

Roxbury Free Library strategic planning questionnaire

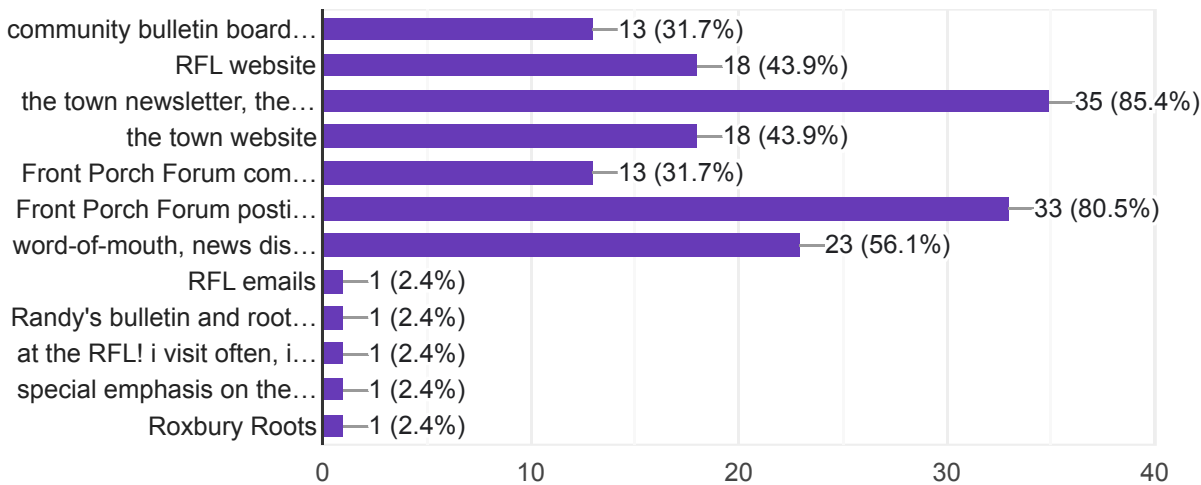
41 responses

[Publish analytics](#)

COMMUNITY RESOURCES: how do you access information? Have you used any of the following resources for information about Roxbury (meetings, events, other happenings around town)? Check all that apply.

 [Copy](#)

41 responses



Comments about these sources of information?

10 responses

The town website needs some work to get information updated regularly, and make things easier to find

These help as I work 2nd shift and miss a lot of things due to timing.

also emails from RFL - that is the main source - some variety is good - sounds silly, but photos help sustain interest

I have heard from a handful of residents that they do not receive the Rox Newsy. How can we ensure that all current residents receive the Newsy?

each of them is useful in its own way

hard to find info on the TOWN website

Good info- clear postings- time, date, etc.

Not everyone has a computer. Redundancy is good with hard copy mailing, but if it arrives after the event is over, it's not so helpful

All of these sources are great, but I especially love the Newsy! Thanks for all the work it takes to keep it going!

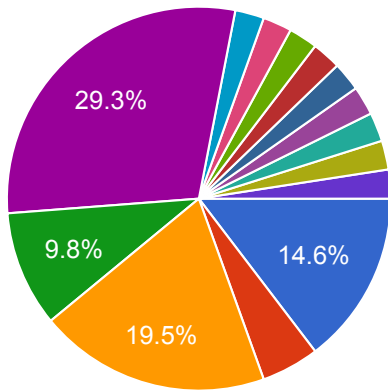
i really appreciate the Newsy. I like the convenience of online resources

Tell us a little about YOU :

i am obtained this survey from:

 Copy

41 responses



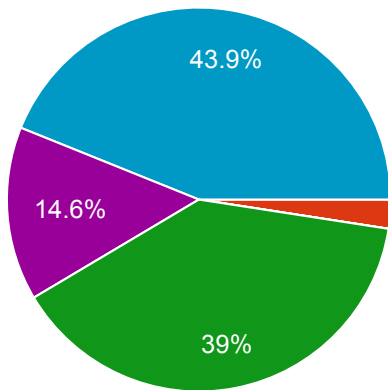
- a community event (Roots su...
- at the RFL
- in the mail, from the random g...
- in the mail, from the annual a...
- online through a link
- Front porch forum post
- From Roxbury Roots email
- email reminder sent directly t...

▲ 1/2 ▼

my age is:

 Copy

41 responses

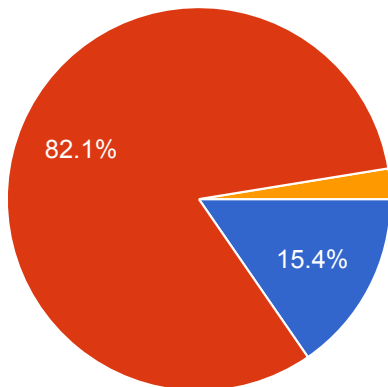


- 0-10
- 11-20
- 21-35
- 36-50
- 51-65
- 65+

i live in:

 Copy

39 responses

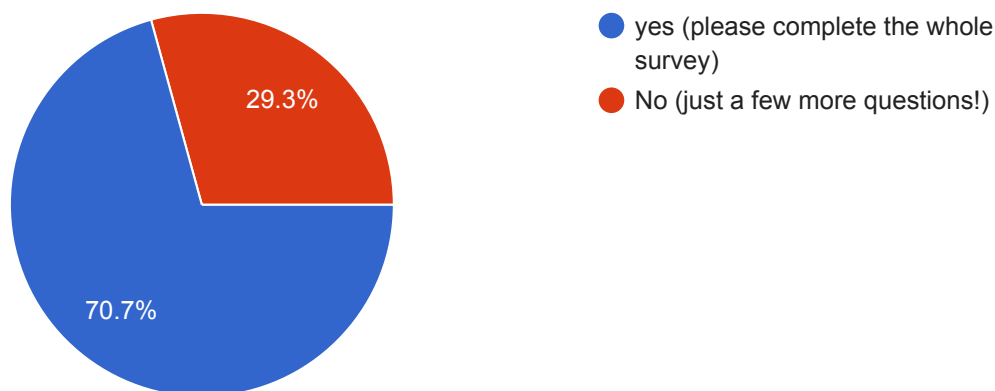


- East Roxbury/Bull Run
- Roxbury Village/"west Roxbury"
- outside of Roxbury, but use RFL

