



# Trans Canada Trail (TCT) **NATIONAL SURVEY RESULTS**

MAY 2020

# Respondents

---



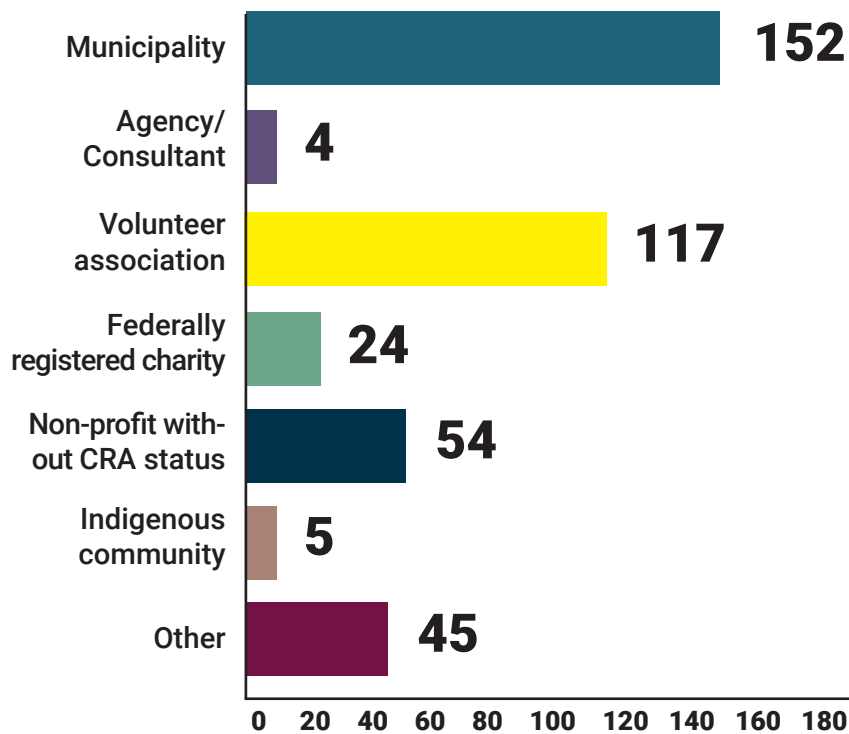
# Affiliation

---

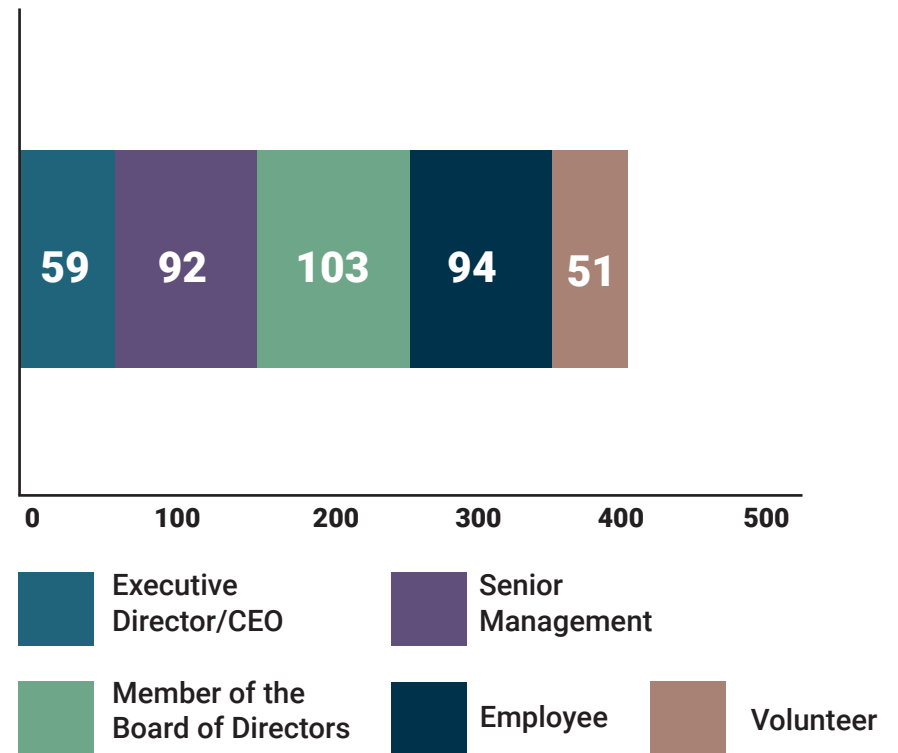


**80%** Part of The Great Trail network  
**20%** Other

# Type of organization



# Role of respondents



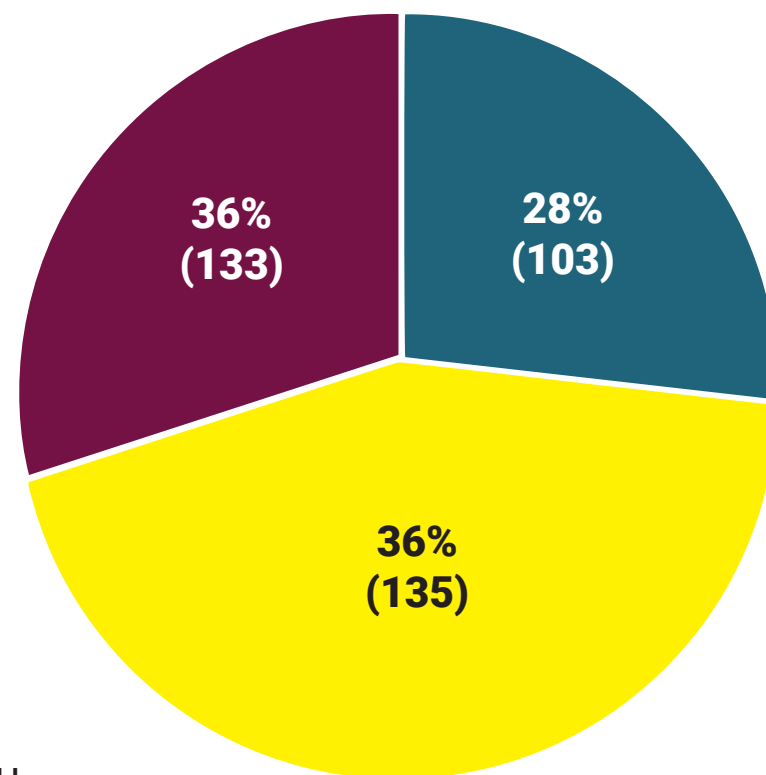


# State of **the Trail**

# State of infrastructure

---

- 64% of trail infrastructure is considered at risk without immediate or short-term investment
- 80% of groups need financial support to address decaying infrastructure



Yes, we face such concerns at the moment.



