

Town of Topsham

**Aging in Place
Community Survey and
Focus Group Results**

With assistance from Planning Decisions, Inc.
www.planningdecisions.com

June 28, 2016

Table of Contents

I. Executive Summary.....	1
II. Survey Results	4
A. Introduction to Survey Results.....	7
B. Survey Methodology	8
C. Survey Respondents	9
D. Survey Responses.....	12
III. Focus Group Results.....	35
Appendix A: Survey Results	
Appendix B: Survey Instrument	

I. Executive Summary

Aging in place means the ability to live in your own home and community safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age, income or ability level.

In the spring of 2016, the Town of Topsham, with support from Spectrum Generations and AARP, conducted a survey and focus groups to better understand the town's age friendly features, as well as gaps that may prevent seniors from aging place.

The purpose of the survey was to better understand the aging in place issues facing the community. The purpose of the focus groups was to begin to brainstorm solutions to the identified issues.

The Town mailed paper copies of the survey (see Appendix B) to 1,200 citizens, emailed a link to the online survey to the town list-serve registrants, and placed additional paper surveys in strategic locations throughout town to reach those citizens who are 50 years old or more. Three hundred and two respondents completed the Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey, approximately 8% of the town's population age 50 and older. This is a good response rate for a mailed survey.

Overall, most survey respondents said that Topsham is a good place to age in place. Approximately half of respondents would rate Topsham an "Excellent" or "Very good" place to age in place, and another 28% would rate it "Good." (See Appendix A for the full survey results by question.)

Several key issues related to aging in place were identified by survey respondents, including:

1) The need for better communication about available social/civic/employment opportunities for seniors.

- *83% of survey respondents said it is "Extremely or Very important" to remain socially active as they age, but only a quarter said the availability of social activities in Topsham is "Excellent or Very good."*
- *More than half of respondents said it is "Extremely or Very important" that Topsham has range of employment and volunteer opportunities but almost half of survey respondents did not know enough to rate the availability of employment opportunities in Topsham, and four in ten said the same about volunteer opportunities.*
- *Asked where they usually get information about programs, services and events, 77% said the local newspaper, followed by word of mouth at 68%.*
- *Three in four survey respondents said they regularly look on the Internet for information, with a slightly lower rate among and 65 and older (two out of three). This is consistent with U.S. Census data, which says that 65% of Maine residents over age 65 have a computer and broadband (compared to 84% of those age 18-64).*

2) The need to provide alternative transportation services.

- *In comments, many respondents identified the lack of public transportation as a challenge for aging in place in Topsham.*
- *Just under half of survey respondents said it is “Extremely or Very important” that Topsham has a bus service. Similar percentages said it is “Extremely or Very important” that Topsham has Coastal Trans, a taxi service, and the Volunteer Transportation Network.*

3) The need for services to help people stay in their homes.

- *87% of survey respondents said that it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” to live independently in their home as they get older.*
- *1 in 5 is “Extremely or Very concerned” about needing to make modifications to their home.*
- *41% are concerned they won’t be able to afford to stay in their home.*

Throughout the survey, respondent comments included concern about the property tax burden, both as a challenge to aging in place (for example, “There are no deductions or concessions for senior citizens regarding real estate tax”) as well as in thinking about how the Town could pay for additional amenities and services (“The more you have to maintain the higher the tax rate.”)

After the survey was completed, focus groups were held to brainstorm solutions to the issues identified. Three separate focus groups were held with local service providers, municipal staff, and members of the public. For each question, focus group participants heard an introduction, including the survey responses that led to the inclusion of that particular topic in the focus group as well as examples of solutions to similar issues from other Maine communities. Responses from the other focus groups were not shared.

The focus group discussions were organized around questions, based on issues identified in the survey results.

- a. How do we improve the condition and reach of our sidewalk system?
- b. How do we make our parks more appropriate for older residents?
- c. How do we provide more housing options for people as they age?
- d. How do we provide public transportation in Topsham?
- e. How do we provide services to help people stay in their homes?
- f. How do we connect people to social/civic/employment opportunities?
- g. How do we improve communication with the senior population?

In the focus groups, participants emphasized the many communication assets in Topsham, including websites, multiple local newspapers, tv, and radio, and how they could be better utilized. They recognized the role of the library as the community center, and discussed how that role could be enhanced, including more recreation facilities and as a partner in communication and engagement efforts. They considered the opportunity to leverage volunteers to help provide services to keep seniors home as well as the need to manage those volunteers. They also discussed the Town’s upcoming comprehensive plan process as an

opportunity to look more closely at the town's senior housing stock as well as its pedestrian and recreation infrastructure and potential future bus service.

Based on the survey results and the suggestions from the focus groups, there are many possible strategies for the Town to consider to strengthen its assets and reduce the challenges of aging in place in Topsham. Many of those strategies would benefit not only those over age 50, but all Topsham residents.

Some strategies would require capital investment, for example in sidewalks and parks. Focus groups participants (including members of the public and municipal staff) suggested establishing a Town bike-ped committee and developing a system for prioritizing sidewalk investments based on safety, traffic speed, street width, and destinations. They also suggested the development of smaller "pocket" parks in places where people would use them.

Other strategies rely on coordination with the Town's non-profit, business and municipal partners. For example, the need for increased communication about available services and programs was one of the major issues identified by survey respondents, and some focus group members feel that the Library is already a center for communication, and that its role could be enhanced. Similarly, focus group participants suggested working with the Library and other local organizations to increase engagement and support for community volunteers.

Another example is increasing the availability of transportation alternatives. Existing public and non-profit transportation programs include the Volunteer Transportation Network (VTN), Coastal Trans, local taxis, and the Brunswick Explorer bus service (a public private partnership). In focus groups, providers suggested that the VTN could be expanded to accommodate more volunteers as well as serve more people. Members of the public suggested bringing a loop of the Brunswick Explorer through Topsham, with stops in locations and neighborhoods where older residents live (such as the Westrum House, the Heights, Elm Street, and Barons Hill) as well as Hannaford and the Library. The Town could play an important role in identifying service priorities and gaps and convening partners to address them.

This report describes the aging in place issues identified by a survey of Topsham residents. It presents the results of focus groups held to begin to brainstorm solutions to those issues. The next step is to prioritize the various issues and possibilities, and further develop and consider potential strategies to address those issues.

II. Survey Results

In partnership with Spectrum Generations and with support from Maine AARP, the town recently conducted a survey to get feedback from Topsham residents age 50 and older about aging in place in Topsham. The survey asked respondents about their current situation, needs, and preferences with regard to 8 topics: Open Spaces and Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Social Participation and Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment, Communication, Health, and Available Services. All survey responses were anonymous.

Three hundred and two respondents completed the Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey, approximately 8% of the town's population age 50 and older. This is a good response rate for a mailed survey.

Overall, approximately half of respondents (51%) would rate Topsham as an "Excellent" or "Very good" place to age in place.

Here are some of the key issues that the survey results identified:

1. Outdoor spaces and buildings

Four out of five survey respondents stated that it is "Extremely important" or "Very important" that Topsham has "Sidewalks and trails that are in good condition" (80%) but only 27% said that the current condition of sidewalks and trails is "Excellent" or "Very good." Sixty-eight percent of respondents said it is "Extremely important" or "Very important" that sidewalks and trails go where I want to go, but only 28% said the connectivity of sidewalks and trails is currently "Excellent" or "Very good."

Three-quarters of survey respondents (74%) said it is "Extremely important" or "Very important" that there is adequate street lighting but only 25% said street lighting is currently "Excellent" or "Very good."

Three-quarters of survey respondents (76%) said it is important that Topsham has parking lots that are safe for pedestrians to walk through but only 28% said the safety of parking lots for pedestrians is currently "Excellent" or "Very good."

Sixty-one percent of respondents said it is "Extremely important" or "Very important" that parks are appropriate for older residents but only 16% said the appropriateness of Topsham's parks for older residents is currently "Excellent" or "Very good."

2. Transportation

More than 70% of survey respondents stated that it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has “Safe pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.” Only 28% said the pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure is currently “Excellent” or “Very good.”

In comments, many respondents identified the lack of public transportation as a challenge to aging in place in Topsham.

Just under half of survey respondents said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has a bus service. Similar percentages said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has Coastal Tran, a taxi service, and the Volunteer Transportation Network.

3. Housing

While approximately half of survey respondents stated they want to live in a single family home as they age, a quarter of respondents said they want a condo or affordable senior housing.

It is “Extremely important” or “Very important” to more than 85% of survey respondents to be able to live independently as they age.

With regard to their ability to afford to stay in their home as they get older, 41% of respondents (and 44% of respondents age 65 and older and with income less than \$50,000) stated they are “Extremely concerned” or “Very concerned.” In comments, several people expressed concern about property taxes.

4. Social Participation and Inclusion

Four out of five survey respondents said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” to remain socially active as they get older but only a quarter said the availability of social activities is “Excellent” or “Very good.” In their comments, respondents noted that the library does an especially good job, and said that they also go to Brunswick for activities and events.

5. Civic Participation and Employment

Half of survey respondents (51%) said that it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has a range of employment opportunities, and more than half (58%) said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has a range of volunteer opportunities.

Yet almost half of survey respondents (47%) said they did not know enough to rate the availability of employment opportunities in Topsham; four in ten survey respondents said they did not know enough to rate the availability of volunteer opportunities in Topsham.

6. Communication

Asked where they usually get information about local programs, services, and events, the local newspaper was the most common answer, followed by word of mouth (neighbors, friends and family.)

Asked if they regularly look for information on the Internet, three out of four survey respondents (74%) said yes. That percentage was slightly lower among respondents age 65 and older (67%) and those with household income less than \$50,000.

A quarter of survey respondents said they rate the availability of information about programs and services in Topsham "Excellent" or "Very good."

7. Health

Asked about the importance of affordable health/fitness classes and home care services, more than half of respondents said it is "Extremely important" or "Very important" to have "Affordable home care services such as health and personal care" provided in Topsham.

Less than one in five survey respondents would rate the availability of Affordable health and wellness classes, Affordable fitness activities, and Affordable home care service "Excellent" or "Very good." Many survey respondents said that they did not know enough to rate the availability of Affordable health and wellness classes, Affordable fitness activities, and Affordable home care service.

8. Available Services

Among survey respondents, just 4% said they use Spectrum Generations programs, and 13% use People Plus programs.

The most used library services among survey respondents, are interlibrary loans (53%), lectures (36%), The Crooker Art Gallery (31%), and movies (31%).

A. Introduction to Survey Results

The Town of Topsham wants to know how to make the community a better place for older residents to live. In partnership with Spectrum Generations and with support from Maine AARP, the town recently conducted a survey to get feedback from Topsham residents age 50 and older about aging in place in Topsham. The town determined that 50 years old was a reasonable age to survey since possible projects may take several years to come to fruition.

The survey asked respondents about their current situation, needs, and preferences with regard to 8 topics: Open Spaces and Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Social Participation and Inclusion, Civic Participation and Employment, Communication, Health, and Available Services. The survey also asked respondents questions about their age, gender, household income, household size, and what neighborhood they live in.

All survey responses were anonymous. The following report summarizes the responses for each question. Appendix A presents the survey responses in their entirety.

B. Survey Methodology

The survey was created using Survey Monkey, an online survey tool. The town mailed paper copies of the survey to 1,200 citizens, emailed a link to the online survey to the town list-serve registrants, and placed additional paper surveys in strategic locations throughout town to reach those citizens who are 50 years old or more.

The voter registration list is the only list that contains the ages of the citizens of Topsham. Therefore, the town used the most current voter registration list to obtain the ages and addresses of the target audience. The voter registration list was provided by the town clerk and reviewed for duplicates, which were removed. Voters younger than age 50 were also removed from the list. Every tenth name was then selected from the resulting list of voters age 50 and older. Among the mailed surveys, 140 came back as undeliverable.

The town utilized its current email lists (list serve) for advertising and emailing the survey. Those email lists include interested citizens and Board members, including but not limited to the Board of Selectmen. There are approximately 50 citizens in this list. A reminder email was sent out to those people on this list one week prior to the closing of the survey.

The survey was discussed and announcement of its start was made at a Board of Selectmen meeting. Additionally, an announcement was placed on the town's TV channel and an explanation and link to the survey was placed on the town's website.

Paper surveys were available in the town clerk's office at town hall and paper surveys were delivered to Elm Street Assisted Living, River Landing, Volunteers of America Northern New England (VOANNE): Westrum House, The Highlands, Highland Green, and the Topsham Public Library. The planning office spoke with the manager of each facility to explain what the steps were in the survey process and each of those facilities were invited to participate in a focus group to follow up on the survey results.

All survey responses were anonymous. Some respondents chose to provide their name and phone number in order to be entered into a raffle for a \$25 gift card to Hannaford.

An additional 8 surveys were received after the deadline and were not entered into the online survey tool.

C. Survey Respondents

Three hundred and two respondents completed the Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey, approximately 8% of the town's population age 50 and older. This is a good response rate for a mailed survey.

According to the US Census, there are an estimated 3,648 residents age 50 and over in Topsham, half of whom are age 65 and older.

Table 1: Topsham population age 50 and older, 2014

Population	Number	% of Total
Total Population	8,728	
Age 50 to 54 years	759	9%
Age 55 to 59 years	576	7%
Age 60 to 65 years	497	6%
Age 65 to 69 years	489	6%
Age 70 to 74 years	367	4%
Age 75 to 79 years	489	6%
Age 80 to 84 years	209	2%
Age 85 years and older	262	3%
Age 50 and older	3,648	42%
Age 65 and older	1,815	21%

Source: US Census ACS 5-year estimates

Almost two-thirds of the survey respondents (63%) are age 65 and older, while this group makes up only half of the over 50 population, so the survey oversampled this subset.

Table 2: Q40. What is your age?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
50-54	10%	26
55-59	13%	36
60-64	13%	37
65-69	18%	50
70-74	15%	41
75-79	13%	37
80-84	9%	25
85 years and over	7%	20
Prefer not to answer	1%	3
<i>answered question</i>		275
<i>skipped question</i>		27

Among Topsham residents age 50 and older, more than half (57%) are female. There were more female survey respondent (163 respondents, 60%) than male respondents (105 respondents, 39%; 34 didn't answer the question).

Table 3: Topsham population by gender, 2014

	% Male	% Female
Total population	48%	52%
Age 50 and older	43%	57%
Age 65 and older	40%	60%

Source: US Census ACS 5-year estimates

Among Topsham households with a householder age 45-64 years, one in ten earns less than \$25,000 per year, and more than one-third earn less than \$50,000 per year. Among households with a householder age 65 and older, one in five earns less than \$25,000 per year, and more than half earn less than \$50,000.

Table 4: Topsham households by age and income, 2014

Household Income	Householder age 45 to 64 years		Householder age 65 years and older	
Total	1,439		1,186	
Less than \$10,000	92	6%	19	2%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	31	2%	106	9%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	43	3%	100	8%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	130	9%	156	13%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	226	16%	228	19%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	277	19%	289	24%
\$75,000 to \$99,000	284	20%	77	6%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	205	14%	161	14%
\$150,000 to \$199,000	86	6%	30	3%
\$200,000 or more	65	5%	20	2%
Less than \$25,000	166	12%	225	19%
Less than \$50,000	522	36%	609	51%

Source: US Census ACS 5-year estimates

Almost a quarter (24%) of respondents chose not to answer the question about household income. Among those who did answer, 11% earned less than \$25,000, and 31% earned less than \$50,000. This is similar to the income distributions described above.

Table 5: Q42. What range best describes your annual household income?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Less than \$10,000	1%	2
\$10,000 to \$14,999	2%	4
\$15,000 to \$24,999	9%	23
\$25,000 to \$34,999	6%	17
\$35,000 to \$49,999	14%	37
\$50,000 to \$74,999	20%	54
\$75,000 to \$99,000	16%	42
\$100,000 to \$149,999	7%	18
\$150,000 to \$199,000	3%	9
\$200,000 or more	0.4%	1
Prefer not to answer	24%	64
<i>answered question</i>		271
<i>skipped question</i>		31

Four out of five survey respondents said they live by themselves or with just one other person.

Table 6: Q39. How many people are there in your household?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Me only ¹	14%	37
Me plus 1 other person	66%	175
Me plus 2 other people	10%	26
Me plus 3 other people	6%	15
Me plus 4 or more other people	1%	2
Prefer not to answer	5%	11
<i>answered question</i>		266
<i>skipped question</i>		36

¹ “Me only” was not available as a choice for the first several days of the survey and 10 people used the final comment opportunity during that time to note that they live by themselves; the number presented here include those respondents under “Me only.”

D. Survey Responses

Asked how they would generally rate Topsham “as a place for older residents to age in place,” more than half of all respondents (51%) said “Excellent” or “Very good.” That percentage was slightly higher among respondents age 65 and older (58%), and the same among residents with household incomes less than \$50,000 (52%).

In their comments, many respondents identified the lack of public transportation as a challenge. Others mentioned high taxes.

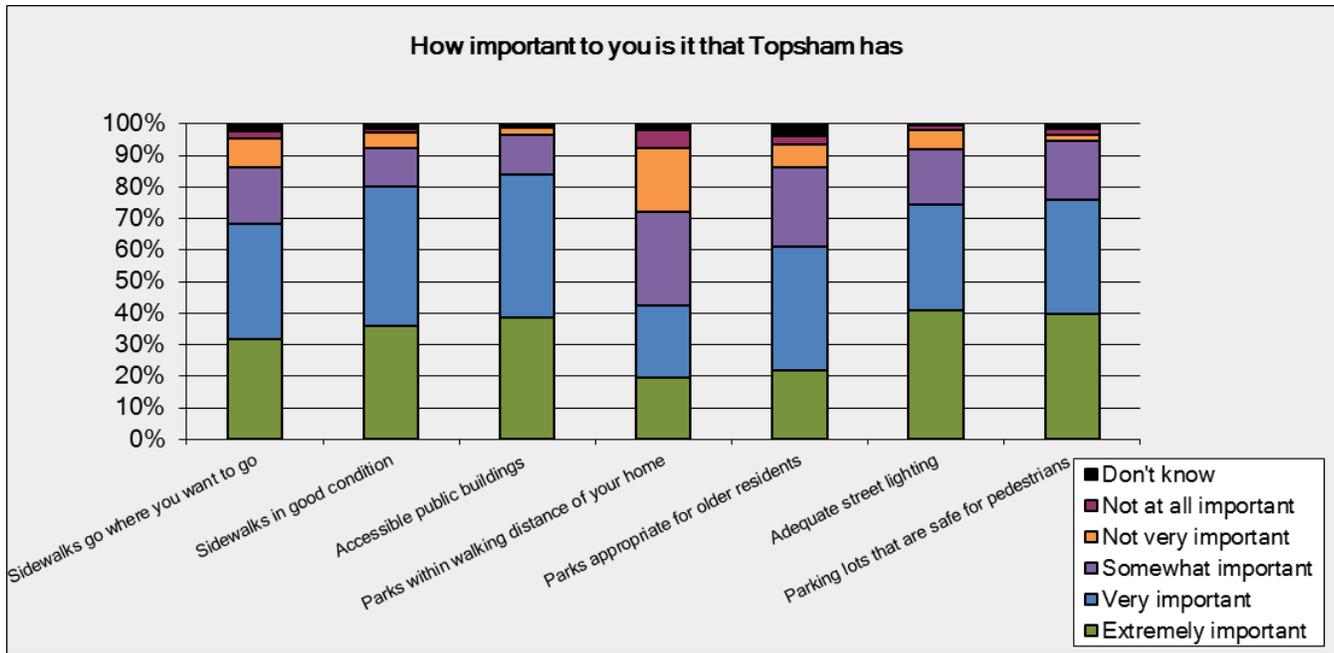
Table 7: Q1. Aging in place is the ability to live in one’s own home and community safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age, income or ability level. Generally, how would you rate Topsham as a place for older residents to age in place?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	15%	44	18%	31	13%	11
Very good	36%	109	40%	69	39%	32
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	51%	153	58%	100	52%	43
Good	28%	83	25%	44	23%	19
Fair	13%	38	10%	17	11%	9
Poor	2%	5	0%	0	5%	4
Don't know	7%	21	7%	12	10%	8
Comment		71		48		24
<i>answered question</i>		300		173		83
<i>skipped question</i>		2		0		0

1. Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Asked about outdoor spaces buildings, four out of five survey respondents stated that it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has “Public buildings that are accessible to people with physical limitations” (84%) and “Sidewalks and trails that are in good condition” (80%).

Three-quarters of survey respondents stated that it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has “Parking lots that are safe for pedestrians to walk through” (76.0%) and “Adequate street lighting” (74.5%).



Compared to all respondents, a slightly higher percentage of respondents age 65 and older stated that that it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has “Adequate street lighting.” Slightly lower percentages of respondents with incomes less than \$50,000 said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that “Parks and recreation facilities that are located within walking distance of your home” and that Topsham has “Parking lots that are safe for pedestrians to walk through.”

Table 8: Q2. How important to you is it that Topsham has

Answer Options	All Respondents		Age 65 and Older		Income < \$50,000	
	Extremely or Very Important	%	Extremely or Very Important	%	Extremely or Very Important	%
Sidewalks and trails that go where you want to go	188	68%	111	66%	50	63%
Sidewalks and trails that are in good condition	219	80%	133	79%	65	82%
Public buildings that are accessible to people with physical limitations	229	84%	142	85%	68	86%
Parks and recreation facilities that are located within walking distance of your home	116	42%	68	41%	28	35%
Parks and recreation facilities that are appropriate for older residents	167	61%	101	60%	46	58%
Adequate street lighting	204	74%	134	80%	59	75%
Parking lots that are safe for pedestrians to walk through	209	76%	130	77%	56	70%

Asked about Topsham’s trails and sidewalks, just over one-quarter of survey respondents rated their connectivity “Excellent” or “Very Good.” A similar percentage rated the condition of Topsham’s trails and sidewalks “Excellent” or “Very Good.” Several comments stated that it depends on location and more are needed. Snow and icy conditions were identified as a challenge.

Table 9: Q3. Overall, how would you rate the connectivity of Topsham's sidewalks and trails to places you want to go?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	4%	11	4%	7	1%	1
Very good	24%	64	22%	37	32%	25
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>302</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>26</i>
Good	33%	90	34%	56	35%	28
Fair	20%	53	20%	33	14%	11
Poor	8%	21	3%	5	5%	4
Don't know	12%	31	16%	27	13%	10
Comment		42		21		9
<i>answered question</i>		<i>270</i>		<i>165</i>		<i>79</i>
<i>skipped question</i>		<i>32</i>		<i>8</i>		<i>4</i>

Table 10: Q4. Overall, how would you rate the condition of Topsham's sidewalks and trails?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	4%	11	4%	6	6%	5
Very good	23%	63	21%	35	21%	17
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>22</i>
Good	43%	119	44%	73	40%	32
Fair	20%	55	17%	29	20%	16
Poor	3%	7	3%	5	4%	3
Don't know	8%	23	12%	20	9%	7
Comment		34		19		15
<i>answered question</i>		<i>278</i>		<i>168</i>		<i>80</i>
<i>skipped question</i>		<i>24</i>		<i>5</i>		<i>3</i>

With regard to the accessibility of buildings, more than 60% of survey respondents said that it is “Excellent” or “Very Good.” Two comments said the post office needs better accessibility.

Table 11: Q5. Overall, how would you rate the accessibility of Topsham's public buildings to people with physical limitations?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	16%	46	15%	25	17%	14
Very good	46%	128	46%	78	45%	37
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	62%	174	61%	103	62%	51
Good	18%	50	21%	35	16%	13
Fair	3%	7	2%	4	5%	4
Poor	1%	3	1%	2	1%	1
Don't know	16%	46	15%	26	16%	13
Comment		17		13		5
<i>answered question</i>		280		170		82
<i>skipped question</i>		22		3		1

Asked about parks and recreation facilities, slightly less than one-third of respondents rated their proximity to their home “Excellent” or “Very Good.” The percentage was lower (22%) among respondents with incomes less than \$50,000.

Table 12: Q6. Overall, how would you rate the proximity of Topsham's parks and recreation facilities to your home?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	9%	24	6%	10	8%	6
Very good	23%	63	25%	40	14%	11
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	32%	87	31%	50	22%	17
Good	35%	94	34%	56	39%	30
Fair	16%	42	15%	25	18%	14
Poor	9%	25	9%	15	9%	7
Don't know	8%	21	10%	17	13%	10
Comment		37		22		9
<i>answered question</i>		269		163		78
<i>skipped question</i>		33		10		5

Just 15% of respondents rated the appropriateness of Topsham’s parks and recreational facilities for older residents “Excellent” or “Very Good.” Several comments noted that Foreside is mostly for children, or asked about an (indoor) facility specifically for seniors.

Table 13: Q7. Overall, how would you rate the appropriateness of Topsham's parks and recreational facilities for older residents?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	2%	5	2%	3	4%	3
Very good	14%	39	13%	22	11%	9
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	16%	44	15%	25	15%	12
Good	30%	80	31%	51	28%	22
Fair	19%	51	19%	31	20%	16
Poor	9%	23	8%	13	6%	5
Don't know	27%	73	27%	44	31%	25
Comment		28		14		7
<i>answered question</i>		271		164		80
<i>skipped question</i>		31		9		3

One-quarter of survey respondents rated the adequacy of Topsham’s street lighting “Excellent” or “Very Good.” Comments noted that it depends on location, with some respondents saying more light is needed and others advocating for “dark skies.”

Table 14: Q8. Overall, how would you rate the adequacy of Topsham's street lighting?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	5%	13	4%	6	6%	5
Very good	20%	55	20%	33	20%	16
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	25%	68	23%	39	27%	21
Good	46%	127	45%	76	35%	28
Fair	21%	59	20%	34	27%	21
Poor	3%	9	3%	5	5%	4
Don't know	5%	15	8%	14	6%	5
Comment		38		23		8
<i>answered question</i>		278		168		79
<i>skipped question</i>		24		5		4

Asked about the safety of Topsham’s parking lots for pedestrians, slightly more than one-quarter of respondents rated it “Excellent” or “Very Good.”

Table 15: Q9. Overall, how would you rate the safety of Topsham's parking lots for pedestrians to walk through?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	4%	12	4%	7	6%	5
Very good	23%	65	22%	37	22%	17
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	28%	77	26%	44	28%	22
Good	38%	107	41%	70	35%	28
Fair	18%	51	18%	30	18%	14
Poor	4%	11	1%	1	3%	2
Don't know	12%	33	14%	24	17%	13
Comment		24		10		7
<i>answered question</i>		279		169		79
<i>skipped question</i>		23		4		4

2. Transportation

Asked about various means of transportation, more than 70% of survey respondents stated that it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has “Safe pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.” Several respondent comments expressed support for bus service.

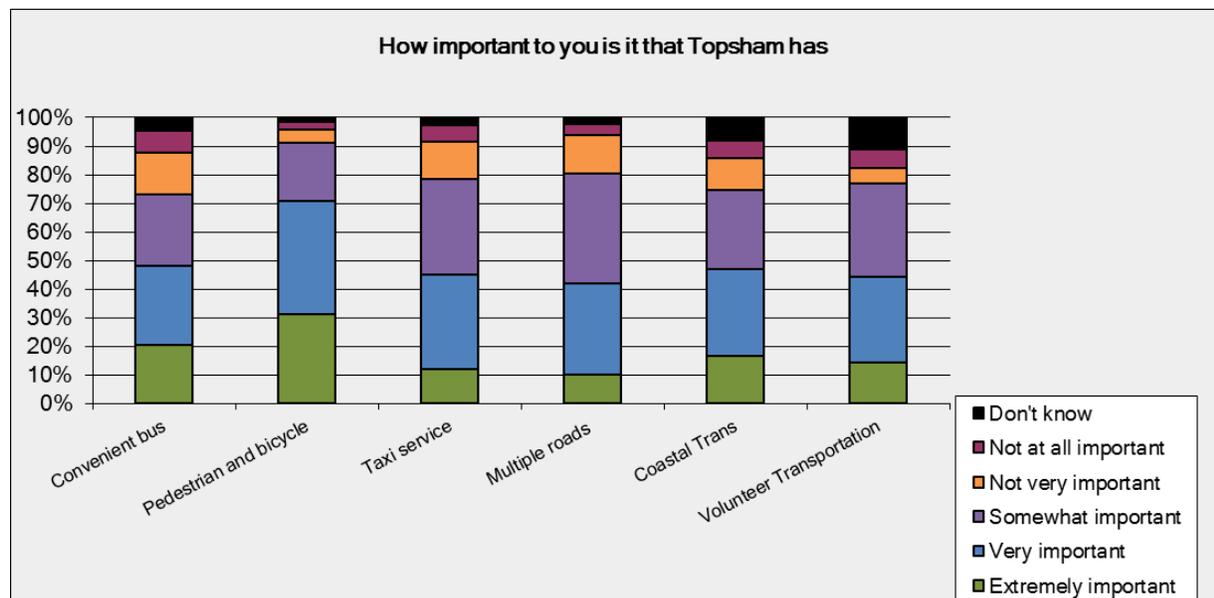


Table 16: Q10. How important to you is it that Topsham has

Answer Options	All Respondents		Age 65 and Older		Income < \$50,000	
	Extremely or Very Important	%	Extremely or Very Important	%	Extremely or Very Important	%
Convenient bus service	132	48%	80	48%	38	49%
Safe pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure	192	71%	112	68%	55	71%
Taxi service	122	45%	73	44%	31	40%
Multiple roads to destinations	113	42%	71	44%	35	46%
Coastal Trans transportation services	125	47%	78	49%	37	48%
Volunteer Transportation Network	119	44%	73	45%	35	45%

Asked about the safety of Topsham’s pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, only one in five survey respondents rated it “Excellent” or “Very Good.”

Table 17: Q11. Overall, how would you rate the safety of Topsham's pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	3%	8	2%	4	5%	4
Very good	19%	51	20%	34	20%	16
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	21%	59	23%	38	25%	20
Good	39%	106	38%	63	38%	30
Fair	24%	65	23%	38	20%	16
Poor	4%	12	3%	5	3%	2
Don't know	12%	33	14%	23	14%	11
Comment		36		17		7
<i>answered question</i>		275		167		79
<i>skipped question</i>		27		6		4

3. Housing

While approximately half of survey respondents stated they want to live in a single family home as they age, a quarter of respondents said they want a condo or affordable senior housing. Among those who said “Other,” most specified multiple options.

Table 18: Q12. What type of home do you want to live in as you age?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Single family home	48%	136	51%	87	54%	44
Mobile home	3%	9	4%	7	4%	3
Town home or duplex	1%	4	1%	2	0%	0
Apartment	1%	4	2%	4	4%	3
Condominium	11%	30	7%	12	5%	4
Affordable senior housing	14%	39	16%	28	15%	12
Don't know	7%	20	4%	7	6%	5
Other (please specify)	14%	40	15%	25	13%	11
<i>answered question</i>		282		172		82
<i>skipped question</i>		20		1		1

More than four out of five survey respondents described the condition of their current home as “Excellent” or “Very good.” That percentage was slightly lower among households with incomes less than \$50,000 (73%).

Table 19: Q13. How would you describe the structural condition of your current home?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	42%	117	42%	71	35%	29
Very good	42%	118	42%	72	38%	31
Excellent or Very Good	84%	235	84%	143	73%	60
Good	12%	33	13%	22	17%	14
Fair	5%	13	4%	6	10%	8
Poor	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Don't know	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Comment		19		11		11
<i>answered question</i>		281		171		82
<i>skipped question</i>		21		2		1

It is “Extremely important” or “Very important” to more than 85% of survey respondents to be able to live independently as they age.

Table 20: Q14. How important to you is it to be able to live independently in your current home as you get older?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Extremely important	53%	146	54%	92	64%	52
Very important	34%	95	34%	58	27%	22
<i>Extremely or Very Important</i>	87%	241	89%	150	91%	74
Somewhat important	9%	24	9%	15	5%	4
Not very important	3%	8	1%	2	3%	2
Not at all important	1%	2	1%	1	1%	1
Don't know	1%	2	1%	1	0%	0
Comment		20		9		9
<i>answered question</i>		277		169		81
<i>skipped question</i>		25		4		2

Asked about needing to make modifications to their home as they age, less than one in five (19%) survey respondents said they are “Extremely concerned” or “Very concerned.” The percentage was slightly higher among survey respondents age 65 and older (22%).

With regard to their ability to afford to stay in their home as they get older, 41% of respondents (and 44% of respondents age 65 and older and with income less than \$50,000) stated they are “Extremely concerned” or “Very concerned.” In comments, several people expressed concern about property taxes.

Table 21: Q15. How concerned are you about needing to make modifications to be able to stay in your current home as you get older (for example, installing a ramp or wider doors, grab bars or handrails in the bathroom)

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Extremely concerned	7%	20	8%	13	10%	8
Very concerned	11%	31	15%	24	9%	7
<i>Extremely or Very concerned</i>	19%	51	22%	37	19%	15
Somewhat concerned	36%	97	38%	62	41%	33
Not very concerned	29%	79	26%	43	27%	22
Not at all concerned	14%	37	12%	19	12%	10
Don't know	3%	7	2%	4	1%	1
Comment		42		21		7
<i>answered question</i>		271		165		81
<i>skipped question</i>		31		8		2

Table 22: Q16. How concerned are you about your ability to afford to stay in your current home as you get older?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Extremely concerned	18%	48	17%	29	28%	23
Very concerned	24%	65	27%	46	16%	13
<i>Extremely or Very concerned</i>	41%	113	44%	75	44%	36
Somewhat concerned	30%	81	28%	47	31%	25
Not very concerned	19%	52	18%	31	16%	13
Not at all concerned	9%	24	8%	13	7%	6
Don't know	2%	5	2%	3	1%	1
Comment		30		19		12
<i>answered question</i>		275		169		81
<i>skipped question</i>		27		4		2

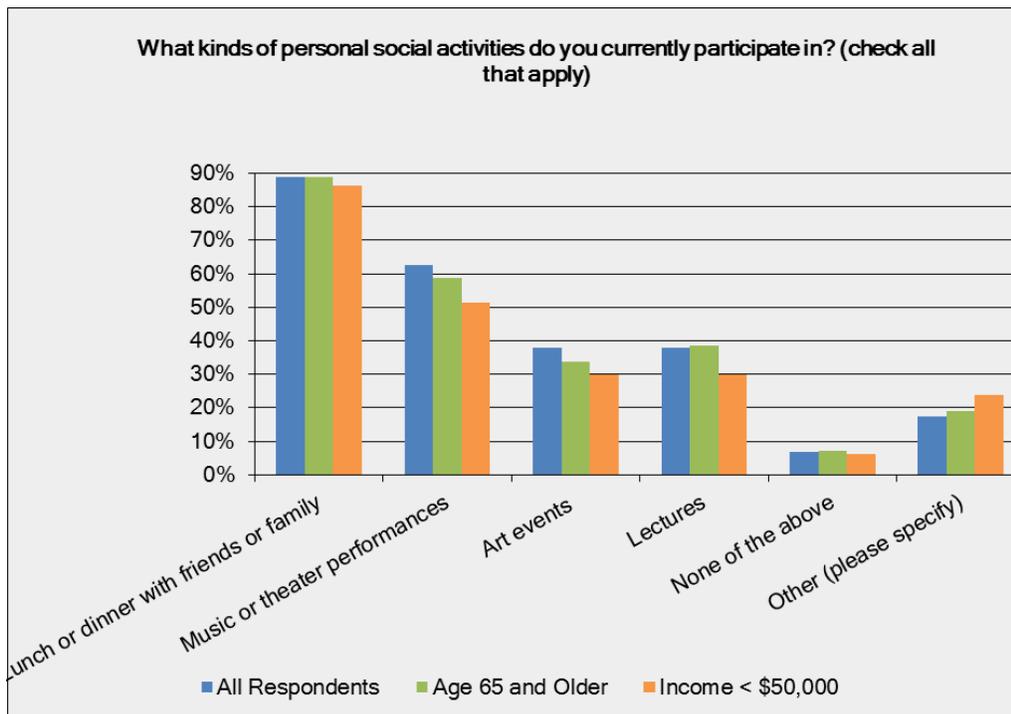
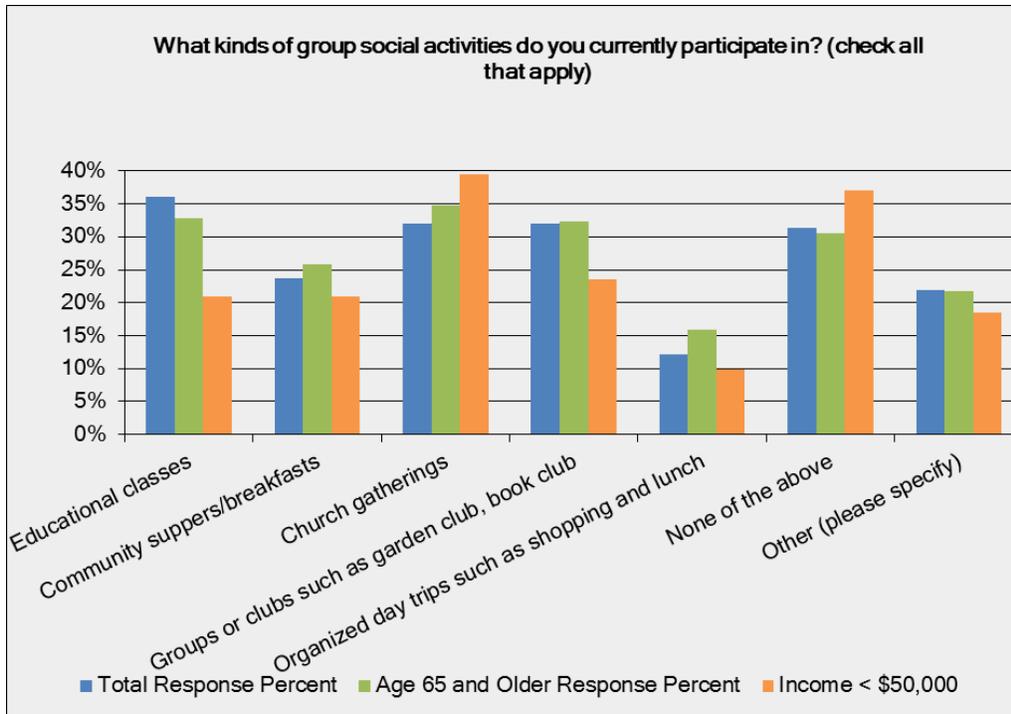
With regard to feeling safe, 94% of respondents stated they feel “Extremely safe” or “Very safe” in their home, 89% stated they feel “Extremely safe” or “Very safe” in their neighborhood, and 84% stated they feel “Extremely safe” or “Very safe” in Topsham.

Table 23: Q17. How safe do you feel?

	In your current home	In your neighborhood	In Topsham
Extremely safe			
All respondents	44%	40%	27%
Age 65 and older	40%	38%	23%
Income < \$50,000	43%	35%	25%
Very safe			
All respondents	50%	49%	57%
Age 65 and older	52%	51%	58%
Income < \$50,000	54%	56%	63%
Somewhat safe			
All respondents	5%	11%	12%
Age 65 and older	7%	11%	13%
Income < \$50,000	4%	9%	10%
Not very safe			
All respondents	0%	0%	1%
Age 65 and older	1%	1%	1%
Income < \$50,000	0%	0%	1%
Not at all safe			
All respondents	0%	0%	0%
Age 65 and older	0%	0%	0%
Income < \$50,000	0%	0%	0%
Don't know			
All respondents	0%	0%	3%
Age 65 and older	0%	0%	4%
Income < \$50,000	0%	0%	0%

4. Social Participation and Inclusion

Almost one-third of survey respondents said they do not participate in any group social activities. Among personal social activities, almost 90% identified “lunch or dinner with friends or family.”



Sixty percent of survey respondents said they interact with family, friends or neighbors at least once per day.

Table 24: Q20. How often do you interact with your friends, family, or neighbors in your community in person or by phone, email or social media such as Facebook?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
More than once per day	45%	123	41%	68	33%	26
Once per day	15%	41	16%	27	23%	18
Several times per week	27%	74	29%	48	28%	22
Once a week	8%	21	8%	13	11%	9
Once every 2-3 weeks	2%	6	3%	5	3%	2
Once per month	2%	4	1%	2	3%	2
Less than monthly	0%	1	1%	1	0%	0
Never	1%	2	1%	2	0%	0
Don't know	0%	1	0%	0	0%	0
Comment		6		3		3
<i>answered question</i>		273		166		79
<i>skipped question</i>		29		7		4

Four out of five survey respondents said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” to remain socially active as they get older.

Table 25: Q21. How important to you is it to remain socially active as you get older?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Extremely important	44%	121	41%	68	40%	31
Very important	38%	105	40%	66	37%	29
<i>Extremely or Very Important</i>	83%	226	81%	134	77%	60
Somewhat important	14%	37	15%	24	17%	13
Not very important	3%	9	4%	6	4%	3
Not at all important	0%	1	0%	0	1%	1
Don't know	0%	1	1%	1	1%	1

Comment		9		4		5
<i>answered question</i>		274		165		78
<i>skipped question</i>		28		8		5

Asked about the availability of social activities in Topsham, one in five survey respondents rated it “Excellent” or “Very good.” In their comments, respondents noted that the library does an especially good job, and said that they also go to Brunswick for activities and events.

Table 26: Q22. Overall, how would you rate the availability of social activities in Topsham?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	6%	16	7%	11	5%	4
Very good	19%	54	17%	29	14%	11
<i>Excellent or Very Good</i>	25%	70	24%	40	19%	15
Good	34%	95	38%	64	30%	24
Fair	18%	49	14%	24	19%	15
Poor	4%	11	4%	6	6%	5
Don't know	19%	53	21%	35	26%	21
Comment		38		17		12
<i>answered question</i>		278		169		80
<i>skipped question</i>		24		4		3

5. Civic Participation and Employment

Among all survey respondents, 57% said that they are retired, 25% employed full-time, and 10% employed part-time or seasonally. Among those 65 and older, a higher percentage of respondents (82%) said they are retired. Among households with income less than \$50,000, a lower percentage (59%) said they are retired.

Table 27: Q23. Which of the following best describes your current employment situation?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Employed full-time	25%	68	5%	8	19%	15
Employed part-time	9%	25	5%	8	11%	9
Employed seasonally	1%	2	1%	2	3%	2
Retired	57%	158	82%	138	59%	48
Unemployed not looking for work	2%	5	1%	2	1%	1
Unemployed looking for work	1%	3	1%	2	3%	2
Don't know	0%	1	0%	0	0%	0
Other (please specify)	5%	15	5%	9	5%	4
<i>answered question</i>		277		169		81
<i>skipped question</i>		25		4		2

Half of survey respondents said they currently volunteer.

