



# **New Britian Township, Pennsylvania 2024 Open Space Plan Survey**

## **Findings Report**

Presented to New Britian Township  
October 2024



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# 1

## Executive Summary



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# Township of New Britian

## Open Space Plan Survey

### Executive Summary

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#### Overview

ETC Institute administered an open space plan survey for the Township of New Britian, Pennsylvania during the early months of 2024. The purpose of the survey was to help determine parks and recreation priorities for the community.

#### Methodology

ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to a random sample of households throughout the Township of New Britian. Each survey packet contained a cover letter, a copy of the survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. Residents who received the survey were given the option of returning the survey by mail or completing it online.

After the surveys were mailed, ETC Institute followed up with residents to encourage participation. To prevent people who were not residents of New Britian from participating, everyone who completed the survey online was required to enter their home address prior to submitting their survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses entered online with the addresses originally selected for the random sample. If the address from a survey completed online did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the online survey was not included in the final database for this report.

The survey aimed to collect a minimum of 300 completed responses from residents, and this target was surpassed with 418 completed surveys collected. The overall results for the sample of 418 residents have a precision of at least +/-4.70% at the 95% level of confidence.

This report contains the following:

- Executive Summary with major findings (Section 1)
- Charts showing the overall results of the survey (Section 2)
- Tabular data showing the overall results for all questions on the survey (Section 3)
- A copy of the cover letter and survey instrument (Section 4)

The major findings of the survey are summarized in the following pages.



## Parks Usage

**Parks Use:** Respondent selected the parks they have used/visited. The commonly used/visited parks were: North Branch Park (71%), West Branch Park (57%), and Veterans Park (42%). Then, they rated their satisfaction with the parks. The parks that respondents were highly satisfied with were: North Branch Park (88%), West Branch Park (82%), and Pheasant Run Playground (81%).

## Benefits, Importance, and Improvements to Parks and Recreation

**Agreement:** Respondents rated their level of agreement with the statements listed in the survey. The highest agreed statement was: New Britian should acquire & preserve open space (94%).

## Additional Findings

**Voter-Approved Earned Income Tax for Open Space:** Thirty-six percent (36%) of respondents indicated that they were aware of the voter-approved earned income tax for the purchase of land for open space.

**Opinion on Open Space in New Britian Township:** Respondents selected the statement that best matched their opinion on open space in New Britian Township. The statement that was highly selected was: some preserved open space should be kept in a natural setting & not for public use (88%).

**Reasons for Reserving Open Space:** Respondents selected all the reasons that New Britian Township should preserve open space. The common reasons were: protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, & other natural resources (94%), protect habitat for wildlife (88%), and preserve scenic views & historic resources (87%). Based on the sum of top four choices, the common reasons were: protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, & other natural resources (58%), stop development & prevent suburban sprawl (52%), and protect habitat for wildlife (43%).

**Important Types of Open Space:** Respondents selected the types of open space that are important to them. The most selected types of open space are: natural areas that protect environmental resources & wildlife but are not available for public use (86%), areas to hike on trails in natural areas & can observe nature (82%), and open areas for picnicking, relaxing on benches, playing, walking the dog, & have paved walking trails (75%). Based on the sum of top three choices, the most selected types of open space are: natural areas that protect environmental resources (60%), areas to hike on trails in natural areas & can observe nature (46%), and open areas for picnicking, relaxing on benches, playing, walking the dog, & have paved walking trails (35%).



**Awareness of Preserved Open Space Areas:** Respondents were asked if they were aware of any of the preserved open space areas that are listed in the survey. The preserved open space areas that respondents were most aware of were: Cotton Park (49%), Forest Park (29%), and Coleman Property (28%). Then, they respondent how important those areas were to the community. The areas that respondents thought were most important to the community were: Coleman Property (Upper State Road-Neshaminy Creek Greenway Extension) (91%), Cotton Park (Walnut Street & Schoolhouse Road) (89%), Fairwoods (East Fairwood Drive) (88%).



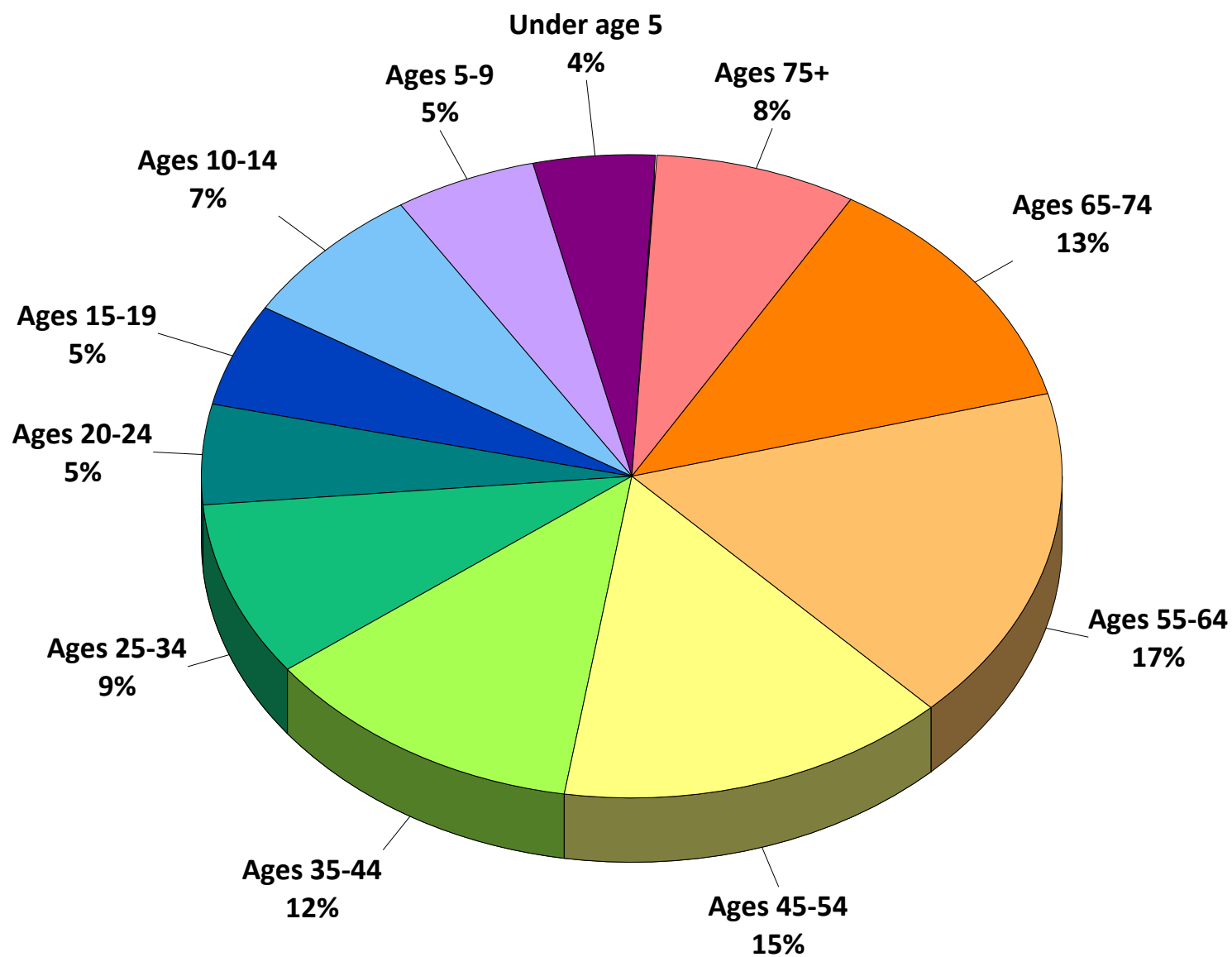


## Charts and Graphs



# Q1. Counting yourself, how many people in your household are...

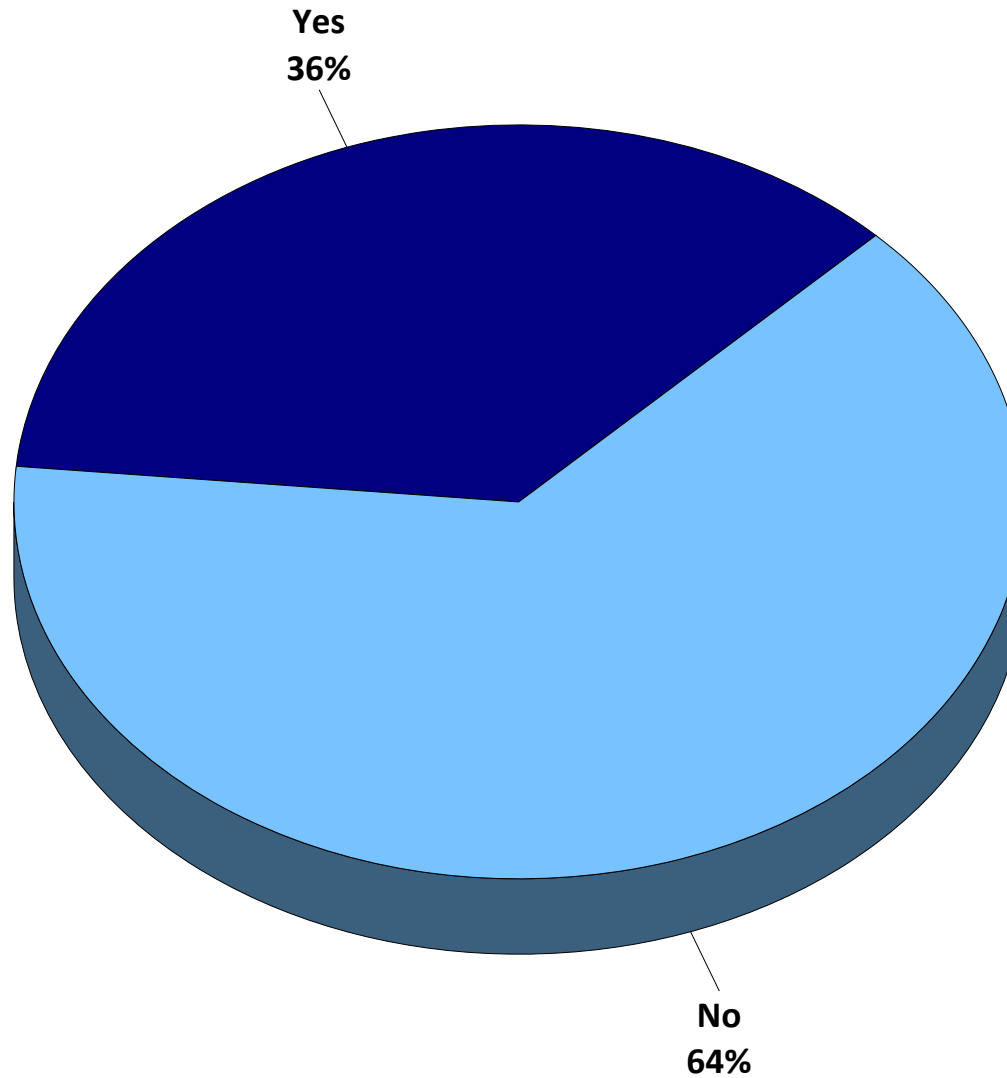
by percentage of persons in household





## Q2. Are you aware New Britain Township has a voter-approved earned income tax for the purchase of land for open space?

