

# ***Hershey Climate Action Survey***

Derry Township

Climate Change Advisory Committee

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July 2020

## **The Derry Township Climate Change Advisory Committee**

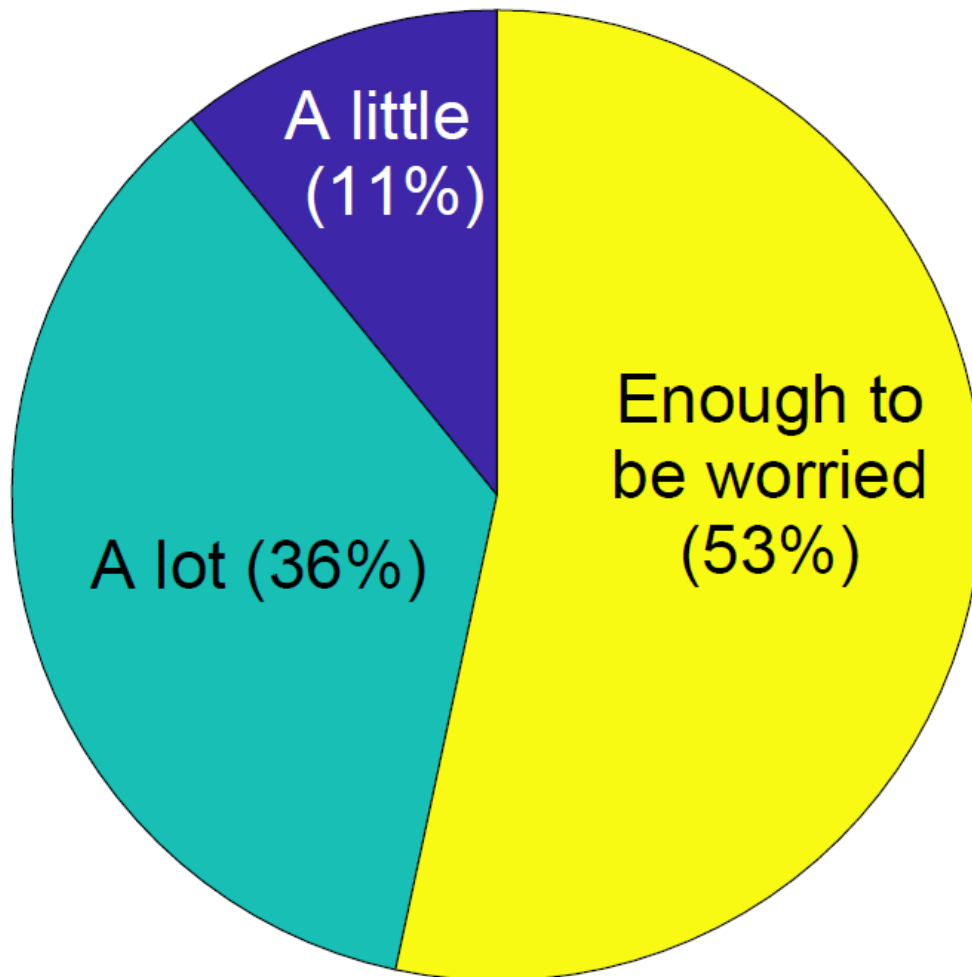
The Derry Township Climate Change Advisory Committee, a group of citizen-volunteers, was [established in 2018](#) with the goals of identifying the sources of and trends in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the Township and recommending to the Board of Supervisors cost effective strategies for reducing or offsetting GHG emissions through the drafting of a climate action plan.

During 2019-20, the CCAC represented Derry Township in participation in the Local Climate Action Program through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. During this time, the CCAC conducted an [inventory of community-wide GHG emissions](#) to provide a baseline for forecasting the potential impacts of adaptation and mitigation efforts that may be considered by the Township going forward.

