



# Citizens' Election Program 2022 Participant Survey Results

# 2022 Survey Goals

The following were the goals of the survey in 2022:

- Gauge Participating Candidate and Treasurer Overall Satisfaction
- Solicit Feedback and/or Suggestions for Program Improvement
- Offer Treasurers a forum to share helpful tips with other treasurers
- Project Candidate Participation in future elections

# 2022 Survey

[www.surveymonkey.com](http://www.surveymonkey.com)

Open <sup>1</sup> 2    Draft <sup>1</sup> 0    Total responses 228 <sup>1</sup>    Average completion rate 89% <sup>1</sup>    Typical time spent 00h:08m:13s <sup>1</sup>

BUY TARGETED RESPONSES

### Recent Surveys [See all 18 surveys](#)

<b>OPEN</b> <b>2022 Survey for Treasurers and Deputy Treasurers of Candidates who Participated in the CEP</b>   Modified: 04/11/2023	139 Responses	91% Completion rate	10 mins Typical time spent	⋮ Options
<b>OPEN</b> <b>2022 Participating Candidate Survey - General Assembly/Statewide Office</b>   Modified: 04/07/2023	89 Responses	87% Completion rate	6 mins Typical time spent	⋮ Options

Showing 2 of 18 surveys | [See All](#) ▶

CREATE

### Survey Examples

See what kinds of insights you can discover from survey results. Here is an example of an imaginary company with a realistic challenge. [See all examples.](#)

**2022 Participating Candidate Survey - General Assembly/Statewide Office**

**\* 1. Office sought by candidate in 2022:**

- State Representative
- State Senator
- Governor
- Other Statewide Office

**\* 2. For the 2022 election cycle you were:**

- Incumbent
- Challenger of an Incumbent
- Ran for Open Seat

Help

# 2022 Response Rate (as of 07/10/2023)

108

143

100%

of goal

121%

of goal

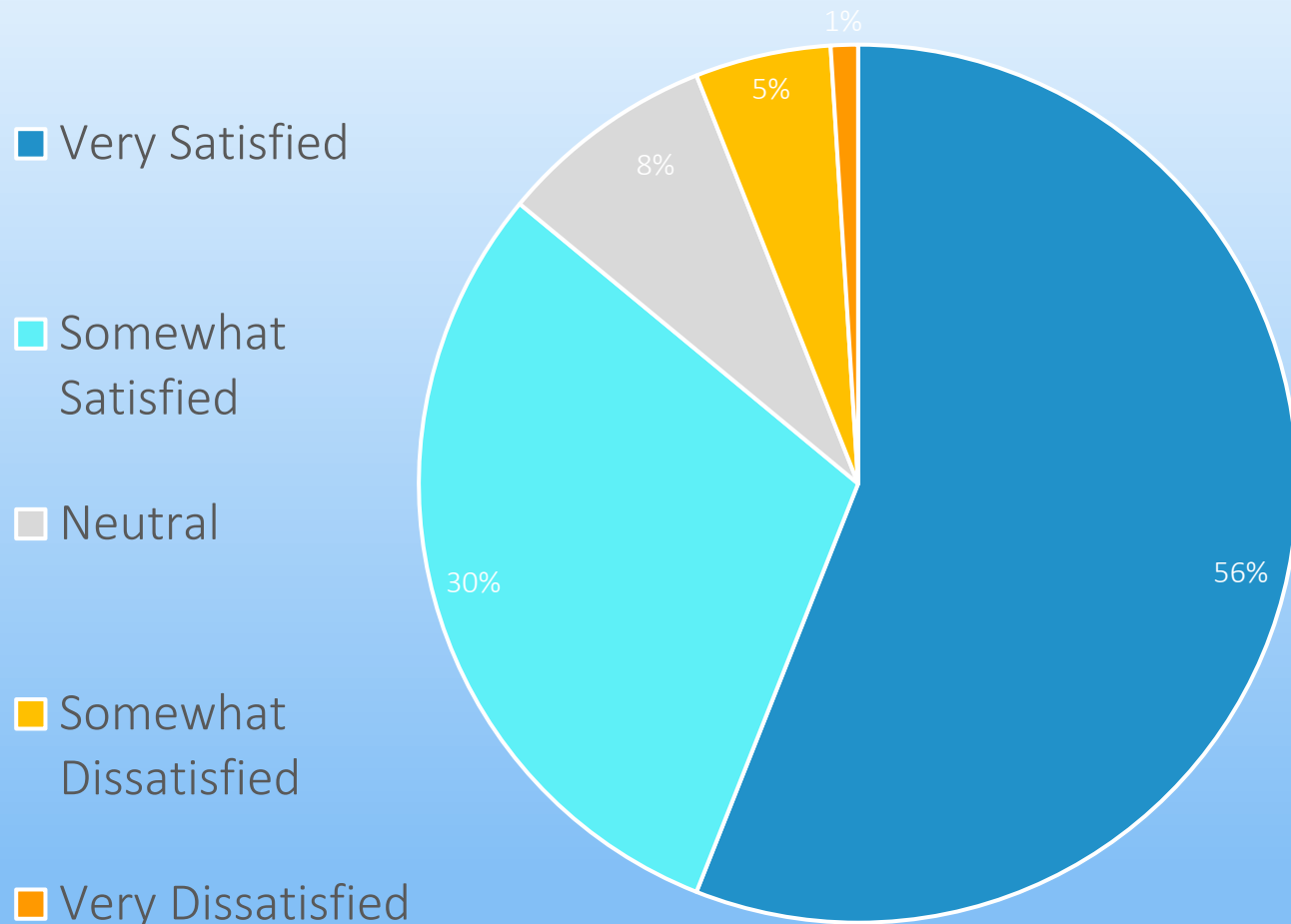
Candidates

Treasurers

## Key Takeaways from the 2022 Survey:

- ❑ 81% of candidates strongly or somewhat agreed that accepting only small contributions from individuals is a good way to involve more Connecticut citizens in politics
- ❑ 85% of candidates strongly or somewhat agreed that participation in the CEP reduced the appearance that they were beholden to large contributors or “special interests”
- ❑ 77% of candidates strongly or somewhat agreed that by accepting public funds this election cycle they were able to spend more time discussing issues and concerns with their constituents and less time fundraising
- ❑ 89% of candidates strongly or somewhat agreed that public financing provided them the opportunity to compete for elected office without reliance on personal wealth or large contributors