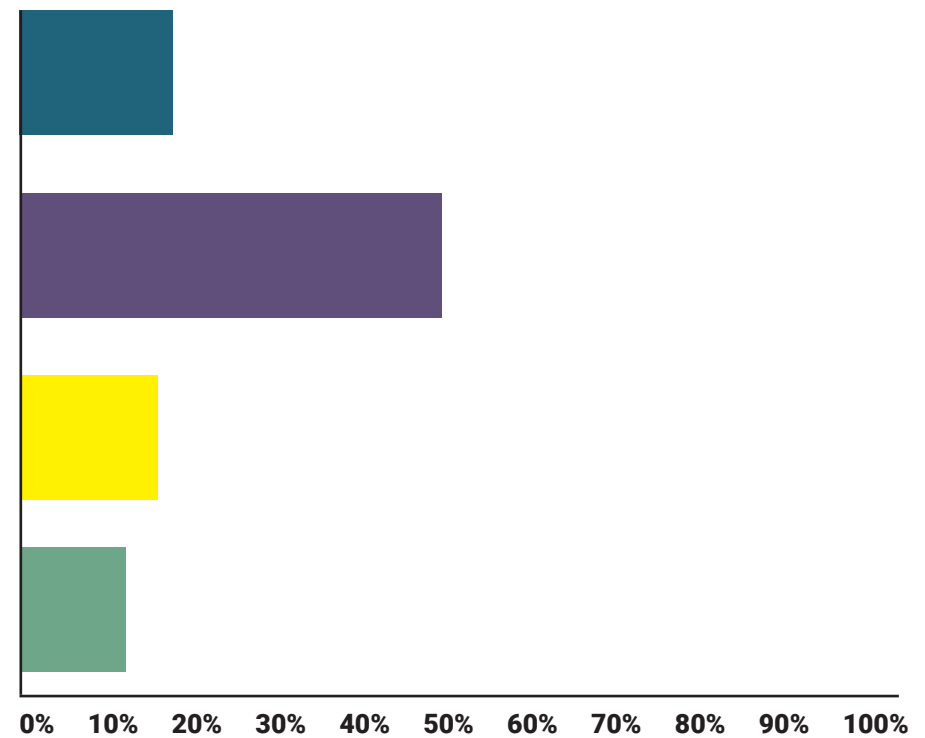
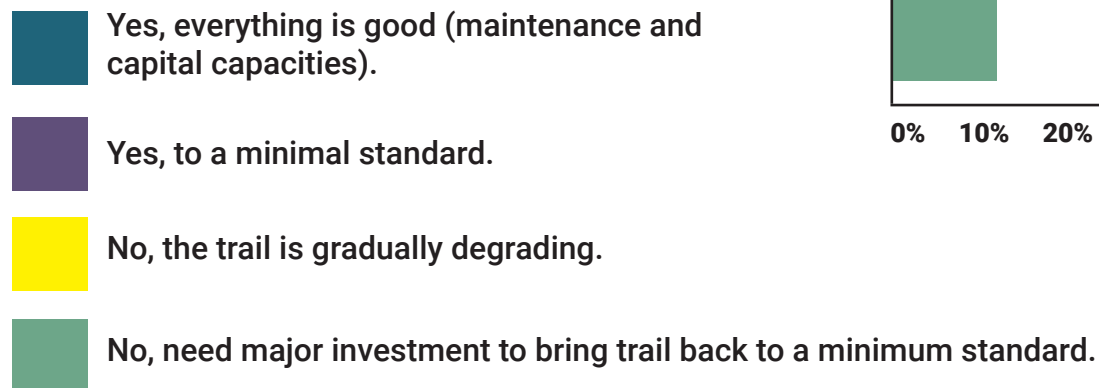
We do not face these concerns at the moment, but they will become a reality if we don't make the appropriate investments in the near future.



This is not a concern. We have a plan in place, and we follow it.

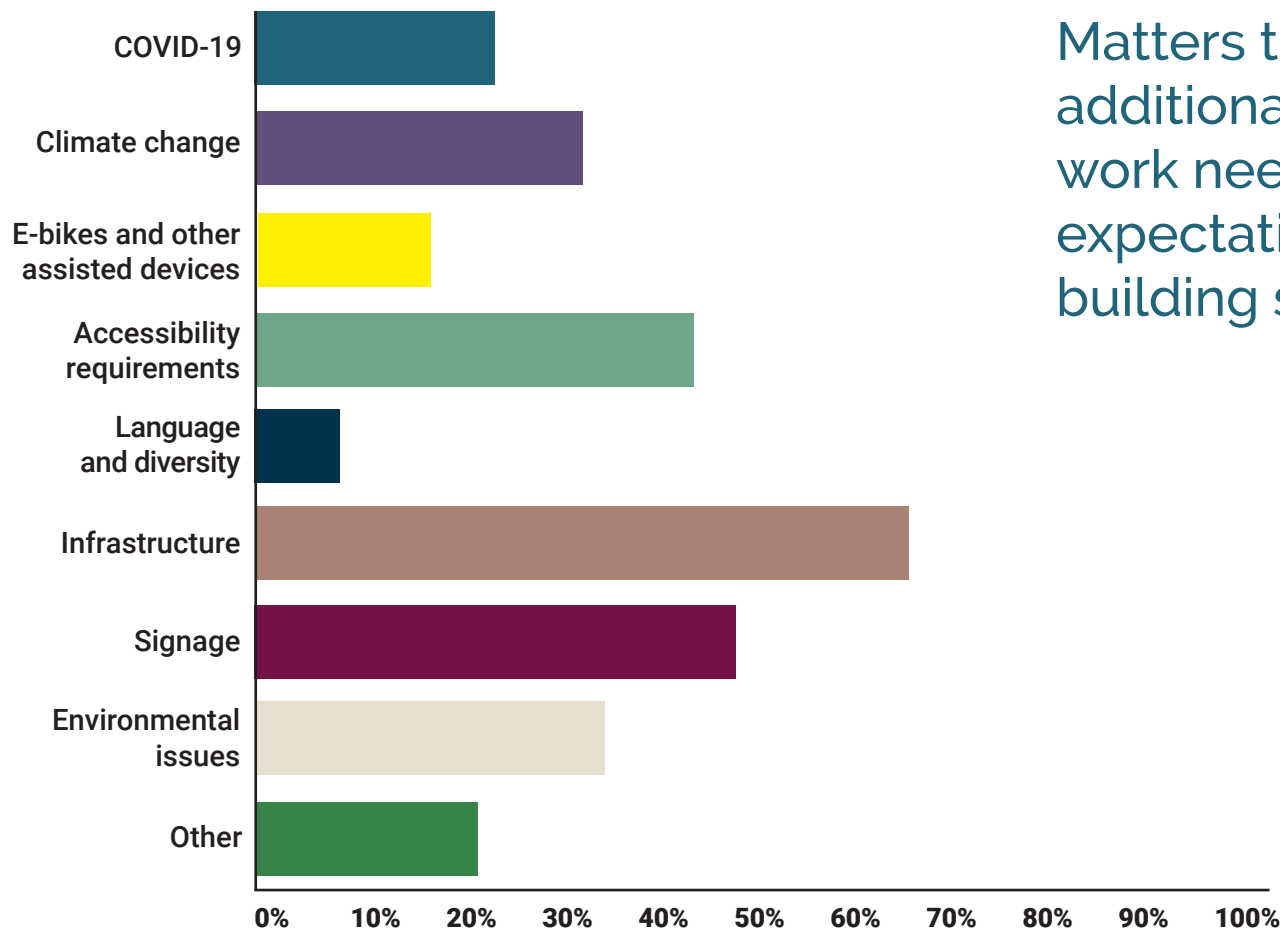
# Trail maintenance capacity

- 50% only have capacity to do *minimum* maintenance
- 29% lack capacity. Trail is gradually degrading and/or needs major investment to bring the trail up to a minimum standard



