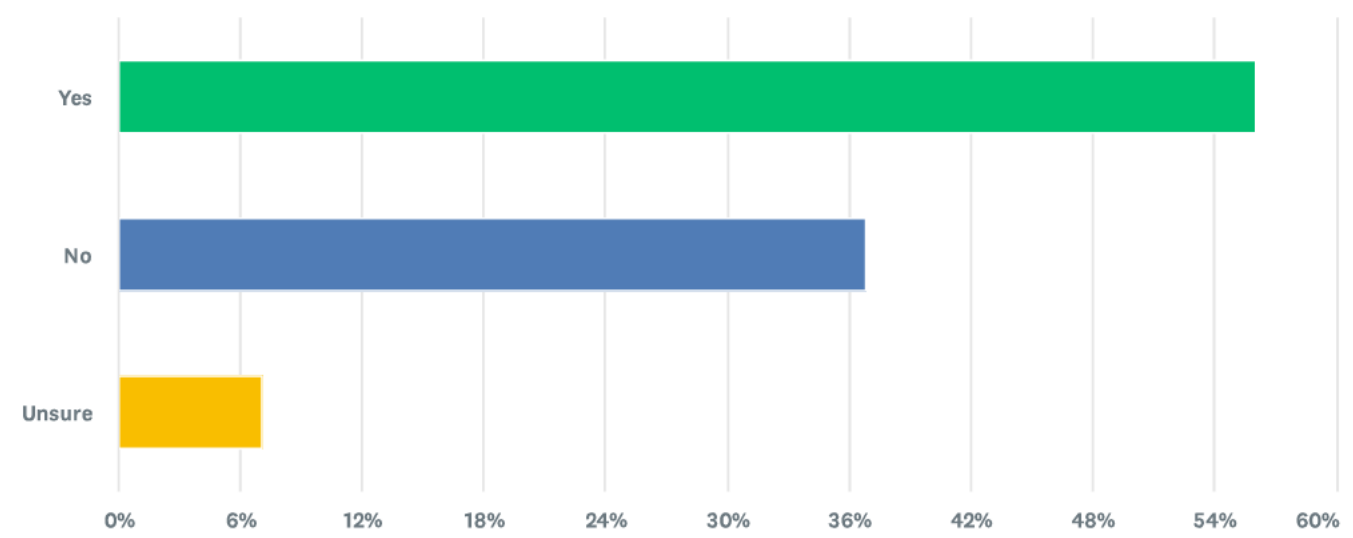


Q1 396 responses

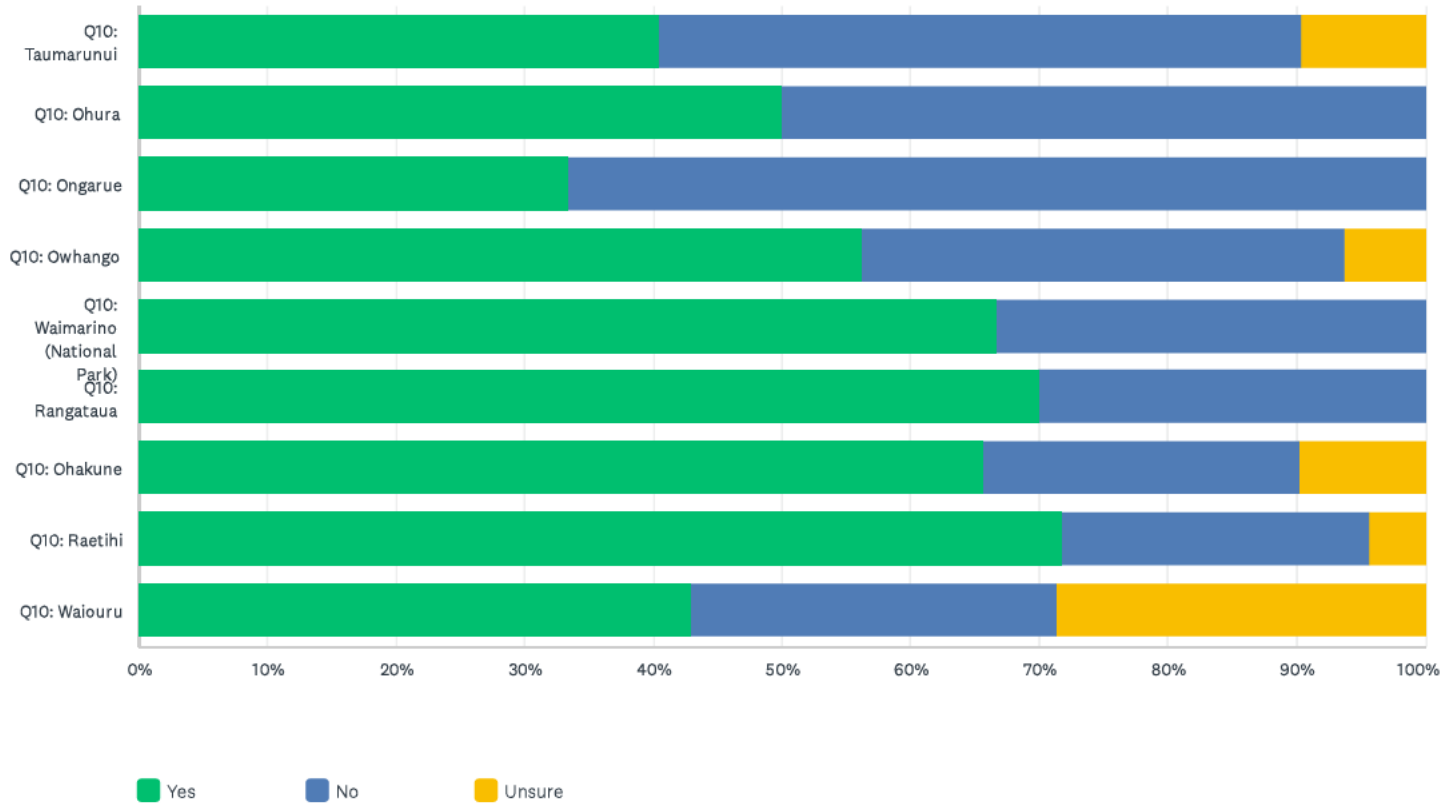
Do you think Council should continue operating three libraries?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Yes	56.06%	222
No	36.87%	146
Unsure	7.07%	28
Total		396

Q1 Do you think Council should continue operating three libraries?

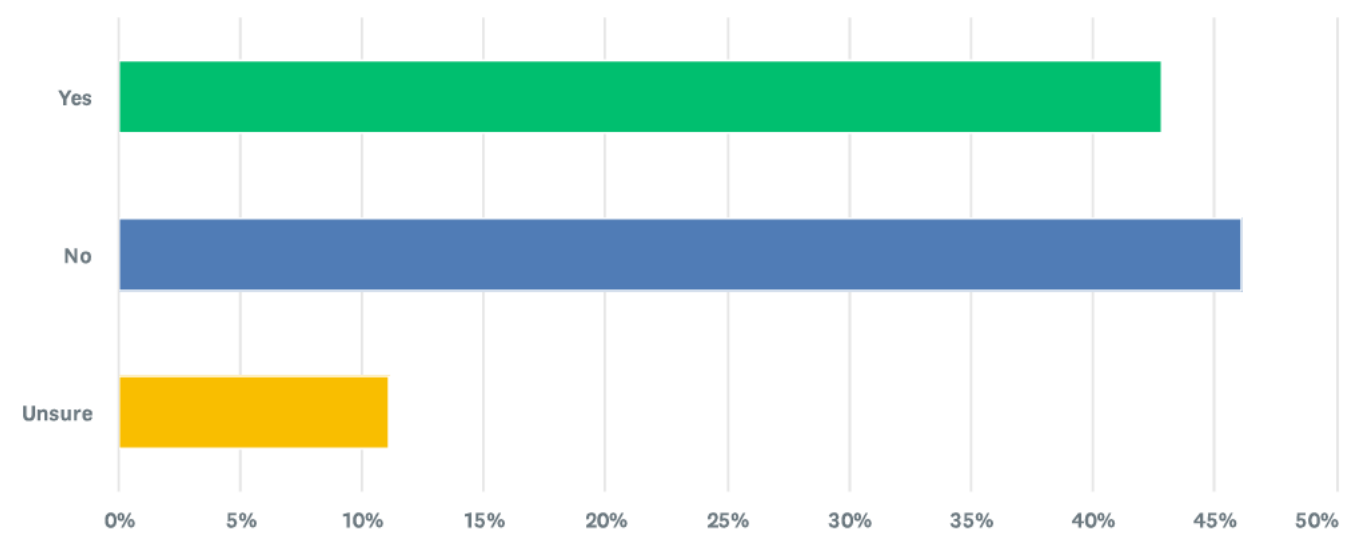
Answered: 355 Skipped: 1



	YES	NO	UNSURE	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	40.35% 46	50.00% 57	9.65% 11	32.11% 114
Q10: Ohura	50.00% 4	50.00% 4	0.00% 0	2.25% 8
Q10: Ongarue	33.33% 2	66.67% 4	0.00% 0	1.69% 6
Q10: Owhango	56.25% 9	37.50% 6	6.25% 1	4.51% 16
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	66.67% 6	33.33% 3	0.00% 0	2.54% 9
Q10: Rangataua	70.00% 7	30.00% 3	0.00% 0	2.82% 10
Q10: Ohakune	65.59% 61	24.73% 23	9.68% 9	26.20% 93
Q10: Raetihi	71.74% 66	23.91% 22	4.35% 4	25.92% 92
Q10: Waiouru	42.86% 3	28.57% 2	28.57% 2	1.97% 7
Total Respondents	204	124	27	355

Q2 397 responses

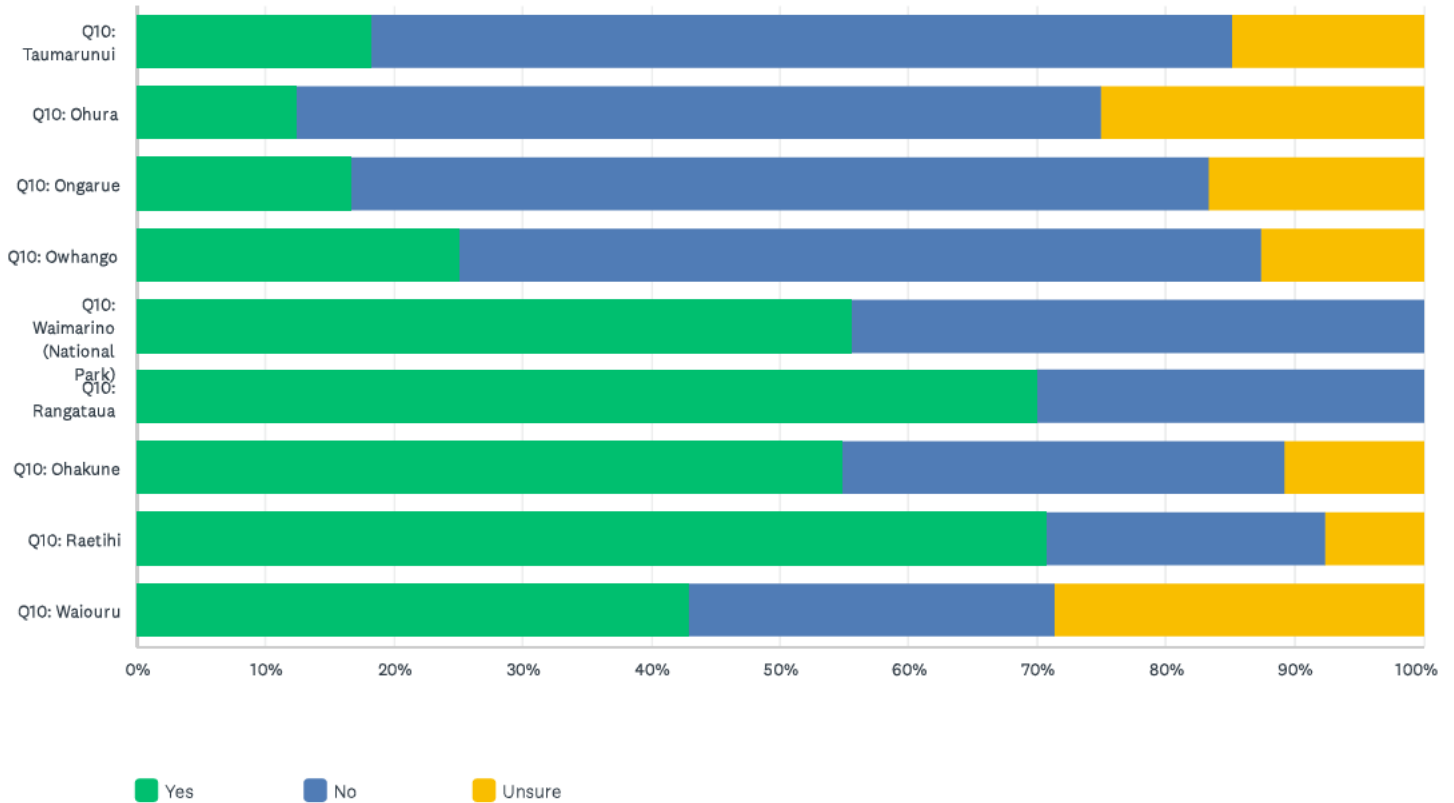
Do you think Council needs separate libraries in both Ohakune and Raetihi?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Yes	42.82%	170
No	46.10%	183
Unsure	11.08%	44
Total		397

Q2 Do you think Council needs separate libraries in both Ohakune and Raetihi?