# Participating Candidate Overall Satisfaction

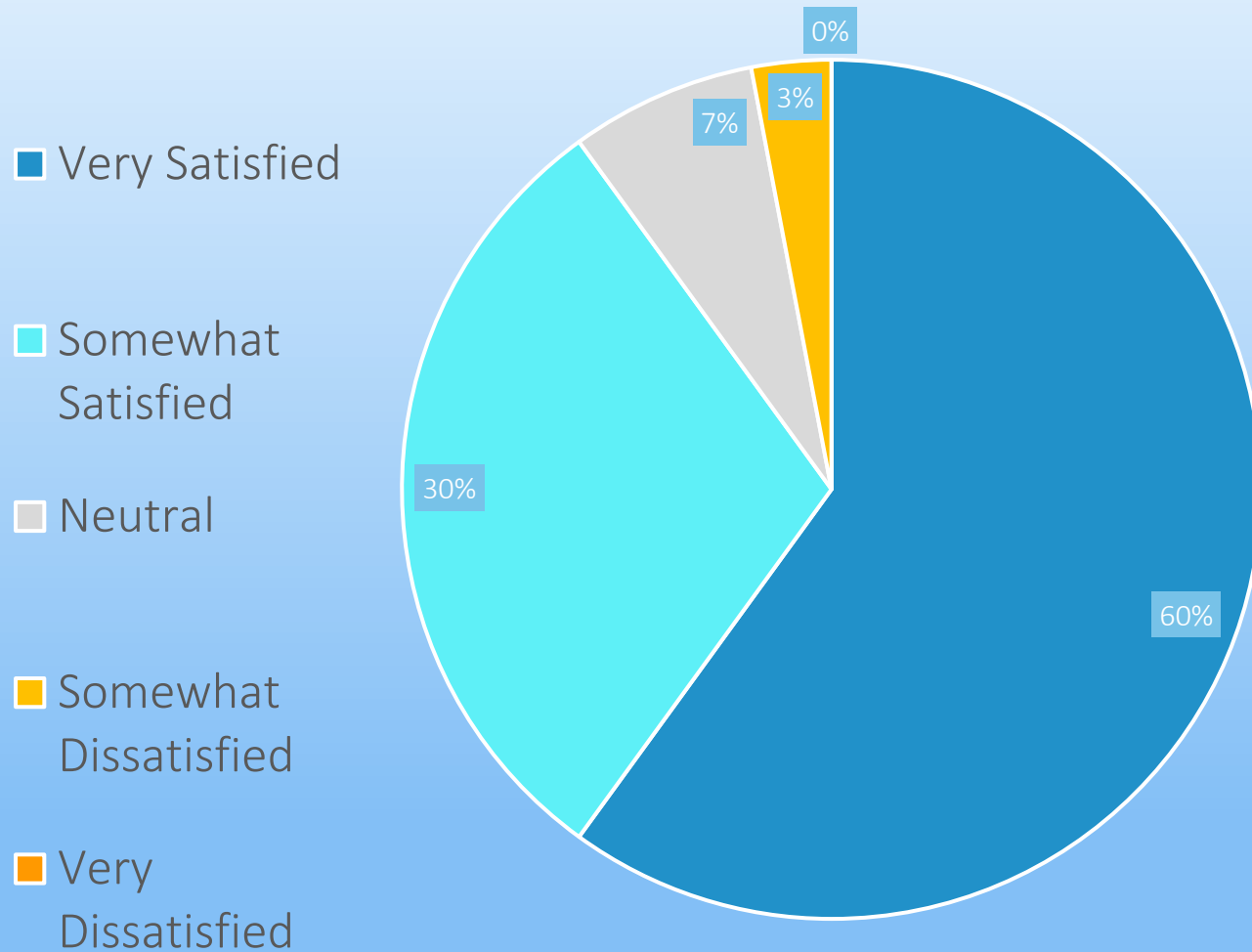


“A huge Thank You to folks working at SEEC. Always pleasant and willing to assist.”

“It is a great program. If it wasn't for the program, I would not have been able to run for office.”

“The program really keeps my hands clean when it comes to making decisions about controversial issues.”

## Participating Treasurer Overall Satisfaction

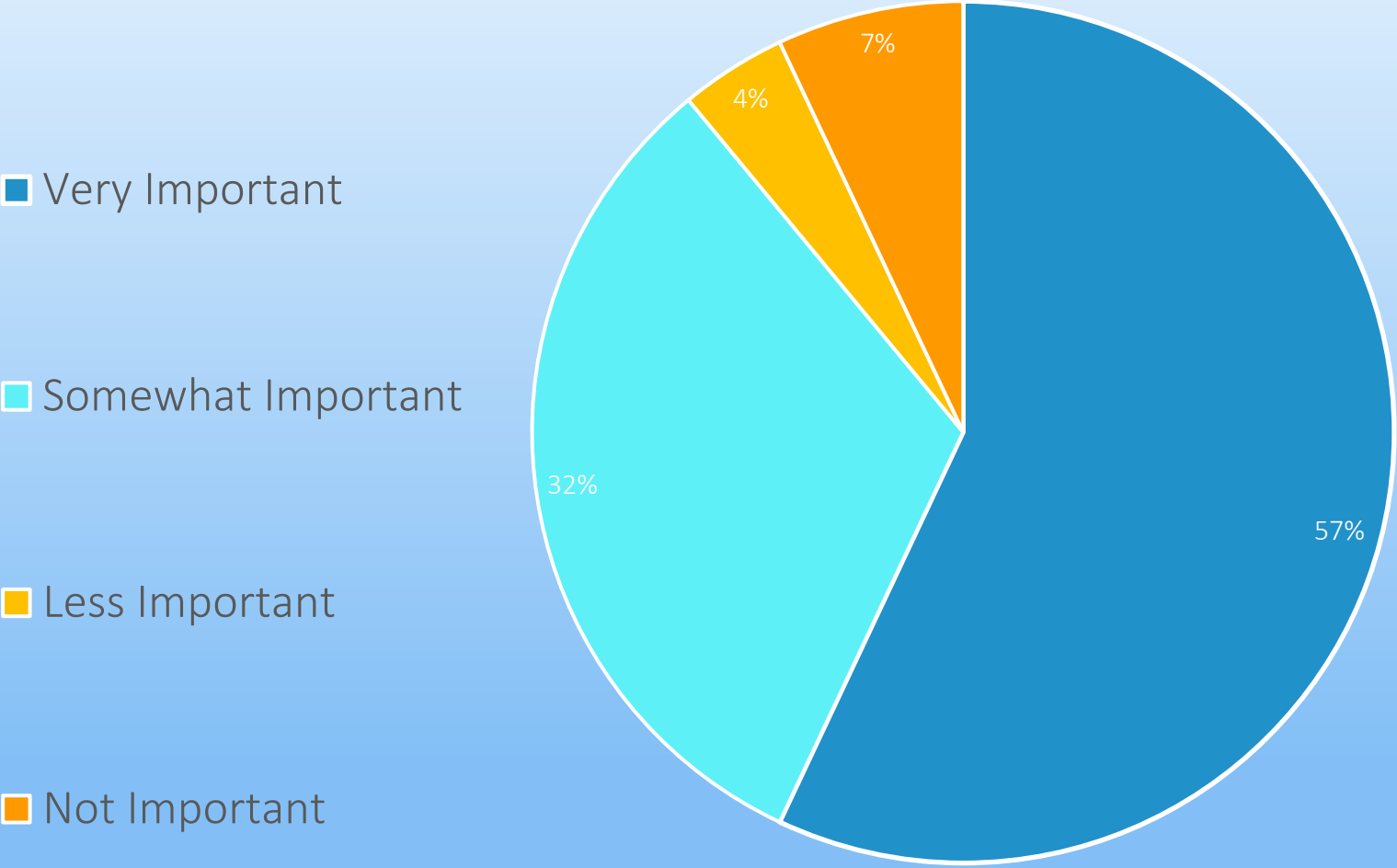


“I very much appreciated the support and assistance. No call was left unanswered and no question I had was dismissed. I was always treated nicely. Kudos to your staff!”