I use the library:

 Copy

41 responses

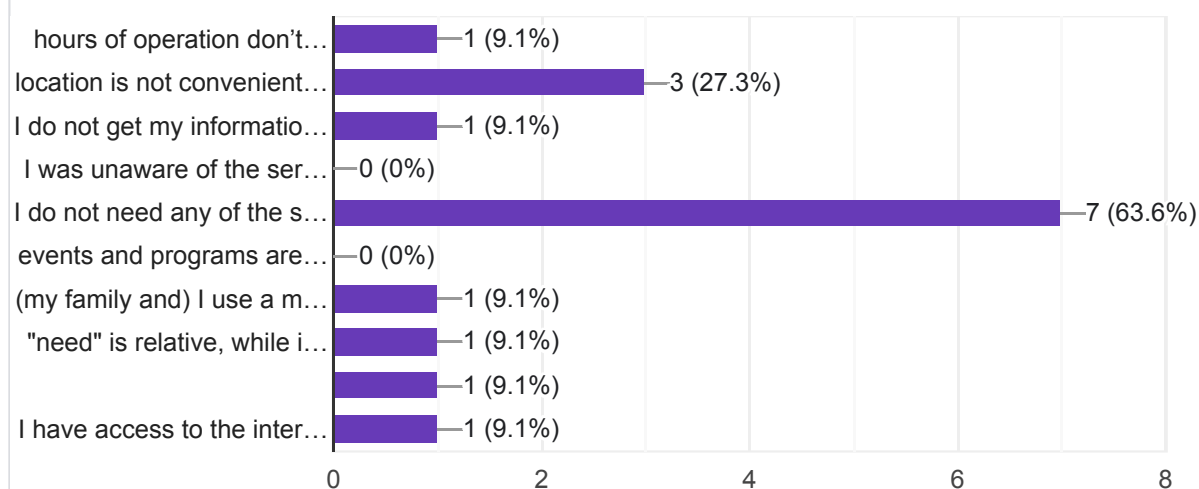


If you answered "NO" above, can you tell us why not?

 Copy

I do NOT use the library for any purpose, because:

11 responses



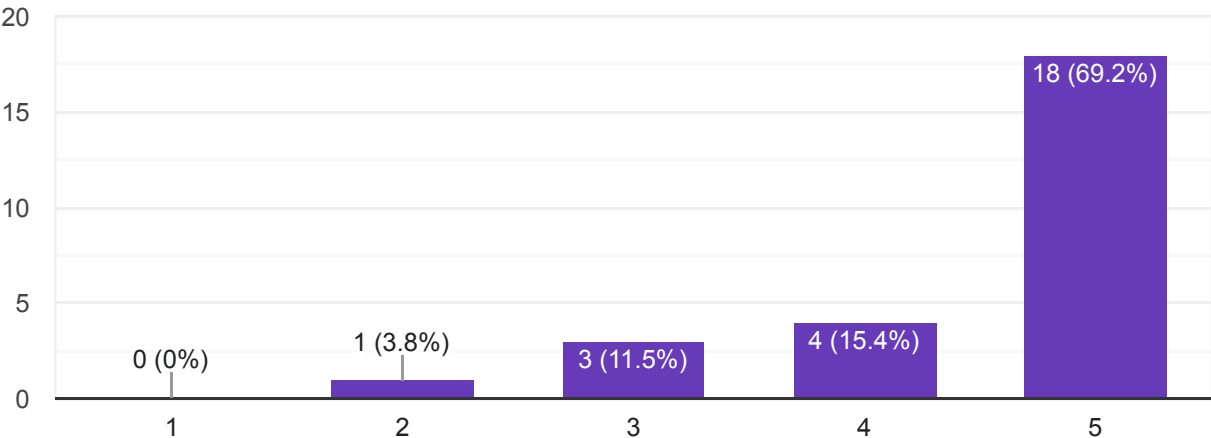
If you answered "NO" above, please skip this next section and complete the final section "The Future." Don't forget to click the "Submit" button at the end!

If "YES", you do use the library for any reason, please continue from here. All others continue at Section 4.

The books you check out?

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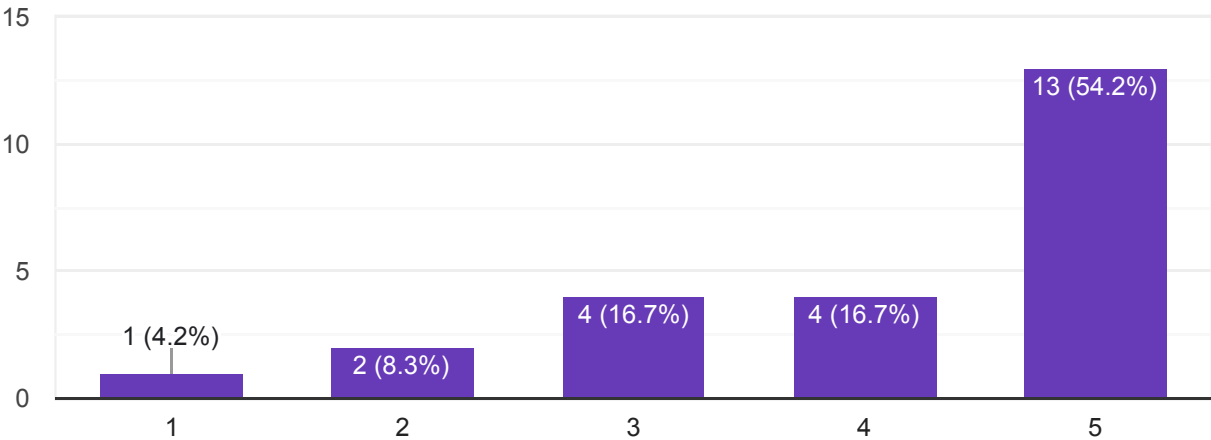
26 responses



The opportunity to order from inter-library loans?