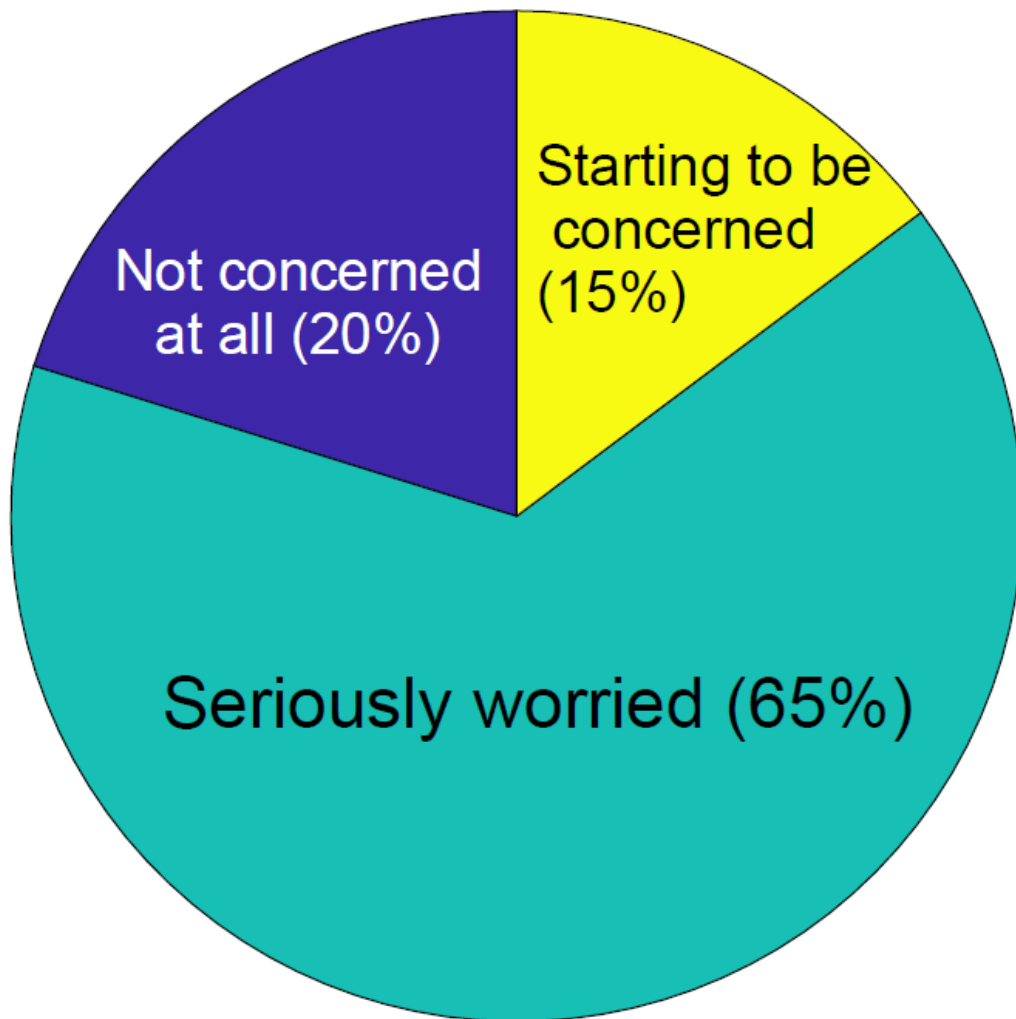
## **The 2020 Hershey Climate Action Survey**

As an additional step toward climate action planning, during the spring and summer of 2020 the CCAC conducted a community survey of attitudes toward climate change. The survey was advertised primarily through the Derry Township eNews, and a total of 300 responses were recorded by July 31, 2020. The results of the survey are presented in the pages below. A copy of the actual survey is included in Appendix A (page 11).

