

TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD

RESIDENTS SURVEY

Conducted for
The Town of Wethersfield

by



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Storrs, CT 06269

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the findings from a survey conducted for the Town of Wethersfield by the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut (CSRA). CSRA interviewers completed 407 telephone interviews with randomly selected adult residents of the town between March 31 and April 6, 2000. The margin of error for a sample of this size is ± 5 . A complete description of the methodology is found at the end of this report.

Overall, residents are very happy living in Wethersfield and are satisfied with many of the town services. Almost all residents believe that the quality of life is either excellent (45%) or good (50%). Additionally, residents view Wethersfield as a good (49%) or excellent (45%) place to raise a family.

When residents were asked to name the single most important issue currently facing the town, education was the most frequently mentioned. Twenty-five percent of residents believe that education issues are the most important facing the town. Residents mentioned crowding and space issues as the most important issue facing Wethersfield public schools. Nearly seven in ten (68%) residents gave the Wethersfield public schools an overall grade of A or B. These grades are higher than those given to Wethersfield Public Schools in 1994. Residents are more likely to say that spending on education needs to be increased than they were six years ago.

Taxes were the second most frequently mentioned as the most important issue facing the town. Despite this, 71% of residents feel that for the property taxes they pay, the services they receive from the town are excellent or good.

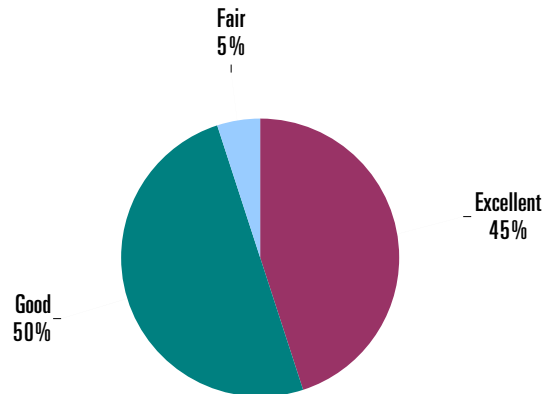
Most of the town services were given a positive rating by residents. Some of the highest rated services include refuse collection, the police department, the volunteer fire department and snow plowing and ice control. Residents rated public works programs like leaf collection and snow removal higher this year than they did in the 1994 study. Nearly three-quarters of residents rank the parks and recreation programs as excellent (21%) or good (52%). Further, 60% of residents say that the quality of the athletic fields in town is either excellent or good. Almost half of the town's residents (49%) agree that the current athletic fields meet the town's sports and recreation needs.

Almost nine in ten Wethersfield residents give the police department a positive job rating. This satisfaction carries over to an overall feeling of the town being a safe place to live and conduct business. Ninety-five percent of residents report feeling very or somewhat safe walking alone in their neighborhood during the day and the vast majority (89%) feel safe doing so in the dark. Almost all residents (98%) feel safe walking alone in the town's business district during the day and more than three-quarters (76%) feel safe walking alone in the district after dark. With this in mind, it is good news that more than six in ten residents feel the level of safety in town has remained the same over the past five years.

RATING THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD

Nearly all (95%) residents say that the quality of life in Wethersfield is excellent (45%) or good (50%). Fewer than one in ten rate it as fair (5%) and none of the residents say the quality of life in town is poor. Residents with at least some college education are more likely to give the town an excellent rating (47%) than those with a high school diploma or less (39%). Wethersfield's quality of life rating is considerably higher than many other Connecticut towns CSRA has surveyed.

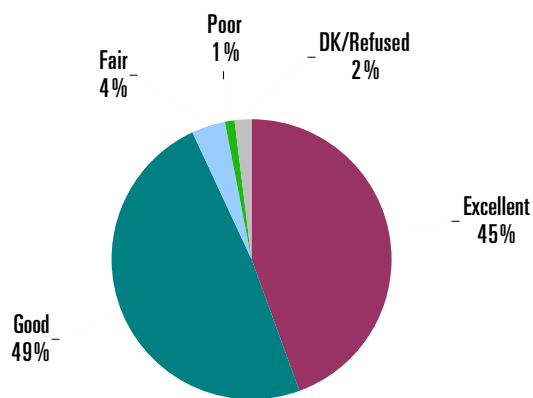
Overall, how would you rate the quality of life in Wethersfield?



Most residents (70%) say that the quality of life in Wethersfield has stayed the same over the past five years. Slightly more than one in ten (14%) residents say the quality of life has gotten better, and less than one in ten (9%) say it has gotten worse.

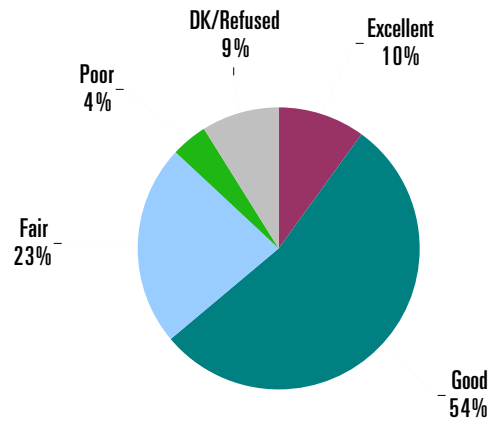
Not surprisingly, most respondents (94%) also say that Wethersfield is an excellent (45%) or good (49%) place to raise a family. Only one in twenty say the town is an either fair (4%) or poor (1%) place to raise a family.

How would you rate Wethersfield as a place to raise a family?



