

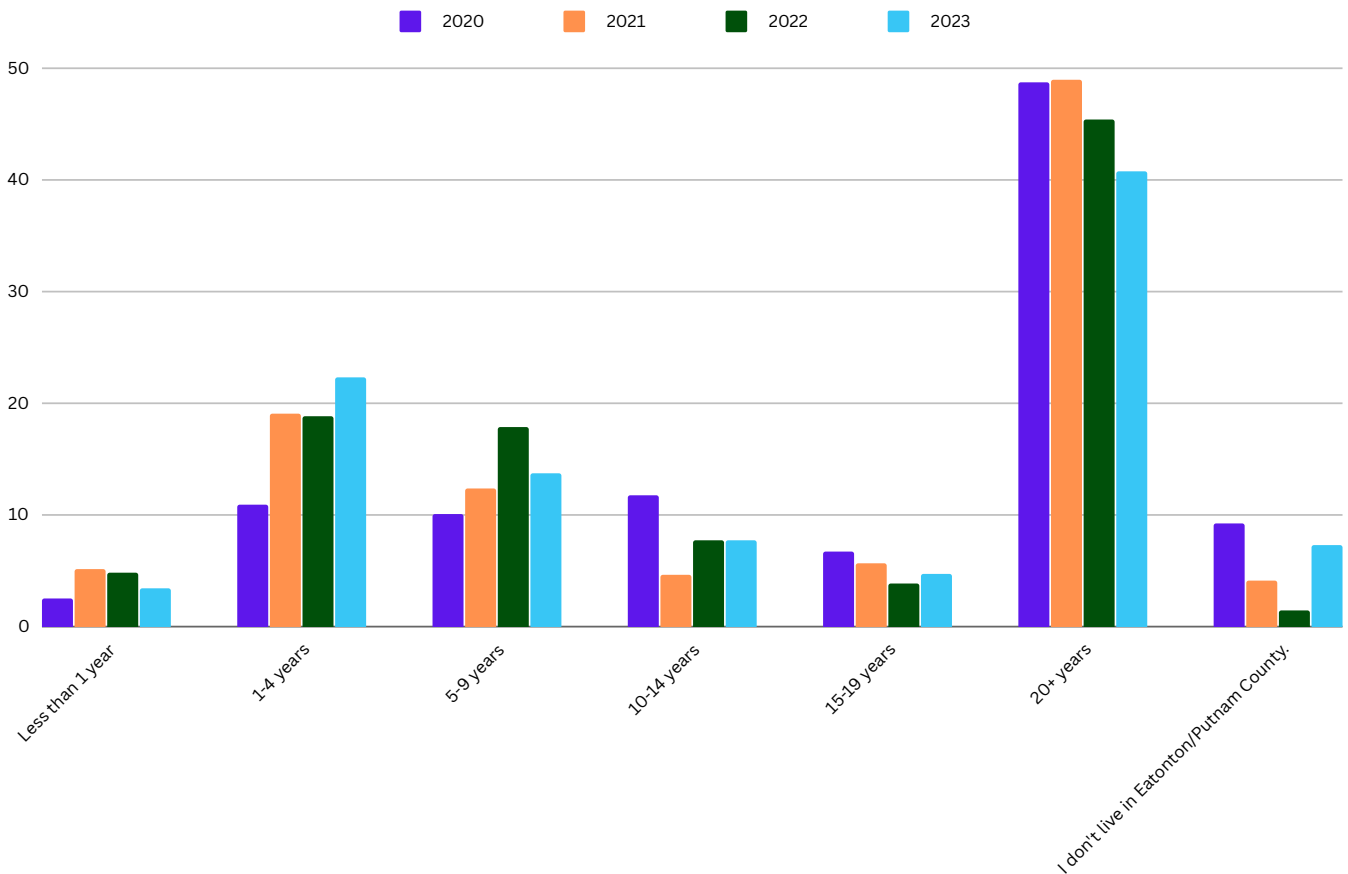


2023 Main Street Survey Results from the Public

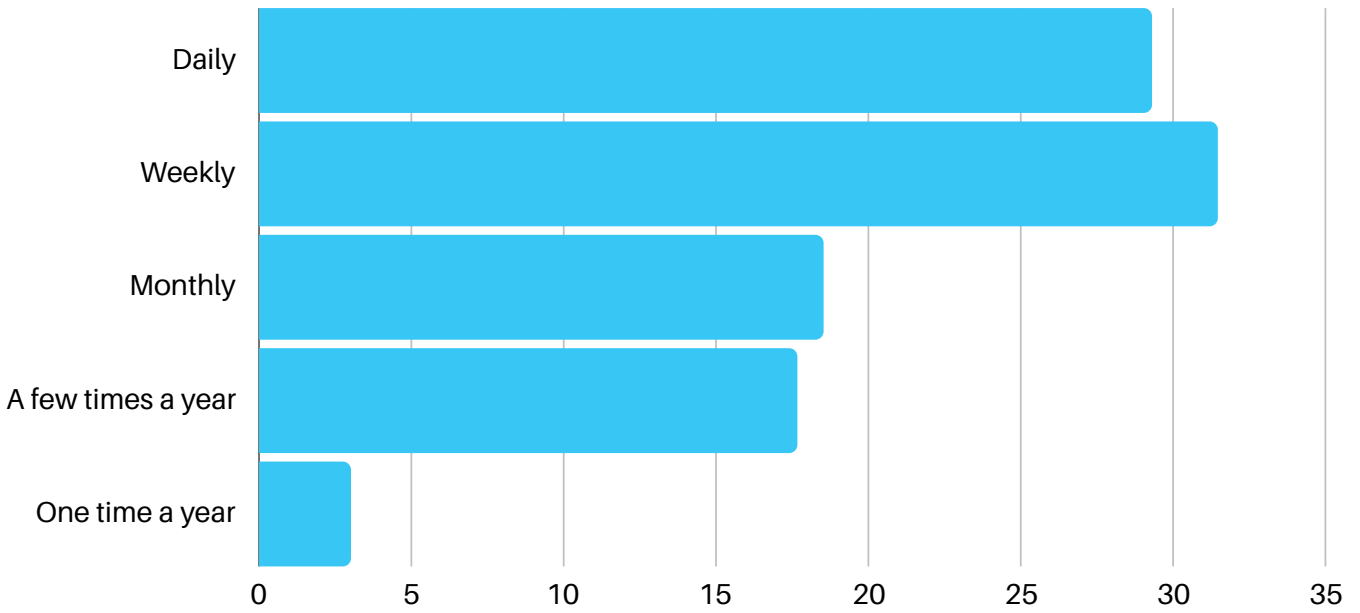
Survey Background:

- The survey questions were created by Eatonton Main Street.
- The survey responses will assist the Eatonton Main Street Advisory Board in setting their priorities for 2024.
- The survey was distributed to the public via email and social media from December 11, 2023 through December 31, 2023.
- 235 responses were received during this time period.
 - 220 responses were received in 2022
 - 196 responses were received in 2021.
 - 119 responses were received in 2020.

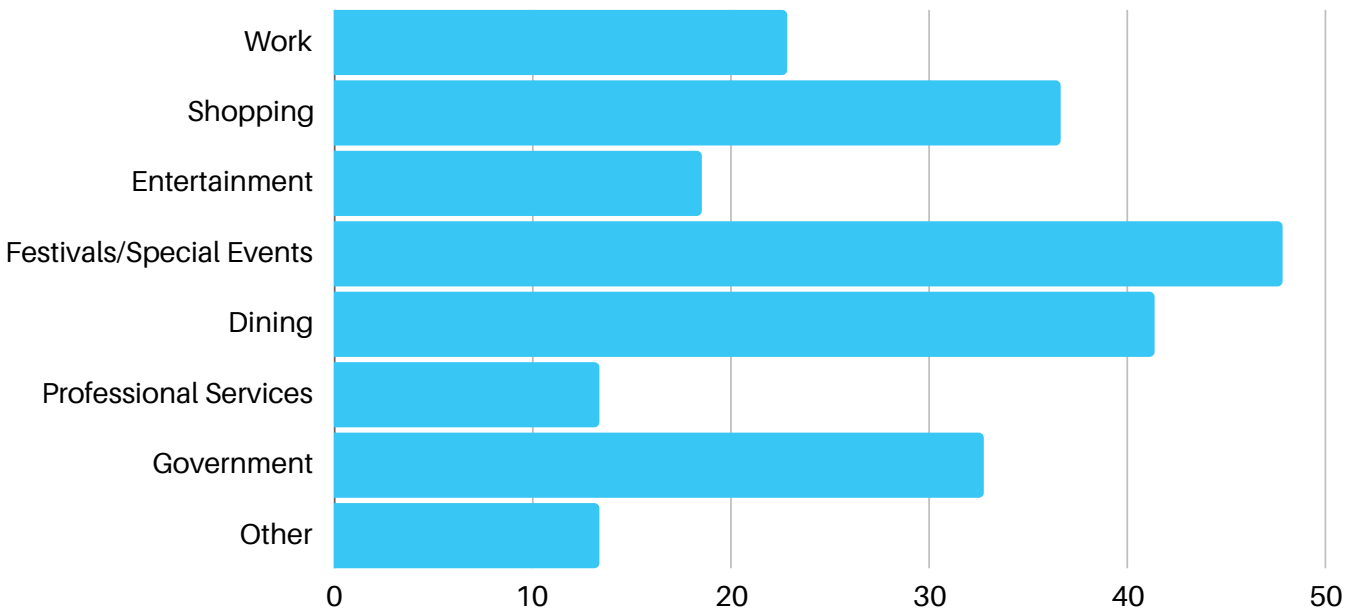
How long have you lived in Eatonton/Putnam County?



How often do you visit Downtown Eatonton?



What most frequently brings you to Downtown Eatonton?



"Other" Responses:

Church, Drugstore

Daycare

Kids school

I volunteer with a local nonprofit

School

We try to support downtown shops, eateries & any events. Compared to other downtown areas in the region, it is subpar in feel with half the store fronts void of viable businesses and the most attractive storefront being a gun shop. We can do better.

Live downtown

Kids' sports and school

Walking for exercise.

My home!

Library

Family

Born and raised there

State Farm, art Gallery, Maggie Lane

Church

Banking and CVS

Worship and ministry.

