

2025

Port
Hope
Budget
Survey
Report



Executive Summary

1

1,450 residents of Port Hope were surveyed to learn their opinions about the budget and the municipal services provided.

2

Port Hope residents are generally satisfied with the value they receive for their tax dollars, with 76% expressing satisfaction across the municipality. However, satisfaction varies significantly by ward: 83% of Ward 1 residents report being satisfied, compared to only 45% of Ward 2 residents.

3

The majority of residents prefer maintaining the current level of taxes and services rather than increasing or decreasing taxes and services.

4

Overall, residents of Port Hope are satisfied with the services provided by the municipality, with particularly high satisfaction for municipal events, fire and police services, cleanliness, and green spaces. However, satisfaction is lower for road maintenance, land use planning, and building and permitting services.

5

Residents of Port Hope generally support maintaining the current budget for most services. However, there is demand for increasing investment to address housing issues, support economic development, and improve infrastructure (such as roads, sidewalks, and building facilities).

6

Residents prioritize two key areas for infrastructure investment: (1) resources to advance goals outlined in the master plans, such as the Waterfront and River Walk Master Plan, Fire Master Plan, and Economic Development Master Plan, and (2) the maintenance of streets and roads.

7

The survey results indicate that most respondents oppose reducing investment in the Asset Management Plan to close the infrastructure gap, with only 13% of Port Hope residents supporting decreased funding in this area.

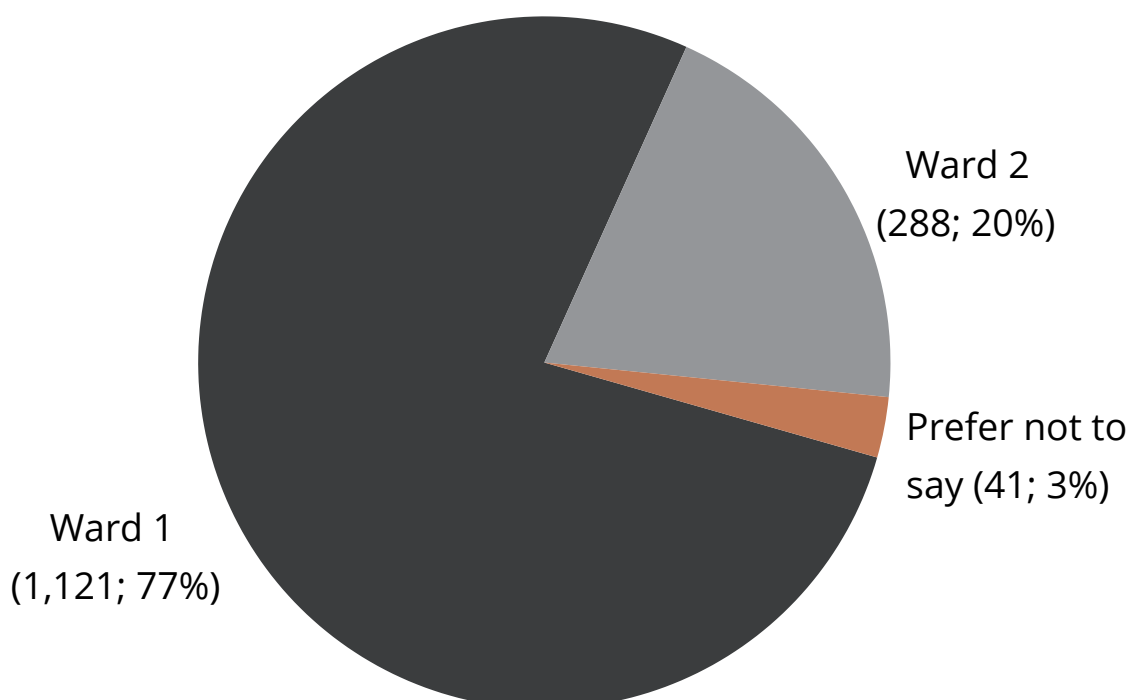
Survey Overview

1,450 Port Hope residents over the age of 18 took the 2025 Budget Survey. The following analysis is based on people from Port Hope who completed the entire survey, since we are interested in the composition of people who answered all questions for comparability.

“We love the community and the street we live on. We have raised our family here and still have younger children, we never worry about their safety and feel comfortable giving them the freedom they need. There are ample recreational activities (both paid and free) and access to most of the services we require.”

— Man, 40s, Ward 1

Respondents by Ward

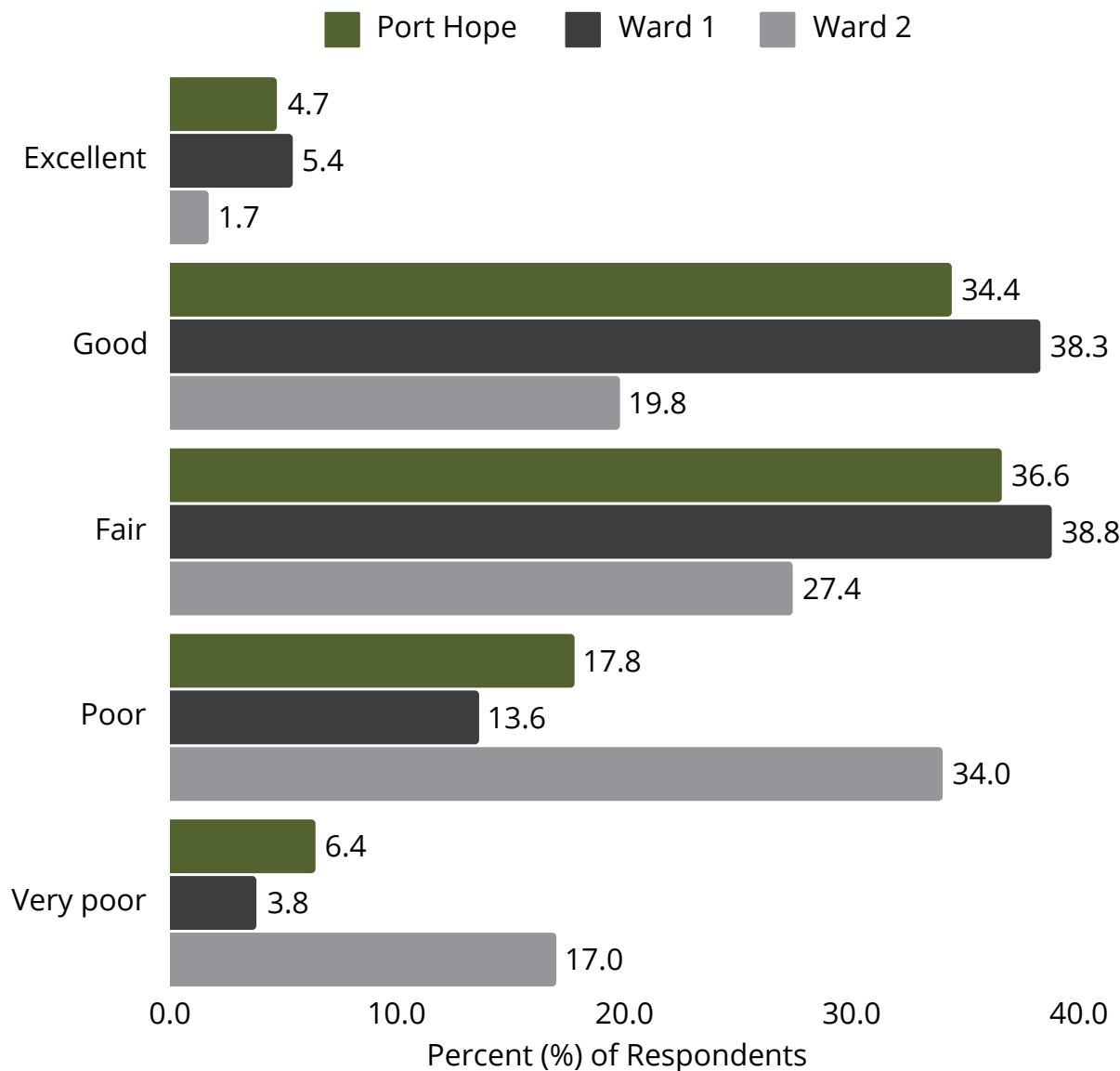


Survey Demographics

Category	Sub-Category	Respondents
Gender	Male	620 (43%)
	Female	799 (55%)
	Non-Binary, Two-Spirit, Another Category, Prefer not to Say	12 (less than 1%)
	Prefer not to say	19 (less than 1%)
Education	Did not go to university	770 (53%)
	Went to university	662 (46%)
	Prefer not to say	32 (1%)
Employment	Retired or Retired and working for pay	554 (38%)
	Employed (Full-time or Part-Time or Self-Employed or Caring for family and working for pay)	827 (57%)
	Other (e.g., unemployed, students)	69 (5%)
Income	\$0 to \$60,000	303 (21%)
	\$60,001 to \$110,000	443 (31%)
	\$110,001 to \$150,000	253 (17%)
	More than \$150,001 to \$200,000	283 (20%)
	Prefer not to say	168 (11%)
Time Living in Port Hope	Less than 5 years	324 (22%)
	5 to 15 years	428 (29%)
	More than 15 years	680 (47%)
	Prefer not to say / Don't know	16 (1%)
Age	Under 30	71 (5%)
	30-39	213 (15%)
	40-49	192 (14%)
	50-59	201 (15%)
	Over 60	702 (51%)

Value for Taxes

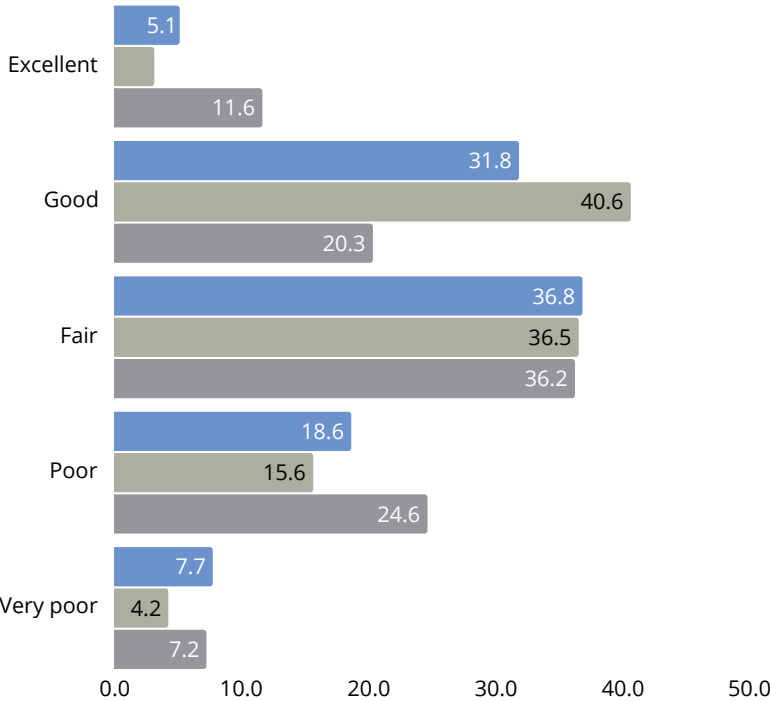
Considering the portion of your taxes that support local services, how would you rate the value you receive for your tax dollars?



