Nimbin and Surrounds Disaster Plan Survey
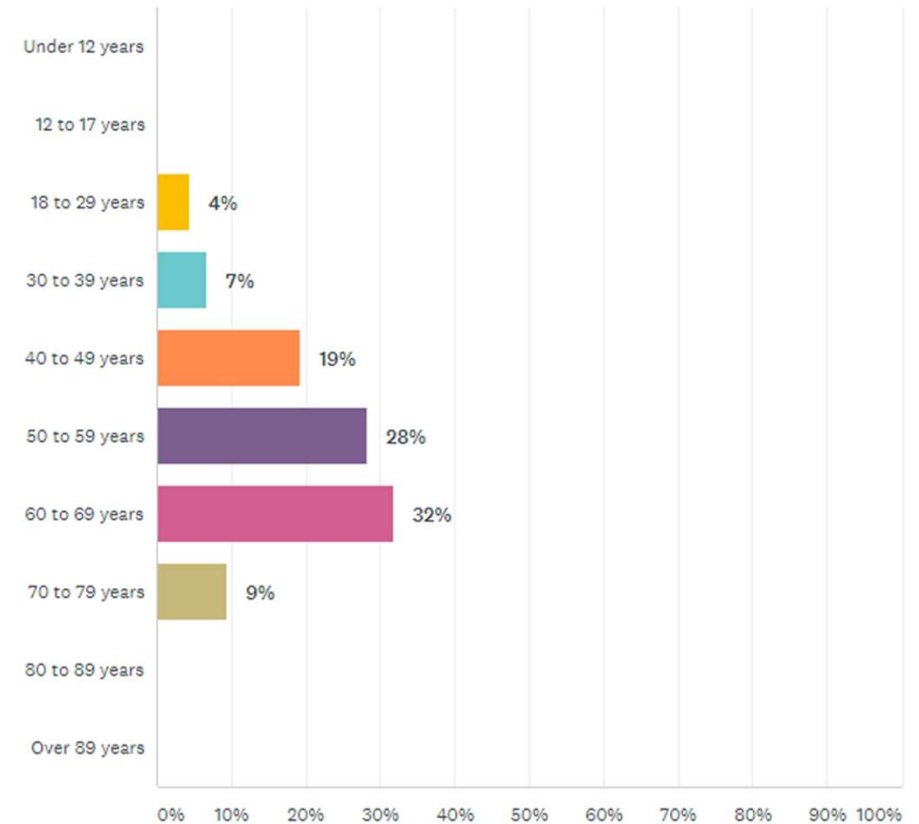

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Profile of respondents

Total number of respondents: 226

Sex

Prefer not to say
3% (7)

Other eg gender
fluid, inter-gender
or don't identify
with a gender

0% (1)

Male
23% (52)

Female
73% (163)
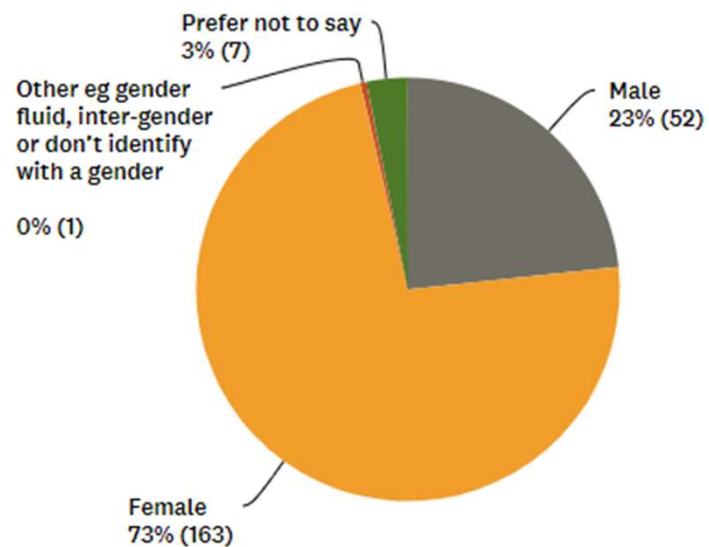
Age group of respondents

Age group	Percentage
Under 12 years	
12 to 17 years	
18 to 29 years	4%
30 to 39 years	7%
40 to 49 years	19%
50 to 59 years	28%
60 to 69 years	32%
70 to 79 years	9%
80 to 89 years	
Over 89 years	

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Profile of respondents

Which of the following best describes your interest in Nimbin?

Category	Percentage
I live in the area	93%
I have environmental or conservation interests	42%
I am a landholder or land manager	37%
I work in the area	30%
I have cultural interests	29%
I have a business in the area	16%
Other (please let us know what your other interest is in the community)	6.3%
I am a visitor	0.9%

