

# Memory Cafés in Massachusetts



**Percolator Memory Café Network  
Quarterly Idea Exchange  
September 9, 2021**

# Today's Agenda

1. Housekeeping
2. Announcements
3. Café presentation: Library Memory Café's Hybrid Café
4. Discussion of Percolator survey: New ways of providing cafés
5. Your questions and ideas
6. Next meeting: **Wednesday, December 8, 1:30 – 3:30 pm EST**

# Housekeeping

- This meeting is being recorded. The recording will be available at [www.jfcsboston.org/Percolator](http://www.jfcsboston.org/Percolator) in approximately 2 weeks.
- Please activate your video if you are able to do so.
- Please keep your audio muted unless you are speaking.
- Please use the chat box or “raise hand” function to share your questions and comments at any time.

Say hello! Please type your name and location into the Chat box.



# Percolator Updates

**The Percolator Idea Exchange on Wednesday, December 8 will focus on ways that people living with dementia can guide cafés.**

Does your café have any of these attributes:

- Guests who have been recently diagnosed or whose dementia is early in its progression regularly attend and participate.
- Some or all of your café guests help choose the activities and/ or decide how the café runs.
- Some or all of your café guests act as volunteers at your café.
- Café guests have a structured way to support each other, such as encouraging each other to attend café gatherings and offering each other support in between café gatherings.
- You have found any other ways to get guests involved as creators, facilitators, and/or providers of mutual support.

Email Beth or put your info in the Chat! We look forward to learning from each other!



# Percolator Updates

- Massachusetts cafés – PLEASE review your listing at [www.jfcsboston.org/MemoryCafeDirectory](http://www.jfcsboston.org/MemoryCafeDirectory)

## Directory of Memory Cafés in Massachusetts

This directory has been developed to help you find memory cafés in your area. You are welcome to attend as many as you wish!

We are pleased to list the following organizations and websites as a public service. They are not endorsed by JF&CS and this is not an exhaustive list. Any questions or concerns about any Café listed below should be directed to the contact person indicated.

If you would like to add or edit any information on this list, please fill out the form at the bottom of this page, or contact [Beth Soltzberg](#).



# Percolator Updates

- All Percolator resources are free and can be found at [www.jfcsboston.org/Percolator](http://www.jfcsboston.org/Percolator)
  - In-person and virtual/hybrid café toolkit (includes list of promo ideas)
  - PSA videos (English, Portuguese, Spanish)
  - Recorded how-to videos
  - Guest artist/activity facilitator directory
  - Join the email list



# Your Updates

- Please share your news – briefly, please!



# Resources

1) Music Mends Minds offer 3 FREE music sessions a week. Here is Lori La Bey's interview, which lists their contact information:

<https://wordpress.com/view/alzheimersspeaks.wordpress.com>

1) SaltBox TV is a FREE online streaming service for seniors which has a variety of entertainment, TV shows, music, wellness programs and more. Here is Lori La Bey's interview: <https://youtu.be/1jK-P3-7m0k> They are also featured on Fire Stick and Roku as well. The website is [www.SaltBoxTv.com](http://www.SaltBoxTv.com)

# **Hybrid Memory Café, Library Memory Project**

**Presented by Lynn Ratzmann, Adult  
Services Librarian, Germantown,  
Wisconsin**

# HYBRID MEMORY CAFÉ



**LIBRARY**  
MEMORY PROJECT

# THE LIBRARY MEMORY PROJECT

The Library Memory Project got its start in 2013 when staff from Bridges Library System attended a presentation on a public library offering memory cafés.



# HOSTING



# FUNDING



VOLUNTEERS



# EVALUATING AND FEEDBACK

## Memory Cafe Self-Evaluation

This form data will be available to all memory cafe facilitators and partners of the Library Memory Project. Please fill the form out completely.

gtownlibrarywi@gmail.com [Switch account](#)



The name and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form. Your email is not part of your response.

\* Required

Date of event: \*

Date

mm/dd/yyyy

Theme: \*

Your answer

Primary host library (list only one): \*

Your answer

Secondary Host library (list if the library helped plan and implement the cafe): \*