Table 28: Q24. Do you currently volunteer?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Yes	50%	140	50%	85	48%	39
No	41%	113	43%	74	45%	37
No but I would like to	9%	25	7%	12	7%	6
Don't know	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Comment		19		11		6
<i>answered question</i>		278		171		82
<i>skipped question</i>		24		2		1

Asked how likely it is that they will continue to work longer than they expected, a quarter said it is “Extremely likely” or “Very likely.” Among survey respondents age 65 and older, that percentage was only 12% (comments noted that many are already retired).

Table 29: Q25. How likely is it that you will continue to work longer than you expected, rather than choosing to retire and no longer work for pay?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Extremely likely	12%	30	4%	6	17%	13
Very likely	14%	35	8%	12	11%	8
<i>Extremely or Very Likely</i>	25%	65	12%	18	28%	21
Somewhat likely	8%	21	3%	4	5%	4
Not very likely	10%	26	8%	12	8%	6
Not at all likely	25%	63	35%	54	22%	17
Don't know	3%	7	3%	4	5%	4
Comment		75		63		24
<i>answered question</i>		257		155		76
<i>skipped question</i>		45		18		7

Half of survey respondents (51%) said that it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has a range of employment opportunities, and more than half (58%) said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that Topsham has a range of volunteer opportunities.

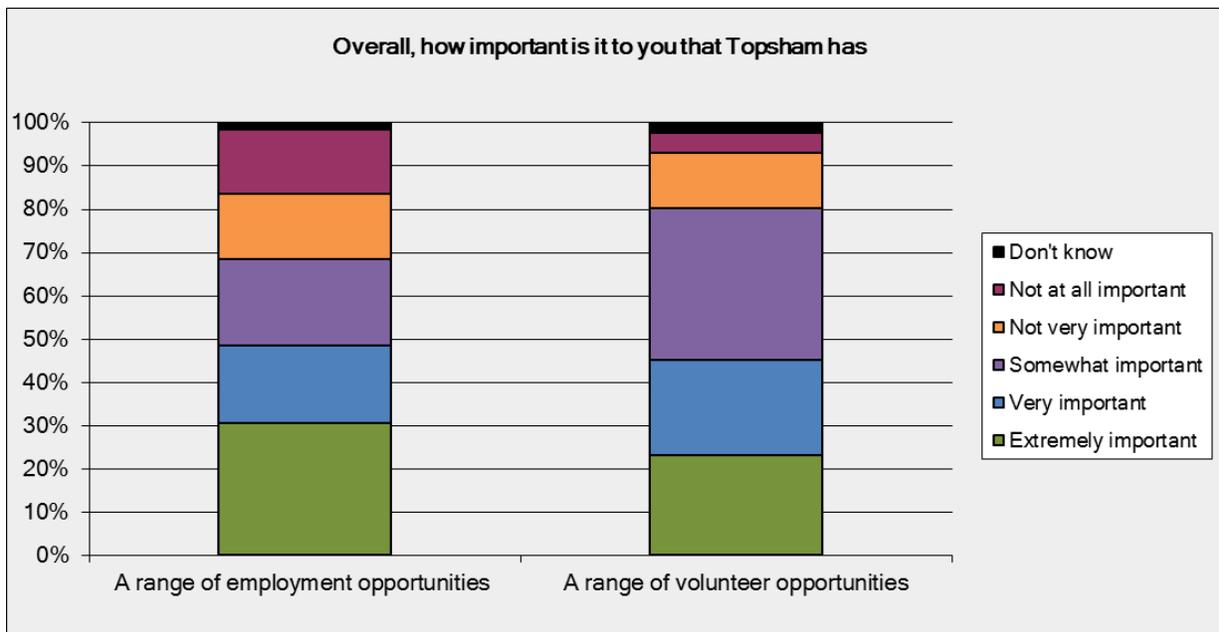


Table 30: Q26. Overall, how important is it to you that Topsham has

Answer Options	All Respondents		Age 65 and Older		Income <\$50,000	
	Extremely or Very Important	%	Extremely or Very Important	%	Extremely or Very Important	%
A range of employment opportunities	134	51%	72	45%	38	49%
A range of volunteer opportunities	154	58%	90	56%	35	47%

Almost half of survey respondents (47%) said they did not know enough to rate the availability of employment opportunities in Topsham; the percentage was higher (59%) among those age 65 and older.

Table 31: Q27. Overall, how would you rate the availability of employment opportunities in Topsham?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	1%	3	1%	1	3%	2
Very good	3%	9	2%	3	5%	4
Good	26%	69	23%	38	22%	17
Fair	14%	38	8%	13	10%	8
Poor	9%	25	7%	12	14%	11
Don't know	47%	126	59%	96	46%	36
Comment		20		8		9
<i>answered question</i>		270		163		78
<i>skipped question</i>		32		10		5

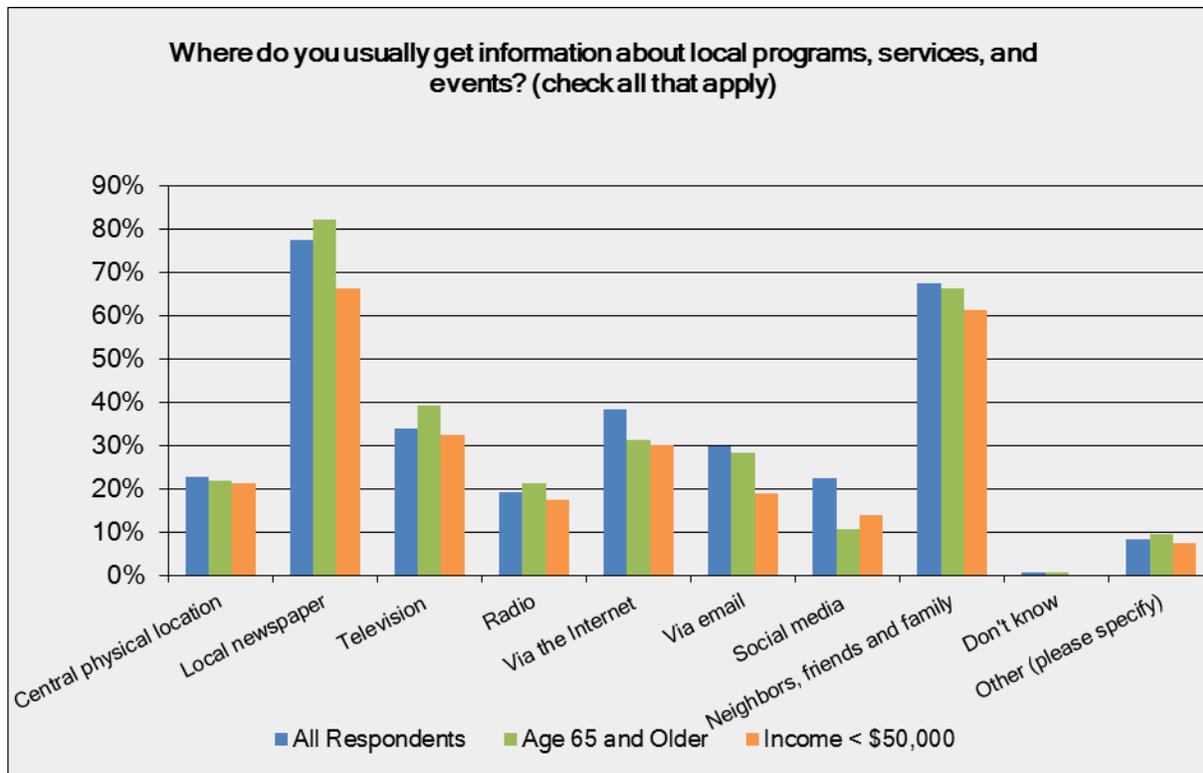
Four in ten survey respondents said they did not know enough to rate the availability of volunteer opportunities in Topsham.

Table 32: Q28. Overall, how would you rate the availability of volunteer opportunities in Topsham?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	5%	13	5%	9	4%	3
Very good	16%	45	15%	25	14%	11
Good	21%	59	22%	37	23%	18
Fair	14%	39	17%	28	19%	15
Poor	2%	6	3%	5	3%	2
Don't know	41%	114	39%	65	39%	31
Comment		14		8		3
<i>answered question</i>		276		169		80
<i>skipped question</i>		26		4		3

6. Communication

Asked where they usually get information about local programs, services, and events, the local newspaper was the most common answer, followed by word of mouth (neighbors, friends and family.)



Asked if they regularly look for information on the Internet, three out of four survey respondents (74%) said yes. That percentage was slightly lower among respondents age 65 and older (67%) and those with household income less than \$50,000.

Table 33: Q30. Do you regularly look for information on the Internet?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Yes, on my computer, smartphone or tablet	74%	198	67%	109	68%	52
No, I do not have access to the Internet because it is too expensive	5%	12	6%	9	13%	10
No, I don't know how to use the Internet	2%	6	4%	6	3%	2
No, I prefer to get my information other ways	18%	49	23%	38	17%	13
Don't know	1%	2	1%	2	0%	0
Comment		14		9		6
<i>answered question</i>		267		164		77
<i>skipped question</i>		35		9		6

A quarter of survey respondents said they rate the availability of information about programs and services in Topsham “Excellent” or “Very good.”

Table 34: Q31. Overall, how would you rate the availability of information about programs and services in Topsham?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	4%	10	3%	5	4%	3
Very good	21%	58	18%	31	18%	14
<i>Excellent or Very good</i>	25%	68	21%	36	21%	17
Good	38%	106	39%	65	35%	28
Fair	16%	43	18%	31	18%	14
Poor	7%	19	6%	10	11%	9
Don't know	15%	41	16%	27	15%	12

Comment		11		6		3
<i>answered question</i>		277		169		80
<i>skipped question</i>		25		4		3

7. Health

Two out of three survey respondents (66%) rated their health “Excellent” or “Very good.”

Table 35: Q32. Overall, how would you rate your health compared to most people your age?

Answer Options	Total Response Percent	Total Response Count	Age 65 and Over Response Percent	Age 65 and Over Response Count	Income <\$50,000 Response Percent	Income <\$50,000 Response Count
Excellent	24%	66	21%	36	17%	14
Very good	42%	116	42%	71	41%	33
<i>Excellent or Very good</i>	66%	182	64%	107	58%	47
Good	28%	76	30%	51	33%	27
Fair	5%	13	4%	7	6%	5
Poor	2%	5	2%	3	3%	2
Don't know	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0
Comment		8		3		4
<i>answered question</i>		276		168		81
<i>skipped question</i>		26		5		2

Asked if they have adequate access to Health care services, Medically necessary drugs, Exercise, Healthy food, Clean water, Heat, Electricity, and Telephone, the vast majority said yes to all except exercise.

Table 36: Q33. Do you have adequate access to the following?

Answer Options	All Respondents				Age 65 and Older				Income <\$50,000			
	Yes	%	No	%	Yes	%	No	%	Yes	%	No	%
Health care services	274	100%	1	0%	170	100%	0	0%	81	100%	0	0%
Medically necessary drugs	274	100%	0	0%	170	100%	0	0%	81	100%	0	0%
Exercise	252	93%	15	6%	153	92%	10	6%	71	92%	5	6%
Healthy food	273	99%	2	1%	167	98%	2	1%	80	99%	1	1%
Clean water	270	99%	1	0%	166	98%	1	1%	80	100%	0	0%
Heat	275	99%	1	0%	171	100%	0	0%	80	99%	1	1%
Electricity	276	100%	1	0%	171	100%	0	0%	81	100%	0	0%
Telephone	274	99%	2	1%	169	99%	1	1%	80	99%	1	1%

Asked about the importance of affordable health/fitness classes and home care services, more than half of respondents said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” to have “Affordable home care services such as health and personal care” provided in Topsham.

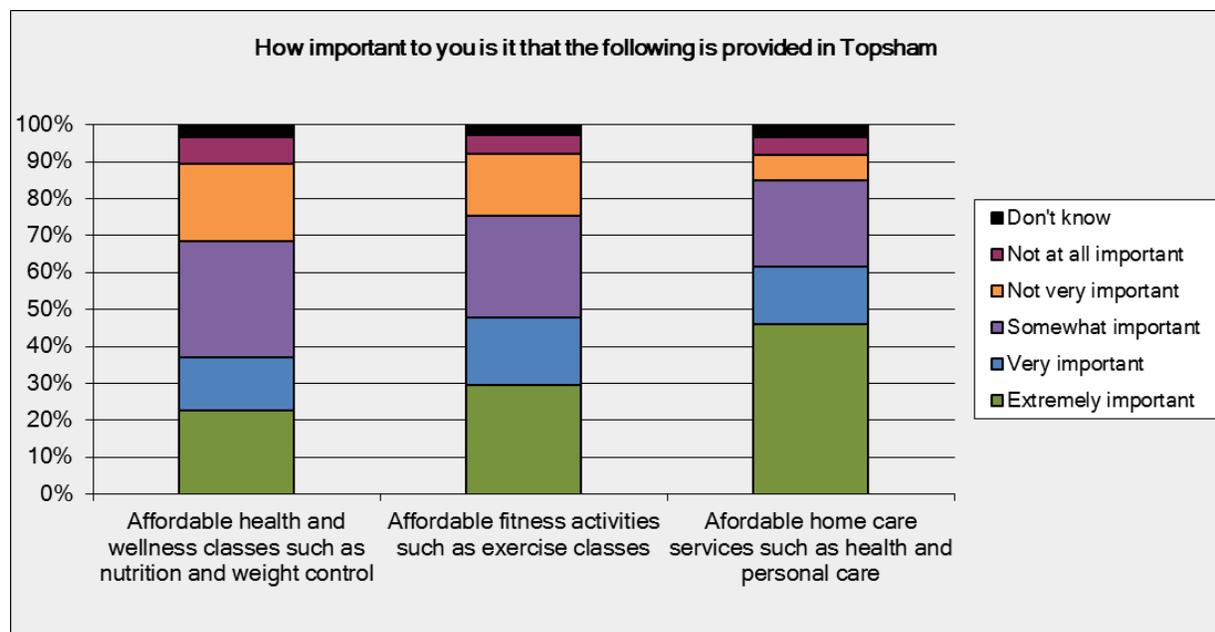


Table 37: Q34. How important to you is it that the following is provided in Topsham

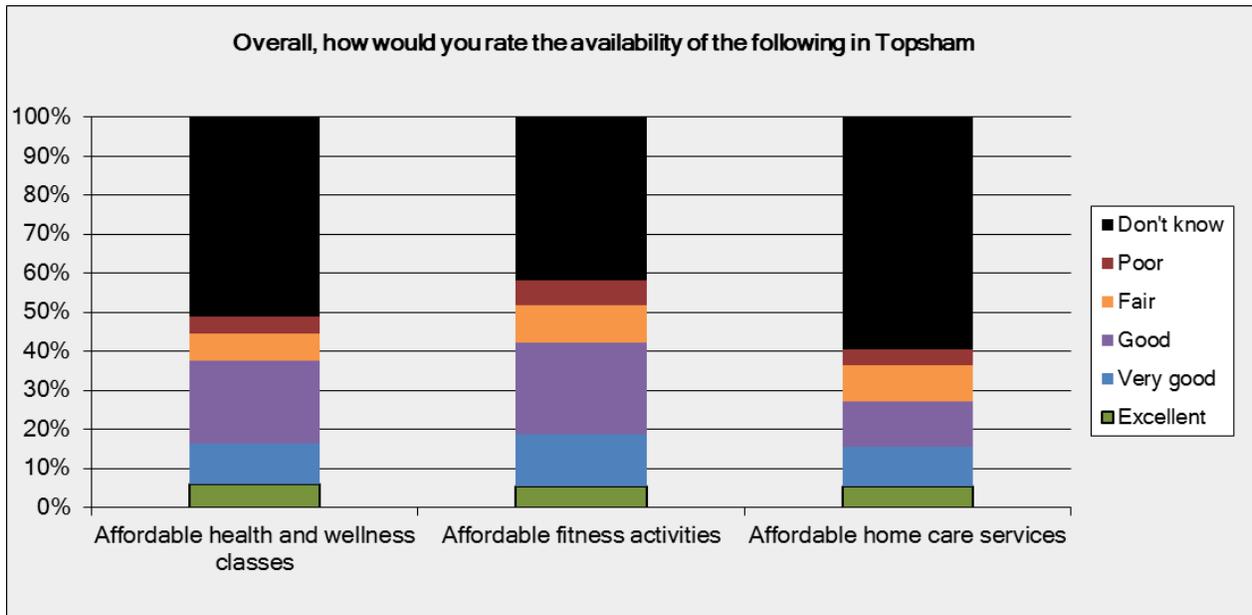
Answer Options	All Respondents		Age 65 and Older		Income <\$50,000	
	Extremely or Very Important	%	Extremely or Very Important	%	Extremely or Very Important	%
Affordable health and wellness classes such as nutrition and weight control	100	37%	61	37%	26	34%
Affordable fitness activities such as exercise classes	128	48%	73	45%	28	37%
Affordable home care services such as health and personal care	167	62%	103	62%	42	55%

Less than one in five survey respondents would rate the availability of Affordable health and wellness classes, Affordable fitness activities, and Affordable home care service “Excellent” or “Very good.”

Table 38: Q35. Overall, how would you rate the availability of the following in Topsham?

Answer Options	All Respondents		Age 65 and Older		Income <\$50,000	
	Excellent or Very Good	%	Excellent or Very Good	%	Excellent or Very Good	%
Affordable health and wellness classes	45	17%	25	15%	13	17%
Affordable fitness activities	51	19%	28	17%	14	18%
Affordable home care services	42	16%	26	16%	11	14%

Many survey respondents said that they did not know enough to rate the availability of Affordable health and wellness classes, Affordable fitness activities, and Affordable home care service.



8. Available Services

Among survey respondents, just 4% said they use Spectrum Generations programs, and 13% use People Plus programs.

Table 39: Q36. Which of the following services for seniors do you currently use?

Answer Options	I use this program	I know of this program but I don't use it	I did not know about this program	Response Count
Spectrum Generations	4%	67%	29%	258
People Plus	13%	70%	17%	261

The most used library services among survey respondents, are interlibrary loans (53%), lectures (36%), The Crooker Art Gallery (31%), and movies (31%).

Table 40: Q37. Which of the following services at the Topsham Public Library do you currently use? (check all that apply.)

Answer Options	I use this program	I know of this program but I do not use it	I did not know about this program	Response Count
Book delivery	11%	49%	39%	223
Audio books	20%	68%	12%	219
Genealogy help	5%	61%	34%	205
Museum passes	15%	41%	43%	213
The Crooker Art Gallery	31%	31%	38%	215
Large print books	18%	67%	15%	218
Technology help	16%	60%	23%	210
Interlibrary loans	53%	30%	17%	237
Volunteering	13%	66%	20%	211
Newspapers	20%	65%	16%	218
Music	19%	61%	21%	208
Library gardens	16%	58%	26%	212
Book groups	11%	71%	17%	214
Movies	31%	52%	18%	216
Lectures	36%	50%	14%	222
Tax help	11%	67%	23%	213
Social clubs	3%	59%	39%	210

III. Focus Group Results

Three separate Topsham Aging in Place focus groups were held on Wednesday May 11, Thursday May 12, and Friday May 13, 2016. Each focus group targeted a different subset: local service providers, Topsham municipal staff, and Topsham residents. Focus group participants were identified and invited to attend by the Town of Topsham planning staff. The service providers and Topsham municipal staff focus groups were held at the Topsham town office and the Topsham residents' focus group was held at the Topsham Public Library.

The purpose of the focus groups was to brainstorm solutions to the issues identified by survey respondents. The focus group agendas were organized around the same set of questions:

- a. How do we improve the condition and reach of our sidewalk system?
- b. How do we make our parks more appropriate for older residents?
- c. How do we provide more housing options for people as they age?
- d. How do we provide public transportation in Topsham?
- e. How do we provide services to help people stay in their homes?
- f. How do we connect people to social/civic/employment opportunities?
- g. How do we improve communication with the senior population?

For each question, focus group participants heard an introduction, including the survey responses that led to the inclusion of that particular topic in the focus group as well as examples of solutions to similar issues from other Maine communities. Responses from the other focus groups were not shared.

In their discussions, focus group participants emphasized the many communication assets in Topsham, including websites, multiple local newspapers, tv, and radio.

They recognized the role of the library as the community center, and discussed how that role could be enhanced.

They considered the opportunity to leverage volunteers to help provide services to keep seniors home as well as the need to manage those volunteers.

They also discussed the upcoming comprehensive plan process as an opportunity to look more closely at the town's senior housing stock as well as its pedestrian and recreation infrastructure and potential future bus service.

The following tables present the topics and background information that were provided to the focus group participants, as well as the summary notes from each focus group.

Attendees:

Providers	Jill Wallace, Elm Street Assisted Living Travis Drake, VOA Corrie Calderwood, VOA, Westrum House Stacy Frizzle, People Plus Emma Gibbon, Topsham Public Library Chris Wasileski, SeaCoast Management Co Carol Eyerman, Town of Topsham Deb Silva, Spectrum Generations
Staff	Rich Roedner, Town Manager Brian Stockdale, Fire Chief Michael Labbe, Deputy Fire Chief Dennis Cox, Public Works Linda Dumont, Town Clerk Ed Caron, Solid Waste Facility Pam LeDuc, Parks and Rec Rod Melanson, Planning Director Carol Eyerman, Assistant Planner
Public	Carla Rensenbrink Dana Cary Denise Tepler Jane Scease Sandra Allen Bill Ewing Carol Eyerman, Town of Topsham Deb Silva, Spectrum Generations Hank Schwartz Judith Redwine

a. How do we provide services to help people stay in their homes?

- 87% responded that it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” to live independently in their home as they get older
- 1 in 5 is “Extremely or Very concerned” about needing to make modifications to their home
- 41% are concerned they won’t be able to afford to stay in their home

Examples from other communities:

- Village to Village approach, group organizes with a membership model to provide services. At Home Downeast, a monthly fee for medical transportation, grocery delivery, home health and safety assessment, also vetted volunteers and paid providers who can help you with home maintenance and repair.
- Dr. Chip Teel of Damariscotta uses telemedicine over broadband connections, along with home visits and transportation help, to care for elderly patients at home
- Bath Housing Authority has started a program to help homeowners who are elderly or disabled make safety modifications to their homes
- Vocational programs and trades unions volunteering (repairing steps, installing railings)
- High school and college community service requirements (raking leaves, mowing lawns)

<p>Providers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #1, well informed • We have a lot of services but people don’t know or don’t know how to access • 211 but need more, here’s what I need, I need help with groceries • Bowdoinham example • Website/central place for info • Put in in the doctor’s office • Need affordable home modifications – Bath Housing model • 3 calls yesterday to PeoplePlus for bathroom modifications • Able to afford to stay in their home – Spectrum Generations benefits checklist, save \$40/month • Veterans can get help with home modifications from VA • Caregiver respite money • CEI reverse mortgages, a lunch and learn at PeoplePlus on May 23 • Can we replicate the Bath Housing Authority model? A grant • Mt Ararat does not have community service requirement anymore, loss for community • VOC?
<p>Staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would Bath Housing Authority provide services in Topsham? • Would Brunswick/Topsham Housing Authority do a program like Bath’s? • Lots of civic organizations • Need someone to coordinate – Spectrum Generations?

Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careful about heavy reliance on volunteers • People are busy, build a culture of helping but not base on volunteers • Revisit funding for social services • \$\$ - a lot of people with limited incomes and property taxes are a burden • Difficult issue at state level • A reserve fund to create abatements for low-income seniors, open to private donations • Need to get state to increase school funding • Co-housing and shared housing model = shared property taxes
---------------	--

b. How do we connect people to social/civic/employment opportunities?

- 83% said its "Extremely or Very important" to remain socially active as they age, but only a quarter said the availability of social activities is "Excellent or Very good"
- 51% said it is "Extremely or Very important" that Topsham has range of employment opportunities, but only 4% said the current availability of employment is "Excellent or Very good"
- 58% said it is "Extremely or Very important" that Topsham has range of volunteer opportunities, but only 21% said the current availability of employment is "Excellent or Very good"

Examples from other communities:

- Saco established a local circuit breaker program for seniors to reduce the tax burden, and created a volunteer coordinator to manage the volunteers, staffed train station
- SCORE matches retired volunteers with businesses for mentoring so that people's skills and experienced are valued
- Church in North Windham that runs a volunteer match program

Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library has a lot of volunteers and interest • But coordination! Someone to organize • A time bank? PeoplePlus has been talking about it • Could rotary manage a volunteer pool? • Communication to seniors about opportunities • A job fair • A coordinator to reach out to new and existing businesses • Library has employment and entrepreneurship center, posts jobs, next to computer and can help people use • RSVP in Waterville at MaineGeneral
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No core downtown with providers • Used to have Merrymeeters, Topsham gave them money, now defunct • People from Topsham go to the Bath Senior Center • Do we need something in town or is it better to connect people/ transportation

	<p>to providers out of town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tried to do games at the library but no one came • Could Highland Green provide a senior center for the community? • Town as facilitator to get Merrymeeters started again, not to run but provide space
Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional approach – employment not just in Topsham • Communication is a huge problem • No place for people to get together • Have the library • People Plus close by in Brunswick but doesn't enhance the community of Topsham • Library has a lot of volunteers • All of these require volunteers, need volunteer support to make it happen, in town hall or at library • How to integrate Highlands into the community? • Coordination between Topsham and Brunswick instead of duplicating • One recommendation is that town government become engaged more actively in supporting "quality of life" concerns in the community, beginning with our elected officials! We touched on this a bit while I was there. You might look at Bowdoinham's website for a local example both of communication and community activities. It looks as if some businesses contribute to support the site. Government and private or informal groups can work together to promote events or activities. Some towns have a "community life" committee. Topsham does a very well with providing necessary services for a reasonable cost, but maybe we should expand a bit beyond history, environment, trails and trees.

c. How do we improve communication with the senior population?

- *Almost half of survey respondents did not know enough to rate the availability of employment opportunities in Topsham, and four in ten said the same about volunteer opportunities*
- *Asked where they usually get information about programs, services and events, 77% said the local newspaper, 82% among those 65 and older. Followed by word of mouth at 68%*
- *Three in four also said they regularly look on the Internet for information, slightly lower among and 65 and older (two out of three). Consistent with US Census, which says that 65% of Maine residents over age 65 have a computer and broadband (compared to 84% of those age 18-64)*

Examples from other communities:

- *AARP says use lots of different approaches, including paper*
- *Town of Bowdoinham quarterly newspaper, some communities mail newsletters though that can be expensive*

- *What about an electronic bulletin board? For example, on the town website, click here to post or view*
- *The Cryer*
- *The library website*

Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library website can list services, has a community bulletin board, how to use? • Also PeoplePlus website and list of services • The Cryer
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library as a partner, as a calendar on its website • Community Triad • Access Health • A community newsletter • Public access tv and a calendar that runs every hour
Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of resources – the Cryer (pay for content), the Times Record (journalistic), Forecaster, Coastal Journal (have to pick up), local tv, local radio, not one place • Should the town be paying to distribute info on a regular basis? Direct mail? In the Cryer? • Town has not seen itself as a source of information consistently, should they? • We don't have a welcome packet for new residents • No place for comments, to put out info, and see it • Town has a facebook page and twitter, cost effective but not all seniors are online • Times Record used to have events • Library has a website, sends out emails • A printed list and on their website of goings on around town • If we want them to do extra things, we have to give them more money

d. How do we provide more housing options for people as they age?

- *While 49% of survey respondents said they want to live in a single family home as they age, more than 25% said they want to live in an apartment, condominium, or other affordable senior housing.*
- *Out of an estimated 4,100 housing units in Topsham, 70% are single family homes. Only 21% are rental. Do we have enough choices?*

Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax credits for affordable to moderate income housing are very competitive • A lot of funds to the Portland area • What is the demand? If demand is 350 units, 36 recently developed, 30 to 50 vouchers but need to be updated, what's the gap?
------------------	---

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can you do affordable (lowercase a) /moderate? Low-cost acquisition, non-profit developer, empty lots • Creative approaches • Work with town to identify potential properties • Strategic opportunities and property donations/estate donations • Incentives to developers and landowners • Lobby at state and federal levels for more dollars to support affordable senior housing • Communities need to not be afraid of density – need density to be competitive for federal and state funds • Affordable (capital A) for people on fixed incomes • 1-2 year wait for Westrum in Topsham • At the library, hear that people of all ages have trouble finding affordable rentals • House-sharing program? Informal networking group • Bath Housing Authority won't take Topsham residents • Communication that Topsham allows in law apartments
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 fire department volunteers can't find affordable rentals in Topsham, had to move to Brunswick • Not a lot of affordable rentals • Ordinance has density bonus, allows in law apartments
Public	n/a

e. How do we provide public transportation in Topsham?

- *In comments, many respondents identified the lack of public transportation as a challenge for aging in place in Topsham.*
- *Just under half of survey respondents said it is “Extremely or Very important” that Topsham has a bus service. Similar percentages said it is “Extremely or Very important” that Topsham has Coastal Trans, a taxi service, and the Volunteer Transportation Network.*
- *Recently, Coastal Trans changed ownership, what does that mean for Topsham?*

Examples from other communities:

- *Public transportation in Maine is challenging. A 2015 article in Maine Policy Review proposed the development of private transportation alternatives, recognizing that the traditional, publicly funded public transit system “does not work well in a rural state such as Maine, where distances are long, trip costs are necessarily higher, and the resources to pay for those costs are lower.”*
- *What about Uber? Might be more cost effective to have several people share an Uber ride than a bus*
- *Many Maine communities have a combination of volunteer ride program and enhancing Coastal Trans*

- *Topsham has several transportation assets, including the Highlands, which operates a bus for its residents, and the Brunswick Explorer, could either of those be part of the solution? Also the METRO will be coming to Freeport next fall, could Topsham link into that?*

Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PeoplePlus VTN but getting the word out! • 200 riders, 25 drivers, could accommodate more riders, could also use more drivers • Town is working on bus service • People want dependable, can get to the library at this time every day, be independent • Need both • Taxi from Westrum to Hannaford and back is \$10 • That the bus would benefit the whole community, not just seniors
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spend money to bring the Explorer bus service to Topsham using Riverview to start • Need a taxi ordinance • Need a business association, there is no group to pull together
Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need a bus in Topsham • A loop of the Brunswick Explorer • To connect communities • With stops where older residents live, including Westrum House, Heights, Elm Street, Barons Hill, also Topsham and Hannaford, library, and back to Brunswick, to the hospital • Approach the new bus operators • People need to tell the select board they want it • Would Highlands share their bus? River Landing is supposed to use school buses? • Need to publicize VTN and Coastal Trans (Waldo CAP) • A transportation committee – what needs to happen? • United Way • Can we learn from what other communities do?

f. How do we improve the condition and reach of our sidewalk system?

- *80% of respondents said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that sidewalks and trails are in good condition but only 27% said the current condition of sidewalks and trails is “Excellent” or “Very good”*
- *68% of respondents said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that sidewalks and trails go where I want to go, but only 28% said the connectivity of sidewalks and trails is currently “Excellent” or “Very good”*

Examples from other communities:

- *Some communities have sidewalk plans based on specific policy objectives, and set aside money in the budget every year to maintain and expand. For example Kennebunk wanted to link residential neighborhoods and certain activity centers and require new development to provide for sidewalks. Gorham requires new development to provide sidewalks both within the development and link to existing sidewalk system*

Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ordinance requires developers to build sidewalks, planning board can waive • Not just sidewalks but crossings, sidewalks are usually only on one side of street (Elm Street) • Specific problem areas
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town maintains existing sidewalks when paves roads • 2006 bond, specific locations and schools, identified by staff based on community input • Known problem areas, like 196 • Plan for bridge across connector • Condition of what we have is mostly good • We plow but we don't have the resources to keep them clear • Require property owners to shovel? How to enforce • Communicate to people about what we do to clear and how we prioritize • Topsham Mall transportation plan with bike/ped – expand? • Feasibility study for bike path • Looking at now where we can accommodate bike lanes without building out • Need a document that summarizes what we are doing all in one place • A bike ped plan • Budget line for sidewalks? Need a plan first • Lower village trail, River landing • Inventory as part of comprehensive plan • Have the bicycle coalition do an assessment • Need residents to cooperate on their property lines, also funds for survey work
Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be realistic, not cost effective on every street • Sometimes they end without a destination • Don't need them everywhere, if there are wide streets, slow traffic • Should be a relationship between sidewalks and traffic • Learn from Green Street shared space experiment • A way to better identify neighborhoods – a bike ped committee and a system to decide • If roads don't have sidewalks, keep shoulders in good condition so people don't trip and fall • Adopt "complete streets" policy (all users) • Sloped curb cuts that tip down for wheelchair, cane users

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer and more frequent pedestrian crosswalks
--	---

g. How do we make our parks more appropriate for older residents?

- 61% of respondents said it is “Extremely important” or “Very important” that parks are appropriate for older residents but only 16% said the appropriateness of parks for older residents is currently “Excellent” or “Very good”
- Respondents commented that the Foreside seems to be for children, and noted that the path with benches at the Swinging bridge is good. A couple of people asked about an indoor facility.

Examples from other communities:

- This could include close handicapped parking, hard surfaces for walking, a path to the stands so people don’t have to walk across the grass, bleachers with stairs

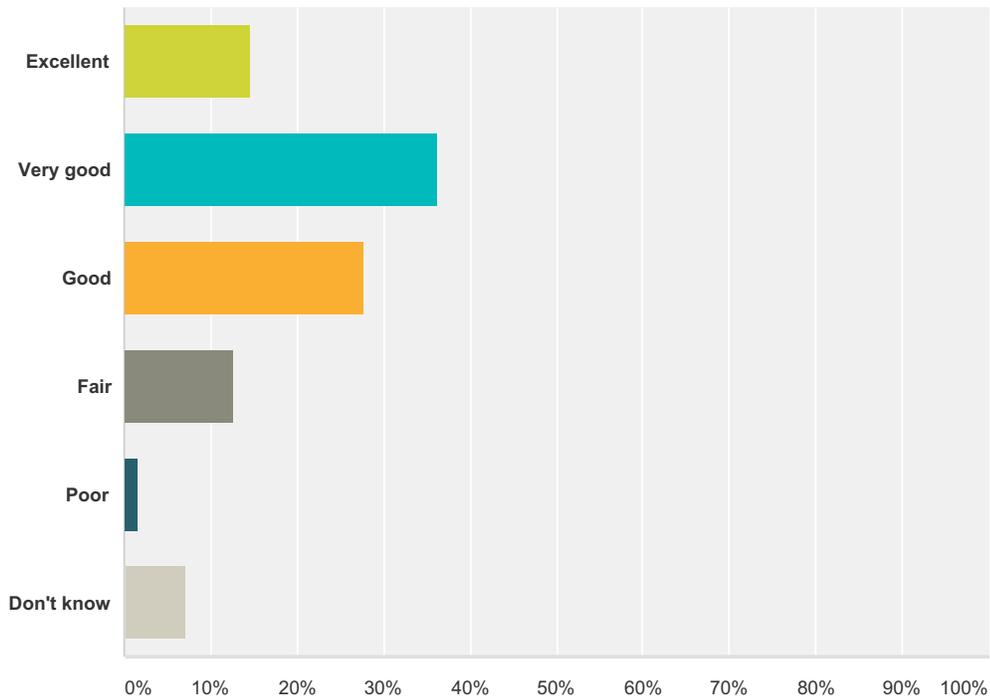
Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No park near Westrum House • A park for seniors is very different from a park for kids or nature preserve • Tree shaded, benches, walking paths • At the middle school? • A senior center with a pool • Tried to swim at Bowdoin, 28 seniors in one lane • Can walk at Orthopedic Center • Transportation to the Bath YMCA? • Communication • In summer, can get to Bath using trolley from Midcoast Hospital
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Tide will be appropriate for seniors • Are the responses about school facilities? • Straw poll for high school – accessibility, walking paths • Put benches on Monument Place at Mallet and Patricia • Add benches to bike path • Tables for games at Head of Tide • At swinging bridge, but ownership/ management • Benches at the mall along the sidewalk, at Village Drive • A pocket park at Village Drive • Where are pocket parks appropriate and not? • Staff to maintain, costs money, trash cans have to be emptied • Topsham Community Fund? Going forward • Don’t build it unless you can commit the funds to maintain – do the math
Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should have more parks where people would use them • Seating at scenic areas • Publicized – people don’t know

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listing with a description on town website• A park at town hall? There is a walking path• Gazebos• A park around the library for seniors• Signage
--	---

Appendix A: Survey Results

Q1 Aging in place is the ability to live in one's own home and community safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age, income or ability level. Generally, how would you rate Topsham as a place for older residents to age in place?

