

Survey Results

Survey #1: Autumn 2015

Comprehensive Plan Review and Implementation Committee

Report prepared by Meghan Cooper

Introduction

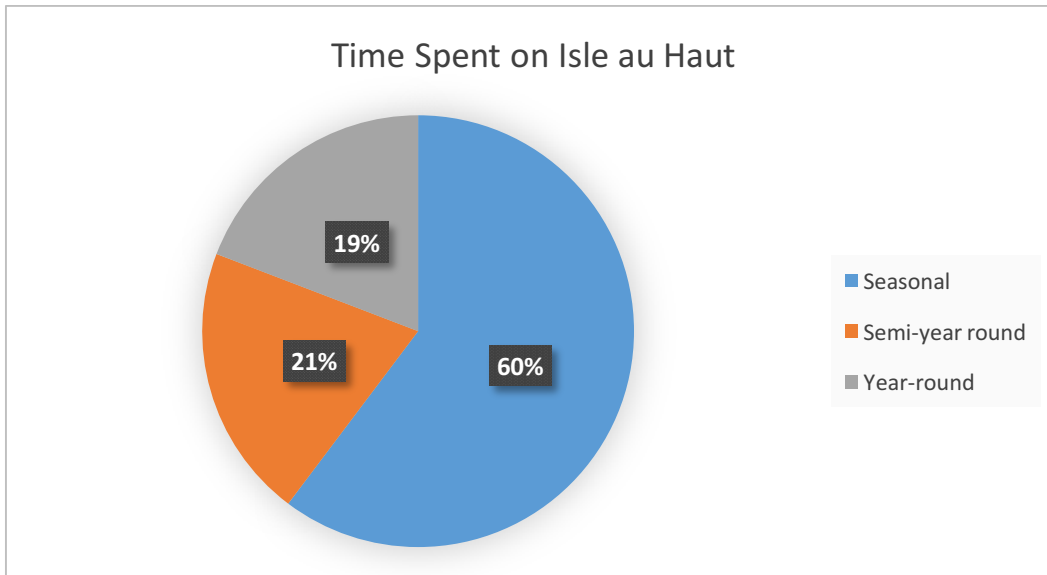
The first of a series of public opinion surveys was conducted by the Comprehensive Plan Review and Implementation Committee (CPRIC) in the autumn of 2015. The survey was designed to be taken online through a Google form with links to the survey posted at the Town Hall and Island Store, on the Isle au Haut town website, and on the Isle au Haut Swap/Sell/Trade Facebook group. 50 hard copies of the survey were also available at the Island Store for those without Internet access. While 48 of the 50 hard copies were taken, only 22 of the 48 (46%) were returned. Some of those who picked up hard copies may have changed their minds and taken the survey online.

CPRIC collected 73 survey responses in all. These responses may reflect a greater number of residents' opinions, as anecdotal evidence suggests that some filled out the survey in conjunction with spouses or family members.

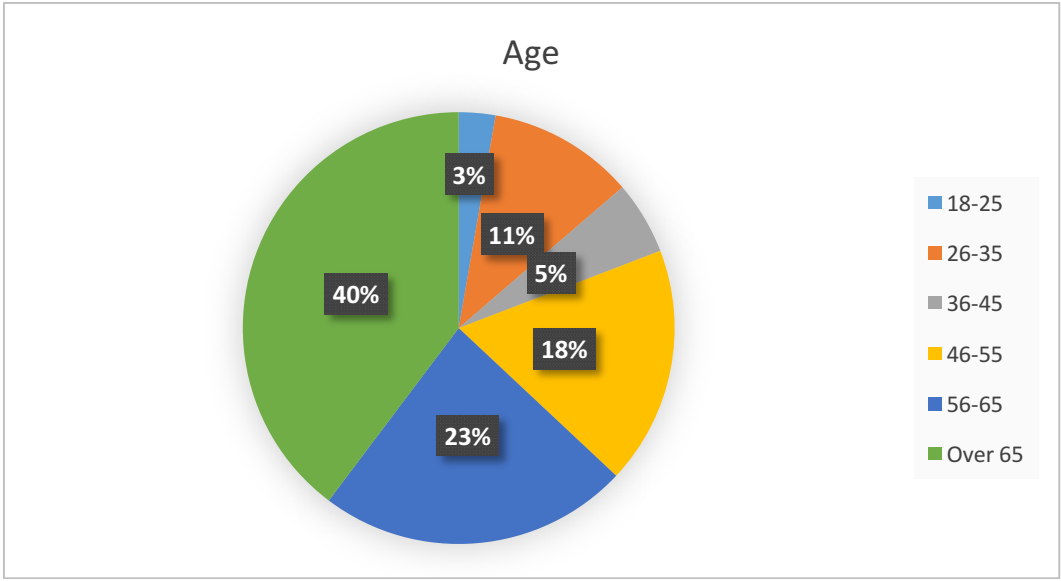
Most of the questions required mandatory affirmative or negative responses in the online survey. At the end of each section, there was an optional free space for any comments pertaining to that section. A few questions required respondents to fill in blanks with their own answers or check boxes in a list of options.

Demographics

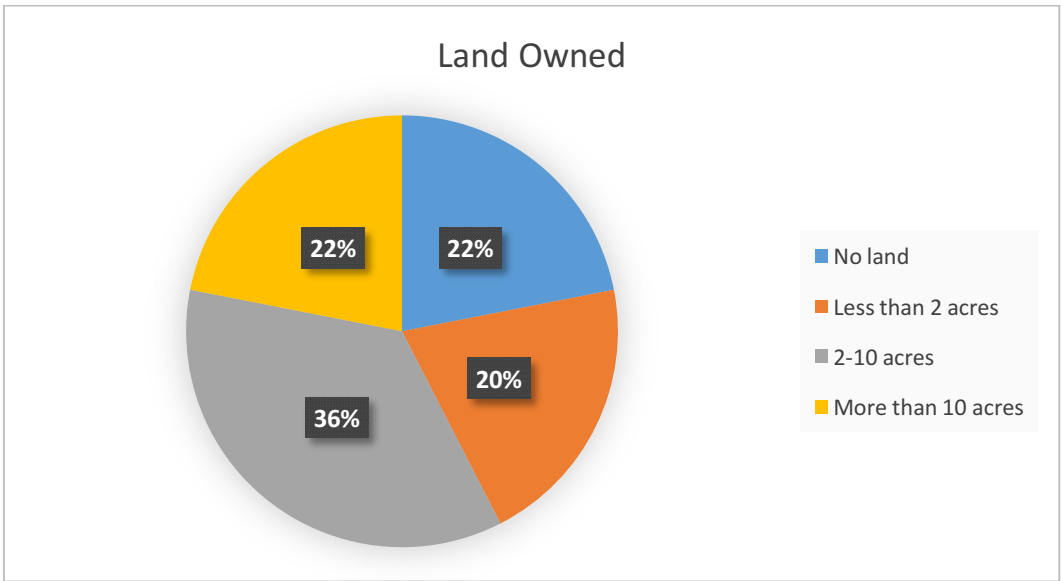
- 60% (44) of respondents self-identified as seasonal residents, 21% (15) as semi-year round, and 19% (14) as year-round.



- Respondents' age distribution was as follows:
 - 40% (29) were over 65 years of age
 - 23% (17) were between 56 and 65
 - 18% (13) were between 46 and 55
 - 5% (4) were between 36 and 45
 - 11% (8) were between 26 and 35
 - 3% (2) were between 18 and 25



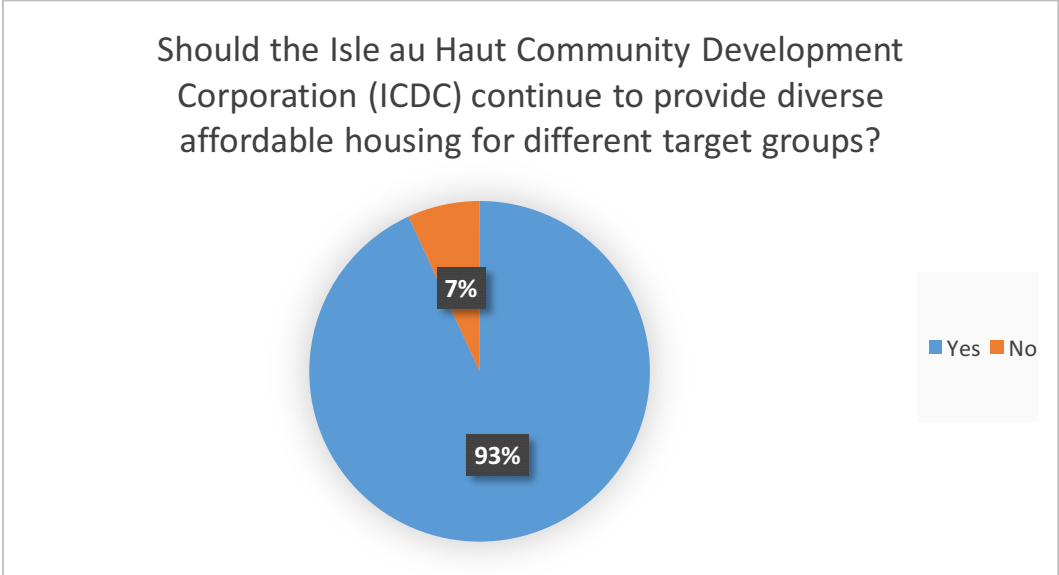
- 78% (57) of respondents indicated that they owned land, while 22% (16) owned no land.
 - Of those who own land:
 - 26% (15) own less than 2 acres
 - 46% (26) own 2-10 acres
 - 28% (16) own more than 10 acres



Housing

Question 8: Should the Isle au Haut Community Development Corporation (ICDC) continue to provide diverse affordable housing for different target groups?

- There was support overall, with 93% (68) of all respondents answering “Yes” and 7% (5) answering “No.”



- Seasonal residents, semi-year-round residents, and year-round residents all were supportive of ICDC’s efforts to provide diverse affordable housing for different target groups.
- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 86% (12) “Yes”; 14% (2) “No”
 - Semi-year-round: 93% (14) “Yes”; 7% (1) “No”
 - Seasonal: 95% (42) “Yes”; 5% (2) “No”

Year-Round: Should the Isle au Haut Community Development Corporation (ICDC) continue to provide diverse affordable housing for different target groups?



Semi-Year-Round: Should the Isle au Haut Community Development Corporation (ICDC) continue to provide diverse affordable housing for different target groups?



Seasonal: Should the Isle au Haut Community Development Corporation (ICDC) continue to provide diverse affordable housing for different target groups?



