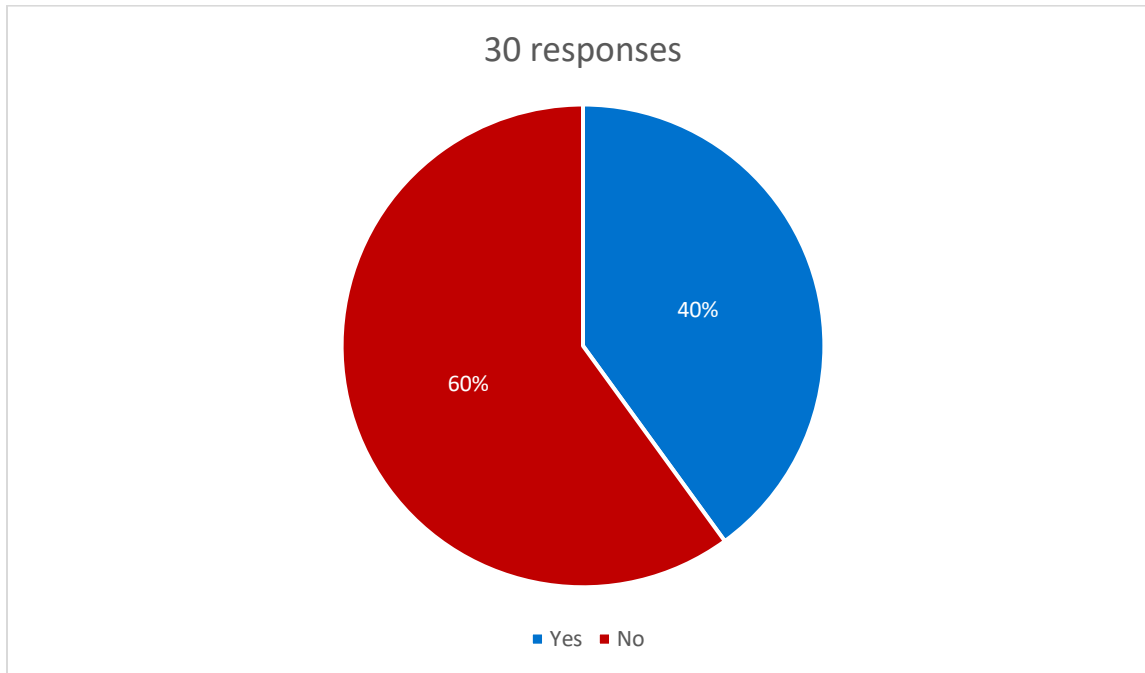


# COPEWELL Self-Assessment

30 responses

**Do residents of all income levels have easy access to food options that are affordable, fresh and healthy?**



Thoughts on this?

16 responses

I say that because with regard to all income levels and neighborhoods that more heavily represent lower income levels specifically in Duluth tend to experience food deserts or the options available are not necessarily affordable, fresh, or healthy.

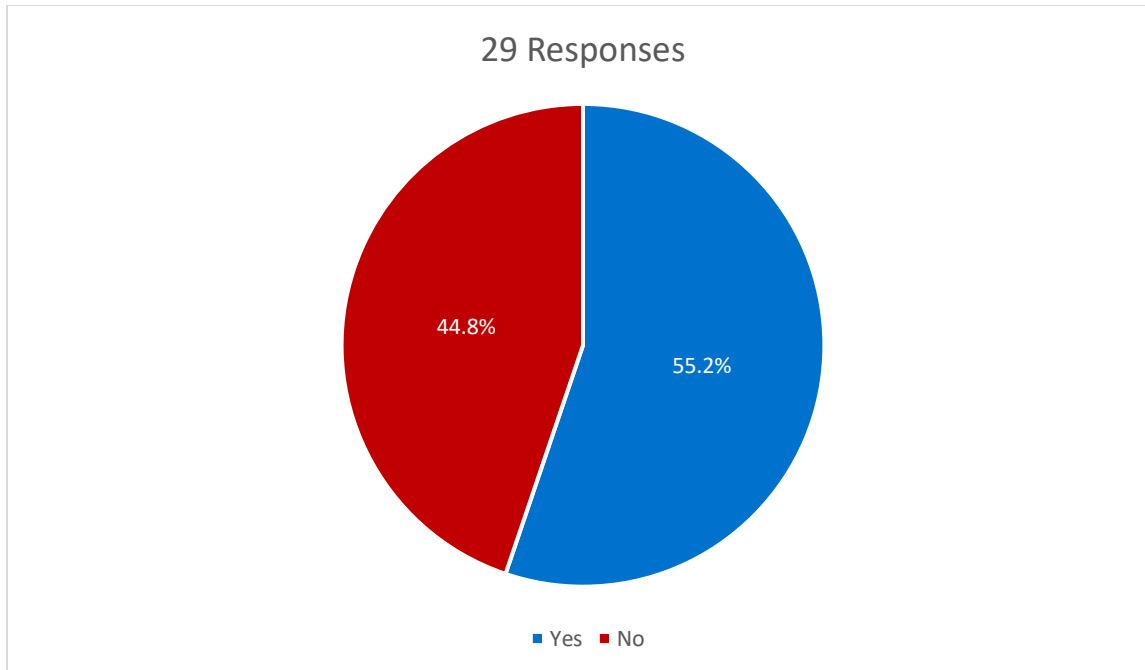
Much work has been done on this issue and progress has been made. We need to keep supporting these efforts and

I'm a lawyer so it is hard to say yes with literal words like ALL. I would say most people. My impression is that there are service providers that provide free or affordable food. I don't know how fresh or healthy the food is but I feel like the Duluth community values that and it is growing.

We specifically focus on housing, working with people who are at risk for homelessness but most people have access to food shelves or SNAP shelters. If people need assistance they can usually get it.

My answer would be no. We have a lot of food deserts especially in this end of town (Icicle park)

## Do most people believe that they live in a safe, secure, and affordable housing?



### Thoughts on this?

18 responses

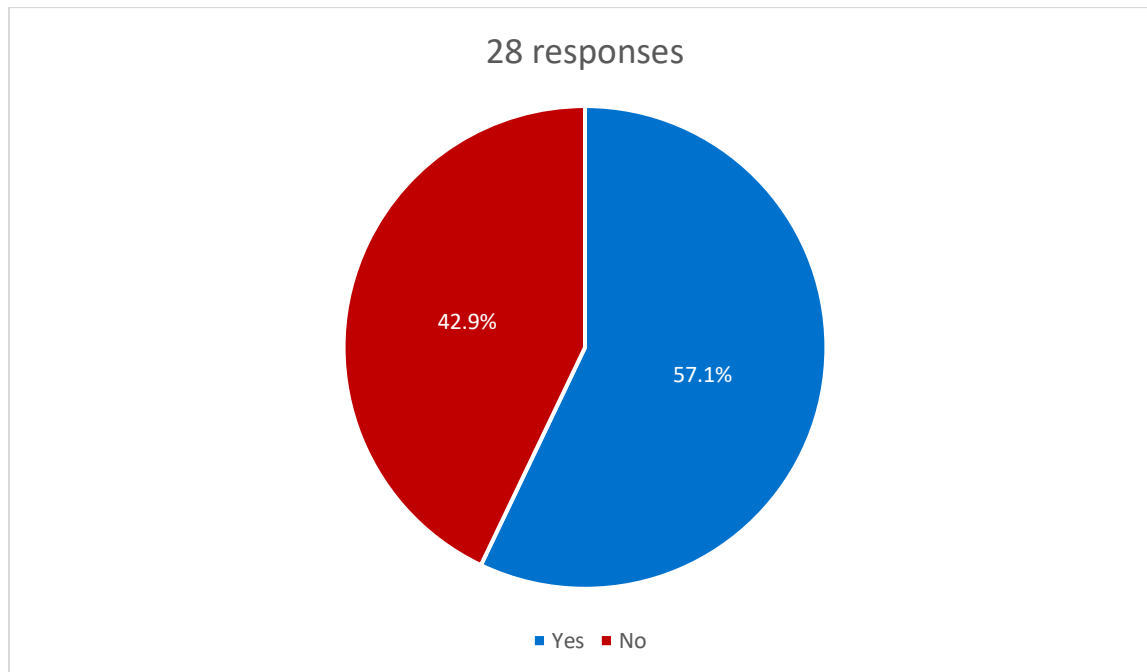
I am going to say no or a few reasons. With regards to renter household 40% of Duluth, I believe that the ratio of renter to owner is 40% renter. That is very high percentage. Right now the rental market in particular is very tight and there is a low vacancy rate which leads to a market that is expensive because demand is high and supply is low. The housing stock is very old and many homes are 100+ years old so they need a lot of maintenance. Whether or not the living space is terribly secure or healthy can be difficult. Not all but this is trends.

On the ownership side the housing stock is still old so there are more expensive maintenance and repair costs and the home prices are trending upwards. That is good in terms of having a stable market that is not in a down turn or recession but it causes a situation where it becomes less affordable to actually achieve homeownership. Income is not rising along with home prices. The more barriers someone has (low income, children, disability, etc) it is harder and harder.

Most people not all

yes-- but there continue to be too many in our community who don't have a safe, secure and affordable home. This is a high priority for our community to address.

## Do people believe that segregation is an issue in the community?



### Thoughts on this?

18 responses

IN my opmion yes. I would say that. I think it again correlates to higher concentration of lower income. We have a relativley small population of households of color. The city of DULuth breaks down the statistics of each neighborhood and found that 9% of the population are peope of color. They dispaortionatley represent lower income or live in lower income areas such as lincoln park, west duluth, etc. The housing options are less favorable in those areas and there will eb less acces to healthy food.

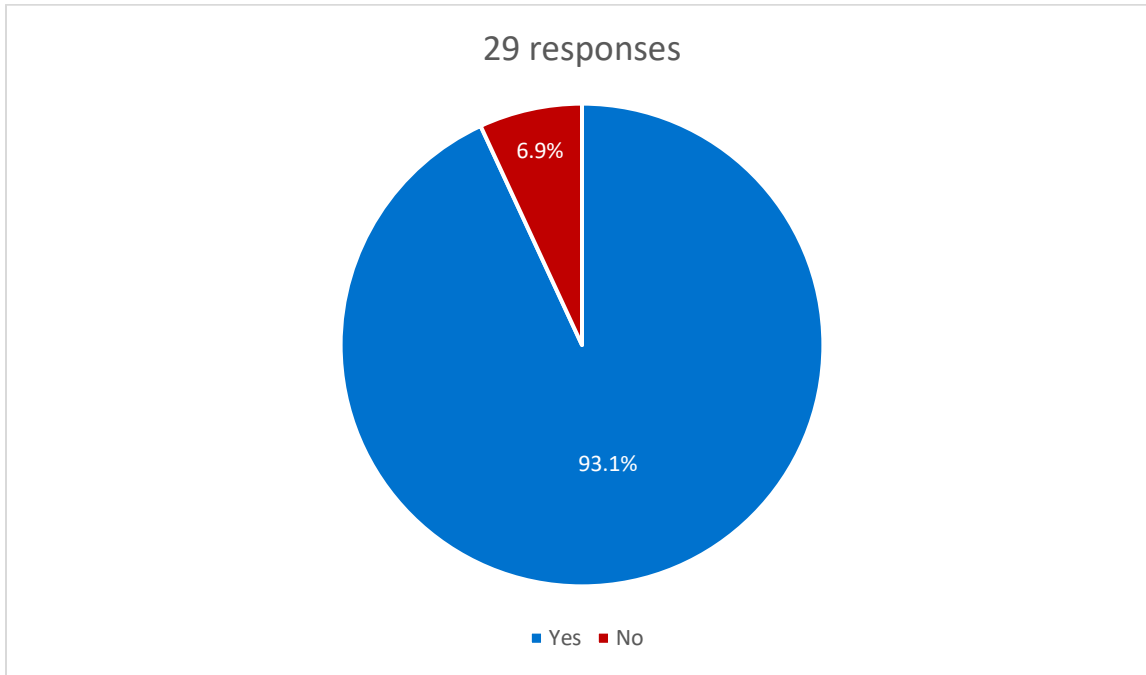
We have areas of our community where there is a high level of poverty which tend to be where there is also a concentration of people of color with poverty incomes living there. I would say that we do have concentrations of poverty in some key housing developments, neighborhoods, and schools.

I think there is segregation in class, and race, and definetly segregation between the native american population and the cuacasion population. There is less people of color. There are more native americans then any individual considered a person of color.

There is a correlation between poverty and race and where one lives in teh community.

Duluth is pretty welcoming to people of other cultures race gender identities. There are still people that are narrow minded but duluth compared to other places is pretty

**Are clean water supplies and adequate sewage capacity regularly available to people, independent of their neighborhood or zip code?**



**Thoughts on this?**

11 responses

At least from my understanding. I am not aware of their beign any difference in water sources or quality form neighborhood to beighborhoo and the same wit sewage but I also know very littel abotu taht toipic.

This is an area that our community has invested a great deal of planning, study, money and commitment to addressing. The western neighborhoods were plagued by both brownfields and Areas of Concern that we are making great progress in cleaning up.

I think so. Obviously when the floods happened that was a bit of an issue.

