

Porter County Parks and Recreation Community Survey

Ron Vine – Project Manager



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Agenda

- Overview of Methodology
- Porter County Park System Today
- Resident Vision for Future Park System
- Funding the Vision
- Questions



Overview of Methodology

- Questions based on stakeholder meetings, focus groups, and public meeting held August 23 and August 24
- The Eppley Foundation, Indiana University administered the survey
- Survey administered by mail and web
- Survey administration consisted of a mailing of the survey and 2 postage card mailings/reminders
- Guarantee of 400 completed surveys. Actually completed 460 surveys
- 95% level of confidence and margin of error of +/-4.55%
- Porter County Parks and Recreation Today
- Resident Vision for Porter County Parks and Recreation in the Future
- Funding the Vision
- Questions



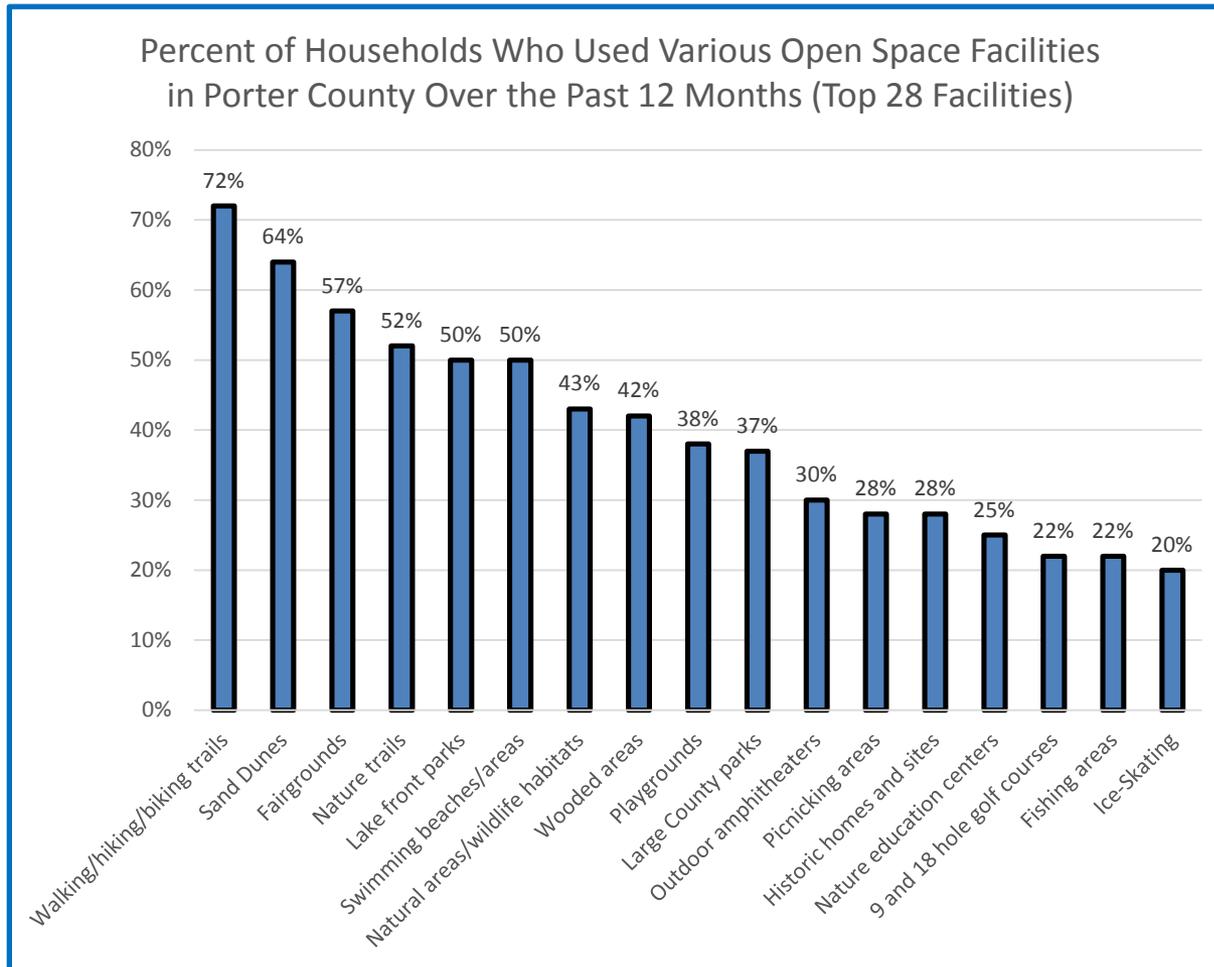
Porter County Parks and Recreation Today



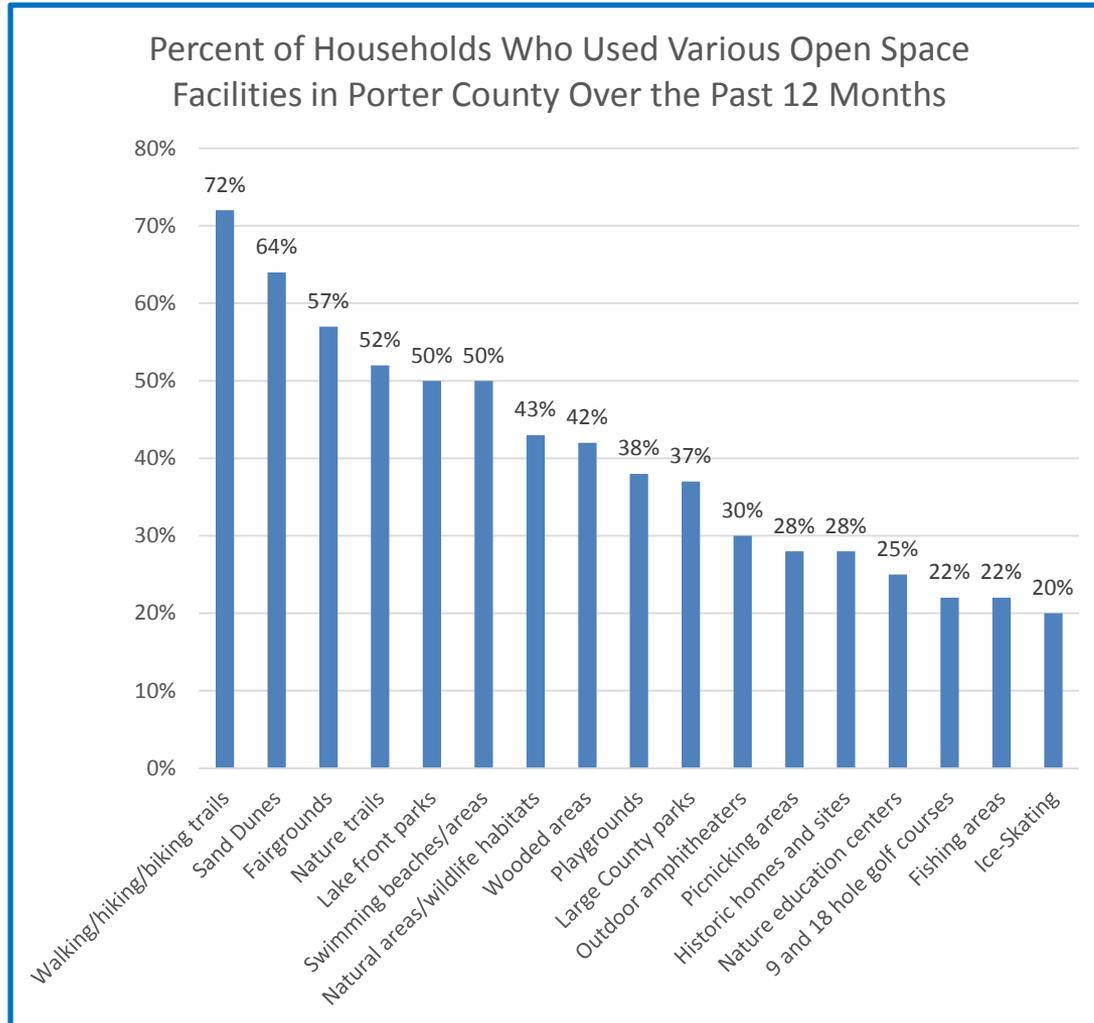
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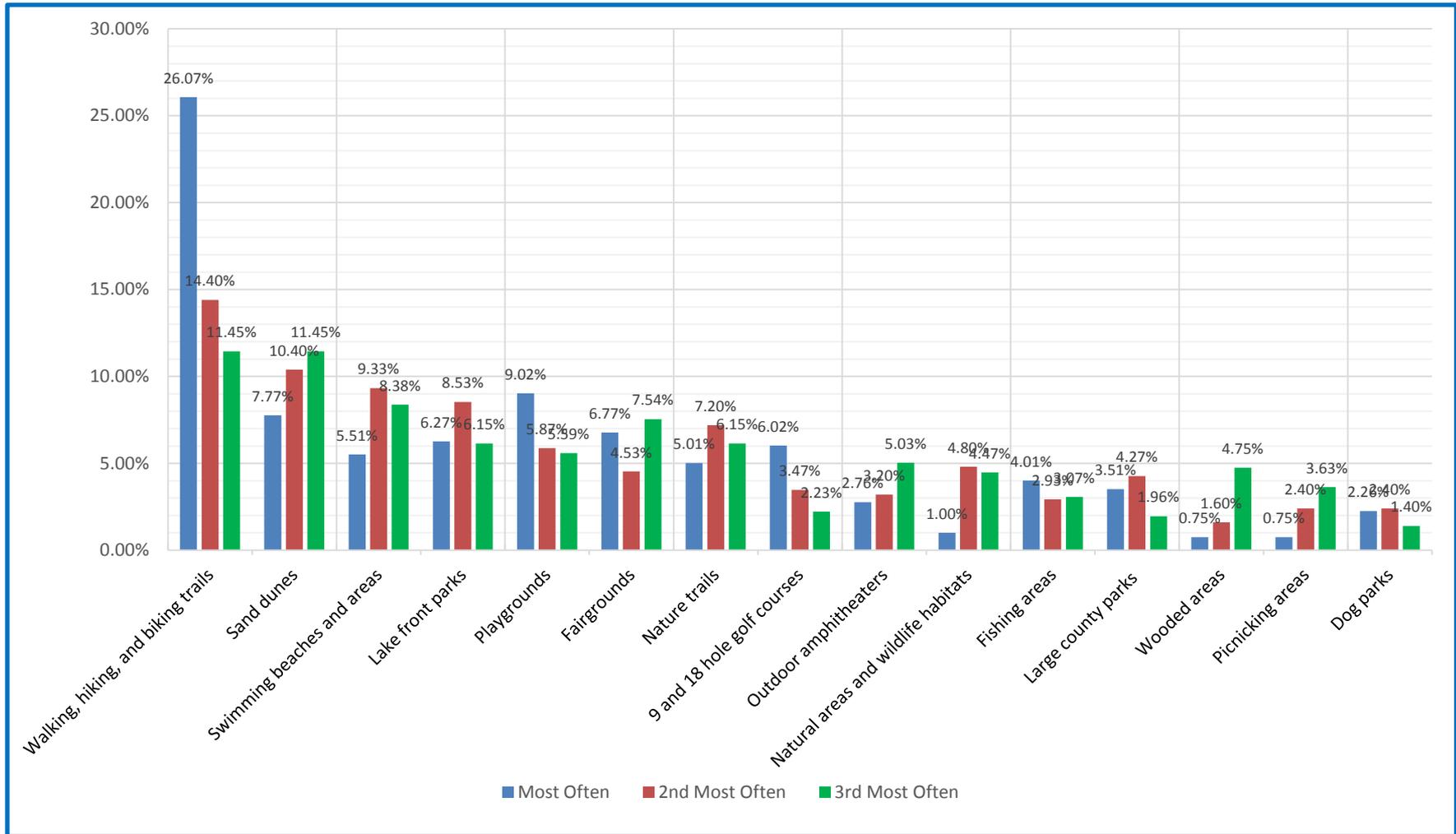


Q3 - From the following list, please check ALL the outdoor parks, trails, open space and recreation facilities you or members of your household have used or visited in Porter County over the past 12 months. (Answers receiving greater than 20% of responses)

