

Thayer County Youth Survey



2020 Statewide Findings

- They value safety
- They are community-oriented
- They favor small communities

YOUTH SURVEY SUMMARY



Thayer County



234

Total responses



6

Communities



3

Schools

9th GRADE

59

10th GRADE

57

11th GRADE

46

12th GRADE

62





Types of questions

- **Future Career**
 - What industry would you like to work in?
 - What are the best employment opportunities in your area?
 - Do you currently have a job?
- **Ideal Community**
 - Rank your most ideal community traits.
 - What is your main reason to stay in Thayer County?
 - What is your main reason to leave Thayer County?
- **Community Engagement**
 - What kinds of activities are you involved in?
 - Do you feel connected to the place you live now?
 - Do you feel like you play a role in your community?

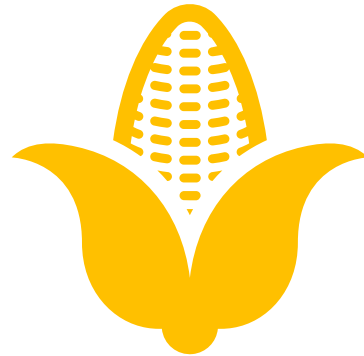
Future Career

In the future, what industry would you like to work in?



Medicine, Nursing,
Health Science,
Biotech

25.9%



Agriculture, Natural
Resources (ex. Mining),
Forestry, Environment,
Utilities

14.4%



Early Childhood Care,
Welfare, Social Work

6.5%

What do you think are the best employment opportunities in your area?



Agriculture, Natural Resources (ex. Mining), Forestry, Environment, Utilities

18.8%



Medicine, Nursing, Health Science, Biotech

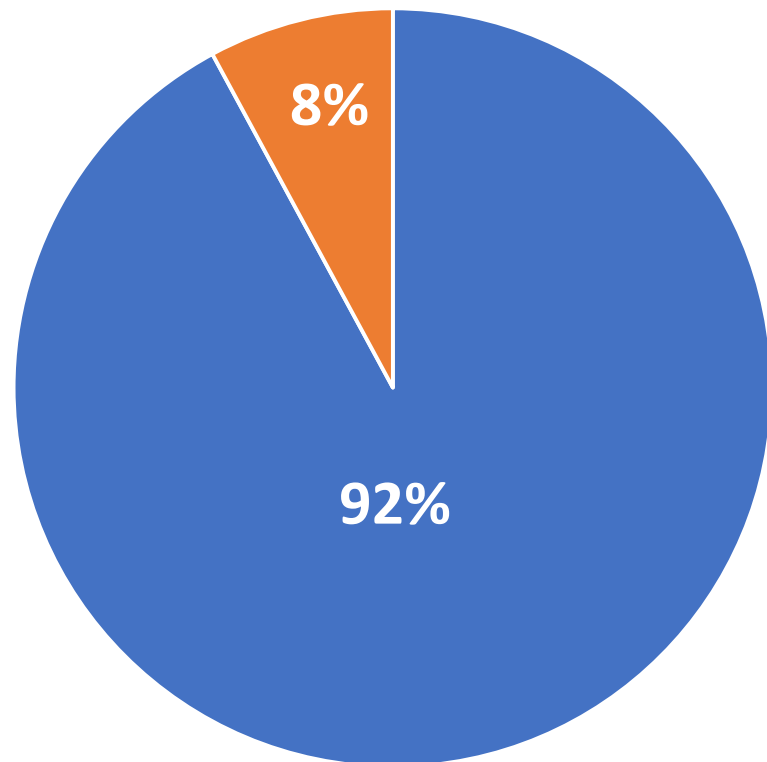
11.3%



Education (primary, secondary, college or university), Training

9.6%

Do you have a job?



■ Yes ■ No



My Ideal Community Has/Is...