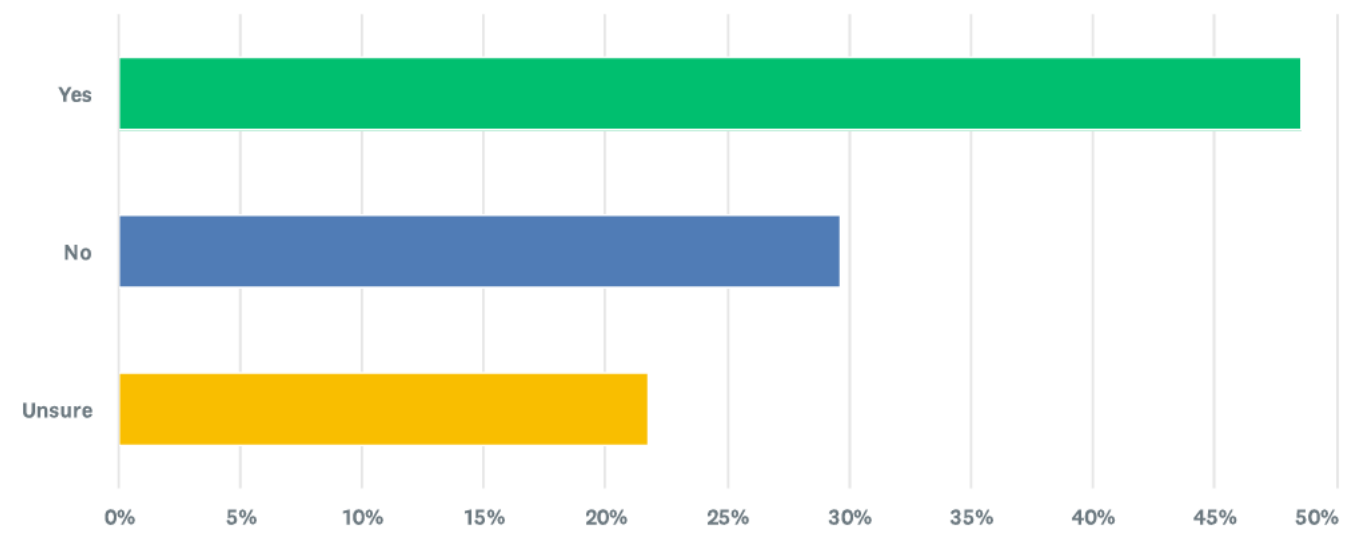
Answered: 356 Skipped: 0



	YES	NO	UNSURE	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	18.26% 21	66.96% 77	14.78% 17	32.30% 115
Q10: Ohura	12.50% 1	62.50% 5	25.00% 2	2.25% 8
Q10: Ongarue	16.67% 1	66.67% 4	16.67% 1	1.69% 6
Q10: Owahango	25.00% 4	62.50% 10	12.50% 2	4.49% 16
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	55.56% 5	44.44% 4	0.00% 0	2.53% 9
Q10: Rangataua	70.00% 7	30.00% 3	0.00% 0	2.81% 10
Q10: Ohakune	54.84% 51	34.41% 32	10.75% 10	26.12% 93
Q10: Raetihi	70.65% 65	21.74% 20	7.61% 7	25.84% 92
Q10: Waiouru	42.86% 3	28.57% 2	28.57% 2	1.97% 7
Total Respondents	158	157	41	356

Q3 395 responses

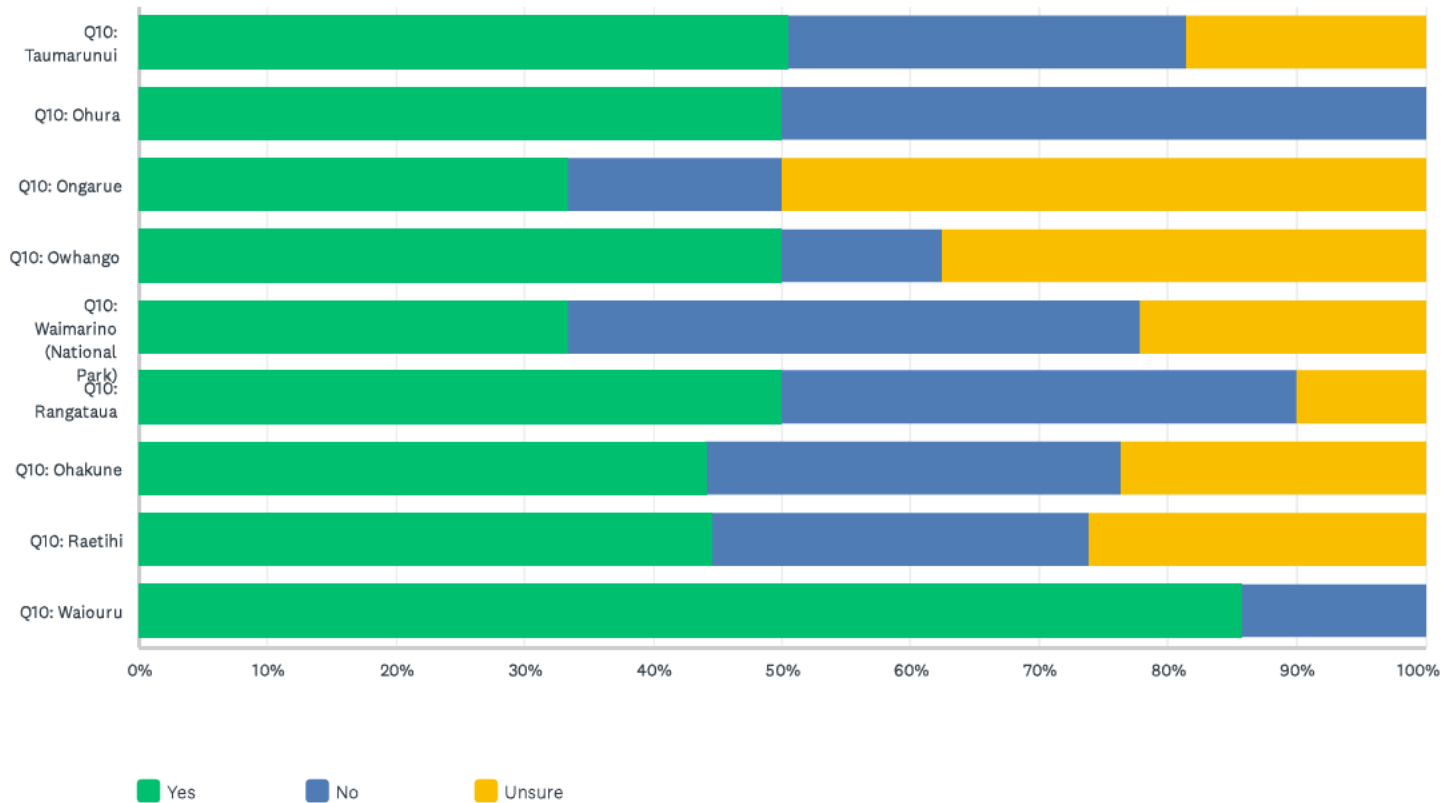
Should Council invest more in digital services (eBooks, online resources and technology)?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Yes	48.61%	192
No	29.62%	117
Unsure	21.77%	86
Total		395

Q3 Should Council invest more in digital services (eBooks, online resources and technology)?

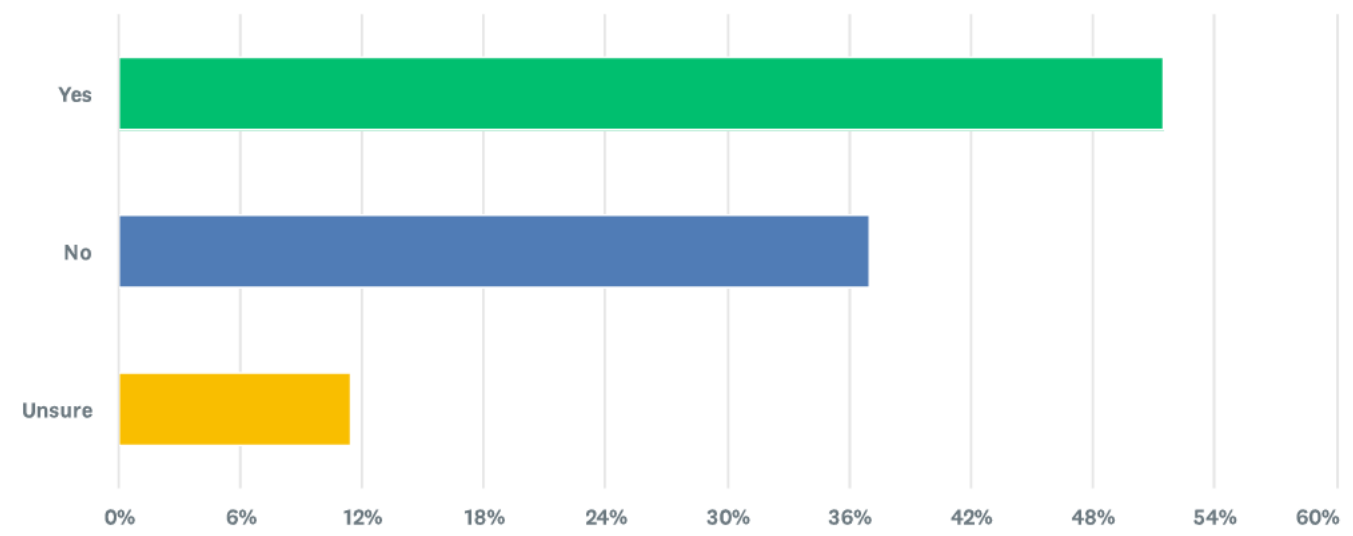
Answered: 354 Skipped: 2



	YES	NO	UNSURE	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	50.44% 57	30.97% 35	18.58% 21	31.92% 113
Q10: Ohura	50.00% 4	50.00% 4	0.00% 0	2.26% 8
Q10: Ongerue	33.33% 2	16.67% 1	50.00% 3	1.69% 6
Q10: Owhango	50.00% 8	12.50% 2	37.50% 6	4.52% 16
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	33.33% 3	44.44% 4	22.22% 2	2.54% 9
Q10: Rangataua	50.00% 5	40.00% 4	10.00% 1	2.82% 10
Q10: Ohakune	44.09% 41	32.26% 30	23.66% 22	26.27% 93
Q10: Raetihi	44.57% 41	29.35% 27	26.09% 24	25.99% 92
Q10: Waiouru	85.71% 6	14.29% 1	0.00% 0	1.98% 7
Total Respondents	167	108	79	354