Value for Taxes

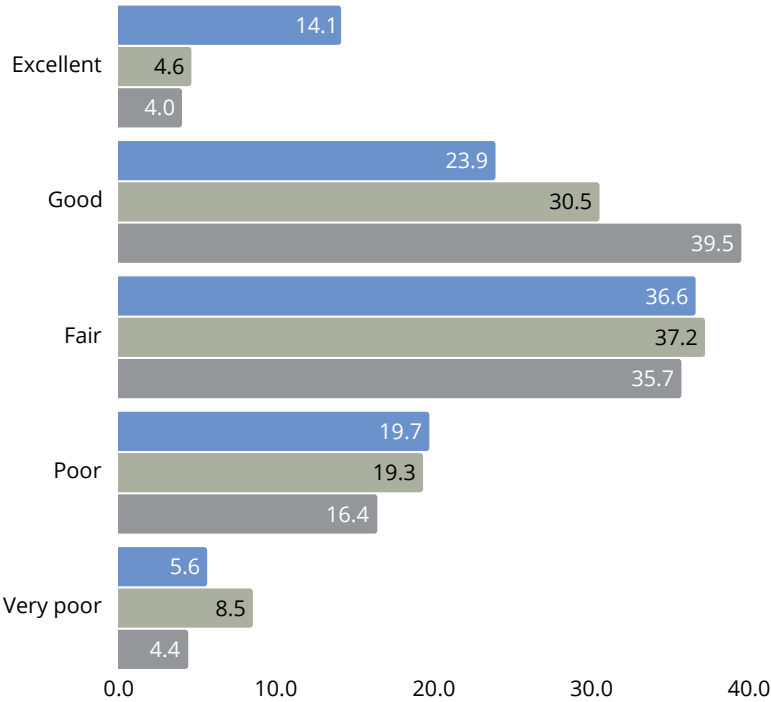
Employment

Employed Retired Other



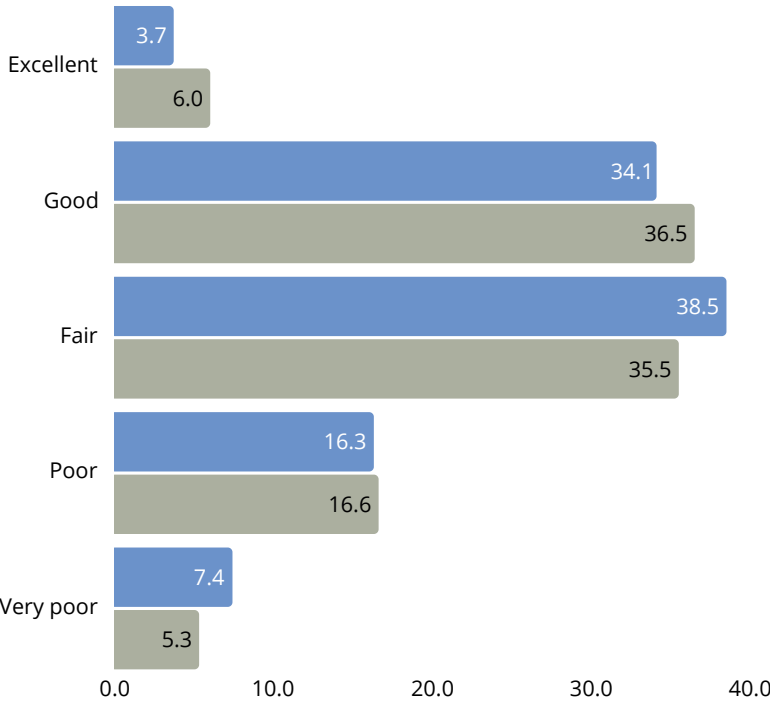
Age

Under 30 30-59 Over 60



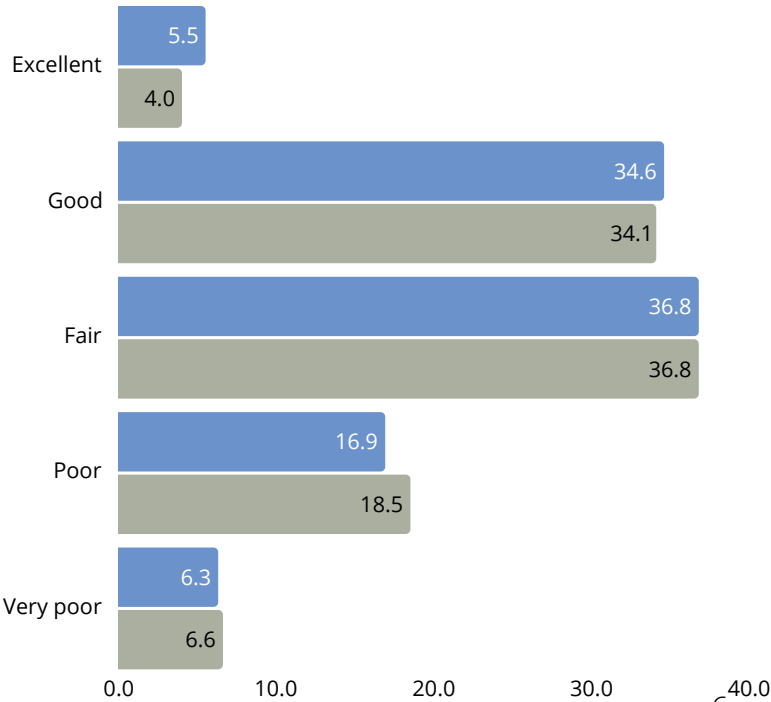
Income

Under \$90,000 Over \$90,000



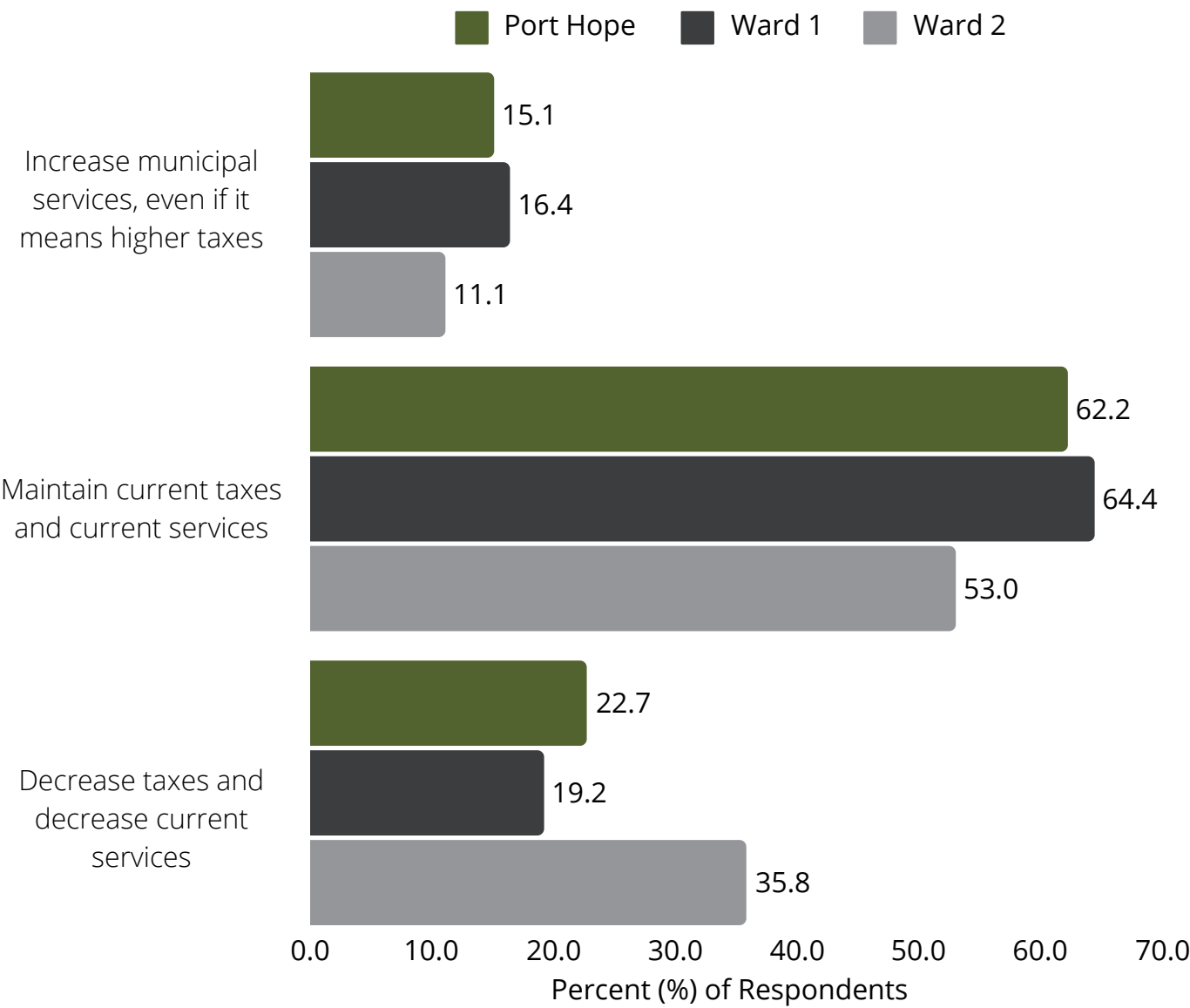
Time living in Port Hope

Less than 15 years 15 years or more



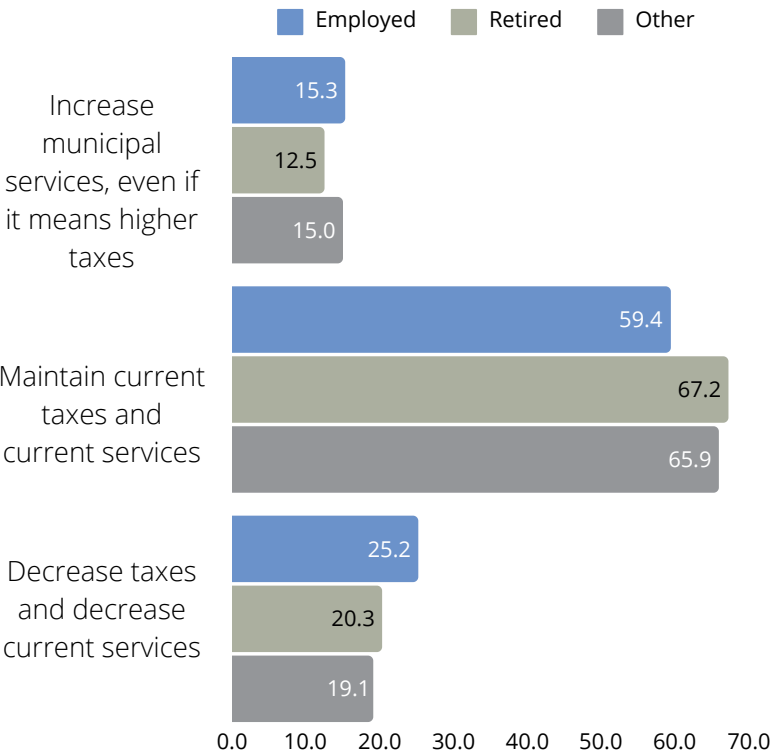
