

# Gallatin County Local Government Study Commission

## 2025 Gallatin County Voter Survey

### Weighted Frequencies and Marginal Percentages

#### Survey Information

##### Survey data collection period:

October 17 - November 30, 2025

##### Data collected by:

Social Data Collection and Analysis Services (Social Data), Montana State University Bozeman

##### Researcher:

Dr. Eric Raile, Montana State University Bozeman

##### Notes:

Out of 11,000 questionnaires mailed, 868 questionnaires could not be delivered as addressed. The survey yielded 1,552 responses from individuals who indicated they were registered voters in Gallatin County (after removing 37 individuals who indicated they were not or did not respond to the question). The corresponding response rate is 1,552 out of 10,132, or 15.3%.

##### Weighting Procedure:

To ensure the sample of respondents reflected the population of registered voters in Gallatin County, the sample was weighted using iterative proportional fitting. Also known as raking, this procedure forces sample margins to approximate population margins for key demographic traits. These traits included 2024 presidential vote, age, gender, highest level of education attained, and population size of registered voters in each precinct in the county. Based on these characteristics, a weight was assigned to each respondent. Respondents from under-sampled demographic groups received larger weights to ensure their attitudes and behaviors were fairly represented in the aggregate results. For instance, before applying survey weights, 35.6% of survey respondents reported voting for Donald J. Trump for president in 2024. After applying survey weights, the weighted proportion of survey respondents that voted for President Trump in 2024 was 41.5%, closer to the true value of 46.8%. These values do not quite match due to allowing for “Did not vote” and “Don’t recall” options in the survey. After removing those responses, the vote for President Trump in the data is 45.2%.

# Summary of Variables

## Variable Name: status

Question Text: Are you a registered voter in Gallatin County, Montana?

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 1: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for *status* variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
No	0	0.00%
Yes	1552	100.00%
TOTAL	1552	

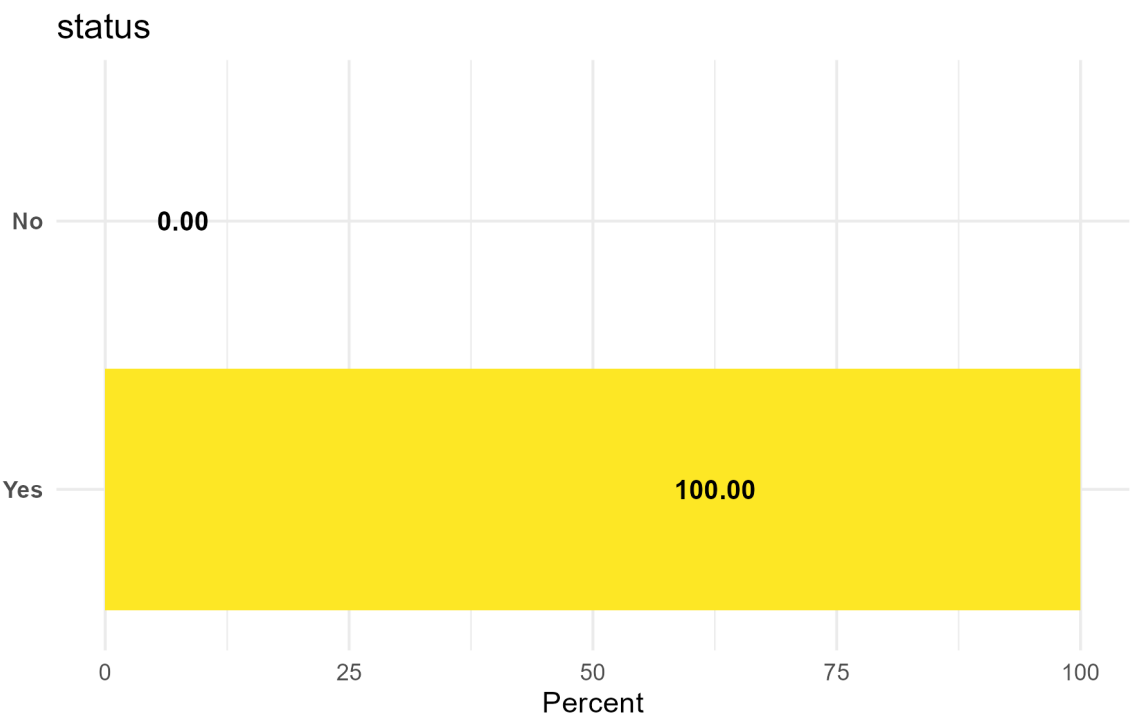


Figure 1: Marginal percentages plot for 'status' variable

## Variable Name: length

**Question Text:** How long have you lived in Gallatin County?

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

*Table 2: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **length** variable*

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Less than 1 year	61	3.93%
1-2 years	52	3.35%
3-5 years	231	14.89%
6-10 years	244	15.73%
More than 10 years	960	61.90%
I no longer live in Gallatin County	3	0.19%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1551	

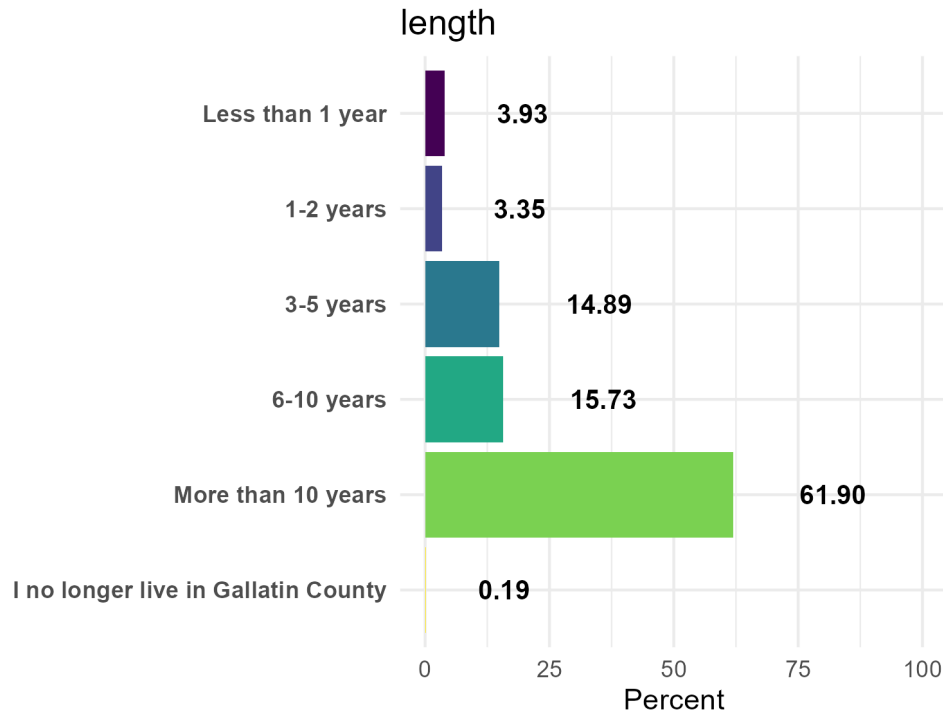


Figure 2: Marginal percentages plot for '**length**' variable

### Variable Name: intpub

**Question Text:** On average, how often do you interact with Gallatin County government employees (for example, county courts, attorneys, sheriff, clerks, health department, 911, weeds, treasurer/motor vehicle department, solid waste, fairgrounds)?

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 3: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **intpub** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Never	279	18.16%
Monthly or less frequently	1103	71.81%
Not daily but multiple times per month	113	7.36%
Daily or more frequently	41	2.67%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1536	

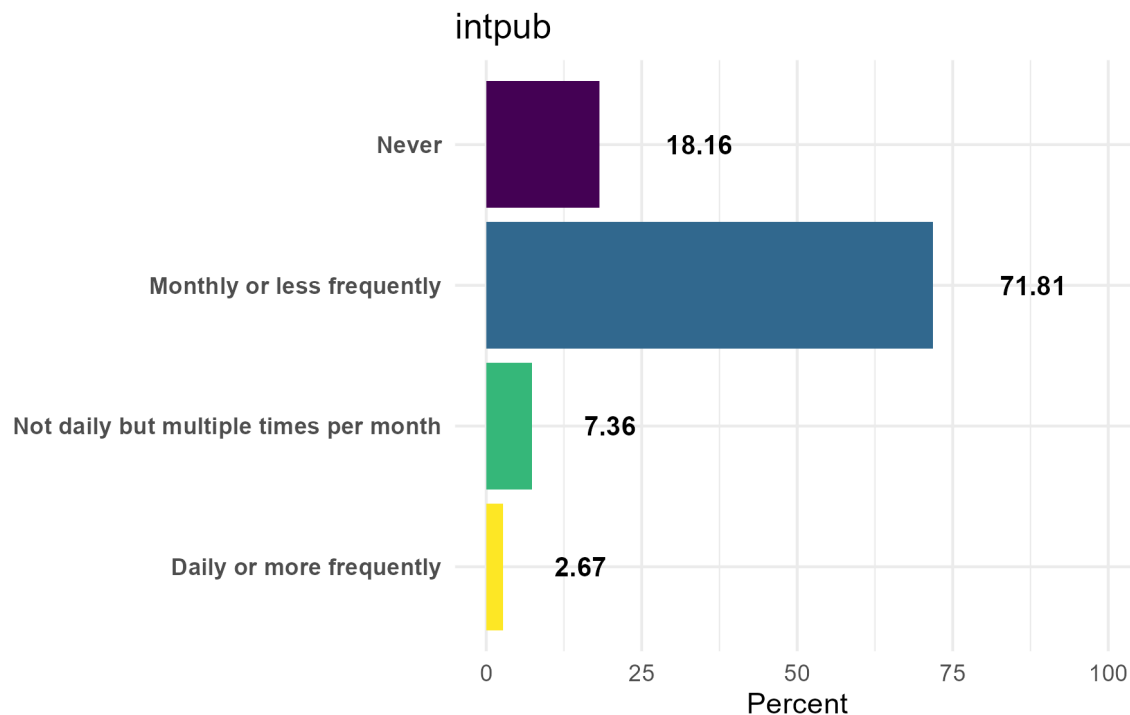


Figure 3: Marginal percentages plot for 'intpub' variable

### Variable Name: city

**Question Text:** Do you live within the city limits of one of the towns or cities in Gallatin County?

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

*Table 4: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **city** variable*

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
No	473	30.60%
Yes	1042	67.40%
Unsure	31	2.01%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1546	

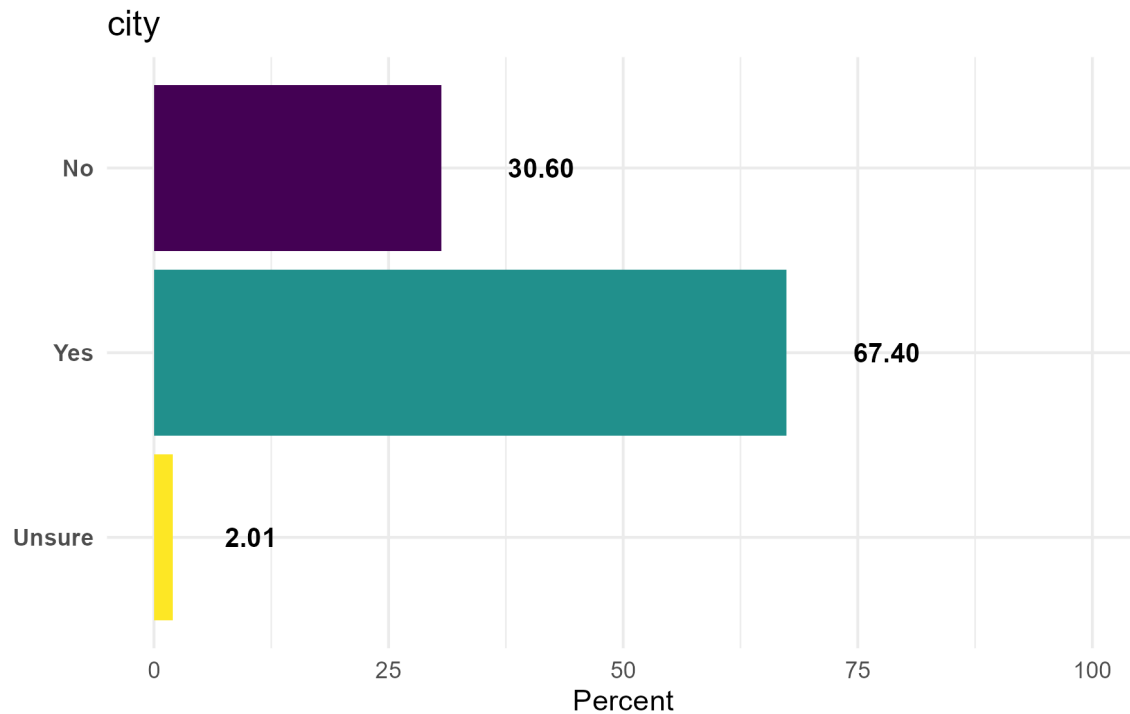


Figure 4: Marginal percentages plot for '**city**' variable

## Variable Name: taxp

**Question Text:** Do you pay property taxes in Gallatin County?

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

*Table 5: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **taxp** variable*

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
No	501	32.30%
Yes	983	63.38%
Unsure	67	4.32%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1551	

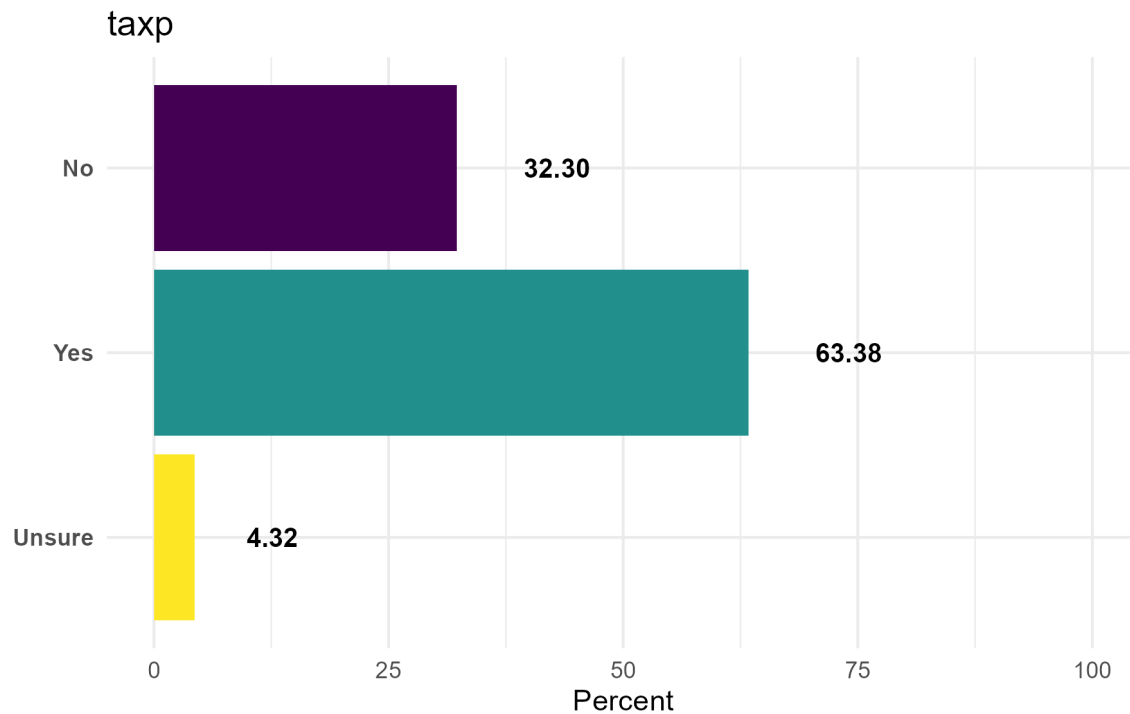


Figure 5: Marginal percentages plot for '**taxp**' variable

## Variable Name: ed

**Question Text:** What is the highest degree or level of school you have **completed**?

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

*Table 6: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **ed** variable*

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Less than high school	35	2.27%
High school diploma / GED	631	40.89%
Associate's / junior college degree	84	5.44%
Bachelor's degree	523	33.90%
Graduate degree	270	17.50%
Don't know	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1543	

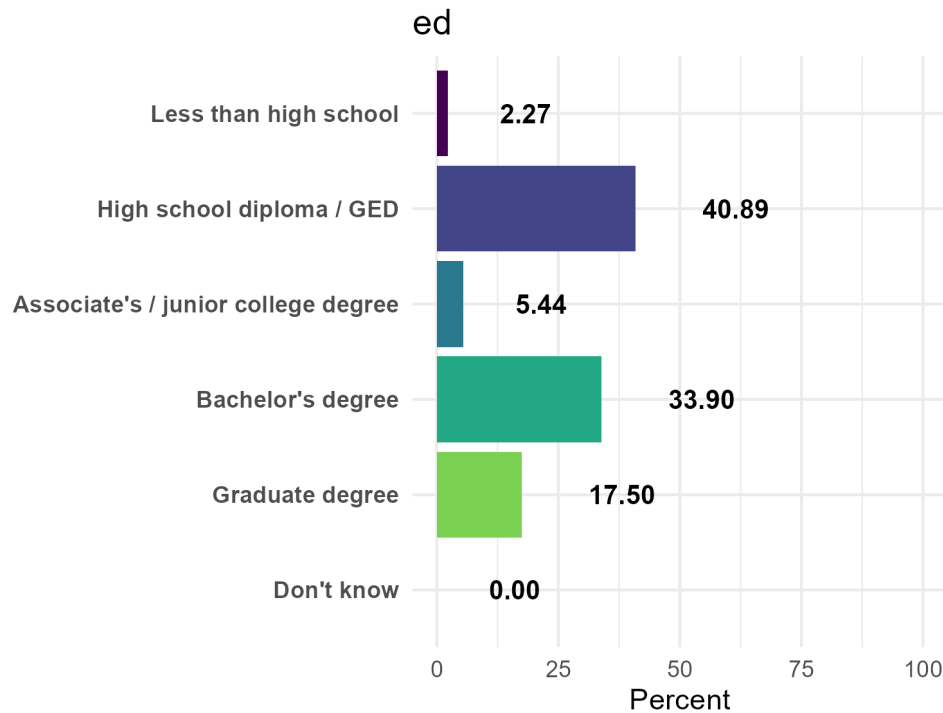


Figure 6: Marginal percentages plot for '**ed**' variable

## Variable Name: gender

Question Text: What is your gender?

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 7: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **gender** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Male	800	51.88%
Female	739	47.92%
Non-binary / other	3	0.19%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1542	

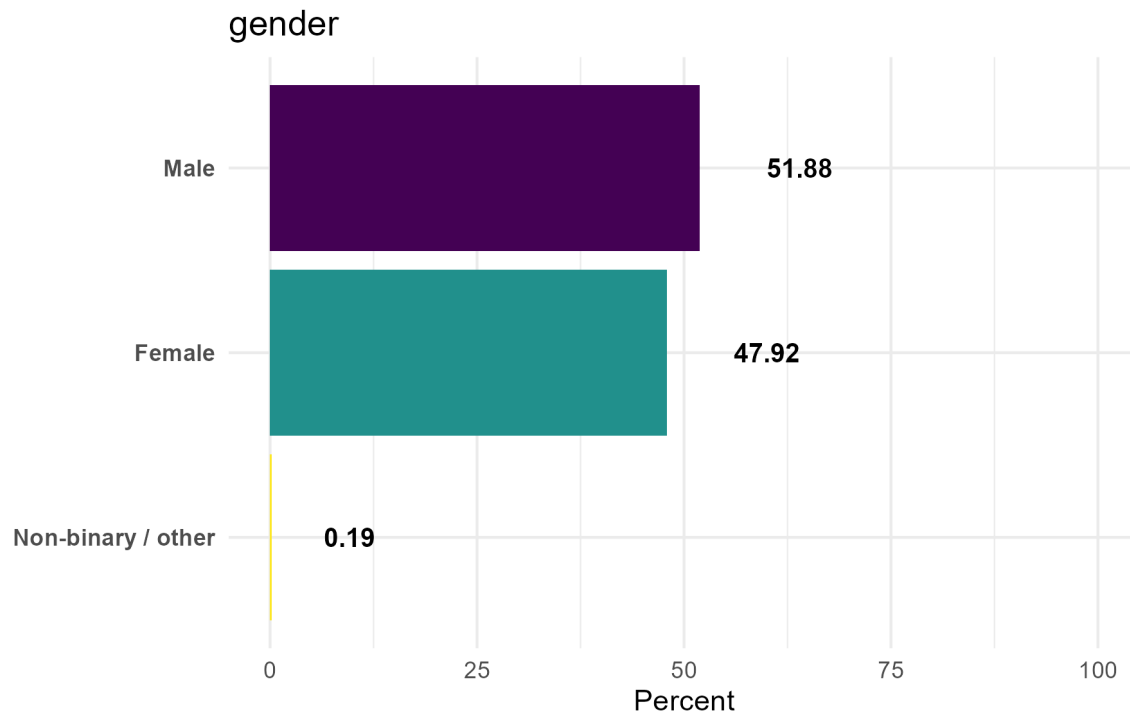


Figure 7: Marginal percentages plot for 'gender' variable



## Variable Name: age

**Question Text:** Which of the following age categories applies to you?

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

*Table 8: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **age** variable*

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
18-24	294	18.99%
25-34	324	20.93%
35-44	260	16.80%
45-54	226	14.60%
55-64	175	11.30%
65-74	166	10.72%
75-84	77	4.97%
85+	26	1.68%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1548</b>	

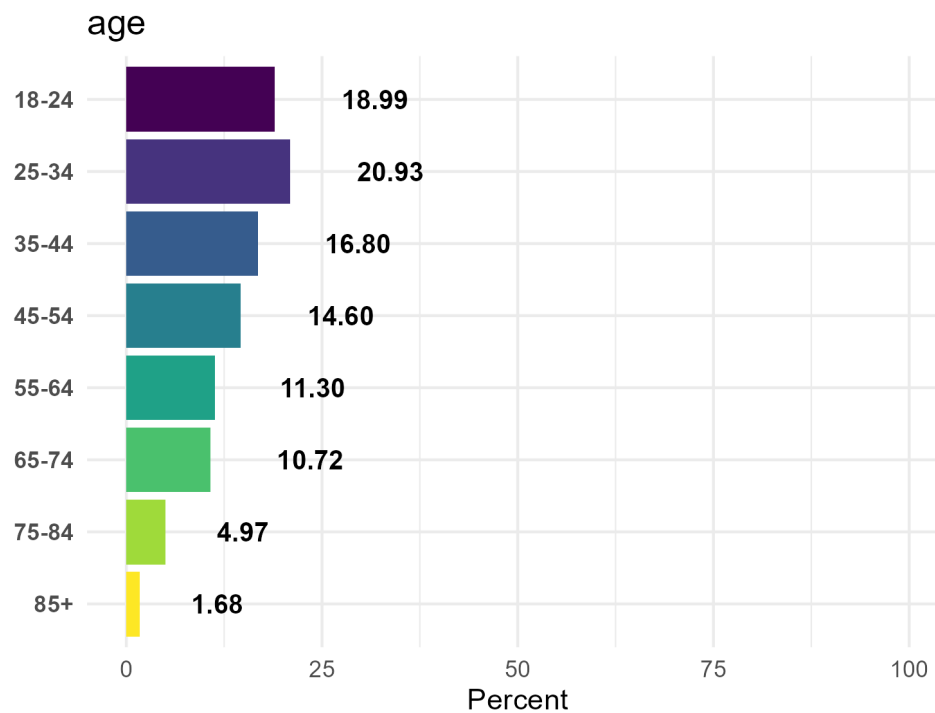


Figure 8: Marginal percentages plot for '**age**' variable

## Variable Name: presi

**Question Text:** For whom did you vote in the 2024 election for U.S. president?

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

*Table 9: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **presi** variable*

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Donald J. Trump, Republican	587	41.45%
Kamala D. Harris, Democrat	618	43.64%
Robert F. Kennedy Jr., We the People	27	1.91%
Chase Oliver, Libertarian	12	0.85%
Jill Stein, Green	7	0.49%
Other / none of the above	49	3.46%
Did not vote	82	5.79%
Don't recall	34	2.40%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1416	

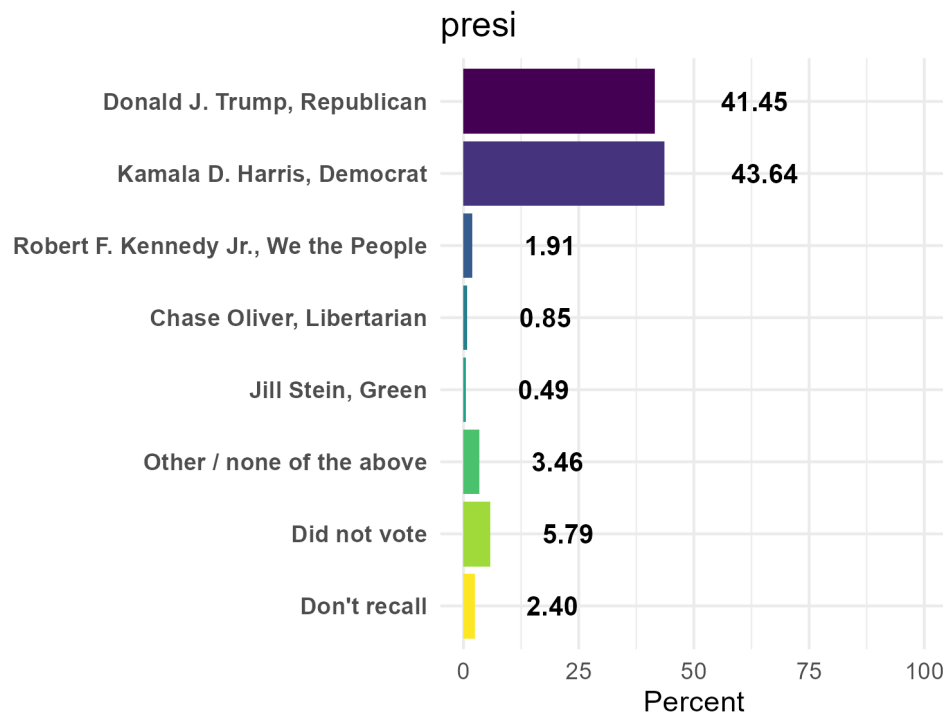


Figure 9: Marginal percentages plot for 'presi' variable

## Variable Name: infproc

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Information provided by Gallatin County government is accessible.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 10: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for *infproc* variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	18	1.17%
Disagree	65	4.22%
Slightly disagree	116	7.53%
Slightly agree	274	17.78%
Agree	663	43.02%
Strongly agree	64	4.15%
Unsure	341	22.13%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1541	

