

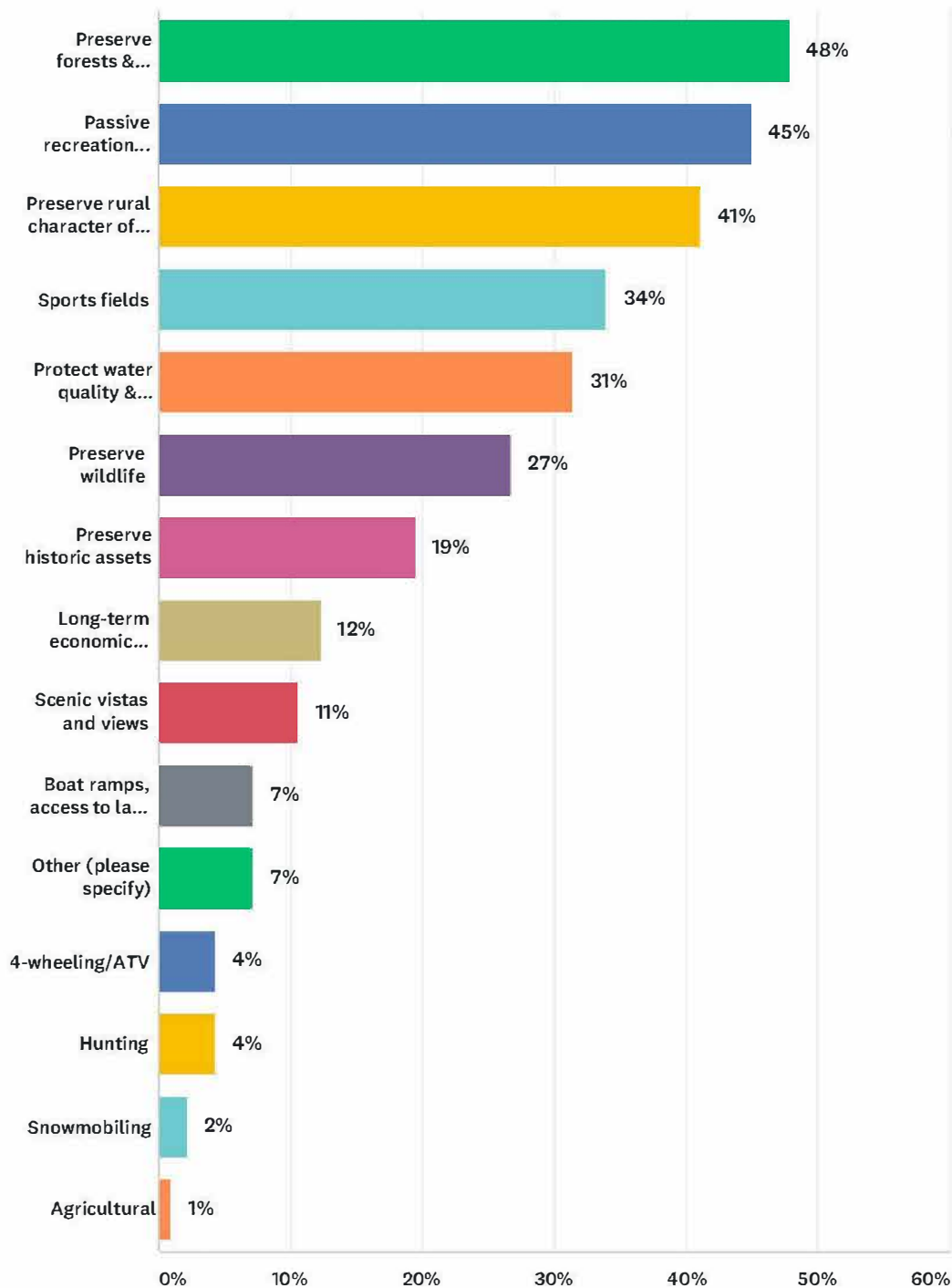
Appendix

F

Appendix F: Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan Survey Results

Q1 What are YOUR top three (3) most important reasons for the Town to acquire and/or preserve open space?

Answered: 236 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Preserve forests & woodlands	48%	113
Passive recreation (i.e. hiking, horseback riding, snowshoeing)	45%	106

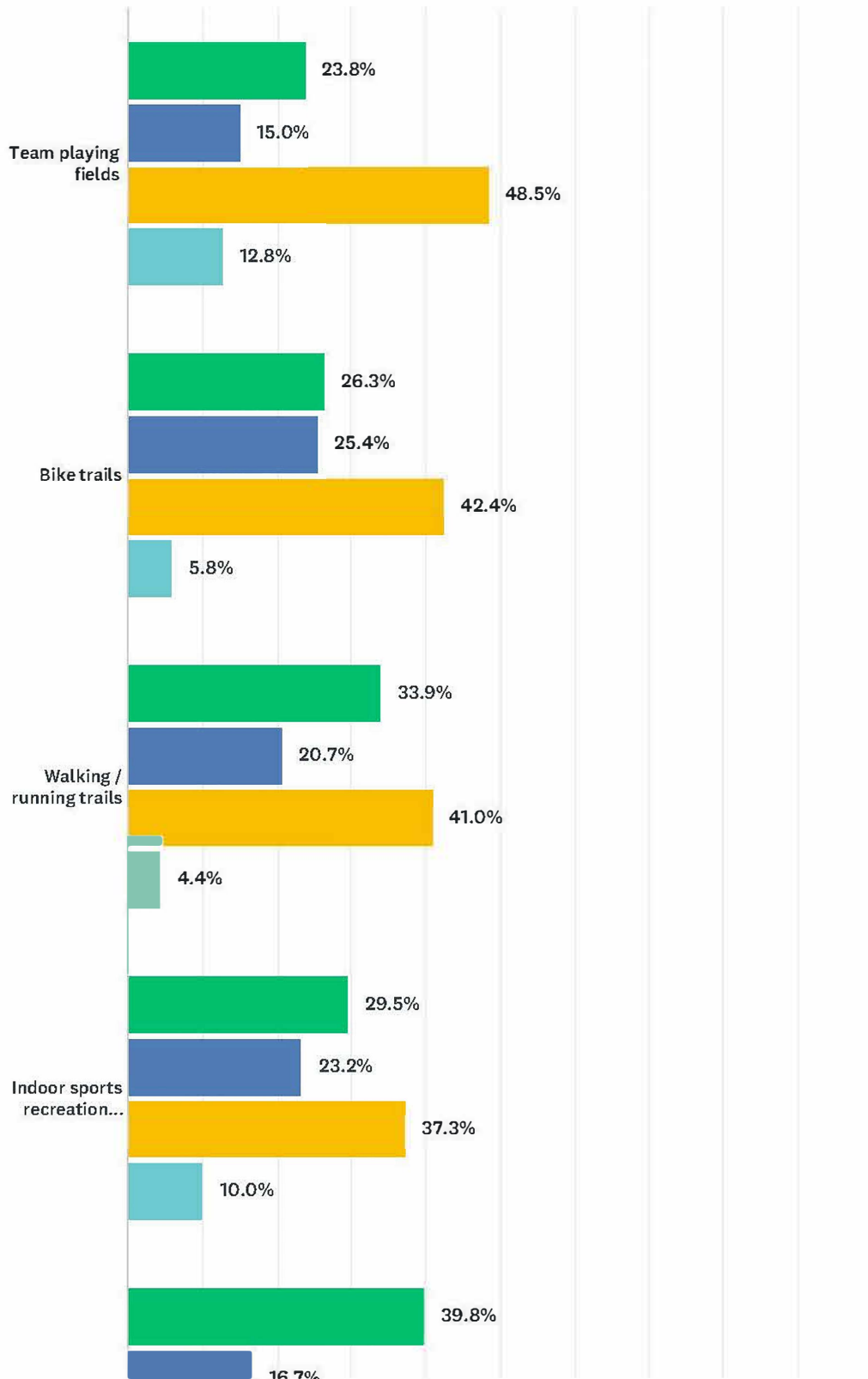
Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018

Preserve rural character of town	41%	97
Sports fields	34%	80
Protect water quality & resources	31%	74
Preserve wildlife	27%	63
Preserve historic assets	19%	46
Long-term economic benefits	12%	29
Scenic vistas and views	11%	25
Boat ramps, access to lakes and rivers	7%	17
Other (please specify)	7%	17
4-wheeling/ATV	4%	10
Hunting	4%	10
Snowmobiling	2%	5
Agricultural	1%	2
Total Respondents: 236		

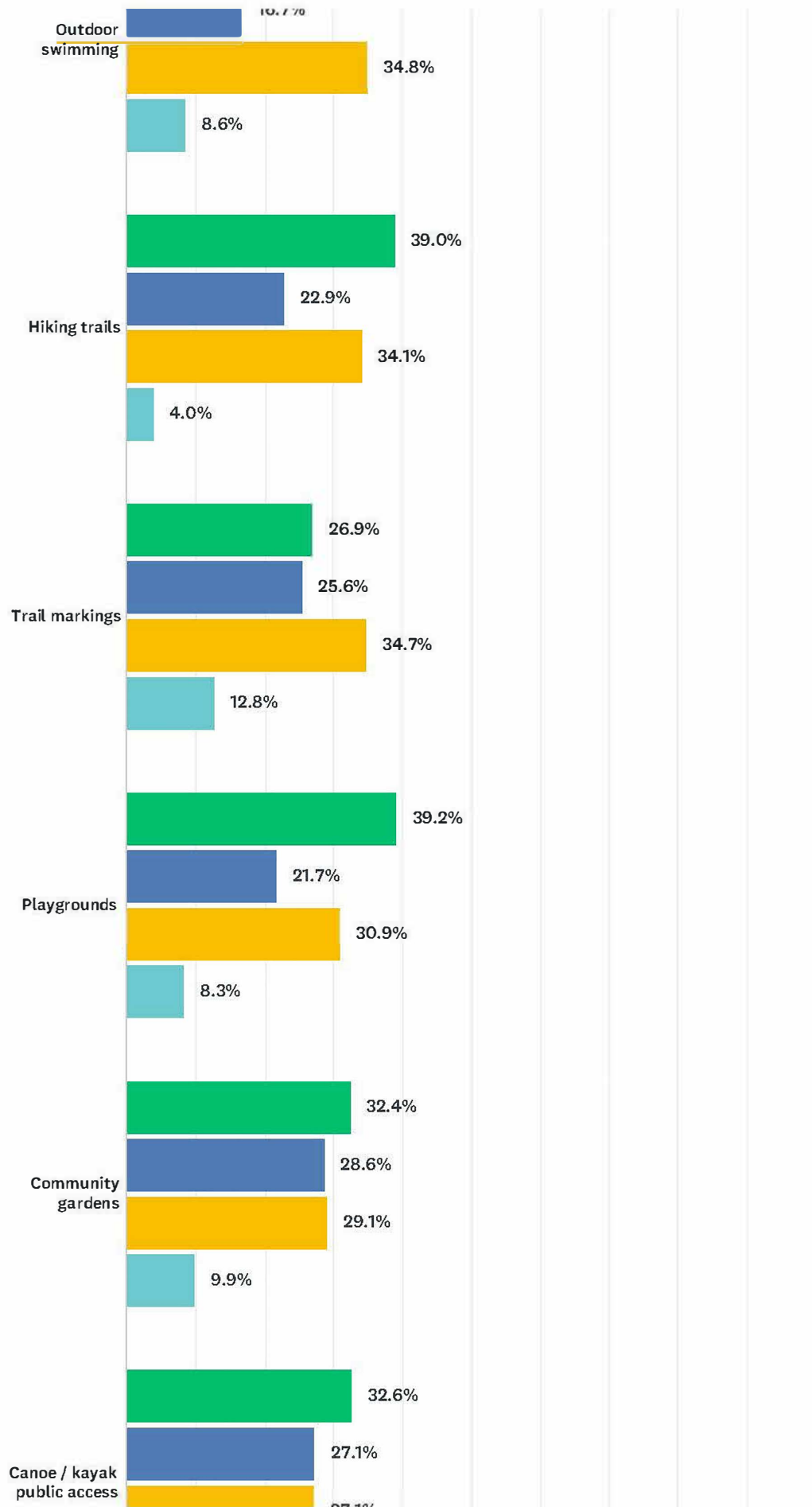
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Don't need any more, have too much now	4/2/2018 3:38 PM
2	Mountain biking	3/29/2018 6:53 PM
3	Dog walk park	3/27/2018 11:01 AM
4	Off leash dog walking	3/27/2018 9:35 AM
5	2	3/22/2018 2:51 PM
6	Pet and kid friendly open spaces	3/21/2018 9:15 PM
7	We need a dog park!	3/20/2018 5:46 PM
8	Pet friendly space - dog park.	3/19/2018 9:45 PM
9	NOT rec fields.	3/19/2018 5:45 PM
10	Na	3/19/2018 3:16 PM
11	Dog Park	3/19/2018 2:32 PM
12	dog park	3/18/2018 10:12 PM
13	Youth Center	3/18/2018 12:54 PM
14	None. We have enough.	3/14/2018 1:29 PM
15	Bike paths sidewalks	3/10/2018 10:33 PM
16	Paths for bike riding (not necessarily paved)	3/9/2018 10:38 PM
17	Community gathering. A dog park would be great.	3/9/2018 2:04 PM

Q2 Which of the following recreational activities do you feel the Town of Sturbridge needs more of and if it is needed, please indicate whether you are willing to pay more taxes in order for the town to provide it?

