

# **TOWN OF DEWEY BEACH, DELAWARE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

## **2026 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SURVEY**



## **FINAL COMPILED REPORT**

**10/6/2026**

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## Dewey Beach 2026 Comparative Analysis of 2018 vs. 2026 Surveys

This summary compares the results from the 2018 and 2026 Resident/Property Owner and Visitor Surveys. In 2018, business owners were included in the resident/property owner survey, while in 2026 business owners were surveyed separately.

The comparison can be summarized as follows:

- **Characteristics of respondents:** The majority of respondents in both surveys are long-term property owners with tenure in Dewey Beach for over a decade. Single-family dwelling owners made up a larger share of respondents in 2026 than in 2018, shifting the sample from a condo majority (60.3%) in 2018 to a 50/48 split in 2026.
- **Planned renovations:** Owner investment plans have remained steady over the eight-year period, defined by a strong preference for maintaining existing structures alongside minor interior updates.
- **Time spent in Dewey Beach:** Respondents reported longer average stays in 2026, highlighted by a notable increase in those residing in town for 9 to 12 months a year (increasing from 10.43% to 23%).
- **Top 5 positive characteristics:**

***\*\*Dewey Beach's top five assets remained the same over the decade, but their order changed as restaurant walkability rose to number one.\*\****

- Walking Access to Restaurants and Eateries: Emerged as the single top overall asset for residents/property owners (81.5%) and visitors (71%), while ranking #2 among business owners (64%).
- Accessibility of Ocean Beach: Remained a stable core pillar of the town's appeal, maintaining its standing as the 2nd highest ranked characteristic overall (selected by 70% of residents/property owners and 58% of visitors in 2026).
- Clean and Safe Beach: Slipped from #1 to #3 among residents/property owners (62.8%) as walkability took the lead, but rose significantly from #4 to #2 among visitors (69%), reflecting strong tourist appreciation.
- Active Summer / Quiet Offseason Balance: Climbed to the #4 priority among residents (51.8%), aligning with a growing consensus to expand shoulder season activities while continuing to value a quiet offseason.
- Dog-Friendly Beach: Solidified its status in the top five (chosen by 43% of residents and 33% of visitors) as a permanent brand asset for Dewey Beach across all survey groups
- **Top 5 in need of improvement:**

***\*\*While the top five areas needing improvement remained the exact same over the decade, the priorities shifted as pedestrian safety rose to become the #1 concern across all groups.\*\****

- Pedestrian Safety along Route 1: Surpassed public drunkenness enforcement to become the #1 overall concern across all three survey groups in 2026 (selected by 56.5% of residents/property owners, 50% of visitors, and 55% of business

- owners), driven by highway crossing hazards, vehicle speeds, and lighting visibility.
- Stricter Control of Inappropriate Behavior / Public Drunkenness: Remained a major quality-of-life issue—demanded by 47.4% of residents/property owners, 37% of visitors, and 36% of business owners—though it dropped to the #2 priority behind pedestrian safety.
  - More Year-Round Restaurants and Amenities: Climbed in priority alongside strong community support for shoulder-season expansion, requested by 46.6% of residents/property owners, 39% of visitors, and 27% of business owners.
  - General Public Safety and Feeling of Security: Maintained its position in the top five (33.3% of residents/property owners, 32% of visitors, and 27% of business owners), with stakeholders emphasizing the need for year-round baseline police visibility, enhanced lighting, and nighttime neighborhood security.
  - Summer Season and Nighttime Noise: Continued as a primary point of friction between residential neighborhoods and commercial venues (33.1% of residents/property owners), though it saw a slight relative drop in ranking compared to 2018 as pedestrian safety became the dominant focus
  - **Shoulder season:** Respondent support held steadily in favor of expanding shoulder season activities, maintaining a clear two-thirds majority consensus.
  - **Nighttime safety:** Respondents' perception of nighttime pedestrian/bike safety improved substantially, with total agreement increasing from 57.8% in 2018 to 72% in 2026.
  - **Flooding adaptation:** Support for environmental resiliency and flood mitigation strengthened over time, with a 10-percentage-point increase in residents who strongly favor prioritizing adaptation efforts (rising to 65% strongly agree).
- 

## Residents and Property Owners Survey Questions

Question 1: "I have owned property in Dewey Beach for:"

- 2018: More than 10 years: 68.05% (181); 5 to 10 years: 15.79% (42); Less than 5 years: 16.17% (43).
- 2026: More than 10 years: 66% (376); 5 to 10 years: 23% (131); Less than 5 years: 11% (63).

Takeaway: The property owner base demonstrates strong long-term tenure, with approximately two-thirds of respondents consistently holding property in Dewey Beach for over a decade.

Question 2: "Do you rent any of the properties you own in Dewey Beach?" / "Do you use your property as a rental?"

- 2018: Do not rent any property: 60.30% (161); Rent short-term during Summer: 31.09% (83); Rent short-term during Spring/Fall: 8.61% (23); Rent for full Summer season: 6.37% (17); Rent year-round: 4.87% (13).
- 2026: No (do not rent): 67% (279); Yes (use as rental): 33% (137).

Takeaway: The proportion of respondents who are non-renting owners expanded slightly from 60.3% in 2018 to 67% in 2026.

### Question 3: "My property is a:"

- 2018: Unit in a condo or multi-family building: 60.30% (161); Single-family house: 41.20% (110).
- 2026: Single-family dwelling: 50% (284); Condo or unit in a multi-family dwelling: 48% (273); Other: 2% (11).

Takeaway: Single-family dwelling owners made up a larger share of respondents in 2026 than in 2018, shifting the sample from a condo majority (60.3%) in 2018 to a 50/48 split in 2026.

### Question 4: "My property is located at:"

- 2018: South of Houston Street: 63.16% (168); Ocean side of Route 1: 39.10% (104); Bay side of Route 1: 34.59% (92); North of Houston Street: 24.44% (65).
- 2026: Bay side south of Houston St: 35% (208); Ocean side south of Houston St: 32% (190); Ocean side north of Houston St: 24% (143); Bay side north of Houston St: 9% (53).

Takeaway: The geographic distribution of respondents remained stable, with properties south of Houston Street continuing to represent the majority of responding households across both surveys (67% total south vs. 33% north).

### Question 5: "Do you plan to make any changes to your property or the way you use your property within the next five years?"

- 2018: Do not plan any changes: 53.76% (143); Minor addition or interior renovation: 33.83% (90); Establish residency: 8.65% (23); Stop renting property: 7.89% (21); Tear down and rebuild: 3.01% (8); Build major addition: 1.13% (3); Convert to rental: 1.13% (3).
- 2026: Do not plan to make changes: 55% (308); Minor addition or interior renovation: 29% (162); Establish residency: 9% (53); Stop renting property: 6% (35); Other: 4% (23); Build major addition: 3% (18); Tear down and rebuild: 3% (16); Convert to rental: 1% (6).

Takeaway: Owner investment plans have remained steady over the eight-year period, defined by a strong preference for maintaining existing structures alongside minor interior updates.

Question 6: "How much time do you spend in Dewey Beach on average during the course of one year?"

- 2018: 1 to 3 months: 40.65% (113); 3 to 6 months: 23.38% (65); 2 weeks to less than 1 month: 15.83% (44); 9 to 12 months: 10.43% (29); 6 to 9 months: 6.83% (19); Less than 2 weeks: 2.88% (8).
- 2026: 3 to less than 6 months: 28% (175); 1 to less than 3 months: 25% (156); 9 to 12 months: 23% (144); 2 weeks to less than 1 month: 12% (75); 6 to less than 9 months: 10% (63); Less than 2 weeks: 2% (13).

Takeaway: Respondents reported longer average stays in 2026, highlighted by a notable increase in respondents residing in town for 9 to 12 months a year (increasing from 10.43% to 23%).

Question 7: "Among the following issues or characteristics, please indicate the top five that you believe are the most positive about Dewey Beach."

- 2018: Clean and safe beach: 220 votes (97 ranked #1); Walking access to restaurants/eateries: 198 votes; Accessibility of ocean beach: 179 votes; Dog-friendly beach: 131 votes; Active summer / quiet offseason balance: 127 votes.
- 2026: Walking access to restaurants/eateries: 82% (347); Accessibility of ocean beach: 70% (298); Clean and safe beach: 62% (264); Active summer season / quiet offseason balance: 52% (219); Dog-friendly beach: 43% (184).

Takeaway: ***While beach cleanliness and ocean access remain top strengths, restaurant walkability expanded its lead to become the single most praised asset among property owners by 2026 (82%).***

Question 8: "Please indicate which of the following you think are the top five most in need of improvement or change during the next five years."

- 2018: Stricter control of inappropriate behavior / public drunkenness: 186 votes (99 ranked #1); Pedestrian safety: 145 votes; More year-round restaurants: 119 votes; Summer season noise: 118 votes; Public safety: 113 votes.
- 2026: Pedestrian safety: 57% (229); Stricter control of inappropriate behavior: 47% (189); More year-round restaurants: 46% (185); Summer season noise: 34% (136); Shopping and convenience outlets: 33% (134); Public safety: 31% (125).

Takeaway: ***Pedestrian safety rose past public drunkenness enforcement to become the top improvement priority (57%), while demand for stricter behavior controls (47%) and year-round dining (46%) remained high.***

Question 9: "Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town / expand shoulder season activities."

- 2018: Become year-round town: 62.14% agreed (23.93% strongly agree, 38.21% agree somewhat); Expand shoulder season activities: 79.57% agreed (40.86% strongly agree, 38.71% agree somewhat).
- 2026: Strive for year-round town by expanding shoulder season activities: 66% agreed (30% strongly agree, 36% agree somewhat).

Takeaway: Respondent support for extending town activity into the spring and fall shoulder seasons has held steady, maintaining a clear two-thirds majority consensus across both surveys.

#### Question 10: "I feel safe when walking or biking along Route 1 / at night in Dewey Beach."

- 2018: 57.80% agreed (15.60% strongly agree, 42.20% agree somewhat); 37.94% disagreed (26.95% disagree somewhat, 10.99% strongly disagree).
- 2026: 72% agreed (28% strongly agree, 44% agree somewhat); 22% disagreed (17% disagree somewhat, 5% strongly disagree).

Takeaway: Respondent perceptions of nighttime pedestrian/bike safety improved substantially, with total agreement increasing from 57.8% in 2018 to 72% in 2026.

#### Question 11: "Protection against / adaptation to sea level rise and flooding should remain a high priority for the town."

- 2018: Protection as high priority: 80.43% agreed (55.52% strongly agree, 24.91% agree somewhat); Develop long-term adaptation plan: 85.11% agreed (54.61% strongly agree, 30.50% agree somewhat).
- 2026: Adaptation should remain a high priority: 87% agreed (65% strongly agree, 22% agree somewhat).

Takeaway: Support for environmental resiliency and flood mitigation strengthened over time, marked by a 10-percentage-point increase in residents who strongly favor prioritizing adaptation efforts (rising from 55% to 65% strongly agree).

#### Question 12: "Ensuring the future financial sustainability of the town requires a greater contribution from / revenue preference:"

- 2018: Commercial Business owners: 80.71% (226); Visitors: 67.14% (188); Property owners: 41.79% (117).
- 2026: Increasing accommodations tax on residential rentals: 55% (263); Annexing areas contiguous to Dewey Beach: 37% (180); Other: 25% (119); Allowing development of new hotels: 16% (77).

Takeaway: *While 2018 property owners overwhelmingly pointed to businesses and visitors to fund town operations, 2026 respondents showed strong willingness to support increasing the accommodations tax on residential short-term rentals (55%) and annexation (37%).*

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## Visitor Survey Questions

Question 1: "Do you or does someone in your family own property in Dewey Beach?"

- 2018: No: 62.28% (104); Yes: 37.72% (63).
- 2026: No: 79% (199); Yes: 22% (55).

Takeaway: The 2026 visitor sample captured a larger percentage of non-property-owning tourists (79%) compared to 2018 (62.28%).

Question 2: "How long is your current or most recent stay in Dewey Beach?"

- 2018: Weekend or a few consecutive days: 37.14% (39); One week: 30.48% (32); More than two weeks: 19.05% (20); One day or evening: 8.57% (9); Two weeks: 4.76% (5).
- 2026: One week: 44% (88); Weekend: 19% (37); One day/evening: 16% (31); More than two weeks: 15% (30); Two weeks: 7% (13).

Takeaway: Visitor stay patterns shifted from short weekend trips toward full week-long vacations, with one-week stays rising from 30.48% to 44%.

Question 3: "Did you stay or are you staying in a:"

- 2018: House: 60.95% (64); Condominium: 17.14% (18); Hotel or motel: 17.14% (18); No overnight stay: 4.76% (5).
- 2026: House: 55% (91); Condominium: 22% (37); Hotel or motel: 16% (27); Other: 7% (11).

Takeaway: Single-family home rentals remain the primary accommodation choice (55%), while condo usage grew from 17.14% to 22% and hotel stays remained stable at 16%.

Question 4: "How many people stayed with you in the same accommodation?"

- 2018: Four to six: 37.00% (37); Two or three: 30.00% (30); Seven or more: 21.00% (21); One: 11.00% (11); None: 1.00% (1).
- 2026: Four to six: 28% (57); Two or three: 25% (51); Seven or more: 22% (45); One: 14% (28); None: 12% (24).

Takeaway: Mid-to-large group travel remained dominant, with parties of 4 to 6 representing 28% and large parties of 7+ holding steady at 22%.

Question 5: "How many children were in your party? (age 17 or younger)"

- 2018: None: 77.00% (77); One or two: 16.00% (16); More than two: 7.00% (7).
- 2026: None: 60% (107); One or two: 24% (43); More than two: 16% (28).

Takeaway: The percentage of visitor parties traveling with children nearly doubled, rising from 23% in 2018 to 40% in 2026.

Question 6: "Among the following issues or characteristics, please indicate the top five that you believe are the most positive about Dewey Beach."

- 2018: Walking access to restaurants/eateries: 56 votes; Accessibility of ocean beach: 50 votes; Nighttime entertainment: 49 votes; Clean and safe beach: 48 votes; Party atmosphere: 44 votes; Safe nighttime environment: 44 votes.
- 2026: Clean and safe beach: 73% (117); Walking access to restaurants/eateries: 71% (115); Accessibility of ocean beach: 60% (97); Dog-friendly beach: 33% (53); Safe and secure nighttime environment: 31% (50).

Takeaway: Beach cleanliness (73%) and restaurant walkability (71%) remained the primary attractions for visitors, followed by ocean beach access (60%) and dog-friendly policies (33%).

Question 7: "Please indicate which of the following you think are the top five most in need of improvement or change during the next five years."

- 2018: Pedestrian safety: 52 votes; Availability of public restrooms: 47 votes; More year-round restaurants: 38 votes; More special events: 35 votes; Public transportation options: 34 votes; Shopping and convenience outlets: 32 votes.
- 2026: Pedestrian safety: 49% (71); Stricter control of inappropriate behavior: 36% (52); More year-round restaurants: 39% (56); Public transportation options: 39% (56); Public safety: 33% (47); Shopping and convenience outlets: 29% (42).

Takeaway: Pedestrian safety held its rank as the top visitor concern across both periods (49%), accompanied by rising demand for year-round dining (39%), public transit (39%), and stricter behavior controls (36%).

Question 8: "Do you plan to return to Dewey Beach for another stay?"

- 2018: Yes: 89.77% (79); Not sure: 7.95% (7); No: 2.27% (2).
- 2026: Yes: 91% (128); Maybe: 6% (8); No: 3% (5).

Takeaway: Tourist retention remained exceptionally high over the eight-year span, consistently exceeding 90% return intention.

Question 9: "What is your age?"

- 2018: 51 to 60: 30.68% (27); 41 to 50: 27.27% (24); 61 to 70: 15.91% (14); 31 to 40: 13.64% (12); 71 or older: 5.68% (5); 18 to 20: 4.55% (4); 21 to 30: 2.27% (2).
- 2026: 51 to 60: 32% (46); 61 to 70: 26% (38); 41 to 50: 19% (28); 31 to 40: 12% (17); 71 or older: 7% (10); 21 to 30: 3% (4); 18 to 20: 0% (0).

Takeaway: The visitor demographic has aged steadily over time, with respondents between ages 51 and 70 increasing from 46.59% in 2018 to 58% in 2026.

# Dewey Beach Survey for Residents and Residential Property owners

Project Engagement

VIEWS

2,327

PARTICIPANTS

645

RESPONSES

10,869

COMMENTS

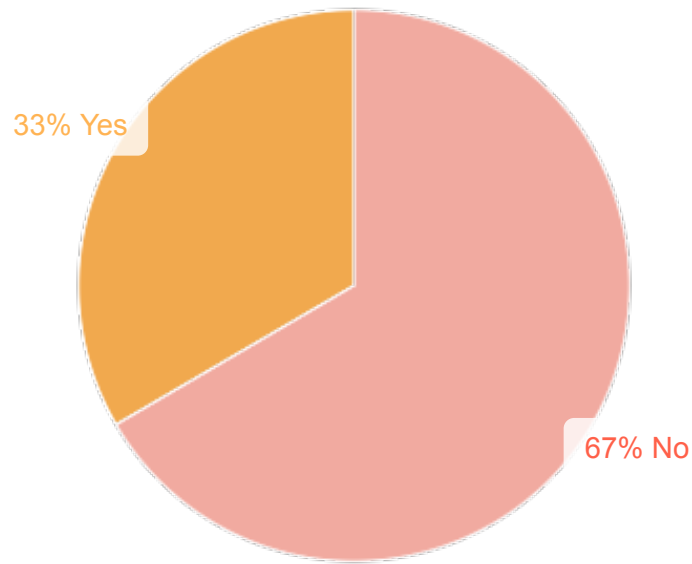
1,554

Check all that apply to you:

|     |                                                   |       |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 68% | Residential property owner and Non-resident       | 421 ✓ |
| 27% | Residential property owner and Full-time resident | 168 ✓ |
| 8%  | Resident and Renter                               | 49 ✓  |