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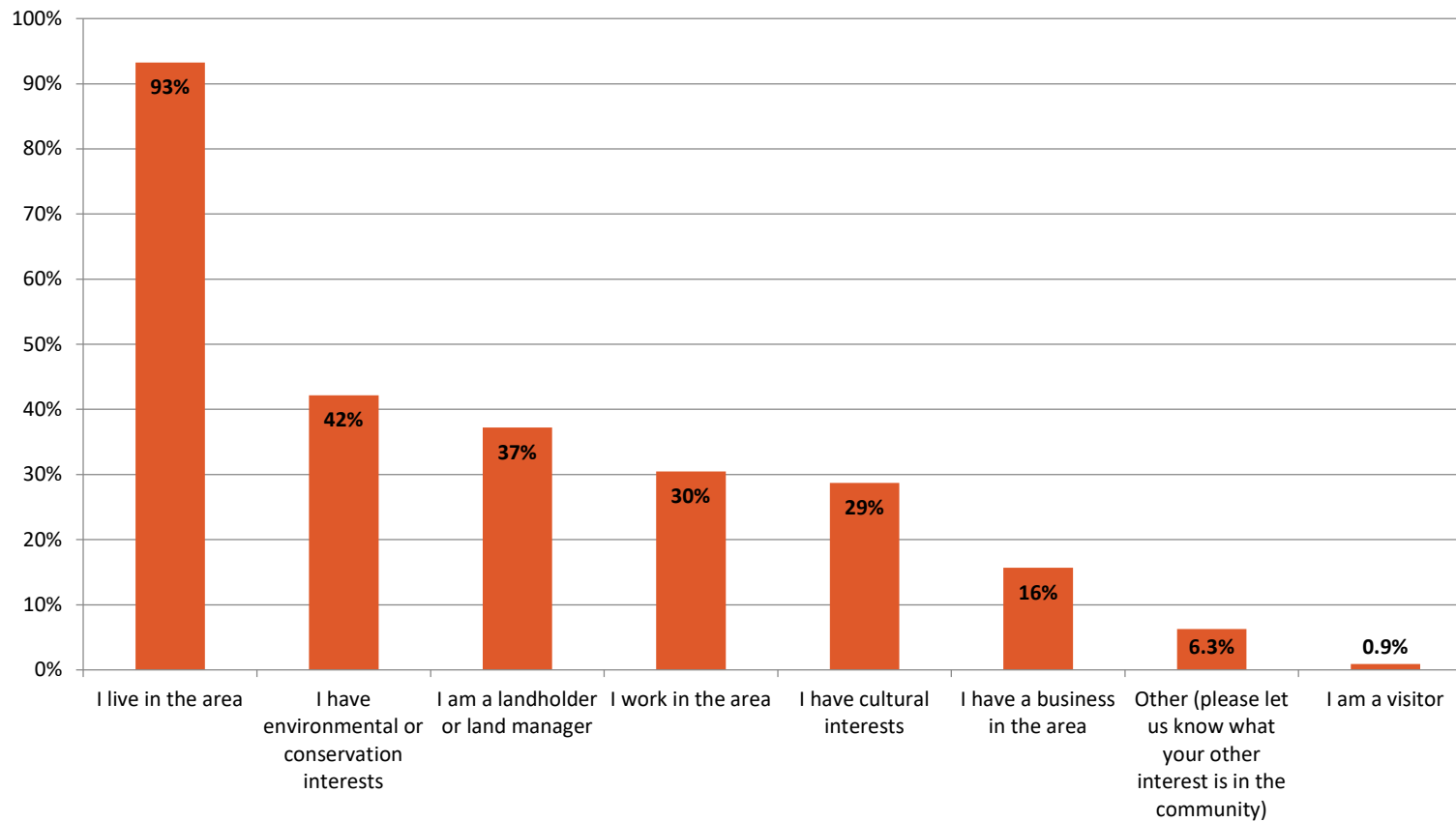
Profile of respondents

Do you live with:

Category	Number of people
None of above	112
Anyone with low or no literacy	2
Anyone with a disability	31
Children aged under 18	61
Anyone aged over 65	38

Number of people

Mobile phone coverage

- Unsure, 1.3%
- No coverage, 9%
- Very good coverage, 27%
- Limited coverage – sms only, 14%
- Average coverage – but calls sometimes drop out, 49%

