## Town of Emmitsburg

BUS 350 Market Research Class Project Presentations December 6<sup>th</sup>,2010





## Emmitsburg Business Survey





### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

Primary Objective:

Present research findings that enable Emmitsburg Town Council to enact necessary changes to improve the overall economy in Emmitsburg.





### Agenda

- •Purpose and Research process
- •Sample Population and Demographics
- •General Satisfaction of the town
- •Satisfaction with Mayor and Town Council
- •Effectiveness of the Town Hall Administrative Staff
- Infrastructure within the town
- •Satisfaction with Police Protection and Security
- •Employee skill traits
- •Conclusion and Q & A





## Purpose

- To design research material that would be able to capture the overall perceptions of the Emmitsburg business owners.
- By collecting and summarizing this data in a professional environment, the Town's leaders can work towards improving the economic stability of Emmitsburg.





## **Research Process**

- Identified target population
  - Approximately 50 businesses that lie within the boundaries of the Town of Emmitsburg
- Determined data collection method
  - Self-administered, mailed Survey sent to businesses
  - 74 surveys mailed, 34% response rate
- Designed data collection form
  - Questionnaire



 Use of open-ended, categorical, and metric questions

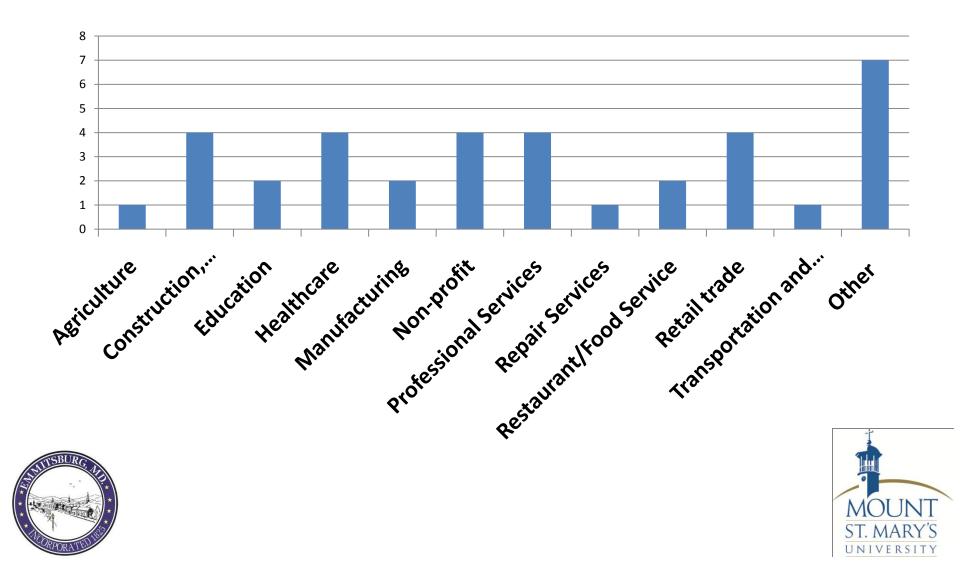




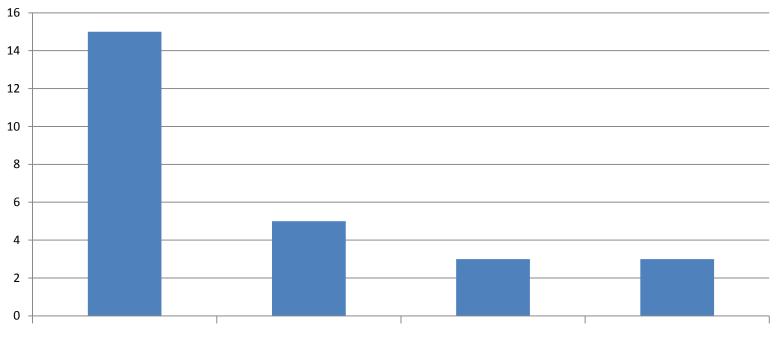


### SAMPLE POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

## Demographics



## **Professional Membership**



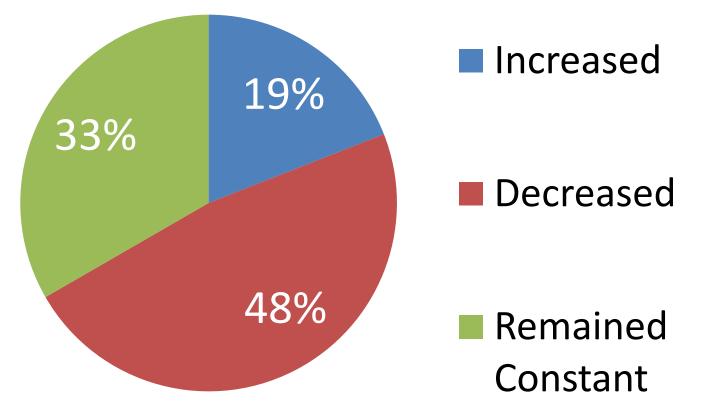
EmmitsburgFrederick CountyFrederick CountyBusiness andChamber ofOffice ofProfessionalCommerceEconomicAssociation EBPADevelopment





Other

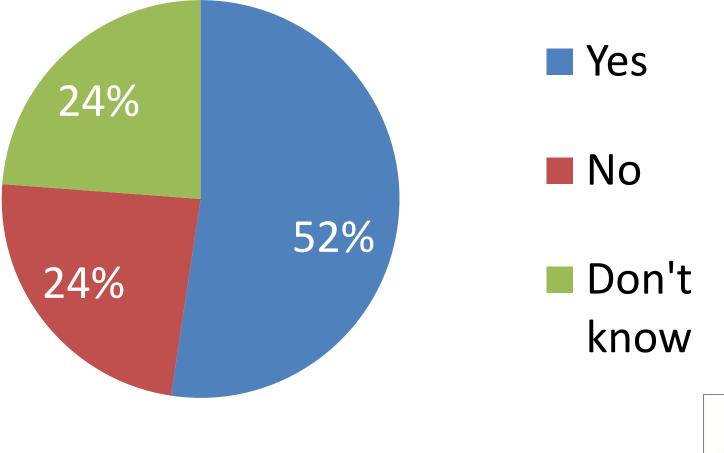
### In the past 12 months have your sales:







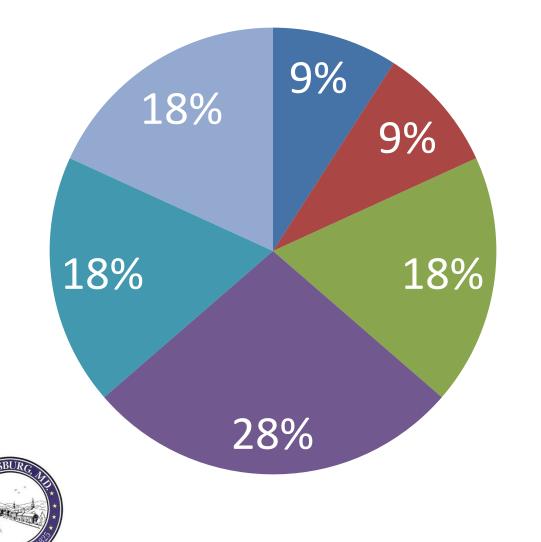
# Do you plan to expand or improve in the next 12 months?







## If not expanding, why....



- Business is good; no reason to expand
- Area doesn't have right demographics
- No room to expand
- Not doing enough business at this location
- Permitting process is an obstacle
- Taxes are too high

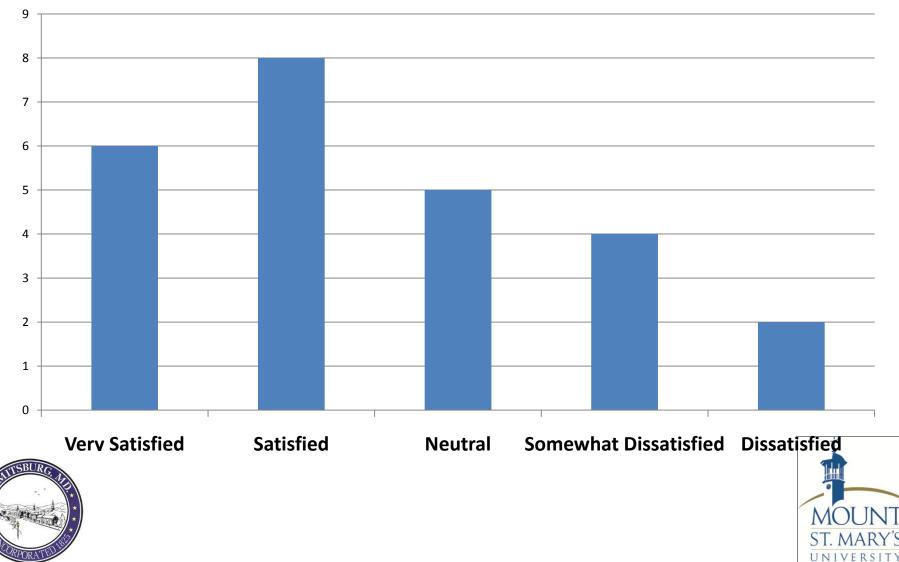






### TOWN OF EMMITSBURG SATISFACTION

### How would you rate your satisfaction with Emmitsburg as a place to do business?



How would you rate your satisfaction with Emmitsburg as a place to do business?

- "Customers are loyal."
- "Local government...does not treat businesses as an ATM."
- "Town is not willing to assist and negotiate...very difficult to work with."
- "Regulations are too strict"





#### What do you see as the barriers to growth?

- "Fees and Taxes"
- "More choices in restaurants and retail."
- "Not enough public parking."
- "Competitive environment outside of Emmitsburg"
- "Lack of local support."



