

Citizen's Recommendations To Improve Mumbai's Parks & Gardens

Consultation Summary

A review of Mumbai's public parks & gardens by Mumbaikars, evaluating how our city's parks can be improved to become more accessible and available to every citizen of the city.

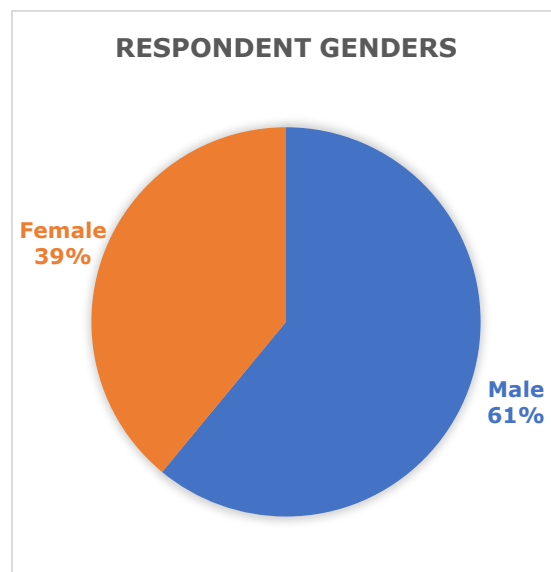
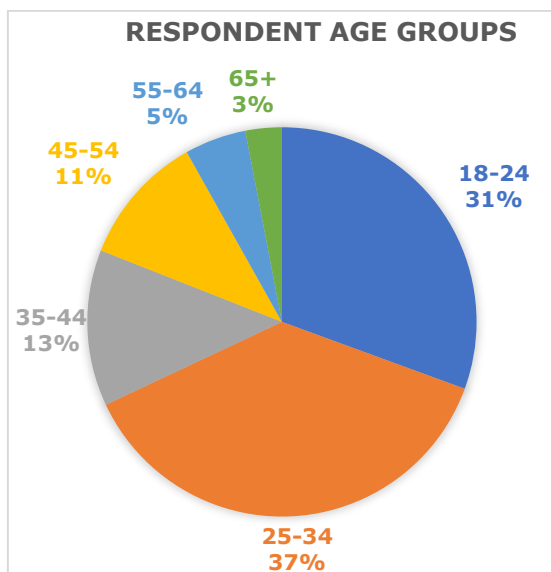
Consultation Overview

In a public consultation hosted on www.civis.vote, we asked the citizens of Mumbai to share their suggestions, grievances and experiences with the city's public parks and gardens, with a view to gather these insights to aid BMC in making their urban planning more sustainable for the future. As part of the consultation we asked them what were the main problems they faced with the city's parks; what restricted their access to visiting parks; which localities in Mumbai needed more parks; and a message they would like to send to the local administration.