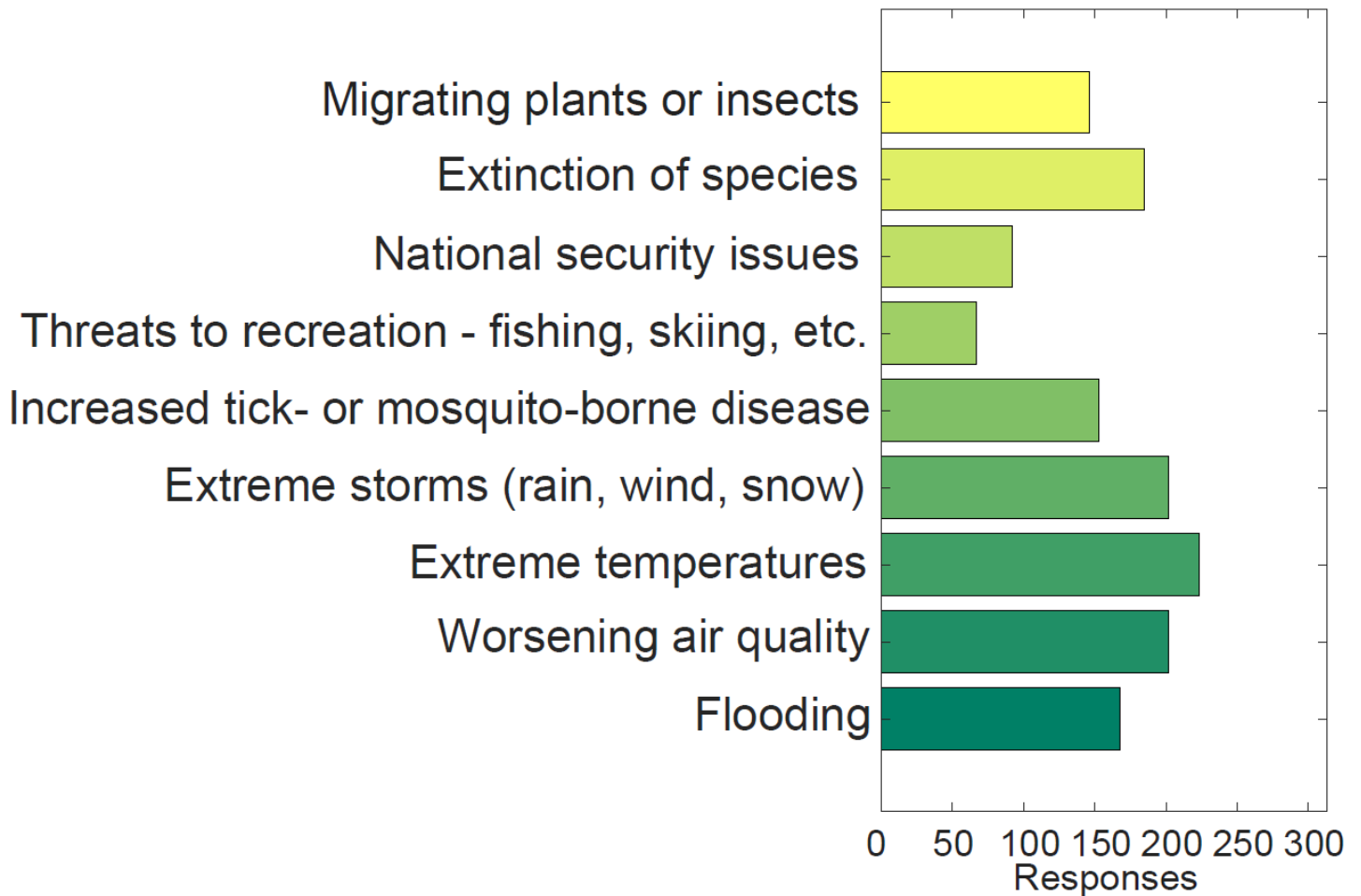
Q1: How much do you know about climate change?



