

Town of Hartford
Comprehensive Plan Update

Public Opinion Survey

Results and Analysis

SUMMARY

The Town of Hartford mailed a public opinion survey to 960 households in November 2008. This survey was intended to kick-off a project to update the town's Comprehensive Plan. The survey was sent with a cover letter informing residents about the planning process, how they can get involved and stay informed. The survey questions were drafted to follow up on the response to the 2005 survey, which indicated significant public support for maintaining the town's rural character and for promoting economic development in Hartford. 151 surveys were returned for a response rate of 15%. This is a somewhat lower rate of response compared to the 2005 survey, but this time many responses included additional written comments.

The first two survey questions asked residents to identify three things that they would like to see change in Hartford and three things that they do not want to see change over the next 20 years. While the responses were wide ranging, some common themes were visible. Many respondents mentioned taxes as something that needs to be changed. As in the 2005 survey, there is evidence that many residents would like to see more businesses in town, including retail - especially those offering necessities like groceries. When asked what they do not want to see change, the town's rural character was clearly a top priority for a large percentage of residents. The most common words used in response to Question 2 were rural, farms, agriculture, farmland, open, small and local.

Since the 2005 survey indicated strong desire for Hartford to remain a rural, agricultural community, Question 3 offered respondents 19 actions the town could take in support of that goal. There was strong support for diversification of the town's agricultural economy through the production and sale of local food, agri-tourism, agricultural support businesses and local processing and manufacturing of value-added products. There was also interest in educating schoolchildren and new residents about agriculture. Actions that would identify and document the town's rural resources - such as productive farmland, important soils and historic and scenic features - received moderately strong support. Endorsement of farmland conservation, whether by public or private entities, was mixed with strong feeling both for and against. However, both the number of respondents who did not voice an opinion and additional written comments indicate that many residents are not familiar with the sale of development rights as a farmland protection technique. This is something that could be further explained and discussed at the upcoming public workshops and future planning sessions. Support was also mixed for using local laws to direct development away from farmland, encourage clustering of homes together or requiring new development to be of similar scale or design to existing buildings in town. For all these items, supporters and non-supporters were fairly evenly divided. The one regulatory option that received somewhat stronger support than the others was strengthening the town's existing subdivision law to encourage new homes be built off productive land (i.e. not in the middle of fields, but along the edge).

Questions 4 and 5 asked for residents' positions on regulating development and property rights. Question 4 indicates that many residents support what the town is currently doing or think the town should strengthen its regulations on development. The comments indicate that some residents are not clear what the town's current regulations are, so further education and information dissemination on this issue may be helpful. The majority of residents do not believe that landowners should be allowed to take actions that would adversely affect their neighbors or potentially the common good of the town according to Question 5. However responses in Question 3, Question 5 and the comments clearly show that some residents do not want to see any laws that would require certain development patterns or limit what landowners are allowed to do with their property. Residents with such opinions may not be in the majority, but clearly are a strong minority. On the other hand, there is another group of residents that want the town to act to prevent large-scale development. The town's planning process will need to further examine what steps the town can take to protect agricultural lands and rural character that will be supported by a majority of residents.

Question 6 was designed to raise a variety of issues, some of which were not included in the 2005 survey, to determine if there were other priorities the town should be focusing on during its planning process and/or on a day-to-day basis. The results did not produce any big surprises and were generally similar to what residents reported in 2005. Some issues that may be hot-button items in nearby communities do not seem to be generating much concern in Hartford such as cell phone service, high-speed internet, outdoor wood boilers, ATVs or wind turbines. Issues that were considered top priorities by respondents included preventing pollution, protecting natural resources, preserving rural character and open space/working lands, and protecting historic and scenic resources. There was more support for expanding retail and service businesses in town than for expanding industry or manufacturing. There was also more support for preventing large-scale residential development than large-scale commercial development. While lowering taxes was a common theme throughout the survey, there was strong support for maintaining the local school system and a lack of support for reducing services in order to lower taxes. Finding an alternative to the property

tax to fund education received strong support and there were many written comments related to the fairness of the property tax system and expenditures at the school.

Question 7 asked about specific types of businesses that residents would like to see open or expand in town. The top three vote-getters were all agricultural - non-dairy farms, ag-tourism and ag-support. Other businesses supported by a majority of respondents included retail stores, restaurants, home businesses and small-scale manufacturing. Solid waste related activities received very little support, along with auto-related and transportation-related businesses, storage, and correctional facilities.

Question 8 focused on what the town's response to higher energy prices should be. The responses indicate strong support for local generation of power at a residential scale and moderate support for utility-scale generation. Improving the efficiency of existing buildings was generally supported, but requiring new construction to be more energy efficient received less support.

The remaining questions were demographic in nature. Most of those who replied to the survey are long-time residents of Hartford, most no longer have children living at home and many households include at least one member aged 65 or older. This distribution is not entirely representative of the town's population. Based on the best available demographic data, it appears that younger residents are somewhat under represented in the survey. Consideration should be given to how to encourage participation in the planning process across all segments of the town's population.

Pages 31 - 34 of this report present a comparison of responses by the number of years lived in Hartford. It does not appear that length of residence resulted in significant differences in opinion. Looking at Question 3, there is some indication that support for strengthening the town's regulations on development is somewhat stronger among newer residents and that opposition to such action is somewhat stronger among long-term residents. However, in response to Question 4 the support for strengthening existing regulations was greater among long-term residents than new residents. Residents who had lived in town between 10 to 20 years showed the greatest support abolishing or relaxing existing regulations. In Question 5, it was new residents who voiced the strongest support for the sentiment that property owners should be able to do what they want with their land. However, in Question 6 it is newer residents that indicate the strongest support for protecting agricultural and natural resources and the strongest opposition to large-scale development. In Question 7, long-term residents show somewhat greater support for a wider variety of new businesses than newer residents.

Pages 35 - 38 of this report present a comparison of responses by the age of the respondent. Once again, the differences between these groups are not that substantial. Additionally, there were very few respondents under age 30 so their responses should not be considered statistically valid when compared to the other groups. There was somewhat stronger support for preserving agricultural and historic resources among older residents, as evidenced in Question 6. Some of these least popular issues listed in Question 6 had nearly all their support from older residents such as regulating outdoor wood furnaces, regulating wind turbines, providing rental housing and providing public water and/or sewer in the hamlets. Support for non-agricultural businesses was generally less strong among older residents. The strongest support for requiring new homes to be more energy efficient was also from older residents.

1. List three things that you would like to see change in Hartford over the next 20 years.

First Priority	Second Priority	Third Priority
1. More business	1. Better education	1. Better communication
2. Lower property tax	2. More business	2. More diversity
3. Allow new businesses to come in	3. Separate Town Board members from School Board	3. Creation of "workfare" programs instead of welfare
4. Lower taxes	4. More businesses	4. Village built up
5. A rec place put in	5. More businesses	5. Better roads
6. Would like a bank here	6. Would like a youth/teen meeting place with programs	6. Would like to see more community gatherings/events, such as concerts in the park
7. Increased economic development	7. Zoning (to channel that development)	
8. Infrastructure	8. Build a new town hall	8. Build a tax base
9. Businesses to help with tax base		
10. Tax base		
11. Fair taxes	11. Better veterans services	11. Share resources with other towns. 4th priority - Green buildings.
12. Available commercial property on Routes 23 & 40 for retail and restaurants	12. More mom & pop businesses	12. Maybe another small grocery store
14. More employment		
15. Town Park	15. Free garbage pickup	15. Lower taxes
16. Get our own zip code for everyone	16. Gas Station	16. Grocery store
18. Grocery store	18. Get rid of the cute cow image	
19. Less junkyard accumulation on properties	19. More pedestrian, bicycle, equine friendly sides to the roads and sidewalks in the village's main, south and east	
20. Less tax money going to school – higher % going to town/fire department – the school gets too much, it gets all my tax dollars		
21. Improvement of town center appearance	21. Preservation of historic sites	21. Preservation of cemetery sites
23. Cable available in more areas	23. Lower school tax	23. Discourage home schooling (being a parent doesn't qualify you to be a teacher of every subject)
24. Grocery store	24. Other stores	24. Cell and internet service for all areas
25. Introduction of public transportation to nearby towns		
26. Moratorium on new structures	26. No 'big box' stores	26. Limited zoning laws
27. Reduce amount of large work trucks	27. Improve the quality of aesthetics of the small town	27. Prevent and eliminate large corporation/manufacturing encroachment
29. More job opportunities	29. Bring business into Hartford (manufacturing & retail)	29. Show our history more
31. More sports in school		
33. More ag related businesses	33. More personal services businesses	33. More farms!
35. A supermarket	35. A pharmacy	35. Diesel fuel
36. Hartford tax base	36. New town building complex	36. People driving at posted sign speeds

1. List three things that you would like to see change in Hartford over the next 20 years.

First Priority	Second Priority	Third Priority
37. Alternative to property tax	37. Wind and solar power	
38. Keep rural beauty	38. Encourage more small businesses	38. Improve school and youth programs
39. Removal of junk around property	39. Better internet access	
41. More small clean manufacturing jobs	41. Senior housing	41. Improve school systems and roads
42. Postal designation	42. High speed internet / cable access for everyone	42. Consolidate high schools to give our kids a better education
43. A supermarket and grocery store	43. A bank and that is it	
44. More businesses	44. Town events	44. Maybe a camping area around Lily Pond
45. Cell phone service	45. More programs for youth in community especially in summer/this is important because of rural setting	
46. More small businesses	46. Better road maintenance	
47. Better town council/office support to volunteer fire department		
51. Lower taxes	51. Strict rules against landfills	51. Speed limit on Route 196 to 45 mph
52. Daily limited transportation to nearby towns		
54. Better roads (town maintained)	54. Lower taxes	54. More businesses
57. Lower school and town taxes		
60. More businesses to boost economy	60. Revitalize downtown – do not change looks	60. Local government more professional
64. Lower taxes	64. Town master plan	
65. Increase the tax base	65. Have 'Hartford' as postal address for the whole town	65. Increase diversified agriculture
66. Keep property assessments reflecting true to actual property worth		
67. A community center with activities	67. Trash pickup	
68. A stronger highway department/side of road to look like PA etc.	68. Everyone is equal/all have a chance	68. More use of our firehouse for events such as Halloween party for children, Christmas party/open air to all people
69. Responsible development that does not take away rural character, large open spaces and farmland.	69. I would like to see a reasonable way to assess property taxes as opposed to the random 'shot in the dark' method currently used	
70. Longer fall/summer/spring – less winter	70. Encourage various groups to work together for common good i.e. Farmers, businesses, horse people, etc. (have town act as moderator)	70. Continue to enhance quality of school/education
71. Regulations re: trailers/junk cars	71. Senior center building	71. Businesses to broaden tax base. Farmer's market place
73. Bring in new business		
74. Nothing – it's perfect the way it is		
75. Lower taxes	75. Employment opportunities in town	75. Senior housing
76. Lower taxes	76. Lower taxes	76. Lower taxes

1. List three things that you would like to see change in Hartford over the next 20 years.

First Priority	Second Priority	Third Priority
79. Business with employment	79. Wind farm	79. Lower taxes
80. More business		
82. More business	82. More employment	82. Lower taxes
84. Less property taxes	84. More businesses	84. Help for senior citizens
85. Keep updating schools		
86. Restoration/removal of all old houses	86. Junk/garbage law enacted and enforced	86. Go back to bazaar or community weekend
87. Need a grocery store		
88. More economic development	88. Zoning	
89. Lower taxes		
90. More employment opportunities	90. No school tax after 55 years old	
91. Lower taxes		
92. Lower taxes		
93. Quality of school	93. More service businesses	93. Improve energy generation
96. More businesses	96. Nursing home	96. Medical facilities
97. More jobs	97. More stores	97. More businesses
98. Country Lane Road paved	98. Possibly a wrestling program	
99. More roads blacktopped	99. More kids programs	99. Community Center
100. Limit development		
102. Keep 4-wheelers on their own property and not on roads		
103. Elimination of intangible and fraud inviting 'view assessment' in real tax		
105. Garbage pickup included in taxes	105. Perhaps seek some businesses to soften taxes	105. See Hartford as historical site and some zoning to protect them
106. Implement zoning	106. Public water/sewer in areas where non-compliant with codes	
108. More cottage industry	108. Less restriction on new construction	
109. A cultural venue	109. It is near perfect!	
110. Lower school taxes: merge school administration with those of nearby towns		
111. Addition of grocery store	111. Revitalize Main Street	111. Addition of a bank
112. Less focus on BIG industry, more focus on small business	112. Enact laws against heavy industry	112. Heavily tax Jointa Galusha
116. Better preserve historical nature of town buildings, etc.	116. People supporting small local businesses to a greater extent	
117. Tax base	117. Balanced Master Plan	117. New school auditorium
118. One zip code for Hartford tax-based land	118. More businesses for tax base	118. A new grocery store!
119. Consolidate school with others to save money	119. High speed internet needed	119. Improve road system
121. Retail services		
122. Cut Town and County taxes	122. Cut school taxes – stop building	

