

Hubbardston Community Survey

January 2021



Summary

Statistics:

This survey saw 529 respondents. This is equal to 11 percent of Hubbardston's 2018 population or 15 percent of Hubbardston's registered voters (2020). A little more than 64 percent of respondents had school-aged children in their households.

Methods:

This online survey ran from December 16, 2020 to January 11, 2021. The survey, hosted by Google Forms, was advertised on the town Web site, the town Facebook site, and the Town Twitter site. Town officials also mailed two reminders to all Hubbardston residents encouraging them to participate.

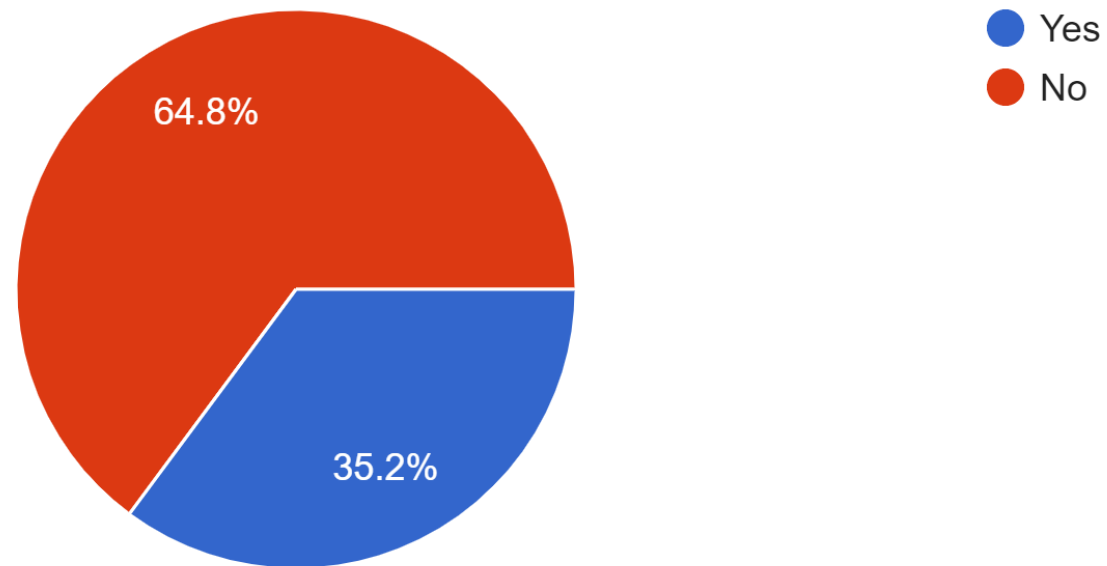
Collaboration:

The Town Administrator sought input from all Town boards, committees and commissions when compiling the questions from this report. Many of the questions also modeled questions from the Town's recently completed Master Plan (economic development chapter) for survey continuity.

General Questions

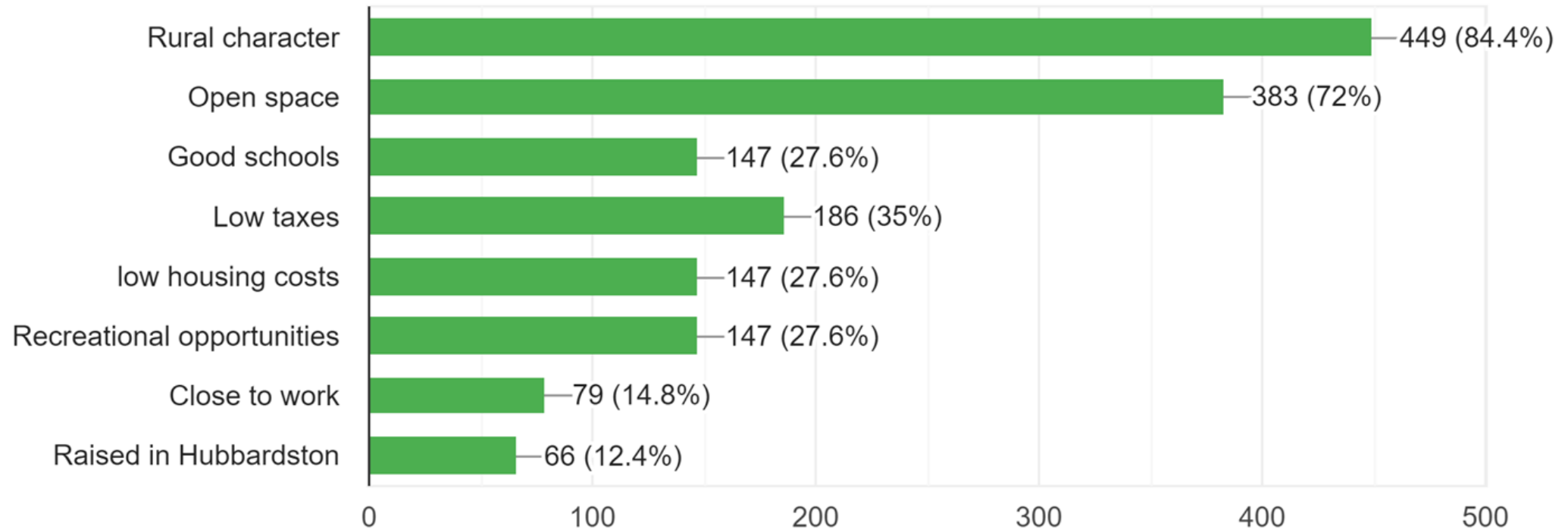
Do you have students in your household?

532 responses



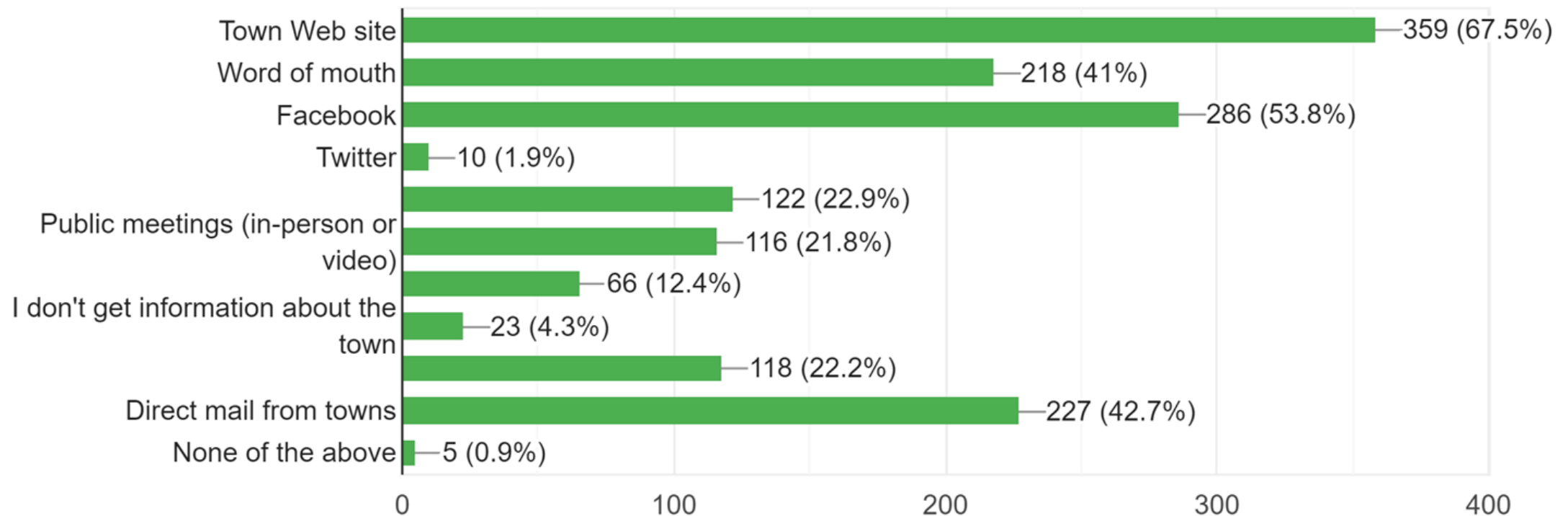
Why do you live in Hubbardston (select ALL that apply)?