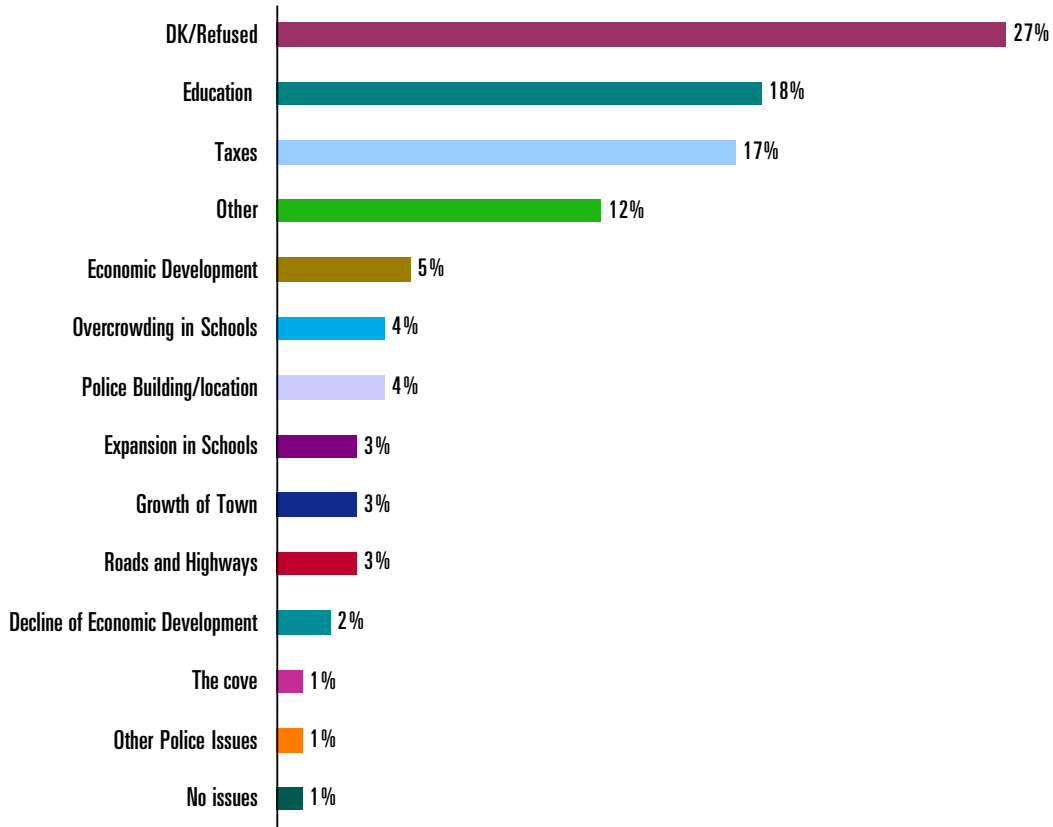
Residents also see Wethersfield as a good place to do business. In fact, 10% say the town is an excellent place to do business, while more than half (54%) say it is a good place to do business. Just over one quarter (27%) of residents say that Wethersfield is a fair (23%) or poor (4%) place to do business. Residents with children in Wethersfield public schools are more likely to say excellent (50%) than those without (43%). In addition, residents with household incomes of under \$40,000 per year were more likely to give the town a positive rating as a place to do business (76%) than those with incomes of over \$40,000 per year.

How would you rate Wethersfield as a place to do business?



Although Wethersfield residents volunteer a variety of topics when asked to name the most important issue facing the town, clearly education issues and tax issues are the most important. One-quarter (25%) of Wethersfield residents cited education issues (including overcrowding in schools and expansion), and 17% cited taxes. Economic development was mentioned by a low 5%, the police building location by 4%, and the growth of the town and roads and highways were each named by 3%. More than a quarter of residents (27%) did not feel that there was an issue facing the town of Wethersfield that was pressing enough to be cited.

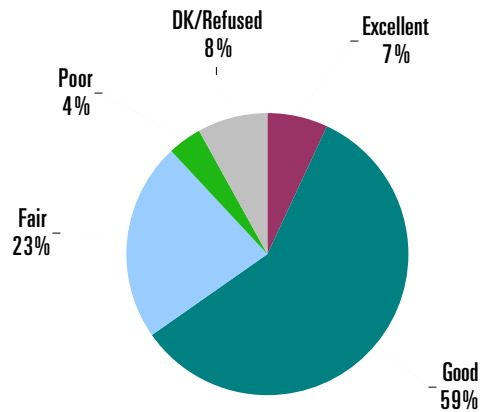
What would you say is the most important issue facing the town of Wethersfield?



TOWN GOVERNMENT

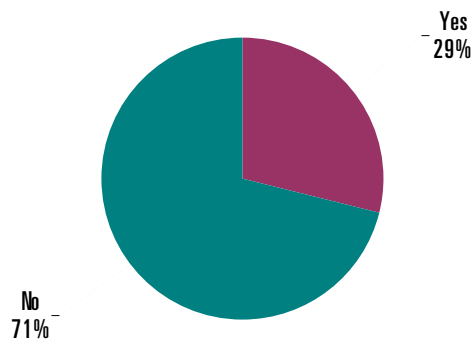
Most residents (66%) give the Wethersfield town government a positive rating. While only 7% of the residents rate town government as excellent, more than half (59%) rate it as good. Less than a quarter of respondents (23%) rate the town government as only fair and even fewer, 4%, say the town government is poor. Again, this positive rating of the town government is higher than the ratings of many other town governments in the state that we have surveyed.

Overall, how would you rate the Wethersfield town government?



Seven in ten residents (71%) have never had any issue that required them to contact Town Hall for it to be resolved. Only about three in ten (29%) residents have had an issue that required them to contact Town Hall for resolution.

Have you ever had any issue that required you to contact Town Hall for it to be resolved?

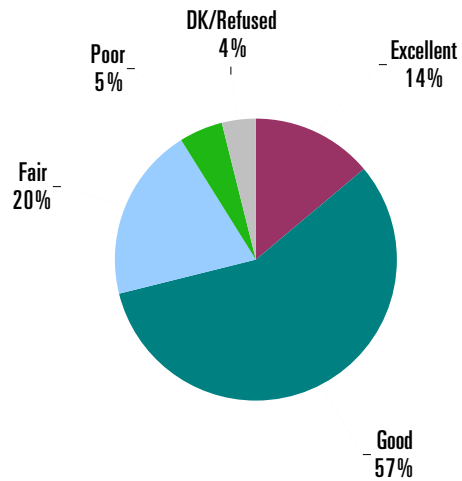


Of the 29% of residents who contacted Town Hall for issue resolutions, the majority felt their business was handled very (38%) or somewhat (38%) effectively. Only about a quarter of those who contacted Town Hall to resolve an issue felt that their issue was not handled very effectively (15%) or not at all effectively (9%).

