



SURVEY SUMMARY

Prince Memorial Library conducted a survey of Cumberland and North Yarmouth residents to better understand the needs of the local community. Survey invitations were shared via URL link as well as a QR code in a variety of electronic newsletters, personal email invitations, and in-person at a variety of events. Paper copies of the survey were also available at Prince Memorial Library, community farmers market, a newcomer's open house, polling locations, and at an active living event in Cumberland and North Yarmouth and were entered by library staff. One thousand and forty-two (1,042) participants completed the survey between September 23rd and November 26th, 2024.

The following figures display survey results including any demographic differences. Detailed tabular results may be found in Appendix A and Appendix B contains the survey instrument. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100%.

Key Findings

Demographics

Most survey respondents are Cumberland or North Yarmouth residents. A small number of respondents (n=21) are residents of other towns or cities. The largest age group is 35-49, representing 1 in 4 respondents. Age groups 50-64, 65-74, and 75 and older are fairly evenly distributed, each making up about 1 in 5 respondents. Most respondents (about 3 in 5) live in households without individuals under 18. A slight majority of respondents (just over half) have lived in the area for 15 years or less, while a slightly smaller portion (just under half) are long-term residents of 16 years or more.

Community Event, Activities, and Groups

Respondents in Cumberland and North Yarmouth most often participate in activities identified as literature and book, parenting and family, sports and outdoor, social gatherings, and crafting, while fewer engage in music, theater, and performance, culture & ethnicity, and religious and spiritual activities in their local community. Community members stated that when attending events in Greater Portland, music, theater, and performance, culture & ethnicity, health and wellness, and activism are more popular. When asked about desired opportunities, respondents highlighted nature, gardening, wellness, arts, music, theater, arts and crafts and social gatherings, with smaller interest in finance, games and video games, and job skills & economic development.

Barriers

Conflicting priorities and lack of time are the most common barriers to participation, while fewer respondents cite shyness, lack of childcare, poor health, accessibility of facilities, or not feeling safe. Among community groups, challenges cited include attendance, scheduling, and funding, with fewer citing transportation or ADA accessibility. Most learn about events through the library or town newsletters, town websites, or word of mouth. Popular groups include book clubs, churches, and fitness.

Values and Feelings Towards the Community

Respondents highly value mutual respect and cooperation, caring and compassion, and environmental sustainability within their community. Justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion also emerge as a priority. Challenges facing the community include housing and housing affordability, cost of living, and taxes, with division and lack of diversity also noted. Many respondents desire greater community and social engagement, municipal services, and improved accessibility and transportation.

Use of Prince Memorial Library

Respondents engage with Prince Memorial Library in a variety of ways, with many attending live or online events, using the children's activity room, or accessing eBooks and audiobooks online. Services such as passport assistance, interlibrary loans, and museum passes are also popular, though some services like personalized book recommendations and assistance with technology remain underutilized. Library materials, events, and the library's role as a community gathering place are rated highly by most users. Quiet workspaces and access to ebook and audiobook resources were identified by respondents as poor. Many respondents who don't use the library cite a lack of time or preference for another library, while others mention inconvenient hours or unfamiliarity with services. Notably, a significant portion of respondents express no specific concerns and highlight their positive feelings toward the library.

Next Initiatives

When asked about the most important project for Prince Memorial Library, fewer than half chose to answer, with one in seven mentioning library expansion, one in ten stating more adult events at off-site locations, and one in eleven reimagined youth and teen spaces as most important. Smaller groups emphasized permanent outdoor event spaces, business resources, and off-site youth and teen events. However, in open-ended responses, one in twenty respondents expressed satisfaction with the library as it is, highlighting "no expansion or change" as their priority. Suggestions for improvement include more adult events, a broader selection of materials, quiet workspace and longer hours. Other ideas include outdoor event spaces, more children's events, eco-friendly building practices, and partnerships with local organizations. While some respondents prioritized events and activities, others mentioned improved digital services.

Overall Assessment

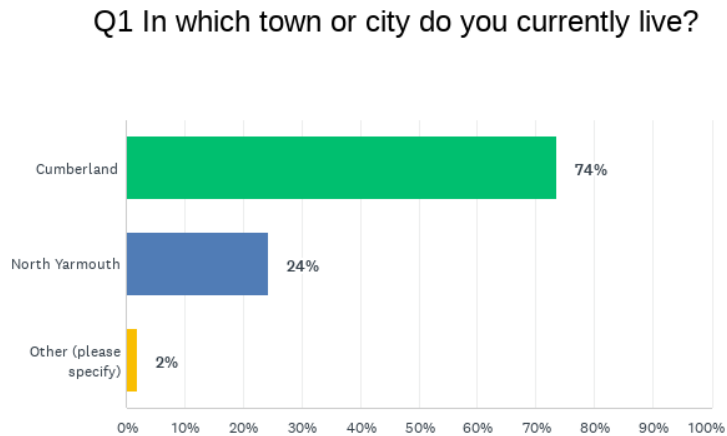
A significant number of respondents value the library's materials, events, the library as a place to gather and its role in fostering community connections. Most respondents appreciate the library as it is, with some expressing satisfaction and no desire for changes. Others suggest quiet workspace,

reimagined spaces for youth and adults, more adult events, expanded materials, longer hours, and enhanced digital offerings as areas for improvement.

Demographics

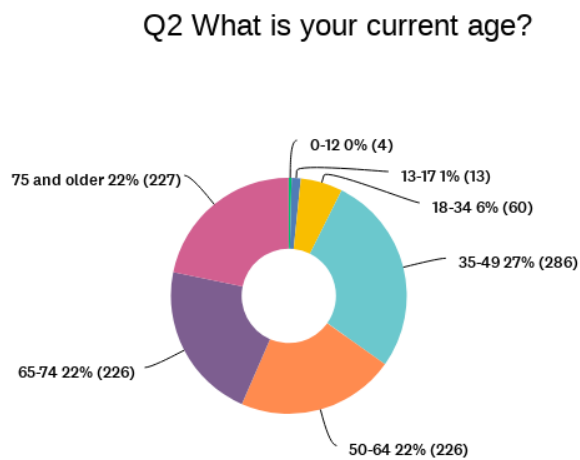
Most (74%) respondents are current residents of Cumberland, ME with North Yarmouth making up the next highest group (24%). Only 2% reported living in another town.

Figure 1. In what town or city do you currently live.



Fewer than 2 percent of respondents are aged 0 to 17, 6% are between 18 and 35, 27% are between 35 and 49, 22% are between 50 and 64, 22% are between 65 and 74, and 22% are aged 75 or older. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that 15% of Cumberland and North Yarmouth residents are aged 65 or older.

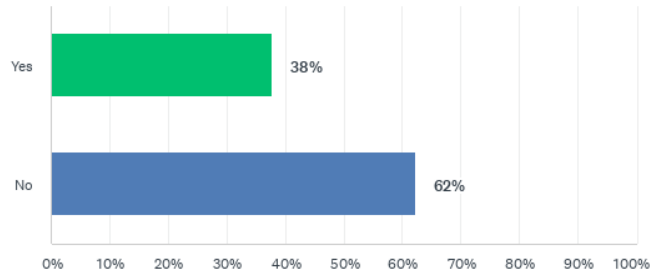
Figure 2. What is your current age?



Among respondents 62% live in households without individuals under 18.

Figure 3. Is there anyone under the age of 18 currently living in your household?

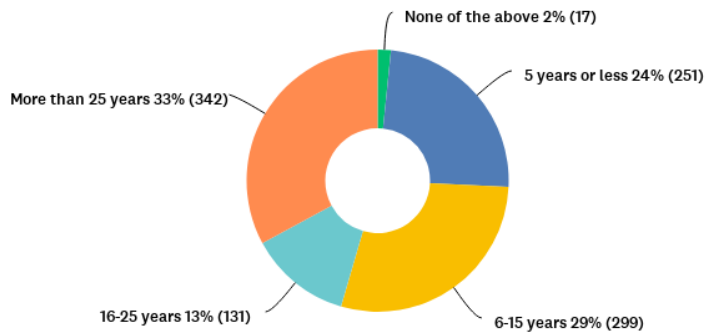
Q3 Is there anyone under the age of 18 currently living in your household?



Among Cumberland and North Yarmouth residents (N=1,023), 24% have lived in Cumberland and North Yarmouth for 5 years or less, 29% have lived there for 6-15 years, 13% have lived there for 16-25 years, and 33% have lived there for more than 25 years.

Figure 4. How many years have you lived in Cumberland or North Yarmouth?

Q4 How many years have you lived in Cumberland or North Yarmouth?



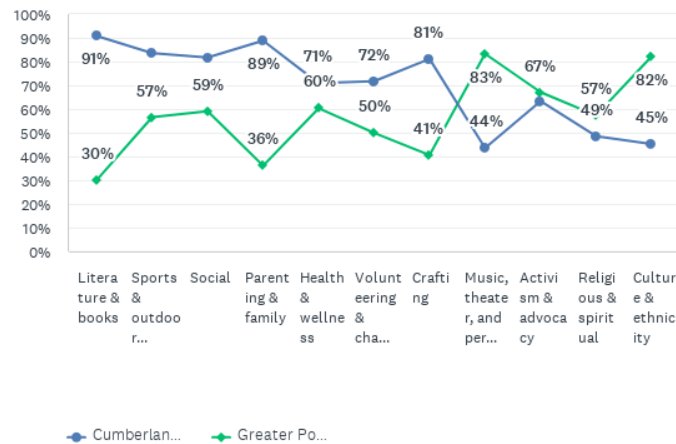
Community Event, Activities, and Groups

Ninety-one percent of respondents say that they participate in literature and book-based activities in Cumberland or North Yarmouth, 89% parenting and family activities, 84% sport and outdoor activities, 82% social, 81% crafting, 72% volunteering and charity, 71% pursue health and wellness, 63% activism and advocacy. Fewer than half say that they attend religious and spiritual (49%), cultural and ethnicity activities (45%), or music, theater, and performances (44%).

Eighty-three percent of respondents say they attend music, theater, and performances in the Greater Portland area, 82% culture and ethnicity activities, 67% activism and advocacy, 60% health and wellness, 59% social, 57% sports & outdoors, 57% religious and spiritual, and 50% volunteering and charity. Fewer than half say they attend crafting (41%), parenting and family (36%), and literature and book events (30%).

Figure 5a. Which of the following types of activities do you currently participate in? (Please select all that apply)

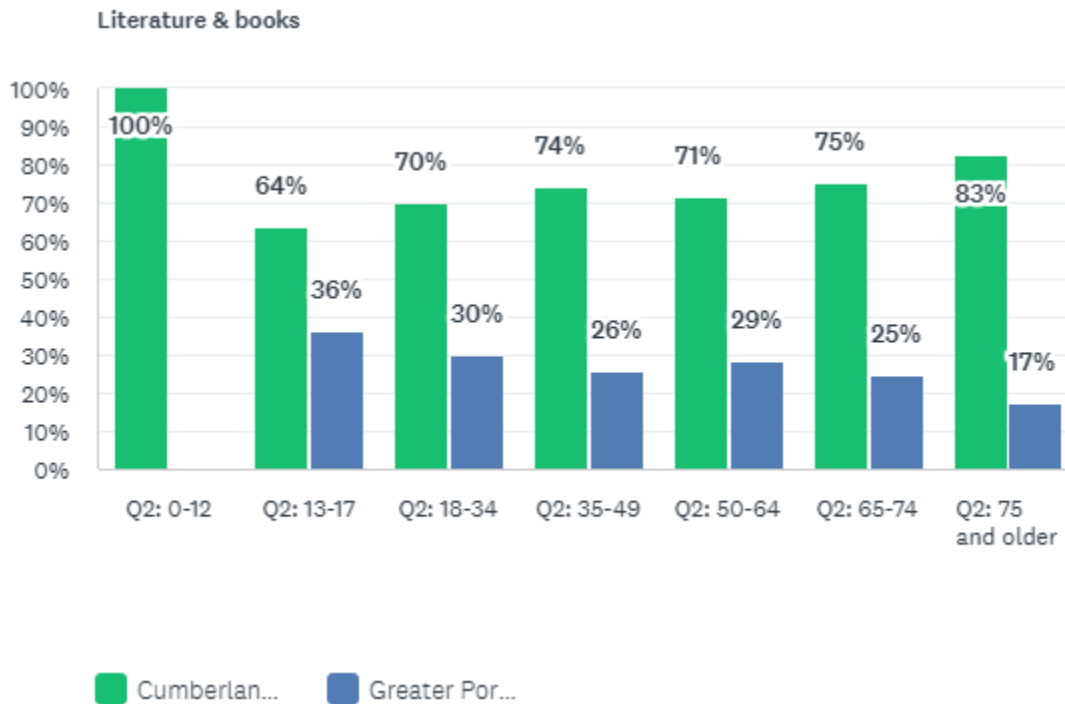
Q5 Which of the following types of activities do you currently participate in? (Please select all that apply)



Literature & Books

- Respondents are more likely, no matter the length of their residency or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home, to participate in literature and book activities in Cumberland or North Yarmouth over Greater Portland. Respondents under the age of 35 are more likely to participate in literature and book activities in Great Portland. Those 35 and older are more likely to attend the same type of events in Cumberland or North Yarmouth.

