

Survey Report

25 October 2019 - 20 November 2019

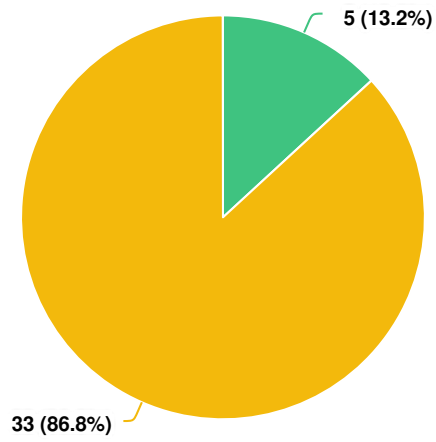
Town of Midland Budget 2020 Survey

PROJECT: Budget 2020 Survey

Engaging Midland

engagement 
by Bang the Table

Q1 | 1) Are you responding as a resident or a business owner?

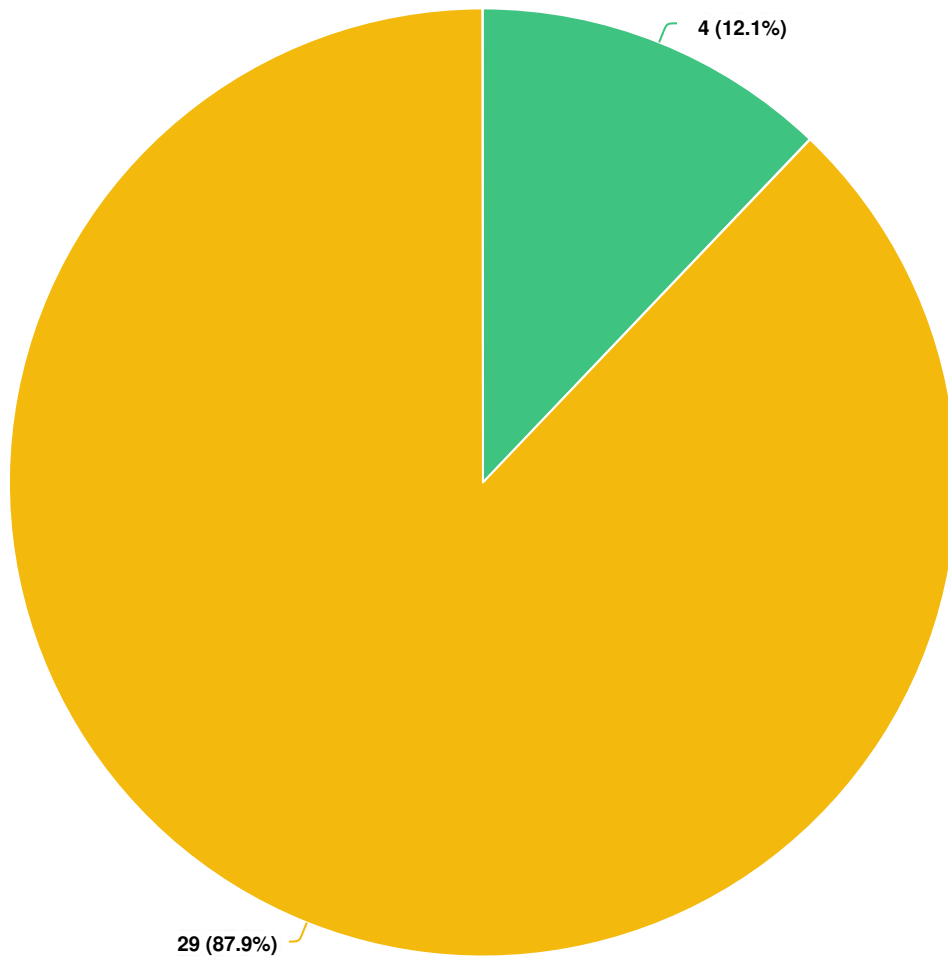


Question options

- Business owner
- Resident

(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q2 Do you own or rent your current place of residence?

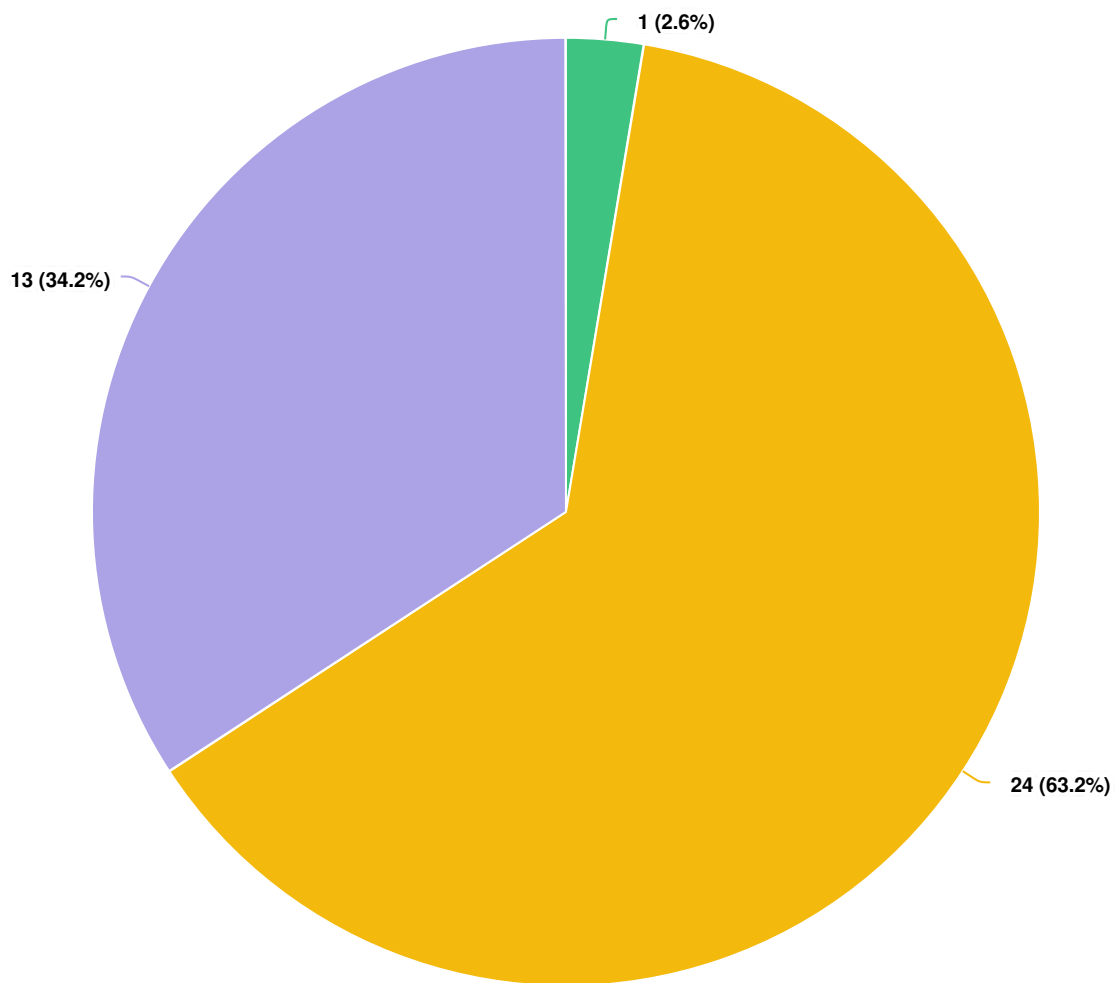


Question options

- Rent
- Own

Optional question (33 responses, 5 skipped)

Q3 | 2) You don't need to be familiar with the Town's budget to take part in this survey. But we would like to understand how familiar the community is with the budget. How familiar are you with how the Town develops the annual budget?

