

Q1 Business Name: (optional)

Answered: 117 Skipped: 51

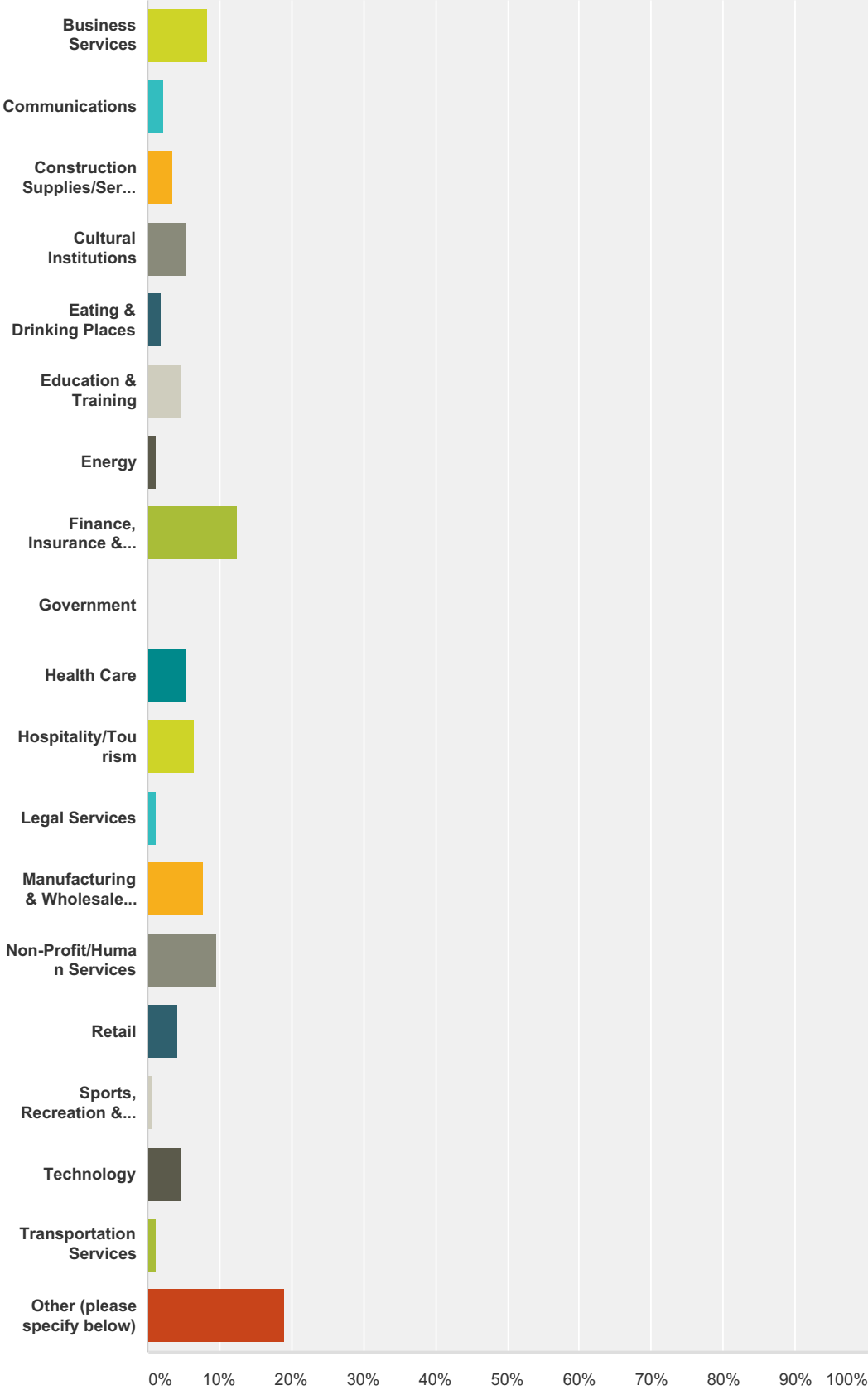
Q2 Zip Code of Business Location:

Answered: 168 Skipped: 0

Q3 Which industry category best describes your business?

Answered: 168 Skipped: 0

2014 Member Issues Survey



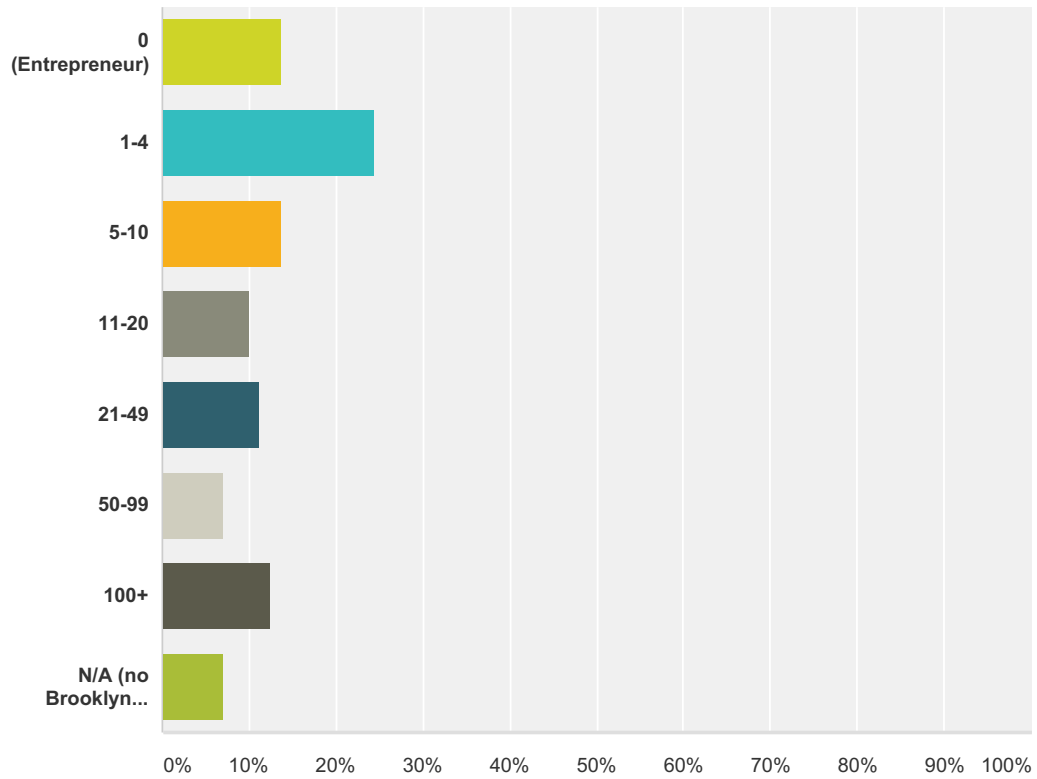
Answer Choices	Responses
Business Services	8.33% 14

2014 Member Issues Survey

Communications	2.38%	4
Construction Supplies/Services	3.57%	6
Cultural Institutions	5.36%	9
Eating & Drinking Places	1.79%	3
Education & Training	4.76%	8
Energy	1.19%	2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	12.50%	21
Government	0.00%	0
Health Care	5.36%	9
Hospitality/Tourism	6.55%	11
Legal Services	1.19%	2
Manufacturing & Wholesale Distribution	7.74%	13
Non-Profit/Human Services	9.52%	16
Retail	4.17%	7
Sports, Recreation & Entertainment	0.60%	1
Technology	4.76%	8
Transportation Services	1.19%	2
Other (please specify below)	19.05%	32
Total		168

Q4 How many people do you currently employ at your Brooklyn location(s)?

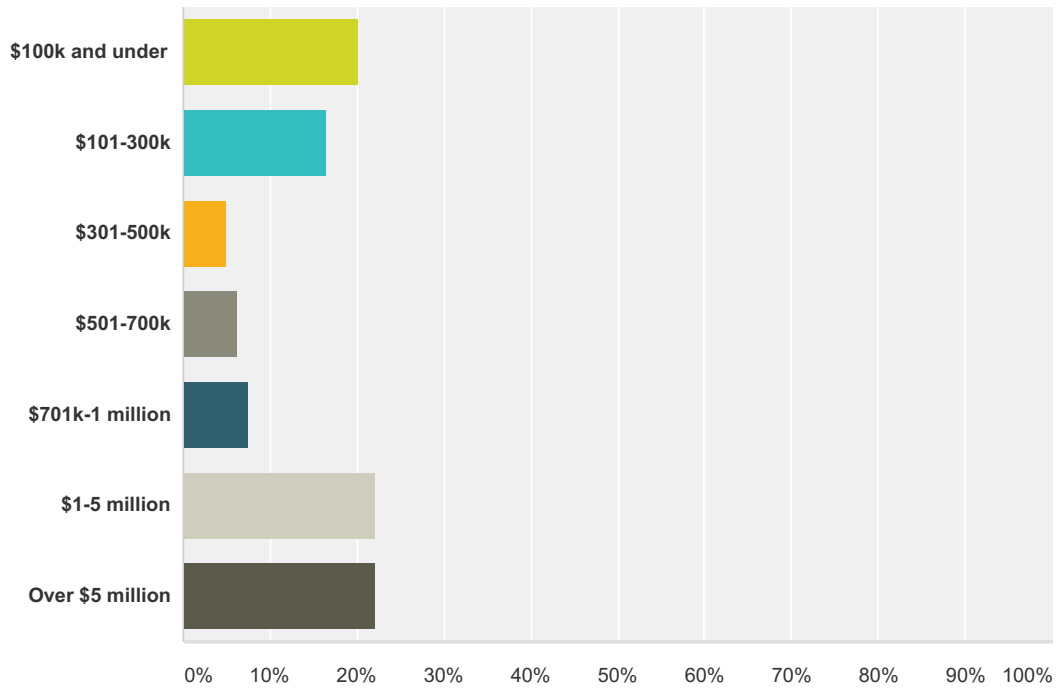
Answered: 168 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
0 (Entrepreneur)	13.69%	23
1-4	24.40%	41
5-10	13.69%	23
11-20	10.12%	17
21-49	11.31%	19
50-99	7.14%	12
100+	12.50%	21
N/A (no Brooklyn office)	7.14%	12
Total		168

Q5 What is your estimated gross revenue for 2014?

