



# YOUR OCONEE

Planning for the Future

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# OCONEE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

415 South Pine Street - Walhalla, SC



TEL (864) 638-4218 FAX (864) 638-4168

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

During the comprehensive plan creation process a series of inserts or “tabs” were created by combining information from the current comprehensive plan and drafts of the new plan. These tabs had snapshots of information, narratives, and a survey dealing with individual elements of the comprehensive plan. The Upstate Journal was hired to do the layout and distribution of the tabs. In total five tabs were created by Planning staff and the Journal and delivered to ~10,000 addresses County-wide. Additional copies were available at the County offices and libraries with individual Planning Commission members placing the tabs at various public spots throughout the County. A total of 1194 surveys were filled out and returned via online portal, mail, or dropped-off at various spots throughout the County. While this was not a statistically-relevant survey the following information are the survey results. These have been and will be utilized to drive conversations and policy related to the comprehensive plan process.

## **Respondent information**

People from 41 zip codes responded

All Oconee zip codes and zip codes from:

- Washington State
- California
- Minnesota
- Indiana
- North Carolina
- Virginia
- New York
- And throughout South Carolina

Total number of respondents 1194





# YOUR OCONEE

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March 2019: Population & Housing

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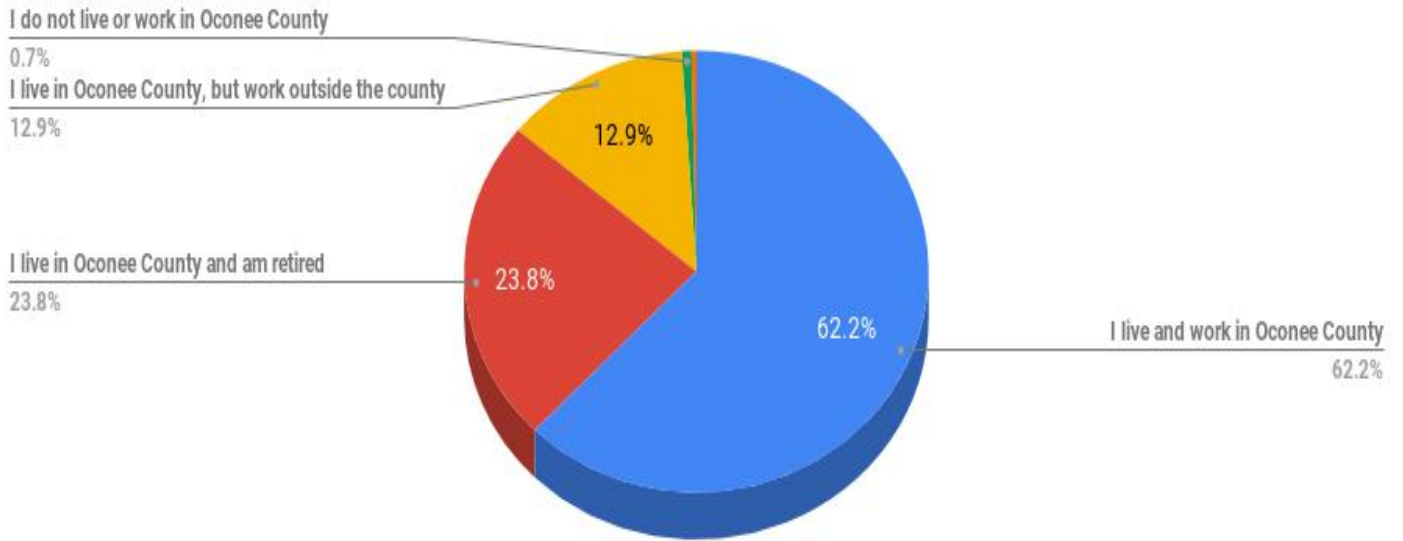
THE OCONEE COUNTY 2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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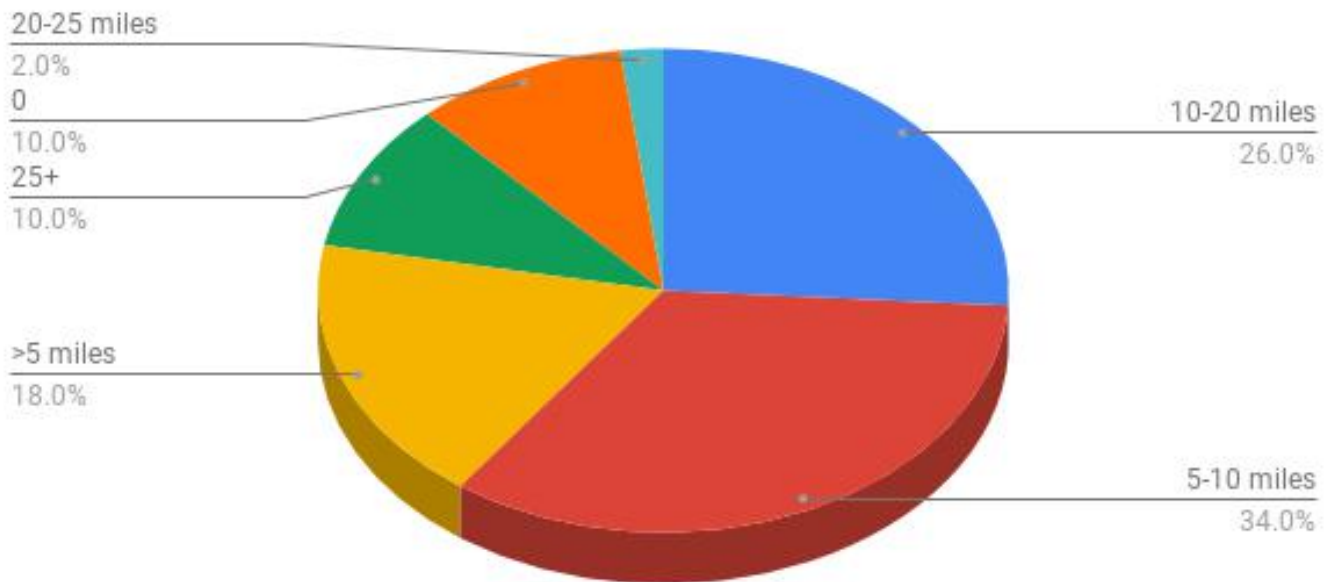
NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS

228

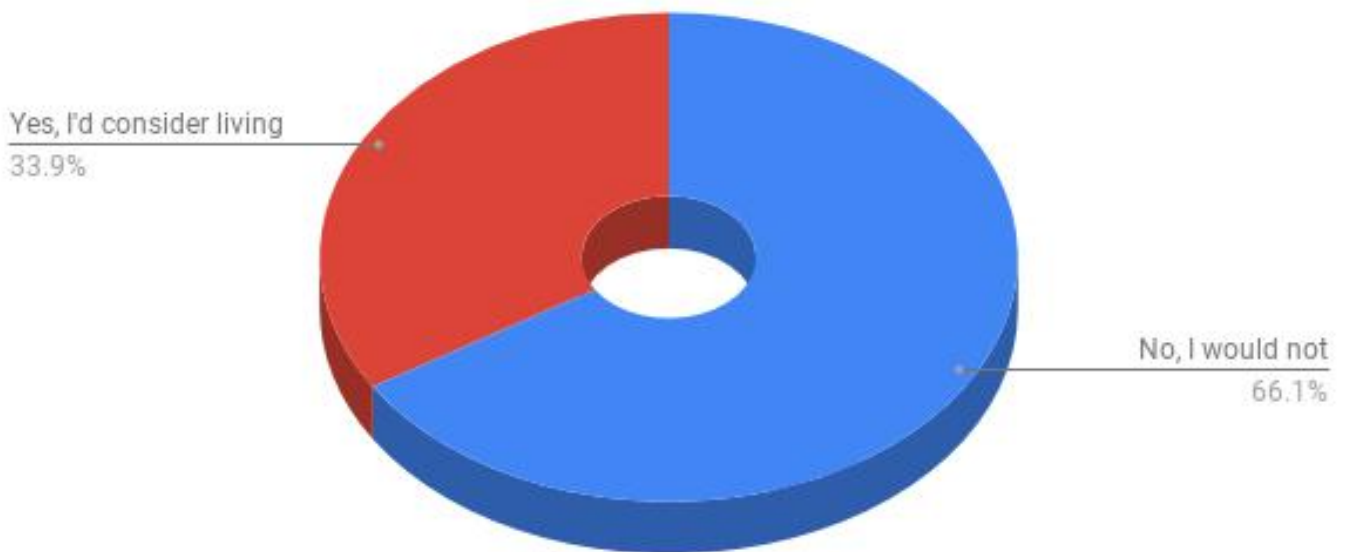
## Live and work status



## How far do you live from your workplace?



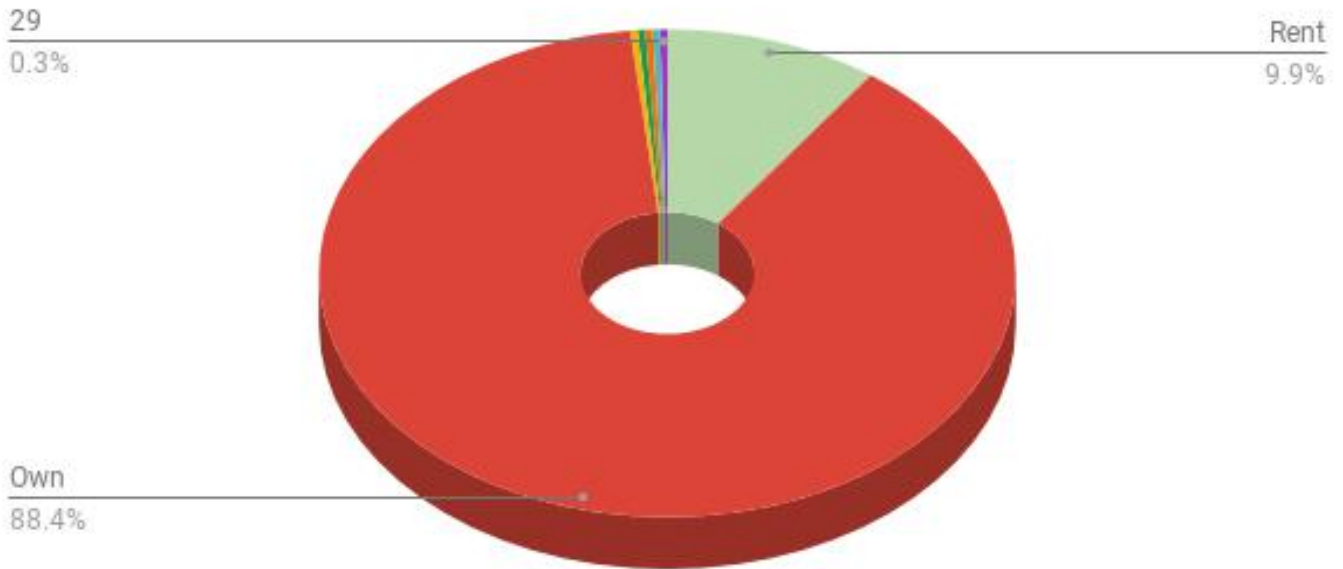
## Would you consider living in a downtown area?



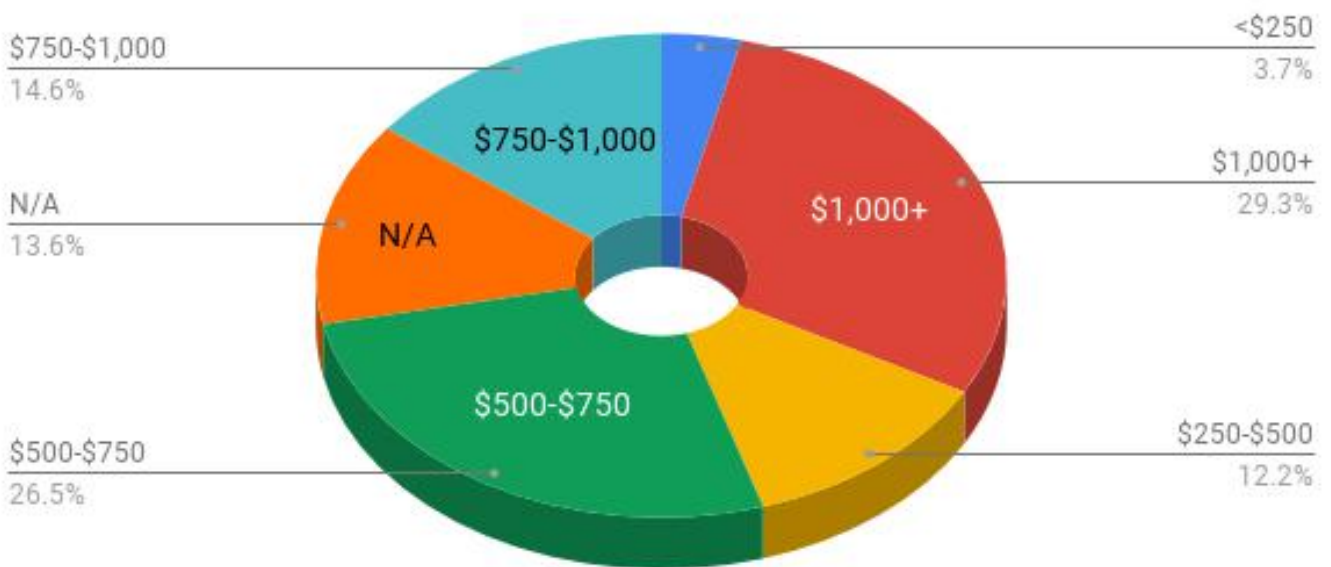
## What type of housing do you live in?



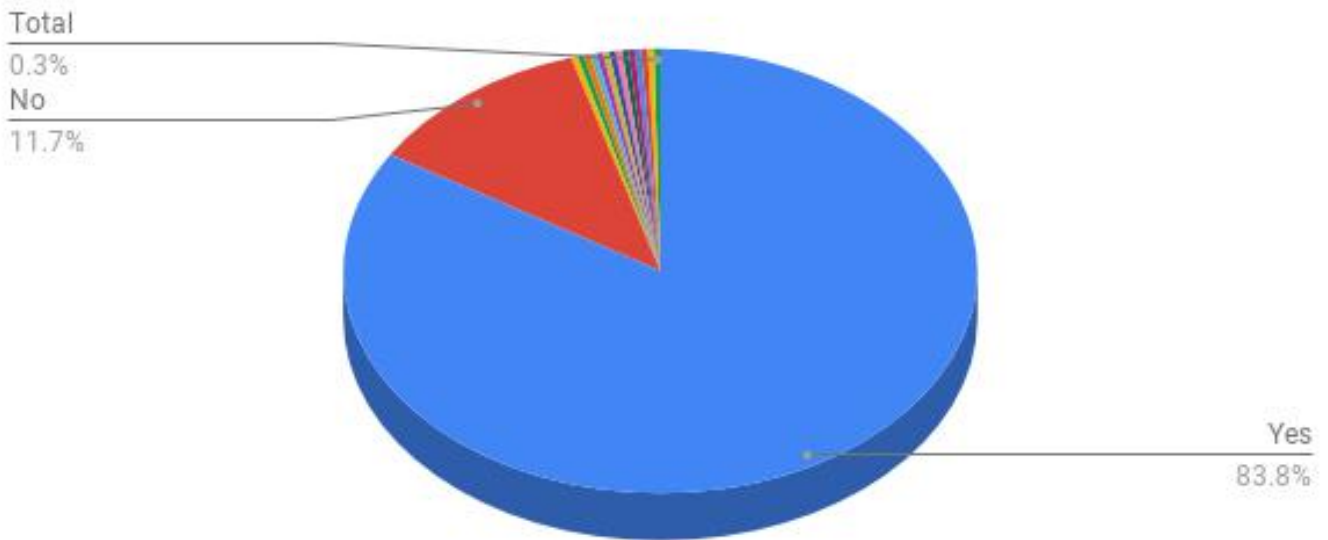
## Do you own or rent your home?



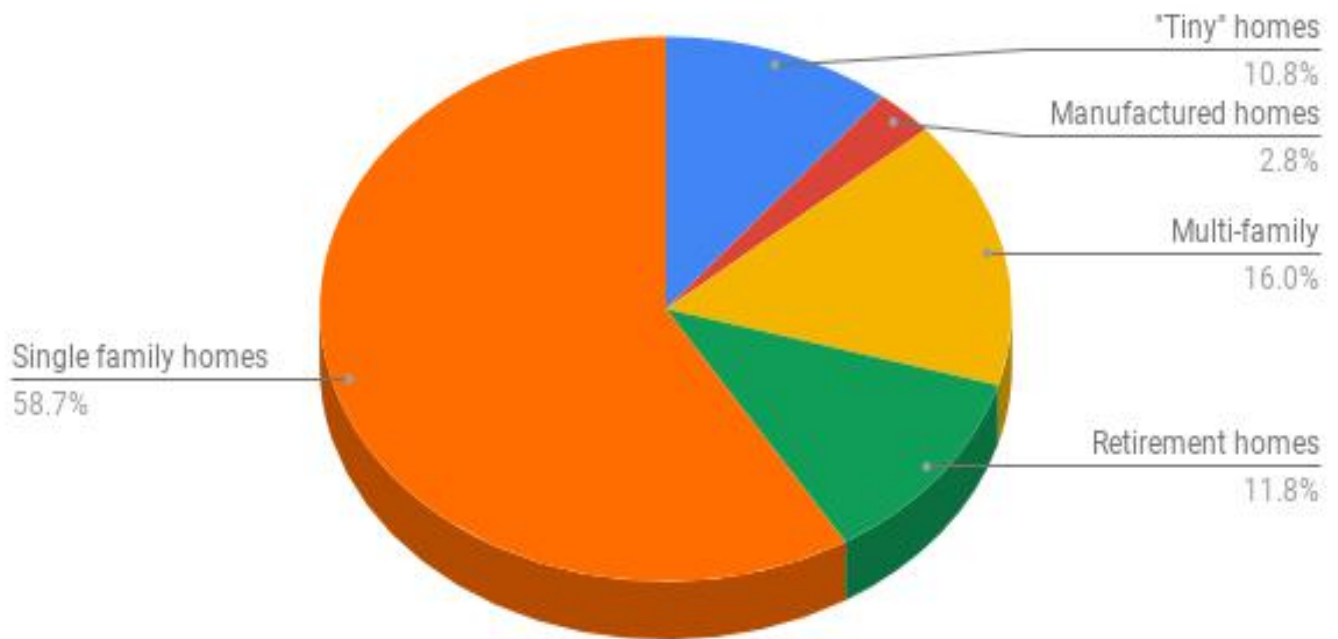
## What monthly payment can you afford for housing?