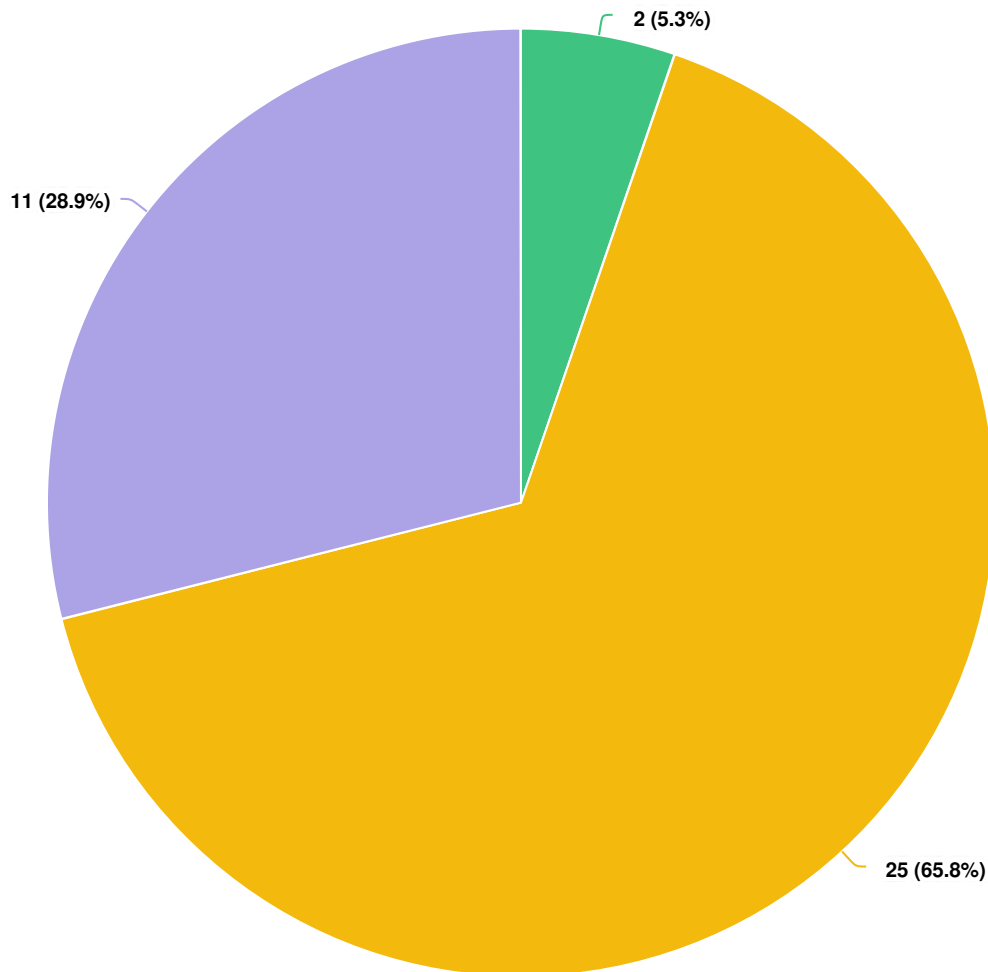


Question options

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not at all familiar

(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q4 | 3) How familiar are you with how the Town makes decisions about operating and capital spending each year?

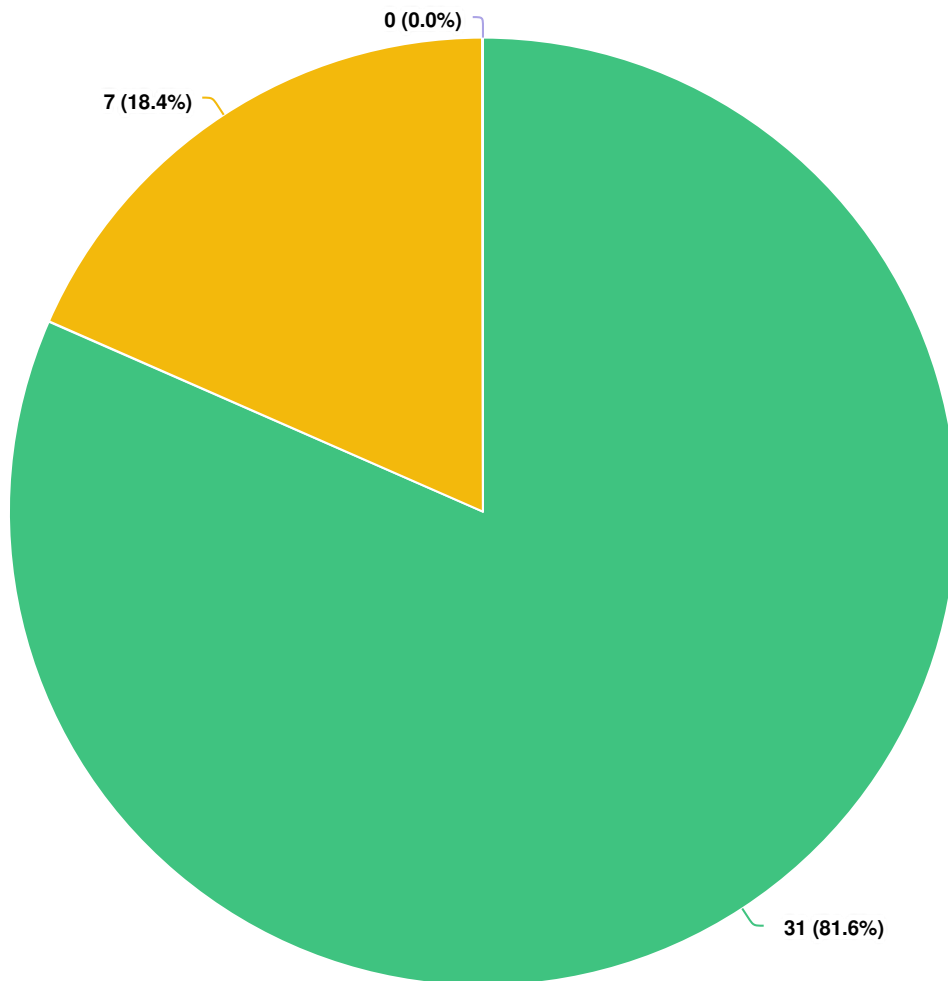


Question options

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not at all familiar

(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q5 | 4) How familiar are you with the services and programs funded by the Town of Midland annual budget?

