



# CAPTURING COMMUNITY MEMBERS' BUSHFIRE EXPERIENCES FOLLOWING THE 12 JANUARY 2014 PARKERVILLE (WA) FIRE

Supplementary report on online survey of residents in the Shire of  
Mundaring for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services Western  
Australia



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



Department of Fire &  
Emergency Services

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Cover: A firefighter battles the Parkerville bushfire. Photo by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Western Australia.

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## INTRODUCTION

This is the companion volume for the report entitled *Capturing community members' bushfire experiences: Interviews with residents following the 12 January 2014 Parkerville (WA) Fire* prepared by Professor Jim McLennan. The current document presents findings from the online survey developed to complement the community interviews undertaken and detailed by Professor McLennan in that report.

Both pieces of work were undertaken as part of the study conducted by the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre (BNHCRC) for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) of Western Australia following the bushfire in the Parkerville area on 12 January 2014.

The purpose of that study was to assist DFES to learn as much as possible about residents' prior understandings of bushfire safety and risk, and their experiences during the fires, thus contributing to improved community bushfire safety in the future. The reader is referred to the aforementioned report for an overview of the circumstances of that fire and background to the study.

The online survey was included in the broader study to enable those who were not at home at the time the interview teams were in the field and unable to avail themselves of the opportunity to participate in the study through a telephone interview to have their experiences recorded and considered. The online survey was open to all residents in the Shire of Mundaring from May to early July 2014.

Despite wide promotion of the survey, the number of respondents who ultimately completed the questionnaire (58) was small. This means that the results should be used carefully and should be seen as a glimpse of the views of a self-selected group of Shire of Mundaring residents who are particularly interested in bushfire-related matters.

## METHODOLOGY

### DEVELOPMENT OF THE SURVEY TOOL

The online survey, the results of which are presented here, was developed by the BNHCRC staff in collaboration with the DFES Community Engagement Branch and staff from the Shire of Mundaring. The questions and the survey tool were designed in an iterative process involving members of each of these organisations with the question design overseen by Professor McLennan.

As the first stage of the process (undertaken in parallel with the development of the interview check sheets used in the community interviews), questions were selected from similar studies undertaken by the Bushfire CRC in Victoria, Tasmania and New South Wales. These were then reviewed by the DFES and Shire staff to align with their key areas of interest and local context. Details were reviewed by the BNHCRC team and Professor McLennan to avoid leading questions and ensure an unbiased survey.

The survey was then entered into the commercially available tool Survey Monkey®. Prior to launch, the survey was tested by staff from the three organisations (DFES, Shire of Mundaring and BNHCRC) and refined to address ambiguity and enable improved navigation between sections. As part of the review process, it was identified the survey was quite long (taking some testers up to 30 minutes to complete) and there was the potential for a drop-off in completion of later questions. After discussion, it was agreed to proceed with the full range of questions as each of them addressed issues of importance to the DFES team.

A copy of the final survey is included as Appendix A. Frequency tables for individual questions are provided as Appendix B.

The target population for this online survey was the residents of the Shire of Mundaring threatened by the fire in the Parkerville area. Based on this, the combined team decided the principal access point to the survey should be the Shire of Mundaring webpage. Links to the survey were provided on the BNHCRC, Bushfire CRC and DFES websites.

Flyers distributed as part of the community interviewing fieldwork advised residents of the availability of the online survey. Residents unable to participate in the interviews were encouraged to complete the online survey to assist DFES in learning from their experiences. The survey was further advertised through local initiatives (including social media) arranged by Shire and DFES staff.

The survey was open from 7 May to 7 July 2014.

## SURVEY PARTICIPATION AND DATA ANALYSIS

Despite the efforts of the combined organisations, the number of responses to the survey was low with only 67 participants commencing and 58 completing the survey from a population of 5,323 usual residents.<sup>1</sup>

Owing to the small sample, these survey results should be seen as being informative only and should not be relied upon as definitive statements of what community members did or experienced during this fire event. Notwithstanding this, the researchers believe these results can be seen as an 'upper boundary' of bushfire safety awareness and preparedness as it is reasonable to assume that those who responded to the survey represent that portion of the community who are relatively more interested in and aware of bushfire-related matters.

It is worth noting that 17 (one third) of the respondents to the survey indicated they had experienced damage to their home or property or had lost pets or livestock owing to the fire. Of these, only four indicated their home had been destroyed or sustained major damage.

Data has been analysed and presented in a relatively straightforward way using simple tabulations and graphs. Responses have not been differentiated by age, gender or other independent variables owing to the small sample size. Similarly, tests of significance have not been conducted.

All respondents who started indicated they agreed with the terms and conditions (Question 1) but nine respondents dropped out after Question 2 about where they lived, giving a base of 58 respondents. Analysis shows seven of those who dropped out were from areas other than the target regions of Parkerville, Stoneville and Mount Helena. After the initial drop-out, the number of responses remained largely consistent with respondents addressing relevant questions. This indicates that survey fatigue was not as significant as that reported in previous online surveys of bushfire-affected communities.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Population of Parkerville, Stoneville Hovea - 25/07/2014. Parkerville - Stoneville - Hovea is bounded by a line running continuous of Cameron Road and Cameron Road in the north, a line running continuous of Short Street, Short Street and the locality of Mount Helena in the east, Jarrah Road, Milligan Road, Lacey Road, the locality of Mundaring, Thomas Road, Kintore Road and the Great Eastern Highway in the south and Throssell Road and the City of Swan in the west. <http://profile.id.com.au/mundaring/about?WebID=180> accessed 25/07/2014

<sup>2</sup> See in particular Horsey B. and Penman T., (2014) *Community Understanding and Awareness of Bushfire Safety: October 2013 Part 2 Online Survey Research for New South Wales Rural Fire Service*, Bushfire CRC, Australia. p. 4.

## RESULTS

This section provides some detail of key characteristics of respondents and their answers to a selection of the questions included in the survey. As indicated above frequency distributions are included for all questions in Appendix B. Data sets have been provided to DFES for more detailed analysis however the small sample size means any such analysis must be treated with extreme caution.

### PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

#### Geographic Distribution

Respondents were first asked whether they lived or had properties in the area affected by the Parkerville fire that is the subject of the current study.

As indicated above, 67 respondents answered this question. Of these, 16 (23.9%) indicated they were from the Parkerville area, 27 (40.3%) from the Stoneville area and 17 (25.4%) from the Mount Helena area, seven respondents indicated they were from other areas. The seven from 'other areas, along with two additional initial respondents subsequently dropped out of the survey.

#### Demographic Characteristics and Household Structure

In this section the demographic characteristics of the respondents have been compared to those of the resident population based on the 2011 Census of Population and Housing<sup>3</sup>.

A total of 58 respondents answered the questions about their gender and age. The proportion of women responding to this survey, like those participating in the community interviews, is slightly higher than that found in the general community. The age of the respondents is slightly younger than the general population with an estimated mean of 45 years. This provides a counter-balance to the interviews, where the mean age of respondents was 57 years. Gender and age distribution of respondents (compared with the local community) is presented in Table 1.

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<sup>3</sup> All demographic information in this section is sourced from <http://profile.id.com.au/mundaring/about?WebID=180> accessed 25/07/2014



Gender	Online Survey Responses	Population*
Male	44.8 %	49.9%
Female	55.2%	51.1%
Age		
18–24 years	5.2%	4.8%
25–34 years	17.2%	10.7%
35–44 years	27.6%	24.8%
45–54 years	25.9%	25.9%
55–64 years	17.2%	19.2%
65–74 years	6.9%	10.1%
75+ years	0.0%	5.0%

TABLE 1 DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

Table 2 shows the employment status of respondents. In contrast to the interviews, which had an under-representation of those in full-time or part-time employment (28% and 14% respectively), compared to the community of the area, a high proportion of the respondents to the online survey (74%) were in some form of paid employment.

The next section of the survey asked a number of questions about dependents. These questions are asked because the presence or absence of dependents is generally considered an important influencer on people's decision-making. Key results are provided in Table 3 below.

It can be noted that 37% of respondents indicated that either they or another member of the household were current or former members of the local Volunteer Bushfire Brigade or Volunteer Fire and Rescue. Twenty-five per cent indicated they were current members.

Employment Status	Online Survey Responses
Full-time paid employment	44.8%
Self-employed	15.5%
Part-time/casual employment	13.8%
Full-time domestic duties	10.3%
Full-time student	1.7%
Unemployed	0.0%
Retired	8.6%

Full-time volunteer	0.0%
Part-time volunteer	12.1%
Not able to work	1.7%
Prefer not to say	3.4%

TABLE 2 EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF RESPONDENTS

Dependents	Online Survey Responses
Households with children under 5 years	21.7%
Households with children between 5 and 12 years	18.3%
Households with children between 13 and 18 years	23.3%
Households with members who were identified as seriously or chronically ill	6.7%
Households with pets or livestock	80.0%

TABLE 3 RESPONDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS

## HOME AND COMMUNITY

### Characteristics of the Property

The third section of the survey asked a series of questions about the particular property and the general community. These variables have been found previously to influence risk perception and general preparedness actions.

Respondents indicated the properties (in the Parkerville area and) on which they lived were predominately the main family home (98%). The majority (91%) were owned (with or without a mortgage).

Properties were roughly equally split between those on residential-sized blocks (56%) and those on small acreages (up to 10 ha) (41%); only 4% of respondents indicated they were living on properties over 10 ha in size.

Nearly 50% of respondents indicated the nearest bushland or scrub was either next door or only a block away; a further 20% indicated that it was across a road or other break.

## Engagement with the Community

After considering the characteristics of the property, the survey then asked a series of questions about the level of engagement with the local community.

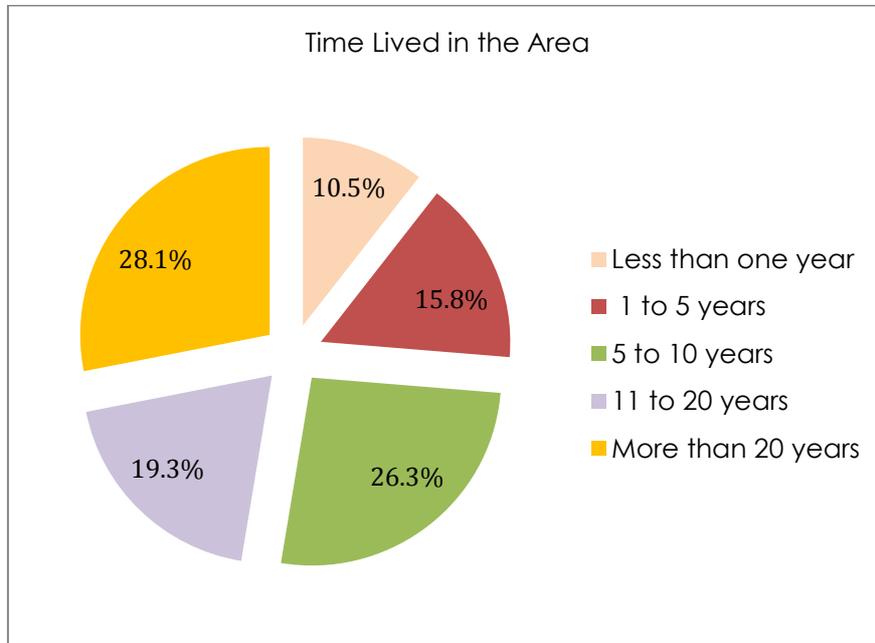


FIGURE 1 NUMBER OF YEARS LIVED IN THE AREA

Figure 1, above shows respondents were equally as likely to be new to the area or to be long-term residents, with 25% having lived there for less than 5 years.

Similarly, respondents were evenly spread between knowing a large number of other community members (21% indicating they knew more than 50 people in the community well) and having fewer contacts (24.1% having indicating they knew less than 10 other people in the community reasonably well). Nearly 40% of respondents indicated they interacted with neighbours at least once a week.

Most (78%) indicated they felt they could get help from neighbours if they needed it.

Sixty-three per cent indicated that neighbours co-operated when there were issues or problems (such as a need to clear overgrown vegetation) in the area.

The most common descriptor of the community (55%) used by the respondents was that 'people generally get along and talk to each other'.

## Perception of Bushfire Risk

Of the respondents, 22% had never experienced a bushfire before. Twenty-five per cent of respondents had experienced a bushfire in the past 12 months and a similar proportion had experienced a bushfire between one and five years ago.

Figure 2 shows the perceived level of bushfire risk respondents recalled they held prior to the fire of 12 January 2014. Most of the respondents indicated they felt the risk of bushfire in the neighbourhood was high or very high. No respondents considered the risk of bushfire to be lower than medium. There were no significant differences in the demographic characteristics of those who felt the risk of bushfire was medium/high to those who felt it was very high/extreme.

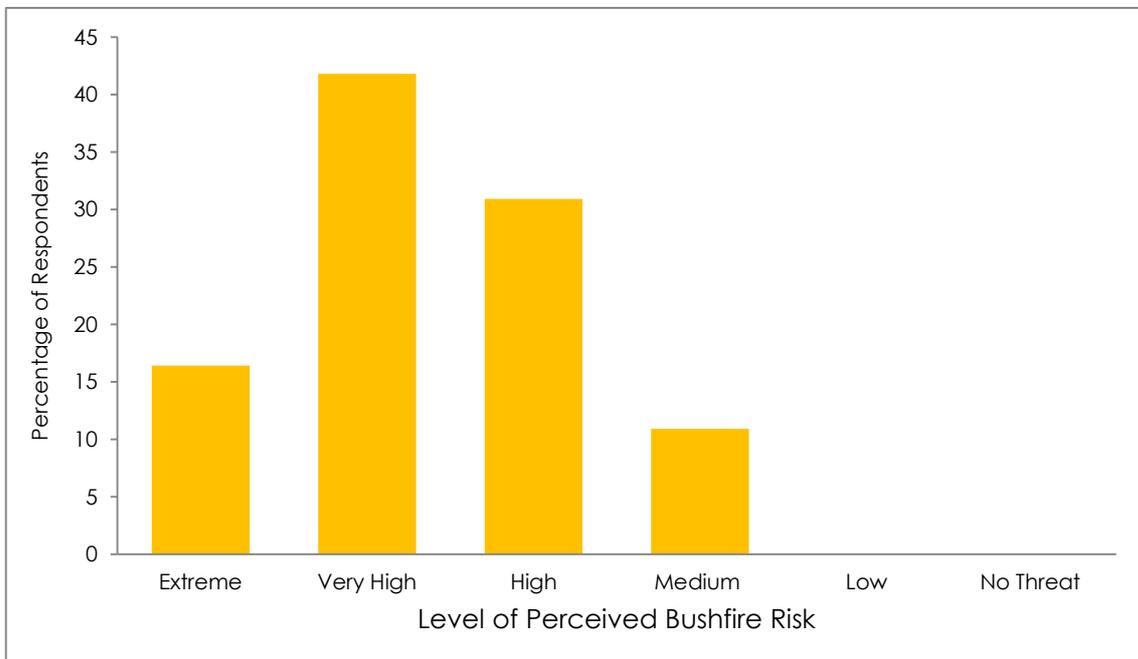


FIGURE 2 LEVEL OF PERCEIVED BUSHFIRE RISK

## BEING PREPARED FOR BUSHFIRE

### Bushfire Plans

The majority of respondents (91%) indicated that prior to the January 2014 bushfire, they had a plan as to what they and their household would do in the event of a bushfire. The majority of these (67%) indicated that this was a plan that they 'had in mind' but was not written down. Two respondents provided a reason as to why they had not prepared a plan: one was because they perceived it was 'too hard' to put one together; the second was because the resident was very new to the area.

All of those who indicated they did not have a plan (either written or in mind) were in some form of employment but there were no other discernible differentiating demographic characteristics. Respondents without a plan were evenly distributed across the perceived levels of bushfire risk.

Table 4 below shows that those who were intending to 'wait and see, then decide' when threatened by a bushfire generally did not have a written plan. Based on the survey responses, written plans were most likely to be found where respondents indicated that one or more members of the household planned to stay and defend.

Ninety-two per cent of respondents also indicated that where they had a plan (whether this be written or just in mind), they discussed it with others in the family. Thirty-two per cent had discussed it with neighbours or friends. Nearly two-thirds (64%) had considered what to do with pets and just over a quarter (26%) had a backup plan.

Plan in the Event of a Fire	Mental Plan Only n = 37	Written Plan n = 13	Combined Mental or Written Plan n = 53
Shelter in place (passively)	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Wait and see how bad it is and then decide	18.9%	7.7%	17.0%
Stay and defend	5.4%	15.4%	9.4%
Some household members leave early, others stay and defend	21.7%	30.8%	24.5%
Whole family (household) leaves early	54.0%	46.1%	49.1%

TABLE 4 RESPONDENTS' PLAN IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE BY WRITTEN AND UNWRITTEN BUSHFIRE PLANS

## Actions Taken to Prepare for a Possible Bushfire

Regardless of whether or not they had a bushfire plan in mind or written out, respondents were asked what actions, from a defined list, they had done to prepare their house, themselves or their family for bushfire. The most frequent response to this question was that the respondent had or had read a copy of a bushfire preparedness document. This might be the DFES publications *Homeowners' Bushfire Survival Manual; Prepare. Act. Survive*; or the Shire of Mundaring *Fire and Burning* booklet.

The majority of respondents indicated they had cleared gutters (78%) or a space around the house (72%). Fifty-eight per cent indicated they had a safe destination and access route mapped out and 40% indicated they had an emergency kit checked and ready.

Approximately one-third of respondents indicated they had participated in some form of bushfire preparedness activity in the past 12 months. The most frequently mentioned activities were: attendance at a community bushfire meeting (19.6%) or visiting a Volunteer Bushfire Brigade stand at a community event (15.2%).

In addition, as shown in Table 5, below many residents recalled seeing or hearing campaigns that promoted bushfire safety and nearly 80% indicated that these (or the events that they had attended) had assisted them in preparing themselves or their property for a possible bushfire.

Recall of Bushfire-Related Materials and Campaigns	Total
Shire bushfire break notice and preparation	37.0%
<i>Are you Bushfire Ready?</i> campaign	38.9%
<i>Prepare. Act. Survive.</i>	70.4%
<i>Home Owners' Bushfire Survival Manual</i>	46.3%
Evaporative air conditioner fact sheet	16.7%
Bushfire monthly theme	3.7%
DFES website	55.6%
Shire Facebook updates or events	27.8%
Shire of Mundaring website	55.6%
None	5.6%

TABLE 5 RESPONDENTS PROMPTED RECALL OF CAMPAIGNS AND MATERIALS THAT PROMOTED BUSHFIRE SAFETY  
Note: most reported more than one source.

The next section of the questionnaire explored respondents' awareness of the Fire Danger rating scale and their confidence in using it. Ninety-six per cent of respondents indicated they were aware of the Fire Danger rating scale, with the majority of these (82%) indicating they felt very confident they understood what the scale was telling them. Sixty per cent indicated they checked the Fire Danger rating scale daily or more often and at least 75% indicated they checked it at least once a week. Sixty-seven per cent indicated they could recall the Fire Danger rating for 12 January 2014.

## FIRE OF 12 JANUARY 2014

Having worked through their general bushfire awareness and preparedness, respondents were then asked to think specifically about the events of 12 January 2014 when fire impacted on the area.

### Responses to the 12 January Fire

The 12 January 2014 was a Sunday and most respondents (78%) indicated they were at home when they first heard about the fire threatening their home or property. Half of those who were not at home endeavoured to return, with all of them achieving this within 15 minutes.

Respondents became aware of the fire in a wide variety of ways, most frequently from sensory perceptions: seeing (35.8%) or smelling (7.5%) smoke, hearing sirens (13.2%) or hearing or seeing a helicopter overhead (5.7%) were the first indications of the fire. For some, however, the first warning of the fire was official notification by police, State Emergency Service (SES) or firefighters (collectively 9.4%), or an official warning via email, SMS or phone (collectively 11.3%). Visual cues along with the Emergency Warning alerts were the major triggers for people in the household to act.

Once they became aware of the fire in the area, respondents variously elected to leave, to stay and defend (all or some household members), or to wait and see before making a decision. Seventy per cent of respondents indicated the main reason they did this was because they were 'following their plan'.

Table 6 shows the decisions respondents made upon becoming aware of the fire.

Decisions on Becoming Aware of the Fire	Total
All members of the household stay and defend	10.2%
Wait and see how bad it is and then decide	38.8%
Some members of the household leave and others stay	18.4%
Whole household leaves	36.7%
Was away from the property and decided to stay away	2.0%
Was away from the property and decided to go back	10.2%
Couldn't make a decision what to do	0.0%
Went to the fire line to 'have a look and see'	6.1%

TABLE 6 RESPONDENTS' ACTION ON 12 JANUARY ONCE THEY BECAME AWARE OF THE FIRE

Despite their initial decision, nearly eighty per cent of respondents indicated that ultimately on the day of the fire, one or more members of their household left the property because of the fire. Forty-two per cent of respondents indicated members of their household stayed on the property during the fire. In response to an open-ended question, most of these indicated the reasons for staying were either to defend or protect their property or because they did not feel under direct threat.

Members of the Household Leaving the Property on the Day Because of the Fire	Total
Well before the fire was in the area	11.3%
Once fire was in the area	39.6%
Once the fire was close (in same or nearby street)	20.8%
At the last minute	5.7%
None	22.6%

TABLE 7 TIMING OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSEHOLD LEAVING DURING THE FIRE

As shown in table 7 (above) where household members left, this was variously well before the fire was in the area (11%), upon becoming aware of the fire (39.6%), once the fire was close (20.8%), or at the last minute (5.7%). The majority of those who left (63.0%) went to family, friends or neighbours. As shown in table 8 most indicated they felt that leaving was necessary (88.1%) and the right thing to do.

Looking Back for Those who Had Household Members Leave	Total
Leaving was unnecessary and if there is a next time will not do this	7.1%
Leaving was unnecessary, but if there is a next time will do it again	4.8%
Leaving was the right thing to do	35.7%
Leaving was necessary, but if there is a next time will stay	2.4%
Leaving was necessary, although inconvenient	21.4%
Leaving was not a problem and would do the same again	28.6%

TABLE 8 FEELINGS ABOUT MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD LEAVING DURING THE FIRE

## Sources of Information during the 12 January Bushfire

Previous studies have shown community members often seek additional information when they become aware of a fire in their area.<sup>4</sup> As in those previous studies, figure 3 shows the fire agency (DFES) website was an important source of such information. Social media was also an important source of information during the fires.

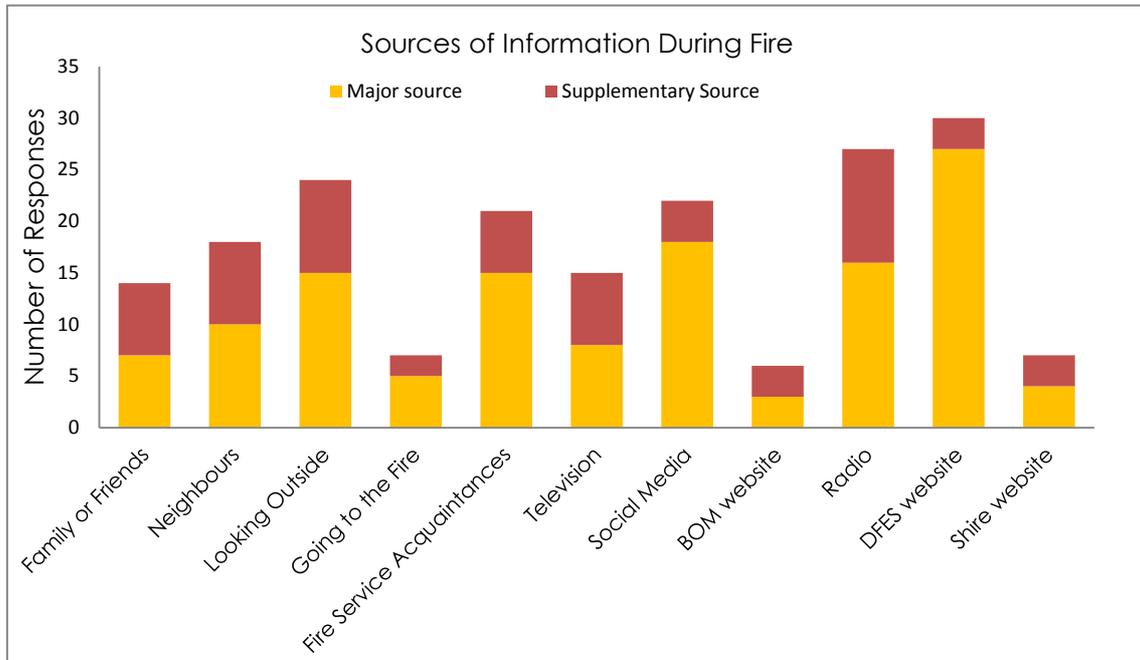


FIGURE 3 SOURCES OF INFORMATION DURING 12 JANUARY PARKERVILLE FIRE

Respondents varied in what they saw as the most reliable sources of information, with their own view or information from those they knew in the fire services being the considered the most reliable (both 19.6% of responses). Social media was considered the next most reliable (17.6%), with radio and the DFES website also being held in high regard. The latter sources were however identified as being the preferred way of receiving information, with nearly 60% of the respondents indicating this to be 'the way they most like to receive information'.