Tax Preferences

When considering the municipal budget, which statement best reflects your point of view?

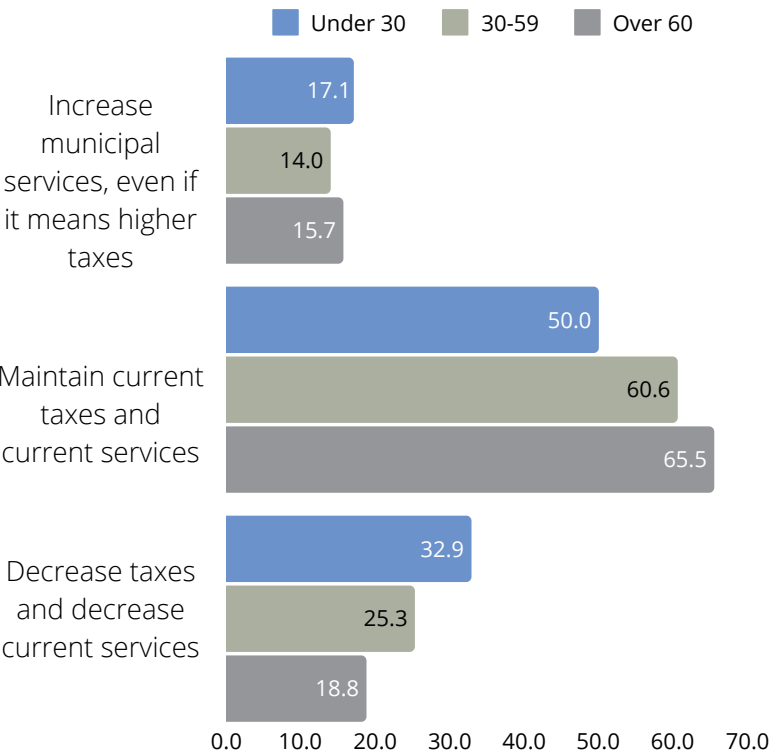


Tax Preferences

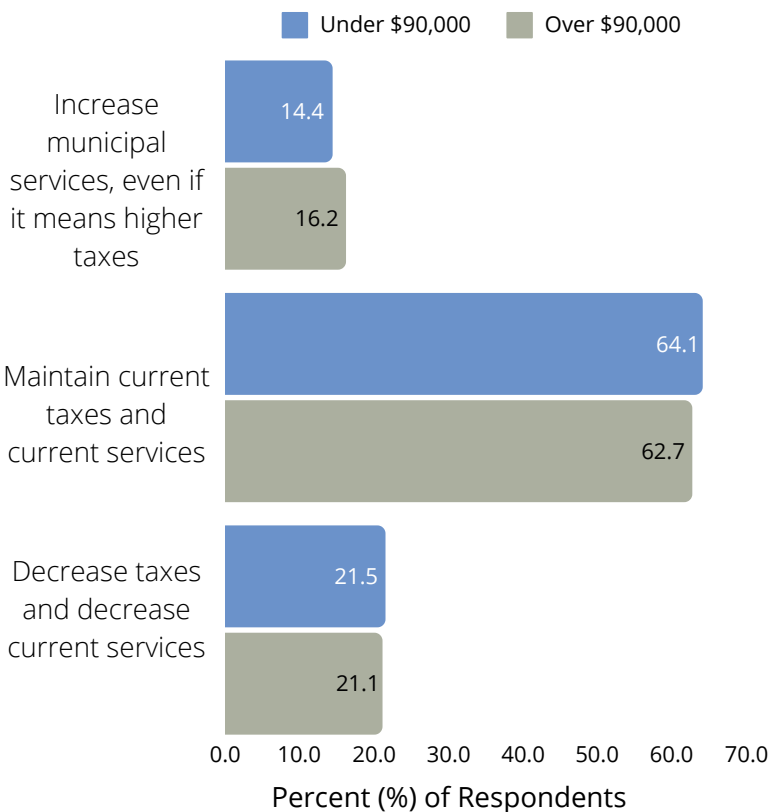
Employment



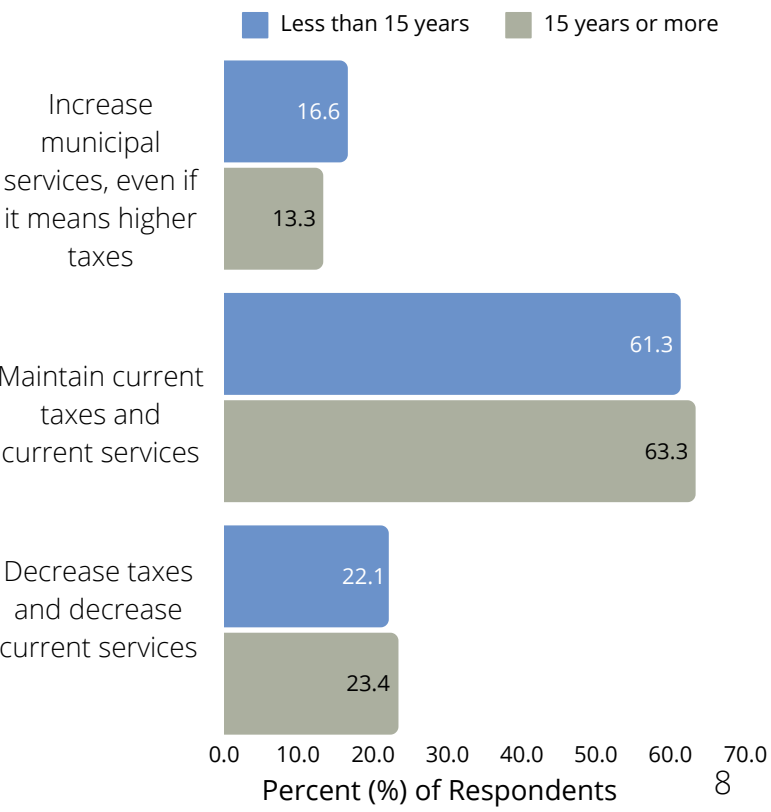
Age



Income

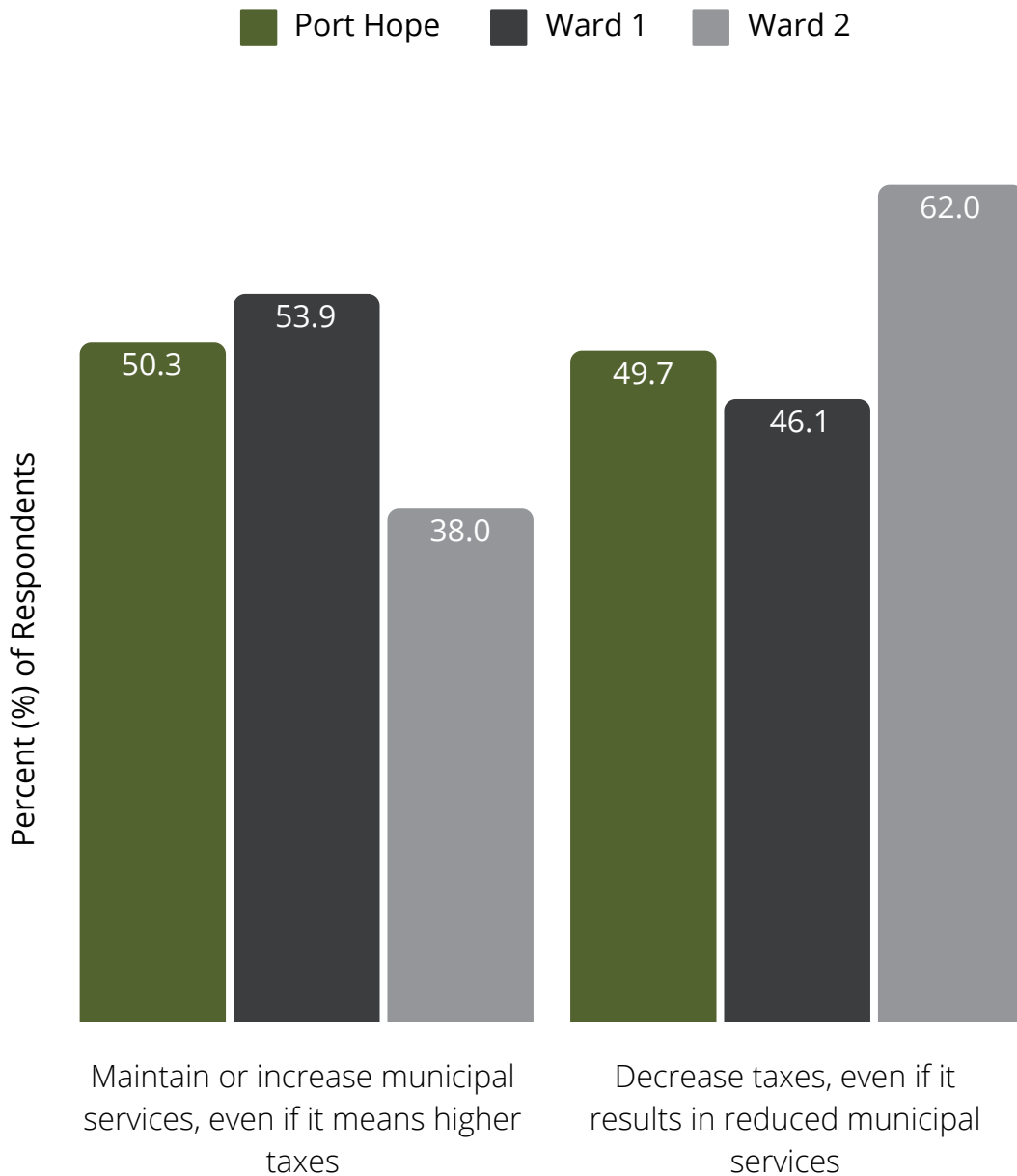


Time living in Port Hope



Higher or Lower?