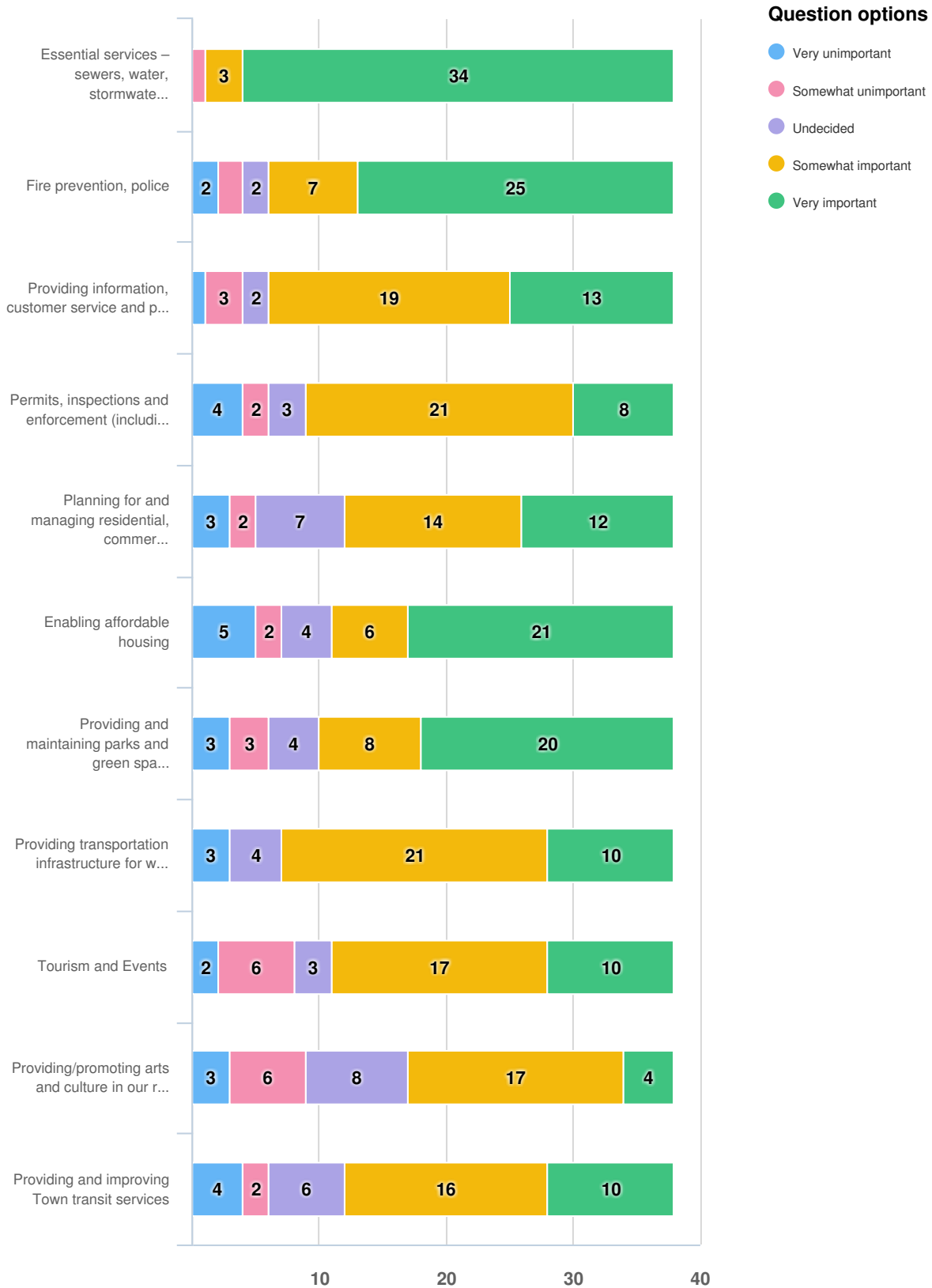


Question options

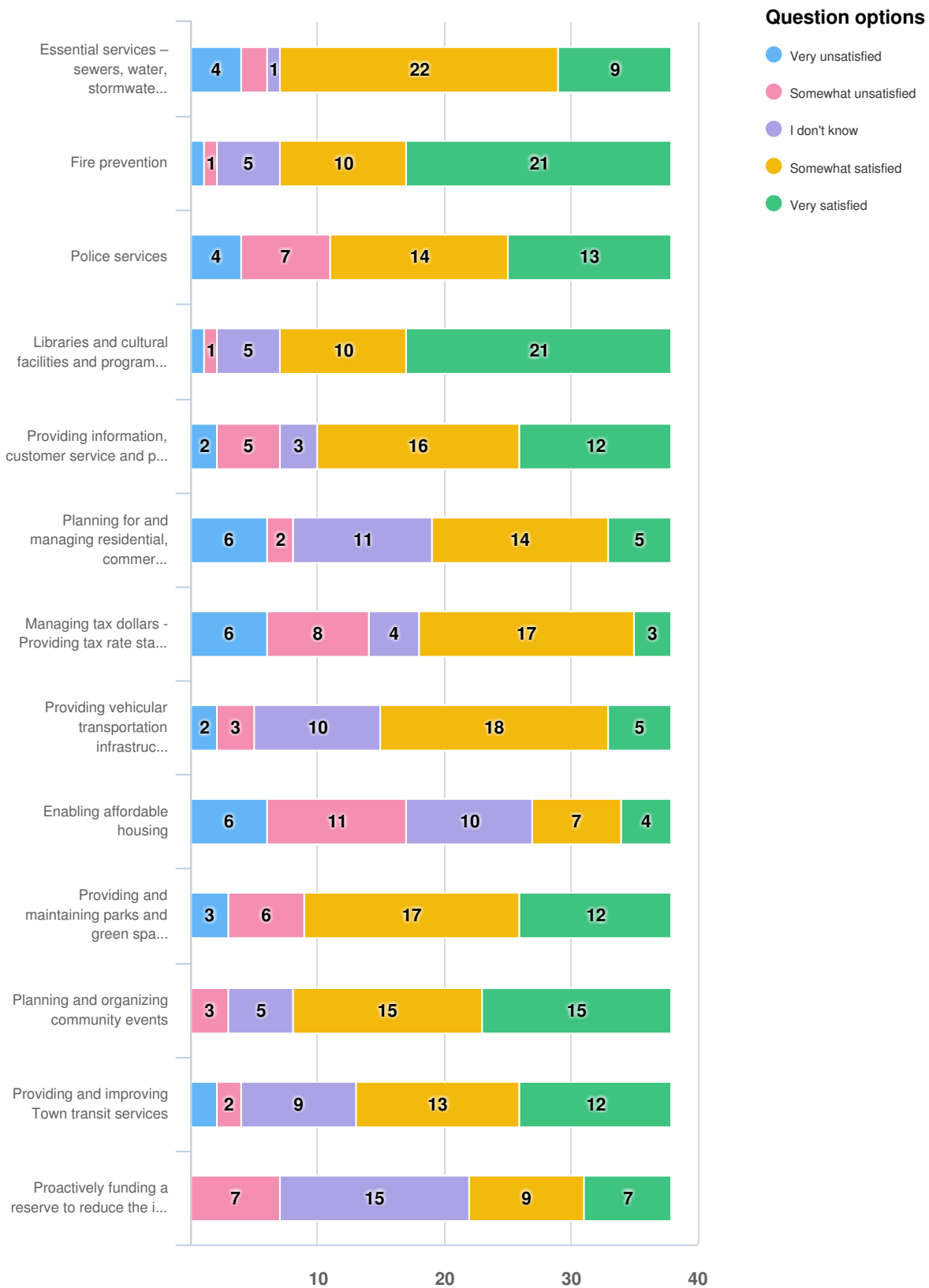
- Somewhat familiar
- Not at all familiar
- Very familiar

