



To: Town Meeting Members and Town Officials

From: Vision 2020 Standing Committee and Task Group Chairs

Co-Chairs: Jo-Martha Glushko, Jane Howard and Leslie Mayer

Gregory Ames, Nancy Barry, Paul Bayer, Kathleen Bodie, John Budzyna, Joe Connelly, Andrew Fischer, Bruce Fitzsimmons, Jacob Friis, Clarice Gordon, Gordon Jamieson, Elizabeth Karpati, Shannon Koenig, Annie LaCourt, John Leone, Joshua Lobel, Cheryl Miller, Angela Olszewski, Stephen Ricci, William Shea, Heidi Sheehan, Brian Sullivan and Jeffrey Thielman

Date: June 8, 2009

Subject: The Vision 2020 Report to The 2009 Annual Town Meeting

The Vision 2020 Standing Committee and its Task Groups are pleased to present the following report covering Vision 2020 projects and activities for Calendar Year 2008 as well as a few for January-June 1, 2009. The complete report can be found in the areas listed below:

- The first, found in the Community Development section of the Town's *Annual Report* for 2008, outlines the evolution of Vision 2020 over its 19 year existence, as well as significant accomplishments during 2008 by its dedicated Task Groups and Standing Committee, the true work engines of this organization;
- The second is included here by reference to Warrant Article 27, Home Rule Legislation / After School Scholarship Fund; and Article 59, Appropriation/Arlington's Water Bodies Fund. Their recommended votes and comments can be found in the respective reports of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. Since the "no action" vote on 27, Vision 2020 is working with the School Committee to establish a fund that would help reduce / eliminate the fees for participation in Arlington Public School programs and activities;
- The third, also here by reference, is the report titled *Arlington, MA Responds to the Obama Health Care Initiative* held in the Town Hall Auditorium on February 4, 2009. This report, including the themes that emerged, survey responses, personal stories and suggestions, can be found on the Town's website (arlingtonma.gov/vision2020);
- The fourth comes as two promises from the Fiscal Resources Task Group that, as Arlington's fiscal condition becomes more clear, their annual "My Tax Dollars" will return to the Town's website, and in Fall '09 they will present their Retrospective Analysis of the Five Year Plan to Town Meeting, boards and committees;
- The fifth is a summary and analysis of the 3770 household responses received by March 15, 2009 to Vision 2020's Survey accompanying the Town's 2009 Annual Census Mailing. This is a 20% response. The 2009 survey focused on Sustainable Practices in Arlington for the whole town - municipal, residential and business.

We are grateful to these 3770 households for their responses. (This year households were offered an option of responding by internet or on the paper form received with their census. Respondents chose the paper form method by a ratio of 11 to 1.) All data will be shared with Town departments and posted on the Town's website. Both data and further analysis follow in this report on pages 2 - 11.

Vision 2020 is truly appreciative of its collaborations with so many Town commissions, committees and departments, as well as with the generous townspeople and organizations who have participated in its task groups and projects that assist the town.

**2009 Vision 2020 Survey Report
Based on 3770 Arlington Household Responses by March 15, 2009**

Titled *Sustainable Practices in Arlington: We Invite Your Input*, the 2009 Vision Survey was a collaborative product of Vision 2020, its Sustainable Arlington Committee and Arlington's Recycling Committee. The following pages report the responses to all sections of the survey with the exception of new interest in joining the efforts of Vision 2020's Task Groups.

Several benchmarks over the last few years prompted the selection of Sustainable Practices as a topic for this survey: the Town's increase in materials recycled and the accompanying reduction in trash to be incinerated thus generating significant savings; the adoption of Arlington's Sustainability Action Plan; several infrastructure improvements throughout the Town; and Arlington's 88.4% voter mandate to November, 2008's Ballot Question 4 instructing our legislators to enact legislation to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2020. Hoping to inform the Town on Arlington's future energy and sustainability efforts, the survey was designed also to assist / inform residents on ways they could benefit their own household's operating costs.

In this report, most responses are displayed as charts and tables. Where percentages (%'s) are used, the number of respondents actually answering the question, not the blanks, are the data base for the calculation.

Pages 1-2	Introduction and Demographic Data
Pages 3-4	Town Energy Use
Pages 4-7	Household Energy Use
Page 8	Transportation
Page 9	Household Energy Reduction
Pages 10-11	Recycling and Consumption

Demographic Data

The number of respondents from each precinct:

Pct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Blank
#	132	175	146	189	150	152	152	181	147	188	151	197	153	137	160	173	120	139	173	145	158	454
%	4.0	5.2	4.4	5.7	4.5	4.6	4.6	5.5	4.4	5.7	4.6	5.9	4.6	4.1	4.8	5.2	3.6	4.2	5.2	4.4	4.8	

Respondent's household demographic data (5 tables):

		0	1	2	3	4	>4	Blank
Adults aged 65 or older :	#	2015	596	379	10	2	1	767
	%	67.10	19.85	12.62	0.33	0.07	0.03	
Adults aged 18 to 64 :	#	339	851	1754	229	90	10	497
	%	10.36	26.00	53.59	7.00	2.75	0.31	
Children 17 and under	#	17.00	503	481	104	20	8	459
	%	60.37	17.86	17.08	3.69	0.71	0.28	

Years in Arlington		< 5	5 to 15	>15	Blank
	#	801	978	1441	550
	%	24.88	30.37	44.75	

Own or rent		Own	Rent	Blank
	#	2678	951	141
	%	73.79	26.21	

Housing description		Single family	Condo	2 to 4 units	>4	Blank
	#	1928	560	916	224	142
	%	53.14	15.44	25.25	6.17	