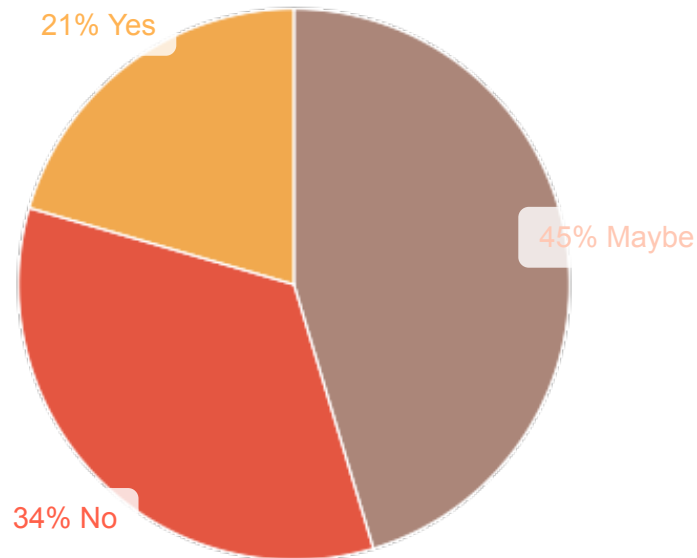
620 Respondents

### Do you use your property as a rental?



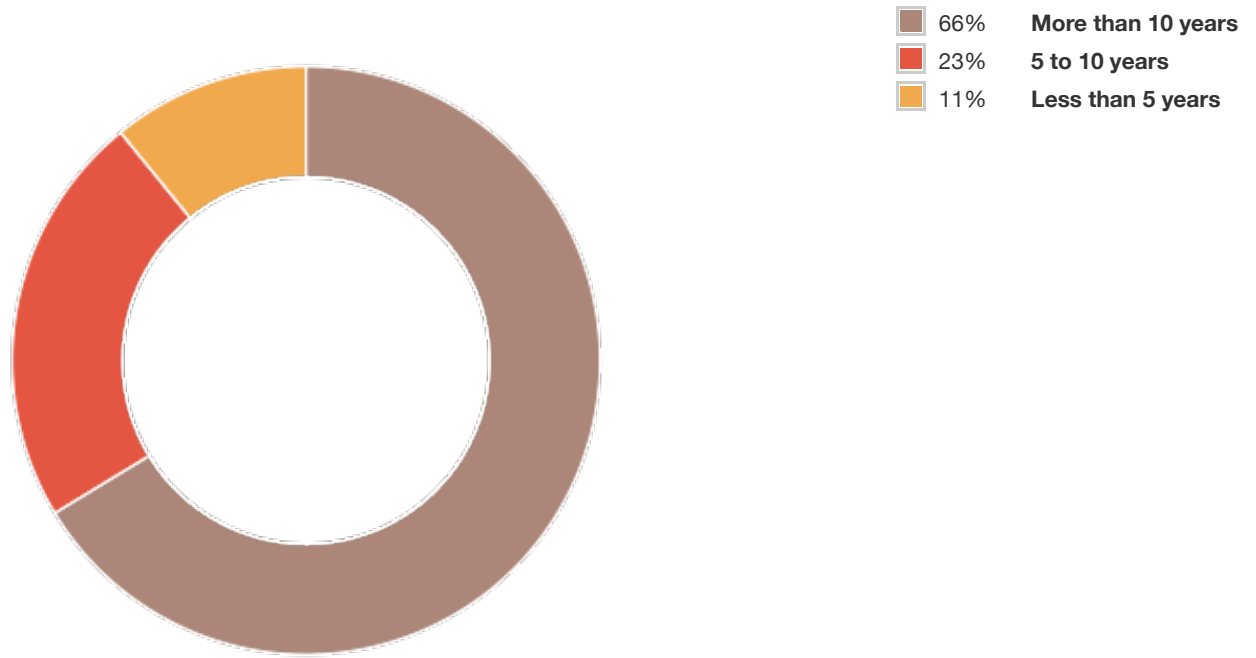
416 respondents

### Do you plan to make your residential property your primary residence in the future?



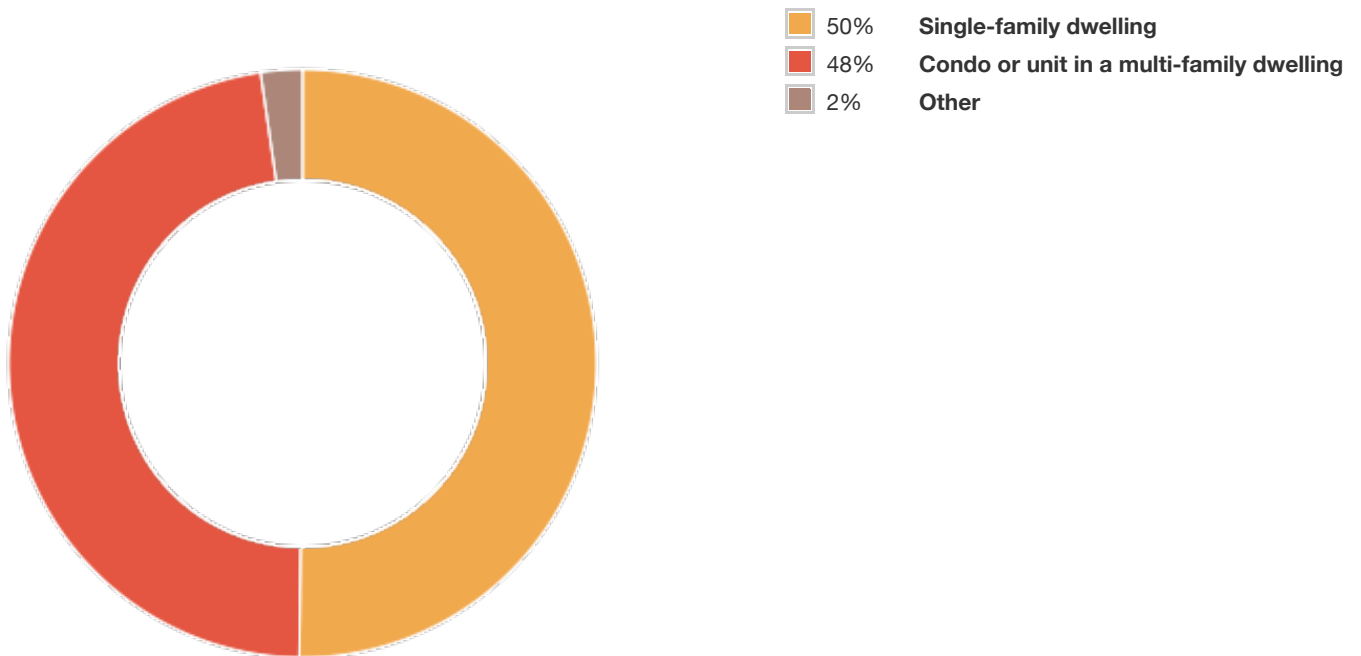
419 respondents

### I have owned property in Dewey Beach for:



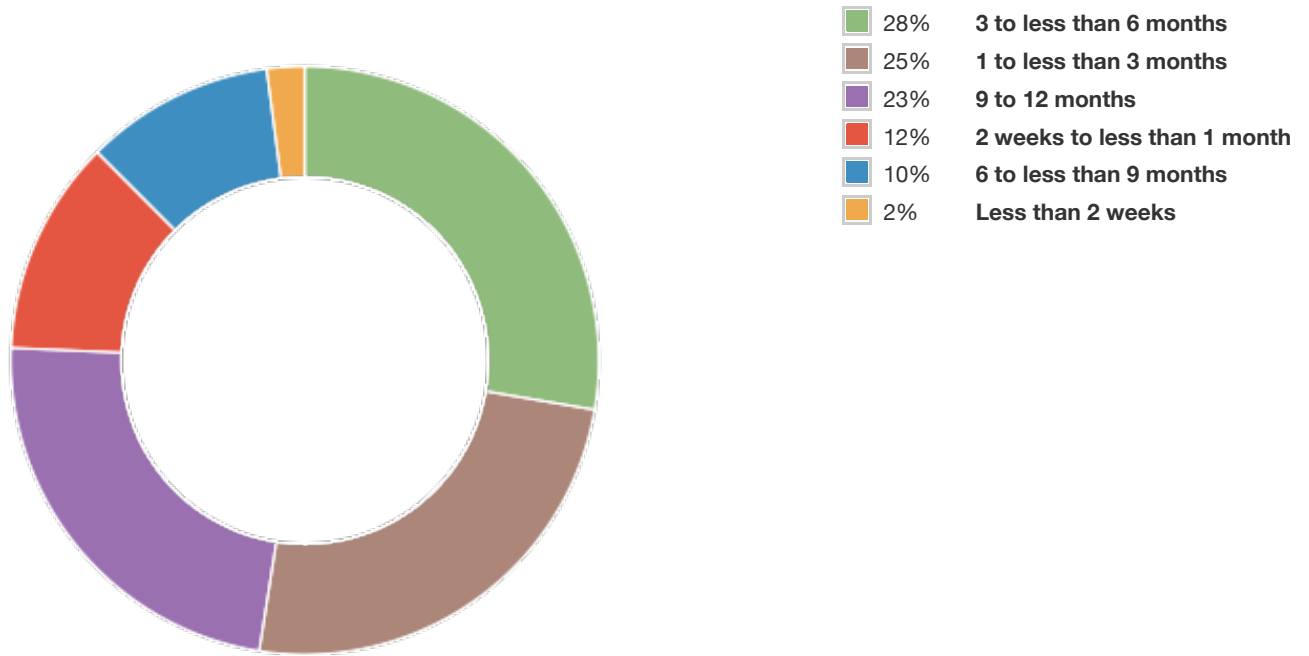
570 respondents

### My property is a:



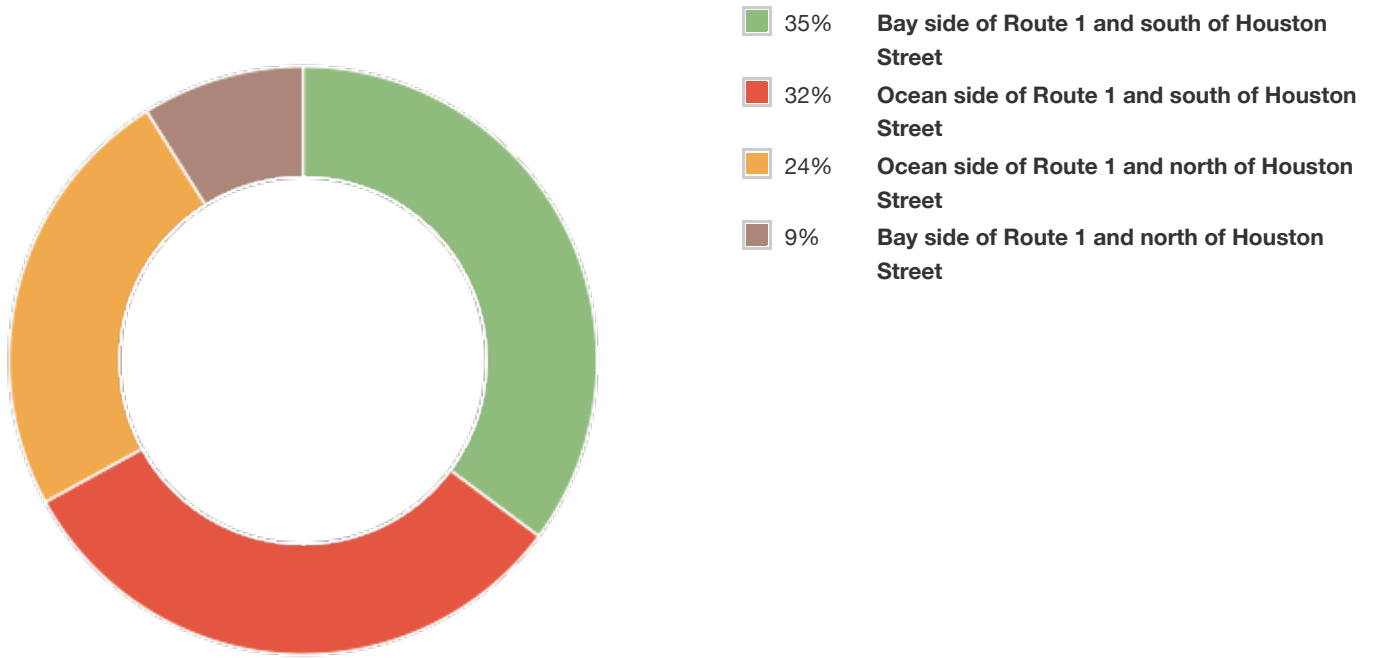
568 respondents

## How much time do you spend in Dewey Beach on average in a year?



625 respondents

### My property is located at:



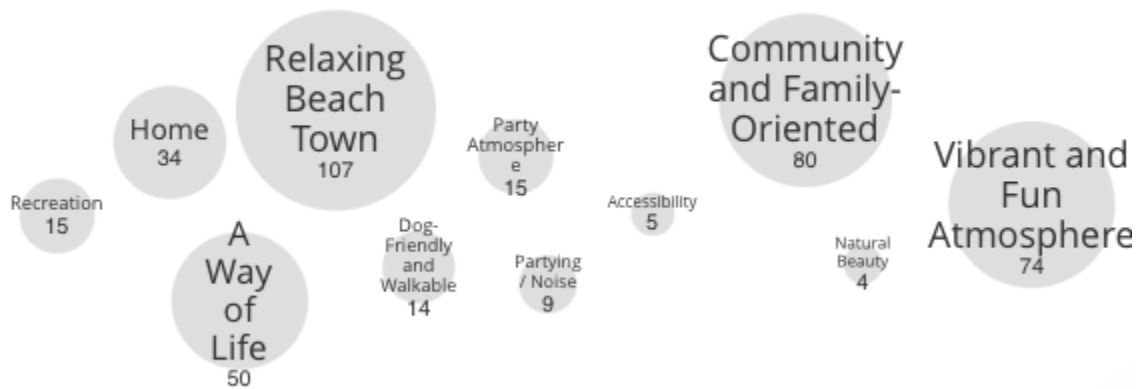
594 respondents

**Do you plan to make any changes to your property or the way you use it within the next five years?**

|     |                                       |       |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 55% | Do not plan to make changes           | 308 ✓ |
| 29% | Minor addition or interior renovation | 162 ✓ |
| 9%  | Establish residency in Dewey Beach    | 53 ✓  |
| 6%  | Stop renting my property              | 35 ✓  |
| 4%  | Other                                 | 23 ✓  |
| 3%  | Build a major addition                | 18 ✓  |
| 3%  | Tear down and rebuild                 | 16 ✓  |
| 1%  | Convert to a rental property          | 6 ✓   |

563 Respondents

What word or phrase best describes Dewey Beach to you?



**Positive characteristics ranking: Please indicate the top 5 characteristics that you believe are most positive about Dewey Beach. Drag and drop them at the top with 1 being most positive.**

|     |                                                                        |            |       |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------|
| 70% | Accessibility of ocean beach                                           | Rank: 1.93 | 298 ✓ |
| 82% | Walking access to restaurants, eateries, and other food establishments | Rank: 2.67 | 347 ✓ |
| 35% | Family-oriented atmosphere                                             | Rank: 2.68 | 148 ✓ |
| 43% | Dog-friendly beach                                                     | Rank: 2.76 | 184 ✓ |
| 62% | Clean and safe beach                                                   | Rank: 2.96 | 264 ✓ |
| 31% | Nighttime entertainment                                                | Rank: 3.32 | 130 ✓ |
| 8%  | Party atmosphere                                                       | Rank: 3.38 | 32 ✓  |
| 52% | Active summer season / quiet offseason balance                         | Rank: 3.47 | 219 ✓ |
| 1%  | Quality and number of rental accommodations                            | Rank: 3.60 | 5 ✓   |
| 20% | Accessibility to bay                                                   | Rank: 3.62 | 86 ✓  |
| 32% | Safe and secure nighttime environment                                  | Rank: 3.63 | 136 ✓ |
| 3%  | Other                                                                  | Rank: 3.85 | 13 ✓  |
| 19% | Quality and number of restaurants                                      | Rank: 3.91 | 81 ✓  |

424 Respondents

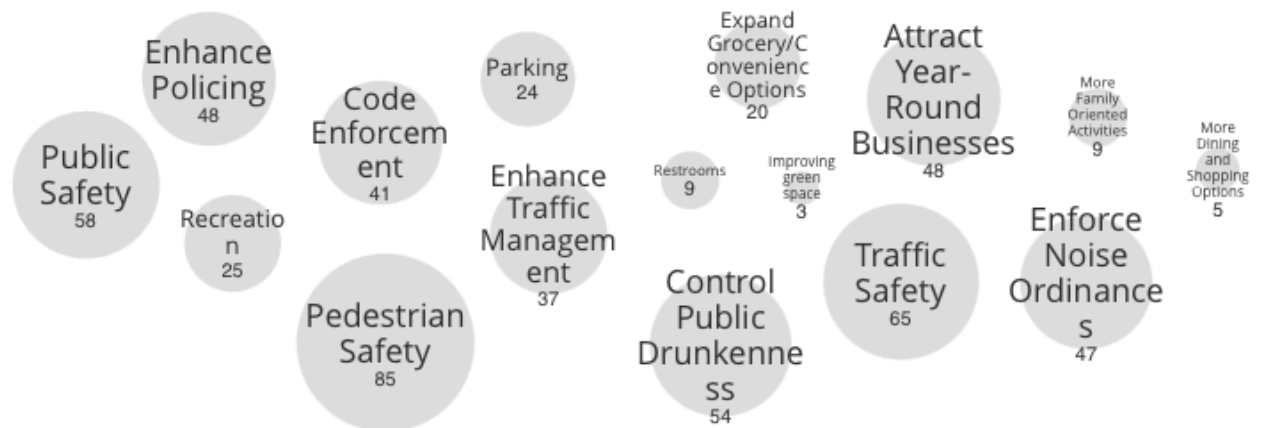
**Improvements ranking: Please indicate the top 5 areas most in need of improvement in Dewey**

**Beach. Drag and drop these at the top, with 1 being the most in need of improvement.**

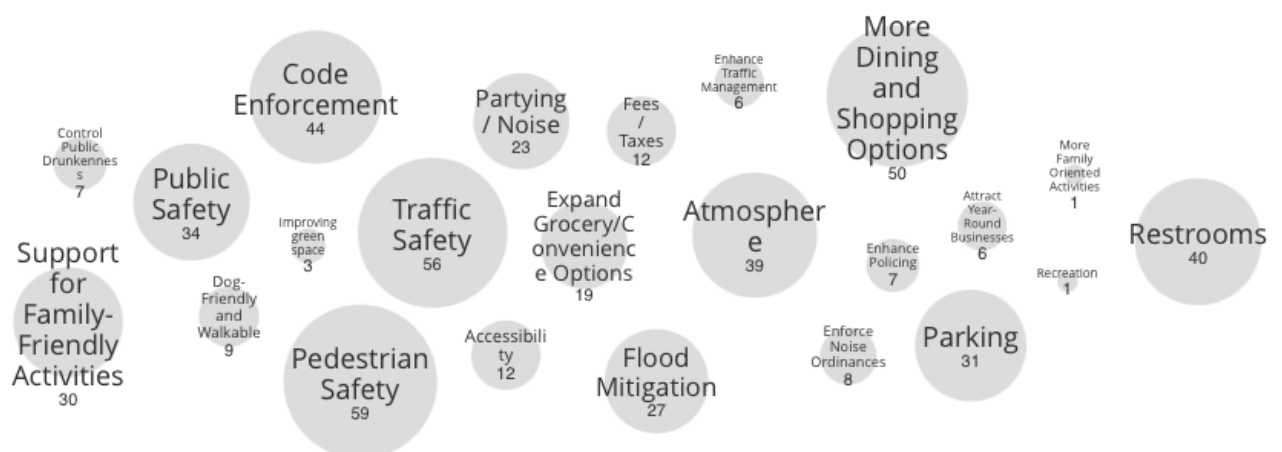
|     |                                                                       |            |       |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------|
| 57% | Pedestrian safety                                                     | Rank: 2.22 | 229 ✓ |
| 18% | Other                                                                 | Rank: 2.39 | 74 ✓  |
| 47% | Stricter control of inappropriate behavior (e.g., public drunkenness) | Rank: 2.49 | 189 ✓ |
| 14% | Summer activities for children                                        | Rank: 2.50 | 58 ✓  |
| 46% | More year-round restaurants                                           | Rank: 2.60 | 185 ✓ |
| 34% | Summer season noise                                                   | Rank: 2.61 | 136 ✓ |
| 7%  | Fewer special events (town or business sponsored)                     | Rank: 2.76 | 29 ✓  |
| 18% | Availability of family-oriented restaurants                           | Rank: 2.84 | 73 ✓  |
| 20% | Family-oriented activities                                            | Rank: 2.89 | 80 ✓  |
| 25% | Public transportation options                                         | Rank: 3.00 | 101 ✓ |
| 24% | More special events (town or business sponsored)                      | Rank: 3.03 | 99 ✓  |
| 19% | Beach safety                                                          | Rank: 3.07 | 76 ✓  |
| 31% | Public safety (general feeling of safety)                             | Rank: 3.20 | 125 ✓ |
| 33% | Shopping and convenience outlets in town                              | Rank: 3.23 | 134 ✓ |

405 Respondents

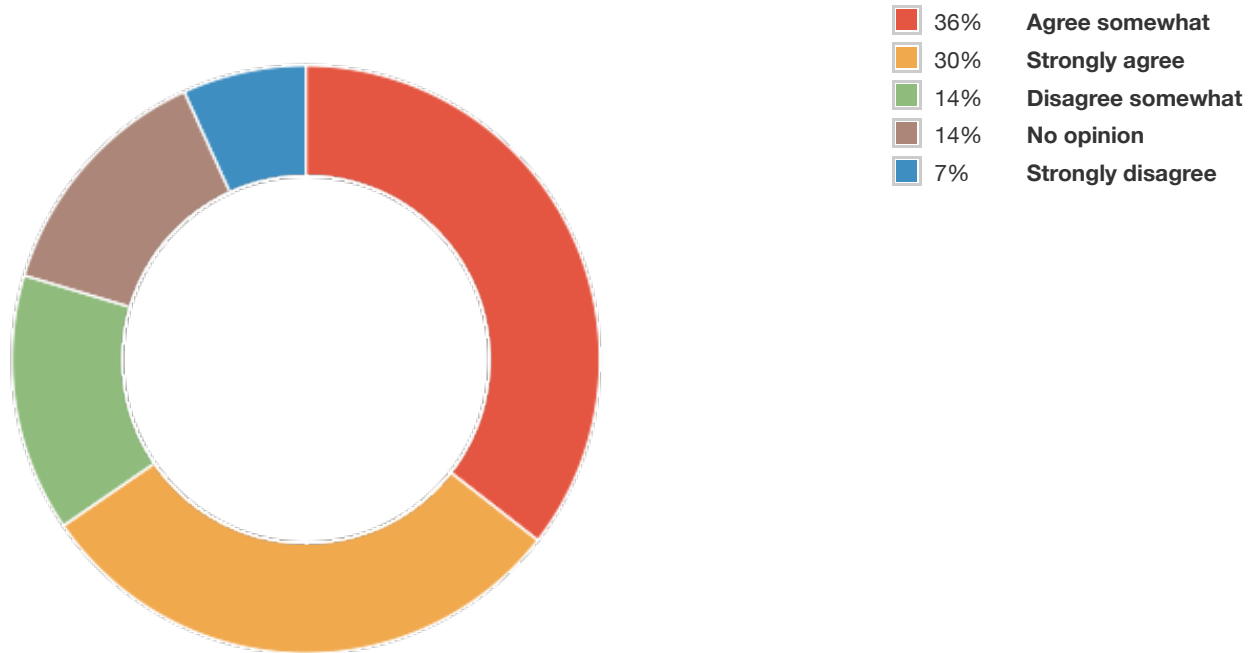
For the top five issues you ranked, what specific actions would have the biggest impact on fixing these problems over the next five years?