(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q6 | 5) This next set of questions focus on your priorities for spending at the Town, and your thoughts on how the Town manages its finances. How important do you think the following services/programs are to the community?



Q7 | 6) Please rate the following municipal services based on how well you think the municipally-funded services are being delivered in our community.



(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q8 | 7) From your perspective, and recognizing that not everything is within Town control, what are the most important local issues facing the Town at the present time (Rank the below items with 1 - most important, 12 - least important)

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Crime/criminal activity	5.00
Economy/Jobs/economic issues	5.18
Health/public health	5.61
Property taxes	6.05
Utilities (water/wastewater, hydro)	6.11
Housing/accommodations	6.13
Cost of living	6.84
Social issues (e.g. poverty, social services and resources, childcare)	6.84
Addiction and overdoses	6.87
Environment/environmental issues/sustainability	7.37
Governance and transparency (e.g. bylaws, resident-government relations, community engagement activities)	7.92
Infrastructure/transportation	8.08

(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q9 | 8) If the most important local issue facing the Town presently wasn't listed above, please tell us what it is.

LindaR 10/25/2019 04:24 PM	losing our Midland Police department ... going opp has lessened the focus in town
Roy 10/25/2019 05:19 PM	Waterfront development
Midland-Angler 10/26/2019 02:49 AM	Why haven't you fired the people who ended the local police in favour of the OPP sham
Jbeard 10/26/2019 05:45 AM	All the issues in #7 are equally important!
Sousn 10/27/2019 02:26 PM	Bring back manufacturing jobs so that people can work and make good money to support themselves
Larry2019 10/28/2019 07:23 AM	none at this time
Ihillman22 10/28/2019 12:33 PM	A combined Georgian Bay physician recruitment should be a priority
Midland is for lovers 10/29/2019 06:32 PM	Over development - stricter building control and regulations - need for a conservation authority
barbkn 10/30/2019 05:18 PM	Issues regarding Seniors
Action Place Centre 11/02/2019 09:27 AM	.
Brianrugman 11/02/2019 11:25 AM	N/a
Jasongould 11/02/2019 04:49 PM	Cost of livng is out of hand and your asking for more. Cut garbage and recycle to every two weeks
Gerry Addley 11/02/2019 06:43 PM	A better system of planning for small business, current system is structured for big business.
deblacroix 11/03/2019 07:45 AM	I believe we need to focus on drugs in this town, and the amount of crime.
Shelly 11/03/2019 05:22 PM	None
Ryanbrentmclaughlin 11/04/2019 01:48 PM	Stop enabling crackheads and losers . Midland is infested. Lower property taxes.

dfd_cshore

11/04/2019 04:14 PM

about 5 or 6: ensuring privacy (particularly of third party services) for e11, smart cities, etc.

Alysha

11/08/2019 10:42 AM

Maintenance and upkeep of parks and playgrounds. Having sidewalks for kids to walk to school.

DT Howard

11/09/2019 02:41 PM

The most important local issue facing the Town was listed above: Affordable housing.

Shoe SC

11/14/2019 05:21 AM

Please get rid of the contaminated soil at the waterfront

kettle

11/14/2019 04:54 PM

Using taxpayers money more wisely.

Jushmin

11/16/2019 08:08 PM

Overall town doing good job.

peggie

11/18/2019 07:49 AM

Sidewalks on Aberdeen Blvd. desperately needed or trail plowed. Walking in winter dangerous.

rod lundy

11/18/2019 11:18 AM

roads, curbs, sidewalks are terrible and truck routes for the T own

aaronkontkanen

11/18/2019 05:54 PM

Yonge St bike lanes so inefficient!