532 responses



How do you get your information from Town Government (select all that apply)?

532 responses

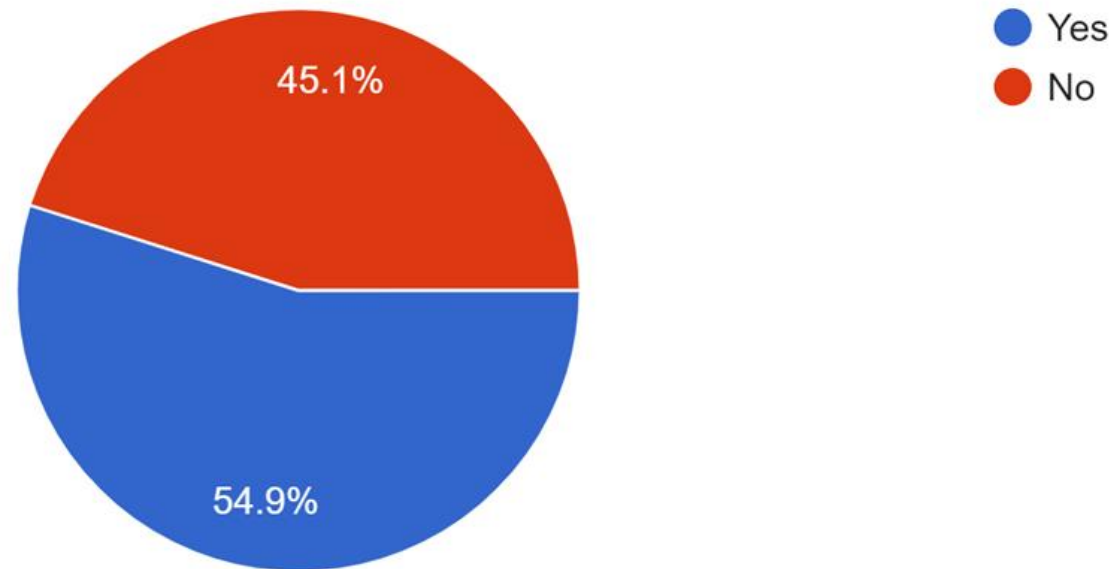


Road Maintenance

[Link to current Hubbardston reports](#)

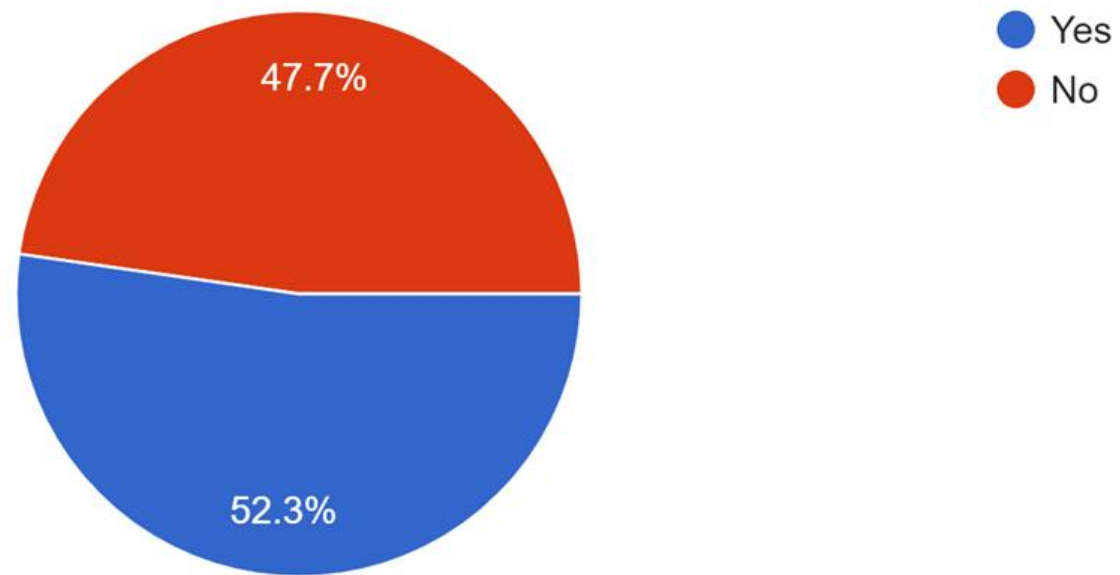
Are you familiar with the town's 5-year road maintenance plan?

532 responses



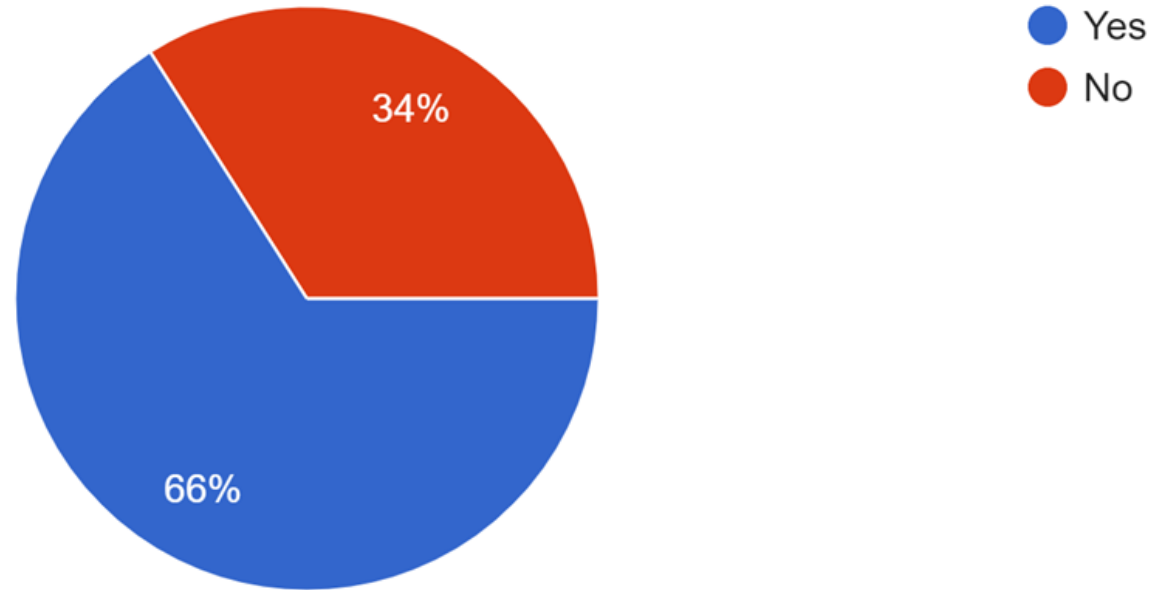
Do you think the town's 5-year road maintenance plan is adequate?