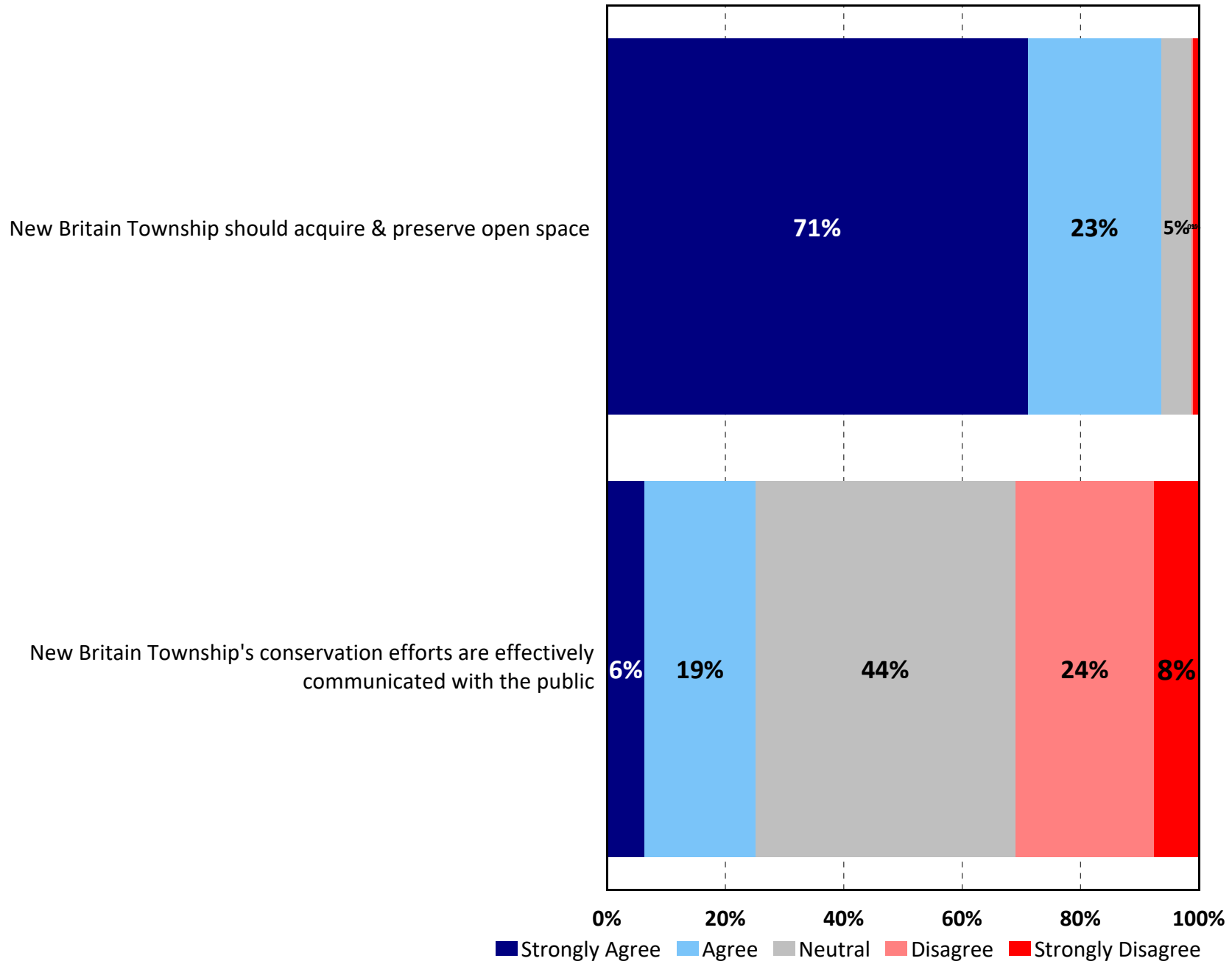
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")





### Q3. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements.

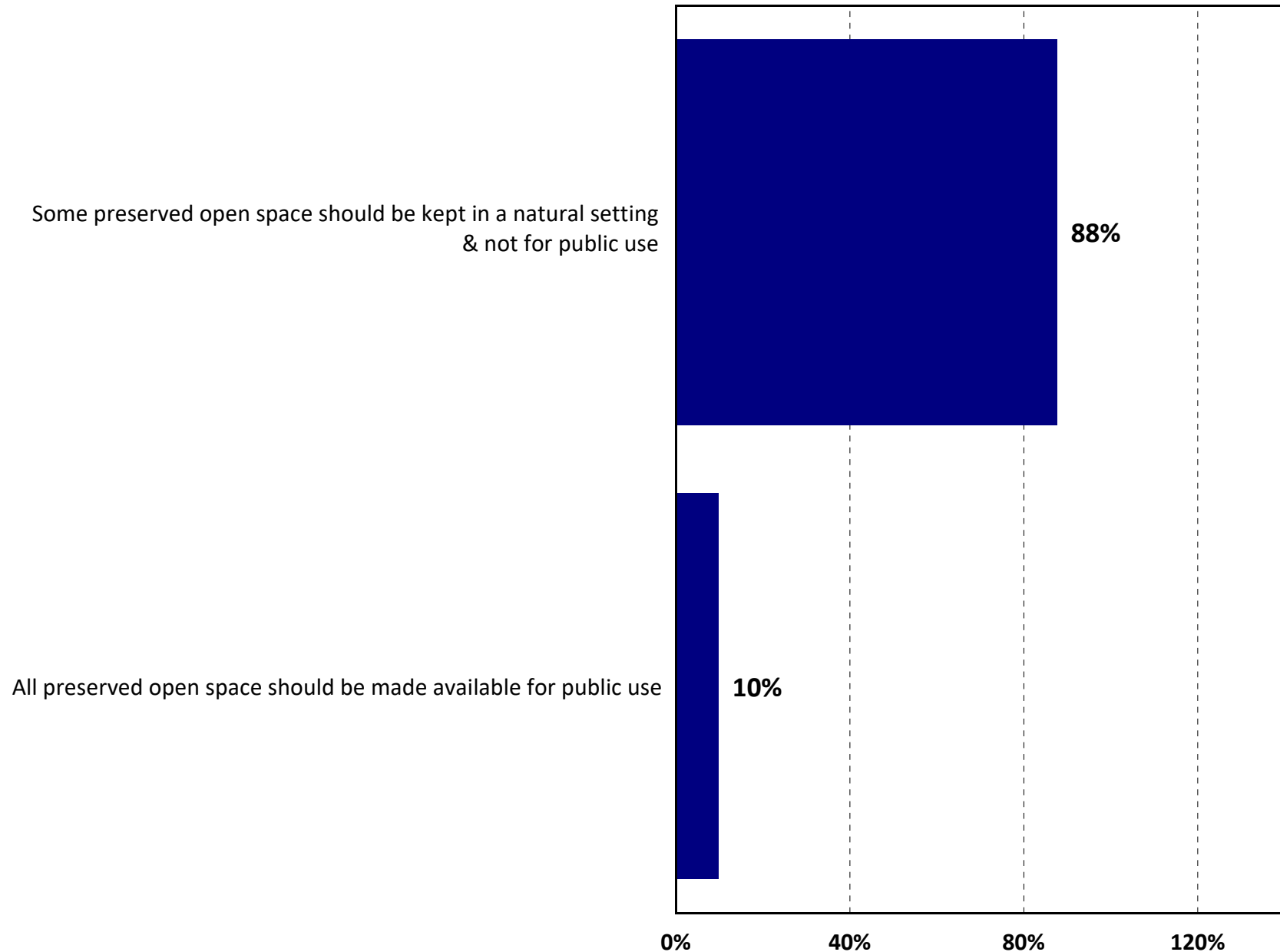
by percentage of respondents (excluding "don't know")





## Q4. Select the one statement that best matches your opinion on open space in New Britain Township.

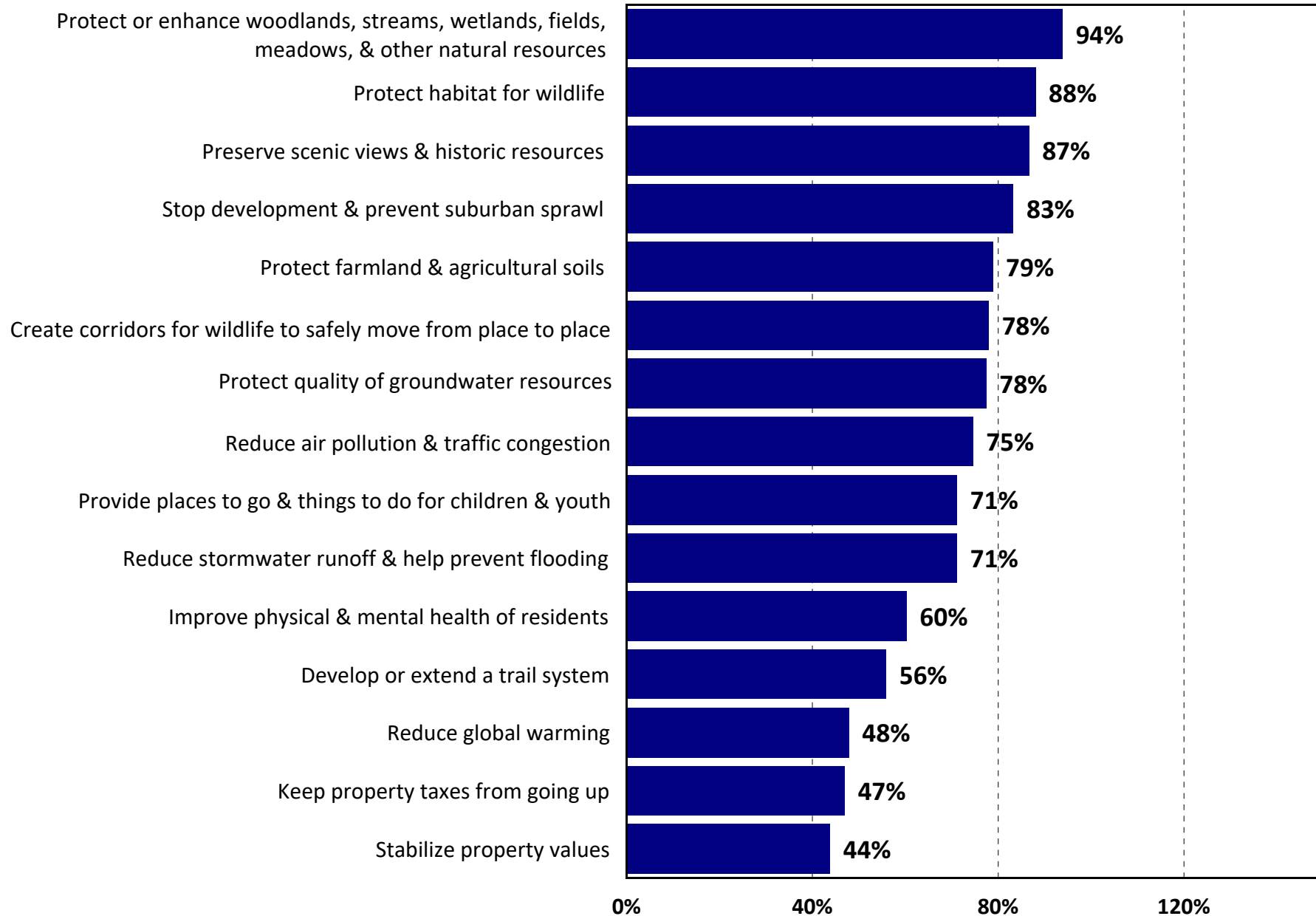
by percentage of respondents (excluding “don’t know”)