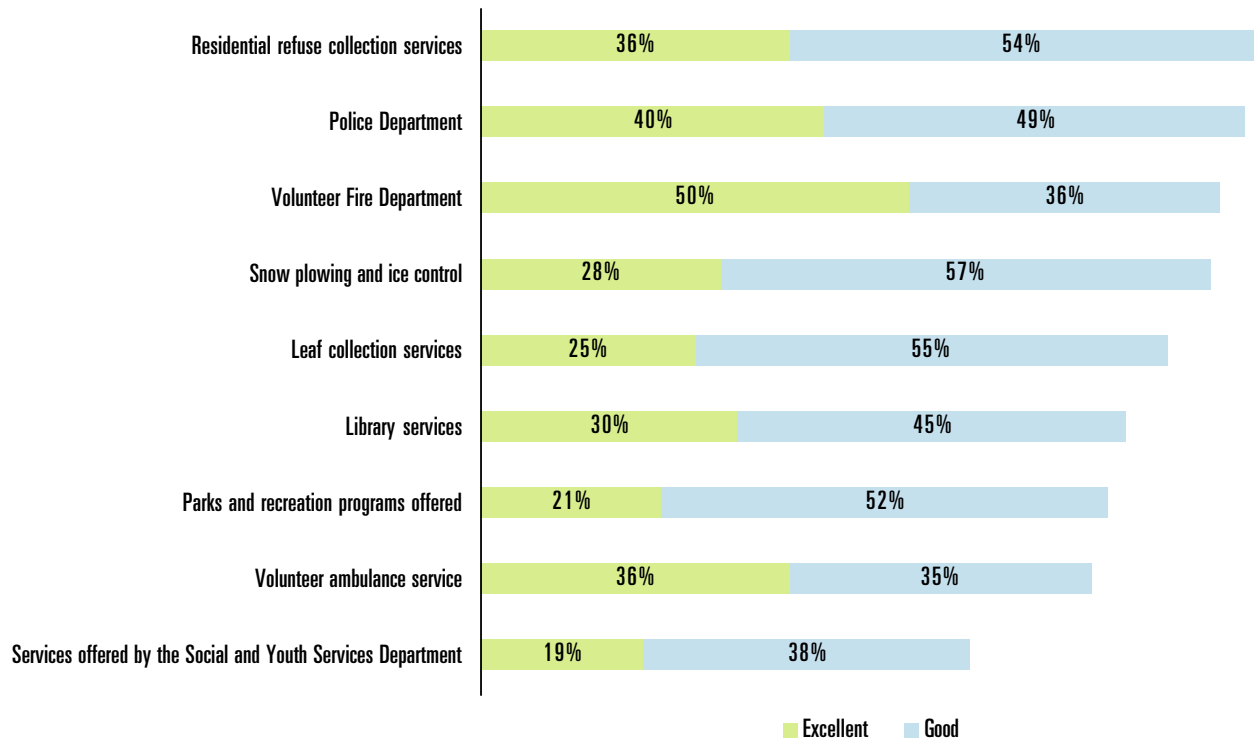
SERVICES

Seventy-one percent of Wethersfield residents feel that for the property taxes they pay, the services they receive from the town are excellent (14%) or good (57%). Twenty percent of the residents think that the services they receive from the town are fair and only 5% of residents feel that the services are poor for the amount of property taxes they pay.

Overall, for the property taxes you pay, do you think the services you receive from the town are excellent, good, fair, or poor?



Most of the town services rated were given an overall positive rating by Wethersfield residents. According to residents, the top services are refuse collection (90% said excellent or good), the Police Department (89% said excellent or good), the volunteer Fire Department (86% said excellent or good), and snow plowing and ice control (85% said excellent or good). In fact, for all of the services asked about, a majority of the residents gave a positive (excellent or good) rating.



Refuse Collection

Nine out of ten residents rate the town’s refuse collection as excellent (36%) or good (54%). Six percent of residents say refuse collection services are only fair and none of the residents say this service is poor.

Leaf Collection

Eighty percent of Wethersfield residents also think leaf collection services are excellent (25%) or good (55%). Twelve percent of residents say leaf collection services are fair and only 2% say poor.

Snowplowing and Ice Control

Twenty-eight percent of Wethersfield residents rate snowplowing and ice control as excellent. In addition, 57% say these services are good. Thirteen percent say snowplowing and ice control services are fair and only 2% of the residents says they are poor.

Volunteer Ambulance

Seven in ten (71%) residents rate the volunteer ambulance service as excellent (36%) or good (35%). Less than five percent of residents say the volunteer ambulance service is only fair (3%) or poor (1%). Twenty-six percent of residents did not rate this service.

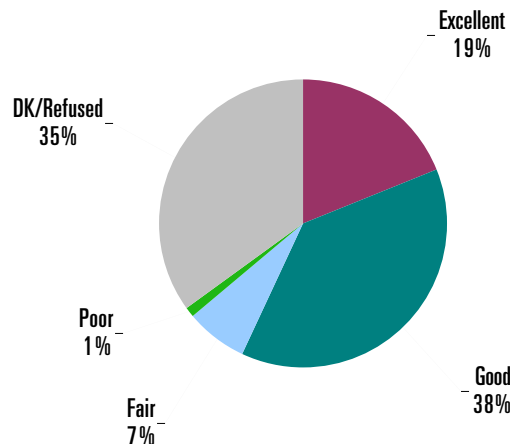
Volunteer Fire Department

Five out of ten (50%) residents give the volunteer fire department an excellent rating. Thirty-six percent give a good rating to the volunteer fire department and only 1% rate it as fair. None of the residents give the fire department a poor rating and 13% did not give any rating. Residents who have lived in town for more than 25 years (49%) are more likely to give the volunteer fire department an excellent rating than those who have lived in town for 25 years or less (28%).

Social and Youth Services Department

More than half (57%) of residents feel that the services offered by the Social and Youth Services Department are excellent (19%) or good (38%). Only 7% of the residents feel that these services are fair and 1% say they are poor. Thirty-five percent of the residents did not rate the services offered by the Social and Youth Services Department. Residents with children in Wethersfield public schools are more likely to give the services offered by the Social and Youth Services Department a positive rating (72% say excellent or good) than those without (52%).

How would you rate the services offered by the Social and Youth Services Department?



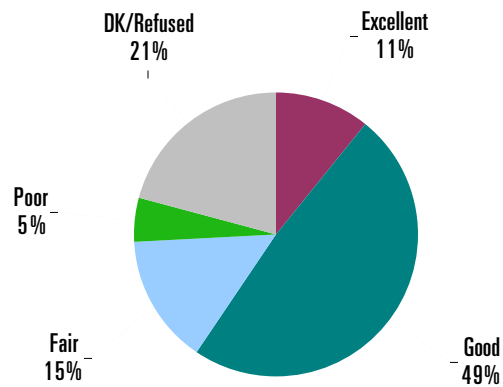
Parks and Recreation

More than seven in ten (73%) residents rank the parks and recreation programs offered by the town as excellent (21%) or good (52%). Twelve percent of the residents feel these programs are fair and only 1% feel the programs are poor. Fifteen percent of residents did not give any ranking for the parks and recreation programs offered by the town of Wethersfield. Residents with children living at home are more likely to give the parks and recreation programs a positive rating (76% compared to 60%).

Athletic Fields

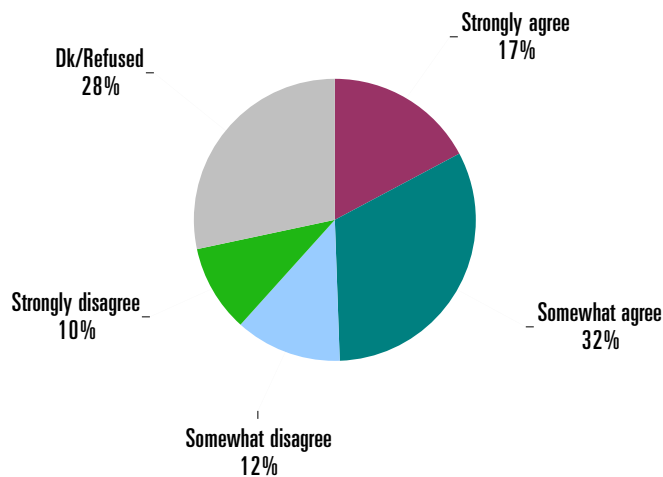
Eleven percent of residents feel the quality of the athletic fields in town is excellent. Forty-nine percent of the people feel the quality of the fields is good and 15% think the quality is fair. Only 5% say the quality of the fields is poor and 21% of the residents did not rate the quality of the athletic fields.

