

# Boating Survey Report

If you recall, we invited members (and non-members) to complete a survey about boating activity, and docks and moorings use, on Sabbathday Lake to try to get an idea of what our lake community was thinking about the current state of boating, and docks and moorings. We also completed this survey in response to an increasing number of stories in local news outlets reporting conflicts arising on other Maine lakes. As the population of people in Maine has grown, the intensity of activities and use of the available resources has expanded and, in some cases, safety of lake users and aesthetics of lakes have been impacted. Local ordinances to control current and potential future conflicts at specific lakes have been proposed and are being legislated in multiple towns in our region. This includes the towns of Lovell, Green Lake, Wilton, Harrison, Edgecomb, Rangeley, Oquossoc, Winthrop, Belgrade, and our neighbors in Windham, Falmouth, and Gray, to mention a few.

We have learned a few things from the survey:

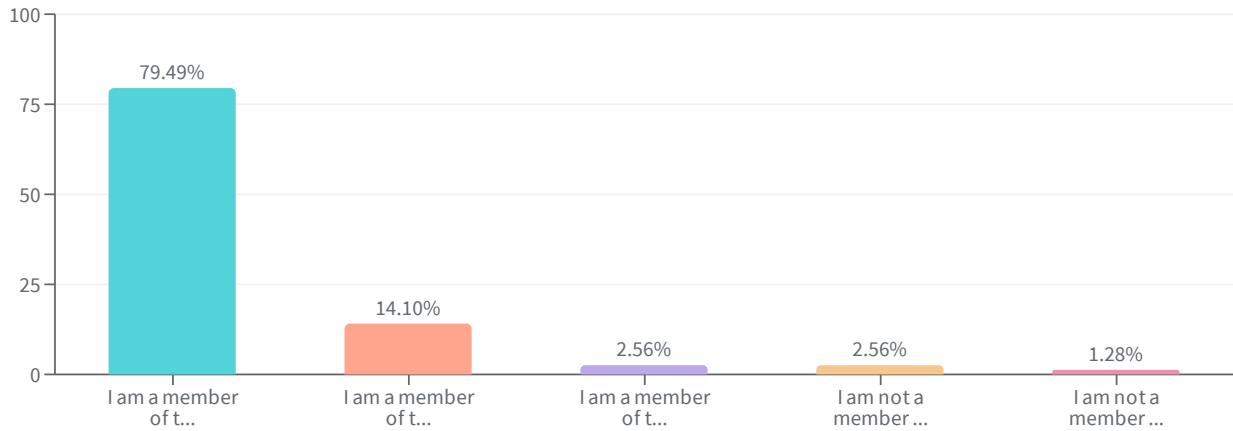
- A total of 78 people responded to the SDLA survey.
- Ninety-six percent were SDLA members.
- Most people in general do not think that boating, dock use, and moorings have become a major problem on the lake. But some do, and there is a real concern regarding what the future holds. That is a logical feeling considering all the possible scenarios that the future may hold and the stories we are hearing from other lakes in Maine. That concern for the future will likely be an item of discussion for the SDLA board (and future boards and members) in coming years.
- The complete survey with the breakdown of answers are on the following pages.

Remember, there are some things we can all do as good neighbors. When making decisions about boating, docks, dock placement, use of offshore floats, and other activities, we should be courteous and consider others. Everyone deserves to have a dock or access to the lake where appropriate. But we can also be conscious possible impacts on others including lake aesthetics. Avoid placing docks or floats too close to neighboring property lines. Think twice before placing a float or swimming platform in places that crowd or interfere with other uses of the lake. If boating activity appears to be extremely busy on a hot summer weekend, consider waiting until things lighten up before going out on the lake.

QUESTION 01 | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Please select the statement most applicable to you.

Answered: 78 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES

RESPONSES

RESPONSE PERCENTAGE

I am a member of the SDLA and own property with shore frontage on Sabbathday Lake.

62

79.49%

I am a member of the SDLA and own property near the lake with access through a right of way.

11

14.10%

I am a member of the SDLA and do not own property on the lake or have right of way access to the lake.

2

2.56%

I am not a member of the SDLA but own property with shore frontage on Sabbathday Lake.

2

2.56%

I am not a member of the SDLA but own property near the lake with access through a right of way.