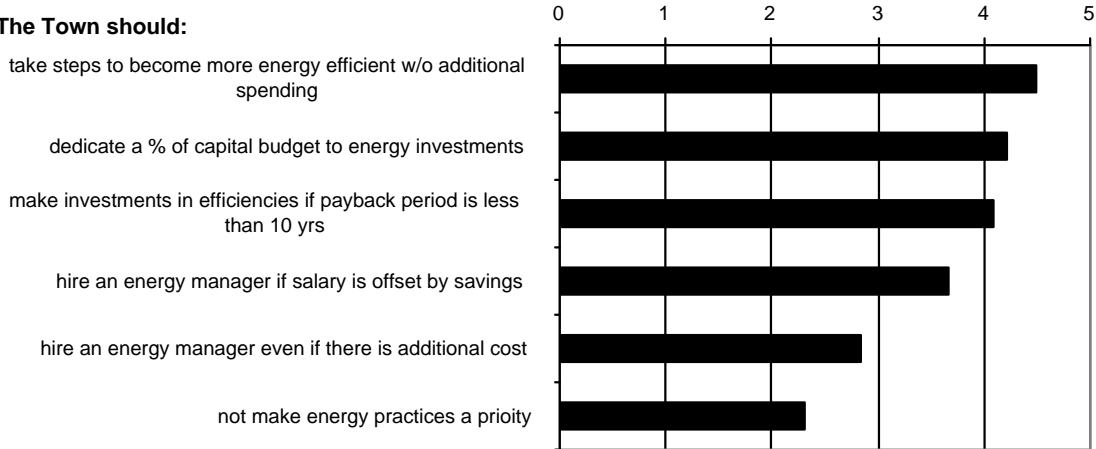
Internet Access		Home	Work	Library	None	Blank
	#	3155	1835	238	296	204
	%	88.47	51.46	6.67	8.30	

Town Energy Use

Town Resource Use

The Town Should:	Strongly disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly agree (5)	Blank
take steps to become more energy efficient w/o additional spending	19	75	260	952	2113	351
make investments in efficiencies if payback period is less than 10 yrs	43	88	624	1369	1214	432
dedicate a % of capital budget to energy investments	29	61	374	1662	1312	332
hire an energy manager if salary is offset by savings	203	299	807	1202	890	369
hire an energy manager even if there is additional cost	422	845	1193	549	292	469
not make energy practices a priority	815	1412	662	347	173	361

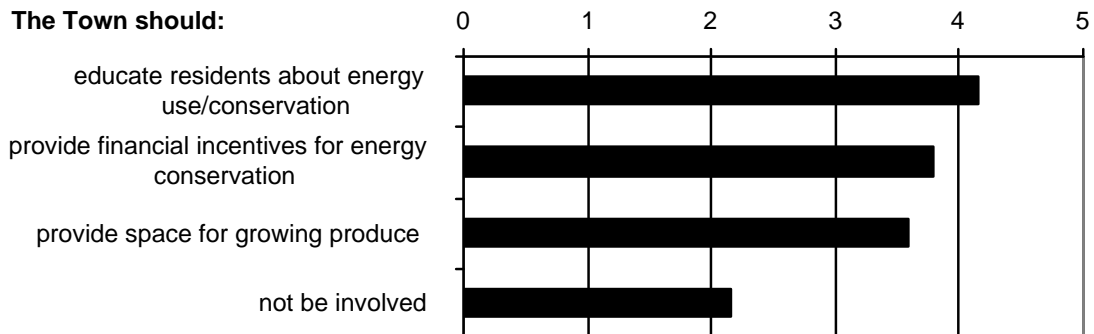
The Town should:



Town involvement with residents' energy use

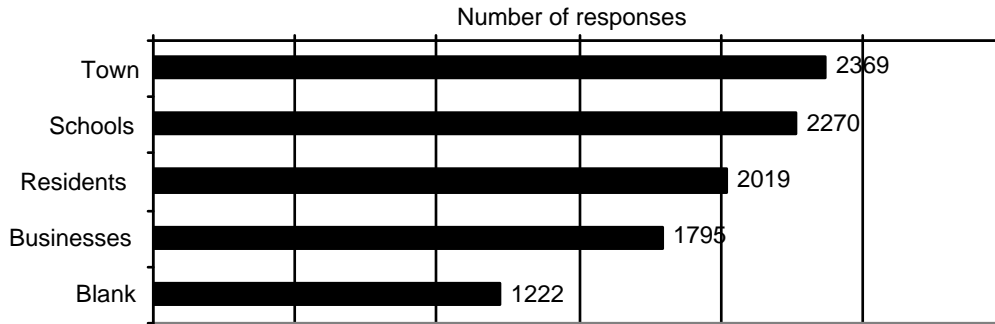
The Town should:	Strongly disagree (1)	Disagree (2)	Neutral (3)	Agree (4)	Strongly agree (5)	Blank
educate residents about energy use/conservation	51	119	405	1537	1338	320
provide financial incentives for energy conservation	117	336	695	1252	1003	367
not be involved	885	1327	620	216	113	609
provide space for growing produce	101	258	1265	1118	674	354

The Town should:

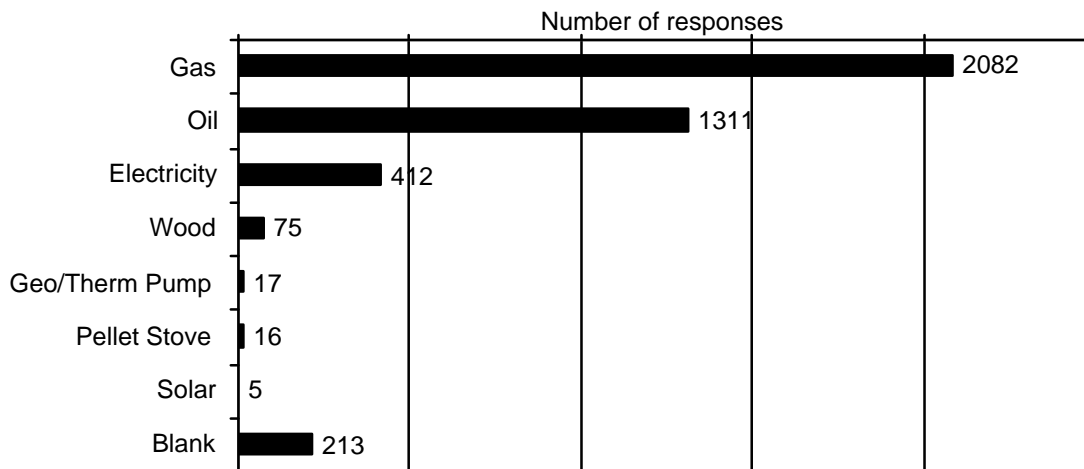


Town Energy Use (continued)

An Energy Manager should work with:



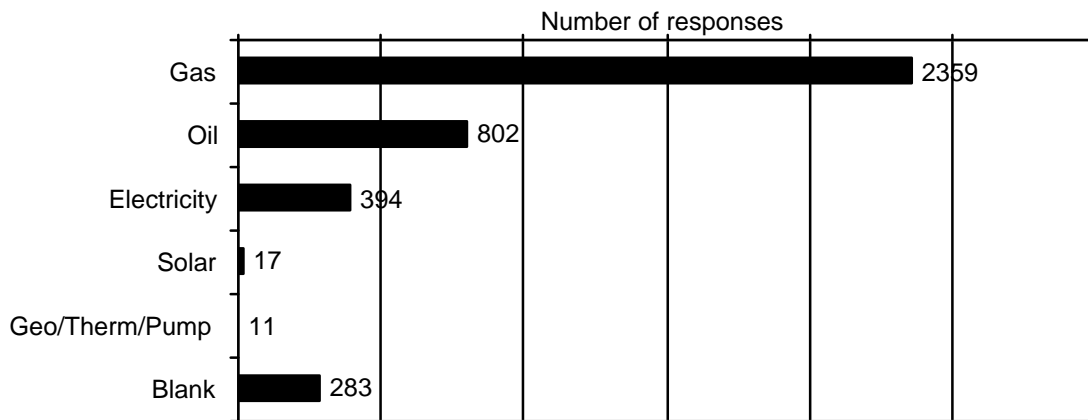
Household Energy Use



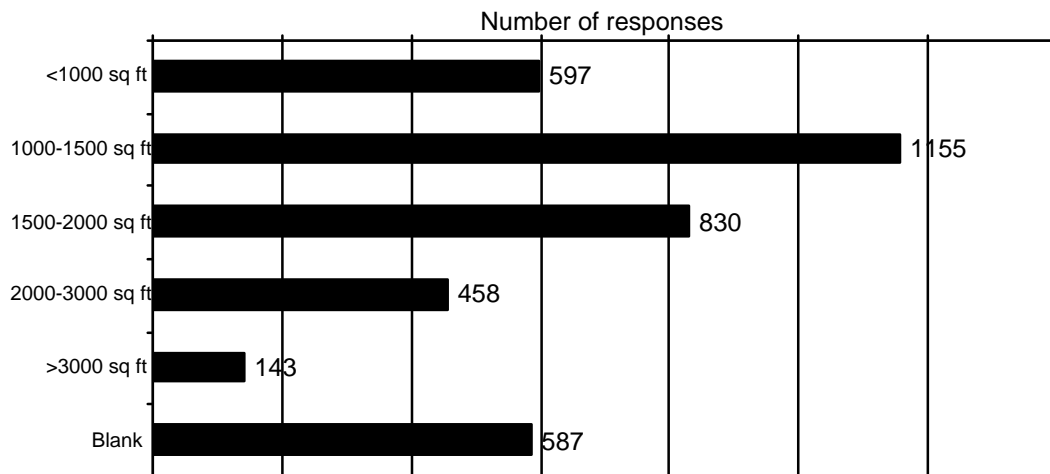
Home Heating?

Household Energy Use (continued)

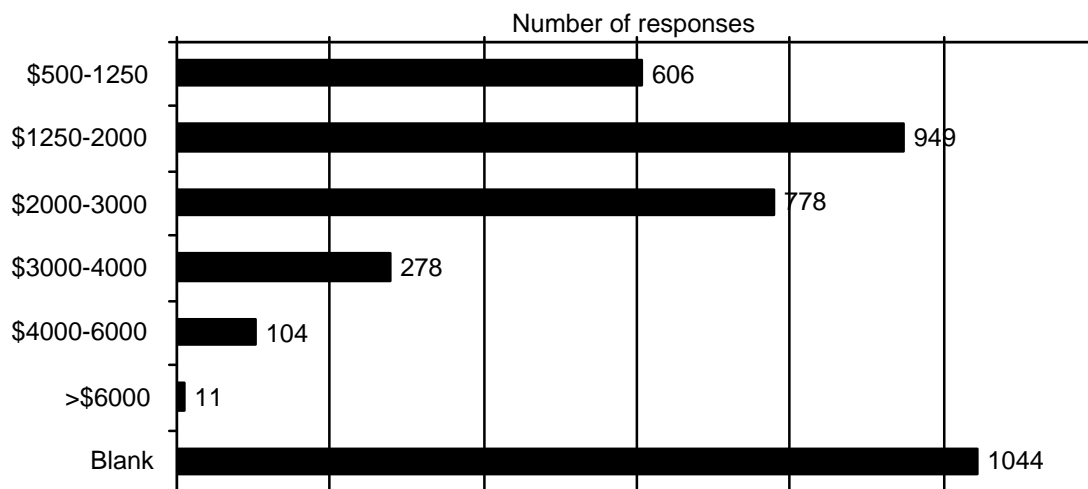
Water Heating?