Over the next five to ten years, what specific amenities and improvements could make Dewey Beach a better place to live?

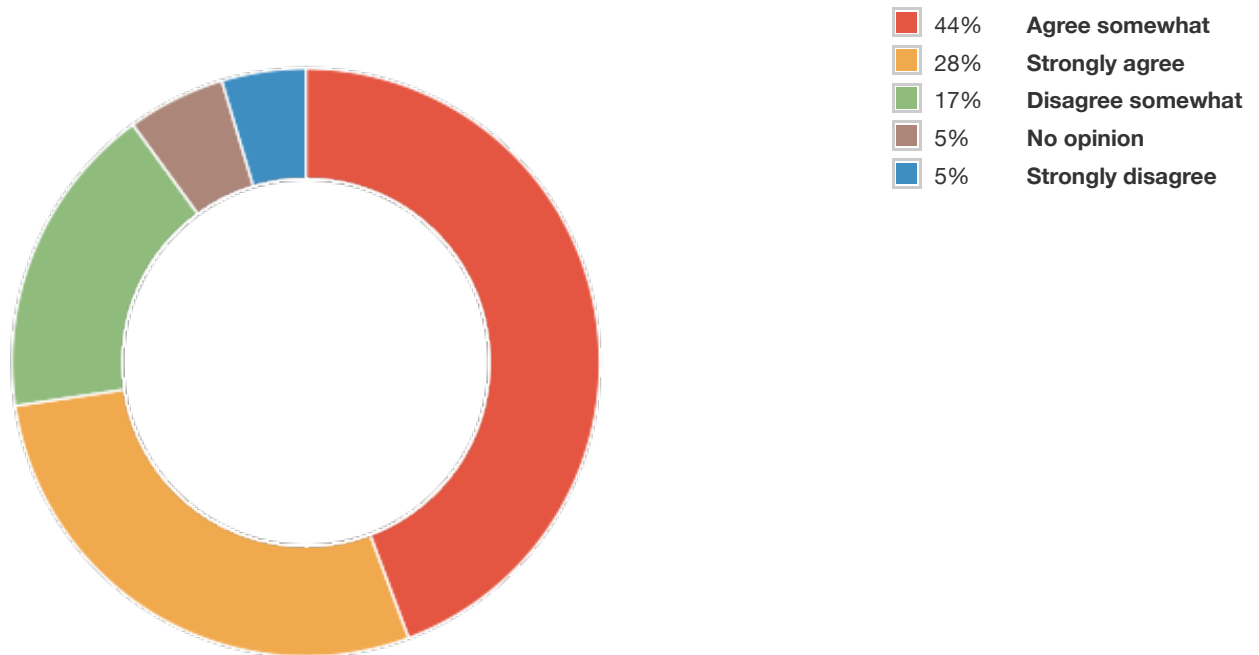


**Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.**



515 respondents

**I feel safe when walking or biking at night in Dewey Beach. (Consider factors like lighting and visibility)**



519 respondents

**If the Town needed to generate more revenue to ensure financial sustainability, would you prefer:  
(Check all that apply)**

|     |                                                                          |       |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 55% | Increasing the accommodations tax (on residential rentals)               | 263 ✓ |
| 37% | Annexing of areas contiguous to Dewey Beach                              | 180 ✓ |
| 25% | Other                                                                    | 119 ✓ |
| 16% | Allowing development of new hotels to increase the base of the hotel tax | 77 ✓  |

481 Respondents

# Dewey Beach Visitor Survey

| Project Engagement                                            |              |           |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|
| VIEWS                                                         | PARTICIPANTS | RESPONSES | COMMENTS |
| 1,159                                                         | 263          | 2,493     | 230      |
| Do you or someone in your family own property in Dewey Beach? |              |           |          |
| 79%                                                           | No           | 199 ✓     |          |
| 22%                                                           | Yes          | 55 ✓      |          |

253 Respondents

|                                                              |                     |      |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------|--|
| How long is your current or most recent stay in Dewey Beach? |                     |      |  |
| 44%                                                          | One week            | 88 ✓ |  |
| 19%                                                          | Weekend             | 37 ✓ |  |
| 16%                                                          | One day/evening     | 31 ✓ |  |
| 15%                                                          | More than two weeks | 30 ✓ |  |
| 7%                                                           | Two weeks           | 13 ✓ |  |

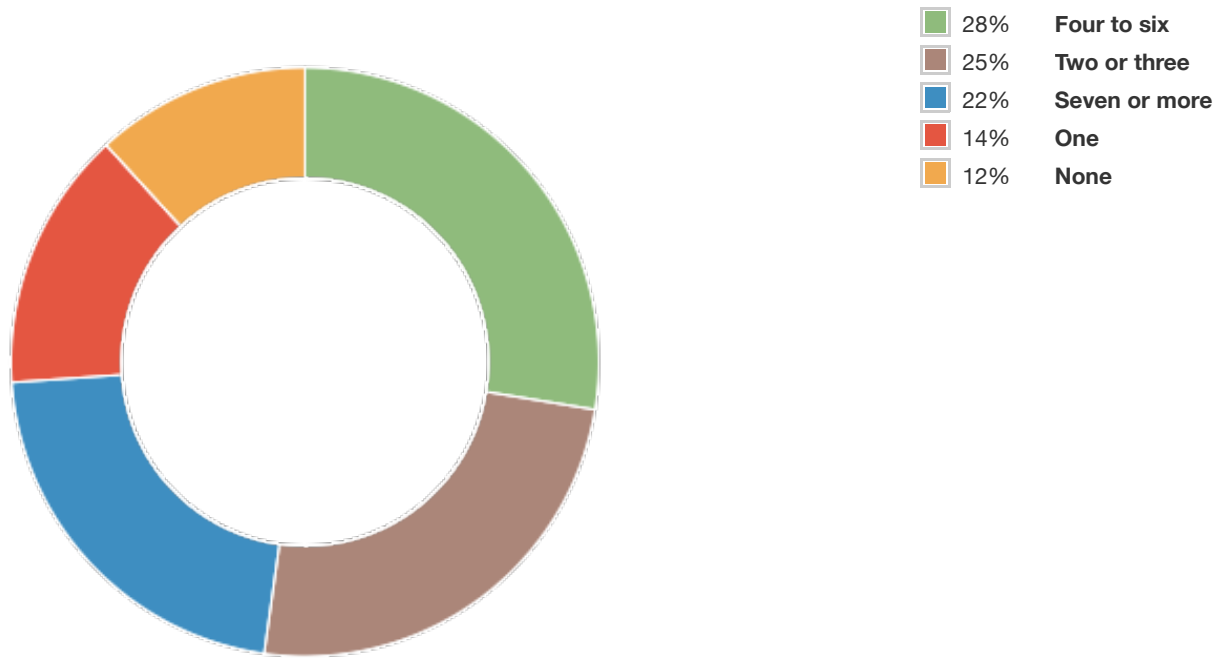
199 Respondents

### Did you stay or are you staying in a:

|     |                |      |
|-----|----------------|------|
| 55% | House          | 91 ✓ |
| 22% | Condominium    | 37 ✓ |
| 16% | Hotel or motel | 27 ✓ |
| 7%  | Other          | 11 ✓ |

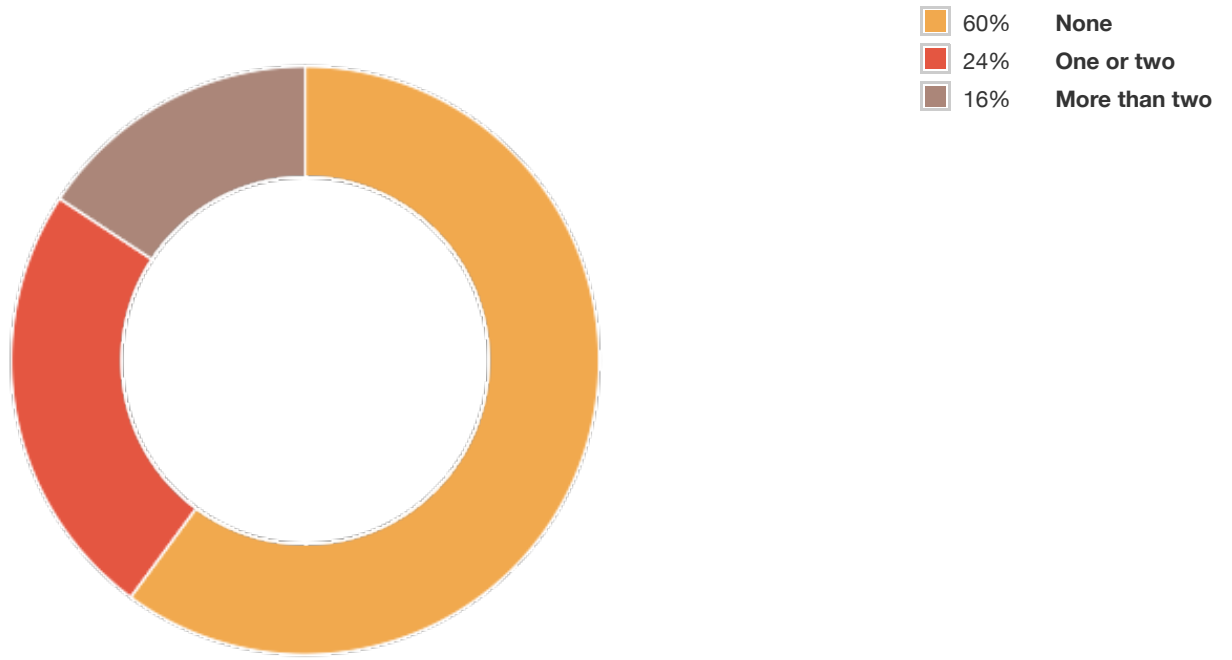
166 Respondents

### How many people stayed with you in the same accommodation?



203 respondents

### How many children were in your party? (age 17 or younger)



178 respondents

Among the following issues or characteristics, please indicate the top 5 that you believe are the most positive about Dewey Beach and represent why you chose to visit over other nearby beach communities. (Rank 1 to 5, with 1 being the most positive).

|     |                                                                        |            |       |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------|
| 71% | Clean and safe beach                                                   | Rank: 2.00 | 115 ✓ |
| 19% | Party atmosphere                                                       | Rank: 2.32 | 31 ✓  |
| 4%  | Other                                                                  | Rank: 2.43 | 7 ✓   |
| 60% | Accessibility of ocean beach                                           | Rank: 2.70 | 97 ✓  |
| 33% | Dog-friendly beach                                                     | Rank: 2.79 | 53 ✓  |
| 25% | Family-oriented atmosphere                                             | Rank: 2.80 | 40 ✓  |
| 39% | Quality and number of restaurants                                      | Rank: 3.05 | 63 ✓  |
| 73% | Walking access to restaurants, eateries, and other food establishments | Rank: 3.17 | 117 ✓ |
| 17% | Quality and number of rental accommodations                            | Rank: 3.26 | 27 ✓  |
| 24% | Nighttime entertainment                                                | Rank: 3.31 | 39 ✓  |
| 31% | Safe and secure nighttime environment                                  | Rank: 3.40 | 50 ✓  |
| 15% | Accessibility of bay                                                   | Rank: 3.63 | 24 ✓  |
| 25% | Active and busy summer season with a quiet offseason                   | Rank: 3.85 | 40 ✓  |

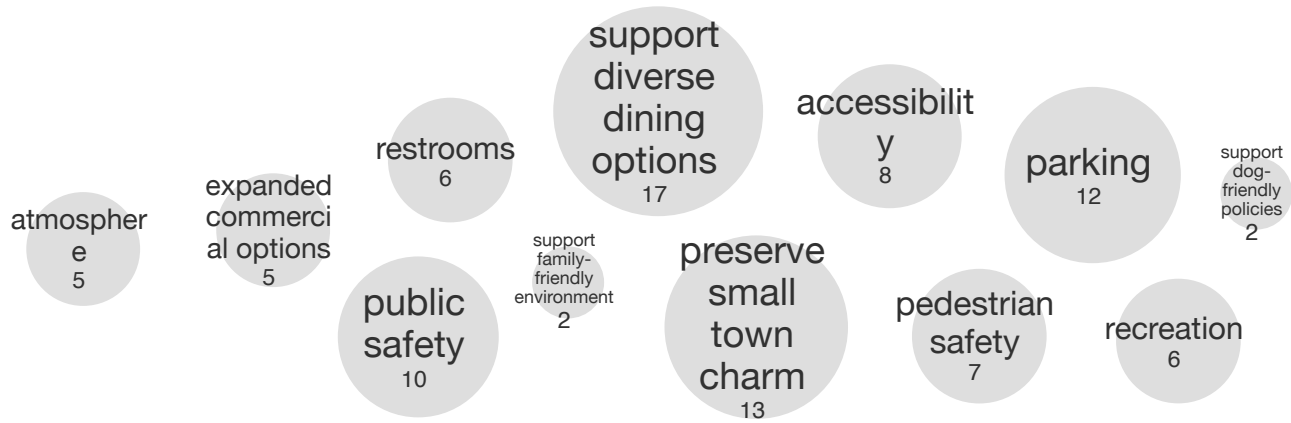
161 Respondents

 All participants

All participants ▾

All Time ▾

Over the next five to ten years, what specific amenities and improvements could make Dewey Beach a better place to visit?



Please indicate which of the following are the 5 areas in most need of improvement over the next five years. (Rank 1 to 5, with 1 being the most in need of improvement).

|     |                                                                       |            |      |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------|
| 20% | Other                                                                 | Rank: 2.07 | 29 ✓ |
| 49% | Pedestrian safety                                                     | Rank: 2.18 | 71 ✓ |
| 36% | Stricter control of inappropriate behavior (e.g., public drunkenness) | Rank: 2.44 | 52 ✓ |
| 22% | Family-oriented activities                                            | Rank: 2.61 | 31 ✓ |
| 39% | More year-round restaurants                                           | Rank: 2.71 | 56 ✓ |
| 39% | Public transportation options                                         | Rank: 2.71 | 56 ✓ |
| 16% | Summer season noise levels                                            | Rank: 2.83 | 23 ✓ |
| 29% | Shopping and convenience outlets in town                              | Rank: 2.95 | 42 ✓ |
| 33% | Public safety (general feeling of safety)                             | Rank: 3.02 | 47 ✓ |
| 20% | Summer activities for children                                        | Rank: 3.21 | 29 ✓ |
| 19% | Availability of family-oriented restaurants                           | Rank: 3.26 | 27 ✓ |
| 23% | Beach safety                                                          | Rank: 3.76 | 33 ✓ |
| 6%  | Fewer special events (town or business sponsored)                     | Rank: 4.50 | 8 ✓  |

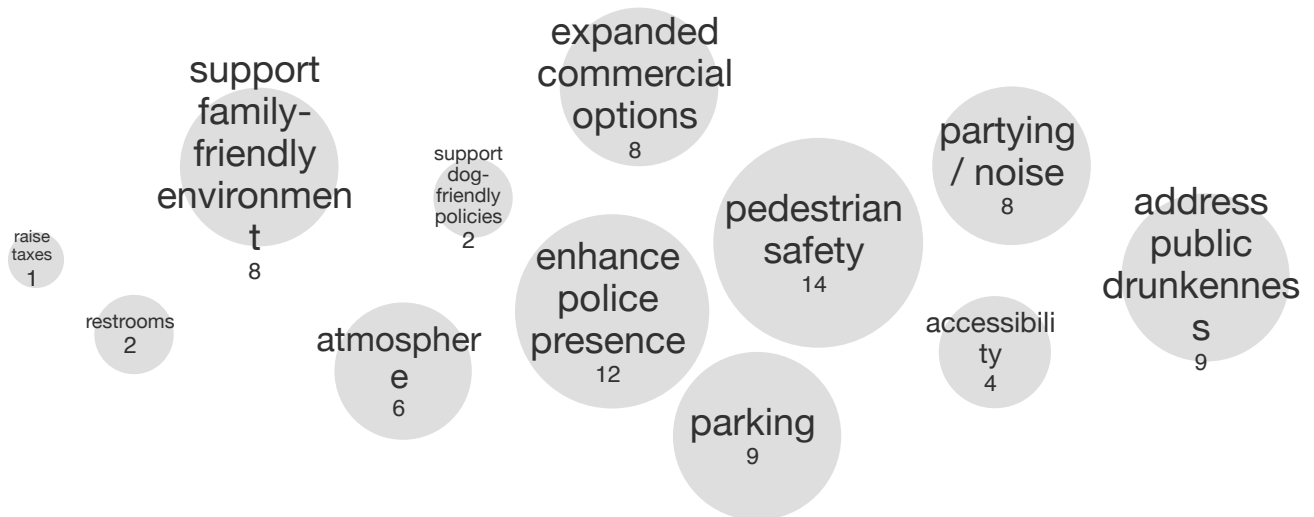
144 Respondents

All participants

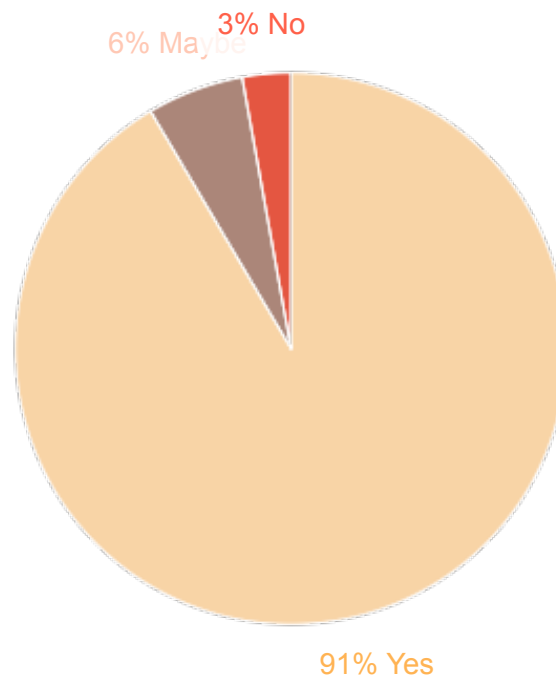
All participants ▾

All Time ▾

For the top five issues you ranked, what specific actions would have the biggest impact on fixing these problems over the next five years?

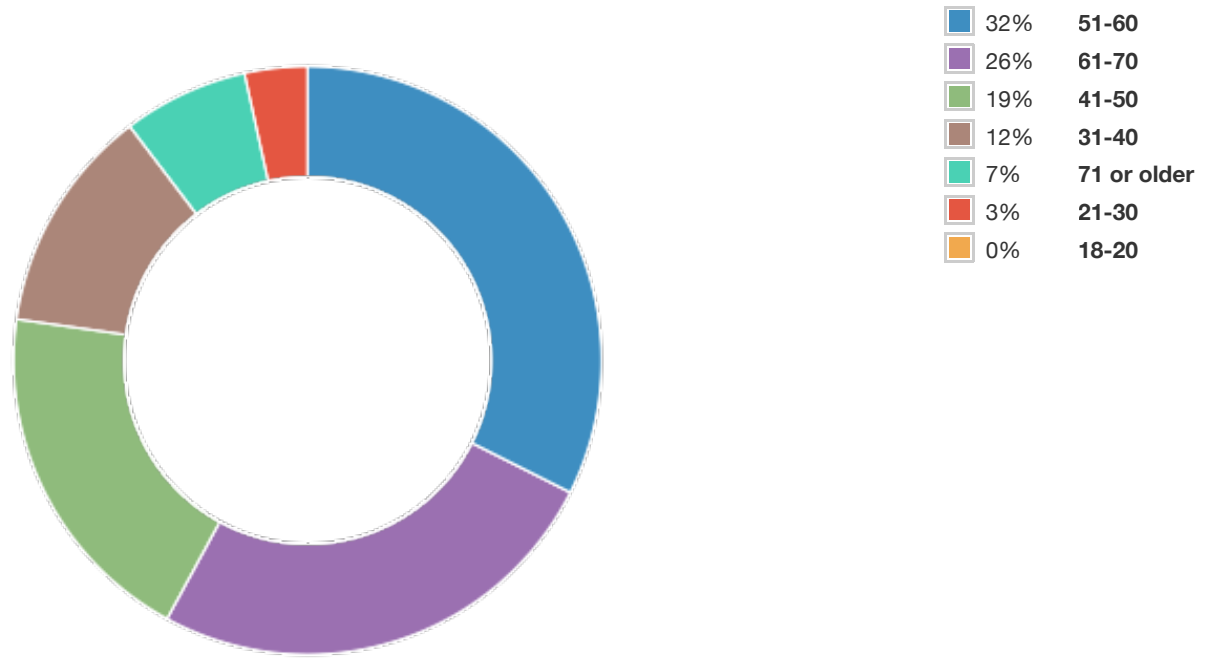


Do you plan to return to Dewey Beach for another stay?