How would you rate the quality of athletic fields in town?



Seventeen percent of residents strongly agree and 32% somewhat agree that the current athletic fields in Wethersfield meet the town's sports and recreation needs. Twelve percent of residents somewhat disagree and 10% strongly disagree that the current athletic fields meet the sports and recreation needs of the town. Twenty-eight percent of residents do not have an opinion on this statement.

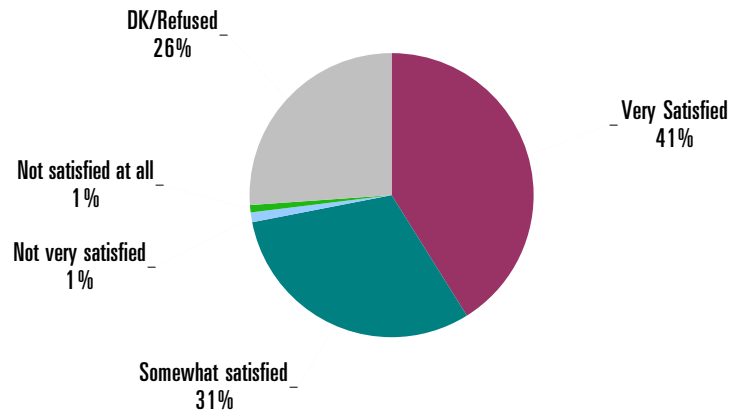
Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement. The current athletic fields in Wethersfield meet the town's sports and recreation needs.



Senior Citizen Services

Seventy-two percent of residents age 60 and older are very (41%) or somewhat (31%) satisfied with the level of services provided to the town's senior citizens. Only 2% of seniors were not very satisfied (1%) or not satisfied at all (1%) with the level of services provided. Twenty-six percent did not provide a satisfaction level.

Overall, how satisfied are you with the level of services the Town of Wethersfield provides to its senior citizens?

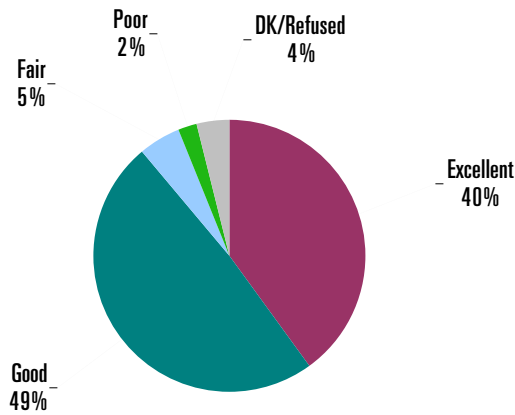


POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Police Department

Nearly nine in ten (89%) residents give the Wethersfield police department a positive rating. Forty percent of residents rate the Wethersfield police department as excellent and 49% rate it as good. Only 5% rate the police department as fair and 2% poor. The longer a person has lived in Wethersfield, the more satisfied they are with the police department. Thirty percent of those who have been in town for 10 years or less gave the department an excellent rating, compared to 37% of those who have been in town for 11 to 25 years and 50% of those who have lived in town for more than 25 years.

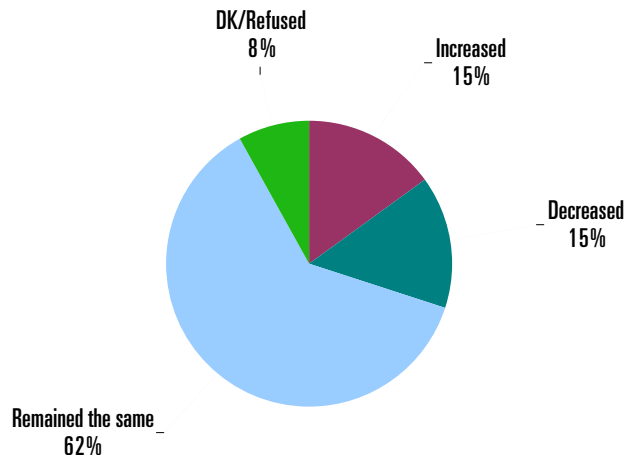
How would you rate the Police Department?



Public Safety

Sixty-two percent of residents think that public safety in Wethersfield has remained about the same over the past five years. Nearly one-third (30%) of residents have seen a change in public safety over the past five years with half thinking it has increased and half thinking it has decreased. Residents who have been in town for at least eleven years are more likely to say that public safety has increased over the past five years (16% versus 12%).

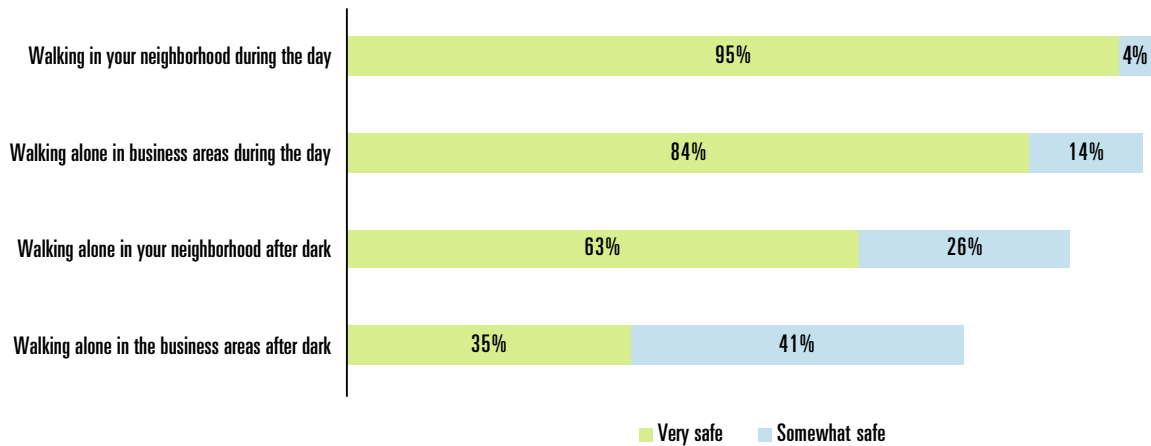
Over the past five years, would you say that public safety in Wethersfield has increased, decreased or remained about the same?



Overall, the residents of Wethersfield believe the town is very safe, which is not all that surprising considering the positive rating of the town’s police department. In fact, almost nine in ten (89%) residents feel very (63%) or somewhat (26%) safe walking alone in their neighborhood after dark. Only 8% feel somewhat (6%) or very (2%) unsafe walking alone in their neighborhood after dark. An even greater percentage of residents (95%) feel very safe walking alone in their neighborhood during the day and 4% felt somewhat safe. None of the residents feel unsafe walking alone in their neighborhood during the day. Men (79%) are more likely than women (50%) to report feeling very safe walking alone in their neighborhood after dark. Residents under the age of 60 are also more likely to feel safe than residents age 60 and older.

