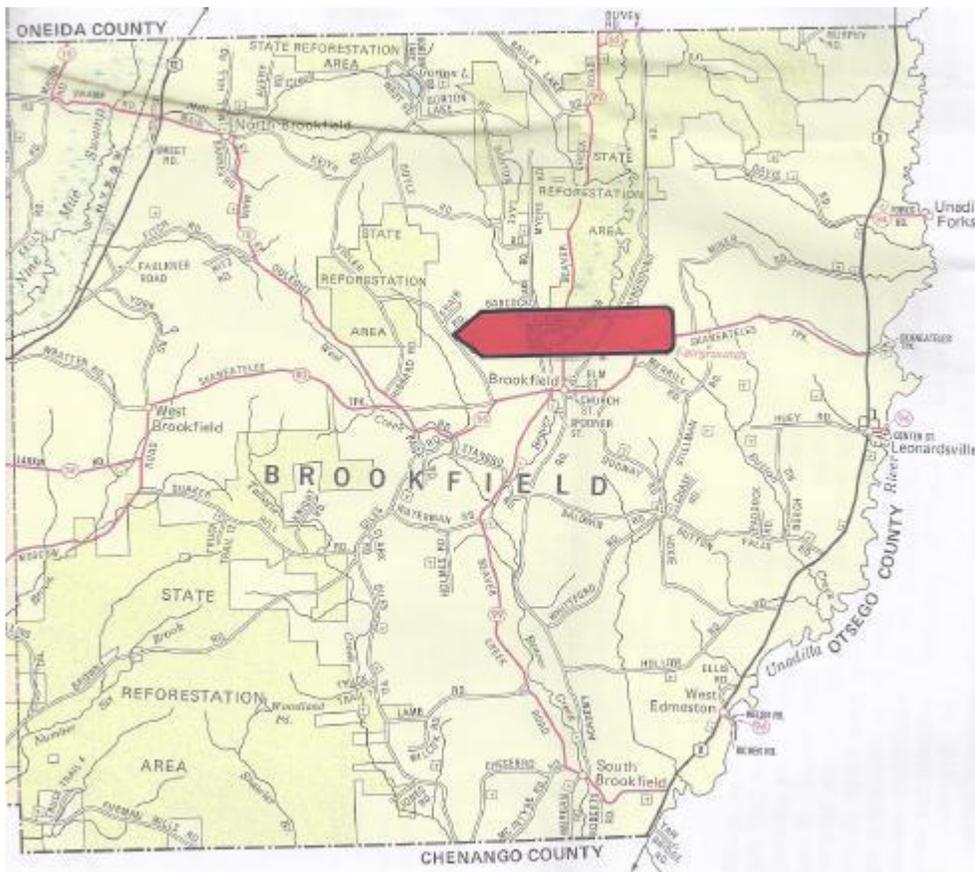


Town Of Brookfield Citizen Survey Results 2014 - 2015



Brookfield Comprehensive Plan Summary of Citizen Comments

The majority of respondents were age 36-70+, with the largest group between the ages of 56-70. Almost all respondents were full time residents and homeowners, with many long term and lifelong residents. (Questions 1-4)

People responding to the survey identify the Rural/Agricultural Environment and Open Space/Natural Environment as the primary reasons they reside in Brookfield. The fact that they grew up here and it is close to family/friends are also common reasons for living here. Thus, rural/farm/open space and the constancy and familiarity of people and landscape are important to townspeople. (Question 5)

Respondents feel that the rural/natural scenery is what draws people to Brookfield, along with the state lands. It would seem that for full time residents and visitors, Brookfield's main attraction is it's bucolic, agricultural scenic beauty and all that comes with this, ie. uninterrupted vistas, a sense of open space, presence of wildlife, low level of artificial light, etc. (Question 6)

In keeping with this, the vast majority of respondents agreed that protecting the town's natural resources (air quality, water and soil quality) was essential, if heavy industry approached the town. To a slightly lesser degree, people agreed that noise level needed to be considered. Protecting roads and keeping taxes low were a very high priority for residents. (Question 19)

The top priority for the town according to respondents was Farmland Preservation. The next two priorities, developing a sustainable local economy and open space preservation, were about equal in respondents' estimation. Having a balance of agricultural and recreation was next. Close behind this was creating programs for Brookfield youth. These priorities reveal that residents value agriculture above all, and would like to see farmland and open space preserved when developing the local economy. This points to promoting farm product-based businesses and recreational ventures. In our initial comprehensive plan, programs for youth were also named a priority, yet this was not really addressed. Could the town create a task force to identify ways to create more opportunities for the town's younger residents? Maybe looking at how other rural/agricultural towns have addressed this need? Brookfield does not have a public library or community center. Could the school or fairgrounds be a potential gathering place? (NAME EXISTING RESOURCES FOR YOUTH IN THIS PARAGRAPH) (Question 8)

On the other end of the spectrum, 77% of respondents would favor a senior housing facility in the Town of Brookfield. It would be fabulous for senior residents to have this option right in their hometown, especially given that living close to family/friends is so important to residents. What is the economic feasibility of this type of facility? Would there need to be more services in the town before such a facility would locate here? (Question 30)

In keeping with developing a sustainable local economy, 82% of respondents said that buying local was important to them. What is the best way for people to become aware of all local buying options? Word of mouth, website, other? Would it be best for Brookfield businesses to participate in existing local venues, such as the Hamilton or Waterville Farmers' Market or is there enough demand to have some market in town? Could more local products be sold at existing businesses, such as the Brookfield General Store or used in local restaurants, such as the Beaver Den or Horned Dorset? (Question 24)

A majority of respondents believe that the town should encourage small business through incentives or grant money. If tax money were to be used for this purpose, there is somewhat less hearty support for this idea. This points to the need to investigate grant and incentive options available to small business. Some of our residents may have expertise in this area, and it would be helpful if the town could tap into this resource. In addition, it would be important to develop a system for doing regular searches for small business grants, especially related to agriculture and recreation. (Question 25)

An overwhelming majority agrees that the town should have an emergency preparedness plan. We have seen the trend in recent years of intensifying storms. Places that have never flooded previously now have been subject to flooding. The devastation of the July 2014 storm, which made multiple roads impassable and resulted in power outages, showed us how extreme it can be. It makes sense for the town to proactively develop a system for preparing for and responding to emergencies. (Question 21) A majority of respondents also felt that town should keep a voluntary registry of special needs residents. This would help first responders to know something about the situation prior to a call for urgent attention. (Question 20)

More people than not felt that the town does control its expenses in relation to the services provided. (Question 27) The vast majority felt that higher taxes would force them to sell their property in the town. (Question 26) This makes it clear how important it is for the town to control expenses. Most respondents felt that the town has not changed in the past 10 years. Some thought it had improved, and the smallest number said it had declined. (Question 28) The vast majority of respondents felt that planning was important or very important for the town. (Question 29)

Respondents were split in their opinion of natural gas development, both industrial and local. The vast majority favored wind, solar and water power, whether industrial or local. A number of respondents expressed confusion about this question, as the difference between industrial and local was not made clear. The two categories were meant to distinguish between 300 foot wind turbines and a small windmill on a farm, or a large solar array covering acres of land versus small scale solar development. If a question on this subject were included in the next survey, terms would need to be defined. (Question 33)

A majority of respondents expressed an interest in having regularly scheduled speakers at the town hall. We would have to have a means of canvassing residents to determine what topics would be of most interest. In addition, we would need an effective means of advertising scheduled speakers. 70% of respondents said that they do not use the town website, and respondents were evenly divided on the question of whether the town does a good job of communicating available programs and scheduled meetings. It is clear that the website is not going to reach everyone. Some people indicated that newspapers and word of mouth were the ways they learned about town events. Other options for notifying residents must be explored, ie. posting notices in local businesses. (Questions 31, 32 &34)

Town of Brookfield Citizen's Survey 2014

(The Town of Brookfield includes: Leonardsville, Unadilla Forks, West Edmeston, South, West and North Brookfield, Brookfield.)

Friends and Neighbors:

Thank you for taking the time to read this over. I think it is important to us as residents, now and for those to come, to express our likes and dislikes; also to say how we would like to see the future of "Our Town". Please take a little of your time to help us shape our future.

Again, thanks for your time and input.