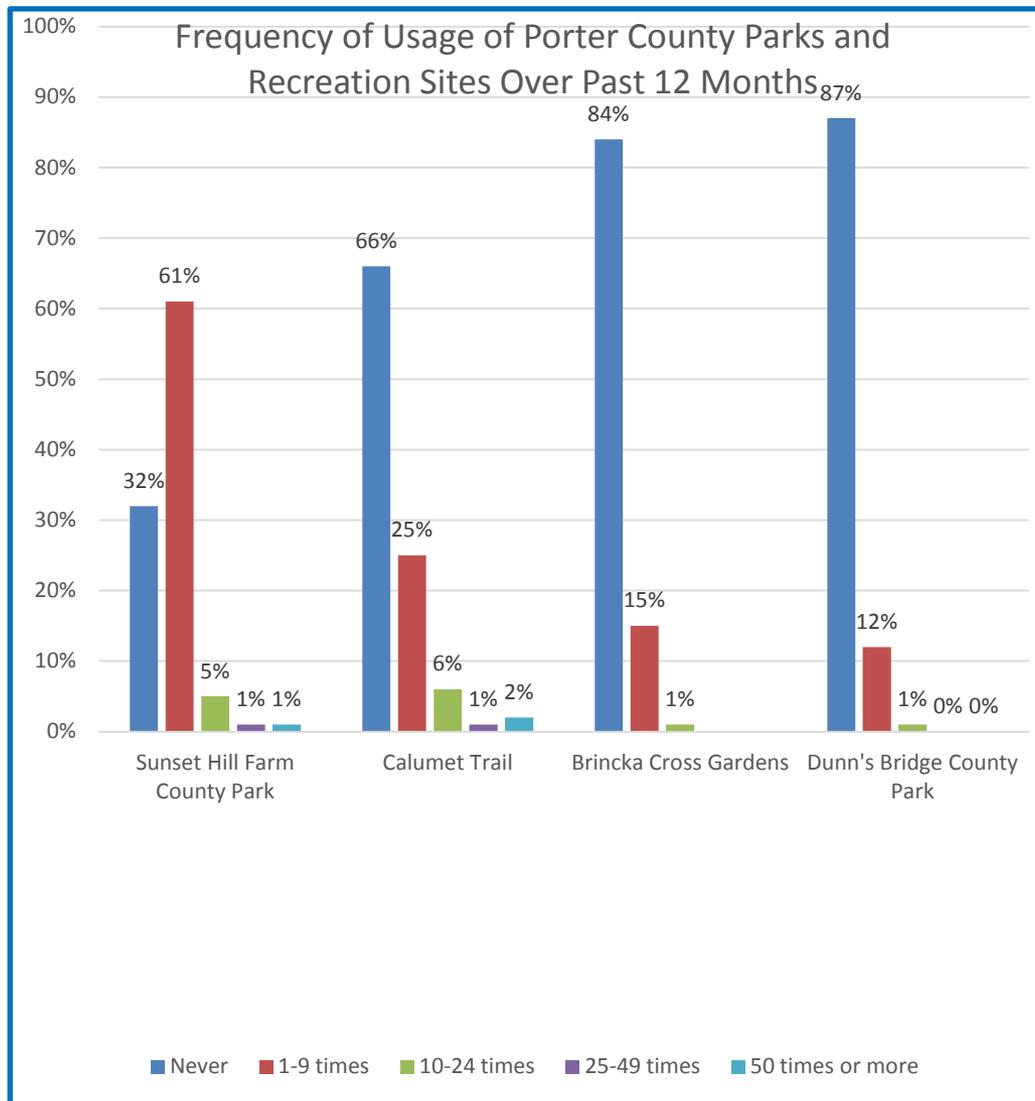


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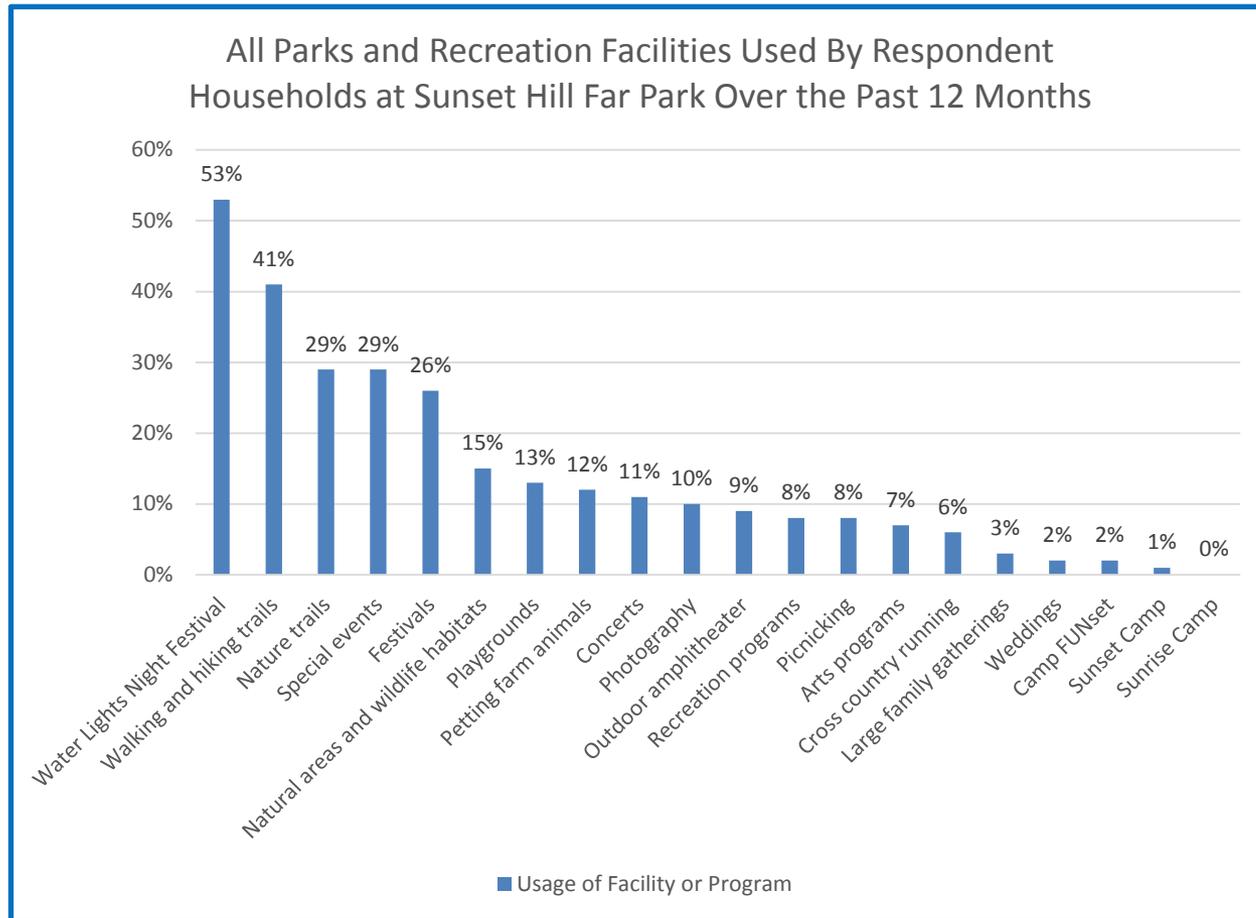




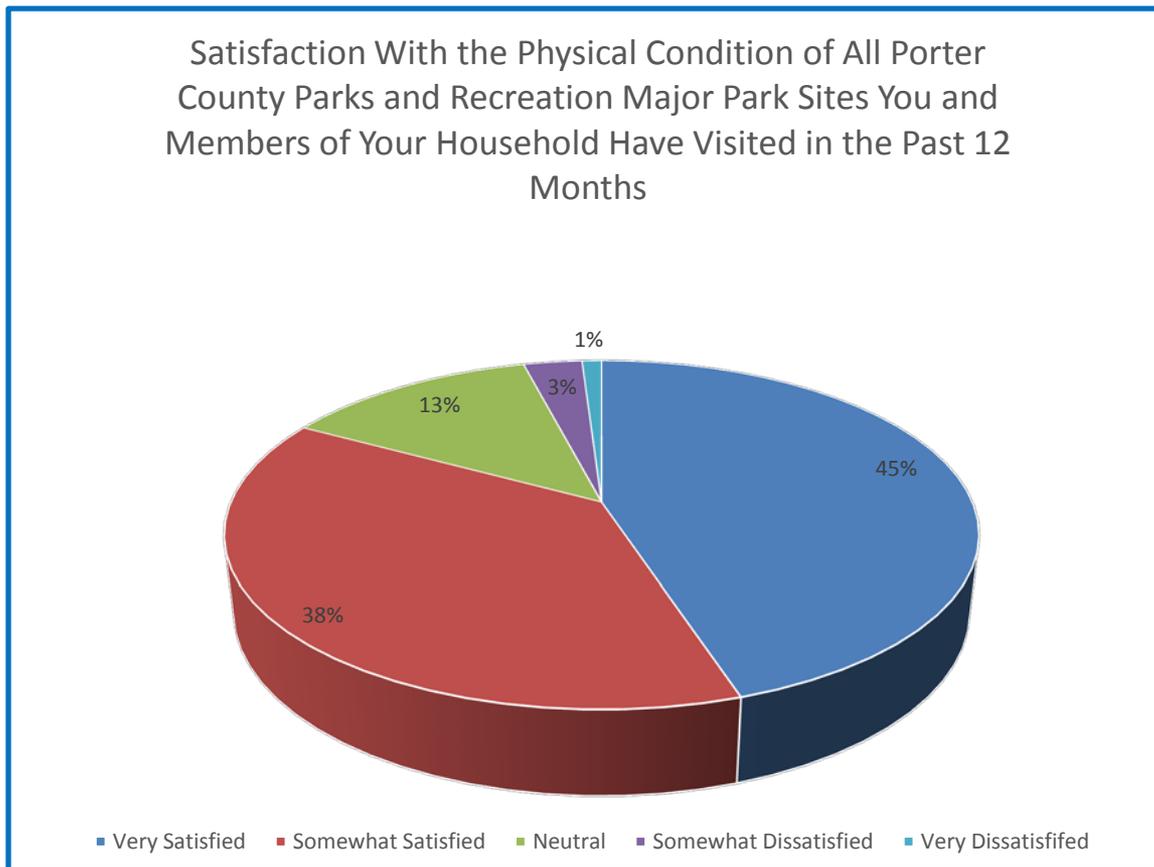
Q5 - Please indicate how often you and members of your household have used each of the following Porter County Parks and Recreation major parks and recreation sites during the past 12 months.



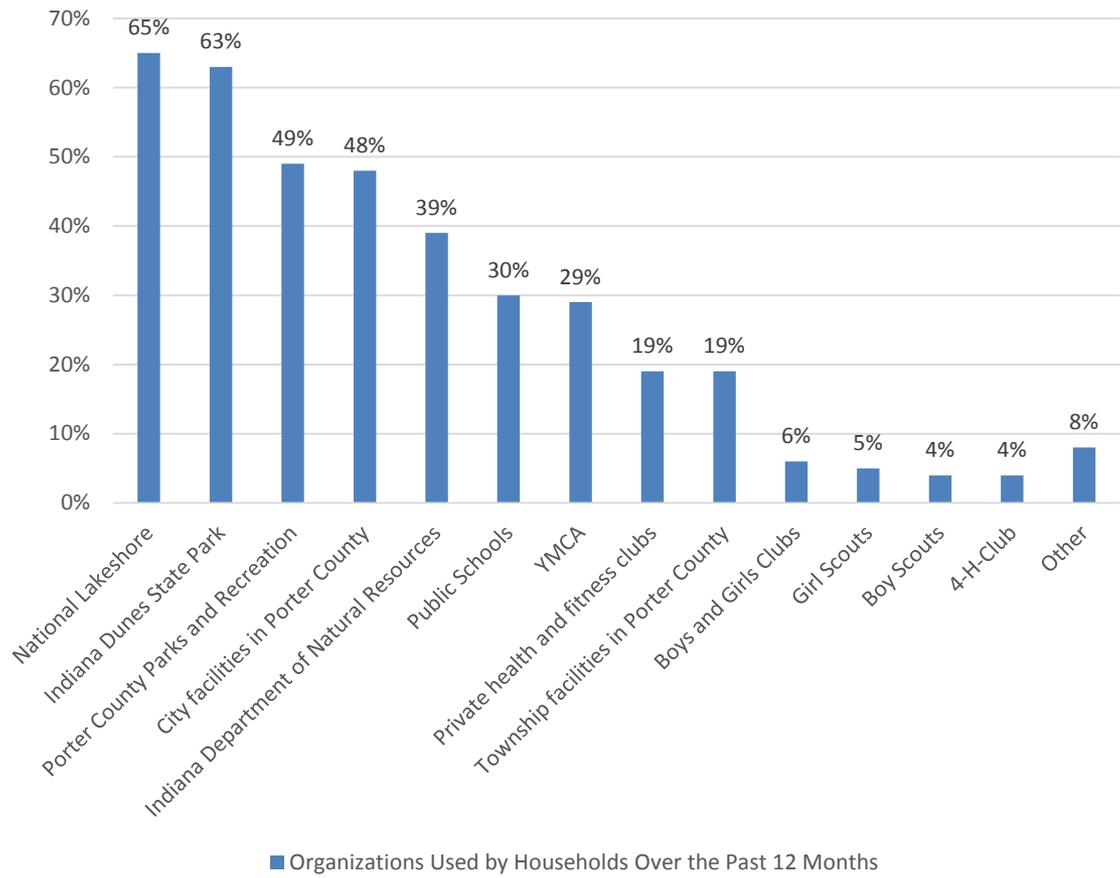
Q10 - Sunset Hill Farm County Park is a 238-acre park that serves residents from throughout Porter County. From the following list, please check ALL the park, trail, and recreation facilities and programs you and members of your household have used or participated in at Sunset Hill Farm County Park over the past 12 months.