Gym

Church

Passing through town to go to other places

Driving through to go elsewhere

Church

church

School

volunteering

School and school events

Nothing there's nothing in town

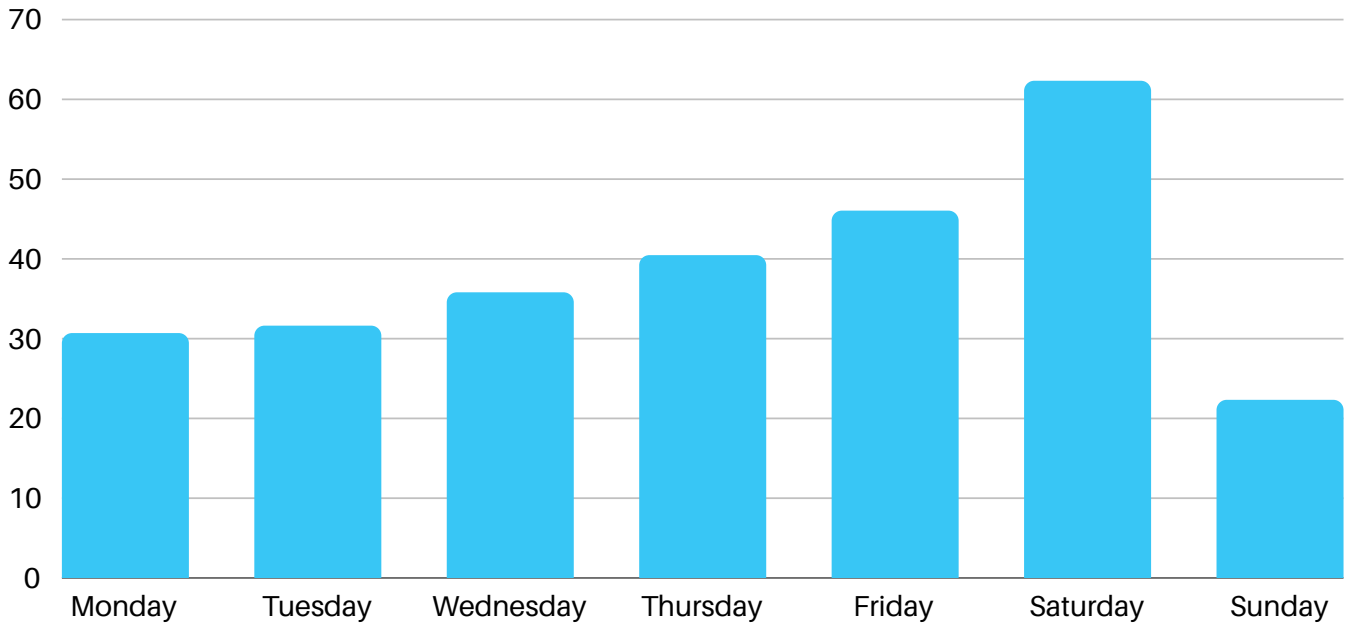
Schools

Church at First Baptist

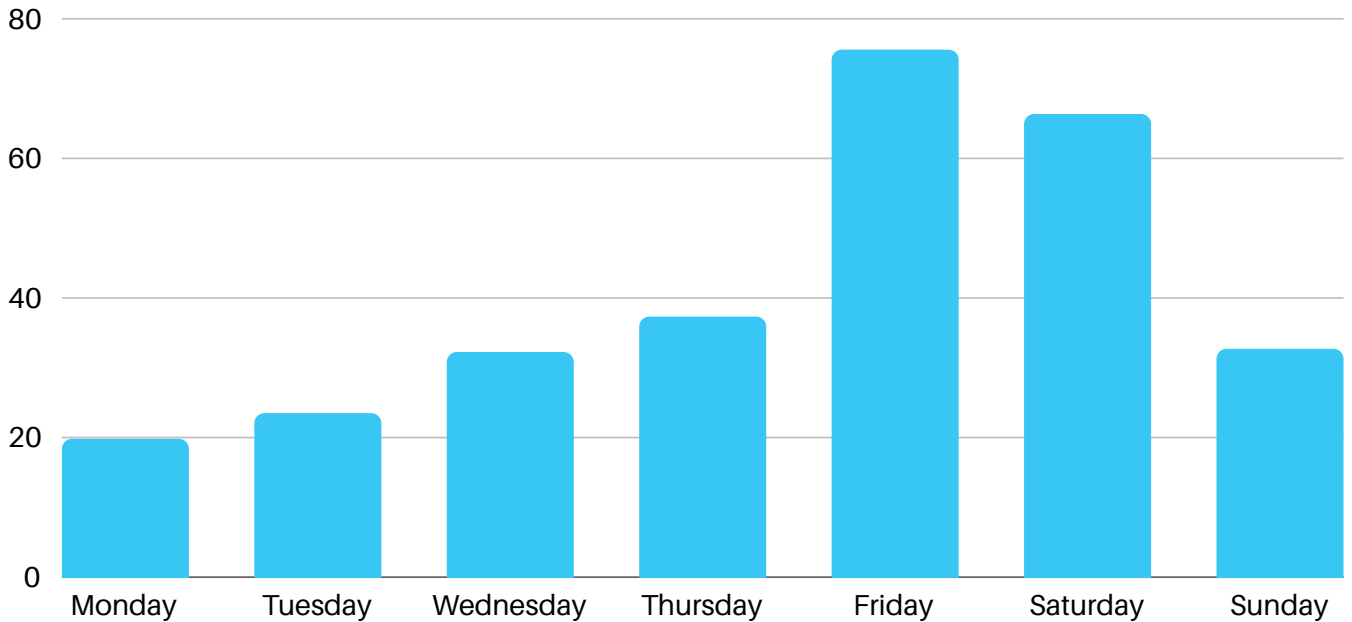
Library

Volunteer downtown.....CC

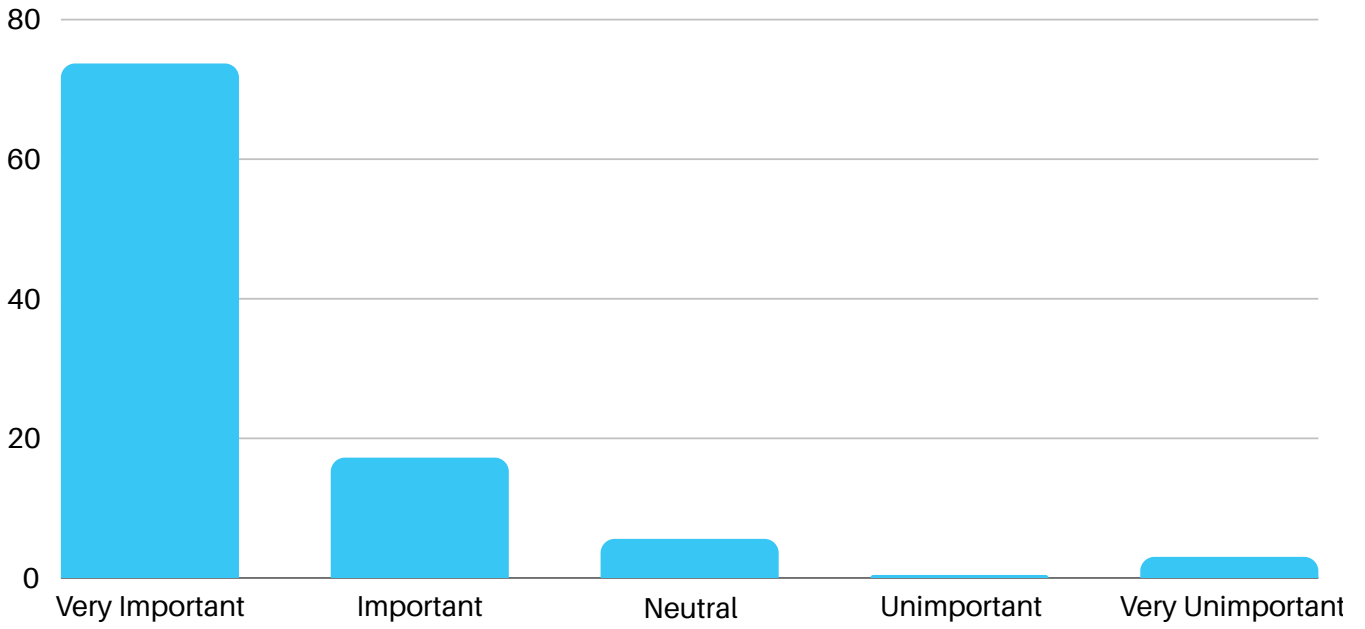
What days of the week do you typically go shopping?



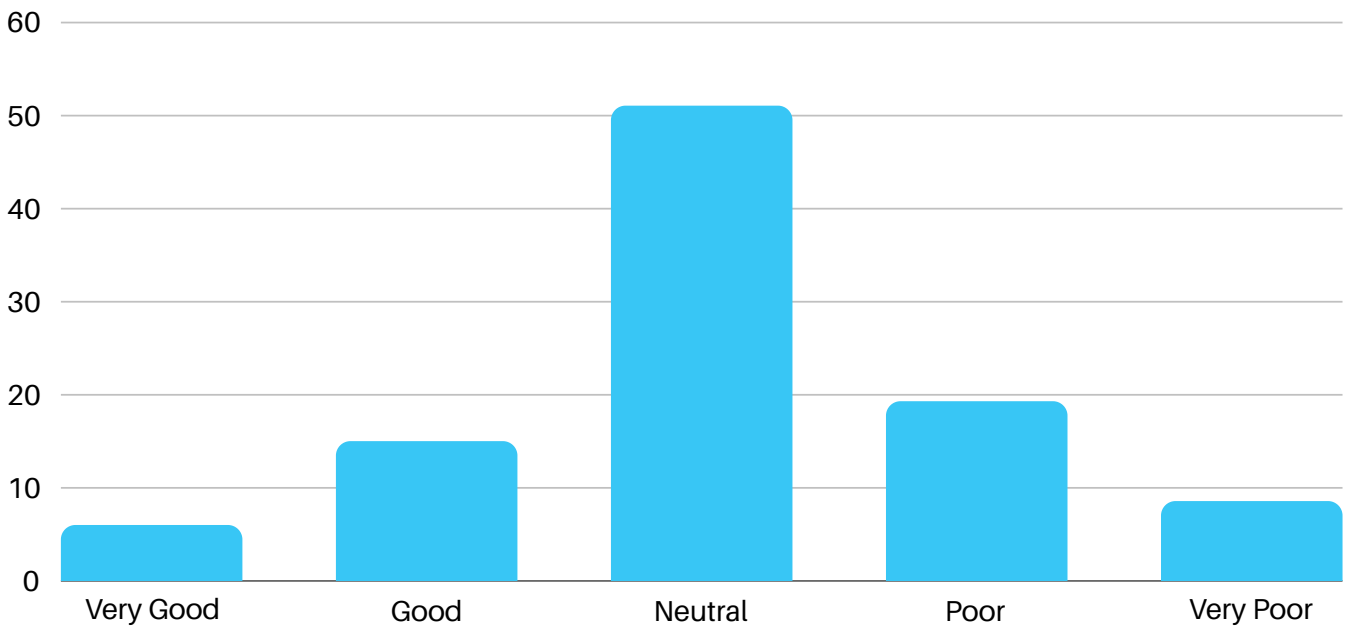
What days of the week do you typically go out to eat?



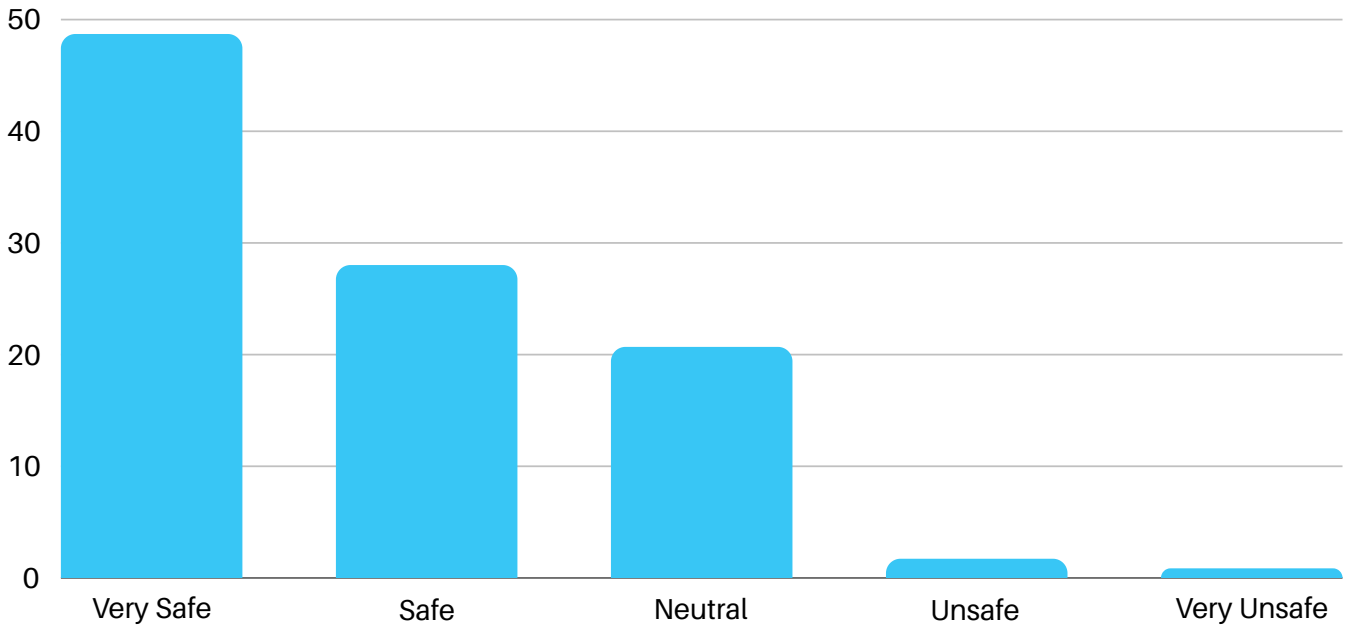
How important is it to YOU to have a thriving downtown?



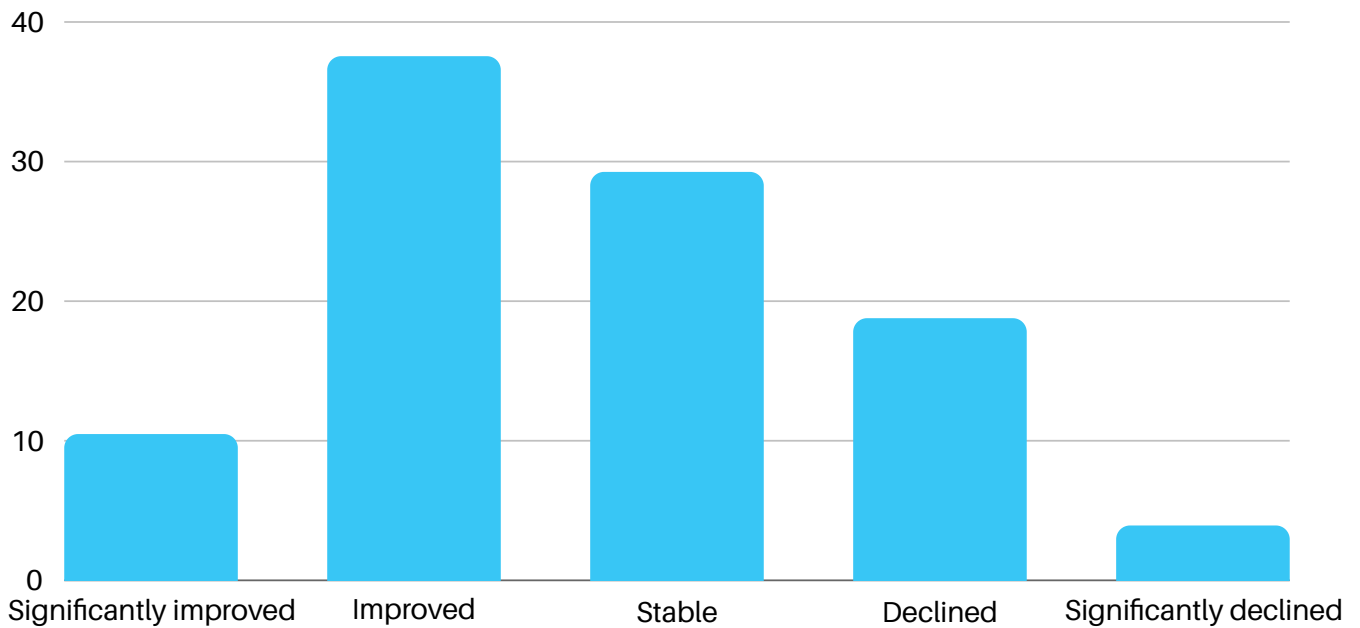
What is your general opinion of Downtown Eatonton?



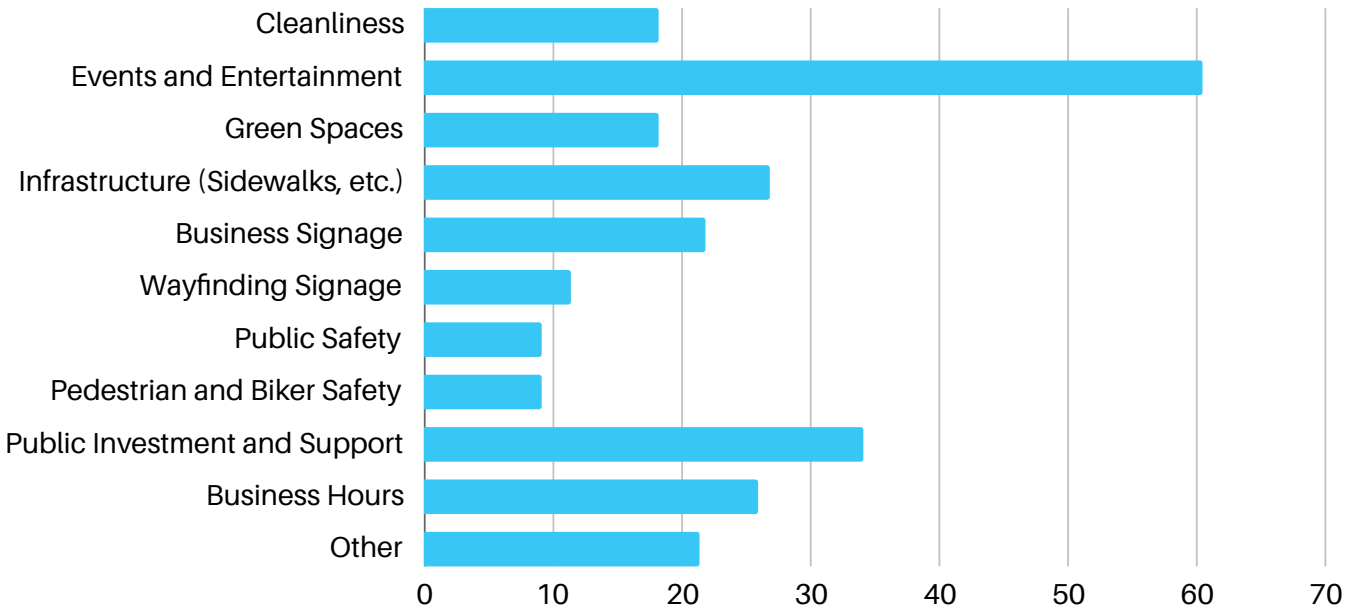
Do you feel safe in Downtown Eatonton?