532 responses



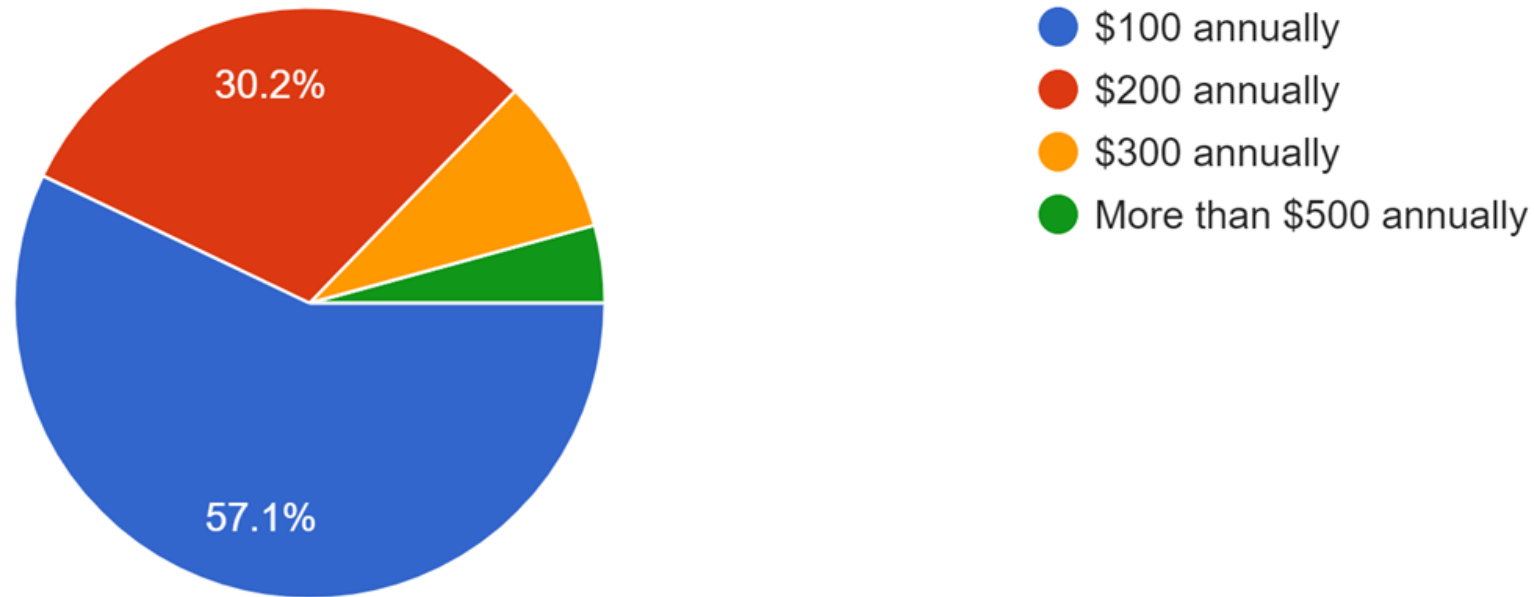
Do you think the town should perform additional road maintenance, beyond and in addition to the town's 5-year road maintenance plan?

532 responses



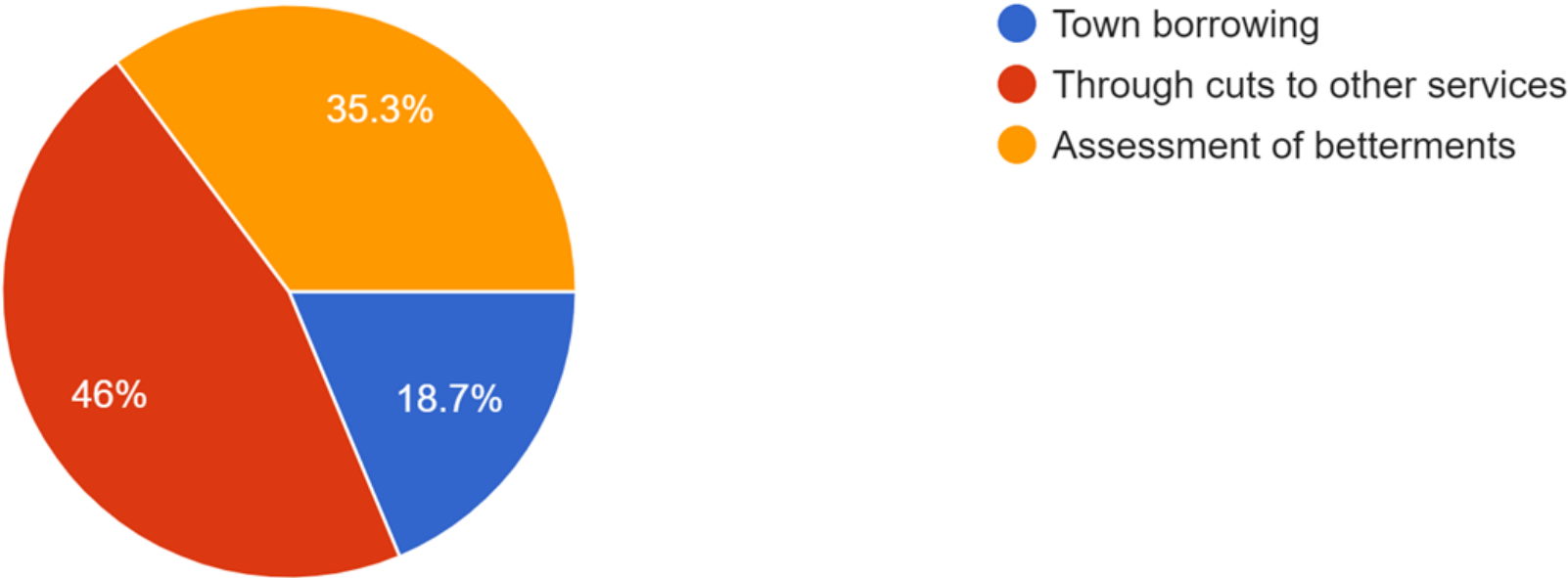
If you support increasing taxes to fund additional road maintenance, by how much would you be willing to increase your ANNUAL property taxes to do so?

212 responses



If you think roads and road maintenance are inadequate in town, but do not favor increasing taxes to address the problem, how would you suggest funding?