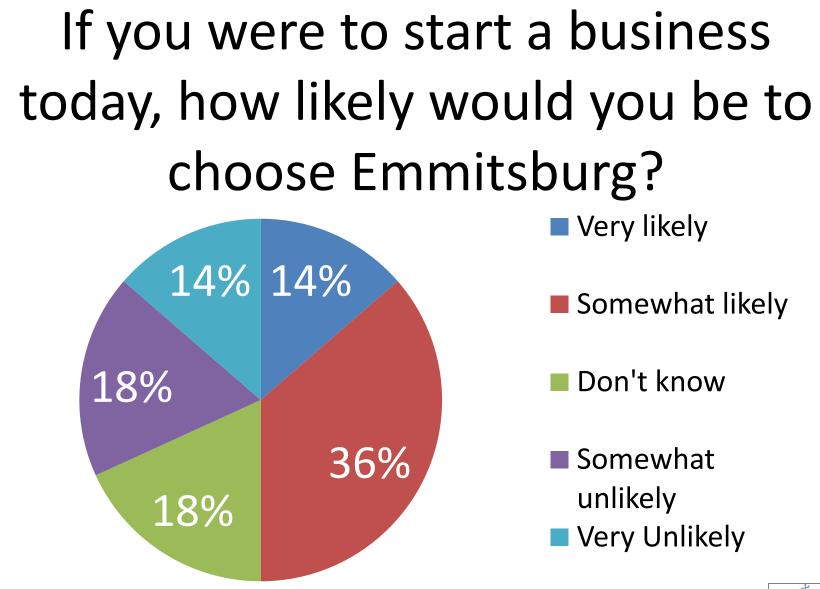


#### What do you see as opportunities for growth?

- Availability of land
- Major Highway
- "Close proximity to FEMA, Ft. Detrick, Ft. Richie"
- "Student body base can support lots of services and small businesses..."









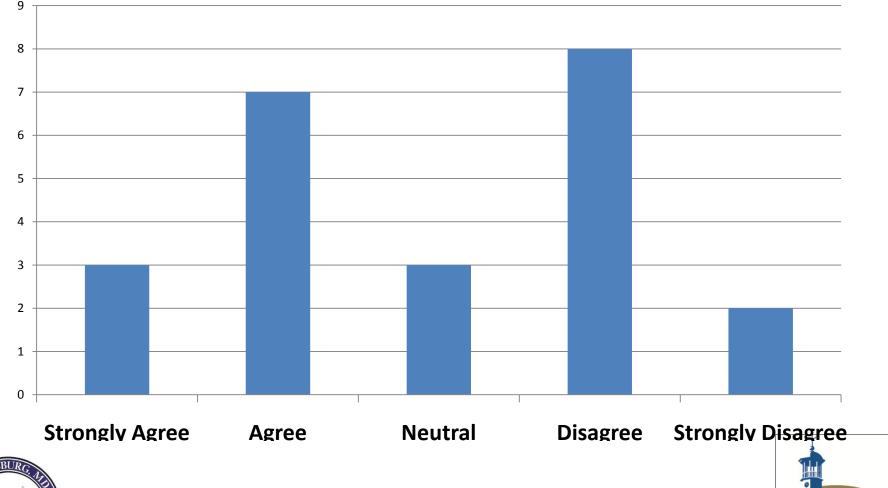


### **MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL**





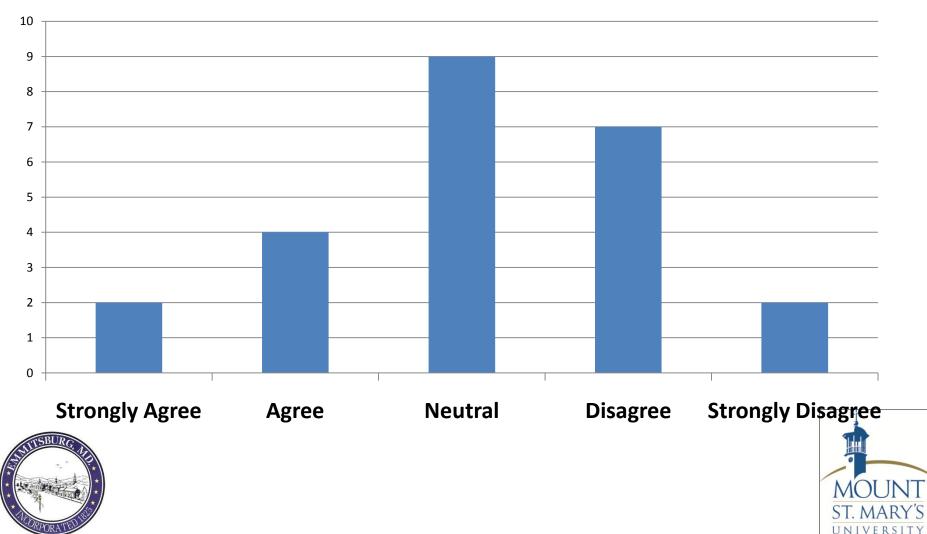
## The Mayor and Town Council understand the needs of the Emmitsburg business community



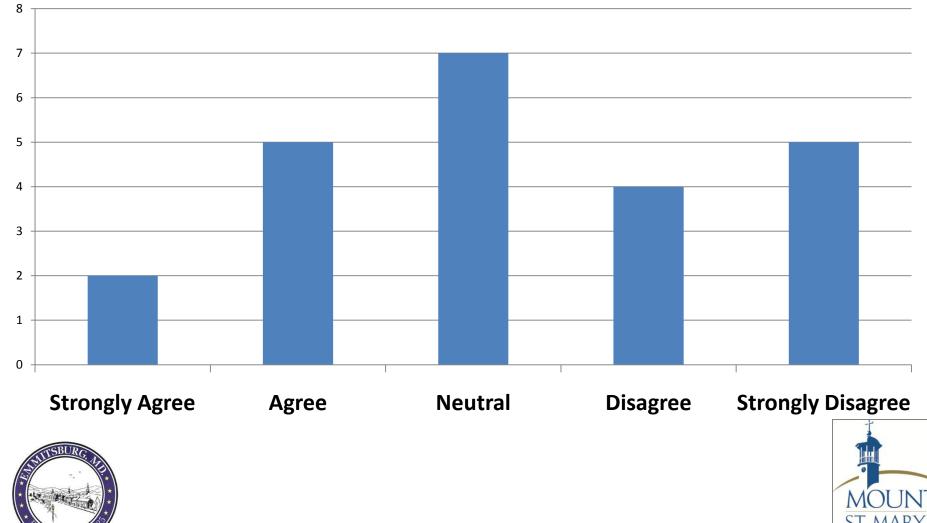
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### The Mayor and Town Council enact policy and laws that will enhance the business climate of Emmitsburg

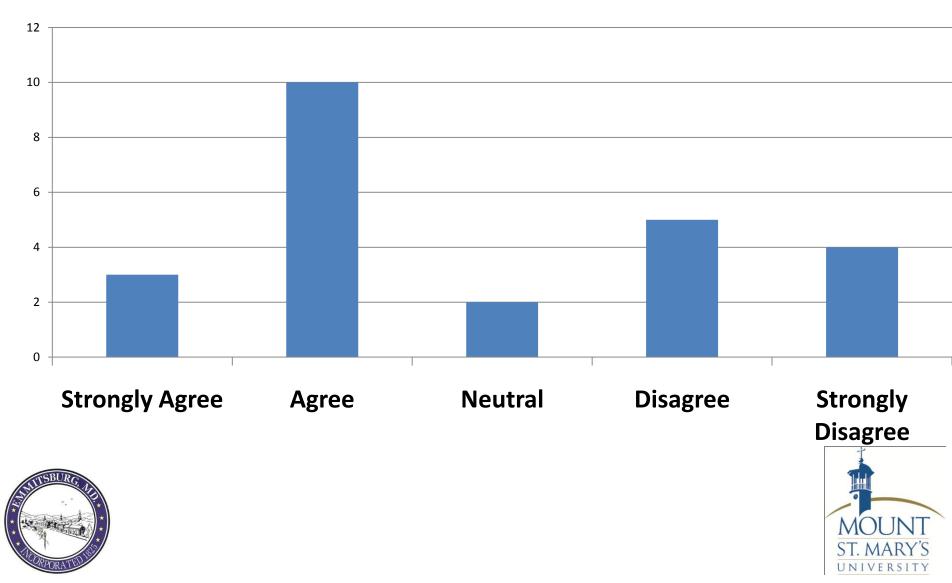


There is good communication between The Mayor / Town Council and business community which fosters a supportive business environment



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## Overall, I am satisfied with the Mayor and Town Council



## The Mayor & Town Council Could Improve the Business Environment by

- "Reducing fees and taxes."
- "Ease burden with process of building permits"
- "Better communication between the town and businesses."
- "Provide incentives to open new businesses."
- "Improve landscape and parking."