<sup>4</sup>McLennan J, Wright L and Birch A, (2014) Community understanding and awareness of bushfire safety: October 2013 bushfires, Part 1: residents' experiences in three areas, Bushfire CRC, Australia,

## PREPARING FOR FUTURE FIRES

Respondents were asked how well they felt they had been prepared for these fires. Most (74%) felt they had been well or adequately prepared. None of the respondents indicated they were not at all prepared.

Despite this, many indicated the experience of the fires had led to some changes in their planning. Table 9 shows that many have now turned their mental plan into a written one and others think that although they don't have a plan, they need one. It is interesting to note the proportion of respondents who acknowledge that they didn't have a plan in this section of the survey (16.6%) is somewhat higher than that indicated in response to earlier questions (9%).

Finally Table 10 shows the reported breakdown of the intended actions in the event of a bushfire have changed somewhat since the experiences of January 2014.

Impact of the 12 January Fire on Bushfire Preparedness Plans	Total
I didn't have a plan before but now I have a written plan	3.3%
I didn't have a plan before but now I have a plan in mind	13.3%
I had a plan in mind but now it is written down	66.7%
I still don't have a plan but I think I should have one	13.3%
I still don't think I need a plan	3.3%

TABLE 9 IMPACT OF THE 12 JANUARY FIRE ON BUSHFIRE PREPAREDNESS PLANS

Plan in the Event of a Fire	Before Fire	After Fire
Shelter in place (passively)	0.0%	0.0%
Wait and see how bad it is and then decide	12.1%	22.2%
Stay and defend	8.6%	11.1%
Some household members leave early, others stay and defend	22.4%	22.2%
Whole family (household) leaves early	44.8%	31.5%
Unsure or other		13.0%
Did not respond	10.3%	

TABLE 10 PLANS IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE BEFORE AND AFTER 12 JANUARY

End of Report



## **Appendix 1**

### **Online Survey: Questions**

Please note this is a direct copy of the online survey as available to residents. Any grammatical or spelling errors in this document were also present in the version accessed by residents.

# Parkerville, Stoneville, Mount Helena Bushfire Survey <br>

## Consent and Participant Guidelines

### Invitation

You are invited to participate in research being conducted by the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre for the Department of Fire and Emergency Services in Western Australia.

The survey is only for members of communities affected by fire in the Parkerville, Stoneville and Mount Helena areas on 12 January 2014. If you live in these areas and are over 18 years you are invited to participate in this online survey to describe your bushfire preparation and other experiences of the fire.

Your account and the information you provide will help with improving bushfire safety, and to reduce the impact of future bushfires on your community and others around the country. We would greatly value your participation.

It will take you about 25 minutes to complete, with most questions optional.

If you experience any distress when recalling your bushfire experience you may simply end the survey. Consider also calling Lifeline 24-hour counselling (131114), or accessing Australian Psychological Society disaster help resources [http://www.psychology.org.au/publications/tip\\_sheets/trauma/](http://www.psychology.org.au/publications/tip_sheets/trauma/).

Please note for us to be able to use your information we need you to complete the survey by 8 June 2014.

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please contact the Department of Fire and Emergency Services on 9395 9816 during office hours.

**\*1. By ticking yes to the following question you indicate that you are 18 years of age or older and have read the information provided above, that you agree to participate in this study and you consent to the data being used as described in the introductory note.**

- Yes I wish to participate in this survey
- No I do not wish to proceed

**\*2. We are also interested in ensuring that our respondents live or have properties in the area affected by the fire we are currently researching.**

**Do you live in Parkerville, Stoneville or Mount Helena**

- Parkerville
- Stoneville
- Mount Helena
- Other

**3. What is your postcode ?**

Postcode

**4. Have you participated in any other surveys, research or interviews about the Parkerville- Stoneville - Mt Helena Bushfire on 12 January 2014 ?**

- None
- Department of Fire and Emergency Services one-on-one interview in my home/business
- State Emergency Management Committee email submission
- Red Cross visit
- RMIT telephone interview
- Other (please specify)

## About you and your household

First we would like to know a little about you and the people who share the house you live in

### 5. Are you ?

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to answer

### 6. What is your age group ?

- 18 to 24
- 25 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 to 74
- 75 or older
- Prefer not to say

### 7. Which of the following describes your employment status ? (you may indicate more than one answer)

- Full time paid employment
- Self employed
- Part time/casual employment
- Full time domestic duties
- Full time student
- Unemployed
- Retired
- Full time volunteer
- Part time volunteer
- Not able to work
- Prefer not to say

## 8. Which of the following best describes the people who usually live in your home or on the property ?

- Sole resident
- Couple
- Couple with dependent children
- Couple with adult children
- Single parent with dependent children
- Single parent with adult children
- Multiple families with dependent children
- Multiple families with adult children
- Couple sharing property with older parents
- Family sharing property with older parents
- Other shared adult household
- Other

## 9. Can you please tell us a bit more about the people that usually live in your household? Are there any who are:

	Number
Children under 5	<input type="text"/>
Children 5-12	<input type="text"/>
Children 13-18	<input type="text"/>
Disabled	<input type="text"/>
Elderly or frail	<input type="text"/>
Seriously or chronically ill	<input type="text"/>

## 10. Do you have pets, poultry or livestock on your property ?

- Yes - pets only
- Yes - livestock only
- Yes - pets and livestock
- No

## Understanding where you live

We now want to ask a few questions about the property, the area that you live in and how you think about it.

### 11. Which of the following best describes the property ?

- House on a residential block
- House on a small acreage (less than 10ha /20 acres)
- House on a large acreage (more than 10ha /20 acres)

Other (please specify)

### 12. How long have you lived in this area ?

- Less than one year
- 1 to 5 years
- 5 to 10 years
- 11 to 20 years
- More than 20 years

### 13. What type of residence is this for you ?

- Main residence (family home)
- Secondary residence
- Holiday home or similar

Other (please specify)

### 14. Do you own, rent or manage this property ?

- Own (with or without a mortgage)
- Rent
- Manage

Other (please specify)

## 15. How close is the house to the nearest bushland or scrub?

(please select the most descriptive answer)

- Next door
- 1 house block away
- Across the road, railway or other break
- 1 house block plus a road, railway or other break
- Approximately 100m away
- 100-300m away
- 300-600m away
- 600-1000m away
- More than 1km away

## 16. What insurance cover do you have for fire?

	Fully insured	Partially insured	Not insured	Not applicable
House	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Contents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Vehicles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Farm	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Business	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## 17. Is anyone in your household a current or past member of the local Volunteer Bushfire Brigade or Volunteer Fire and Rescue

- Yes Self - current member
- Yes Self - past member
- Yes - other householder current member
- Yes - other household past member
- No

## Your local community

We now want to ask a few questions about your interaction with your local community

### 18. How many people (adults) in the local community do you know reasonably well ?

- Less than 10
- 10-20
- 21-50
- 51-100
- more than 100

### 19. How often do you socialise or interact with your neighbours ?

- Everyday - or close to it
- 2-3 times a week
- Once a week
- A couple of times a month
- Once a month
- Less than once a month (not often)
- Never socialise

### 20. If you needed help, say with moving furniture, could you get this easily from your neighbours ?

- Yes - absolutely
- Probably
- Probably not
- Definitely not

### 21. Do neighbours cooperate if there are issues or problems in the neighbourhood (for example with clearing overgrown vegetation, security)?

- Yes
- Usually
- Sometimes
- Not really
- No

### 22. Which of the following best describes the local community ?

- People in the area regularly socialize and are close friends
- People in the area generally get along and talk to each other
- People in the area generally just wave to each other
- There is not a lot of interaction between people

### 23. Prior to the fire how would you have described the risk of bushfire occurring in your neighbourhood?

- Extreme
- Very High
- High
- Medium
- Low
- No Threat

## Your Planning for Bushfire

This section asks your thinking about and planning for bushfire

### 24. Prior to January when did you personally last experience a bushfire ?

- Have never experienced a bushfire before
- Within the previous 12 months (i.e. in 2013)
- 1 to 5 years ago
- 6 to 10 years ago
- 11 to 15 years ago
- 16 to 20 years ago
- More than 20 years ago

Please describe your experience with bushfire if applicable

### 25. Before January 2014 bushfire, did you have a bushfire plan - that is a plan as to what you and your household would do in the event of a bushfire ?

- Yes - I/We had a written plan
- Yes - I/We have a plan in mind but it was not written down
- No - I/We didn't have a plan

### 26. If you had either a written plan, or just one in mind, had you done any of the following ?

- Discussed this plan with others in the family
- Discussed this plan with neighbours or friends nearby
- Practiced the plan
- Developed a back-up plan
- Included what you would do with your pets

### 27. What did your plan say your household would do in the event of a bushfire ?

- Shelter in place (passively)
- Wait and see how bad it is and then decide
- Stay and defend
- Some household members leave early, others stay and defend
- Whole family (household) leaves early

**For those without a plan**

**28. If you did not have a plan, why not ?**

- Did not think it was necessary / Did not think we had a bushfire risk
- Too busy to put one together
- It is too hard to put one together

Other (please specify)

## Other things about bushfire

Whether you did or didn't have a bushfire plan, we are interested in what else you have done or know about with respect to bushfires.

### **29. Prior to the January 2014 bushfire had you done any of the following to prepare your house or yourself/family for a bushfire?**

- Attended a DFES bushfire information session
- Attended a Shire fire information session
- Read the 'Homeowners Bushfire Survival Manual ' from DFES
- Have a copy of 'Homeowners Bushfire Survival Manual ' from DFES
- Read the 'Prepare Act Survive Bushfire' brochure from DFES
- Have a copy of 'Prepare Act Survive Bushfire' brochure from DFES
- Read the Shire of Mundaring 'Fire and Burning' information booklet
- Have a copy of the Shire of Mundaring 'Fire and Burning' information booklet
- Installed an emergency warning app on my phone or tablet
- Installed a bushfire sprinkler system
- Water supply independent of the mains
- Power supply independent of the mains
- Purchased protective clothing
- Cleared space around the house
- Cleared gutters
- Identified a safe destination and mapped out an evacuation route
- Part of a Bushfire Ready Group in the street/area
- Emergency kit ready and checked

Other (please specify)

**30. Have you participated in any bushfire preparedness activities in the last 12 months?**

- Bushfire Ready Group
- Shire of Mundaring Facebook Exercise
- Shire of Mundaring Information Session
- Fire brigade open day
- Community bushfire meeting
- Visited Volunteer Bushfire Brigade stand at local community show/fair
- None
- Other (please specify)

## Information about bushfires

We are interested in knowing the sorts of information that you have seen or received about bushfire and the messages that you recall.

### 31. Have you seen or received any of the following materials or campaigns which promote bushfire safety?

- Bushfire monthly theme
- Prepare Act Survive
- Evaporative air conditioner fact sheet
- Shire Facebook updates or events
- Shire of Mundaring website
- Bushfire break notice and preparation information
- Homeowners Bushfire Survival Manual
- Are You Bushfire Ready campaign
- DFES website
- None

Other (please specify)

### 32. Did any of this information assist you to prepare yourself or your property?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please specify how

## Fire Danger Rating and Fire Warnings

We now what to know if we are communicating the messages about fire danger clearly in a way the community can understand and take action on.

### 33. Are you familiar with the Fire Danger Rating scale?

- Yes
- No

### 34. Are you confident you understand what the Fire Danger Rating is telling you ?

- Yes - very
- Yes - but a bit uncertain
- No

### 35. If yes, how often do you check the Fire Danger Rating for your area?

- Monthly
- Weekly
- Daily
- More than once a day
- Other (please specify)

### 36. Can you recall what the Fire Danger Rating predictions or warnings were on January 11 and 12, 2014?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please specify

### 37. Did you do anything at that time to prepare for a possible bushfire ?

- Yes
- No

If yes, what did you do?

## The Fire on 12 January 2014

Now thinking about when the fire actually threatened this area, your home or property

### 38. How did you first find out about the fire in your area ?

- Saw smoke
- Smelt smoke
- Heard sirens
- Saw flames
- Saw it on the Fire Service App
- Contact from friends/neighbours/family
- Local Brigade Facebook site
- Community Facebook page
- Official warning on the television
- Fire Service Twitter feed
- Official warning on the radio
- Official warning on a web page
- Warned directly by police/SES/firefighters
- Official warning via email, SMS or home phone
- On the fire brigades UHF radio channel
- Helicopter flying overhead

### 39. Were you at home when you first heard about the fire threatening your home or property ?

- Yes
- No
- Can't recall

## If you were not at home

We are interested to know if those of you who were not at home when you heard about the fires tried to get home.

### **40. If you were not at home when you first heard about fires threatening your home did you try to get home at that time?**

- Yes
- No

### **41. If you did try to get home, how long did it take ?**

- Less than 15 minutes
- Between 15 and 30 minutes
- Between 30 and 60 minutes
- More than 60 minutes
- Tried but was unable to get home

If unable to get home please provide more information

## Your response to fire in the area

We now would like to know what you decided to do once you knew there was a fire in the area.

### 42. Once you found out about the fire in your area what did you decide to do ?

- All members of the household to stay, and some or all to defend the house/property if necessary
- Wait and see how bad it is then decide
- Some members of the household to leave and others to stay and defend the house/property
- Whole household to leave
- Was away from property and decided to stay away
- Was away from the property and decided to go back to it
- Couldn't make a decision what to do
- To go to the fire line and have a look to see what was happening

Other (please specify)

### 43. What were the reasons for your actions ? Please indicate your main reason and the other factors you were concerned about

	Main Reason	Other Reasons
We were following our plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting my own life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting the lives of my family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting pets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting home/property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting livestock	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knew the road could be cut off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Knew the road could be blocked by traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did not have my home prepared	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had to care for elderly /frail family members in my home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had to care for elderly/frail family members away from my home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had other people's children in my care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Had an asthmatic in the household	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Directive from police or emergency services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

## Getting information about the fire

We now want to know where you went to look for information about the fire and how useful or reliable you thought these sources were.

### 44. How/where did you get information during the fire ?

	Major Source	Supplementary Source
From family or friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
From neighbours	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I looked outside (close to the home/property)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I went closer to the fire to assess the situation for myself	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
From people I know in the fire service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Television	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bureau of Meteorology website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Radio	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DFES website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shire of Mundaring website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Didn't look for information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (please specify)

### 45. Which of those was the most reliable source of information?

- Family or friends
- Neighbours
- My view when looking outside (close to the home/property)
- My view from closer to the fire to assess the situation for myself
- Information from people I know in the fire service
- Television
- Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram)
- Bureau of Meteorology website
- Radio
- DFES website
- Shire of Mundaring website
- Not Applicable as didn't look for information

Other (please specify)

# Parkerville, Stoneville, Mount Helena Bushfire Survey <br>

## 46. Which of the following is the way you most like to receive information about fires in your area?

	Main source	Supplementary sources
From family or friends	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
From neighbours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Television	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social Media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bureau of Meteorology website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Radio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
DFES website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shire of Mundaring website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)		
<input type="text"/>		

## 47. What were the triggers for you or the other members of your household to act ? Please tick all that apply

- Heard/saw helicopters/aircraft
- Could see/smell smoke
- Could see flames close by (in the same street or nearby streets)
- Could see flames in the distance
- Recommendation to relocate suggested by police/SES/ firefighters
- Advice from neighbours
- Evacuated or removed from property by police/SES/ firefighters
- Advice from family or friends
- Received an Emergency Warning Alert
- An official warning, for example on radio or television, about the fire (other than an Emergency Alert)

Other (please specify)

## 48. Did any members of the household leave your property on the day because of the fire ?

- Yes - well before the fire was in the area
- Yes - once we knew fire was in the area
- Yes - once we knew the fire was close (in the same street or nearby streets)
- Yes - but at the last minute
- No

**49. If anyone in the household left the property because of the fire where did you/they go?**

- Family, friends or neighbour's house
- Community place (e.g. a shopping centre) well away from bushland
- Emergency Relocation Centre (Mundaring Recreation Grounds or Brown Park Recreation Centre)
- Not Applicable - Everyone stayed
- Other (please specify)

**Feelings about leaving during the fire**

**50. Looking back, how do you feel about members of the family/household leaving during the fire ?**

- Leaving was unnecessary, and if there is a next time they won't leave
- Leaving was unnecessary, but if there is a next time they would do the same
- Leaving was the right thing to do
- Leaving was necessary, but if there is a next time will not do it because it was so inconvenient
- Leaving was necessary, (although inconvenient) but if there is a next time would do the same
- Leaving was not a problem and would do the same in future

Other (please specify)

**Staying during the fire**

**51. Did any members of the household stay on the property during the fire ?**

Yes

No

If yes - can you please say why they chose to do this

## Property Loss or Damage

We now want to understand a little about the impact of the fire on your property

### 52. Was there any damage to your home or property and/or did you lose pets or livestock as a result of the January 2014 bushfire

- Yes
- No

### 53. Was there any damage to the following?

	No damage	Minor damage	Major damage or destroyed	Not applicable
House	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Vehicle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Caravan/Motor home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water tank	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pipes or hoses used for firefighting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Garage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Granny Flat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hothouse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other Outbuildings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 54. Were any pets or livestock lost or injured in the January 2014 Bushfire ?

- Pets lost
- Pets injured
- Livestock lost
- Livestock injured
- Not applicable

## Preparing for possible future fires

We would like to ask about what you would do in future fires after your experiences in the January 2014

### 55. How prepared do you think you were ?

- Well prepared
- Adequately prepared
- Not very well prepared
- Not prepared at all

### 56. As a result of the experiences in the January 2014 Bushfires have you prepared a Bushfire Survival Plan ?

- Yes - I didn't have a plan before but now I have a written plan
- Yes - I didn't have a plan before but I now have a plan in mind
- Yes - I had a plan in mind but now it is written down
- No - I still don't have a plan but I think I should have one
- No - I still don't think I need a plan

Other (please specify)

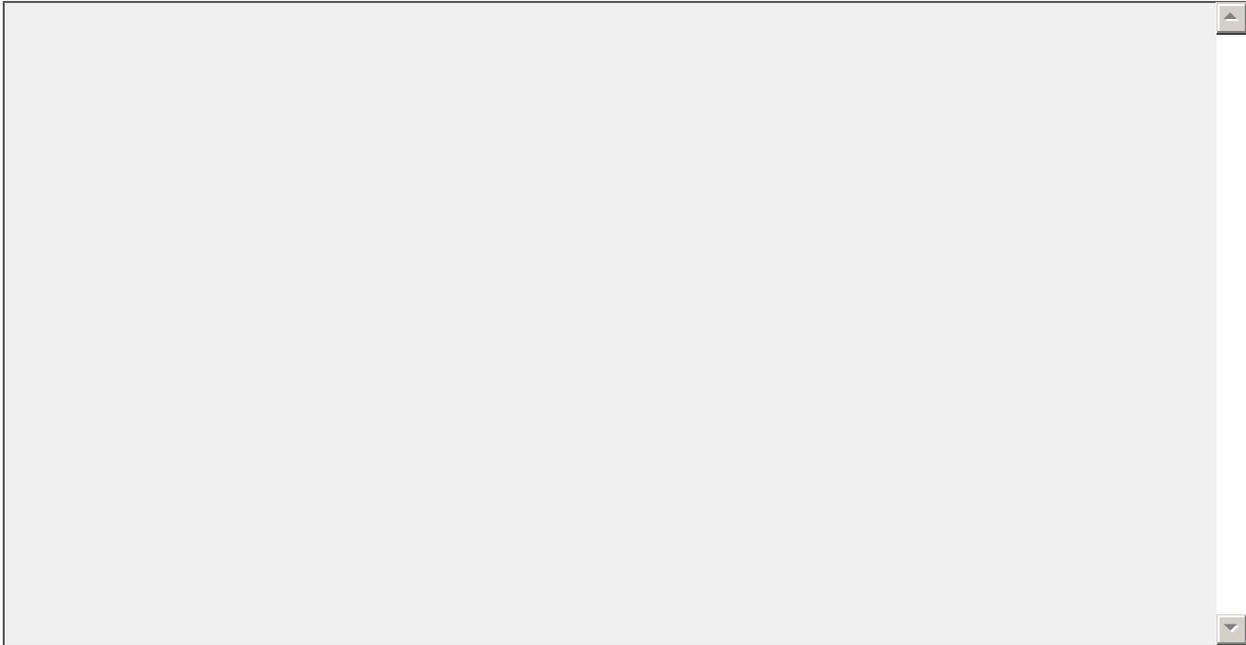
### 57. In the future, should there be a fire, what do you intend to do?

- Shelter in place (passively)
- Wait and see how bad it is and then decide
- Stay and actively defend the home/property
- Some household members leave early, other stay and defend
- Still unsure
- Whole family (household) leaves early
- Other (please specify)

### 58. Why would you do this?

**Other comments**

**59. Please now add any other comments you wish to pass onto the DFES about the fires in January 2014**



**THANK YOU**

Thank you for completing this survey. If you would like more bushfire information please go to the DFES website:

[www.dfes.wa.gov.au/safetyinformation/fire/bushfire/pages/preparebeforetheseason.aspx](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/safetyinformation/fire/bushfire/pages/preparebeforetheseason.aspx)



## Appendix 2

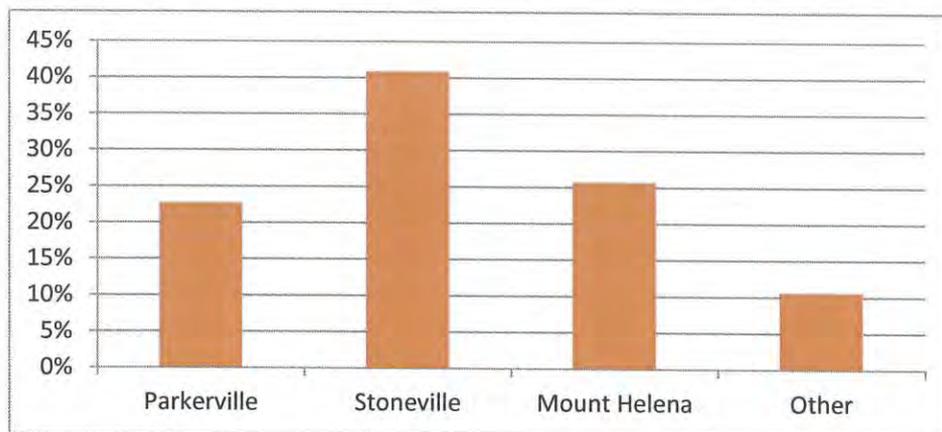
### Online Survey: Tabulated Responses

Please note not all respondents elected to respond to all questions and some respondents may have provided internally inconsistent response.

Q1. By ticking yes to the following question you indicate that you are 18 years of age or older and have read the information provided above, that you agree to participate in this study and you consent to the data being used as described in the introductory note.

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes I wish to participate in this survey	100%	66
No I do not wish to proceed	0%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 66</b>		

Q2. We are also interested in ensuring that our respondents live or have properties in the area affected by the fire we are currently researching. Do you live in Parkerville, Stoneville or Mount Helena?