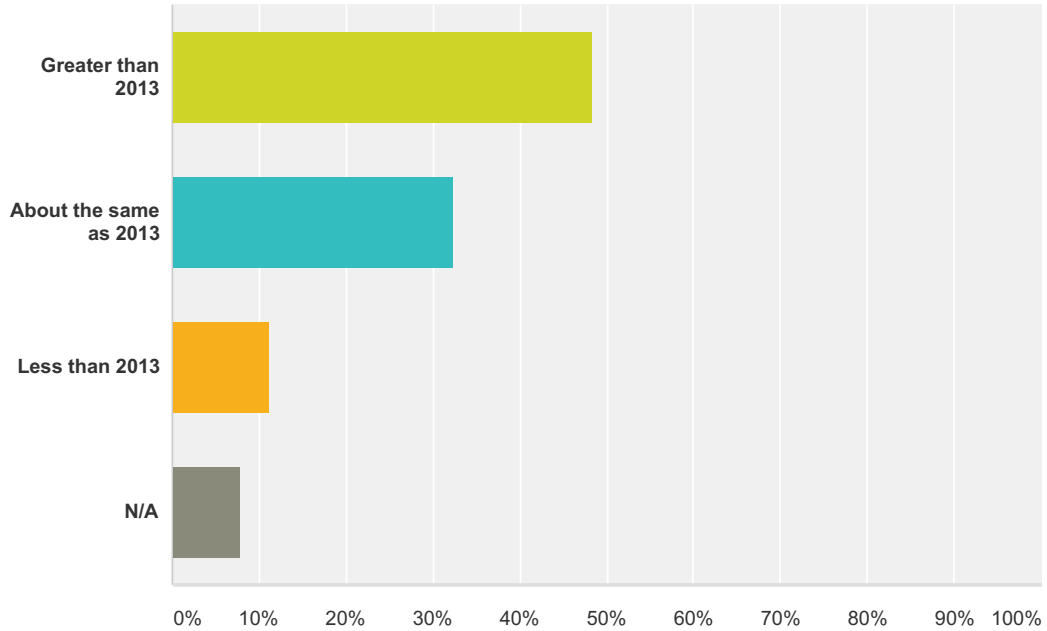
Answered: 158 Skipped: 10



Answer Choices	Responses	
\$100k and under	20.25%	32
\$101-300k	16.46%	26
\$301-500k	5.06%	8
\$501-700k	6.33%	10
\$701k-1 million	7.59%	12
\$1-5 million	22.15%	35
Over \$5 million	22.15%	35
Total		158

**Q6 Looking back over the past year, what was the overall trend for your business?
Would you say net revenue was:**

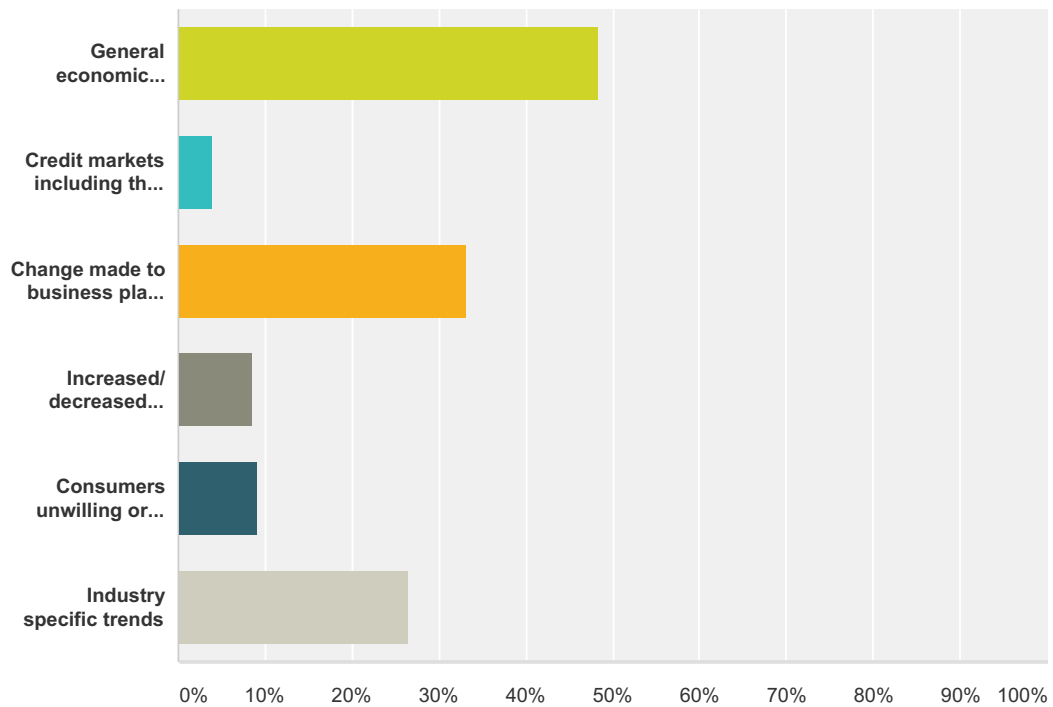
Answered: 151 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses
Greater than 2013	48.34% 73
About the same as 2013	32.45% 49
Less than 2013	11.26% 17
N/A	7.95% 12
Total	151

**Q7 What do you attribute this trend to?
(Check all that apply):**

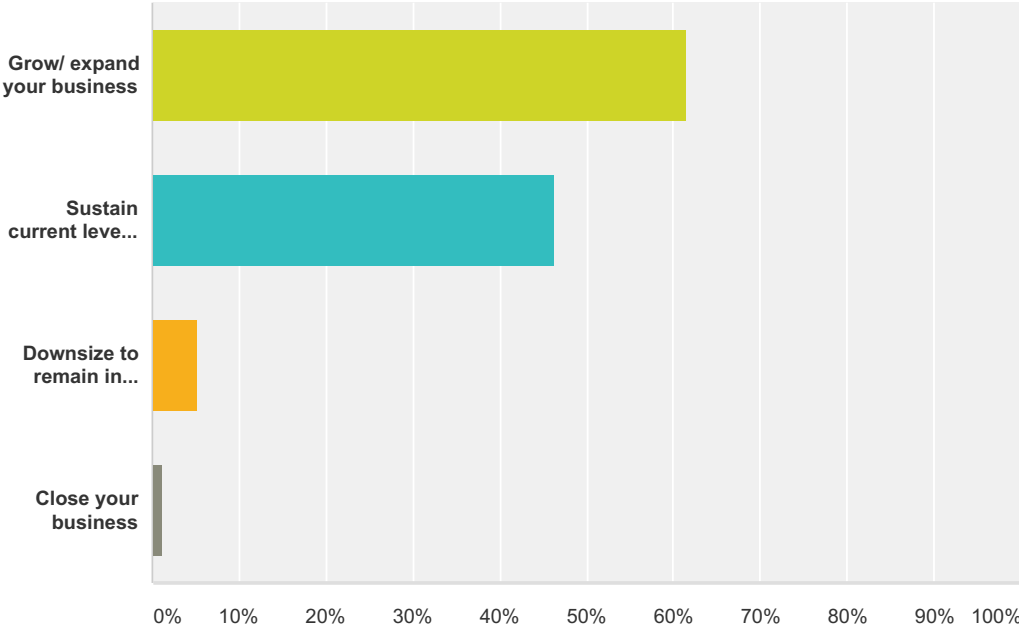
Answered: 151 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses
General economic environment	48.34% 73
Credit markets including the ability to acquire a loan	3.97% 6
Change made to business plan/ business services	33.11% 50
Increased/ decreased competition	8.61% 13
Consumers unwilling or unable to make purchases	9.27% 14
Industry specific trends	26.49% 40
Total Respondents: 151	

Q8 If current economic trends remain the same through 2015 (i.e. as they have been in 2014) would you (Check all that apply):