141 respondents

## What is your age?



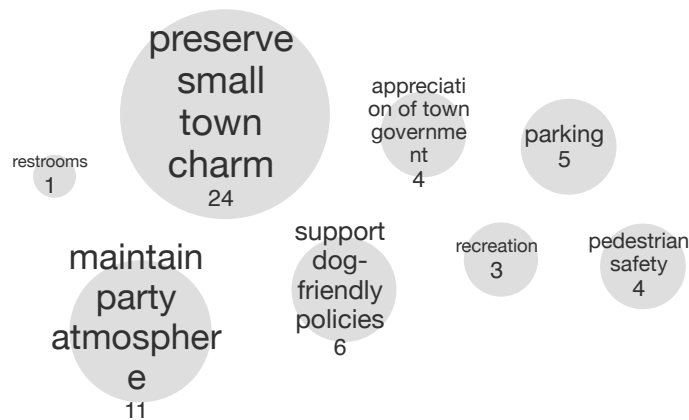
145 respondents

☰ All participants

All participants ▼

All Time ▼

If you have additional comments about Dewey Beach, please include them in the space below:



Portrait

Print

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Options

# Business Owners Survey

## Project Engagement

VIEWS

807

PARTICIPANTS

24

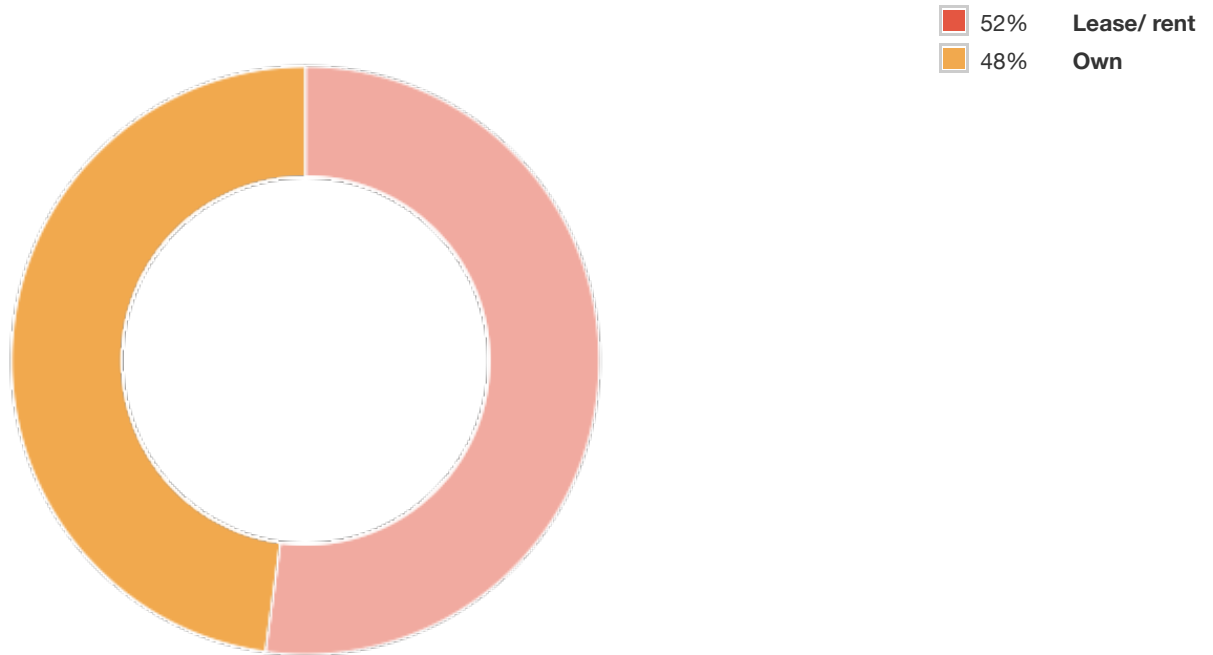
RESPONSES

229

COMMENTS

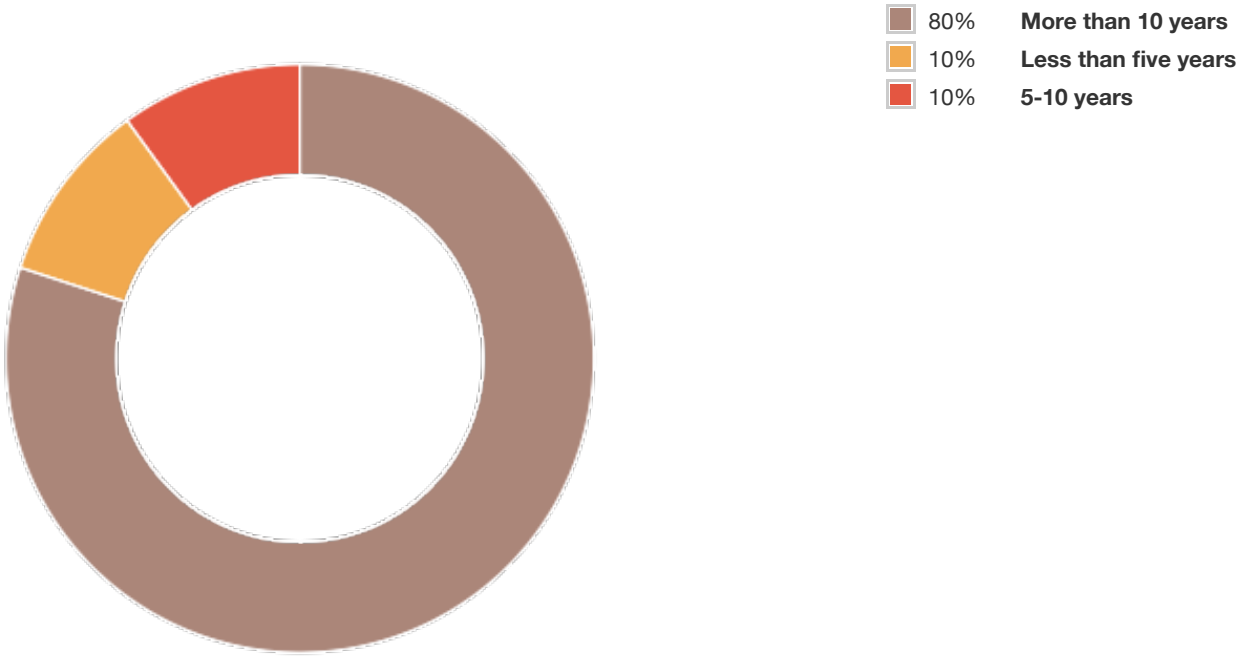
45

Do you own or lease/rent your business space?



23 respondents

I have been in business in Dewey Beach for:



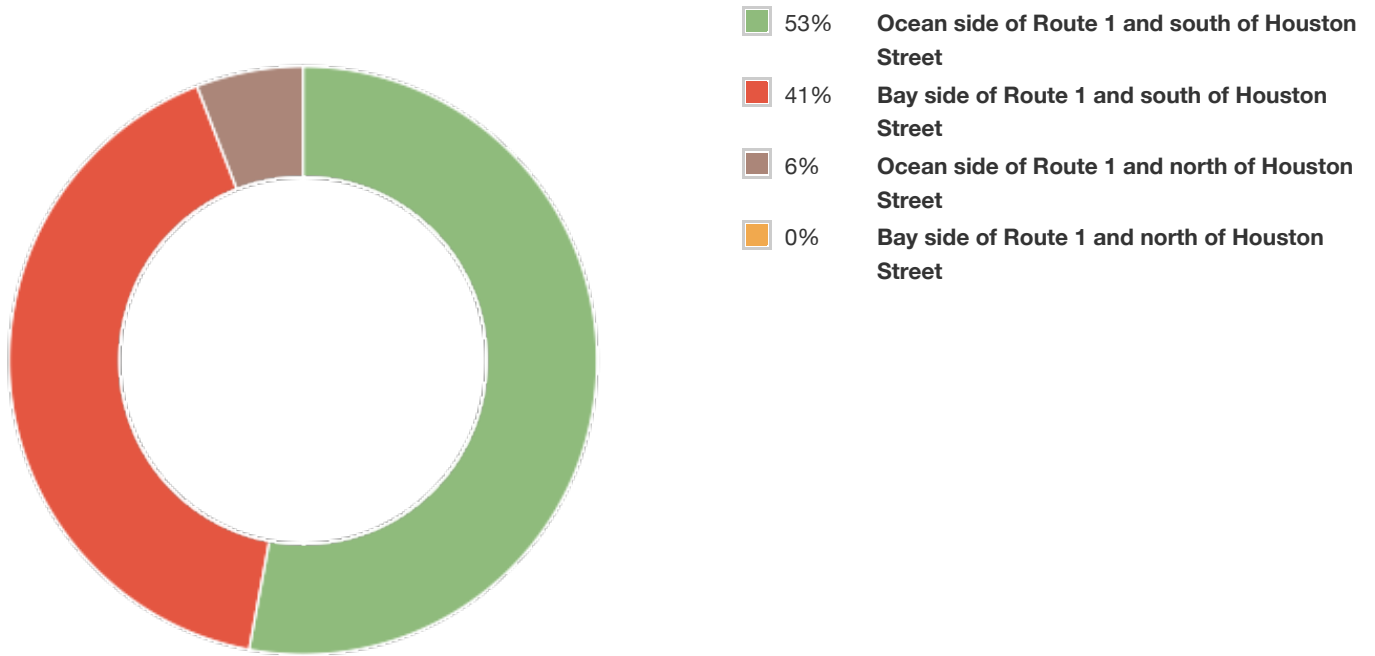
20 respondents

What type of business do you own?

|     |            |      |
|-----|------------|------|
| 56% | Restaurant | 10 ✓ |
| 28% | Retail     | 5 ✓  |
| 17% | Service    | 3 ✓  |
| 11% | Other      | 2 ✓  |

18 Respondents

### My property is located at:



17 respondents

### What word or phrase best describes Dewey Beach to you?

The greatest little beach town on the East Coast

9/17/2026

Love the vibe. I save several weeks each year to use the rental property for personal use. Love to be near the ocean and amenities offered in Dewey!

8/17/2026

relax, enjoy and make memories

8/16/2026

A small town that once was a quiet place that has been taken over by commercial clients that has brought with it crowd control issues and noise.

8/13/2026

Spectacular

8/13/2026

Uneven fees & taxes

8/7/2026

**Positive characteristics ranking: Please indicate the top 5 characteristics that you believe are most positive about Dewey Beach. Drag and drop them at the top with 1 being most positive.**

|     |                                                                        |            |     |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----|
| 9%  | Safe and secure nighttime environment                                  | Rank: 2.00 | 1 ✓ |
| 82% | Family-oriented atmosphere                                             | Rank: 2.44 | 9 ✓ |
| 55% | Accessibility of ocean beach                                           | Rank: 2.50 | 6 ✓ |
| 36% | Dog-friendly beach                                                     | Rank: 2.50 | 4 ✓ |
| 36% | Nighttime entertainment                                                | Rank: 2.50 | 4 ✓ |
| 45% | Clean and safe beach                                                   | Rank: 2.80 | 5 ✓ |
| 36% | Active summer season / quiet offseason balance                         | Rank: 3.00 | 4 ✓ |
| 9%  | Party atmosphere                                                       | Rank: 3.00 | 1 ✓ |
| 64% | Walking access to restaurants, eateries, and other food establishments | Rank: 3.29 | 7 ✓ |
| 27% | Accessibility to bay                                                   | Rank: 3.33 | 3 ✓ |
| 18% | Quality and number of restaurants                                      | Rank: 3.50 | 2 ✓ |
| 9%  | Quality and number of rental accommodations                            | Rank: 4.00 | 1 ✓ |
| 9%  | Other                                                                  | Rank: 5.00 | 1 ✓ |

11 Respondents

---

## Over the next five to ten years, what specific amenities and improvements could make Dewey Beach a better place to live?

---

Cleanly marked Uber zones. Dewey is a town that so many want to visit, making a couple of safe, bright areas for ubers to wait and for pedestrians to know where to pick up their uber.

Crosswalks, more simple signage for those, and much brighter lighting on highway and side streets

9/17/2026

---

Parking, more movies on beach, designated pick up areas

8/29/2026

---

Work with the state and count officials to explore ways to ease traffic. On Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays traffic is so consistently bad it's taking 45-60 minutes just to get between Dewey and Route 9 - very frustrating

8/17/2026

---

Better promotion of how accessibly Dewey is in the shoulder seasons. More events on the water, as in the bay area...not many have a Bay so close to a town, its underutilized, we could be having events on the bay to show off this town.

8/13/2026

---

Enforce beach etiquette. No huge tents and rows of chairs with no one there!

Add a tax so that things are equitable

8/7/2026

---

It's filthy dirty. Trash and throw up in the streets in the mornings. It's embarrassing. Maybe a change in bar hours and better enforcement along with street cleaning.

8/4/2026

---

Parking

8/4/2026

---

Build public bathrooms and change facilities at the entrances to beaches at least two in each side of rt 1

8/3/2026

---

**Improvements ranking: Please indicate the top 5 areas most in need of improvement in Dewey Beach. Drag and drop these at the top, with 1 being the most in need of improvement.**

|     |                                                                       |            |     |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----|
| 27% | More year-round restaurants                                           | Rank: 1.67 | 3 ✓ |
| 36% | Other                                                                 | Rank: 1.75 | 4 ✓ |
| 18% | Availability of family-oriented restaurants                           | Rank: 2.00 | 2 ✓ |
| 9%  | Shopping and convenience outlets in town                              | Rank: 2.00 | 1 ✓ |
| 55% | Pedestrian safety                                                     | Rank: 2.33 | 6 ✓ |
| 27% | More special events (town or business sponsored)                      | Rank: 2.33 | 3 ✓ |
| 18% | Summer season noise                                                   | Rank: 2.50 | 2 ✓ |
| 45% | Family-oriented activities                                            | Rank: 2.80 | 5 ✓ |
| 45% | Summer activities for children                                        | Rank: 3.00 | 5 ✓ |
| 18% | Beach safety                                                          | Rank: 3.00 | 2 ✓ |
| 36% | Stricter control of inappropriate behavior (e.g., public drunkenness) | Rank: 3.25 | 4 ✓ |
| 27% | Public safety (general feeling of safety)                             | Rank: 3.33 | 3 ✓ |
| 9%  | Public transportation options                                         | Rank: 4.00 | 1 ✓ |
| 18% | Fewer special events (town or business sponsored)                     | Rank: 4.50 | 2 ✓ |

11 Respondents

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## Poll Questions 'Other' Responses:

---

Crowd control

8/17/2026

---

Restructuring all of the crosswalks and enforcing the speed limits

8/4/2026

---

---

### For the top five issues you ranked, what specific actions would have the biggest impact on fixing these problems over the next five years?

---

Lighting over crosswalks so they are brightly lit at nights. Even consider removing 2-3 crosswalks that are not at a traffic light. But lighting in general as the yellow flashing lights confuse everyone.

Promotion of our town state-wide to gain more tourism in the shoulder seasons, smaller...but similar to what OC does to bring folks in on weekends.

9/17/2026

---

Having police monitor intersections where there are yellow flashing lights to police cars that don't stop and watch for pedestrians that don't activate the cross walk lights,

8/17/2026

---

Add bathrooms and a changing stations on the bay and on the ocean side

8/16/2026

---

Crowd control. Noise at night. People on the beach making noise well in the morning hours.

8/13/2026

---

Dewey has been becoming a more year-round place to be, and to visit. Having more businesses open surely helps. Places like Ocean City Maryland spend big bucks advertising their town, would be nice to see Dewey Beach spend money promoting our town, as the business community gives back alot, and is a big part of what brings people to this town. Promoting the offseasons, events, and continued work with the business community to grow shoulder season events that help all would be great.

8/13/2026

---

Enforce the rules you have. Speeding cars. People jay walking. Ban people presetting chairs at 7 am and returning at noon!

8/7/2026

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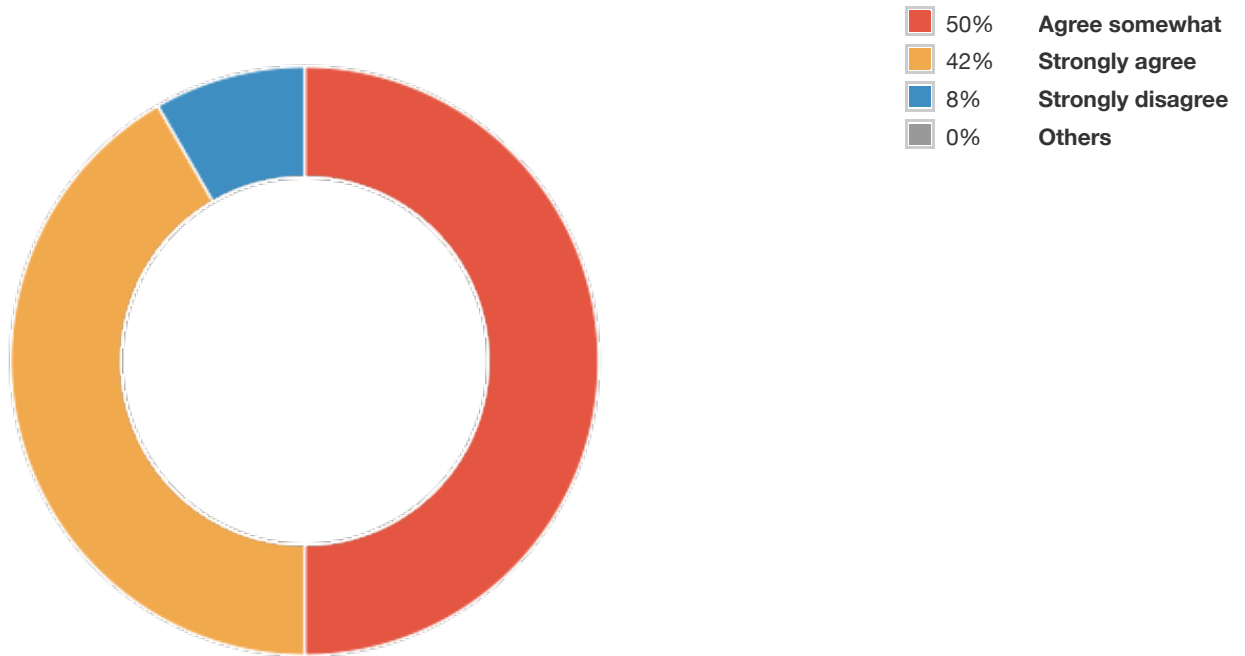
Removing the crosswalks every 50 feet and having pedestrians actually walk to the intersections and cross with the lights. They can do it! They walk to the bars!

8/4/2026

ENFORCE THE Delaware State Occupancy allowed in every establishment before a catastrophe! Certain business seem to own the police department and town looking the other Way. It's time to reign in the drunken fiasco in the town. You want families? control the drunken nonsense

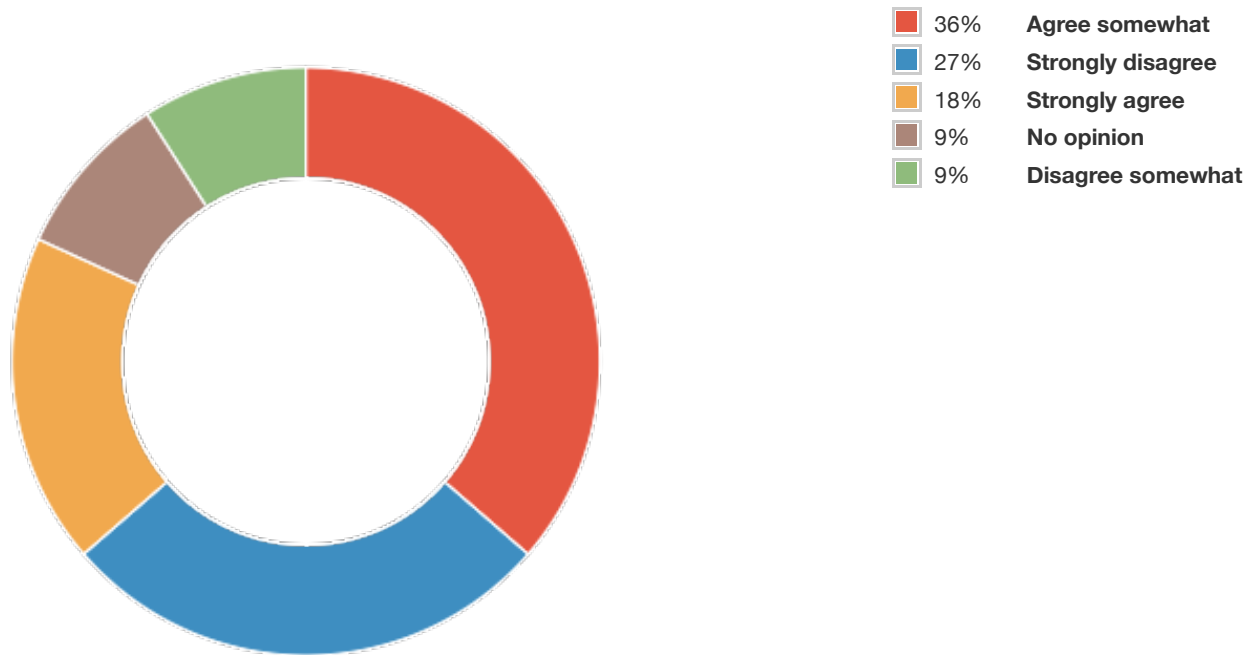
8/3/2026

**Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.**



12 respondents

## I feel safe when walking or biking at night in Dewey Beach. (Consider factors like lighting and visibility)



11 respondents

If you have additional comments, please include them in the space provided below.