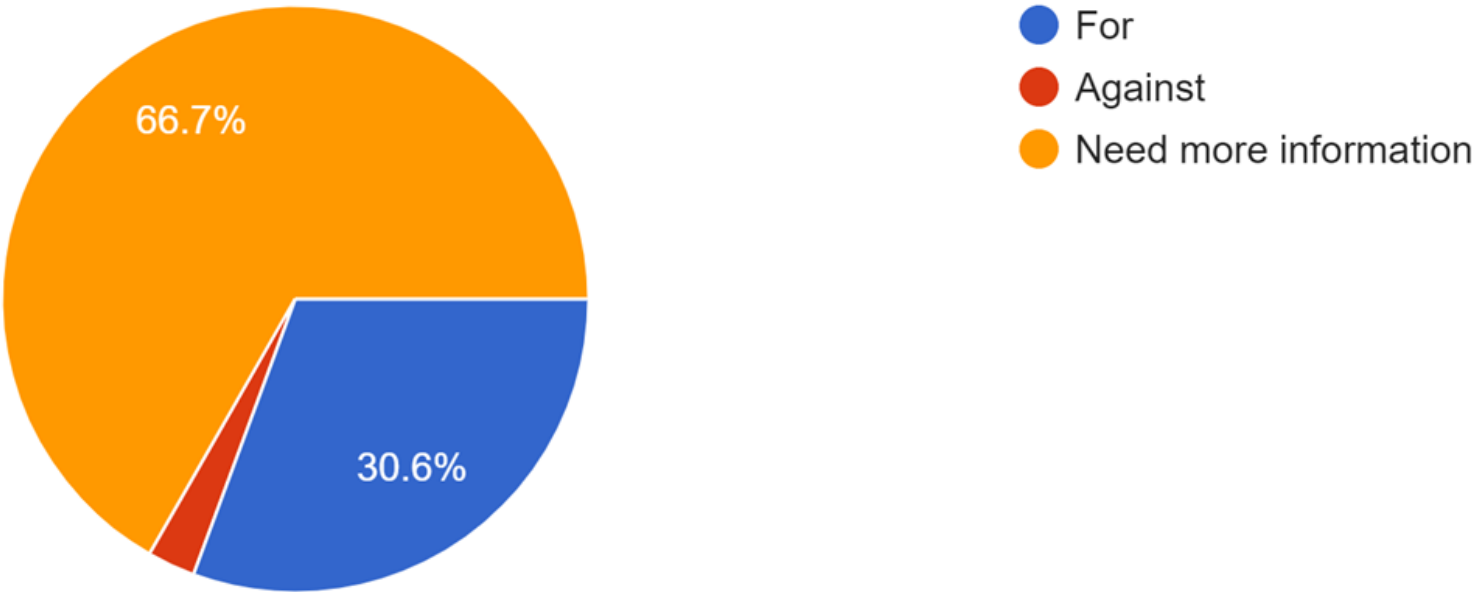
139 responses



Economic Development

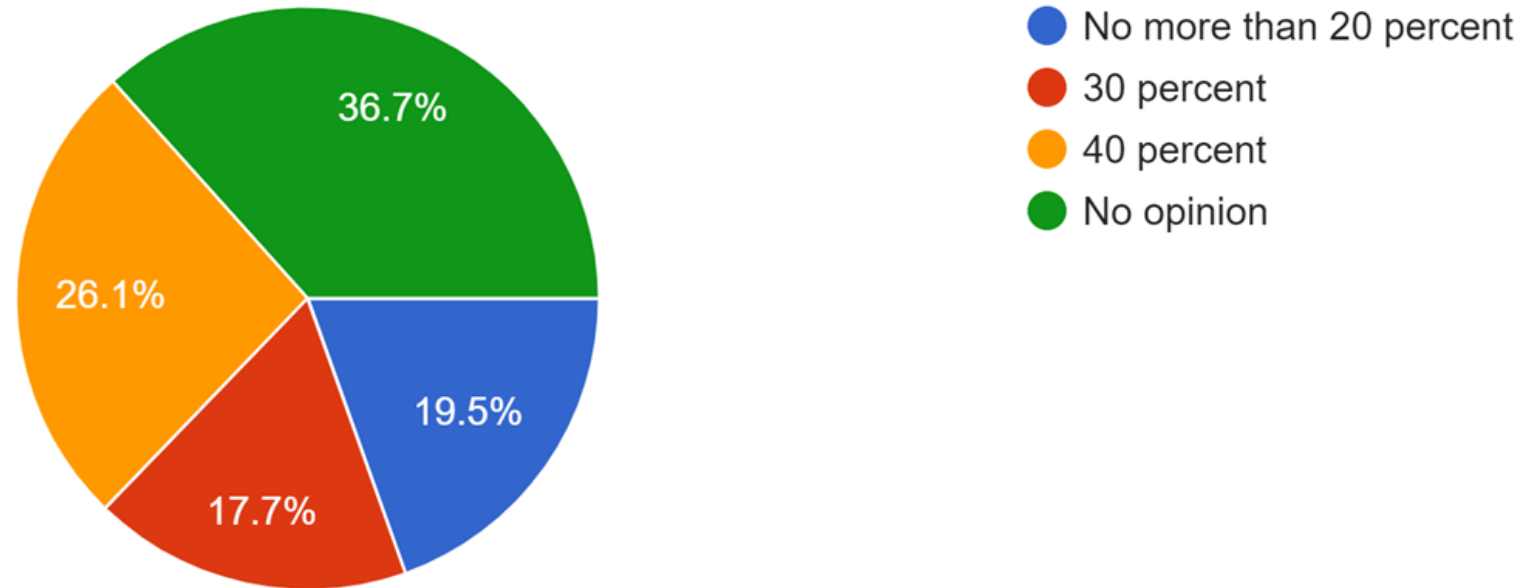
The Hubbardston Economic Development Committee is working to support our local businesses.
Are you for or against improving the current sign by-law to make it easier to understand?

532 responses



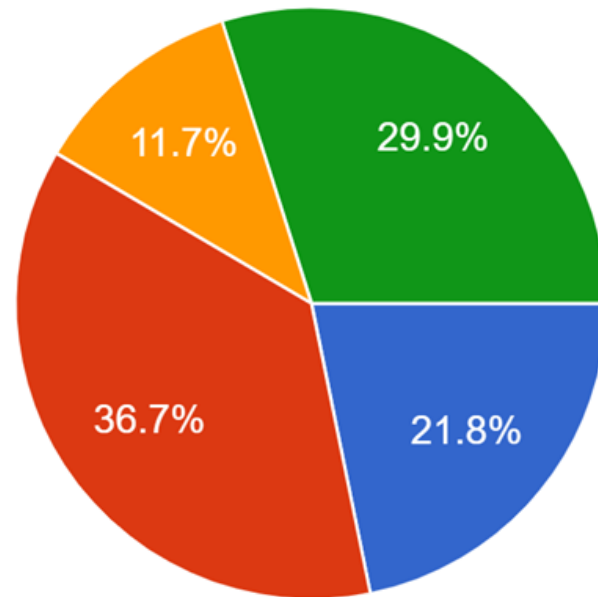
Our current by-law allows for no more than 20% of the square footage of a residence to be used for a home based business. Would you support...

532 responses



Our current by-law for home-based businesses permits no more than 1 non-resident assistant or employee. Would you support...

