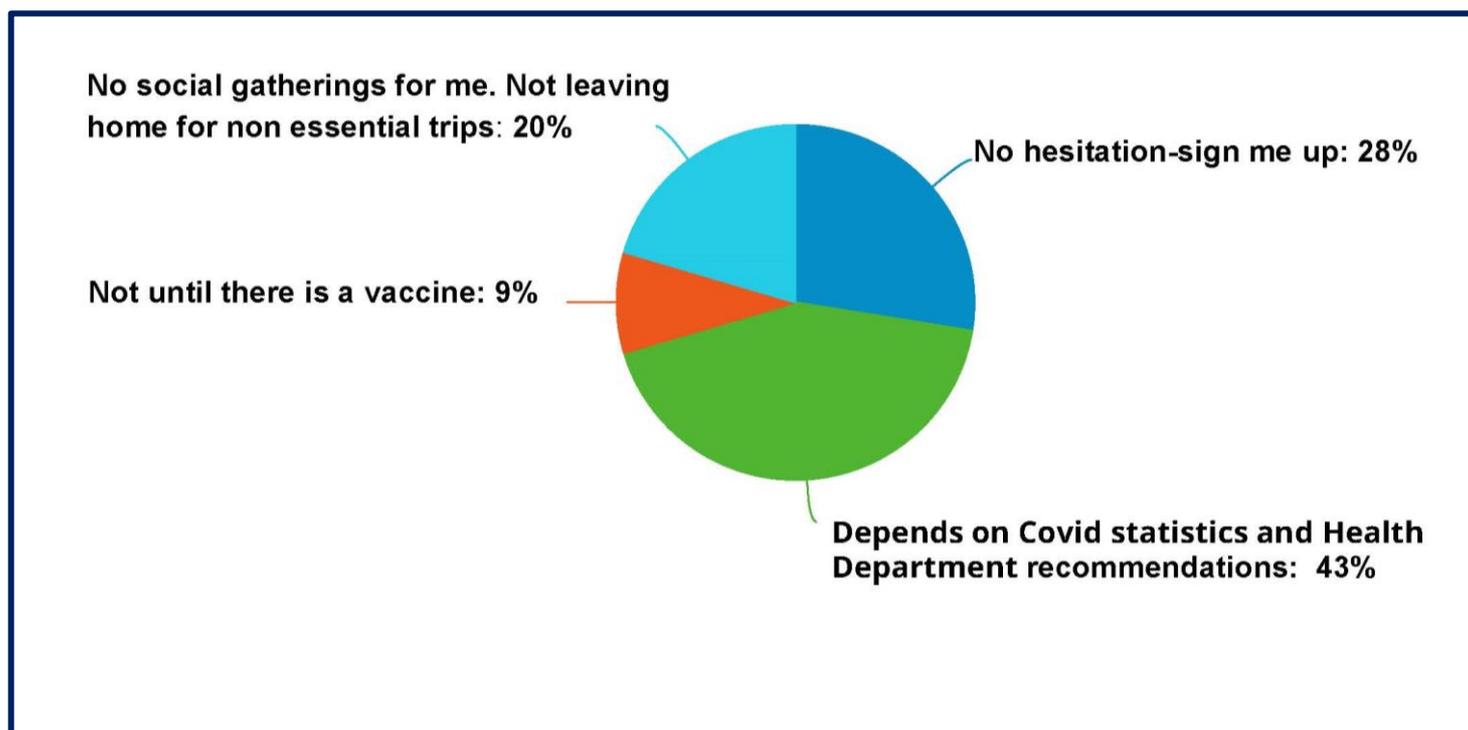


Monona Senior Center Interest Survey

In the fall of 2020, Monona Senior Center began a two-month plan to capture comfort level, barriers and interest in the changing environment of the center. We reached out to non-renewed Friends members (100), subscribers to the website (136) and current Friends members; Lifetime and Annual (456). The Director sent a letter to those participants that do not have social media or computer access and we received over 56 responses to that effort. In total, our number of responses reached 100 with over 700 surveys extended. Responses were captured through November 6th, 2020.