—Clint Abrams, Town Board Member

1. What is your age?

24__18-35 **117**__36-55 **178**__56-70 **84**__over 70 **total 403**

2. Which of the following best describes your residency in the Town of Brookfield? (check all that apply)

236 __Full-time resident **45** __Part-time resident
129 __Lifelong resident **115** __Long term resident (10+)
15 __New to Brookfield **11** __Planning to leave Brookfield
29 __Other (explain)

Own land, do not live here, inherited land here, moved here from another state

3. Which of the following applies to you? (check all that apply)

340 __Homeowner **37** __Business owner
5 __Renter **142** __Land owner (separate from residence parcel)
5 __Other (explain)

Hunting cabin no water or electric, new land owner with intent to become part time resident, adjacent to residential property

4. What type of housing unit do you live in?

296 __Single family home **4** __Two family home
1 __Apartment **26** __Single-wide Mobile home
29 __Double-wide Mobile home **31** __Other

5. Please check the top five reasons you choose to live in the Town of Brookfield from the following:

274 __Rural/agricultural atmosphere **212** __Close to family/friends
181 __Grew up here **87** __Cost of housing
75 __Close to work **83** __Lower taxes
63 __Quality of schools **69** __Retirement

116 __Recreational Opportunities

18__Proximity to metropolitan area

259 __Natural environment/open space

39__Other (explain)

Regarding lower taxes, were you trying to be funny?; close to main residence, most horse trails & hunting, planning to build but taxes too high, they (taxes) seem plenty high, for me, I love the eccentricities of the people, we are proud of all that is “Brookfield”, you know your neighbor, your neighbor’s pets, land, community; school taxes will keep increasing. Time to get board members in there that are not controlled by Jim Plows; small town idiocrasies; Hate we have high taxes; land handed from father; resided there for 30+ years & raised my family there; own & operate a farm; small unintrusive government; remote site, less traffic; historic family home; diversity of abundant wildlife, small peaceful town; my husband said he wanted to live here

6. What do you believe draws people to the Town of Brookfield? (List in order of importance, starting with 1)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Brookfield State Lands (trail system)	108	55	45	31	20	8	5	2		
Snowmobiling	16	20	18	23	26	30	30	20	2	2
Fishing	10	11	15	13	21	24	31	31	12	
Rural nature/scenery	153	32	27	23	18	11	10	3	2	
Historical / genealogy	8	13	7	12	13	14	13	26	46	1
Horseback riding	46	41	33	40	28	19	12	7	9	
Hunting	49	61	58	44	28	9	9	1	2	
Agriculture	20	24	27	17	20	14	13	15	11	1
County Fair and its related events	31	4	10	26	18	15	17	28	31	3
Other	12	1			3	1	1			3

Family, friends, the people; visiting family; the school system used to attract people – there is not even a full-time math (especially math) here; not much – low cost housing; land prices, taxes; affordable; small town atmosphere, more freedom of live, movement, less government;

7. Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the following aspects of the Town of Brookfield:

	Satisfied	.Neutral	Dissatisfied
Rural atmosphere	302 __	18 __	15 __
Environmental Protection	148 __	122 __	28 __
Town government	106 __	125 __	57 __
Notification of Issues	68 __	170 __	75 __

Law enforcement	111 __	147 __	43 __
Road maintenance	147 __	104 __	65 __
Traffic	168 __	97 __	22 __
Neighborhood appearance	135 __	97 __	57 __
Recreational opportunities	171 __	115 __	42 __
Job opportunities	18 __	159 __	118 __
Variety of local businesses	51 __	145 __	100 __
Overall quality of life	235 __	71 __	7 __

The land next to the town hall is underlying town property, take a good look at it, is this the site we want new people to see; some parts of town are terrible (neighborhood appearance); they do their best (roads); town does not maintain any of our roads; (environmental protection) any of these questions can be interpreted incorrectly; (town government) should be governed by elected officials, not unelected committees who are not answerable to the people; s-b 35 mph to The Lane; selling too much land & building on it; too many project pending sites which should be condemned; too political, not doing job upholding laws; terrible – need stronger measures against hydrofracking; sidewalks in Leonardsville as well as codes enforcement; unsure what sort of protection we need or exists; less than a year experience, cannot comment, needs to protect all we can; removed entrance to my land

8. In your opinion, which of the following should be the top 5 priorities for the Town of Brookfield?

- | | |
|--|---|
| 183 __Open space preservation | 234 __Farmland preservation |
| 126 __Preserve historical/archeological sites | 75 __Main street preservation/revitalization |
| 94 __Develop parks & recreational facilities | 143 __Balanced mix of ag & recreation |
| 123 __Beautification/Property maintenance | 89 __Improve code enforcement |
| 45 __Improve sidewalks/walking paths | 73 __Manage residential development |
| 138 __Create programs for Brookfield youth | 50 __ Other (explain) |
| 187 __Develop sustainable local economy | |

This is a swamplot, we have no use for it, we would like to sell it, it was passed down to me, been in the family for years!!!; newspaper article shared via safety of fracking (see attached); lower taxes/expenses to manageable level; I like it the way it is; better – more communication about programs & reporting of board meetings to all corners of township; I believe that all this is being done in the proper manner; codes enforcement for absentee landlords; upkeep of cemetery – many stones were hit by whomever was mowing this year, when they did bother to mow!; those crossed out impinged on personal property rights, the others need a dedicated leader; (local economy) small business owners do that, not you; 1 to 5 priorities: road repair & maintenance (3), fire protection, police & town court, maintain school system, encourage the unalienable rights of life, liberty & the pursuit of happiness; good luck; farmer preservation, preservation of liberty; preparation for self (town), preservation & independence in case of calamitous events (ie: survival); total ban of fracking (4 people); better codes; environmental protection so much depends on this – recreation, agriculture, land values; no farmers no food; do not let developers in; keep school; do what is necessary to keep taxes low if possible by minimizing these expenses: clean up dumpy houses, enforce codes, make residents get rid of trash & junk in yard,

less government intrusion not more government (that's why we live here), our founding fathers never intended this much government control! That's why the 2nd amendment in the constitution was so important so that citizens could control the government; make state land usable for other recreation for other than horseback riding; have people clean up junk cars & other junk lying in their property; conservation not preservation, conservation provides for responsible use of resources, preservation does not; local tax assessor that is familiar with the area & wants to keep taxes down; improve North Brookfield road maintenance; environmental protection; keep taxes low; stop getting in other people's business; poverty level; drug program; maintain the integrity of property; keep destructive industry out, such as hydrofracking; personal liberty, property rights, economic growth, few opportunities for youth; provide better services for our tax dollars; keep taxes down so people don't move out, figure out how to keep school taxes down; 80% - 20% mix of ag for the town overall for the town government;

9. Please answer the following regarding the State's recreational trails within the Town of Brookfield:

Do you use the trails? **170**__Y **198**__N If yes, check all that apply:

37__ Horseback riding **48**__ Snowmobiling **59**__ Bicycling **57**__ Hiking

51__ Cross country skiing /snowshoeing **74**__ Hunting/Fishing **36**__ Camping

Do you feel the trails need more maintenance ? **86**__ Y **135**__ N

More separation of various uses of horseback riding on wet terrain it ruins trails for bicycling & makes it messy for hiking; need to be open to ATV's rather out of town horse owners, I feel ATV's should be allowed on the trails instead of free use for out of state horse owners; after this summer's storms, they need a lot of maintenance; should include ATV's, not often enough, unsure, cannot comment; don't know haven't been on them recently;

10. Would you like to see a trail system (other than State trails) within the town?

142__Y **153**__N

Yes, they can draw many people to enjoy something they can't get (shy of going up north where they are benefitting from it; 4 wheeling from Sherburne to Bridgewater; depends on the significance of the trail – would it be educational; running & walking nature trail; at what cost?; 4 wheeler, ATV, the taxpayers in NYS & local citizens, not just for out of state horse people who don't ever pay taxes here or even pay a fee, it's time we take care of our own; a good hiking/biking trail along Beaver Creek would be nice; maybe depends on cost & how would affect other community needs; depends on where; pay attention to taxpayers not horse people; not bad idea but not for motorized vehicles; lack of snowmobile trails through village makes many feel unserved; I'm not opposed if others want it; not sure;

Please answer questions 11 – 13 using the numbered list of locations which follows. (Remember that Madison County Sales Tax stays here.) Please use the number for your answer:

- 1. Brookfield (Madison County)**
- 2. Hubbardsville (Madison County)**
- 3. Waterville (Oneida County)**
- 4. Hamilton (Madison County)**

- 5. Utica/New Hartford (Onedia County)
- 6. Syracuse (Onondaga County)
- 7. Cooperstown (Otsego County)
- 8. Norwich (Chenango County)
- 9. Oneida (Madison County)
- 10. Binghamton (Broome County)
- 11. On-line
- 12. Other; please specify _____

11. Where does your household purchase the majority of its groceries? _____

- 1. Brookfield (Madison County) **12**
- 2. Hubbardsville (Madison County) **2**
- 3. Waterville (Oneida County) **19**
- 4. Hamilton (Madison County) **104**
- 5. Utica/New Hartford (Onedia County) **192**
- 6. Syracuse (Onondaga County) **6**
- 7. Cooperstown (Otsego County) **2**
- 8. Norwich (Chenango County) **17**
- 9. Oneida (Madison County) **13**
- 10. Binghamton (Broome County) **0**
- 11. On-line **3**
- 12. Other; please specify **46** _____

We buy as many local products & services as possible. With economic growth comes local business.