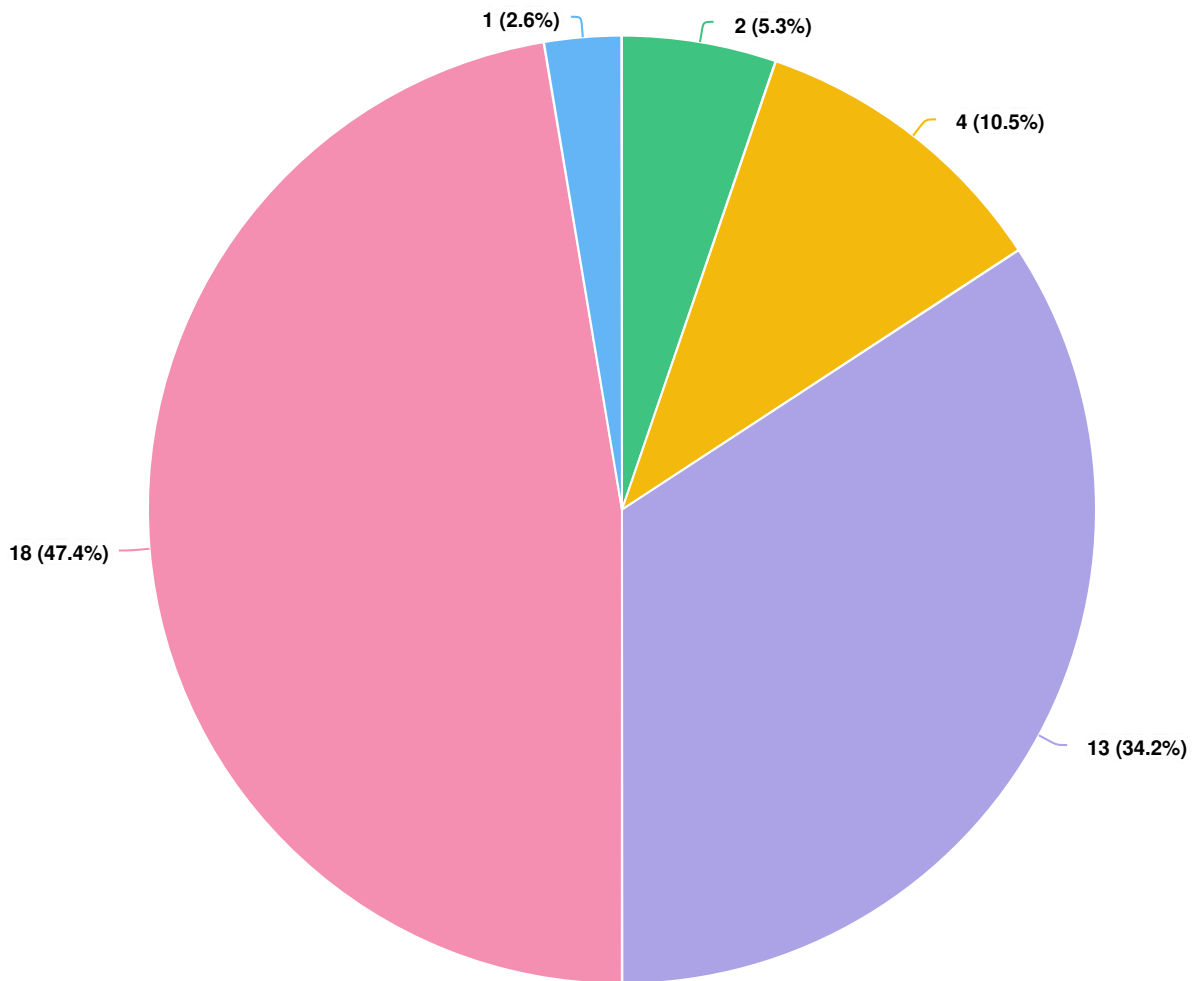
AnjH

11/19/2019 06:28 AM

Homeless/addicts in public areas

Optional question (26 responses, 12 skipped)

Q10 | 9) Generally, how do you feel about the overall quality of services provided to residents/businesses by the Town of Midland?

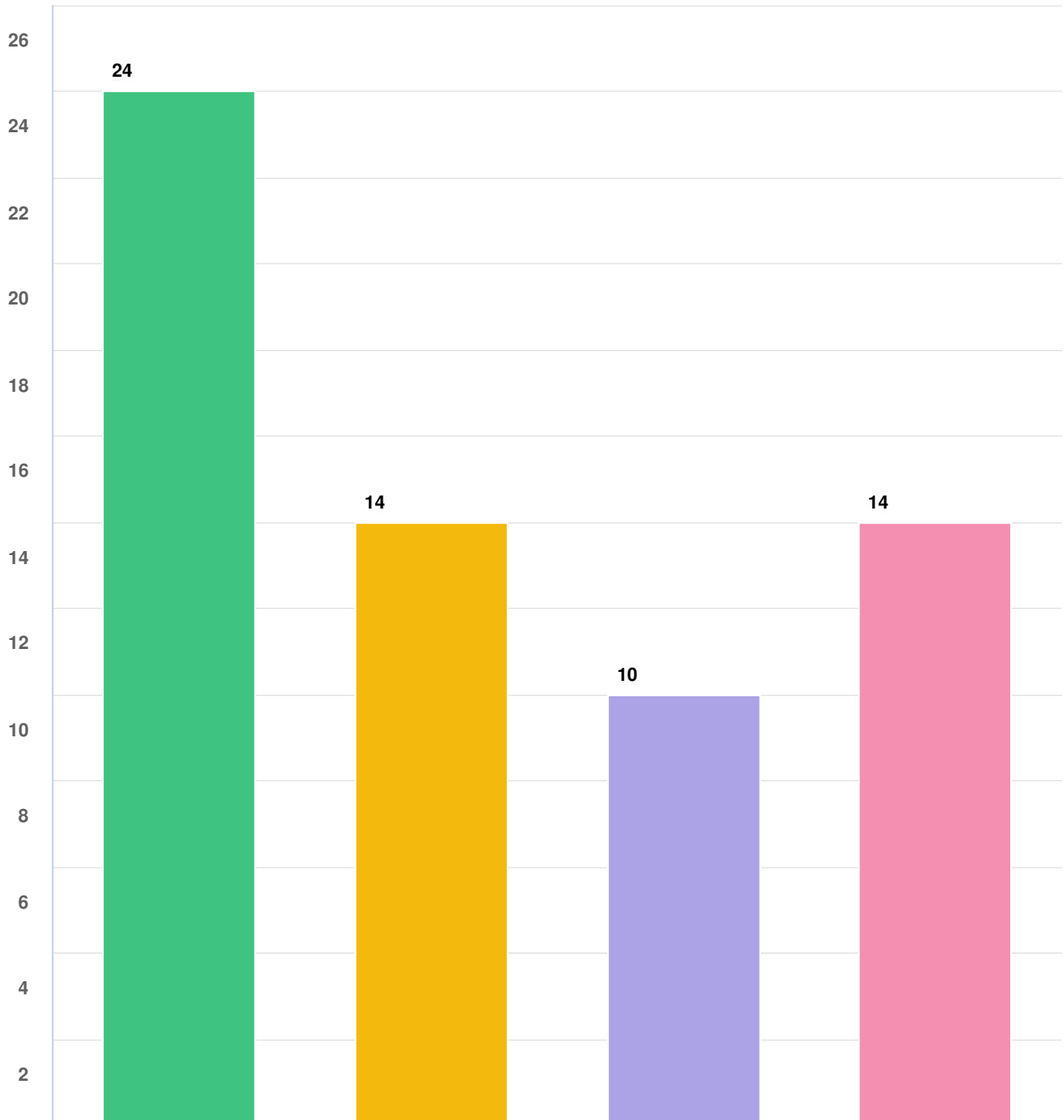


Question options

- Very happy
- Happy
- Neutral
- Unhappy
- Very unhappy

(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q11 10) To balance the 2020 budget as required by law, the Town of Midland has a number of options to consider. Which of the following options would you prefer the Town use to balance its budget? Note: User fees are monies you would pay to the Town to...