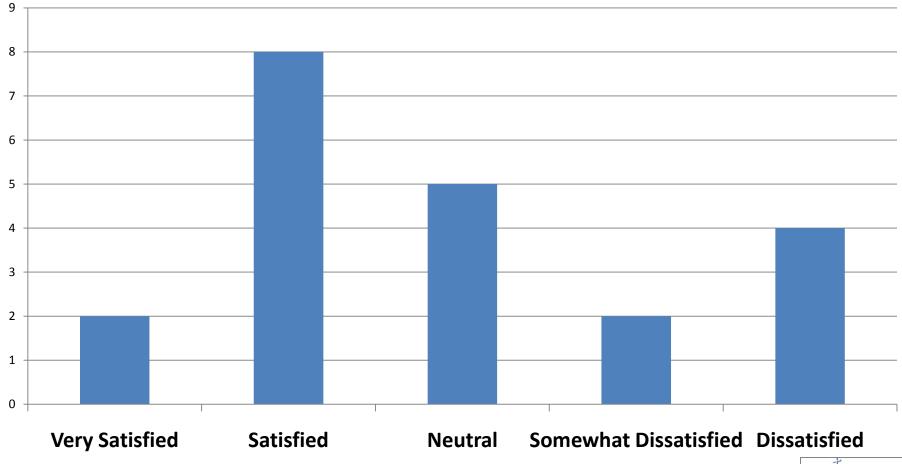






### TOWN HALL ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

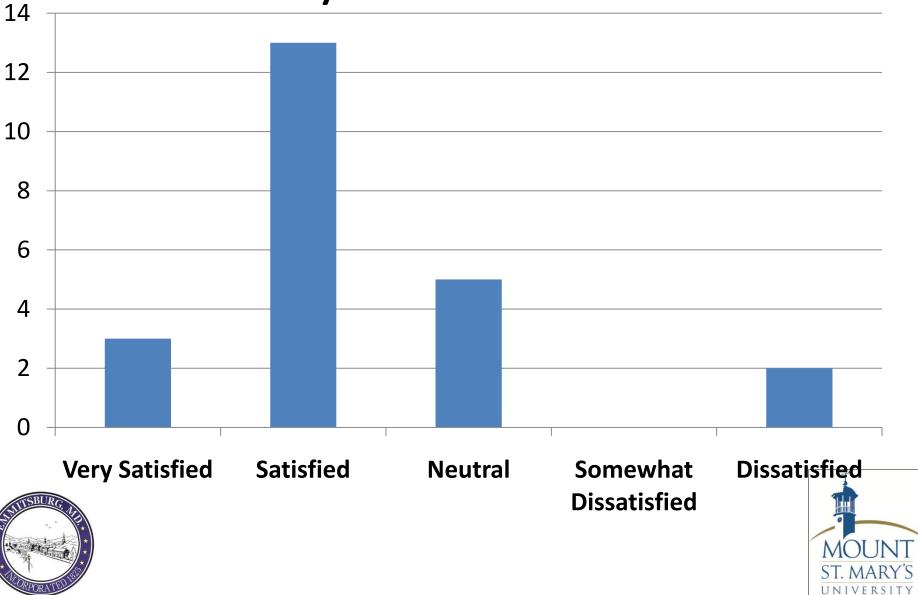
## **Overall effectiveness/efficiency**



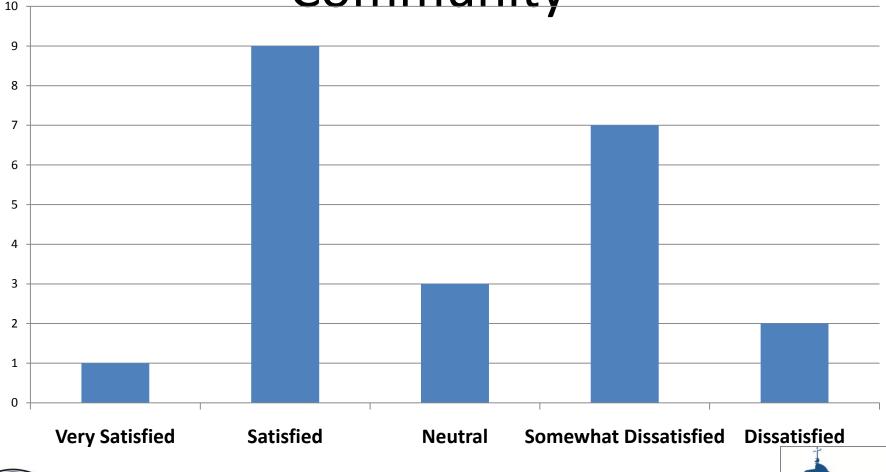




## Courtesy & Professionalism



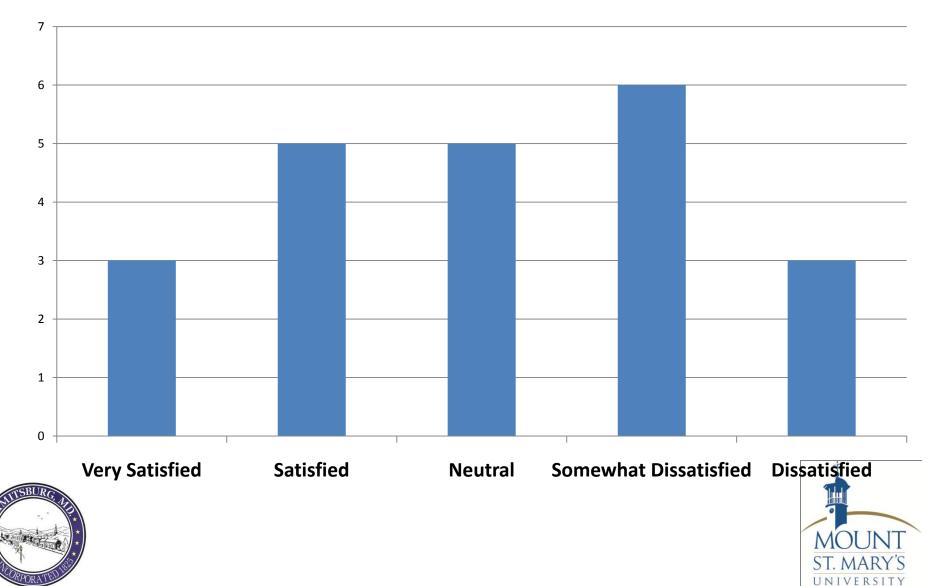
## Communication with Business Community



