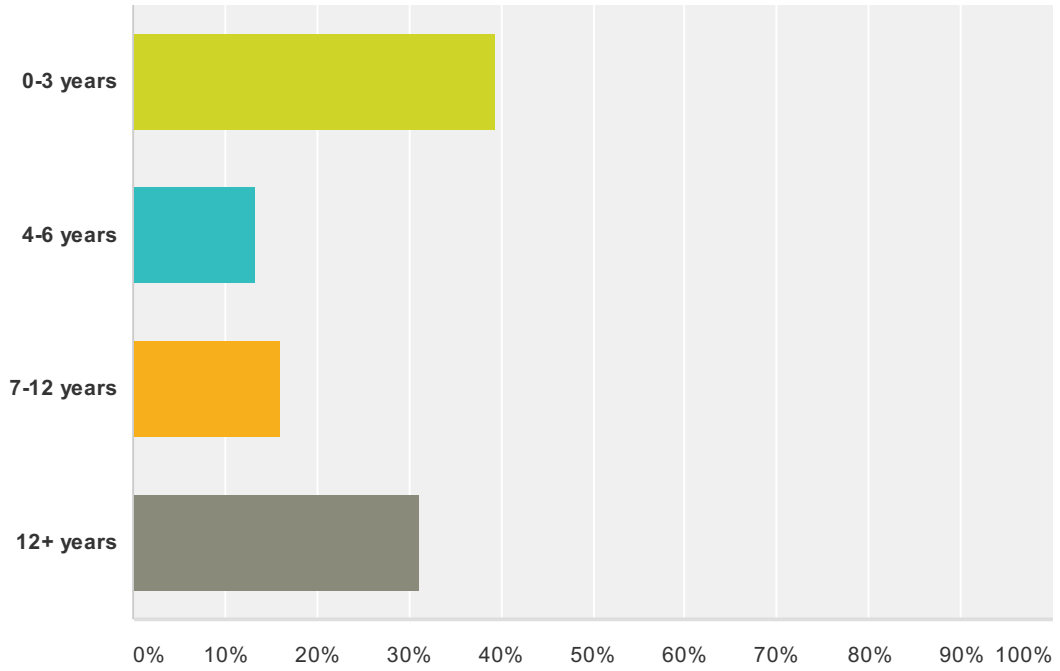


### Q1 How long have you lived at your current address?

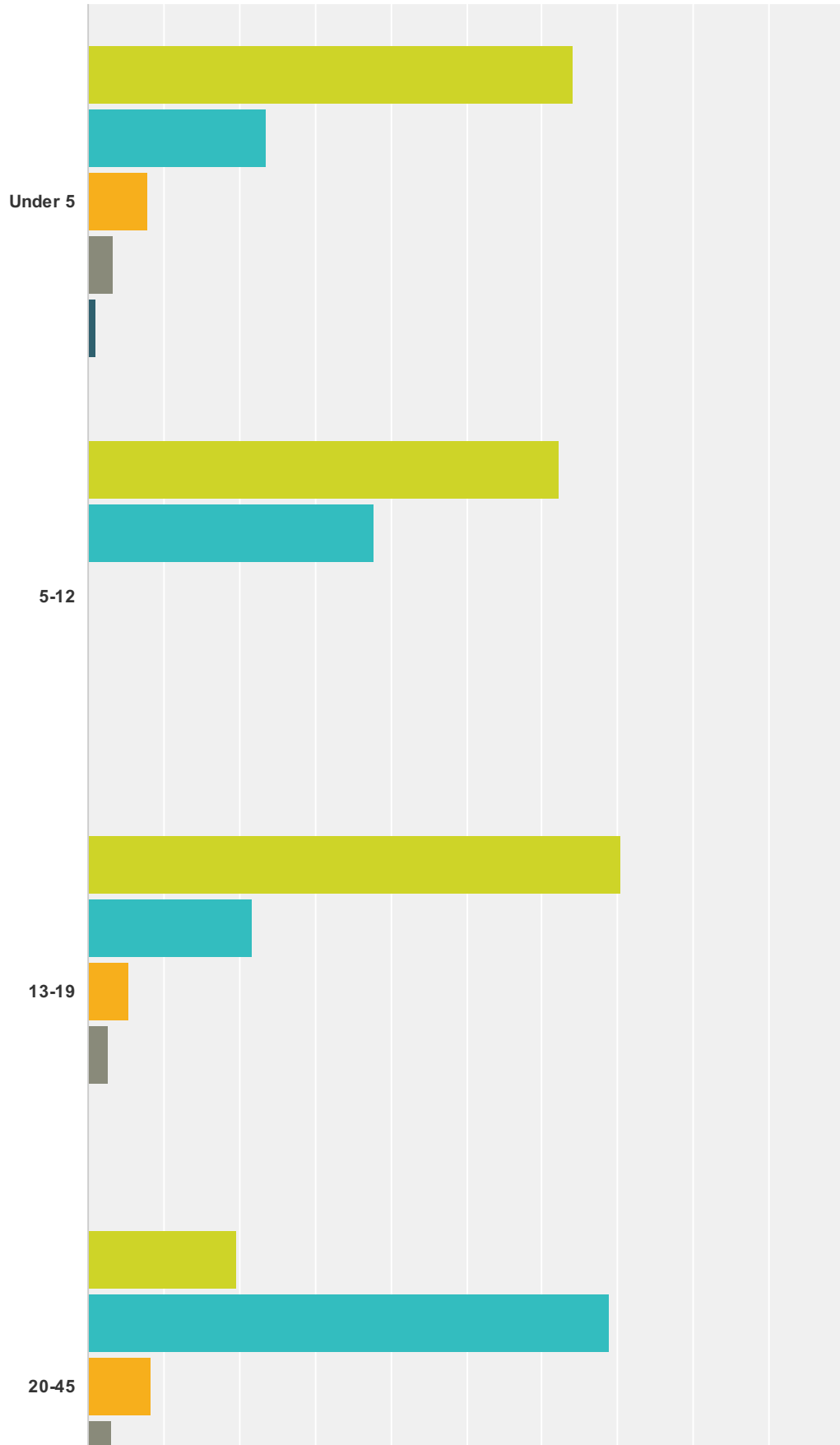
Answered: 354 Skipped: 4



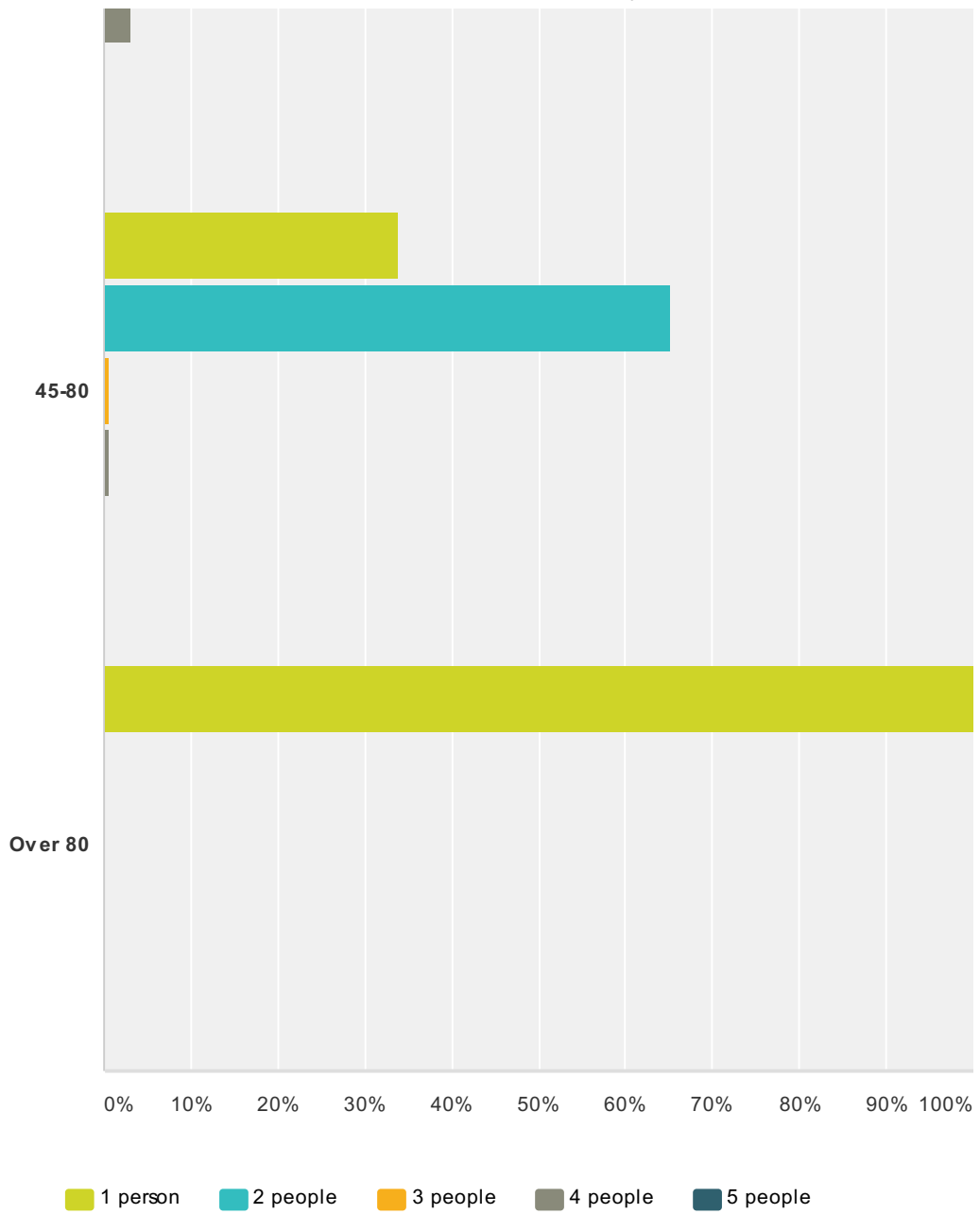
Answer Choices	Responses
0-3 years	39.55% 140
4-6 years	13.28% 47
7-12 years	16.10% 57
12+ years	31.07% 110
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>

## Q2 How many people currently live in your household? How old are they?

Answered: 357 Skipped: 1



# Curbside Compost Pilot Survey 1

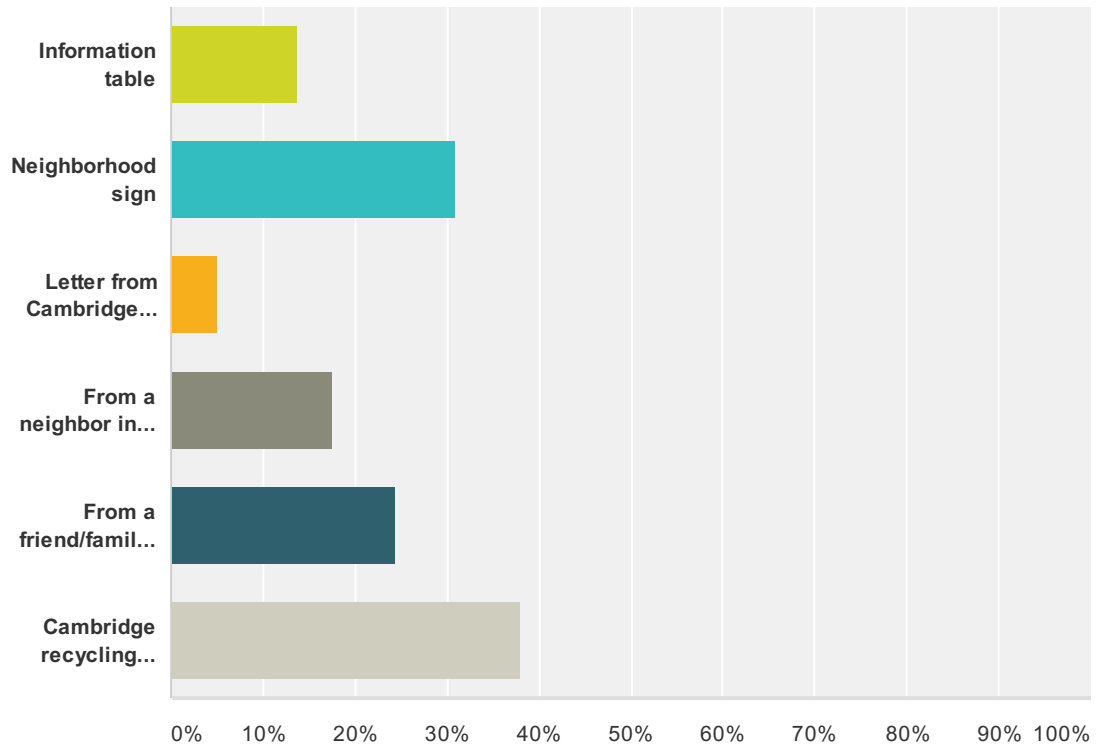


	1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	Total
Under 5	64.04% 57	23.60% 21	7.87% 7	3.37% 3	1.12% 1	89
5-12	62.30% 38	37.70% 23	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	61
13-19	70.27% 26	21.62% 8	5.41% 2	2.70% 1	0.00% 0	37
20-45	19.69% 38	68.91% 133	8.29% 16	3.11% 6	0.00% 0	193
45-80	33.72% 58	65.12% 112	0.58% 1	0.58% 1	0.00% 0	172
Over 80	100.00% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	2

# Curbside Compost Pilot Survey 1

## Q3 How did you hear about the pilot program? (check all that apply)

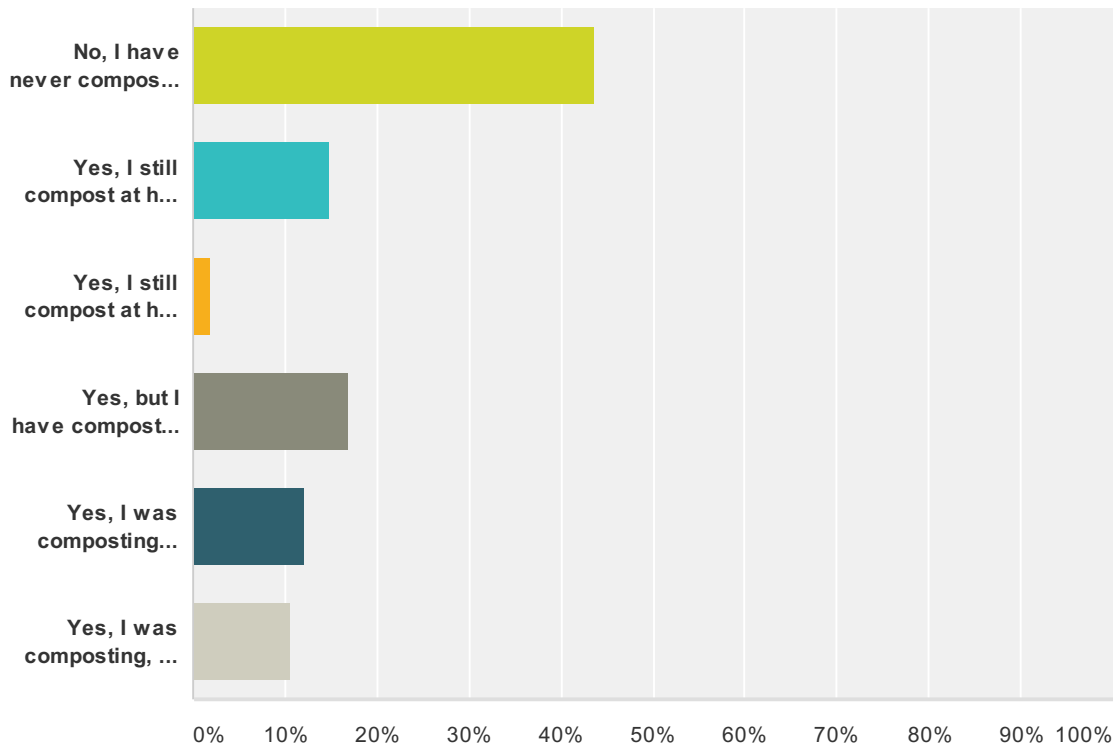
Answered: 343 Skipped: 15



Answer Choices	Responses
Information table	13.70% 47
Neighborhood sign	30.90% 106
Letter from Cambridge Public Schools	4.96% 17
From a neighbor in your multi-family building	17.49% 60
From a friend/family/neighbor	24.49% 84
Cambridge recycling website or newsletter	37.90% 130
<b>Total Respondents: 343</b>	

### Q4 Have you ever composted at home?

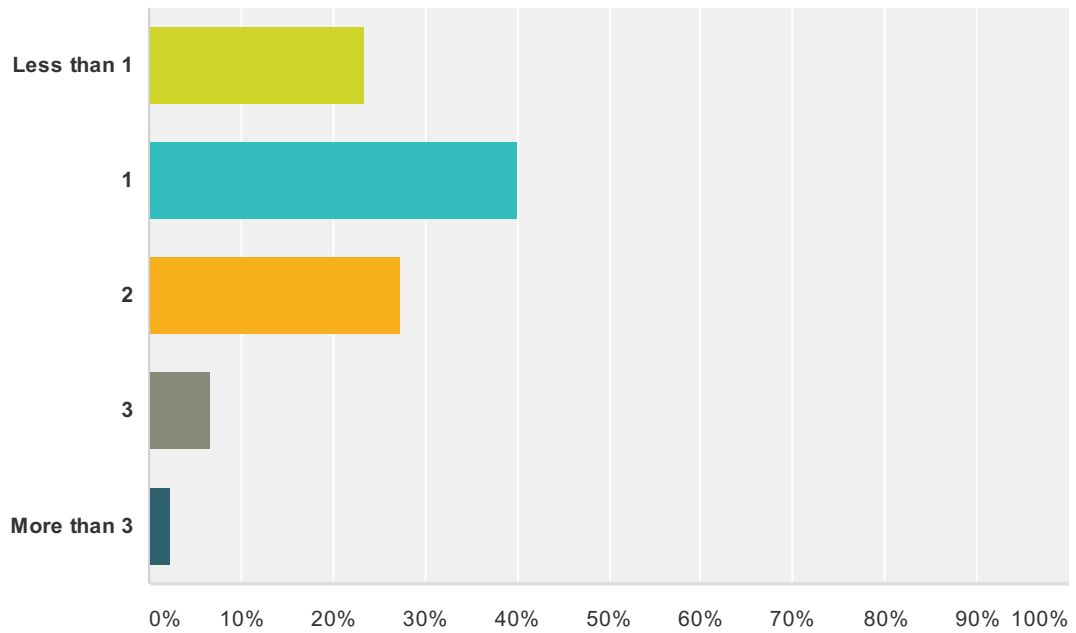
Answered: 357 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
No, I have never composted before	43.70%	156
Yes, I still compost at home with a backyard bin	14.85%	53
Yes, I still compost at home with a worm bin	1.96%	7
Yes, but I have composted at a different address	16.81%	60
Yes, I was composting until the pilot started	12.04%	43
Yes, I was composting, but stopped before the pilot started	10.64%	38
<b>Total</b>		<b>357</b>

### Q5 How many bags of trash to you generate each week? (13 gallon kitchen bags)

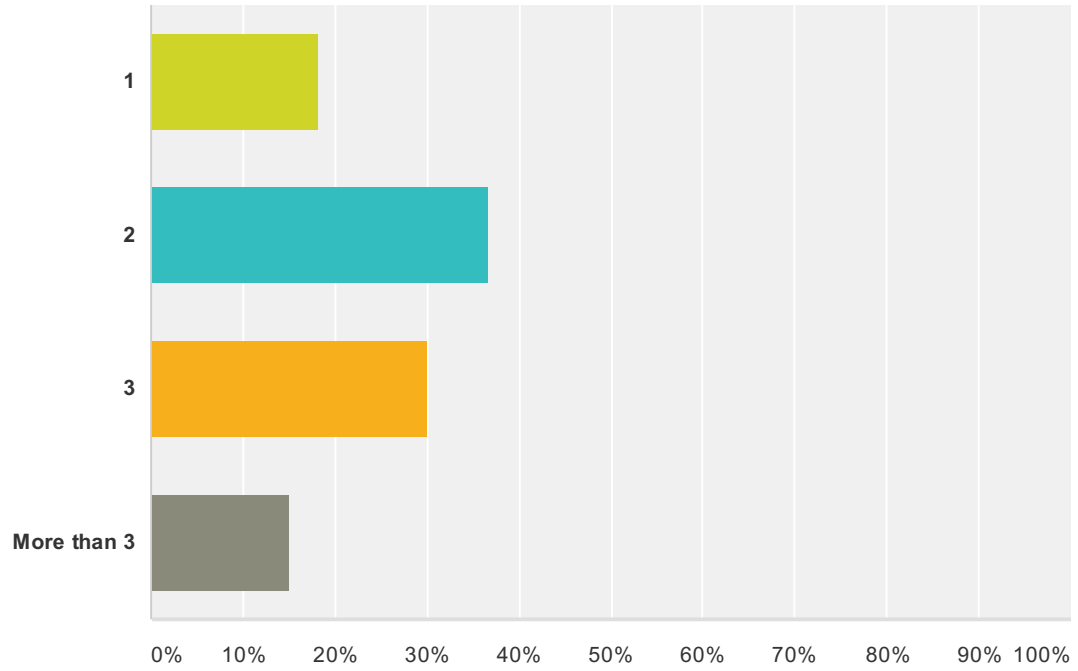
Answered: 354 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Responses	
Less than 1	23.45%	83
1	40.11%	142
2	27.40%	97
3	6.78%	24
More than 3	2.26%	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>354</b>

### Q6 How many compostable bags have you used per week in your kitchen container?

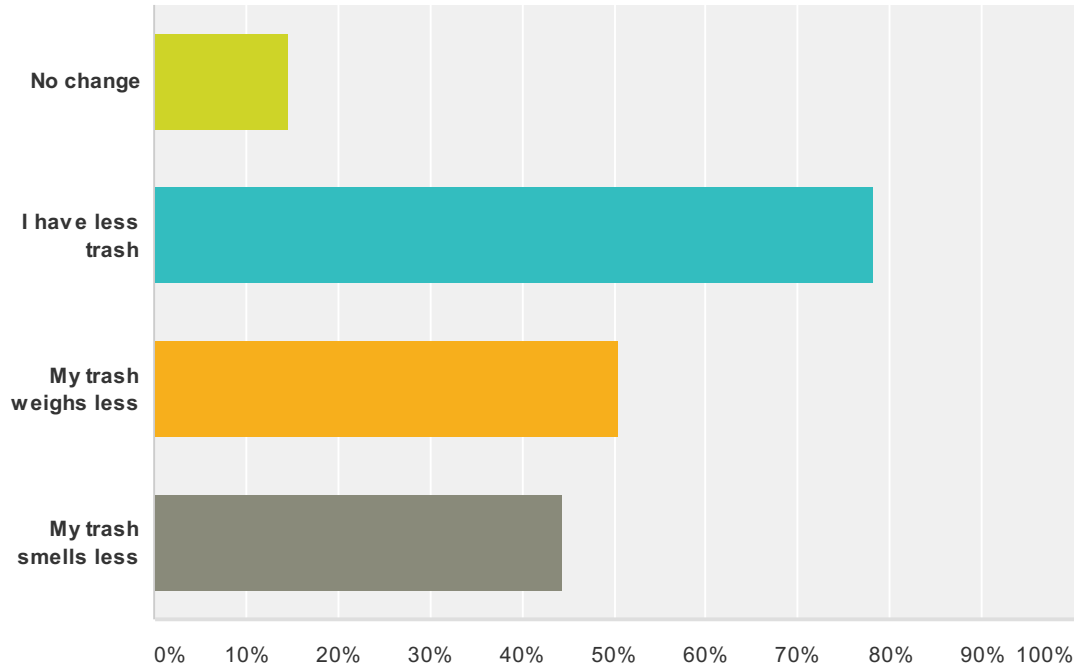
Answered: 357 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
1	18.21%	65
2	36.69%	131
3	29.97%	107
More than 3	15.13%	54
<b>Total</b>		<b>357</b>

### Q7 Have you noticed a change in your trash? (check all that apply)

Answered: 350 Skipped: 8

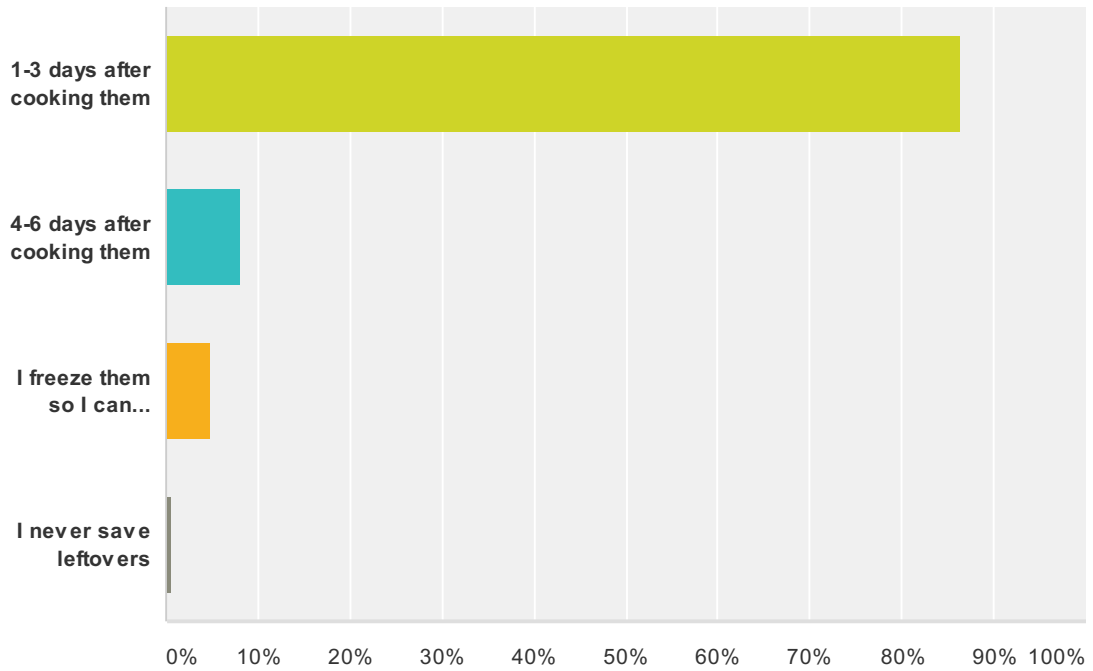


Answer Choices	Responses
No change	14.57% 51
I have less trash	78.29% 274
My trash weighs less	50.57% 177
My trash smells less	44.57% 156
<b>Total Respondents: 350</b>	



### Q8 When do you typically eat your leftovers?

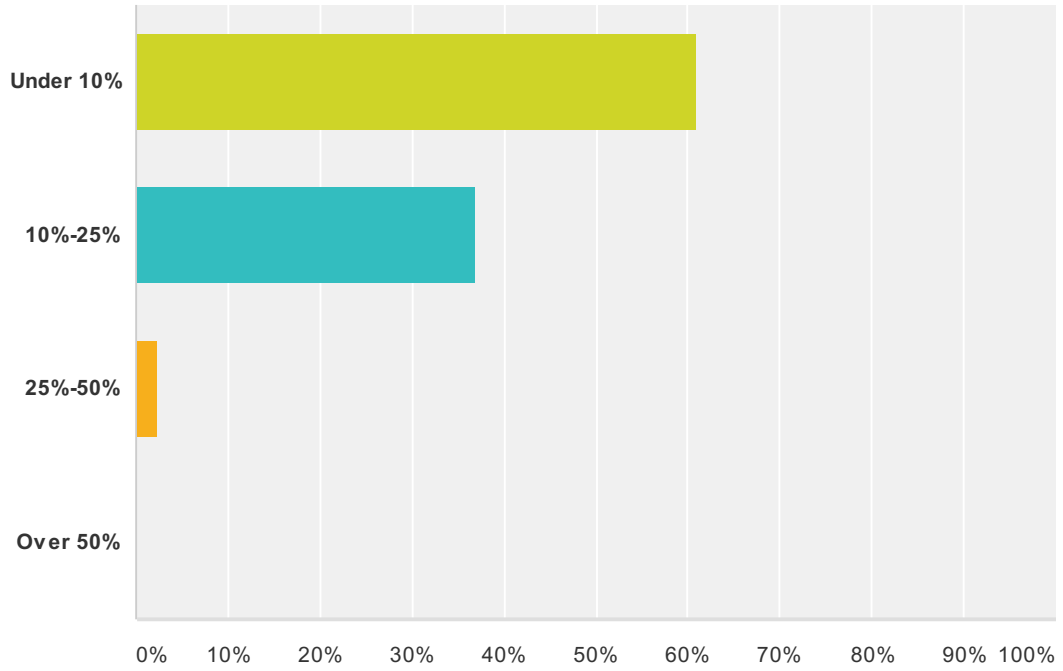
Answered: 356 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
1-3 days after cooking them	86.52% 308
4-6 days after cooking them	8.15% 29
I freeze them so I can defrost them later	4.78% 17
I never save leftovers	0.56% 2
<b>Total</b>	<b>356</b>