## Q5. Please check all the reasons why you believe New Britain Township should preserve open space.

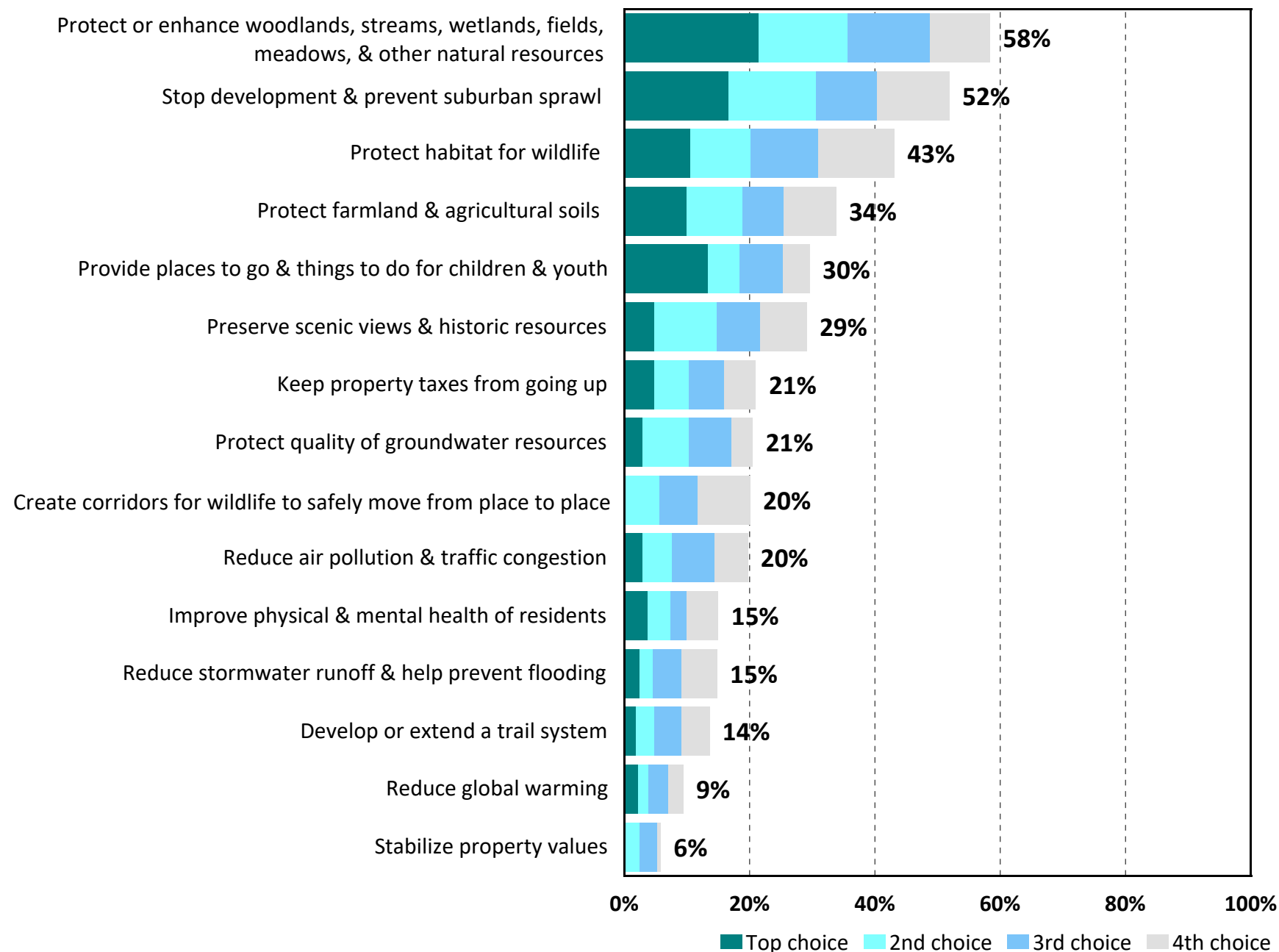
by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made; excluding "none")





## Q6. Which four of the items are most important to you/your household?

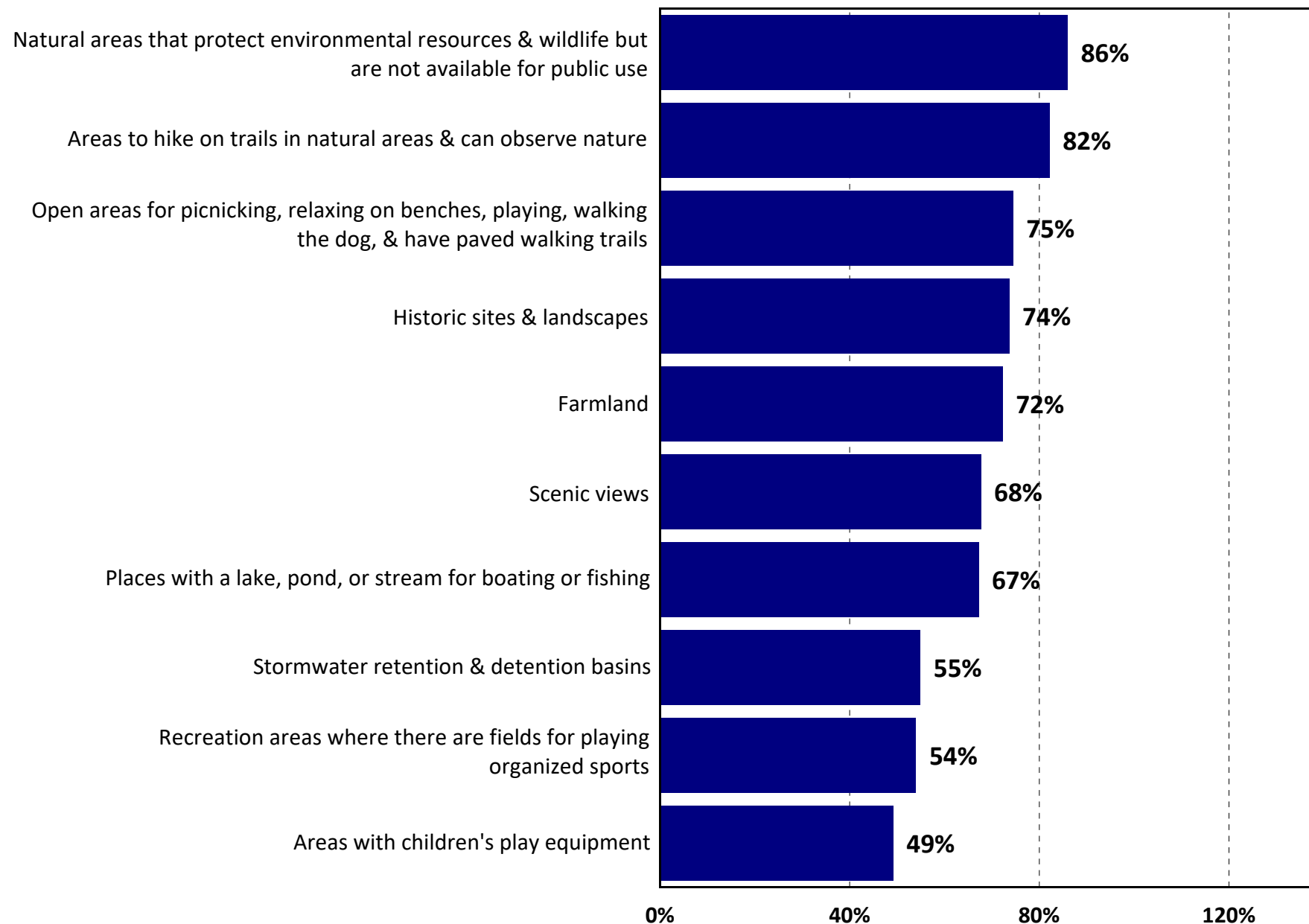
by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top four choices





## Q7. Please check all the types of open space that are important to you/your household.

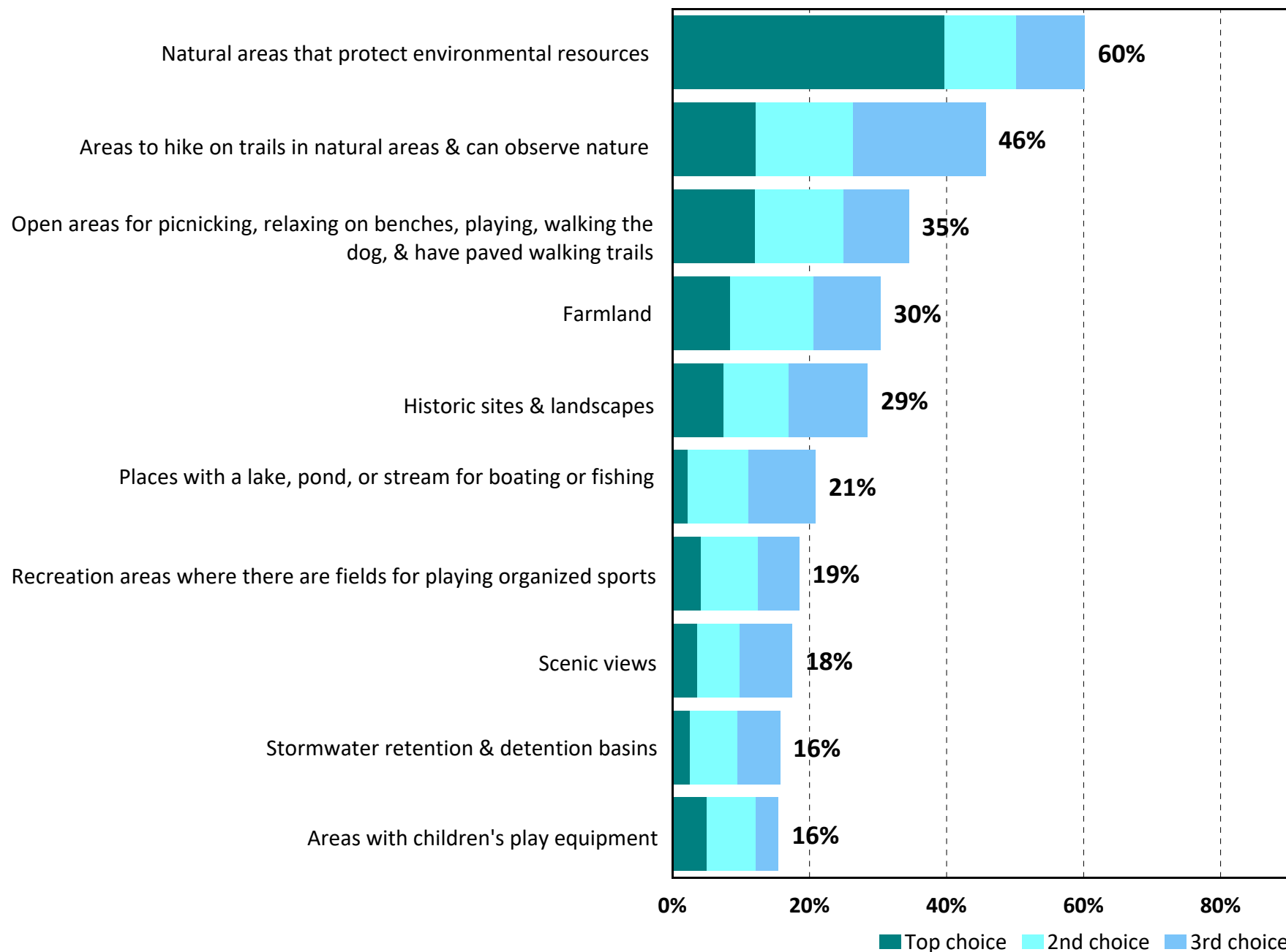
by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made; excluding "none")