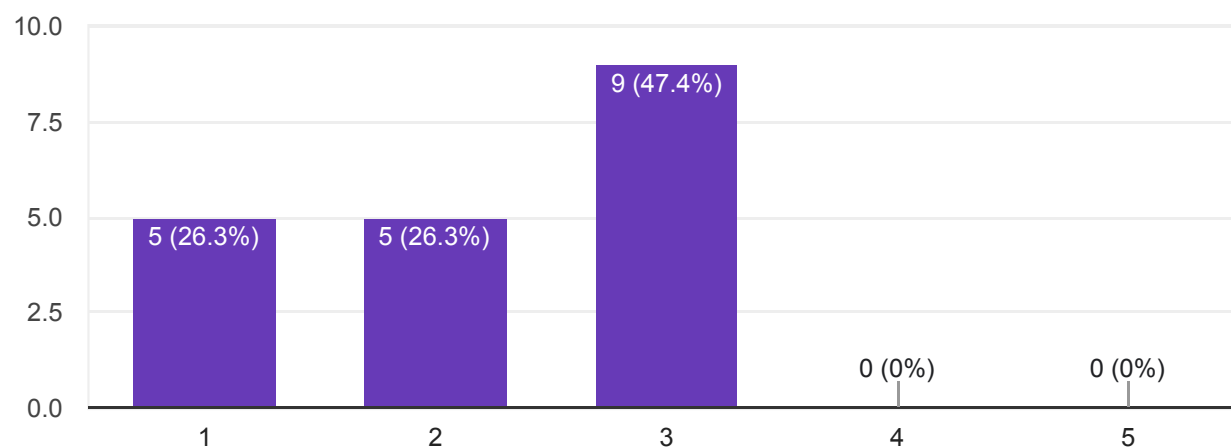
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24 responses



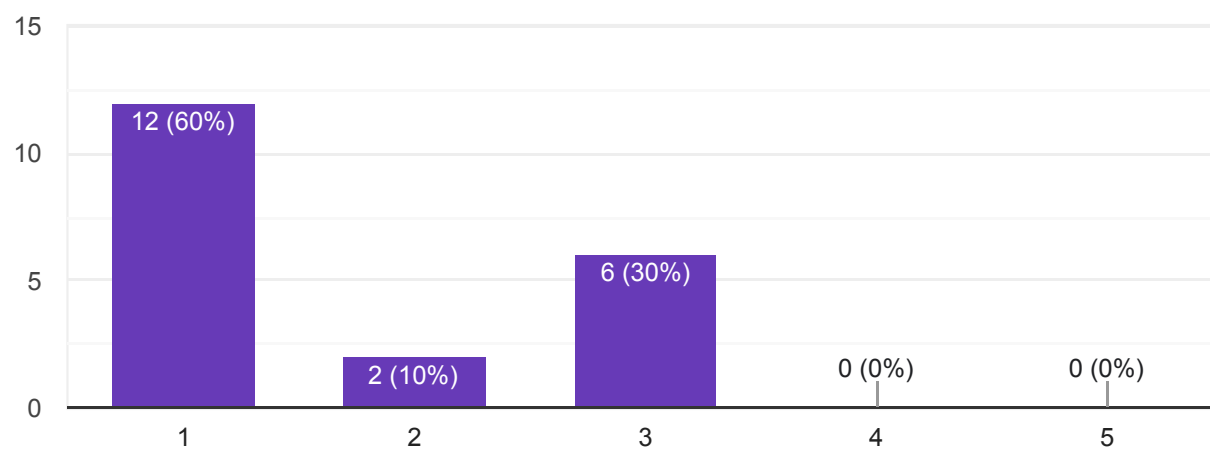
The resources for finding jobs and needed personal information?

19 responses



The use of library computers?

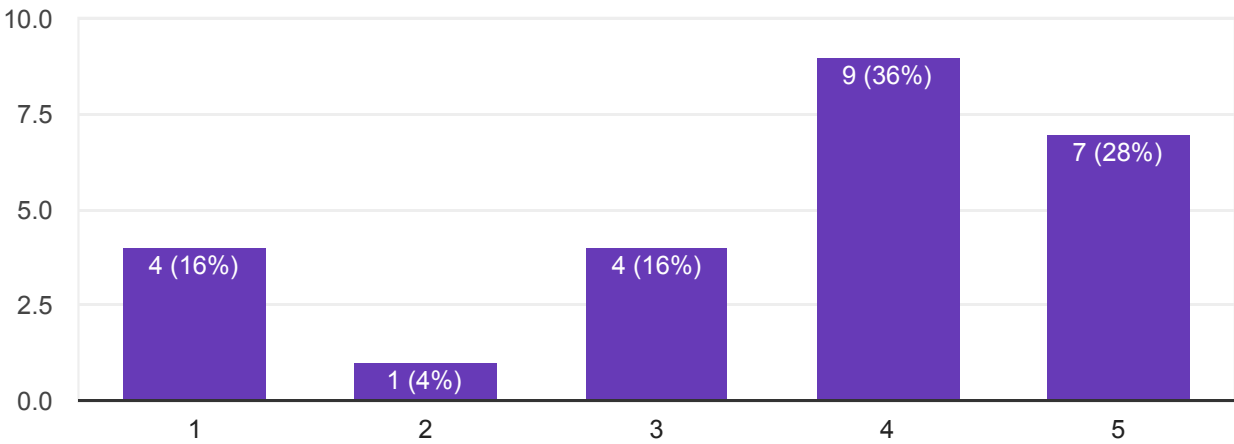
20 responses



The 24 hour WIFI?

