

New London-Spicer School District

Community Survey Results

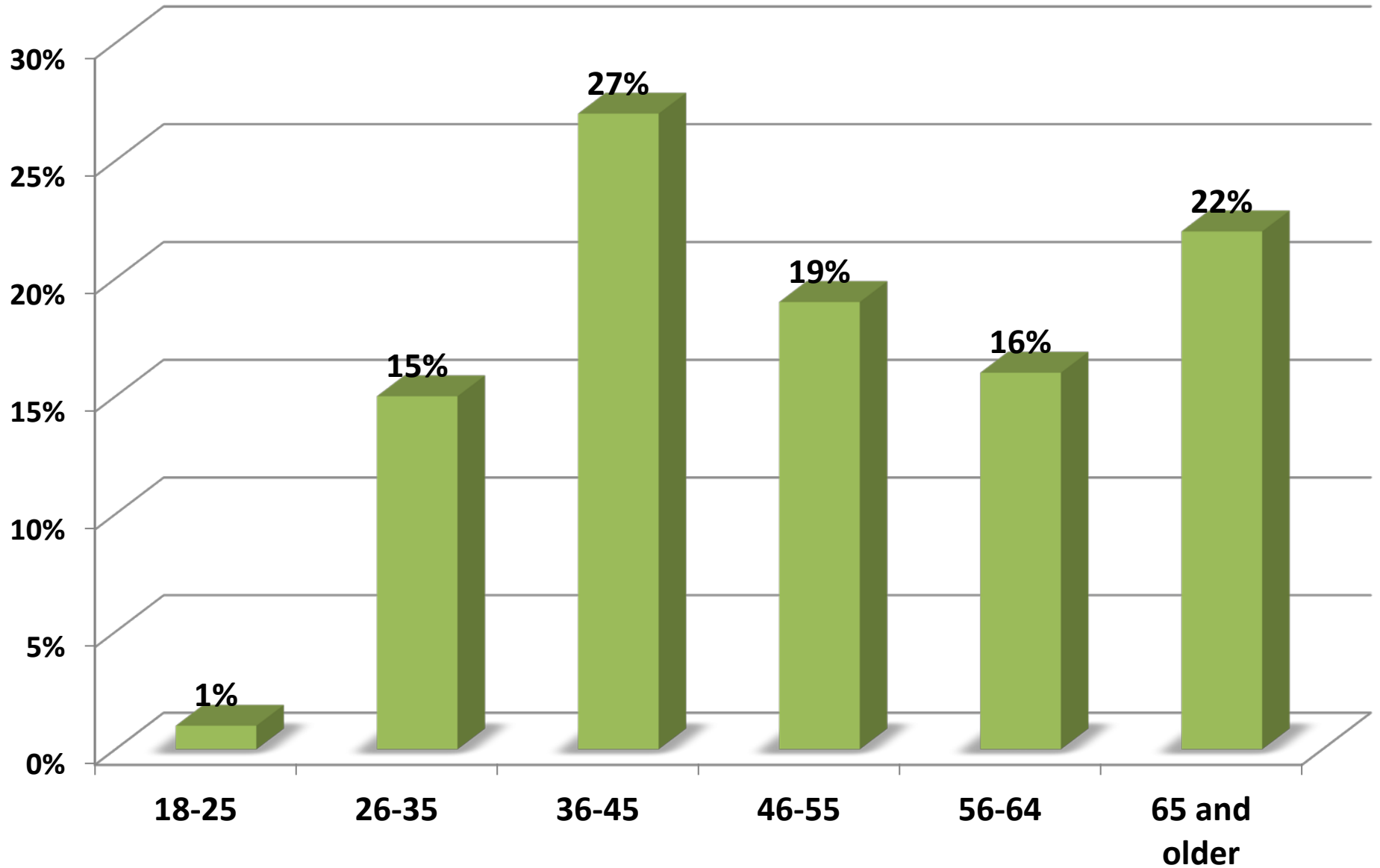
Spring 2019

Survey Summary

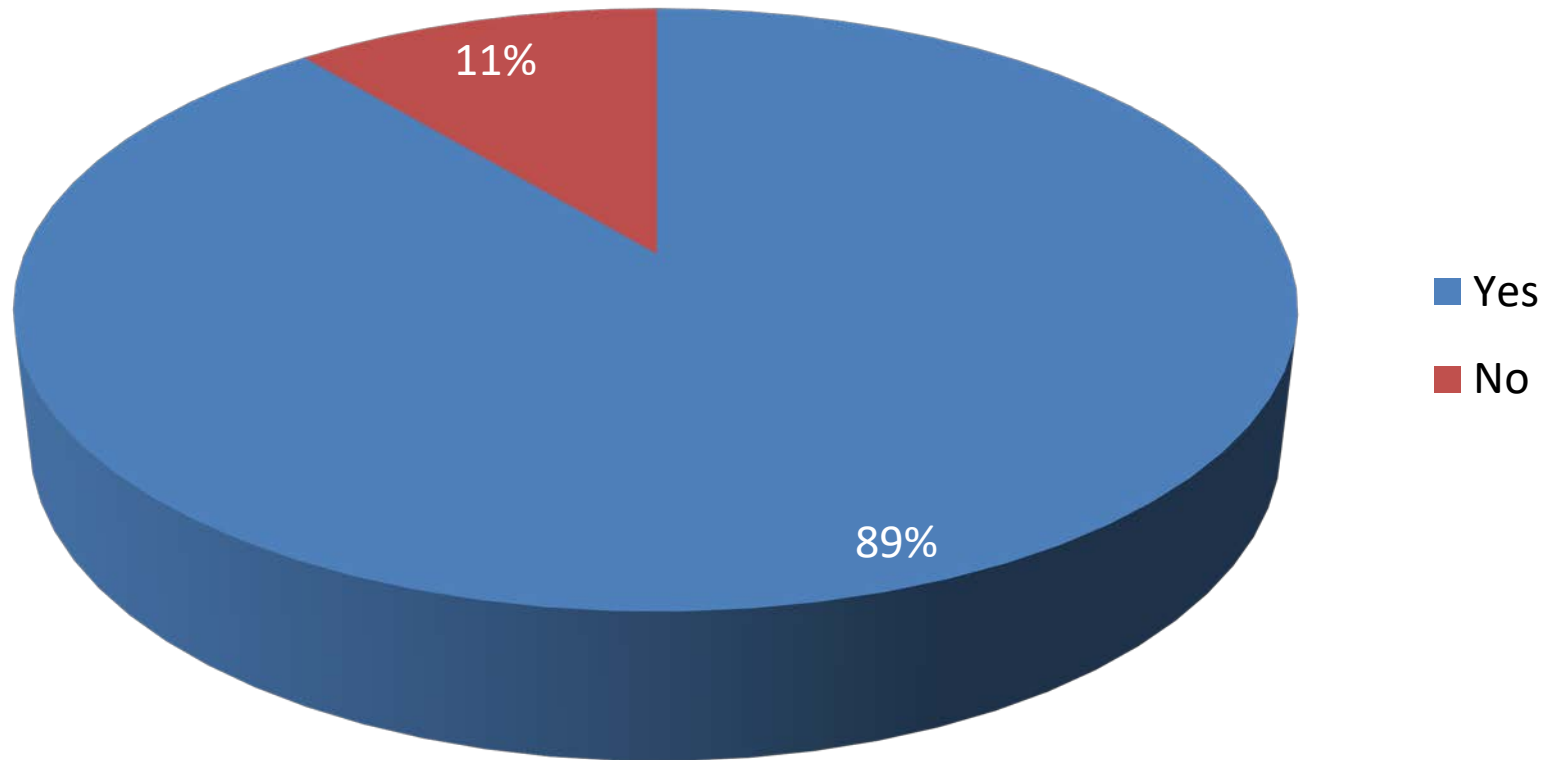
- The survey was conducted in May of 2019.
- Residents within the District were mailed a paper survey. Each