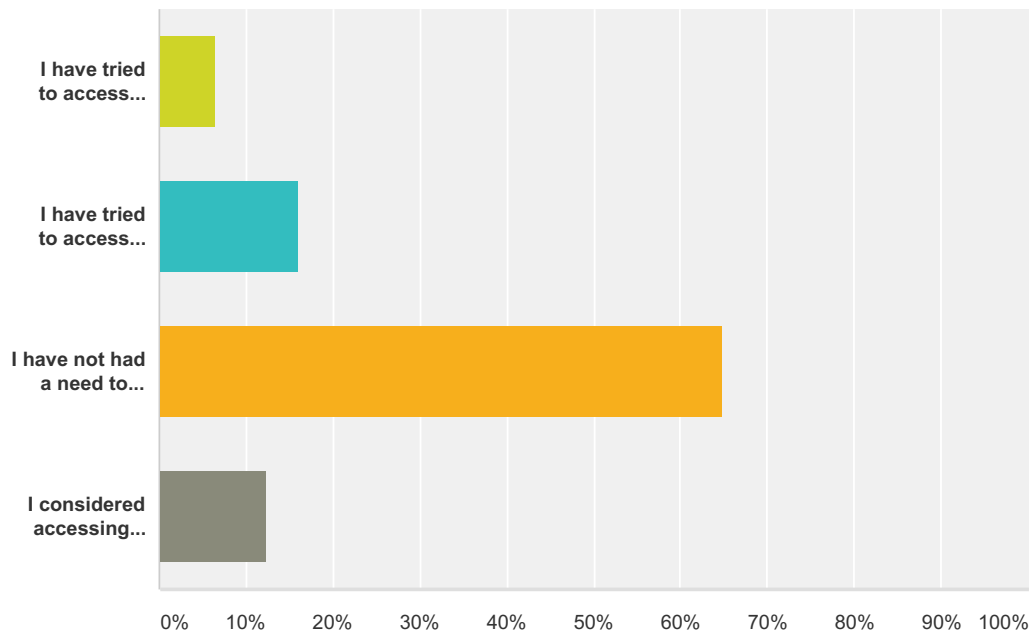
Answered: 151 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses
Grow/ expand your business	61.59% 93
Sustain current levels/ operation of your business	46.36% 70
Downsize to remain in business	5.30% 8
Close your business	1.32% 2
Total Respondents: 151	

Q9 Which best describes your businesses financing needs in 2014:

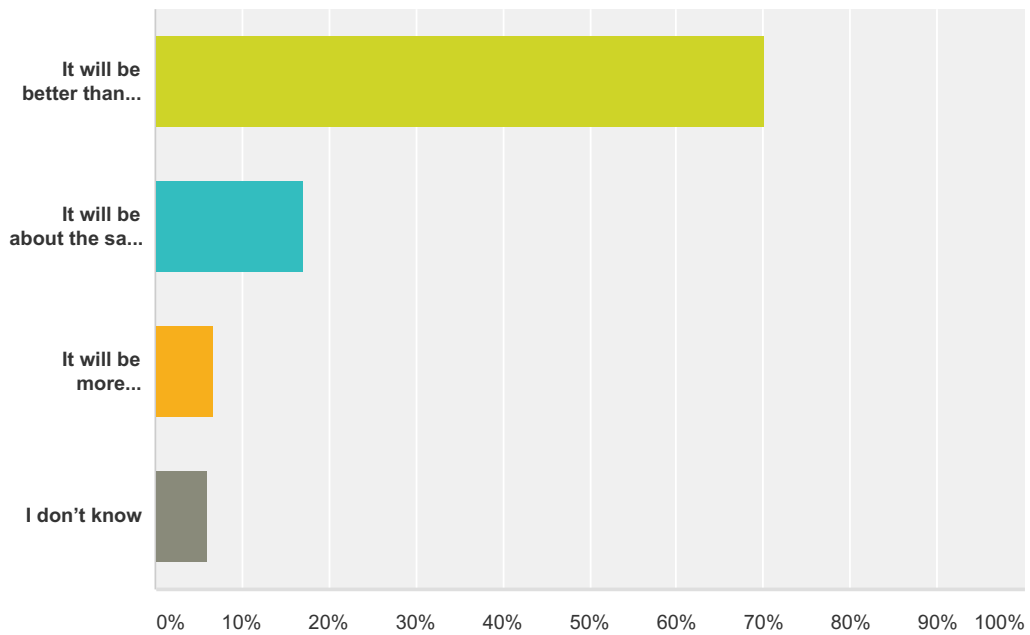
Answered: 137 Skipped: 31



Answer Choices	Responses
I have tried to access financing and have been denied	6.57% 9
I have tried to access financing and succeeded	16.06% 22
I have not had a need to access financing in 2014	64.96% 89
I considered accessing financing, but did not pursue it as I assumed I would be declined	12.41% 17
Total	137

Q10 What is your outlook on the Brooklyn economy for 2015?

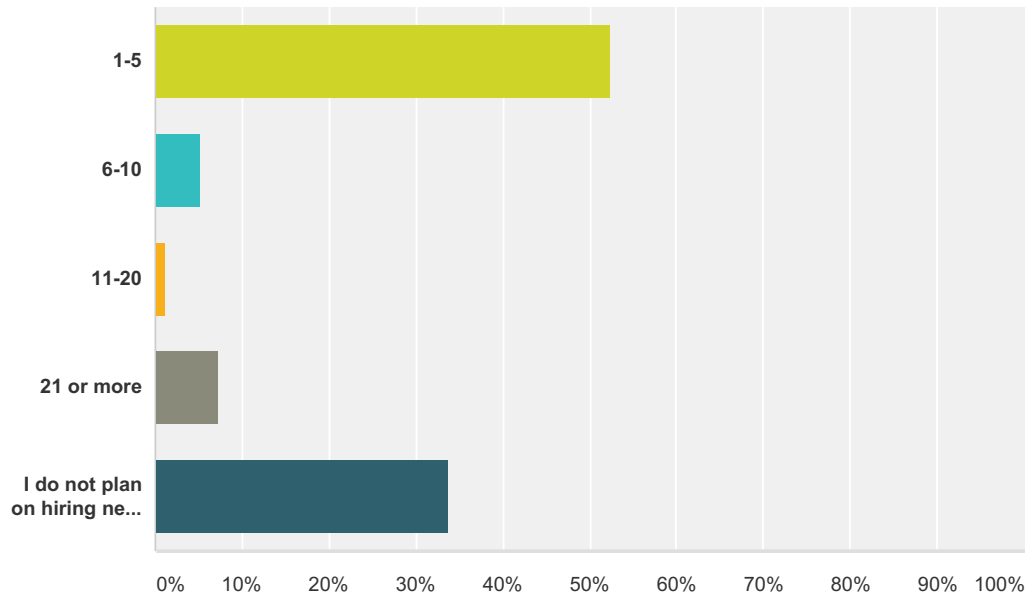
Answered: 151 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
It will be better than 2014	70.20%	106
It will be about the same as 2014	17.22%	26
It will be more challenging than 2014	6.62%	10
I don't know	5.96%	9
Total		151

Q11 How many new full-time employees do you expect to hire in the coming year?

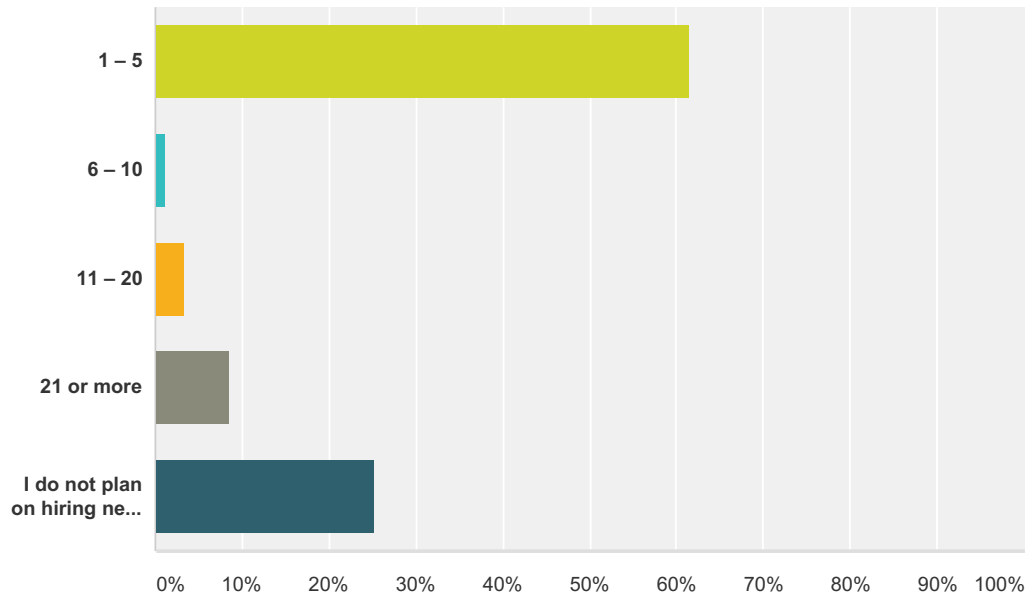
Answered: 151 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses
1-5	52.32% 79
6-10	5.30% 8
11-20	1.32% 2
21 or more	7.28% 11
I do not plan on hiring new employees	33.77% 51
Total	151

Q12 How many new part-time employees do you expect to hire in the coming year?