# Do you think more affordable housing is needed in Oconee County?

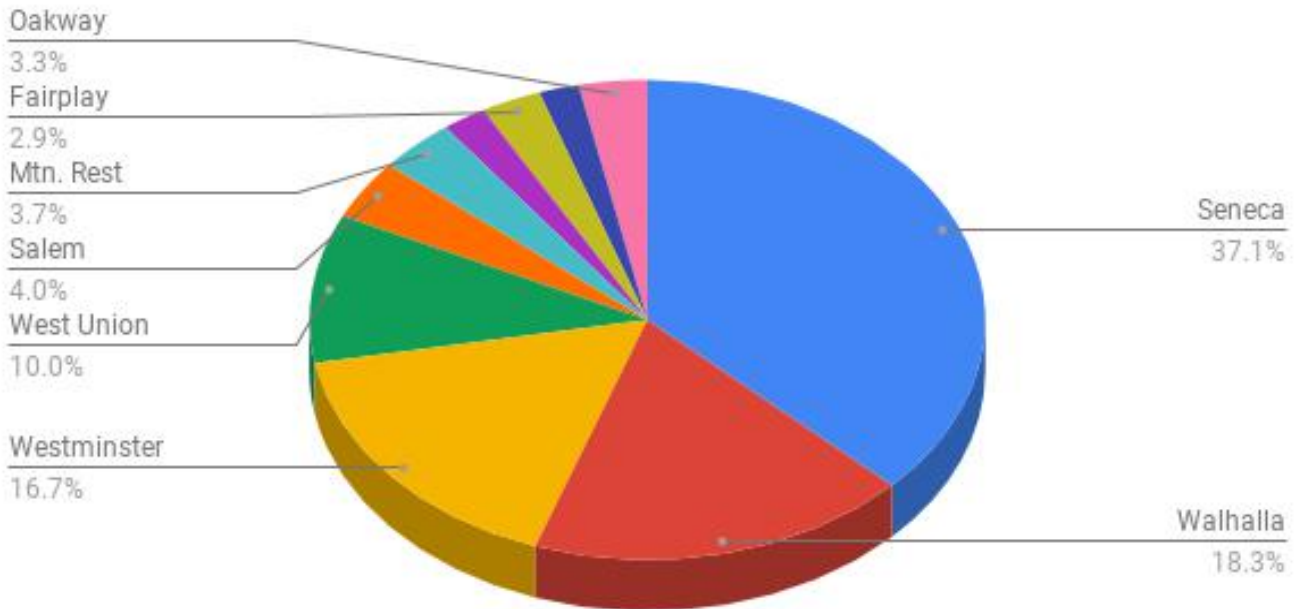


# What type of housing is most needed in Oconee County?

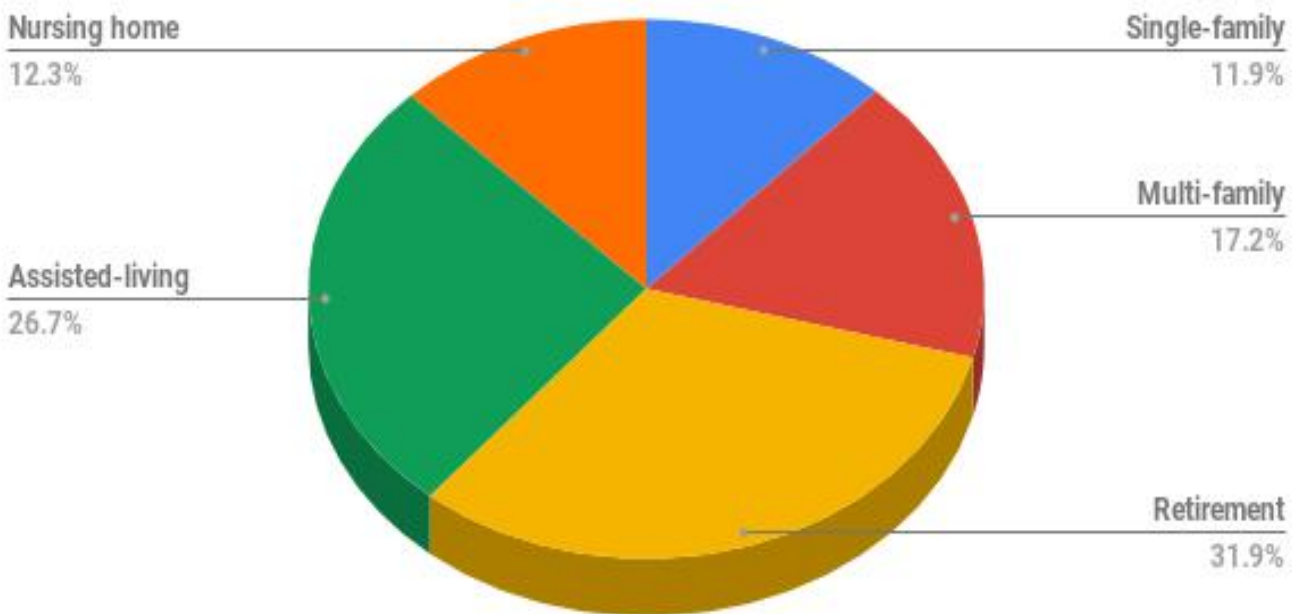




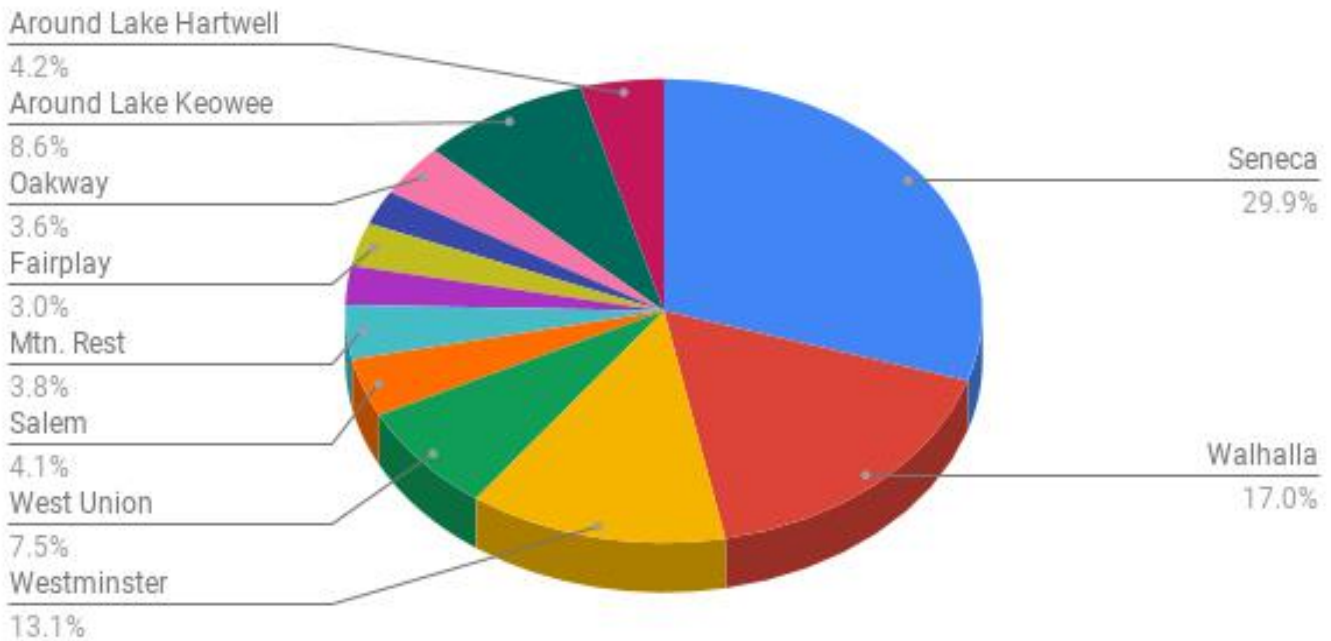
## Where do you think most future HOUSING growth will occur?



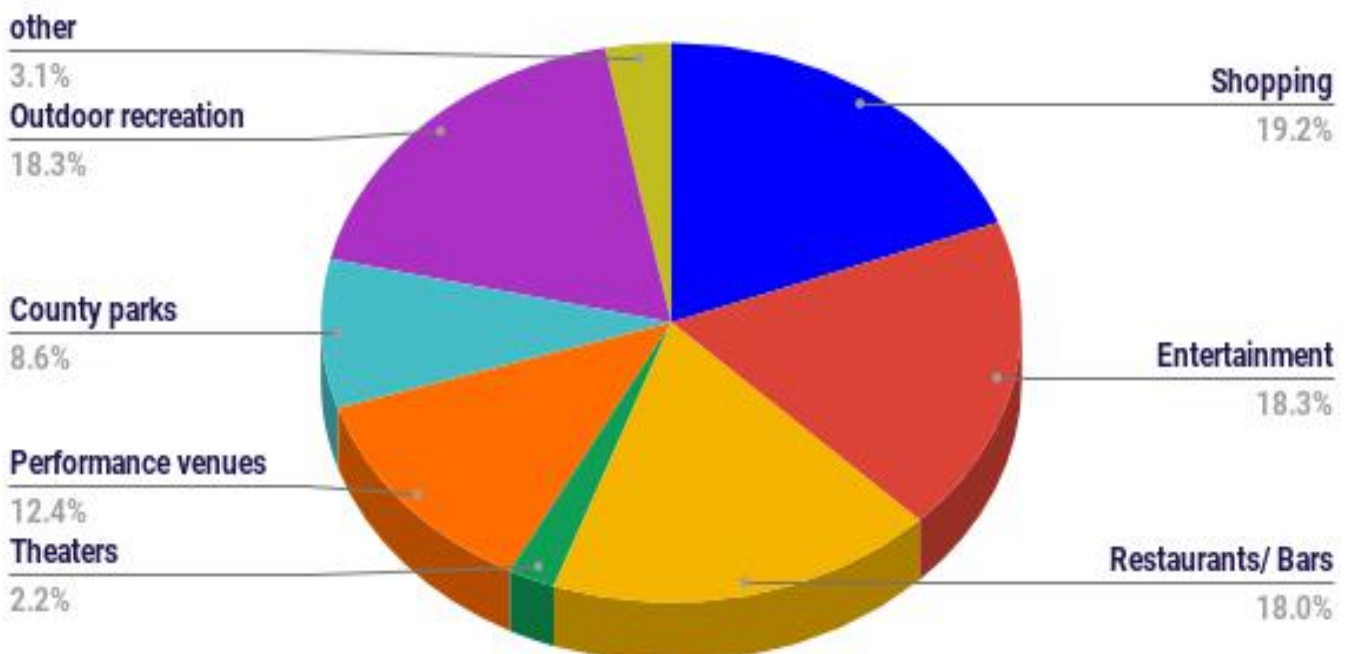
## Senior housing types needed



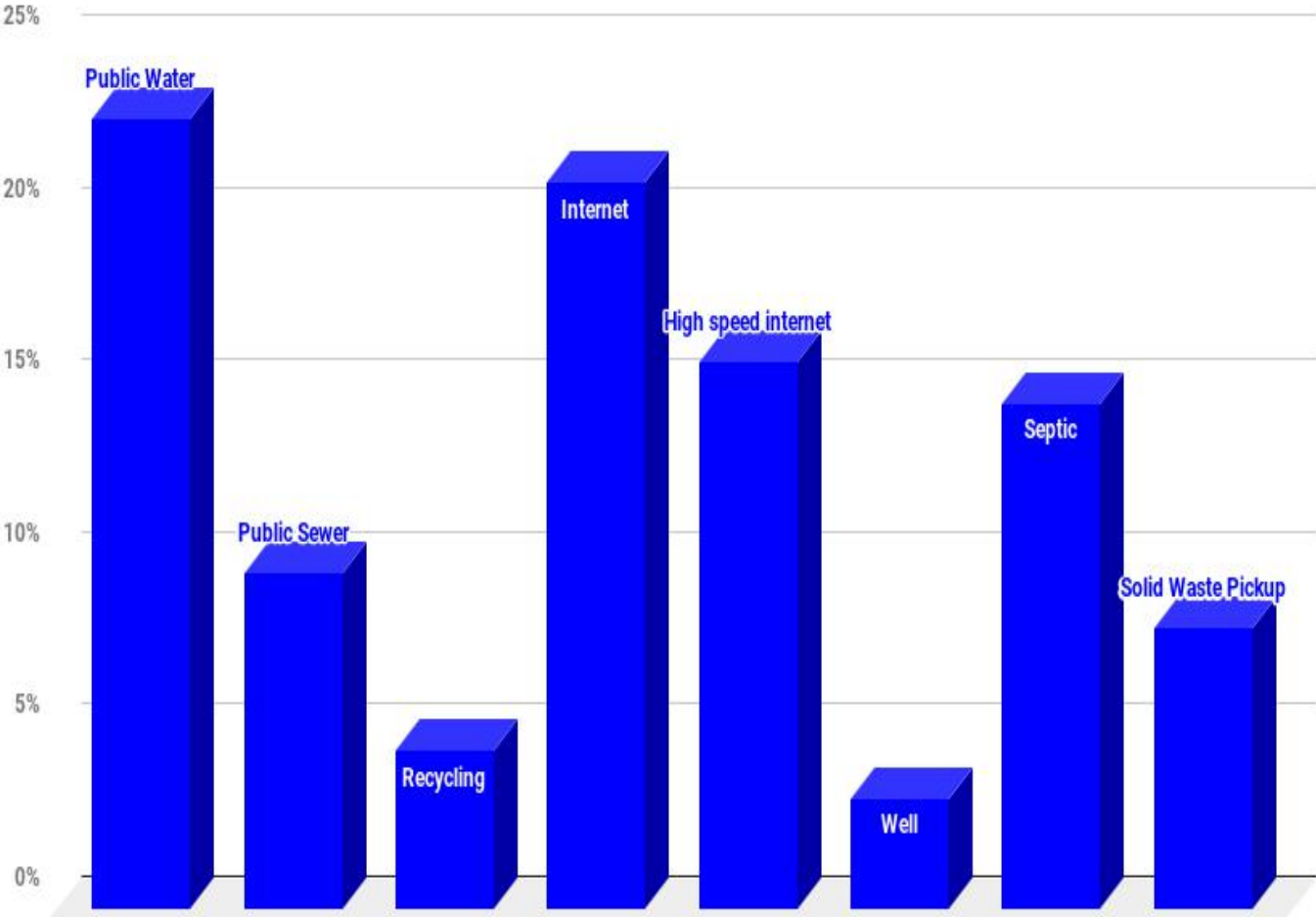
## Where do you think additional housing that has facilities for an aging population, should be located?



## Types of social facilities to attract and retain people



### What utilities are available at your home?







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**April 2019: Natural Resources & Community Facilities**

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THE OCONEE COUNTY 2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

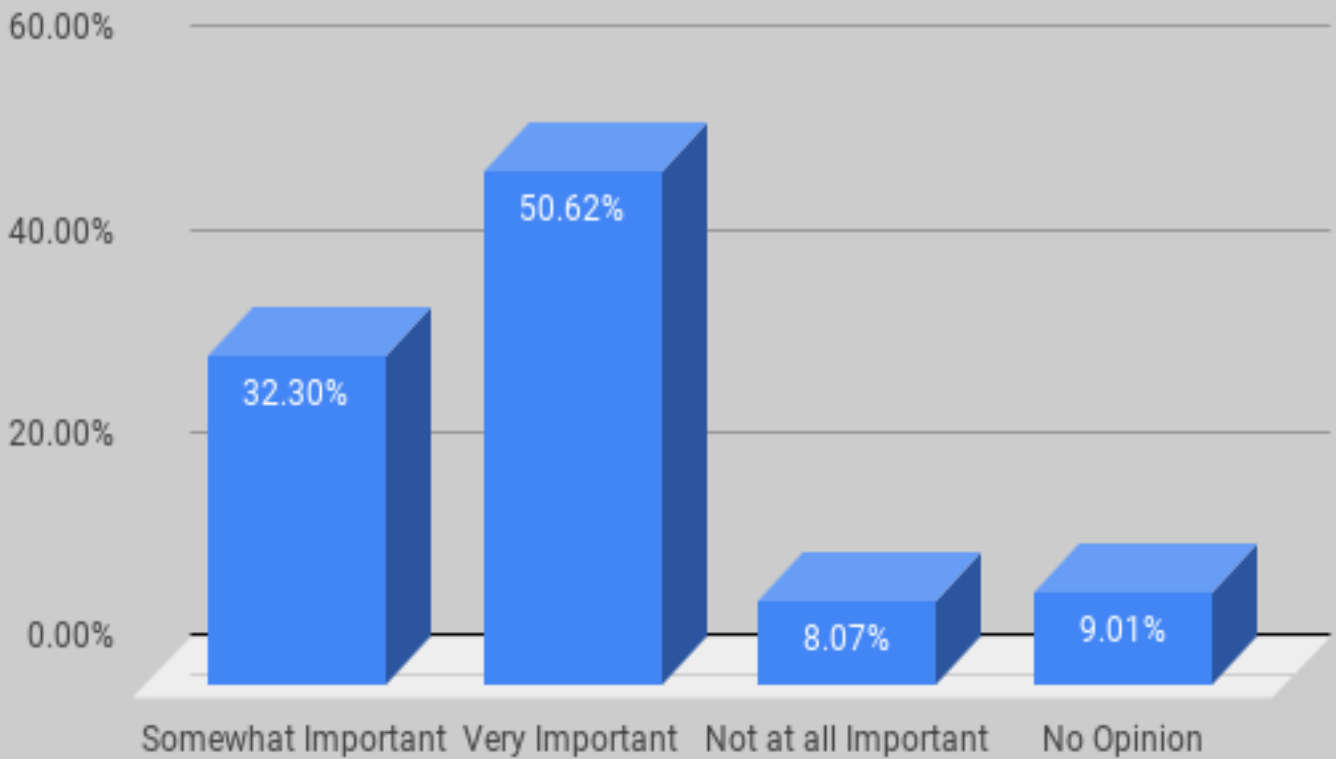
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NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS

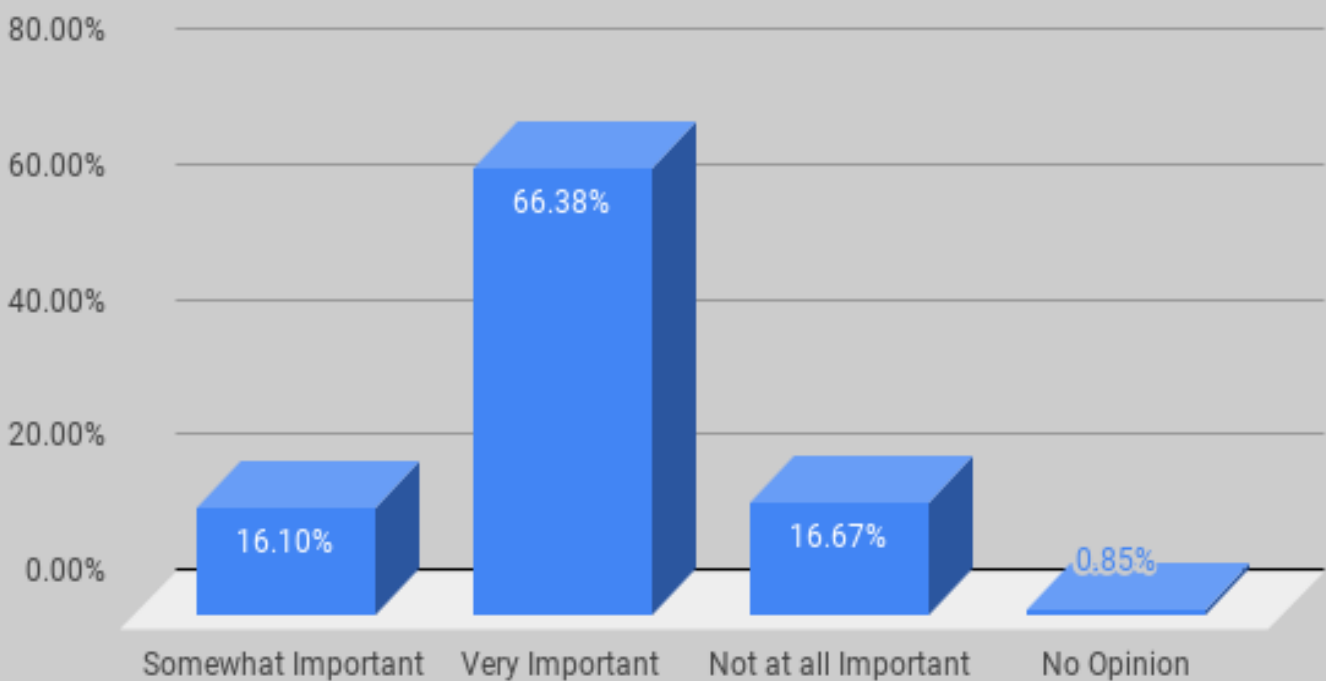
297



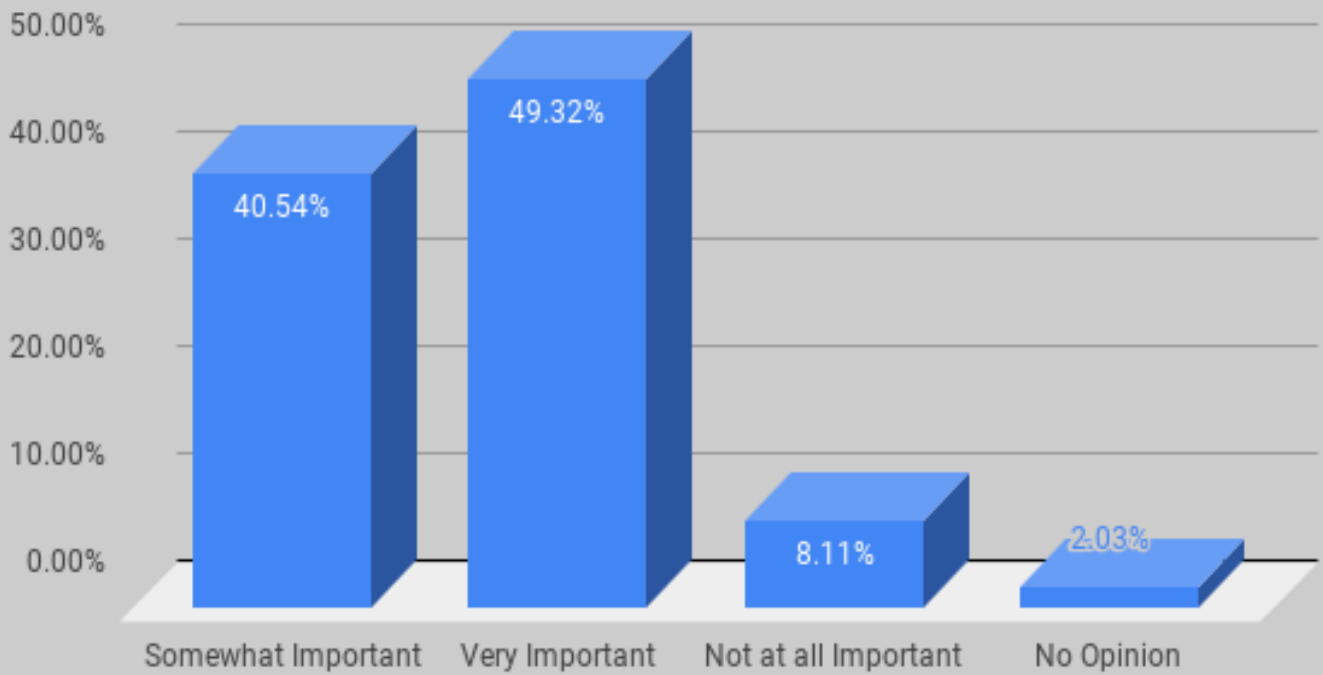
## How important is expanding/developing new parks?



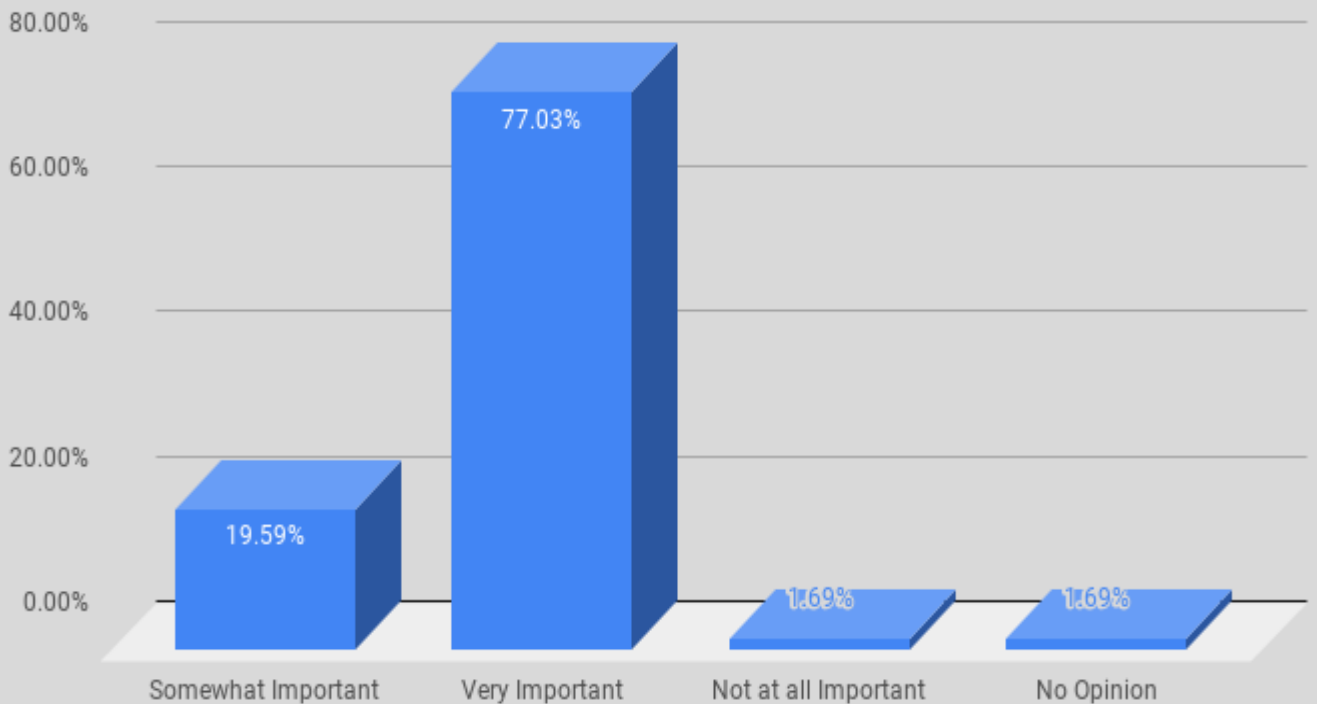
## How important is improving the quality of existing parks/recreation?