How would you describe the changes happening in Downtown Eatonton over the past 3 years?



What areas of Downtown Eatonton could be improved?



"Other" Responses:

Lighting

More businesses and restaurants

A few more eateries that serve adult beverages.

Parking, the types of businesses, and vacant buildings. The Popeyes area is also very rundown and unappealing.

Good quality restaurants

I think some type of arbor or canopy would be nice over the black, metal benches. They are super hot in the summer.

More restaurants

Restaurants

I love the local owned shops in downtown but I really wish we had a Target, TJ Max, or other similar business too.

We have lots of gps raising gkids. Give them somewhere to take the kids to burn some engery. Give the gps a break from house Kaos. Uncle Remus grounds. Put a small plaground for visitors and spray for bugs. It's bad in the summer. Help!!!!

Keep a restaurant more than a year. A brewery would be a good option to revive downtown.

There are no available studio size commercial spaces for artisan startup businesses (150-500 sq ft.) yet so many buildings are empty. When two or thee people own the bulk of the properties that are empty downtown will continue to be dysfunctional.

Better branding/messaging to attract more upscale businesses while also maintaining diversity to appeal to all. A beautification of the DWN TWN ETNTN signage @ 441 and further investment on the sidewalks leading into DT along MDSN RD/N Jefferson Ave.

More dining and shopping. A decent hotel or Bed and breakfast. Bakery or deli.

Dining Retail

We need more options- food, entertainment, etc.

More places to go for entertainment. Need healthy restaurants to sit down and enjoy. A place for family to enjoy and visitors. More Christmas lights

Parking

More well run restaurants and entertainment establishments. More downtown events. Growth and push to build out vacant storefronts. Take a look at Apex, NC. 2 blocks = downtown and they are thriving. Awesome shops, restaurants, coffee shops, etc.

More options

It is high time the city of Eatonton starts attracting businesses. Driving out towards WalMart is a typical example of how Eatonton has degenerated.

Food options

Park with playground for the kids

Downtown is beautiful but I see a lot of empty storefronts and only restaurants. It needs more retailers and much more Christmas cheer like a good old movie

More apartments for families

More restaurants

Parking

Needs a Chinese restaurant.

Downtown Eatonton needs to focus on bringing in businesses.

Make it more like Madison . Better shopping

we need business that last most go out within two years we need to have people go to eatonton not through it to get to Milledgeville or Greensboro or Madison we need big shops that bring people downtown than they can walk around and shop small

Better choices for shopping and dining. More like Madison or Greensboro

Businesses that people want and regular hours. Need restaurants that are owned by decent people. Women shop the most so business show reflect that. Antique malls etc

Affordable events and businesses

Address poverty.

I like it the way it is

I think it is nicely looked after just need more businesses and some more restaurants

Streets

more places to eat that are open on Sunday and keep consistent hours.

Senior citizens programs

The whole town needs to be cleaned and painted. Old structures and buildings that are abandoned need to be torn down and the land repurposed. Brer Rabbit is out of date. Emphasize farming and industry instead. Offer places for families and kids to go.

The signage on store fronts. There should be codes before stores are allowed to put "anything" up in the windows, etc. Ruins the aesthetic of a historical downtown.

Info in the lake oconee news re: WHAT is happening in Eatonton. There are lots of folks who live in Reynolds, Landing, Harbor Club, etc. that have never been to Eatonton as they don't have a clue where it is or what is there to see/enjoy/shop/etc.

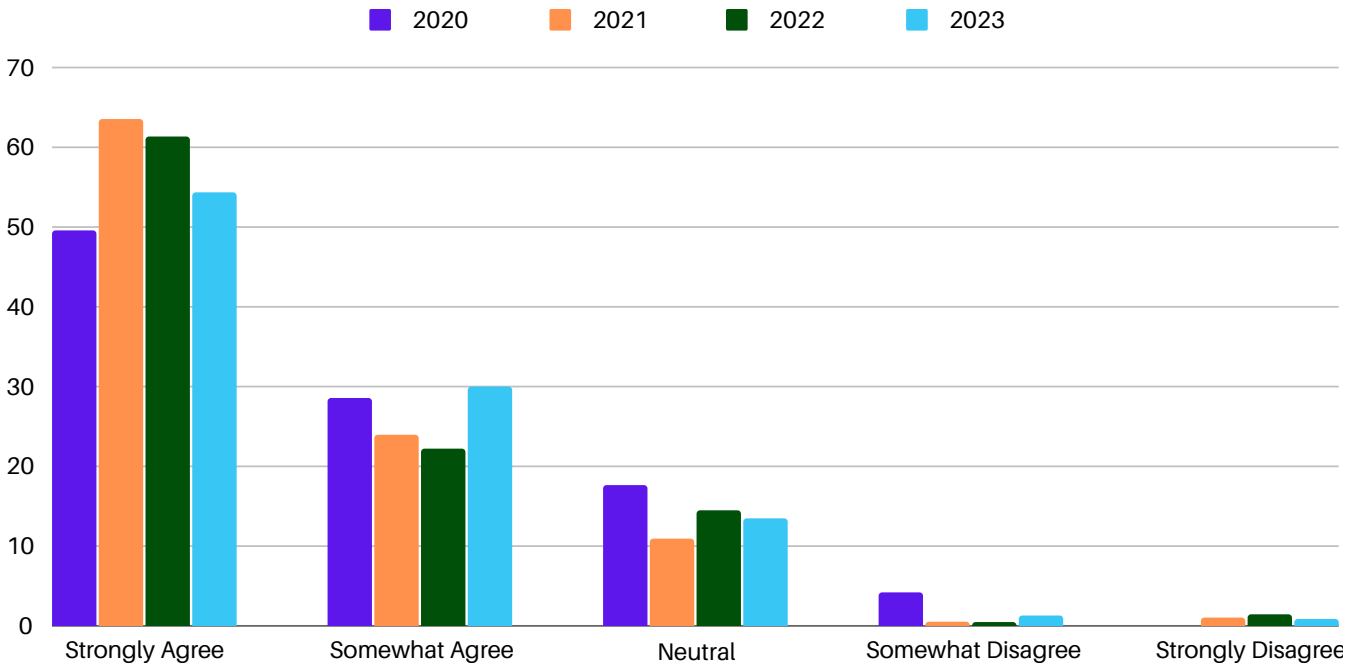
More variety in restaurants. Italian, Asian Cuisines to join our other options.

More restaurants/shops are needed

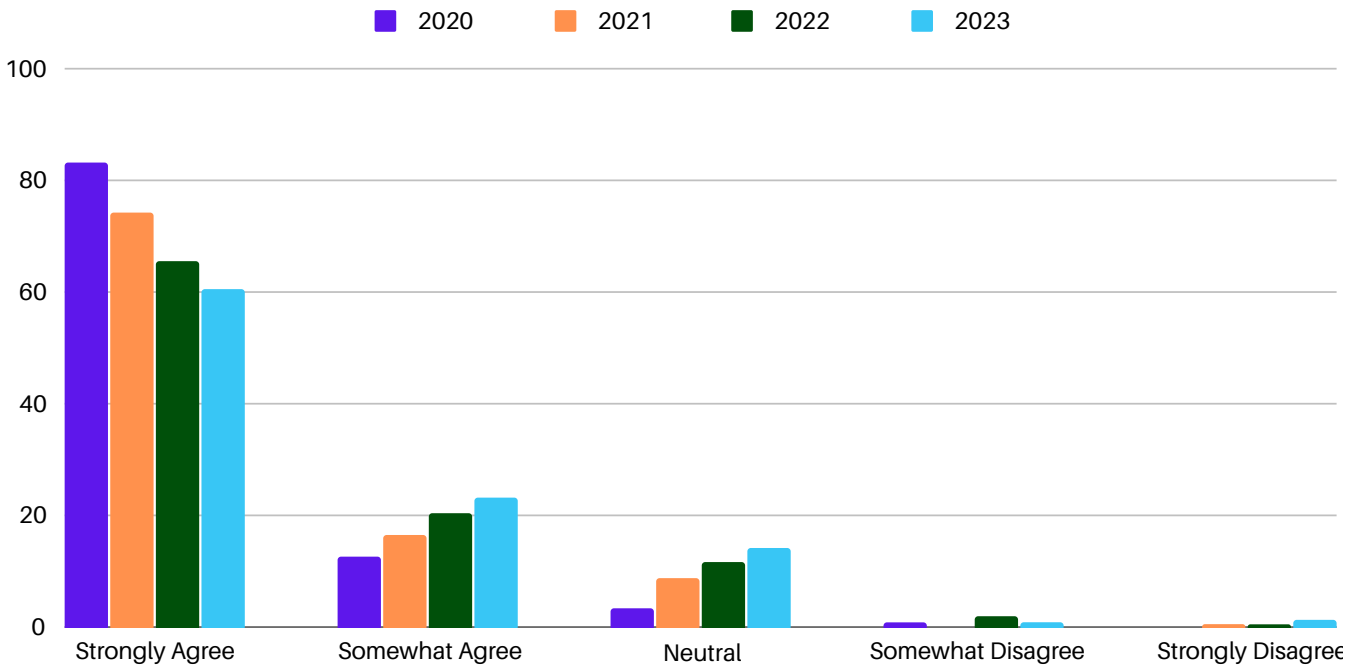
Restaurants!! Yoga studio

Need more restaurant businesses

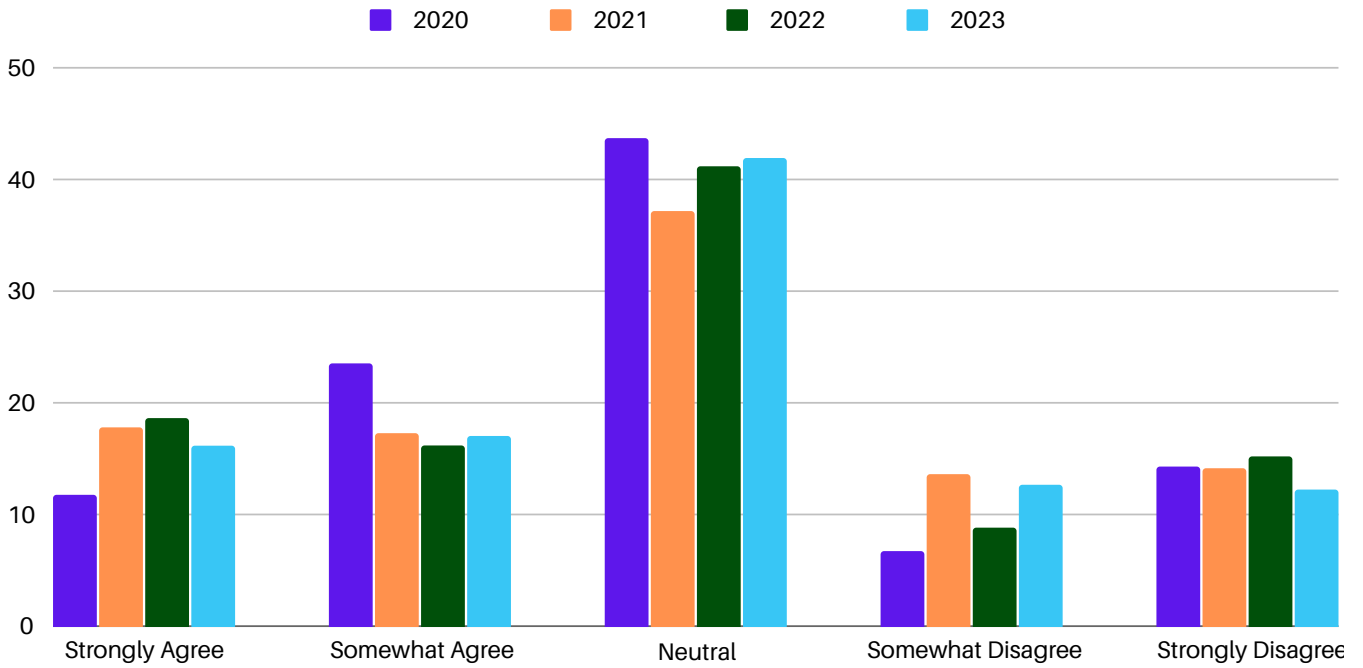
"There are not enough events in Downtown Eatonton."



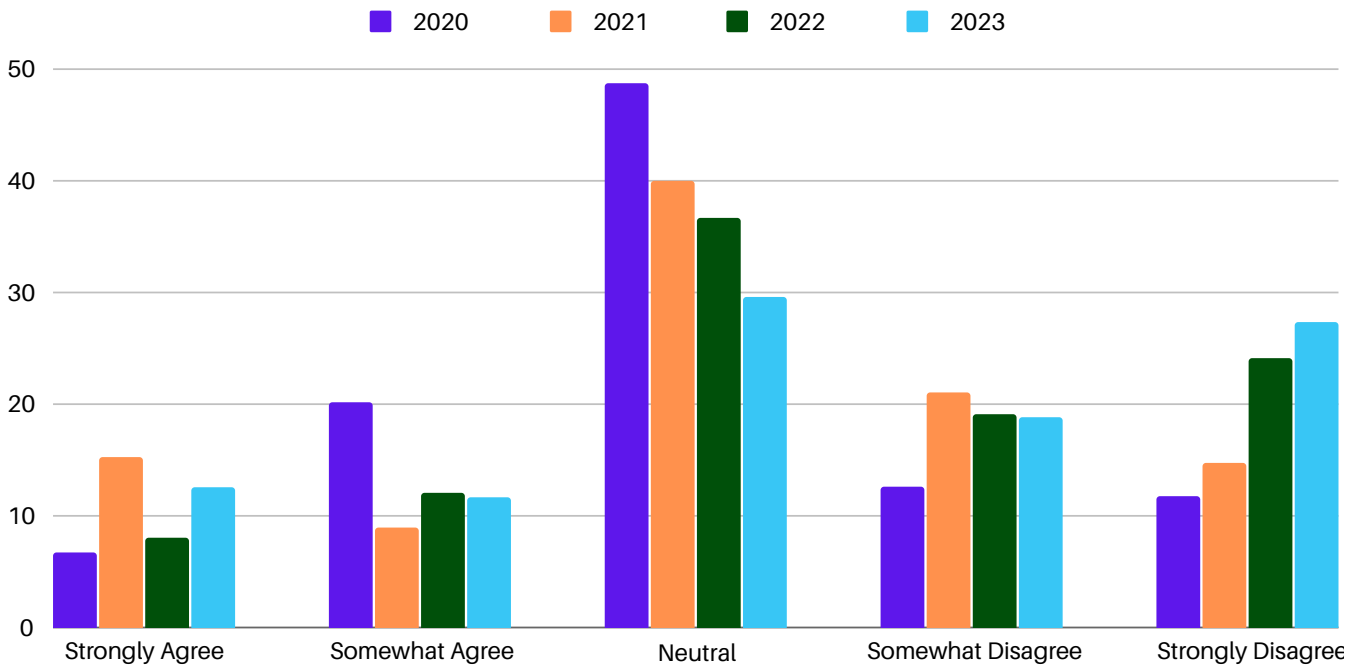
"There needs to be more businesses in downtown."