“Thank you to the staff. I thoroughly enjoyed my participation.”

“I’m sure things could be tweaked to make the process a little smoother, but overall, it was pretty reasonable.”

# Candidates, how important was access to public financing in making your decision to run for office?





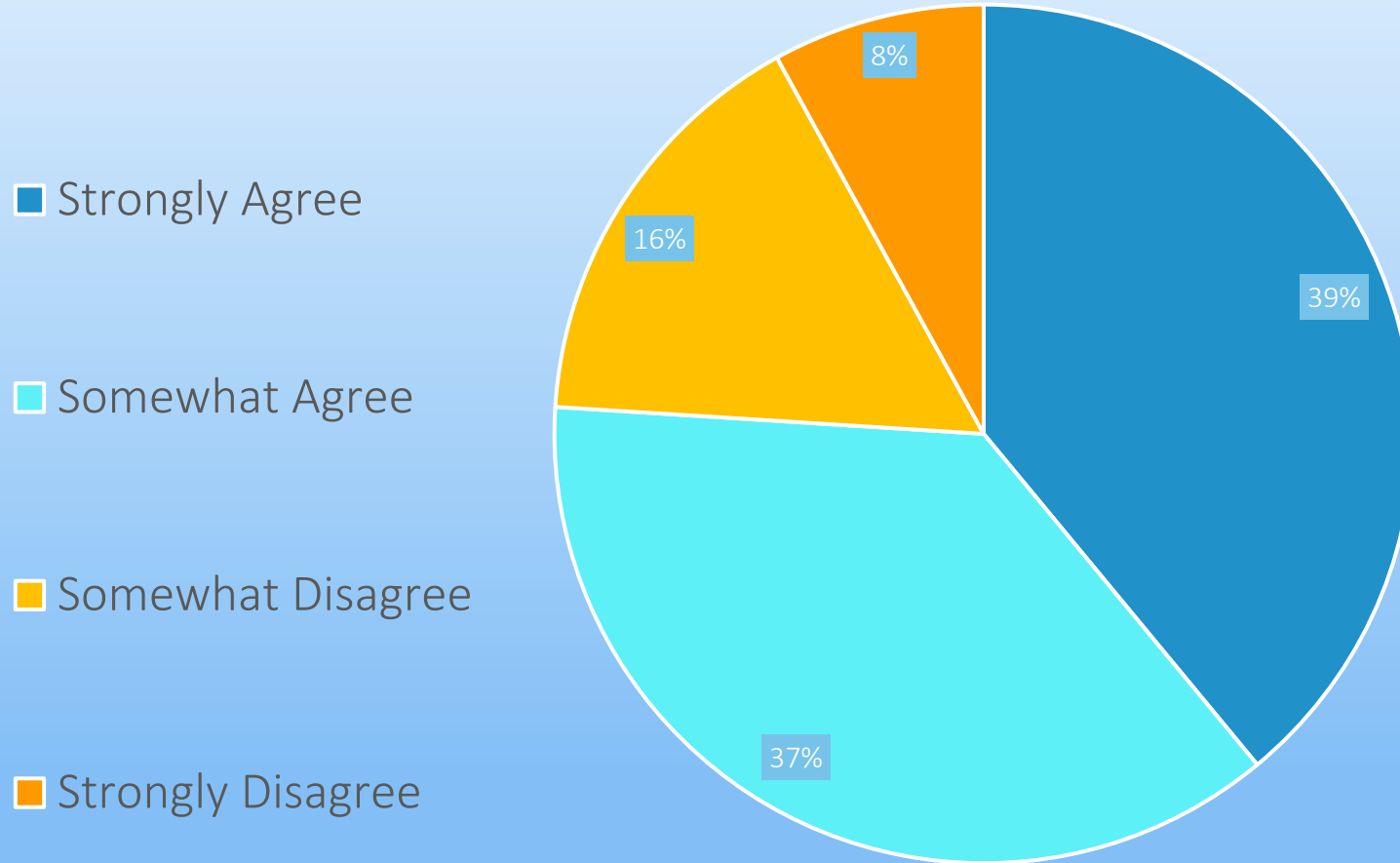
## Quotes from 2022 Participating Candidates:

“I've participated in the Program since its inception. I would not have been able to finance my campaign without it.” – Incumbent

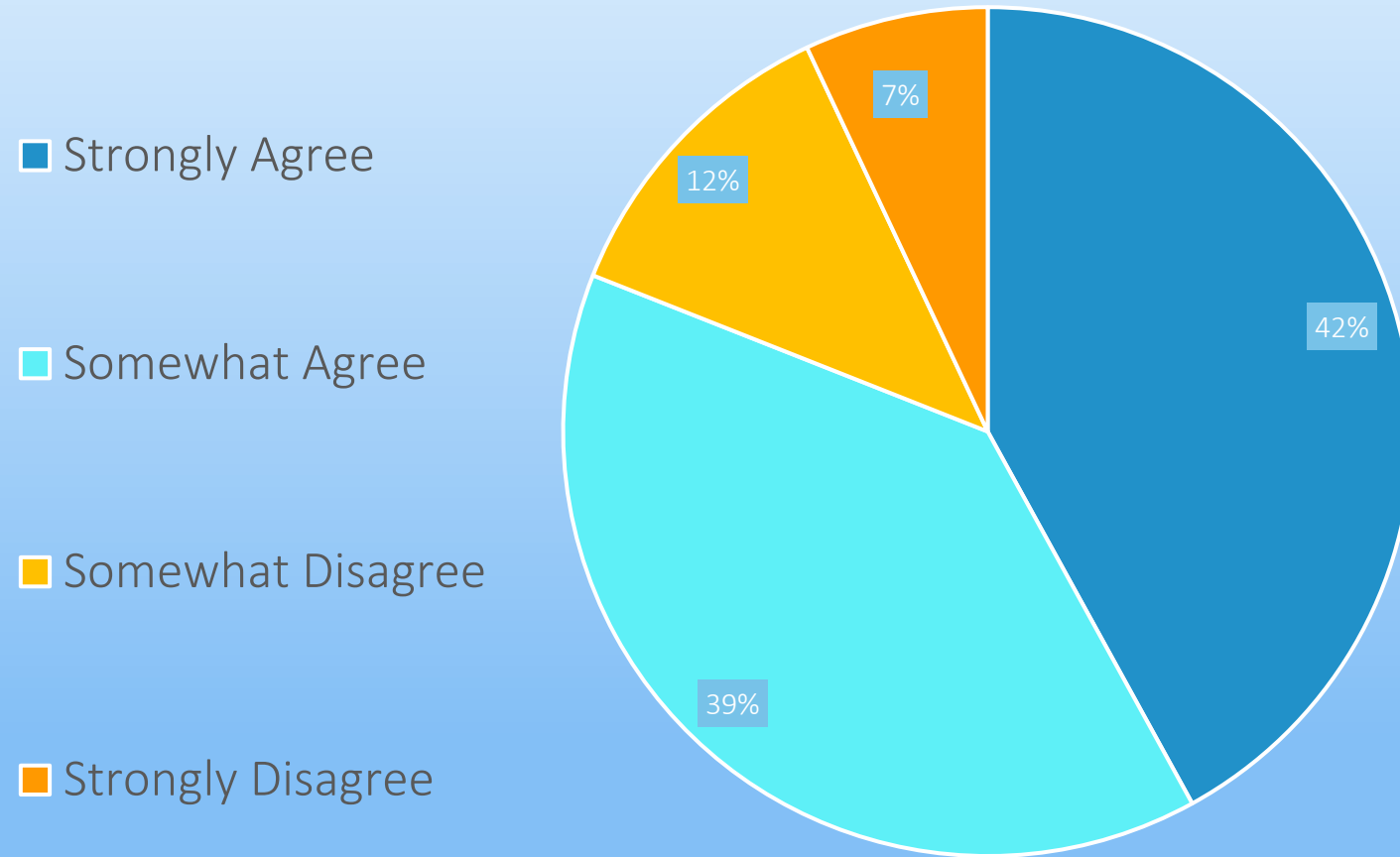
“Public financing was the only logical way for me to be able to run. I am not independently wealthy.” – Challenger