12. Where does your household buy the majority of its non-food items (e.g. clothing, prescriptions, health/beauty supplies, household supplies, etc.) _____

- 1. Brookfield (Madison County) **3**
- 2. Hubbardsville (Madison County) **0**
- 3. Waterville (Oneida County) **60**
- 4. Hamilton (Madison County) **36**
- 5. Utica/New Hartford (Onedia County) **243**
- 6. Syracuse (Onondaga County) **6**
- 7. Cooperstown (Otsego County) **1**
- 8. Norwich (Chenango County) **16**
- 9. Oneida (Madison County) **15**
- 10. Binghamton (Broome County) **1**
- 11. On-line **10**
- 12. Other; please specify **13** _____

13. Where does your household obtain the majority of its medical services? _____

- 1. Brookfield (Madison County) **4**
- 2. Hubbardsville (Madison County) **1**

- 3. Waterville (Oneida County) **69**
- 4. Hamilton (Madison County) **96**
- 5. Utica/New Hartford (Onedia County) **140**
- 6. Syracuse (Onondaga County) **14**
- 7. Cooperstown (Otsego County) **31**
- 8. Norwich (Chenango County) **4**
- 9. Oneida (Madison County) **7**
- 10. Binghamton (Broome County) **0**
- 11. On-line
- 12. Other; please specify _____

Can't get into anywhere – not taking new patients. Sounds like Agenda 21. Smart growth??

14. Regarding all people in your household who are 18 years or older, please indicate his/her employment status

Working full-time away from home **221**

Working part-time away from home **56**

Working full-time **33** /part-time **31** in agriculture or related area (e.g. dairy, beef, horses ,sheep/goats ,poultry, field crops, produce).

If so, what area, please? _____.

Working full-time in other home business **17**

Stay-at-home parent **28**

Retired **143**

Retired, but working another job _____; full-time **38** or part-time **32**

Unemployed **19**

Student **40**

Because TAXES are TOO HIGH!!

15. Please advise whether or not anyone in your household volunteers in any capacity.

Y **160** N **192** Please state how they volunteer.

Fire Dept **19**

Ambulance **2**

Care Giver **1**

Optimist **2**

Church **25**

Scouts **6**

Legion **7**

Legal **1**

Youth **13**

Animals **4**

Human services **11**

Fundraising **1**

Teaching/Mentoring **2**

Historical Society **3**

Parks & cemetery **3**

Clubs **2**

Local Committees **2**

16. Approximately how many miles (one- way) are traveled to/from work or volunteer activities? 0 – 10 **59**

11 – 20 50

21 – 30 42

31 – 40 14

41 – 50 6

51 or more 8

It's not the town's business

17. When anyone travels to/from Town of Brookfield, what **Town roads** are travelled?

Academy – 16, Avery – 2, Baldwin – 4, Beaver Creek – 73, Bliven – 1, Brown – 4, Button Falls – 4, Carter – 3, Center St – 1, Cole Hill – 1, Collins – 1, Davis – 2, Doyle – 3, Dugway – 7, Fairground – 7, Elm – 1, Faulkner – 3, Fitch – 3, Furman Mills – 1, Giles – 8, Gorton Lake – 26, Hollow – 1, Hoxie – 10, Keith – 8, Larkin – 7, Main N. Brookfield – 3, Mill Hill – 3, Miner – 3, Morgan – 3, Ouleout – 24, Quaker Hill – 2, Swamp – 3, Skaneateles – 81, Stanbro – 1, Stillman – 1, Truck Trail – 4, Vidler – 6, Whitford – 2, Wratten - 4

Please be realistic

18. Do you feel that the Town should adopt a Road Use Law (for the purpose of saving our roads from damage as much as possible)? Y **187** N **133**

Yes, if it is deemed necessary, plausible & efficient. The town should improve all town roads. As long as it doesn't impact logging industry & farming industry. Maybe. Not sure what it entails. Farmers should be made to clean up excessive manure spillage onto roads. Crumb Road. More information, better explanation needed. Would need to know more, seems too obvious. Too many unknowns & weather conditions. "Do not know what A 'Road Use Law' is". Amish buggies are ruining roads in some reas. Protect our roads without driving away business or industry.

19. If any form of heavy industry comes to the Town of Brookfield, would you agree (A) or disagree (D) that these areas need to be protected:

Roads A **308** D **35**

Water quality/quantity A **325** D **25**

Air quality A **313** D **25**

Soil quality A **315** D **23**

Noise level A **285** D **46**

Taxes for residents A **327** D **19**

Protected, yes...but industry wouldn't hurt our ability to sustain a local economy.. Industry may help with tax relief, jobs, spark more business for others, etc. Nothing to worry about. All should be protected and most are at other levels of government. This is a loaded question and I fear the interruption of answers will be slanted. Roads need to be good enough to draw industry to the area. More industry = more jobs = more money = lower taxes.

Roads have to be kept up for town heavy equipment, fire trucks, mild trucks. If roads are not up to par – they deteriorate fast! (Plenty of open spaces for noise.) Using common sense draconian EPA regs. Indicates I agree with protection but not town government level. No answers because

question is directed natural gas industry. We don't need big industry. I believe fracking in Madison County would be a mistake for the majority of the population – only a few people would make money & not as much as they hope to – most money would be made by outside companies & the local economy & environment would suffer long term.

20. Should the Town emergency/rescue service maintain a voluntary registry of special needs people? Y 263 N 52

a. Should the Town ask its Fire/Rescue Departments for this service in its contracts?
Y 199 N 86

Brookfield Fire Dept should be getting more money for mutual aid calls to Leonardsville. You are short of FD people already. Don't increase their burden. Maybe – needs to be looked into. Brk FD does not have contracts. Is it the law? What kind of special needs? Not sure is rescue interested in this. Would it help or just be more paperwork? No need to take on the liability – use neighbors. Doing good now – leave alone. Leave to fire & rescue & residents.

21. Should the Town have in place an "Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Plan" ?
Y 293 N 38

Fire – rescue should have and do this. As well as developing community resources. But it never goes by your plan so by common sense – we don't??? But we seem to do good at helping one another 4-3-14 at around 4pm – prove that. Our volunteer service are already stretched for this. These questions are very grey. The county manages emergency disaster. Always available.

22. Should the Town look into programs to enhance our most significant industry (agriculture) with tax breaks or other means? Y 282 N 66

Taxes are getting unbearably high – making it harder to hold onto farmland. There are significant agriculture tax break in place. Small farms unfortunately are not the way of the future. There are programs available through fed, state, county levels. Yes, but what does “look into” mean? No I have no children have to pay \$\$, agriculture is dying, that's life. For agriculture only. At what cost? Just give them a fair price with no strings attached. More handouts – not on my dime. Should start on their own – not govt funded. To the extent that it makes agriculture sustainable. How about tax penalties for those that don't-won't maintain their properties. Lower taxes for ag and business.

23. Would you want your tax money to support programs for the Town to advance locally produced/provided businesses? Y 216 N 127

There are programs available through fed, state and county levels. What kind of businesses? Existing tax money – maybe. Higher taxes – no. Possibly. Maybe – how? Perhaps – needs to be looked into. Must be some government support to help. We already have high taxes. Depending on the business with a voting council. If taxes do not increase. Within certain guidelines. Not sure what it means in its entirety. Being a non-resident seasonal landowner, I can't vote & this ticks me off.

24. Is "buying local" (e.g. farmers' market, buying from individual farms/businesses) important to you? Y 288 N 54

Yes and no. Depends on the price of goods. What do you mean by local? Brookfield? Madison County? CNY? Unless the price was right. But they must be competitive it should not be a license to overcharge. If pricing is kept competitive. Yes but not practical in my case.

25. Should the Town encourage small businesses (e.g. by incentives for start-up businesses, obtaining of grant money for Equine/Agricultural Tourism, Bed & Breakfast businesses, Small Business Association (SBA), or other grant programs)? Y 253 N 78 If you have suggestions, please contact Comprehensive Planning Committee.

Have some sort of real estate tax exemption – incentive that decreases over 5 years as profitability increases (eg: 100% yr one, 50% yr two, 60% yr three, 40% yr four, 20% yr five, 0% yr six). As long as it does not increase our taxes. Maybe but not if we have to hire a grant writer, etc. However if you support horses, you cannot discriminate against 4x4, ATV use. Make trails for them also. Low or no interest loans maybe, outright grants are often abused and often end in failure. Get government out of private business and take away all the “red tape”. I am sick of Amish doing whatever they want. The laws are for EVERYONE. Key word is encourage, does not mean fund. Keep town government small, taxes low, and then will come. Free money is poor economics.

26. Do you feel that the Town controls its expenses relative to the services it provides? Y 195 N 103

Yes, but too often to the detriment of drawing people-businesses to the area. Town does not provide services that we see. The only time that we see or hear about anything is at election time. Unsure – need more detail to answer. Fairly well – could improve. I do not have sufficient data- information on this area. We do not want too much government. Don’t know – no budget. Hell no. For local residents only not outsiders. Higher level positions are overpaid compared to local income levels and could be filled by qualified people at lower wages.