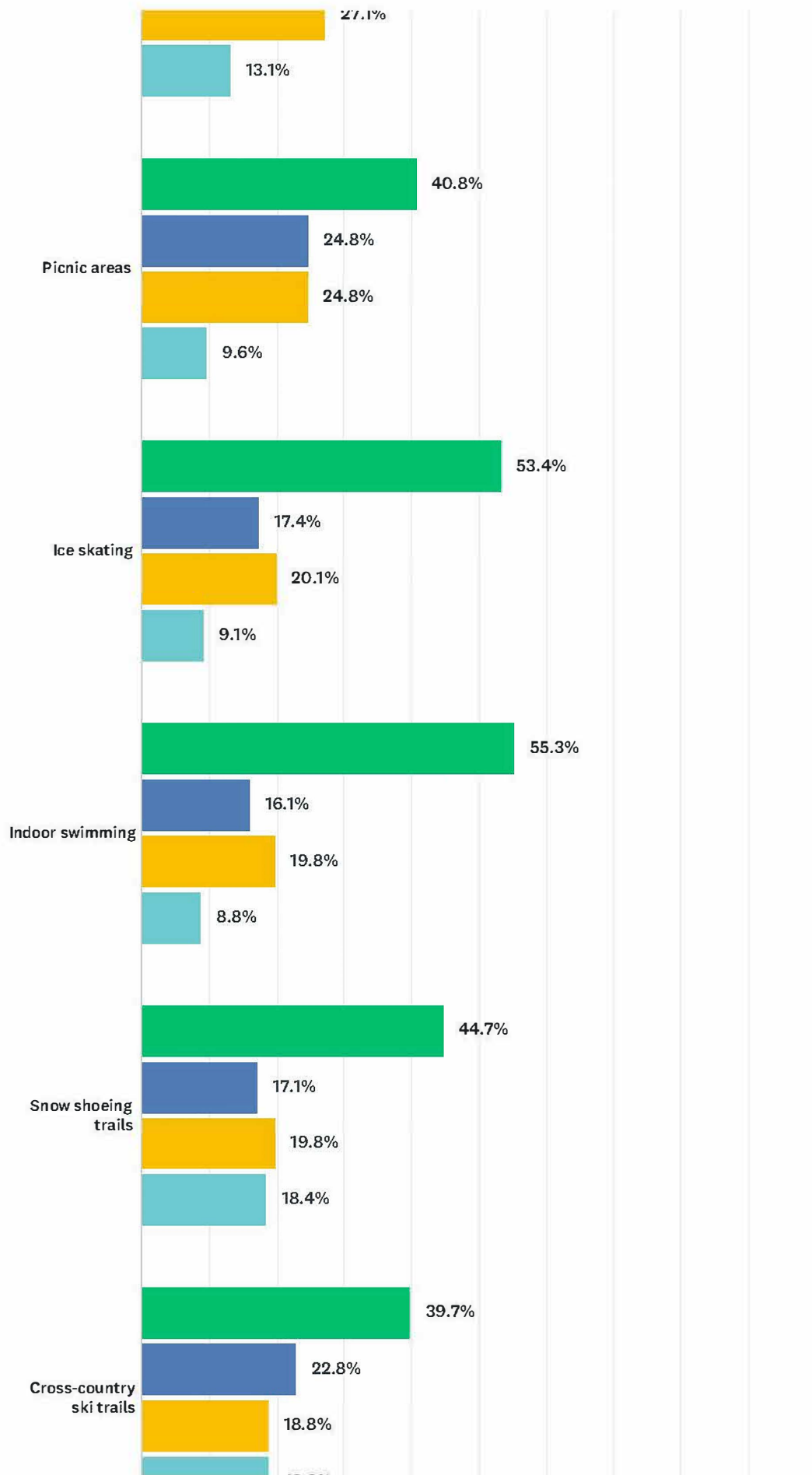
Answered: 236 Skipped: 2



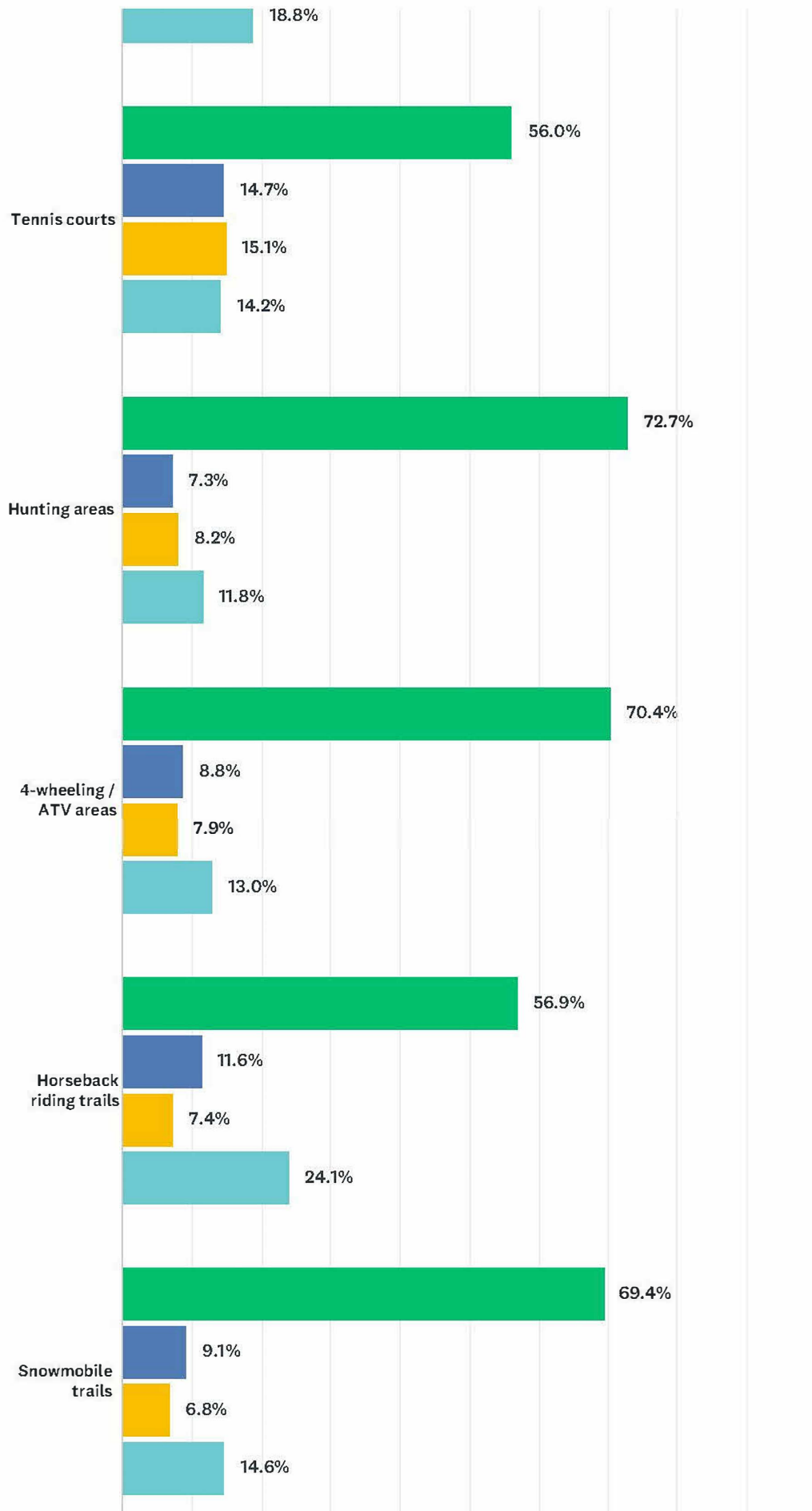
Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018



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Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018

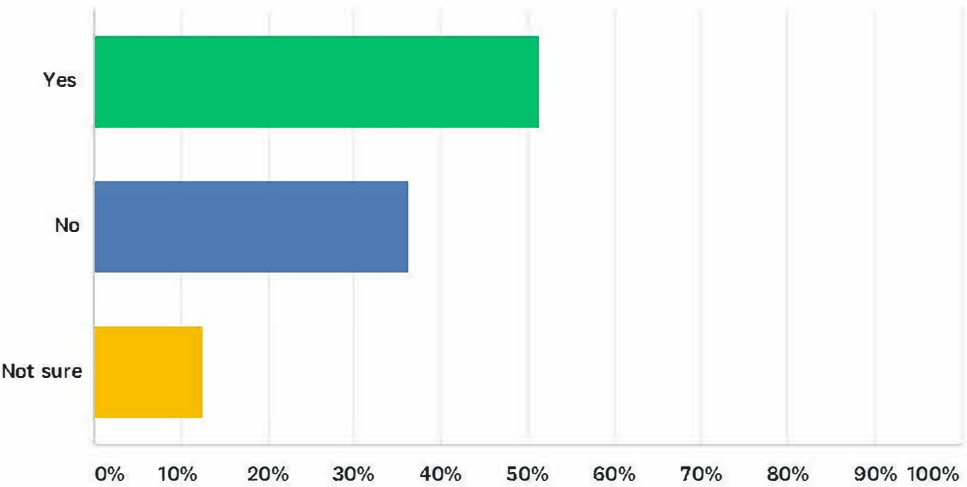
0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Does NOT Need Needs but NOT willing to pay more taxes
Needs and I am willing to pay more taxes Don't Know/Not Applicable

	DOES NOT NEED	NEEDS BUT NOT WILLING TO PAY MORE TAXES	NEEDS AND I AM WILLING TO PAY MORE TAXES	DON'T KNOW/NOT APPLICABLE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Team playing fields	23.8% 54	15.0% 34	48.5% 110	12.8% 29	227	2.50
Bike trails	26.3% 59	25.4% 57	42.4% 95	5.8% 13	224	2.28
Walking / running trails	33.9% 77	20.7% 47	41.0% 93	4.4% 10	227	2.16
Indoor sports recreation facilities	29.5% 65	23.2% 51	37.3% 82	10.0% 22	220	2.28
Outdoor swimming	39.8% 88	16.7% 37	34.8% 77	8.6% 19	221	2.12
Hiking trails	39.0% 87	22.9% 51	34.1% 76	4.0% 9	223	2.03
Trail markings	26.9% 59	25.6% 56	34.7% 76	12.8% 28	219	2.33
Playgrounds	39.2% 85	21.7% 47	30.9% 67	8.3% 18	217	2.08
Community gardens	32.4% 69	28.6% 61	29.1% 62	9.9% 21	213	2.16
Canoe / kayak public access	32.6% 72	27.1% 60	27.1% 60	13.1% 29	221	2.21
Picnic areas	40.8% 89	24.8% 54	24.8% 54	9.6% 21	218	2.03
Ice skating	53.4% 117	17.4% 38	20.1% 44	9.1% 20	219	1.85
Indoor swimming	55.3% 120	16.1% 35	19.8% 43	8.8% 19	217	1.82
Snow shoeing trails	44.7% 97	17.1% 37	19.8% 43	18.4% 40	217	2.12
Cross-country ski trails	39.7% 89	22.8% 51	18.8% 42	18.8% 42	224	2.17
Tennis courts	56.0% 122	14.7% 32	15.1% 33	14.2% 31	218	1.88
Hunting areas	72.7% 160	7.3% 16	8.2% 18	11.8% 26	220	1.59
4-wheeling / ATV areas	70.4% 152	8.8% 19	7.9% 17	13.0% 28	216	1.63
Horseback riding trails	56.9% 123	11.6% 25	7.4% 16	24.1% 52	216	1.99
Snowmobile trails	69.4% 152	9.1% 20	6.8% 15	14.6% 32	219	1.67

Q3 Do you feel there are adequate protected open space and recreational properties in your neighborhood?

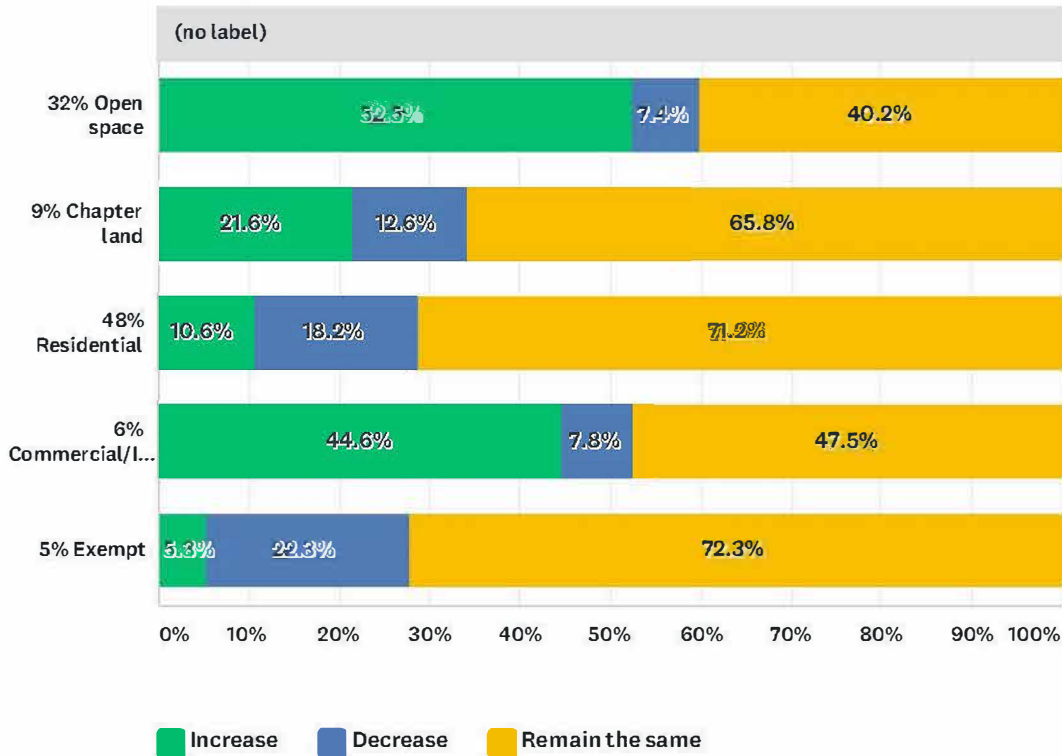
Answered: 232 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		51.29%	119
No		36.21%	84
Not sure		12.50%	29
TOTAL			232

Q4 Currently the Town is made up of 32% Open space, 9% Chapter land, 48% Residential, 6% Commercial/Industrial, and 5% Exempt. Please indicate whether you think each of these percentages should increase, decrease, or remain the same.

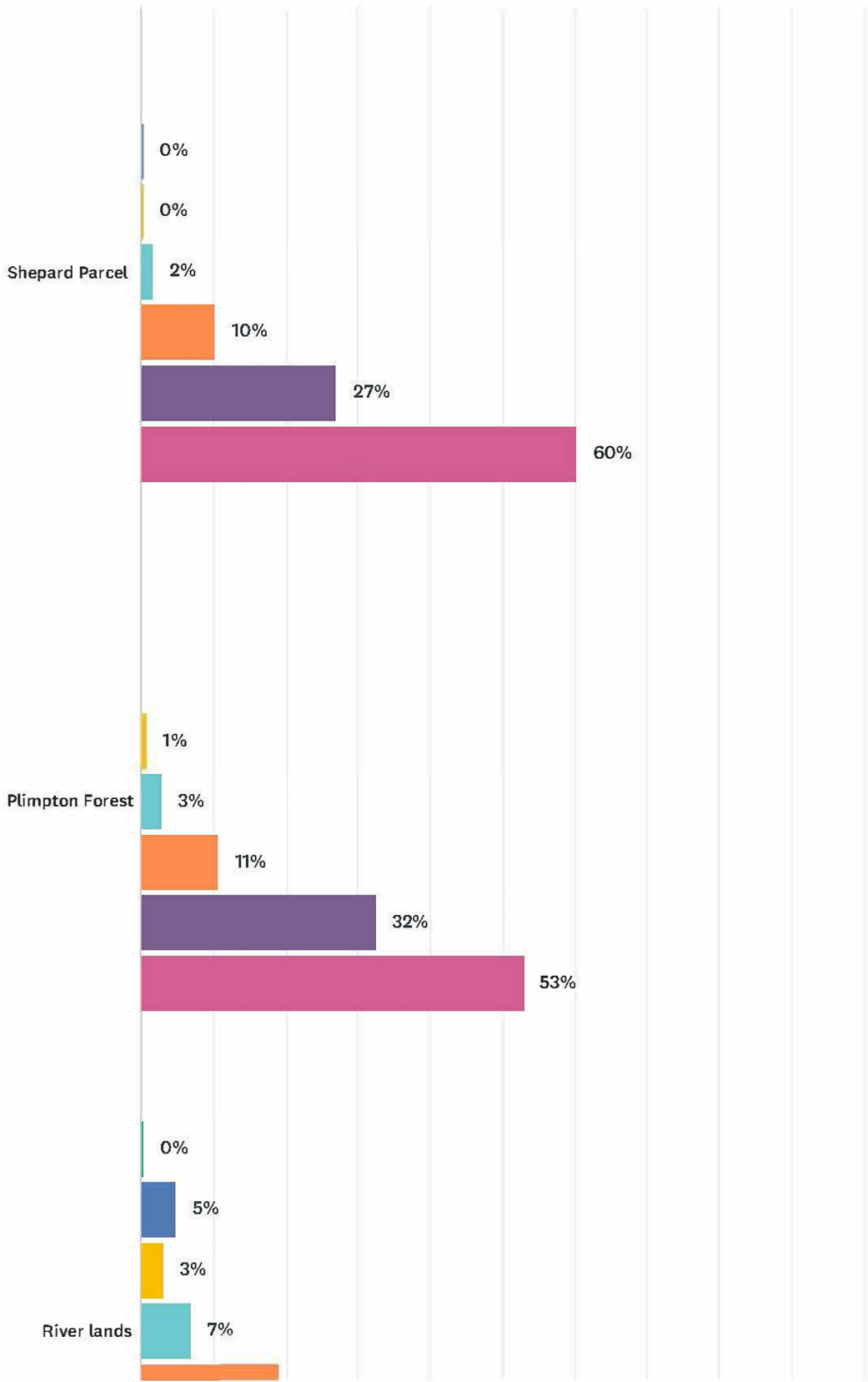
Answered: 210 Skipped: 28



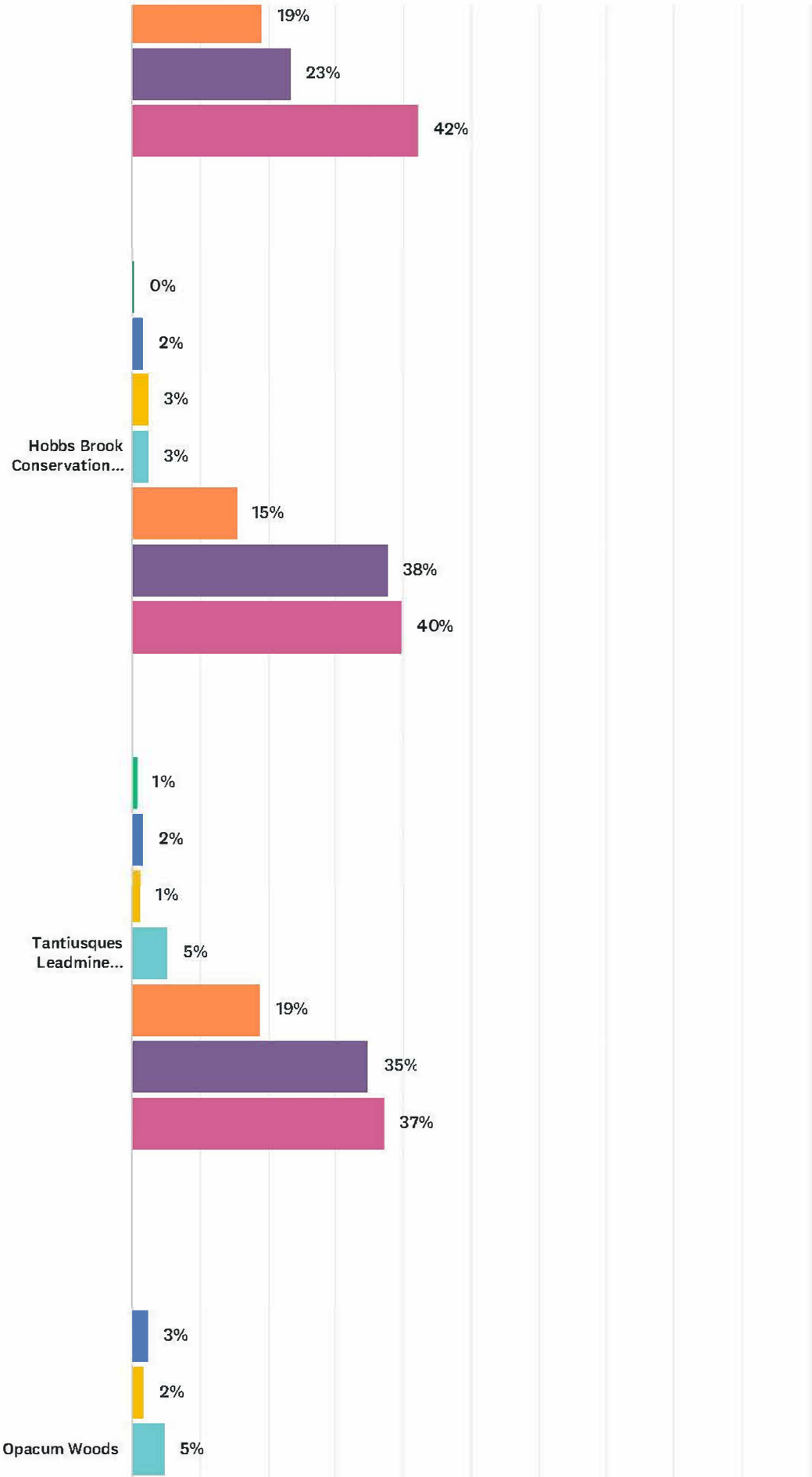
(no label)				
	INCREASE	DECREASE	REMAIN THE SAME	TOTAL
32% Open space	52.5% 107	7.4% 15	40.2% 82	204
9% Chapter land	21.6% 41	12.6% 24	65.8% 125	190
48% Residential	10.6% 21	18.2% 36	71.2% 141	198
6% Commercial/Industrial	44.6% 91	7.8% 16	47.5% 97	204
5% Exempt	5.3% 10	22.3% 42	72.3% 136	188