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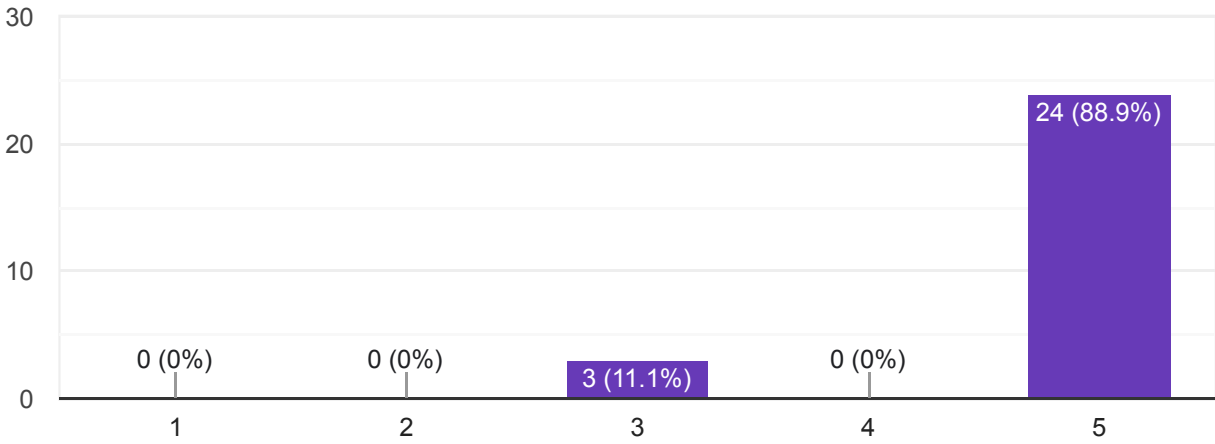
25 responses



The staff's assistance?

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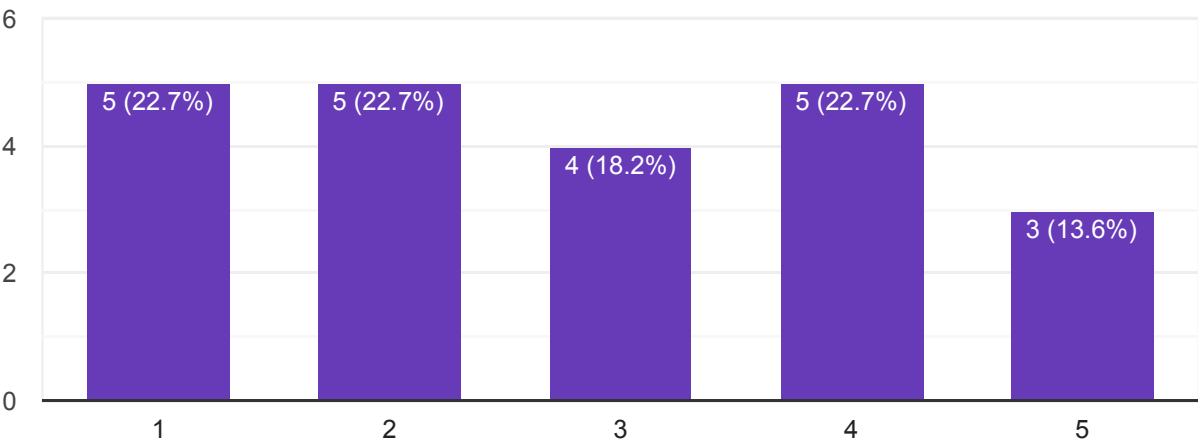
27 responses



Local, regional and national newspapers or magazines?

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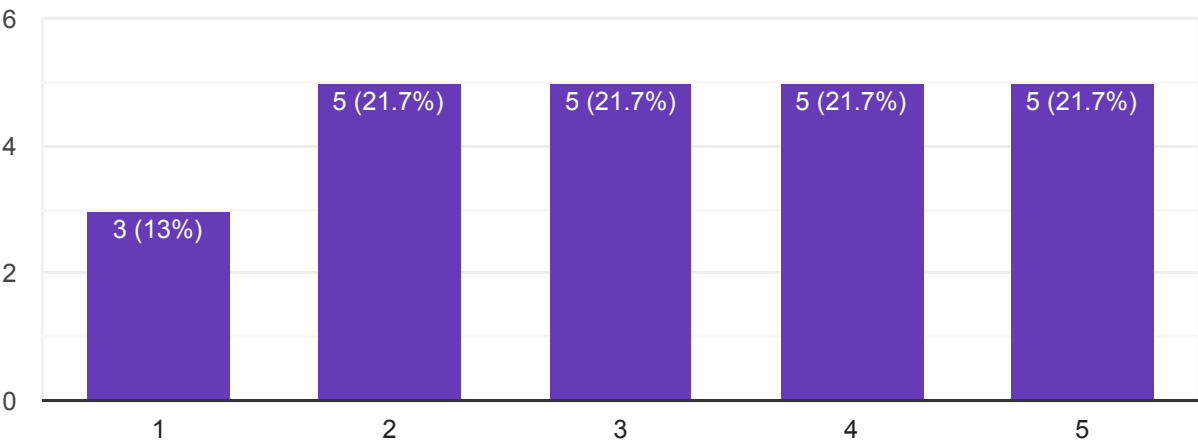
22 responses



Digital resources? such as e-books, audio books, music?

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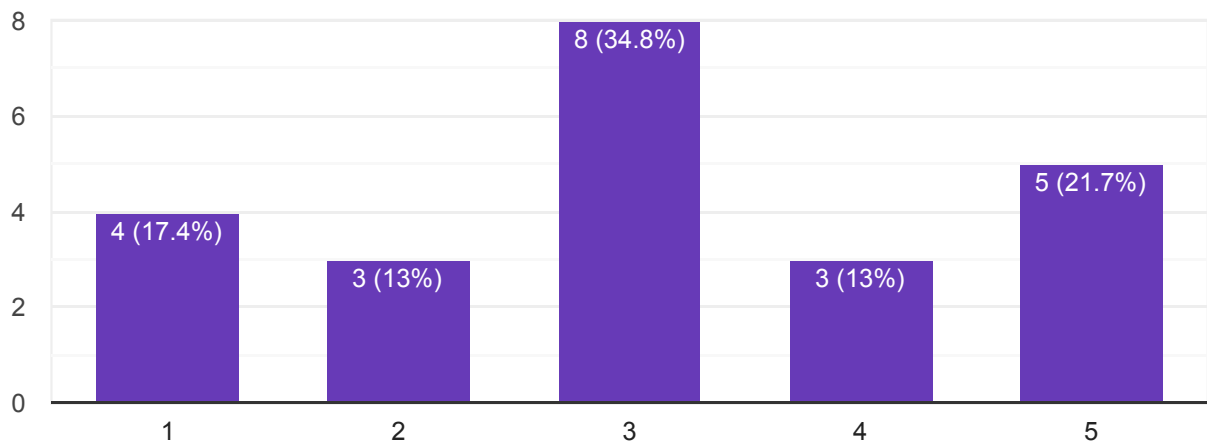
23 responses



The little outdoor free library?

