

2024

Town of Dunstable

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Annual Resident Survey Results



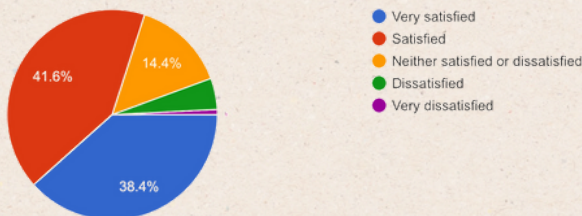
The Town of Dunstable conducted a resident survey to gather community feedback on key issues, priorities, and perceptions regarding local governance, services, and quality of life. This survey aimed to better understand residents' concerns and preferences, enabling town leadership to make informed decisions that align with the community's needs - 125 residents completed the survey.

The survey covered a range of topics, including satisfaction with town services, pressing challenges, budget priorities, and communication preferences. Responses were collected from a diverse cross-section of residents, reflecting a broad spectrum of perspectives and experiences.

This report provides a detailed analysis of the survey results, highlighting trends, insights, and areas for improvement. It also includes visual representations of key findings to ensure clarity and accessibility for stakeholders. The goal of this report is to foster transparency, guide policy discussions, and enhance community engagement as the town plans for the future.

Question #1

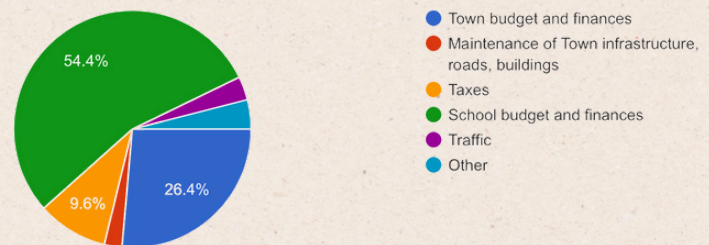
How would you describe your overall opinion of Dunstable Town Government (Town Hall, Police, and Fire, Highway, Boards/Committees)?



A combined 80% of respondents had an overall opinion of satisfied or very satisfied of Town Government with only 5.6% being dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Question #2

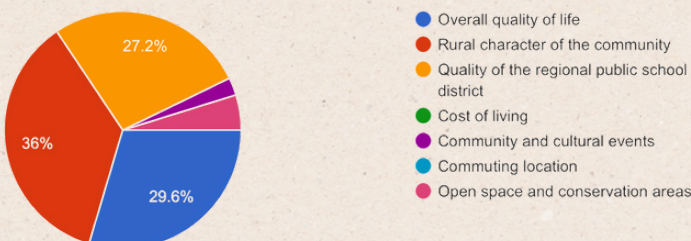
Select the single biggest issue facing Dunstable.



The majority of respondents identified school budget and finances as the single biggest issue facing Dunstable, followed closely by concerns about the town budget and finances.

Question #3

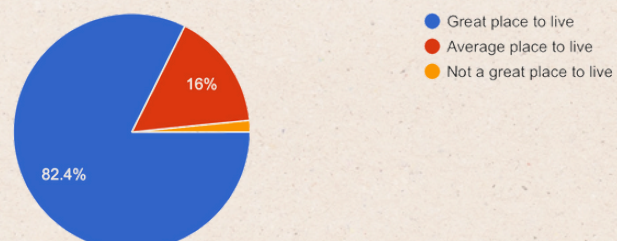
What do you like most about the Town of Dunstable?



Respondents primarily like the community's rural character most with the overall quality of life and the quality of the regional public school district ranked as a close second and third.

Question #11

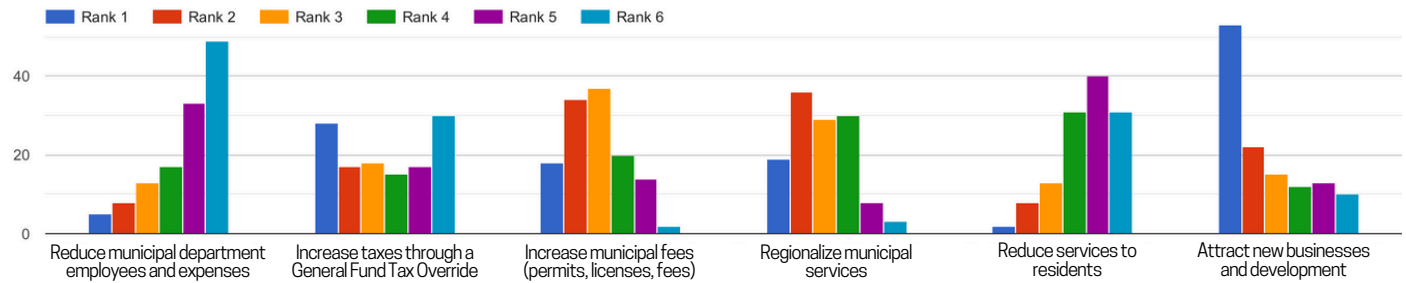
How do you rate Dunstable as a place to live?