Q5 How often do you use the following recreation or open space areas in Sturbridge? (Check one box per row)

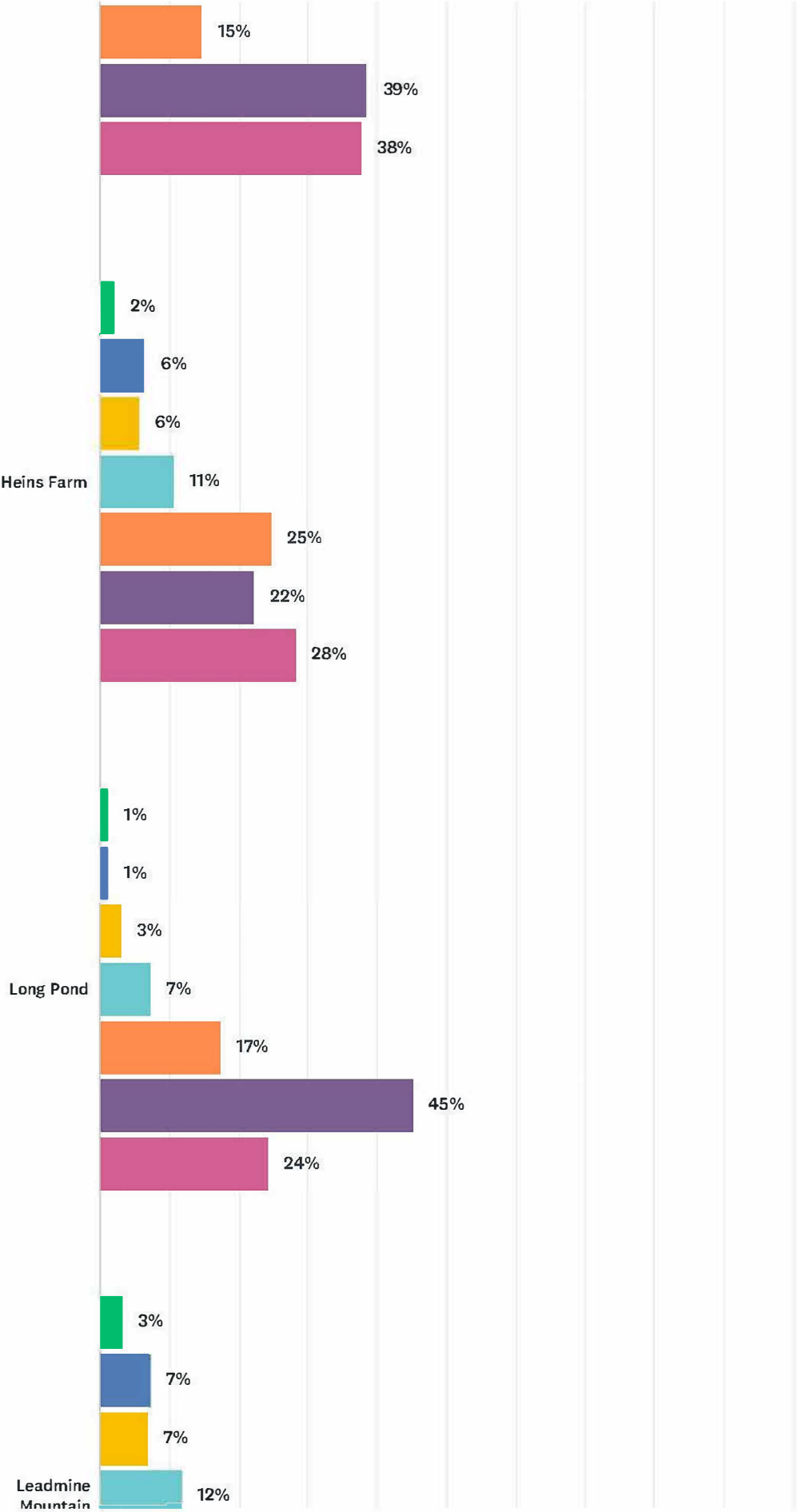
Answered: 235 Skipped: 3



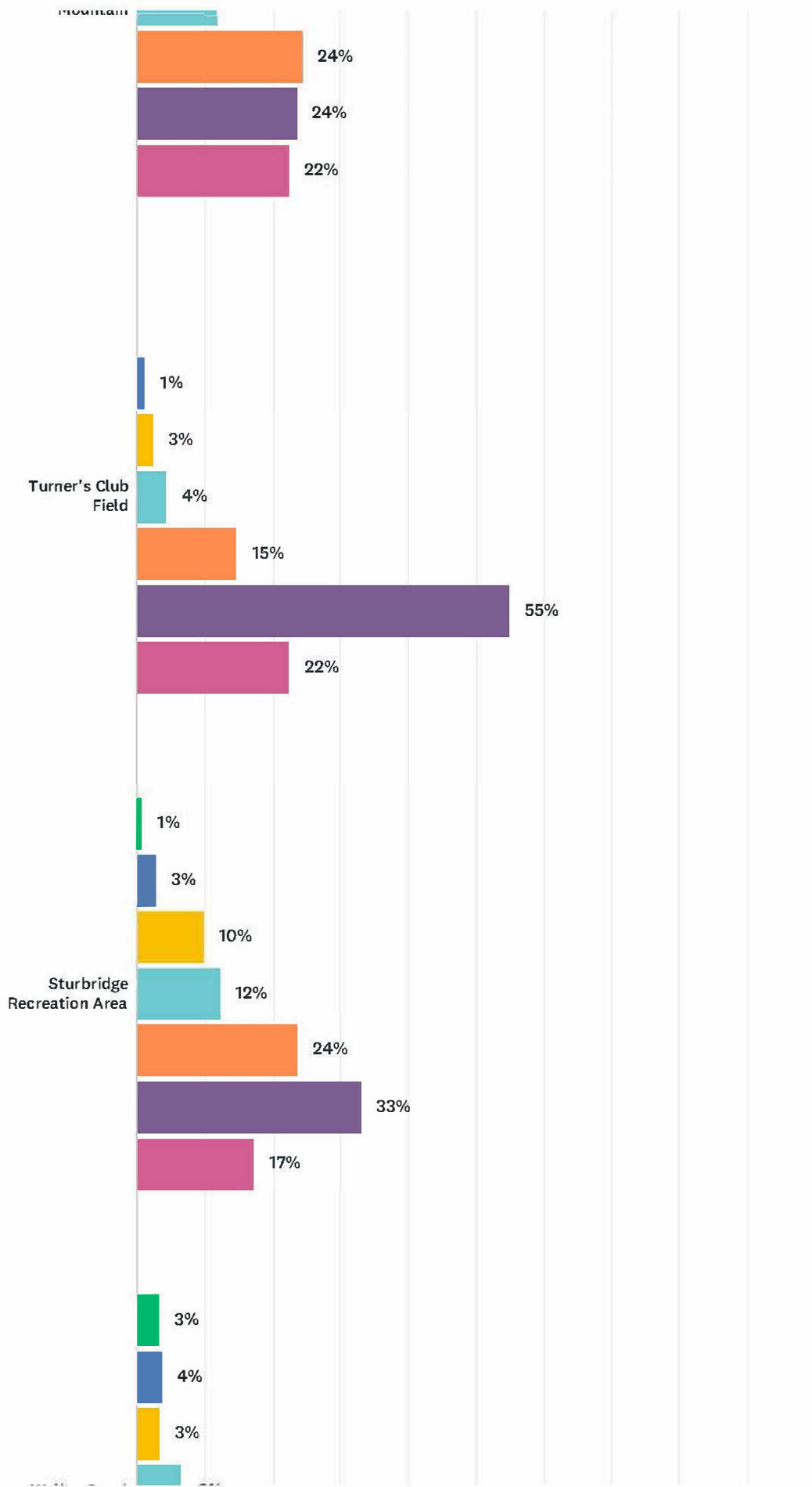
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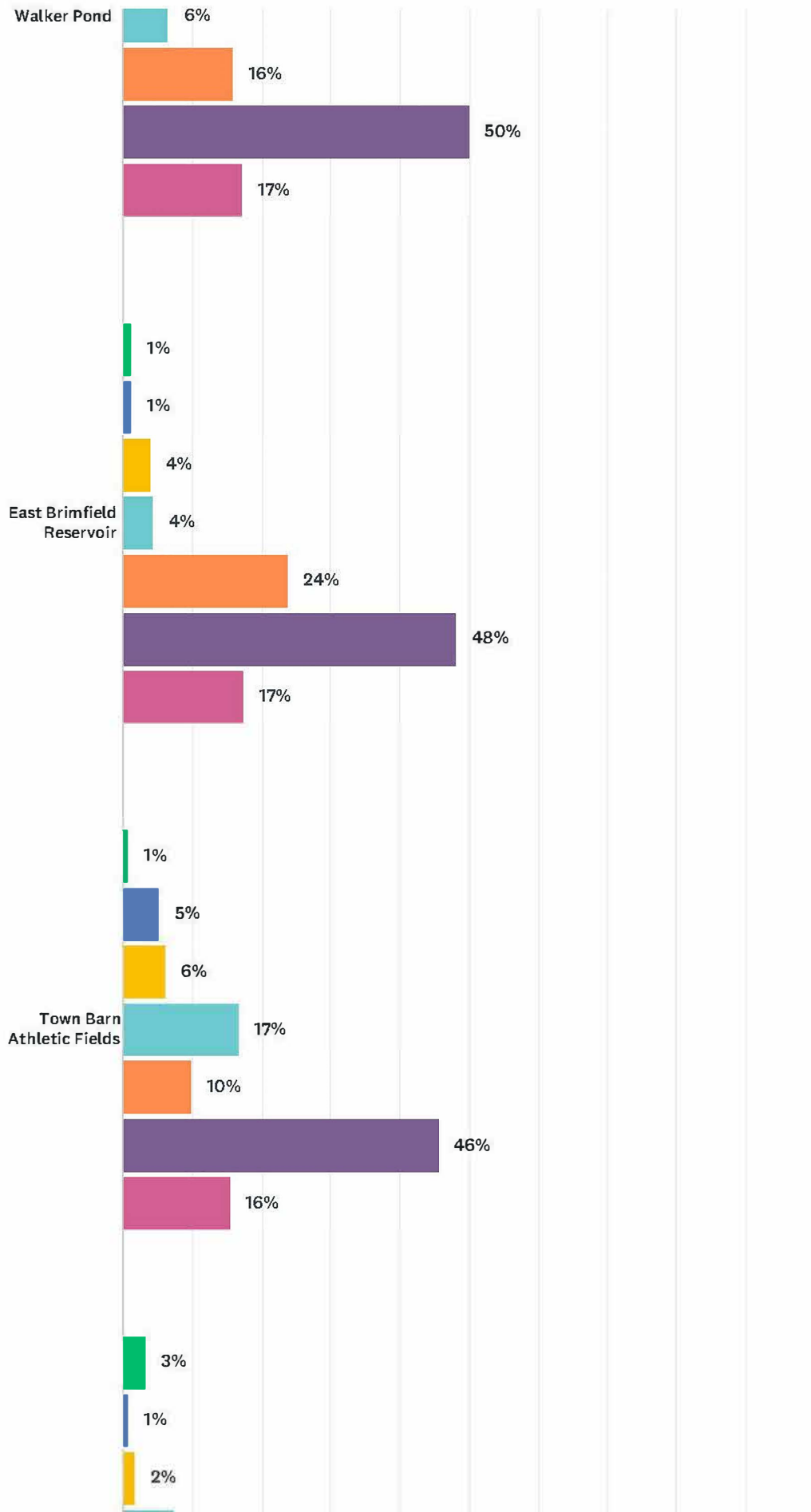
Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018



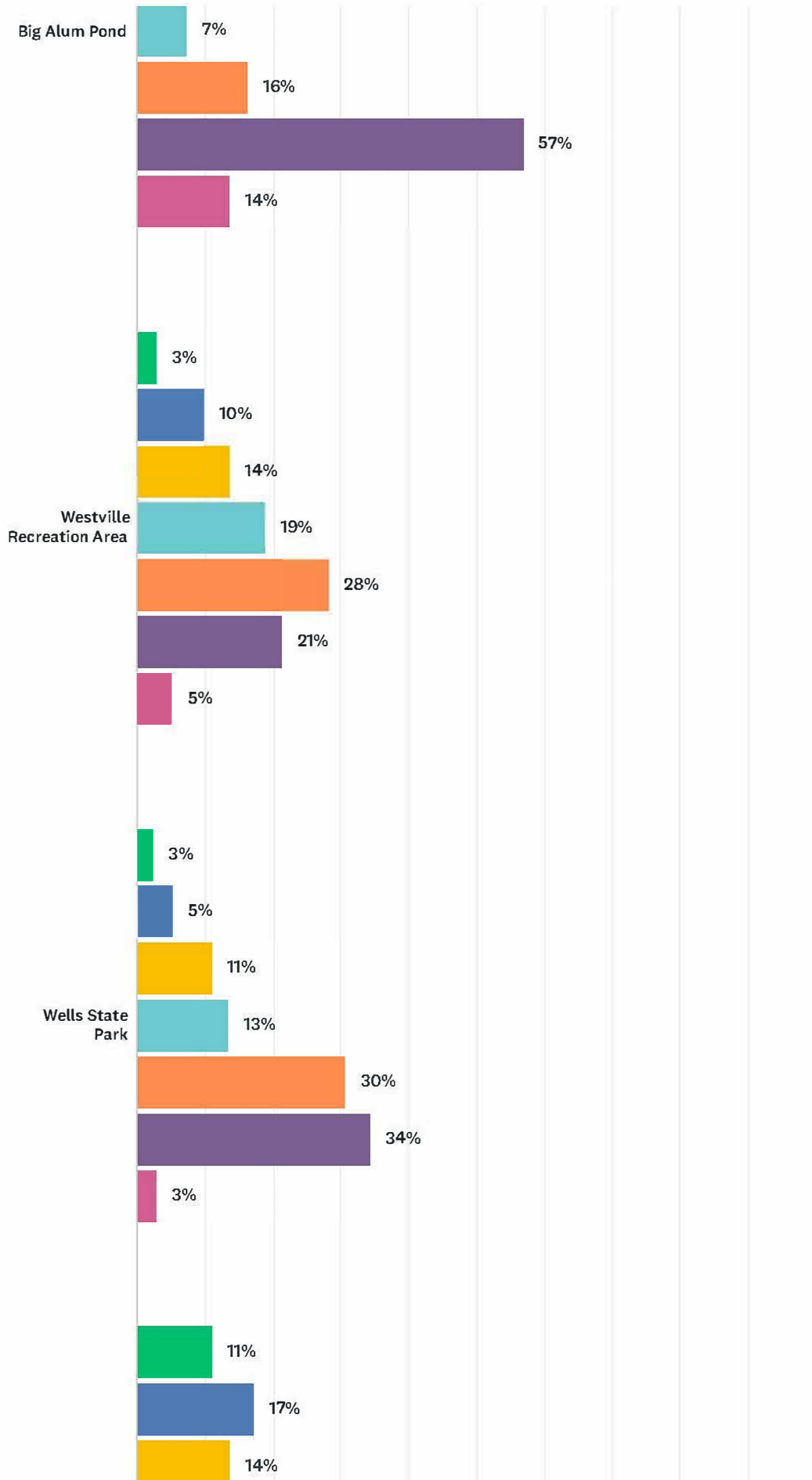
Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018