# Impacts on trail

---



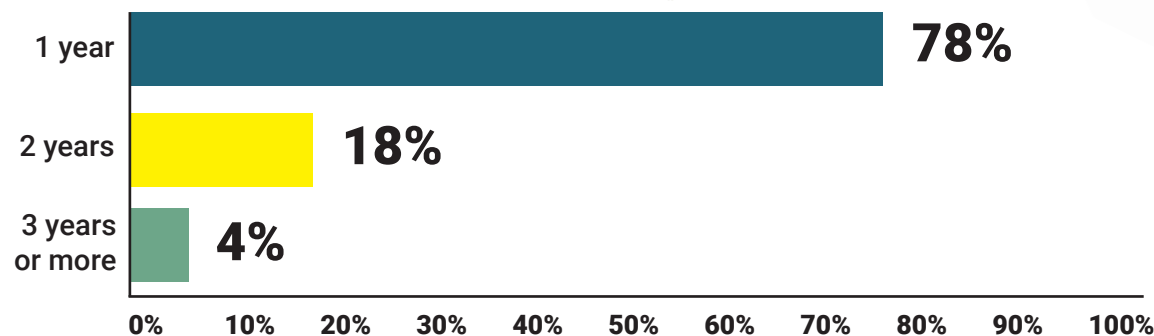
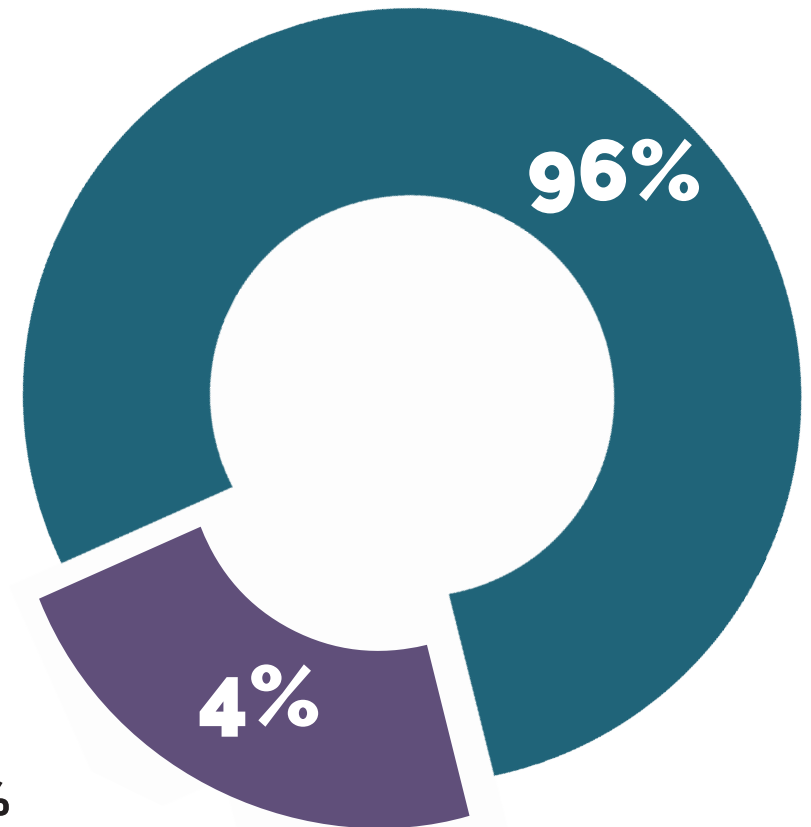
Matters that may necessitate additional investment and/or work needed to meet user expectations and local trail building standards.

# Ready-to-go **projects**



# Scope and timeliness

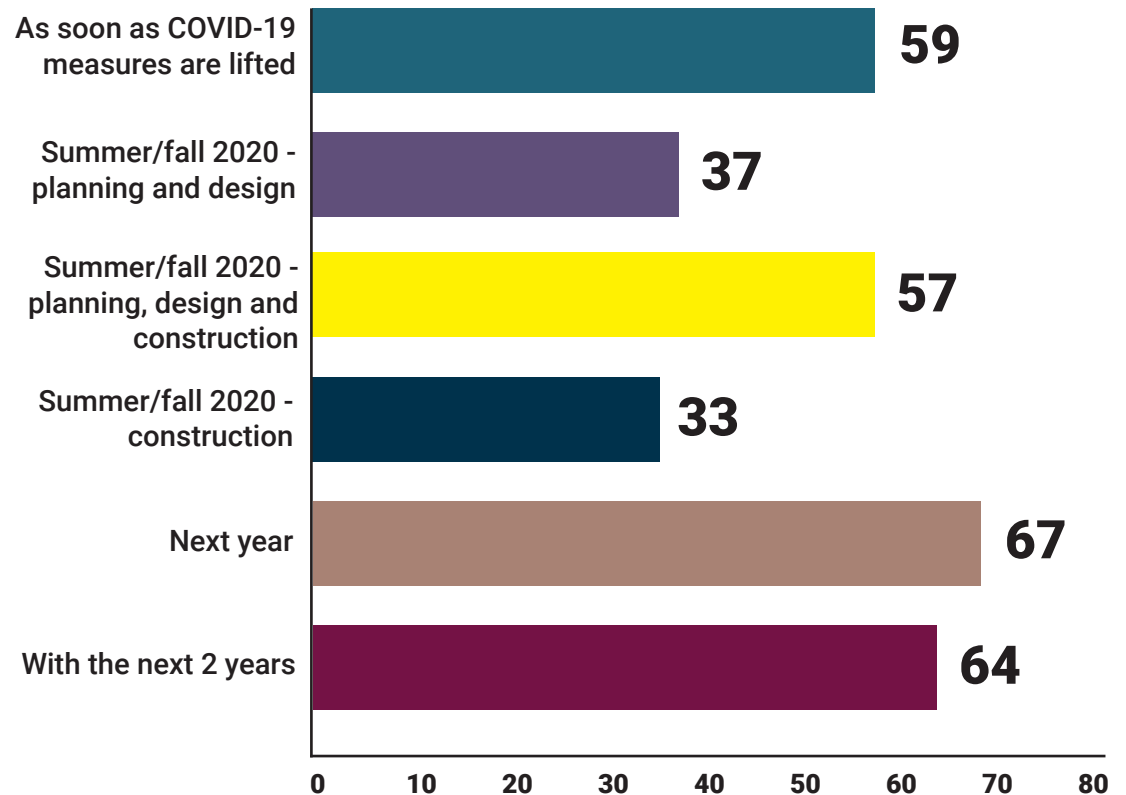
- 96% of respondents plan to complete a project within the next two years
- 41% of projects are costed under \$50K
- 78% of projects *can* be shovel ready within one year