27. Would high taxes force you to sell off property which you currently own? Y 263 N 73

Eventually. How high is high? I’m here for the duration. It already is having us pursue this. You simply work a little harder, spend less elsewhere. Depending how high an increase? We know many home owners who would do this. Yes! Yes! Yes! And move out of NY. We have been here all our lives. Depends on how high they go! Possibly, depending on taxes. I already pay more than most. I’m thinking about it now. The taxes are high enough now. It is forcing me to sell and move out. Yes. Not at this point. Not as long as the money was used for the right reasons. I already am in contracts = thanks to high taxes (3 towns). Now you sound like a Liberal Left.

28. In the past 10 years (or since you moved to the Town of Brookfield), what is your overall impression of the Town? Has improved 99 Has not changed 162 Has declined 66

Some things have improved, some have declined. No place like home. ;-) My generation seems entitled, how do we change this? Taxes, you have a lot of retiring people who moved because their taxes are sky high. Has declined because of improvement. Drugs. More control of drugs and pedophiles. Has not changed in 50 yrs. Not really sure, roads have improved in my area but

it took a long time. Still trashy, especially compared with neighboring towns. Town government expansion with this comprehensive committee is a negative factor.

29. How important is planning for the future of our Town?

Very important 147 Important 155 Not important 28

Not important. Because it is being done hapazatdly, based on vaguely worded surveys and planners. Not sure, circumstances change – rigid plans are detrimental. Opinion may change based on Planning Committee direction. As long as it is fair for everyone. Important but not as much as curtailing town expenses and lowering salary of school superintendent who also holds other paying town offices. Planning is good but can go overboard. Because you will just make laws to smother our rights. Town did fine did all these without a central Planning Board. Obviously not as nothing has changed.

30. Would you support a Senior Housing Facility in the Town of Brookfield?

Y 235 N 68

Would create jobs & help our elderly. The Leonardsville School would be a great place & put a store in part of it for the community. What's population??? What are all the implications? What are the related expenses & when will it be? But not taxpayer funded. Where? Fine for Seniors still able to drive. For others, transportation is a problem. Yes, if priority is given to locals. Unsure. Taxpayer cost. We need here. A private facility. If the need is real. Would the seniors be interested? Again at whose cost? There are so many variables to this & all the other issues that a general & vague survey cannot possibly accrue accurate information. How? Taxes? Depends on n the kind of support you are asking for? Am I/we in favor of a senior housing facility? Yes, definitely. Need more details. Type of facility? Additional emergency services? Need more information. On Rte 12 or Rte 8 maybe. Linked with a hospital. Bassett? But through increased taxes. If it is not our tax money. About time. But again, be careful! Leonardsville School building possibility and a new facility in downtown Brookfield allowing walking distance to local businesses would be a win-win situation. People always want to talk. Not enough info & whose money

31. Do you use the Town web site (www.brookfieldny.us)? Y 102 N 245 If no, how do you get your information regarding Town meetings, etc.? _____

Neighbors – 9

Newspaper – 7

Etc - 11

Facebook, word of mouth, long distance mail when it is sent to me. Not anymore. Not up to date with the information. It used to be in the Mid-York Weekly. Should use website, use Brookfield Courier – it should be used more. Not much. Should be done away with. Don't attend town board meetings, keeps my blood pressure down. (Website). I didn't know about it! Will look now. We never get info. Waterville Times, Rumors-Talk, A week late from papers. I do not seek out the meeting minutes on a regular basis. Notice on board or on post office.

32. Does the Town of Brookfield do a good job of communicating what programs are available, when meetings are held, etc.? Y 113 N 116

For the most part. Neutral too many power struggles & games, frustrating & losing faith. Probably on the web, not the Courier. Should put monthly notice in the Star. Never have. If you don't look at website you don't know. Could post on sign board around town or could send out emails advising of meetings & directing to website. OK on meetings. Less info on programs & services. Do not attend meetings.

33. How do you feel about the following natural resources?

Natural Gas...

Industrial - Like 127 Dislike 147 or Local - Like 113 Dislike 126

Wind Power...

Industrial - Like 222 Dislike 61 or Local - Like 207 Dislike 45

Solar Power...

Industrial - Like 239 Dislike 40 or Local - Like 229 Dislike 20

Water Power...

Industrial - Like 204 Dislike 53 or Local - Like 194 Dislike 32

Need more information. No fracking (4. Don't know. Fracking is not the answer. Must be regulated by honest companies. As people of the United States, we have to use & utilize our own natural resources. We cannot depend on other countries. Not sure of question. What is industrial vs local? I don't like hydrofracking but would consider gaslines for distribution to local distribution. Need to support all opportunities or Brookfield will go broke. Solar & wind would not exist without taxpayer subsidies. Define?? Industrial vs local. Providing it's safe & environmentally friendly. Need a lot more details. Not sure what you mean by any of this. Use? Production? This is vague. I answered relative to its use not production, Definitely appose fracking for natural gas production. This is not really clear. I am against Industry & hydrofracking. I would be able to use some natural gas, electricity is very expensive. Very concerned about fracking & storage ☹ We would leave this area if anything like that happened. Burlington, VT, 42,000 people, the state's largest city has 100% of its electricity needs met by renewable sources, such as wind, water & solar. Yr 2009 Greenburg, Kansas. Built as 12.5 megawatt wind farm, which is producing more energy than the town of 856 people can use! This is green energy – this & solar would be progress for our town! If regulated...concerns about water supply. No water = no life! Dare to say no! Would like to see all utilize responsibly! Turbines like those in Madison, no longer turbines. This does not apply to our town. The reason we dislike local is because local politicians never, ever negotiate a contract that benefits the taxpayer by significantly reducing taxes.

34. Would you be interested in having regularly-scheduled speakers at the Town Hall? Topics could include such things as assistance with taxes; Farm Bureau information; medical issues; insurances; preparation of wills, health care proxies, DNRs. Community members could also suggest topics. Y 212 N 83

Boring. Do not think it would be well attended. Sure but at whose cost? Why? We would not hear of meetings. Not published in local papers. It's nice but we've already gotten the

information we need from the county. Sounds like a great idea. I probably don't have the time for this now but many people might. Regarding speakers, cannot hear.

35. Do you have any suggestions regarding how to encourage our young people to volunteer for activities within the Town of Brookfield (e.g. Fire Departments, Historical Society, committees, anything which would benefit the community)? If so, please contact a member of the Comprehensive Planning Committee.

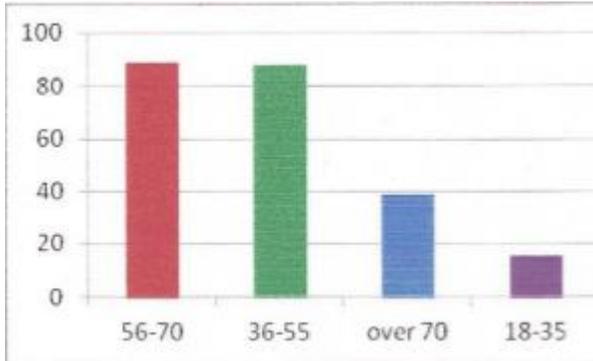
Tax breaks-more socializing-more fun, a town wide trail system or some version of such was offered, it gave back something positive to every identified segment of Brookfield! Free beer: that's it! Party time with Salka, Piersma & Mayne buying all refreshment. If the churches & fire depts. Can't get anyone to volunteer the CPC can't either. Great question, sorry I have no answer. Have committed volunteers speak at the school & get info out via school & internet on a regular basis on what is needed. (Specific) Offer incentives-point out the value to them of active volunteerism (for example job, college applications, insurance benefits, networking, spiritualism). Encourage for college incentive – tax breaks. Some sort of retirement. Who is on the Planning Committee? Volunteers in Brookfield works like this, if you speak your mind or step on someone's toes because of your opinion you will be shunned by the clique of the politically correct (no thanks!). Thank you! This is the best way to afford taxpayers an honest opinion to you! Great idea! Do it more often! The school & local churches for volunteer work: it could be highlighted in baccalaureate & graduation. Make them feel like they are part of changing Brookfield for the better. Older people are set in their ways as to how they have always done things. Young people can bring in new ideas so there needs to be compromise. Pay internships vs via grants. Make volunteering part of a high school program. Make it a senior requirement to graduate: community services hours. Good morning programs at school. Highway Dept is terrible. I've never seen anything like it & drive in & out of shitholes all day but Brookfield is by far the worst. I could go on & on but just for an example, I watched a salt truck spread salt around the 4 corners & 2 seconds later a plow truck comes around & scrapes it to the side of the road. That is just one thing about the Highway Dept. SMH. This is an issue that needs all of our input – wish I had the answer. Good to see this. I have been in MA for 14 yrs. Found that taxes are lower here & we get more from our tax dollars. There is a big volunteer base here where the citizens feel ownership of local government & have a say in the direction of the town – education & protection of ag & open space are priorities. This is a waste of time & too detached from the real people. Yes, don't shut them out based on popularity or one's opinion of their relative! Do not restrict harvesting with ordinances Logging = Jobs. Ordinances slows the process & costs entrepreneurs money in the harvesting business. We need to have a local tax assessor. Top priority should be protection of the little guy. This includes the do gooders who move here from more affluent regions. Lack of opportunity keeps our young people moving out. I live 3 hours from Brookfield & infrequently visit my property. My plan was to build, but I get downsized & have no money. Good luck & God Bless. Praise goes a long way. Find them & personally ask them to participate. Help them to understand how much they are needed. Have reps from town agencies visit schools (Mt Markham has a forum with all students).