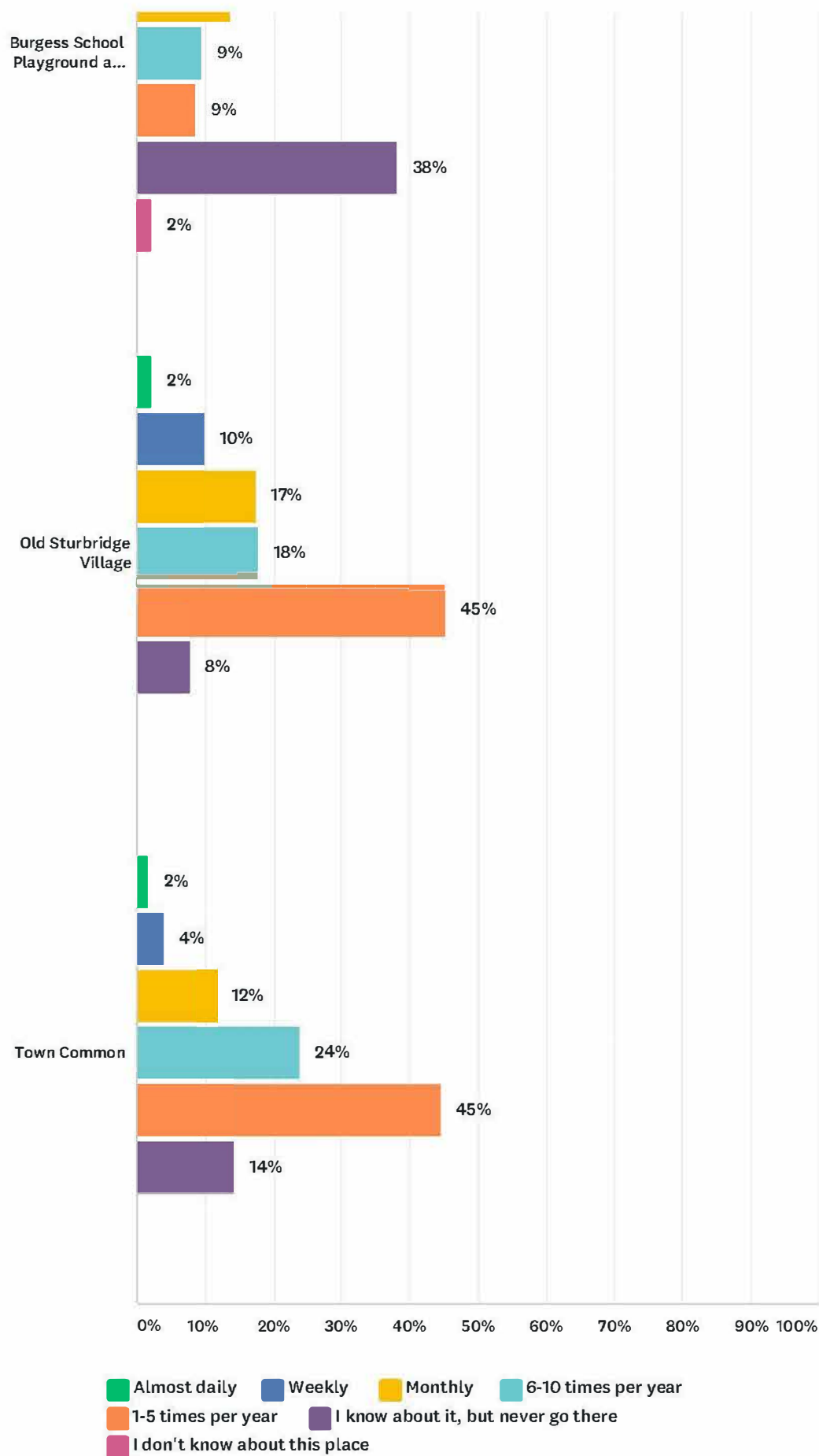
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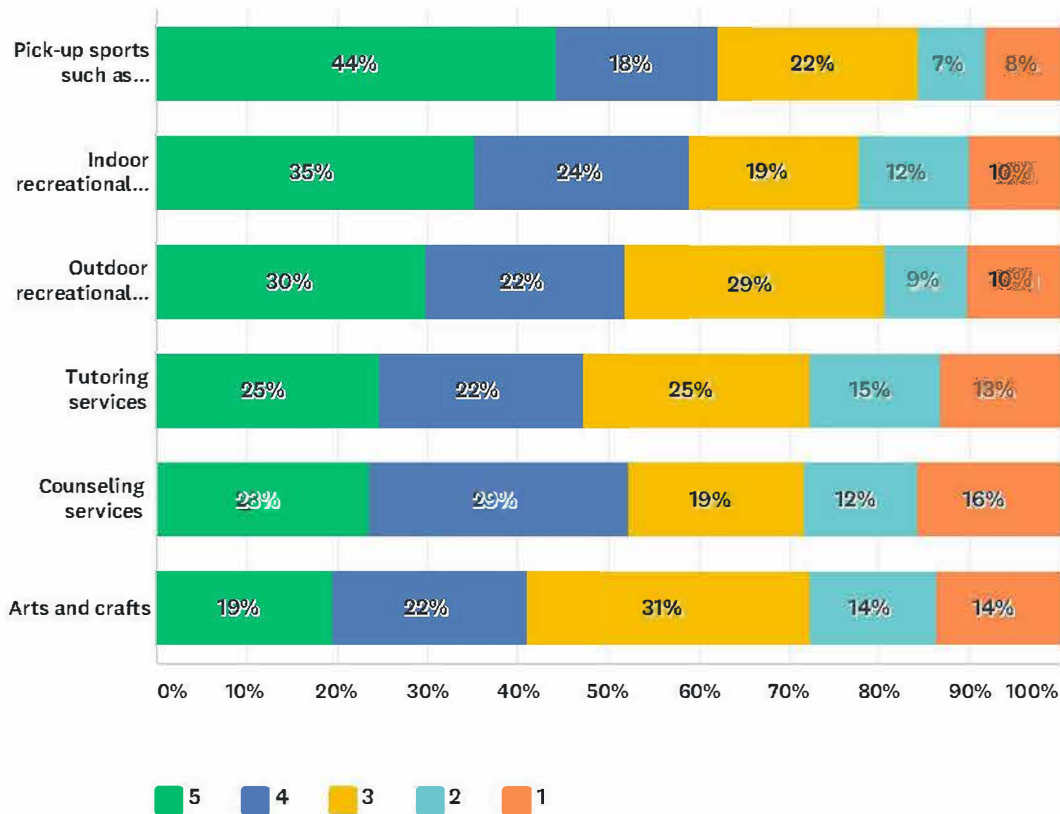


Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018

	ALMOST DAILY	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	6-10 TIMES PER YEAR	1-5 TIMES PER YEAR	I KNOW ABOUT IT, BUT NEVER GO THERE	I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Shepard Parcel	0% 0	0% 1	0% 1	2% 4	10% 24	27% 63	60% 141	234	6.44
Plimpton Forest	0% 0	0% 0	1% 2	3% 7	11% 25	32% 76	53% 124	234	6.34
River lands	0% 1	5% 11	3% 7	7% 16	19% 44	23% 54	42% 97	230	5.79
Hobbs Brook Conservation Land	0% 1	2% 4	3% 6	3% 6	15% 36	38% 88	40% 93	234	6.03
Tantiusques Leadmine Reservation	1% 2	2% 4	1% 3	5% 12	19% 44	35% 81	37% 87	233	5.93
Opacum Woods	0% 0	3% 6	2% 4	5% 11	15% 34	39% 89	38% 87	231	5.98
Heins Farm	2% 5	6% 15	6% 13	11% 25	25% 58	22% 52	28% 66	234	5.29
Long Pond	1% 3	1% 3	3% 7	7% 17	17% 40	45% 104	24% 56	230	5.71
Leadmine Mountain	3% 8	7% 17	7% 16	12% 28	24% 57	24% 55	22% 52	233	5.07
Turner's Club Field	0% 0	1% 3	3% 6	4% 10	15% 34	55% 127	22% 52	232	5.86
Sturbridge Recreation Area	1% 2	3% 7	10% 23	12% 29	24% 55	33% 77	17% 40	233	5.23
Walker Pond	3% 8	4% 9	3% 8	6% 15	16% 37	50% 117	17% 40	234	5.46
East Brimfield Reservoir	1% 3	1% 3	4% 9	4% 10	24% 55	48% 111	17% 40	231	5.61
Town Barn Athletic Fields	1% 2	5% 12	6% 14	17% 39	10% 23	46% 106	16% 36	232	5.29
Big Alum Pond	3% 8	1% 2	2% 4	7% 17	16% 38	57% 133	14% 32	234	5.57
Westville Recreation Area	3% 7	10% 23	14% 32	19% 44	28% 66	21% 50	5% 12	234	4.44
Wells State Park	3% 6	5% 12	11% 26	13% 31	30% 71	34% 80	3% 7	233	4.79
Burgess School Playground and fields	11% 26	17% 40	14% 32	9% 22	9% 20	38% 89	2% 5	234	4.10
Old Sturbridge Village	2% 5	10% 23	17% 41	18% 42	45% 106	8% 18	0% 0	235	4.17
Town Common	2% 4	4% 9	12% 27	24% 55	45% 103	14% 33	0% 0	231	4.48

Q6 If the town were to pursue a Youth Center, what types of activities would you like to see there? Rank the following activities/services in order of importance. (5 = Most Needed, 3 = Neutral, 1 = Least Needed)

Answered: 231 Skipped: 7



	5	4	3	2	1	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Pick-up sports such as basketball, soccer, or softball	44% 101	18% 41	22% 51	7% 17	8% 19	229	2.18
Indoor recreational such as wellness facilities, swimming pool, or "how to" classes	35% 80	24% 54	19% 43	12% 28	10% 23	228	2.39
Outdoor recreational such as kayaking, cycling, or disc golf	30% 67	22% 50	29% 65	9% 21	10% 23	226	2.48
Tutoring services	25% 56	22% 51	25% 57	15% 33	13% 30	227	2.69
Counseling services	23% 53	29% 65	19% 44	12% 28	16% 36	226	2.69
Arts and crafts	19% 44	22% 49	31% 71	14% 32	14% 31	227	2.81

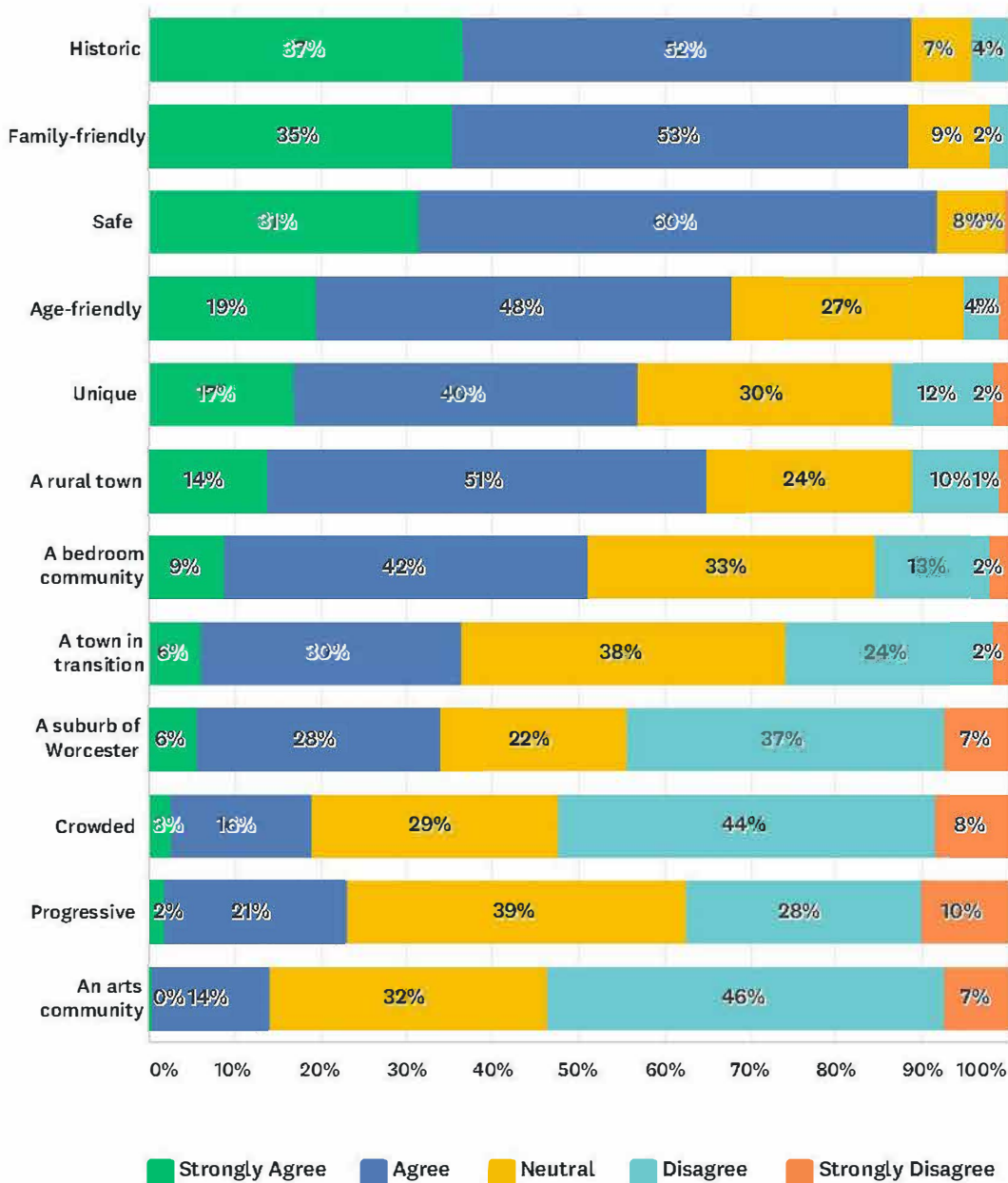
#	COMMENTS	DATE
1	I would prefer a town pool open to all ages not just youth in the recreation area	3/30/2018 1:31 PM
2	I do not believe a Youth Center is needed.	3/30/2018 12:06 PM
3	Mountain bike trail system!!	3/29/2018 6:53 PM

Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018

4	We can't afford more taxes	3/21/2018 11:35 AM
5	Need dog park	3/20/2018 5:46 PM
6	Off leash dog park	3/19/2018 9:45 PM
7	We need a rec center for community gatherings, groups, and meetings.	3/19/2018 5:45 PM
8	Sports fields	3/19/2018 3:16 PM
9	Sturbridge should have a splash pad.	3/18/2018 10:46 AM
10	We need a good playground that is available to the public during the school day. Cedar lake playground isn't great for toddlers. Also somewhere inside to go for activities in the winter.	3/14/2018 1:06 PM
11	Great survey	3/11/2018 1:02 PM
12	Love this idea	3/10/2018 6:20 PM
13	Skateboarding	3/9/2018 8:12 PM
14	And a new "community center" facility for all ages.	3/9/2018 5:18 PM
15	Indoor ice rink for the ample hockey interest	3/9/2018 5:16 PM
16	There already is a youth center, it's called a school.	3/9/2018 4:18 PM
17	In favor of any/all of these options, but not in an age bracket to know what is really most needed, etc. . . .	3/9/2018 4:05 PM
18	Great idea! Nothing for kids to do in town other than organized sports and there's not enough room for that!	3/9/2018 2:17 PM
19	We need to buy the mill in Fiskdale for things like this as well as a Maker Space, a satellite location for the library, a trolley station (public transportation), a dog park, & connecting to the trails from that mill! Dena	3/9/2018 2:13 PM

Q7 How would you describe the Town of Sturbridge? (Check one box per row)

Answered: 232 Skipped: 6



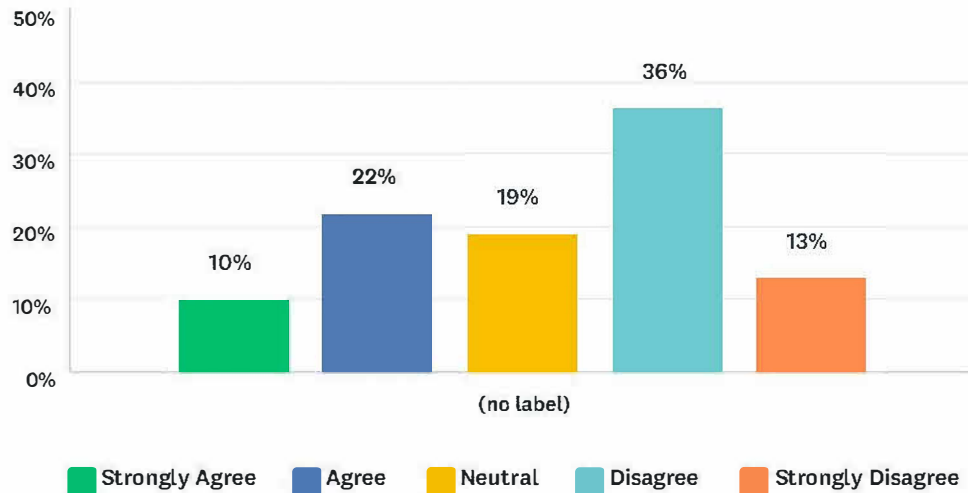
	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEUTRAL	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Historic	37% 85	52% 121	7% 16	4% 10	0% 0	232	1.79
Family-friendly	35% 82	53% 123	9% 22	2% 5	0% 0	232	1.78
Safe	31% 72	60% 139	8% 18	0% 0	0% 1	230	1.78

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Age-friendly	19% 45	48% 112	27% 63	4% 9	1% 3	232	2.19
Unique	17% 39	40% 93	30% 69	12% 27	2% 4	232	2.41
A rural town	14% 32	51% 118	24% 55	10% 23	1% 3	231	2.34
A bedroom community	9% 20	42% 96	33% 76	13% 30	2% 5	227	2.58
A town in transition	6% 14	30% 70	38% 87	24% 56	2% 4	231	2.85
A suburb of Worcester	6% 13	28% 65	22% 50	37% 85	7% 17	230	3.12
Crowded	3% 6	16% 37	29% 65	44% 100	8% 19	227	3.39
Progressive	2% 4	21% 49	39% 90	28% 63	10% 23	229	3.23
An arts community	0% 1	14% 31	32% 74	46% 106	7% 17	229	3.47

Q8 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The Town of Sturbridge is adequately served by current Open Space and Recreational Facilities such as Town Common, hiking trails, athletic fields, playgrounds, indoor and outdoor swimming, etc.