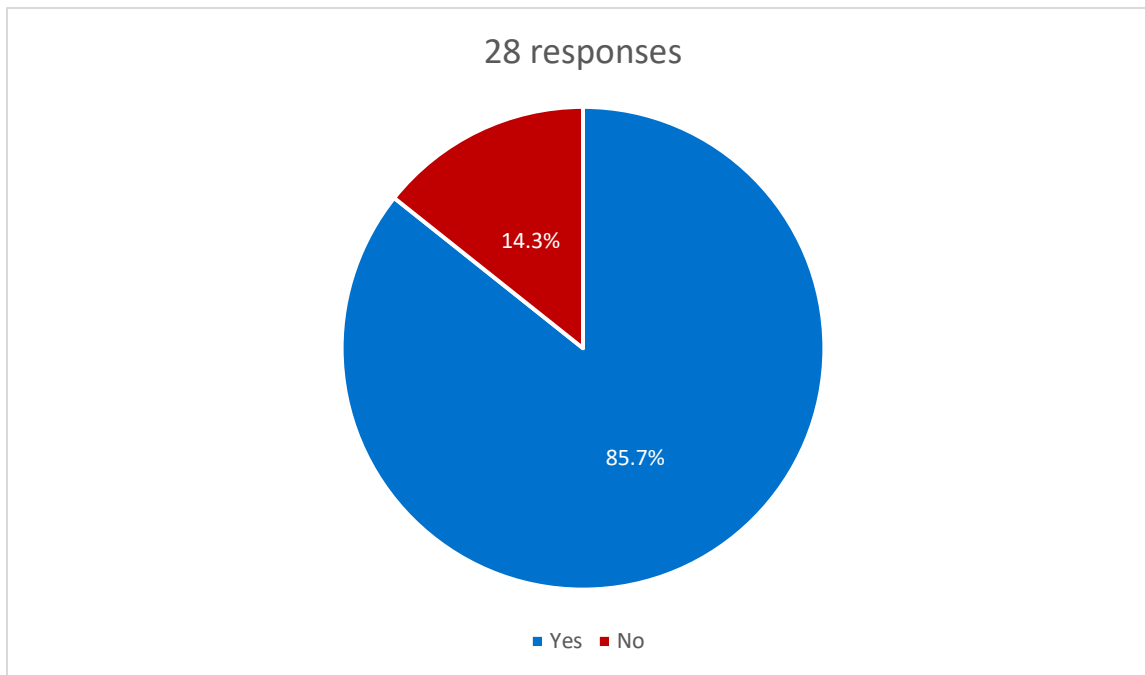
I havent heard of it being an issue but I dont really work with it much

I would think yes.

Substandard Housing

I dont know

## Do residents feel that the schools are vital and active components of their community?



### Thoughts on this?

16 responses

I think kmost people feel that the quality of their schools in their community have a huge impact on tehir quality of life and the health of the community overall.

Which residents? Which schools? You would need to conduct a survey of residents to get the percentage that feel this.

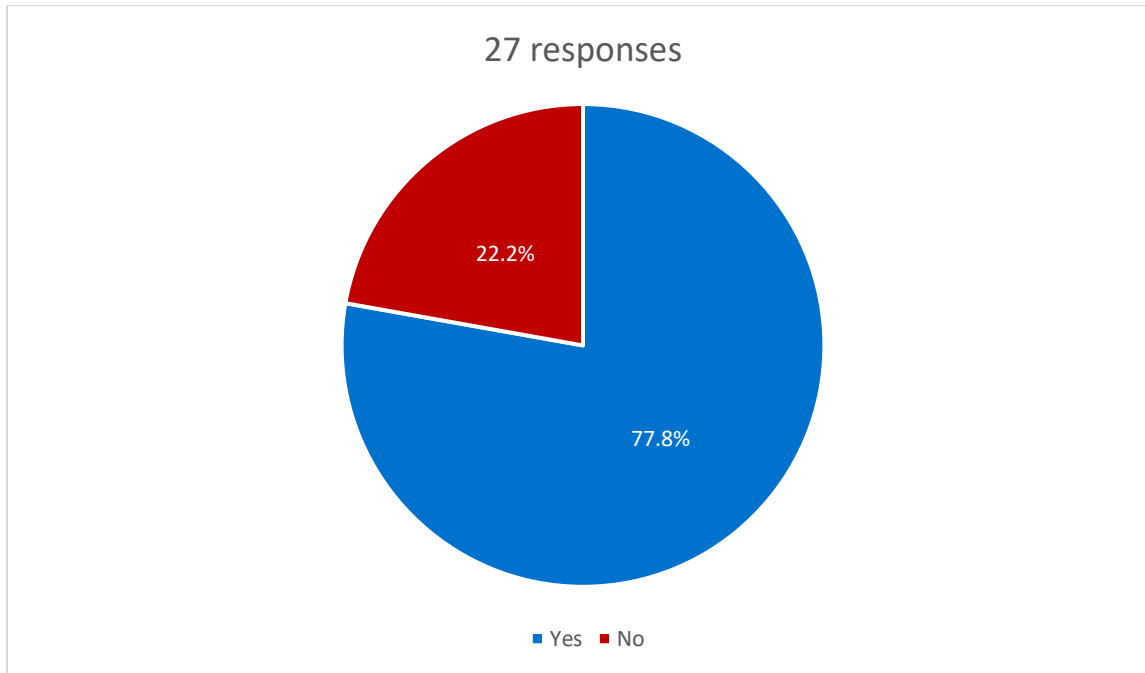
But it is uneven with a stronger sense of and belief in the quality of our schools in the eastern neighborhoods which tend to be populated by higher income people.

most of our families want their children to have opportunities that htey didnt have and they see school as a wau to do that so I feel pretty positive abotu the role school has in our community as well as opportunities for adults to omprive their education. breakfast lunch or after school programs are also offered.

I would say in duluth yes

I know the local schools try to be so probably yes. Duulth is a big college town and universities feed a lot of our economy.

## Are residents involved in school-related events or matters?



### Thoughts on this?

17 responses

It may be related to my own social sphere but people generally seem to be invested by what is going on with their local school.

Again... this question is too vague to be meaningful. Certainly some residents are some are not.

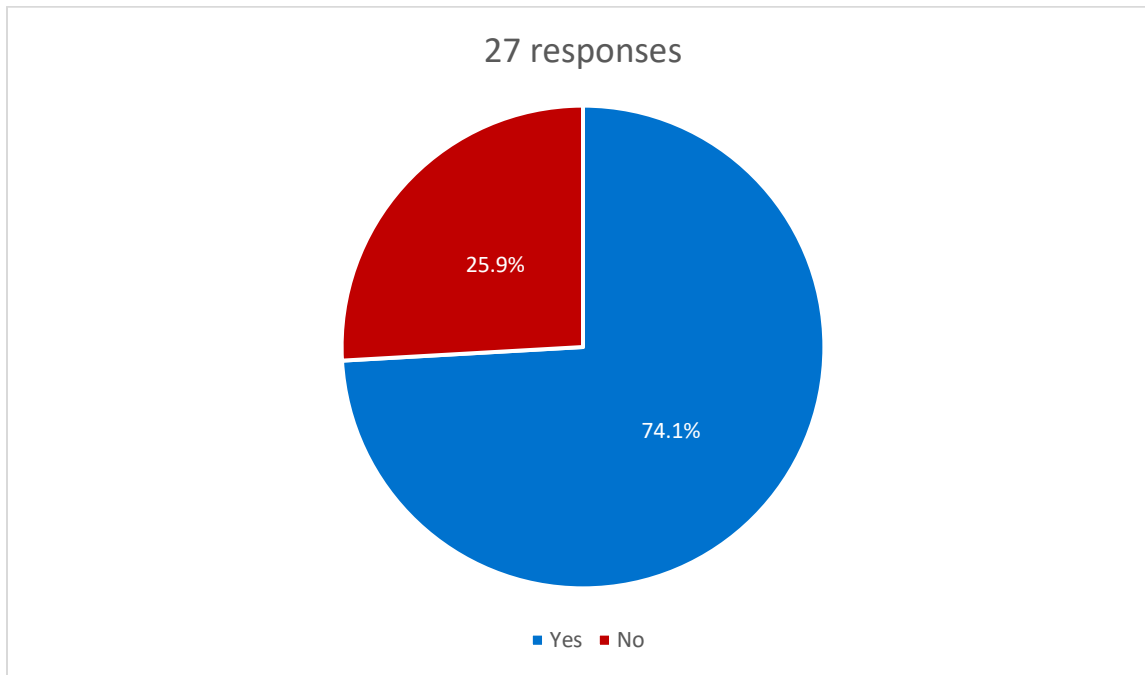
it depends- some are and some aren't but one important resource we have is full service community schools in the Hillside/downtown, Lincoln Park, West Duluth and further western neighborhoods.

I think the ones that have kids in school or had kids in school do. So a significant number of residents do.

we always have people talking about what their kids are doing with school. we get a lot of questions on how kids go on to college affect their housing

When they have kids in the school system yes

## Do students, teachers/staff, and parents feel that they have good quality, safe schools?



### Thoughts on this?

16 responses

No only because i have to pick yes or no. Otherwise it depends on teh neighborhood whether or nto they feel that their schools are high quality and safe. I think most of us wish that more money was being put into schools to provide beter curriculum and it seems like schools can never be safe enough.

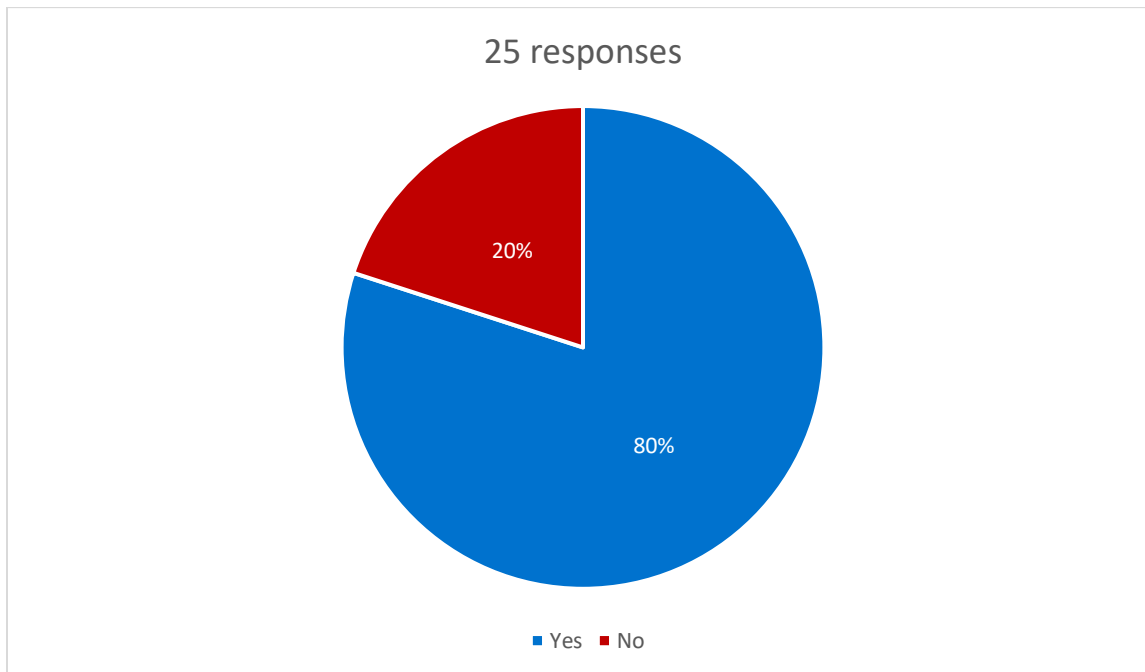
I wish they broke it out differently. The students teachers and staff feel differently. The staff would say that it is sfafe (probably) students some will say yes some will say no and same for the teachers. A deeper dive in this qeustion would get different results.

Of which district? As a parent in my children's school district, I would say yes, but I can't speak for students or teachers, nor can I speak for what's happening in other school districts.

not all do- see above re: uneven belief in the quality of our schools.

This question is not good because of the timing. Before I let you in I learned tha Duluth East is on lockdown. the wquality is good but it probably could be better. The issue of safety is that there is only so much schools can do to ensure safety.

## Are there standardized ways school quality is measured?



### Thoughts on this?

18 responses

Im probably not a great source for that. Im assuming there is. I would guess that there is testing etc.

Not sure-- the measures seem to be changing and the past tool used was not well designed.

I dont know. There are school ratings website. When you are looking to buy a house they say what the quality is.

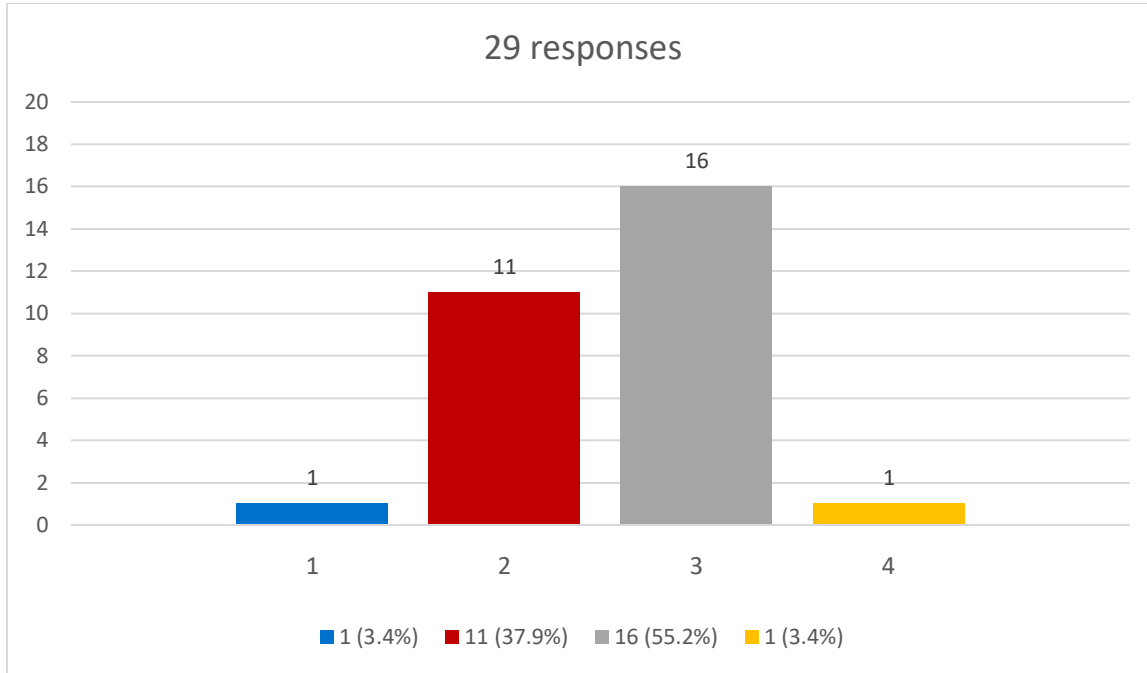
Not sure on this one

to my knowledge they do standardized testing and while that might not be the only indicators it is looked at. also because of the way that the community has shifted school quality is being looked at in other ways as well. such as parental involvement in school.