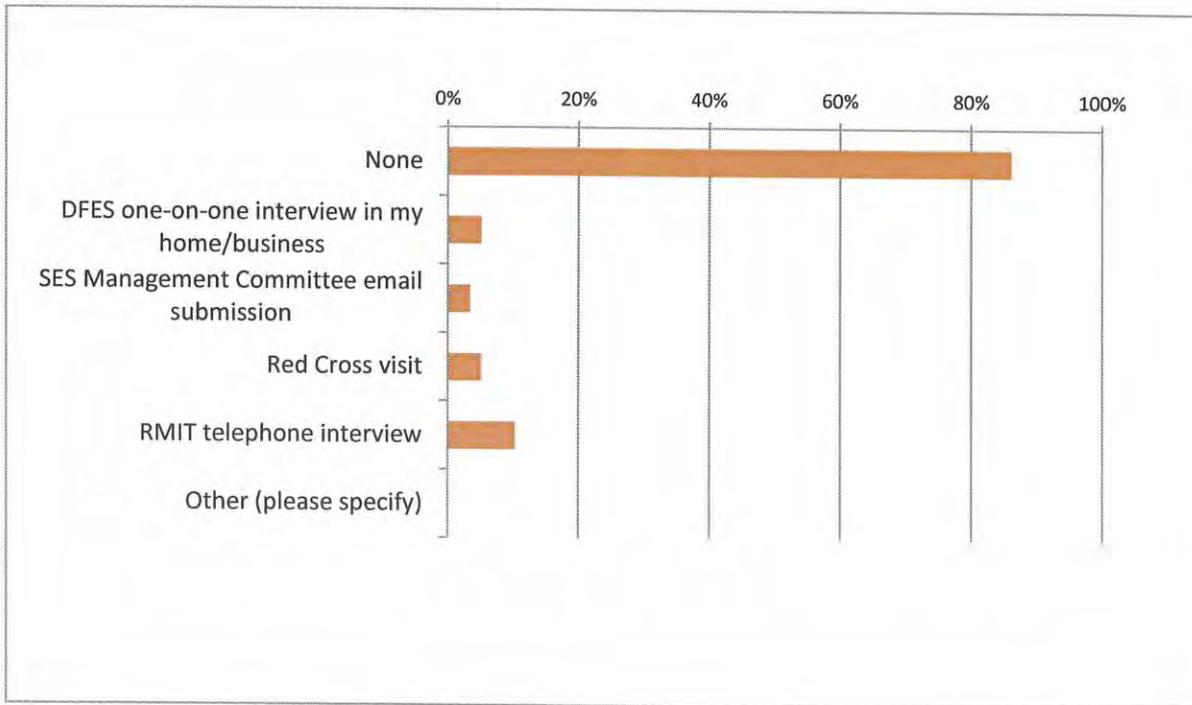


Answer Choices	Responses	
Parkerville	22.73%	15
Stoneville	40.91%	27
Mount Helena	25.76%	17
Other	10.61%	7
<b>Total Respondents: 66</b>		

Q3. What is your postcode?

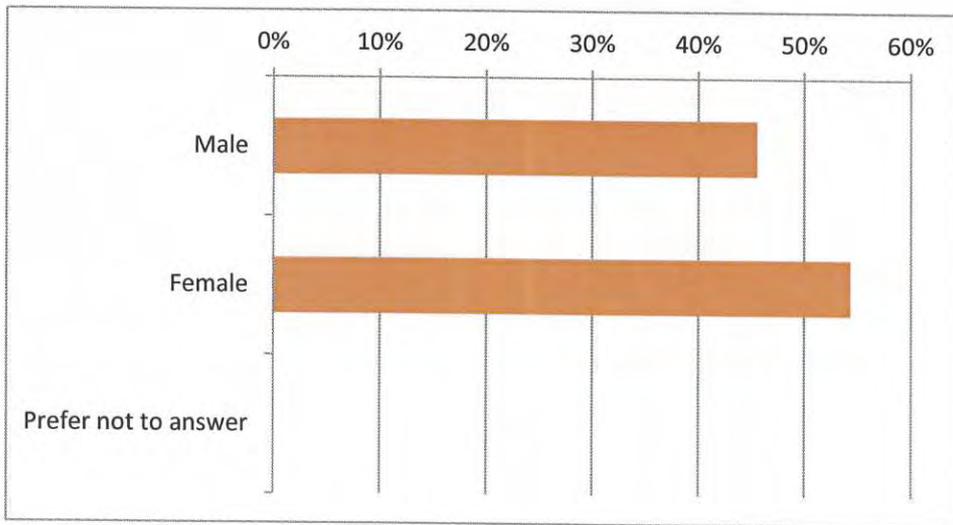
Answer Choices	Responses	
6087	98.50%	65
NA	1.50%	1
<b>Total Respondents: 66</b>		

Q4. Have you participated in any other surveys, research or interviews about the Parkerville-Stoneville-Mt Helena Bushfire on 12 January 2014?



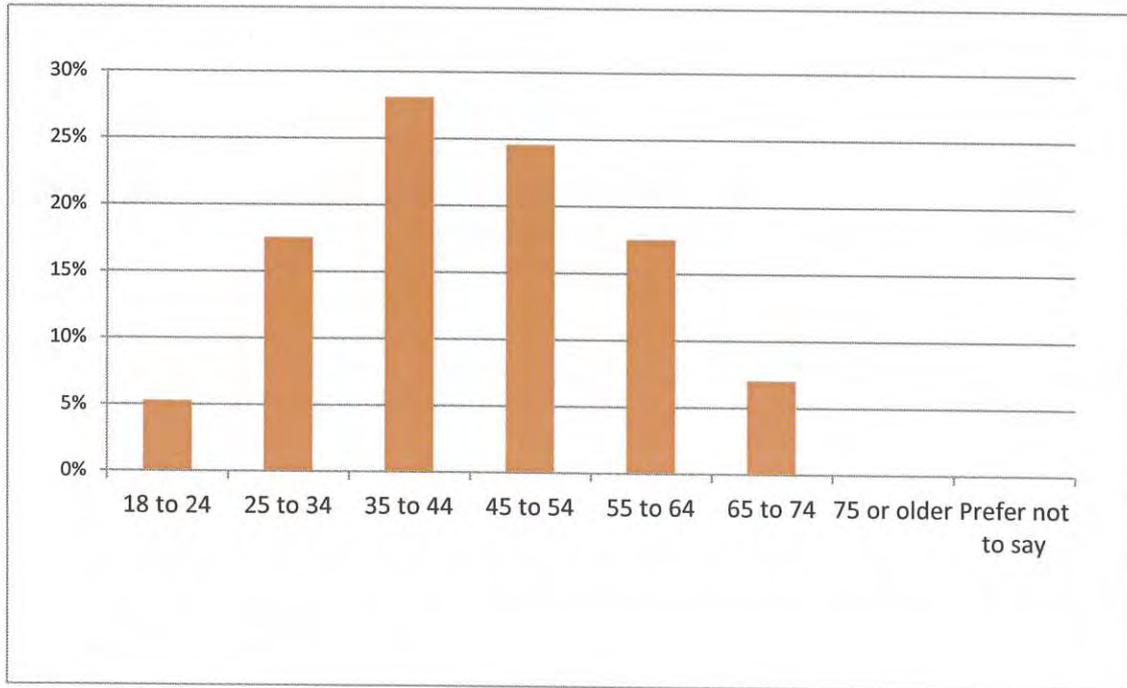
Answer Choices	Responses	
None	86.21%	50
DFES one-on-one interview in my home/business	5.17%	3
SES Management Committee email submission	3.45%	2
Red Cross visit	5.17%	3
RMIT telephone interview	10.34%	6
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 58</b>		

Q5. Are you? (gender)



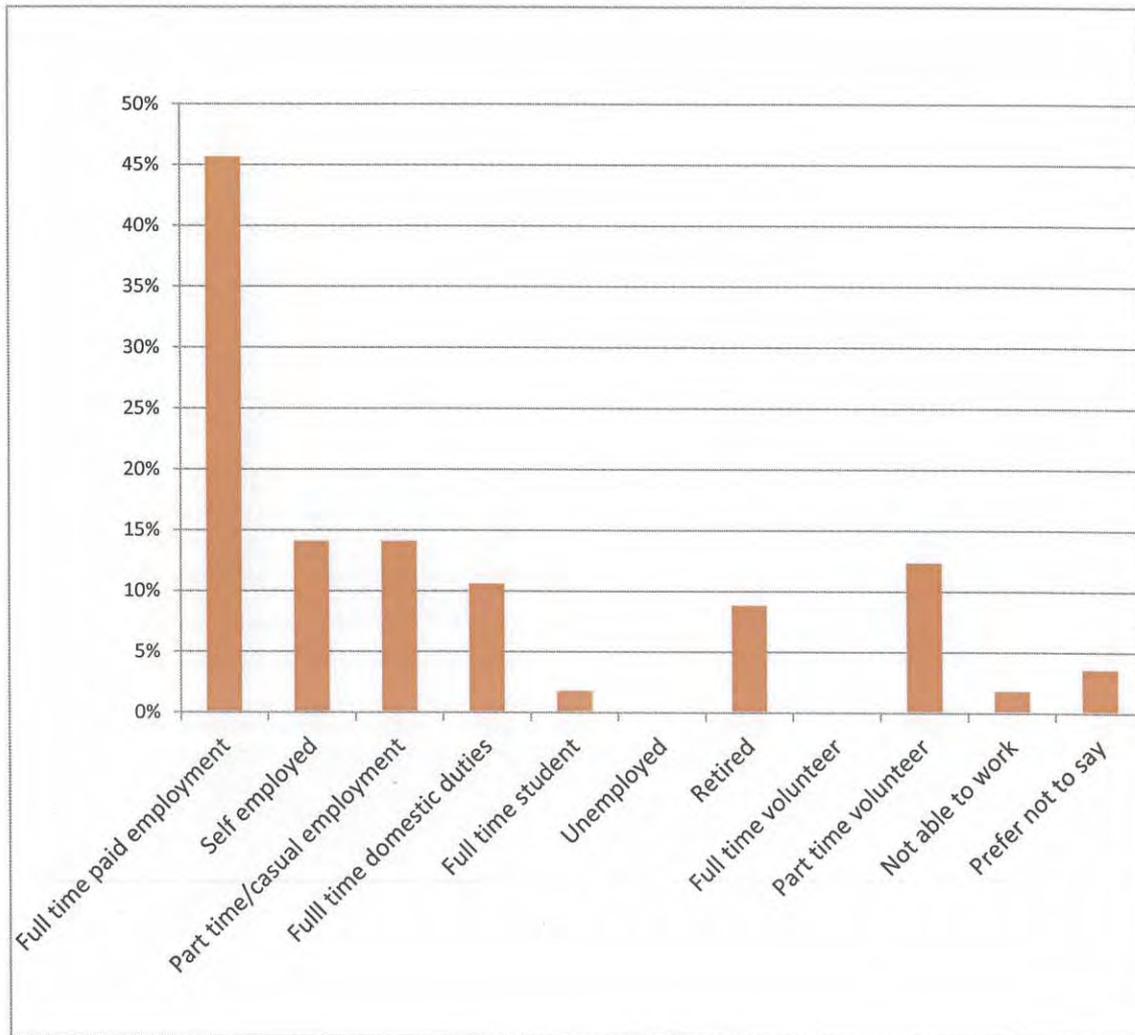
Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	45.61%	26
Female	54.39%	31
Prefer not to answer	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 57</b>		

Q6. What is your age group?



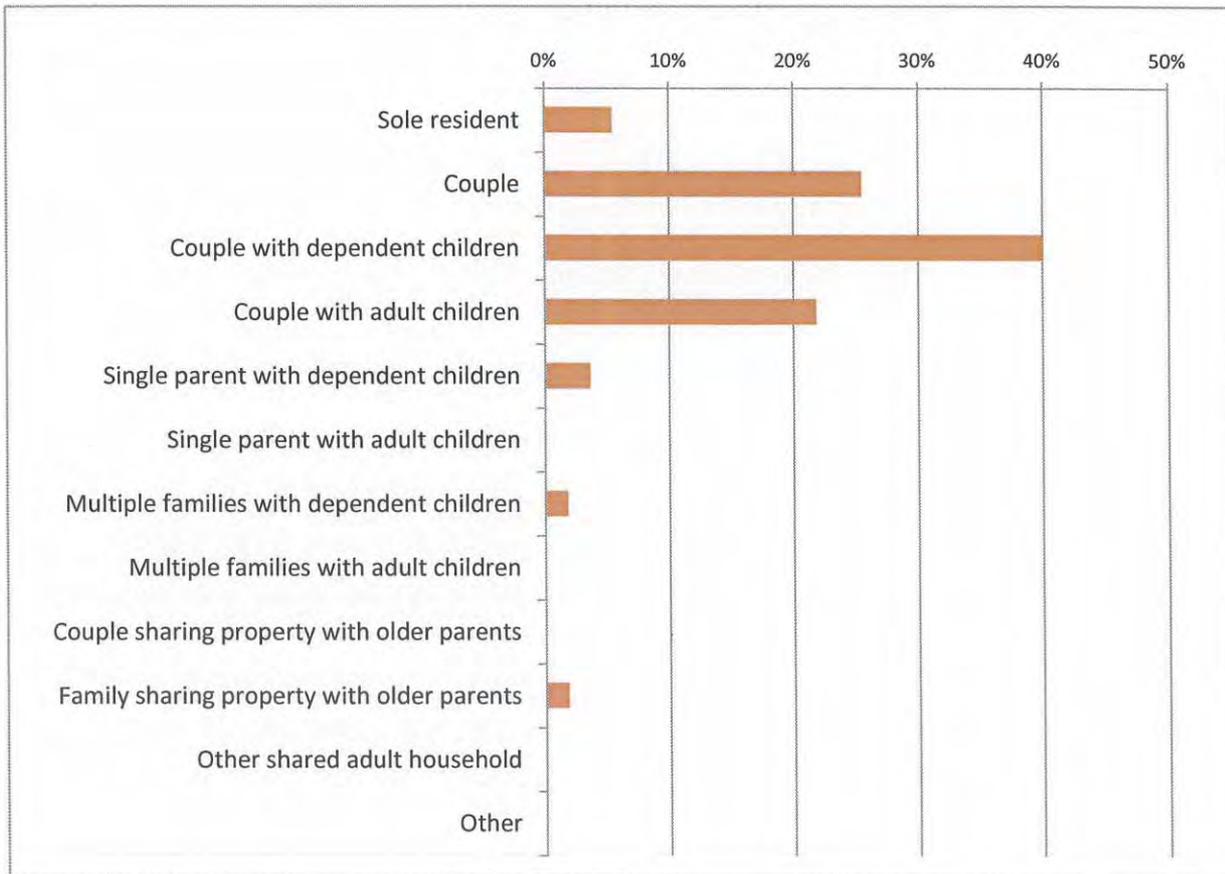
Answer Choices	Responses	
18 to 24	5.26%	3
25 to 34	17.54%	10
35 to 44	28.07%	16
45 to 54	24.56%	14
55 to 64	17.54%	10
65 to 74	7.02%	4
75 or older	0.00%	0
Prefer not to say	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 57</b>		

Q7. Which of the following describes your employment status?  
(you may indicate more than one answer)



Answer Choices	Responses	
Full time paid employment	45.61%	26
Self employed	14.04%	8
Part time/casual employment	14.04%	8
Full time domestic duties	10.53%	6
Full time student	1.75%	1
Unemployed	0.00%	0
Retired	8.77%	5
Full time volunteer	0.00%	0
Part time volunteer	12.28%	7
Not able to work	1.75%	1
Prefer not to say	3.51%	2
<b>Total Respondents: 57</b>		

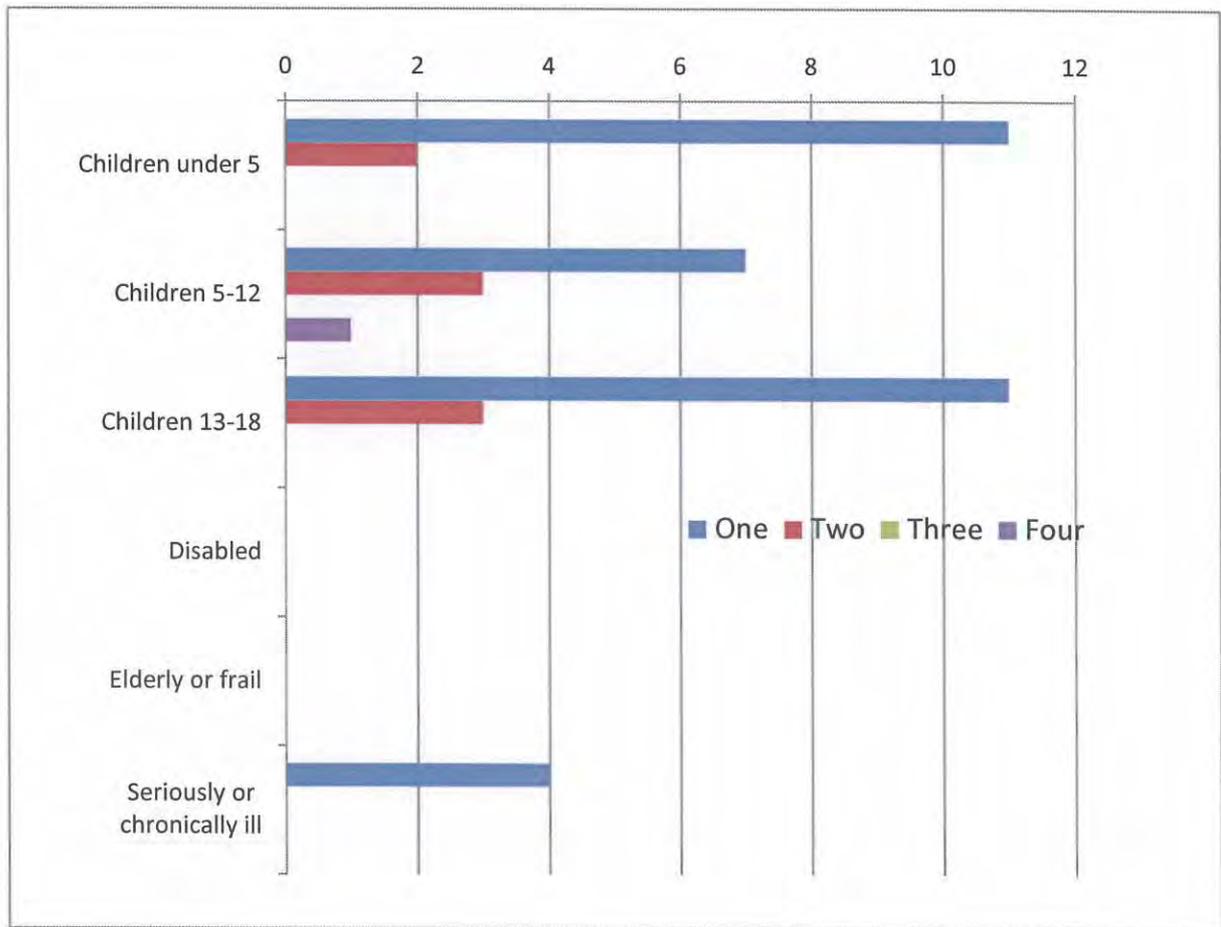
Q8. Which of the following best describes the people who usually live in your home or on the property?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Sole resident	5.45%	3
Couple	25.45%	14
Couple with dependent children	40.00%	22
Couple with adult children	21.82%	12
Single parent with dependent children	3.64%	2
Single parent with adult children	0.00%	0
Multiple families with dependent children	1.82%	1
Multiple families with adult children	0.00%	0
Couple sharing property with older parents	0.00%	0
Family sharing property with older parents	1.82%	1
Other shared adult household	0.00%	0
Other	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 55</b>		

Parkerville, Stoneville, Mount Helena Bushfire Survey

Q9. Can you please tell us a bit more about the people that usually live in your household? Are there any who are:

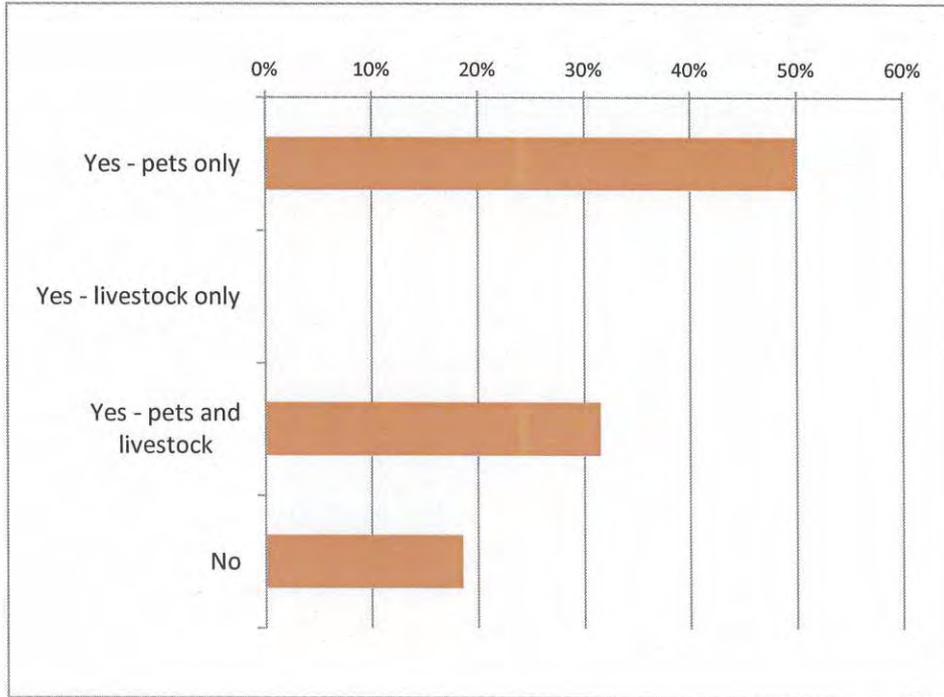


Answer Choices Percent	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	More than five	Total
Children under 5	84.62%	15.38%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	13
Children 5-12	63.64%	27.27%	0.00%	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	11
Children 13-18	78.57%	21.43%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	14
Disabled	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0
Elderly or frail	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0
Seriously or chronically ill	13.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4
<b>Total Respondents: 30</b>							

Answer Choices Numbers	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	More than five	Total
Children under 5	11	2	0	0	0	0	13
Children 5-12	7	3	0	1	0	0	11
Children 13-18	11	3	0	0	0	0	14
Disabled	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elderly or frail	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seriously or chronically ill	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
<b>Total Respondents: 30</b>							

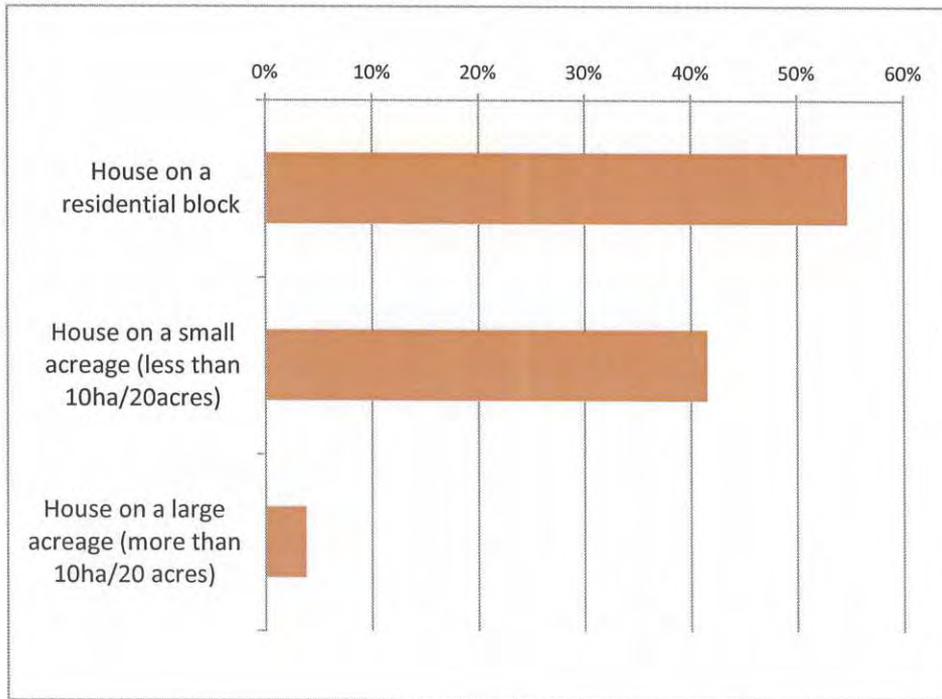
Parkerville, Stoneville, Mount Helena Bushfire Survey

Q10. Do you have pets, poultry or livestock on your property?