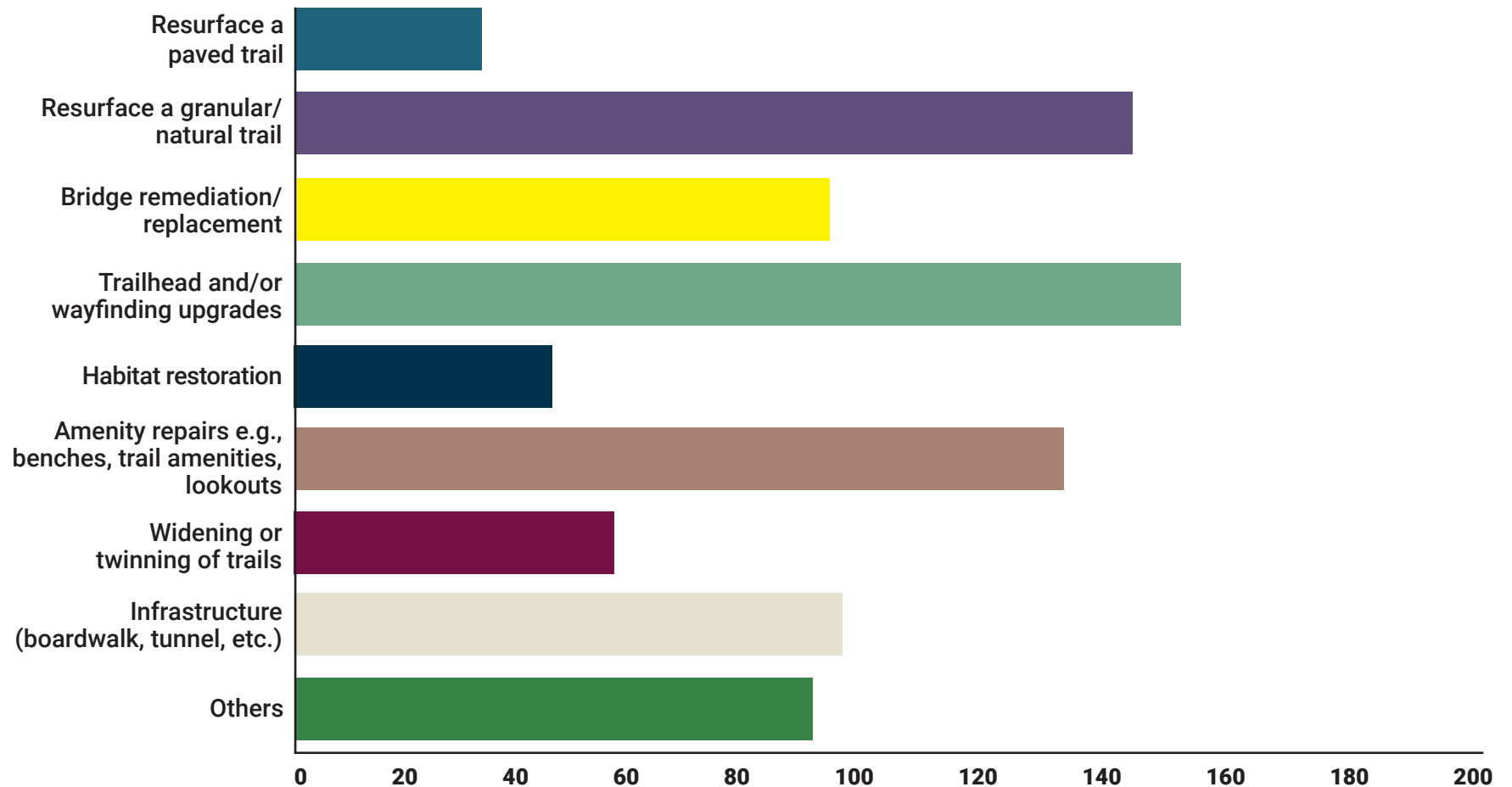
# Project readiness

With adequate financial support, the majority of trail groups would be ready to start work this year, and start new projects.

Nationally, 48% currently access provincial or territorial funding.



# Ideal project areas, if new funding available

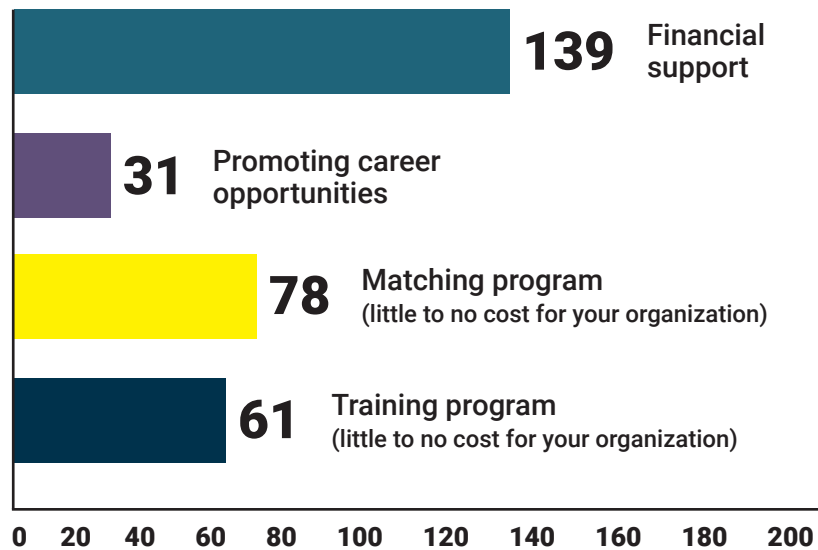




# Workforce **capacity**

# Staffing capacity

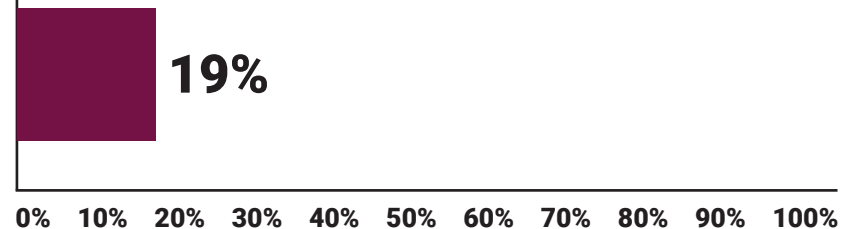
Funding, procurement and training are the most significant impediments.



Yes - I could not afford to hire new staff without support:



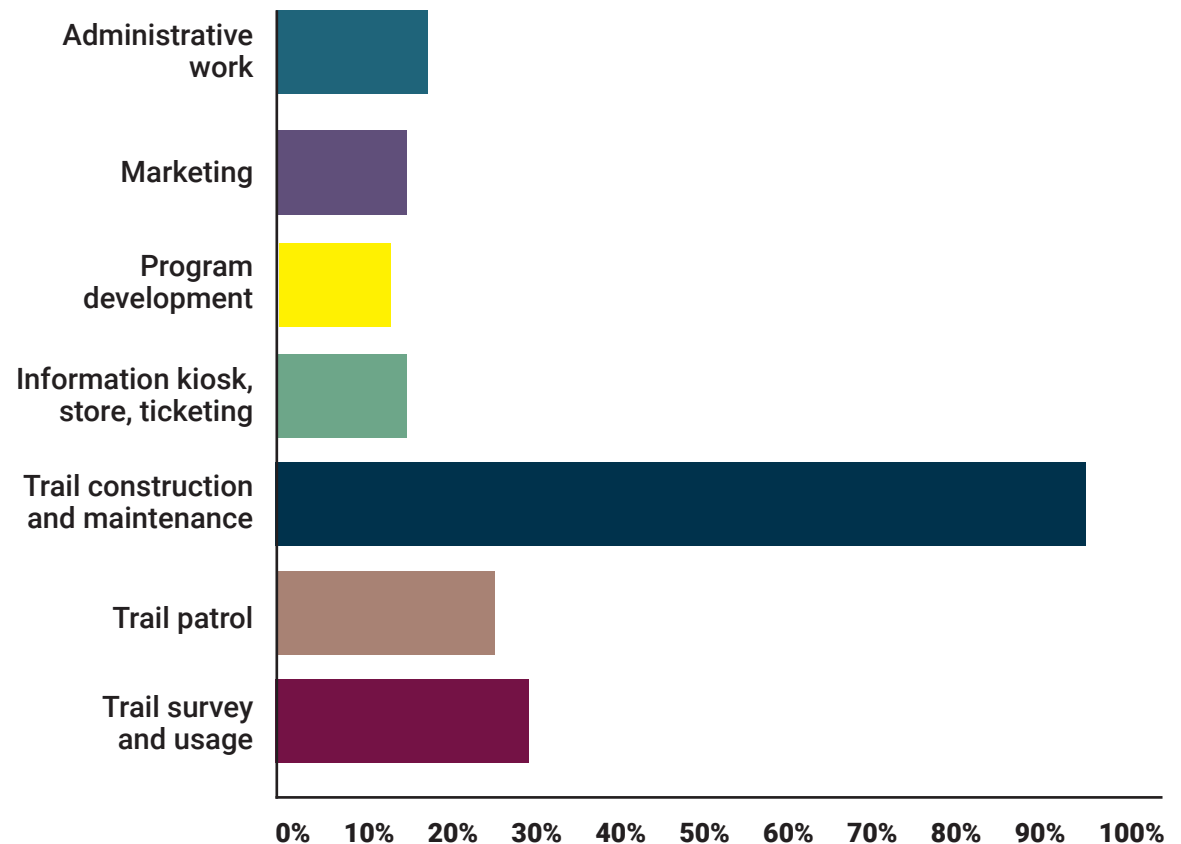
No - My human resources needs are fulfilled:



81% of respondents are ready to embrace a summer job program.