Which of the following best reflects your point of view?

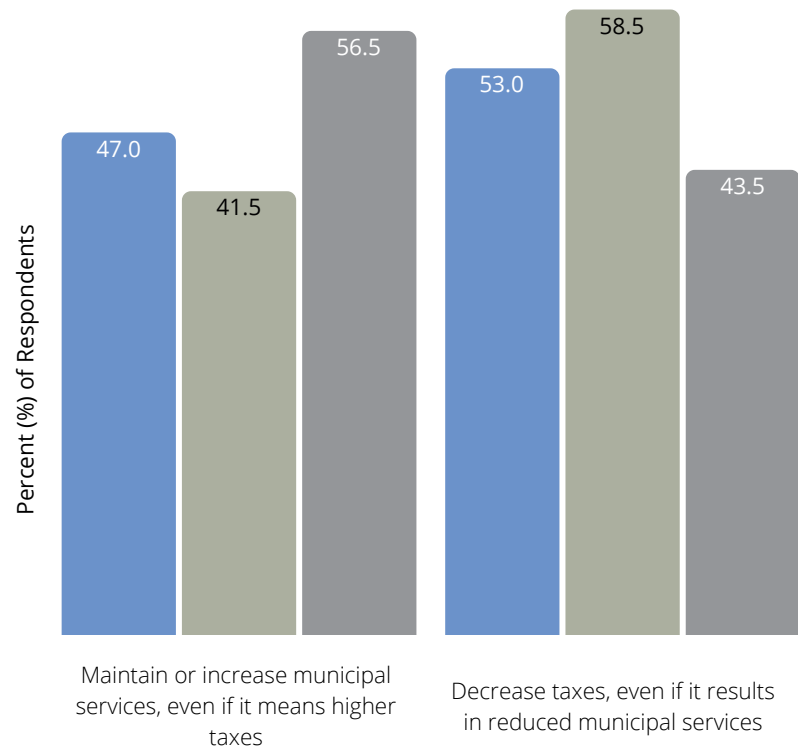


FURTHER ANALYSIS

Higher or Lower?

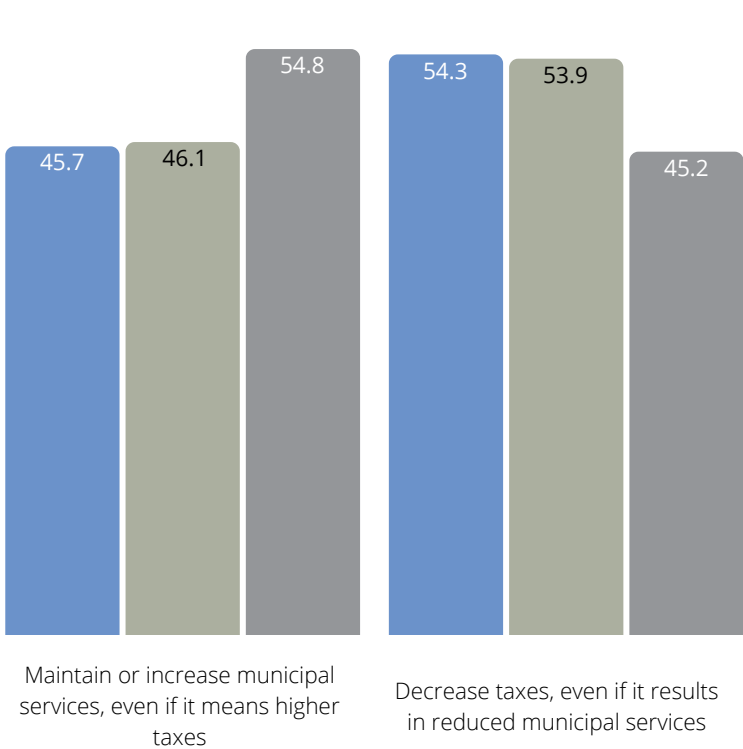
Employment

Employed Retired Other



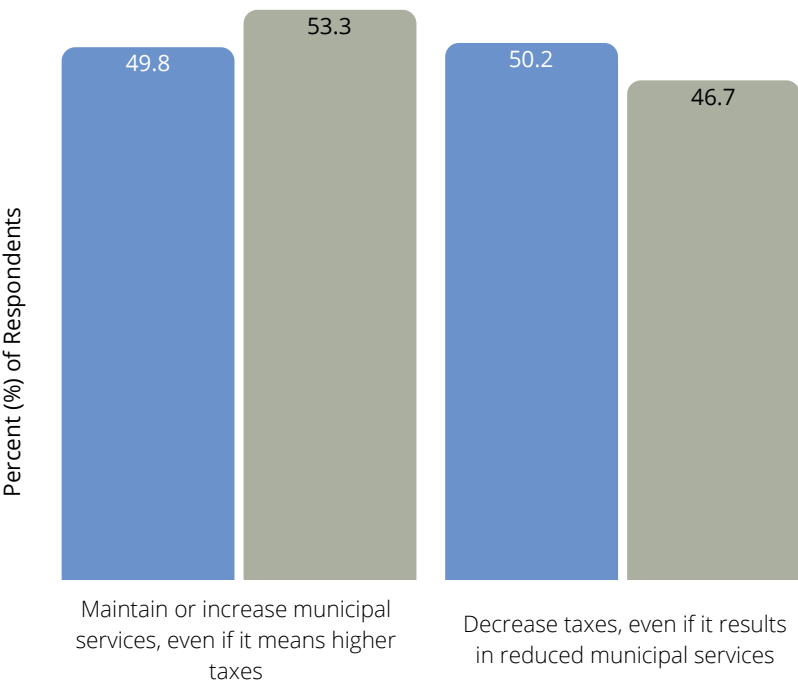
Age

Under 30 30-59 Over 60



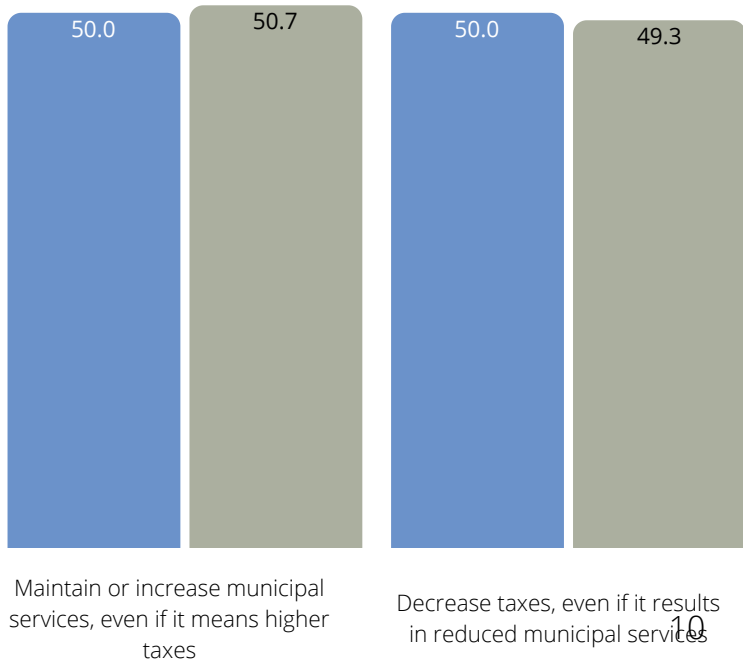
Income

Under \$90,000 Over \$90,000



Time living in Port Hope

Less than 15 years 15 years or more



Service-Level Satisfaction

How satisfied are you with the current delivery of the service below provided by the Municipality of Port Hope?

Service	Satisfied			Dissatisfied		
	Port Hope	Ward 1	Ward 2	Port Hope	Ward 1	Ward 2
Fire Services	73.8%	75.2%	68.3%	2.8%	2.2%	5.3%
Emergency Preparedness	45.7%	47.1%	40.4%	7%	6.4%	8.9%
Police Service	61.9%	65.7%	46.8%	15.6%	13.9%	22.1%
Accessibility-related services and facilities	39.5%	41.3%	32.3%	10%	9.4%	12.2%
Initiatives related to diversity and inclusiveness (at events, in municipal facilities, in municipal messaging, etc.)	44.8%	46.4%	38.9%	8.6%	7.9%	11.1%
Green spaces – parks, playgrounds	68%	70.9%	55.9%	16.4%	16.1%	18.9%
Recreational spaces – Ice surfaces, splash pads, swimming pool etc.	58.2%	60.4%	50%	15.7%	15.4%	17%
Road maintenance	54.2%	58.5%	36.4%	30.9%	26.3%	51.1%
Water and wastewater services	50.1%	57.1%	22%	18%	19%	14.1%
Municipal / municipally supported events (Santa Claus parade, Canada Day, Arts Festival, etc.)	75.4%	79.2%	65.5%	5%	4.8%	5.4%
Cleanliness (litter and graffiti)	74.6%	74.6%	61.8%	13.5%	13.2%	15.7%
Environmental protection and sustainability initiatives (i.e., pollinator gardens, LED streetlights, print reduction efforts, etc.)	45%	47.5%	35.1%	17.7%	17.3%	19.4%
Extreme weather preparedness, (emergency notification system, storm water systems, winter weather preparedness)	48.4%	50.3%	41%	11.4%	10.2%	15.8%
Building & permitting	18.3%	17.6%	17.6%	38.7%	36.8%	49.1%
Land use planning	21.5%	23.1%	14.3%	38.9%	36.4%	50.4%
Economic development (local business support and attraction)	38.2%	40.4%	28.5%	31%	31.1%	31%
Tourism sector development	45.7%	47.8%	38.4%	18.4%	18.1%	20.3%
Addressing housing issues	19.8%	20.7%	16.1%	43.9%	44.6%	43.2%
Accountable and Transparent decision-making process	34.6%	35.8%	29%	31.7%	28.8%	45.2%
Access to municipal staff services/members of Council	45.3%	46.2%	42.5%	17.8%	16.3%	23.6%
Open communication and community engagement	50.6%	52.2%	45%	22.9%	21.5%	29.8%
Transit	26.4%	27.9%	20.4%	20%	20.3%	18.3%
Sidewalks – winter maintenance	43.6%	45.8%	31.9%	31.4%	34.5%	20.8%
Climate Change Initiatives	22%	22.4%	20.2%	14.4%	14.1%	15.2%

>50% Decrease	30% - 50% Decrease	Maintain	30% - 50% Increase	>50% Increase
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WARD ANALYSIS

Budget Preferences

In your view, should the Municipality of Port Hope decrease, maintain, or increase the budget allocated to these services.