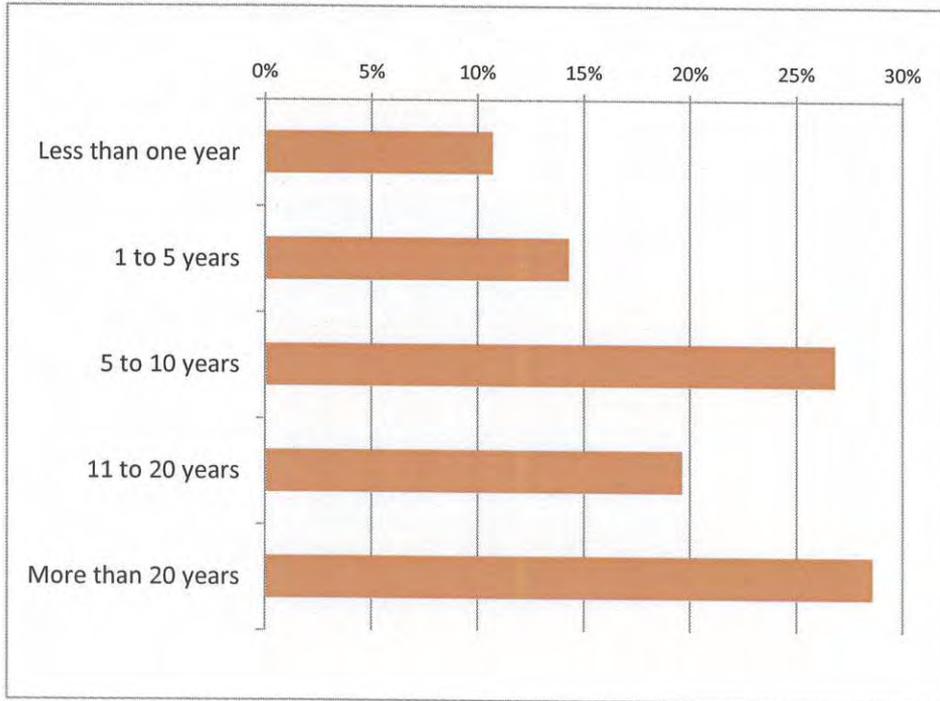
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes - pets only	50.00%	27
Yes - livestock only	0.00%	0
Yes - pets and livestock	31.48%	17
No	18.52%	10
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q11. Which of the following best describes the property?



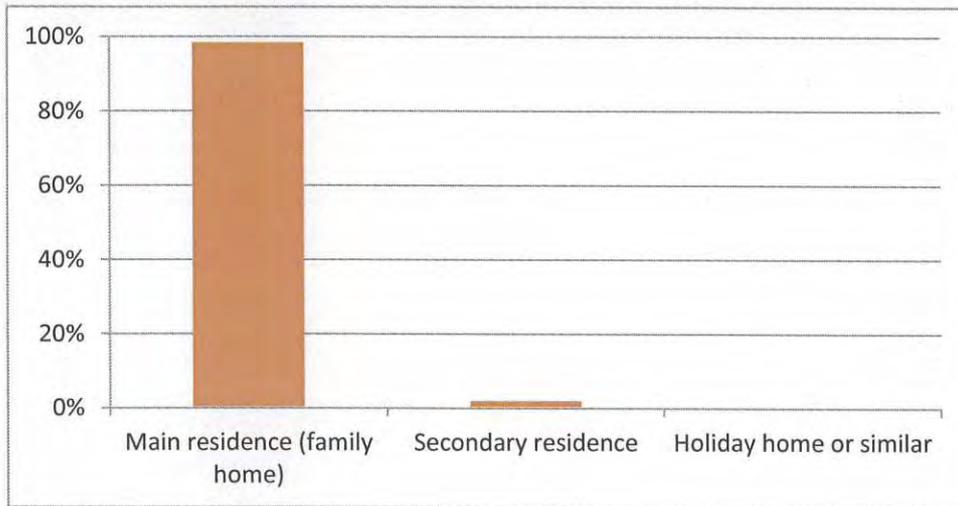
Answer Choices	Responses	
House on a residential block	54.72%	29
House on a small acreage (less than 10ha/20acres)	41.51%	22
House on a large acreage (more than 10ha/20 acres)	3.77%	2
<b>Total Respondents: 53</b>		

Q12. How long have you lived in this area?



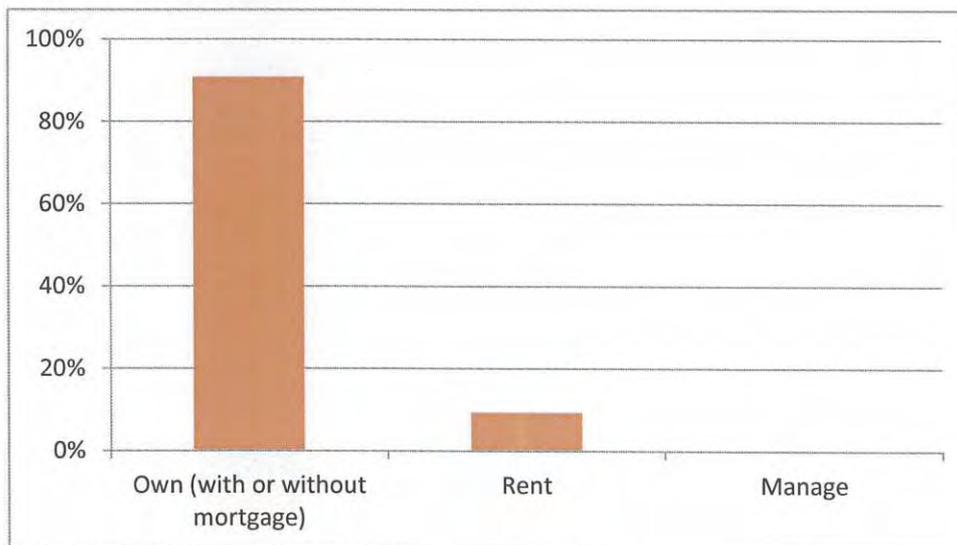
Answer Choices	Responses	
Less than one year	10.71%	6
1 to 5 years	14.29%	8
5 to 10 years	26.79%	15
11 to 20 years	19.64%	11
More than 20 years	28.57%	16
<b>Total Respondents: 56</b>		

Q13. What type of residence is this for you?



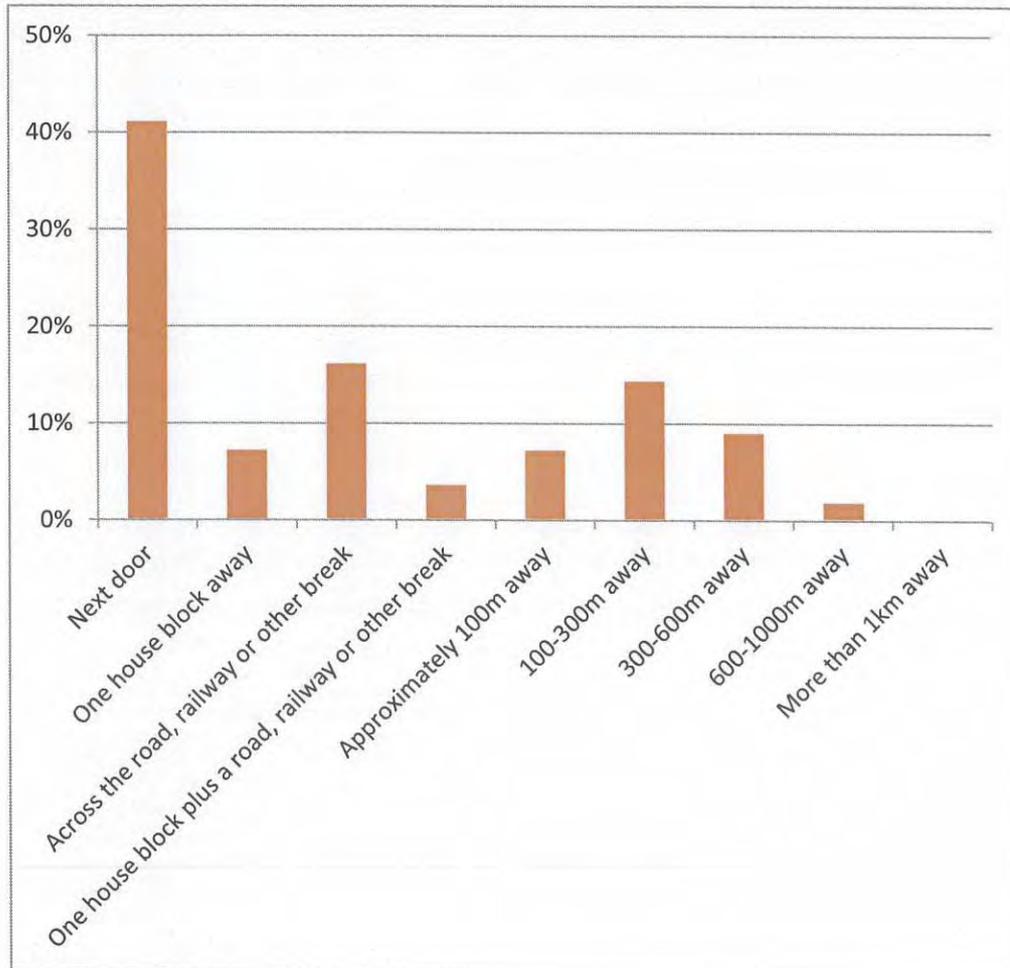
Answer Choices	Responses	
Main residence (family home)	98.21%	55
Secondary residence	1.79%	1
Holiday home or similar	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 56</b>		

Q14. Do you own, rent or manage this property?



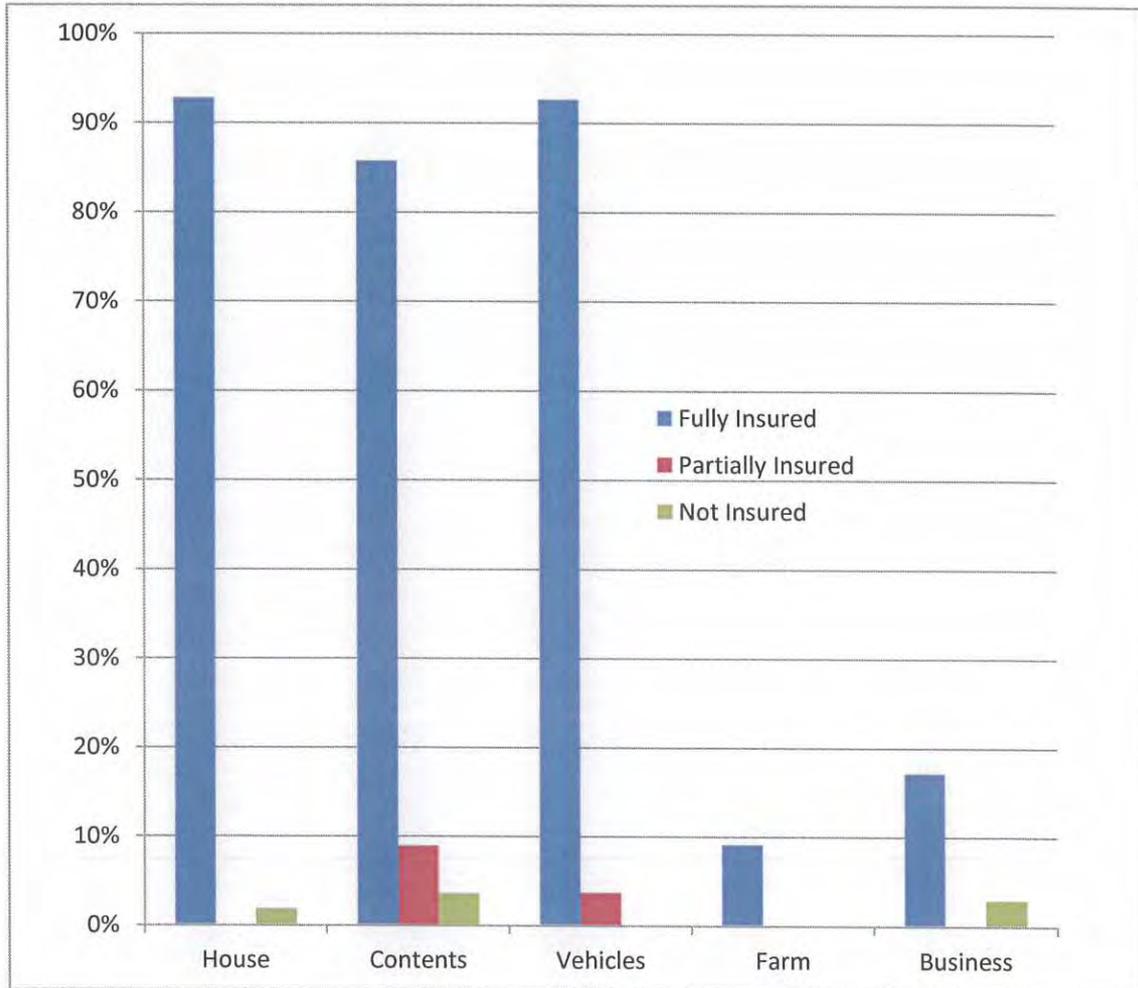
Answer Choices	Responses	
Own (with or without mortgage)	90.74%	49
Rent	9.26%	5
Manage	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q15. How close is the house to the nearest bushland or scrub? (please select the most descriptive answer)



Answer Choices	Responses	
Next door	41.07%	23
One house block away	7.14%	4
Across the road, railway or other break	16.07%	9
One house block plus a road, railway or other break	3.57%	2
Approximately 100m away	7.14%	4
100-300m away	14.29%	8
300-600m away	8.93%	5
600-1000m away	1.79%	1
More than 1km away	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 56</b>		

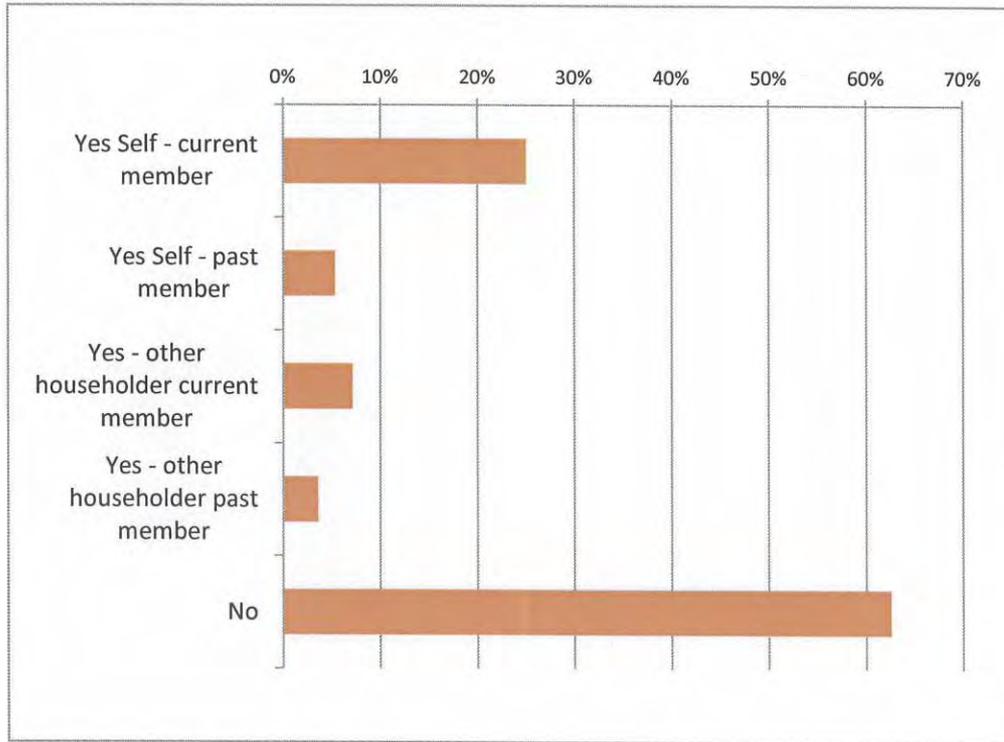
Q16. What insurance cover do you have for fire?



Answer Choices (Percent)	Fully Insured	Partially Insured	Not Insured	Not applicable	Total
House	92.73%	0.00%	1.82%	5.45%	55
Contents	85.71%	8.93%	3.57%	1.79%	56
Vehicles	92.59%	3.70%	0.00%	3.70%	54
Farm	9.09%	0.00%	0.00%	90.91%	33
Business	17.14%	0.00%	2.86%	80.00%	35
<b>Total Respondents: 56</b>					

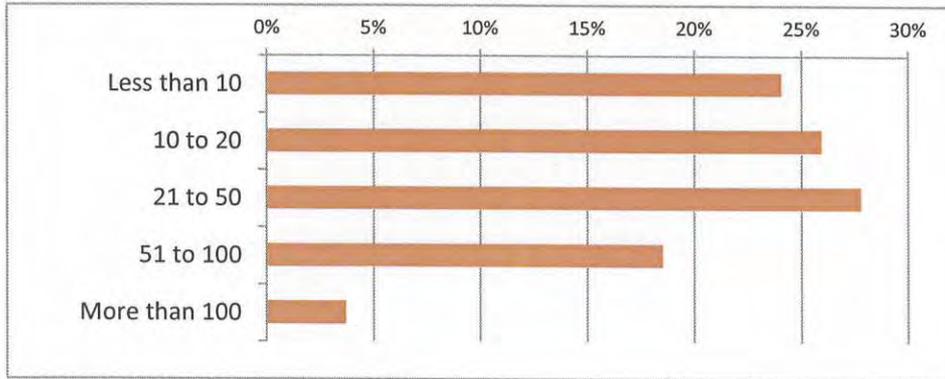
Answer Choices (Number)	Fully Insured	Partially Insured	Not Insured	Not applicable	Total
House	51	0	1	3	55
Contents	48	5	2	1	56
Vehicles	50	2	0	2	54
Farm	3	0	0	30	33
Business	6	0	1	28	35
<b>Total Respondents: 56</b>					

Q17. Is anyone in your household a current or past member of the local Volunteer Bushfire Brigade or Volunteer Fire and Rescue?



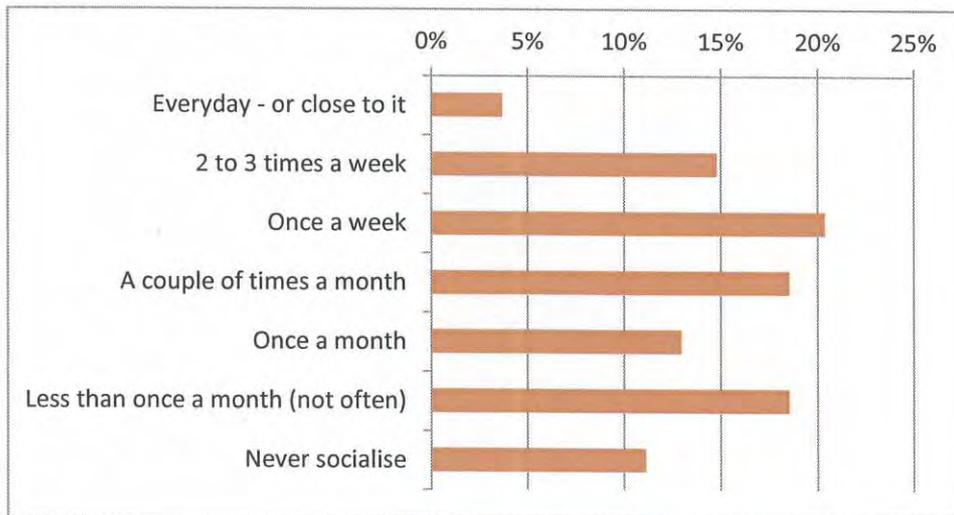
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes Self - current member	25.00%	14
Yes Self - past member	5.36%	3
Yes - other householder current member	7.14%	4
Yes - other householder past member	3.57%	2
No	62.50%	35
<b>Total Respondents: 56</b>		

Q18. How many people (adults) in the local community do you know reasonably well?



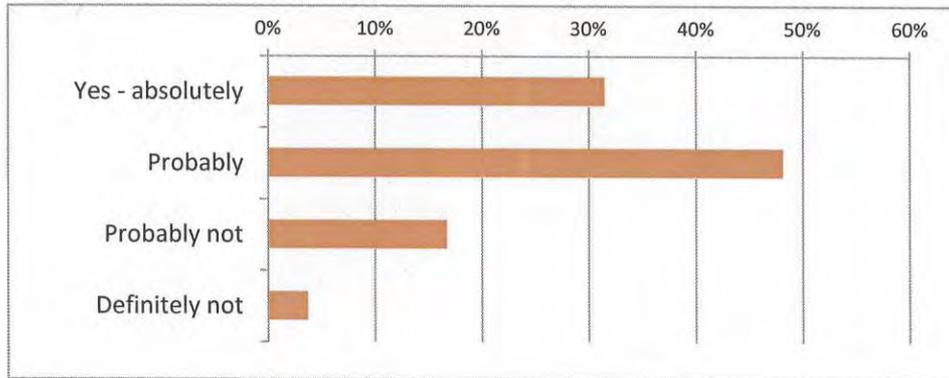
Answer Choices	Responses	
Less than 10	24.07%	13
10 to 20	25.93%	14
21 to 50	27.78%	15
51 to 100	18.52%	10
More than 100	3.70%	2
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q19. How often do you socialise or interact with your neighbours?



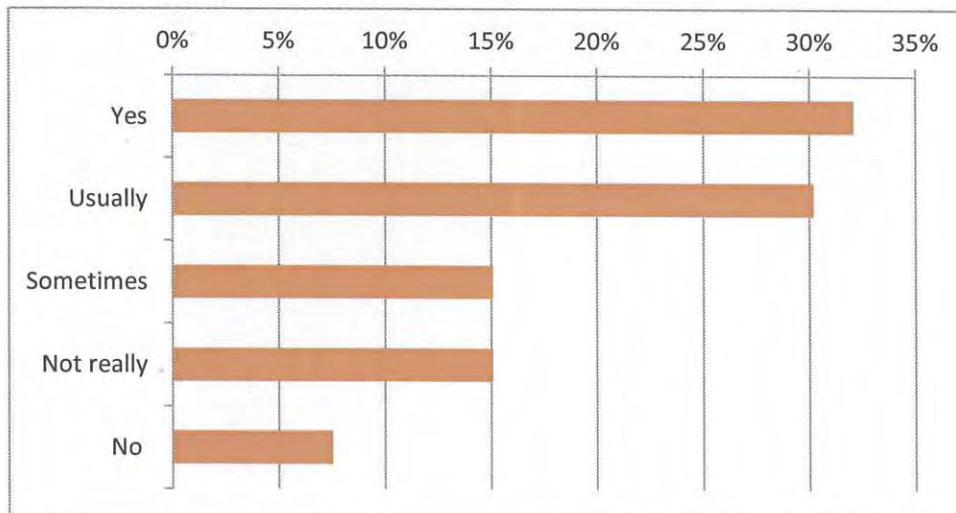
Answer Choices	Responses	
Everyday - or close to it	3.70%	2
2 to 3 times a week	14.81%	8
Once a week	20.37%	11
A couple of times a month	18.52%	10
Once a month	12.96%	7
Less than once a month (not often)	18.52%	10
Never socialise	11.11%	6
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q20. If you needed help, say with moving furniture, could you get this easily from your neighbours?



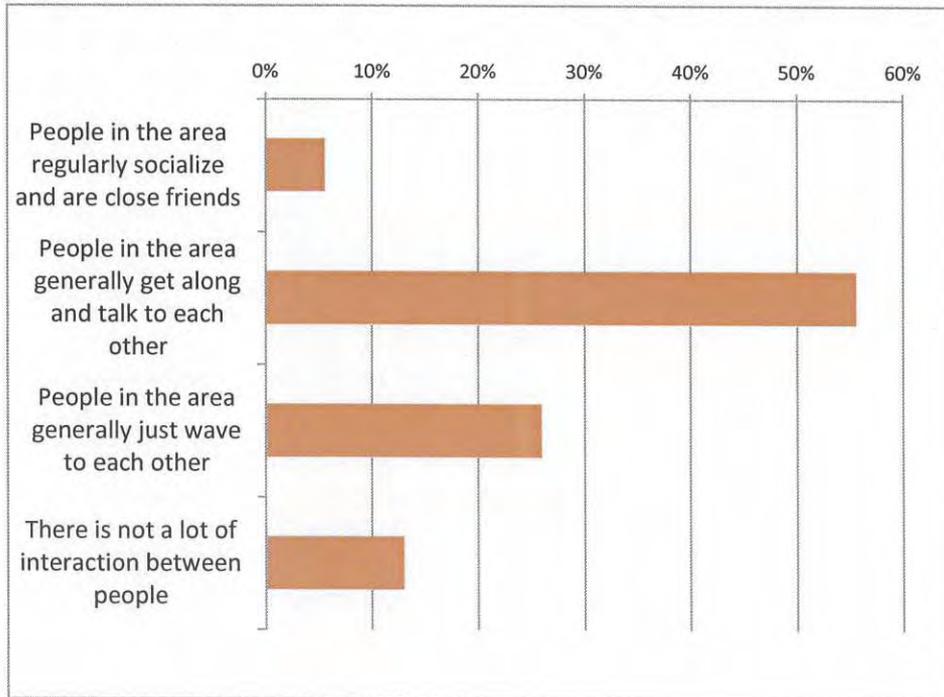
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes - absolutely	31.48%	17
Probably	48.15%	26
Probably not	16.67%	9
Definitely not	3.70%	2
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q21. Do neighbours cooperate if there are issues or problems in the neighbourhood (for example with clearing overgrown vegetation, security)?