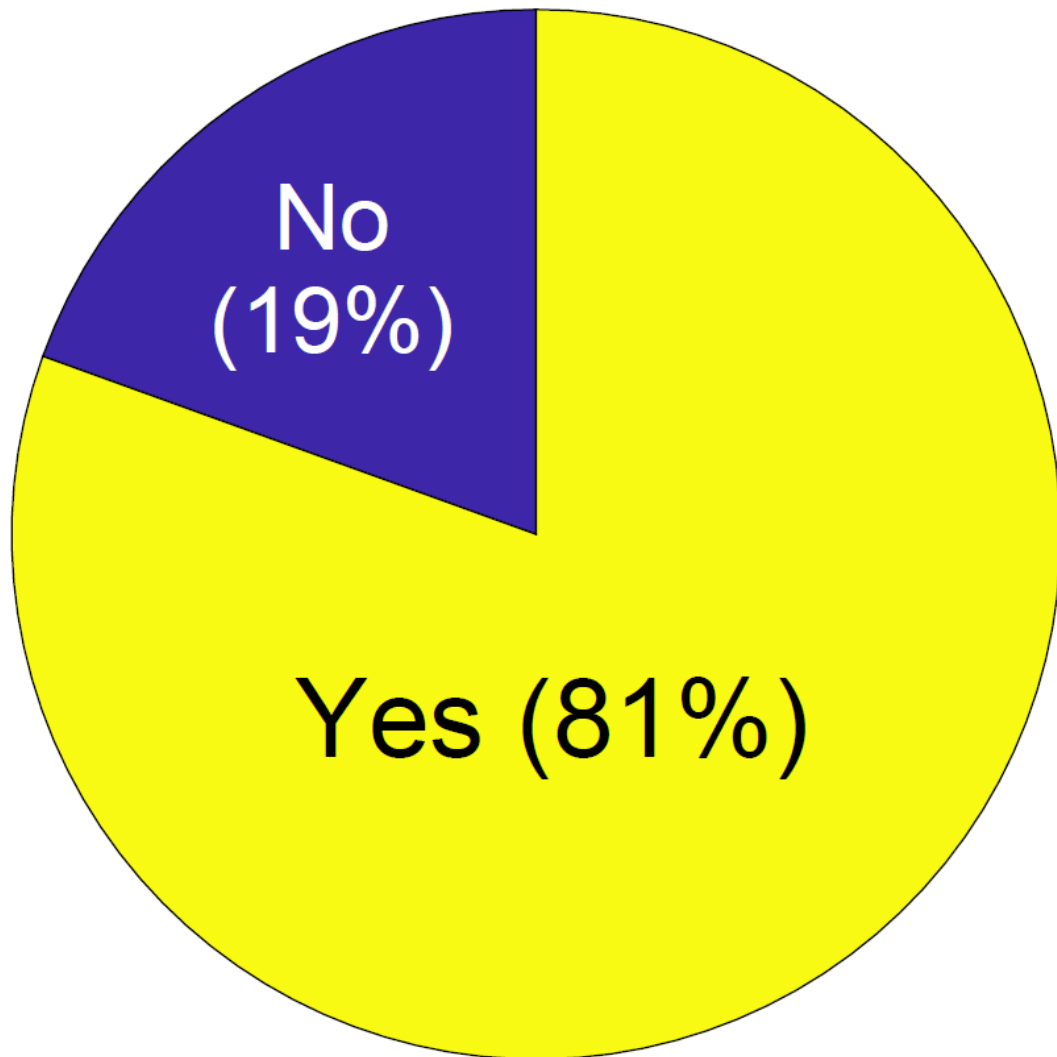
Q2: How concerned are you about climate change?