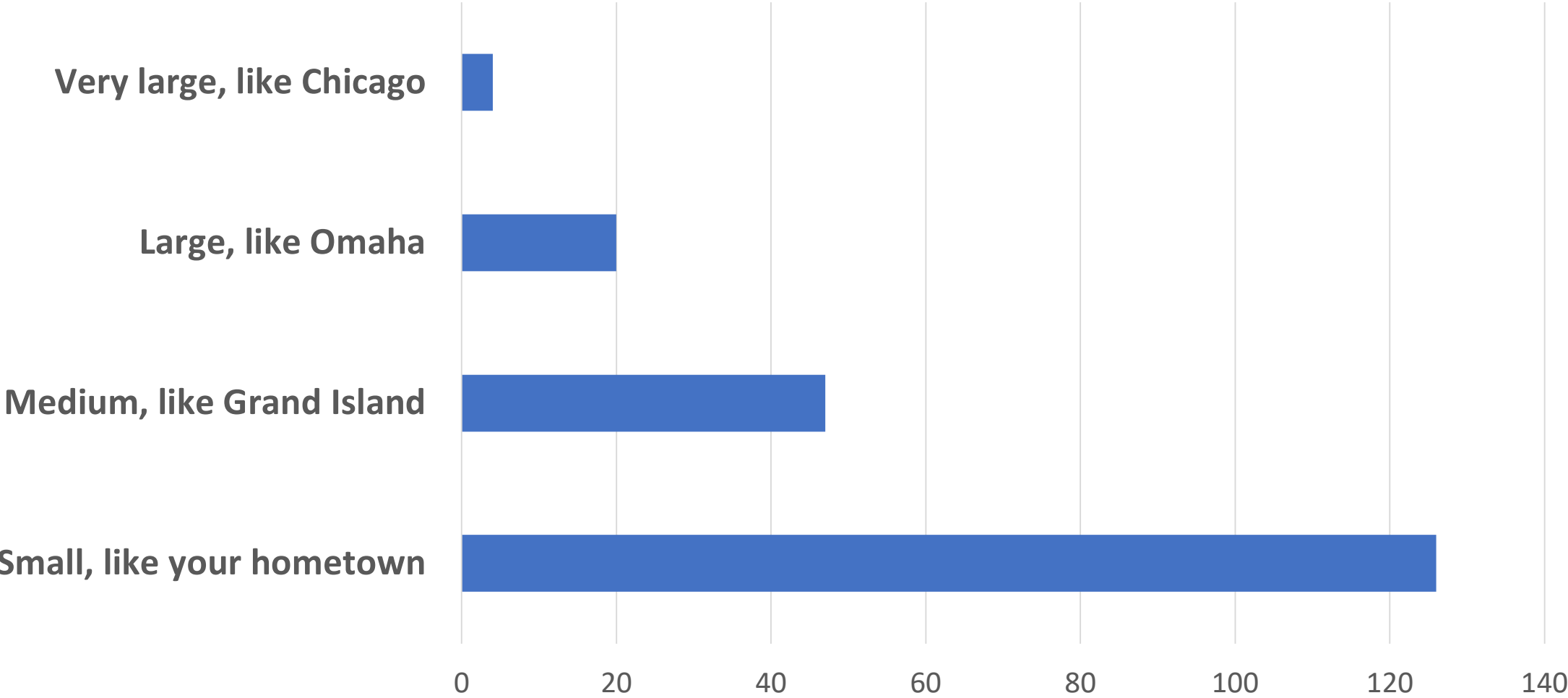
Rank the following from Most Important (1) to Least Important (7) when you think of your ideal community.