### Q9 Approximately, what percent of the food that you buy do you throw out?

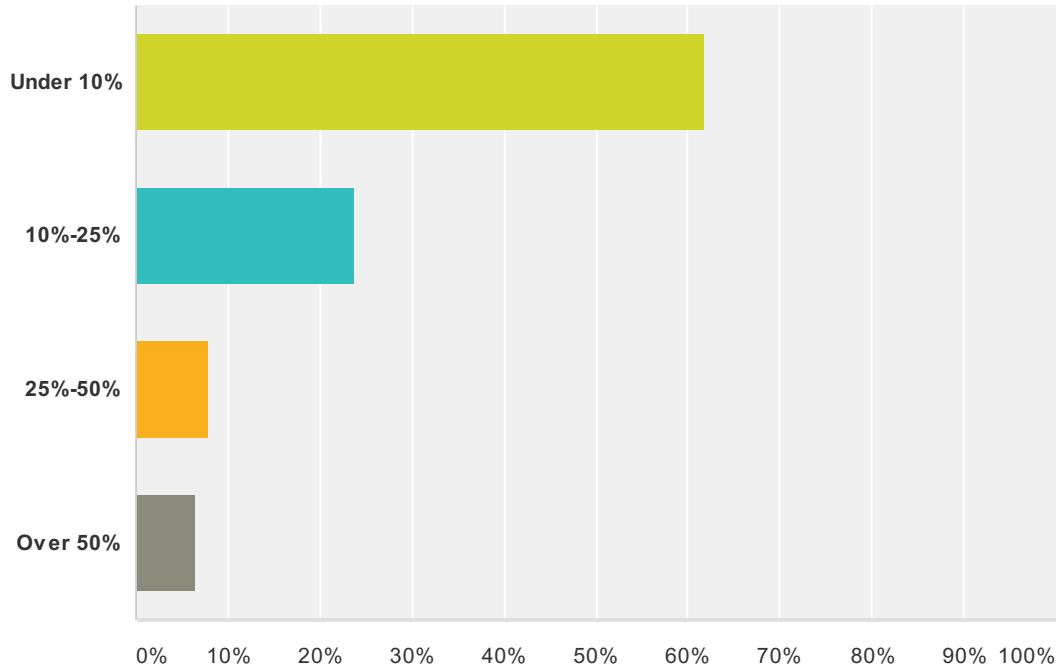
Answered: 358 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Under 10%	60.89% 218
10%-25%	36.87% 132
25%-50%	2.23% 8
Over 50%	0.00% 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>358</b>

**Q10 What percentage of your food waste could be prevented by preparing less, serving less or by changing your cooking habits?**

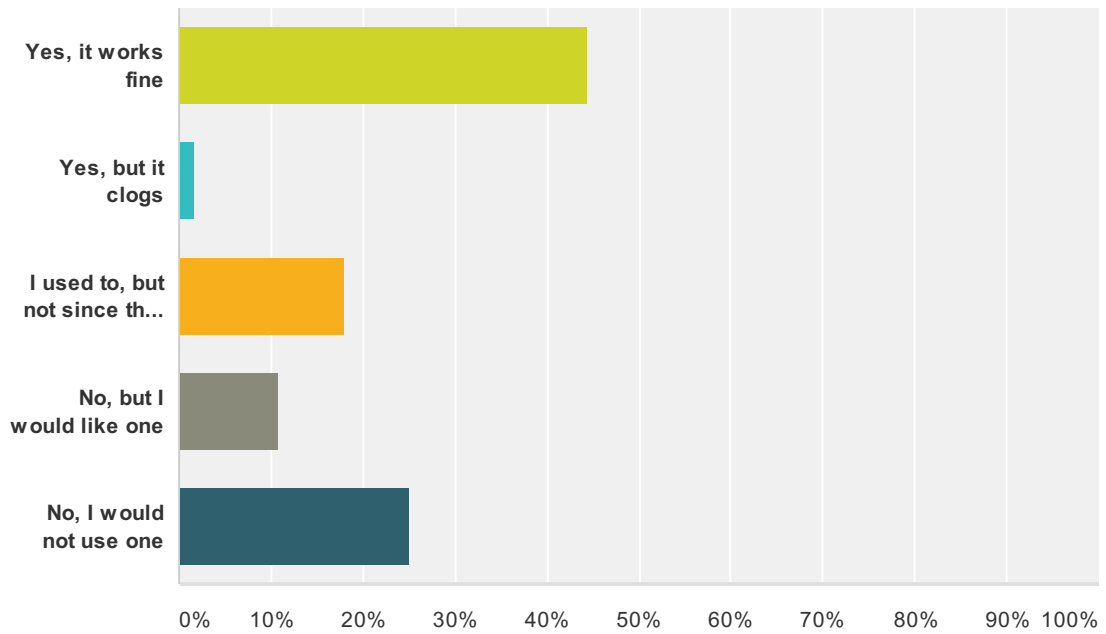
Answered: 350 Skipped: 8



Answer Choices	Responses	
Under 10%	61.71%	216
10%-25%	23.71%	83
25%-50%	8.00%	28
Over 50%	6.57%	23
<b>Total</b>		<b>350</b>

### Q11 Do you use a sink disposal?

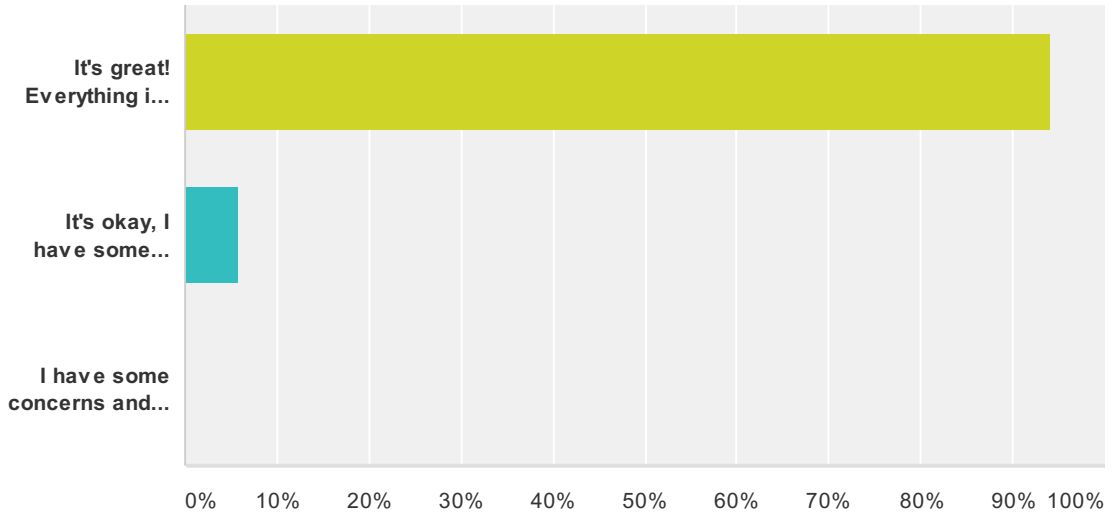
Answered: 356 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes, it works fine	44.38% 158
Yes, but it clogs	1.69% 6
I used to, but not since the pilot started	17.98% 64
No, but I would like one	10.96% 39
No, I would not use one	25.00% 89
<b>Total</b>	<b>356</b>

### Q12 How is the compost pilot working for you so far?

Answered: 357 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
It's great! Everything is clear and the system is easy	94.12% 336
It's okay, I have some questions/issues	5.88% 21
I have some concerns and am no longer participating	0.00% 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>357</b>

## **7. Have you noticed a change in your trash? (check all that apply)**

I have one trash bag filled only with plastic wrappings. I basically have no trash because of the composting program and my recycle bin. It is terrific!

I have a little less trash because I've always recycled anyway.

For a few years before the pilot started, I stored my food waste in the refrigerator and brought it to Whole Foods on Prospect St. Before that I used disposal.

It has revolutionized our trash system!

We use about two ( more or less ) 13 gal. trash bags per month now.

It's about the same since I was composting before.

My trash doesn't leak! :)

LOVE IT! We have less trash, as we include all food scraps in the compost now.

Almost everything goes into compost or recycling, now. We hardly generate any trash anymore, which is great!

Significantly reduced trash - amazing, really!

I have very little trash now!

Answer varies due to week's menu. Shellfish & bones will add much more weight. We could never compost that b4 in our backyard bin. Also we stop using our own compost bin when the soil's nearly ready. So the city's program can offer us an alternative during our off cycle and thru the winter months. Many thanks for that!

We're excited about the fact that between recycling and composting our trash is mainly wrappers and we have a lot less trash.

I used to home compost and take other materials to the DPW or Whole Foods site. This new system is more convenient for me - I don't have to make any extra trips.

I was bringing my compost to Whole Foods prior to the program starting. This is much more convenient!

We were previously composting by bringing trash to the recycling center, so there has been little change in the amount of trash. well we've been composting for years..so no still 1 or 2 at most trash bags.

Not sure-we share trash bins and our neighbors have been away.

My trash smells less but my compost smells more!

I don't generate much organic waste and 90% of the organic waste I create goes into my home compost.

We were taking food scraps to the city since that pilot began.

have always used a garbage disposal for my food scraps

No change because before I was bringing my compostables to the recycling center. My daughter's family in Arlington has because I have been making her contribute now too. lol

My trash now mainly consists of plastics.

Don't even have to take the trash out every week!

I may have a little less because I used to put in food scraps I couldn't put down the disposal, as well as occasional chicken bones, in the trash, and they now go into compost. Recently I have only been putting the trash bag out every other week because there is so little in it and with no food in it there is no smell.

Because I compost at home, I don't generate as much for the city program. However, I do put in meat scraps and soiled napkins whenever we have them at home. I have also used the city bin for large things such as pineapple tops and watermelon rinds that don't compost quickly in my backyard bin. So my trash is a little less, not by a lot, but a little.

## **11. Do you use a sink disposal?**

Using the disposal less now that we are composting

I still use it, but much less.

Yes, but only for tiny scraps and it works fine.

OK.

rarely use

What is this for?

rarely

very little

Do not use often,

Still use, but far less.

## **12. How is the compost pilot working for you so far?**

I love the program and hope it goes city-wide. It does so much good for the environment and I don't feel guilty about spoiled food because I can compost it. Thank you!

My container hasn't been picked up twice, even though my next door neighbor's container has been picked up.

I LOVE it!!!!!! Hope so so so much that it continues. I wonder if a neighbor to neighbor info sharing would help to boost numbers

of those doing it in our neighborhood.

I sometimes overfill the green compost bags, making them tough to tie up. Are there compostable twist ties available?

I hope this continues after the pilot!!!

I don't like having to use plastic bags. Once I run out of the bags I was given, what do I do? I like that Cambridge is trying this program. My daughter lives in the Bay Area in CA and they have been doing this for years.

1. The locking mechanism on the outdoor bin can hard to work, even in good weather, and we had one period of frost / light snow when it was impossible to open. Are there other options that are still animal-proof?

2. Further outreach/instruction is probably needed on the collection system. I still see some neighbors putting the entire kitchen bin, basket and all, out to the curb, not locking their bins, or otherwise making small mistakes.

How will we replace compostable bags if/when we run out?

Only concern is that the outdoor bins are tricky to latch.

We are getting some bugs now that it is warm maybe that is inevitable but we are now- wish we weren't

Will Cambridge provide additional green BioBags if we run out, or would we have to purchase more ourselves?

when you say food scraps does that include cooked food. and should meat be cooked or raw

The container is kind of big and sits on our counter, so we're trying to sort that out. We don't know why this is better than the disposal so that piece of education would help.

What is the best way to dispose of grease, oil, and fat?

Please don't stop this pilot!!! I would be VERY sad to have to go back to the old way of dealing with our trash!

I wonder about marginal paper: egg cartons, chinese lo mein boxes, etc. Are these good because they add bulk to the compost, or bad because they're not very nutrient rich?

If I have a large amount of material for compost disposal - more than fits in a small green bag - may I use larger bags or simply place the material directly into the compost bin without a bag (knowing that if I did that, I would need to wash it clean after? As for larger bags, what kind may I use: brown paper? Should I avoid putting in tough scraps like corn cobs & pineapple tops?

Our compost bin's top was disengaged following pick-up this week; it appeared to have been tossed. We were able to get it back in place, but were surprised that it was tossed.

Need YouTube video or something more specific with what to put in the compost container. I'm could contribute more to it.

Can I add very light grade, soiled paper plates in with my compost waste?

I'm very grateful to be part of the pilot program and to live in a city that is trying this! Thank you!

I wish the bag was a little larger -- I buy cut flowers every week, and they often have to be cut up in order to fit. I am on the third floor, so I am not going to be carrying loose items to throw out. I also wish the bags had flaps to tie more easily.

It really is great, and everything IS clear and easy, but: The bags are too small, and we go through a ton of them every week. We are preparing a lot of veggies in bulk and use multiple bags with all the scraps, and it says you can compost plants, but I've had to chop up flowers and plants to fit them in the bags. At the very least, the container could stay the same size but the bags could be bigger, so that when you take them out, they aren't impossible to tie. Currently very hard to tie a bag that is even 2/3 "full." But - overall - PLEASE continue this! We have SO MUCH LESS food trash, and with a baby in the house who drops food everywhere that we can't re-use, I feel much better about composting it than throwing it out.

I love it! I wish every city could do this!

I now fill 1 trash bag once every other week instead of every week. Plus no smells as food waste is composted. Keep this program going!

My upstairs neighbor keeps trying to put food stuff in the compost bin. She puts it in with regular plastic bags or containers, even tho I have tried to explain about the compostable bags, etc. I have recommended she sign up herself but I'm not sure she understands since English isn't her first language. It would be nice if someone contacted her with some extra help to explain and get her apt online with the project as well.

Can folded pizza boxes go in the curbside bin?

It is SO convenient. The composting bin fits neatly onto the trash bin and the composting bags prevent mess. It is far better than using a disposal or carrying garbage to a compostor in the back yard. Thank you!

Smell is an issue. Pickup was ignored one week. It was pretty gross for the next week

Love living in Cambridge--you guys are doing an incredible job!!!

How do we get more bags of we run out?

I glad meat and left over food are included in the compost. Keep up the great work.

I wish my downstairs neighbor was participating as well, but she is not (yet) interested.

I cannot believe how much we waste! It's been very easy and I'm so happy to have this service.

As above, we love it, and hope the project can go city-wide. Summer will be a good test!

Please, how do we keep this going we would be devastated if Cambridge doesn't do this city wide

A squirrel (we think) ate through the lid of our outside bin. We are just putting our bags into our neighbor's bin, but last week the squirrel (or other animal) got to her bin too.

We had some serious odor problems one week. We are trying to wrap meat in paper now.

Fruit flies have taken a liking to the bin in my kitchen, so I moved it to the back hall.

I won't run out of bags for a while, but when how do I get more? I'll look on the DPW website, so I imagine I'll find out. I just don't have it in my head, is all.

We love it! It is such a gift - to not be throwing away this compostable food. We have tried to compost ourselves in the past but were never successful. This is easy, and great. Everyone else we know doing it also loves it. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Great so far. Looking to see how this works in the hot months.

What to do with: aluminum foil, tissues, bid pizza boxes- compost or recycle? Also, does everything need to be put in the plastic compostable bag, e.g., paper food carton? What do we do if we need more bags?

I love it, but I may have to move to somewhere else in Cambridge in August. Please bring it to other parts of the city!

First week, pick up missed us but after calling, our bin scraps were taken the day we called and never a problem in pick up afterwards. Thanks. When can we pick up compost?

We currently have a baby in disposable diapers, and this makes up about 90% of our trash, so haven't seen as much difference in our trash output as we would have otherwise. We thought about doing cloth diapers, but with both parents working full time, we weren't able to make it work. It would be great if there were a way to compost diapers as well (I hear Bootstrap Compost accepts used Naty compostable diapers), but I understand that this is a health & sanitation issue. We're loving the pickup program so far. We have an outdoor bin that we share with our neighbors, but we often didn't feel like dealing with it due to the smell, slugs, insects, having to constantly mix it etc. It is so much easier to just put everything in the bin and have it taken away. I really hope this continues. I was composting before, but I was running out of places to put the compost. To clarify the disposal question. I only use disposal for small crumbs that fall off plates. I never put large food waste down disposal. It goes in compost. All in all, I LOVE it and am so happy I'm participating. You've done a fantastic job and have made it easy. All my prior composting attempts have failed miserably, attracting flies and smelling. I do have 2 suggestions:

- 1) give large liner compostable bags for outdoor bin; I've noticed that when it's on the curb people throw compost in so it smells.
- 2) I need many more of the small green bags as I'm running low.

It IS great! Thanks! (The whole world should be able to do it...)

This program is wonderful and so convenient! I love that it doesn't require any additional effort above throwing out the "trash" in a different bin! Thank you Thank you Thank you, and keep up the great work!

Still getting used to it. Appreciative that organic scraps are being put to good use. Still use disposal for liquids (like spoiled milk or sauces).

We do our own compost but curbside takes a lot more things than we do and we don't compost in the winter--so it's great. We did have a BIG raccoon knock over the bin and manage to open it and make a mess in our driveway.

I hose down (wash) my bin after pickup.

LOVE this program!!

one other great thing that I have noticed is that I am less likely to eat my kids leftovers - I don't feel as badly about "wasting food" and don't fill my stomach with unneeded food for me.

We do find it difficult to keep the bag in the kitchen bin-it slides off the sides when you put food in. We solved this problem by taking the handle off the bin and rubber banding the bag on. It saves us so much time compared to bringing things to the recycling center and the kitchen bin has VERY little odor compared to the airtight container we used to use. Love it!

I miss having compost for my garden. I would like to pick up some compost from the public works yard in the spring.

**\*\*How to get more compost bags? Will they continue to be free? \*\*Do you have odor-stoppers/ fresheners to put in the bins for summer, in case the bins smell, even with all precautions? This is a big concern, as the trashcans are right next to our bedroom windows (alleyway). \*\*Thank you for your thoughtful support & help. It is not easy to change food preparation habits, but we are learning how.**

How much compost can I take from the recycling center?

So far no smell, which was what we concerned the most. Will see how it does as the weather gets warmer! Hope this will be a permanent program after the pilot.

It is working great!!! Between the recycling and the composting, we have very little trash now (mostly just plastic bags/wrappers). Our trash is much "friendlier," as it no longer has any organic matter in it and no longer smells. Please continue this program permanently!! It has made an enormous difference in our household trash.

Very good so far! Just don't know where I get more bags.

I love it! I can't compost meat or dairy in my backyard bin, so this has been a fantastic addition to our existing system.

I worry about fruit flies being attracted to this in the summer months. Any advice?

# 9 & 10 are hard to answer-I really am only guessing. But we are thrilled to have the program and hope that it continues.

THANK YOU-- I am so glad to be able to participate and be shrinking my/our trash and helping create usable compost!

Love it!!!

If we run out of compostable bags before the year is over, will we be able to get more?

I am THRILLED Cambridge is doing this!!! I hope the pilot is a success and we move to full scale implementation. It is the kind of thing a city with our resources should take leadership on!!!



Love it! I don't have room on my tiny lot to actually use compost, but have hated to throw all the food waste out. So glad I can use it now for something good. You're doing a great job!

tissues? In SF all tissues and paper towels go in the compost but the info is confusing here. in Barcelona they have recycling, compost and trash bins on every corner. I would prefer that here. I have far too many bins in my tiny yard. A recycling toter, a trash can, a yard waste can (I use it only part of the year but the bags seem wasteful) and now a composting bin. Help! Can you get the recycling folks to get some small 32 gallon toters that we could trade for? These large ones are silly. Much too big. Before the last pickup someone put a diaper and some other trash (non-recyclable) in our large outdoor bin. This kind of thing has never happened before. Are there people who are strenuously opposed to the compost program?

I am happy to be able to compost bones and bread which reduces garbage, the bags decompose fast. It would be easier to be able to dump stuff directly in the outdoor bin, but I see that it might be difficult to maintain clean.

Are there twist ties that can be used on the compost bags? I have to fill them only partially so that I can tie them closed.

Thanks for all your good work guys! Keep it up, and let's see if we can get all of Cambridge on it by 2016!

Great job...one of the unintended consequences of this is that I am using my sink disposal a lot less and possibly saving on water. It works, but I don't have a whole lot to contribute to it.

Thanks for offering this!

The very determined raccoon has attacked the bin, trying to unlock the fastener. Had I not chased him, it appeared that he might soon succeed, although the fastener is exceedingly difficult to open or shut by any measure animal or human.

Would love larger bags for the inside bin.

But 2 of our toters have been eaten by squirrels! That's the only problem. Otherwise I LOVE it! Really it is GREAT - makes a huge difference in my trash, the bags make it super easy. My only wish is that the container was white to match my kitchen and that those nasty squirrels would keep away :)

Can tissues go in the composting bin?

we were stumped by some things with staples (tea bags, takeout containers) and looked on-line for answers. we've also been double bagging wet things, like coffee grinds and are halfway through our bio bags.

I love it! Please continue it!

LOVE LOVE LOVE it!!! Thank you for the opportunity!!

LOVE IT!!!!!!! I feel so much better about my trash. (I know that sounds funny, but I mean it sincerely.)

If there were one improvement I'd like to see, it would be to make the bags/containers larger. They fill up pretty quickly, especially when I do some routine house-cleaning (since I throw the used paper towels in there). It's not much of a hassle now, but in the winter, it could be quite a nuisance to trudge through the snow and cold every time those little bags fill up.

paper to put in recycling or compost? if it's something that could go in either, is one a better choice?

The collection bag is easily punctured and sometimes leaks on my countertop.

plastic kitchen bin feel flimsy & leak. Will they last long? used to putting vegetable scraps into a stoneware crock (which doesn't leak) before carrying the scraps outside to my backyard composter. handle on outdoor bin is difficult to shut. On the whole, it is wonderful to compost meat/dairy scraps at home, instead of making trips to the DPW. wish the pilot were less reliant on plastic.

11) I run the disposal regularly to keep it working but have not used it much since I started composting w/Cambridge years ago.

8) i eat leftovers (which I get from my daughter) more than 6 days later.

4) I have been composting with the Cambridge program for years.

2) I have a 26 yo daughter who stays with me when she is not away at school.

I would be glad to pretest surveys for you if you would like.

Only concern is that fruit flies are now attracted to the kitchen unit! Not sure how to prevent that...

Where do I get more disposable, compostable plastic bags?

Worried will run out of bags, but other than that it's great! Also, our kitchen bin has already cracked a little but I think it'll be ok

Is there any way I can donate or dispose of excess compost from my own composters?

It's great! Our amount of trash is substantially reduced. It probably smells less too sometimes, but too much of meat and fish wrapping is plastic, so that can't be recycled. One minor annoyance is that the green outdoor bin is almost impossible to latch (it has taken me 5+ minutes of trying, when I have really been determined to do it; now I just don't bother). Also, the little indoor bin has a flimsy lid connection, but that doesn't matter, as it is easy to replace if it comes off.

I do have one question ... can I compost avocado pits?

Is compost available to use in our personal garden?

I love this pilot! It's greatly reduced our trash, it was so easy to sign up and the supplies were delivered and seem to be great so far (bags/bins), and the pick-up on trash day is so convenient. This is a no-brainer! This has definitely made our household excited to compost and we'd love to see the pilot continue!

I do have an issue with squirrels chewing the large bin. They even managed to chew a hole. I have to keep it in the garage now. I think the lid might not have been latched tightly when they did this.

A minor issue with the outdoor bin is that it is short and the handle does not extend so one has to stoop-over to roll it to the curb. I usually pick it up and carry it to the curb, but that may not be an option for older residents.

What about cut flowers? Starches? I.e. pasta, potatoes, rice?

May I include cut flowers or leaves and flowers from house plants?

Please, please, please don't stop this program! We love it and it's so convenient. We've reduced the trash we take to the curb and can keep the trash in the house for multiple weeks, as it does not smell. We do not have much room for composting, so this is by far the best option we have for composting.

I love this! Really great kitchen /outside bins. hope it goes citywide and include restaurants. What a difference that will make!

I am curious about what to do when I run out of green bags. I feel like I'm going through them at a pretty rapid rate. I looked them up online and they are pretty pricey retail.

several bags break/leak, which is obviously unpleasant. We moved our indoor compost bin out of the kitchen because of odor.

We were using the green counter top bin for the first few weeks, but we had a problem with ants making their way into the bags and getting all over our kitchen. So now we put the green bags in our metal compost bin we were using before the pilot program.

The metal bin prevents the ants from getting into our bags.

Job well done!

This is really awesome. I'm very happy that the city is doing it.

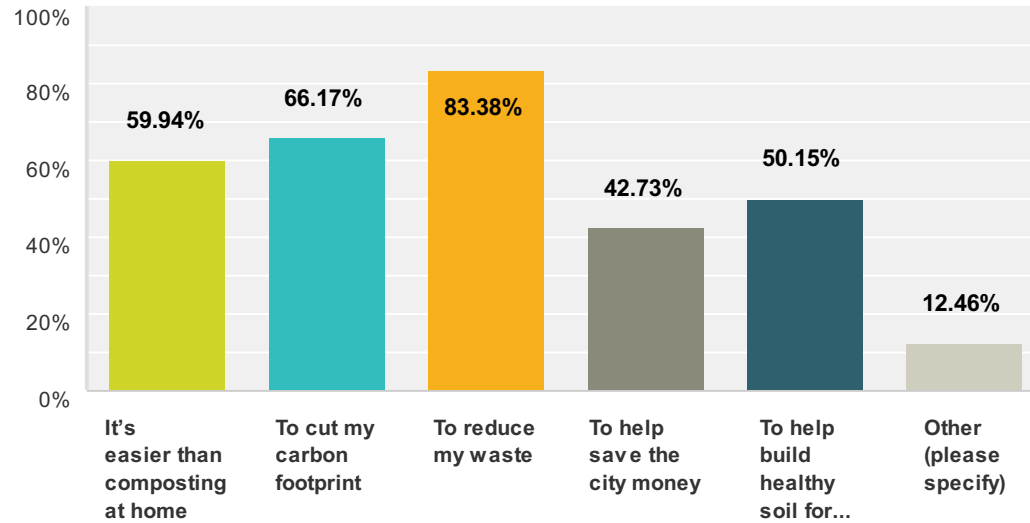
it is so awesome that cambridge is doing this - when i tell people in other cities/towns in the area they are envious!

Once our building's bucket was not picked up, but I think it was just an oversight and all has been fine since then.

thank you for doing this! it's a great program!