1. List three things that you would like to see change in Hartford over the next 20 years.

First Priority	Second Priority	Third Priority
123. More businesses	123. Consolidate services	
124. Enforce existing codes	124. A zoning plan	124. Clean up derelict properties
125. More zoning	125. Less junk cars	
126. Adopt local zoning laws		
128. Preserve rural landscape	128. Preserve historic farms/barns	
129. More homes, job opportunities, recreation		
130. Recreation area/fields as well as indoor	130. More businesses to help off set tax burden without disrupting agriculture setting	130. Bank
131. Environmental regulations	131. Development restrictions	131. More community activities
133. Public library	133. High speed internet	133. Cell phone tower
136. A department store	136. A car wash	
137. Medical office	137. Craft center for all ages	137. Vigorous adult learning at school
138. More small businesses to help taxes	138. More assistance to the fire company (\$)	138. Bike-walking trail
139. Not much		
140. Better school system/community service requirement	140. More opportunity for youth	140. More community adult activities at the school, e.g.
141. See lower taxes on farmland, open land, and forest land		
144. It'd be nice to have things for our youth to do – especially teens	144. Another grocery store would be nice	144. Keep outskirts rural houses no less than two acres
145. Attract businesses to downtown	145. New upscale apartments create retirement community with views of the mountains	
146. Town government makeup	146. Zoning	146. Tourism developed
148. Lower taxes	148. Lower taxes	148. Lower taxes
149. Low impact business to help strengthen tax base	149. Improve roads	149. Decrease taxes
151. Better education	151. Senior Services	151. High speed internet access

2. List three things that you do not want to see change in Hartford over the next 20 years.

First Priority	Second Priority	Third Priority
1. Hometown feeling	1. Housing expansion	
2. Farm/rural atmosphere	2. Support for our great school	2. Great road maintenance
3. Functional farms	3. Historical structures	3. Safe place to live
4. Farmland preserved		
5. Small town feel	5. The amount of farms	5. Stewarts

2. List three things that you do not want to see change in Hartford over the next 20 years.

First Priority	Second Priority	Third Priority
6. I do not want the rural land to be bought up and turned into housing	6. Want to keep that small town feeling	6. Do not want agriculture to have absurd and strict laws that would limit farmers' ability to work his own land and have animals, etc.
7. Small town feel	7. Sense of community	7. Open space / working landscape
9. Keep Grist Mill & Museum operating in East Hartford	9. Loss of farmland, keep Hartford Rural	9. Preserve the remaining 1 room school houses instead of letting them fall down
10. Quality of life		
11. Lots of housing	11. (reason) increase school cost	11. No big fancy fire house
12. No 'big' businesses	12. No development that would threaten the environment or change the landscape	12. Farms being sold and broken up for developments
14. The rural atmosphere		
16. Keep taxes low		
18. Become known for something other than dairy	18. No major hazardous waste dumps	
19. Lack of housing developments	19. Local awareness that if we don't plan and pay attention, someone else who does not care about us will	
20. No toxic dumps!		
21. Do not want to see any obstruction of our beautiful views from most Hartford roads		
23. Rural character	23. Size of lots for houses	
24. Keep taxes as low as possible		
26. Abundance of forest	26. Protected wetlands	26. Historic buildings torn down
27. Continue agricultural lifestyles	27. Maintain small-town feel	27. Preserve rural heritage and resources
29. Our local events, garage sales, church sales & dinners		
31. Building around farm land and prevent developments from being built		
33. The rural character	33. The rural use as farmland	33. No big box stores or businesses scattered, they should be developed on Main Street and the surrounding business district
35. Rural agriculture climate	35. Personal touch of school	35. Population to remain about the same
36. Rural looks	36. No junk yards added	36. Farming abolished
37. Rural way of life	37. Become too commercial	37. Lose framing community
38. Stricter zoning		
39. Maintain a rural setting		
41. Small town feel	41. Local small schools merging	
43. The open space	43. The rural area	43. No more big apartment houses
45. Rural character	45. Agriculture base	
46. Rural environment	46. Loss of family farms	
47. Higher taxes		

2. List three things that you do not want to see change in Hartford over the next 20 years.

First Priority	Second Priority	Third Priority
49. Keep its rural landscape		
51. Dedicated areas for agriculture	51. Over development	51. Clean air and clean water
55. Use less gravel on roads in winter		
59. Keep farms and agriculture		
60. Keep local native people in govern- ment	60. Maintain small town appearance	60. No large scale housing projects – do not subdivide!
64. Rural character – within reason		
65. Small town values	65. Neighborliness	65. Agri-friendly
67. Beautiful views	67. Clean air	
68. Everything changes, time, people/ people live and die/this is not a statement that can be made as I don't even know if we will be here tomorrow		
70. Keep rural/open landscapes	70. Helpful neighbors	70. Friendly atmosphere
71. Peaceful landscape	71. Preserve agriculture	71. Closeness of community
72. Large developers	72. Increase in trailer parks	72. Increase in traffic
73. Historic buildings	73. Profitable farms stay as farms, if not profitable then owner should be able to sell as whatever they want (i.e.: Building lots)	
75. Rural nature of our town	75. More government	
76. Nothing		
79. Farms going out of business		
82. Stay agriculture		
84. Country Living	84. Higher property taxes	
85. Farm land (keep it)		
86. Less farm land-active-no housing development	86. Loss of rural heritage	86. Stay with small town concept/big town hospitality
87. Continue – no trailer parks	87. Heavy restrictions on kennels	
88. Rural character		
89. Water and sewer in area	89. Attract more businesses, not discour- age	
90. Town infringement on property own- ers right to do with their property as they choose		
91. Farms	91. Dirt roads	91. Local people
92. Peace and quiet		
93. Small town feel		
95. Landfills		
96. Nothing - everything changes, Hartford needs to change too		
98. Hartford's rural life	98. Hartford's farm community	98. Hartford's wildlife and other natural resources
99. No dump or landfill		

2. List three things that you do not want to see change in Hartford over the next 20 years.

First Priority	Second Priority	Third Priority
100. Rural character of town		
105. The beauty of rural farmland	105. Preserve historical homes	105. 'Country' life as it is today
106. Dump to Gulf Road	106. Unplanned development	
109. Keep up ruralness	109. No modulars or housing projects	109. No more pollution/traffic
110. No high taxes period	110. Raise time period between mailing of assessment review and appeal dates	110. I hate real estate development
111. Maintain the overall rural aspect/landscape of the town		
112. Scenic farm lands	112. Quiet, serene atmosphere	112. Privacy
116. Do not want reduction of open/green spaces	116. Do not want reduction of agriculture	116. Do not want school merger into larger school
118. No tax increase for farms		
119. Rural atmosphere		
121. Farming community		
124. Rural feeling	124. Expansion of industry in other areas	
125. Rural character	125. Continuing school improvements	
126. Our beautiful landscape	126. Run away development	
127. No zoning	127. Lower school taxes	
128. Increase in residential development	128. Increase in commercial development	
129. Caring close knit community		
130. Wouldn't want to see the businesses we have leave	130. Farms diminish	130. Taxes increase and force people out
131. Rural charm	131. Farming	131. Small town feel
133. Rural – agriculture way of life		
134. Rural quality of life		
135. A better tax base	135. Less barriers to let businesses in	
136. Do not obstruct the gorgeous views		
137. No polluting industry	137. Views of open fields	137. Loss of farm land
138. Farm land into building lots		
139. Industry	139. High density housing	
140. Rural community – friendly	140. Limit regulation	
141. Restrictions on hunting	141. Restrictions on wood stoves, outdoor or indoor, that are not problems with others	141. Zoning – allowing some land owners to do and others not to do with their landers
144. The rural area	144. Smaller schools	144. Agriculture – unless it grows
145. Create a business tax base	145. Attract well paid people at Luther Forest Park	145. Mass transit/more solar & wind/get old farmland back/switchgrass with bio fuels/agri-business
146. Rural beauty	146. Historic sites	146. Down-to-earth people
148. Higher taxes	148. Higher taxes	148. Government infringement
149. Keep historic character	149. Keep strong ag use/character	149. No increased traffic
151. The clean air	151. Landscape beauty	151. NY City people buying property and building condos!

3. On the last survey, there was strong support for preserving agricultural use and appearance in Hartford. Would you support the town taking the following steps to achieve that goal? (in descending order from most support to least)

! = strongly agree ! = agree x = disagree ✖ = strongly disagree ? = not sure/no response

	!	!	x	✖	?	
1. Encourage production and sale of local foods (i.e. farm stands, farmers' markets, CSA farms that sell directly to consumers, etc.)	89	43	4	4	11	
2. Support and enforce the town's right-to-farm law.	82	46	3	6	14	
3. Educate schoolchildren about farming and the town's agricultural heritage.	72	55	8	5	11	
4. Encourage agri-tourism by allowing lodging, educational and/or recreational activities associated with a farm.	61	62	9	4	15	
5. Encourage agricultural support businesses (i.e. veterinary services, machinery sales/repair, contractual ag services, etc.).	60	60	14	3	14	
6. Encourage local processing/manufacture of value-added agricultural products.	53	68	8	4	18	
7. Educate new residents about what to expect when living in an agricultural community (odors, animals, noise, farm equipment on roads, etc.).	68	49	10	13	11	
8. Encourage the reuse of existing farm structures that are no longer actively used for agriculture for other purposes (i.e. barns converted to homes or businesses).	55	58	15	6	17	
9. Designate a local agricultural district and seek to keep those lands in agriculture.	64	42	13	10	22	
10. Support diversification of the town's agricultural economy.	46	63	6	8	28	
11. Designate a rural historic district that recognizes the value of historic farmhouses, barns and other outbuildings, and the scenic character of the town's rural landscape.	52	56	10	9	24	
12. Identify high-value farmland to help prioritize preservation efforts.	65	39	12	14	21	
13. Allow housing for farm employees to be built on farm property.	38	74	14	8	17	
14. Revise the town's subdivision law to strongly encourage new homes to be located off productive farmland (i.e. on the edges of fields rather than in the middle).	57	40	17	21	16	
15. Support conservation of farmland through the purchase of development rights by private organizations (i.e. land trust).	34	40	19	21	37	
16. Adopt additional or revise existing local laws to strongly discourage conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses (i.e. homes or businesses).	40	35	25	25	26	
17. Conserve farmland through the purchase of development rights using state funds.	24	38	21	28	40	
18. Adopt additional or revise existing local laws to strongly encourage clustering of new homes onto smaller lots in order to preserve larger tracts of productive farmland.	25	41	35	24	26	
19. Adopt additional or revise existing local laws to require new buildings to be compatible in scale and design to historic farm and residential buildings in town.	25	34	30	38	24	

4. Which statement best describes your attitude towards growth and development in Hartford?

53	35%	Existing regulation of development should continue.
47	31%	Existing regulations should be strengthened.
19	13%	Existing regulations should be relaxed.
19	13%	Existing regulations should be relaxed.
7	5%	All controls on development should be abolished.
5	3%	All development in Hartford should stop.
20	13%	No response.

5. Which statement comes closest to expressing your opinion regarding the rights of property owners?

23	15%	Property owners should be able to do what they want with their land.
77	51%	Development should be regulated so that what one person does with his or her land does not adversely affect adjoining property owners.
42	28%	Development should be regulated so that what one person does with his or her land does not adversely affect the common good of the town.
9	6%	No response.