survey included a unique survey access code for those who preferred to take the survey online.
- Total responses = 1,049 (408 paper)
- Participation rate = 22%
- Margin of error = +/- 3.0%

Respondent Information

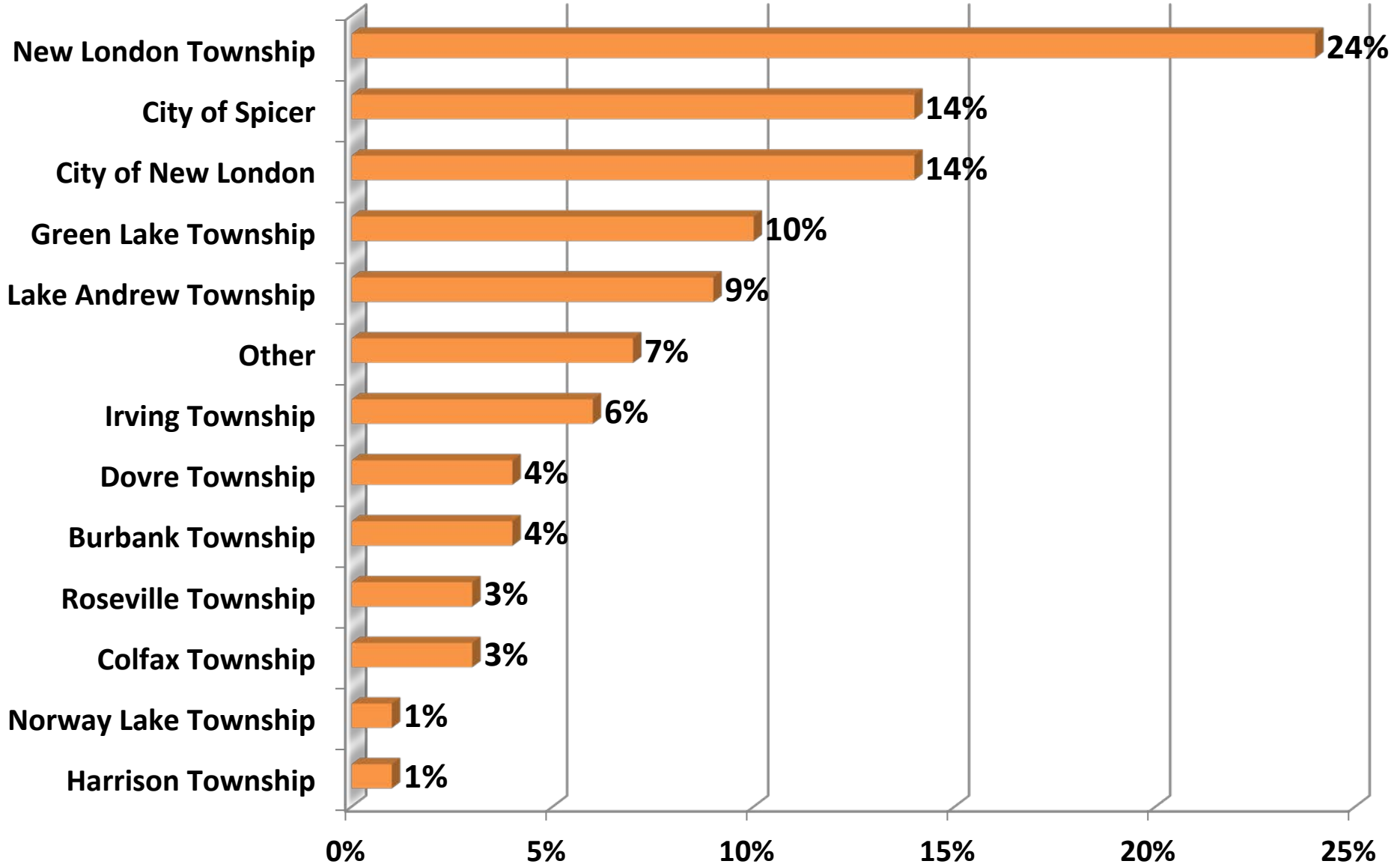
What is your age?