### Q1 Why did you chose to participate in this program? (Check all that apply)

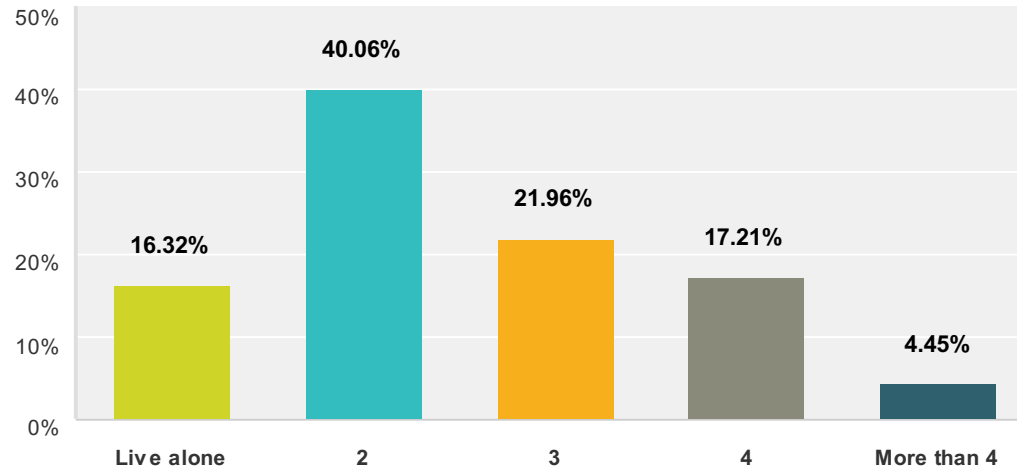
Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
It's easier than composting at home	59.94% 202
To cut my carbon footprint	66.17% 223
To reduce my waste	83.38% 281
To help save the city money	42.73% 144
To help build healthy soil for local farmers	50.15% 169
Other (please specify)	12.46% 42
<b>Total Respondents: 337</b>	

## Q2 How many people live in your household?

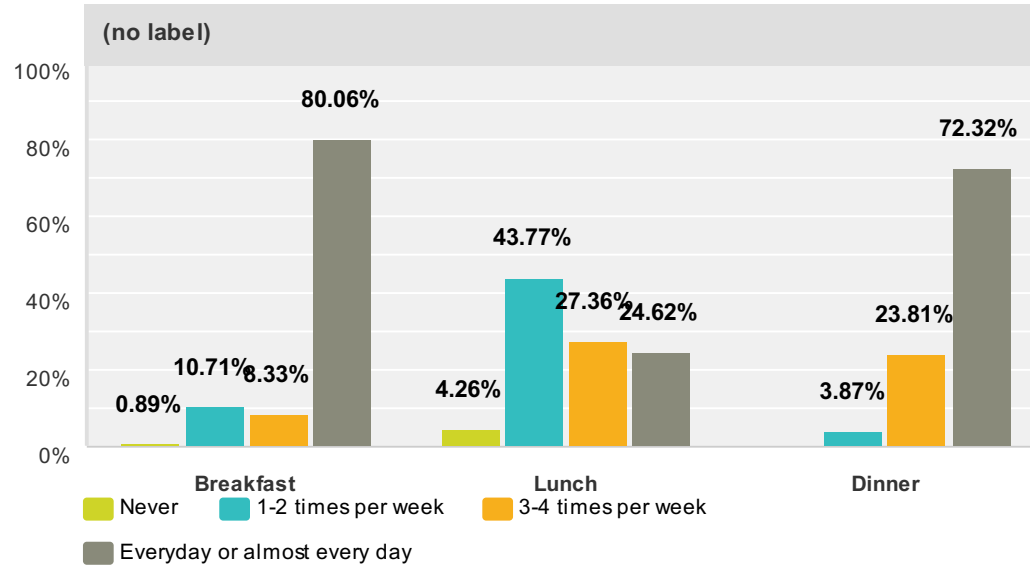
Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Live alone	16.32%	55
2	40.06%	135
3	21.96%	74
4	17.21%	58
More than 4	4.45%	15
<b>Total</b>		<b>337</b>

### Q3 Which meals do you eat at home?

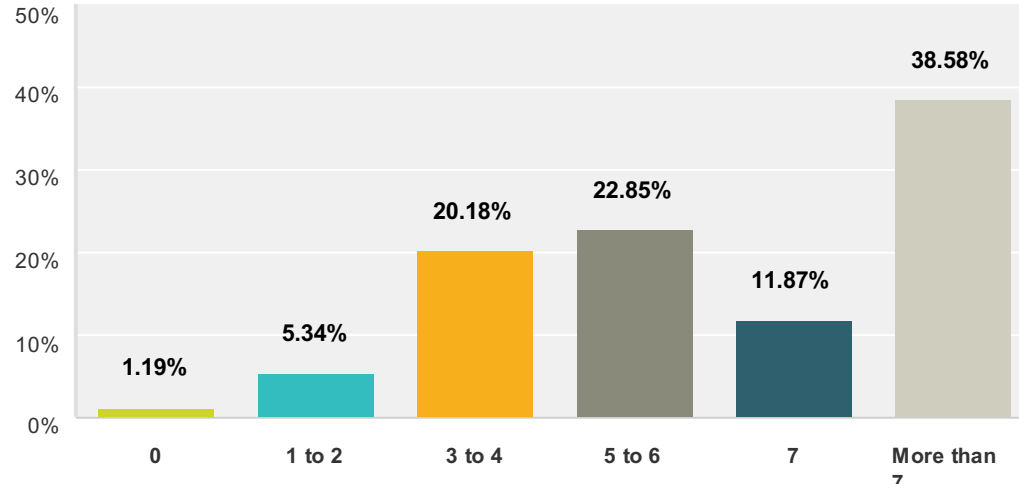
Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



(no label)					
	Never	1-2 times per week	3-4 times per week	Everyday or almost every day	Total
Breakfast	0.89% 3	10.71% 36	8.33% 28	80.06% 269	336
Lunch	4.26% 14	43.77% 144	27.36% 90	24.62% 81	329
Dinner	0.00% 0	3.87% 13	23.81% 80	72.32% 243	336

### Q4 On average how many meals do you cook using fresh produce a week?

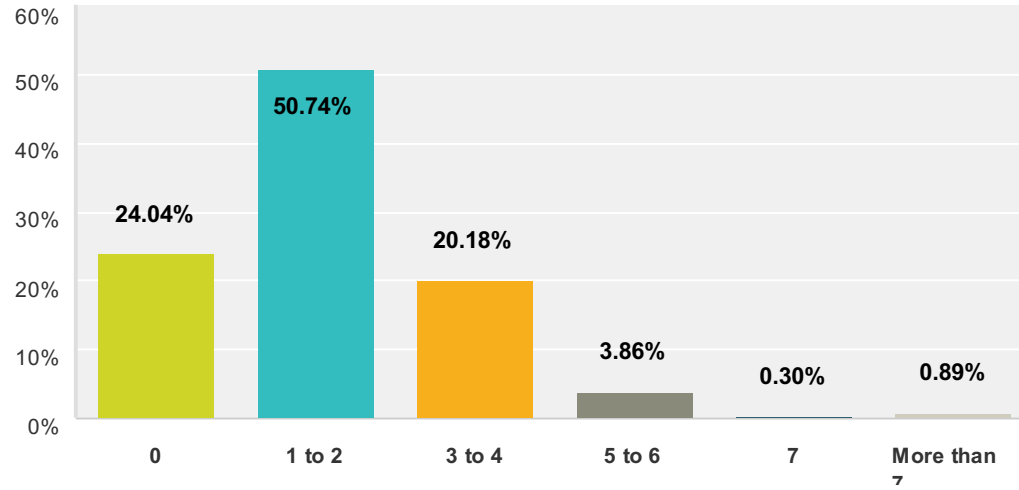
Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
0	1.19%	4
1 to 2	5.34%	18
3 to 4	20.18%	68
5 to 6	22.85%	77
7	11.87%	40
More than 7	38.58%	130
<b>Total</b>		<b>337</b>

**Q5 On average, how many pre-prepared (frozen, delivery, takeout) meals do you eat a week at home?**

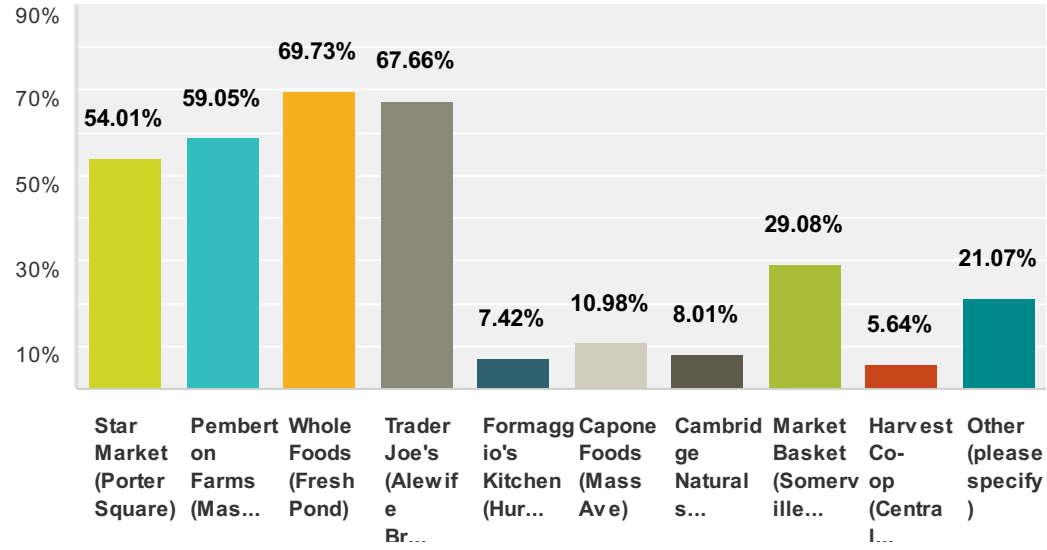
Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
0	24.04%	81
1 to 2	50.74%	171
3 to 4	20.18%	68
5 to 6	3.86%	13
7	0.30%	1
More than 7	0.89%	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>337</b>

### Q6 Which grocery stores do you shop at regularly? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 337 Skipped: 0

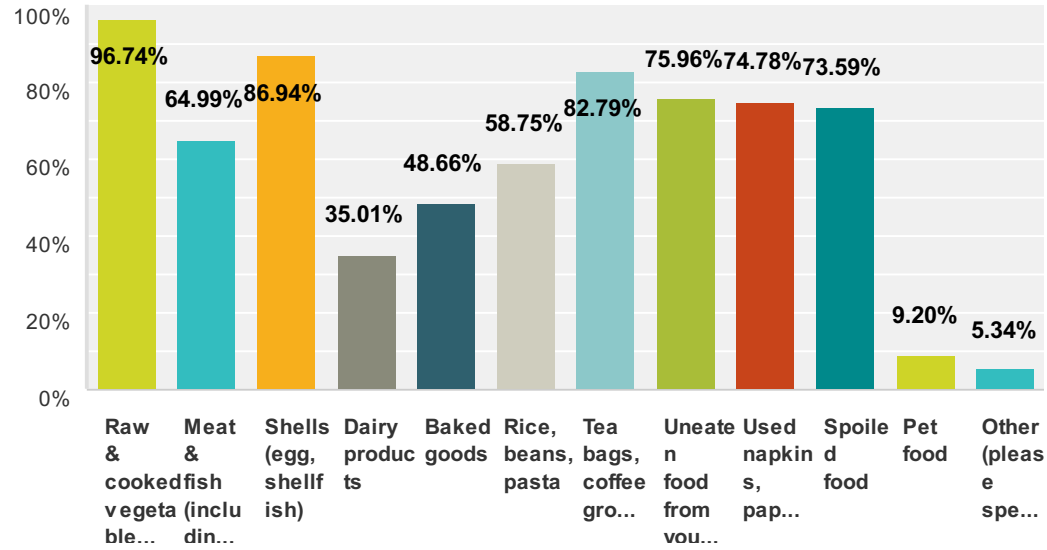


Answer Choices	Responses
Star Market (Porter Square)	54.01% 182
Pemberton Farms (Mass Ave)	59.05% 199
Whole Foods (Fresh Pond)	69.73% 235
Trader Joe's (Alewife Brook Parkway)	67.66% 228
Formaggio's Kitchen (Huron Ave)	7.42% 25
Capone Foods (Mass Ave)	10.98% 37
Cambridge Naturals (Porter Square)	8.01% 27
Market Basket (Somerville Ave)	29.08% 98
Harvest Co-op (Central Square)	5.64% 19
Other (please specify)	21.07% 71
<b>Total Respondents: 337</b>	



### Q7 What type of food scraps do you collect in your kitchen container? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



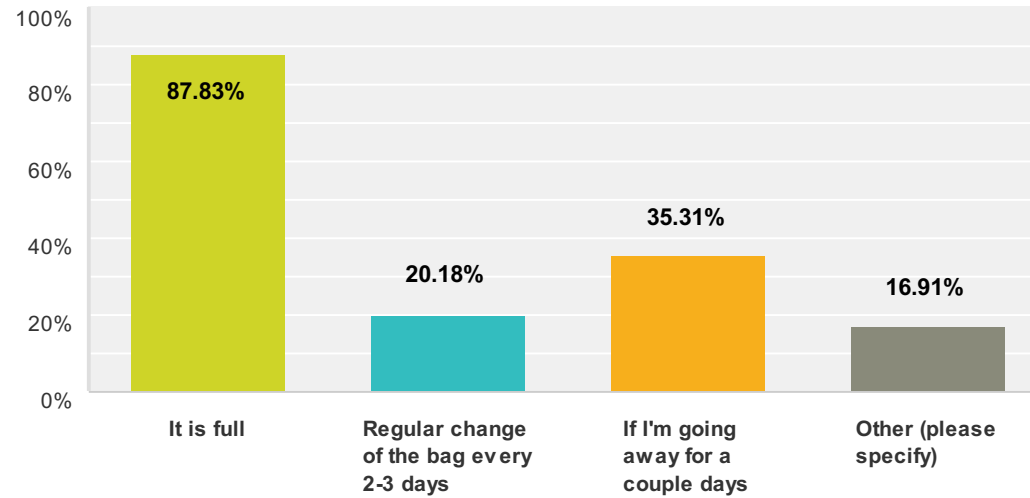
Answer Choices	Responses
Raw & cooked vegetables, fruit	96.74% 326
Meat & fish (including bones)	64.99% 219
Shells (egg, shellfish)	86.94% 293
Dairy products	35.01% 118
Baked goods	48.66% 164
Rice, beans, pasta	58.75% 198
Tea bags, coffee grounds	82.79% 279
Uneaten food from your plates	75.96% 256
Used napkins, paper towels, coffee filters, waxed paper	74.78% 252
Spoiled food	73.59% 248

## Cambridge Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 2

Pet food	9.20%	31
Other (please specify)	5.34%	18
<b>Total Respondents: 337</b>		

### Q8 What prompts you to empty your kitchen container? (Check all that apply)

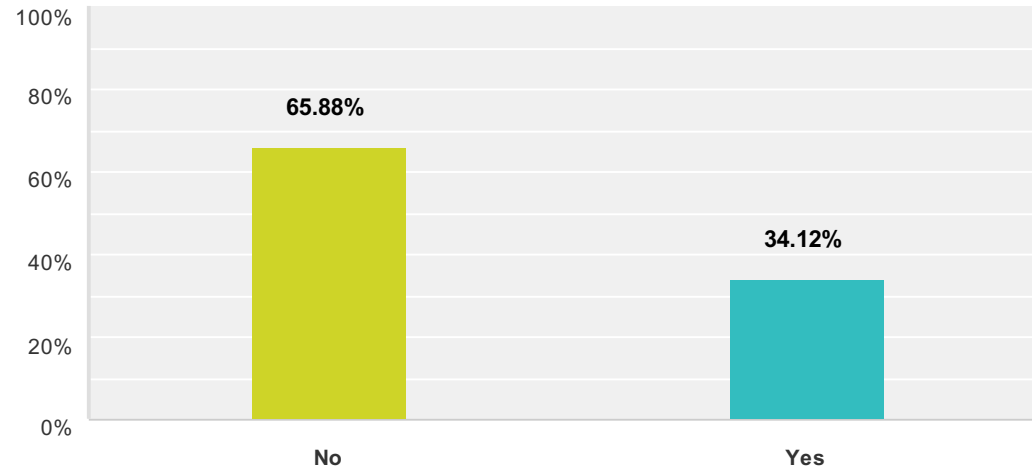
Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
It is full	87.83% 296
Regular change of the bag every 2-3 days	20.18% 68
If I'm going away for a couple days	35.31% 119
Other (please specify)	16.91% 57
<b>Total Respondents: 337</b>	

### Q9 Have you noticed any odor from the kitchen container?

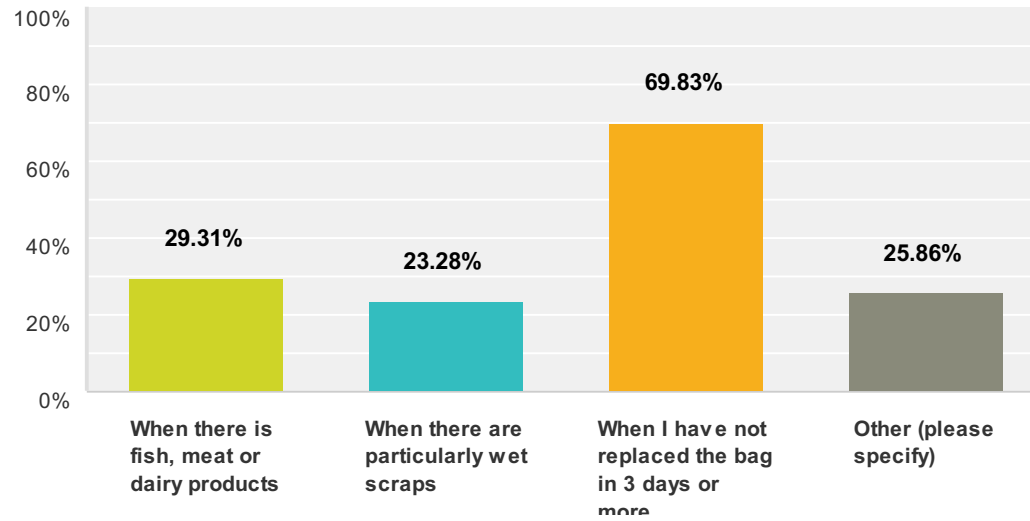
Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
No	65.88%	222
Yes	34.12%	115
<b>Total</b>		<b>337</b>

**Q10 If you answered "Yes" to the previous question, when do you notice odor?  
(Check all that apply)**

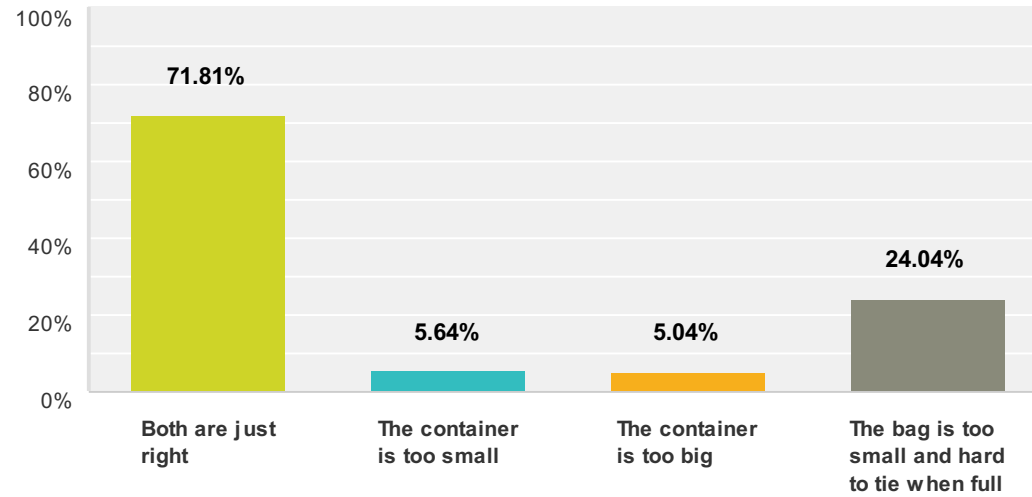
Answered: 116 Skipped: 221



Answer Choices	Responses	
When there is fish, meat or dairy products	29.31%	34
When there are particularly wet scraps	23.28%	27
When I have not replaced the bag in 3 days or more	69.83%	81
Other (please specify)	25.86%	30
<b>Total Respondents: 116</b>		

### Q11 What do you think of the size of the kitchen container and bag?

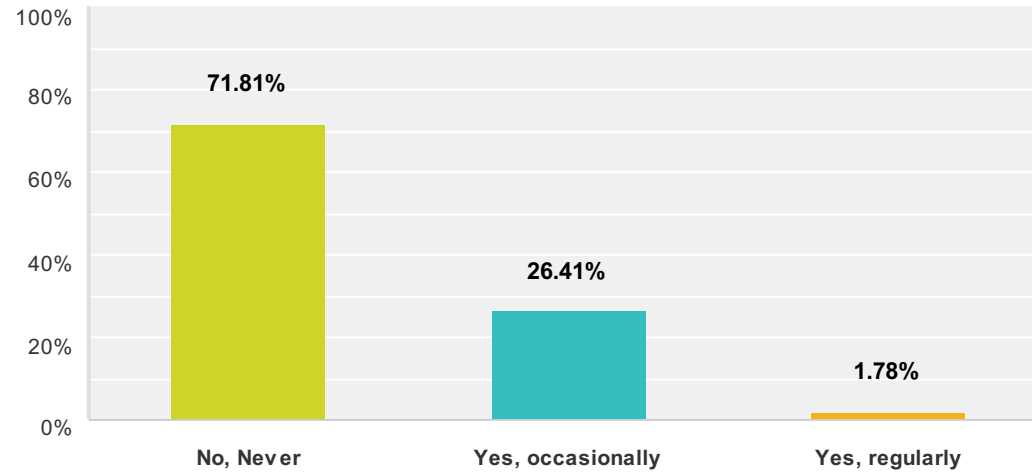
Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Both are just right	71.81% 242
The container is too small	5.64% 19
The container is too big	5.04% 17
The bag is too small and hard to tie when full	24.04% 81
<b>Total Respondents: 337</b>	

### Q12 Do the bags break?

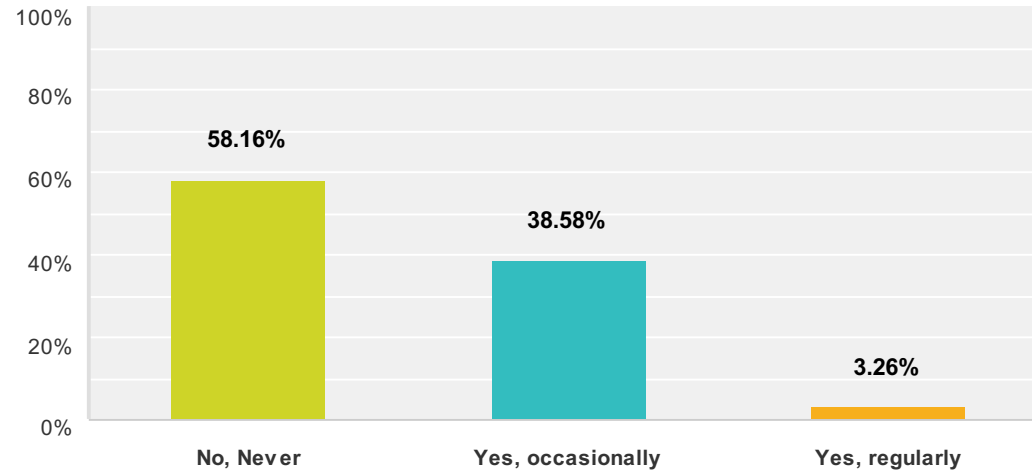
Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
No, Never	71.81% 242
Yes, occasionally	26.41% 89
Yes, regularly	1.78% 6
<b>Total</b>	<b>337</b>

### Q13 Do the bags leak?

Answered: 337 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
No, Never	58.16%	196
Yes, occasionally	38.58%	130
Yes, regularly	3.26%	11
<b>Total</b>		<b>337</b>



**Q14 Additional Comments or Questions**

Answered: 132 Skipped: 205

**Q15 Name (optional)**

Answered: 142 Skipped: 195

**Q16 Email (optional)**

Answered: 132 Skipped: 205

All's well so far!

---

congrats on a program well executed!!! you made it very easy to comply with - not an easy task

---

Fantastic program! I hope it can be rolled out across the rest of Cambridge.

---

Glad I'm part of the pilot. I do notice less solid waste and I use the sink disposal far far less.  
great program. I'm glad to participate!

---

Happy with it almost no trash now from 4 bags to 1 bag of trash a week

---

I am so grateful for this program! Our garbage has been reduced by at least 50%.

---

I am so happy to see how little trash we now have and could consider a much smaller garbage bin in the kitchen!!

---

I like the service! I hope it's going well.

---

I love not trying to keep up with my compost bin- turning, finding enough brown material, etc. I will love it even more in winter.

---

I love that this program is in place. I want to get my neighbours on board so I've given them the pertinent info, but I fear their relative young age & dislike of the landlord plays a part in their reluctance. I would like to see an interactive website, whether it's Facebook or something else, so that fellow composters can share experience, tips & info. Done right it could turn into a compost/gardening site in no time. Only I think it would be wise to discourage political discourse & encourage new & inventive ways to make the world a better place. You guys are certainly doing your part.

---

I love this composting program! I feel like my actual trash is so much lighter, rarely smells and can be emptied less frequently! I would be really happy if this program continued past the pilot year.

---

I love this! My actual trash has decreased exponentially. So glad that you take all food scraps, including protein.

---

I'm so glad we have this program. Even though I composted before, the range of items I can compost now is much greater, and I find that most weeks, I only have one, or sometimes two, bags of trash.

---

I'm very happy with this program! And very happy that I'm able to easily compost my food scraps... I used to pay Bootstrap compost to come and pick up my compost, so I'm glad I don't have to do that anymore!

---

In the past I have not composted foods with oils or meat products.

---

It's a great program, thank you!

---

Just want to thank you for starting the program. I do compost most of my raw fruits/veggies, tea bags and coffee grounds in my own compost bin. However, I like having a place to put the meat/fish/dairy/pet food/soiled papers.

---

Looks like an animal nibbled on the bag while it was inside container under my kitchen sink!! Made me want to use a sealed container instead of the one city provided.

---

Love being able to compost!

---

Love it!

---

Love the program!

---

Love the program!!!! Thank you!

---

Love the program.

---

Love this! It is so good for us in the summer when we have our CSA.

---

Overall I am very pleased to be able to compost my scraps. This is especially true for all the eggshells, produce scraps, and coffee grounds I produce and hate to throw in a landfill.

---

Placing container in freezer has helped reduce smell and fruit flies. This program is awesome so happy to be a part of it!

---

Program is very good. Our triple decker with all three units enrolled illustrates that (1) you can reduce, by weight, what would go to the dump by greater than 70%. That means that our household non-compostable, non-recyclable waste for the building (3 units) has gone from about 65 pounds per week to less than 25 pounds per week. So, a building that generated about a ton and a half a year of stuff to go to dump prior to experiment should now only generate less than half a ton. This should not have been done as an experiment. Towns like Hamilton, MA, (not a hotbed of environmental activism) rolled this out as a mandatory program two years ago with no difficulty. Every household had to obey rules from day one. We should immediately do same here. Cambridge is a great place to live--low cost of real estate taxes, high level of city services--citizens should be asked to behave responsibly by helping to improve our environment and help to reduce community operating costs. Regards, Peter

---

Program is working well. We keep the bag in the freezer during the summer. We also compost all appropriate materials in yard compost as well, except in winter.

---

seems like a great systems far as it is easy and convenient

---

Still loving it!

---

Thank you for all you do in this project. I'm so grateful!

---

Thank you for this program. Keep up the good work. And p.s. our neighbors bin went missing after last pick up- 8 George St

---

Thank you so much for this service! It's reduced our un-recyclable trash production by about 1/3-1/2.

---

Thank you!!

---

Thanks again! We love the program!

---

thanks for a great program!

---

Thanks for doing this! When will you decide whether or not to take it city-wide?

---

thanks for starting this program. I always wanted to do composting, but was worried about mice. Also it is a bit of work to keep a good compost pile.

---

Thanks!

---

Thanks! Very much enjoying the program so far, and appreciate the ability to compost in an apartment with no access to outside composting.

---

The Compost program is terrific. The only garbage I have now are plastic wrappings all contained in one bag for the garbage truck. Everything else is recycled or composted. Wonderful program! Thank you.

---

The container just fits perfectly onto the shelf on my refrigerator door right as it opens up. I put scraps into a small plastic container as I am cooking and then dump them into the larger container in the fridge periodically. This works well - no smell or insects. When the cold weather comes back I may put it back on the kitchen counter but we will see. Aside from taking up room in the fridge, this system is working well for me.

---

The process is working just fine. We're having to re-think our usual patterns of waste disposal, but that's coming along pretty well.

---

The program seems to be going very well. Thank you for putting it together.

---

This is a great program. Composting at home was something I never got around to doing. Thanks for the opportunity to reduce waste.

---

This program is a win-win-win: We use a garbage disposal less, Cambridge saves money, good soil is created. Love it!!

---

this program is awesome! it has revolutionized my trash - between this and recycling, the only thing we throw out now are plastic bags and plastic wrapping. And the trash doesn't smell any more!!

---

This program is great. Because of the Recycling Program and the Composting program we have very little traditional garbage, about half regular sized plastic grocery bag each week!

---

very convenient

---

Very pleased with the program

---

We are sooooo happy with this program. The bin is a little topsy, that might be the only change I would make. Maybe more reminders on how to avoid smells in the rare cases it happens.

---

We are very happy to be disposing of food waste in a way that will be of use to farmers.

---

We have a large outdoor container since we're a veg. family & our tenant participates when he's home. It works very well. I have heard people say that the smaller ones are kind of a pain to move out to curb--awkward size & they end up trying to pick up & carry.

---

We have had to move out of our apartment for 3 months and I am seeing a big difference in the amount of trash we accumulate.

---

We have now been keeping the bin in the fridge, which has reduced the amount of flies and the smell  
We love city composting! Keep it up!

---

We LOVE this composting program. It has reduced our waste considerably. We don't eat meat or we would probably compost bones and stuff.

---

We love this program and hope it is continued! One additional benefit is that it helps us to modify our purchasing behavior to reduce the amount we waste by reducing the amount we purchase at a given time

---

We love this program!

---

we love this program! many thanks for making it happen in Cambridge

---

We're still thrilled to be part of this!!

---

We've been surprised by how much we use our compost bin.

---

When the bag is full, I've been putting it in the freezer, until trash pick up night. So they don't get too ripe in the bin in the hot sun of summer. Thanks for this excellent pilot program! I hope it's a success.

---

Your system of wrapping goopy stuff (tofu, wet beans) in newspaper is helpful for managing this.  
Thank you for doing the pilot in my neighborhood!!!

---

16 12% Request for Continuation (Positive)

Are we going to keep curbside composting in Cambridge? I really hope we do.

---

Good program. Hope it expands.

---

Great job, and keep it going.

---

Great program, hope it continues.

---

LOVE LOVE this program. PLEASE keep it going and spread the love the rest of our fair city.

I hope that Cambridge is seriously considering expanding this program to the entire city after the pilot program finishes. It has greatly reduced our trash generation (maybe Cambridge could decrease trash pickup to every other week as a result?) and our trash doesn't smell at all anymore!

---

I love having curbside compost pick-up. I hope it continues beyond the pilot.

---

I love the compost program and hope it continues. My trash is so much lighter and I don't have to waste food scraps by throwing it away.

---

I love the program. Keep it up!

---

I love this program! Although it has shown me and my family the enormous quantity of food we throw away and that makes me feel bad. But it's b/c I have young kids (1.5 & 3) and I hope they'll learn from this and outgrow some of the food wasting habits. Thank you for this program - I hope it goes city-wide!

---

I'm so proud to live in a neighborhood that has city composting! I'm from Vermont (where they passed a law so that it will be illegal not to compost in a few years). I grew up with a compost and it's so awesome that the city is taking this step. I hope it's successful enough to implement city wide. I also think it would be awesome to get restaurants and offices on board, but I know that is a HUGE undertaking.

---

I'm very glad the city is running this program and I hope it expands! It feels good to know we are part of something that is at least intended to reduce waste.

---

Really excited about this program. Kudos to all of you spearheading it and keeping it rolling. I hope it can be Cambridge -wide soon. thanks for all your work!