The following is the total # of 1st place rankings for each choice

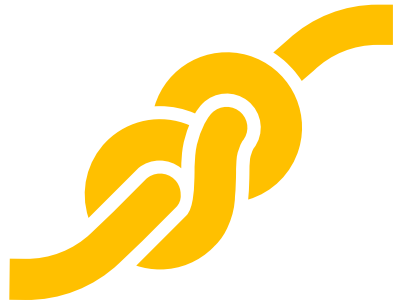
- #1** Good Schools – **62**
- #1** Safety from Violence and Theft – **62**
- #2** Close in Proximity to Family – **27**
- #3** Diverse Cultural Experiences – **13**
- #4** Entertainment and Shopping Options – **10**
- #5** A Feeling of Being Included – **7**
- #6** Parks and Outdoor Recreation – **6**



What size community is your ideal to live in?



If you were to live in this area as an adult, what do you think the main reason would be?



Family ties in the area
31.4%



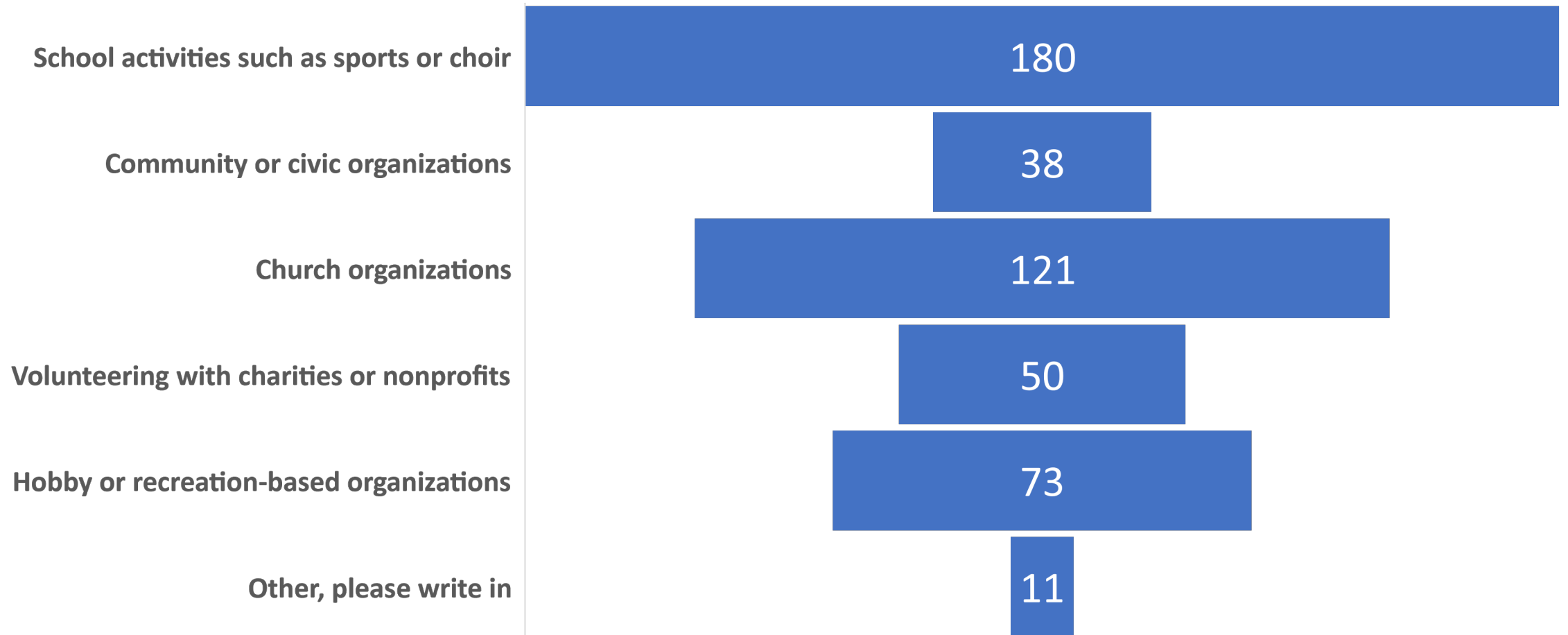
Good place to raise a
family
25.3%