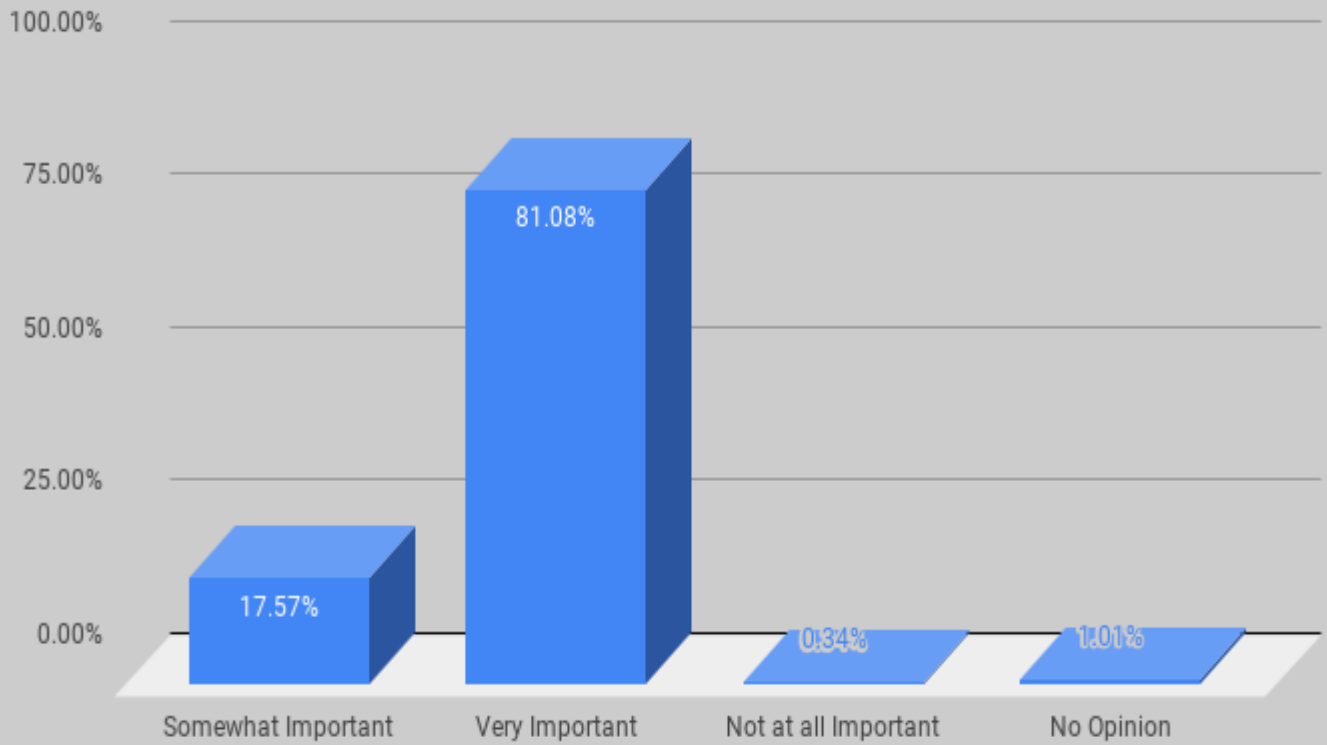
## How important is growing a network of greenways/bike trails?



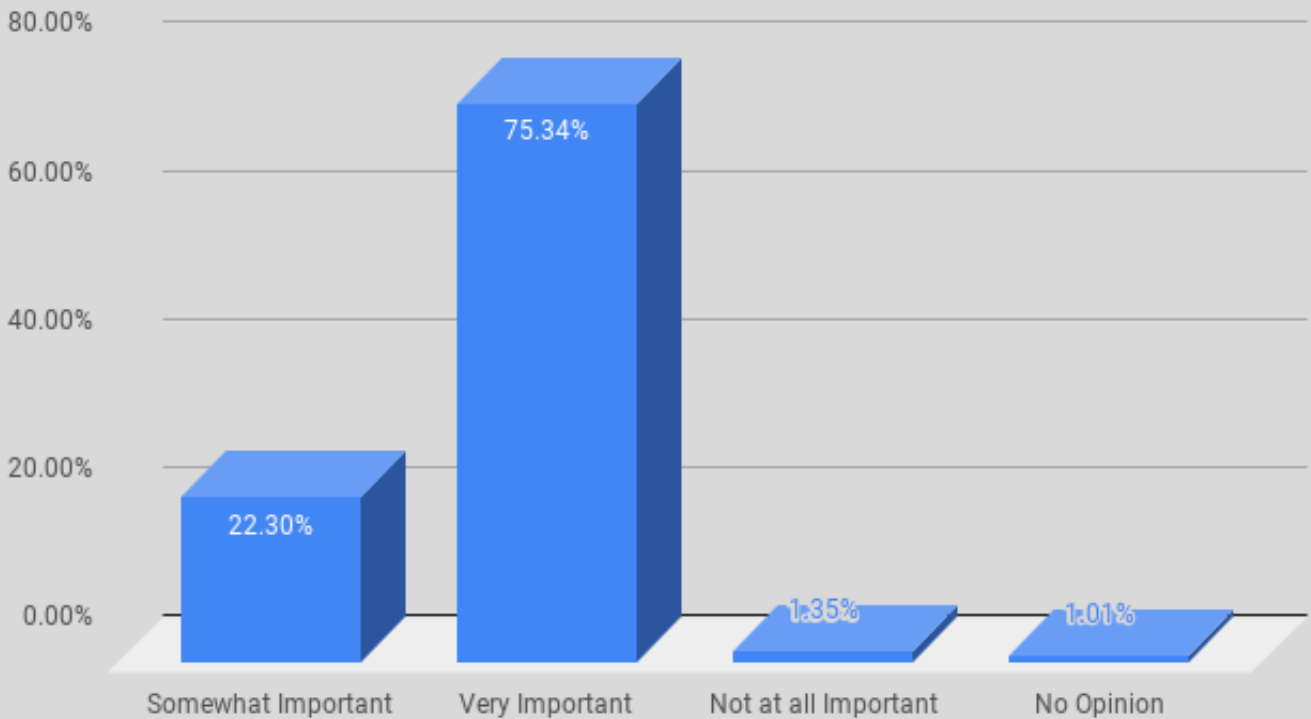
## How important is promoting development that is sensitive to air and water quality concerns?



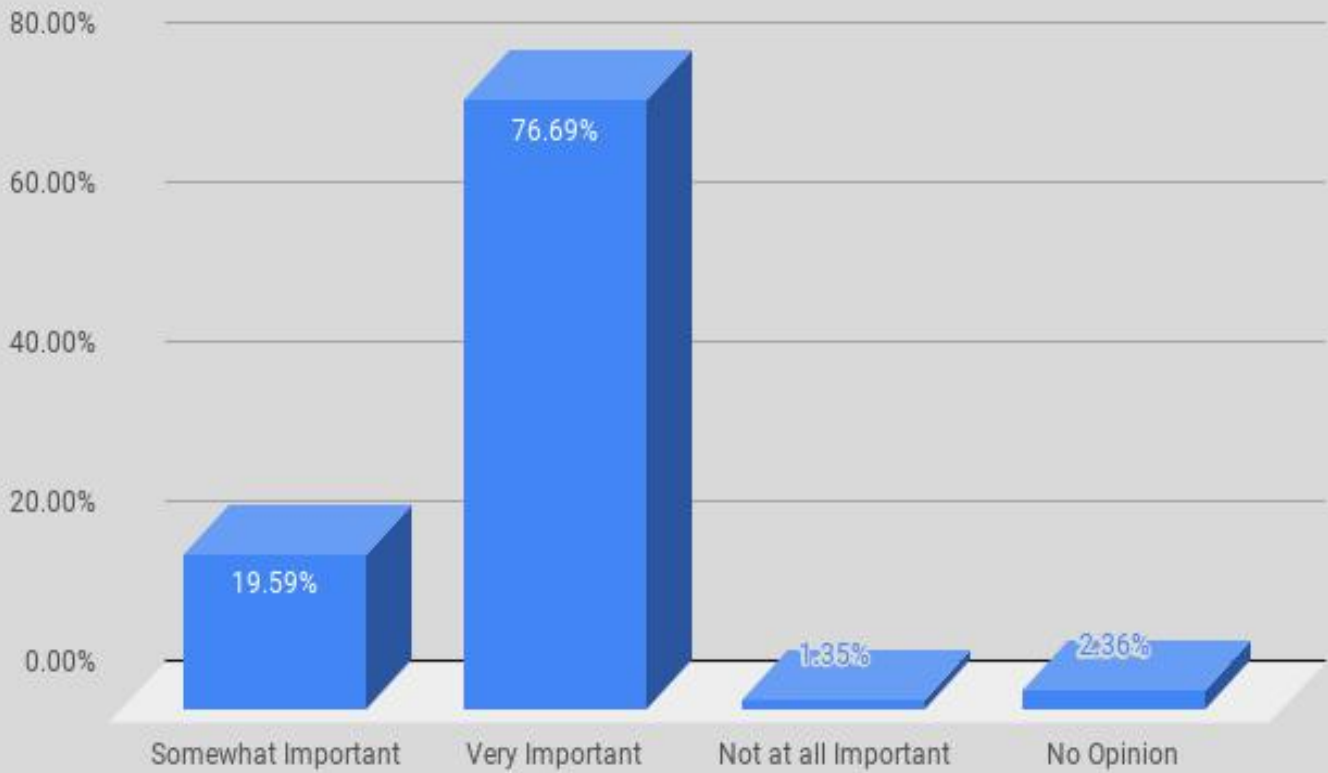
## How important is preserving or enhancing access to parks and natural environments?



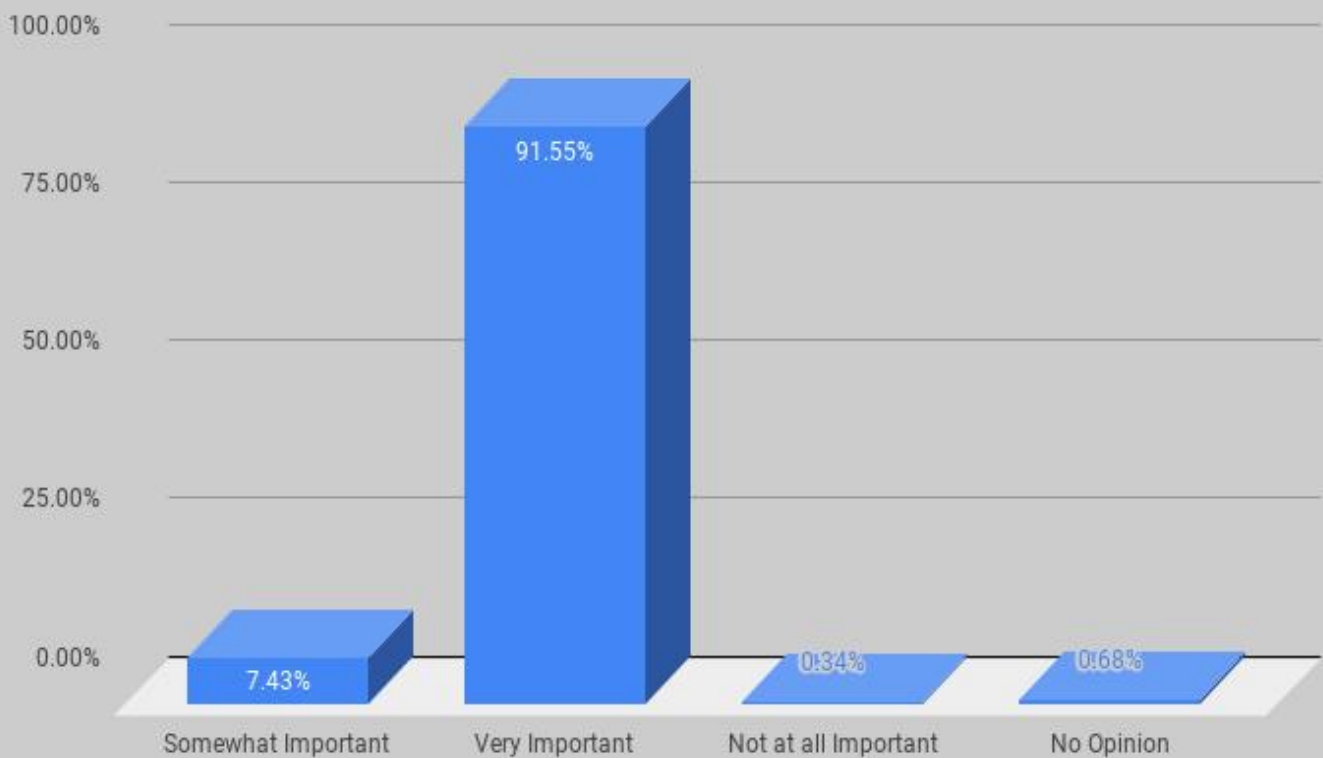
## How important is preservation of farmland?



## How important is preservation of soils?

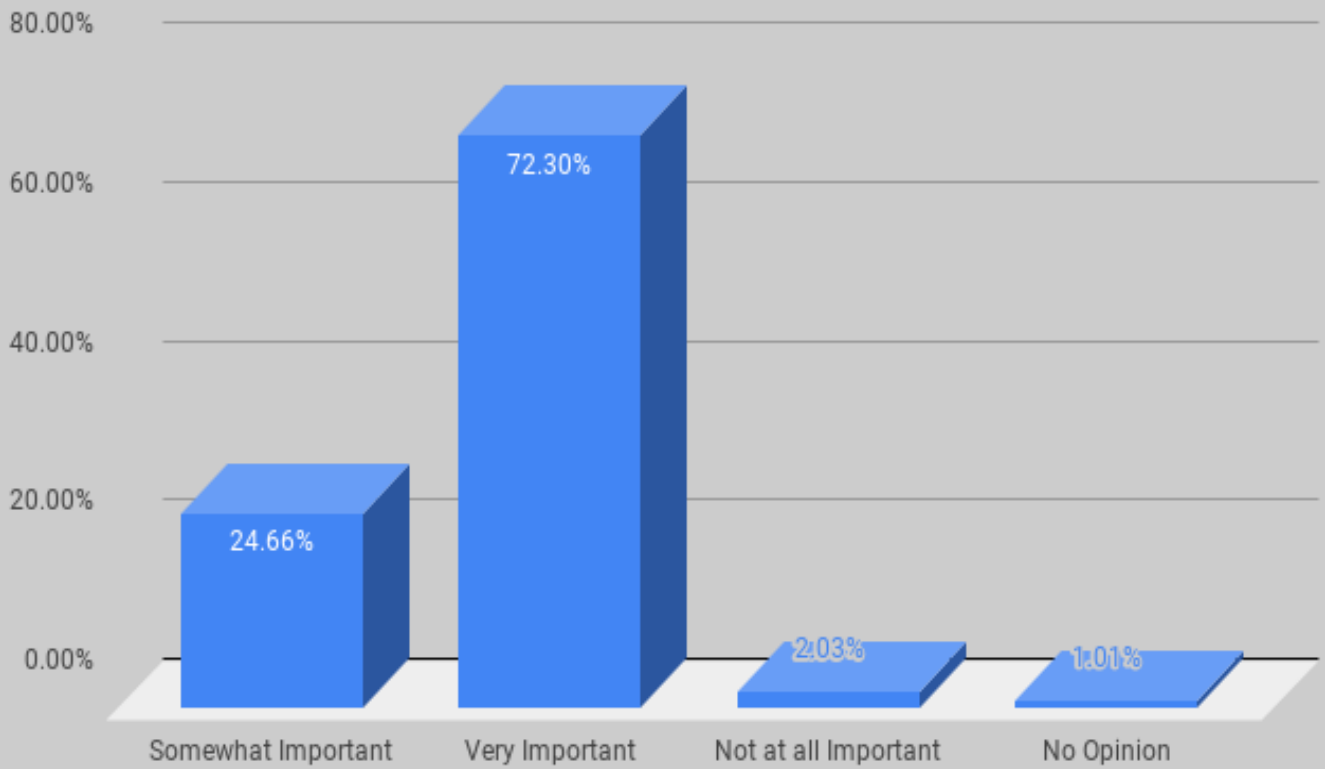


## How important is preservation of lakes/waterways?

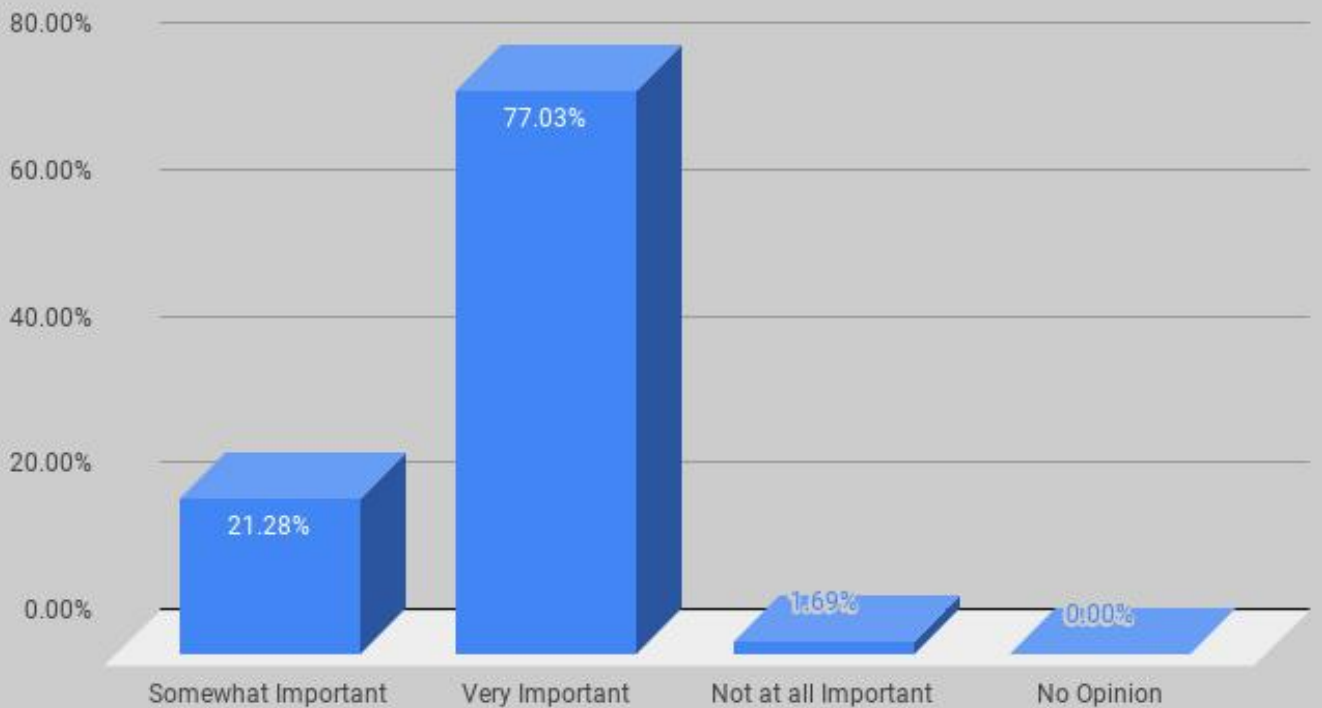




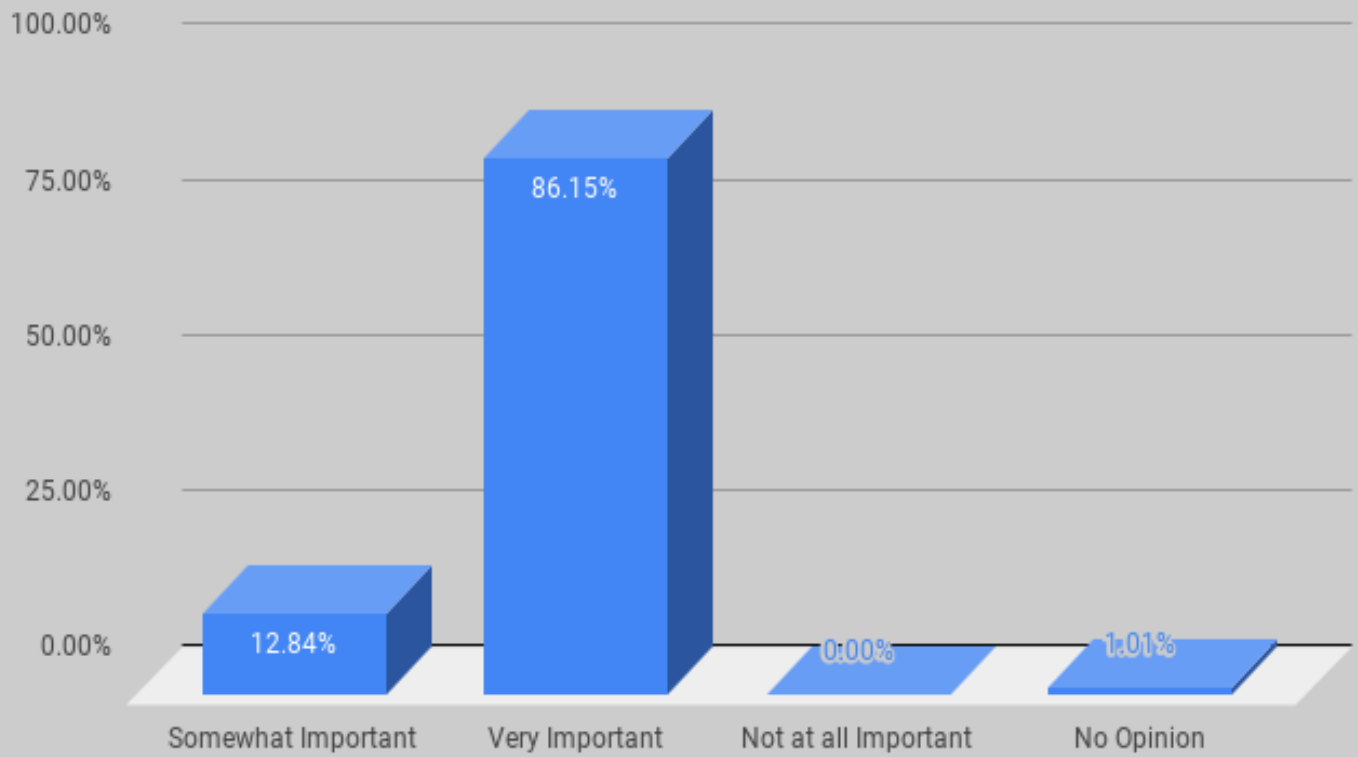
### How important is preservation of Historic structures/places?