Q4 394 responses

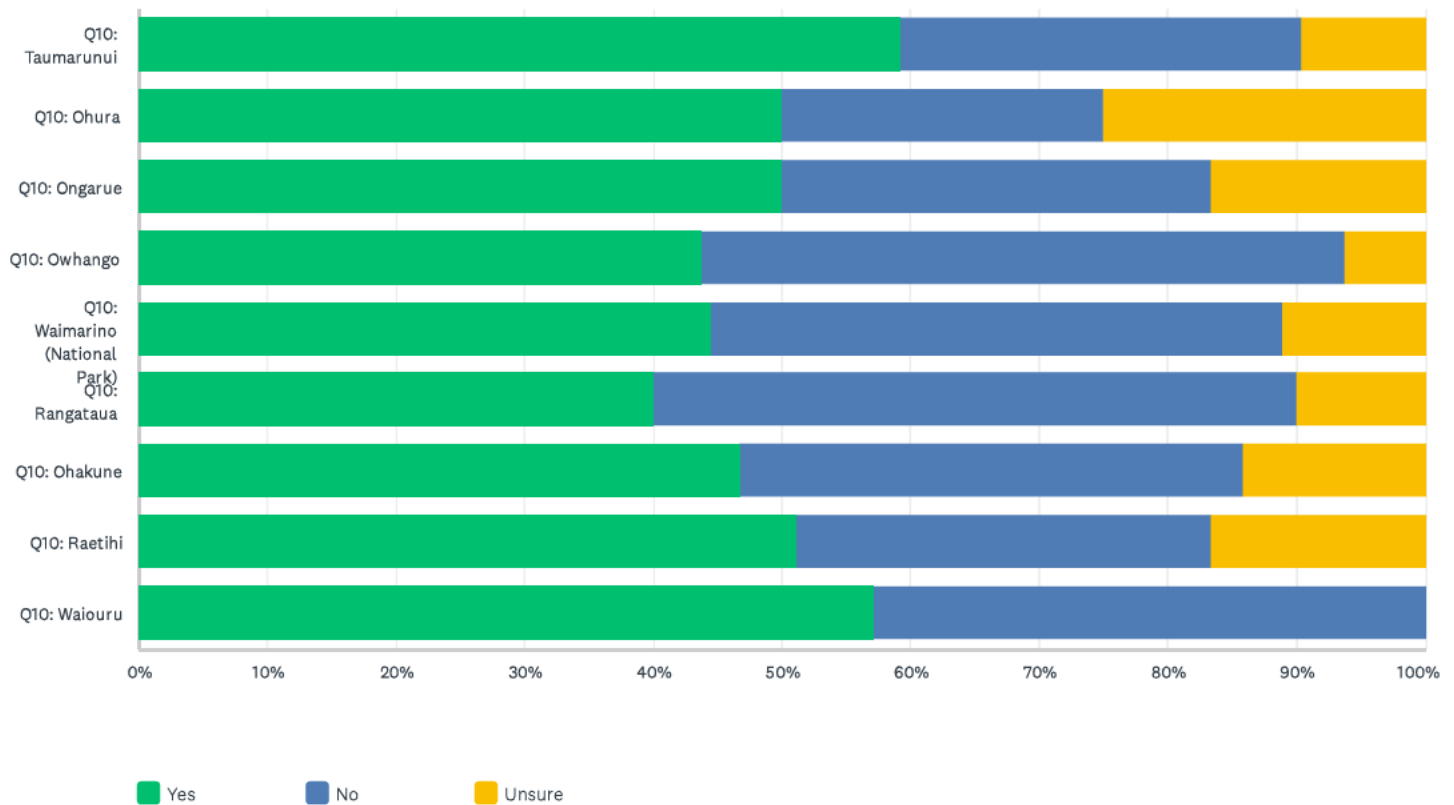
Would you support reducing the annual budget for new books if it helped keep rates lower?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Yes	51.52%	203
No	37.06%	146
Unsure	11.42%	45
Total		394

Q4 Would you support reducing the annual budget for new books if it helped keep rates lower?

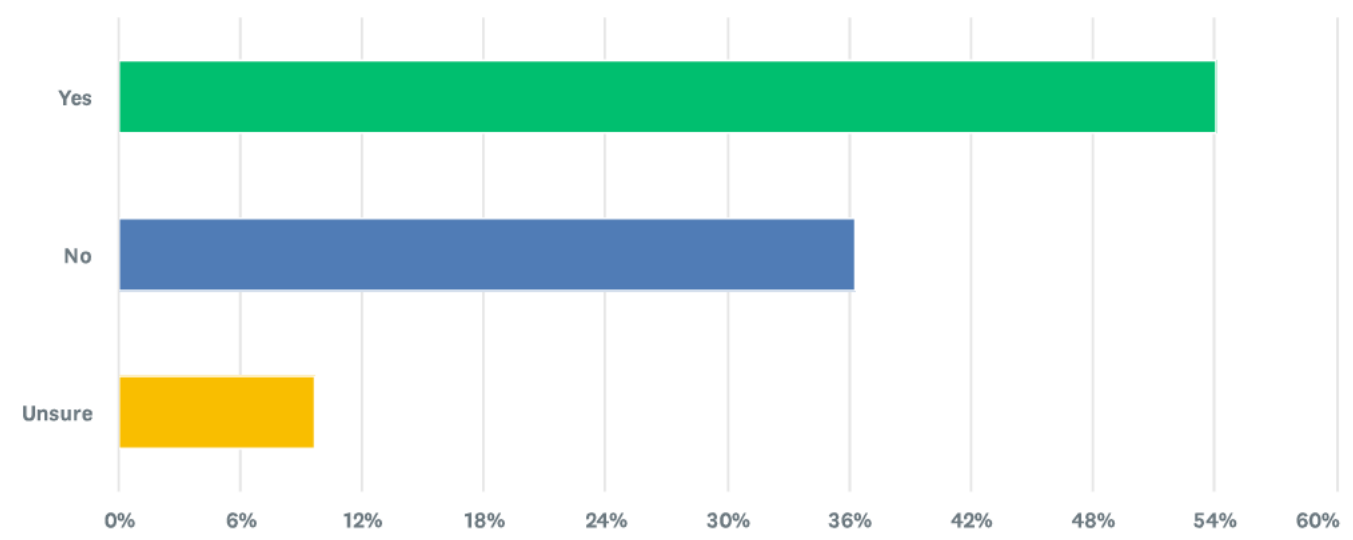
Answered: 353 Skipped: 3



	YES	NO	UNSURE	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	59.13% 68	31.30% 36	9.57% 11	32.58% 115
Q10: Ohura	50.00% 4	25.00% 2	25.00% 2	2.27% 8
Q10: Ongarue	50.00% 3	33.33% 2	16.67% 1	1.70% 6
Q10: Owhango	43.75% 7	50.00% 8	6.25% 1	4.53% 16
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	44.44% 4	44.44% 4	11.11% 1	2.55% 9
Q10: Rangataua	40.00% 4	50.00% 5	10.00% 1	2.83% 10
Q10: Ohakune	46.74% 43	39.13% 36	14.13% 13	26.06% 92
Q10: Raetihi	51.11% 46	32.22% 29	16.67% 15	25.50% 90
Q10: Waiouru	57.14% 4	42.86% 3	0.00% 0	1.98% 7
Total Respondents	183	125	45	353

Q5 394 responses

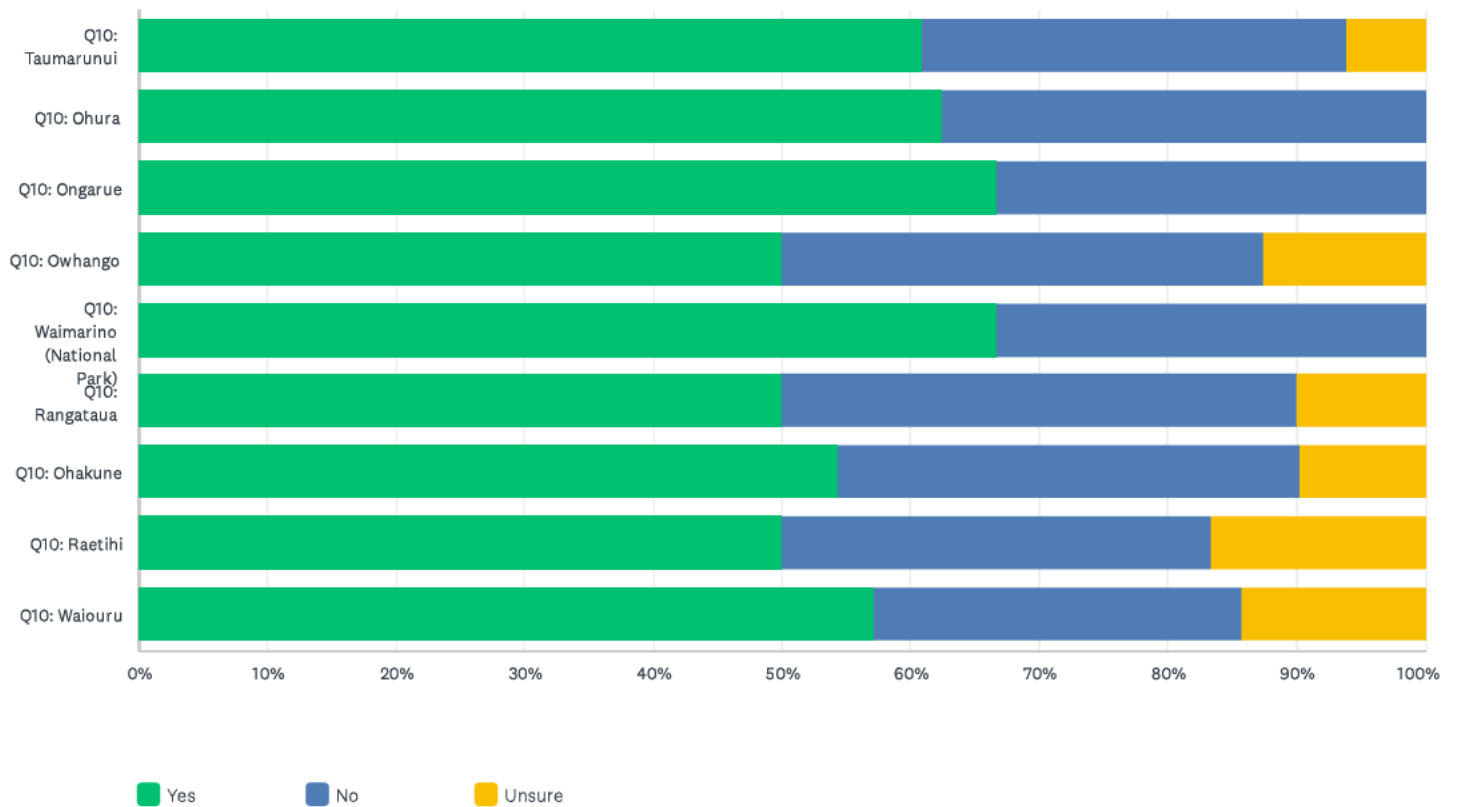
Would you support reducing library opening hours if it helped reduce costs?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Yes	54.06%	213
No	36.29%	143
Unsure	9.64%	38
Total		394

Q5 Would you support reducing library opening hours if it helped reduce costs?

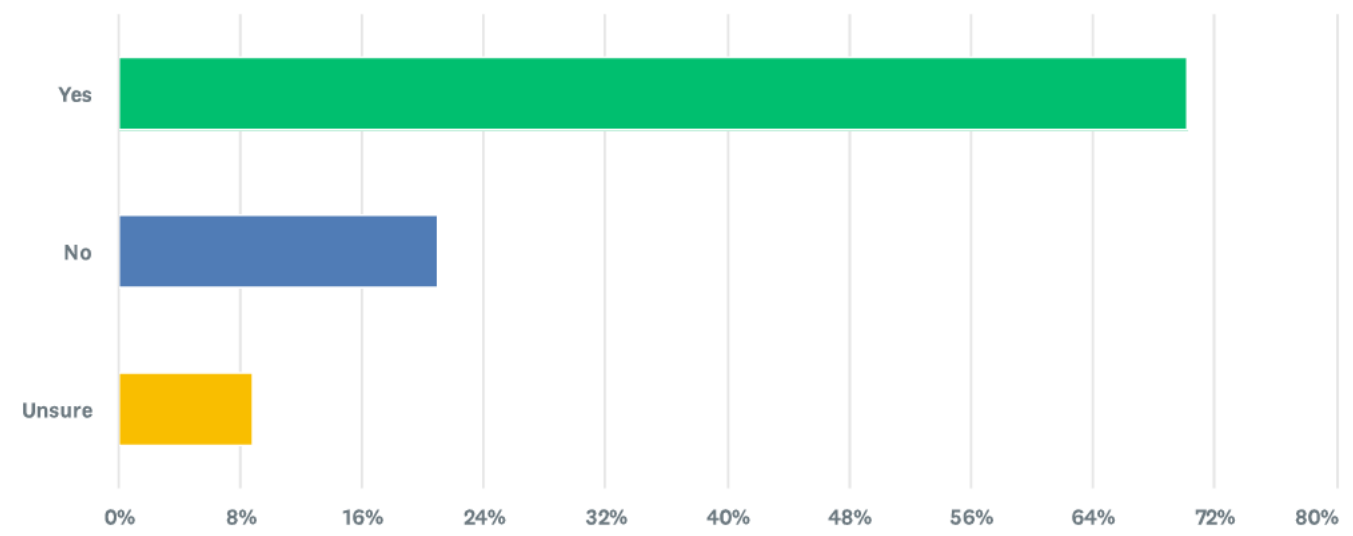
Answered: 353 Skipped: 3



	YES	NO	UNSURE	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	60.87% 70	33.04% 38	6.09% 7	32.58% 115
Q10: Ohura	62.50% 5	37.50% 3	0.00% 0	2.27% 8
Q10: Ongarue	66.67% 4	33.33% 2	0.00% 0	1.70% 6
Q10: Owahango	50.00% 8	37.50% 6	12.50% 2	4.53% 16
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	66.67% 6	33.33% 3	0.00% 0	2.55% 9
Q10: Rangataua	50.00% 5	40.00% 4	10.00% 1	2.83% 10
Q10: Ohakune	54.35% 50	35.87% 33	9.78% 9	26.06% 92
Q10: Raetihi	50.00% 45	33.33% 30	16.67% 15	25.50% 90
Q10: Waiouru	57.14% 4	28.57% 2	14.29% 1	1.98% 7
Total Respondents	197	121	35	353