Service	Increase			Maintain			Decrease		
	Port Hope	Ward 1	Ward 2	Port Hope	Ward 1	Ward 2	Port Hope	Ward 1	Ward 2
Fire Services	11%	10.7%	12.2%	80.3%	81.2%	77.6%	2.6%	2.5%	2.8%
Emergency Preparedness	14.1%	13.5%	15.4%	65.7%	66.9%	62.6%	4.4%	3.8%	6.3%
Police Service	11.4%	10.4%	14.7%	65.4%	67.2%	58.4%	16.7%	16.3%	19.9%
Accessibility-related services and facilities	17.6%	18.3%	15%	62.1%	62.8%	59.1%	5.3%	5%	7.3%
Initiatives related to diversity and inclusiveness (at events, in municipal facilities, in municipal messaging, etc.)	8.7%	8.9%	8%	51.5%	53%	44.1%	26%	24%	35.3%
Green spaces – parks, playgrounds	28.6%	30.3%	21%	63.8%	63.4%	66.8%	4%	3.6%	5.6%
Recreational spaces – Ice surfaces, splash pads, swimming pool etc.	26.9%	28%	22.7%	63.4%	64%	61.9%	4.6%	3.8%	7.7%
Road maintenance	33.6%	30.2%	49.3%	61.5%	65.4%	44.4%	1.8%	1.3%	3.8%
Municipal / municipally supported events (Santa Claus parade, Canada Day, Arts Festival, etc.)	11.8%	12.7%	7.7%	73.7%	73.9%	74.5%	10.9%	10.4%	12.9%
Cleanliness (litter and graffiti)	17.4%	17.2%	18.5%	75.8%	77%	71.7%	2.8%	2.5%	3.5%
Environmental protection and sustainability initiatives (i.e., pollinator gardens, LED streetlights, print reduction efforts, etc.)	24.3%	26.4%	16.1%	53.5%	54.4%	50%	13.5%	11.6%	22.4%
Extreme weather preparedness, (emergency notification system, storm water systems, winter weather preparedness)	16.5%	16.3%	16.8%	64.2%	65.2%	60.8%	5.5%	4.8%	8.4%
Land use planning	27.1%	27.1%	26.9%	42.7%	43.6%	39.2%	9.9%	9%	14%
Economic development (local business support and attraction)	39.7%	41.1%	34.3%	46.6%	46.2%	47.9%	6.5%	6%	9.1%
Tourism sector development	23.5%	25%	18.2%	52.5%	53.7%	48.3%	16.5%	14.8%	23.4%
Addressing housing issues	48.6%	50.4%	43.2%	28.7%	28.8%	28.6%	9.9%	8.8%	14.3%
Open communication and community engagement	32.5%	32.6%	33.6%	54.3%	55.3%	50.2%	4.8%	3.7%	8.7%
Transit	20.7%	21.8%	15.4%	57%	57.1%	57%	8%	7.6%	10.8%
Sidewalks – winter maintenance	33%	37.2%	18.3%	57.6%	57.2%	58%	2.6%	1.3%	7.7%
Climate Change Initiatives	18.8%	20%	14.7%	43.8%	45.2%	37.9%	22.6%	19.7%	34%

>50% Oppose	30% - 50% Oppose	Maintain	30% - 50% Support	>50% Support
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WARD ANALYSIS

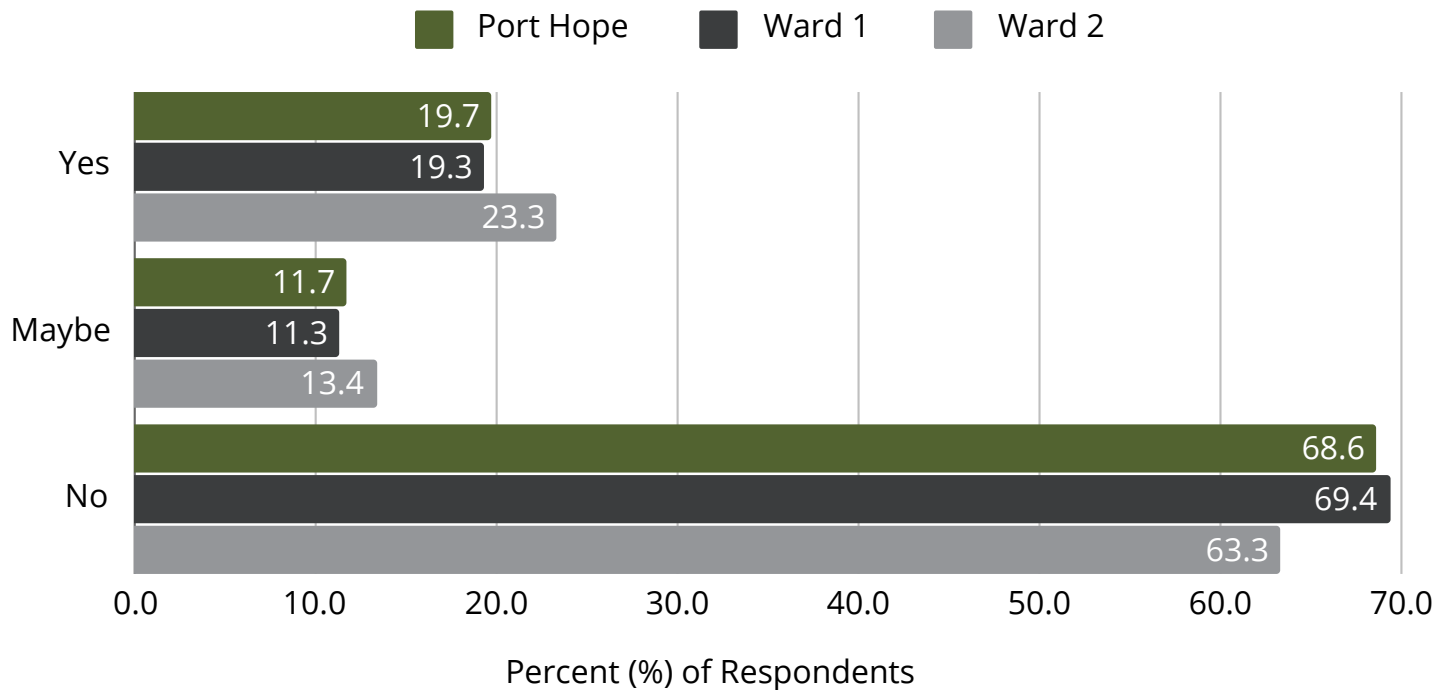
Investment Preferences

The Municipality invests in various infrastructure projects, including improving assets, building or acquiring new assets or maintaining current assets. How important is it to you that we invest in the following infrastructure categories?

