

Montville Community Resilience

February 10, 2024

What is meant by “Resilience?”

The ability to *prepare for* and *adapt to* changing conditions and *withstand* and *recover* rapidly from disruptions



A RESILIENT COMMUNITY

... is knowledgeable,
healthy and can meet
its basic needs



... is socially cohesive



has economic opportunities



... has well-maintained and accessible infrastructures and services



... can manage its natural assets



... is connected



Community Resilience Partnership - GOPIF

Step 1: Enroll

- Adopt a resolution (as a selectboard)
- Complete self-assessments (Community Actions & Community Resilience Self-Evaluation)
- Community engagement event to publicly determine priority actions

Step 2: Apply for Community Action Grants (CAG)

- Grants open in March and September
- Up to \$50,000 for a single community or \$125,000 for multi-community project
- 72 projects that require no match
- Options for projects not listed require 10% or 20% match
- Funds to be used within 2 years
- Funds can be used as local cost-share for federal grants

<https://www.maine.gov/future/climate/community-resilience-partnership>



Community Resilience Partnership

\$3 million per year for local, tribal, and regional grants and assistance to reduce carbon emissions, transition to clean energy, and prepare for climate change impacts.

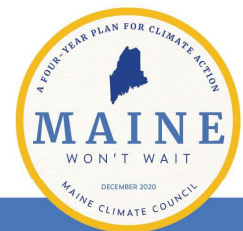
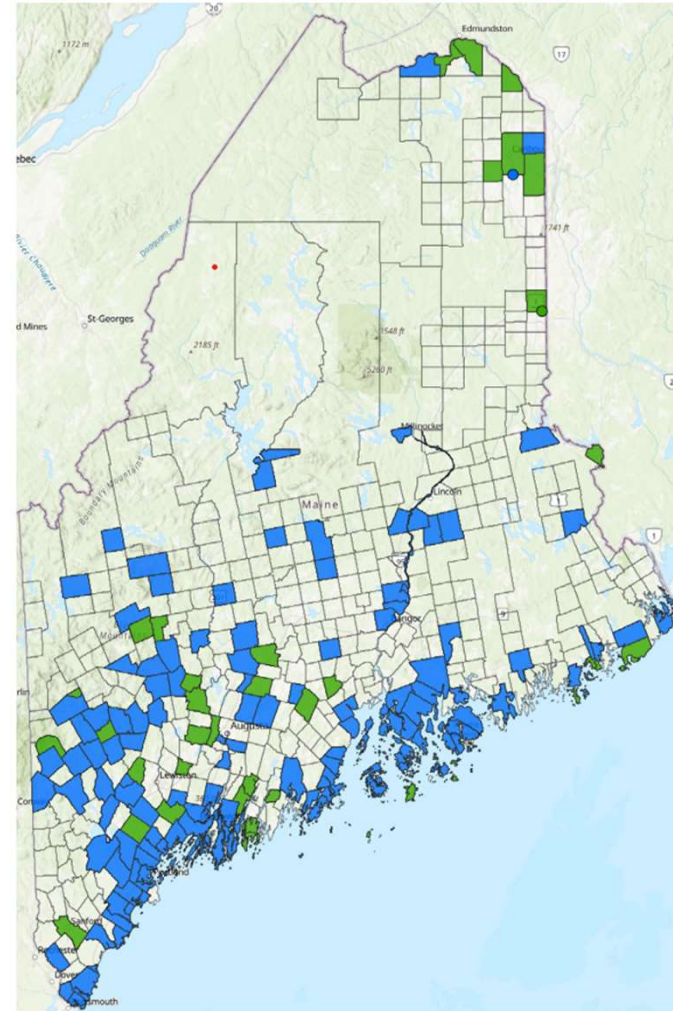
- **Grants to communities** for planning and implementation
 - \$1.2 million available for award this round; anticipating 20 to 30 awards
- **Grants to service provider organizations** to help communities get started
 - \$300,000 available for award this round

2023 SNAPSHOT

174 participating communities
Increased by 56 communities since 2022

\$2.75 million in grants awarded
78 communities supported

**35% of funds were awarded to communities
designated as having high social vulnerability**



Maine's Climate Action Strategies



A. Embrace the Future of Transportation in Maine



D. Grow Maine's Clean Energy Economy and Good Jobs



G. Invest in Climate-Ready Infrastructure



B. Modernize Maine's Buildings



E. Protect Maine's Environment and Working Lands and Waters, Increase Carbon Sequestration



H. Engage People and Communities in Climate Impacts and Program Opportunities



C. Reduce Carbon Emissions the Energy and Industrial Sectors through Clean Energy Innovation



F. Build Healthy and Resilient Communities



Community Resilience Survey Results!