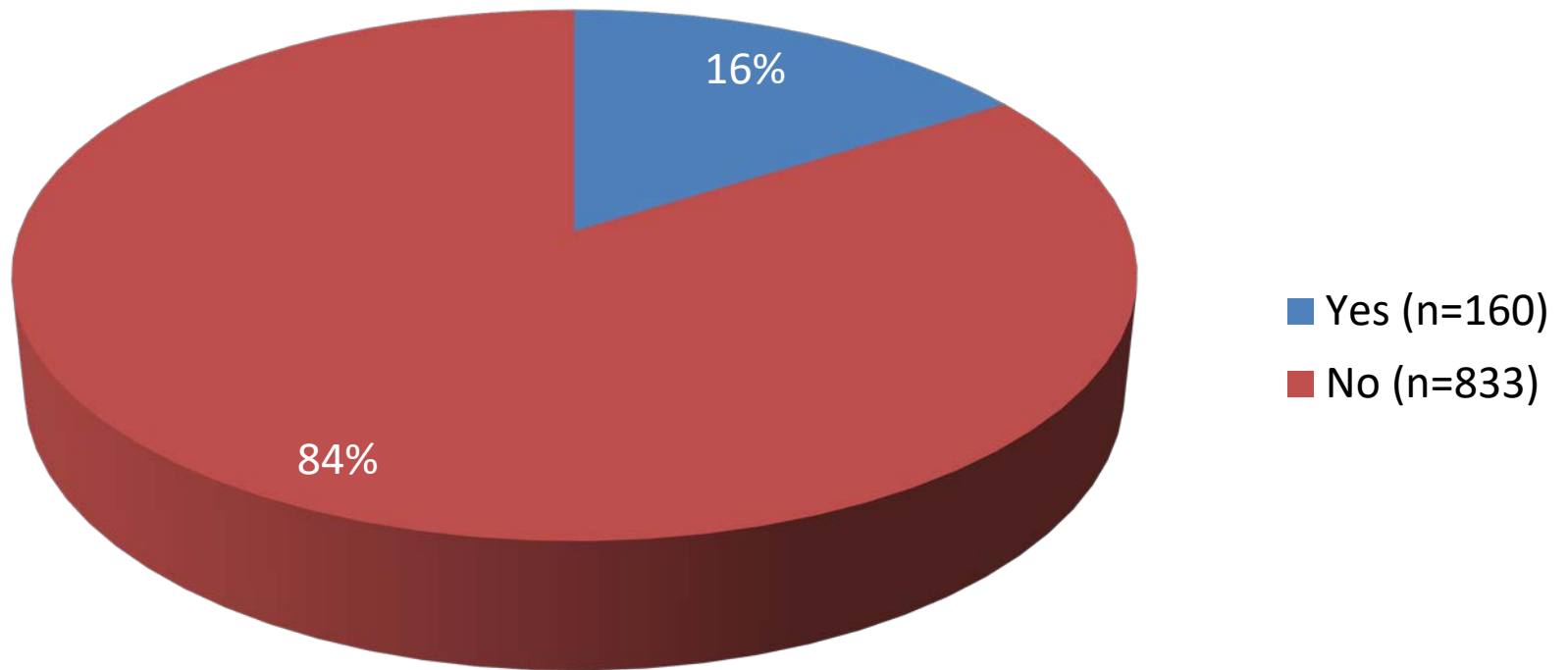
Is your primary residence in the New London-Spicer School District?



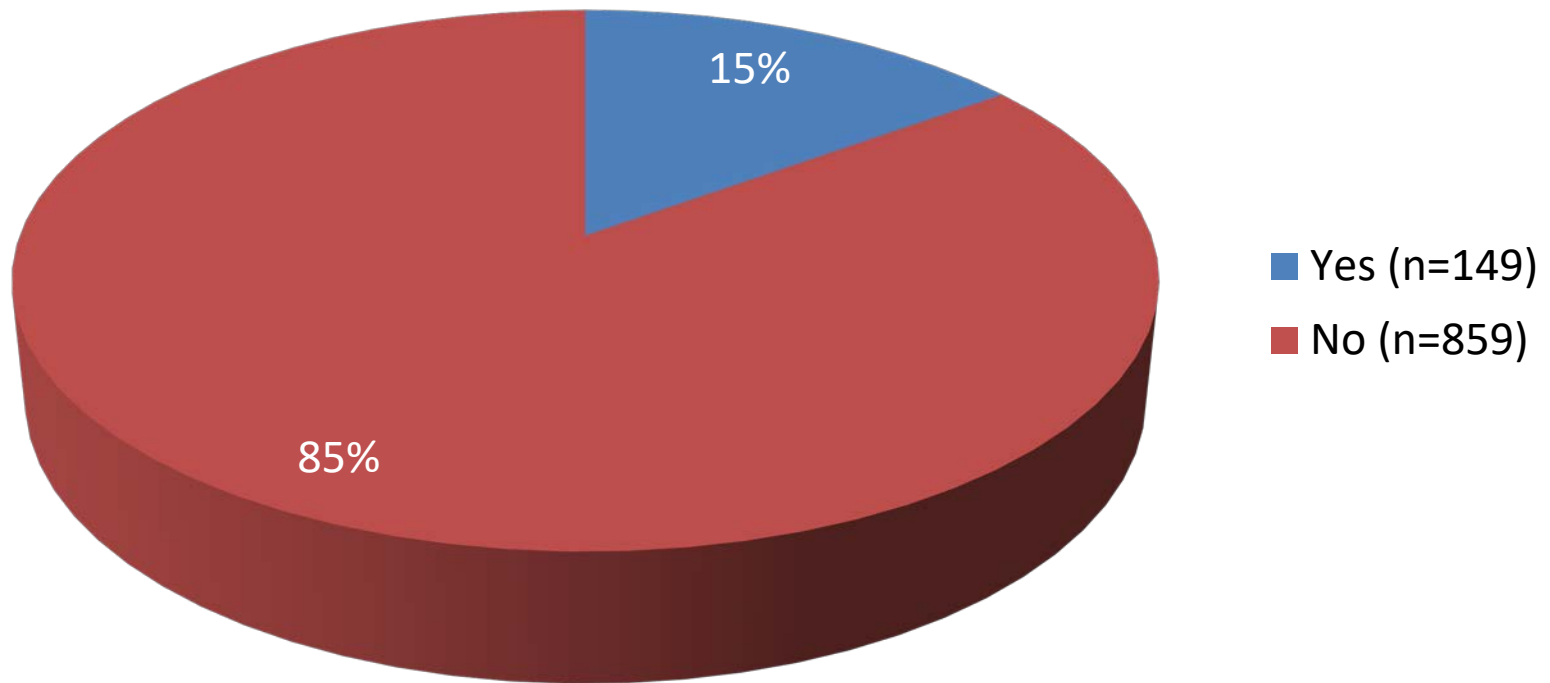
In which municipality/township is your primary residence?