---

The composting program has been great. I hope that it becomes a regular part of the city waste collection.

---

We love the compost pilot - I really hope to see it permanently after the pilot period!

---

We've loved participating in this pilot and hope all of Cambridge will be composting soon!

---

13 10% **Fruit fly comments**

Tons of fruit flies around it almost always.

Fruit flies are a huge problem, I stopped collecting scraps for that reason. Keeping it in the fridge does not sound OK, wish there was another solution.

---

Fruit flies are a problem now with the hot weather. I don't have room in the refrig for the bag so we need some other solutions to this problem.

---

Had to move the bin outside due to fruit flies. But has been working well there. May move it into the freezer just to have it more accessible.

---

I have not been particularly happy about the bees and flies around the outdoor container and I definitely do not want to keep this discarded food--sometimes spoiled food--in my refrigerator. My outdoor space is also very limited so I have few choices about where I can keep the container. I feel that composting is a good thing to do and it all works well except for the issues with the outdoor container.

---

I have stopped using the green plastic container on the counter since it breeds fruit flies. But I do use the green baggies to hold organic waste on the counter or in the fridge for a day or two before I put it in the green outdoor bin

---

I dont like the bugs that grow in the big green container in summer. I rinse as directed. Just saying  
Noticed this week that due to bags leaking our outside bin started to attract bugs. We're paying more attention to how tightly we tie the bag and we washed the bin out and hopefully that'll resolve the problem.

---

The fruit flies are the worst part! The rest is awesome!

---

The whole system works great except for the fruit flies. They are a huge problem. The suggestion to avoid this by putting the compost in the refrigerator was a non-starter. Any other ideas? Thanks!

---

We had to move our bin to the freezer to keep the fruit flies at bay.

---

We've gotten some fruit flies in the kitchen as a result of the compost bin. It hasn't been too bad so far.

---

While I understand the logic of the container that does not seal tightly, the fact of it's many openings and not solid sealing makes it a remarkably effective breeding ground for fruit flies.

---

5 4% **Odor Comments**

Collection bin can get quite smelly when seepage occurs.

---

I keep my container in the freezer to eliminate any chance of odor and it's been great.

---

Our kitchen gets really hot in the summer and the curbside compost container smells really bad.

---

We've also had problems with fruit flies.

---

Stopped composting because of smell and flies.

---

The odor can be a problem for us, and space is limited in our home so there's no room in our fridge or freezer for used bags until pick up day. also, if the bin is empty, it tends to tip over while we are trying to put our scraps in.

---

15 11% **Bin/Bag Comments**

bag breakage is a serious defect.

---

bag is certainly hard to tie. Maybe it needs a better lid?

---

Bags slip off of lip of container

Handle-tie bags would be great. I don't think changing the size of the "kitchen" container would change how we're using it.

I am a little scared that the bags will break or leak so I'm super careful with them. The outdoor totes are the only problem - squirrels keep getting into them.

I am still concerned about the latch on the outdoor bins. It was very difficult to use when we had spring frost and light snow; I am not sure how it will work through the long winter. It seems like it could freeze shut.

I do wish the counter top container was designed to limit gnats more.

I have a small kitchen and little counter space and the container, although the right size for scraps, is large and not very attractive.

I store the in-home container under my sink, and I did take the precaution of placing a stick-up style charcoal odor-absorber right near it. I would not want to let the unit sit there more than 3-4 days before emptying it, so that's why I like the relatively small size, as it forces us to empty it into the outdoor bin frequently. I have occasionally put to-go cups in there that appear to be plastic but are clearly labelled as "compostable"; hope that was ok.

I'm glad you asked the question about the bags being too small for the container, and hard to tie when full, because I was planning on reporting that to you. I like the size of the container, and also the size of the wheeled bin. I just wish the bags were taller than the container so that there was still bag left when the container was full.

one of the hinges on the lid on my in-house bin broke and I currently have it wired with a twister, I could use a new one

The container feels a bit flimsy and maybe top-heavy.

the container you gave us (with all of the holes) was giving off too many fruit flies. we dont have room to keep the container in the fridge, so i got a compost container with is air tight (mostly). I also keep a fruit fly trap (a small bowl of balsamic vin covered with syran wrap with a few holes in it) next to the bin.

We haven't found the lid on the kitchen basket to be useful. It comes off easily so we stopped using it. We keep under our sink and it has been fine without the lid.

The big container seems much larger than necessary.

#### 4 3% **Free Bags**

I think participants shouldn't have to buy new bags - there should at least be an option for people to get them for free. If it's easier for someone to pop by a store and buy them then that's their choice, but if this is a municipal service that saves Cambridge money, bags should be provided.

I think the City should pay for the compost bags, not the user since it is saving the City money

I think you should offer to re-supply households with bags if they tell you they cannot afford to buy them. They are pretty expensive.

It would be great to get more composting bags free from the city, but I guess that's not feasible.

#### 5 4% **General negative**

Composting is a good idea but frankly not worth the trouble in the summer for three related reasons: 1) Too hot to cook, so we and neighbors often eat out or get takeout and eat in park or walking around; 2) Heat makes bins disgusting, even w washing them, because just two or three bags smell and attract bugs; 3) People are away more for vacation etc so less oppty to empty containers, bring bin to curb etc - less refuse, but it sits there longer so smell and bugs worse. Right outside windows. YUCK!

Critters knawed a hole in the curbside container so flys and maggots have become an issue the past month.



I don't like using the plastic bags. There is a similar program in Oakland, CA that I'm familiar with and they don't use bags.

---

the outside compost garbage can is awkward to pull because of it's size: low to the ground

---

we have stopped composting for the summer because we go away every weekend and also our house (second and third floor) in cambridge gets very hot in the summer and the compost goes bad and then we dont have room in our freezer for bags of compost. It gets too complicated with going away every weekend to keep track of it. We will definitely start composting again in the fall September 1!

---

9 7% **Questions**

1. Can I use the green produce bags from whole foods as the bag? 2. Can I / should I also put kleenex in? This is what you are supposed to do in San Francisco but the instructions are confusing so I'm still putting these in the garbage.

---

I didn't know that there were any cost savings for the city associated with this program. If that's true, I'd like to see it emphasized more.

---

Is it possible to purchase more recycle bags cheaper? I think their overpriced now and should be less expensive. Why are they expensive?

---

Is there a limit as to how much food-stained paper we should be putting in the compost container?

---

Please estimate dollar cost and energy cost per pound of compost

---

We're moving to Fayette Street July 25th. Any possibility of of having composting in that area?

---

We've enjoyed being able to participate in the project so far, and are very happy to continue to decrease the amount we're sending to the landfill. As an aside, we know that the recycling center takes a wide range of plastics that are harder to recycle else-where. Would Cambridge consider a 'plastics pickup' or more decentralized deposit bins to increase take-up of plastics bags and wraps? This is now our current largest disposal item.

---

What determined whether a household got a large or small green bin, the outside one?

---

When can I get compost for my garden?

---

2 1% **Statements**

I live with my wife who works. So during the week, only I eat breakfast and lunch at home whereas we both eat dinner together

---

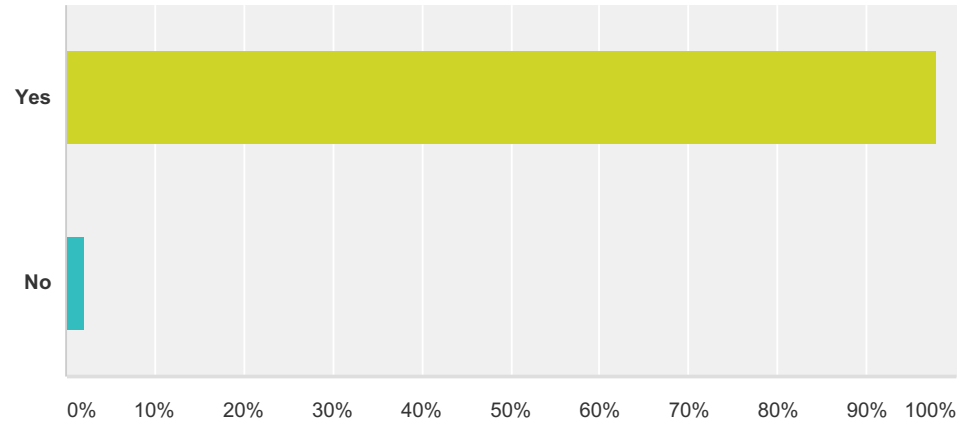
In warmer weather, or if bag is filling slowly for some reason (fewer meals at home on a given week), the bag/container does smell. We simply put it in fridge, and it's small enough that we can use it within fridge for short periods. Works fine as solution.

---

# Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 3

## Q1 Do you feel like collecting food scraps in a separate bin is now a habit?

Answered: 332 Skipped: 1

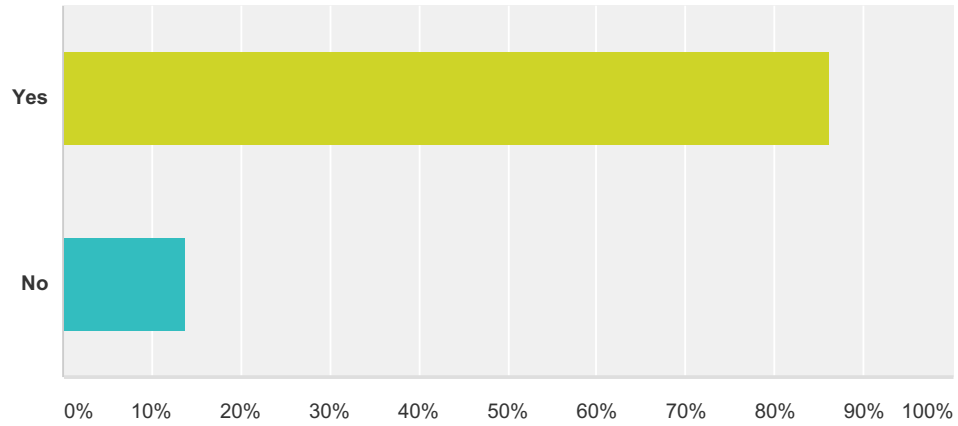


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	97.89% 325
No	2.11% 7
<b>Total</b>	<b>332</b>

# Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 3

## Q2 Have you spoken with friends, family or neighbors about the pilot? (Check all that apply.)

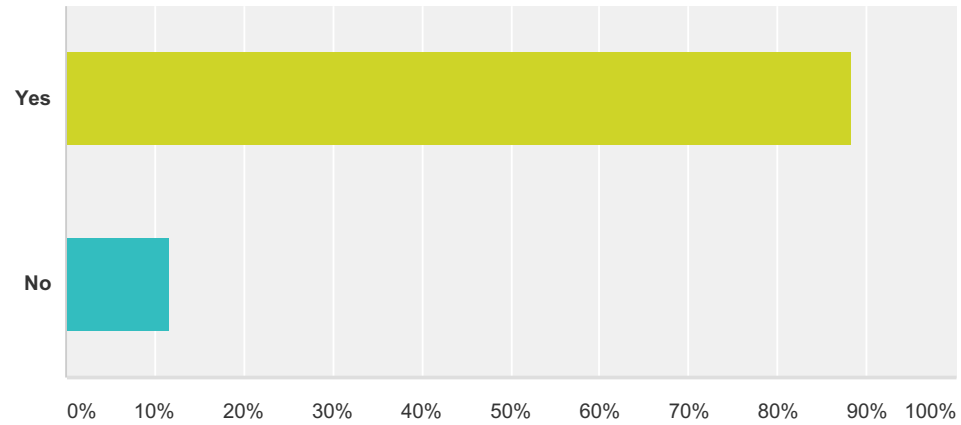
Answered: 332 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	86.14%	286
No	13.86%	46
<b>Total</b>		<b>332</b>

### Q3 Are you using the kitchen collector the City provided to collect your food scraps?

Answered: 332 Skipped: 1

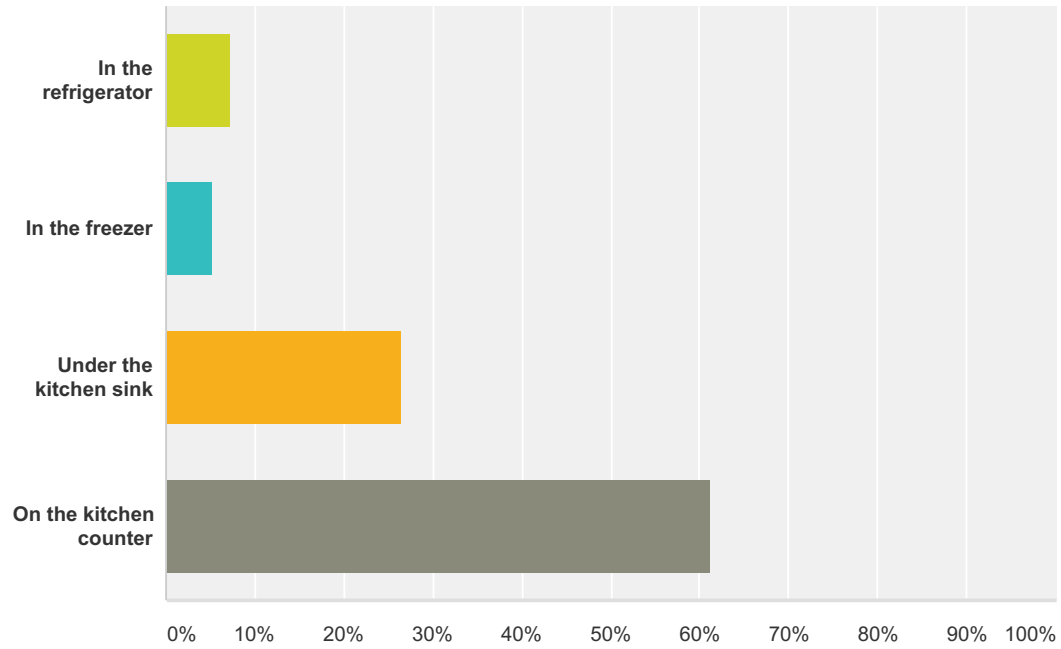


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	88.25%	293
No	11.75%	39
<b>Total</b>		<b>332</b>

# Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 3

## Q4 Where do you keep your kitchen container?

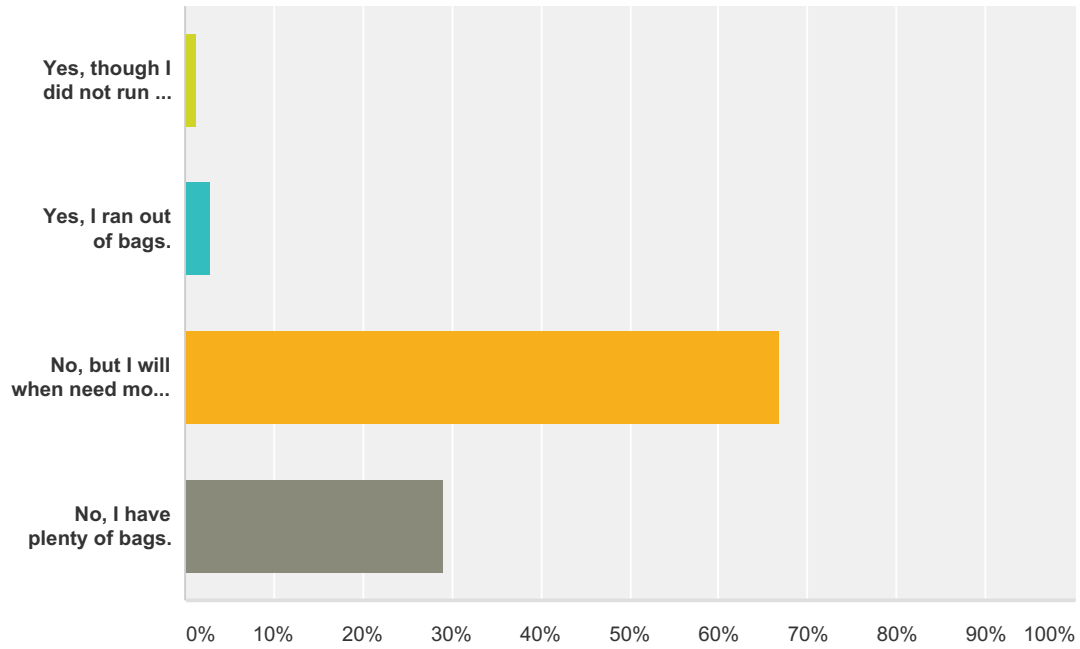
Answered: 332 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
In the refrigerator	7.23% 24
In the freezer	5.12% 17
Under the kitchen sink	26.51% 88
On the kitchen counter	61.14% 203
<b>Total</b>	<b>332</b>

### Q5 Have you used the Buy One Get One Free coupon for BioBags?

Answered: 332 Skipped: 1

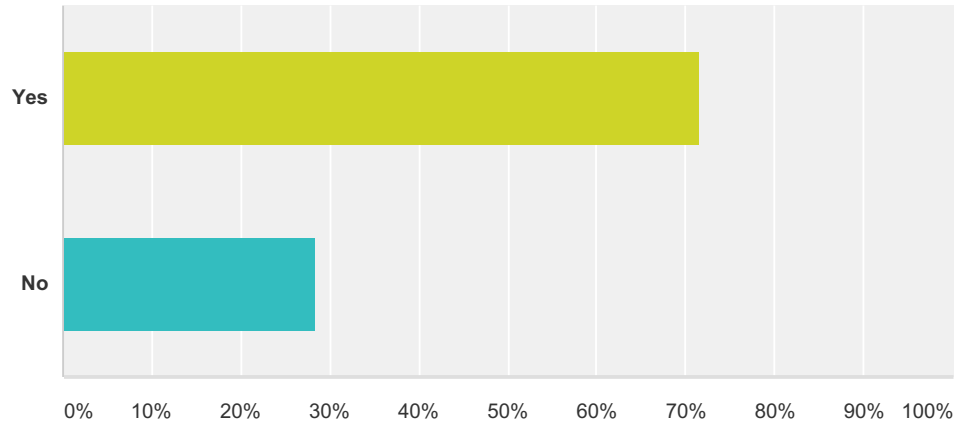


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes, though I did not run out of bags.	1.20% 4
Yes, I ran out of bags.	3.01% 10
No, but I will when need more bags.	66.87% 222
No, I have plenty of bags.	28.92% 96
<b>Total</b>	<b>332</b>

# Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 3

## Q6 Have you had fruit flies?

Answered: 332 Skipped: 1

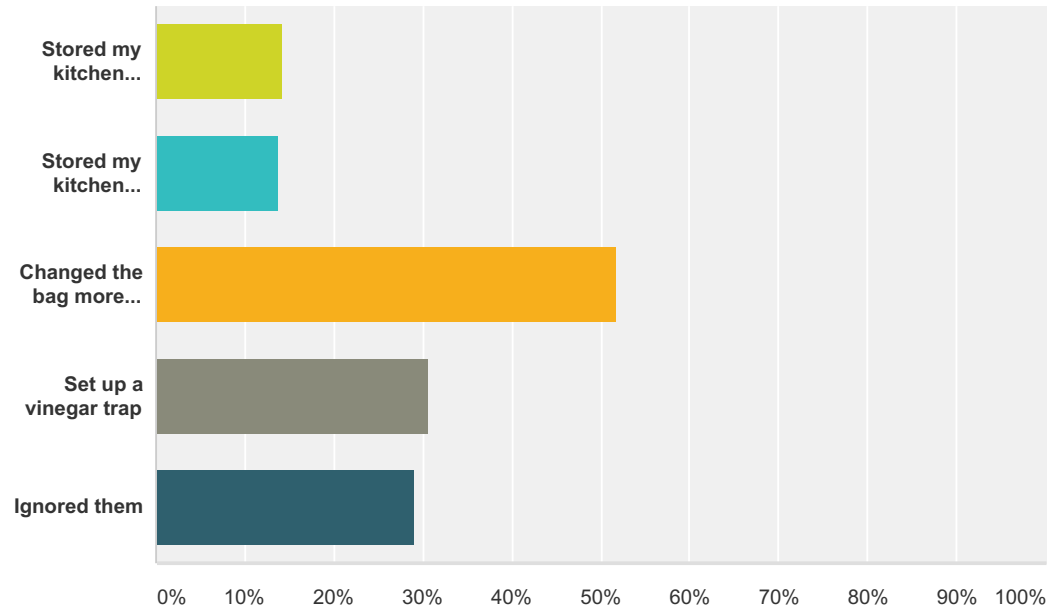


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	71.69%	238
No	28.31%	94
<b>Total</b>		<b>332</b>

## Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 3

### Q7 If you've had fruit flies, what did you do to address it?

Answered: 238 Skipped: 95



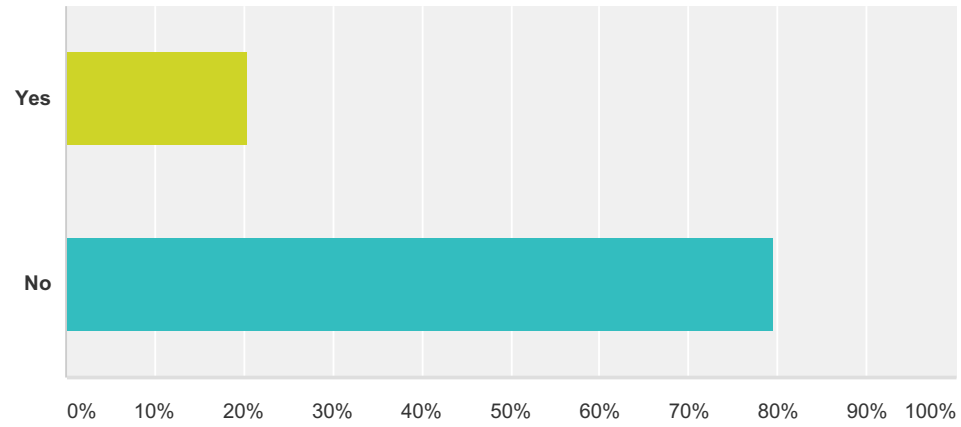
Answer Choices	Responses
Stored my kitchen container in the refrigerator	14.29% 34
Stored my kitchen container in the freezer	13.87% 33
Changed the bag more frequently	51.68% 123
Set up a vinegar trap	30.67% 73
Ignored them	28.99% 69
<b>Total Respondents: 238</b>	



# Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 3

## Q8 Before the pilot, did you notice rodents around your property?

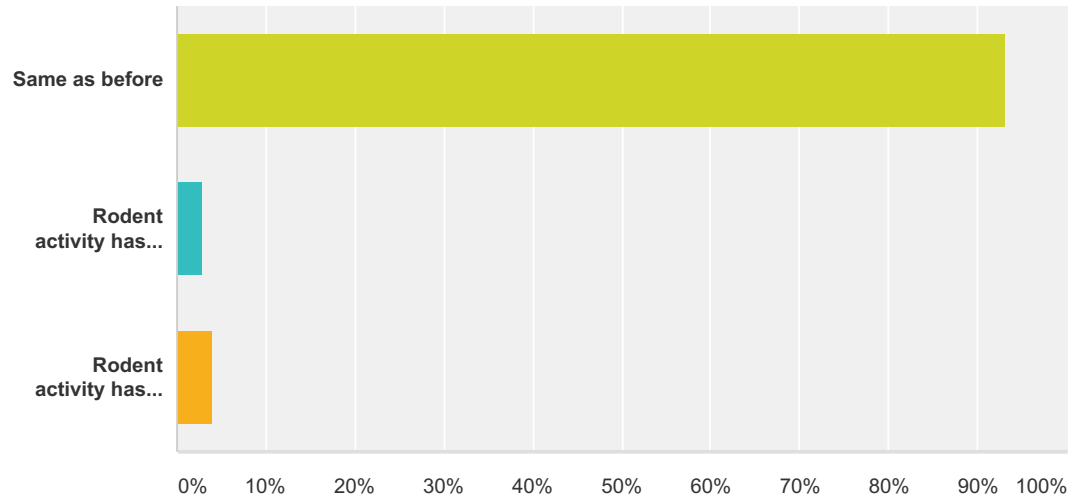
Answered: 332 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	20.48%	68
No	79.52%	264
<b>Total</b>		<b>332</b>

### Q9 Since the pilot started, have you noticed a change in rodents around your property?

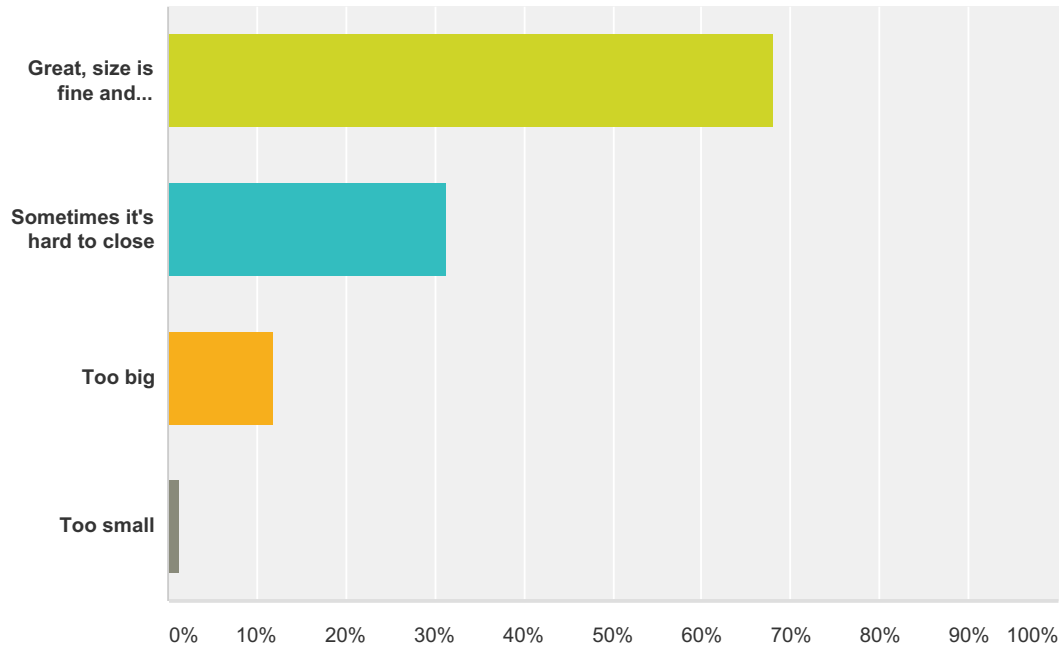
Answered: 332 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Same as before	93.07% 309
Rodent activity has increased	3.01% 10
Rodent activity has decreased	3.92% 13
<b>Total</b>	<b>332</b>

**Q10 If your outdoor green bin has a latch on the top of the lid (for 3-12 unit buildings), what do you think about these bins?**

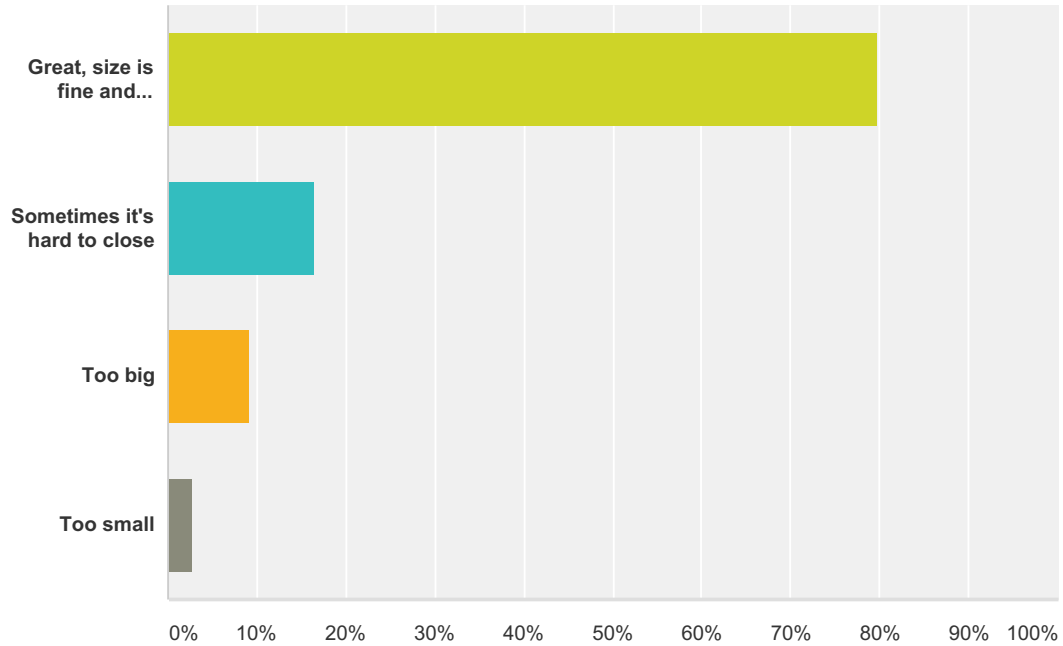
Answered: 160 Skipped: 173



Answer Choices	Responses
Great, size is fine and they're easy to use	68.13% 109
Sometimes it's hard to close	31.25% 50
Too big	11.88% 19
Too small	1.25% 2
<b>Total Respondents: 160</b>	

**Q11 If your outdoor green bin has a latch on the front of the lid (for 1-2 unit buildings), what do you think about these bins?**

