June 2024

Workshop 1: Understanding Riegelsville Borough (May 6, 2024)

Summary of Workshop Responses

What is something you consider to be important to the future of Riegelsville?

Community septic system/Public sewer system	(7 responses)
Fix the electric lines around so we don't lose power so often	(3 responses)
Fix sidewalks	(3 responses)
Traffic calming	(3 responses)
Revitalize downtown	(3 responses)
Parking downtown	(2 responses)
Reduce speed limit to 30 mph	(2 responses)
Sidewalks on 611, consistent	(2 responses)
Plant new trees	(2 responses)
Don't become Milford, Frenchtown, Lambertville, or New Hope	(2 responses)
Preserved open space designation	(2 responses)
Plant trees on the walking trail	(2 responses)
Something to address flooding	
Stop jake brake	
Making the borough more walkable	
Attract economic development	
Public transportation	
Why is it so difficult for new businesses to succeed?	
Community spirit	

Make it more attractive to young people

Preserve sense of place

Preservation

Sustainability

Grants for permaculture projects

Gardens

Become a river town designation

No new housing developments



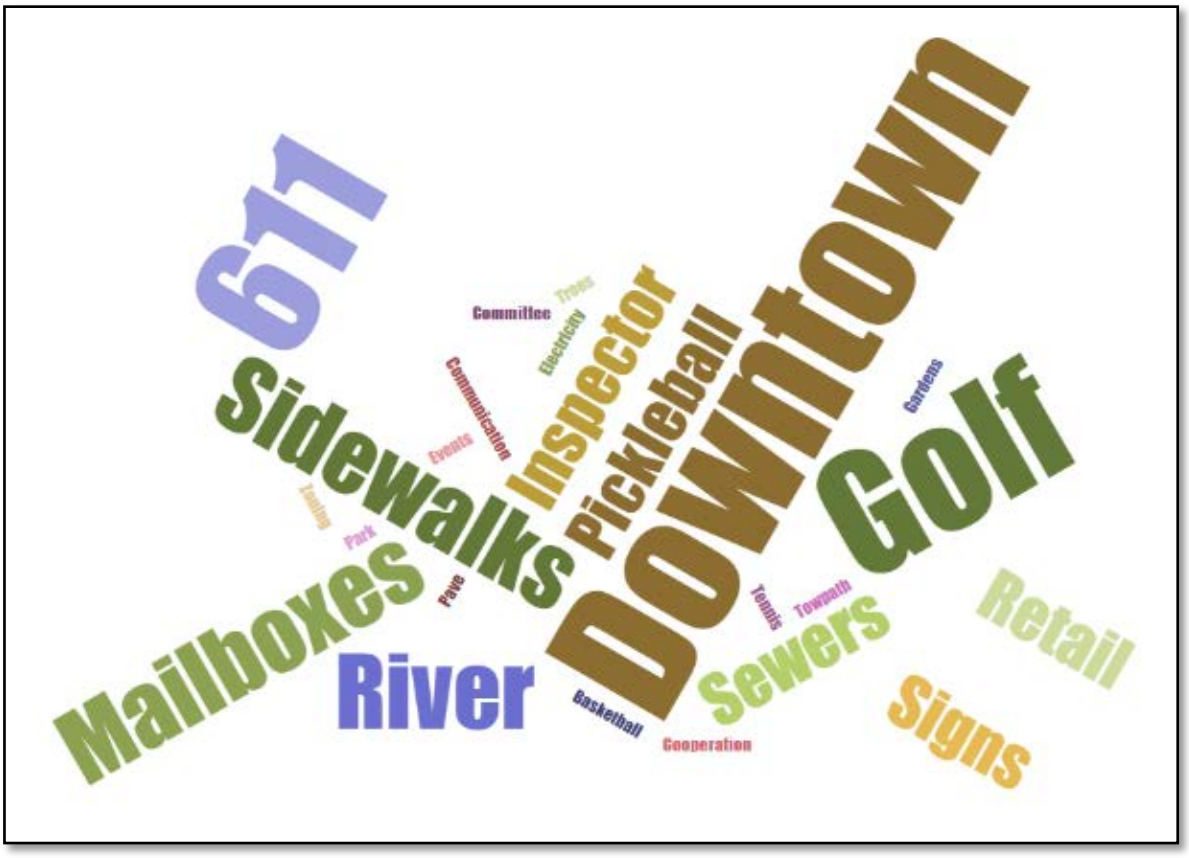
Things that could be improved in Riegelsville…