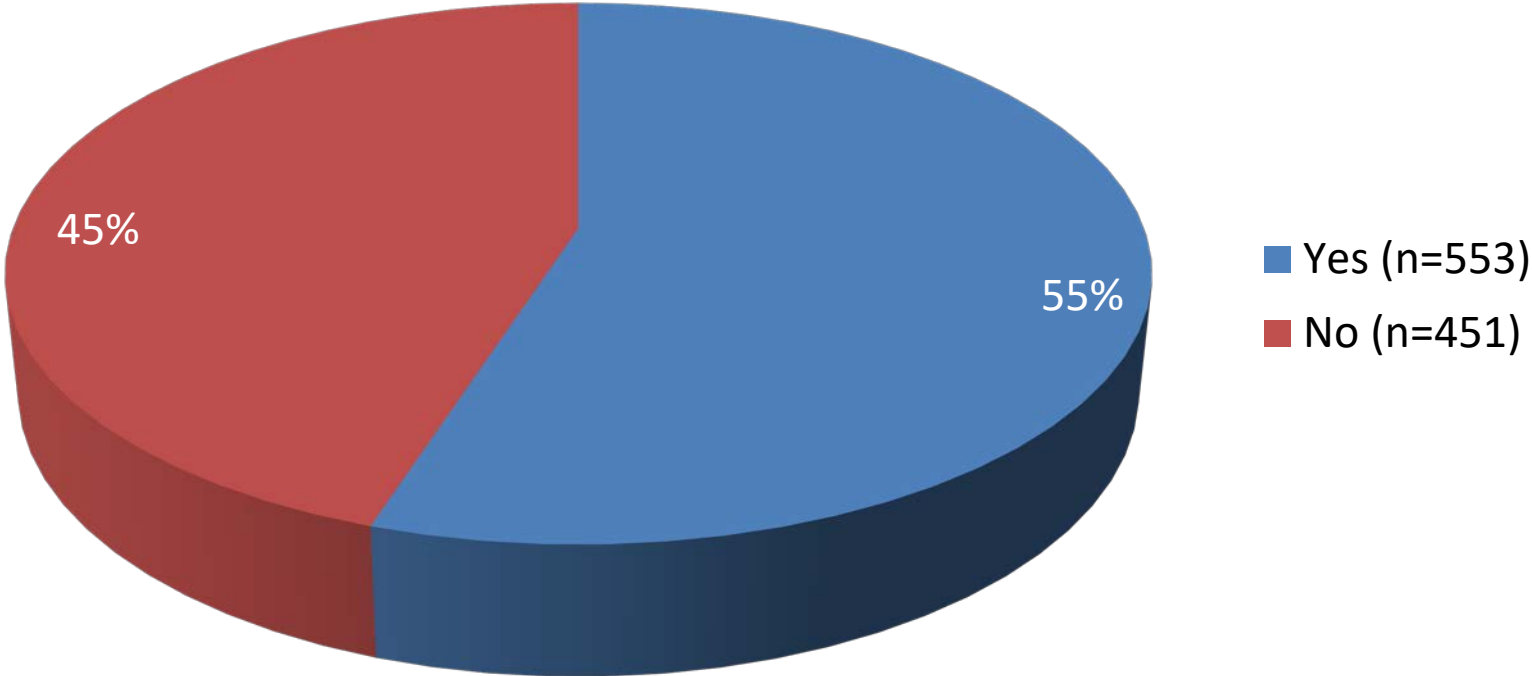
Do you own property within the District that is taxed as agricultural land?



Are you an employee of the New London-Spicer School District?