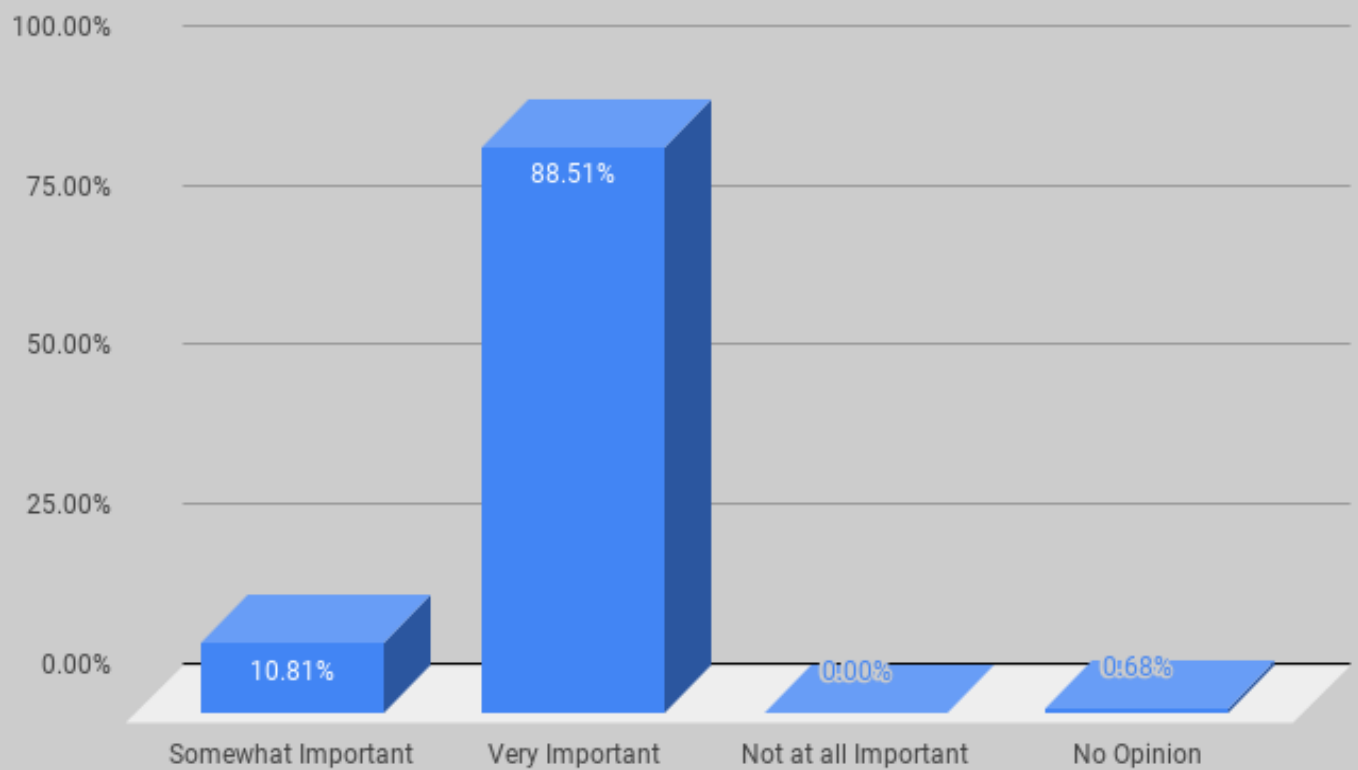
### How important is preservation of scenic views?



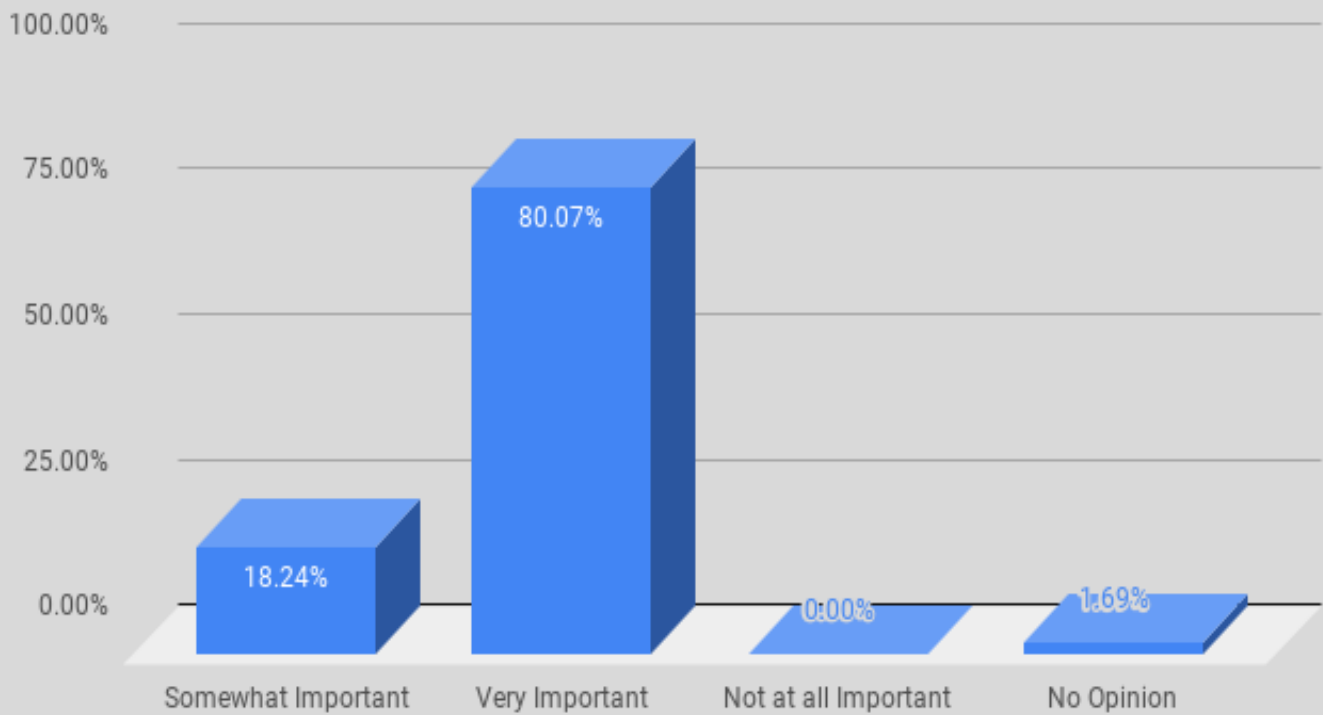
## How important is preservation of wildlife?



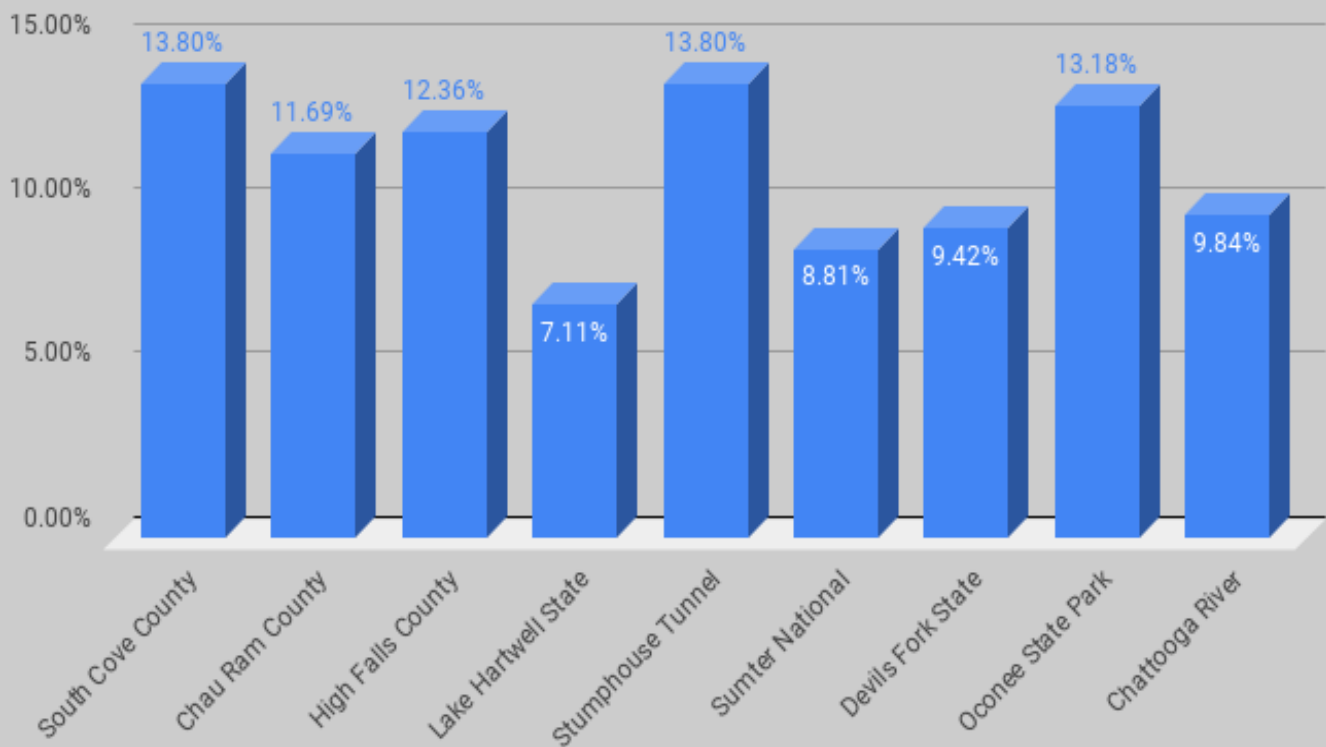
## How important is preservation of forests/wilderness areas?



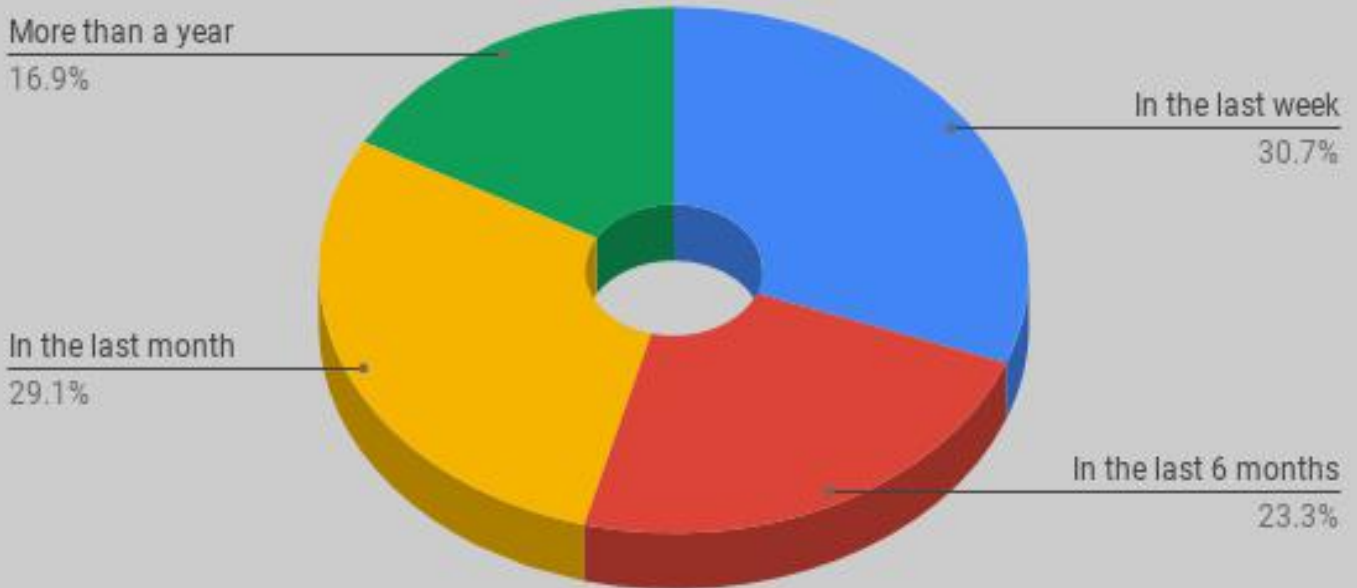
## How important is mitigating the impact of drought, flooding, landslides and other environmental hazards?



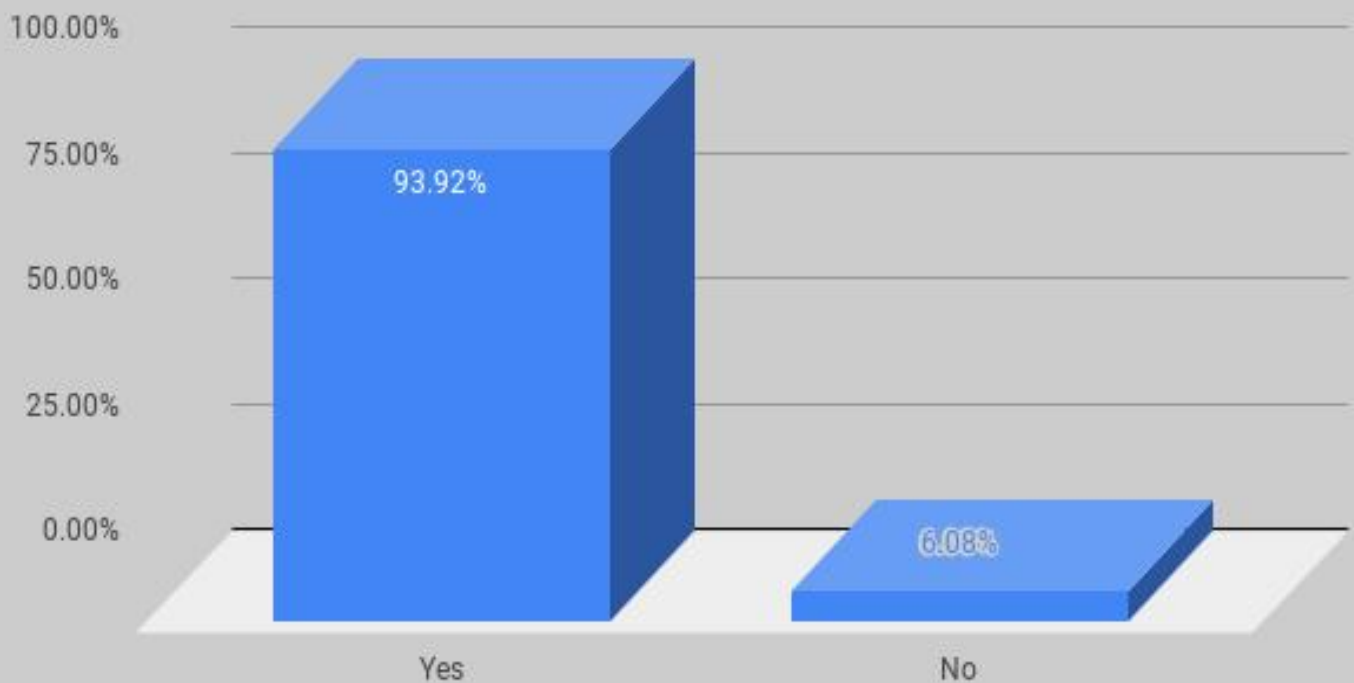
## Have you visited any of the following?



## When did you last visit a county or state park?

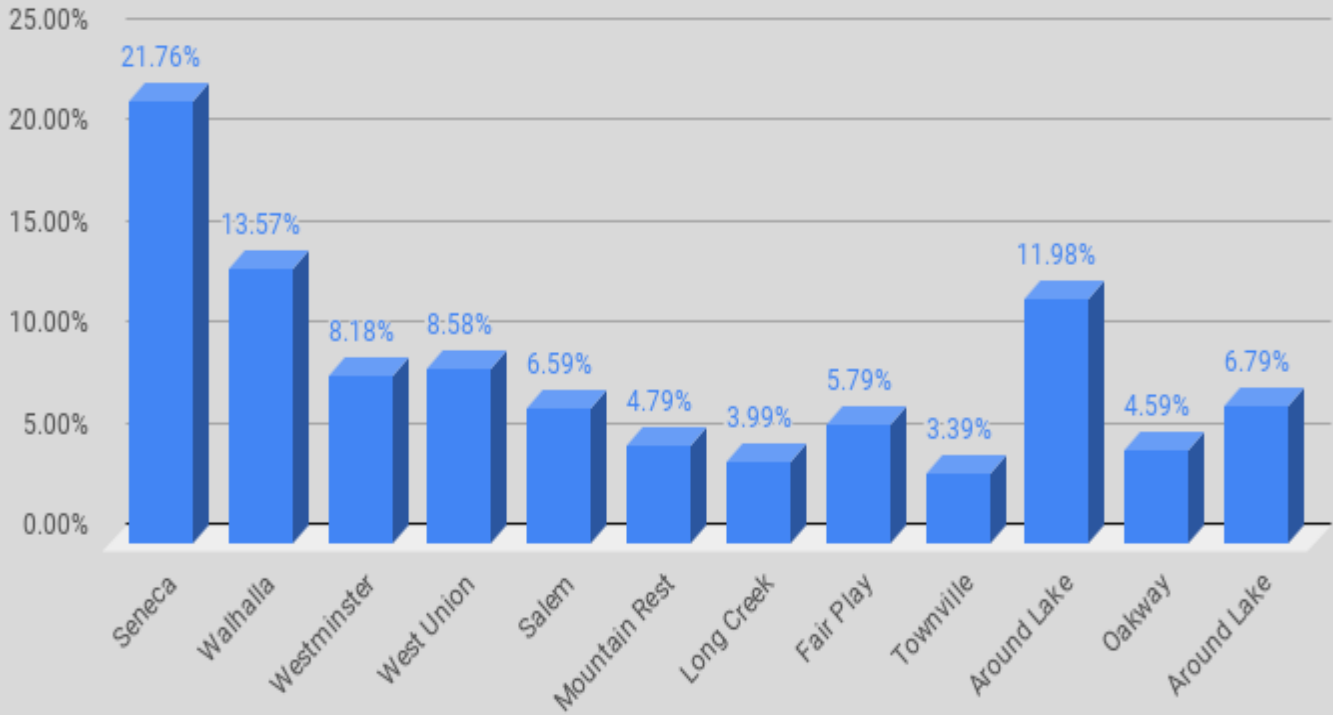


## Do you have convenient access to recreation facilities, including access to natural places?

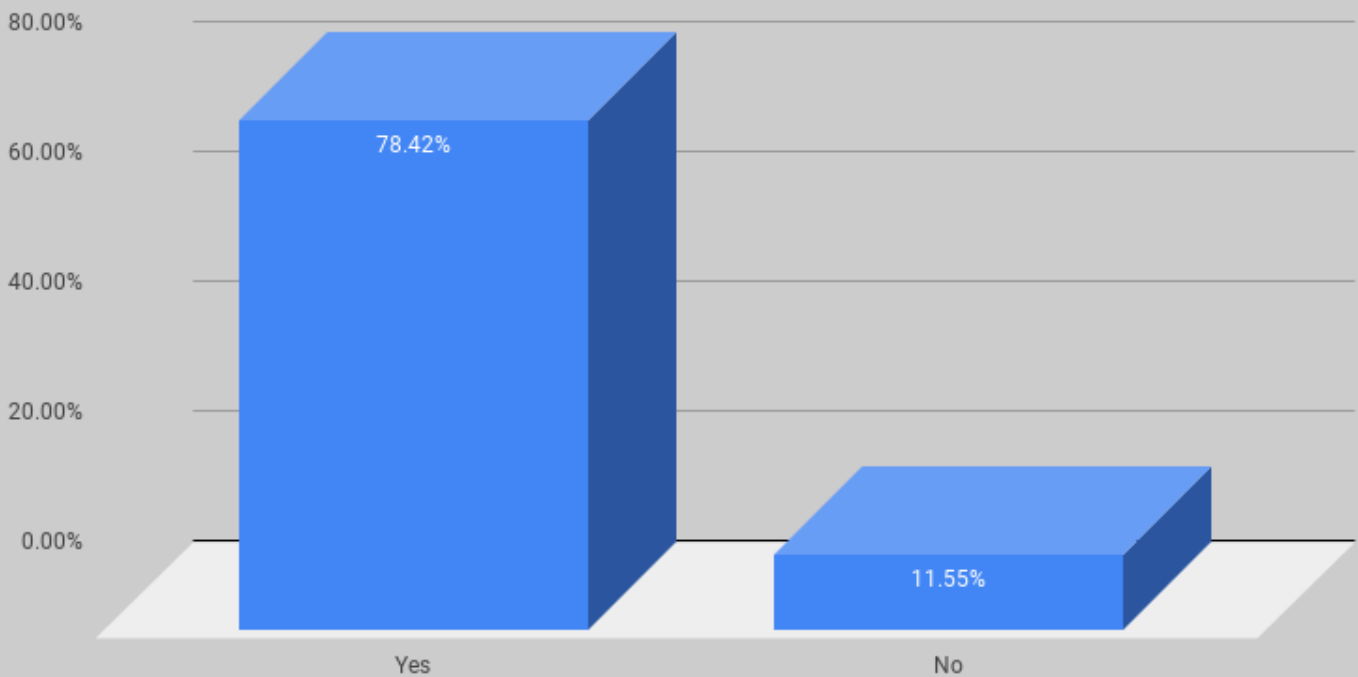




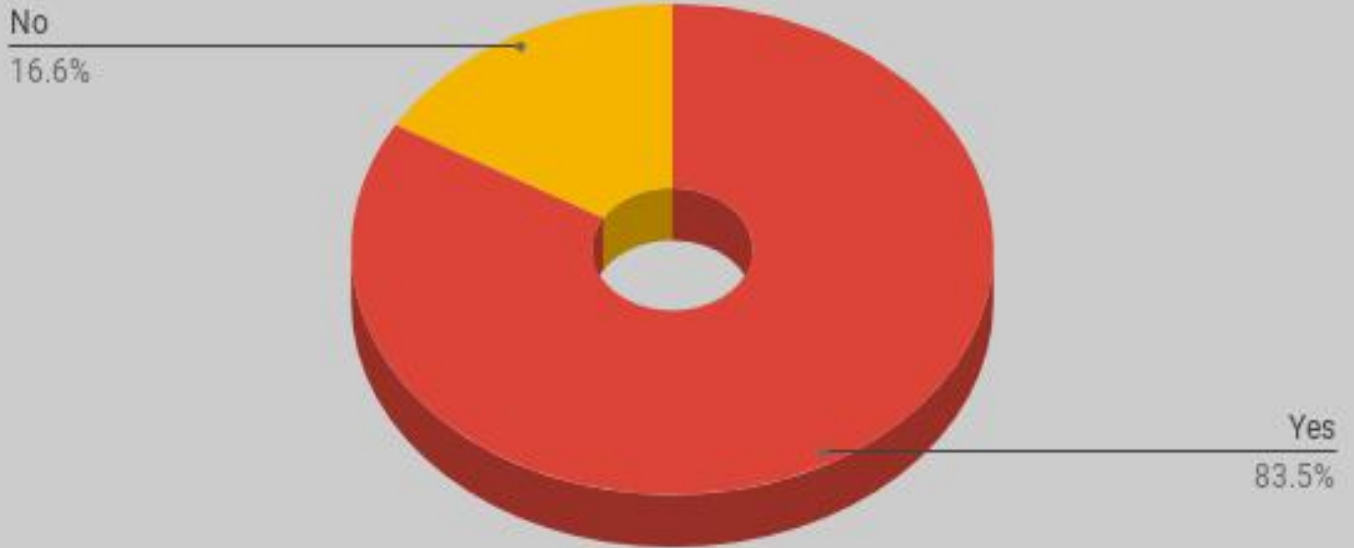
### Where would you like to see more household garbage/recycling centers located?