## Q8. Which three of the items are most important to you/your household?

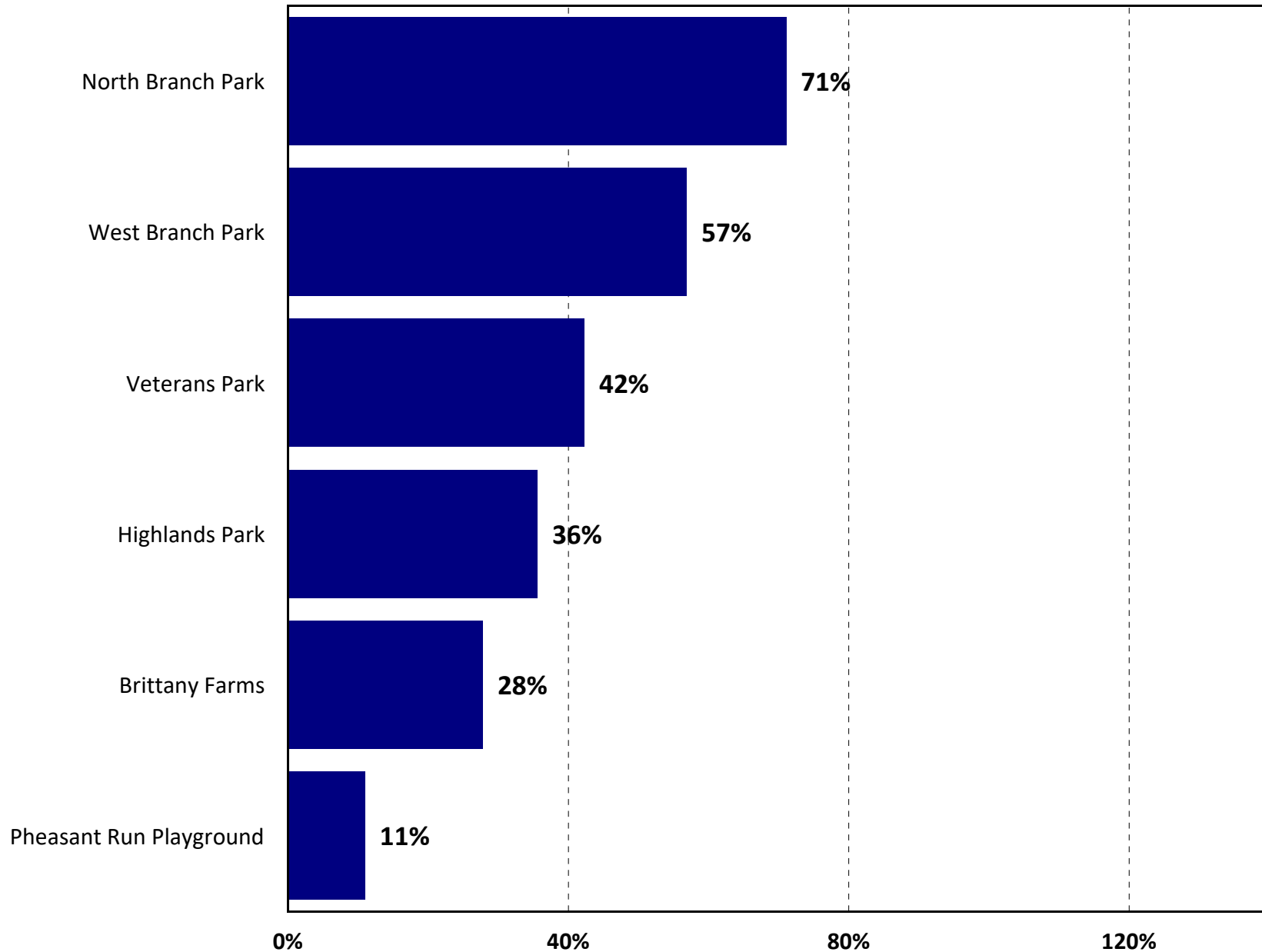
by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top three choices





## Q9. Please indicate if you/your household have used or visited any of the following parks owned by New Britain Township.

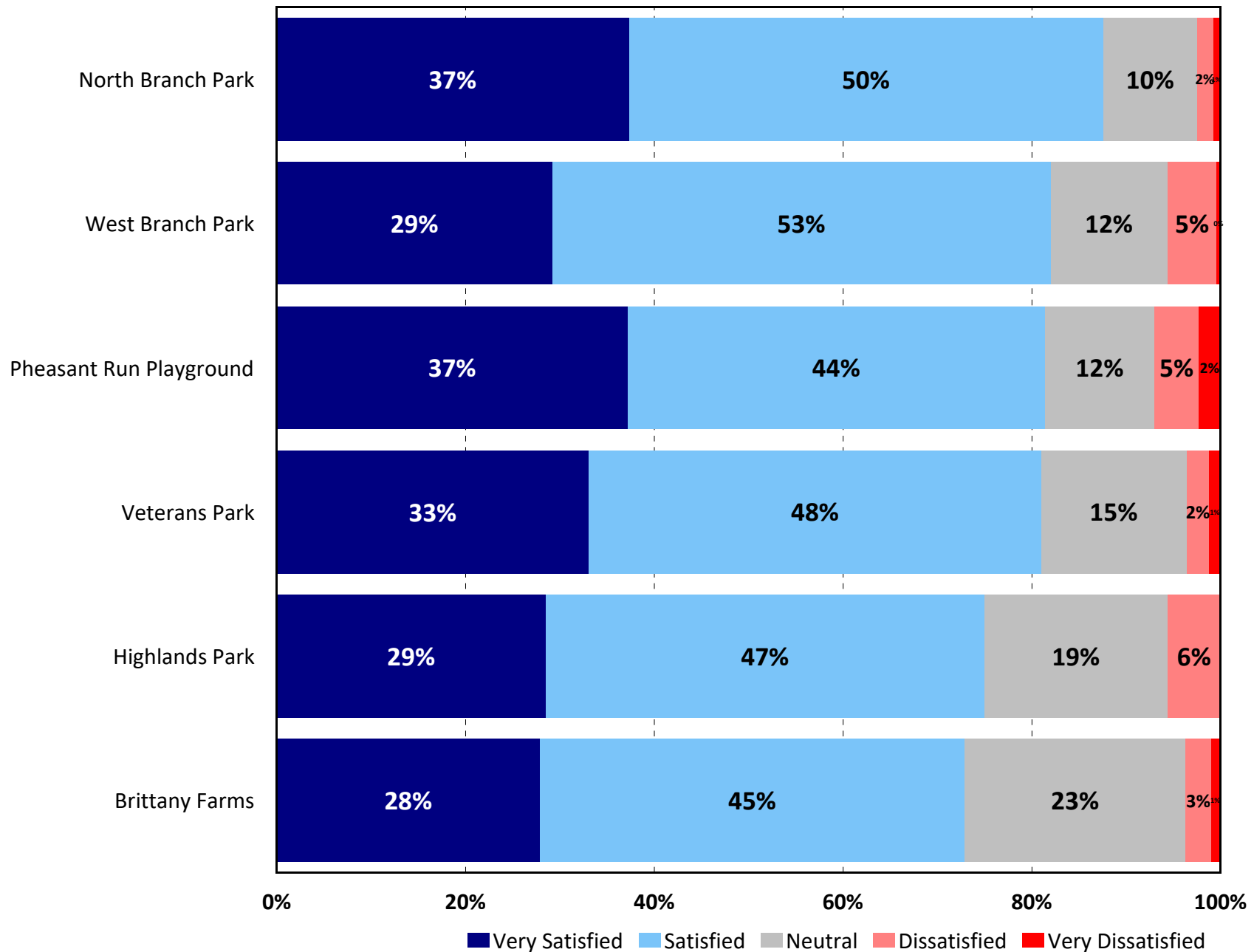
by percentage of respondents who responded "YES" (multiple selections could be made)





## Q9. If "yes," please indicate how you would rate your satisfaction with the park.

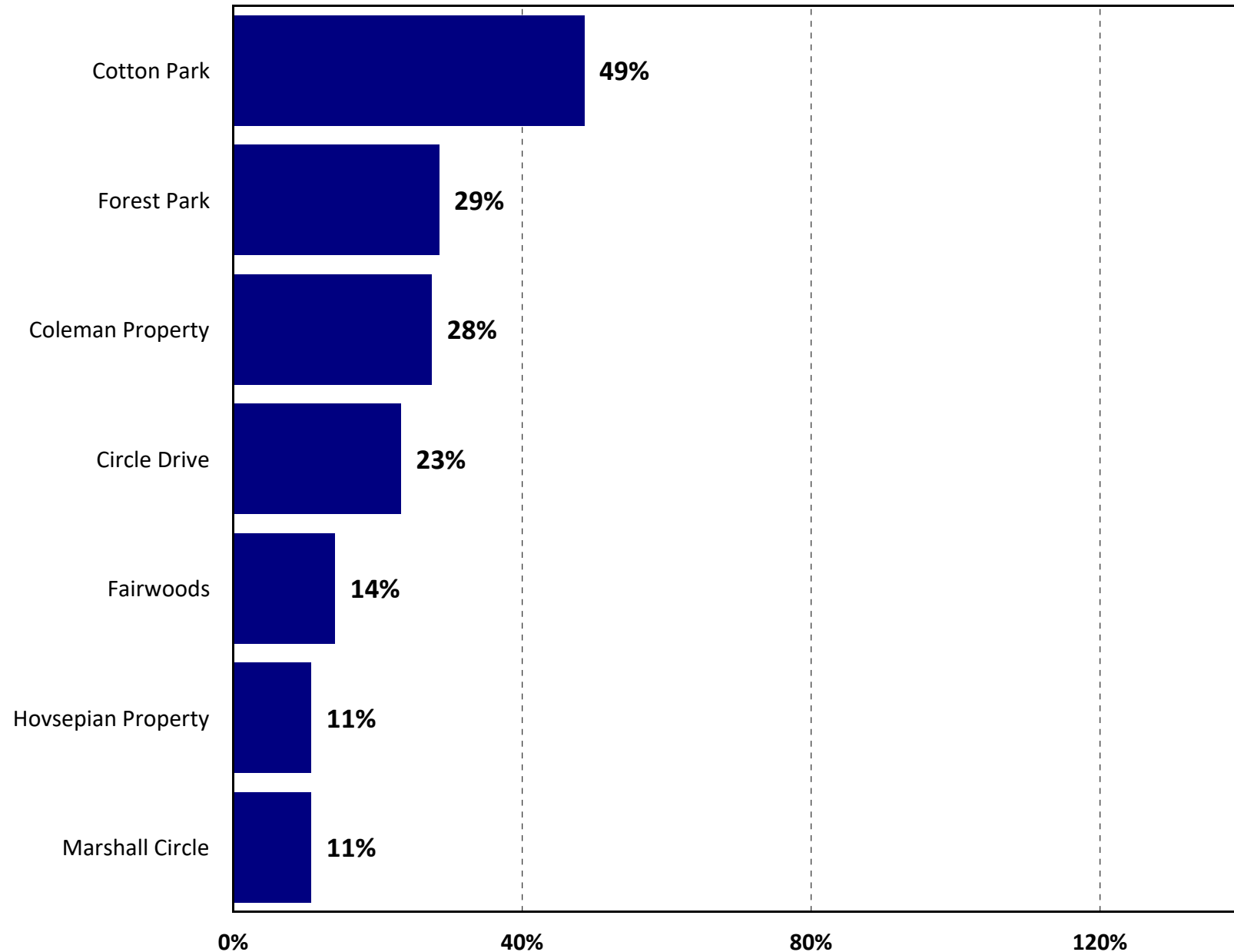
by percentage of respondents who responded "YES" to Q9 (excluding "not provided")





## Q10. Please indicate if you/your household are aware of any of the following preserved open space areas owned by New Britain Township.

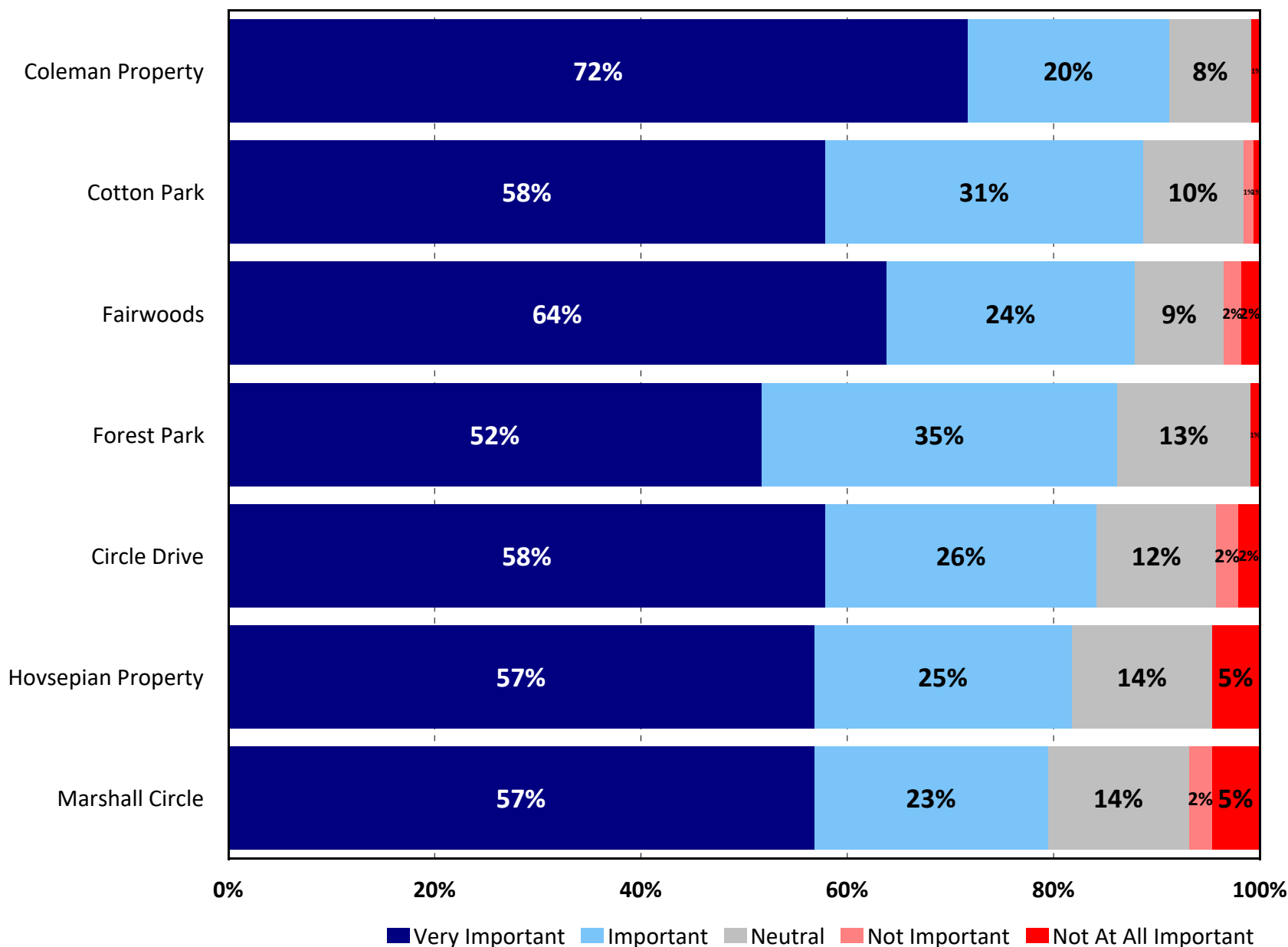
by percentage of respondents who responded "YES" (multiple selections could be made)