# Recruitment and assignments

- Average duration of contracts = 4-5 months
- 50% of trail groups hire temporary/seasonal workers
- 95% of temporary workers are assigned to construction and maintenance



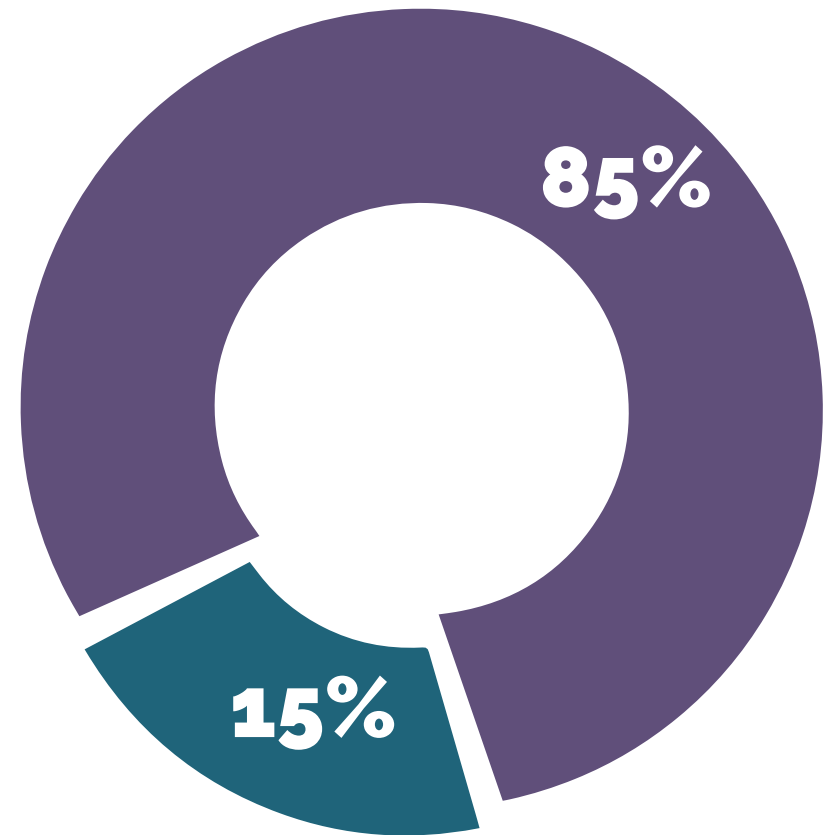
# Volunteers remain essential

---

85% of trail groups recruit volunteers

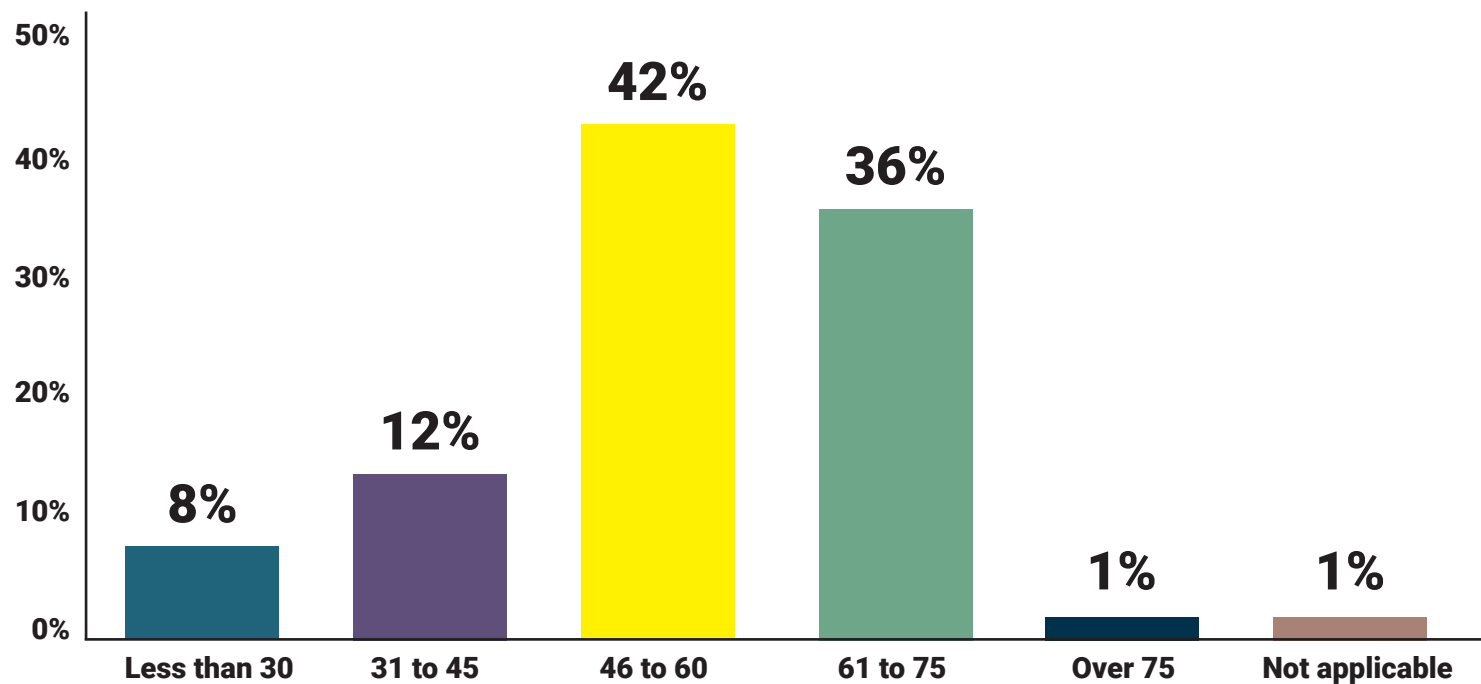
60% of respondents rely on at least 4 weeks of volunteer service annually