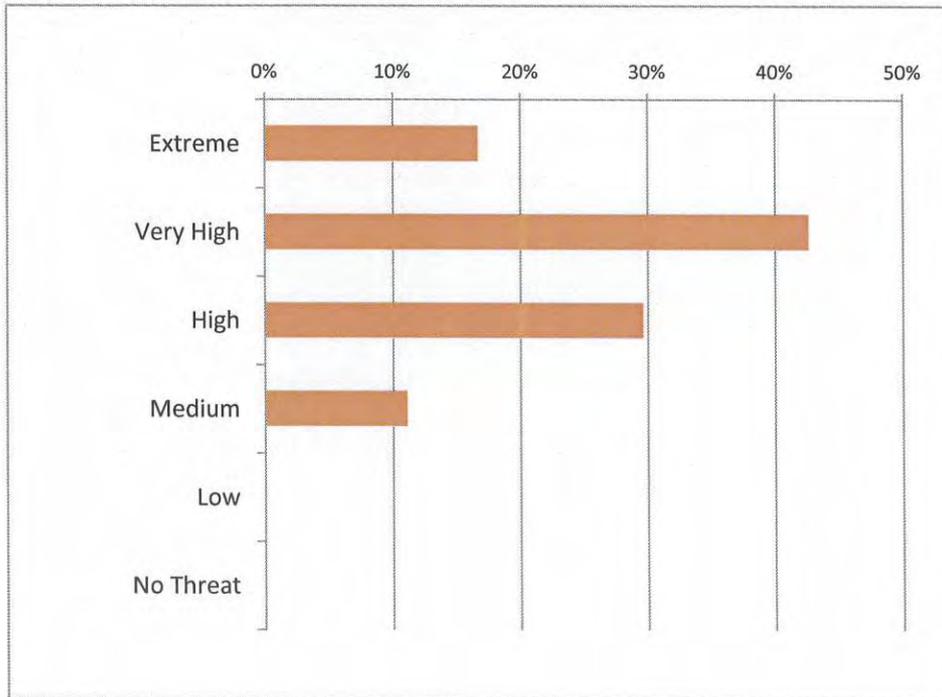
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	32.08%	17
Usually	30.19%	16
Sometimes	15.09%	8
Not really	15.09%	8
No	7.55%	4
<b>Total Respondents: 53</b>		

Q22. Which of the following best describes the local community?



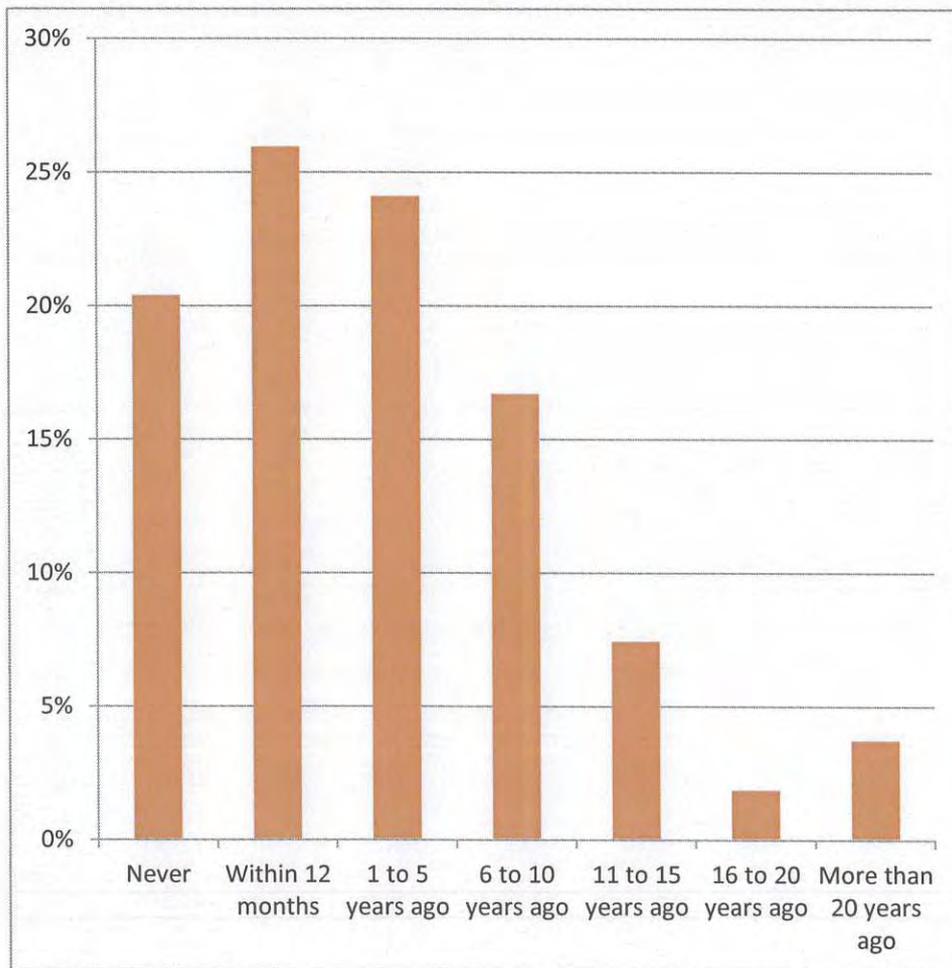
Answer Choices	Responses	
People in the area regularly socialize and are close friends	5.56%	3
People in the area generally get along and talk to each other	55.56%	30
People in the area generally just wave to each other	25.93%	14
There is not a lot of interaction between people	12.96%	7
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q23. Prior to the fire how would you have described the risk of bushfire occurring in your neighbourhood?



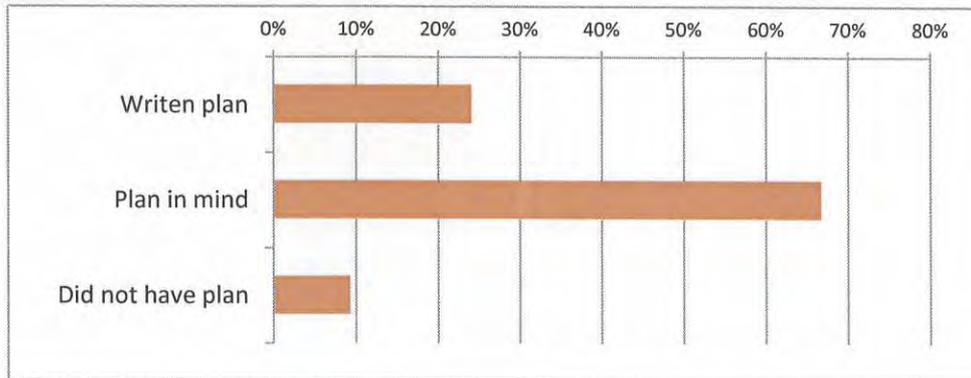
Answer Choices	Responses	
Extreme	16.67%	9
Very High	42.59%	23
High	29.63%	16
Medium	11.11%	6
Low	0.00%	0
No Threat	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q24. Prior to January when did you personally last experience a bushfire?



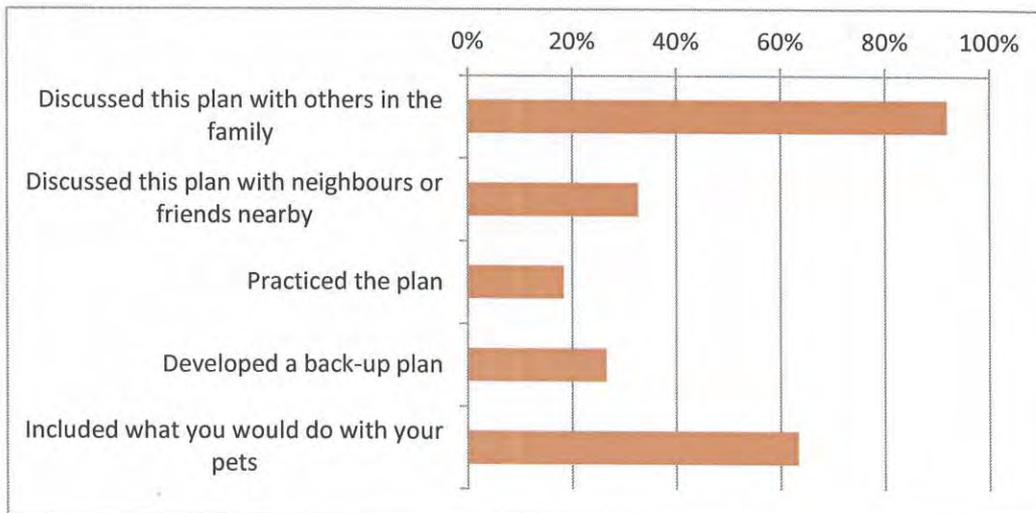
Answer Choices	Responses	
Never	20.37%	11
Within 12 months	25.93%	14
1 to 5 years ago	24.07%	13
6 to 10 years ago	16.67%	9
11 to 15 years ago	7.41%	4
16 to 20 years ago	1.85%	1
More than 20 years ago	3.70%	2
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q25. Before January 2014 bushfire, did you have a bushfire plan - that is a plan as to what you and your household would do in the event of a bushfire?



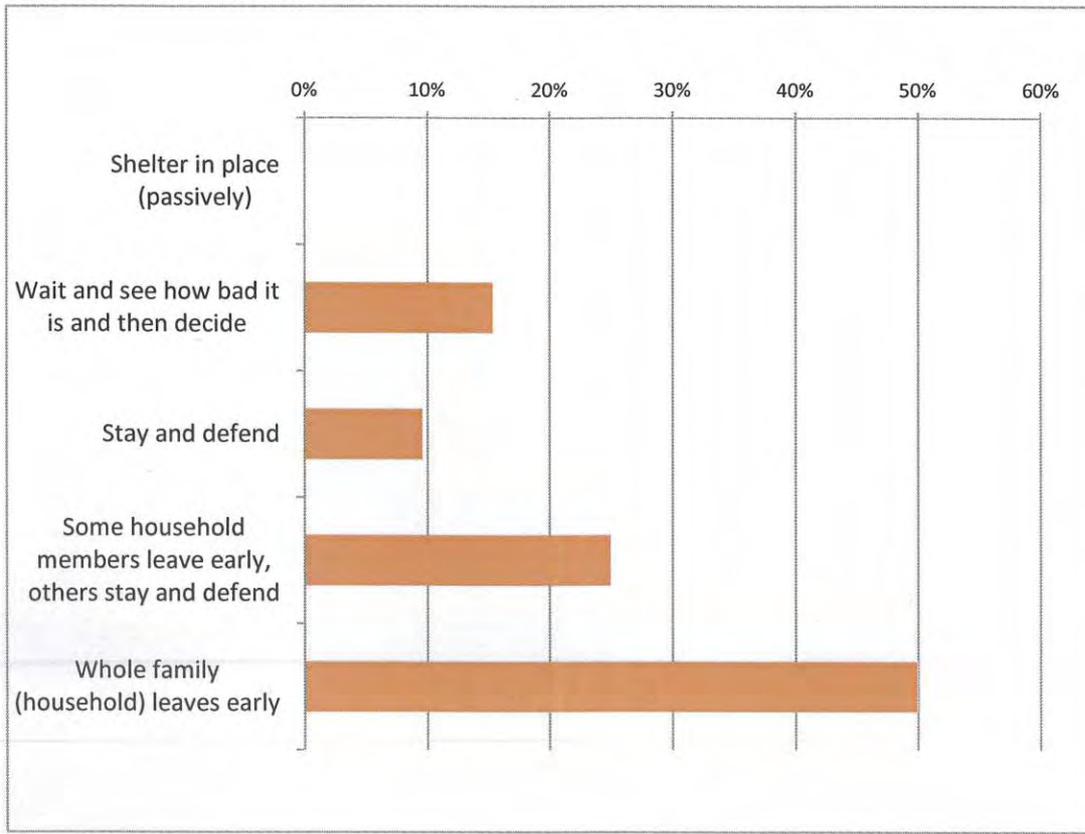
Answer Choices	Responses	
Written plan	24.07%	13
Plan in mind	66.67%	36
Did not have plan	9.26%	5
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q26. If you had either a written plan, or just one in mind, had you done any of the following?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Discussed this plan with others in the family	91.84%	45
Discussed this plan with neighbours or friends nearby	32.65%	16
Practiced the plan	18.37%	9
Developed a back-up plan	26.53%	13
Included what you would do with your pets	63.27%	31
<b>Total Respondents: 49</b>		

Q27. What did your plan say your household would do in the event of a bushfire?



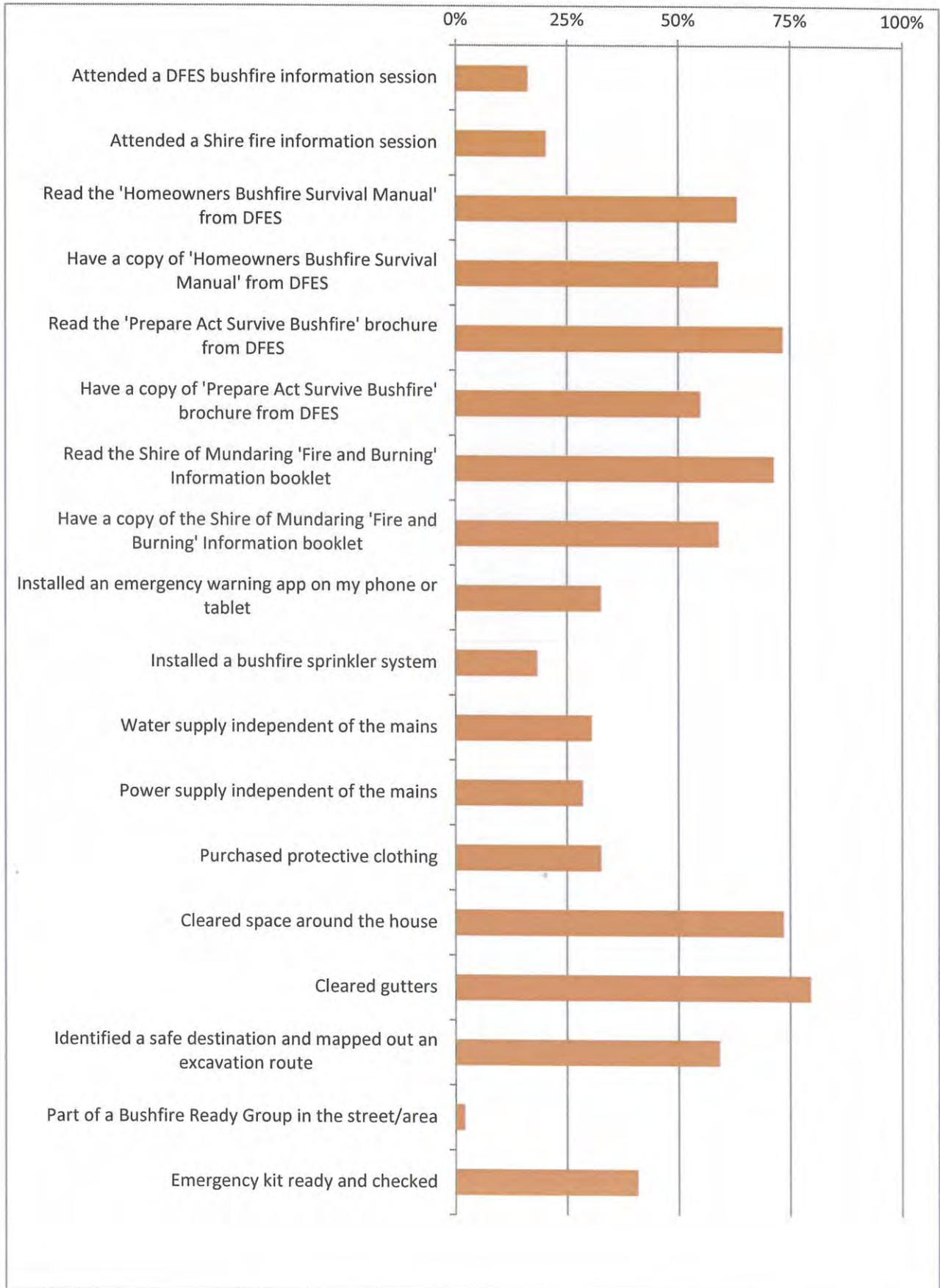
Q27. What did your plan say your household would do in the event of a bushfire?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Shelter in place (passively)	0.00%	0
Wait and see how bad it is and then decide	15.38%	8
Stay and defend	9.62%	5
Some household members leave early, others stay and defend	25.00%	13
Whole family (household) leaves early	50.00%	26
<b>Total Respondents: 52</b>		

Q28. If you did not have a plan, why not?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Did not think it was necessary/Did not think we had a bushfire risk	0.00%	0
Too busy to put one together	0.00%	0
It is too hard to put one together	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 0</b>		

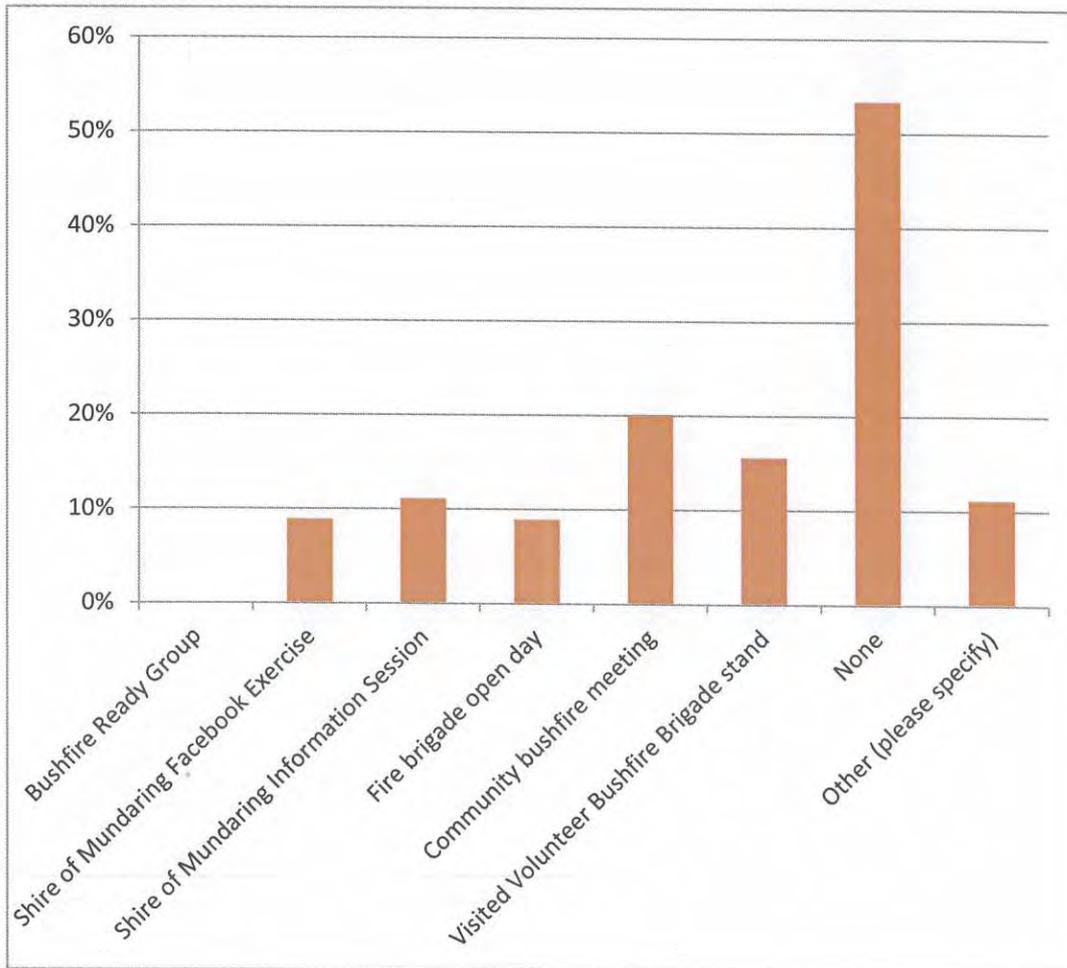
Q29. Prior to the January 2014 bushfire had you done any of the following to prepare your house or yourself/family for a bushfire?



Parkerville, Stoneville, Mount Helena Bushfire Survey

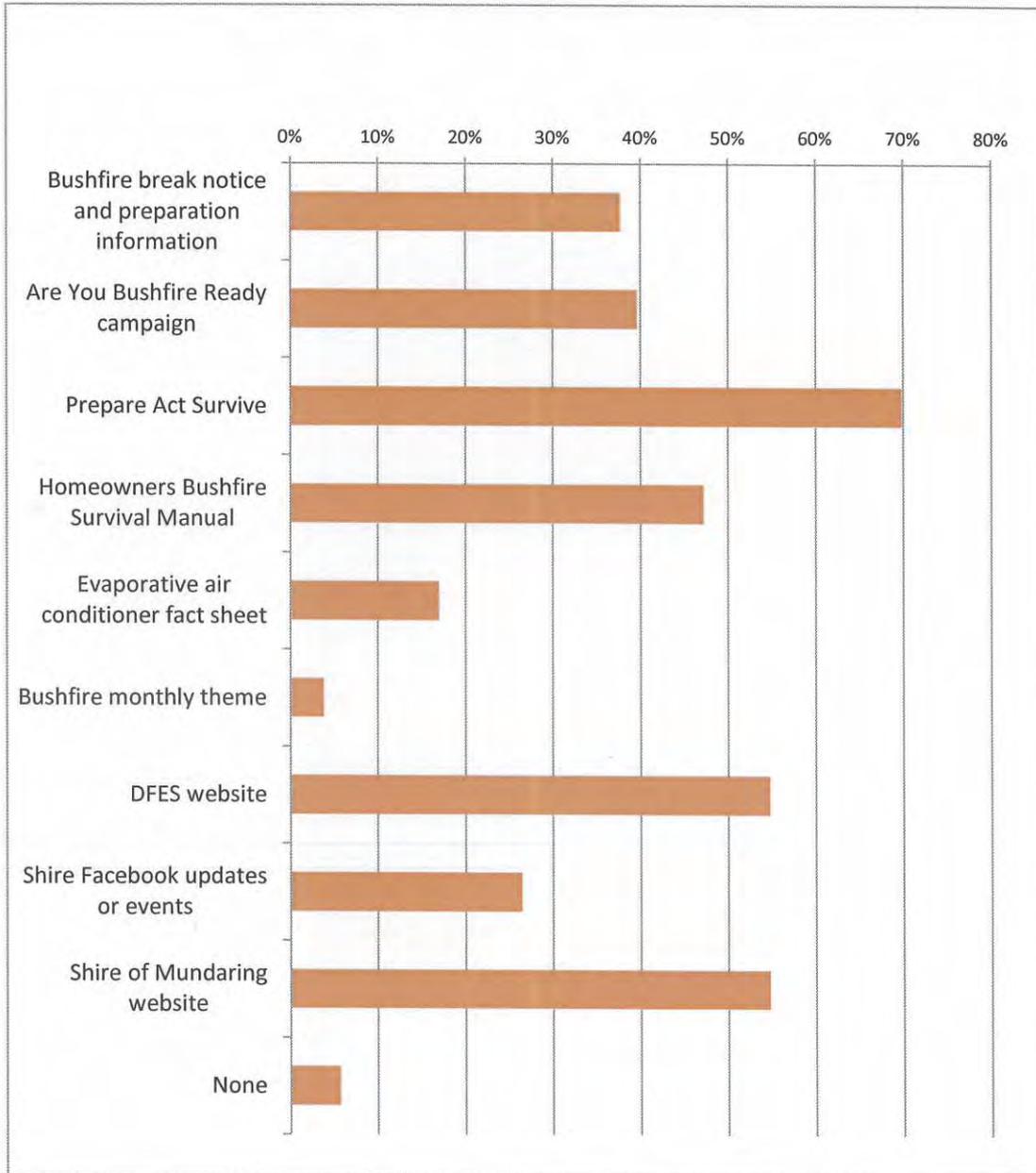
Answer Choices	Responses	
Attended a DFES bushfire information session	16.33%	8
Attended a Shire fire information session	20.41%	10
Read the 'Homeowners Bushfire Survival Manual' from DFES	63.27%	31
Have a copy of 'Homeowners Bushfire Survival Manual' from DFES	59.18%	29
Read the 'Prepare Act Survive Bushfire' brochure from DFES	73.47%	36
Have a copy of 'Prepare Act Survive Bushfire' brochure from DFES	55.10%	27
Read the Shire of Mundaring 'Fire and Burning' Information booklet	71.43%	35
Have a copy of the Shire of Mundaring 'Fire and Burning' Information booklet	59.18%	29
Installed an emergency warning app on my phone or tablet	32.65%	16
Installed a bushfire sprinkler system	18.37%	9
Water supply independent of the mains	30.61%	15
Power supply independent of the mains	28.57%	14
Purchased protective clothing	32.65%	16
Cleared space around the house	73.47%	36
Cleared gutters	79.59%	39
Identified a safe destination and mapped out an excavation route	59.18%	29
Part of a Bushfire Ready Group in the street/area	2.04%	1
Emergency kit ready and checked	40.82%	20
<b>Total Respondents: 49</b>		

Q30. Have you participated in any bushfire preparedness activities in the last 12 months?