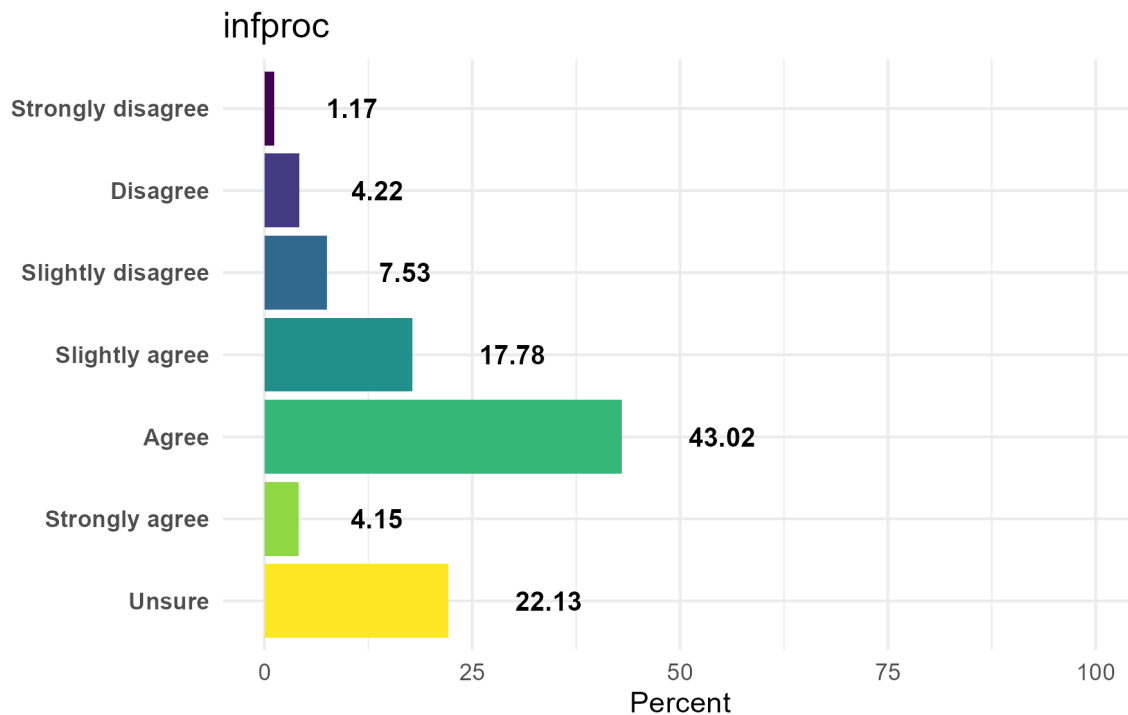


Figure 10: Marginal percentages plot for 'infproc' variable

### Variable Name: techfri

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Technologies used by Gallatin County government are user friendly.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 11: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **techfri** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	27	1.76%
Disagree	88	5.72%
Slightly disagree	144	9.36%
Slightly agree	295	19.18%
Agree	533	34.66%
Strongly agree	41	2.67%
Unsure	410	26.66%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1538</b>	

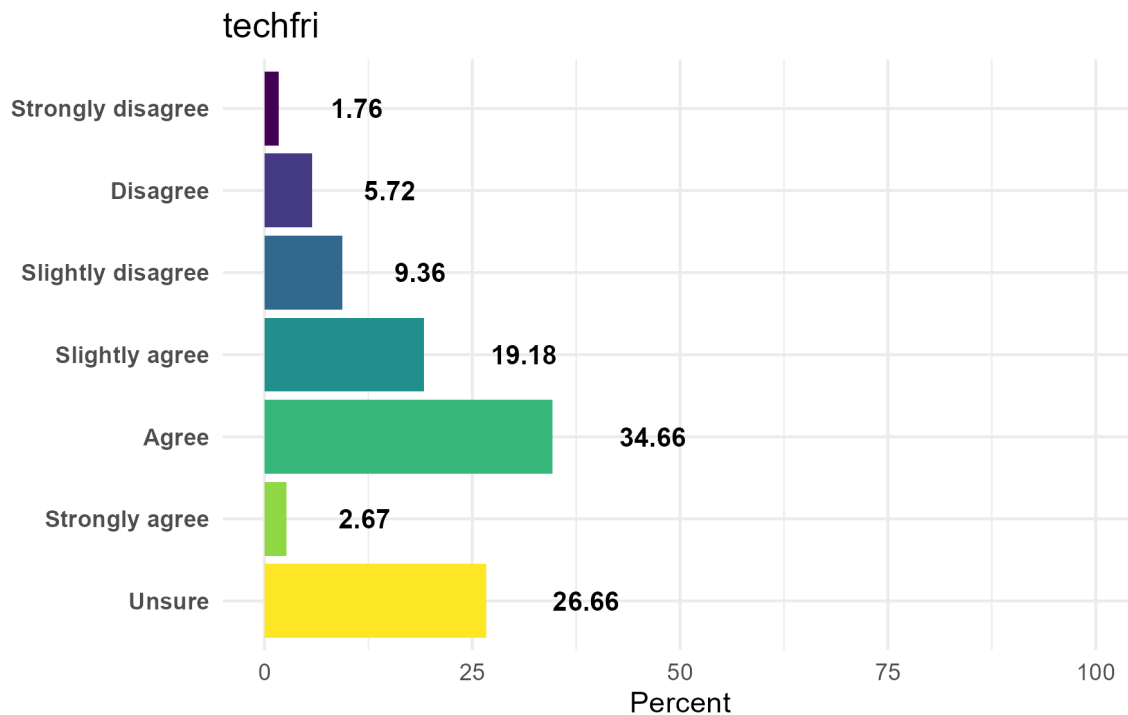


Figure 11: Marginal percentages plot for 'techfri' variable

### Variable Name: empacc

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - The employees of Gallatin County government departments and offices are accessible.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 12: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **empacc** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	35	2.27%
Disagree	69	4.48%
Slightly disagree	81	5.26%
Slightly agree	306	19.88%
Agree	583	37.88%
Strongly agree	96	6.24%
Unsure	369	23.98%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1539	

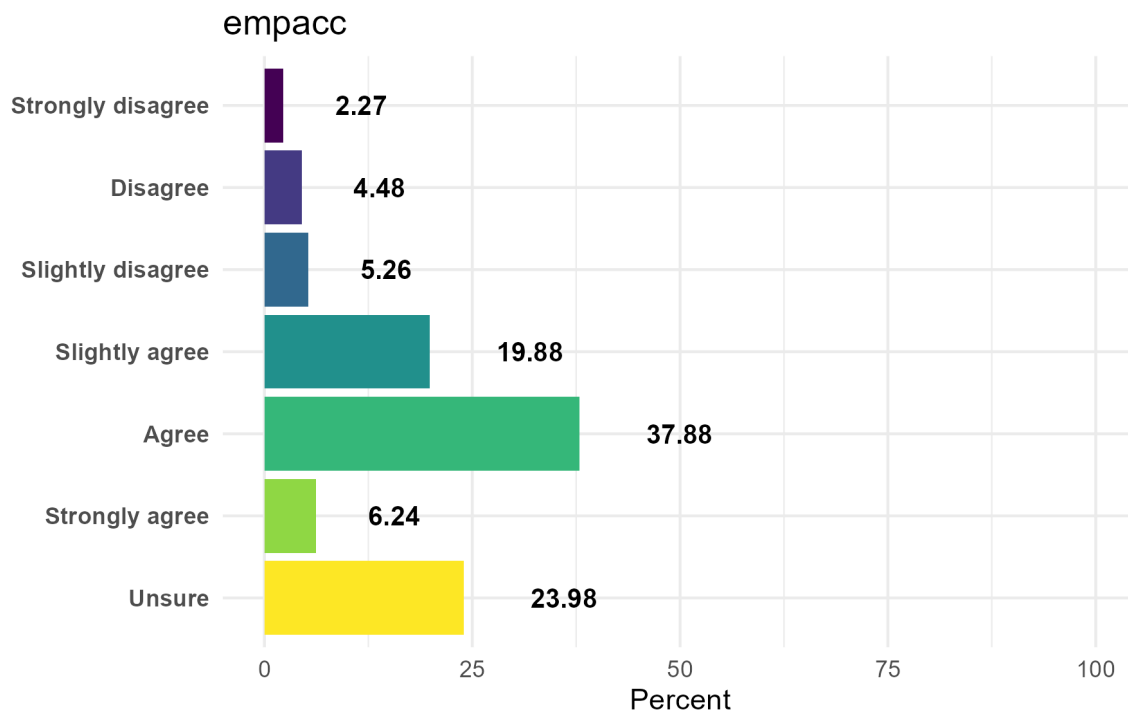


Figure 12: Marginal percentages plot for 'empacc' variable

## Variable Name: whocon

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - It is clear whom to contact in Gallatin County government when I need something.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 13: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **whocon** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	67	4.36%
Disagree	163	10.61%
Slightly disagree	226	14.70%
Slightly agree	348	22.64%
Agree	389	25.31%
Strongly agree	26	1.69%
Unsure	318	20.69%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1537	

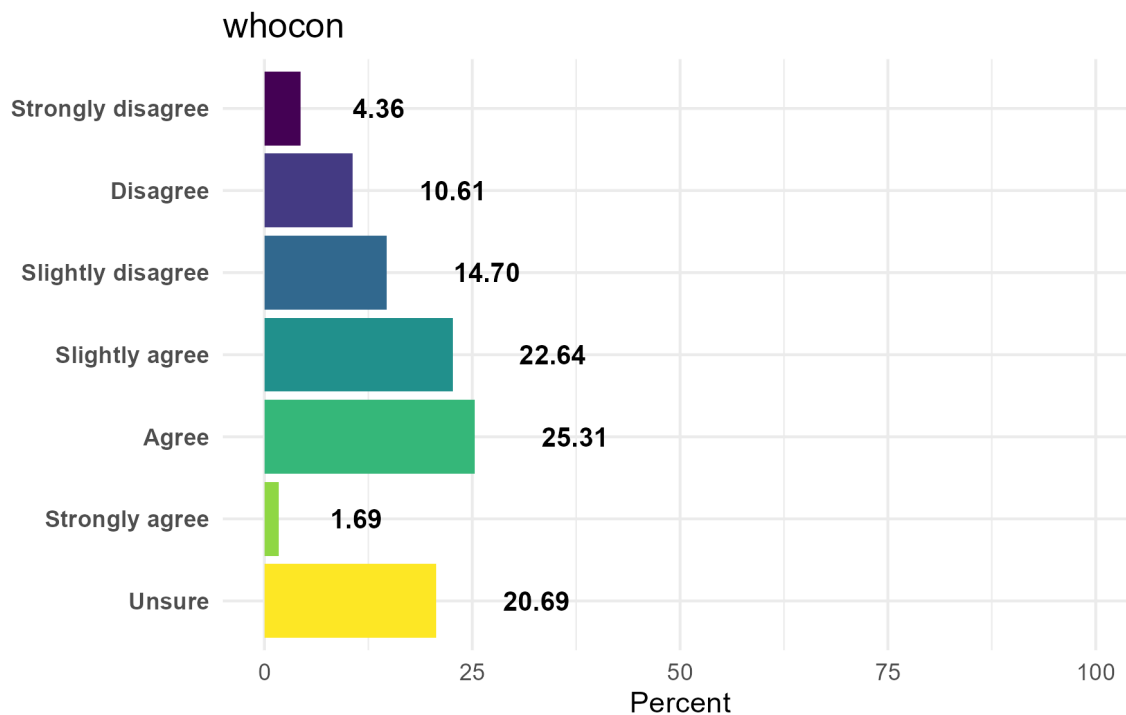


Figure 13: Marginal percentages plot for 'whocon' variable

### Variable Name: getans

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - I can get answers from Gallatin County government when I need them.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 14: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for *getans* variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	42	2.74%
Disagree	123	8.01%
Slightly disagree	172	11.21%
Slightly agree	346	22.54%
Agree	416	27.10%
Strongly agree	46	3.00%
Unsure	390	25.41%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1535	

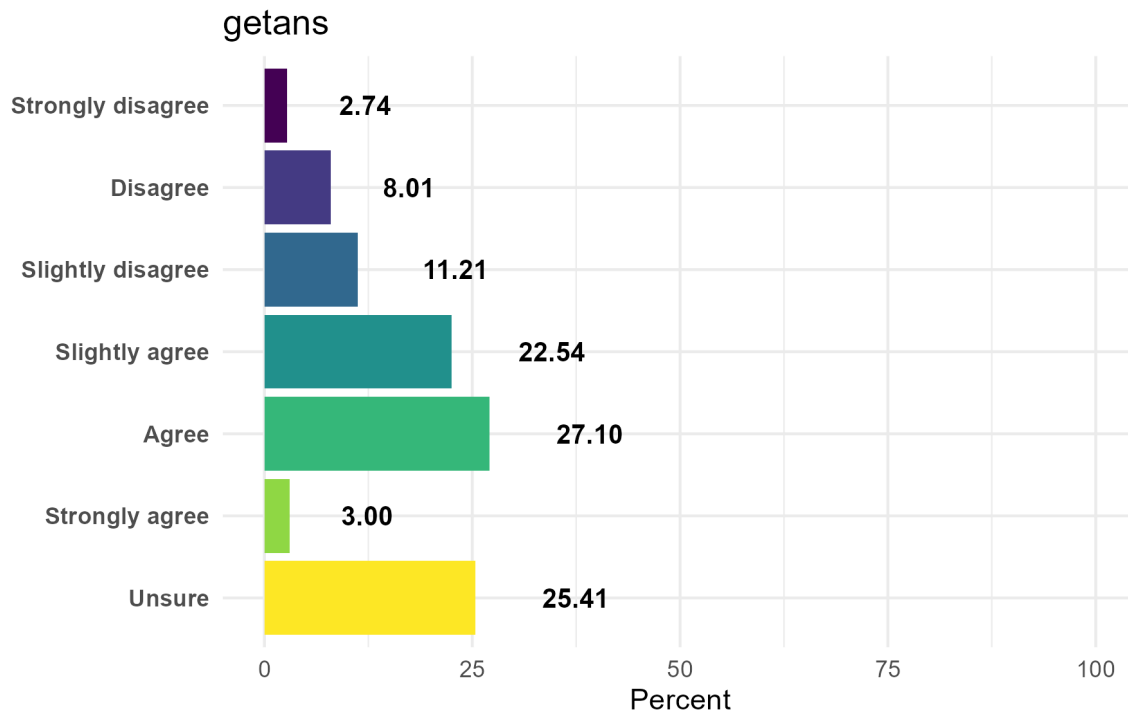


Figure 14: Marginal percentages plot for 'getans' variable

## Variable Name: cleinp

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Gallatin County government provides clear channels for input from the public.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 15: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **cleinp** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	86	5.61%
Disagree	167	10.90%
Slightly disagree	206	13.45%
Slightly agree	283	18.47%
Agree	284	18.54%
Strongly agree	25	1.63%
Unsure	481	31.40%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1532	

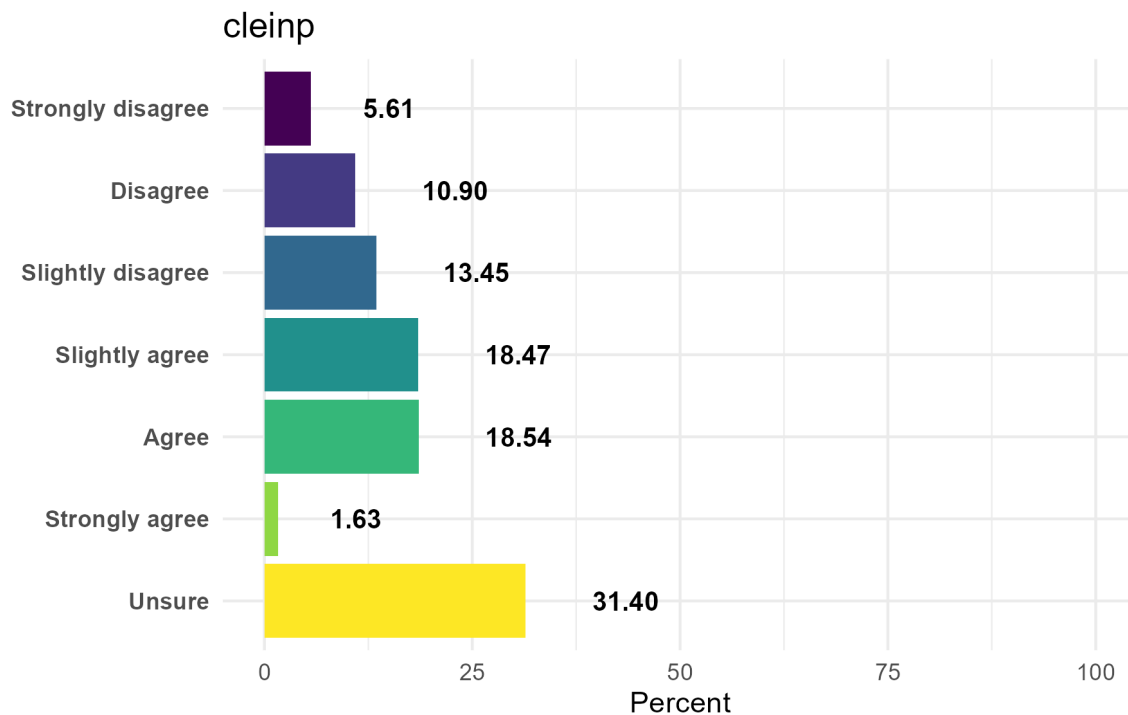


Figure 15: Marginal percentages plot for 'cleinp' variable



## Survey Question Summary for Variable Names: infproc, techfri, empacc, whocon, getans, cleinp

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

*Table 16: Percentages for Likert combined levels for **infproc**, **techfri**, **empacc**, **whocon**, **getans**, **cleinp** variables, sorted in descending order on the percent that indicated agreement with the statement.*

ITEM	DISAGREE	UNSURE	AGREE
Information provided by Gallatin County government is accessible.	12.92	22.13	64.95
The employees of Gallatin County government departments and offices are accessible.	12.01	23.98	64.00
Technologies used by Gallatin County government are user friendly.	16.84	26.66	56.51
I can get answers from Gallatin County government when I need them.	21.96	25.41	52.64
It is clear whom to contact in Gallatin County government when I need something.	29.67	20.69	49.64
Gallatin County government provides clear channels for input from the public.	29.96	31.40	38.64

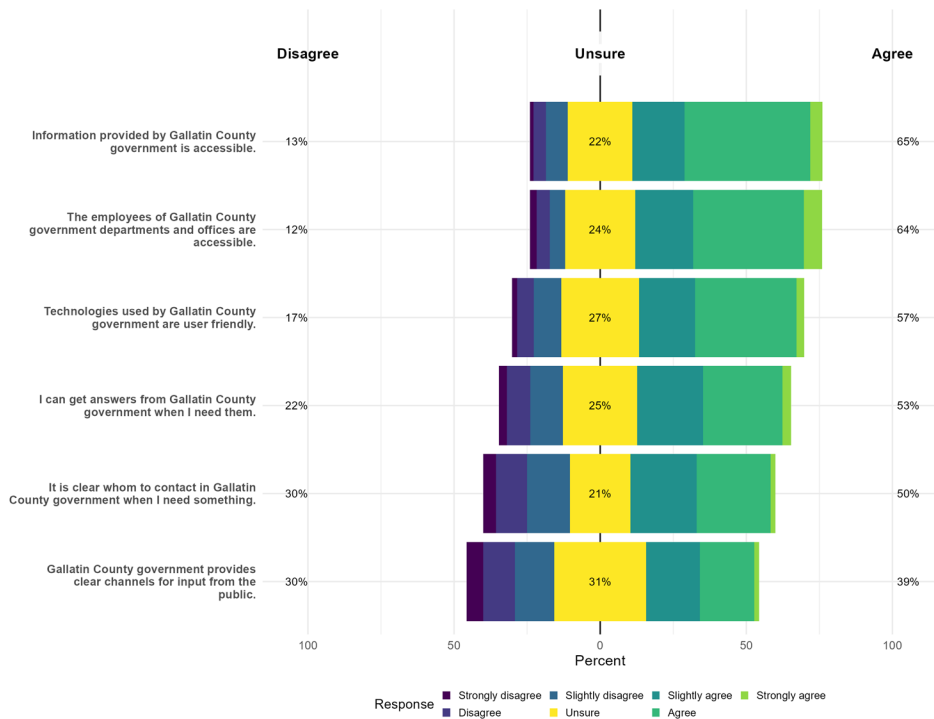


Figure 16: Likert plot for 'Accessibility' variables

## Variable Name: rescon

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Gallatin County government departments and offices are responsive to initial contacts.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 17: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **rescon** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	47	3.07%
Disagree	79	5.17%
Slightly disagree	91	5.95%
Slightly agree	267	17.46%
Agree	404	26.42%
Strongly agree	49	3.20%
Unsure	592	38.72%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1529	

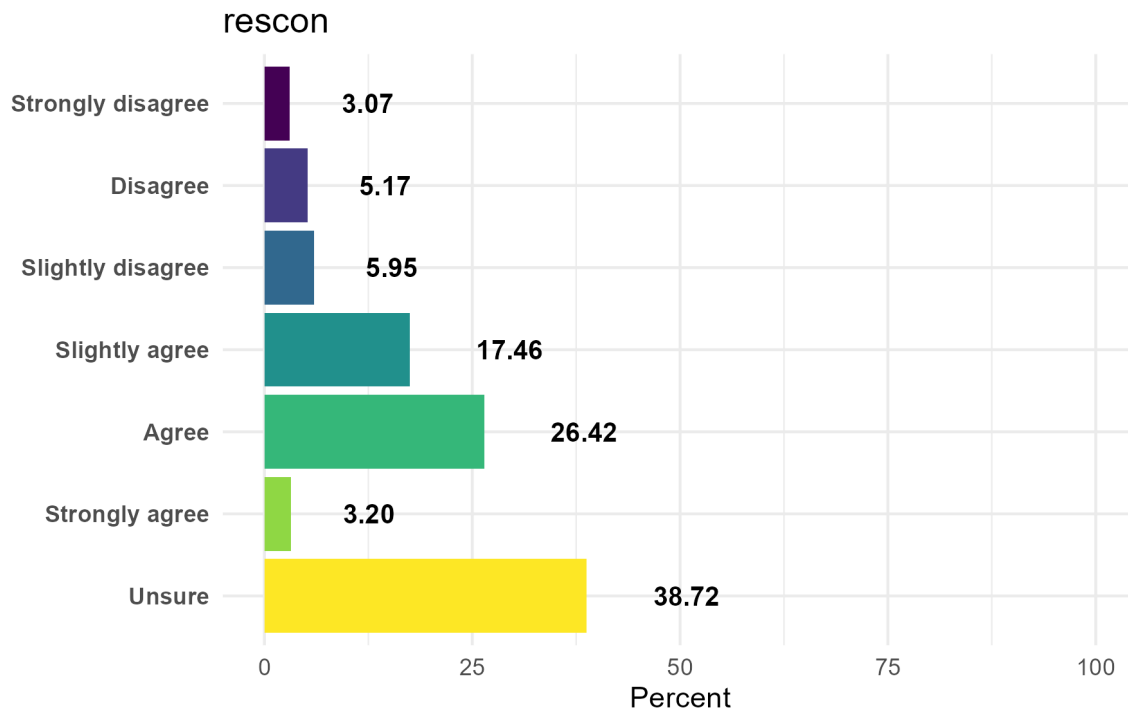


Figure 17: Marginal percentages plot for '**rescon**' variable

## Variable Name: consat

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Gallatin County government deals with concerns in a **satisfactory** manner.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 18: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **consat** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	62	4.06%
Disagree	106	6.95%
Slightly disagree	173	11.34%
Slightly agree	235	15.40%
Agree	393	25.75%
Strongly agree	26	1.70%
Unsure	531	34.80%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1526	