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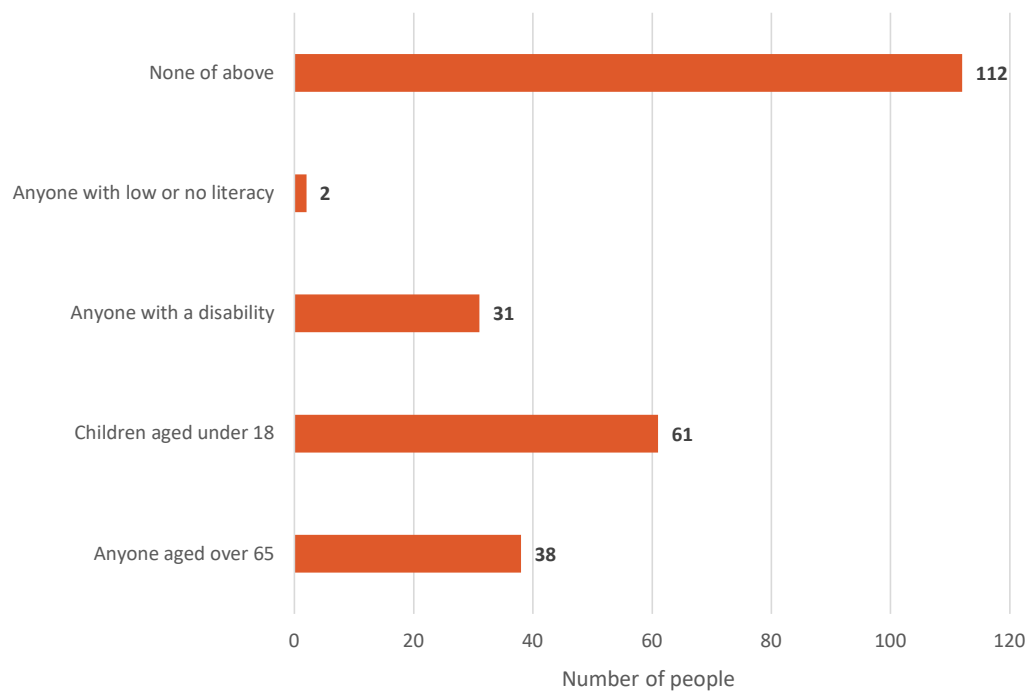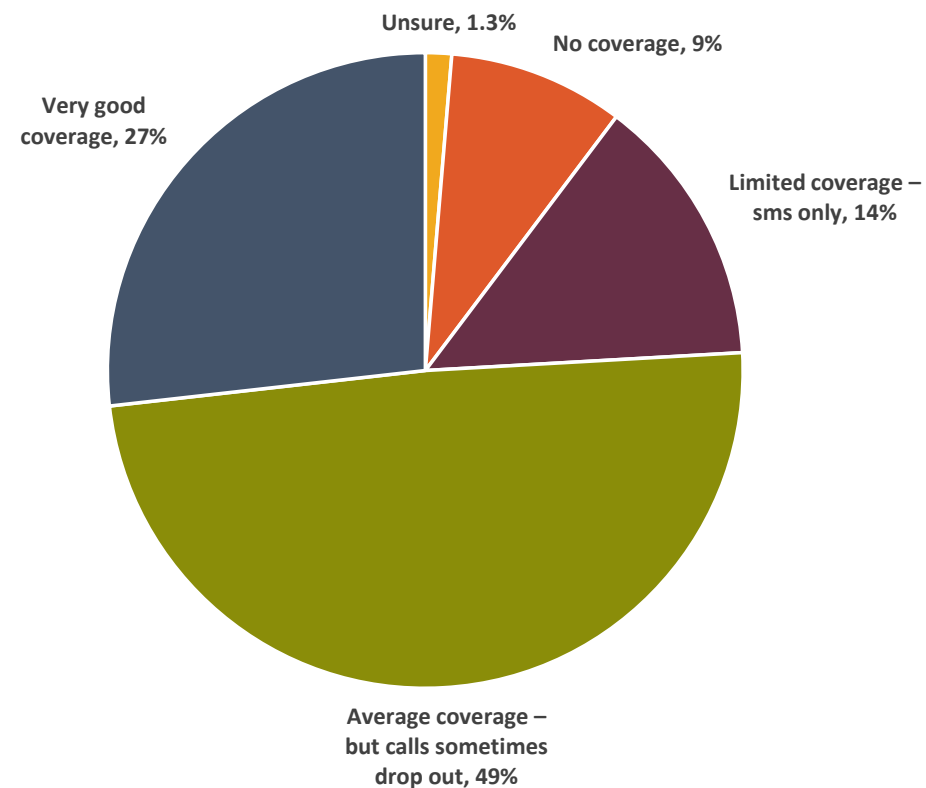
What is the likelihood of the following disasters affecting your community?

	Definitely	Probably	Possibly	Probably Not	Definitely Not
Storm Event	71%	20%	8%		
Flood	63%	20%	9%	6%	
Heatwave	63%	24%	12%	0%	
Drought	47%	30%	20%	2%	
Bushfire	46%	28%	25%	1%	
Landslide	26%	24%	31%	16%	2%