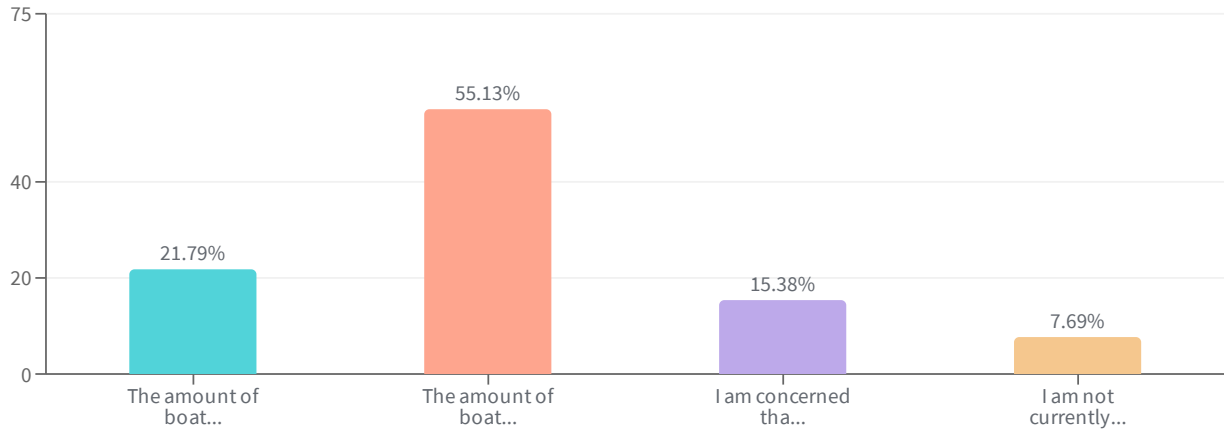
1

1.28%

QUESTION 02 | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Which statements below best describes boating and watercraft/jet ski activity on Sabbathday Lake?

Answered: 78 Skipped: 0

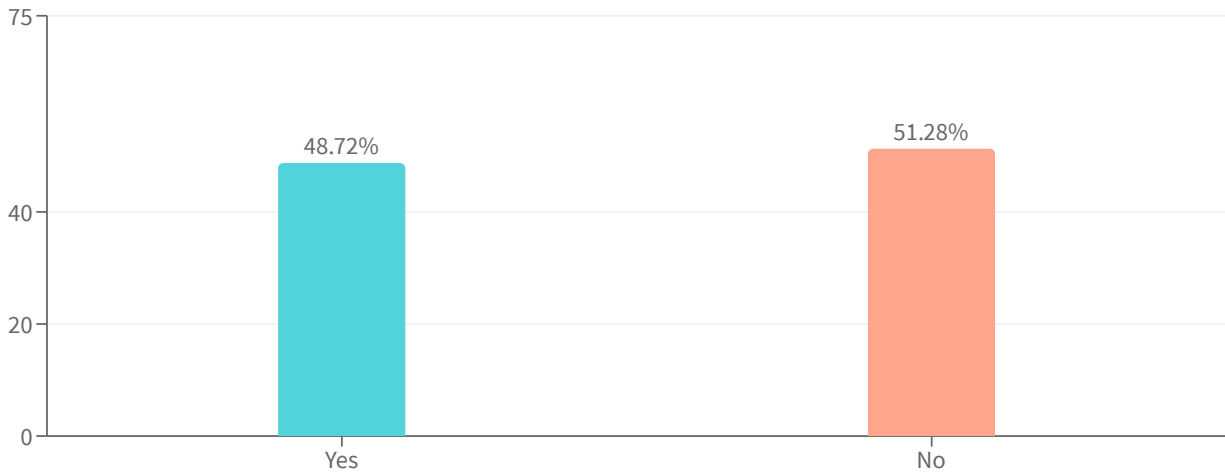


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	RESPONSE PERCENTAGE
The amount of boating/jet ski activity is light and never a concern.	17	21.79%
The amount of boating/jet ski activity is light most of the time but is a concern on rare occasions such as summer weekends.	43	55.13%
I am concerned that the number of power boats/jet skis currently using the lake often exceed the capacity for enjoyable and safe water use activities.	12	15.38%
I am not currently concerned that the number of boats/jet skis using the lake exceeds the capacity for enjoyable safe water use activities, but I am concerned that growing numbers of boats in the future may cause issues.	6	7.69%

**QUESTION 03** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Should there be a limitation for the maximum number of boats and/or jet skis at each dock?