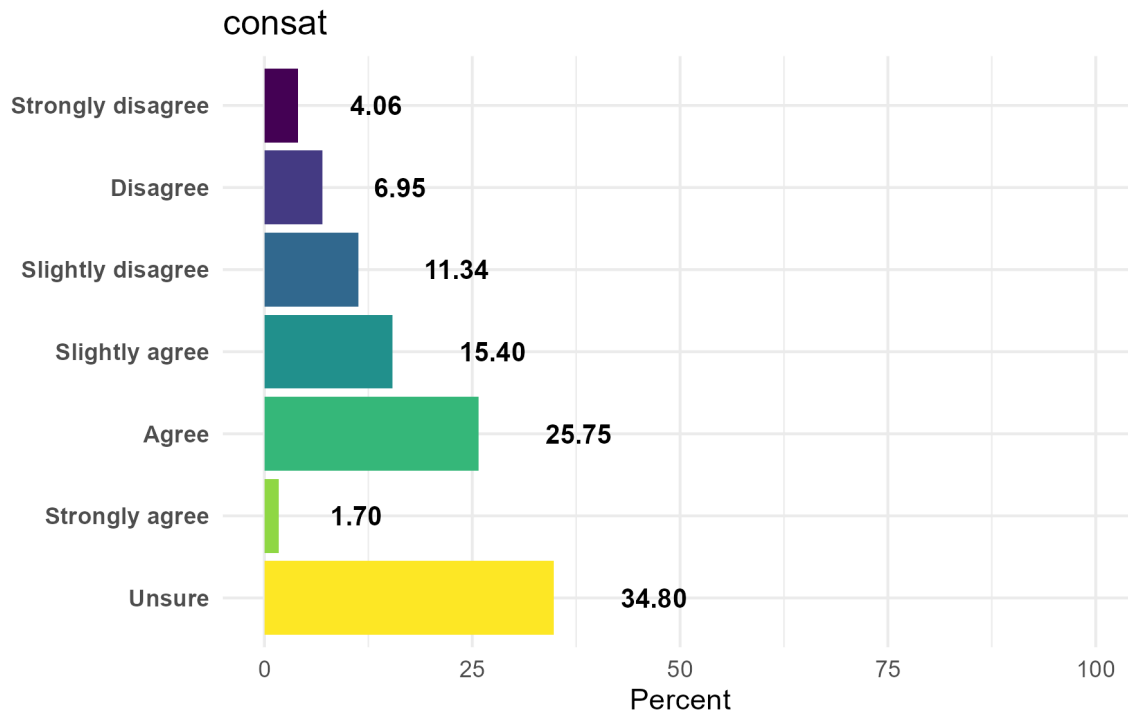


Figure 18: Marginal percentages plot for 'consat' variable

### Variable Name: **contim**

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Gallatin County government deals with concerns in a **timely** manner.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 19: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **contim** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	73	4.78%
Disagree	137	8.97%
Slightly disagree	161	10.54%
Slightly agree	236	15.46%
Agree	344	22.53%
Strongly agree	24	1.57%
Unsure	552	36.15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1527	

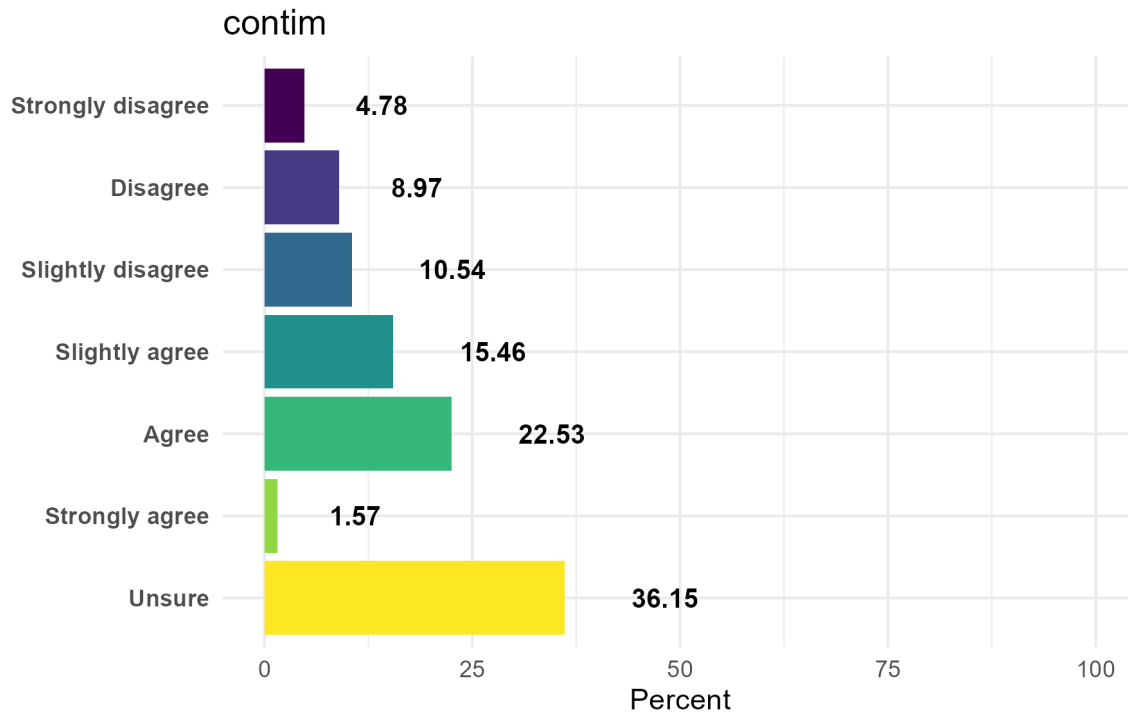


Figure 19: Marginal percentages plot for '**contim**' variable

### Variable Name: appcj

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Gallatin County employees have appropriate resources to carry out their jobs.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 20: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **appcj** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	36	2.36%
Disagree	69	4.53%
Slightly disagree	154	10.10%
Slightly agree	173	11.35%
Agree	293	19.23%
Strongly agree	35	2.30%
Unsure	764	50.13%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1524	

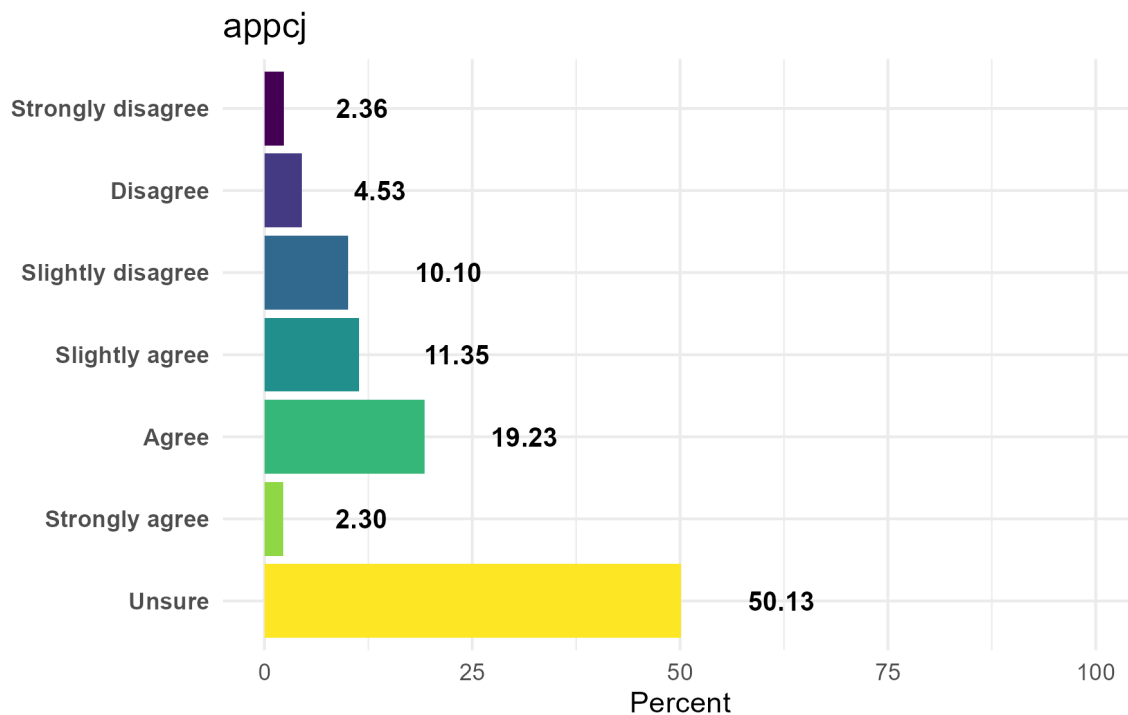


Figure 20: Marginal percentages plot for ‘**appcj**’ variable

### Variable Name: **effcr**

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Gallatin County government is generally effective in carrying out its responsibilities.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 21: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **effcr** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	46	3.02%
Disagree	103	6.76%
Slightly disagree	117	7.68%
Slightly agree	354	23.23%
Agree	501	32.87%
Strongly agree	21	1.38%
Unsure	382	25.07%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1524	

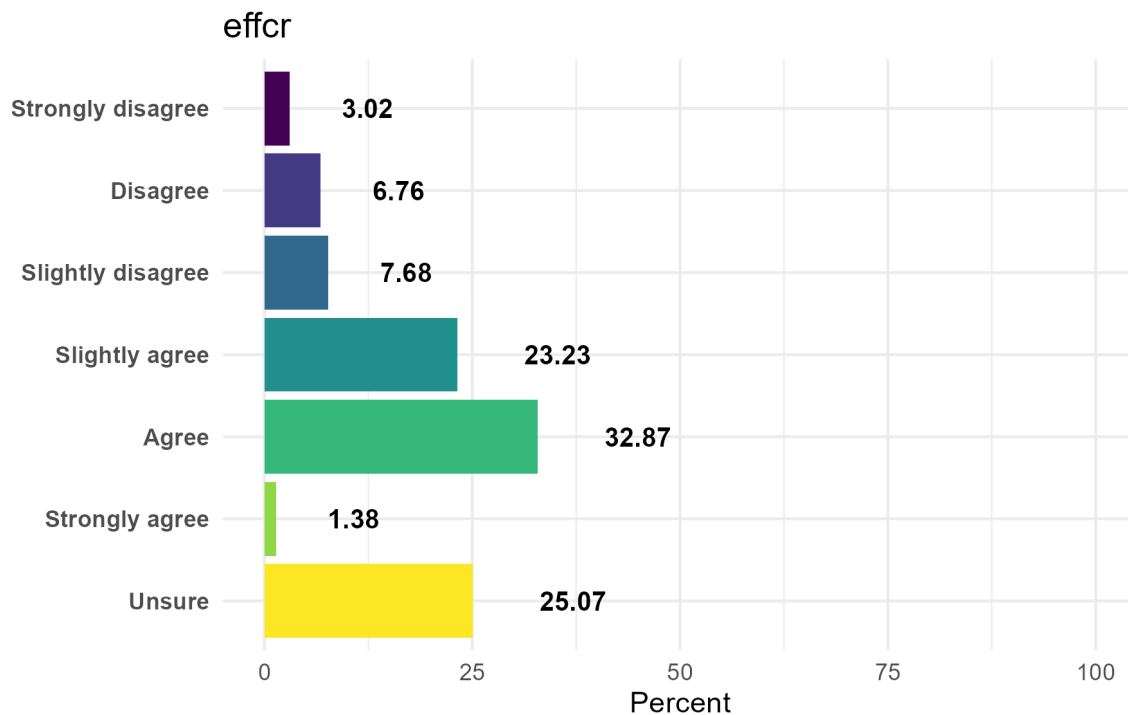


Figure 21: Marginal percentages plot for '**effcr**' variable

### Variable Name: meapd

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Gallatin County government meaningfully incorporates public input into its decisions.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 22: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **meapd** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	110	7.22%
Disagree	149	9.78%
Slightly disagree	215	14.11%
Slightly agree	265	17.39%
Agree	232	15.22%
Strongly agree	17	1.12%
Unsure	536	35.17%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1524	

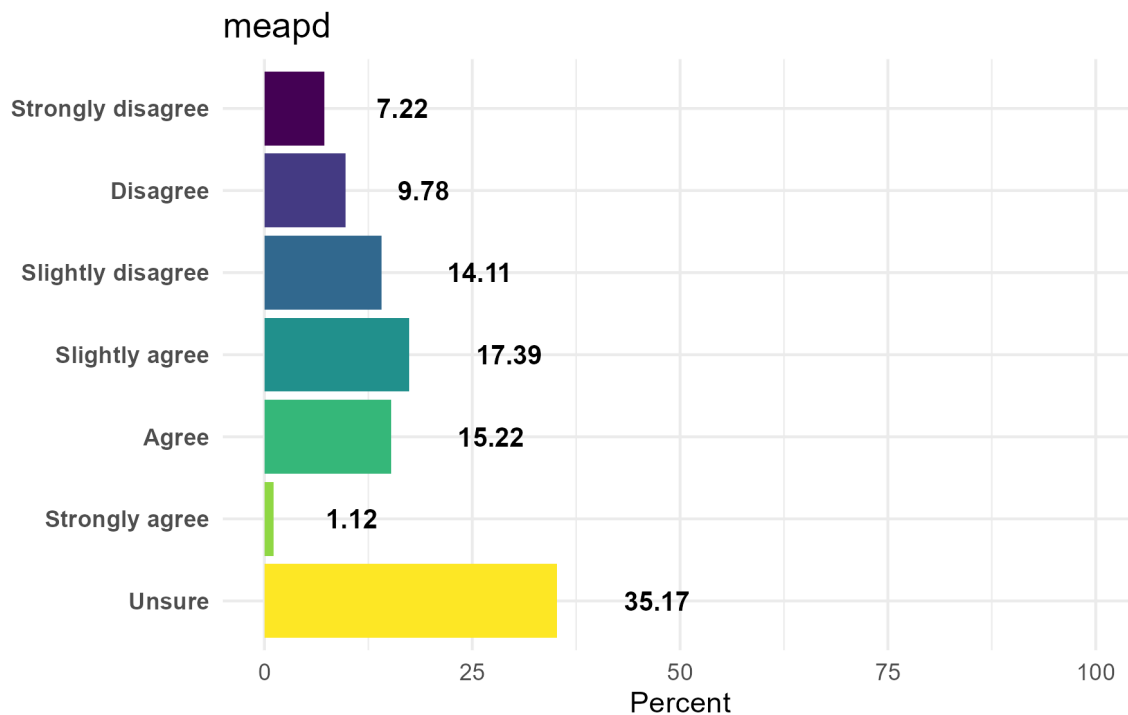


Figure 22: Marginal percentages plot for 'meapd' variable

## Survey Question Summary for Variable Names: *rescon, consat, contim, appcj, effcr, meapd*

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

*Table 23: Percentages for Likert combined levels for **rescon, consat, contim, appcj, effcr, meapd** variables, sorted in descending order on the percent that indicated agreement with the statement.*

ITEM	DISAGREE	UNSURE	AGREE
Gallatin County government is generally effective in carrying out its responsibilities.	17.46	25.07	57.48
Gallatin County government departments and offices are responsive to initial contacts.	14.19	38.72	47.08
Gallatin County government deals with concerns in a <b>satisfactory</b> manner.	22.35	34.80	42.85
Gallatin County government deals with concerns in a <b>timely</b> manner.	24.29	36.15	39.56
Gallatin County government meaningfully incorporates public input into its decisions.	31.11	35.17	33.73
Gallatin County employees have appropriate resources to carry out their jobs.	16.99	50.13	32.88

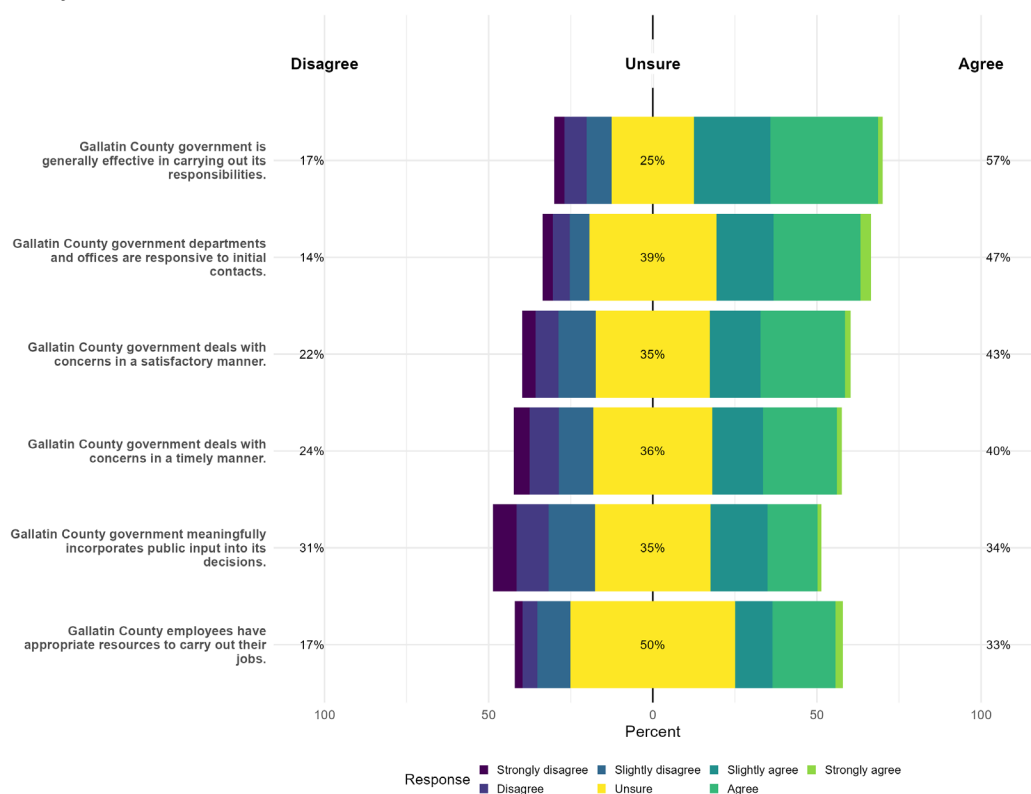


Figure 23: Likert plot for for "Responsiveness & Effectiveness" variables



## Variable Name: **prospn**

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - The departments and offices of Gallatin County government provide sufficient public notice.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 24: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **prospn** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	54	3.55%
Disagree	134	8.82%
Slightly disagree	161	10.60%
Slightly agree	283	18.63%
Agree	383	25.21%
Strongly agree	45	2.96%
Unsure	459	30.22%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1519	

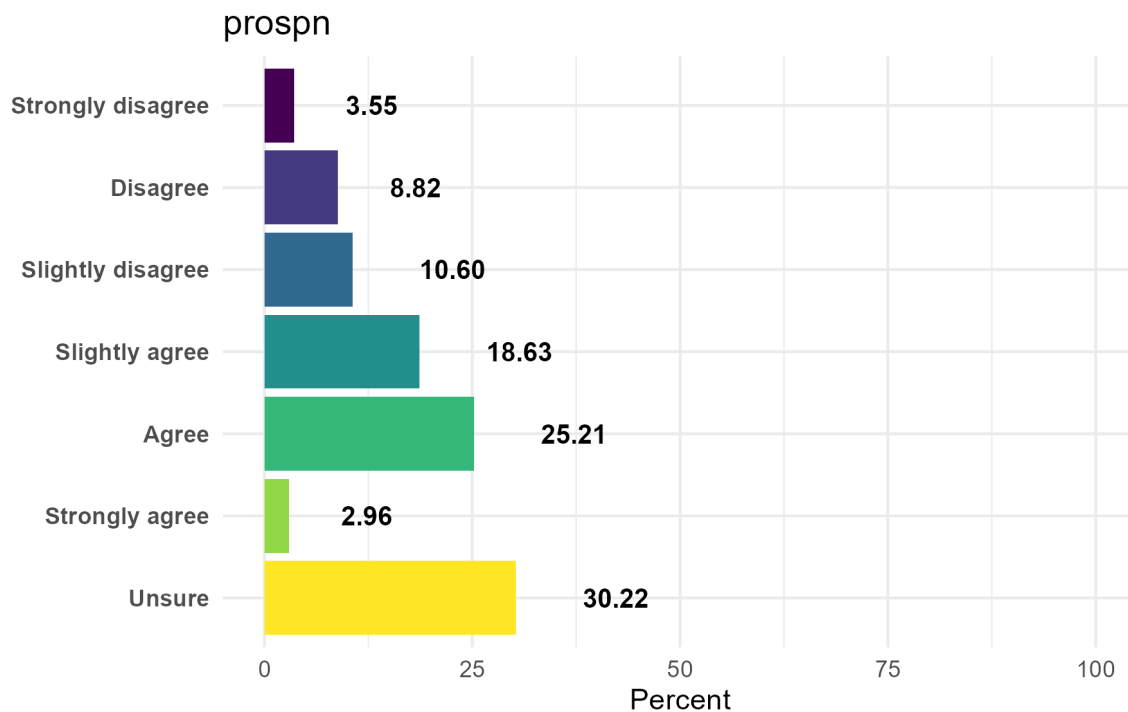


Figure 24: Marginal percentages plot for '**prospn**' variable

### Variable Name: govmdt

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - The departments and offices of Gallatin County government make decisions in transparent ways.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 25: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **govmdt** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	91	6.01%
Disagree	173	11.42%
Slightly disagree	285	18.81%
Slightly agree	257	16.96%
Agree	202	13.33%
Strongly agree	19	1.25%
Unsure	488	32.21%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1515	

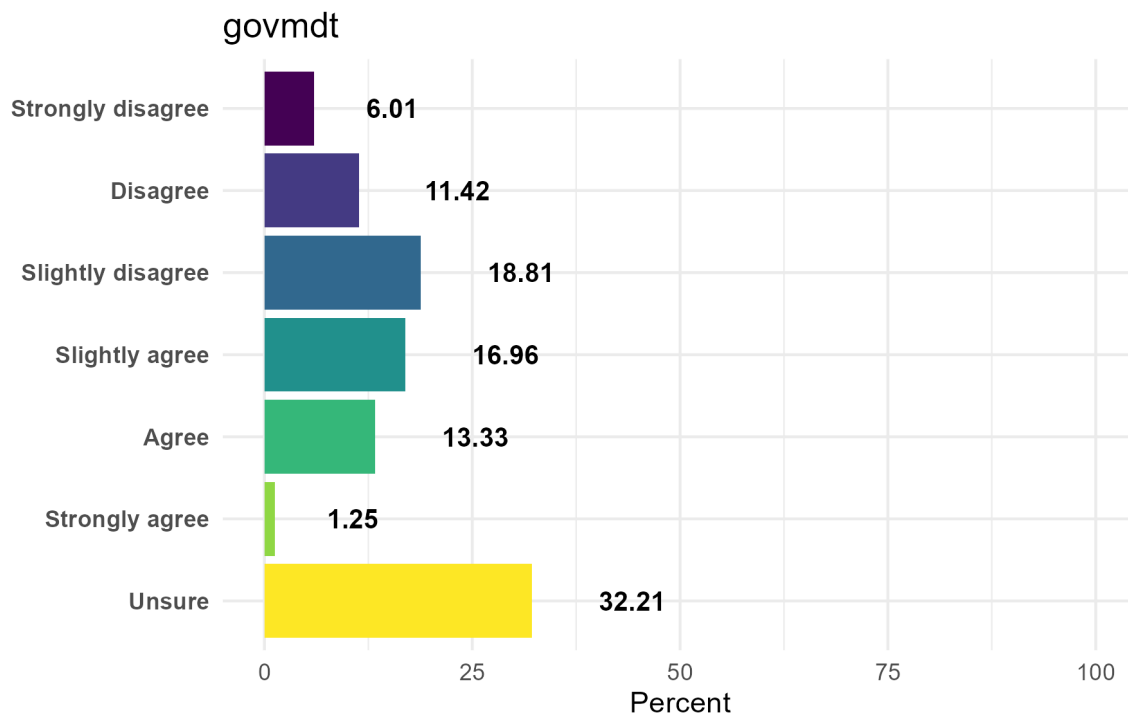


Figure 25: Marginal percentages plot for 'govmdt' variable

### Variable Name: **balgaa**

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - The checks and balances in Gallatin County government are adequate.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 26: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **balgaa** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	94	6.20%
Disagree	133	8.77%
Slightly disagree	158	10.42%
Slightly agree	206	13.58%
Agree	175	11.54%
Strongly agree	18	1.19%
Unsure	733	48.32%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1517	

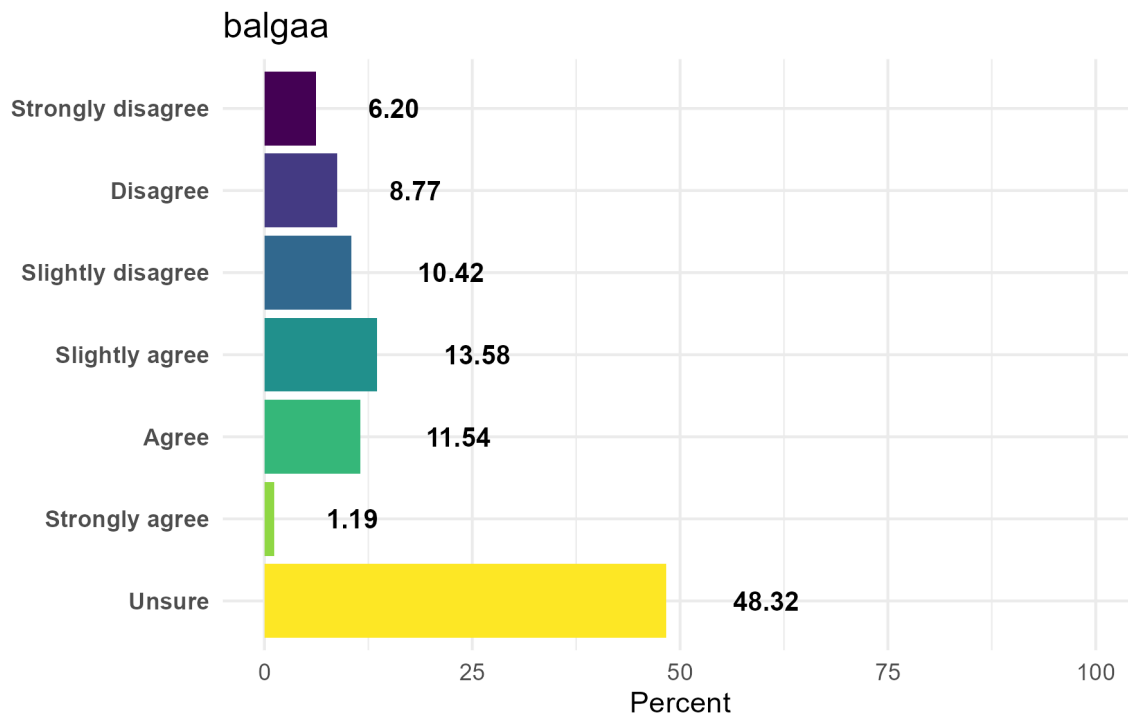


Figure 26: Marginal percentages plot for '**balgaa**' variable

### Variable Name: pbalance

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - The power balance between elected and nonelected offices in Gallatin County government is appropriate.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 27: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **pbalance** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	78	5.15%
Disagree	119	7.85%
Slightly disagree	131	8.64%
Slightly agree	188	12.40%
Agree	174	11.48%
Strongly agree	16	1.06%
Unsure	810	53.43%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1516	

