

**GEOGRAPHIC PREFERENCES OF
TOMPKINS COUNTY, NEW YORK
RESIDENTS AND IN-COMMUTERS
SEPTEMBER 2016**

**PROVIDED BY:
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**GEOGRAPHIC PREFERENCES OF TOMPKINS COUNTY RESIDENTS
(NON-STUDENT) AND IN-COMMUTERS**

In order to better understand the geographic preferences of Tompkins County residents (non-students) and in-commuters, a series of questions were asked within the internet survey conducted in Tompkins County. While some of the data is location specific, it has also been grouped in urban, suburban and rural categories.

Following is a comparison of responses between residents and in-commuters.

Q.54 - Are you planning to move in the next five years?		
Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
Yes	30.4%	17.8%
Maybe	22.4%	24.0%
Not Sure	15.0%	16.9%
No	32.2%	41.3%

Tompkins County residents are considerably more certain of moving within the next five years than are in-commuters - 52.8% are planning to move compared to only 41.8% among in-commuters. The “not sure” category is about equal with 15.0% among Tompkins County residents versus 16.9% among in-commuters.

Q.55 - How likely is it that your next move will be to or within Tompkins County? Asked of those who answered “Yes,” “Maybe,” or “Not Sure” to Q.54		
Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
Extremely likely	22.2%	6.2%
Somewhat likely	13.0%	19.8%
Not sure	24.1%	38.1%
Somewhat unlikely	13.5%	12.1%
Extremely unlikely	27.3%	23.7%

Of those respondents replying “Yes”, “Maybe” or “Not Sure” if they were planning to move, 35.2% of Tompkins County residents are likely to remain in Tompkins County while 26.0% of in-commuters are planning to move to Tompkins County.

Q.56 In what school district or districts would you prefer to live? (check all that apply) - asked of those answering “Extremely likely,” “Somewhat likely” or “Not sure” to Q.55

Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
Dryden Central	7.7%	16.4%
Groton Central	1.1%	6.1%
Ithaca City	65.2%	37.6%
Lansing Central	17.7%	30.9%
Newfield Central	3.0%	7.9%
Trumansburg Central	13.7%	21.8%
Other	19.2%	28.5%

Tompkins County residents had a much higher preference for Ithaca City Schools, 65.2%, versus in-commuters at 37.6%.

Q.57 What will you be looking for if moving to or within Tompkins County? (check all that apply) - asked of those answering “Extremely likely,” “Somewhat likely” or “Not sure” to Q.55

Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
Single-floor living/handicapped-accessible	25.0%	21.8%
Walking distance to shopping, employment, recreation, schools	53.5%	33.3%
Easy access to public transportation	44.4%	39.4%
Sense of community	53.1%	45.5%
Live/work space	43.6%	50.9%
Easy home maintenance	52.1%	60.0%
Off-street parking	54.5%	63.0%
Outdoor garden or green space	60.7%	59.4%
Other (specify)	25.4%	17.6%

Tompkins County residents are considerably more “urban” oriented than in-commuters with higher expectations for: “Walking distance to shopping,” “Sense of community” and “Easy access to public transportation.” Conversely, in-commuters were more interested in “off-street parking” and “easy home maintenance.”

Q.58 I would prefer to... - asked of those answering “Extremely likely,” “Somewhat likely” or “Not sure” to Q.55		
Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
Own my housing	78.3%	83.0%
Rent my housing	21.7%	17.0%

Consistent with Tompkins County residents being more inclined to select an urban lifestyle, they are somewhat more likely to choose rental housing as opposed to home ownership.

Q.59 As for type of housing, I would consider (please check all that apply) - asked of those answering “Extremely likely,” “Somewhat likely” or “Not sure” to Q.55		
Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
A newly-built single-family home	72.3%	77.6%
An older single-family home	72.3%	76.4%
An apartment	37.2%	23.0%
A condominium	32.7%	20.6%
A duplex	35.2%	26.1%
A townhouse	39.0%	30.9%
A manufactured home	20.1%	35.2%

Tompkins County residents are more likely to choose an apartment, condominium, duplex or townhouse while in-commuters have a higher preference for either a newly built or an older single-family home or a manufactured home.

Q.60 I would consider living (please check all that apply) asked of those answering “Extremely likely,” “Somewhat likely” or “Not sure” to Q.55		
Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
In a village	52.0%	60.6%
In a suburban area	43.6%	57.0%
In the city	55.5%	26.1%
In a rural setting	44.2%	70.9%
No preference	13.6%	13.3%

Tompkins County residents have a significantly higher preference for city living compared to in-commuters who have a higher preference for a “village,” “suburban area” or “rural setting.”

Q.61 In what municipality of Tompkins County would you consider living? (please check all that apply) - Asked of those who answered “asked of those answering “Extremely likely,” “Somewhat likely” or “Not sure” to Q.55		
Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
Caroline Town	18.8%	23.6%
Danby Town	17.4%	22.4%
Dryden Town	22.6%	30.9%
Dryden Village	14.8%	18.8%
Enfield Town	8.3%	8.5%
Freeville Village	13.1%	17.0%
Groton Town	5.6%	10.9%
Groton Village	3.9%	6.1%
Ithaca City	64.5%	35.8%
Ithaca Town	63.0%	54.5%
Lansing Town	33.7%	41.2%
Lansing Village	28.5%	32.1%
Newfield Town	10.3%	19.4%
Trumansburg Village	31.1%	32.7%
Ulysses Town	14.5%	15.8%
Cayuga Heights Village	31.4%	29.3%
No preference	9.0%	18.2%

Again, Ithaca City and Ithaca Town have a much higher preference among Tompkins County residents while the outlying communities are preferred by in-commuters.

Q.62 How much could you afford in rent or mortgage (including insurance and taxes) per month to live in Tompkins County? asked of those answering “Extremely likely,” “Somewhat likely” or “Not sure” to Q.55

Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
Less than \$500	4.9%	7.3%
\$500 to \$599	6.8%	6.7%
\$600 to \$699	6.3%	7.9%
\$700 to \$799	7.5%	10.9%
\$800 to \$899	9.5%	10.9%
\$900 to \$999	9.8%	11.5%
\$1,000 to \$1,249	19.5%	21.8%
\$1,250 to \$1,499	12.4%	12.1%
\$1,500 to \$1,749	8.1%	7.3%
\$1,750 to \$1,999	5.4%	0.6%
\$2,000 or greater	9.9%	3.0%
Median	\$1,067	\$955

The median rent or mortgage expectation is 11.7% higher for Tompkins County residents.

Q.63 How many bedrooms would your household need? - asked of those answering “Extremely likely,” “Somewhat likely” or “Not sure” to Q.55

Choice	Tompkins County Residents	In-Commuters
One	15.1%	7.9%
Two	34.4%	35.2%
Three	36.1%	42.4%
Four	13.1%	13.9%
Five or more	1.3%	0.6%

Tompkins County residents have a higher preference for one-bedroom units while in-commuters have a high preference for three-bedroom units.