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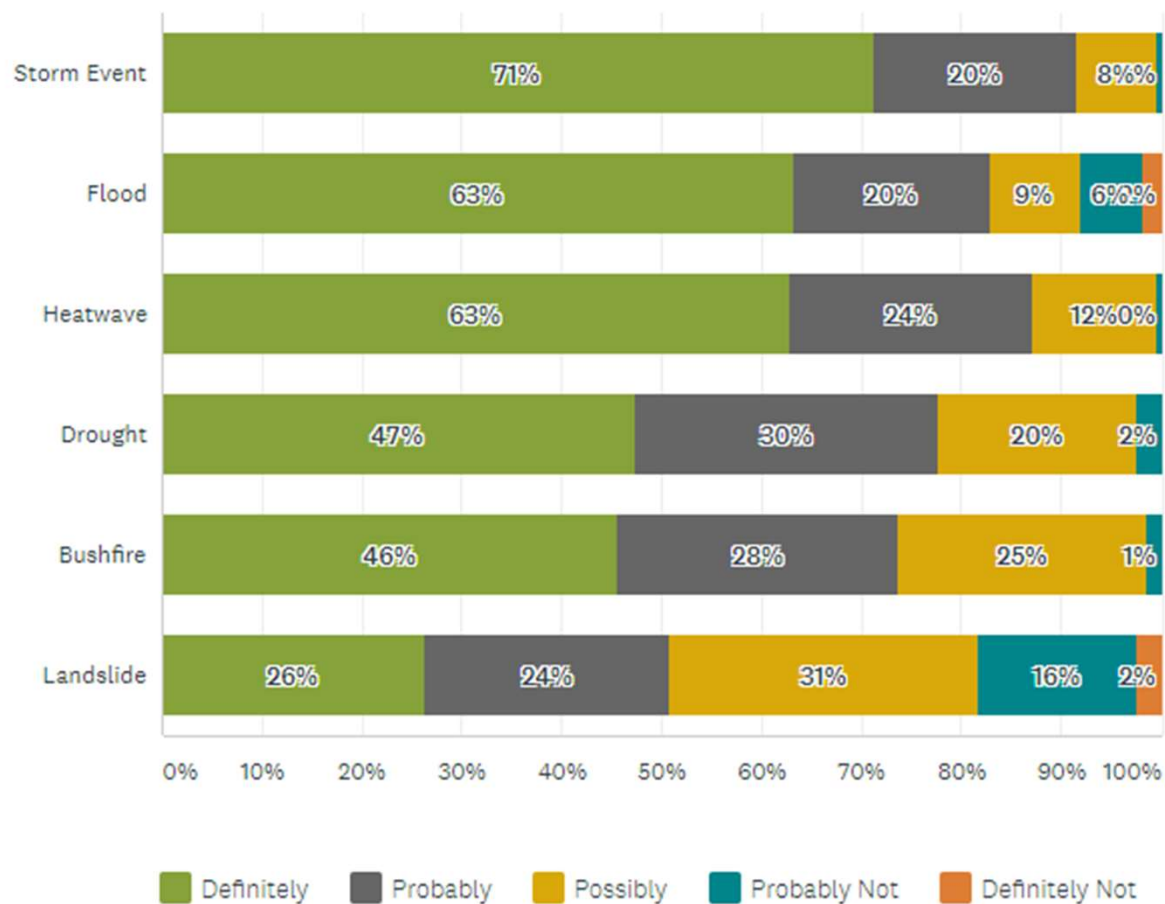
What level of knowledge do you have about disaster management for the following natural disasters?

	A great deal	Somewhat	Nothing
Heatwave	26%	66%	8%
Flood	22%	74%	3%
Bushfire	17%	76%	7%
Drought	17%	77%	6%
Storm Event	16%	79%	5%
Landslide	8%	48%	44%
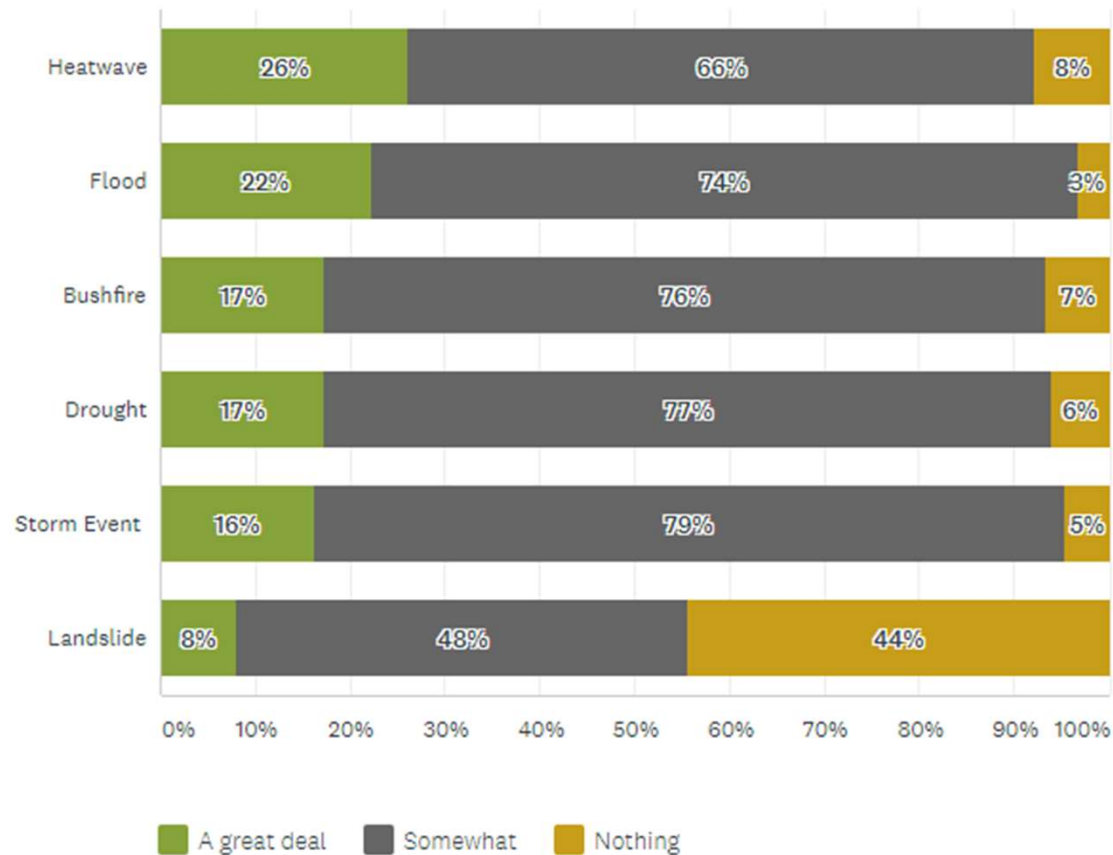
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In 2019/2020 bushfire season, did you have any difficulty in understanding or acting on any information before, during or after the event?