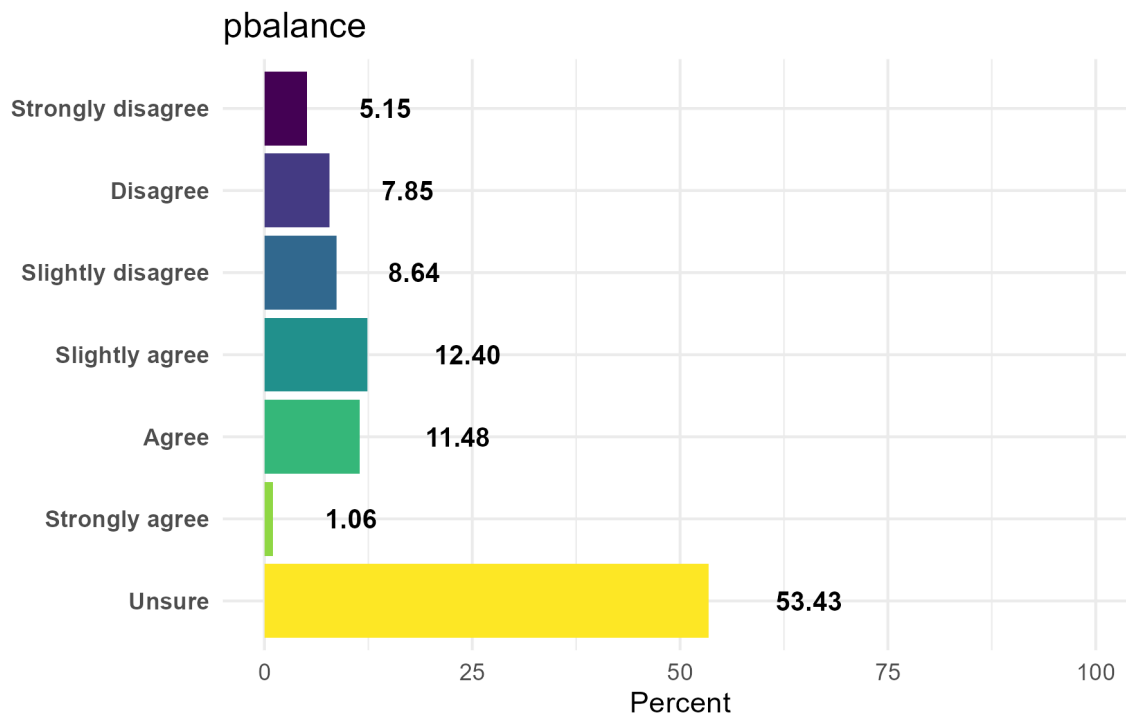


Figure 27: Marginal percentages plot for '**pbalance**' variable

## Variable Name: acctel

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Gallatin County **elected** officials are appropriately accountable to the public.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 28: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **acctel** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	70	4.61%
Disagree	190	12.52%
Slightly disagree	186	12.25%
Slightly agree	245	16.14%
Agree	285	18.77%
Strongly agree	34	2.24%
Unsure	508	33.47%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1518	

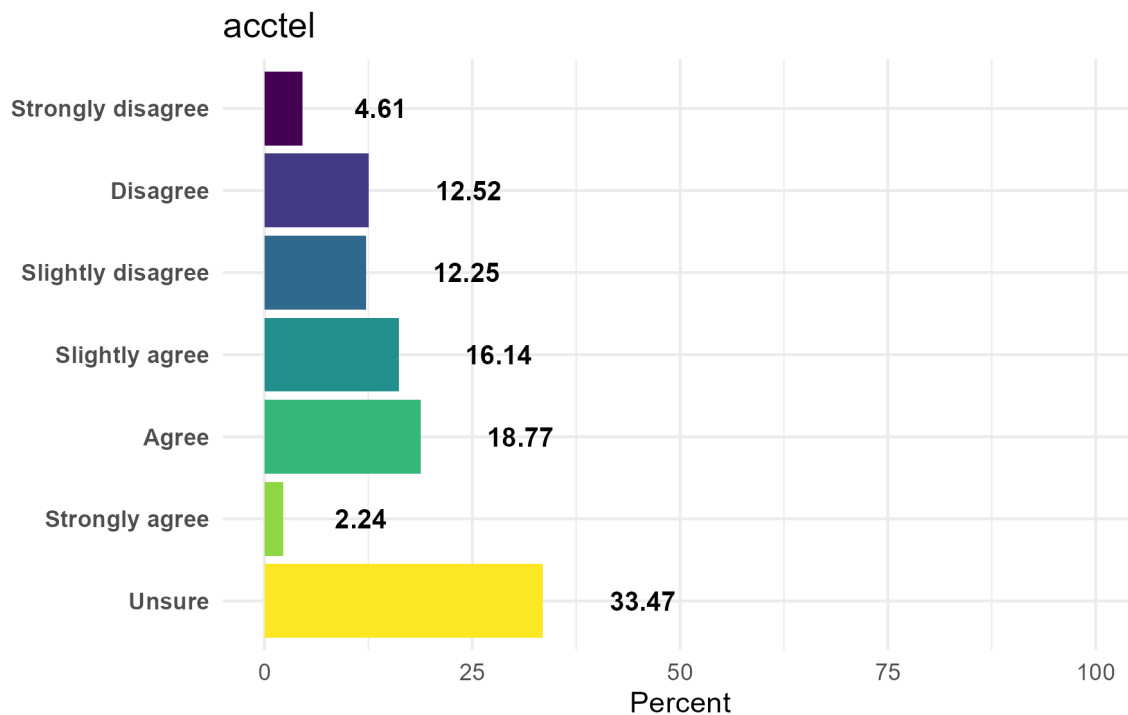


Figure 28: Marginal percentages plot for 'acctel' variable

## Variable Name: acctnel

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Gallatin County **nonelected** officials are appropriately accountable to the public.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 29: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **acctnel** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	104	6.87%
Disagree	125	8.26%
Slightly disagree	205	13.55%
Slightly agree	215	14.21%
Agree	226	14.94%
Strongly agree	22	1.45%
Unsure	616	40.71%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1513	

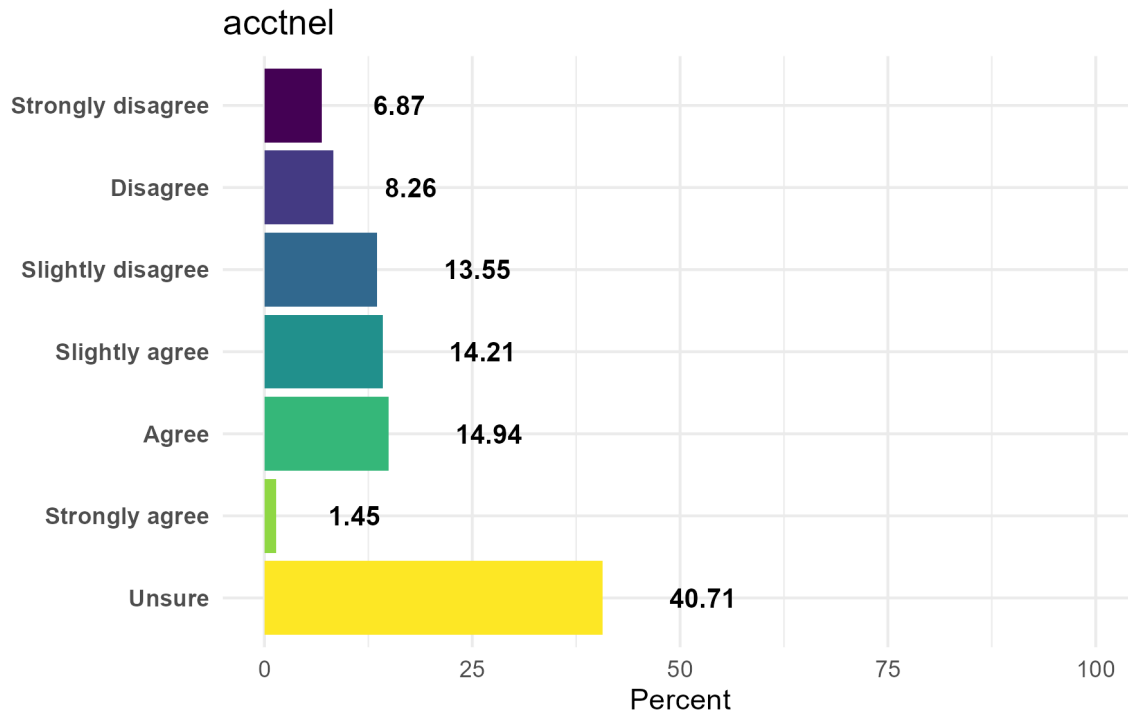


Figure 29: Marginal percentages plot for ‘acctnel’ variable

## Variable Name: cledec

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - It is clear who is responsible for decisions in Gallatin County government.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 30: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **cledec** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	132	8.70%
Disagree	290	19.12%
Slightly disagree	187	12.33%
Slightly agree	216	14.24%
Agree	201	13.25%
Strongly agree	25	1.65%
Unsure	466	30.72%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1517	

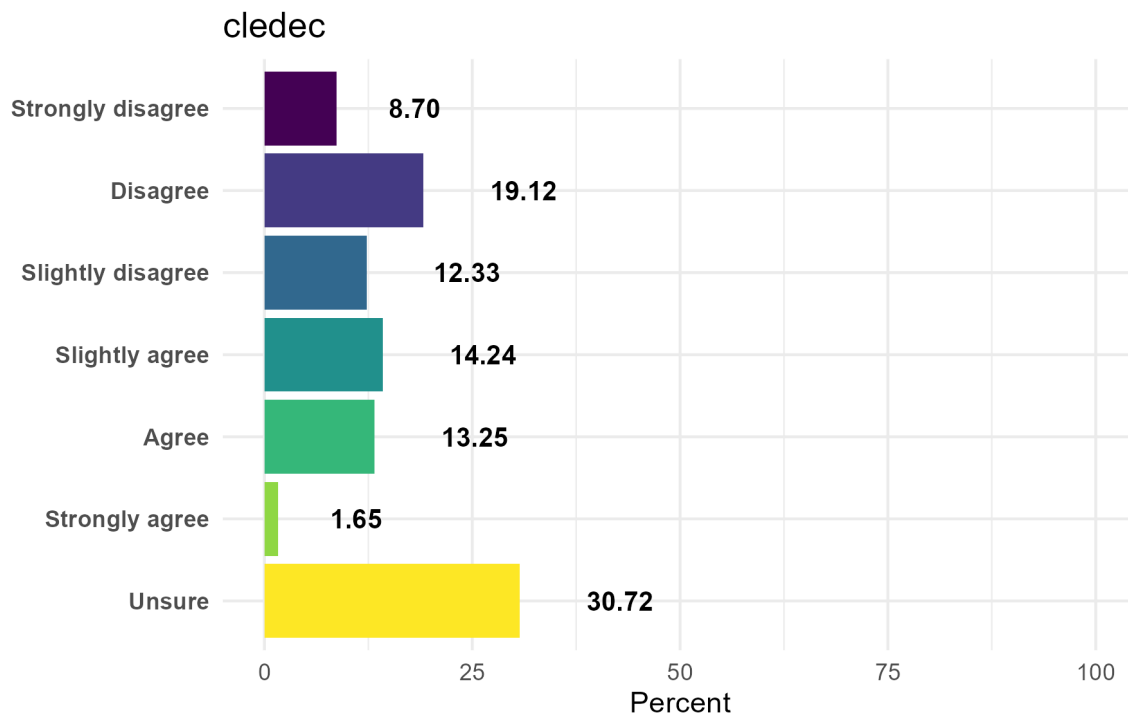


Figure 30: Marginal percentages plot for 'cledec' variable

### Variable Name: function

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - The current structure of Gallatin County government still functionally meets the needs of Gallatin County citizens.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 31: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **function** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	144	9.48%
Disagree	146	9.61%
Slightly disagree	187	12.31%
Slightly agree	283	18.63%
Agree	272	17.91%
Strongly agree	35	2.30%
Unsure	452	29.76%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1519	

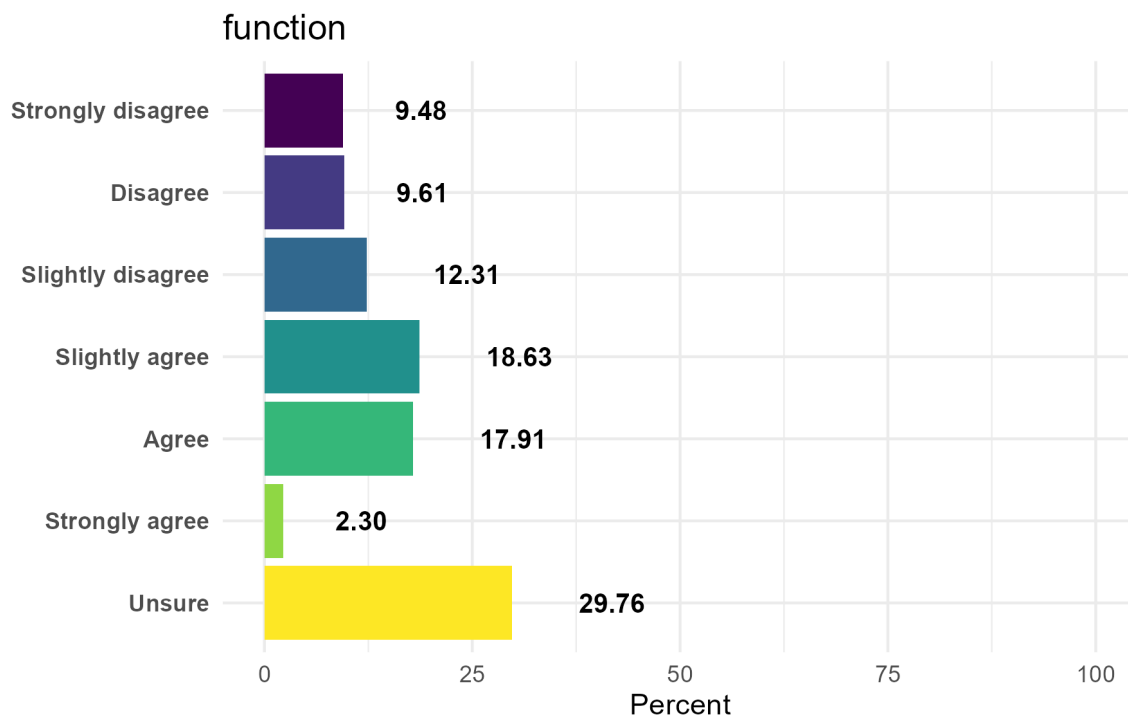


Figure 31: Marginal percentages plot for ‘function’ variable



## Survey Question Summary for Variable Names: **prospn, govmdt, balgaa, pbalance, acctel, acctnel, cledec, function**

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

*Table 32: Percentages for Likert combined levels for **prospn, govmdt, balgaa, pbalance, acctel, acctnel, cledec, function** variables, sorted in descending order on the percent that indicated agreement with the statement.*

ITEM	DISAGREE	UNSURE	AGREE
The departments and offices of Gallatin County government provide sufficient public notice.	22.97	30.22	46.80
The current structure of Gallatin County government still functionally meets the needs of Gallatin County citizens.	31.40	29.76	38.84
Gallatin County <b>elected</b> officials are appropriately accountable to the public.	29.38	33.47	37.15
The departments and offices of Gallatin County government make decisions in transparent ways.	36.24	32.21	31.54
Gallatin County <b>nonelected</b> officials are appropriately accountable to the public.	28.68	40.71	30.60
It is clear who is responsible for decisions in Gallatin County government.	40.15	30.72	29.14
The checks and balances in Gallatin County government are adequate.	25.39	48.32	26.31
The power balance between elected and nonelected offices in Gallatin County government is appropriate.	21.64	53.43	24.94

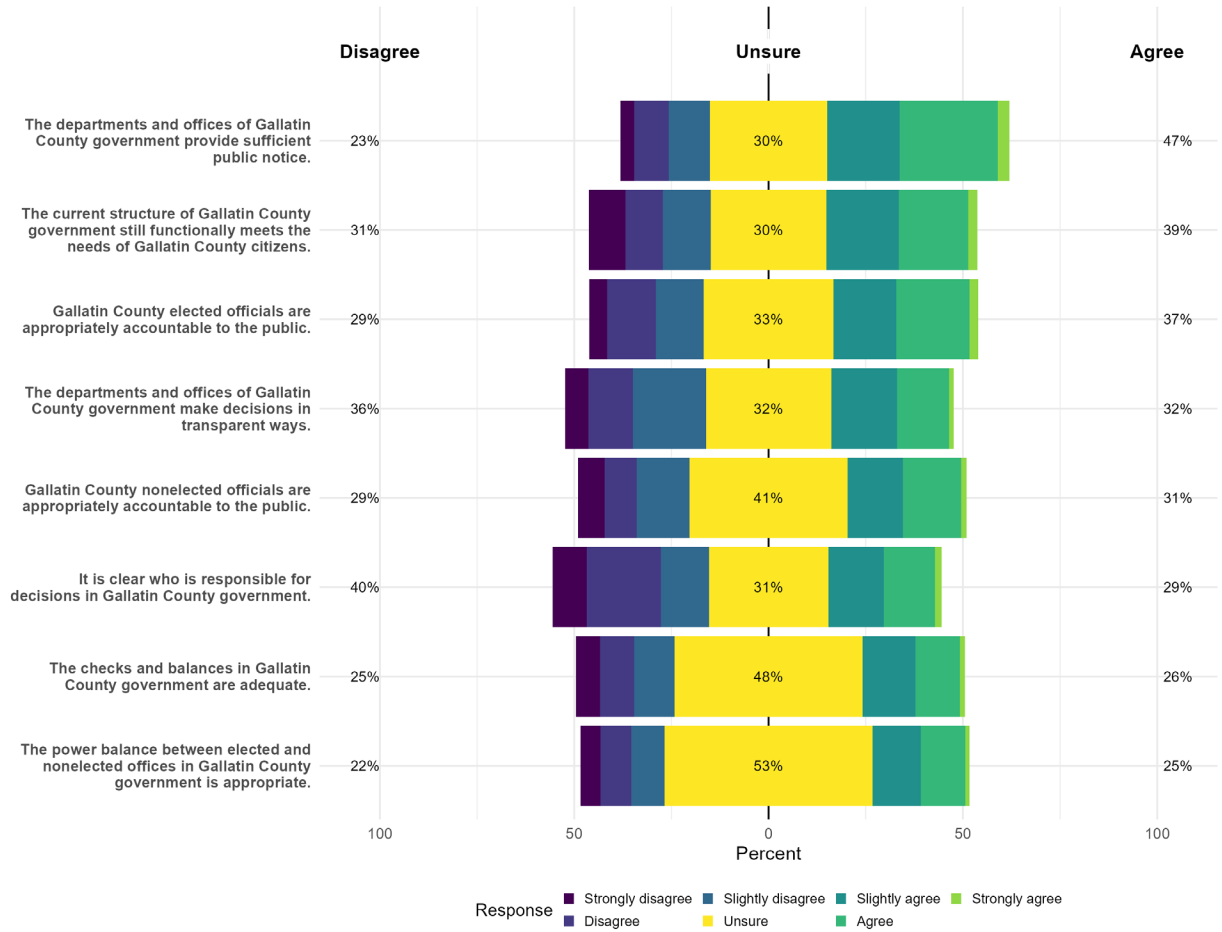


Figure 32: Likert plot for for  
"Transparency & Accountability" variables

### Variable Name: fairness

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Certain groups or people get preferential treatment from Gallatin County government.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 33: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for *fairness* variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	20	1.31%
Disagree	113	7.43%
Slightly disagree	71	4.67%
Slightly agree	241	15.84%
Agree	316	20.78%
Strongly agree	287	18.87%
Unsure	473	31.10%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1521	

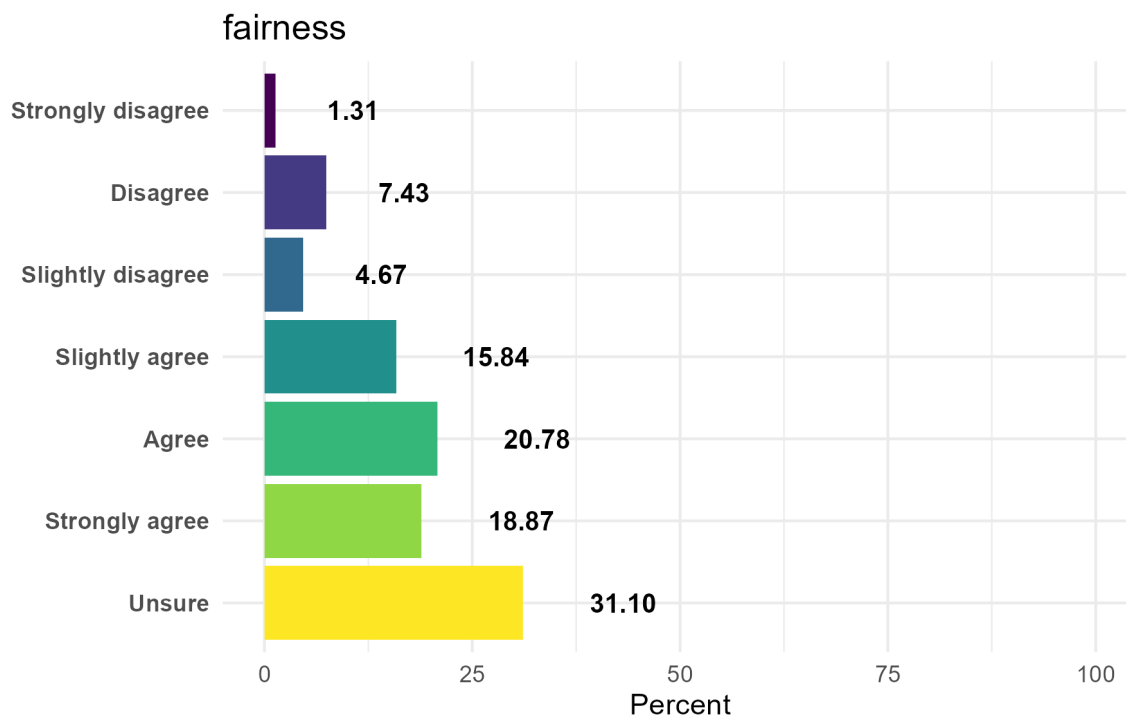


Figure 33: Marginal percentages plot for 'fairness' variable

### Variable Name: econpref

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Certain groups or people get preferential **economic** treatment from Gallatin County government.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 34: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for *econpref* variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	15	0.99%
Disagree	93	6.12%
Slightly disagree	71	4.67%
Slightly agree	263	17.31%
Agree	322	21.20%
Strongly agree	260	17.12%
Unsure	495	32.59%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1519	

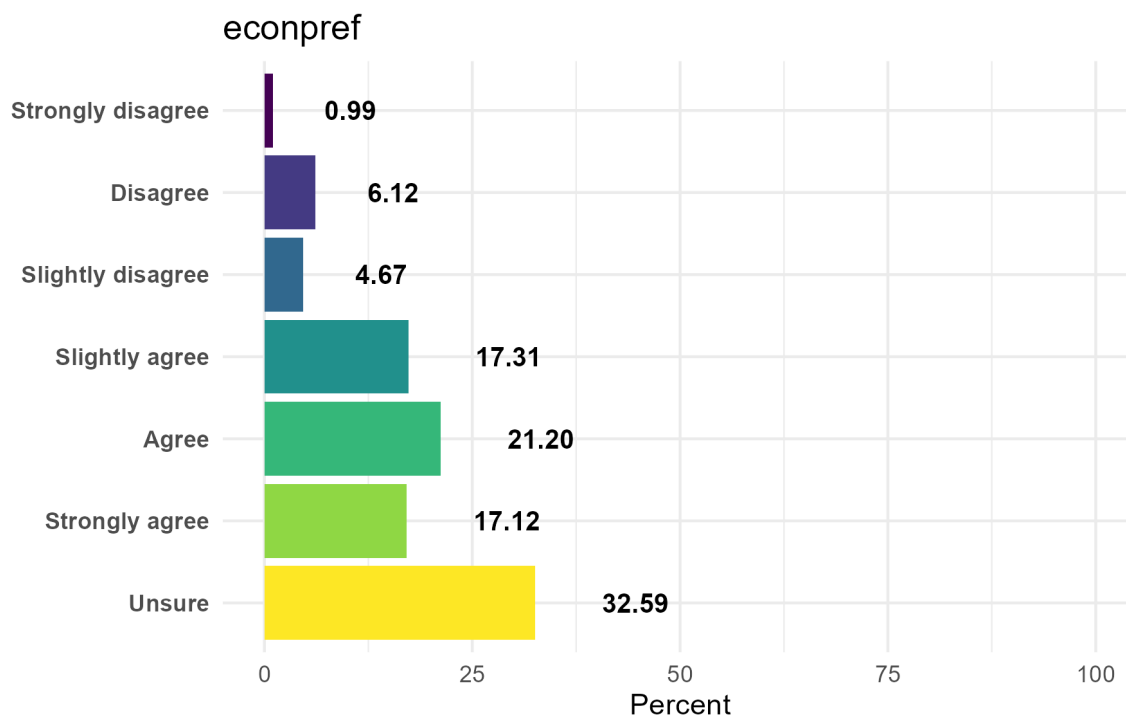


Figure 34: Marginal percentages plot for 'econpref' variable

### Variable Name: partpref

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Certain groups or people get preferential treatment from Gallatin County government based on **political party affiliation**.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 35: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for *partpref* variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	43	2.83%
Disagree	168	11.06%
Slightly disagree	86	5.66%
Slightly agree	209	13.76%
Agree	226	14.88%
Strongly agree	172	11.32%
Unsure	615	40.49%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1519</b>	

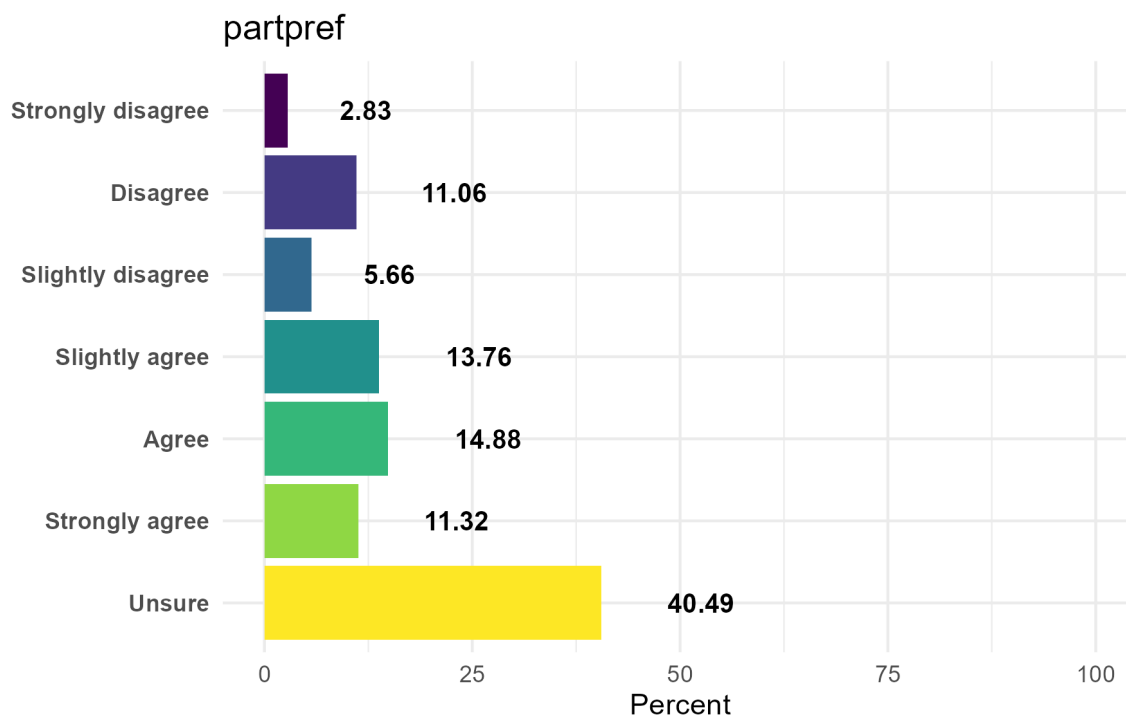


Figure 35: Marginal percentages plot for 'partpref' variable

### Variable Name: geopref

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - Certain groups or people get preferential treatment from Gallatin County government based on **geography** (for example, based on zoning or incorporation).