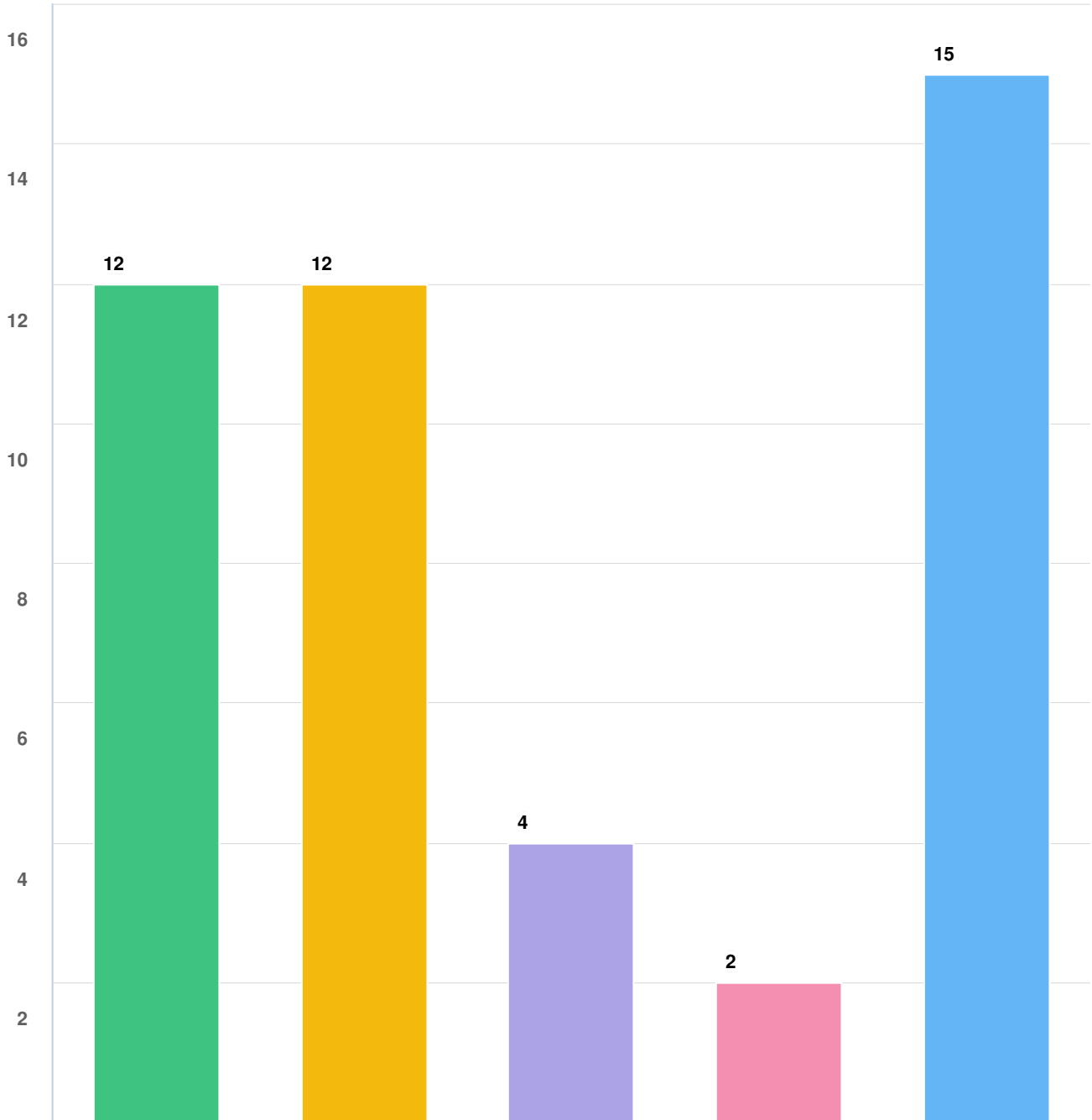


Question options

- Reduce the level of Town services (e.g. hours, frequency)
- Increase property taxes
- Increase user fees for Town services that currently have fees
- Introduce new user fees for some Town services that currently have no fees

(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q12 11) In 2019, the Town portion of the tax bill increased 1.44%. Would you be willing to pay more for the Town portion of the property tax bill to increase levels of service? You can select one option or a mix of up to three options.

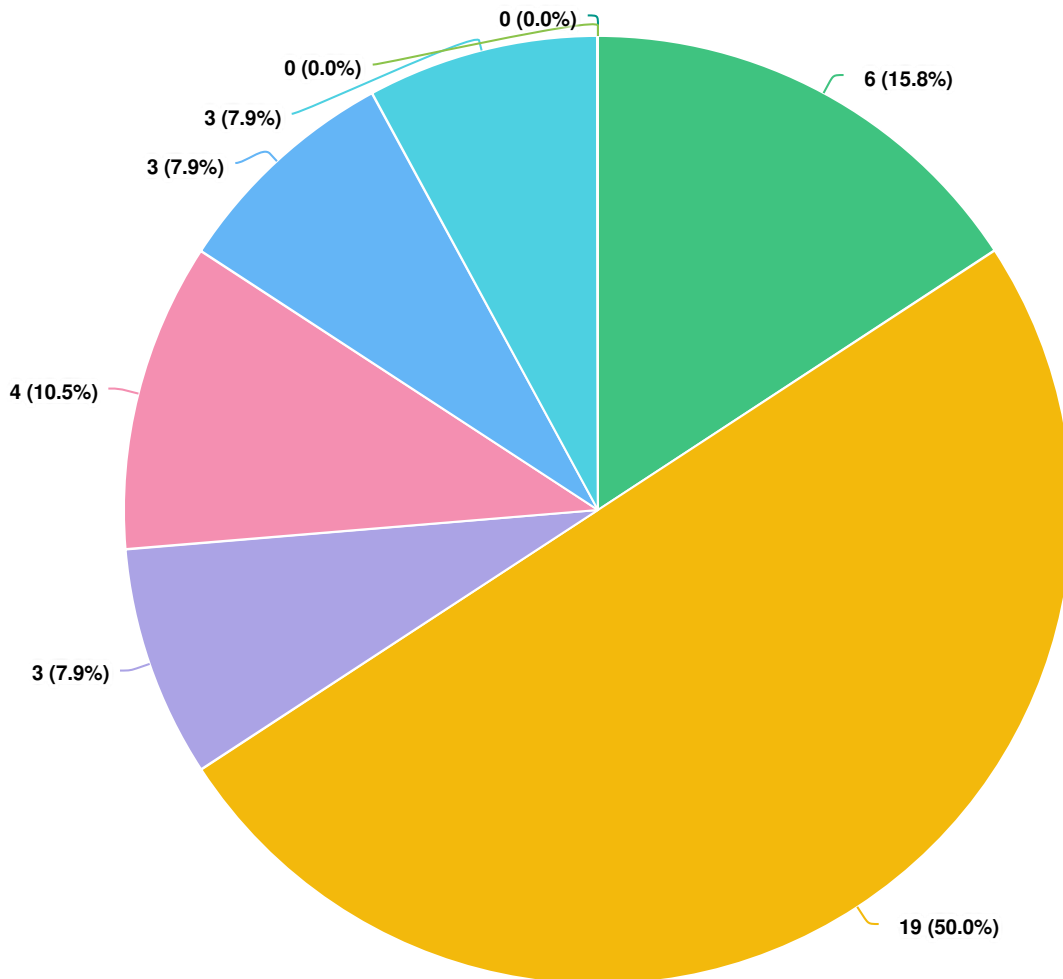


Question options

- Undecided
- A further 4% increase (approx. \$8.40/month for each \$100,000 of assessment)
- A further 3% increase (approx. \$6.30/month for each \$100,000 of assessment)
- A further 2% increase (approx. \$4.20/month for each \$100,000 of assessment)
- A further 1% increase (approx. \$2.10/month for each \$100,000 of assessment)

(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q13 12) How did you find out about the Budget 2020 Survey?