Revitalize the downtown commercial shops	(9 responses)
Driving Range	(5 responses)
Slow/Reduce heavy truck traffic on 611	(5 responses)
Sidewalks and mailboxes for everyone	(3 responses)
We need public sewers downtown to attract more business, attract visitors, and become a destination town to visit for a day or more	(2 responses)
Small retail businesses to attract people (e.g., Frenchtown)	(2 responses)
Sidewalks	(2 responses)
Golf course	(2 responses)
Pickleball court	(2 responses)
New building inspector	
Building expeditor (permit)	
New zoning officer ASAP	
Pave fire department parking lot, it is in very bad shape!	
Signs at both ends of town “slow, hidden driveways”	
No sidewalks	
Crosswalks on 611	
Communication and cooperation	
No losing electricity	
River access	
More community events	
Access to the river	
Slow down traffic on 611	
Entryway/welcome sign at light	
More sustainable gardens	
Plan to replace all the mature trees that are coming down	
A welcome committee for new residents	
Lighted tennis courts	

More access to the towpath

Improve park

Paved basketball court



My Favorite Thing About Riegelsville is….

Towpath and canal	(9 responses)
Library	(9 responses)
River	(7 responses)
Small town atmosphere	(5 responses)
Walking path	(3 responses)
Many citizens care about people	(3 responses)
It’s haunted	(2 responses)
Real sense of community	(2 responses)
Safe to walk around	(2 responses)
Community spirit	(2 responses)
History of the town and area	(2 responses)
Car show	(2 responses)
Location near big cities, but still a small community	(2 responses)
Small-town atmosphere	(2 responses)
The ambiance	
Cemetery	
Location	
Nice place to walk around	
Community	
Halloween events	
Flash mob	
Open space and semi-rural feel	
Tree lighting	
Ghost walk	
Memorial Day Parade	
Enhancement committee	
Community	
Park and recreation teams that play there	

After years of hard work we were able to part of the Palisades School District

Our restaurants

Historical buildings

Flowers planted in public spaces

Luminaries

Easter egg hunt

No place to eat in town on Tuesday



Community Values

Riegelsville is a place where…

We welcome visitors to enjoy our small town	32
We have an appreciation for history	29
Our actions are sustainable	28
We are safe and secure	27
We have opportunity for education	25
We have job and business opportunities	23
We are mentally and physically healthy	20
We value our community's sense of place	19
We are open to new ideas and innovation	13
There's cultural diversity, inclusion, and equity	12
We are resilient to change in the world	3
Other	1

Map exercise – Preserve, Enhance, Transform

Preserve –

- All farmland and open space on the west half of the borough were marked by many residents to be preserved
- Riegelsville Borough Park
- Farmland north of the park
- Overall, residents want to preserve the open space and agricultural land that is currently in the borough.

Enhance –

- Many features residents would like to be enhanced in the borough were along 611 including:
    - Getting lines painted along 611
    - Mailboxes blocking the sidewalk along 611 near Walnut Lane
    - Sidewalks along 611 need to be cleaned up; overgrown vegetation along the sidewalks
    - Missing chunks of sidewalks along 611
- Create connections from existing paths to the streets to help connect the downtown more via trails and pedestrian connections; this includes connections to Riegelsville Borough Park
- Speedbumps on Edgewood and Fairmont
- Adding active recreation to the park – tennis courts or basketball courts
- Complete a plan for a walking bridge to the canal
- Repairs on Cedar Road and Durham Road
- Clean up and enhance canal
- Community garden in the open space area next to the bike path

Transform –

- Downtown – all of the transform notes were centralized downtown explaining there is need for more businesses and that currently a downtown does not really exist. There were not too many notes of transforming other than that it needs to happen here.
- Transformation of the downtown could be a strong workshop discussion topic, almost all residents agreed there needs to be transformation in the downtown, but the discussion ended there; a longer, more targeted conversation would be helpful.

Q1 Revitalizing the downtown commercial district

4.2
average rating



Q2 Reducing speed of traffic on Route 611

3.6
average rating



Q3 Making town more walkable/bike able (marked crosswalks, bike lanes, traffic calming devices, etc).