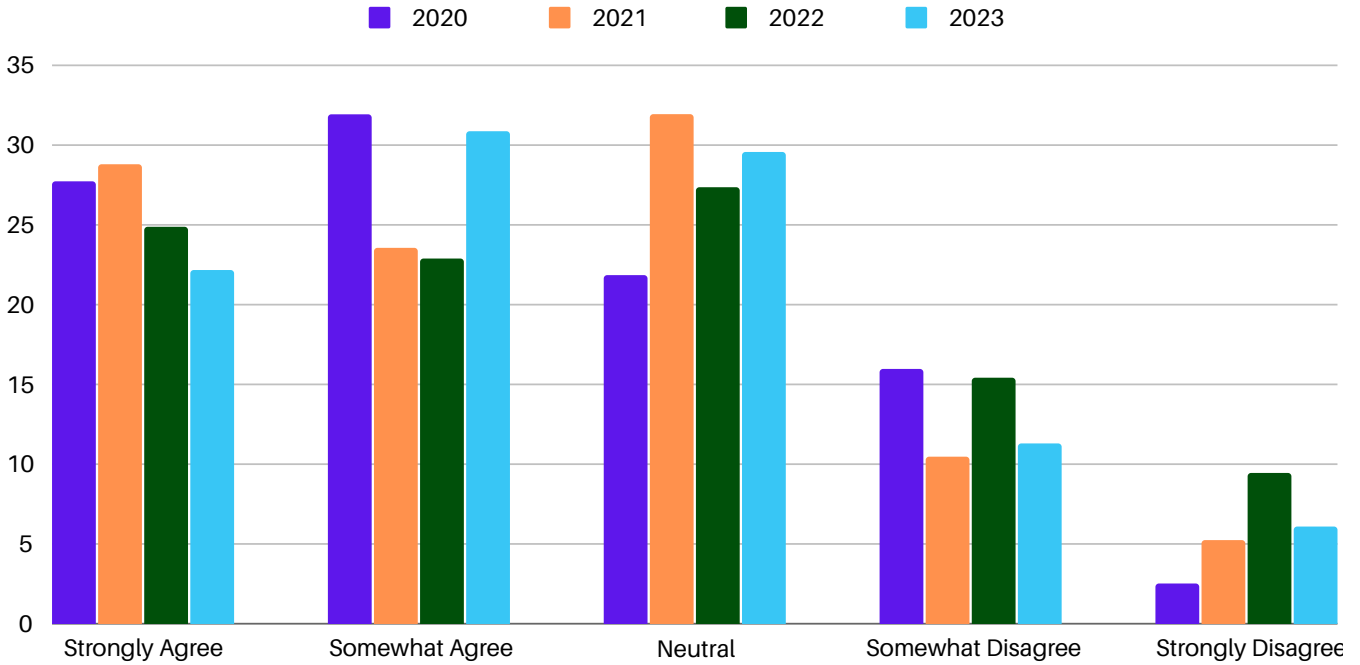
"I'm not sure what the Main Street program is about, and I would like to learn more about it."



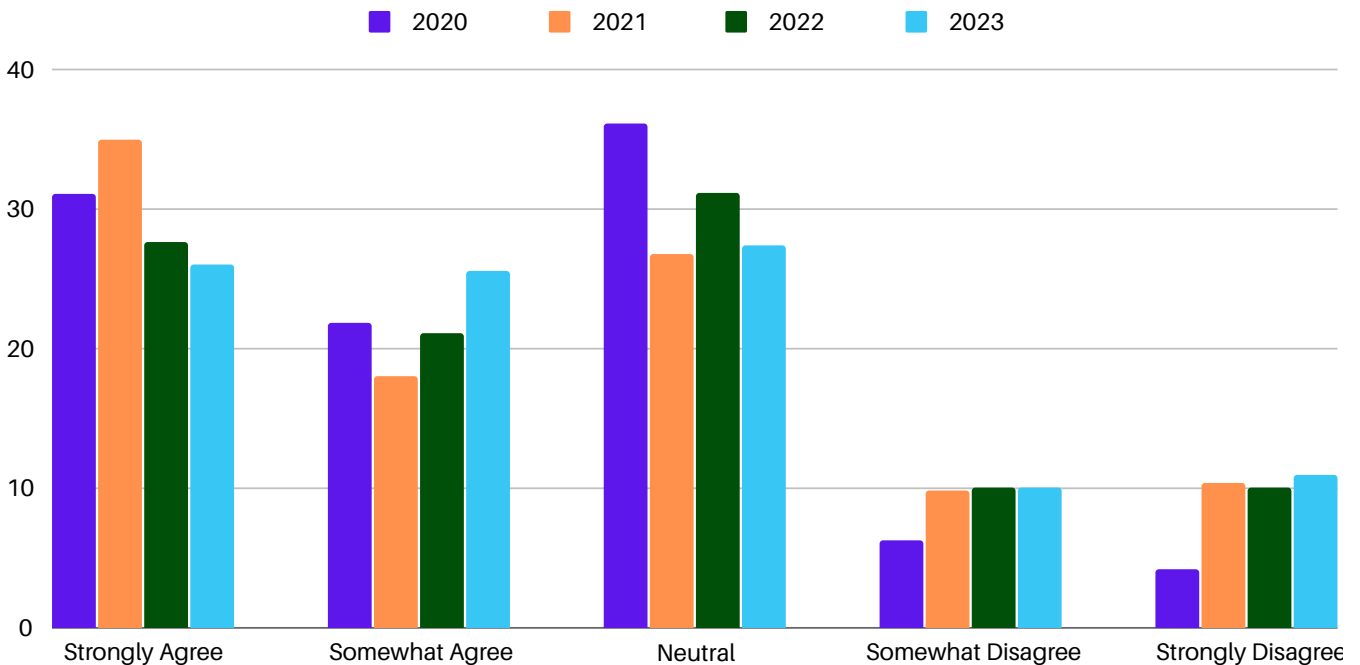
"I would like to be more involved and volunteer with Eatonton Main Street at events or on downtown related projects."



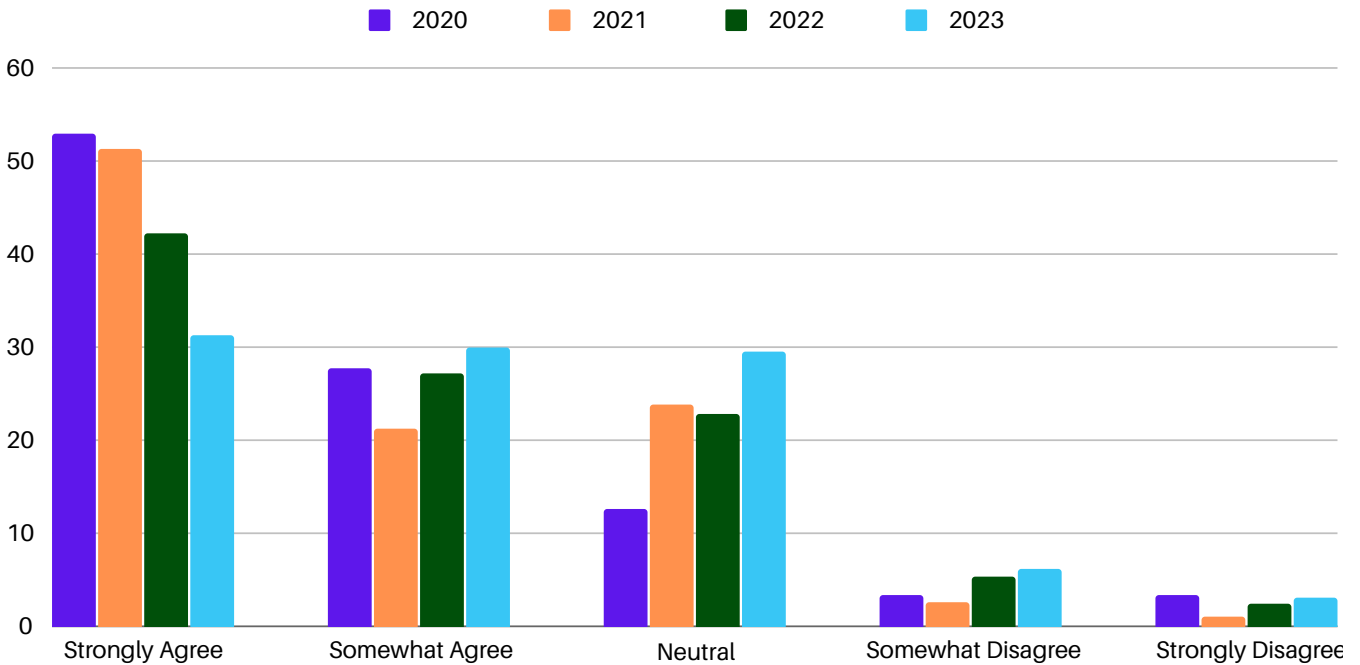
"Eatonton Main Street does a great job of keeping me informed of what's going on in Downtown Eatonton."



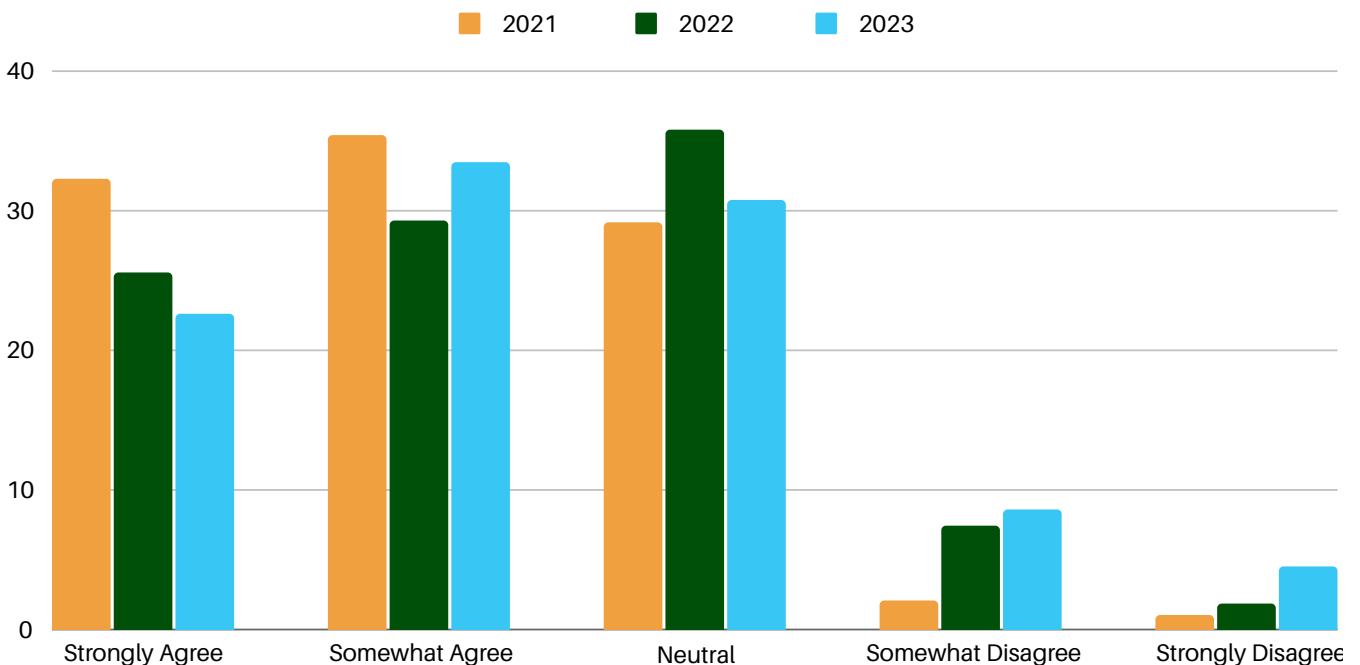
"The weekly email newsletters help me stay informed about what's going in Downtown Eatonton."



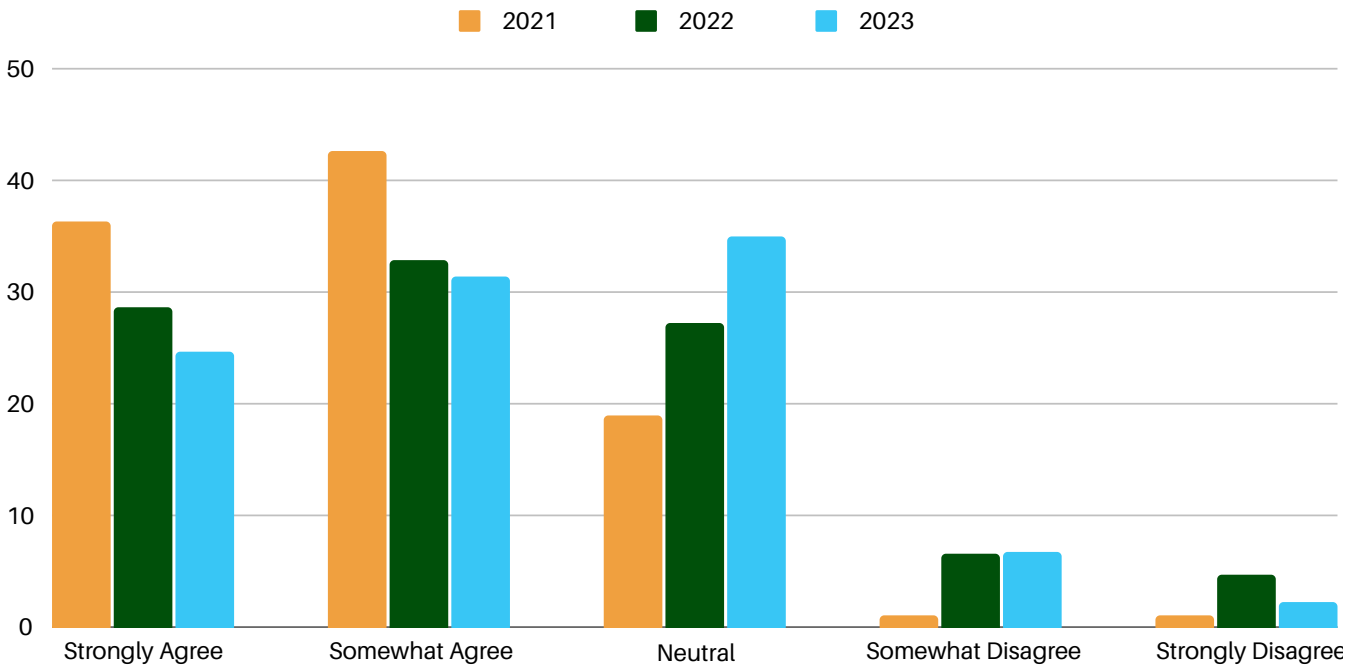
"Eatonton Main Street should invest more money into making Downtown Eatonton more aesthetically pleasing (i.e. regularly pressure washing sidewalks, more Christmas lights during Christmas, more flowers in the Spring, etc.)."