Q6 396 responses

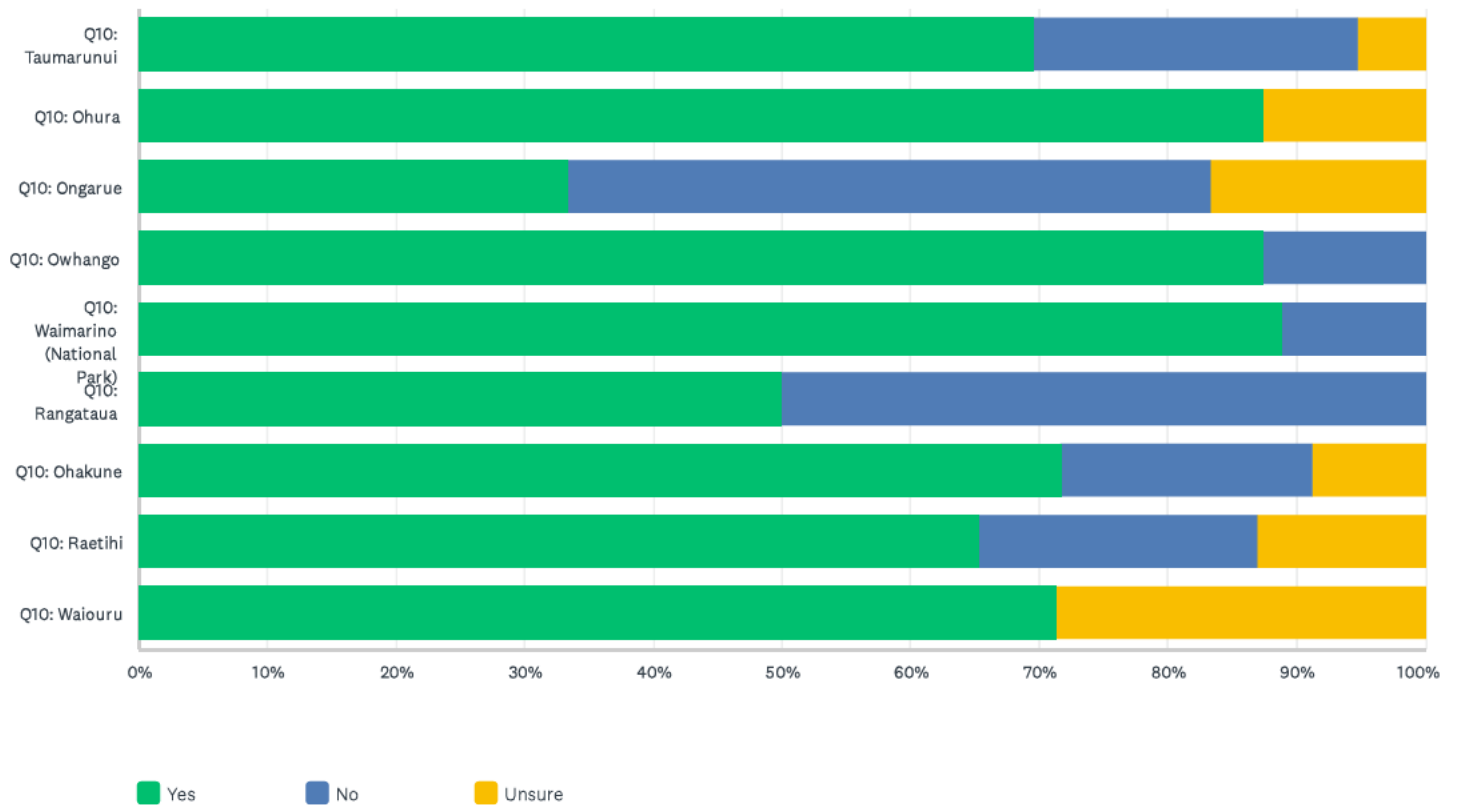
Would you support more self-service technology if it helped reduce operating costs while keeping libraries open?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Yes	70.20%	278
No	20.96%	83
Unsure	8.84%	35
Total		396

Q6 Would you support more self-service technology if it helped reduce operating costs while keeping libraries open?

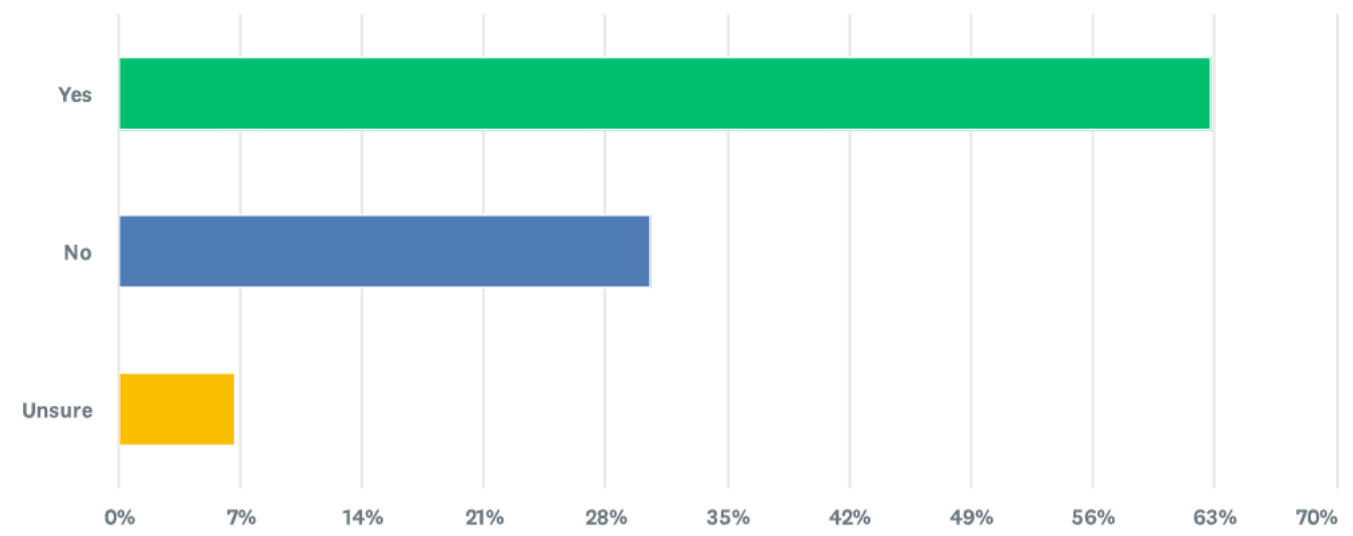
Answered: 355 Skipped: 1



	YES	NO	UNSURE	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	69.57% 80	25.22% 29	5.22% 6	32.39% 115
Q10: Ohura	87.50% 7	0.00% 0	12.50% 1	2.25% 8
Q10: Ongarue	33.33% 2	50.00% 3	16.67% 1	1.69% 6
Q10: Owhango	87.50% 14	12.50% 2	0.00% 0	4.51% 16
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	88.89% 8	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	2.54% 9
Q10: Rangataua	50.00% 5	50.00% 5	0.00% 0	2.82% 10
Q10: Ohakune	71.74% 66	19.57% 18	8.70% 8	25.92% 92
Q10: Raetihi	65.22% 60	21.74% 20	13.04% 12	25.92% 92
Q10: Waiouru	71.43% 5	0.00% 0	28.57% 2	1.97% 7
Total Respondents	247	78	30	355

Q7 392 responses

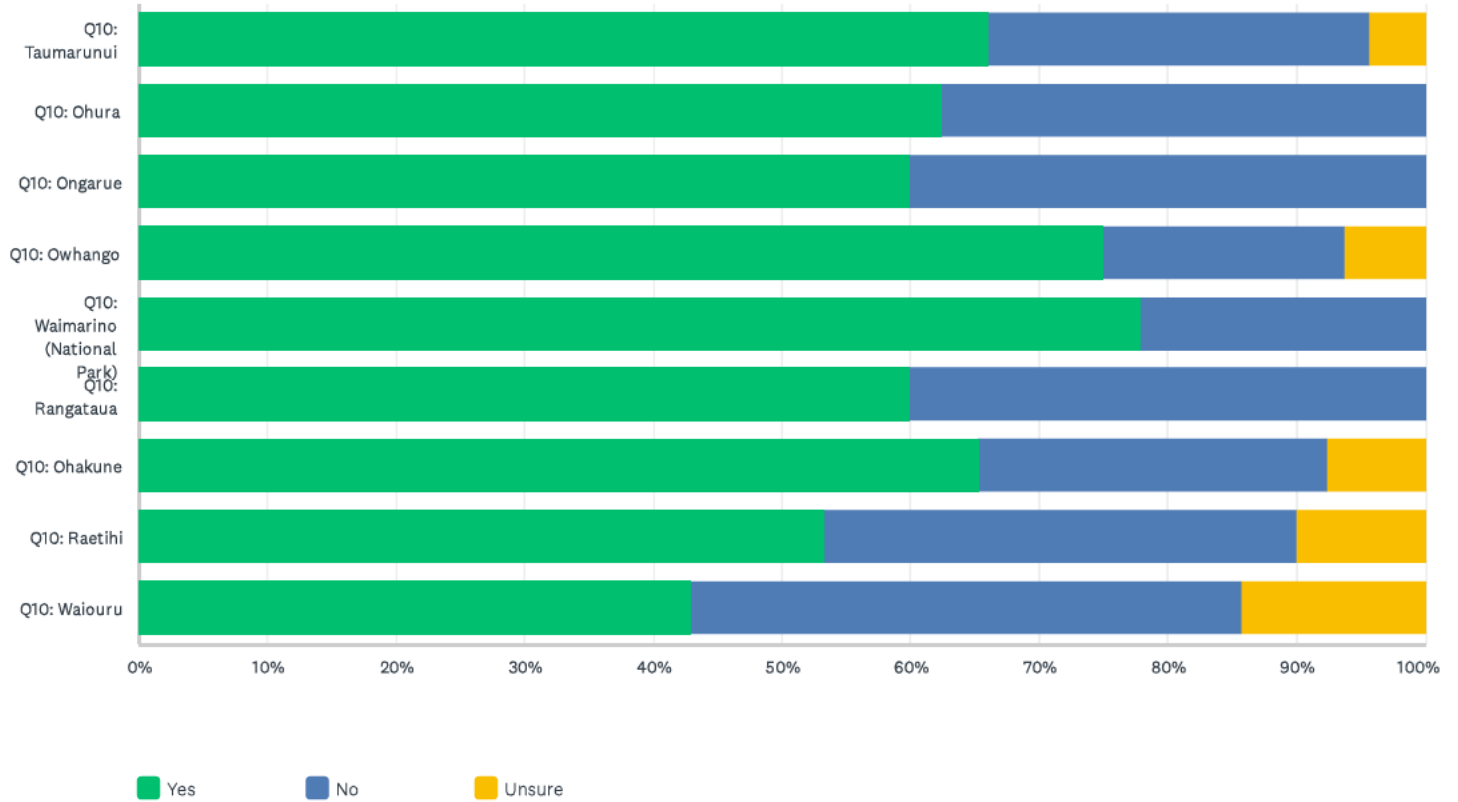
Would you be open to adding library fees (e.g. charging for new release books) to reduce the cost to the ratepayer?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Yes	62.76%	246
No	30.61%	120
Unsure	6.63%	26
Total		392

Q7 Would you be open to adding library fees (e.g. charging for new release books) to reduce the cost to the ratepayer?