PLEASE RETURN SURVEY BY OCTOBER 15, 2014, USING THE STAMPED ENVELOPE PROVIDED. THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION.

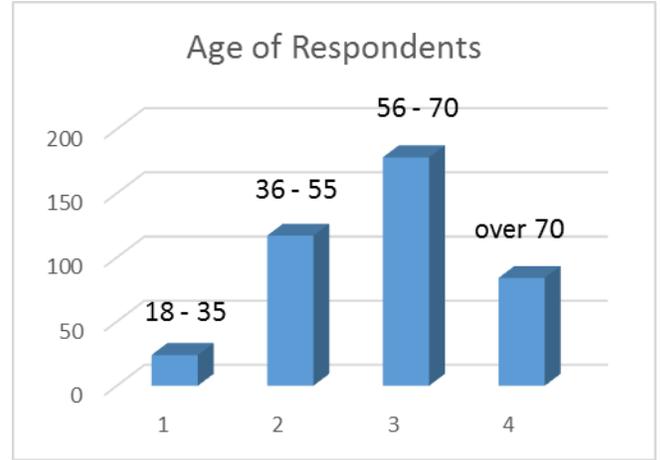
Town of Brookfield Citizen's Survey Graph Comparison 2011 and 2014

2011

1. What is your age?

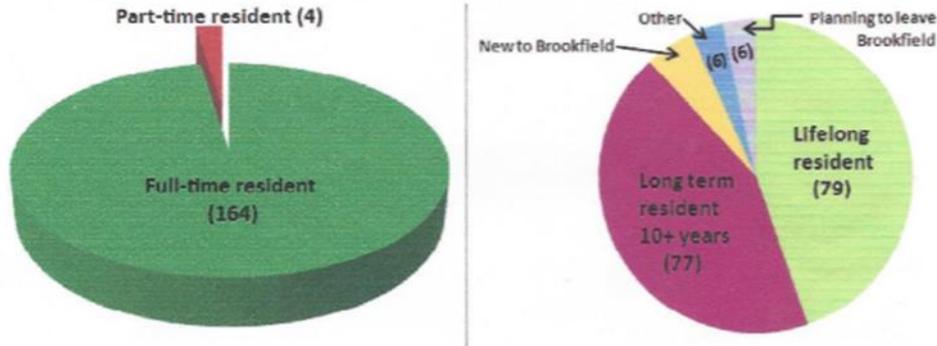


2014

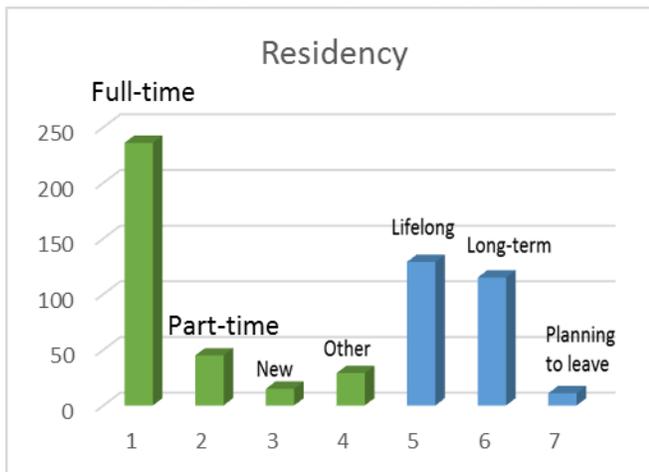


2. Which of the following best describes your residency in the Town of Brookfield? (check all that apply)

2011

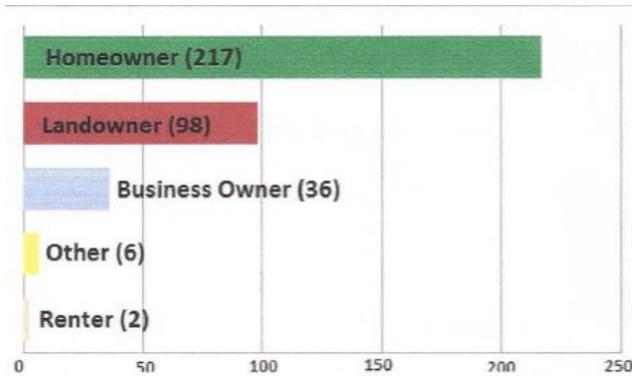


2014

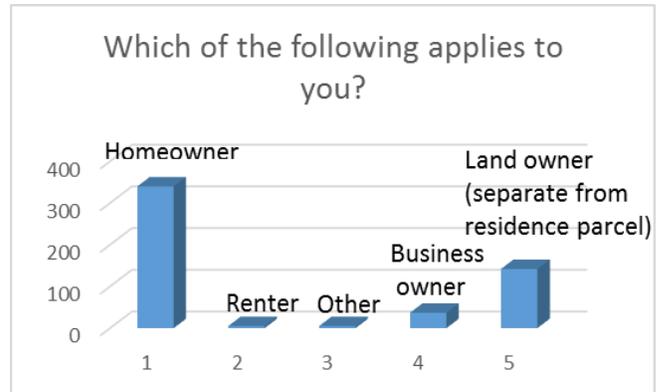


3. Which of the following applies to you? (check all that apply)

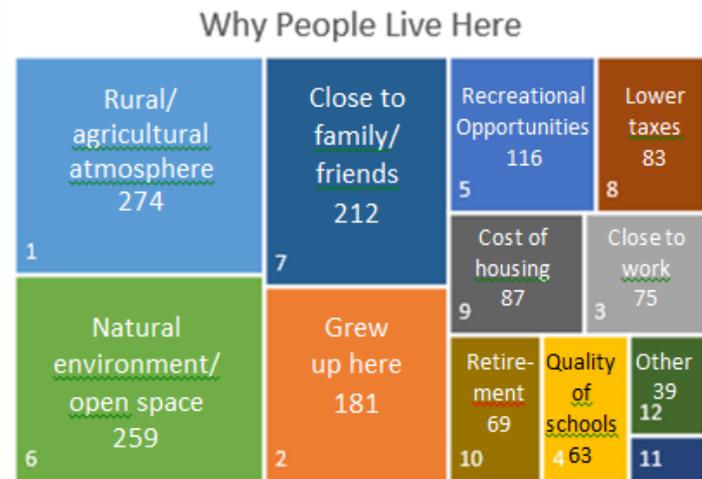
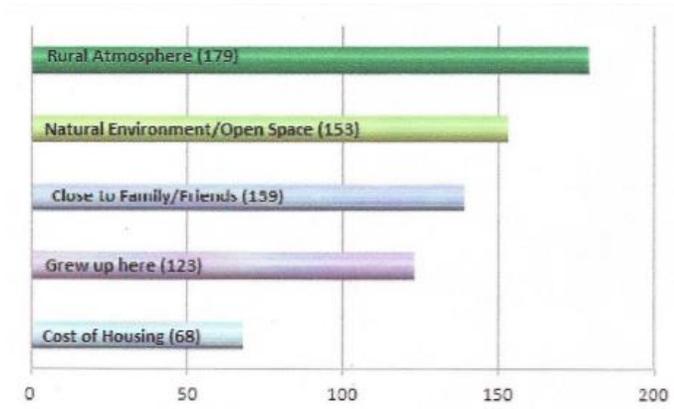
2011



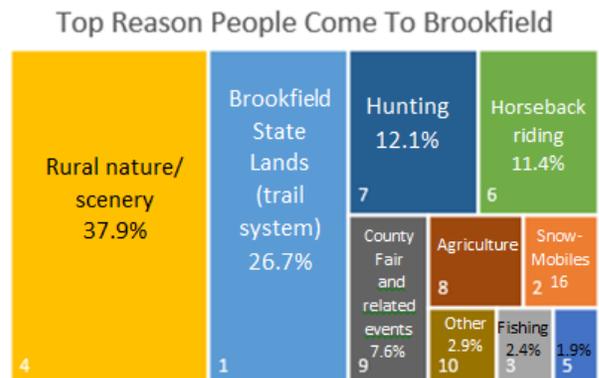
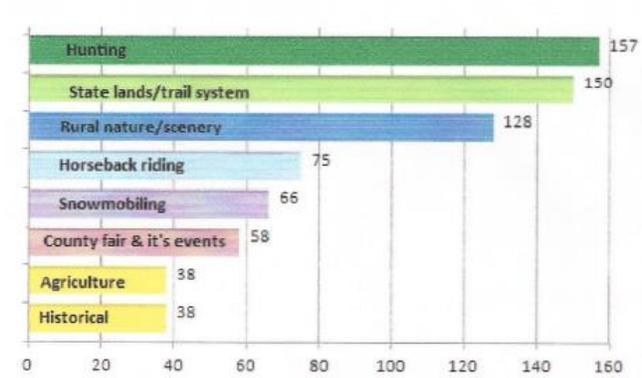
2014