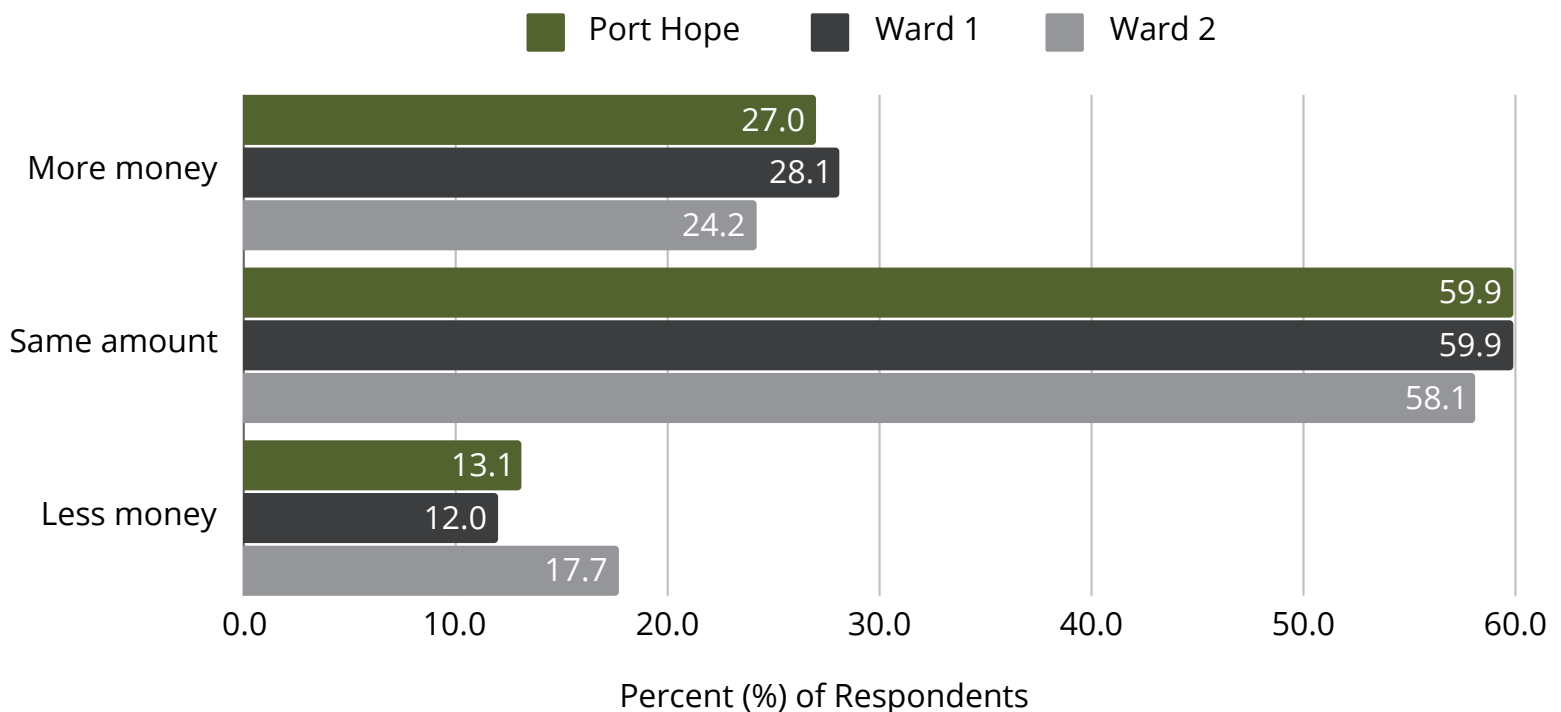
Project	Location	Not at all Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
Buildings and facilities (includes recreation)	Port Hope	4.1%	13.5%	38.9%	35.8%	7.7%
	Ward 1	3.1%	12%	39.2%	37.5%	8.3%
	Ward 2	7.8%	19.1%	36.5%	30.9%	5.7%
Roads	Port Hope	0.8%	7.8%	28%	50.5%	13%
	Ward 1	0.9%	8.2%	28.4%	51.1%	11.4%
	Ward 2	0.4%	7.1%	27%	46.5%	19.1%
Sidewalks	Port Hope	3.6%	12%	31.3%	41.1%	12.1%
	Ward 1	1.4%	10.3%	29.9%	45.3%	13.1%
	Ward 2	12.1%	19.3%	37.1%	23.9%	7.5%
Bike lanes	Port Hope	32.3%	26.2%	24.1%	12.1%	5.3%
	Ward 1	30.4%	26.5%	25.6%	12%	5.6%
	Ward 2	39.1%	26.1%	20.4%	10.9%	3.5%
Parks and playgrounds	Port Hope	3.3%	15.8%	36.4%	33.1%	11.3%
	Ward 1	2.6%	14.4%	36.6%	34.6%	11.9%
	Ward 2	6.4%	22.1%	37.4%	25.3%	8.9%
Public transit	Port Hope	9.6%	25.4%	34.3%	23.8%	6.9%
	Ward 1	7.6%	25.3%	34.4%	25.3%	7.4%
	Ward 2	18.5%	27.8%	32%	17.1%	4.6%
Equipment	Port Hope	3.5%	18.5%	47.5%	26.3%	4.3%
	Ward 1	3.4%	18.5%	47.2%	26.3%	4.6%
	Ward 2	3.9%	18.3%	48%	26.9%	2.9%
Technology for municipal operations (cyber security, accessibility)	Port Hope	5%	19.7%	35.3%	30.5%	9.4%
	Ward 1	4.4%	18.4%	35.1%	32.5%	9.5%
	Ward 2	7.5%	25.7%	35.4%	22.5%	8.9%
Customer Service	Port Hope	3.7%	14.8%	35.8%	33.1%	12.6%
	Ward 1	3.1%	13.8%	36.1%	33.5%	13.6%
	Ward 2	5.7%	19.2%	35.2%	31%	8.9%
Climate Change Initiatives	Port Hope	20.4%	22.1%	27.4%	21.8%	8.3%
	Ward 1	18.6%	21.6%	29.4%	21.5%	8.9%
	Ward 2	28%	23.8%	20.2%	22%	6%

Infrastructure gap

Are you aware that the Municipality of Port Hope has a \$9M asset replacement deficit annually, known as an infrastructure gap?



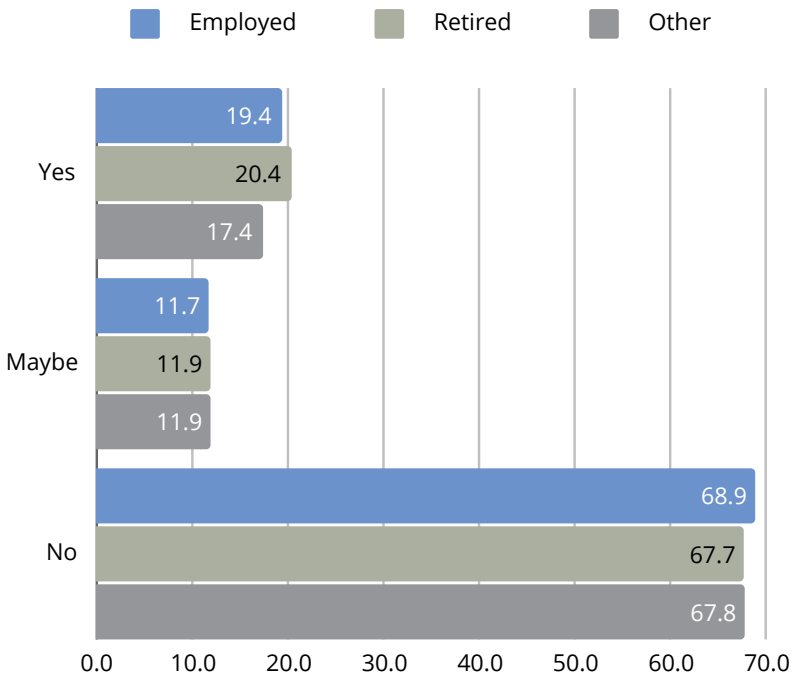
Do you think Port Hope should invest more money in our Asset Management Plan to close the infrastructure gap?



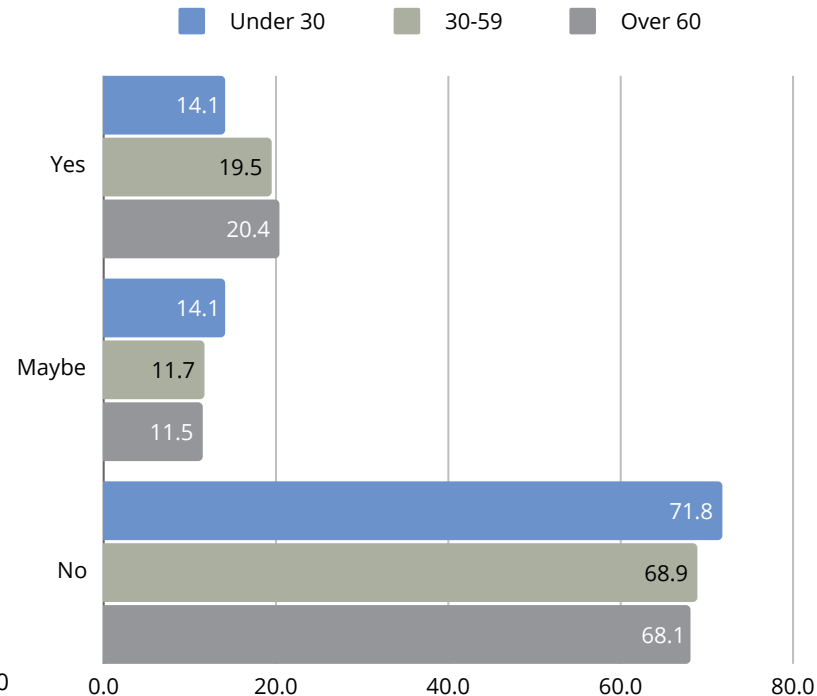
Infrastructure Gap

Are you aware that the Municipality of Port Hope has a \$9M asset replacement deficit annually, known as an infrastructure gap?