I believe so but I dont know how



To what extent do schools, work sites, parks, places of worship, homes, public buildings, etc., facilitate access to healthy states (eg, nutritious food, physical activity, positive relationships, creative expression)? Are these accessible to all regardless of income, age, language, ability, etc.?



Thoughts on this?

16 responses

I dont believe that regardless of income, age, language tha tthe schools and access to food or pparks quality is the same. My answer is based off of the inequality.

We are lookign at this aggregate. Places of worship will be different from parks much more could be done to reach key populations and fully address the needs.

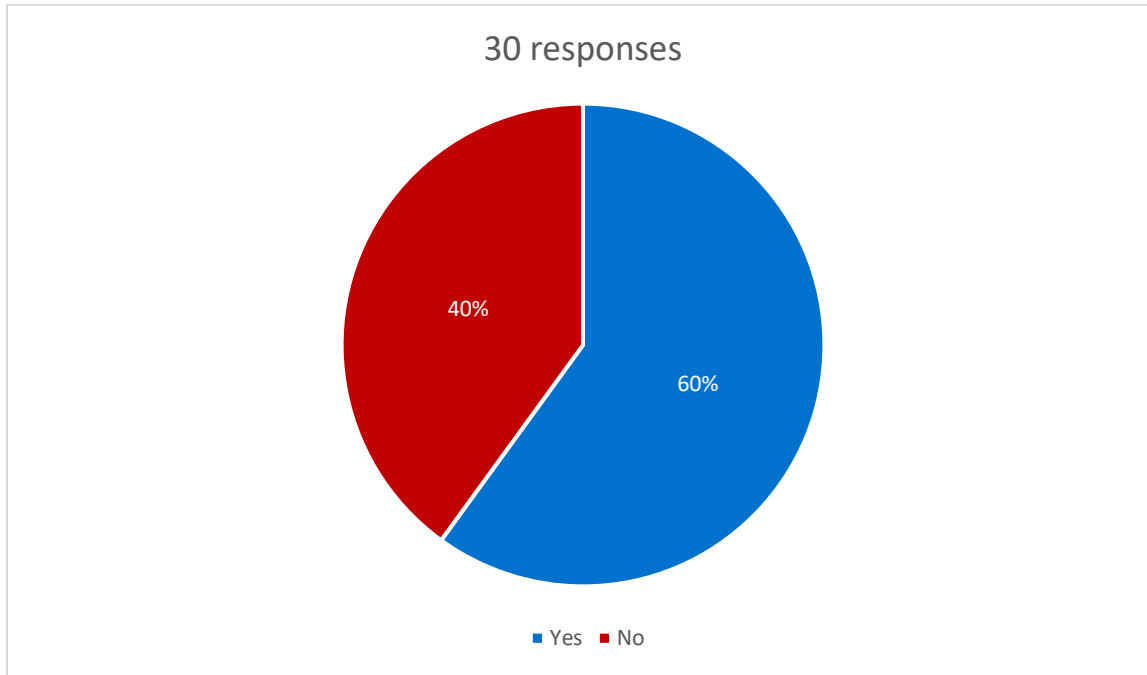
I feel like all of those places are accessible regardless of indicators but do they facilitate access to healthy states? I think so but that may not be there purpose.

Two-part question so maybe have a "Yes/No" added.

I think it varies by zip code. Rural vs city. Maybe a 2 or 3. Its not exception its not dismal but its not wheer it should be. I am leaning more towards two.

I feel like Duluth is definetly an outdoor city. It rides itself in being that way. I know there are several new schools within teh area that are promoting the outdoor learning. I believe Lowell elementary is one of them. They are a DNR school site. I dont know

**Do government, big employers, and other influential entities have clear, widely known, and well received policies in place to protect and promote health?**



**Thoughts on this?**

15 responses

We certainly have policies to promote health so I would say yes but I dont know if they are as robust as they should be and I don't know how well received they are. I don't know how well its doing considering the inequality that exists.

progress is being made through the ACA and work underway with our community health needs assessment and health implementation plan.

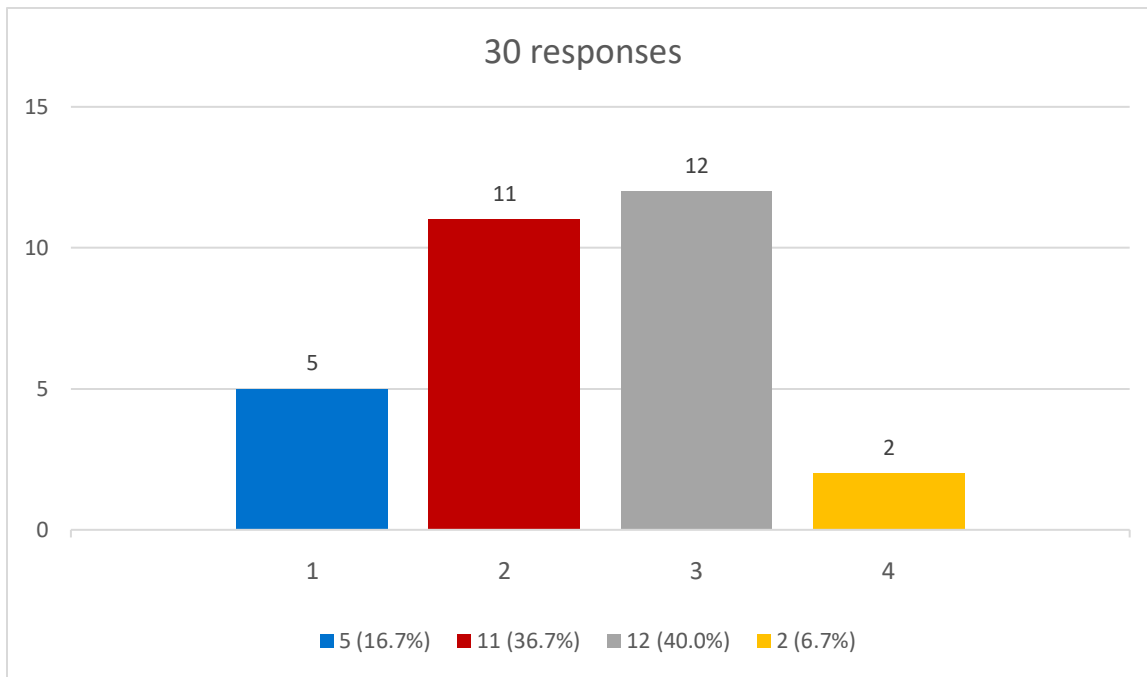
Depends on the entity. We certainly advocate it (UDAC) This question is tough because you lumped all of these together. Duluth is good about health.

I would like to say yes. I don't know about the government but our hospitals are some of the biggest employers here and they are certainly promoting health

I will see a billboard or read something online but I don't think it is well promoted except for essential but I feel like that's their job. I don't know how Superior Light and Power or Husky protect our safety. They don't tell us.

Usually this is provided through insurance or health care plans.

**To what extent do all people have ready access to health care that is timely, relevant, culturally appropriate, and affordable?**



**Thoughts on this?**

15 responses

I don't believe that all people have access to health care that is described that way but specifically affordable and probably isn't culturally appropriate across the board.

In which community? In Duluth, access is far better than more rural areas in the region.

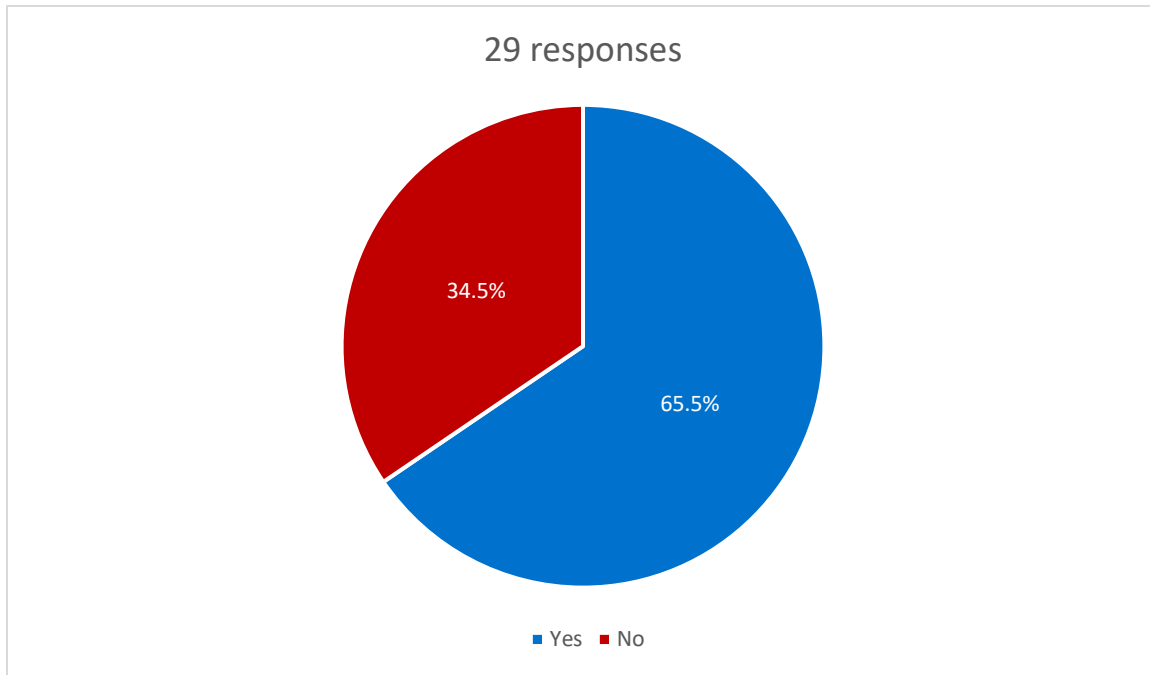
The ACA greatly expanded this access but more needs to be done- and we need to ensure that we don't go backwards.

I think that that's low. The top third of the state would make it the healthiest state in the country's only a two.

Probably a 2 or 3. I believe Duluth is on the lower end of uninsured individuals. Here at HDC we offer mental health services to all regardless of ability to pay. I do think that culturally appropriate is a little bit of a struggle in Duluth being that we are mostly Caucasian. I know that there are resources to get on MA. (Medical Assistance) There is always room for improvement.

Because I think people have access to it but I don't think it is timely relevant,

## Do health care providers integrate and coordinate services in an effort to provide holistic, comprehensive and high-quality care?



### Thoughts on this?

14 responses

I dont know enoug habout healthcare to have a super informed response. I thin img going to say no because in my expereicen especially in the hollistic and comprehensive care. it seems like peope get put into specialist boxes and they dont all speak well to each other. I have family memebrs have gone through things were one doctor doesnt know what the other doctor says so it is often on the patient or family memeb rto make sure that communication is flowing from spspecialist to specialist.

It is the surface that they are scratching but htey are making efforts.

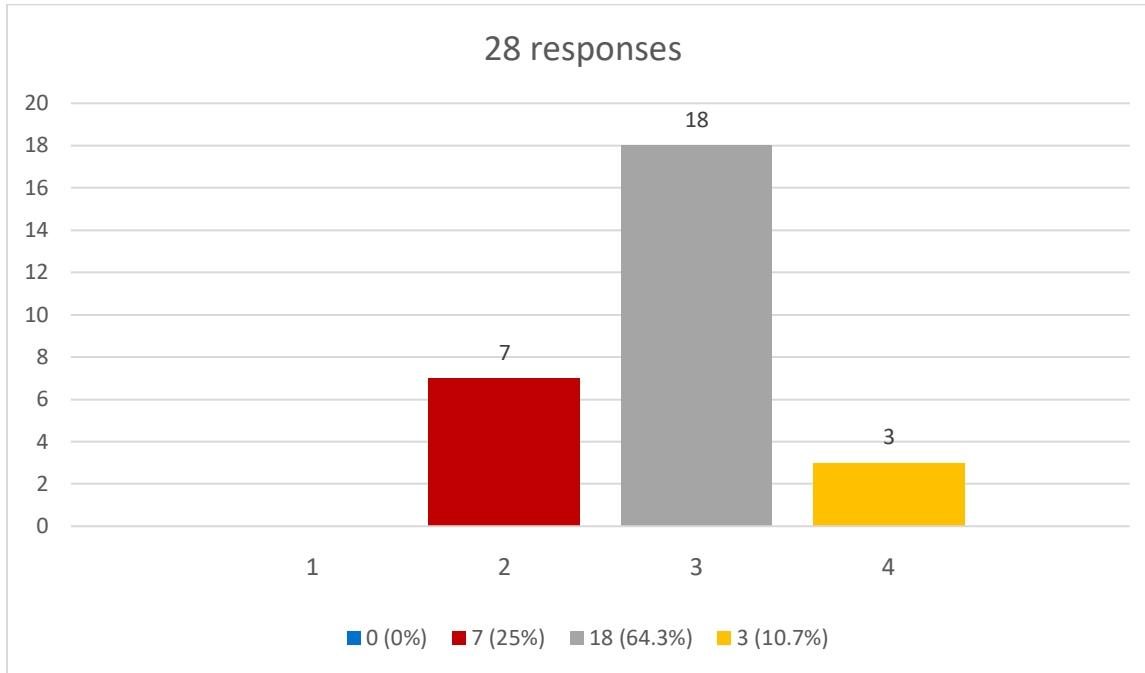
Some do some do not

Some do and there has been much progress in this area.

I can give you examples of where they do. Life link (helicopters) Idustiralized medicine.