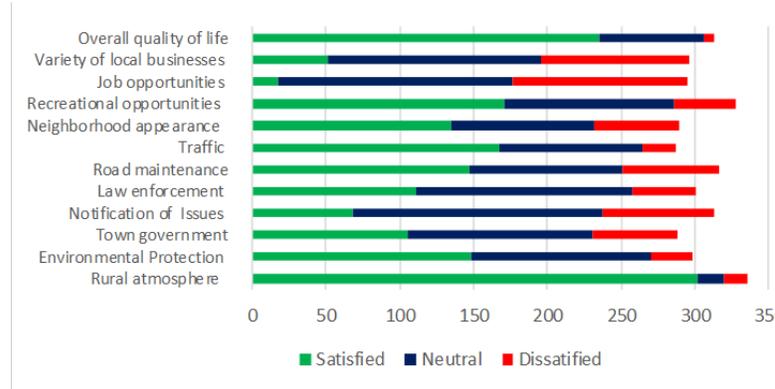
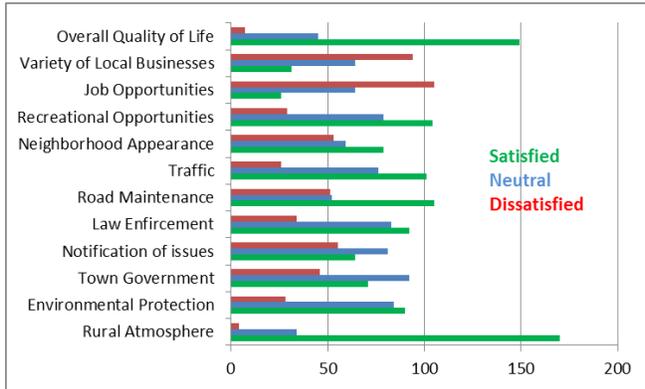
5. Please check the top five reasons you choose to live in the Town of Brookfield from the following:



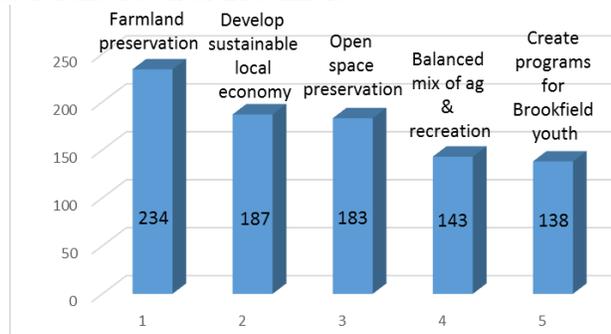
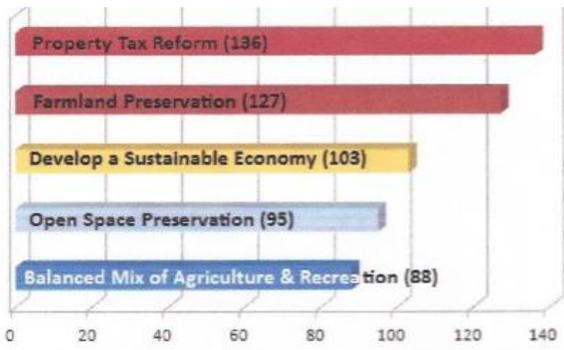
6. What do you believe draws people to the Town of Brookfield? (List in order of importance, starting with 1)



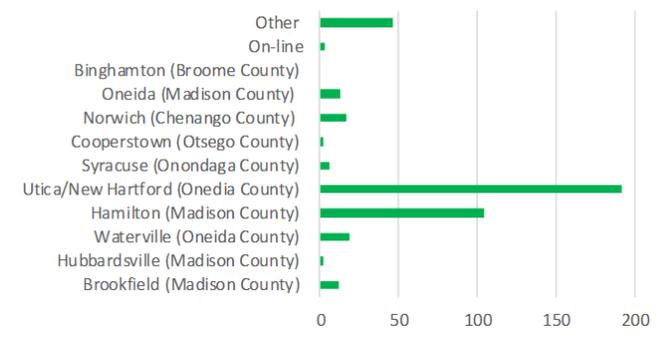
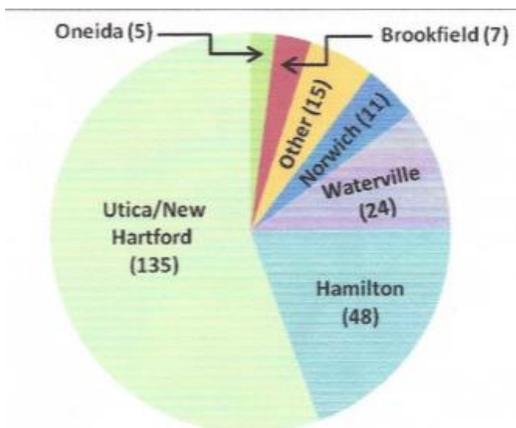
Citizen's level of satisfaction with the following aspects of the Town of Brookfield
2011 2014



Which of the following should be the top 5 priorities for the Town of Brookfield?

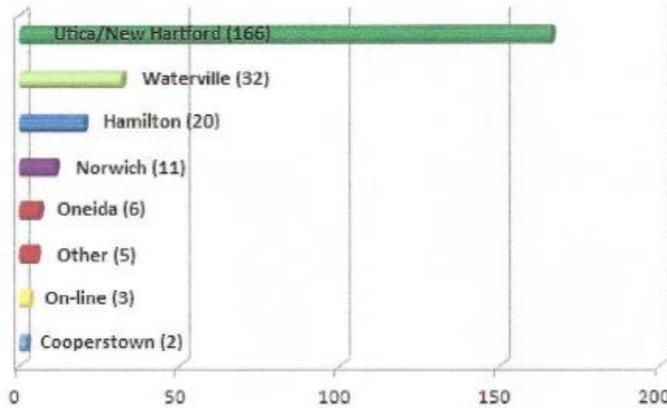


Where does your household purchase the majority of its groceries?

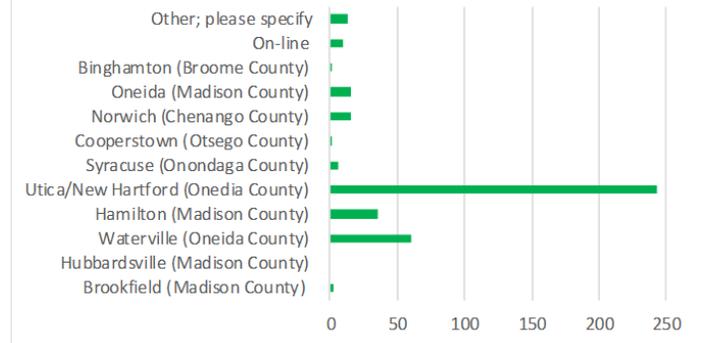


Where does your household buy the majority of its non-food items (e.g. clothing, prescriptions, health/beauty supplies, household supplies, etc.)