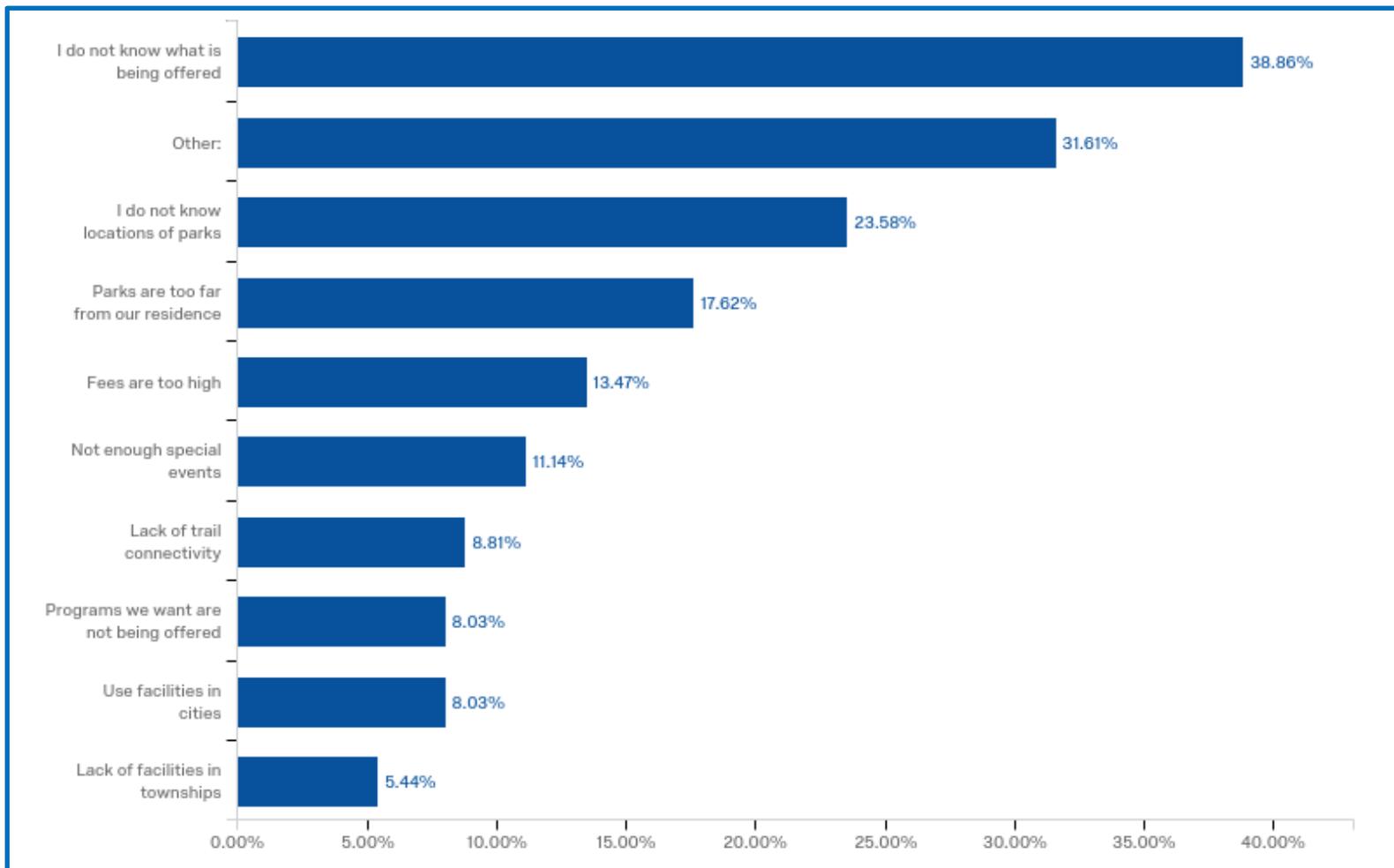
Q6 - Overall, how satisfied are you with the physical condition of ALL Porter County Parks and Recreation major parks and recreation sites you and members of your household have used over the past 12 months?



Percent of Households Who Used Various Organizations During the Past 12 Months



Q12 - Please CHECK ALL the reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from using parks and recreation facilities and programs of Porter County Parks and Recreation more often. (Answers receiving greater than 5% of responses)



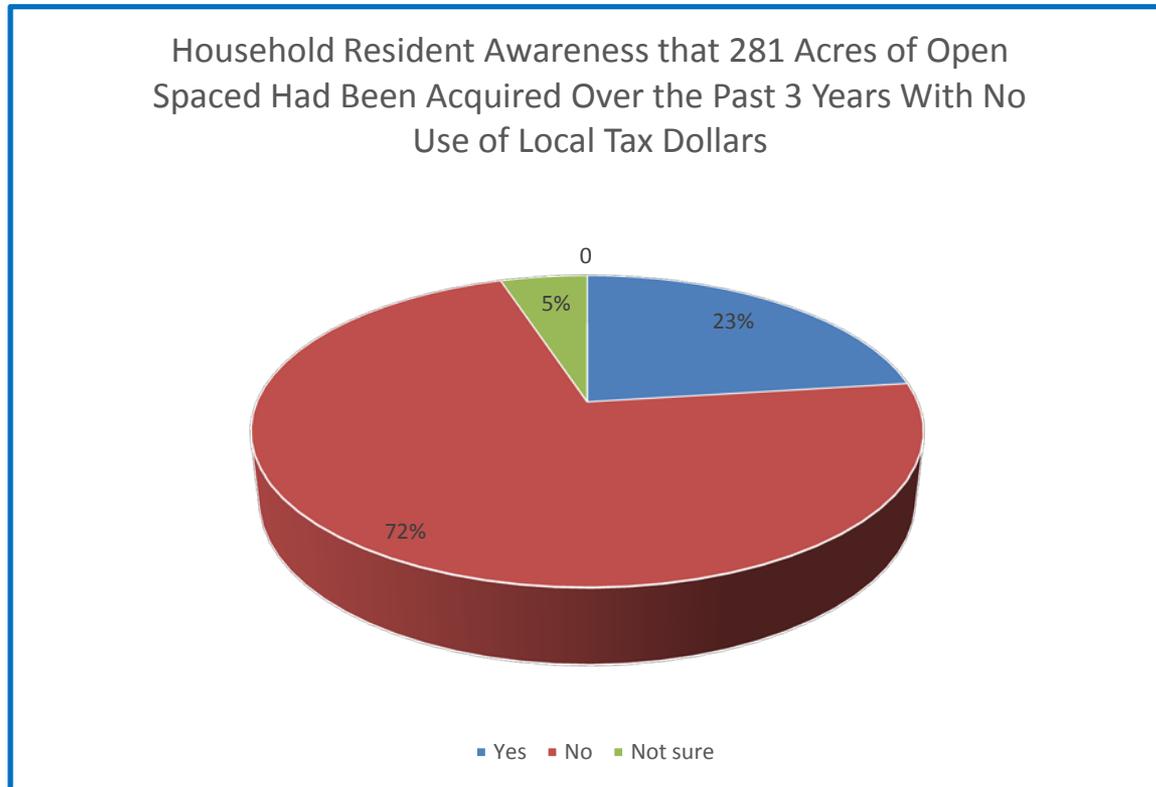
Residents' Vision for Porter County Parks and Recreation in the Future



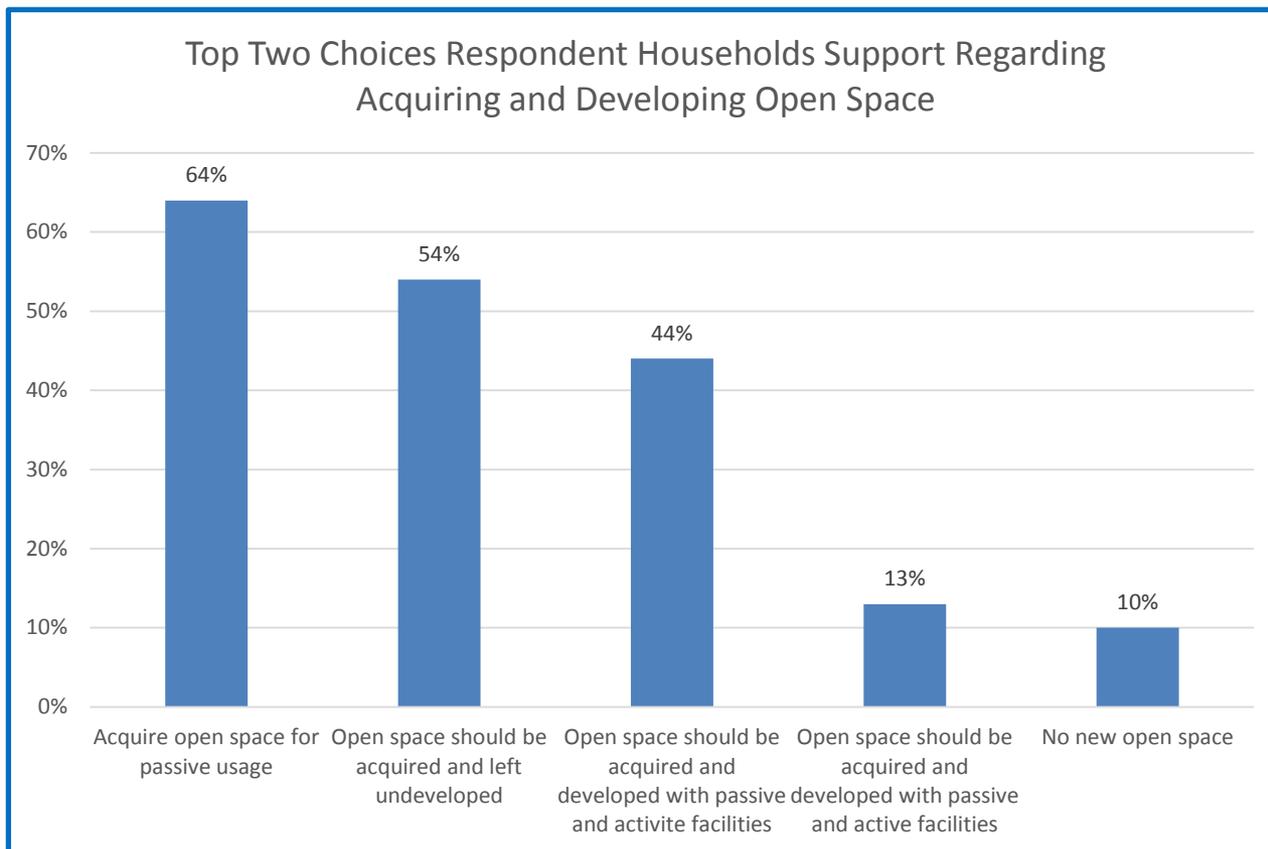
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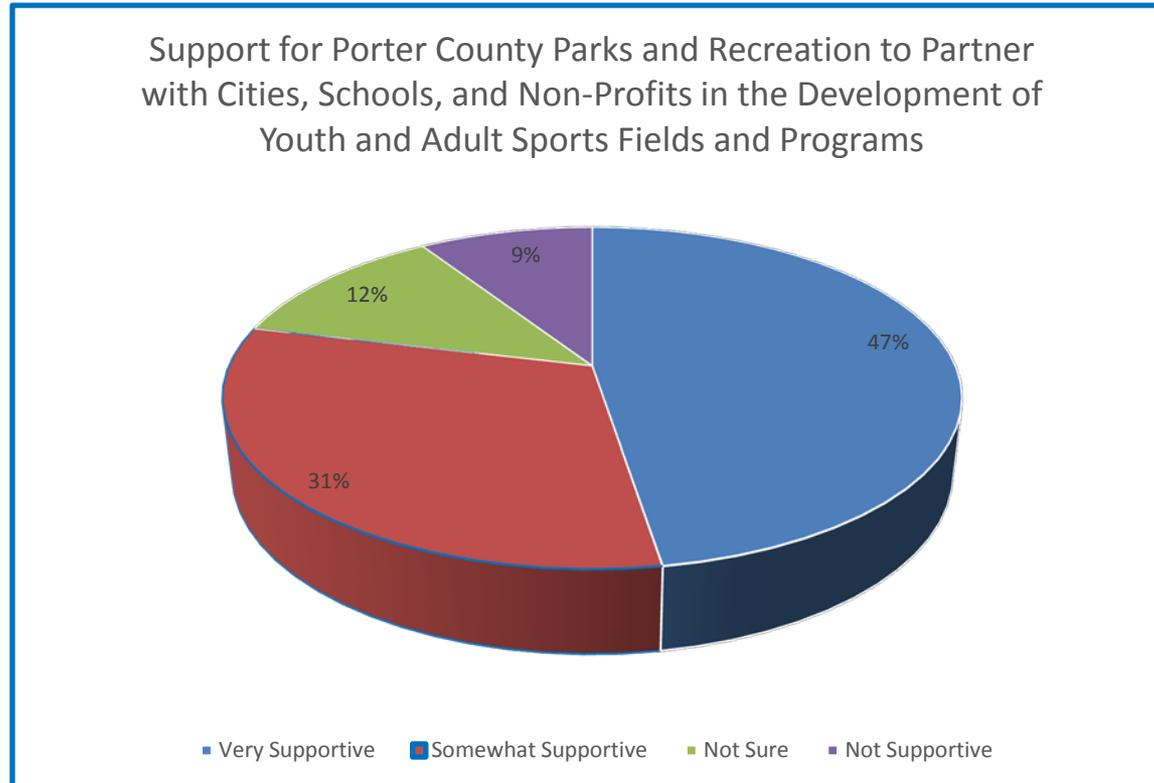
Q7 - Were you aware that over the past three years Porter County Parks and Recreation has secured 281 acres of open space on three park sites through grants and private donations, at no tax cost to Porter County?