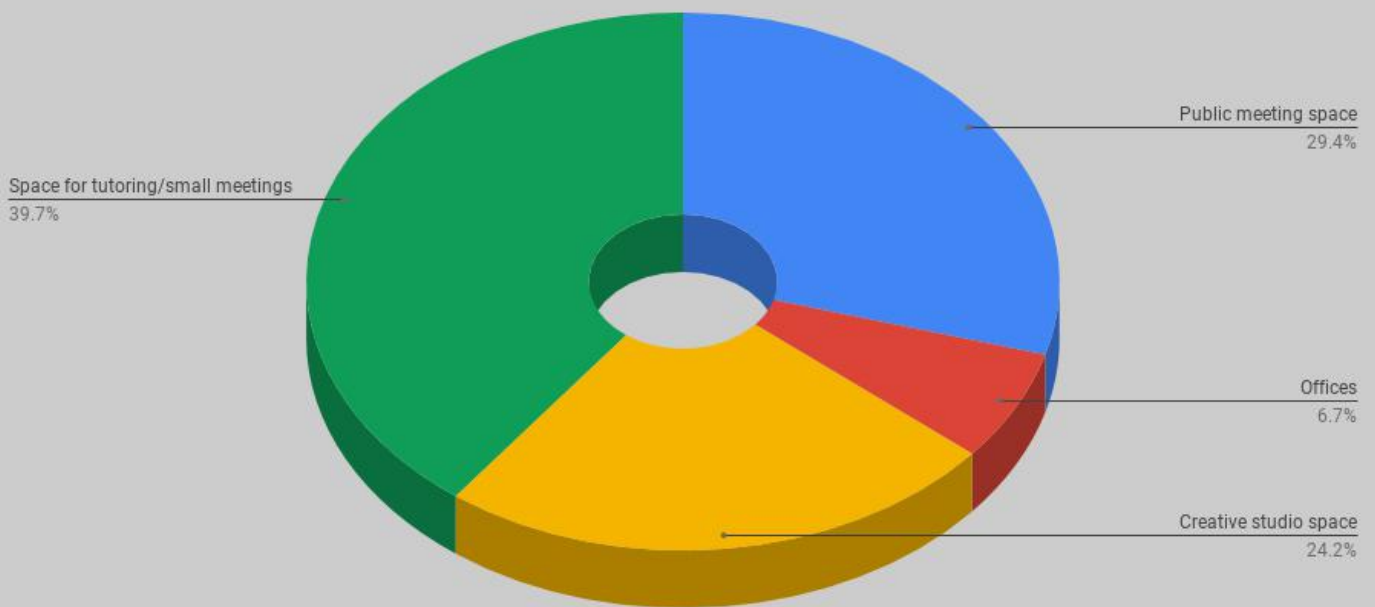
### Would you support additional protections for the land around bodies of water to help mitigate pollution, flooding and erosion?



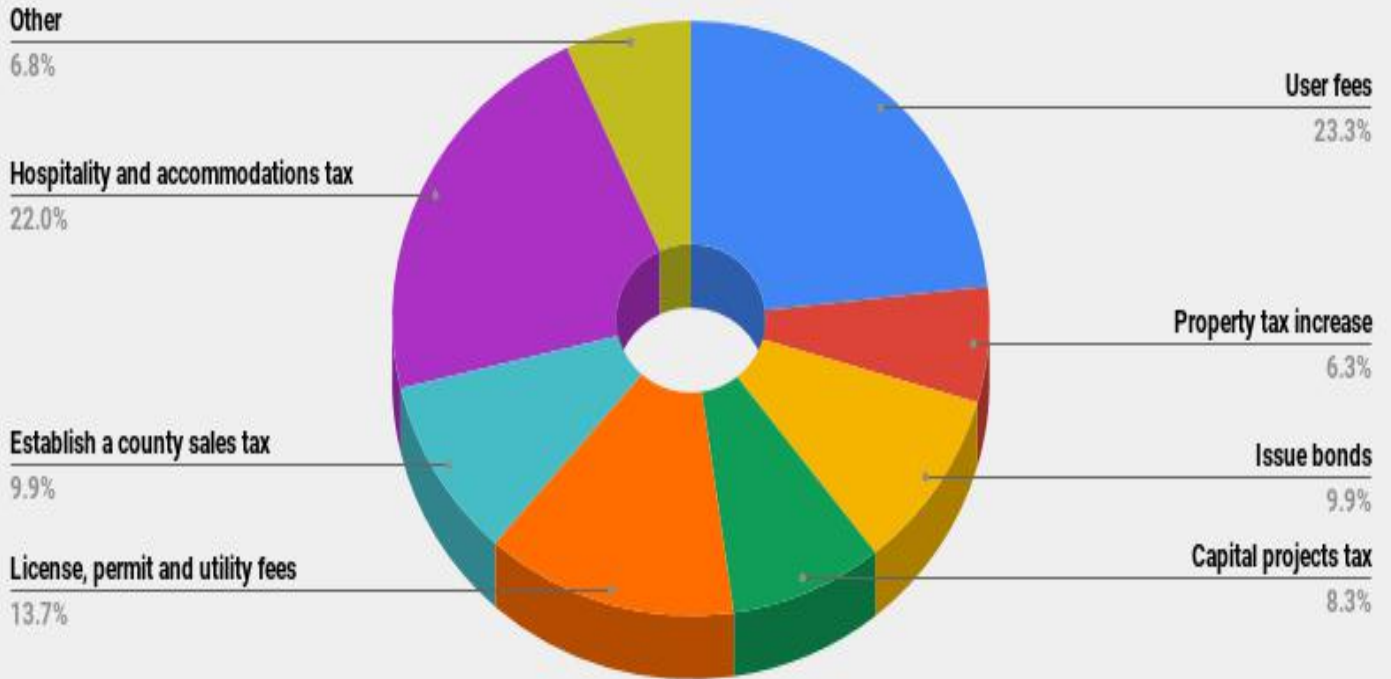
# Do the county's natural resources play a part in why you live, work or play in the area?



# What feaures would you like to see added to the libraries?



## Addressing some of the issues identified in this survey may require additional revenue. What would be your first choice to find funding?



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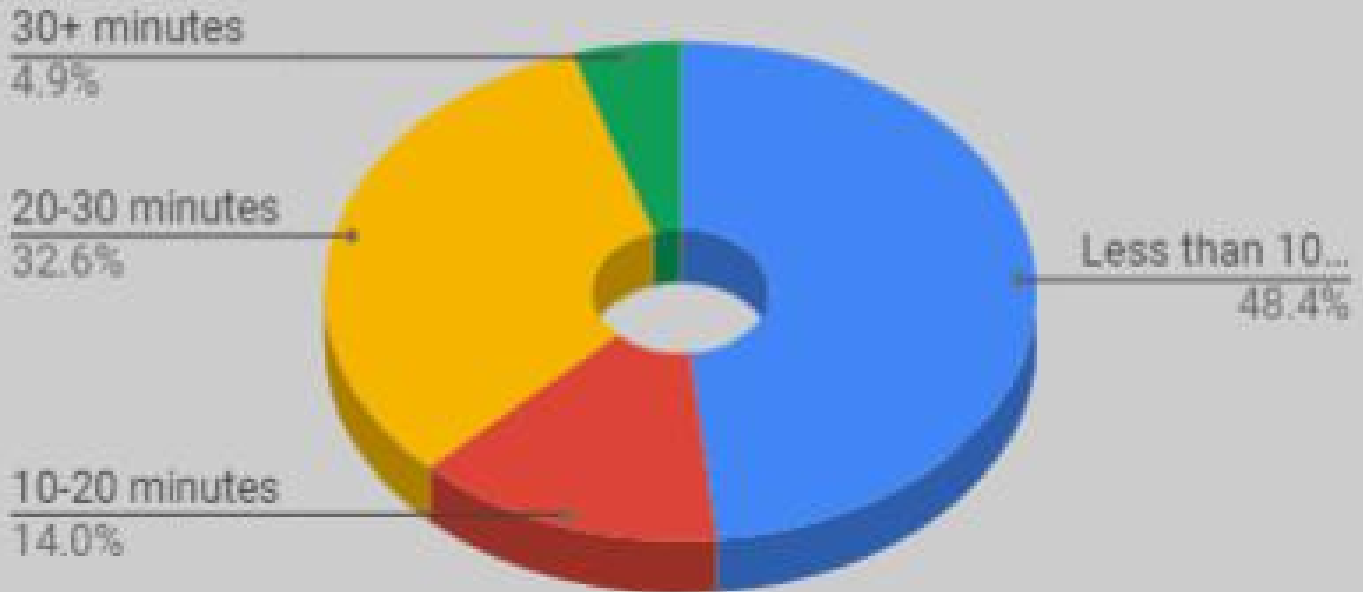
May 2019: Cultural Resources & Transportation

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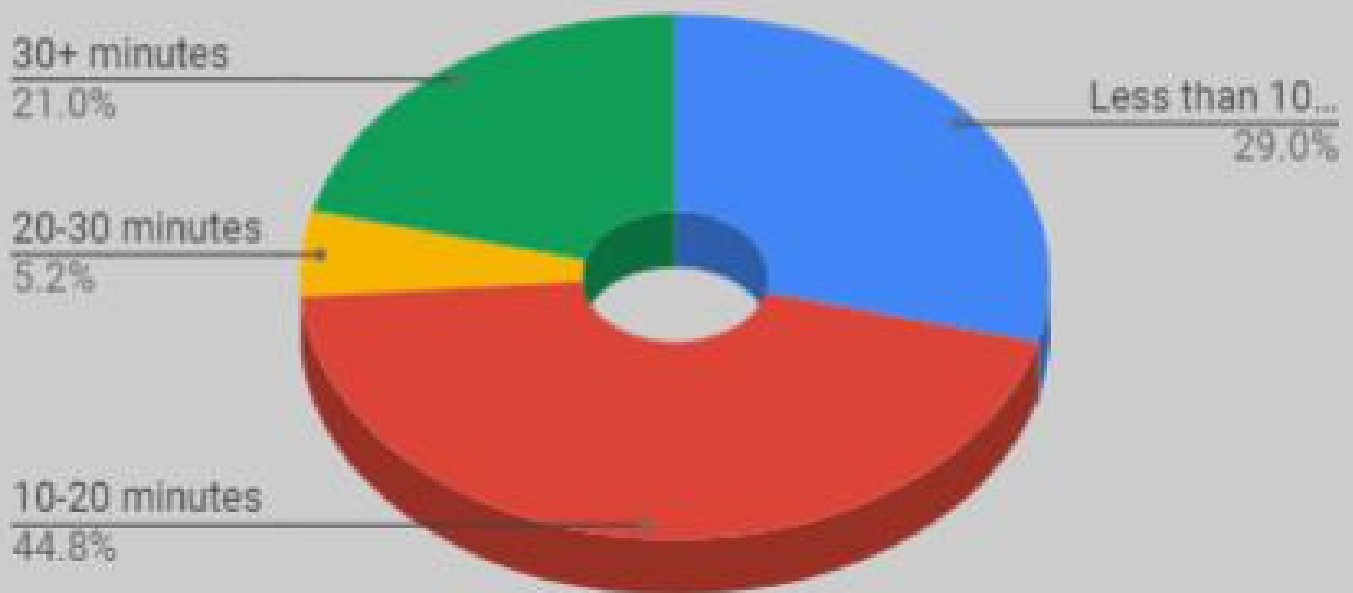
NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS

289

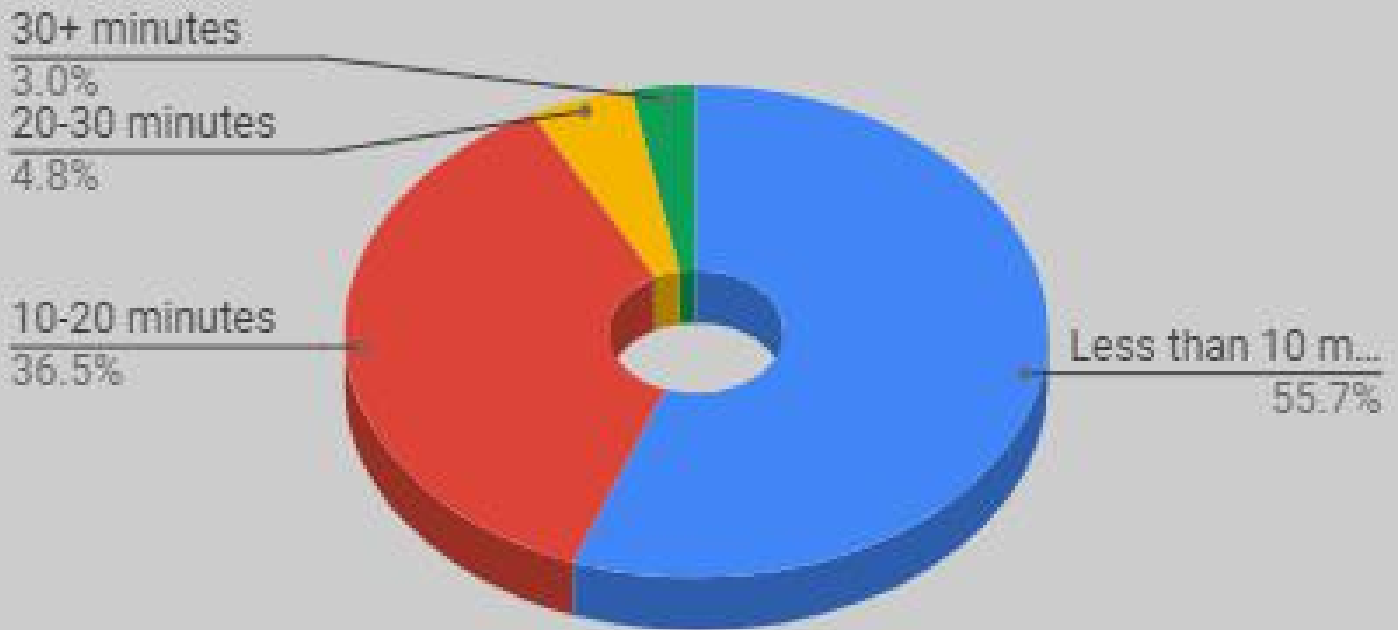
## How long does it take you to reach a full-service grocery store?



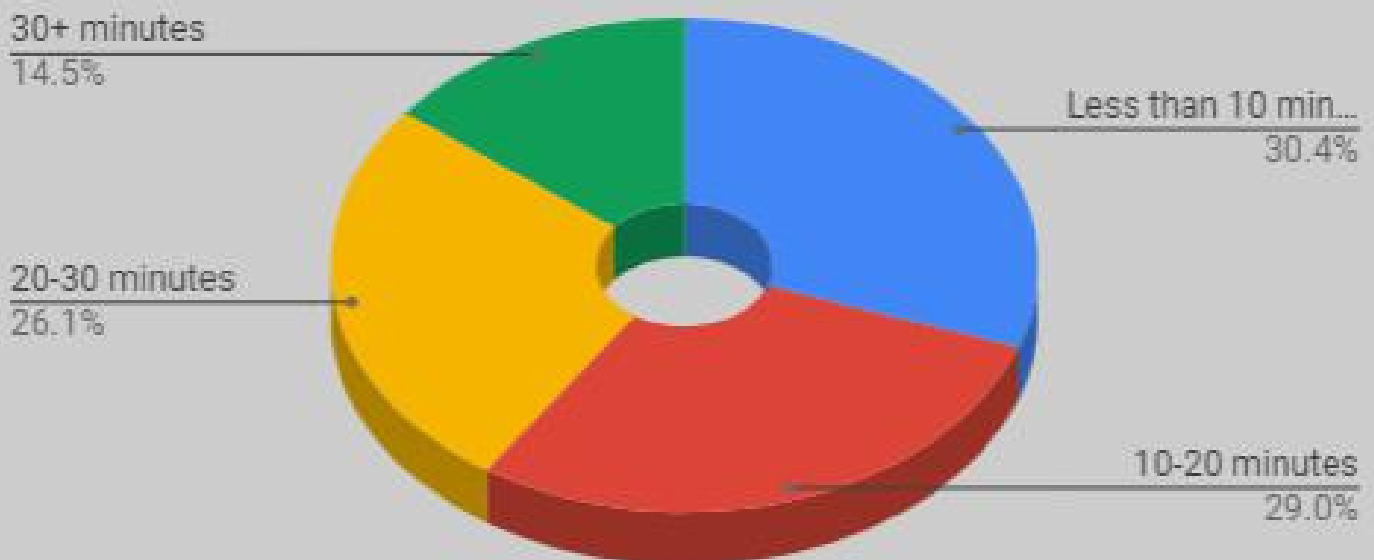
## How long does it take you to reach a medical facility?