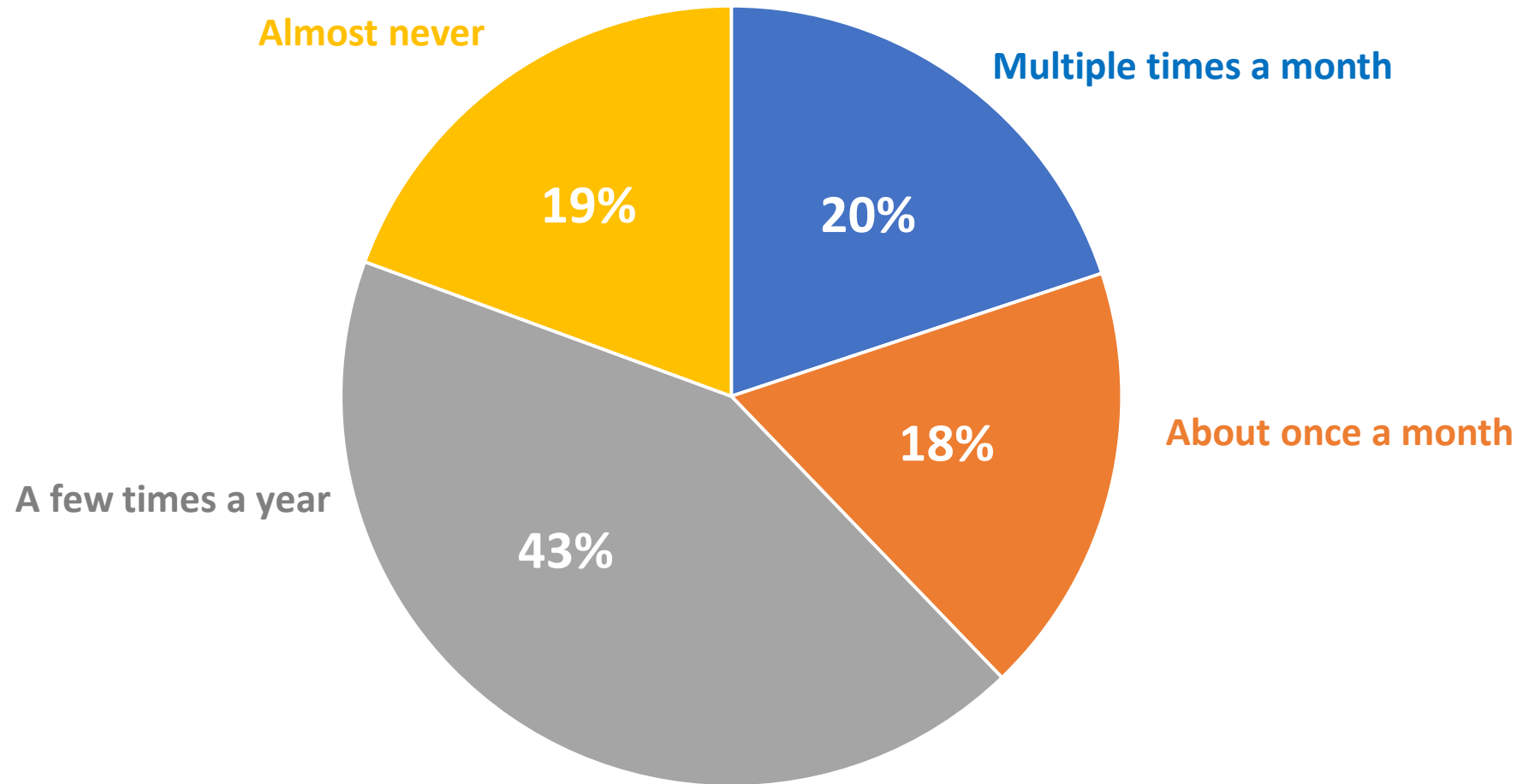
Job or business
opportunity
16%

Community Engagement

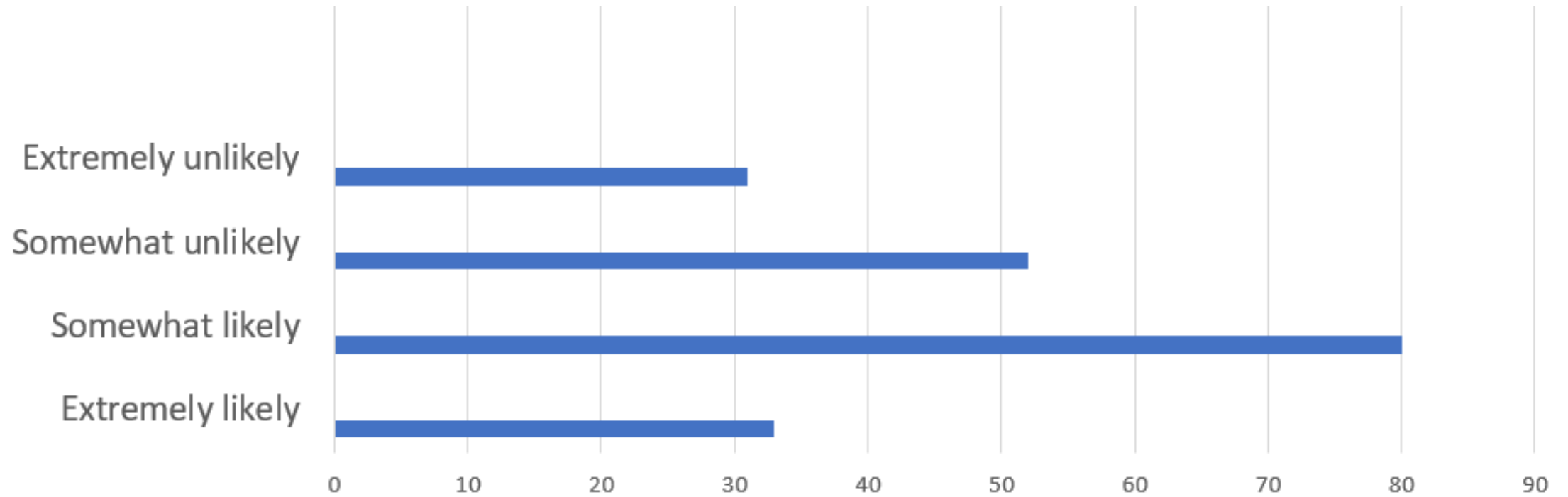
Do you participate in any of the following activities?



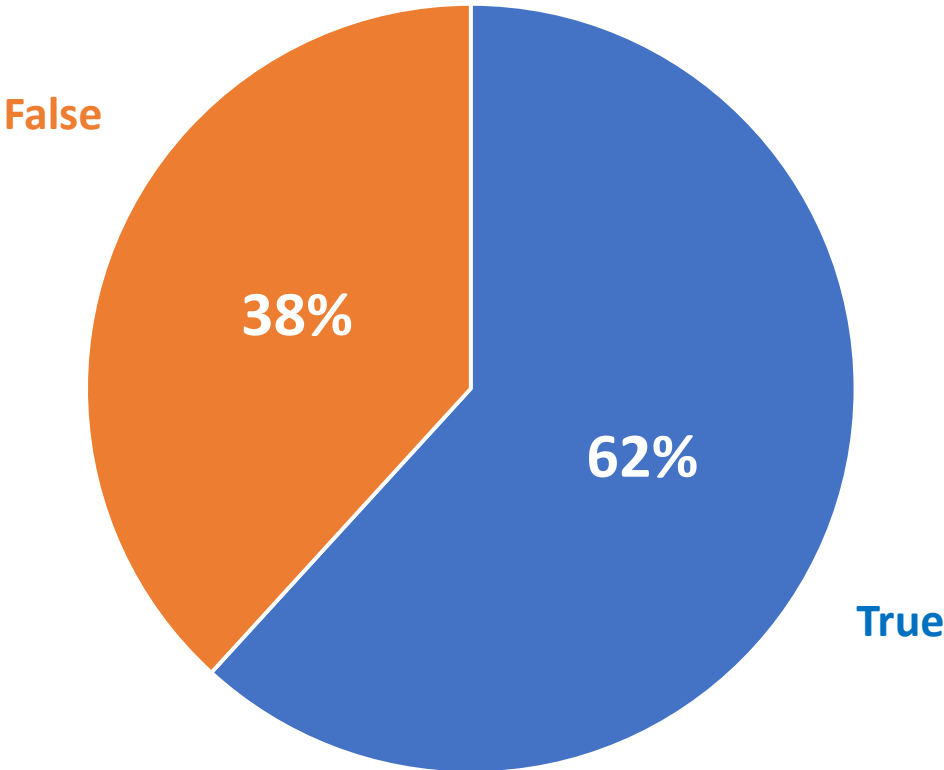
How often do you get together with other people from your town to do something positive for your community?