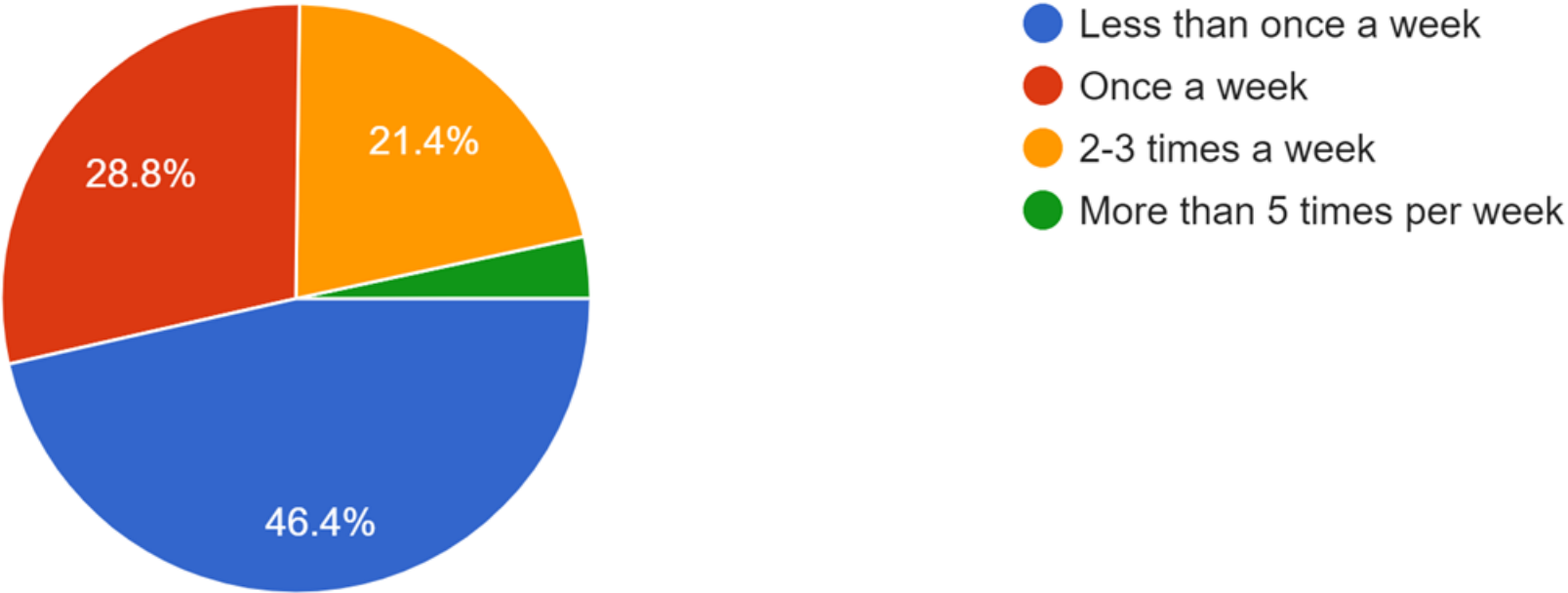
532 responses



- 1 non-resident employee or assistant
- 2-5 non-resident employees or assistants
- 6-10 non-resident employees or assistants
- no opinion

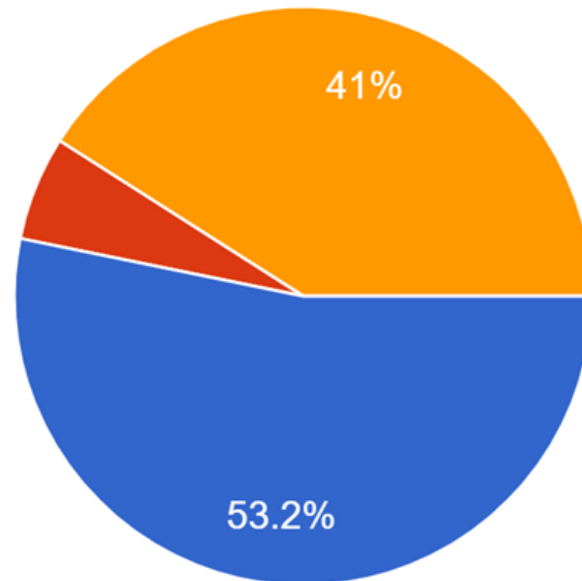
Excluding gasoline, how many times a week do you purchase services from Hubbardston businesses (including food)?

532 responses



23.) Would you support creating a Commercial Overlay that would allow for certain businesses to be allowed along Route 68?

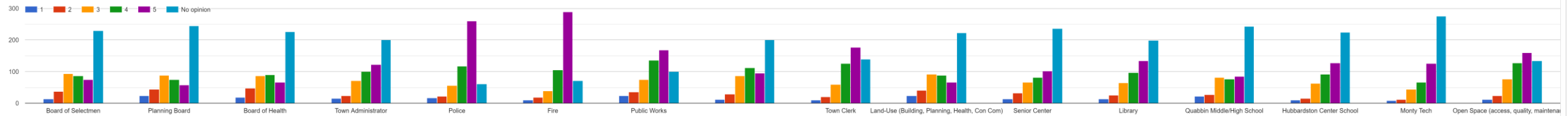
532 responses



- I would support more businesses along Route 68
- I would not support more businesses along Route 68
- I would need know more about the proposed businesses before making a decision

Town Board and Department Report Card

Please rate the following Town Departments/Boards/Services 1-5 or "no opinion" on quality of performance and service to the community, with 1 being lowest and 5 being best.



[Visit the Town Web site](#)

Five Biggest Problems Facing the Town Now?

Limited Cellular Broad Band – 75%

Lack of Retail Business – 51%

Road Conditions – 47%

Aging Infrastructure – 45%

Poor Municipal Building Conditions – 40%

Five Biggest Problems Facing the Town (five years)?

Limited Cellular Broad Band – 59%

Road Conditions – 50%

Aging Infrastructure – 46%

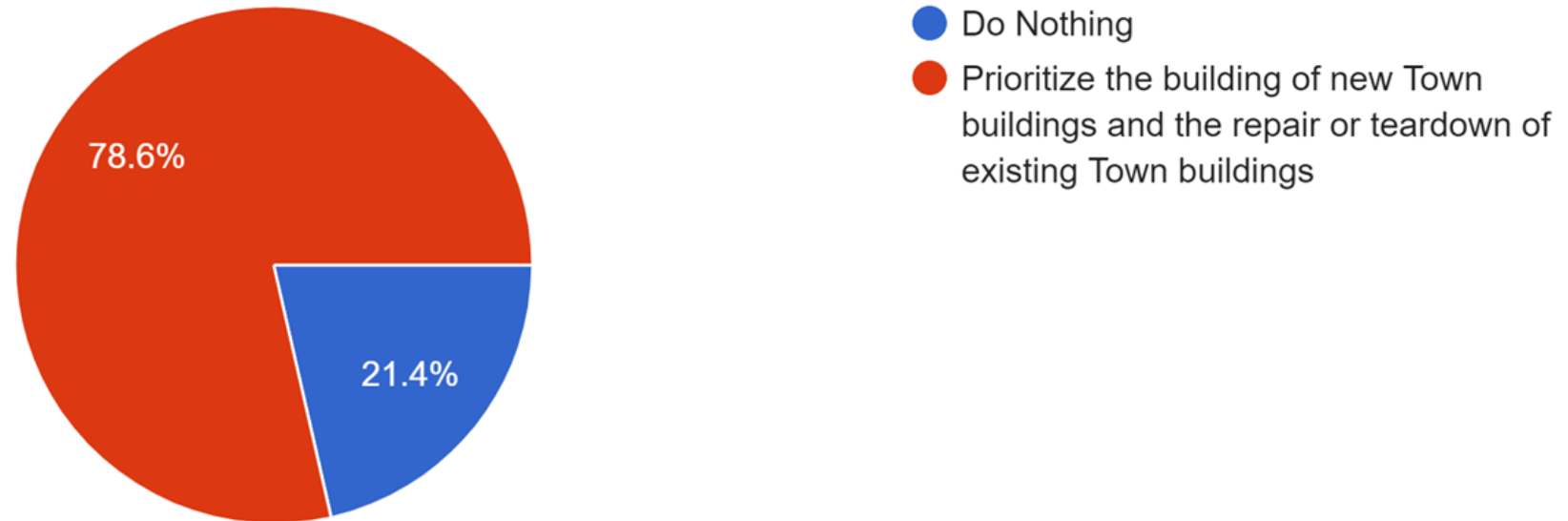
Lack of Retail Business – 43%

Tax Increases – 42%

When presented with the Town's Municipal Building Problem?