I love Dewey Beach. I am just concerned that the traffic problems, dining availability without long waits and increasingly smaller beach areas could make visitors thing twice about summer vacations at Dewey.

8/17/2026

I have added everything

8/3/2026

thank you. I hope you appreciate an honest review

8/3/2026

We have a great staff from the manager on down and we should recognize them monthly

8/3/2026

We live Dewey but the town officials need to get on board with reality before something major happens with the alcohol problem. Id you want families to come then enforce occupancy in bare and stop the blatant abuse of the bars servicing people who are overly intoxicated. nAdd bathrooms and changing areas NOT in local businesses

8/3/2026

↶ Portrait

🖨️ Print

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🗣️ Translate

Options

# Cross Tabs: Residents / Renters / Property Owners

This report compares responses of full-time residents, renters, and non-resident property owners across various questions of the Survey for Residents and Residential Property Owners

All participants

All participants

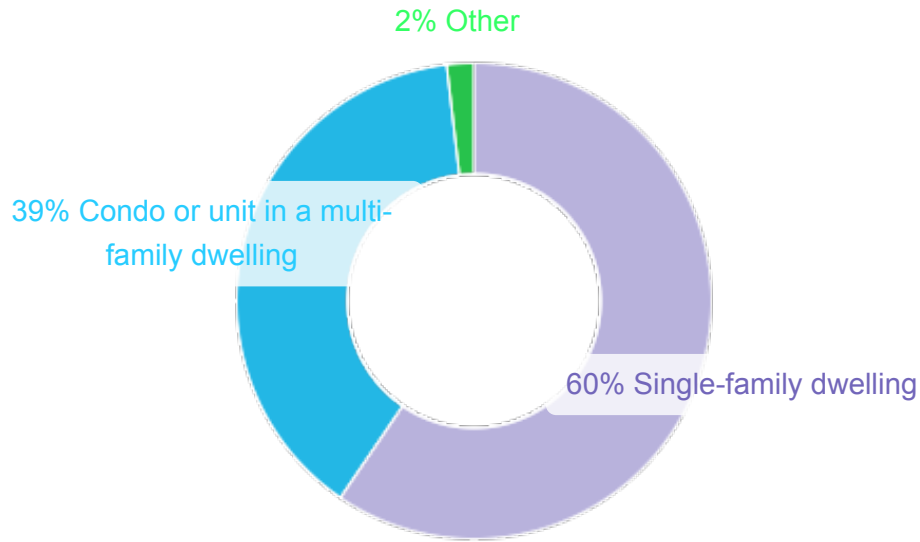
All Time

Check all that apply to you:

|     |                                                   |       |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 68% | Residential property owner and Non-resident       | 421 ✓ |
| 27% | Residential property owner and Full-time resident | 168 ✓ |
| 8%  | Resident and Renter                               | 49 ✓  |

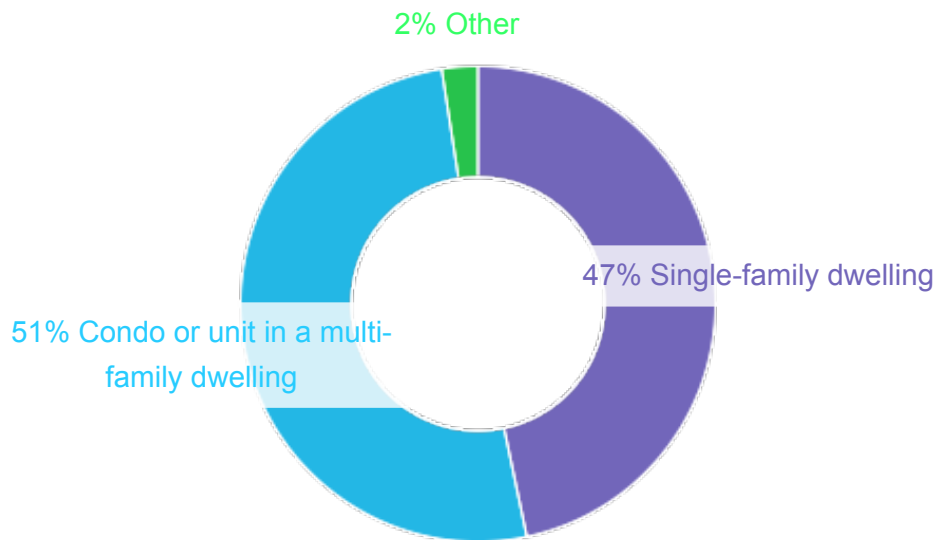
620 Respondents

## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Full-time resident



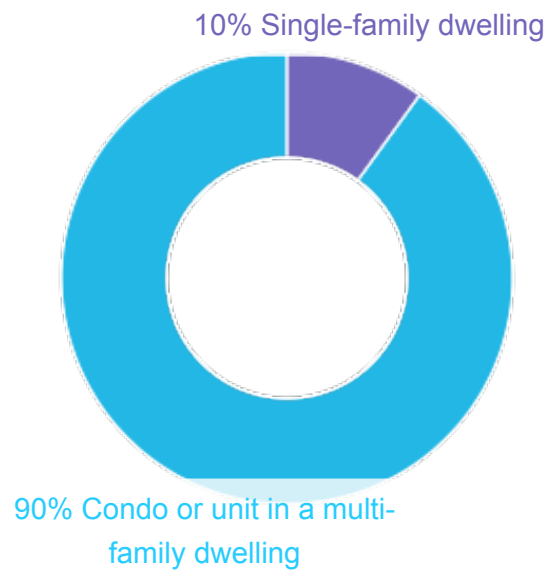
### My property is a:

## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Non-resident



### My property is a:

## Of participants who selected: Resident and Renter



**My property is a:**

**Positive characteristics ranking: Please indicate the top characteristics that you believe are most positive about Dewey Beach. Drag and drop them at the top with 1 being most positive.**

### **Category A: Residential Property Owner & Full-Time Resident**

1. Walking access to restaurants, eateries, and food establishments: 82.1% (133)
2. Accessibility of ocean beach: 68.5% (111)
3. Clean and safe beach: 61.1% (99)
4. Active summer season / quiet offseason balance: 49.4% (80)
5. Dog-friendly beach: 41.4% (67)
6. Family-oriented atmosphere: 35.8% (58)
7. Safe and secure nighttime environment: 34.0% (55)
8. Accessibility to bay: 30.9% (50)
9. Nighttime entertainment: 27.8% (45)
10. Quality and number of restaurants: 18.5% (30)
11. Party atmosphere: 6.8% (11)
12. Other: 3.7% (6)
13. Quality and number of rental accommodations: 1.2% (2)

### **Category B: Residential Property Owner & Non-Resident**

1. Walking access to restaurants, eateries, and food establishments: 81.3% (327)
2. Accessibility of ocean beach: 70.6% (284)
3. Clean and safe beach: 63.7% (256)
4. Active summer season / quiet offseason balance: 52.7% (212)
5. Dog-friendly beach: 43.8% (176)
6. Family-oriented atmosphere: 34.1% (137)
7. Nighttime entertainment: 32.1% (129)
8. Safe and secure nighttime environment: 31.3% (126)
9. Quality and number of restaurants: 19.7% (79)
10. Accessibility to bay: 18.9% (76)
11. Party atmosphere: 7.7% (31)
12. Other: 2.2% (9)
13. Quality and number of rental accommodations: 0.7% (3)

## Category C: Resident & Renter

1. Walking access to restaurants, eateries, and food establishments: 82.6% (38)
2. Clean and safe beach: 65.2% (30)
3. Accessibility of ocean beach: 60.9% (28)
4. Nighttime entertainment: 39.1% (18)
5. Active summer season / quiet offseason balance: 39.1% (18)
6. Dog-friendly beach: 34.8% (16)
7. Family-oriented atmosphere: 30.4% (14)
8. Safe and secure nighttime environment: 30.4% (14)
9. Quality and number of restaurants: 21.7% (10)
10. Accessibility to bay: 17.4% (8)
11. Party atmosphere: 13.0% (6)
12. Other: 4.3% (2)
13. Quality and number of rental accommodations: 2.2% (1)

**Improvements ranking: Please indicate the top 5 areas most in need of improvement in Dewey Beach. Drag and drop these at the top, with 1 being the most in need of improvement.**

## Category A: Residential Property Owner & Full-Time Resident

1. Pedestrian safety: 58.0% (94)
2. Stricter control of inappropriate behavior (e.g., public drunkenness): 48.8% (79)
3. More year-round restaurants: 45.1% (73)
4. Summer season noise: 35.8% (58)
5. Public safety (general feeling of safety): 32.1% (52)
6. Shopping and convenience outlets in town: 29.0% (47)
7. Fewer special events (town or business sponsored): 27.8% (45)
8. Public transportation options: 24.1% (39)
9. Family-oriented activities: 17.9% (29)
10. Availability of family-oriented restaurants: 17.3% (28)
11. Beach safety: 16.7% (27)
12. Other: 16.0% (26)
13. Summer activities for children: 11.7% (19)
14. More special events (town or business sponsored): 6.2% (10)

## Category B: Residential Property Owner & Non-Resident

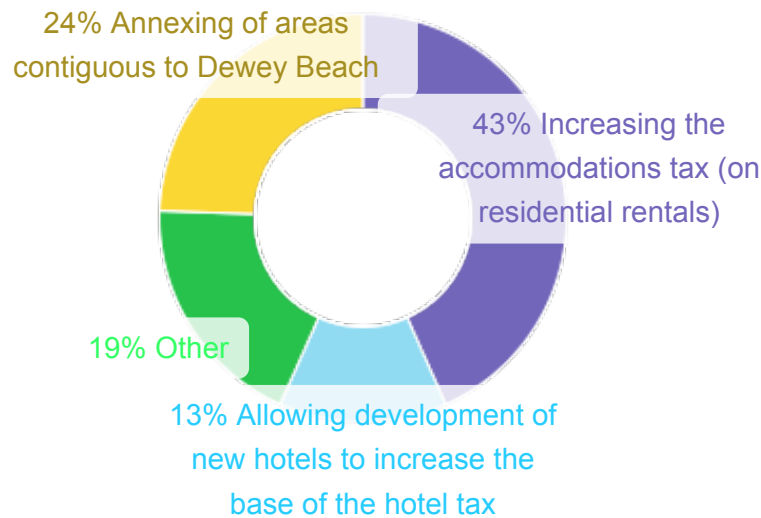
1. Pedestrian safety: 55.7% (224)
2. More year-round restaurants: 47.3% (190)
3. Stricter control of inappropriate behavior (e.g., public drunkenness): 46.8% (188)
4. Public safety (general feeling of safety): 33.8% (136)
5. Shopping and convenience outlets in town: 32.3% (130)
6. Summer season noise: 31.8% (128)
7. Public transportation options: 25.9% (104)
8. Fewer special events (town or business sponsored): 24.4% (98)
9. Family-oriented activities: 20.1% (81)
10. Beach safety: 18.9% (76)
11. Availability of family-oriented restaurants: 18.4% (74)
12. Other: 17.9% (72)
13. Summer activities for children: 15.4% (62)
14. More special events (town or business sponsored): 7.7% (31)

## Category C: Resident & Renter

1. Pedestrian safety: 54.3% (25)
2. More year-round restaurants: 47.8% (22)
3. Stricter control of inappropriate behavior (e.g., public drunkenness): 41.3% (19)
4. Shopping and convenience outlets in town: 34.8% (16)
5. Public transportation options: 32.6% (15)
6. Public safety (general feeling of safety): 28.3% (13)
7. Summer season noise: 26.1% (12)
8. Family-oriented activities: 23.9% (11)
9. Summer activities for children: 19.6% (9)
10. Availability of family-oriented restaurants: 19.6% (9)
11. Beach safety: 15.2% (7)
12. More special events (town or business sponsored): 13.0% (6)
13. Other: 10.9% (5)
14. Fewer special events (town or business sponsored): 2.2% (1)

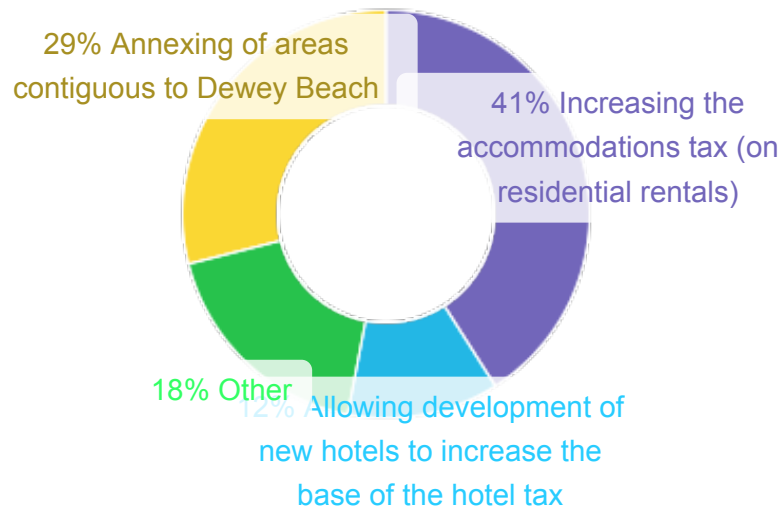
# Increasing Town Revenue:

Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Full-time resident



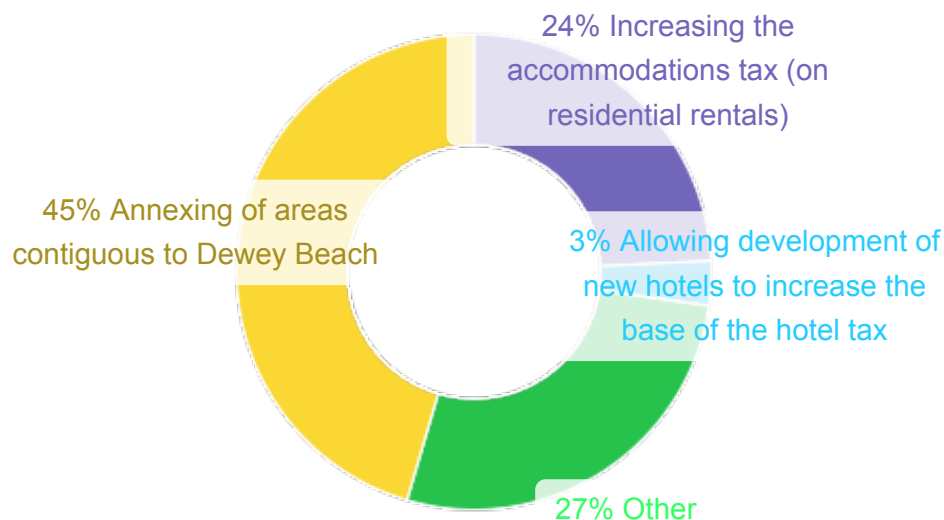
If the Town needed to generate more revenue to ensure financial sustainability, would you prefer: (Check all that apply)

## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Non-resident



If the Town needed to generate more revenue to ensure financial sustainability, would you prefer: (Check all that apply)

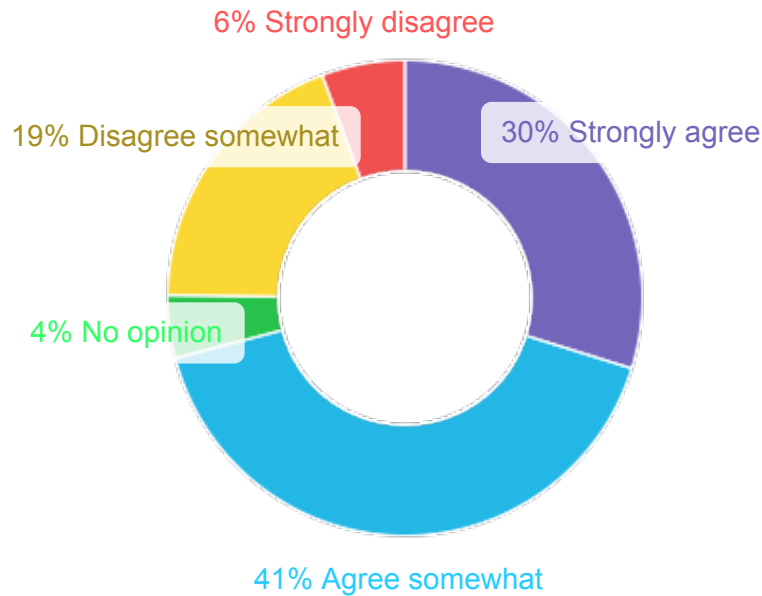
## Of participants who selected: Resident and Renter



If the Town needed to generate more revenue to ensure financial sustainability, would you prefer: (Check all that apply)

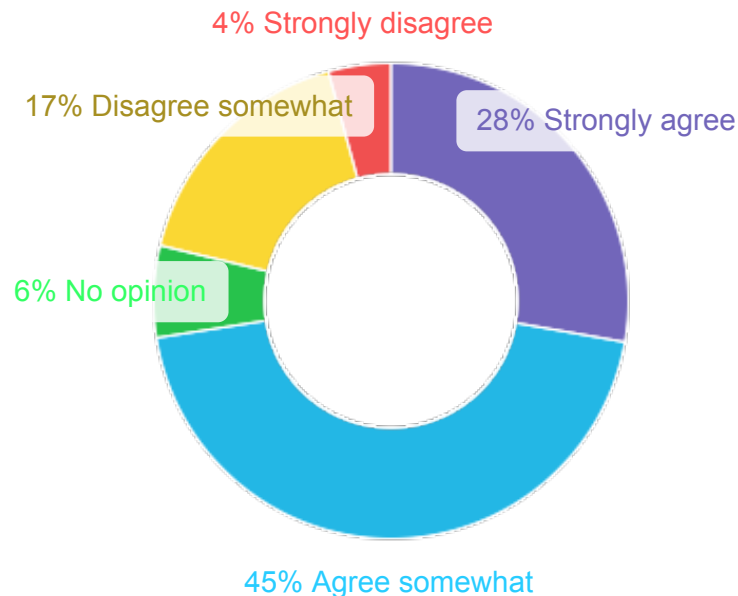
# Nighttime Pedestrian Safety:

Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Full-time resident



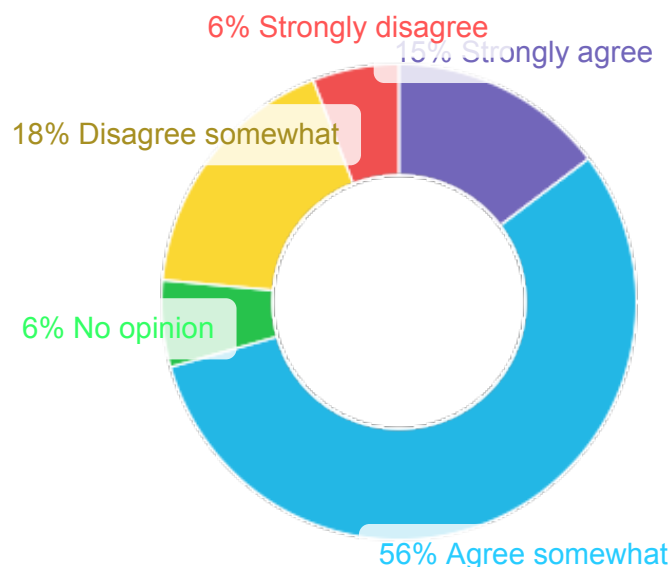
I feel safe when walking or biking at night in Dewey Beach.  
(Consider factors like lighting and visibility)

## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Non-resident



I feel safe when walking or biking at night in Dewey Beach.  
(Consider factors like lighting and visibility)

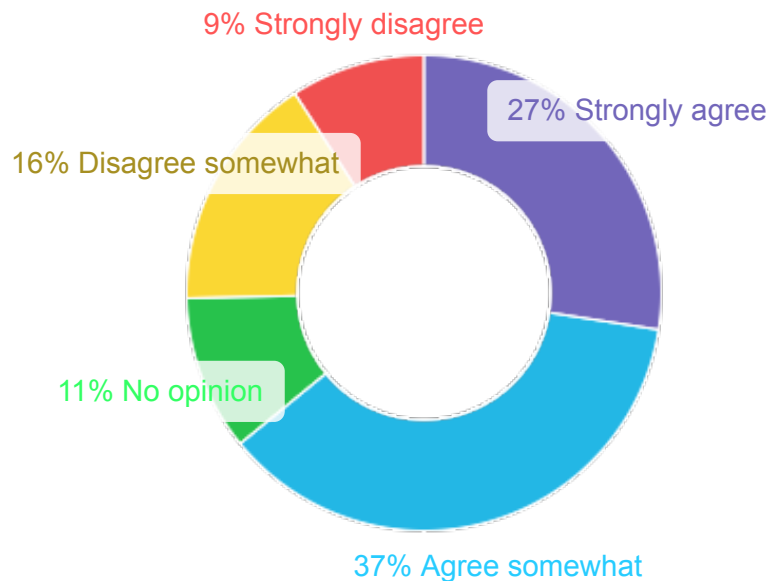
## Of participants who selected: Resident and Renter