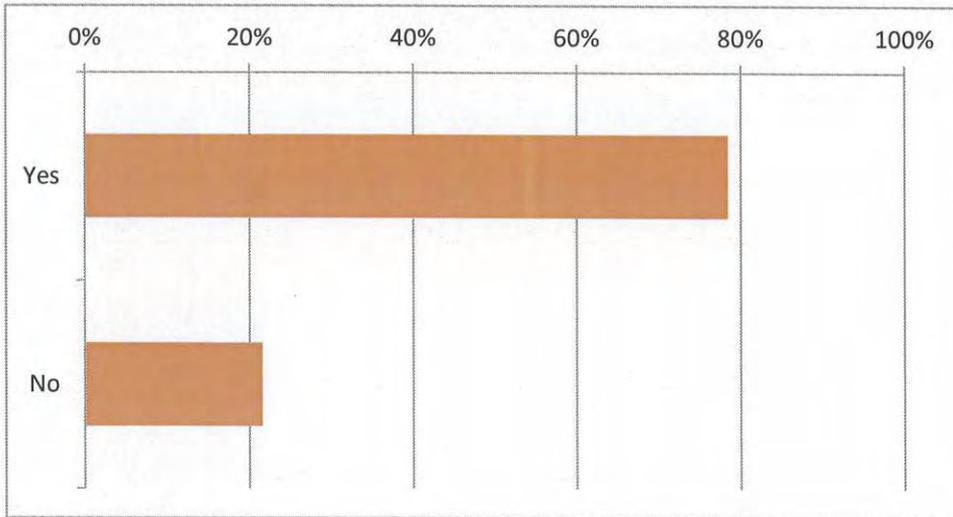
Answer Choices	Responses	
Bushfire Ready Group	0.00%	0
Shire of Mundaring Facebook Exercise	8.89%	4
Shire of Mundaring Information Session	11.11%	5
Fire brigade open day	8.89%	4
Community bushfire meeting	20.00%	9
Visited Volunteer Bushfire Brigade stand	15.56%	7
None	53.33%	24
Other (please specify)	11.11%	5
<b>Total Respondents: 45</b>		

Q31. Have you seen or received any of the following materials or campaigns which promote bushfire safety?



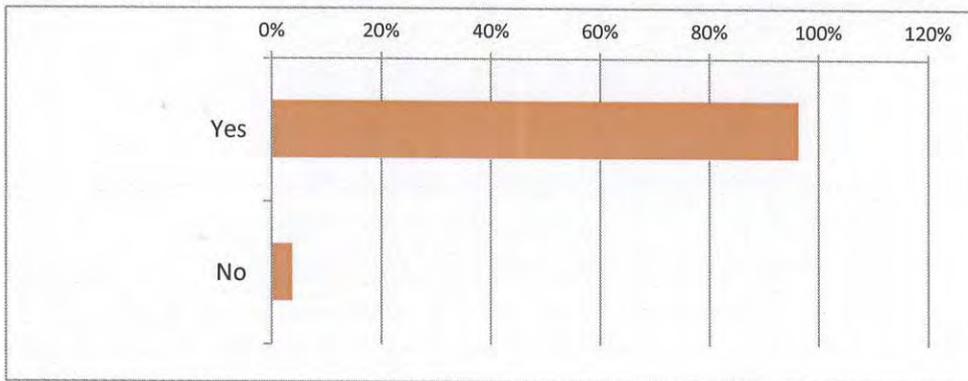
Answer Choices	Responses	
Bushfire break notice and preparation information	37.74%	20
Are You Bushfire Ready campaign	39.62%	21
Prepare Act Survive	69.81%	37
Homeowners Bushfire Survival Manual	47.17%	25
Evaporative air conditioner fact sheet	16.98%	9
Bushfire monthly theme	3.77%	2
DFES website	54.72%	29
Shire Facebook updates or events	26.42%	14
Shire of Mundaring website	54.72%	29
None	5.66%	3
<b>Total Respondents: 53</b>		

Q32. Did any of this information assist you to prepare yourself or your property?



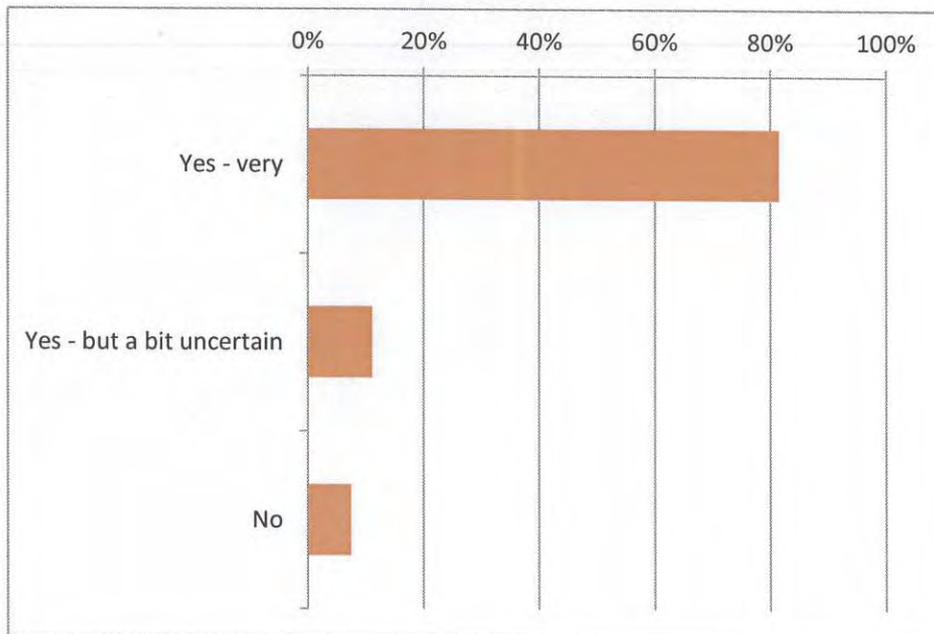
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	78.43%	40
No	21.57%	11
<b>Total Respondents: 51</b>		

Q33. Are you familiar with the Fire Danger Rating scale?



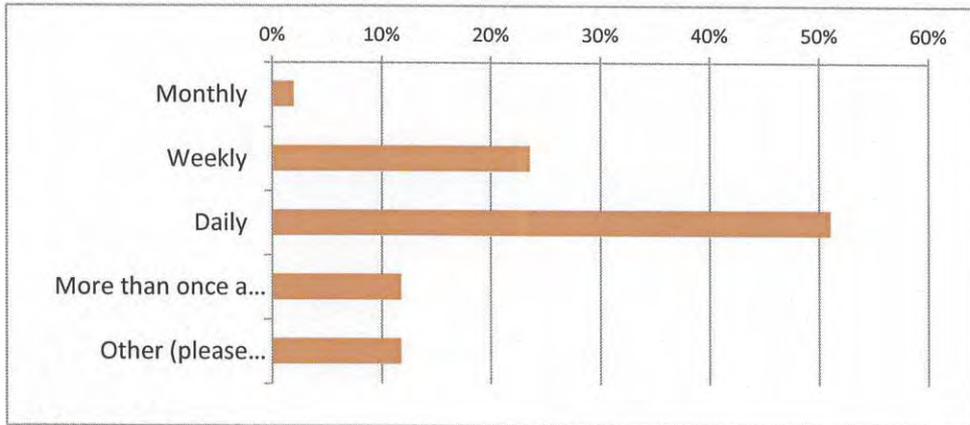
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	96.30%	52
No	3.70%	2
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q34. Are you confident you understand what the Fire Danger Rating is telling you?



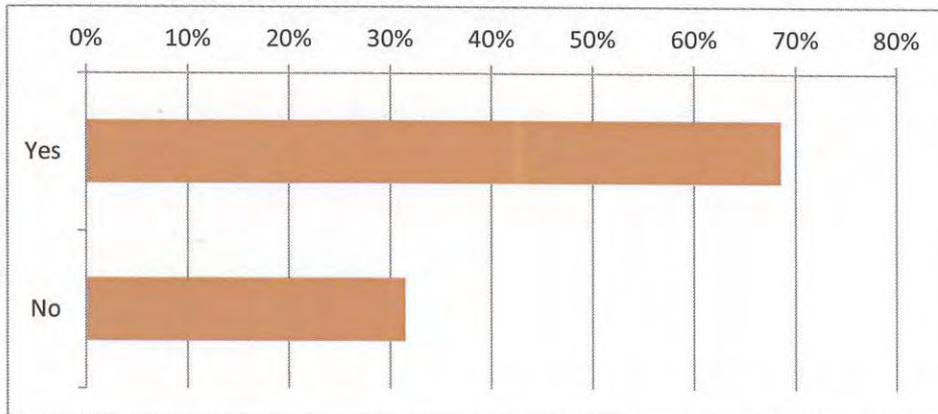
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes - very	81.48%	44
Yes - but a bit uncertain	11.11%	6
No	7.41%	4
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q35. If yes, how often do you check the Fire Danger Rating for your area?



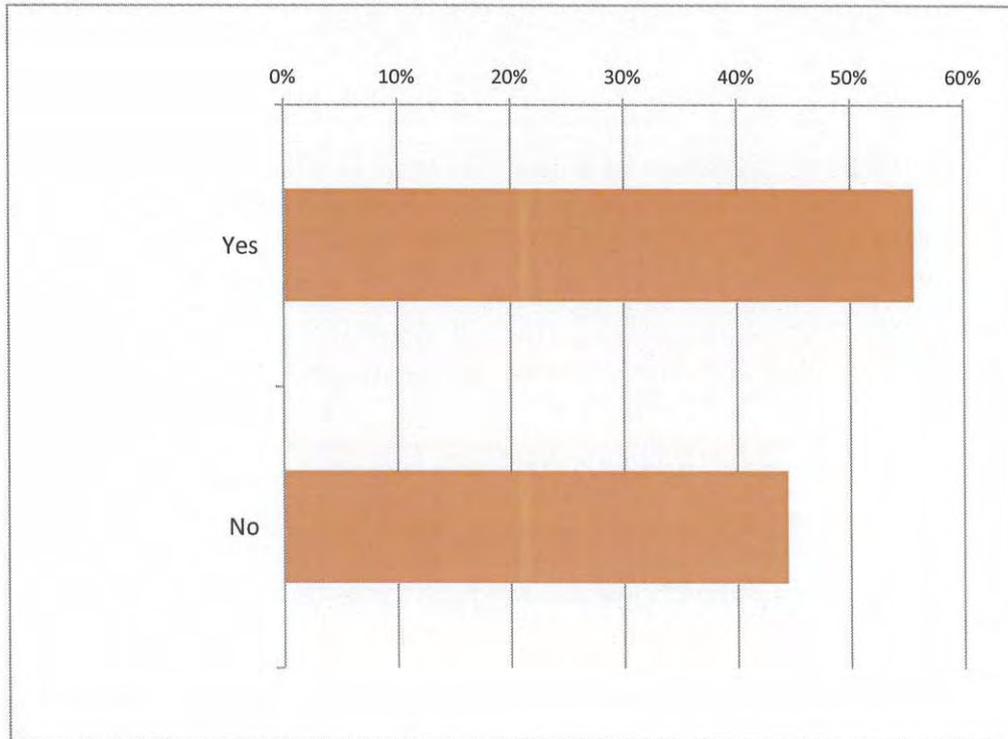
Answer Choices	Responses	
Monthly	1.96%	1
Weekly	23.53%	12
Daily	50.98%	26
More than once a day	11.76%	6
Other (please specify)	11.76%	6
<b>Total Respondents: 51</b>		

Q36. Can you recall what the Fire Danger Rating predictions or warnings were on January 11 and 12, 2014?



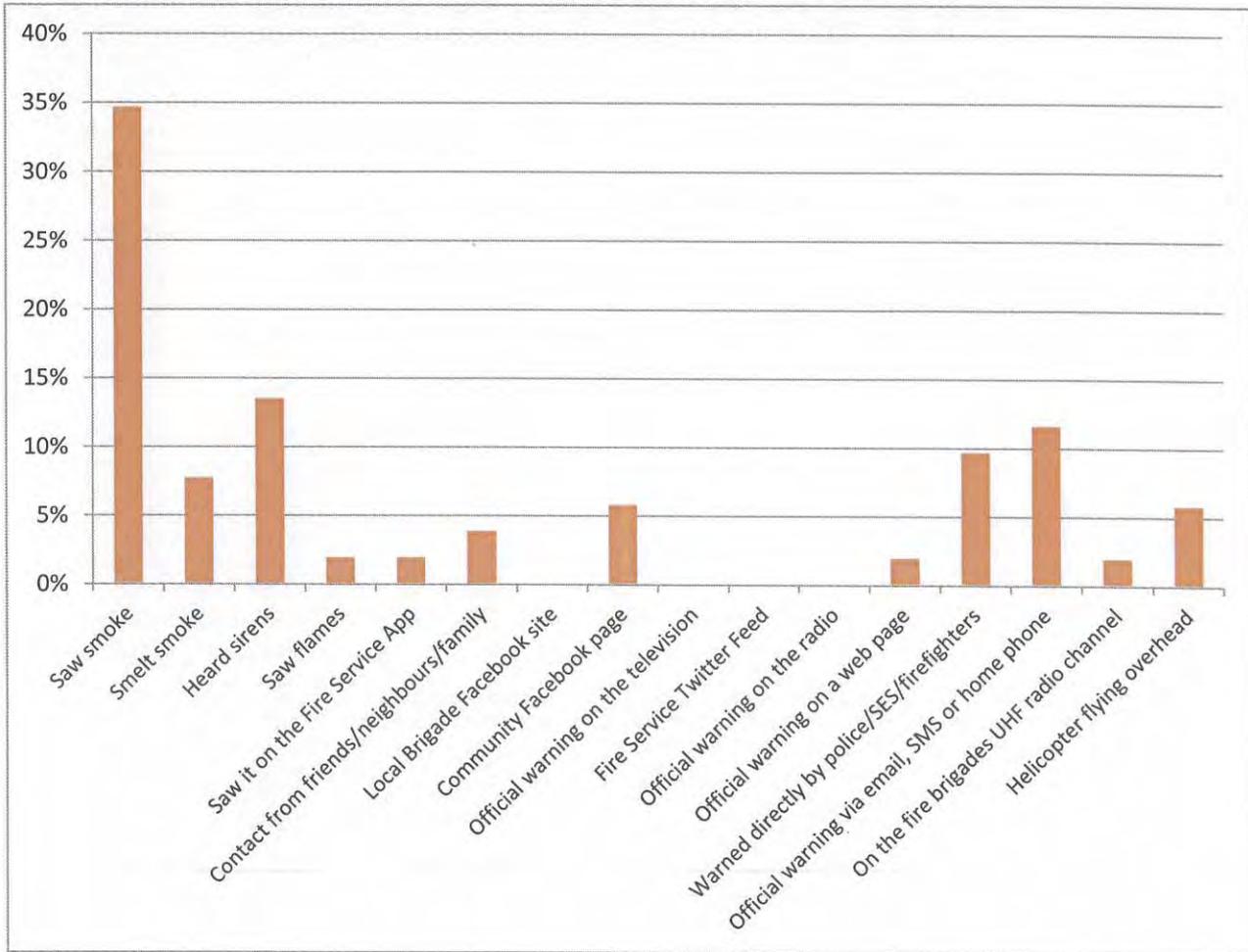
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	68.52%	37
No	31.48%	17
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q37. Did you do anything at that time to prepare for a possible bushfire?



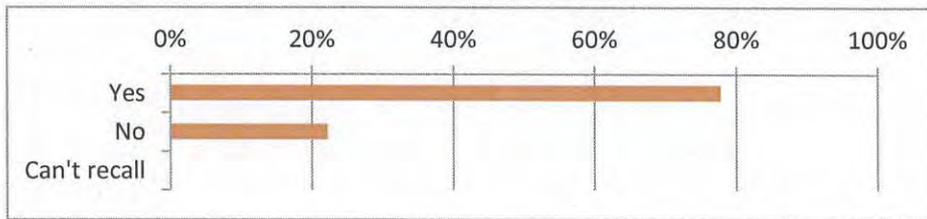
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	55.56%	30
No	44.44%	24
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q38. How did you first find out about the fire in your area?



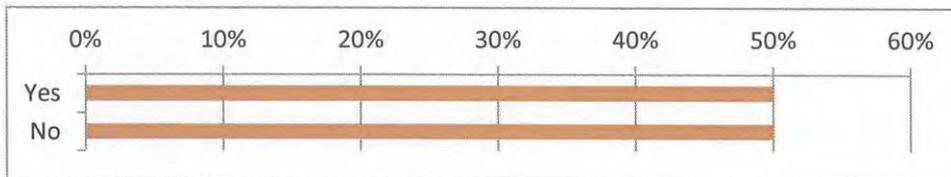
Answer Choices	Responses	
Saw smoke	34.62%	18
Smelt smoke	7.69%	4
Heard sirens	13.46%	7
Saw flames	1.92%	1
Saw it on the Fire Service App	1.92%	1
Contact from friends/neighbours/family	3.85%	2
Local Brigade Facebook site	0.00%	0
Community Facebook page	5.77%	3
Official warning on the television	0.00%	0
Fire Service Twitter Feed	0.00%	0
Official warning on the radio	0.00%	0
Official warning on a web page	1.92%	1
Warned directly by police/SES/firefighters	9.62%	5
Official warning via email, SMS or home phone	11.54%	6
On the fire brigades UHF radio channel	1.92%	1
Helicopter flying overhead	5.77%	3
<b>Total Respondents: 52</b>		

Q39. Were you at home when you first heard about the fire threatening your home or property?



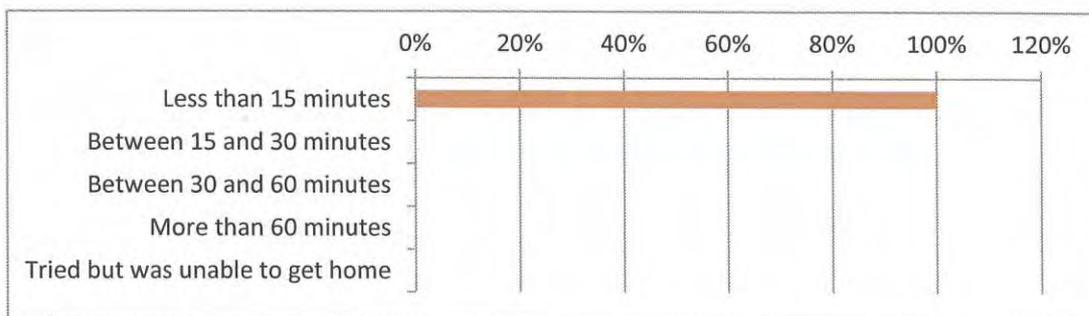
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	77.78%	42
No	22.22%	12
Can't recall	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q40. If you were not at home when you first heard about fires threatening your home did you try to get home at that time?



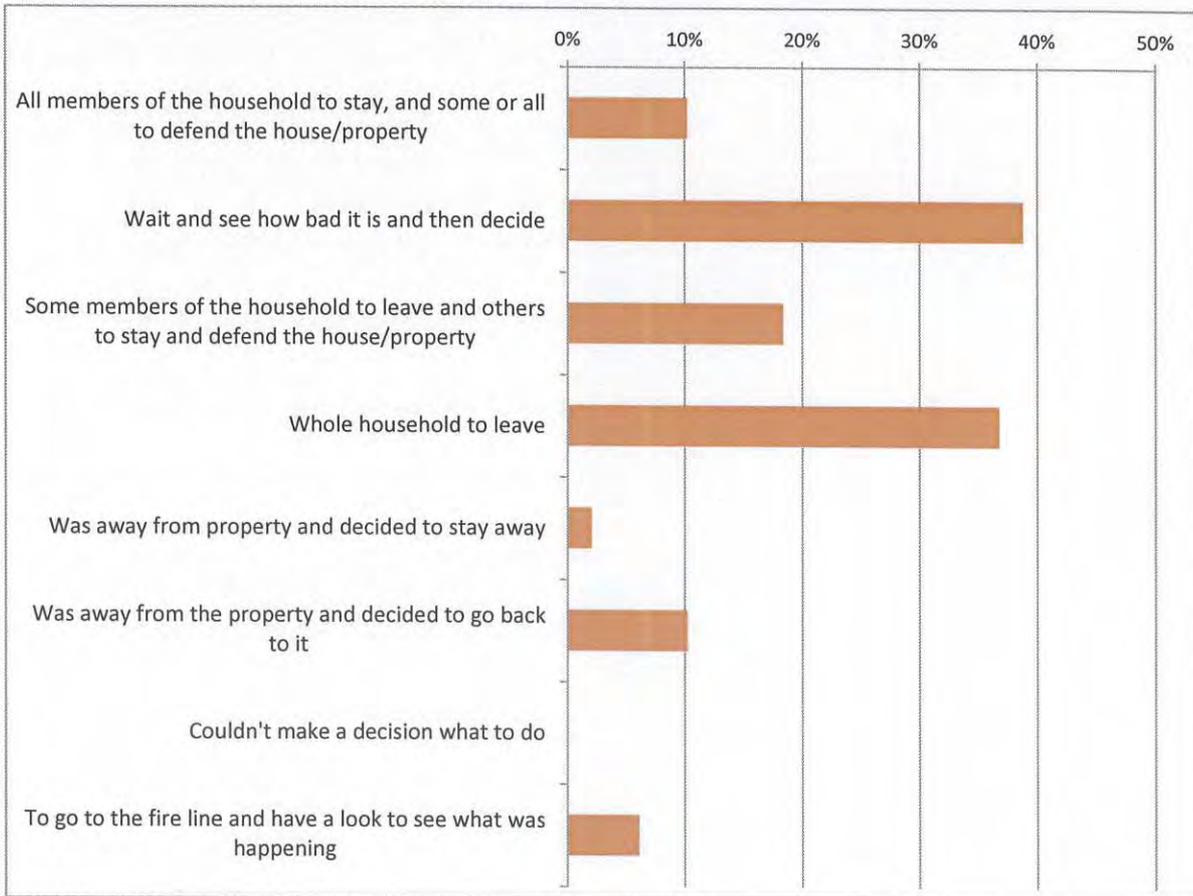
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	50.00%	1
No	50.00%	1
<b>Total Respondents: 2</b>		

Q41. If you did try and get home, how long did it take?