## How long does it take you to reach school?

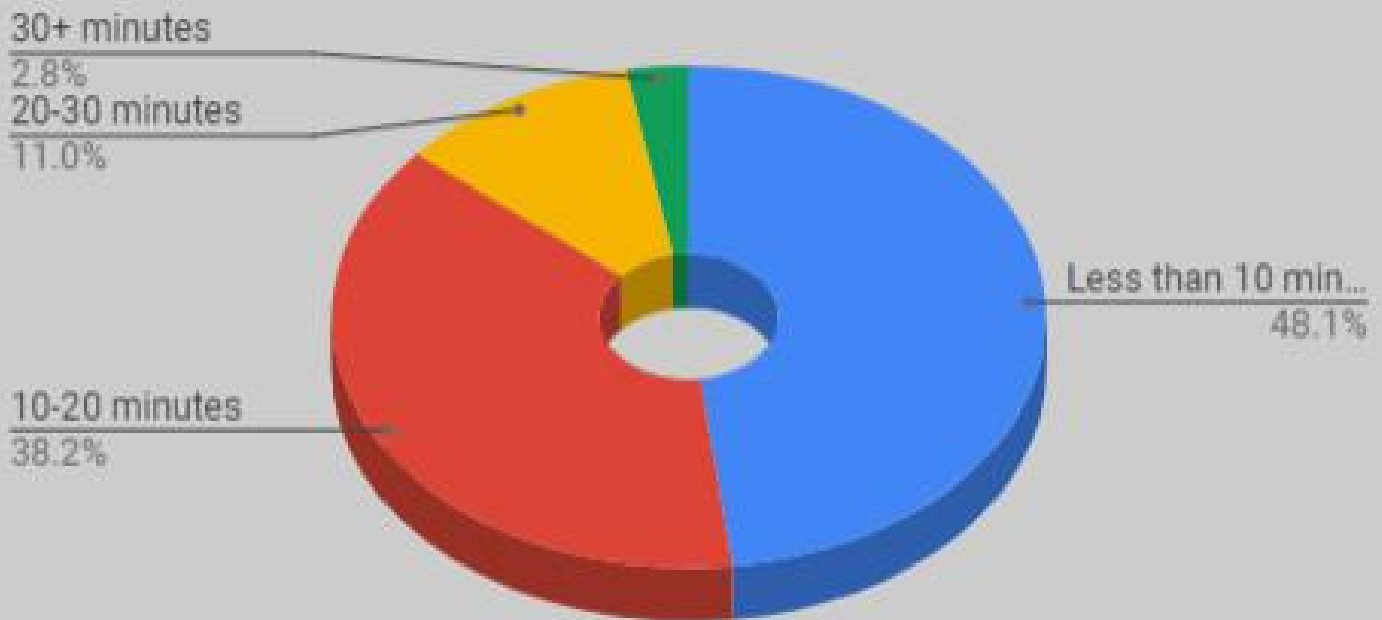


## How long does it take you to reach work?

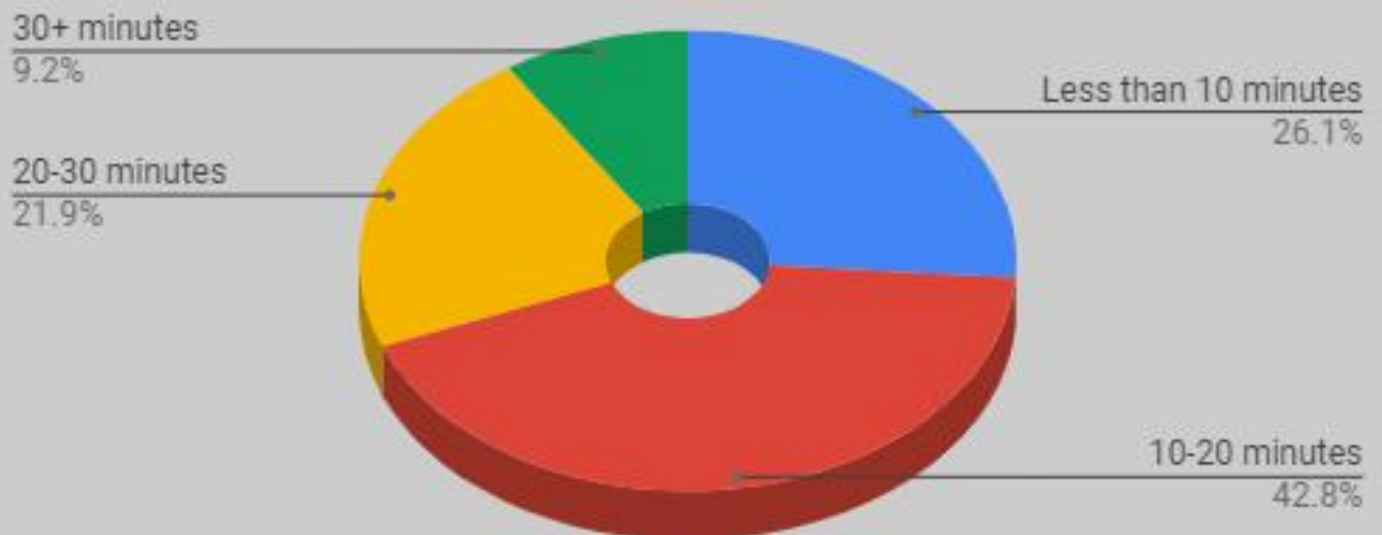




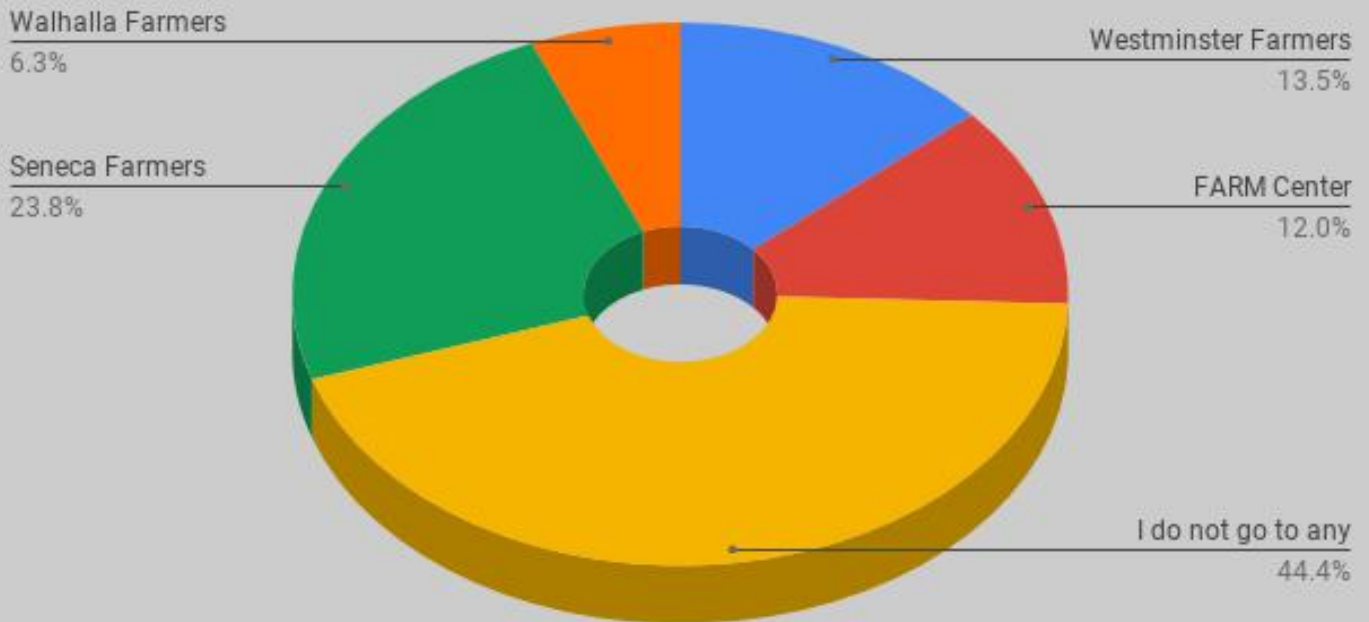
## How long does it take you to reach a restaurant?



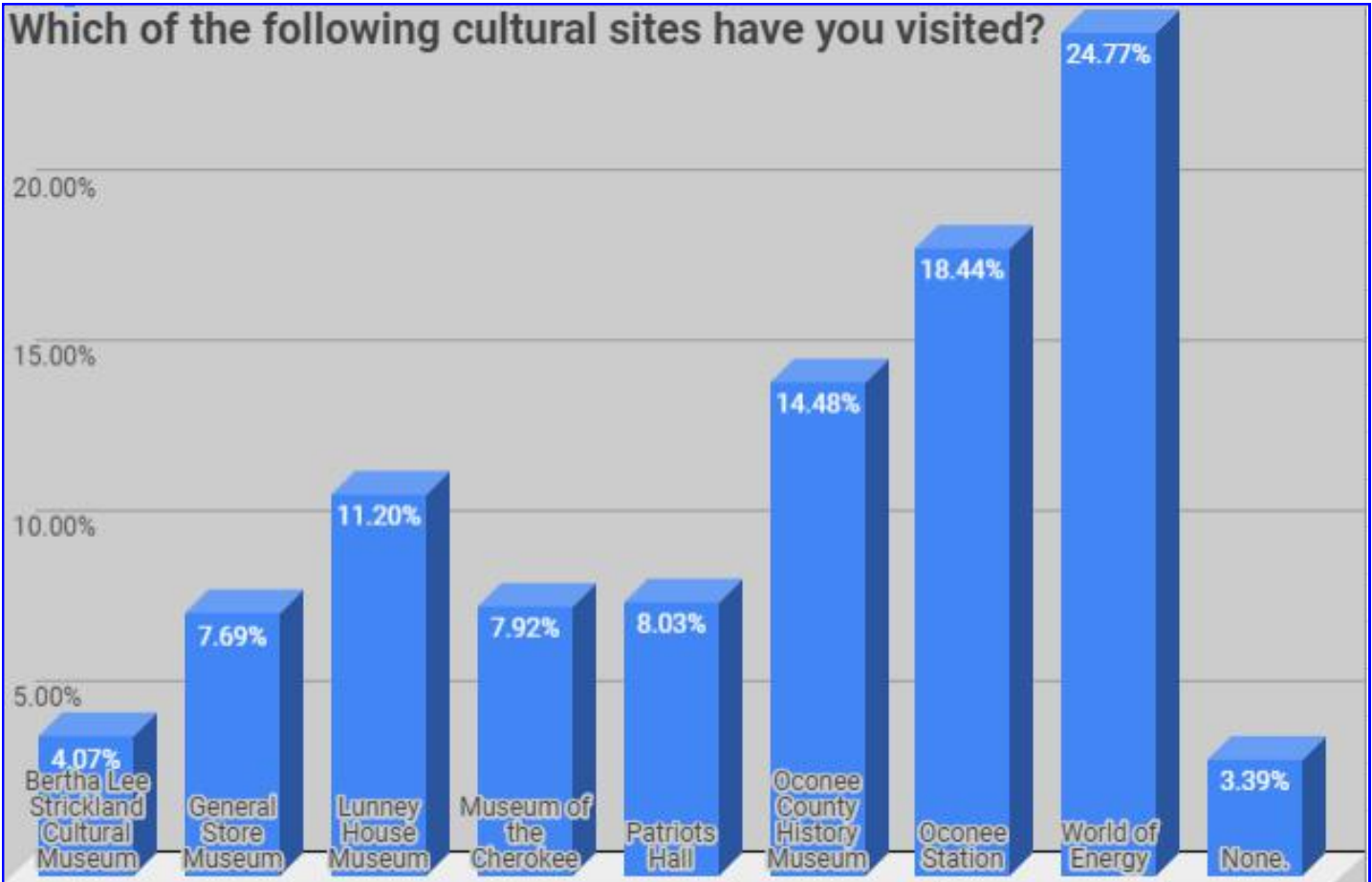
## How long does it take you to reach shopping/entertainment?



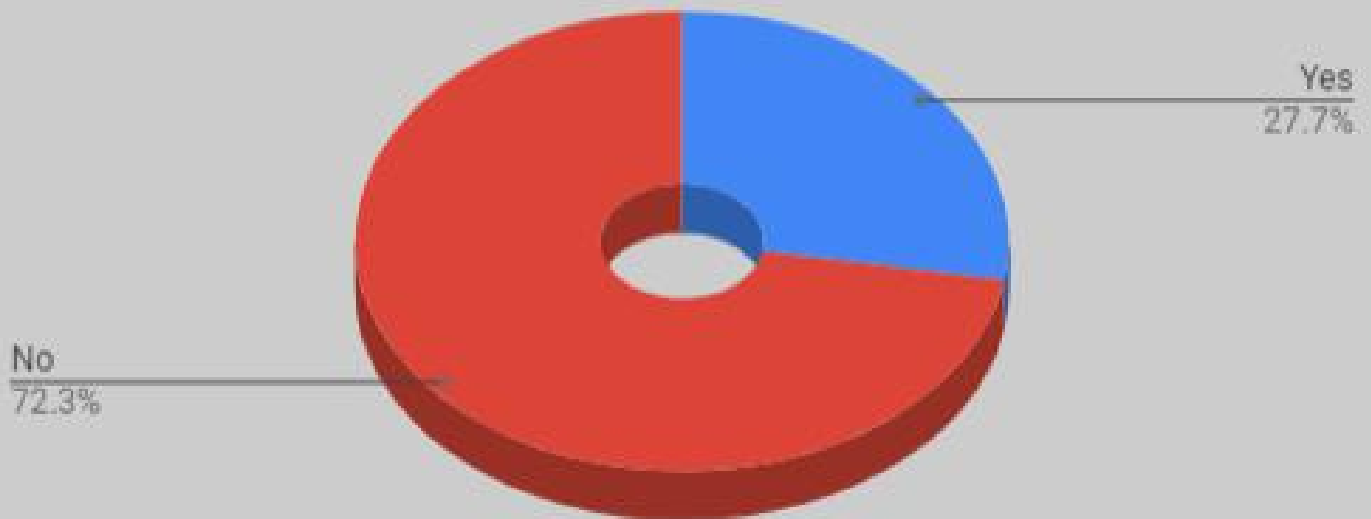
## Do you utilize any of our four Farmers Markets? If so, which ones:



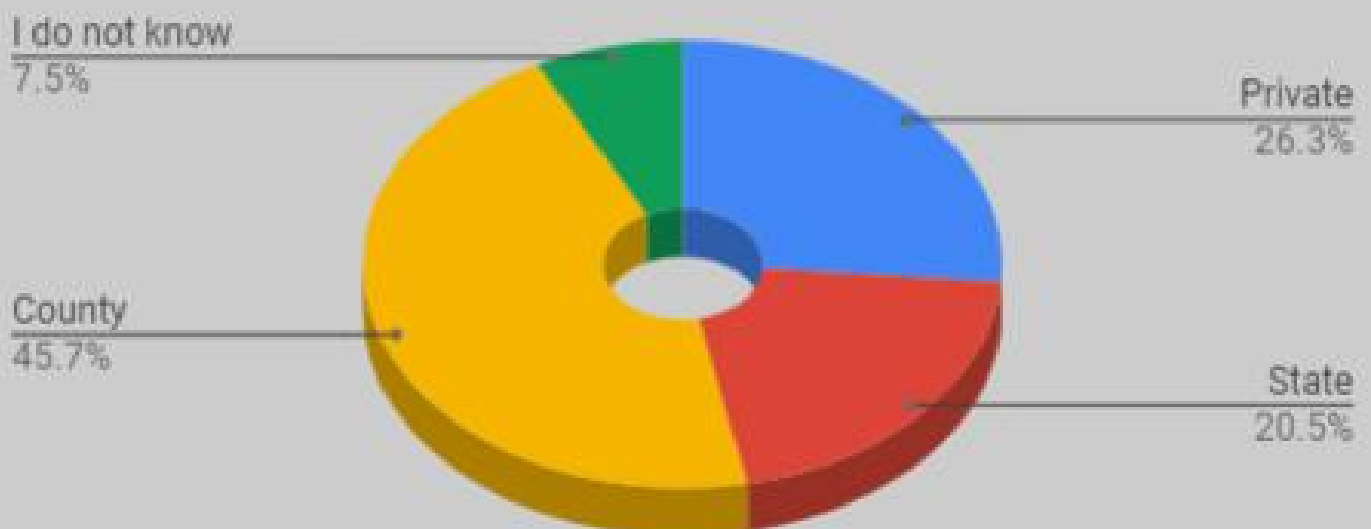
## Which of the following cultural sites have you visited?



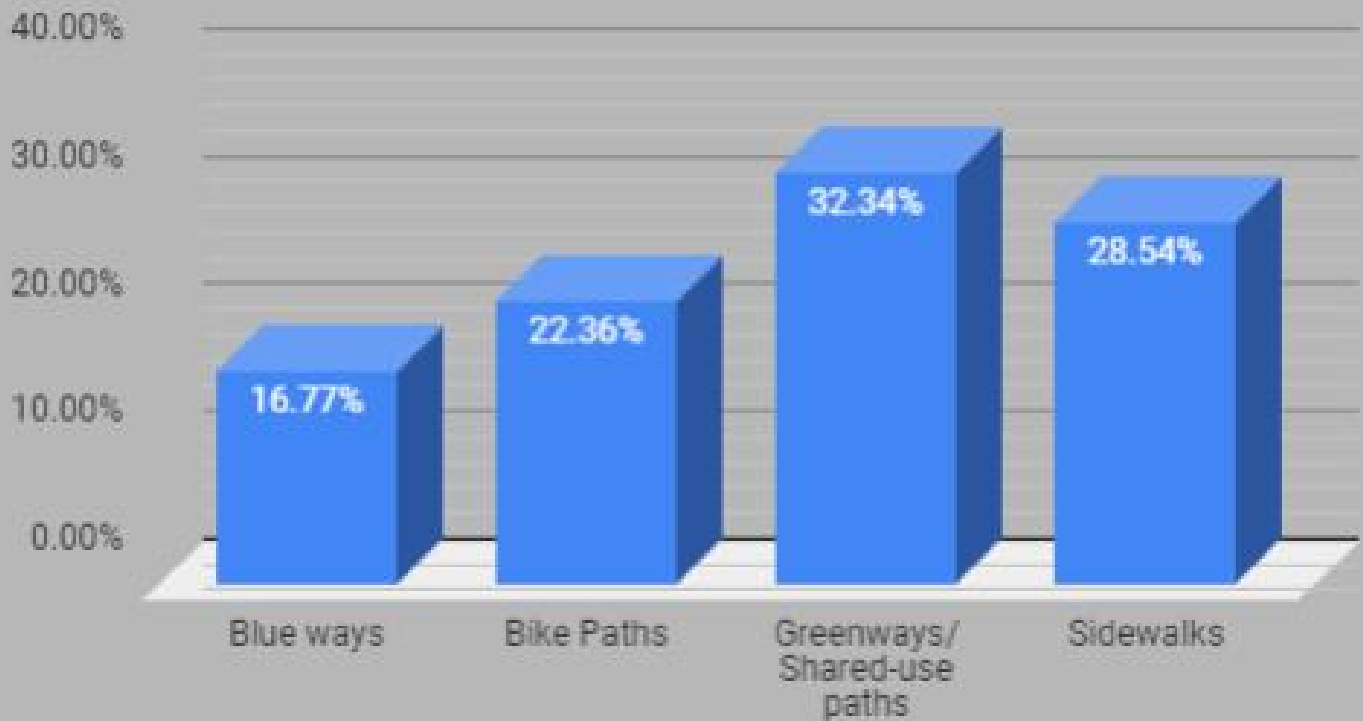
## Do you think there are enough entertainment options for the various age groups in the county?



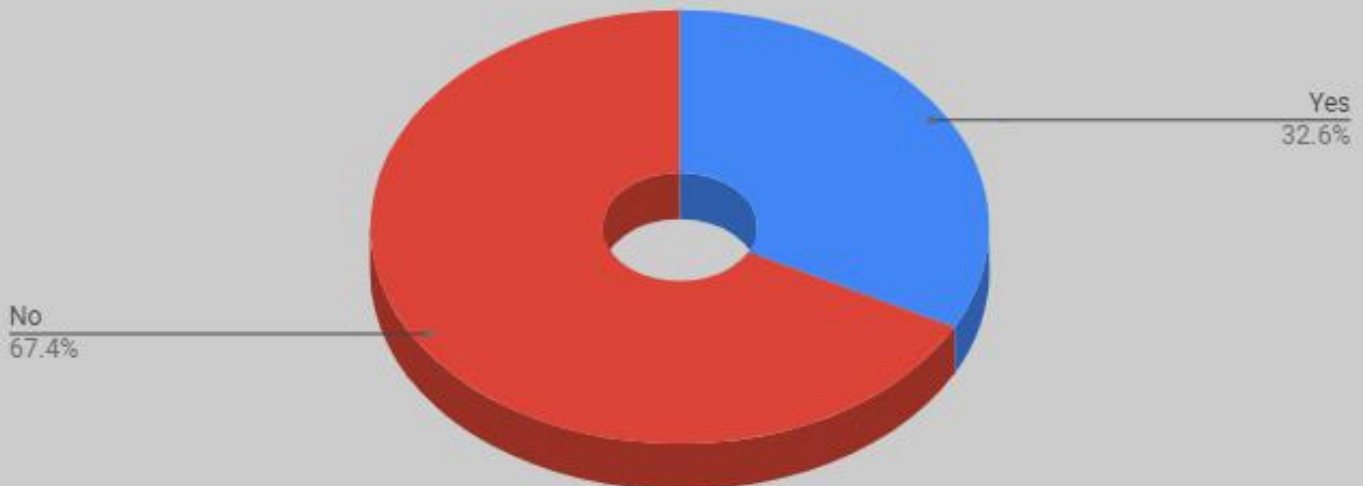
## Do you live off of a private, county or state-owned road?



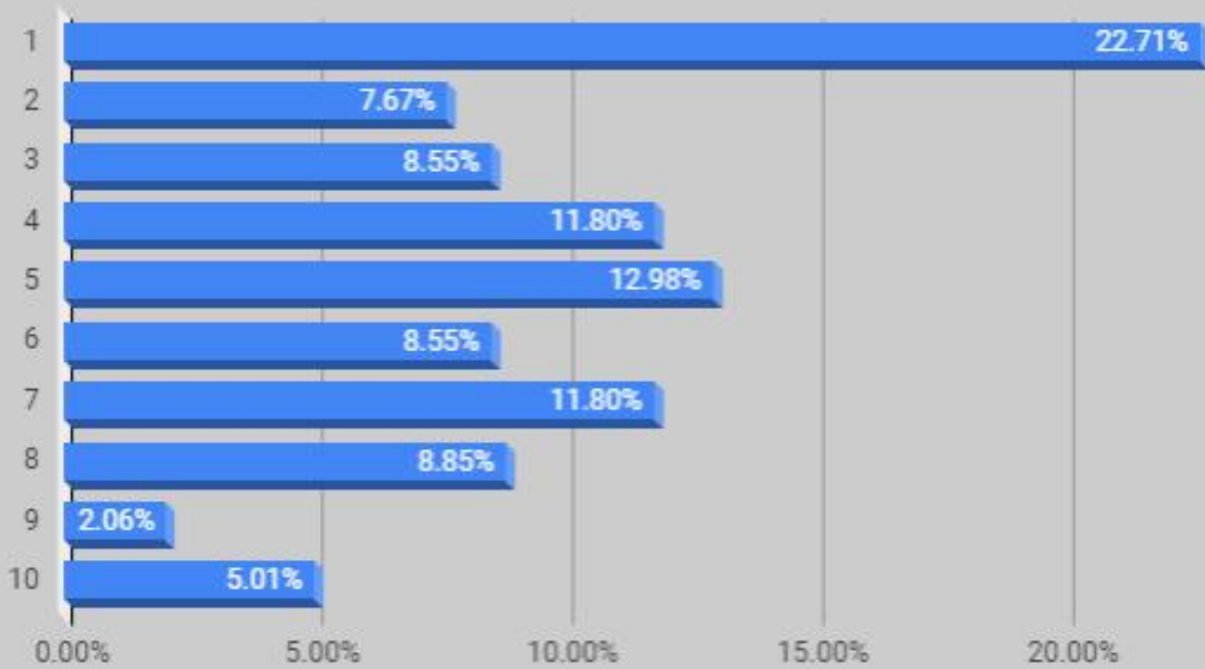
## What does the county need more of ?