3.7
average rating



Q4 Filling in sidewalk gaps throughout the borough to enhance public safety

3.8
average rating



Q5 Providing improved or additional active recreation facilities (i.e. sports fields and courts)



Q6 Providing improved or additional passive recreation facilities (i.e. trails, river/canal access, picnic areas, open space)



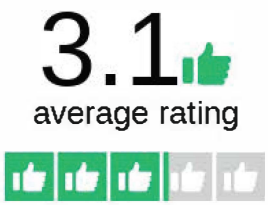
Q7 Building a community sewage system for the commercial district



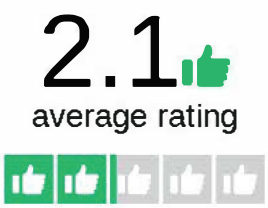
Q8 Protecting open space corridors and agricultural lands from development



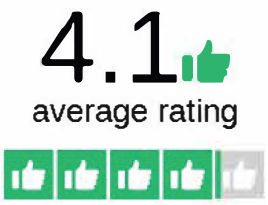
Q9 Providing more community awareness about flooding



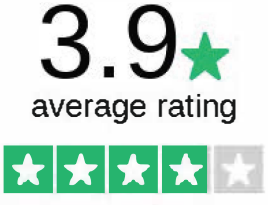
Q10 Providing public transit options in the borough



Q11 Improving the reliability of electric service in the borough

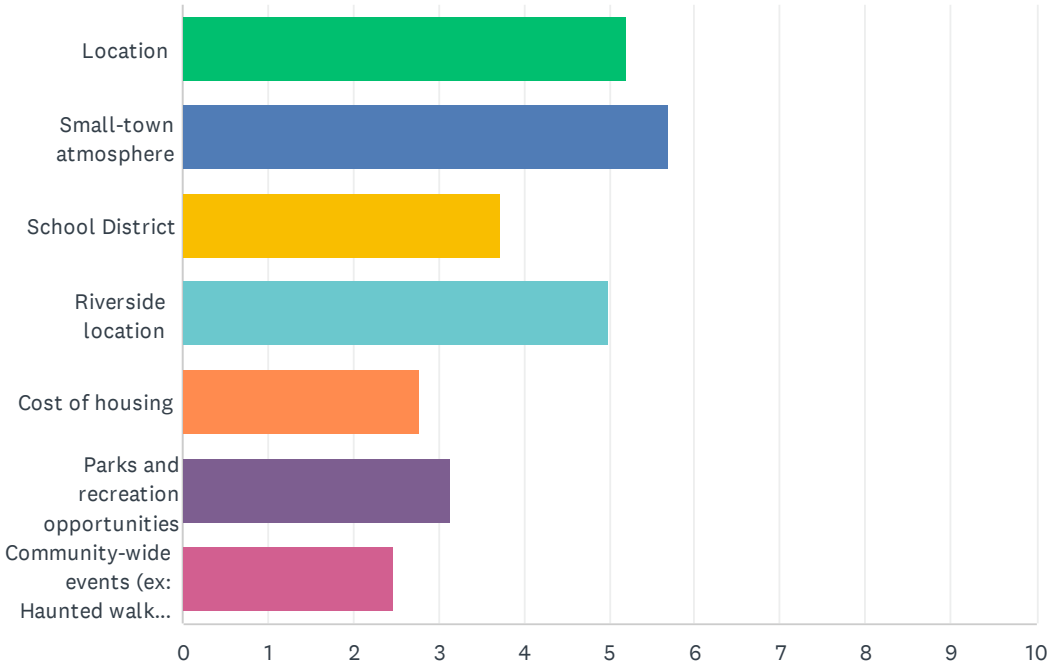


Q13 How would you rate the quality of life in Riegelsville?



