to answer this question. Some of the nonresponse could be due to the newness of the enforcement component during the months of June and July of 2013 regarding the “Leave More Space” through the various communication methods. In addition, some of the nonresponse can also be due to some unfamiliarity with the driving laws in the state. Finally, it could be that fewer Hispanic-Latino families may understand the current laws due to language barriers.

**Conclusion**

This report provided a summary of information collected from the Targeting Aggressive and Distractive Driving (TADD) Grant Hispanic-Latino Highway Safety Survey. The Survey was administered by the Hispanic-Latino Program Coordinator and the Research Program Manager at the South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs. Training assistance was also provided through Bilingual Connections (Ms. Miriam Berrouet) and Ms. McElveen, Hispanic Latino Program Coordinator.

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The Community Meeting locations were also coordinated through the Unicom Media Group, a Hispanic-owned Communications firm and Mr. Wilfredo Leon, owner of the statewide Hispanic-Latino newspaper-LaNacion. Mr. Leon provided articles publishing the locations, dates and times of the three Community Meetings. The Commission staff was also featured on the Hispanic-Latino radio station in Greenville.

The Commission Staff also worked closely with officers and staff of the SC Department of Public Safety. In particular, Public Safety Officer J. D. Hand was instrumental in speaking to Hispanic-Latino families at two of the three Community Meetings regarding how the Department of Public Safety seeks to work closely with the Hispanic-Latino population, and reduce the “bad guys” reputation of Public Safety officials. In addition to Officer Hand, other Department of Public Safety Officers did attend the Community Meetings, and they were helpful in facilitating the question-and-answer portions of the Community Meetings. This made the Hispanic-Latino families feel comfortable and helped to make the Highway Safety Training sessions go smoothly.

Finally, the Commission staff appreciated the opportunity to work with David Findley, John Price, and Roy Cloud of the SC Department of Public Safety, and hope that both agencies will be able to collaborate on other Federal Motor Carriers Services Administration (FMCSA) High Priority Grants in the future. The Commission for Minority Affairs also would like to thank Chris M. Hartley, newly hired Division Administrator and Mr. Kevin Morrison, Assistant Manager at the Federal Motor Carriers Services Administration. The South Carolina Commission for Minority Affairs hopes that future opportunities will enable all three agencies to expand this community initiative to the African-American and Native American Indian populations as well. This will help to reduce the number of traffic accidents, fatalities, and minimize economic loss on the roads and interstates of South Carolina.

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