The town has multiple buildings that are outmoded and inadequate for the services they provided.
The town owns a vacant parcel of land on Gardner ...hat should town officials do about these issues?

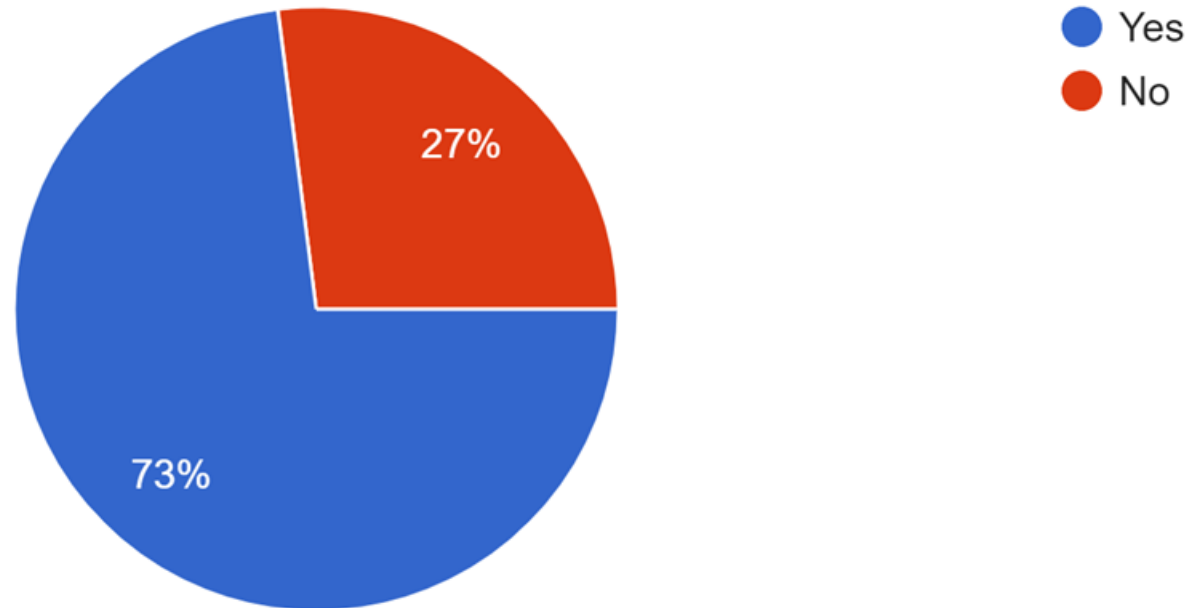
532 responses



Resident Support by Project

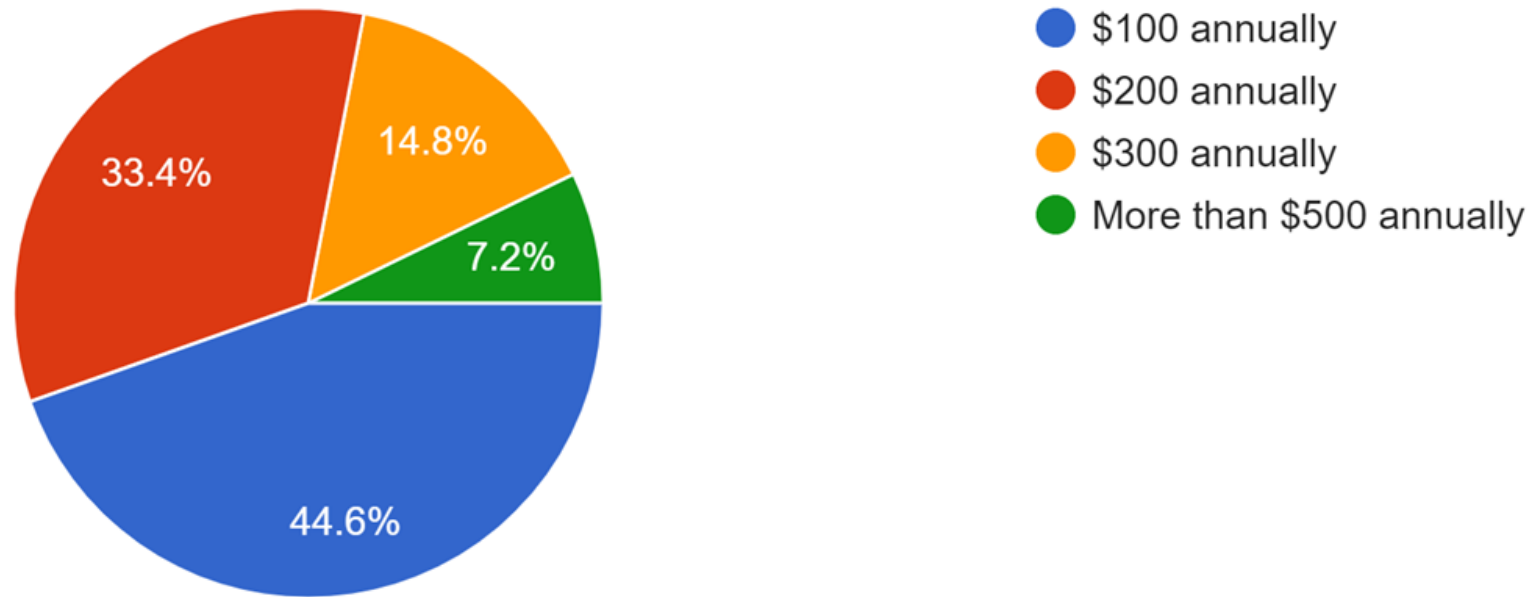
If you think the town should address its building needs by prioritizing their solutions, would you support increasing taxes to fund them?