But we are working that way. HDC has set up case managers iwthin the local ERs so we can get people who are coming in with mental health crisis mental help instead of just medical help. We have several naturopathic doctors in the area. They are working on

## To what extent are people satisfied with their quality of life?



### Thoughts on this?

12 responses

It really drastically depends on the person you are asking. I will respond on the whole as best I can. Let's give it a 2 because if we are experiencing all of this inequality across multiple sectors that can reduce the quality of life.

I don't have the data to respond to this.

UDAC population would say 3. Even in the community I would still give it a 3. The lake is a big draw and we don't have any huge natural disasters like earthquakes and hurricanes. We do get straight line winds.

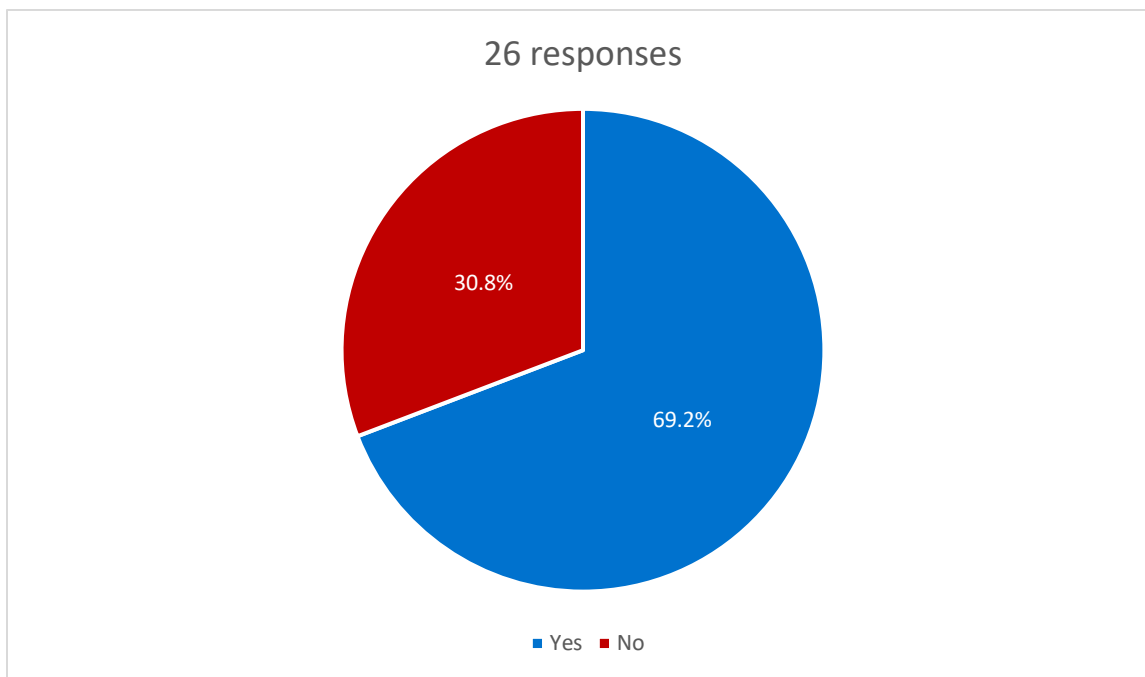
I think overall, I'm skewed because of who I work with, but the folks that I worship with, those folks are at a 3.

Living in poverty is difficult

This is a super complicated question. I have no idea. 2/3? 2.5?

Duluthians are just a dissatisfied group

## Do they feel they have good living conditions, healthy relationships, positive emotions, and the ability to realize their potential?



### Thoughts on this?

18 responses

Im going to keep hanging my hat on teh theme that housing is difficult so the living confitiions are tough. This has widespread impact in multiple aspects of life.

There are too many subquestions within this question to answer with a simple yes or no.

Some do, some do not

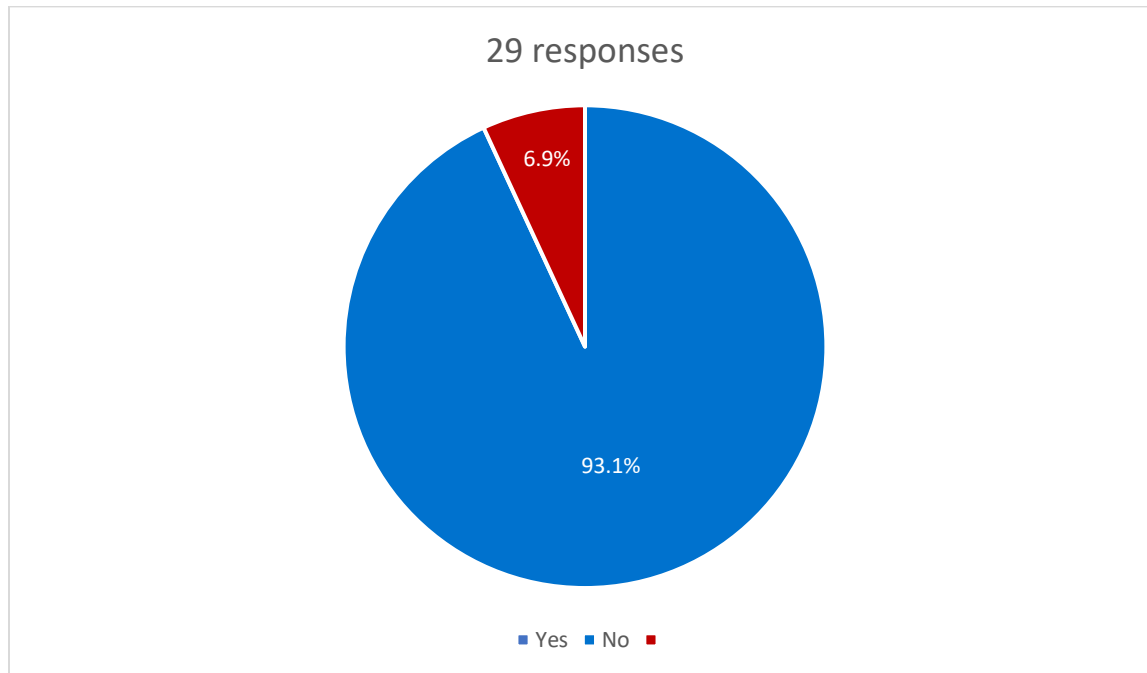
Some do and too many still do not.

IT feels wrong to say yes ( due to wide disparities)

overall yes. I think a persons overall environment the way they were raised adn the way their family is and a community does play a role in that. feeling positivety is a personal thing. overallll in our communtiy the answer would be yes

IN you rmind you jump around to a populatino that may feel differently but the general population? I think in UDAC yes.

## Are there wide disparities in this among groups?



### Thoughts on this?

8 responses

I answered this with my previous answers so I probably don't need to elaborate. There is much more to be done.

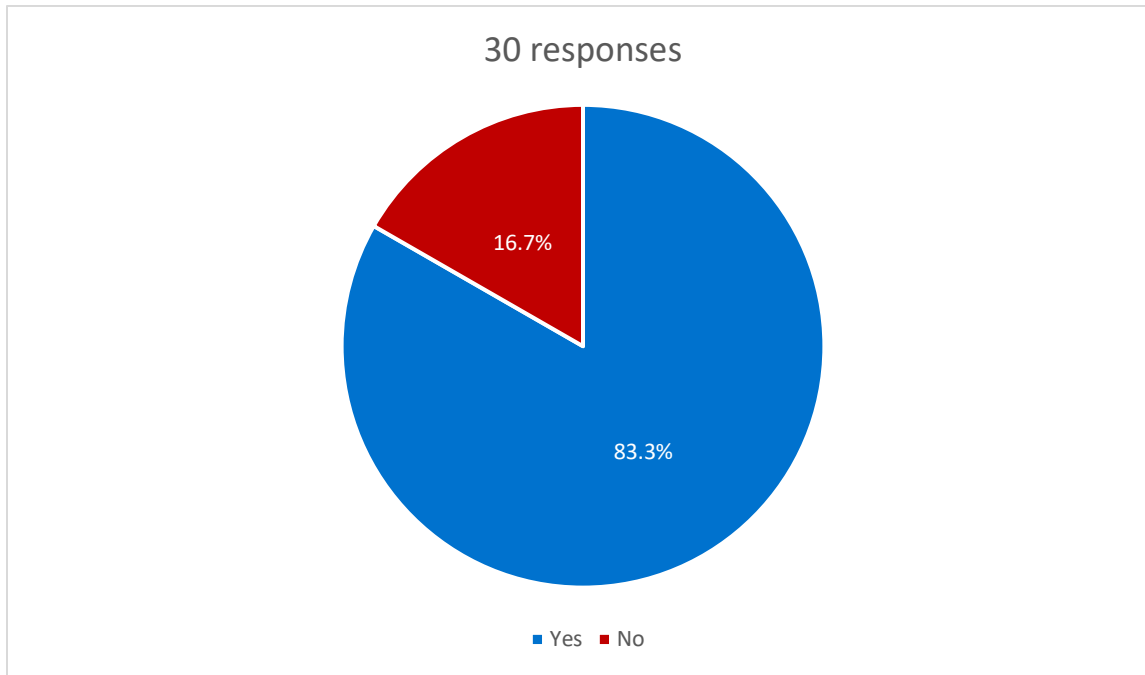
Oh we have it all. We have every socioeconomic status and every health problem you can imagine. I would say yes. School debt fractured relationships etc.

This will lead to different reports on above question

I think there can be. Especially the realize their potential part. There might be things that work well but if they don't get the opportunity then they might get stifled and not even know it. The whole homestead plan is to get people with disabilities to realize their potential and it is slow to go. Lack of funds and staffing comes into play.

We do have a healthy welfare population but there are programs to go to school to get child care and programs to get out of that but there are opportunities but it's not an issue this community believes in helping each other enough

## Is there ready access to arts, cultural events, and venues for creative expression, learning and growth?



### Thoughts on this?

12 responses

This one I would actually say yes but this is something we do relatively well in Duluth. It seems like we have a pretty healthy arts community and access to it is not necessarily unaffordable. Even if you are lower income you will have access to this.

Similar to the health access question. In Duluth, yes. in more rural areas, no.

I would give that a very high score in Duluth compared to Rochester MN.

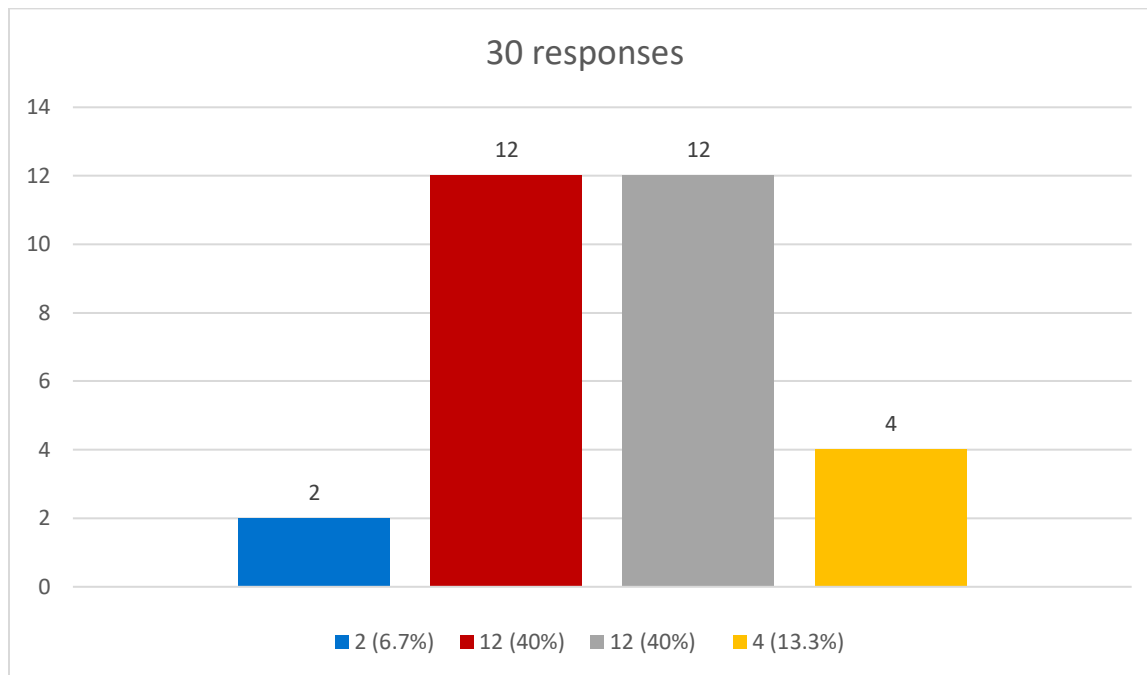
Duluth is getting better and better about that

There is not enough in Superior if we want it we have to go to Duluth which is a barrier and cost oh my goodness. the cost for just me and my kids I can't afford to bring my kids to a cultural event. We can't afford that. I have taken them to free stuff and they appreciate it but we can't afford to engage in some of that. We have participated in some stuff from UWS which is cheaper and more accessible to attend. There is not enough free or low cost stuff for people to enjoy.

Dependent on income



## To what extent are such offerings accessible to all?



### Thoughts on this?

8 responses

No need to elaborate further due to previous answer

There are a lot of free events and even the orchestra is affordable compared to the city. I think arts culture and outdoor activities are all affordable and often free here. Free movies and theater etc...