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**

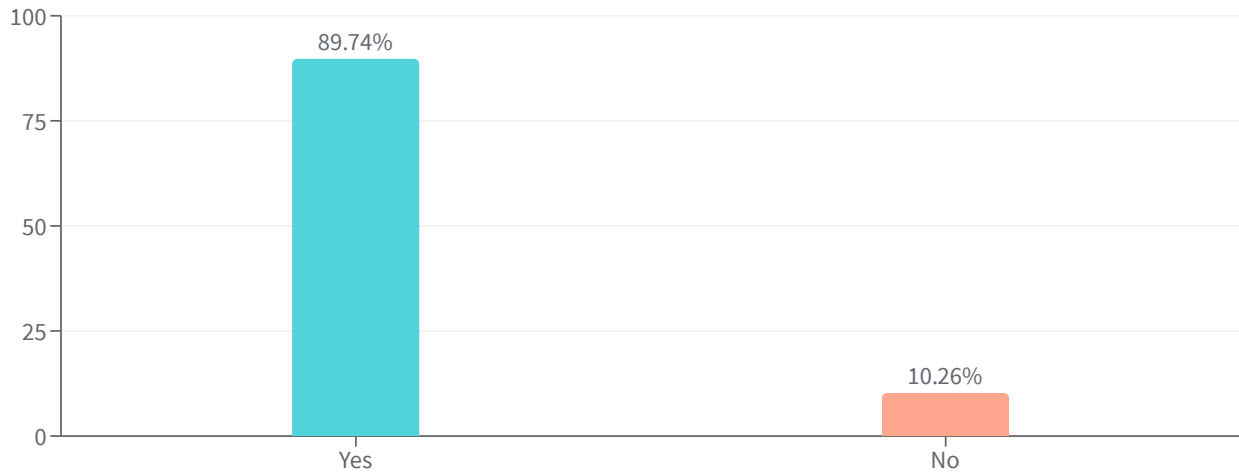


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	RESPONSE PERCENTAGE
Yes	38	48.72%
No	40	51.28%

**QUESTION 04** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Do you have a dock or dock system (attached to shoreline) on your property on Sabbathday Lake?

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**



**ANSWER CHOICES** ▾

**RESPONSES** ▾

**RESPONSE PERCENTAGE** ▾

Yes

70

89.74%

No

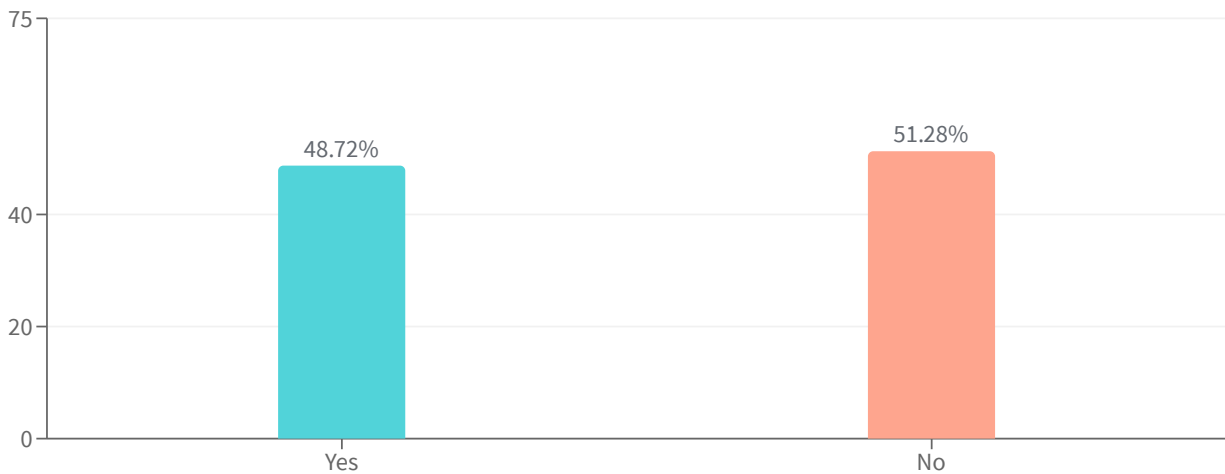
8

10.26%

**QUESTION 05** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Are you aware that New Gloucester town zoning ordinance requires a dock permit from the Town to have a dock on Sabbathday Lake?