In addition to feeling safe in their neighborhoods, residents also feel safe walking alone in the business areas. Three-quarters (76%) of residents feel very (35%) or somewhat (41%) safe walking alone in business areas after dark. Less than one in five (19%) feel unsafe walking alone in business areas after dark (14%-somewhat and 5%-very). Again, men (56%) are much more likely than women (17%) to report feeling very safe walking alone after dark. Almost all of the residents (98%) feel very safe (84%) or somewhat safe (14%) walking alone in the business areas during the day. Only 1% of residents feel somewhat unsafe and none feel very unsafe.

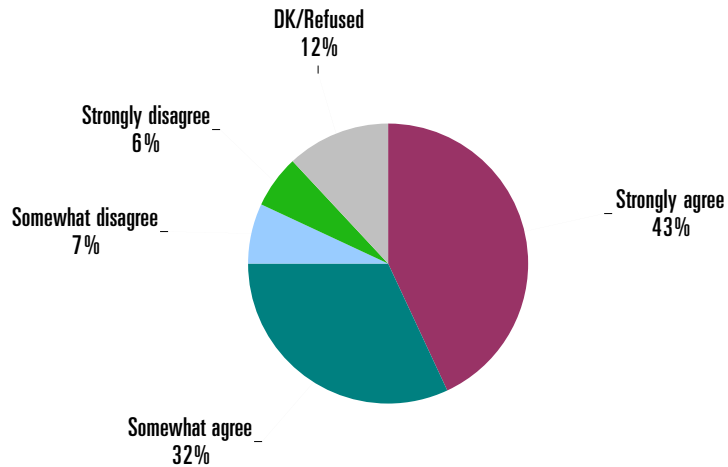
How safe do you feel . . .



Animal Control

Seventy-five percent of residents either strongly (43%) or somewhat (32%) agree that they are satisfied with the level of animal control services in town. Only seven percent somewhat disagree and even fewer, 6% strongly disagree. Residents with household incomes of \$40,000 or more are more likely than those with lower incomes to be satisfied with the level of animal control services (88% compared to 72%).

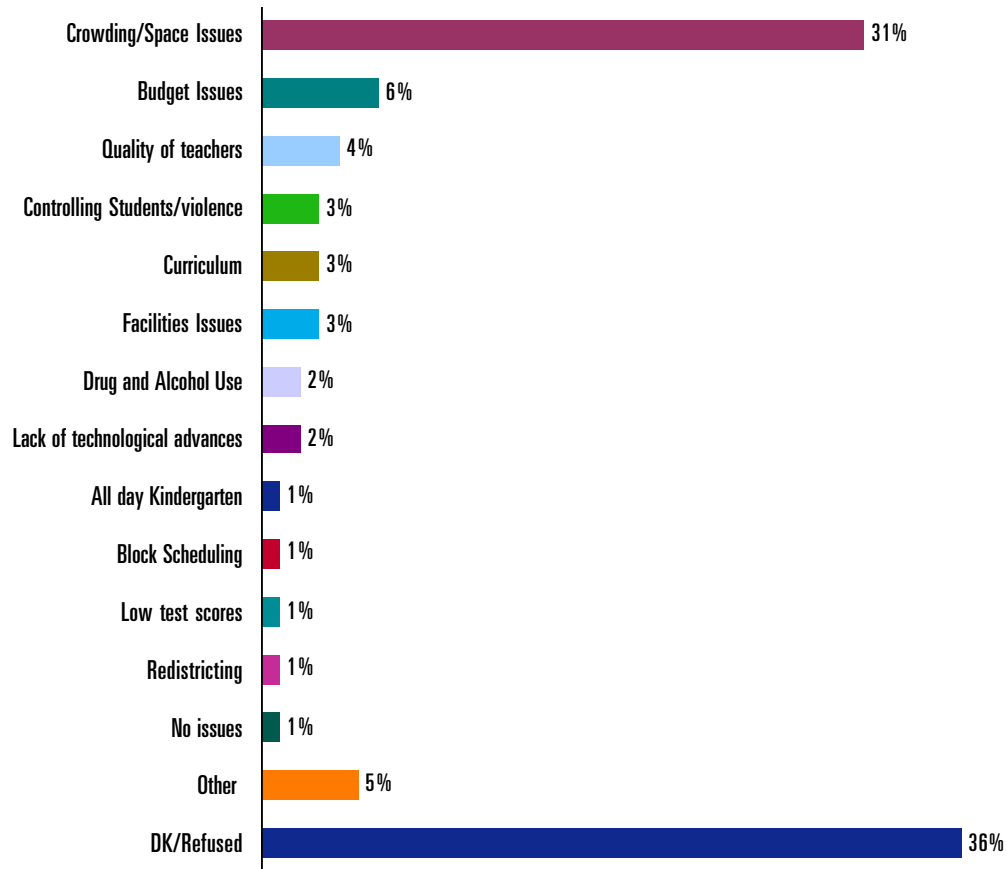
Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: I am satisfied with the level of animal control services in town.



EDUCATION

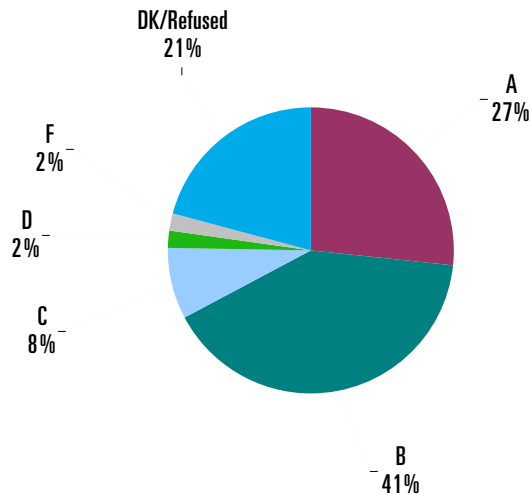
When residents were asked to name the most important issue facing the town, education topped the list. When asked to name specific aspects of the education system that are most important, crowding and space issues were the most frequently mentioned (31% of residents named it as the most important issue currently facing Wethersfield public schools). Six percent of residents feel that budget issues are the most important and 4% feel that the quality of teachers is the top issue. Several other issues were cited as the biggest currently facing the Wethersfield public schools. Almost four in ten (36%) respondents did not name a single biggest issue facing the public schools in Wethersfield.

What is the biggest issue currently facing Wethersfield public schools?