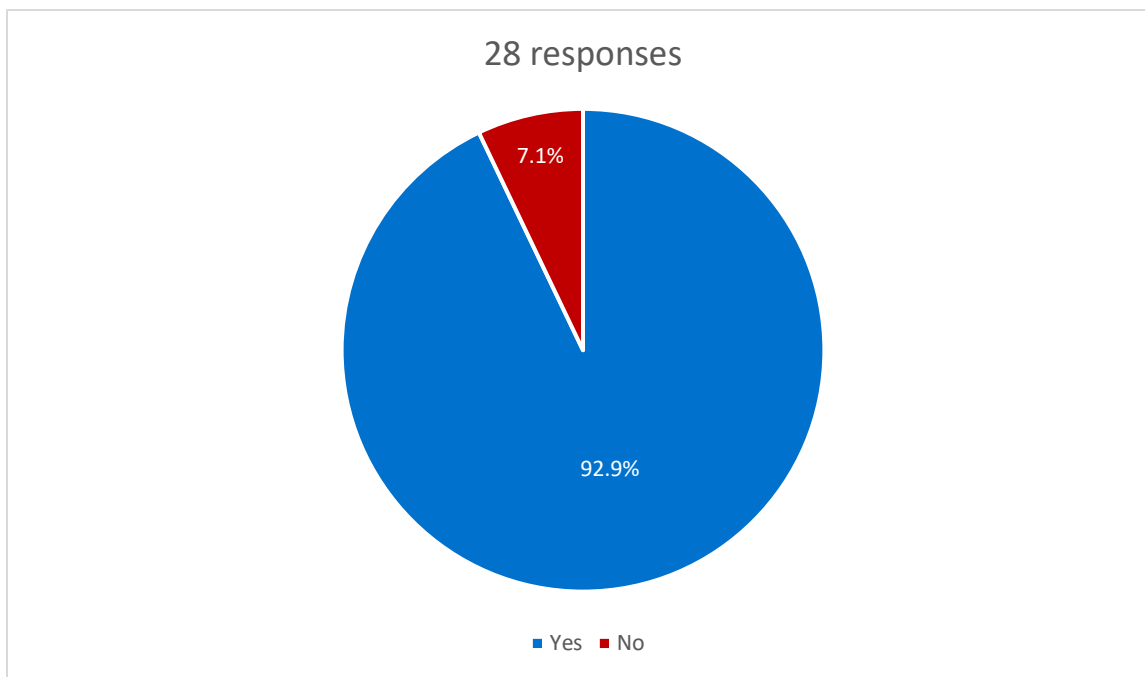
I think that there is a wide variety and they are held in places across town.

One way we are combating that in the church is we have art classes on Thursday to learn different techniques in the church. We have art therapy in the shelter so they at least have access to using the art for expression. We can do this because we have some supporters and grants. In the spring last year the church had an art show and it was really quite cute. The youngest was 8 and the oldest was 70. We have been able to address some of that that way.

There is a lot of free stuff

It depends. It can be hard to get there. With folks who get services they can but for

## Are there structures, programs, social supports, and a culture that supports healthy and independent aging?



### Thoughts on this?

8 responses

Im going to say no this is specific to my own family and scoail sphere. There are things but only if you can afford it. For lower income folks there are not a lot of supportive housing programming. That migh tnto be true. If you meet avery low income threshold you might but there is a wide gap in teh middle between low and high income.

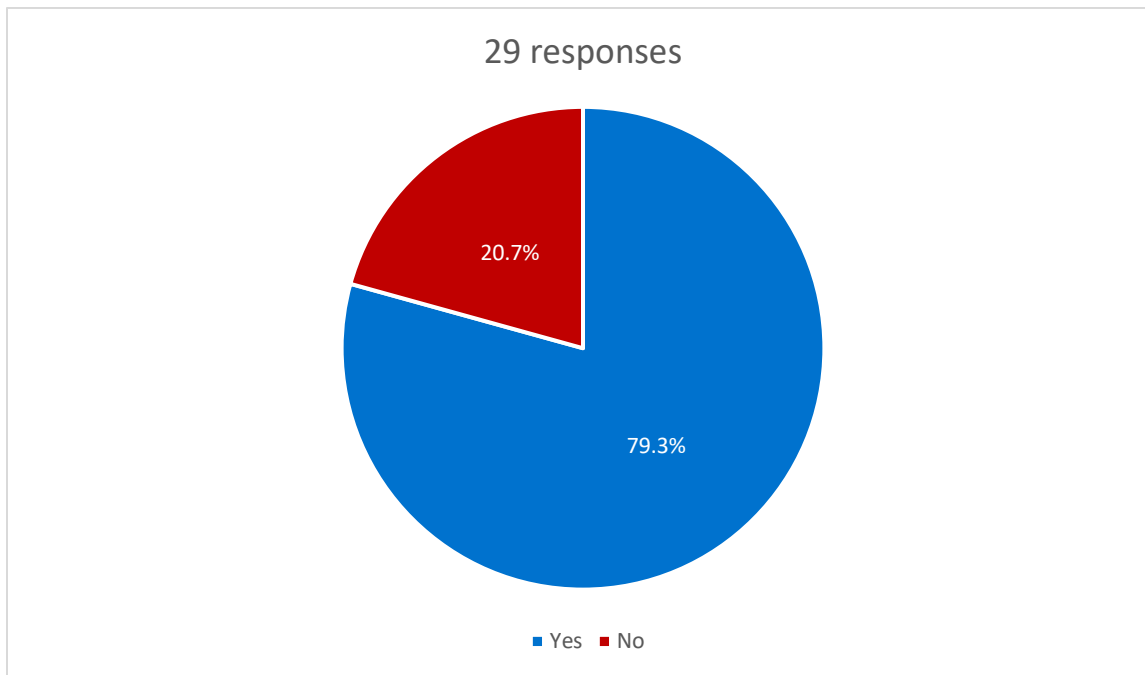
yes- but it needs to be built on and made more visible and accessible.

Aging is tough everywhere but there is program. everytime I see Senior citizen housing I wonder where is the cheap apartments for the struggling young people. The money is there to support aging but I think its a crime what we do with child care and young families.

I know it can be very expensive though

I think with the demtia friendly trainings that are going on in the community and the philanthropies tha invest in local agenceis to provide more services to teh aging community. Those two things that i know about have helped ourt communtiy develop more processes to age well.

## Are viable and quality options available when longer term / skilled care is needed?



### Thoughts on this?

12 responses

Again because it is my experience that they are only available to wealthy folks who can afford it. NOT across the board.

yes but... many are left behind.

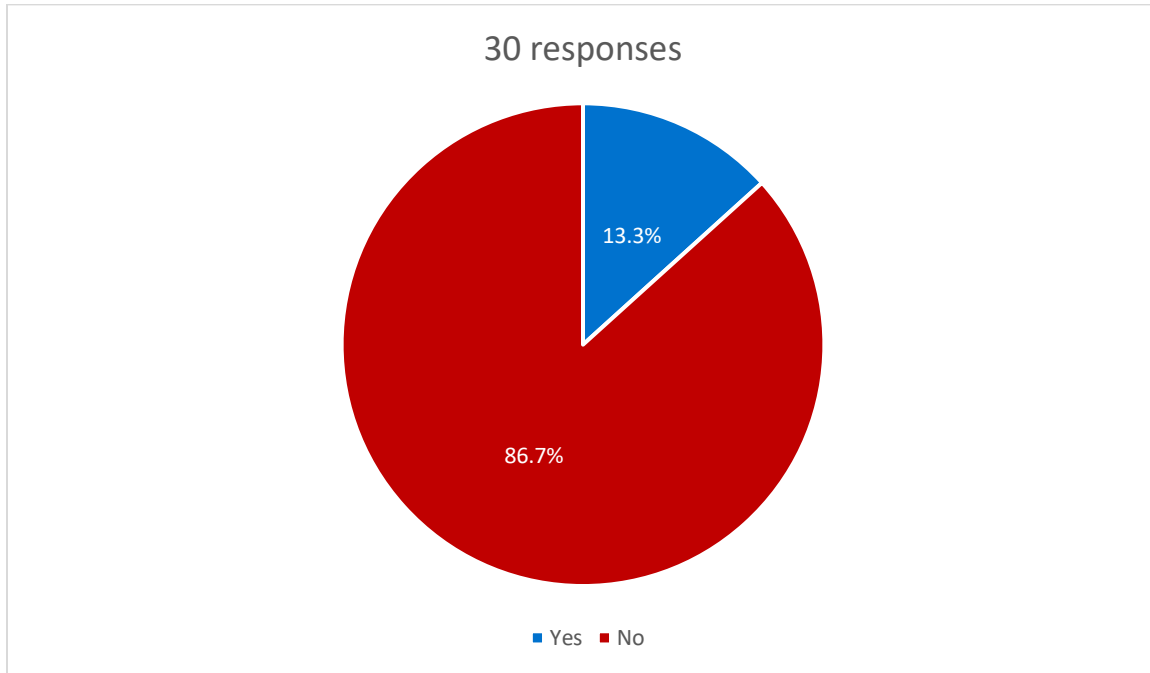
One of my friends parents have dementia and there is not going to be enough resources for all of them. If you have money to pay then yes but if you dont hten you will have to wait. St Louis county is known as the group home.

Duluth has a great hospice program. There are several care homes and independent living facilities around. I dont know what there wait list is. Several have great reputaions while otehrs dont have the best. SOme are more valued or saught after then others.

They can be expensive if you dont hagve the right coverage.

I owuld not send a family member to anythign availablne here. There is no way I could afford it. Some of the places are 3-5,000 a month. We actually have some folks at hte church who are in nursing home facitlites that atre medicaid reimbursement completely and the places look and smell bad.

## Is quality child care affordable and available?



### Thoughts on this?

16 responses

Again, personal experience. IT is not affordable for sure and it is not because child care providers are charging too much but the income one needs to afford it is high for what teh income levels are in teh community. There are waiting lists that you often have to be on before you are even expectring because of lenght. THis hurts employment and jobs. Especially women.

We have a huge shortage of affordable, accessible housing for all income levels.

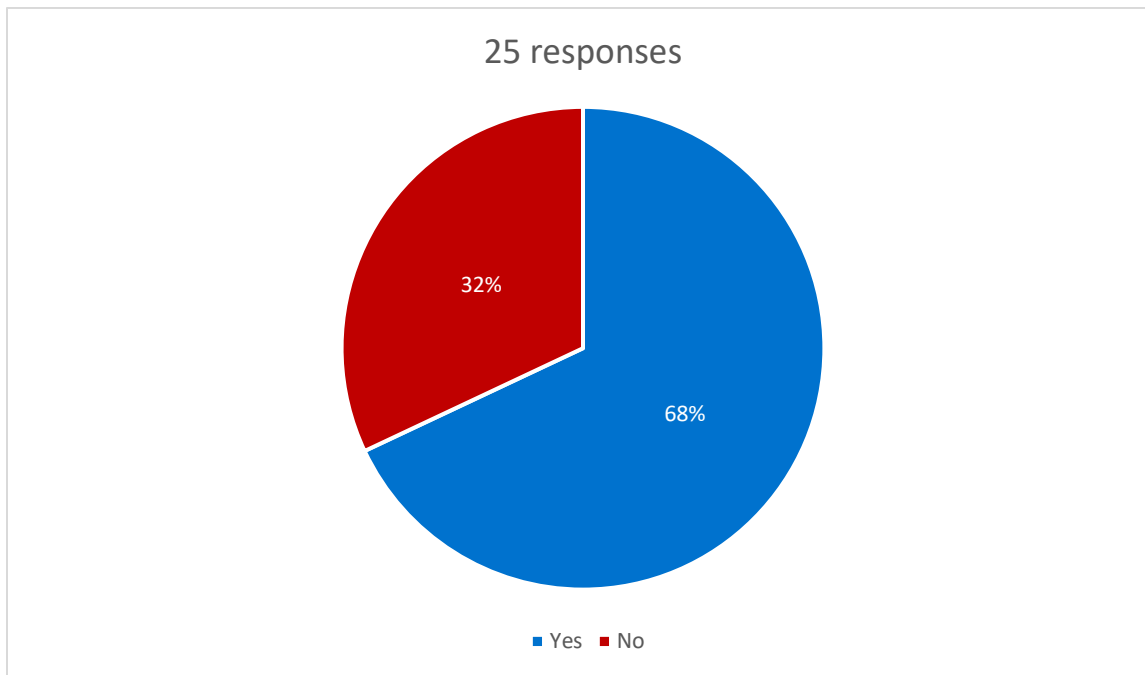
Yes it is expensive but people are able to get assistance to help cover the cost

That is a flat out emphasis no. There isnt anyone who isnt fearful of pregnancy and trying to find safe affordable child care.

I think there is a shortage of child care that is affordable. It seems like every parent I talk to talks about that. Duluth and Superior have head satart programs that make it more accessible. Overall I think its a struggle.

Its available but not affordable. We have soem moms fro instance that get child care

## Are worksites family friendly (eg, breastfeeding friendly, leave policies for birth, adoption, or eldercare)?



### Thoughts on this?

19 responses

One roof in particular is but generally it is unusual for a work place to be super flexible in that regard. The earned safe and sick time initiative but I think thta the need for that kind of initiative shows that generally work places arent flexible. I witnessed multiple coworkers lose their jobs when they had to stay home with a sick child to frequently or had lack of child care. There are laws in place that requires places to have a minimum standard for breast feeding. Its a minimum and in many cases arent enough. It is hard to even enforce your rights in that area even if you know you legally have it.