6. Hartford faces many issues as it plans for its future. To help us prioritize, please indicate how important the following issues are to you. (in descending order from most important to least)

! = very important ! = important x = unimportant x = very unimportant ? = not sure/no response

	!	!	x	x	?	
1. Prevent air, water and soil pollution.	101	39	2	0	9	
2. Maintain a high quality, local K-12 school system	86	47	3	7	8	
3. Seek alternatives to property taxes for funding local schools and government.	84	46	6	4	11	
4. Maintain a rural way of life.	84	47	5	6	9	
5. Preserve working farm and forest land.	77	52	7	5	10	
6. Preserve the town's historic assets.	69	63	8	4	7	
7. Protect wetlands, wildlife habitat and other natural resources.	73	52	11	4	11	
8. Improve maintenance of town roads.	46	67	20	5	13	
9. Expand retail and service businesses.	44	72	13	10	12	
10. Slow traffic in hamlets and residential areas.	43	68	18	13	9	
11. Provide high speed internet service throughout town.	53	49	26	11	12	
12. Protect scenic roadside and ridge line views.	49	51	23	14	14	
13. Prevent residential developments of 50+ homes.	69	22	21	21	18	
14. Provide recreational activities for children.	38	64	24	11	14	
15. Improve services for seniors.	35	68	24	10	14	
16. Provide elderly housing.	30	60	20	14	27	
17. Expand industry and manufacturing.	37	53	24	19	18	
18. Improve availability of registered childcare in town.	28	63	22	17	21	
19. Provide cell phone service throughout town.	37	49	29	20	16	

	!	!	x	x	?	
20. Support public transit (i.e. bus service or vanpools), carpooling, park-n-rides, etc.	29	58	30	17	17	
21. Improve municipal and government services.	24	61	31	14	21	
22. Provide affordable housing.	29	50	26	24	22	
23. Prevent increased truck traffic in town.	32	39	46	17	17	
24. Prevent large-scale commercial development (i.e. buildings >50,000 sq ft).	47	19	28	32	25	
25. Regulate telecommunication towers.	23	48	35	23	22	
26. Reduce services in order to lower taxes.	27	35	38	19	32	
27. Construct sidewalks, bicycle paths and/or recreational trails.	28	45	34	29	15	
28. Prohibit use of motorized recreational vehicles on roads.	31	28	38	39	15	
29. Regulate outdoor wood furnaces.	20	35	34	34	28	
30. Construct trails for motorized recreational vehicles.	21	31	37	43	19	
31. Regulate wind turbines.	15	35	32	42	27	
32. Provide rental housing.	12	33	37	38	31	
33. Provide public water and/or sewer in hamlets.	12	28	38	46	27	

7. On the last survey, there was a consensus that there needs to be more employment opportunities in town. What type of businesses would you like to see open or expand in Hartford? (in descending order from most support to least)

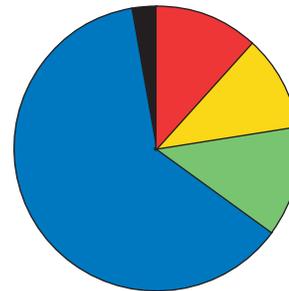
111	74%	1. Non-dairy farms (i.e. vegetables, beef, orchards, poultry, etc.)	65	43%	14. Accommodations (hotel, inn, campground, etc.)
110	73%	2. Agricultural tourism, sales and recreation (horse trails, petting farm, farm stands, u-pick fields, etc.)	64	42%	15. Museums, art galleries, artist workshops
108	72%	3. Agricultural support businesses (i.e. veterinary services, machinery sales/repair, ag contractors, etc.)	56	37%	16. Assisted living / nursing home facilities
104	69%	4. Retail stores (grocery, hardware, pharmacy, etc.)	52	34%	17. Other professional offices
87	58%	5. Dairy farms	51	34%	18. Gas stations
87	58%	6. Agricultural processing (i.e. cheese plant, sugar house, processed foods, etc.)	48	32%	19. Manufacturing (50+ employees)
87	58%	7. Restaurants	43	28%	20. Vehicle/equipment repair
84	56%	8. Home businesses	38	25%	21. Vehicle/equipment sales
84	56%	9. Manufacturing (<50 employees)	35	23%	22. Recycling facilities
82	54%	10. Health care providers	35	23%	23. Shipping and distribution centers
74	49%	11. Outdoor recreation businesses	32	21%	24. Quarries or other extraction of earth resources
71	47%	12. Personal services (hair salon, laundry, etc.)	32	21%	25. Composting facilities
69	46%	13. Financial institutions	19	13%	26. Storage facilities
			16	11%	27. Modular home sales
			11	7%	28. Correctional facilities
			5	3%	29. Solid waste management facilities

8. Do you support the town taking the following steps in response to rising energy prices? (in descending order from most support to least)

119	79%	1. Support residential-scale energy generation from local resources (i.e. wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, biomass, etc)
110	73%	2. Support efforts to improve the efficiency of existing buildings and reduce energy use.
97	64%	3. Undertake an energy audit of public buildings and work to improve their energy efficiency.
84	56%	4. Support utility-scale generation of energy (i.e. capturing methane on farms, gasification of wood chips, wind farms, etc.)
58	38%	5. Require new homes be built to high energy efficiency standards.

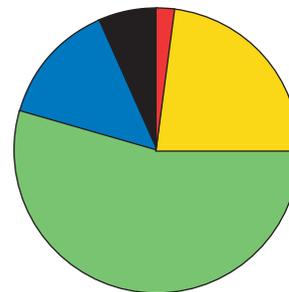
9. How many years have you lived in Hartford?

18	12%	Less than 5	
16	11%	5 to 9	
19	13%	10 to 19	
94	62%	20 or more	
4	3%	No response	



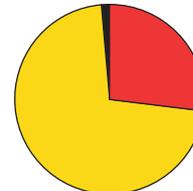
10. Your age?

3	2%	Under 30	
35	23%	30 to 49	
82	54%	50 to 69	
21	14%	70 or older	
10	7%	No response	



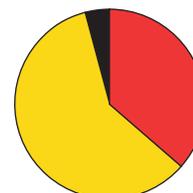
11. Are there any children under age 18 in your household?

41	27%	Yes	
108	72%	No	
2	1%	No response	



12. Is there anyone age 65 or older in your household?

55	36%	Yes	
90	60%	No	
6	4%	No response	



• **Written Comments** •

3. On the last survey, there was strong support for preserving agricultural use and appearance in Hartford. Would you support the town taking the following steps to achieve that goal?

1. Encourage production and sale of local foods (i.e. farm stands, farmers' markets, CSA farms that sell directly to consumers, etc.)

46. On Saturdays!

148. How? What steps?

2. Support and enforce the town's right-to-farm law.

79. Duh! It's the law

3. Educate schoolchildren about farming and the town's agricultural heritage.

19. Sustainable, non polluting, non destructive farming

71. Yes!

119. Depends

4. Encourage agri-tourism by allowing lodging, educational and/or recreational activities associated with a farm.

148. By underlined – better! (added)

5. Encourage agricultural support businesses (i.e. veterinary services, machinery sales/repair, contractual ag services, etc.).

9. To bring in outside money

76. All businesses

124. In a commercial zone

148. How? What steps?

6. Encourage local processing/manufacture of value-added agricultural products.

27. Small scale only

68. Tried and failed/right person/not like the one that was there

148. How? What steps?

7. Educate new residents about what to expect when living in an agricultural community (odors, animals, noise, farm equipment on roads, etc.).

9. Educate before they buy

46. Our lawyer reminded us at closing!

79. Not your job

109. Let them educate themselves

9. Designate a local agricultural district and seek to keep those lands in agriculture.

19. In non polluting agriculture production

9. Have a local agriculture district now

35. We have that

47. Isn't town ag?

118. We are an ag district

11. Designate a rural historic district that recognizes the value of historic farmhouses, barns and other outbuildings, and the scenic character of the town's rural landscape.

9. Further develop Grist Mill & Museum

47. No entire town hx

68. Some are too late – old school houses

86. All present ag land

3. On the last survey, there was strong support for preserving agricultural use and appearance in Hartford. Would you support the town taking the following steps to achieve that goal?

12. Identify high-value farmland to help prioritize preservation efforts.

16. Who decides high value?

19. Reduce polluting aspects of farming as currently done

27. Even low-level and should be utilized more efficiently

68. Identified and prioritized underlined/Is this all or just some!!!? All farm land is high value

118. Who decides this?

148. By whom?

13. Allow housing for farm employees to be built on farm property.

33. No trailers!

42. As long as it is not old trailers

46. Depends on upkeep of them

47. Not trailers

86. No trailers

119. No trailers

124. Not substandard

14. Revise the town's subdivision law to strongly encourage new homes to be located off productive farmland (i.e. on the edges of fields rather than in the middle).

9. Like N. Coach Road

15. Support conservation of farmland through the purchase of development rights by private organizations (i.e. land trust).

76. Federal funded

16. Adopt additional or revise existing local laws to strongly discourage conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses (i.e. homes or businesses).

9. Yes, but businesses may have to go on open land

19. Non farming does not mean non useful or non ecologically friendly

112. Depends on the business

141. Lower taxes

17. Conserve farmland through the purchase of development rights using state funds.

27. Only if farmers are not penalized and land taken away at a later date

148. What 'town steps'?

18. Adopt additional or revise existing local laws to strongly encourage clustering of new homes onto smaller lots in order to preserve larger tracts of productive farmland.

9. Make city people live in little cities

19. Adopt additional or revise existing local laws to require new buildings to be compatible in scale and design to historic farm and residential buildings in town.

9. Who cares what I build

19. Require new buildings to be ecologically more friendly, more energy conservative, efficient with sustainability

45. While this seems 'nice' - I think that it takes away rights of citizens that government shouldn't be allowed to do.

151. Vermont?

General

11. Bedroom community not farmer – no green laws for growth

19. Farmers need to start practicing better, more sustainable farming practices. Chemicals and plowing not optimum

4. Which statement best describes your attitude towards growth and development in Hartford?

- 9. Depends on the regulation because more laws are not necessarily good, usually bad
- 19. Marked 2nd & 3rd circles/Not just to be stronger but smarter, fair and forward looking
- 46. Don't know what existing regulations are!
- 68. Existing and regulation / No dump!
- 70. Not sure of current regulations
- 119. Don't know regs
- 120. No dump

5. Which statement comes closest to expressing your opinion regarding the rights of property owners?

- 9. Start here (with property owners) to talk not the other 2 options
- 19. Marked 2nd & 3rd circles/Both they go hand in hand, all of Hartford adjoins one another and in turn other towns , counties, states, and countries – what's good for here should be good for the earth and everyone
- 32. No pig farms
- 148. Adversely affect (?)/common good (?)

6. Hartford faces many issues as it plans for its future. To help us prioritize, please indicate how important the following issues are to you.

1. Prevent air, water and soil pollution.

141. How?

2. Maintain a high quality, local K-12 school system

27. When?

46. K-8 / unite high school with other towns

119. Consolidate with other towns to save money

3. Seek alternatives to property taxes for funding local schools and government.

45. Other than large scale businesses

46. Small

7. Protect wetlands, wildlife habitat and other natural resources.

9. You can go overboard

8. Improve maintenance of town roads.

9. Are doing well now

45. Current maintenance is good

68. Just look at them/too much brush

138. Do a good job

9. Expand retail and service businesses.

19. Expand not explode retail and service businesses

10. Slow traffic in hamlets and residential areas.

138. Already is

6. Hartford faces many issues as it plans for its future. To help us prioritize, please indicate how important the following issues are to you.

11. Provide high speed internet service throughout town.

55. No

12. Protect scenic roadside and ridge line views.

19. What one person sees as ugly may not be to another, they may see freedom from power companies and pollution

13. Prevent residential developments of 50+ homes.

68. School too small

109. Very important!

14. Provide recreational activities for children.

9. Who pays for it?

19. Go outside

29. At no cost

15. Improve services for seniors.

9. Like what?

19. More than unimportant – less than critical/we are not lacking much

45. I think services are good from what I know

16. Provide elderly housing.

45. Maybe one elderly housing unit

55. No

105. Very important

17. Expand industry and manufacturing.

19. Expand not explode industry

46. Small

138. Scaled to Hartford

20. Support public transit (i.e. bus service or vanpools), carpooling, park-n-rides, etc.

9. To where?

19. To where?

21. Improve municipal and government services.

9. At what expense?

19. Be more mindful of how and effective/make sure money is used appropriately

45. Already good

22. Provide affordable housing.

9. Provide affordable housing to whom? Welfare people – send them to Hudson Falls and Fort Edward

55. No

23. Prevent increased truck traffic in town.

9. More industry equals more trucks

19. We have state highways to allow this

6. Hartford faces many issues as it plans for its future. To help us prioritize, please indicate how important the following issues are to you.