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**

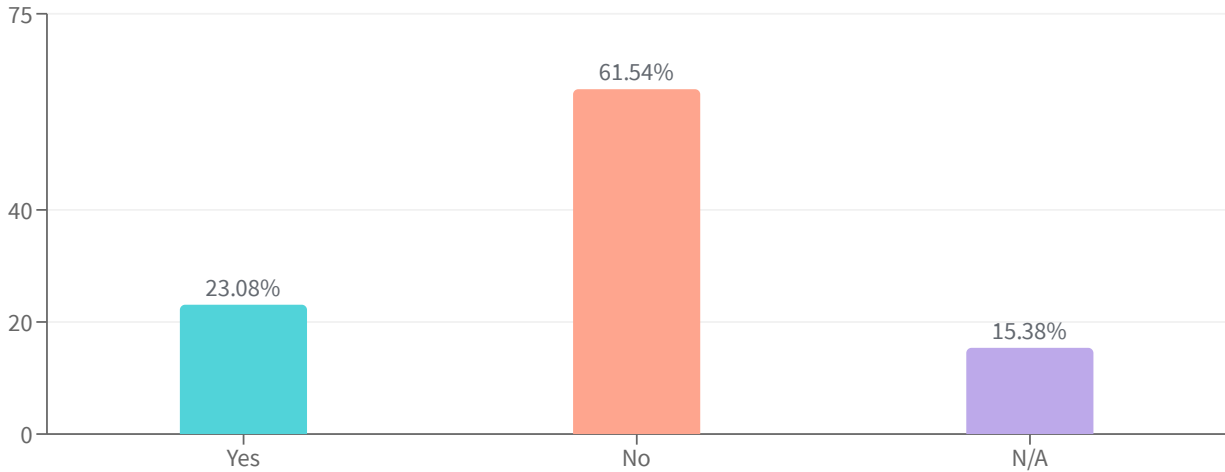


ANSWER CHOICES ▾	RESPONSES ▾	RESPONSE PERCENTAGE ▾
Yes	38	48.72%
No	40	51.28%

**QUESTION 06** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Have you ever obtained a dock permit from the Town of New Gloucester for your dock?

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**



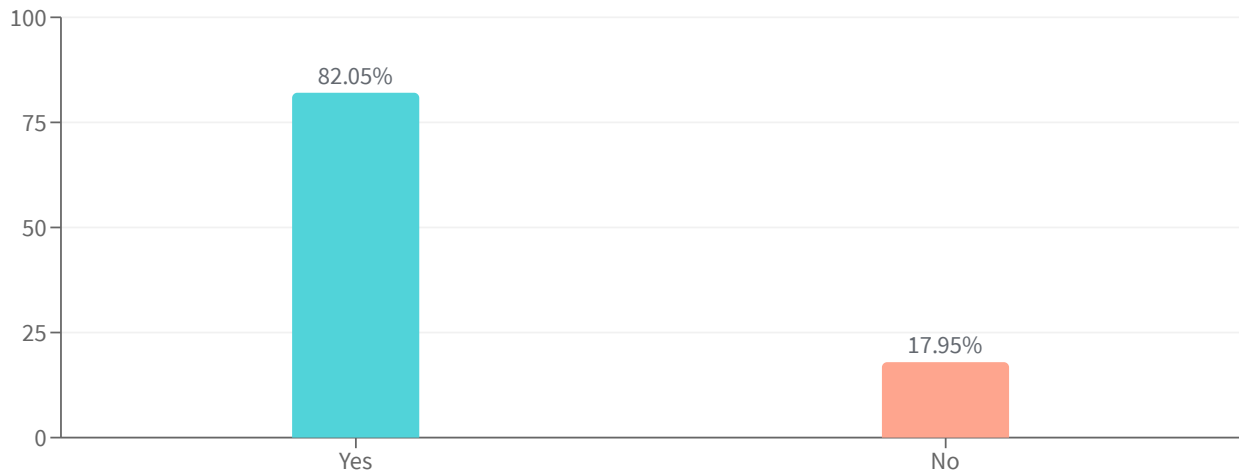
ANSWER CHOICES ▾	RESPONSES ▾	RESPONSE PERCENTAGE ▾
Yes	18	23.08%
No	48	61.54%
N/A	12	15.38%