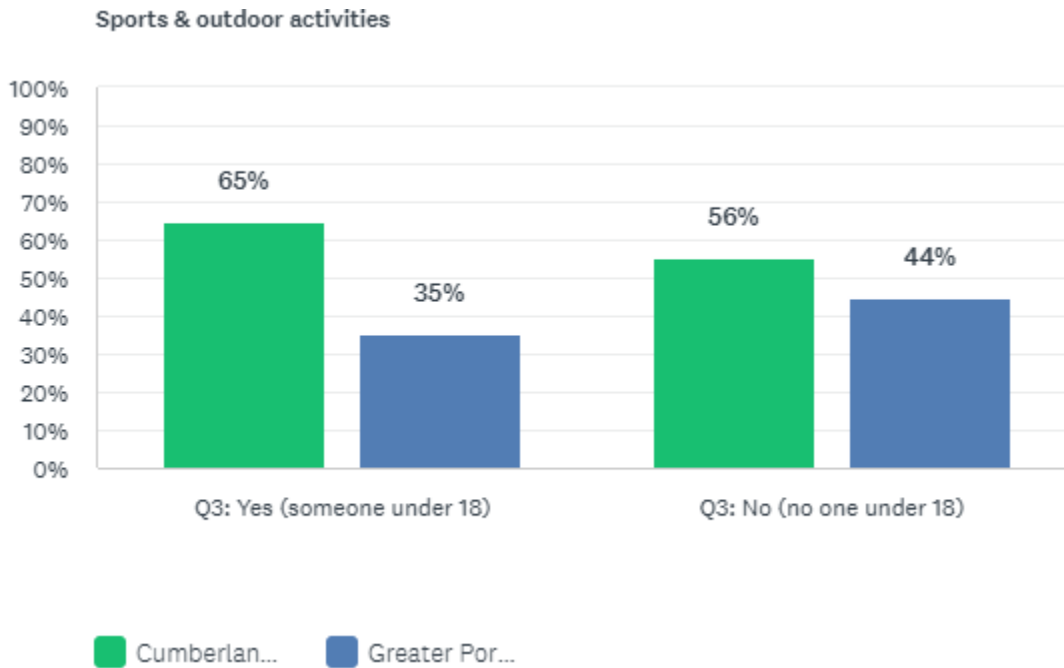
Figure 5b. Activities typically done - by Select Demographics



Sports & Outdoor Activities

- No matter their age or the length of time living in Cumberland and North Yarmouth, respondents prefer to participate in sports and outdoor activities in Cumberland or North Yarmouth over Greater Portland.
- Respondents with someone under the age of 18 at home are slightly more likely to participate in sport and outdoor activities in Cumberland and North Yarmouth over Greater Portland. Those without someone under the age of 18 at home are almost equally likely to participate in sport and outdoor activities in either location.

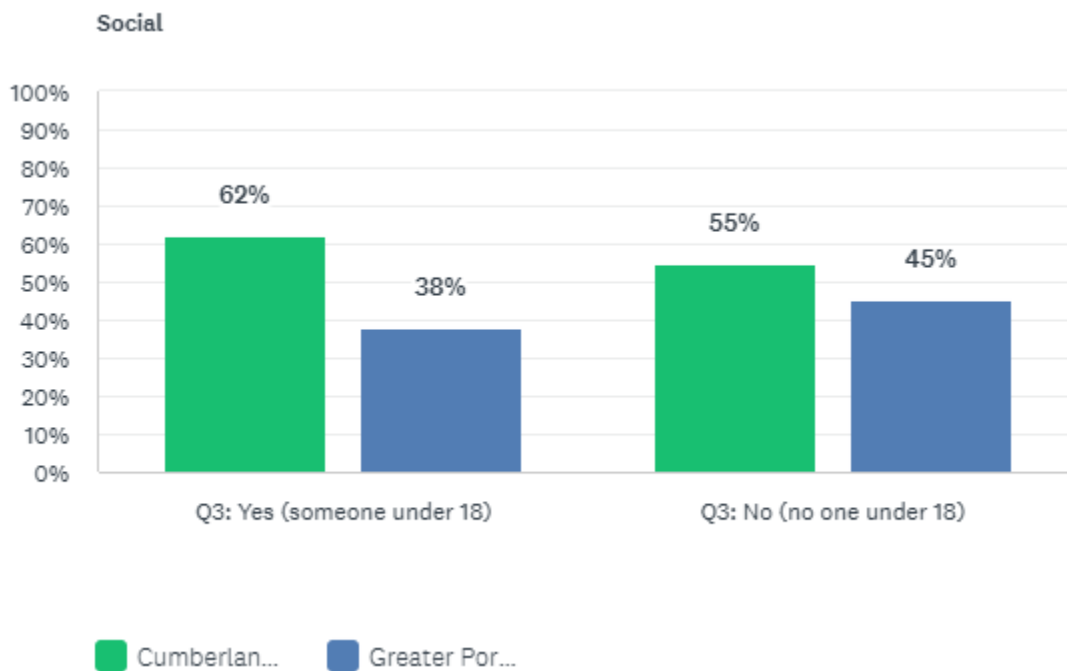
Figure 5c. Activities typically done - by Select Demographics



Social

- Those 35 to 64 are almost equally likely to participate in social activities in Cumberland or North Yarmouth over Greater Portland. Those under 35 are slightly more likely to participate in social events in Greater Portland over Cumberland or North Yarmouth, while the opposite for location is true for those over 65.
- Respondents are equally as likely, no matter the length of time living in Cumberland and North Yarmouth, to participate in more social events in Cumberland and North Yarmouth over Greater Portland.
- Respondents with someone under the age of 18 at home are slightly more likely to participate in social activities in Cumberland and North Yarmouth over Greater Portland. Those without someone under the age of 18 at home are almost equally likely to participate in social activities in either location.

Figure 5d. Activities typically done - by Select Demographics



Parenting & Family

- Respondents are more likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to participate in parenting and family activities in Cumberland or North Yarmouth over Greater Portland.

Health & Wellness

- Respondents are almost equally likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to participate in health and wellness activities in Cumberland or North Yarmouth over Greater Portland.

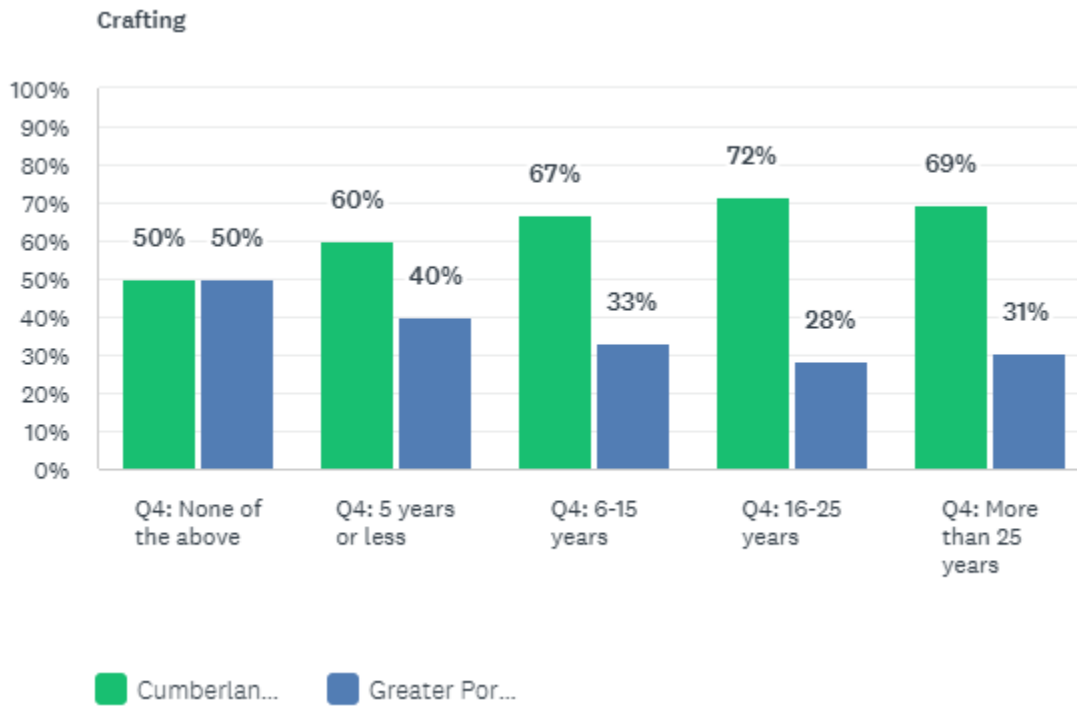
Volunteering & Charity

- Respondents are more likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to participate in volunteering and charity activities in Cumberland or North Yarmouth over Greater Portland.

Crafting

- Respondents with or without someone under the age of 18 at home are more likely to participate in crafting in Cumberland and North Yarmouth over Greater Portland.
- Respondents are more likely, as they age and the longer that they live in Cumberland and North Yarmouth to participate in crafting events in Cumberland and North Yarmouth over Greater Portland.

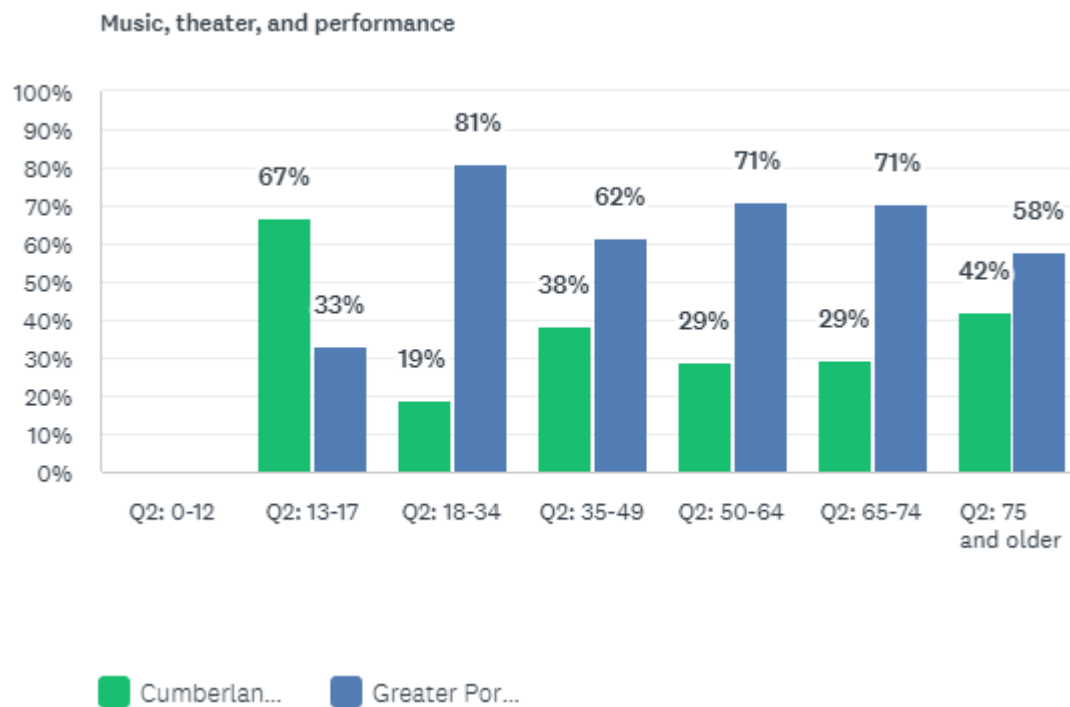
Figure 5e. Activities typically done - by Select Demographics



Music, Theater, and Performance

- Respondents are equally as likely, no matter the length of time living in Cumberland and North Yarmouth, to participate in more music, theater, and performances in Greater Portland over Cumberland and North Yarmouth.
- Respondents with or without someone under the age of 18 at home are more likely to participate in more music, theater, and performances events in Greater Portland over Cumberland and North Yarmouth.
- Respondents under the age of 35 overwhelmingly participate in music, theater, and performances events in Greater Portland. Those 35 to 74 almost equally participate in more music, theater, and performances events in Greater Portland. While those 75 and older more equally participate in more music, theater, and performances events in both locations.