Answered: 300 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Excellent	14.67%	44
Very good	36.33%	109
Good	27.67%	83
Fair	12.67%	38
Poor	1.67%	5
Don't know	7.00%	21
Total		300

#	Comment	Date
1	Excellent, if you can afford to live in the Highlands	4/15/2016 10:25 AM
2	I'd rate it as excellent except for lack of public transportation & sidewalks in many places.	4/14/2016 5:15 PM
3	lack of public transportation & of town sponsored programs	4/14/2016 3:46 PM
4	WE live in a neighborhood close to town (Brunswick); can wal to shops; have neighbors to help	4/12/2016 2:12 PM
5	Lack of easily accessible public transportation is a drawback.	4/12/2016 10:50 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

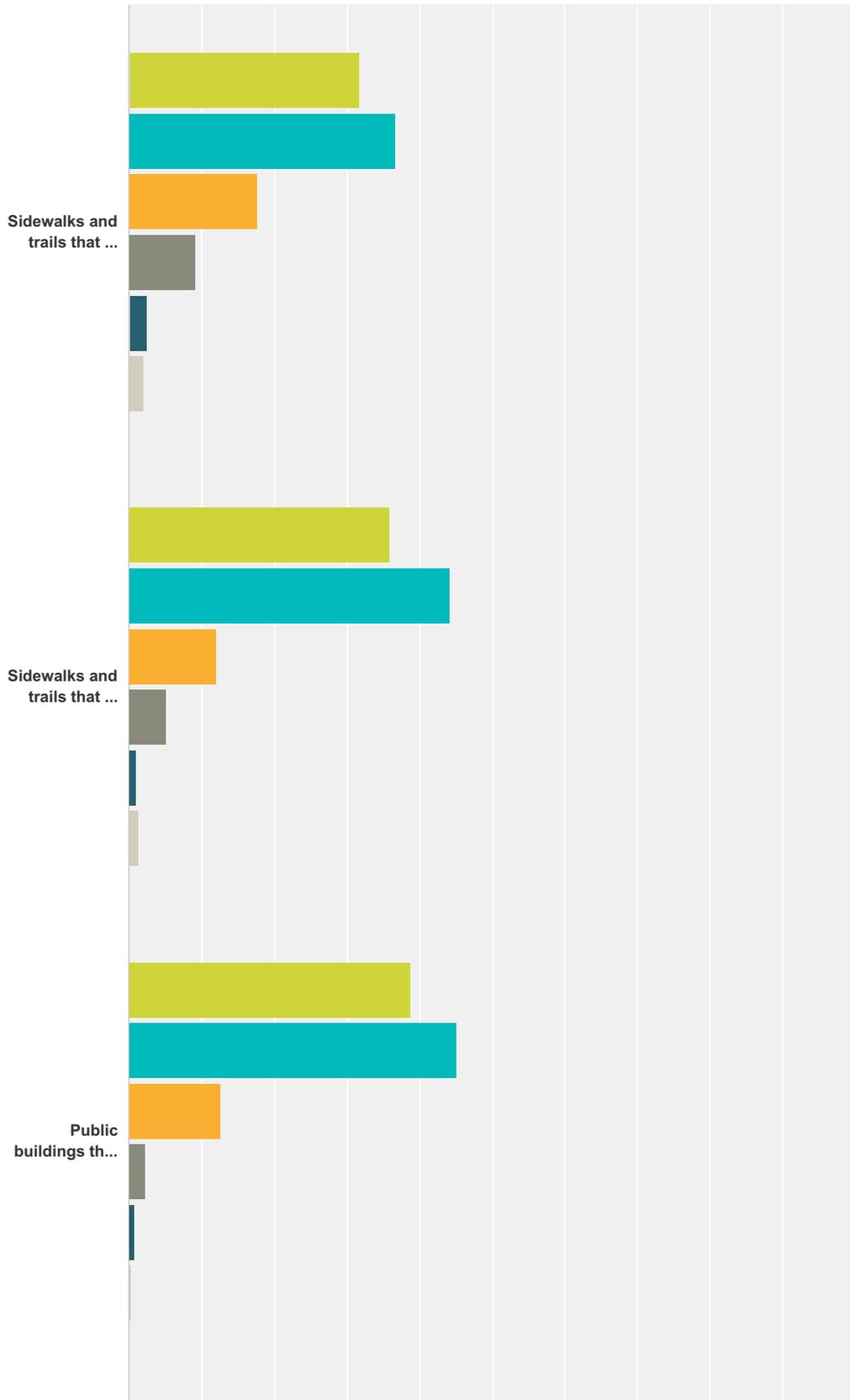
6	No 55+ affordable housing communities	4/12/2016 10:42 AM
7	Taxes to high	4/12/2016 9:22 AM
8	No public transportation. Keeps seniors w/out cars homebound. Need a bus service from Topsham Malls to Brunswick Malls etc... Taxi service expensive. Further note:if can't provide bus service then compensate by giving seniors tokens for taxi service. Volunteers providing services not always reliable. Please find the funding for bus service to markets, parks, trails, etc...	4/11/2016 3:42 PM
9	Need transportation to go shopping (bus)	4/11/2016 3:32 PM
10	Lack of transportation. no public park	4/11/2016 3:09 PM
11	Fast vehicles on Union Park Dr. Dangerous to cross Rt196 from VIP area. need sidewalk on No. side and crosswalk at light	4/11/2016 2:47 PM
12	But I have only lived here for six months	4/11/2016 12:04 PM
13	great proximity to treatment	4/11/2016 11:23 AM
14	Not for long because of high power& tax's bills	4/11/2016 11:06 AM
15	Excellent if you can afford the Highlands.	4/11/2016 10:50 AM
16	Don't know much about it	4/11/2016 10:31 AM
17	My rating may be unusually high due to my living at the Highlands, 30 Governors Way, which is designed to accommodate seniors.	4/9/2016 11:13 AM
18	Downside: many of the town roads are not good, there is a lot of traffic, there is no public transportation, and the are few services located in the town. Upside: safe, friendly community, good access to shopping	4/8/2016 4:23 PM
19	Taxes very high.	4/7/2016 4:48 PM
20	Lack of public transportation	4/7/2016 4:40 PM
21	Thoughts- 5 point scale might have brought more definitiue results. "Comments" section is very helpful. Compiling results could be a challenge	4/7/2016 2:17 PM
22	Need public transportation!	4/7/2016 1:16 PM
23	Proximity to college, arts, music, shopping, ocean	4/6/2016 4:07 PM
24	Not a lot of housing that is affordable.	4/6/2016 3:30 PM
25	No public transportation	4/6/2016 9:26 AM
26	Should freeze property taxes when owner reaches 65+ years old	4/6/2016 9:05 AM
27	Need public transport	4/5/2016 3:11 PM
28	New to the area	4/5/2016 11:18 AM
29	You must be able to drive to live in Topsham, unless you can afford to live at the Highlands.	4/4/2016 3:42 PM
30	"age in place" - We object to this phrase. It biases all answers.	4/4/2016 3:30 PM
31	Public works excellent snow plowing, etc.	4/4/2016 3:17 PM
32	I only know about my place, not Topsham	4/4/2016 3:17 PM
33	More businesses coming to Topsham but property taxes keep rising, too much spent on schools.	4/4/2016 2:54 PM
34	the Highlands	4/4/2016 2:24 PM
35	Bus service would be nice.	4/4/2016 12:21 PM
36	Transportation issues, isolation, lack of services & connections. We still have a way to go. :)	4/4/2016 12:05 PM
37	I would be excellent if Parkview Hospital was still open.	4/4/2016 11:52 AM
38	No public transportation so would need to ? more to Highlands apartments where they have a bus to take you to Hannaford, Walmart, etc. As long as I can drive, I'm doing fine in Topsham.	4/4/2016 11:30 AM
39	Low stock of accessible housing in neighborhoods that have strong identities of diverse occupants. No public transportation.	4/1/2016 10:18 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

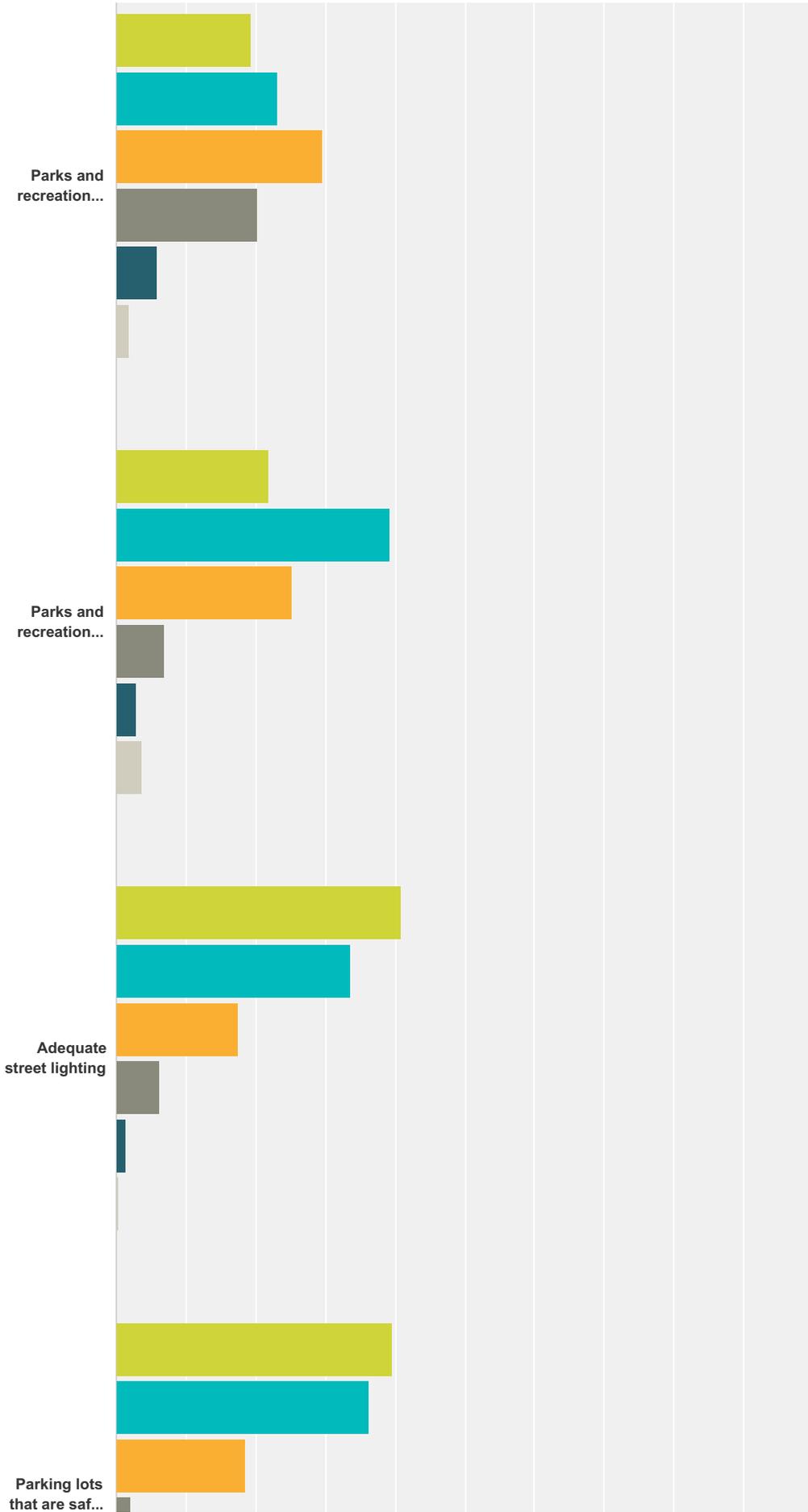
40	My husband (now deceased) choose Topsham 22 yrs ago when we planned to return to N.E. for our already retirement years - an excellent choice.	4/1/2016 9:16 AM
41	We are still pretty active and healthy	3/31/2016 2:11 PM
42	If one cannot drive - stores and public transportation are not readily available	3/31/2016 12:08 PM
43	I am 99 years old and don't leave the house much so don't know the answer to all the questions	3/31/2016 11:39 AM
44	Except no bus service to get to pharmacy, grocery, stores, etc...Have to take taxis if not a car owner. NOTE** Should have provided postage paid envelope for return of this survey	3/31/2016 10:39 AM
45	If the cost of land tax stays low	3/31/2016 10:07 AM
46	Living in the Highlands-very good	3/31/2016 9:03 AM
47	Property taxes are too high.	3/30/2016 2:07 PM
48	I live in an apartment building for independent seniors. I am not aware of the % of older residents aging in place in Topsham.	3/30/2016 11:04 AM
49	Economic status has a big influence in any case	3/30/2016 9:22 AM
50	shopping available handicap accessible	3/29/2016 4:11 PM
51	I've only lived in Maine for a couple of years-in the Highlands	3/29/2016 3:05 PM
52	53 so I don't know yet	3/29/2016 1:37 PM
53	You need a car to get everywhere. Even at the mall; no connecting sidewalks to everywhere	3/29/2016 10:54 AM
54	We came from Raymond to the Highlands to age in place. To not worry about maintenance & travel without concerns, while we are able.	3/29/2016 9:34 AM
55	Topsham is taxing us to death trying to force us out.	3/29/2016 9:26 AM
56	Great support services - health, private duty nursing	3/29/2016 9:17 AM
57	Driving is essential in Topsham	3/29/2016 9:07 AM
58	All services are close.	3/28/2016 3:04 PM
59	Having homes close together with available sidewalks make getting around easier for older folks. Topsham is very spread out.	3/23/2016 2:32 PM
60	Not enough walkability.	3/23/2016 12:10 PM
61	We should have lower property taxes for seniors trying to Live in their own homes	3/23/2016 9:36 AM
62	I live as I have in the past 25 years. I've never availed myself of whatever services there are.	3/22/2016 5:32 PM
63	Would like to see more public transportation and sidewalks at major intersections, like 196 and 201, so seniors can walk to their destinations.	3/22/2016 1:45 PM
64	Not enough affordable housing stock in town near services.	3/22/2016 8:52 AM
65	Excellent health services, cultural activities. Taxes too high. Highland Green HOA too high. Great place but expensive!	3/21/2016 11:06 AM
66	No public transportation.	3/20/2016 10:52 PM
67	I live at the Highlands which is obviously driven by the goals of safety, independence and comfort for its residents. This makes it difficult to evaluate the surrounding community as a separate entity, but I will do my best.	3/20/2016 8:08 AM
68	No public transpotation	3/19/2016 5:21 PM
69	Walking to town a challenge if one lives on the north side of Rte 196	3/19/2016 3:25 PM
70	Highland Green a great place to live!	3/19/2016 11:51 AM
71	There are no deductions or concessions for senior citizens regarding real estate tax....	3/18/2016 5:42 PM

Q2 How important to you is it that Topsham has

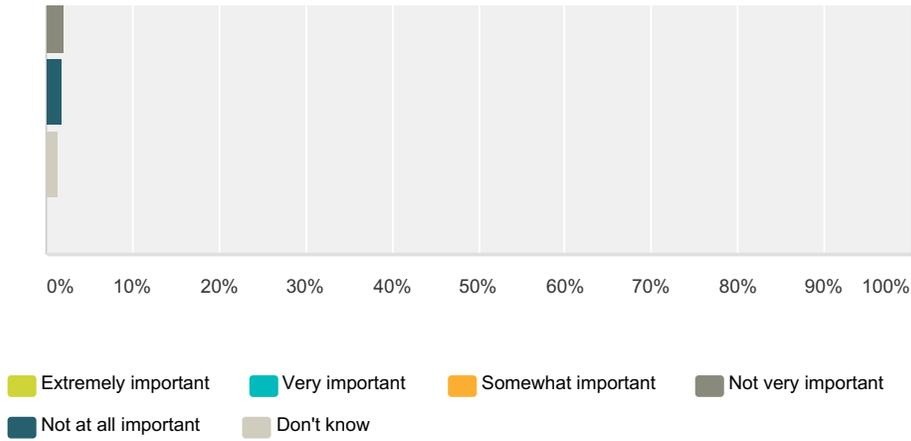
Answered: 277 Skipped: 25



Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey



Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey



	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know	Total
Sidewalks and trails that go where you want to go	31.64% 87	36.73% 101	17.82% 49	9.09% 25	2.55% 7	2.18% 6	275
Sidewalks and trails that are in good condition	35.90% 98	44.32% 121	12.09% 33	5.13% 14	1.10% 3	1.47% 4	273
Public buildings that are accessible to people with physical limitations	38.83% 106	45.05% 123	12.82% 35	2.20% 6	0.73% 2	0.37% 1	273
Parks and recreation facilities that are located within walking distance of your home	19.41% 53	23.08% 63	29.67% 81	20.15% 55	5.86% 16	1.83% 5	273
Parks and recreation facilities that are appropriate for older residents	21.98% 60	39.19% 107	25.27% 69	6.96% 19	2.93% 8	3.66% 10	273
Adequate street lighting	40.88% 112	33.58% 92	17.52% 48	6.20% 17	1.46% 4	0.36% 1	274
Parking lots that are safe for pedestrians to walk through	39.64% 109	36.36% 100	18.55% 51	2.18% 6	1.82% 5	1.45% 4	275

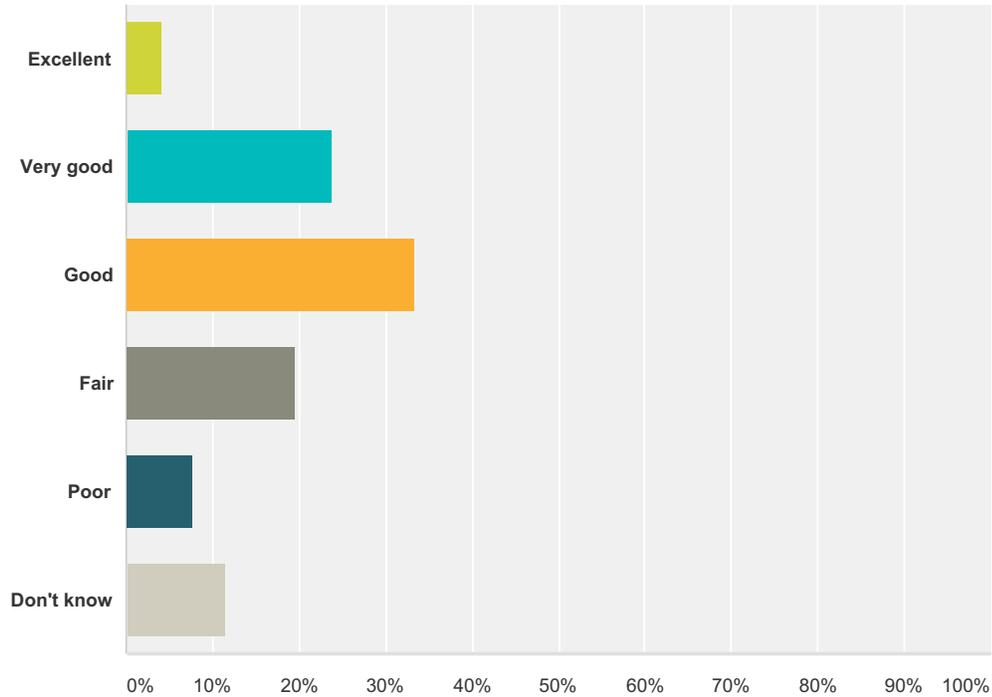
#	Comment	Date
1	Would be nice to have some indoor walking possibility	4/15/2016 1:49 PM
2	would like to see dark sky lighting	4/15/2016 10:30 AM
3	1. Sidewalks are needed along the bypass so students can walk towards jobs at the mall, middle & high schools. the raised centers on the bypass make bicycling extremely dangerous - especially by the intersection by the Red cross building. 2. The Topsham Library lighting over the parking lot is very dim. when it gets dark early you cannot easily see curbs or if there's ice on the lot. Too dark and potentially dangerous for the senior patrons.	4/14/2016 5:19 PM
4	lighting - less - we have bright orange lights shining in at night. White lights are much nicer.	4/12/2016 2:15 PM
5	*Let's become the WISEST HEALTHIEST state in addition to the Eldest!!!! A National proto-type! Utilize the wisdom of the elders who care.	4/12/2016 11:34 AM
6	The more you have to maintain the higher the tax rate	4/12/2016 9:23 AM
7	Parks could include areas for games, fitness items, emergency call buttons, a police patrol to diminish purse snatches.	4/11/2016 3:47 PM
8	when using a walker it is hard to on trails & sidewalks	4/11/2016 3:34 PM
9	Need sidewalk on 201, 196	4/11/2016 3:11 PM
10	I can't do a lot of walking. I need more handicapped parking.	4/11/2016 12:05 PM
11	most buildings are handicapped accessible	4/11/2016 10:58 AM
12	Parks and recreation near home = would be nice - but in lots of cases not possible.	4/7/2016 5:26 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

13	Unfamiliar with trails. Don't walk far from home.	4/7/2016 2:19 PM
14	There is a portion of 196 that has no lights, very difficult to see! It's just before the lights to turn onto Rt.24	4/7/2016 2:08 PM
15	Pring lot safety-great part.	4/7/2016 1:20 PM
16	Walking between the various store "islands" is difficult and risky.	4/6/2016 10:01 PM
17	The bike path is top notch.	4/6/2016 4:08 PM
18	We have them	4/6/2016 11:13 AM
19	I live out on Rt 24 in country-Farm area	4/5/2016 2:05 PM
20	Parks & Recreation facilities that are operated by non-profits such as CREA. Not in favor of tax supported recreational facilities.	4/5/2016 11:53 AM
21	Live in the country-rural some of the above do not apply	4/5/2016 10:10 AM
22	Need for a community center with pool & programs like People Plus.	4/4/2016 3:45 PM
23	I walk a lot and haven't noticed any issues except Green St	4/4/2016 3:20 PM
24	Who pays for this...property owners	4/4/2016 2:55 PM
25	Want to be independent.	4/4/2016 12:24 PM
26	Walking is healthy & keeps us connected! Very Important!	4/4/2016 12:08 PM
27	don't live near Parks and recreation	4/1/2016 1:46 PM
28	Very concerned about light pollution altering the quality of natural environment which is so "Maine" (like no billboards). Walkers & bikers need to be carrying personal lights. Drivers with severe night blindness shouldn't be driving. (Public transportation should be an option.)	4/1/2016 10:25 AM
29	Public buildings = It's the law!	4/1/2016 9:59 AM
30	Old Farm Rd needs more lighting - very dark at night. Bulb burned out at end of street.	4/1/2016 9:34 AM
31	Lighting is good but I want dark skies. No lights in rural areas & none shining up.	3/31/2016 10:49 AM
32	light up the crosswalks	3/31/2016 10:09 AM
33	Sidewalks = not at all important Trails = extremely important public buildings = NA	3/30/2016 4:02 PM
34	Extremely important to have trails where dogs are allowed.	3/29/2016 1:41 PM
35	Mall area is very nice.	3/28/2016 3:06 PM
36	Public access to Androscoggin River/Ramp for boats/canoes/kayaks!!!	3/28/2016 9:32 AM
37	The sidewalks on Elm St need work.	3/22/2016 5:37 PM
38	The Topsham Fair Mall could become a sweet, walkable place. Check out Market Street in Lynnfield, MA for ideas: http://www.marketstreetlynnfield.com/	3/22/2016 1:47 PM
39	Parks and pocket parks rather than recreation facilities are needed for aging population.	3/22/2016 9:01 AM
40	I would hope that there are plans in place for sidewalks, or an adjacent trail, to assist walking on the coastal connector. It really cuts the town in half not to have some way to bridge this area.	3/20/2016 3:38 PM
41	My husband and I are very active and frequently walk to our destination (usually Brunswick) and also use the Highlands trails. The sidewalks in this area are not especially well kept in winter, but I do appreciate the effort to improve pedestrian safety on Green Street.	3/20/2016 8:13 AM
42	Important to us to be able to move outdoors in all weathers...	3/18/2016 5:45 PM

Q3 Overall, how would you rate the connectivity of Topsham's sidewalks and trails to places you want to go?

Answered: 270 Skipped: 32



Answer Choices	Responses
Excellent	4.07% 11
Very good	23.70% 64
Good	33.33% 90
Fair	19.63% 53
Poor	7.78% 21
Don't know	11.48% 31
Total	270

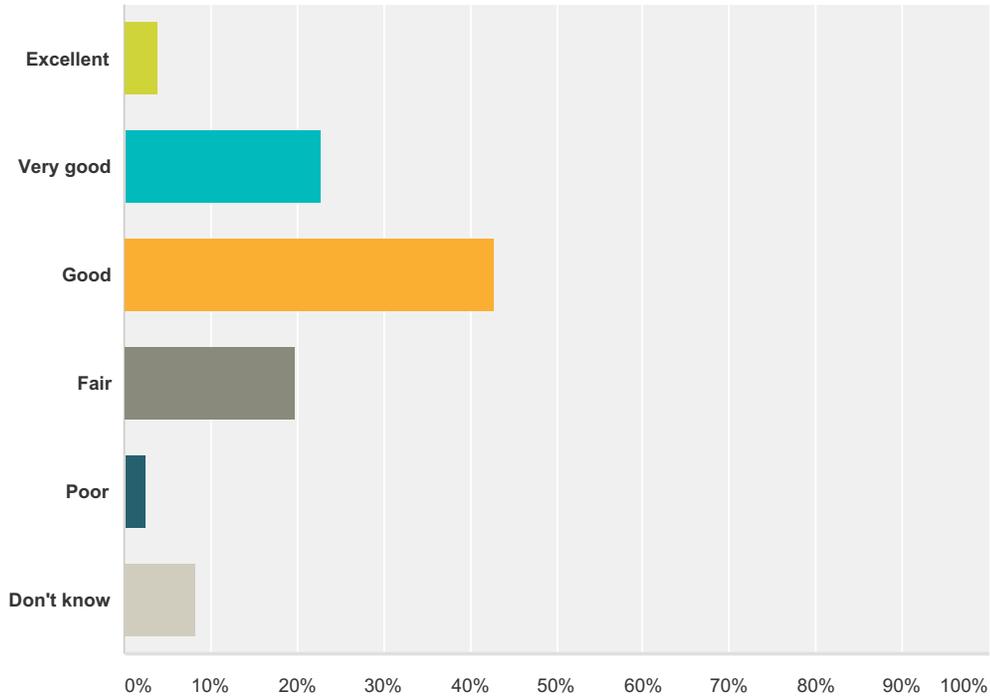
#	Comment	Date
1	I don't use sidewalks much as I live rural & drive my own car.	4/15/2016 2:27 PM
2	more crosswalk-one from Old Farm Rd to Pine-a safe way to cross to get to the library	4/15/2016 1:49 PM
3	Could be better, gaps could be filled	4/15/2016 10:30 AM
4	Main connectivity for us is into Brunswick	4/12/2016 2:15 PM
5	as far as I know	4/12/2016 11:34 AM
6	We don't have any	4/12/2016 10:43 AM
7	could be better. less stairs. more creativity for next development. seniors love nature.	4/11/2016 3:47 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

8	need signs. no public transportation to get there.	4/11/2016 3:11 PM
9	When walking the trail on the Topsham side of the Androscoggin, I have to walk in the street on Maple Street to reach Bridge Street. Need a sidewalk there.	4/8/2016 5:45 PM
10	Poor - based on location.	4/7/2016 5:26 PM
11	depends on where you live	4/7/2016 1:53 PM
12	They should of been built years ago	4/7/2016 1:32 PM
13	Need more trails	4/7/2016 1:20 PM
14	ATV trails have been cut in half by 1 upset landowner.	4/6/2016 3:53 PM
15	I walk my neighborhood - sidewalks are not everywhere.	4/6/2016 9:17 AM
16	I walk around Bay Park.	4/5/2016 3:56 PM
17	Can't walk safely from Highland Green to Fairgrounds or to town.	4/5/2016 3:50 PM
18	We need a riverfront trail to connect the Maine Street bridge going as far as the library.	4/5/2016 2:29 PM
19	Do not use see above	4/5/2016 2:05 PM
20	too new to area to rate	4/5/2016 11:19 AM
21	See above comment	4/5/2016 10:10 AM
22	Bike lane more important - Topsham is very spread out, waking requires long distances.	4/4/2016 3:45 PM
23	I've lived here 4 years. I'm only aware of walking trail. Are there others?	4/4/2016 1:47 PM
24	indoor track - rec center why? - worry free	4/4/2016 12:24 PM
25	We still have a long way to go. Our neighborhood west of Rt 196 is isolated and cut-off.	4/4/2016 12:08 PM
26	More needed	4/1/2016 9:59 AM
27	Rural areas are very hard to provide such services for. Topsham is rural.	3/31/2016 12:09 PM
28	more lights in area	3/31/2016 10:09 AM
29	There are some issues crossing River Road to get over to Topsham Fair Mall. Sidewalk connections & crossing Main St. to get to library from the Heights area ie Bridge/Front Streets.	3/30/2016 4:29 PM
30	Not applicable to me	3/30/2016 4:02 PM
31	Need ability to cross 196 to connect up with sidewalks to Hannaford's or down town Brunswick	3/30/2016 10:48 AM
32	Love the swinging bridge area. need a sidewalk to Foreside Fields.	3/29/2016 1:41 PM
33	We need sidewalks along Rt. 196	3/29/2016 11:15 AM
34	Would be nice to have a walking path from the Highlands to the corner of Maine Street along Route 196 - so can walk to the Topsham Fair Mall. One man tried to ride his scooter along the road & residents called concerned & the bus went to pick him up.	3/29/2016 9:39 AM
35	Would love safety sidewalk/edge of RV from Bay Park and other: Route 24 neighbors to Foreside Rd	3/28/2016 3:57 PM
36	Don't really use sidewalks outside of own community	3/28/2016 1:39 PM
37	A good sidewalk on the Bypass would be very helpful.	3/26/2016 12:54 PM
38	Better then most towns	3/23/2016 9:47 PM
39	Sidewalks on both sides of the streets are needed. Maintenance is only fair. People walking take a far back seat to people in cars.	3/22/2016 9:01 AM
40	Only trails I know of are the Cathance Preserve which we treasure. We drive to other trails. Sidewalks are limited. Malls require a car.	3/19/2016 3:42 PM
41	It's very difficult to cross the bypass. A crosswalk at the Community Way/Village Drive intersection, preferably with a walk light that can be activated with a push button, would help.	3/18/2016 2:50 PM
42	Don't really use sidewalks but like the trails.	3/17/2016 5:03 PM

Q4 Overall, how would you rate the condition of Topsham's sidewalks and trails?

Answered: 278 Skipped: 24



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Excellent	3.96%	11
Very good	22.66%	63
Good	42.81%	119
Fair	19.78%	55
Poor	2.52%	7
Don't know	8.27%	23
Total		278

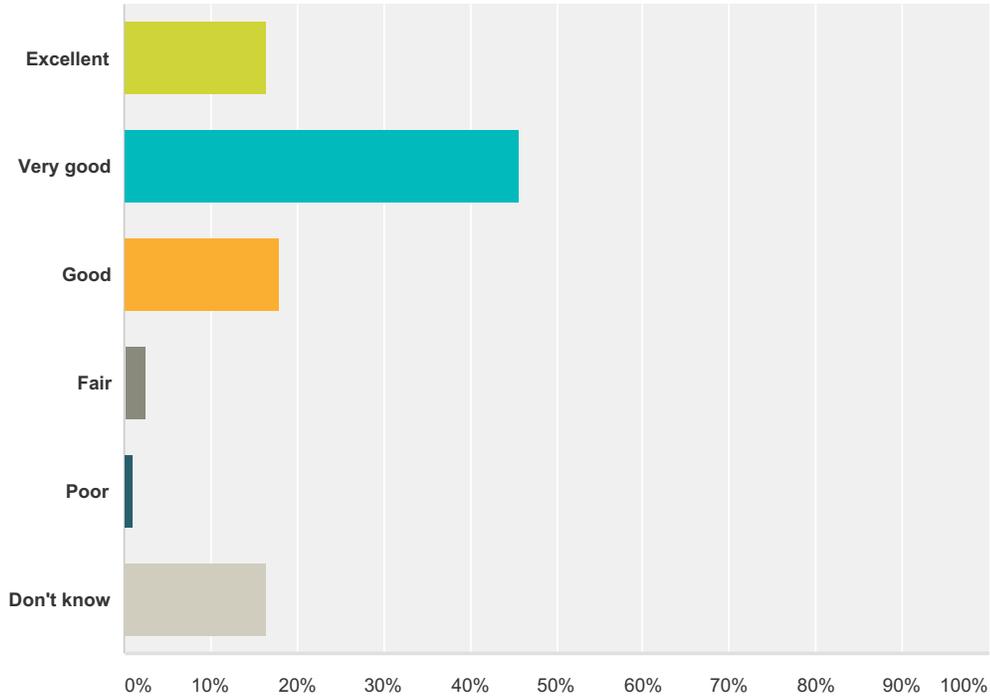
#	Comment	Date
1	Not sure which trails you speak of here.	4/15/2016 2:27 PM
2	The sidewalks on Elm St. and Rte 24 by Rusty's store are awful. Same with sidewalks by Mt. Ararat Middle School on the way to the playground on Republic Ave.	4/14/2016 5:19 PM
3	I'm not familiar with many of them!	4/12/2016 2:27 PM
4	love the Riverwalk - a great asset to the town	4/12/2016 2:15 PM
5	Where I've walked.	4/12/2016 11:34 AM
6	can't walk on trails	4/11/2016 3:34 PM
7	I can't walk that well.	4/11/2016 11:07 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

8	Don't use where are they?	4/11/2016 10:58 AM
9	Never used any	4/7/2016 5:26 PM
10	Sidewalks, from observation/not use. Unfamiliar with trails	4/7/2016 2:19 PM
11	The asphalt sidewalk don't last long	4/7/2016 1:20 PM
12	Snow removal from sidewalks is slow, poorly done & hazardous even on routes to school. Resort to walking/cycling in street.	4/6/2016 4:01 PM
13	Uneven sidewalks which result in less than adequate snow removal	4/6/2016 3:46 PM
14	Not enough sidewalks	4/6/2016 3:31 PM
15	Need sidewalk from Highland Green (along 196) to Main St. Also need better crossing from HG over 196 to The Highlands & Fairgrounds.	4/5/2016 3:50 PM
16	sidewalks are hazardous; trails are good	4/5/2016 2:15 PM
17	Referring to what I see not use	4/5/2016 2:05 PM
18	too new to rate	4/5/2016 11:19 AM
19	more river access	4/4/2016 3:45 PM
20	...as far as they go. We need MORE sidewalks & trails!	4/4/2016 12:08 PM
21	Two winters ago, snow removal on side walks was poor!	3/31/2016 2:00 PM
22	Covered with ice & snow all this winter/very unsafe. kept us from our daily walks	3/31/2016 10:34 AM
23	Concerns on Green Street over lack of sidewalks when short-cutting to library district from Heights.	3/30/2016 4:29 PM
24	Trails are great but sidewalks are in horrible condition.	3/30/2016 4:02 PM
25	Sidewalks on Main St. very difficult- compact snow turned to ice and no salt	3/30/2016 1:23 PM
26	None in our area. Sidewalks like other infrastructures always require care and up keep for everyones's safety	3/30/2016 9:25 AM
27	Elm Street needs new curbs!	3/29/2016 4:29 PM
28	Could use alot more	3/29/2016 4:12 PM
29	Need more trails - or they need to be marked better. I don't know where they are.	3/29/2016 1:41 PM
30	Need more in certain areas	3/29/2016 9:57 AM
31	Along Elm St. are good but rocks are on the side walk going up to Dairy Queen - why? skate boarders?	3/29/2016 9:39 AM
32	What sidewalks?	3/28/2016 2:53 PM
33	Trails--great; sidewalks--not so much..They need to be filled in and evened out.	3/22/2016 5:37 PM
34	Connectivity is not great, needs to be on both sides of street, and winter maintenance is inadequate for very healthy people (much less for elderly.).	3/22/2016 9:01 AM

Q5 Overall, how would you rate the accessibility of Topsham's public buildings to people with physical limitations?

Answered: 280 Skipped: 22



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Excellent	16.43%	46
Very good	45.71%	128
Good	17.86%	50
Fair	2.50%	7
Poor	1.07%	3
Don't know	16.43%	46
Total		280

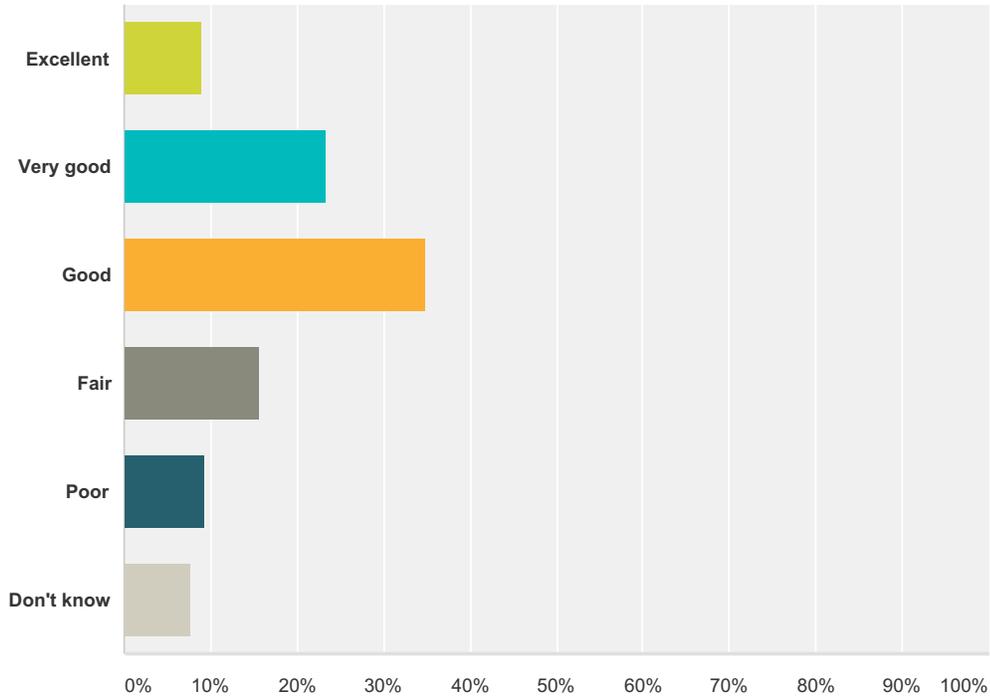
#	Comment	Date
1	Post office can be tricky w/ 2 close doors - No automatic switch button.	4/15/2016 2:27 PM
2	should be accessible. **What ever happened to Topsham's annual road paving???(absent last 3 years.) taxes where I live are VERY HIGH for the little (8x10) property I have AND excise tax, for roads??? Where are Topsham's road services???	4/12/2016 11:34 AM
3	ice & snow collect at library entrance	4/12/2016 10:57 AM
4	still need a bus to take % seniors there	4/11/2016 3:47 PM
5	no public transportation, taxi's can eat at one's budget.	4/11/2016 3:11 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

6	city hall, schools	4/11/2016 12:27 PM
7	There is a need for closer handicapped parking.	4/11/2016 12:05 PM
8	Except - no access to police and fire department bldg.	4/6/2016 3:53 PM
9	For a short time had problems walking- but no more	4/5/2016 2:05 PM
10	too new to rate	4/5/2016 11:19 AM
11	Mostly because the facilities are new - town hall & library	4/4/2016 3:45 PM
12	I am not disabled so it is difficult to assess!	4/4/2016 12:08 PM
13	2 buildings I have used/seen:Topsham Taj Mahal and Topsham library	4/1/2016 10:25 AM
14	Don't need assistance so not on my radar to evaluate.	3/30/2016 4:29 PM
15	Topsham Post Office could use improvement on Parking and better entrance of the building. Such so self opening doors for handicap people	3/29/2016 1:48 PM
16	Library and Town Hall are newer, well designed and provide good function.	3/19/2016 3:42 PM
17	Wheelchair counter accessibility in the clerk/tax office needs improvement.	3/17/2016 5:18 PM

Q6 Overall, how would you rate the proximity of Topsham's parks and recreation facilities to your home?

Answered: 269 Skipped: 33



Answer Choices	Responses
Excellent	8.92% 24
Very good	23.42% 63
Good	34.94% 94
Fair	15.61% 42
Poor	9.29% 25
Don't know	7.81% 21
Total	269

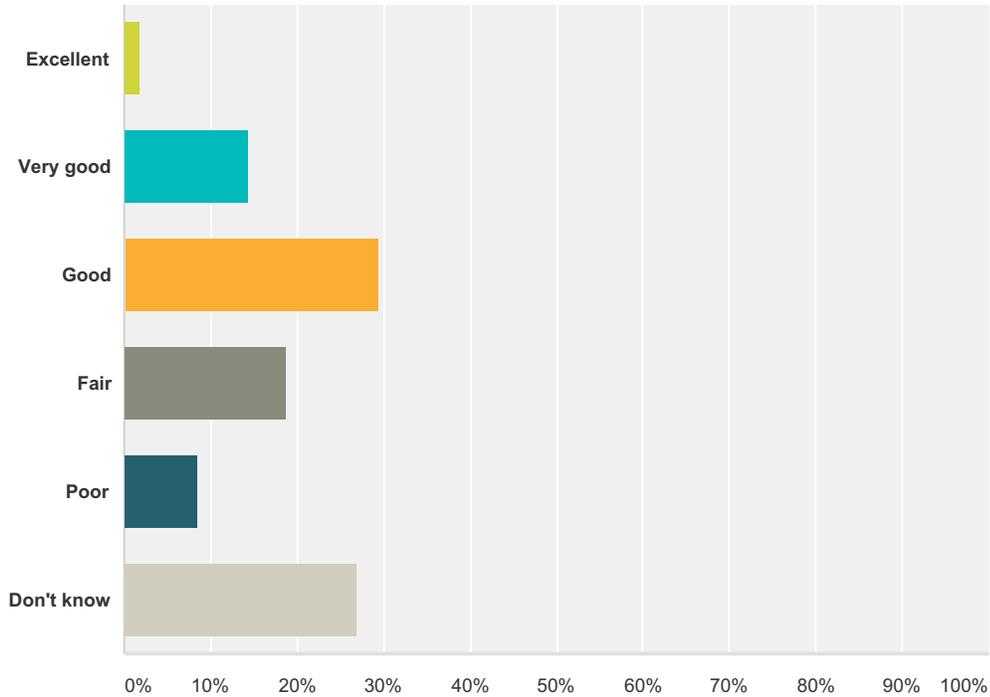
#	Comment	Date
1	I like the locations - my kids played many sports. They are close to town.	4/15/2016 2:27 PM
2	But I live right near the Rec fields	4/15/2016 1:49 PM
3	but only one parks-the river walk	4/15/2016 10:30 AM
4	again Riverwalk	4/12/2016 2:15 PM
5	There's no parks in vicinity of 196/201. Why not develop the land near Crooker's into a park?	4/11/2016 3:47 PM
6	Don't know of a park in Topsham	4/11/2016 3:34 PM
7	Need a park in vicinity of Topsham Fair Mall.	4/11/2016 3:11 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

8	fine	4/11/2016 12:27 PM
9	Don't live in town!	4/11/2016 10:58 AM
10	I live 6 miles from Town Hall	4/11/2016 10:32 AM
11	I still drive, so that may affect my rating.	4/9/2016 11:16 AM
12	The Foreside files are near my house but we sidewalks to the Farm.	4/7/2016 1:20 PM
13	Nothing off 196 area.	4/6/2016 3:53 PM
14	Mostly they are for kids - not aging adults!	4/6/2016 3:31 PM
15	CREA - a non profit donations supported area	4/5/2016 11:53 AM
16	too new to rate	4/5/2016 11:19 AM
17	throughout the Highlands	4/4/2016 2:25 PM
18	Can be done, but only with alot of effort and a partner - woods nice to look at but don't feel safe	4/4/2016 12:24 PM
19	As far as I know, there are no facilities west of Rt 196 in town.	4/4/2016 12:08 PM
20	Aware mostly of Cathance and River walking path	4/1/2016 10:25 AM
21	Getting to the upper field on Foreside Road is challenging.	4/1/2016 9:59 AM
22	Live near Rec. fields	3/31/2016 12:09 PM
23	Fields are close. Rest is further away.	3/31/2016 10:49 AM
24	Only aware of Foreside Rd area - can't find Cathance River area & walking to Cook's Corner parking area in Topsham	3/30/2016 4:29 PM
25	Swinging bridge is close to me. Foreside not too far away. Need more trails.	3/29/2016 1:41 PM
26	Do not really know much about where parks are & recreational areas other than the Fairgrounds - are there tennis courts anywhere?	3/29/2016 9:39 AM
27	Foreside dangerous for walking to Rec field	3/29/2016 9:14 AM
28	Short car ride.	3/28/2016 3:06 PM
29	We live on the town line of Topsham and Lisbon Falls.	3/28/2016 2:04 PM
30	Highland Green	3/28/2016 1:53 PM
31	We don't have any Parks or Rec. facilities near our home.	3/28/2016 1:48 PM
32	Live abutting Cathance River Preserve	3/28/2016 1:39 PM
33	Facilities available on site (the Highlands)	3/28/2016 1:30 PM
34	Non existent...What parks/facilities???	3/28/2016 9:32 AM
35	No park within a mile of our condo development. Pocket parks need to be established. Driving to a park doesn't seem like a good idea.	3/22/2016 9:01 AM
36	Since I'm in Highland Green and can walk the Cathance Preserve, I'd rate it highly. We enjoy the Bridge to Bridge trail. I see the website has quite a few trails. A printable map might be helpful. The town used to offer a nice brochure of recreation options?	3/19/2016 3:42 PM
37	I live on Cathance Rd too far out.	3/17/2016 4:51 PM

Q7 Overall, how would you rate the appropriateness of Topsham's parks and recreational facilities for older residents?