“If there was no public campaign financing available, I would have had difficulty raising sufficient funds to run a competitive campaign and would have been less likely to run.” – First-time Candidate

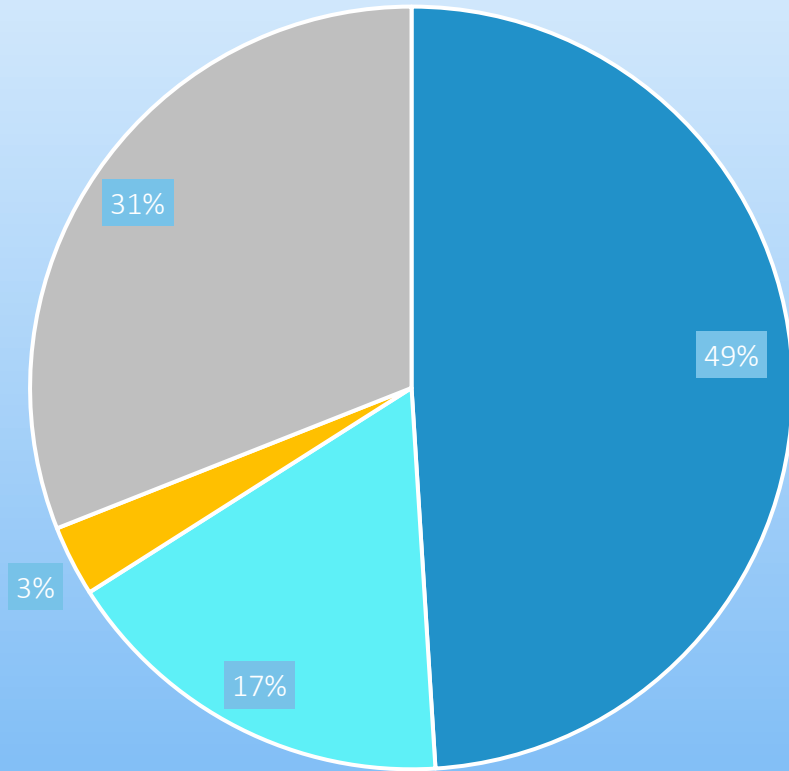
The number of contributions required from in-district or in-state individuals to qualify for a grant was appropriate and achievable.



The dollar amount required to qualify for a grant was appropriate and achievable.



In 2022, SEEC provided a voluntary pre-application review of qualifying contribution documentation. If your committee opted to receive a pre-application review, the feedback was:



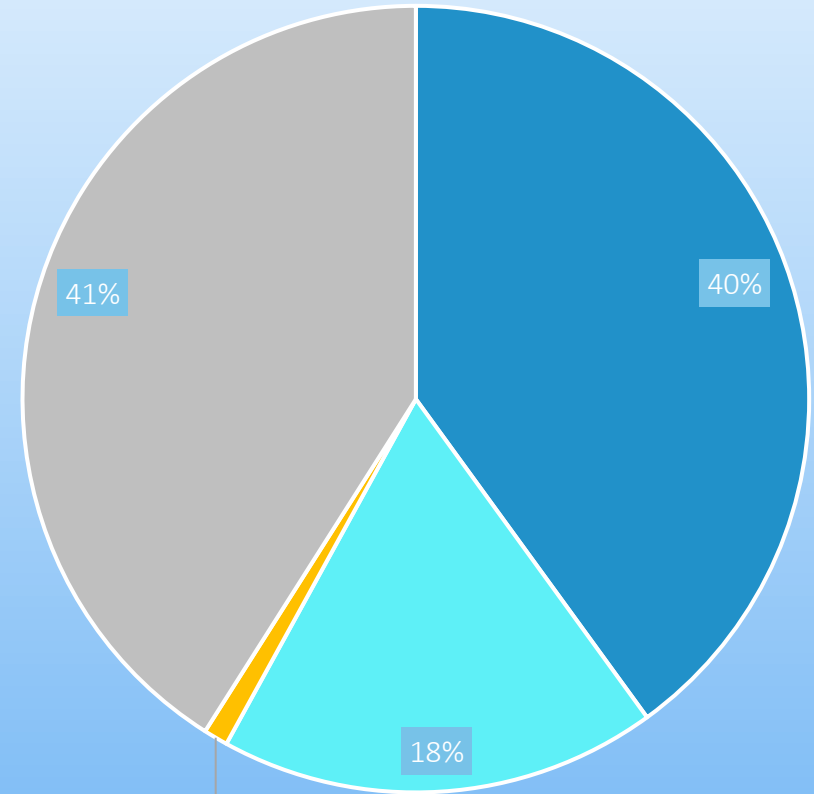
Candidates

Very helpful

Somewhat helpful

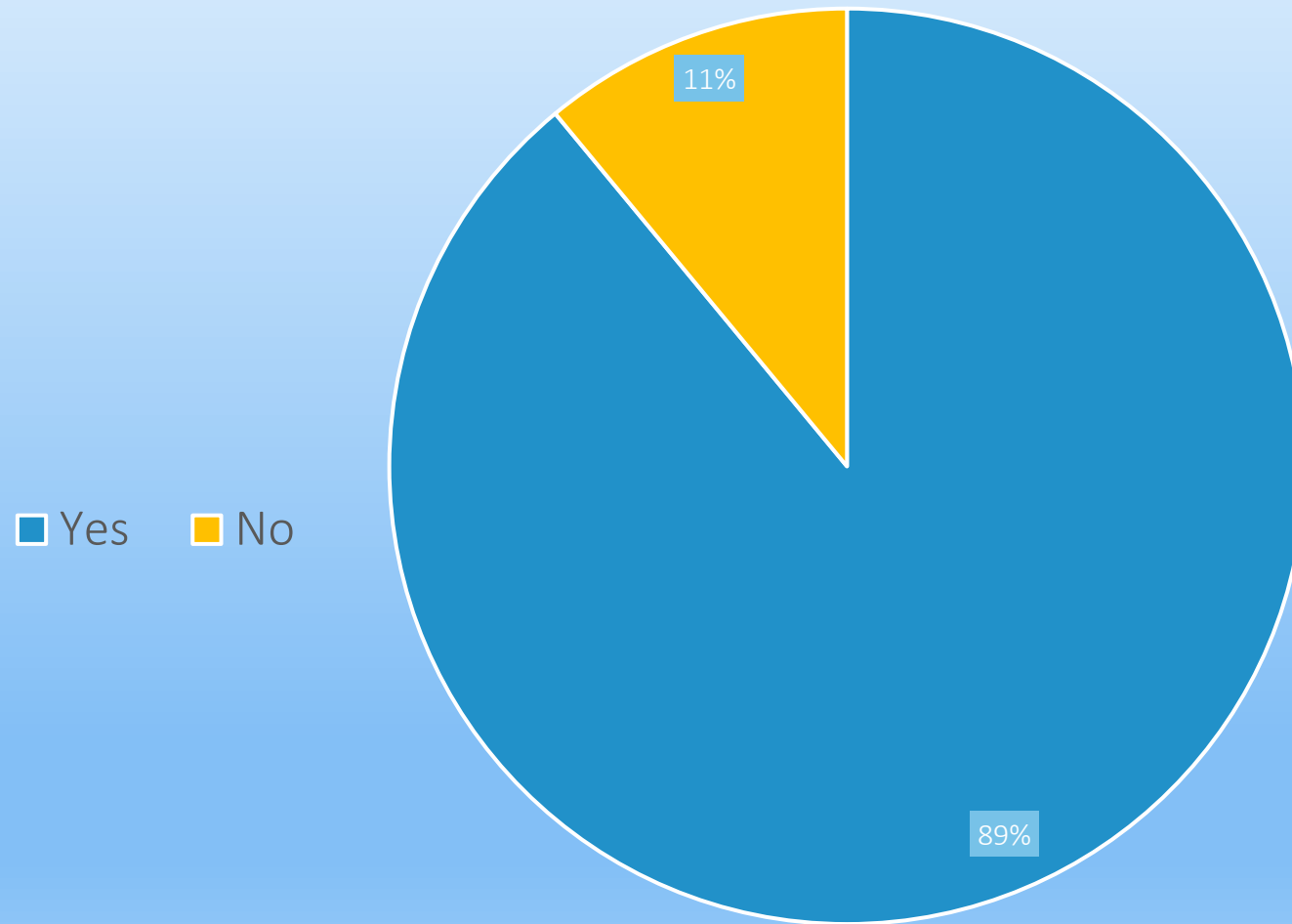
Not helpful

Did not use pre-application review

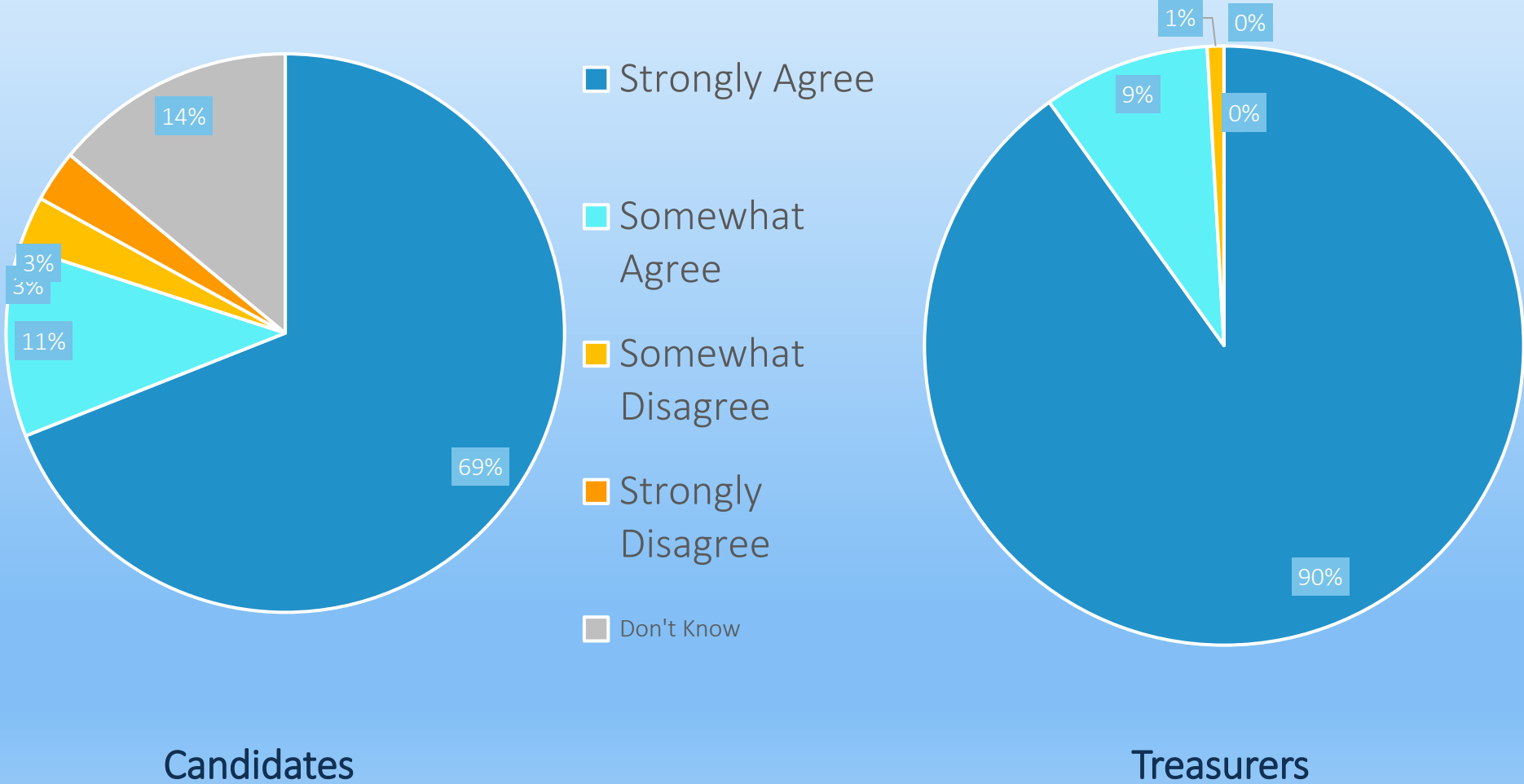


Treasurers

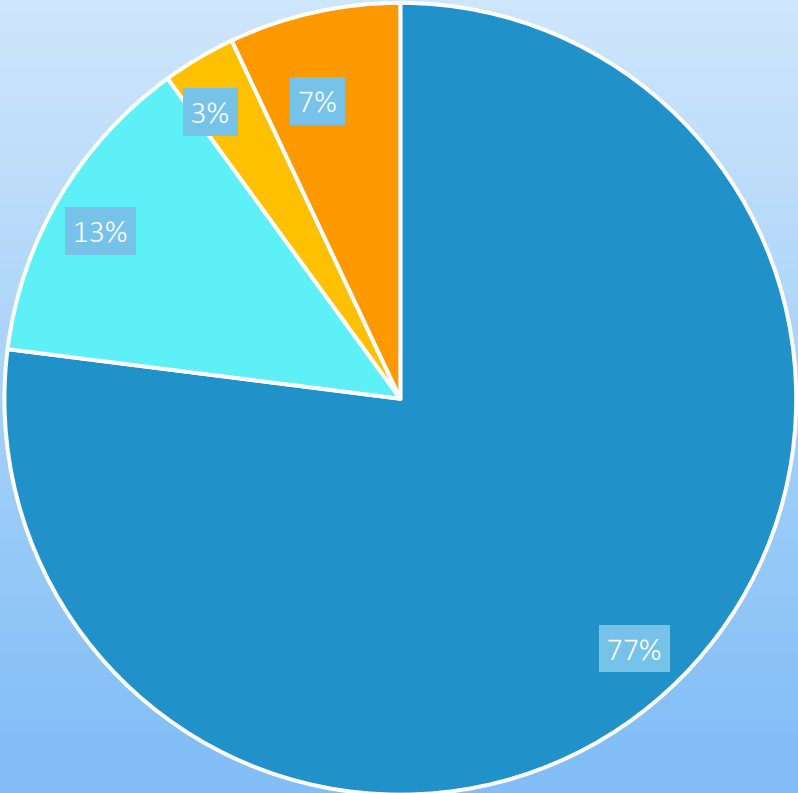
Candidates, did you use eCRIS's online registration to register your candidate committee?



# Having a specific Elections Officer assigned to my campaign was a valuable resource.

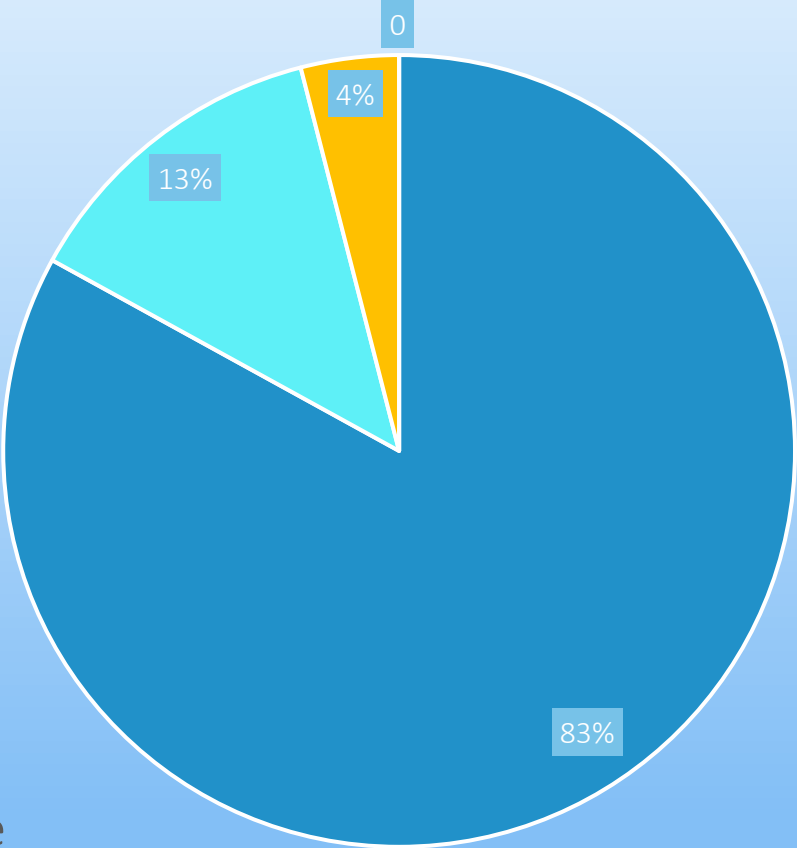


# Were your inquiries answered in a timely manner?



Candidates