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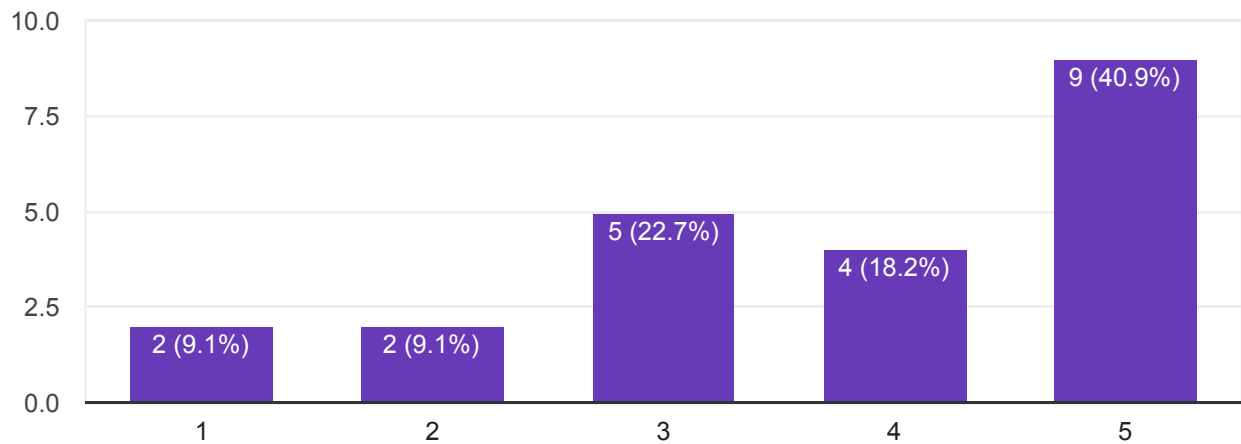
23 responses



Museum passes, universal classes?

 Copy

22 responses



Please provide any comments on our Resources for Learning and how we can improve:

13 responses

Very little use at present, but plan on more in the future

Access to more current books would be helpful

i have not yet used the Universal classes, but know they are there and appreciate the availability

Advertise more often on what is available. Maybe highlight one per month?

I did not find the Libby and other online ebook lending programs helpful. They rarely had specific books that I was looking for, or they had very long waits for those books—or, when reading a book, I would be unable to complete it within the 2-week lending period, and then have to wait my turn again to finish reading.

above answers apply just to me, but am sure some i rated low are helpful to others

Don't use library enough. My failure, not yours

haven't used the library facilities recently. Not a lot of free time and i have my own books to read, and internet.

Post library hours on FPF.

Work hours don't really allow use of resources . We make other plans for such things

thank you!!

Expanded evening hours would be helpful!

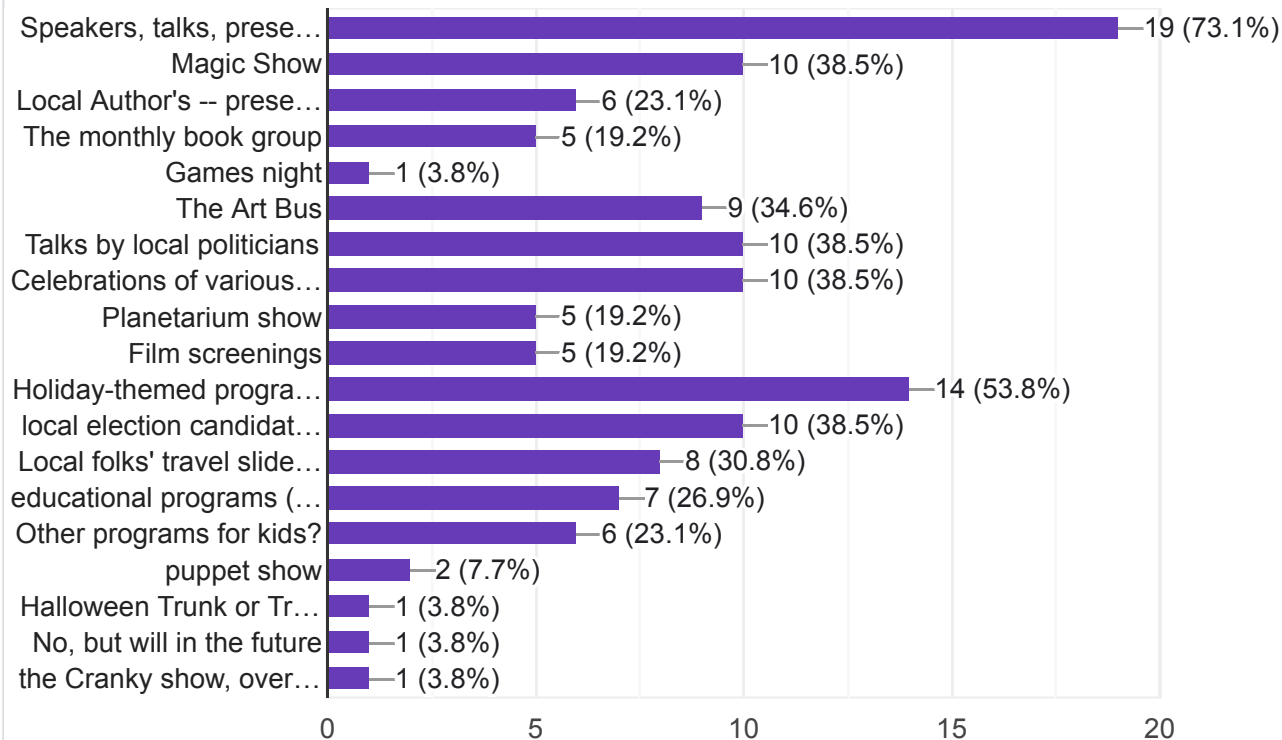
i should use digital resources more

LIBRARY PROGRAMS, TALKS AND LECTURES:

Have you attended any of the following events? Check all that apply.



26 responses



Any comments on the programs you have attended? What would you like to see more of, or is there something we have left out?