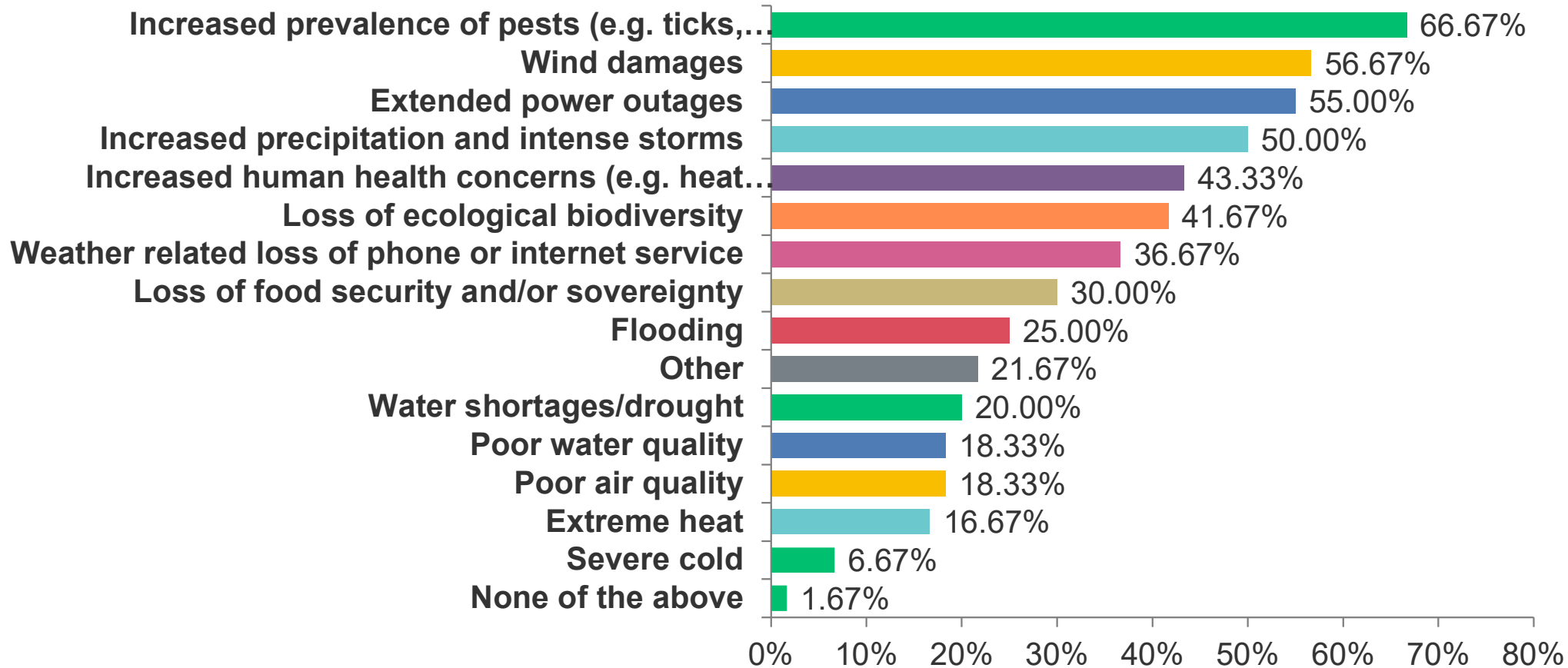
61

Total Responses

Date Created: January 17, 2024

Q1: Living in Montville, which of the following environmental or community hazards and resulting impacts are you concerned about, now or in the future? Select all that apply.

Answered: 60 Skipped: 1



Q1: Living in Montville, which of the following environmental or community hazards and resulting impacts are you concerned about, now or in the future? Select all that apply.

Too high of taxes, can't afford to live here

social dis cohesion / increased uncivil discourse

Disinformation via news outlets and the social dysfunction it creates.

Roadside litter

Unplanned development and the fragmentation of the landscape

Cost of so many dirt roads that cost the town in maintenance, which includes material to repair them, machinery, trucks, employees to do the work.