Figure 5f. Activities typically done - by Select Demographics



Activism & advocacy

- Respondents are almost equally likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to participate in activism and advocacy activities in Cumberland or North Yarmouth and Greater Portland.

Religious & spiritual

- Respondents are equally likely to shift participation in religious and spiritual activities from Greater Portland to Cumberland or North Yarmouth no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home.

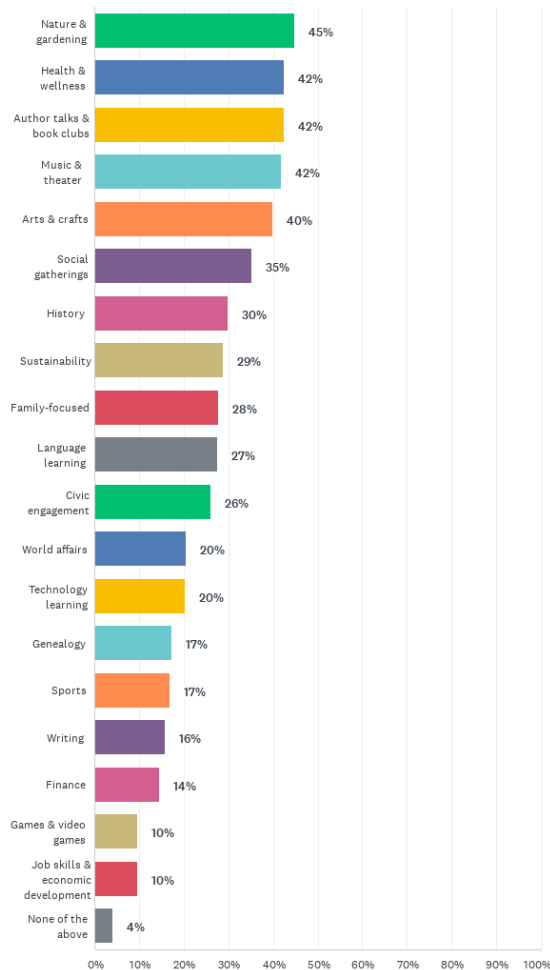
Culture & Ethnicity

- Respondents are more likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to participate in culture & ethnicity activities in Greater Portland Cumberland over North Yarmouth.

When asked what kind of activities, events, or learning opportunities they wished happened more in their community, 45% of respondents mentioned nature and gardening, 43% health and wellness activities, 42% mentioned author talks and book talks, 42% music and theater, 40% arts and crafts, 35% social gatherings. Fewer than one third would like to see history (30%), sustainability (29%), family focused (28%), language learning (27%), civic engagement (26%), world affairs (20%), technology learning (20%), genealogy (17%), sports (17%), writing (16%), games & video games (10%), job skills and economic development (10%), while 4% don't want to see any of the above events or learning opportunities.

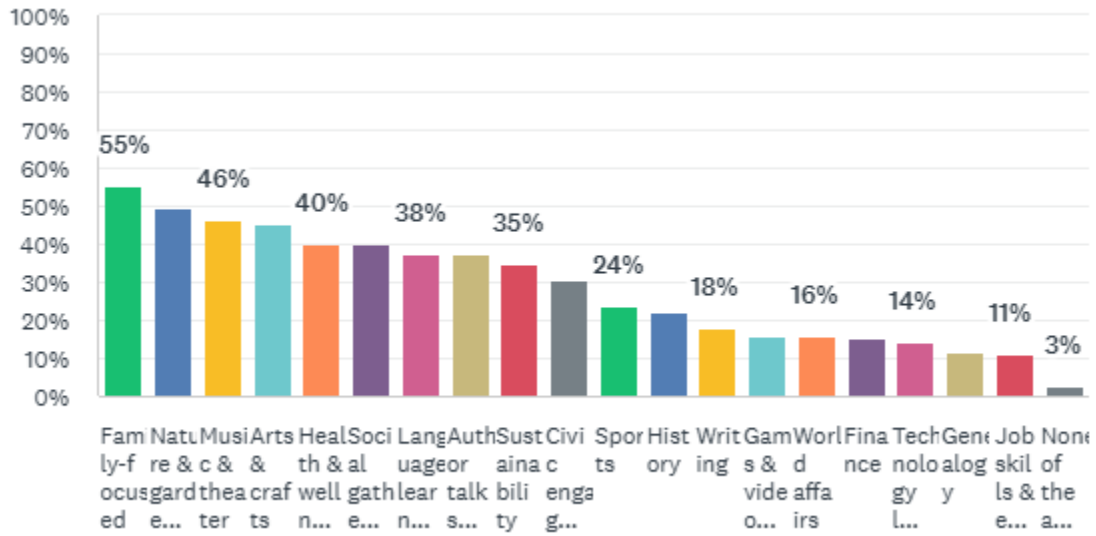
Figure 6a. What kinds of activities, events, or learning opportunities do you wish happened in your community? (Please select all that apply)

Q6 What kinds of activities, events, or learning opportunities do you wish happened in your community? (Please select all that apply)



- Respondents with someone under the age of 18 at home were more likely to want to see family focused activities, events, or learning opportunities in their community.

Figure 6b. What kinds of activities, events, or learning opportunities do you wish happened in your community? - by Select Demographics

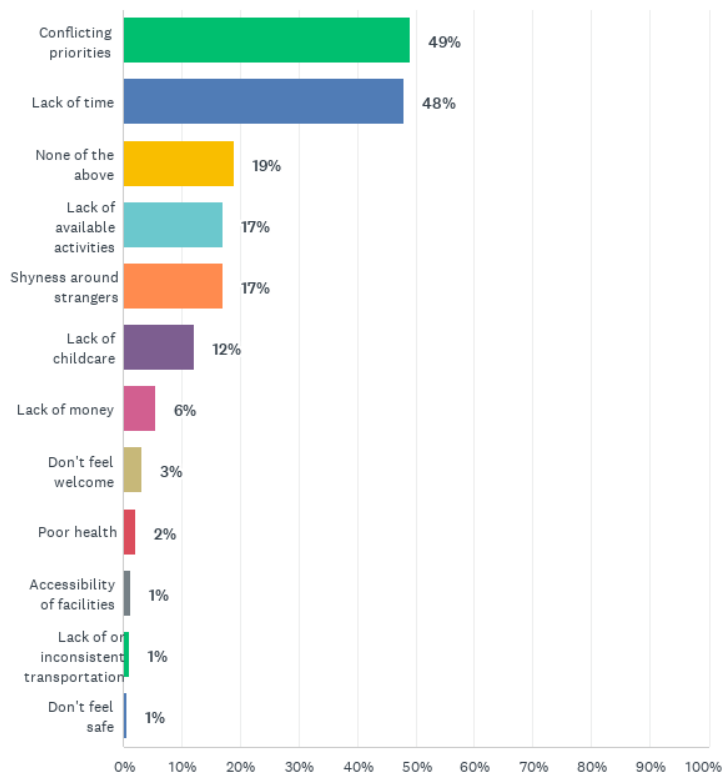


Barriers

Nearly half (49%) of respondents say that conflicting priorities or lack of time (48%) prevent them from participating in activities and community events. Fewer respondents say that lack of available activities (17%), shyness around strangers (17%), lack of childcare (12%), lack of money (5%), don't feel welcome (3%), poor health (2%), accessibility of facilities (1%), and lack of/inconsistent transportation (1%) prevents them from participating in activities and community events. While 19% say none of these things prevent them from doing these things.

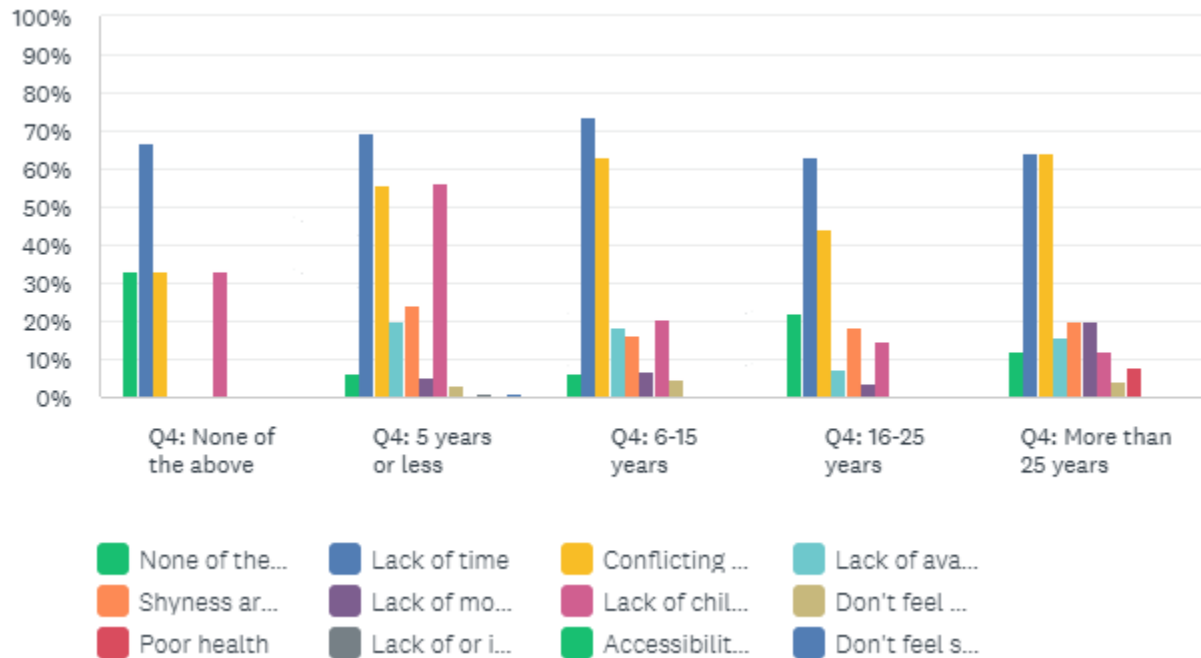
Figure 7a. Which of the following barriers, if any, prevent you from participating in activities and community events? (Please select all that apply)

Q7 Which of the following barriers, if any, prevent you from participating in activities and community events? (Please select all that apply)



- Respondents of the age 35-49 (n=74) or those who have lived in the community 5 years or less (n=56) were more likely to find lack of childcare being a barrier to participating in activities and community events.

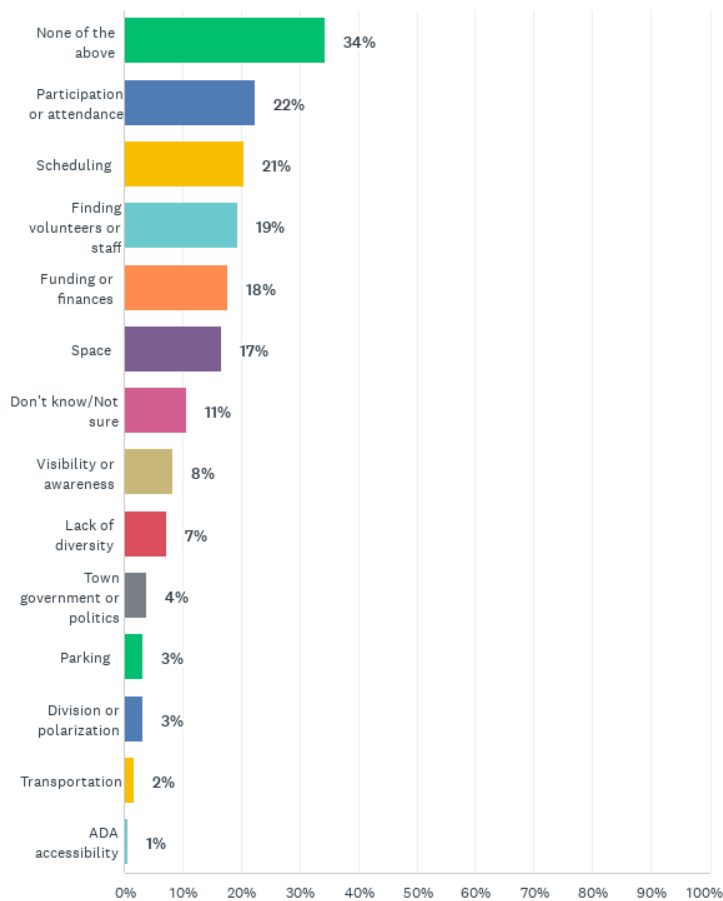
Figure 7b. Barriers to participating in activities and community events - by Select Demographics



Among those who participate in at least one community group and who responded to the question (n=522), 23% say they that their group(s) has challenges regarding participation or attendance, 21% have challenges with scheduling, 20% finding volunteers or staff, 18% funding or finances, 17% have challenges with space. Less than 10% say their group(s) faces challenges with visibility or awareness (8%), lack of diversity (7%), town government or politics (4%), parking (3%), division or polarization (3%), transportation (2%), or ADA accessibility (1%). Thirty-four percent selected none of the above, 11% don't know or are unsure, and less than 1% mentioned another kind of challenge.