12 responses

Enjoy the offerings, hope to attend more

High quality public speakers talking about current issues/topics would be great

Would be great to see some collaboration with other Roxbury "groups" to offer a greater cross section of programming options. e.g. cooking classes/canning, painting/crafting, parenting support group, discussions of life/aging/death, baby story hour, power tool safety course, language "clubs", coffee talk.

I want to appreciate Ryan Zajac for helping to coordinate conversations w/ local state reps and hosting virtual school board meetings to ensure access for anyone seeking to participate. Ryan goes above and beyond; he is an incredible resource for the community. I would love to see something offered to our students/young adults in transition to life after high school --- college application support, job readiness, how to write a resume, non-traditional pathways post high school, parent supports -- how do I help guide my child after high school?

Do you have a newsletter (other than the newsy) that goes out to people's emails? This , maybe no-weekly..., would be very helpful for me to see what is happening at RFL- highlighting events, fav books/recommendations (even if these are shared and cited from somewhere else), and showcasing the further learning online resource.

Every program or activity i have attended has been useful and informative. Plus fun!

social media basics and use in small business, digital marketing of small business products

No- good job,

Hours don't always mesh with our "off time" as we are workaholics

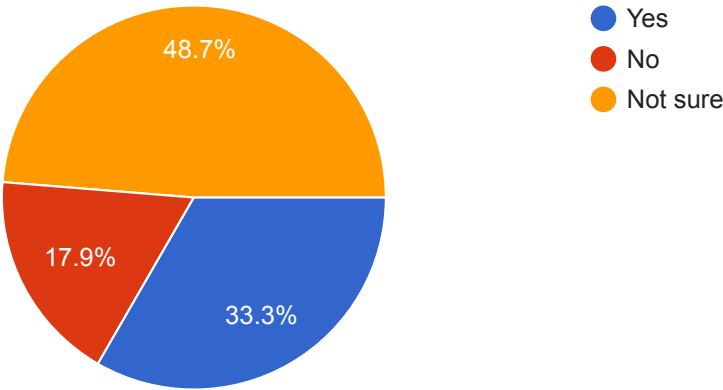
need help with computers

These offerings are so wonderful! I wish I could make. It to more library events, and looking at this amazing list inspires me to try to make it to more of them!

Very much appreciate your programs, please keep up the good work. I understand the library has a few other things to "lend"--snow shoes? Baking pans? How does one find out about these things? I would love to see this expand.

Would you use the library building and services more often if it's open at different times?

39 responses



Hours of operation I would like to see RFL offer:

13 responses

Regular and simple. Easy to remember.

i am a morning person, so more mornings or afterschool times.

Not sure

Sunday hours

After school hours 3-5 and I like the Saturday hours

I can never remember the RFL's hours, as they are irregular... not their fault, Im sure, as staffing must be considered.

as many as would be useful to the town

evenings

Evenings.

Not very likely to use because of distance, so don't try to make us happy

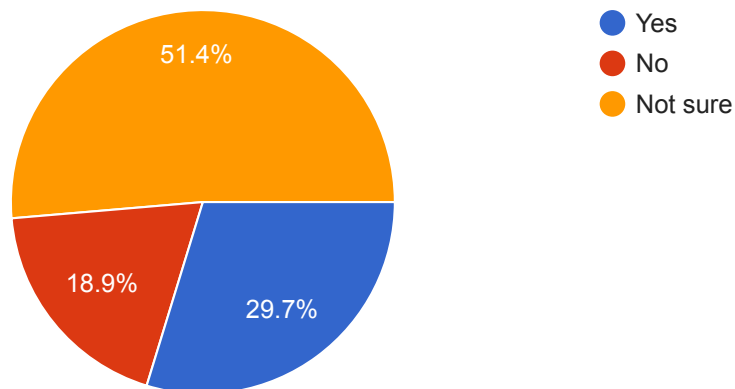
MWFSa

One or more additional days with early evening hours.

random

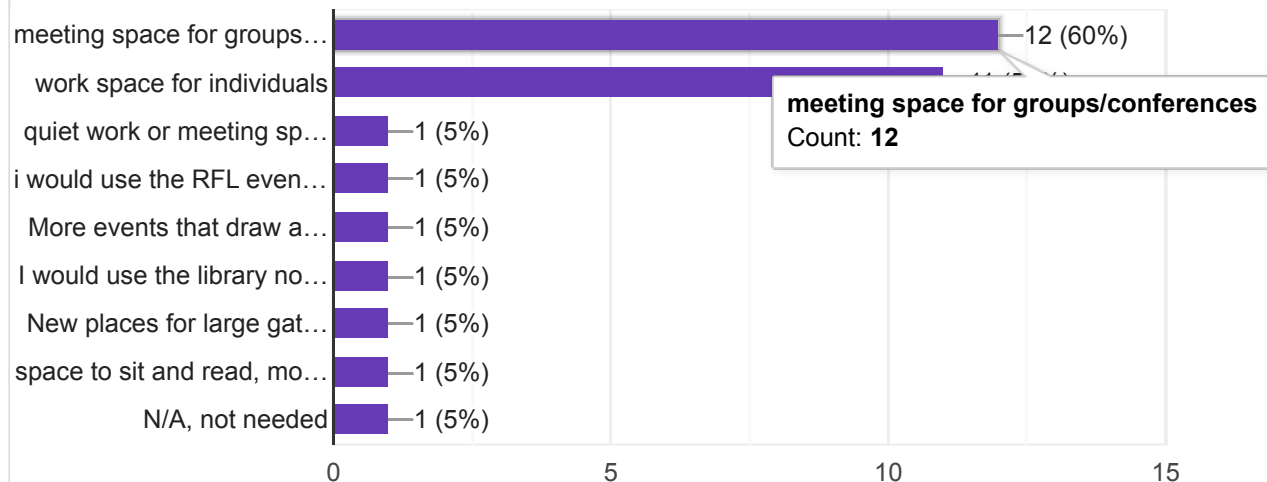
Would you use the library if it had more space?

