

2023 LIVABILITY SURVEY

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December 11, 2023



SURVEY HISTORY

- Utilized to gather feedback on city services.
- Distributed every two years– started in 1998.
- Response rate **increased by 58%**.
 - Promotion began in August; survey mailed/went live September 1.
 - Last day to complete the survey was November 1.
 - Printed surveys (English and Spanish) mailed in utility bill.
 - Both options/languages promoted in the city newsletter (email and print), Parks & Rec email, city social media (shared by other city departments), at the Farmers Market, and city website.

SURVEY PROMOTION

HOW ARE WE DOING?

THE CITY OF FOREST GROVE IS CONDUCTING THE 2023 LIVABILITY SURVEY AND WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Your participation will help shape the future of our community.

<https://bit.ly/2023fgsurvey>



¿CÓMO LO ESTAMOS HACIENDO?

LA CIUDAD DE FOREST GROVE ESTÁ REALIZANDO LA ENCUESTA DE HABITABILIDAD 2023 Y QUEREMOS CONOCER SU OPINIÓN.

Su participación ayudará a dar forma al futuro de nuestra comunidad.

<https://bit.ly/2023encuestaespanola>



The City of Forest Grove 2023 Livability Survey begins September 11. Look for it online and in your utility bill next month. For past survey results visit our [website](#).

THE LIVABILITY SURVEY IS LIVE

Participate in the City's Livability Survey and help shape the future of our community! Use the QR code to complete the survey online. Prefer a printed version? A printed version of the survey is included in your utility bill for the month of September. Just mail it with your utility bill or place it in the City Hall dropbox when finished. So what are you waiting for?



bit.ly/2023fgsurvey

LA ENCUESTA DE HABITABILIDAD ESTÁ LISTA

¡Participe en la Encuesta de Habitabilidad de la Ciudad y ayude a dar forma al futuro de nuestra comunidad! Use el código QR para completar la encuesta en línea. ¿Prefiere una versión impresa? Una versión impresa de la encuesta está incluida en su factura de servicios públicos para el mes de septiembre. Simplemente envíela por correo con su factura de servicios públicos o deposítela en el buzón del Ayuntamiento cuando la complete. Así que, ¿qué espera?



bit.ly/2023encuestaespanola



SURVEY AND 2040 VISION

- Participants were asked to add their email to Forest Grove Vision 2040 email list if interested.
- Collected 115 subscribers.
- Plan to promote 2040 Vision list more in the future.

FOREST GROVE | 2040

Forest Grove 2040 is a city initiative that defines a long-term vision for our City. Residents play a vital role in defining and inspiring that vision. Thank you for your desire to participate and contribution to shaping your communities future.

Email Address

[Subscribe](#)

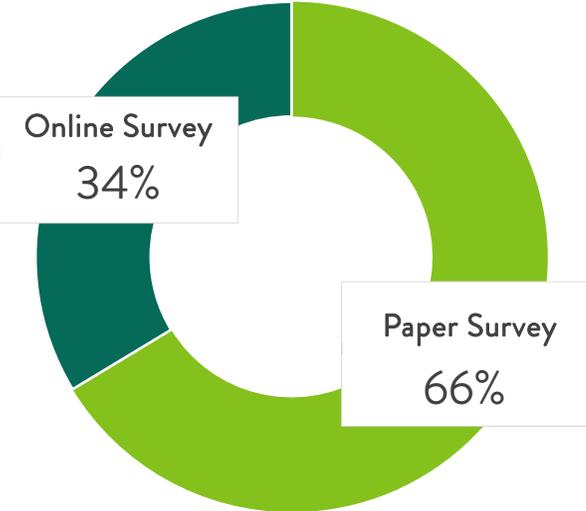
STAY IN THE LOOP

We will send periodic email updates and announcements regarding the Forest Grove 2023 visioning process. Please follow us on our social media channels to stay up to date!