Your answer

# WILD PLUM CAFÉ



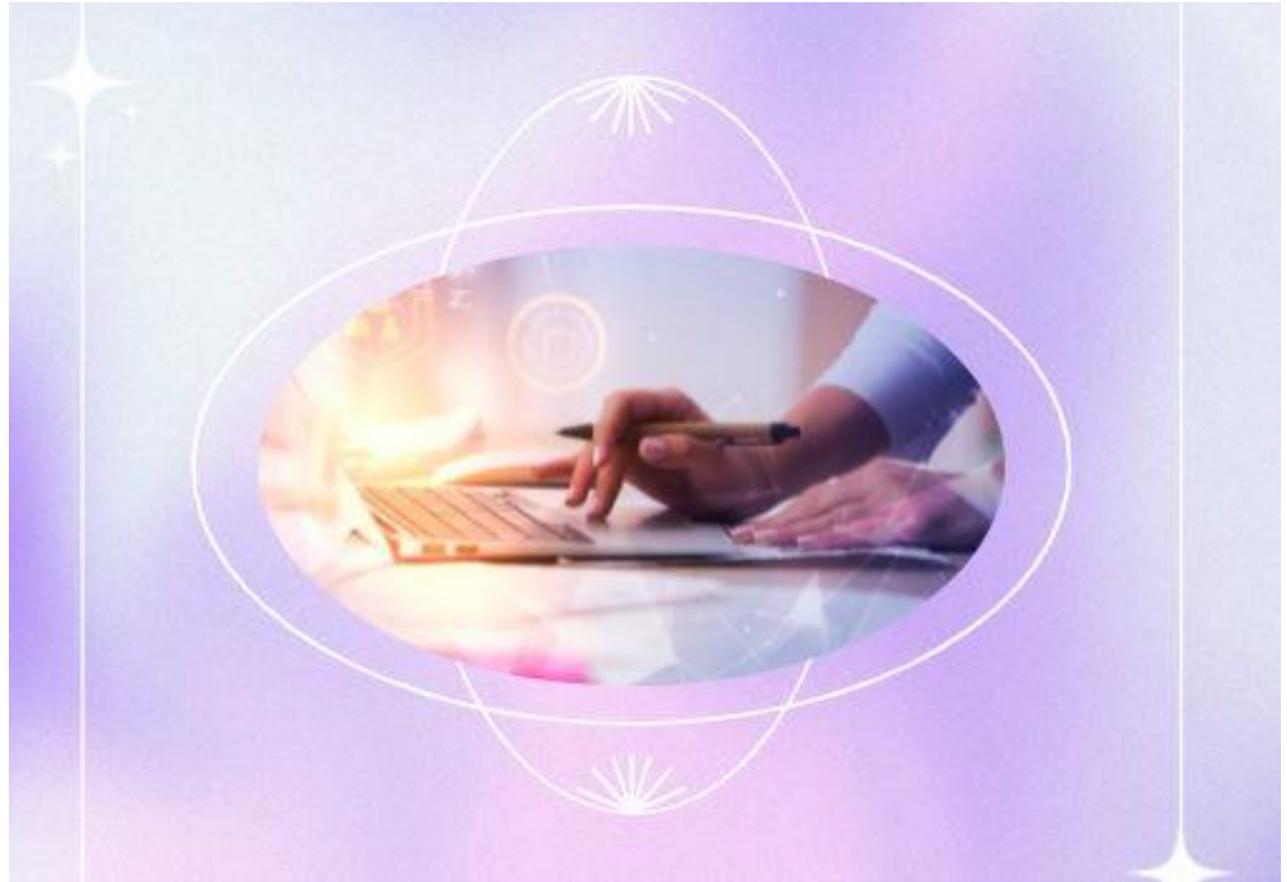
**Teamwork**

**Flexibility**

**Connection**

# THE GREAT HYBRID EXPERIMENT

or, I'll try anything once, even if (YIKES) it involves learning new tech



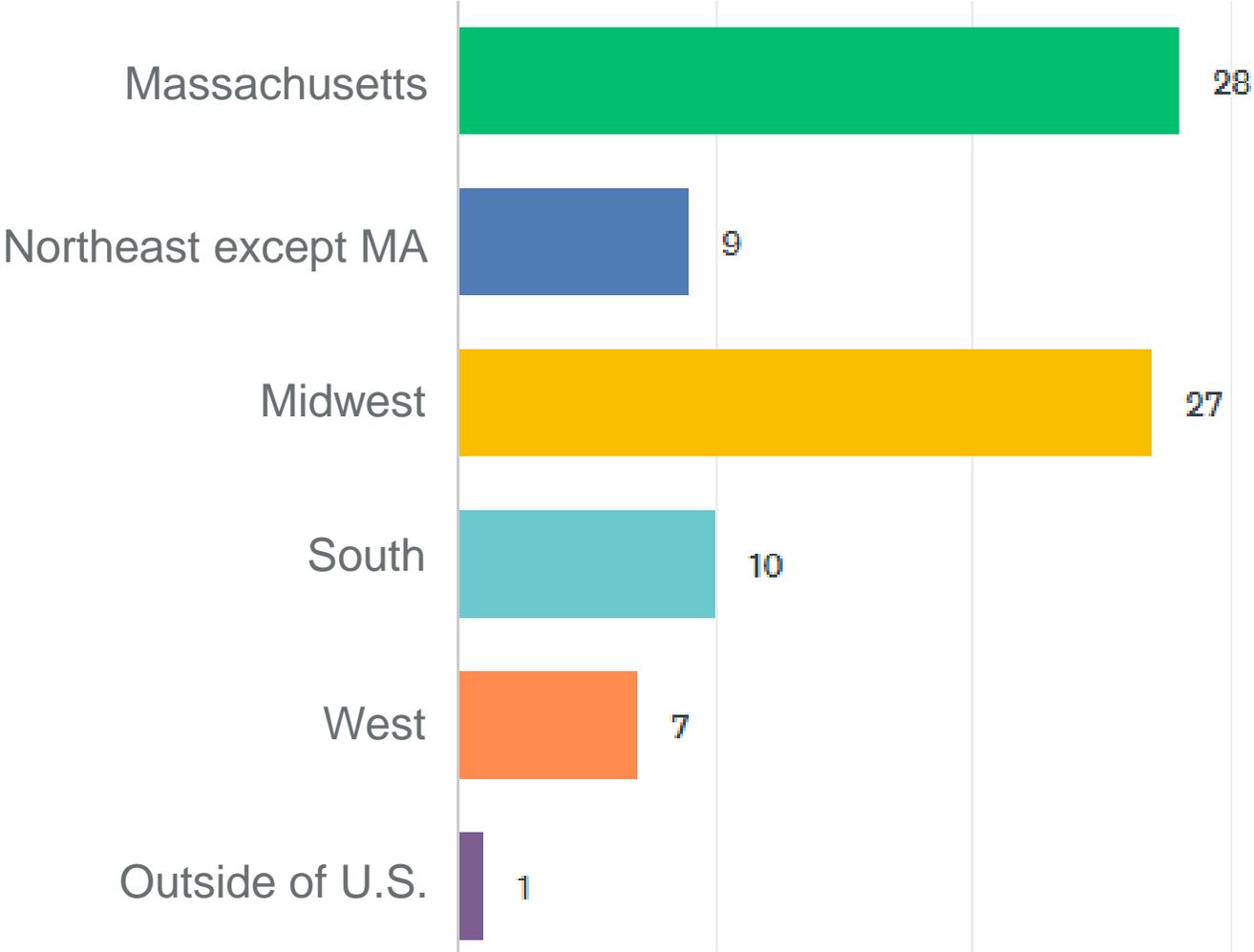
# THE GREAT HYBRID EXPERIMENT

Did we have fun? Yes we did!...