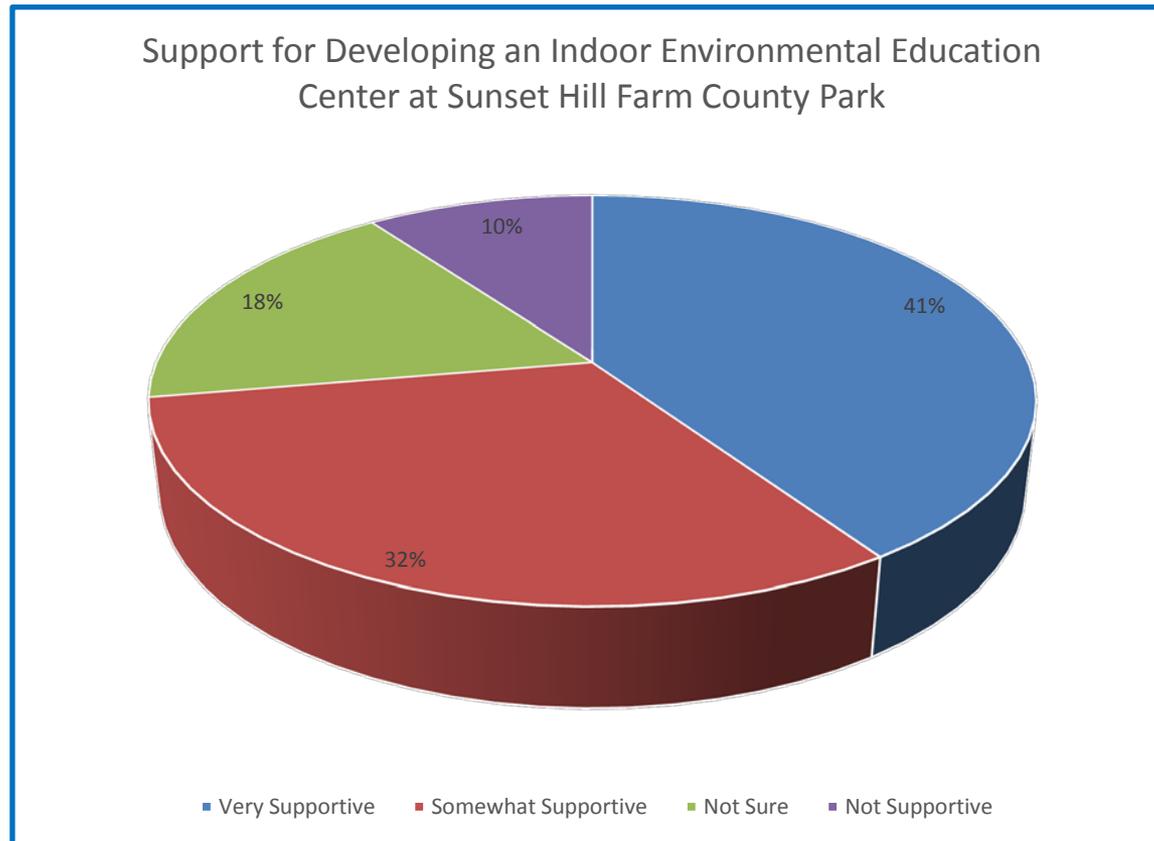
Q8 - Porter County Parks and Recreation continues to have many options regarding acquiring and developing open space for parks and recreation purposes. From the following list, please check the TWO open space options that you and members of your household would support the most.



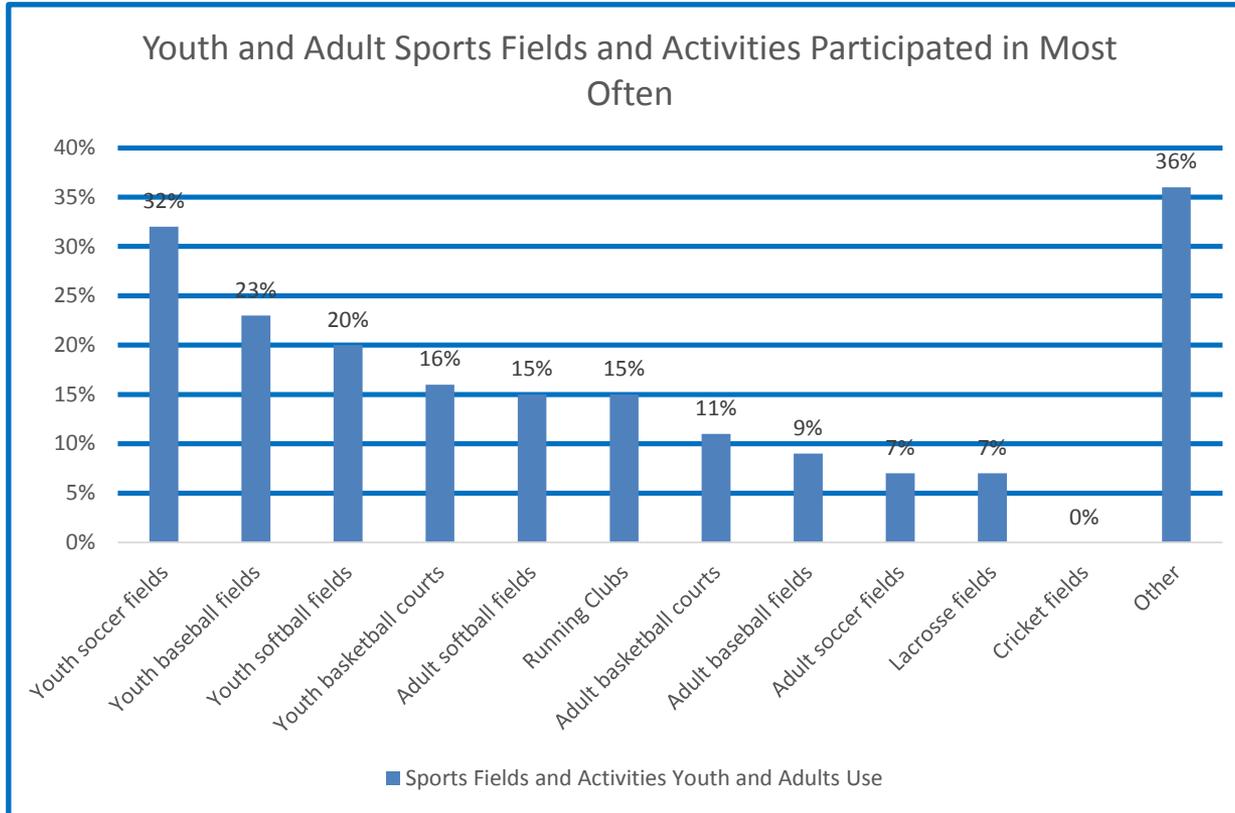
Q9 - How supportive are you of Porter County Parks and Recreation partnering with cities, schools, and non-profits in Porter County in the development of youth and adult sports fields and programs?



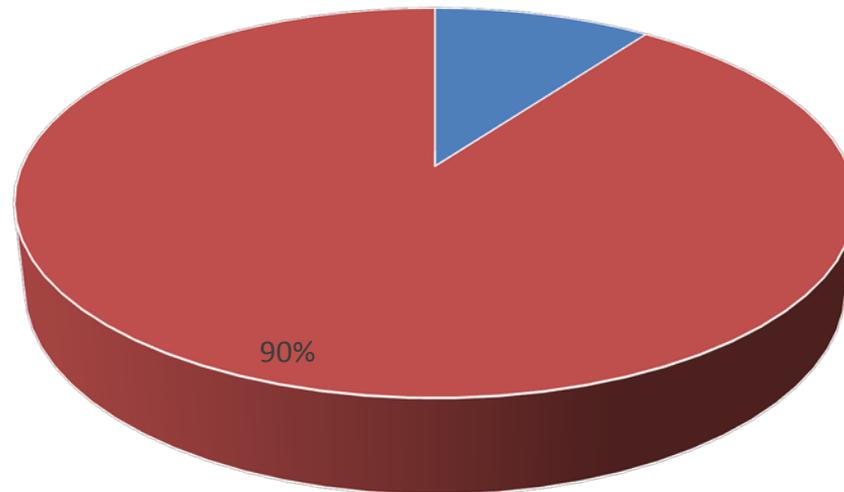
Q11 - How supportive are you of developing an Indoor Environmental Education Center in Sunset Hill Farm County Park?



Q14 - From the following list please check ALL the types of youth and adult sports fields, courts, and running locations that members of your household use.