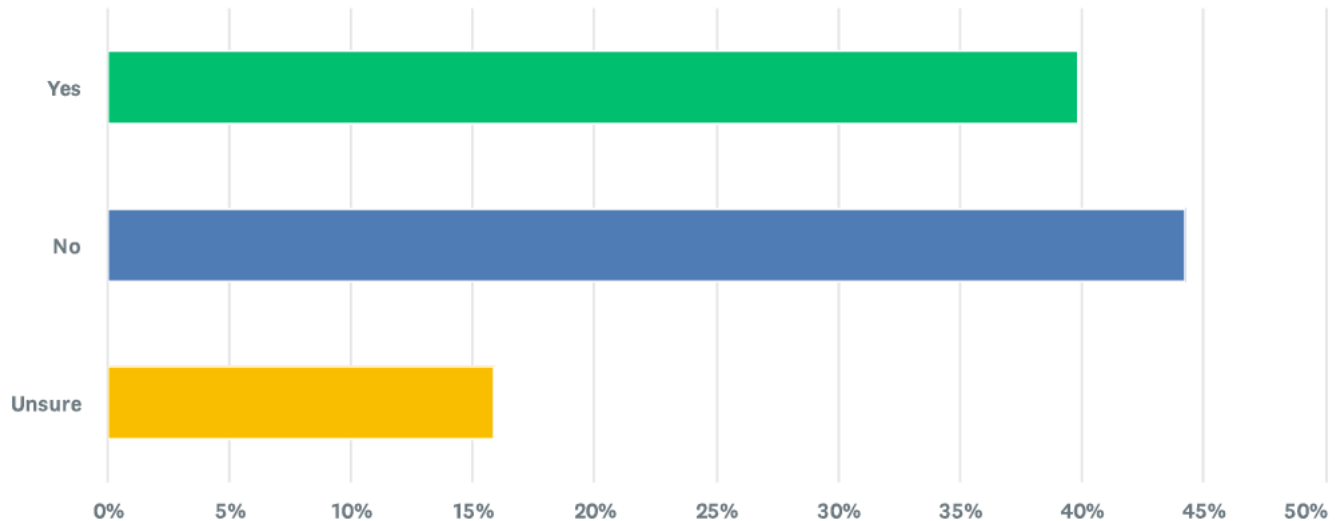
Answered: 352 Skipped: 4



	YES	NO	UNSURE	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	66.09% 76	29.57% 34	4.35% 5	32.67% 115
Q10: Ohura	62.50% 5	37.50% 3	0.00% 0	2.27% 8
Q10: Otago	60.00% 3	40.00% 2	0.00% 0	1.42% 5
Q10: Otago	75.00% 12	18.75% 3	6.25% 1	4.55% 16
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	77.78% 7	22.22% 2	0.00% 0	2.56% 9
Q10: Rangataua	60.00% 6	40.00% 4	0.00% 0	2.84% 10
Q10: Ohakune	65.22% 60	27.17% 25	7.61% 7	26.14% 92
Q10: Raetihi	53.33% 48	36.67% 33	10.00% 9	25.57% 90
Q10: Waiouru	42.86% 3	42.86% 3	14.29% 1	1.99% 7
Total Respondents	220	109	23	352

Q8 391 responses

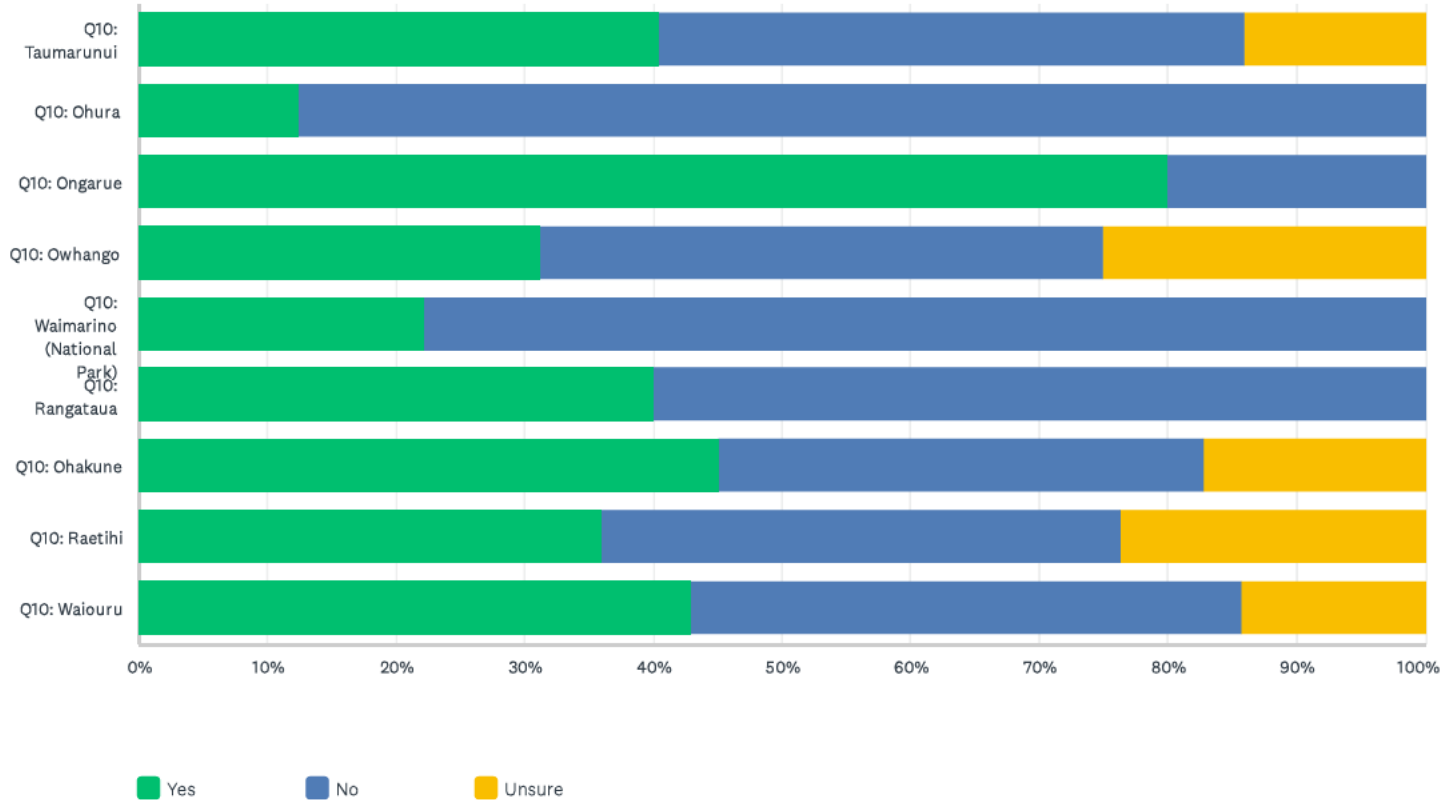
Should the Council continue to be involved in wider community outreach services, such as home delivery for books or reading programmes at education centres?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Yes	39.90%	156
● No	44.25%	173
● Unsure	15.86%	62
Total		391

Q8 Should the Council continue to be involved in wider community outreach services, such as home delivery for books or reading programmes at education centres?

Answered: 351 Skipped: 5



	YES	NO	UNSURE	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	40.35% 46	45.61% 52	14.04% 16	32.48% 114
Q10: Ohura	12.50% 1	87.50% 7	0.00% 0	2.28% 8
Q10: Ongarue	80.00% 4	20.00% 1	0.00% 0	1.42% 5
Q10: Owhango	31.25% 5	43.75% 7	25.00% 4	4.56% 16
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	22.22% 2	77.78% 7	0.00% 0	2.56% 9
Q10: Rangataua	40.00% 4	60.00% 6	0.00% 0	2.85% 10
Q10: Ohakune	45.16% 42	37.63% 35	17.20% 16	26.50% 93
Q10: Raetihi	35.96% 32	40.45% 36	23.60% 21	25.36% 89
Q10: Waiouru	42.86% 3	42.86% 3	14.29% 1	1.99% 7
Total Respondents	139	154	58	351

Q9 Do you have any other feedback about Libraries?

Answered: 173 Skipped: 224

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I am a periodic user of the services provided by our local library. Although the library is small, it has, to date, been able to fulfill my requirements. It provides a valuable service.	8/13/2026 11:28 AM
2	2. If Council implements 7. Depends on level charges for new releases	8/11/2026 11:22 AM
3	Necessities for life long learning. A price to pay surely not	8/11/2026 11:21 AM
4	Encourage people to do voluntary work like for item #8 if it needs to carry on. Item #3 I didn't it is necessary because internet is available. Have some inventories if these books are borrowed or use by the community. maybe Council is providing too much.	8/11/2026 11:19 AM
5	Staff need to stop using Miriama Street as a carpark & use Council carpark	8/11/2026 11:16 AM
6	I use Ohakune & occasionally Raetihi. They are great as they are. I use the printing service regularly.	8/11/2026 11:14 AM
7	A great service by a local dedicated team	8/11/2026 11:13 AM
8	Taumarunui & Ohakune Libraries to remain	8/11/2026 11:12 AM
9	if you are going to remove a library from Ohakune/Raetihi remove Ohakune's leave Raetihi's	8/11/2026 11:11 AM
10	Community are elderly. Need basic 1:1 for residents and staff do this	8/11/2026 11:10 AM
11	They offer a great service. One of the few services that add to community wellbeing in a unique way	8/11/2026 11:10 AM
12	I think that our libraries should have more resources and activities for children, like reading classes, book clubs games & story time etc. And that printing at the library should be free of charge	8/11/2026 11:09 AM
13	Don't reduce any library facilities	8/11/2026 11:06 AM
14	Raetihi one is good. Popped in over school holidays a few times.	8/11/2026 11:03 AM
15	A lot of seniors struggle with digital tech and access to services, these libraries provide invaluable help. Also closing the Raetihi one would penalise those without transport. Now we no longer have Citizens Advice, Libraries are an essential for many.	8/11/2026 11:02 AM
16	Just that all 3 libraries are vital hubs for people living locally. The reading sessions are great for families (Mum or Dad, or both and 0-5 year olds).	8/11/2026 10:59 AM
17	A needed community service	8/11/2026 10:57 AM
18	Just need to be kept in the community	8/11/2026 10:57 AM
19	I love libraries since childhood. To have the opportunity to be able to read and research with books is paramount to human learning and childhood development.	8/11/2026 10:56 AM
20	More events	8/11/2026 10:54 AM
21	The libraries are extremely valued throughout the communities	8/11/2026 10:54 AM
22	Fab facilities	8/11/2026 10:53 AM
23	They are incredibly important	8/11/2026 10:53 AM
24	Libraries are important for everyone - young and old.	8/11/2026 10:51 AM
25	Libraries are an essential social service, especially in small communities.	8/11/2026 10:51 AM
26	I only borrow newly released books - heavy reader. Willing to pay small amounts - other libraries do. It's great to have access to information about Council processes in the same building. The staff are enormously helpful, and make me feel that Council is not a distant feature, but something I can identify with and help.	8/11/2026 10:47 AM
27	I can't use computers. I need the council staff to help	8/11/2026 10:44 AM