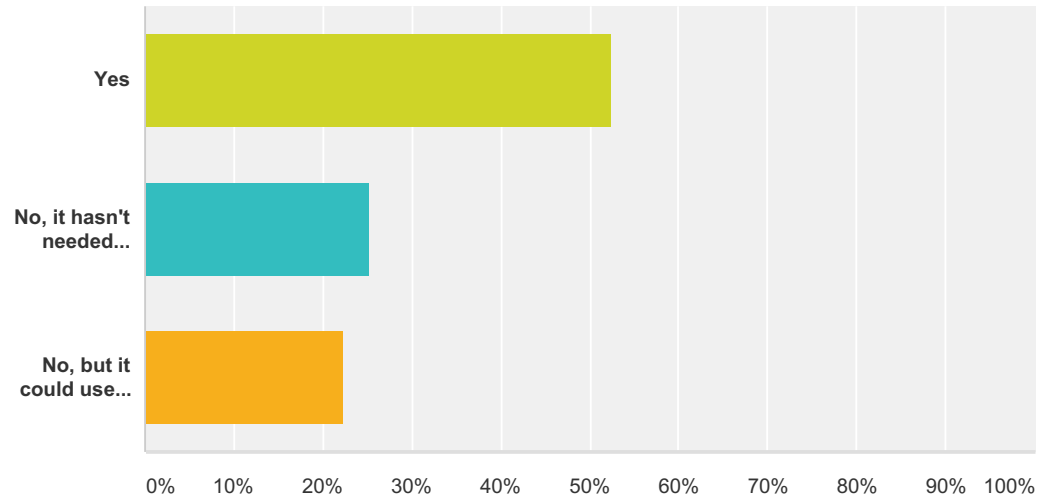
Answered: 183 Skipped: 150



Answer Choices	Responses
Great, size is fine and they're easy to use	79.78% 146
Sometimes it's hard to close	16.39% 30
Too big	9.29% 17
Too small	2.73% 5
<b>Total Respondents: 183</b>	

**Q12 Have you cleaned your outdoor green bin? (When you do, thank you for draining the wash water onto a grassy area, never into storm drains.)**

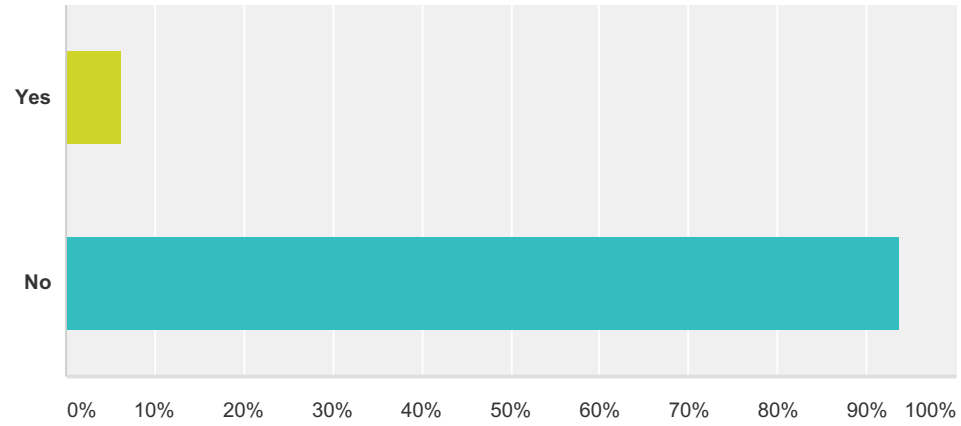
Answered: 332 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	52.41% 174
No, it hasn't needed cleaning.	25.30% 84
No, but it could use cleaning.	22.29% 74
<b>Total</b>	<b>332</b>

### Q13 Have you picked up finished compost from the Recycling Center for your garden?

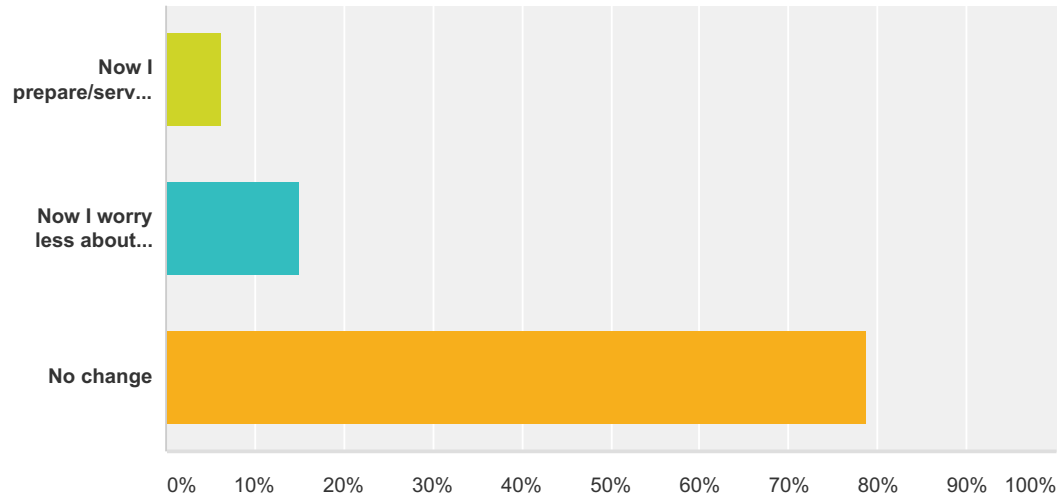
Answered: 332 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	6.33%	21
No	93.67%	311
<b>Total</b>		<b>332</b>

**Q14 Since the pilot started, have you changed the way you prepare and/or serve food?**

Answered: 332 Skipped: 1

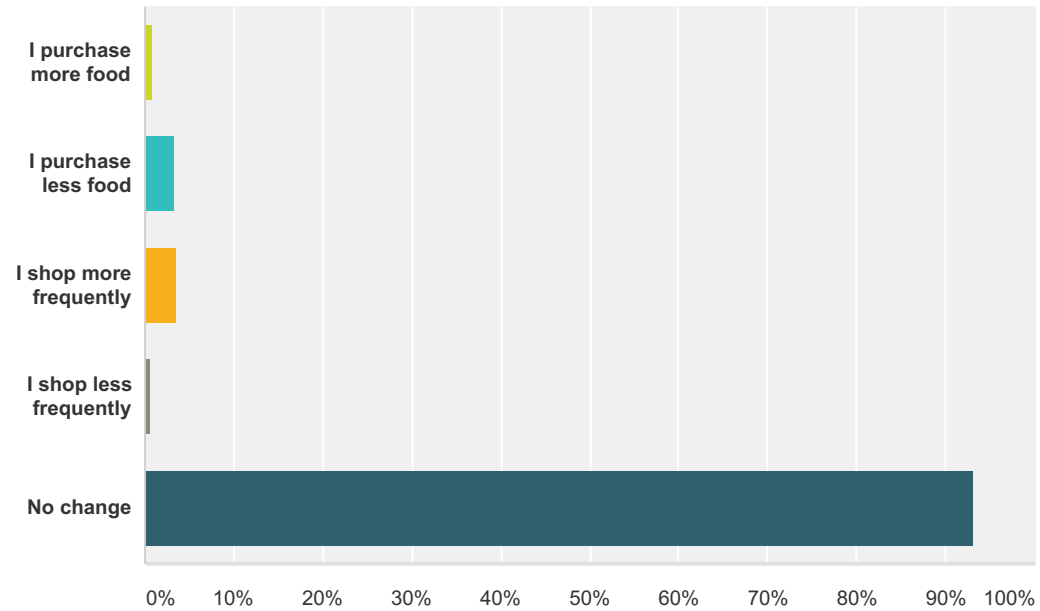


Answer Choices	Responses
Now I prepare/serve less to reduce waste	6.33% 21
Now I worry less about wasting food because I can compost it	15.06% 50
No change	78.61% 261
<b>Total</b>	<b>332</b>

Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 3

**Q15 Since the pilot started, have your shopping habits changed? (Check all that apply.)**

Answered: 332 Skipped: 1



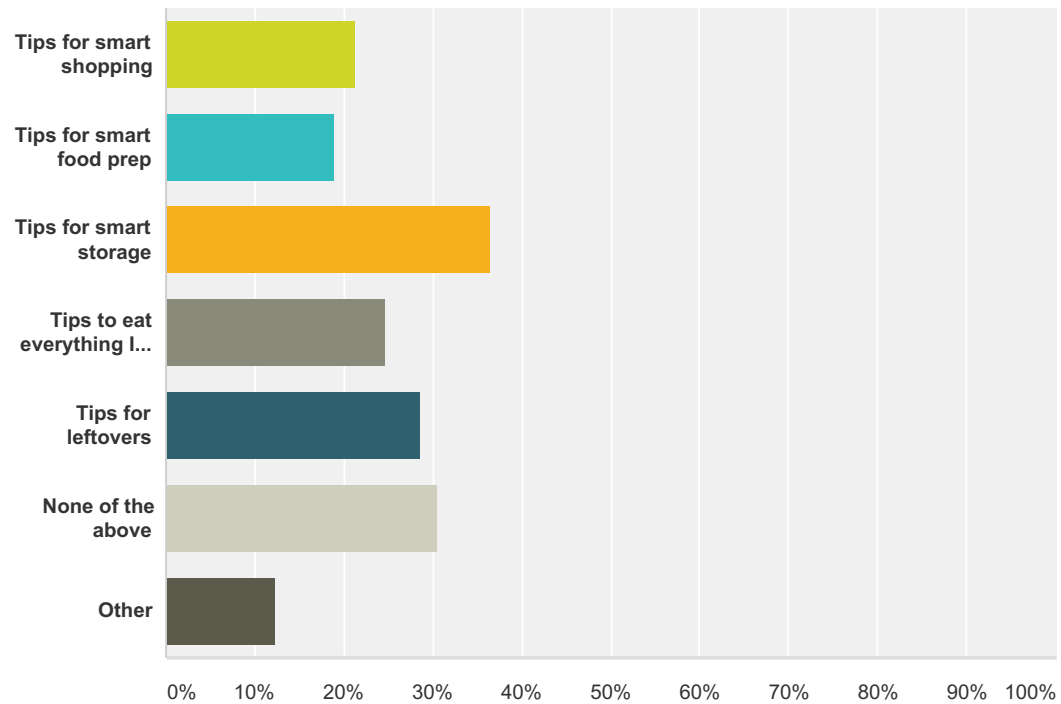
Answer Choices	Responses
I purchase more food	0.90% 3
I purchase less food	3.31% 11
I shop more frequently	3.61% 12
I shop less frequently	0.60% 2
No change	93.07% 309
<b>Total Respondents: 332</b>	



Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 3

**Q16 From the last survey, we learned that the majority of participating households are composting spoiled or uneaten food. While some waste is inedible, what would help reduce edible waste? (Check all that apply.)**

Answered: 332 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Tips for smart shopping	21.39% 71
Tips for smart food prep	18.98% 63
Tips for smart storage	36.45% 121

### Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 3

Tips to eat everything I buy	24.70%	82
Tips for leftovers	28.61%	95
None of the above	30.42%	101
Other	12.35%	41
<b>Total Respondents: 332</b>		

44 **1. Do you feel like collecting food scraps in a separate bin is now a habit?**

16	36%	<b>Old Habit</b>
		always has been
		We were already collecting scraps for our own backyard composting.
		It was also a habit before I lived in Cambridge.
		I was already doing it for home composting but now I can compost a greater variety of items, which is fabulous.
		It has always been a habit for me because this is how I was raised in PA in the mid seventies.
		Had been using a backyard bin, but happier to have the city collection
		Already was from when I was growing up.
		has been a habit for years -- only difference is now I include meat scraps
		Honestly, though, I've been a backyard composter for years. Collecting food scraps is one of my longtime habits.
15	34%	<b>New Habit</b>
		I have a really conveniently placed trash can (in the counter, right where I cut)
		it's fantastic--we put out almost no garbage any more!
		Second nature now!
		I now hate the thought of throwing food in the trash!
		Even my 2.5 year old has it as a habit.
		It is second nature and the kids love doing it.
		I love it!!! I feel like I am not wasting all these wonderfully compostable scraps without having to compost them myself (which is simply not going to happen...)
		The whole family has gotten into the habit.
		I moved the bin to the freezer for the warmer weather (to prevent bugs) and am now contemplating moving it back to my kitchen counter which is a bit more convenient. But it's definitely a habit.
		I actually now move the compost bin to an easier place so while I am preparing food I can get to it easier.
8	18%	<b>Appreciation</b>
		It's so good to not be throwing it in the trash or using lots of water to get it down the disposal!
		Our kids love this job!
		My kids scream at me if I put orange peel in the regular trash!
		Please don't stop the program!
		Amazed at how much scraps I used to put down the sink!
		We love that we are not wasting our scraps
5	11%	<b>Issues</b>
		the fruit flies have repeatedly become unmanageable, so we've stopped
		For me, but my partner is terrible!
		But that is only because we had to stop for a while because our bin got moldy it was a habit before that happened in the summer now we are slowly getting back into it.
		Occasionally, my 8 year old forgets
		I still forget sometimes... it's more a process where I look at the fridge on Sunday night and see what I can put out for collection.

121 **2. Have you spoken with friends, family or neighbors about the pilot?**

45	37%	<b>Simply Positive</b>
		Great, easy to use program. reduces trash meaningfully.
		My friends are also part of the pilot. We've talked about how little garbage we toss due to composting and I've spoken to non-composting friends about the same thing.
		We talk it up all the time, noting how little garbage we have and how good it is to save the waste stream from all this stuff.
		A friend recently moved from Jamaica Plain to Cambridge. She told her real estate agent she wanted to live at a compost address!
		Very happy that all the wasted food, rotting food, napkins, coffee grounds go to good use
		I have praised the efficiency and convenience of the program
		I'm proud of my city (and glad I don't have to deal with backyard composting...)
		I totally brag about it to friends who are out of the pilot zone and am really sad when I have to throw away compostable materials at their houses.
		Friends visiting from other communities were impressed that the program exists.
		I have talked enthusiastically about the program to folks in other neighborhoods and towns.
		I'm proud to let them know that Cambridge is launching this program.
		People from other parts of Cambridge wish they could participate.
		yes -- i emailed my neighborhood list serve and also told my neighbors who are not already signed up that they can sign up again now.
		I let people know when they come over. Have talked briefly with the other tenants in the building and landlord about how great it is.
		I say how much better I feel in dealing with uneaten surplus food and not as wasteful.
		Positive comments out and positive feedback in, but most are not within the pilot area.
		I and my teen are very proud to be part of a pilot program--it feels as if we are the advance team (the avant garde)--and are lucky that our city sponsors the composting. I always praise the thoughtfulness of the curbside containers, the kitchen collector, and the biobags--thanks!
16	13%	<b>Boasting/Enviousness</b>
		Mostly I gloat about how their neighborhood isn't as cool as mine.
		People from other parts of Cambridge see what I am doing when they're over and are envious!
		I have friends in Shrewsbury MA to whom I have "boasted" about the Cambridge program as a model for other communities.
		Our Cambridge friends in other neighborhoods are jealous and eager to participate
		I've often mentioned it to friends in other parts of Cambridge and in other towns and they are very jealous!
		Bragged about it to friends living in less enlightened towns. Urged neighbors to sign up. Just talked it up a lot. people are impressed and enthusiastic.
		I rave about the program. I have a number of friends who are jealous they aren't in the pilot area and who can't wait for it to be a city-wide program.
		That we are lucky to have a free collection for compost provided by the city. Other people are jealous and want it too
		I've told people who live outside North Cambridge about the pilot program and they were jealous and wished they could be part of it
13	11%	<b>Hoping for Continuation/Expansion</b>
		Wishing the pilot were more widespread and in Somerville!!!
		The rest of Cambridge is anticipating an expansion for certain!
		Mostly people outside of the pilot area (and outside of Cambridge) are super jealous. :)
		Family and friends are enthusiastic about it, wish they had the service in their city/towns as well
		My brother lives in San Francisco and they have been doing curbside recycling for years. I have other friends who wish their community did this.
		Everyone I know outside the pilot area is hoping it will expand
		Telling people how much we love it. And them wanting to know when is it coming to my neighborhood!
		Yes! We love it, and so do our neighbors. Those that do not live within the pilot vicinity hope that it will be expanded. It is a true gift to the community, and a small step to better the world.
		I have friends (who live nearby but not in Cambridge) who have told me they wish their neighborhoods collected curbside compost!
		Most of our neighbors are part of the program, but friends in other parts of the city are hoping the program expands.
		Everyone I have spoken with about the program (who is a participant) says that their regular trash has been reduced and they are very glad they are participating - and that they wish the city will continue this program. Everyone I have spoken with who is a Cambridge resident not in the pilot area hopes the city implements curbside compost for everyone.
		I tell everyone how excited I am to be part of Cambridge's pilot program, and that I hope it becomes permanent.
8	7%	<b>Positive with Caveat</b>
		I love the composting pilot but most of the time other people's reaction is "that's so Cambridge"

		There seems to be support for the idea of this program, but I question how many who say that they support it are actually following through.
		Very curious lack of buzz about it in neighborhoods. Most folks who wanted to do it simply did so naturally and shut up about it.
		yes but not much. We share the idea that keeping the bag always tightly closed we keep away flies and smells
		I've gotten one of my housemates to participate. The other is pretty anti-green and I don't talk to her much, so I didn't bother. My boyfriend sometimes gives me stuff like chicken bones to compost, because he can't put animal scraps in his backyard compost, but I can put them in the curbside compost.
		It takes a change in behaviour, you find that you use more of the fresh food, and you get used to it quickly. But that is what the civilized Swedes have been doing for decades. If you don't like to change generally, then putting compostable trash into another bucket will be hard. It is only your conscience that will trouble you.
		We are happy about the program but we all agree that the green bin has some balance issues. Difficult to roll to street.
12	10%	<b>Suggestion to Participate</b>
		Just that I have forwarded the emails when you were looking for more people to sign up, encouraging them to sign up.
		I told new tenants in the building about the pilot. I have not seen any evidence that they are participating yet.
		It was my upstairs neighbor that told me about the pilot program.
		I have new neighbors and they asked about the program. I gave them some info.
		One of our next door neighbors had missed it somehow, and we told her about it. And we've been doing this jointly with our condo neighbors too.
		Several of them then signed up. It was very useful the day you were at the park at the bottom of Haskell and Pemberton. I sent several people down to see you.
		I asked my neighbors if they would be interested in participating and one signed up.
23	19%	<b>Neutral Comment</b>
		Just to mention that I am participating.
		In routine conversation
		just people in my building, as an FYI.
4	3%	<b>Negative Response</b>
		My sister thinks we are crazy and is not sure she could keep compostables on the counter
		Some of my friends are surprised about this program. But I am not sure how enthusiastic they would be about participating (friends live in Somerville).
		Have discussed with participating neighbors regarding the common issue with fruit flies. All have been frustrated by this issue.
		what to do about smell and rotting at bottom of bin in summer heat

**3. Are you using the kitchen collector the city provided to collect your scraps?**

11	24%	<b>Fruit Flies</b>
		It attracts fruit flies.
		Fruit flies!
		Too many fruit flies were growing in it during warm weather, so we've been storing bags in the refrigerator or throwing them in the curbside bin more frequently.
		Over the summer, we experienced a significant increase in fruit flies. So we stopped composting during the warmer months.
		sort of. Attracted flies during the summer. Cook in bulk for the week, so often just fill a bag and bring it directly to the larger bin outside
		The seal on the top of the collector does not fully close and so there are always small fruit flies buzzing about. So we simply keep the green bag on the counter and keep it closed tight in between uses. We do however go through a lot more bags as a result—sometimes 4-6 a week.
		because of fruit flies, we have kept the bag directly in the freezer since the summer.
		Fruit fly and moth infestation was difficult to control in an open container, so we put the bag into a sealable plastic cylinder.
		Problems with fruit flies. Purchased a stainless steel compost bin with filtered vents (inexpensive) which is both nicer looking and has stopped fruit fly problem.
		It was attracting flies, so we put the bags in the outside container on a frequent basis.
		With the top of the bag open it attracts fruit flies.
6	13%	<b>Aesthetically Displeasing</b>
		I made one at Mudflat. the one that was provided was aesthetically displeasing
		We have purchased a more decorative "china" bin which looks better on our counter.
		I wanted one that looked nicer on the counter top and was more airtight. I bought a Simple Human stainless steel one with a filter that works well.
		We had one already that was a bit more aesthetic in appearance.
		I purchased a stainless steel one from Tags. It is more attractive and closes snugly
		it was too ugly.. honestly the plastic one was a waste... completely unnecessary. should have been optional.
		We had a kitchen counter bin we'd been using for years that we prefer. I know it sounds snooty but it fits better with our decor.
10	22%	<b>Pre-existing Bin</b>
		I had one so I gave mine to my downstairs neighbor to use. It is ceramic, and a little better looking. Carbon odor filter in lid.
		Also have a smaller one that I use more frequently, but the city provided one is good when doing a big meal
		We have a stainless steel bin we were using before the pilot started. We found ants got into the container provided by the city.
		I have a stainless steel collector that's more compact and can sit on my (not very extensive) kitchen counter
		We bought our own kitchen collector to put on our counter.
		Am using the collector but find it rather flimsy, and the top won't stay on.
		I had another small step-on waste can that fits better on the floor of my small kitchen
		Already had a different container. Stainless steel with an odor filter in the lid.
8	18%	<b>Stopped Using KC: Function</b>
		we now use a bucket, because the bags leak
		Switched to a smaller container that fit in the freezer for the summer when the fruit flies were bad.
		I have a nicer one that has a lid- I have also found that the bags begin to decompose, rip, and spill the contents- to say nothing of how much it would smell.
		Unfortunately, it got nibbled by mice or other rodents. So we keep scraps in bag in a bowl in the kitchen.
		I don't like having the food out on the counter, even in the bin, so I just put food out on collection day.
		if this program is going to continue, I will upgrade to one that seals closed.
		Too big and bulky for my countertop. I use a ceramic jug with a lid and put the green bag in it.
3	7%	<b>Freezer Related</b>
		Food scraps have been stored in the freezer since the warm weather began.
		I have a very small refrigerator, and I've found that keeping scraps in the fridge helps cut down on odors. So I just store the bag in there and add to it throughout the week.
		Smaller topless plastic container in freezer--can just open freezer door and dump, no fuss with lid.
5	11%	<b>Approval</b>
		It's perfect.
		We love it
		Yes, it's great!
		At first, we weren't--it took up too much space, but it seems to be better than frequently taking out a plastic takeout container

63 **4. Where do you keep your kitchen container?**

10	16%	<b>Weather/Fly Related</b>
		During the summer, in the freezer, as there were many fruit flies attracted to the bin. Otherwise, on the counter or under the sink.
		it's been a warmer than normal fall, so waiting til Nov 1 to put the container back on the kitchen counter. That'll be more convenient and hopefully the cooler weather will mean fewer fruit flies.
		We just pulled ours out of the freezer.
		In colder weather on the counter, in warmer weather in the freezer
		In the fridge only when the weather is very warm (say, over 80).
		I did keep the container in the freezer over the summer to avoid flies.
14	22%	<b>Near Recycling/Trash</b>
		Under counter, next to trash and recycling
		On top of my indoor trash barrel lid
		Near the garbage we have a plant stand - perfect-
		Under my bed. :) actually, In a cabinet next to the garbage.
		actually, we keep it on the floor near our trash can.
		The handle balances it on one side of the kitchen trash bin that pulls out of the cabinet. Non-compostable trash fits along side it in the bin.
6	10%	<b>On the Floor</b>
		actually on the floor near the sink
		On the floor near the kitchen counter
		We do NOT have it on the counter but I had to mark something because it says required answer. We store it on the pantry/kitchen floor
4	6%	<b>Fridge</b>
		Our fridge is very full. We do get fruit flies this way though
		Plus a bag in freezer of meat waste, as needed.
		We use the compost bag itself and put it in the refrigerator.
		Our refrigerator, including the freezer, is too small to put the kitchen container in.
6	10%	<b>Multiple Locations</b>
		Sometimes in the refrigerator - depends on where there happens to be more space on any particular week.
		Moved it to the fridge when ants moved into our kitchen. Plan to move it back under the sink
		and the freezer with certain foods eg chicken entrails.
		We did keep it on the kitchen counter but now it is outside on the small back porch. Not enough room in the fridge or freezer, and flies were getting gross on the Kitchen counter.
13	21%	<b>Counter/Stool/Windowsill</b>
		actually, under an open cabinet
		Actually on a windowsill
		I don't use the collector provided by the city, but I keep my ceramic container on the counterrrtop.
		On an easily accessed lower shelf on cart in middle of small kitchen
		In a bowl on counter with plate on top. Sometimes I put contents into my green bin for my own compost like for meat, fish, or pet food. I put it directly into a bag and bring downstairs. Not using the city green bin too much right now.
3	5%	<b>Outside of Kitchen</b>
		In the back hall entry way, outside of the kitchen area
		On the porch off the kitchen
7	11%	<b>Other</b>
		small kitchen = hard to find a good spot
		It fits great on the door.
		No issues with odor, flies, etc. We keep the lid closed, and don't even empty it every day. Maybe 2x/week. Maybe we're lucky. Also, we don't waste much food or put much wet stuff in there.
		Have to empty it a lot
		there is no space in our freezer to put scraps.
		my only complaint is that it doesn't come in white
		See above -- just the bag, not the container.

35 **5. Have you used the Buy One Get One Free coupon for BioBags?**

6	17%	<b>Will Use/Used Coupon</b>
		Which will be any week now - I'm almost out.
		I'll probably need them before the 1-year trial is over.
		I will eventually
		Not yet--first two tries the store only had 1 box. But will keep trying since we'll need more soon. The answer I checked is not correct but the system forced me to check a box
		Just in time- have only a few of original bags left. thanks
		Since my husband put scraps in the old bin and I use the new one, I'm not running out of bags that quickly. I might still use the coupon, I just don't know how fast I'm going through the bags.
7	20%	<b>Bought Bags without Coupon</b>
		I missed that and bought on amazon :(
		We had to buy more bags, but didn't use coupon because the offer was announced after we had purchased.
		There really should be a "No" option (I ordered bags on amazon because it was more convenient.)
		had to buy more bags, but forgot about coupon, will use next time
		I had bought a bunch of bags before receiving the ones from the City.
		I ran out of bags and bought more but didn't print the coupon. I don't like the new giant bags. Getting so many free bags at the start was great.
		We ran out of bags, but we kept forgetting to print the coupon out at work ahead of going to the store so we didn't use the coupon. It would be great if there were a digital version of the coupon so we don't have to print it.
11	31%	<b>Didn't Know/Can't Find Coupon/Forgot</b>
		Where do I get that?
		Where do I get the coupon?
		I don't know where to get it.
		I don't remember how to get that coupon.
		I can't seem to find my coupon. But I will buy more bags when I need more.
		i bought more bags but did not know about the buy one get one free coupon
11	31%	<b>Other</b>
		expensive bio-bags w/o coupon. may start using small recycled paper bags when run out...
		I could not find a local retailer that sold that brand of bags. Tags Hardware does not sell that brand.
		Hoping to get a larger size that is easier to tie closed.
		I think making people buy the bags may be problematic for the success of the program. My neighbors ran out and started using regular plastic bags, which led to our compost getting rejected.
		I still have 2/3 of the bags.
		Several people in the building I live in are participating and my neighbor gave me her extra bags.
		We may use 1-2 bags a week (3 late 20s/ early 30 young professionals, 1 of which is on the road most of the week).
		Thank you for this. Again, amazing service. Love living in Cambridge!!
		I live alone and don't cook or eat at home very often.
		Did not know what bag supply would not be free. Was disappointed to learn that it will cost us to buy them.



84		<b>6. Have you had fruit flies?</b>
37	44%	<b>Only a Few, Not an Issue</b>
		Only when warm, but not a major issue.
		Yes, but very few and only in July-August when would have had anyway with bananas.
		some in the summer. They don't really bother me.
		but not many at all. The key think for us is to keep the bag always tightly closed (making the bag to turning on itself closes it tightly) and only open the bag when adding scraps for the scrap container on the counter
		on a couple of those really hot days--but then we just got rid of the compost each evening rather than waiting until the bag was full.
		I've observed them in the bin outside. We haven't had a problem in the kitchen.
		Not too bad though. And we got them in the summer when we did not compost. No worse this year than any other year.
		Not often. Once or twice, and I took the bag out as soon as I did.
		Few and only during summer
		minor, not unusual for summer since we had fresh fruit ripening etc
		Pretty minimal and only in August
		Very occasionally - only when I don't empty the small container I use while cooking into the kitchen collector that is in the refrigerator promptly.
		Haven't had issues with odor, flies, or anything like that. I guess I did see a few fruit flies during the summer when it was warm and we had more fruit in the house, but they didn't last. We keep the lid closed, and don't even empty it every day. Maybe twice/week. Maybe we're lucky. Also, we don't waste much food or put a lot of wet stuff in there.
		Maybe a few, but more around my fruit bowl than around the compost.
		Our compost has high turnover.
		A few times in the summer
		I didn't notice but My husband said "yes" - I think when we got them, I just took out the bag. Usually I have old food in the fridge that is spoiled (sigh...) so it is not difficult to fill up a composting bag. Please know, we do not throw out food that is still good but often put leftovers in fridge that are never eaten. Then turn bad.
		not too many, but some
		Not too many, but they were much worse in the warmer months. They're virtually non-existent these days.
		But only when I left things for too long in the heat.
		Once only, when I left the top open by mistake. Emptying more frequently for a few days seemed to take care of it.
		only a few in the summer. haven't seen any now that it's getting a little colder. We also started emptying the bin more.
10	12%	<b>Usually An Issue</b>
		We had some in the summer, but this was no change from usual.
		However, no more than we usually have.
		Just for a short while during the summer. That happens even without composting.
		just a few, and no more than I normally get in the summer
		I always get fruit flies around the sink in the summer. I feel like I actually had less of a fly problem this year because more food was in the compost and less was in the sink disposal.
		We had fruit flies before though. Seems to correlate more with fresh fruit in the kitchen than the compost.
		But we had fruit flies before getting the compost bin
		but we always do.
		we seem to have them in the trash too. so it's not that different
		in the summer - but we get them when we leave the fruit basked out - so I dont think they are necessarily related to the compost
11	13%	<b>A Problem</b>
		Yes, when the container was out on the counter during the summer.
		a big problem, which has not convinced me to quit but did fir my husband.
		In the summer they are bad.
		Forgot to take it out once. The rest of the time it's been stuff roommates left in the cupboards too long.
		Inevitable, if the bin is on the counter.
		circle outside bin in summer - nothing will make them go away - bins are outside 1st floor bedrooms - disgusting
		It was worse on the days we had scraps from fruit.
		We had bad fruit flies this summer but only have started using the bin in the last 2 weeks so we have not seen flies.