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 36: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for *geopref* variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	18	1.19%
Disagree	83	5.47%
Slightly disagree	80	5.27%
Slightly agree	259	17.07%
Agree	255	16.81%
Strongly agree	199	13.12%
Unsure	623	41.07%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1517</b>	

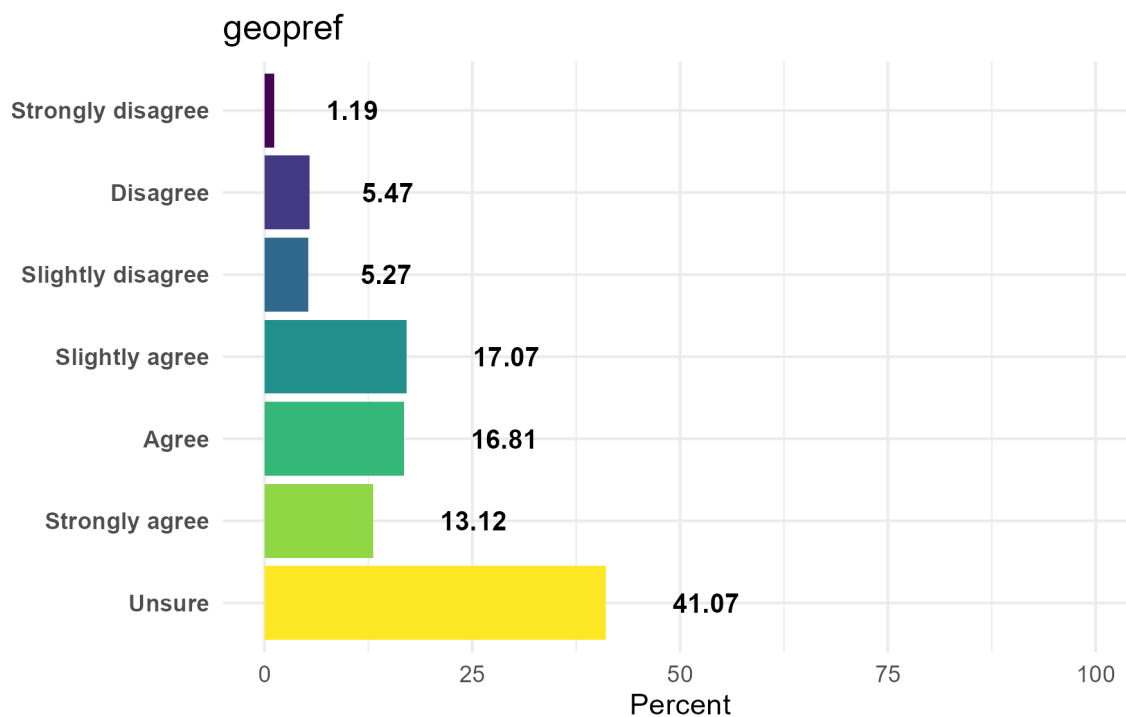


Figure 36: Marginal percentages plot for ‘geopref’ variable

## Survey Question Summary for Variable Names: fairness, econpref, partpref, geopref

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement.

*Table 37: Percentages for Likert combined levels for **fairness, econpref, partpref, geopref** variables, sorted in descending order on the percent that indicated agreement with the statement.*

ITEM	DISAGREE	UNSURE	AGREE
Certain groups or people get preferential <b>economic</b> treatment from Gallatin County government.	11.78	32.59	55.63
Certain groups or people get preferential treatment from Gallatin County government.	13.41	31.10	55.49
Certain groups or people get preferential treatment from Gallatin County government based on <b>geography</b> (for example, based on zoning or incorporation).	11.93	41.07	47.00
Certain groups or people get preferential treatment from Gallatin County government based on <b>political party affiliation</b> .	19.55	40.49	39.96

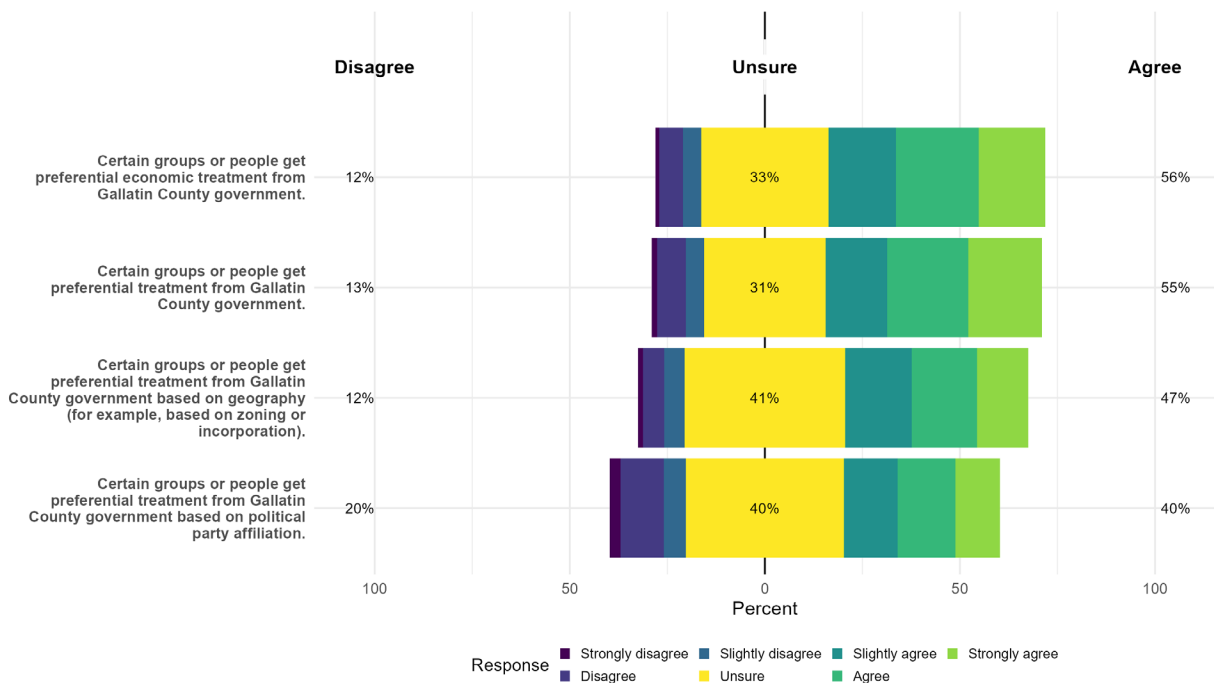


Figure 37: Likert plot for for 'Fairness' variables

### Variable Name: appel

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - More Gallatin County government leadership positions should be appointed rather than elected positions.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 38: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **appel** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	315	20.74%
Disagree	415	27.32%
Slightly disagree	198	13.03%
Slightly agree	104	6.85%
Agree	80	5.27%
Strongly agree	31	2.04%
Unsure	376	24.75%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1519	

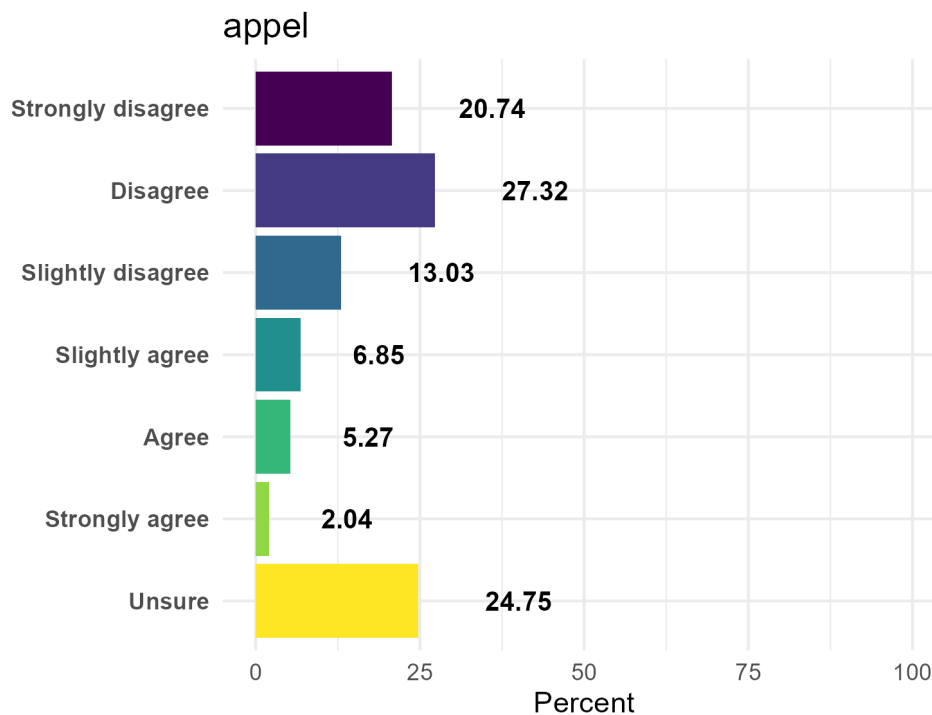


Figure 38: Marginal percentages plot for ‘appel’ variable



### Variable Name: nonpart

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge for a statement. - More Gallatin County government leadership positions should be nonpartisan (i.e., not affiliated with political parties).

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 39: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **nonpart** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	52	3.41%
Disagree	62	4.07%
Slightly disagree	62	4.07%
Slightly agree	177	11.62%
Agree	468	30.73%
Strongly agree	455	29.88%
Unsure	247	16.22%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1523</b>	

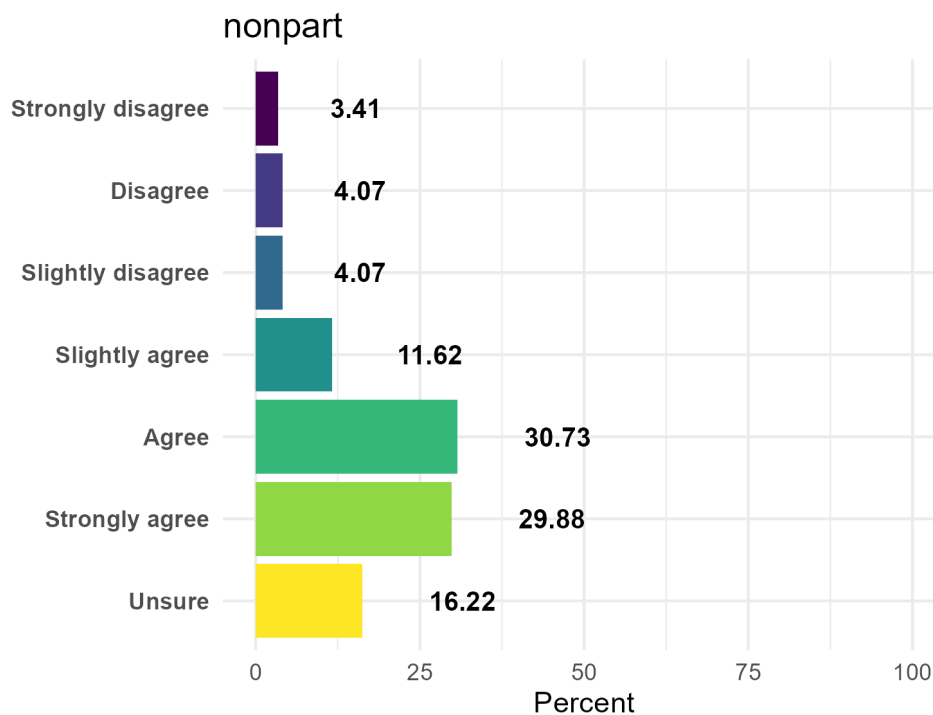


Figure 39: Marginal percentages plot for ‘nonpart’ variable

### Variable Name: minqual

**Question Text:** Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Select “Unsure” if you do not have enough experience to judge a statement. - More Gallatin County government leadership positions should have minimum professional qualifications.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

Table 40: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **minqual** variable

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Strongly disagree	75	4.93%
Disagree	110	7.24%
Slightly disagree	64	4.21%
Slightly agree	231	15.20%
Agree	390	25.66%
Strongly agree	361	23.75%
Unsure	289	19.01%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1520	

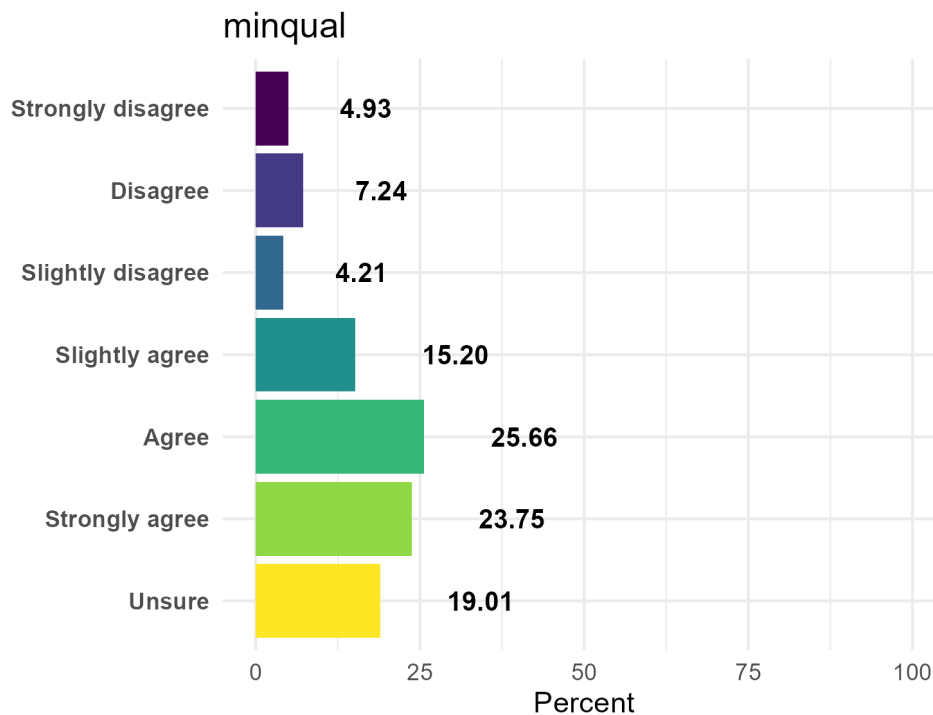


Figure 40: Marginal percentages plot for 'minqual' variable

## Variable Name: change

**Question Text:** If you could change any **one thing** about Gallatin County government, what would it be and why?

### Responses:

*Table 41: Responses for **change** variable*

#### RESPONSES

Maybe you could have a website that explains the structure and intended functions of the county government in simple language, sufficient to answer questions like “who do I call about digging a hole or getting a road sign fixed?” or “why do we vote for county clerk?”

Invest in music programs more in public schools

Make it more transparent on how the public can hold the Gallatin County government personnel accountable for the decisions they make that impact every Gallatin County citizen.

Less woke

There is poor allocation of financial resources

Enforce traffic laws

How property taxes evaluation are handled and owner challenges.

Stop catering to the City of Bozeman.

Balance economic development with the preservation of natural resources and zoning. Small business malls on a block of land adjoining an established neighborhood and a school seems ludicrous.

I don't see what Gallatin county government does except plow county roads and collect my taxes

Change the way property value is assessed, because the assessed value of my property is out of line with the neighborhood I'm in.

Less partial/catering to small vocal minorities and special interests. Do the will of the majority of residents for the long term benefit of all

All positions except the commissioners should be appointed, not elected

Unsure

An app that is made to easily find information needed about doing anything within Gallatin County. (Legal places to do picnics, find laws, or learn about how the politics work etc.)

Decrease property tax. Increase transparency

Plow snow on streets more often in winter so we need more snow plows. I'd like to see more and better communication by city and county government. More communication is Always better because we shouldn't rely on the newspaper.

Stop cowering to developers and changing the beauty and landscape that makes Bozeman special. The Commission's rubber stamp on development that doesn't fit in Bozeman is ruining the city o chose to live in 19 years ago. Let's smarten up!

Make the treasurer an appointed position.

More efforts on public transit / walkability / bike ability across the county

Having the county commissioners be from districts and have those people vote on their representatives.

## RESPONSES

I would remove partisan notations from certain elected offices (any elected official in the judicial branch or elected officials with other required professional experience). I think the partisan notation is helpful for offices representing the citizens, but not for offices that serve citizens in professional capacities (such as clerks, sheriffs, and officials in the education department). Putting partisan notations on professional positions may influence voters to ignore important professional qualifications that are different between candidates.

No opinion.

Listening to citizen input and implementing solutions that incorporate citizen suggestions in an actionable way

The county should be more accountable in terms of what the infrastructure (roads, etc.) can support when they make their decisions and not pie in the sky plans that they think new revenue from expansion can support. In other words have the infrastructure in place before building.

Too many people moving into Bozeman. Traffic is a huge problem. Need middle income housing. Need to get better wages to support the housing prices.

I am not sure, I'm much more aware of things happening at the city or state government level than the county.

Better coordinate road work do as not to inconvenience do many people

Too many to list

Add additional commissioners that are geographically focused so areas like West Yellowstone and Logan/Manhattan are represented besides Bozeman/Big Sky.

Stop pushing out the people. I make a good living and will probably have to leave because gallatin county sucks. Why the f\*ck isn't there a resort tax (hotels and restaurants) but rather you choose to increase our property taxes over and over again???? Y'all need to check yourselves!!

I don't know

More communication so everyone is given the chance to be informed

Have a mechanism that facilitates cooperation with the City of Bozeman and others on zoning (or some other tool) to protect the agricultural land base so useful to producers, tourism, open lands for wildlife and enjoyment, and the environment. We should do better than what we are doing with regard to future generations and we always think that technology will solve the problems that we create, i.e., water transfer from Three Forks back down to Bozeman in the future - that is a terrible laugh. Just emblematic of the kind of thinking that we are stuck in. This may help the county have a broader sense of responsibility to not only developers and others but incorporate more long term interests, i.e., quality of life, not just quantity. Good luck.

More traffic taming strategies on busier roads

Happy with the way it is, public is encouraged to get involved even though many chose not to

Increased funding for the county attorney's office.

Probably should have more than 3 county commissioners. 5 would be appropriate.

All the leadership. It is so sad how they do not represent the needs of the middle class.

increase marketing so people know why they should reach out Gallatin County government.

More navigable websites, and a certainty that you will be responded to eventually when attempting to contact government offices.

## RESPONSES

More Republican principles, then Democrat principles.

Not sure this is the correct place to voice this, but I would look closer at the growth and the sustainability of the resources that we have to continue on the path that we are on. The infrastructure is not keeping up with the growth. Our law enforcement is not keeping up with the growth. Are we going to run out of water at some point?

I have never worked for a government entity, but my husband has. I know the employees Wages do not keep up with the cost of living here and so often that leads to unqualified and unhappy employees.

Accountability to the legal citizens of our county.

To know absolutely anything about it - I have no clue who or what is a part of Gallatin County government. It is simply not on my radar in any way.

Don't cater to minority fringe groups because of fear of their loud voices. Keep Montana, Montana not California or New York or any other state.

More common sense leadership. Back to the basics of what native Montanans crave. Get rid of woke ideology. Hire locals. Stop hiring transplants who have zero idea of what this valley is about.

I think we need more action on water conservation issues and the rampant development and destruction in the county. It has and will lead to quicker depletion of water and wildlife friendly areas, and has done nothing for affordability.

The main thing I would like to change is that the County would listen more to the people who are trying to get a handle on the growth rather than accommodating the rapid growth with developers' priorities, which are ALWAYS financially driven rather than what's best for the county.

Don't really know. Things seem to be functioning okay and I personally am not really in a position to see any specific changes or needs. There are usually things that can be improved on but I just don't know what, from where I am at.

Public input on affordable housing (tax the rich)

Flexibility when it comes to enforcing zoning codes. So much conflicting information is given between the county and the various HOAs, and I wish Gallatin County government would enforce things based on the details of specific cases instead of throwing the book at situations that don't threaten the greater public and should not face corrective action.

[REDACTED] My boyfriend & caregiver & lodging provider gave this input on my behalf, knowing me well, His name is [REDACTED]

You need to list on your website what decisions you've made and what rationale led to those decisions so that voters can see how you make decisions.

More county commissioners

Establish a limited period for holding certain appointed GC (Gallatin County) positions or convert these to elected offices. Case in point is the County Manager. Currently the County Manager is not adequately or properly serving GC residents and is in fact (based upon firsthand observations for over 2 year period) misrepresenting constituents. Several of the current GC Commissioners seem to lack qualification and experience necessary to properly assess the County Manager's performance. For instance, does the County Manager position have an annual outside audit or review process? Such a non-biased assessment of job performance is needed. And do the GC Commissioners have an assessment or annual review? All GC employers have yearly reviews – Why is it not the same for key

## RESPONSES

elected and/or appointment positions? Or perhaps there is a review and this information is not being transparently provided to GC residents; in 25+ years as a resident no such review has been seen.

NOTE: This survey has been difficult to complete because I have interacted with GC offices and employees for over 25 years. I am I suppose to answer as an “average” of these interactions? Recently I have had positive interactions, however, for 3-4 years prior the situation was extremely negative and detrimental to my career due to actions of a few appointed GC employees who seemed to lack adequate professional training/experience for their positions. In terms of this survey it would have been nice to tease out experiences and then provide feedback... This is a dilemma and therefore the responses not fully accurate since the choice was made to give an average for some questions

To ensure all government officials work for the people who elected them. Work together and don't blame each other. Extend olive branches and work to solve issues to help the people you serve.

Stronger professional backgrounds in the discipline they are responsible for on committees, boards, and elected positions.

Make it more affordable and attainable for young professionals to live in Gallatin county. More “starter” homes and less apartments. Apartments are fine but Gallatin county has gone the way of luxury apartments. Which prices out most young ppl and the added amenities are unnecessary for many of these individuals. Leaving many of those apartments unoccupied, which is a waste of space.

Let less people move here

Now you ask...I realize I don't know what happens outside of search and rescue as far as county government goes.

Hiring the right people for the job, even if it means leaving a position vacant for longer to wait for the right person rather than just fill the position with the first person that passes a background check.

Active participation in establishing and providing access to funded and safe Crisis Stabilization Care for Gallatin county residents.

Continue to remember the public service departments and communities serving more remote areas within the county such as West Yellowstone and Big Sky.

Get them to cooperate with the city of Bozeman (probably Bozeman's problem, not the county) but they need to work together.