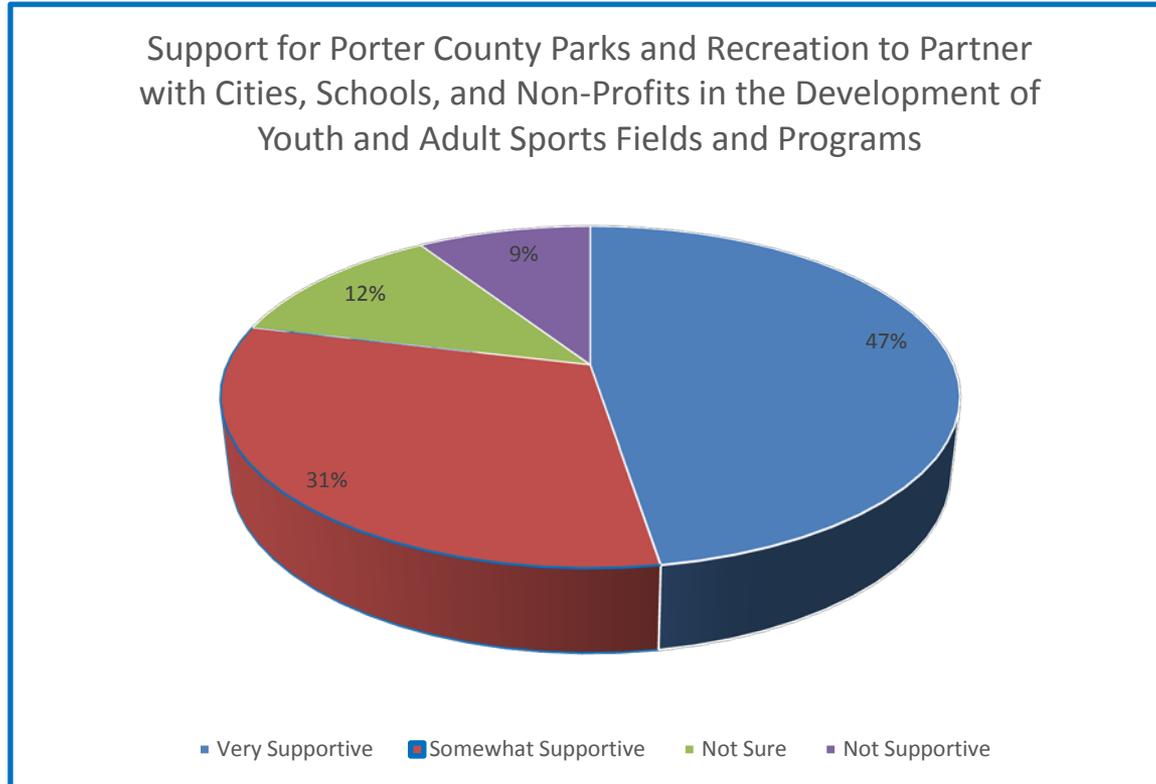
Do Any Members of Your Household Play on Traveling Teams for Competitive Sports



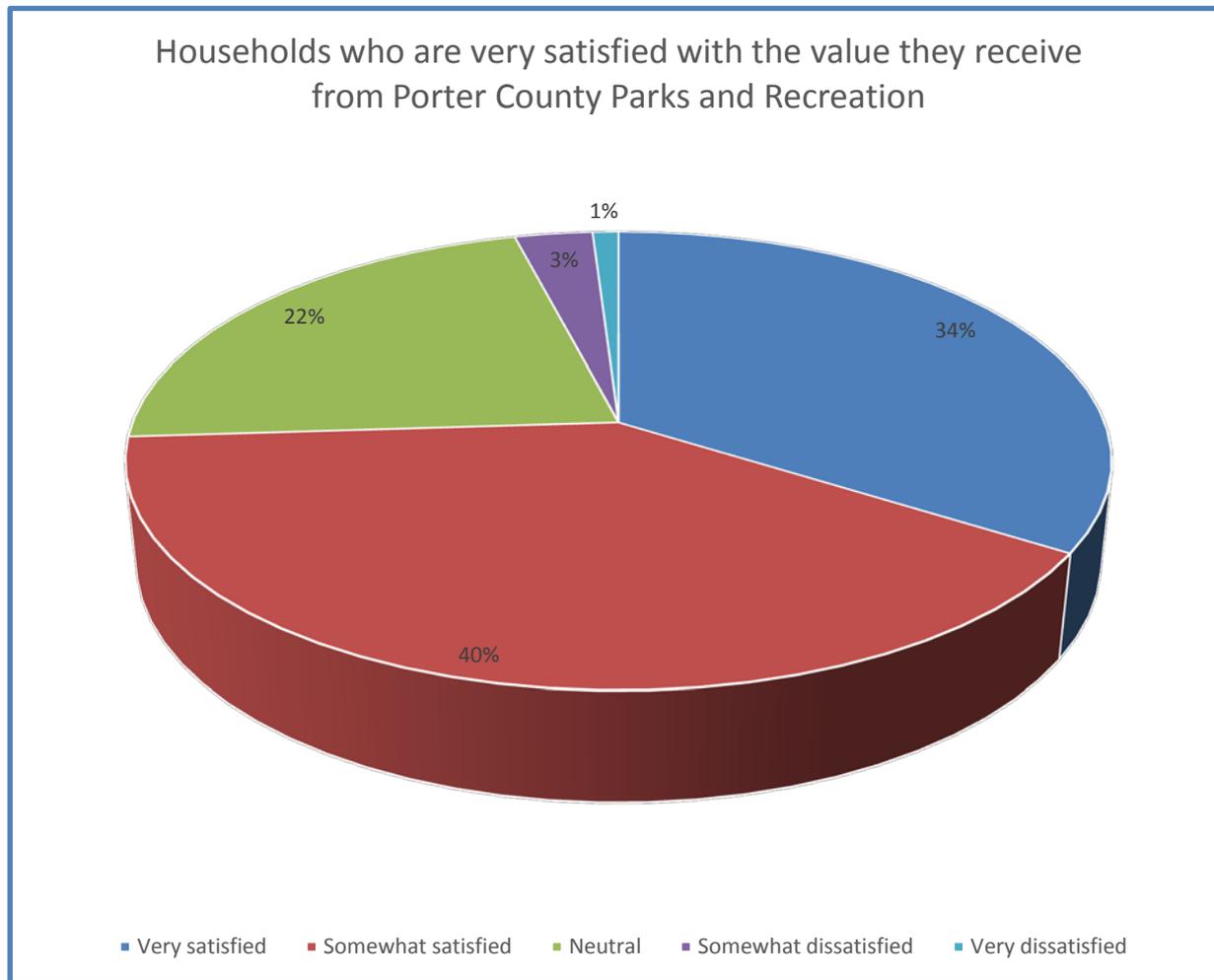
■ Yes ■ No



Q16 - How supportive are you of developing a large sports complex on County parkland to serve youth and adults across Porter County?



Q17 - Please indicate your satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from Porter County Parks and Recreation.

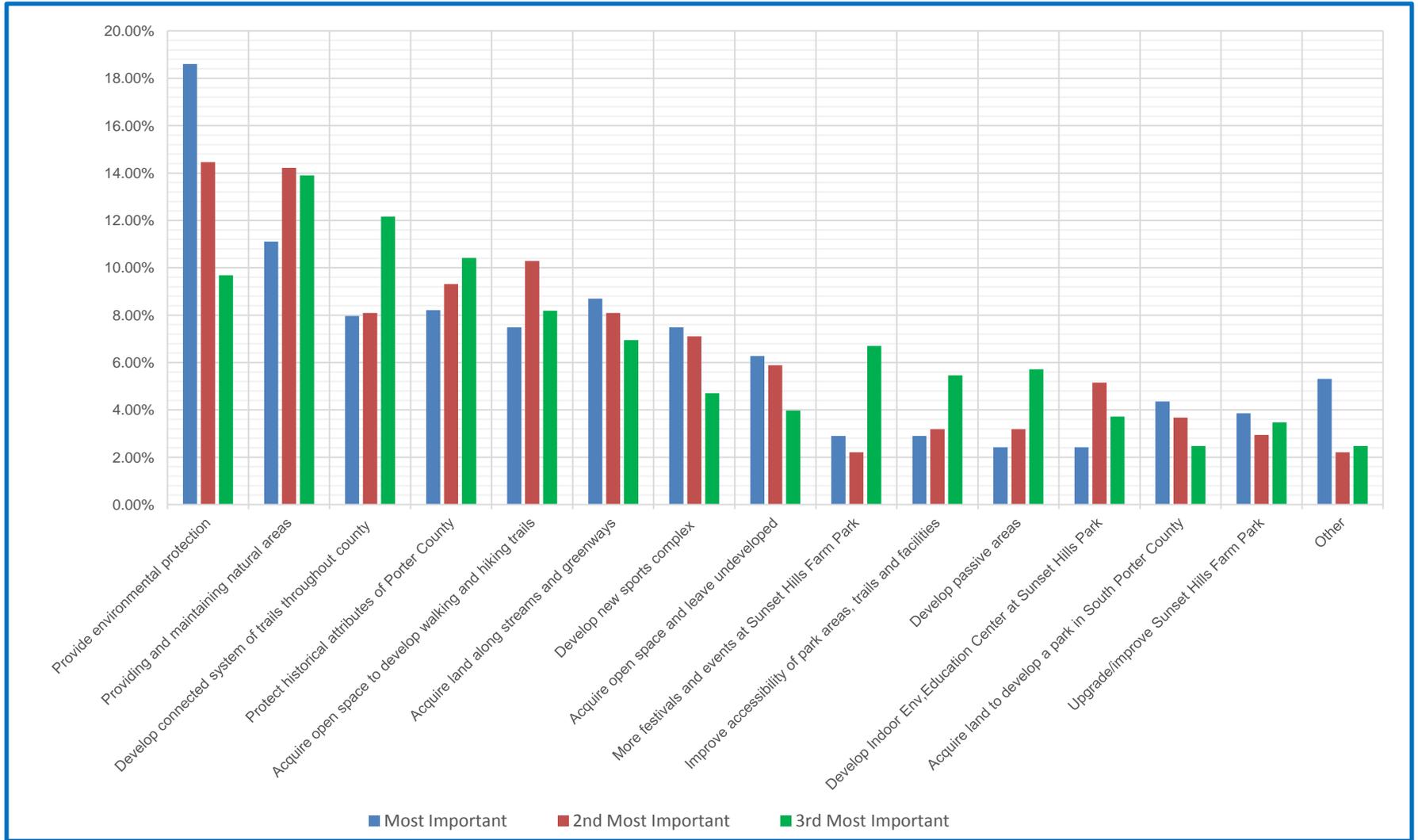


Q18 - The following are actions that Porter County Parks and Recreation could take to improve the County Parks and Recreation system. Please indicate if you feel each action is very important, somewhat important, not important, or not sure by marking the appropriate circle.

Question	Very Important		Somewhat Important		Not Important		Not Sure		Total
Provide environmental protection, i.e. protecting water quality and storm water management	70.73%	302	21.31%	91	5.39%	23	2.58%	11	427
Other	70.00%	35	2.00%	1	0.00%	0	28.00%	14	50
Provide and maintain natural areas and wildlife habitats	64.79%	276	28.64%	122	4.69%	20	1.88%	8	426
Protect historical attributes of Porter County	60.37%	259	30.77%	132	4.90%	21	3.96%	17	429
Develop connected system of trails throughout Porter County	42.52%	182	38.55%	165	10.98%	47	7.94%	34	428
Acquire open space to develop walking and hiking trails	42.35%	180	41.88%	178	10.82%	46	4.94%	21	425
Acquire land along streams and greenways	38.26%	163	40.38%	172	11.50%	49	9.86%	42	426
Improve accessibility of park areas, trails and facilities	35.63%	150	40.62%	171	11.88%	50	11.88%	50	421
Acquire open space and leave undeveloped	30.19%	128	37.50%	159	21.46%	91	10.85%	46	424
Host more festivals and special events at Sunset Hill Farm County Park	26.46%	113	42.39%	181	17.33%	74	13.82%	59	427
Develop passive areas i.e. large group picnic areas, pavilions, playgrounds	26.23%	112	50.12%	214	16.63%	71	7.03%	30	427
Upgrade/improve Sunset Hill Farm County Park	25.94%	110	39.62%	168	16.04%	68	18.40%	78	424
Develop Indoor Environmental Education Center at Sunset Hills Farm Park	25.59%	109	38.73%	165	20.89%	89	14.79%	63	426
Develop new youth and adult sports complex for residents throughout Porter County	24.77%	106	38.79%	166	22.43%	96	14.02%	60	428
Acquire land to develop a park in South Porter County	21.83%	93	39.67%	169	21.13%	90	17.37%	74	426



Q19 Which THREE of the actions listed above do you think should be most important for Porter County Parks and Recreation to take?