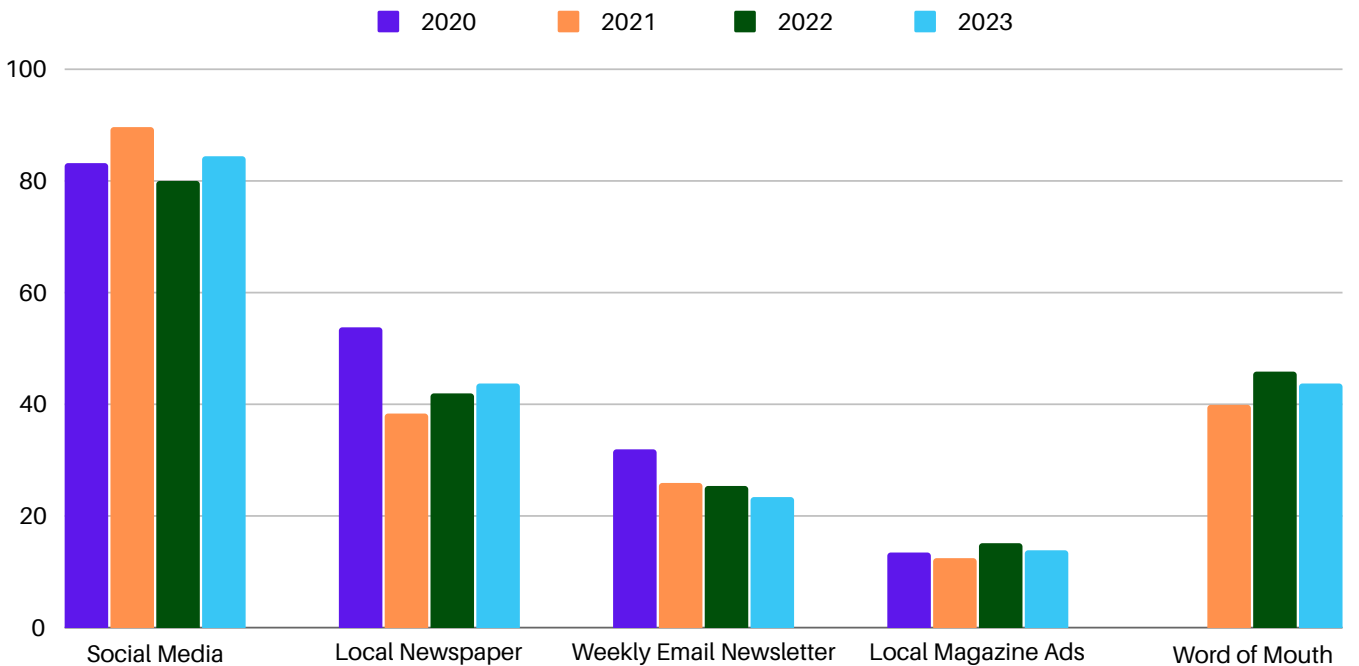
The downtown businesses have great customer service.



I have a great overall experience when I patronize a business in Downtown Eatonton.



How do you learn about what's going on in Downtown Eatonton?



"Other" Responses:

The events calendar added to the utility bill has been informative & a good reminder. ETNTN MN ST, The PLZ Arts Center, & the Chamber of Commerce needs to do a better job of working in tandem and supporting/promoting each other's efforts & events.

Nextdoor app

Digital Sign at the bank

Just by touring downtown

google

Kinda sometimes see a flyer in a local business. This is the first email I've gotten from you so this is a big help in getting info.

Involvement in Chamber and Eatonton Mainstreet newsletter.

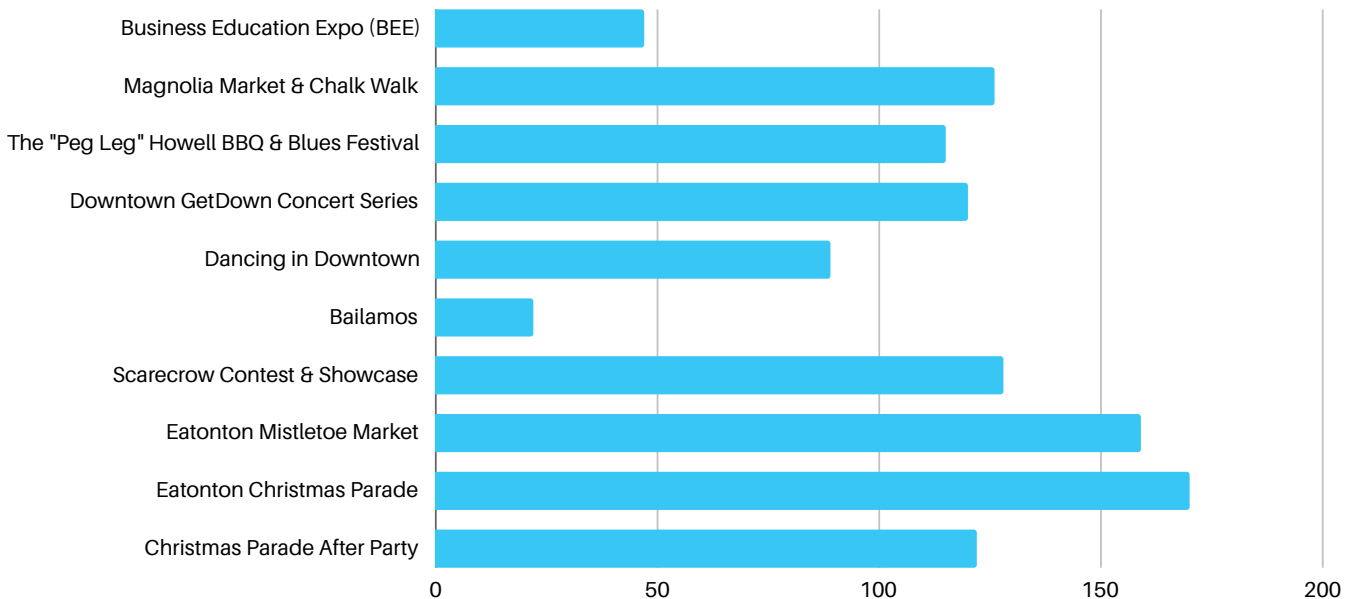
Walked the streets

I don't usually know what is going on downtown

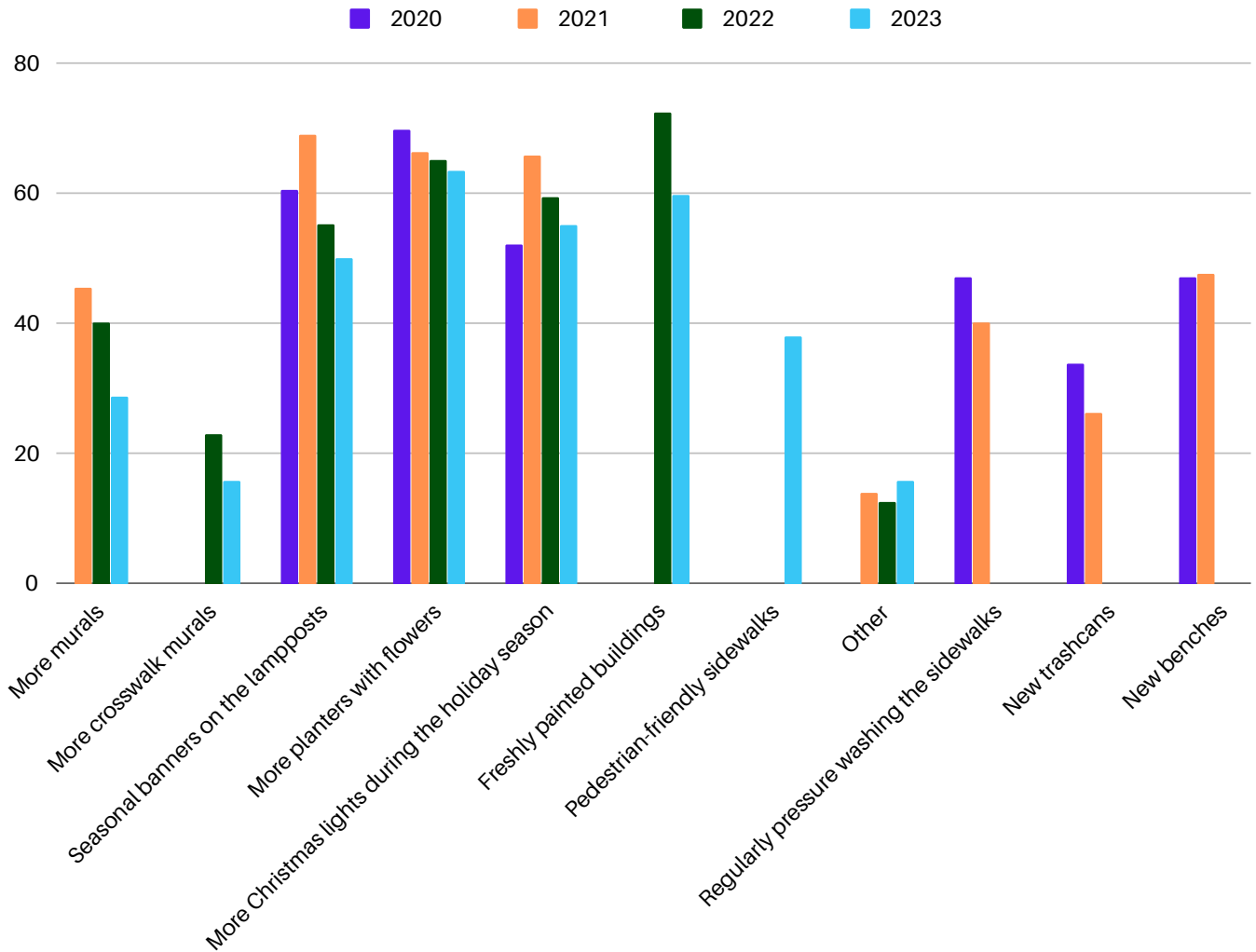
Facebook

School flyers, bank marquees

Which Main Street sponsored events would you like to see like to take place in 2024?



What would make Downtown Eatonton visually more appealing?



"Other" Responses:

Better signage for businesses

Pressure spray buildings that need it. I feel businesses with dirty run down looking buildings can hurt a towns image along with the image of the business itself. Also continue to enhance the natural history of downtown

Welcome to Eatonton signs. Current ones give bad first impression

Finishing the front of the theatre. It is uglier now than before they messed with it. And that purple light is creepy.

The road to many bump holes at the red light

Fresh markets in town, kid friendly events for the community, movie nights, ice skate rinks ❤️

Businesses aren't open, traffic & parking is terrible... there's really no reason to go to downtown unless eating at a restaurant (and The Brickhouse needs to get their act together if they're going to stay in business).

Every available commercial space occupied with competitive thriving businesses that make downtown desirable and fun.

Properly paved streets- the Hwy 44 intersection is terrible

Thriving businesses and more attractive & welcoming signage on storefronts. Beautification of any vacant buildings. The police station could also be treated to a facelift while maintaining its current vintage charm.

Desireable stores and restaurants that makes you wanna walk around and hang out.

The downtown square sidewalks and the courthouse green space need to have more trees, don't blame GDOT, all the state roads going through Greensboro, Monroe and Madison have plenty of trees. It makes the downtown more attractive.

Business Less vacant buildings

More businesses

Some of the service stations need to clean up and a paint job. Get rid of the blight.

As a whole the building/store front display look unkept, except Maggie Lane's.

More plants/shrubs not just flowers

The area around the elementary school is awful . You have awful people selling drugs at the gas station across from the school ! I do not feel safe getting gas any where in downtown Eaton except from wall mart.

OMG, please NO MURALS unless it is what is on the side of Blackwell's Furniture. Get out and attract business to Eatonton. Get the city fathers off their duff and get them going. The youth in Eatonton have ZERO future if they stay, other than dealing

briar patch days

No more murals. It's like putting lipstick on a pig.

More businesses.

Clean up the welcome to Eatonton signs as you enter the city if Eatonton. They are the first impression one gets when entering the town. No neon signs on buildings on the square.

I really don't think these things are revelent we need big business than while people are here they will walk the side walks and shop-eat at other business right now most only go to walmart which is on the by pass not the in other small towns

Trash removal and grass trimmed.

Working pedestrian walk/stop signs; more businesses occupying vacant buildings.

More cows like the one outside of stores

More handicapped access

Variety

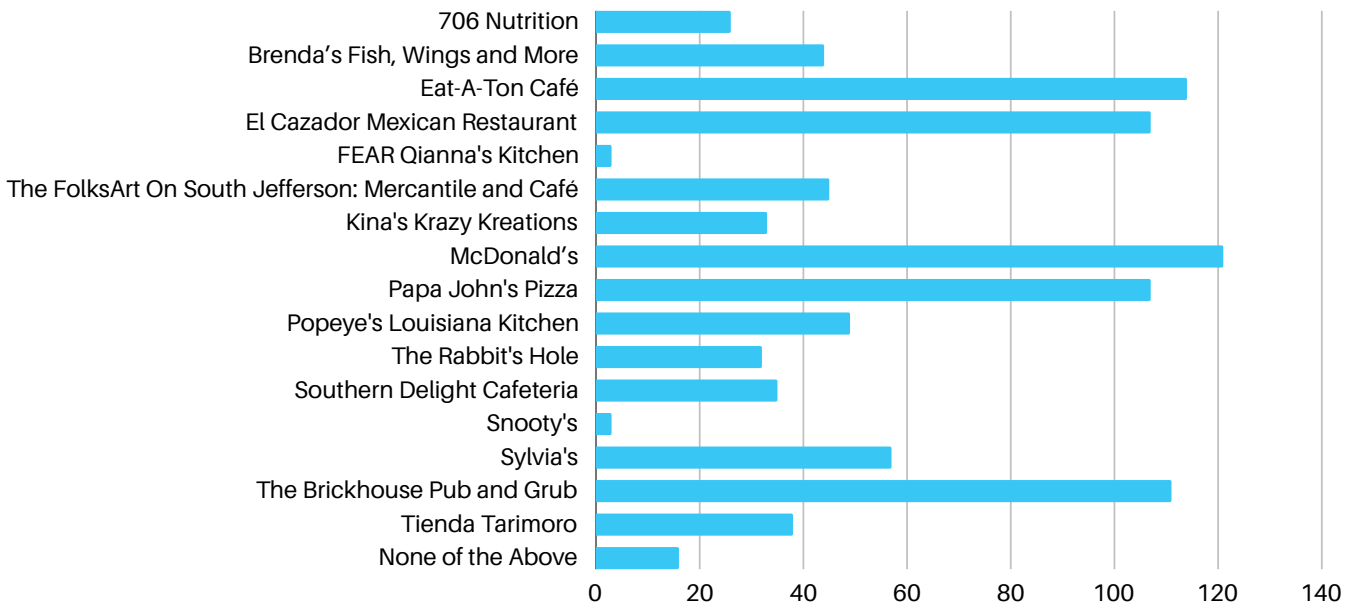
Tear down old building and reuse the land from Dairy Queen all the way down to 441 through town. Require store fronts to improve their facade and give guidelines to match. Ask church groups, civic clubs, and boy/Girl Scout troops to pitch in.