They should not be catering to the progressive liberals

Use a penny tax like Wyoming to help pay for its services

More zoning control to reduce sprawl outside cities

I think the government should be there to support citizens but stay out of the day to day business of people's lives. Don't be intrusive. Also just because a citizen is loud and vocal doesn't make the person right-they're just loud and vocal. So many people are quietly going along their daily lives and avoid conflict with angry people.

Lower taxes

I would change the jury duty process to electronic.

Not sure this is possible but work to help ensure those on boards such as the fair board or county commission are really there for the good of the majority as opposed to self-serving ambitions.

Increase public access and awareness of government action/projects. I am usually retroactively learning about activities and often the public comment period is past

## RESPONSES

tax the empty houses and air b'n'b's to give initiative for local renters to fill available housing, giving more availability and lowering rental costs.

Allow me to vote on city election. I reside in bozeman but live outside the city limits. And get all the town campers gone for good

As a Big Sky resident, I feel that Gallatin County government ignores our unique challenges as an unincorporated community, and wish we had more of a voice. I am for incorporation, but am also for a different county configuration that would allow Big Sky Resort's (one of the biggest corporations in the state of Montana) tax money to go to resources in the town of Big Sky, rather than Madison County and Ennis. Now, because the resort is located in Madison County, the money doesn't funnel downhill, to the town where most of the workers and small businesses are located.

better coordination with towns in the county. let's work together for the greater benefit of Gallatin valley!

Snow removal

Remove Political Affiliations from all non elected positions and require total impartiality when dealing with the citizens.

Better management of sustainable development as I fear we will outgrow our resources.

Health department. They have become very nasty since covid. Covid changed allot and the health department is not fun to deal with. Its very political and concerning

The removal of the Pride Flag from city buildings. This creates more division in the city of BZN than unity. Follow the state and federal policy of the United States Flag and state flag. The United States Flag is a symbol of Unity for all people who have pledged allegiance to our country and this is inclusive to all who have done so.

Be real and help those in our county who live paycheck to paycheck, not those with money.

I have heard Bozeman is a sanctuary city. People who disrespect our laws should be deported-that broke into our country. I get a notice to not park for three days in front of my house, others camp in the streets, isn't that against the law, enforce the law not undocumented criminals.

More commissioners should be elected, county is way too large for only 3 with professional leadership experience.

Pay more attention to the citizens of Gallatin needs and concerns

There should be more staff in the county attorney's office.

Zoning code enforcement

Get the council out of the pockets of developers/its insufficiently providing for our residents

-less deferential and preferential treatment to developers., -more awareness and care for environmental impacts of careless development.

I think adopting the trans flag alienates other american citizens. We shouldn't bow down to the victim mentality.

Website is somewhat difficult to use. The info trees are confusing. Maybe redesign? When/if you do, remember the avg. age is up, people (older or getting older) can't see as well. Bigger type, simple links, etc. Old people (like me) will appreciate it.

Stop spending money! Property taxes are horrible!

## RESPONSES

I would like to have confidence in the local county government's desire to represent the citizens. Decisions are made prior to any public meetings. Government officials pretend to listen to the concerns of citizens and then vote the way they have already decided. It is disturbing to see what has happened to my city over the past 20 years. Non-locals are running our local government.

There needs to be much better notification of public issues, more notification and much earlier notification to give people time to act.

More visibility to the public.

Urban growth- all of the beauty of Bozeman and Gallatin county are disappearing. Disregard and a deaf ear to the dwindling of water and rivers, and pollution.

The government isn't responding to everyday frustrations: Poor traffic patterns, the taxes are so high, yet poor snow removal concerns, Lines for licenses have improves. People MUST show insurance before receiving a license plate. trying to drive in Gallatin County is a mess. the Bozeman life is a mess. This summer I know there is construction but a couple of times it took 1 1/2 hours to go from bozeman to livingston. Unacceptable.

Legal zoning is a sad state. Approvals appear to go to the highest 'bidder'. Glad we finally got rid of the homeless invasion. Hopefully we can get our once beautiful town back with minimal crime.

Would like a combined city/county government so we don't end up with sprawl outside city limits. Also less duplication of city functions.

We need more affordable housing. Bozeman is terrible. Poverty is everywhere here.

The health department is overreaching and asks for things that violate privacy/HIPAA. Checks and balances are needed for this department especially as relates to participation in and outcomes of health screenings provided by the state to local healthcare providers.

I used to volunteer at the detention center and was shocked to hear inmates had no access to outdoor exercise. I hope this has changed? Also, sorry for the 'unsure' responses...

Lower my taxes

I am not the homeowner but a partner too. I don't feel that I am always aware of happenings without going out of my way to look for information.

I wish it was easier to understand what changes are being made to governance.

Limits should be set on amount and source of money in any election.

Tax the rich and lower prices on rent, or have a rent freeze. Everything is expensive, and living takes all of my paycheck!

I would like there to be ranked choice voting, because it will have better, more balanced results than a partisan election. I would like Gallatin County to preserve our nature corridors, our clean air and clean water because this is the last best place. Set aside extractive projects and incessant infrastructure that only benefits the wealthy and build bridges for our wildlife. Designate parks, monuments and historic sites, it is now or never. Time to care for the land. Land back for the people.

More help with affordable housing

Not enough coordination of information, direction, and getting something done!

1. add DMV staff, 2. Reduce property taxes

The wat real estate taxes consistently go up! No one is accountable and leap 50% or more increases every 2 years. It needs to stop!



## RESPONSES

Put a restriction on growth - Don't be so quick to change A5 Zoning - protect watersheds and wetlands - Additional growth is hurting out precious water

Overall reduction of unelected bureaucrats

They need to start listening taxpayers and life-long residents of Gallatin County. To much increasing your wealthy out of state new comer. They came to Bozeman for change but want Bozeman to be like where they come from.

The county attorney does not adequately prosecute criminal cases, dropping important cases that are the product of good police work. This makes our community less safe and wastes officers' time / tax payer's money.

Put a cap on the rate at which the county grows. The infrastructure simply cannot handle it and/or keep up. Growth is inevitable. However we can somehow be smart about it.

I would like to see development stopped in this county. there needs to be some common sense in not allowing all or any development to just be approved! Tired of seeing this county mapped in the name of development, and ultimately greed. County government is unchecked and lacks any kind of ability to see the big picture! adequate water, commercial or industrial developments next to residential :( stupid!

How to access information - where to go for help.

the necessity of city permitting

land use planning due to high density housing permits approved over low density and/or low income housing. Families deserve a house with a yard, not a townhouse with a concrete pad for a "yard".

I would end all new expenditures, maintenance fees always keep my #1 money flow over new spending. The tremendous increase in property taxes with no apparent benefit to the public benefit to the public besides realtors and developers needs to end. I need to include gov't employees in w/ the beneficiaries

I want all the officials in our great state to resist and fight back against radical MAGA politics that have infected Montana at all levels of government

Big Sky provides a lot of tax money to Gallatin county but our issue gave seldom a priority for GC government. We need more input

Make it nonpartisan! The party system is killing America

Get rid of the non-partisan shield that people hide their true ideology behind

Updating the outdated county government structure

Court system-primarily family court

Commissioners elected from regions of the county-not at large. Get rid of the electronic vote counters to remove the unfair election discussion

Improved online county resources-websites I've had to interact with are all antiquated and are difficult to navigate. I've always had better luck by phone (if I can find the correct contact) but who has time for that. Otherwise-great job and change nothing

Homeless on the streets. Bad driving behavior!

Have the weed control program be able to mitigate weeds after 2 notices from the city and charge them via the property taxes

## RESPONSES

Better pay for essential employees

The pride flag should not be an official flag for Bozeman. The American and Montana flags already include everyone. The pride flag is exclusive

The large expansion of the Three Forks Airport as the area is not large enough to accommodate as much air traffic, without infringing on or taking for below market value neighbors land that currently have no restrictions when the land was purchased.

Manage approvals developing land with stricter considerations of water usage and infrastructure requirements

To value the citizens who already live here rather than take from them to put more money into potential incoming citizens

They take more time to consider proper maintenance like snow removal and toxic weed extermination and less time on zoning and building permits

Development and publication of performances indicators for all elected and non-elected offices. This would increase transparency and provide the public with objective, standardized reports to hold the public officials accountable.

I consider it absolutely essential to: 1 lower our residential property taxes. 2 Address the alarming rate of development in Gallatin County

Have more citizen representation such as larger participation through advisory boards

The amount of staff needs to increase to meet the needs of the growing community

Gallatin County should have a department of EMS to oversee and unify the fragmented EMS coverage in our county. We have outgrown the fire dept based model and it is hurting our citizens

It wouldn't matter anyway! Those with the most money buy their way into the process, Montana morals, standards don't mean anything anymore. Liberals/communists infect the world with their left wing agenda, hatred, violence. No punishment for criminals. Governments turn a blind eye because their afraid of being sued. Turn people into the streets, destroy homes to put up ugly, overpriced, bird houses

I've been impressed in my time here. I cannot think of a thing to change

There seems to be a pattern of excessive deference to rich, often part-time at best, residents and their assorted economic, land, and regulatory interests. This is true at levels beyond just the county of course but strive for local government that is responsive to locals

More bike paths/lanes

Do more than up service. Be honest and transparent

Government is fine - some people (clerks) need an attitude adjustment and an energy boost. "DMV" could speed up and create a positive atmosphere

All seems good by me. Just not educated about all the workings.

Leadership positions that are nonpartisan; For more balanced decisions that represent various views and backgrounds. Might mean more positions on the board for balanced decisions.

We need to stop restricting development

There is no sustainable plan in this town. Is all about \$ and not keeping people here and as a community. No community center, no paved bike trails so people can stay fit and ride to work safely

## RESPONSES

w/o having a death wish. If the mindset was more on “what would they want” rather than the \$. Bike trails needed outside of city limits to encourage biking to work and keep people happy and healthy.

More commissioners to represent the greater diversity of population in the county. (rest to me is amazing, under-funded, and we love the health dept!)

Remove everyone elected and/or employed and have them run for re-election and/or reapply for their jobs.

Thank you for sending out this questionnaire to get our opinions!!!

Support + advocate lowering property taxes!

Elected and appointed city commissioners and the mayor need to stop turning Bozeman into the next Portland!

Stop DEI + wokeism within Gall county gov and get local people in that understand how to un-bozeangeles Gallatin county

Better pay for Sheriff and Deputies ensure public safety is fully funded with adequate staffing in fire, EMT, sheriffs office based on growing population and levels of illegal drugs

Quit sending out surveys. Thanks-a-lot

Require that any person running for an elected position in the county government to have lived in the county for a minimum of 10 consecutive years beforehand. This would help them better understand what effects government decisions actually have on its residents.

Control the number of apartments being built, and make life generally more affordable

More transparency. Less affiliation to political parties

Less partisan bs. More best interests as a whole community

Who do I contact for what problem, and without taking up too much of my time? make it clear and easy. I would use the gov. a lot more if I had that all figured out

More info on what is happening in Gallatin county. County needs to be ahead of growth

Government employees should have a “mystery shopper” program instituted to evaluate their ability to serve the public. I have witnessed people being treated in a manner that would never be accepted in the private sector. Disappointing

Higher base pay for lower rung employees, e.g. administrative roles. A well-paid foundation will strengthen the organization as a whole

I never see them out and about. More outreach and transparency about what officials do. thanks

More commissioners -5? Might give more input diversity

County superintendent of schools rarely in office during their very limited posted hours and does not respond to anything left in box for 2 years now.

Put a local on the government. Not one of them is from MT for life. That's a problem because “locals” are not represented

Less power from out of staters! I've lived here my whole life and have less powers than wealthy people that don't live here!!!

If we could change the town name back to Bozeman not Bozangeles. Too much California influence. This is Montana!

I would like to understand what it does.

## RESPONSES

Bring back the focus to agriculture to the county, too much transplant minded decisions. 4-H is the reason for the fair (Fix that!)

More communication

I would appreciate more support for the Health Dept. They should be allowed to provide services and information based on facts and not disinformation and conspiracy theories, or fear of political blowback.

Adequately staff public-facing offices.

Fight Gianforte's gerrymandering. No more cheating. Every vote counts. Reservation, non rez, every vote!

Less spending, more transparency

I have limited experience working w/ G.C. government. Voting has been smooth and accessible. I went through divorce court and that was also a smooth process. I would love to see G.C. support the transparent election initiative!

That the county commissioners were more balanced in their ideologies

I would make getting involved with government, and keeping track of what's happening in government more user friendly. This would not include utilizing local news stations, as there is a risk of bias. rather, government records, charts, etc. Should be easy to find and readily accessible on a government website.

Decentralize land use + zoning regulations. Property owners should have more freedom to determine what to do with their property. For example, short term rental restrictions in Gallatin County were imposed unilaterally without proper legal process or consideration for impact on property owners or future development of local housing stocks

Better co-operation between city + county governments. Did not have a very favorable interaction with the Gallatin Co weed district re-applying for grants for help in controlling weeds

Increased property tax with no regard for property actual value!

Have county commissioners have districts, not at large

The interactions that I have had have been great. I wish my road [REDACTED] got more attention.

There should be stronger coordination between city government and county government. It seems like the cities are gobbling up the county and deciding in what direction the community is changing. The county needs to protect itself from the kind and pace of growth and development experienced by Bozeman and Belgrade

Provide more information to public that would allow me to answer these questions

Real estate not running county government

Be more upcoming about everything - transparency. Change preferential treatment/political affiliation

Communication with citizens

My interactions with tax. road services (weed, grass, tree care) have been very pleasant (payment info on and taxes)

I don't know enough about the structure of our government to say whether anything needs changed. But I can say that the single biggest issue facing the county is "affordable" housing (i.e. there is none)

## RESPONSES

If I could change 1 thing, it would be how public input and concerns are addressed. The growing communities of Gallatin County deserve to be listened to when concerns are voiced

It has become too big. Way to many "boards" and committees, etc. Its impossible for a citizen to be up to date on things

Public education about the county government responsibilities. I need to know more so I can make better choices voting.

Prioritize the fair grounds, support 4H

Fix traffic - make more lanes in MSU. High traffic roads i.e. Kagy through college and stadium should be 4 lanes = highland 4 lanes. Another access to I-90 in Belgrade. Jackrabbit is a mess at 8AM and 5PM

There are problems with zoning. Be clearer and more specific on what is allowed and not allowed

I would like to see less tolerance for "whistle blowers" that are trying to take away personal property rights from others. I see some (not all) employees of the planning department that seem to be overly influenced by a vocal minority of citizens in certain areas

Stop issuing building permits to developers of hi-rise and other apartment buildings in Bozeman

Concentrate on city's water supply in the future. Stop approving every new apartment and condo building in the county

Stronger planning requirements to limit growth

I would like to thank those who made the change asking (and enforcing) campers to stay off of haggerty lane! Thank you

Unified city/county government like Butte

The elimination of individuals with self serving interests. Government needs to serve in the best interest of the people without personal bias or preferential treatment based on policies or questionable economic gain

The commission should have more members. Three is not enough

More enforcement of traffic laws!!! Also put in stop signs and yield signs everywhere!

Should incorporate w/ city to have only one governing body

Accessibility by digital methods for MVD questions and corrections

Need more clear written policies so the rules are defined

More updated and user friendly accounting software. I have some experience working with fire district and the general ledger reports are cumbersome and confusing and not very automated

That they would come up with a way to protect our agriculture lands, wetlands, wildlife corridors, riparian areas from being developed by into subdivisions and still compensate the farmers

Tell Time "she/he" to go back to his own state!!!

Local options tax

Be proactive in getting county needs paid

More county commissioners, Better accountability.

Get more judges and support staff.

Reduce taxes (Adjust by locale. some taxes are raised in the Bozeman area that reflected in the poorer areas.)

## RESPONSES

### Residents

Government which listens to residents over being unduly influenced by wealthy developers.

Better communication of county affairs to residents so they can stay current on county issues.

More effective management of homeless/trailers on streets. Make one lot available to them(out of downtown - use less expensive real estate.). Have toilets, showers and public transportation - Stop catering to renters and homeless. Be more responsive to people who actually pay taxes!. Do not give parking or water use concessions to big companies! Limit huge apartment buildings that do not have adequate parking for trucks and water.

Focus more on roads, infrastructure and civil projects

Make the G.V. Motor Vehicle Dept more efficient & better staffed.

Slow down the unaffordable housing boom and take care of our lower income residents that keep our town moving forward.

Nothing I see.

I do not think the county is adequately responding to the growth of the community & property managing infrastructure. It always feels like decisions are a step behind. County officials need to be thinking farther ahead in terms of development, water, & public transit. Thank you!

on the surface, it appears preference is given to builders without a care for water availability or well concerns. Too much inappropriate building going on without any input from long standing citizens. Working class can no longer afford to live here. Bozeman is turning into a place for the wealthy who have little investment in the place.

Be fiscally Responsible. Be consistent even in traffic lights and crosswalk signs!!!

Give less preference to developers.

Better zoning laws!

Judges should have a time limit to make a decision on a case that they have tried (example 6 months or 1 year). I have been waiting for over 4 years!

I wish police would start enforcing traffic laws. It just seems like since the "defund the police" nonsense, they are checked out/can't be bothered. Understandable but have you seen the drivers here???

Stop letting developers over-develop Bozeman for their own profit. nice to have a government that supports affordability for the residence of this county.

The website could use an update. It is not clear to the average citizen exactly what Gallatin County does. The website lists departments alphabetically but it would be good to have an overview of all services provided and grouped by category.

I'm furious about recent property tax increases levied by immoral super majority RINO state legislature. Gianforte's rebate was a slap in the face. Gallatin county employees are doing the best they can with time + funds available.

Be less Pro Development. Understand the concept of ecologic carrying capacity balancing human needs/impacts with environmental health.

Partisan politics has little to do with providing effective and efficient public service to all people in the country. I would reduce or eliminate all party labels for elected officials.

## RESPONSES

When the county creates a planning commission or committee listen to them.

Stop Being Woke.

I feel Gallatin County has a power structure that panders to wealthy and inside trading. of favors for wealthy “influential” individuals. This has happened here for generations and they make sure the “elected” officials will be there vote. Its a mini U.S. Government where wealth is power (citizens united)

Can't we tax the hotel chains so that we can afford to recycle glass? Not govt. related per say but its dumb that we don't

Pride flag! Why is this necessary? Why does a select group get to influence city government. Should have represented all with a democratic vote to the people. Too many people at the city hall are appointed rather than voted on. Please address a more representative problem like main street lights, wildlife corridors, water.

Only rural residents should vote for county commissioners. Quite bowing to special interest liberal groups.

Consider expanding the size of the commission so more time available to interact with constituents- and make these positions completely non-partisan!

Ensuring spending focused on roads, infrastructure, fire dept and education- focus spending rather than trying to do everything

Keep our county Montana! Don't let big business change us!

Thanks to all who serve

Cottonwood Road needs to be repaired!

A citizen shouldn't have a graduate degree in political science to understand what their local gov does. Are you only accessible if I'm looking? It should be obvious and more available

More public input on development, more regulation on development

Ban all growth!

Incorporate Big Sky. Developers are allowed to run rampant and the money is a cash cow for the rest of the country.

My main experience is with solid waste dept. and it was really hard to get someone to contact me and it was confusing who specifically to contact. I think they along with people who help with the trees need more help - it feel like services are offered but then when you try to get those services there isn't enough people to actually make it happen - like boulevard trees after months of asking I finally just did it myself.

The speed and lack of forethought for where Bozeman is headed in approving massive developments needs to be addressed. Allowing cash in lieu of parkland, omitting requirements for parking, pets, etc. is going to cause dramatic congestion issues downtown, and in core other areas. The Gov't is still planning for and accepting rules designed for the future BZN of yore. Wake up! This place is ballooning and failing to adequately plan now will result in city problems later. Lastly, the Gov't has to stop expecting Home owner taxes to cover everything, we need tourist tax, sales tax, and even to look at marijuana taxes to pay for the growth demands on infrastructure, etc. Thank you!

Regarding law enforcement, it is seems to me that there is less police enforcing in busy areas like downtown and in school zone. The results are evident, in how many red light violations and speeding.

## RESPONSES

Is the police overworked or understaffed? Being transparent regarding their accomplishments in our city limits would be great. (drug busts, gangs?, crimes etc. ...) for me and other concerned citizens to at least understand...

I'd change the questions on this form! From: "Gallatin County is responsive to initial contact" To: I have found Gallatin County responsive to my contacts". I cant answer the question as posed, I have no idea what others have experienced

Why is our government allowing MSU to box in our elk and other animals? Academics think they know it all!! They do not! Social data collection should not be conducted by MSU

The public should not have as much influence as they do on decisions that have been made by county employees who have professional qualifications. The county commissioners are too swayed by public opinion rather than recommendations from their own staff.

All of Gallatin county should have land use permit requirements no more black holes

More sherifs. We do not have enough.

The county attorney's office needs to be audited. Too much turnover

Take a more holistic approach to zoning/development approval to support more sustainable growth that supports rural and open lands while balancing community needs

The sheriff's department would serve all citizens better and operate more effectively and professionally if it were less partisan.

Charter form of govt so there's more flexibility and creativity to address community services

Provide stricter oversight on the infinite summer roadway construction. Summer is so short here and having endless massive traffic, should be minimized and for sure should be working 24/7 to complete as fast as possible. Thank you

Turning sheriff and the county attorney into nonpartisan positions. The current C.A uses the office to push and further her personal agenda

I would make it so that the county attorney's office could be trusted to actually prosecute cases.

Better communication and cooperation between Gallatin county and the city of bozeman and Gallatin county leadership and county citizens

Make leadership non-partisan

No more mail in ballots

I'm not sure if its apart of their job, if not, it should be! There has to be restrictions on who business's hire, hiring people who are here illegally, shouldn't be hired! "Because their labor is cheaper" is not helping anyone. They are taking away our peoples work so we cant survive. many agree.

More commitment to shared use + open space areas, less commitment to multiplying luxury apartments no one is asking for.

Put a cap on urban development. This is getting out of hand. I'm in the construction industry and see first hand at what this place has grown to become. Growth is impossible to stop. But crime and robberies can be slowed down by a show of force from police. Get more guys on to patrol, protect, and not harass the locals who pay their taxes and choose to love in a great place!

No toxic salts on roads. Better plowing - especially snowmobile trailhead lots.

Have them reduce property taxes.



## RESPONSES

Stop catering to buyers and developers. Stop the out of control growth and improve roads and infrastructure. Build homes, town homes, and condos people can buy, not apartments!

Most of my dealings with Gallatin County are through the elections office. I am an election official. They are very kind and work hard to make sure that ballots are prepared, mailed, ballots are counted, and for the most part it is nonpartisan. That staff works very hard during the election cycles. I like the direct deposit of pay checks. Other than licensing my car, I haven't dealt much with the county

Provide for more open space and ag land. Rapid development will deprive our grand children of ag land.

Get more locals in GC government. We are becoming too much like California and Oregon.

I've never been communicated with by Gallatin County - all information comes from the news, neighbors, coworkers, otherwise... Feels like low hanging fruit to proactively communicate more often

Better training for employees and supervision. Commissioners need to start representing the taxpayers and stop being biased towards the wealthy developers

The county does a great job of maintaining our remote rural infrastructure. Would like to see funding more evenly distributed to out growing rural areas for infrastructure upgrades.

It would coordinate with city and state government on road, sidewalk, sewer, etc. Repair and upgrades so all work in an area can be done in efficient manner and we don't end up with roads dug up multiple times over a few years.

I seem to recall Zach Brown allying himself with out-of-state funded special interest groups posing as legit local groups. That was disturbing, Gallatin elected officials should be held to a higher standard and nature families relationships to push an agenda.

Have more access to share what decisions they are making and what they are deciding/voting on.

Make any government position only available to those that have been here for 20 or more years.

Remove pride flag from Bozeman City Hall it has nothing to do with city, county, state- 2 flags should fly - Montana and our countries red-white and blue.

Not being allowed to give themselves a raise. Raises should be voted on by the people who elected them.

Remove and bar upper level employees from owning outside interests to their positions. Government officials should work for the people not tax breaks.

Clean house for the schools

Should have above average professional qualifications!

Stop building in town!!!

They need to listen to the residents and not outside contractors and millionaires!!

I don't have much interaction with them so I don't have much to contribute.

I would like Gallatin county to treat all with respect and professionalism. I have lived and worked in Gallatin County for over 33 years. My personal experiences of Gallatin County have been respectful, professional, and positive. I am a white woman, a wife, a mother and grandmother. Others, including but not limited to those in non-traditional families, those with less wealthy, and those with mental health challenges that I have known, did not experience the same level of respect and professionalism. We have room to improve.

## RESPONSES

I wish something would be done about all of the luxury apartments being built. We don't need more Zoning is an important county responsibility. Zoning should be considered a long-term [COMMITMENT?] with county residents. Changes should be rare.

The motor vehicle dept is too slow; long lines

I don't think that is necessary at this time

The county government should far more frequently and openly reach out to public via news media and mailings to residents regarding all functions of county government, even if only to list or name websites, offices, and details concerning individuals running for elected positions.

More transparency

More public information needs to be offered

A greater number of elected county commissioners (more than 3)

Better service given to the southernmost end of the county - weed control, better and appropriate attentions to protecting water- rivers use of septic systems - just to name two.

No comment

Party affiliation. No political, economic, geographical bias... Which I believe is impossible because everything is based solely on money. If someone or something can be "bought"...They will be.

The city commission I believe is doing Bozeman a disservice. I also believe they are corrupt. Getting hand outs.