A bit
17% (37)

Yes
9% (20)

No
73% (156)
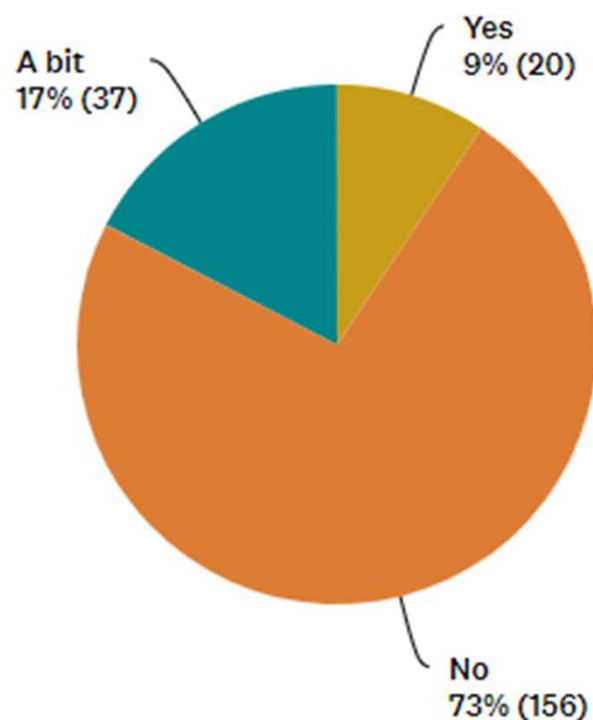
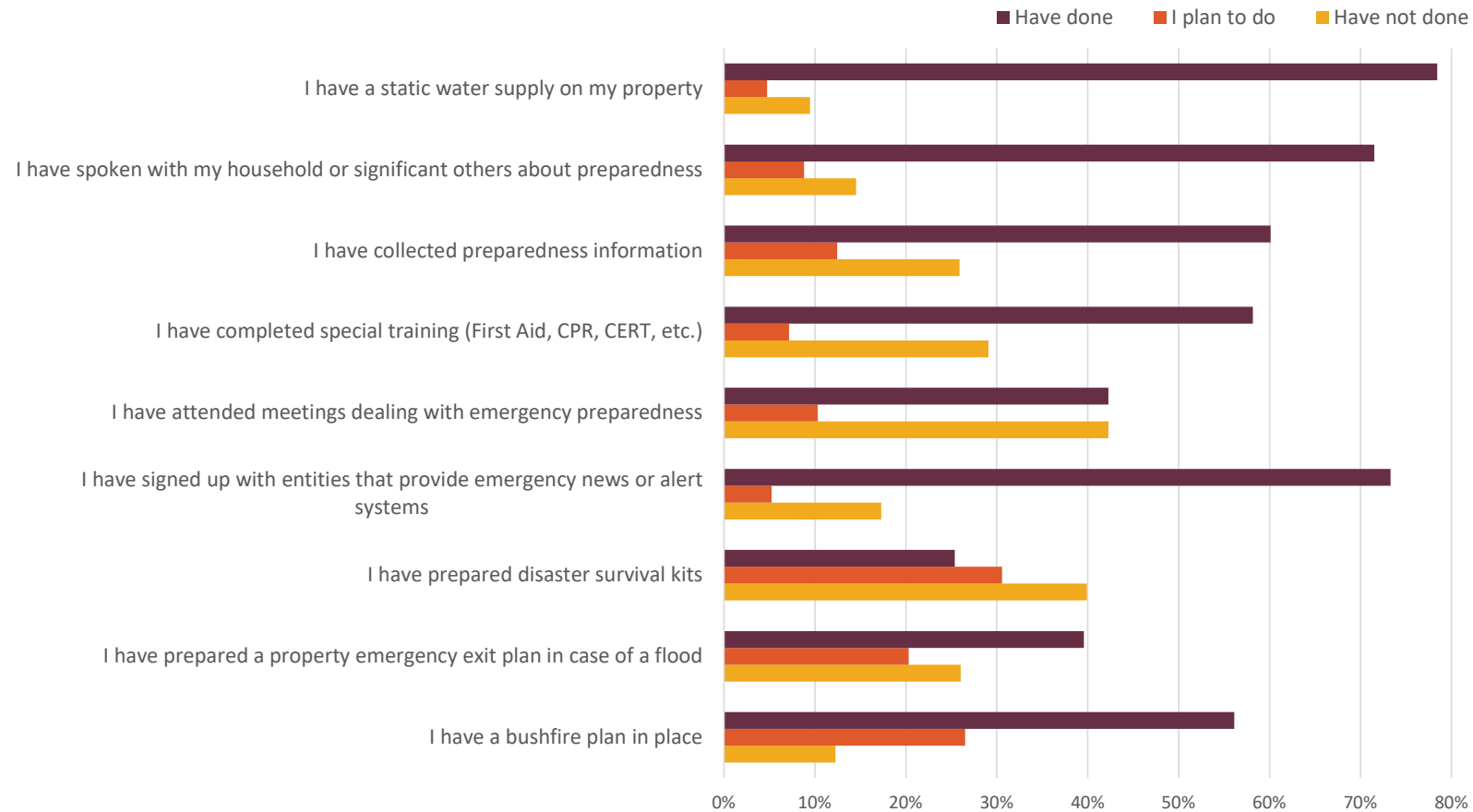'Needed more localised information not on Facebook'