### Q3: What possible consequences of climate change concern you the most?

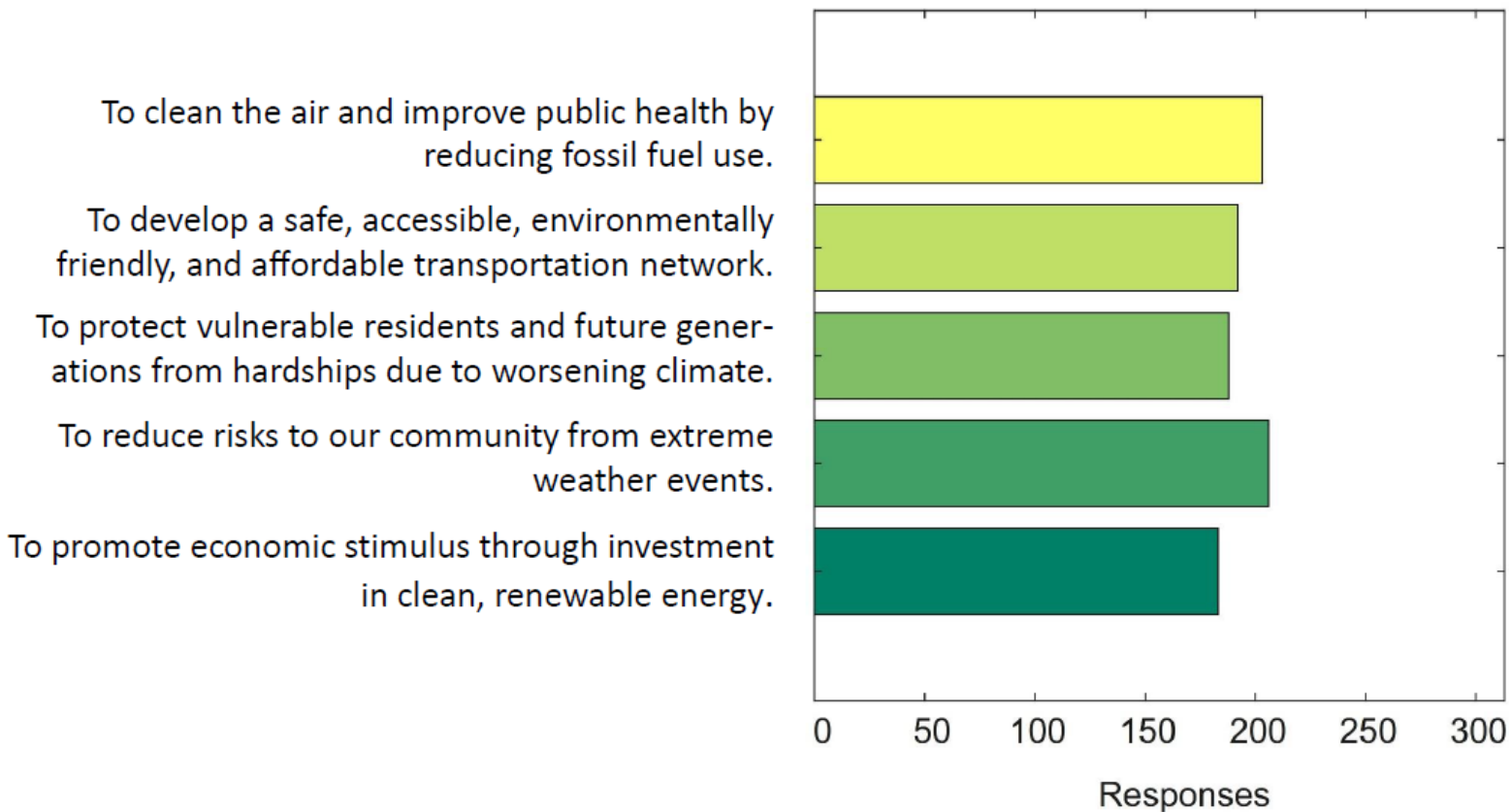


Q4: Does Derry Township have a responsibility to address our community's contributions to climate change?



# Q5: You indicated that Derry Township has a responsibility to address climate change.

## Why?



Q6: You indicated that Derry Township does NOT have a responsibility to address climate change. Why?

Sixty of the total 300 respondents answered that Derry Township does NOT have a responsibility to address our community's contributions to climate change. The comments provided could be grouped into six categories –

“Stewardship of the earth is important, or Derry Township is already doing a good job.”

“It's not a local government issue.”

“Government shouldn't be involved in any way.”