418 responses



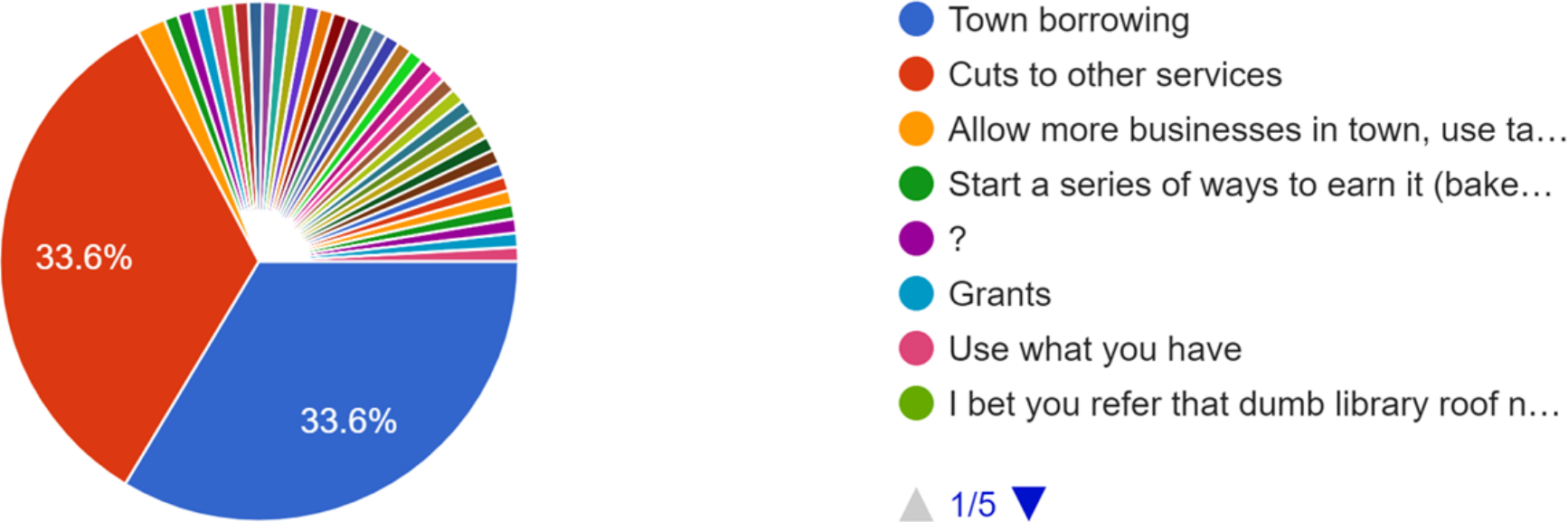
If you support increasing taxes to fund these prioritized solutions, by how much would you be willing to increase your ANNUAL property taxes to do so?

305 responses



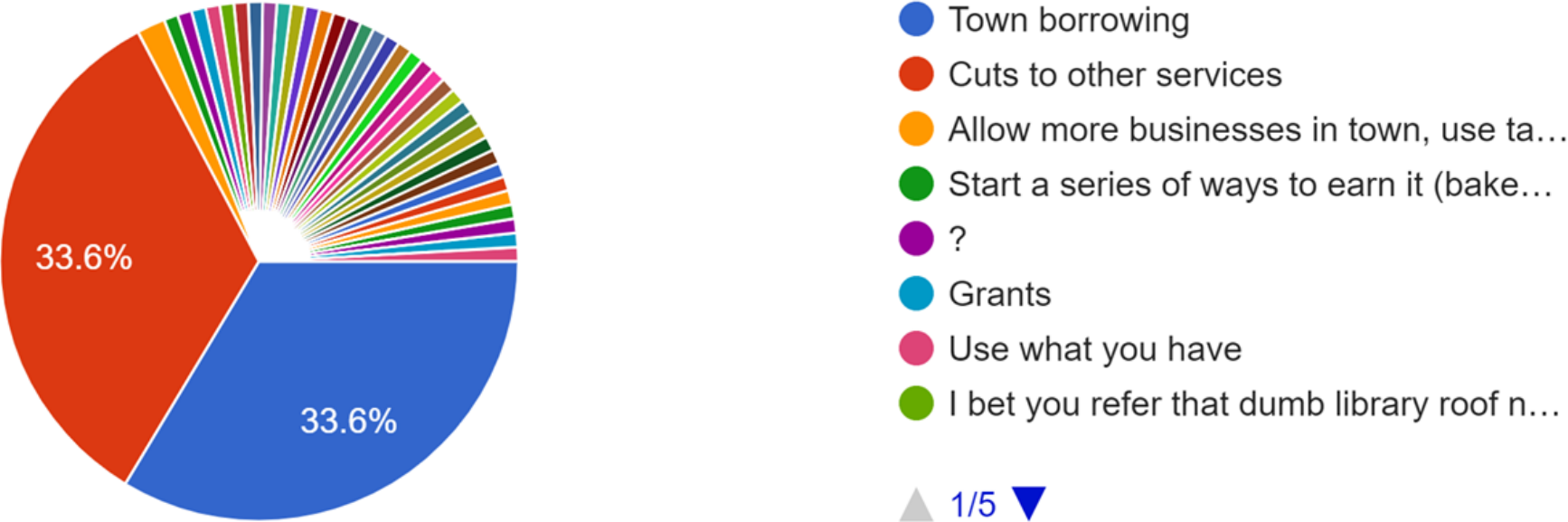
If you think the town should address its building needs but you do not support increasing taxes to fund them, how should the town fund them?

113 responses



If you think the town should address its building needs but you do not support increasing taxes to fund them, how should the town fund them?