Residence Area?

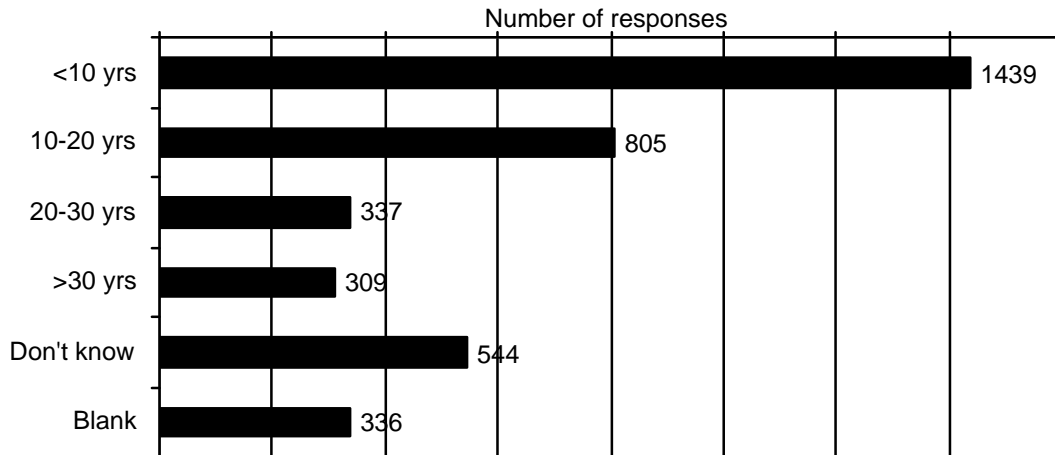


Annual Heating Cost?

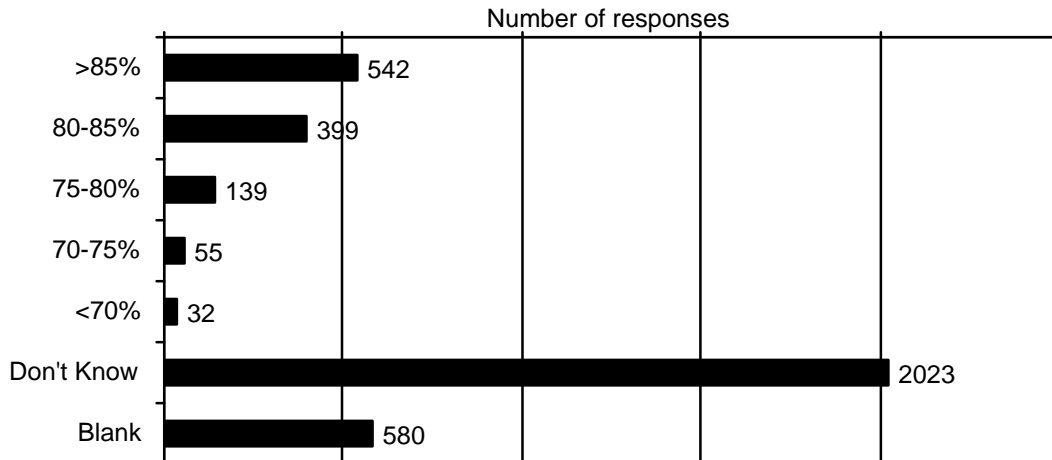


Household Energy Use (continued)

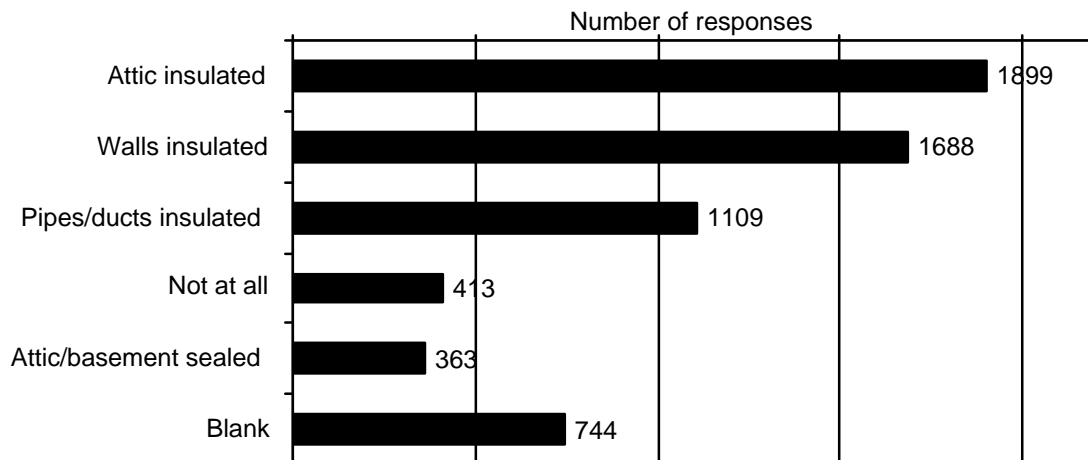
Heating System Age?



Heating System Efficiency?