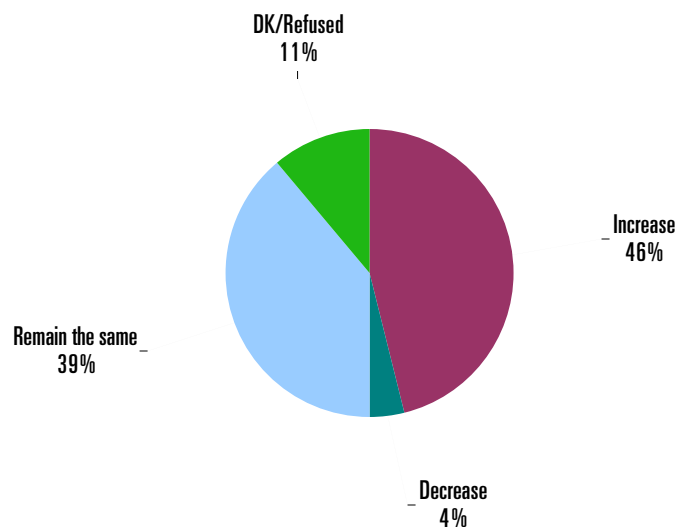
Nearly three quarters of town residents gave Wethersfield public schools a passing grade. When residents were asked to grade the town's public school on an A to F scale, more than a quarter (27%) gave them an A. Forty-one percent gave the public schools a B and 8% gave a grade of C. Less than 5% of residents gave the schools either a D (2 %) or an F (2%). Twenty-one percent of the residents did not give the public schools a grade. [Not surprisingly, residents with children enrolled in Wethersfield public schools are more likely to give the system an A (40%) or a B (46%) than residents without children in the system (22% - A and 39% - B).]

If you had to grade the public schools in Wethersfield what grade would you give them?



Forty-six percent of Wethersfield residents see a need for town spending on education to increase. Nearly four in ten (39%) residents think town spending on education should remain the same and only 4% think spending should decrease. Residents under the age of 45 are the most likely to think education spending should increase (61%). Forty-three percent of citizens aged 45 to 59 think education spending should increase and 34% of those age 60 and over think it should increase. Women (54%) are more likely than men (37%) to say spending on education should increase.

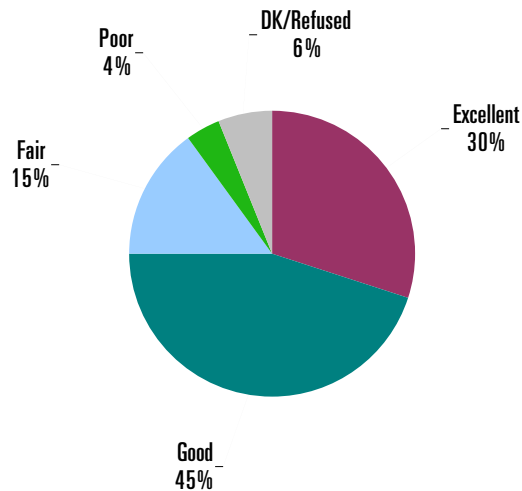
Do you think town spending on education should increase, decrease, or remain about the same?



LIBRARY

Seventy-five percent of residents give the town's library services a rating of excellent (30%) or good (45%). Only 15% give the library services a rating of fair and even fewer, 4% give a poor rating. Library users were much more likely to give services an excellent rating (24% excellent) than non-users (13% excellent). Respondents with household incomes less than \$40,000 are more likely to give library services a positive rating (86%) than respondents with household incomes of \$40,000 or more (69%).

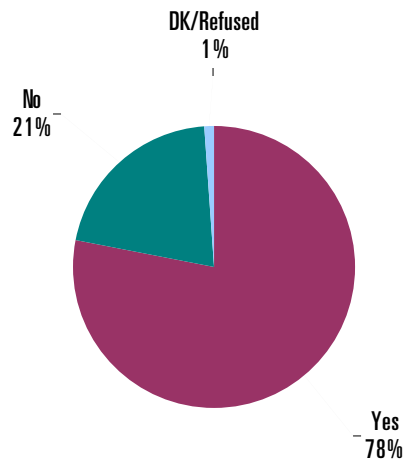
What is your overall rating of library services?



Most respondents feel that there is an excellent (21%) or good (49%) availability of materials at the library. Seventeen percent of the residents feel there is only a fair level of availability of materials at the library and 5% feel there is poor availability.

Seventy-eight percent of Wethersfield residents say they have used the public library in the past year. Only about one in five (21%) residents have not used the library in the past year. Residents with at least some college education are more likely than residents with a high school diploma or less to report using the library. Residents with children in the Wethersfield public schools are also more likely than those without children in the public schools to report using the library in the past year (87% versus 74%).

Have you used the Wethersfield public library in the past year?



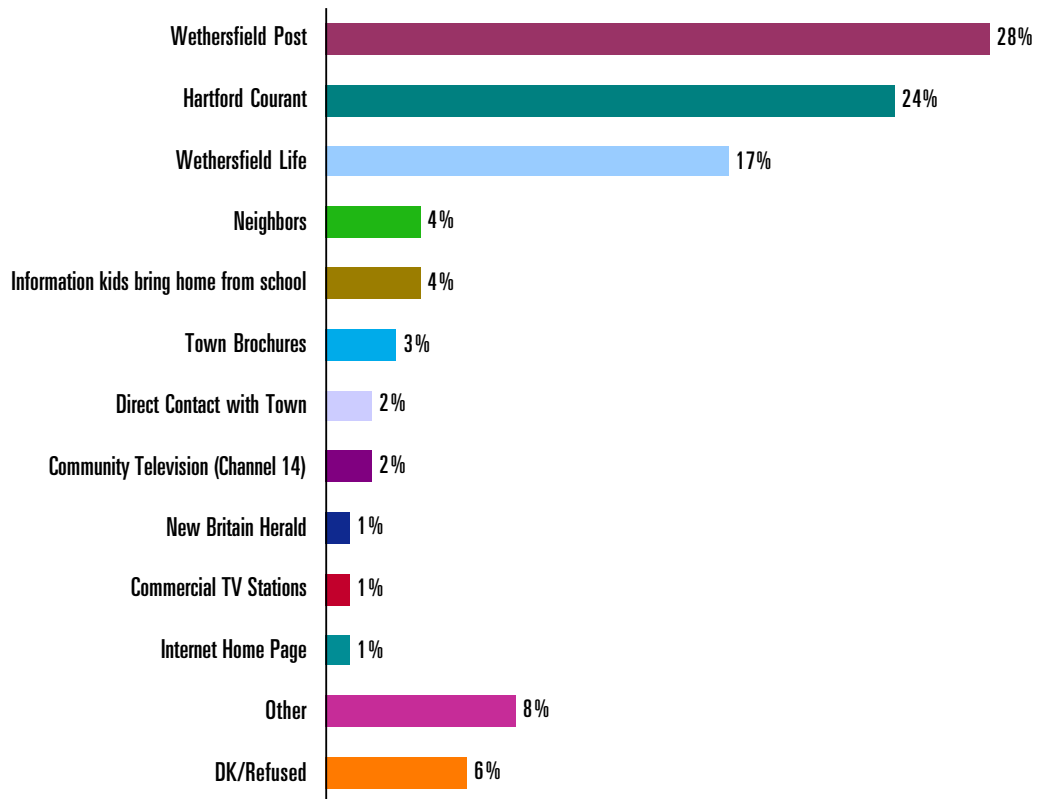
Of the twenty-one percent of residents who have not used the library in the past year, 30% say the main reason they did not use the library was because they didn't need to. Sixteen percent say they were too busy, and 10% say they just buy their books or magazines.