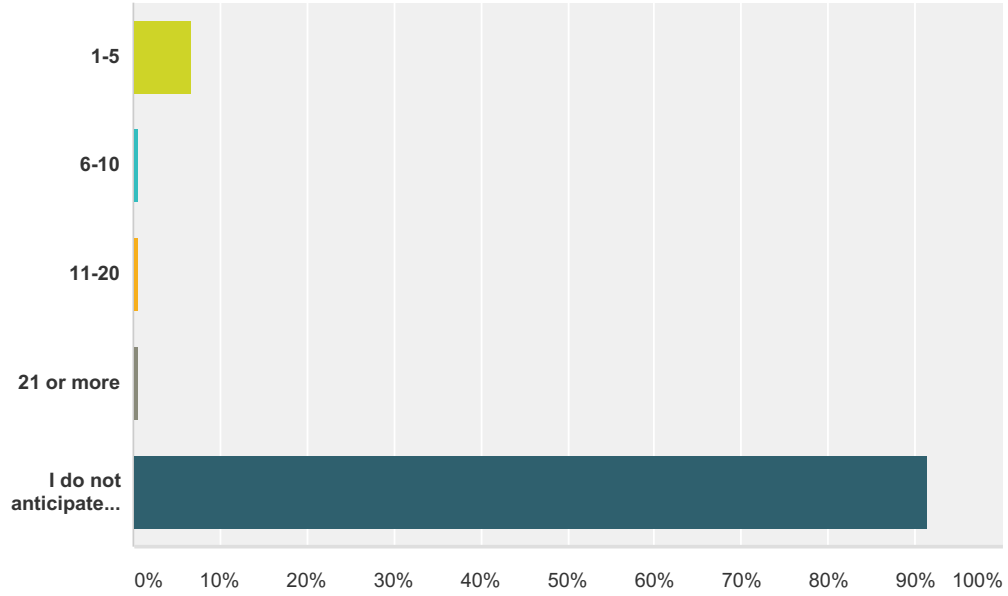
Answered: 151 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses
1 – 5	61.59% 93
6 – 10	1.32% 2
11 – 20	3.31% 5
21 or more	8.61% 13
I do not plan on hiring new employees	25.17% 38
Total	151

Q13 How many employees do you anticipate having to lay off in the coming year?

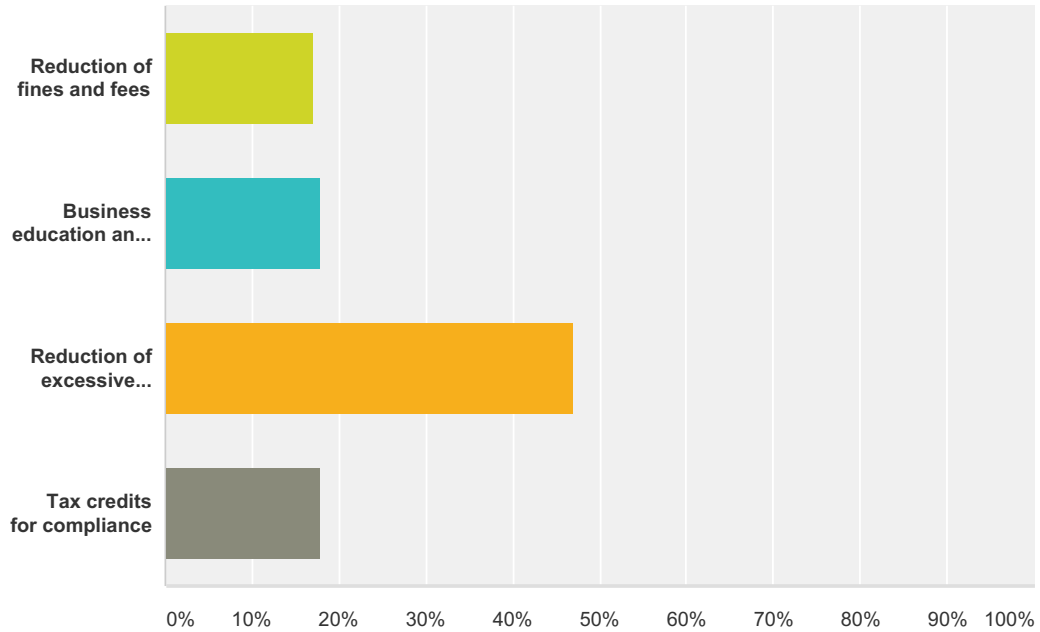
Answered: 151 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses
1-5	6.62% 10
6-10	0.66% 1
11-20	0.66% 1
21 or more	0.66% 1
I do not anticipate having to lay off employees	91.39% 138
Total	151

Q14 On July 9th, 2014 the Mayor's Office of Consumer Affairs announced the launch of a small business relief package to overhaul small business regulation and increase business outreach. Which of the following should be top priority for the de Blasio Administration in 2015? (Choose one)

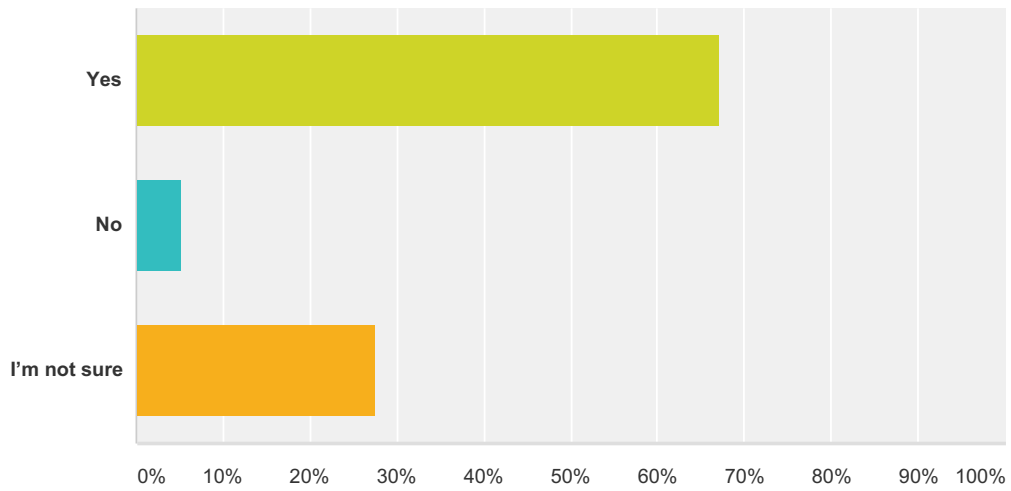
Answered: 134 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses
Reduction of fines and fees	17.16% 23
Business education and opportunities to cure	17.91% 24
Reduction of excessive regulation/red-tape	47.01% 63
Tax credits for compliance	17.91% 24
Total	134

Q15 On April 1st, 2014, the Earned Sick Time Act (Paid Sick Leave Law) took effect and businesses with 5 or more employees are required to be in compliance. To help businesses avoid penalization for unintentionally violating the new law, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce recommends a small business ombudsman unit at the City's Department of Consumer Affairs. Do you agree? (Choose one)

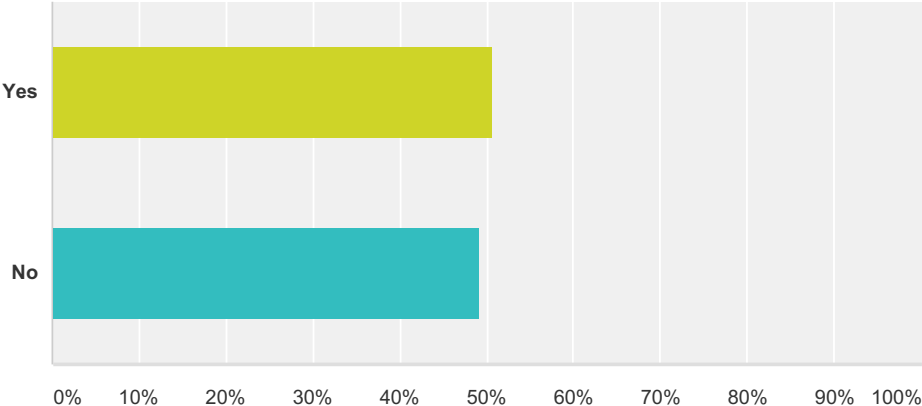
Answered: 134 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	67.16% 90
No	5.22% 7
I'm not sure	27.61% 37
Total	134

Q16 The New York City Council is again considering a bill that would impose a 10-cent fee on consumers for single use of disposable plastic and paper bags from grocery stores and restaurants. Do you agree with this proposed legislation? (Choose one)

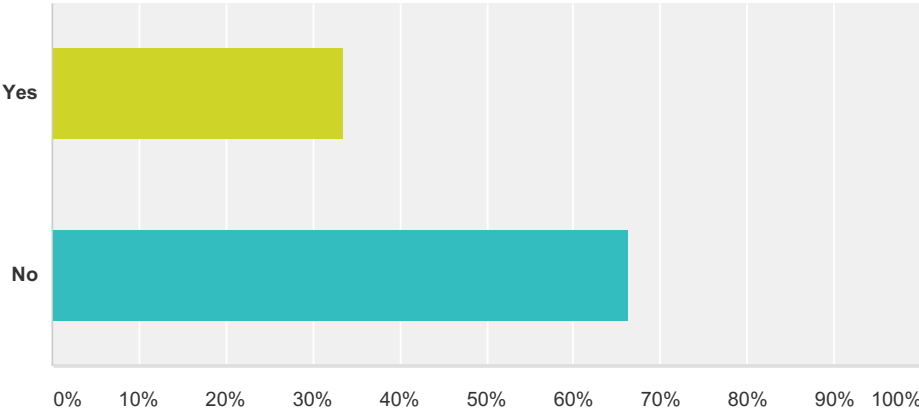
Answered: 134 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	50.75%	68
No	49.25%	66
Total		134

Q17 The New York City Council is considering the passage of the Fair Chance Act (Int. No. 318) that would make it unlawful for an employer to ask about a potential employee's arrest record or criminal conviction prior to making an employment offer. Do you agree with this proposed legislation? (Choose one)