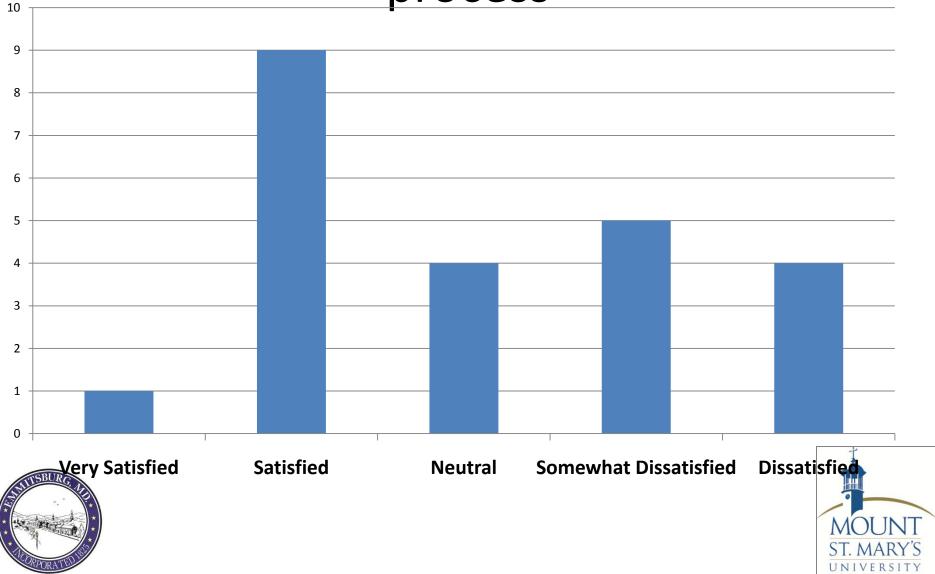




### Responsiveness to businesses



## Staff handling of the permit/licensing process

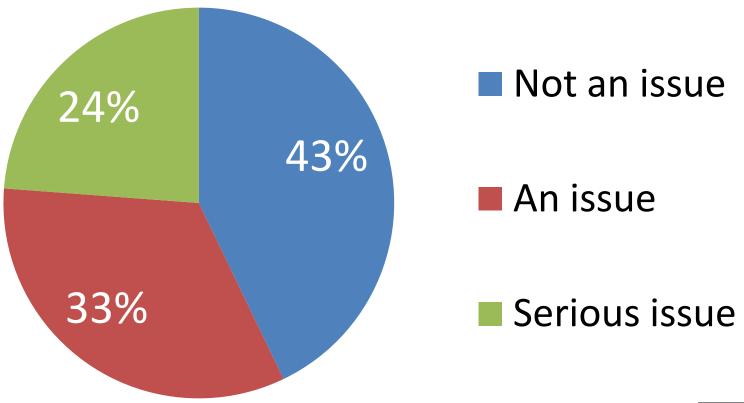








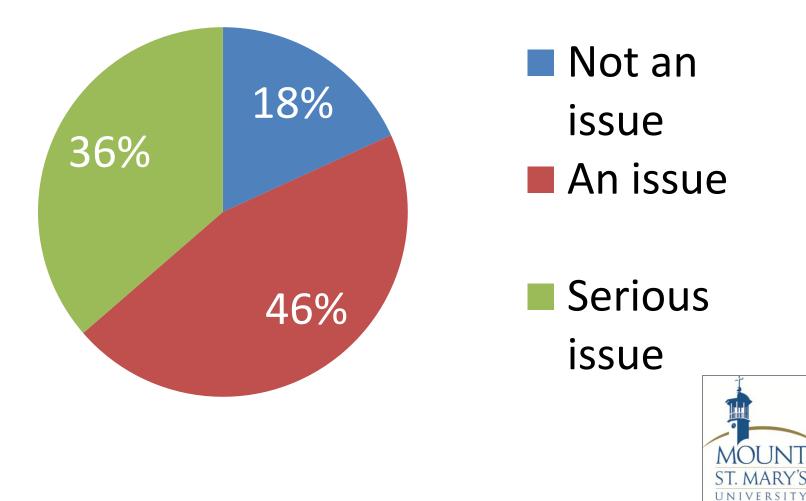
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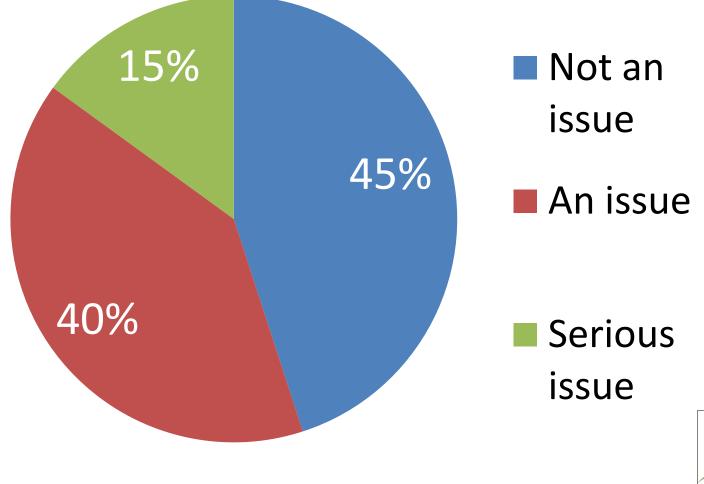


### **Downtown Parking**



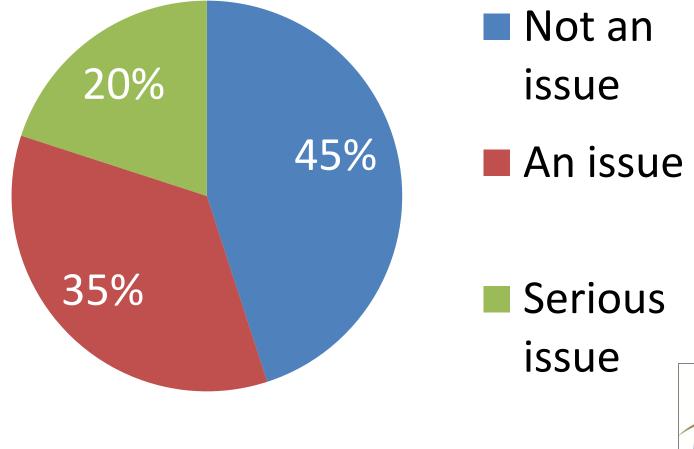


# Town Permit / Fee & Inspection Process





## Town Regulations / Ordinances





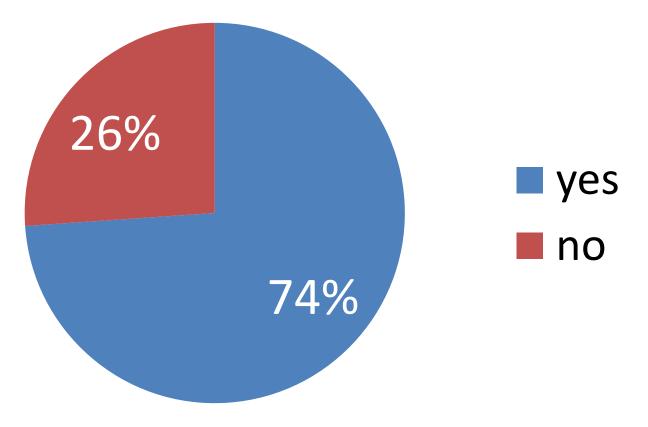






## **POLICE PROTECTION / SECURITY**

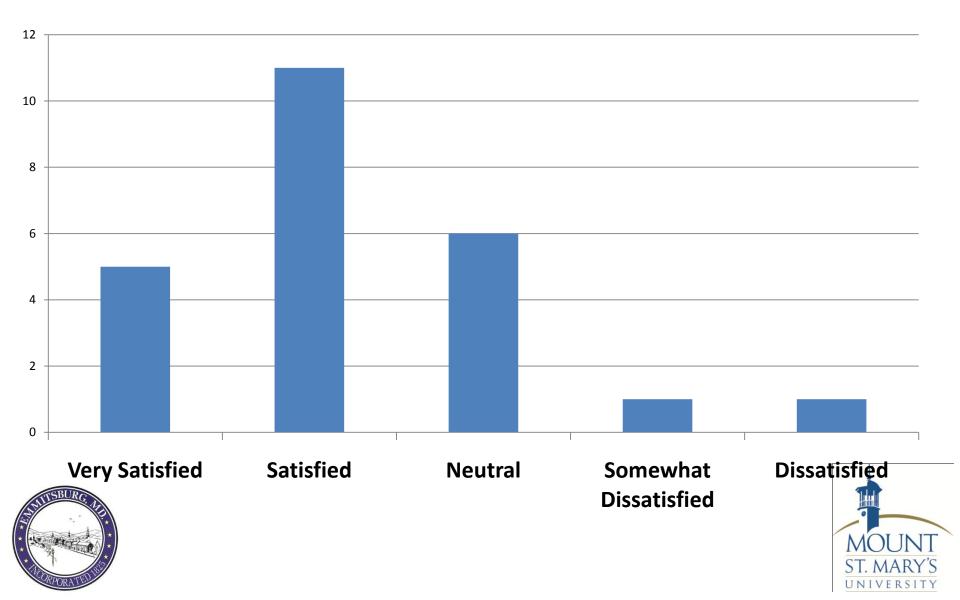
# Has your business experienced criminal activity?