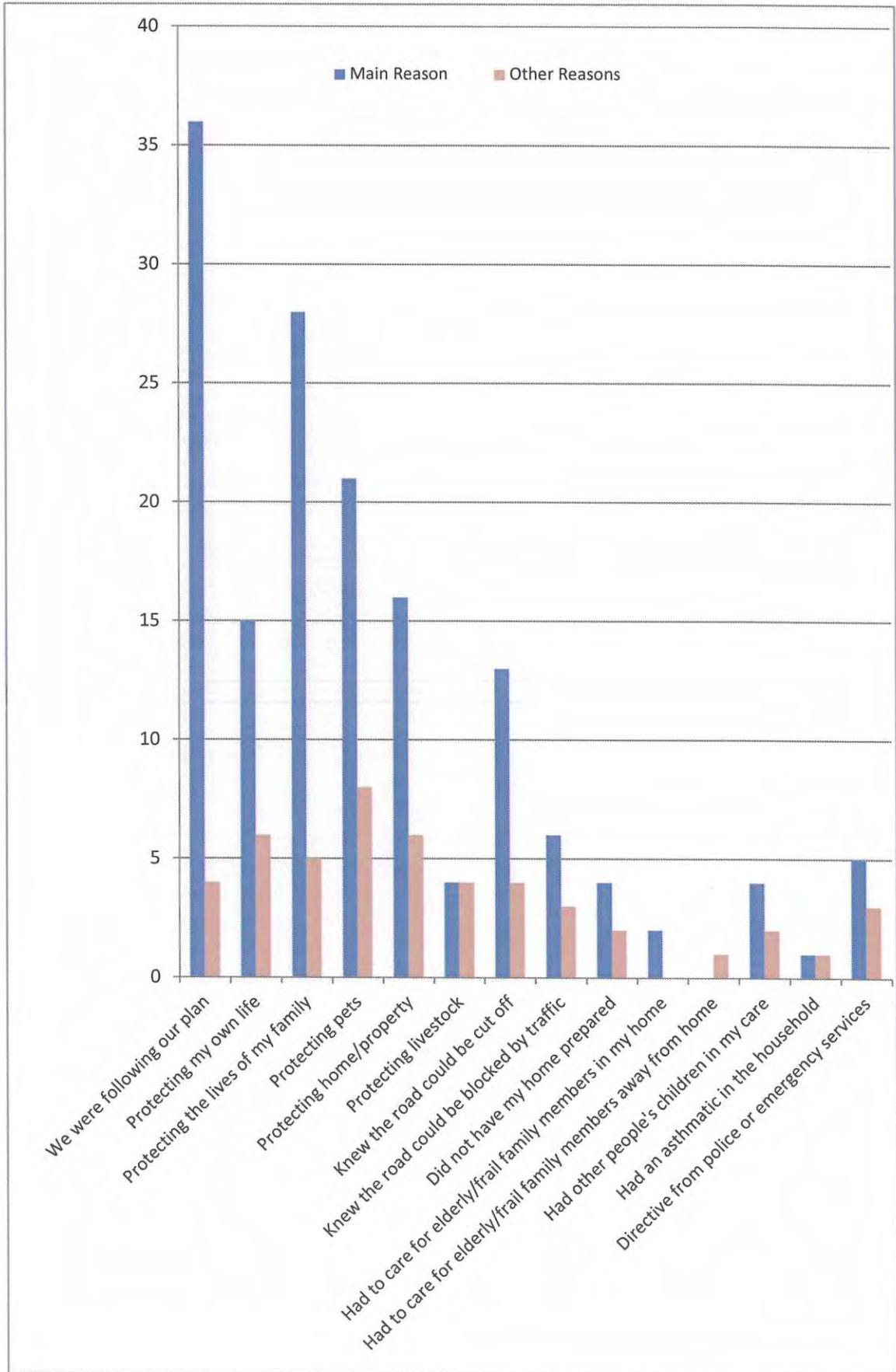
Answer Choices	Responses	
Less than 15 minutes	100.00%	1
Between 15 and 30 minutes	0.00%	0
Between 30 and 60 minutes	0.00%	0
More than 60 minutes	0.00%	0
Tried but was unable to get home	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 1</b>		

Q42. Once you found out about the fire in your area what did you decide to do?



Answer Choices	Responses	
All members of the household to stay, and some or all to defend the house/property	10.20%	5
Wait and see how bad it is and then decide	38.78%	19
Some members of the household to leave and others to stay and defend the house/property	18.37%	9
Whole household to leave	36.73%	18
Was away from property and decided to stay away	2.04%	1
Was away from the property and decided to go back to it	10.20%	5
Couldn't make a decision what to do	0.00%	0
To go to the fire line and have a look to see what was happening	6.12%	3
<b>Total Respondents: 49</b>		

Q43. What were the reasons for your actions? Please indicate your main reason and the other factors you were concerned about.

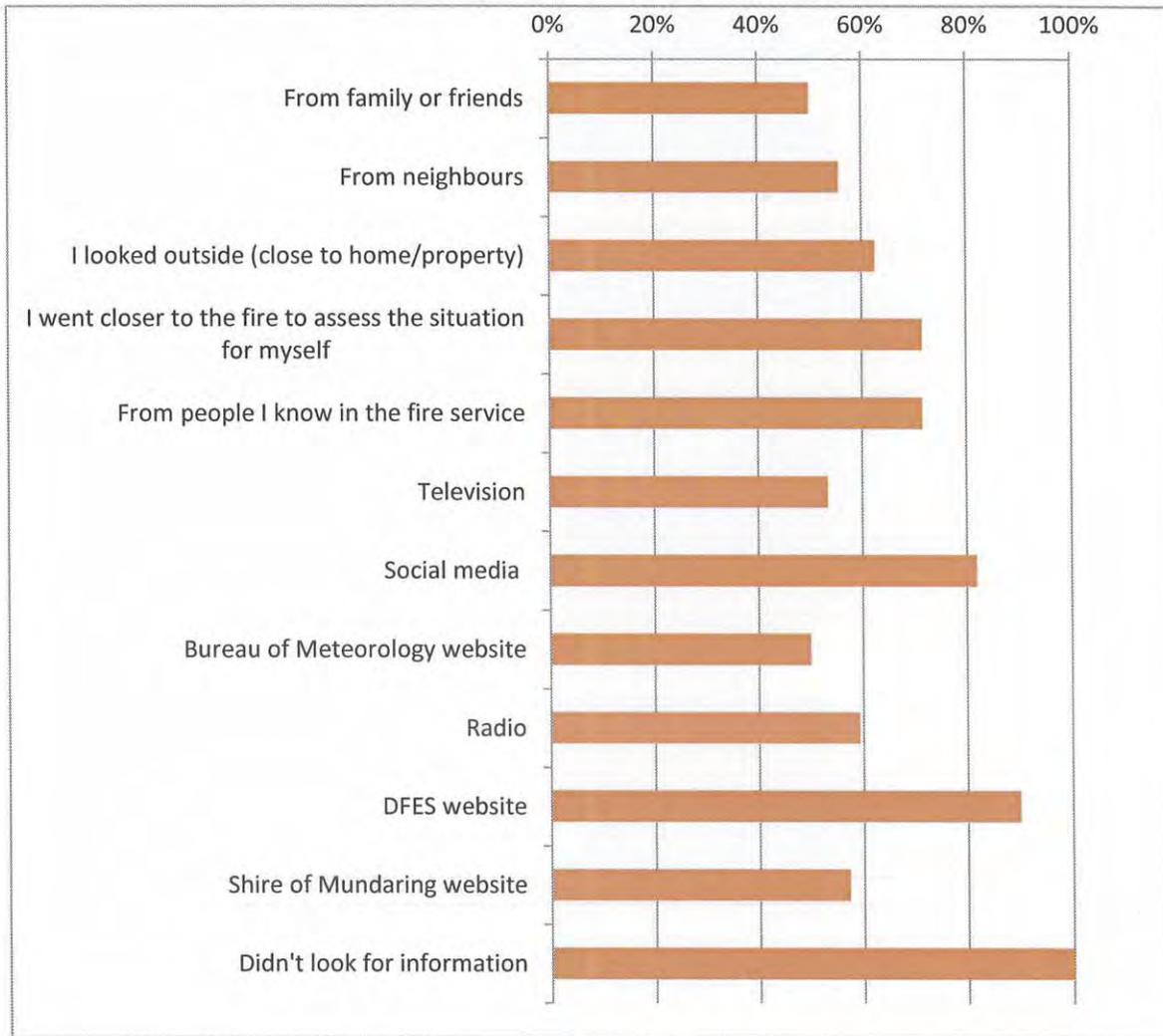


Parkerville, Stoneville, Mount Helena Bushfire Survey

<b>Answer Choices (Percent)</b>	<b>Main Reason</b>	<b>Other Reasons</b>	<b>Total Respondents</b>
We were following our plan	90.00%	10.00%	40
Protecting my own life	71.43%	28.57%	21
Protecting the lives of my family	84.85%	15.15%	33
Protecting pets	72.41%	27.59%	29
Protecting home/property	72.73%	27.27%	22
Protecting livestock	50.00%	50.00%	8
Knew the road could be cut off	76.47%	23.53%	17
Knew the road could be blocked by traffic	66.67%	33.33%	9
Did not have my home prepared	66.67%	33.33%	6
Had to care for elderly/frail family members in my home	100.00%	0.00%	2
Had to care for elderly/frail family members away from home	0.00%	100.00%	1
Had other people's children in my care	66.67%	33.33%	3
Had an asthmatic in the household	50.00%	50.00%	2
Directive from police or emergency services	62.50%	37.50%	8
<b>Total Respondents: 52</b>			

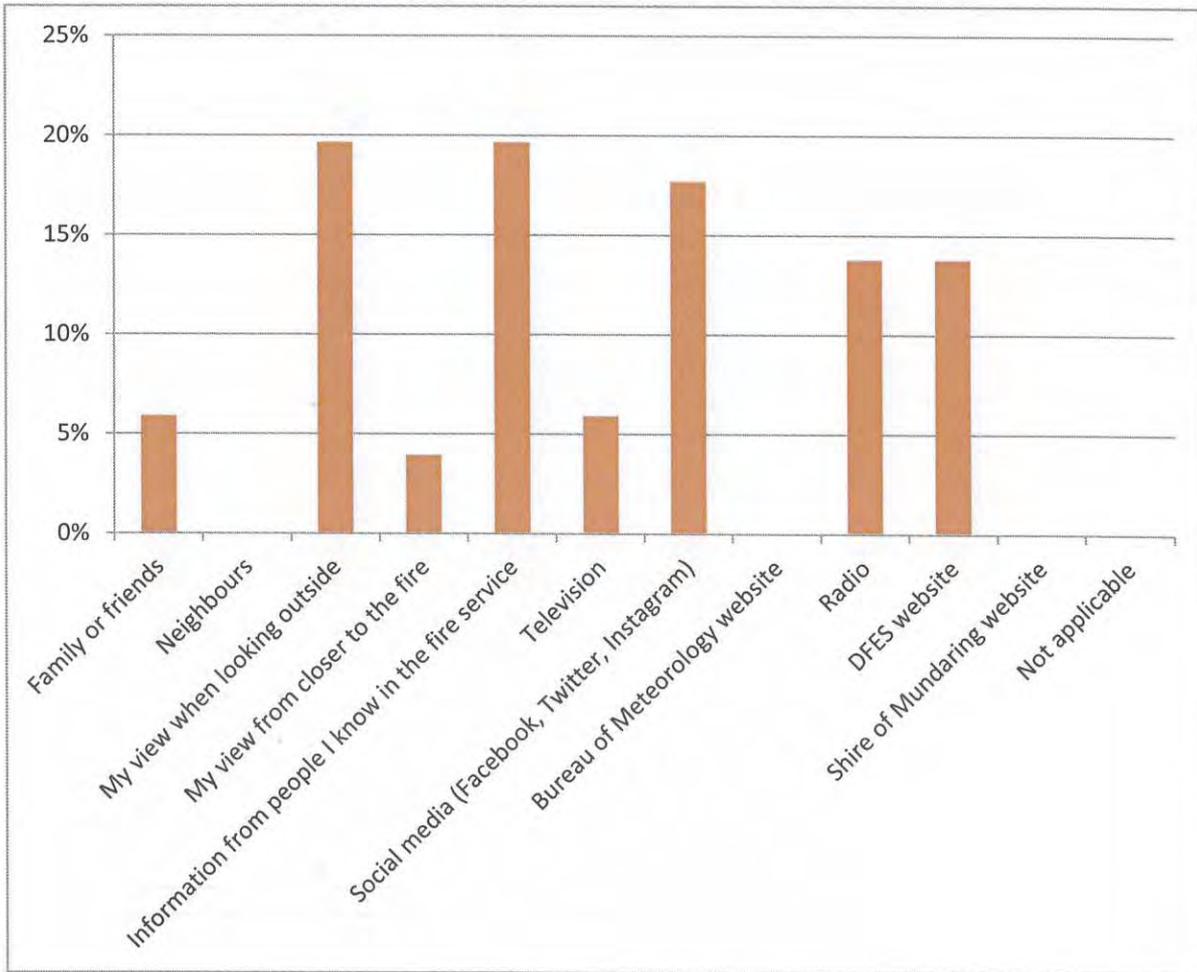
<b>Answer Choices (Number)</b>	<b>Main Reason</b>	<b>Other Reasons</b>	<b>Total Respondents</b>
We were following our plan	36	4	40
Protecting my own life	15	6	21
Protecting the lives of my family	28	5	33
Protecting pets	21	8	29
Protecting home/property	16	6	22
Protecting livestock	4	4	8
Knew the road could be cut off	13	4	17
Knew the road could be blocked by traffic	6	3	9
Did not have my home prepared	4	2	6
Had to care for elderly/frail family members in my home	2	0	2
Had to care for elderly/frail family members away from home	0	1	1
Had other people's children in my care	4	2	3
Had an asthmatic in the household	1	1	2
Directive from police or emergency services	5	3	8
<b>Total Respondents: 52</b>			

Q44. How/where did you get information during the fire?



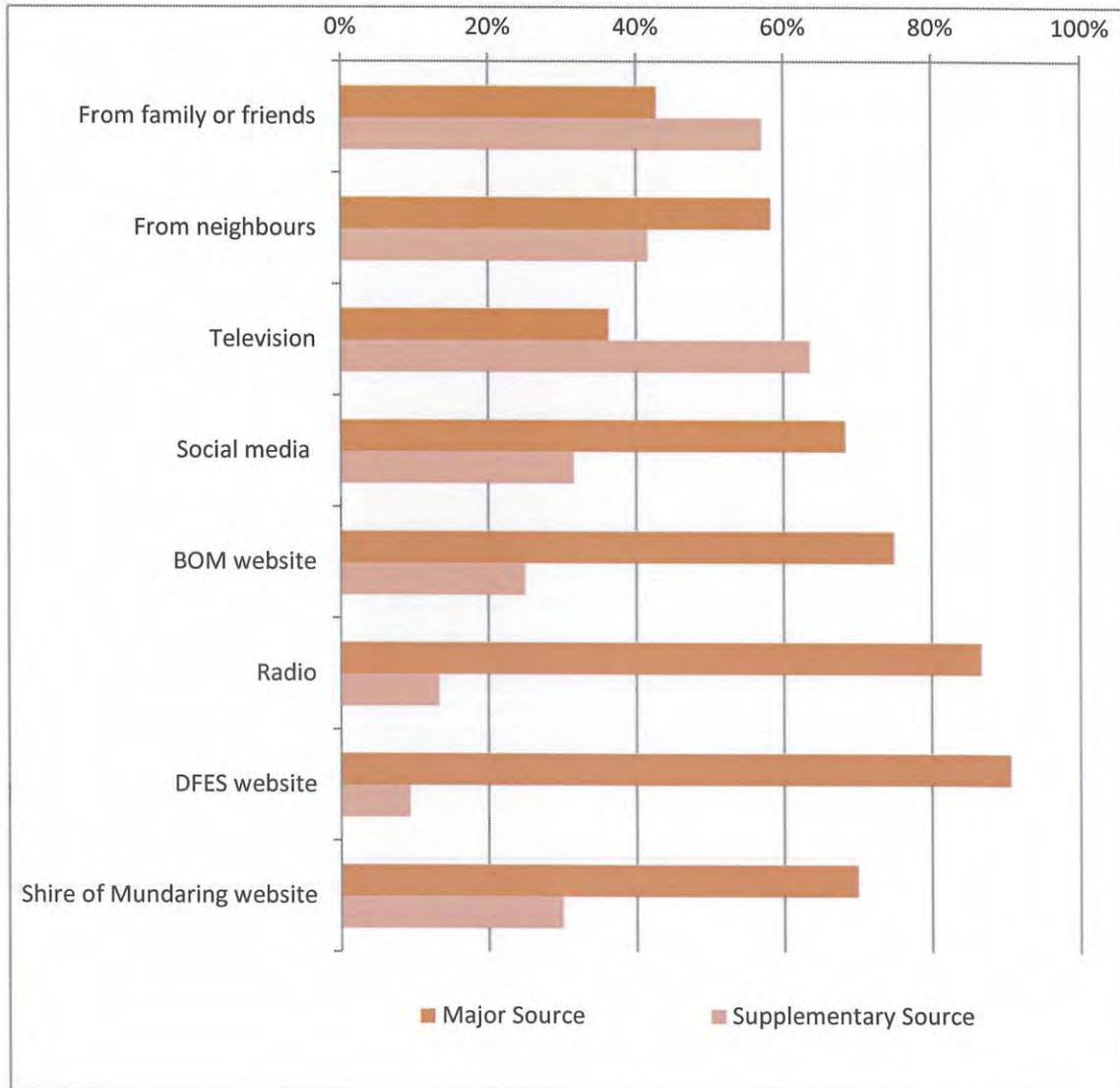
Answer Choices	Major Source	Supplementary Source	Total Respondents
From family or friends	50.00%	50.00%	14
From neighbours	55.56%	44.44%	18
I looked outside (close to home/property)	62.50%	37.50%	24
I went closer to the fire to assess the situation for myself	71.43%	28.57%	7
From people I know in the fire service	71.43%	28.57%	21
Television	53.33%	46.67%	15
Social media	81.82%	18.18%	22
Bureau of Meteorology website	50.00%	50.00%	6
Radio	59.26%	40.74%	27
DFES website	90.00%	10.00%	30
Shire of Mundaring website	57.14%	42.86%	7
Didn't look for information	100.00%	0.00%	1
<b>Total Respondents: 53</b>			

Q45. Which of those was the most reliable source of information?



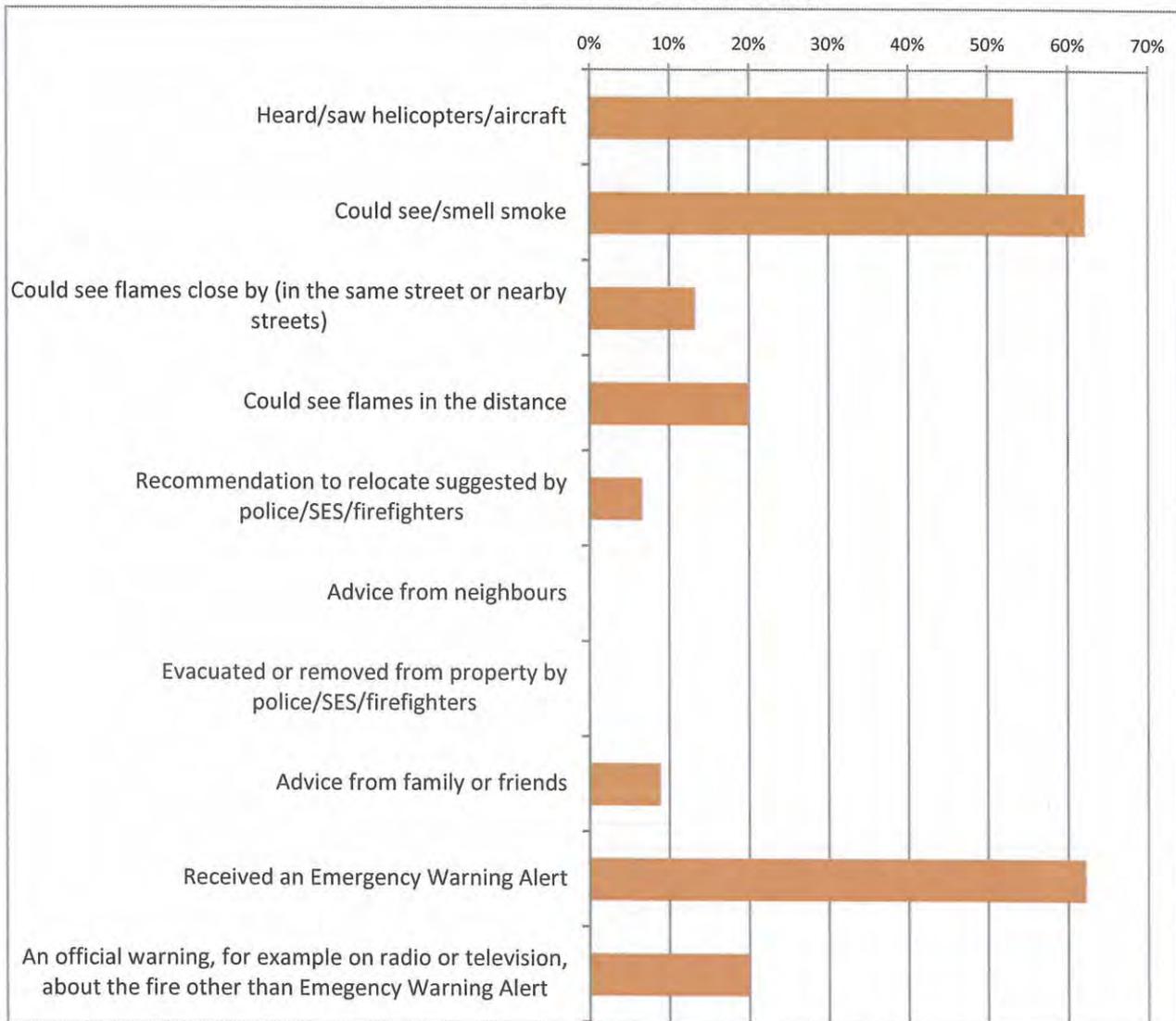
Answer Choices	Responses	
Family or friends	5.88%	3
Neighbours	0.00%	0
My view when looking outside	19.61%	10
My view from closer to the fire	3.92%	2
Information from people I know in the fire service	19.61%	10
Television	5.88%	3
Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)	17.65%	9
Bureau of Meteorology website	0.00%	0
Radio	13.73%	7
DFES website	13.73%	7
Shire of Mundaring website	0.00%	0
Not applicable	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 51</b>		

Q46. Which of the following is the way you most like to receive information about fire in your area?