I feel safe when walking or biking at night in Dewey Beach.  
(Consider factors like lighting and visibility)

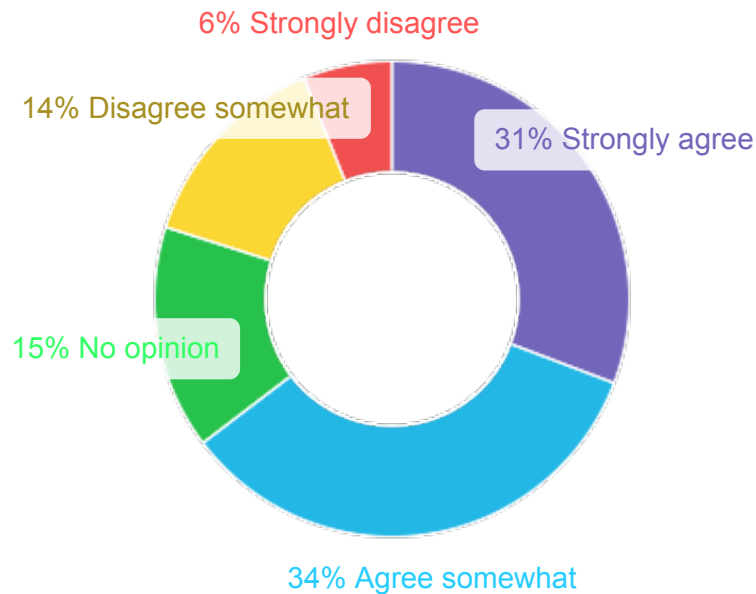
# Expanding the Shoulder Season:

Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Full-time resident



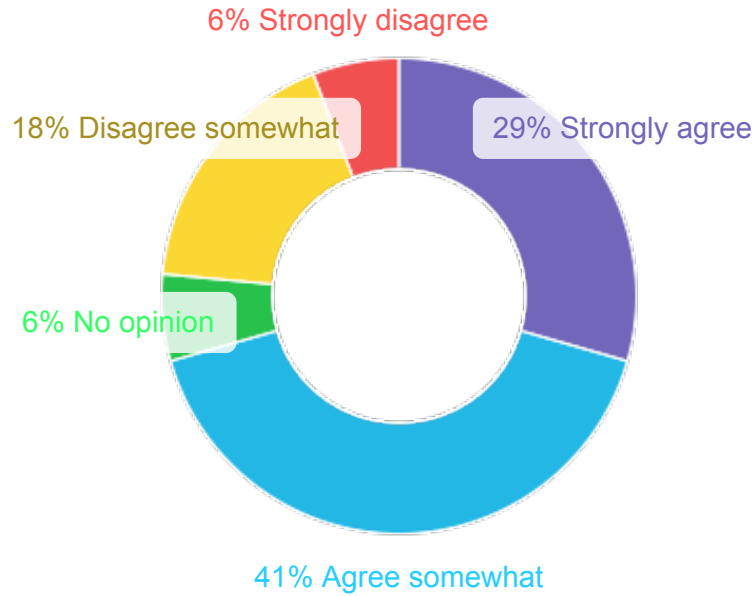
**Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.**

## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Non-resident



**Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.**

## Of participants who selected: Resident and Renter



**Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.**

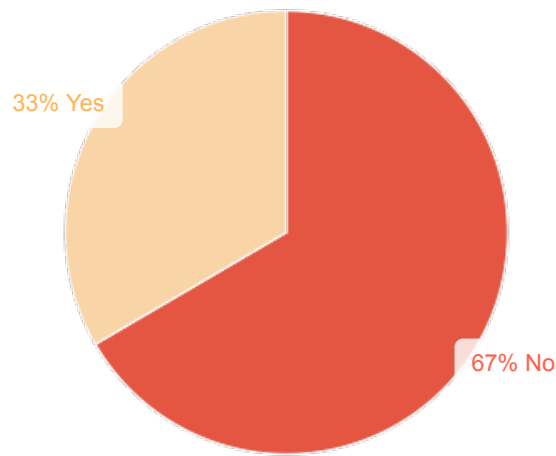
[↶ Landscape](#)[🖨️ Print](#)[🔗 Share](#)[🌐 Translate](#)[Options](#)

Updated successfully.

## Rent Vs. Non-Rent CrossTabs

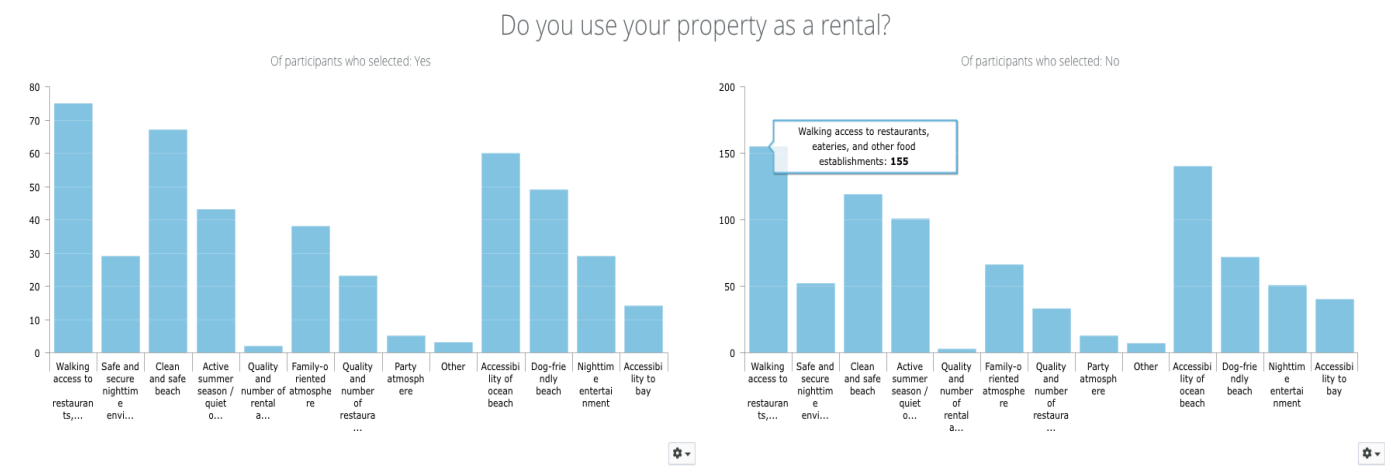
This report compares the responses of Dewey Beach property owners who rent out their property versus those who do not.

Do you use your property as a rental?

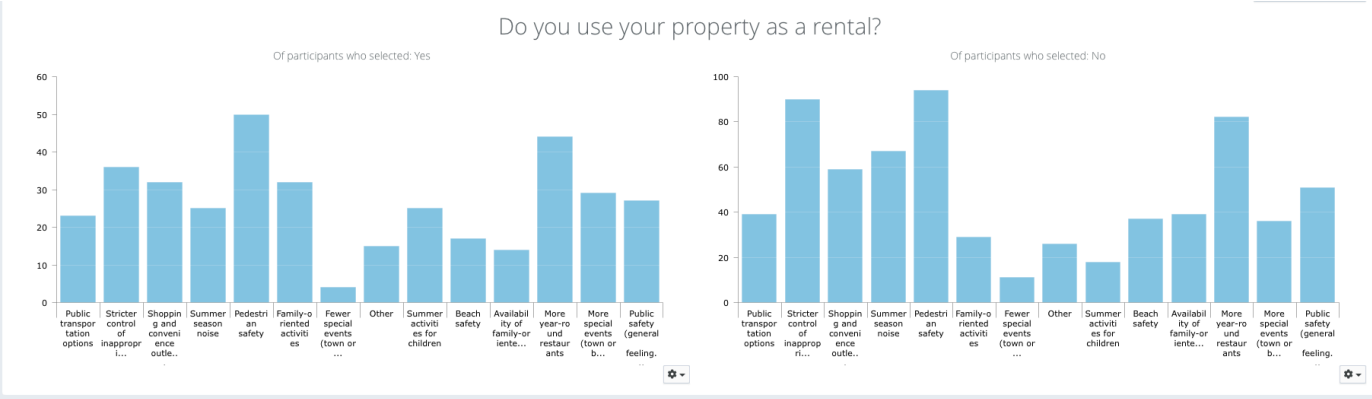


416 respondents

Positive characteristics ranking: Please indicate the top 5 characteristics that you believe are most positive about Dewey Beach. Drag and drop them at the top with 1 being most positive.

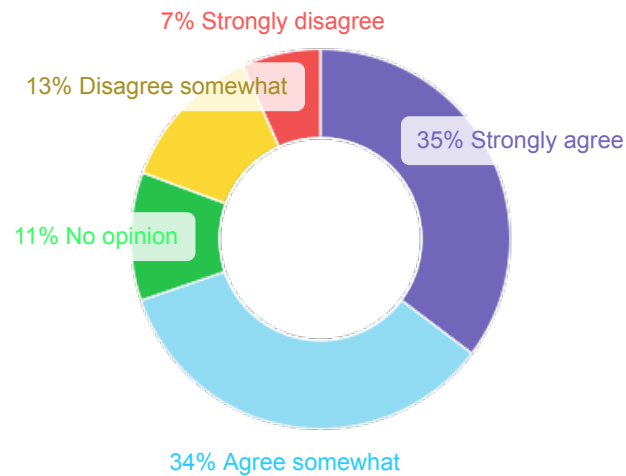


Improvements ranking: Please indicate the top 5 areas most in need of improvement in Dewey Beach. Drag and drop these at the top, with 1 being the most in need of improvement.



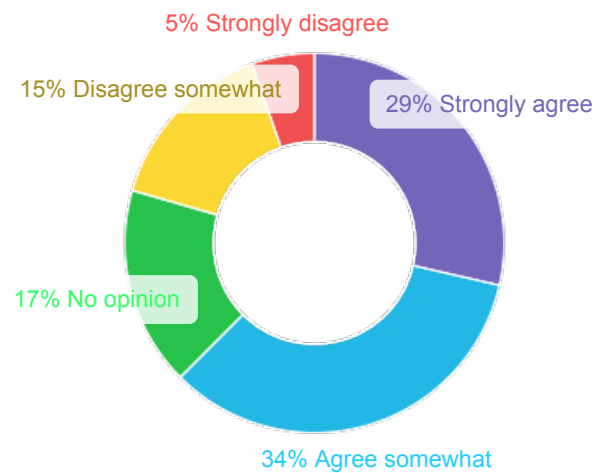
## Expanding the Shoulder Season:

Of participants who selected: Yes



Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.

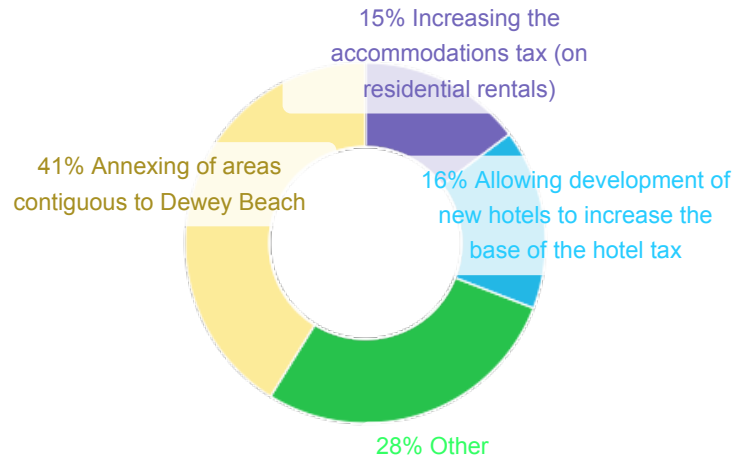
Of participants who selected: No



Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.

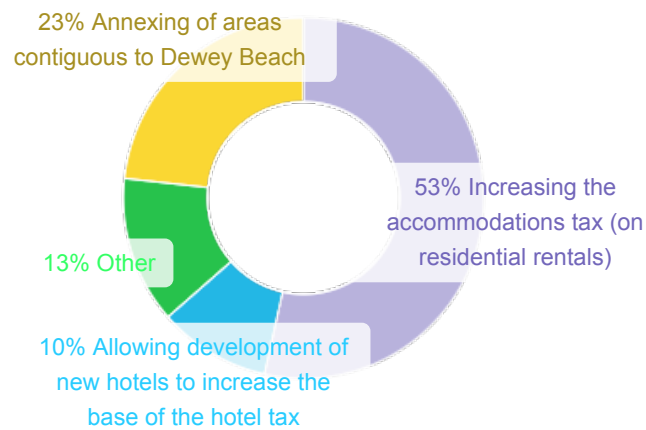
## Increasing Town Revenue

Of participants who selected: Yes



If the Town needed to generate more revenue to ensure financial sustainability, would you prefer: (Check all that apply)

Of participants who selected: No



If the Town needed to generate more revenue to ensure financial sustainability, would you prefer: (Check all that apply)

[Landscape](#)[Print](#)[Share](#)[Translate](#)[Options](#)

## Ownership Tenure Cross Tabs

This report compares responses of new buyers and longterm property owners across various questions of the Survey for Residents and Residential Property Owners

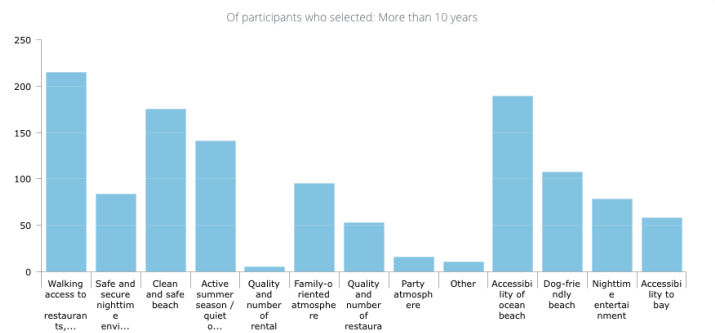
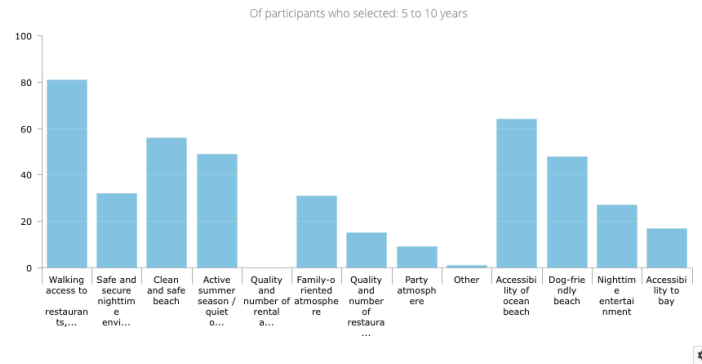
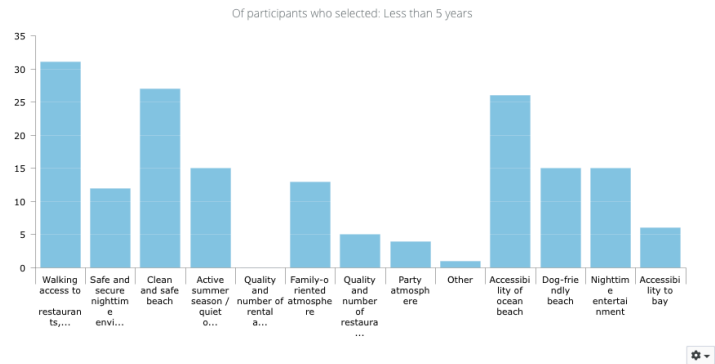
I have owned property in Dewey Beach for:



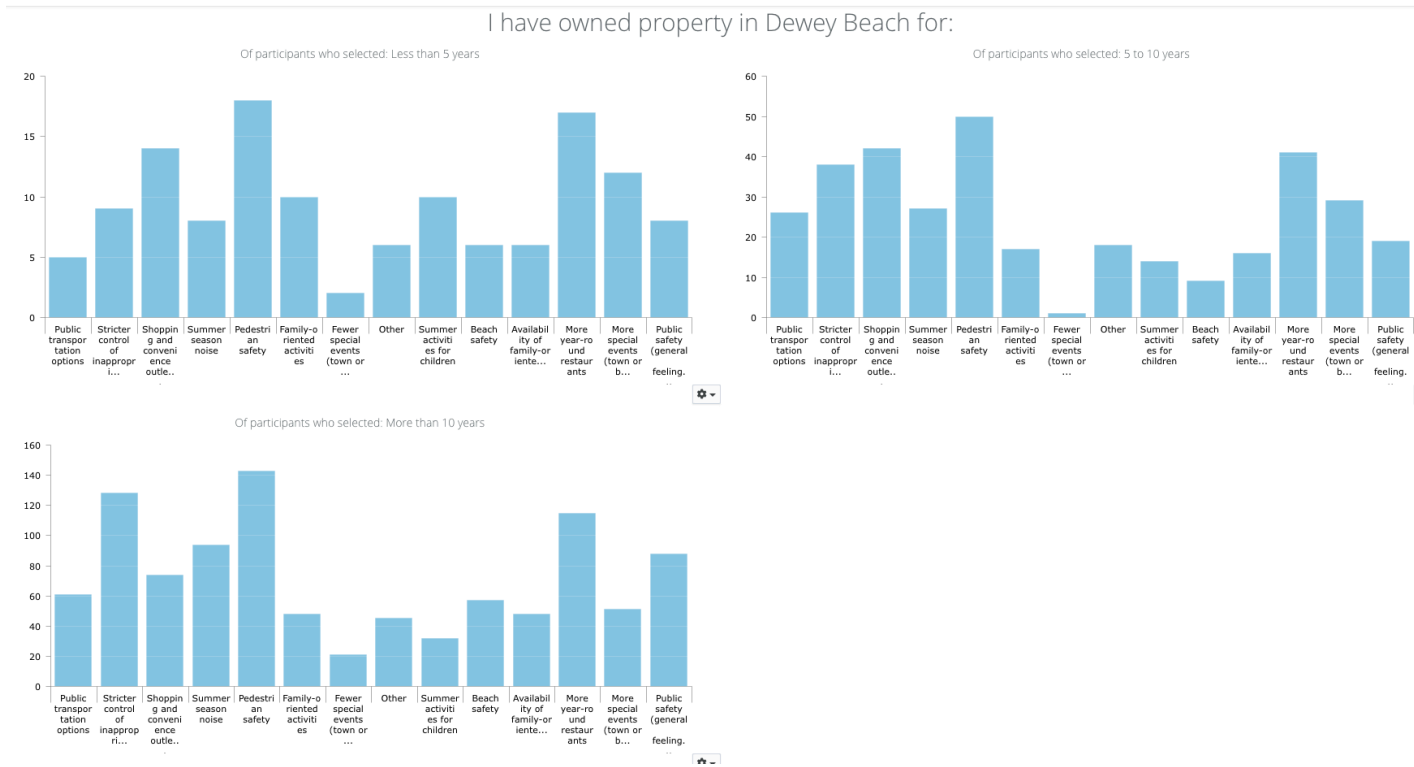
570 respondents

Positive characteristics ranking: Please indicate the top 5 characteristics that you believe are most positive about Dewey Beach. Drag and drop them at the top with 1 being most positive.

I have owned property in Dewey Beach for:

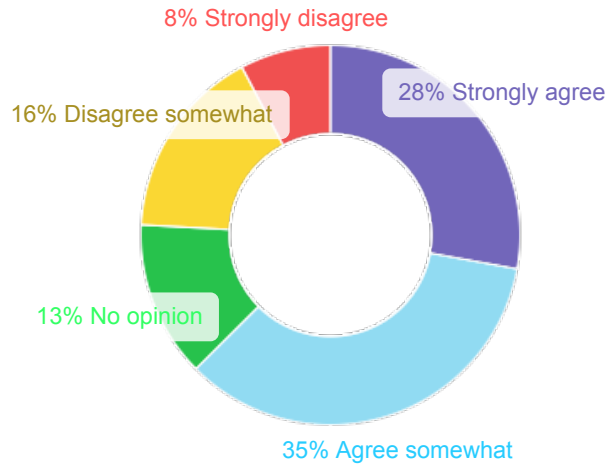


Improvements ranking: Please indicate the top 5 areas most in need of improvement in Dewey Beach. Drag and drop these at the top, with 1 being the most in need of improvement.