'I was unsure about my street and immediate danger'

'Talking with those on the ground, I suddenly felt overwhelmingly informed and up-to-date.'
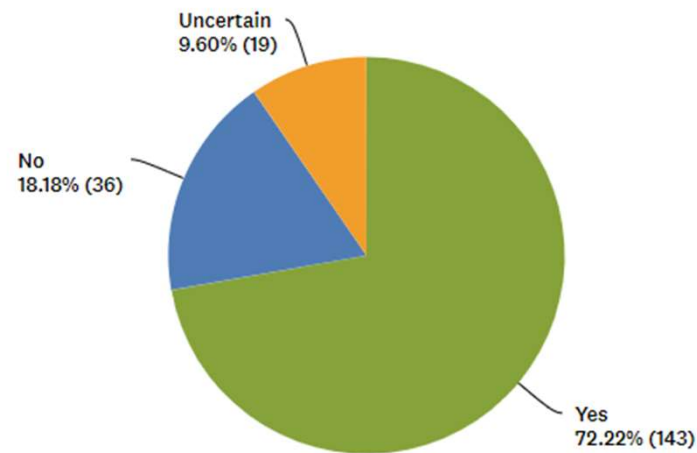
'Conflicting information between officials and liaisons within the community. Conflicting information between brigades (RFS) in the area.'

'I didn't know how much danger life and property was really in, and whether I should stay or leave. I chose to stay but was terrified. I didn't know if the fire brigades would come or not.'
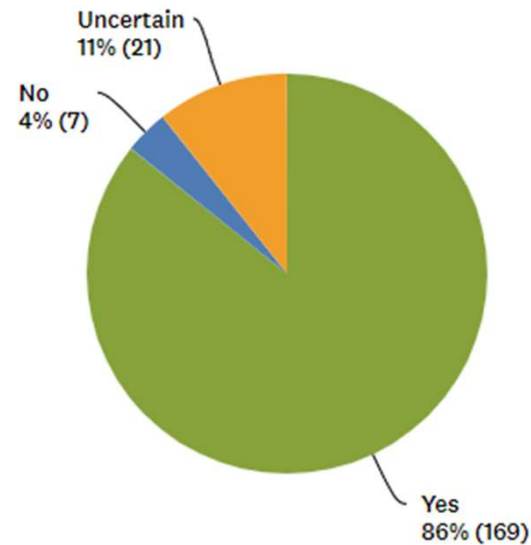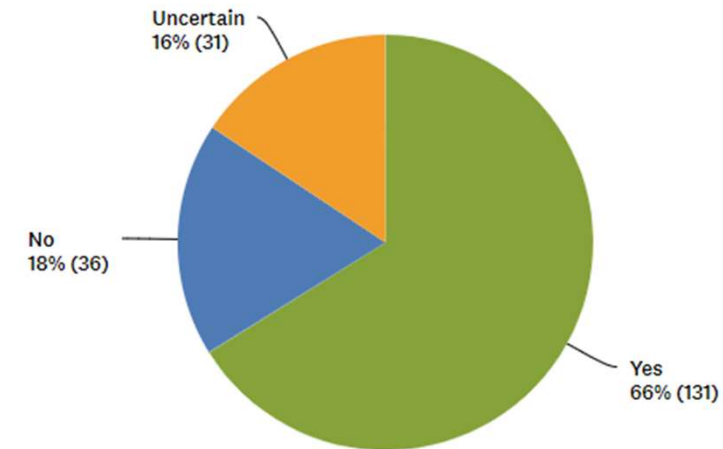
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How prepared are you?

Legend: Have done · I plan to do · Have not done

- I have a static water supply on my property
- I have spoken with my household or significant others about preparedness
- I have collected preparedness information
- I have completed special training (First Aid, CPR, CERT, etc.)
- I have attended meetings dealing with emergency preparedness
- I have signed up with entities that provide emergency news or alert systems
- I have prepared disaster survival kits
- I have prepared a property emergency exit plan in case of a flood
- I have a bushfire plan in place

(x-axis: 0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80%)

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Do you know where your local evacuation centre is?

- Yes 72.22% (143)
- No 18.18% (36)
- Uncertain 9.60% (19)

Do you know how to contact emergency services in case of a disaster?

- Yes 86% (169)
- No 4% (7)
- Uncertain 11% (21)

Do you have ready access to water supply in order to defend your property during a bushfire?

- Yes 66% (131)
- No 18% (36)
- Uncertain 16% (31)

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During the 2019/2020 bushfires how did you receive information during the event?