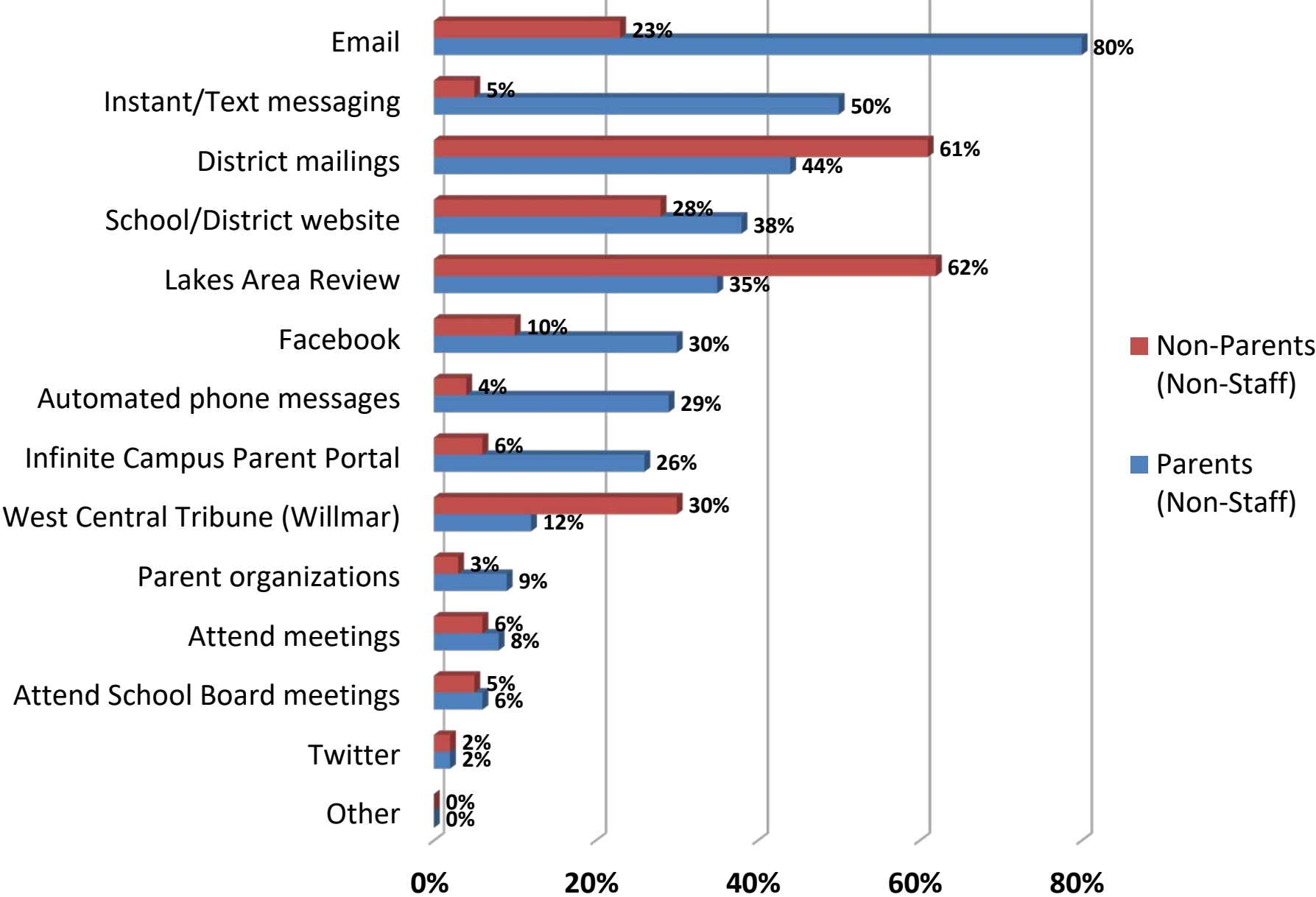


Do your children attend school in the New London-Spicer School District?