# Q10. If "yes," please indicate how important you believe the open space area is to the community.

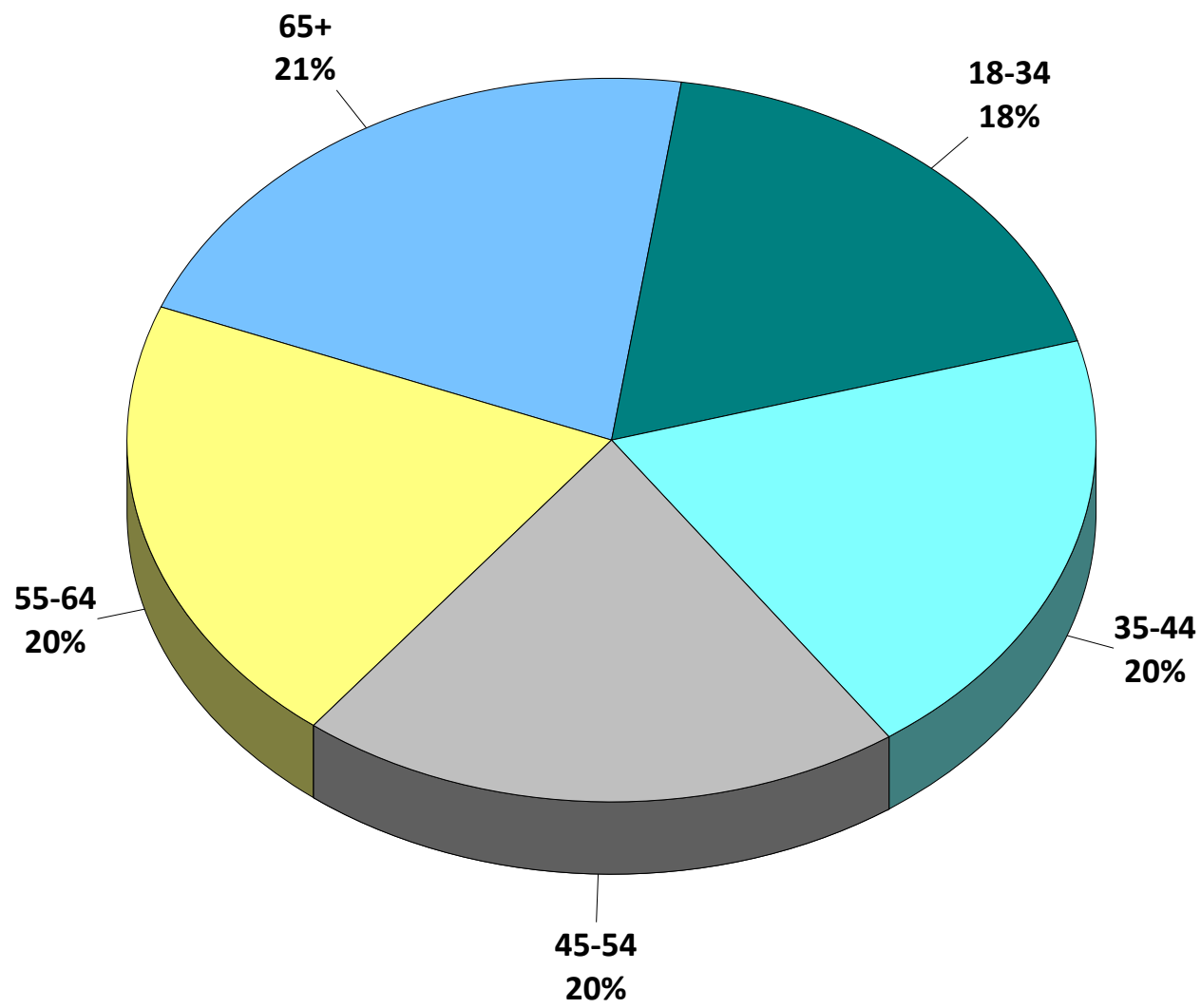
by percentage of respondents who responded "YES" to Q10 (excluding "not provided")





## Q11. What is your age?

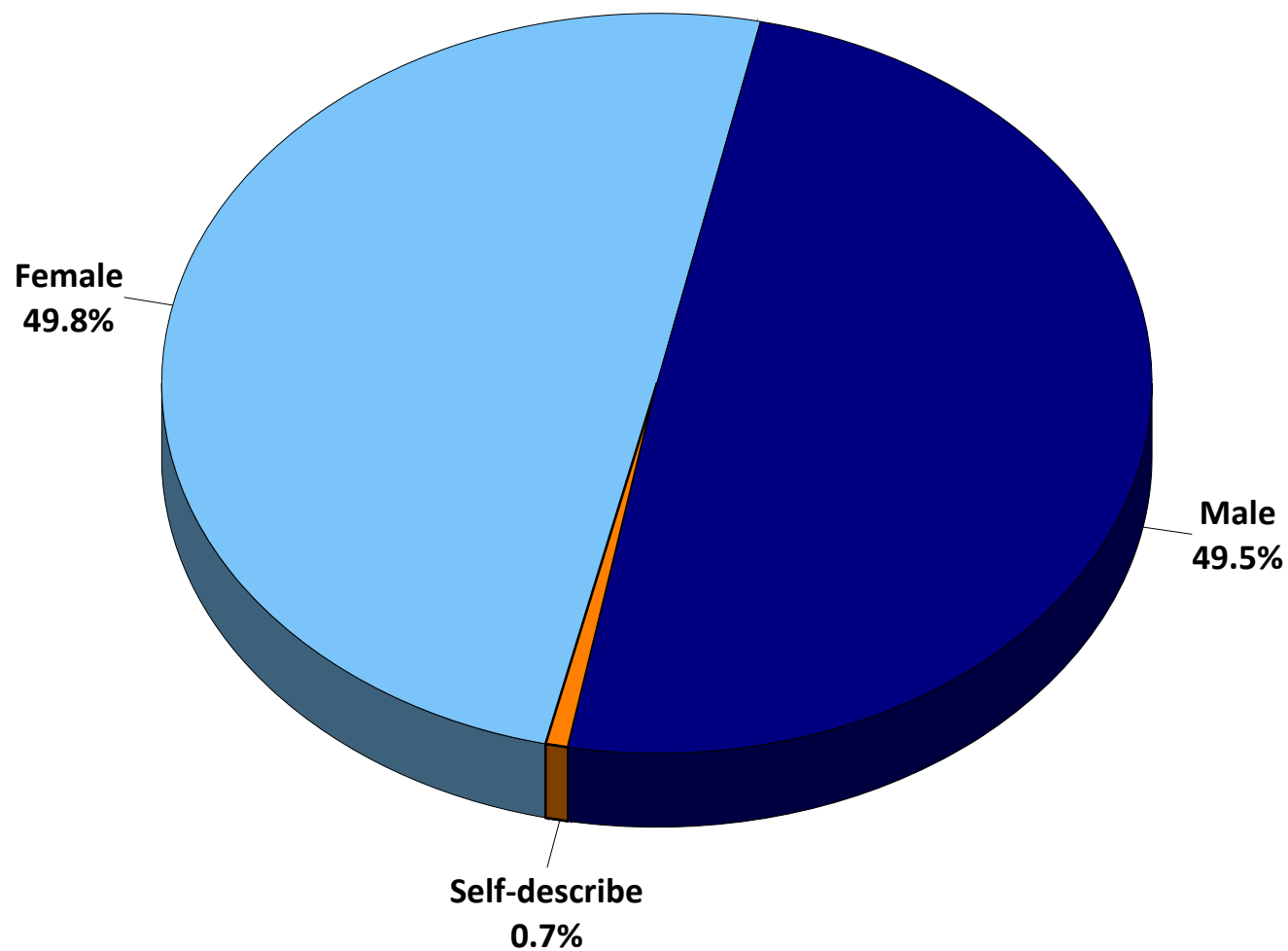
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")





## Q12. What gender do you identify as?

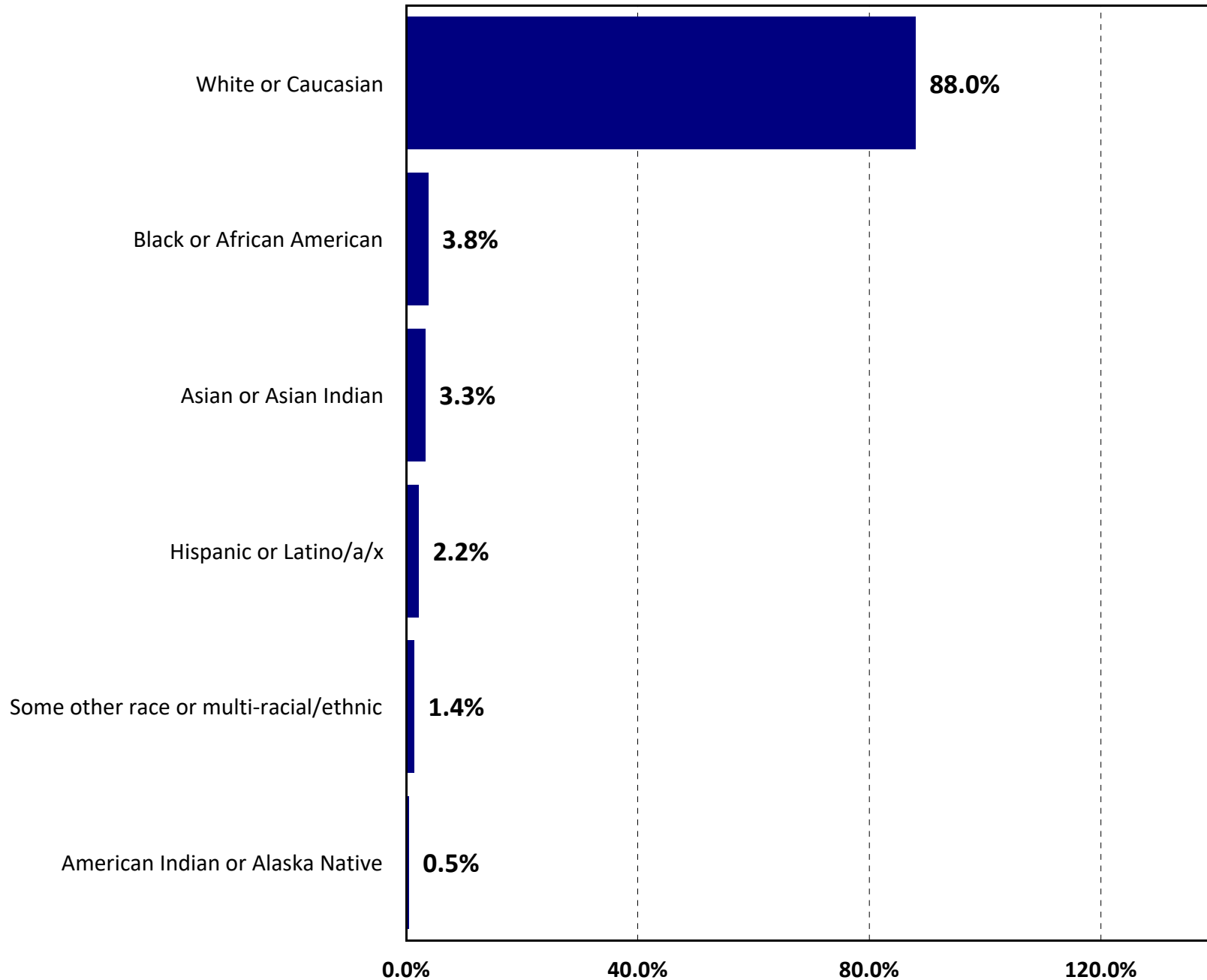
by percentage of respondents (excluding “not provided”)