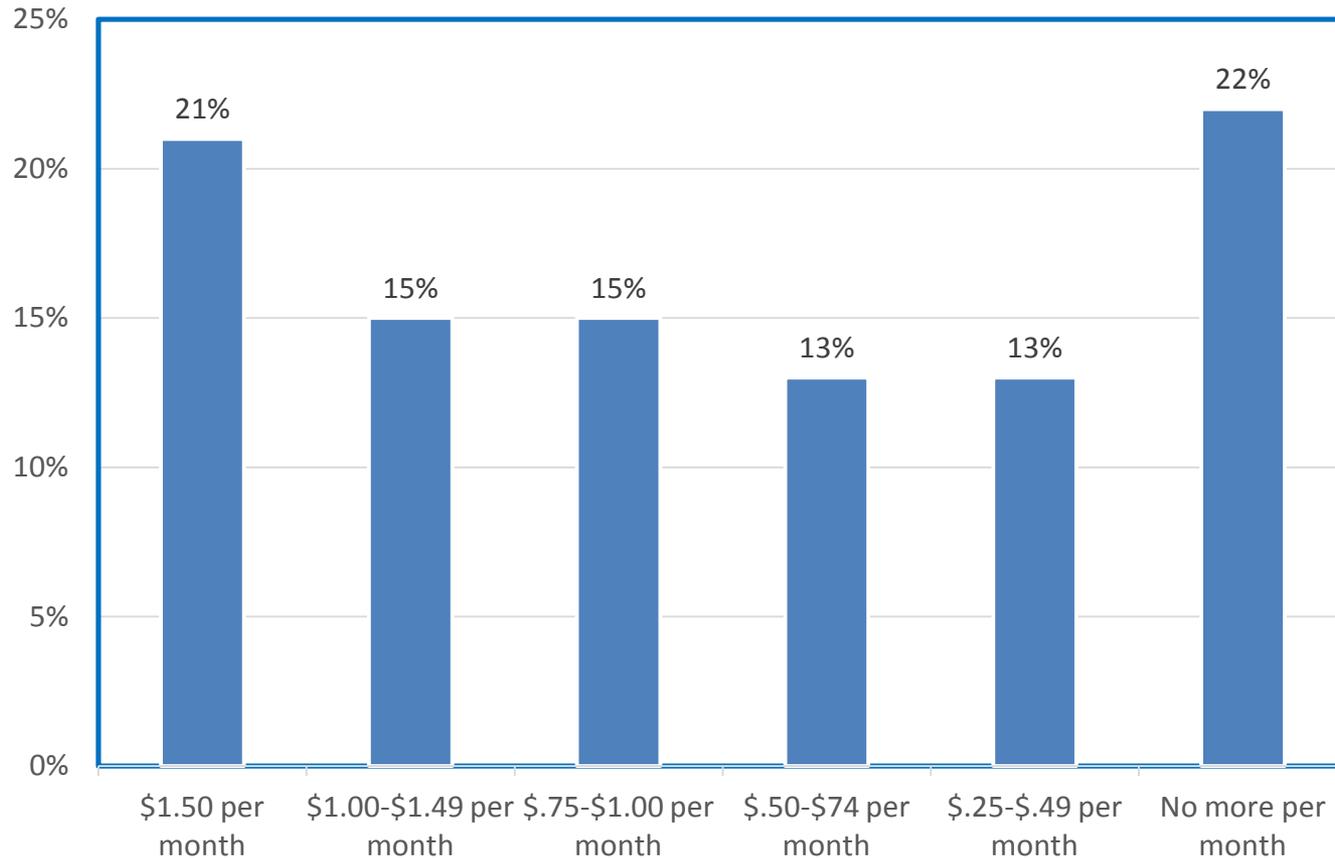
Funding the Vision



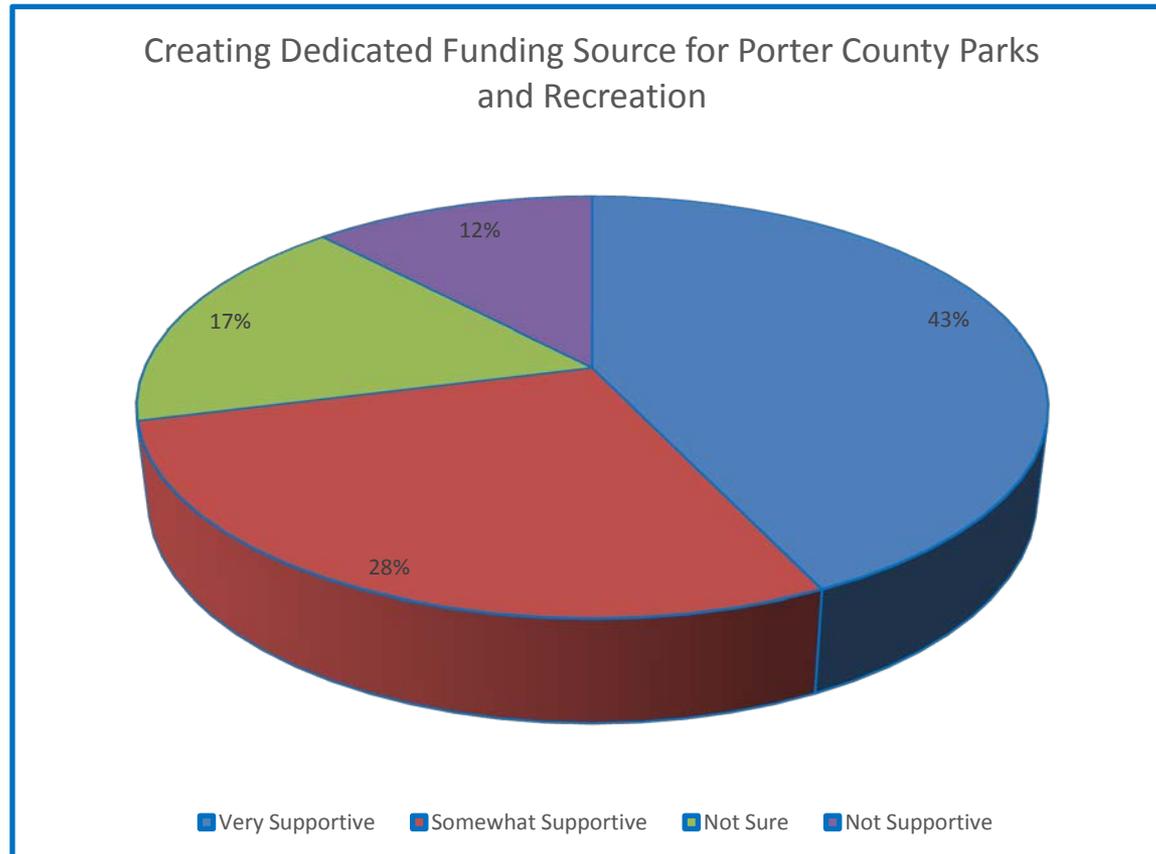
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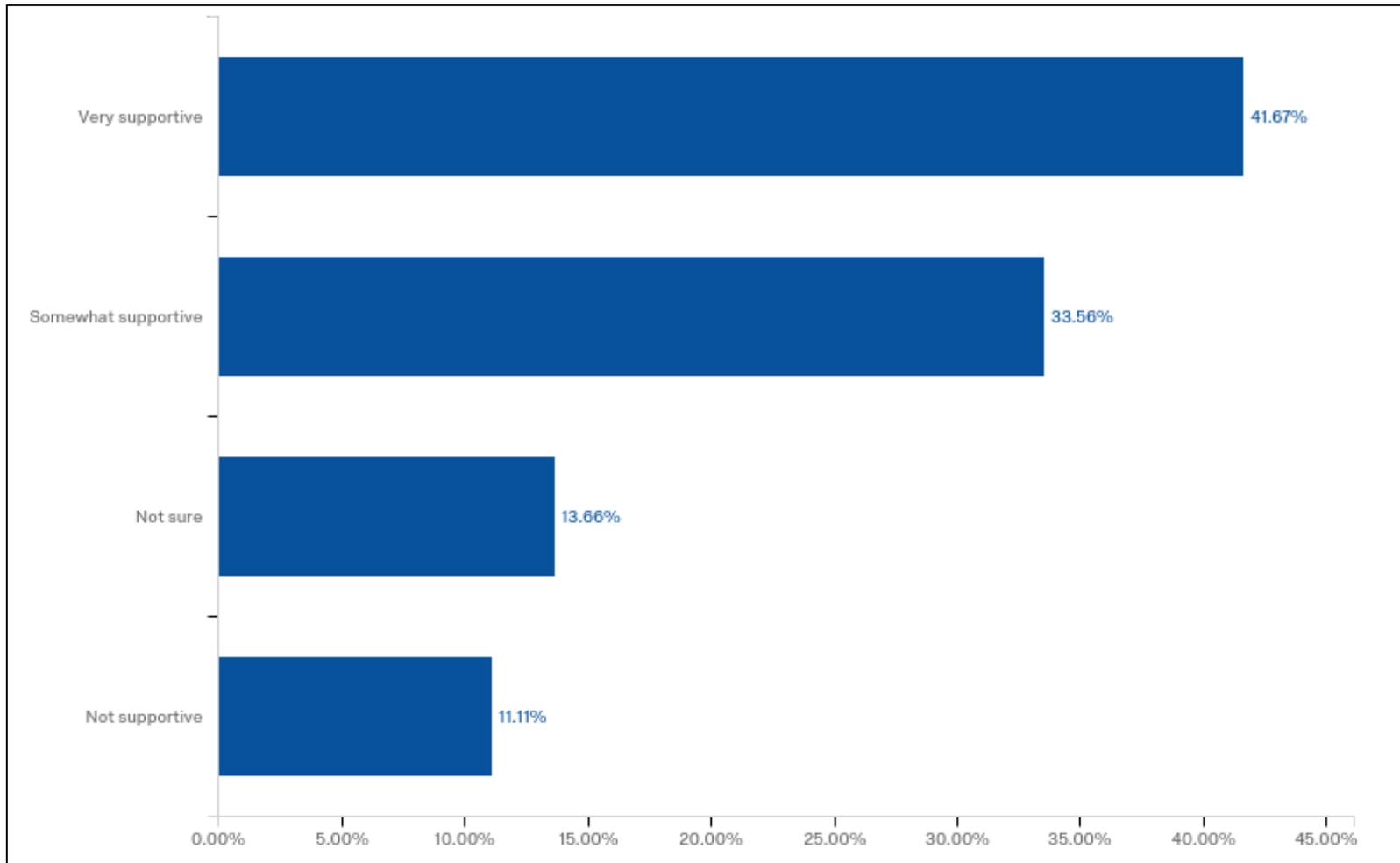
Q21 – What is the MAXIMUM amount in additional monthly property taxes you would you be willing to pay, to help fund the types of improvements to the Porter County parks, trails, and recreation system that are most important to your household?



Q22 – How supportive are you of creating a dedicated parks and recreation fund which would provide a source of dedicated tax and fee revenues which could only be used to fund Porter County Parks and Recreation projects?

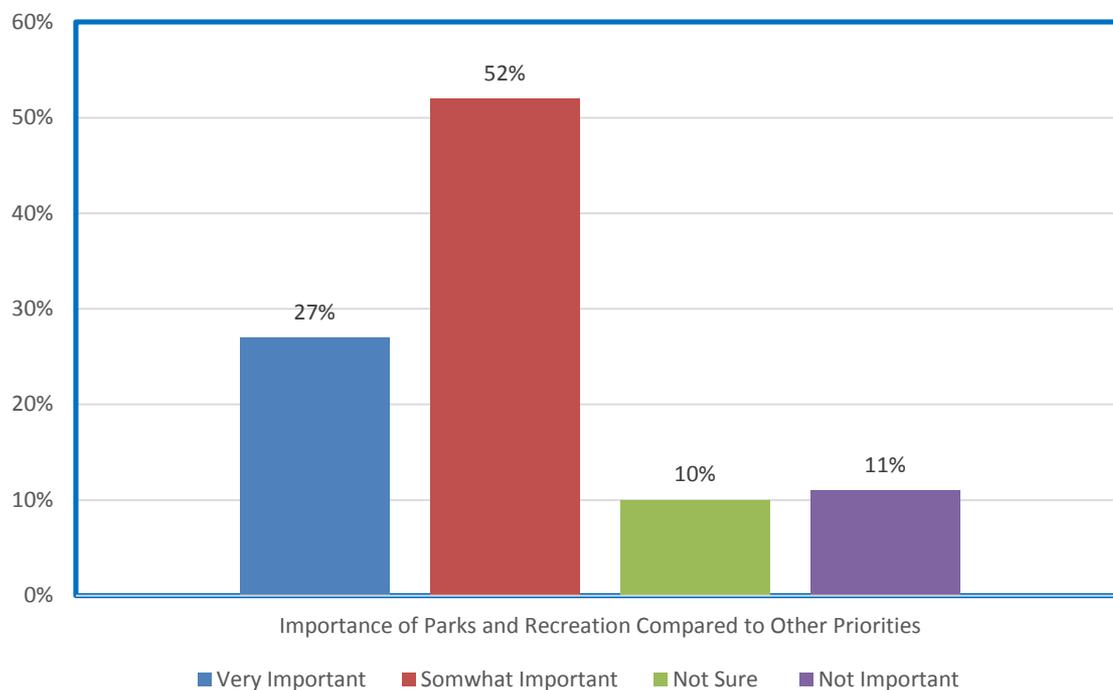


Q23 - How supportive would you be of using some of the interest revenues being earned by Porter County from the sale of the hospital to acquire park land and maintain and develop the types of parks, trails, sports, and recreation facilities most important to your household?