**Volunteers are essential for trail maintenance, administration and project planning.**



# But volunteers are difficult to find...and are aging

Only 20% of volunteers are under 45 years old



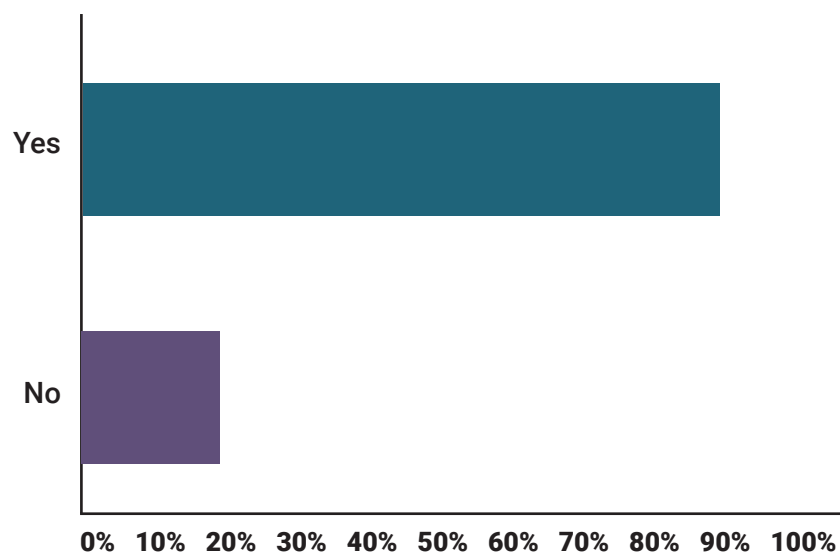




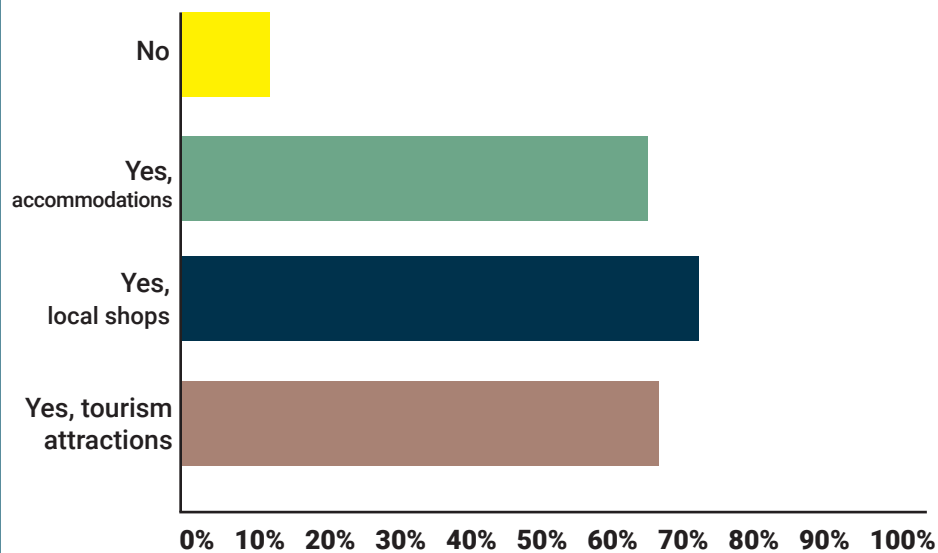
# Supporting local **tourism**

# Respondents see their trails as destinations

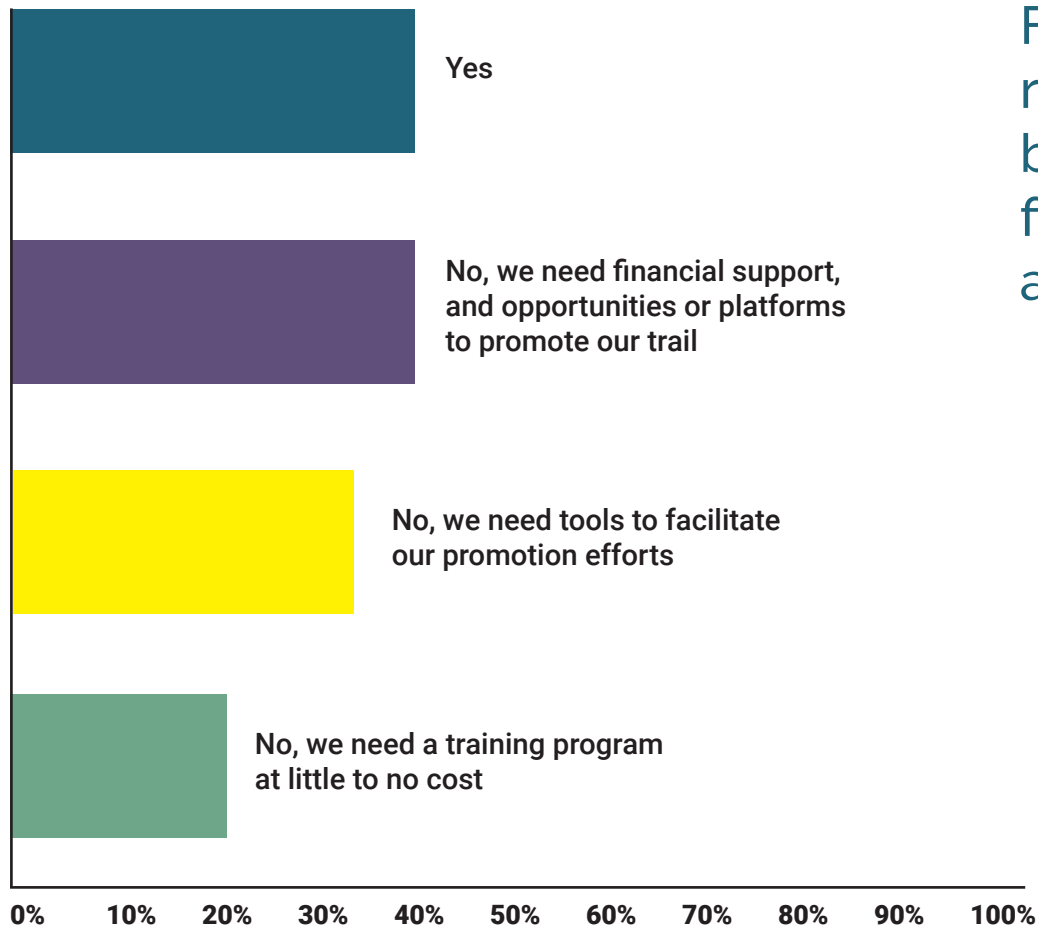
78% consider their trail a one-day tourist destination.



With the majority indicating benefits to local businesses and tourism attractions.



# Promotion capacity

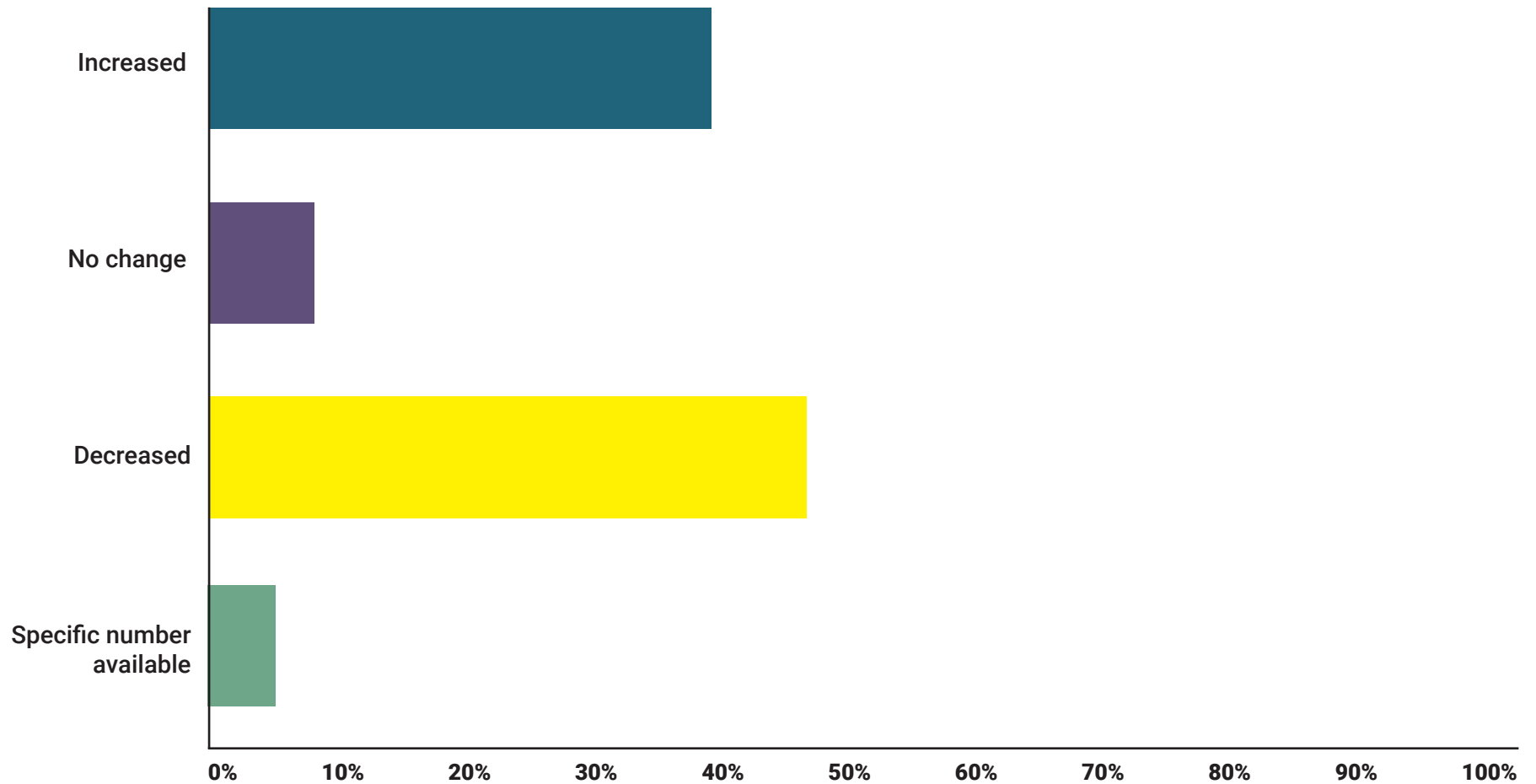


For many, adequate promotion remains a condition for success, but 60% of respondents need financial support, tools and adequate training.