Libraries

28	They are essential, but opening hours need to be reduced	8/11/2026 10:44 AM
29	There should be a fee for a library card which factors in the release of new books	8/11/2026 10:40 AM
30	Am very thankful for them, and for the work the staff do. Even helping with getting plots and photocopy of old Lakes Road Cemetery.	8/11/2026 10:09 AM
31	Libraries are an important part of a small rural community especially for the elderly and those that can't travel or drive	8/11/2026 10:08 AM
32	Reducing days not hours as Raetihi hours don't make sense for our children finishing school at 3pm.	8/11/2026 10:07 AM
33	Essential community space for "free" resources and a range of activities	8/11/2026 10:05 AM
34	Libraries are important for community	8/11/2026 10:04 AM
35	Libraries are great for communities	8/11/2026 10:04 AM
36	The public need access to all libraries needs a bigger library	8/11/2026 10:03 AM
37	Regarding questions 1&2, I suggest amalgamating the libraries in Raetihi and Ohakune into one due to proximity. Regarding question 4 no, since I don't believe it will be a significant amount.	8/11/2026 10:02 AM
38	Libraries need Librarians. Overuse of free wifi during ski season makes crowding = noise. Libraries are still a community place as pubs and clubs fade away.	8/11/2026 9:57 AM
39	Def no cuts to library services until there is reliable public transport	8/11/2026 9:55 AM
40	What about mobile library. It would be good to understand the data of how often the library is in use.	8/7/2026 10:08 PM
41	Our libraries are important and I strongly feel library services should remain a priority. I am unsure whether Raetihi township has large enough population to justify its own library separate to Ohakune at this point.	8/7/2026 8:42 PM
42	The library service is a vital part of the community for all ages. Ruapehu District Council has one of the best libraries I have had the pleasure to join	8/7/2026 5:42 PM
43	Stop letting those kids on the PCs after 3 o'clock, Library's aren't baby sitting options! The parents should know better! And I think the library staff do an excellent job.	8/7/2026 4:56 PM
44	Many people cannot get from Raetihi to Ohakune or vice versa libraries are very important to our communities especially the elderly. As well as providing computers and printing facilities	8/7/2026 1:52 PM
45	Travel difficult especially for elderly	8/7/2026 11:27 AM
46	Until we have more information these are impossible to answer with any confidence in opinion. What I can tell you is that in April 2025 there was a "successful terracotta plant pot painting morning during the holidays, with almost 20 children attending". What I can't tell you any longer is how many manuhiri/books issued/services used at each library in any given month (stats that used to be available). Personally the planning around what future focussed Library services could look like as discussed in the Raetihi Hub Consultation is (I suggest) actually where you should be researching? Hay here's an idea, keep all the books in Ohakune and give Raetihi the high tech space planned	8/7/2026 10:00 AM
47	Libraries are an essential place for people, especially the older generation, and younger generation to engage, learn and communicate. I think it needs to stay	8/6/2026 9:26 PM
48	When I first moved to the region from Auckland (where there are 56 libraries) I was astonished to find out how short the Raetihi Library opening hours were. Not only were they closed on the weekend (which is outrageous to me) but they close so early on weekdays too! As a result of these short opening hours we have hardly been able to use the library in our time here, which is extremely sad to me. My daughter, an avid bookworm, used to get stacks of books out from our local library each week. Now we read less. The hours need to be extended as a public service. It's not fair and our children deserve better. Don't we want a literate population?	8/6/2026 8:44 PM
49	Keep them open	8/6/2026 8:04 PM
50	in todays climate we need to provide appropriate reading materials for our Tamariki and not all families can afford books and this helps immensely	8/6/2026 12:08 PM
51	User pays adults \$5.00, children under 16 free, reduce hours in morning, extend into	8/6/2026 11:34 AM

Libraries

	evening	
52	I think libraries support parts of the community that are important.	8/6/2026 9:48 AM
53	Remove the extras like games, lego and staff going to schools - stick to core business	8/6/2026 9:18 AM
54	We have a wonderful library 😊	8/5/2026 9:50 PM
55	As someone who had 13 years experience working in both school and the Council Libraries the first thing you could do is close our town libraries. Despite modern technology books remain an important part of life. Children learn and retain much more by reading or having a book read to them. Adults read books not because we can't cope with technology but because we want escape from it. Like children we retain more from things written than we do from our phone or Ipad. When I worked in the Council Library there was a \$ 1.00 charge on adult books This stopped some pensioners from using the library so I wouldn't like a fee to be brought back. You stopped employing Librarians several years ago replacing them with customer service workers and moving the library into the main Council Office So if you cut library hours are you planning on cutting back the opening Office hours as well?	8/5/2026 3:34 PM
56	No	8/5/2026 10:52 AM
57	no	8/5/2026 9:06 AM
58	They all need to stay open regardless of which library gets used the most.	8/5/2026 8:53 AM
59	██████████ you could have more money if you didn't waste it on tourism, statues for yourselves and iwi needs. Don't take jobs away, create more!	8/5/2026 8:24 AM
60	My rates bill is too high to waste on libraries.	8/4/2026 9:35 PM
61	Although we answered 'no' for question one, we do believe council should continue operating two libraries - one in Taumarunui and the other in Ohakune or Raetihi.	8/4/2026 6:00 PM
62	We love the library, all the people there who work in the library. Please keep this service	8/4/2026 4:56 PM
63	I think council needs to review its costs over the last few years and determine where the increases are occurring. We all have to live within our means and so too should council. Rate payers are not a bottomless pit. Set a budget and stick to it. There must be new areas for which council are spending. Empire Building is not sustainable or appropriate, go back to the basics of ten years ago and stick to the rate of inflation. If we can't afford it, don't do it!	8/4/2026 3:36 PM
64	I love being able to pop into the Ohakune library. The friendly staff are a big asset to the community	8/4/2026 3:25 PM
65	Libraries are a core service and as such should not be included in this survey. Libraries remain one of the most important and enduring public services delivered by local government. Their value extends far beyond the traditional image of shelves and books. Modern libraries are essential civic infrastructure: they provide equitable access to knowledge, support community wellbeing, and strengthen the social fabric of towns and districts. At their heart, libraries guarantee free and universal access to information. In an age where credible information is increasingly difficult to navigate, libraries offer curated collections, digital resources, and trained staff who help residents find reliable material. This role is fundamental to an informed and engaged community, and it aligns directly with councils' statutory purpose to promote the social, cultural, environmental, and economic wellbeing of their districts. Libraries also function as inclusive community spaces. They are one of the few places where people can gather without cost, expectation, or commercial pressure. For families, older residents, young people, and newcomers, libraries provide a safe, welcoming environment that encourages connection. Programmes such as story times, digital literacy workshops, heritage projects, and community events build cohesion and support lifelong learning. Importantly, libraries help bridge the digital divide. Many residents rely on library computers, Wi-Fi, and technology support to access essential services, apply for jobs, complete study, or stay connected. This is a critical equity function that councils are uniquely positioned to deliver. Libraries also preserve and celebrate local identity. Through archives, exhibitions, and partnerships with iwi and community groups, they safeguard the stories and heritage of the district. For all these reasons, libraries are not optional amenities. They are core council services that uphold fairness, inclusion, learning, and community resilience—values that underpin strong local government and thriving communities.	8/4/2026 11:35 AM
66	I use Ohakune and occasionally Raetihi. They are great as they are. I use the printing service regularly.	8/4/2026 10:56 AM
67	For a voracious reader the range of books available libraries are pathetic, the hours are useless for any working person to access the library. Needs a late night or Saturday	8/4/2026 10:32 AM

Libraries

	morning opening hours.	
68	Libraries are important. Keep them going.	8/4/2026 9:56 AM
69	The library is a valuable asset to the community of Raetihi. It provides an essential resource of information and enjoyment for those of us who love to read. Travelling to Ohakune is a difficult alternative for those of us who are mobility challenged.	8/4/2026 9:53 AM
70	The library is an essential service to a low income area. A library helps to educate a community of all ages. Please continue to see this as an investment. When I was younger, I spent alot of time at the library. And I value the support from the staff. For youth, adults and elderly - this service is an asset.	8/4/2026 9:37 AM
71	More author and guest appearances. Better storytimes for kids. Wriggle and rhyme time.	8/4/2026 8:48 AM
72	Schools should be playing a greater part in this area. Again, the Community groups should be involved too.	8/4/2026 8:30 AM
73	I do not support any reduction in Council funding, staffing, opening hours or services for Taumarunui and Ohakune district libraries. Libraries are not optional extras, and they should not be judged by whether they generate income. They are essential public services that give everyone access to books, information, computers, internet, printing, learning opportunities and support—regardless of age, income or circumstances. In a rural district such as ours, libraries are especially important. They support children and families, students, jobseekers, older people, people without reliable internet access and residents who need help accessing increasingly digital government and Council services. They also provide safe, welcoming spaces where people can connect and participate in community life. Reducing library hours or staffing may appear to save money on paper, but it transfers the cost to the people who can least afford it and further reduces opportunities in our communities. Council should maintain and strengthen our libraries, invest in programmes and digital access, and ensure services remain accessible across the district. If Council wants residents to use online services, participate in consultations and engage with local government, it must preserve the places that help people do exactly that. Libraries are not merely buildings containing books. They are community infrastructure—and our communities cannot afford to lose them.	8/3/2026 10:53 PM
74	Yes if people want these they need to pay for them like the rest of us rate payers should not fit the bill	8/3/2026 8:21 PM
75	Having 2 libraries in Ohakune and Raetihi is unnecessary	8/3/2026 7:53 PM
76	Obsolete, waste of funding	8/3/2026 7:27 PM
77	NA	8/3/2026 2:57 PM
78	I'd only close one of the libraries if it didn't disadvantage the kids in either area.	8/3/2026 2:57 PM
79	Our Raetihi library always has people in there and we need all the services xx especially for our old people and farmers	8/3/2026 2:30 PM
80	As digital reading increases there theoretically should be a slow down in the number of personnel hours required.	8/3/2026 2:07 PM
81	Its a great service thanks	8/3/2026 1:54 PM
82	Could you consider asking for local volunteers to cover some library services? I'd happily give a few hours a week to maintain our current services.	8/3/2026 1:16 PM
83	Not about libraries, but you don't need an office in Raetihi. I know it is busy because you have NZTA and Post Office but these licenses could be operated by another business - the Four Square perhaps - and then you wouldn't need to staff a third office.	8/3/2026 1:11 PM
84	Going digital is efficient but it disadvantages those with less access to IT and those without digital tools to read books. With Hawkes Bay libraries - I use the digital service all the time. A physical library in a small town gives a sense of community and place to gather. Can the library be used for gatherings and charge a small fee?	8/3/2026 11:25 AM
85	I don't routinely use the library. I full support the strong local bond provided by library services. Ohakune is overextended and needs to rationalise its more regional commitments.	8/3/2026 10:54 AM
86	Close Raetihi	8/3/2026 10:08 AM
87	Libraries are a valuable part of any community, and we need to foster a love of learning and reading for our children. Libraries can be a very valuable resource for any community if they are set up and utilized correctly where all are welcomed. Have soup days with a reading,	8/3/2026 10:01 AM

Libraries

think outside the square on how we can better use and access our libraries. Fiona and her team are incredible and extremely helpful but is there enough being done to make them more accessible for all??

88	If funded by Rate payers, only rate payers to use.	8/3/2026 8:14 AM
89	love the Ohakune Library	8/2/2026 8:04 PM
90	"Would you support reducing the annual budget for new books if it helped keep rates lower?" This question will make barriers and disadvantage rate payers in the Ruapehu - let's focus on literacy for our community - support more digital literacy, if you reduce your library hours possibly opt for a Saturday opening so full time workers can access services and library events. Thanks	8/2/2026 5:51 PM
91	The current level of library staff is sufficient. Don't employ others to run it. Look at using the other council staff to multi task	8/2/2026 1:25 PM
92	Libraries like video stores are obsolete. The library is online now. We all have access to a world of knowledge at touch of a button, you can access it faster than you can find it in the library. So long as there is power and internet the online library will always be accessible.	8/2/2026 9:10 AM
93	Close them.	8/2/2026 12:11 AM
94	The historic purpose of libraries was to enable free access to information to advance knowledge and education. Technology advancements such as the internet supersede this and make libraries less critical.	8/1/2026 10:31 PM
95	Saturday opening for people who work full time	8/1/2026 8:20 PM
96	Open less days. May be 3 days a week	8/1/2026 6:45 PM
97	I am unsure on some questions because I do not use any library.	8/1/2026 6:29 PM
98	Close them all - reduce rates significantly and those that want a book can then afford to buy it - and help improve the economy.	8/1/2026 11:56 AM
99	Libraries are essential services for the social wellbeing of the wider community. A good library is about more than books, it is a hub for the residents of the district. Online services are a great add-on; Auckland's Elgar system is superb.	8/1/2026 11:55 AM
100	The Ohakune staff are always friendly & helpful and the library has a welcoming atmosphere.	8/1/2026 11:16 AM
101	Keep the library in Raetihi, as more people will likely be able to travel from Ohakune as opposed to the other way round.	8/1/2026 11:14 AM
102	The printing services are awkward to use because of the indirect service where a staff member releases the printing. I choose not to use this service as it does not seem to be private.	8/1/2026 9:02 AM
103	Re #8 - nice to have, but if rather have smaller rates bill	8/1/2026 8:36 AM
104	Look at the data about how much each library is used i.e. how much book rentals are at Ohakune vs Raetihi	8/1/2026 7:26 AM
105	Libraries are vitally important to the community	7/31/2026 9:41 PM
106	The library could actually provide more eg technology spaces, help with navigating services, etc	7/31/2026 9:32 PM
107	Why don't the mobile libraries go around more? Improved access for young, old, rural areas. Only need one major library.	7/31/2026 8:45 PM
108	Have the economics of library buses made them no longer viable. Is there a possibility of village book resources in local schools	7/31/2026 8:45 PM
109	Please do not close libraries. They are safe spaces for many tamariki and whānau, for some it's the only chance to enjoy a book. Charges and making them less accessible will hurt communities.	7/31/2026 8:42 PM
110	Libraries are a key service for communities, and reading and literacy are incredibly important for people of all ages. It would be great to see some updates to what's currently offered, including more online borrowing options and more self-service choices to make accessing library resources easier and more flexible for everyone	7/31/2026 6:53 PM
111	I see libraries as a critical service for communities and providing much more than just books. Particularly for people with children and elderly. I think from an equity perspective it's	7/31/2026 6:51 PM

Libraries

also very important to ensure the library at Raetihi remains open. It's costly for people to drive to Ohakune. I appreciate the cost associated with running libraries but think options like revenue from new releases is a good idea to ensure that the core services remain available to the community.