[f](#) [@](#) [✉](#) [🔗](#)

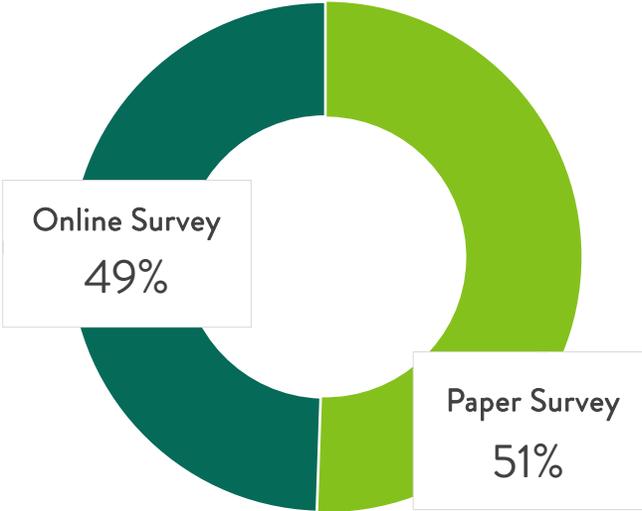
PARTICIPATION COMPARISONS

2018



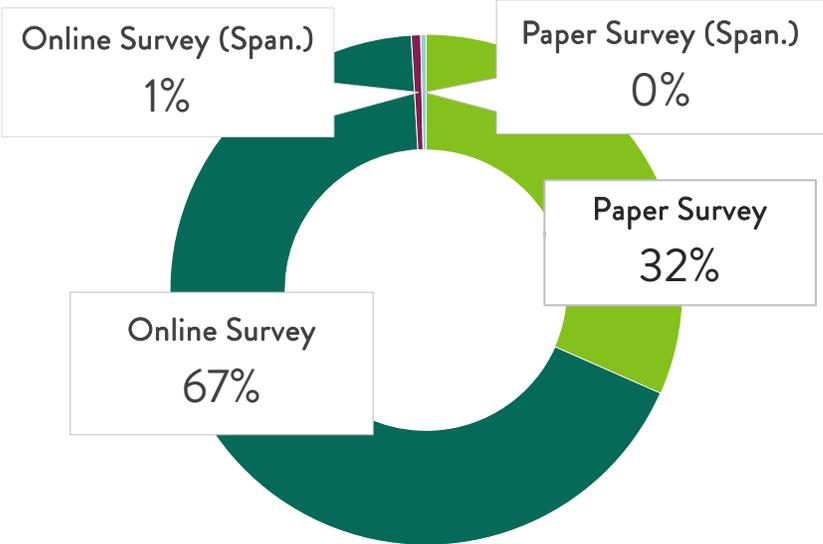
683 Surveys

2021



752 Surveys

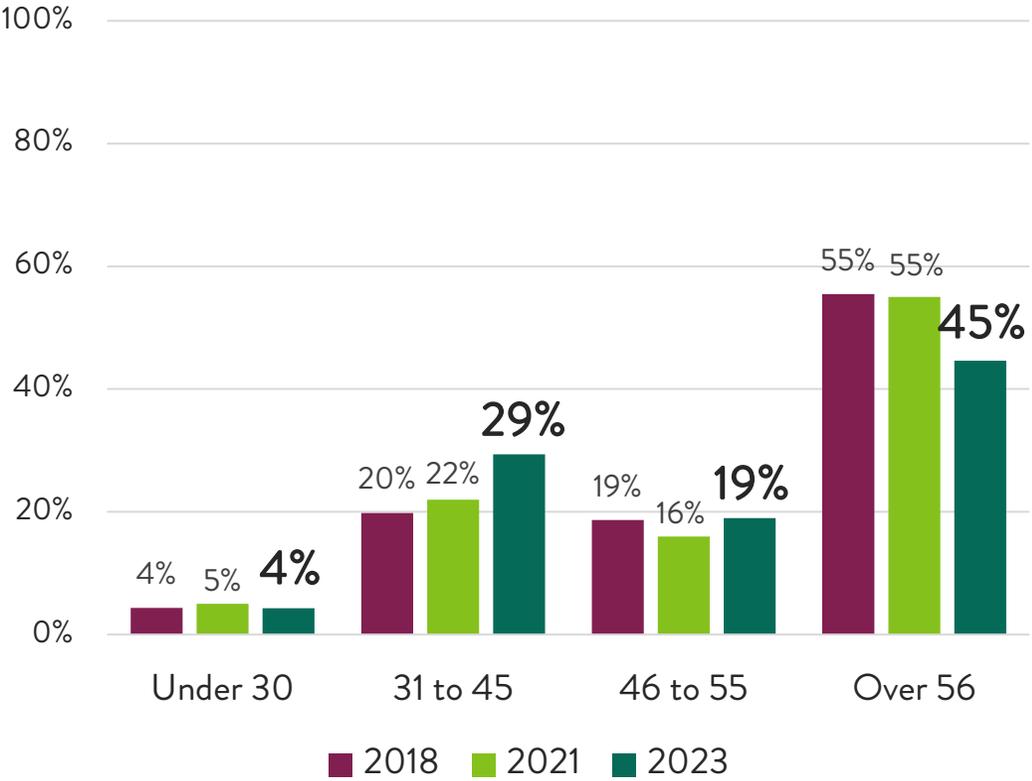
2023



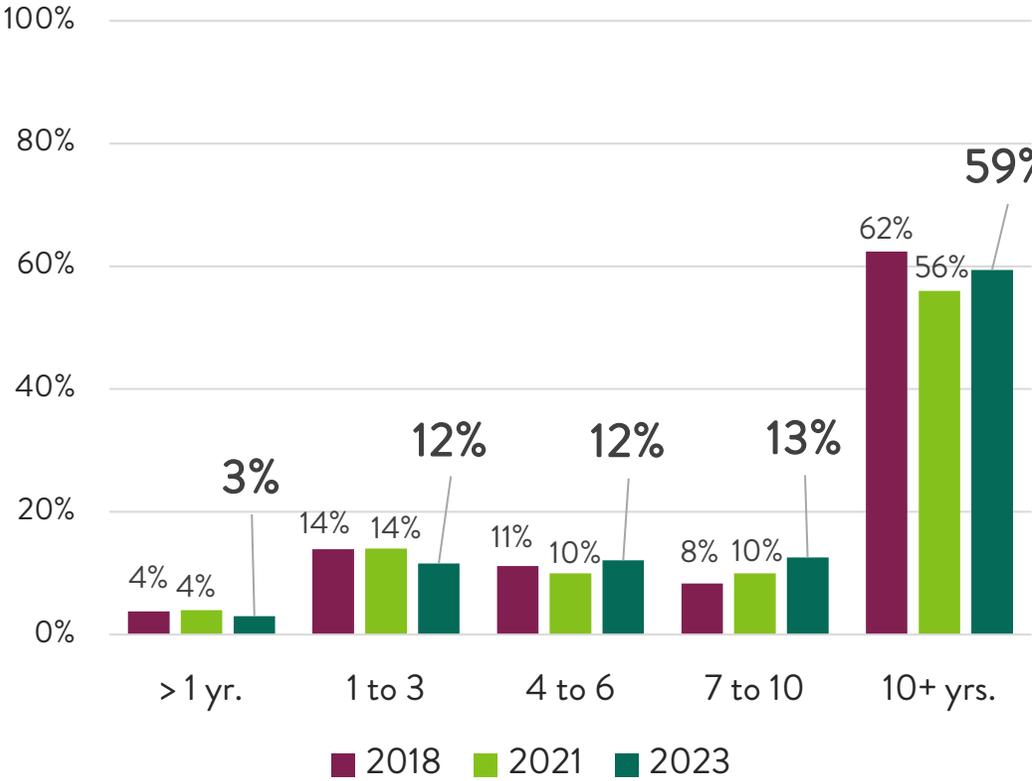
1,189 Surveys

DEMOGRAPHICS

Age

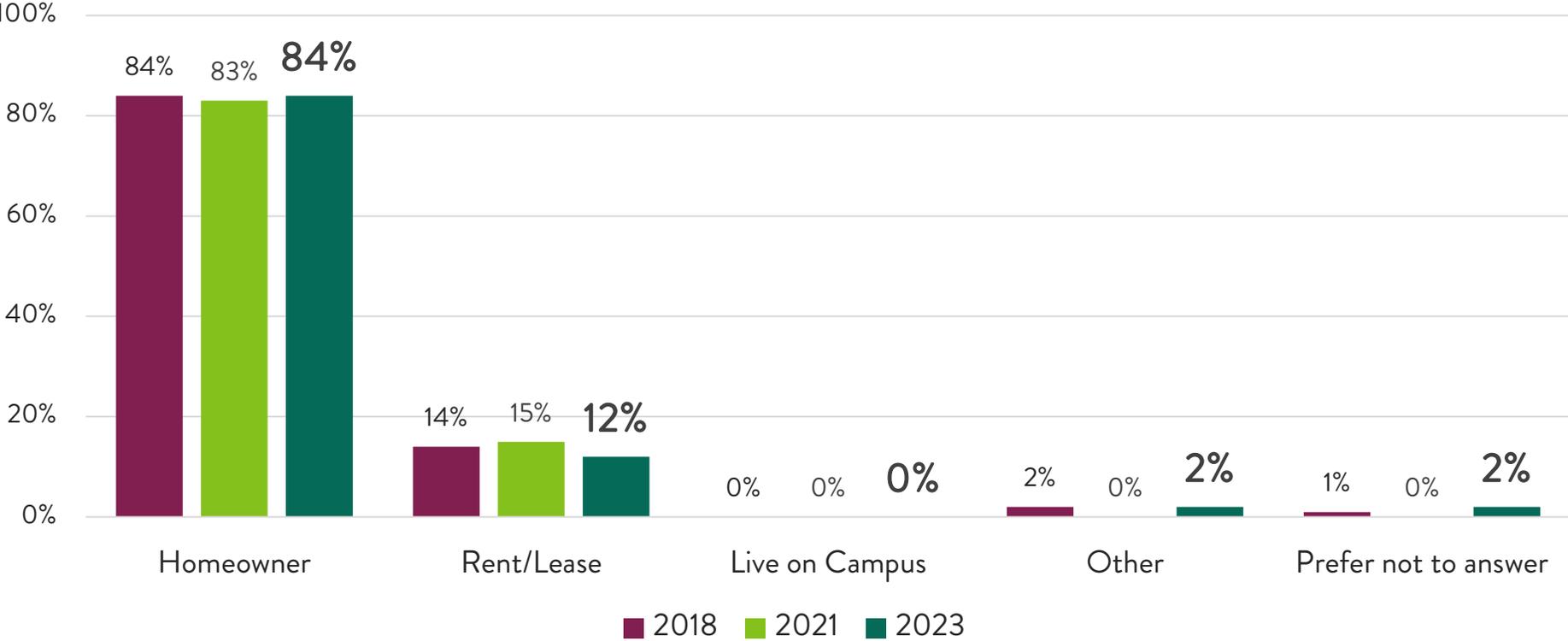


Years of Residency



DEMOGRAPHICS

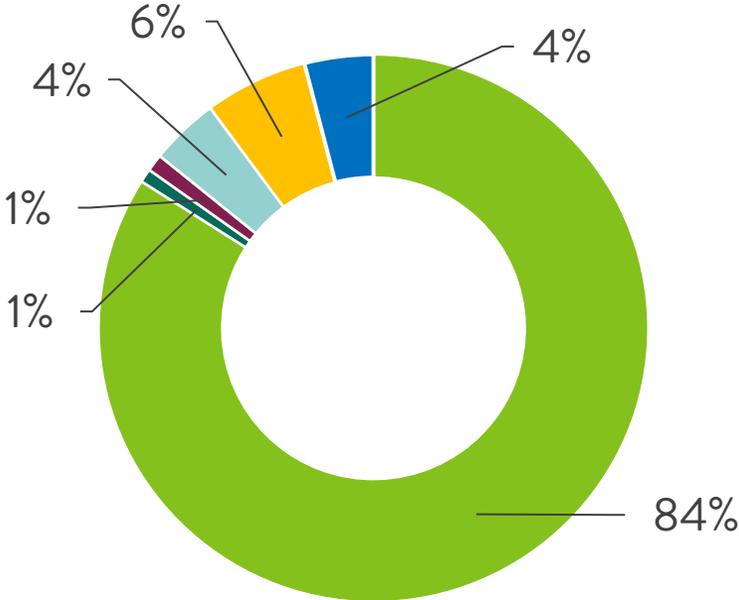
Place of Residency



DEMOGRAPHICS

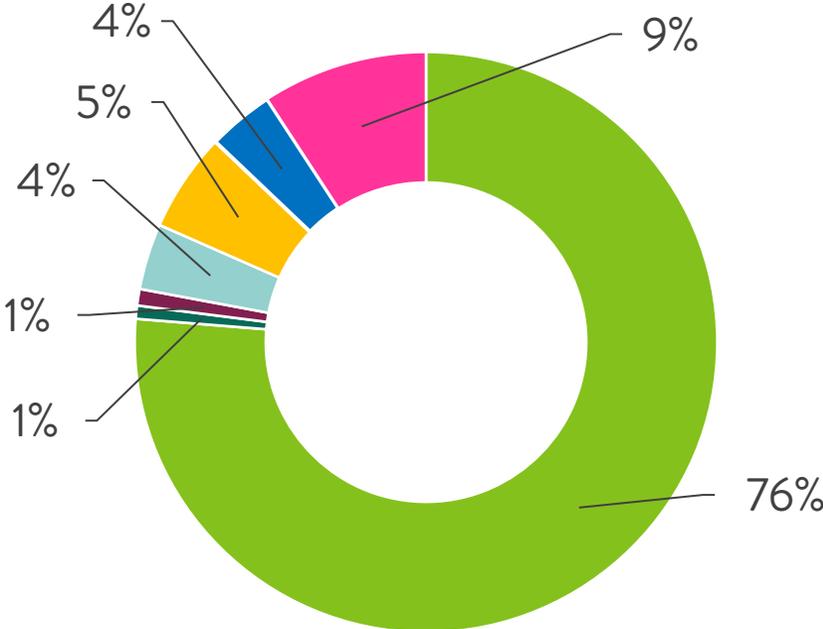