**QUESTION 07** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

# Do you believe that there should be a limit to the number of docks a property owner has?

(Information: Currently state law limits the number of docks that can be located on a single lot to one dock except when the lot contains greater than the minimum shore frontage of 200 ft.)

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**



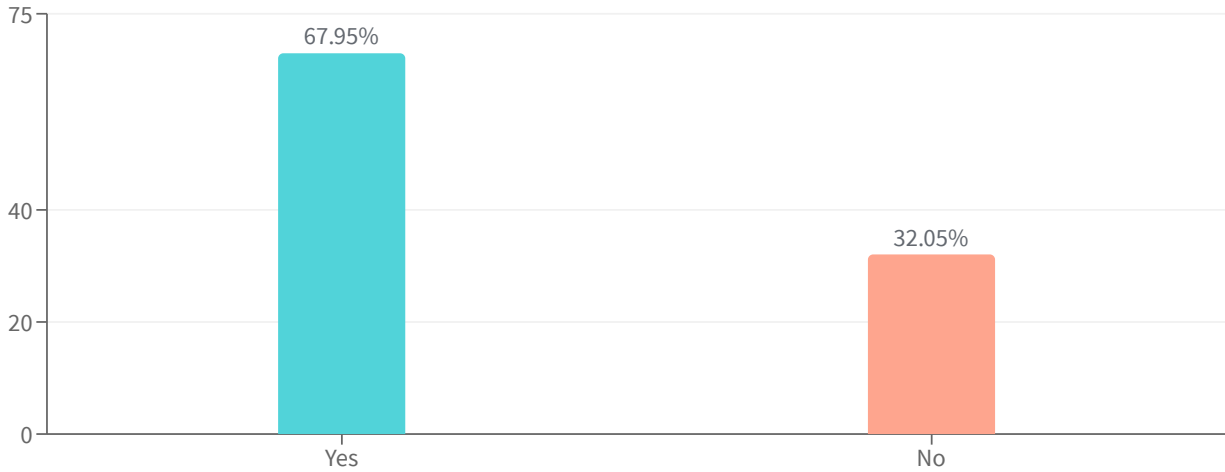
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	RESPONSE PERCENTAGE
Yes	64	82.05%
No	14	17.95%



**QUESTION 08** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Do you believe there should be a limitation to the size of docks a Sabbathday Lake property owner has on the lake?