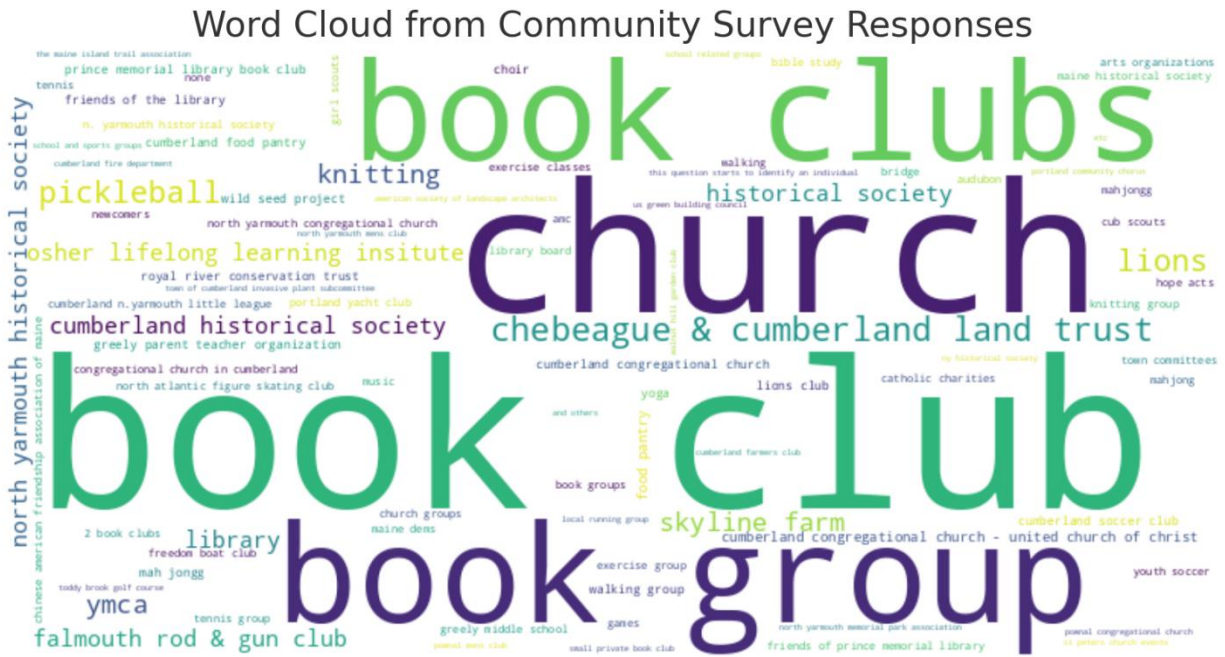
Figure 8. If you are part of a group, club, or organization, what challenges, logistical or otherwise, does it face? (Please select all that apply)

Q8 If you are part of a group, club, or organization, what challenges, logistical or otherwise, does it face? (Please select all that apply)



Respondents revealed that book clubs, churches, and organizations like the Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust, pickleball groups, and the Lions Club are among the most popular in the community. Respondents highlighted a strong focus on social connection through book clubs, church groups, and fitness activities, as well as a culture of volunteerism in food pantries, conservation efforts, and local nonprofits. Lifelong learning also emerged as a key theme, with engagement in knitting groups and programs like the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute emphasizing personal growth.

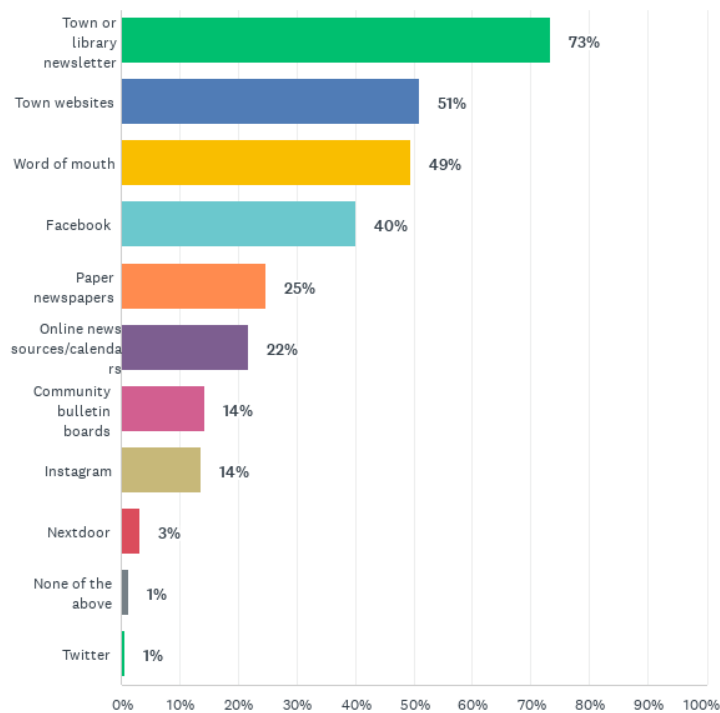
Figure 9. Please list the groups, clubs, or organizations you participate in.



Almost three-fourths of respondents (74%) say that they usually find out about community services, events, and local news through the town or library newsletter, 51% find out about these things through town websites, 49% find out about them from word of mouth, 40% find out about them through Facebook, and 25% find out about them through paper newspapers. Fewer respondents say that they usually find out about community services, events, and local news through community bulletin boards (14%), Instagram (14%), Nextdoor (3%), Twitter (1%), or none of the above (1%).

Figure 10. How do you usually find out about community services, events, and local news? (Please select all that apply)

Q10 How do you usually find out about community services, events, and local news?
(Please select all that apply)

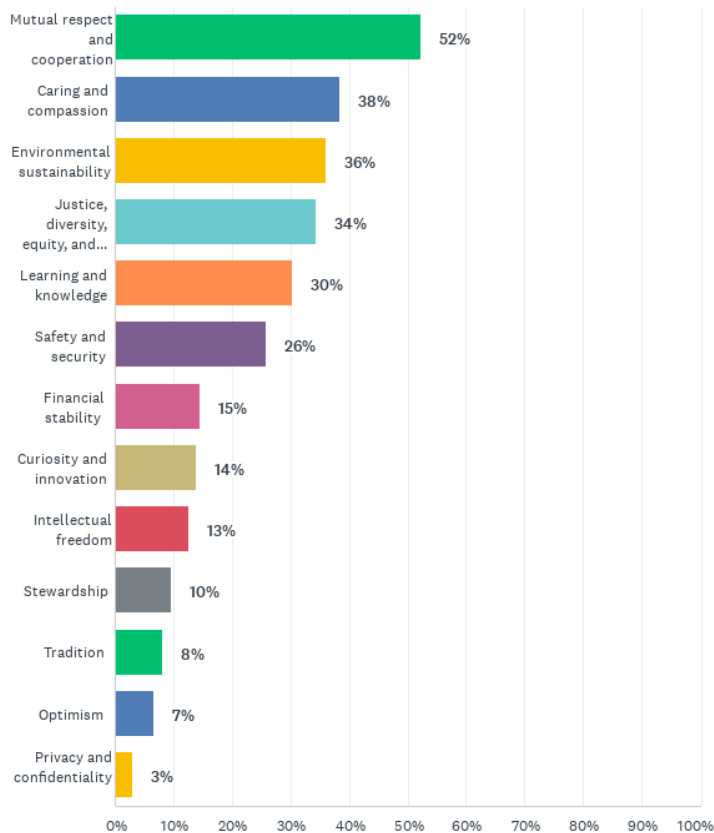


Values and Feelings Towards the Community

When presented with a list of the values and asked to pick the top three values that are most important to see in their community, 52% of respondents picked mutual respect and cooperation, 38% said caring and compassion, 36% environmental sustainability, 34% justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion, less than a third found it important to see in their community learning and knowledge (30%), safety and security (26%), financial stability (15%), curiosity and innovation (14%), intellectual freedom (12%), stewardship (10%), tradition (8%), optimism (7%), and privacy (3%).

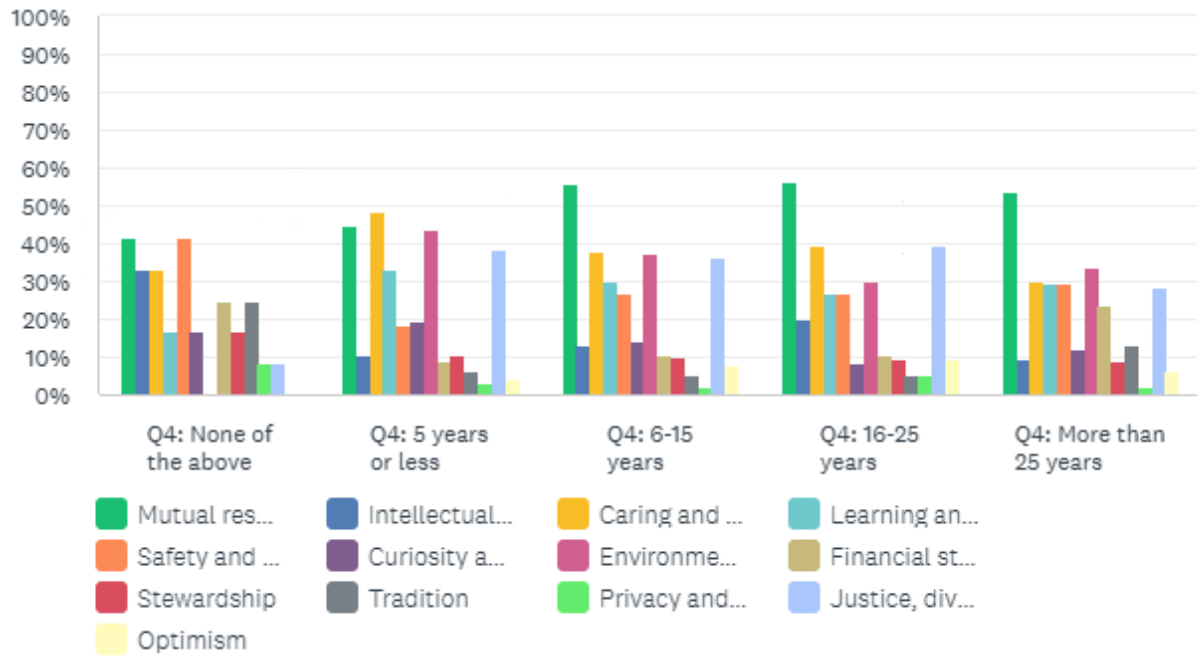
Figure 11a. Which of the following values are most important for you to see in your community? (Please select up to three)

Q11 Which of the following values are most important for you to see in your community?
(Please select up to three)