24. Prevent large-scale commercial development (i.e. buildings >50,000 sq ft).

9. If you want industry then stand back and let them build

19. No Wal-Marts

33. !!

55. No

68. Has to be the right one/we need it for taxes

124. Part of a zoning plan

138. Depends on location

25. Regulate telecommunication towers.

19. But not refuse, can allow cleaner businesses to locate here and high tech employees to work from home to reduce travel and pollution

26. Reduce services in order to lower taxes.

9. A possibility

19. NOT

45. NO

68. All services we use already have [illegible words]

76. Do more with less

151. We don't get any now

27. Construct sidewalks, bicycle paths and/or recreational trails.

68. If you can do for snow machine you can do for others

70. Circled recreational trails

29. Regulate outdoor wood furnaces.

9. Depends where they are and who got them

27. Not eliminate

46. Don't ban them

47. Are you paying for heat?

141. How?

30. Construct trails for motorized recreational vehicles.

9. Have snowmobile and ATV trails now!

19. Nice

31. Regulate wind turbines.

9. Encourage wind turbines

19. Not refuse

46. Don't ban them

68. Let it come we need it

32. Provide rental housing.

55. No

6. Hartford faces many issues as it plans for its future. To help us prioritize, please indicate how important the following issues are to you.

33. Provide public water and/or sewer in hamlets.

55. No

9. Too expensive

113. Gets 3 Xs

General

11. Not money to do a lot

15. We need growth to lower taxes. Do anything to lower taxes.

7. On the last survey, there was a consensus that there needs to be more employment opportunities in town. What type of businesses would you like to see open or expand in Hartford?

1. Non-dairy farms (i.e. vegetables, beef, orchards, poultry, etc.)

32. Underlined beef and orchards

2. Agricultural tourism, sales and recreation (horse trails, petting farm, farm stands, u-pick fields, etc.)

68. A town vegetable garden

4. Retail stores (grocery, hardware, pharmacy, etc.)

9. Price Rite or Alde's

19. Pharmacy is underlined

13. No big box stores

39. Circled grocery

68. We have on help these

107. Circled pharmacy

136. Pharmacy circled

138. Scaled for Hartford

5. Dairy farms

9. The dairy farmers that are here can't afford to stay in business

19. GOT IT

6. Agricultural processing (i.e. cheese plant, sugar house, processed foods, etc.)

19. Does not have to be mega sized, smaller can be better

27. ? – only if small scale, perhaps farm-owned

8. Home businesses

68. No

9. Manufacturing (<50 employees)

9. What ever size manufacturer you can get

19. Green and focused, high tech if not producing toxic wastes from it and forward looking companies – not 60 years – 360 years, our kids future

68. Are these the same?

138. Depends on location

7. On the last survey, there was a consensus that there needs to be more employment opportunities in town. What type of businesses would you like to see open or expand in Hartford?

10. Health care providers

19. Not financial sinks. Glens Falls Hospital provides but costs an arm, and a leg and your first born

12. Personal services (hair salon, laundry, etc.)

9. Laundry underlined

71. Underlined Laundry

136. Need a car wash

13. Financial institutions

19. Financial institutions with internet access could be a small branch linked to a larger one in a city

68. We have one in all directions

14. Accommodations (hotel, inn, campground, etc.)

9. If you expect tourists

29. campground underlined

46. Campgrounds underlined

15. Museums, art galleries, artist workshops

133. Library

16. Assisted living / nursing home facilities

71. Underlined Assisted living

18. Gas stations

19. GOT IT

19. Manufacturing (50+ employees)

9. What ever size manufacturer you can get

19. Green and focused, high tech if not producing toxic wastes from it and forward looking companies – not 60 years – 360 years, our kids future

68. Are these the same?

138. Depends on location

20. Vehicle/equipment repair

19. GOT IT

71. Underlined Campground

21. Vehicle/equipment sales

19. NO

68. A good one not old and packed in

22. Recycling facilities

19. Find paying sources for the recycled products

27. Again, small scale

68. No – Hudson Falls already has one

120. No

23. Shipping and distribution centers

19. NO

68. No – we got one nearby

7. On the last survey, there was a consensus that there needs to be more employment opportunities in town. What type of businesses would you like to see open or expand in Hartford?

24. Quarries or other extraction of earth resources

9. If the stone is here harvest it

19. GOT IT

27. No

42. NO!

68. Got one already/enough

71. No

120. No

25. Composting facilities

27. Again, small scale

68. No - Hudson Falls already

120. No

26. Storage facilities

19. GOT IT

68. No

46. Eek No!

126. No

27. Modular home sales

19. NO

33. No!

68. No – They are cheap

28. Correctional facilities

19. NO

29. Solid waste management facilities

19. NO

68. No - No

120. No

General

11. Good but no money / a [illegible words] market

19. Better internet connection ability would allow high tech, financial and businesses to function better out here and to work from home for a main business in a larger city

19. A tower to reach more homes and areas

23. Brewery?

8. Do you support the town taking the following steps in response to rising energy prices?

1. Support residential-scale energy generation from local resources (i.e. wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, biomass, etc)

32. Underlined wind

138. Not sure

4. Support utility-scale generation of energy (i.e. capturing methane on farms, gasification of wood chips, wind farms, etc.)

9. Are there enough woodchips for all?

27. not sure about wind farms

32. Underlined wind farms

68. Methane on farms underlined/This can be done with our farms to supply all of Hartford

138. Not sure

140. With reservations

5. Require new homes be built to high energy efficiency standards.

9. Encourage new homes to be built etc. – require crossed out

27. if it can be made affordable, or more grants/loans become available

138. Not sure

140. With reservations

120. No

General

19. Be a leader in promoting renewable and sustainable ways to be energy efficient, not just prices but the cost to our children's environment

9. How many years have you lived in Hartford?

12. Currently building

21. Life

45. Married couple completed survey together

74. 5 years part-time

121. Farm owned property for 50 years

Other Comments?

4. I'd like to see Hartford bring in some sales tax generating business and job generating business but still balance our rural quality of life.

5. I would like to see Hartford get more businesses and museums that can show the youth like myself what Hartford used to be like. I would also like to see the back roads taken better care esp. in the winter. I have lived in Hartford my whole life and I plan on living here for the majority of my life.

8. Hartford should designate areas on Route 40 and 196 commercial

8. Hartford needs zoning

9. Don't pass a lot of new strict laws limiting what people can and can't do. It is human nature to resist being told what to do especially because of complaints of somebody's 'none of your business'. You do with your land what you want – leave me alone. I really like the phrase 'to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the inhabitants of the town'. To cram any idea down the throats of the people, then fine them at \$250 per day. If you didn't do it more money for the town or county to spend so some employer can ride to work in a new truck instead of driving his own vehicle.

11. Town must simplify things, choose only the few who would work, not doing project requiring the town's money.

11. Stay out of school questions.

11. No money to look over public buildings.

11. People need to care for their own business and interests, do not ask the town to help.

12. We would hate to see the town of Hartford 'sell out' for the sake of prosperity.

12. Lets find a way to generate tax income and provide jobs and services to the residents without disturbing our way of life.

12. Lets not compromise the environment in the name of development.

12. Some mom & pop shops or environmentally friendly small businesses would be OK.

12. No cell towers, no toxic dumps, and no housing developments.

15. Something MUST be done to lower taxes. We pay the highest taxes and we don't have any added services, for example: garbage pickup, town pool, town tennis courts. Lake Luzerne is a small town like ours and offers garbage pickup, parks, tennis courts and town beach. At least they get something for the taxes they pay. We don't. This rural town will soon be filled with strangers from large cities who can afford to pay the higher taxes. How do you expect us to hold on much longer?

16. Bring back the bazaar or some other community event. Perhaps working with Argyle on an event to benefit the fire/rescue squad for both towns.

17. We've always loved the beauty and tranquility of our little town. We wish to keep it that way.

17. We have all the amenities we need just a few miles away in Granville or the 'falls' areas and Queensbury. We would truly hate to see our lovely area ruined by places such as composting, recycling, quarries, or solid waste facilities and certainly we don't need manufacturing facilities spewing out chemicals in the air that we breathe.

17. I cringe at the thought of having housing developments. It would be the start of destroying what little is left of our precious land.

17. Public water and sewer will only cost us more money. Our water and septic systems are just fine.

17. PLEASE leave Hartford alone. People who want more should move, we know we will (if forced) find tranquility and peace elsewhere. Please do not try fixing something that's not BROKEN.

18. I travel to antique events. Why not have the Town sponsor one?

19. #17 & 18 Without sewer and water services clustering houses presents contamination problems. Beyond that – to cluster houses and use the remaining open space for recreation and community use, wildlife, etc. is better than large individual lots that leave no real open space. Even if balance of property is not left in 'productive farmland' it can be left in a more open eco-friendly condition than large industrial lots allow for.

Other Comments?

19. I would like to see Hartford take a leading role in moving Washington County towards more green attitudes and practices – more recycling and finding companies that use recycled products – watch PBS & VPT and go to their web sites. They are out there. Townsend, MA does it and it reduces the property tax burden on citizens.

19. NO WAL MARTS!!!

19. To our community leaders: Twenty years out will not see an end product for what our town will be but it could be strongly on a road that leads to a responsible community. A community that looks to the well being of our children and future generations by keeping safe our environment and way of life, while at the same time looking at and using new technology in ways to maintain a vision of responsibility to ourselves and our children for what this town becomes. There is nothing so permanent as change. While we cannot stop it from happening it is well within our ability to control how that change occurs and where it takes our town, us and our children. We need to pay attention, be open to new ideas, and have a vision of what fits and what doesn't with what we want our town to evolve to. (signed) A Community Member

20. Always has been very angering to me that the school gets so much of my tax dollar. I understand the reasoning, but more money should go to the fire department or the highway department. Or is there something other than the school?? No return on my tax dollar, since you are asking, is my only gripe. Be fair!! Thank you.

21. I feel it is vitally important to preserve our historical buildings in Hartford, thereby preserving our history for future generations.

21. Also being one of the few communities which all roads have a beautiful view of the foot hills of the Adirondacks. We need to keep this in mind as we progress to preserve this unique asset which can continue grow tourism economy for future generations, which may choose and may need this source of income.

22. We need to improve property assessments. Some are hit year after year with increases and others never change. Currently, property assessments are very biased.

23. I applaud the effort of individuals involved in putting survey together

24. Become more than a 'farm town'

24. Entice Cabella's or LL Bean to our boundaries, others will follow

25. 50 year resident of Hartford but living is still good here so I do not wish to move on

26. Open space (i.e. Wetlands, interrupted forest corridors) are important for wildlife to flourish. These must be included in the Town's comprehensive plan to achieve a healthy viable community. Ponds, streams and wetlands need to be protected from invasive species as well as heavily forested areas (i.e. Milfoil, zebra mussel, pine borer) and the public school be educated so plants (like purple loose strife) would not be planted in home gardens. Domestic animals (leash laws) need to be enforced for public safety (rabies) and to protect wildlife (song birds, reptiles) from predation.

27. I am concerned about the modernization of our small town. Hartford's charm stems from its rural atmosphere and agriculture way-of-life. Drawing resources away from these endeavors will only weaken our livelihood further. I believe that farms and farm-related businesses, initiatives and regulations should be a priority of this community if we are to hold on to what makes Hartford so unique and special.

28. Do something about burning garbage!!

28. How about a noise ordinance for barking dogs!

29. I am very much in favor of keeping our farm community intact. I think if a farm is doing well and productive that's good and we should support them. But if they stop being productive and they decide to move or sell part or all of their land, I believe this land should be open to be purchased by manufacturing plans, even encourages by town leaders. I believe this would help with our tax burden, which is really a burden for most residents. We don't want everyone to leave, at the rate it's going that could happen.