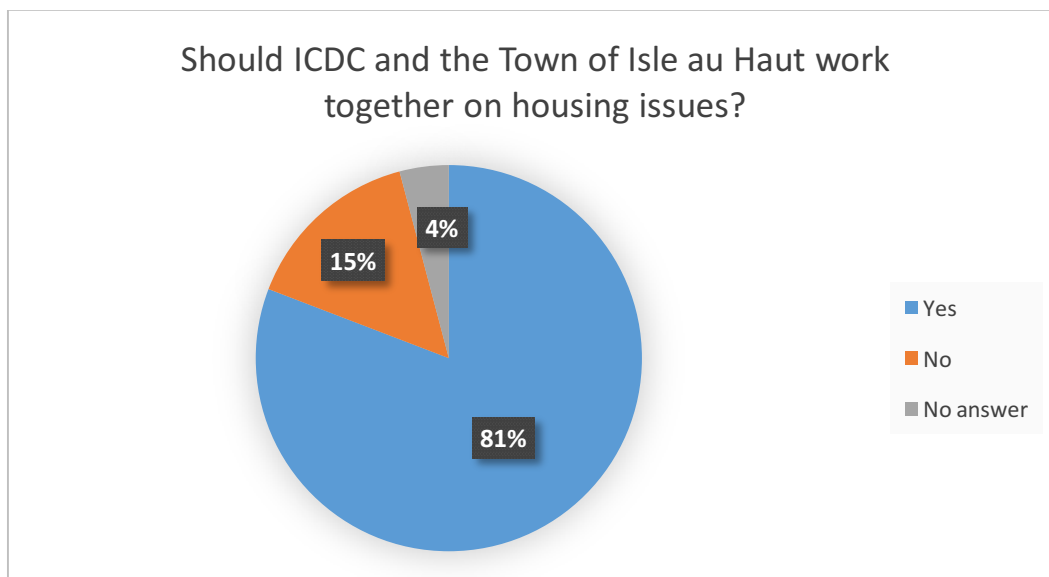
Question 9: If you think the ICDC should provide affordable housing, which groups should the ICDC target in their affordable housing efforts?

- Building the school population was a high priority among many respondents. 48 identified families with school-age children as a target group. 29 identified young families as a target group. Other responses, while not indicating that families were the top priority, mentioned that children were a plus.
- 25 respondents identified home businesses as a target group. 30 respondents identified entrepreneurs as a target group. Others specified that those targeted should bring jobs to the community. A few respondents suggested targeting those who could perform their jobs via the internet and/or could work from home.
- 8 responses indicated that ICDC should target fishermen and/or sternmen in their affordable housing efforts.
- 5 respondents mentioned the need for skilled labor. Some specific skills identified as needed by the town were electrical work, plumbing, and car repair.
- 2 respondents felt that ICDC should target “island kids” and present residents who are having a hard time locating housing.
- Many responses felt that ICDC’s target group should have more ephemeral qualities, recognizing the particular challenges of living year-round on a small island. These respondents felt that the way people “fit” in the community, willingness to “make it work,” self-sufficiency, imagination, and things to contribute to the community should be priorities.

See page 49 for further comments.

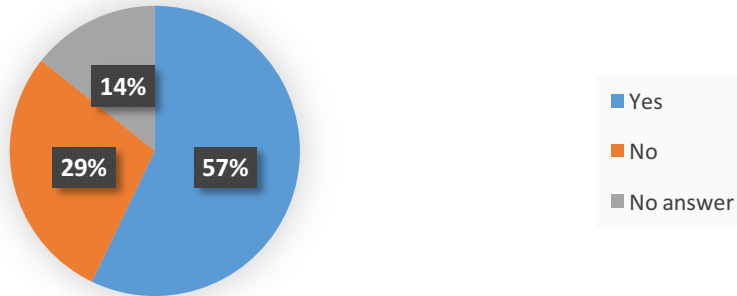
Question 10: Should ICDC and the Town of Isle au Haut work together on housing issues?

- 81% (59) of all respondents believed that ICDC and the Town should work together. 15% (11) disagreed, while 4% (3) declined to answer.

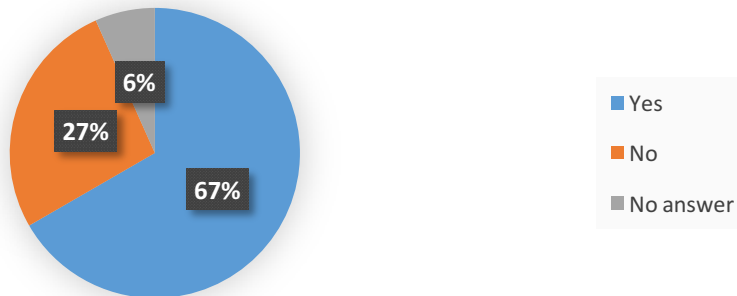


- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 57% (8) “Yes”; 29% (4) “No”; 14% (2) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 67% (10) “Yes”; 27% (4) “No”; 6% (1) no answer
 - Seasonal: 93% (41) “Yes”; 7% (3) “No”

Year-Round: Should ICDC and the Town of Isle au Haut work together on housing issues?



Semi-Year-Round: Should ICDC and the Town of Isle au Haut work together on housing issues?



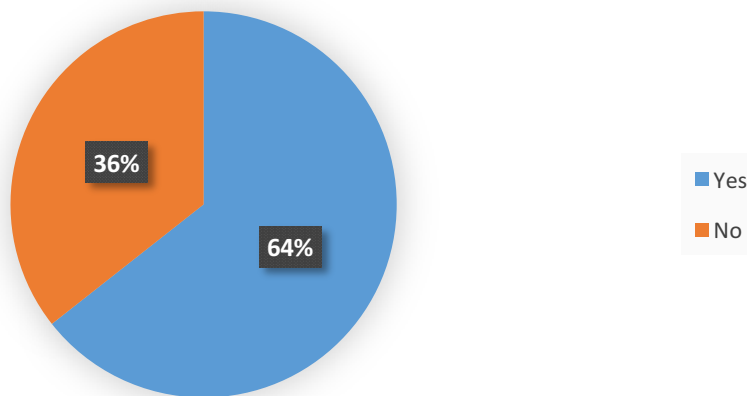
Seasonal: Should ICDC and the Town of Isle au Haut work together on housing issues?



Question 11: Should the Town of Isle au Haut provide some of the housing in its inventory as “workforce” housing?

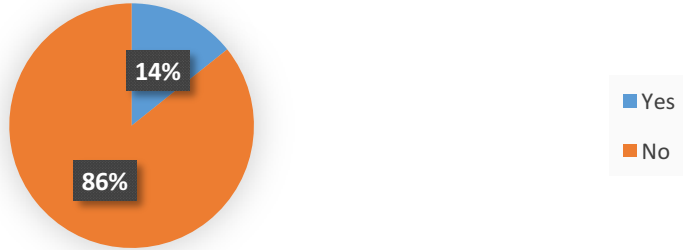
- 64% (47) supported the idea of the Town providing “workforce” housing, while 36% (26) did not.

Should the Town of Isle au Haut provide some of the housing in its inventory as "workforce" housing?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 14% (2) “Yes”; 86% (12) “No”
 - Semi-year-round: 60% (9) “Yes”; 40% (6) “No”
 - Seasonal: 82% (36) “Yes”; 18% (8) “No”

Year-Round: Should the Town of Isle au Haut provide some of the housing in its inventory as "workforce" housing?



Semi-Year-Round: Should the Town of Isle au Haut provide some of the housing in its inventory as "workforce" housing?



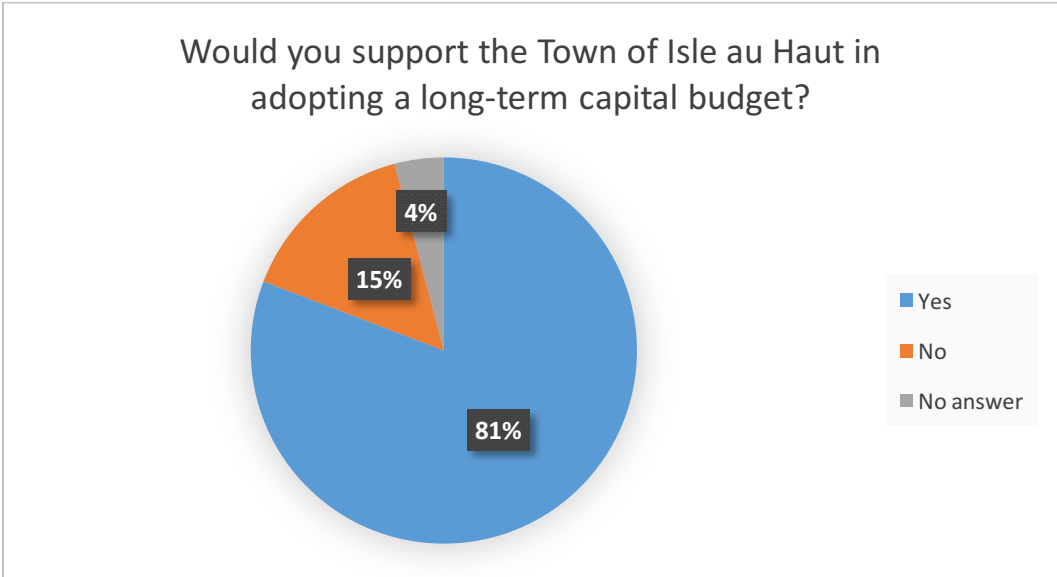
Seasonal: Should the Town of Isle au Haut provide some of the housing in its inventory as "workforce" housing?



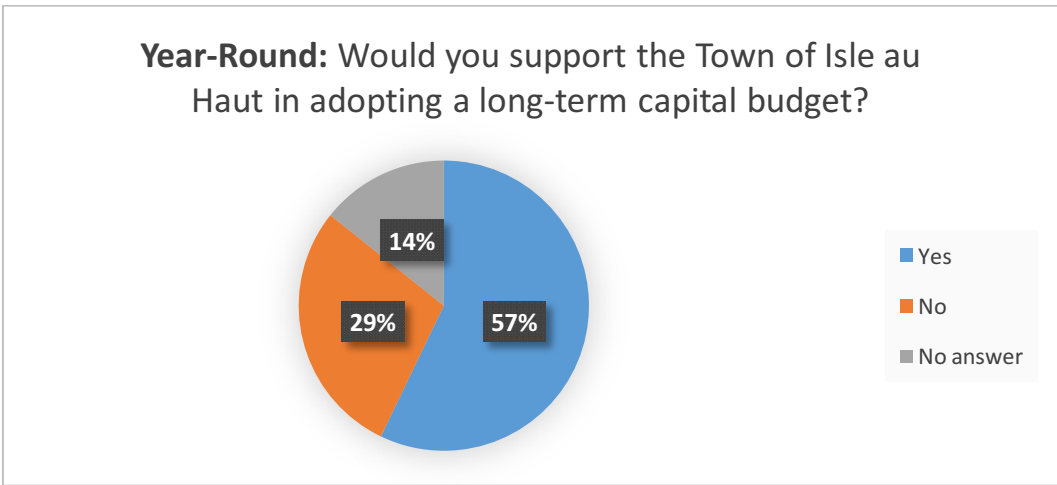
Public Facilities and Services

Question 13: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut in adopting a long-term capital budget?

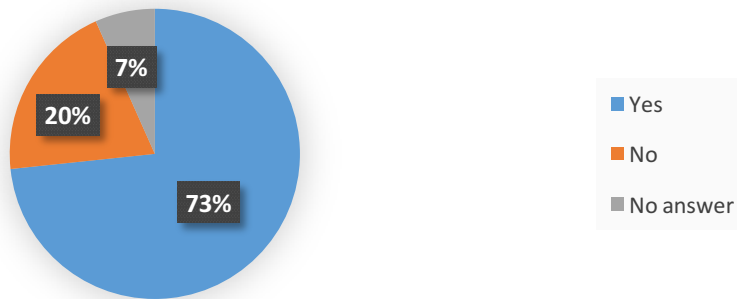
- 81% (59) of respondents supported the adoption of a long-term capital budget, while 15% (11) did not. 4% (3) declined to answer.