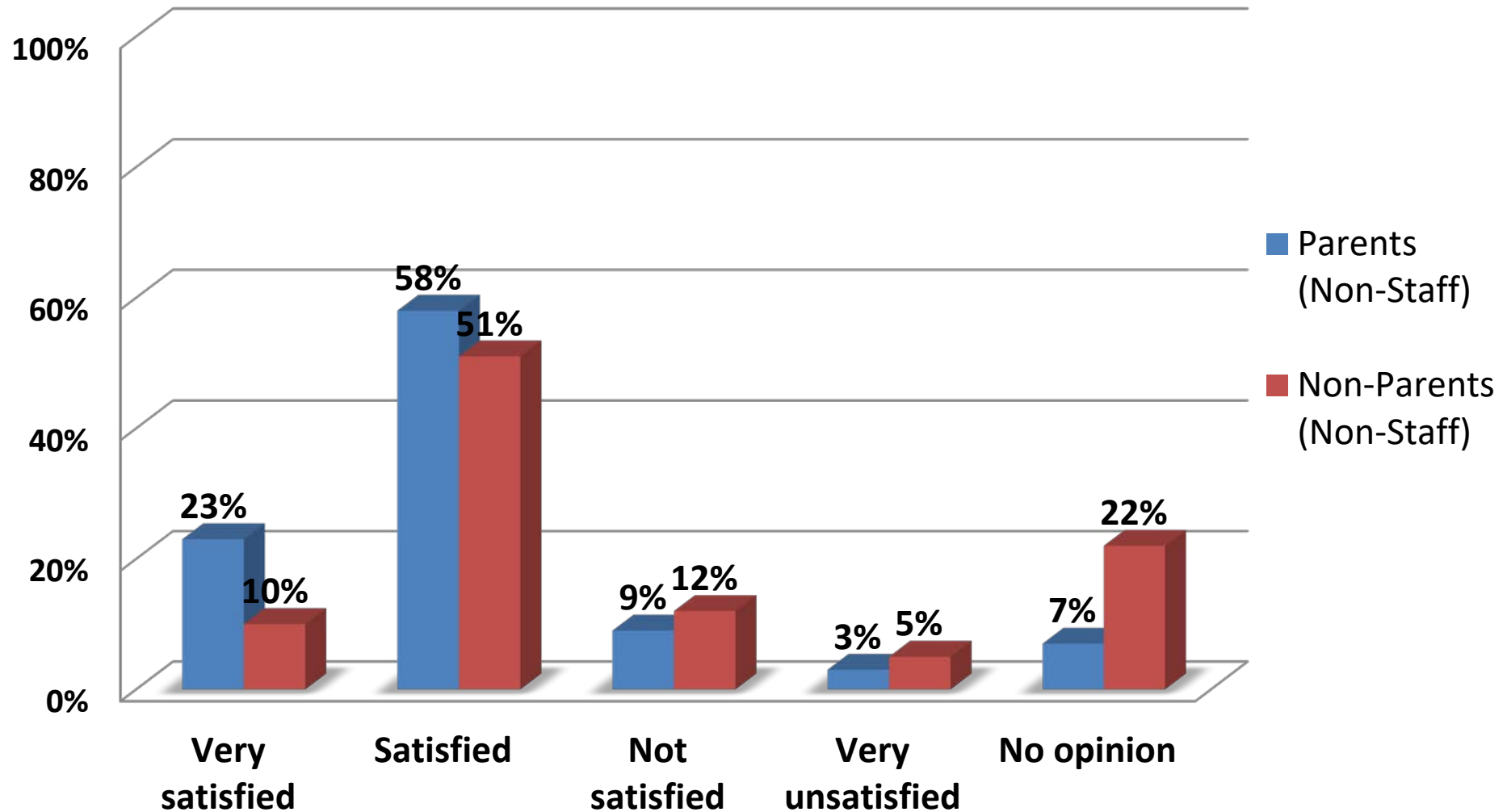


Communications

How would you like to receive school information?



Overall, how satisfied are you with the communications from the New London-Spicer School District?



School Funding Background

There has been some confusion regarding how school districts use referendum funding. There are different types of referenda, including levies and bonds.

Unlike most other districts in the state, the New London-Spicer School District does not currently have a voter-approved operating levy in place. This type of funding supports day-to-day operations, such as staffing, educational programming and student services. These funds are used the same year they are received.

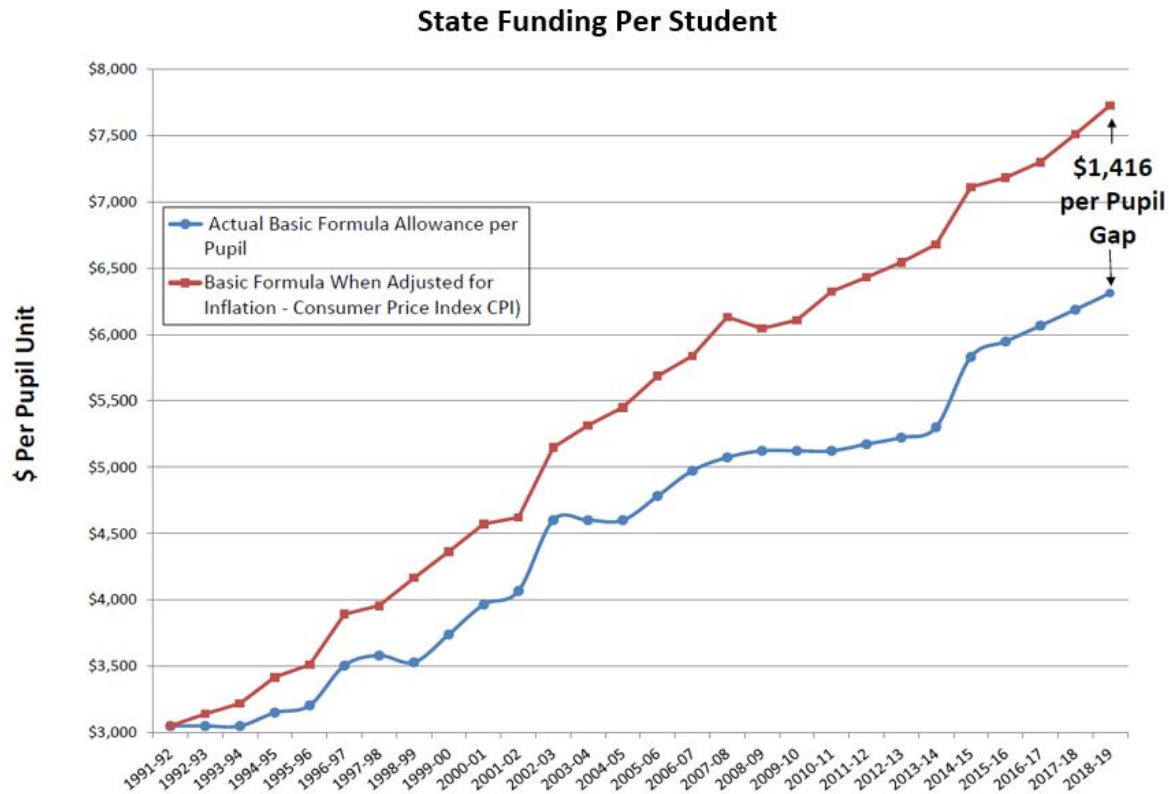
A bond is used to pay for major building projects. Much like a home mortgage, a bond is typically financed over an extended period of time. This financing method was used in 2015 to update our elementary school and add the gym and Performing Arts Center (PAC) at the high school.

In simple terms, bonds are for building, levies are for learning.

School Funding Challenges

School districts receive the majority of their funding from the state. The largest portion of this funding, which comes from the basic general education formula, has not kept up with inflation. This is a major reason why school districts across the state are facing significant budget challenges.

The goal of the New London-Spicer School District has always been to utilize the funds afforded to the District in the best possible manner to educate all students. To date, we've done our best to balance our budget and maintain outstanding programs and services. However, with the current funding forecast, we are projecting a budget shortfall that could grow to \$2 million for each of the next 5 years.