Answered: 231 Skipped: 7



	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEUTRAL	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	10% 23	22% 50	19% 44	36% 84	13% 30	231	3.21

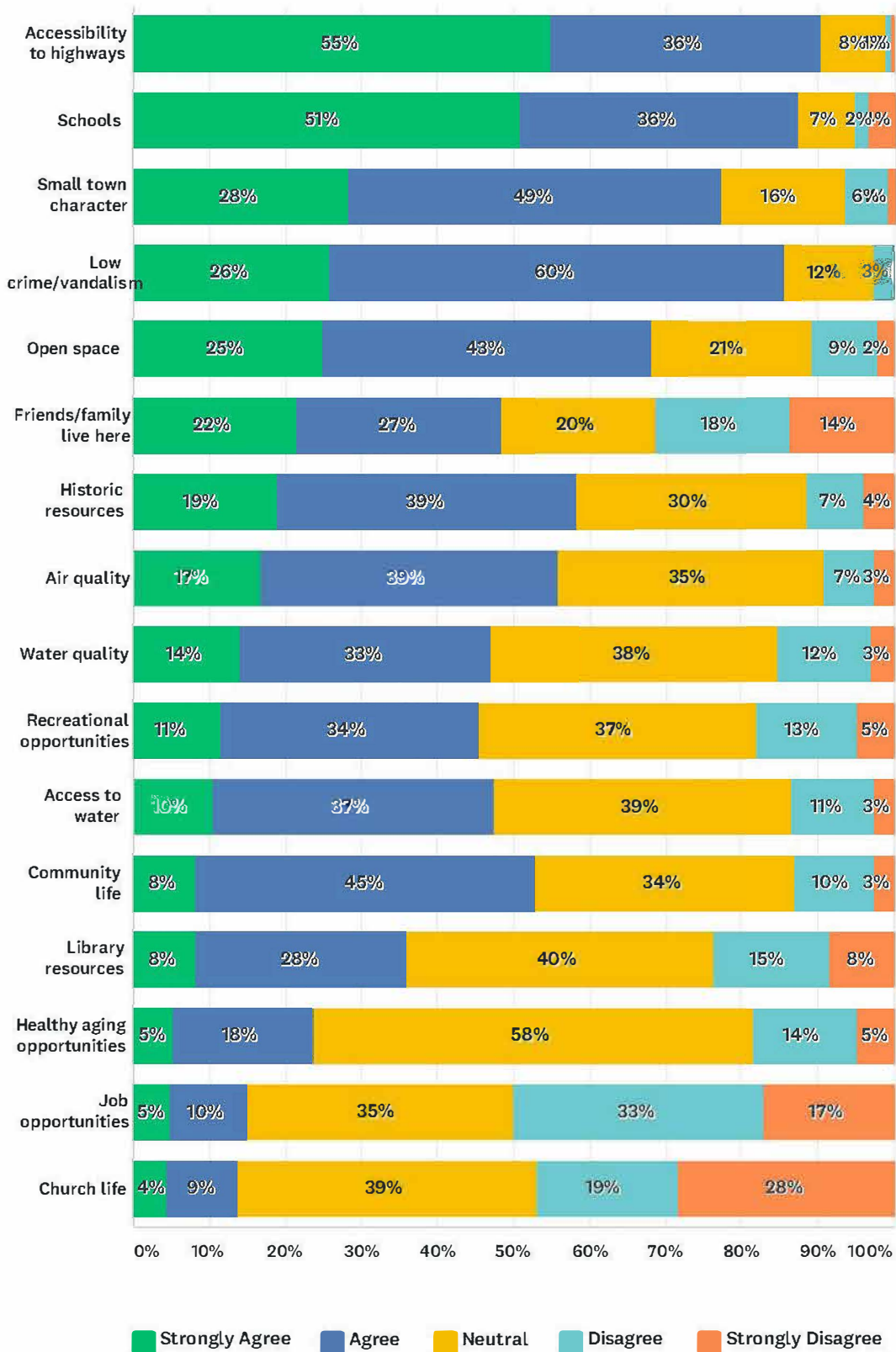
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Need Ball Fields	4/2/2018 3:40 PM
2	We need more athletic fields so families aren't traveling 30 minutes or more for each sports practice. We also need more contiguous bike trails.	3/30/2018 3:27 PM
3	We need more fields and trails.	3/30/2018 3:25 PM
4	I would love to have an outside town pool open to all ages	3/30/2018 1:36 PM
5	Need athletic fields	3/30/2018 1:13 PM
6	Need more recreational facilities	3/29/2018 9:38 AM
7	I beleive there should be trash receptacles and porta potties at trail heads and boat ramps. There should be an active invasive species removal plan.	3/25/2018 3:42 PM
8	Hiking trails have full parking lots on the weekends	3/25/2018 8:37 AM
9	Sidewalk and/or bike path access to open space is lacking	3/24/2018 1:48 PM
10	In addition to or before adding additional open space I feel we could benefit from additional use and growth in existing spaces	3/22/2018 9:24 PM
11	This statement lumps too many diverse facilities together.	3/22/2018 3:11 PM
12	Would like to see a playground that is not at a school for children to use during school hours.	3/20/2018 5:33 PM
13	might agree more if there was better / more easily accessible (easy to find) information about the currently available open spaces and rec facilities - town website needs serious updating, very cumbersome to use and search for / find things.	3/20/2018 1:59 PM
14	We need more marketing around or spaces. We don't need more athletic fields.	3/19/2018 5:47 PM

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15	Need sports fields	3/19/2018 3:19 PM
16	Need to capitalize on otehr open space taken off the tax rolls	3/19/2018 1:42 PM
17	Would love to see a bike trail and better maintenance of existing facilities but plenty of existing open space	3/18/2018 10:48 AM
18	We have a few nice places, more is always better.	3/16/2018 2:13 PM
19	We desperately need a place for families to swim in the summer with clear, safe waters	3/15/2018 1:30 PM
20	Fields, fields, fields!	3/14/2018 9:20 AM
21	we need a dog park	3/13/2018 1:37 PM
22	Needs a dog park	3/13/2018 11:16 AM
23	While I feel we are fortunate to have a good amount of Open Space, there are some key parcels I hope the town is able to someday acquire.	3/11/2018 10:07 AM
24	We are an embarrassment when it comes to providing adequate sports fields(most specifically soccerTRY fields). Shame on you	3/10/2018 8:51 PM
25	Indoor swimming??	3/9/2018 5:21 PM
26	I think there are a lot of trails, but most people don't know where they are. I think there is a lack of facilities for kids in this town. For instance, there are many hockey playing kids here, but no where to play. Maybe a skating trail on the lakes in winter. Room to ride bikes without having to drive to get to those trails.	3/9/2018 2:22 PM
27	Need a dog park	3/9/2018 2:07 PM

Q9 If you live in Sturbridge, check all the reasons you choose to live here (check one box per row).

Answered: 230 Skipped: 8

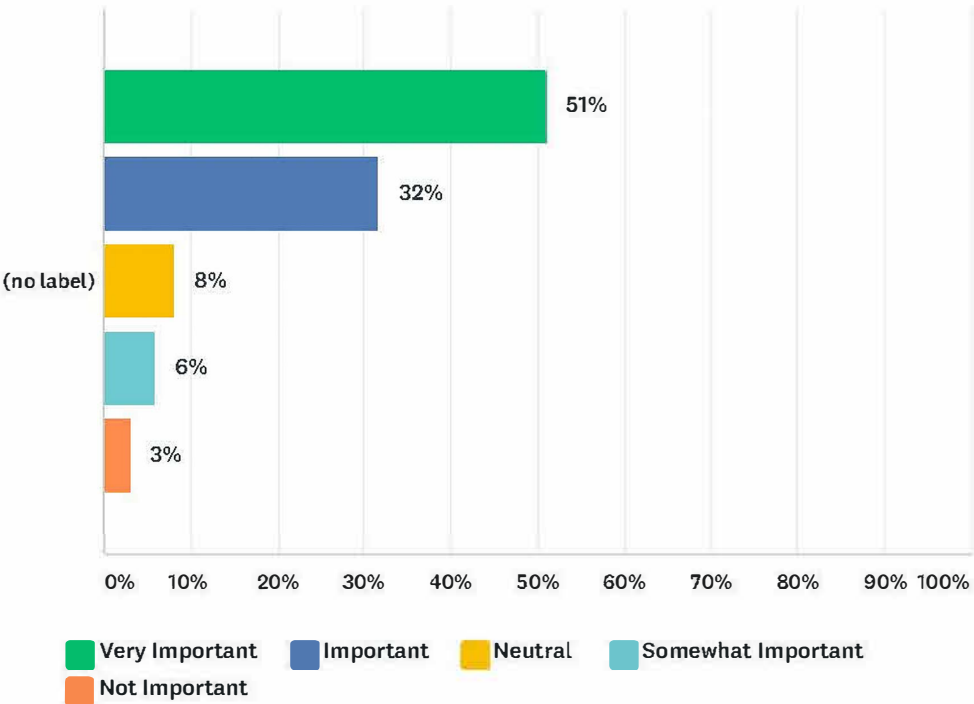


Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018

	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEUTRAL	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Accessibility to highways	55% 126	36% 82	8% 19	1% 2	0% 1	230	1.57
Schools	51% 116	36% 83	7% 17	2% 4	4% 8	228	1.71
Small town character	28% 65	49% 113	16% 37	6% 13	1% 2	230	2.02
Low crime/vandalism	26% 59	60% 137	12% 27	3% 6	0% 0	229	1.91
Open space	25% 57	43% 99	21% 48	9% 20	2% 5	229	2.20
Friends/family live here	22% 49	27% 61	20% 46	18% 40	14% 31	227	2.75
Historic resources	19% 43	39% 89	30% 69	7% 17	4% 9	227	2.38
Air quality	17% 38	39% 90	35% 80	7% 15	3% 6	229	2.39
Water quality	14% 32	33% 75	38% 86	12% 28	3% 7	228	2.57
Recreational opportunities	11% 26	34% 77	37% 83	13% 30	5% 11	227	2.66
Access to water	10% 24	37% 85	39% 90	11% 25	3% 6	230	2.58
Community life	8% 19	45% 102	34% 78	10% 24	3% 6	229	2.55
Library resources	8% 19	28% 63	40% 92	15% 35	8% 19	228	2.88
Healthy aging opportunities	5% 12	18% 42	58% 132	14% 31	5% 11	228	2.94
Job opportunities	5% 11	10% 23	35% 80	33% 75	17% 39	228	3.47
Church life	4% 10	9% 21	39% 89	19% 42	28% 64	226	3.57

Q10 Please rate the importance or need to preserve open space and natural areas in Sturbridge.

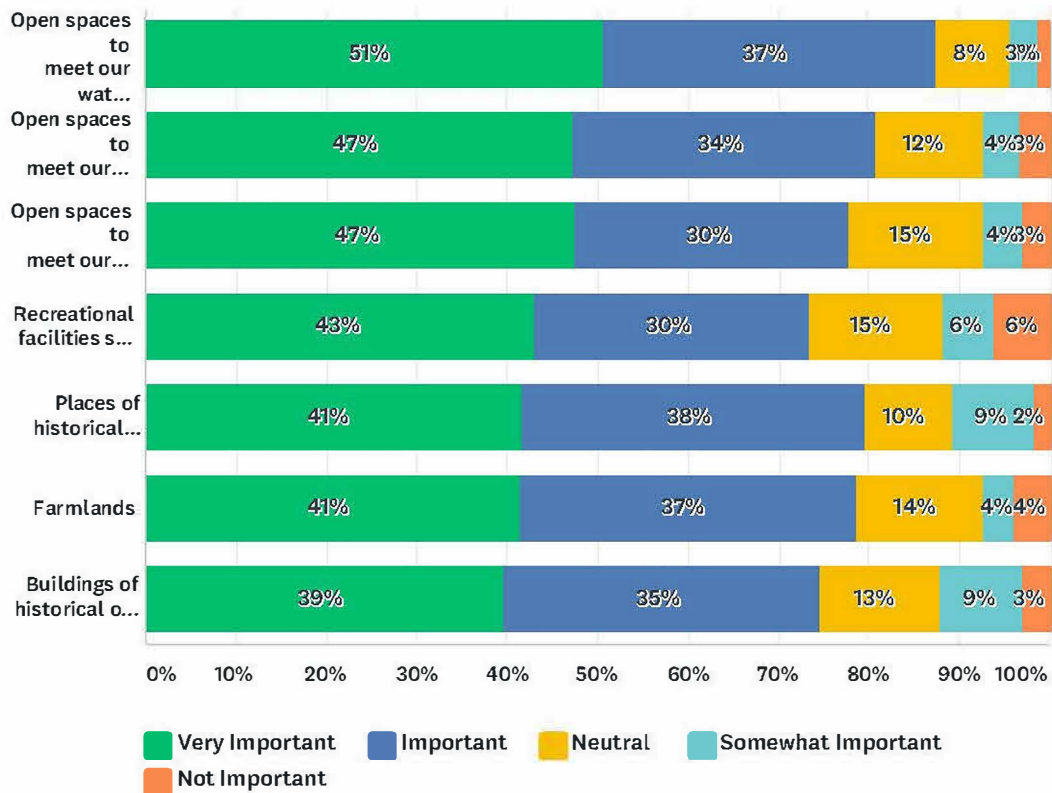
Answered: 221 Skipped: 17



	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	51% 113	32% 70	8% 18	6% 13	3% 7	221	1.78

Q11 How important is it to you to preserve and maintain the following in Sturbridge? (Check one box per row.)

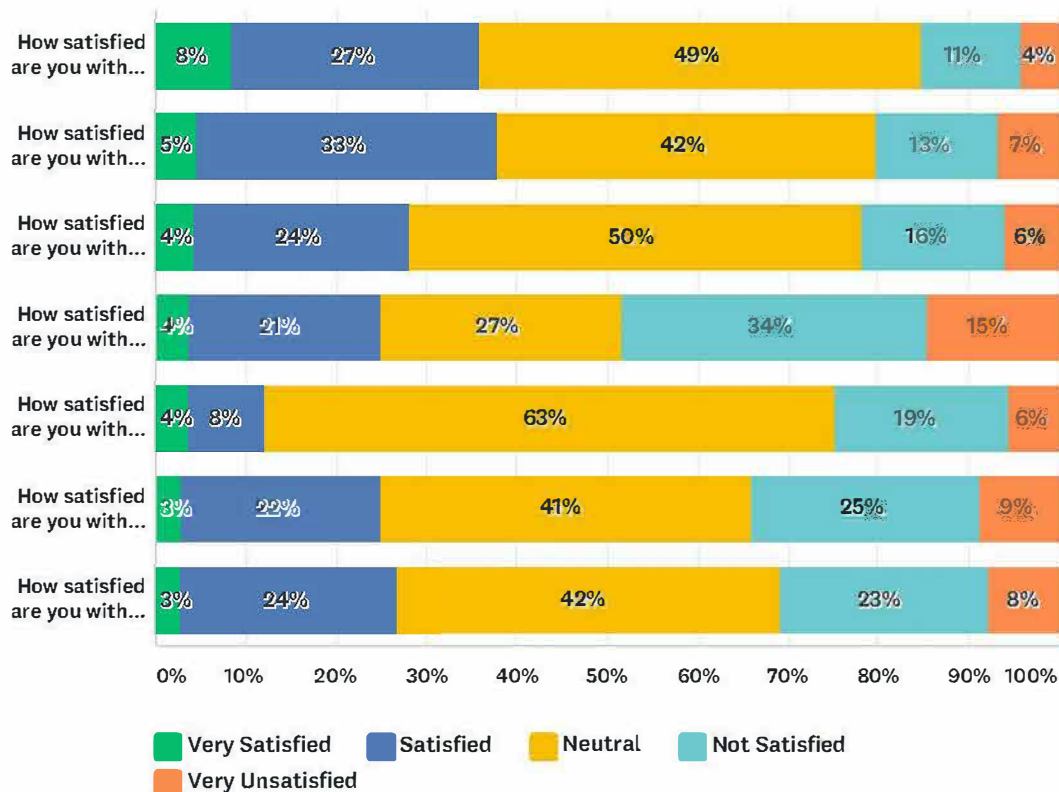
Answered: 229 Skipped: 9



	VERY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT IMPORTANT	TOTAL
Open spaces to meet our water and conservation needs	51% 116	37% 84	8% 19	3% 7	1% 3	229
Open spaces to meet our recreational needs	47% 108	34% 77	12% 27	4% 9	3% 8	229
Open spaces to meet our aesthetic, scenic, or passive recreation needs (forests, trails, etc.)	47% 108	30% 69	15% 34	4% 10	3% 7	228
Recreational facilities such as Town Barn Athletic Fields	43% 98	30% 69	15% 34	6% 13	6% 14	228
Places of historical value	41% 95	38% 87	10% 22	9% 21	2% 4	229
Farmlands	41% 94	37% 84	14% 32	4% 8	4% 9	227
Buildings of historical or architectural interest	39% 90	35% 80	13% 30	9% 21	3% 7	228