-Greenspace -It would be more appealing if more store fronts were occupied and lit well so that passersby can tell if a business is open or closed.

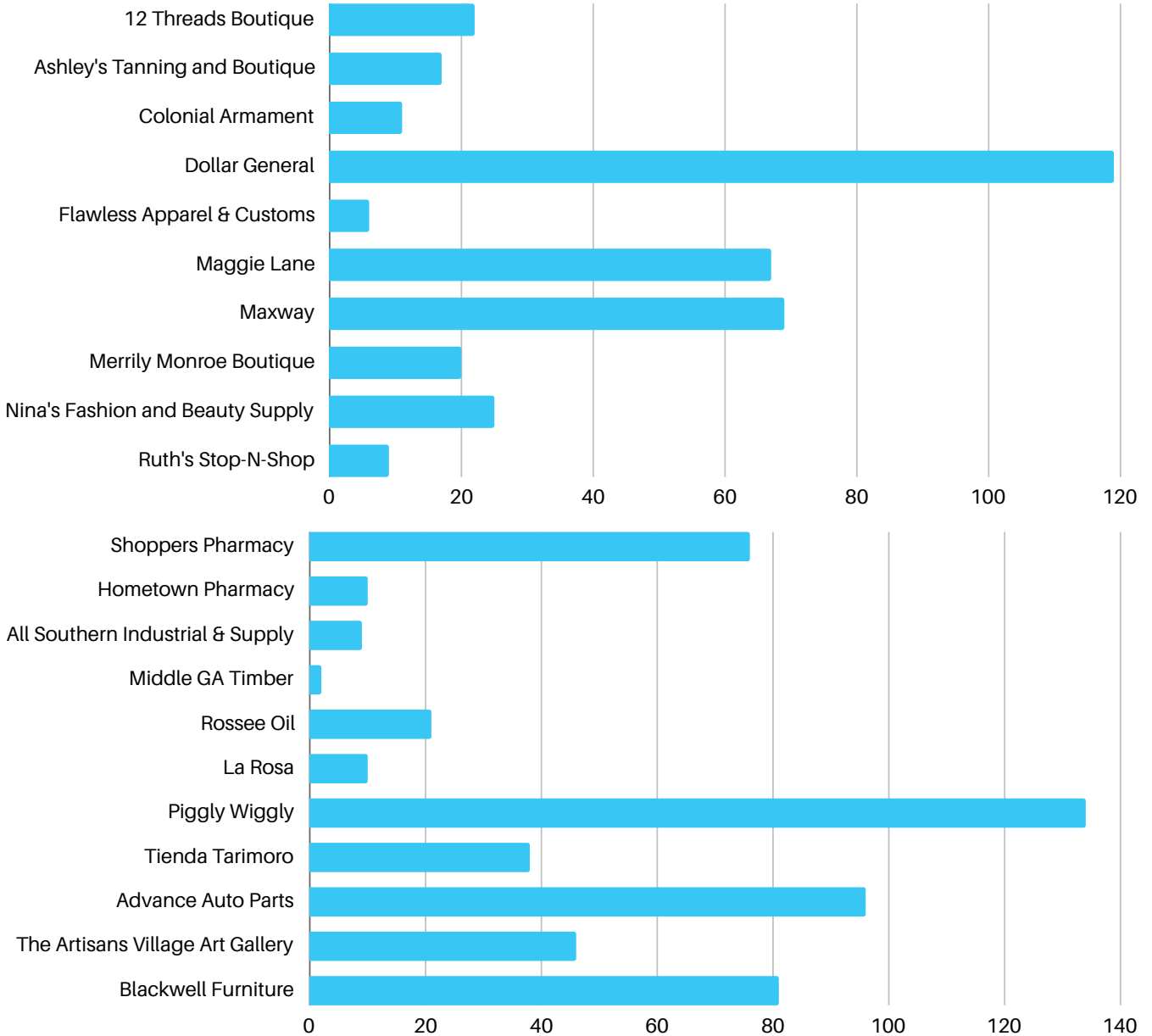
More eye appealing store fronts. No "loud" colors and lights. More of a code for what stores can and cannot do.

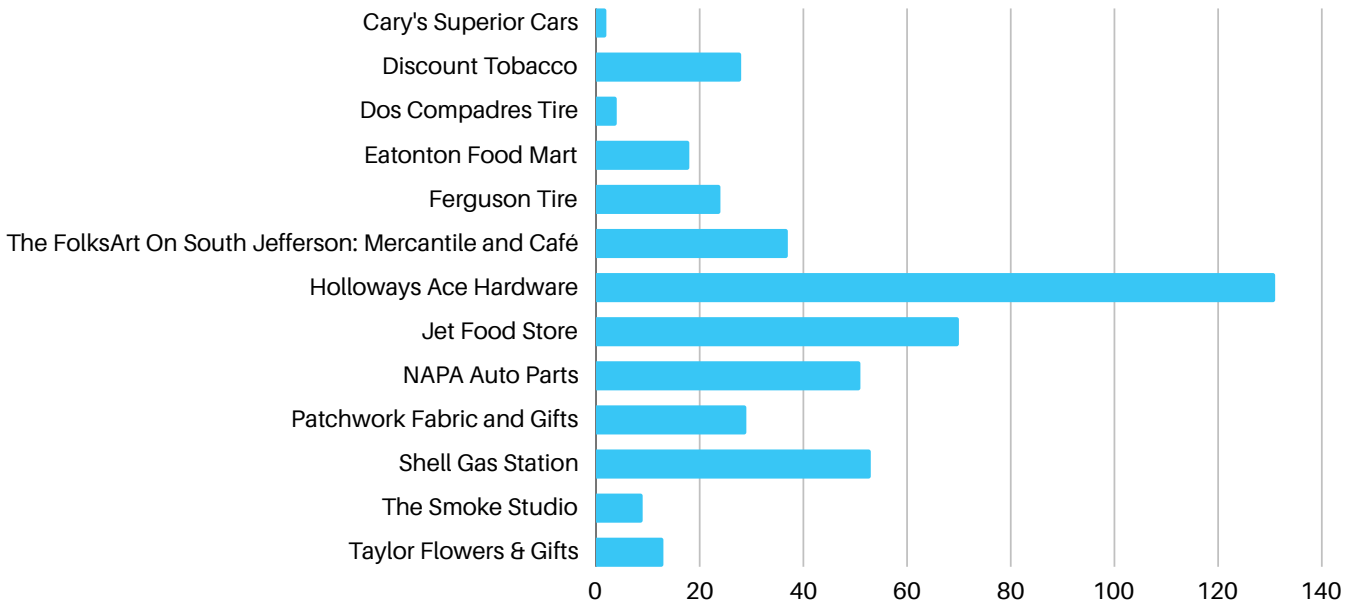
More retail life, more restaurant life.

Which of the following RESTAURANTS did you patronize in 2023?



Which of the following STORES did you patronize in 2023?

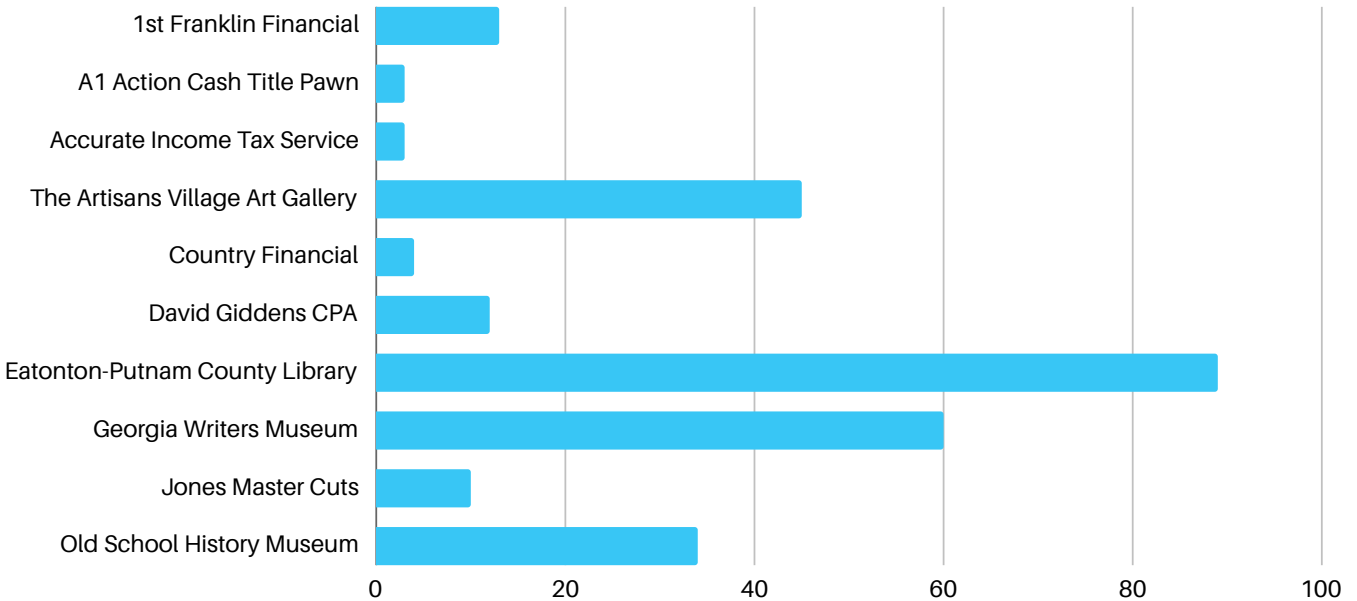


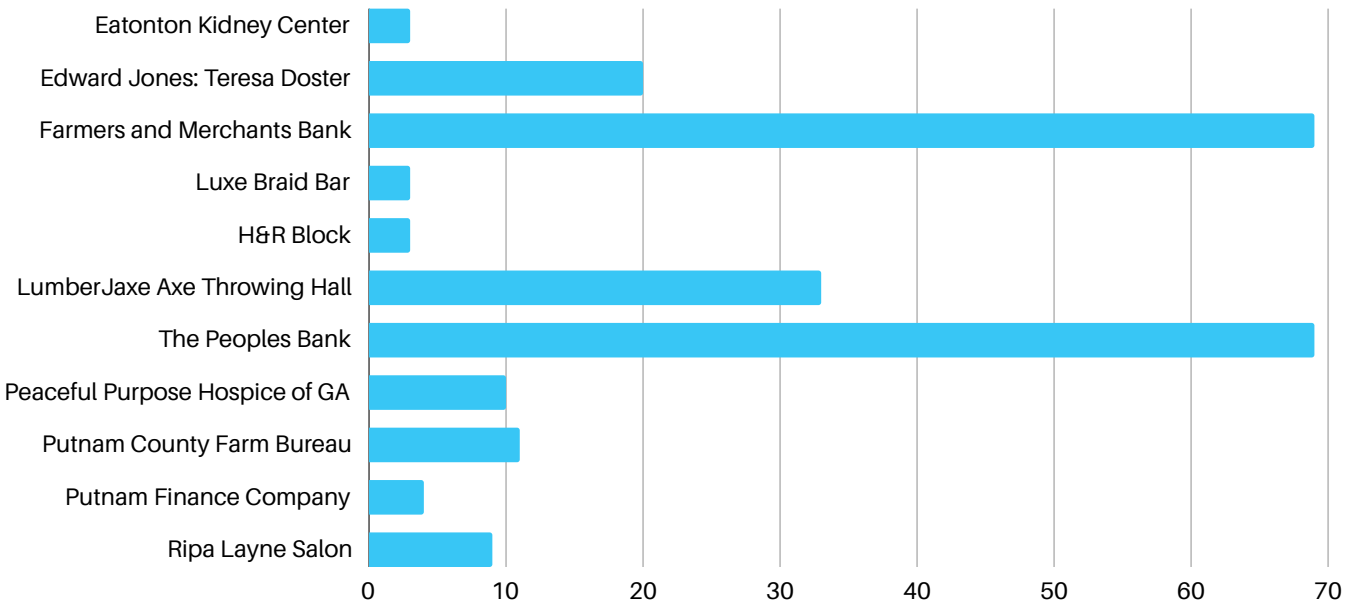
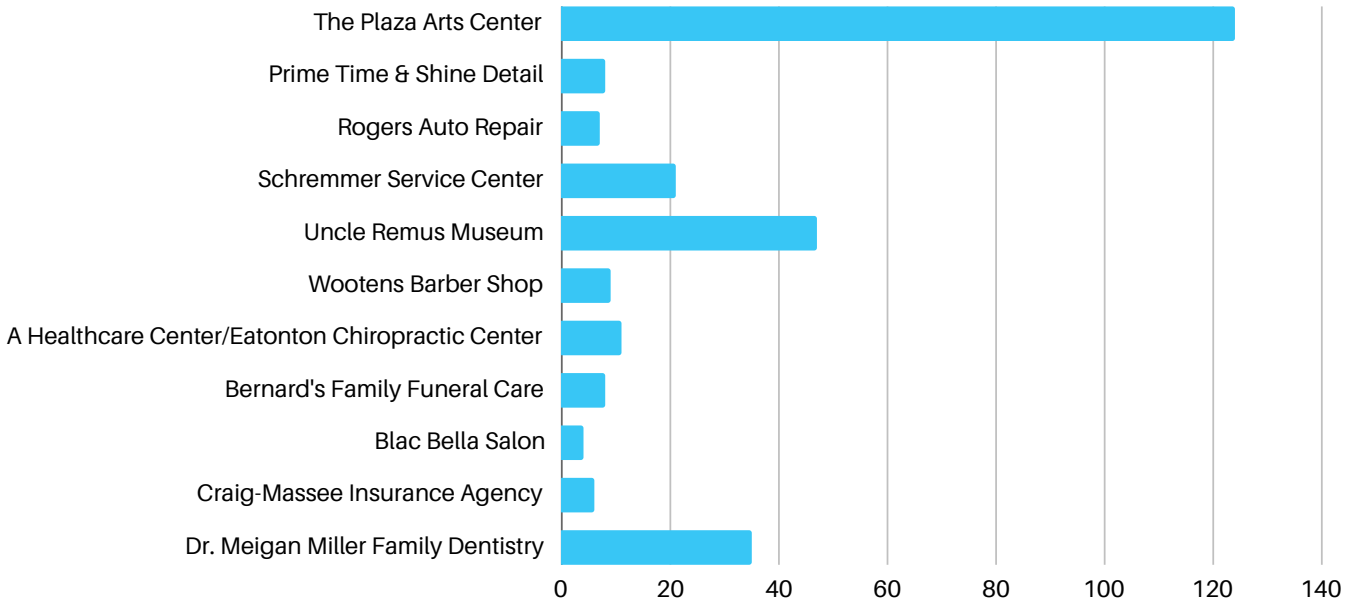