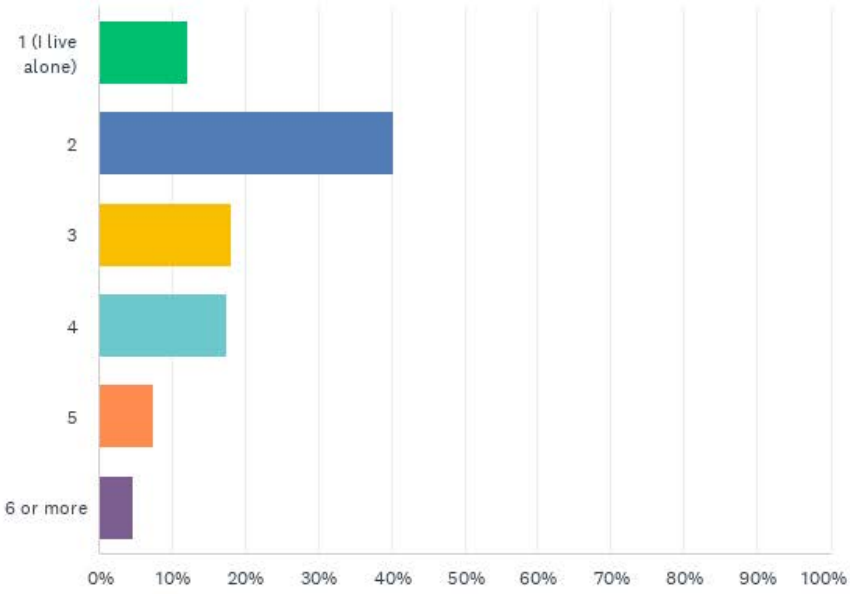
Q12 Use the arrows to rank the following items to determine what do you like best about the borough.

Answered: 167 Skipped: 3

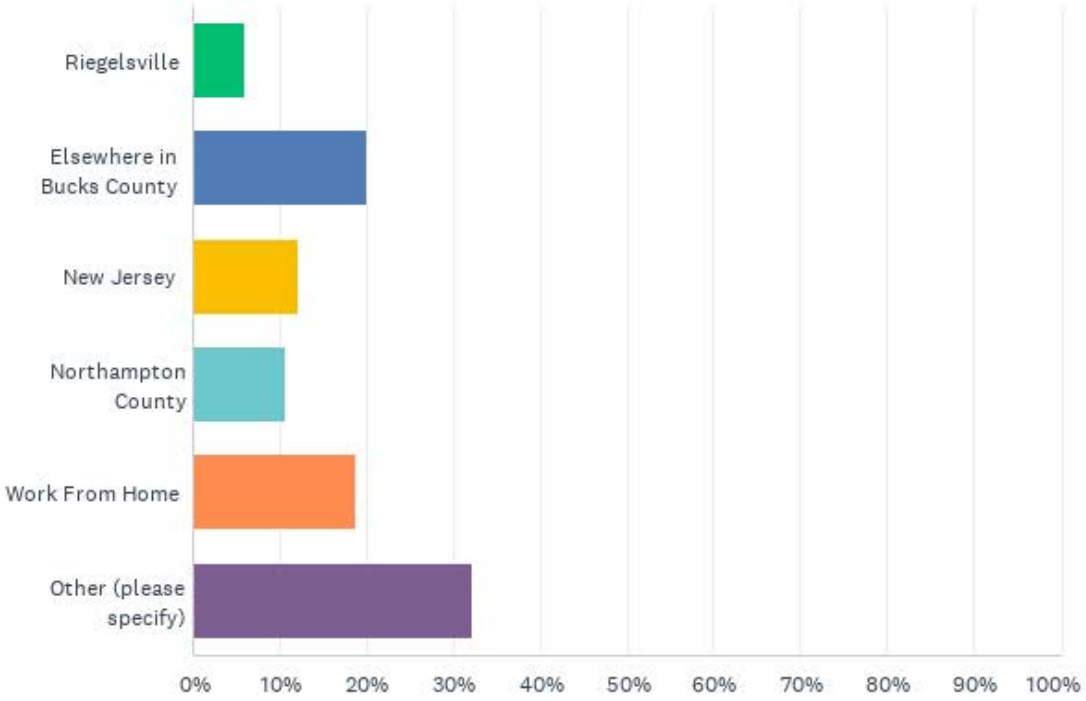


	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	SCORE
Location	23.95% 40	30.54% 51	19.76% 33	8.98% 15	5.99% 10	5.99% 10	4.79% 8	167	5.20
Small-town atmosphere	38.32% 64	24.55% 41	19.16% 32	8.98% 15	5.99% 10	0.60% 1	2.40% 4	167	5.69
School District	7.19% 12	14.97% 25	13.77% 23	20.36% 34	12.57% 21	14.97% 25	16.17% 27	167	3.74
Riverside location	20.36% 34	17.96% 30	24.55% 41	23.95% 40	6.59% 11	4.79% 8	1.80% 3	167	5.00
Cost of housing	2.40% 4	4.19% 7	5.99% 10	11.98% 20	31.14% 52	19.16% 32	25.15% 42	167	2.77
Parks and recreation opportunities	4.79% 8	4.19% 7	11.98% 20	11.98% 20	21.56% 36	35.93% 60	9.58% 16	167	3.13
Community-wide events (ex: Haunted walk, car show, Easter Egg Hunt)	2.99% 5	3.59% 6	4.79% 8	13.77% 23	16.17% 27	18.56% 31	40.12% 67	167	2.47