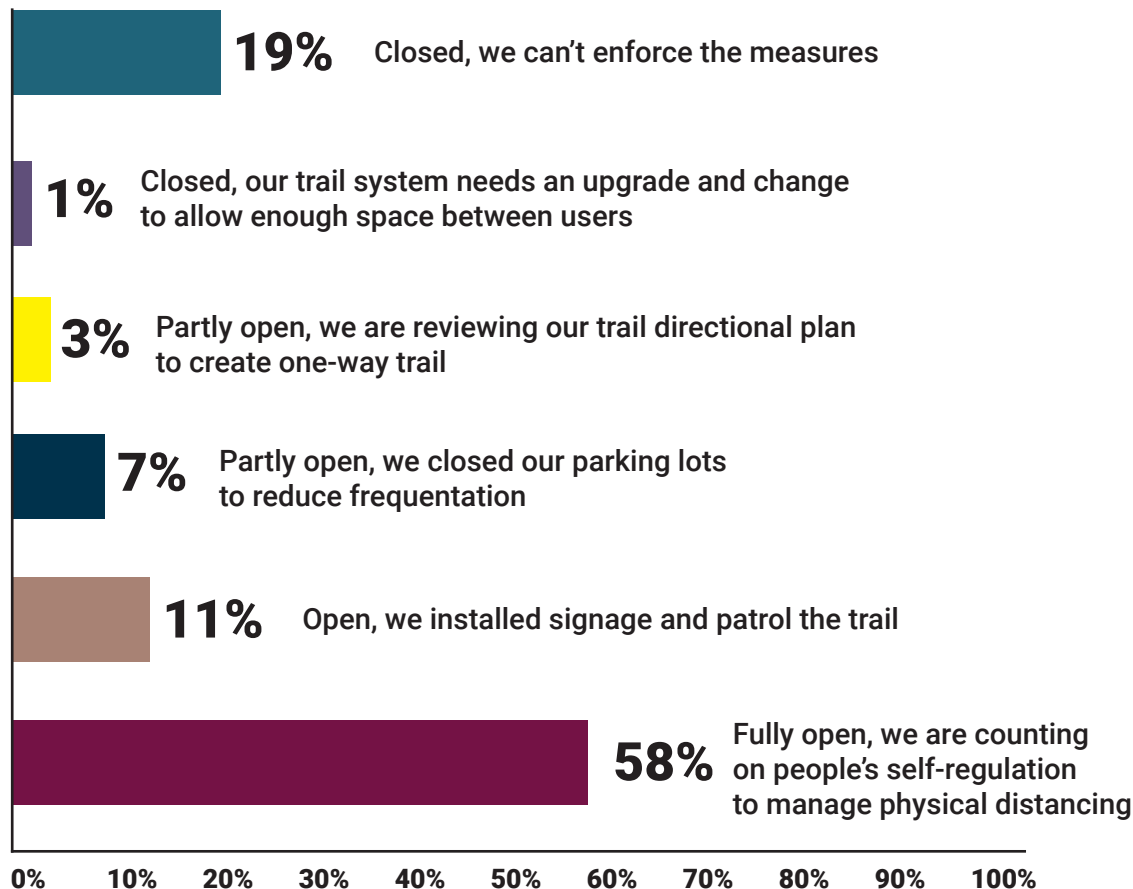


# Trail usage - **public health**

# Change in trail use resulting from COVID-19



# COVID-19: Managing physical distancing



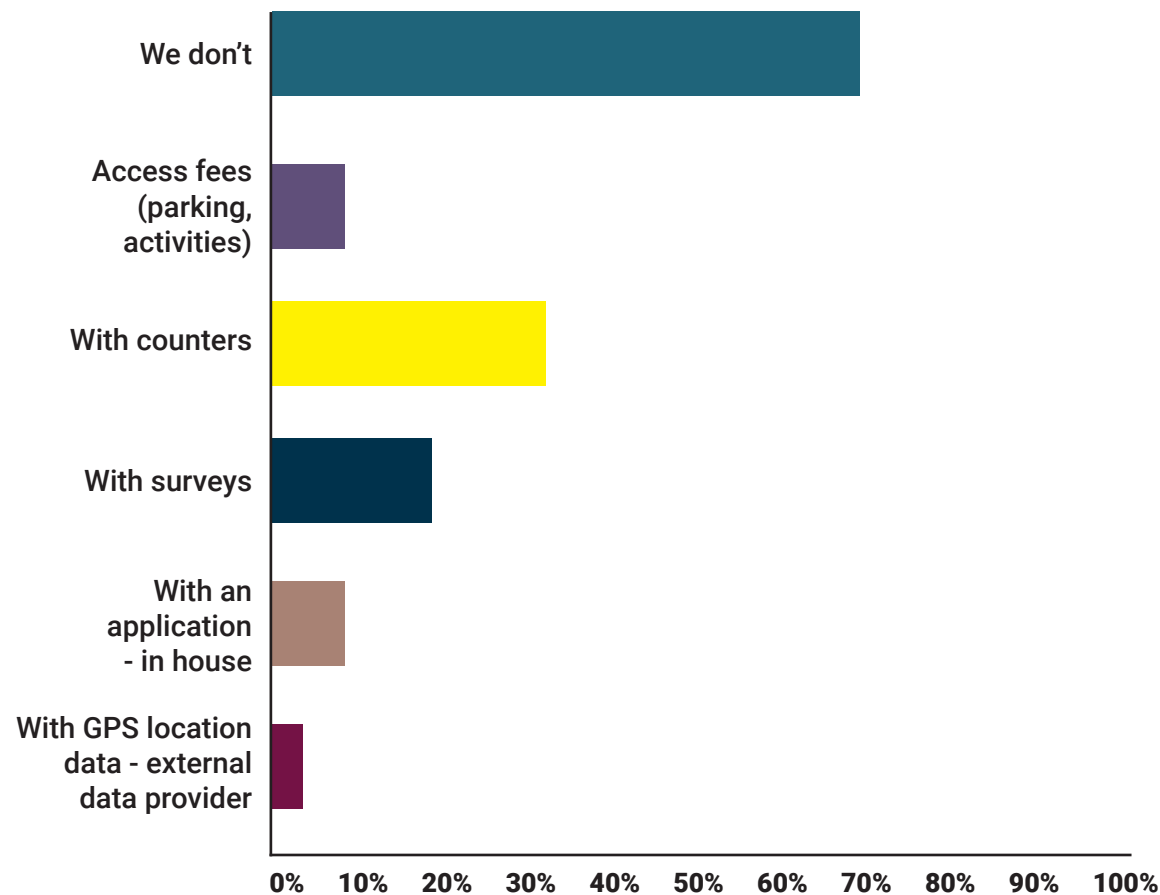
58% of respondents say they are fully open and are counting on users' self-regulation to follow guidelines.

11% say they have installed signage and/or are patrolling their trails.

10% are open but have implemented measures like closing parking lots or uni-directional plans.