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 57% (8) “Yes”; 29% (4) “No”; 14% (2) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 73% (11) “Yes”; 20% (3) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Seasonal: 91% (40) “Yes”; 9% (4) “No”



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut in adopting a long-term capital budget?



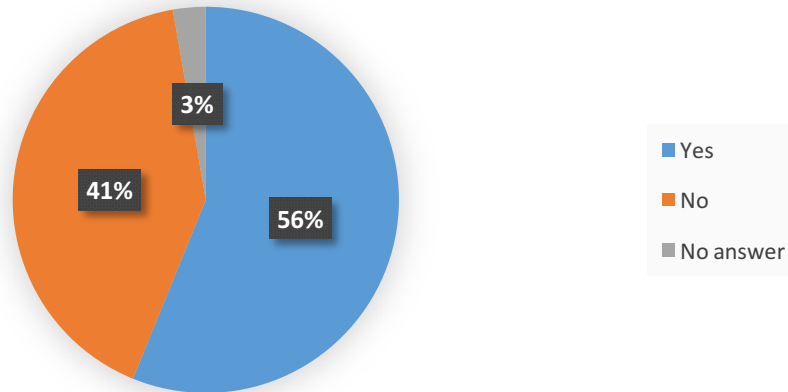
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut in adopting a long-term capital budget?



Question 14: Should the Town of Isle au Haut plan financially for the acquisition of more town access to the waterfront?

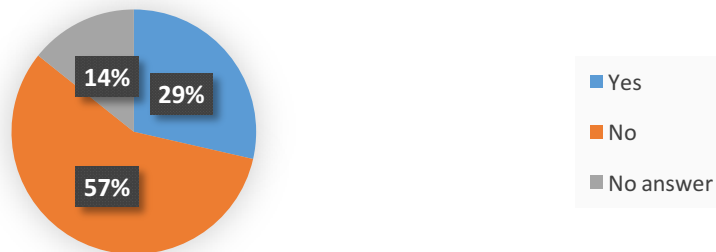
- Respondents were divided on this issue overall, with 56% (41) supporting financial planning for more waterfront access, 41% (30) opposing, and 3% (2) declining to answer.

Should the Town of Isle au Haut plan financially for the acquisition of more town access to the waterfront?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 29% (4) “Yes”; 57% (8) “No”; 14% (2) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 80% (12) “Yes”; 20% (3) “No”
 - Seasonal: 57% (25) “Yes”; 43% (19) “No”

Year-Round: Should the Town of Isle au Haut plan financially for the acquisition of more town access to the waterfront?



Semi-Year-Round: Should the Town of Isle au Haut plan financially for the acquisition of more town access to the waterfront?



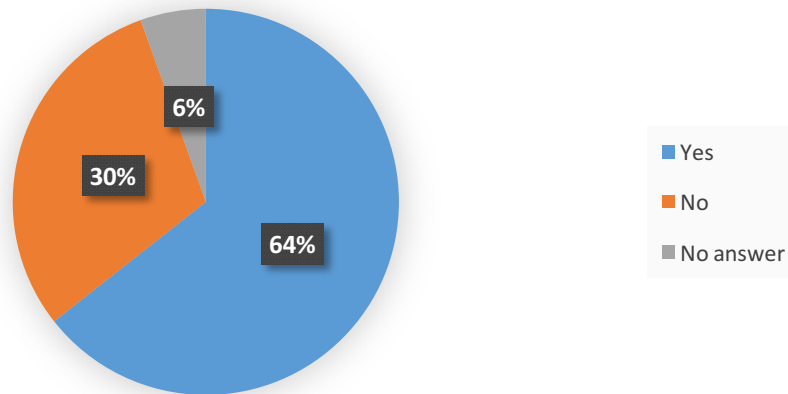
Seasonal: Should the Town of Isle au Haut plan financially for the acquisition of more town access to the waterfront?



Question 15: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut increasing the Fire Chief's salary?

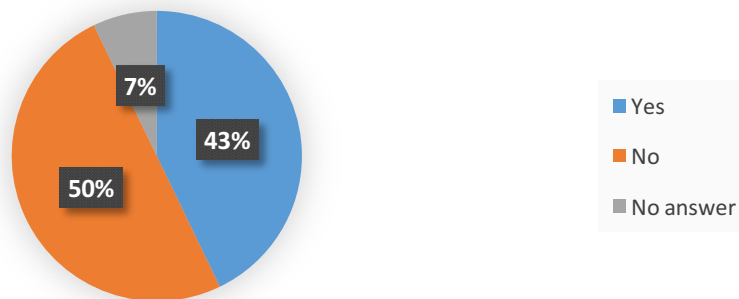
- 64% (47) of respondents supported increasing the salary for the position of Fire Chief, while 30% (22) opposed the increase. 6% (4) declined to answer.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut increasing the Fire Chief's salary?

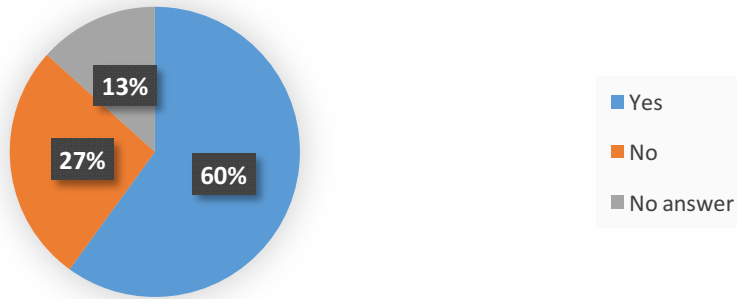


- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 43% (6) “Yes”; 50% (7) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 60% (9) “Yes”; 27% (4) “No”; 13% (2) no answer
 - Seasonal: 73% (32) “Yes”; 25% (11) “No”; 2% (1) no answer

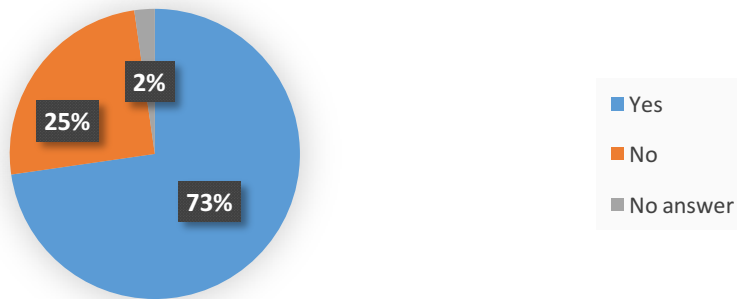
Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut increasing the Fire Chief's salary?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut increasing the Fire Chief's salary?



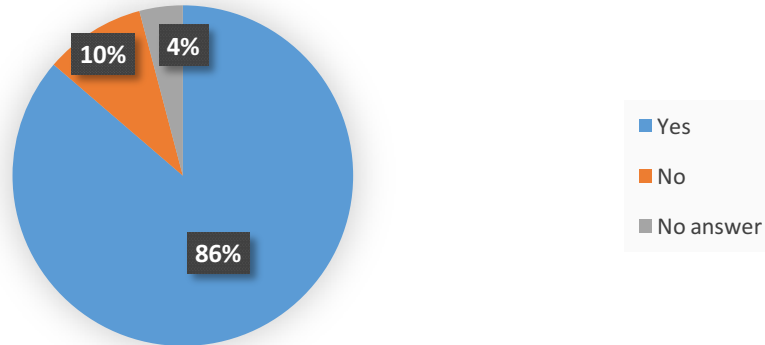
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut increasing the Fire Chief's salary?



Question 16: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut assigning specific maintenance and training duties as a part of the paid position of Fire Chief?

- There was overall support for assigned maintenance and training duties. 86% (63) answered "Yes," 10% (7) answered "No," and 4% (3) provided no answer.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut assigning specific maintenance and training duties as a part of the paid position of Fire Chief?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of "Yes" and "No" answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 72% (10) "Yes"; 21% (3) "No"; 7% (1) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 86.7% (13) "Yes"; 6.7% (1) "No"; 6.7% (1) no answer
 - Seasonal: 91% (40) "Yes"; 7% (3) "No"; 1% (1) no answer

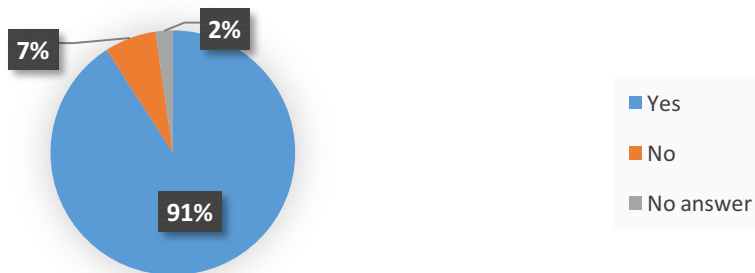
Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut assigning specific maintenance and training duties as a part of the paid position of Fire Chief?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut assigning specific maintenance and training duties as a part of the paid position of Fire Chief?



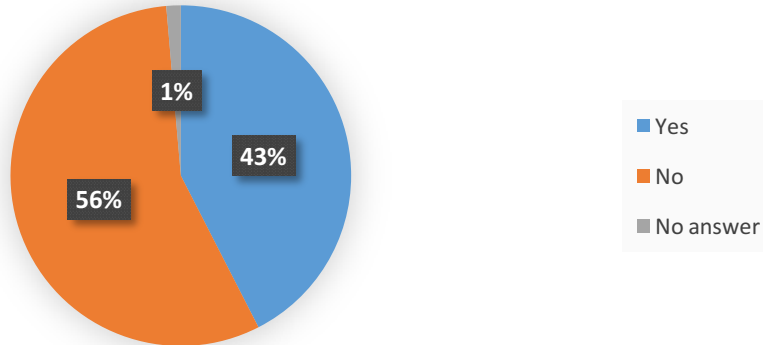
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut assigning specific maintenance and training duties as a part of the paid position of Fire Chief?



Question 17: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut funding efforts to provide assisted living or in-home care to residents?

- 56% (41) of respondents answered "No," 43% (31) answered "Yes," and 1% (1) provided no answer.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut funding efforts to provide assisted living or in-home care to residents?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of "Yes" and "No" answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 43% (6) "Yes"; 57% (8) "No"
 - Semi-year-round: 40% (6) "Yes"; 60% (9) "No"
 - Seasonal: 43% (19) "Yes"; 55% (24) "No"; 2% (1) no answer

Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut funding efforts to provide assisted living or in-home care to residents?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut funding efforts to provide assisted living or in-home care to residents?



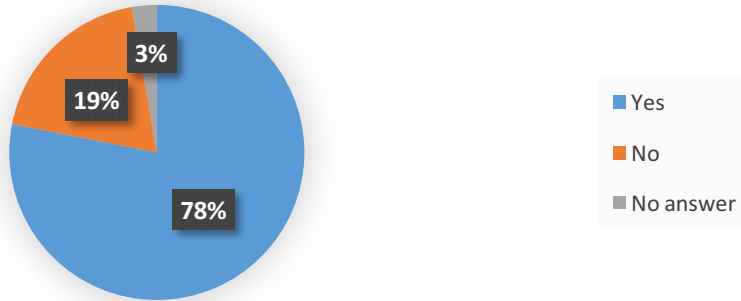
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut funding efforts to provide assisted living or in-home care to residents?



Question 18: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut participating in the funding of broadband services on the island (such as Islesboro recently voted to support)?