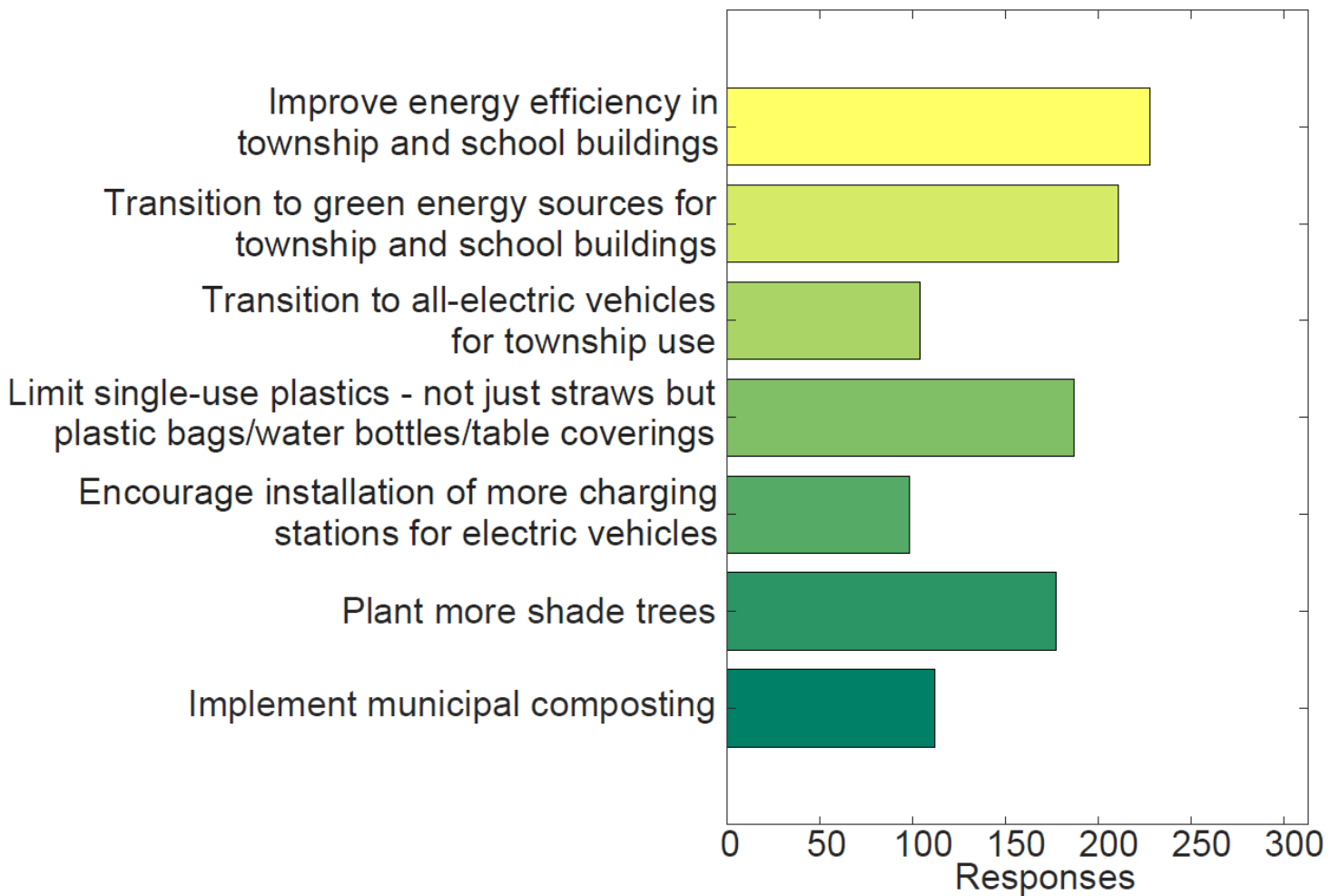
“Humans can't impact or mitigate climate change.”

“Climate change isn't a phenomenon of concern.”