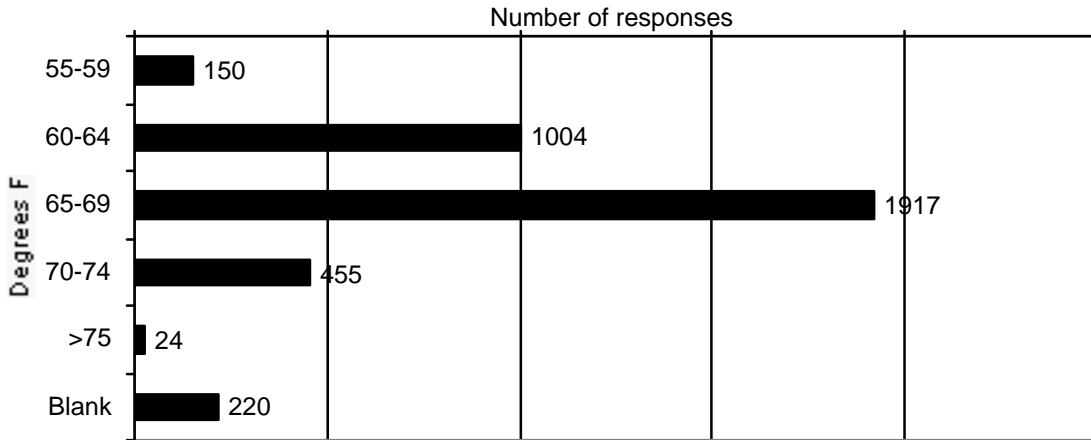


Residence Insulation?

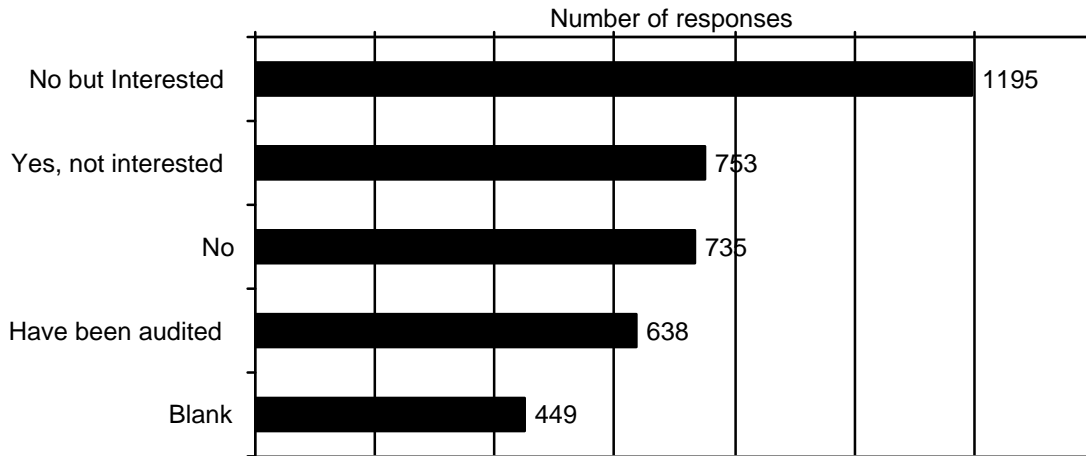


Household Energy Use (continued)

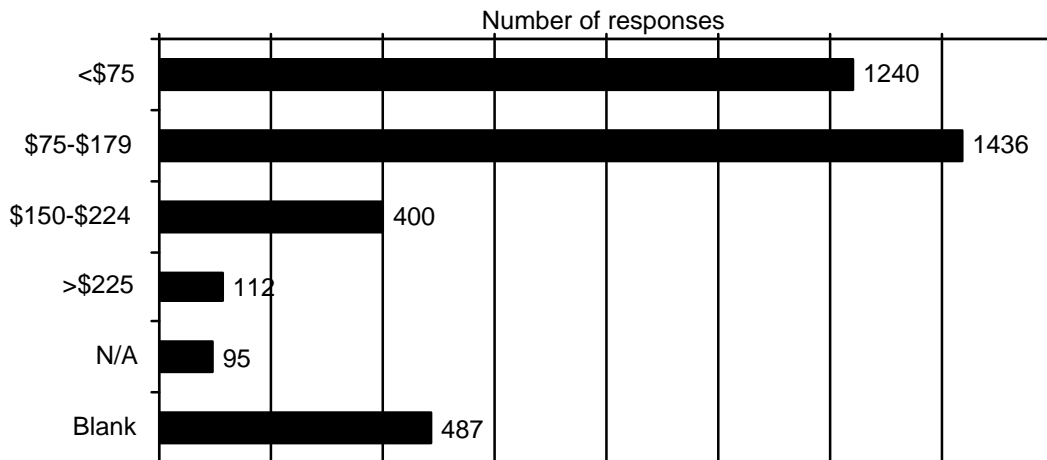
Thermostat Setting When At Home?



Aware Of Free Energy Audit?