- A majority of respondents supported the Town funding broadband services. 78% (57) of respondents answered “Yes,” while 19% (14) answered “No.” 3% (2) declined to answer.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut participating in the funding of broadband services on the island (such as Islesboro recently voted to support)?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 79% (11) “Yes”; 14% (2) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 80% (12) “Yes”; 20% (3) “No”
 - Seasonal: 77% (34) “Yes”; 21% (9) “No”; 2% (1) no answer

Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut participating in the funding of broadband services on the island (such as Islesboro recently voted to support)?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut participating in the funding of broadband services on the island (such as Islesboro recently voted to support)?



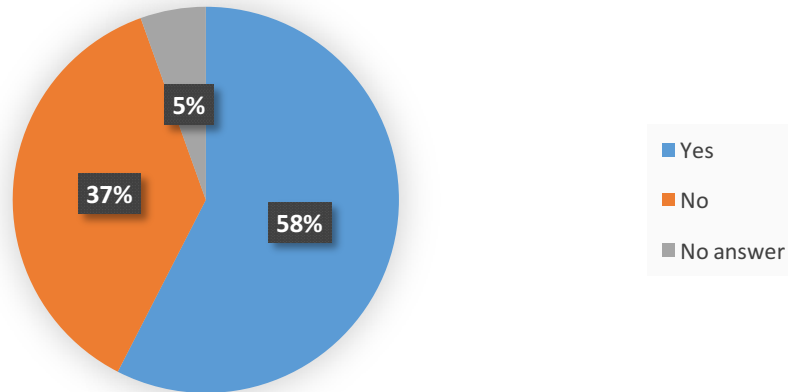
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut participating in the funding of broadband services on the island (such as Islesboro recently voted to support)?



Question 19: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund broadband services?

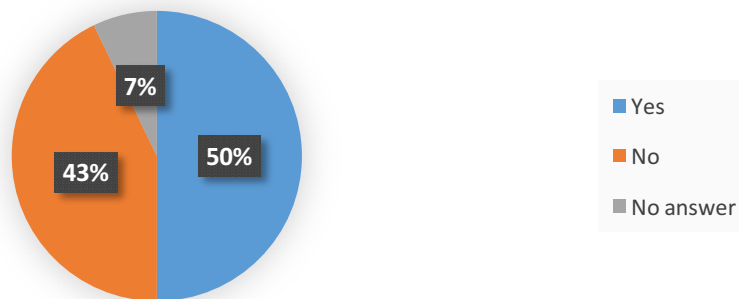
- Respondents were more hesitant about borrowing money to fund broadband services, though there was still overall support. 58% (42) answered “Yes,” 37% (27) answered “No,” and 5% (4) declined to answer.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund broadband services?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 50% (7) “Yes”; 43% (6) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 60% (9) “Yes”; 27% (4) “No”; 13% (2) no answer
 - Seasonal: 59% (26) “Yes”; 39% (17) “No”; 2% (1) no answer

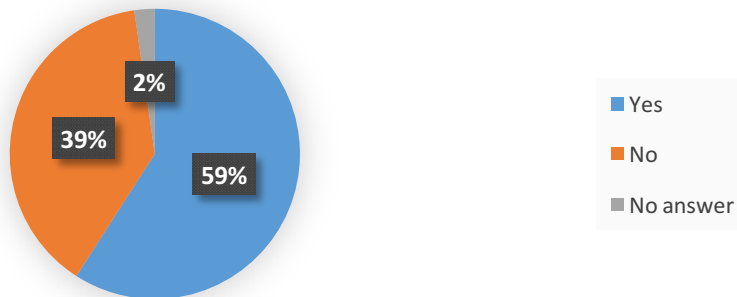
Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund broadband services?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund broadband services?



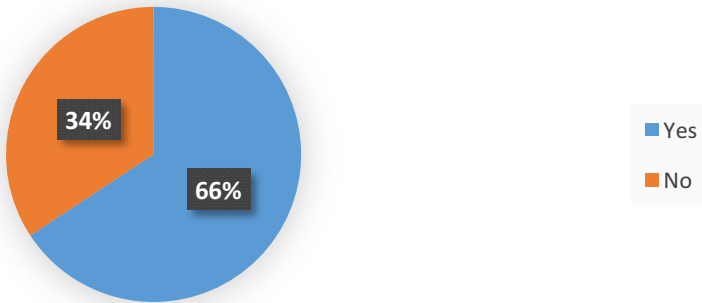
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund broadband services?



Question 20: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to provide long-term parking to ease the burden on the current Town lot?

- 66% (48) of respondents indicated support for leasing space from the parsonage property to provide long-term parking. 34% (25) indicated opposition.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to provide long-term parking to ease the burden on the current Town lot?

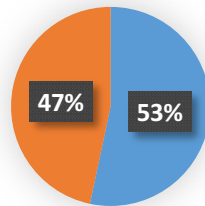


- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 43% (6) “Yes”; 57% (8) “No”
 - Semi-year-round: 53% (8) “Yes”; 47% (7) “No”
 - Seasonal: 77% (34) “Yes”; 23% (10) “No”

Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to provide long-term parking to ease the burden on the current Town lot?

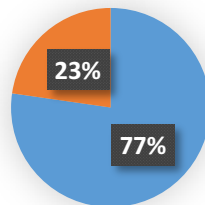


Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to provide long-term parking to ease the burden on the current Town lot?



■ Yes
■ No

Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to provide long-term parking to ease the burden on the current Town lot?

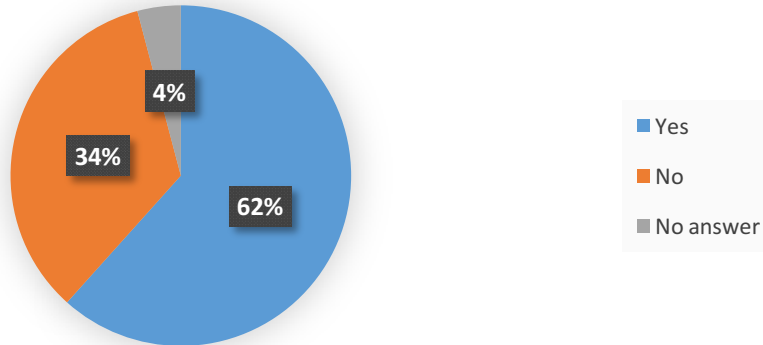


■ Yes
■ No

Question 21: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to build and maintain a year-round health care clinic?

- 62% (45) of respondents were in favor of leasing space from the parsonage to build a health care clinic. 34% (25) were opposed. 4% (3) did not provide an answer.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to build and maintain a year-round health care clinic?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 43% (6) “Yes”; 50% (7) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 60% (9) “Yes”; 27% (4) “No”; 13% (2) no answer
 - Seasonal: 68% (30) “Yes”; 32% (14) “No”

Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to build and maintain a year-round health care clinic?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to build and maintain a year-round health care clinic?



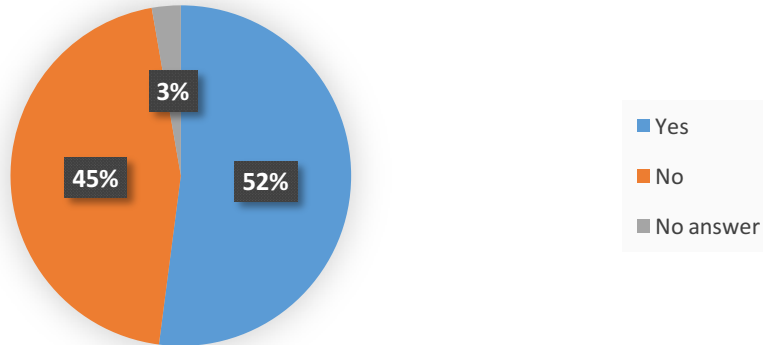
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to build and maintain a year-round health care clinic?



Question 22: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house part of the library collections?

- 52% (38) of respondents were in favor of the Town leasing space from the parsonage to house part of the library's collection. 45% (33) were opposed. 3% (2) did not provide an answer.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house part of the library collections?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of "Yes" and "No" answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 43% (6) "Yes"; 50% (7) "No"; 7% (1) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 53% (8) "Yes"; 40% (6) "No"; 7% (1) no answer
 - Seasonal: 55% (24) "Yes"; 45% (20) "No"

Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house part of the library collections?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house part of the library collections?



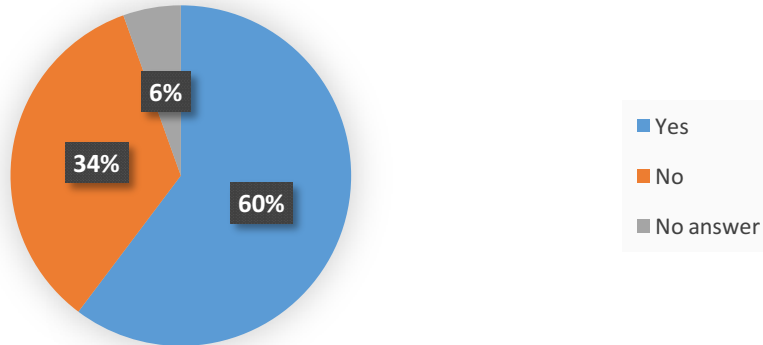
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house part of the library collections?



Question 23: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house the Historical Society's collections?

- 60% (44) of respondents were in favor of the Town leasing space from the parsonage to house the Historical Society's collections. 34% (25) were opposed. 6% (4) did not provide an answer.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house the Historical Society's collections?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 57% (8) “Yes”; 29% (4) “No”; 14% (2) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 73% (11) “Yes”; 20% (3) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Seasonal: 57% (25) “Yes”; 41% (18) “No”; 2% (1) no answer

Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house the Historical Society's collections?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house the Historical Society's collections?



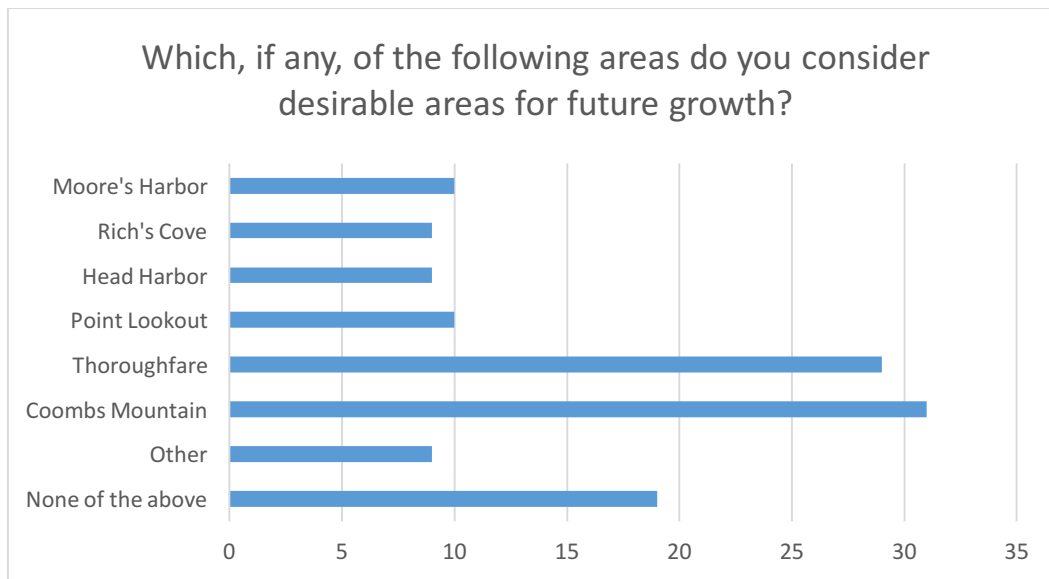
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut leasing space from the Church parsonage property to house the Historical Society's collections?