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**



**ANSWER CHOICES** ▾

**RESPONSES** ▾

**RESPONSE PERCENTAGE** ▾

Yes

53

67.95%

No

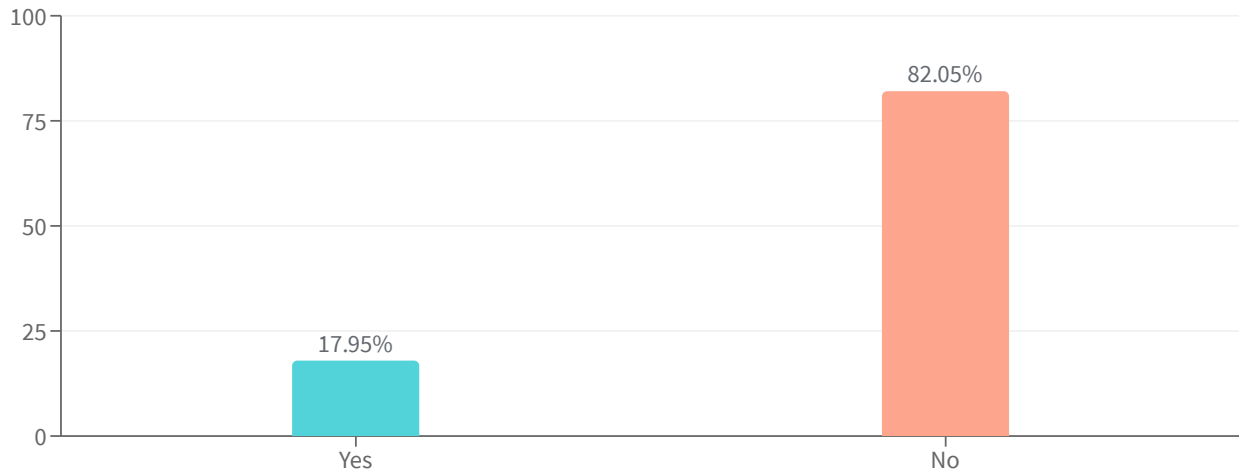
25

32.05%

**QUESTION 09** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

In addition to those leased at Outlet Beach, would you be in favor of lake residents leasing docks/slips?