37 responses



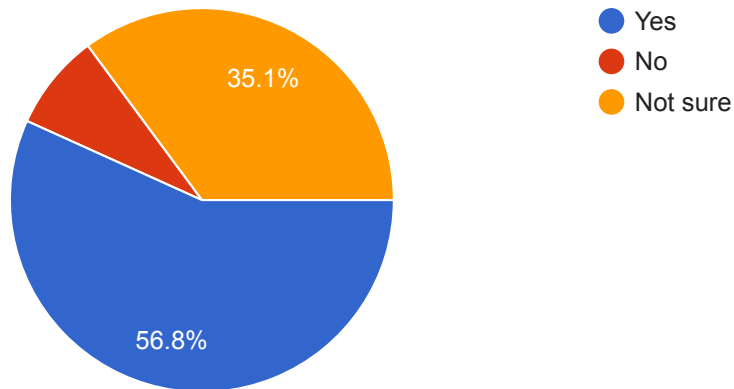
additional spaces I would like to see offered at RFL

20 responses



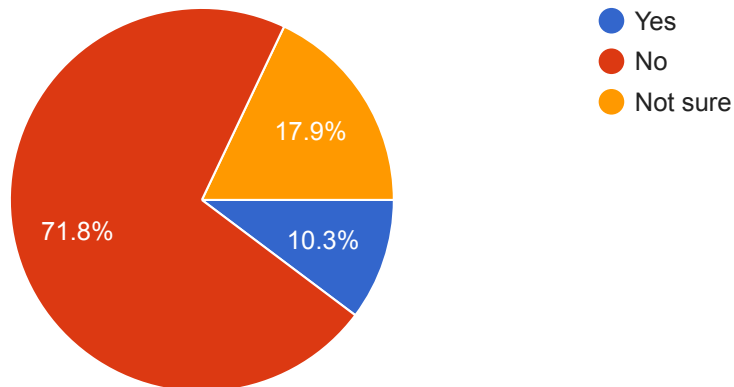
Do you find the website easy to access and use?

37 responses



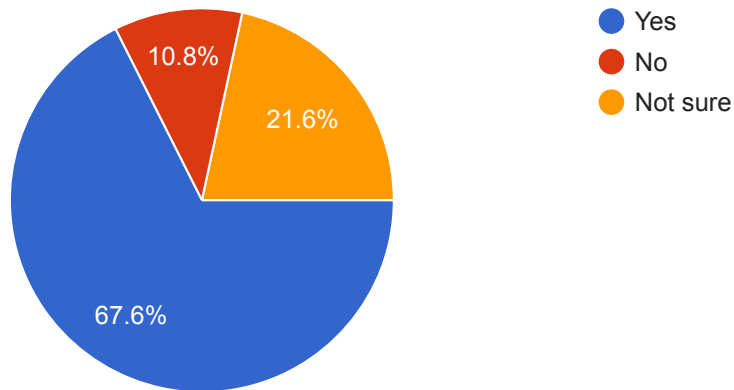
Do you find it hard to find parking at RFL?

39 responses



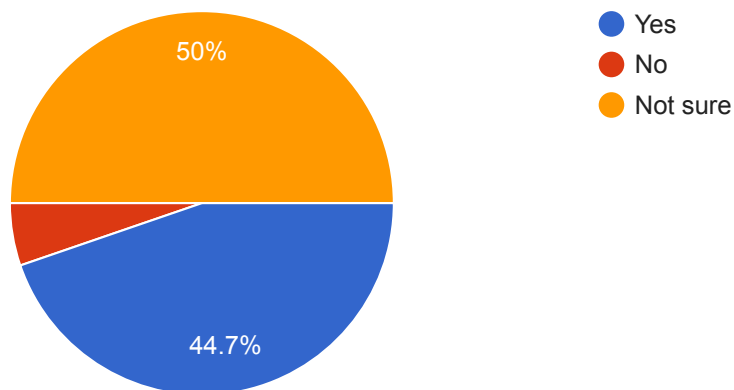
Would you like to see more outdoor-oriented programs, at the Village Park for example, or the garden tour?

37 responses



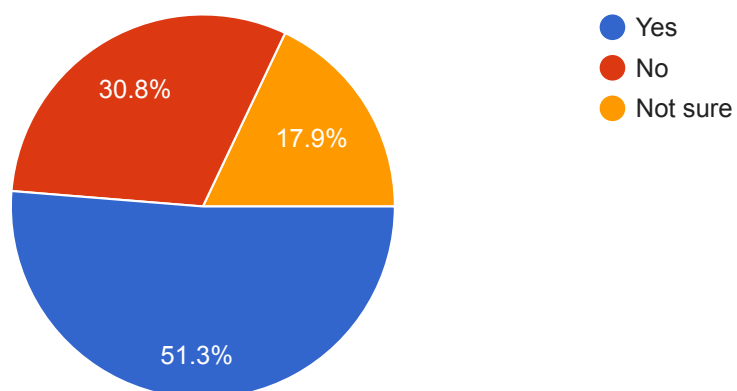
Would you like us to collaborate more with other libraries in the area?

38 responses



Beyond Books: would you access and check out items such as snow shoes, or skill-development kits, such as “learning to knit,” or other such items?

39 responses



"Beyond books" items/kits you want to see offered:

11 responses

Skill development, particularly tech. For example: PC or Mac specific workshops.

non-digital photography kit with camera (film not included)

Woodsplitter

Sewing machines! VT 4-H has a supply.

Arts music food and cooking, gardening

I love this idea! And Rox Roots could support if a collab would be helpful!

Learn to crochet or knit kit

paddle board

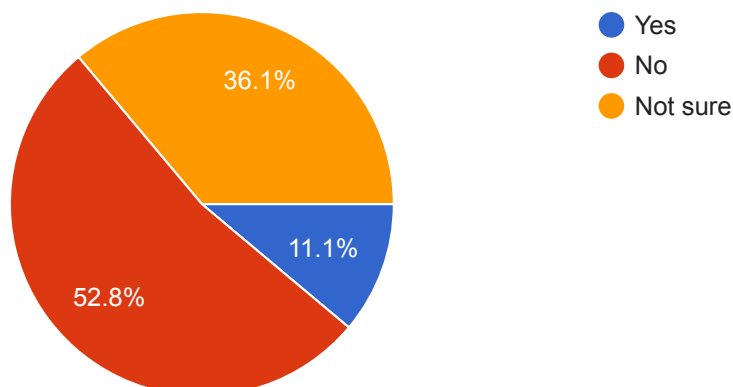
great idea for others to access

Useful items- power meters, canning pots- things someone only needs sometimes- the community could use.