Having a plan to bring these roads up to specs to be paved one road a year would be a start as a minimum and then paving that road.

Also paving the town office parking lot should be the first project as all towns people use this several times a year. Having mud 8-10" deep in the spring is not something that should be ignored.

Aging infrastructure, i.e. town buildings that no longer meet today's needs.

Aging population increase

Risk of forest fire due to Montville's circumstances

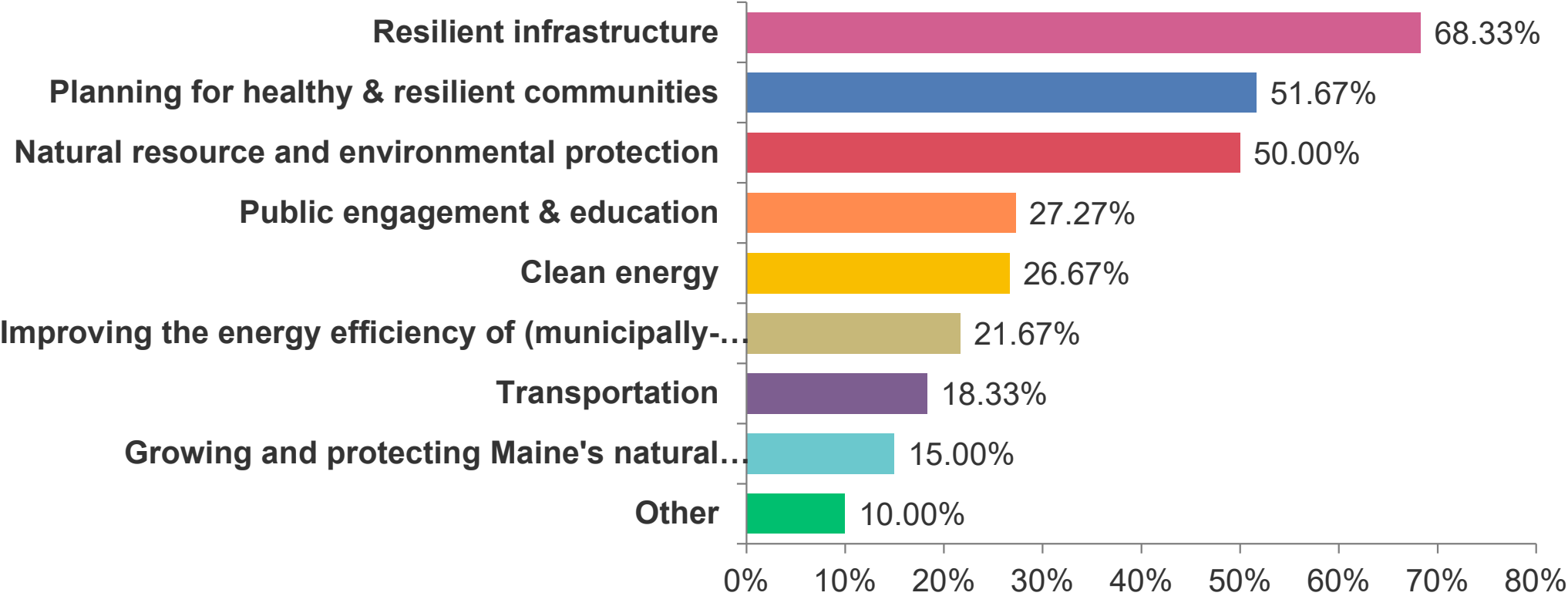
climate change in general - unpredictable and quickly changing weather, high heat, high winds

Public Health issues to water table and streams due to substandard trailers with garbage and other environmental hazards leaking into the ground. No town methods of control.

Climate change

Q2: Which 3 categories do you think are the most important for Montville to address as it relates to community resilience? Examples of projects are listed for each category. Select up to 3 categories.

Answered: 60 Skipped: 1



Q2: Which 3 categories do you think are the most important for Montville to address as it relates to community resilience? Examples of projects are listed for each category. Select up to 3 categories.

Seems like there is a lot of cross-over areas in these topics. What is the common thread?

I would like to see a PRO ACTIVE plan to maintain drainage ditches along dirt roads to run clean and free after a storm. It's all too easy for storm drainage to jump out of a ditch and run down the road, quickly eroding the surface. This then calls for restoration and repair of the road. I think active maintenance could be a more efficient and safer way in the long haul. Particularly in the fall when clumps of leaves can easily plug culverts and fall rain drainage can create a lot of damage very quickly.

zero waste education, planning, promotion- i.e., recyclables and consumption practices

Timely Select Board minutes with details would help.