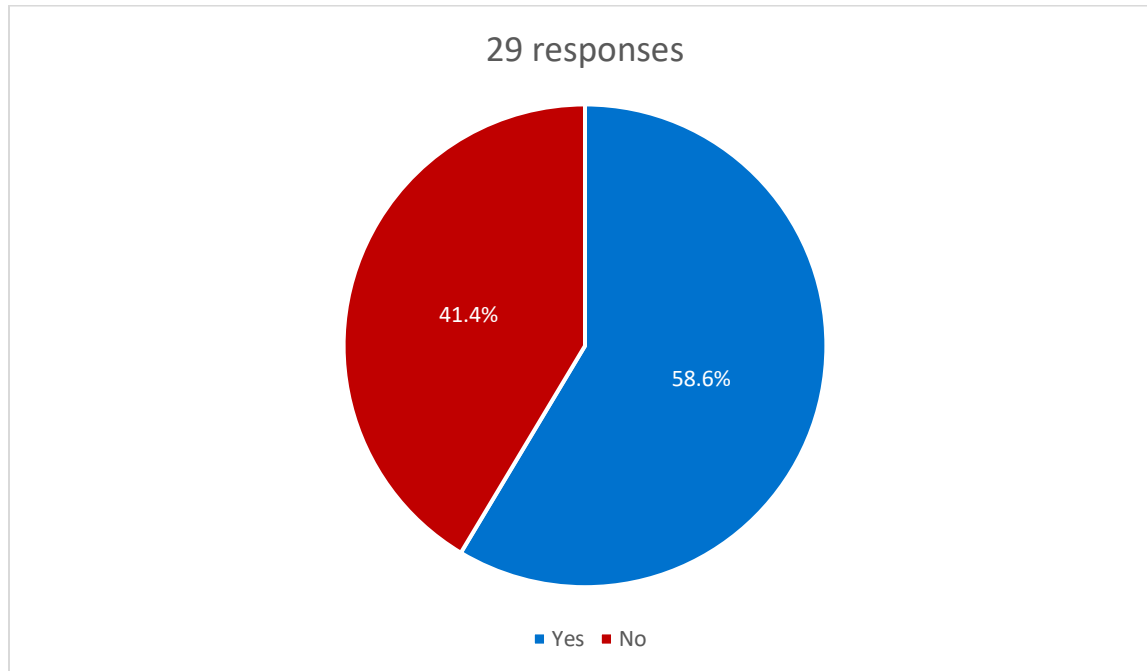
But I think it is moving towards yes. There are practices just starting to surface now

larger employers - yes; many others - no.

Progress has been made but much more needs to be done.

They are not breastfeeding friendly there are not policies that are adequate for the birth or adoption of a child and they expect you to take unpaid time after a birth. And there are few places that offer eldercare policies. They lean on FMLA, they won't fire you but they won't pay you either. People don't make exceptions for breast feeding. And people don't have policies about bringing their babies to work.

**Are physical structures and assets (eg, roadways, bridges, rail lines, mass transit vehicles, bike lanes, cellular towers, broadcast networks, relay stations) structurally sound and properly maintained?**



**Thoughts on this?**

16 responses

I am probably not a great resource for this one. Aside from the potholes I think that I would answer yes. The stuff that is in place is maintained and available consistent from neighborhood to neighborhood.

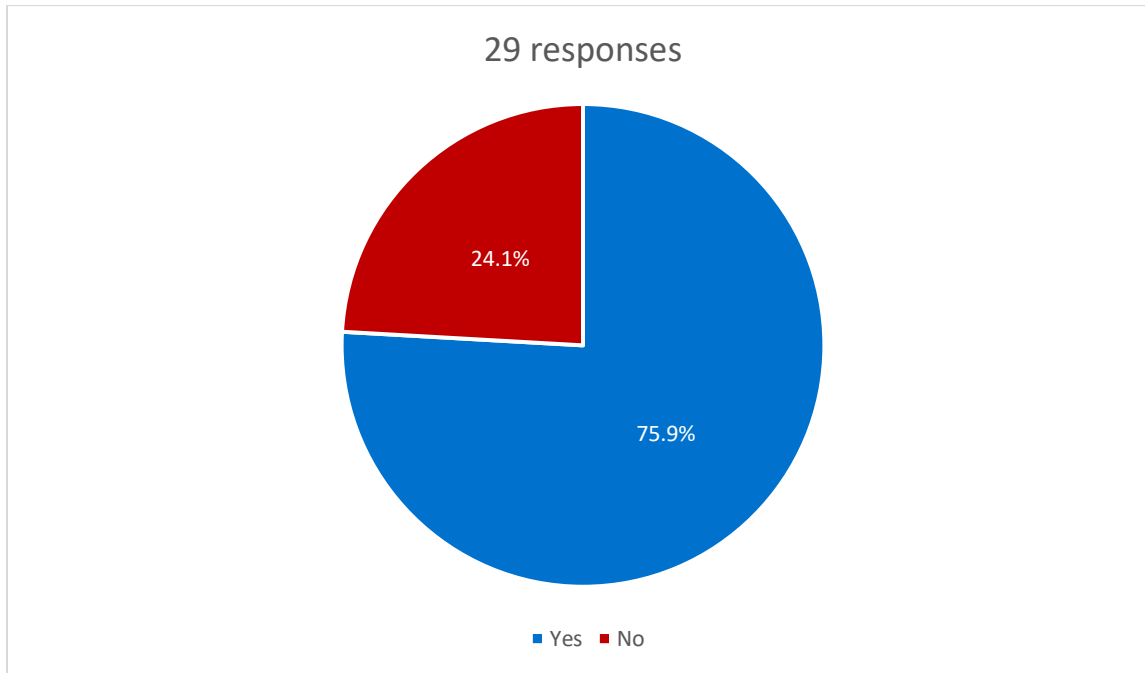
Answer is most are but we need to continue to invest in our infrastructure.

Even the potholes aside they roads are so crappy. I am from Iowa and our state in general doesn't put enough money into the development of really good roads. Our roads suck. We are making progress with bike lanes and public transit but that is more metro than greater MN.

Since potholes is an issue I think the streets need help and our infrastructure is 100 years old. We are addressing it but there is lots of needs. The lake walk keeps getting wiped out. It's really not a bike friendly city.

I always hear from my mom that when she was a kid they filled every pothole right away. Duluth has a reputation for bad roads. It seems like they are working every summer so they are clearly trying to keep up. Bike lanes are trying to be implemented. Structurally bridges are good. Superior is good at filling potholes. I guess I would say yes

**Are system operations reliable and well managed – eg, does the mass transit run on time, is routine road maintenance done efficiently with limited disruptions and diversions, are broadband internet and mobile phone service outages rare?**



Thoughts on this?

13 responses

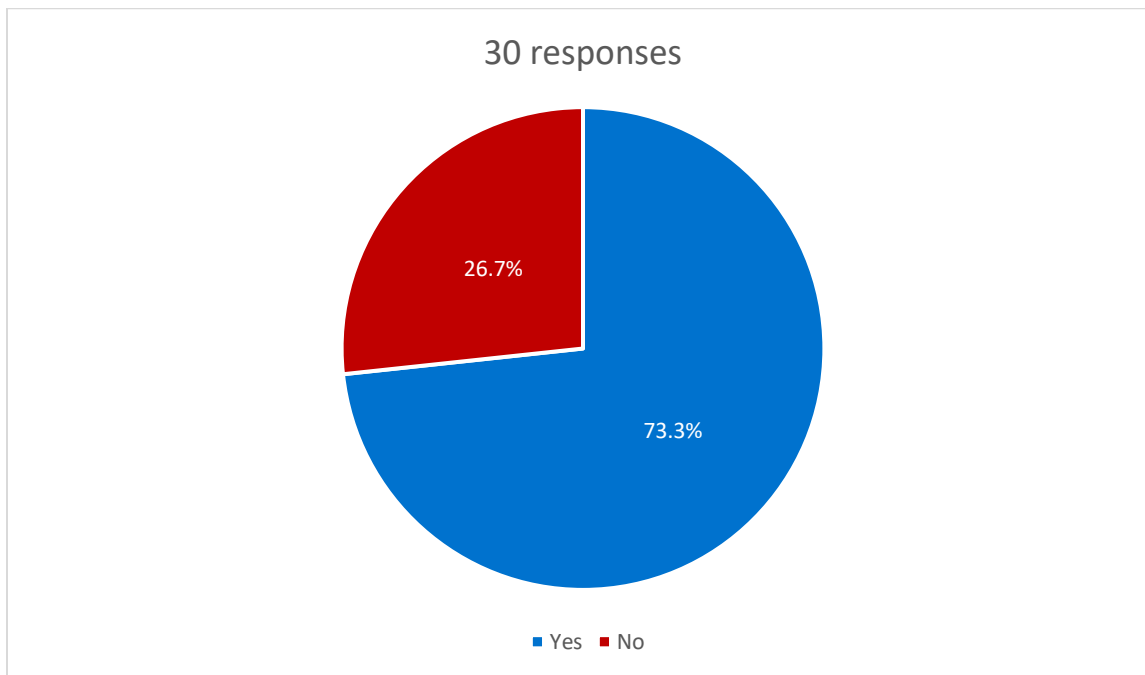
I feel taht the stuff that is already in place (there are a lot that I would like to see in place) but of what is there it does as well as it can. Maybe I should not think about it this wway bit for anything to operatie better they would need more taxes and people would freak out about taht and see it as a destabilizing force. With the resoueces availbale we are doing ok.

We have well -run , but very limited systems available but much more needs to be done.

Last summer tehre was so much road maintenance done so ineffieciently with a lot of disruption and it never looked like anhone was workign on it. It was basically roads blocked for 5 months.

There are two answers to this. Broadband and mobile services are good. DTA is good but road maintentence is an issue due to the amount of it and the small window of opportunity to work on it. We have winter and road construction. Winters are hard on our roads. Most importantly is mass transit for poeple with disabilites is inadequate and its going to get worse with our aging population. Uber and Lyft are awesome they are not handicapped friendly. Wheel chair accesible has the most need especially in a disaster. THere is no way you could possibly come up with enough vehicles.

**Do systems provide the community multiple benefits – eg, does transportation enable easy access to markets and jobs (economic development), safe bicycle and pedestrian traffic (public health), and carpooling and mass transit (environmental protection); do broadcast networks further quality of life(music and entertainment), education and awareness, and social contentedness?**



Thoughts on this?

15 responses

Its hard to answer yes or no across all of the options. I think I would say yes overall but some things are not. Transportation and safe bicycle and pedestrian traffic based on the neighborhood pedestrian traffic in lower income neighborhoods tend to be very difficult.

Answer is yes and no--and much more needs to be done to improve our systems to address multiple community benefits.

I just dont know if there is a lot of that here. Im going to say no. That feels more metro then greater Mn.

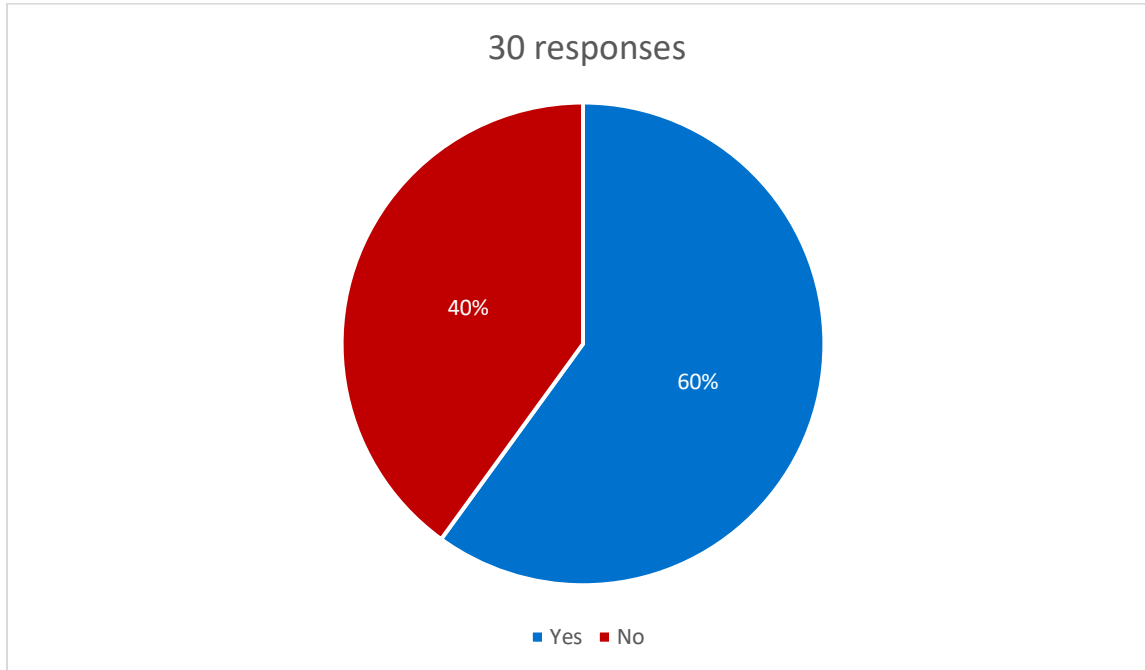
I would say no. Our mass transit is busses and the distances in the rural county like St. Louis. When we get north of virginia there is nothing there. Just the rural expanse. If you live there and you need to rely on arrowhead its pretty dismal. This effects social conectivness.

I guess I would say yes. I think with the transportation hub downtown. Its nice that we finally



have uber and lyft in addition of the taxi system. I love KMD and what they do we have several news networks in town.

**Are system benefits distributed equally throughout the community – eg, does the transportation system enable all income groups ready access to healthcare, education, and recreational facilities? Do disadvantaged neighborhoods receive a fair share of cellular coverage and internet access?**



Thoughts on this?

11 responses

I guess my answer is yes but I am not the one to ask this because I have never heard of cellular coverage being worse in some areas.