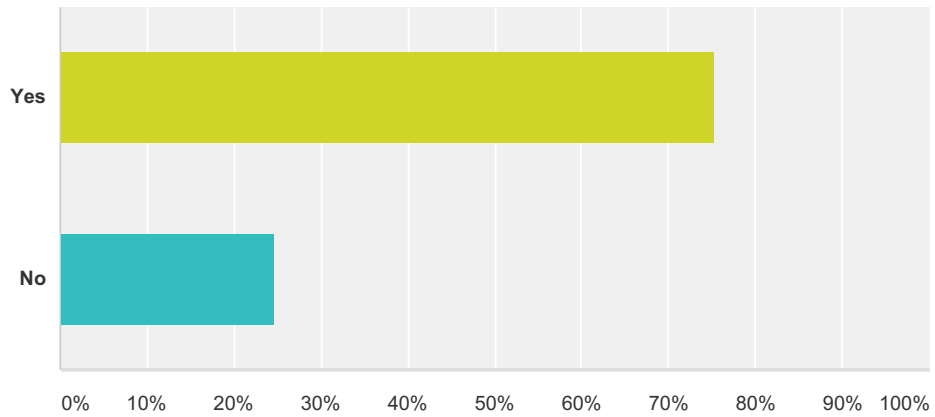
Answered: 134 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	33.58%	45
No	66.42%	89
Total		134

Q18 In 2014, New York State’s minimum wage increased from \$7.25/hour to \$8.00/hour. In 2015, proponents of a higher minimum wage are expected to push for an increase of \$10.00/hr. Do you agree with this proposed legislation? (Choose one)

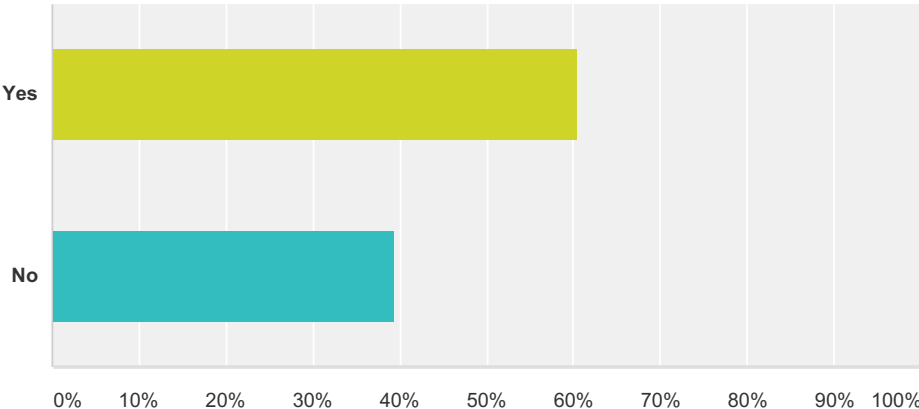
Answered: 134 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	75.37% 101
No	24.63% 33
Total	134

Q19 During the 2014 New York State legislative session, there has been a strong push for the Paid Family Leave Insurance bill (S.04742-b/A.1793-b) to be enacted. Under this bill, employers would have to provide employees with up to 12 weeks of partial wages should they take time off from work to care for a child or seriously ill family member. Do you agree with this proposed legislation? (Choose one)

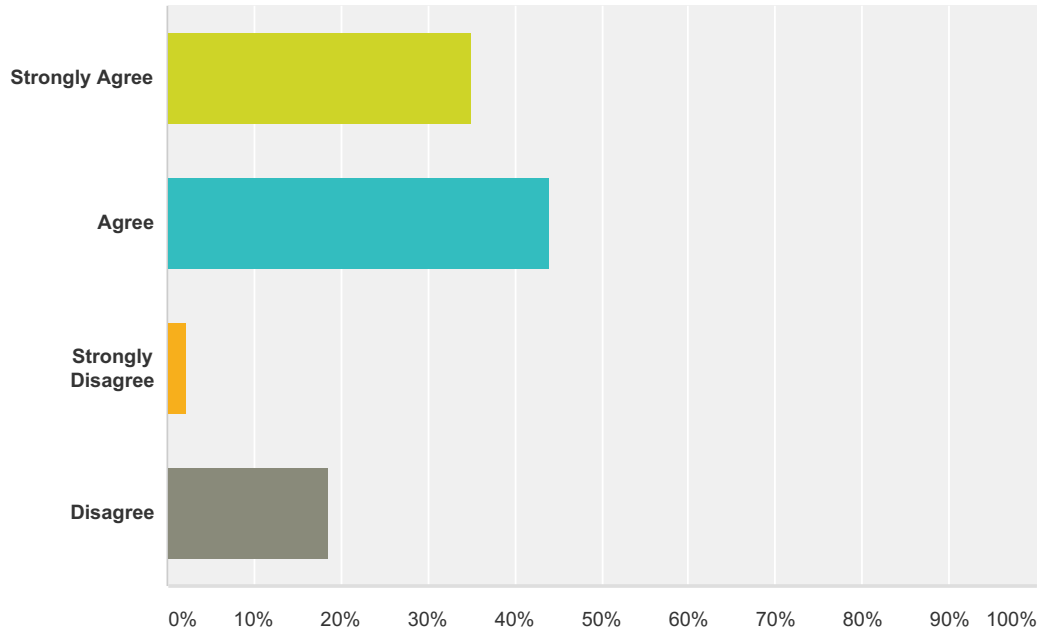
Answered: 134 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	60.45% 81
No	39.55% 53
Total	134

Q20 Federal Tax Reform continues to be a hot button issue in Congress. If passed, it is expected to simplify the current tax code; and reduce both tax rates and administrative costs. Would you say that the complexity of the current tax code is a heavy burden to your business?

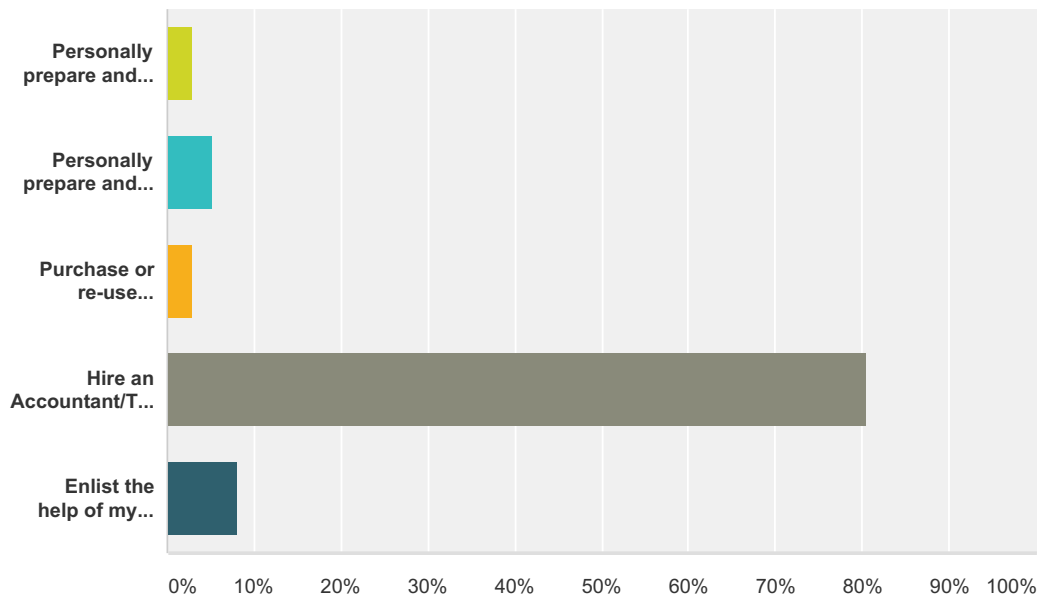
Answered: 134 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly Agree	35.07% 47
Agree	44.03% 59
Strongly Disagree	2.24% 3
Disagree	18.66% 25
Total	134

Q21 How do you plan on filing your 2014 tax return for your business? (Choose one)

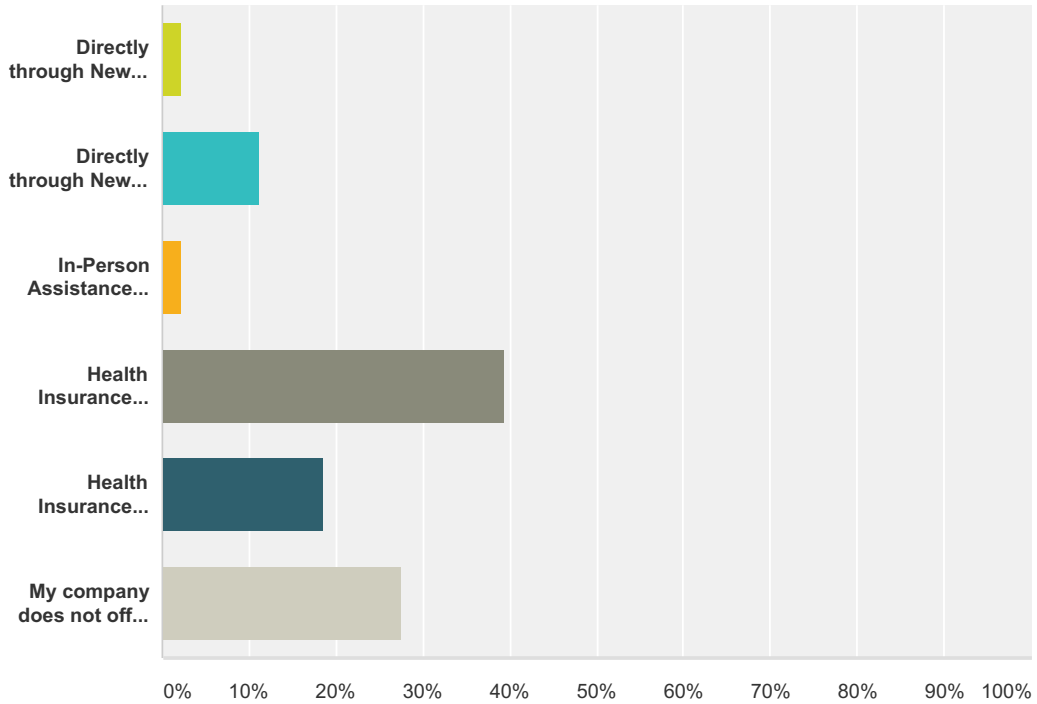
Answered: 134 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses
Personally prepare and file tax documents (hard copy)	2.99% 4
Personally prepare and file tax documents (electronically)	5.22% 7
Purchase or re-use computerized tax preparation software	2.99% 4
Hire an Accountant/Tax Practitioner	80.60% 108
Enlist the help of my staff	8.21% 11
Total	134