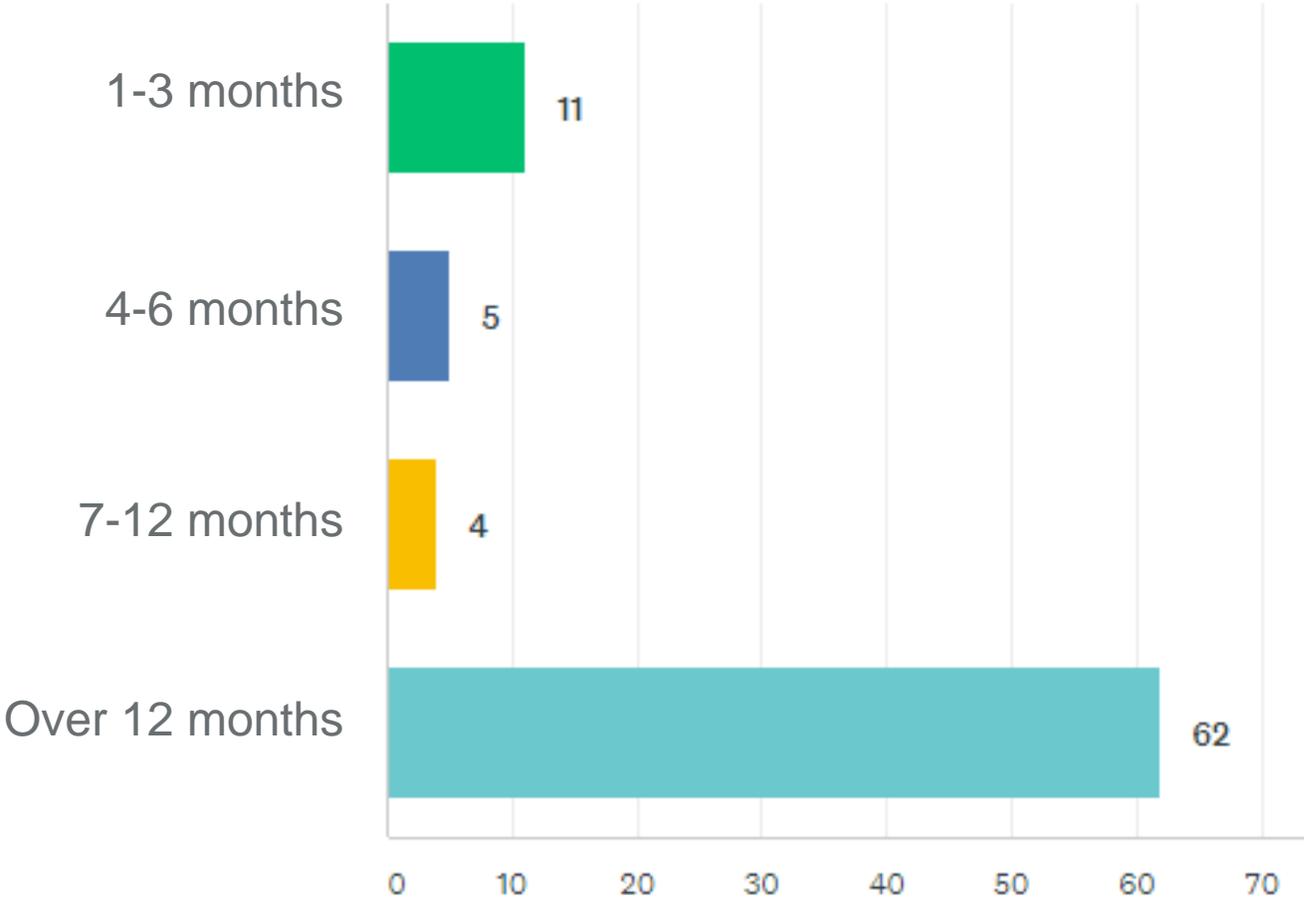


**Percolator Survey:  
New ways of providing  
memory cafés**

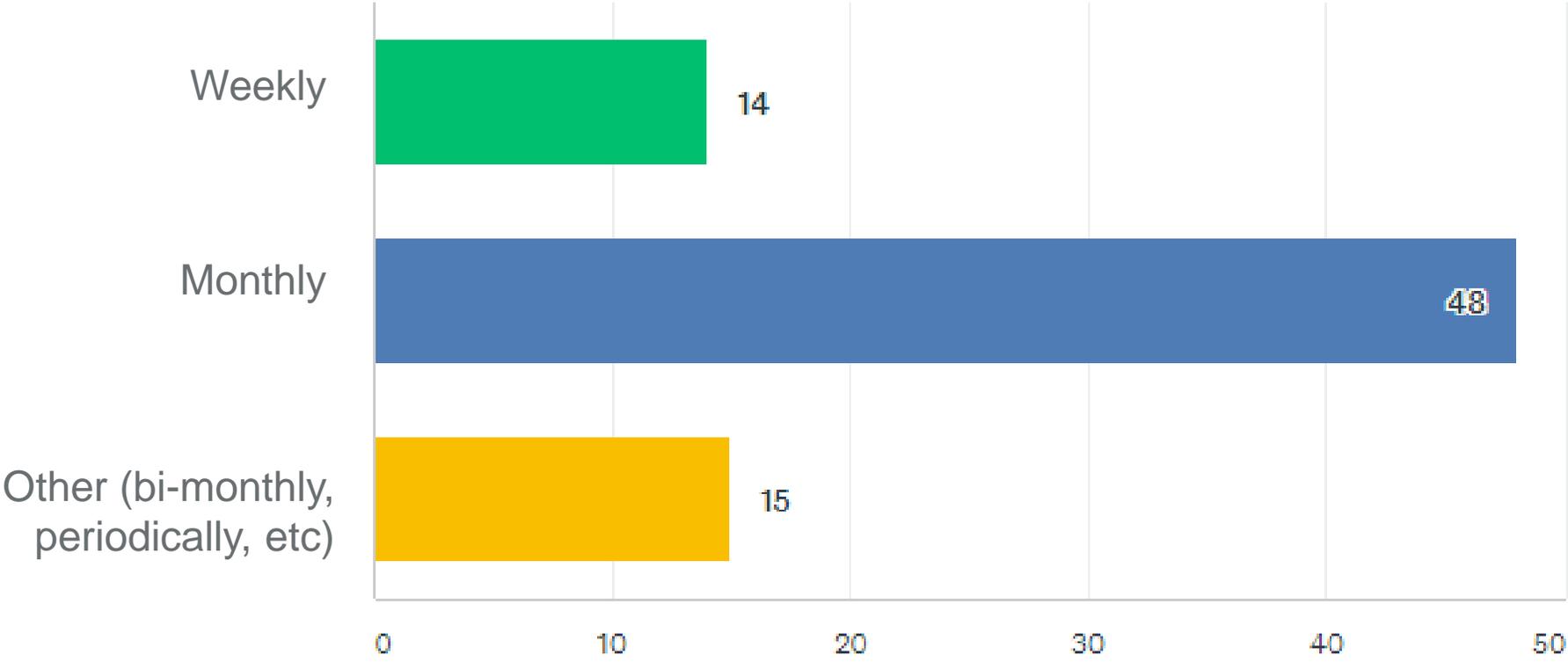