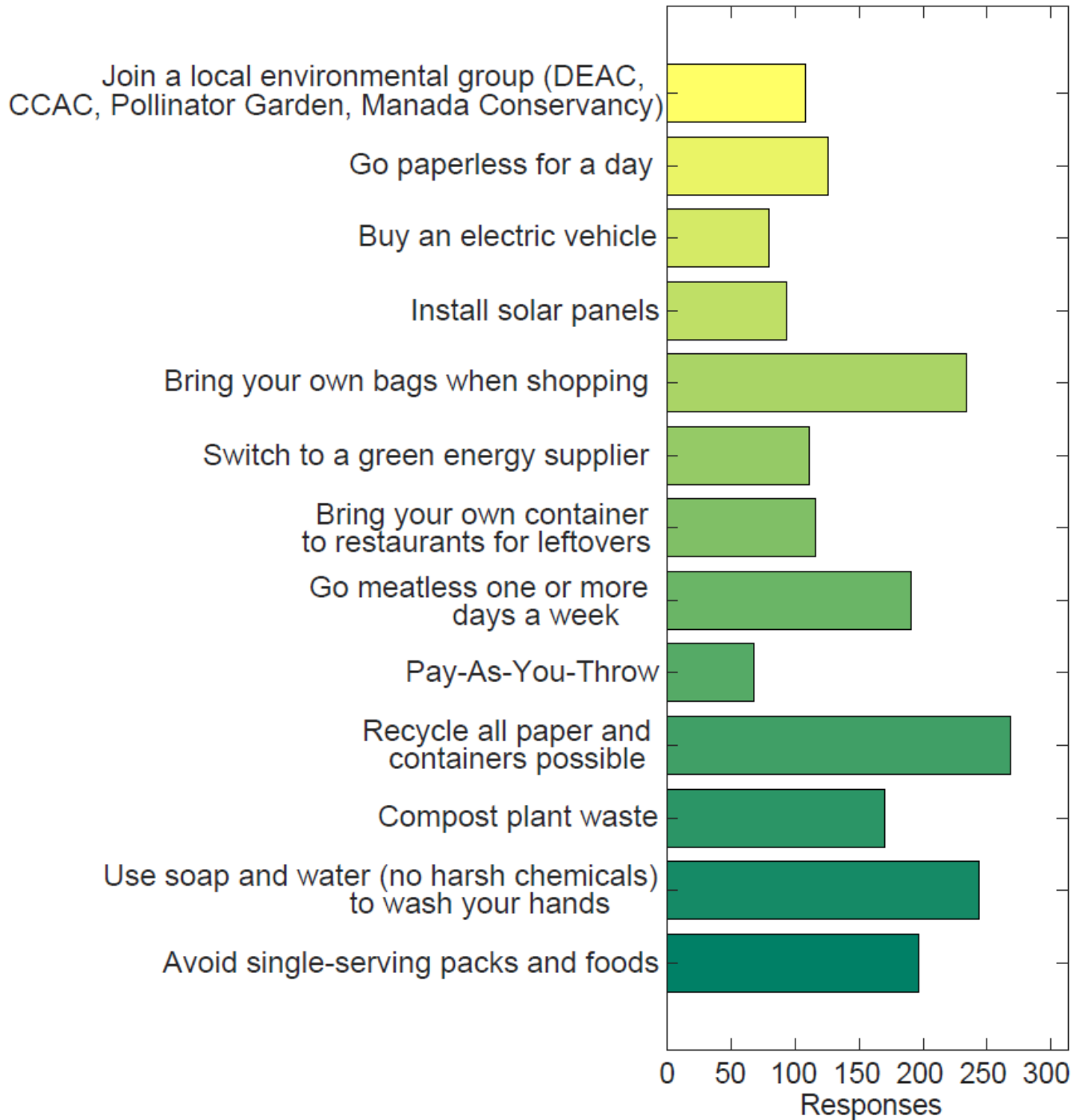
Other various responses



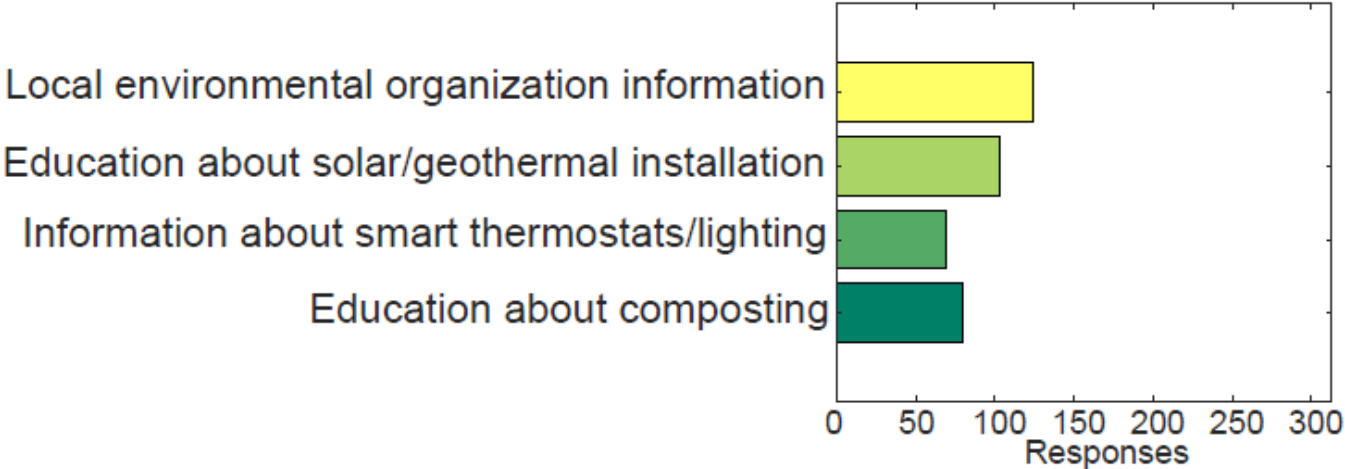
# Q7: Which of these do you believe are the most important actions the township can take?