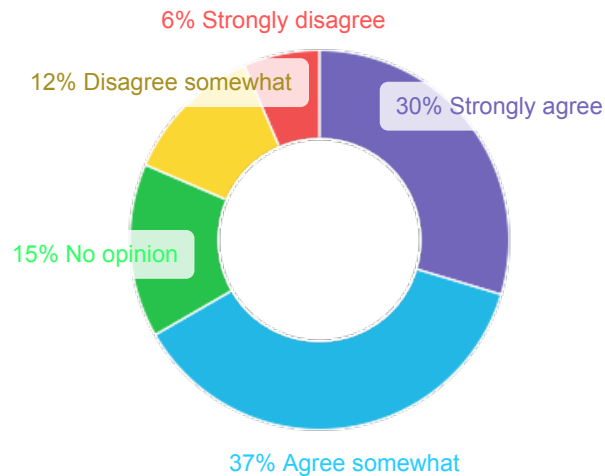
## Expanding Shoulder Season:

Of participants who selected: More than 10 years



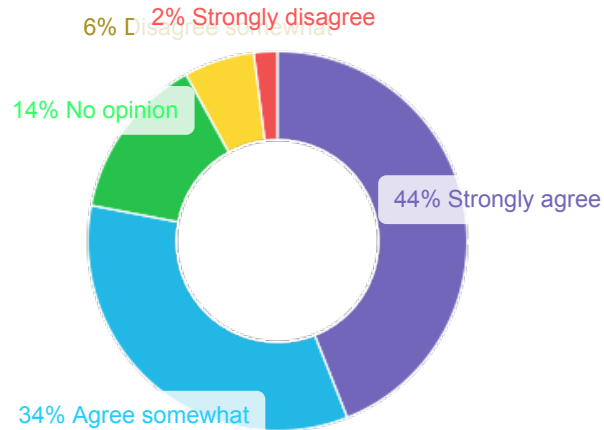
Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.

### Of participants who selected: 5 to 10 years



Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.

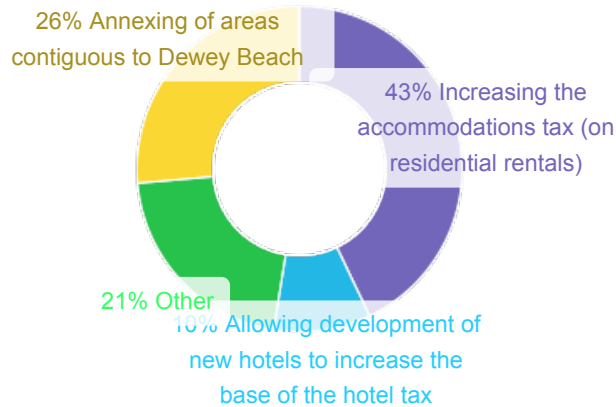
## Of participants who selected: Less than 5 years



Dewey Beach should strive to become a more year-round town, including expanding efforts to offer more "shoulder season" (spring and fall) activities.

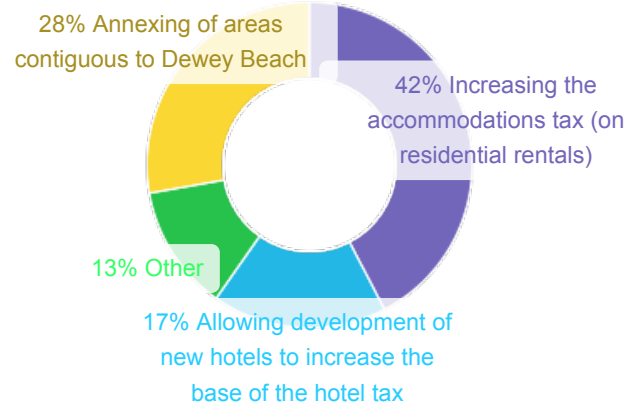
## Increasing Town Revenue:

Of participants who selected: More than 10 years



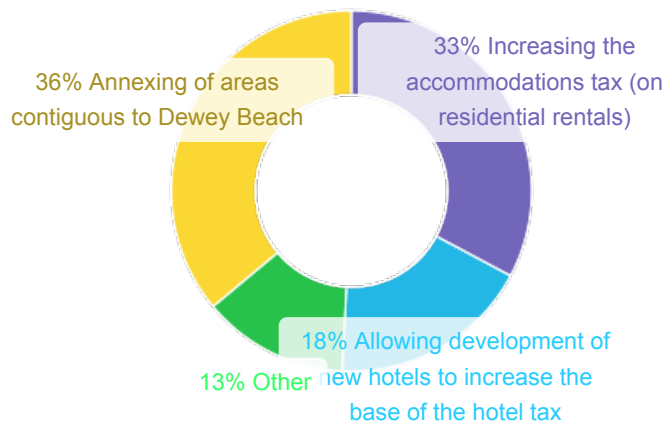
If the Town needed to generate more revenue to ensure financial sustainability, would you prefer: (Check all that apply)

## Of participants who selected: 5 to 10 years



If the Town needed to generate more revenue to ensure financial sustainability, would you prefer: (Check all that apply)

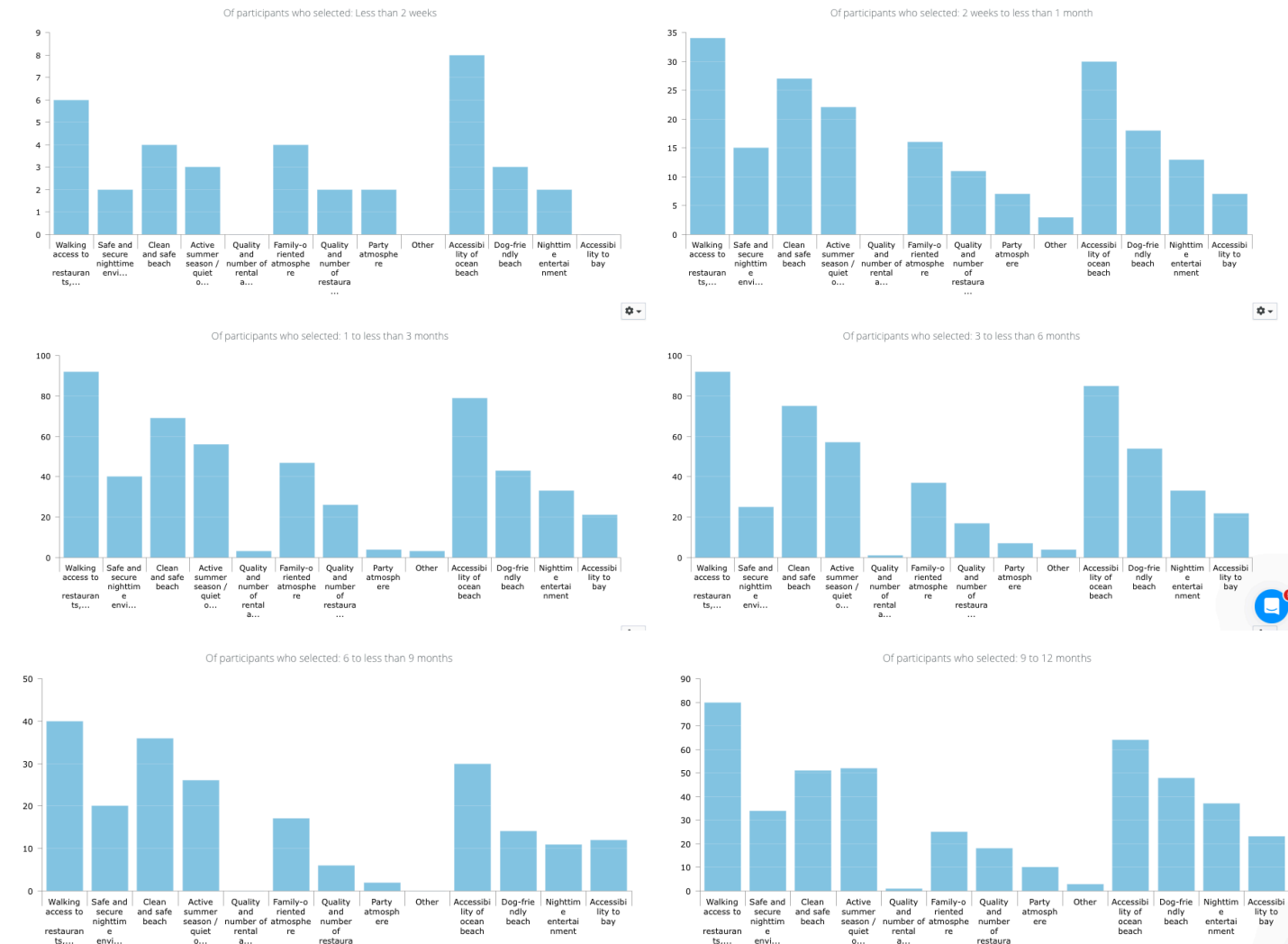
## Of participants who selected: Less than 5 years



If the Town needed to generate more revenue to ensure financial sustainability, would you prefer: (Check all that apply)

Positive characteristics ranking: Please indicate the top 5 characteristics that you believe are most positive about Dewey Beach. Drag and drop them at the top with 1 being most positive.

How much time do you spend in Dewey Beach on average in a year?



Improvements ranking: Please indicate the top 5 areas most in need of improvement in Dewey Beach. Drag and drop these at the top, with 1 being the most in need of improvement.

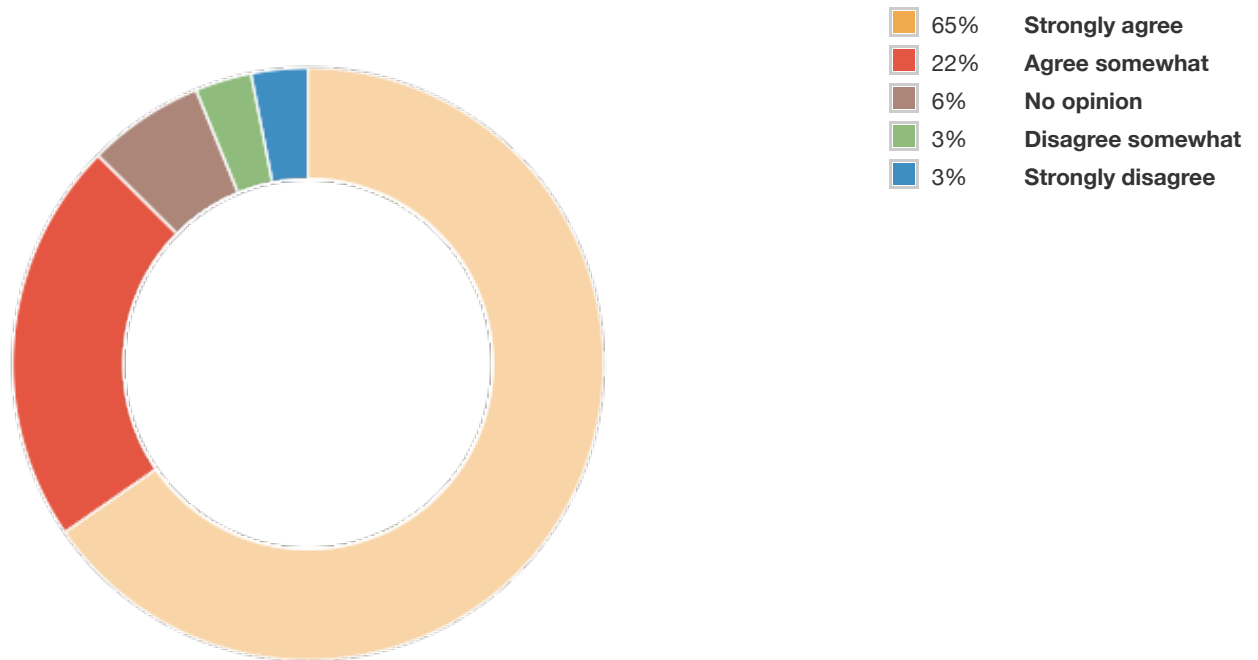
How much time do you spend in Dewey Beach on average in a year?



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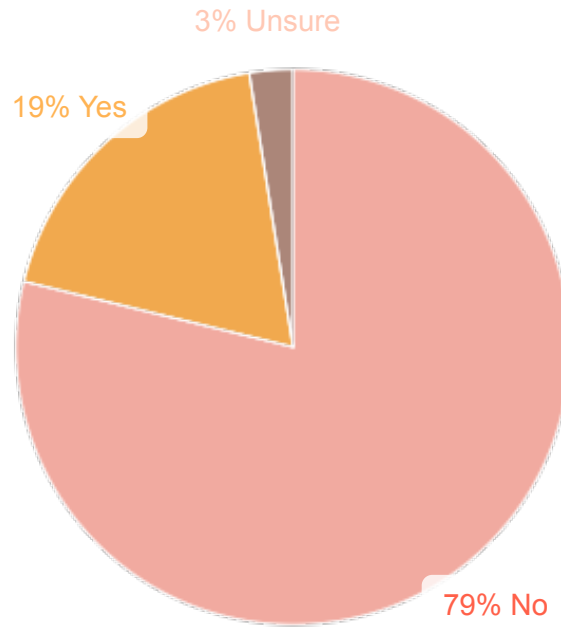
# Residents and Residential Property Owners Flooding Survey

Adaptation to sea level rise and flooding should remain a high priority for the town.



517 respondents

## Has your property been impacted by flooding?



514 respondents

## When did the flooding occur (i.e., approximate date(s))?

2020?

9/21/2026

Fall 2022

9/19/2026

There is continuous problems on Van Dyke Street and Dickinson Street flooding the parking lot going into the Hyatt and the residences at the Hyatt

9/17/2026

Not sure

9/17/2026

In the early 60's

9/17/2026

In the 60's

9/17/2026

---

Any heavy qwik amount of rain. Since roads paved multiple times over years and runoff no longer runs to stormdrains.

9/4/2026

---

September and October last year. Water came up at least 3 times, 3 to 6 inches. Every year in Sept/Oct get flooding at least once.

9/4/2026

---

My specific condo has never been impacted by flooding. But other properties have and our parking lot and associated streets have flooded after heavy rainfall and high tides.

8/31/2026

---

August 28 2026 and several over times each year

8/29/2026

---

August 28, 2026. And several other times each year

8/29/2026

---

?2000?

8/25/2026

---

Hurricane Sandy. Also, my one property was affected when all the gutters of a new construction were allowed to point towards my house so when it rains real hard it floods right in the front door.

8/24/2026

---

Winter 26-26

After any major rain

8/21/2026

---

I think the Town is aware of the dates. I do have pictures.

8/19/2026

---

During storms.

8/19/2026

---

Not the property but the public streets.

8/19/2026

---

Hurricane Sandy and 2025

8/17/2026

---

---

During Sandy storm. I was out of town so have no details.

8/17/2026

---

2021 Nor'easter Storm in October. I think the water station by the hotel broke down

8/16/2026

---

Couple of years ago. Parking lot flooded.

8/16/2026

---

4 or 5 years ago when Bayard flooded all the way up to Swedes

8/16/2026

---

2021 out home flooded to where we had to demolish it to the ground and rebuild  
. Bayside Bellevue!

8/16/2026

---

Occurs every year in the fall

8/16/2026

---

Oct

8/16/2026

---

October, 2012 Hurricane Sandy

8/16/2026

---

December 2023

8/15/2026

---

1991

8/14/2026

---

1992

8/14/2026

---

We have owned for 30 years and the flooding issue has gotten a lot worse over the years. I do not recall specific dates but know we've had at least 3 events in the past 14 months, some recurring over several days

8/13/2026

---

Past tropical storms. Hurricane Sandy.

8/13/2026

---

During a few Nor'easters and or Hurricane s. Hurricane Sandy especially

8/13/2026

---

1990s

8/13/2026

---

Midwinter 20.6

8/13/2026

---

Every time there's a storm

8/13/2026

---

The bay floods Collins Ave during nor'easters & far away hurricanes in ocean (250 miles out); it brought bay water to my lower level in Aug 2025.

8/13/2026

---

1962

8/13/2026

---

flooding caused by clogged street drains after heavy rain

8/13/2026

---

July 2019

8/13/2026

---

We live on Clayton street ocean side and the middle half of the street tends to flood with any substantial rain despite recent repavement.

8/13/2026

---

The lobby of our building has flooded a few times over the past 10 years.

8/13/2026

---

On Read Ave all the time

8/13/2026

---

Monthly

8/13/2026

---

Off and on over the past 50 years.

8/13/2026

---

---

2012 Hurricane Sandy

8/13/2026

---

Hurricane Floyd 1999 and periodic northeasters flood our bayside property

8/13/2026

---

Regularly with moderate rains (parking lot, yard)

8/13/2026

---

2012 Super Storm Sandy

8/13/2026

---

Not sure...20 years ago

8/13/2026

---

Heavy spring & fall rain storms causes the backyard to flood

8/13/2026

---

Last October

8/13/2026

---

Flooding occurs regularly. Tropical Storm Sandy was the worst in my lifetime but there have been other events where the tide was high and the wind was blowing a certain direction and Bay water completely surrounded our unit to the point that people were using boats to get to their units. One of those was October 29, 2021.

8/13/2026

---

No property damage, but unable to leave the house when the flooding is really bad.

8/13/2026

---

2022 noreaster

8/13/2026

---

I'd have to look it up but we are impacted by Bay Flooding at least once or twice a year

8/13/2026

---

Just road flooding. Had to leave our car elsewhere and walk to our Condo on Collins Street

8/13/2026

---

4 of the last 5 years, usually around Labor Day - early November.

8/13/2026

---

---

Hurricane Sandy

8/8/2026

---

Sandy 2011 and close calls all the time

8/8/2026

---

2002

8/7/2026

---

any rainy day

8/7/2026

---

September 2023 and August 2025

8/6/2026

---

During hurricane Sandy and during king tides

8/6/2026

---

July 2025

8/5/2026

---

Hurricane Sandy and most high tides

8/5/2026

---

December 1997

8/4/2026

---

Maybe 2019? It was in the parking garage. Many cars on the ground floor were lost to the damage. Engineering team has had success in eliminating the flooding now.

8/4/2026

---

A lot

8/4/2026

---

Prior to 2026 when remediation efforts were successful

8/4/2026

---

Prior to 2026, when remediation efforts were made and were successful

8/4/2026

---

---

I think it was fall of 2012...Hurricane Sandy? Water from the bay entered garage area about 1'. No significant issue though.

8/4/2026

---

Seems to happen in September

8/4/2026

---

Weekly after mid July - end of Read ave floods to such an extent that you cannot walk out of your home. Bay front properties impacted the most

8/4/2026

---

Parking lot floods with heavy rain due to runoff.

8/4/2026

---

after large storms

8/4/2026

---

In the fall every year

8/4/2026

---

Affecting dunes and walkway to beach

8/4/2026

---

Winter storms bring bay water over the dune. Flooding on Rt 1 cause issues on our road and sometimes Rt 1 closes.

8/4/2026

---

I don't have the dates. Vandyke floods though.