# Thank you to all who responded! n = 82



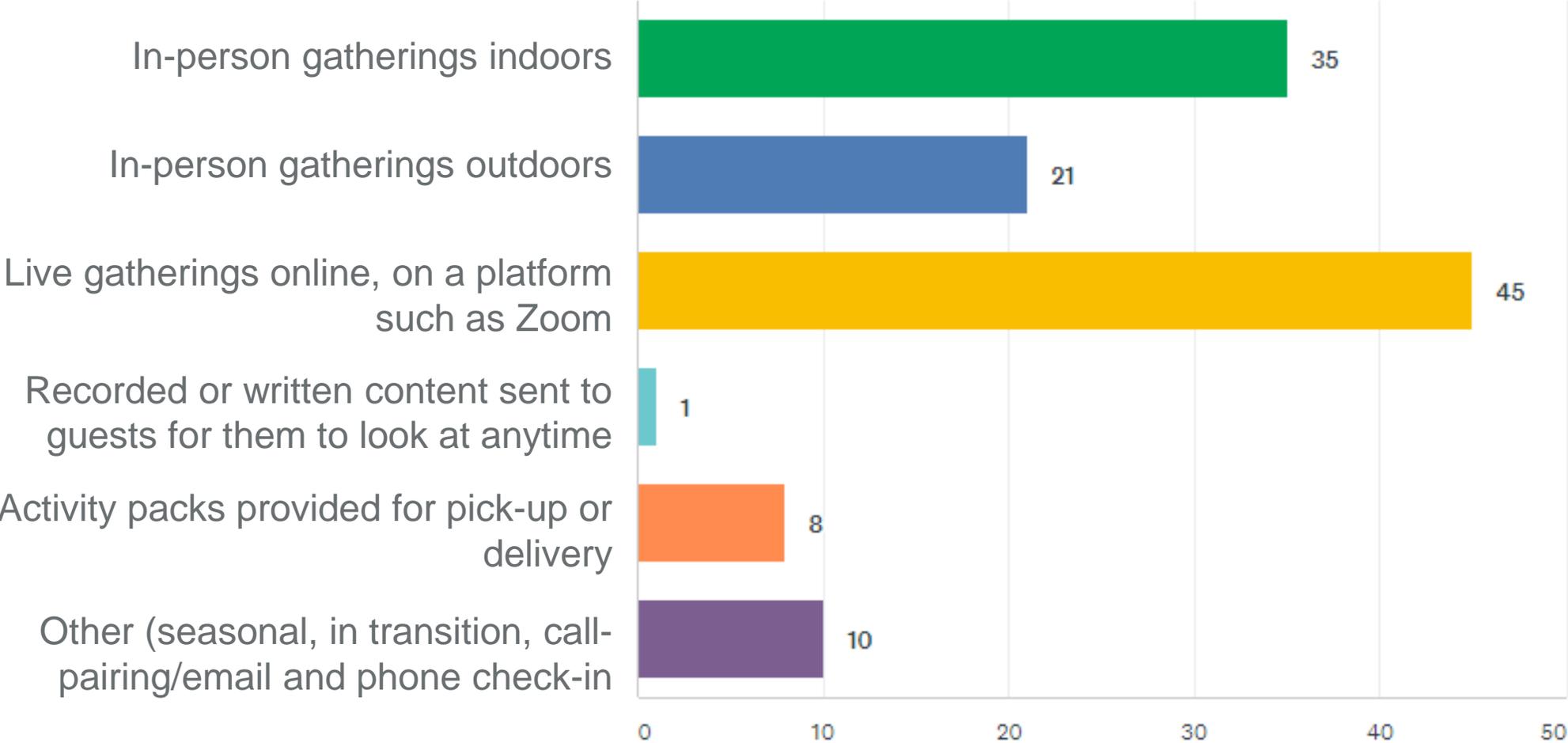
# How long has your café been open?