Ethnicity categories are based on the census track.

Ethnicity 2021



- White (Non-Hispanic)
- Black/African-American
- Native American/Alaska Native
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic/Latino
- Other

Ethnicity 2023



- White (Non-Hispanic)
- Black/African-American
- Native American/Alaska Native
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic/Latino
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

CITY SERVICE RANKINGS

- Respondents asked to rank performance in core city services.
- There are 32 City Service Ranking Categories
- Questions have remained the same since 2006 to maintain a consistent baseline for measuring performance.
- Rankings are from 1 (very poorly) to 7 (very well) with a N/A option.

CITY SERVICE RANKINGS

2018

5.36

AVERAGE
OVERALL RANKING

2021

5.49

AVERAGE
OVERALL RANKING

2023

5.37

AVERAGE
OVERALL RANKING

RANKINGS HIGHLIGHTS

TOP THREE

1. FIRE RESPONSE- 6.30
2. ELECTRICITY- 6.16
3. SANITARY SEWER- 6.07

- “All in all, we love this town.”
- “FG is great.”
- “Quality of police response is excellent.”
- “We love Forest Grove!”
- “We have lived here for four years and love it here. I love the dog walking here. So many dog lovers :) Very happy here in Forest Grove!”
- “L&P, Police, Fire and Library are outstanding.”
- “...the city of Forest Grove is doing a very good job overall.”
- “...keep doing what you're doing, Forest Grove is fantastic!”