30. We need change, not only in the country but in Hartford as well. The Town Supervisor and councilmen are living in the past. We need to join the 21st century.

30. We need a strict leash law!

30. We need a noise pollution law so that an 'inconsiderate' neighbor doesn't blast a piece by Pavarotti at 9:00 at night.

30. You place too much emphasis on farmlands. Zoning regulations will keep Hartford rural.

Other Comments?

30. If you don't get out of the past you don't grow – you stagnate and die.

30. Do not raise taxes.

30. Improve road maintenance including paving dirt roads.

31. There will be children arriving in 2009! Only lived here a few months but love it here. Love our privacy. Love our house and town.

31. Should have welcoming committee for new residents to meet and greet people!

32. Need store like Ames or Kohls.

32. Need more agriculture [illegible word] shops.

32. Make better use of existing structures instead of using more agriculture acres.

33. Our most valuable precious asset is our land and the farms on it. We need to keep Hartford and as much of Washington County as agricultural based as we can.

33. Perhaps we can merge services in the County's next master plan, so we all benefit.

33. A life once destroyed will never return.

34. We indeed need more grocery stores, or a pharmacy. There is nothing in this town.

34. The taxes are too high.

34. If there were more businesses and jobs for people, this would lower taxes. Money would be flowing though town instead of the pockets.

35. We have a \$1 million investment in our dairy farm and equipment. We need to continue to farm and so do others with even bigger investments.

36. Population growth promotes businesses.

36. Cross-country skiing area.

36. Promote tourism

36. Hartford has no tax base, primarily due to the farming industry. Alternatives should be found.

36. A bedroom community with businesses run from home generates no tax base.

36. Tax base should be equal for all towns in New York.

36. Town growth is non existent.

36. Youth move in to educated higher paying jobs as a rule. Example: Class 1959 at Hartford, only 3 remain. Twenty-two have moved on. Sad percentage.

36. Local town fathers did NO homework since 1793.

36. Hartford has prettier settings than the Amish.

37. The two most important issues are: #1 Urgent alternatives to property taxes (school and government). #2 Encourage wind and solar energy.

38. We need to capitalize on the historic parts of Hartford.

38. Other towns have annual festivals, etc.

39. Adequate acreage for animals (horses).

39. Prohibit unlicensed vehicles and remove old farm machinery.

42. Stop destroying the rural character of our town by selling our resources to the highest bidder. Think about this town's future.

Other Comments?

46. A town newspaper! Or to make it profitable a few towns – Hartford/Argyle/Granville/Fort Ann. Without children we get absolutely no information about this town. The 'Post Star' is hopeless when it comes to news about Washington County towns, when meetings are, etc.

46. Annual town budget mailed to every resident, include reports from the town supervisor, highway department, etc.

47. I have lived at current address for four years and continue to stare at a growing pothole that I swerve around everyday - [illegible word] tax \$ work for me.

47. Anyone heard of guard rails on county routes? There is a 30 foot drop off on one side of the road which has 'decorator' cut telephone poles for guard rails.

47. SICK of seeing county and town dump trucks on weight limited roads (Rowe Hill in particular). Other vehicles that are five plus tons can't take that short cut.

50. I am disabled and my wife has little income, yet we pay an OBSCENE \$4,000 a year for school (taxes).

50. I feel the hamlets that also use our schools should pay a higher percentage, actually an equal percent a year per household.

50. Superintendent is paid way too much for one school and he chases too many projects that we have to match and pay for.

50. NO MORE SCHOOL TAXES

51. The proposed dump site by Washington County in south Hartford is against all questions in this survey. For the people of south Hartford there will be more of the above.

51. We want the same for our community, clean air, clean water, protection of our views and our families.

52. Fifty year resident of Hartford but living is still good here so I do not wish to move on.

53. Tina is the trustee and lives on Long Island. Parents ages 81 and 78 live in the house.

54. I believe that the town needs to work better with the youth commission to give the youth and others a park area for recreational use.

54. The town needs to look forward, to the future, and make the town a place that people want to come to, to live, work and play in.

54. I believe that this town needs to bring industry into the town.

56. Hartford and Washington County, in general, need to capitalize on our agricultural/rural heritage and character. Encouraging big-box retailers is not a good idea, but encouraging small businesses especially agriculture related, makes a lot of sense. Encouraging organic farming methods and products makes even more sense because it not only protects our environment but is a niche market that can be exploited for our gain.

56. Large scale residential subdivisions on farmland is horrible; we should strive for non-intrusive residential development especially clustered in appropriate areas.

65. Right to farm is important

65. 'My home is my castle' as long as it is not a blight on the community

65. Junk cars need to be removed no matter if your name is Phillip.

68. We need more: For the people, by the people and always God in prayer.

68. Remember you were put there by the people to do the best you can for what all want, not just your little group for we have to live with your mistakes

70. Looking forward to the planning board identifying several visible visions for the town's future and then having a fruitful discussion as to the pros and cons leading to a unified vision we can all support and work/contribute towards.

71. So glad to see this survey. Hartford needs to move forward for the good of all. I would be happy to serve on a committee to beautify our town.

72. Preserve open space and don't develop on productive farm land

Other Comments?

72. Please have lines sprayed on Coach Road. The road runs along edge of drop off.

73. I believe there should be some sort of regulations; however the Town needs to remember we are not a town like Queensbury or Glens Falls.

73. Some of the suggestions you want us to answer, sounds like you want to keep our town the same and never change anything. Change can be a good thing if done properly!

73. We want to invite people to come and build or move into our community – not keep them away.

74. We love the Town of Hartford and look forward to moving to our home there full time next year.

75. More people and more government equal higher taxes and less freedom. More rural and more businesses and less government equal lower taxes and more freedom.

76. I think this survey is a waste of taxpayer time and money! Quit wasting our money!!

77. We need some businesses to help with keeping land and school taxes down. These next couple of years are going to be very hard on all of us. We must cut where we can to keep our taxes as low as possible.

106. Stop piecemeal expansion and restrict mobile/modular homes due to their depreciation

106. Encourage high density housing (condos) to improve taxable value of town without impacting large footprint

106. Expand 4-wheeler/snowmobile trails to include walking, horseback riding and x-country skiing

106. Town offices are shabby and run down – they project poor image

106. Adopt 'green principles' in town and offer incentives for wind/solar and market town as eco-friendly

106. Improve marketing of town as rural/agricultural

106. Improve Town welcome signage

106. Promote town-wide events/parades/fireworks/community band concerts/town wide sales

106. Bravos to fire department for thinking ahead with new firehouse

107. Dad passed away on August 16, 2008 at my home in Hudson Falls, but would like senior housing like Homefront or around the area. My Dad's place on [illegible] would make an excellent place for senior housing. Up to 20 apartments or more could be built there. Thank you.

109. Hartford is wonderful!! There are no improvements that need to be made, in my opinion. I chose to live here because it is near-perfect. I don't believe we should try to increase quality-of-life or make Hartford into something else. Quite frankly, let people move away if they don't like it here. It is very special as is. God forbid that it becomes that ghastly Aviation Road in Glens Falls. Too much improving might lead to that.

110. School administration should be co-joined with that of nearby towns. School taxes are way too high and most of the money goes into administration, not education. Your school fails in: 1) Math education, 2) Languages (foreign); we live near the largest French speaking entity in the new world; and as you may have noted, Spanish has become increasingly important in communication with raising Hispanic labor force (sorry!) and 3) But nice soccer and field-hockey fields.

111. I would like to see the Town open to receive clean industry. We must be willing to give concessions to businesses exploring Hartford for relocation or building new. It is the only way the burden of wanting our Town to achieve all our 'high wishes'.

112. I would like to see the town board rescind the host benefit agreement that was decided upon behind closed doors between the past town board and Jointa Galusha. Any agreement between a business and the town board should be decided upon by the people in an open public forum.

112. Enact laws to protect the people!

114. Reduce taxes on senior citizens. Example: School tax – why do we have to expand the school when the enrollment hasn't changed in 30+ years. Maybe to make room for the aides that they don't need. Maybe for the extra personal aides for the dysfunctional. If we stopped shipping our children in and out of the district, maybe that would lower taxes.

Other Comments?

115. The great thing about Hartford is its roots in agriculture and rural community setting. This does not mean that it should not be in the 21st century. Good schools, internet and cell phone technologies need to be in place with advanced designs that do not diminish its overall characteristics of being 'home'.

116. To maintain quality of life it is very important to maintain our agriculture and open spaces.

116. Housing developments should be highly discouraged.

116. Taxes on farmland should be reduced to better keep our open spaces (i.e. do not need to sell parcels to pay taxes).

116. Cottage industries (cheese, maple, crafts, etc.) should be encouraged.

116. The town should take an active role to maintain/acquire Floyd Harwood's grist mill.

116. It would be nice to see more people interested in community events such as Hartford Historical Festival, band concerts, farm tours, etc.

118. Perhaps Hartford should be known as the 'gateway to Vermont'. We can sell maple syrup, cheese, and beautiful views and people won't have to drive so far.

119. It's unfortunate we have poured so much money in a small school when consolidating with Granville, Hudson Falls, Fort Edward and Fort Ann would reduce our school taxes which are so high. Busing to the closest school districts would be less expensive – poor planning.

120. This is a very open survey.

120. I would like to see more manufacturing in the town but without pollution.

120. No landfills, this is the foothills of the Adirondacks, keep it clean. That is what will get people here, landfills are only for the short haul. Chris ????

124. Good luck!

135. Town board has to think ahead what is best for the town. Not just their own feelings.

137. Hartford does not draw people to it. Larger towns/cities are around us and draw Hartford residents to their shopping and services.

137. Besides agri small businesses, what about tech industries – things people do in an office or on computers about developing products, providing services in a lovely rural setting without the need for cars, trucks and products coming and going.

141. The whole questionnaire is leading. No room for saying at what cost? Or how much to spend? It was developed to show that the town should spend and be more restrictive on the use of land, reducing value to land owners.

141. Outdoor wood stoves: The State proposed 500 feet from boundary line and 18 foot smoke stack. Way too restrictive. How about 3 times the distance your stove is to your livable house to the next house that is used to live in. Also, stack 5 feet above the stove's shell.

144. Growing up here I love the rural community. And because it is a small town you know a lot of the residents, so if there's a crisis we all come together to help out a family in need.

145. We should be a bedroom community of Glens Falls, Saratoga, and Luther Forrest. Light industry, upscale homes, and apartments, and people with money to spend to support new businesses.