# How frequently does your café meet?



# How are you providing your café now?



# Pros and Cons

## In-person

- People love it, so happy to see each other again
- Holds everyone's attention
- Allows for side conversations
- Worries and challenges about safety

## Outdoor

- Weather is the biggest challenge

## Online

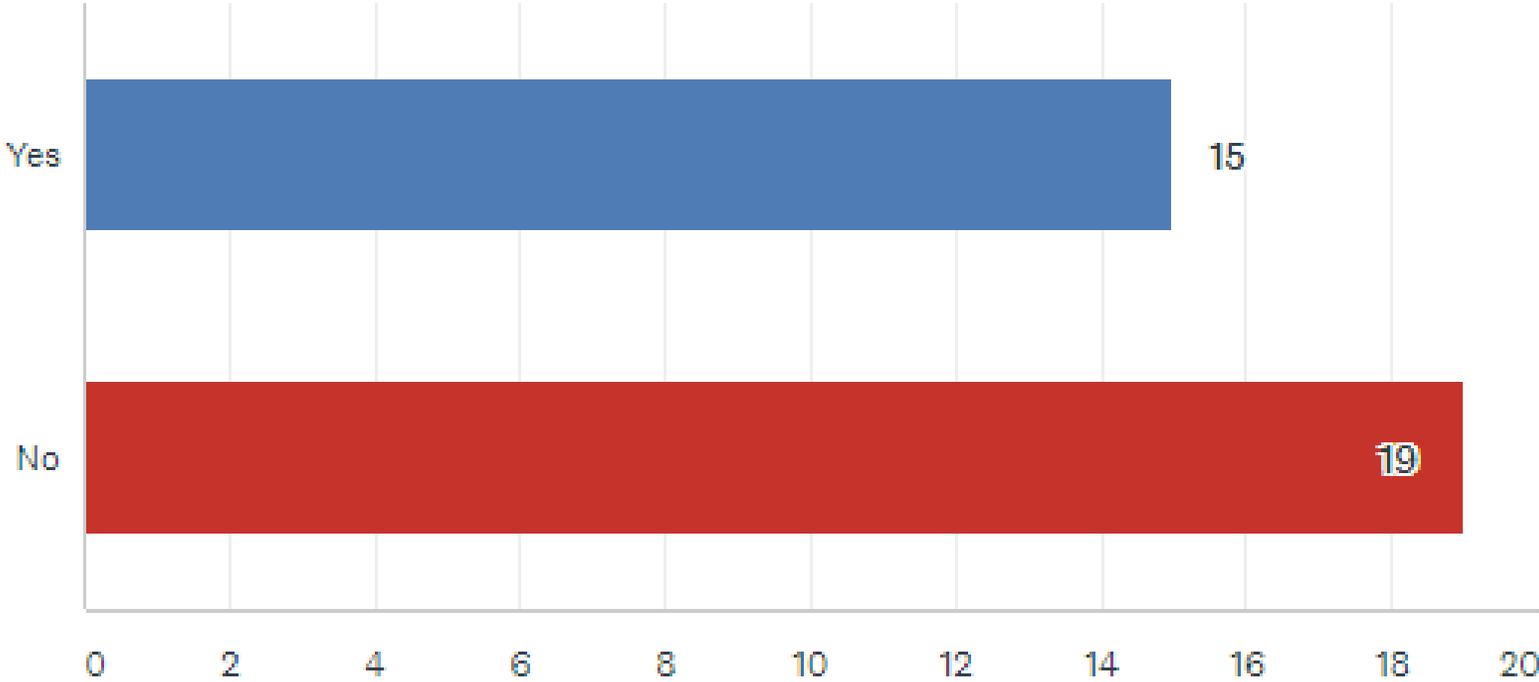
- Better for those with mobility/transportation issues
- Allows participation from anywhere
- Some people do not have access (broadband, computer, knowledge/comfort)