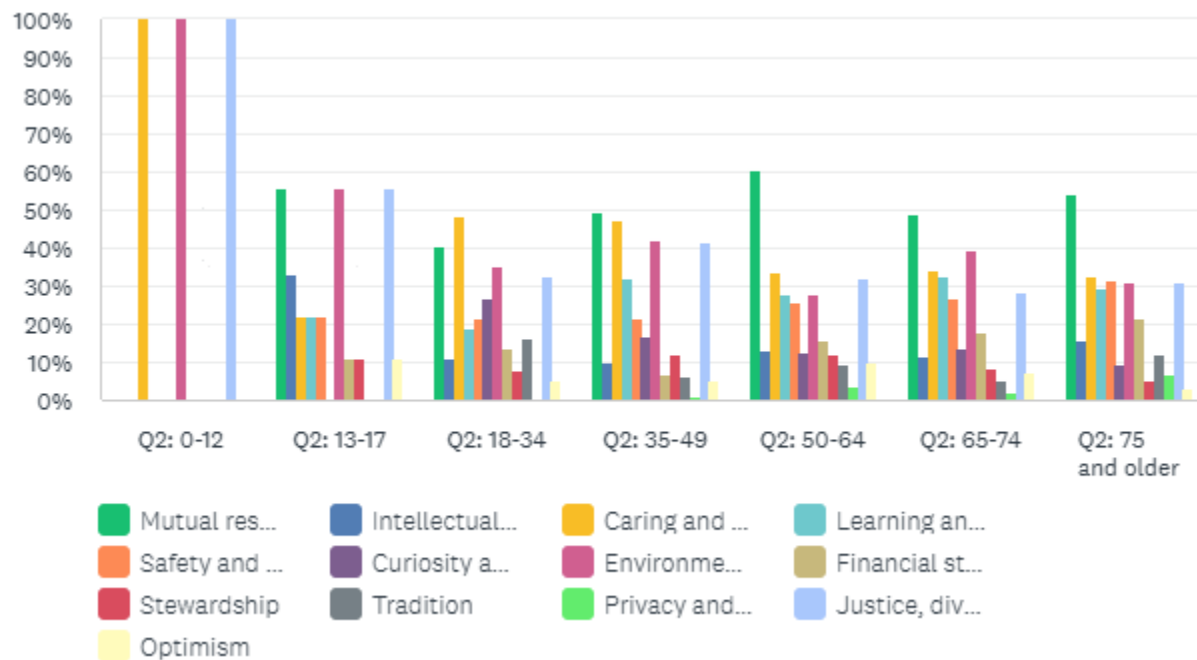
- Respondents were less likely to select caring and compassion or environmental sustainability the longer the length of time living in Cumberland and North Yarmouth.

Figure 11b. Very important core value - by Select Demographics



- Respondents were slightly less likely to select caring and compassion the older their age demographic.

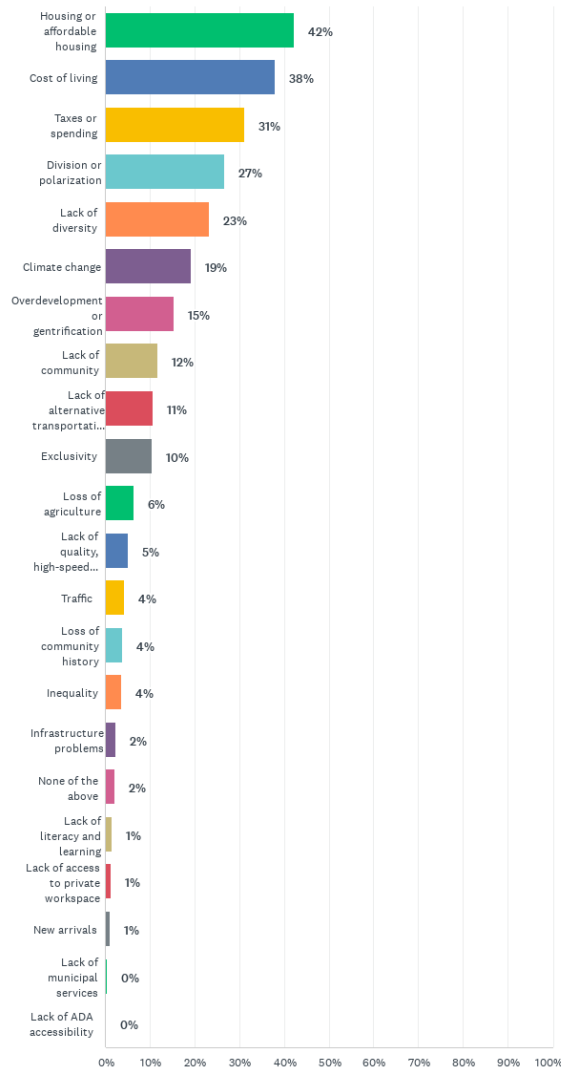
Figure 11c. Very important core value - by Select Demographics



When asked what they believed are three problems facing the community today, 42% of respondents mention housing or affordable housing, 38% cite cost of living, 31% taxes or spending, 27% division or polarization, and 23% lack of diversity. Fewer mention climate change (19%), overdevelopment or gentrification (15%), lack of community (12%), lack of alternative transportation (11%), exclusivity (10%), loss of agriculture (6%), lack of quality, high speed internet (5%), traffic (4%), loss of community history (4%), inequality (4%), infrastructure problems (2%), lack of literacy and learning (1%), lack of access to private workspace (1%), new arrivals (1%). Zero percent said lack of municipal services and lack of ADA accessibility, and 2% cited none of the above.

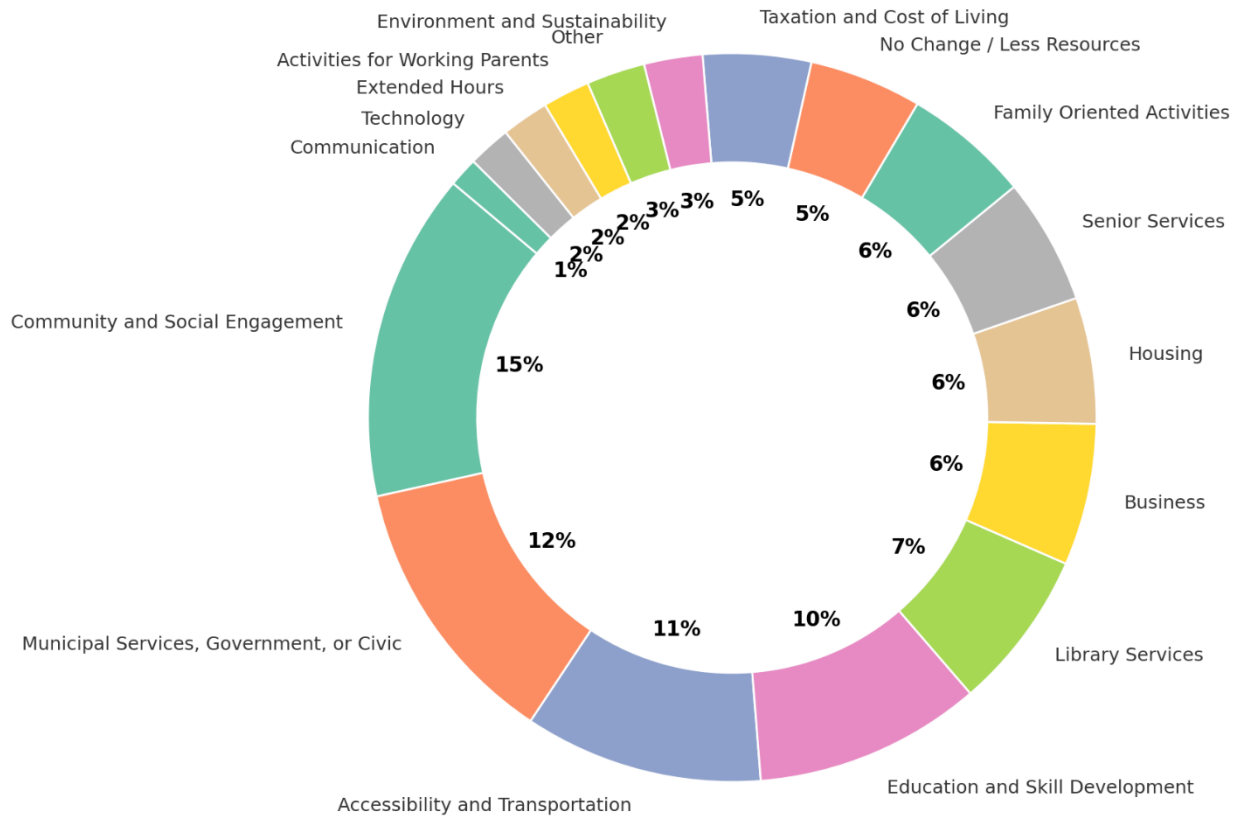
Figure 12: What are the biggest problems facing your community today? (Please select up to three)

Q12 What are the biggest problems facing your community today? (Please select up to three)



When asked what services or resources they wished their community offered, or offered more, 15% of respondents emphasized community and social engagement, 12% highlighted municipal services, government, or civic matters, 11% focused on accessibility and transportation, 10% mentioned education and skill development, and 7% prioritized library services. Other themes included housing (6%), environmental sustainability (5%), arts and culture (4%), recreation and open spaces (4%), and economic development (3%). Public safety and other themes accounted for smaller portions of responses.

Figure 13. What services or resources do you wish your community offered, or offered more?



Use of Prince Memorial Library

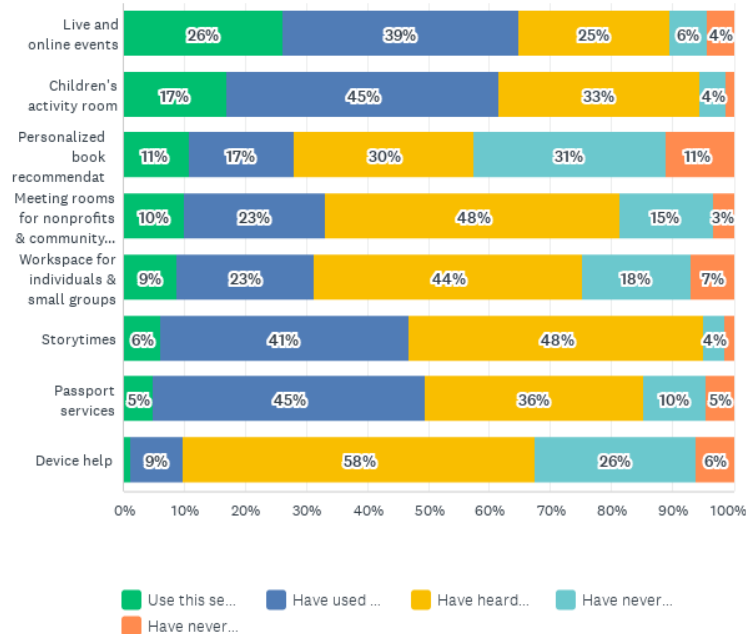
Among respondents who currently interact with library services, 26% currently attend live and online events, 39% have used this service in the past, 25% have heard of this service but never used it, 6% have never heard of this service, and 4% have never heard of this service, but would like to learn more. Regarding the children’s activity room, 17% utilize this service, 45% have used this service in the past, 33% have heard of this service but never used it, 4% have never heard of this service, and 1% have never heard of this service, but would like to learn more.

Respondents also stated they have used passport services (45%), storytimes (41%), meeting rooms for nonprofits and community groups (23%), workspace for individuals and small groups (23%). Many have heard of this service but never used it: passport services (36%), storytimes (48%), meeting rooms for nonprofits and community groups (48%), and workspace for individuals and small groups (44%).

Fewer than one-third of respondents have heard of personalized book recommendations (31%), have heard of this service but never used it (30%), have used the service in the past (17%) or are currently using it (11%). More than half of respondents have heard of device help but never used it (58%), have never heard of the service (26%), have used the service in the past (9%), or use the service now (1%). Few respondents never heard of but would like to learn more about personalized book recommendations (11%), workspace for individuals or small groups (7%), device help (6%), passport services (5%), live and online events (4%) meeting rooms for nonprofits & community groups (3%), children’s activity room and storytimes (1%).

Figure 14a. How do you interact with the following activities at Prince Memorial Library?

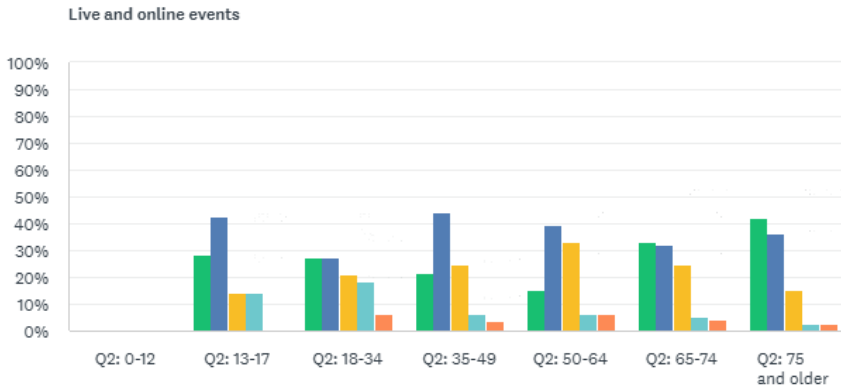
Q14 How do you interact with the following activities at Prince Memorial Library?