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**



**ANSWER CHOICES** ▾

**RESPONSES** ▾

**RESPONSE PERCENTAGE** ▾

Yes

14

17.95%

No

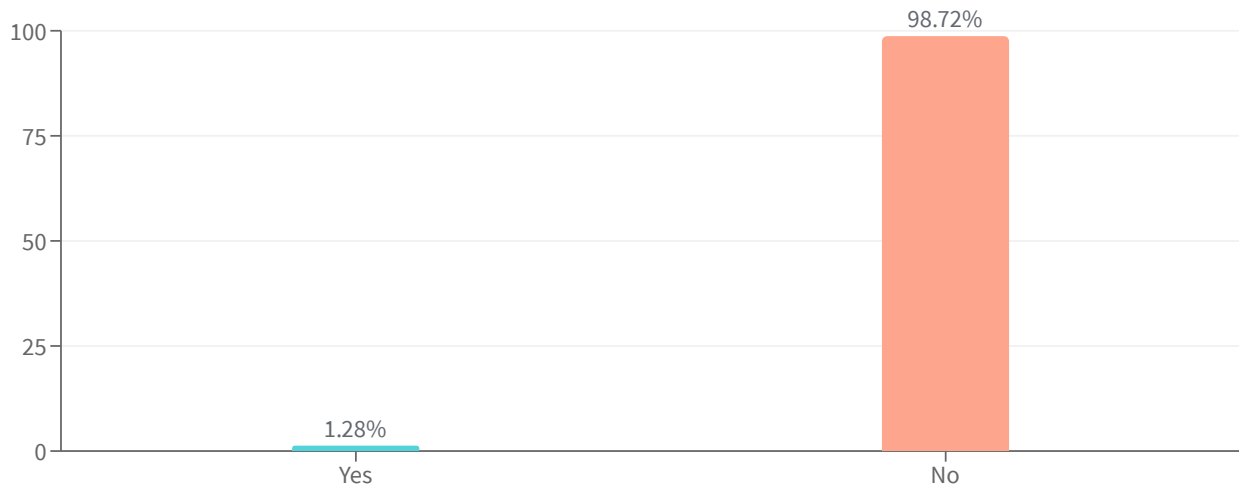
64

82.05%

QUESTION 10 | MULTIPLE CHOICE

# Should commercial marinas be allowed on Sabbathday Lake?

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**



ANSWER CHOICES ▾

RESPONSES ▾

RESPONSE PERCENTAGE ▾

Yes

1

1.28%

No

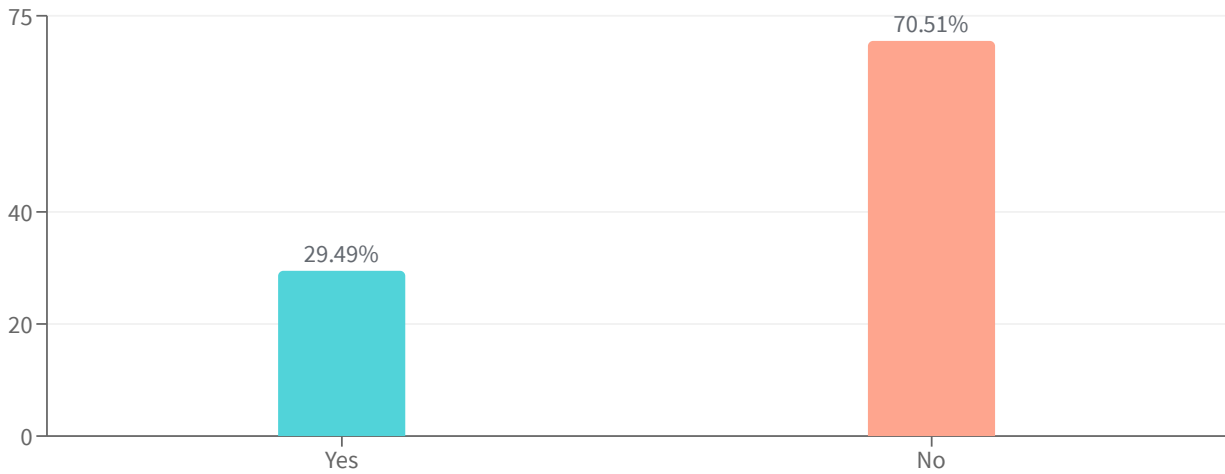
77

98.72%

**QUESTION 11** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Do you access Sabbathday Lake through a deeded right of way?

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**



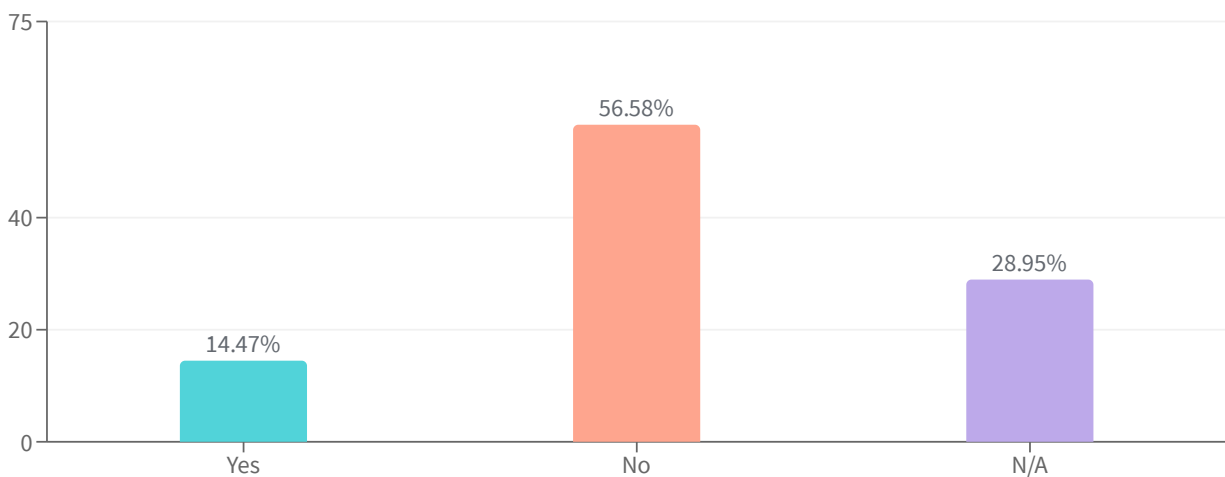
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	RESPONSE PERCENTAGE
Yes	23	29.49%
No	55	70.51%

**QUESTION 12 | MULTIPLE CHOICE**

## Do you have a dock on a the right of way?

(Information: According to state law easements or rights-of-way established on or after January 1, 2018. The owner of an easement or right-of-way leading to or touching upon a water body does not have the right by implication to construct a dock on the easement or right-of-way or use the easement or right-of-way to facilitate the construction of a dock on the water body if: A. The easement or right-of-way is originally established in a written instrument executed on or after January 1, 2018; B. The instrument granting or reserving the easement or right-of-way does not expressly include the right to construct a dock on the easement or right-of-way or the right to use the easement or right-of-way to facilitate the construction of a dock on the water body.)