Funding Priorities

Yes (10), No (1)

Item	All Residents	Staff Residents	Parent Residents (Non-Staff)	Non-Parent Residents (Non-Staff)
Should the District consider implementing even higher fees for student participation?	5.82	4.86	5.46	6.56
Should the District eliminate or consolidate athletic/activity offerings to reduce costs?	5.39	5.28	4.71	6.28
Should the District reduce the staff development budget to reduce costs?	5.26	5.33	5.10	5.39
Should the District decrease high school AP/College to School offerings to reduce costs?	4.40	3.63	4.24	4.84
Should the District reduce/eliminate bussing services to reduce costs?	4.43	4.76	4.06	4.81
Should the District increase class sizes to reduce costs?	3.45	1.47	2.95	4.77
Should wage increases be reduced or frozen to save money?	3.98	1.65	4.07	4.73
Should student and staff access to technology be reduced to save money?	3.94	2.57	4.16	4.12
Should the District reduce support staff to reduce costs?	3.53	1.72	3.64	4.09
Should the District decrease the school security budget to reduce costs?	2.75	1.92	2.61	3.20
Should the District decrease technical education course offerings to reduce costs?	2.27	1.57	2.28	2.53

Funding to Maintain Programs, Services and Technology

In order to maintain current programs and services, the District is forecasting a budget shortfall for each of the next five years. Based on current budget projections, nearly \$2 million will be needed for each of the next five years to:

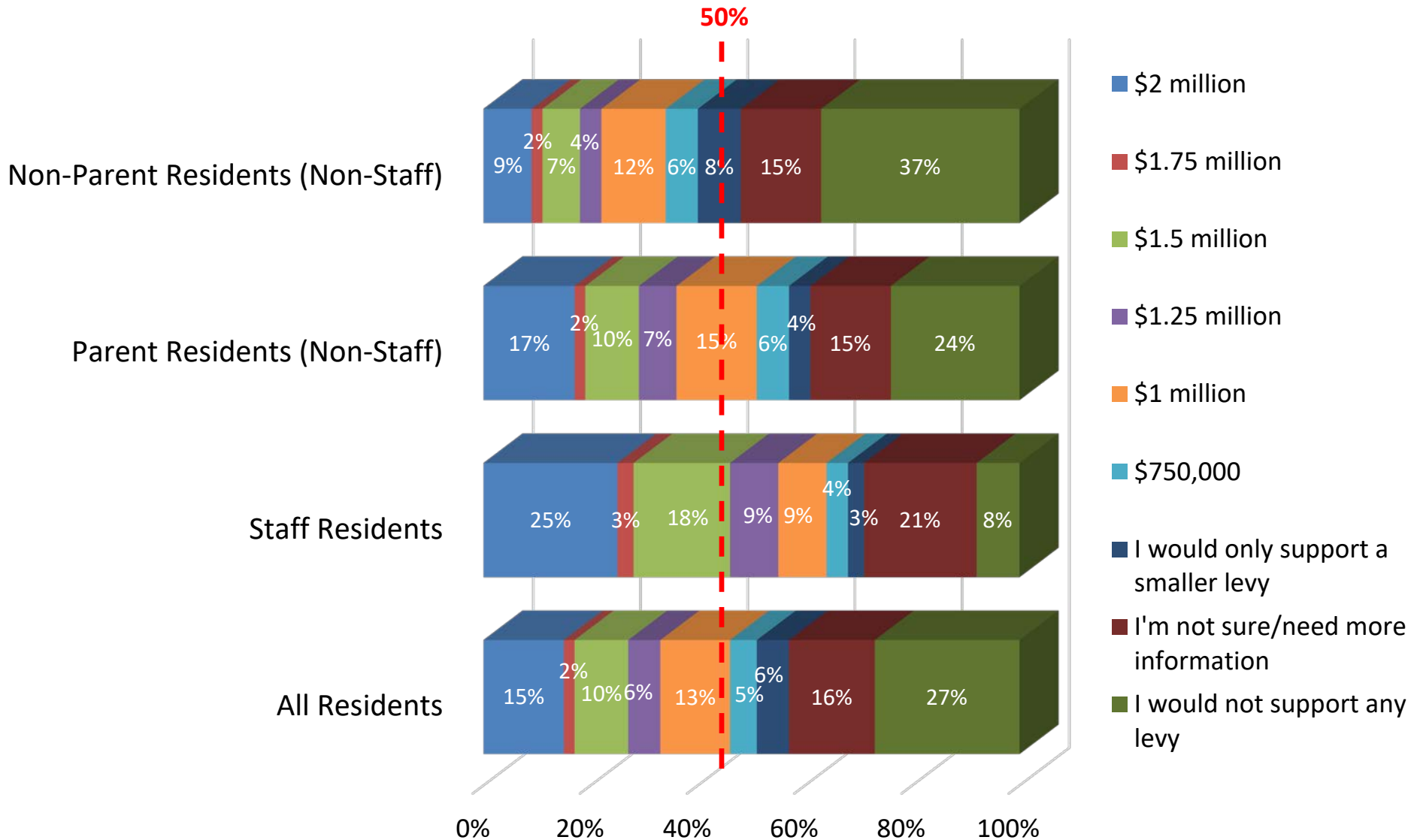
- Maintain class sizes
- Maintain current course offerings
- Maintain staffing levels
- Fully fund our technology plan to ensure our students are prepared for 21st century careers

The District would like to know your level of support for a levy. The following table shows the projected tax impacts for various levy amounts.