**Question:** How do you manage physical distancing on your trail section?

# How do you measure trail usage?



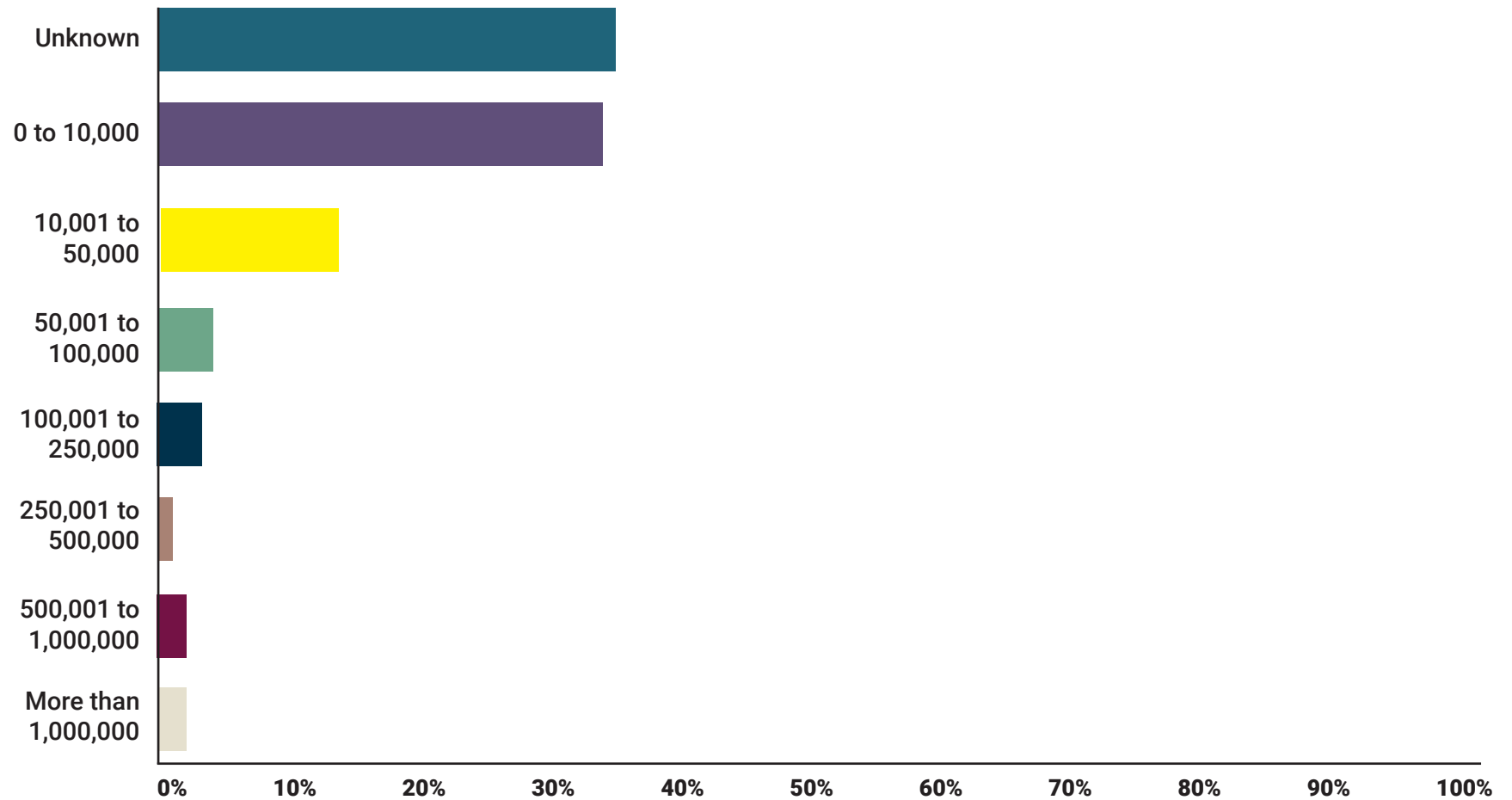
More than 60% of respondents have no capacity to do so

26% use counters

14% use surveys

**Question:** How do you measure usage on your trail? Check all that apply.

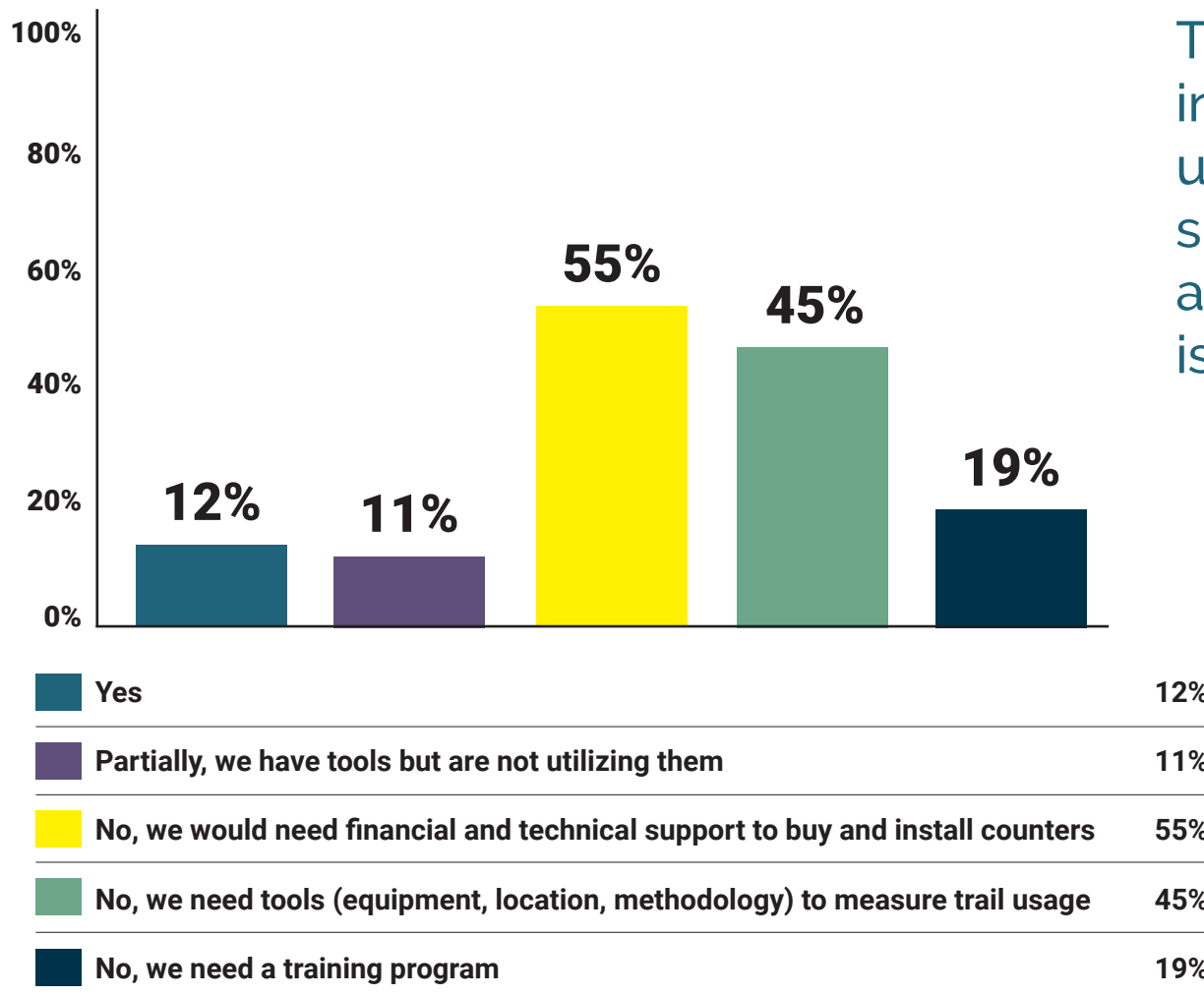
# Usage data



**Question:** How many users were recorded last year on your trail network - best estimate?



# Measurement - capacity



To close the capacity gap in terms of measuring trail users, funding, technical support and equipment are what respondents say is needed most.

**Question:** Do you have enough capacity to measure usage on your trail efficiently? Check all that apply.



**Thank you**  
for responding!

If you have questions,  
please contact:  
[mtwigg@tctrail.ca](mailto:mtwigg@tctrail.ca)