16	19%	<b>Container/Traps/Change Bag</b>
		I try to change the bags often enough but we have had some fruit flies.
		It was bad in the summer when I was away and missed a pick up. It's better, and I'm doing better at cleaning the bin.
		but that abated when I started changing the bags much more often
		not a lot. We made a fruit fly trap that seems to be helping.
		This is part of why we use our own enclosed container.
		better now with new bucket.
		Not crazy about that part. When we were using a regular small lidded trash can as the holder instead of the special one, that didn't seem to be a problem.
		but the cider vinegar gets rid of them.
		apple cider vinegar + dawn works, so does putting the bin in the fridge.
		Only for banana peels so we throws those in the garbage now.
		Use closed container
		We had lots of fruit flies in the summer. We kept the bag sealed and had a trap next to it which helped some.
		Our bin is enclosed
		I don't put food out until it's time for the curb.
		As soon as we stopped using the open kitchen container the flies went away.
10	12%	<b>Freezer/Fridge</b>
		When it was bad, we've moved it to the fridge or put out a small cup of apple cider to collect them.
		but only on the really hot days. we keep in the fridge when that happens.
		It got pretty bad so we moved the container to the freezer. No more fruit flies but I'm definitely not putting as much into the compost.
		For that reason we are keeping our container in our freezer.
		But I started in the fall, and have always put it in the freezer
		Fruit flies came on strong in late spring. Once we moved the container to the fridge they were not a problem.
		Trying to keep it in the fridge most of the time.
		Only because the bags have been stored in the freezer.
		In warmer months. Then I took your advice and moved my container to the freezer - problem solved!
		Occasionally -- and then the box goes in the fridge.

96		<b>7. If you've had fruit flies, what did you do to address it?</b>
30	31%	<b>Worked Well</b>
		Vinegar trap has worked best. Found I didn't put scraps in bin if it was out of sight.
		also set up a fruit juice trap near sink
		Perfectly, except I put less food waste into the compost.
		You always get a few fruit flies in summer if you keep fruit. Impossible not to do so. Interesting fact: if you have a counter top storage container, all the fruit flies are inside it and not on any fresh fruit you have elsewhere. Not much of a problem at all for us.
		It works most of the time. We'll be trying the vinegar trap too.
		keep the scrap bag always tightly closed bu turning it on itself
		vinegar trap was effective at first but not over time. changing bags more frequently definitely helps a lot.
		Worked fine, very few flies so far
27	28%	<b>Worked Okay</b>
		Fine--only lasted a few days
		I was ok with it my family was not
		so-so. no room in refrigerator or freezer. Often I use soiled paper towels to cover/wrap the fruit scraps & peels as they attract the most fruit flies.
		That, along with the cooler weather, worked fine.
		Vinegar trap was fun--lots of little buggies swimming to their death. But extended family stayed. So we just emptied bag 2x/day. And ignored the flies until it got colder and they went away.
		vinegar worked, but slowly, we had many flies over the summer. Seems ok when we change the bag frequently
		Sort of. They still showed up every now and again.
9	9%	<b>Freezer/Fridge</b>
		Stored the bag, not the container, in the refrigerator.
		It works, but it does take up a good bit of room in our freezer.
		during the summer, I put meat scraps in the freezer and put them in the compost the night before it was going to be collected
		we put the container in the fridge, but it smelled terribly.
		when I travel (not because of fruit flies)
		Storing in the refrigerator helped, but once the population took hold, it was difficult to get rid of flies entirely.
		Fridge is pretty full but was able to adjust door shelf to fit it.
		It worked great with the flies, but it was slightly annoying b/c container had to be removed each time scraps needed to be disposed because there was not enough space to open it in the freezer.
		Worked great for the fruit flies, but the bag would melt in the outdoor bin and leave a lot of stinky liquid in the bottom. Moving it back on the counter not that it's not hot.
9	9%	<b>Didn't Work Well</b>
		Fruit flies are kind of annoying and make the project less appealing, but they only seem to be around when it is hot.
		It was a nuisance and a small part of me wanted to stop collection for a few weeks.
		I will set up a trap if it doesn't resolve.
		Didn't really work. I moved it to our back porch. We also tried fly paper, which filled up with dead flies pretty quickly but didn't sufficiently solve the problem.
3	3%	<b>Stopped Composting</b>
		I stopped composting altogether!
		Stopped composting. However we have started to compost again.
		and stopped composting for a while vinegar & dishwashing liquid trap worked well
6	6%	<b>Fly Source/Location</b>
		Any fruit flies stay in the container because there's no other attractive location in my house. They don't present a problem, as there are not many of them.
		My farm share is more responsible for introducing the flies than the composting.
		Not so great. Though I think the source of my fruit flies were my tomatoes not the compost.
		fruit flies collected in the outside bin, not in the house
		Better. This is not the only thing drawing them, but it's not all that bad and we're working on all of it.
		Banana skins are the problem. We freeze them and put them out later. We also have a very happy venus fly trap next to our container.
6	6%	<b>Other/Unclear</b>
		see above for strategy. No more flies unless keep the bag out overnight.
		They were gone after I changed the bag. I did, however, make sure that they were no attractive fruits or other food items on the kitchen counter while I had them.

6 6%

as long as needed or until it got colder
briefly, i changed the bag and ran the bin in the dishwasher and haven't had problems
Juice/soap trap instead of vinegar.
<b>Not an Issue</b>
there were not too many of them to bother.
And switched to our own enclosed container.
There weren't that many-- it wasn't really a problem
I can easily ignore a minor fruit fly outbreak.
They largely stayed in the container and didn't bother the rest of the kitchen or house.

71 **8. Before the pilot, did you notice any rodents around your property? 9. Since the pilot started, have you noticed a change in rodents around your property?**

12	17%	<b>No Issues/Change</b>
		For some reason, no raccoons this year. Our container proved to be perfectly shut all year so not a problem even if a coon showed up.
		We don't have a rodent problem.
		I keep the outdoor bin on my enclosed back porch, not outdoors, so it would have no impact anyway.
		They were rare before - can't tell if it's changed.
		Something did start gnawing on the outdoor bin, but it seems to have held up and kept them out. Could be bored squirrels or something, too.
		we have noticed an increase, but our rodent issue is separate from the compost issue. the rodents have not had access to the compost inside or outside.
		I honestly didn't notice rodents before or now.
5	7%	<b>Positive Change</b>
		I think there's less of the alluring decaying food fragrance attracting them
		In the past trash barrels containing food waste have been gnawed. I haven't noticed that so far on the compost container.
		The landlord finally cut back some out of control vegetation.
		But i don't know if this has anything to do with the program. I don't see how it could be related.
		Our own composter used to attract mice Now we put only yard waste in it so mice have gone. The neighbors' cat is disappointed
11	15%	<b>Squirrels Only</b>
		Just regular squirrels etc. No mice or rats.
		Squirrels are everywhere, and do try to get into the outdoor trash barrels, They can not get into the locking compost tote, though.
		the usual squirrels, the occasional skunk, and rabbits who live in the garden for a few weeks each spring, and a woodchuck who lives under our shed.
		No problems - lots of squirrels but not near the trash barrels.
		only squirrels and occasional rabbits
		IF squirrels count as rodents, yes, but I don't think it is related to the compost bucket. They enjoyed shopping at our vegetable garden and seem more numerous than in past
		Mostly squirrels who sometimes assault my kitchen container
7	10%	<b>Rats</b>
		rats, treated with traps by exterminator
		We've had a rat or two over the past few years
		We and the neighbors have had rats in the stone walls around our properties.
		I got rats & mice but I believe it was more to do with the construction next door than with composting.
		Saw one rodent in a trash can, but not all floors or even all my roommate's food goes into the compost :(
13	18%	<b>Mice</b>
		Our cats caught one mouse, and I saw another one. That's all, in three years. The cats keep them out of our apartment.
		We have a terrible mouse problem in our apartment - they often eat food scraps in our garbage or any food that is left out at night.
		Occasional mice in the house, especially at seasonal changes.
		mice in the house
		we have had mice since we moved in. There are less now, but they are still around. We have bunnies and squirrels, too, but the compost has not affected them.
		I saw a mouse occasionally
		I've seen two dead mice, but they could've been caught by the neighbors' cats.
		But we found that we can't put bird seed in the compost bag because the mice tear it up to get to the seeds. They love them.
		We think we now have a mouse, but it's also almost winter and we haven't noticed any signs that the mouse has been in or around the bag, so it might just be a coincidence!
		I think it is too early in the process to tell if the mice will come back or not.
9	13%	<b>Larger Animals</b>
		We live on the railroad tracks, so every kind of rodent and mammal seems to pass through.
		Raccoons
		Skunks
		Our yard abuts a property off of Mead St (?Mead Ct. or Lane?) where people feed squirrels multiple times a day & have multiple bird feeders which has resulted in problems w/ rats, mice, skunks and squirrel problem ins the area.
		Other than the rabbit population explosion recently.

14 20%

Don't know. I have a bunny that visits almost every night, but I doubt that has anything to do with the program! I named him Melvin.
Do you include racoons as rodents? Because those seem to be new to the neighborhood. We have had our trash explored once recently -- quite a mess.
There has been greater skunk activity. This could be unrelated to the compost.
<b>Other/Unspecified</b>
Something (raccoon? rat?) has chewed through the plastic in both my Rubbermaid trash can and my previous compost spinner.
We had them in our basement last year and had exterminators in. Have not noticed any since the program started.
They were eating the cat food. But we trapped them and haven't seen them lately.
around our old compost bin
Houses nearby under renovation
No, but it was one reason we hesitated doing our own composting (among other reasons... like time, maintenance...)
N/A moved in after the pilot started
N/A - I began composting as soon as I moved to Cambridge.
our cat is a good mouser :-)

34 **10. If your outdoor green bin has a latch on the top of the lid (for 3-12 unit buildings) what do you think about these bins?**

9	26%	<b>Too Big</b>
		Much too big for the 2 households using it. Can I replace with a smaller bin?
		for a 3-unit building
		somewhat too big for a 3-unit bldg, I think
		Probably usually too big, but better than too small.
		It works, but it's oversized for sure. We have only 3 units, and we have may filled up the bin 1/3 of the way at the most.
		The one we have is probably too big for the 3-unit building we have. It's usually only 1/4 full at the end of the week. Easy to close. Great product.
		Sometimes if I just have one bag of scraps, I carry it out and add it to my neighbors' outdoor green bins.
		We're only a 4 family, so it is a bit on the big side, but fine.
		Easy to use. Apparently our group of 4-5 units are not all composting or do not have much to compost.
3	9%	<b>Hard to Lock</b>
		My neighbors do not always latch the bin.
		Can be hard to lock/unlock, or can seem locked when it actually is not. When winter comes, I worry about latch freezing over.
		latch is a little wonky but clearly important.
6	18%	<b>Just Right</b>
		Our larger unit with latch is of perfect size for a triple decker with 6 to 8 people in it.
		Not a major issue.
		Needed a minute at first to learn how to use but they do a great job at keeping the bin shut tight from animals.
		It's great.
		Mostly fine. We're the only people in our building using it so it's a little large; if all three units were using it, it'd be fine.
		3 unit building. They are pretty, too.
3	9%	<b>Hard to Open</b>
		Odd latch awkward to open sometimes.
		survey doesn't include the answer that we find: "Sometimes it's hard to OPEN" - the latch and loop handle stick.
		survey answer choices do not make sense: our answer is "actually, sometimes it's hard to OPEN"
3	9%	<b>Broken</b>
		Doesn't have a latch
		The latching mechanism is awkward and has been broken (the locking mechanism, not the basic keep closed mechanism).
		The latch doesn't seem to really keep the lid closed any more.
5	15%	<b>Lock Learning Curve</b>
		Took a minute to figure out at first, but otherwise fine. Need to find a hose though as we don't do any of the gardening at our apartment.
		Took me a while to figure out how to lock it closed. But I think I get it now.
		I think someone in the building had trouble closing it but now it seems ok
		I don't have too much trouble closing it, but I regularly find it left ajar (latch was engaged before closing lid or just left closed but unlatched) by other people in the building.
		We are just three units and the size is fine but we don't ever come close to filling it up. Also I think some oft neighbors have a hard time with the latch or maybe they just forget to close it!
5	15%	<b>Other</b>
		when compost is being picked up, the lid should not be left open. it rains in and is full of water
		We have two small bins for our two family. Would it be better to have one large bin so the person who collects has to empty only one?
		I still have to clean it out periodically- green bags can leak depending on what is thrown out.
		It's fine as long as the garbage collectors remember to close the lid, otherwise water can collect inside.
		Hate it. Either wheel's too small or bin too short as it constantly catches heel when rolling it.

36		<b>11. If your outdoor green bin has a latch on the front of the lid (for 1-2 unit buildings), what do you think about these bins?</b>
2	6%	<b>Rodent Issues</b>
		squirrels tried to get in so there are teeth marks but they were unsuccessful
		squirrels can get in to easily. We have several with holes - duct tape does keep them out though.
5	14%	<b>Too Big</b>
		It does seem a little big--but if it were smaller it would be tough to use....too much bending, tipping over, etc.
		A bit large, since no one else in the building is participating.
		we are a house with just 2 units so the bin rarely gets full, but for larger buildings this size is probably fine.
		Our bin is never more than a quarter full for a family of 4.
5	14%	<b>Too Small</b>
		actually not too small, but just right for the amount of compost we produce per week; but still don't like them being so low for pulling to the curb; not good for back problems.
		I'm the only unit in my 1-2 unit that uses this bin.
		We almost fill it some weeks and we are only one household.
		Bin is too short to roll down street comfortably. Also it tips really easily.
		Wheels are not great for rolling.
7	19%	<b>Just Right</b>
		When I push hard the latch locks into place. I usually have one or two bags for the week, so the bin never comes close to being full. I don't mind the size, even though I have never come close to filling it up.
		I think the other participating unit in our building doesn't cook as much as we do and usually only puts out 1-2 bags a week. If they put out as many as we do [4-6] it might be a tighter fit
		They're small enough that my now 3 year old can wheel them back and forth while we're moving our larger trash and recycling bins, and she loves that.
		Perfect size. I have only filled it fully once and that was with pumpkins at Halloween.
		Love it!!! Thank you so much.
		I guess our two households do a great deal of composting as we always fill the bin we received.
8	22%	<b>Hard to Close</b>
		It was hard to open and close at first but we got used to it and with use it got less stiff.
		It is hard to close but that's not really a problem.
		The latch is really had to close.
		I always have the jiggle the lid to finally get it to latch. It must latch to prevent rodents from getting in and raccoons from gaining access by knocking it over.
		But that's okay. means it is hard to open for those ambitious racoons.
		i just got my bin, but i am having some trouble latching it closed. i have to try again though.
		Need to push down on the lid to get it to latch
4	11%	<b>Short Handle</b>
		The bin is difficult to push or pull on the wheels because the handle is too short. It would be better if the handle were taller like a suitcase.
		It is an odd size, it is very difficult to drag to the street. It is too low to wheel, so I have to carry it, but it is also a bit too heavy for me for carrying. It hurts my back. Sometimes I roll it using the open lid as a handle but it is sharp inderneath the latch and I've cut myself on it. Sigh.
		There should be a retractable rolling handle to make it easier to roll because as it is, the container is to short.
		It is not that easy to roll it to the curbside.
5	14%	<b>Other</b>
		latch is on top front
		But probably not if I had actually talked to my neighbors about composting - - - but I don't think they'd be interested.
		doesn't have a latch
		Because I compost most of my food scraps in my own outdoor bin and we are only 2 people, I usually only put a bag or two in the city outdoor bin. I hope my downstairs neighbor will get on board and we can share the outdoor bin.
		Sometimes collects water when it rains heavily



48 **12. Have you cleaned your outdoor green bin?**

21	44%	<b>Rinsed</b>
		I rinse it out almost every week, but grumble about it to myself.
		The other unit cleans it. It seems clean whenever I use it.
		Just as you suggested. Clean every week, even now, right on the side lawn. Simple as pie to use a hose, 2 mins. to rinse out and leave upside down in sun to dry out.
		with the garden hose on to the grass
		Hose it out all the time - worried a bit this is harder in winter
		We just turn it upside down on the grass after it's emptied.
		I wash out with a hose and then pour the water in the container on the garden. I usually turn upside down to dry out.
6	13%	<b>Occasionally/Rarely</b>
		Just once or twice
		I cleaned it one time. It could probably use it again.
		we only notice it once a week. We're holding out for 2015, and maybe 2016 if one of us doesn't give in and clean the darn thing.
		I rinsed it out once or twice, when there was liquid in the bin. Usually the bin is dry and doesn't require cleaning.
		I'm not sure if the neighbors have, but I don't think so. It never seems too stinky.
		It has just needed a rinse a couple of times
8	17%	<b>Not an Issue/Unsure</b>
		My neighbor has assumed responsibility for the bin, and I don't know if he has cleaned it.
		That chore hasn't been assigned!
		I think about it each week when I take it out :)
		Just some dead grass and dirt, will get to it eventually.
		I usually leave it upside down on my lawn for a day after collection.
		Sometimes it's accidentally left open after the collection and fills with rainwater, so it's been relatively clean.
		My neighbors clean it
		The biobags are great. But it is about time for a wash.
13	27%	<b>Issues</b>
48		Not sure how I will hose down the bin and leave to dry during the winter months...
		Maggots a couple of times.
		I think i overfill the bags because in the summer they would break and the bin would get pretty nasty.
		I forgot to put it in the grass.
		it's hard to drain the last little bit of water out of it
		It got yucky because one bag leaked. I still don't understand why we can dump water from our garbage bin into the storm drains if it doesn't contain any chemicals...
		Yes, and I have to make sure I get mine back. My neighbor - who's is filthy tends to take mine. I'm glad my street number is written on top.
		We don't have access to a hose.
		in the hot weather, the bin got really gross, and it was smelly and wet - disgusting that our trash bins are next to bedrooms.
		Difficult to clean easily because of internal and external ridges.
		we've had serious maggot problems on multiple occasions
		Except I don't know how we're going to clean them in the winter when our hose is. The directions Everett sent for lining them with newspaper are ones I'd never make a weekly habit of - far too fussy.
		Putting newspaper in the bottom just led to a hunk of wet newspaper stuck in the bottom.
		We do not have a grassy area appropriate for this and this is a problem our only option would be to pour it into the street but you don't want us to do that.

68 **13. Have you picked up finished compost from the Recycling Center for your garden?**

17	25%	<b>Unaware</b>
		I did not know we could do this
		I didn't know about that.
		Did not know that I could.
		Is that free? What are the hours for pick up? Is there a minimum amount one has to take? Is this on Hampshire St?
		i didn't know it was an option
		I don't know how to do this.
		Didn't know that that was available.
		Didn't know this was an option. Is it free? Well, I don't have a garden, anyway.
16	24%	<b>No Garden/Uninterested</b>
		No garden space
		I have no outdoor space, sadly.
		Would like to, though, once I have a garden.
		We haven't started a garden yet, but someday we might, and then we would like to get finished compost.
		No garden.
		We have no use for it -- we have no outdoor space.
2	3%	<b>Own Compost</b>
		We also have our own compost bin for that.
		Have my own compost, thanks!
5	7%	<b>Yes</b>
		Wow, was the garden great this year with the compost! We'll be sure to get more of that compost next year.
		It was easy to get and great. Wish there had been more!
		We have been doing this for years thank you
		Thanks!
		Not for a couple of years though.
21	31%	<b>Intending</b>
		But if our whole community converts to curbside, we will definitely want to. Lots.
		Sounds like a good idea.
		But want to!
		Would like to get over there. Just haven't had a chance.
		I want to. I just haven't found the time.
		not yet but we will
		Just haven't gotten around to it.
		But might in the spring when I'm ready to garden
		I want to do that. Just haven't organized myself.
7	10%	<b>Quality Concerns</b>
68		Concerned it's got weed seeds mixed in from city wide yard waste barrels. Cambridge neighbor had bad experience using city compost some years ago.
		I wasn't finished. There were a lot of large wood chips and viable seeds. Shortly after spreading we had a lawn of lambsquarters. Finished compost shouldn't have viable seeds.
		No, worried that chemicals may be used to help in the decomposing of the waste.
		I try to keep my garden organic, and who knows what's in the compost?
		heard that it contains black swallow wort seeds
		We were a little disappointed that small bits of plastic hadn't been sifted out -- for example, fruit labels, etc. Perhaps it would be worth asking residents to peel off stickers before throwing banana peels in the compost bin?
		I don't want to bring compost into my yard from potentially non-organic sources. Who knows what junk people are putting in their compost bins?

32 **14. Since the pilot started, have you changed the way you prepare and/or serve food?**

10	31%	<b>I Don't Waste</b>
		I don't waste food if I can help it.
		Leftover-loving vegetarian household; always been waste-avoiders
		We always have tried to be economical, i.e. not to waste food, and so freeze things that don't get eaten fast.
		I was already were aware of the amount of waste and do my best at minimizing it.
		We have never wasted much food. We either cook just enough for one meal, or cook large batches of stuff we can freeze or eat for multiple meals.
		I always try to avoid wasting food, but when sometime turns out truly inedible it's less upsetting.
		I do feel slightly better about food waste (stems, seeds, etc) but I don't think it's contributing to us wasting more food.
		We attempt to plan our meals out so we only buy what we need. We also try to group meals by ingredients. For example, the grocery store only sells large bunches of fresh herbs. So we try to select several recipes that require that herbs to limit waste.
		We eat all of our leftovers, unless they get lost in the refrigerator and go bad (very rare). Occasionally raw produce gets forgotten and goes bad before it can be cooked and eaten (also seldom). Then they mostly go in compost, or down the disposal if they are too wet to go into compost.
		I have always been careful
4	13%	<b>I Try To Waste Less</b>
		I try to finish things since I see how much I toss more clearly
		Trying to be aware of waste, but still wasting too much.
		It's horrifying at times to see how much spoiled food we have wasted. It's a good visual reminder to only buy what can be used. At the same time, do appreciate that some good can result from the waste. it really made us look at how much food goes bad before we eat it - I do have to plan more
6	19%	<b>I Feel Better About Waste</b>
		But i also worry less.
		I feel better about being able to compost food that has gone bad as opposed to tossing it.
		I think it is all good - I hesitate to answer that way because I don't want you to think I am more careless and wasteful because I know I can compost. But now, at least i know that the food we do waste, does not go into the trash. It also does make me more mindful, overall, about food consumption and waste because you can actually see it in the bin. Also, before I often put it down the disposal. Not sure where that goes but definitely not to compost.
		I prepare the same but I feel really good about how I deal with the scraps
		No change, but I do worry less or feel less bad now because of composting.
		I still try to prepare the right amount but feel less guilt about kitchen scraps and old leftovers.
8	25%	<b>Previously Composting</b>
		we were composting before everything as now except meat.
		We were composting before, so hard to say.
		I've composted for years
		I had already been taking my food scraps to be recycled for years before curbside pickup
		I was composting before.
		I was composting before, but this is easier
		I previously composted in my yard.
		Well I compost more
4	13%	<b>I Cook Differently</b>
		Technically I cook more, but the reason is work related, not pilot related.
		None of the above. I eat more. My meals have become more rustic.
		Sometimes I decide on what dish to prepare.
		E.g. If I don't want to bring out a half way filled bag (I dislike wasting bags) I prepare something which produces more compost, like corn on the cob.
		I'd say both worry less and prepare less.

9 15. Since the pilot started, have your shopping habits changed?

Assorted Responses
I had already been taking my food scraps to be recycled for years before curbside pickup
My husband says he's perhaps been buying more vegetables, but not necessarily because of the pilot project. We don't waste more than before, in any case.
My mother was french and I learned to make more frequent but shorter food shopping forays so that the produce was always fresh. (I'm sure people from elsewhere do that too, but it was so thoroughly ingrained in her background that it was reflexive & I absorbed that)
I also organized my cabinets better which has drastically helped me use my food better- mostly because I can see it!!
Again, my shopping habits changed due to a change in my schedule and living situation, both of which are unrelated to the pilot.
I did join farmers to you around the same time so I have a lot more fresh produce
I have always been careful
in order to ensure the fruits and vegetables do not go bad I shop more frequently and buy fewer each time -
I purchase more food, and healthier food.