8/3/2026

---

About 2 years ago

8/3/2026

---

2023 I think

8/3/2026

---

September 2023. August 2025

8/3/2026

---

2024

8/3/2026

I'm 2021 fall 2025

8/3/2026

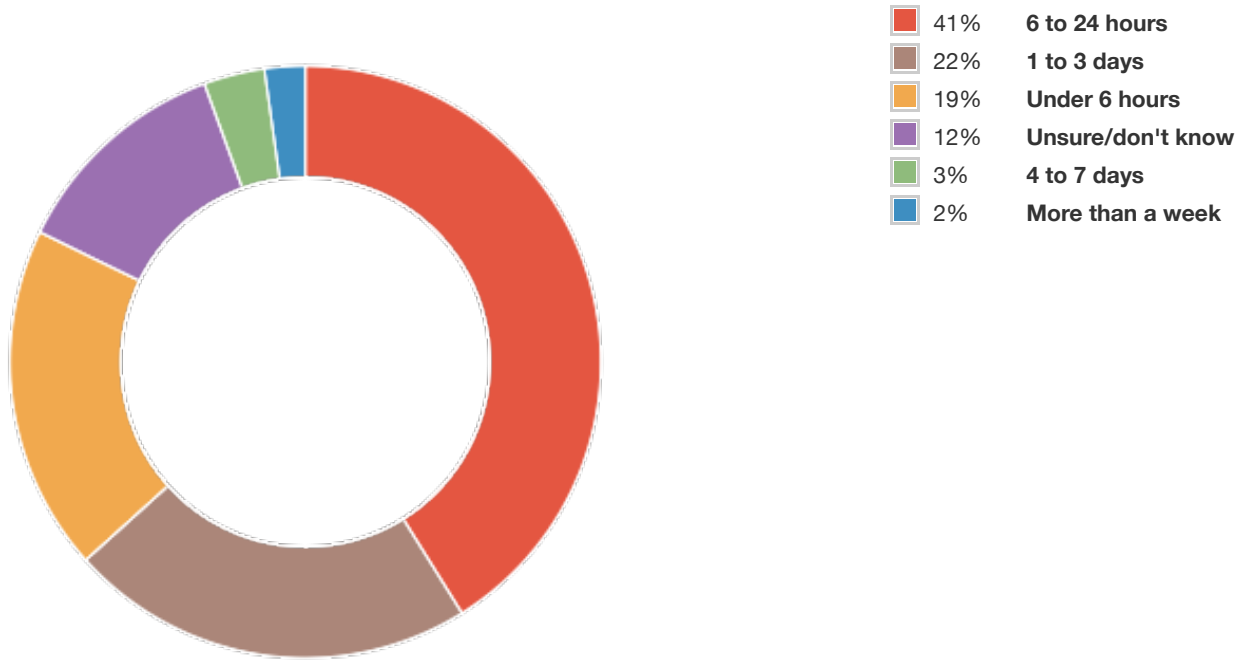
Many many times mostly in the fall

8/3/2026

Before mitigation efforts were completed, any nor'easter, hurricane, or rain event at high tide

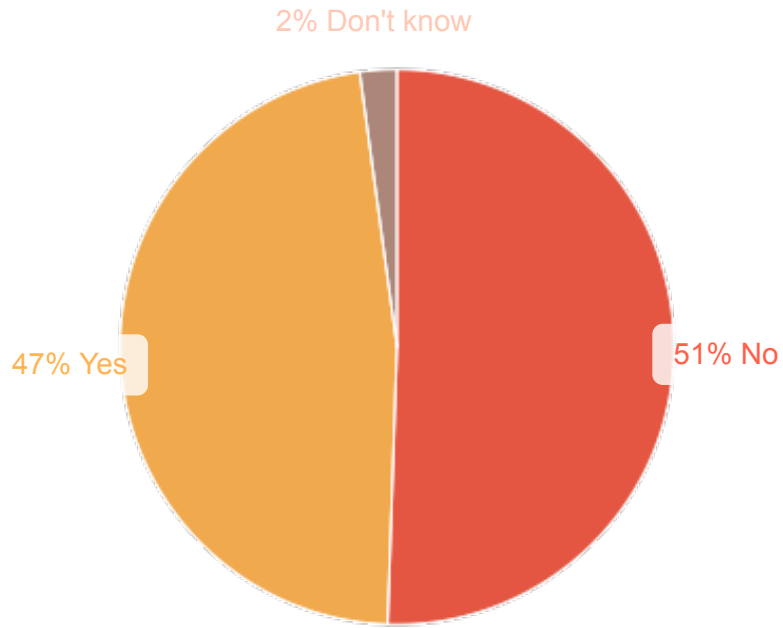
8/3/2026

### How long did the flooding last?



90 respondents

### Did your property sustain damage?

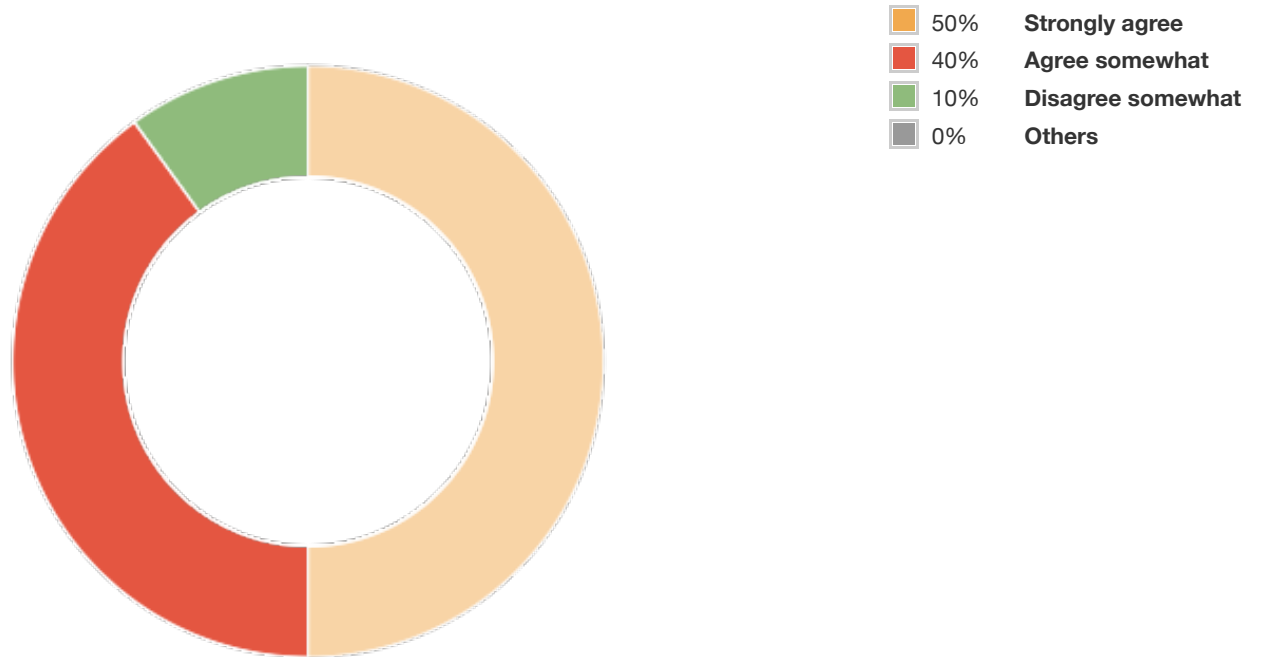


93 respondents

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# Business Owners Flooding Survey

Adaptation to sea level rise and flooding should remain a high priority for the town.



10 respondents

Several recent flood events have impacted Dewey Beach, including Hurricane Sandy in 2012, Winter Storm Jonas in 2016, high tides in February and October 2021, September 2023, and August 2024. How was your business impacted:

|     |                                            |     |
|-----|--------------------------------------------|-----|
| 80% | My business was not impacted by flooding   | 8 ✓ |
| 20% | Paid clean-up costs                        | 2 ✓ |
| 10% | Closed for a period of time due to damages | 1 ✓ |
| 10% | Closed due to lack of access               | 1 ✓ |
| 0%  | Closed due to lack of utilities            | 0 ✓ |
| 0%  | Loss of inventory                          | 0 ✓ |

10 Respondents

Aside from major storms, have any other events impacted you?

Covid obviously. But in general nothing major, the town has greatly upgraded its storm prep and cleanup, its not gone unnoticed!

9/17/2026

Not events so much as constant traffic congestion.

8/17/2026

Covid obviously, power outages...as we someday need to bury the power lines in town. Blizzards, although the town has drastically improved its snow clean up.

8/13/2026

Valdalism

8/7/2026

none

8/3/2026

---

We as a town need to control the lack of occupancy and alcohol control because the owners of these bars own the town and want to make a buck

8/3/2026

---

**If yes, when, how often, and what part of town?**

---

Main Street (Route 1)

8/17/2026

---

**Have you implemented any strategies to adapt to flooding or mitigate its impacts on your property? If yes, what were they?**

---

None

9/17/2026

---

None

8/13/2026

---

No

8/7/2026

---

Flooding is a concern however hey public rest rooms and changing stations and stop the drinks from making Dewey Beach unpopular

8/3/2026

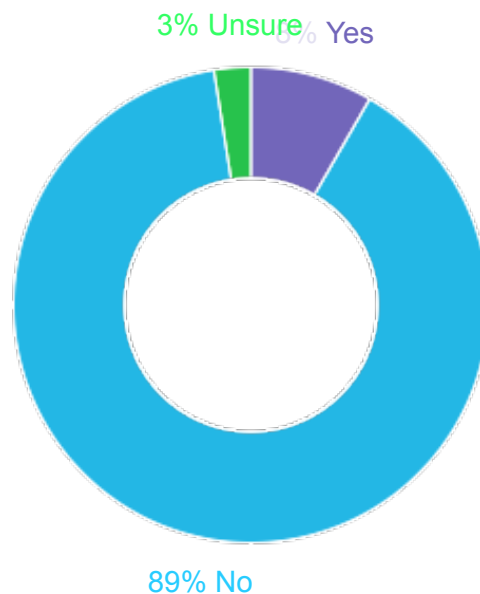
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# Flooding Cross Tabs Residents and Property Owners

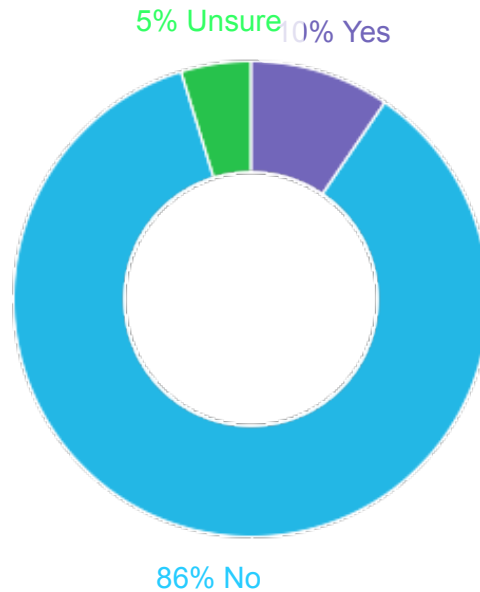
2028 Dewey Beach Comprehensive Plan Survey

Of participants who selected: Ocean side of Route 1 and north of Houston Street



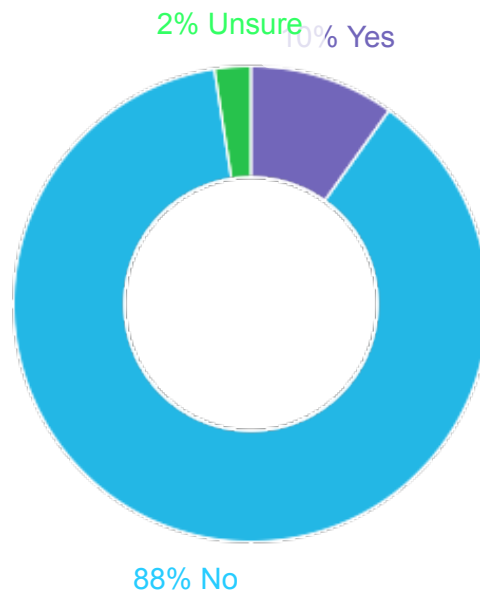
Has your property been impacted by flooding?

## Of participants who selected: Bay side of Route 1 and north of Houston Street



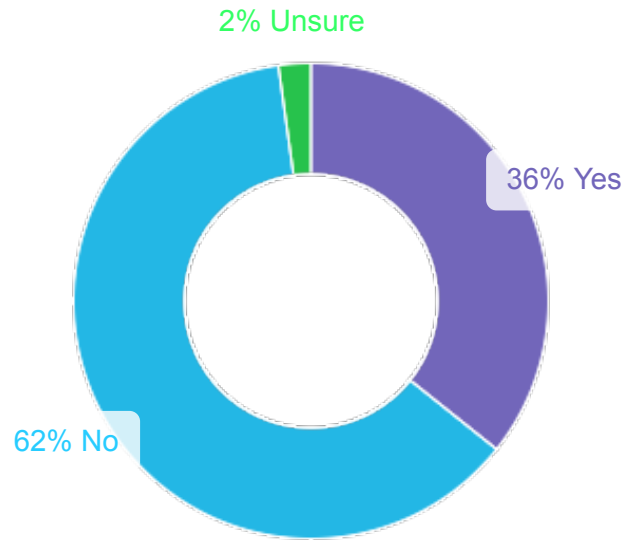
Has your property been impacted by flooding?

## Of participants who selected: Ocean side of Route 1 and south of Houston Street



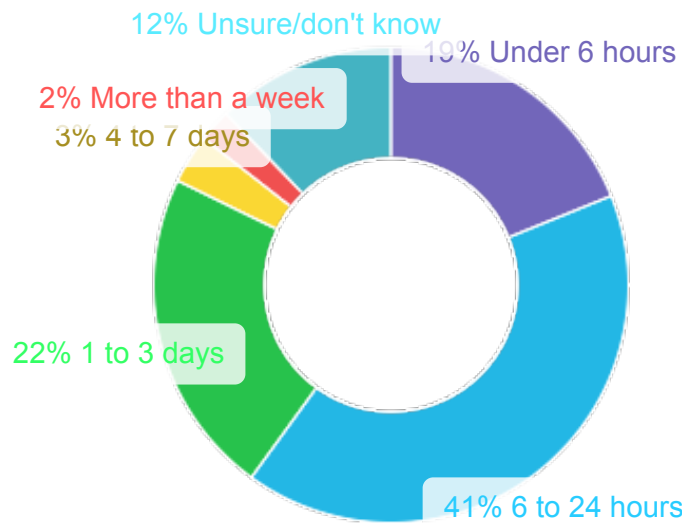
Has your property been impacted by flooding?

## Of participants who selected: Bay side of Route 1 and south of Houston Street



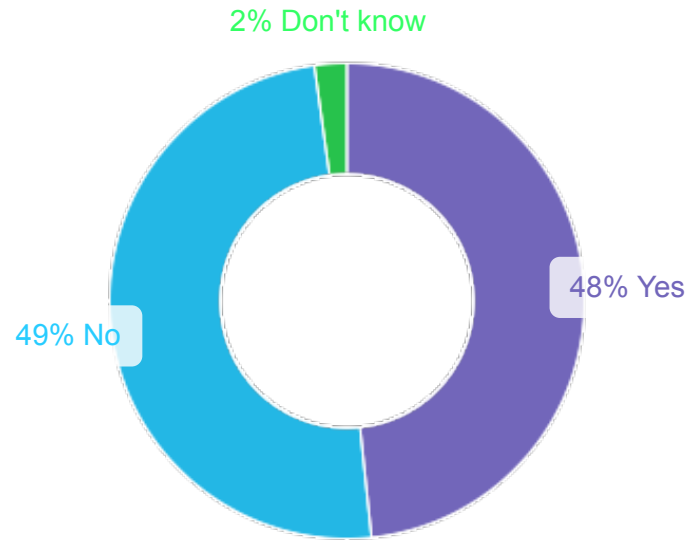
## Has your property been impacted by flooding?

### Of participants who selected: Yes



## How long did the flooding last?

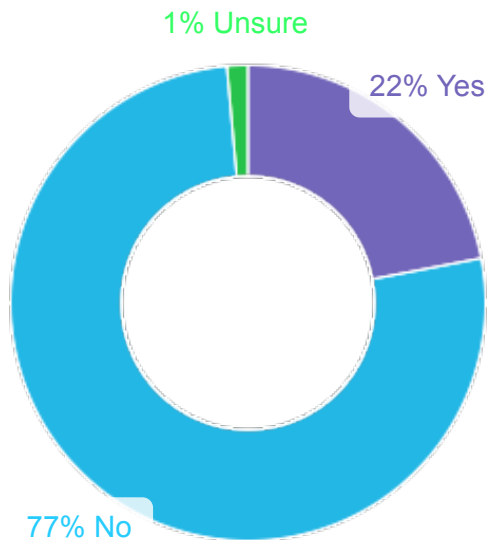
## Of participants who selected: Yes



Did your property sustain damage?

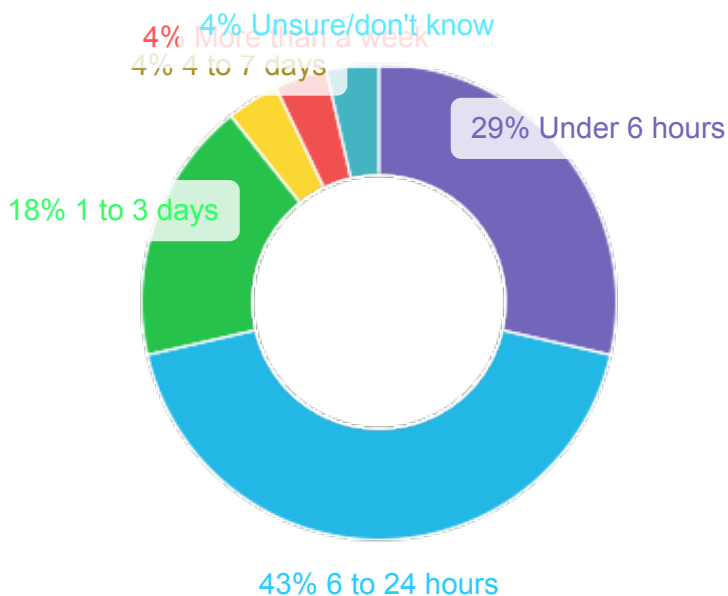
## Full-time Resident Flooding Responses

## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Full-time resident



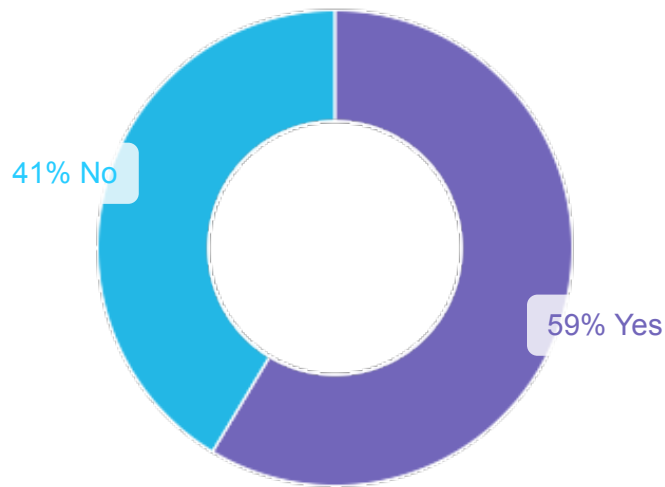
## Has your property been impacted by flooding?

## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Full-time resident



## How long did the flooding last?

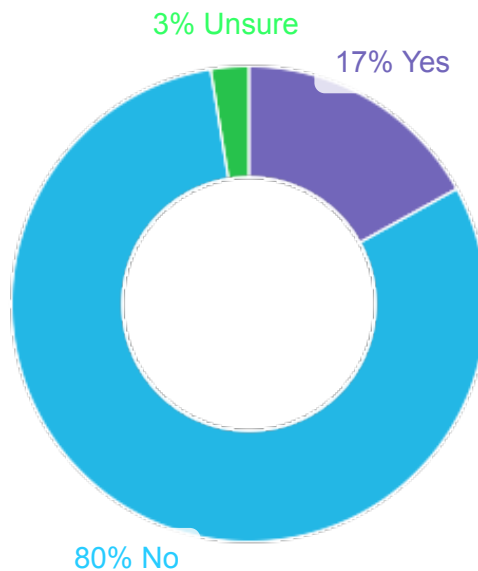
## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Full-time resident



Did your property sustain damage?

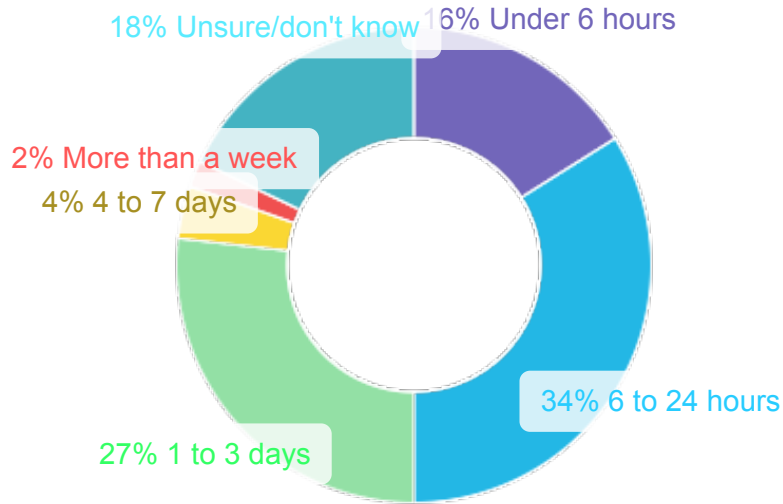
## Non-Resident Flooding Responses

Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Non-resident



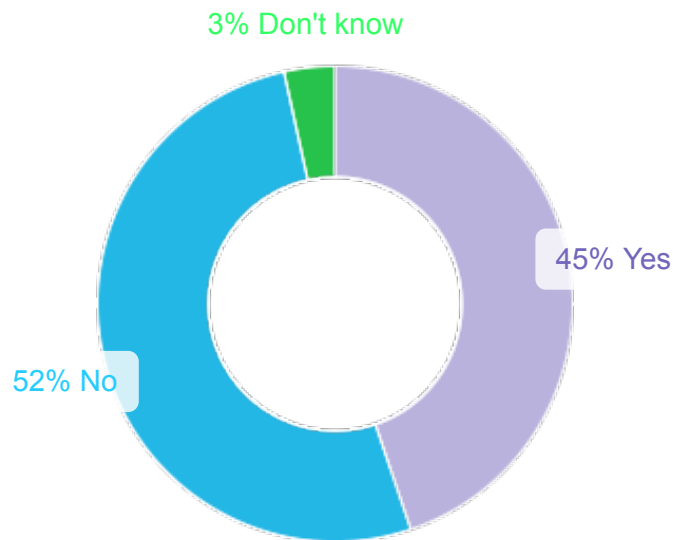
Has your property been impacted by flooding?

## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Non-resident



## How long did the flooding last?

## Of participants who selected: Residential property owner and Non-resident



## Did your property sustain damage?