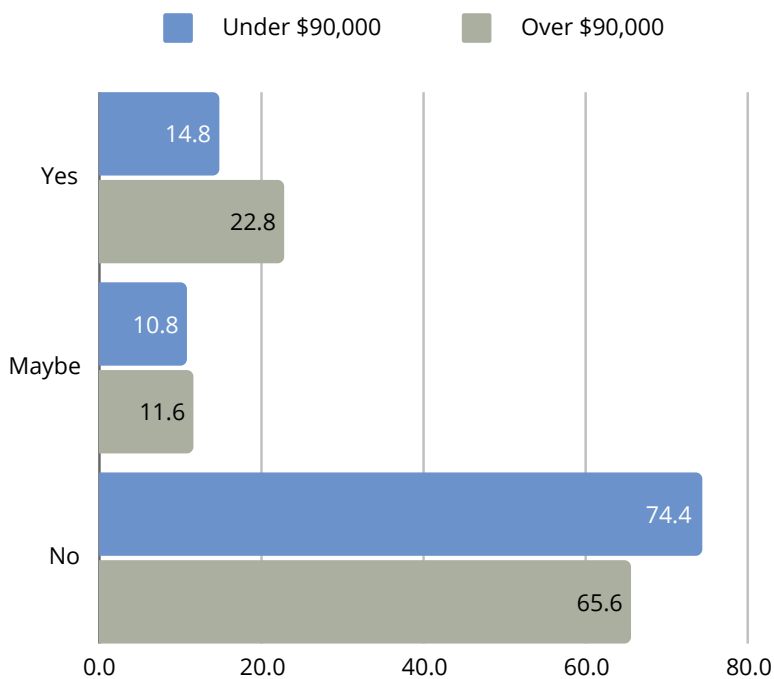
Employment



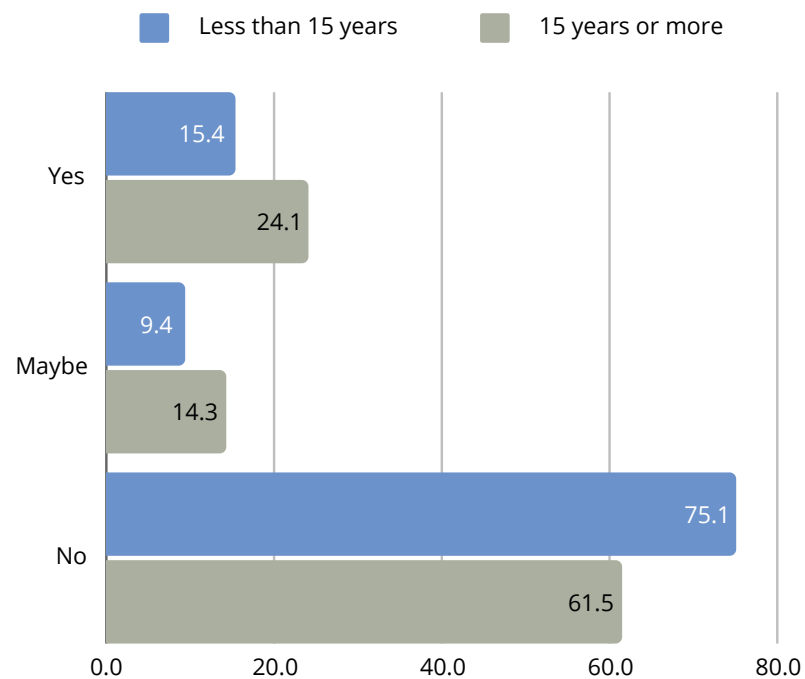
Age



Income



Time living in Port Hope



Percent (%) of Respondents

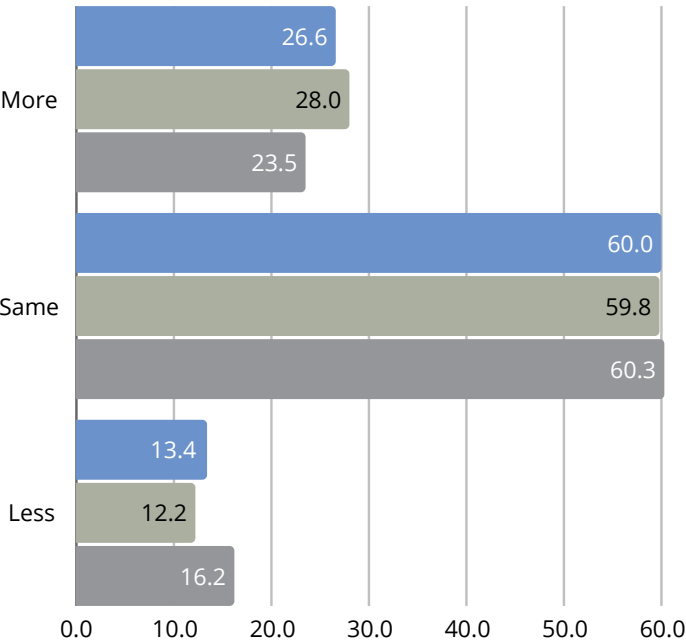
Percent (%) of Respondents

Infrastructure Gap

Do you think Port Hope should invest more money in our Asset Management Plan to close the infrastructure gap?

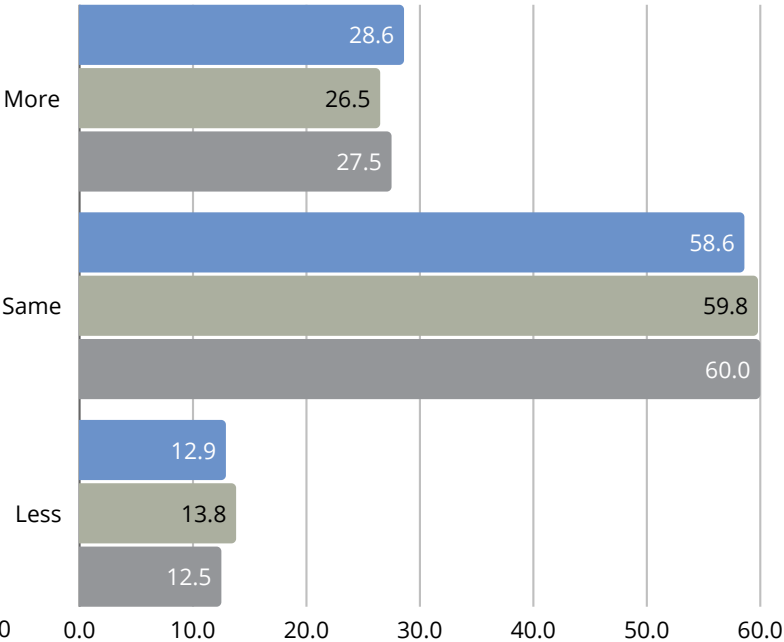
Employment

Employed Retired Other



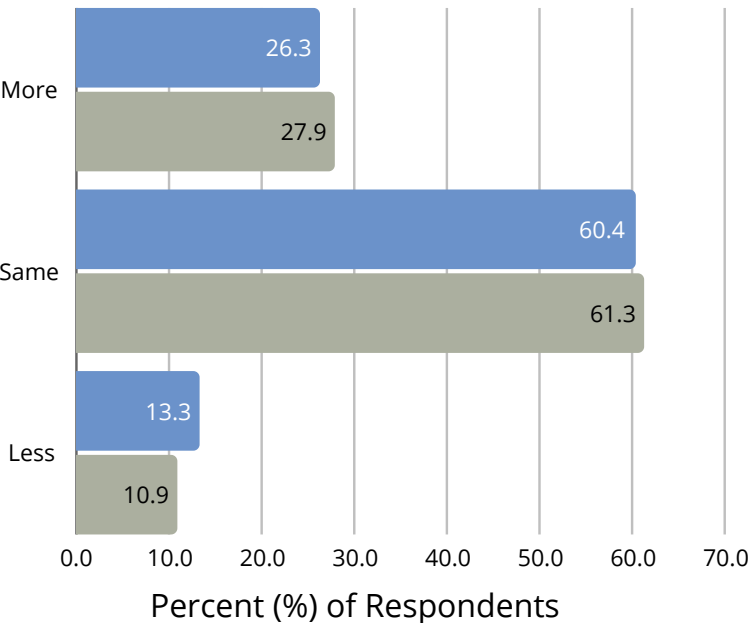
Age

Under 30 30-59 Over 60



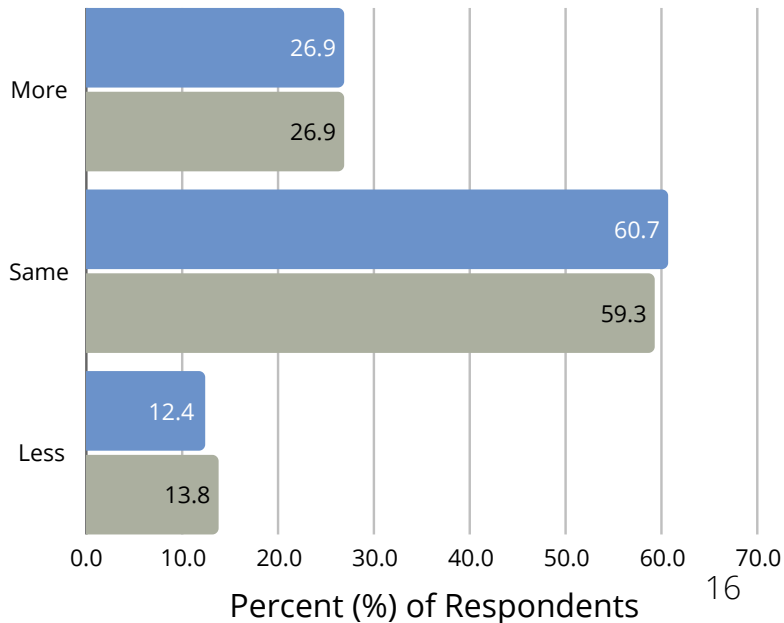
Income

Under \$90,000 Over \$90,000



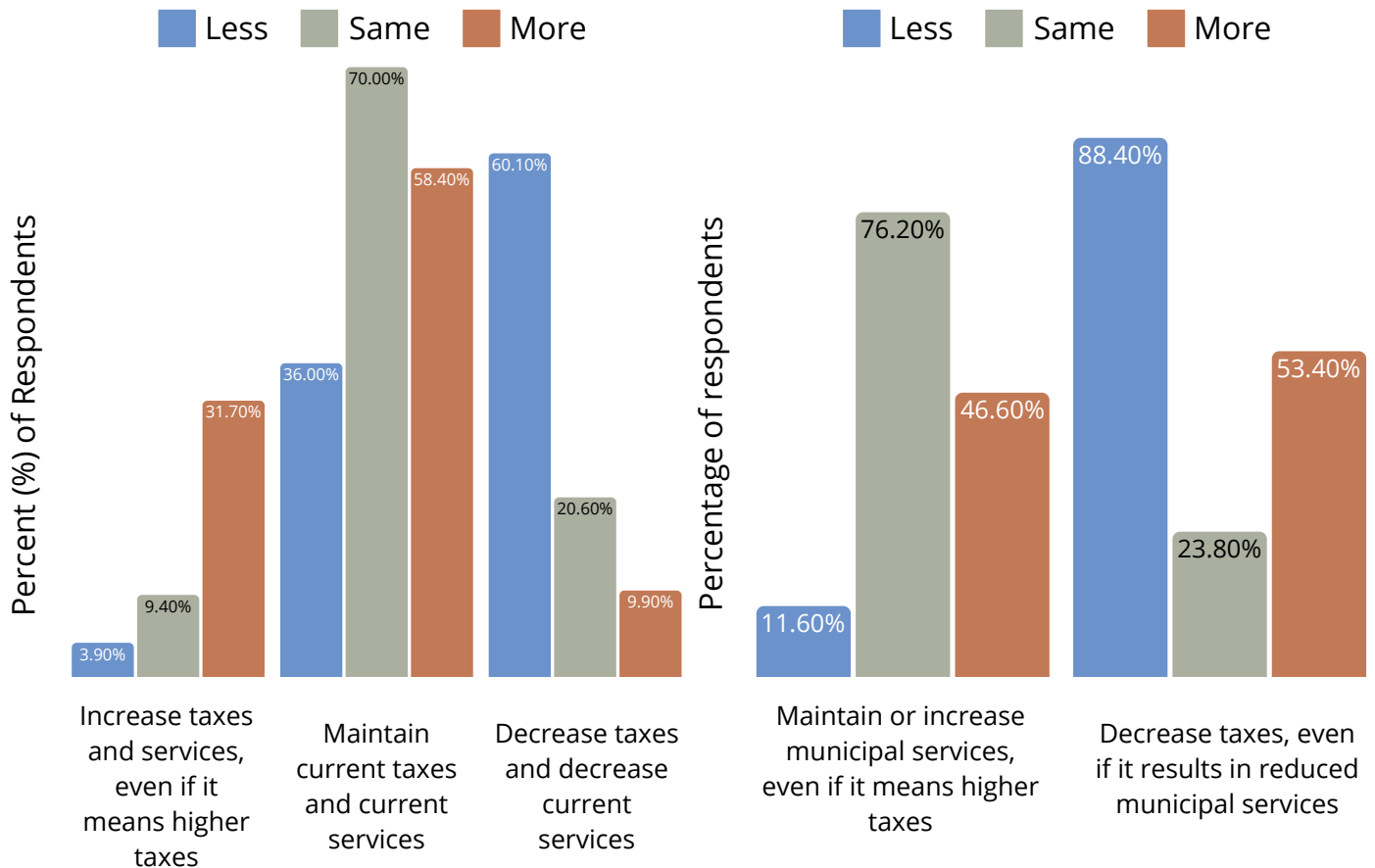
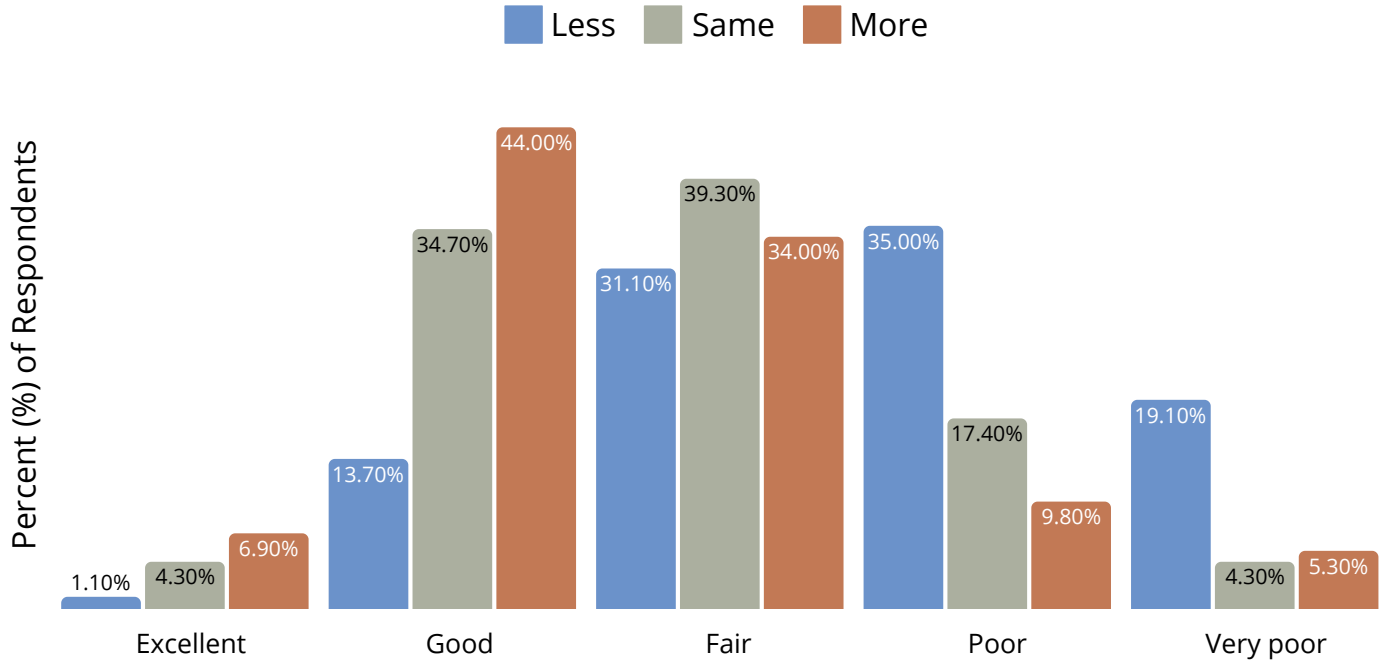
Time living in Port Hope