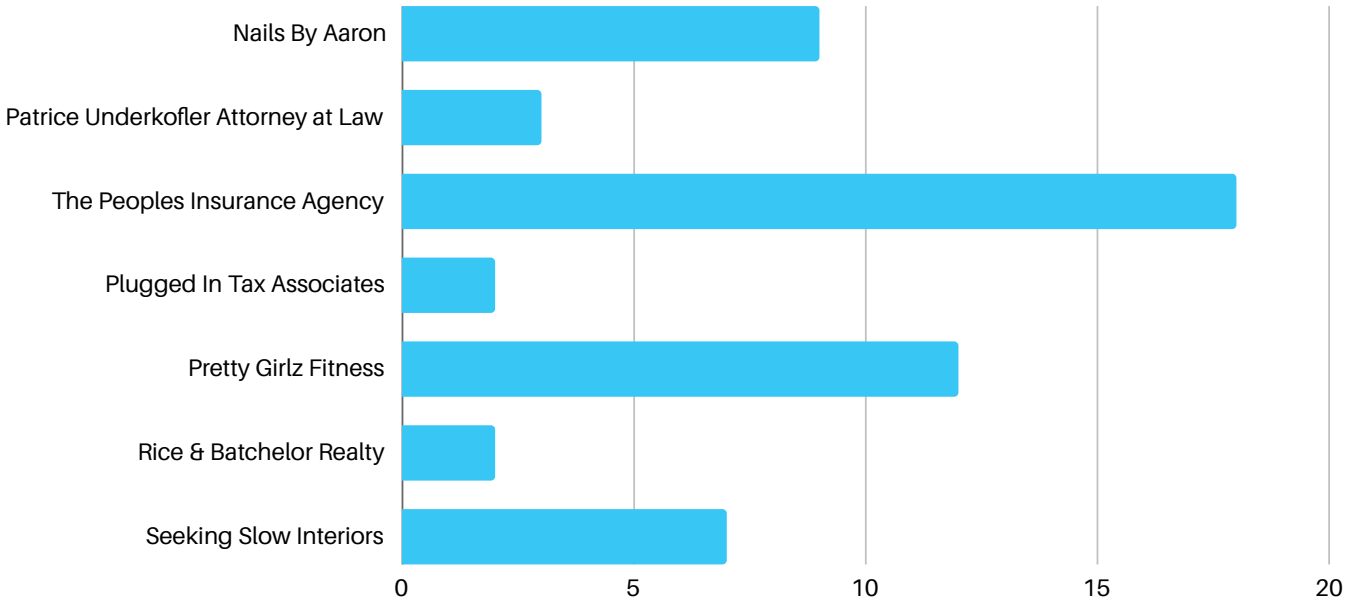
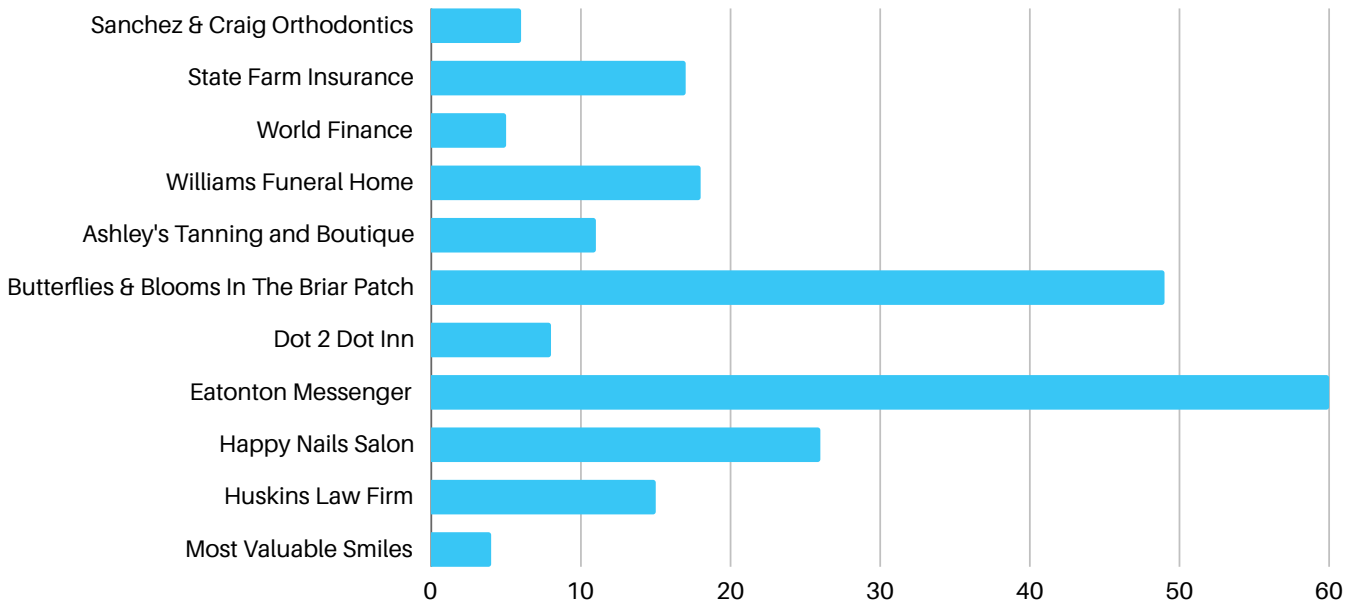
Stores that received "0" results:

- Scrub Up Uniforms
- The Affordable Housing Coalition Outlet Center
- Rent2Ride Auto Sales

Which of the following **BUSINESSES** did you patronize in 2023?



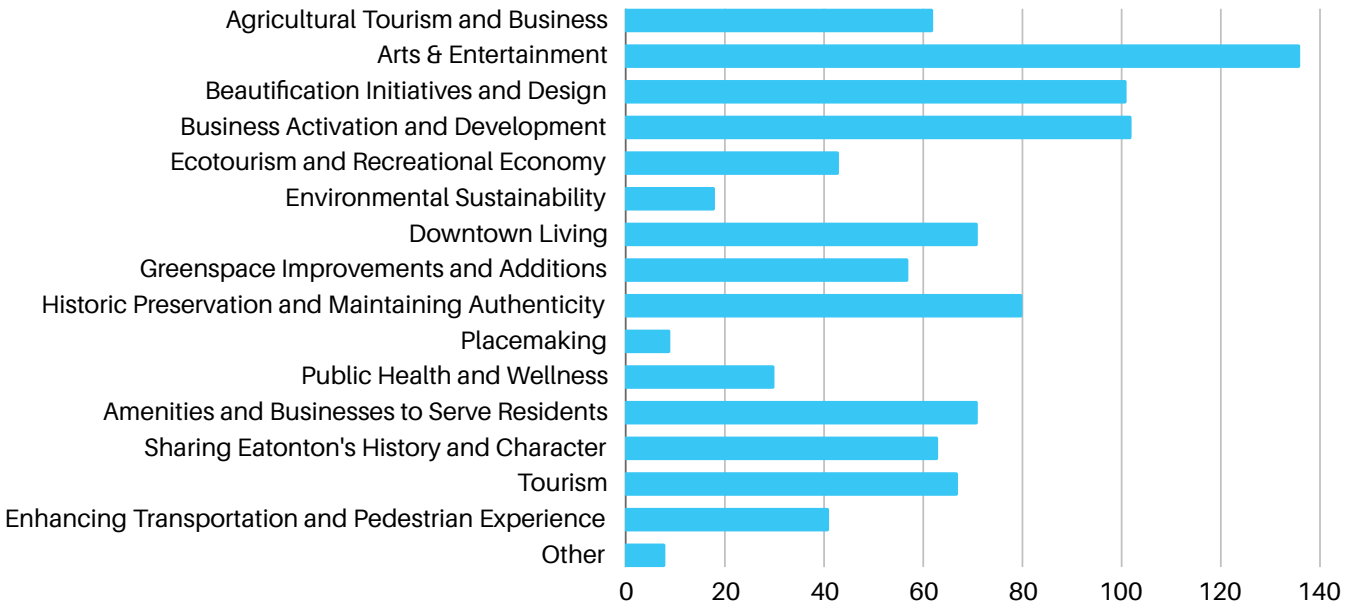




Businesses that received "0" results:

- A Kids World Of Peace
- ReyFresh Beauty Salon
- AK Extensions by Alyson Kouture
- Budget Inn
- Golden Links Healthcare
- Luxe Braid Bar
- SNJ Environmental & Consulting

What would you like Eatonton Main Street to focus on in the next 3-5 years?



"Other" Responses:

For downtown to thrive the city and county need to incentivize or penalize the property owners who are actively discouraging occupancy of their properties and /or letting them rot into blighted condition instead of making them available for commerce.

Repair/widen sidewalks for walkability. Maintain & make beautification improvements to any existing parks. Make change that attracts positive entrepreneurs/artists/educators & the like who can make use of the several vacant buildings/ warehouses etc.

More events for kids to enjoy!

More information on the business downtown, the name of them all addresses beau

Why not bring the weekend farmers market from Harmony to the downtown square one Saturday a month to help promote traffic to the area and support business on the square

Family fun and entertainment, how to keep businesses open until 9p or later. They close so early.

lower cost housing VIP

Restaurants

Describe your ideal downtown 10 years from now. Share with us any visions, ideas or thoughts for the future.

Community oriented space. Where no matter what event is happening, the entire community feels as if the events have something geared towards them.

It would be great if there were more safe and acceptable places for kids and teens to hang out, such as an arcade, bowling alley, splash pad, skate park, etc.

Vibrant and thriving downtown.

A place like Monroe, Ga

More like Monroe, Covington or Madison. More variety of shopping with different stores and restaurants.

Downtown Milledgeville. Advertise hiring opportunities for college students in local restaurants.

Increased parking and different restaurants and businesses. Also focus on filling empty storefronts and vacant buildings.

Ideally a town with the Historic charm that has been being restored already and the beautiful murals, several restaurants to choose from and some family friendly entertainment. Antique mall would be nice. Ag expos would be nice and farmers markets. We also live in a smaller town in Florida that has been having one night a month of food trucks and live music in the courthouse square that seems to be picking up the downtown visitors and creating a community closeness. Just a thought.

It would be nice to have a few nice restaurants and stores to draw people into the town. We need to have more parking opinions and better flow of traffic.

I would love to see the downtown with businesses occupying the empty buildings. I don't want our downtown to turn into a ghost town. Monticello, Ga used to look very similar to us a couple years ago- and now they actually have cute shops to shop in and a few options to eat at, which is so good. Restaurants bring people in. We need good small cafes like folks art and like the five loaves in Monticello!

No specific ideas.

When I close my eyes I see Eatonton downtown district full. No buildings for sale no empty retail space. All businesses opened with regular hours. The businesses would consist of a sandwich shop, Mexican food (only 1) Greek food, a brewery or two. A burger place. An ice cream shop. A fine dining, candy store. A children's bookstore, two coffee shops. A LARGE general store.

No

Implement requested/suggested improvements and visitor-friendly attractions!

A great place to bring your family

For adults.... A maker space and classes A modern art display place and maybe art internship/ visiting artist space Art/pottery classes Upscale vintage stores Things Madison and Greensboro don't have.

Love the festivals, and of course everyone would love to see more businesses like cafes and shops but know it's hard when people don't patronize in person businesses like they used to. I hope it retains its charm and look.

Would love to see.....The Lunch at back Stage @ Lease once or twice a month..... WEDNESDAY OR FRIDAY ❤️❤️ Keep the Concert going. Great outing for us Seniors 🧓

Having a place for the young kids to have fun and grow. They are our future, invest in their growth.

More stores

Nice, comfortable hotels/motels..people coming in have no descent place to stay except the lake area. STABLE, inviting restaurants.

Plenty of green space Lots of stores supporting what Eatonton offers to the economy Arts & craft stores Cleaner restaurants Food truck parking- regularly or more

Eatonton has the potential to be a thriving downtown area mimicking those of downtown Madison and Greensboro. We need more affordable dining options that are open regular business hours and more shops catered to the general shopper. The niche businesses are nice but if you're not in the market for a painting or flowers it's not going to be patronized as often. We also need to clean up the abandoned buildings and storefronts. Make it look inviting.

Bring a family restaurant that will actually stay around. The bars don't last.

There needs to be more businesses other than clothing boutiques. Need better restaurants with great owners and customer service.

Sammy Blackwell and Ibyola Stanoiu have released their chokehold on the most desirable properties in downtown, a diverse and thriving local economy built on small to medium creative entrepreneur led businesses have filled those spaces. Tractor trailer 16/44 traffic has been rerouted with an east side bypass, traffic around the courthouse is one way, westbound on Marion, southbound on S Madison, eastbound on Sumter, northbound on Jefferson, with diagonal parking all around the courthouse.

Thriving restaurants & shops More of a town square feel & design Continue activities for families

More low income apartments forore families

Safe area to walk to dinner and to shop.

More places to dine. More food trucks at events.

Visit DT Monroe, Madison, Watkinsville, & even Greensboro. All 4 of these downtown areas have done an incredible job of beautification, marketing, business attraction & retention. All within the last 4 years. Eatonton has the ability to have that same success and even more so given the museums, theater, arts center, history, culture. We are a thoroughfare for persons traveling to N GA and the surrounding lakes. We should have an equally beautiful & thriving downtown area. 5 yrs max is my hope.

Looking like Madison or Greensboro

I'd love to see downtown Eatonton encompass the same charm that downtown Milledgeville and downtown Madison have. Currently, there are maybe 2-3 shops to shop at in downtown Eatonton (boutiques, home goods, etc.) and one of the boutiques is currently closing down. Hours of restaurants are strange (Sylvia's hours, for example) and it makes it hard to know when to visit downtown to make it worthwhile. The incoming hotel will surely help, but in 5 years I think downtown Eatonton could be wonderful!

With the hotel being renovated and expanded all out efforts should be made now to attract new restaurants to downtown. The downtown area should be designated as a historic district. Park benches should be placed strategically around the courthouse square. Downtown would benefit from having a brewery or distillery to increase foot traffic. The city stage area and parking lot needs to be beautified and landscaped. Paint eye sore buildings, keep the white lights up/on year round.

Good choice of restaurants, shopping and events

Restaurants and shops

Places to eat, nice shops. Monticello is a great example of a great downtown. Use to have nothing now so cute with things happening. We live in downtown. It would be nice to ride the golf cart to eat and hang out with friends. A public playground for families to enjoy. Behind the library in that green space would be nice

A play ground area behind the library. Very inviting like flovilla. A place people want to come and hang out for the day. More business and restaurants appealing to the road front. A lunch spot.