Live and Online Events

- Respondents from the age of 50-64 are least likely to currently use live and online events. While those below age 50 and those 65 and older have a steady increase in usage.

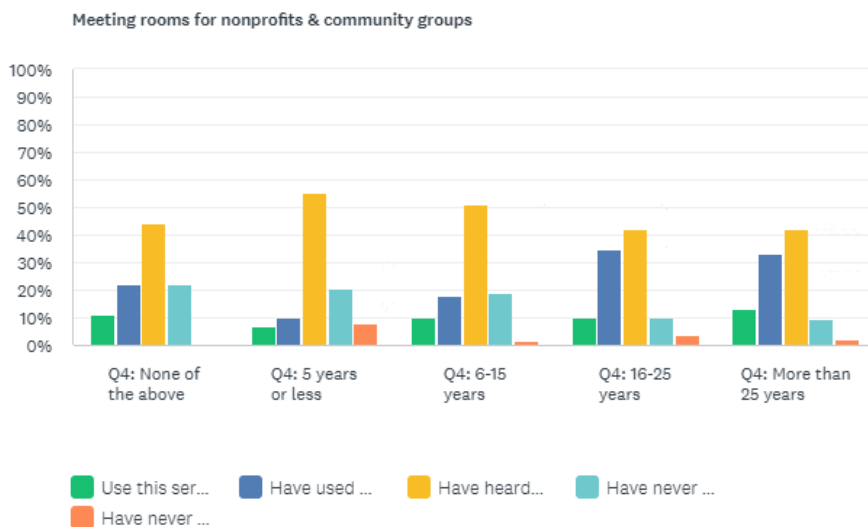
Figure 14b: Interact with the following activities - by Select Demographics



Meeting rooms for nonprofits & community groups

- Respondents are very likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to have heard of but never used meeting rooms for nonprofits & community groups.
- Respondents are more likely the greater their age, length of residency, or if they currently do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to have used meeting rooms for nonprofits & community groups.

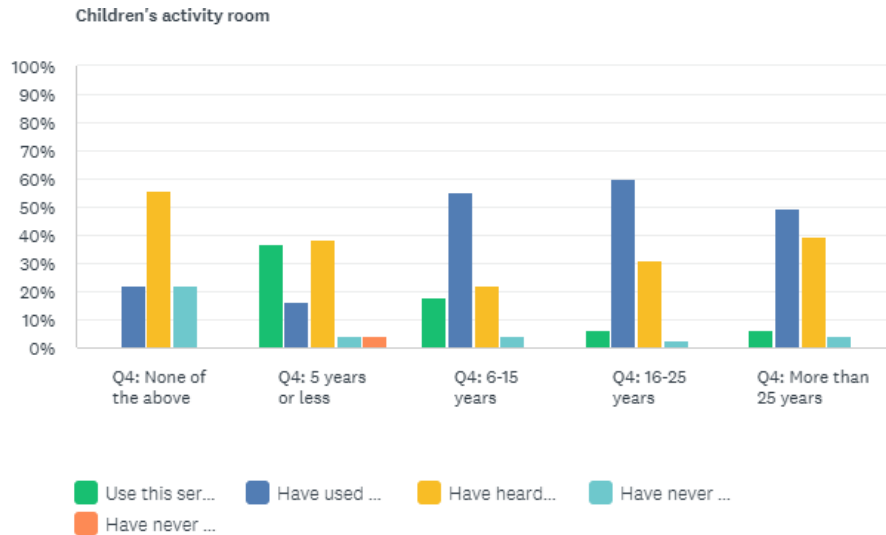
Figure 14c: Interact with the following activities - by Select Demographics



Children's activity room

- Respondents are very likely from the age of 35 and younger, who live in the community 15 years or less, or currently do have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to use the children's activity room.
- Respondents are very likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to have used the children's activity room or to have heard of but never used the children's activity room.

Figure 14d: Interact with the following activities - by Select Demographics



Workspace for individuals & small groups

- Respondents are very likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to have heard of but never used workspace for individuals & small groups.
- Respondents are less likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to have used workspace for individuals & small groups.
- Respondents are least likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to use workspace for individuals & small groups. An equal number of respondents have never heard of the service.

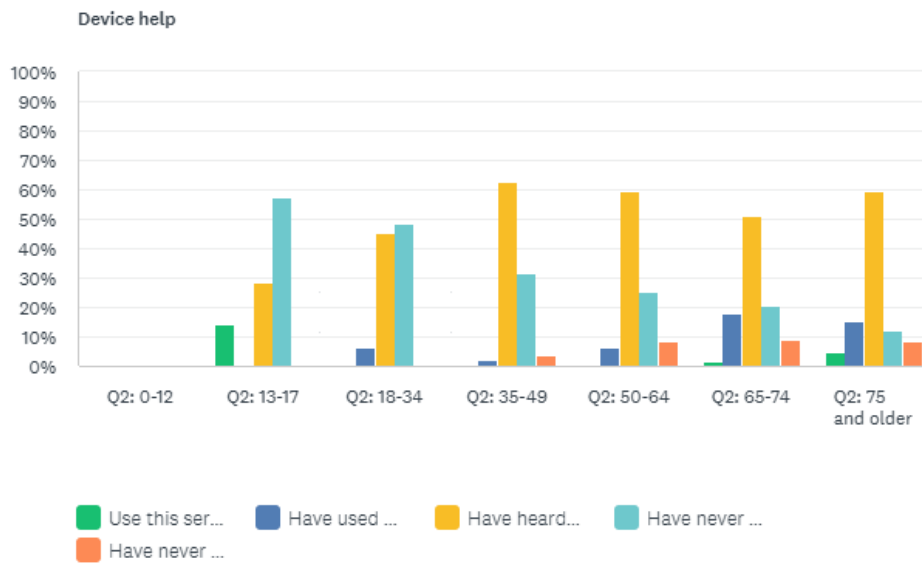
Storytimes

- Respondents are very likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to have used or heard of but never used storytimes.
- Those with someone under the age of 18 living in their house are more likely to have used the service.

Device help

- Respondents are very likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to have heard of but never used or never heard of device help.
- Respondents are very likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to have used device help in the past.
- Those without someone under the age of 18 living in their house are more likely to have used the service.
- Respondents are more likely to be aware of the service the older they become and the longer their length of residency.

Figure 14f: Interact with the following activities - by Select Demographics



Passport services

- Respondents are very likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to have heard of but never used or used passport services in the past.

Personalized book recommendations

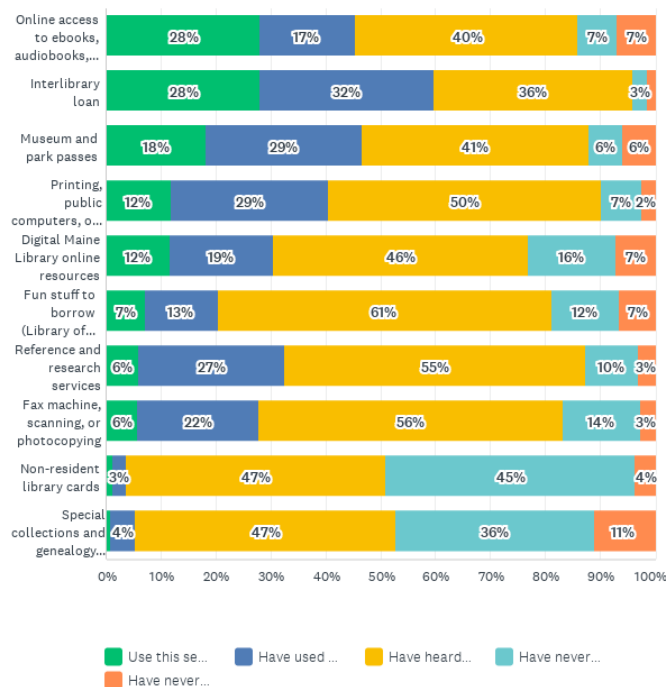
- Respondents are most likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to never heard of personalized book recommendations or heard of the service but never used it.
- Respondents are less likely no matter their age, length of residency, or if they currently do or do not have someone under the age of 18 living in their home to use in the past personalized book recommendations or currently use the service.

Among respondents who currently interact with library services, 28% currently use online access to ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, tv series & movies, 17% have used this service in the past, 40% have heard of this service but never used it, 7% have never heard of this service, and 7% have never heard of this service, but would like to learn more. Twenty-eight percent utilize interlibrary loan, 32% have used this service in the past, 36% have heard of this service but never used it, 3% have never heard of this service, and 1% have never heard of this service but would like to learn more. Respondents also stated they have used in the past: museum and park passes (29%), printing, public computers, or wifi (29%), reference and research services (27%), fax machine, scanning, or photocopying (22%), digital Maine Library online resources (19%), or fun stuff to borrow (Library of Things) (13%). Respondents have heard of this service but never used: museum and park passes (41%), printing, public computers, or wifi (50%), reference and research services (55%), fax machine, scanning, or photocopying (56%), Digital Maine Library online resources (46%), or fun stuff to borrow (Library of Things) (61%).

Many respondents have never heard of non-resident cards (45%) or special collections and genealogy (36%), have heard of this service but never used non-resident cards (47%) or special collections and genealogy (47%), have used the service in the past nonresident cards (3%), special collections and genealogy (4%) or are currently using it (1%). Few respondents never heard of but would like to learn more about special collections and genealogy (11%), digital Maine Library online resources (7%), fun stuff to borrow (Library of Things) (7%), museum and park passes (6%), non-resident library cards (4%), interlibrary loan (3%), reference and research services (3%), fax machine, scanning or photocopying (3%) printing, public computers, or wifi (2%).

Figure 15a. How do you interact with the following services at Prince Memorial Library?

Q15 How do you interact with the following services at Prince Memorial Library?



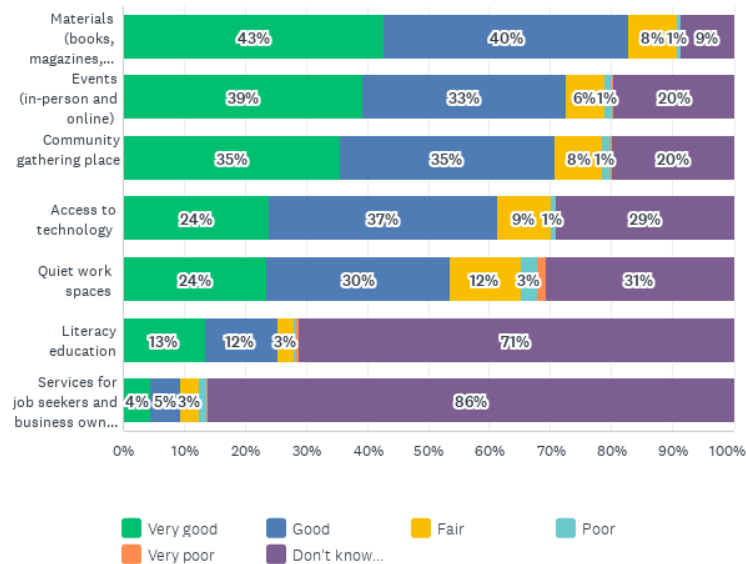
Respondents are overwhelmingly positive about all the following elements of Prince Memorial Library. Among those who have an opinion, 43% rate the materials (books, magazines, digital resources, etc.) very good, 39% say the same about events (in person and online), 35% feel this way about Prince Memorial Library as a community gathering place. Just under one in four rate access to technology (24%), and quiet work space (24%), as very good.

Most who do not rate each of these elements as very good rate them as good, with materials (books, magazines, digital resources, etc.) (40%), access to technology (37%), community gathering place (35%), events (in-person and online) (33%), and quiet work space (30%) among the highest. A small number rate each as fair and a very small number rate them as poor or very poor. Quiet workspaces are the highest of those rated poor (3%) or very poor (2%).

A majority say they don't know or are unsure how to rate the library's services for job seekers and business owners (86%), literacy education (71%), quiet work spaces (31%), access to technology (29%), community gathering place (20%), events (in person and online) (20%), and books, magazines, digital resources, etc. (9%).