A significant majority of respondents rated Dunstable as a "great place to live," underscoring the town's appeal. Few, only 2, respondents rated the town negatively, indicating a broad consensus of satisfaction among residents.

Question #4

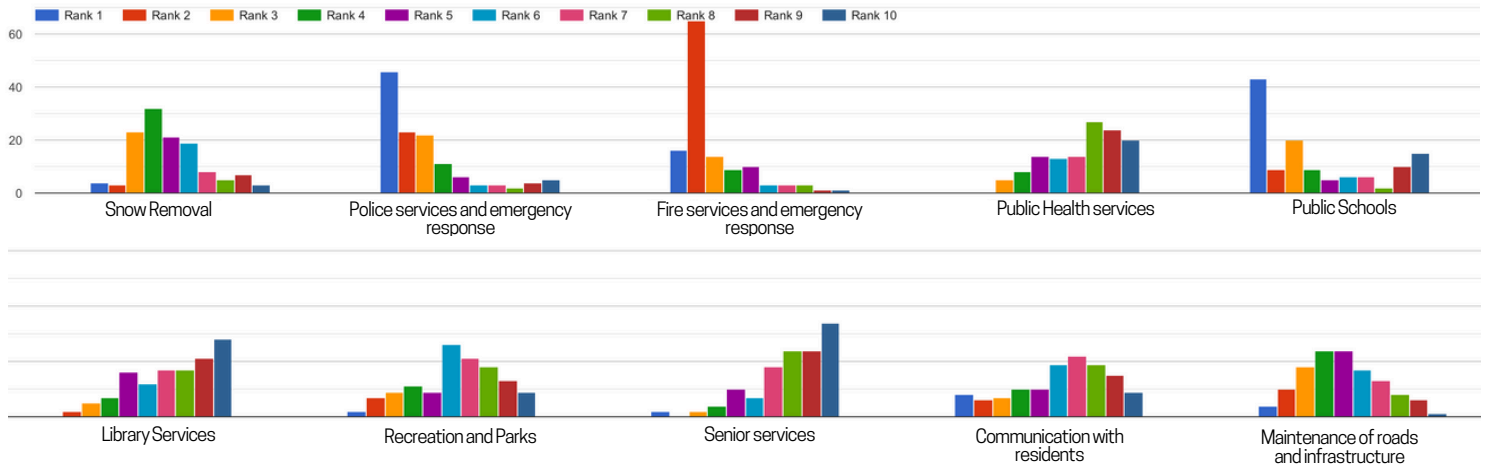
In order to help balance the Town's budget, please rank the following options (1 is most supportive and 6 is least supportive)



Reducing municipal department employees and expenses received the highest proportion of low rankings and increasing municipal fees and regionalizing services were ranked more favorably, indicating moderate resident support. Attracting new businesses and development was ranked first more than any other option.

Question #5

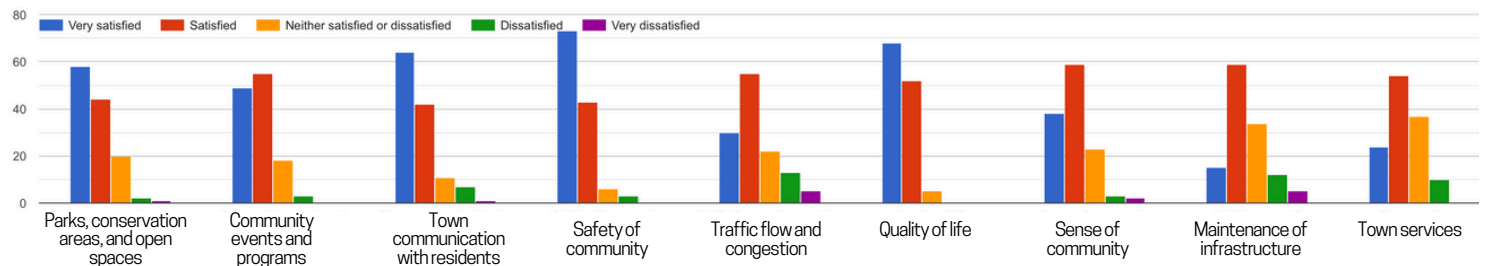
Please rank the importance of the following town services to you. (1 is most important, 10 is least important)