We DO NOT need public EV chargers.

We DO NOT need solar or wind power.

We DO NOT need a climate resilience plan.

Q3: Additional comments or ideas to help make Montville a more resilient community?

Paving of dirt roads and making transfer station less muddy or paving of free classes geared toward mental health resiliency such as: mindfulness, nature walks, yoga, meditation, grief support group.

Improving communication.

The above categories don't seem particularly relevant to a rural town like Montville.

Sliding scale tax schedule for qualifying seniors

I think a lot of the above options are important including public engagement & education. I assume any long term planning will include aspects of most of these options.

Food sovereignty, youth opportunities, job bank

Public rewards / certificates? some form of motivation, to encourage the public toward more harmonious, less toxic, land management and land use practices.

Thanks for the opportunity to provide input!

Encourage self reliance. Get our legislators OUT of our lives.

We DON'T need any more "good ideas" that become a burden to the taxpayers.

We need a Comprehensive Plan to enable us to tap into grants and other funding sources to alleviate the tax burden.

Q3: Additional comments or ideas to help make Montville a more resilient community?

We should think about combining with other local towns to try to save money on services, like fire department, maybe town office.

What happened to the days of volunteering for your town? Public Works Department and Fire Department are costing us more and more each year, and we can't afford for all of our expenses to keep going up. We need to find ways of saving money, and creating a world again where we take pride in our community and want to make it better by volunteering our time. Can we have volunteer days to paint town buildings? Clean up roadsides? Have people who volunteer to check on their neighbors and roads so we don't have to pay multiple someone's to ride around during storms, costing us all money? What can we do about the school budget? Can we start holding people accountable for over-spending what we have to give?

Lots of people get tired of complaining, or trying to suggest ways of helping, because it never seems to make much difference or start a change. How do we give a voice back to our Town's people?

Q3: Additional comments or ideas to help make Montville a more resilient community?

A resilient community has places to gather, whether it be for a music event, supper, contradance, workshop, discussion, or playgroup for preschoolers. I feel a public space that feels welcoming is a really important asset for a community. Many towns have “community halls” which are concrete and sheet metal structures without much soul to them, but a nice space with decent acoustics used to be commonplace. We can do that in Montville! Also, a gazebo, sandbox, small playset, a few picnic tables, a grill or two all in the town field would be great! The more welcoming spaces we have in town, the easier it is to have get togethers! We can solve problems, shares, react to events, and share diverse viewpoints when our community meets in public spaces. We need a general store, maybe a farmers market, and a shuttle or two for ride sharing, maybe a nice little swap and trade closet in a town building, some regular music and potluck events. A lot already happens in this town. Let’s just make it easier to gather!

Montville's Progress To Date:



Broadband!



Emergency Management



Hazard Mitigation Plan Update [in progress]



FEMA funded improvements [in progress]



Enrolling in Community Resilience Program [in progress]



Resilience Discussion

- 1. What are two things Montville is doing well?**
- 2. What are two areas that could be improved in the short-term?**
- 3. What is important for Montville to address in the long-term?**
- 4. What specific 3 to 5 actions are priorities for Montville?**



DISCUSSION QUESTION 1: What are two things Montville is doing well?

Strategic Planning

Broadening grant resources

Being rural/forested

Proactive broadband

Relationship with Midcoast Council of Governments (MCOG)

Emergency response

Emphasis on fixing roads

DISCUSSION QUESTION 2: What are two areas that could be improved in the short-term?

Increasing volunteer/community service and engagement

✓✓ Communications, website

Community bulletin board for ride share, committees, etc

Text service or app?

Drainage, especially for field day field

Parking for public events

Wildfire prevention

Communication/education

Management including maintaining fire roads into larger properties

✓✓ Prioritize road management plan to improve roads including ditching and roadside maintenance

Efficiency/resilience of town buildings

Decrease emergency consumption

Broadband

Comprehensive Plan for future

DISCUSSION QUESTION 3: What is important for Montville to address in the long term?

Maintaining rural character while managing growth: everything from streams and farmland to solar
Communications hub (centralized communications, resources for town)
Education enrolment
Transportation
Economic plan for the future
Decentralized fathering spaces
Maintaining roads
Comprehensive Plan – long term vision
Care for aging population
Improving management/transparency of town offices/departments
Consider process of elections/appointments and which positions are appointed versus elected

DISCUSSION QUESTION 4: What specific 3 to 5 actions are priorities for Montville?