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree



Treasurers

## Feedback from 2022 Candidates and Treasurers:

“My Elections Officer was extremely helpful, professional, and friendly. A pleasure to work with and very patient with all my questions.”

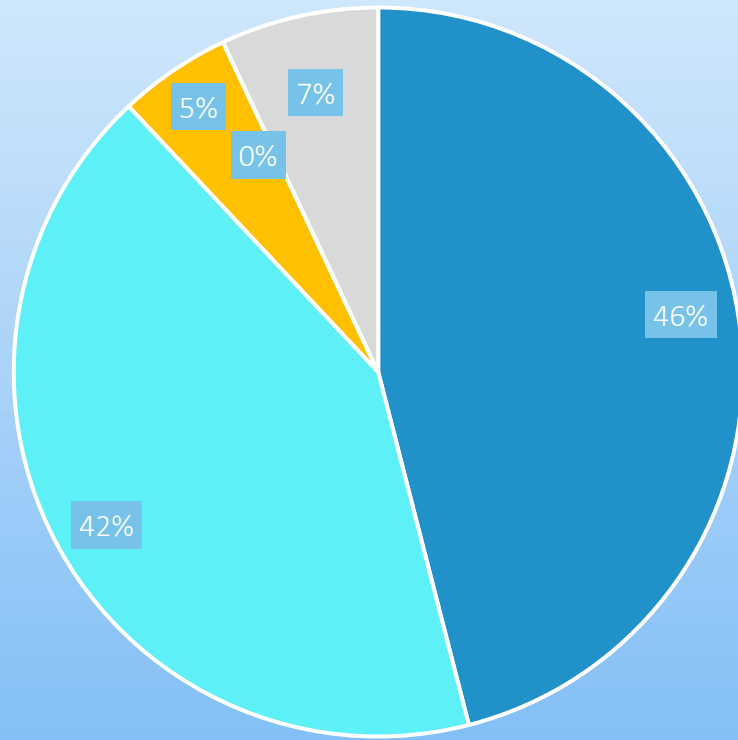
“My Elections Officer was indispensable.”

“Having one person to go to with questions and not need to explain the backstory of my committee was helpful.”

“SEEC staff is very helpful to candidates. This is a very complicated process.”