73		<b>16. While some waste is inedible, what would help reduce edible waste?</b>
26	36%	<b>Not an Issue</b>
		We have a small European style fridge and this seems to reduce waste because less gets lots in there. We don't seem to be wasting much food.
		Very little wasted in this household. Two people plus occasional guest use one small bag every 2.5 days. Everything thrown out is the result of cooking from scratch--banana, potato, apple and other peels. Fruit and melon rinds corn cobs, etc. It all adds up if you buy fresh stuff and cook with that.
		I have very little unused food to compost. The exception is when people bring food to a party and leave it and it is too much for us to use.
		We don't "waste" food, never.
		I'm pretty good at not wasting food. The kind of stuff that ends up in our compost bins is the inedible parts of fruits and vegetables that are being prepared. I would go so far as to say that I have not put a piece of spoiled food in my compost bin in the 2 months that I have lived in this apartment.
		We have almost no edible waste.
		I think I probably have pretty low spoiled food waste compared to most people (I always clean my plate and nothing goes bad in the refrigerator)
		I don't know as this isn't really an issue for us.
		Personally, I don't end up composting much spoiled or uneaten food. I think I have pretty minimal edible waste but my thought is that more ideas for storing foods (particularly produce) to delay spoilage could help.
		Most of our compost is inedible in the first place.
		the response choices on this survey don't include our experiences: we do not have much edible waste at all and never did, because we eat a lot of fresh food and use leftovers.
		I am not one of those that wastes food. Most of my waste comes from preparing food like the tops of carrots or skin of an orange.
		We really don't have spoiled food--if by some miracle there's way too much of something I freeze it. Again, forced to check a box
		we wste very little, and i don't think there's much to be done to reduce it
		seldom throw away spoiled or uneaten food. Have no problem eating leftovers -- others might.
		My waste is mostly inedible parts of plants, I rarely have food go bad, and almost never throw away edible food.
		Tips are not necessary. I already know that I should be eating the food I purchase before they spoil.
		Not sure. Sometimes things happen that prevent us from using things as we expect to, but it isn't a constant problem
		Our household generates very little uneaten food waste.
		I hate wasting, but you can't always anticipate if there will be leftovers that you won't be able to eat in time.
		we waste very little food, since we use lean cuts of meat without bones and store leftovers. The unexpected edible waste that we had was from spoiled produce as it arrived from the store in the summer (rotten berries, mashed tomatoes) that couldn't be seen from the packaging - no way to prevent this.
3	4%	<b>All of the Above</b>
		Above 5 Tip categories would certainly be practical & helpful. Though you can't always teach common sense it's all good for promoting overall awareness & conservation. Best to you Everett & to your team!
		All of the above, and "Invite a friend to dinner".
		Web page on all these topics, e.g., a list suggesting best storage methods for all vegetables, fruits, nuts, herbs, etc. the following is great <a href="http://myplasticfreelife.com/images/Berkeley%20Farmers%20Market%20Tips%20for%20Storing%20Produce.pdf">http://myplasticfreelife.com/images/Berkeley%20Farmers%20Market%20Tips%20for%20Storing%20Produce.pdf</a>
6	8%	<b>Inevitable</b>
		I don't think I'd eat the food I compost (banana peels, egg shells etc) but could use all of the above tips.
		Life is busy and some wasted food is inevitable.
		There are six people in my household, including four picky kids - unless you can magically make them less picky, I think we will just muddle along as best we can.
		A more predictable work life,
		More time to pay attention to what I'm doing!
		Someone else without a job to do my shopping and cooking
5	7%	<b>Leftovers</b>
		Taking more leftovers for lunch at work
		We eat most of our leftovers eventually.
		Which foods freeze well when cooked, which don't.
		Somehow encourage people to eat leftovers. A microwave is very helpful when reheating leftovers.
		Leftovers are frozen. Only when we lose track of it does it go bad. Very little spoils.
19	26%	<b>Food Use/Planning/Purchasing</b>

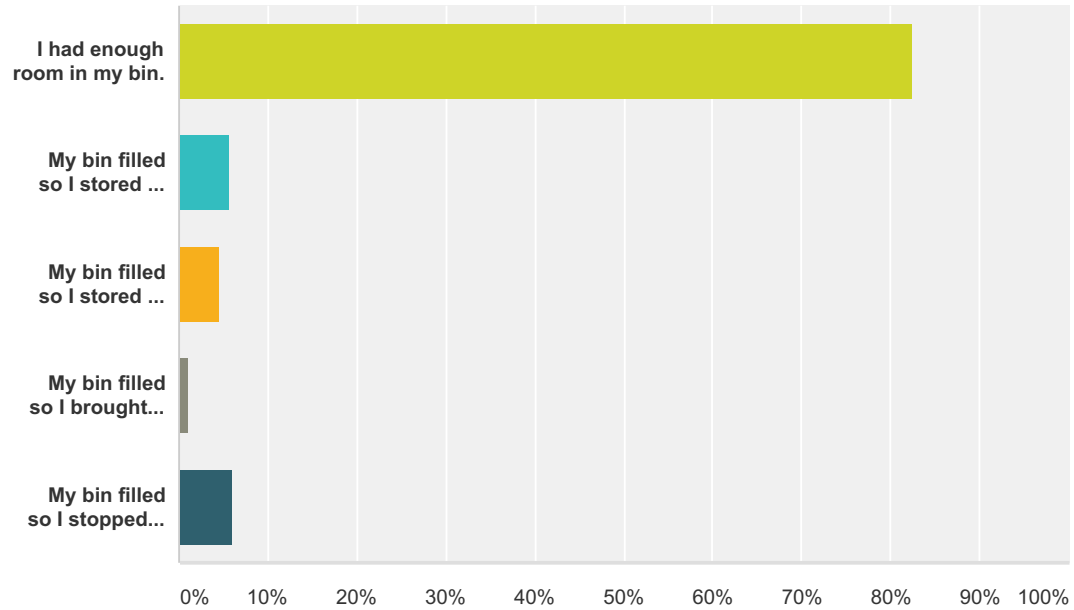
		produce spoils so quickly, I can't always use it all up
		I have a hard time with fresh food like vegetables. While I have roommates, we mostly shop separately. Grocery stores don't often sell in nice single person portions. For things like lettuce or spinach I just don't use enough before it starts to spoil.
		Honestly, it's just being a busy family and not always being able to use up everything. We also participate in a CSA, so we sometimes end up with stuff we won't realistically eat, especially the kids (turnips, hot peppers, etc.)
		"Tips to eat everything I buy" made me laugh - Sometimes it's not really about "tips" but just continuing to learn & tweak habits -
		People have the habit of overbuying, rather than working with what they have in their fridges.... tips on how to use what you have, and encouragement for the less assertive cooks, could be helpful.
		Being able to buy loose produce rather than having stores pre-package fruits, vegetables, fresh herbs etc. which are often too large for small households.
		It's never intentional, but it's hard to plan far in advance to shop at farmer's mkts etc; and some days are unpredictable.
		Paying attention to not buying more than will be used. It's a good point to keep bringing up.
		Tips to remember what I bought so I cook it before it goes bad.
		it just takes planning ahead based on personal schedule and eating habits
		Reminding people to clean out the pantry and freezer and to use composting appropriately. Honestly, this is geared at my partner, she sometimes throws things away instead of taking the extra step to compost. Really, she's turned me into a trash picker and that's not really good for anyone.
		my biggest problem in food waste is that I buy more vegetables than I eat. They always seem to go bad before I get around to eating them. I wish I had a better solution for buying 1-2 servings of baby carrots, for example, rather than a full pound.
		I just need to plan out my meals better!
		Better meal planning on our part. Often once a week we compost vegetables or fruit that we bought but didn't get around to preparing all of during the week. Often we miss a meal we planned to prepare because we're late and just threw something quicker together.
		I think that people are aware of excess in purchasing in the US. More than any of these things, a shift in the way people think about food is necessary to understand that wasted food contributes substantially to the perceived problem in global food availability and dumps tons and tons of unnecessary carbon into the atmosphere.
3	4%	<b>Organization/Storage</b>
		Tips for pantry organization. Tips for getting kids to eat what is prepared.
		What is edible waste? could use storage tips for sure. particularly fruit.
		We have a very small fridge. It forces us to think carefully about meal planning
2	3%	<b>Quick Meals</b>
		My issue is time: I get a farm share and I don't always have enough time to prepare the full share for consumption in a week. I get derailed if I eat out at all during the week, too. It's hard to consume that many vegetables, and I should probably try to find somebody to split my small share with next year.
		My problem is not enough time to cook during the week. Tips for easy quick meals might be helpful.
9	12%	<b>Suggestion/Other</b>
		Fresh Paper! It's a remarkable product that makes even the most fragile berries last for a week or more
		Many don't even know the difference between an expiration date and a best-before date. And many "expired" things are still good. More education is needed.
		Turn down offers to pick up friends' farm shares!!! Take the time to harvest apples on my own trees instead of letting them fall to the ground and rot.
		It's not hard to figure out how to reduce edible waste. I don't see the need for an educational program.
		Tips to get my kids to not waste food! Thank you!
		A pet pig... :-)

Additional Comments:

67		<b>General Appreciation</b>
54	81%	Please keep it going and expand it to the rest of the City if possible!!!
		Love the pilot! Keep up the great work!
		We love this program and hope it goes citywide. It is such a great great savings of waste. Every city should do this!!!
		We love the service and definitely compost more than we did when we use our own outdoor bin...as it would fill up and attract a lot of flies. We really hope it continues!
		We hope that composting continues after the pilot ends in April!
		Keep up the good work, and thanks!
		Good program. Please roll this out citywide immediately. This is the 21st century for Pete's sake! Like my mother always said: "Waste not, want not."
		Love the program. Hope it continues
		We LOVE this program. Can't wait for all of Cambridge to adopt it and start promoting other cities to join. Thanks for doing it!
		Awesome program, and great that you are looking for feedback.
		Love having curbside compost. I hope it continues beyond the pilot.
		Great program--so grateful.
		I think the program is great. Thanks for doing it.
		Great program VERY WELL administered. Thanks Everett!! . . . I think of you whenever I think garbage. At other times too.
		Very happy with the program! Let's have it in every Cambridge neighborhood!
		We're really liking this program, and hope it continues past this pilot year!
		Great program. I sincerely hope it moves beyond pilot stage and becomes a service that Cambridge offers.
		Thank you for your efforts. This is an excellent program.
		This has been a life altering service the City is providing. Thanks to all involved in the City for doing this. Best run City in the US in my opinion.
		This is so wonderful - I really hope it continues and grows. Thank you again!
		The curbside compost program has been great, from the perspective of a Cambridge resident. Great work everyone. Glad it will go for another year!
		We generate a lot less trash with the composting.
		Between composting and recycling we have very little "trash" to put out. It is a good feeling
		This is a great program. We are down to 1 trash can per week, and we'll be really disappointed if it is cancelled.
		this is a great program, and we love it at my house. My friends who do it love it too.
		Still loving being part of the pilot, hoping it becomes permanent!
		Thank you, Cambridge, for this amazing program. Keeping it going through October 2015 is great news, but I hope it becomes as ingrained in our way of life as recycling has.
5	7%	<b>Complaints</b>
		I think the City should pay for Bio Bags since the composting is saving the City money
		I do wish the bags were less biodegradable. I haven't much waste, and by the time a bag goes into the outdoor container it's sometimes degraded already and started leaking.
		Ugly cans. We already have ugly recycling bin all over the city and there is an addition to ugly looking all over.
		The summer was the hardest because of the heat we usually have a full fridge so putting the bin in either the fridge or freezer is really difficult for us.
		need solution for occasional large volumes of waste.
		ie cleaning out fridge, disposing of rotten fruit from garden fruit trees...
5	7%	<b>Survey Complaints</b>
		Why so many surveys? This is the first I've answered. I find them annoying. How do they help?
		pilot is good idea: survey needs some revising to make sense to all readers: the answer choices are too specific and do not allow for other responses.
		It's a good thing - 3 surveys is a lot though I understand you want info -
		Don't understand necessity for checking a box when its not applicable
		survey response choices are not that applicable - please revise.
3	4%	<b>Questions</b>
		Will composting continue through the winter?
		Thank you. It would be helpful to have a review of all that can be composted. I may be missing some items.
		Interested in knowing how well people are following the instructions on what/what not to include in compost...

### Q1 When collection was cancelled due to a snow storm, how did that affect your composting experience?

Answered: 263 Skipped: 0

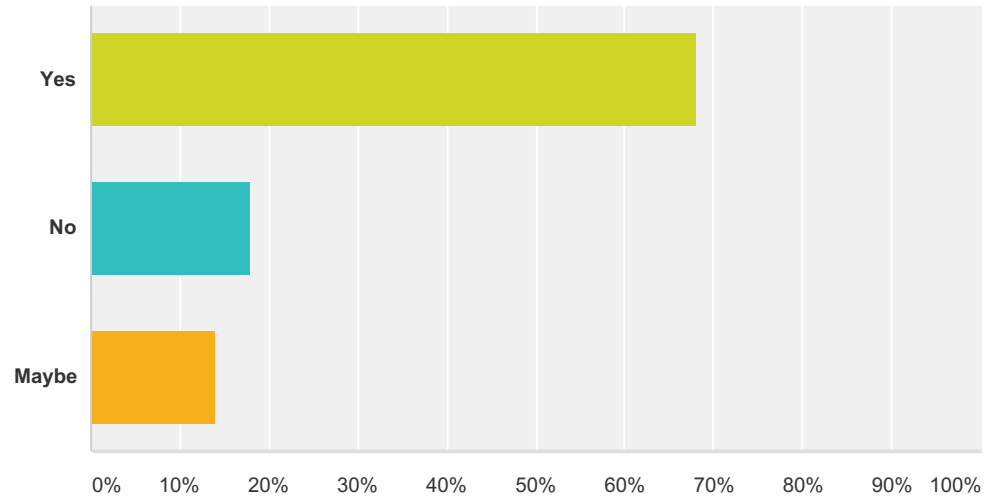


Answer Choices	Responses
I had enough room in my bin.	82.51% 217
My bin filled so I stored my scraps in my fridge/freezer.	5.70% 15
My bin filled so I stored my scraps outside in a different container.	4.56% 12
My bin filled so I brought my scraps to the St. Peter's Field community compost drop off.	1.14% 3
My bin filled so I stopped composting until my bin was emptied.	6.08% 16
<b>Total</b>	<b>263</b>



**Q2 Since the summer ended, have you experienced less odor collecting and storing your food scraps?**

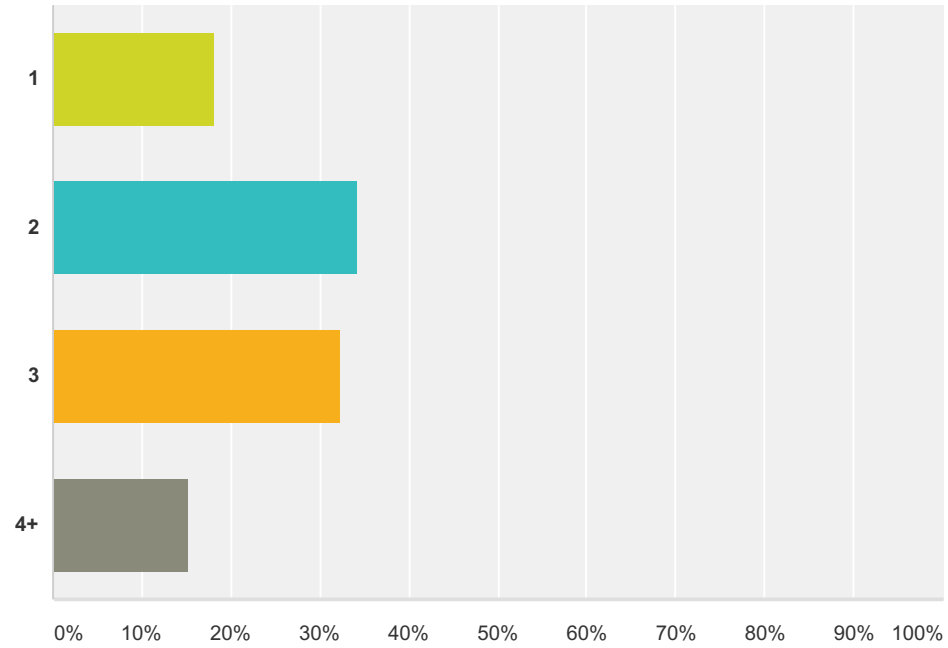
Answered: 263 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	68.06%	179
No	17.87%	47
Maybe	14.07%	37
<b>Total</b>		<b>263</b>

**Q3 On average, how many compostable bags did you use per week this summer?**

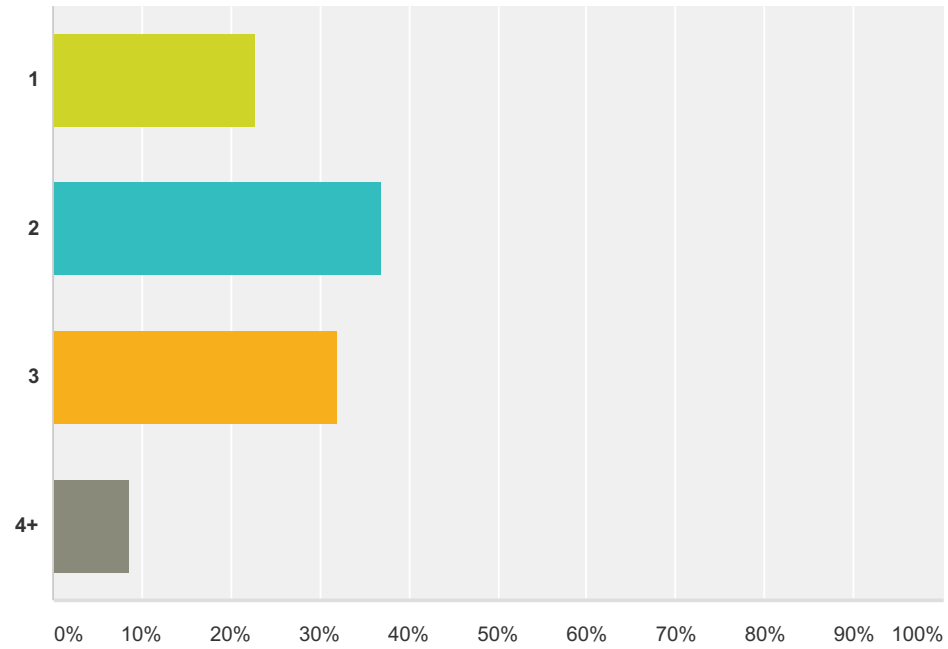
Answered: 263 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
1	18.25%	48
2	34.22%	90
3	32.32%	85
4+	15.21%	40
<b>Total</b>		<b>263</b>

**Q4 On average, how many compostable bags are you using per week this winter?**

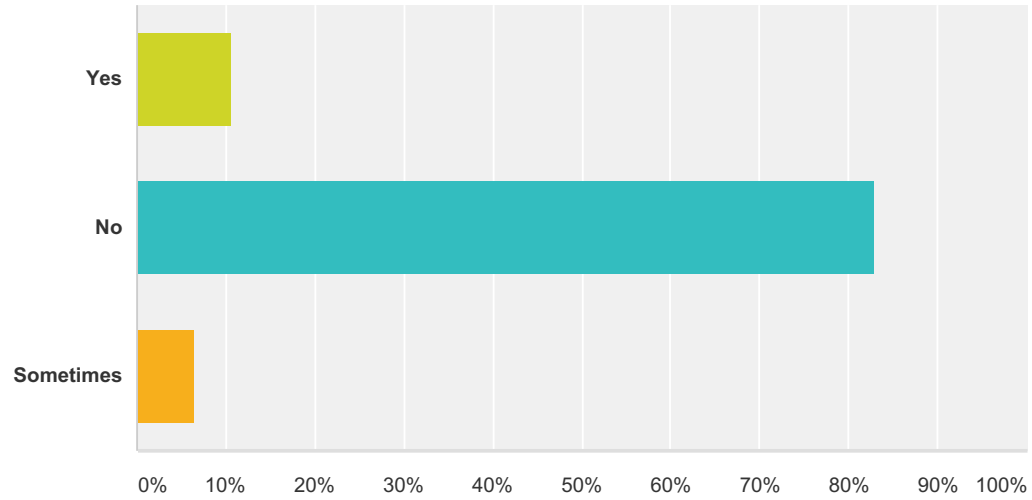
Answered: 260 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
1	22.69% 59
2	36.92% 96
3	31.92% 83
4+	8.46% 22
<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>

### Q5 Have you noticed a change in bag performance since the summer ended?

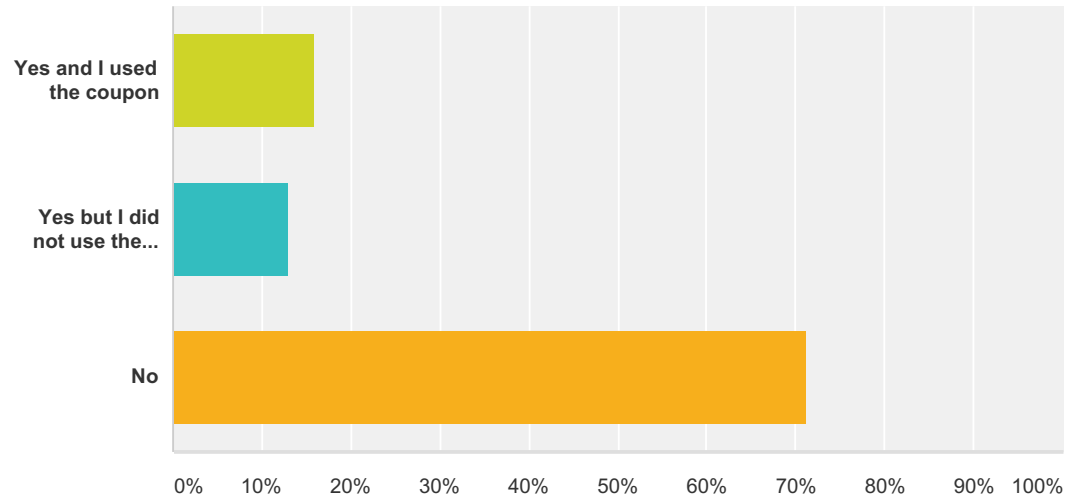
Answered: 263 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	10.65%	28
No	82.89%	218
Sometimes	6.46%	17
<b>Total</b>		<b>263</b>

**Q6 Have you purchased more compostable bags? (BioBags are available at Cambridge Naturals, Whole Foods, Pemberton Farms, Tags Hardware and Shaws.)**

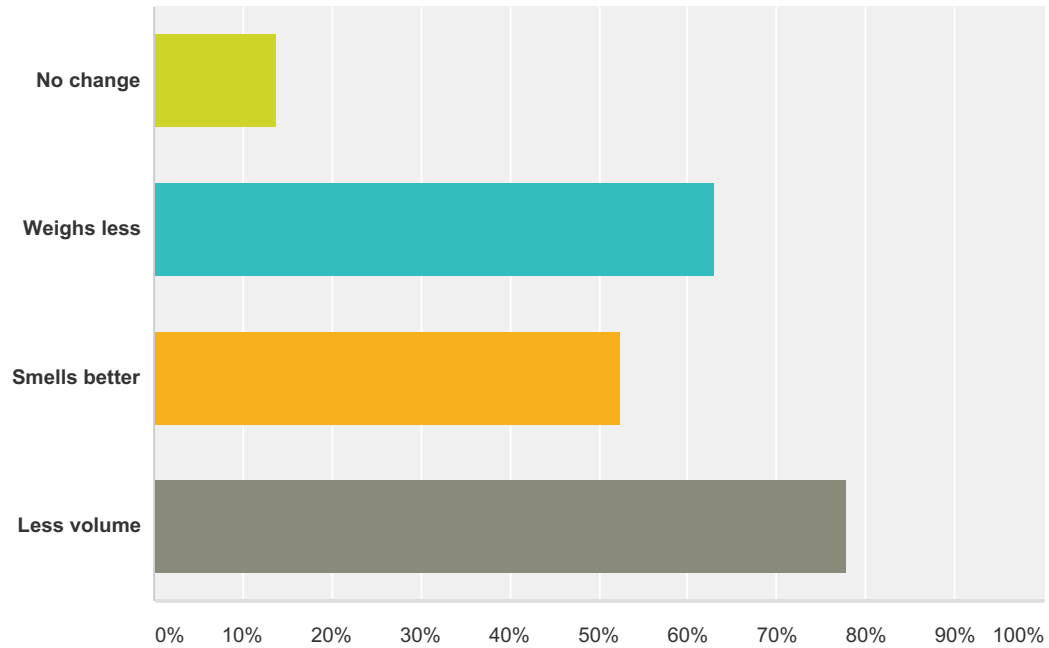
Answered: 263 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes and I used the coupon	15.97%	42
Yes but I did not use the coupon	12.93%	34
No	71.10%	187
<b>Total</b>		<b>263</b>

**Q7 Since the pilot started, have you noticed a change in your trash? (Check all that apply)**

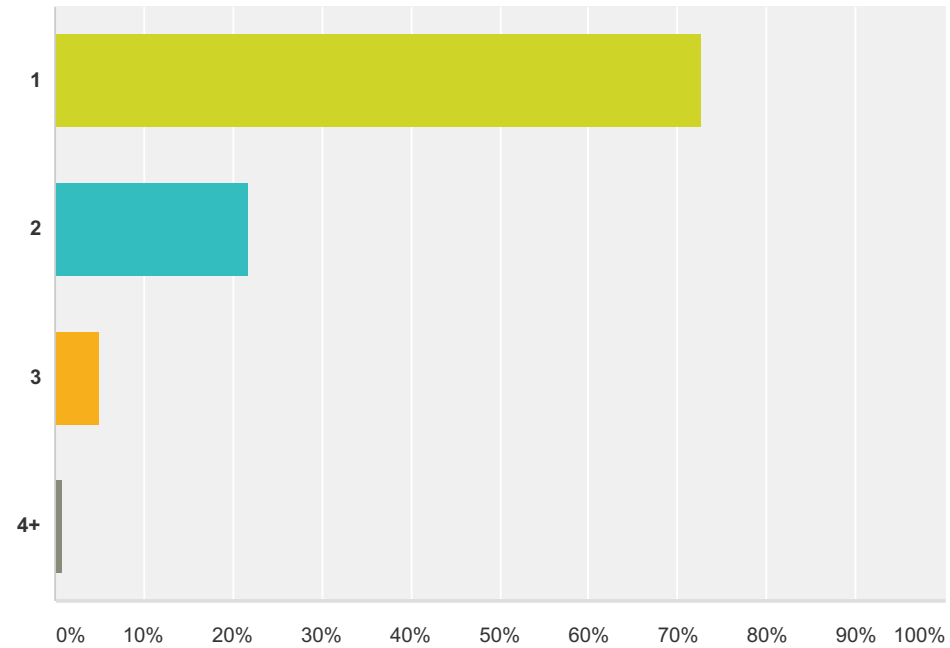
Answered: 263 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
No change	13.69% 36
Weighs less	63.12% 166
Smells better	52.47% 138
Less volume	77.95% 205
<b>Total Respondents: 263</b>	

**Q8 How many bags of trash are you generating each week? (13 gallon kitchen bags)**

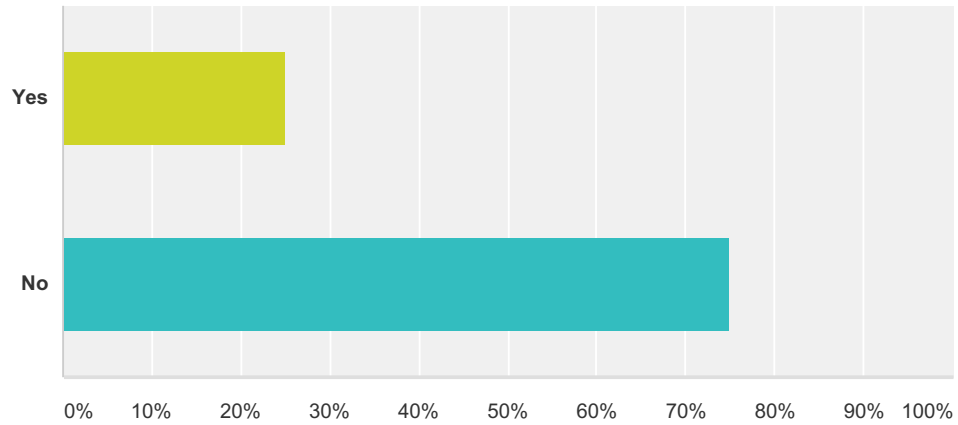
Answered: 263 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
1	72.62%	191
2	21.67%	57
3	4.94%	13
4+	0.76%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>263</b>

**Q9 Storing the kitchen collector in the refrigerator or freezer is a best practice to reduce odors and flies. Have you ever stored it in the refrigerator or freezer? Why or why not?**

Answered: 263 Skipped: 0

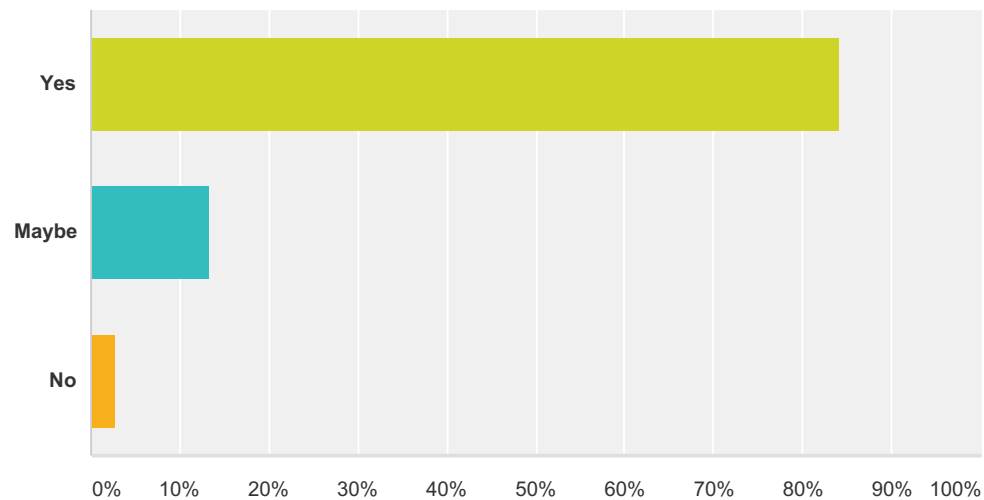


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	25.10%	66
No	74.90%	197
<b>Total</b>		<b>263</b>



**Q10 The kitchen container and compostable bags are designed to let heat escape and moisture evaporate. This lets food scraps dry out, which slows the rotting process, reduces odor, lightens the load, and keeps your curbside bin more clean. After your initial supply of compostable kitchen bags runs out, households will have to purchase them. (The BioBag Buy One Get One Free coupon is valid through 4/22/15 at local retailers.) We recommend using 2-3 bags per week. Would you buy bags to participate in the program if it cost \$20-\$30 per year for your household?**

Answered: 263 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices

Responses

## Cambridge, MA Curbside Compost Pilot - Survey 4

Yes	84.03%	221
Maybe	13.31%	35
No	2.66%	7
<b>Total</b>		<b>263</b>

1. When collection was cancelled due to a snow storm, how did that affect your composting experience?

46 Responses

8	17%	<b>Not enough room</b>
I barely had enough room in my bin		
put it in my neighbor's bin . . . they had extra room		
No option. My bin was so filled that I stuffed my bags and stored a bag (not in the freezer).		
My bin was not collected yesterday (Monday 2/22) so it is now very full. I will stop composting until it is emptied if it is not collected next Monday.		
We used neighbors' bins as needed.		
I put off disposing of compostables (rotting food in the refrigerator, dead cut flowers, etc.) until collection resumed.		
my neighbor had room in theirs so I put my bags in their bin. Since I started composting, I am constitutionally incapable of throwing food in the trash		
I used a neighbors bin-someone who was on vacation.		
13	28%	<b>Just enough room</b>
I think our compost was picked up. But I put my few bags into someone else's larger bin to save space, so I can't say for sure. As one person, I have very few bags.		
It was almost full but ok.		
Barely...		
just enough room, If I'd had one more bag it would have gone in the freezer		
It was very full by the end though. I would have walked a bag or two over to St Peter's field but the conditions for walking weren't great. I was concerned that when i got there the bin might not be accessible/easy to find with all the snow. Also, since i have never been there i wasn't sure exactly where to find it- a visual diagram of its location would be great.		
It was close--fortunately, only one person was home during the second week.		
We were at capacity in the bin and would have needed to store elsewhere if a second week had been missed.		
Just barely! I'm grateful that you came when you did.		
It was tight, but I had just enough room.		
Just barely.		
barely enough - but enough. Luckily it was cold so the compost actually froze.		
My bin was overstuffed but the lid still closed		
but just barely		
12	26%	<b>Not an issue</b>
No problem at all.		
Only one person here, and I was gone for a week, so all was fine.		
i was away for part of it		
I usually only have one bag per week, occasionally two, so there was plenty of room in my bin.		
It is okay since it is so cold out so I am not worried about flies and animals and odor		
Not a problem since the compost bags are frozen.		
We have 3 participating units, so we have a big bin.		
The garage, where we keep the green bin, was cold enough so there was no unpleasant odor.		
didn't matter - it was frozen! Only problem was I had to dig out the bin (a couple times)!		
From the start, I requested a larger bin, so there was room.		