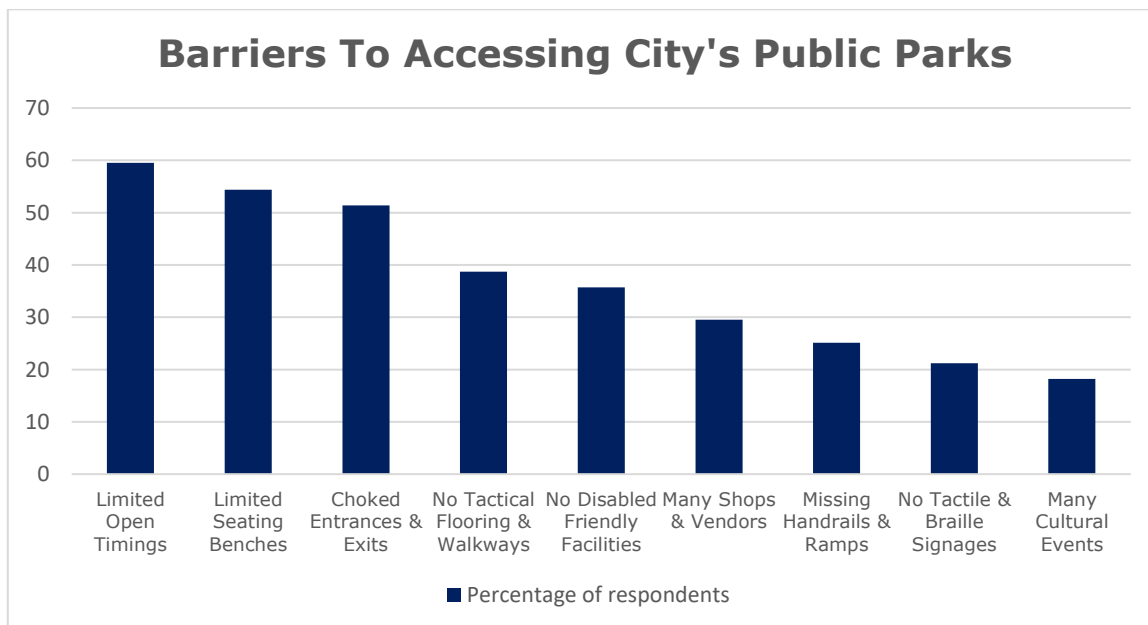
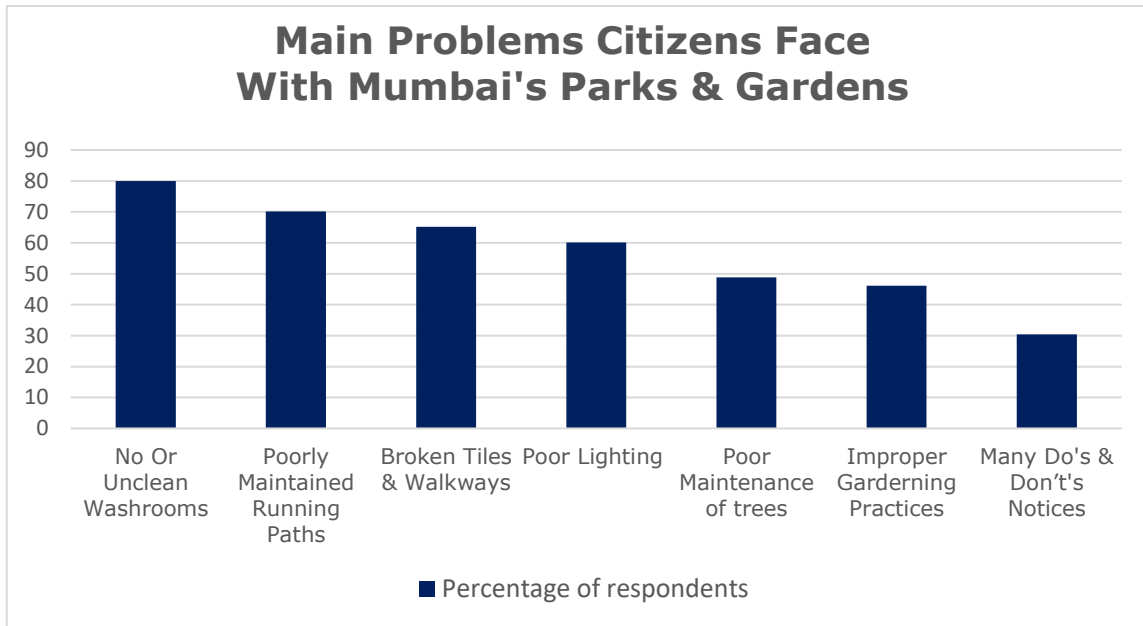
Respondent Profile

Total Responses – 571

Residents of Mumbai Metropolitan Region



Citizen Responses



Neighbourhoods That Need More Parks – Top 3 Clusters

Sr.	Wards	% Selected
1	Andheri, Jogeshwari, Vile Parle (K Ward)	56.7%
2	Sion, Parel, Dadar (F South & G North Ward)	47.9%
3	Chembur, Ghatkopar, Kurla, Powai (L, M & N Ward)	47.2%

Key Themes Of Respondent Comments

- **Most Used Word: Maintenance**

Most respondents expressed the need for parks to be better maintained. A large number of people specifically spoke about the infrastructural gaps that the administration should act upon such as proper tiling on walkways, provision of clean bathrooms, access to drinking water and better seating & lighting.
- **Demand For More Parks & Equitable Distribution Across City**

Citing overcrowding and inaccessibility due to distance, people strongly articulated the need for more parks, and especially for a better distribution of parks, such that there is an appropriately sized park in close proximity for all residents of the city, including those who live in less affluent localities.
- **Investing in Human Resources For Better Security & Cleanliness**

A common refrain was around increasing the number of people engaged as security guards, caretakers & gardeners, and holding them more accountable, to address issues such as the safety of women and children, vandalism and encroachment, as well as maintaining cleanliness in and around the park area. Several people suggested a strict litter fine policy, which will also help raise funds to meet other goals.
- **Introducing Wider Variety of Indigenous Plant Species**

Multiple people recommended that the local government should encourage planting a wider variety of plants & trees, especially those indigenous to the state and country, to lend a unique character to parks.
- **Dedicated Parks For Different Requirements**

People expressed a desire for dedicated parks, or designated areas within parks to cater to the needs of different groups – children, senior citizens, youth and pet owners.
- **Playgrounds & Sports Facilities**

Many people spoke about how the children & youth need areas where they can play. Several people spoke about how the local government should also introduce facilities at parks and maidans for sports like cricket, football, basketball, athletics etc. People spoke positively about open gyms introduced in certain parks, but want the facilities to be better maintained.
- **Consult Urban Space Design Experts**

Respondents suggested that the administration rope in design experts, and research case studies, to create better parks, with a view to make them more aesthetically pleasing as well as maximising functionality. Beyond being of benefit to local residents, this could also help boost tourism.
- **Demand To Convert Unused Lands To Public Green Spaces**

A common desire among Mumbaikars is that the city government acquire land under disuse and develop them as public open spaces, instead of allocating all such land for residential or commercial use.