RANKINGS HIGHLIGHTS

AREAS TO WATCH

1. CODE ENFORCEMENT- 4.14
2. BUILDING/PLANNING PERMITS- 4.37
3. CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS- 4.46

- “Code enforcement seems non existent. Need another code enforcement officer.”
- “The city does not actively deal with code issues.”
- “Building permit fees are outrageous and don't encourage development for small homeowners.”
- “...very hard to understand...\$100,000 or a \$1 million house... it's a \$40,000 permit; makes no sense.”
- “...unaware of fire and crime prevention programs.”
- “There is no crime or fire prevention programs in this city.”
- “...not aware of any crime prevention program”

TOP THREE MENTIONS

Items mentioned most often in written comments.

1

SHOPPING AND RESTAURANTS

Community improvements were an overall theme.

PARKING

2

RECREATION CENTER

3

BETTER AQUATIC CENTER HOURS

Open swim, splash pad, streamlined schedule, etc...

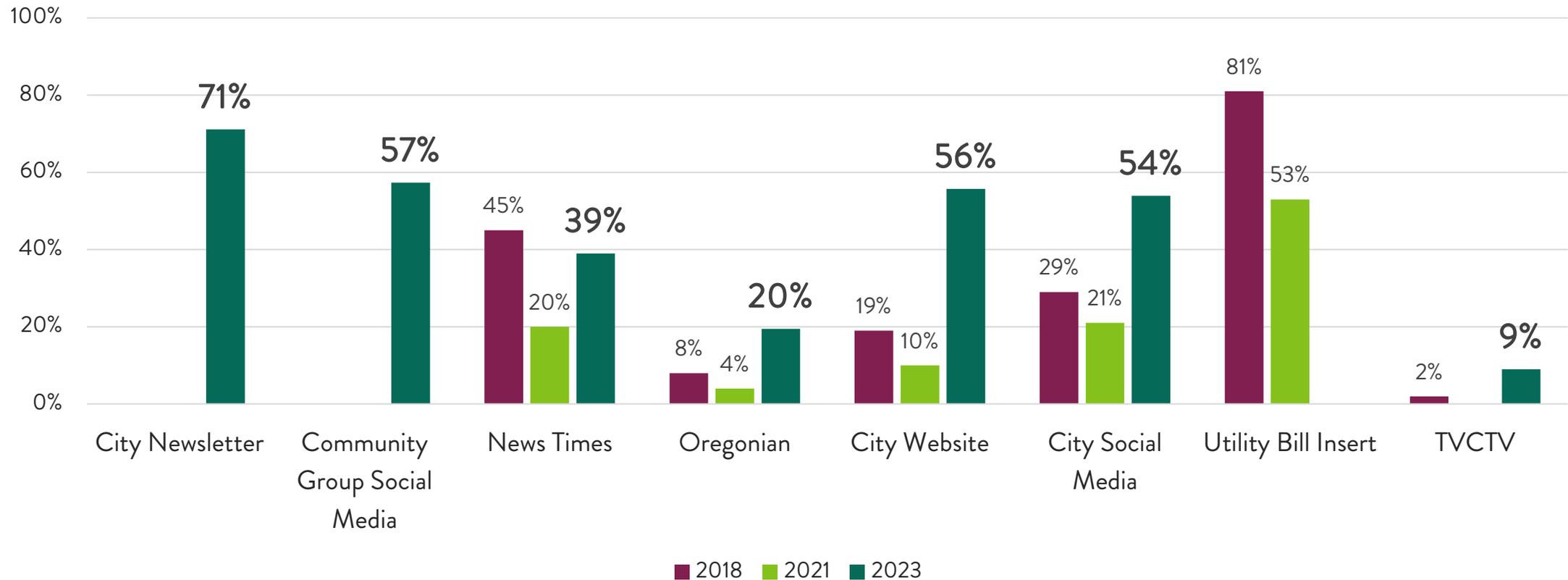
MORE SCHOOLS

LIVABILITY QUESTIONS

- Top three sources of information regarding the City. Rank your sources.
- Future Forest Grove; What would you like to see in Forest Grove?
Rank your choices.
- Type of growth
- City Charter 2-part question

TOP 3 INFORMATION SOURCES

What are your top three sources of information regarding the City of Forest Grove government?
Please rank your choices.