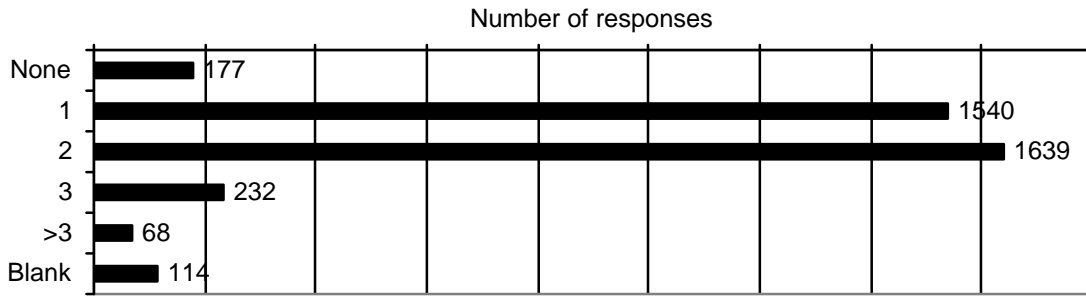


Average Monthly Electricity Bill

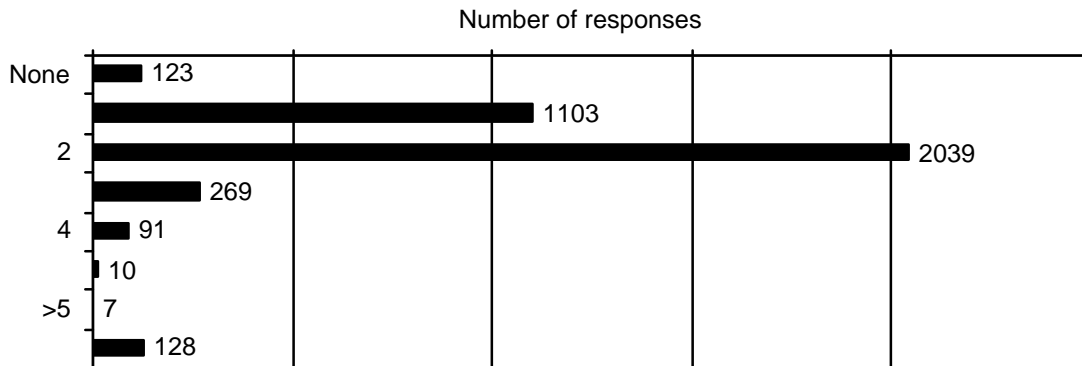


Transportation

Motor Vehicles In Household

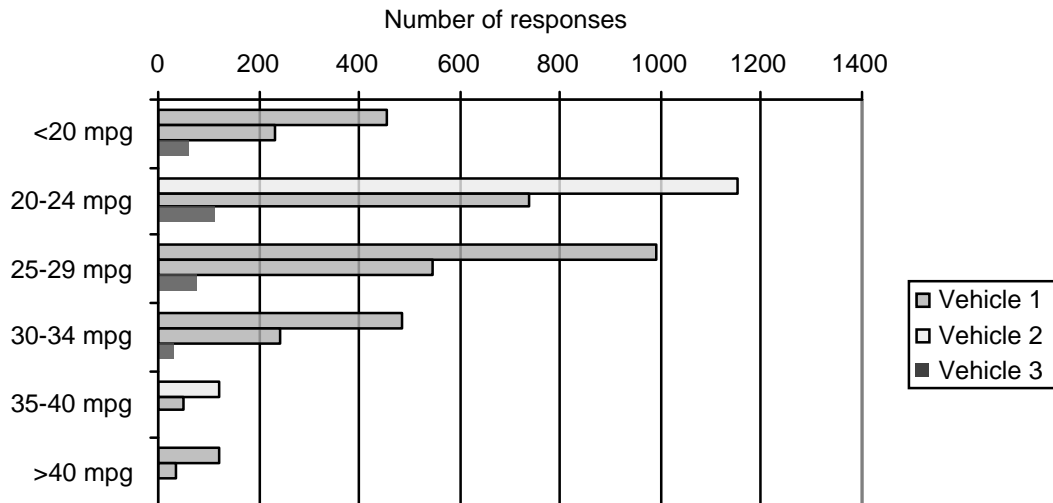


Drivers In Household



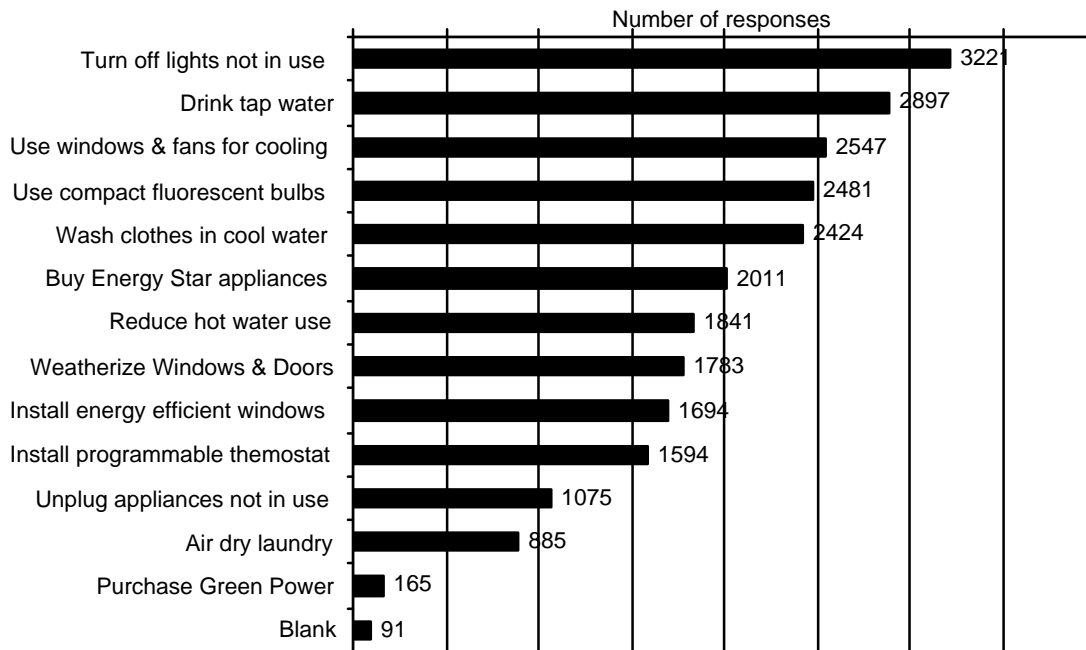
Average Miles Per Gallon

Miles Per Gallon	<20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-40	>40	Blank
Vehicle 1	453	1153	991	483	123	122	445
Vehicle 2	230	736	547	241	50	37	1929
Vehicle 3	59	111	77	28	3	4	3488