Q22 It's been a year since New York State of Health marketplace was launched in accordance with the provisions of the Affordable Care Act. How did purchase insurance for you and your employees in 2014? (Choose all that apply)

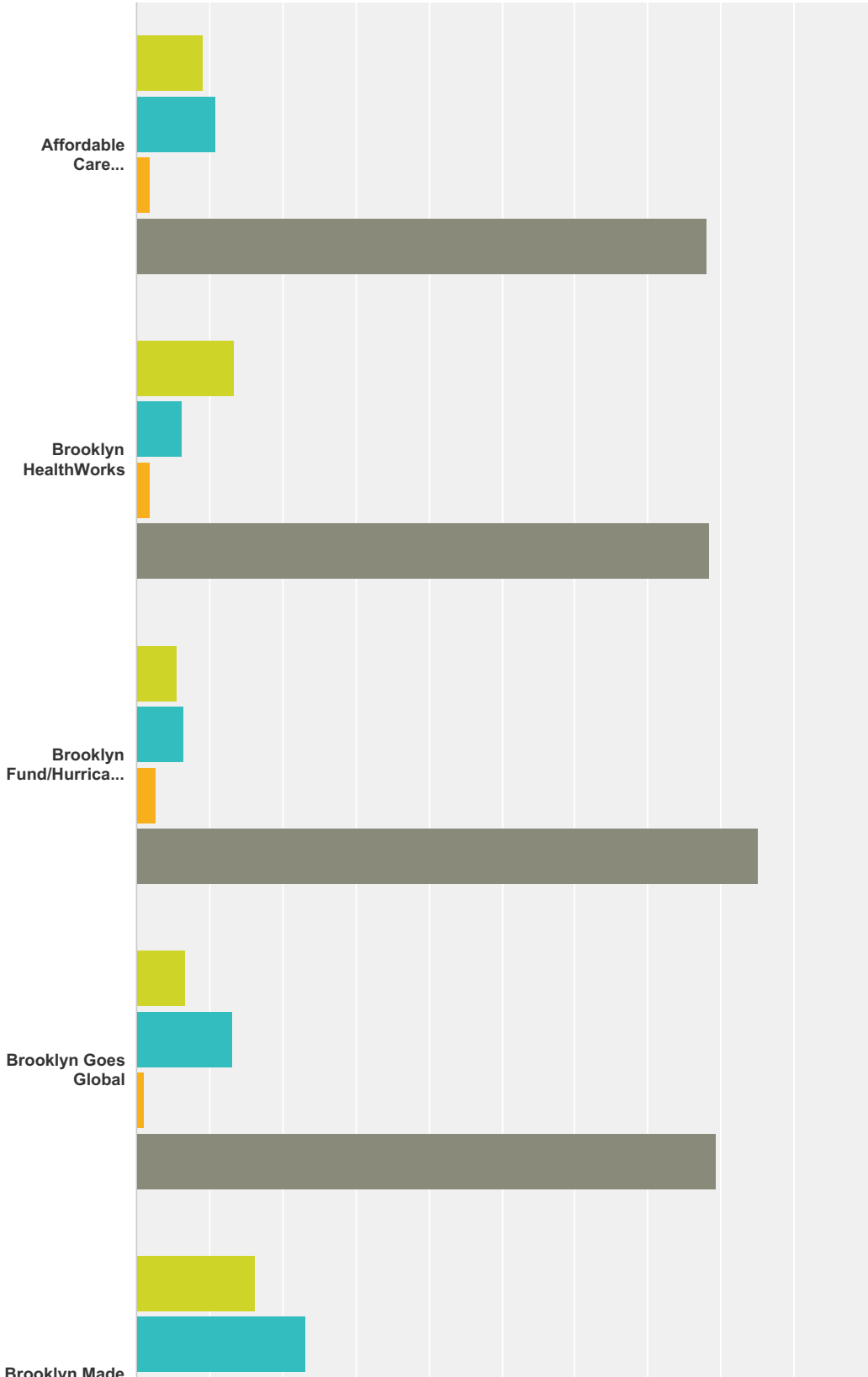
Answered: 134 Skipped: 34



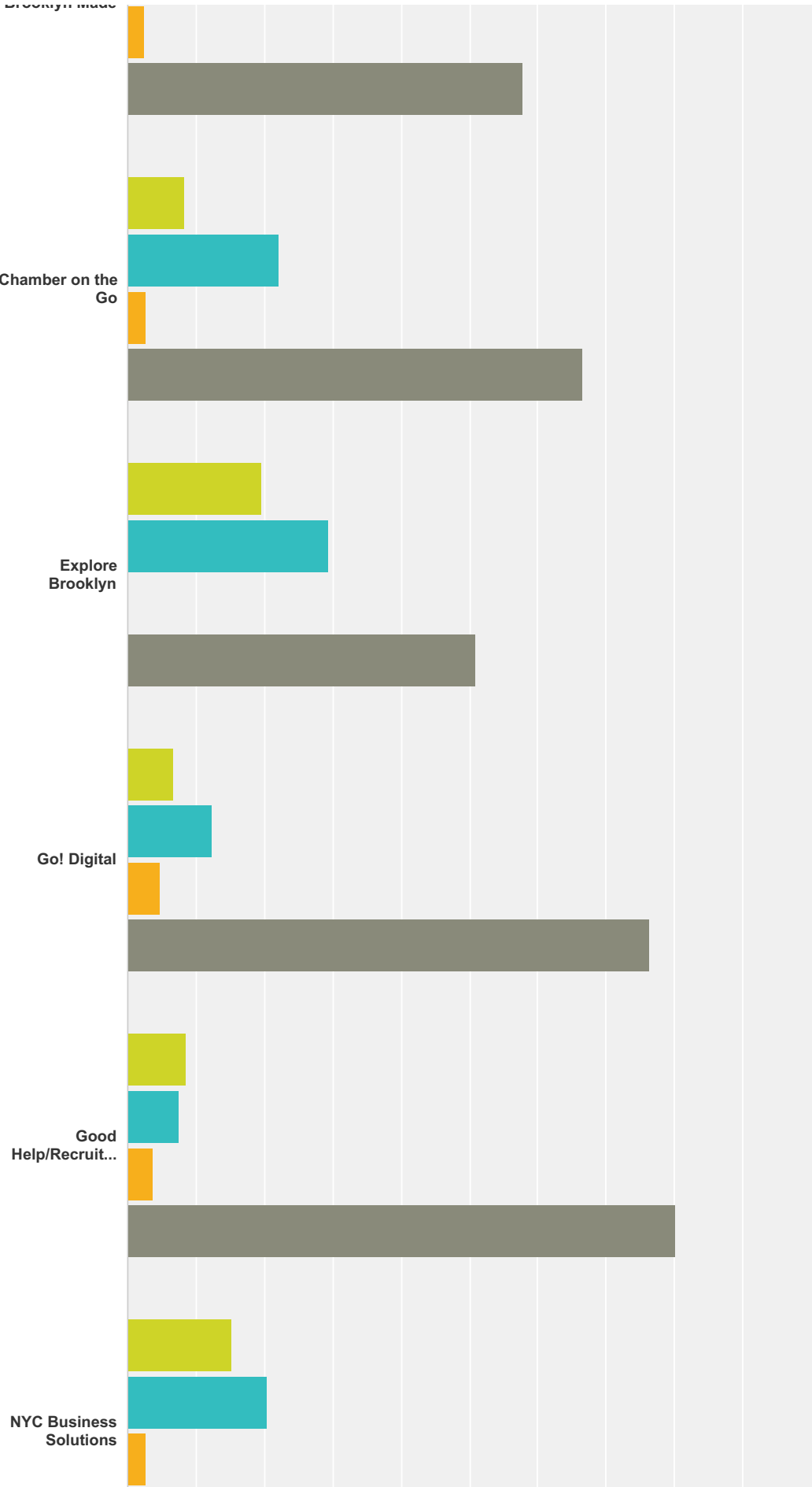
Answer Choices	Responses	
Directly through New York State Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) Marketplace	2.24%	3
Directly through New York State of Health Individual Marketplace	11.19%	15
In-Person Assistance Navigator	2.24%	3
Health Insurance Broker	39.55%	53
Health Insurance Carrier	18.66%	25
My company does not offer employees health insurance	27.61%	37
Total Respondents: 134		

Q23 Which of these Chamber Programs/Services have you utilized within the past year? How helpful were they?