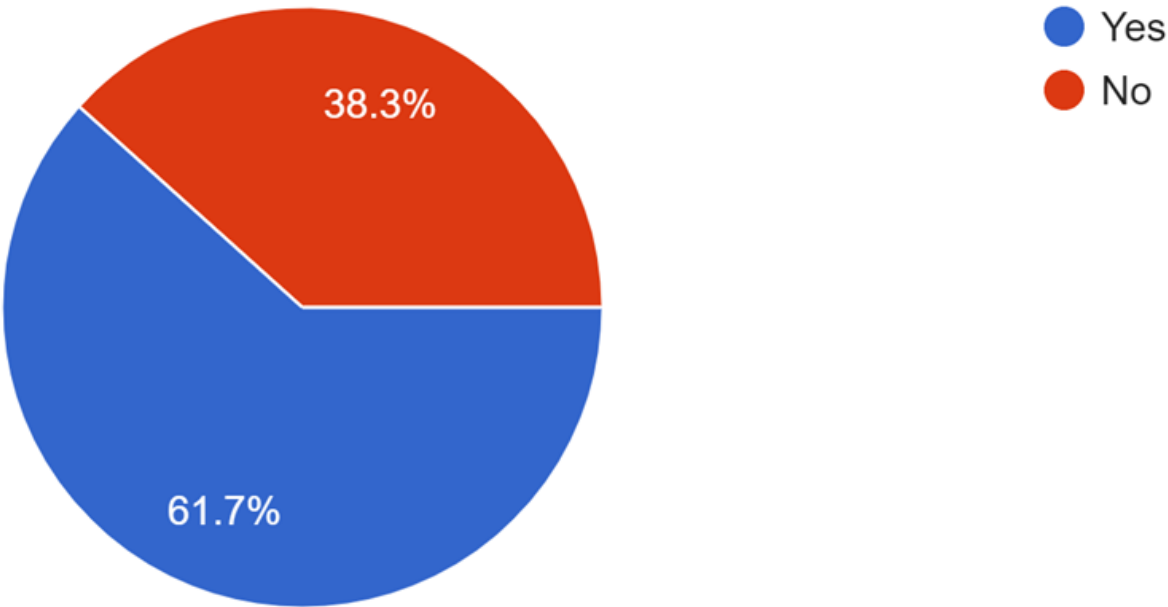
113 responses



Tax Questions

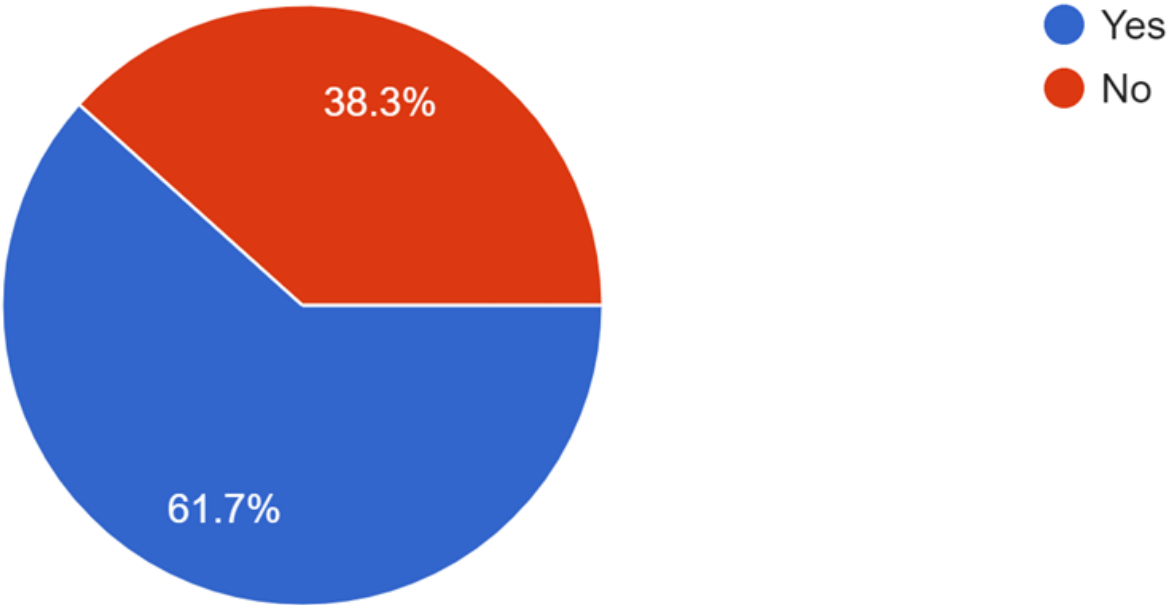
Property taxes in Hubbardston fund town services. Do you think that you get good value from those services?

532 responses



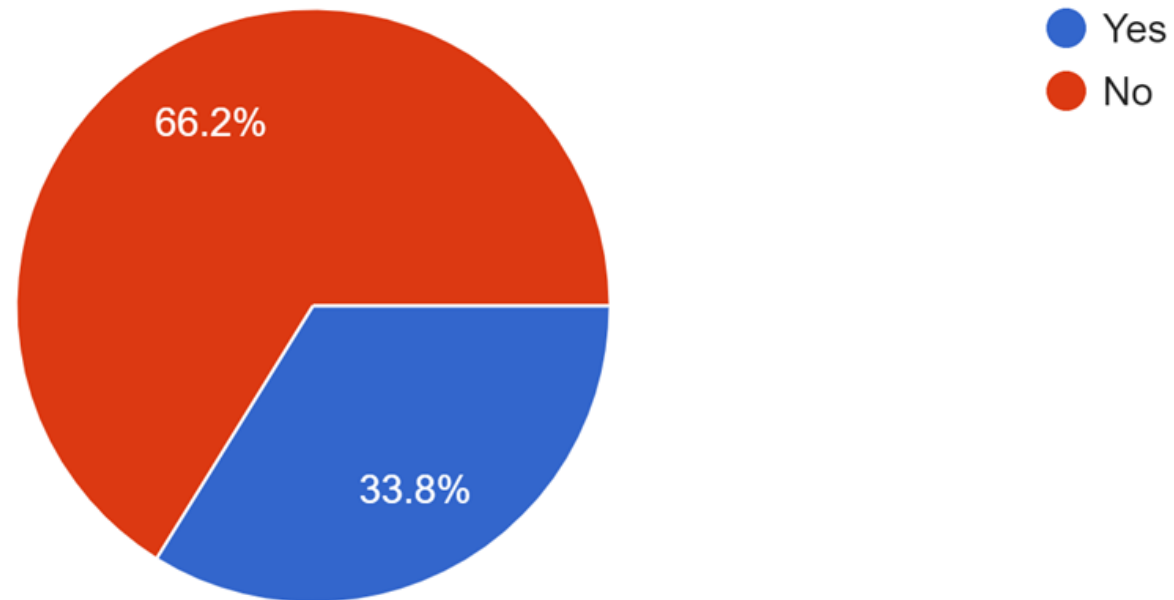
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532 responses



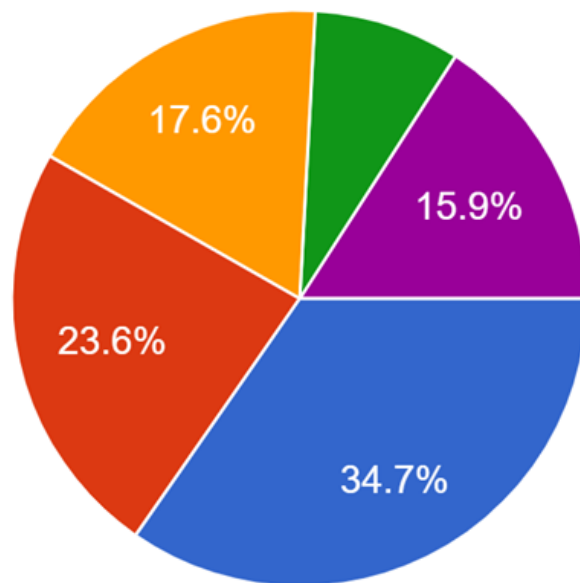
We understand that few people like to pay taxes and we aim to keep taxes as low as possible with every decision. But we would like to ask, relative ...ou believe property taxes in Hubbardston too high?

532 responses



If you think that property taxes in Hubbardston are NOT too high relatively speaking, by how much would you be willing to increase your ANNUAL pro... town NOW you identified in a previous question?

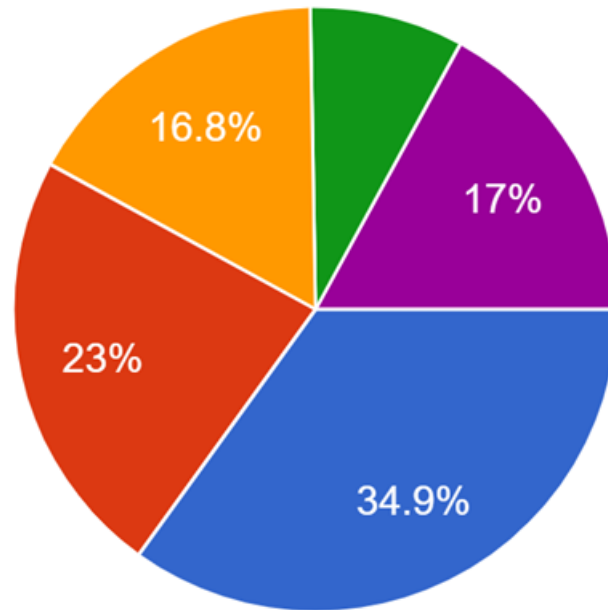
352 responses



- \$100 annually
- \$200 annually
- \$300 annually
- More than \$500 annually
- I do not think taxes are too high, but would not pay any more

If you think that property taxes in Hubbardston are NOT too high relatively speaking, by how much would you be willing to increase your ANNUAL prop...IVE YEARS you identified in a previous question?

352 responses



- \$100 annually
- \$200 annually
- \$300 annually
- More than \$500 annually
- I do not think taxes are too high, but would not pay any more

Open-Ended Question Responses

This survey asked two open ended questions. Click on the specific question below to be routed to another document listing the answers in full –

[How can the town better communicate with residents?](#)

[What else would you like Town Officials to know?](#)