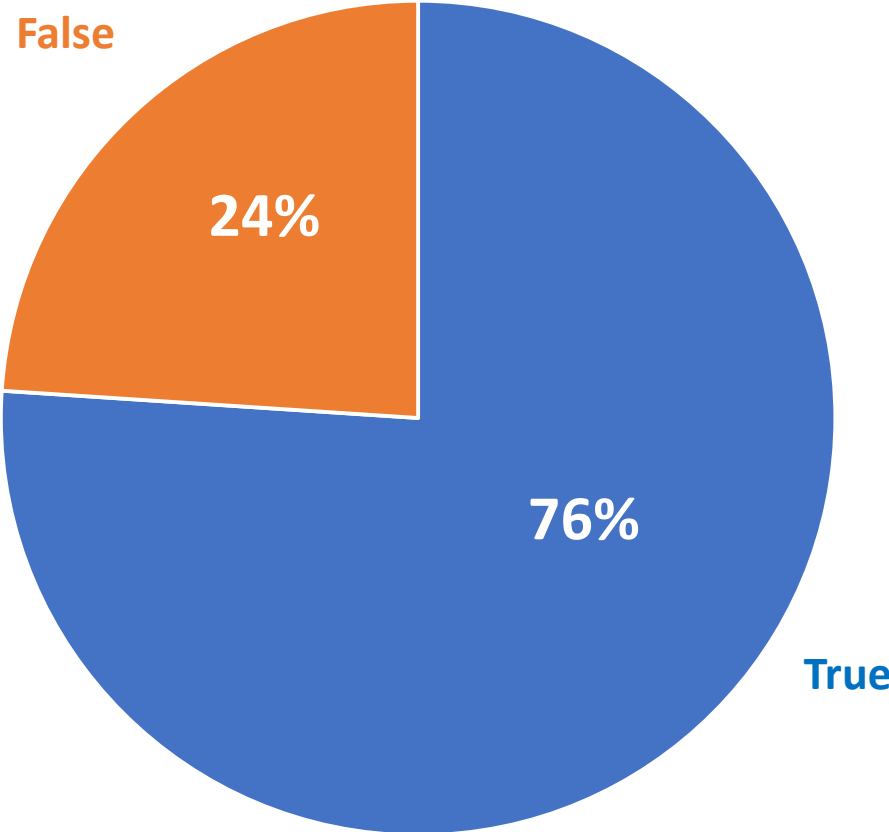
When you are an adult, how likely are you to live in the area you live in now?