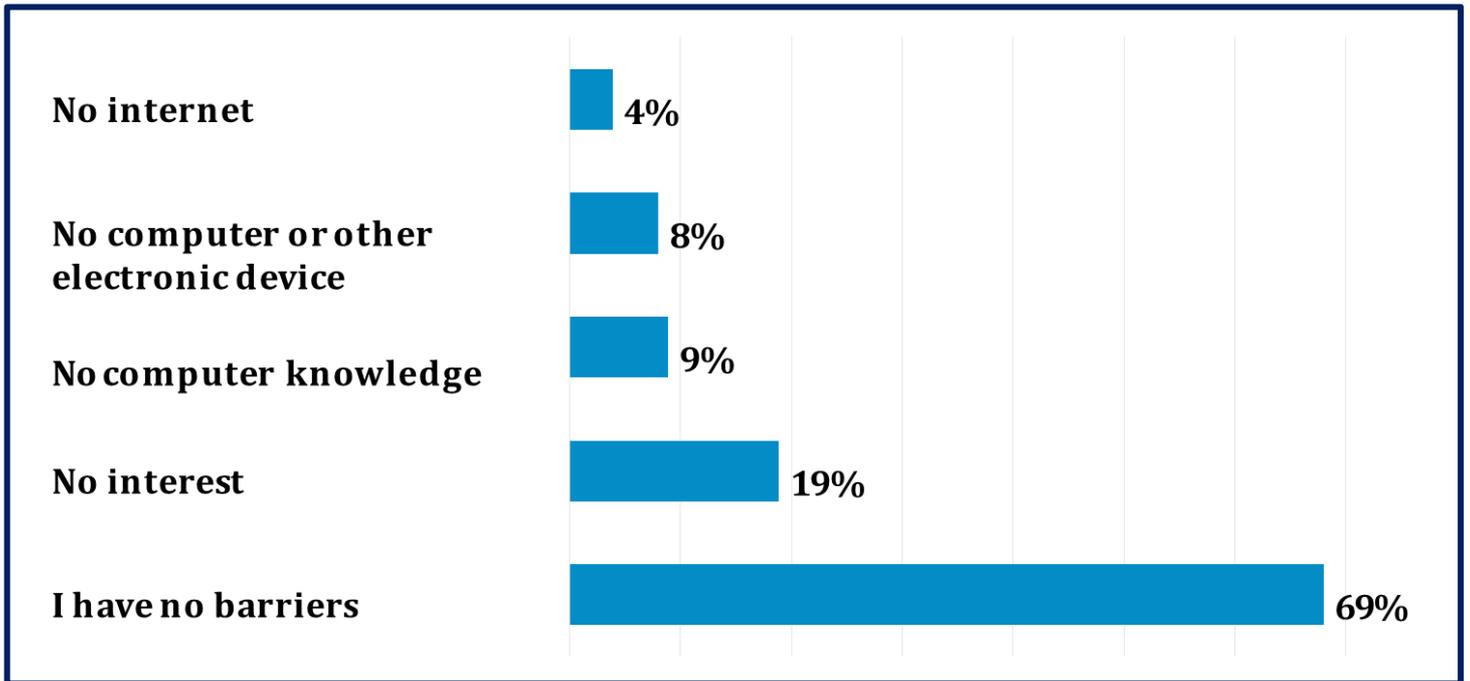
Where is your comfort level with in person visits to the Senior Center?



Through the fall season, we held many social programs outside, as participants shared they were more comfortable meeting outdoors. With colder weather upon us, our opportunities for outdoor gathering has diminished. As of November 9th the comfort level for in person events was reflective on the increased number of Covid cases in Dane County.

Other Senior Centers in the area had minimal or no in person activities on their calendars. The majority of our participants are aware of current statistics and heed the warnings to avoid gatherings, especially indoors. Since November 9th, we have suspended in-person gatherings at the Monona Senior Center through the end of the year.