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**



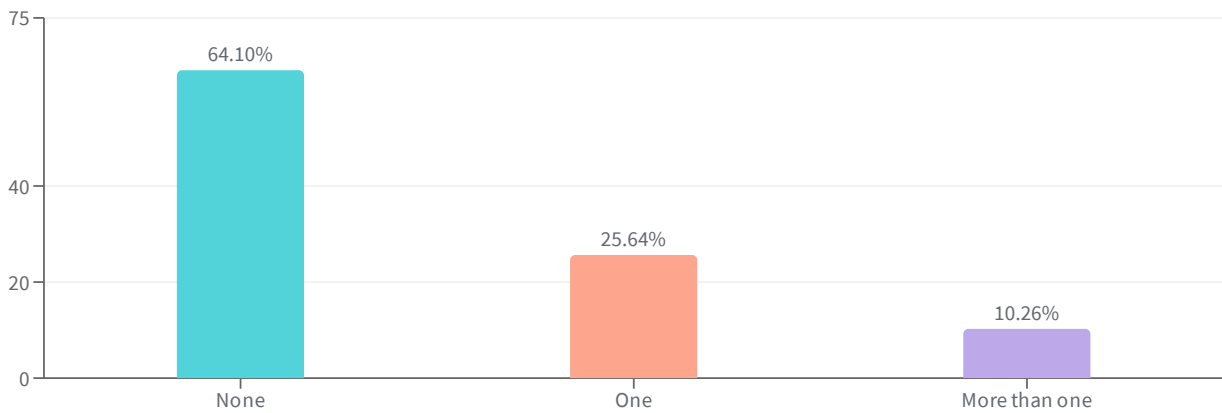
ANSWER CHOICES ▾	RESPONSES ▾	RESPONSE PERCENTAGE ▾
Yes	11	14.47%
No	43	56.58%
N/A	22	28.95%

**QUESTION 13** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Do you have a float or dock/raft that is anchored off the shoreline, and if so, how many moorings do you have where boats or rafts are located?

(Information: State regulation provides No mooring will be placed so that it or the object moored thereto extends beyond the Water Safety Zone (200 ft from the shore line or 1/3 the distance to the opposite shore whichever is less.)

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**

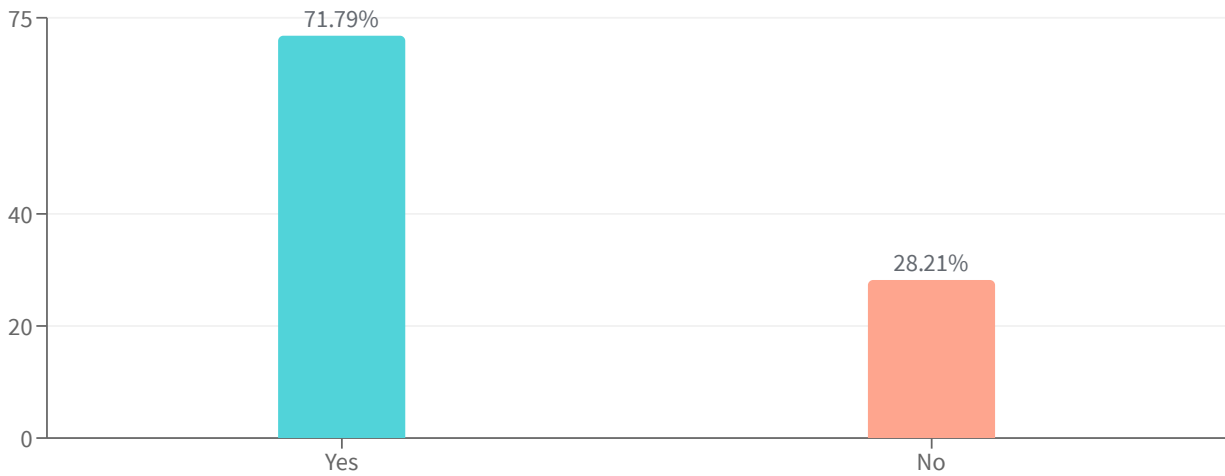


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	RESPONSE PERCENTAGE
None	50	64.10%
One	20	25.64%
More than one	8	10.26%

**QUESTION 14** | MULTIPLE CHOICE

Are you aware that the State of Maine has speed and noise level regulations for all watercraft? including jet skis?

Answered: **78** Skipped: **0**



**ANSWER CHOICES** ▾

**RESPONSES** ▾

**RESPONSE PERCENTAGE** ▾

Yes

56

71.79%

No

22

28.21%