## Written/recorded material; activity kits

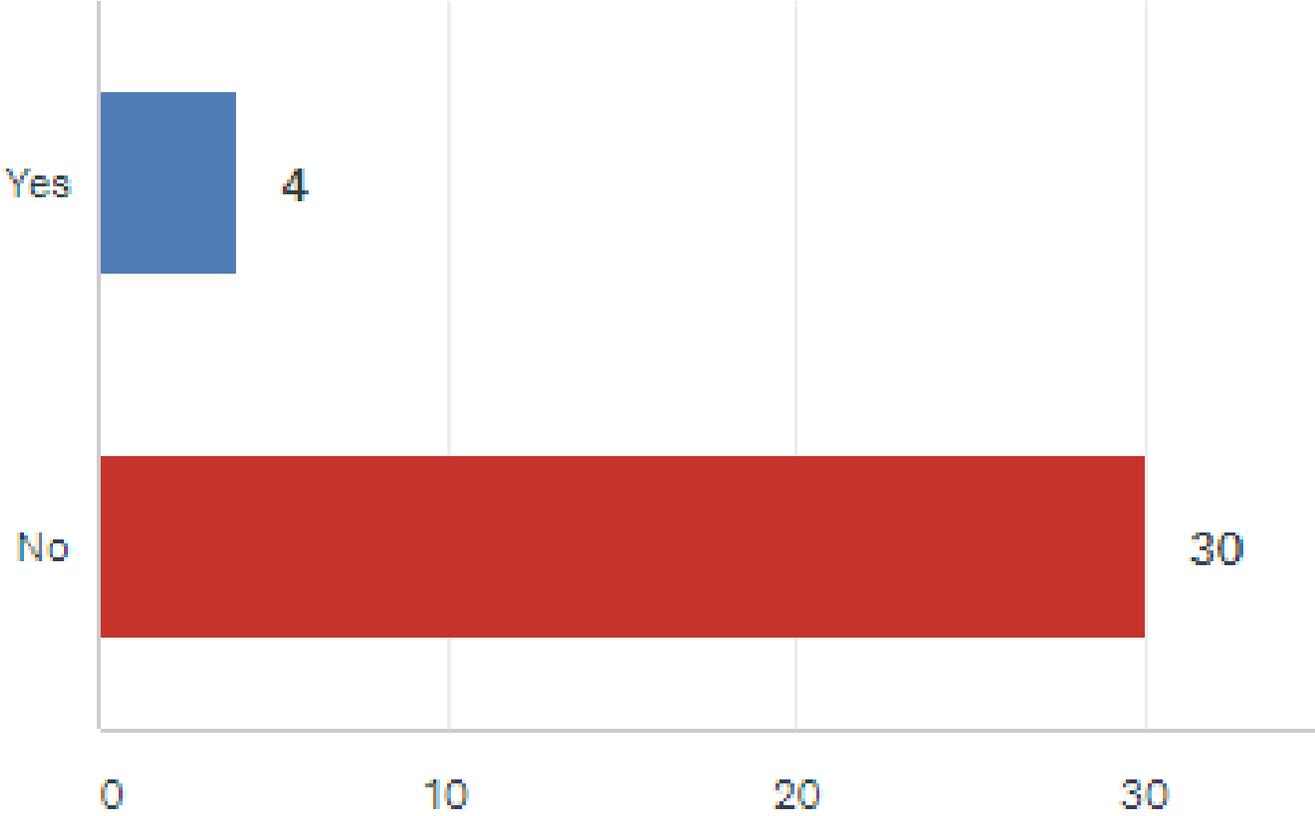
- People can enjoy it anytime
- You need a volunteer or resources to offer drop off/pick up items

*For some, attendance declined when they transitioned to virtual. For others, attendance has increased.*

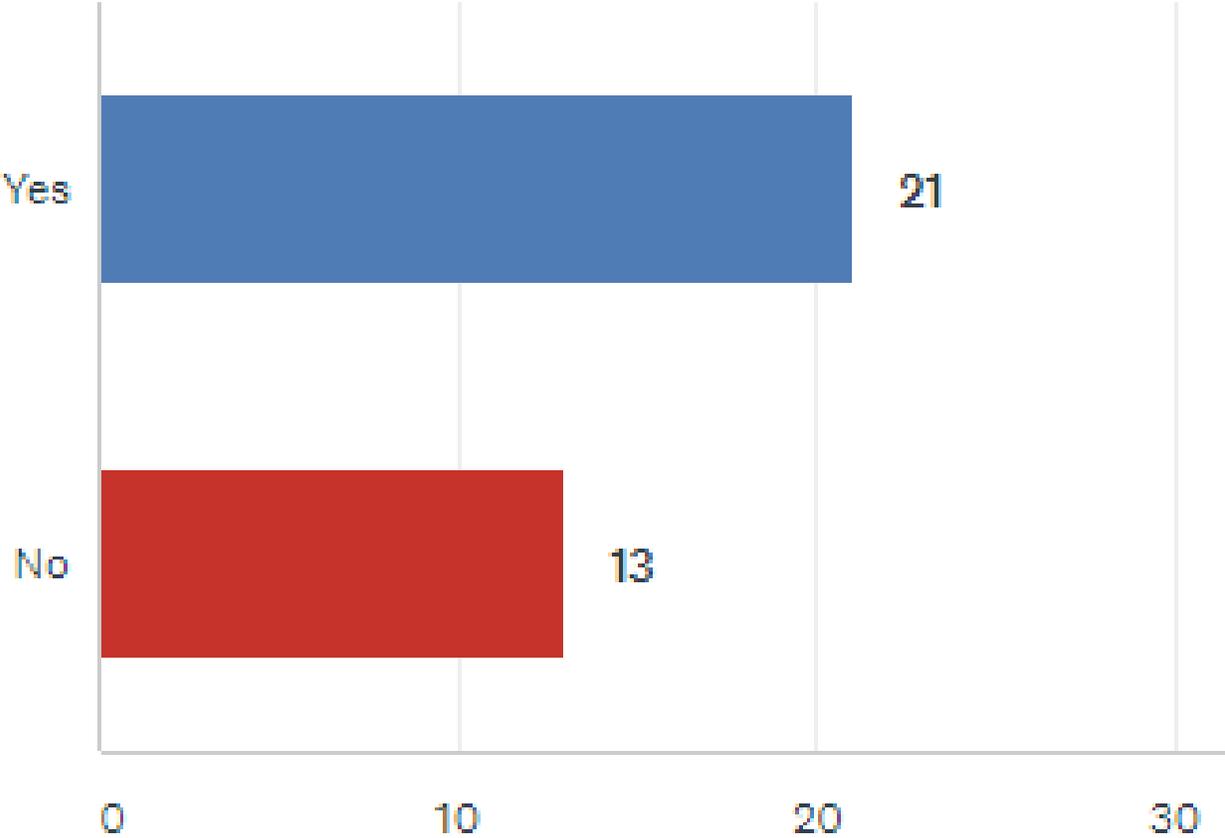
# For in-person, indoor gatherings: Do you require masks and/or physical distancing?