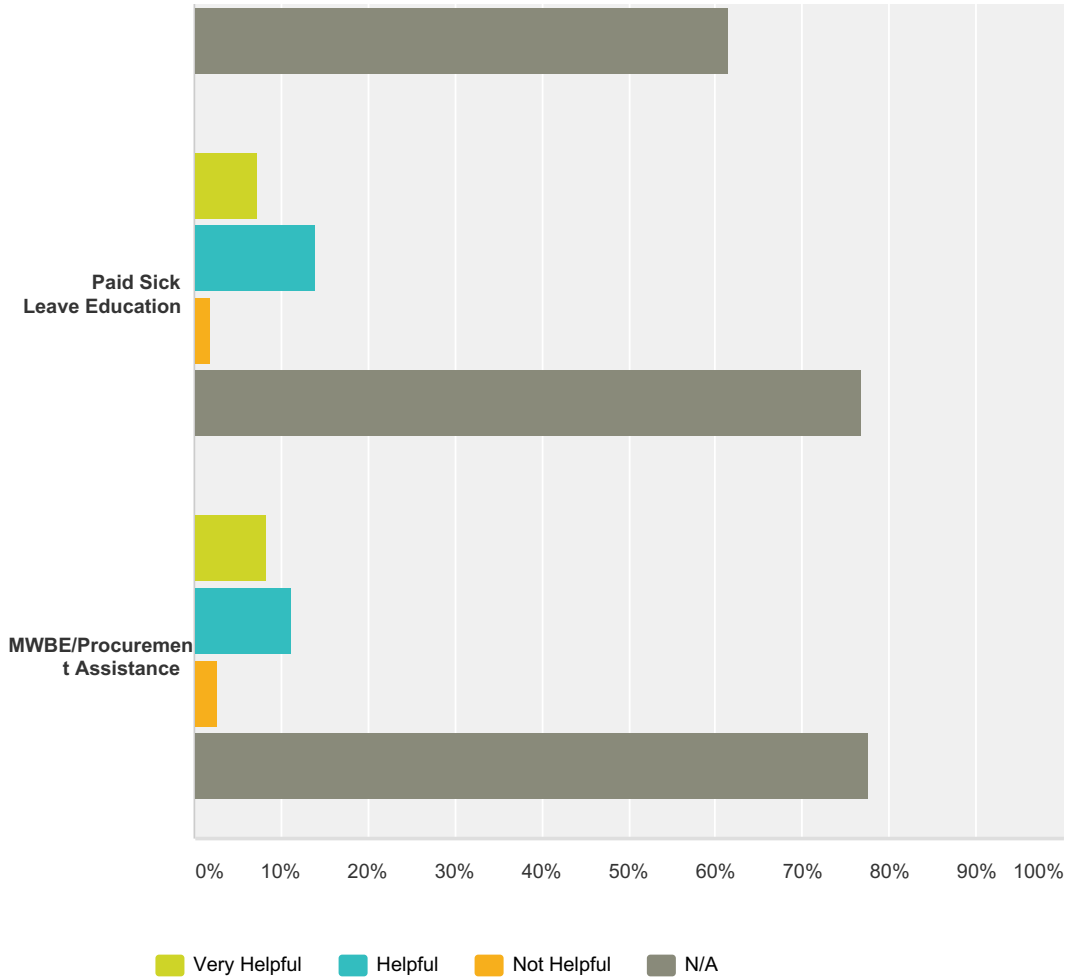
Answered: 127 Skipped: 41



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2014 Member Issues Survey



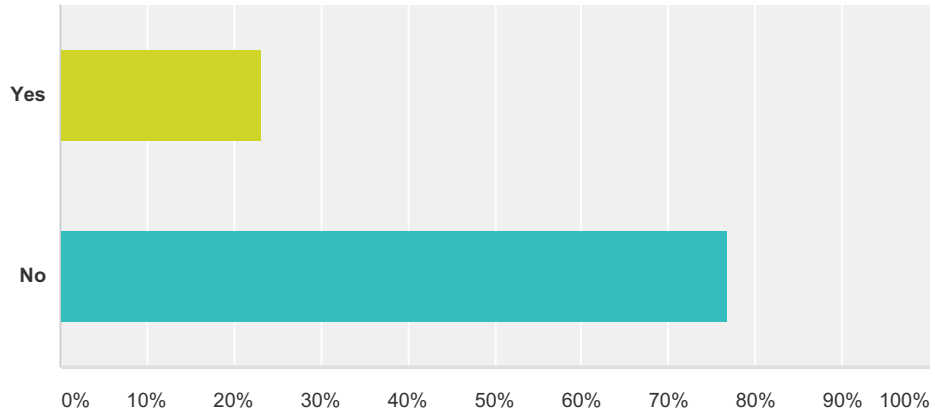
	Very Helpful	Helpful	Not Helpful	N/A	Total
Affordable Care Act/In-Person Assistance Navigator	9.09% 10	10.91% 12	1.82% 2	78.18% 86	110
Brooklyn HealthWorks	13.39% 15	6.25% 7	1.79% 2	78.57% 88	112
Brooklyn Fund/Hurricane Sandy Relief	5.56% 6	6.48% 7	2.78% 3	85.19% 92	108
Brooklyn Goes Global	6.60% 7	13.21% 14	0.94% 1	79.25% 84	106
Brooklyn Made	16.38% 19	23.28% 27	2.59% 3	57.76% 67	116
Chamber on the Go	8.33% 9	22.22% 24	2.78% 3	66.67% 72	108
Explore Brooklyn	19.64% 22	29.46% 33	0.00% 0	50.89% 57	112
Go! Digital	6.60% 7	12.26% 13	4.72% 5	76.42% 81	106
Good Help/Recruitment Services	8.49% 9	7.55% 8	3.77% 4	80.19% 85	106
NYC Business Solutions	15.18% 17	20.54% 23	2.68% 3	61.61% 69	112

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Paid Sick Leave Education	7.41% 8	13.89% 15	1.85% 2	76.85% 83	108
MWBE/Procurement Assistance	8.41% 9	11.21% 12	2.80% 3	77.57% 83	107

Q24 Would you like a Chamber staff Member to contact you about any of the programs/services listed above?

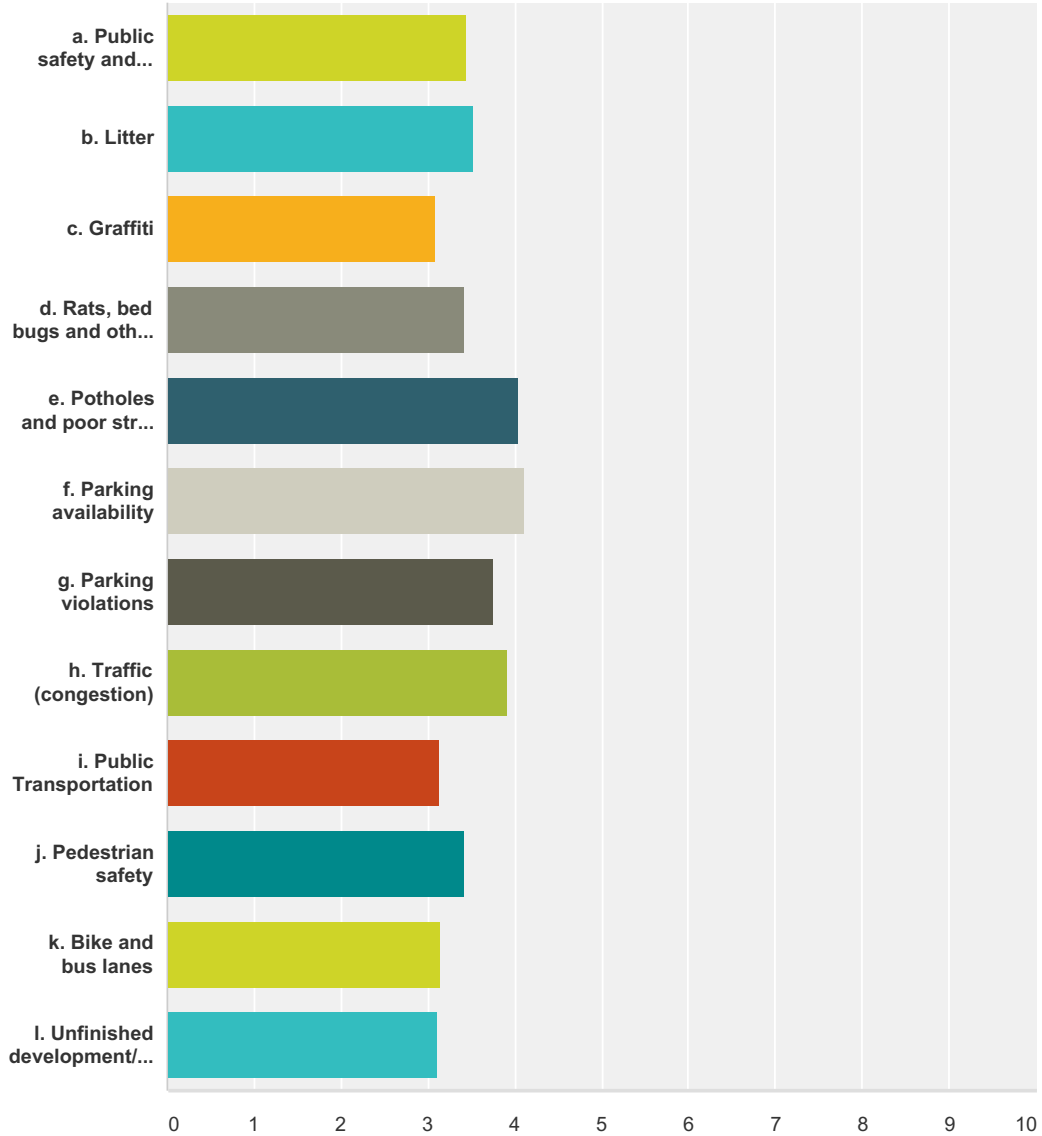
Answered: 129 Skipped: 39



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	23.26%	30
No	76.74%	99
Total		129