Q12 Regarding parks and recreation spaces and facilities in Sturbridge:

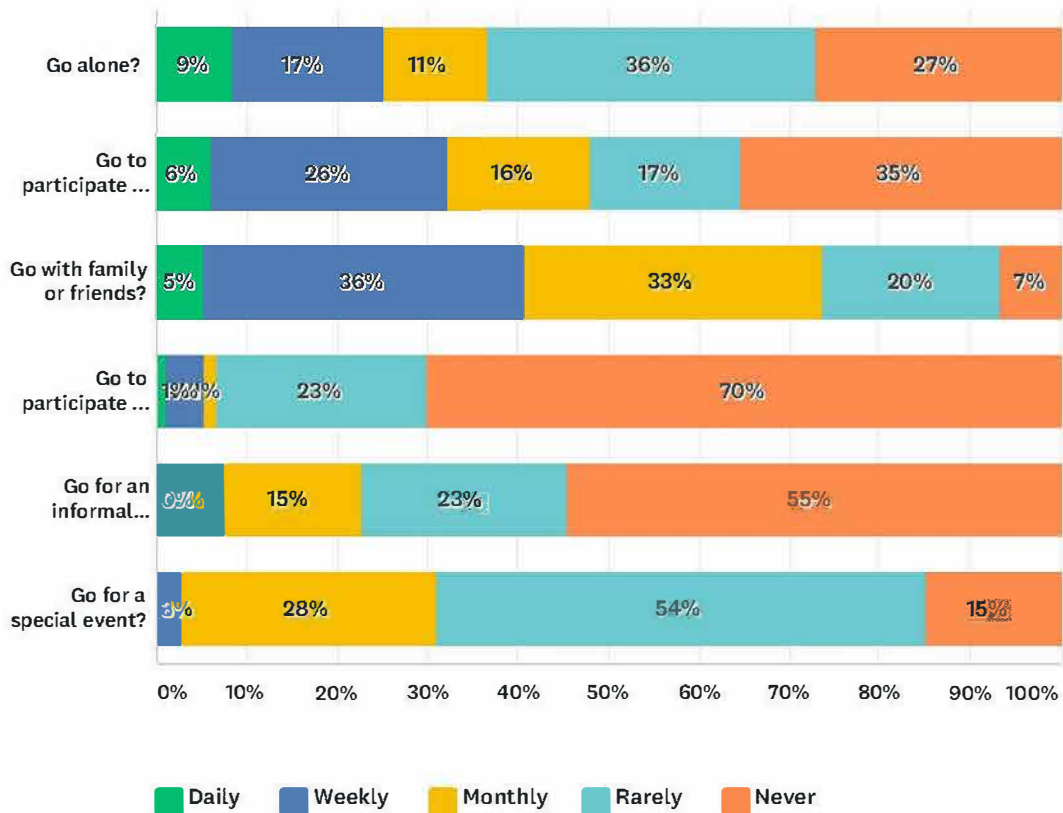
Answered: 218 Skipped: 20



	VERY SATISFIED	SATISFIED	NEUTRAL	NOT SATISFIED	VERY UNSATISFIED	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
How satisfied are you with organized youth sports programs?	8% 18	27% 59	49% 105	11% 24	4% 9	215	2.75
How satisfied are you with the general conditions of these facilities?	5% 10	33% 72	42% 91	13% 29	7% 15	217	2.85
How satisfied are you with the places for individuals ages 50+ to play and recreate in Town?	4% 9	24% 51	50% 108	16% 34	6% 13	215	2.96
How satisfied are you with the places for individuals under the age of 18 to play in Town?	4% 8	21% 46	27% 58	34% 73	15% 32	217	3.35
How satisfied are you with organized adult sports programs?	4% 8	8% 18	63% 136	19% 42	6% 12	216	3.15
How satisfied are you with the places for individuals from ages 18 to 34 to play and recreate in Town?	3% 6	22% 48	41% 89	25% 55	9% 19	217	3.15
How satisfied are you with the places for individuals from ages 35 to 49 to play and recreate in Town?	3% 6	24% 52	42% 92	23% 50	8% 17	217	3.09

Q13 When you go to a recreational facility do you typically...

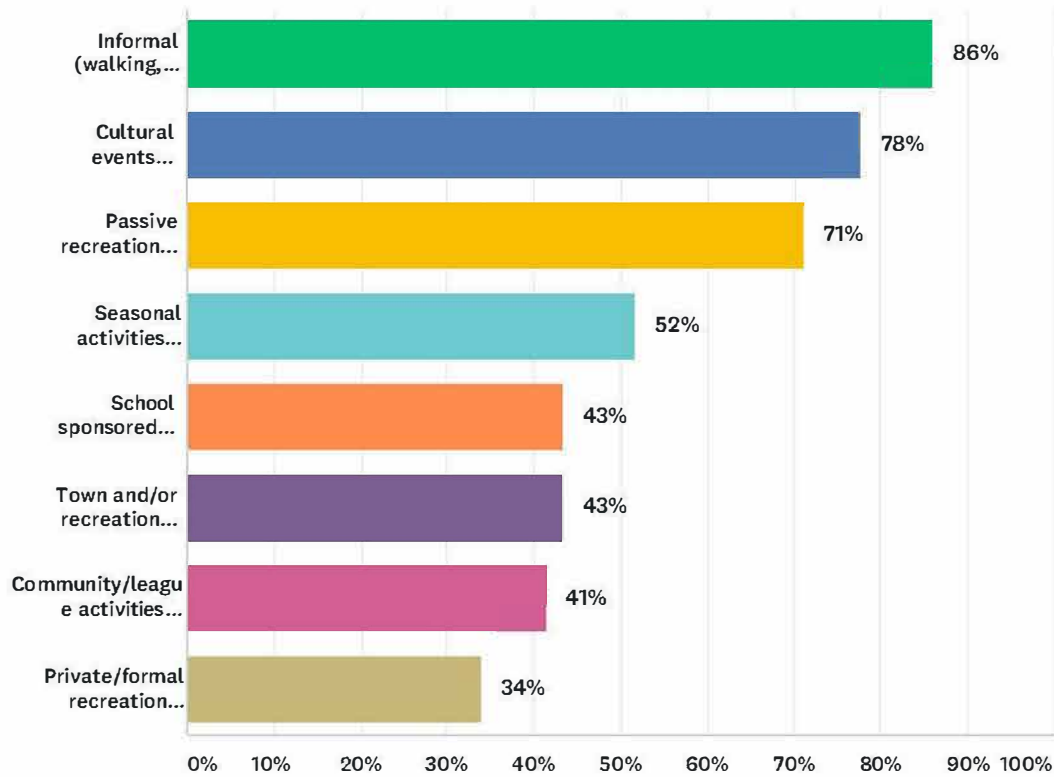
Answered: 216 Skipped: 22



	DAILY	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	RARELY	NEVER	TOTAL
Go alone?	9% 18	17% 35	11% 24	36% 77	27% 57	211
Go to participate in or watch a youth sports league?	6% 13	26% 56	16% 34	17% 36	35% 76	215
Go with family or friends?	5% 11	36% 76	33% 70	20% 42	7% 14	213
Go to participate in or watch an adult sports league?	1% 2	4% 9	1% 3	23% 50	70% 150	214
Go for an informal playgroup or pick up game?	0% 1	7% 15	15% 33	23% 49	55% 118	216
Go for a special event?	0% 0	3% 6	28% 60	54% 116	15% 32	214

Q14 What types of activities do you or members of your household participate in? (Check all that apply)

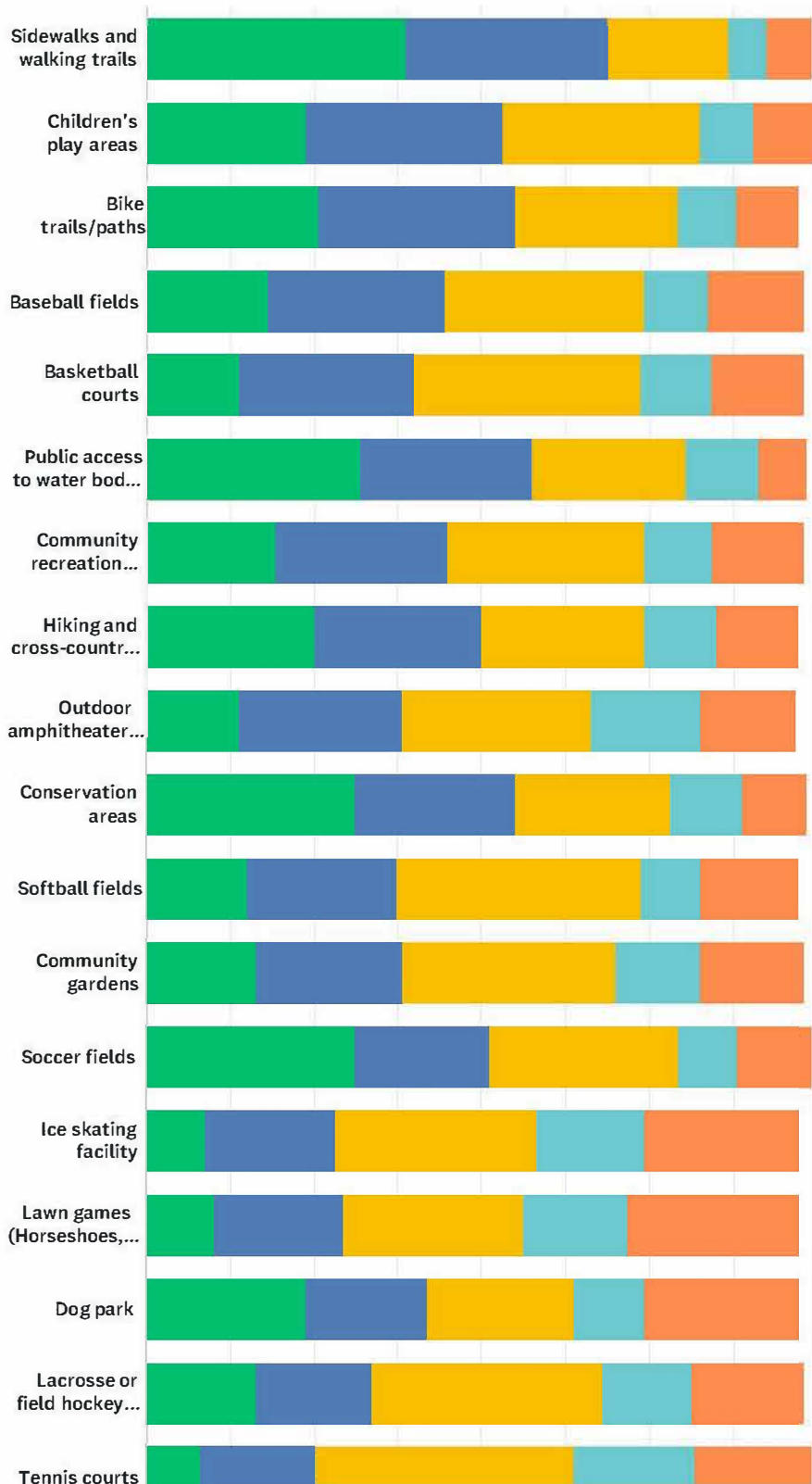
Answered: 215 Skipped: 23



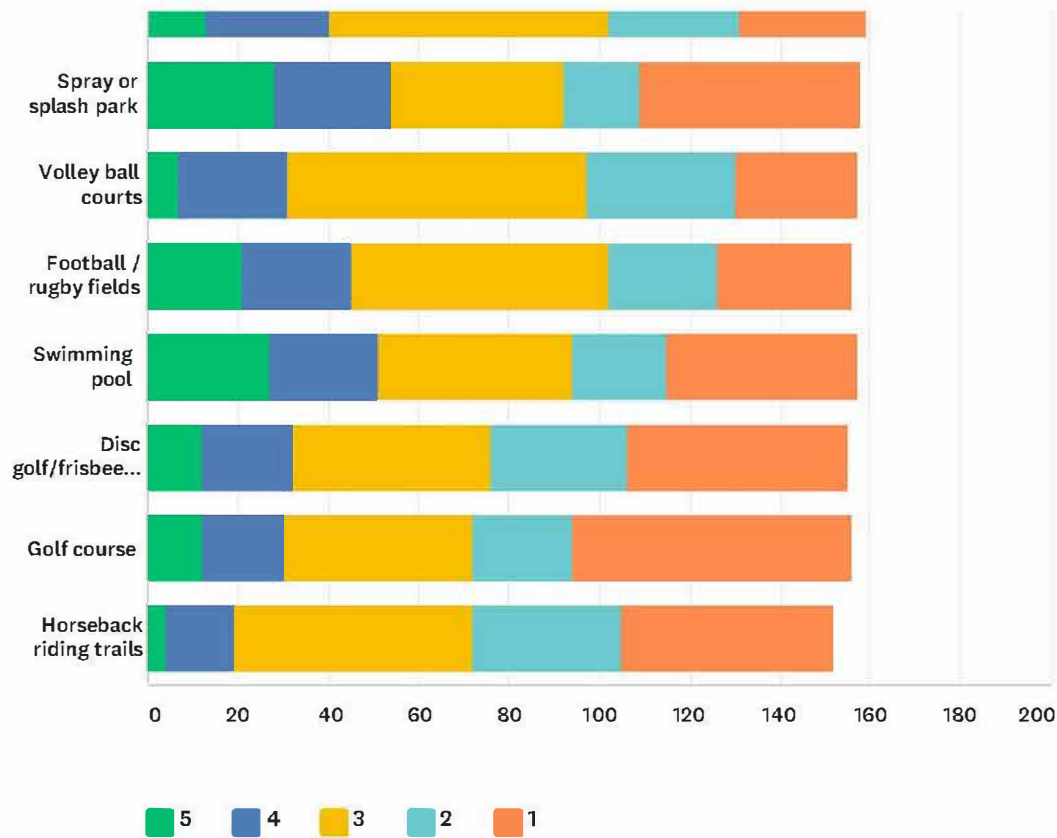
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Informal (walking, hiking, skateboarding, running, cycling, etc.)	86%	185
Cultural events (concerts and activities on the Common, festivals, 5k or half-marathon races)	78%	167
Passive recreation (appreciating nature, photography, bird watching, picnicking, reading/relaxing, etc.)	71%	153
Seasonal activities (snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, etc.)	52%	111
School sponsored activities/ team sports	43%	93
Town and/or recreation commission sponsored activities	43%	93
Community/league activities (little league baseball, youth soccer leagues)	41%	89
Private/formal recreation (dance, karate, etc.)	34%	73
Total Respondents: 215		

Q15 Rank the following recreational facilities based on their level of importance and need in the town (5 = Most Needed, 3 = Unsure, and 1 = Least Needed).