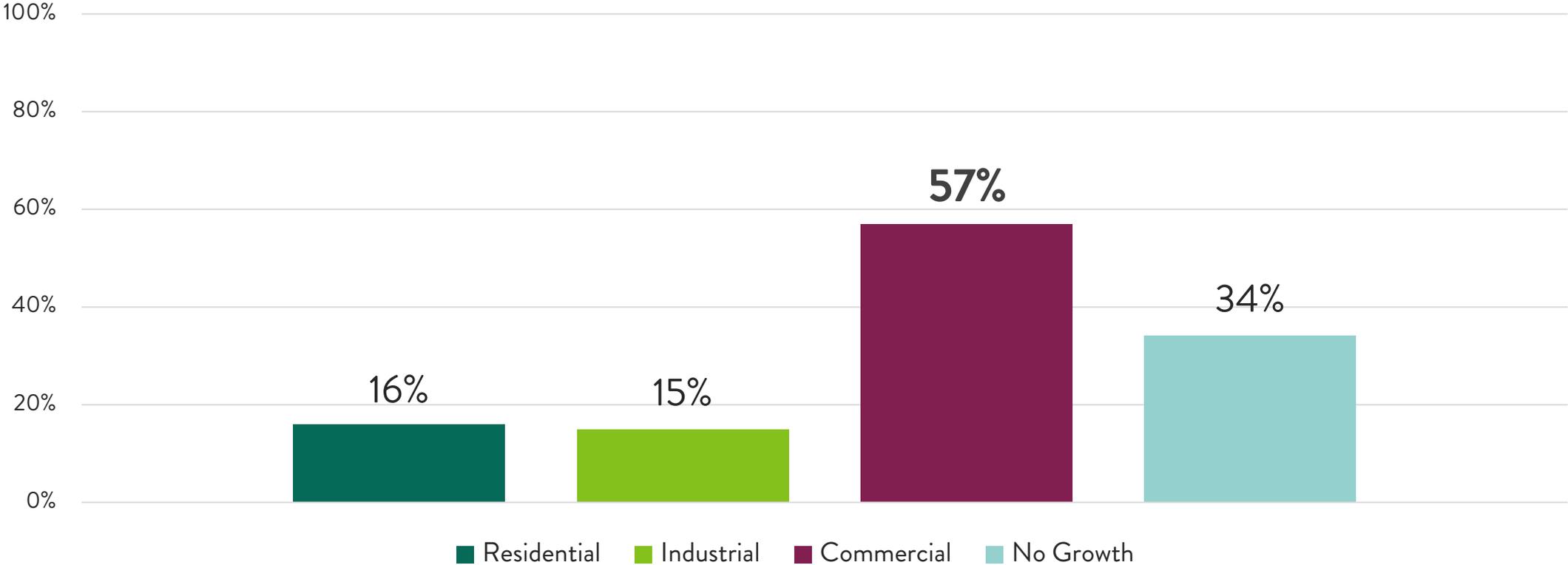
FUTURE FOREST GROVE

The City is embarking on a 2040 visioning process. What would you like to see in Forest Grove? Please rank your top three choices.