Less than 15 years 15 years or more

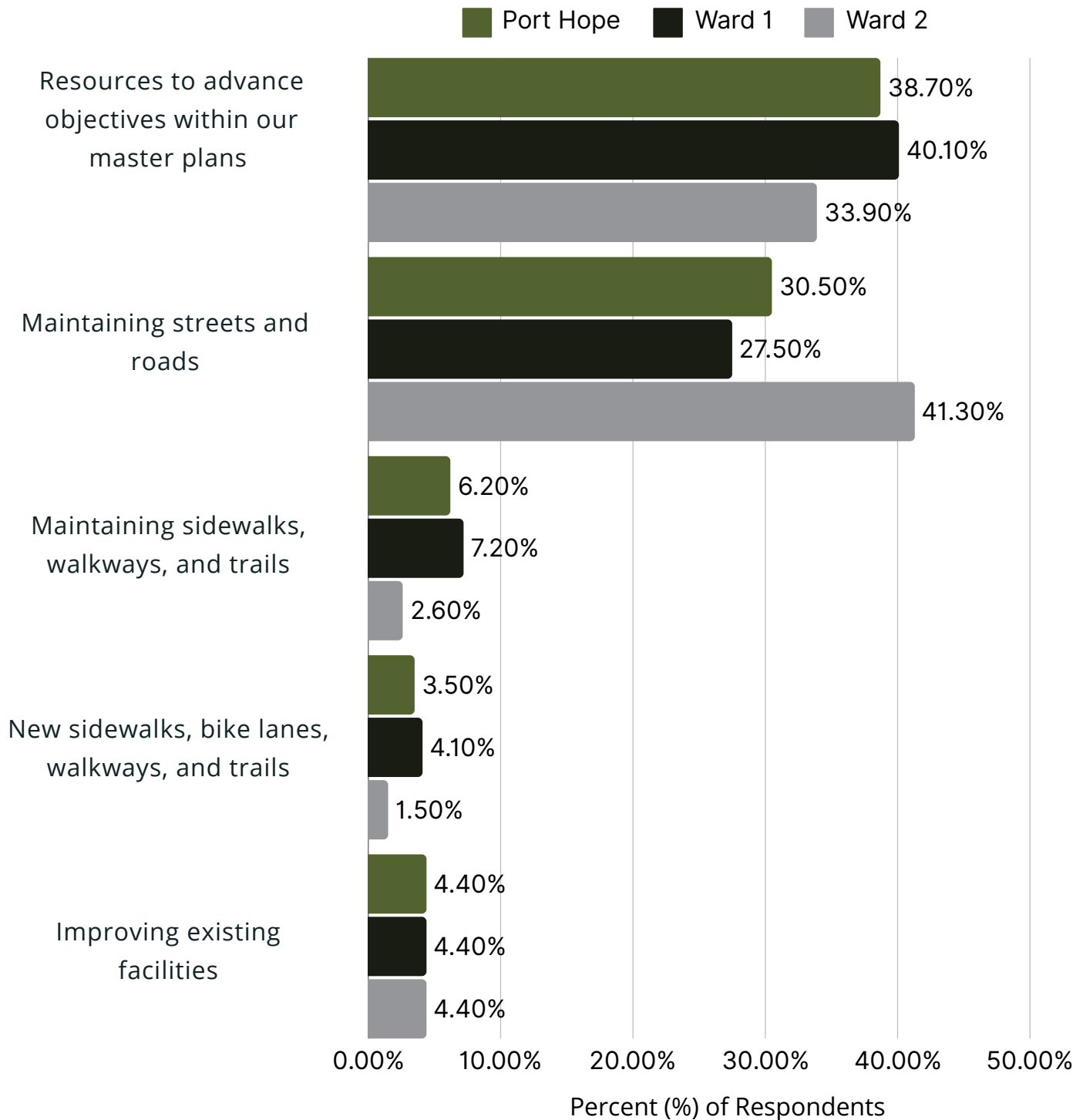


Infrastructure Gap and Tax Preferences

How much should Port Hope invest in the Asset Management Plan to close the infrastructure gap?



Top 5 Most Important Projects



Most Important Projects

Percent of respondents ranking each issue as...

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6 or more
Resources to advance objectives within our master plans	39%	12%	9%	7%	7%	26%
Maintaining streets and roads	31%	31%	14%	8%	6%	9%
Maintaining sidewalks, walkways, and trails	6%	23%	29%	16%	10%	15%
New sidewalks, bike lanes, walkways, and trails	3%	5%	8%	20%	12%	50%
Improving existing facilities	4%	8%	12%	16%	23%	37%
Renewing outdoor recreational facilities	4%	4%	7%	11%	13%	60%
Technology to improve service delivery and customer service	1%	3%	5%	6%	6%	79%
Cyber Security	3%	4%	4%	4%	5%	77%
Programming arts and cultural activities	1%	2%	4%	4%	7%	82%
Public transit	3%	3%	5%	5%	6%	78%
Climate Change Initiatives	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	84%

“...enhancing infrastructure, improving public transportation, helping local businesses and attract new residents. Additionally, fostering community engagement in planning processes can help ensure that development meets the needs of all citizens.”

— Man, 20s, Ward 2

“Build more playgrounds, better use of green space. Add a paved area for road hockey; or basketball at the Hewson park in the peacock blvd neighbourhood, add sidewalks rather than bike lanes in the peacock blvd neighbourhood... Many vehicles do not stop at the stop signs, having no sidewalks makes for a very unsafe community for children especially with a school close by.”

— Woman, 30s, Ward 1 19

Most Important Projects

Ward 1

Percent of respondent
ranking each issue as...

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Resources to advance objectives within our master plan	40%	11%	9%	7%	6%
Maintaining streets and roads	28%	32%	14%	8%	7%
Maintaining sidewalks, walkways, and trails	7%	24%	29%	16%	11%
New sidewalks, bike lanes, walkways, and trails	4%	5%	9%	20%	12%
Improving existing facilities	4%	8%	11%	16%	22%
Renewing outdoor recreational facilities	4%	4%	8%	11%	13%
Technology to improve service delivery and customer service	1%	3%	4%	6%	5%
Cyber Security	3%	4%	4%	4%	6%
Programming arts and cultural activities	1%	3%	5%	4%	8%
Public transit	3%	3%	5%	5%	6%
Climate Change Initiatives	5%	3%	3%	3%	3%

Ward 2

Percent of respondent
ranking each issue as...

	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Resources to advance objectives within our master plans	34%	20%	10%	7%	7%
Maintaining streets and roads	41%	29%	13%	7%	3%
Maintaining sidewalks, walkways, and trails	3%	17%	31%	18%	10%
New sidewalks, bike lanes, walkways, and trails	2%	4%	7%	20%	11%
Improving existing facilities	4%	8%	15%	16%	23%
Renewing outdoor recreational facilities	4%	6%	5%	11%	13%
Technology to improve service delivery and customer service	2%	4%	7%	7%	9%
Cyber Security	3%	5%	4%	5%	5%
Programming arts and cultural activities	1%	1%	3%	3%	4%
Public transit	2%	3%	5%	5%	7%
Climate Change Initiatives	4%	4%	3%	3%	2%

Service awareness

We are interested in knowing which of our services you are familiar with. Below are some services that the Municipality of Port Hope does provide, and some services that Municipality of Port Hope does NOT provide. Please click on the services below that you are aware that Municipality of Port Hope provides.