Total Levy Amount and Estimated Annual Property Tax Increase							
		\$750,000	\$1 million	\$1.25 million	\$1.5 million	\$1.75 million	\$2 million
Residential Home Value	\$100,000	\$36	\$48	\$73	\$99	\$125	\$151
	\$150,000	\$63	\$84	\$122	\$161	\$200	\$239
	\$200,000	\$90	\$120	\$172	\$223	\$275	\$326
	\$350,000	\$171	\$228	\$319	\$409	\$499	\$590
	\$500,000	\$249	\$332	\$461	\$590	\$719	\$848
Commercial/ Industrial Value	\$350,000	\$311	\$415	\$505	\$595	\$686	\$776
	\$1,000,000	\$958	\$1,277	\$1,535	\$1,793	\$2,051	\$2,309

How much of a tax increase would you support?

(New London-Spicer School District Residents Only)



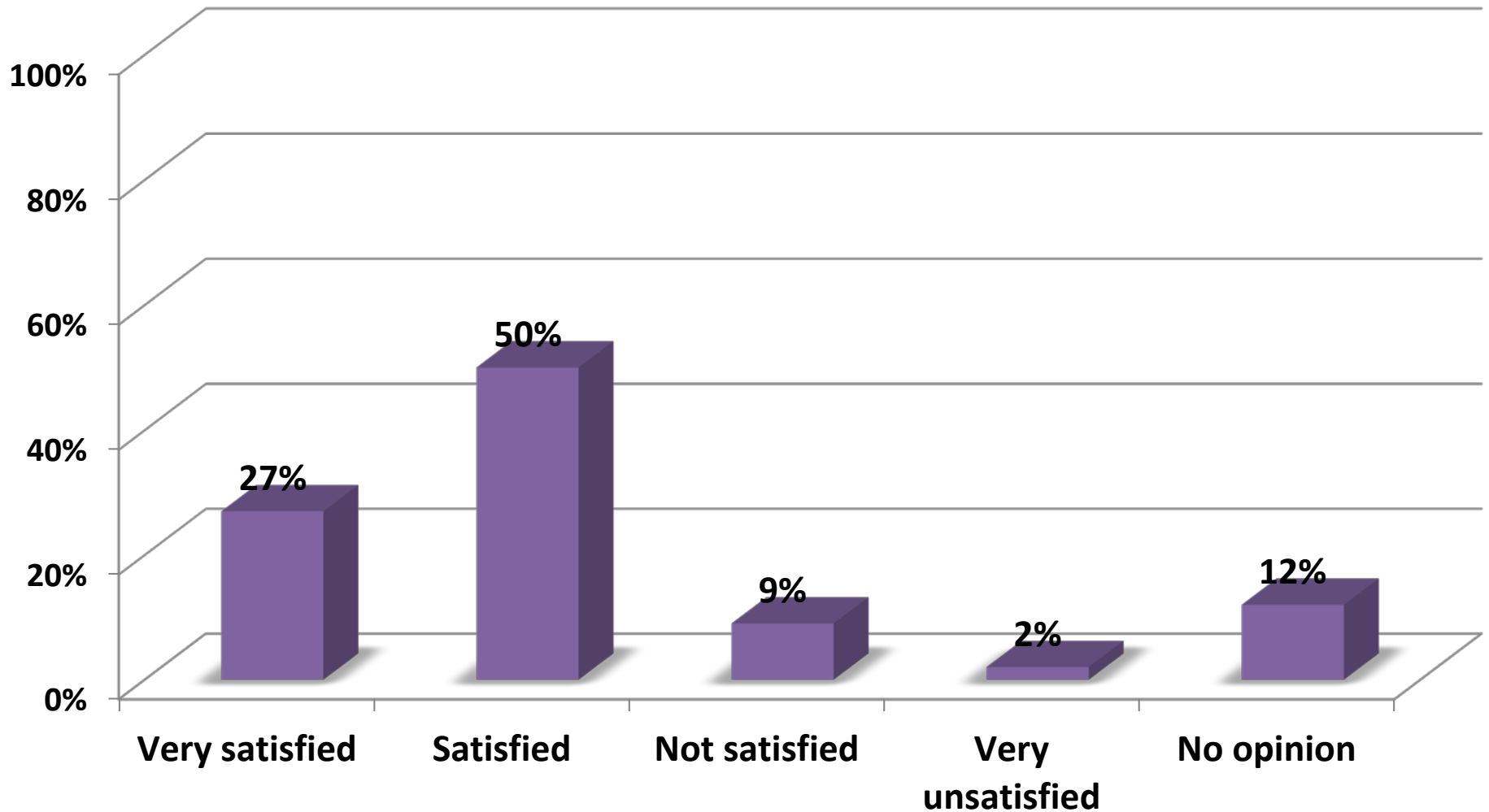
Strategic Planning

How well are we doing in each of the following areas?

Great (4), Good (3), Fair (2), Poor (1)

Item	All Residents	Staff Residents	Parent Residents (Non-Staff)	Non-Parent Residents (Non-Staff)
Maintaining District facilities	3.09	2.76	3.19	3.10
Integrating technology into classroom learning	2.86	2.72	2.86	2.95
Delivering a high-quality educational experience	3.01	3.17	3.01	2.94
Providing a challenging and relevant curriculum	2.92	3.02	2.89	2.92
Retaining high-quality and motivated staff	2.93	3.00	2.95	2.88
Providing a safe, supportive and respectful environment	2.93	3.08	2.91	2.88
Creating an environment that fosters diversity and acceptance of all students	2.76	2.82	2.76	2.74
Creating opportunities for collaboration between school staff, parents and the community.	2.77	2.91	2.78	2.68
Keeping the public informed	2.65	2.89	2.66	2.55
Providing opportunities for community input	2.71	2.86	2.78	2.54

Overall, how satisfied are you with the New London-Spicer School District? *(All Respondents)*



Thank you!