Specialty baking pans, snow shoes, cross country skis, apple cider press, gardening tools, sap taps and buckets, etc.

Are you interested in volunteering at the RFL?

36 responses



if you answered "Yes" to volunteering, please let us know how we can contact you!

3 responses

Email; n.laskovski@gmail.com

I am already volunteering.

I do not have time to volunteer but I would love to create a Roxbury Roots collaboration.

Now that the school will be closed, how can the Library provide services for children and families?

23 responses

stay open as many afternoon/early eve as possible. Continue educational programs/events

not sure

Open as often as possible around Afterschool program hours, collaborate with kid-focused groups to team up and save resources in hosting events etc.

Being a source of truth. Partner with afterschool and Roxbury rising as needed.

Great question! I think we need to find ways to bring the community together for town wide events/visioning/teamwork

Visit as part of Roxbury Rising enrichment

Tutoring - which would be best if there was added, private space. Mentoring, esp for middle and high school students. If the district-supported afterschool program does not continue, can RFL provide afterschool programming? Another idea - transportation "match making" for young adults in our community who want to work but do not have transportation.

Homework club?

Maybe storytime and playdates for kids and families

For older kids- An after school study/homework/creative project group? Volunteer opportunities for older kids?

It's a convenient bus stop (unlike some of our houses) and it could be a fun learning experience and space for an hour or two after school when sports are not in season.

Work with the townspeople to make use of the spaces available, in any way that benefits families' needs and desires

more afterschool programs, weekend kids programs

That's a big question, not sure how

stay open!

?

Provide "kid time".

If town decides to buy school from district, then they should consolidate library and senior center into that space and maybe sell off the other buildings since school building is newer and has more growth potential. Rent out space like the Montpelier garage does to help make it more cost effective to justify

Host after school gatherings

The family and kid-oriented events that the library already offers are so great! Maybe some more outdoor activities for kids in the summer, perhaps in conjunction with Roxbury Rising and/or Roxbury Roots.

A children's book club could be nice.

Order books online? Book delivery? More kids activity/programs?

more programs, maybe?

More regular programs, perhaps getting the word out.

Can you think of ways RFL can better serve East Roxbury?

16 responses

no

Monthly Book Mobile? Advertise delivery or coordinate with residents

Work on opening the 4 mile Wood road hiking/recreation trail for direct access

A book exxchange kiosk at bottom of Steele Hill. Cross promotion of Kimball Library events in Randolph?

There may be someone in East Roxbury willing to inform and advocate for the RFL

pie in the sky idea- but if the Town can open up the old road connecting East Roxbury with the Village

Tunnel

?

Deliver.

Not really. Just include us in mailings with extra notice

Book deliveries to shut-ins

Satellite--connection with Northfield Library?

Perhaps by promotion or making an East Roxbury Free library extension.

Pop up library on Saturday mornings on the East side

What is the best thing about the RFL?

31 responses

the curator, naturally

being a library, a public library is enough and vital

The fact that you exist and that you are asking for public feedback.

That it exists and persists

It's existence

Amazing books in a very small space, and very cool bathroom floor

Staff and Trustees

STAFF! So welcoming, so kind, so well-resourced to support patrons with ideas and supports. The monthly emails are always on time and full of info. My kids says "It is small and cozy. They have books I am intersted in and at my reading level that are not offered at school."

The staff.

I really appreciate all the community events and kids activities that the library has offered

The passion to keep it alive!

Books 📖

its Library Director and volunteers, its history, its warmth, its welcoming space. It has an astonishing bathroom floor!

The building itself and of course the folks who work/volunteer there

friendly, always helpful

We use hoopla and Libby a lot and really enjoy these services

everything

i like that the library exists. I don't use it at the moment, but i have in the past and i will in the future when i need to, or my situation changes.

staff

The staff!

That it is there & staying viable.

Sorry. Never been inside in the 10+ yrs we've lived here

That we have a library!

a lot of news for us to know

welcoming, helpful staff. Clean, organized facility

The PEOPLE!!

Such a welcoming, comfortable cozy space and a really great collection for books!

Friendly staff who go above and beyond. Accessibility, flexibility, lovely space!

community events

It's very close and asccessable.

The book selection, the staff, the organization of the library

What needs improvement at RFL?

16 responses

increase in space = increase in offerings

A little more flash to the patron emails-- photos. Also sometimes the dates for events are confusing. Better social media outreach.

Likely the electrical system and heating system needs to be solar/heat pump combo.

Design of spaces, equipment, parking

I would love a workshop on how to access audio and other offerings on website. The driveway on the north side of the church is ROUGH; I imagine that could be really intimidating for some drivers (ie., elders). Place some signs at edge of Frazier;s field "library parking", etc, so ppl know where to park.

For the townspeople to believe in its continued relevance and spirit.

more adult programs

not sure

love it

?

easier online connecting

??

Parking and space. Fundraising

More comfortable seating! It should feel more like a place to hang out.

I can't think of anything other than what I listed above.

N/A

What are we doing well?

29 responses

reaching out/communication

Trying to improve, always.

Engagement and openness

Staying in touch with townsfolk through Newsy, etc.

always reaching out for new ideas

Kiddo: "The librarians are super nice." The programming (kids and adults) is fabulous, and unexpected for a small town.

This survey and being amazing.

See above, community events. Also a great selection of books for a library of it's size

Consistent, reliable and always available to find us what we're looking for.

Being rad people who care about community learning opportunities.

The awesome enthusiasm of the Library Director and the Board of Trustees

pretty much everything

making new books accessible, presenting events, hrs available

An impressive variety of materials for such a small library

staying active

programs and events

keeping an up-to-date library in a dwindling book age

Our little library is big on serving our community.

Continuing to get new things, & being open to new ideas.

Reaching out.

continue giving information to crafts and hours and other projects

unsure-- have never been to the library. Get my books online. Have internet at home.

Diverse programming!

You are always very responsive to book and other resource requests.

From my perspective RFL is doing everything well!

Not a patron but fully support the RFL. Good work!

Book group, personalized friendly and kind services. Thank you for repeatedly talking me through getting connected with Libby!

everything

Offering variety of programs for different people in a variety of formats

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