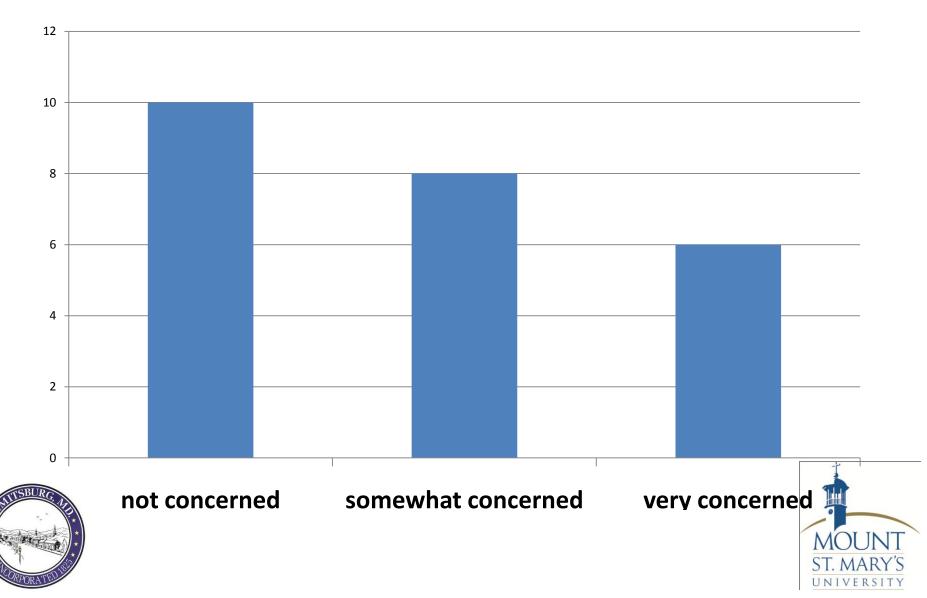




#### **Overall Satisfaction with Police**



#### Someone breaking into your business

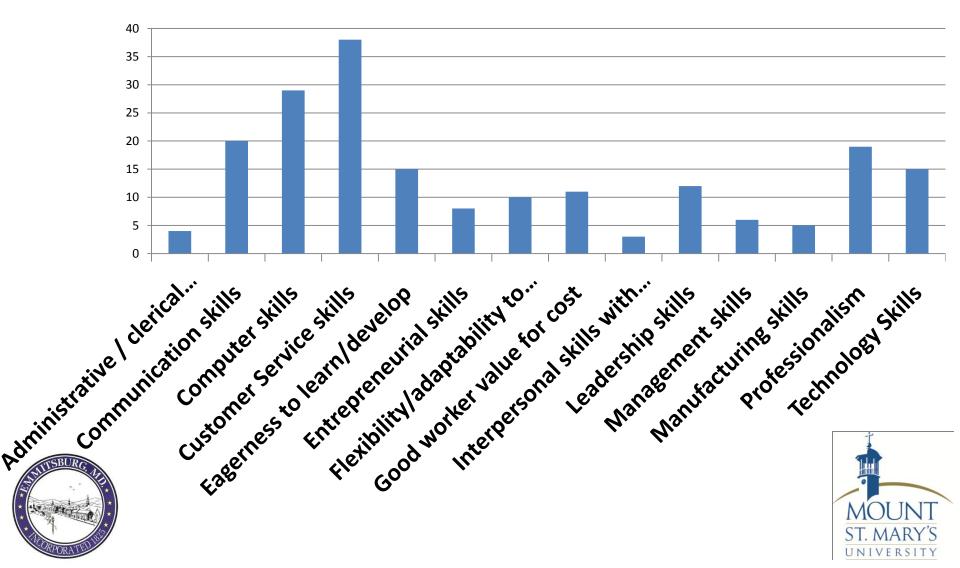


#### **EMMITSBURG BUSINESS SKILL TRAITS**

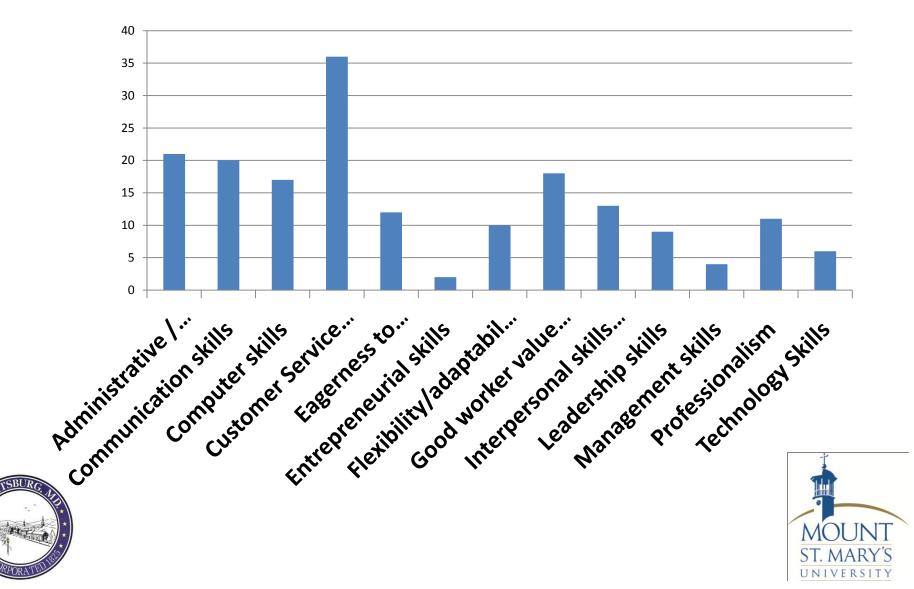




# What are the top 5 skills necessary for your organization's long term sustainability?



# Presently, what is your satisfaction with the top five skill traits in Emmitsburg?







#### **QUESTIONS?**

#### Emmitsburg Residential Survey





#### Agenda

- •Purpose and Research process
- Demographics
- •General Satisfaction of Life in Emmitsburg
- •Satisfaction with Mayor and Town Council
- •Satisfaction with Town Hall Administrative Staff
- •Satisfaction with Police Protection and Security
- Infrastructure Importance & Satisfaction
- Conclusion and Q & A





#### Purpose

- Town of Emmitsburg was interested in gaining knowledge about the residents current views on the town.
- With particular interest in: satisfaction with livability, the mayor and town council, police protection and infrastructure.
- The information gained from the project will help the town of Emmitsburg in prioritizing future policies and





#### **Research Process**

- Indentified target population
  - Residents within the Emmitsburg town limits (pulled from the towns water billing list)
- Determined data collection method
  - Online survey via SurveyMonkey.com
  - Post card was mailed containing a pass-code and invitation to participate in the survey
  - 678 post cards mailed, 6% response rate
- Designed data collection form
  - Self-administered questionnaire
  - Use of open-ended, categorical, and metric questions



Used previous residential surveys as guides

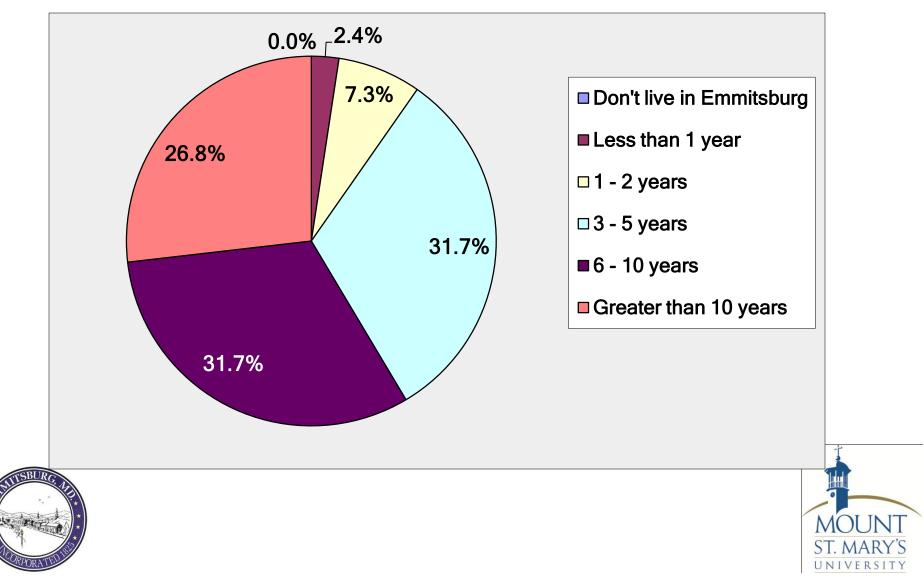




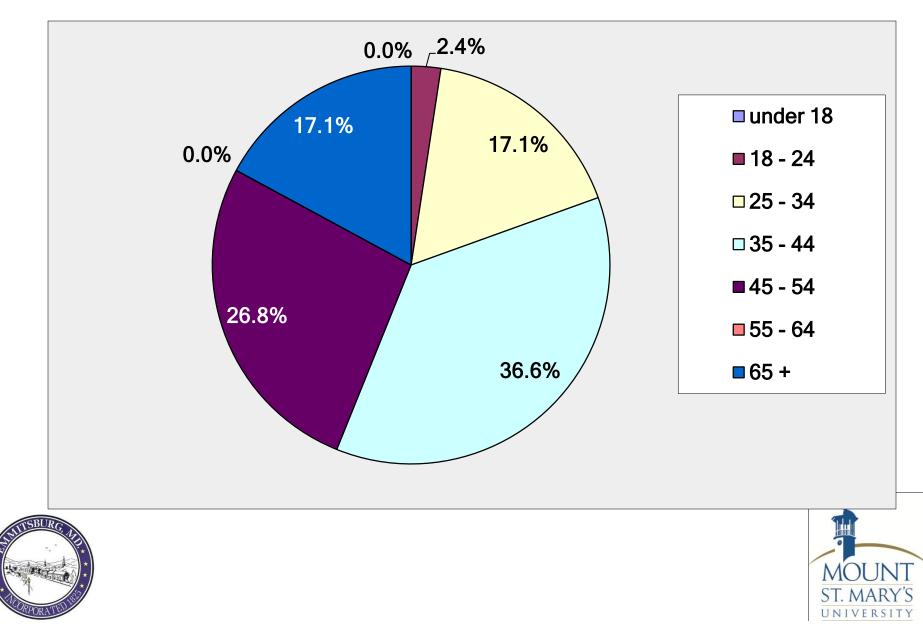


#### SAMPLE POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

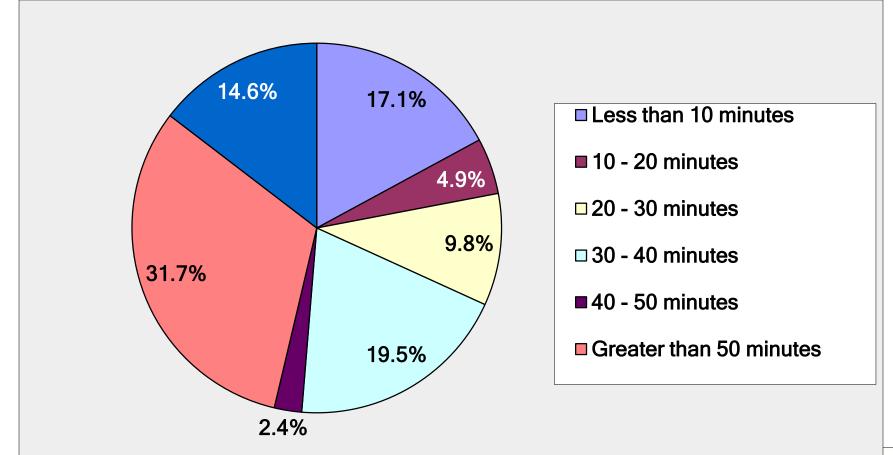
# How long have you lived in Emmitsburg?