## Q13. Which of the following best describes your race?

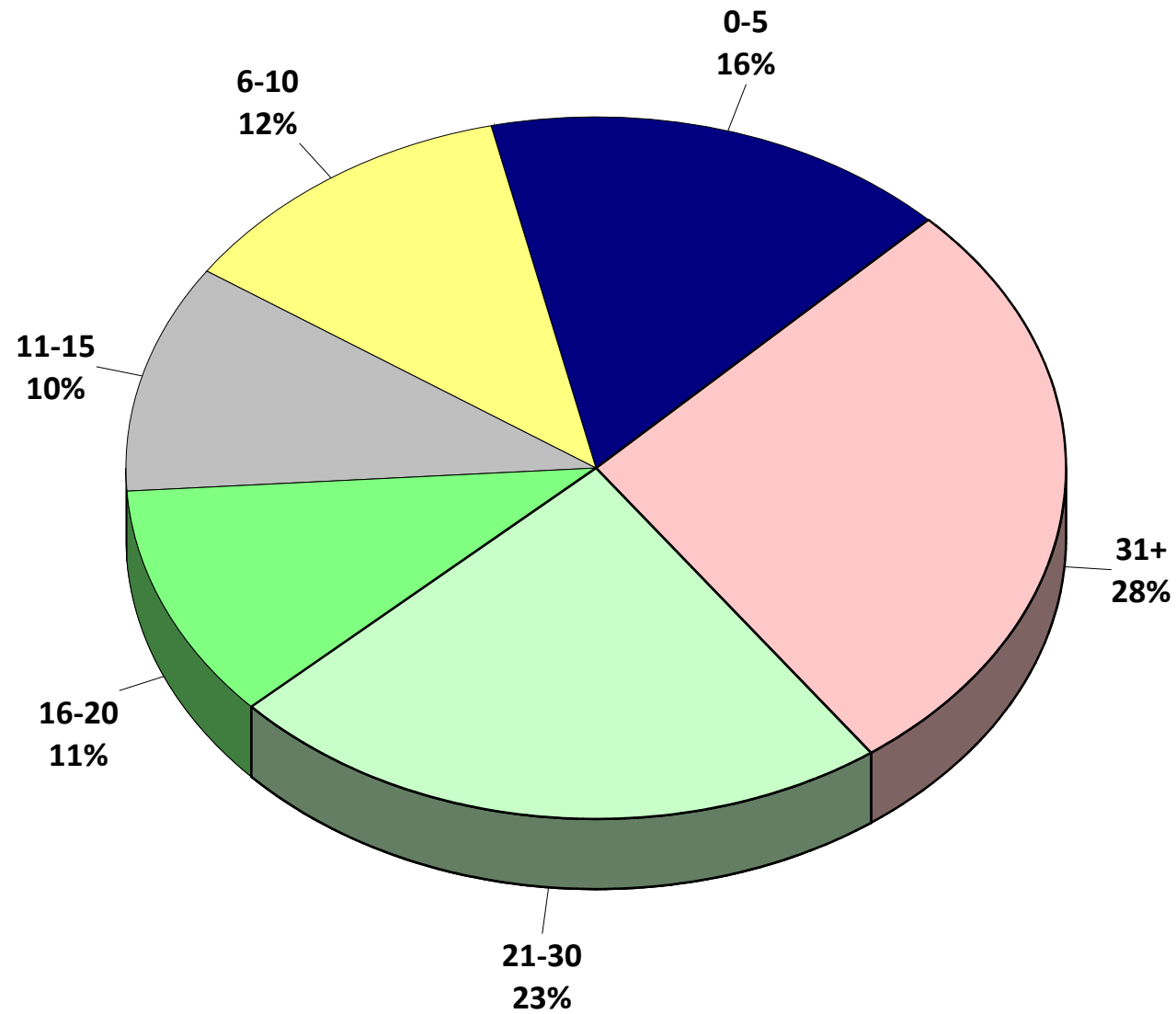
by percentage of respondents





## Q14. How many years have you lived in the Township?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")







# Tabular Data



**Q1. Counting yourself, how many people in your household are...**

	Mean	Sum
number	2.8	1154
Under age 5	0.1	51
Ages 5-9	0.1	62
Ages 10-14	0.2	85
Ages 15-19	0.1	60
Ages 20-24	0.1	56
Ages 25-34	0.2	102
Ages 35-44	0.3	143
Ages 45-54	0.4	169
Ages 55-64	0.5	194
Ages 65-74	0.3	145
Ages 75+	0.2	87

**Q2. Are you aware New Britain Township has a voter-approved earned income tax for the purchase of land for open space?**

Q2. Are you aware New Britain Township has a voter-approved earned income tax for the purchase of land for open space

	Number	Percent
Yes	146	34.9 %
No	259	62.0 %
Not provided	13	3.1 %
Total	418	100.0 %

**WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED****Q2. Are you aware New Britain Township has a voter-approved earned income tax for the purchase of land for open space? (without "not provided")**

Q2. Are you aware New Britain Township has a voter-approved earned income tax for the purchase of land for open space

	Number	Percent
Yes	146	36.0 %
No	259	64.0 %
Total	405	100.0 %

**Q3. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements.**

(N=418)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Q3-1. New Britain Township should acquire & preserve open space	70.1%	22.2%	5.0%	0.2%	1.0%	1.4%
Q3-2. New Britain Township's conservation efforts are effectively communicated with the public	5.7%	16.7%	39.2%	21.1%	6.7%	10.5%



**WITHOUT DON'T KNOW****Q3. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements. (without "don't know")**

(N=418)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Q3-1. New Britain Township should acquire & preserve open space	71.1%	22.6%	5.1%	0.2%	1.0%
Q3-2. New Britain Township's conservation efforts are effectively communicated with the public	6.4%	18.7%	43.9%	23.5%	7.5%

**Q4. Select the ONE statement that best matches your opinion on open space in New Britain Township.**

Q4. Your opinion on open space in New Britain

Township	Number	Percent
All preserved open space should be made available for public use	40	9.6 %
Some preserved open space should be kept in a natural setting & not for public use	358	85.6 %
Other	10	2.4 %
Don't know	10	2.4 %
Total	418	100.0 %

**WITHOUT DON'T KNOW****Q4. Select the ONE statement that best matches your opinion on open space in New Britain Township. (without "don't know")**

Q4. Your opinion on open space in New Britain

Township	Number	Percent
All preserved open space should be made available for public use	40	9.8 %
Some preserved open space should be kept in a natural setting & not for public use	358	87.7 %
Other	10	2.5 %
Total	408	100.0 %



**Q5. Please check ALL the reasons why you believe New Britain Township should preserve open space.**

Q5. Reasons why you believe New Britain Township should preserve open space	Number	Percent
Provide places to go & things to do for children & youth	294	70.3 %
Protect farmland & agricultural soils	326	78.0 %
Preserve scenic views & historic resources	358	85.6 %
Improve physical & mental health of residents	249	59.6 %
Protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, & other natural resources	388	92.8 %
Keep property taxes from going up	194	46.4 %
Protect quality of groundwater resources	320	76.6 %
Reduce air pollution & traffic congestion	308	73.7 %
Stabilize property values	181	43.3 %
Reduce global warming	198	47.4 %
Stop development & prevent suburban sprawl	344	82.3 %
Develop or extend a trail system	231	55.3 %
Reduce stormwater runoff & help prevent flooding	294	70.3 %
Protect habitat for wildlife	364	87.1 %
Create corridors for wildlife to safely move from place to place	322	77.0 %
Other reasons	11	2.6 %
None. I do not believe New Britain Township should preserve open space	5	1.2 %
Total	4387	

**WITHOUT NONE****Q5. Please check ALL the reasons why you believe New Britain Township should preserve open space.****(without "none")**

Q5. Reasons why you believe New Britain Township should preserve open space	Number	Percent
Protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, & other natural resources	388	93.9 %
Protect habitat for wildlife	364	88.1 %
Preserve scenic views & historic resources	358	86.7 %
Stop development & prevent suburban sprawl	344	83.3 %
Protect farmland & agricultural soils	326	78.9 %
Create corridors for wildlife to safely move from place to place	322	78.0 %
Protect quality of groundwater resources	320	77.5 %
Reduce air pollution & traffic congestion	308	74.6 %
Provide places to go & things to do for children & youth	294	71.2 %
Reduce stormwater runoff & help prevent flooding	294	71.2 %
Improve physical & mental health of residents	249	60.3 %
Develop or extend a trail system	231	55.9 %
Reduce global warming	198	47.9 %
Keep property taxes from going up	194	47.0 %
Stabilize property values	181	43.8 %
Other reasons	11	2.7 %
Total	4382	



**Q6. Which FOUR of the items listed in Question 5 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household?**

Q6. Top choice	Number	Percent
Provide places to go & things to do for children & youth	56	13.4 %
Protect farmland & agricultural soils	42	10.0 %
Preserve scenic views & historic resources	20	4.8 %
Improve physical & mental health of residents	16	3.8 %
Protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, & other natural resources	90	21.5 %
Keep property taxes from going up	20	4.8 %
Protect quality of groundwater resources	12	2.9 %
Reduce air pollution & traffic congestion	12	2.9 %
Reduce global warming	9	2.2 %
Stop development & prevent suburban sprawl	70	16.7 %
Develop or extend a trail system	8	1.9 %
Reduce stormwater runoff & help prevent flooding	10	2.4 %
Protect habitat for wildlife	44	10.5 %
Create corridors for wildlife to safely move from place to place	1	0.2 %
None chosen	8	1.9 %
Total	418	100.0 %

**Q6. Which FOUR of the items listed in Question 5 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household?**

Q6. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Provide places to go & things to do for children & youth	21	5.0 %
Protect farmland & agricultural soils	37	8.9 %
Preserve scenic views & historic resources	42	10.0 %
Improve physical & mental health of residents	15	3.6 %
Protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, & other natural resources	59	14.1 %
Keep property taxes from going up	23	5.5 %
Protect quality of groundwater resources	31	7.4 %
Reduce air pollution & traffic congestion	20	4.8 %
Stabilize property values	10	2.4 %
Reduce global warming	7	1.7 %
Stop development & prevent suburban sprawl	58	13.9 %
Develop or extend a trail system	12	2.9 %
Reduce stormwater runoff & help prevent flooding	9	2.2 %
Protect habitat for wildlife	40	9.6 %
Create corridors for wildlife to safely move from place to place	23	5.5 %
None chosen	11	2.6 %
Total	418	100.0 %