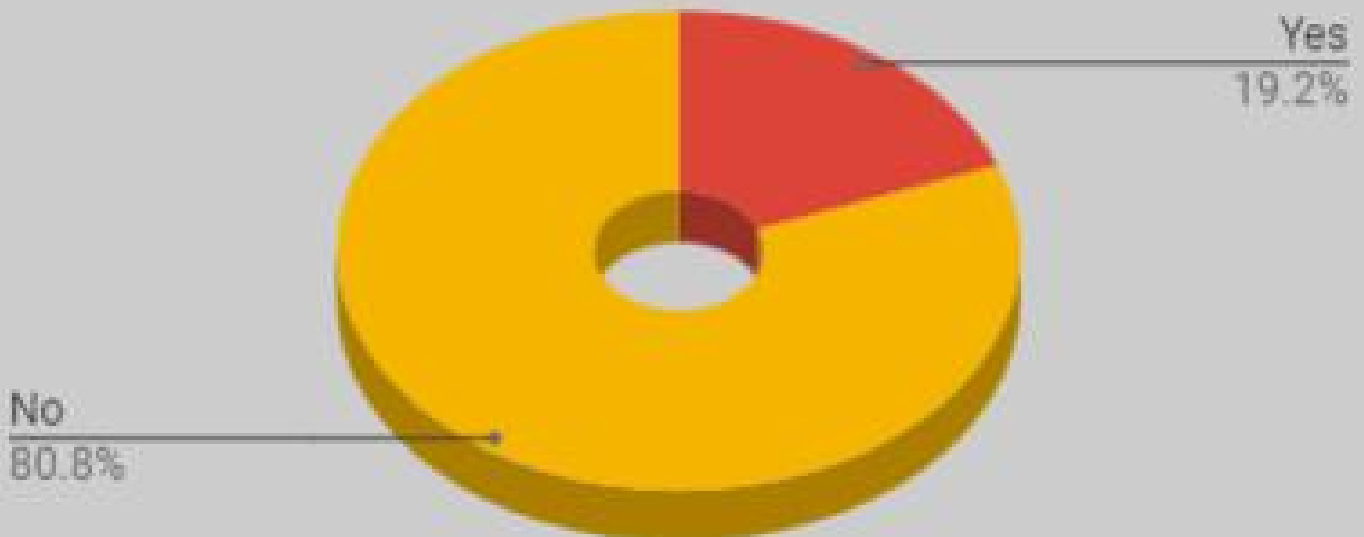
If riding a bike along the side of the road was practical and made safe, would you ride a bike to work, school, shopping or other places around the county?



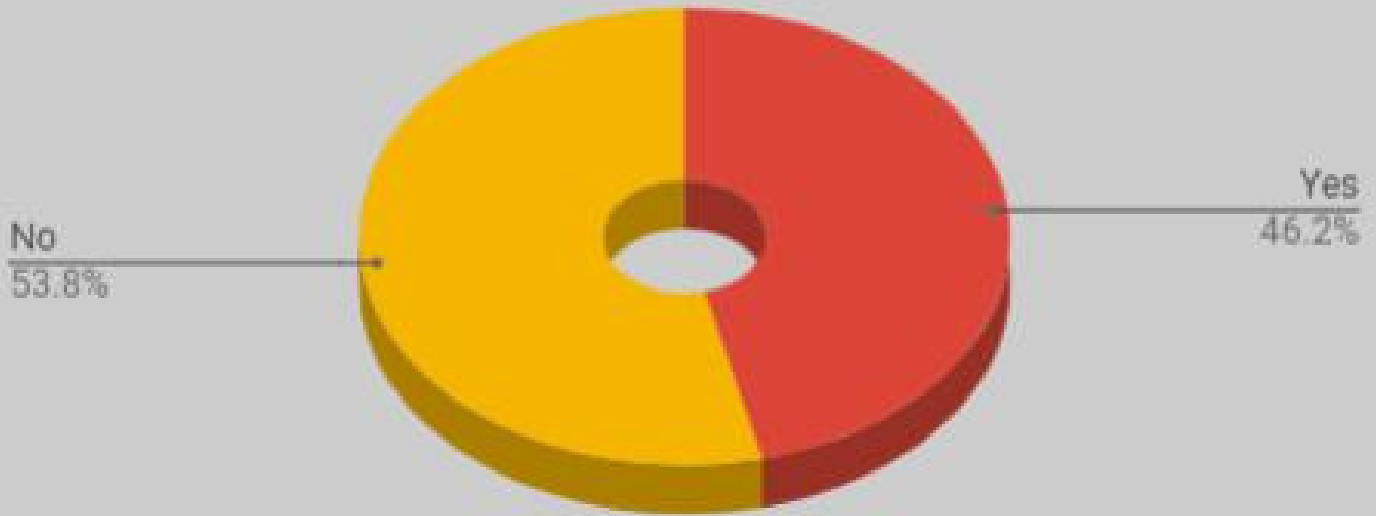
On a scale of 1 (Very Unsafe) to 10 (Very Safe), how do you feel about the maintenance of your roads?



Have you used the CATbus?



**If it were available to you, would you ride the CATbus?**



**Would you support additional funding for Oconee County Regional Airport?**







# YOUR OCONEE

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**June 2019: Economic Development**

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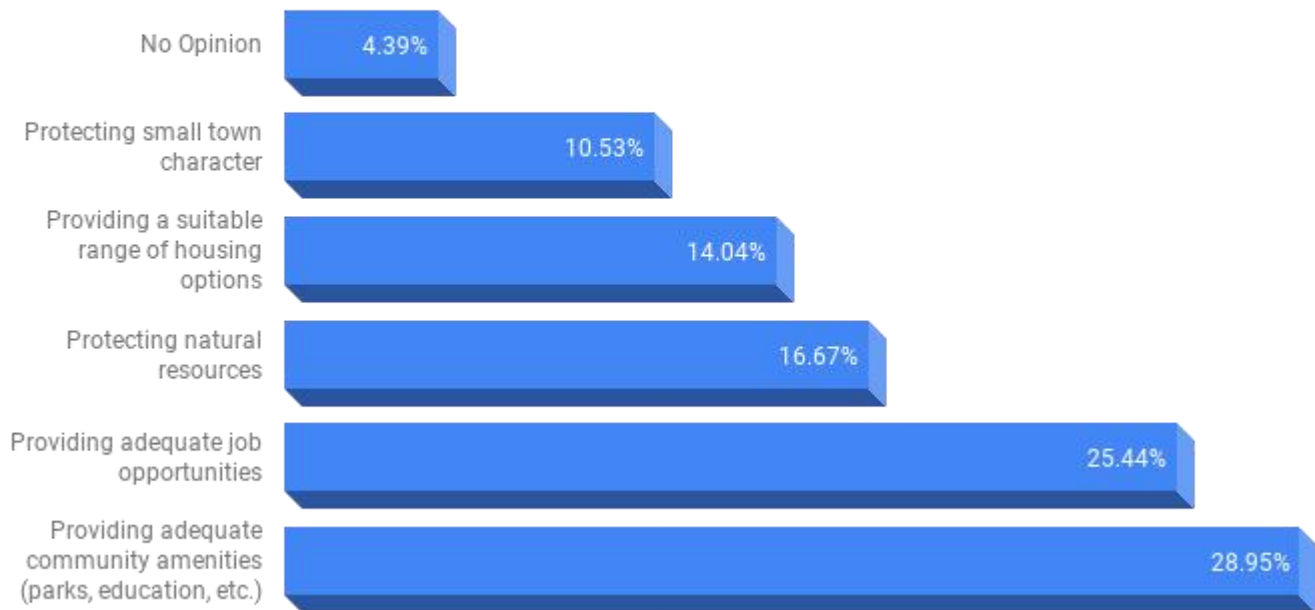
THE OCONEE COUNTY 2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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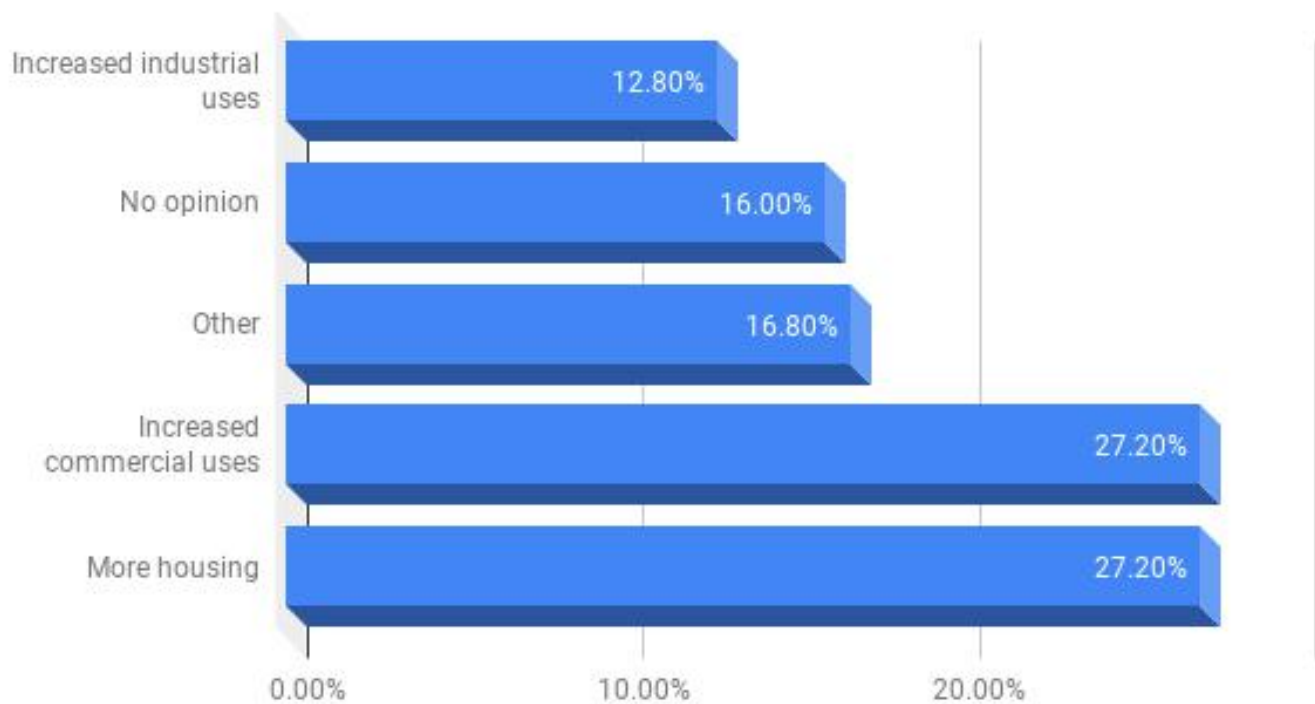
NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS

125

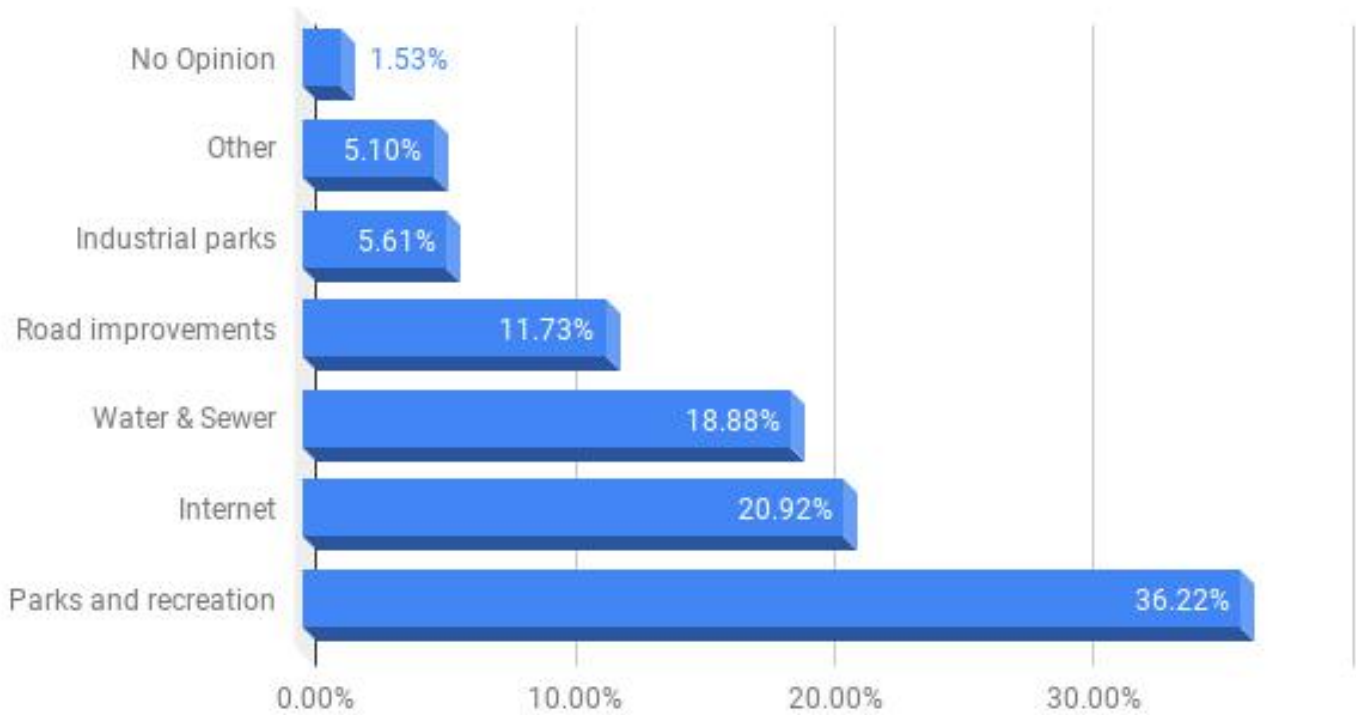
## When it comes to growth and development, what is the county's greatest challenge?



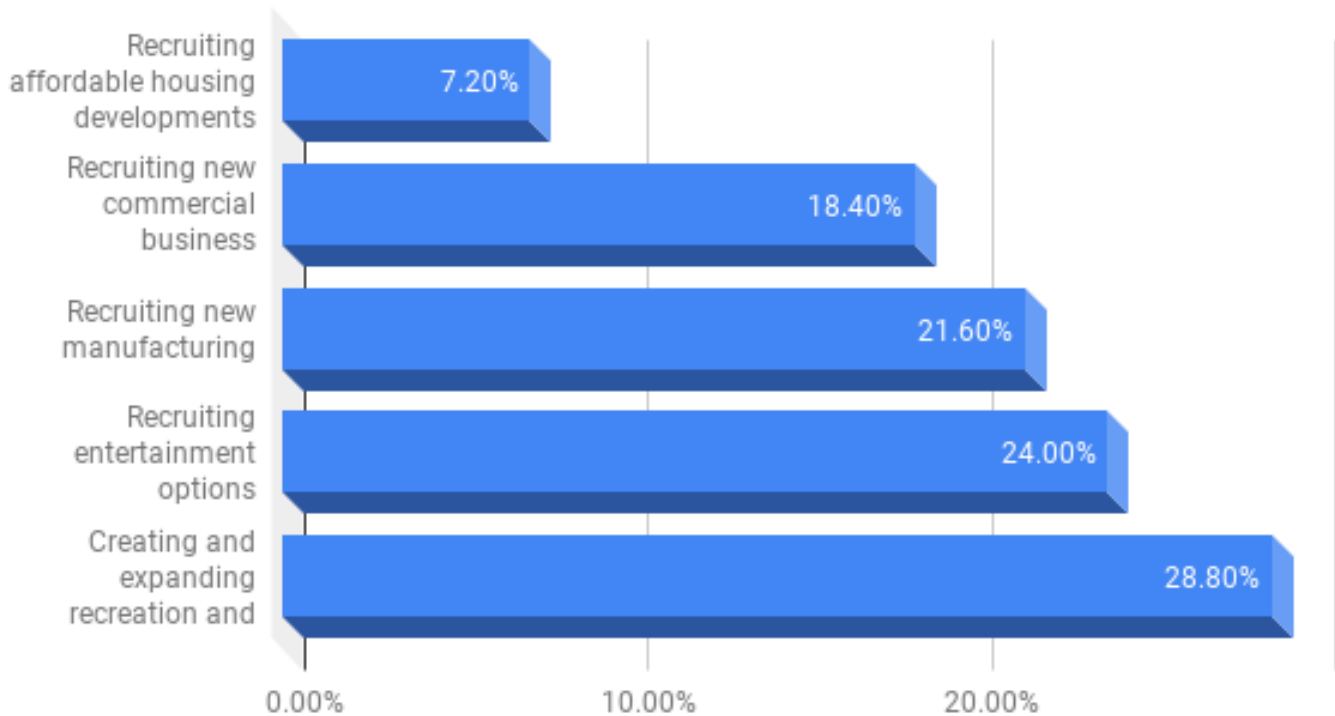
## What type of development is most needed?



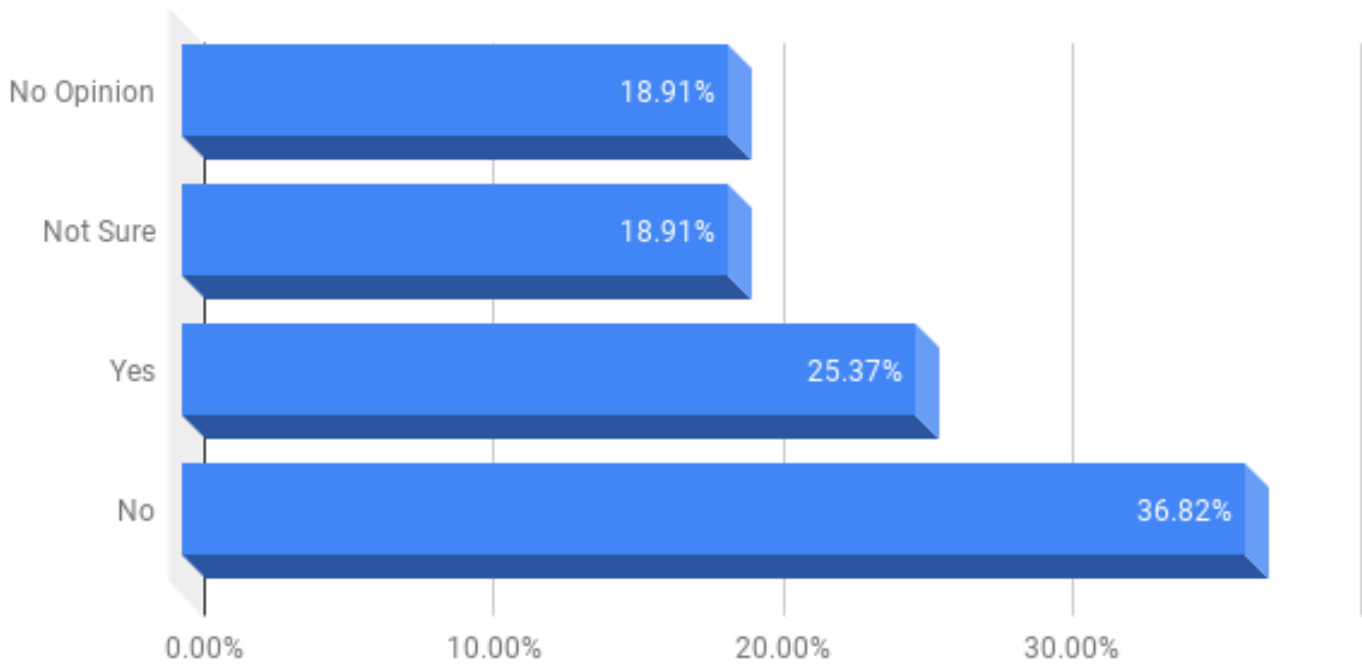
## Which capital improvements should the county prioritize?



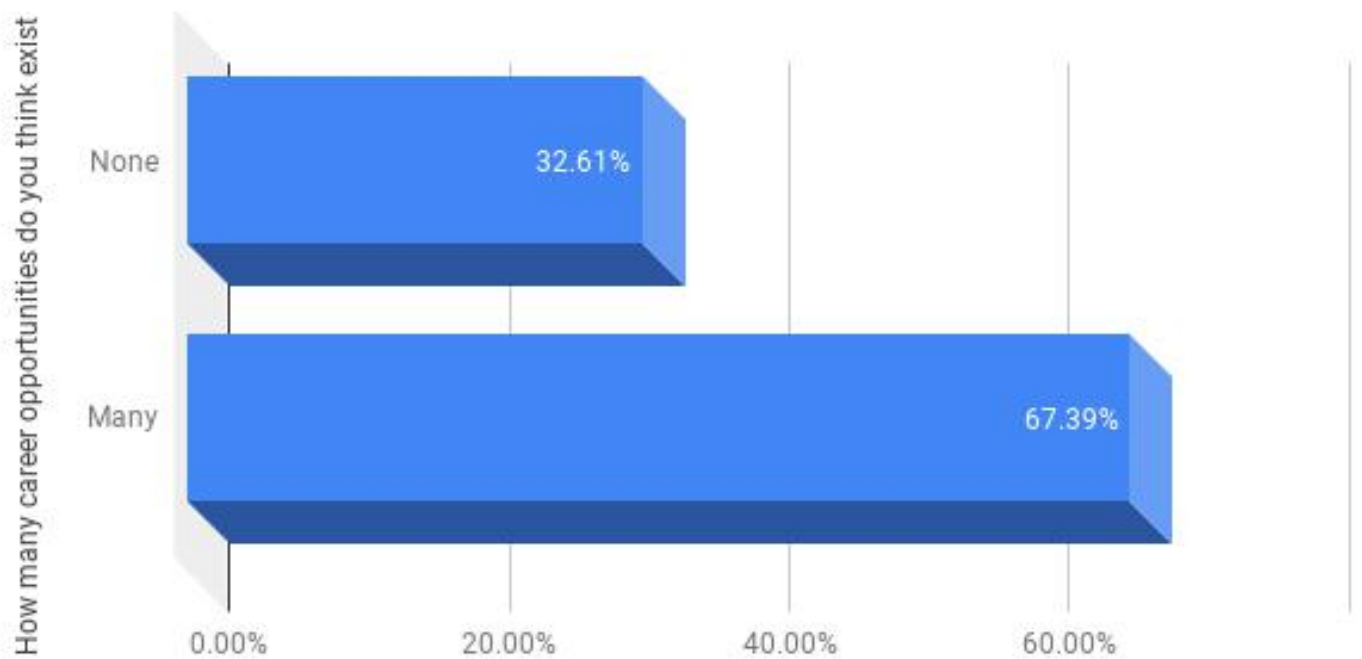
## What should be the top economic development priority?