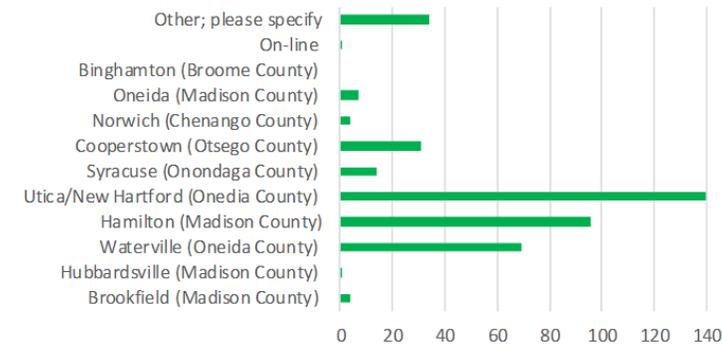
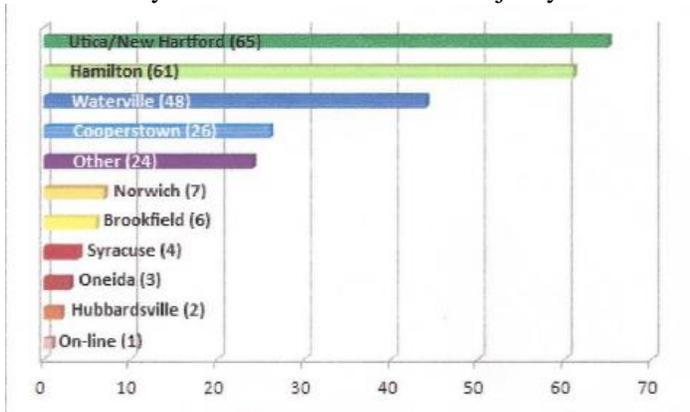
2011



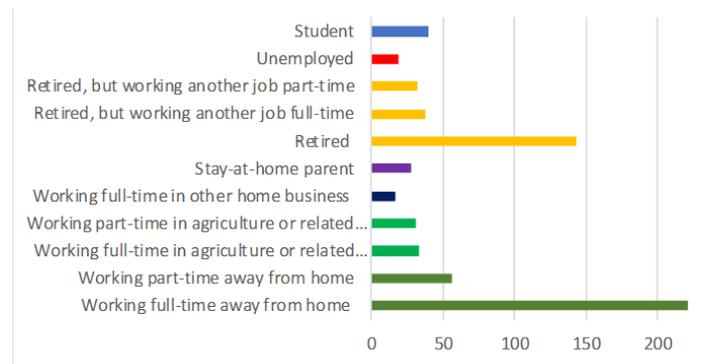
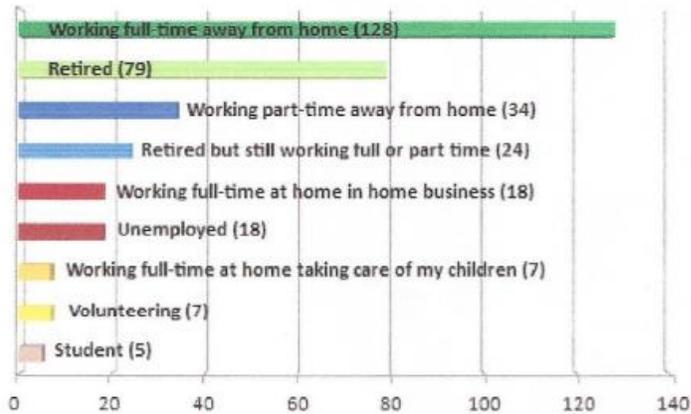
2014



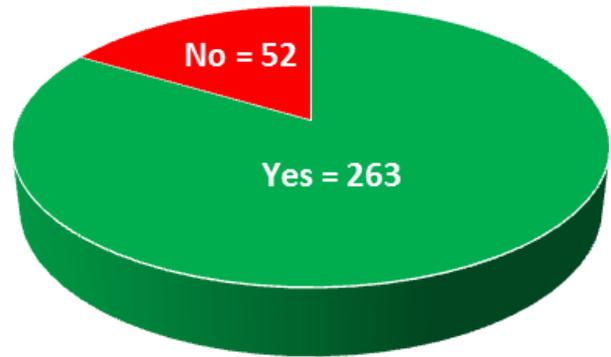
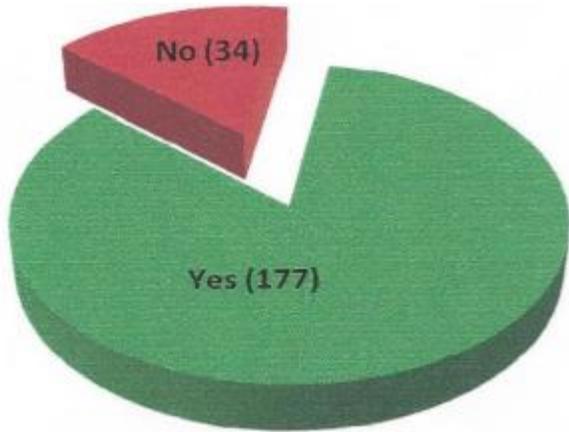
Where does your household obtain the majority of its medical services?



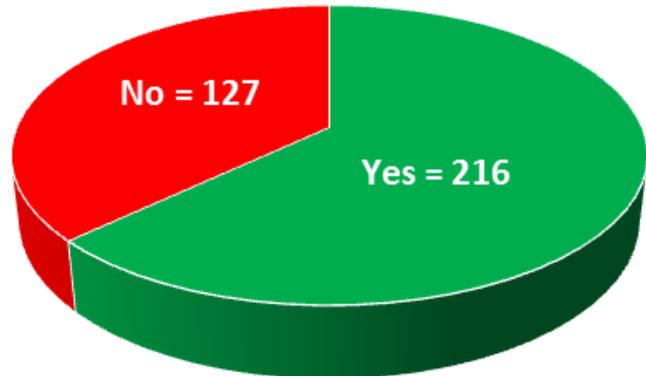
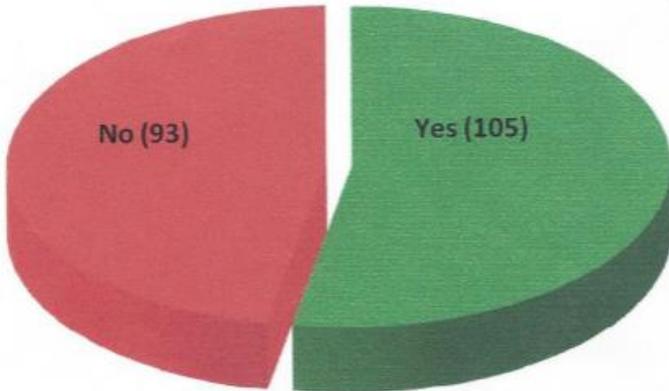
Regarding all people in your household who are 18 years or older, please indicate his/her employment status.



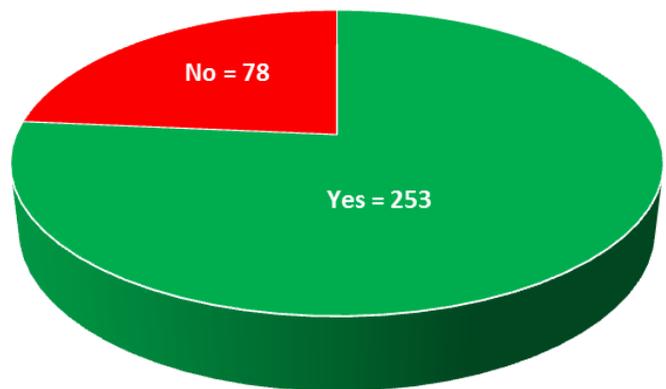
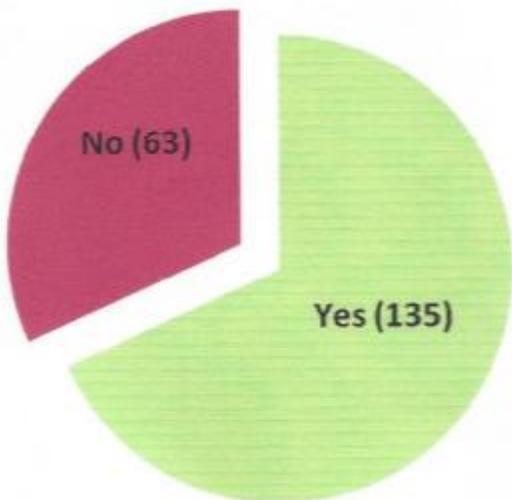
Should the Town emergency/rescue service maintain a voluntary registry of special needs people?
2011 2014



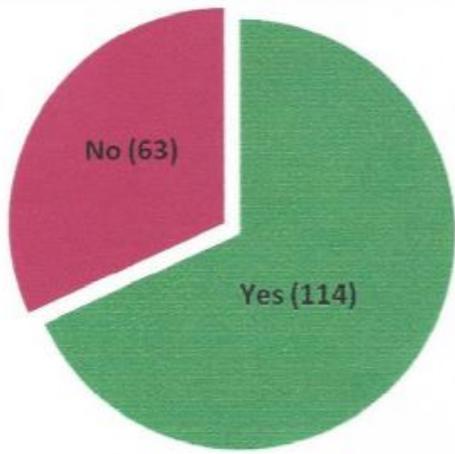
Would you want your tax money to support programs for the Town to advance locally produced/provided businesses?



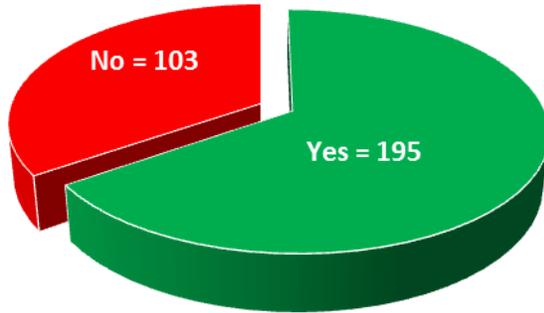
Should the Town encourage small businesses (e.g. by incentives for start-up businesses, obtaining of grant money for Equine/Agricultural Tourism, Bed & Breakfast businesses, Small Business Association (SBA), or other grant programs)?