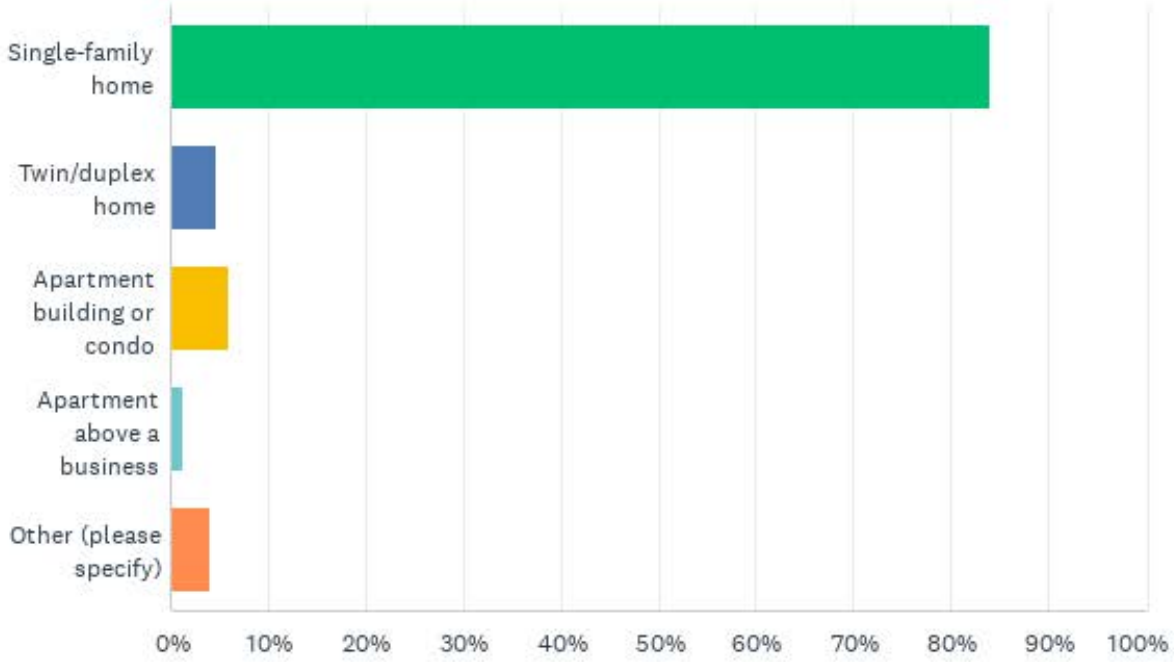
Q15 How many people live in your household?



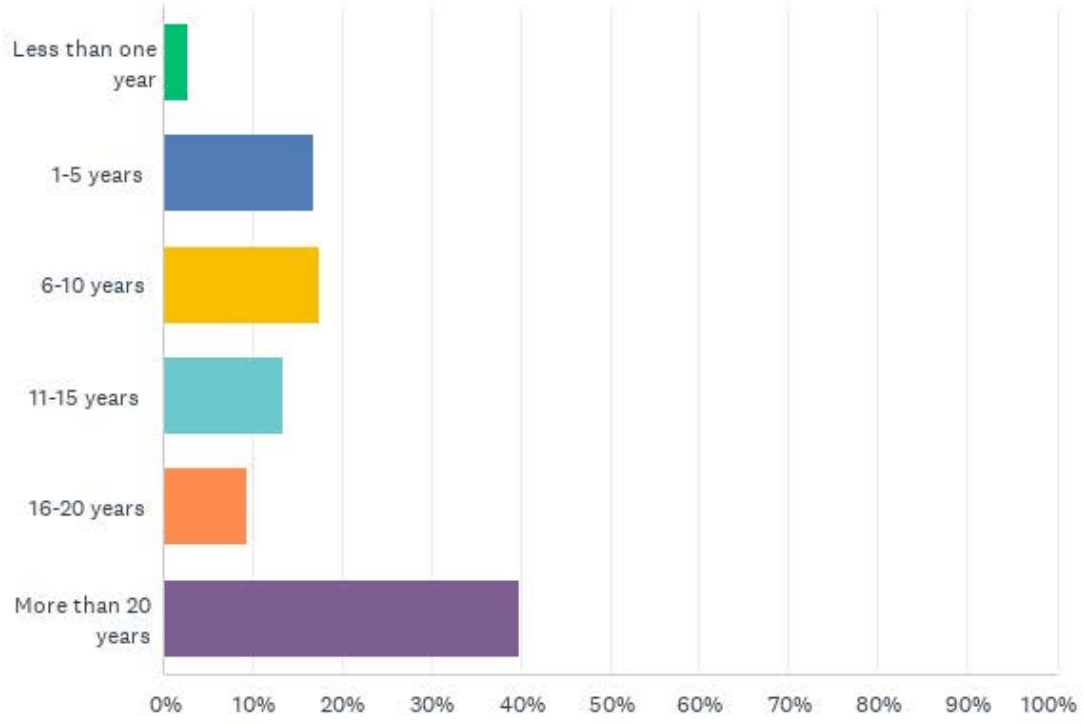
Q16 Where do the residents in your household work?