Better communication with tax payers via newsletters. TV is dead

We would develop a clear vision and strategy for growth in Gallatin County. Currently, were pro development but lack a perspective on how we want the county to feel and what its identity is. As Gallatin co. has grown, there is not clear distinctions between towns/cities, making this direction more county-dependent

No concerns

Non partisan elections and self governing powers

Gallatin county should participate in assisting ICE by letting them pay for jail space for ICE detainees

More coordination with city governments, more responsibility for effective county-wide zoning. County-wide limits on water and sewer use and planning. Consider combined city-county government

Get rid of people from out of state and their non-related ideas. We need to stay the last best place! Make Montana the last best place again

The lack of affordable housing. The working class have been forced out of housing by ridiculous prices thus causing local businesses to be unable to find enough employees

Get out of bed with wealthy developers

More (elected) positions would be non-partisan. County governments are mostly real working bodies and less regulations makers

Better bike lanes and bike infrastructure, i.e. protected bike lanes. More employees at the post office and motor vehicle department. Higher property taxes on the YC and Big Sky to help pay for better schools and public infrastructure.

## RESPONSES

Enhance positive, constructive communication with the city of Bozeman, Belgrade, ETC. Water usage/availability and too many “straws” (wells) and septic will negatively impact water availability, clean water and our healthy ecosystems

The method in which it does property taxes. It penalizes tax payers that have lived here long term. People that move here should pay higher taxes because obviously they can afford it.

Increase in education efforts to show new voices how the county government functions would be great!

Have phones answered at treasurers and clerks office now that covid is over. Having to email or leave a message is ridiculous. Liver person on phone line should be back!

Unsure

My only contact with Gallatin County government has been to pay taxes and to respond to questionnaire for jury duty. I have gone to Livingston to renew my drivers license because its easier to get an appointment there

I'm glad I live in Gallatin County but outside of Bozeman city limits. Id like to see more approved positions instead of elected to remove politics from essential government functions

Development zoning restrictions, we need more lots available for Gallatin county 1-5 acres for development opinions - that allow livestock. Also, Gallatin county and bozeman city limit development should never be the same. We should have more development space and a different committee. 2 completely different infrastructure and zoning

Not much involved

More collaboration with cities

The health department employees need more resources to carry out their responsibilities. There should be more services for children and seniors

Clearly and often publicize the audit of the government so that we the people see if our tax dollars are being spent wisely

More transparent, less bribes, less forcing people out of their land, less taxing people out of their homes

Preferential treatment for developers in Big Sky should not continue. Big Sky should incorporate rather than drain county level resources

Because I can no longer afford newspaper and their service in my area was sketchy, I would appreciate more notice by electronics or TV

There is more to Gallatin County than just Bozeman. It seems that most decisions and budget spend is always concentrated there (i.e. public spaces, parks, and infrastructure)

I do not deal with county govt enough to answer this question

More clarity in their decision making across the board

It would be nice if the Gallatin County Motor vehicle dept could answer phone calls. Having a high volume of calls is not a good reason to not answer. It forces people to waste 1-2 hours coming in to the office physically to get simple questions answered.

From what I understand, there seems to be a lot of influence from developers on the housing prices in Gallatin County. It seems like the lots these developers build on has to go through government approval first, which implies that the government's approval can be won over with a big enough

2025 Gallatin County Registered

Voters – Weighted Frequencies

and Marginal Percentages

December 17, 2025

59 | 8 2

## RESPONSES

check, and then the citizens looking for housing end up footing the bill. Because there are no other options for them on where to live. If that's all true, that is what I'd change. I understand wanting to drive traffic and economic growth, but there's got to be a better way to do that than screwing over your population on one of its most basic needs.

There should be more than 3 county commissioners due to population growth. 5 or 7

We need to find a way to tax the tourists rather than constantly increasing property taxes.

Government has become completely out of touch with the citizens whose tax dollars fund it, and who it was created to serve! Multiple generations are completely disengaged. It is time to take a serious look at the processes and systems of government, they are no longer effectively accomplishing the mission.

Meet a few times a year in each of the towns

It feels like there should be more representation by elected officials not less. Maybe adding 2 more commissioners to 5? Day-to-Day it seems like the county is doing fine, it seems like land use decisions are the most controversial.

More involvement in everyday operations at the fundamental levels. Interaction at personal level with traffic-transportation and other operations of indirect and direct nature. Preventative in nature

STOP FURTHER Building!!

Perhaps with the growth in population, adding 2 more commissioners would help all of the growth issues the county faces. A mix of R & D

Publicize their significant actions. Commission gets very little press coverage, so there is an info gap between the policy-making and the public. More importantly, the #1 thing? Become sustainable. Right now. If sustainability were county's chief concern, many good things would follow!

More DEI, for what it's worth.

County manager form of Gov't with 5 elected commissioners all like officer are appointed/hired based on merit and self-governing powers.

That they make people aware of where to call or go in order to get help

We need more representatives (elected) on the various councils throughout the county/cities. As our populations grow there should be more representation, instead we have less even as populations expand.

CHANGE RESIDENTIAL HOMEOWNERS PARKING ON NEW CONSTRUCTION BACK TO "2" PARKING SPOTS FROM "1"!!

Sorry for all the 'unsure' answers. My main contact experience is with motor vehicle dept. for plates and usually go in for annual renewal. Always been an OK experience.

n/a

Rather than answer the above: A have had very little contact with Gallatin County government. I do think that the email sent out is very helpful with good up to date information. My feeling is that the government functions well as I am not aware of any overwhelming issues.

BETTER funding for the Health Dept. (Human Services)

how people can get involved with govt during last election very few people ran so many positions only had 1 person to choose whether or not we agreed with values & beliefs.

## RESPONSES

more restrictive zoning so development is better managed

Listen to your people. We do not want this uncontrolled growth and no zoning restrictions. Stop favoring the developers! We do not have to continue to grow at this rate. Let's slow the hell down and build a community we all want to live in.

Have you driven on Cottonwood Road lately? That is a state road and is maintained by Gallatin Co workers. Unbelievably rough and dangerous to drivers, bikers, and walkers. Do something! Make the state take charge and fix it./Have also found someone in sanitation permits not only un-approvable but also demeaning and offensive.

Constant approval of new housing development w/o regards to water availability and impacts to infrastructure. Impact fees for required infrastructure support should be commensurate to the cost of improvements.

Oftentimes, individuals get elected /or seen without a solid background in the job they are running for. Many voters don't take the time to learn. e.g. clerk and recorder position role a few years ago. thank goodness the experienced won!

Make all local elections nonpartisan.

Please look into fixing Cottonwood Road. It's awful.

Make policies to prevent housing sprawl in the county. thank you.

Leadership. Common sense + Expertise. Develop the mantra "By the people, of the people, For the people" (citizens in this county) Listening skills - Gallatin County is not listed as 'For Sale' -

Listen and pay attention to peoples yes or no for another hotel in their area (example) But they go ahead anyway - money talks in my view go the little guy gets left behind

County roads would be maintained by the county, not depend on neighbors to maintain.

With the sudden population explosion, there seems to be a lack of concern for those who already live here!

More access to public health info to discredit the misinformation campaigns. Strengthen Public Health.

Get rid of all preferential DEI programs that benefit unqualified, or even qualified, applicants unfairly and hire the most qualified and best candidates for the job... period. Tired of all this WOKE B.S. being shoved down our throats! Get that flag off our state and federal buildings!

Gallatin County takes public comment but does not have to do what the public says it wants. Make more decisions by vote - have to comply with public opinion. People are completely disenfranchised by what they perceive is a complete waste of their time. Why speak up if it does nothing?

more clearly defined roles and services

Transition to a charter form of government, with significantly more appointed positions and fewer elected positions.

traffic flow & signals

Think about all the people when it comes to zoning, parking for new builds, adding so many luxury apartments. Think about the infrastructure before approving. Seems like sometimes things are approved just for the money.

Not sure if the zoning laws and the water rights laws are looking at the situation and focusing on what is best for all of us.

## RESPONSES

n/A thank you

?

Climate change is A HOAX! Stop supporting carbon free zones

Excessive growth and housing projects approved that do not meet the needs of working class or long term citizens. Infrastructure demands are vastly outstripped by unchecked construction. Many of these developments do not allow enough space for vehicles, causing unsafe conditions on too narrow streets. Continual lip service is given to low income housing, which is not low income!

Thanks for reading my response!

Better support for W. Yellowstone & other outlying areas.

TAXES, NO REPRESENTATION!

The county should stop wasting tax dollars. Too many employees not earning their pay.

The County Attorney needs to go. The positions of County Attorney and Sheriff should be non-partisan

Have a form of gov't that represents the voters. Our govt is one-sided, it should be balanced and do the will of the people. Leadership positions don't need to be nonpartisan but they should be balanced and debate to come to outcomes.

The Ogalala Reservoir will not support much more building, We need to know what our limits are + what further expansion will cost the current residences. Much more informed 30 yrs. ago.

Road improvements should be done more proactively when instead of reactively, based on traffic/crashes. The same could be said about utilities (IE. How many times has baxter/cottonwood sewer been redone in the last 5 years? 3?)

The snow plows do an awesome job, but when they come back with the grader, they block everyone's driveway in. Training on how to correctly operate a grader for snow is needed!

Control the growth!

Help solve the affordable housing problem.

Send out an annual report every year telling what you did, why + how much it cost. (not too detailed)

Gallatin county government should charge it's operations of the rest home so its program revenues are equal or are greater then it's expenses; if the county cannot do this, than the operations of the rest home should be contracted out to a skilled nursing facility management company. This change could possibly keep the county from continually losing money operating the rest home. Thank you

Sorry, I have had almost zero interface with Gallatin County Government - Health Department regarding installation of new septic system.; once a year contact with the Motor Vehicle Department. I have been called for "jury duty" a couple of times, but because of I am hard of hearing have not been selected to serve. Also we no longer live at [REDACTED]. And yes I have a voter confirmation card with new address. Hope your other participants are more helpful than I am.

County based public-safety with EMS supported → (can be private or 3rd party or fire or whatever)

Better communication to residents regarding who to contact for what & greater clarity on who makes what decisions. Thank you.

Focus on public safety, disengage from DEI & woke agendas; get the trailers & people living in them off our streets. Clean up Bozeman. Get rid of that damn rainbow flag.

## RESPONSES

I don't know.

Elections should be managed by a hired professional rather than a partisan elected politician.

Be more proactive in updating infrastructure (roads) for increased population and use.

Water issues need to be discussed / researched in an open & transparent way, and incorporated in development plans. More transparency on how immigration issues are being addressed. Laws & human rights must be followed.

It seems like Gallatin County is a bit out of touch with the rest of the state. Our property taxes are WAY to HIGH!! Big Government is not the Montana Way. We need to promote Montana Businesses NOT Out of State Businesses Coming In.

Keep the parks clean & spray for weeds using organic/toxic free products

Rural planning. If the county is not going to reduce its acceptance of high density rural living communities, then it needs to plan ahead or make developers responsible for infrastructure costs such as roads, water, sewer, traffic control, fire/police/EMS. Current residents in established areas should not bare the cost.

Control this rapid growth of dense units. Too rapid growth & population. This has changed to county in a negative way -

Increased appointed leadership positions based on qualifications.

Property taxes are out of control. The county & city must reduce expenses and/or increase revenues but not by increasing property taxes for residents (year-long). Consider taxing tourists and dramatically increasing property taxes on 2nd/3rd/4th homes & short-terms rentals. That could increase the housing supply, lowering the cost of a SFH.

Enforcement of speeds on state highways that run Through - Towns, Cities, limits are good but not enforced.

Get rid of the Pride Flag and quit pushing your political agenda!

To remember why Bozeman was a beautiful location. Quit the growth and improve what we have now. Connect the bike paths so we can lesson the auto conflict/overparking and I can keep going.....

no comment.

improve going, more development restrictions MAKE contractors/developers pay for the increased costs of roads, schools, fire + police. They build, we pay

When public opinion is expressed by a wide range of people Gallatin Co. should listen!!

Make it a rule to be a Montanan for at a minimum 20 years (employees, staff, mayor, commission etc.)

The urban sprawl is out of control. Sub-Divisions are popping up everywhere but it seems the developers don't pay impact fees for new Firehouses, etc. and these depts try to shame existing residents to approve bands for growth which should be paid by those profiting from growth; not taxing existing residents out of their houses.

Have more commissioners - 3 people are not sufficient in this day + age with the complexity of life, the other governmental entities and the size + populations of the county.

Please lower the property taxes + school levies, because these taxes will amount more than our house + property paid 30 years ago.

## RESPONSES

It should be nonpartisan.

Do not support or encourage gay behavior. God made us male + female. We don't have a choice.

Take down the pride flag! Don't pay attorneys to fight landlords out of our taxes!

More information for the public as to resources available + how to access such. What are your responsibilities and how can we provide input??

Increase the number of commissioners and elect them on a non-partisan basis.

What do you do? What are you responsible for? What have you done? I would like for you to get me more information and involve me more.

State government interfering in local County government powers and decision making.

I wish they would work for the people who live here and less for those who want to move here/invest money here

Add two more county commissioners who would be required not to be related to agriculture.

Add two commissioners for better representation of a larger population.

More transparency, open forums and a better way for public input. Require elected officials live here

Q-17 - It would have been helpful to know who would be doing the appointing. -> - In general, I think very little info is easily available. I know to search for what I want to know, free news or mailings would help as the BDC is not financially accessible to all.

I don't interact with county government much or I don't know what county government covers. I am a state employee so feel like I should have a better clue but have little to no overlap. So maybe you need to promote your work more?

Unfair/unjust property taxation - way to expensive!!

If someone doesn't like the U.S.A. and proud of our heritage and Flag. They should move somewhere that they do Like!

The welfare of the long-term county residents (those living here before the 1990's) should be top priority over all interests. After all these particular residents were responsible for this "paradise" creation that's attracting all walks-of-life!

greater oversight regarding preferential treatment.

To stop the building and poor planning. You have ruined our home! Shame on you

Property tax assessment.

Spending of tax dollars needs to be evaluated more carefully. Property taxes are too high, which drives up all housing costs.

If I call an employer in government I would like a response. If not, if I leave a message I would like an answer to my question.

Don't give into greed.

Their funding is inadequate. They need more ability to raise revenue to meet the needs of citizens.

Many elected offices should be appointed. Notably Treasurer, Auditor, Clerk of Court, Elections Admin. Maybe others as well.

Interact more with City of Bozeman elected and management people.

They would be a better partner w/ cities inside the country to best serve constituents.



## RESPONSES

Run the County Gov't more like a business, held personal to high standards and work ethic, do your job to the best of your ability. Just because you are a Gov't employee doesn't give you the Freedom to take advantage of being a Gov't employee. Your there to work and you should be held to the standards of working for a private company. If you don't perform your gone.

Get a sales tax (1-3%) approved since the residents are paying for visitors, instead of the opposite. Property taxes are too high and schools wanting more money which we can't afford on a fixed income.

Enforce weed control, Property owners are letting their property become infested by weeds, especially thistle. This spreads to neighboring properties.

I would like them to continue to improve their coordination with the city of Bozeman. It has gotten a lot better → keep it up!

Software & information tech enhancements (i.e. websites)

Our officials and city workers should be paid more

County gov't gives the university anything it asks for. It does not, ask for state help to pay expenses incurred in housing, law enforcement or services needed to provide for the student population OR development by out of state interests. You are taxing us out of our homes.

Drug and alcohol treatment programs being more accessible to residents who are struggling.

Improve the roads - Cottonwood is terrible -.... This survey is worthless!

Inform and educate Gallatin County citizens about your procedures, purpose, and decisions. Serve all the people fairly and ethically; not just favoring one party.

That people have a professional background in the basic knowledge of the item they are in charge of. The "job" should have requirements of knowledge or work positions needed to do the position.

Get the Sheriff's office out of politics

The lines + wait times at MVD I liked when we could make an appointment.

Taxes should be allocated to outlying communities as well as to Bozeman. To outsiders it appears that funds stop at the city limits.

Trips to the DMV are always a test of my patience unless I get there @ just the right time. There must be some way to streamline the process.

Stop rubber stamping oligarch projects + changing zoning based on fear of lawsuits + bullying. This county, Gallatin, is the richest county in MT, so why is the traffic the worst of any city in MT! In the words of Walt Whitman, "You have never met a developer you didn't like!" You green light their projects and we all pay price.

Not enough sector employees like Sheriffs, road dept, license plate people

Recycle everything

Gallatin county + Bozeman government seems to put the needs of developers over the needs of citizens in the valley, i.e. Canyon Gate, allowing a hotel to be built within the offsets of Bozeman creek, etc. ...

Planning department needs to be more accessible... Face to face meetings.

More common sense, do not destroy our Gallatin Co

## RESPONSES

Have an electronic waitlist for the MVD, instead of being told to take a number and then watch for it on the web camera. Map brewing and other eateries can figure it out; I'd love to have an equal or better experience when registering my car- Thanks. Also... send a survey about city government... I've got a lot more to say.

Need more people that are qualified for positions they seek!

Find real answers to the lack of affordable housing.

I would disallow incorporated islands within city limits. There are areas in Bozeman that don't get to vote for city elections or use city services currently.

Allow those of us surrounded by the city with private wells and septic systems to improve these w/o having to annex!

I would make them responsive to the citizens they are supposed to represent. I'm so sick of overwhelming public comments being utterly disregarded in the decisions made by city + county officials!

Stop being scared of making the absurdly wealthy pay their share

Permits take too long, too complicated

Lower taxes. Rein in wasteful spending. Be more fiscally transparent.

I think a combined city-county model would be worth looking at and considered in regards to Bozeman- Gallatin county government

Add commissioners - county has grown and its time to broaden the representation of ideas

Taxes are too high on property. To get refunds on taxes you paid with out all this extra info like social security numbers + personal info. this is a great safety issue.

More deputies and funding for law enforcement. Also, this survey is limited in accuracy. there are certain positions that should be appointed (i.e. treasurer + auditor) + others elected (i.e. sheriff + county attorney) there is no way to separate these on this survey.

Act less beholdng towards industry and federal land use exploitation and more protective of land use protection. Because our local economy as well as global health depend on wildlands preservation.

I love the idea of more leadership positions being nonpartisan

transparency. As things stall, information especially financial information is now close to the debt. the voting public is not made aware of the benefit the Financial advisor of the commission. I have followed possible legal issues with the commission's decisions: action that go against state mandates. Transportation, fiscal responsibility, and honesty need improvement.

Full time animal control - more enforcement of leash law - clear channel and communication and improved response time to calls.

Too many things need to be changed to be able to just pick one!

Adopt an alternate tax to less the burden on the property owner.

Better training and more funding for the county attorney's office. they are currently under - staffed and inexperienced. This causes everyone in the system to suffer.

get rid of road and bridge superintendent get rid of current commissioners - all too liberal! get new city mayor.

Answer the phone at the DMV!!

## RESPONSES

Rude, Lazy, incompetent employees. Money that gets wasted on silly LGBTQ+ nonsense.

Why new developments are always approved based on testimony saying there will be significant management on traffic. I don't believe it.

More police force/funding

Gallatin county zoning complaint process is a nightmare! It is executed very poorly

Why doesn't the county and city co-operate with each other?

Mandatory county commissioner from the bottom half of the county.

Two additional county commissioners to improve representation for the southern and western portions of the county.

Remove all greedy people who make decisions

Towns + cities should have more input in development decisions that ultimately stress transportation and city resources

More regulatory patterns of government

All forms of government should be less partisan. Bipartisanship in all levels of government would actually benefit the people at all levels vs those who currently abuse us

Lets pay the county employees a decent wage so we can get them to stay and get good at doing their job. Even if it means higher taxes.

Make it easier to get answers from one phone call instead of always being referred to someone else.

All county governments should be non-partisan

I would seek more low-income/mobile home court resident voices from all political parties not just conservative land developers. Our voices need to be heard/our views understood. Many growth pressures. Streamline could make a loop through forest park at least 3 times a day and add a stop on New Venture and Norris road for the rainbow subdivision and area apartments. End route to Livingston.

With the large amount of building construction in county areas the county should have a building inspection program. Missoula county has such a program that functions well. The safety of the public would be enhanced by such a move.

It feels like there is a strong lack of common sense in our county government. Why? I believe there is a strong pervasive current lack of moral judgement and a strong "follow what is currently socially acceptable" mentality. It appears that common sense has taken a back seat to what might be the current social tone of the moment.

More votes or voting on new developments, why are so many unfilled? Where will people park downtown Bozeman with all the new condos? Why is there no public shooting range?

Big Sky needs to be held accountable for its environmental impact on water quality for the runoff into Gallatin River. Courts should not be so backed up - right to a timely trial

Consider the people of Gallatin valley more than the incentives offered by developers

The treatment of the homeless population. If we are going to require rules about where and when houseless people can and can't be, we need to first address the cause of the crisis with adequate access to affordable housing, higher paying jobs, access to mental health resources, affordable

## RESPONSES

healthcare, and addiction treatment. All things that prevent houselessness. The way society treats people who are less fortunate is shameful. Do better. Thank you!

Taxes are ludicrous. Will drive people out of their homes.

Lower property taxes

Funding oversite of fire station #2 instead of obvious bias in serving Belgrade- huge issue!

Enforce the out of state plates on workers. I see far too many plates from out of state at work sites!!  
Enforce red light laws!!!!

Lack of inability to stand up to large developers

I do not deal with Gallatin Co. government on a regular basis so I cannot say.

Election registration/ voter suppression. I was one of those unfortunate people who waited in line for more than TEN HOURS to vote because my submitted (in September) registration was never processed, and same day registration was available at only ONE location.

The county commissioners should have shorter terms

No property tax for seniors. Also look into Florida's save our Homes law. Something must be done about property tax

Make an effort to reduce taxes!

I would like to see the building/planning departments and commission actually listen to public input in new project/zoning appeals and forcing newly developed projects to abide by requirements (i.e. parking minimums) that are reasonable and not offer buyouts or loopholes to developers.

Stop building. Reduce tax for elderly/ on fixed income

More resources so that offices like GIS are open during all regular business days and hours

Property taxes are outrageous! Lower them

Be more responsible with tax payers money. Stop wasting tax payers money

Think more clearly on decisions that affect tax payers + citizens, instead of the people with influence + money. Don't be bought! Help students + medium income workers so we don't have to flee Bozeman

Taxes are "out of hand" for the medium income tax payer. Homelessness needs to be addressed, but not put the burden on people who work regularly just enough to pay monthly obligations due to tax burdens.

More open space already put into parks. More affordable housing. Less rampant development. Could we have a county public pool?

More traffic laws enforced. Too many speeders in Gallatin County (south Bozeman). Too many texters while driving

No suggestion but wanted to flag I do not follow local media/news so I don't have a lot of county info. Only when I seek it directly. This survey seems "political" in nature.

Rural property taxes are unreasonably high. Tax exempt status should be returned to non profit rural community property.

1. Stop destroying the best farmland in Montana. Stop sprawl, why the rush to turn this paradise into Los Angeles? Moratorium on all building required immediately. South 19th is disgusting.

County Supt. of schools is very unqualified and disorganized... his secretary should receive his salary, she does his work.

## RESPONSES

That the government was more concerned about its citizens than developers

My major concern is urban sprawl in light of water supply. In Europe city limits define population growth as rural lands are set aside for rural purposes. Perhaps the U.S. should consult with Europe on matters of urban development.

Represent the average working person instead of developers and wealthy investors in our county, so the taxes don't keep going up + pushing the people on lower income, medium income, and retired out of their homes or rentals. There should be a "grandfather" agreement for average tax payers not to pay unnecessary tax increases!

County wide sales tax on all tourists so you can lower our real estate taxes.

I was raised in Gallatin county. This county has seen an immense amount of change over my 56 years. If there would be one thing to change is to maintain a base where family farms can operate + have success. Containing some of the growth and sprawl. Having folks in office who understand what this place used to be and are not bringing their big city plans/problems and ideas with them here.

More school funding

Add two more county commissioners

1. Require developers to upgrade county roads adjacent to development, rather than pay county cash-in-lieu. 2. County needs to prolong road improvements and county needs to increase road travel growth estimates used by developers

Increase representation of our increased population by moving to increase the commission to 5 commissioners instead of 3.

more forethought for roads + building projects. Make a decision + stop dragging it out. Good or bad someone will always be mad or benefit

Nice work! By electing study commissioners and conducting this survey, county residents get a voice. Spending time + resources to gather input demonstrates the sincerity of the ask for feedback. May the deliberation be lively + fruitful. Thank you.

Newer development needs to incorporate new parking- underground or lots. Downtown parking is a problem due to loss of spaces. Hotels + apartment buildings need to provide their own parking spaces.

County superintendent needs to have a working understanding of what homeschooling is and how it works. It is NOT the same as having a child do public school at home. This person also needs to be familiar with Montana homeschool laws and not require anything beyond the law.

I like more snow at Bridger Bowl and Big Sky and less snow in town.

Gallatin County government issues are not a high priority in our local news as compared to city issues.

The rest home makes me sad. Updates/upgrades - our seniors deserve better!

If the goal of the commission is a representative democracy, three commissioners is too few relative to the size of the county.

Explain poor planning for growth in infrastructure and parking. Also, totally incompetent mayors in the last 30 years!

My big issue is cotton wood road, the state says the county is responsible + the county says the state is responsible. Meanwhile the road is dangerous. Would the person in charge please call me.

[REDACTED]

## RESPONSES

I would honestly love to see a digital newsletter than one could be given the option for when registering to vote or obtaining a drivers license. For the most part, I'm unsure if a department is county or city or why its important. A newsletter, highlighting what various departments do and what they're currently working on could help the public feel connected with our local government.

Clerk + recorder should be appointed.

Don't know enough yet to say.

Better response and workers to help w/ the Medicaid process

We have it pretty good

Education, transparency, public servant ethics "one thing" = morality

Transparency with regards to deals given to developers

Too much development! Ugly apartments! Property taxes way too high!!!

Strengthen the weed control group so that it can be more effective in getting property owners (public and private) to control invasive weeds, such as Canada Thistle, Musk Thistle, Hoary Alyssum & Spotted Knapweed

Increase commission to 5 members

Require office holders to have private sector business experience. Years of it.