Downtown would once again be booming as it did 20 years ago. Cost to customers would decrease to a reasonable amount, Families would come out more. There would be something for teenagers to do. Our children and teenagers have to leave town to have something to do on the weekends. Teen Center, Skating rink, get them involved with their community

Would love to see more businesses, restaurants and events.

We desperately need more restaurants down town.

More bars

A nice hotel with shops and restaurants. More restaurants. Maybe an indoor roller rink in one of these empty former grocery stores. A bowling alley. More big box stores. Shoe stores. A Home Depot or Lowes. I hate having to drive so far for stuff!

More places to eat at replace Popeyes put a place to eat at

Invite more films and movies to come and film in our small town that has been been cleaned up and painted with our town's rich history of historical authors!

More buisness and places to go

There needs to be more boutique shops rather than chain store types including restaurants. Go check out Covington and Madison for examples.

One place for finer dining. A gift shop, men's clothing, furniture or interior design

A city clean well kept city where the community meets to eat, socialize (ice cream parlor) and attend cultural/social events.

More restaurants Some type of entertainment for kids

Walkable with restaurants, theater, shops, people out enjoying downtown.

More shops. When we were growing up we had more than we do now

Na

The movie theater would be open and another restaurant at the Popeyes location more concerts. The recreation department would be more organized w the planning of sporting events and better communication

Starting from the Elementary school clean up sidewalks and insert greenspace where needed. Old Georgia power building being a dental office or Chiropractor office and getting all medical offices off the square. In the parking lot of the Mexican store have food trucks parked that sign leases and stay for 6 months at a time. Food trucks being good quality food. Cleanup all the sidewalks between Uncle Remus and fix nice green spaces. Old Hardees being southern restaurant. The creamery being one

More variety of stores. Warmer , more inviting esthetics. There is so much potential- downtown is very cute but it can definitely be taken to the next level.

I would like to see it cleaned up Tear down abandoned houses Get ride of these away gangs hanging out on the streets

A public play area, splash pad, events to let my kid enjoy, store fronts full of purposeful businesses

More beautiful, Especially Center Stage Area ,and a small area to eat on the outside in downtown Eatonton

Affordable shopping in the downtown area that keeps the average income in our area in mind. Restaurants that are family friendly that have regular, consistent hours. Places for teens to hang out.

I would like to see more attention given south of the courthouse. There doesn't seem to be anything done on that end of town when flowers, planters, Christmas lights, etc. are placed. We feel left out!

Small hometown feeling, hopefully no overcrowding.

General merchandise stores, a good hardware store and festive all year long

I would like to see more family friendly areas for play for children and picnic areas for families.

Affordable senior living

No empty store fronts and dilapidated buildings.

Better restaurants, something that attract me downtown. There's nothing in downtown Eatonton.

I would love to have more shopping and dining options. I would love to be able to eat in restaurants downtown rather than having to opt for fast food. Also having more things available for kids to do. Maybe an arcade, or pool hall. And having the community pool open this year!

More apartments for low income families that will be posted on FB and in the newspaper

Booming with boutique businesses great restaurants, Pedestrian friendly

I really miss the briar patch days that was held in october

Try to build off the history of the area and get places people want to visit. More theater options, antique store etc.. Example: <https://www.skaneateles.com/calendar/annual-events/dickens-christmas>, restaurants. For Christmas look at carriage rides, live choir, hot Chocolate stands or roasting pecans.

Hotel is open and thriving and additional business opened and established

One I feel safe to visit. The place looks like a ghetto. I don't go there because of the way it looks and the people hanging around. New to the area but will not venture down there

Keep the history!!!!!!!

More restaurants and places to shop locally

A place to shop, eat and have entertainment.

Several businesses downtown restored and occupied. Maybe a park off the square for families and picnics. A park would probably require taking down a building. Tear down the old hospital or restore it. It is an eyesore.

Get rid of junky neighborhoods and drug areas . Make it interesting by attracting boutique shops , restaurants. Again more like Madison

More for young ppl! There's nothing 😞

I would love to have a clean playground downtown, as well as a movie theater

More businesses, especially for quality men's clothing. Better parking.

Our downtown would be more like Madison- with lots of little shops and restaurants. Business exteriors, like the automotive shops, cleaned up.

one that has people walking down town enjoying their self and getting what they need and want Not using the by pass or just going through Eatonton

Like Madison or Greensboro. Good Restaurants that stay and provide good food and service. Shops that generate interest in walking around town

More tourist friendly

Shops to browse in during the day and good places to eat lunch. Would be nice to have a nice bar/restaurant at night. Have to drive to the lake for food.

Antique store, home decor, gift shops. Flower boxes that are not tired looking or filled with trash. Maybe change to "window box" type flower containers instead of the huge half empty/dead boxes. Would love to see downtown More cozy/quaint looking that draws you inside.

A variety of affordable restaurants, plus size clothing store, exterior bld. renovations and sidewalks resurfaced, especially on N. Jefferson Ave. Christmas lights and seasonal banners that go through downtown N. Jefferson to the Butterfly Garden.

Mid - range and fine dining choices. Antique and gift shops. Upscale consignment shop

More good restaurants and other businesses to draw people to downtown.

The hotel will be finished and will have a good city center to attract people. I would hope the city commission would work on zoning issues and addressing issues that make the city look like a junkyard. They need to address the issue with Jimmy Davis, Parke, which seems to be making progress despite the politicians.

Get rid of Truck traffic across from City Hall

I think Eatonton would be so awesome if we could have more festivities throughout the year, more concerts, (maybe every first Friday) also getting more small businesses involved, respectively this will get the community involved a little bit more with each other. Also, I think the Christmas parade would be so nice to start it at 5:30 like the surrounding counties do, that way you can see the beautiful floats lit up, this really gets you in the holiday spirit and would set the tone of our town.

breakfast cafe

Good restaurants, gift shops, bakery

More handicapped parking and better sidewalk for wheelchair

Bustling and busy. Lots of choices for food and entertainment. Right now it is very boring. When family and friends come to visit have to take them places out of town so they can have a good time.

Vibrant, walkable, colorful, diverse, pretty, colorful.

Go to Rome, GA. Ask how they revitalized their downtown. Do as the Roman's did. Add a bakery/ ice cream shop, add cute shops, concerts on the court house lawn every Friday from May through Sept. Add a diner where people socialize and drink coffee. Add a Jumping Gym where Blackwell's was for kids to go and play indoors. Buy a Street sweeper truck to keep the town polished. It is REALLY run down! A tour of historic homes at Christmas would be fun! Require New facades on all businesses in Eatonton

Dining establishments that are affordable for families. Historical buildings restored and in code.

Robust and vibrant with arts, culture, restaurants, community members meeting and greeting on the streets enjoying the relaxation, shops, food, etc. A Hallmark movie look and appeal!

A lively arts and entertainment district with multiple restaurants and stores to visit.

A vibrant downtown with interesting restaurants and retail, music and art. The new hotel would be complete and busy with reservations to stay, a big venue for rental that is booked up and a rooftop bar that revives those in Atlanta. I would also like to see a covered pickleball complex on the outskirts of downtown, perhaps on the recreation site. This would help fill the hotel and restaurants with tournament players.

Miscellaneous Survey Comments:

I believe with more community involvement and more community support, Eatonton could become one of the best places to live.

I don't find the layout of businesses convenient. I don't always feel safe if I have to walk far. Many areas are dingy and unkept.

Attract more young students into the restaurant industry with tax/tipping incentives.

Enjoyed the festivals. People are very friendly. Will try and participate in more festivals.

The Popeyes/McDonalds side of town is very rundown and unappealing.

We are part timers that have been here going on 5 years. We have noticed the beautiful changes that have taken place. We love El Cazador and EatATon and try to spread the word as much as possible to help support the restaurants in town. The main thing I feel the other restaurants are lacking is consistency in the food quality and service. It would be nice to have another source of nighttime entertainment like Lumberjaxe that is more affordable for families with children. Love the murals!

In the last ten years the down town area has slowly declined with no attraction for people to want to come. Parking is the biggest issue in my opinion the parking behind the barrel 18 isn't the most ideal because of location and no one from outside of town would know it was there

Good food restaurants is what will turn our little downtown around. When Folks Art was open on Thursdays and Fridays it was crazy how many people I saw walking down town. It brought people in and then when they were done eating they were able to explore and support the other businesses .

No.

No.

Help elect more intelligent and active City Council members instead of the long time elected place holders. In other words , let's start electing real activists, instead of past due place holders!

My daughter and her aunt was driving thru downtown and a man tried to open the door and either carjack or get into the car with them. This happened at 9-9:30 on a friday night. Things like this need to not happen

Happy to volunteer.

Love the murals, and it's so walkable.

I love living in Eatonton! I just wish there were more fun options/activities geared towards Middle/High school aged kids. Give them something fun/wholesome to do. Bowling/arcade/skating/color-me-mine/trampolines/mini golf, etc.

KEEP UP YOUR GOOD WORK!!!!!! Great Job 

Keep growing and keeping Eatonton on the map.

Love Eatonton and Downtown!

Great job allowing the people to speak and be heard!

If something isn't done to attract businesses that bring jobs, this town will ne nonexistent in 10 years. Anybody that can move from the Eatonton area are moving. The businesses in the downtown area need to open before 10:00 AM and maybe they would make money. Saturday is a day where most people who work during the week, can get there shopping completed. But it's a shame when you go to the downtown area around 8:30 and no one is open yet.

Eatonton Mainstreet continues to fight the good fight for downtown and the community sees the tireless efforts of Lauren Singleton to make downtown nice facing an an almost impossible situation between the property owners as well as City Hall and City Council's influence which can so easily veto a great plan in lieu of a bad or self serving plan.

I appreciate the difficult job you have in trying to engage locals

No

Love the progress so far, please keep adding shops and other eateries!

Downtown Eatonton has incredible potential to attract visitors and residents of the surrounding areas. Those areas are thriving and our downtown looks blight. Care needs to be taken to preserve what historic character/charm still exists and foster that aesthetic rather than encouraging and promoting businesses that aren't in keeping with these values. There are also many residences DT that can use encouragement/motivation to clean up or beautify their properties in support of this overall effort.

Start on everything mentioned above NOW, don't wait and completely engaged property owners and businesses in all phases of the design/implementation process. Right now city hall and city council are an island among themselves, they are missing out on the collective creativity and commitment of the business community who have privately invested in this community. They have a lot to offer and to lose if not fully engaged.

There is nothing currenty in downtown that draws me. I go to Madison or Greensboro or harmony crossing or milledgeville to shop and dine.

Thanks for the work you do.

people aren't going to shop downtown when they can get items at a third of the cost shopping at Walmart.

Until there are businesses and industry that is local to Putnam and Eatonton that can pay higher wages it will be very difficult for Eatonton to grow. If Eatonton/Putnam can attract large high paying industry or business it will bring people to work who will in turn buy homes- need services and desire entertainment. Also they will pay taxes which will add money to improving Eatonton. Once this is established Outsiders/tourists will make Eatonton more of a destination.

The after party for the Christmas parade would be better if it was combined with mistletoe market and in the square. There is no visibility to vendors behind Barrel 81 in that parking lot. Many more people would come. Would be nice for the Christmas parade to be at night when lights could be used to decorate floats

Don't have live music during the day on a weekday. Make them weekend evening events

Enforce the noise ordinance for those of us who live in the city. Stop the dance parties at the open air venue no later than 11 p.m. Charge less to put up a tent to sell your wares. Greensboro charged \$10 to set up for their Christmas tree lighting.

Would love to see lake country murals, uncle Remus murals, color purple murals, Joel chandler harris, possibly even artists from surrounding areas like Trisha yearwood, Luke Bryan, Jason aldean, Cole swindle, James brown, Laura story, Big Boi, Laurence Fishbourne and so many more!

Need to bring something useful

Would love to patronize downtown more but need GOOD business and restaurants to support. Seriously look at Apex, NC. They have been successful for decades. Also need to focus on the Shell station and surrounding area and clean out all the illegal activity. Tired of seeing that in our community.

No

Absolutely loved the haunted history tour .. I thought it was overpriced initially but once I realized how many people were involved and how well it was thought out I felt it was worth every penny .. the whole family is looking forward to it next year

WE NEED RESTAURANTS!! The most embarrassing question I am ask on a daily basics is "Where can we go eat?"

I love Taste of Eatonton may host more events like this to draw in a different group of people. Your concerts are totally based on the black community maybe take a look at this.

I liked the way its growing, the beautiful decoration of each season

It is far better than Milledgeville

I love my hometown. An Entertainment center with a bowling alley

I'm uninformed and would be interested in getting a newsletter.

Create a visual environment of cleanliness & outside benches , safer street to walk , flowers

There is nothing that draws me downtown.

We love living in Eatonton! We just want more options to keep the business here in town!!

Parking is an issue. Knock down a building that is beyond repair and make it a parking area. Include planters with flowers etc... to make the parking area functional yet with curb appeal.

It is dirty and looks unsafe I don't know if it is but it sure is trashy

I love my small town. I really do not want it growing to a big city.

It's scary

I've lived here all my 78 years. I love the quaintness of it.

We need to focus more on Uncle Remus, instead of trying to wipe it out. It is part of our heritage and should be highlighted.

we need to Keep business in Downtown and bring big business in to help the small business

Give us something that would bring us downtown. Something has to bring the locals out and appeals to visitors

It seems dark and unsafe plus the restaurants also seem dark and dingy with not very good service or in many case food.

Restaurants that are open in the evenings and stores open after five at least a few days

Eatonton Main Street has done a good job bringing events to town and on the beautification of downtown. Thank you and keep up the good work.

I think the planters downtown look pitiful. Living in the historic district i believe the Christmas snowflake lights should be from Carriage to one block past the court house...on N.Madison Ave . This IS the plaza historic district and a tourist area. These snowflakes should be replaced. Other decorations should be on Jefferson Avenue coming into downtown from both directions.

It is sad to see abandoned buildings.

More upmarket shops!

Extending more Christmas lights throughout the square would be a really nice addition to our town, in my opinion, more lights more peace, it would be nice to do a tree lighting of the town square on Thanksgiving eve or Thanksgiving. There should also be more advertising of events that are happening in Eatonton maybe displayed right downtown on the square. More franchise food choices would be nice as well.

How can we bring in some more boutique speciality shops. I love the shops in Covington and Madison how do we grow the main street to be like this ?

So much potential for a vibrant community.

Add signs along 441 directing Traffic to eateries and shops downtown. One at the DQ, one at Ingles, and one at the truck stop/BK.

We live downtown but hate that we have to travel out of the city to go to dinner most nights.

The Writers Museum is a gem and needs more press. Now that Sylvia's is there, too, it is one of the few things (other than special events) that draws me downtown since Blackwell's has closed.