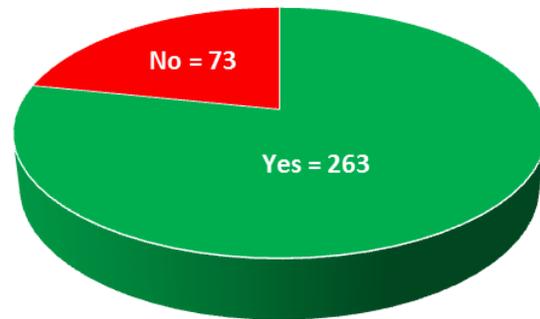
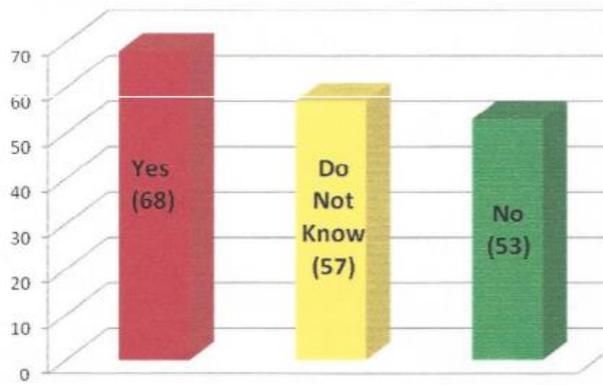
Do you feel that the Town controls its expenses relative to the services it provides?
 2011



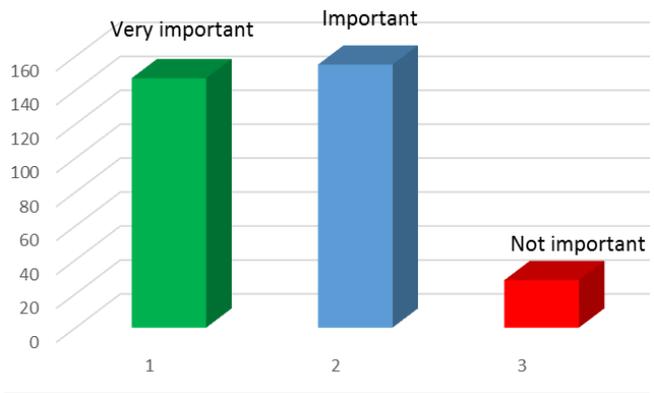
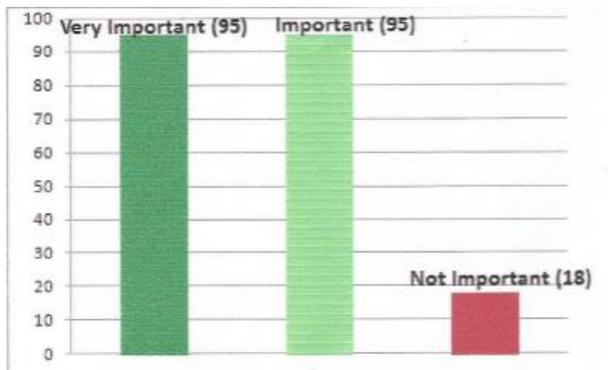
2014



Would high taxes force you to sell off property which you currently own?

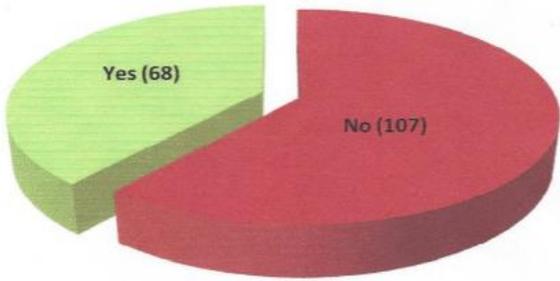


How important is planning for the future of our Town?

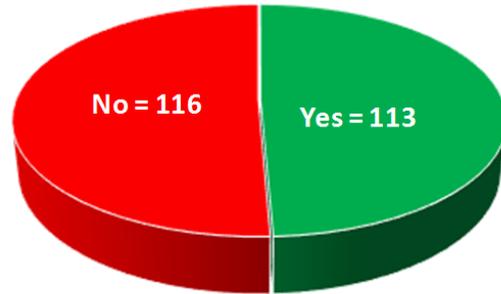


. Does the Town of Brookfield do a good job of communicating what programs are available, when meetings are held, etc.?

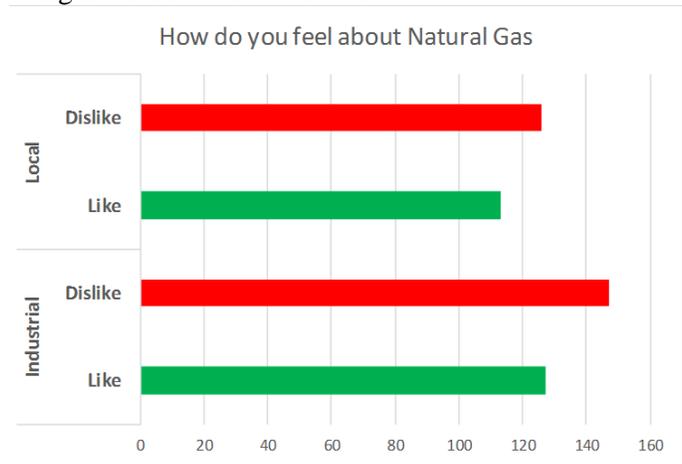
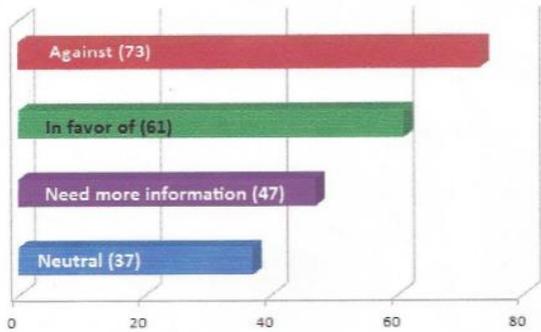
2011



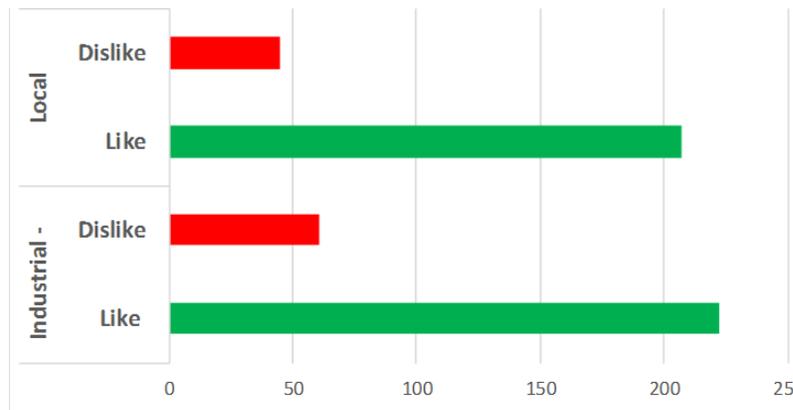
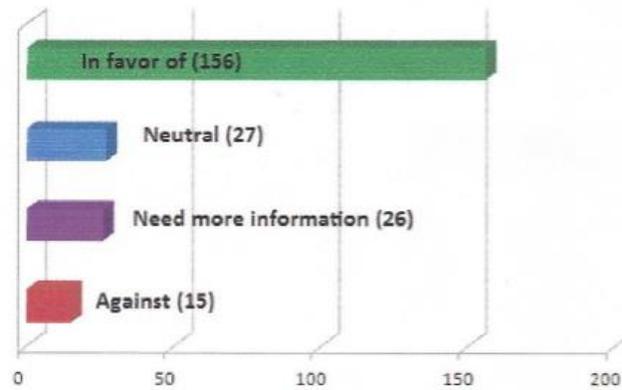
2014



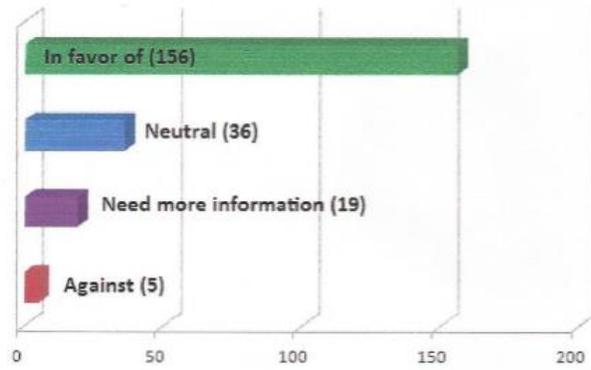
How do you feel about the following natural resources: Natural Gas?



How do you feel about the following natural resources: Windpower?



How do you feel about the following natural resources: Solar power?
2011



2014