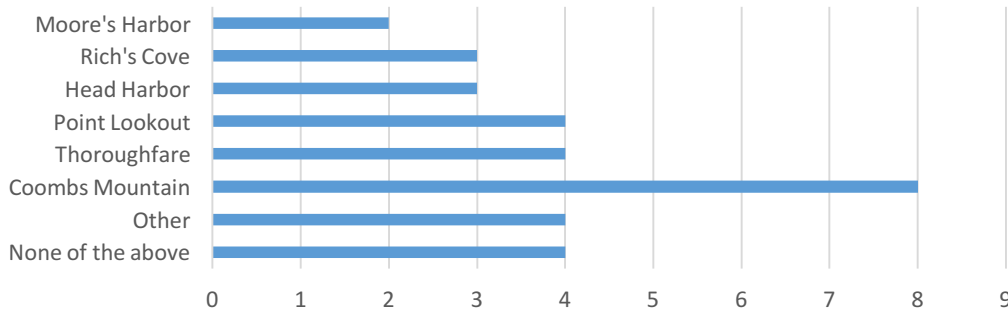
Land Use

Question 25: Which, if any, of the following areas do you consider desirable areas for future growth?

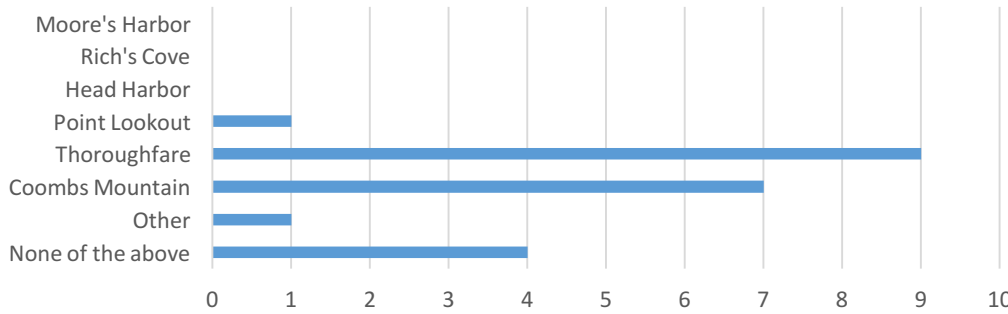
- Respondents could select as many of the suggested “clustered development” areas of the island as they deemed desirable for future growth. There were also alternatives for “None of the above” and “Other.” In the latter option, respondents were encouraged to provide their own response.
- The Thoroughfare area and Coombs Mountain were the most commonly identified areas for future growth.
- “Other” suggested areas included:
 - The “Bowditch Property”
 - Old Cove
 - Areas on the east side of the island
 - Other town-owned land



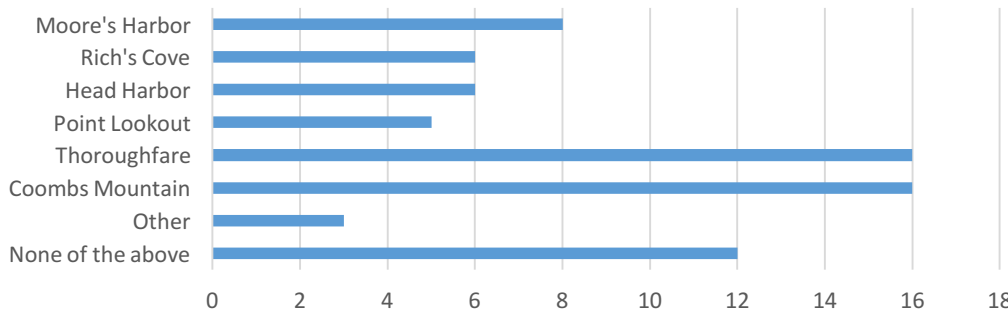
Year-Round: Which, if any, of the following areas do you consider desirable areas for future growth?



Semi-Year-Round: Which, if any, of the following areas do you consider desirable areas for future growth?

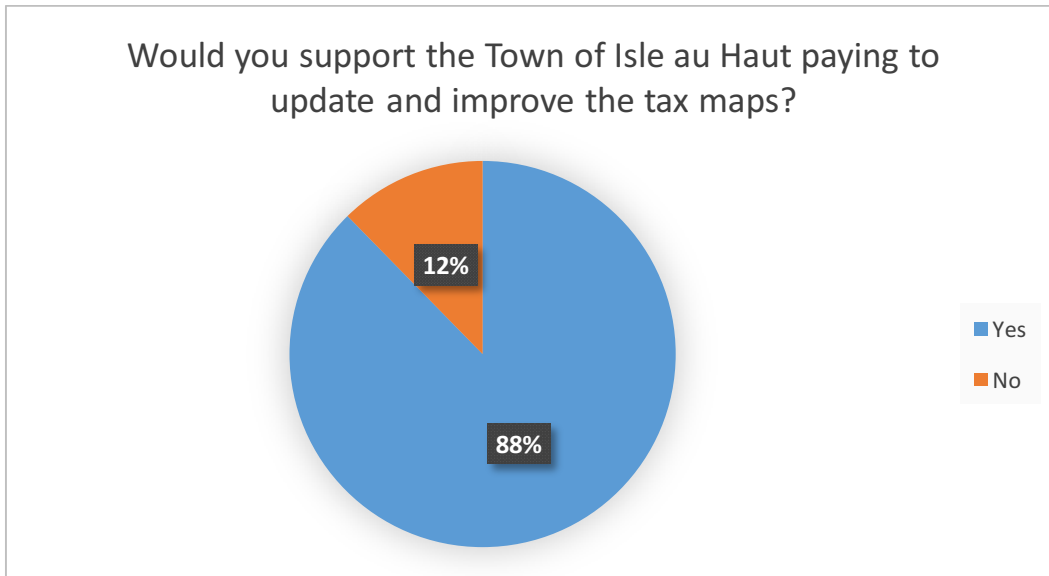


Seasonal: Which, if any, of the following areas do you consider desirable areas for future growth?

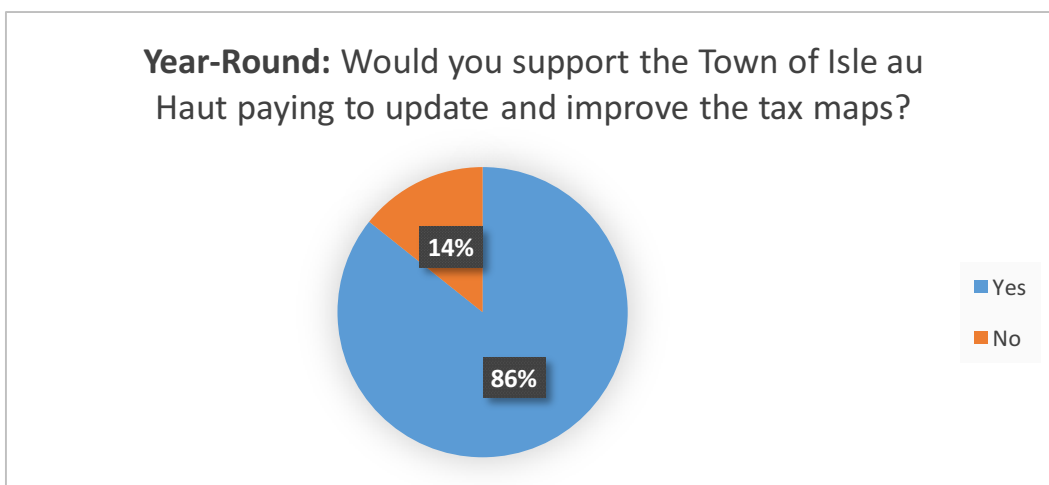


Question 26: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut paying to update and improve the tax maps?

- Respondents supported the Town paying to update and improve tax maps. 88% (64) answered yes, and 12% (9) answered no.



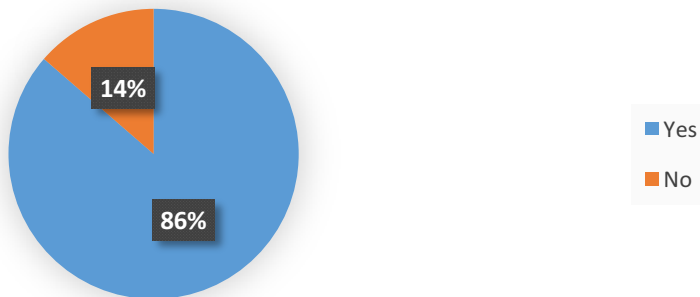
- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of "Yes" and "No" answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 86% (12) "Yes"; 14% (2) "No"
 - Semi-year-round: 93% (14) "Yes"; 7% (1) "No"
 - Seasonal: 86% (38) "Yes"; 14% (6) "No"



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut paying to update and improve the tax maps?



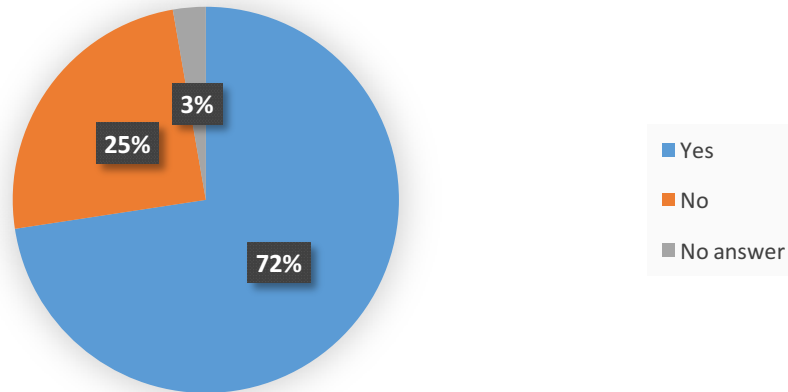
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut paying to update and improve the tax maps?



Question 27: Should the town zoning ordinance be changed to restrict the height of new buildings?

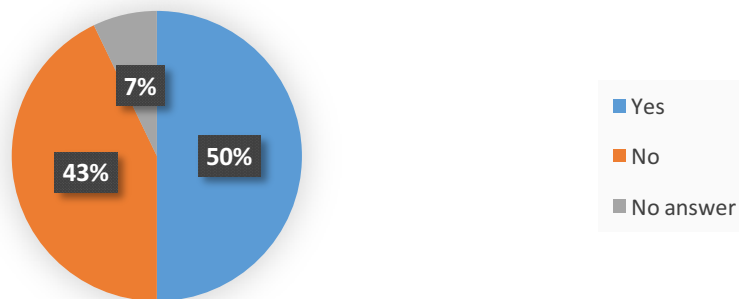
- 72% (53) of respondents indicated that the height of new buildings should be restricted through a new zoning ordinance, while 25% (18) indicated that it should not. 3% (2) declined to answer.

Should the town zoning ordinance be changed to restrict the height of new buildings?