# For in-person, indoor gatherings: Do you ask for vaccination status?



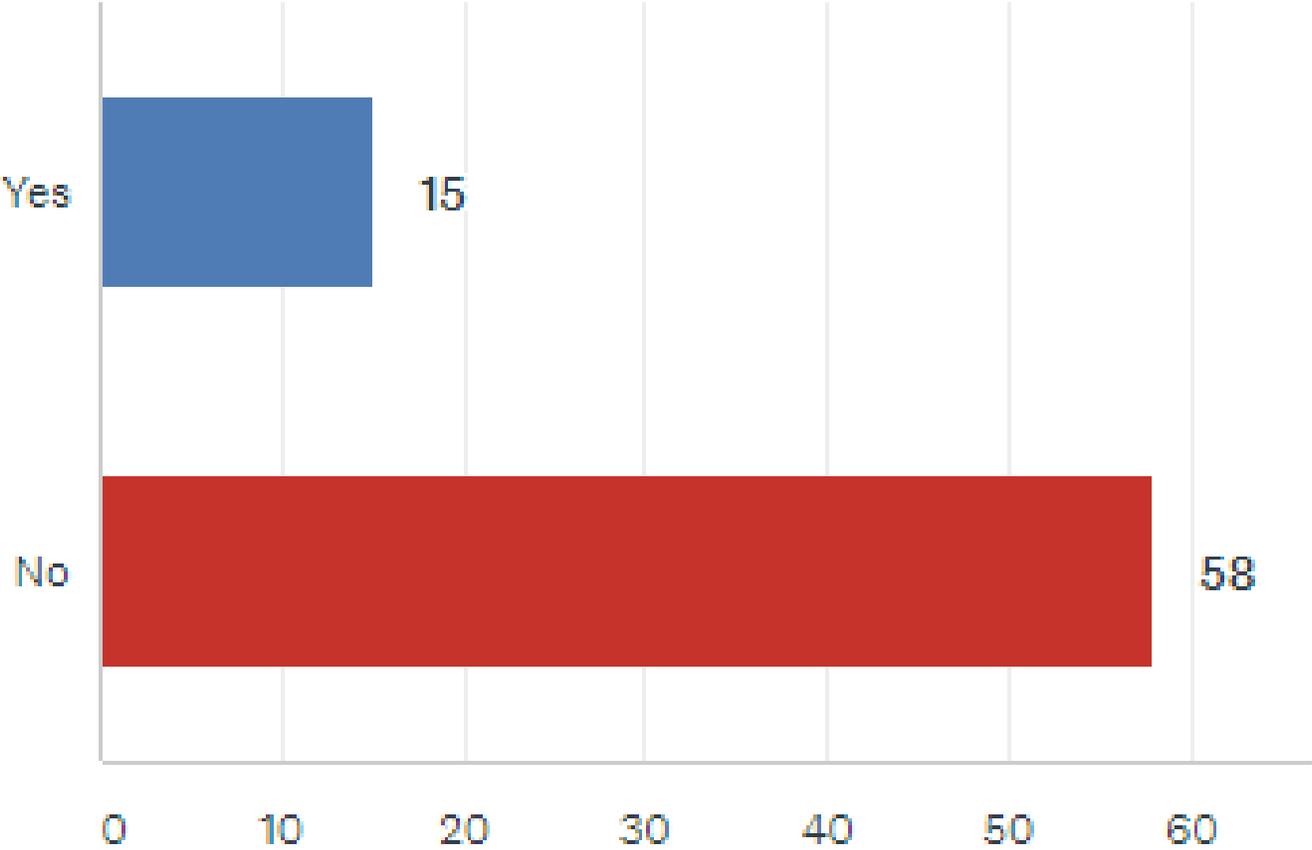
# For in-person, indoor gatherings: Do you serve food?