Q24 - Compared to other priorities for Porter County, such as public safety, roads, and utilities, how important do you think it is for Porter County to fund improvements to the County parks and recreation system?

How Important Do You Think it is for Porter County to Fund Improvements to Parks and Recreation Compared to Other County Priorities



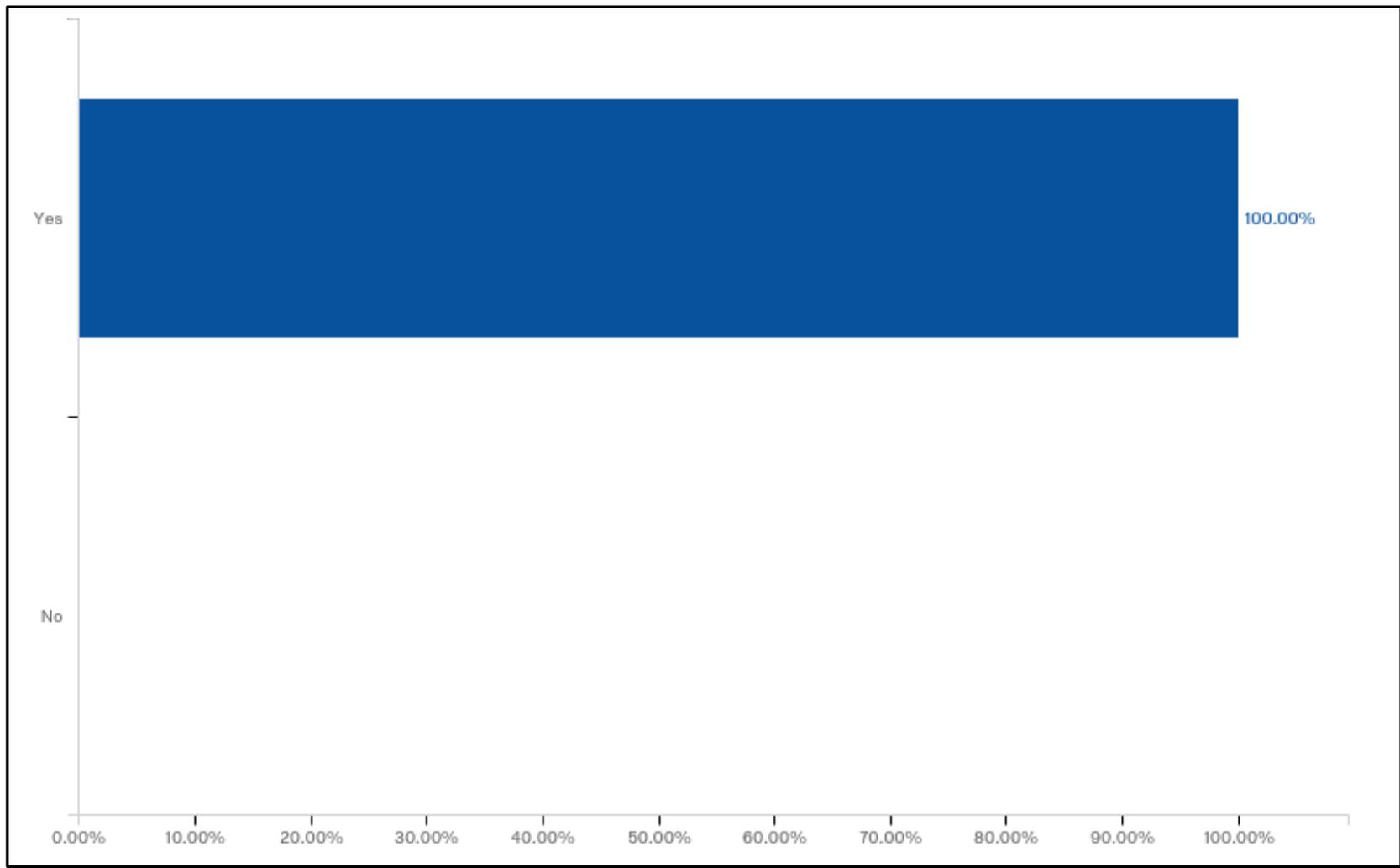
Questions



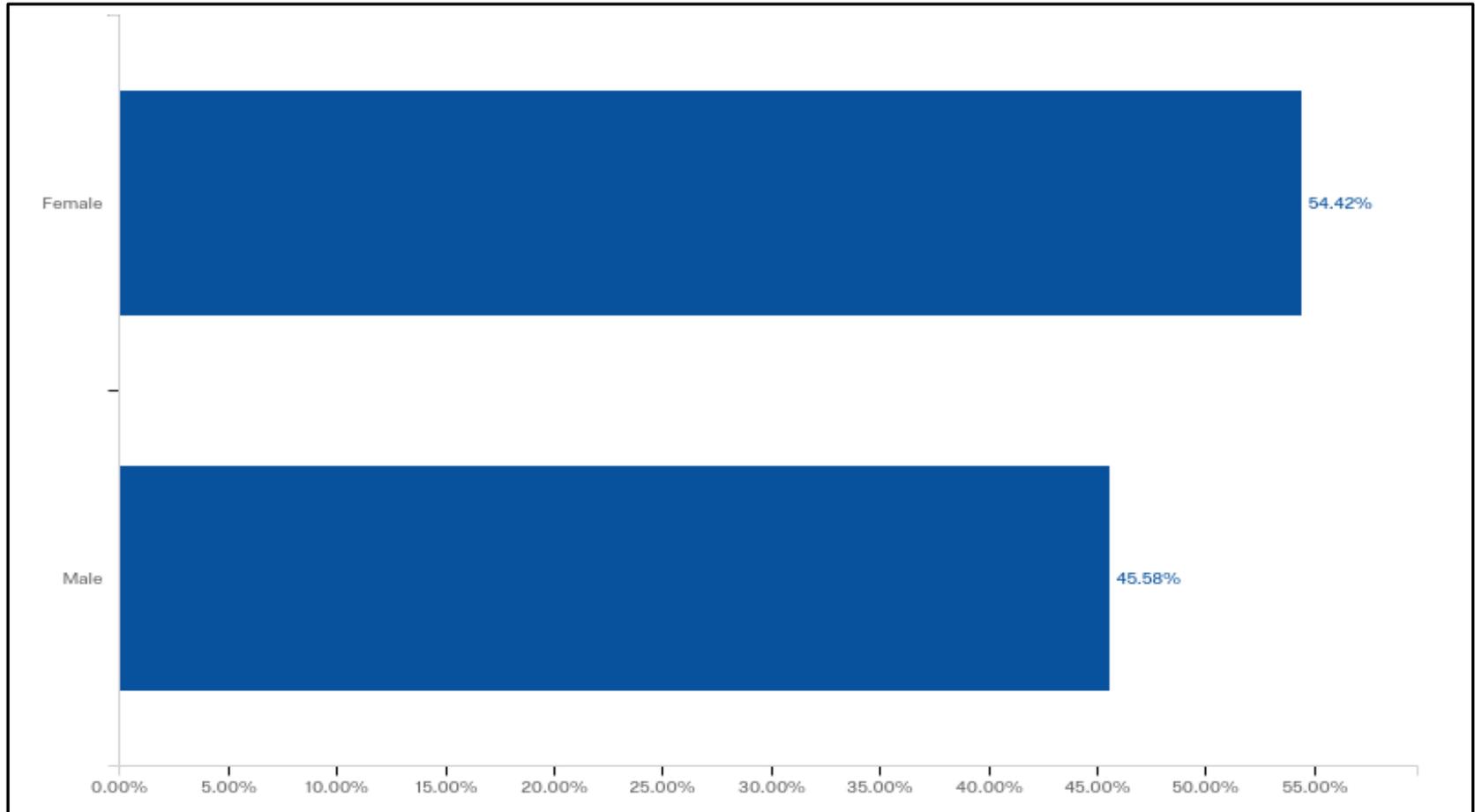
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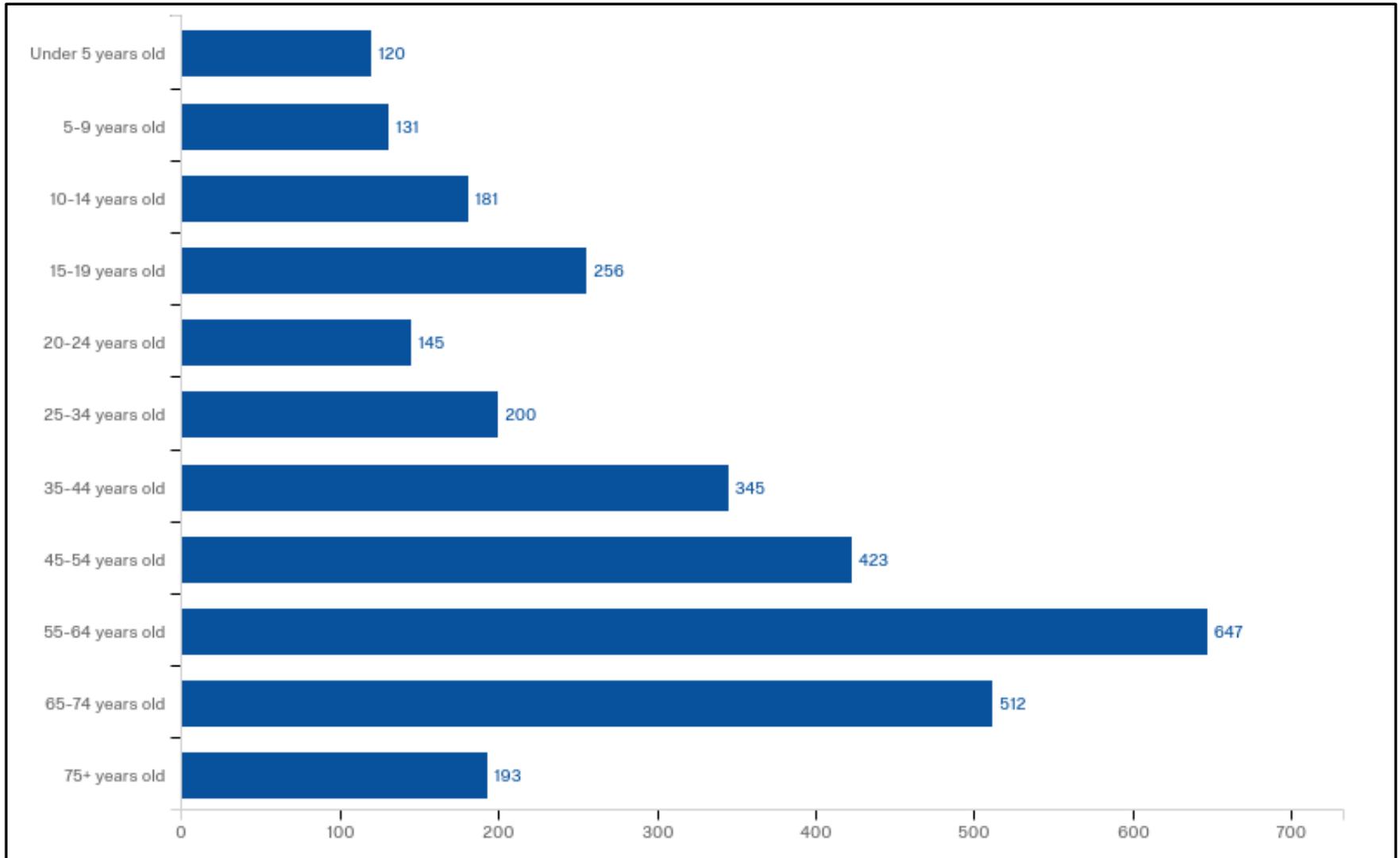
Q1 - Do you reside in Porter County?