Answered: 271 Skipped: 31



Answer Choices	Responses
Excellent	1.85% 5
Very good	14.39% 39
Good	29.52% 80
Fair	18.82% 51
Poor	8.49% 23
Don't know	26.94% 73
Total	271

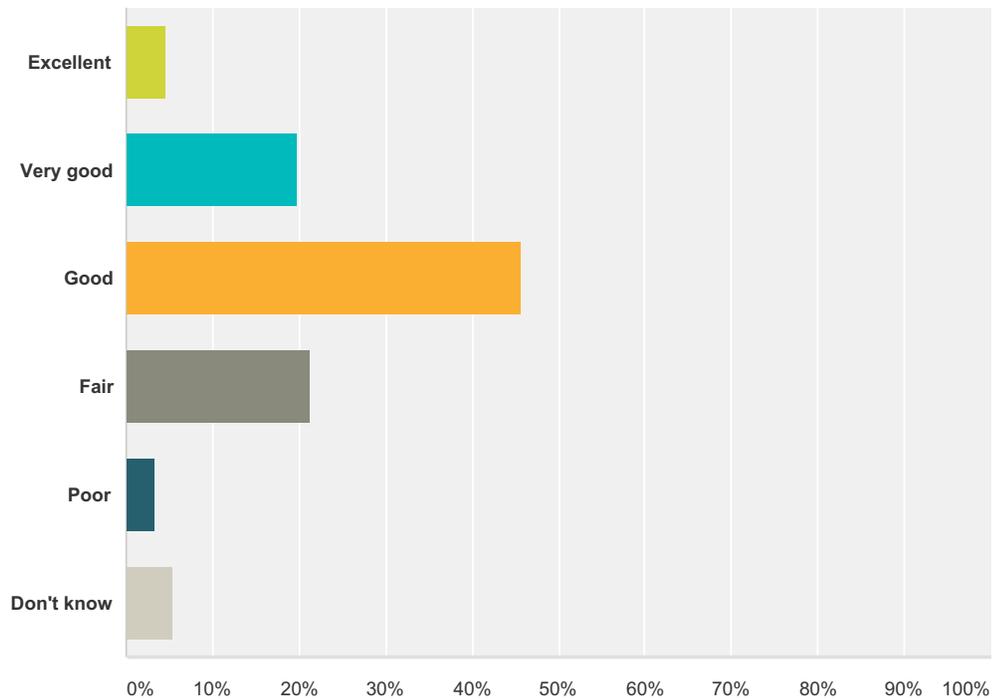
#	Comment	Date
1	There could be better steps down to Riverside.	4/15/2016 2:27 PM
2	If you need to do things inside you don't have anything	4/15/2016 1:49 PM
3	but not enough green spaces, except at the Highlands would like to see a park rear river near the bridge	4/15/2016 10:30 AM
4	Not all are accessible or easy to navigate	4/14/2016 3:47 PM
5	Not aware of much. We spend more time at the soccer field with our 9 yr old.	4/12/2016 2:27 PM
6	How about a park with senior exercising training, classes (indoor & outdoor)?(All about senior health, info. & fun) We have children's playgrounds, baseball, soccer, basketball spaces, even dog parks! How about a state or town COMPETITION FOR the best SENIOR PARK ON RECORD. Lectures - cooking - walking clubs - weights - trainers - rubberized track - exercise classes? After all - you too will have it in place when you get older!	4/12/2016 11:34 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

7	I would like to comment: I wish Topsham itself offered a facility that has a swimming pool for seniors to use. None of the fitness centers have one. It is so important for our well being. Wich you could raise the \$\$ to build a senior center with this in mind which would also include internet computers, memory games, etc - a little walking track to use in the winter. To also ask Hannaford to have a grocery delivery services for seniors & handicap people.	4/11/2016 3:47 PM
8	When it snows the train under pass lower Elm St is extremely icy and dangerous. This makes it impossible to walk to the bike path or library.	4/11/2016 11:18 AM
9	A guess, but really I don't know	4/7/2016 2:19 PM
10	The Riverwalk is very appropriate. Other facilities are not.	4/6/2016 10:01 PM
11	Don't know that I have heard of anything for those 50+.	4/6/2016 9:27 AM
12	too new to rate	4/5/2016 11:19 AM
13	Other than walking or biking what facilities?	4/4/2016 3:45 PM
14	Not sure what an "older resident" is	4/4/2016 3:20 PM
15	Do we have a park	4/1/2016 1:24 PM
16	some very steep grades...aware of walking areas lower rating for biking in the area	4/1/2016 10:25 AM
17	Not used too much, but when did, found no problems.	4/1/2016 9:19 AM
18	Not currently using	3/31/2016 10:49 AM
19	Only use walking paths in Topsham Heights - nice benches how about some stretching posts & limbering apparatus...See Q37	3/30/2016 4:29 PM
20	We should have a town swimming pool!!	3/30/2016 4:02 PM
21	Don't know of any other then the ones on Foreside which are not particulauly approved	3/30/2016 10:48 AM
22	Swinging bridge - (is that even a town park? or privately funded by Swinging Bridge committee?) Good for elderly but need a bench on the trail. Foreside - not good, nothing for old people or anywhere to sit & watch events.	3/29/2016 1:41 PM
23	Don't know where they are.	3/28/2016 1:48 PM
24	see above	3/28/2016 9:32 AM
25	The recreation fields are not adequate for an aging population. Driving to a park doesn't seem like a good idea. The park at the Swinging Bridge is an example of what we should have (size and benches) within a quarter mile of each home in the 2 mile radius of the Frank Wood Bridge (of course on the Topsham side of the river.)	3/22/2016 9:01 AM
26	Mostly a bit strenuous for older folks.	3/19/2016 3:42 PM
27	I don't know of any geared specifically for older residents. They mostly appear to be for children.	3/18/2016 2:29 PM
28	Not sure what makes a park age-appropriate.	3/16/2016 9:49 PM

Q8 Overall, how would you rate the adequacy of Topsham's street lighting?

Answered: 278 Skipped: 24



Answer Choices	Responses	
Excellent	4.68%	13
Very good	19.78%	55
Good	45.68%	127
Fair	21.22%	59
Poor	3.24%	9
Don't know	5.40%	15
Total		278

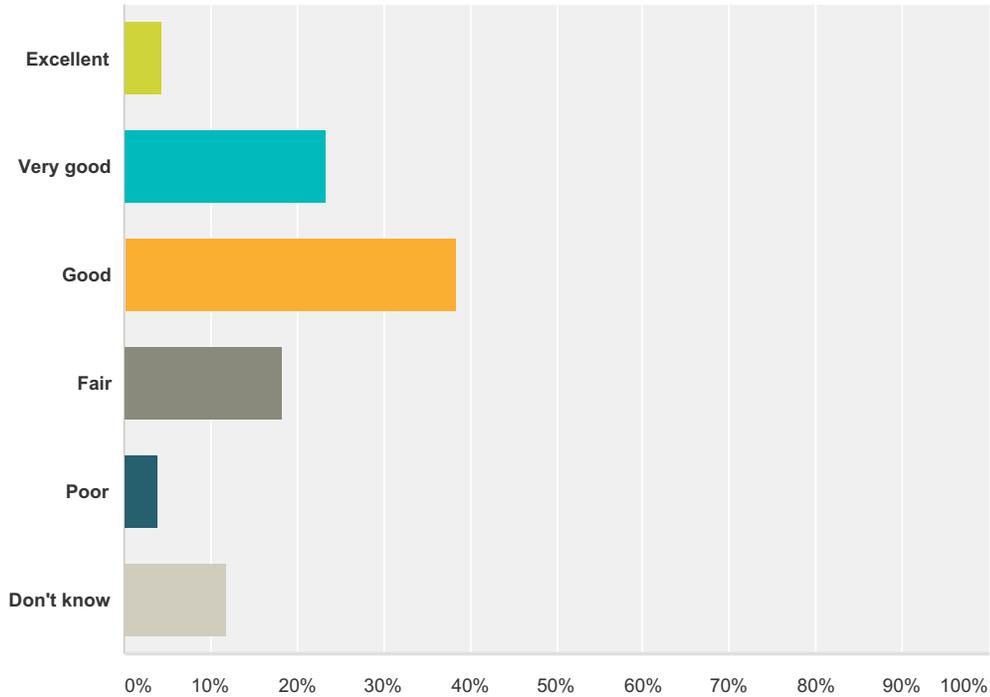
#	Comment	Date
1	seldom walk at night	4/15/2016 2:47 PM
2	Good on MAIN St but anything else forget it. My street has no lights	4/15/2016 1:49 PM
3	dark sky, please	4/15/2016 10:30 AM
4	wish there could be white lights not orange on the bridge and the dam	4/12/2016 2:15 PM
5	Extremely variable; some very dim/some too bright; what ever happened to moderation?? Important in parking lots & for evening walkers	4/12/2016 11:34 AM
6	not enough lighting	4/12/2016 10:57 AM
7	Don't go out at night	4/11/2016 3:34 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

8	There must be a better way to light our community and reduce light pollution- in many areas I feel like it's perpetual daytime with the amount of light pollution!	4/8/2016 4:27 PM
9	good - in town	4/7/2016 5:26 PM
10	For us	4/7/2016 2:19 PM
11	Not good between Maine St and the lights to turn onto Rt 24 on Rt 196	4/7/2016 2:08 PM
12	Good, where it exists	4/7/2016 1:20 PM
13	Summer St needs better lighting near Riverwalk lot overlook.	4/6/2016 4:01 PM
14	No street lights where I live.	4/6/2016 3:31 PM
15	Newer types of lighting?	4/6/2016 10:56 AM
16	I come home late at night... lighting is good.	4/6/2016 9:17 AM
17	too new to rate	4/5/2016 11:19 AM
18	Rte 196 connector - more light needed	4/4/2016 3:32 PM
19	Merrymeeting Dr is quite dark.	4/4/2016 3:02 PM
20	try not to go out at night	4/4/2016 12:24 PM
21	Less lighting is better for stargazing & better for the planet!	4/4/2016 12:08 PM
22	The unpaved section of Lover's Ln does not have a street light and is very dark.	4/4/2016 11:53 AM
23	A street light is very much needed at the corner of Memorial Dr. and Horton Pl.	4/1/2016 5:11 PM
24	Repeat concern about light pollution - increased lighting should be only on sidewalks - issues around driving may need to be addressed with public transportation options rather than trying to accommodate failing night vision.	4/1/2016 10:25 AM
25	Need more!	4/1/2016 9:34 AM
26	Keep lights down for dark skies.	3/31/2016 10:49 AM
27	but lighting could use more	3/31/2016 10:09 AM
28	I usually walk in daytime due to use of side streets to access walking path & speed of traffic in area.	3/30/2016 4:29 PM
29	No need for more.	3/30/2016 4:02 PM
30	It took approx. 5 years for some of the street lights to get fixed on Union Park Rd. nearest to the Westrum House.	3/30/2016 11:06 AM
31	In town is great, developments such as Bay Park, not so good.	3/29/2016 4:29 PM
32	I don't want more.	3/29/2016 1:41 PM
33	Where are the street lights"	3/29/2016 9:14 AM
34	More needed in area's of density.	3/28/2016 3:06 PM
35	outside of own neighborhood	3/28/2016 1:39 PM
36	There are sections with very poor lighting	3/28/2016 10:40 AM
37	When we walk from Munroe to the Library by way of Main, Pleasant and Elm and Foreside we need to carry a flashlight in order to find safe footing.	3/22/2016 9:01 AM
38	I have not walked the streets at night except in Highland Green	3/19/2016 3:42 PM

Q9 Overall, how would you rate the safety of Topsham's parking lots for pedestrians to walk through?

Answered: 279 Skipped: 23



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Excellent	4.30%	12
Very good	23.30%	65
Good	38.35%	107
Fair	18.28%	51
Poor	3.94%	11
Don't know	11.83%	33
Total		279

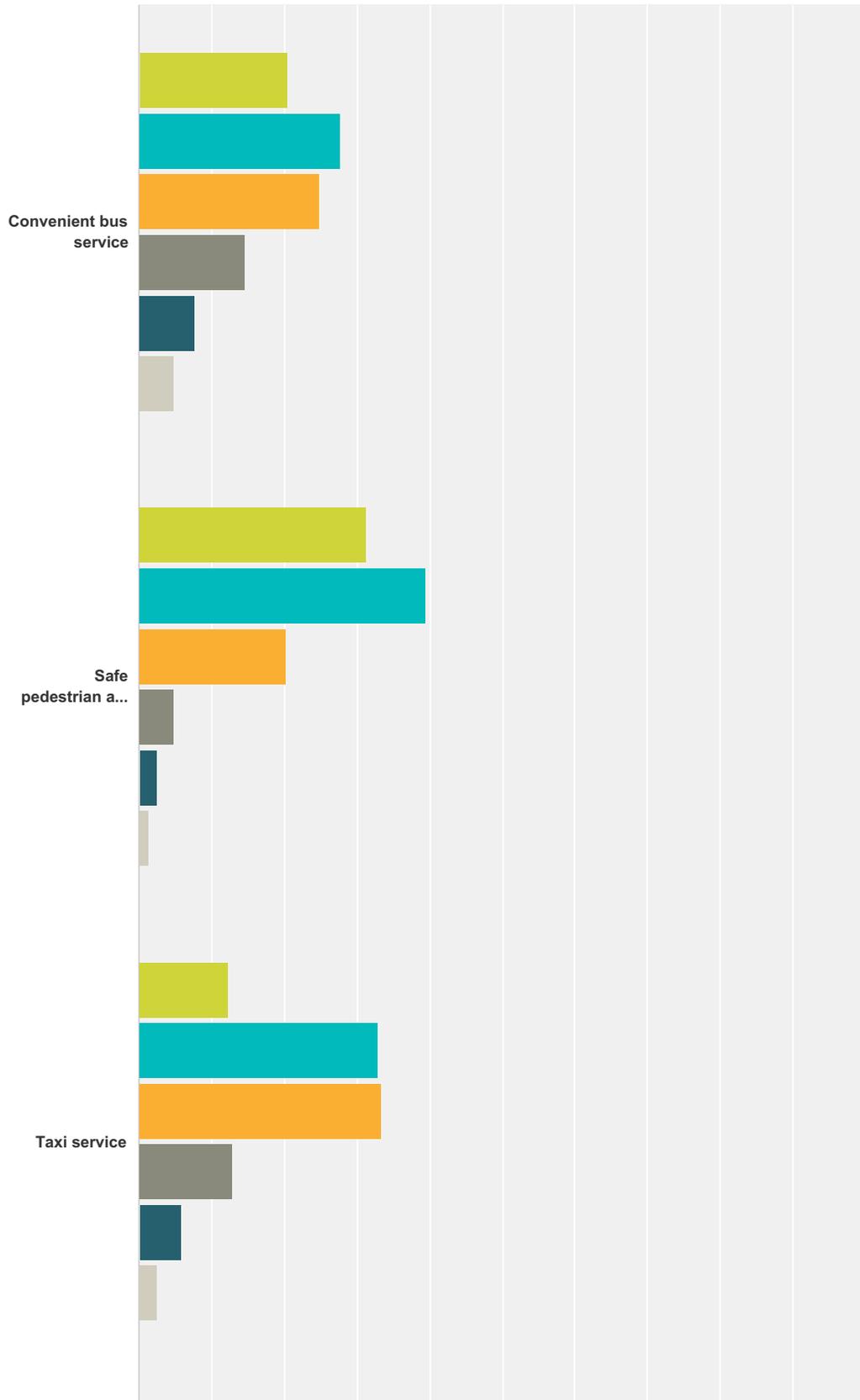
#	Comment	Date
1	I do feel much of the safety lies in the pedestrian's responsibility to pay attention.	4/15/2016 2:27 PM
2	But you can't have a police officer there all the time	4/15/2016 1:49 PM
3	Overall very good. The Topsham Public Library parking lot is too dark to walk through safely when library is open in the evenings.	4/14/2016 5:19 PM
4	I'm not sure. Rarely in one at night. When I have been - good.	4/12/2016 11:34 AM
5	light not bright	4/11/2016 2:54 PM
6	In the commercial areas people drive way to fast for how much traffic there is	4/8/2016 4:27 PM
7	scary	4/7/2016 5:26 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

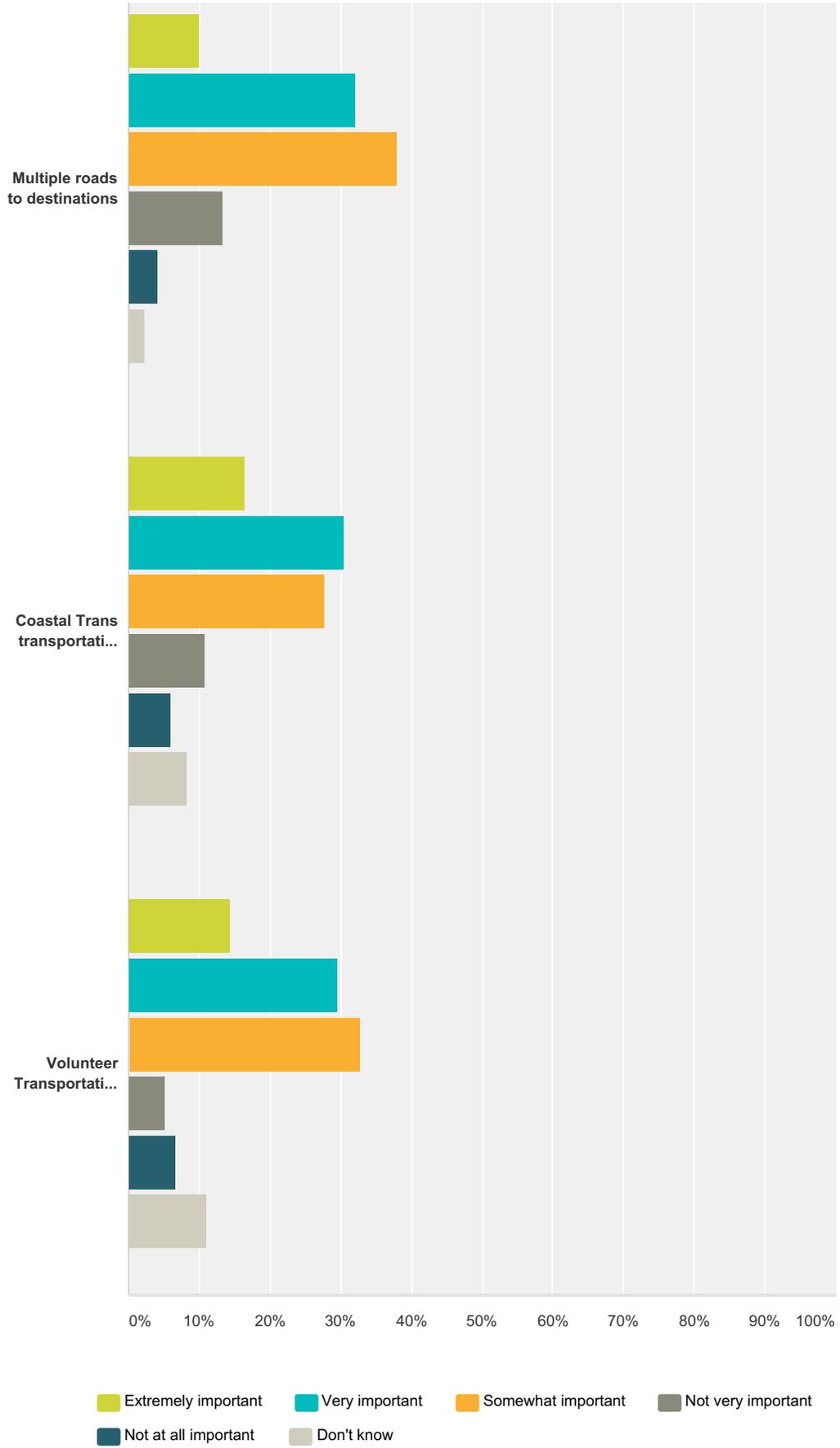
8	Parking lot @ Hannafords is awful	4/7/2016 1:20 PM
9	Need more lighting, especially in the Target parking area. Came very close to being hit by a car.	4/6/2016 9:27 AM
10	too new to rate	4/5/2016 11:19 AM
11	in relation to Mall & Foreside Road recreation area.	4/4/2016 3:45 PM
12	Topsham Fair Mall - ice issues from roofs at edge of building/sidewalks. No distinct sidewalks around parking lots. (except between rows of handicapped parking at Target)	4/1/2016 10:25 AM
13	Are the parking lots at the Mall considered? What parking lots do you mean?	4/1/2016 9:59 AM
14	Feel comfortable, especially the way things are going in today's world	4/1/2016 9:19 AM
15	more by ballfield	3/31/2016 10:09 AM
16	Town Hall OK Topsham Fair Mall - iffy see Q6	3/30/2016 4:29 PM
17	Make sure parking spaces & crosswalks are well painted	3/30/2016 4:02 PM
18	Shopping malls can be dangerous.	3/29/2016 3:52 PM
19	I assume they are safe.	3/29/2016 1:41 PM
20	Not sure what is meant by this - town office is good.	3/29/2016 9:39 AM
21	Where?	3/29/2016 9:14 AM
22	Town can't control inconsiderate drivers. Marked pedestrian walkway @ Hannaford.	3/28/2016 3:06 PM
23	Depends where you are. Foreside and Middlesex are pretty dark, as is Elm. Much more traffic on Elm than the other two.	3/22/2016 5:37 PM
24	Sidewalks should be on both sides of the main roads. Walking through the parking lot is not safe at all.	3/22/2016 9:01 AM

Q10 How important to you is it that Topsham has

Answered: 278 Skipped: 24



Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey



Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know	Total
Convenient bus service	20.44% 56	27.74% 76	24.82% 68	14.60% 40	7.66% 21	4.74% 13	274
Safe pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure	31.37% 85	39.48% 107	20.30% 55	4.80% 13	2.58% 7	1.48% 4	271
Taxi service	12.22% 33	32.96% 89	33.33% 90	12.96% 35	5.93% 16	2.59% 7	270
Multiple roads to destinations	10.07% 27	32.09% 86	38.06% 102	13.43% 36	4.10% 11	2.24% 6	268
Coastal Trans transportation services	16.54% 44	30.45% 81	27.82% 74	10.90% 29	6.02% 16	8.27% 22	266
Volunteer Transportation Network	14.50% 39	29.74% 80	32.71% 88	5.20% 14	6.69% 18	11.15% 30	269

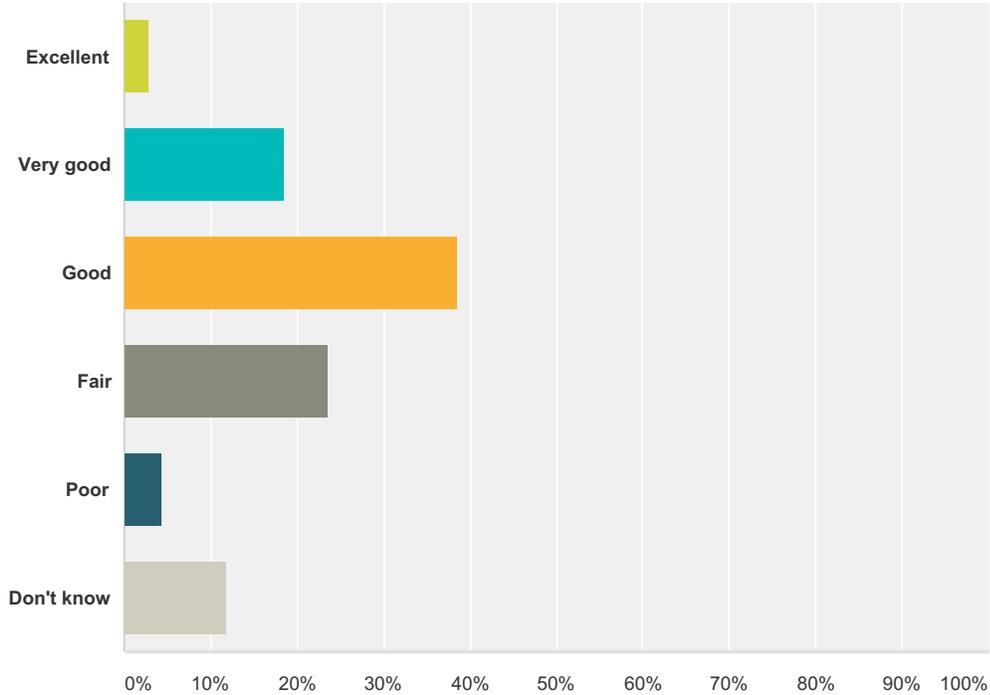
#	Comment	Date
1	see note at end of questionnaire	4/15/2016 2:47 PM
2	I don't personally use bus service, but I feel it is crucial for those in town who need it.	4/15/2016 2:29 PM
3	Taxi are expensive most people can't afford them	4/15/2016 1:51 PM
4	Only Highlands residents have good transportation.	4/14/2016 3:47 PM
5	Highlands provide when needed	4/12/2016 10:58 AM
6	all of it would be great if it doesn't come as an additional Tax!	4/12/2016 9:32 AM
7	We need a bus.	4/11/2016 3:34 PM
8	without bus service seniors can feel isolated & not independent. Many compromises; can't go to movies, to parks, to trails, visit friends...volunteer transportation not always reliable.	4/11/2016 3:14 PM
9	need Coastal Trans in Topsham	4/11/2016 2:59 PM
10	Topsham needs a bus service that connects with Brunswick & points north, south, and west.	4/11/2016 11:47 AM
11	won't help me, but others say they use it.	4/11/2016 11:07 AM
12	Without a car, living in Topsham is not very convenient. Would love to see a bus service.	4/11/2016 10:52 AM
13	I was unaware of a volunteer transportation network; it sounds like an excellent idea.	4/9/2016 11:18 AM
14	Transportation becomes very important when the elderly can't drive any more.	4/7/2016 5:05 PM
15	Coastal Trans going out of business.	4/7/2016 4:41 PM
16	It is hard to get around if you don't drive or have a car.	4/6/2016 9:28 AM
17	I still drive my own auto! but if I didn't transportation would be very important.	4/6/2016 9:18 AM
18	Evacuating Bay Park in an emergency situation - a huge fire or flood- would be extremely difficult.	4/5/2016 3:58 PM
19	Pedestrians yes. Bicycle lanes - NO!	4/5/2016 11:54 AM
20	as long as mobility issues are not a problem	4/4/2016 3:47 PM
21	I don't use public transportation but to someone who doesn't drive it must be critical. I didn't want my response to cancel another person's	4/4/2016 3:22 PM
22	Have heard many seniors complain Coastal Trans doesn't go to Topsham	4/4/2016 1:32 PM
23	When I can no longer drive I would like something in place. Also I would use my car less, if there was transportation.	4/4/2016 12:25 PM
24	We should not be reliant upon volunteers for essential transportation infrastructure.	4/4/2016 12:10 PM
25	Keeping neighborhoods "capsulized" increases social interaction. This allows for "neighbor helping neighbor" transportation options (which extends to other things like yardwork, errands, etc)	4/1/2016 10:29 AM
26	Have had no reason to use the above yet, but some day I might & would to have them if necessary	4/1/2016 9:20 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

27	Some areas are pretty narrow 24N past Arbor Ave	3/31/2016 2:21 PM
28	Bus & local transportation will be more important when I no longer drive.	3/31/2016 10:50 AM
29	Bus service would be less expensive than taxis and convenient	3/31/2016 10:41 AM
30	Elderly people, especially those in remote areas of Topsham need a transportation service- a reliable one.	3/30/2016 4:03 PM
31	Coastal Trans = This service is closing.	3/30/2016 11:07 AM
32	Don't use them.	3/30/2016 10:41 AM
33	We have bus service?	3/29/2016 4:30 PM
34	What is Coastal Trans?	3/29/2016 1:41 PM
35	Concerned when unable to drive	3/29/2016 10:08 AM
36	I really like to see Brunswick & Topsham - to save the explorer bus service and extend the bus into Topsham - malls, etc.	3/29/2016 9:58 AM
37	Because the Highlands provides transportation hard to answer. We are 80 & still ride bikes & ski when we no longer can drive or live alone this will change.	3/29/2016 9:41 AM
38	Didn't know about volunteer trans Coastal Trans - No longer!	3/29/2016 9:19 AM
39	Coastal Trans essential	3/29/2016 9:15 AM
40	Need some service between Topsham & Bruns.	3/28/2016 3:07 PM
41	Have own transportation	3/28/2016 2:05 PM
42	We are currently able to drive ourselves where ever.	3/28/2016 1:48 PM
43	Availability taken care of on site (The Highlands)	3/28/2016 1:31 PM
44	For aging in place, transportation s crucial	3/28/2016 10:42 AM
45	?= multiple roads to destinations Never use=Coastal Trans transportation services	3/28/2016 9:33 AM
46	As I drive, I'm not familiar with public transportation options.	3/19/2016 3:43 PM
47	I drive, but looking to the future wen I may not be able to, transportation would be a big problem.	3/18/2016 2:53 PM
48	I'd like to become more reliant on public transportation, which has been difficult in Maine given its rural nature. We have lots of room for growth in this area.	3/18/2016 2:32 PM
49	Priority preference order 1(Highest) - 6 9Lowest) 1 convenient bus service 2 taxi service 3 multiple roads to destinations 4 Coastal Trans 5 Volunteer Transportation Network 6 Safe pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure	3/17/2016 5:21 PM

Q11 Overall, how would you rate the safety of Topsham's pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure?

Answered: 275 Skipped: 27



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Excellent	2.91%	8
Very good	18.55%	51
Good	38.55%	106
Fair	23.64%	65
Poor	4.36%	12
Don't know	12.00%	33
Total		275

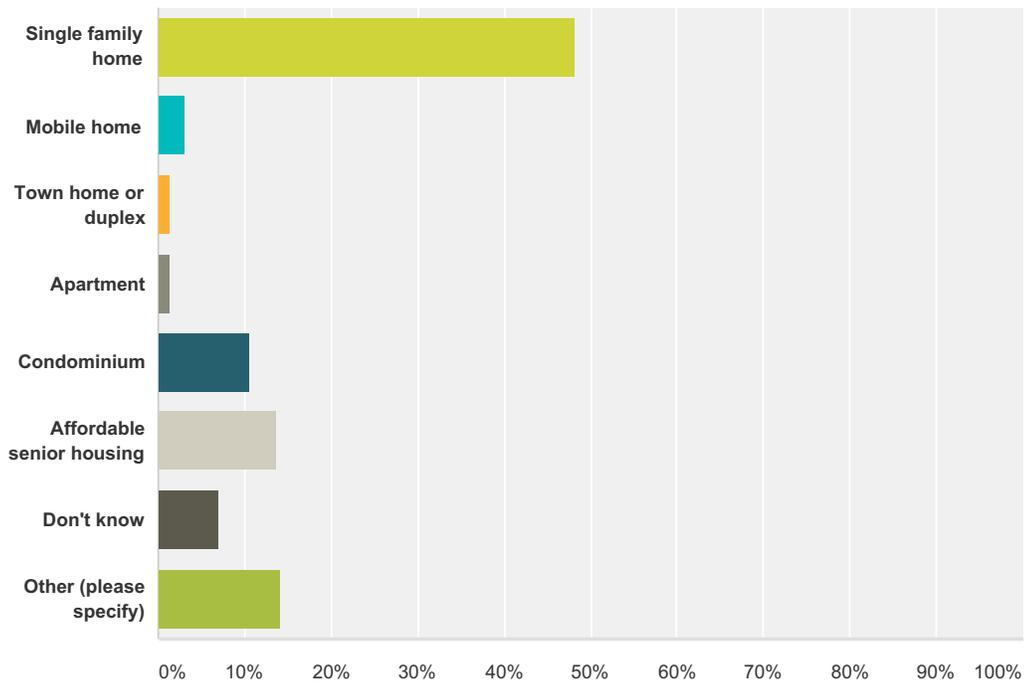
#	Comment	Date
1	I don't use it much but I do notice areas where I feel safe in my car near bikers and areas where it feels congested.	4/15/2016 2:29 PM
2	bicycle is poor pedestrian is ok	4/15/2016 10:31 AM
3	Pedestrian - very good. Bike - roads are narrow & bikes & cars can be closer than ideally safe.	4/12/2016 11:35 AM
4	speed not patrolled on roads so walking is possibly unsafe	4/11/2016 11:24 AM
5	What do you mean by safe?	4/11/2016 10:58 AM
6	I find it odd that there is such a focus in this survey on 'pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure' but the survey is about how 'live-able' Topsham is for older people- older people don't walk too far or ride bikes, and there is no elder housing in walking distance to amenities (unless you live at Westrum House and want to risk your life getting to Hannaford)	4/8/2016 4:30 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

7	Need more of it	4/7/2016 1:20 PM
8	There is far too little bike and ped infrastructure	4/6/2016 10:04 PM
9	If not safe for ATV use, it is not safe for bicycle use either.	4/6/2016 3:54 PM
10	I didn't know Topsham has a bicycle trail??	4/6/2016 9:18 AM
11	need improvements along 196 & 24	4/5/2016 3:51 PM
12	Foreside Road is scary dangerous, and there's a lot of pedestrian & bike traffic.	4/5/2016 2:30 PM
13	pedestrian ok; bicycle generally unsafe	4/5/2016 2:15 PM
14	No bicycle lanes!	4/5/2016 11:54 AM
15	too new to rate	4/5/2016 11:19 AM
16	Some places very good. Some places very bad.	4/4/2016 3:47 PM
17	It just isn't working for me. Bus service to Brunswick Rec. Center would be great.	4/4/2016 12:25 PM
18	We just need more bike routes & lanes!	4/4/2016 12:10 PM
19	Pedestrian = very good; bicycle = fair For walking pretty good bu with no bike lanes and limited, level road "edges" bikes have a very hard time. More postings of bike rules would be helpful to both bicyclists and drivers. For example, "Bicycles use left turn lane for left turn"	4/1/2016 10:29 AM
20	More trails needed so bikes aren't on the roads	4/1/2016 10:00 AM
21	No longer bike ride which was done in my neighborhood - Bay Park - Great area!	4/1/2016 9:20 AM
22	It's improving	3/31/2016 2:01 PM
23	Not many bike lanes	3/31/2016 10:50 AM
24	most of them still ride in the road not on side	3/31/2016 10:09 AM
25	What exists is free; more sidewalks would certainly be beneficial	3/30/2016 10:49 AM
26	Don't use them.	3/30/2016 10:41 AM
27	Don't use but as far as I see they are very good.	3/29/2016 9:58 AM
28	Except for Rt 196 toward Mall area.	3/29/2016 9:41 AM
29	From the road - all looks good.	3/28/2016 2:05 PM
30	How these areas meeting the national standards.	3/23/2016 9:49 PM
31	Haven't you already touched on this?	3/22/2016 5:38 PM
32	Bicycle lanes are sometimes filled with debris. The drains are sometimes a hazard because they are much lower than the road.	3/22/2016 9:02 AM
33	Crossing Main Street, 196, etc. is an issue for older pedestrians.	3/20/2016 8:17 AM
34	Getting out onto Rte196 is a tad scary, though the margins are wide.	3/19/2016 3:43 PM
35	Some concerns on the 196 corridor and some access to the bicycle areas	3/18/2016 5:46 PM
36	Having recently moved from the outside of town, we never felt safe walking, running, or riding bikes on the rural roads. It appears it may be different in town.	3/18/2016 2:32 PM

Q12 What type of home do you want to live in as you age?

Answered: 282 Skipped: 20



Answer Choices	Responses	
Single family home	48.23%	136
Mobile home	3.19%	9
Town home or duplex	1.42%	4
Apartment	1.42%	4
Condominium	10.64%	30
Affordable senior housing	13.83%	39
Don't know	7.09%	20
Other (please specify)	14.18%	40
Total		282

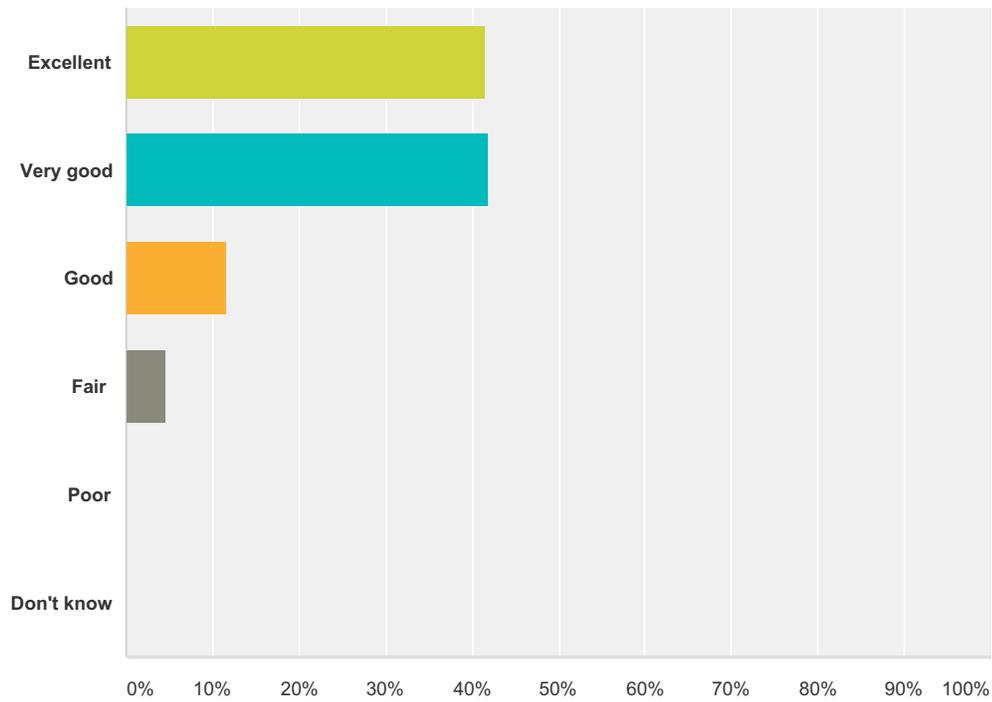
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	We own now.	4/15/2016 2:30 PM
2	Group home	4/15/2016 1:12 PM
3	Depends on health	4/14/2016 3:49 PM
4	Depends on my mobility	4/14/2016 10:21 AM
5	single family; condo	4/11/2016 12:28 PM
6	single family, town home, condominium	4/11/2016 11:58 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

7	single home w/added senior apt	4/11/2016 11:13 AM
8	I would like to remain in my home as long as possible, but down sizing is an option; I am not sure if that means an apartment, condo, or income based housing	4/8/2016 4:33 PM
9	single family home or tiny house	4/7/2016 5:28 PM
10	Affordable/access to health care & exterior house/grounds /maintenance	4/7/2016 2:22 PM
11	Unfortunately condos are very expensive	4/6/2016 3:32 PM
12	Unsure at this time but smaller home then I live in now!	4/6/2016 9:20 AM
13	The Highland Estates	4/5/2016 2:22 PM
14	Townhome or duplex; condominium = lower maintenance with aging	4/4/2016 3:52 PM
15	I am not aging! but answer is Highland Green	4/4/2016 3:33 PM
16	independently as possible	4/4/2016 1:48 PM
17	single family; affordable senior housing	4/4/2016 1:33 PM
18	One of mobile home, condominium, affordable senior housing	4/4/2016 1:25 PM
19	apartment; condominium; affordable senior housing	4/4/2016 11:47 AM
20	single family; mobile home; condominium	4/4/2016 11:32 AM
21	single family; townhome; apartment...It's the neighborhood that matters more to me than the kind of structure. The best neighborhoods have a diversity of age, culture & socioeconomic situations. Supporting neighborhoods that already HAVE diverse housing options, and creating neighborhoods that have many housing options is very important to me. Mixed community - single level, accessible, close to center of town (~1mile) via bike or walk, nearby neighbors.	4/1/2016 10:37 AM
22	single family; apartment; and condominium	4/1/2016 10:12 AM
23	Doublewide/garage	4/1/2016 9:53 AM
24	We rehabed our homw with a bedroom suite	3/31/2016 2:24 PM
25	single family home...as long as able to. affordable senior housing after that.	3/31/2016 12:11 PM
26	single family home; condominium; affordable senior housing - will transition as needed	3/31/2016 10:57 AM
27	my own home	3/31/2016 10:36 AM
28	I'm living at the Highland's- Main lodge	3/31/2016 9:06 AM
29	My own home	3/30/2016 10:43 AM
30	single family home; townhome/duplex; affordable senior housing	3/29/2016 4:44 PM
31	single family home or townhome/duplex	3/29/2016 4:20 PM
32	Preferably our own home	3/29/2016 4:00 PM
33	Hope to always live in my house	3/29/2016 2:24 PM
34	apartment, affordable senior housing, assisted living apt.	3/29/2016 10:02 AM
35	Yet, based on health issues or mobility.	3/28/2016 3:09 PM
36	16 years at Highlands by choice!	3/28/2016 2:25 PM
37	Currently at the Highlands & happy	3/28/2016 1:32 PM
38	Some where else	3/28/2016 9:07 AM
39	And affordable senior housing when no longer able to live in my home	3/23/2016 9:58 AM
40	single story and yard	3/22/2016 5:39 PM

Q13 How would you describe the structural condition of your current home?

Answered: 281 Skipped: 21



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Excellent	41.64%	117
Very good	41.99%	118
Good	11.74%	33
Fair	4.63%	13
Poor	0.00%	0
Don't know	0.00%	0
Total		281

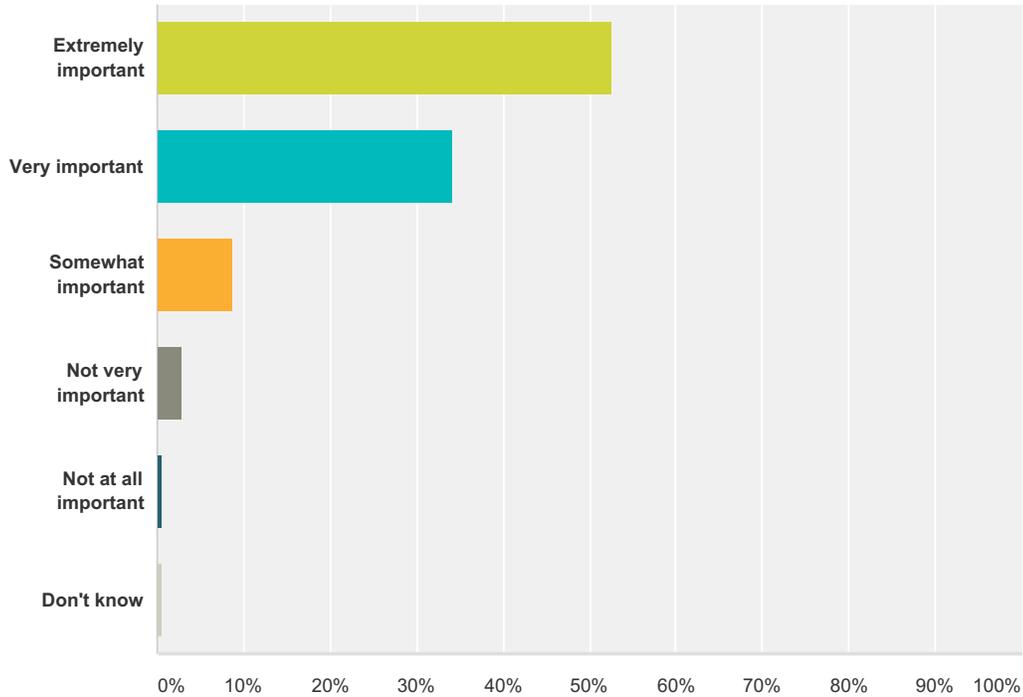
#	Comment	Date
1	Would love to be able to put money into it but I am being taxed to death	4/15/2016 1:53 PM
2	I think but question the insulation & who said natural gas would be explosive??? It's not!	4/12/2016 11:44 AM
3	Westrum House	4/11/2016 2:49 PM
4	The condo is new!	4/11/2016 12:06 PM
5	My home is 45 yrs old. I has "needs" these past 2 yrs.	4/11/2016 11:13 AM
6	I have a single family home.	4/6/2016 9:20 AM
7	Aging like we are!	4/4/2016 3:19 PM
8	Because we moved here from another state, we didn't know Maine doesn't license contractors. Building codes are at least the best minimal. Our house was new but poorly constructed.	4/4/2016 11:55 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

9	age in place issues with current home. 2 story home 8 steps into home from driveway, detached garage, low open concept - too many thresholds & doorways result.	4/1/2016 10:37 AM
10	our rehab in 2006	3/31/2016 2:24 PM
11	it's affordable housing!	3/31/2016 2:02 PM
12	Live in apartment, 2nd floor	3/31/2016 10:43 AM
13	I rent	3/30/2016 4:31 PM
14	The buildings could use weatherization - new windows better heating system and use heating pumps better installation too.	3/29/2016 10:02 AM
15	Could be a little tighter for energy savings.	3/29/2016 9:42 AM
16	Living@ The Highland very nice, but expensive	3/28/2016 2:23 PM
17	Needs work; not enough money to fix it.	3/22/2016 5:39 PM
18	I live in Highland Green in a 10 yr. old home.	3/19/2016 3:47 PM
19	Newly built.	3/18/2016 2:33 PM

Q14 How important to you is it to be able to live independently in your current home as you get older?