145. A well developed plan will help all residents at all incomes.

145. Taxes in Washington County/New York State are driving people out of Hartford.

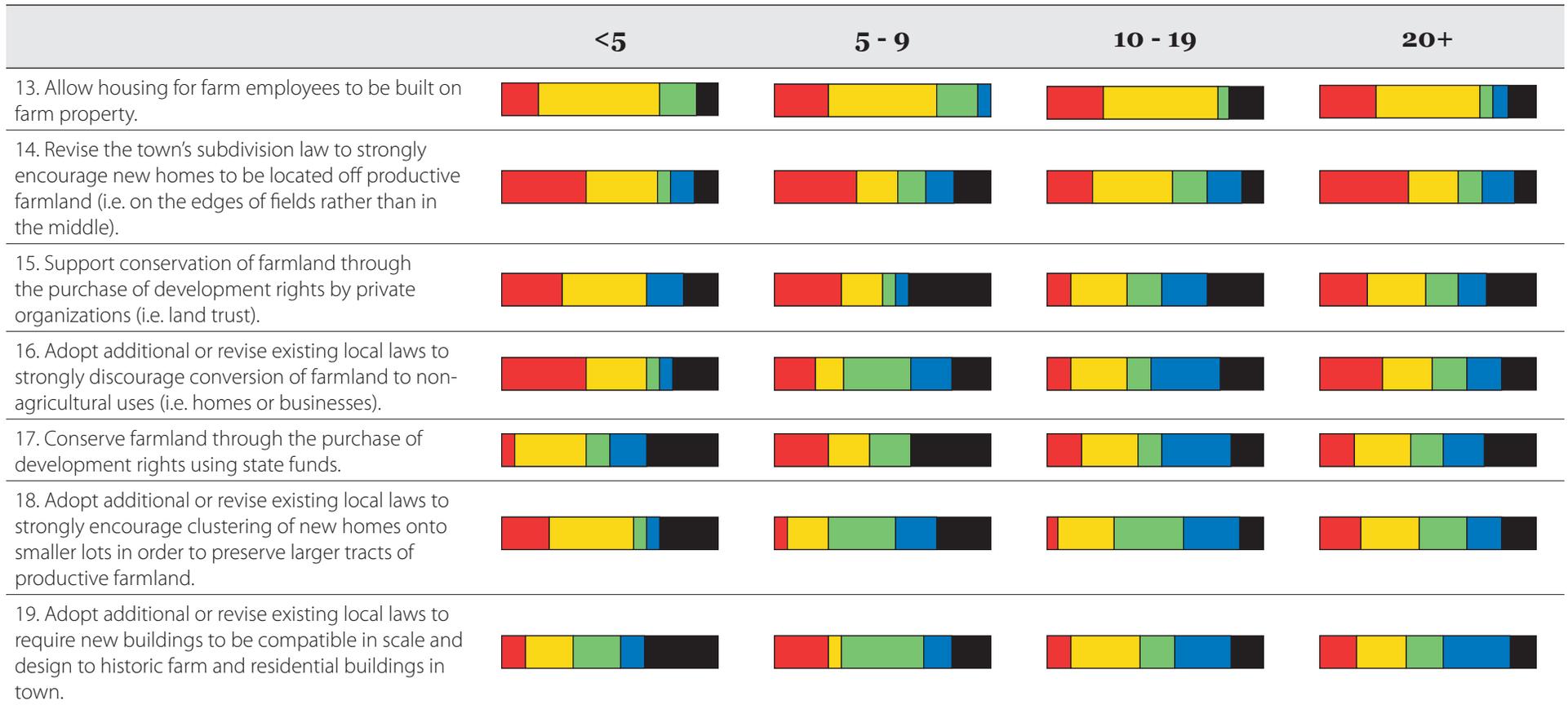
146. We need to move quickly to prevent developers and other businesses from coming in and destroying our quality of life.

148. Very poorly worded or explained questions. Too general/unspecific. What does 'support' or 'encourage' mean? A resolution that says 'we the town support....' or zoning laws?

3. On the last survey, there was strong support for preserving agricultural use and appearance in Hartford. Would you support the town taking the following steps to achieve that goal?



	<5	5 - 9	10 - 19	20+
1. Encourage production and sale of local foods (i.e. farm stands, farmers' markets, CSA farms that sell directly to consumers, etc.)				
2. Support and enforce the town's right-to-farm law.				
3. Educate schoolchildren about farming and the town's agricultural heritage.				
4. Encourage agri-tourism by allowing lodging, educational and/or recreational activities associated with a farm.				
5. Encourage agricultural support businesses (i.e. veterinary services, machinery sales/repair, contractual ag services, etc.).				
6. Encourage local processing/manufacture of value-added agricultural products.				
7. Educate new residents about what to expect when living in an agricultural community (odors, animals, noise, farm equipment on roads, etc.).				
8. Encourage the reuse of existing farm structures that are no longer actively used for agriculture for other purposes (i.e. barns converted to homes or businesses).				
9. Designate a local agricultural district and seek to keep those lands in agriculture.				
10. Support diversification of the town's agricultural economy.				
11. Designate a rural historic district that recognizes the value of historic farmhouses, barns and other outbuildings, and the scenic character of the town's rural landscape.				
12. Identify high-value farmland to help prioritize preservation efforts.				



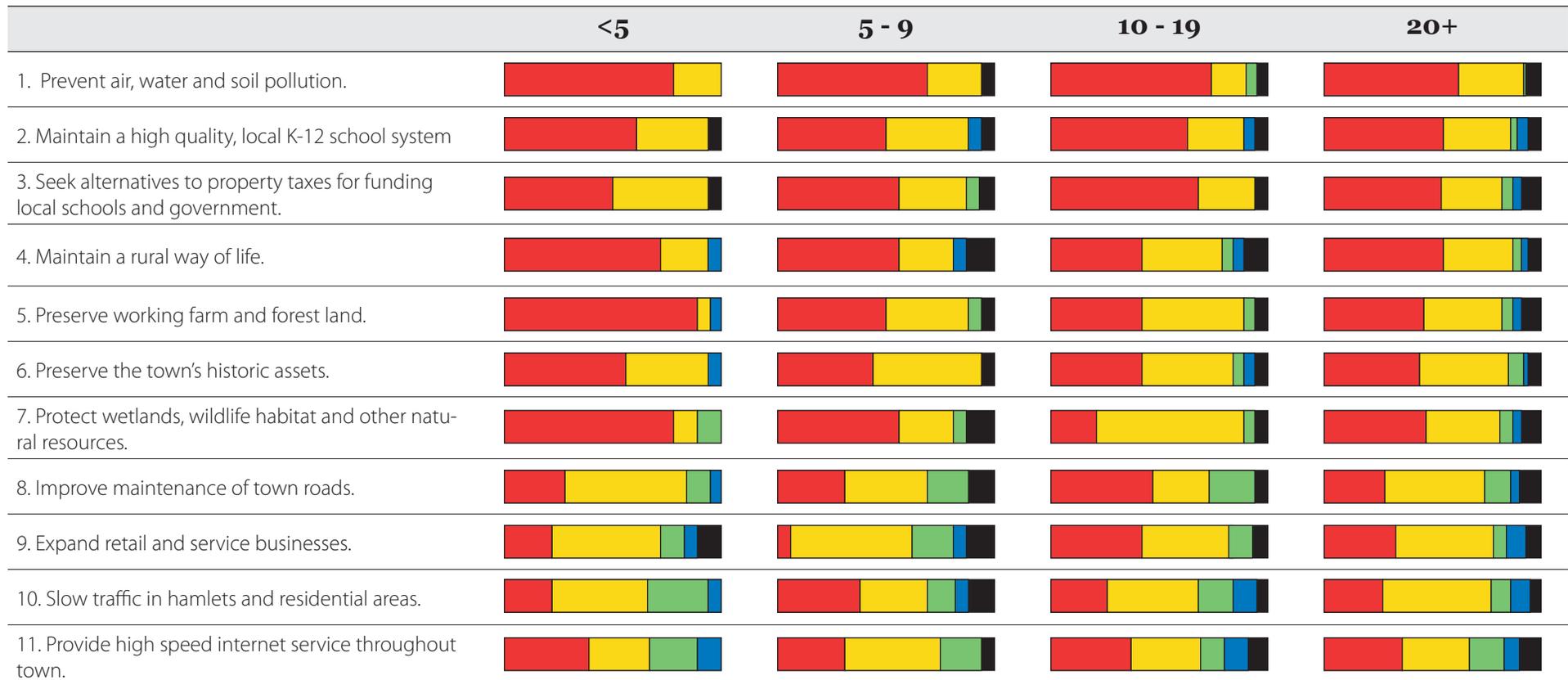
4. Which statement best describes your attitude towards growth and development in Hartford?

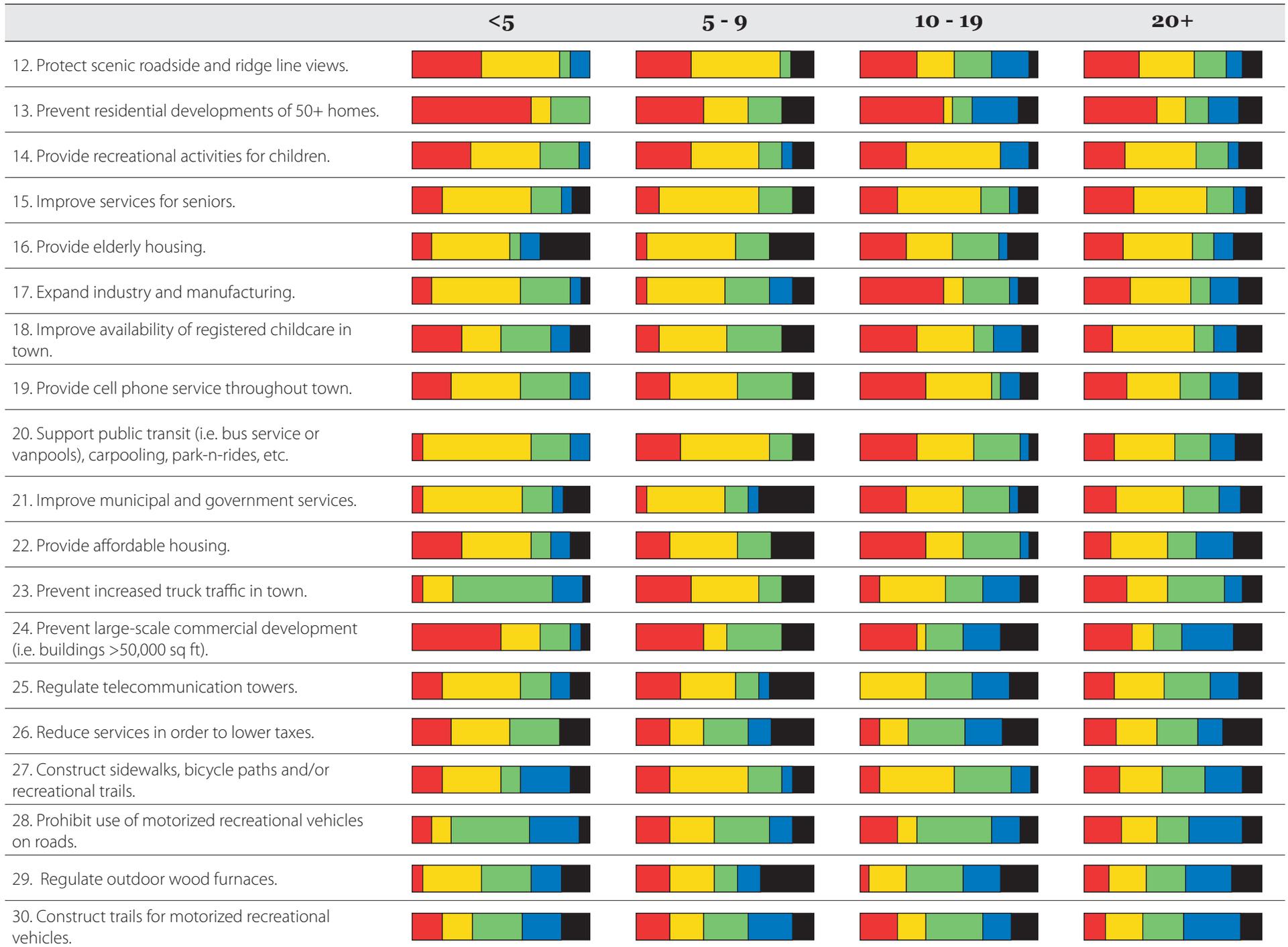
	<5	5 - 9	10 - 19	20+
All development in Hartford should stop.	0%	6%	0%	4%
Existing regulations should be strengthened.	28%	25%	26%	33%
Existing regulation of development should continue.	50%	38%	26%	34%
Existing regulations should be relaxed.	6%	6%	21%	13%
All controls on development should be abolished.	6%	0%	11%	4%
No response.	11%	25%	16%	12%

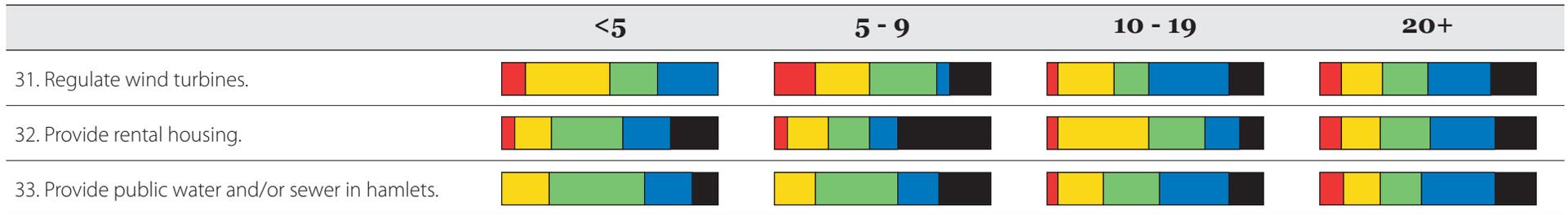
5. Which statement comes closest to expressing your opinion regarding the rights of property owners?