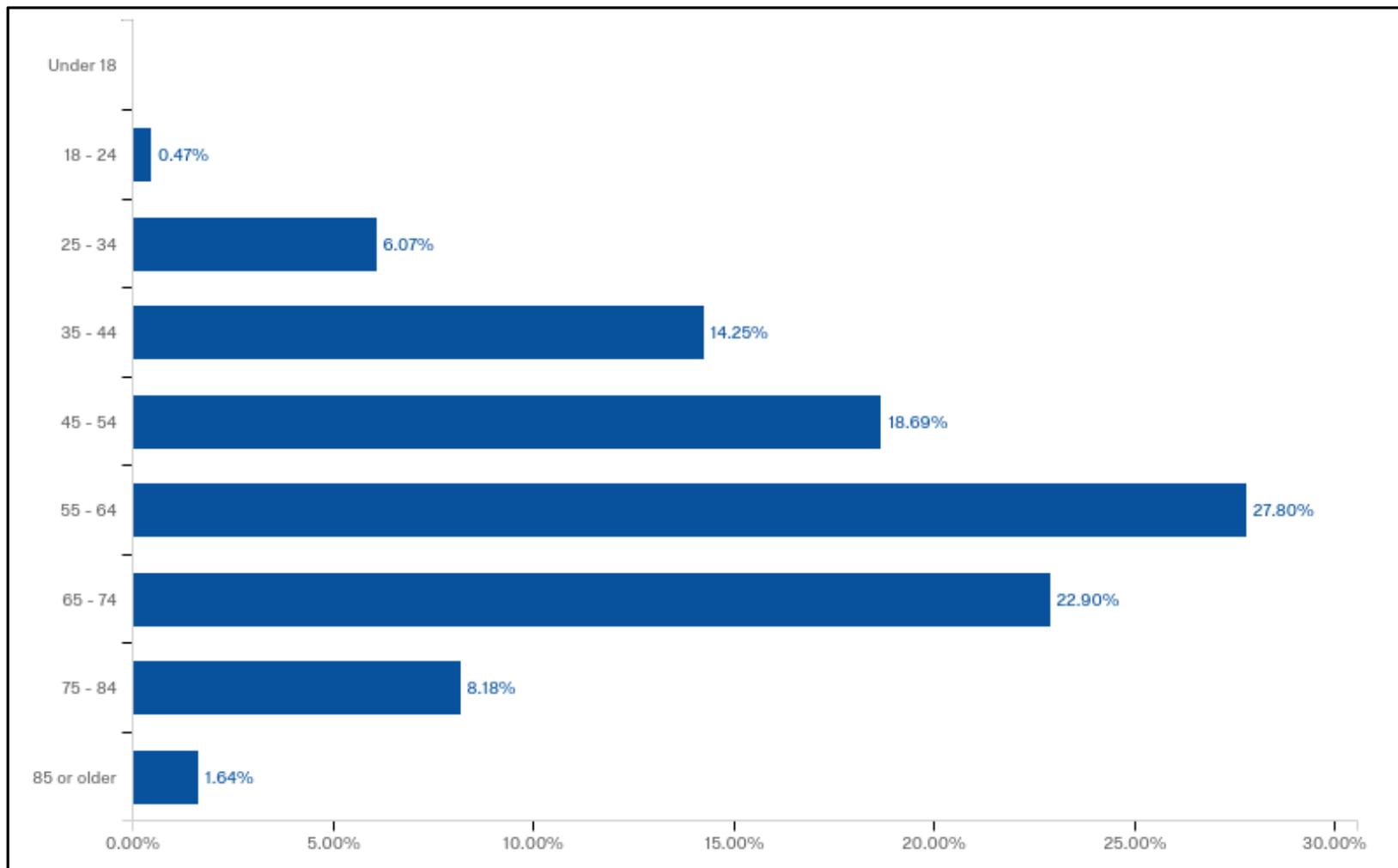
Q26 - What is your gender?



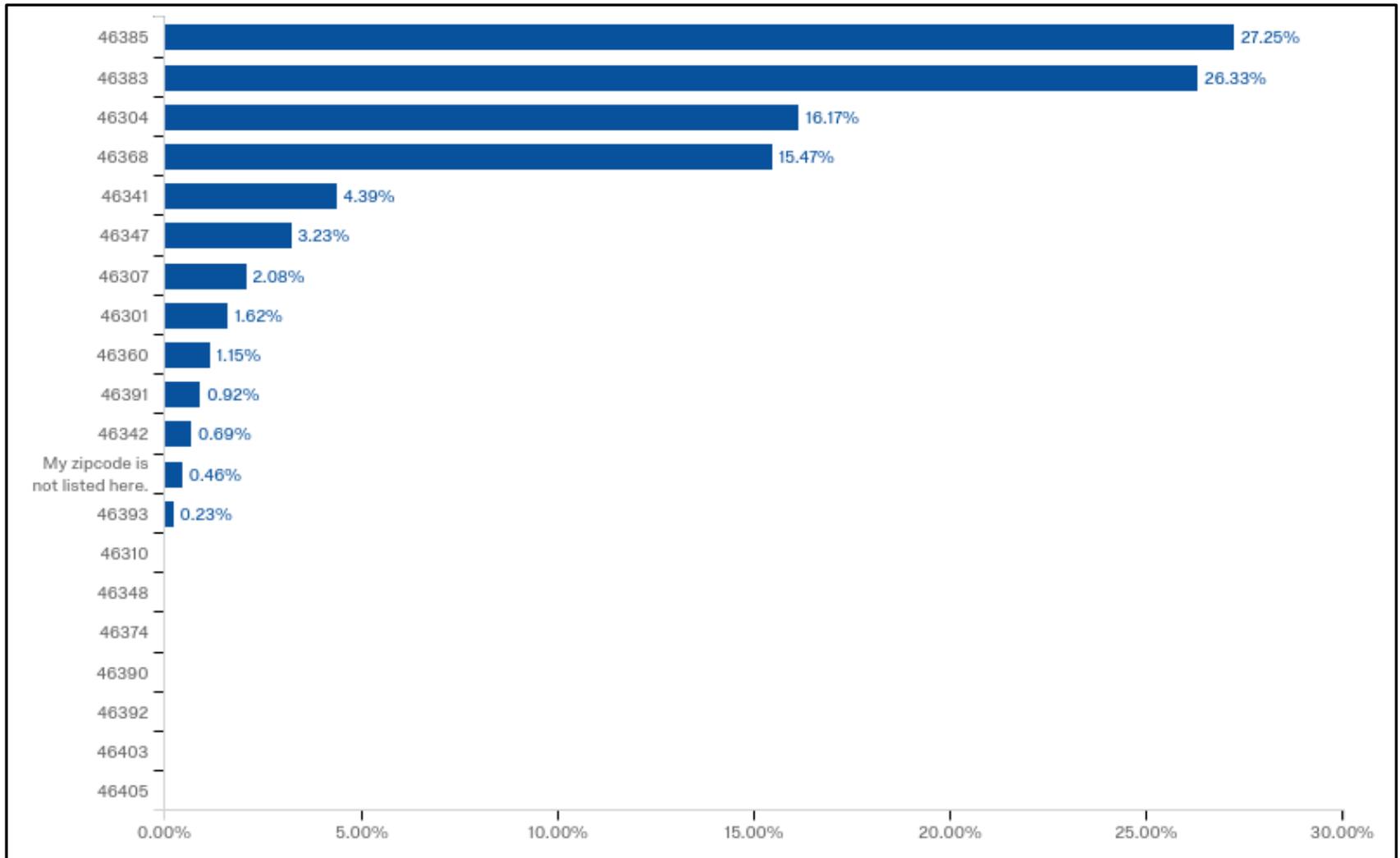
Q2 - Counting yourself, how many people in your household are?



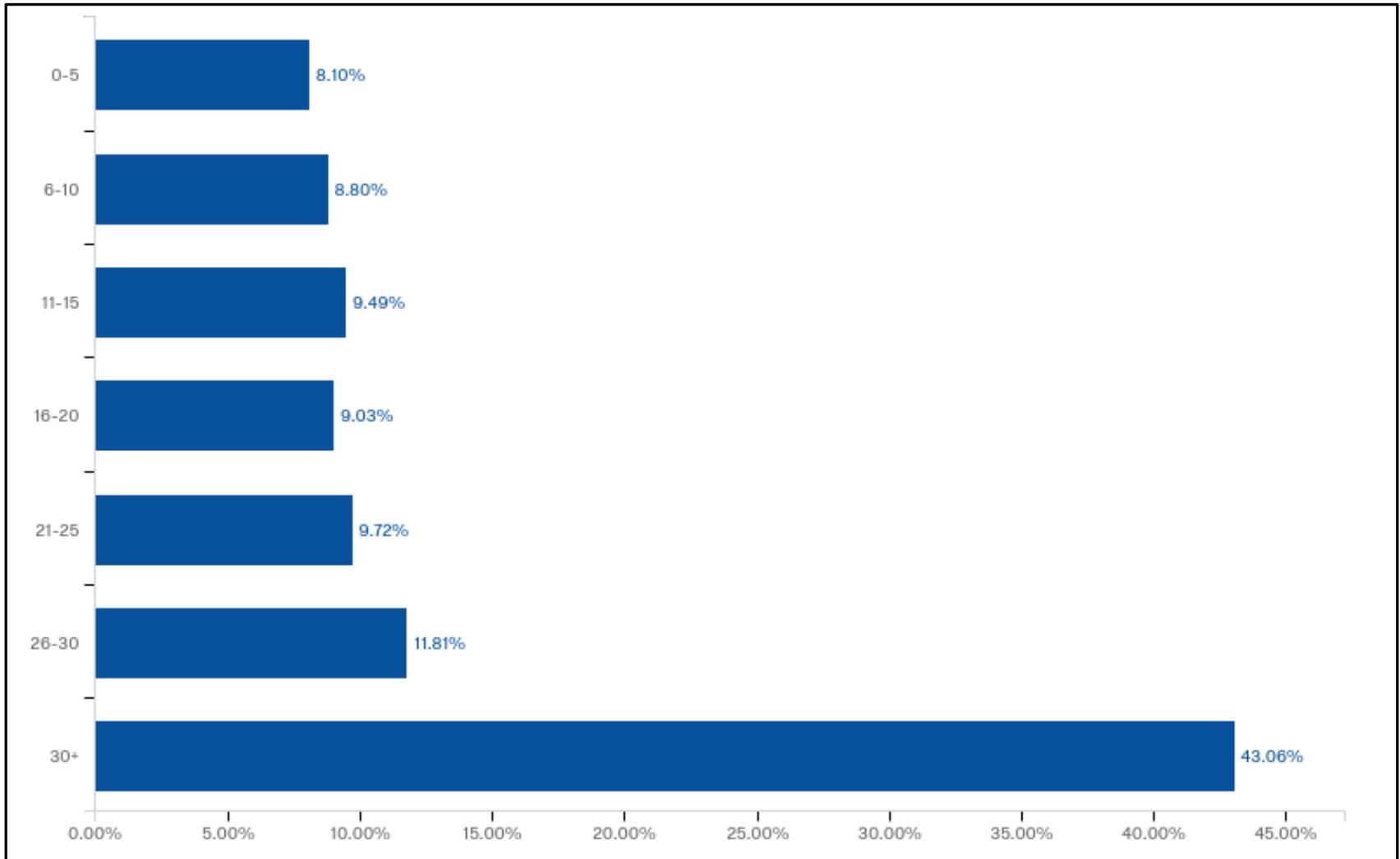
Q25 - What is your age?



Q27 - What is your home zip code?



Q28 - How many years have you lived in Porter County?



Q29 - Are you a registered voter?