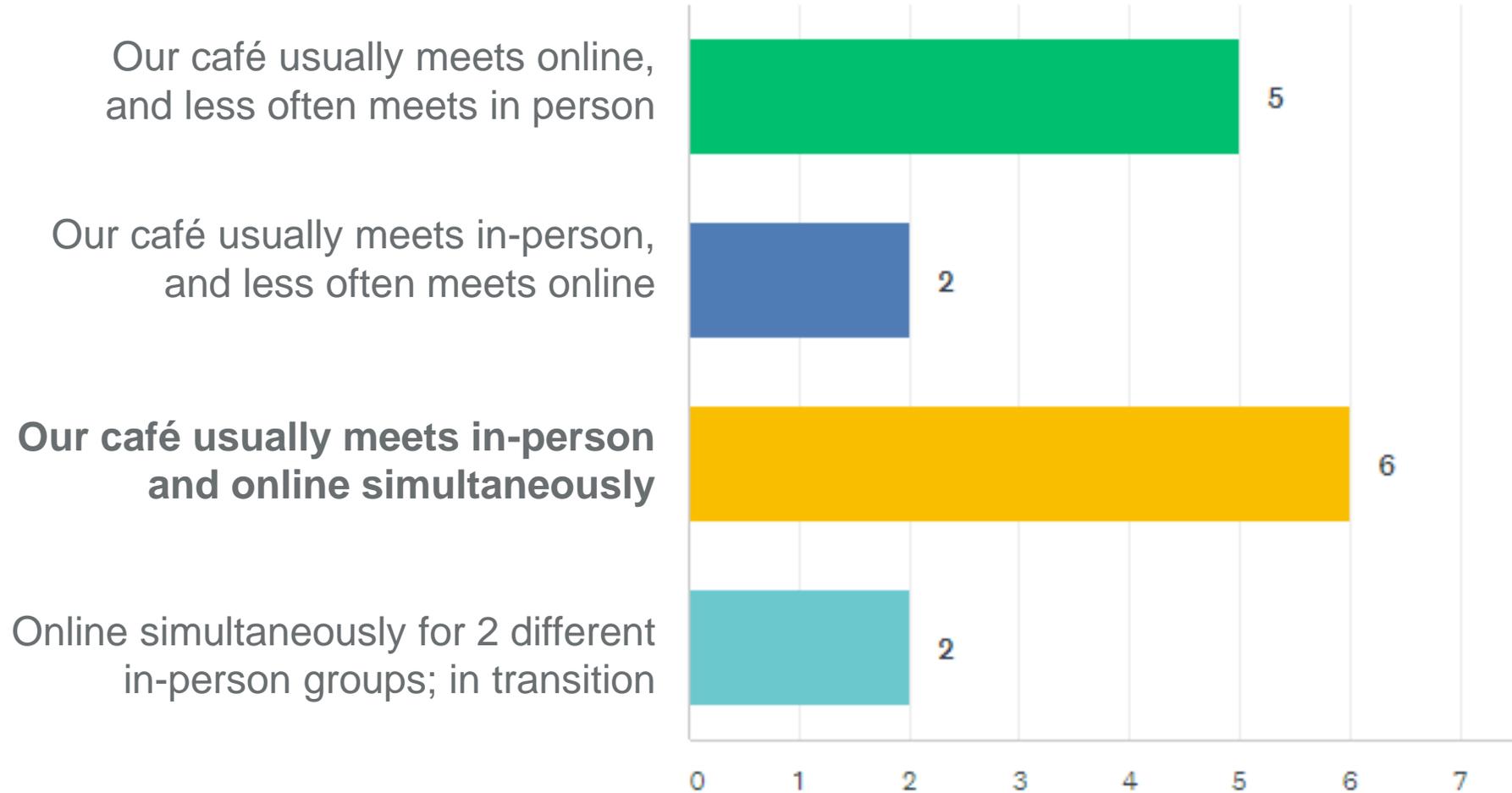
# For in-person, indoor gatherings: Are there other COVID precautions that you take?

- Air purifiers, open windows
- Frequently clean tables/chairs
- Restrict attendance to those who are in residential community/vaccinated
- Health screening before attendance
- Temperatures taken with infrared thermometer
- Recommend but do not require masks; recommend/require only for unvaccinated
- Tables designated for families; distanced seating; limited number of chairs per table
- Individually wrapped snacks; boxed lunches; food to go only; serve food rather than having guests go to refreshment table to get it

# Are you offering both in-person and virtual ways of participating (a “hybrid” approach)?



# Describe your hybrid approach



# For simultaneous in-person and online: what A/V equipment do you use?

Equipment to ensure that people online can see/hear those in room:

- 4-5 cameras and microphones throughout room
- PA system

Equipment to ensure that those in room can see/hear those online:

- Very large TV monitor
- Multiple screens in room

# For simultaneous in-person and online: How many facilitators do you have, and do you have particular facilitation techniques?

- 1-2 facilitators for the in-person group; 1-2 facilitators for the online group
- Guest presenter may present online from home
- Facilitators may need to reposition cameras during the café so that guests online can see the activity well

# Benefits of simultaneous in-person and online

- Meets the needs of those who prefer in-person and those who prefer online
- During these changeable times, guests can decide whether to attend in-person based on their comfort level
- Guests from out-of-town can participate, including family members and those who live in areas with limited services

# Challenges of simultaneous in-person and online

- You need 2-4 facilitators
- Guests often have trouble logging on, and facilitators must help them
- It can be hard for the guests who are online to hear/see
- Facilitators can easily “forget” the guests who are online
- The complexity limits the facilitators’ ability to change the activity based on how things are going
- A more limited range of activities work well

# Other ideas, comments questions

- Pros and cons to different approaches change over time, e.g., Zoom fatigue
- Trying new technology: Owl camera
- Idea: have a few café guests come in to the office to “co-host” virtual café
- Lending library of materials used during the café
- How do you assure people that meeting in-person is safe?

# Discussion



# Save the date!

**Next Percolator Idea Exchange is  
Wednesday, December 8,  
1:30 – 3:30 EDT**

Topic: How people living with  
dementia can help guide memory  
cafés

Please let Beth know if you'd like to  
be part of a panel presentation!



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