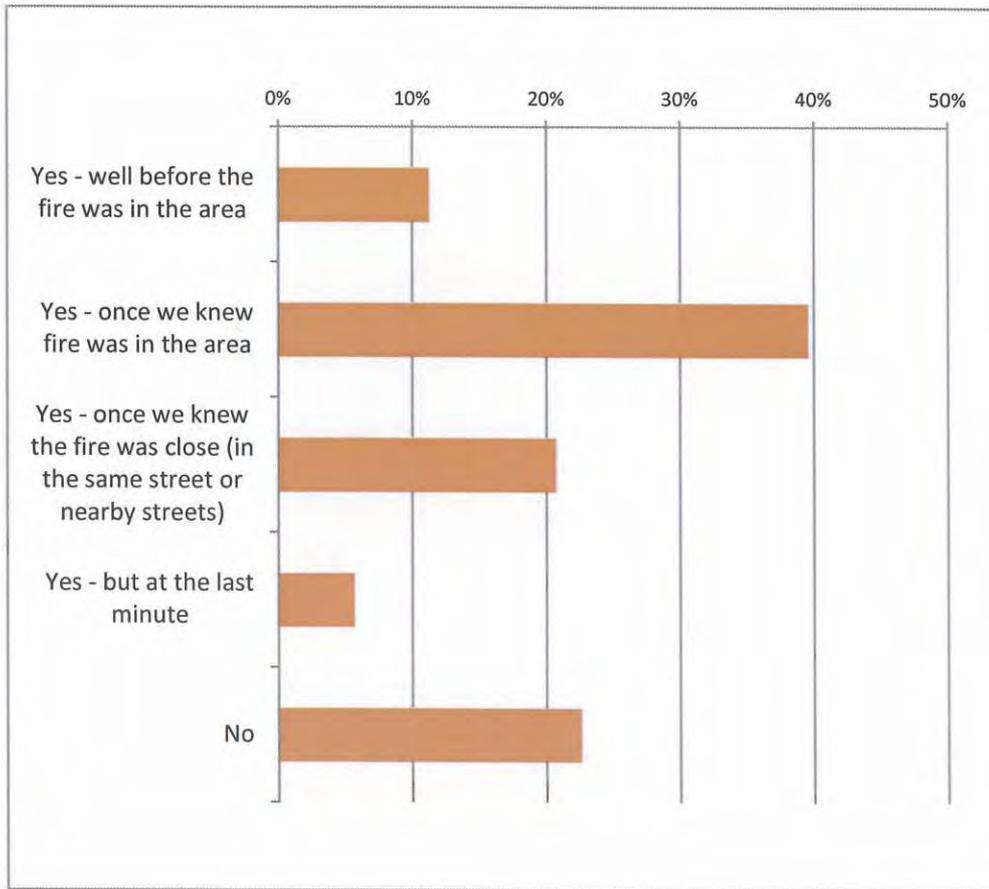
Answer Choices	Major Source	Supplementary Source	Total Respondents
From family or friends	42.86%	57.14%	14
From neighbours	58.33%	41.67%	12
Television	36.36%	63.64%	11
Social media	68.42%	31.58%	19
BOM website	75.00%	25.00%	4
Radio	86.67%	13.33%	30
DFES website	90.63%	9.38%	32
Shire of Mundaring website	70.00%	30.00%	10
<b>Total Respondents: 48</b>			

Q47. What were the triggers for you or the other members of your household to act? Please tick all that apply



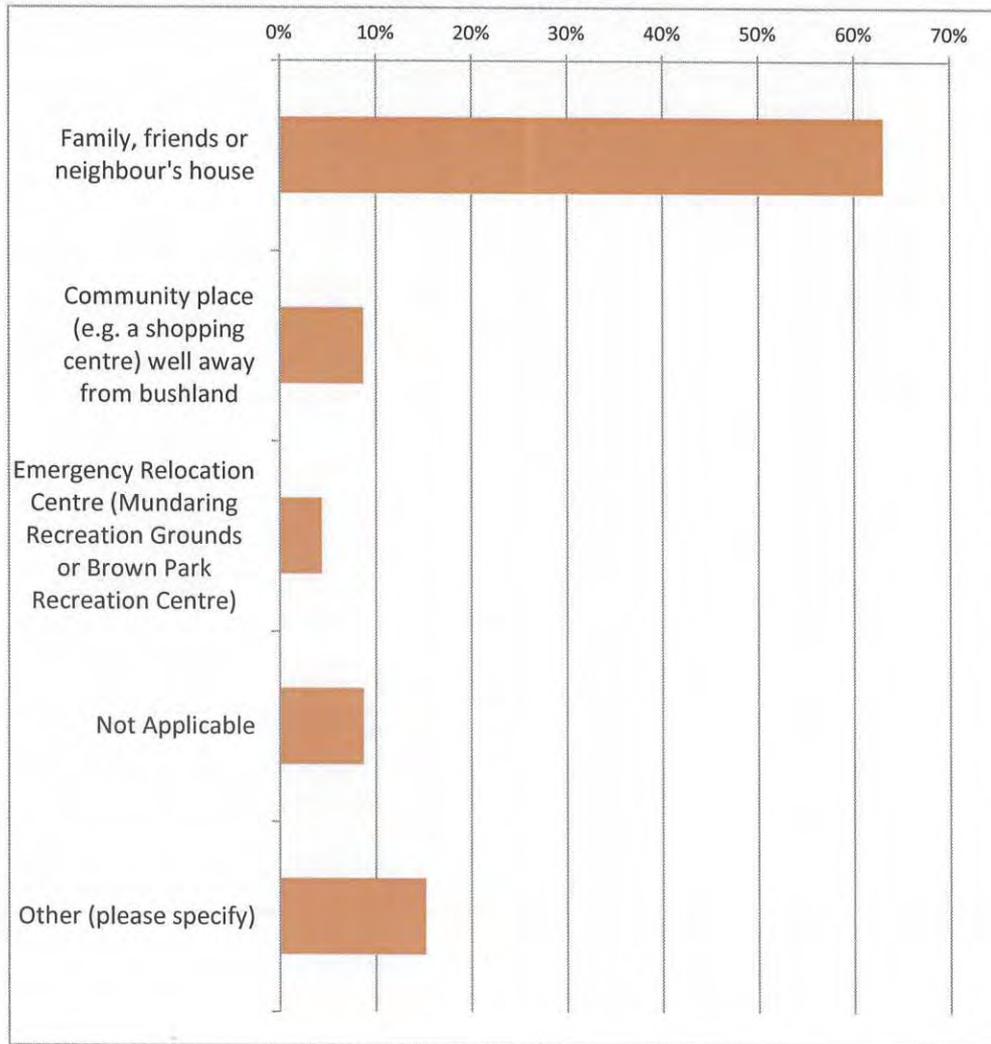
Answer Choices	Responses	
Heard/saw helicopters/aircraft	53.33%	24
Could see/smell smoke	62.22%	28
Could see flames close by (in the same street or nearby streets)	13.33%	6
Could see flames in the distance	20.00%	9
Recommendation to relocate suggested by police/SES/firefighters	6.67%	3
Advice from neighbours	0.00%	0
Evacuated or removed from property by police/SES/firefighters	0.00%	0
Advice from family or friends	8.89%	4
Received an Emergency Warning Alert	62.22%	28
An official warning, for example on radio or television, about the fire other than Emergency Warning Alert	20.00%	9
<b>Total Respondents: 45</b>		

Q48. Did any members of the household leave your property on the day because of the fire?



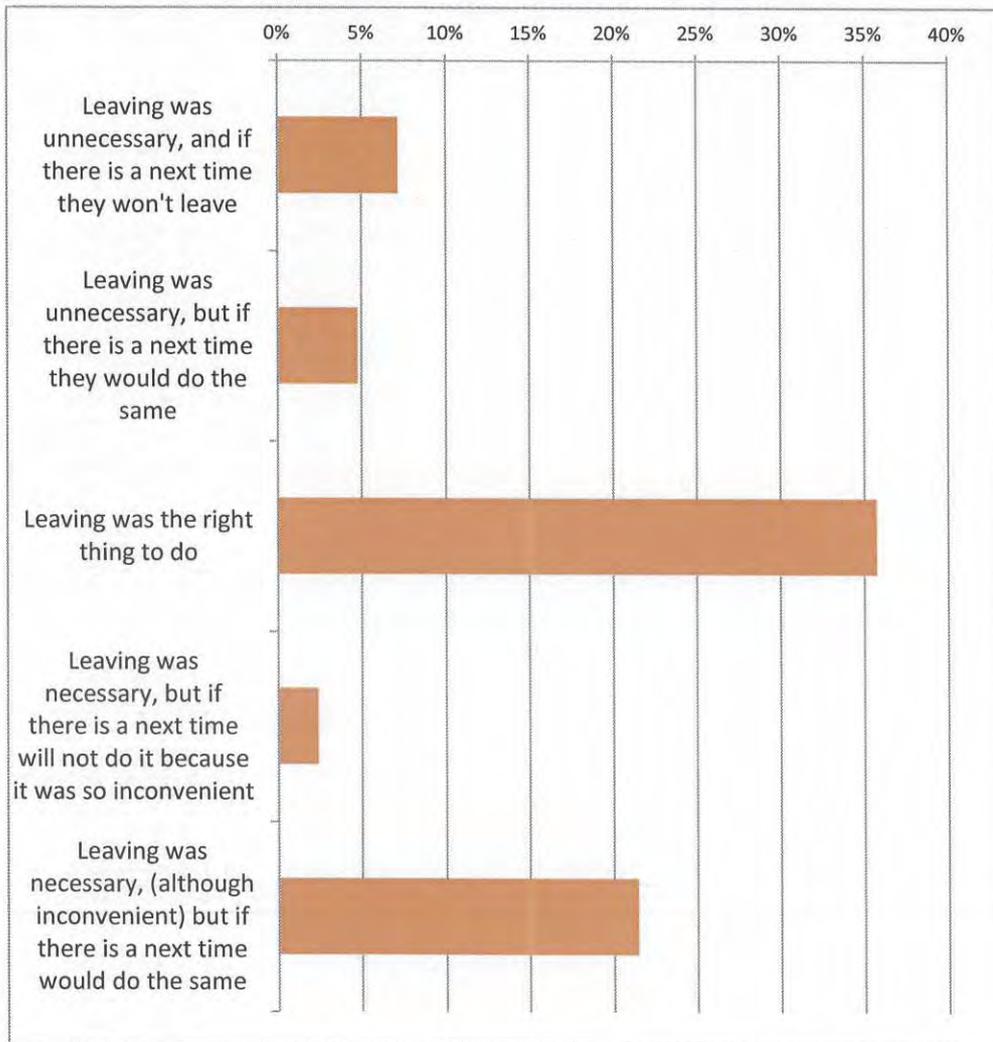
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes - well before the fire was in the area	11.32%	6
Yes - once we knew fire was in the area	39.62%	21
Yes - once we knew the fire was close (in the same street or nearby streets)	20.75%	11
Yes - but at the last minute	5.66%	3
No	22.64%	12
<b>Total Respondents: 53</b>		

Q49. If anyone in the household left the property because of the fire where did you/they go?



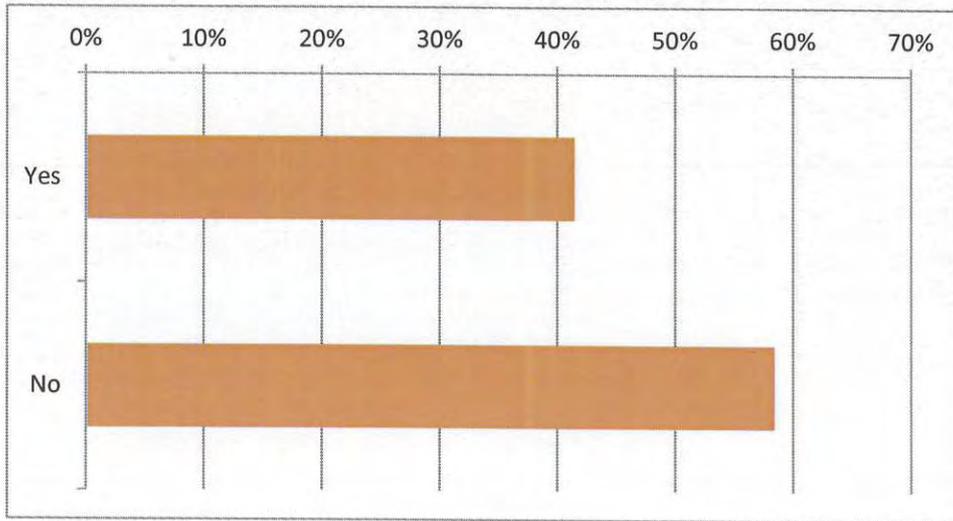
Answer Choices	Responses	
Family, friends or neighbour's house	63.04%	29
Community place (e.g. a shopping centre) well away from bushland	8.70%	4
Emergency Relocation Centre (Mundaring Recreation Grounds or Brown Park Recreation Centre)	4.35%	2
Not Applicable	8.70%	4
Other (please specify)	15.22%	7
<b>Total Respondents: 46</b>		

Q50. Looking back, how do you feel about members of the family/household leaving during the fire?



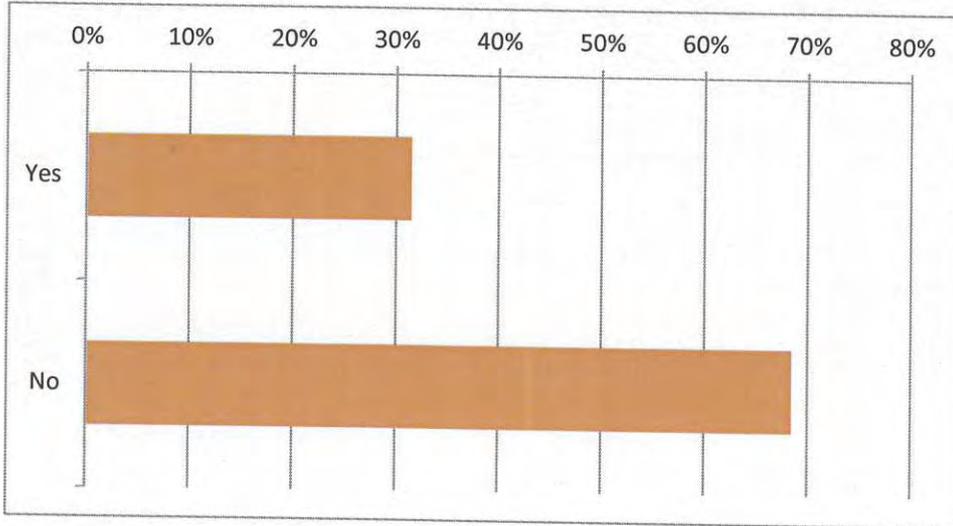
Answer Choices	Responses
Leaving was unnecessary, and if there is a next time they won't leave	7.14% 3
Leaving was unnecessary, but if there is a next time they would do the same	4.76% 2
Leaving was the right thing to do	35.71% 15
Leaving was necessary, but if there is a next time will not do it because it was so inconvenient	2.38% 1
Leaving was necessary, (although inconvenient) but if there is a next time would do the same	21.43% 9
Leaving was not a problem and would do the same in the future	28.57% 12
<b>Total Respondents: 42</b>	

Q51. Did any members of the household stay on the property during the fire?



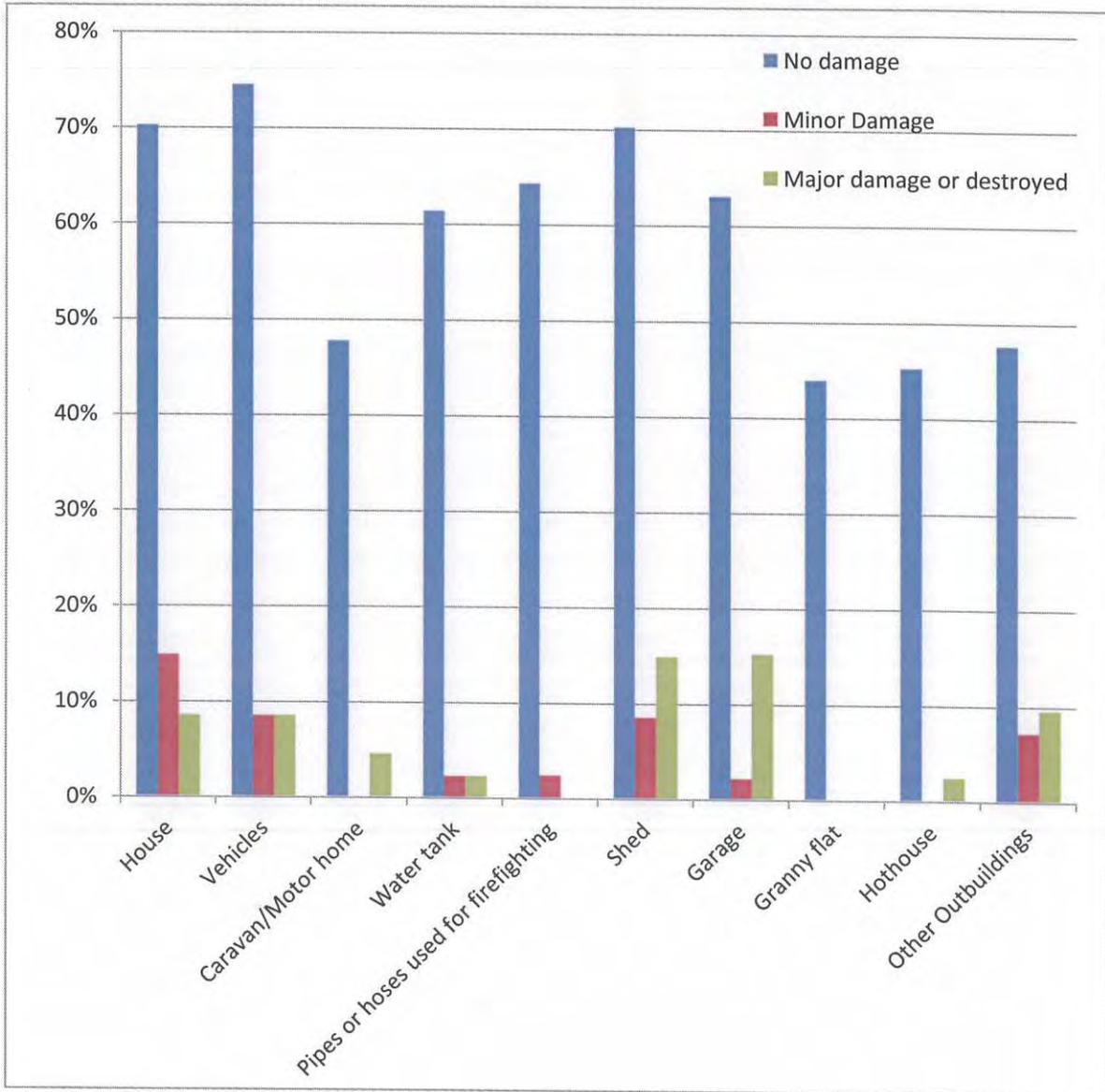
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	41.51%	22
No	58.49%	31
<b>Total Respondents: 53</b>		

Q52. Was there any damage to your home or property and/or did you lose pets or livestock as a result of the January 2014 bushfire?



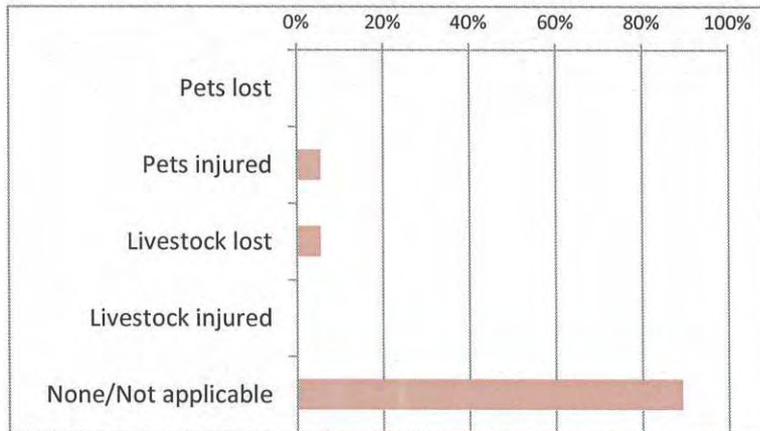
Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	31.48%	17
No	68.52%	37
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q53. Was there any damage to the following?



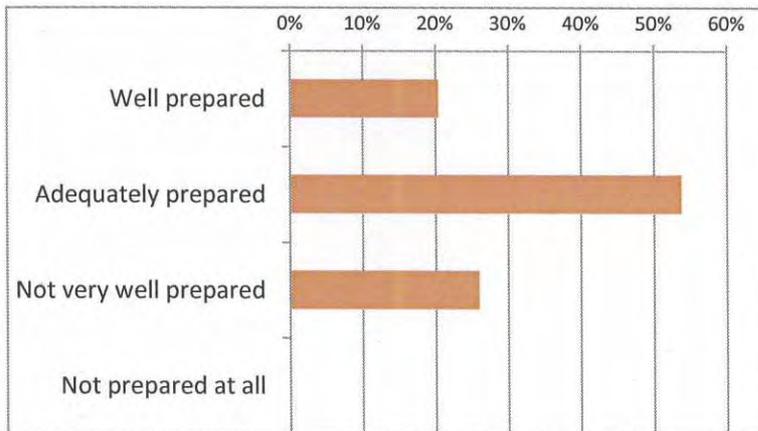
Answer Choices	No damage	Minor Damage	Major damage or destroyed	Not applicable	Total
House	70.21%	14.89%	8.51%	6.38%	47
Vehicles	74.47%	8.51%	8.51%	8.51%	47
Caravan/Motor home	47.73%	0.00%	4.55%	47.73%	44
Water tank	61.36%	2.27%	2.27%	34.09%	44
Pipes or hoses used for firefighting	64.29%	2.38%	0.00%	33.33%	42
Shed	70.21%	8.51%	14.89%	6.38%	47
Garage	63.04%	2.17%	15.22%	19.57%	46
Granny flat	43.90%	0.00%	0.00%	56.10%	41
Hothouse	45.24%	0.00%	2.38%	52.38%	42
Other Outbuildings	47.62%	7.14%	9.52%	35.71%	42
<b>Total Respondents: 47</b>					

Q54. Were any pets or livestock lost or injured in the January 2014 bushfire?



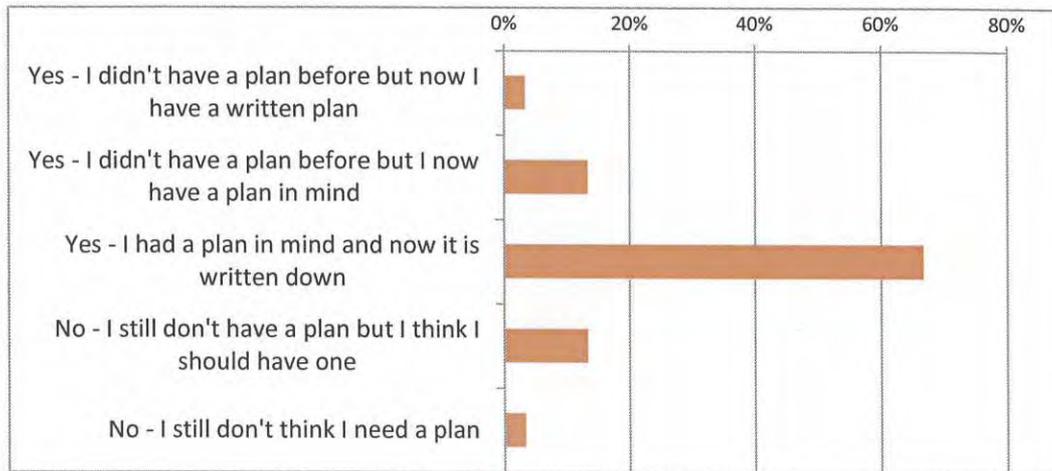
Answer Choices	Responses	Number
Pets lost	0.00%	0
Pets injured	5.41%	2
Livestock lost	5.41%	2
Livestock injured	0.00%	0
None/Not applicable	89.19%	33
<b>Total Respondents: 37</b>		

Q55. How prepared do you think you were?



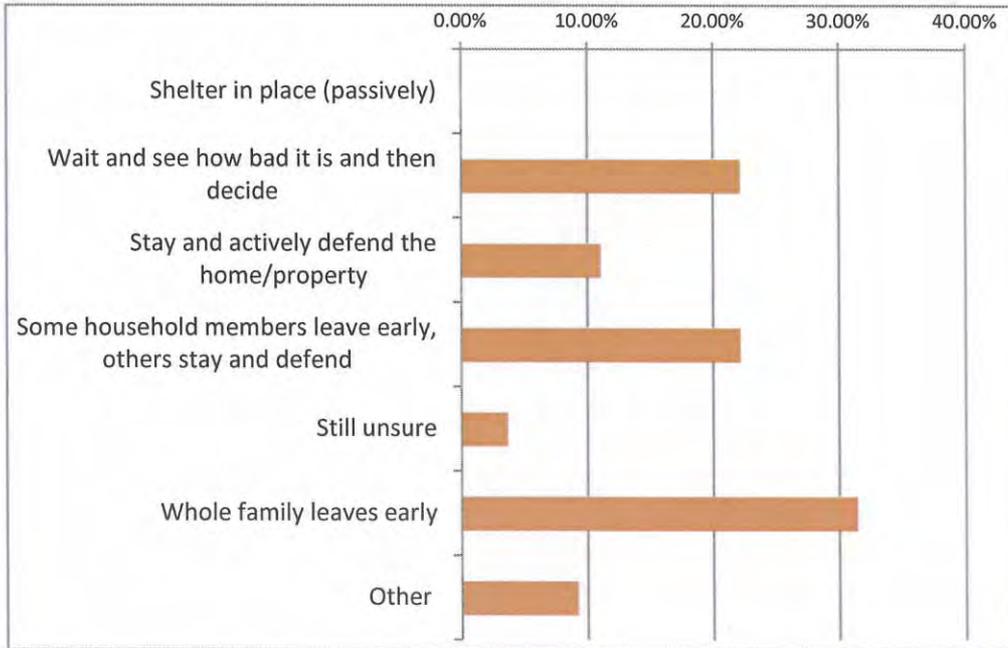
Answer Choices	Responses	
Well prepared	20.37%	11
Adequately prepared	53.70%	29
Not very well prepared	25.93%	14
Not prepared at all	0.00%	0
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		

Q56. As a result of the experiences in the January 2014 Bushfires have you prepared a Bushfire Survival Plan?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes - I didn't have a plan before but now I have a written plan	3.33%	1
Yes - I didn't have a plan before but I now have a plan in mind	13.33%	4
Yes - I had a plan in mind and now it is written down	66.67%	20
No - I still don't have a plan but I think I should have one	13.33%	4
No - I still don't think I need a plan	3.33%	1
<b>Total Respondents: 30</b>		

Q57. In the future, should there be a fire, what do you intend to do?



Answer Choices	Responses	
Shelter in place (passively)	0.00%	0
Wait and see how bad it is and then decide	22.22%	12
Stay and actively defend the home/property	11.11%	6
Some household members leave early, others stay and defend	22.22%	12
Still unsure	3.70%	2
Whole family leaves early	31.48%	17
Other	9.26%	5
<b>Total Respondents: 54</b>		