Balance of differing positions of leadership. [We need a/some conservative voice(s) in leadership & moderate as well as the liberal perspective we presently have. Why? Better, balanced, decisions & policies are the end result. Overall - government is too large at all levels & this needs to be scaled back. We need less laws/ordinances/rules & those that are left - enforced.

I don't like the disconnect of Bozeman or Missoula versus looking at the history of the state. This is historically not an overly liberal state however the outside influence has changed our city structure.

Stop pro development stances. Which includes - leave the fairgrounds, 4-H alone & help maintain those building assoc. w/

I don't use you guys hardly at all anymore so my opinions are just a guess. I appreciate the work you guys do.

go back to ALL notices being printed in the local newspaper and NOT in the tiny print in the want ads. It needs to be a full sized ad.

The cessation of bribery + corruption, it is destroying the area

Would change those elected officials going preference to out of state developers who are overdeveloping; raising costs of rentals, taxes, materials and insurance while bringing in out of state employees to send their money home and not spend in this economy. Would expose the "churches" who hold property to have it developed by out of state companies.

The DMV. They are inefficient, not helpful in qualifying documents needed pre-visit, make you wait an inordinate amount of time and are too picky regarding documentation presented.

Would have more leadership positions be nonpartisan. Have all the elected offices in county government except the commissioners be nonpartisan. The leadership positions are elected to serve all the people not a party.

They need to follow state statue more

minimum residency tenure to be an elected official. Full time residency only.

## RESPONSES

Have the infrastructure catch up before more development is approved. Plan ahead instead of being behind.

Gallatin county roads should be expanded and paid for by developers before they can build! Our local roads are overcrowded now + they keep approving big developments and not the roads!

Less taxation... i.e. Prop. taxes, school taxes.....

Officials should have leadership experiences and should be a Bozeman resident already for 12 years to apply to run for office, also for appointed positions. We need new government from Mayor to Commissioner across the board with a belief in positive human right for all not bought off by big cooperations and their money flow!

An overall focus on long term solutions & consequences not just lots of short term decisions.

More staffing to take stress off current employees.

cooperate more with city of Bozeman. why can't the commissions get along? TOO POLITICAL.

make planning and zoning clearer

Increase commission to 5

A ward system is needed instead of being dominated by the Bozeman populace. Citizens outside of Bozeman are not being represented.

Control or decrease the building!!!!

Sorry - don't have any interaction w/ Gallatin County govt.

Less spending, lower taxes

Some "police" favor vets over general population, but not all "vets" are good people. Some shady deal in Gallatin County sheriffs dept. of they're called to address criminal behavior, & shouldn't be ignored especially if called to more than once. There is animal abuse going on at trailer on [REDACTED]. And another resident confiscating property as his own which really is a right of way [REDACTED] for other residents in small community on [REDACTED]

Commission should not be able to overrule Health Dept. rules as in covid shutdowns as that is not their place or area of knowledge

Swift responsiveness + accountability on the substantial property tax issues including property tax valuations. There is no meaningful way to object to soaring property tax valuations caused by rich newcomers – we were threatened by Gallatin Co. assessors with having our taxes raised even more if we appealed our homes valuation. We are longtime residents + employers here are we're getting killed with high property taxes and an impossible housing market for our employees. Our property taxes went up 104%.

Ensure that residents can do everything we need to do online, including submitting questions and requests, Do not make us make a phone call, which requires us to have time during business hours. And definitely don't make us go to an office in person. Its 2025!

The most pressing change needed is that the county governance system needs to be restructured to meet the needs of the current day- the current structure may have worked well 100 years ago, but todays much larger + complex county needs a better structure to meet needs. P.S. boxes I marked "unsure" does not mean I don't care, it means I do not know or have no way of knowing.

## RESPONSES

I'd like to have voting done in-person only on election day and have ALL votes be only MT and USA citizens with voter ID required. And to hand count all ballots. All to insure voting integrity that is missing in our county, state, and country.

The courts- they were presuming guilt. The hoops that I had to go through to prove my innocence were many. I was driving 62 mph in a 70 mph road. The road signs made it clear that it was indeed a 70 mph road. The officer who ticketed me thought it was a 45 mph road. he was incorrect and took a lot of my energy to fix it.

Generate A county newspaper devoted to transparency of government. Because without it we are having to guess what is true.

Those tax-payers in the city "donut" area should be able to vote in city elections

Allowing RV and multiple trailers in vacant lots and public roads. Your septic permits need to check up on where these trailers sewage is going.

[REDACTED] at public health was not timely in response and extremely unprofessional in her conduct.

1) The treasurer should be appointed based on skill. 2) Violations should be allowed to be allowed to be anonymous if they can be seen from the road.

Gallatin county should work better with the city of Bozeman. It is ridiculous they were not able to collaborate to build joint law and justice center.

Better access to when/where our officials are making decisions.

Give attention to all county roads. Valley needs an annual grading + snow plowing throughout the winter. Some of the neighbors shoulder the expense.

That we could get more open minded individuals rather than what we have in the past.

I might consolidate Gallatin + Bozeman. The two Law + Justice centers were crazy + expensive. Foolish.

There are ongoing concerns about the current treasurers leadership style which has been described as domineering and counterproductive. This raises questions about whether the position would be better as an appointed role to ensure greater accountability and alignment with Gallatin County's values.

Taxes! They are too high.

The Gallatin County Government could change how they create a livable community for the locals that maintain the economic scaffolding for Montana State and tourism. it be an advocate for a livable wage in GC, affordable housing, tourist tax, or even backing HRDC to create an accessible streamline route throughout the city of Bozeman and further reaching areas such as Belgrade, Livingston, and Four Corners. The why is simple. I want Bozeman to be my home but I can't afford to live here and work for the billionaires. I will be moving from my home of twenty-two years after my daughter graduates from BHS.

More info should be accessible on social media (unless it already is).

Increase support for emergency services performance. That's one of the things I would vote to pay more taxes for.

More people from/raised in the Rocky Mountain region should be the preferential source of agents for government positions here. Folks from far away typically do not represent the interests/ values of the main population.



## RESPONSES

Monitor and enforce street noise/disruptive + dangerous drivers. The mayoral system is confusing. City commissioners should have to live in that neighborhood/district as their primary residence for at least a minimum of 5 years.

Stop the traffic circles. People don't know how to use them.

"The squeaky wheel shouldn't always get the grease". The Gallatin County government needs to embrace the historic values that this community was built from and continue to embrace those values while supporting future growth. Are we creating infrastructure where people have to live or people want to live?

Gallatin County Health Department. Unresponsive, inflexible, but more than happy to require multiple "inspections" so they can charge more fees. Unpleasant customer service-always. Not customer focused or business friendly.

Please do not try to merge or combine city and county governments!

I think the county commission should increase to 5 members.

More district court judges and a standing master - a disgruntled attorney

Feed, house, heal your people

Notice of construction sites, letting the public know what's being built and a potential timeline.

Land use/zoning needs to authorize more mobile home communities so we can afford to keep living here.

Not sure, I don't really interact w/ Gallatin County municipal gov.

I don't have an opinion on this. My experience with Gallatin County government is good and routine-pay taxes, vehicle title, etc. I bet the people who work inside the government have an idea or two? thank you and good luck with the rest of the process.

Take a more conservative approach both fiscally + morally. Less liberal.

I think there are a lot of misunderstandings how gov't in general works.

Enforce the traffic law!!

Formulate a system that doesn't punish unhoused people. People don't live in campers as a happy place. Maybe we could have empathy!

Events at the fairgrounds are frequently loud (and disruptive to Bozeman neighborhoods). I disagree with state governments trend of weakening local control.

I do not feel I'm qualified to respond to this survey because my husband has been very ill and passed a few months ago and I was his main caregiver and my main focus - timewise but appreciate the opportunity to give our opinions. Thank you for giving citizens the way to express concerns re: issues.

Make them more visible/accessible to the average community member.

More integration of public opinions/civilian needs in terms of zoning. It seems like Gallatin valley is more accountable to developers to its own citizens.

Officers whose jobs are to implement policy not make policy should not be elected. Such officers include clerk of court, auditor, clerk and recorder, and treasurer.

Better communication with the public about what you all do- fliers, pamphlets, etc. mailed out. Don't rely on just communicating through the BDC.

All officials are elected instead of appointed.

## RESPONSES

When going on website it can be confusing so it is harder to get info. A flow chart or org chart or other visuals might help. Gov. help is usually to help the “disadvantaged” mostly in programs that help economically. Too many programs exclude this “help” to the income levels vs. helps everyone...

Non partisan and don't give big developers and big money investors in Big Sky an unlimited green stamp to develop. Development projects in Big Sky are ruining everything we love about Montana.

N/A

I think it is a very well run county. Thanks to all.

Stop the population growth.

Technology needs to be updated to help ease taxpayers- more user friendly. Managing the rapid growth and not penalizing homeowners with outrageous property taxes especially for those of us who have rentals and provide services for hard working families.

When requested Gallatin County represented above and beyond the call of duty!! Public service. Ration between law enforcement officers i.e. male vs female is/was better than Bozeman.

I would utilize the county government as a counter-balance to the city of Bozeman's ridiculous local gout. The “high density housing” at all cost philosophy needs to be curtailed.

Commissioners take advice given by the planning board.

Serve the people-not the politics, wealthy, influential.

More community, public community live town halls.

More transparency which is open to public comments.

Anytime I have needed them, they have met my needs. Roads are adequately maintained in winter. I have mostly engaged with the Sheriff dept. when needed. I don't know what changes are needed except always more personnel.

Make certain that unfortunate, objective and accurate and reliable, on important decisions affecting Gallatin county residents and resources, including development, are available and understandable well in advance of county and government decisions.

We need the ability to enact growth controls - zoning.

Transparency - I can't say I have much information on what the county government is doing.

It upsets me that people with “money” and political backing rule things. common sense is a thing of the past. Long time residents are forced to leave the area.

Have adequate staff to respond promptly. One worker was on leave and we waited over a month to get an answer. Temp staff didn't know how to process our request.

Our county attorney should be disbarred. Zero accountability in her office. Victims go unheard. Charges dropped?

More accountability for those in charge.

Less regulation

Higher taxes on absurd wealth to pay for schools + roads.

More effective zoning to limit urban sprawl.

A focus toward responsible development that includes mixed use (business/amenities mixed into new neighborhoods rather than endless sprawl) and environmental considerations in growth.

## RESPONSES

MVD could be more customer forward. Fair grounds have more opportunities.

Stop messing with existing zoning codes! And focus on new zoning areas that preserve the character of the area.

I am unsure where to learn more about Gallatin County Government + would like learning materials/resources to be better advertised.

Have you stop approving building of apartments throughout the county along with high density housing, there are so many unrented units.

Pay more attention to our farmers and ranchers. They supply our food! Quit selling out to developers.

Address adequate needs to areas outside of Bozeman, North Gallatin county. Address needs of West Yellowstone.

More law enforcement to enforce law. I shouldn't feel unsafe in my home living next to illegals (reported multiple times) with my property value decreasing. I feel unsafe on I-90 from Three Forks to Bozeman with out of control drivers.

Lower property Taxes!

More concentration of living/residences, more open spaces preserved. Improved public transportation.

The leadership. It borders communism. Very left.

More responsive to the poor- Not to "aid to billionaires". My tax should not subsidize/finance what billionaires choose. How about? (Illegible....)

Elected officials should be reminded often that they serve the people of this community and not just the people/friends they know. This is why so many feel Bozeman is "no longer recognizable", especially those who have no confidence about how to communicate their needs to our trusted elected officials. We the people starts at home, not from the trickle-down effect of our irrational POTUS.

More resources for the Sheriff's office to be able to serve out growing community.

The security guard at the law and justice center is the worst. Acts like a gate keeper. Enjoys power too much. Holds it over public and lawyers just trying to do job.

I know its a complex issue, but developers have taken advantage of Gallatin county + middle income housing is in severe demand.

I do not have enough understanding or experience with the county government to know.

More commissioners with self governing powers; three are a violation of open meeting laws all the time and self governing powers would provide more flexibility to address community needs.

The county commission should not be able to absorb other department responsibilities (treasurer, clerk recorder). No matter what official deals are signed. Commission should not be able to restructure entire county zoning or even deny valid reasonable local (resident) zoning plans. Elected official job duties should be absolute + defined and not malleable- Treasurer in charge of bank account, clerk/recorder run elections, etc. ...

I would provide money for services, not studies and surveys. Meetings and committees are worthless when it comes to solving a problem, dig in and learn from doing, not thinking about how to do it.

Communications/fairness/more non-partisan

## RESPONSES

Continue to improve transparency and spread of information to residents.

I don't think illegal immigrants should get benefits from my taxes. Also, Fowler project input happened too late. Locals found out too late.

More receptive to Big Sky needs when Big Sky tax payers are a significantly large contribution to the county.

Focus on maintaining the heart and culture of Bozeman and the basic necessities of moderate growth in our community. Quit pandering to local minorities.

More regulation of growth.

G. C. gov. should make a much larger effort in communicating with the public regarding zoning changes, new development of vacant land, and large development of commercial and residential properties. Because: important to know how they affect the neighborhoods.

Nothing comes to mind.

The gov. should follow voter directives. When a spending budget or bill is voted down, stop rewarding the measure + forcing it through regardless. I.E. we voted down redlight cameras, police stations, center jails, re-entry programs, police acquisitions and yet the county forced the issue on all and spent our money. Stop focusing on how to jail and convict Americans and start spending money on alternatives. Our police budget it outrageous we spend over 10 million on Sheriffs services, over 8 million on detention services... and only 1 million on library services.

Fewer out of state liberals in leadership positions. Remove gay pride flags. Cost of this survey to taxpayers?

People that build 2nd homes here should pay more in taxes. Residents that have lived here for 20+ years should not be expected to fund new projects (roads and street lights).

Use tax money for more community amenities. I.e. a public pool!!

Need to be more aware of economic conditions in county and affordability of area. Staff are being priced out of housing and commissioners are unwilling to do more than the bare minimum to address this. Justice center also needs public water fountains and accessible vending machines.

Land use and zoning could use major improvement. Huffine for one. Not enough beauty or parks. Too many gas-ugly-stations.

To be less political and more for the people.

Slow down growth. Bozeman and Big Sky are expanding faster than the infrastructure to support the growth.

Problems handled in a timely fashion

More than 8% of Montana is covered with noxious weeds, noxious weeds pose an enormous threat to our economy and environment, decrease the economic value of land and crops, reduce forage for livestock and wildlife, displace native plant species, reduce plant diversity, increase soil erosion, and sedimentation, and affect recreational value. Gallatin County government should actively take legal action against offending property owners rather than pass that burden on to those who are concerned enough to report problem properties to the right board.

Cut taxes by ending woke programs. Keep to the basics of government and keep out of social issues or programs designed to transfer income or wealth.

Less waste by county tax assessment.

## RESPONSES

In my 5 1/2 years in Gallatin I've not had to interact with county government. I also have no clue what county government does or does not do for residents. Perhaps an annual or semi annual email or mailed newsletter w/ accomplishments, challenges, profile of leaders, etc. would help population be informed.

Too many building permits. Water.

Coming from a larger city, the lack of local law enforcement astounds me. There is absolutely no enforcement for speeding + red light runners. Bozeman needs law enforcing cameras. They are amazing at reducing violations. Start small, in school zones, then go bigger, to major intersections where accidents occur. Contact Spokane for more info. The residents didn't want them but they installed them anyway + now the residents are in.

Increase transparency and accountability in decision making process. Create a public accountability and ethics office, mandate transparent budget info. To the public, codify community and expert input early in the process. Establish ethics review board. Why? Gallatin County's \$160 Million bond deal with bridger aerospace didn't gain enough public input + most of this money was not used to build it, it repaid investors. Who has oversight on this? This increases the risk for the community. There needs to be more transparency + accountability (non-partisan) to ensure decisions are in the county's best interest.

Lower property taxes!

I came from Vermont. Most have NO idea of the overwhelming pressure to be politically correct in the state of Vermont. Its beautiful but the people who move from out of state changed it for what their old home state was. Its also what I don't like about Montana. But Montana is my home. I love it.

My mom bonded me out (no bail bondsman, she paid it in full) years ago. Never got it back. No explanation, "checks in the mail." I have friends growing up who got away with crimes clerks "lost" them in the system. Point is, BPD, courts, law & order is notoriously corrupt.

Political influences are degrading our Montana lifestyle. Doing the right thing doesn't include agendas, biased narratives or narrow minded influencers.

More outreach to public and making it easy to track issues or provide feedback with follow up. Thanks :)

The process to get licensed to do a short term rental was cumbersome and ridiculous! It took way too much time and work to demystify the process.

Rules on septic systems are too stringent, expensive and impractical.

Eliminate the county services. An unnecessary 3rd level of government is wasteful. City government and state government is enough!

Easy, quit selling out Big Sky!

The woke management in Bozeman. It is not a majority of people - love the Rainbows.

I'm unsure.

The county government is ideologically biased, and so makes wildly unwise decisions. They seem to care NOTHING about Montana's history or the U.S. Constitution or the things that have made our culture successful in the past.

## RESPONSES

That the city commission of Bozeman actually listen to public comment instead of pretending to take public comment when they have already made a decision. It seems they listen 1st to developers interest and not to public comment!

Electing the mayor 2 years in advance, I don't believe is necessary and there is lots of twiddling thumbs.

N/A

Have more "public" discussion of the issues by the candidates and incumbents of "hot topic" issues i.e. the voters need to know more "in depth" reasoning of the candidates and incumbents.

The manner and consistency in which you are dealing with the Bridger Canyon zoning issue. You do not enforce the law!

Use funds efficiently, because I shouldn't have to pay because others spend my money recklessly!

No comment.

I am concerned about our rapid rate of growth. We've always been a uniquely pleasant place to live and I don't want to see it change. We should not adapt to suit all these newcomers

I have not had enough interaction with the county government to meaningfully answer this question eliminate county Superintendent of schools. IT is a duplication of administrators in Local schools.

More zoning! The county is becoming a development trash bin. Ruining the land.

## Variable Name: mode

**Description:** Mode of the survey. This variable has not been survey weighted.

### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

*Table 42: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **mode** variable*

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Paper	1378	88.79%
Online	174	11.21%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1552	

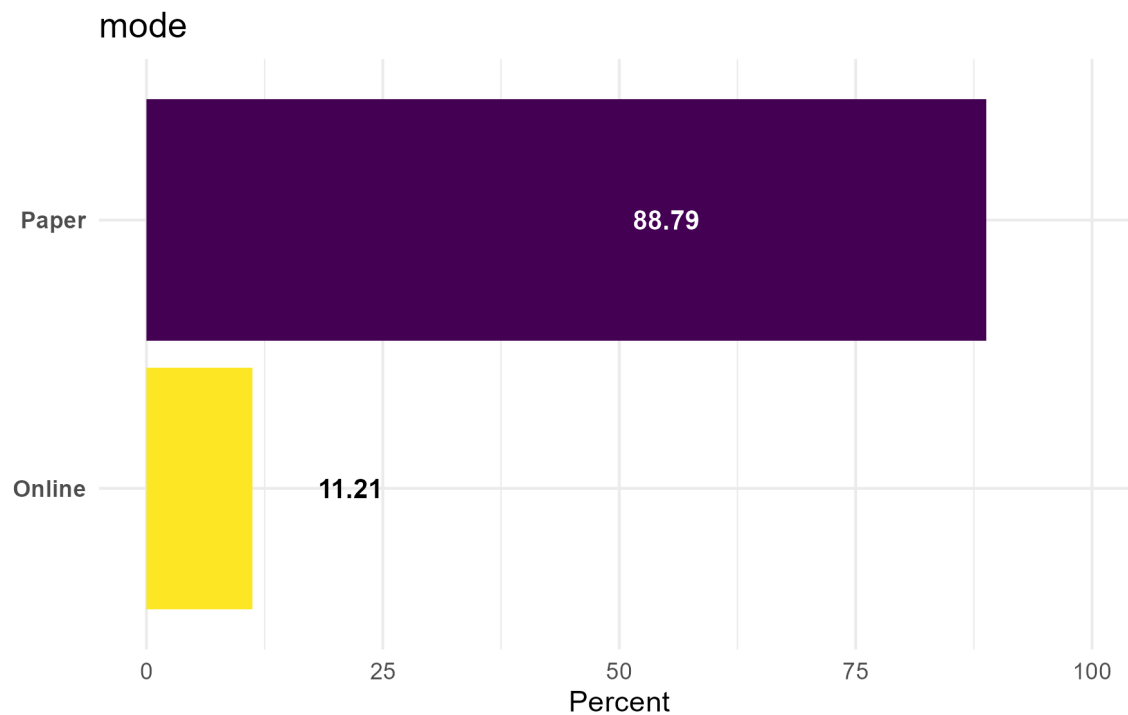


Figure 42: Marginal percentages plot for 'mode' variable

### Variable Name: precinct

**Description:** Gallatin County Precinct as identified by the voter file provided by the county.

#### Frequencies and Marginal Percentages:

*Table 43: Frequencies and marginal percentages table for **precinct** variable*

RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
57A	16	1.03%
57B	22	1.42%
57C	25	1.61%
59A	46	2.96%
59B	41	2.64%
59C	37	2.38%
59D	38	2.45%
60A	38	2.45%
60B	32	2.06%
60C	23	1.48%
60D	25	1.61%
60E	22	1.42%
61A	37	2.38%
61B	37	2.38%
61C	37	2.38%
62A	36	2.32%
62B	37	2.38%
62C	33	2.12%
62D	37	2.38%
63A	36	2.32%
63B	41	2.64%
63C	35	2.25%
63D	33	2.12%
64A	37	2.38%
64B	35	2.25%
64C	37	2.38%
64D	35	2.25%
65A	35	2.25%
65B	37	2.38%
65C	35	2.25%
65D	36	2.32%



RESPONSE OPTION	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
66A	39	2.51%
66B	39	2.51%
66C	41	2.64%
66D	36	2.32%
67A	45	2.90%
67B	33	2.12%
67C	32	2.06%
67D	35	2.25%
68A	31	2.00%
68B	32	2.06%
68C	31	2.00%
68D	32	2.06%
69A	25	1.61%
77A	26	1.67%
77B	25	1.61%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1553</b>	

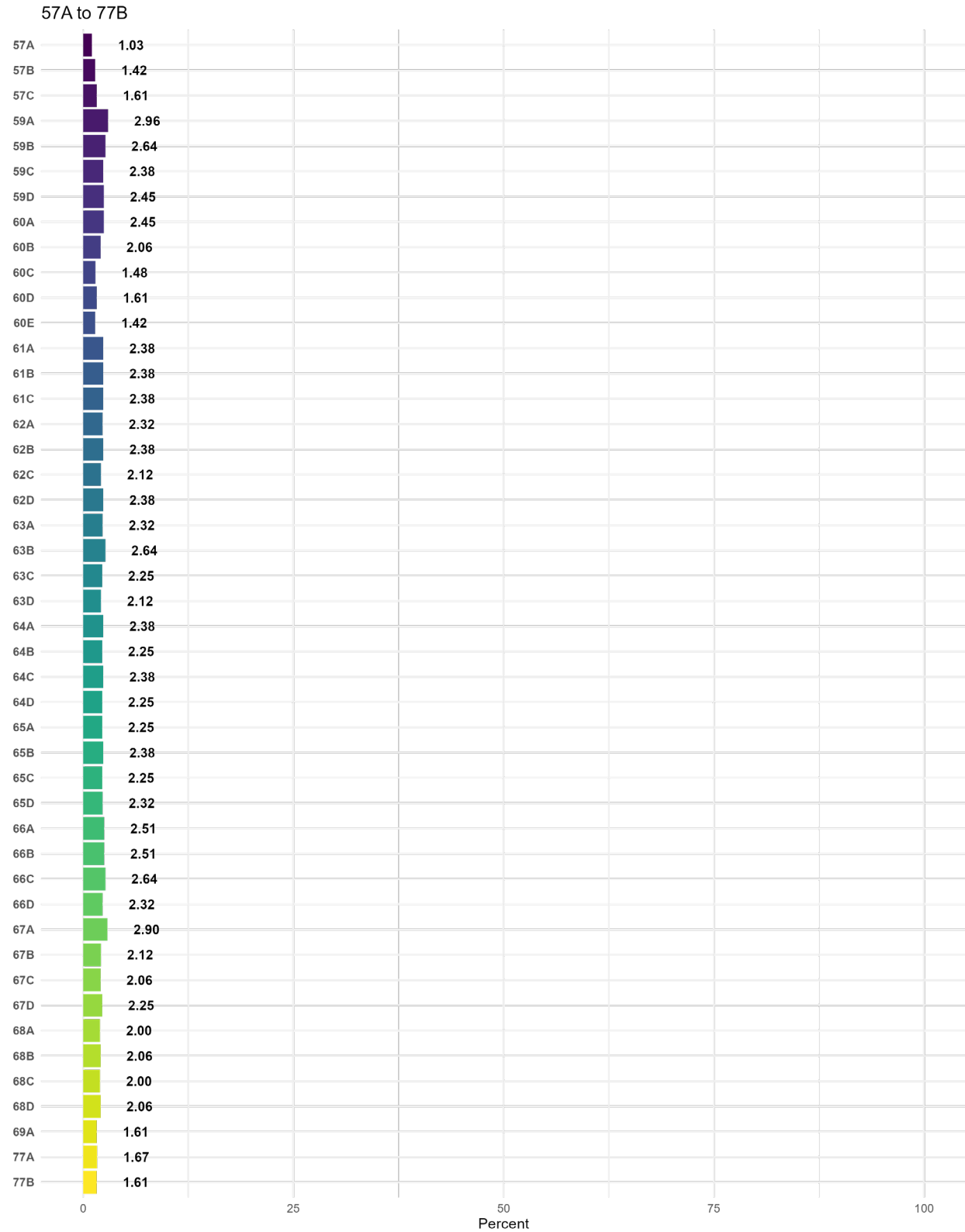


Figure 43: Marginal percentages plot for 'precinct' variable