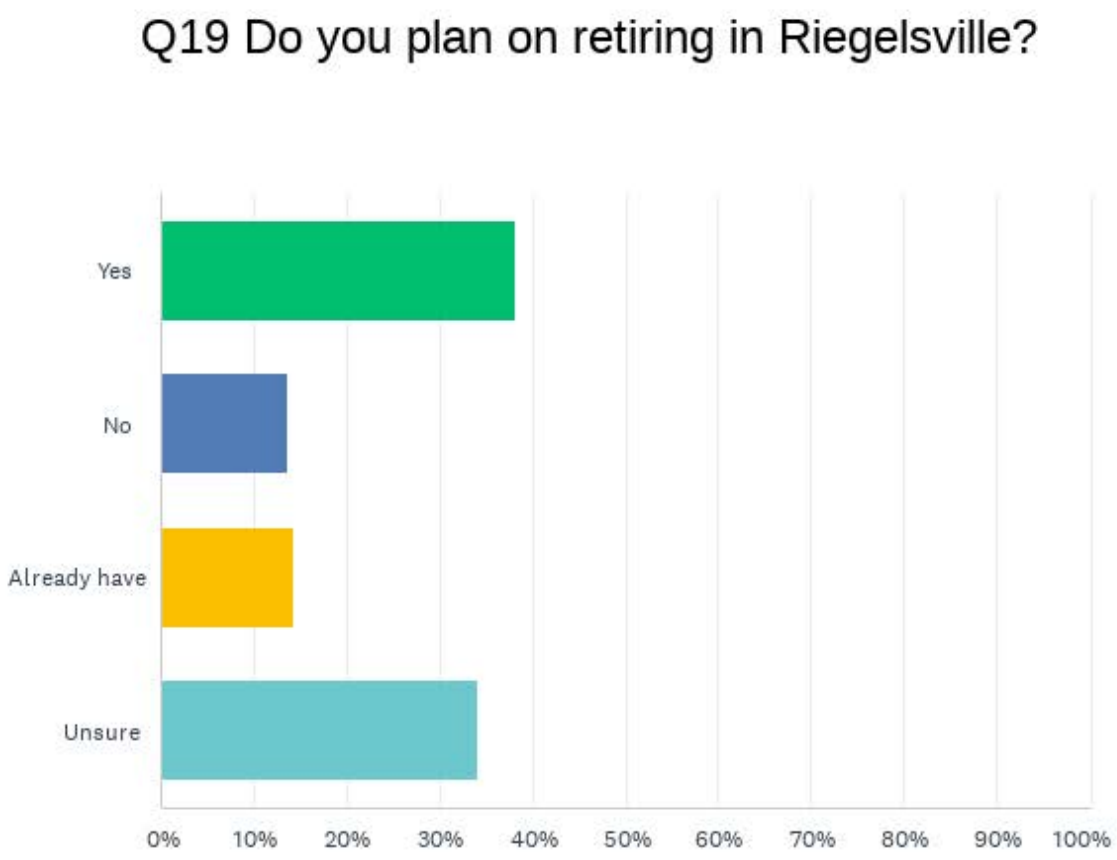


Q17 What type of residence do you live in?



Q18 How long have you lived or owned property in Riegelsville?




Q19 Do you plan on retiring in Riegelsville?
Yes
No
Already have
Unsure
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%
70%
80%
90%
100%