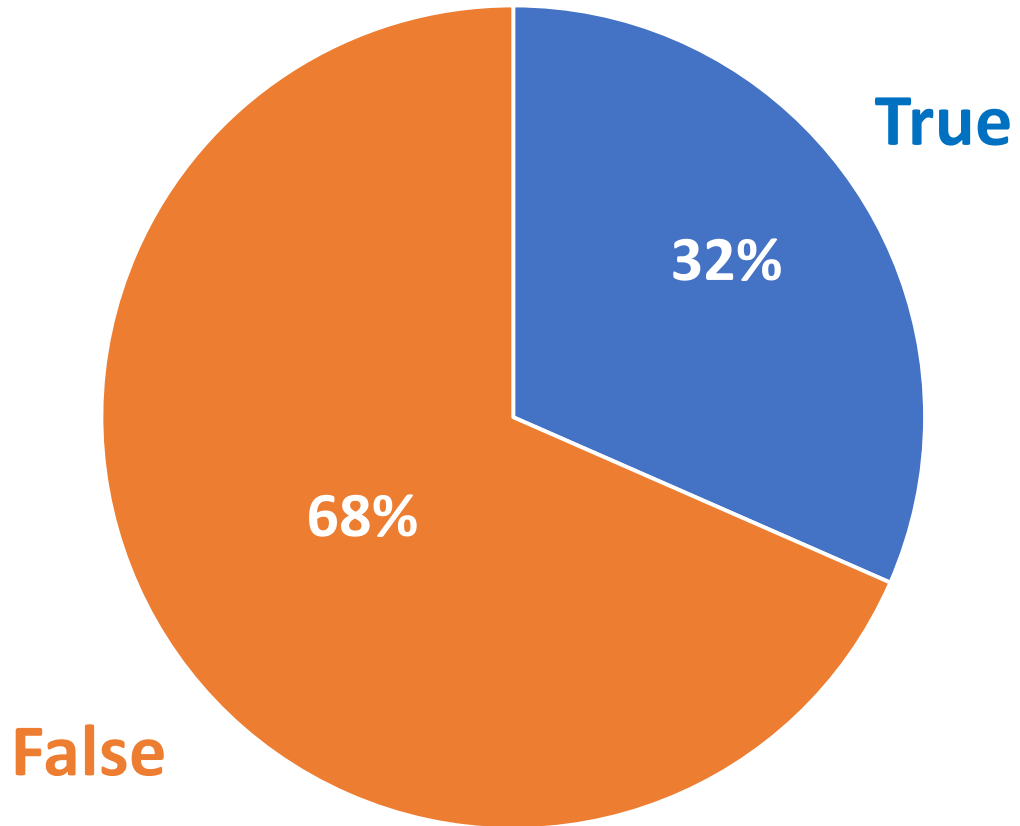
True or False? My peers and I are invited to share our opinions or get involved in town projects or happenings.



True or False? I feel connected to the place I live now.



True or False? I play a role in this community. For example, you are involved in community events, programs or projects.



**It all starts with
an invitation!**

*"Your story
starts with you.
right here."*



THE DREAM Q → SWITCH

Lyrics by Becky Boesen
Music by David von Kampen
Sung by Natalie McClure ☀

Co-produced by Blixt Locally Grown
and Nebraska Community Foundation

Sunday, October 3, 2021 | 1 pm, Pre-show activities start at 11:30am | Thayer County Activity Center, Deshler



What is The Dream Switch?

The Dream Switch is an original community concert event featuring live music, followed by a community conversation. Set to a pop-folk blend, The Dream Switch explores sense of place, belonging, and the joy of blooming where you're planted. The Dream Switch is enjoyed by people of all ages, from young children to senior citizens.