Figure 16a. How would you rate each of the following aspects of Prince Memorial Library?

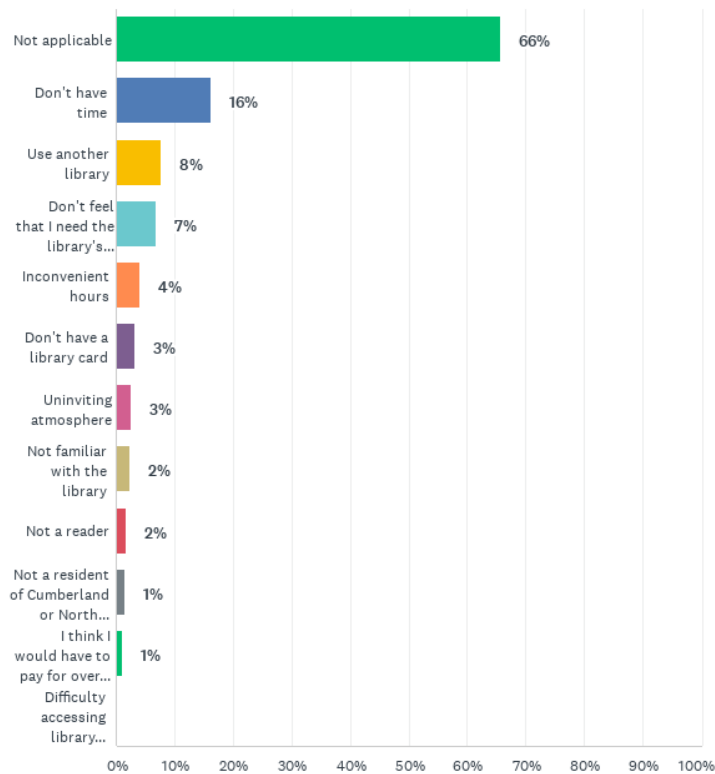
Q16 How would you rate each of the following aspects of Prince Memorial Library?



When asked why they don't use Prince Memorial Library, 66% stated the question was not applicable. Of those remaining who responded, 16% don't have time, 8% use another library, 7% don't feel that they need the library's services, 4% stated inconvenient hours, 3% don't have a library card or find the atmosphere uninviting, 2% are not familiar with the library or are not a reader, 1% are not a resident of Cumberland or North Yarmouth or think they would have to pay for overdue books. A small group of respondents had something else to say.

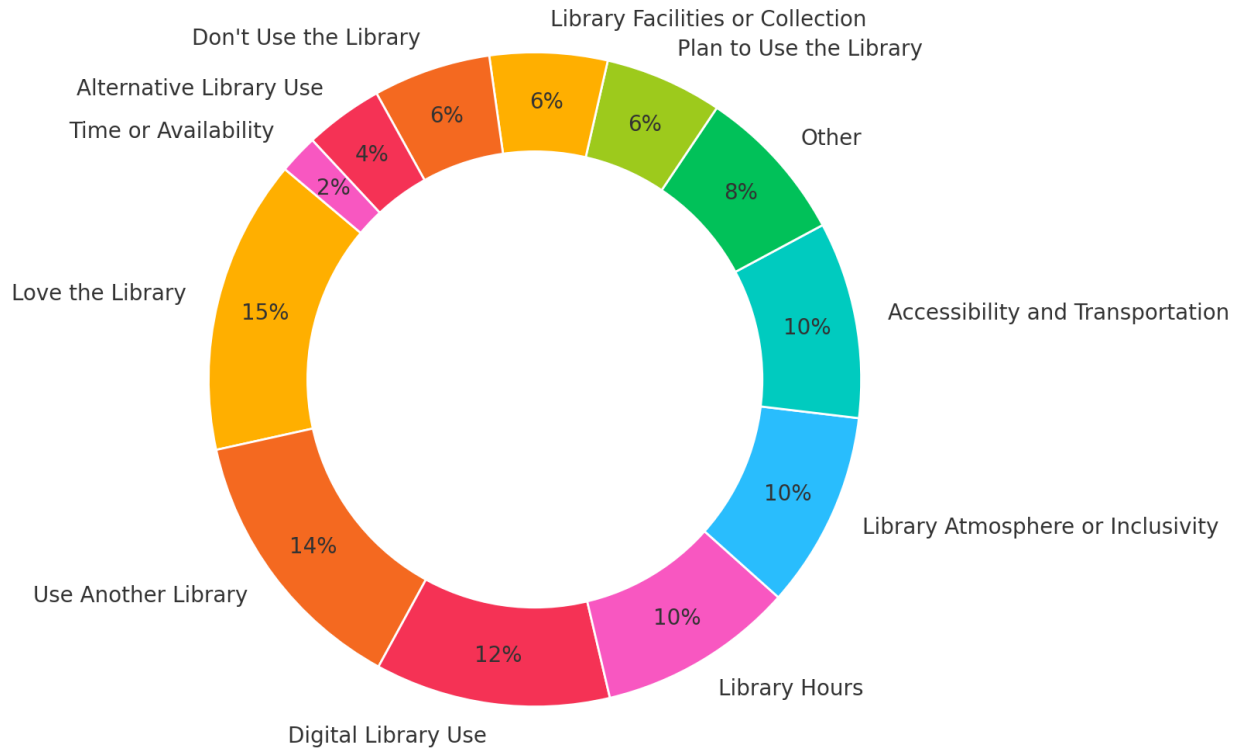
Figure 17a. If you don't use Prince Memorial Library, which of the following reasons come to mind? (Please select all that apply)

Q17 If you don't use Prince Memorial Library, which of the following reasons come to mind?
(Please select all that apply)



When asked about reasons for not using Prince Memorial Library (n=51), 15% of respondents mentioned in other comments that they love the library, indicating they do not see any issues. About 13% said they use another library, while 12% highlighted digital library use as their preference. Approximately 10% cited library atmosphere or inclusivity, and another 10% pointed to library hours. Smaller percentages addressed other themes, such as library facilities or collection, which accounted for 8%. Less than 5% focused on other specific suggestions or areas of concern.

Figure 17b. Following reasons for not using the library - by Responses

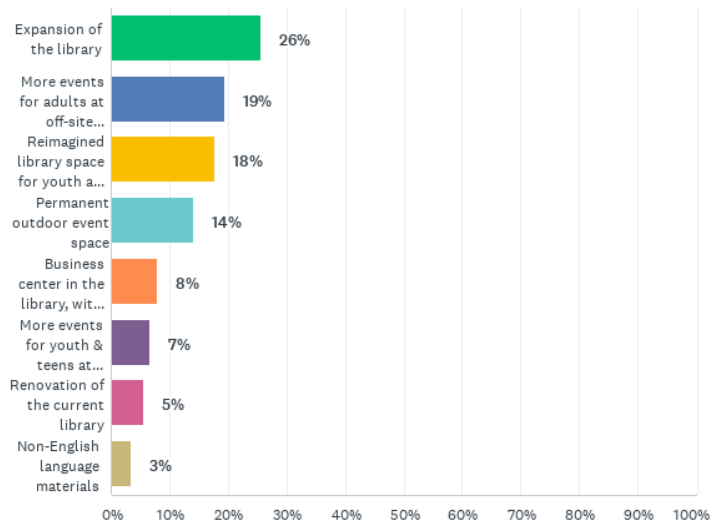


Next Initiatives

Respondents were asked to pick the most important project that they would like to see Prince Memorial Library pursue. Among those who chose to respond (n=552), 26% mentioned expansion of the library, while fewer selected more events for adults at off-site locations (19%), reimagined library space for youth and teens (18%), permanent outdoor event space (14%), business center in the library with resources for local businesses and entrepreneurs (8%), more events for youth & teens at offsite locations (7%), renovation of the current library (5%), and non-English language materials (3%).

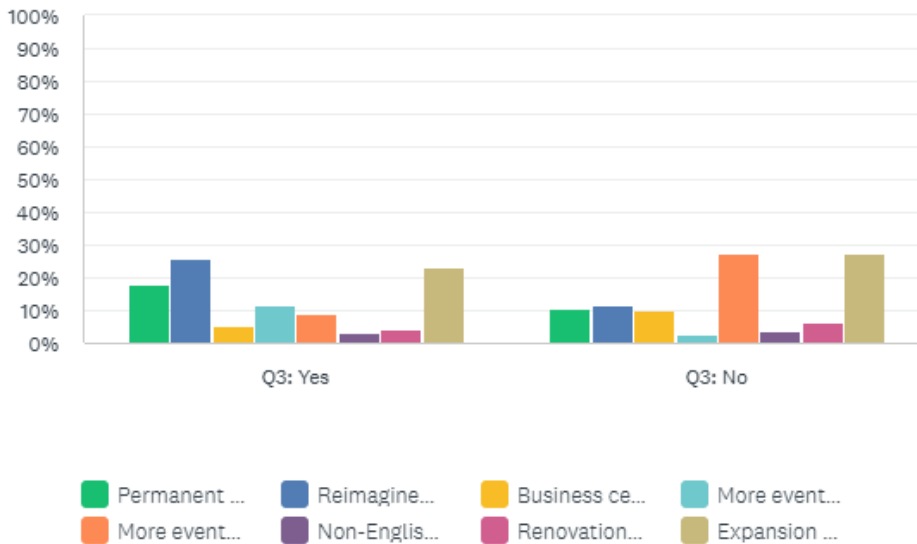
Figure 18a. Choose the most important project you would like to see Prince Memorial Library pursue.

Q18 Choose the most important project you would like to see Prince Memorial Library pursue.



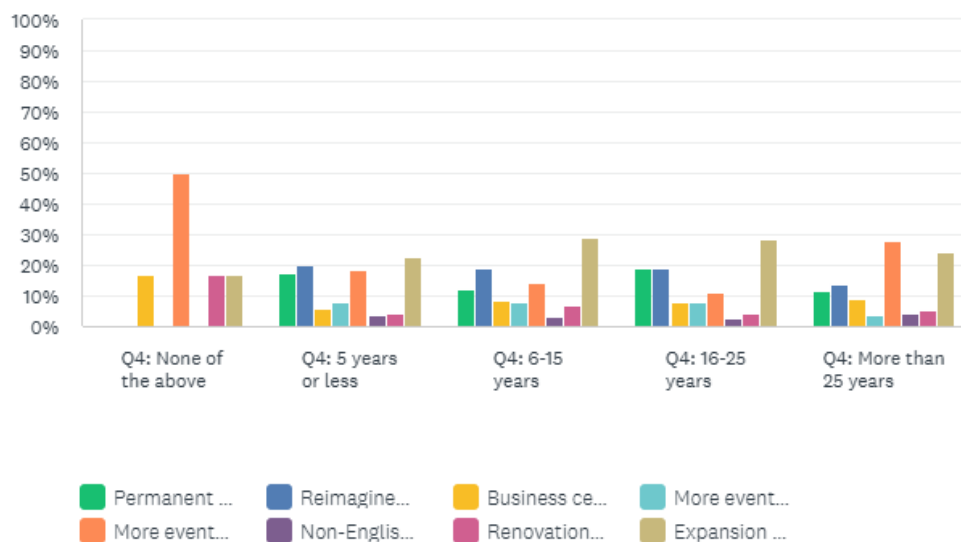
- Respondents with someone under the age of 18 at home were more likely to want to see reimagined library space for youth and teens and permanent outdoor space.
- Respondents without someone under the age of 18 at home were more likely to want to see more events for adults at off-site locations and expansion of the library.