Answered: 277 Skipped: 25



Answer Choices	Responses	
Extremely important	52.71%	146
Very important	34.30%	95
Somewhat important	8.66%	24
Not very important	2.89%	8
Not at all important	0.72%	2
Don't know	0.72%	2
Total		277

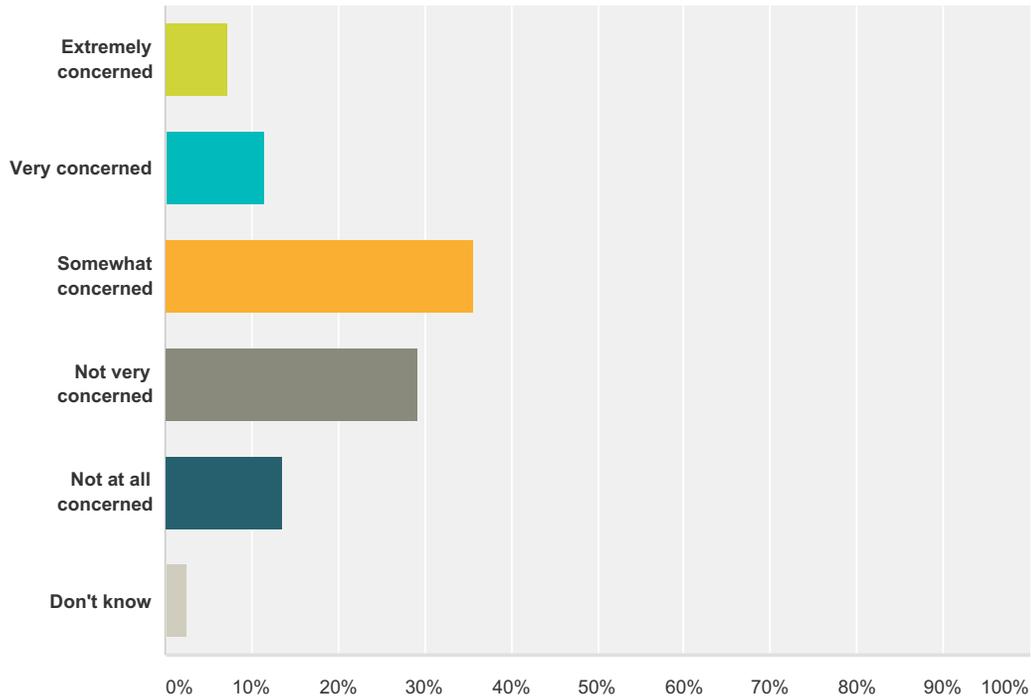
#	Comment	Date
1	Won't have a choice.	4/15/2016 2:39 PM
2	It probably won't happen because at 57 I'm being taxed out of my home	4/15/2016 1:53 PM
3	Depends on physical condition	4/14/2016 3:49 PM
4	Very important to live independently but not in my current house - a condo-which is not ideal in several ways - expenses being one & having a partial vote is crazy. Homeownership IS the American dream, still, and for GOOD REASON! Condos are a Town Planned rip off!!! Shame on the Town!	4/12/2016 11:44 AM
5	there would be a market for affordable lawn care and snow removal to make ongoing or current home feasible	4/11/2016 11:58 AM
6	my daughter & husband live with me now.	4/11/2016 11:13 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

7	I would be willing to live in senior housing such as River bend.	4/11/2016 10:53 AM
8	do not want to live in current home. looking for new home currently	4/7/2016 1:56 PM
9	As long as we are able.	4/6/2016 3:32 PM
10	Would like to live independently, not necessarily in current home.	4/6/2016 9:30 AM
11	House cannot be made more accessible so it isn't realistic. However the neighborhood is perfect, would be perfect with the addition of area public transportation options.	4/1/2016 10:37 AM
12	My younger neighbors are extremely caring and helpful unconditionally :) to me - I just turned 90 years old they know how to contact my children, 2-4 hours away, if needed.	4/1/2016 9:23 AM
13	will move as taking care of home & property becomes too much	3/31/2016 10:57 AM
14	I plan to live in senior housing in a few years	3/31/2016 10:43 AM
15	I would like to see an "Angies List" type of reference for service people who respect and respond well to the elderly. (including reference data) in the Topsham area.	3/30/2016 9:29 AM
16	I have serious health issues moving would be difficult and harder as I age.	3/29/2016 10:02 AM
17	I have a home in Florida and will leave Maine in a few years.	3/28/2016 3:09 PM
18	Cape home - would like to go to one story.	3/28/2016 2:07 PM
19	Would like to live independently, but not necessarily in current home	3/23/2016 3:11 PM
20	Too big.	3/23/2016 12:14 PM

Q15 How concerned are you about needing to make modifications to be able to stay in your current home as you get older (for example, installing a ramp or wider doors, grab bars or handrails in the bathroom)

Answered: 271 Skipped: 31



Answer Choices	Responses	
Extremely concerned	7.38%	20
Very concerned	11.44%	31
Somewhat concerned	35.79%	97
Not very concerned	29.15%	79
Not at all concerned	13.65%	37
Don't know	2.58%	7
Total		271

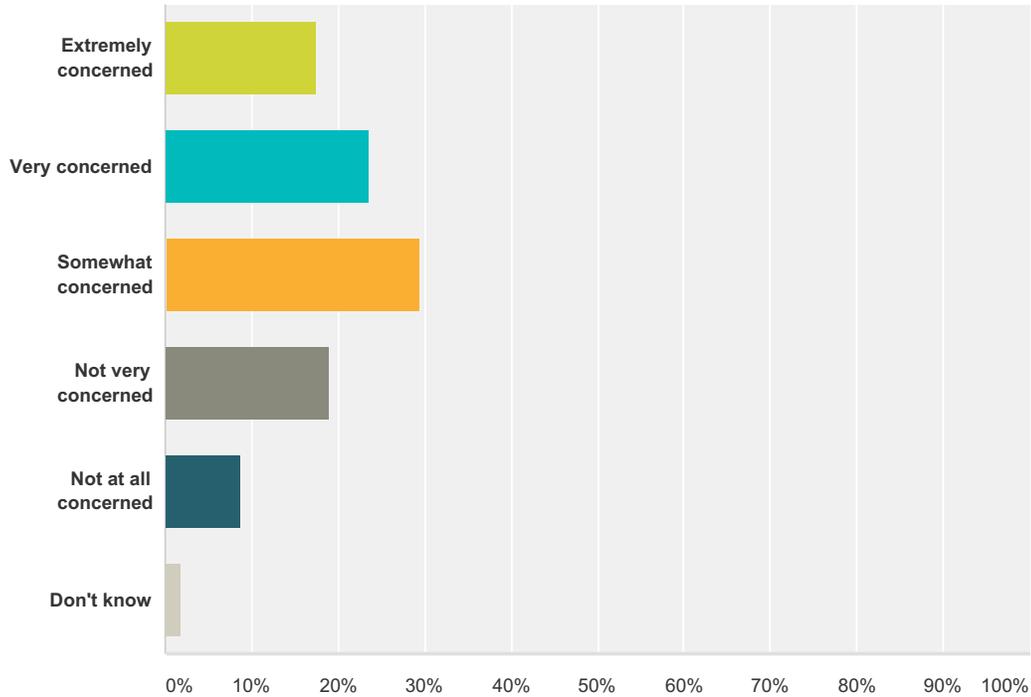
#	Comment	Date
1	Does not apply	4/15/2016 2:48 PM
2	not good for the very old-I'm actually, moving	4/15/2016 10:33 AM
3	Would more if necessary	4/14/2016 3:49 PM
4	Have these now	4/14/2016 10:38 AM
5	Already has ramp and grab bars	4/14/2016 10:07 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

6	Build quality, simple, homes for aging affordably in place w/o constant "handy men"! I want a NEW home w/o a "Board of Directors" that EXCEEDS the code requirements (not that's below code) Build QUALITY, SIMPLE FOR AGING IN PLACE! AFFORDABLY! IMPORTANT!	4/12/2016 11:44 AM
7	I am in senior housing now.	4/11/2016 3:35 PM
8	But I think it is very important for many residents	4/11/2016 12:28 PM
9	already done!	4/7/2016 5:28 PM
10	Have made some modifications	4/7/2016 4:42 PM
11	See #124	4/7/2016 1:56 PM
12	Concerned, but we are doing it in advance	4/7/2016 1:21 PM
13	I would sell if needed.	4/6/2016 3:54 PM
14	Will probably move when necessary. Raised ranch entry not very aging friendly	4/6/2016 10:46 AM
15	Laundry room is in basement, not sure if I will be able to keep walking up & down stairs.	4/6/2016 9:30 AM
16	Not concerned at this time	4/6/2016 9:20 AM
17	I have vision problems - a result of a chronic eye disease.	4/5/2016 3:59 PM
18	Should be supplied by individual owners - or by charities & non profits not by taxes	4/5/2016 11:55 AM
19	Transportation is a bigger issue.	4/4/2016 3:52 PM
20	We're not there yet?	4/4/2016 12:11 PM
21	Already installed	4/1/2016 5:07 PM
22	Our house has three levels which could become an issue as we age.	4/1/2016 11:44 AM
23	See previous comment - not realistic with this home.	4/1/2016 10:37 AM
24	I will do this when necessary so it's not a concern.	4/1/2016 10:01 AM
25	Not needed now, but would do if necessary	4/1/2016 9:23 AM
26	did it in 2006	3/31/2016 2:24 PM
27	Have wide doors, grab bars, hand rails in the bathroom	3/31/2016 2:14 PM
28	Have thought about it and started on some modifications	3/31/2016 12:11 PM
29	Bought a ranch house to be on one level.	3/31/2016 10:57 AM
30	Don't own the home in which my apt is located	3/31/2016 10:43 AM
31	would like to be able to build on front of trailer for better interance.	3/31/2016 10:10 AM
32	NA	3/30/2016 4:31 PM
33	Not concerned at this time	3/30/2016 10:43 AM
34	Love my house but-it is too big! Eventually I plan to sell & move into a condo - in 20 years or so.	3/29/2016 4:31 PM
35	We have a number of modifications already.	3/29/2016 11:17 AM
36	Not concerned but aware to do those things	3/29/2016 9:19 AM
37	my current house is suitable for making simple modifications easily. Bath accesabilty good	3/28/2016 4:12 PM
38	All installed @ The Highlands	3/28/2016 2:23 PM
39	Have not put much thought into this for myself and wife.	3/23/2016 9:52 PM
40	Already accomplished!	3/20/2016 3:40 PM
41	Home is pretty workable. Slight alterations would be easy.	3/19/2016 3:47 PM
42	Not yet anyway.	3/16/2016 9:52 PM

Q16 How concerned are you about your ability to afford to stay in your current home as you get older?

Answered: 275 Skipped: 27



Answer Choices	Responses
Extremely concerned	17.45% 48
Very concerned	23.64% 65
Somewhat concerned	29.45% 81
Not very concerned	18.91% 52
Not at all concerned	8.73% 24
Don't know	1.82% 5
Total	275

#	Comment	Date
1	Having hard time affording taxes now, never mind older	4/15/2016 1:53 PM
2	N/A	4/15/2016 10:33 AM
3	Not an issue	4/14/2016 3:49 PM
4	Because of High Tax	4/14/2016 1:44 PM
5	TOO CONCERNED! Due to the poor decisions made by town planners, codes officers to break the code, & Board of Directors who know (NOT) how to spend others money wisely! NO TO CONDOS!!!!!!	4/12/2016 11:44 AM
6	Taxing us out of our homes as we get older-State of New Mexico Taxes freeze from the date you purchase home only to go up when you sell it.	4/12/2016 9:34 AM

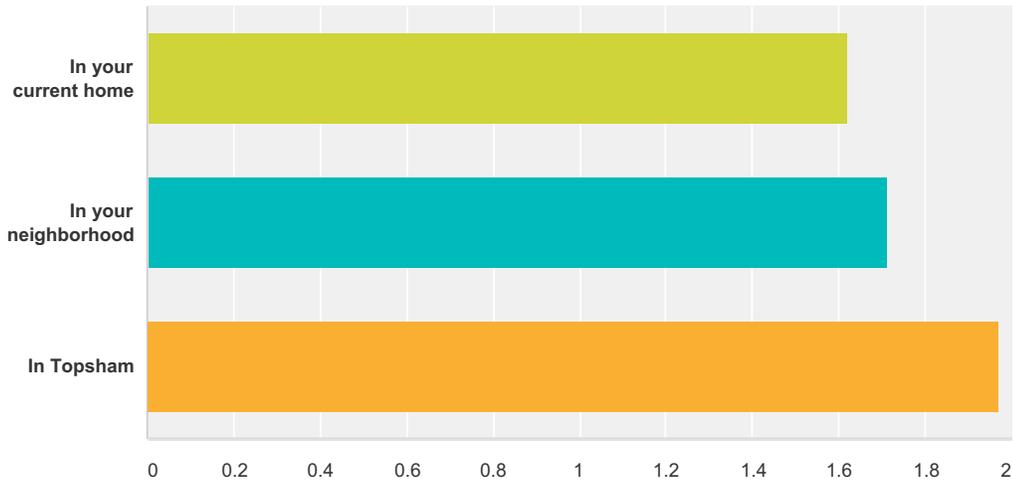
Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

7	I am in senior housing now.	4/11/2016 3:35 PM
8	fixed income worried about property tax, repairs.	4/11/2016 3:15 PM
9	Taxes are getting to high	4/11/2016 10:59 AM
10	It's difficult to maintain the property as we age.	4/6/2016 3:32 PM
11	Mainly about how the property taxes go up every year	4/6/2016 9:07 AM
12	Depends on property taxes, and other municipal fees.	4/4/2016 3:52 PM
13	Tax exemptions for long time residence over 65...veterans and homestead breaks are nothing.	4/4/2016 2:57 PM
14	I am a public employee (teacher) and I'm nervous about our pension & retirement system solvency.	4/4/2016 12:11 PM
15	I'm concerned about the taxes continually going up.	4/1/2016 11:44 AM
16	Have made many modifications so that home is now very energy efficient and low maintenance.	4/1/2016 10:37 AM
17	Savings, IRA plans are solid	3/31/2016 2:24 PM
18	Rent is very reasonable where I live but is in on second floor.	3/31/2016 10:43 AM
19	100% paid in full	3/31/2016 10:36 AM
20	I'm moving to senior subsidized housing out of state end of April.	3/30/2016 4:31 PM
21	Topsham property taxes seem ridiculously high. Fixed income elders have it especially tough. We need to "get real" with taxes in this town!	3/30/2016 4:04 PM
22	With federal government & state messing with SSI & SSD and medicare & care.	3/29/2016 10:02 AM
23	My home is suitable for staying in it as I age with minor modifications	3/28/2016 4:12 PM
24	Moving to Florida	3/28/2016 3:09 PM
25	Highlands	3/28/2016 2:23 PM
26	Don't want raised taxes again!	3/28/2016 2:07 PM
27	Taxes mainly	3/28/2016 10:43 AM
28	Don't know if we can afford the TAXES!	3/20/2016 11:03 AM
29	Taxes, of course, the issue	3/19/2016 5:24 PM
30	Who knows what the future will bring in the way of financial recessions or health issues?	3/19/2016 3:47 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Q17 How safe do you feel

Answered: 278 Skipped: 24



	Extremely safe	Very safe	Somewhat safe	Not very safe	Not at all safe	Don't know	Total	Weighted Average
In your current home	44.36% 122	49.82% 137	5.45% 15	0.36% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	275	1.62
In your neighborhood	40.23% 107	48.87% 130	10.53% 28	0.38% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	266	1.71
In Topsham	27.14% 73	57.25% 154	12.27% 33	0.74% 2	0.00% 0	2.60% 7	269	1.97

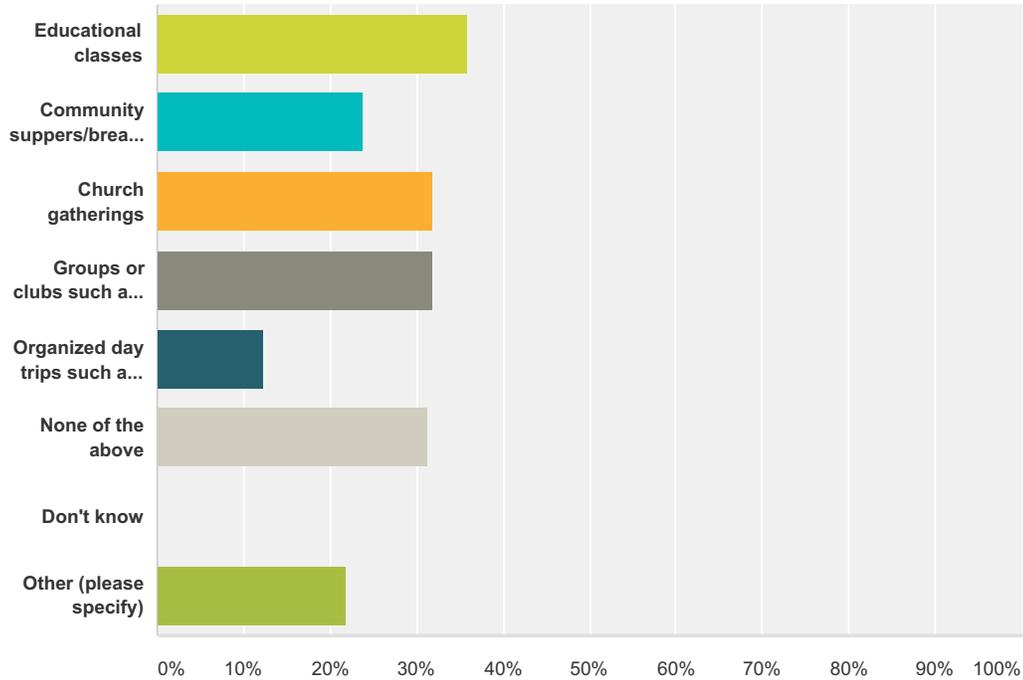
#	Comment	Date
1	I'm right on ME St-some concerns about people on street in summer who are not sober	4/15/2016 10:33 AM
2	Indiv. rights are compromised in condos. Individual rights are American! MANY IMPROVEMENTS COULD BE MADE!	4/12/2016 11:44 AM
3	very nice place to live	4/11/2016 3:35 PM
4	Things that have been happening; brake in, drugs, stealing, beating up all people. It's hard to feel safe.	4/7/2016 5:28 PM
5	When riding cycles	4/6/2016 4:02 PM
6	I own and can carry a gun.	4/6/2016 3:54 PM
7	Great town!	4/4/2016 12:11 PM
8	Police department is very good. Two contacts with dispatch center were unacceptable.	4/4/2016 11:55 AM
9	Very pleased to have chosen Topsham and quite comfortable with that.	4/1/2016 9:23 AM
10	Smith & Wesson!	3/31/2016 2:19 PM
11	Never see the PD patrol our street whole neighborhood is talking! Maybe we don't have one	3/31/2016 10:36 AM
12	Some issues with "foot traffic" on railroad tracks esp. in summer.	3/30/2016 4:31 PM
13	I live in Topsham Heights. History of burglaries and break ins here. My house was broken into at 10AM on a Monday morning when I wasn't home. My neighbors were broken into a night when they were home.	3/29/2016 1:43 PM
14	Guns in the house. Random acts of violence can be anywhere.	3/28/2016 3:09 PM
15	Closer to the Lisbon area than Topsham	3/28/2016 2:07 PM
16	Note sure anywhere is safe anymore....	3/28/2016 10:01 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

17	I've encountered nothing threatening. I'm not out alone at night. I live in a safe area. I'm confident in the police and fire depts.	3/19/2016 3:47 PM
----	--	-------------------

Q18 What kinds of group social activities do you currently participate in? (check all that apply)

Answered: 278 Skipped: 24



Answer Choices	Responses	
Educational classes	35.97%	100
Community suppers/breakfasts	23.74%	66
Church gatherings	32.01%	89
Groups or clubs such as garden club, book club	32.01%	89
Organized day trips such as shopping and lunch	12.23%	34
None of the above	31.29%	87
Don't know	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	21.94%	61
Total Respondents: 278		

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Local gym member/ monthly friends potluck dinners/ son's school events	4/15/2016 2:31 PM
2	Can't afford to do anything	4/15/2016 1:56 PM
3	Bowling, Horseback riding	4/15/2016 1:13 PM
4	library activities	4/15/2016 10:35 AM
5	Very few in Topsham	4/14/2016 3:49 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

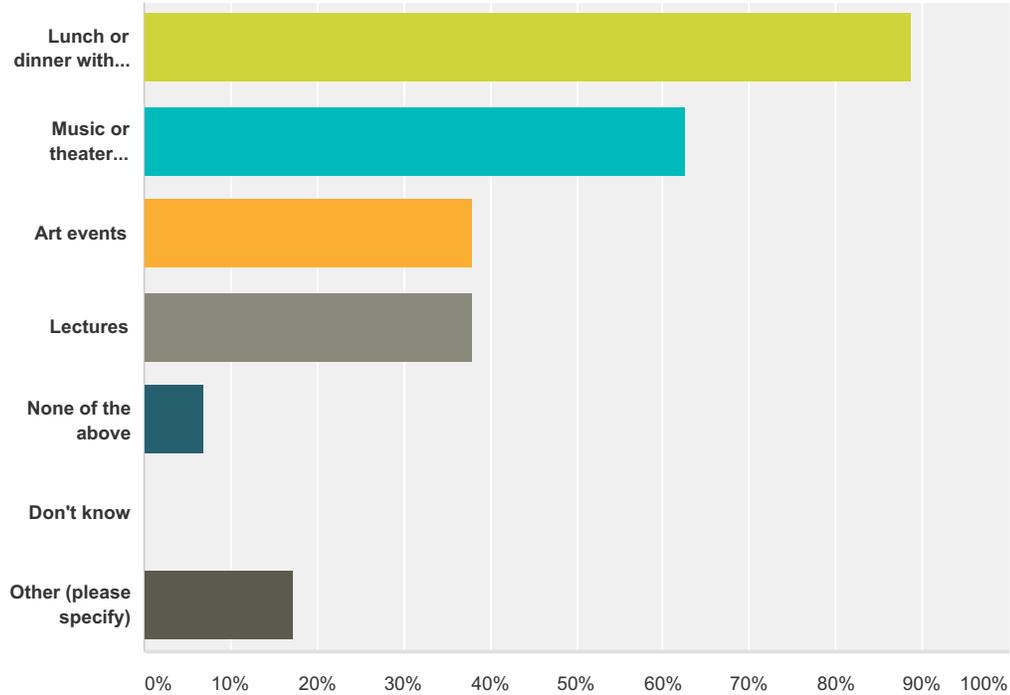
6	American legion and V.F.W.	4/14/2016 10:50 AM
7	Not that old	4/14/2016 10:31 AM
8	Volunteer	4/14/2016 10:22 AM
9	meditation group, landscaping	4/12/2016 2:21 PM
10	Family & friends out of state.	4/12/2016 11:47 AM
11	Without bus service - many seniors live in isolation. get bored, lonely - depressed. need stimulus	4/11/2016 3:49 PM
12	senior place is over in Brunswick	4/11/2016 3:36 PM
13	card playing; bocce playing	4/11/2016 12:29 PM
14	local friends groups	4/11/2016 12:23 PM
15	yoga	4/11/2016 12:18 PM
16	volunteer activities	4/11/2016 11:58 AM
17	volunteering	4/11/2016 11:25 AM
18	volunteer at humane society	4/11/2016 10:34 AM
19	Classes at the Y in Bath	4/8/2016 4:36 PM
20	need transportation to do these things	4/7/2016 5:30 PM
21	Veterans support VFW, Legion	4/7/2016 5:14 PM
22	American Legion/ I keep very active doing maintenance work around the house/painting, lawn mowing, gardening.	4/7/2016 5:07 PM
23	non-profit, eg, People Plus	4/7/2016 2:23 PM
24	Childrens school programs	4/7/2016 1:35 PM
25	political meeting and issue groups	4/7/2016 1:22 PM
26	Mentoring in schools	4/6/2016 4:03 PM
27	Children's elementary school (we are older praents)	4/6/2016 10:48 AM
28	Highlands trips to Portland	4/6/2016 9:37 AM
29	Still working, not much time for activities	4/5/2016 10:32 AM
30	Tennis, pickleball, etc	4/4/2016 3:25 PM
31	exercise group	4/4/2016 2:27 PM
32	Work, work, work	4/4/2016 1:49 PM
33	Adult ed., Tai Chi, Yoga @ Maine Pines, informal social gatherings to walk on beach w/ friends,etc.	4/4/2016 12:12 PM
34	Adult Ed.	4/4/2016 11:34 AM
35	Merrymeeting Adult Ed.; still working full time	4/1/2016 10:41 AM
36	Bowdoin College & library lectures	4/1/2016 10:02 AM
37	Volunteer at MidCoast Hosp.	4/1/2016 9:24 AM
38	Still working part-time- 95 year old mother living with me	3/31/2016 10:59 AM
39	Hiking & outdoor groups	3/31/2016 10:58 AM
40	SDA Community services-Brunswick; AAUW	3/31/2016 9:08 AM
41	People Plus Brunswick	3/31/2016 8:51 AM
42	within Highland Green Community	3/30/2016 10:51 AM
43	none	3/30/2016 10:43 AM
44	I do most things thru the Highlands	3/29/2016 3:09 PM
45	Don't do any of the above	3/29/2016 2:25 PM
46	Knights of Columbus	3/29/2016 1:03 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

47	No there yet	3/29/2016 10:37 AM
48	Photo club/indoor swimming/library	3/29/2016 10:15 AM
49	Socialize with my neighbors, I can't do much financially & physically	3/29/2016 10:05 AM
50	Programs at libraries & in Brunswick, Both Merrymeeting programs.	3/29/2016 9:46 AM
51	Golf/Volunteer non-profit org. activities	3/29/2016 9:22 AM
52	volunteer at hospital	3/28/2016 2:47 PM
53	Belong to PLCC; use Topsham Medical Bldg	3/28/2016 2:08 PM
54	We do not participate due to medical conditions	3/28/2016 1:50 PM
55	book club in own community	3/28/2016 1:41 PM
56	I work to much!	3/28/2016 10:02 AM
57	Concerts, plays	3/23/2016 3:14 PM
58	Pretty much a loner. Library functions.	3/22/2016 5:41 PM
59	Our own community potlucks	3/22/2016 1:49 PM
60	Working too many hours to have the time currently.	3/19/2016 6:43 PM
61	I'm highly active in the Highland Green community and elsewhere	3/19/2016 3:48 PM

Q19 What kinds of personal social activities do you currently participate in? (check all that apply)

Answered: 276 Skipped: 26



Answer Choices	Responses
Lunch or dinner with friends or family	88.77% 245
Music or theater performances	62.68% 173
Art events	38.04% 105
Lectures	38.04% 105
None of the above	6.88% 19
Don't know	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	17.39% 48
Total Respondents: 276	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	gym/shopping at Farmer's Market	4/15/2016 2:31 PM
2	Would love to but can't afford to	4/15/2016 1:56 PM
3	lot of this is in Brunswick	4/15/2016 10:35 AM
4	Few in Topsham, again	4/14/2016 3:49 PM
5	Voulnteer rasing money for veterans, local sports yuoth groups and sooup kitchen	4/14/2016 10:50 AM
6	Church activitys and volunteering	4/14/2016 10:22 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

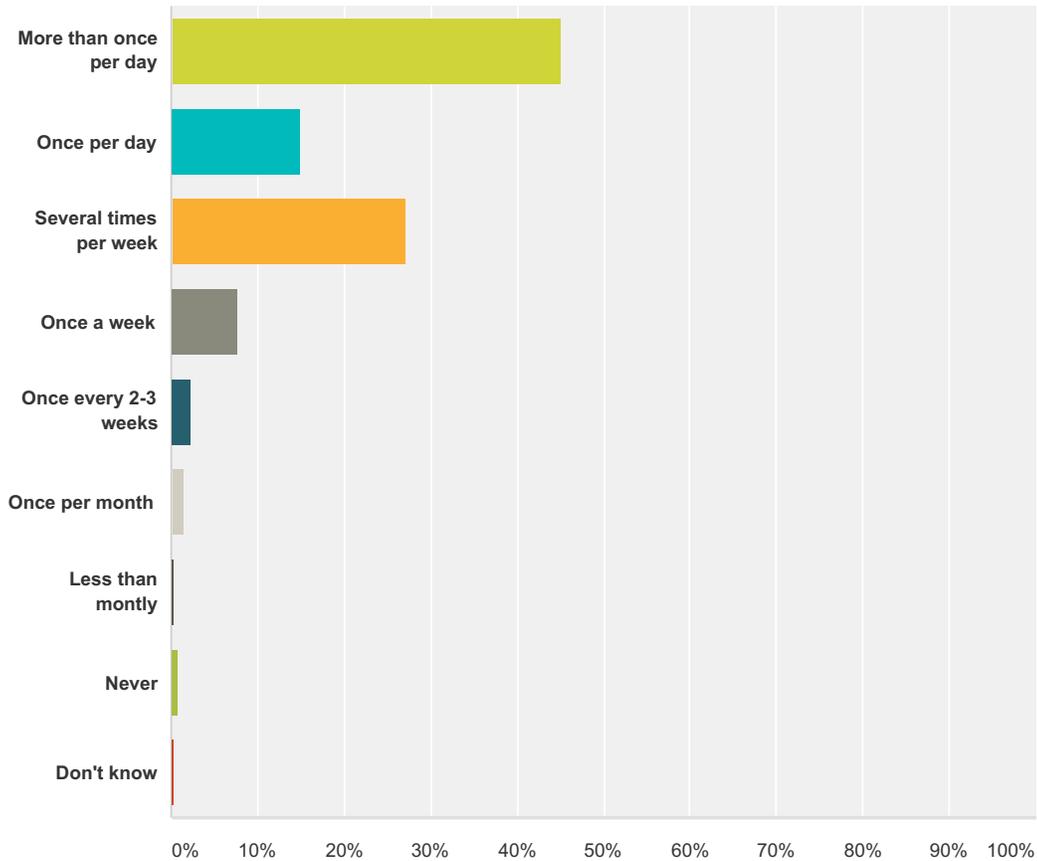
7	dance classes, photography outings	4/12/2016 2:29 PM
8	Family & friends out of state.	4/12/2016 11:47 AM
9	in a twice weekly Dungeons & Dragon group	4/12/2016 10:53 AM
10	can't always depend on friends to take me places - conflicting schedules.	4/11/2016 3:16 PM
11	I do not like to do activities at night or drive at night.	4/11/2016 12:08 PM
12	volunteer activities	4/11/2016 11:58 AM
13	social breakfasts	4/11/2016 10:34 AM
14	movies	4/9/2016 11:20 AM
15	fundrasing events	4/8/2016 4:36 PM
16	I do art at home.	4/7/2016 5:30 PM
17	running groups	4/7/2016 4:50 PM
18	Contradance at Grange	4/6/2016 4:03 PM
19	Educ.stuff, study gpl.,chorale,biking,fitness stuff	4/6/2016 11:19 AM
20	Day trips, train trips	4/5/2016 2:18 PM
21	non profit volunteer work	4/5/2016 11:56 AM
22	camping, ATVing	4/4/2016 1:33 PM
23	App. Mountain Club presentations; medical seminars; financial seminars; bicycle club rides; Friends of MM Bay presentations; Topsham Historic Society presentations (Tops. Library)	4/4/2016 11:34 AM
24	jamming with friends and organized sessions	4/1/2016 11:45 AM
25	gym	3/31/2016 12:12 PM
26	bowling	3/31/2016 12:02 PM
27	Social activities limited right now because mother living with me	3/31/2016 10:59 AM
28	Lots of outdoor activities	3/31/2016 10:58 AM
29	Very satisfied as is!	3/31/2016 10:37 AM
30	Personal interest day trips & friends walking, hiking & beaching	3/30/2016 4:33 PM
31	Walking	3/30/2016 9:29 AM
32	Hiking	3/29/2016 2:50 PM
33	Hiking	3/29/2016 2:45 PM
34	People Plus	3/29/2016 2:25 PM
35	Contra dances, farmer's market, high school sporting events	3/29/2016 1:45 PM
36	Road travel to events outside Topsham	3/29/2016 10:15 AM
37	Community luncheons when they have them on special occasions at our community building - where i live.	3/29/2016 10:05 AM
38	Currently limited by wife's illness	3/29/2016 9:22 AM
39	Bowdoin sports, high school sports	3/28/2016 3:12 PM
40	volunteer senior center	3/28/2016 2:55 PM
41	hospital volunteer	3/28/2016 2:47 PM
42	Trail walking	3/28/2016 2:08 PM
43	We do not participate due to medical conditions	3/28/2016 1:50 PM
44	volunteerism	3/28/2016 1:41 PM
45	Activities at the Library	3/26/2016 3:52 PM
46	Thursday Hikers, Hiking MidCoast Preserves	3/23/2016 3:47 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

47	Golf, cycling,	3/23/2016 2:39 PM
48	Many, many opportunities in the area.	3/20/2016 8:23 AM

Q20 How often do you interact with your friends, family, or neighbors in your community in person or by phone, email or social media such as Facebook?

Answered: 273 Skipped: 29



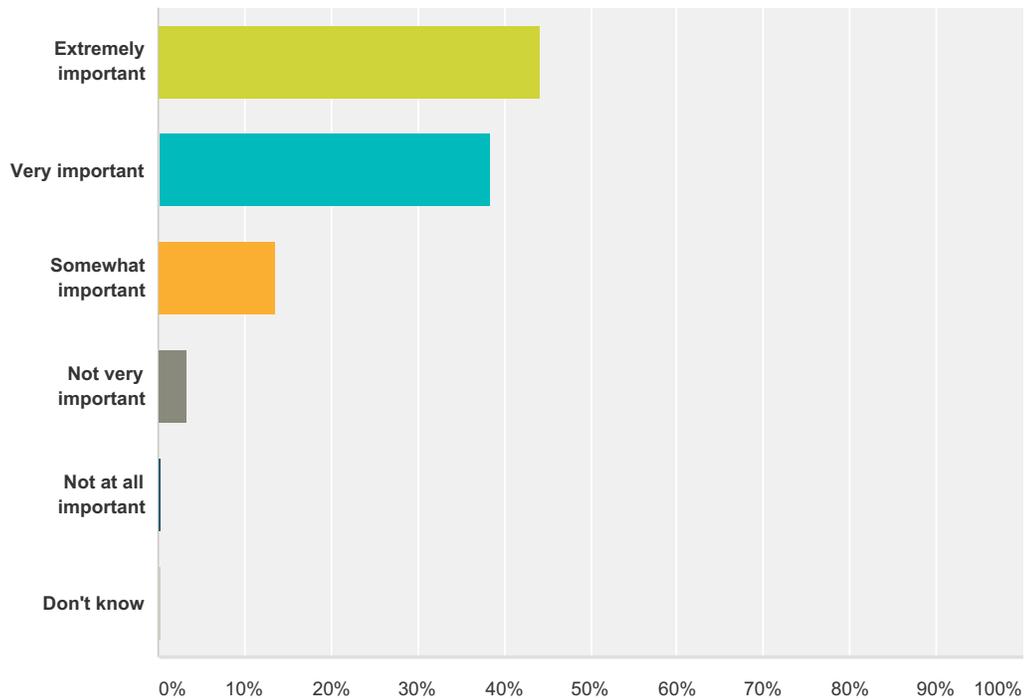
Answer Choices	Responses	
More than once per day	45.05%	123
Once per day	15.02%	41
Several times per week	27.11%	74
Once a week	7.69%	21
Once every 2-3 weeks	2.20%	6
Once per month	1.47%	4
Less than montly	0.37%	1
Never	0.73%	2
Don't know	0.37%	1
Total		273

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

#	Comment	Date
1	Friends & family (away) not very often. Condo living is communist, expense & poorly run by a Board of Directors who can MISSPEND your \$!	4/12/2016 11:47 AM
2	family (yes) rest (no)	4/7/2016 5:30 PM
3	Son is neighbor	4/5/2016 2:07 PM
4	Family more frequently; Friend regularly but not daily	3/31/2016 2:09 PM
5	Still employed too!	3/31/2016 2:03 PM
6	no Facebook	3/17/2016 5:05 PM

Q21 How important to you is it to remain socially active as you get older?

Answered: 274 Skipped: 28



Answer Choices	Responses	
Extremely important	44.16%	121
Very important	38.32%	105
Somewhat important	13.50%	37
Not very important	3.28%	9
Not at all important	0.36%	1
Don't know	0.36%	1
Total		274

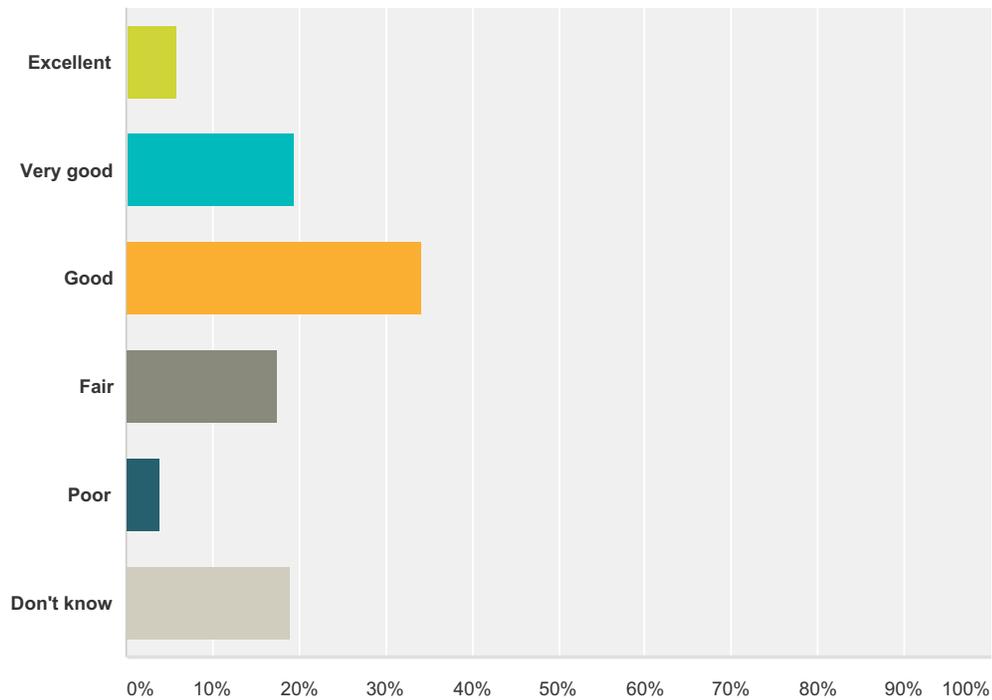
#	Comment	Date
1	Want to keep busy but it's hard	4/15/2016 1:56 PM
2	by socially active, I mean contributing to the community	4/12/2016 2:21 PM
3	I'm learning it's very important!!!	4/12/2016 11:47 AM
4	I am an introvert so I can tolerate lots of "alone time" but I enjoy people too.	4/1/2016 10:41 AM
5	Introvert	3/31/2016 2:20 PM
6	Being active!	3/31/2016 10:37 AM
7	I'm not a people person. I'm a dog person.	3/30/2016 4:05 PM
8	We are still a couple - once alone this would become more important to me. Although I still sew & create things for grandkids & like my down time.	3/29/2016 9:46 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

9	Keeps you young and up to date	3/28/2016 2:08 PM
---	--------------------------------	-------------------

Q22 Overall, how would you rate the availability of social activities in Topsham?

Answered: 278 Skipped: 24



Answer Choices	Responses	
Excellent	5.76%	16
Very good	19.42%	54
Good	34.17%	95
Fair	17.63%	49
Poor	3.96%	11
Don't know	19.06%	53
Total		278

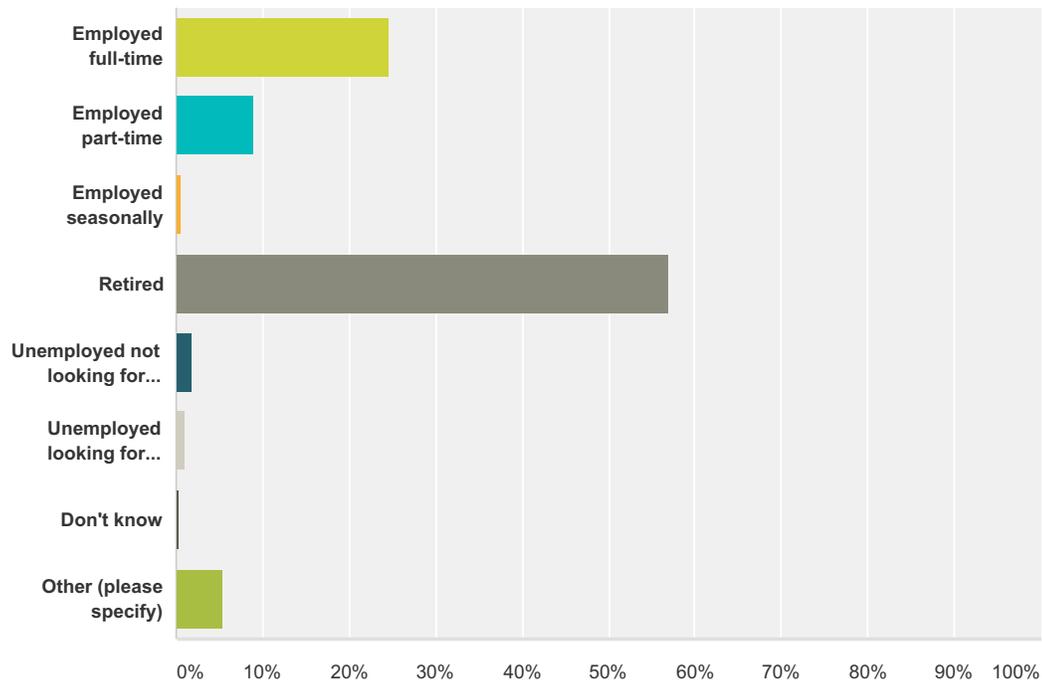
#	Comment	Date
1	There are many things to do - sadly many people just don't go out.	4/15/2016 2:31 PM
2	Or at least getting the info out is poor	4/15/2016 1:56 PM
3	because of the library- there could be more in Topsham, I go to Brunswick a lot	4/15/2016 10:35 AM
4	The Merrymeeting Adult Education, CREA, Topsham Library, BTLT are all great.	4/14/2016 5:21 PM
5	don't know much about local programs	4/12/2016 2:29 PM
6	If you include Brunswick it is very good...what with the college.	4/12/2016 2:21 PM
7	I know the library offers a lot of good things. Congratulations to them!	4/12/2016 11:47 AM
8	library is outstanding in what it offers & services	4/12/2016 10:59 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

9	Not much happening. more festivals. glad for Farmer's market & activities at the library. more concerts at fairgrounds? must be affordable	4/11/2016 3:16 PM
10	The library has a lot of offerings.	4/11/2016 12:08 PM
11	The library & Merrymeeting Adult Ed are the only places that I know of that offers any sort of social activities, unless you want to look at antique cars at the Topsham Fair Mall in the summer months	4/8/2016 4:36 PM
12	Except for the Highland I don't know of any.	4/7/2016 5:30 PM
13	I'm including activities that occur in Brunswick	4/6/2016 10:09 PM
14	More opportunities in Brunswick	4/6/2016 4:03 PM
15	Actually, I don't do anything here except live & work!	4/5/2016 2:32 PM
16	too new to rate - activities available at Highlands	4/5/2016 11:20 AM
17	Poor if seniors can't get there.	4/4/2016 1:33 PM
18	My close knit neighborhood is my social activity (outside of my job)	4/1/2016 10:41 AM
19	Brunswick's proximity is a plus.	4/1/2016 10:02 AM
20	They are there if you want to participate.	4/1/2016 9:24 AM
21	Events are available if one can/wants to participate.	3/31/2016 12:12 PM
22	More happening in Brunswick	3/31/2016 10:59 AM
23	Many activities are in Brunswick	3/31/2016 10:58 AM
24	Topsham Library is a treasure!	3/30/2016 4:33 PM
25	None?...unless you live in Highlands	3/29/2016 4:13 PM
26	They are there if I make them happen for myself. Schools are the hub of activities for me in the community.	3/29/2016 1:45 PM
27	Why are we not part of People bus?	3/29/2016 10:10 AM
28	Very good to fair - alot of the activities I would like to go to cost outrageous price, like the Theatre at Bowdoin College	3/29/2016 10:05 AM
29	Hard to fit in all things that are available. We also have belonged to Portland stage, MSMT public theatre for 30+ years & occ. PSO & opera	3/29/2016 9:46 AM
30	Church and Highlands meet our needs now.	3/28/2016 2:26 PM
31	Work two jobs!	3/28/2016 2:08 PM
32	Very good but I live in Highland Green where various activities for older folks are very available as well as available bus services to events etc.	3/23/2016 2:39 PM
33	Most of what I do is in Brunswick, except library events.	3/22/2016 5:41 PM
34	The Topsham Library is an essential community center that offers so many social connection and educational opportunities	3/22/2016 1:49 PM
35	Not interested in social activities developed by Town.	3/22/2016 9:04 AM
36	I am very active at the Highlands and in Brunswick. Haven't really looked to Topsham for social activities.	3/20/2016 8:23 AM
37	This one is less about Topsham and more about Highland Green and Brunswick.	3/19/2016 3:48 PM
38	Getting better . . .	3/18/2016 2:34 PM

Q23 Which of the following best describes your current employment situation?