	<5	5 - 9	10 - 19	20+
Property owners should be able to do what they want with their land.	28%	19%	21%	12%
Development should be regulated so that what one person does with his or her land does not adversely affect adjoining property owners.	56%	25%	42%	56%
Development should be regulated so that what one person does with his or her land does not adversely affect the common good of the town.	17%	50%	26%	26%
No response.	0%	6%	11%	6%

6. Hartford faces many issues as it plans for its future. To help us prioritize, please indicate how important the following issues are to you.







7. On the last survey, there was a consensus that there needs to be more employment opportunities in town. What type of businesses would you like to see open or expand in Hartford?

	<5	5 - 9	10 - 19	20+
1. Non-dairy farms (i.e. vegetables, beef, orchards, poultry, etc.)	78%	69%	74%	74%
2. Agricultural tourism, sales and recreation (horse trails, petting farm, farm stands, u-pick fields, etc.)	67%	88%	79%	71%
3. Agricultural support businesses (i.e. veterinary services, machinery sales/repair, ag contractors, etc.)	83%	69%	79%	68%
4. Retail stores (grocery, hardware, pharmacy, etc.)	56%	63%	84%	68%
5. Dairy farms	61%	69%	63%	55%
6. Agricultural processing (i.e. cheese plant, sugar house, processed foods, etc.)	56%	44%	58%	60%
7. Restaurants	61%	63%	68%	52%
8. Home businesses	50%	69%	68%	51%
9. Manufacturing (<50 employees)	39%	63%	47%	57%
10. Health care providers	33%	69%	68%	52%
11. Outdoor recreation businesses	56%	69%	53%	43%
12. Personal services (hair salon, laundry, etc.)	28%	44%	37%	52%
13. Financial institutions	33%	44%	53%	46%
14. Accommodations (hotel, inn, campground, etc.)	28%	31%	42%	47%
15. Museums, art galleries, artist workshops	39%	44%	42%	44%
16. Assisted living / nursing home facilities	22%	31%	47%	38%
17. Other professional offices	39%	25%	37%	34%
18. Gas stations	11%	19%	42%	37%
19. Manufacturing (50+ employees)	22%	25%	32%	35%
20. Vehicle/equipment repair	6%	19%	32%	33%
21. Vehicle/equipment sales	6%	6%	26%	31%
22. Recycling facilities	22%	19%	32%	22%

	<5	5 - 9	10 - 19	20+
23. Shipping and distribution centers	17%	25%	32%	22%
24. Quarries or other extraction of earth resources	11%	6%	32%	21%
25. Composting facilities	22%	19%	26%	19%
26. Storage facilities	0%	0%	21%	16%
27. Modular home sales	0%	0%	16%	14%
28. Correctional facilities	6%	6%	16%	5%
29. Solid waste management facilities	0%	0%	16%	2%

8. Do you support the town taking the following steps in response to rising energy prices? (in descending order from most support to least)

	<5	5 - 9	10 - 19	20+
1. Support residential-scale energy generation from local resources (i.e. wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, biomass, etc)	61%	94%	95%	76%
2. Support efforts to improve the efficiency of existing buildings and reduce energy use.	83%	81%	89%	65%
3. Undertake an energy audit of public buildings and work to improve their energy efficiency.	67%	69%	84%	57%
4. Support utility-scale generation of energy (i.e. capturing methane on farms, gasification of wood chips, wind farms, etc.)	56%	50%	74%	52%
5. Require new homes be built to high energy efficiency standards.	22%	31%	47%	39%

10. Your age?

	<5	5 - 9	10 - 19	20+
Under 30	6%	0%	5%	1%
30 to 49	50%	19%	58%	13%
50 to 69	44%	63%	26%	61%
70 or older	0%	6%	11%	19%
No response	0%	12%	0%	6%

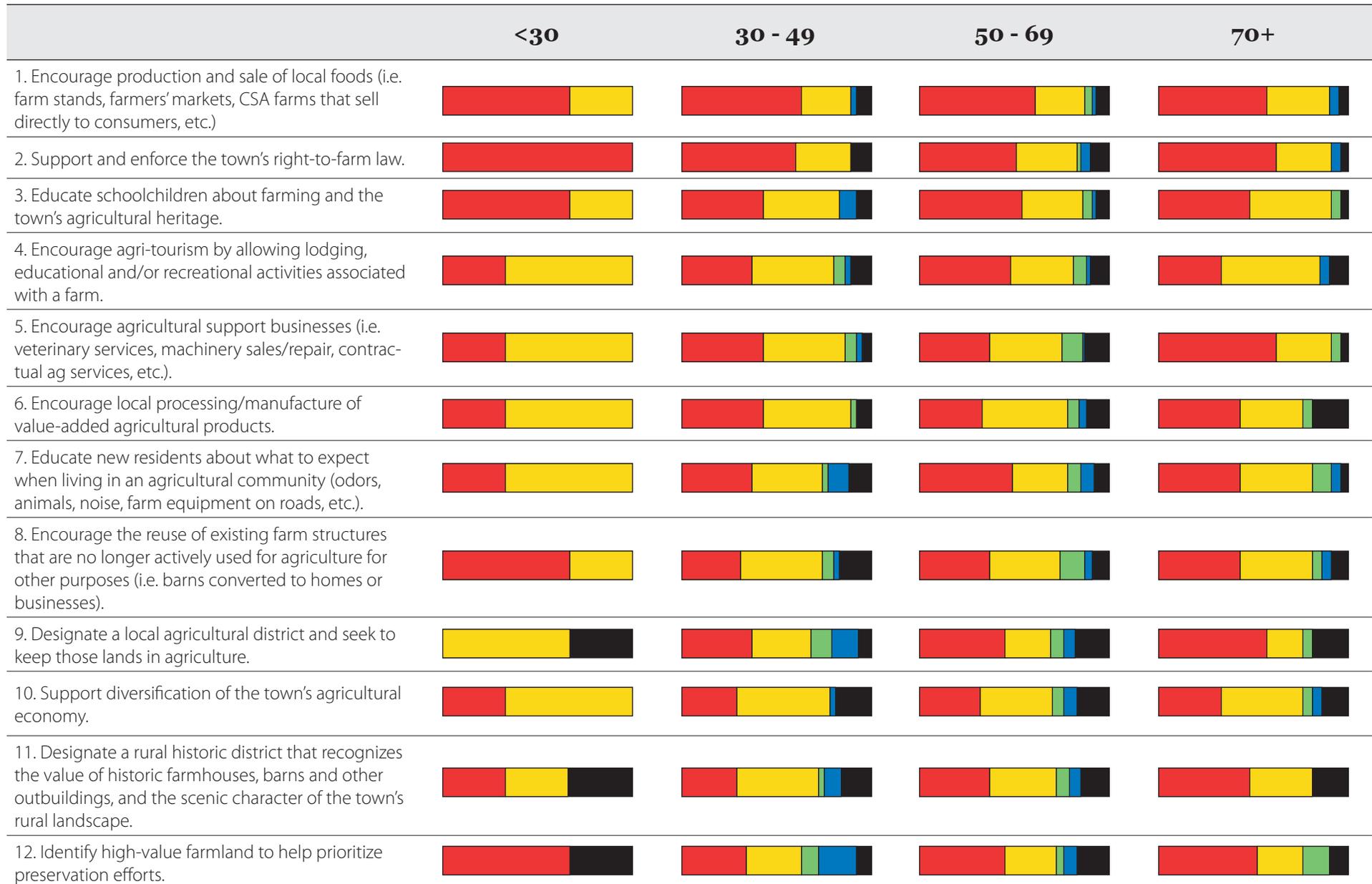
11. Are there any children under age 18 in your household?

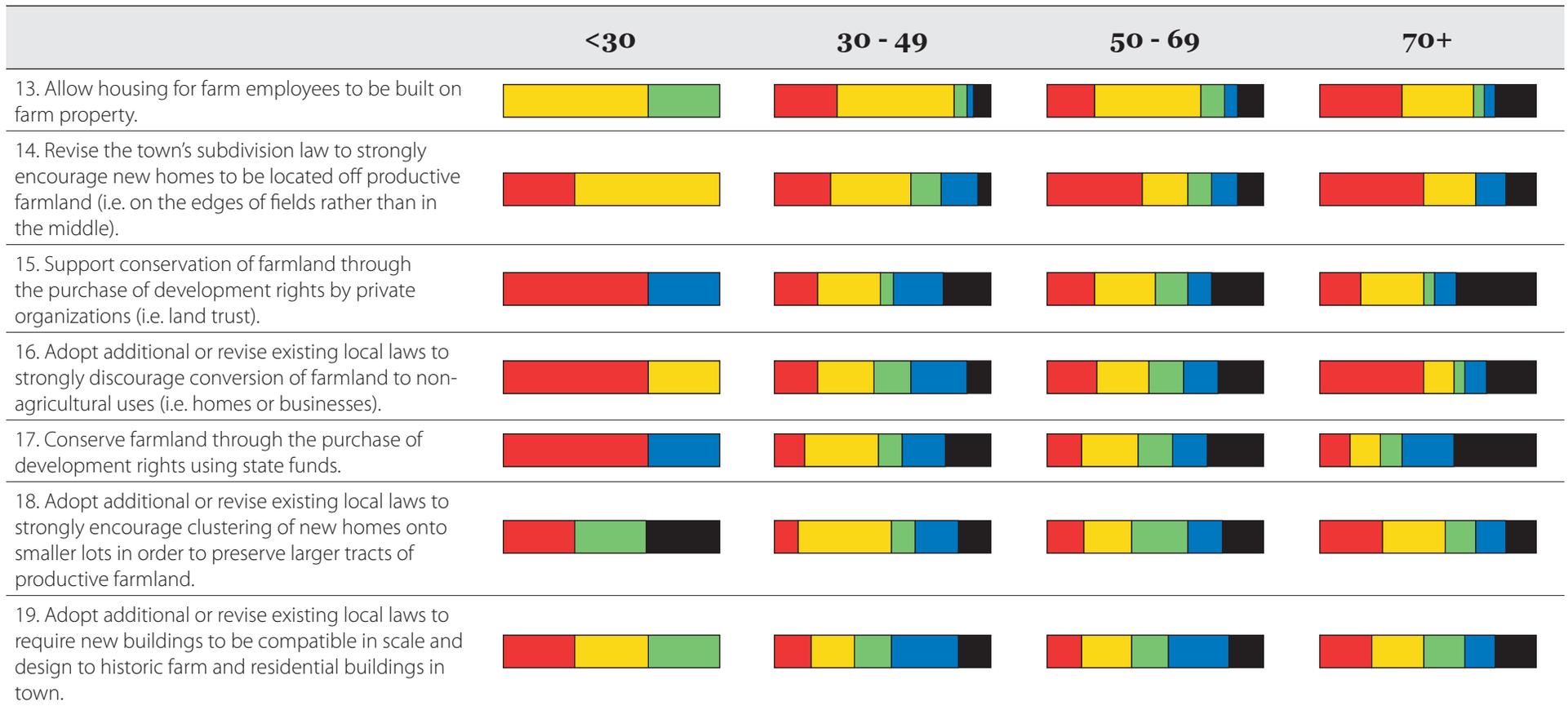
	<5	5 - 9	10 - 19	20+
Yes	33%	25%	42%	24%
No	67%	69%	58%	76%
No response	0%	6%	0%	0%

12. Is there anyone age 65 or older in your household?

	<5	5 - 9	10 - 19	20+
Yes	11%	31%	26%	46%
No	89%	69%	74%	50%
No response	0%	0%	0%	4%

3. On the last survey, there was strong support for preserving agricultural use and appearance in Hartford. Would you support the town taking the following steps to achieve that goal?