112	Everyone is online. The minority should not pay for the majority for a service that is outdated.	7/31/2026 6:42 PM
113	No further comment	7/31/2026 6:15 PM
114	In a digital age, the need for physical libraries is a luxury.	7/31/2026 6:10 PM
115	You should spend some time in all three libraries to realise how essential these services are. It may not make money for the Council but people appreciate the service and the help with technology when needed. Raetihi also while being the smallest library is just as essential as there are many who cannot travel easily to Ohakune and the kamatua flats across the road gives them easy access to library services. Also Ohakune and Raetihi don't have dedicated library staff, this is run by the Council CSOs so to reduce hours or remove this service is essential a moot point.	7/31/2026 5:43 PM
116	The people in our library are fantastic! They help the older people with technology and are invaluable	7/31/2026 5:21 PM
117	Please, please extend library opening hours to include some time on a Saturday. Current hours exclude working professionals and working parents being able to attend with their children. We love our library service and really value it, especially for rural families.	7/31/2026 5:11 PM
118	The most important information required to answer these questions has not been provided, i.e., how does current patronage compare to say 5, 10, 15 and 20 years ago. If patronage is well down, we would have reluctantly answered no to libraries.	7/31/2026 4:59 PM
119	Libraries are out-of-date facilities and cater only a very small group of people. Stopping or reducing would be positive change.	7/31/2026 4:45 PM
120	I know now everyone has electronic devices, but e-books are more and more common in so many places, it has to be a more realistic option for much of the community.	7/31/2026 4:45 PM
121	I don't use libraries so have no idea who uses them and how they're used	7/31/2026 4:44 PM
122	Make it user pays	7/31/2026 4:37 PM
123	Our library in Ohakune is an essential service. It also houses room for outside meetings which are impossible to attend in Taumarunui for some.	7/31/2026 4:32 PM
124	Home delivery could be a volunteer opportunity, no need for reading programs.	7/31/2026 3:16 PM
125	I think it's very important to have accessible libraries for both the Ohakune and Raetihi communities. There are many people in both towns who don't drive or have access to a vehicle. This shouldn't affect their ability to utilise library facilities. When the world is so technologically driven, it's important to hold onto the pure enjoyment of reading a book. Our tamariki and wider community need this.	7/31/2026 2:21 PM
126	They are a critical, but under promoted resource. I am not sure of their involvement in schools, for example.	7/31/2026 1:57 PM
127	We need to promote reading in homes and communities increase oral language and literacy through books education is important for improving social outcomes. We are seeing a decline in children's ability to enjoy reading and imaginative play. If we reduce this further Will will continue to see underachievement	7/31/2026 12:28 PM
128	Library's are essential, where the poorest person can still educate themselves, leave them be	7/31/2026 11:51 AM
129	Rationalise the southern libraries - one good one. Don't see how reducing library hours would save any \$\$ as down south customer services does both council and library work. Don't add fees unless it can make a meaningful difference without lowering library access/usage - would be daft to earn a small amount just to exclude people for financial reasons.	7/31/2026 11:18 AM
130	I understand technology makes the need for our small town libraries to no longer need stacks and stacks of books. But it can be frustrating to start a series available only to find books missing throughout and not available in the other 2 libraries. With this future amalgamation thing, maybe we could link up with other libraries to give us more opportunities for books not here. I get that digital books open things, but even there, we still have series with missing books and many authors not available. We cannot lose our libraries, they are the stepping stone for our tamariki to find the passion of reading, to give them an escape from the digital world we are in today. Also I love that they have	7/31/2026 9:49 AM

Libraries

boardgames available for loan but would really like it if they could be 2 week loan not one. It would make using them through holidays much easier. I bring kids in on the first day of holidays for books and games and return everything when term starts. My response to a single library south feels reasonable financially with them being only 10 min apart, but I do believe those who live down there should have a higher priority opinion on the issue of 1 or 2 libraries. Those of us north of the mountain dont use their buildings so shouldn't really have the right to say what they can and cant have. I do like bring able to borrow from them if a book isnt in Tnui, but as I said above, amalgamation with other councils could open up more books to be available to share about. Our library and librarians are a cornerstone of our community for young and old. Whatever happens in the future with our council, we cannot lose this service.

131	Most stuff is available on line and most people have access to this. Less staff council wide would help	7/31/2026 9:38 AM
132	Def do not need two libraries so close together in the south - better having one good library. Library should be doing home delivery etc. in conjunction with Grey Power or similar. Shouldn't be duplicating role of schools. Don't charge for services unless it makes a meaningful difference e.g. if fees just reduce usage but only bringing in a few \$\$ not worth it	7/31/2026 9:18 AM
133	Reading is one of the most important (if not the most) pathways to a child's future and learning. It is critical we support this to ensure every child in our region has the opportunity to grow their knowledge without the barriers of the haves/have nots. (Note: Although we live in Waiohuru we are full-time rate payers (not defence housed) in the Ruapehu region and have been for 43yrs)	7/31/2026 9:02 AM
134	Libraries are important social spaces, I feel it would be wrong to lessen their services.	7/31/2026 8:53 AM
135	Libraries are not needed now days with most people having a laptop pc or phone I for one dont think that we should be paying for a service we never use .	7/30/2026 7:33 PM
136	The library is a vital service for all community and real people are important face to face. Dont you dare reduce our libraries to be robotic and more importantly too deprive rural community of a valuable resource.	7/30/2026 2:58 PM
137	Let's think about locating our libraries inside, as part of, the community spaces eg halls in Taumarunui and Ohakune.	7/30/2026 1:22 PM
138	Facilities for learning, socializing and exercising are critical for community wellbeing. Libraries must be publicly funded as they will not be privately run for profit. It might be possible however to transfer a smaller library to a local trust, part fund it with a grant and rely fully on local volunteers.	7/30/2026 1:09 PM
139	More ebooks in series, more copies available	7/30/2026 1:34 AM
140	I believe it's absolutely important that the library continues to operate, I know many people that wouldn't be able to afford to buy books. Maybe look at shorter hours if that helps	7/29/2026 9:51 PM
141	Two libraries in our small district would be sufficient. Libraries are essential but there may be some amendments that could be made to assist affordability.	7/29/2026 7:16 PM
142	Keep them They are important for ongoing education	7/29/2026 7:14 PM
143	Not an essential service. Sell or close.	7/29/2026 12:27 PM
144	Council need to look into the requirement for the two libraries Ohakune and Raetihi. One is probably all that is required. If my family want to use the library, we have to drive for over an hour.	7/29/2026 8:35 AM
145	i think the tmn library is in the worst place ever. whoever thought the council bldg was a good idea clearly did not care too much about the working population being able to access it or people who may like to access it during the weekend. the library needs to become more useful and attractive to public. did not know about reading programmes.	7/28/2026 10:09 PM
146	Hours. Would it be viable to shut library on one week day to enable it to open on a half day saturday which used to happen. Unfortunately ita not used by me as working hours dont suit.	7/28/2026 9:17 PM
147	From what I've seen of the local library it is a haven for people who need free internet, books, toilet and warmth. With so much online and readily available, I'm not sure funding libraries is a priority use of rates.	7/28/2026 8:46 PM
148	I lived in Tauranga before Taumarunui and the library services were fantastic. You did not need to see a librarian at all. You could reserve books online and scan them in and out of the library at a self service kiosk. I would be happy to pay for new releases/high demand	7/28/2026 7:16 PM

Libraries

items. I also think the library should be open on a saturday so that people who work can actually access the facilities tge library offers

149	As our libraries are co located with council buildings and staff the running costs must be minimal. Education centers should fully fund their reading programmes with central govt funding etc	7/28/2026 3:28 PM
150	I feel that the Ohakune and Raetihi libraries should definitely be combined, however the method of doing so would be difficult and would need consultation with communities.	7/28/2026 1:34 PM
151	Libraries are incredibly important in promoting literacy and providing a safe, freely accessible space for anyone to use. I strongly oppose charging users for things like borrowing new releases or anything that may discourage users from reading/using the facility. Very little in life is free but the library is, do not take this away from people that love and need it.	7/28/2026 8:43 AM
152	I would be interested to know how many people use the library in Raethi. If there was a low number then it would be financially viable to stop this service but this building also provides customer service and postal services, how would this serve the community by removing it all ?	7/27/2026 9:10 PM
153	The elderley frequently still use libraries if Raetihi should close I think there should be a weekly mobile service there	7/27/2026 5:46 PM
154	Work closer with schools in regard to the technology and bring books to children.	7/27/2026 4:53 PM
155	If the raetihi library closed , then a community van for a donation could be provided to those that don't drive	7/27/2026 4:52 PM
156	User pay	7/27/2026 9:47 AM
157	While I know it's not financially feasible, I work full time and so cannot use the library - I would love it if the ohakune library was open for a couple of hours on a Saturday morning!	7/25/2026 9:07 AM
158	Consider connecting with high school libraries	7/25/2026 6:42 AM
159	Keeping the library open during normal business hours of the council is sufficient	7/24/2026 2:49 PM
160	In todays social environment, Library spaces are a nice to have where people are more inclined to use the spaces for free wifi access.	7/24/2026 1:14 PM
161	Libraries need to be open on at least one weekend day	7/24/2026 12:49 PM
162	Is there really a need for raetihi, with ohakune 10-15 minutes away	7/23/2026 7:02 PM
163	To get to a library from our village costs around \$25 in petrol alone, so it's not a service we use. We would use ebooks.	7/23/2026 2:47 PM
164	The libraries are a huge asset to our family. We check out 30 books weekly and appreciate the library staff and their contribution to our lives. It is more important to us that we have the staff there than to have self service machines. Taumarunui/ruapehu don't need to become like metropolitan cities with self service machines. Human contact in libraries is important.	7/22/2026 2:23 PM
165	Keeping all three libraries is essential, as many people in Ohakune and Raetihi do not have access to a car and cannot easily travel between the towns. The libraries provide an important and accessible service for our communities. I also think charging people to borrow new-release books is a bad idea. People may simply choose not to borrow them and wait until they are moved onto the normal shelves, which defeats the purpose of offering new releases. Libraries should be accessible to everyone, and I believe new-release books should remain free to borrow.	7/22/2026 1:03 PM
166	Provide library cards at a SMALL annual cost for users - this should not fall on everyone's rates	7/22/2026 12:50 PM
167	Studies have shown that reading from a young age accelerates language acquisition, significantly expands vocabulary, and strengthens memory and attention spans. Children exposed to reading early in life often achieve higher educational outcomes and develop stronger critical thinking skills, paving the way for long-term academic success. I believe libraries are an important asset to our region. They provide children, young people, and adults with free access to books, particularly for those who may not be able to afford to purchase them themselves. While I do agree with the proposal to charge for access to new release books to an extent, I believe a clear definition of what constitutes a "new release" is needed. The publishing world moves quickly, and I would consider a new release to be a book that has been published within the last two months. After that period, books should be made available to all library users at no additional cost. Libraries also offer access to the	7/22/2026 12:42 PM

Libraries

internet for people who do not have a smartphone, computer, laptop, or reliable Wi-Fi connection at home. Some residents may not be able to travel from Raetihi to Ohakune, or vice versa, to access these services. Closing one of the libraries could therefore have a significant impact on those who rely on these resources and may otherwise miss out on essential educational, digital, and community support services. Libraries are more than just places to borrow books; they are community hubs that support learning, connection, and equal access to information for all residents.