Answered: 277 Skipped: 25



Answer Choices	Responses
Employed full-time	24.55% 68
Employed part-time	9.03% 25
Employed seasonally	0.72% 2
Retired	57.04% 158
Unemployed not looking for work	1.81% 5
Unemployed looking for work	1.08% 3
Don't know	0.36% 1
Other (please specify)	5.42% 15
Total	277

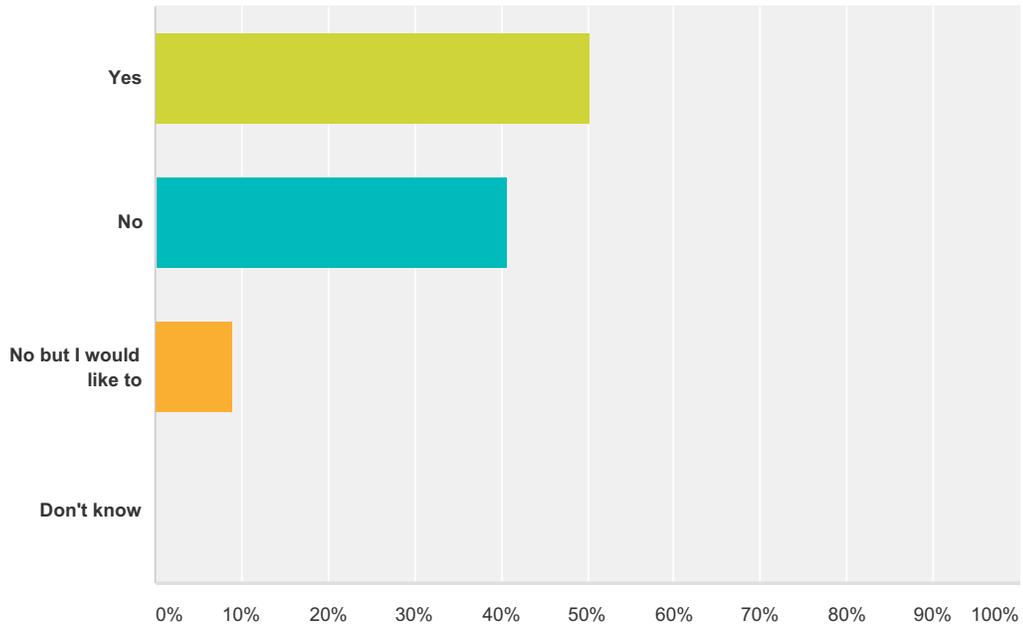
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	self employed full time	4/12/2016 2:30 PM
2	employed full time and wife retired teacher	4/12/2016 10:45 AM
3	Retired - means you really work at home doing all the chores.	4/7/2016 5:09 PM
4	Retired military; and employed full time	4/6/2016 3:56 PM
5	Would be interested in flexible part time work	4/4/2016 3:54 PM
6	retired and employed part time	4/4/2016 11:49 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

7	Employed part time; retired	4/1/2016 9:36 AM
8	Semi retired	3/31/2016 2:20 PM
9	Retired; Planned years ago for this and now we enjoy it!	3/31/2016 10:39 AM
10	Retired	3/31/2016 9:09 AM
11	#1=Retired #2=Employed part time; I do it for physical & mental health	3/29/2016 10:16 AM
12	Permanently disabled; retired	3/29/2016 10:06 AM
13	Self employed.Bed.Breakfast	3/28/2016 4:20 PM
14	Employed full time and part time	3/28/2016 2:10 PM
15	Retired but actively involved in museums and classes	3/18/2016 5:50 PM

Q24 Do you currently volunteer?

Answered: 278 Skipped: 24



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	50.36%	140
No	40.65%	113
No but I would like to	8.99%	25
Don't know	0.00%	0
Total		278

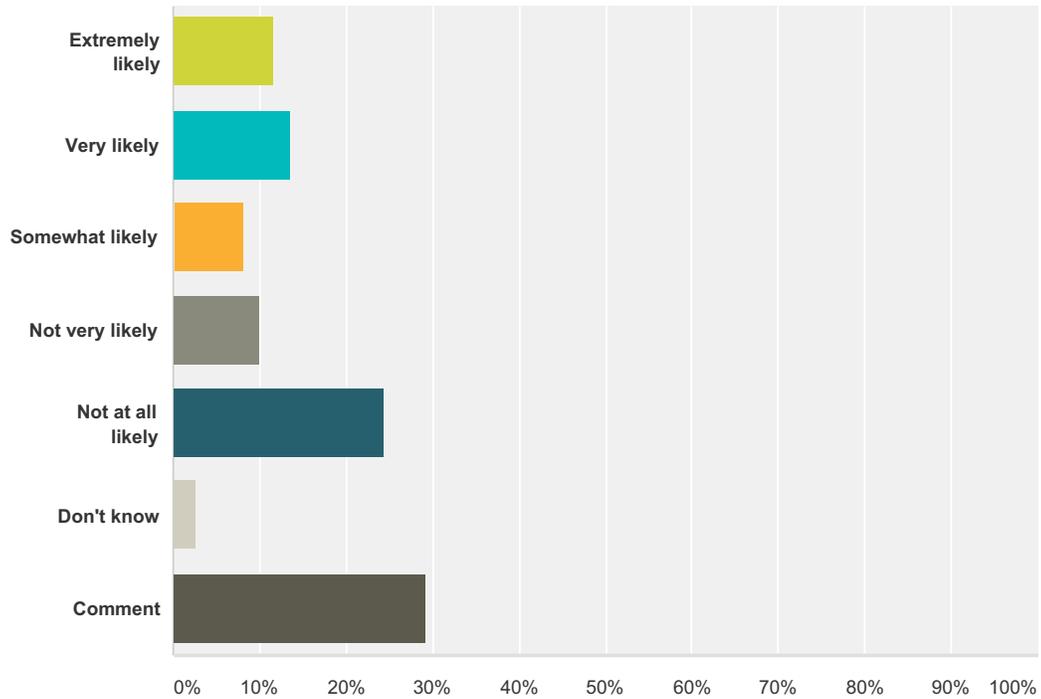
#	Comment	Date
1	Cooked for Tedford Shelter meals through my church for many years. Enjoyed it - must get back on the list! :)	4/15/2016 2:33 PM
2	physically limited	4/11/2016 3:50 PM
3	No transportation	4/11/2016 3:17 PM
4	my health prohibits it	4/11/2016 11:14 AM
5	lack of transportation	4/7/2016 5:31 PM
6	Don't have time as I have lots to do at home	4/7/2016 5:09 PM
7	Hospice; mentoring in schools	4/6/2016 4:04 PM
8	Was Hospice volunteer when younger	4/5/2016 2:08 PM
9	Also babysit my grandson daily	3/31/2016 12:13 PM
10	Volunteer at Coastal Humane Society in Brunswick	3/31/2016 11:01 AM
11	anymore	3/29/2016 2:26 PM
12	I visit nursing homes	3/29/2016 1:52 PM
13	Got overly involved in Raymond so am taking a break since coming to the Highlands. We travel a lot.	3/29/2016 9:49 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

14	MidCoast Senior College	3/28/2016 2:20 PM
15	Been there, done that!	3/28/2016 9:37 AM
16	library and Humane Society	3/22/2016 5:43 PM
17	MCHPP	3/20/2016 3:42 PM
18	Would like to have the time to volunteer again at the library .	3/19/2016 6:46 PM
19	Haven't in awhile but do sometimes actually I volunteer at the theater in Brunswick.	3/17/2016 5:07 PM

Q25 How likely is it that you will continue to work longer than you expected, rather than choosing to retire and no longer work for pay?

Answered: 257 Skipped: 45



Answer Choices	Responses	
Extremely likely	11.67%	30
Very likely	13.62%	35
Somewhat likely	8.17%	21
Not very likely	10.12%	26
Not at all likely	24.51%	63
Don't know	2.72%	7
Comment	29.18%	75
Total		257

#	Comment	Date
1	retired now	4/15/2016 2:49 PM
2	I will teach as long as I can. Hubby is self - employed.	4/15/2016 2:33 PM
3	I will have to work longer and I will have to do it for pay	4/15/2016 2:01 PM
4	I'm disabled, so can only work a little, but need the money	4/15/2016 10:37 AM
5	Have retired	4/14/2016 10:40 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

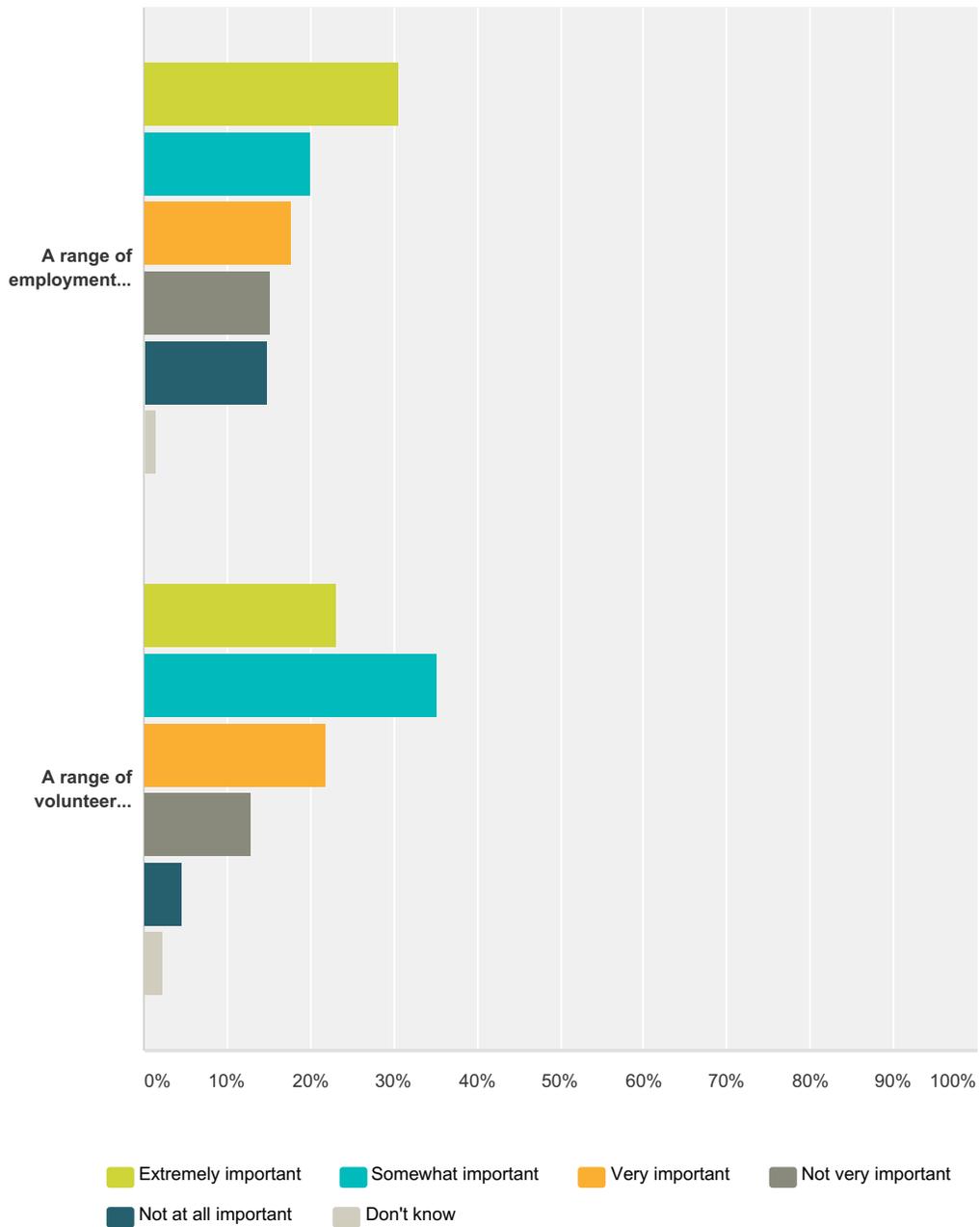
6	Already retired	4/14/2016 10:23 AM
7	Already retired	4/14/2016 10:08 AM
8	retired	4/12/2016 2:22 PM
9	Not currently working; What jobs are there??? Fast food, Walmart & health care??? That's it????? and Tech (God forbid!) WE need good local jobs for ALL ages!	4/12/2016 11:50 AM
10	not working	4/12/2016 10:59 AM
11	retired	4/11/2016 3:50 PM
12	retired & handicapp	4/11/2016 3:36 PM
13	na	4/11/2016 11:59 AM
14	I worked till I was 75	4/11/2016 11:00 AM
15	I already am. :)	4/11/2016 10:54 AM
16	question does not apply to me since I am retired.	4/9/2016 11:22 AM
17	Retired	4/8/2016 5:48 PM
18	n/a	4/7/2016 2:23 PM
19	Worked to age 78 1/2/ until fully retiring	4/7/2016 1:08 PM
20	Does not apply	4/6/2016 3:37 PM
21	Retired	4/6/2016 11:19 AM
22	retired	4/6/2016 9:43 AM
23	na	4/6/2016 9:08 AM
24	presently retired	4/5/2016 3:52 PM
25	I'm retired.	4/5/2016 3:42 PM
26	already retired	4/5/2016 11:21 AM
27	Does not apply	4/5/2016 10:13 AM
28	each year less likely	4/4/2016 3:54 PM
29	We are now retired!	4/4/2016 3:20 PM
30	NA	4/4/2016 3:06 PM
31	na	4/4/2016 1:55 PM
32	Retired now, worked longer than expected.	4/4/2016 11:57 AM
33	already retired (over 20 years)	4/4/2016 11:35 AM
34	Currently retired.	4/3/2016 6:55 AM
35	Already retired	4/2/2016 5:05 PM
36	I am already retired.	4/1/2016 5:16 PM
37	I love my job!	4/1/2016 10:42 AM
38	retired	4/1/2016 10:14 AM
39	NA	4/1/2016 9:48 AM
40	Been retired a long time.	4/1/2016 9:25 AM
41	Retired	3/31/2016 11:50 AM
42	retired!	3/31/2016 10:39 AM
43	Already retired	3/31/2016 9:09 AM
44	Already retired	3/31/2016 8:59 AM
45	Already retired	3/31/2016 8:52 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

46	Retired - too busy to work other than seasonally (good driving weather)	3/30/2016 4:35 PM
47	Does not apply-already retired	3/30/2016 1:26 PM
48	I am already retired.	3/30/2016 11:08 AM
49	retired	3/30/2016 10:44 AM
50	Retired	3/30/2016 10:34 AM
51	N/A	3/30/2016 9:30 AM
52	retired	3/29/2016 4:21 PM
53	N/A	3/29/2016 3:10 PM
54	I am retired	3/29/2016 3:01 PM
55	Retired	3/29/2016 1:05 PM
56	NA	3/29/2016 11:46 AM
57	I worked until 68 yrs. Husband retired two years earlier. We lost both our Dads at 68 yrs. so our goal was to enjoy life before passing. Here we are at 80 & still very active & healthy.	3/29/2016 9:49 AM
58	Not relevant	3/29/2016 9:27 AM
59	NA	3/29/2016 9:23 AM
60	First poorly worded question. I'm working as I age because I enjoy it, not because I require the income. The boxes do not provide that response	3/28/2016 4:20 PM
61	N/A	3/28/2016 2:26 PM
62	already retired	3/28/2016 2:20 PM
63	many medical bills	3/28/2016 2:10 PM
64	Retired now	3/28/2016 1:57 PM
65	Retired	3/28/2016 1:51 PM
66	NA	3/28/2016 1:42 PM
67	NA	3/28/2016 1:34 PM
68	NA	3/28/2016 1:25 PM
69	Currently retired and working plenty of part-time work	3/28/2016 10:45 AM
70	Retired. Not working.	3/28/2016 10:27 AM
71	Already retired!	3/26/2016 3:53 PM
72	Not applicable	3/23/2016 2:40 PM
73	I'd like to work until I can no longer think.	3/22/2016 5:43 PM
74	I have never intended to retire. I'm still on that plan. I may work fewer hours.	3/22/2016 9:05 AM
75	Not applicable	3/19/2016 3:49 PM

Q26 Overall, how important is it to you that Topsham has

Answered: 273 Skipped: 29



	Extremely important	Somewhat important	Very important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know	Total
A range of employment opportunities	30.68% 81	20.08% 53	17.80% 47	15.15% 40	14.77% 39	1.52% 4	264
A range of volunteer opportunities	23.11% 61	35.23% 93	21.97% 58	12.88% 34	4.55% 12	2.27% 6	264

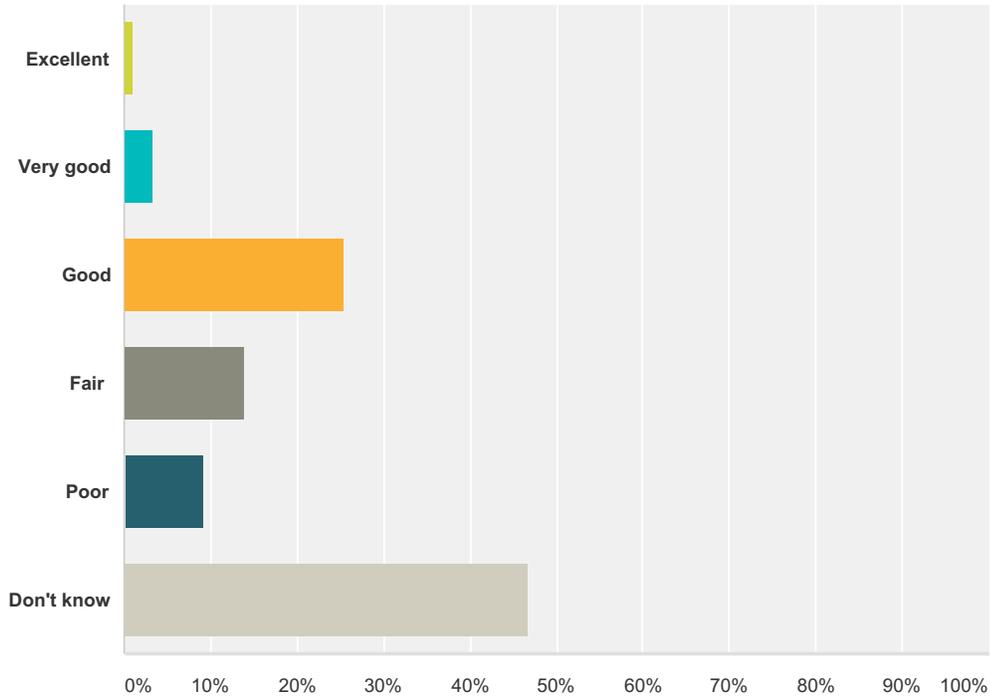
#	Comment	Date
---	---------	------

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

1	I may not need them but other people may.	4/15/2016 2:33 PM
2	There are many volunteer opportunities covering the entire community that includes Topsham.	4/14/2016 5:23 PM
3	Important that Topsham has working people	4/14/2016 10:40 AM
4	Just as signs of a healthy community	4/12/2016 2:22 PM
5	The more employment the lower the overall taxes	4/12/2016 9:39 AM
6	with a living wage for those who are employed	4/7/2016 5:31 PM
7	retired	4/7/2016 5:15 PM
8	Would like to volunteer when retired	4/6/2016 9:21 AM
9	We are part of the greater Brunswick area. I wish there was even more cooperation between the two communities.	4/4/2016 12:14 PM
10	As long as there are children around I can find something to do that will be fulfilling.	4/1/2016 10:42 AM
11	People need to work/have job opportunities or the area will not thrive.	3/31/2016 12:13 PM
12	Employment opportunities = I would want a range for those who need it.	3/31/2016 10:59 AM
13	Very few good jobs available.	3/30/2016 4:07 PM
14	I commute to work.	3/29/2016 4:33 PM
15	None anymore	3/29/2016 2:26 PM
16	Employment good for community - not of personal interest	3/29/2016 9:23 AM
17	Are these intentionally switched?	3/28/2016 4:20 PM
18	Same opportunities overlap with surrounding communities	3/28/2016 1:34 PM
19	The first question is very important to me for the health and safety of the community.	3/20/2016 8:25 AM

Q27 Overall, how would you rate the availability of employment opportunities in Topsham?

Answered: 270 Skipped: 32



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Excellent	1.11%	3
Very good	3.33%	9
Good	25.56%	69
Fair	14.07%	38
Poor	9.26%	25
Don't know	46.67%	126
Total		270

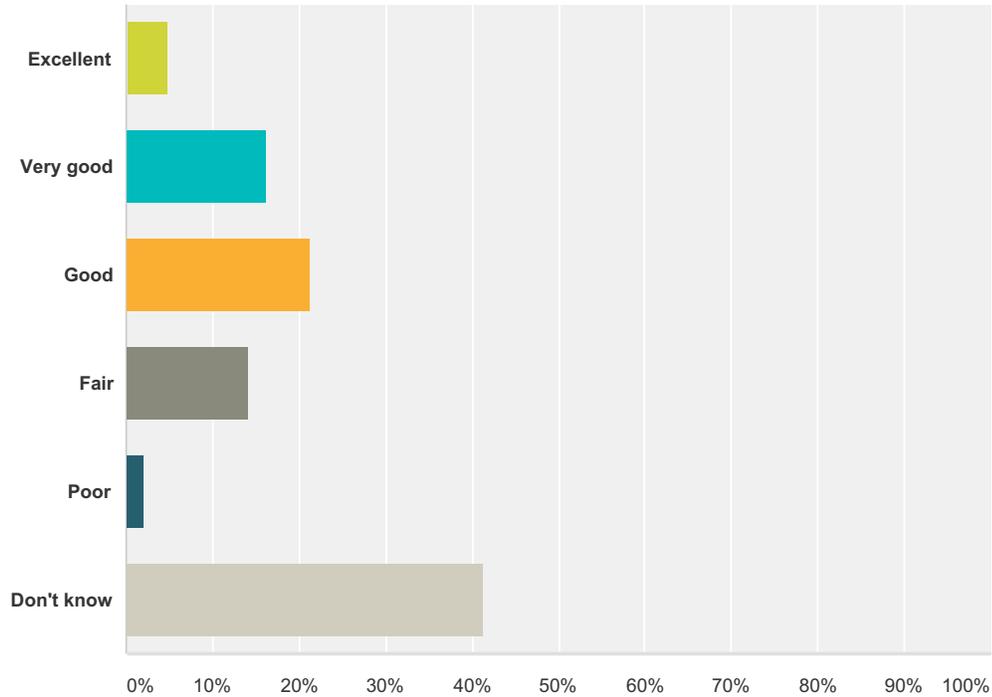
#	Comment	Date
1	Work in Freeport school system	4/15/2016 2:41 PM
2	Full-time is poor Part-time not bad	4/15/2016 2:01 PM
3	would like to see more creative economy and small business	4/15/2016 10:37 AM
4	Many minimum paying jobs, low income jobs.	4/14/2016 5:23 PM
5	No manufacturing very little	4/12/2016 9:39 AM
6	NA	4/11/2016 11:00 AM
7	We do have enough service jobs.	4/7/2016 5:31 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

8	mostly low paying retail	4/7/2016 1:36 PM
9	Few high-paying jobs	4/7/2016 1:24 PM
10	Depends on who you know	4/4/2016 3:54 PM
11	self-employed so, not aware	3/31/2016 2:26 PM
12	Work in Bruns.	3/31/2016 2:05 PM
13	Other than the Topsham Fair Mall, Don't believe there is a lot of opportunity for employment	3/31/2016 11:01 AM
14	For my interests in seasonal job, ie nursery/greenhouse	3/30/2016 4:35 PM
15	It's mostly retail.	3/29/2016 4:33 PM
16	Low paying jobs	3/29/2016 2:18 PM
17	Not much professional- mostly low paying	3/29/2016 1:05 PM
18	NA	3/28/2016 1:34 PM
19	Not applicable	3/23/2016 2:40 PM
20	It depends on the field of employment -- professional fields are more difficult to find.	3/18/2016 2:35 PM

Q28 Overall, how would you rate the availability of volunteer opportunities in Topsham?

Answered: 276 Skipped: 26



Answer Choices	Responses
Excellent	4.71% 13
Very good	16.30% 45
Good	21.38% 59
Fair	14.13% 39
Poor	2.17% 6
Don't know	41.30% 114
Total	276

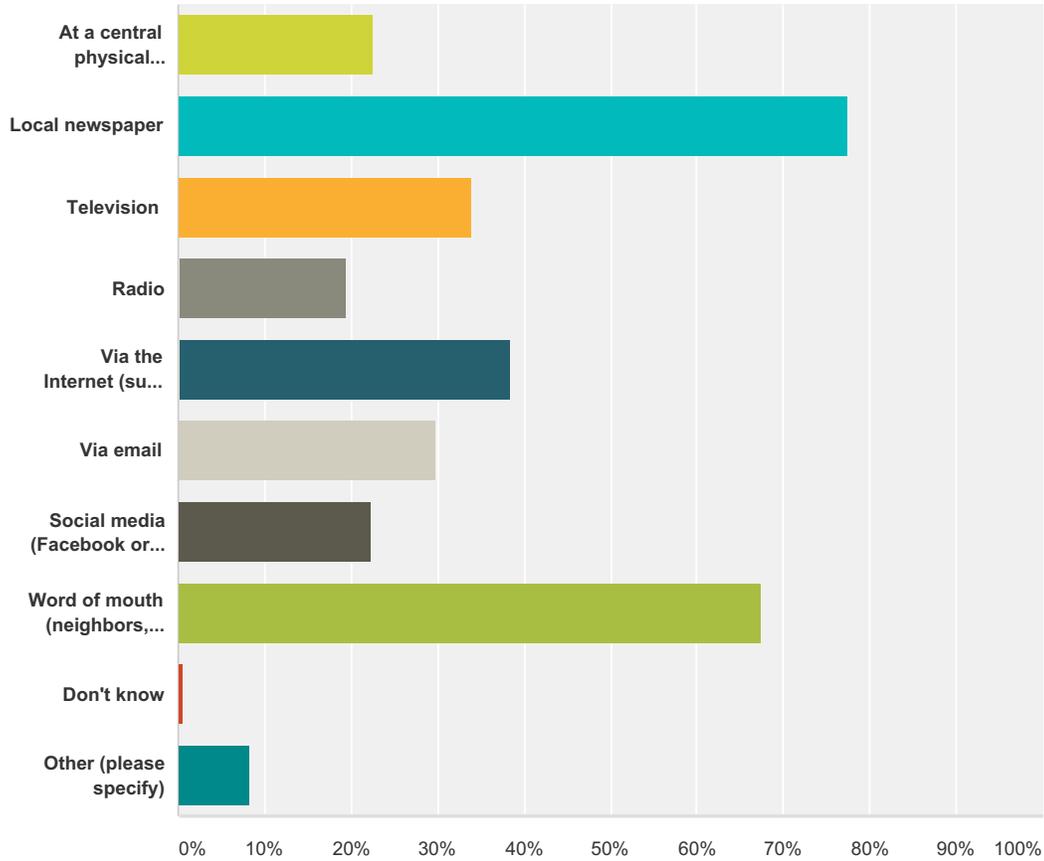
#	Comment	Date
1	Topsham Public Library. All schools, Red cross, Swinging Bridge, BTLT, CREA, American Cancer Society, etc. are all great opportunities.	4/14/2016 5:23 PM
2	The opportunities are available if people want to participate.	4/7/2016 4:43 PM
3	but	4/7/2016 2:23 PM
4	Hard to get involved-newcomers not welcom	4/7/2016 1:24 PM
5	Much more in Brunswick	4/4/2016 3:54 PM
6	Volunteer @ chruch	3/31/2016 2:26 PM
7	Vol in Portland, Bruns and Bath	3/31/2016 2:05 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

8	Topsham/Brunswick area	3/31/2016 12:13 PM
9	Do some volunteer with Coastal Maine Humane Society	3/30/2016 4:35 PM
10	At the school, scouts, sports organizations	3/29/2016 1:46 PM
11	Between Brunswick & Topsham there are lots of opportunities	3/29/2016 9:49 AM
12	Brunswick Good	3/29/2016 9:27 AM
13	Know Brunswick better - many there	3/29/2016 9:23 AM
14	"Topsham" = Brunswick T. area	3/28/2016 2:20 PM

Q29 Where do you usually get information about local programs, services, and events? (check all that apply)

Answered: 274 Skipped: 28



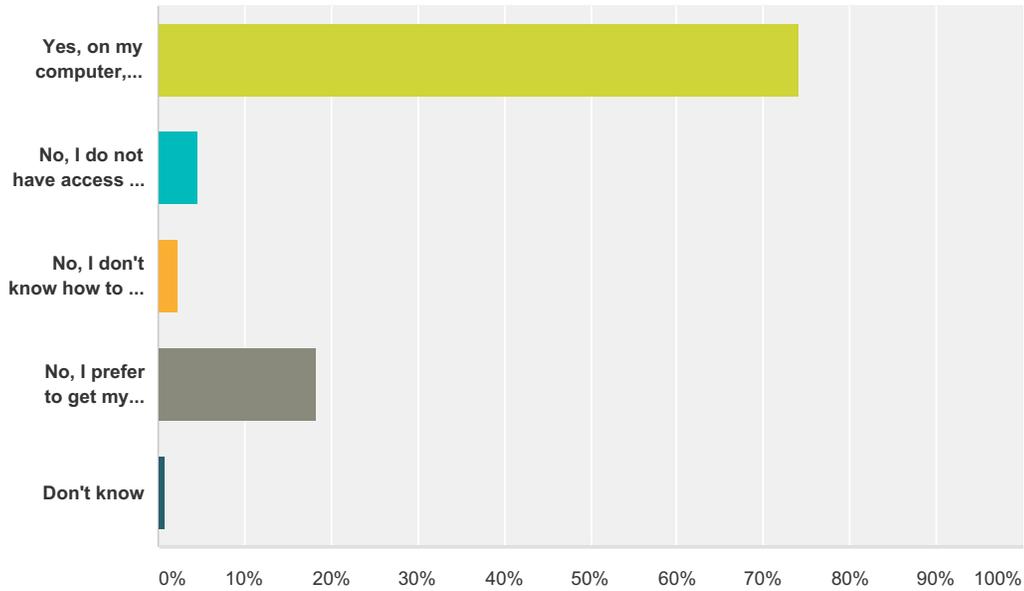
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
At a central physical location, such as the town bulletin board or the library	22.63%	62
Local newspaper	77.37%	212
Television	33.94%	93
Radio	19.34%	53
Via the Internet (such as town website)	38.32%	105
Via email	29.93%	82
Social media (Facebook or Twitter)	22.26%	61
Word of mouth (neighbors, friends and family)	67.52%	185
Don't know	0.73%	2
Other (please specify)	8.39%	23
Total Respondents: 274		

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	through my school (where I work)	4/15/2016 2:34 PM
2	I seldom find activities in Topsham.	4/14/2016 3:51 PM
3	Morning Glory	4/12/2016 2:23 PM
4	No TV; No internet; no social media; no word of mouth	4/12/2016 11:52 AM
5	Crier	4/12/2016 11:24 AM
6	The Cryer	4/11/2016 3:37 PM
7	Cryer then the information is always late	4/7/2016 5:31 PM
8	School	4/7/2016 1:37 PM
9	Highlands monthly bulletin	4/6/2016 4:10 PM
10	Coastal Journal, The Cryer - free publications	4/6/2016 3:49 PM
11	retirement community weekly newsletter	4/5/2016 11:21 AM
12	Topsham channel	4/1/2016 10:42 AM
13	Church bulletin	3/31/2016 9:09 AM
14	The Highlands	3/29/2016 3:10 PM
15	sunday papers	3/29/2016 10:07 AM
16	Great Midcoast papers & People Plus & Cryer, etc.	3/29/2016 9:50 AM
17	Didn't know events on town website	3/29/2016 9:28 AM
18	Free papers; The Coastal Journal, etc.	3/28/2016 2:11 PM
19	via an organization's website/email	3/28/2016 1:43 PM
20	Free flyers	3/27/2016 8:06 PM
21	Public bulletin boards	3/22/2016 1:50 PM
22	Library was a wealth of events and infomation I consider it the heart of Topsham.	3/19/2016 6:49 PM
23	Highland Green Management Matters	3/18/2016 9:31 PM

Q30 Do you regularly look for information on the Internet?

Answered: 267 Skipped: 35



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes, on my computer, smartphone or tablet	74.16%	198
No, I do not have access to the Internet because it is too expensive	4.49%	12
No, I don't know how to use the Internet	2.25%	6
No, I prefer to get my information other ways	18.35%	49
Don't know	0.75%	2
Total		267

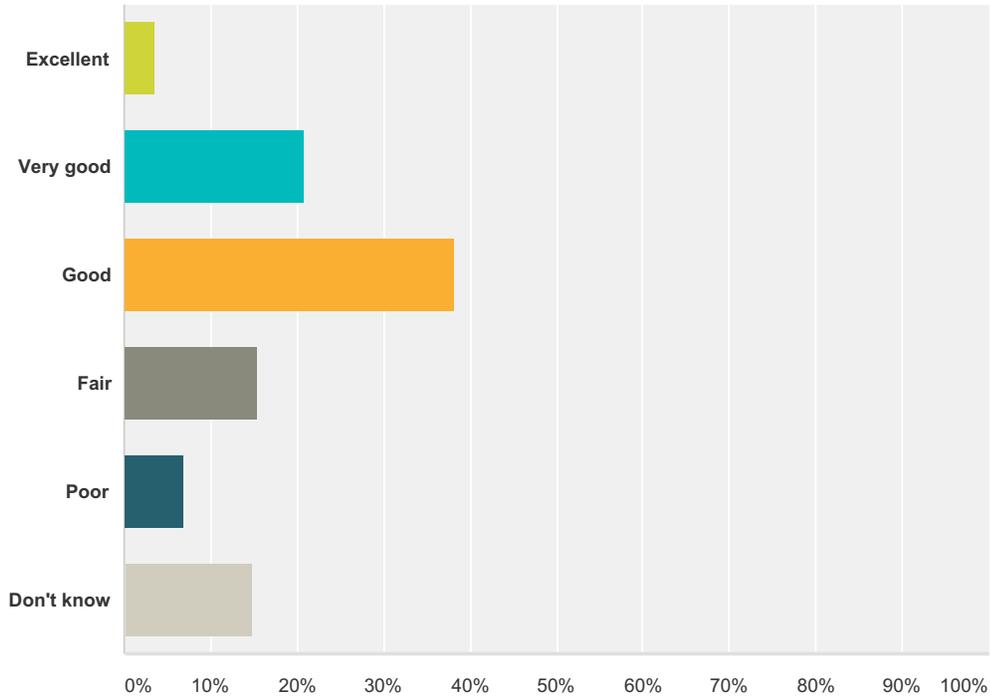
#	Comment	Date
1	or at least not very well	4/12/2016 2:23 PM
2	& they want your SS#!!! and it's SO HACKABLE!!! and won't send a paper bill!!! Discrimination.	4/12/2016 11:52 AM
3	Yes, but on a need to know basis.	4/11/2016 12:09 PM
4	Don't use a computer.	4/7/2016 5:09 PM
5	Both, I don't know how to use the internet and I prefer to get my information other ways	4/4/2016 3:07 PM
6	Occasional I'net inquires rely on Times Record or Sunday paper	3/31/2016 2:28 PM
7	all three no responses.	3/29/2016 4:22 PM
8	but not about Topsham	3/29/2016 3:10 PM
9	I can't afford a computer or internet or even cable tv.	3/29/2016 10:07 AM
10	Sometimes	3/28/2016 4:00 PM
11	Freebie's best!	3/28/2016 2:11 PM
12	I don't generally look for stuff going on in Topsham- too busy at this point	3/28/2016 10:04 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

13	Topsham should have a more competitive internet service	3/23/2016 3:50 PM
14	I use the computer at the library, since it does cost too much to have it at home	3/22/2016 5:44 PM

Q31 Overall, how would you rate the availability of information about programs and services in Topsham?

Answered: 277 Skipped: 25



Answer Choices	Responses
Excellent	3.61% 10
Very good	20.94% 58
Good	38.27% 106
Fair	15.52% 43
Poor	6.86% 19
Don't know	14.80% 41
Total	277

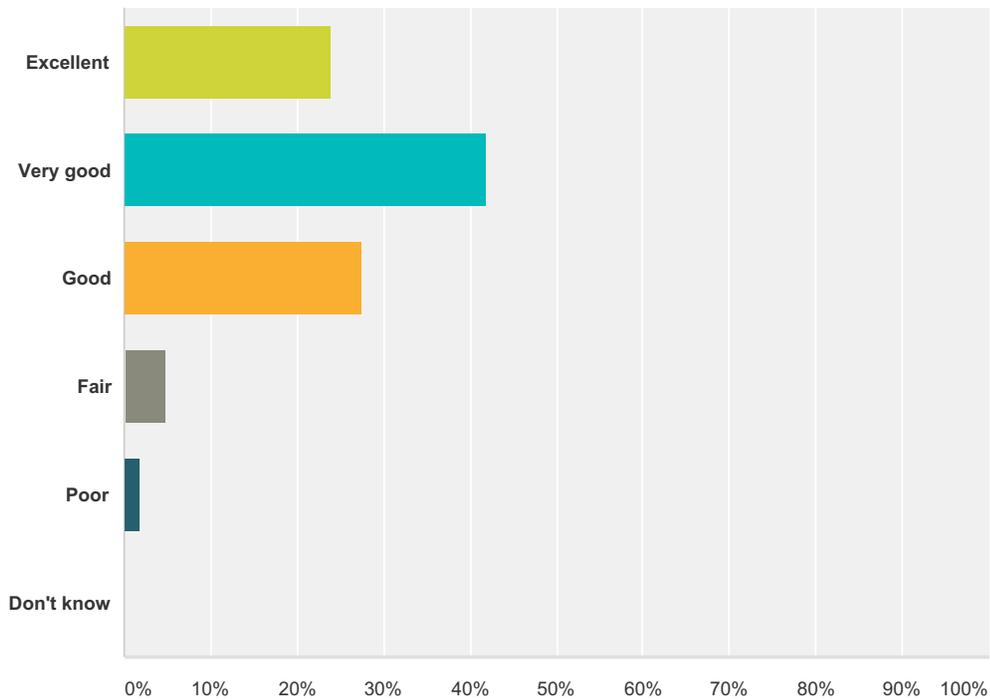
#	Comment	Date
1	Programs & services in town are limited.	4/14/2016 3:51 PM
2	I get the library newsletter, not much more.	4/12/2016 2:30 PM
3	Don't seek....my days are pretty full/self filling	4/7/2016 2:24 PM
4	The library seems to be the center for this period.	4/1/2016 10:03 AM
5	Too busy to look for new stuff.	3/31/2016 10:59 AM
6	Not published	3/31/2016 10:39 AM
7	Forecaster, Cryer etc are good	3/30/2016 4:36 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

8	Free papers are great!	3/29/2016 9:50 AM
9	Sometimes notices are sent out later than I would think optimum.	3/22/2016 9:06 AM
10	It is only good because I know where to look on the Internet and because of the Library.	3/20/2016 8:28 AM
11	We have good town and school websites.	3/18/2016 2:36 PM

Q32 Overall, how would you rate your health compared to most people your age?