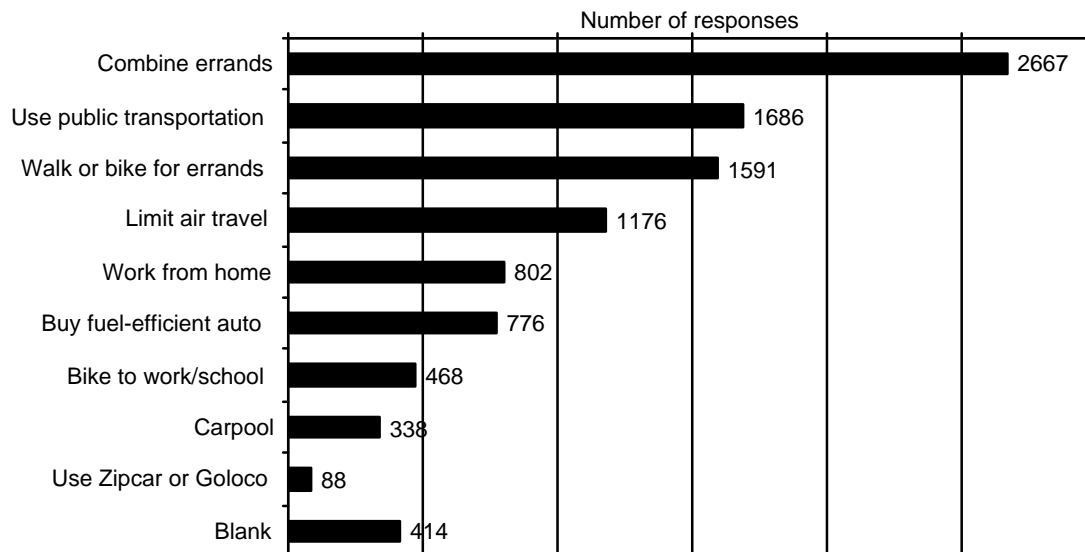


Household Energy Reduction

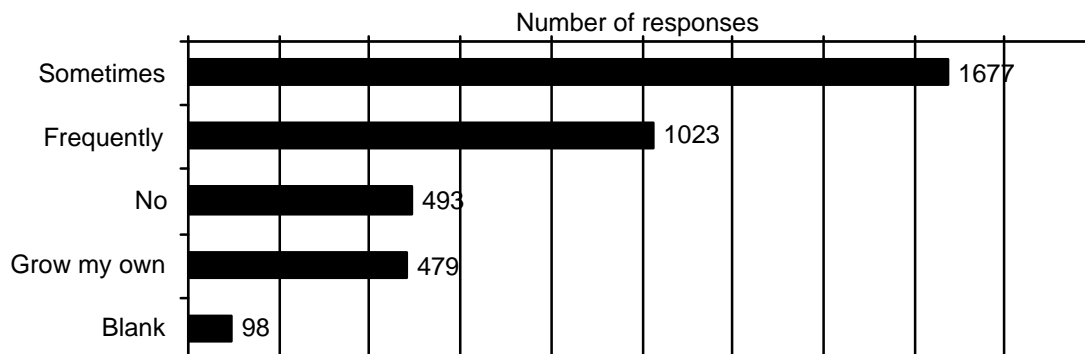
What do you do at home?



What do you do while traveling?

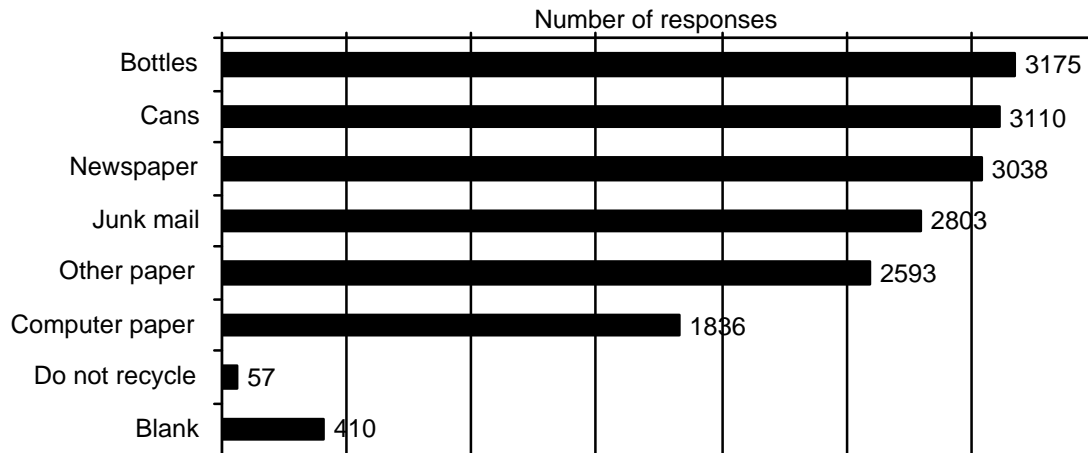


Do you eat/grow local food?