# Q8: What are you personally willing to do to reduce your climate impact?



# Q9: What help do you need to be able to reduce your climate impact?



# Appendix A:

## ***HERSHEY CLIMATE ACTION SURVEY***

1. How much do you know about climate change?

\_\_\_\_\_ A little

\_\_\_\_\_ Enough to be worried

\_\_\_\_\_ A lot

2. How concerned are you about climate change?

\_\_\_\_\_ Not concerned at all

\_\_\_\_\_ Starting to be concerned

\_\_\_\_\_ Seriously worried

3. What possible consequences of climate change concern you the most? (Check all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ Flooding

\_\_\_\_\_ Extinction of species

\_\_\_\_\_ Worsening air quality

\_\_\_\_\_ Migrating plants or insects (spotted lantern fly)

\_\_\_\_\_ Extreme temperatures

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Extreme storms (rain, wind, snow)

\_\_\_\_\_ Increased tick- or mosquito-borne diseases

\_\_\_\_\_ Threats to recreation – fishing, skiing, other

\_\_\_\_\_ National security issues

4. Does Derry Township have a responsibility to address our community's contributions to climate change?

\_\_\_\_\_ YES

\_\_\_\_\_ NO

5. If you answered YES to question 4, why?

\_\_\_\_\_ To promote economic stimulus through investment in the use of clean, renewable energy (solar, wind, geothermal...)

\_\_\_\_\_ To develop into a community where people walk, bike, take environmentally-friendly mass transit or carpool in a safe, accessible, and affordable transportation network.

\_\_\_\_\_ To understand potential climate-related risks and reduce those risks while preparing our community for chronic extreme weather events.

\_\_\_\_\_ To protect our vulnerable residents and future generations from suffering increasing hardships due to continued worsening of our climate.

\_\_\_\_\_ To help clean the air and improve public health by reducing vehicle emissions and the use of fossil fuel related energy sources.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

6. If you answered NO to question 4, why?

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7. Which of these do you believe are the most important actions the township can take?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| _____ implement municipal composting  | _____ transition to all electric vehicles for township use                                |
| _____ plant more shade trees  | _____ transition to green energy sources in township and school buildings or solar panels |
| _____ encourage installation of more charging stations to encourage purchase of electric vehicles (EVs) | _____ improve energy efficiency in township and school buildings                          |
| _____ limit single use plastics – not just straws but plastic bags/water bottles/table coverings        |   |

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

8. What are you personally willing to do to reduce your climate impact? (check any you already do or wish to do)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| _____ Avoid single serving packs and foods   | _____ Switch to green energy supplier (PAPowerSwitch.com)                           |
| _____ Bring your own container to restaurants (for left-overs or to get a cup of coffee) | _____ Pay-As-You-Throw  |
| _____ Use soap and water to wash your hands. (Avoid harsh chemicals.)                    | _____ Bring your own bags to markets (leave them in the car so you don't forget)    |
| _____ Compost plant waste  | _____ Go meatless one or more days a week (significant health benefits are a bonus) |
| _____ Go paperless for a day   | _____ Join DEAC, CACC, Pollinator Garden, Manada Conservancy                        |
| _____ Recycle all paper and containers possible  |   |
| _____ Install solar panels   |   |
| _____ Buy an electric vehicle  |   |

9. What help do you need to be able to reduce your climate impact?

\_\_\_\_\_ Education about smart thermostats

\_\_\_\_\_ Information about alternative home energy sources: solar/geothermal

\_\_\_\_\_ Local environmental organization information

\_\_\_\_\_ Education about solar installations

Other \_\_\_\_\_

10. Would you like to get involved in climate action planning with the Derry Township Climate Change Advisory Committee? If Yes, enter your email address below!

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_



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