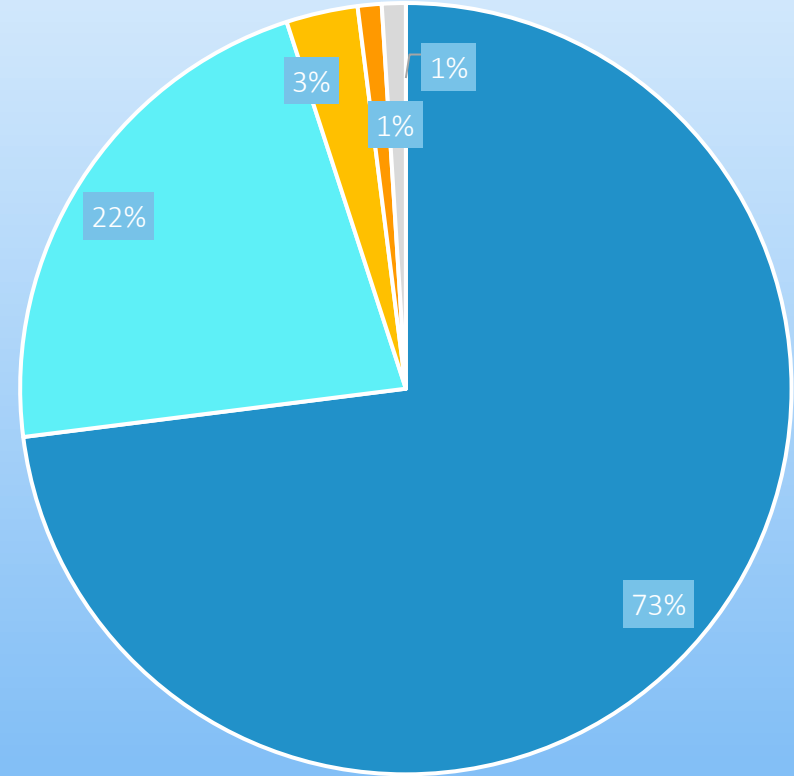


# Email alerts and informational handouts were informative and useful.



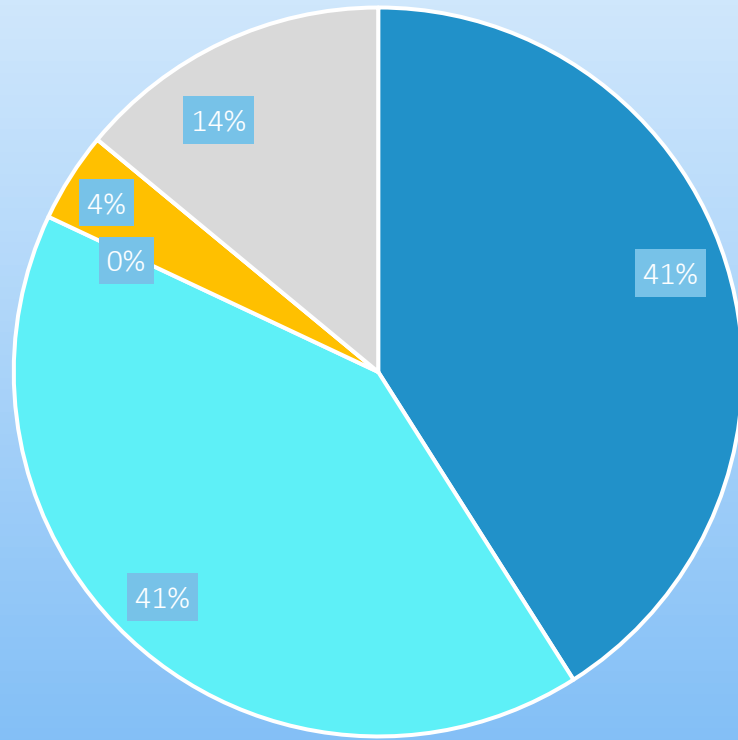
Candidates

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't Know



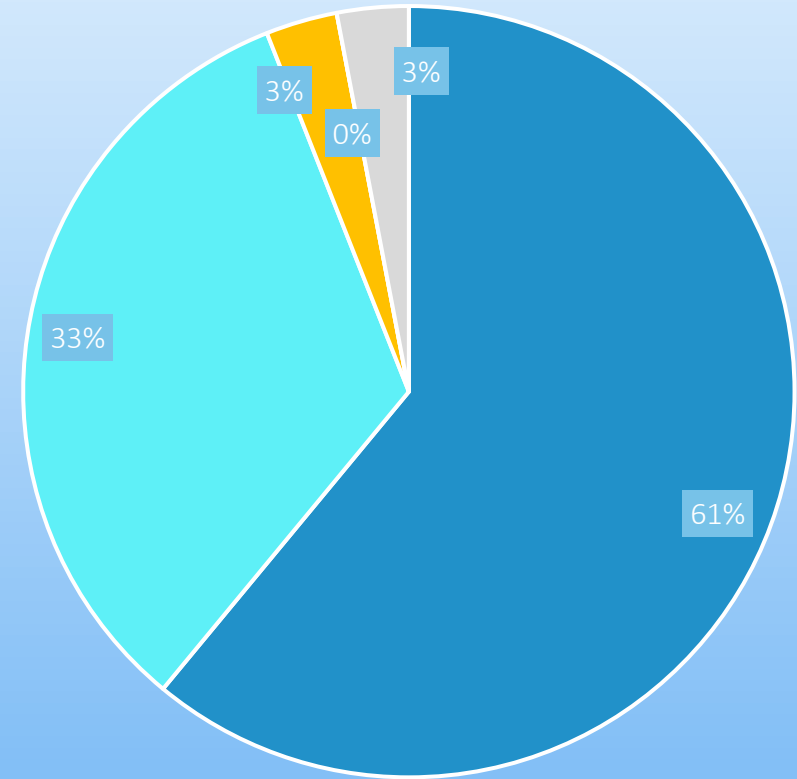
Treasurers

# The Participating Candidate Guidebook was informative and useful.



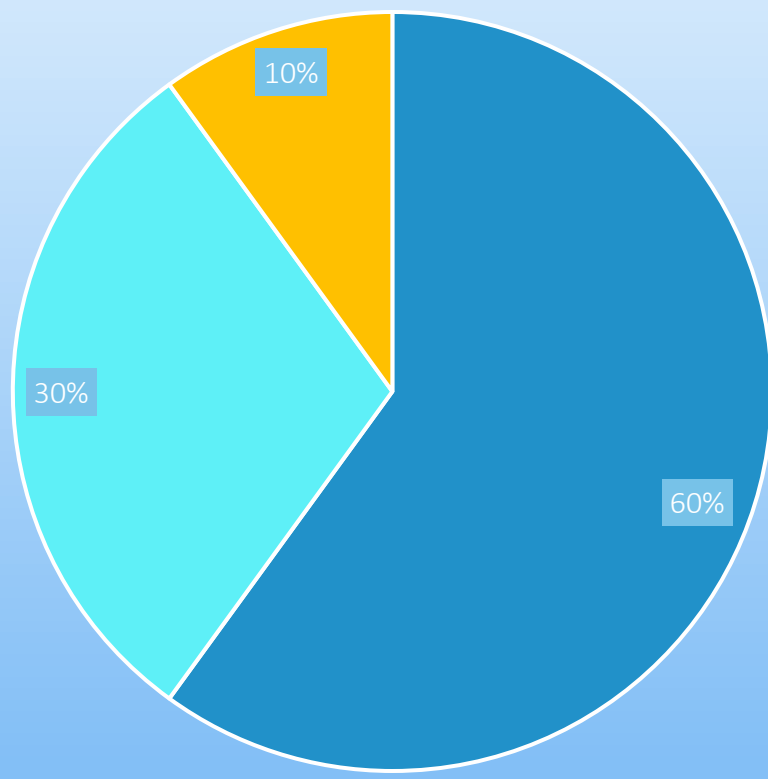
Candidates

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't Know



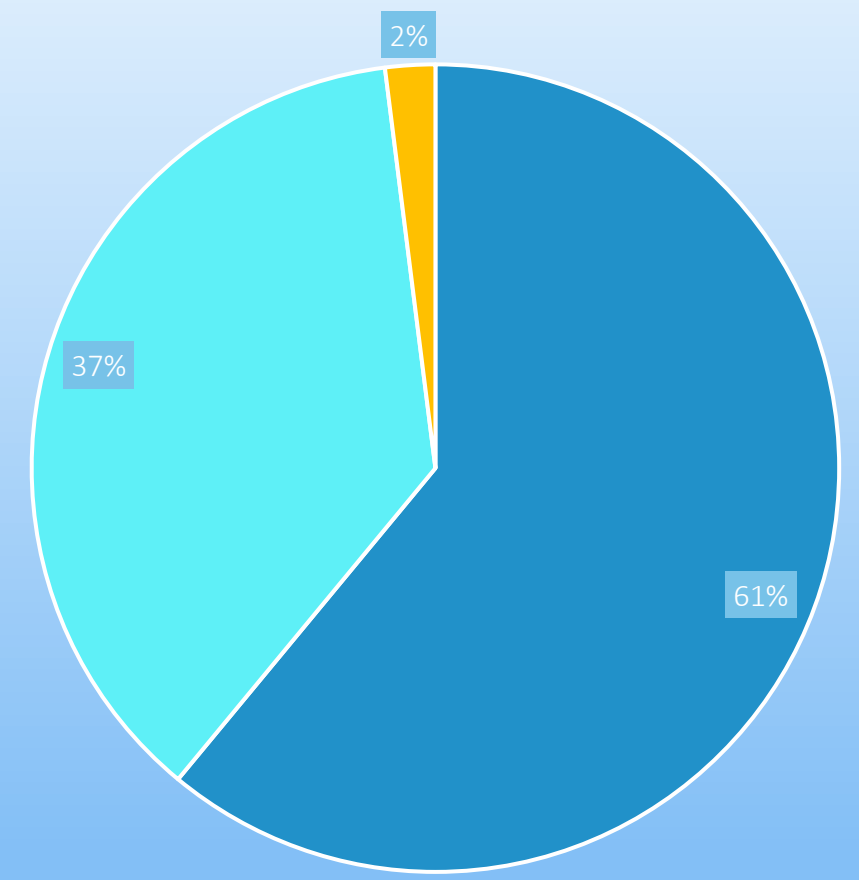
Treasurers

# How helpful was the CEP Training in understanding the basics of the process?



Candidates

- Very Helpful
- Somewhat Helpful
- Not Helpful



Treasurers

## Most common suggestions from Candidates and Treasurers:

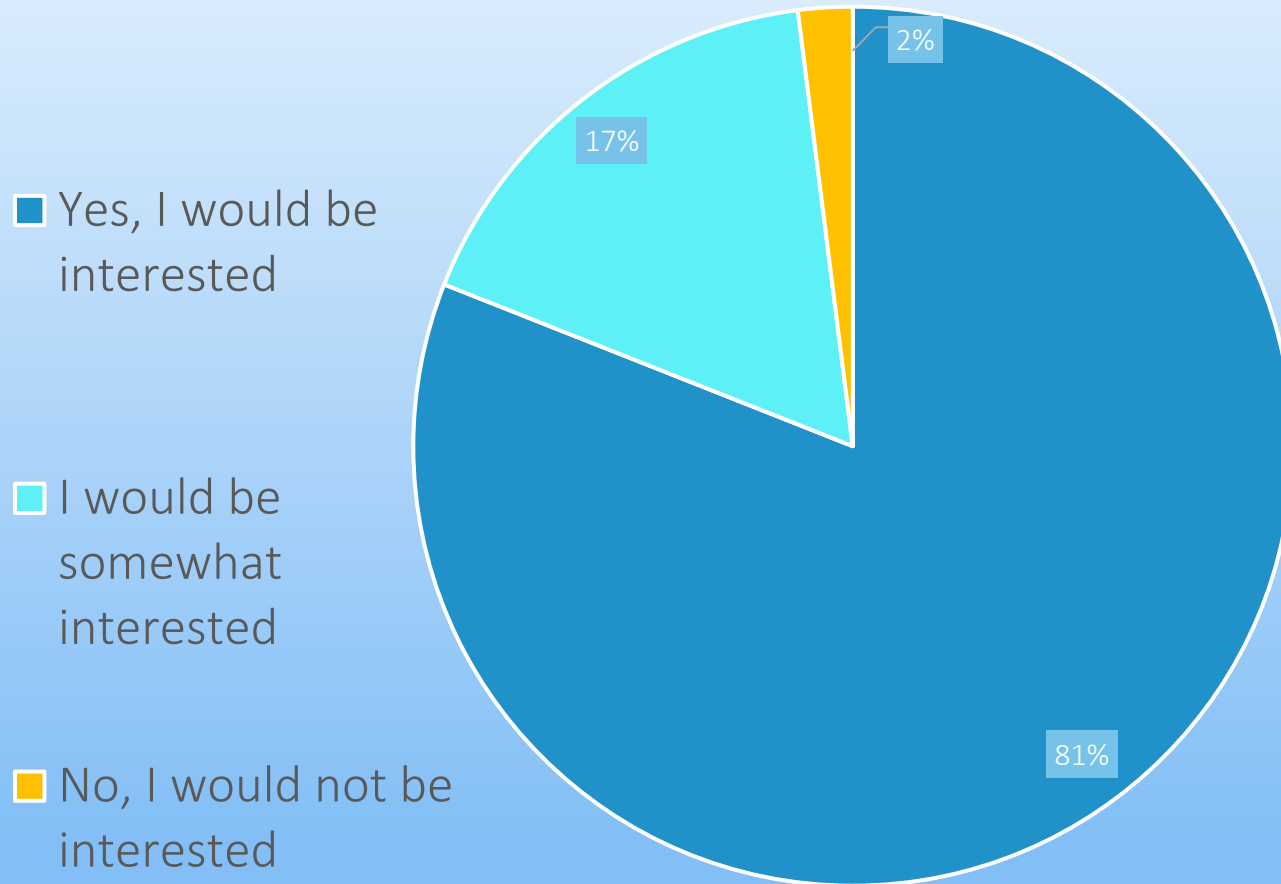
“Release grants earlier.”

“Develop a referral program for candidates that are in need of a treasurer.”

“Make eCRIS available for municipal campaigns.”

“Clearer guidance about reporting expenditures related to digital advertising.”

Treasurers, would you find it helpful to use a standardized online contribution portal that interacts directly with eCRIS and generates back-up documentation and provides you with automatic electronic reports?



“This would help a lot in submitting the correct documentation.”

“Anything that streamlines the process for treasurers would be most helpful.”

“I was not aware that our initial credit card processor was not an acceptable vendor, which lead to complications right off the bat. This would be helpful.”

# Candidates, do you intend to participate in the Citizens' Election Program in future elections?

- Yes
- I am inclined to participate
- I am not inclined to participate
- No, not running for office in the future
- No, independent expenditures
- Undecided