**Q6. Which FOUR of the items listed in Question 5 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household?**

Q6. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Provide places to go & things to do for children & youth	29	6.9 %
Protect farmland & agricultural soils	27	6.5 %
Preserve scenic views & historic resources	29	6.9 %
Improve physical & mental health of residents	11	2.6 %
Protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, & other natural resources	55	13.2 %
Keep property taxes from going up	24	5.7 %
Protect quality of groundwater resources	29	6.9 %
Reduce air pollution & traffic congestion	28	6.7 %
Stabilize property values	12	2.9 %
Reduce global warming	13	3.1 %
Stop development & prevent suburban sprawl	41	9.8 %
Develop or extend a trail system	18	4.3 %
Reduce stormwater runoff & help prevent flooding	19	4.5 %
Protect habitat for wildlife	45	10.8 %
Create corridors for wildlife to safely move from place to place	25	6.0 %
None chosen	13	3.1 %
Total	418	100.0 %

**Q6. Which FOUR of the items listed in Question 5 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household?**

Q6. 4th choice	Number	Percent
Provide places to go & things to do for children & youth	18	4.3 %
Protect farmland & agricultural soils	35	8.4 %
Preserve scenic views & historic resources	31	7.4 %
Improve physical & mental health of residents	21	5.0 %
Protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, & other natural resources	40	9.6 %
Keep property taxes from going up	21	5.0 %
Protect quality of groundwater resources	14	3.3 %
Reduce air pollution & traffic congestion	22	5.3 %
Stabilize property values	2	0.5 %
Reduce global warming	10	2.4 %
Stop development & prevent suburban sprawl	48	11.5 %
Develop or extend a trail system	19	4.5 %
Reduce stormwater runoff & help prevent flooding	24	5.7 %
Protect habitat for wildlife	51	12.2 %
Create corridors for wildlife to safely move from place to place	35	8.4 %
None chosen	27	6.5 %
Total	418	100.0 %



**SUM OF TOP 4 CHOICES****Q6. Which FOUR of the items listed in Question 5 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household? (top 4)**

<u>Q6. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Provide places to go & things to do for children & youth	124	29.7 %
Protect farmland & agricultural soils	141	33.7 %
Preserve scenic views & historic resources	122	29.2 %
Improve physical & mental health of residents	63	15.1 %
Protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, & other natural resources	244	58.4 %
Keep property taxes from going up	88	21.1 %
Protect quality of groundwater resources	86	20.6 %
Reduce air pollution & traffic congestion	82	19.6 %
Stabilize property values	24	5.7 %
Reduce global warming	39	9.3 %
Stop development & prevent suburban sprawl	217	51.9 %
Develop or extend a trail system	57	13.6 %
Reduce stormwater runoff & help prevent flooding	62	14.8 %
Protect habitat for wildlife	180	43.1 %
Create corridors for wildlife to safely move from place to place	84	20.1 %
None chosen	8	1.9 %
Total	1621	

**Q7. Please check ALL the types of open space that are important to you and the members of your household.**

<u>Q7. Types of open space important to your household</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Natural areas that protect environmental resources & wildlife but are not available for public use	357	85.4 %
Historic sites & landscapes	306	73.2 %
Stormwater retention & detention basins	228	54.5 %
Open areas for picnicking, relaxing on benches, playing, walking the dog, & have paved walking trails	309	73.9 %
Farmland	300	71.8 %
Scenic views	281	67.2 %
Places with a lake, pond, or stream for boating or fishing	279	66.7 %
Areas with children's play equipment	204	48.8 %
Recreation areas where there are fields for playing organized sports	224	53.6 %
Areas to hike on trails in natural areas & can observe nature	341	81.6 %
Other reasons	12	2.9 %
None	3	0.7 %
Total	2844	



**WITHOUT NONE****Q7. Please check ALL the types of open space that are important to you and the members of your household. (without "none")**

<u>Q7. Types of open space important to your household</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Natural areas that protect environmental resources & wildlife but are not available for public use	357	86.0 %
Areas to hike on trails in natural areas & can observe nature	341	82.2 %
Open areas for picnicking, relaxing on benches, playing, walking the dog, & have paved walking trails	309	74.5 %
Historic sites & landscapes	306	73.7 %
Farmland	300	72.3 %
Scenic views	281	67.7 %
Places with a lake, pond, or stream for boating or fishing	279	67.2 %
Stormwater retention & detention basins	228	54.9 %
Recreation areas where there are fields for playing organized sports	224	54.0 %
Areas with children's play equipment	204	49.2 %
Other reasons	12	2.9 %
Total	2841	

**Q8. Which THREE of the items listed in Question 7 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household?**

<u>Q8. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Natural areas that protect environmental resources & wildlife but are not available for public use	166	39.7 %
Historic sites & landscapes	31	7.4 %
Stormwater retention & detention basins	11	2.6 %
Open areas for picnicking, relaxing on benches, playing, walking the dog, & have paved walking trails	50	12.0 %
Farmland	35	8.4 %
Scenic views	15	3.6 %
Places with a lake, pond, or stream for boating or fishing	9	2.2 %
Areas with children's play equipment	21	5.0 %
Recreation areas where there are fields for playing organized sports	17	4.1 %
Areas to hike on trails in natural areas & can observe nature	51	12.2 %
None chosen	12	2.9 %
Total	418	100.0 %



**Q8. Which THREE of the items listed in Question 7 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household?**

Q8. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Natural areas that protect environmental resources & wildlife but are not available for public use	44	10.5 %
Historic sites & landscapes	40	9.6 %
Stormwater retention & detention basins	29	6.9 %
Open areas for picnicking, relaxing on benches, playing, walking the dog, & have paved walking trails	54	12.9 %
Farmland	51	12.2 %
Scenic views	26	6.2 %
Places with a lake, pond, or stream for boating or fishing	37	8.9 %
Areas with children's play equipment	30	7.2 %
Recreation areas where there are fields for playing organized sports	35	8.4 %
Areas to hike on trails in natural areas & can observe nature	59	14.1 %
None chosen	13	3.1 %
Total	418	100.0 %

**Q8. Which THREE of the items listed in Question 7 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household?**

Q8. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Natural areas that protect environmental resources & wildlife but are not available for public use	42	10.0 %
Historic sites & landscapes	48	11.5 %
Stormwater retention & detention basins	26	6.2 %
Open areas for picnicking, relaxing on benches, playing, walking the dog, & have paved walking trails	40	9.6 %
Farmland	41	9.8 %
Scenic views	32	7.7 %
Places with a lake, pond, or stream for boating or fishing	41	9.8 %
Areas with children's play equipment	14	3.3 %
Recreation areas where there are fields for playing organized sports	25	6.0 %
Areas to hike on trails in natural areas & can observe nature	81	19.4 %
None chosen	28	6.7 %
Total	418	100.0 %



**SUM OF TOP 3 CHOICES****Q8. Which THREE of the items listed in Question 7 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household? (top 3)**

<u>Q8. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Natural areas that protect environmental resources & wildlife but are not available for public use	252	60.3 %
Historic sites & landscapes	119	28.5 %
Stormwater retention & detention basins	66	15.8 %
Open areas for picnicking, relaxing on benches, playing, walking the dog, & have paved walking trails	144	34.4 %
Farmland	127	30.4 %
Scenic views	73	17.5 %
Places with a lake, pond, or stream for boating or fishing	87	20.8 %
Areas with children's play equipment	65	15.6 %
Recreation areas where there are fields for playing organized sports	77	18.4 %
Areas to hike on trails in natural areas & can observe nature	191	45.7 %
None chosen	12	2.9 %
Total	1213	

**Q9. Please indicate if you or any members of your household have used or visited any of the following parks owned by New Britain Township.**

(N=418)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Q9-1. North Branch Park	71.1%	28.9%
Q9-2. West Branch Park	56.9%	43.1%
Q9-3. Highlands Park	35.6%	64.4%
Q9-4. Brittany Farms	27.8%	72.2%
Q9-5. Pheasant Run Playground	11.0%	89.0%
Q9-6. Veterans Park	42.3%	57.7%
Q9-7. Other	13.6%	86.4%



**Q9. If "yes," please indicate how you would rate your satisfaction with the park.**

(N=381)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Not provided
Q9-1. North Branch Park	36.7%	49.5%	9.8%	1.7%	0.7%	1.7%
Q9-2. West Branch Park	28.6%	51.7%	12.2%	5.0%	0.4%	2.1%
Q9-3. Highlands Park	27.5%	45.0%	18.8%	5.4%	0.0%	3.4%
Q9-4. Brittany Farms	26.7%	43.1%	22.4%	2.6%	0.9%	4.3%
Q9-5. Pheasant Run Playground	34.8%	41.3%	10.9%	4.3%	2.2%	6.5%
Q9-6. Veterans Park	31.6%	45.8%	14.7%	2.3%	1.1%	4.5%
Q9-7. Other	63.2%	28.1%	3.5%	1.8%	0.0%	3.5%

**WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED****Q9. If "yes," please indicate how you would rate your satisfaction with the park. (without "not provided")**

(N=381)

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied
Q9-1. North Branch Park	37.3%	50.3%	9.9%	1.7%	0.7%
Q9-2. West Branch Park	29.2%	52.8%	12.4%	5.2%	0.4%
Q9-3. Highlands Park	28.5%	46.5%	19.4%	5.6%	0.0%
Q9-4. Brittany Farms	27.9%	45.0%	23.4%	2.7%	0.9%
Q9-5. Pheasant Run Playground	37.2%	44.2%	11.6%	4.7%	2.3%
Q9-6. Veterans Park	33.1%	47.9%	15.4%	2.4%	1.2%
Q9-7. Other	65.5%	29.1%	3.6%	1.8%	0.0%



**Q9-7. Other:**

Q9-7. Other	Number	Percent
Peace Valley Park	34	59.6 %
Blue Jay Rd	4	7.0 %
Cover Bridge Park	3	5.3 %
Krupp Park	2	3.5 %
Chestnut St Park	1	1.8 %
Lake Galena	1	1.8 %
Peace Valley Park, Cover Bridge/Pine Run	1	1.8 %
Greenway Trail	1	1.8 %
Neshaming Greenway Trail	1	1.8 %
Kelly Park, Chalfont Borough	1	1.8 %
Central Park	1	1.8 %
East Fairwood	1	1.8 %
Twin Streams	1	1.8 %
Cotton Park	1	1.8 %
Coleman Property	1	1.8 %
Neshaminy Greenway Trail	1	1.8 %
Wilma Quinlan N	1	1.8 %
Peace Valley/Lake Galena	1	1.8 %
Total	57	100.0 %

**Q10. Please indicate if you or any members of your household are aware of any of the following preserved open space areas owned by New Britain Township.**

(N=418)

	Yes	No
Q10-1. Coleman Property (Upper State Road-Neshaminy Creek Greenway Extension)	27.5%	72.5%
Q10-2. Hovsepian Property (Keller Road & Upper State Road)	10.8%	89.2%
Q10-3. Cotton Park (Walnut Street & Schoolhouse Road)	48.6%	51.4%
Q10-4. Forest Park (Forest Park Drive)	28.5%	71.5%
Q10-5. Fairwoods (East Fairwood Drive)	14.1%	85.9%
Q10-6. Marshall Circle (Near Walter Road)	10.8%	89.2%
Q10-7. Circle Drive (Schoolhouse Road)	23.2%	76.8%
Q10-8. Other	2.9%	97.1%



**Q10. If "yes," please indicate how important you believe the open space area is to the community.**

(N=287)

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Not important	Not at all important	Not provided
Q10-1. Coleman Property (Upper State Road- Neshaminy Creek Greenway Extension)	70.4%	19.1%	7.8%	0.0%	0.9%	1.7%
Q10-2. Hovsepian Property (Keller Road & Upper State Road)	55.6%	24.4%	13.3%	0.0%	4.4%	2.2%
Q10-3. Cotton Park (Walnut Street & Schoolhouse Road)	55.7%	29.6%	9.4%	1.0%	0.5%	3.9%
Q10-4. Forest Park (Forest Park Drive)	50.4%	33.6%	12.6%	0.0%	0.8%	2.5%
Q10-5. Fairwoods (East Fairwood Drive)	62.7%	23.7%	8.5%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%
Q10-6. Marshall Circle (Near Walter Road)	55.6%	22.2%	13.3%	2.2%	4.4%	2.2%
Q10-7. Circle Drive (Schoolhouse Road)	56.7%	25.8%	11.3%	2.1%	2.1%	2.1%
Q10-8. Other	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%



**WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED****Q10. If "yes," please indicate how important you believe the open space area is to the community. (without "not provided")**