Answered: 276 Skipped: 26

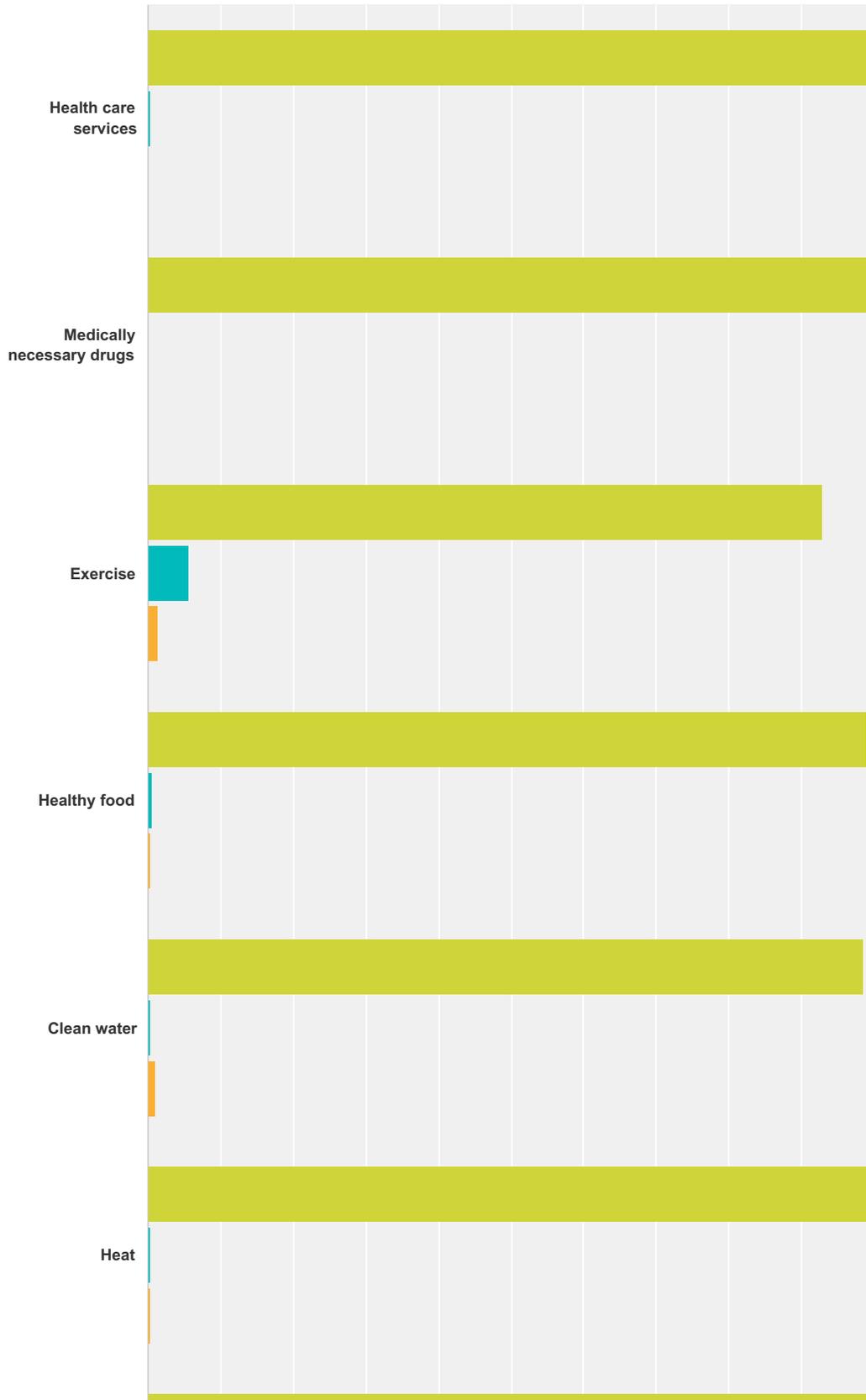


Answer Choices	Responses	
Excellent	23.91%	66
Very good	42.03%	116
Good	27.54%	76
Fair	4.71%	13
Poor	1.81%	5
Don't know	0.00%	0
Total		276

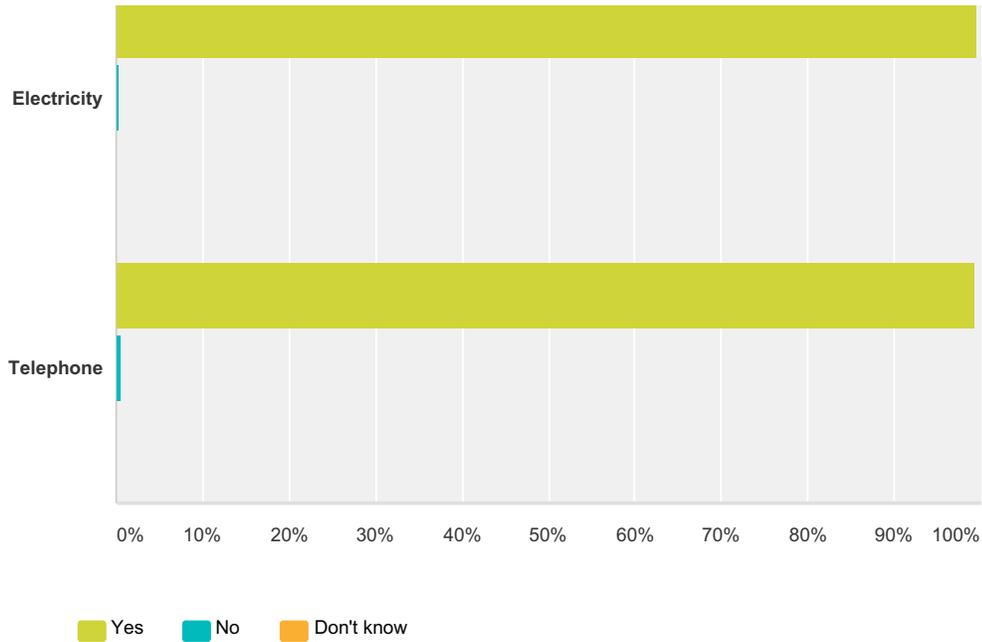
#	Comment	Date
1	aside from my disability	4/15/2016 10:39 AM
2	but, I am a stroke survivor, so you never know!	4/12/2016 2:32 PM
3	have Lyme disease - otherwise healthy	4/12/2016 2:24 PM
4	Extremely fortunate! And eager to improve it and see other seniors (all people, really) improving too!!!	4/12/2016 11:55 AM
5	I am very active! I never have smoked & I don't use alcohol. Lots of exercise & social engagement!	4/4/2016 12:16 PM
6	But instable on legs	4/1/2016 5:12 PM
7	Sadly, most people are in pathetic shape.	3/30/2016 4:09 PM
8	Despite the fact that I have a number of physical concerns, I seem to always consider myself healthy.	3/22/2016 5:47 PM

Q33 Do you have adequate access to the following

Answered: 277 Skipped: 25



Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey



	Yes	No	Don't know	Total
Health care services	99.64% 274	0.36% 1	0.00% 0	275
Medically necessary drugs	100.00% 274	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	274
Exercise	92.99% 252	5.54% 15	1.48% 4	271
Healthy food	98.91% 273	0.72% 2	0.36% 1	276
Clean water	98.54% 270	0.36% 1	1.09% 3	274
Heat	99.28% 275	0.36% 1	0.36% 1	277
Electricity	99.64% 276	0.36% 1	0.00% 0	277
Telephone	99.28% 274	0.72% 2	0.00% 0	276

#	Comment	Date
1	Can't afford healthy food	4/15/2016 2:42 PM
2	We are blessed.	4/15/2016 2:35 PM
3	Would be nice to have a place to walk inside in the wintertime	4/15/2016 2:02 PM
4	Live with brother and we share some expenses	4/14/2016 10:11 AM
5	internet should be on this list	4/12/2016 2:32 PM
6	drugs - whats necessary? heat - expensive electricity - variable; selling it?	4/12/2016 11:55 AM
7	Expensive Comcast cable - no competitors. Indoor pool?	4/12/2016 10:46 AM
8	very lucky!	4/11/2016 11:27 AM
9	Clean water is an issue since many of us use well water- no city water available	4/7/2016 1:26 PM

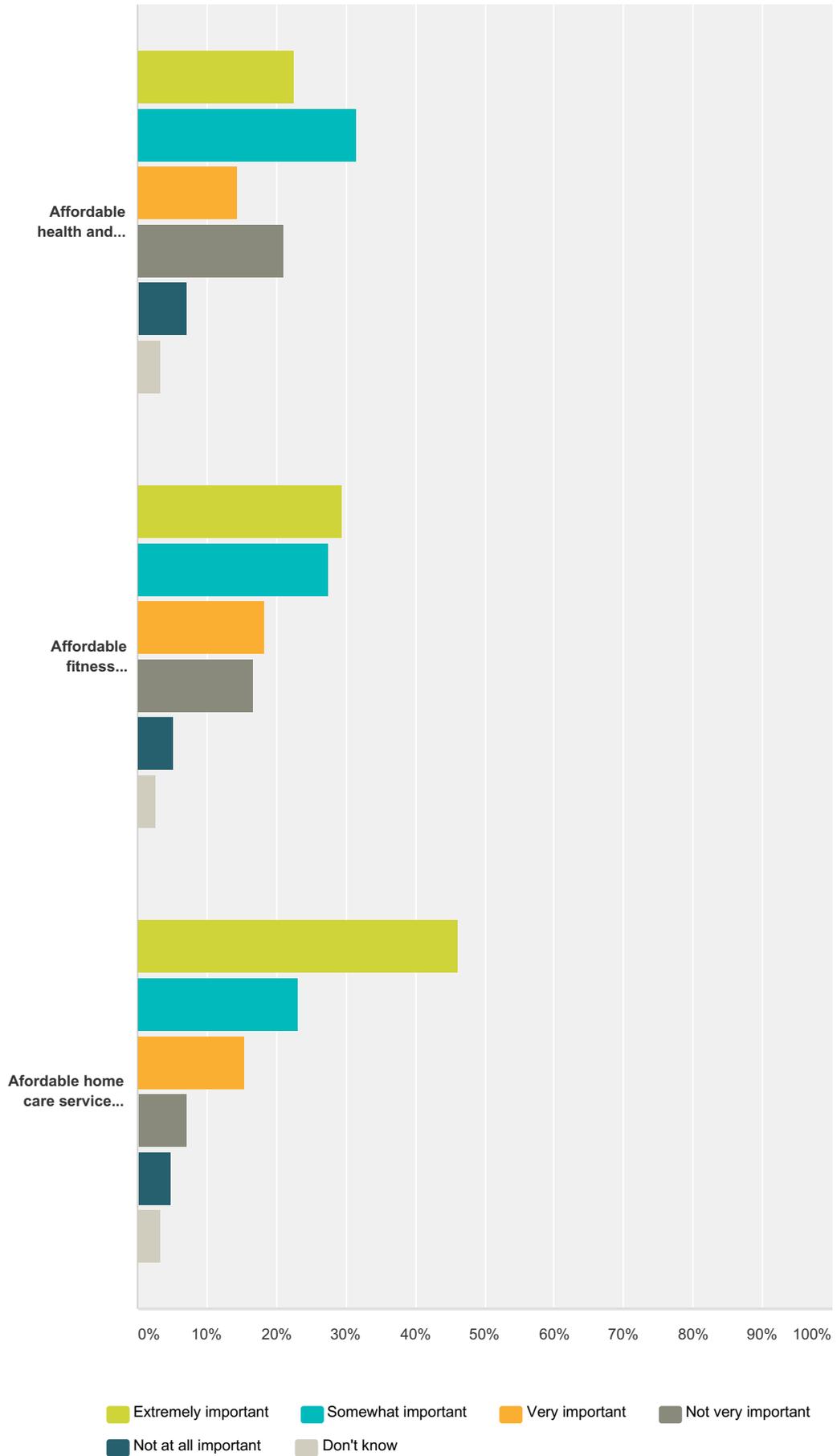
Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

10	With the rise of costs for these services, I worry for the future.	4/6/2016 3:38 PM
11	very poor cell phone reception in Bay Park	4/5/2016 4:01 PM
12	Medically necessary drugs = way too expensive!	4/5/2016 2:55 PM
13	The rewards of saving money for many years.	4/5/2016 11:59 AM
14	Why is there a monopoly on cable?	4/4/2016 3:55 PM
15	Why isn't internet on this list?	4/4/2016 3:28 PM
16	Cable is an issue. I wish there were other choices than Comcast.	4/1/2016 11:48 AM
17	I believe there is only one exercise place at the Topsham Mall. Would be nice to have a place where seniors could get together in Topsham for simple exercise or line dancing etc....	3/31/2016 11:03 AM
18	Added solar & heat pump.	3/31/2016 11:01 AM
19	Very lucky!	3/31/2016 10:40 AM
20	Medically necessary drugs = mail order We feel blessed!	3/29/2016 9:51 AM
21	Town Water, Sewer	3/28/2016 4:23 PM
22	Hugely important - Would like town sewer, access to natural gas line & competitive bundling of TV, phone, internet services. Topsham doesn't compare with Brunswick.	3/28/2016 9:45 AM
23	I keep my heat very low, but I still run out of oil sometimes and have to pay my bill in very small increments.	3/22/2016 5:47 PM
24	Do not take any medicine.	3/22/2016 9:07 AM
25	Cell phone coverage is poor	3/19/2016 5:26 PM

Q34 How important to you is it that the following is provided in Topsham

Answered: 272 Skipped: 30

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey



Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

	Extremely important	Somewhat important	Very important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know	Total
Affordable health and wellness classes such as nutrition and weight control	22.59% 61	31.48% 85	14.44% 39	21.11% 57	7.04% 19	3.33% 9	270
Affordable fitness activities such as exercise classes	29.48% 79	27.61% 74	18.28% 49	16.79% 45	5.22% 14	2.61% 7	268
Afordable home care services such as health and personal care	46.13% 125	23.25% 63	15.50% 42	7.01% 19	4.80% 13	3.32% 9	271

#	Comment	Date
1	But somehow the people who need to benefit from these services need to be encouraged to use them.	4/15/2016 2:35 PM
2	home care - not sure yet as not needed	4/12/2016 2:24 PM
3	for those in need	4/12/2016 11:55 AM
4	Cost of ambulance service from my house to hospital is extremely high. Insurance only pays half the cost.	4/12/2016 11:18 AM
5	Provided by Highlands	4/12/2016 11:00 AM
6	All would be great if we don't increase our town budget to pay for it	4/12/2016 9:41 AM
7	For the senior population, a senior center for fitness is needed. Seniors need a swimming pool to keep limber and especially in the winter we need need seveal indoor walking tracks. We need a facility designated for seniors which besides fitness areas to also include reading area, computer, cards...helping us make new friends, keep our minds active etc....	4/11/2016 3:20 PM
8	I don't normally participate in classes.	4/11/2016 12:10 PM
9	The order of responses changed - that may result in some people answering inaccurately given that the misjudged response.	4/11/2016 12:01 PM
10	Your "somewhat important" and "very important" buttons are reversed in this question (like they were in a previous question) it could be skewing answers! "Affordable" home health care is a misnomer- home health care is a covered benefit under peoples' insurance and generally there is no co-pay- so it should be 'affordable'! As for affordable long term/personal care in the home- most people can not afford to pay someone a working wage to provide that kind of care- and the state or federal gov't is unlikely going to be able to provide more benefits, and even if they could there is not a work force in the State of Maine that could provide such care for the number of individuals that we have and who need the care	4/8/2016 4:44 PM
11	Highlands has fitness classes.	4/6/2016 9:38 AM
12	supported by charities & non profits - not by taxpayers	4/5/2016 11:59 AM
13	Why is somewhat important rated higher than very important?	4/4/2016 3:55 PM
14	Again - Rec Center - or bus service	4/4/2016 12:28 PM
15	in the region not just Topsham but Brunswick/Topsham	4/4/2016 12:16 PM
16	Poorly worded answers!	3/31/2016 2:22 PM
17	Just because I don't need these now doesn't mean they won't be more important later	3/31/2016 11:01 AM
18	Not aware of these!	3/31/2016 10:40 AM
19	Not so much for me but we do have an aging population.	3/30/2016 4:38 PM
20	Home care might become very important in my future.	3/30/2016 4:09 PM
21	Highland Green provides the exercise/yoga programs	3/30/2016 10:53 AM
22	Services and classes seem available in Brunswick, if not here.	3/29/2016 1:47 PM
23	I am a retired nurse & therapist.	3/29/2016 9:51 AM
24	Out of Sequests	3/28/2016 4:23 PM
25	Independant so far	3/28/2016 2:12 PM
26	Not needed now but may need @ some point - then it would become important	3/28/2016 9:45 AM

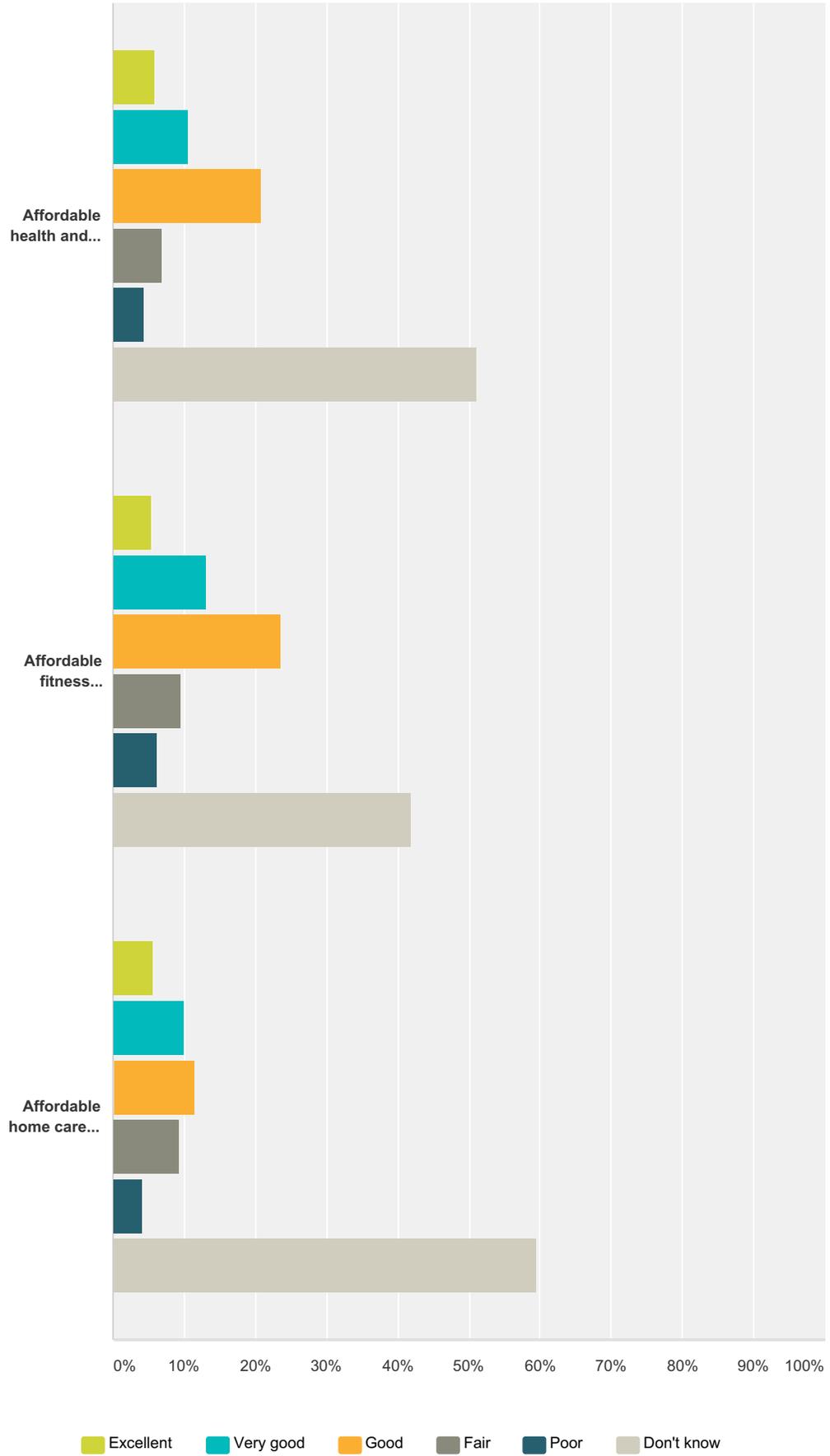
Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

27	While we do not yet need home services it is extremely important that they be available and affordable when we do.	3/20/2016 8:31 AM
28	I don't need home care services now, but may in the future.	3/18/2016 3:01 PM
29	Would love to have a few more gym opportunities to choose from, especially one that offers a variety of exercise classes!	3/18/2016 2:37 PM

Q35 Overall, how would you rate the availability of the following in Topsham

Answered: 274 Skipped: 28

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey



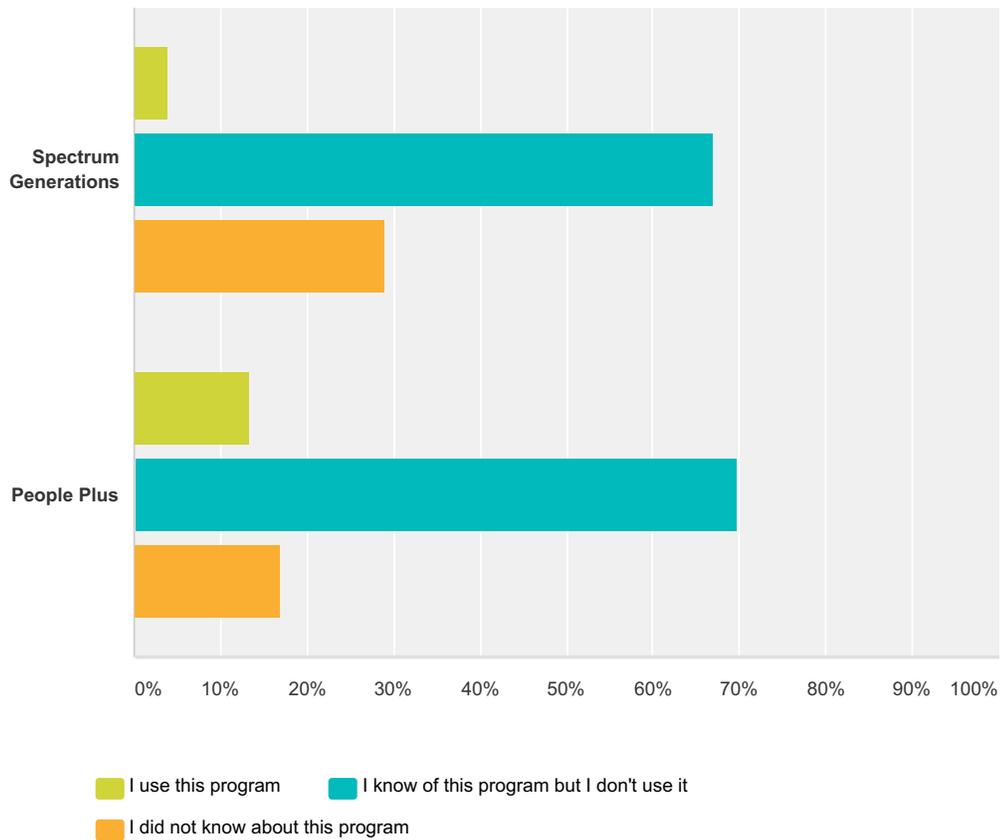
Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know	Total
Affordable health and wellness classes	5.88% 16	10.66% 29	20.96% 57	6.99% 19	4.41% 12	51.10% 139	272
Affordable fitness activities	5.51% 15	13.24% 36	23.53% 64	9.56% 26	6.25% 17	41.91% 114	272
Affordable home care services	5.58% 15	10.04% 27	11.52% 31	9.29% 25	4.09% 11	59.48% 160	269

#	Comment	Date
1	Never needed to access these services.	4/15/2016 2:35 PM
2	Member of Planet Fitness - Brunswick; also use Brunswick trail & dog park regularly	4/12/2016 2:32 PM
3	Chans in Brunswick	4/12/2016 10:46 AM
4	My guess is that they are more affordable for folks that qualify for medicare or have good private ins.	4/11/2016 12:01 PM
5	new to Topsham	4/11/2016 11:27 AM
6	I don't use these services.	4/11/2016 11:04 AM
7	Don't know about "affordable" both perse & to what extent lower income folds respond to this question	4/7/2016 2:27 PM
8	Not using these at this time	4/6/2016 4:05 PM
9	Topsham should have its own senior center.	4/5/2016 4:01 PM
10	Classes and fitness activities and participated in were in Brunswick	4/5/2016 2:10 PM
11	don't know Topsham had affordable health wellness fitness activities	4/1/2016 1:57 PM
12	Gym or fitness centers - privately owned \$35/mo YMCA \$65/mo are too expensive and YMCA is even double that expense. What about a town fitness center? for winter months?	4/1/2016 10:45 AM
13	go to Brunswick gym	3/31/2016 12:14 PM
14	What is affordable?	3/31/2016 11:01 AM
15	So need a gym like World/Planet in the imediate area. I was a member of World gym & the one at TFM is too expensive & fish bowl.	3/30/2016 4:38 PM
16	Less than 1 yr. resident	3/30/2016 9:31 AM
17	Merrymeeting Adult Ed is great need more (esp. indoor) fitness options	3/29/2016 4:16 PM
18	Currently I have no need.	3/28/2016 3:14 PM
19	Independent - only 56.	3/28/2016 2:12 PM
20	Our needs are covered at the Highlands	3/28/2016 1:35 PM
21	don't know	3/22/2016 5:47 PM
22	Excellent hospital	3/21/2016 11:15 AM
23	Highlands provides one and two (and to some extent three, although affordability is an issue).	3/20/2016 8:31 AM

Q36 Which of the following services for seniors do you currently use?

Answered: 270 Skipped: 32



	I use this program	I know of this program but I don't use it	I did not know about this program	Total
Spectrum Generations	3.88% 10	67.05% 173	29.07% 75	258
People Plus	13.41% 35	69.73% 182	16.86% 44	261

#	Comment	Date
1	Can't afford People Plus and haven't checked into Spectrum Generations	4/15/2016 2:04 PM
2	I volunteer at People Plus	4/14/2016 10:26 AM
3	I'm only 53! :)	4/12/2016 2:33 PM
4	None	4/12/2016 9:41 AM
5	membership fee...	4/11/2016 3:52 PM
6	membership fee	4/11/2016 3:26 PM
7	I don't use these programs	4/11/2016 11:04 AM
8	Not looking for a program or service	4/7/2016 2:01 PM
9	and don't need it	4/5/2016 12:00 PM
10	Very glad their here. I use them and recommend them to my friends.	4/4/2016 12:29 PM

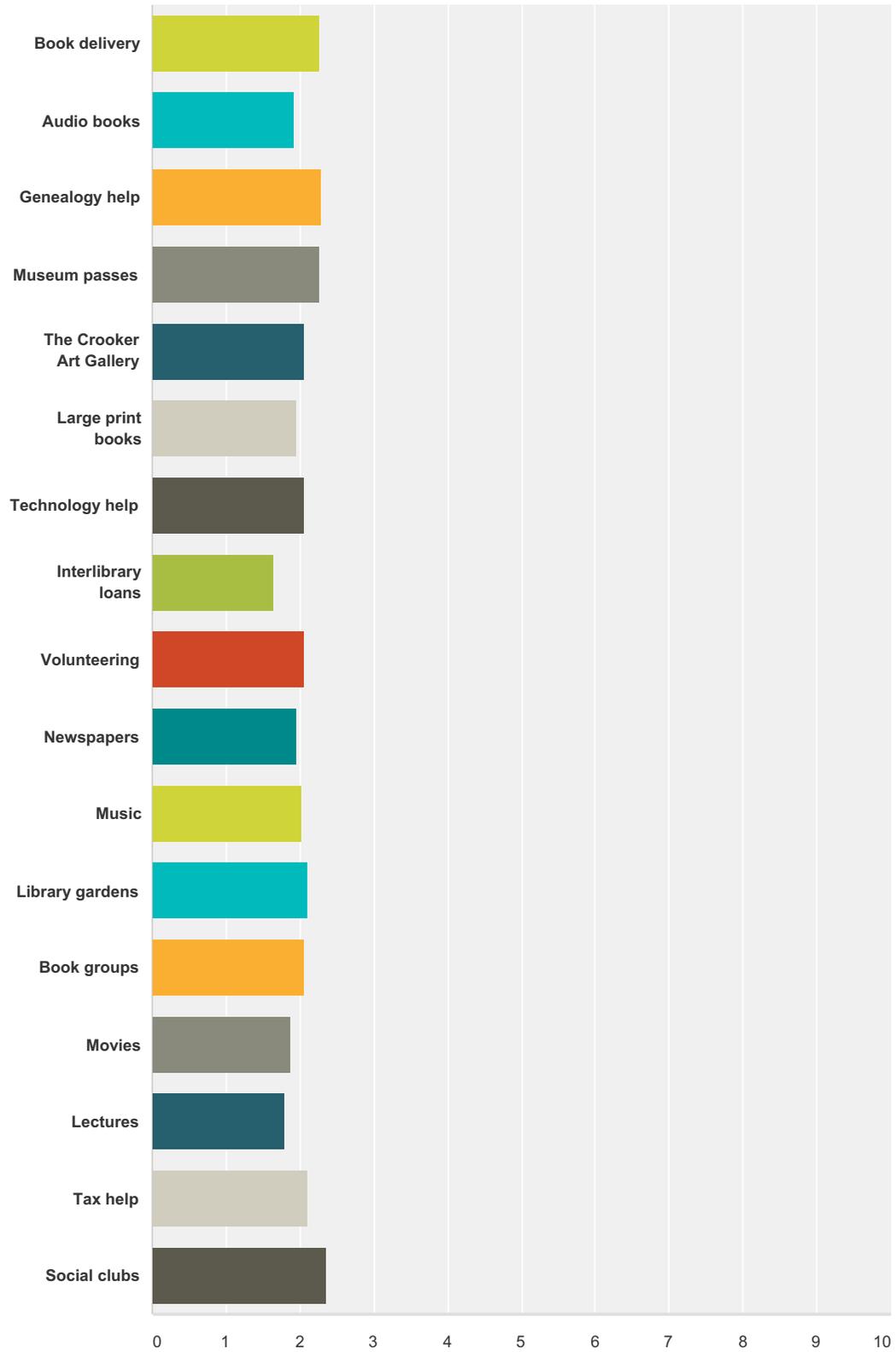
Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

11	People Plus = tried but didn't care for it, but Frank Connors is doing a great job of "running" it.	4/4/2016 11:37 AM
12	Have taken some fitness classes at P. Plus in the past.	3/31/2016 12:16 PM
13	Still working 3 days a week but might use the above once I'm retired	3/31/2016 11:05 AM
14	Might use them as I do less outdoors due to aging.	3/31/2016 11:02 AM
15	I belong to People Plus but rarely participate	3/31/2016 9:12 AM
16	I'm not old enough to use these services.	3/30/2016 4:10 PM
17	People Plus is too expensive to become a member, and many of their programs require a fee for non- members.	3/30/2016 11:11 AM
18	Attempts to use Spectrum was unhelpful and discontinued.	3/29/2016 4:24 PM
19	Love it	3/29/2016 2:28 PM
20	I'm 53 with kids at home, work fulltime. Not considering myself a senior yet.	3/29/2016 1:48 PM
21	People Plus offers lots of choices.	3/29/2016 9:53 AM
22	These are in Brunswick	3/29/2016 9:30 AM
23	People Plus (10 plus years)	3/28/2016 4:26 PM
24	Town of Topsham should support	3/28/2016 1:36 PM
25	Using none of these at this time.	3/23/2016 9:58 PM

Q37 Which of the following services at the Topsham Public Library do you currently use? (check all that apply.)

Answered: 257 Skipped: 45

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey



	I use this program	I know of this program but I do not use it	I did not know about this program	Total	Weighted Average
Book delivery	11.21% 25	49.33% 110	39.46% 88	223	2.28

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Audio books	20.09% 44	67.58% 148	12.33% 27	219	1.92
Genealogy help	4.88% 10	60.98% 125	34.15% 70	205	2.29
Museum passes	15.49% 33	41.31% 88	43.19% 92	213	2.28
The Crooker Art Gallery	30.70% 66	31.16% 67	38.14% 82	215	2.07
Large print books	18.35% 40	66.51% 145	15.14% 33	218	1.97
Technology help	16.19% 34	60.48% 127	23.33% 49	210	2.07
Interlibrary loans	52.74% 125	30.38% 72	16.88% 40	237	1.64
Volunteering	13.27% 28	66.35% 140	20.38% 43	211	2.07
Newspapers	19.72% 43	64.68% 141	15.60% 34	218	1.96
Music	18.75% 39	60.58% 126	20.67% 43	208	2.02
Library gardens	16.04% 34	58.02% 123	25.94% 55	212	2.10
Book groups	11.21% 24	71.50% 153	17.29% 37	214	2.06
Movies	30.56% 66	51.85% 112	17.59% 38	216	1.87
Lectures	35.59% 79	50.00% 111	14.41% 32	222	1.79
Tax help	11.27% 24	66.20% 141	22.54% 48	213	2.11
Social clubs	2.86% 6	58.57% 123	38.57% 81	210	2.36

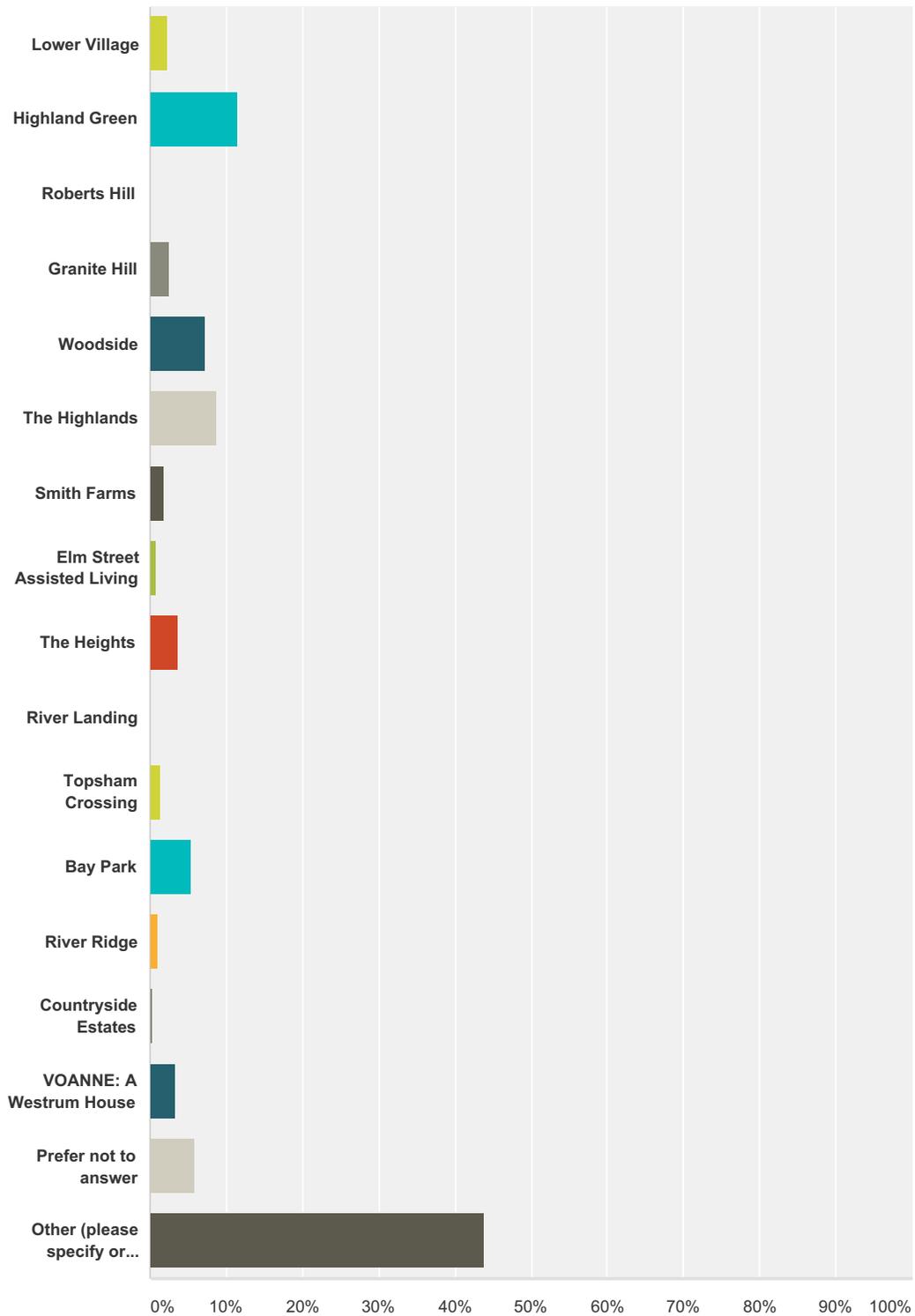
#	Comment	Date
1	I love the library	4/15/2016 10:40 AM
2	The Topsham Public Library is the best. If only it was open more days and extended hours. The town could benefit older patrons by increasing financial support of the library. Also the town could move up on the Town Meeting agenda any library related issue so it is one of the first items discussed. Older citizens and parents of young children are active library patrons yet tend not to stay at Town Meeting until 10pm - 11pm, etc to vote for TPL.	4/14/2016 5:27 PM
3	We do attend occasional programs for kids.	4/12/2016 2:33 PM
4	I'm remiss in not using the library more.	4/12/2016 11:56 AM
5	Rarely, if ever, use the library	4/12/2016 11:26 AM
6	volunteer at Brunswick Library	4/12/2016 10:47 AM
7	sometimes its hard to get to the library but it is very nice	4/11/2016 3:39 PM
8	I am a retired senior without transportation. I would like to increase my active life but without local bus service this keeps me limited. I would like to increase my sense of independence. A park with shade and lots of seating areas, walking areas etc. is needed for seniors. very important.	4/11/2016 3:26 PM
9	I use Curtis Memorial library	4/11/2016 11:40 AM
10	Tax help very very nice program	4/7/2016 5:10 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

11	It's a wonderful facility and well cared for and about (in many ways) and good staff	4/7/2016 2:28 PM
12	I do not go in the library.	4/6/2016 3:57 PM
13	Love our library!	4/6/2016 3:39 PM
14	I think TPL offers amazing programs-services	4/6/2016 11:23 AM
15	Movies where- theaters I know free??	4/6/2016 9:23 AM
16	Topsham Library is the best - we're fortunate to have it and the staff.	4/5/2016 3:44 PM
17	use Curtis Library - Brunswick	4/5/2016 2:24 PM
18	I do not use the public library, but support funding it.	4/5/2016 12:00 PM
19	Great tax preparation by AARP.	4/4/2016 3:22 PM
20	Don't use any	4/4/2016 2:47 PM
21	None	4/4/2016 1:35 PM
22	Their another service I am glad that Topsham has. They have been very helpful to me.	4/4/2016 12:29 PM
23	We use Curtis Memorial because my husband is a teacher in the Brunswick schools.	4/4/2016 12:17 PM
24	Sorry to say, I don't use any of these through the library	4/4/2016 9:33 AM
25	Do not use Topsham - Did NOT support the new building with strongly held belief that Brunswick & Topsham should continue working together. It has also been poorly located encouraging "sprawl."	4/1/2016 10:47 AM
26	Do check out books	3/31/2016 12:16 PM
27	Very appreciative of AARP tax help	3/31/2016 11:05 AM
28	Ebooks for Kindle & I Pad	3/31/2016 11:02 AM
29	I currently don't attend the library	3/31/2016 9:25 AM
30	Our library is the BEST!! You need to find funds to develop & support the library & expand its activities - make it a "green space" for elderly.	3/30/2016 4:40 PM
31	Don't go to the library	3/30/2016 2:12 PM
32	Use Highland's library	3/30/2016 1:28 PM
33	I will be checking out the library in the future	3/30/2016 10:38 AM
34	They are terrific. Books and gardens great combo. Wonderful staff. Friendly answer all local questions	3/30/2016 9:34 AM
35	Tax help = great!	3/29/2016 4:17 PM
36	I borrow books	3/29/2016 4:02 PM
37	Don't use public library	3/29/2016 3:56 PM
38	The Library should be in town not a country road!!!!	3/29/2016 11:01 AM
39	Basically I am busy person I have my own library - 9Books) and hobbies.	3/29/2016 10:09 AM
40	Tax help = NA	3/29/2016 9:53 AM
41	were members a couple of times with the library	3/28/2016 2:13 PM
42	None	3/28/2016 1:52 PM
43	Newspapers = poor offering tax help = wouldn't use social clubs = wouldn't use	3/28/2016 9:47 AM
44	Outstanding library. I have only lived in Topsham a year and a half, but Library staff and resources are by far my favorite community amenity. I should probably say necessity.	3/20/2016 8:35 AM
45	Hope to use the knitting group sometime soon. Please continue!	3/18/2016 2:39 PM
46	Not an active library user	3/17/2016 1:19 PM

Q38 What neighborhood or area do you live in?