Answered: 161 Skipped: 77



Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018



	5	4	3	2	1	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Sidewalks and walking trails	39.24% 62	30.38% 48	18.35% 29	5.70% 9	6.96% 11	158
Children's play areas	23.90% 38	29.56% 47	29.56% 47	8.18% 13	10.06% 16	159
Bike trails/paths	26.28% 41	30.13% 47	25.00% 39	8.97% 14	9.62% 15	156
Baseball fields	18.59% 29	26.92% 42	30.77% 48	9.62% 15	14.74% 23	156
Basketball courts	14.01% 22	26.75% 42	34.39% 54	10.83% 17	14.01% 22	157
Public access to water bodies for swimming, boating, or fishing	32.48% 51	26.11% 41	23.57% 37	10.83% 17	7.64% 12	157
Community recreation center/building	19.87% 31	26.28% 41	30.13% 47	10.26% 16	14.10% 22	156
Hiking and cross-country skiing trails	25.64% 40	25.64% 40	25.00% 39	10.90% 17	12.82% 20	156
Outdoor amphitheater or performance space	14.19% 22	25.16% 39	29.03% 45	16.77% 26	14.84% 23	155
Conservation areas	31.85% 50	24.20% 38	23.57% 37	10.83% 17	10.19% 16	157
Softball fields	15.38% 24	23.08% 36	37.18% 58	8.97% 14	15.38% 24	156
Community gardens	16.67% 26	22.44% 35	32.69% 51	12.82% 20	16.03% 25	156

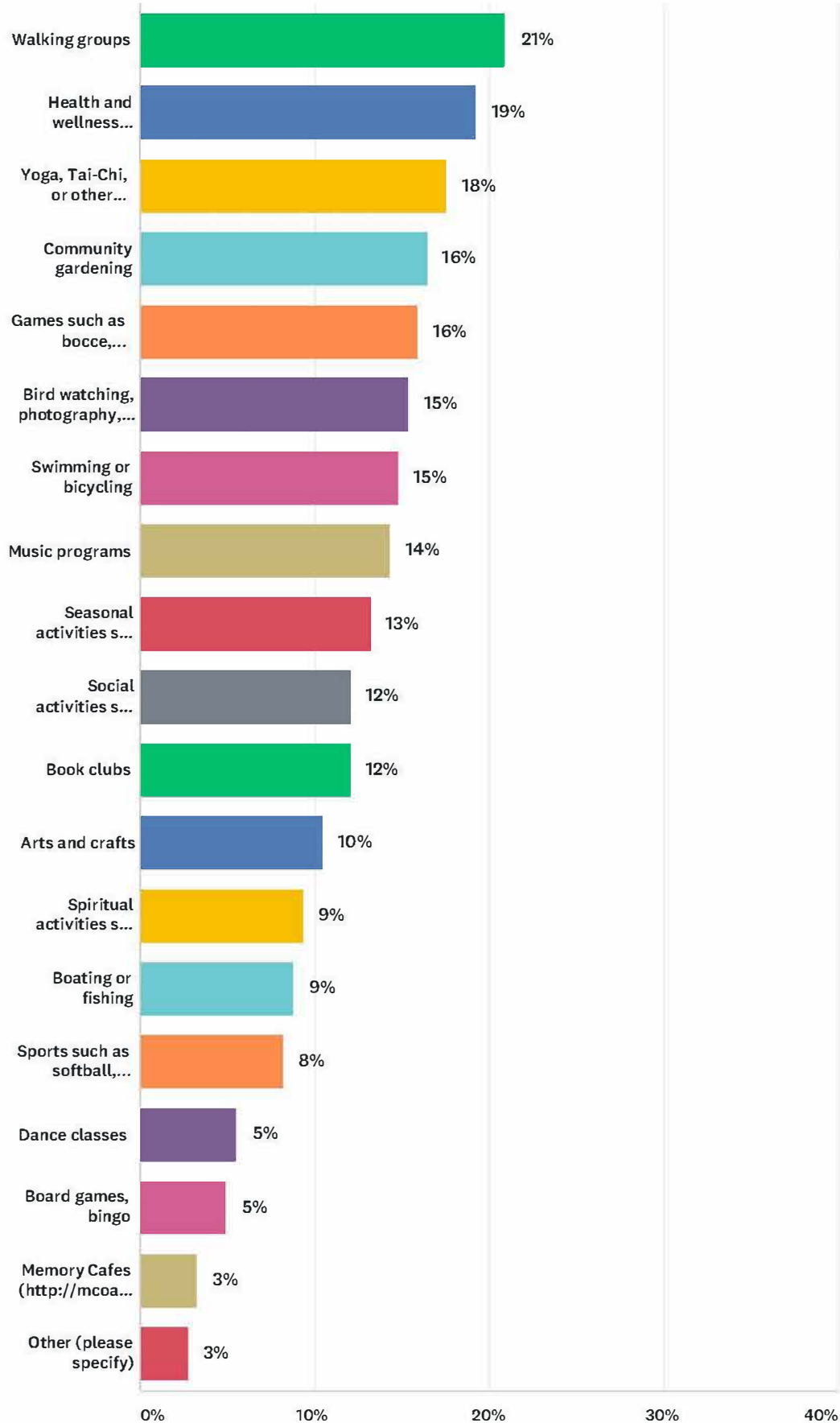
Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018

Soccer fields	31.65% 50	20.25% 32	28.48% 45	8.86% 14	11.39% 18	158
Ice skating facility	8.97% 14	19.87% 31	30.77% 48	16.67% 26	23.72% 37	156
Lawn games (Horseshoes, shuffleboard, bocce, etc.)	10.26% 16	19.87% 31	27.56% 43	16.03% 25	26.28% 41	156
Dog park	24.36% 38	18.59% 29	22.44% 35	10.90% 17	23.72% 37	156
Lacrosse or field hockey fields	16.56% 26	17.83% 28	35.03% 55	13.38% 21	17.20% 27	157
Tennis courts	8.28% 13	17.20% 27	39.49% 62	18.47% 29	17.83% 28	157
Spray or splash park	17.95% 28	16.67% 26	24.36% 38	10.90% 17	31.41% 49	156
Volley ball courts	4.49% 7	15.38% 24	42.31% 66	21.15% 33	17.31% 27	156
Football / rugby fields	13.46% 21	15.38% 24	36.54% 57	15.38% 24	19.23% 30	156
Swimming pool	17.31% 27	15.38% 24	27.56% 43	13.46% 21	26.92% 42	156
Disc golf/frisbee golf	7.74% 12	12.90% 20	28.39% 44	19.35% 30	31.61% 49	155
Golf course	7.74% 12	11.61% 18	27.10% 42	14.19% 22	40.00% 62	155
Horseback riding trails	2.65% 4	9.93% 15	35.10% 53	21.85% 33	31.13% 47	151

Q16 If you are a resident over the age of 50, what types of recreational activities would you like to see more easily available in town? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 182 Skipped: 56

Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018



ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

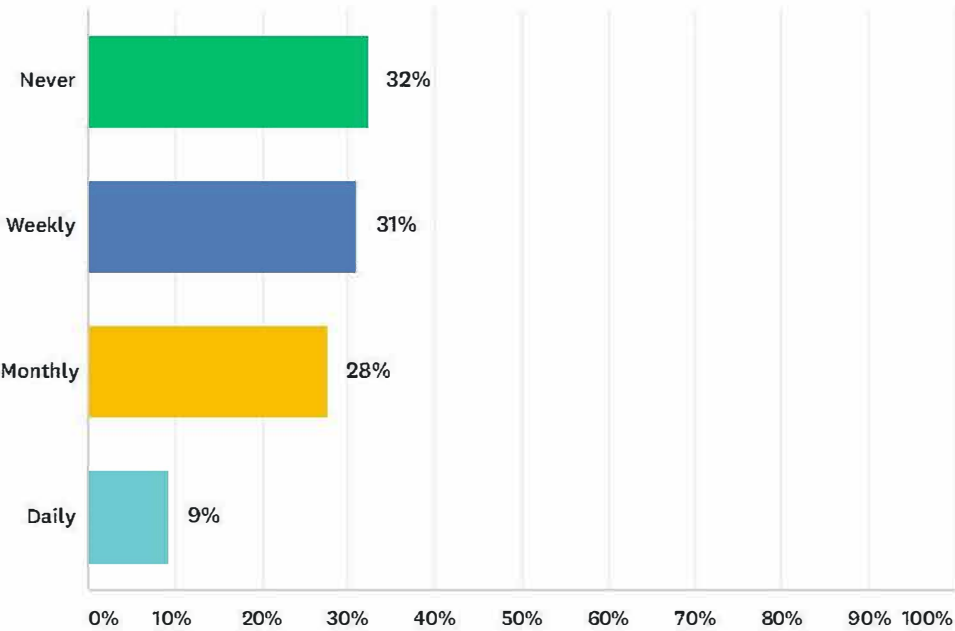
Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018

Walking groups	21%	38
Health and wellness programs (cooking classes, healthy aging resources)	19%	35
Yoga, Tai-Chi, or other fitness classes	18%	32
Community gardening	16%	30
Games such as bocce, pickleball, horseshoes, or badminton	16%	29
Bird watching, photography, or appreciating nature	15%	28
Swimming or bicycling	15%	27
Music programs	14%	26
Seasonal activities such as skiing or snowshoeing	13%	24
Social activities such as pot-luck dinners	12%	22
Book clubs	12%	22
Arts and crafts	10%	19
Spiritual activities such as meditation	9%	17
Boating or fishing	9%	16
Sports such as softball, tennis, or golf	8%	15
Dance classes	5%	10
Board games, bingo	5%	9
Memory Cafes (http://mcoaonline.com/2017/06/29/starting-memory-cafe/)	3%	6
Other (please specify)	3%	5
Total Respondents: 182		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Group sewing/quilting/knitting	3/30/2018 1:46 PM
2	Public Access to waterbodies for swimming	3/28/2018 1:25 PM
3	outdoor swimming for adults	3/26/2018 5:55 PM
4	NA	3/19/2018 3:25 PM
5	dog park	3/18/2018 10:19 PM

Q17 How often do you travel to Sturbridge's open spaces or recreational facilities by walking or biking in season?

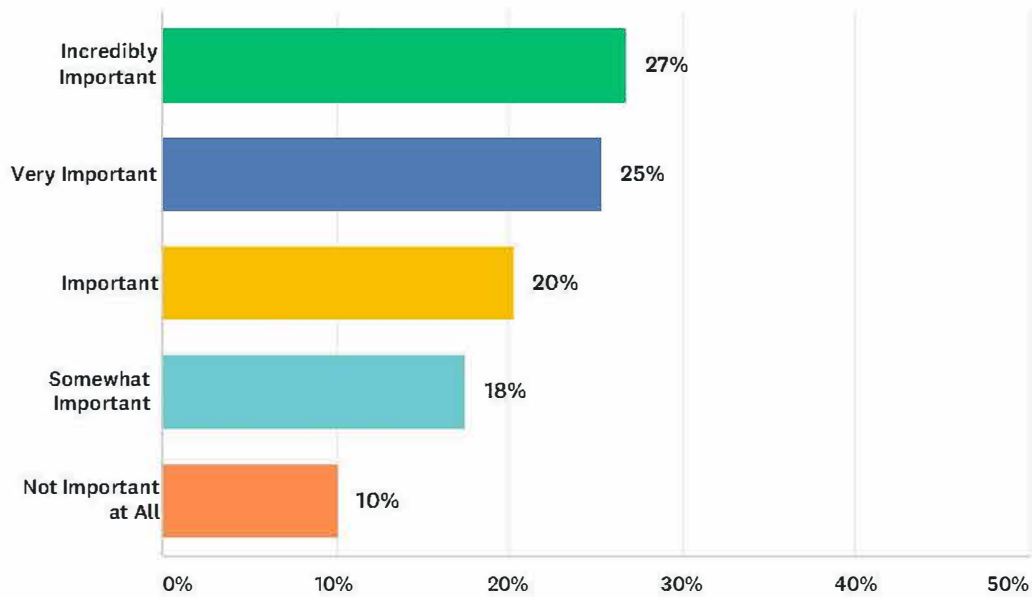
Answered: 217 Skipped: 21



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Never	32%	70
Weekly	31%	67
Monthly	28%	60
Daily	9%	20
TOTAL		217

Q18 How important is it to be able to access the previously listed open space and recreational destinations in Sturbridge by walking or biking?

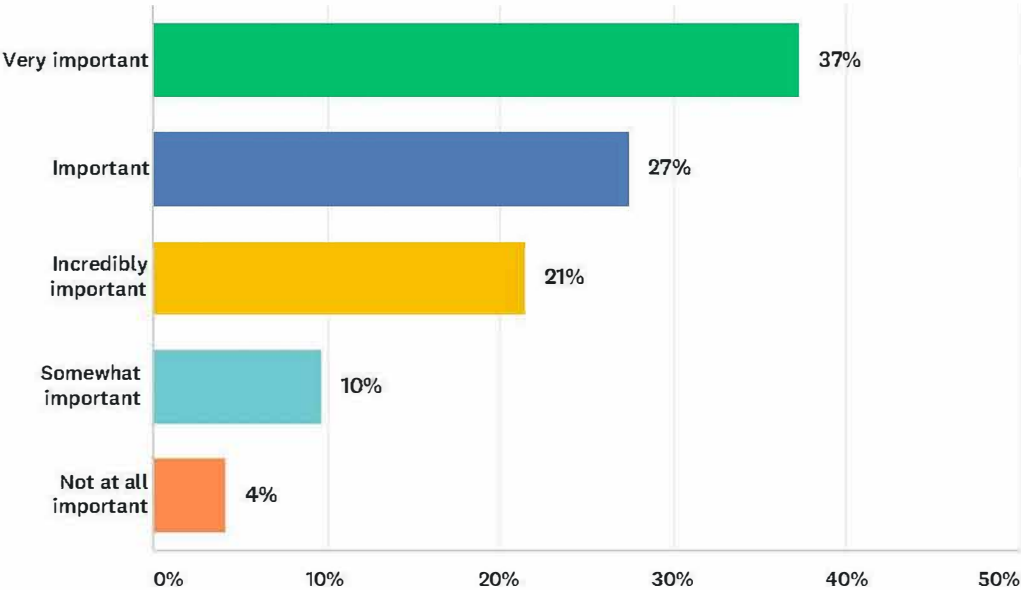
Answered: 217 Skipped: 21



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Incredibly Important	27%	58
Very Important	25%	55
Important	20%	44
Somewhat Important	18%	38
Not Important at All	10%	22
TOTAL		217

Q19 How important is the availability of designated parking areas in your decision to utilize the previously listed open space and recreational destinations in Sturbridge?

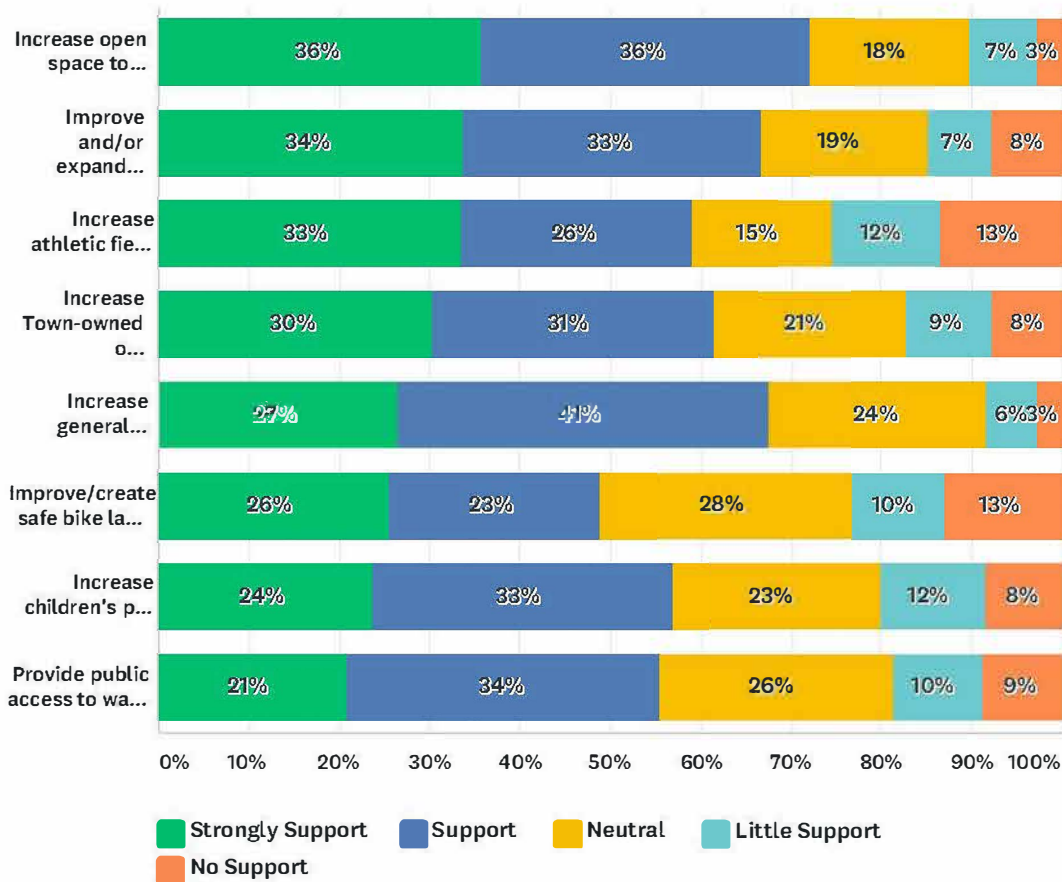
Answered: 215 Skipped: 23



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	37%	80
Important	27%	59
Incredibly important	21%	46
Somewhat important	10%	21
Not at all important	4%	9
TOTAL		215

Q20 Please indicate your support for TOWN FUNDING for the following objectives (check one box per row).