Needs to be addressed

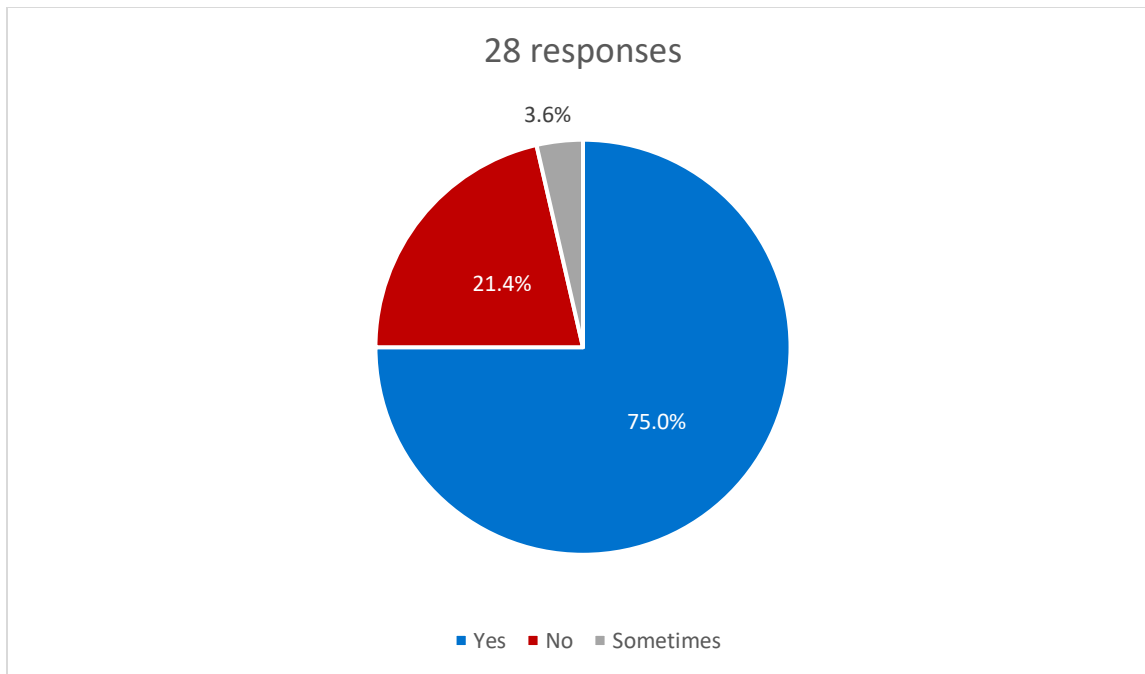
I think so actually. I can't think of any examples when that is not the case. It is definitely harder in rural townships. They don't have transportation and there are certainly people who are disadvantaged that live outside of the city limits that are more isolated.

To my knowledge

The rural nature of it and zip code. you can draw a line in the city of Duluth between the healthy side and unhealthy side.

There are more accessibility in this area here (downtown superior) then east end superior. Superior is laid out land mass wise we are the same size as Milwaukee and we have pockets of wetland and forest throughout the area. So everyone thing is all

## Does your local government actively seek to involve stakeholders when developing laws, rules and regulations?



### Thoughts on this?

12 responses

No because in my opinion we try to do it but I think that the people in groups involved would say they do but maybe they aren't successful in the way they are trying. It would be better to meet people where they are if you actually want community stakeholders to get involved. Inviting people to a meeting is one thing but is there adequate transportation or child care for people to go to the event. There is not one approach that will work across the board. Instead of just having the system and expecting people to fit into it they have to find a way to encourage involvement.

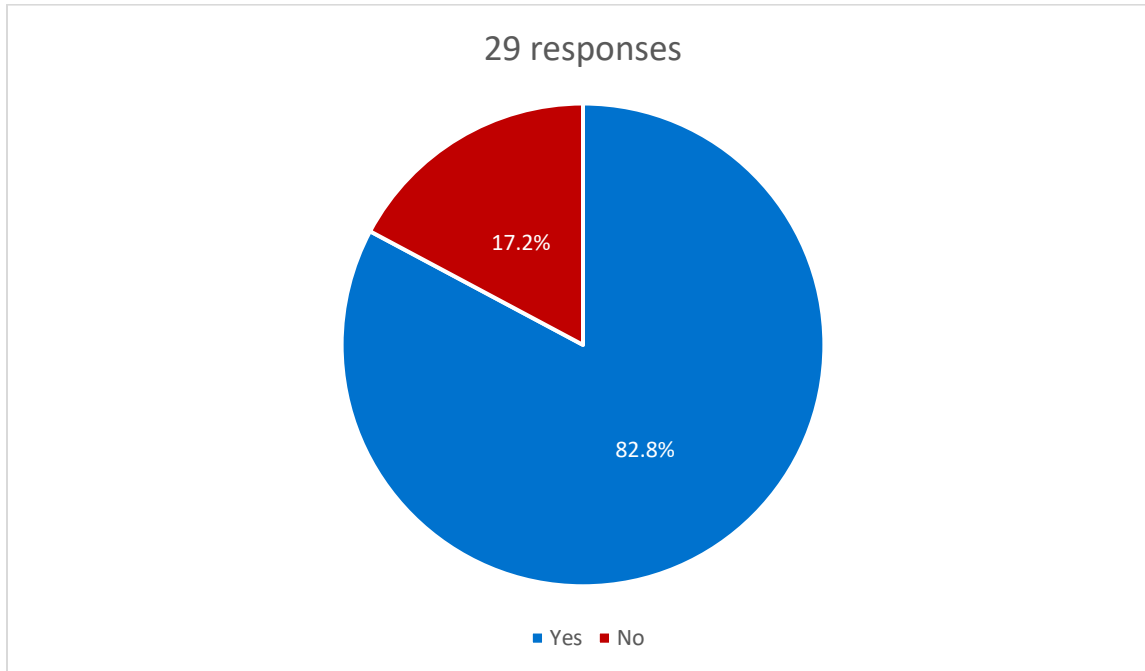
It seems to me when the city is looking for stakeholders they are looking for people who are agreeable to what they are trying to put forth. But I think the bureaucracy develops the laws, rules and regulations.

Sometimes yes and sometimes no

All I know is they have a lot of town hall meetings so I would say yes.

Usually after the fact and again dependent on socio economic status.

## When the government adopts laws, rules and regulations do they incorporate or respond to stakeholder concerns?



### Thoughts on this?

12 responses

ON a local level but it comes down to how much input they are even getting on stakeholder concerns if there arent formats or transportation for stakeholders to express those concerns.

Yes but the stakeholders (this is a very east west town) the leadership lives east and the laws effect both east and west. If you are from the east you would say yes if you are from the west you would say no

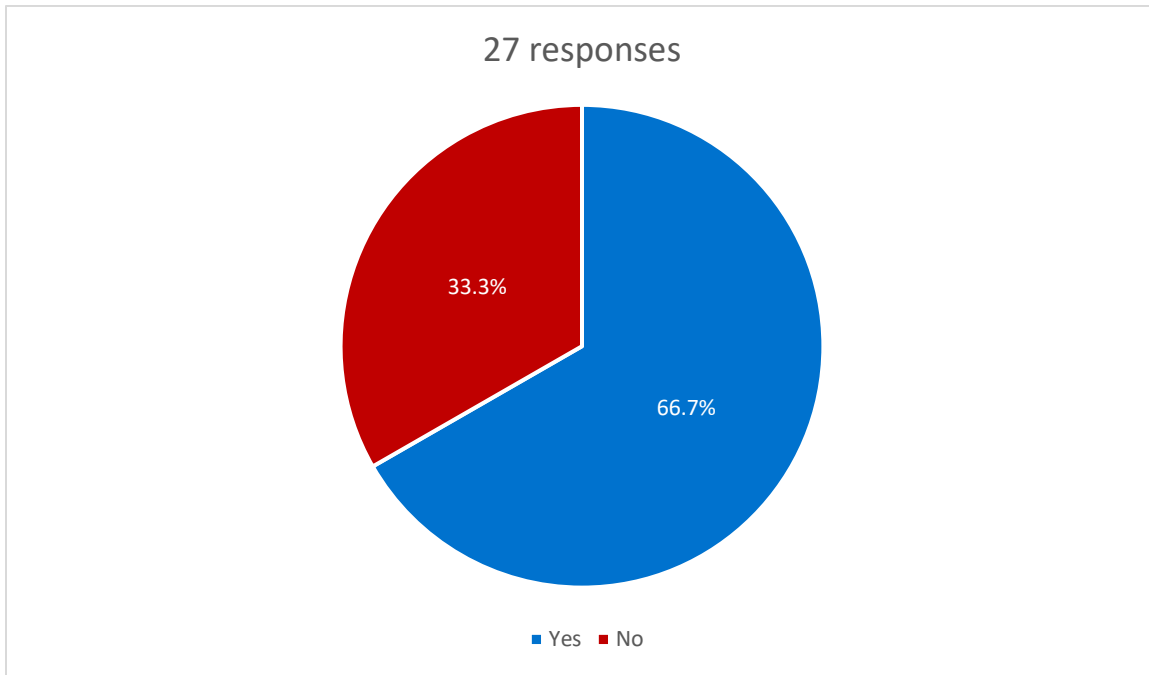
Sometimes yes and sometimes no

I have experience with this. It just kind of seems like there is a lot of responding to what they want to respond to and dismissing what they dont want to respond to.

Sometimes to the point of immobilizing other things.

There seem to be alot of community chances or public meetings where you can voice your concern.

## Do local government enforcement processes and agencies equally enforce the laws/rules?



### Thoughts on this?

15 responses

Im going to say no for a variety of reasons. Its my personal experience that depending on what neighborhood I lived in duluth would factor in how likely I was to get ticketed if I parked on the wrong side of the street. Police presence and how likely you were to have an issue varies from neighborhood to neighborhood. We also have ordinance in duluth called the crime free multi housing ordinance to deal with problem landlords and tenants. If a tenant has 3 or more nuisance calls to the apartment then they have to get evicted but in my experience that depending on the police officer they might enforce these differently. They might just issue warnings or fines while in others they more strictly cite people for things you might not think of as a nuisance call.

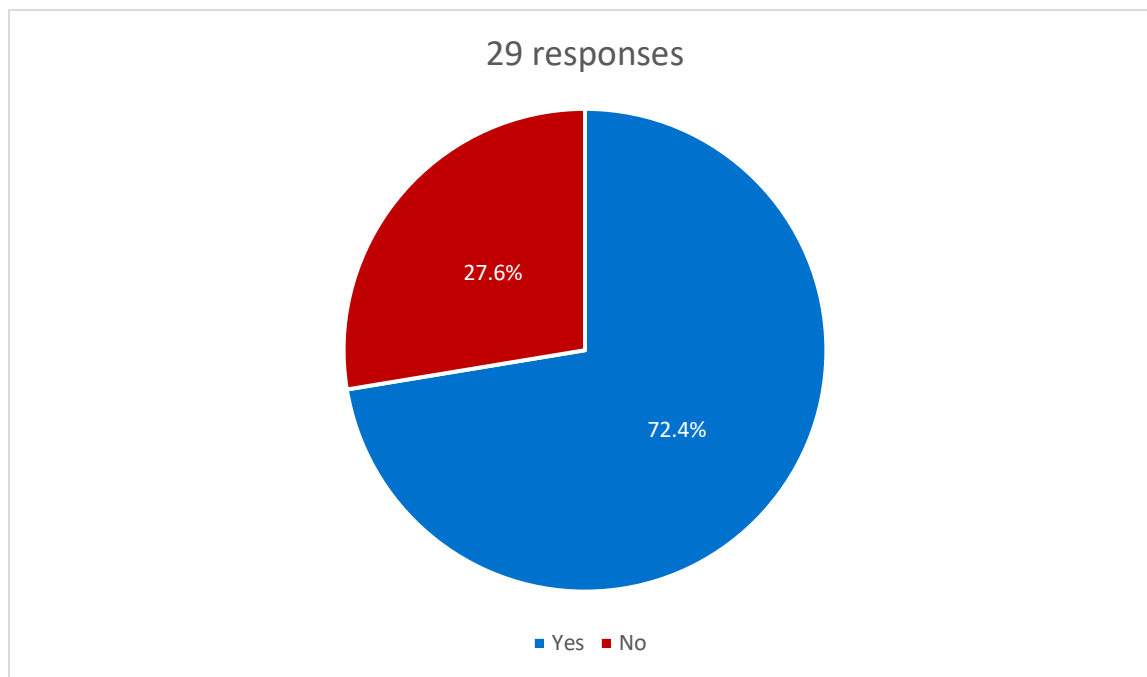
Don't understand the question

For the most part, I would say yes but more needs to be done.

I don't think so. There is racial disparities on who we prosecute. That is statistically factual information that can be supplied by the MN courts if the foundation is so inclined to get it.

For the most part yes

## Does the community stay informed and actively participate in local government issues?



### Thoughts on this?

15 responses

Based on my personal desire for more people to stay informed and actively participate. We have a group that gets fired up and gets involved but I don't think it is a wide cross section of all of the people. Not necessarily and accurate representation of a part of our community. The more disenfranchised folks don't have the time and energy to stay informed when they are just trying to make it day to day.

Sometimes yes and sometimes no

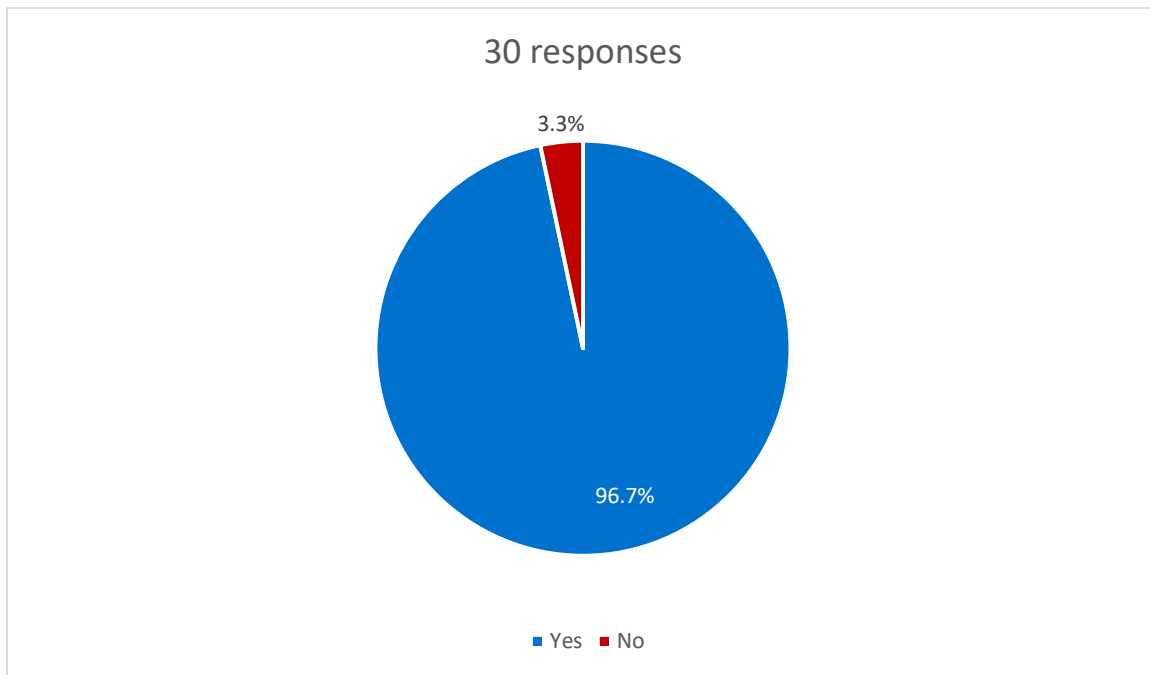
Should be a yes and no-- we have an active community but there are gaps and disparities in terms of the level of engagement and access to power of low income people, neighborhoods and community leadership.