TYPE OF GROWTH

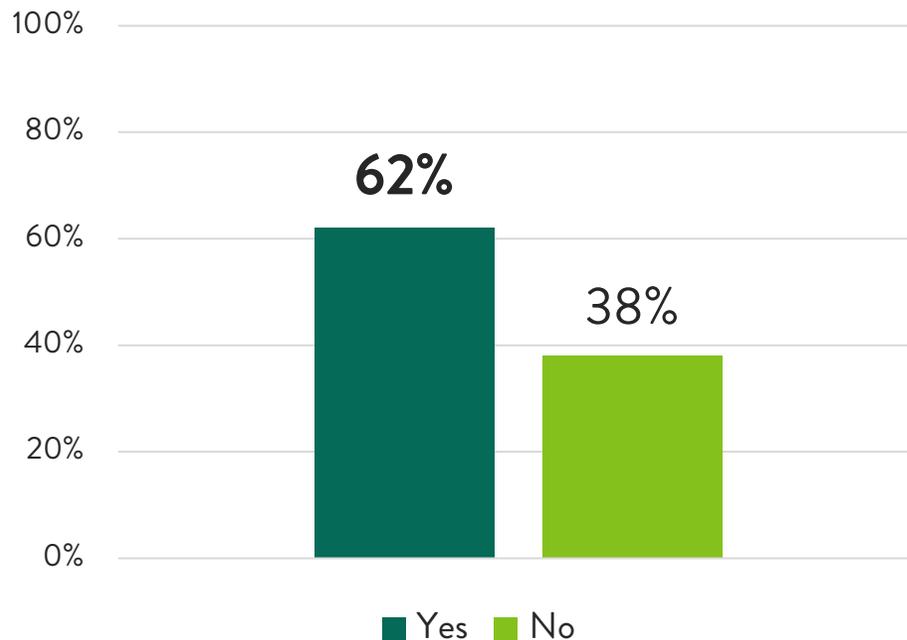
What type of growth do you think would benefit Forest Grove?



CITY CHARTER 2-PART QUESTION

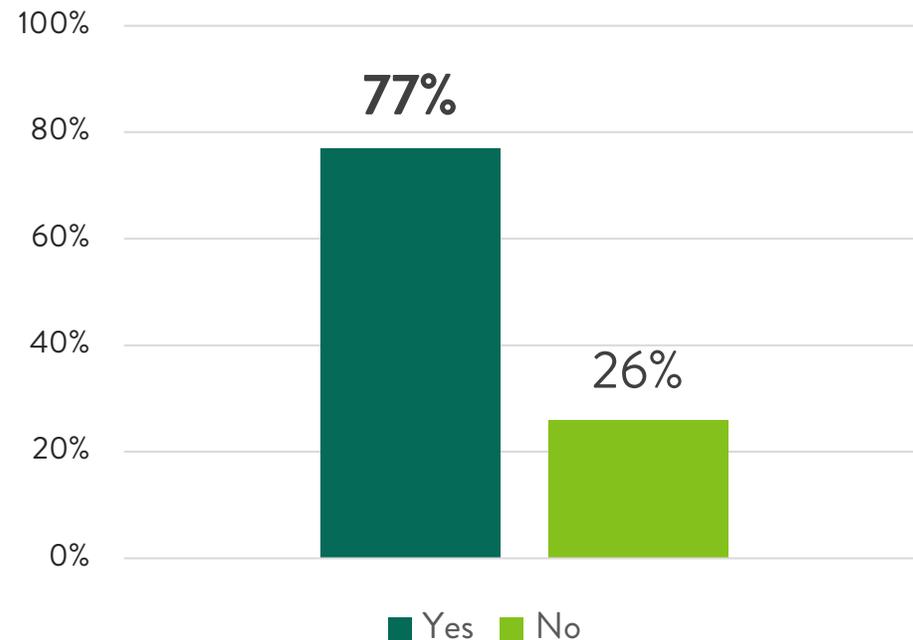
Council Districts

Would you be in favor of establishing districts to ensure that each area in the city is represented by a City Councilor?



Council Term Limits

Would you be in favor of limiting the number of terms these elected positions can serve?



NEXT STEPS

- Share results with:
 - Department Directors & Staff
 - Community
 - Charter Review Commission
- Code Corner 2024
- Fee Study re: Aquatics and Building Permits
- Promote Visioning Process
- Promote Crime Prevention Programs
- Economic Opportunity Analysis