Source	Percentage
Facebook	78%
Via an alert app	62%
Family or friends	61%
Radio	46%
Cell phone	42%
Television	29%
Other (please specify)	13%
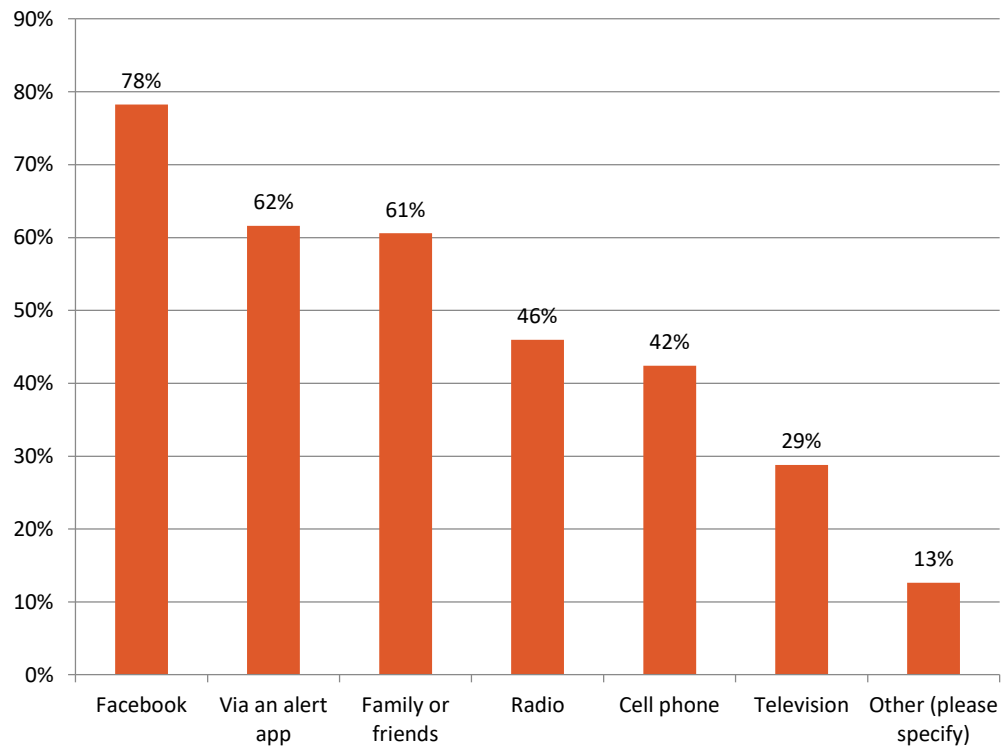
What do you think would be the best way for the community to receive information about disaster management and recovery?

Ranked by most preferred

Method	Ranking
Via an alert app / Cell...	~7.5
Public meetings	~6
Facebook	~6
Radio	~5.5
Social media	~4.5
Council Website	~4.5
Television	~4
Emails	~4
Brochures	~3

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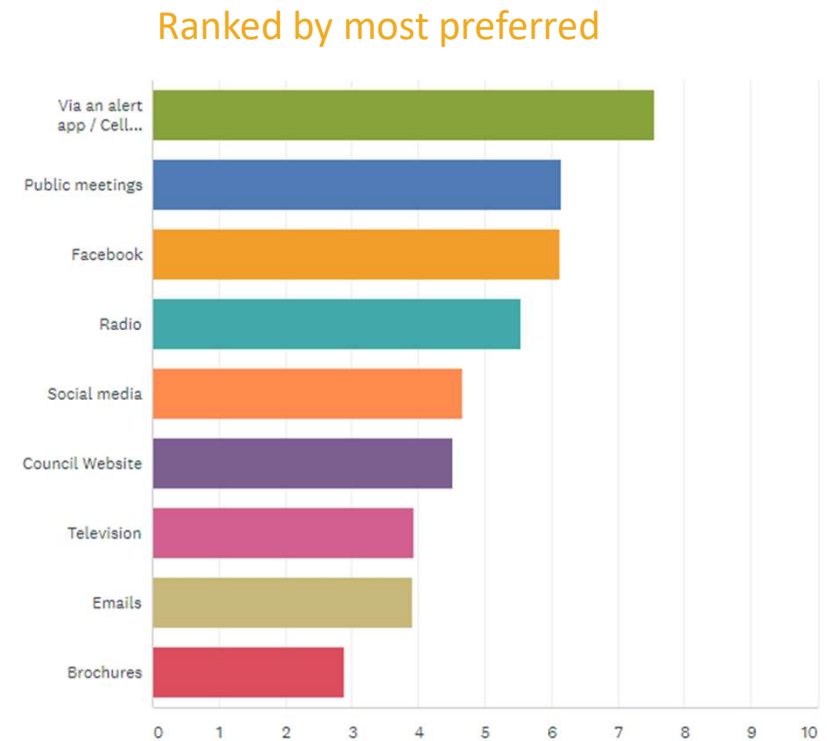
Do you consider yourself still recovering from the bushfire last year?
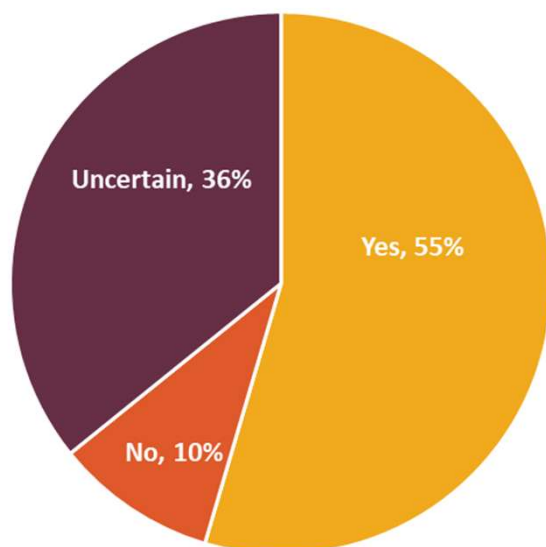
Uncertain 13% (22)