Age



#### How long is your commute?





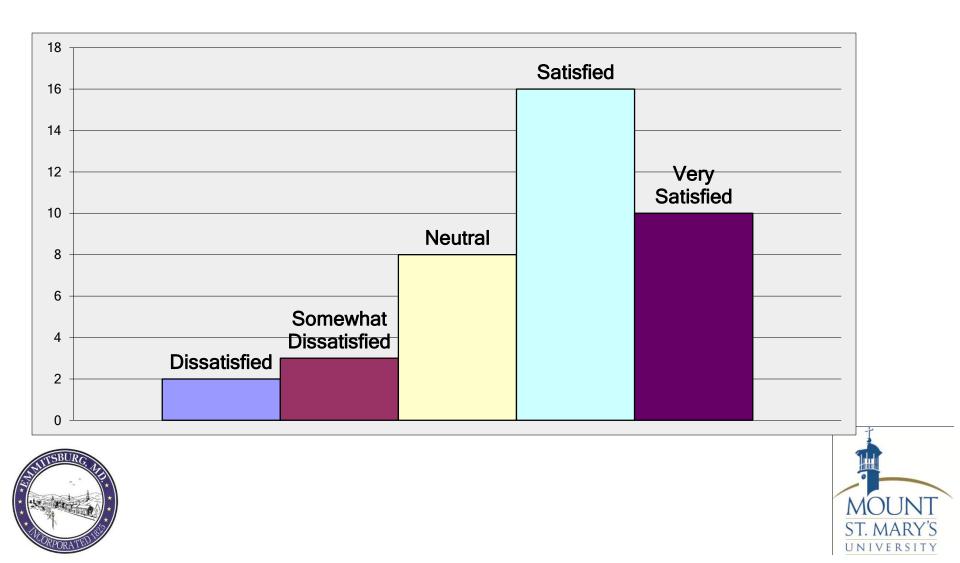




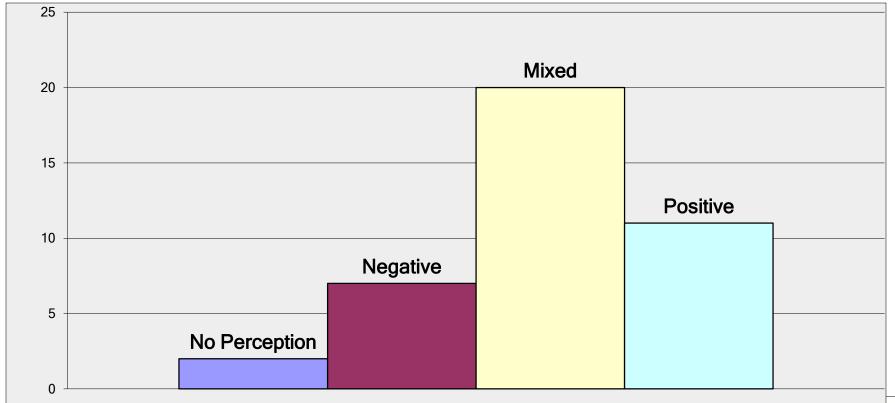


#### TOWN OF EMMITSBURG SATISFACTION

### How would you rate your satisfaction your overall satisfaction with Emmitsburg as a place to live?



#### What type of overall image does Emmitsburg have?







#### What are Emmitsburg's Top Assets?

- Quiet / peaceful
- Affordable living
- Proximity to major metro areas Baltimore, DC
- Local history
- Community pride





#### What are Emmitsburg's Top Challenges

- Employment opportunity, Number of Employers, Quality of jobs
- Retail (lack of)
- Tax Structure
- Government leadership
- Cultural opportunities
- Restaurants (lack of)





Open ended: What do you consider to be the greatest strengths of Emmitsburg?

- Small, quiet town
- Strong "sense of community."
- Scenery
- Location to metropolitan areas





#### Sample Responses

- "[The strengths of Emmitsburg is] the overall appearance of the Town. [The town is] very beautiful area and the town does keep it clean and nice
- - Proximity to Frederick/Westminster/Baltimore/DC
  - Reasonable housing costs relative to Frederick
  - Proximity to open space (Mother Ann Seton campus, Mount St. Mary's campus, State Parks, etc.)





## Open ended: What do you see as the greatest weaknesses?

• Traffic conditions

• Lack of employment opportunities

• Emmitsburg's political administration





#### Sample Responses

• "No jobs, traffic issues, noise, crime, etc"

 [The] "town government is fairly unresponsive to citizen's needs"



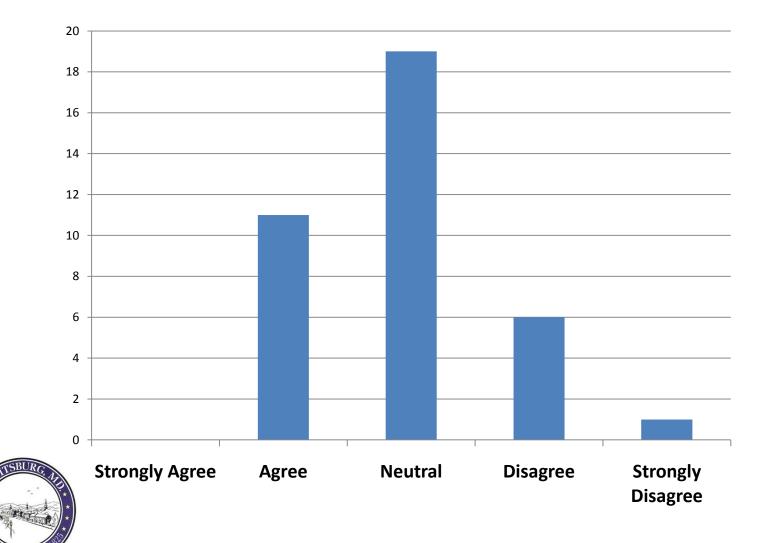


#### **MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL**



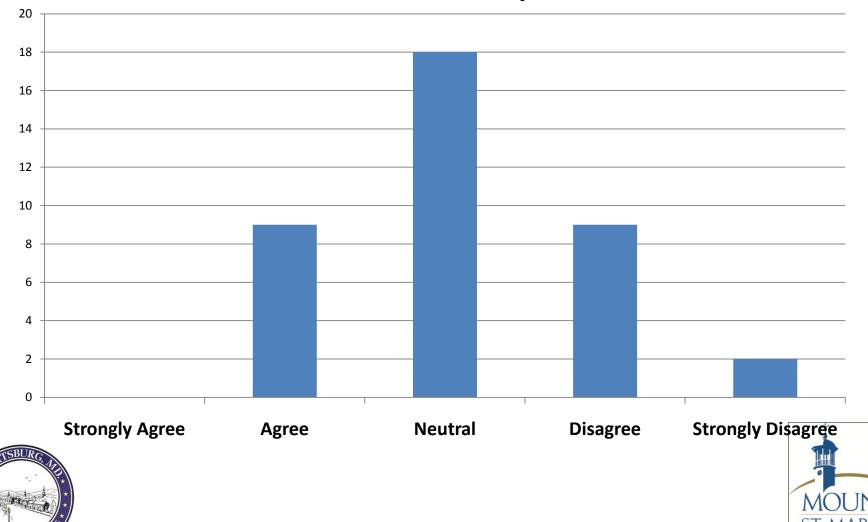


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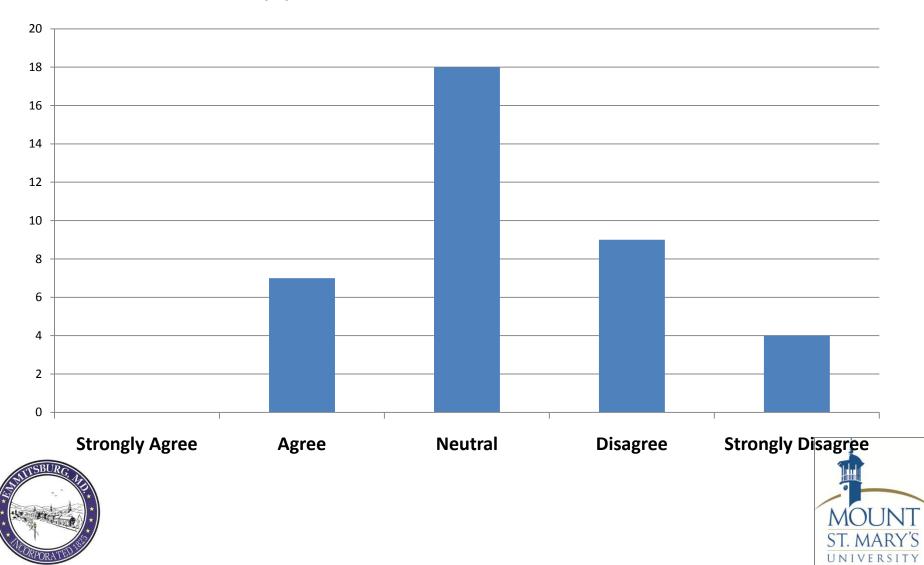


#### The Mayor and Town Council enact policy and laws that will enhance the Emmitsburg community

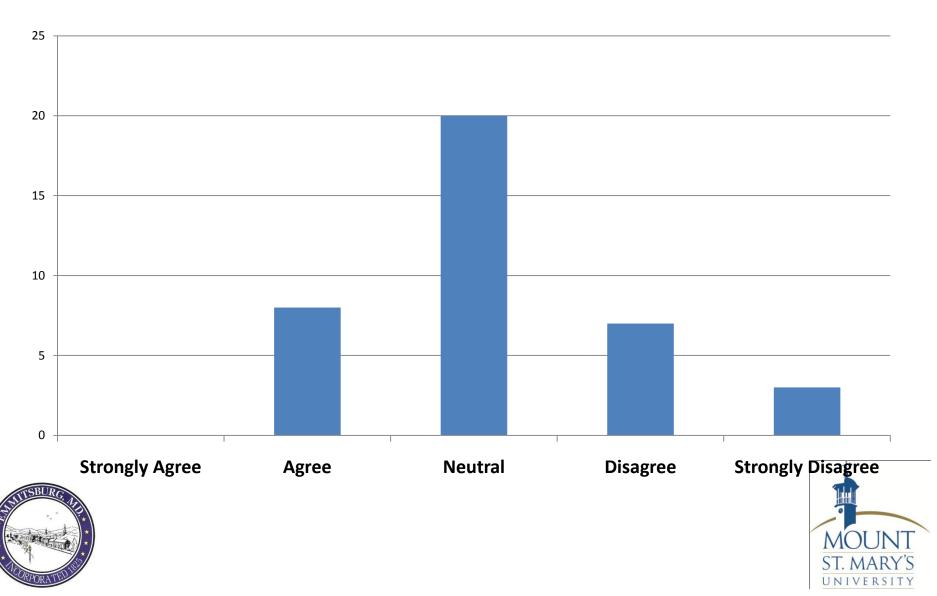


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There is good communication between The Mayor / Town Council and resident community which fosters a supportive Town environment