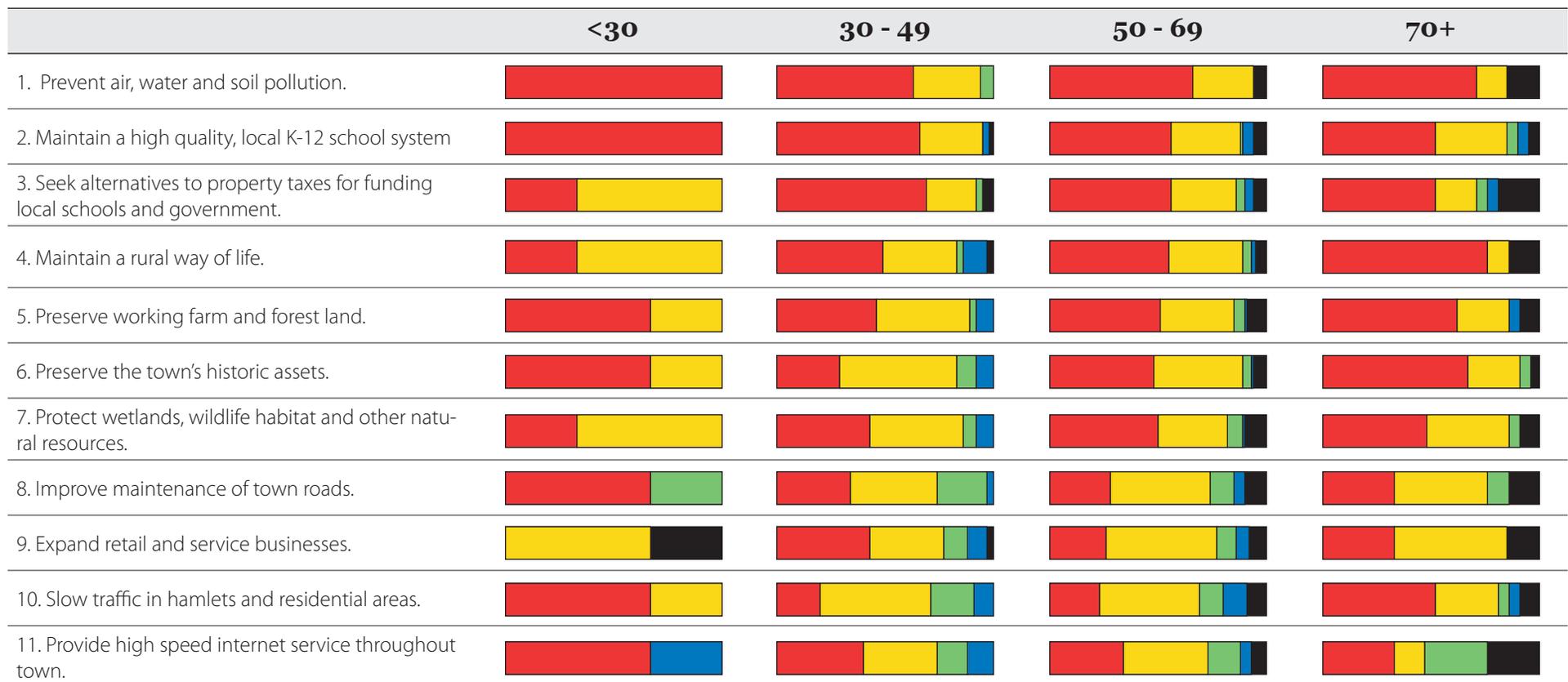
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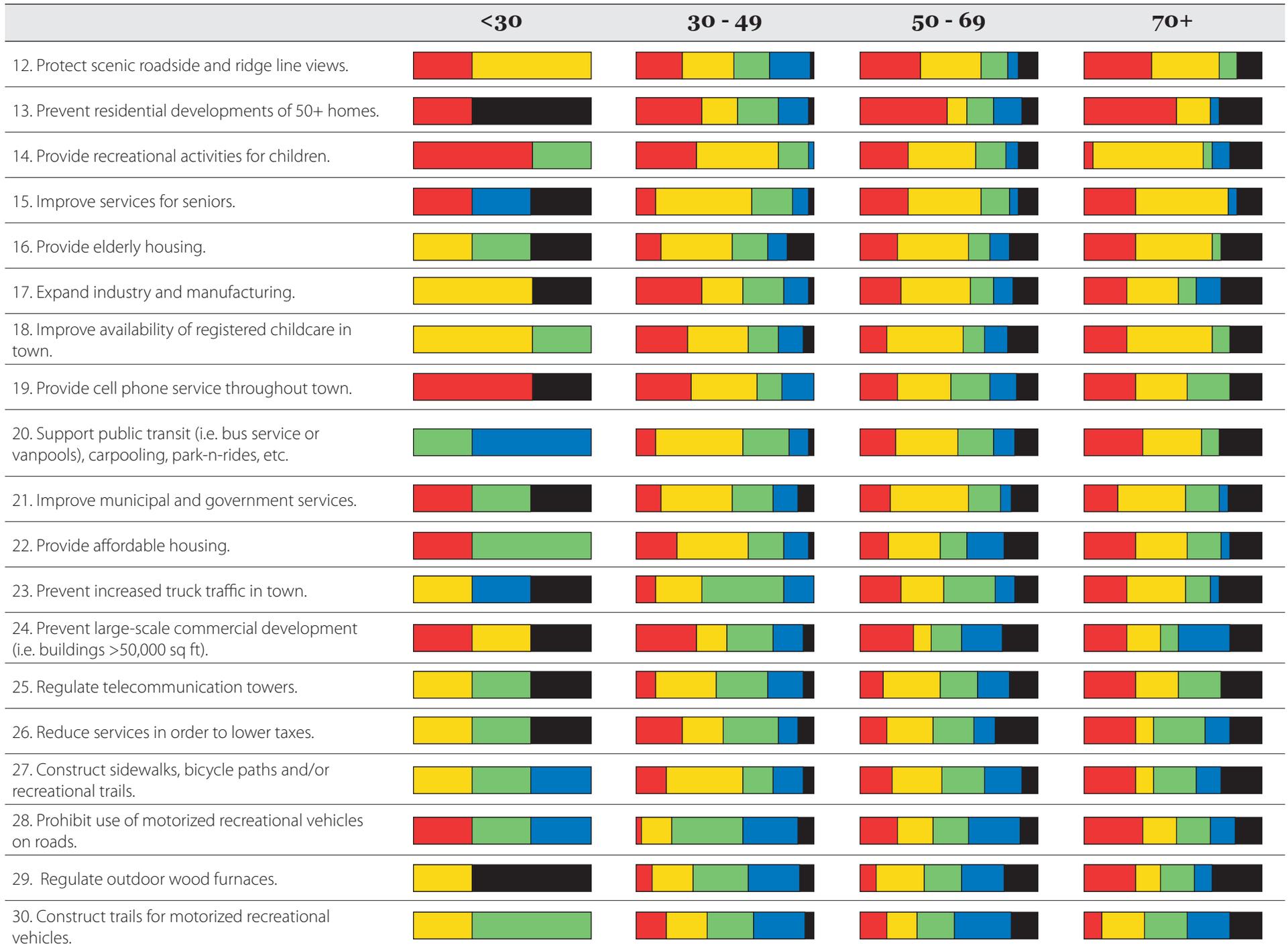
	<30	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+
All development in Hartford should stop.	0%	0%	6%	0%
Existing regulations should be strengthened.	67%	31%	28%	43%
Existing regulation of development should continue.	33%	31%	38%	33%
Existing regulations should be relaxed.	0%	20%	12%	0%
All controls on development should be abolished.	0%	3%	7%	0%
No response.	0%	14%	9%	24%

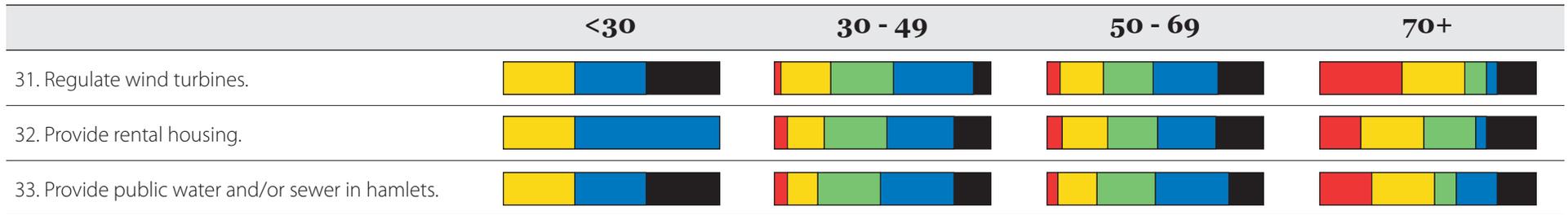
5. Which statement comes closest to expressing your opinion regarding the rights of property owners?

	<30	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+
Property owners should be able to do what they want with their land.	0%	26%	13%	10%
Development should be regulated so that what one person does with his or her land does not adversely affect adjoining property owners.	67%	43%	51%	57%
Development should be regulated so that what one person does with his or her land does not adversely affect the common good of the town.	33%	26%	30%	24%
No response.	0%	6%	5%	10%

6. Hartford faces many issues as it plans for its future. To help us prioritize, please indicate how important the following issues are to you.







7. On the last survey, there was a consensus that there needs to be more employment opportunities in town. What type of businesses would you like to see open or expand in Hartford?

	<30	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+
1. Non-dairy farms (i.e. vegetables, beef, orchards, poultry, etc.)	33%	69%	77%	86%
2. Agricultural tourism, sales and recreation (horse trails, petting farm, farm stands, u-pick fields, etc.)	67%	71%	77%	76%
3. Agricultural support businesses (i.e. veterinary services, machinery sales/repair, ag contractors, etc.)	67%	74%	70%	81%
4. Retail stores (grocery, hardware, pharmacy, etc.)	33%	69%	71%	71%
5. Dairy farms	0%	54%	61%	71%
6. Agricultural processing (i.e. cheese plant, sugar house, processed foods, etc.)	33%	60%	62%	43%
7. Restaurants	67%	60%	59%	52%
8. Home businesses	33%	60%	56%	38%
9. Manufacturing (<50 employees)	0%	54%	62%	38%
10. Health care providers	33%	51%	51%	67%
11. Outdoor recreation businesses	67%	51%	55%	19%
12. Personal services (hair salon, laundry, etc.)	0%	34%	48%	71%
13. Financial institutions	33%	54%	48%	33%
14. Accommodations (hotel, inn, campground, etc.)	33%	46%	41%	57%
15. Museums, art galleries, artist workshops	33%	34%	45%	52%
16. Assisted living / nursing home facilities	33%	29%	38%	57%
17. Other professional offices	33%	34%	37%	33%
18. Gas stations	33%	37%	30%	38%
19. Manufacturing (50+ employees)	0%	31%	37%	29%
20. Vehicle/equipment repair	0%	34%	27%	19%
21. Vehicle/equipment sales	33%	26%	24%	24%
22. Recycling facilities	0%	34%	21%	24%
23. Shipping and distribution centers	0%	29%	24%	14%
24. Quarries or other extraction of earth resources	0%	29%	18%	14%

	<30	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+
25. Composting facilities	0%	26%	23%	19%
26. Storage facilities	0%	17%	13%	5%
27. Modular home sales	0%	14%	11%	5%
28. Correctional facilities	0%	14%	5%	5%
29. Solid waste management facilities	0%	6%	4%	0%

8. Do you support the town taking the following steps in response to rising energy prices? (in descending order from most support to least)

	<30	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+
1. Support residential-scale energy generation from local resources (i.e. wind, solar, geothermal, hydro, biomass, etc)	67%	86%	76%	86%
2. Support efforts to improve the efficiency of existing buildings and reduce energy use.	67%	77%	70%	76%
3. Undertake an energy audit of public buildings and work to improve their energy efficiency.	67%	74%	61%	52%
4. Support utility-scale generation of energy (i.e. capturing methane on farms, gasification of wood chips, wind farms, etc.)	67%	71%	51%	57%
5. Require new homes be built to high energy efficiency standards.	33%	34%	38%	52%

9. How many years have you lived in Hartford?

	<30	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+
<5	33%	26%	10%	0%
5 to 9	0%	9%	12%	5%
10 to 19	33%	31%	6%	10%
20+	33%	34%	70%	86%
No response	0%	0%	2%	0%

11. Are there any children under age 18 in your household?

	<30	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+
Yes	67%	74%	13%	0%
No	33%	26%	87%	100%
No response	0%	0%	0%	0%

12. Is there anyone age 65 or older in your household?

	<30	30 - 49	50 - 69	70+
Yes	0%	6%	35%	100%
No	100%	94%	64%	0%
No response	0%	0%	1%	0%