Sure. I think people try to stay informed and participate by voicing their opinions but what happens is not always productive.

for the most part I would say yes

Since we had the highest voting in the state of Minnesota I would say yes

## Do you believe your vote is important in selecting elected officials, or passing local referendums?



### Thoughts on this?

5 responses

Mainly because I think voting locally is one of the most important things you can do.

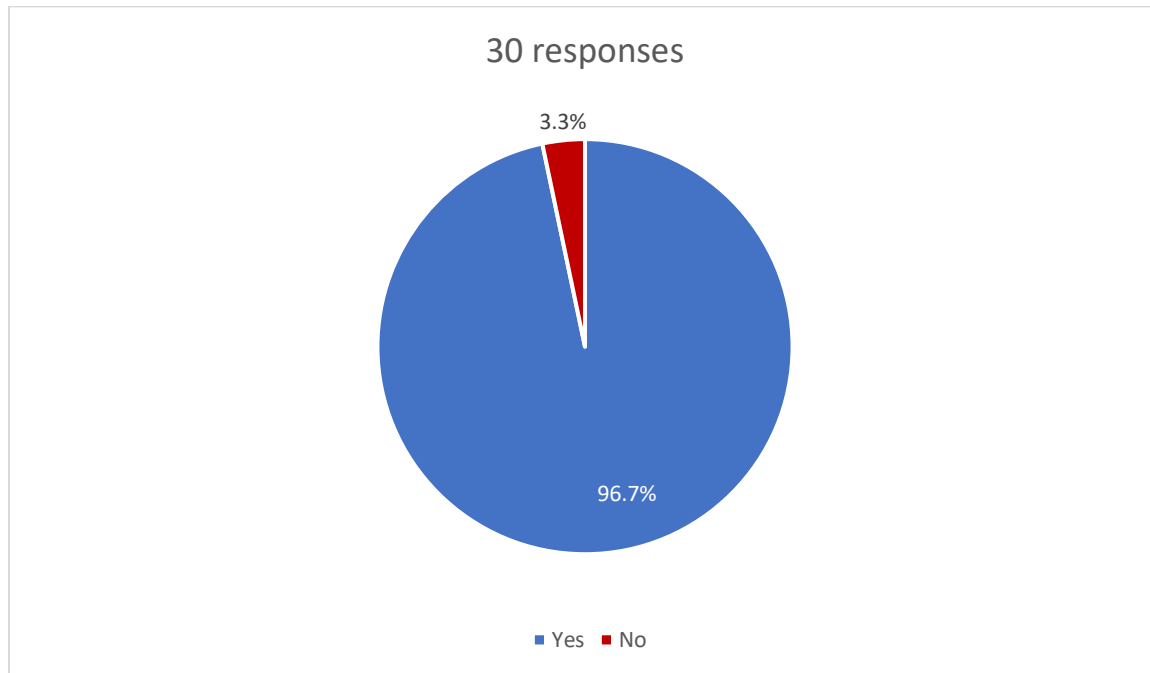
This is absolutely critical!!

I guess so. Locally I have more trust than nationally.

there are townships that are decided by one or two votes

Yes and I think most people would say yes to that.

## Do you vote in county and local elections?



### Thoughts on this?

5 responses

Even in primaries.

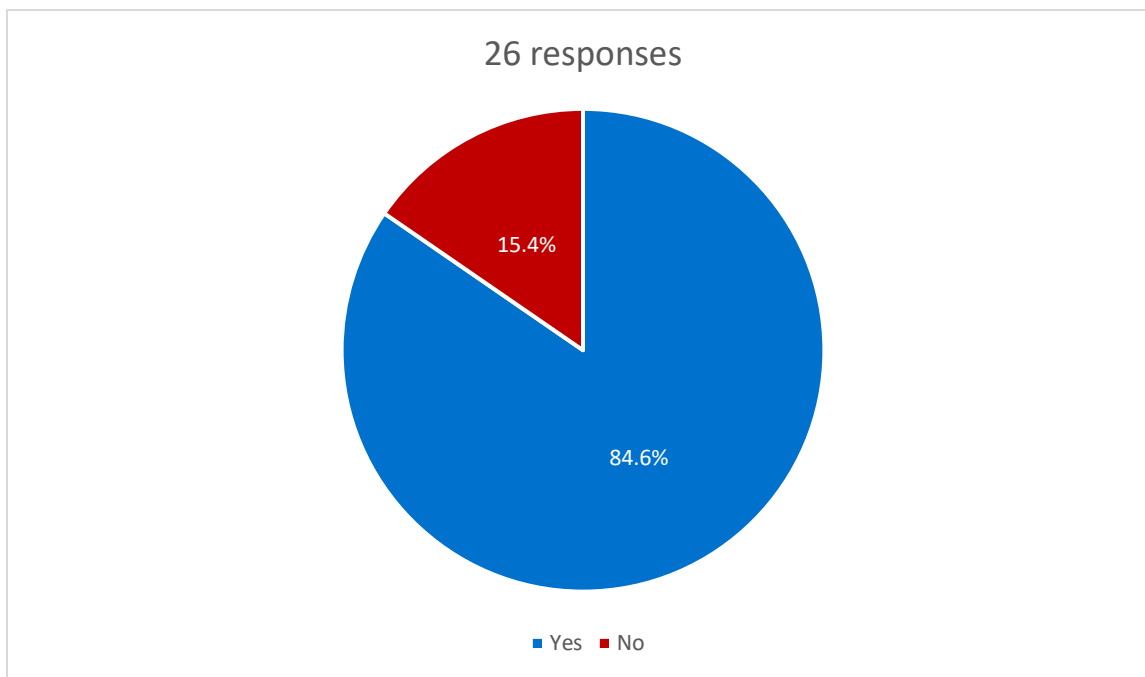
Even though I am cynical I do believe that I have to show up to vote

Always

There might be a challenge getting people with disabilities to the poll. I would say a low percentage of people with disabilities can't get there.

Dewey is an elected official

## Do most people and households have access to, and are able to participate in, the local economy?



### Thoughts on this?

14 responses

It feels like a broad one. I think that there are inequities in it but everyone probably has access to participate. It's just whether or not we're talking about jobs that are living wage or not.

Most but not all

Is this asking if everybody shops/works?

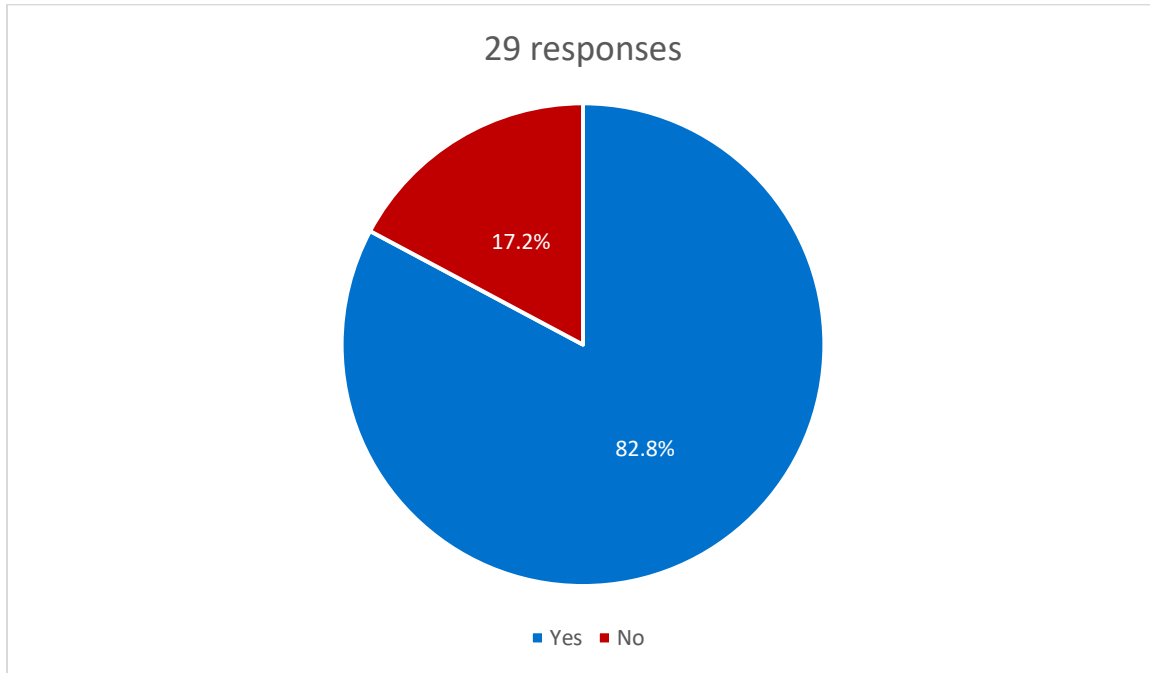
But we have high levels of unemployment by people of color or those who have experienced barriers like chemical dependency, lack of child care, housing access and incidents of poverty.

I think it's pretty tough. You are either university, healthcare, MN power, or service industry. There isn't much in the middle. You can't get a good job without education and you can't get education without money. Having said that, Duluth is probably better than the rest of the county and other counties.

The barriers of being able to get to those places and things prevents people from doing



## Do you have a feeling of optimism about your economic future?



### Thoughts on this?

12 responses

Not for the people I serve (youth center)

I did but I am now concerned about the direction that our county is headed.

Yes because I'll have less debt I hope unless childcare costs. Its expensive its like another mortgage payment.

Most days.

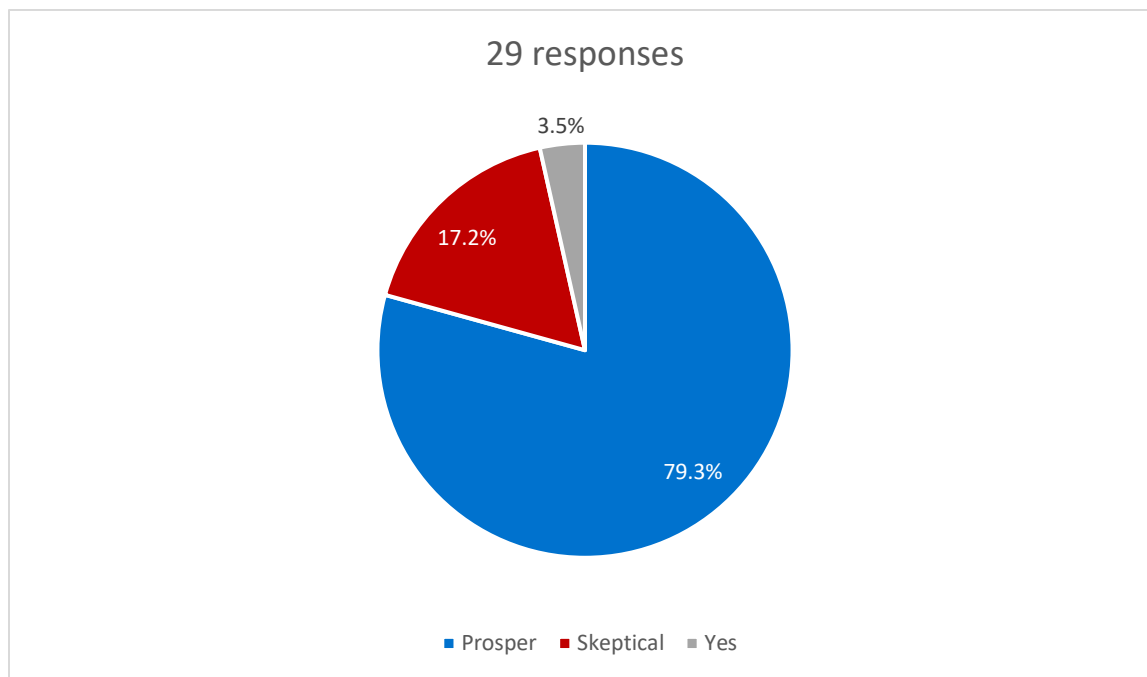
I think DULuth values the business and tourism and certainly the colleges in town.

I just did my taxes so no (on the fence)

and long as we dont destroy the environment

I dont want to say no but I would say wit hpeople with disabiliites it si a broad specturm. IF the yhave a lot of money they migh tbe fine but I would say yes. Thetre is a lot of meomentum to help people with work.

## Do you believe that your community will prosper, or are you skeptical about your community's future?



### Thoughts on this?

14 responses

I guess I do believe that we could prosper and that's why I'm in the line of work that I am in. I think with intent and energy and the right people getting involved we can combat some of the inequalities we've talked about we can make it a more prosperous place for everyone. That response relies on there being resources and people committed to it. If left to its own devices then I would become skeptical. If we can stay at the level and hopefully increase our investment in combating inequality then we can prosper is what it comes down to for me.

In Duluth housing and economic development are the two major initiatives and little can happen while they gobble up the resources. Youth development is so far down the ladder it is almost non-existent.

I mean, I hope it prospers. It's been on an upward trend now for the past at least 5 years and I hope it stays that way.

I feel very positively about opportunities that continue to evolve based on the needs of our community. There are problems yes but I overall feel very positive about the way our community is headed.