## Overall, I am satisfied with the Mayor and Town Council

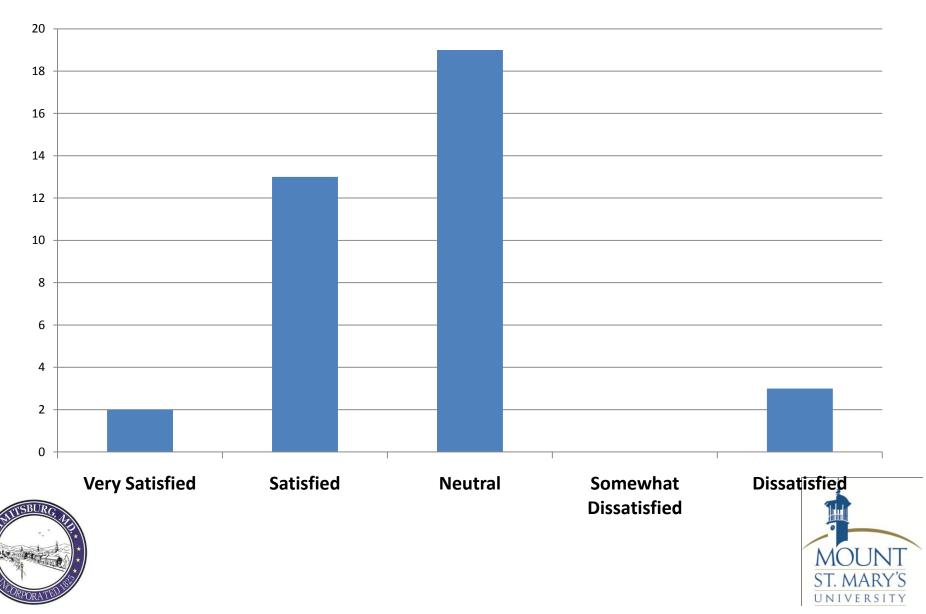




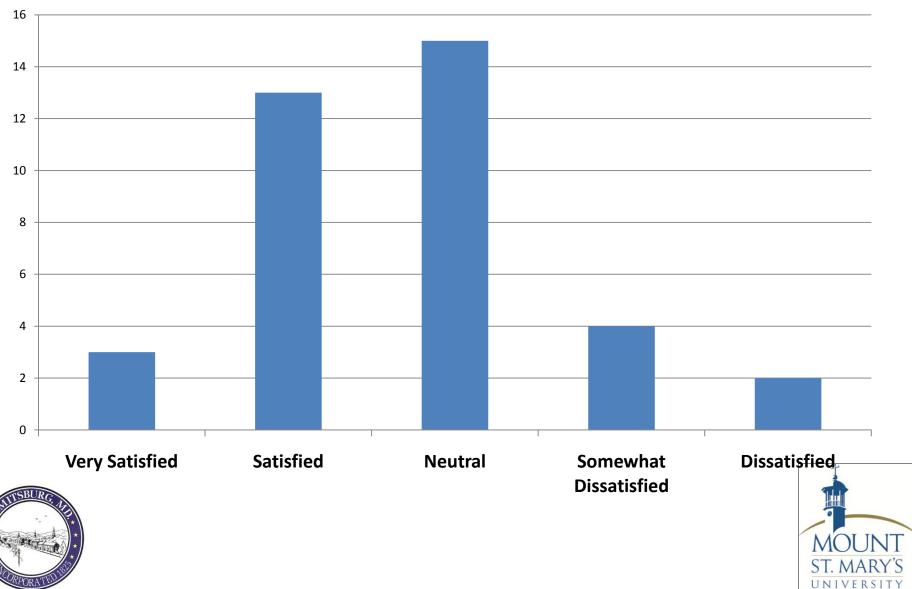


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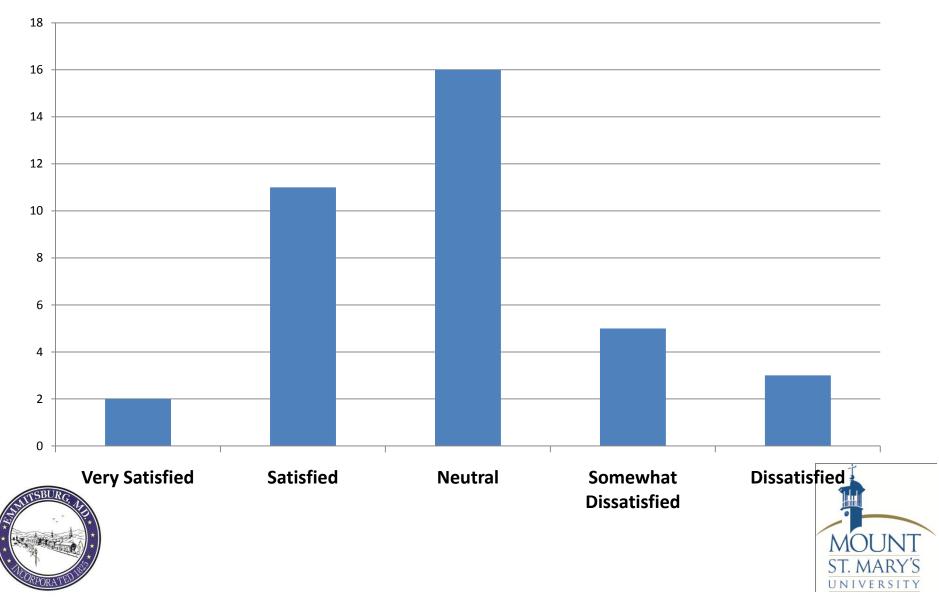
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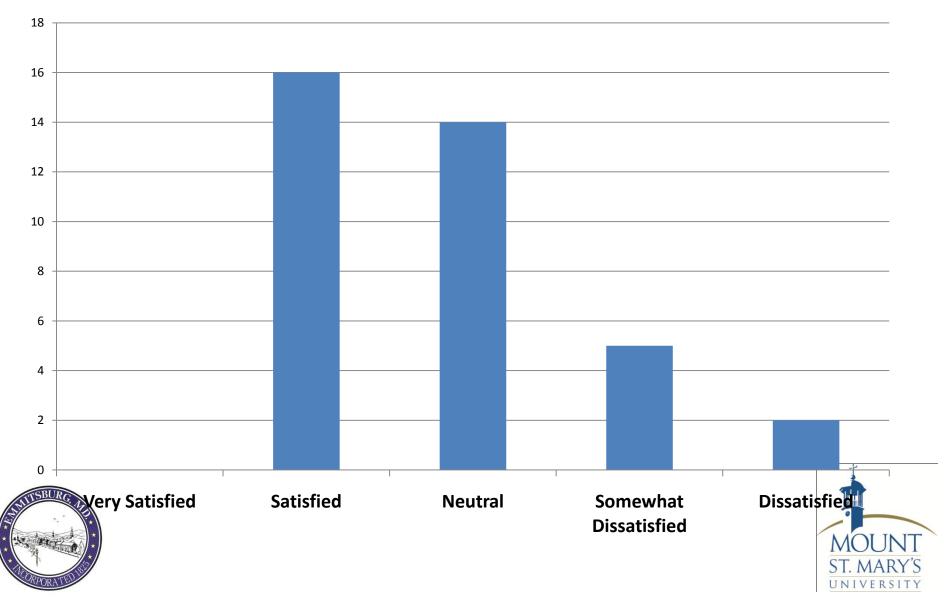
#### **Courtesy & Professionalism**