Question options

- Don't know/can't remember
- Friend/Family (word of mouth)
- Other
- Midland.ca
- Newspaper
- Twitter
- Facebook
- Engaging Midland site

(38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q14 | If you answered 'Other', please specify below how you found out about the Budget 2020 Survey.

LindaR

email

10/25/2019 04:24 PM

Midland-Angler

You emailed it to me

10/26/2019 02:49 AM

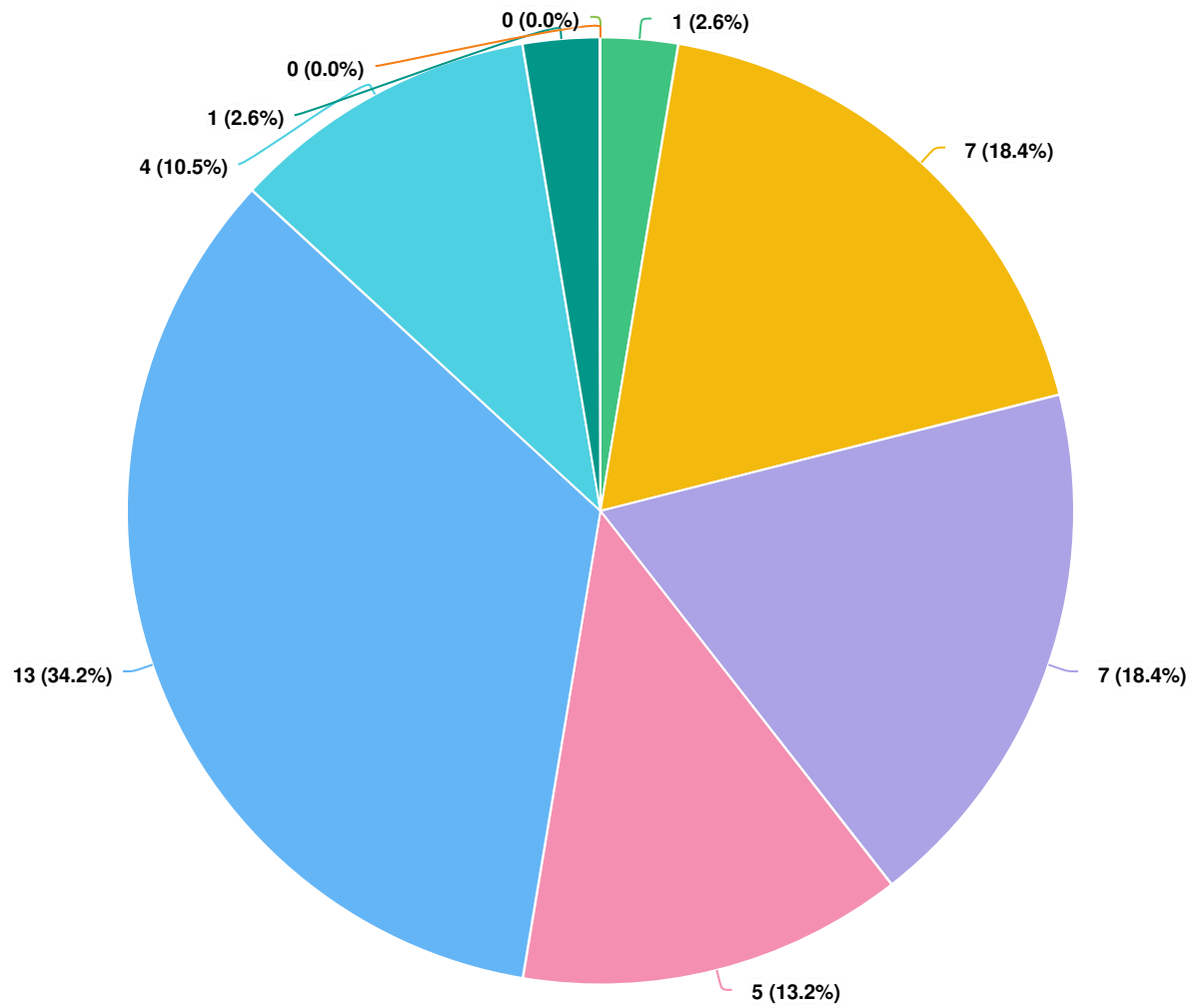
Sousn

received an email plus Town Hall sign

10/27/2019 02:26 PM

Optional question (3 responses, 35 skipped)

Q15 13) In which age category do you fall?



Question options

- 15-19
- Under 15
- 80 years and older
- 70-79
- 60-69
- 50-59
- 40-49
- 30-39
- 20-29

Optional question (38 responses, 0 skipped)

Q16 | 14) Finally, the Town of Midland would like to know if you have any further comments/suggestions to add about any topics covered in this survey. Please type your comments in the space provided.

LindaR

10/25/2019 04:24 PM

We need sustainable jobs - full time hours, to be able to stabilize our young people. They need to be able to work and live in their town.....

Midland-Angler

10/26/2019 02:49 AM

Get rid of who ever decided to use the OPP instead of our own police force

Jbeard

10/26/2019 05:45 AM

Midland, like other towns, has many serious social issues such as addiction, homelessness, mental illness and a society that just plain appears to be losing respect of person and property. Root causes need to be identified and remedied in order to stop these issues from compounding. Being progressive and thinking outside the box for ways to increase the town's coffers may be beneficial, rather than the standard go to service cuts and tax /fee increases. The demographics are changing with the escalation of aging population and the majority of those folks on fixed income every cost of living increase is a setback.

Sousn

10/27/2019 02:26 PM

Please ensure that the downtown becomes safe again. Cameras and security patrols would be helpful. Our town is becoming unsafe (others outside of our community are hearing this as well) the town needs to work with community partners to get it under control. Bring back manufacturing jobs so people can work and make good money so they can see they have a future, not everyone has the ability to get a College or University degree. When these jobs left we started to see depression and desperation.

lhillman22

10/28/2019 12:33 PM

Midland is a gem. I remain hopeful that we balance that natural goodness with the need for growth and development; maintain natural habitats, green spaces and waterfront areas. Encourage developers to think outside the box and create into the area. We have an opportunity to showcase controlled growth with innovation, eg; new developments with walkability to green grocers and markets. We also need medical access outside of the ER.

Midland is for lovers

10/29/2019 06:32 PM

The town is loosing its beauty and charm to over and poorly planned development and developers. We are going down the same rabbit hole as most other southern Ontario towns - loosing green spaces and character that attract people to visit and increase property value. By modeling ourselves similarly to other southern Ontario towns we are loosing our distinction as a desirable destination. Thanks

Action Place Centre

11/02/2019 09:27 AM

As a business and a resident I think there are too many free events. As a entertainment business I cannot compete with a free event and there are so many. Every weekend in the summer, sometimes even a few on the same weekend. I am better off closing for the day. As a resident there are way too many to go to. Some events seem to even be the same event but a different name (eg: Ribfest vs foodfest). I also wonder if the money for these "free" events would be better spent somewhere else, somewhere needed. I enjoy a free event but its just so saturated currently. No one can possibly do them all.