Change/adapt responsibly

Youth engagement – look for opportunities to incorporate youth into future planning and town activities

Responsible taxation

✓✓ **Road maintenance and plan**

Strengthening emergency management

Communications hub

✓✓ **Comprehensive plan//long term planning**

✓✓ Increasing volunteers

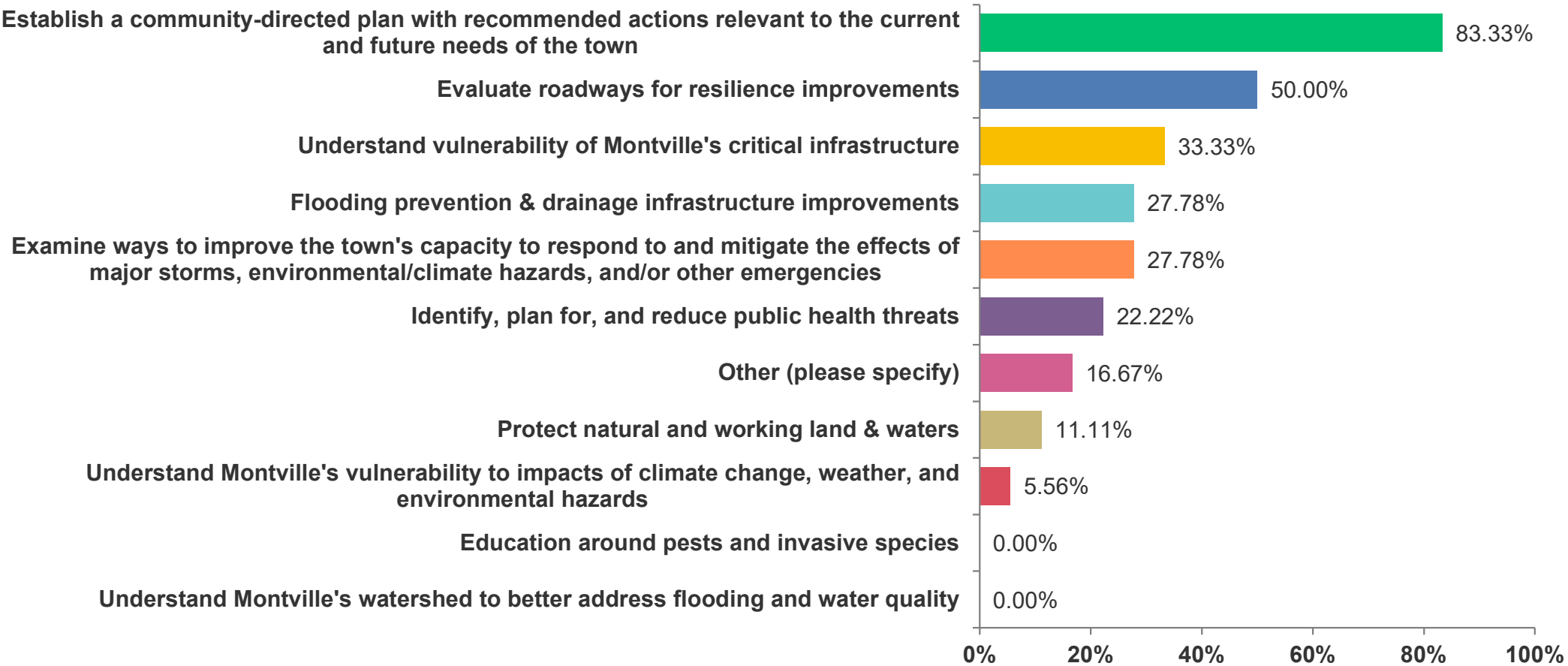
Pursue funding sources to reduce tax burden

Hazard mitigation

Town wide community/emergency operations center

Q1: Select up to 3 needs that you think Montville should prioritize.

Answered: 18 Skipped: 0



Q1: Select up to 3 needs that you think Montville should prioritize.

Answered: 18 Skipped: 0

**Forest fire mitigation/improved forest care; montville communications hub to serve all information needs
Financially responsible spending to mitigate burden on tax payers**

Look at movement of people. Families? Retirees? How is our population changing and what are the needs of the changing population, especially educational needs.