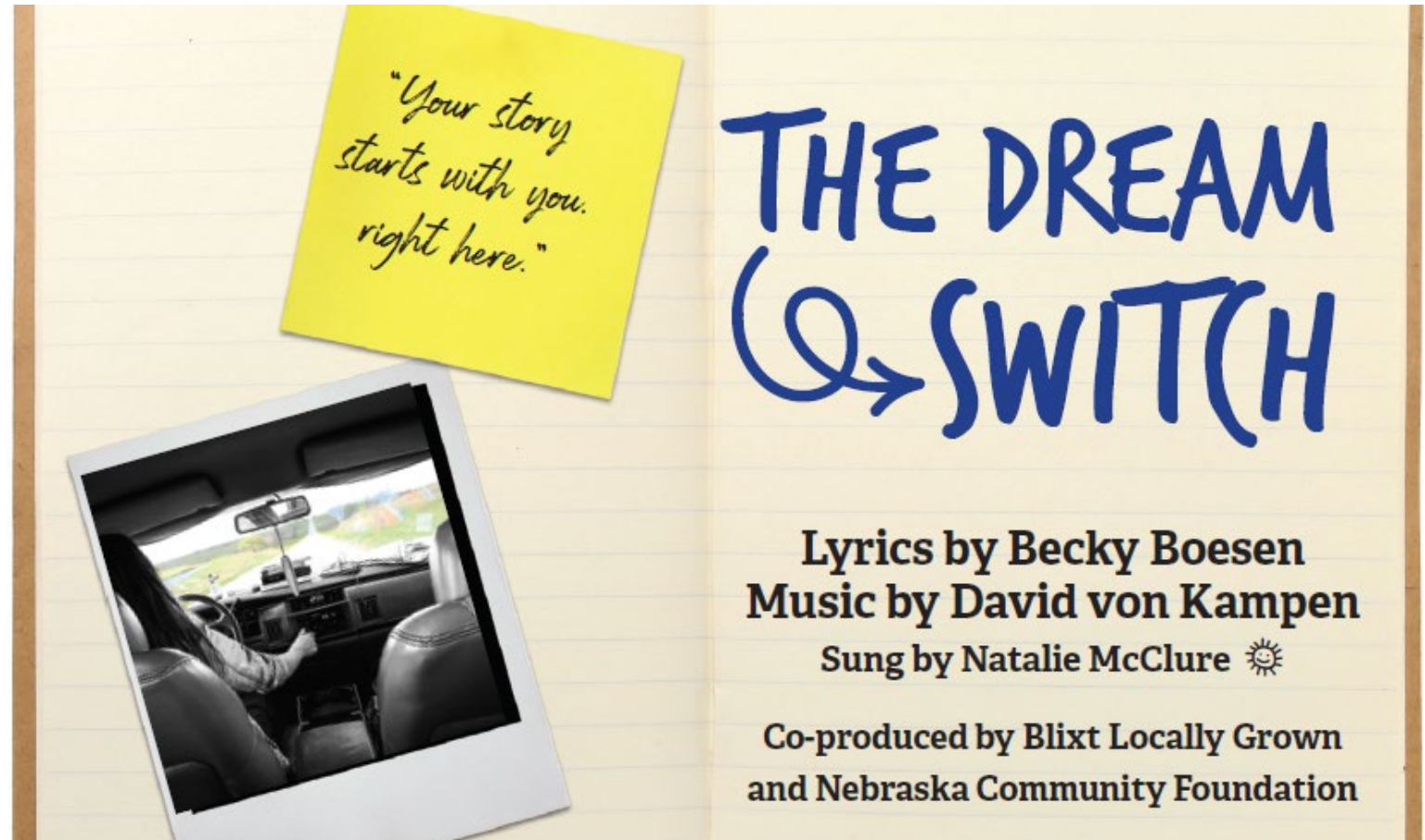
What is The Dream Switch about?

The Dream Switch story revolves around a young outlier from the Sandhills who decides after her first year of college in Nebraska, that her happiness awaits elsewhere. The Dream Switch follows her journey as she leaves home, explores the world beyond, and then comes to her own understanding that "everything I needed to be me, was around me."

"This program is about bringing the community together to celebrate what is great about living in our community with the message of inviting our young people to come back to live here."

- Mary Jo Hofts, Hebron

You are invited!



"Your story starts with you. right here."

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