**Q25 To what degree are you concerned about the following quality of life issues?
Please rate each of the following:**

Answered: 129 Skipped: 39



	Does not apply	Not a concern	Only a slight problem	It's a problem	It's a severe problem	Total	Weighted Average
a. Public safety and security	3.10% 4	12.40% 16	31.78% 41	42.64% 55	10.08% 13	129	3.44
b. Litter	3.10% 4	6.20% 8	37.98% 49	41.09% 53	11.63% 15	129	3.52
c. Graffiti	3.88% 5	18.60% 24	45.74% 59	27.13% 35	4.65% 6	129	3.10
d. Rats, bed bugs and other vermin	6.20% 8	14.73% 19	24.81% 32	39.53% 51	14.73% 19	129	3.42

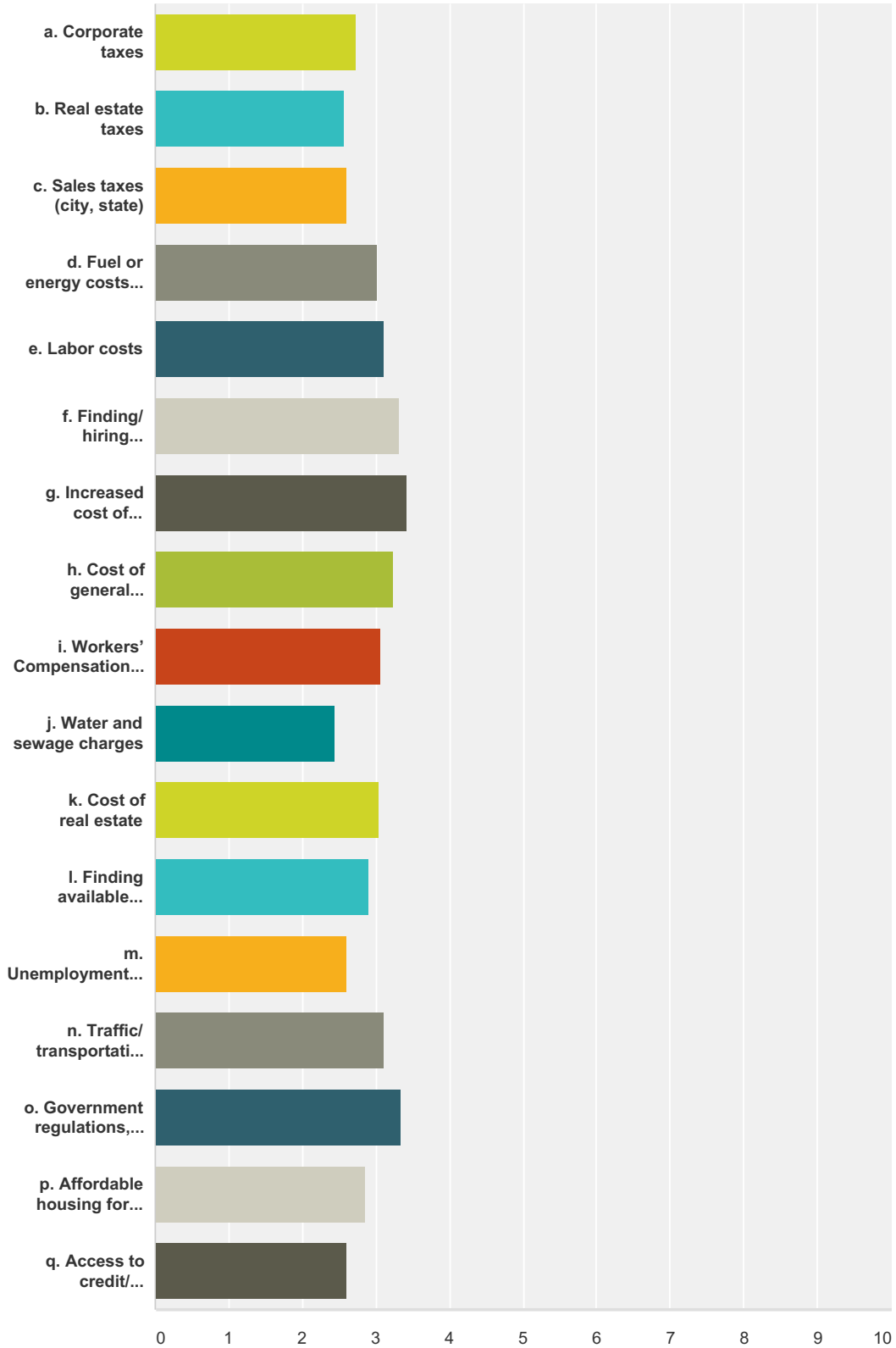
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e. Potholes and poor street conditions	0.78% 1	1.55% 2	20.93% 27	46.51% 60	30.23% 39	129	4.04
f. Parking availability	2.33% 3	3.88% 5	13.95% 18	38.76% 50	41.09% 53	129	4.12
g. Parking violations	3.88% 5	11.63% 15	19.38% 25	34.88% 45	30.23% 39	129	3.76
h. Traffic (congestion)	0.78% 1	5.43% 7	19.38% 25	49.61% 64	24.81% 32	129	3.92
i. Public Transportation	1.55% 2	31.78% 41	31.01% 40	22.48% 29	13.18% 17	129	3.14
j. Pedestrian safety	0.00% 0	19.38% 25	35.66% 46	27.91% 36	17.05% 22	129	3.43
k. Bike and bus lanes	3.88% 5	29.46% 38	27.91% 36	24.03% 31	14.73% 19	129	3.16
l. Unfinished development/ construction sites	6.20% 8	26.36% 34	28.68% 37	27.91% 36	10.85% 14	129	3.11

Q26 And finally, to what degree do the following issues limit your success as a business? Please rate each of the following obstacles:

Answered: 126 Skipped: 42

2014 Member Issues Survey



	Does not apply	Not a concern	Only a slight problem	It's a problem	It's a severe problem	Total	Weighted Average
a. Corporate taxes	26.98% 34	17.46% 22	18.25% 23	29.37% 37	7.94% 10	126	2.74

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b. Real estate taxes	32.54% 41	21.43% 27	12.70% 16	23.81% 30	9.52% 12	126	2.56
c. Sales taxes (city, state)	26.19% 33	21.43% 27	22.22% 28	24.60% 31	5.56% 7	126	2.62
d. Fuel or energy costs (gas, diesel, electric, oil, etc.)	14.29% 18	21.43% 27	22.22% 28	31.75% 40	10.32% 13	126	3.02
e. Labor costs	8.73% 11	17.46% 22	34.13% 43	32.54% 41	7.14% 9	126	3.12
f. Finding/ hiring reliable, qualified workers	3.97% 5	22.22% 28	25.40% 32	34.92% 44	13.49% 17	126	3.32
g. Increased cost of providing health insurance for my employees	11.11% 14	15.87% 20	16.67% 21	31.75% 40	24.60% 31	126	3.43
h. Cost of general liability insurance	6.35% 8	20.63% 26	29.37% 37	30.16% 38	13.49% 17	126	3.24
i. Workers' Compensation costs	12.70% 16	21.43% 27	24.60% 31	29.37% 37	11.90% 15	126	3.06
j. Water and sewage charges	25.40% 32	29.37% 37	25.40% 32	14.29% 18	5.56% 7	126	2.45
k. Cost of real estate	23.02% 29	17.46% 22	15.87% 20	19.84% 25	23.81% 30	126	3.04
l. Finding available business space/ real estate	19.05% 24	26.19% 33	19.05% 24	17.46% 22	18.25% 23	126	2.90
m. Unemployment insurance	19.05% 24	28.57% 36	31.75% 40	14.29% 18	6.35% 8	126	2.60
n. Traffic/ transportation problems	11.90% 15	19.84% 25	27.78% 35	26.19% 33	14.29% 18	126	3.11
o. Government regulations, fines and violations	10.32% 13	21.43% 27	16.67% 21	27.78% 35	23.81% 30	126	3.33
p. Affordable housing for employees	19.84% 25	25.40% 32	17.46% 22	24.60% 31	12.70% 16	126	2.85
q. Access to credit/ liquidity problems	23.02% 29	30.95% 39	19.05% 24	15.87% 20	11.11% 14	126	2.61

Q27 Are there any specific projects/issues that you would like the Chamber to share with elected officials on your behalf? Are there any legislative issues that you support/oppose? (Please write in the space provided.)

Answered: 32 Skipped: 136