More than three-quarters (76%) of people who have not used the Wethersfield public library in the past year do not use any other libraries. Seven percent use Newington, 5% use Hartford, and 3% use Rocky Hill public libraries.

RESIDENT COMMUNICATION

The most widely used source of information about the town for Wethersfield residents is the Wethersfield Post (28% of residents site it as their main source of information regarding town activities). The Hartford Currant was mentioned by 24% of residents as their main source of information regarding town activities and another 17% use Wethersfield Life as their main source. Residents aged 45 and older are more likely to depend on the Hartford Courant than are younger residents.

In general, what would you say your main source of information is regarding town activities?.



Seven in ten (70%) town residents use a computer at home, work, school, or in a public library. The remaining 30% of residents say they do not currently use a computer. Out of the people who currently use computers, 88% have access to the Internet and 12% do not.

RESIDENT PROFILE

Almost one-third of Wethersfield residents are relative newcomers. Thirty-percent say that they have lived in town for 10 years or less. Approximately the same amount (31%) have lived in town for 11 to 25 years. One-third of Wethersfield residents (33%) have lived in town for 26 to 50 years and 6% have been in town for more than 50 years.

When asked whether, in politics, they consider themselves to be liberal, moderate or conservative fewer than one in five residents (15%) chose the liberal label. More than four in ten (42%) call themselves moderates while 36% label themselves as politically conservative.

More than half of the respondents (59%) surveyed have no children living at home. Fourteen percent have one child living with them and 17% have two children at home. Fewer than one in ten (9%) residents have three or more children living in their household. Twenty-seven percent of residents have children enrolled in the Wethersfield Public Schools.

Almost two-thirds of residents (63%) have household incomes of \$40,000 or more while 23% have incomes under \$40,000. Fourteen percent of those surveyed would not disclose their income.

Only four percent of Wethersfield residents have less than a high school education. Twenty-seven percent report graduating from high school and an additional 19% say they attended college but did not graduate. Nearly one-third of Wethersfield residents (31%) report receiving a bachelor's degree and 17% have post-graduate education.

Nine percent of Wethersfield residents are between the ages of 18 and 29. Slightly more than one-quarter (26%) are 30 to 44 years old and nearly the same amount (28%) are between the ages of 45 to 59. Thirty-two percent of respondents are age 60 or older.

Approximately nine in ten respondents (91%) classify themselves as white. Two percent say they are Hispanic, one percent are black, and three percent classify themselves as some other race or ethnicity.

Fifty-five percent of Wethersfield residents are female and 45% are male.

METHODOLOGY

The town of Wethersfield commissioned the University of Connecticut's Center for Survey Research and Analysis (CSRA) to conduct a survey of town residents. Results are based on 407 telephone interviews across the town of Wethersfield conducted between March 31 and April 6, 2000. The interviews were conducted by trained interviewers from the CSRA research facility in Storrs, Connecticut.

Within Wethersfield, telephone numbers were generated through a random-digit-dial telephone methodology to insure that each residential telephone number (both listed and unlisted) had an equal probability of selection. Telephone banks which contain no known residential telephone numbers were removed from the sample selection process. Once selected, each telephone number was contacted a minimum of four times in an attempt to reach an eligible respondent. Households where a viable contact was made were called additional times. Within each household one adult was randomly selected to complete the interview.

The sampling error for 407 interviews in the town of Wethersfield is ± 5 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. This means that there is less than one chance in twenty that the results of a survey of this size would differ by more than 5 percentage points in either direction from the results which would be obtained if all of the residents in the town of Wethersfield had been interviewed. The sample error is larger for sub-groups. CSRA also attempted to minimize other possible sources of error in this survey.

APPENDIX

Hello. My name is _____ and I'm calling from the Center for Survey Research at the University of Connecticut. We are conducting survey on important issues facing Wethersfield residents. May I please speak with the person in the household who is 18 years of age or older with the next birthday?

Q1. What town do you live in? (If NOT Wethersfield, say "Thank you very much for your time but we are only speaking with Wethersfield residents".)

Wethersfield 100%

Q2. Overall, how would you rate the quality of life in Wethersfield? Would you rate it as excellent, good, fair or poor?

Excellent	45%
Good	50
Fair	5
Poor	0
DK/Ref	0

Q3. What would you say is the most important issue facing the town of Wethersfield? (ASK OPEN-ENDED)

Education (general)	18%
Expansion in Schools	3
Overcrowding in Schools	4
Decline of Economic Development	2
Economic Development	5
Taxes (General)	13
High Taxes	4
The cove	1
Growth of Town	3
Roads and Highways	3
Police Building/location	4
Other Police Issues	1
No issues	1
Other	12
DK/Ref	27

Q4. Would you say the overall quality of life in Wethersfield in the past FIVE years has gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?

Gotten better	14%
Gotten worse	9
Stayed about the same	70
DK/Ref	7

Q5. How would you rate Wethersfield as a place to raise a family? Is it excellent, good, fair or poor?

Excellent	45%
Good	49
Fair	4
Poor	1
DK/Ref	2

Q6. How about as a place to do business? Is it excellent, good, fair or poor?

Excellent	10%
Good	54
Fair	23
Poor	4
DK/Ref	9

Q7. Overall, how would you rate the Wethersfield town government? Would you say it is excellent, good, fair or poor?

Excellent	7%
Good	59
Fair	23
Poor	4
DK/Ref	8

Q8. How would you rate residential refuse collection services?

Excellent	36%
Good	54
Fair	6
Poor	0
DK/Ref	4

Q9. How would you rate the volunteer ambulance service?

Excellent	36%
Good	35
Fair	3
Poor	1
DK/Ref	26

Q10. How would you rate the volunteer Fire Department?

Excellent	50%
Good	36
Fair	1
Poor	0
DK/Ref	13

Q11. How would you rate snow plowing and ice control?

Excellent	28%
Good	57
Fair	13
Poor	2
DK/Ref	1

Q12. How would you rate the services offered by the Social and Youth Services Department?

Excellent	19%
Good	38
Fair	7
Poor	1
DK/Ref	35

Q13. How would you rate the Police Department?

Excellent	40%
Good	49
Fair	5
Poor	2
DK/Ref	4

Q14. How would you rate the leaf collection services?

Excellent	25%
Good	55
Fair	12
Poor	2
DK/Ref	7

Q15. How would you rate the parks and recreation programs offered? Would they be excellent, good, fair or poor?

Excellent	21%
Good	52
Fair	12
Poor	1
DK/Ref	15

Q16. How would you rate the quality of the athletic fields in town? Excellent, good, fair, or poor?

Excellent	11%
Good	49
Fair	15
Poor	5
DK/Ref	21

Q17. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement. The current athletic fields in Wethersfield meet the town's sports and recreation needs. (PROBE: Do you strongly or somewhat agree/disagree?)