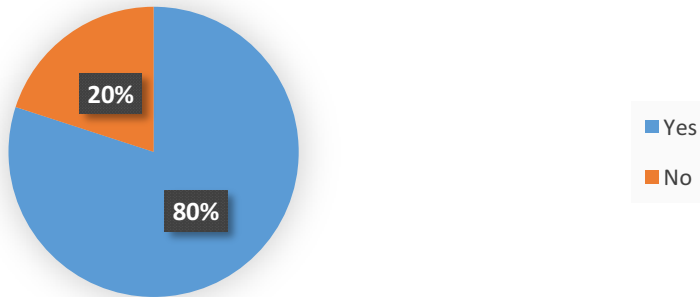


- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 50% (7) “Yes”; 43% (6) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 80% (12) “Yes”; 20% (3) “No”
 - Seasonal: 77% (34) “Yes”; 21% (9) “No”; 2% (1) no answer

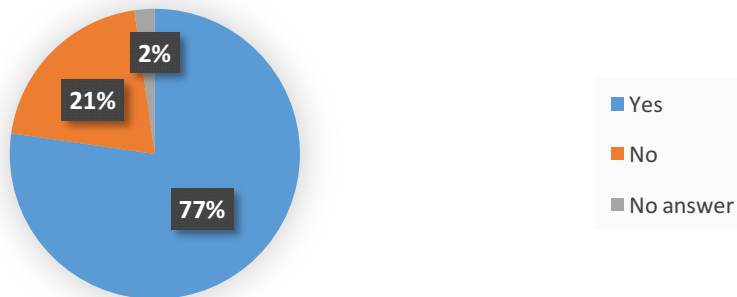
Year-Round: Should the town zoning ordinance be changed to restrict the height of new buildings?



Semi-Year-Round: Should the town zoning ordinance be changed to restrict the height of new buildings?



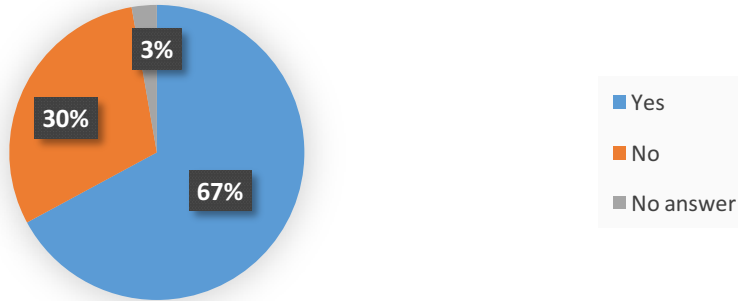
Seasonal: Should the town zoning ordinance be changed to restrict the height of new buildings?



Question 28: Should the town zoning ordinance be changed in order to delineate several "General Development" and "Commercial Fisheries/Maritime Activities" districts in the Shoreland Zone?

- 67% (49) of respondents supported the proposed new town zoning ordinance districts. 30% (22) opposed the change. 3% (2) declined to answer.

Should the town zoning ordinance be changed in order to delineate several "General Development" and "Commercial Fisheries/Maritime Activities" districts in the Shoreland Zone?

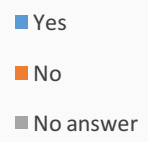
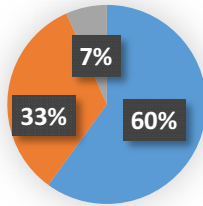


- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 57% (8) “Yes”; 36% (5) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 60% (9) “Yes”; 33% (5) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Seasonal: 73% (32) “Yes”; 27% (12) “No”

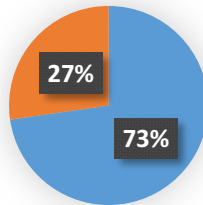
Year-Round: Should the town zoning ordinance be changed in order to delineate several "General Development" and "Commercial Fisheries/Maritime Activities" districts in the Shoreland Zone?



Semi-Year-Round: Should the town zoning ordinance be changed in order to delineate several "General Development" and "Commercial Fisheries/Maritime Activities" districts in the Shoreland Zone?



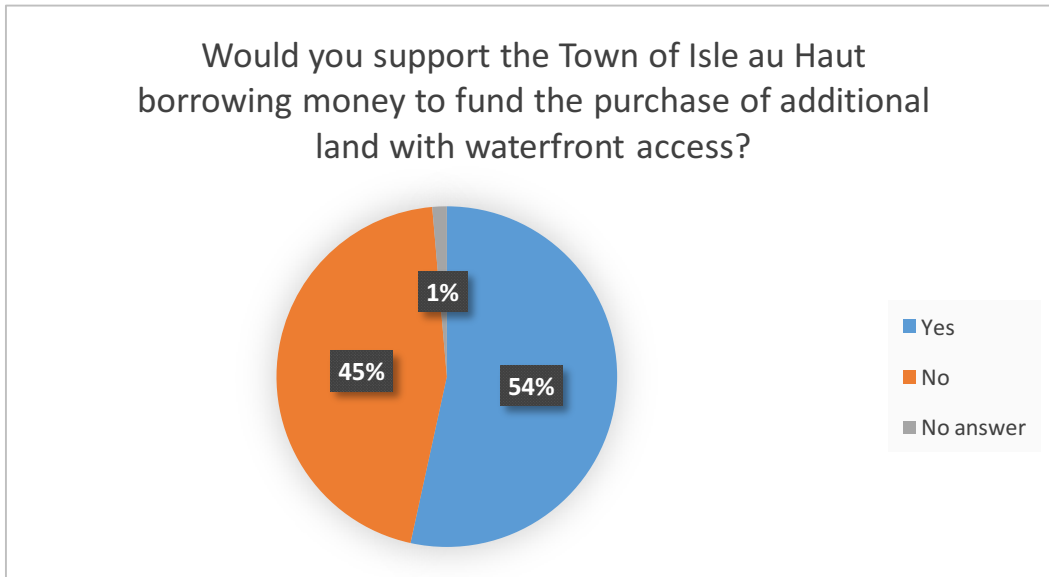
Seasonal: Should the town zoning ordinance be changed in order to delineate several "General Development" and "Commercial Fisheries/Maritime Activities" districts in the Shoreland Zone?



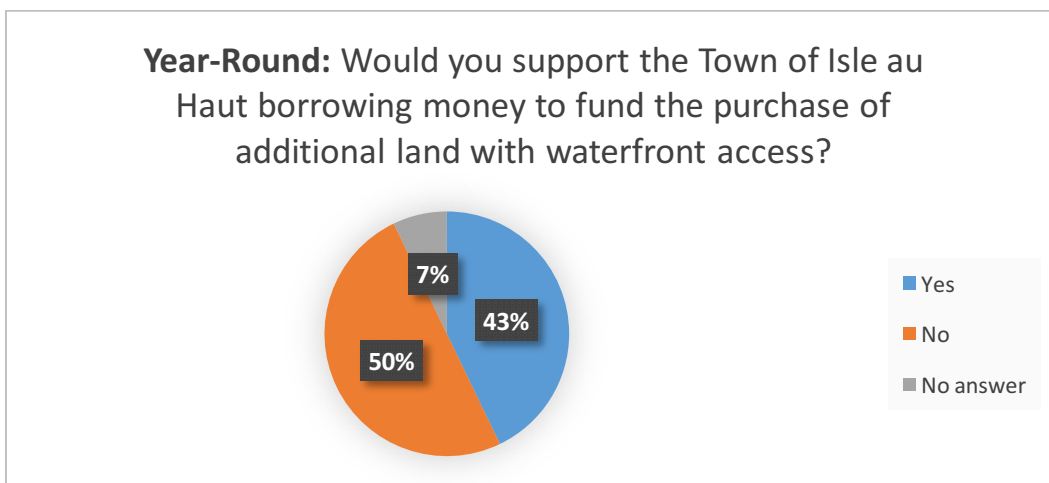
Fiscal Capacity

Question 30: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund the purchase of additional land with waterfront access?

- 54% (39) of respondents supported the Town borrowing money to acquire additional waterfront property. 45% (33) opposed the proposal. 1% (1) declined to answer.



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 43% (6) “Yes”; 50% (7) “No”; 7% (1) no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 67% (10) “Yes”; 33% (5) “No”
 - Seasonal: 52% (23) “Yes”; 48% (21) “No”



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund the purchase of additional land with waterfront access?



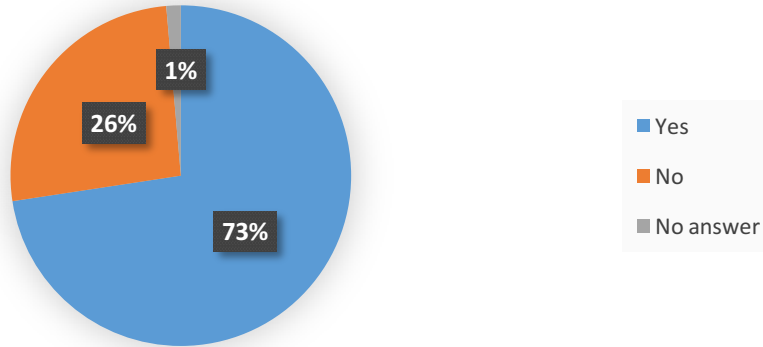
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund the purchase of additional land with waterfront access?



Question 31: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund the expansion of emergency services?

- There was overall support for the Town borrowing money to expand emergency services. 73% (53) supported borrowing money, 26% (19) opposed it, and 1% (1) did not provide a response.

Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund the expansion of emergency services?



- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 72% “Yes”; 21% “No”; 7% no answer
 - Semi-year-round: 87% “Yes”; 13% “No”
 - Seasonal: 68% “Yes”; 32% “No”

Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund the expansion of emergency services?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund the expansion of emergency services?



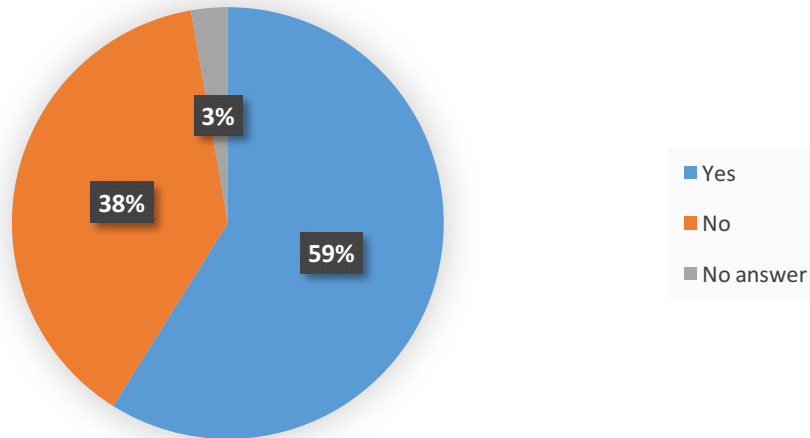
Seasonal: Would you support the Town of Isle au Haut borrowing money to fund the expansion of emergency services?



Question 32: Would you favor a new form of town government?

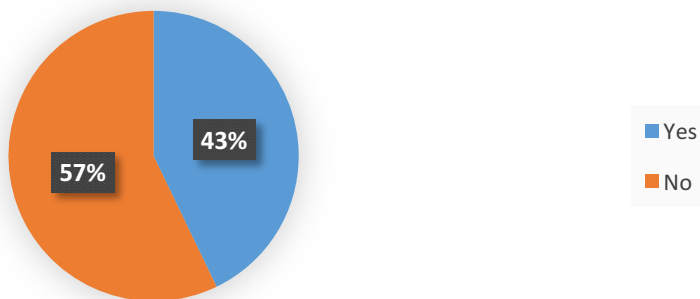
- Discrepancies in the answers to this question and its follow-up, question 33, indicate that this question was poorly phrased and/or explained. In this question, 59% (43) indicated that they would favor a new form of town government. 38% (28) indicated that they would not. 3% (2) declined to provide an answer.
- Question 33, however, provided examples of a few types of modifications that could be made in the form of our current selectmen-town meeting form of government, as well as a blank space to suggest another type. In question 33, 81% (59) respondents chose one of the provided examples or suggested their own, while only 19% (14) did not. This indicates that support for a modification in the current structure of our town government is more widespread than the below graph and the results from question 32 imply.