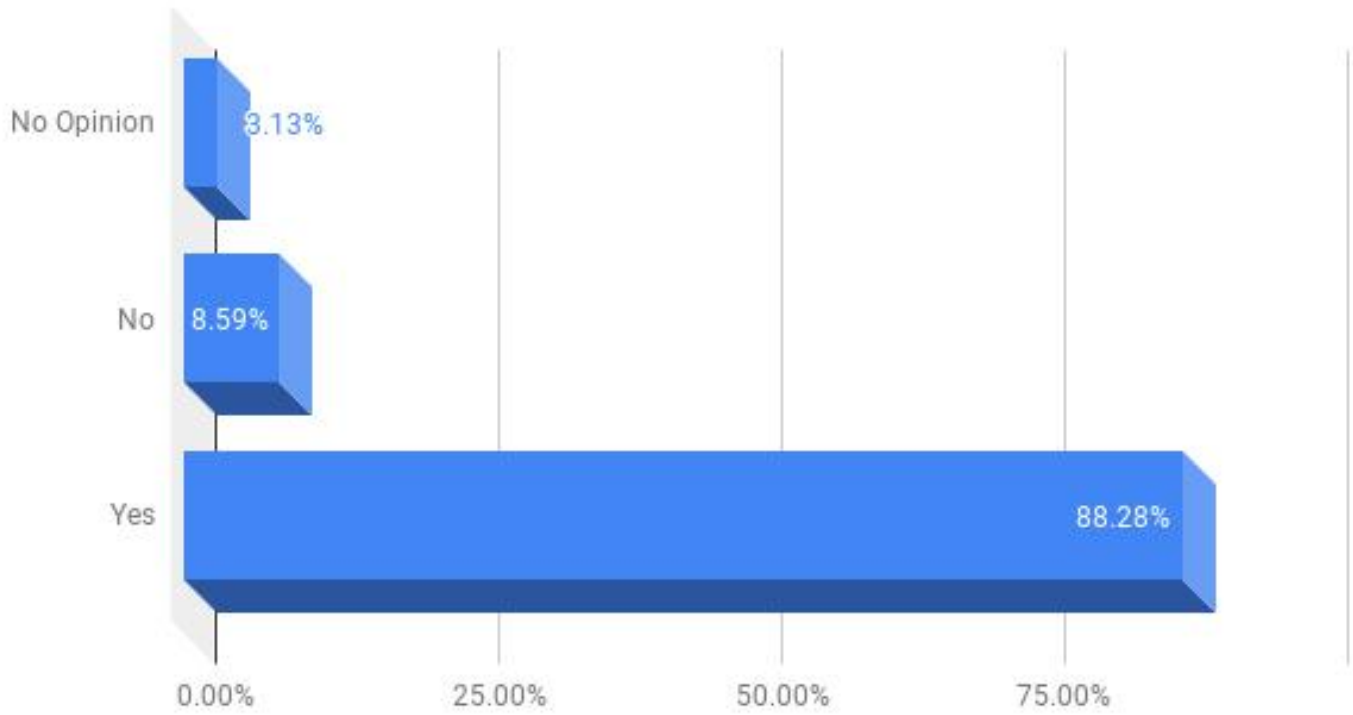
## If you wanted to find a job in Oconee County today, would you be able to work in an industry that interests you?



## How many career opportunities do you think exist for our high school and technical college graduates?



# Do you shop local when it is available?







# YOUR OCONEE

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**July 2019: Agriculture and Land Use**

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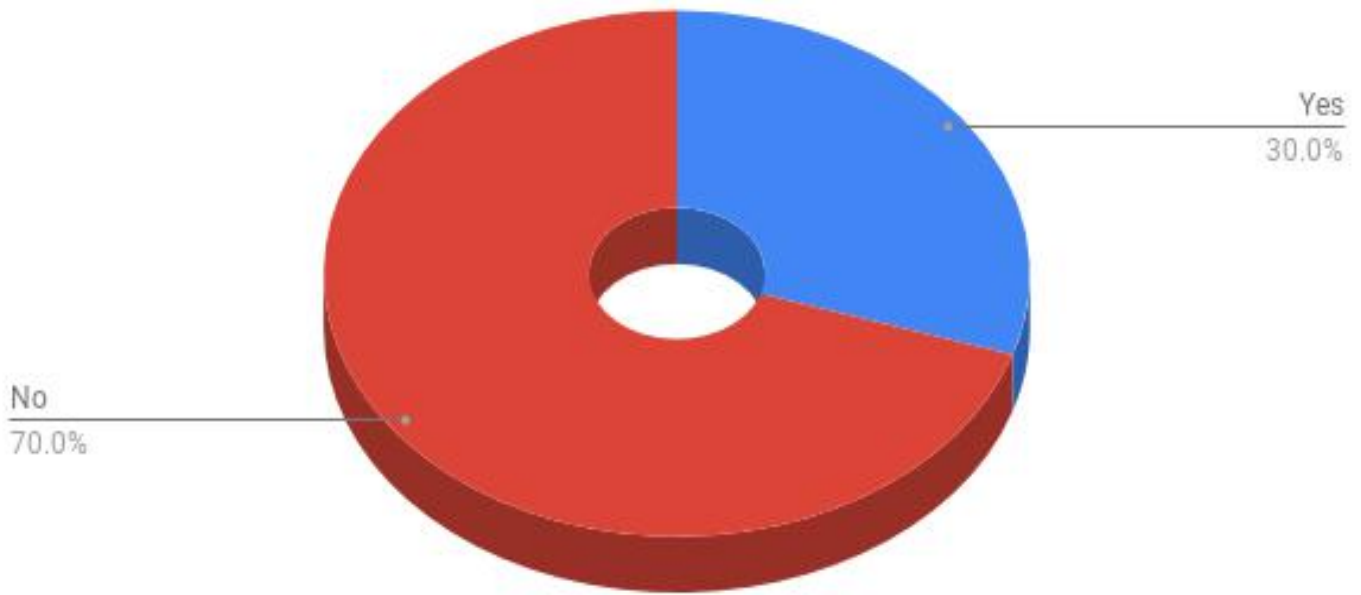
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NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS

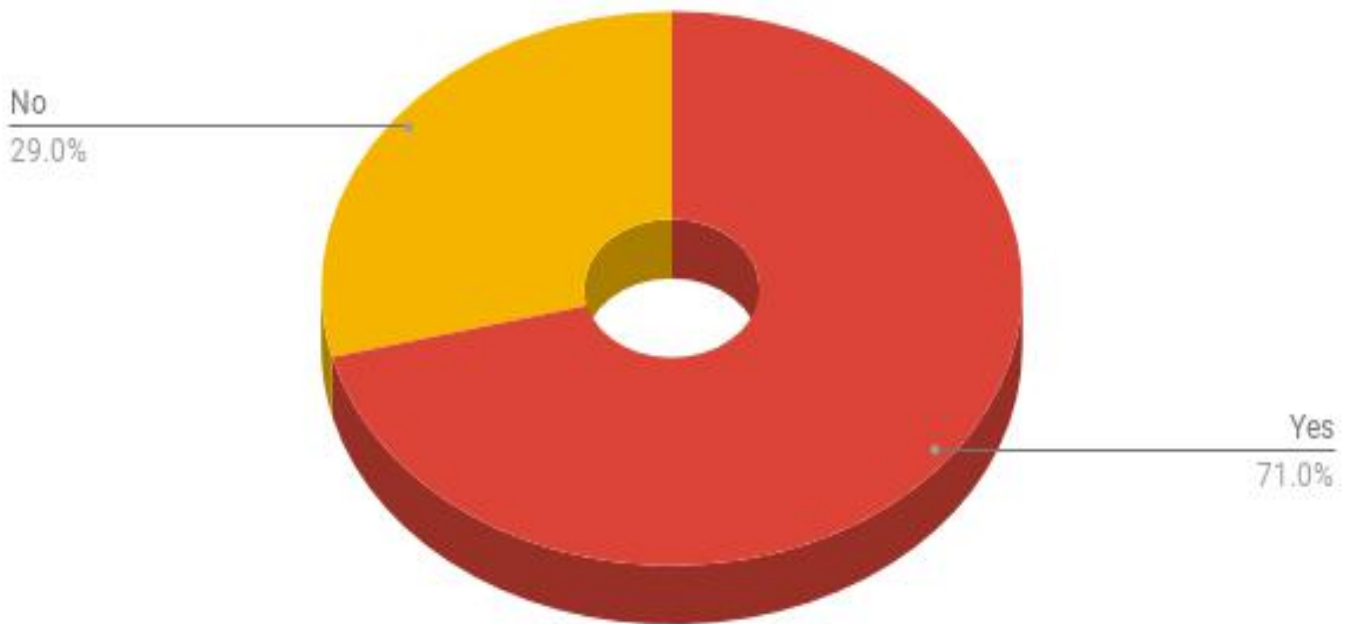
255



### Are you now, or have you been, a farmer or rancher?

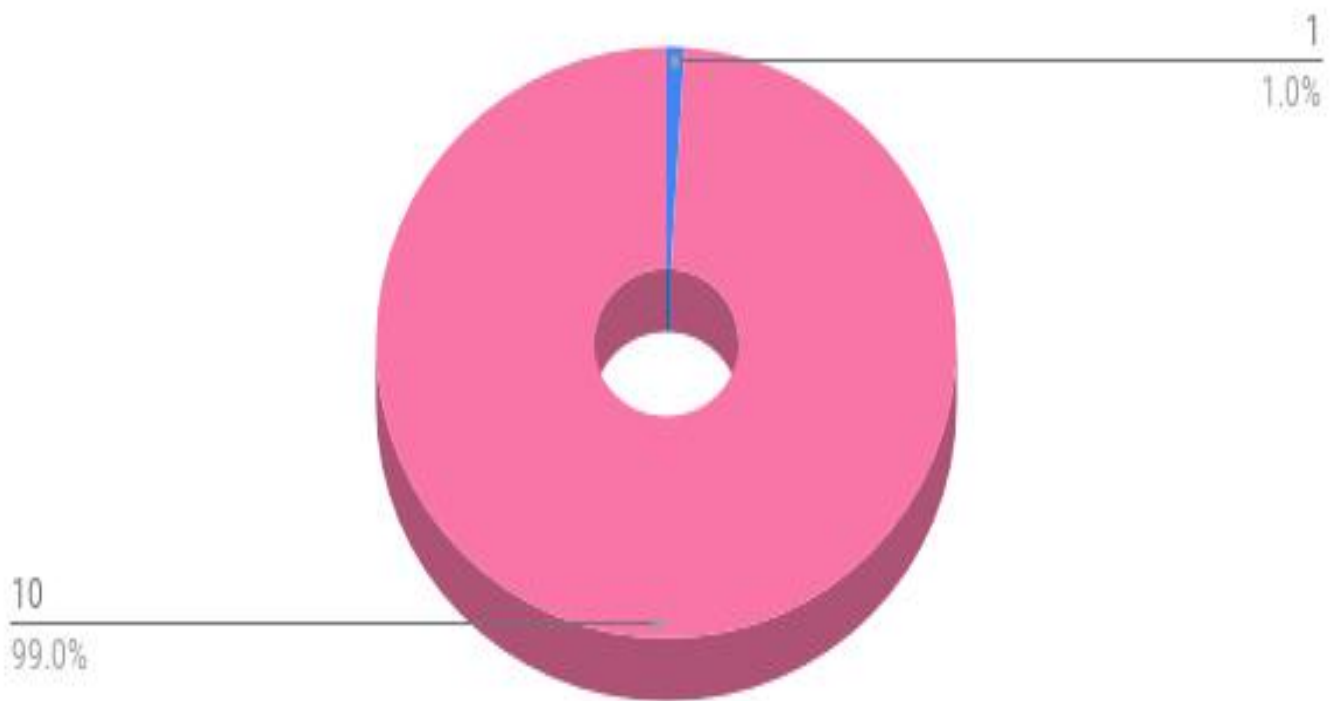


### Do you know any farmers who farm in Oconee County?

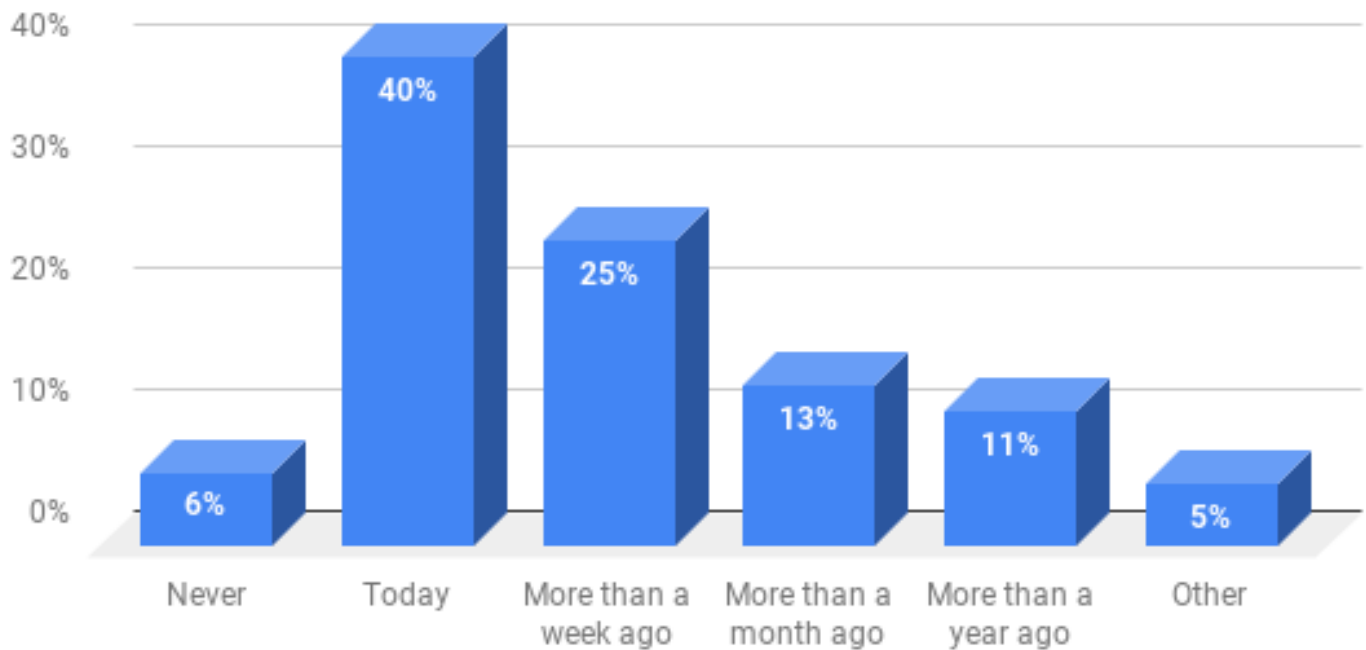


# How important is having your food grown or raised in the United States of America?

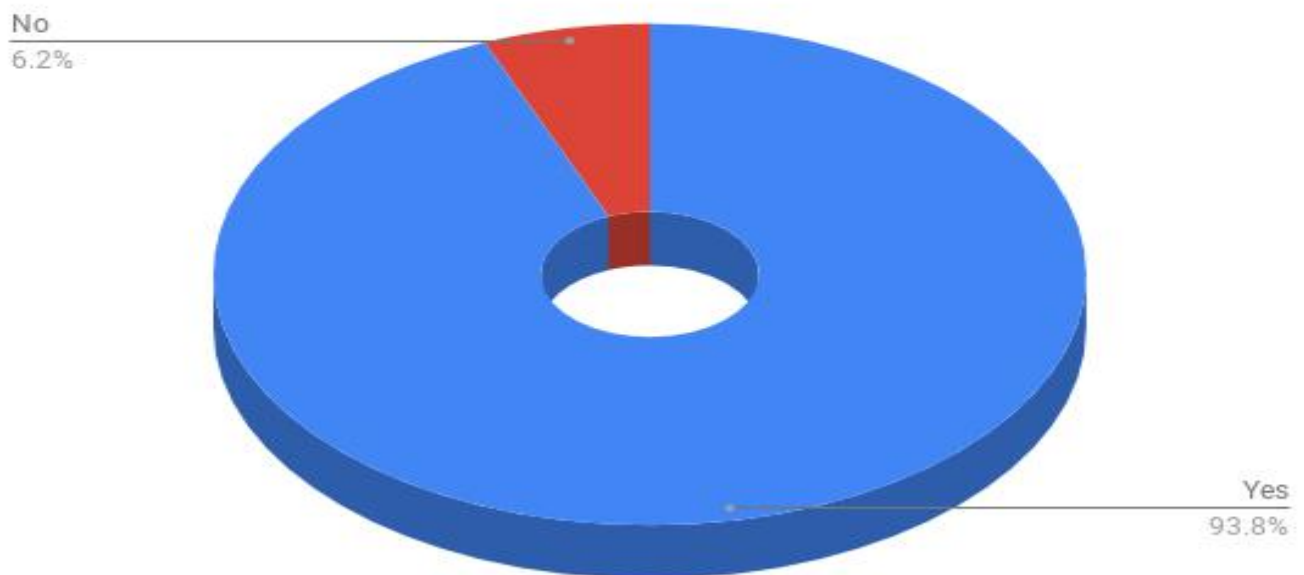
Scale of 1-10: Not important-Very important



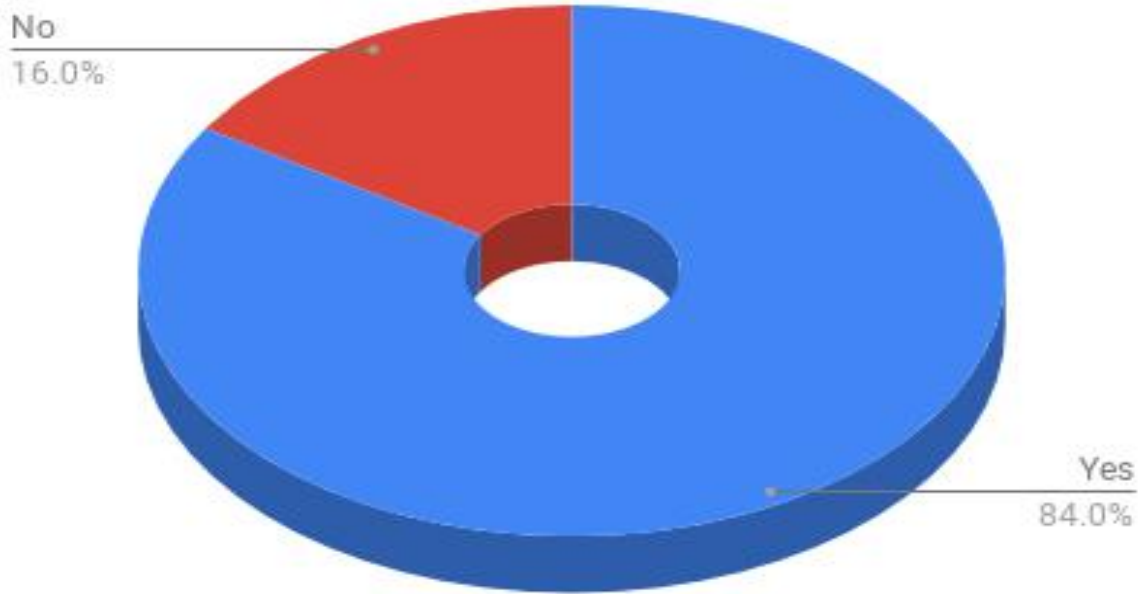
**When is the last time that you knew where the food on your plate came from? (The supermarket doesn't count.)**



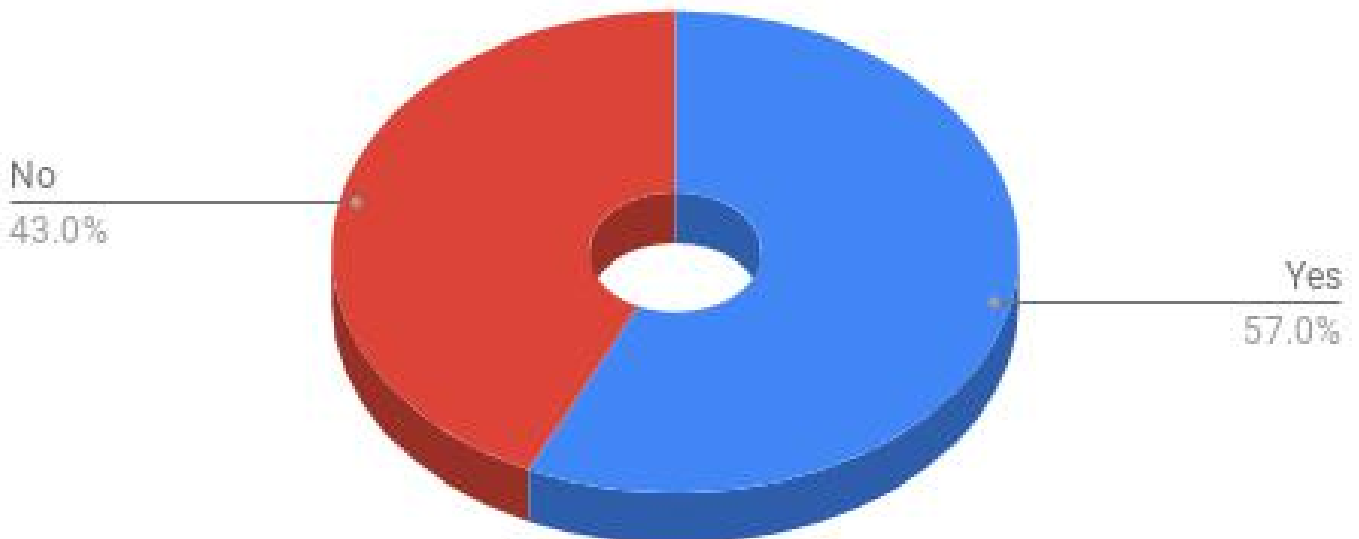
**Oconee County is losing farms and farmers. Would you support legislation that promotes, protects and preserves our agricultural past, present and future?**



## Do you know where to buy locally grown or produced farm products in Oconee?



## Do you grow any of your own food?



## Farmland, generally, is flat and cleared, and great for farming. Flat, cleared land is also great for building homes. How do we preserve our irreplaceable farmers and farmlands while still providing enough housing for our growing population?