Strongly agree	17%
Somewhat agree	32
Somewhat disagree	12
Strongly disagree	10
DK/Ref	28

Now thinking about the Town library . . .

Q18. What is your overall rating of library services? Excellent, good, fair or poor?

Excellent	30%
Good	45
Fair	15
Poor	4
DK/Ref	6

Q19. What is your overall rating of availability of materials at the library? Excellent, good, fair or poor?

Excellent	21%
Good	49
Fair	17
Poor	5
DK/Ref	9

Q20. Have you used the Wethersfield Public Library in the past year?

Yes	78% (skip to Q23)
No	21
DK/Ref	1

Q21. What is the main reason you do not use the Wethersfield Public Library? (ASK OPEN-ENDED)

N=84

Use the Internet instead	5%
Health impaired	7
Don't read often	6
Don't need to	30
Just moved to the area	5
Unable to get to the library	4
Too busy	16
The library is outdated	3
I am just lazy	1
I buy books/magazines	10
Other	10
DK/Ref	4

Q22. Is there another local library you or your family use? (ASK OPEN-ENDED)

N=84

No, don't use libraries	76%
Newington	7
Rocky Hill	3
Berlin	0
Hartford	5
Other (Specify)	5*
DK/Ref	5

*Only four respondents specified other libraries.

Q23. If you had to grade the public schools in Wethersfield what grade would you give them? A, B, C, D, or F?

A	27%
B	41
C	8
D	2
F	2
DK/Ref	21

Q24. What would you say is the biggest issue currently facing Wethersfield public schools? (ASK OPEN-ENDED)

All day Kindergarten	1%
Block Scheduling	1
Budget Issues	6
Controlling Students/violence	3
Crowding/Space Issues	31
Curriculum	3
Drug and Alcohol Use	2
Facilities Issues	3
Lack of technological advances	2
Low test scores	1
Quality of teachers	4
Redistricting	1
No issues	1
Other	5
DK/Ref	36

Q25. And, do you think town spending on education should increase, decrease, or remain about the same?

Increase	46%
Decrease	4
Remain the same	39
DK/Ref	11

Q26. Have you ever had any issue that required you to contact Town Hall for it to be resolved?

Yes	29%
No	71 (skip to Q28)

Q27. At Town Hall, was your business handled very effectively, somewhat effectively, not very effectively, or not at all effectively?

N=116	
Very effectively	38%
Somewhat effectively	38
Not very effectively	15
Not at all effectively	9
DK/Ref	1

Q28. Overall, for the property taxes you pay, do you think the services you receive from the town are excellent, good, fair or poor?

Excellent	14%
Good	57
Fair	20
Poor	5
DK/Ref	4

Q29. In general, what would you say your main source of information is regarding town activities? (PROBE FOR ONE PRIMARY SOURCE)

Hartford Courant	24%
Wethersfield Life	17
Wethersfield Post	28
New Britain Herald	1
Town Brochures	3
Direct Contact with Town	2
Leisure Services Program Guide	0
Community Television (Channel 14)	2
Neighbors	4
Information kids bring home from school	4
Commercial TV Stations	1
Town Annual Report	0
Radio	0
Internet Home Page	1
Other	8
DK/Ref	6

Q30. Do you currently use a computer at home, work, school, or in a public library?

Yes	70%
No	30 (skip to Q32)

Q31. Do you have access to the Internet?

N=280

Yes	88%
No	12

I am going to read you a list of situations. For each situation please tell me whether you feel very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe, or very unsafe.

Q32. How safe would you feel walking alone in your neighborhood after dark?

Very safe	63%
Somewhat safe	26
Somewhat unsafe	6
Very unsafe	2
DK/Ref	2

Q33. How safe would you feel walking in your neighborhood during the day?

Very safe	95%
Somewhat safe	4
Somewhat unsafe	0
Very unsafe	0
DK/Ref	0

Q34. How safe would you feel walking alone in the business areas after dark?

Very safe	35%
Somewhat safe	41
Somewhat unsafe	14
Very unsafe	5
DK/Ref	6

Q35. How safe would you feel walking alone in business areas during the day?

Very safe	84%
Somewhat safe	14
Somewhat unsafe	1
Very unsafe	0
DK/Ref	1

Q36. Over the past five years, would you say that public safety in Wethersfield has increased, decreased or remained about the same?

Increased	15%
Decreased	15
Remained the same	62
DK/Ref	8

Q37. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement. I am satisfied with the level of animal control services in town. (PROBE: Do you strongly or somewhat agree/disagree).

Strongly agree	43%
Somewhat agree	32
Somewhat disagree	7
Strongly disagree	6
DK/Ref	12

Q38. In politics as of today, do you consider yourself a liberal, a moderate, or a conservative?

Liberal	15%
Moderate	42
Conservative	36
DK/Ref	7

Q39. How many children live in your household?

No children	59%
1 Child	14
2 Children	17
3 Children	8
4 Children	1
More than 4 Children	0
DK/Ref	1

Q40. Do you have any children in the Wethersfield public schools?

Yes	27%
No	72
DK/Ref	1

Q41. For classification purposes only, is the total yearly income of all members of your family now living at home \$40,000 or more, or is it less than \$40,000?

Less than \$40,000	23%
\$40,000 or more	63
DK/Ref	14

Q41a. And is that . . .

N=92

Under \$10,000	4%
\$10,000 to less than \$20,000	16
\$20,000 to less than \$30,000	29
\$30,000 to less than \$40,000	35
DK/Ref	16

Q41b. And is that . . .

N=252

\$40,000 to less than \$50,000	16%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	26
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	22
\$100,000 to less than \$125,000	10
\$125,000 or more	13
DK/Ref	13

Q42. What was the last grade of school you completed?

Grade school or less (0-8)	1%
Some high school (9-11)	3
High school graduate (12)	27
Some college (1-3 yrs) or (13-15 yrs total)	19
College graduate (4 yrs) or (16 yrs total)	31
Post graduate (beyond 4 yrs) or (16+ total)	17
DK/Ref	1

Q43. How many years have you lived in Wethersfield?

0 to 10 Years	30%
11 to 25 Years	31
26 to 50 Years	33
More than 50 Years	6
DK/Ref	0

Q44. Are you White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, or something else?

White	91%
Black	1
Hispanic	2
Asian	0
Something else	1
Bi-Racial (Volunteered)	1
Other (Volunteered)	1
DK/Ref	4

Q45. In what year were you born? (ENTER 4 DIGITS)

18 to 29 years old	9%
30 to 44 years old	26
45 to 59 years old	28
60 years old +	32
DK/Refused	5

Q46. Overall, how satisfied are you with the level of services the Town of Wethersfield provides to its senior citizens? Are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not very satisfied or not satisfied at all?

N=128

Very satisfied	41%
Somewhat satisfied	31
Not very satisfied	1
Not satisfied at all	1
DK/Ref	26

Thank you very much for your time. I really appreciate your cooperation.

Record whether male or female. (DO NOT ASK)

Male	46%
Female	55