Answered: 272 Skipped: 30



Answer Choices	Responses
----------------	-----------

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Lower Village	2.21%	6
Highland Green	11.40%	31
Roberts Hill	0.00%	0
Granite Hill	2.57%	7
Woodside	7.35%	20
The Highlands	8.82%	24
Smith Farms	1.84%	5
Elm Street Assisted Living	0.74%	2
The Heights	3.68%	10
River Landing	0.00%	0
Topsham Crossing	1.47%	4
Bay Park	5.51%	15
River Ridge	1.10%	3
Countryside Estates	0.37%	1
VOANNE: A Westrum House	3.31%	9
Prefer not to answer	5.88%	16
Other (please specify or indicate street/road name)	43.75%	119
Total		272

#	Other (please specify or indicate street/road name)	Date
1	In between Topsham Crossing and Bay Park	4/15/2016 2:45 PM
2	outer River Road	4/15/2016 2:37 PM
3	Spruce Lane	4/15/2016 2:09 PM
4	Elm St	4/15/2016 1:02 PM
5	area off Middlesex Rd, with Arbor Ave as entry road.	4/14/2016 5:29 PM
6	White Street	4/14/2016 2:00 PM
7	Madelyn Ave	4/14/2016 1:47 PM
8	Upper Bisson fields where the most appreciated smell that spring is here by the aromer in the am!	4/14/2016 10:58 AM
9	Foreside Road	4/14/2016 10:36 AM
10	Middlesex Rd.(Rt 24)	4/14/2016 10:27 AM
11	Atwood Road	4/14/2016 10:13 AM
12	Merrymeeting Drive	4/14/2016 10:00 AM
13	Is Pleasant St. "Lower Village"? These are vague	4/12/2016 2:42 PM
14	Middlesex Rd - don't know these neighborhood names	4/12/2016 2:36 PM
15	White St	4/12/2016 11:27 AM
16	Mallet Drive	4/12/2016 10:55 AM
17	Birchridge Estates	4/12/2016 10:49 AM
18	Foreside Road	4/12/2016 9:42 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

19	Jesse Rd	4/11/2016 12:03 PM
20	Middlesex Rd	4/11/2016 11:16 AM
21	off Foreside Rd	4/11/2016 11:05 AM
22	Upper Cathance Rd	4/11/2016 10:36 AM
23	off River Rd- I don't know what my neighborhood is called	4/8/2016 4:47 PM
24	Off 196 towards Lisbon Falls	4/8/2016 1:07 PM
25	Pejepscot area	4/7/2016 5:35 PM
26	Middlesex Rd	4/7/2016 5:17 PM
27	Westwind Dr	4/7/2016 5:04 PM
28	development off Arbor Ave	4/7/2016 4:58 PM
29	Augusta Rd	4/7/2016 4:52 PM
30	Winter St	4/7/2016 4:45 PM
31	Jesse Road	4/7/2016 2:35 PM
32	West of 295	4/7/2016 2:02 PM
33	River Rd	4/7/2016 1:50 PM
34	Brookside Dr.	4/7/2016 1:29 PM
35	Foreside Rd	4/6/2016 10:15 PM
36	Foreside	4/6/2016 3:51 PM
37	Foreside Road	4/6/2016 11:01 AM
38	Sunward Ln	4/6/2016 10:51 AM
39	Forest Drive	4/6/2016 9:12 AM
40	Twin Pond Rd	4/5/2016 3:09 PM
41	Foreside Rd.	4/5/2016 2:27 PM
42	Elm St Historic District	4/5/2016 2:19 PM
43	Rural Middlesex Road	4/5/2016 2:11 PM
44	Pleasant Point Road	4/5/2016 10:42 AM
45	Rural-FArm area	4/5/2016 10:17 AM
46	Foreside Rd	4/4/2016 3:57 PM
47	River Rd	4/4/2016 3:29 PM
48	Arbor Ave area	4/4/2016 3:09 PM
49	Birch Ridge Ave	4/4/2016 3:01 PM
50	Elm St	4/4/2016 2:24 PM
51	Topsham East	4/4/2016 1:57 PM
52	Loop Rd	4/4/2016 1:51 PM
53	Ward Rd	4/4/2016 1:36 PM
54	Homeplace	4/4/2016 1:29 PM
55	Ivanhoe Drive (is that what you mean by "Countryside Estates?")	4/4/2016 12:20 PM
56	Foreside Rd area - along river	4/4/2016 11:39 AM
57	Old Farm Road	4/4/2016 11:09 AM
58	Foreside Rd	4/2/2016 5:10 PM
59	Mallett Drive-Topsham	4/1/2016 1:35 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

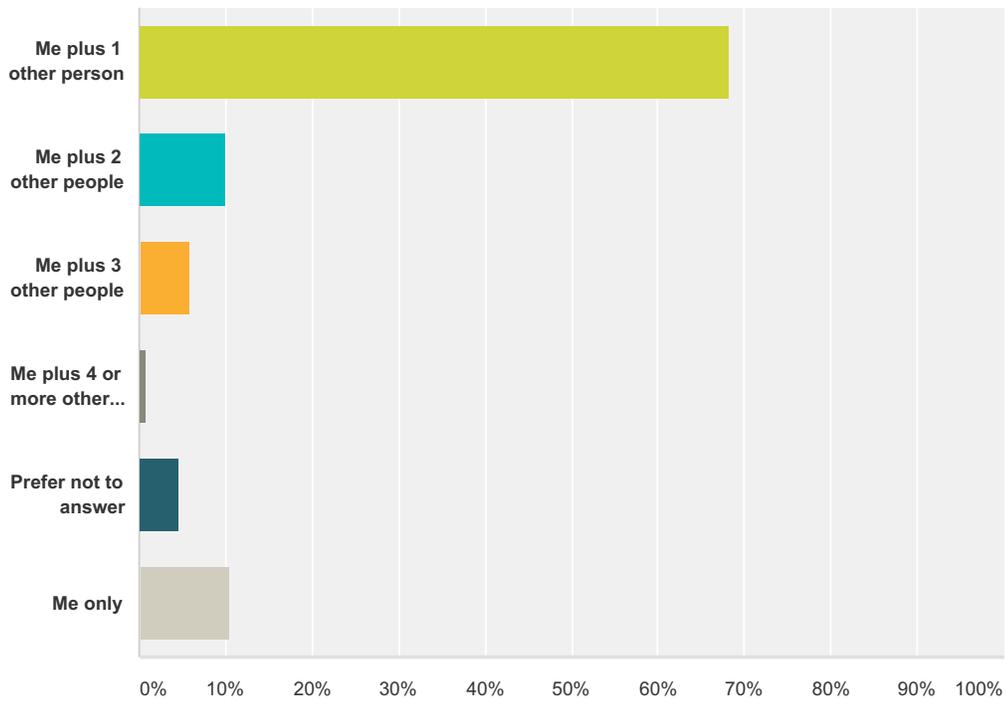
60	Adams Landing	4/1/2016 11:50 AM
61	Rt 196	4/1/2016 10:53 AM
62	Foreside Rd area	4/1/2016 9:39 AM
63	21 Thomas Ave-Single,owned home	3/31/2016 2:32 PM
64	Bridge St	3/31/2016 2:12 PM
65	Elm St	3/31/2016 12:34 PM
66	Homeplace	3/31/2016 12:16 PM
67	River Rd	3/31/2016 12:06 PM
68	Pleasant Point Road	3/31/2016 11:53 AM
69	Garden Drive	3/31/2016 11:08 AM
70	Foreside Rd	3/31/2016 11:03 AM
71	Ever hear of Hanson Dr?	3/31/2016 10:41 AM
72	Foreside Rd	3/31/2016 10:14 AM
73	Oak Hill	3/31/2016 9:27 AM
74	196	3/31/2016 9:02 AM
75	Pinewood Drive	3/30/2016 4:21 PM
76	Pleasant Point Road	3/30/2016 4:12 PM
77	Near the Bisson Farm	3/30/2016 2:52 PM
78	Rt 24 Middlesex Rd	3/30/2016 11:56 AM
79	Meadow Cross Rd	3/30/2016 10:47 AM
80	32 Marc Ave.	3/30/2016 10:39 AM
81	West Hill Woods Condo. Lewiston Rd.	3/30/2016 9:36 AM
82	ward road	3/29/2016 6:54 PM
83	Pleasant St	3/29/2016 4:52 PM
84	Elm St Historic District	3/29/2016 4:35 PM
85	Foreside	3/29/2016 4:25 PM
86	Arbor Avenue	3/29/2016 3:57 PM
87	Condos across from Mt Ararat	3/29/2016 2:56 PM
88	Pinewood Drive	3/29/2016 1:55 PM
89	Outer 201	3/29/2016 1:09 PM
90	Maynard Drive	3/29/2016 11:10 AM
91	Cahtance Road	3/29/2016 11:02 AM
92	Cathance Rd.	3/29/2016 10:43 AM
93	River Rd	3/29/2016 10:28 AM
94	Barron's Hill I Complex	3/29/2016 10:11 AM
95	Off Foreside	3/29/2016 9:31 AM
96	Maynard Drive	3/29/2016 9:15 AM
97	Blueberry Lane	3/28/2016 3:16 PM
98	Ivanhoe Dr	3/28/2016 3:03 PM
99	83 Leanne St	3/28/2016 2:51 PM
100	Andrea St.	3/28/2016 2:36 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

101	The Forgotten Topsham/Lisbon Falls townline. 1159-1163 Lewiston Road where the trash is never picked up to the end of the town line. There has been a couch cushion down by the boat launch that has been there for 3 year springs now!	3/28/2016 2:16 PM
102	on Foreside Road/Side road	3/28/2016 2:00 PM
103	Hillcrest Lane off Foreside Road	3/28/2016 10:57 AM
104	Riverview Drive	3/28/2016 10:30 AM
105	Old Tavern neighborhood	3/28/2016 10:08 AM
106	you do not have our neighborhood listed!!!	3/28/2016 9:49 AM
107	Pejepscot, River Road	3/28/2016 9:14 AM
108	Maynard drive	3/26/2016 4:59 PM
109	River rd	3/23/2016 4:21 PM
110	small neighborhood off Foreside near the library. question 39--there's just me.	3/22/2016 5:51 PM
111	Munroe Lane	3/22/2016 9:09 AM
112	Munroe Lane	3/20/2016 11:04 PM
113	Rural area	3/20/2016 11:15 AM
114	Foreside Road	3/19/2016 7:12 PM
115	Foreside Rd	3/19/2016 6:58 PM
116	Foreside Rd	3/17/2016 5:09 PM
117	3 Willis Rd	3/17/2016 4:57 PM
118	Adeas Lane off Foreside	3/16/2016 9:59 PM
119	Family subdivision.	3/16/2016 10:36 AM

Q39 How many people are there in your household?

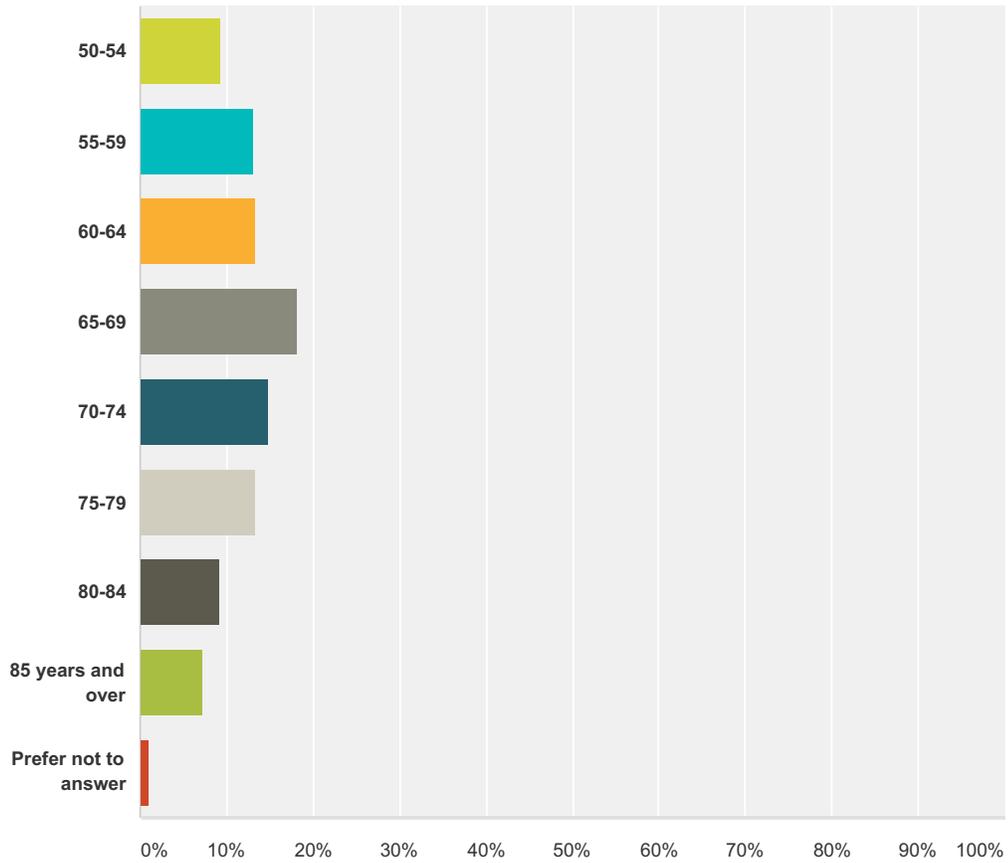
Answered: 259 Skipped: 43



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Me plus 1 other person	68.34%	177
Me plus 2 other people	10.04%	26
Me plus 3 other people	5.79%	15
Me plus 4 or more other people	0.77%	2
Prefer not to answer	4.63%	12
Me only	10.42%	27
Total		259

Q40 What is your age?

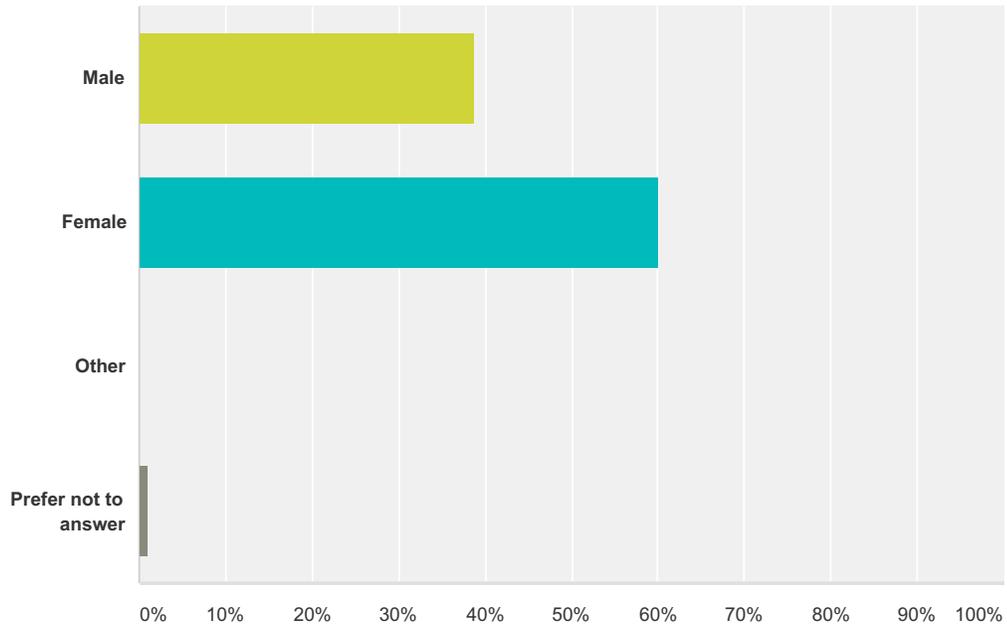
Answered: 275 Skipped: 27



Answer Choices	Responses	
50-54	9.45%	26
55-59	13.09%	36
60-64	13.45%	37
65-69	18.18%	50
70-74	14.91%	41
75-79	13.45%	37
80-84	9.09%	25
85 years and over	7.27%	20
Prefer not to answer	1.09%	3
Total		275

Q41 What is your gender identity?

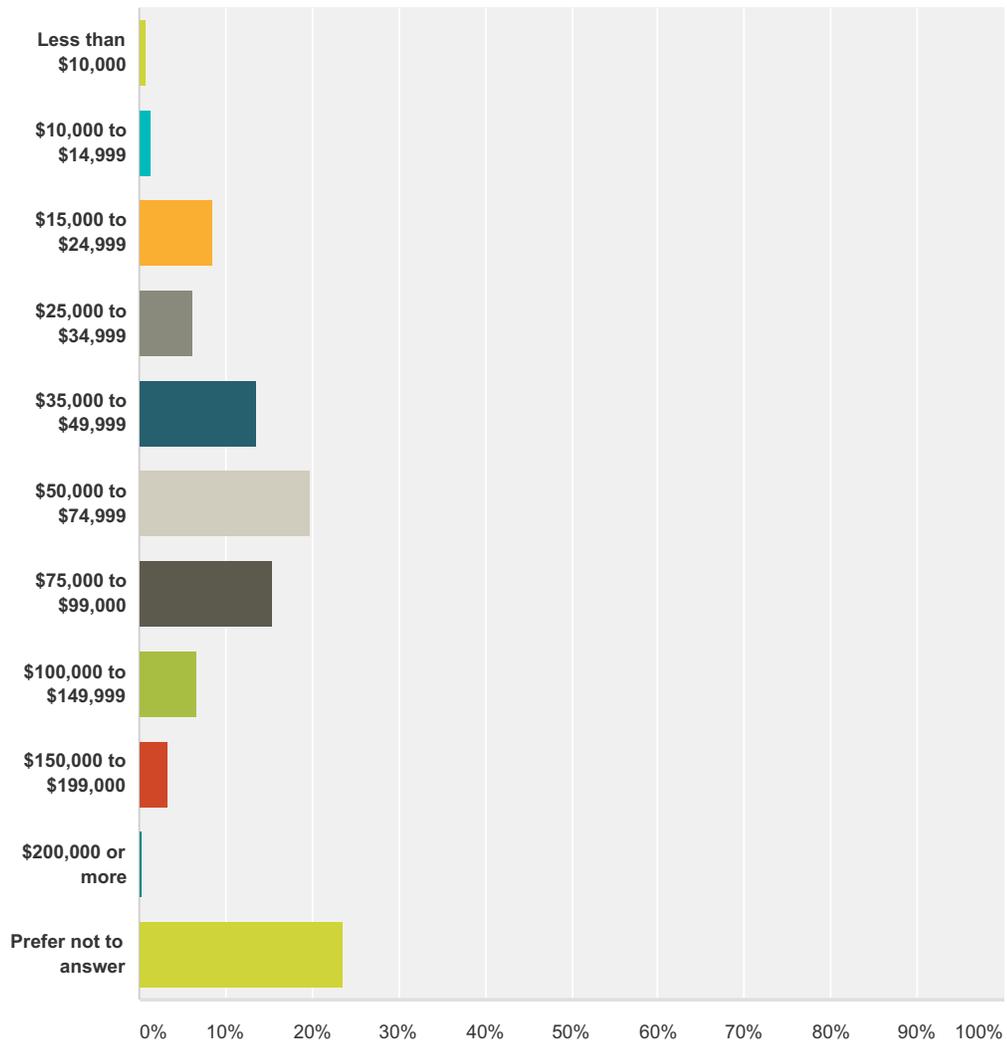
Answered: 271 Skipped: 31



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Male	38.75%	105
Female	60.15%	163
Other	0.00%	0
Prefer not to answer	1.11%	3
Total		271

Q42 What range best describes your annual household income?

Answered: 271 Skipped: 31



Answer Choices	Responses
Less than \$10,000	0.74% 2
\$10,000 to \$14,999	1.48% 4
\$15,000 to \$24,999	8.49% 23
\$25,000 to \$34,999	6.27% 17
\$35,000 to \$49,999	13.65% 37
\$50,000 to \$74,999	19.93% 54
\$75,000 to \$99,000	15.50% 42
\$100,000 to \$149,999	6.64% 18
\$150,000 to \$199,000	3.32% 9

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

\$200,000 or more	0.37%	1
Prefer not to answer	23.62%	64
Total		271

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Q43 Is there anything else you would like to tell us about aging in place in Topsham?

Answered: 89 Skipped: 213

#	Responses	Date
1	Some of this questionnaire is difficult to answer...important to you...OK for for the comments and others eg. I don't use some services, but ___ ___ for other older people. My reaction in live in Highland Green ___ some of the questionnaire.	4/15/2016 2:53 PM
2	It is cost prohibitive to age in place Topsham. Most of the answers apply to my wife. I will be gone.	4/15/2016 2:45 PM
3	As I am just 50, this survey was interesting. The questions made me think about many issues I have not really thought about yet. I love Topsham and do plan to stay here.	4/15/2016 2:37 PM
4	I like living in this town but I am being taxed out of my home.	4/15/2016 2:09 PM
5	Thank you for sending the survey! :)	4/14/2016 5:29 PM
6	Public transportation would improve ability to age in place.	4/14/2016 3:53 PM
7	NO	4/14/2016 1:47 PM
8	As a person living on a fixed income I would wish that tax increase take more of social security rate increase	4/14/2016 10:58 AM
9	Taxes are too high!!!	4/14/2016 10:36 AM
10	Transportation for old folds can be a problem as we get older and more feeble.	4/14/2016 10:27 AM
11	only that I'm not ready yet! Thank you for preparing thoughtfully! It probably would have been cheaper and faster to do this online - maybe a future survey could collect email addresses of those able to do so, and next time you can cut paper & mailing costs.	4/12/2016 2:36 PM
12	protect the environment & green spaces - very important. Don't let it be eaten up by the shopping malls.	4/12/2016 2:25 PM
13	see attached letter	4/12/2016 11:58 AM
14	We love living here and our connection to the town.	4/12/2016 11:02 AM
15	Very nice place to live, but no in between housing for 55+ adults, either trailer parks or Riverview or \$300k condo - nothing in between. We need more condos for middle income people.	4/12/2016 10:49 AM
16	High taxes are driving elderly away from there homes	4/12/2016 9:42 AM
17	It has been noted in certain online publications that Topsham is one of the safest communities in Maine. I agree.	4/12/2016 9:39 AM
18	Aging in Topsham - I enjoy the pace of Topsham. It's a wonderful town. -Topsham needs to consider what they do to increase the independence of seniors who do not drive. - Topsham needs a park - so necessary when winters in Maine can be long. - Need a senior center with emphasis on physical, mental & social activities. Badly need a pool, none of the gyms in town offer a pool. So I hope with grants, fundraising Topsham can build such a facility within the next 2 yrs or sooner. - I love that there are plenty of walking trails but without a bus service to them it is limited to me. - I hope you can find the funds for public transportation. Appreciate the survey	4/11/2016 3:31 PM
19	I've really enjoyed living at Westrum House...very nice people.	4/11/2016 3:03 PM
20	The most significant obstacle is affordable yard/lawn care and good removal - cleaning as well.	4/11/2016 12:03 PM
21	need special places for parking - not handicap	4/11/2016 11:05 AM
22	I love Topsham and would be happy to stay here as long as I can have transportation should I ever be unable to drive	4/11/2016 10:56 AM
23	Town of Topsham should provide funds to People Plus so we don't have to pay a higher fee to be a member.	4/8/2016 5:52 PM
24	A Concerned citizen - I didn't bother to fill in the survey because I've lived in Topsham since I was born which 86 years and I've travel and wouldn't live anywhere else. But there is something that bothers me. Why don't you get rid of two eyesores. The small house near Cox Insurance in the small gully and also Bill Young's place near Regional Atlantic Credit Union. With all those nice buildings around there that looks awful.	4/7/2016 5:39 PM
25	I think this was a great idea. I enjoyed do it. I hope to get the results of this ___.	4/7/2016 5:35 PM
26	It would be nice to have program, for use to help the elderly both the youth benefit for small jobs.	4/7/2016 5:12 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

27	Thank you for doing this survey 1. It is important for many reasons. I look forward to the results. 2. It would be good to know the % of responses, ie, # returned by # mailed and # returned (...to sender") buy the USPS. 1. Well designed. 2.ANNOUNCING: A. The are available B. A brief, eriting summary! List of high/revealing points C. What will happen to/because of the results	4/7/2016 2:35 PM
28	The Town "sold out" years ago. It's first TIF to the Highlands. How about the candle factory? We add more town position fast that tax increases can keep up. We'll be hard pressed to pay for our unfunded future liabilities. Most of our tax base is residential. Our taxes (property) will continue to rise faster than we can continue to keep up with. Taking a tough stance on this issue will probably be elusive as always. Simply saying NO could be a viable option. It's one of the shortest words in the English language. It only has two letters and it's very easy to pronounce. Try it "No, we can't afford it." I use it on my daughter fairly often, She always gets over it. We use it often in our personal lives. Not much in town spending. No is not a naughty word.	4/7/2016 1:50 PM
29	I think more sage walking and bicycling trails is the key.	4/7/2016 1:29 PM
30	We love it here. The train service to Portland then the bus to Boston, Logan Airport. We are very fortunate to spend our last years here.	4/6/2016 4:13 PM
31	Would like to know where to find workers willing to do house maintenance.	4/6/2016 3:40 PM
32	It's a good place to be	4/6/2016 11:24 AM
33	I have enjoyed living in Topsham for the short time I've been here. Most older citizens live on a fixed income. So as the rates go up water - twice in 6 months & other things - your older people will not be able to stay here & will find another place to live...consider those words. Thank you	4/6/2016 9:25 AM
34	My neighbors are friendly and fun. We walk around Bay Park together. No sidewalk, but that's OK for now.	4/5/2016 4:04 PM
35	glad we have 24 hr rescue service/EMT	4/5/2016 3:55 PM
36	I am thankful for our excellent EMT's & all emergency services.	4/5/2016 3:45 PM
37	Interested in more collective arrangements for pooling ___ with one another - a la neighbors, but ___/shared/coop style	4/5/2016 3:09 PM
38	Real estate taxes are too high, if increase continues I will move away from Topsham.	4/5/2016 12:01 PM
39	Live in rural area-Do n longer drive-so many items in questionnaire-Do not apply	4/5/2016 10:17 AM
40	Mobility and access to transportation is key to avoid isolation.	4/4/2016 3:57 PM
41	I'd like to see the Selectboard pay more attention to things like this. They don't seem to seek out opinions of residents. Presumably they will read the survey results	4/4/2016 3:31 PM
42	It's expensive to retire here.	4/4/2016 3:23 PM
43	Cut school budget...residents over 50 do not have a child in school, yet pay the same tax rate.	4/4/2016 3:01 PM
44	Good questions	4/4/2016 1:57 PM
45	I think the Town Managers have done a good job. This is a nice town to live in - adult ed. is good - The library is also. Government offices helpful - nice place to live.	4/4/2016 12:31 PM
46	One of the reasons we might sell & move when we retire is the isolation of our neighborhood. I'd like to be able to walk to a coffee shop or library or food store rather than have to drive everywhere. We'd like to have just one car. We have 2 now because we need to for work. Why didn't you use survey monkey on line? Save paper & stamps!	4/4/2016 12:20 PM
47	Will probably stay in Topsham for the duration. May move to a condo or mobile home if taking care of my own home gets too much for me.	4/4/2016 11:39 AM
48	Wonderfull neabears People are wonderfull	4/1/2016 1:35 PM
49	I'm new to the area and have not explored these options.	4/1/2016 11:50 AM
50	Topsham needs to be more business friendly.	4/1/2016 10:53 AM
51	It's a good place to age.	4/1/2016 9:28 AM
52	Today I do not know that answer	3/31/2016 2:29 PM
53	Nope!	3/31/2016 12:40 PM
54	Having worked in senior housing suggest problem was transportation for residents who didn't own a car would like to see more low cost transportation or expansion of volunteer transportation program, perhaps paying volunteer a stipend?	3/31/2016 11:08 AM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

55	What I need & use today may be very different in 20 years as I loose mobility or mental health.	3/31/2016 11:03 AM
56	We enjoy a quiet life!	3/31/2016 10:41 AM
57	Be able to add on to use your own property	3/31/2016 10:14 AM
58	We need adult "playgrounds" ie green spaces in each neighborhood to get the elderly out of house to sit & socialize : see Q37	3/30/2016 4:41 PM
59	Freeze property taxes for retired persons - or limit % increase. Provide transportation to/from town & to/from doctor appts.	3/30/2016 4:12 PM
60	I live alone.	3/30/2016 11:56 AM
61	I live alone.	3/30/2016 11:11 AM
62	Proactive surveys like this demonstrate caring and good planning	3/30/2016 9:36 AM
63	Working in healthcre locally, it is evident that we do not have adequate elder housing that is affordable for those on fixed incomes and/or that next brackett of working elders that are above the subsidy level yet unable to find approp. housing. Would love to see a Highland type facility of cottage living, subsidized and supported with transportation& support services for that group of elders who have limited retirement income. Providing services for this group of aging adults is going to have to become a priority as the boomers move into retirement. I personally will not need this but currently am aware of several neighbors in their 80's~still employed parttime and are struggling to maintain/and or find housing. Topsham is a wonderful community and overall our town leaders have and are doing a wonderful job! T.Y! L.-	3/29/2016 4:52 PM
64	I live alone.	3/29/2016 4:25 PM
65	I live alone.	3/29/2016 4:10 PM
66	If the real estate taxes continue to rise as they have every year I've been here, I may have to move	3/29/2016 3:15 PM
67	This is a wonderful town.	3/29/2016 11:33 AM
68	No	3/29/2016 11:10 AM
69	I live alone.	3/29/2016 10:28 AM
70	I do not want to get older	3/29/2016 10:17 AM
71	I live alone. More dance places for older people whom like 50's, 60's, 70's 80's music	3/29/2016 10:11 AM
72	I'm the only one in the house.	3/29/2016 9:02 AM
73	By now my responses have identified me	3/28/2016 4:28 PM
74	Concerned about affordable assisted living in the future	3/28/2016 3:07 PM
75	I am the only one in the house.	3/28/2016 3:03 PM
76	I am the only one in the house.	3/28/2016 2:51 PM
77	Seem to be proactive!	3/28/2016 2:16 PM
78	We would love to see Olive Garden come here	3/28/2016 10:57 AM
79	No	3/28/2016 10:30 AM
80	No- our taxes are too high though.	3/28/2016 10:08 AM
81	Basicall a spread out rural community - few site walks - limited sewer service & natural gas access	3/28/2016 9:49 AM
82	Thursday Hikers meet every Thursday leaving in the winter 8:45am Summer 8:30am from the MidCoast Prebyterian Church Parking Lot for Hikes	3/23/2016 3:58 PM
83	No, but I really don't know much more about it. I wish Brunswick and Topsham had a more extensive public transportation network.	3/22/2016 5:51 PM
84	Let's get together (seniors) and start a dialogue as Bowdoinham has and go from there. Not one person living, will escape aging, so let us prepare.	3/20/2016 11:15 AM
85	I recognize our good fortune in being able to live in The Highlands and regret that I am not more aware of local issues impacting those who are less so. I do strongly support community and government programs to assist at-risk elderly residents aging in place. Thank you.	3/20/2016 8:41 AM
86	Affordable apartment if we are unable to stay in our house.	3/19/2016 6:58 PM

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

87	I live alone. That was not a choice.	3/19/2016 5:28 PM
88	Thank you for doing this survey	3/19/2016 3:53 PM
89	Would appreciate more family friendly businesses at the Topsham Fair Mall that includes restaurants, stores, and gyms. Thank you for caring and giving us the opportunity for feedback!	3/18/2016 2:42 PM

#43

I'd love to see small to medium quality built aging in place single family homes in a regular neighborhood (i.e. Public roads & services/no association [formal codes w/a Board of Directors]/ no dues/meetings/ special assessments/ votes/ etc.). Just want homes built for our age group.

Having a Board of Directors poses several problems: some have more "power & decision making authority" than others; some individual goals & rights are lost; there can be abuses of power; can be money spent in ways that are not in accordance with an individuals' goals & values; meetings, issues, differences and goals, values, priorities, wishes, time and money lead to some compromises some don't want to make at this stage of life. Finally, we've arrived at Elder Wisdom to have town planners diminish our rights, freedoms & finances??? Not truly an American ideal. Our freedoms & choices are limited, expenses too high, and we're too crowded! Seniors want choices in housing – w/quality homes to age in place healthy, happily & affordably with minimum interferences, fees & handymen!

Continued in letter "to surveyors" attached to the same survey

Surveyors:

Thank you very much for your survey and interest in what seniors need and want. It's an impressive questionnaire. My hope is the town will learn how to meet seniors' needs and wants- so that we, and all who come after us-have a much better, more active and involved Quality of Life than previous generation have had.

I've seen 8-10 services of my parents, generation make aging choices. Several went to live in 55+ communities with homes, Assisted Living section and Nursing Homes. "All needs taken care of"-so they say.

Without a doubt and without exception these people entered a system **Designed** for their decline and demise!!! Some places were very fancy, beautiful and expensive with many "offerings"-tennis, spa, hair dresser, gift shop.....etc.

These places, (like the Highlands) are **PLANNED** for the purchases health decline! This not healthy, it's not care, it's not Health Care!!! It's the promotion of the notion that is "getting old" and headed for the Nursing Home!!! That is a mighty, negative point of view and I think it is, by its nature, NOT good for people's health, optimism, activity, responsibility for self-care and independence! In fact, it is entry into a system that's that is all about Dependence!!!! And lots and lots of profit.

I am categorically against any system that minimizes, warns, forecasts or plans for my (and others) dependences- that the very opposite of caring about someone's health!

Instead, I want people and systems designed to encourage, empower, model and plan for my Independence! And I want that for other seniors and for the next generation when it's their turn. I want systems that expect the very best for me, which does not include planning for Assisted Living or a Nursing Home! These situations could possibly come, but I am planning on being well all the days of my senior years and I want other to feel that way too!!!

The people I know who went to senior places/communities declined. They gave up cooking because it was offered; they gave up social planning, they gave up yard work because it was done for them for

them ETC... The system hastened their decline, robbing them of their skills, routines, and independence and force feed them a false community of hired workers to make their live too easy, too dependent.

It's not Health Care. It's not ideal at all for many, many people who enter well, and live in an unnatural world of only elders with medical conditions, stories, fears, ambulances and death- which later declines and optimism!

I saw it and heard it from them. Like so many things, it "sounds great" but is A BIG PROFIT MAKING BUSINESS and in my opinion its way more about PROFITS than it is about health or caring or community.

I watched people I loved very much relinquish their interests, skills and daily routines and conform to BIG BUSINESS idea on how seniors "should" live.

It's important to note that employees are employees; they are not the same as family and friends, Yes, there are great and wonderfully genuine caring people who work in such places and befriend, truly, others. There are also these who don't care, those who don't befriend and those who rob people and worse. It's happened to family members of mine. I could tell you some horror stories. I won't.

I've learned a lot simply being a condo. Town Planner, codes officers, builders, pavers, and Tax Departments are in business to make money- not necessarily CARE about other people's quality of life.

Home ownership is THE AMERICAN DREAM. It enables individuals and families the right and freedoms to make their own choices, goals and decisions without the confusion of 19 other individuals/family's choices, goals and decision and bank accounts!!

As for aging in Maine, my father and his wife lived in their home, in Brunswick, until a year before they dies. My father was 97 when he dies; his wife was 95. She shopped, did laundry, cooked 3 meals a day (gourmet meals, on a tablecloths with cloth napkins and napkin rings) EVERYDAY went to the library, farmers market, changed the beds, worked in the yard etc. etc. etc. My father and mother volunteered in 6 places locally for 20-25 years; and my father mowed the lawn. They walked and _____ together.

They are the best and healthiest and happiest role models I've seen for aging. They didn't give up anything! They stayed in place, made wise choices, took good care of themselves and each other, and kept going. They didn't' plan on someone else's idea on how they "should" age. They lived well, with all their faculties mental and physical and social and family and contributing through volunteer work until their mid-90's!

I am very happy to share their story with those who are really interested in wise aging. I couldn't have asked any more for them and I feel sure they wouldn't mind my sharing their wise ways with others.

In their last year, they did go to a Senior Place. It was tough move; they made it graciously, as they did all things.

No. I don't believe there were happy there. It was a business, with employees, a factory of sorts, housing the elderly. My step mom found many things-including their medical record keeping (mistakes and all)- not up to her high standards. She earned their cloth napkins to dinner, choosing not to relinquish that standard. Some people were very kind and helpful. But it was not their home, their routine, their way.

My wish is that as a town, a nation we open our eyes and mouths and speak up on behalf of ALL of us who are aging (we all will and are so that we find better medicals for again in place for those who chose

that- and keep a vision for senior, each other and all people that we chose wisely, maintain and improve our health, expect good, healthy years, fun, caring friends family and support and jobs and ways to contribute our caring and wisdom for ourselves and all who come after us. Thanks for your efforts toward this important goal.

Appendix B: Survey Instrument

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Introduction

The Town of Topsham wants to know how we can make our community a better place for older residents to live. The purpose of this survey is to get feedback from Topsham residents age 50 and older about aging in place in Topsham. Your responses will help inform future policy and investment decisions.

Please complete the survey only for yourself. If you are a caregiver, assist that person in answering directly. All responses are anonymous.

Please drop off the survey in the box at the clerk's counter on the first floor of the Topsham Municipal Building or mail it to 100 Main St, Planning Office, Topsham, Maine 04086 by April 8, 2016. If you would like to be entered into the raffle for a \$25 gift card to Hannaford, please give us your name and phone number at the end of the survey.

The results of the survey will be available at the town office in May 2016.

1. Aging in place is the ability to live in one's own home and community safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age, income or ability level.

Generally, how would you rate Topsham as a place for older residents to age in place?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

2. How important to you is it that Topsham has

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know
Sidewalks and trails that go where you want to go	<input type="radio"/>					
Sidewalks and trails that are in good condition	<input type="radio"/>					
Public buildings that are accessible to people with physical limitations	<input type="radio"/>					
Parks and recreation facilities that are located within walking distance of your home	<input type="radio"/>					
Parks and recreation facilities that are appropriate for older residents	<input type="radio"/>					
Adequate street lighting	<input type="radio"/>					
Parking lots that are safe for pedestrians to walk through	<input type="radio"/>					

Comment

3. Overall, how would you rate the connectivity of Topsham's sidewalks and trails to places you want to go?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

4. Overall, how would you rate the condition of Topsham's sidewalks and trails?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

5. Overall, how would you rate the accessibility of Topsham's public buildings to people with physical limitations?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

6. Overall, how would you rate the proximity of Topsham's parks and recreation facilities to your home?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

7. Overall, how would you rate the appropriateness of Topsham's parks and recreational facilities for older residents?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

8. Overall, how would you rate the adequacy of Topsham's street lighting?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

9. Overall, how would you rate the safety of Topsham's parking lots for pedestrians to walk through?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Transportation

10. How important to you is it that Topsham has

	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know
Convenient bus service	<input type="radio"/>					
Safe pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure	<input type="radio"/>					
Taxi service	<input type="radio"/>					
Multiple roads to destinations	<input type="radio"/>					
Coastal Trans transportation services	<input type="radio"/>					
Volunteer Transportation Network	<input type="radio"/>					

Comment

11. Overall, how would you rate the safety of Topsham's pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

Housing

12. What type of home do you want to live in as you age?

- Single family home
- Mobile home
- Town home or duplex
- Apartment
- Condominium
- Affordable senior housing
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

13. How would you describe the structural condition of your current home?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

14. How important to you is it to be able to live independently in your current home as you get older?

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not very important
- Not at all important
- Don't know

Comment

15. How concerned are you about needing to make modifications to be able to stay in your current home as you get older (for example, installing a ramp or wider doors, grab bars or handrails in the bathroom)

- Extremely concerned
- Very concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Not very concerned
- Not at all concerned
- Don't know

Comment

16. How concerned are you about your ability to afford to stay in your current home as you get older?

- Extremely concerned
- Very concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Not very concerned
- Not at all concerned
- Don't know

Comment

17. How safe do you feel

	Extremely safe	Very safe	Somewhat safe	Not very safe	Not at all safe	Don't know
In your current home	<input type="radio"/>					
In your neighborhood	<input type="radio"/>					
In Topsham	<input type="radio"/>					

Comment

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Social Participation and Inclusion

18. What kinds of group social activities do you currently participate in? (check all that apply)

- Educational classes
- Community suppers/breakfasts
- Church gatherings
- Groups or clubs such as garden club, book club
- Organized day trips such as shopping and lunch
- None of the above
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

19. What kinds of personal social activities do you currently participate in? (check all that apply)

- Lunch or dinner with friends or family
- Music or theater performances
- Art events
- Lectures
- None of the above
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

20. How often do you interact with your friends, family, or neighbors in your community in person or by phone, email or social media such as Facebook?

- More than once per day
- Once per day
- Several times per week
- Once a week
- Once every 2-3 weeks
- Once per month
- Less than montly
- Never
- Don't know

Comment

21. How important to you is it to remain socially active as you get older?

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not very important
- Not at all important
- Don't know

Comment

22. Overall, how would you rate the availability of social activities in Topsham?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

Civic Participation and Employment

23. Which of the following best describes your current employment situation?

- Employed full-time
- Employed part-time
- Employed seasonally
- Retired
- Unemployed not looking for work
- Unemployed looking for work
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

24. Do you currently volunteer?

- Yes
- No
- No but I would like to
- Don't know

Comment

25. How likely is it that you will continue to work longer than you expected, rather than choosing to retire and no longer work for pay?

- Extremely likely
- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Not very likely
- Not at all likely
- Don't know
- Comment

26. Overall, how important is it to you that Topsham has

	Extremely important	Somewhat important	Very important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know
A range of employment opportunities	<input type="radio"/>					
A range of volunteer opportunities	<input type="radio"/>					

Comment

27. Overall, how would you rate the availability of employment opportunities in Topsham?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

28. Overall, how would you rate the availability of volunteer opportunities in Topsham?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Communication

29. Where do you usually get information about local programs, services, and events? (check all that apply)

- At a central physical location, such as the town bulletin board or the library
- Local newspaper
- Television
- Radio
- Via the Internet (such as town website)
- Via email
- Social media (Facebook or Twitter)
- Word of mouth (neighbors, friends and family)
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

30. Do you regularly look for information on the Internet?

- Yes, on my computer, smartphone or tablet
- No, I do not have access to the Internet because it is too expensive
- No, I don't know how to use the Internet
- No, I prefer to get my information other ways
- Don't know

Comment

31. Overall, how would you rate the availability of information about programs and services in Topsham?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

Topsham Aging in Place Community Survey

Health

32. Overall, how would you rate your health compared to most people your age?

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

Comment

33. Do you have adequate access to the following

	Yes	No	Don't know
Health care services	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Medically necessary drugs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Exercise	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Healthy food	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clean water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Heat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electricity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Telephone	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comment

34. How important to you is it that the following is provided in Topsham

	Extremely important	Somewhat important	Very important	Not very important	Not at all important	Don't know
Affordable health and wellness classes such as nutrition and weight control	<input type="radio"/>					
Affordable fitness activities such as exercise classes	<input type="radio"/>					
Affordable home care services such as health and personal care	<input type="radio"/>					

Comment

35. Overall, how would you rate the availability of the following in Topsham

	Excellent	Very good	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know
Affordable health and wellness classes	<input type="radio"/>					
Affordable fitness activities	<input type="radio"/>					
Affordable home care services	<input type="radio"/>					

Comment

Available Services

36. Which of the following services for seniors do you currently use?

	I use this program	I know of this program but I don't use it	I did not know about this program
Spectrum Generations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
People Plus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comment

37. Which of the following services at the Topsham Public Library do you currently use? (check all that apply.)

	I use this program	I know of this program but I do not use it	I did not know about this program
Book delivery	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Audio books	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Genealogy help	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Museum passes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Crooker Art Gallery	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Large print books	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Technology help	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Interlibrary loans	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volunteering	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Newspapers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Music	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library gardens	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Book groups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Movies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lectures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tax help	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social clubs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Comment

About You

38. What neighborhood or area do you live in?

- Lower Village
- Highland Green
- Roberts Hill
- Granite Hill
- Woodside
- The Highlands
- Smith Farms
- Elm Street Assisted Living
- The Heights
- River Landing
- Topsham Crossing
- Bay Park
- River Ridge
- Countryside Estates
- VOANNE: A Westrum House
- Prefer not to answer
- Other (please specify or indicate street/road name)

39. How many people are there in your household?

- Me plus 1 other person
- Me plus 2 other people
- Me plus 3 other people
- Me plus 4 or more other people
- Prefer not to answer
- Me only

40. What is your age?

- 50-54
- 55-59
- 60-64
- 65-69
- 70-74
- 75-79
- 80-84
- 85 years and over
- Prefer not to answer

41. What is your gender identity?

- Male
- Female
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

42. What range best describes your annual household income?

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 to \$14,999
- \$15,000 to \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$34,999
- \$35,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,000
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 to \$199,000
- \$200,000 or more
- Prefer not to answer

43. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about aging in place in Topsham?

44. If you would like to be entered into the raffle for a \$25 gift card to Hannaford, please give us your name and phone number.

Name

Phone number