Public safety services, including police and fire departments, emerged as a top priority for the majority of respondents. Similarly, infrastructure maintenance, such as roads and public buildings, was consistently ranked highly. Education and school funding received high rankings but also lower rankings, indicating some division among residents. It seems that while many view education as integral to the town others may weigh its importance against pressing financial constraints. Recreational and cultural services, such as parks and community programs, tended to receive lower rankings. While appreciated, these services seem to be seen as secondary compared to core services like safety and infrastructure.

Question #6

How satisfied are you with the following in Dunstable?

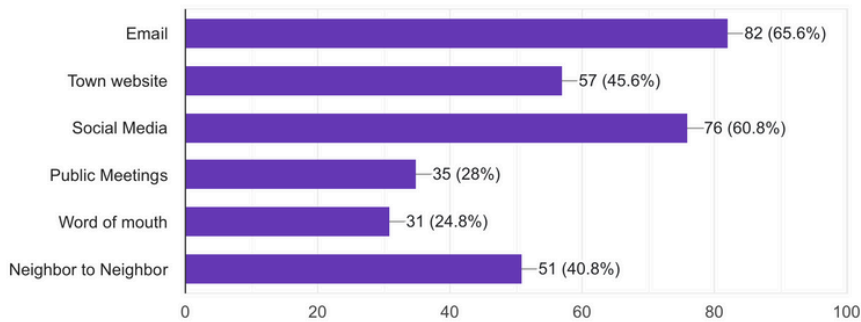


Infrastructure maintenance and town services were generally rated satisfactory or very satisfactory, with few respondents expressing dissatisfaction. Respondents were most satisfied with the safety of the community, quality of life, and the Town's communication with residents.

Question #7 and #8

How do you usually get information about Town Government in Dunstable?

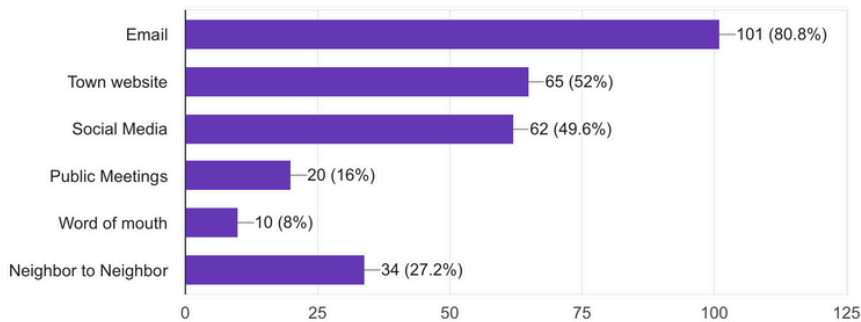
125 responses



The most common ways residents currently get information about Town Government include email, the town website, and social media.

How would you prefer to get information about Town Government in Dunstable?

125 responses

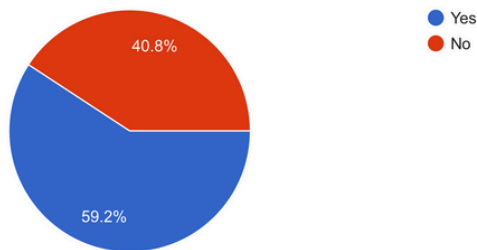


Many respondents prefer email as the primary method for receiving updates, suggesting that continued focus on digital outreach and encouraging residents to sign-up to receive regular emails through the website remain essential.

Question #9 and 10

In the last 12 months, have you contacted the Town for information or service requests?

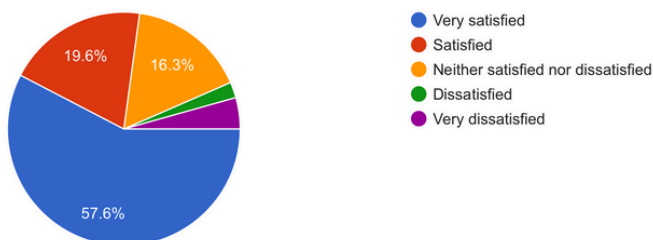
125 responses



A significant portion of respondents reported contacting the town within the past 12 months for information or service requests.