Would you favor a new form of town government?

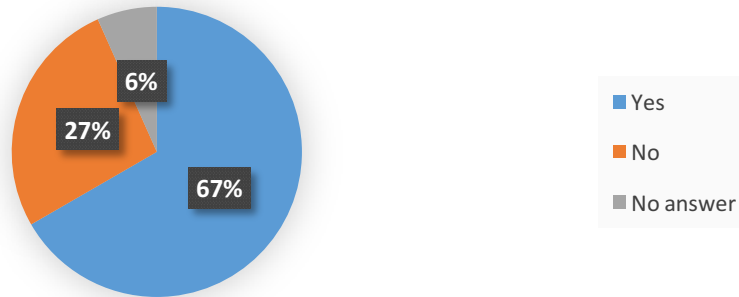


- When divided by the amount of time spent on the island, the percentages of “Yes” and “No” answers were as follows:
 - Year-round: 43% (6) “Yes”; 57% (8) “No”
 - Semi-year-round: 67% (10) “Yes”; 27% (4) “No”; 6% (1) no answer
 - Seasonal: 62% (27) “Yes”; 36% (16) “No”; 2% (1) no answer

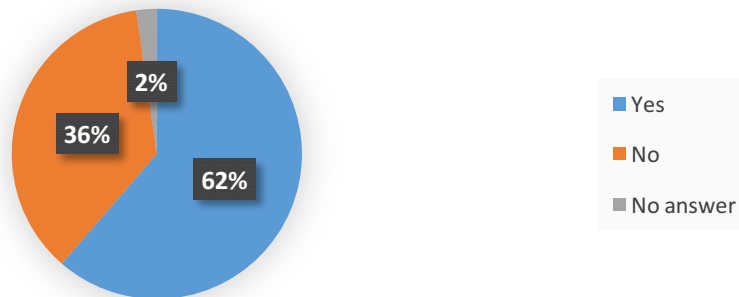
Year-Round: Would you favor a new form of town government?



Semi-Year-Round: Would you favor a new form of town government?



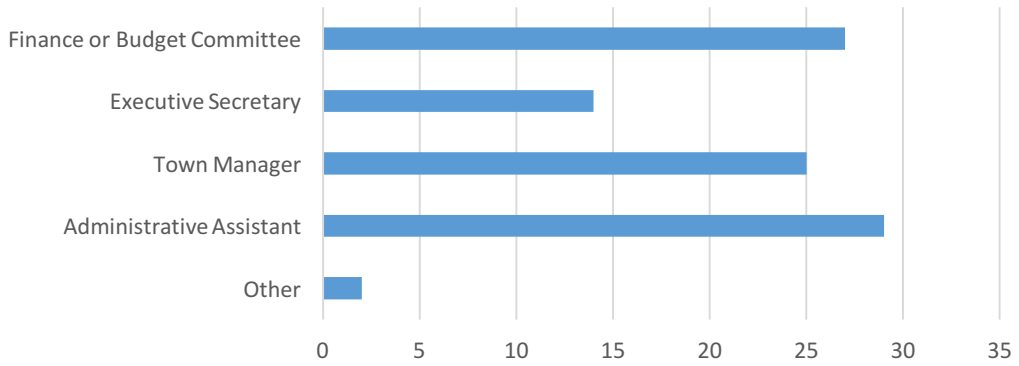
Seasonal: Would you favor a new form of town government?



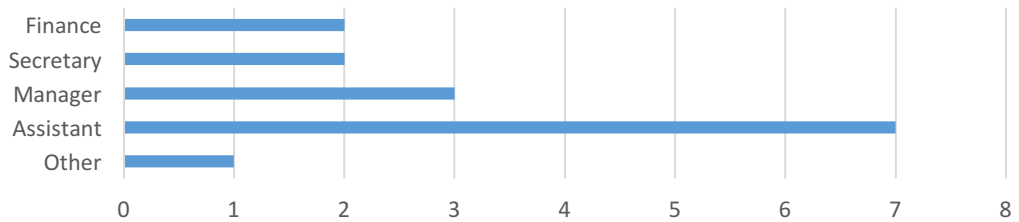
Question 33: If you would favor a new form or a modification in the current form of our town government, which (if any) of the following would you support?

- As explained above under the heading of question 32, 81% (59) of respondents chose at least one of the provided example modifications in the form of Isle au Haut's town government or provided their own. Respondents could select as many answers as they desired.
- "Other" answers:
 - As needed for special projects
 - Anything

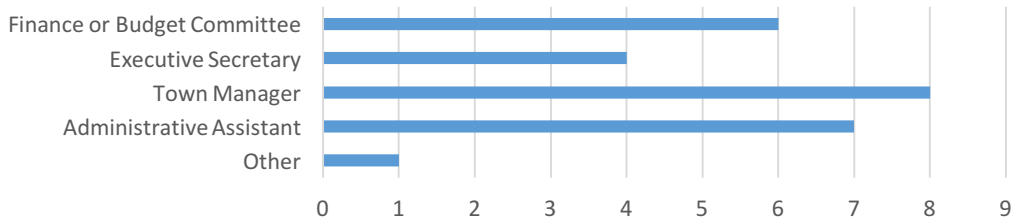
If you would favor a new form or a modification in the current form of our town government, which (if any) of the following would you support?



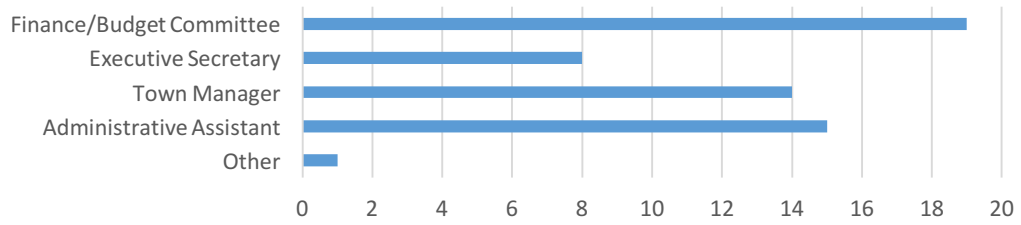
Year-Round: If you would favor a new form or a modification in the current form of our town government, which (if any) of the following would you support?



Semi-Year-Round: If you would favor a new form or a modification in the current form of our town government, which (if any) of the following would you support?



Seasonal: If you would favor a new form or a modification in the current form of our town government, which (if any) of the following would you support?



Selected Comments

Comments may have been edited for length and clarity. This list of comments does not reflect the frequency with which ideas were mentioned. Duplicate and near-duplicate comments have not been included.

Housing

Q9: If you think the ICDC should provide affordable housing, which groups should the ICDC target in their affordable housing efforts?

- Low income
- Young families
- Families with school-age children
- Home businesses
- Entrepreneurs
- Affordable housing should be in conjunction with the town.
- Target groups should be carefully thought out.
- Sternmen
- The type of people that should be targeted are people who are self-employed and will also bring jobs to the community. Ideally, these people would have young school-age children.
- Fishermen
- Families with a plan. They do not need a business in hand, but should have the willingness to work outside current experiences to make it work. There are plenty of opportunities on the island.
- If we are trying to build a functional community, then why not prioritize those people/families that can contribute to our community?
- Professional people who can work via the internet.
- Families of any stripe.
- Island kids who meet the rental requirements.
- Anyone who can make a living here, with priority given to families with school-age children.
- People with skills needed on the island.
- Whatever is compatible with town efforts.
- Families who will likely stay and be welcomed and supported by the whole community.
- Present island residents who are having difficulty finding adequate places to rent.
- New families with elementary school age children.
- I don't think IAH can be choosy about the categories from which residents might come. The more important issue in a community this small is character and personality—they need to "fit."
- Internet-based businesses
- Those looking to make a fresh start
- Skilled labor such as plumbers, electricians, mechanics

- People who work with their hands
- Magnet/private school
- Those willing to commit to staying year-round, if possible.
- People who are ambitious and able to be on a remote island that has a lower population eight months of the year. Having children would be great, but an ambitious couple living here might have children in the future. The people need to be self-sufficient and imaginative. Being alone is not for everyone and you need to be able to think for yourself and figure things out. People with a realistic business plan would be great.
- Low income will not work due to rent being too high.
- Anyone, at this point.

General Housing Comments

- There is no affordable housing on IAH. The current ICDC houses' monthly rentals are too high. They are not affordable for a fisherman or a carpenter.
- Workforce housing should be limited to those workers making a direct contribution to the town, not just out here doing seasonal work.
- People who need workers should provide their housing. Families who need work year-round should come and work for those who need workers.
- Property should be sold on an open market. Quit unfair competition with entrepreneurs.
- The town and ICDC should work together and meet regularly, but I don't see the town being in the landlord business.
- Town and ICDC properties are poorly maintained. Renters sometimes pay rent, and sometimes they don't. ICDC should take the lead for the community on housing and have a property manager who is responsible and accountable for managing housing rentals and sales.
- I think we will be relying more and more on off-island workers and it would cut transportation costs for them to have on-island housing.
- The island needs more seasonal housing for workers, and it needs to fill the existing housing (rentals) with young island couples who know they want to be here.
- Land owners should be encouraged to build small affordable rentals on their property, but the town shouldn't be in the real estate or rental business.
- Workforce housing should be considered only if there is a house available. Couldn't they rent a house that a seasonal resident owns?
- The drawback in providing workforce housing is that there needs to be some sort of housing authority to maintain the house at a decent working level. Anyone who has rented housing or rents their home knows that a myriad of damages can/do take a toll on any house for which the occupant has no responsibility. This would be even more likely in a workforce that is only temporarily occupying the residence. Unless there are serious enforceable regulations to the use of the residence (such as garnering a salary or placing a sizeable deposit before taking up residency), this concept is a prescription for disaster and financial loss.
- Workforce housing is worth further consideration.

- Workforce housing could be considered on a limited basis if it could be managed.
- Workforce housing could lead to year-round residency.
- I do not have a lot of confidence in the government structure on Isle au Haut. I would not extend the scope of the government to include working on these housing issues. The ICDC depends on generosity and charitable giving, plus some broader government grants. I would prefer not to put additional burden on the town government.
- People who need workers to find temporary housing can rent from the stock of housing available for rent.
- I'm not sure why the town owns houses.
- If there is a vacant property and a specific project that needs to get done, it makes sense to make that available to the person(s) hired to carry out that project (i.e. infrastructure project that might take months to accomplish).
- The ultimate survival of the town depends on more transparent communication between all the constituents of the island.
- The leadership of the island needs to make a real effort to help new families establish themselves beyond just helping them move in.
- All houses should be occupied all the time. They don't make money sitting there. Permanent residents should take priority over non-permanent residents.
- Workforce housing could be considered if it were long-term housing for months that someone was working on a project, but not for short-term projects. The workforce needs to have a stake in the housing. If there were a better management of housing, I would rethink this. ICDC and the Town have been very poor at managing property in recent years. No one oversees the properties. This is simply not a good model. People need to care about their housing and either pay security deposits or be given a financial incentive to improve the property. Managing properties better is important before this question can be asked.
- Workforce housing could be beneficial in bringing more and diverse groups/individuals to the island. As it is now, housing options seem very exclusive to young families with children.
- Town housing should be committed to attracting resident families.
- The town has been generous in giving land to ICDC.
- The town should not be operating a boarding house.