(N=287)

	Very important	Important	Neutral	Not important	Not at all important
Q10-1. Coleman Property (Upper State Road-Neshaminy Creek Greenway Extension)	71.7%	19.5%	8.0%	0.0%	0.9%
Q10-2. Hovsepian Property (Keller Road & Upper State Road)	56.8%	25.0%	13.6%	0.0%	4.5%
Q10-3. Cotton Park (Walnut Street & Schoolhouse Road)	57.9%	30.8%	9.7%	1.0%	0.5%
Q10-4. Forest Park (Forest Park Drive)	51.7%	34.5%	12.9%	0.0%	0.9%
Q10-5. Fairwoods (East Fairwood Drive)	63.8%	24.1%	8.6%	1.7%	1.7%
Q10-6. Marshall Circle (Near Walter Road)	56.8%	22.7%	13.6%	2.3%	4.5%
Q10-7. Circle Drive (Schoolhouse Road)	57.9%	26.3%	11.6%	2.1%	2.1%
Q10-8. Other	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

**Q10-8. Other:**

Q10-8. Other	Number	Percent
Peace Valley	7	58.3 %
Blue Jay Rd	3	25.0 %
Golden Properties on King Road	1	8.3 %
Nowakoski Farm on Sellersville Rd	1	8.3 %
Total	12	100.0 %

**Q11. What is your age?**

Q11. Your age	Number	Percent
18-34	77	18.4 %
35-44	82	19.6 %
45-54	84	20.1 %
55-64	85	20.3 %
65+	89	21.3 %
Not provided	1	0.2 %
Total	418	100.0 %



**WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED****Q11. What is your age? (without "not provided")**

Q11. Your age	Number	Percent
18-34	77	18.5 %
35-44	82	19.7 %
45-54	84	20.1 %
55-64	85	20.4 %
65+	89	21.3 %
Total	417	100.0 %

**Q12. What gender do you identify as?**

Q12. Your gender	Number	Percent
Male	206	49.3 %
Female	207	49.5 %
Prefer to self-describe	3	0.7 %
Not provided	2	0.5 %
Total	418	100.0 %

**WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED****Q12. What gender do you identify as? (without "not provided")**

Q12. Your gender	Number	Percent
Male	206	49.5 %
Female	207	49.8 %
Prefer to self-describe	3	0.7 %
Total	416	100.0 %

**Q12-3. Self-describe your gender identity:**

Q12-3. Self-describe your gender	Number	Percent
Non-binary	2	66.7 %
Transmale	1	33.3 %
Total	3	100.0 %

**Q13. Which of the following best describes your race?**

Q13. Your race	Number	Percent
Asian or Asian Indian	14	3.3 %
Black or African American	16	3.8 %
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	0.5 %
White or Caucasian	368	88.0 %
Hispanic or Latino/a/x	9	2.2 %
Some other race or multi-racial/ethnic	6	1.4 %
Total	415	



**Q13-6. Self-describe your race:**

<u>Q13-6. Self-describe your race</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Bi-racial	1	16.7 %
Scandinavian	1	16.7 %
Northern European	1	16.7 %
Multiple races	1	16.7 %
Mixed	1	16.7 %
Jewish	1	16.7 %
Total	6	100.0 %

**Q14. How many years have you lived in the Township?**

<u>Q14. How many years have you lived in Township</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0-5	66	15.8 %
6-10	50	12.0 %
11-15	43	10.3 %
16-20	45	10.8 %
21-30	95	22.7 %
31+	114	27.3 %
Not provided	5	1.2 %
Total	418	100.0 %

**WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED****Q14. How many years have you lived in the Township? (without "not provided")**

<u>Q14. How many years have you lived in Township</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0-5	66	16.0 %
6-10	50	12.1 %
11-15	43	10.4 %
16-20	45	10.9 %
21-30	95	23.0 %
31+	114	27.6 %
Total	413	100.0 %



# 4

## Survey Instrument



New Britain Township  
Open Space Plan Committee  
207 Park Avenue  
Chalfont, PA 18914

Dear New Britain Township Resident:

New Britain Township has begun to update the township's Open Space Plan. The last update of the Open Space Plan was in 2008. The Open Space Plan is an essential document for determining which parcels in the township should be acquired and preserved. Your household has been selected at random to receive a survey to gather opinions and information about open space. It is very important that you participate. We realize that this survey will take a few minutes of your time, but each question is important. The time you invest in completing this survey will help us in our decision-making for the future protection of essential open space in New Britain Township.

New Britain Township currently owns approximately 300 acres of land that is permanently preserved. The types of open space that the township owns falls into two categories: **Conservation Areas** which are areas typically associated with important natural resources that may include unpaved trails and land that is preserved in its natural setting without trails or public access and, **Passive Recreation Areas** which are open space areas that may have public access, trails, and benches to allow for leisurely enjoying the natural environment.

We have selected ETC Institute, a national research firm based in Olathe, Kansas, as our partner to administer this survey. They will compile the data received and present the results later this year. **Your responses will remain confidential.** We encourage you to complete the survey on-line at [NewBritainSurvey.org](https://NewBritainSurvey.org) You may also complete the enclosed printed version and return it in the enclosed postage-paid, return-reply envelope.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important survey. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the township at: [nbt@nbtpa.us](mailto:nbt@nbtpa.us) or 215-822-1391.

Sincerely,

David Conroy,  
Director of Planning and Zoning/Zoning Officer



## 2024 New Britain Township Open Space Plan Survey

New Britain Township would like your help to determine priorities for our open space and recreation offerings. This survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your survey in the enclosed postage-paid, return envelope. You may also complete this survey online at [NewBritainSurvey.org](http://NewBritainSurvey.org). Thank you! **At the end of this survey you will have an opportunity to opt-in to a drawing for a chance to win one (1) \$500 prepaid Visa gift card for fully completing your survey.**

### 1. Counting yourself, how many people in your household are...

Under age 5: \_\_\_\_ Ages 15-19: \_\_\_\_ Ages 35-44: \_\_\_\_ Ages 65-74: \_\_\_\_  
 Ages 5-9: \_\_\_\_ Ages 20-24: \_\_\_\_ Ages 45-54: \_\_\_\_ Ages 75+: \_\_\_\_  
 Ages 10-14: \_\_\_\_ Ages 25-34: \_\_\_\_ Ages 55-64: \_\_\_\_

### 2. Are you aware New Britain Township has a voter-approved earned income tax for the purchase of land for open space?

\_\_\_\_(1) Yes \_\_\_\_ (2) No

### 3. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements.

Please rate your level of agreement with the following:		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1.	New Britain Township should acquire and preserve open space	5	4	3	2	1	9
2.	New Britain Township's conservation efforts are effectively communicated with the public	5	4	3	2	1	9

### 4. Select the ONE statement that best matches your opinion on open space in New Britain Township. [Check only ONE.]

\_\_\_\_(1) All preserved open space should be made available for public use  
 \_\_\_\_ (2) Some preserved open space should be kept in a natural setting and not for public use  
 \_\_\_\_ (3) Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_ (9) Don't know

### 5. Please check ALL the reasons why you believe New Britain Township should preserve open space. [Check ALL that apply.]

\_\_\_\_(01) Provide places to go and things to do for children and youth  
 \_\_\_\_ (02) Protect farmland and agricultural soils  
 \_\_\_\_ (03) Preserve scenic views and historic resources  
 \_\_\_\_ (04) Improve the physical and mental health of residents  
 \_\_\_\_ (05) Protect or enhance woodlands, streams, wetlands, fields, meadows, and other natural resources  
 \_\_\_\_ (06) Keep property taxes from going up  
 \_\_\_\_ (07) Protect the quality of groundwater resources  
 \_\_\_\_ (08) Reduce air pollution and traffic congestion  
 \_\_\_\_ (09) Stabilize property values  
 \_\_\_\_ (10) Reduce global warming  
 \_\_\_\_ (11) Stop development and prevent suburban sprawl  
 \_\_\_\_ (12) Develop or extend a trail system  
 \_\_\_\_ (13) Reduce stormwater runoff and help prevent flooding  
 \_\_\_\_ (14) Protect habitat for wildlife  
 \_\_\_\_ (15) Create corridors for wildlife to safely move from place to place  
 \_\_\_\_ (16) Other reason not listed: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_ (17) None, I do not believe New Britain Township should preserve open space

### 6. Which FOUR of the items listed in Question 5 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household? [Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 5, or circle "NONE."]

1st: \_\_\_\_ 2nd: \_\_\_\_ 3rd: \_\_\_\_ 4th: \_\_\_\_ NONE



**7. Please check ALL the types of open space that are important to you and the members of your household. [Check ALL that apply.]**

- ☐ (01) Natural areas that protect environmental resources and wildlife but are not available for public use  
☐ (02) Historic sites and landscapes  
☐ (03) Stormwater retention and detention basins  
☐ (04) Open areas for picnicking, relaxing on benches, playing, walking the dog, and have paved walking trails  
☐ (05) Farmland  
☐ (06) Scenic views  
☐ (07) Places with a lake, pond, or stream for boating or fishing  
☐ (08) Areas with children's play equipment  
☐ (09) Recreation areas where there are fields for playing organized sports  
☐ (10) Areas to hike on trails in natural areas and can observe nature  
☐ (11) Other reason not listed: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ (12) None

**8. Which THREE of the items listed in Question 7 are MOST IMPORTANT to you and members of your household? [Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 7, or circle "NONE."]**

1st: \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd: \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd: \_\_\_\_\_ NONE

**9. Please indicate if you or any members of your household have used or visited any of the following parks owned by New Britain Township. If "YES," please indicate how you would rate your satisfaction with the park by circling the corresponding number to the right of the park.**

Parks:	Have you used or visited?		If "Yes," rate your satisfaction.				
			Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
1. North Branch Park	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
2. West Branch Park	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
3. Highlands Park	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
4. Brittany Farms	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
5. Pheasant Run Playground	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
6. Veterans Park	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
7. Other: _____	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1

**10. Please indicate if you or any member of your household are aware of any of the following preserved open space areas owned by New Britain Township. If "YES," please indicate how important you believe the open space area is to the community by circling the corresponding number to the right of the open space area.**

Open Space Areas:	Are you aware of this open space area?		If "Yes," how important do you believe the open space area is to the community?				
			Very Important	Important	Neutral	Not Important	Not at all Important
1. Coleman Property (Upper State Road - Neshaminy Creek Greenway Extension)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
2. Hovsepan Property (Keller Road and Upper State Road)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
3. Cotton Park (Walnut Street and Schoolhouse Road)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
4. Forest Park (Forest Park Drive)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
5. Fairwoods (East Fairwood Drive)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
6. Marshall Circle (Near Walter Road)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
7. Circle Drive (Schoolhouse Road)	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1
8. Other: _____	Yes	No	5	4	3	2	1



## Demographics

11. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_ years
12. What gender do you identify as? \_\_\_\_ (1) Male \_\_\_\_ (2) Female \_\_\_\_ (3) Prefer to self-describe: \_\_\_\_\_
13. Which of the following best describes your race? *[Check all that apply.]*
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ____ (01) Asian or Asian Indian            | ____ (05) Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander     |
| ____ (02) Black or African American        | ____ (06) Hispanic or Latino/a/x                        |
| ____ (03) American Indian or Alaska Native | ____ (99) Some other race or multi-racial/ethnic: _____ |
| ____ (04) White or Caucasian               |   |
14. How many years have you lived in the Township? \_\_\_\_\_ years
15. Please use the space below to provide any other thoughts or comments about the Township's open space preservation efforts.
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
16. If you would like to be kept up to date about meetings regarding open space and the status of the New Britain Township Open Space Plan update, please provide your email address below.
- Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**[OPTIONAL] Would you like to be entered for a chance to win one (1) prepaid \$500 Visa Gift Card?**

\_\_\_\_ (1) Yes *[Provide contact information below.]* \_\_\_\_ (2) No *[END SURVEY.]*

**Please provide your contact information.**

Mobile Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**This concludes the survey - Thank you for your time!**

Please return your completed survey in the enclosed return-reply envelope addressed to:  
ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061

Your responses will remain completely confidential.  
The address information printed to the right will  
ONLY be used to help identify areas with specific  
needs. Thank you.