#### **Communication with Residents**



#### **Responsiveness to Residents**

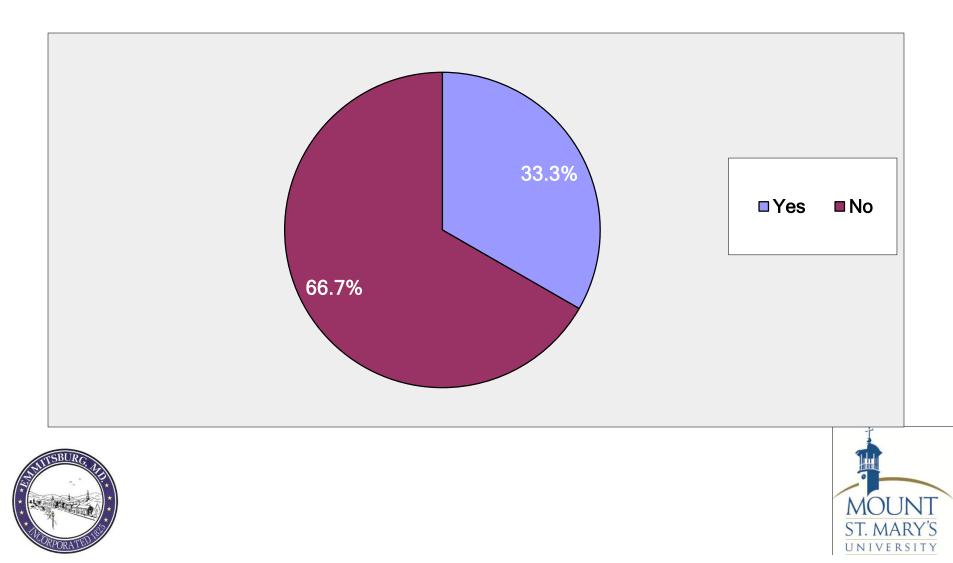




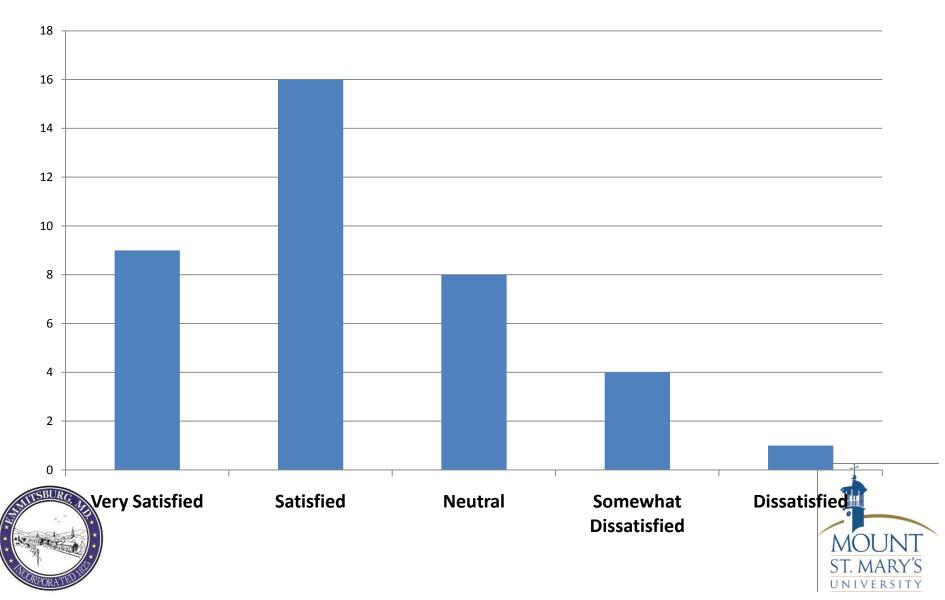


#### **POLICE PROTECTION / SECURITY**

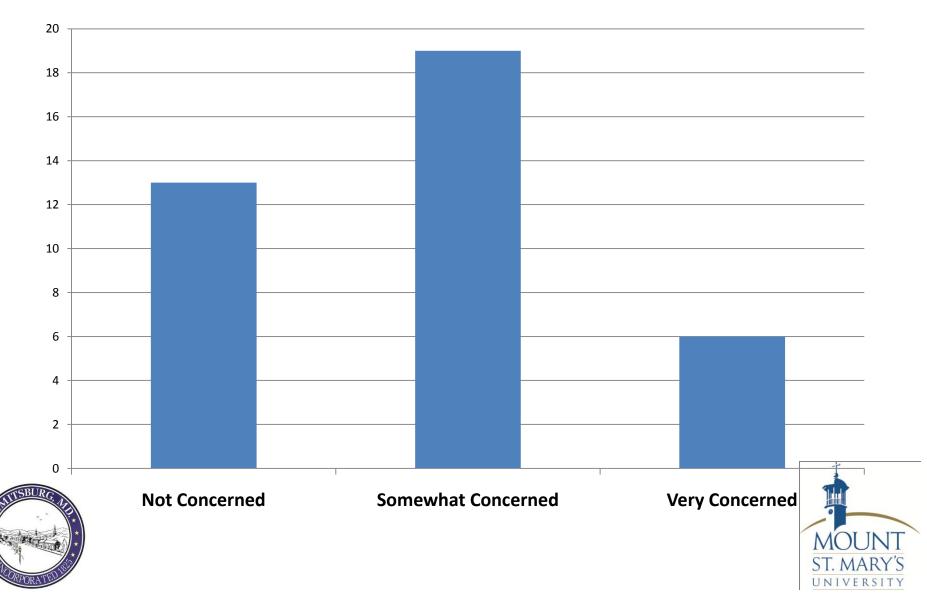
## Has your residence experienced criminal activity?



#### **Overall Satisfaction with Police**



#### Someone breaking into your home

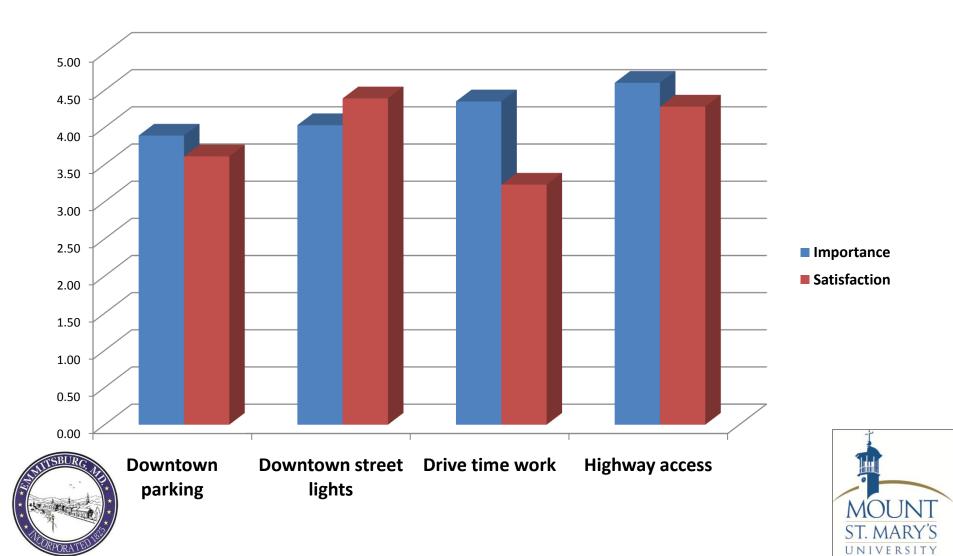




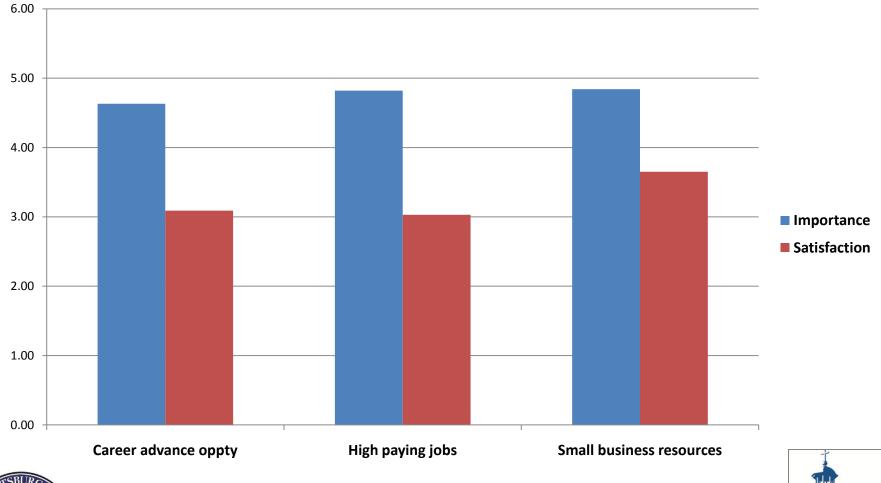




#### Infrastructure



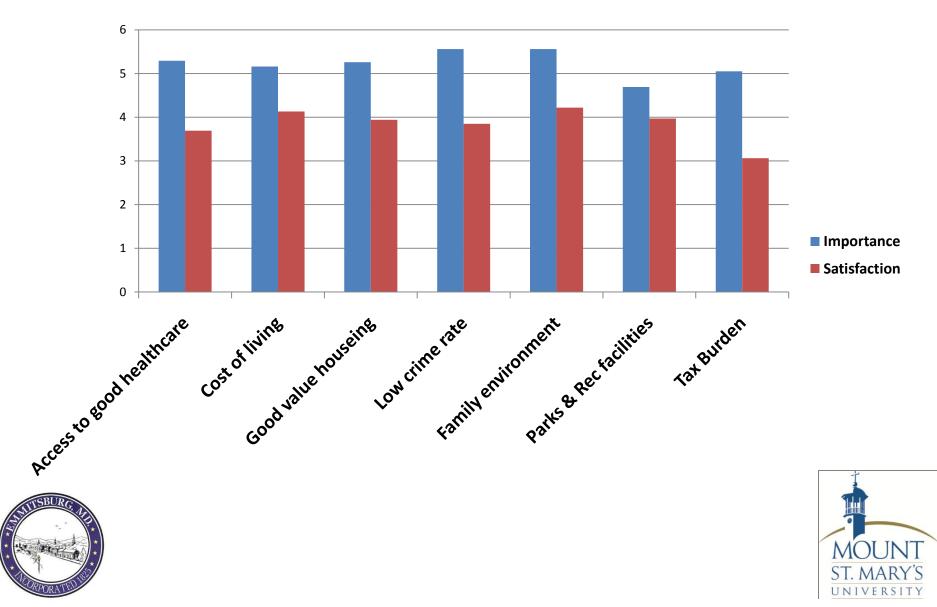
#### Job & Business Resources



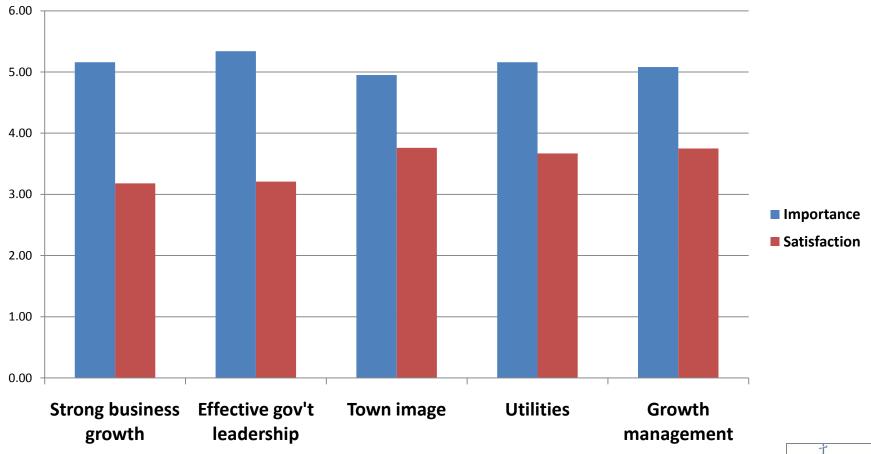




#### Livability



#### **General Economy**











#### **QUESTIONS?**