If so, how satisfied were you with your interaction with the Town official you most recently had contact?

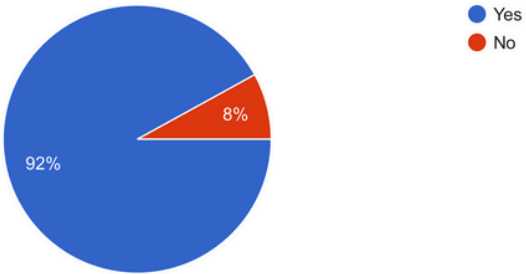
92 responses



Among those who contacted town officials, the majority expressed satisfaction with their experiences. A smaller subset of respondents indicated neutral or unsatisfactory experiences, pointing to potential areas for improvement.

Question #12

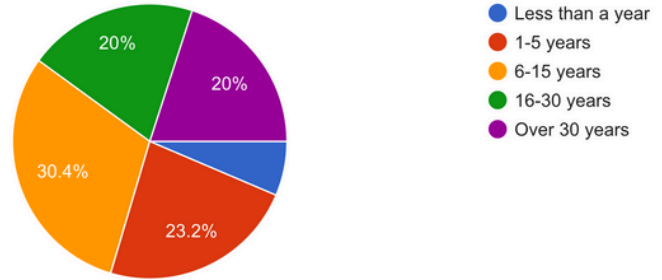
Would you recommend Dunstable as a place to live?



Nearly all respondents stated they would recommend Dunstable as a place to live.

Question #13

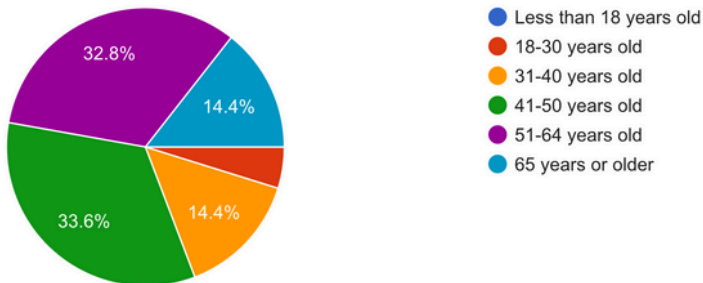
How long have you lived in Dunstable?



Responses were from a healthy mix of newer and long-term residents. A substantial portion of participants reported living in Dunstable for over 30 years. At the same time, a notable share of respondents indicated they had lived in Dunstable for five years or less. This balance of long-term and newer residents highlights a blend of tradition and new perspectives shaping the community.

Question #14

What age group are you in?



Survey participants represented a wide range of age groups, with the majority falling between 31 and 64 years old.

2023 vs. 2024

How would you describe your overall opinion of Dunstable Town Government (Town Hall, Police, and Fire, Highway, Boards/Committees)?

2023 Results

Very Satisfied : 23.3%

Satisfied: 44.8%

TOTAL: 68.1%

2024 Results

Very Satisfied : 38.4%

Satisfied: 41.6%

TOTAL: 80%

How satisfied were you with your interaction with the Town official you most recently had contact?

2023 Results

Very Satisfied : 38.4%

Satisfied: 22.4%

TOTAL: 60.8%

2024 Results

Very Satisfied : 57.6%

Satisfied: 19.6%

TOTAL: 77.2%

The 2024 Town of Dunstable Resident Survey offers insights into the community's priorities, satisfaction levels, and aspirations for the future. Residents voiced strong support for maintaining essential services like public safety and infrastructure while expressing concerns about pressing issues such as school funding and the town budget. The survey also highlights the town's appeal as a great place to live, with residents expressing satisfaction with its rural character, quality of life, and sense of community.

As the town continues to navigate challenges and opportunities, these survey findings provide a foundation for decision-making. By addressing residents' concerns, continuing to enhance resident engagement and communication, and prioritizing the services and values most important to residents, Dunstable's leadership can build on its strengths and foster greater engagement and understanding.

This survey is an effort to better understand resident opinions, priorities, and concerns and is part of the Town's commitment to involve its residents in planning, decision-making, and governance.