Answered: 217 Skipped: 21



	STRONGLY SUPPORT	SUPPORT	NEUTRAL	LITTLE SUPPORT	NO SUPPORT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Increase open space to protect Town water resources, including groundwater protection	36% 77	36% 78	18% 38	7% 16	3% 6	215	2.05
Improve and/or expand sidewalks in Town	34% 73	33% 71	19% 40	7% 15	8% 17	216	2.22
Increase athletic field facilities	33% 72	26% 55	15% 33	12% 26	13% 29	215	2.47
Increase Town-owned open space throughout Town	30% 65	31% 67	21% 46	9% 20	8% 17	215	2.33
Increase general maintenance of existing grounds, buildings, and landscape	27% 57	41% 88	24% 52	6% 12	3% 6	215	2.17
Improve/create safe bike lanes on existing roads	26% 55	23% 50	28% 60	10% 22	13% 28	215	2.62
Increase children's play equipment (swings, climbing)	24% 51	33% 71	23% 50	12% 25	8% 18	215	2.48
Provide public access to water resources in Town	21% 45	34% 74	26% 56	10% 21	9% 19	215	2.51

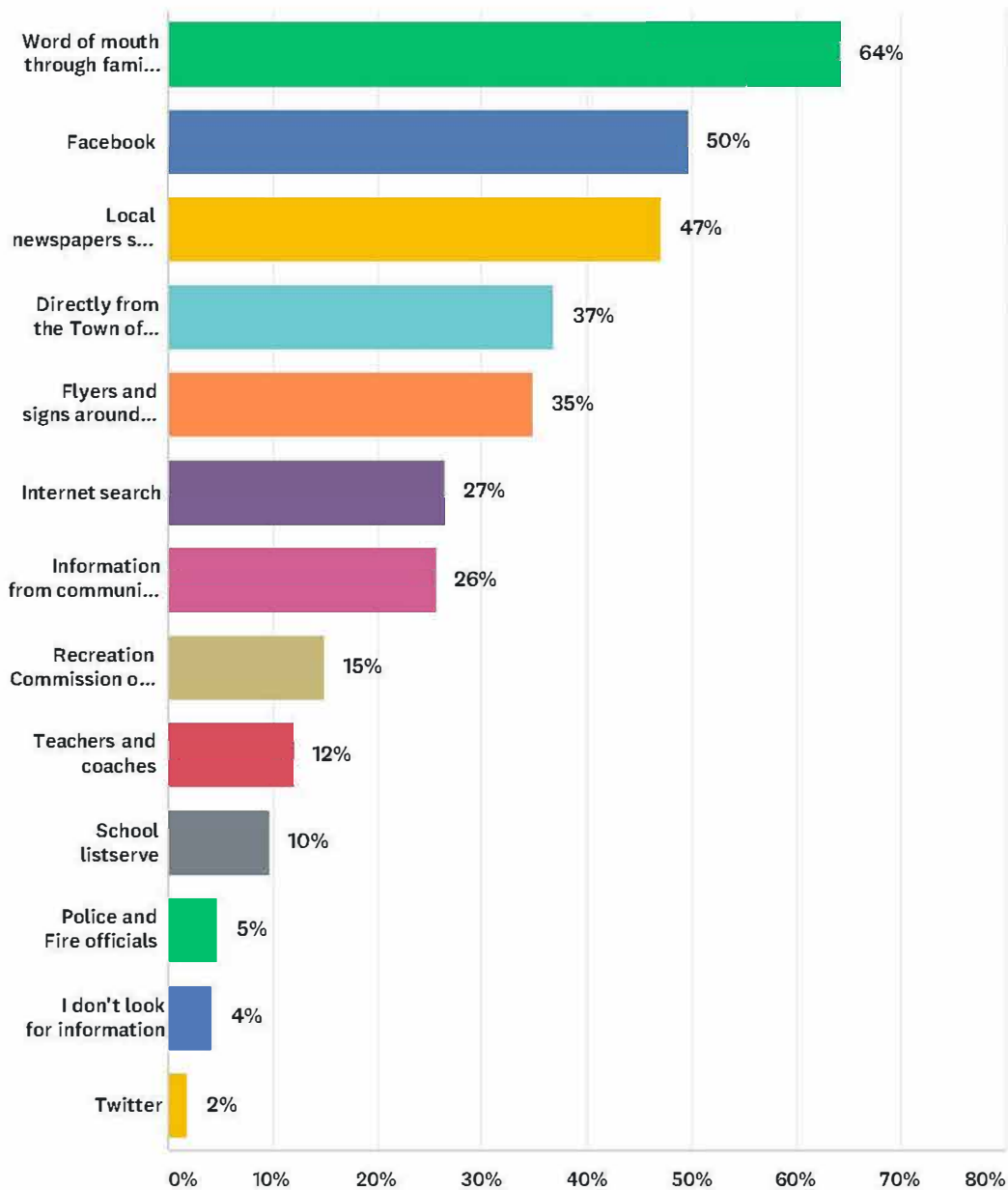
Q21 If none of the above, what should the Town's objective be?

Answered: 18 Skipped: 220

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Open space to provide clean Air	3/28/2018 1:30 PM
2	Decreasing taxes on residents. Pay off loans.	3/26/2018 9:08 PM
3	I would like it see a public Disc Golf course built. It's a very inexpensive and fun hobby for both kids and adults. Sturbridge has great land for it.	3/24/2018 8:46 AM
4	We need to be more live. Town seems dead towards the late evening. Needs to be attractive for young adults.	3/23/2018 5:13 PM
5	We need a dog park.	3/21/2018 3:50 PM
6	This survey has on place for once a year	3/21/2018 11:48 AM
7	Dog park	3/20/2018 6:00 PM
8	Not to become generic. We can get generic anywhere.	3/20/2018 2:54 PM
9	An off leash dog park in town.	3/19/2018 9:51 PM
10	We don't need more athletic fields. We need more opportunities for kids to see diversity, not a chance for the one-track-mind over-zealous sports parents to destroy our town.	3/19/2018 5:56 PM
11	NA	3/19/2018 3:29 PM
12	Outdoor swimming pool for town, recreation center with splash pad, picnic tables, yard games. Holiday events	3/14/2018 5:12 PM
13	Separate bike trails not along roads	3/14/2018 11:15 AM
14	Dog park	3/13/2018 11:23 AM
15	There isn't a single recreation field for soccer, football, field hockey or any other sport that is played on a field in this town ..	3/11/2018 7:16 AM
16	Anything for positive and healthy youth activity!	3/10/2018 8:26 PM
17	Improve the look of Main St by burying the power lines and eliminating all the poles in the middle of sidewalks. Enforce good landscaping in front of businesses (especially the Chinese restaurant)	3/9/2018 5:27 PM
18	Beautify the town. The town is not a place where you'd drive through and say, "wow, what a beautiful little town". We lack in aesthetics. Southbridge down down is more beautify simply because of street lights.	3/9/2018 2:17 PM

Q22 How do you currently get information about open spaces, recreational opportunities and events in Sturbridge? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 215 Skipped: 23



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Word of mouth through family, friends, neighbors, etc.	64%	138
Facebook	50%	107
Local newspapers such as the Sturbridge Villager or Quaboag Current	47%	101
Directly from the Town of Sturbridge website	37%	79
Flyers and signs around town	35%	75

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Internet search	27%	57
Information from community groups or leagues	26%	55
Recreation Commission or Conservation Commission listserve	15%	32
Teachers and coaches	12%	26
School listserve	10%	21
Police and Fire officials	5%	10
I don't look for information	4%	9
Twitter	2%	4
Total Respondents: 215		

Q23 Additional Comments: Please use this opportunity to submit any additional comments that you feel are important to Sturbridge's open space and recreation planning and protection efforts. Your input is highly valued.

Answered: 52 Skipped: 186

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Need to get rid of current CPA Committee and get some people that tell the truth along with open space group	4/2/2018 3:44 PM
2	A dog park would be a good added assets	3/30/2018 1:42 PM
3	Sturbridge is doing very well in this area and has been doing so for quite some time. We should be proud of what we have accomplished.	3/30/2018 12:16 PM
4	Mountain bike trail system	3/29/2018 6:59 PM
5	I would love to see access for ADULT swimming	3/26/2018 5:59 PM
6	Please consider adding a skatepark back into the recreation spaces.	3/25/2018 10:41 PM
7	I feel this survey is much too long and complex to get useful input.	3/25/2018 6:32 PM
8	Remove telephone polls from sidewalks. Reopen Hobbs Brook trail to link Hall Road with the Town Common.	3/25/2018 3:53 PM
9	I would love to see a dog park	3/25/2018 12:17 PM
10	I just want to say how disgusted I am that the farm land on Douty Road is being developed.	3/25/2018 8:44 AM
11	Noticed that the members listed at the beginning of this survey only included Open Space members and not Recreation members? Recreation members should be helping with this.	3/24/2018 8:15 AM
12	The town needs to be more engaging, with more energy. The lighting in town seems very dead. Town needs to advance with time. There is nothing to do in town for late hours.	3/23/2018 5:13 PM
13	Improve communication about events around town. Promote existing spaces better. I didn't know about more than half of these places and have lived in town for 10 years.	3/23/2018 3:48 PM
14	A big part of why we moved to and chose to raise our family in Sturbridge is the country setting with access to hiking, biking, local farms and csas as well as a good school system with activities, parks, beaches etc. I was pleasantly surprised with the amount of activities at the town common and library and the free admission to osv. Most of our open space use is daily to weekly in nice weather and less in the winter (which is where a rec enter might be nice). I would support the improvement and/or expansion of all of these.	3/22/2018 9:35 PM
15	need sports fields for kids, particularly soccer	3/22/2018 9:25 PM
16	One fifth of the town is already dedicated to open space. I will not support any further efforts to purchase additional acreage for that purpose. I also feel that any more athletic fields should not be built with tax payer dollars. The leagues that desire the fields should be fund raising and seeking grants to fulfill their needs.	3/22/2018 3:45 PM
17	I do not understand the push for more ball fields. When our children were younger there were enough and we had many more children in town.	3/21/2018 3:50 PM
18	Your high taxes are pushing the senior citizens out of this town. Where is that on your survey?	3/21/2018 11:48 AM
19	I would like to recommend the possibility or idea of getting a different quote/estimate from a different company to construct the fields and other facilities for the Town Barn Athletic area. I know some other companies may be able to bring the cost down to around \$1-2 million instead of the \$4-6 million. \$1-2 million also seems more reasonable a figure, maybe even less, for what they're trying to accomplish within the plan. Unless the fields were turf, \$4-6 million seems unreasonably high.	3/21/2018 6:43 AM

Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018

20	As disc golf course would be an excellent use of open space with very low environmental impact. Charlton has the buffumville dam which creates great foot traffic and can easily be maintained. Sturbridge does has 1 disc golf course and rapacallion which is also a great facility but utilizing anothe spot of wooded land would ensure no development, a great choice for people to either disc golf or hike and enjoy the land. There are disc golf courses that charge a small admission fee of 5\$ for players only, this could be used as a way to recoup any expenses the land would take which is very minimal.	3/20/2018 6:24 PM
21	Thank you for the opportunity to answer these questions. As I said above, Not to become generic. We can get generic anywhere. More development makes me so sad. I just moved here from CA a year and a half ago and I see so many 'progress' opinions. I don't think I define progress as having more generic businesses accessible in town. I belong to both the Sturbridge and the Southbridge Facebook pages... Southbridge seems to love their town and unfortunately, Sturbridge FB participants seem to complain a lot. This is a beautiful town and I'm so proud of it. My fear is, that will be erased by people who do t appreciate where they are. Again, thank you for the opportunity!	3/20/2018 2:54 PM
22	Better websites to promote events. Improve town signage for businesses and public areas.	3/20/2018 2:15 PM
23	Please build an off leash dog park in Sturbridge!	3/19/2018 9:51 PM
24	There's a group of folks whose only hobbies are vicariously living through their kids' sports—they need to spend their own resources to pursue their hobbies, rather than leveraging a tax burden on the town while creating ecological problems and pushing to clog residential roadways. Fix the town barn fields; leave the Plimpton property alone!	3/19/2018 5:56 PM
25	Youth sports fields are desperately needed.	3/19/2018 3:29 PM
26	Addition to Town Barn athletic fields would need a 2nd point of entry.	3/19/2018 3:16 PM
27	Dog Park is desprately needed. World.class baseball/football/ Lacrosse/ soccer fields could generate a big revenue stream.	3/19/2018 2:41 PM
28	I would rather see town money spent on good networks of sidewalks than anything else. I live one Fiske Hill and it is dangerous to walk to a neighbor's house or to walk your dog because there is no shoulder. I'd love to see a sidewalk on this road so we can walk to businesses on main street.	3/19/2018 1:51 PM
29	Capitalize on what we have, and cut a deal with outdoor enthusiast entrepreneur to cash in on access to our trails system for biking, snow showing, cross country skiing, etc...	3/19/2018 1:49 PM
30	I think Sturbridge has a lot of great facilities that have untapped potential. I'd prefer to see those upgraded rather than adding new facilities. A splash park, bike trails, and sidewalks around town would also provide more, low cost options.	3/18/2018 10:58 AM
31	This town is in desperate need for a nice public beach.. the rec area doesn't cut it!!! The water is black and sketchy and it is more of a day camp/babysitting rather than a beach for families. We a need a walker pond beach but one that everyone in town could use.	3/15/2018 1:42 PM
32	While I think open space, walking trails, and other passive-recreation property is vitally important, I think Sturbridge has enough of those. I think we need playgrounds (Burgess is great, but overcrowded and off-limits during school and after school because of the after-school program). I also believe we need more dedicated fields for youth sports, especially in an age when everyone is trying to get our youth alternatives to electronics.	3/14/2018 9:58 PM
33	I would love more family focused areas. Not everyone plays sports but being more welcome to families would be nice.	3/14/2018 5:12 PM
34	We have many narrow roads that are dangerous to walk or bike on. This makes getting out to walk difficult and it also makes informal interaction with your neighbors nearly impossible. It is difficult to meet new people in town because of this.	3/14/2018 1:20 PM
35	We need a dog park.	3/13/2018 1:44 PM
36	Have I said dog park? ;)	3/13/2018 11:23 AM
37	The days of people visiting Sturbridge as a tourist destination are waning. But it's a great town to LIVE IN, and we can continue to improve its appeal to families by improving the opportunities to enjoy family time in town. We have plenty of trees and trails. We need more spaces for organized sports and gatherings.	3/11/2018 10:36 AM

Sturbridge Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Survey 2018

38	To be clear I DO NOT support any recreation that eliminates any resident of Sturbridge from using, such as youth fields. We have enough of them. I would rather have an open area where ANYONE can play, home, bike etc. Sidewalks are a big part of what Sturbridge is missing. I go to my hometown frequently where there are sidewalks everywhere and I can walk with my kids anywhere. I would like that in my town.	3/11/2018 7:49 AM
39	You can have fields without paving a parking lot or putting in basket ball / tennis courts.. we already have that at cedar street. But we don't have actual fields.	3/11/2018 7:16 AM
40	I think the town needs to buy and keep as much land as possible to preserve for wildlife. Too much is already lost to developers.	3/10/2018 11:14 PM
41	The part of the survey that asked that I rate from 1 to 5 the level of importance of activities in our town did not function properly and would not let me rate them.	3/10/2018 10:43 PM
42	The amount of money and energy our town puts into athletic fields is embarrassingly poor. We are destroying the middle and high school fields using them for rec soccer and TRY Soccer has no decent place to play other than a donated brimfield field that is in crappy condition. Even an indoor facility would bring in tons of money with the regional club soccer teams in this area. From what I have been told, every attempt to bring in such a place or every attempt to get more adequate fields is met with resistance or land purchased with idea of fields and then repurposed. We are a big town with a tremendous athlete population and don't have pride in playing and/or training fields. Many friends that live in surrounding towns have also mentioned how pathetic our town is when it comes to providing for our young athletes. SMH if I could do over and have moved into another town I just might have picked a town that supports youth athletics.	3/10/2018 9:08 PM
43	I support ANY type of youth center that offers positive and healthy (physically, mentally and all types of healthy) outlets - I am a child development professional and run a grief support center for youth in Worcester. Speaking from professional experience, structured and unstructured activity options are both valuable in building social-emotional resilience in youth! And physical activity is such a healthy coping activity! I am a firm believer in giving youth all opportunities to develop healthy habits and resilience to carry into adulthood!	3/10/2018 8:26 PM
44	The river running through town is underappreciated. Look at the success of the Lion's canoe race.	3/10/2018 2:23 PM
45	We don't need more athletic fields. We need access to and awareness of public spaces. We need to provide opportunities to diversify outdoor activities, not destroy open spaces to make athletic fields and traffic problems.	3/10/2018 10:58 AM
46	I have only lived in Sturbridge for about 10 months so am not familiar with all of the town offerings. In general I am very happy with the town; however, my one major complaint is lack of places to walk or bike from my home (off of rt 148). I would never even consider letting my children ride a bike on our road, nor would I do so myself. I live close enough to downtown that I would be able to do so if there were sidewalks or bike lanes, so this is my top priority for town development.	3/9/2018 10:46 PM
47	The town should consider building a NEW Community Recreation Center - offering activities for all ages to encourage healthy and active behaviors - indoor swimming, gym, running track, activity rooms, community kitchen, library extension, weight room, etc.	3/9/2018 5:34 PM
48	Expansion of recreational fields is vital for our children and to allow our town to host tournaments.	3/9/2018 4:38 PM
49	We really need a basketball facility. We have a great program in town with lots of talented student athletes but access to indoor courts is extremely difficult to gain.	3/9/2018 2:50 PM
50	Went to a hockey tournament in Hyannis. They had a great rec facility: 2 ice rinks, gym, pool, pool tables and ping pong. It was full of kids. I know this sort of thing would cost a lot, but something like this, in an area kids could safely walk/ride bikes would make this town a superb place to live!	3/9/2018 2:32 PM
51	I believe that this town would benefit by making the town more pleasing to drive through. We promote Sturbridge of being this lovely historic place, but driving down RT 20 to Brimfield looks rundown. Something needs to be done to make this town look better.	3/9/2018 2:17 PM
52	I would love to have a dog park in town	3/9/2018 2:13 PM