Figure 18b. Most important project you would like to see Prince Memorial Library pursue - by Select Demographics



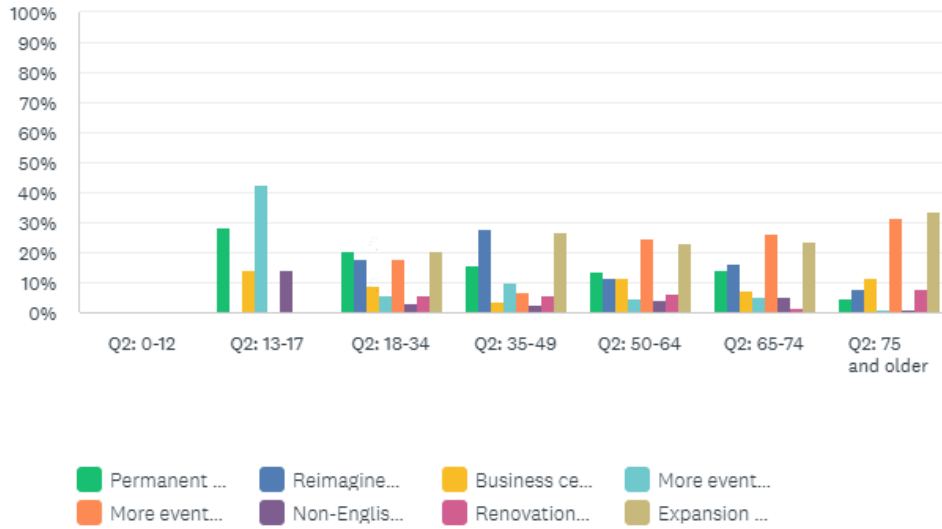
- Respondents, no matter the length of time they’ve lived in the community, are more likely to want to see expansion of the library, reimagined library space for youth and teens, permanent outdoor space, and more events for adults at off-site locations.

Figure 18c. Most important project you would like to see Prince Memorial Library pursue - by Select Demographics



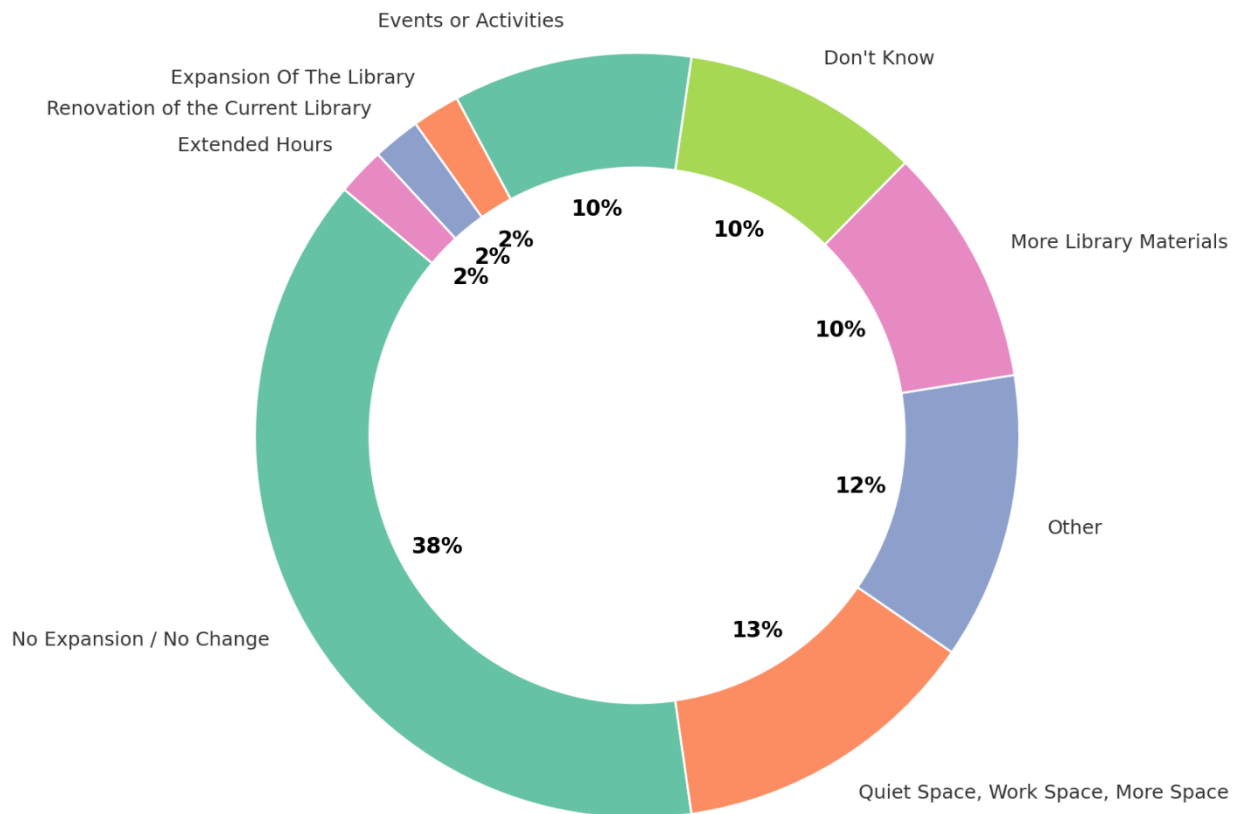
- Respondents between the age of 18-34, and over the age 50 are more likely to want to see events for adults at off-site locations and expansion of the library.

Figure 18d. Most important project you would like to see Prince Memorial Library pursue - by Select Demographics



When asked what the most important project they would like to see Prince Memorial Library pursue (n=136) in other comments, 38% of respondents emphasized 'no expansion / no change,' indicating satisfaction with the library's current state. Meanwhile, 13% suggested a need for 'quiet space, work space, or more space,' and 12% categorized their suggestions under 'other.' A smaller share of respondents focused on 'more library materials' (10%) and an equal percentage (10%) reported 'don't know.'

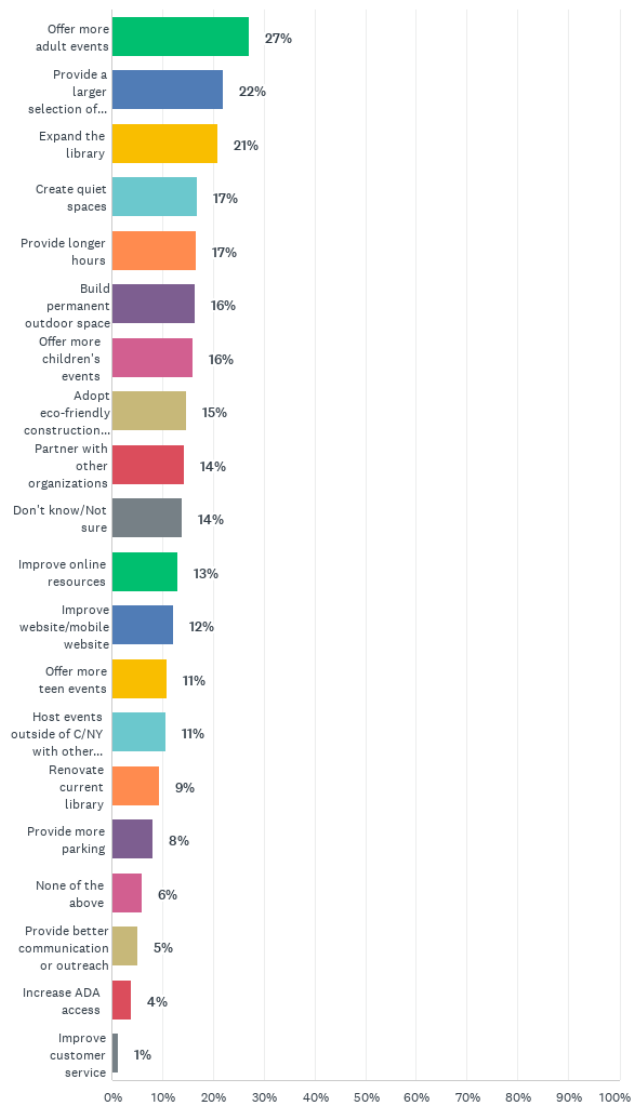
Figure 18c. Most important project you would like to see Prince Memorial Library pursue - by Responses



When asked what they would suggest to improve Prince Memorial Library, 27% of respondents mentioned offering more adults events, 22% provide a larger selection of materials, 21% expand the library, 17% create quiet spaces and provide longer hours, 16% build permanent outdoor space and offer more children’s events, 15% adopt eco-friendly construction standards, 14% partner with other organizations, 13% improve online resources, 12% improve website/mobile website, 11% offer more teen events and host events outside of C/NY with other organizations, and 10% renovate current library. Provide more parking (8%), provide better communication or outreach (5%), increase ADA access (4%), and improve customer service (1%). Fourteen percent don’t know / not sure, 12% mentioned something else, and 6% none of the above.

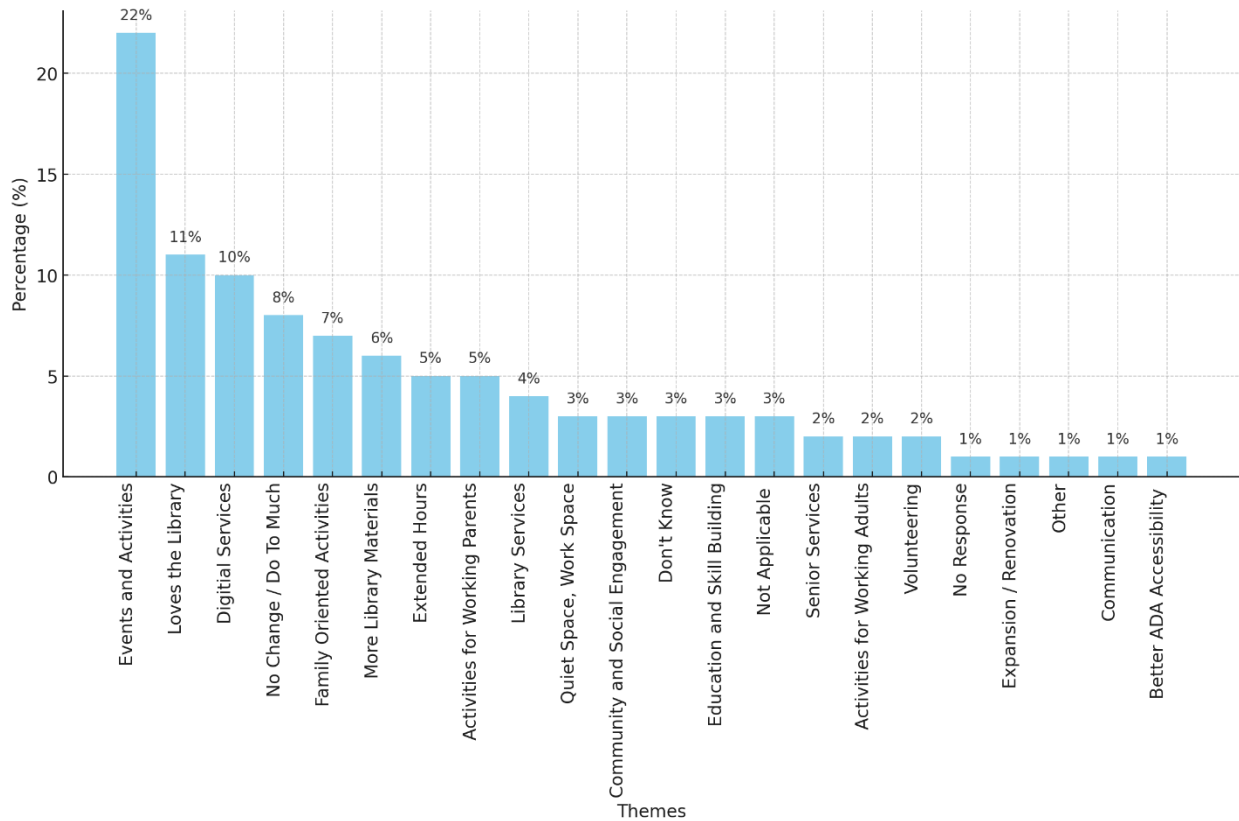
Figure 19. How could Prince Memorial Library improve? (Please select all that apply)

Q19 How could Prince Memorial Library improve? (Please select all that apply)



When asked to respond to which services, resources, or events they wished Prince Memorial Library offered, or offered more (n=180) 22% of respondents emphasized events and activities, 11% expressed their love for the library, and 10% highlighted the need for new or better digital services. Additionally, 8% noted no desire for changes or suggested the library already does too much, while 7% prioritized family-oriented activities. Other themes included more library materials (6%), extended hours (5%), and activities for working parents (5%). Smaller portions of respondents mentioned library services (4%), quiet or workspaces (3%), community and social engagement (3%), and education or skill building (3%). Themes such as senior services (2%), volunteering (2%), and activities for working adults (2%) also emerged. A smaller number of responses (1% or less) addressed better ADA accessibility, communication, expansion/renovation, and other miscellaneous themes.

Figure 20. Which services, resources, or events do you wish Prince Memorial Library offered, or offered more?



Appendix A

Prince Memorial Library Community Survey _All Responses.pdf

Appendix B

[Prince Memorial Library Community Survey \(8.5 x 11 in\).pdf](#)