Brianrugman

11/02/2019 11:25 AM

I would like to see some sort of new legislation regarding "e-bikes" where they should be regulated more heavily. Too many loitering around midland avenue and using the public walking trails or the middle of the road. There seems to be no ruling on them, and they are starting to become an issue Why do you need to raise taxes will all the new building going on. They should be lowered. More density. We don't Evan have a community pool.

Jasongould

11/02/2019 04:49 PM

Gerry Addley

11/02/2019 06:43 PM

The town needs to remove the planning and development decisions from the planning and building department, thereby removing the entranced biases currently in place. Midland planning and development has become so restrictive over the last 12 years that it has become a massive barrier to doing business in this town. Radical planning has become the new norm rather than planning that serves the best interests of the community at large. If we want to be known as a tourist area, then we need to focus on cleaning up the amount of drugs, and crime in our town. Being on the news all the time is not helping tourism. We also need to find more jobs that pay more than minimum wage. We also need a strong program to help the homeless, and get them off the streets, and out of the bushes.

deblacroix

11/03/2019 07:45 AM

Ryanbrentmclaughlin

11/04/2019 01:48 PM

Taxation is theft.

dfd_cshore

11/04/2019 04:14 PM

Would like to see current funding for the Guesthouse moved to a more effective organization for dealing with temporary homelessness, and, in co-operation with senior levels of government, medium term (i.e. six month to year) availability of temporary accommodations for those who can't find a place to live. Also, in coordination with senior levels of government, programs to encourage and help owners of old, under-populated, homes to renovate for higher occupancy, either as independent dwellings or reasonable / legal boarding houses (along with a mean of quickly dealing with problem boarders) or a combination of those.

Alysha

11/08/2019 10:42 AM

Would like to see more focus on building sidewalks especially close to schools. Better maintenance of sidewalks and especially during winter so children are able to walk to school.

DT Howard

11/09/2019 02:41 PM

The citizens are the most important part of the town. Not if they are happy or not, but rather, if they are safe or not. If they are healthy. If they are alive. Money-making events that appease tourists means nothing if the townsfolk are suffering. "A chain is only as strong as its weakest link." If you want to make Midland stronger, then strengthen the most vulnerable at the expense of the least vulnerable.

Curtis.drake

11/14/2019 01:52 PM

Tourism is the key

larryl

11/14/2019 03:06 PM

I believe we need to look for more efficiency from contracts working on town projects as well as more efficiency within some of the areas were town employees are working on community projects. We need to challenge hard to do more with less, we can not continue to push cost to residents already struggling to maintain expenses.

kettle

Don't increase DC charges by the amount stated in newspaper. That will stop

11/14/2019 04:54 PM

residential growth when you need more housing, stop creation of jobs etc when you need more jobs. Use tax payer's money wisely. Don't hire consultants when Town staff is capable of doing work. Why replace a new payroll system that you paid a lot for & put a lot of staff time into? Why are you involved in a lawsuit where the Town will end up paying for both sides? Communicate financial information clearly with "partners" ex. Library. Property taxes in some areas of Town are getting very difficult to pay on a pension income.

Leifer2

11/14/2019 06:14 PM

Great to see at least the attempt at soliciting public ideas for the 2020 budget. I guess people find it easier to complain after the budget has come out rather than get involved with the decision making process prior to it. It appears there is still a lot of apathy.

Bobkaf

11/14/2019 08:44 PM

As a resident, building owner and significant business owner the town tax rates continue to be too high. Higher taxes reduce property value, but the biggest issue I see that impacts the towns economic development are the property taxes. We need to attract specialized very high wage skilled workers to move here, and the tax rates here have been brought up in attracting those workers. In addition, I know of two small niche businesses that were going to move here from Toronto and bring prosperous jobs with them but both decided that the taxes were too high. These were both late mid age families with teenage kids. Their concern was that even though they would selling their million dollar homes in the city, and moving here to better homes in the \$700,000 range, their retirement prospects would be hindered by the taxes on those homes. I suggested they move to tiny or tay, but they really wanted to be closer to the schools and services of Midland. Our loss, and it's very real. I'm sure there are plenty more similar stories. I also see wasteful spending in parks and recreation. Why do we employ town workers when there are dozens of companies here who would be happy to manage our parks for us? And the silly bike lanes on Yonge street and midland avenue that have almost no users?? Those bike lanes are an environmental disaster, we have slowed traffic, created traffic jams with that decision... and with the big dig, one can find themselves sitting through two or three traffic light signal cycles now on Yonge street. And what's with the relentless and ridiculous addition of traffic lights... it's as if the road works has a budget every year of adding more stoplights no matter what. Each traffic light creates more pollution from cars idling and increases traffic accidents. Roundabouts have 80% fewer fatalities, and 70% fewer accidents and cost nothing to maintain. I'm very concerned about waste management and reduce/reuse/recycle programs. I'd like to know exactly what happens with our garbage. I think the producers of garbage should pay more to process it, such as grocers and fast food outlets and residents who don't effectively sort recyclables. That said, I'd like to see recycled garbage actually recycled, not sent to another country or to landfill. We can and we must do better. I love the annual calendar and would like to see more information about the consequences of our actions.

Judi Singleton

11/15/2019 02:54 AM

agray

11/15/2019 12:57 PM

Sidewalks need repairing on Ellen Street desperately. It is a main walking path for much of the neighbourhood to the NSRC and the sidewalks along

- Jushmin**
11/16/2019 08:08 PM
Elcan are brutal. Also, increased speed/OPP enforcement should be pushed. No one ever sees them anywhere.
The tourism office town created is a complete fail. They don't engage the accommodation partners at all and have wasteful over the top guide books.
- rod lundy**
11/18/2019 11:18 AM
as above
- momof3**
11/18/2019 02:44 PM
cut use of town vehicles to emergency situations only, employ local people in the town office only, too many employee's at the town office costs everyone money. OPP need to provide better service, not nearly enough officers on duty at any given time.
- Carol macDonald**
11/18/2019 02:50 PM
Bylaw enforcement could be more efficient and effective. Park walkways accessible all year round e.g. Little Lake , waterfront supporting a more healthy lifestyle. A better quality paint to be used on the roads so the markings last longer and are more visible. What action is being taken at Midland Bay Landing? Better garbage containers at the parks to keep animals out and less work for the parks people.
- aaronkontkanen**
11/18/2019 05:54 PM
Yonge st bike lanes are a waste of money and time for drivers in town. I only see e-bikes using them. So frustrating at 8am and 3-6 pm seeing the long lines of traffic because of the reduced lanes.
- AnjH**
11/19/2019 06:28 AM
The downtown paths and dock areas need foot patrol and the homeless addicts need to be dealt with. It's uncomfortable, unsafe and makes me question raising my daughter here.

Optional question (28 responses, 10 skipped)