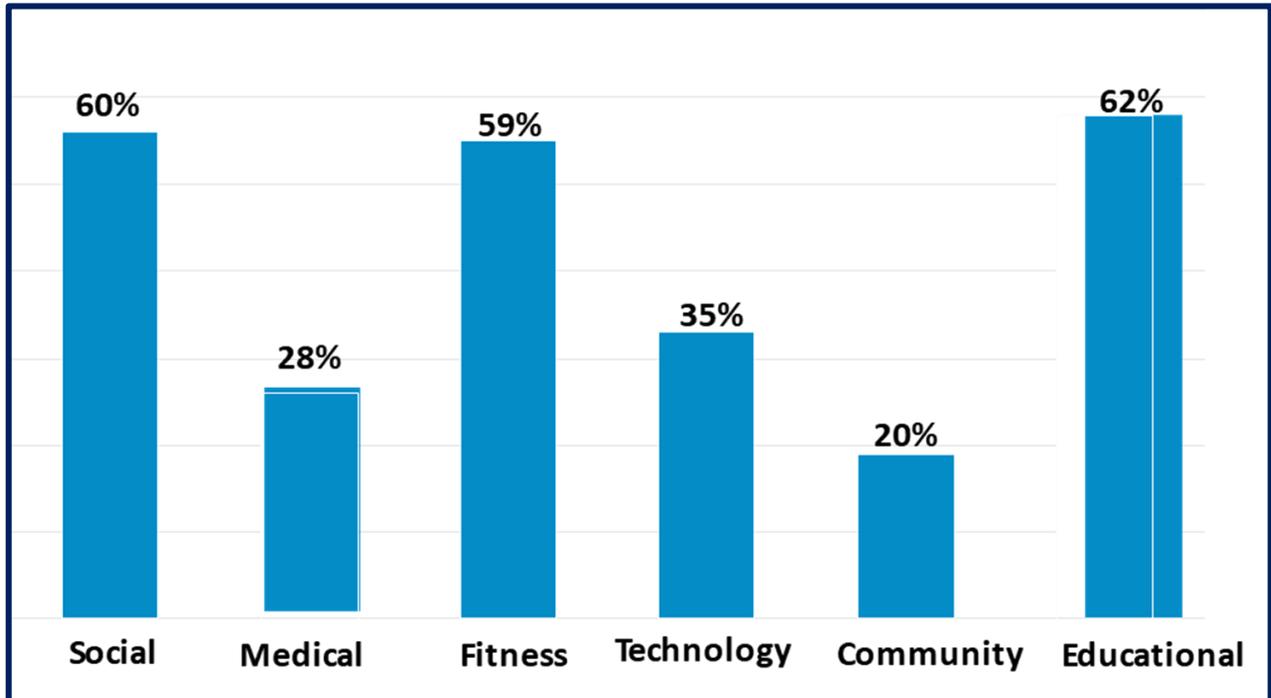
What are your barriers to participating in Virtual Programs? Like Zoom



We were pleasantly surprised by this response. We have great interest in “How To Zoom” classes and plan to continue to offer assistance and guidance to access this technology. It is challenging to teach these concepts virtually, especially with the variety of devices our participants are using. Although in-person classes are definitely more effective, they are also tough to do while remaining socially distanced.



Which programs/services can we address to enhance your life?



Staff were delighted with the number of responses we received to this survey. We included several of the suggested changes and links to information respondents were seeking in our November and December newsletters. This process helped to guide our efforts as we look ahead to the winter months and the likelihood of a stronger emphasis on virtual programming while trying to address the negative effects of social isolation on the senior population.

Social Isolation Prevention Efforts: We are aware that a segment of our population is not connected to technology and either do not have the means to access devices or the desire to learn. Senior Center staff and volunteers continue to reach out to participants through phone calls and notes in the mail to let them know we are thinking of them, see if they need anything and give them someone to talk to. We will continue to enhance these efforts through the winter and until they feel comfortable seeking social opportunities once again.

If you have any questions or comments, do not hesitate to reach out the Senior Center staff at 222-3415.