Yes 22% (39)

No 65% (115)
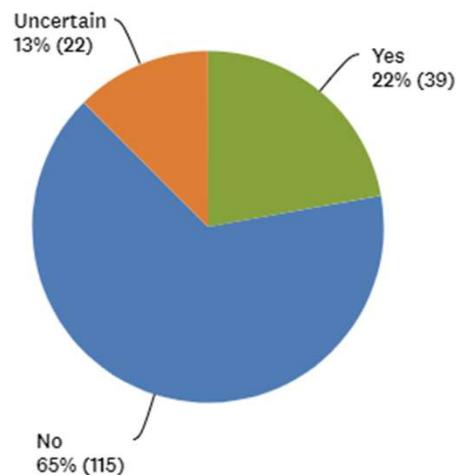
Top 3 Reponses – after the 2019/2020 bushfires - what was affected?

1 Smoke Only

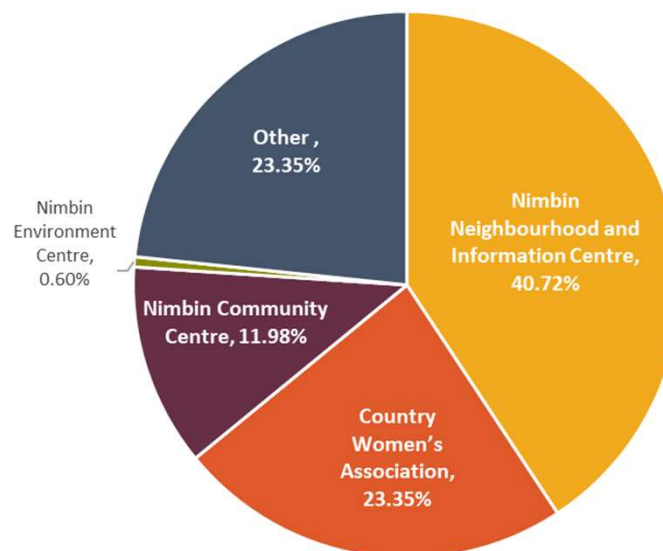**2** Roads not accessible

3 Vegetation nearby was burnt

Top Reponses – After the 2019/2020 who / what was affected and how were they affected?

1 Natural environment

2 Friends

3 Animals

4 Mental health

5 Social Wellbeing

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Would you be interested in volunteering to assist the community during a disaster?

- Yes, 55%
- Uncertain, 36%
- No, 10%

Top Reponses – Which organisation should organise volunteers during a disaster

- Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre, 40.72%
- Other, 23.35%
- Country Women's Association, 23.35%
- Nimbin Community Centre, 11.98%
- Nimbin Environment Centre, 0.60%

Other:
- Nimbin Disaster Steering Group
- A disaster coordination group that is trained, linked in with emergency and social services.
- An independent working group
- A separate Community Resilience Team
- Organizations listed could coordinate different aspects of volunteering in line with their specific expertise and capacity / a committee of delegated of the list
- RFS / SES

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Impact of the bushfire/ flood on the Nimbin community

- Physical health impacts: asthma/ exhaustion
- Mental health impacts: heightened anxiety/ PTSD
- Loss of business
- Crops destroyed / feed for animals destroyed
- Loss of wildlife
- Not a lot of impact/ business as usual
- More mindful of threat
- Road closures / couldn't access services / school etc
- Loss of vegetation
- Ongoing uncertainty
- Impact on living conditions

"We are not used to fires up here and it was a shocking reality check."

"Fire burnt on this property and all around the house I live in. Old growth trees were burnt, falling, smouldering and some had to be cut down before I could return. It was all blackened, no animals around, except predatory birds. It was quiet and eerie. Its okay now vegetation has grown back."

"Extreme fear and anxiety regarding potential fire breaking out. The Lismore flood in 2017 washed away my driveway.

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Do you have any ideas that may help the community in its recovery and resilience to future disasters?

- A plan: clarity around what to do and when
- Equipment
  - ✓ shipping container with supplies
  - ✓ Water / rainwater tanks
- Education / Information
  - ✓ Facebook page / website – with information before and after a disaster
  - ✓ Advice on how to be fire ready/ training people
- Collaboration / Communication
  - ✓ help vulnerable people in community
  - ✓ Clear collaboration between emergency services and community
- Money/ infrastructure investment
- Roads: access for emergency vehicles

"Keep working and doing things as a community because that's where strength and resilience is fostered."

"I feel good clear communication is always essential and knowing exactly where to go to find information."

"Increased water storage for droughts and bush fires, maintaining road drainage for floods and fire trails for bushfires. ."

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