Public Facilities and Services

General Public Facilities and Services Comments

- There should be a clear needs assessment for space of various groups, and the store should be included. There should be strategic planning for these. The library could expand into the second space where the Historical Society is currently located. ICDC will be putting a house up for sale that might be an affordable space for health/wellness/fitness. It is already winterized.

- Historical material should be kept in a favorable climate, especially paper.
- I only support the town planning to buy waterfront property if it would create better or more access to the waterfront.
- If parking rules at the town landing were enforced, it would eliminate the need for additional parking.
- It's time for the town to step up and make some prioritized investments in our future.
- It is not the town's responsibility to provide support for assisted living or in-home care. There are state and federal funds and off-island systems for those issues.
- We can't keep raising taxes on the poor working people of this island.
- The health care clinic can go in the Power Company building at the town landing when they vacate it.
- I am concerned that the parsonage is being viewed as a catch-all when the town does not know what else to do with its issues. It is a home during two months of the year for a minister, without whom there is no church and subsequently no reason for a parsonage. I am also aware that solutions need to be found to support the parsonage so that we can have a minister. I do not think the present solutions being proposed are the best ones.
- The only parsonage solution I would support is the Historical Society's collections being located there because it is static and would necessitate opening the house to non-church use only occasionally. If a room apart from the main part of the house was used for this purpose and would not disturb the use of the house for the minister, then I would support its use.
- I think housing part of the library collection in the parsonage is a very poor decision. The library belongs at the town hall because it is a gathering place for many other events as well/ What needs to be done for the library is to use the space that exists more efficiently. For instance, audio-visual items could be put on rolling racks and pulled out for viewing in the hall, then stored for the rest of the time. What is now used as a meeting place could become a children's book room. A table on the stage could be used for visiting and computer usage. Solutions would require some investment, but would not require moving part or all of the library to a different location.
- Long-term parking is a huge issue, but putting a parking lot in front of the parsonage would destroy it as a home, which it primarily is. Instead, some investment in the present space to make it more efficient and accessible might enable it to also provide space for more cars (terraced, for instance).
- Why can't the town provide a tiny building in a key location to provide whatever health equipment needs to be readily available? What about the fire station? Often police, fire, and ambulance are housed together. Perhaps investment in this building would accommodate a healthcare clinic.
- We should not destroy what exists or abandon it, but think outside the box about how to improve and more efficiently use what we already have.
- The church is a private institution that exists for spiritual and charitable purposes. It does not belong to the town. There are many spaces and buildings that do belong to the

town, and I believe these are the spaces that we need to invest in and make better able to serve our needs.

- The town isn't strong enough now to commit to major capital projects. Can IAH manage what it has before taking on more?
- A functional fire department is essential.
- Assisted living and nursing can be done better and more safely off-island.
- How can broadband fit in with the new power system? I am unsure about borrowing for this.
- General support for income generation at the church's annual meeting did not get into specific proposals for the parsonage property.
- A long-term parking lot should be hidden on town-owned land behind the former Miss Lizzie house. The current parking lot is a mess. The parsonage would be seriously damaged by a parking lot.
- The parsonage is almost inaccessible in winter and very hard/impossible to plow out. It would not be good for year-round medical access.
- Some limited library/historical collections could be stored at the parsonage, but unheated, damp, and insecure conditions are not good for storing books and papers, especially rare ones. In summer, the parsonage must provide a quiet and comfortable residence for the minister.
- What would be the cost of these proposals?
- Leasing space from the parsonage for these purposes should only be pursued if the church agrees unanimously. The parsonage is private property and the town does not have any say in its management.
- The parsonage should first and foremost be used for its original purpose: to house a minister. If the church has decided not to have a full-time minister, then the parsonage might be used instead of not used. If there is no minister, perhaps the parsonage could be rented like the "teacher's house" is rented, but made available if a minister is hired.
- I don't think there are enough people on IAH to support a healthcare clinic. Best to use Stonington and *Sunbeam* services for that purpose.
- I think expanding the parking lot would relieve some congestion around the town wharf and would be useful. However, whatever space is provided will probably fill up. I am not sure long term parking is a smart use of resources. Better to organize to keep your car at your place when you are off island for a long time. Maybe a low key taxi service would be a better use of resources.
- I don't understand the finances of the church, but I think the parishioners should support it rather than the tax base of the island. My answer to whether the town should pay the church to use its property depends on how much the church charges.
- Parking is an issue for the town, but it does not seem wise to turn the parsonage into a glorified parking lot. While the island searches for a more permanent minister to fill Ted Hoskins's place, the attractiveness of the parsonage is important in seeking a minister or ministers who are attracted to the island. Marring the natural beauty of the setting would be counterproductive to this search.

- Building and maintaining a year-round healthcare clinic sounds very expensive. The number of rules, regulations, inspections, staffing needs, infrastructure needs, etc. would likely be huge and cumbersome. The town should talk to Dr. Scott Schiff-Slater about the minimum setup necessary to conduct telemedicine consultations and bring that up for consideration.
- It is important to have a competent and reliable fire chief before talking about maintenance and training duties.
- The ICDC house or Payson's might be preferable for healthcare or library. Alternatively, it could be used as the town office so the library could expand to the upstairs of the town hall.
- The parsonage could be used for the historical society if the cellar were dry.
- The parsonage has been unoccupied and unused for too long.
- The town landing provides more than enough town access to the waterfront.
- A power cable is more important than broadband.
- Regarding a long-term capital budget: the town is currently unable to manage its annual budget.
- The town has property, which needs to be better managed. Buying or leasing more is not the answer. Using what we have well is the answer.
- We need a trained fire chief overseeing the fire department. Fire is a huge danger on this small island, with potential for massive destruction.
- Assisted living or in-home care are important. We have an aging community, and there needs to be assistance in place to meet those needs. It would also bring the opportunity for much-needed employment on the island.
- All other possibilities (grants, etc.) should be explored before borrowing money.
- Is it necessary to find other space for the library? It seems there is space at the library and a basement underneath. Could it be managed through an organization? I don't feel it's a priority at the moment, but would want to hear more.
- Moving the historical society could free up some space for the library. In most communities, the historical society and library are different entities.
- The parsonage building will require extensive renovation to be anything more than a seasonal residence. If zoning will permit another building on the church land, that would be far preferable.
- What we need is a responsible fire chief who takes the job seriously. He or she should be adequately compensated for the job.
- Our resident population is too small to afford town-funded assisted living or in-home care.
- Simply increasing the fire chief's salary may not solve the problem.
- I would rather see a historical society building on town land.

Land Use

General Land Use Comments

- We need more places for people and families to live year-round.
- I recognize the need for the town to support maritime professions, but I do not think the town should be designating private property for this purpose. Land and/or waterfront that the town owns or purchases, yes. Otherwise, no.
- Ordinances and zoning changes should be generally applicable, not focused on specific properties.
- Before these are designated, the whole Island needs to understand the implications. Right now very few people have focused on this major change. For example, General Development means intensive development including industrial. Why not Limited Commercial instead, which is recommended for villages? Why a couple of parcels instead of the village as a whole?
- The town should consider limiting the time vehicles are left at the town dock and on the nearby road. Some appear to be there for days and weeks.
- Property should be revaluated before updating the tax maps.
- Zoning should be changed only to protect island fishermen and other businesses.
- A height restriction is unnecessary. The ordinance could include a view clause protecting a homeowner from having a building erected that would block their view and possibly decrease their property value.

Fiscal Capacity

General Fiscal Capacity Comments

- Money spent to insure that the fire department is working is critical.
- A needs assessment should be conducted regarding healthcare and emergency services. How many people? What ages? What services? Would a medical facility or medical/fitness center better serve a broad population? It is also critical to explore how to fund a project like this. The town should not be undertaking funding a health center; there are federal, state, and private funds that should be explored.
- We need to explore allowing property owners the right to vote. It is our taxes that are being used to finance all of these various ideas, and no taxation without representation.
- Critical needs should be prioritized first for borrowing money.
- Are the town governance bylaws adequate for the future functioning of all departments?
- I do not want to lose the town meeting form of government, but I do think that the selectmen need help with administrative tasks.
- I'd like to see town meeting moved to May.
- People should be paid a fair wage/salary, but also held responsible and accountable to do their jobs.

- Expanded emergency/medical services are a must-have, as is a fire department that works.
- A bookkeeper could be hired to do the treasurer's job.
- An administrative assistant could help prepare the budget, so it should be someone with financial skills. There could be a citizen consultant. I'm wary of another committee. There are not enough people to go around as it is.
- The school needs a major restructuring.
- We need town officials who know what they're doing, actually do it, and get their jobs done. We have the talent here, and it is not being utilized. We need accountability, and we need to abide by state laws and standards.
- I would like to see someone do the treasurer and town clerk work, and who would work for the selectmen and other town officials. Whatever title that is would be fine with me. It would need to be someone we can trust, who is reliable, responsible, dependable, and has all the credentials for that position.
- I would be in favor of a professional administrator who would advise the elected officials of the town but not necessarily be living on the island. I would also be in favor of a budget committee of citizens, but would want the professional administrator or some other professional financial person to be actively advising them in their deliberations.
- Try the administrative assistant first, then proceed later to a finance committee?
- I am concerned about the lack of good bookkeeping and lack of a town meeting to make important budget allocation decisions this year. It makes me reluctant to vest more scope and power in the town government without some change. A professional manager would be smart, but it would have to be a part-time job, which may make it relatively difficult to fill.
- I'm not sure about a new form or modification in the current form of town government, but it is obvious something must be done, soon.
- Whatever the ultimate form of government chosen, there should be room for participation (and representation) by a member or members of the summer community. There should be more balance in this regard. This seems to work well with committees and boards that draw from both year-round and summer residents.
- The suggested expansion and growth programs would require large amounts of money. That aspect of the problem must be discussed and examined.
- Hire a part-time town manager in conjunction with one or more other small towns either on an island or the mainland.
- We would prefer a town manager, even part-time, to an administrative assistant.
- Hiring a professional bookkeeper might be a good idea, or hiring out contractually what the town needs. For example, if the town needs a new tax evaluation, that could be hired out.
- The board of selectmen would still need to oversee a town manager. I'm not sure the town is that busy. I'm not opposed to a part-time manager if the working board of selectmen see specific needs.

- Government should be more collective and less individual. It's important to have professional people in place to make sure budget decisions are implemented. Having other/more people in place to oversee certain aspects could be beneficial in catching things before they are overlooked.
- Expanded emergency services are necessary. It's scary to imagine getting seriously hurt here. Time is often the main factor in life or death or permanent disability in a serious accident. The island needs to have people and services on point to deal with such an event.
- The town officials need assistance with the execution of their duties. This could be accomplished through non-resident personnel and capabilities.
- Town administrator/secretary/manager might need to be outsourced due to lack of personnel on the island.
- Certain town office positions should be on a hire-on basis so that accountability and transparency can be assured.