168	Libraries are safe place for lots of people. They are warm and computers for public to use. Staff is friendly, welcoming, respectful and helpful.	7/22/2026 12:34 PM
169	Yes, RDC should retain all three libraries. Once a library is closed, it is highly unlikely that it will ever reopen, and the community would lose an important public service permanently. I strongly believe that Ohakune and Raetihi should continue to have separate libraries. I am concerned that this proposal is being presented as an easy way to close the Raetihi RDC office AND library. Both communities have residents who are unable to drive, and many rely on their local library to borrow books, access computers, use the internet, and connect with others. Closing either library would be a significant disservice to the community. All three libraries are currently located within RDC buildings that have an open-plan layout. How would RDC realistically restrict access to the library spaces if they were to be closed? Would staff be expected to turn customers away? This would create a poor experience for the public and reflect badly on the Council. I am undecided about increasing investment in digital services. If there is strong evidence that these services are well used and provide value to the community, then additional funding may be justified. However, if usage is low, RDC should first review which services are working, which are not, and whether there are more effective ways to meet community needs. The same applies to the budget for new books. Is funding being distributed fairly across all three libraries? Is one library receiving more resources than the others? Are the books being purchased aligned with what the community wants to read, or are the same types of books being purchased repeatedly? I would need more information before I could support either increasing or reducing this budget. The libraries have only recently removed late fees, which was a positive step. Introducing charges for borrowing books could place additional pressure on people who are already struggling with the cost of living, particularly pensioners, low-income households, and families. Libraries should remain accessible to everyone, regardless of their financial circumstances. I would also like RDC to explore expanding library outreach services, such as a mobile library bus. Communities such as Waimarino do not have a local library, and a mobile service could help ensure that residents in rural areas still have access to books, information, and library resources.	7/22/2026 11:59 AM
170	Use more donated books or book exchange	7/22/2026 11:17 AM
171	Many older residents who may not have access to technology or knowledge on how to use it.	7/22/2026 9:24 AM
172	Raetihi library unsustainable for the future	7/22/2026 9:19 AM
173	We should be charging for overdue books	7/22/2026 9:08 AM

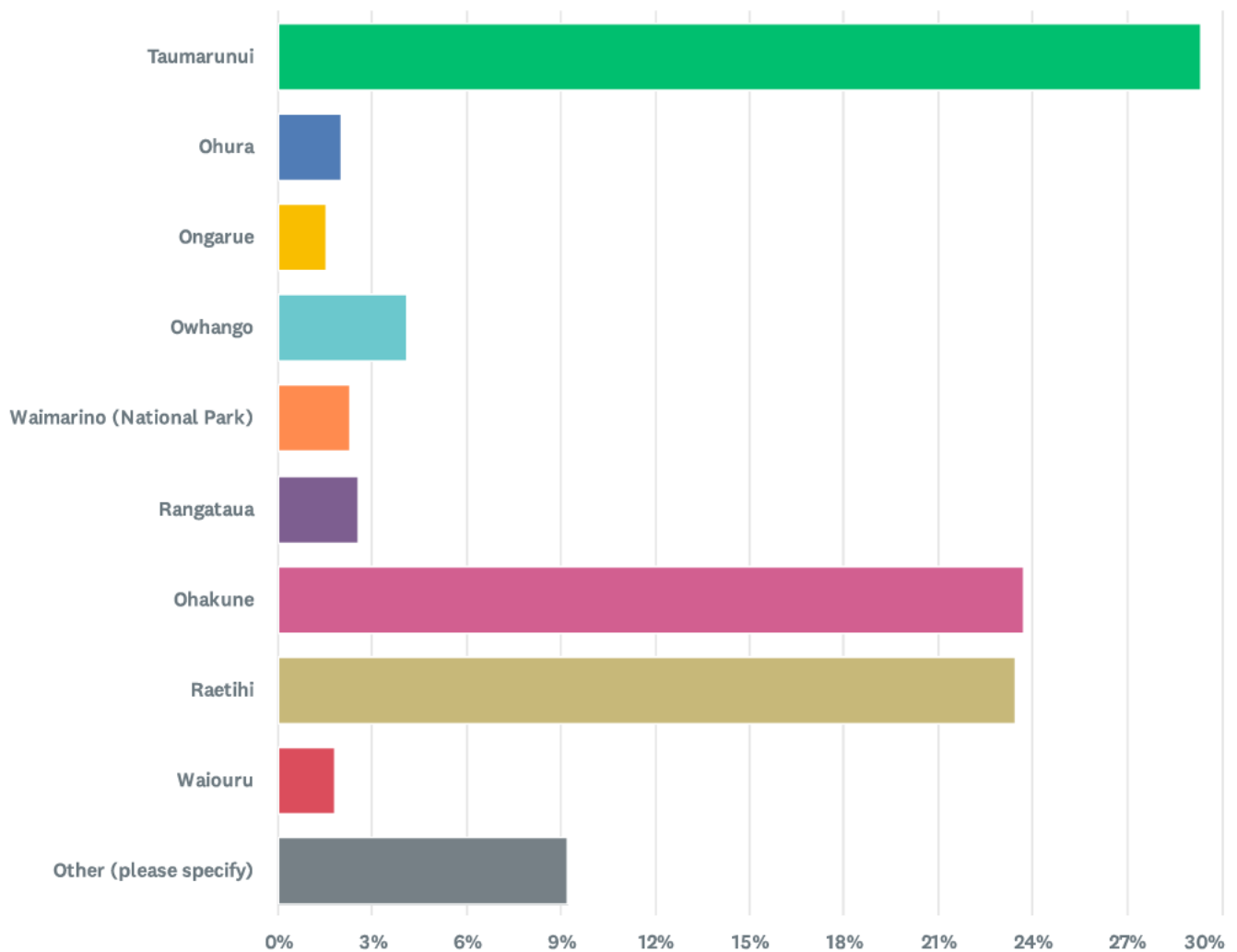
Q9 Do you have any other feedback about Libraries?

Answered: 152 Skipped: 204

	DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER FEEDBACK ABOUT LIBRARIES?	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	100.00% 56	36.84% 56
Q10: Ohura	100.00% 4	2.63% 4
Q10: Ongarue	100.00% 1	0.66% 1
Q10: Owhango	100.00% 10	6.58% 10
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	100.00% 4	2.63% 4
Q10: Rangataua	100.00% 3	1.97% 3
Q10: Ohakune	100.00% 36	23.68% 36
Q10: Raetihi	100.00% 34	22.37% 34
Q10: Waiouru	100.00% 4	2.63% 4
Total Respondents	152	152

Q10 392 responses

Where do you live?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
● Taumarunui	29.34%	115
● Ohura	2.04%	8
● Ongarue	1.53%	6
● Owhango	4.08%	16
● Waimarino (National Park)	2.30%	9
● Rangataua	2.55%	10
● Ohakune	23.72%	93
Total		392

Libraries

Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
 Raetihi	23.47%	92
 Waiouru	1.79%	7
 Other (please specify)	9.18%	36
Total		392

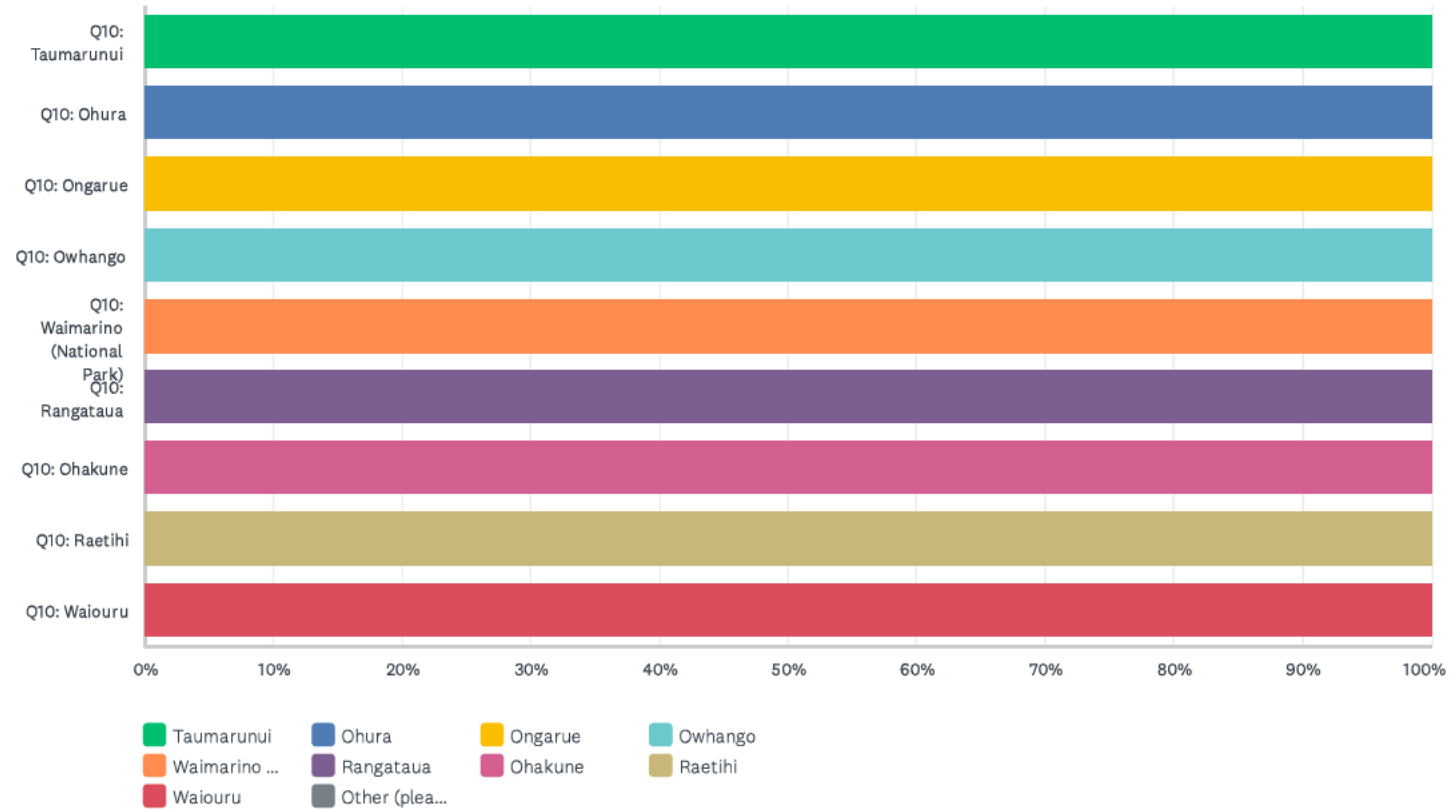
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Kakahi	8/11/2026 11:17 AM
2	.	8/11/2026 10:59 AM
3	Horopito	8/11/2026 10:54 AM
4	Orautoha	8/11/2026 10:08 AM
5	Kakahi	8/7/2026 11:06 AM
6	Tokirima	8/6/2026 6:37 PM
7	Pipirikk	8/5/2026 4:26 PM
8	Piriaka	8/5/2026 10:52 AM
9	Rural Taumarunui.	8/4/2026 6:00 PM
10	Otunui	8/4/2026 9:43 AM
11	Horopito	8/4/2026 8:48 AM
12	Kākahi	8/3/2026 10:53 PM
13	Kaitieke Retaruke	8/3/2026 10:34 PM
14	Hamilton	8/3/2026 2:57 PM
15	Tauranga but have a holiday home in Ohakune	8/3/2026 12:58 PM
16	Out of town rate payer (Hawkes Bay)	8/3/2026 11:25 AM
17	and Upper Hutt.	8/3/2026 10:54 AM
18	Auckland, bach in Raetihi	8/3/2026 8:40 AM
19	Auckland	8/2/2026 5:03 PM
20	Raurimu	8/2/2026 11:35 AM
21	Waimiha	8/2/2026 9:14 AM
22	Papakura (we own land at Horopito)	8/1/2026 11:55 AM
23	Auckland	8/1/2026 10:19 AM
24	Coromandel	7/31/2026 11:09 PM
25	Kakahi	7/31/2026 8:34 PM
26	Kaitieke	7/31/2026 5:06 PM
27	Australia, but spend a bit time in Ohakune.	7/31/2026 4:59 PM
28	Raurimu	7/31/2026 4:44 PM
29	Raurimu	7/31/2026 4:37 PM
30	Horopito	7/31/2026 2:08 AM
31	Raurimu	7/30/2026 1:22 PM

Libraries

32	Otunui.	7/29/2026 12:27 PM
33	Tokirima	7/28/2026 1:34 PM
34	Why I live in the Ruapehu region	7/27/2026 4:53 PM
35	Raurimu	7/23/2026 2:47 PM
36	Kakahi	7/22/2026 2:23 PM

Q10 Where do you live?

Answered: 356 Skipped: 0



	TAUMARUNUI	OHURA	ONGARUE	OWHANGO	WAIMARINO (NATIONAL PARK)	RANGATAUA	OHAKUNE	RAETIHI	WAIOURU	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	TOTAL
Q10: Taumarunui	100.00% 115	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	356
Q10: Ohura	0.00% 0	100.00% 8	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8
Q10: Ongarue	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 6	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	6
Q10: Owhango	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 16	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	16
Q10: Waimarino (National Park)	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 9	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	9
Q10: Rangataua	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 10	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	10
Q10: Ohakune	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 93	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	93
Q10: Raetihi	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 92	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	92
Q10: Waiouru	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 7	0.00% 0	7
Total Respondents	115	8	6	16	9	10	93	92	7	0	356