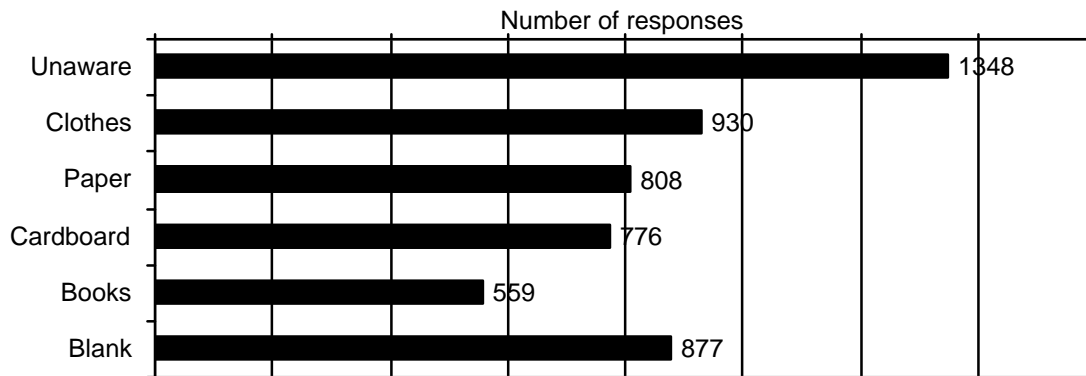


Recycling & Consumption

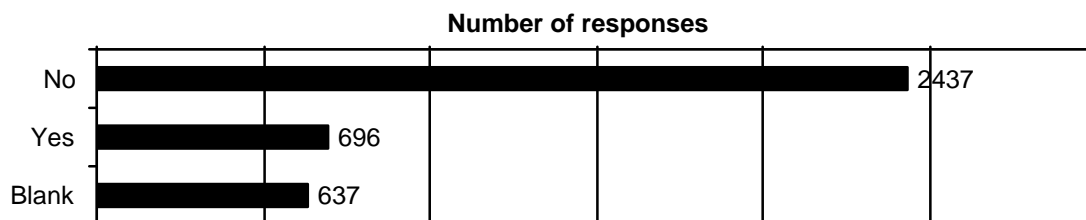
What do you recycle regularly?



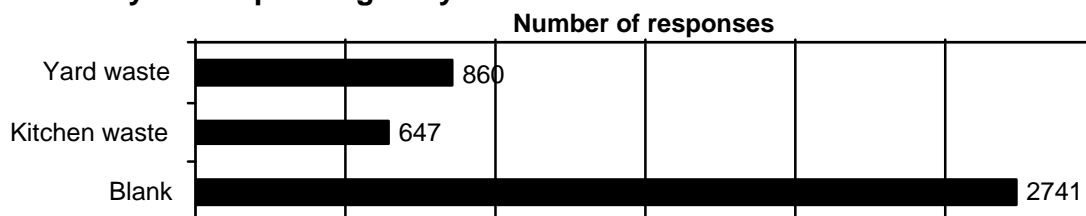
What do you take to public bins?



Do you own a compost bin?

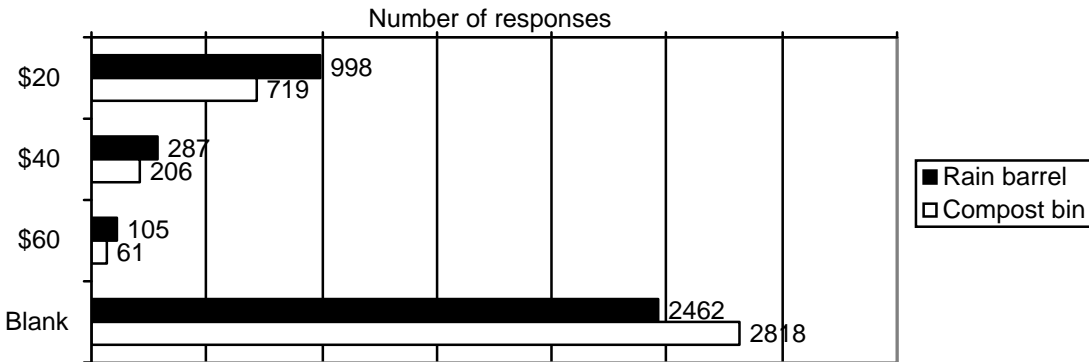


What do you compost regularly?

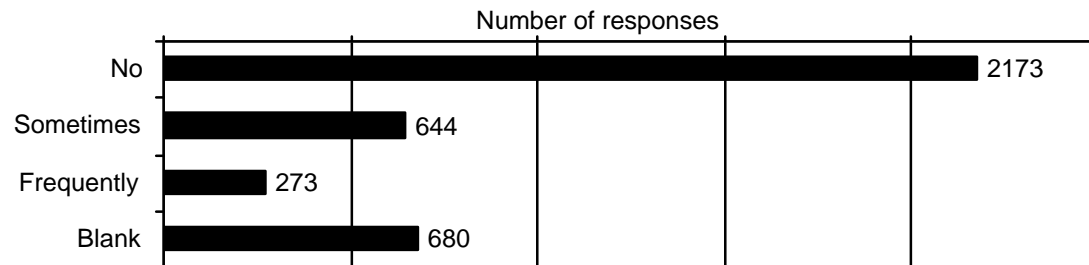


Recycling & Consumption (continued)

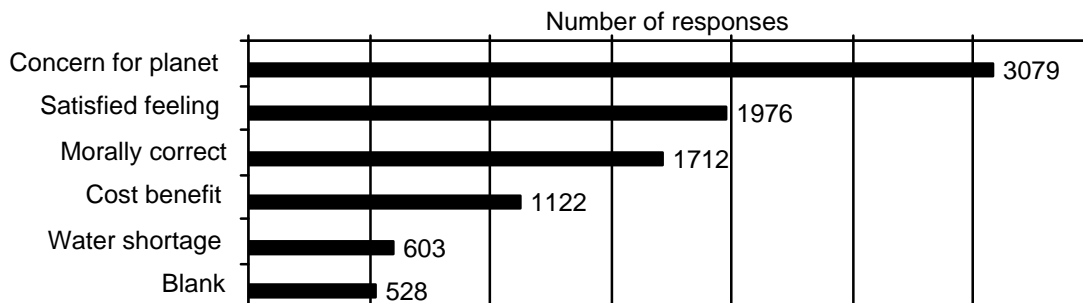
How much are you willing to pay?



Do you use internet services to buy/sell used items?



What motivates you to recycle?



Why do you not recycle?