	Some context: there are really only 1.5 contributors to my bin. Most of the time, my housemates forget to compost. I occasionally pick things out of the garbage. However, I would guess that I probably put more into the compost than the typical single person, because I have half of a CSA share, so there are lots of root vegetable clippings, and I eat lots of fruit and drink lots of tea. (so lots of tea bags and banana peels.)
	We never fill our bin.
5 11%	<b>No Access</b>
	I stored in the trash can as we didn't have protected space elsewhere, which then got buried by more trash. So those bags were lost.
	You didnt offer the answer i needed - My bin outside was Snow buried - had to stop collecting because none of these options was viable
	My bin is under a snow bank, and I can't get to it. When my little under the sink bin fills up, I sneak it into my neighbor's bin.
	I did not plan for so much snow, and am unable to shovel the brick walk from the street to the location of the bin. I will not be able to participate fully until I can get to the bin. I am so sorry for this glitch.
	I cannot access my compost bin with the snow. I live on the third floor of an apartment building - so the bin must stay outside. I have to keep the bin set 10 feet back from the sidewalk to prevent passerby-ers from dumping. With 3+ feet of snow my compost bin is unreachable.
8 17%	<b>Other</b>
	Collection may have been a day late once, but otherwise it was normal.
	Our freezer isn't big enough.
	It was so cold outside I could freeze my compost outdoors instead of our freezer.
	Also during the few days that our bin lid was frozen shut, we just kept the bags in the trunk. NOTHING will thaw these days!
	We were not sure our bin would be seen in the snow drift and were pleased that it was emptied. We did not think a supplemental bag would be seen and picked up. In less rugged conditions a trip to St. Peter's would be a good fallback.
	Historic amount of snow in a short time--no fault of the DPW for missing a pick up!
	Even sharing bin space with condo mate we have enough room but Fairfield bins were picked up except ours. And we made sure it was visible in front of car & in opening of driveway! Frustrating
	no longer composting - why isn't this one of the survey answer choices????

2. Since the summer ended, have you experienced fewer odors collecting and storing your food scraps?

61 Responses

41	67%	We don't have any noticeable odor anyway.
		It was low to begin with!
		We didn't experience much odor even during the summer.
		Don't notice a change
		We have had very little odor all along.
		Odor not a problem ever
		generally no odor issues at all.
		Wasn't a problem in the summer
		Never had a problem in the summer
		It's not much different than when I put this stuff in the trash.
		We never had much of an odor problem.
		Wasn't bad in the summer
		i don't smell it.
		We have not had any problems anyway
		Not a problem in summer
		We didn't really have a problem to begin with.
		odor was never a problem
		Maybe, but it's fine in summer so it's hard to notice
		I didn't really have a problem with odors over the summer.
		I never had a real problem, but now there's no odor, no bugs, etc.
		Odor was not a problem then, and it's not a problem now. Of course, I live alone and hardly ever cook anything.
		Don't know. I use almost a bag every day or so it doesn't really have the chance to smell.
		Odor hasn't really been a problem.
		But we didn't really have a big problem
		Odor hasn't ever been a problem for us.
		I haven't generally had a problem
		Odor was never really a problem for me.
		but I didn't mind the bugs and odor in the warmer months.
		This hasn't been a problem for us in the summer or winter.
		never had much of an odor problem
		There is more food odor with the new counter bins than with the original ones.
		never had odor problem
		I haven't had any problems with odor at all.
		have not had an odor problem - some issue with fruit flies
		Odor really hasn't been a problem for me, even in warmer weather.
		Once I started storing my bin in the refrigerator, it didn't smell at all.
		It was not a problem in the summer
		I just started in the winter. I compost in bins in my yard from April-November.
		didn't have too much of an issue in the summer
		There wasn't appreciable odor in the summer, either.
		this was never a problem for us.

9	15%	<b>Fridge/Freezer</b>
		I keep it in the refrigerator
		I freeze my green bag until the collection day, so I don't have the odor problem
		We keep the bin in the fridge.
		N/A - I have been keeping my bucket and food scraps in the refrigerator during the winter as well as the summer.
		I store in freezer anyway.
		I always store in refrigerator.
		We keep our food scraps in the freezer until they are collected.
		Odor was not a problem - ants were - so we had the compost in the fridge. We don't have a lot of meat or spoiled food.
		We always put it in the freezer, anyway, so there was minimal odor even in the summer, but it seems that it gets less smelly when in the bin outside.
1	2%	<b>Fewer odors</b>
		DEFINITELY!
3	5%	<b>Mice</b>
		I did get mice though, under my sink where i kept the container
		the new container is much better. We had mice and they were getting into the old one
		Huge problem began once the weather got cold - compost in green bin under sink attracted mice, even though we emptied the compost bucket every day. The mice destroyed the hose connecting the dishwasher to water line, by biting through it, which cost large amount of money to replace. Composting attracted the mice because of smell and bin design. All the bags were bitten through before we figured out that it was mice, not broken bags. Not affordable to continue!! Too big a risk to house structure and appliances.
4	6%	<b>Sure Close Feedback</b>
		different bucket so not sure if it's the weather or the new bucket.
		since the new green and white kitchen bin, I have had no problems with either smell or leaky bags..
		We've swapped to the new indoor compost buckets - which have less airflow and seem to have a slightly higher odor, but have many fewer leaks.
		we are also testing the new container
3		<b>Fewer flies</b>
		No flies
		Many fewer fruit flies too!
		We've definitely experienced less fruit flies.

3. On average, how many compostable bags did you use per week this summer?

22 Responses

4	18%	<b>More bags in summer/faster turnover</b>
		Sometimes a little more.
		More in summer than in winter.
		Bags were not always filled when we put them in the larger green container.
		Most weeks I don't fill up one bag.
7	32%	<b>Compost Bin in Summer</b>
		I have a backyard compost bin for my veggies, fruit, etc. that I use in warmer weather.
		I also compost in my own backyard compost bin.
		we compost fruit and vegetables outside in the summer in our composter
		I put some of the compost in my own compost heap out back (bigger things like corn husks, etc.)
		we also have a composter, so compost some stuff in our backyard
		Actually none. I have a backyard composted that I use in the summer. Doesn't work in the winter! I used to throw compost in the garbage in the winter, so am so GRATEFUL for your composting program. Also, now I can compost more things than my composter could handle!
		During the summer, we also have our own compost pile or it would have been more bags.
6	27%	<b>More veggies/Corn</b>
		I had more scraps during the summer when we had corn. Those scraps (husks and cobs) took up a lot of room in the bag so I sometimes had to use two bags in a week.
		maybe more once corn was in season due the bulk of husks.
		Usually fill a bag every other day because I belong to a CSA.
		This much during corn season -- closer to 3/week before corn was available.
		More produce scraps from farmer's market/farm share in late summer/early fall.
		vegetarian household
3	14%	<b>Summer travel</b>
		I was traveling a lot during summer
		Our use is erratic due to travel & guest spurts - hard to average...
		I travel a lot during the summer.
2	9%	<b>Smell Related</b>
		needed to discard before full because of smell.
		We removed bags before they were full to minimize odor.

4. On average, how many compostable bags did you use this winter?

50 Responses

11	22%	<b>Fuller Bags/More Bags/More Cooking</b>
		We fill out bags to the brim before putting them outside.
		Overall more home cooking (i.e.) root veggie peels; peak season oyster-mussel-clam shells; bone stock & broths; more autumn veggie prep
		I let the bags get too full and then I double bag them.
		Lots of cooking!
		My husband eats a LOT of citrus.
		more family and friend gatherings with more food scraps coming off more plates than during the summer months.
		we had more people living with us this winter, and the bags leaked or broke more often.
		Not sure but suspect my husband is getting better at composting. :)
		All of it goes to the bags during the winter.
		when the snow is really bad, we use more.
		I am filling the bags more fully.
16	32%	<b>Fewer Bags/Less Full Bags/Less Cooking</b>
		We use less fresh fruits and vegetables and have less company
		the mice...using it a bit less in hopes of deterring mice
		Sometimes <1. I eat less fresh produce that produces scraps in the winter. When there are scraps the corner they are in is cool enough I can wait until the bag is very full.
		less produce being purchased, farmers market has less to sell.
		Less fresh veggies being prepared in winter so less compost
		Perhaps I didn't cook as many fresh vegetables.
		Different style of eating in winter. Less waste of veggies (I had a garden in summer and had trouble keeping up with my produce).
		less fresh produce/garden harvests
		Less veggie scrapes because I'm not in the CSA during the winter.
		we eat less fresh produce in the winter... (but we do have more grapefruit...)
		No corn on the cob, no carrot or fennel tops from my CSA vegetables.
		We get less fresh fruit and veg in the winter in the summer we have a CSA and our home garden so we have tons of fresh veg waste
		slightly fewer because teenage son is off at college: dramatic drop in household food consumption
		Mostly, because I make an effort not to let food go bad and at least one of my roommates seem to only use it on rare occasions.
		Less fresh vegetables
		Or sometimes 1. Less fresh produce, more frozen or canned; and trying hard to waste less food.
7	14%	<b>Neutral</b>
		about the same.
		It's the same for us. Our cooking and eating habits are relatively the same year around. We heartier food in the winter but the compost is the same.
		We eat mostly fresh food with waste from food preparation eg fruit and veg peelings. Also tea bags & coffee filters.
		Except for corn, I think the amount of food scraps I have in the winter is about the same as summer.
		We eat mostly fresh, unprocessed foods, including vegetables & fruits. Coffee filters take much room too.
		I eat about the same number of vegetables and so have about the same amount of food scraps
		Probably an average of 4 bags. We use and peel fruit and vegetables, also compost coffee grounds and paper towels.



8 16% **Winter composting**

I do not use my yard compost bin in the winter.

I can't get through the drifts to my backyard bin so I am putting everything in the city's bin.

The only challenge we've had is that we take the recycling and garbage out 1x week, and we fill up the compost bags more than that. My husband doesn't like having to make extra trips out to the compost bin mid-week.

My own compost is buried in the snow and due to construction not being used right now.

because not using outside composter right now

For the time that it is impossible to find space for the huge amount of snow, I will not be using any bags.

lazy about taking them out

Backyard composter buried in snow, frozen shut, and too cold to compost. I compost curbside now.

8 16% **Other**

zero - stopped composting due to rodent infestation

my tenant also adds a couple of bags per week

I live alone and hardly ever cook or eat at home.

Living in a different unit

I'd say one every two weeks is more accurate.

We also compost in our yard. So we just send you stuff we don't compost at home

I don't cook, so I don't generate alot of food scraps at home.

your survey does not provide a "ZERO", which is the answer I would provide.

5. Have you noticed a change in bag performance since the summer ended?

42 Responses

13	31%	<b>Negative</b>
		seems like they're thinner/weaker
		My bags rip, though that may be because I overstuff them.
		rodents seek warmth and food and chew right through bags
		Bag breaks at the seams.
		The bags break and leak more easily. Sometimes I have to double bag.
		Sometimes the bags leak if there is anything wet in the bag (tea bag, coffee grinds). I've had to double bag a couple of times.
		The bottom rips more easily when I tear it off the roll. I had to discard a few.
		I only had one incident. I try to break up sharp scraps into small pieces, not stuff the bag, and carry the bag outside in the kitchen bin. I wish there were less sharp edges on the kitchen bin.
		At the end of the rolls, the bags seemed prone to springing unprovoked holes.
		I'm at the end of my last roll and the bags seem to be ripping from the edge as I unroll them but they might be longer too. No big deal
		they seem to be ripping more
		Not sure if this has to do with weather, age of bag, or what I put into them, but I have had to double-bag a few times because the first bag leaked.
		Mice ate right through the bags and were attracted because of smell and availability - ate right through the insulation and came in between walls with the cold weather - a big problem!!!
16	38%	<b>Positive</b>
		I think it is less wet... Less fruit maybe. Not sure. But not a big change.
		I managed to break one this summer, but I have been careful to break up long pointy things like ears of corn.
		We bought bigger bags that fit the bin better and have less breakage and leakage
		Less leakage
		seem to break less often
		maybe that we stopped drinking coffee, no wet grounds...
		I think there's less of a leakage problem. Is that due to the lower temps?
		Don't fall apart as easily
		Just making sure they don't get too full helps a lot.
		The bags sweat less in the winter.
		They hold together better.
		Less produce, drier produce= easier to manage bags. A couple of times this summer had to double bag because of leakage--not so in cooler weather.
		possibly less likely to break -- but maybe that's because I have been more careful
		less leaking now that I store the bin in the fridge.
		Seem to be holding together better in the winter
		They disintegrate faster in summer
13	31%	<b>Other</b>
		Just started program at the end of summer.
		Bags in the newer container (with smaller holes) seem to need replacing more frequently. I assume that they begin to break down because there is less air circulating around it.

*Could not leave it bland but once again did not participate this summer
I prefer the bags you supplied to the ones I purchased
n/a started in september
I always worry about the bags breaking and use a back up bag to carry it out to the bin.
Bag performance ??
purchased my own from Whole Foods
N/A- Got bin in late October
I have a large, lidded container that I keep on counter. Empty into bag right before it goes out. Keeps bag dry, doesn't tear.
n.a. Again, I didn't participate in the program in the summer.
I bought a new batch of bags with that coupon and they are a little large and bit stronger than the bags we got when we first signed up.
I store my bags in the freezer summer and winter.

7. Since the pilot started, have you noticed a change in your trash?

42 Responses

15 36% **Generally Positive**

Does not leak disgusting brown goo.
Our trash is down to nearly nothing. It's all compost and recyclables
I have still not put out any regular trash since the snow started. I could go another month or more.
I use the garbage disposal far less than I used to.
It's sad! It's a plastic bag full of plastic. What an eye-opening experience!
It is much better and we are very happy
I'm also recycling more
I feel really good about there being less trash in my main container.
Because there is no food waste in my trash (so no smell) now and I have so little (mostly the packaging that I can't recycle) that often I wait a week and only put my bag (still not full) out every other week.
Fewer trash bags (one per week) and much lighter!
no smell and decreased by a lot
We don't always take it out each week, because it's so empty now!
So much less trash!
I love this program!! I feel it has had a very real effect on the amount of trash generated as well as a great reduction in odor in the trash.
We cut our trash in HALF - now we typically only have one bag of trash a week for a family of 4 (2 adults 2 children)

17 40% **Previously Composting**

Though not major change as we were already composting on-site for years. Prior we didn't add animal bones, nut or seafood shells, baked goods or used paper towels so the volume has shifted from the trash bag to the green bin. Come summer we'll contribute more to our own on-site compost pile to keep our veggie garden & shrubs happy.
I used to use my own compost bin.
I was composting before but not doing meat scrapes so now there is less smell in my trash.
We were using a large composting bin.
We were composting in the backyard before but with the program we can compost a wider variety of material.
We already composted. I appreciate that we can now compost all of our food waste. I did not compost dairy or meat products.
I have been composting my food scraps for years.
we were already composting in backyard
I was already composting on site
I have my own compost so I've been composting for years; however with Cambridge composting, I can now add meat scrapes so less volume in my regular trash.
I was composting and dropping off at St. Peter's field, Whole Foods, or The Works, prior to the pilot beginning.
We were already composting before the pilot.
I was already composting at home, so this just diverts that stream to another source.
I was already composting, so my personal trash stream has stayed about the same. But now, since composting is much easier with the pickup, I have gotten my housemates to occasionally compost, so that, I think, has reduced our trash at least a little bit.
We used back yard composter before this.
We were doing home composting before...this is much easier, especially in winter.
we were composting at home before pilot prog., so not much change -- except in midwinter when snow made home composting hard

4 10%

**No Change**

I would check the smell one, but until we can compost the styrofoam chicken comes in, my trash will still smell pretty bad :)

Given toddler and pets - I don't really expect my trash to smell amazingly better all in all. :)

Had to check something, but have not noticed anything one way or the other.

Hard to tell.

6 14%

**Other**

I have only a tiny amount. I wish I could just walk it to the corner to dispose of (and get rid of the a garbage can in my yard.)

A friend who lives in Lincoln used to pick up our recycle.

I used to freeze compostables until trash day

I moved to Cambridge in August 2014 and started composting right away

There's a change in what goes down the disposal in my sink.

this survey question makes no sense -- what about the other answers that are NOT positive: big change; weighs more; smells worse; more volume????

9. Have you ever stored your kitchen collector in the refridgerator or freezer? Why or why not?

204 Responses

28 14% **Keep/Kept in Fridge/Freezer**

Always keep it in the refrigerator
I've stored the bag, but not the plastic receptacle, in the refrigerator during the summer. There was not enough room for both.
Out of sight and no odors.
We did this in the summer to cut down on fruit flies and odor. It worked fine. Its been fine out on the counter since the weather has been cooler.
Fits on the fridge door. Helped with fruit flies.
Much better than having it out in the kitchen!
I took the advice to store compost bin in freezer, and that has been great! It's small enough to not take up a ton of freezer space.
Although I just store the bag in the freezer, not the whole unit, since it takes up so much space.
in the summer this was necessary. Not so now.
fridge in the summer, but don't need to in the winter
I've never stored it OUT of the refrigerator. I thought it would smell bad.
have stored filled or partially filled bags in freezer, not the full collector (would impact available space in fridge)
I've done both. More often in the refrigerator. Sometimes there is room for the green container. If not then I get a smaller container to put the green bag in.
I keep the small green plastic compost container in the refrigerator, with a compostable bag, and put food scraps directly there. Occasionally, I have moved the bag to the freezer, but usually I don't need to.
Keep bags in freezer until Sunday evening when the green bin gets placed outside for pick up.
We put it in the fridge because of an ant problem. (We had ants other years, before the composting.) Worked fine except took up space.
When I've traveled.
Usually we end up pulling the container out onto the countertop and leaving it there. But we store our full bags in the fridge until we can take them out to the bin.
Store bags in freezer both in summer & winter
I've had to reduce my personal space in the freezer in order to do this, but it isn't a huge hardship, because I don't usually have tons of frozen food anyway.
Your little collecting bin with the lid doesn't work in the freezer. I just have a plastic food container, about 5/7 inches, uncovered and lined with a bag. That way I don't have to open a lid and can just toss stuff in.
always store filled bags in the freezer. Keep the kitchen collector on kitchen counter next to the sink.
to get rid of fruit flies
Mainly to keep fruit flies down to a minimum during the summer. Have continued with the habit since winter started.
We did this only when a bag was full and we couldn't take it out our back door due to the snow--but it was fine to keep it in the freezer until pickup day.
My refrigerator is too small for the container but I store the full bags in the freezer.
There really isn't any available room in there.
it definitely takes up space in the fridge, but it is worth it to avoid odor, fruit flies and leaking bags.

15 7% **Have/Will in Summer**

summer, have used freezer
We did in the summer, to control fruit flies. But it takes up a large amount of space, so it is on the counter in the cooler weather.
Haven't done it in the winter - in the summer I do not like to put the bags out in the heat.

	Reduces fruit flies in summer
	only when it's really hot in summer
	put filled bags in freezer in summer, but not kitchen collector. No room.
	i had not thought of it.....i had stored full bags in the freezer during the summer.
	We stored it in the fridge during the summer when we had trouble with fruit flies.
	We only had to store the compost container in the refrigerator in the summer, because the heat was causing the compost to liquify and break through the bag.
	During the summer I put the collector in the freezer b/c of the fruit flies. I don't need to do that now.
	in the summer when the a/c wasn't working
	Probably will do during the summer.
	We kept it outside. But this did lessen my roommates using the compost so I will try the fridge/freezer this summer.
	just started program after summer, so haven't needed to. Will store in freezer when it gets hot out.
	Will likely do this in the summer but the smell & flies are a non-issue in the winter
	I would be concerned that the ethanol created by the rotting food in the compost bin would make my fresh fridge food go bad faster
69	34% <b>No Problem/Reason</b>
	Maybe we'll try that in the summer. So far the odor and flies haven't been a problem (We started in the fall)
	No problems with odor or bugs.
	We used to freeze compost, but we've had no problems with the bin in our kitchen, and it wouldn't fit in the limited freezer space anyways.
	We store it under the sink. But we do not notice any noticeable odor or smell. And we've never noticed any noticeable odor.
	We haven't noticed the smell. In summer we put the collector on a windowsill
	No need.
	I put out my compost every 2-3 days - no need to worry about the smell.
	simpler to keep in on the counter
	No need
	No need.
	Under the sink works fine.
	Odors and flies have not been a problem.
	WE fill a bag every 2 to 3 days. No flies, no odor.
	We have not had much difficulty with odor at all!
	We don't have trouble usually with odors or flies.
	Easiest to use on counter. Think I would do less collection if in frig or greezer.
	We installed hooks for it inside a cabinet door, which is convenient for us, and odor has not been a problem thus far.
	Haven't needed to.
	Have not needed to and when there has been oder/fruit flies I have taken it out. I do not have any extra room in my small freezer and refrigerator space is at a premium. I also do not want to introduce mold/bacteria to the fridge.
	Smell is usually fine, take it outside to bin if it smells
	don't need to b.c compost does not smell and it is not convenient to store in fridge
	has been cold since we started
	Have not needed to do so
	We don't eat many sweet veggies which tend to cause odors. Brassicas, stems, etc. haven't caused a problem for us.
	Have not had too much trouble with odor. We take out the compost if it gets flies in it. Keeping it in the refrigerator seems like a hassle and it would take up a lot of space in there.

We haven't had a lot of flies, especially now that it is winter.
Odor hasn't been bad, haven't had any flies
We produce so much waste that the full bags are typically trashed daily.
The first bag usually isn't full until the end of the week.
No smell, more room on the counter. I started in the summer and now I am used to it so I just left it there. The bucket fits nicely in the door tray nearest to the side that opens so it is very convenient to open the door and empty my small kitchen plastic container into the bucket.
so far we haven't needed to.
Haven't really needed to. We don't eat much for meat, so there's not a lot of scraps that would go rancid. The occasional times we notice an error, we just bring the compost out to the green bin sooner.
haven't needed to and probably would not have room if I needed to.
No need and I have a small freezer/frig.
We have not had any problem with odor or flies in the kitchen.
No need for it. I produced the same kitchen scraps before the composting pilot started, I didn't need to put my trash bag in the freezer when the scraps went in the trash. Why would that change just because the scraps are now going in a different bag?
We have a nice tucked away trash area in my apartment. the odor doesn't permeate
Not enough space in refrigerator or freezer and I have a lot of compost so no need to.
Odor hasn't been a problem, and there's usually not enough room in the fridge or freezer.
More convenient to have it outside refrigerator.
we did not have much problem at all because we twirl the bag to close it
No real issues with odors or flies. Also, would not normally have room for it in the refrigerator.
Have not needed to. Not much room in our fridge.
Haven't needed
We haven't had a problem with odor or flies. We store ours under the sink and empty it to the garage every other day.
I have not had problems with odors and flies.
Store it under the sink and it doesn't smell.
I always just put it in the compost bin outside.
smell hasn't been a problem for us
Never needed to--stored full bags in freezer when needed in summer.
No need to. If it starts to smell, I tie it up & tak eit outside. Putting in the fridge would be an extra step (taking it out) so less convenient.
Even in summer, odors, flies not too bothersome -- believe it or not!
It is too large, but since we got the new container we haven't experienced any issues.
No need. It doesn't smell bad if we wrap fish/meat scraps in newspaper.
I fill and em;th the bags prombply.
I have had no problem with odor
Odor has not been a problem. Lid fits tightly and I clean out fridge right before I take out compost.
I don't really smell it
don't need to. bin is sufficient
I don't have an odor problem, and it's more convenient to store it under the kitchen sink anyway.
odors do not bother me
I haven't had a problem with odor or flies, and like the bin handy in the kitchen.
no need
No odor of fly problems
It's just not been necessary.



	We haven't had a problem with odors.
	no need
	We did not have a problem with odor and only a minimal problem with fruit flies.
	Haven't felt the need
65 32%	<b>No Room</b>
	No extra room in the refrigerator.
	No room
	Definitely no room. Also don't want to mix kitchen refuse into my freezer or refrigerator for fear of cross contamination (mold spores, sticky moisture, punctured BioBag run-off, etc.).
	No space, plus the bags sweat and I don't want the odors to creep to the food in the freezer.
	Only when it is really smelly. We have limited fridge/ freezer space.
	No room, no need to reduce odors. Also it is more convenient to have the kitchen collector on the counter.
	No room in our frig. Next summer we may give it a try if we can make room.
	no room
	No room in the fridge
	no room
	I don't think we have room in our fridge or freezer.
	no room
	not enough space
	Not needed.
	I would love to! But not enough room :(
	I wouldn't have the room to do so.
	My freezer is FULL.
	inconvenient/ no space
	We typically don't have room in the refrigerator.
	No room!
	Not needed. No space in fridge
	no room!
	I, unfortunately, have a very small refrigerator in my apartment and do not have room.
	My fridge or freezer isn't big enough
	Not enough room
	Not enough space space to do so and we haven't had a big problem with either odor or flies.
	We have no room in the refrigerator/freezer.
	May try in the warmer months; freezer currently does not have room
	not enough room! :-)
	We don't have room in our fridge/freezer to do this.
	Simply no room.
	We just don't have room our fridge and freezer are quite full with a family
	Not enough room in the freezer, and it doesn't smell or attract flies under the sink.
	Would take up valuable space and seems gross..
	If flies become a problem, we use vinegar traps.
	no room in freezer (husband is icecream addict) or fridge; I think if we needed to we would figure out a way, but its really not a problem

My freezer is pretty full. Also, since my daughter became a vegetarian over the summer, there is next to no meat in the compost anymore, so the smell is greatly reduced.	
Not enough room...	
space is an issue	
No room. I make my own soup stock and freeze leftovers. I will never have room for this unless I get a 2nd freezer. Which I won't be doing.	
It takes up too much room in my fridge so I just change the bag more frequently when it's stinky	
Usually isn't enough space in there for it.	
We tried the freezer but there is not always enough room. We do not have a large fridge.	
I think it would smell too much in the refrigerator - also the bags sometimes leak.	
space concerns	
haven't needed to and I don't want the waste in my freezer.	
No room.	
Not enough space in fridge and freezer; doesn't feel good to put old scraps next to fresh food.	
We don't have room in the refrigerator.	
No room.	
I have a tiny apartment-sized fridge.	
no space	
I don't have enough room in my refrigerator to do that. I store mine on the floor next to the refrigerator. It is pretty cold there. If it starts smelling in the summer, I'll try to fit it into the refrigerator.	
No room in the freezer or fridge!	
I don't have extra space in the fridge or freezer.	
No room	
It is not convenient to store in the fridge or freezer - it takes up space and is not accessible when cooking - we store it under the kitchen sink - we are testing the new container and do notice less odor - but it may also be due to the season - we will be better able to gauge during spring and summer.	
No room!	
too big. but i often keep scraps in the freezer or fridge in smaller containers and transfer to the biobags right before pickup day.	
Typically not enough room in our refrigerator.	
Not enough room in freezer. need that room for food.	
Fridge and freezer are always intolerably full. I have never had a problem with odor or pests -- maybe because I also use an outdoor composter, or maybe because I take the compost to the green outdoor bin quickly in warm weather.	
This wouldn't work for us. We have a pretty small fridge (always pretty packed with food).	
refrigerator and freezer are too small	
Not enough room	
Not enough space	
Lack of space.	
17	<b>8% Don't Want Compost in Fridge</b>
I don't really want the container, which I put on the floor, in the fridge. I also don't like the idea of storing an open-air container with compost in the fridge. It wouldn't fit very well in the freezer. Besides, the smell and flies were not a major issue this past summer for us.	
It also seems kind of gross.	
There is no room. And, gross.	

	Husband's ick factor - does not want food waste near edible food.
	Don't like the idea of compost right next to fresh food in fridge/freezer, but may try it because smell and ants were a bit of an issue...
	Mentally, this seems like storing trash in the fridge. We keep it under the sink.
	seems disgusting to put it in with my food. never had flies.
	no room and kind of gross!
	Don't like the idea of it.
	it made our fridge smell. unacceptable. blech.
	I don't have enough room & the thought of it grosses me out.
	Worried about it contaminating our good.
	I am not comfortable storing food compost in my small freezer for sanitary purposes.
	I would never put what I would normally throw out as garbage in refrigerator where I keep my food stuff.
	I don't think that's a good place for it, in the freezer. I will not try that, not healthy.
	space constrained. kind of gross.
	It is gross to put garbage in my fridge.
10	5% <b>Other</b>
	Didn't think of it.
	Did not occur to us and then the new container has solved the problem
	We stopped using the kitchen collector and returned to using a closed container to collect scraps. When that is full, we transfer it to a green bag and place outside in our curb-side container. I have put meat in green bags and into the freezer when I thought there would be odors.
	I haven't had flies this winter and I was using it to attract mice so I could trap them
	Just once when we went away on vacation.
	Bugs
	I use a stainless bin with a carbon filter.
	I keep waste in a covered metal jar, eat very little meat, don't generally have problems with odor/flies, at least not in winter -- the metal jar is more compact than the kitchen container you provide, so it fits on my counter.
	We have a sealed counter compost bin we've used for years. Convenient & more pleasing to the eye.
	I have a metal container with a lid that I use instead of the green basket thing, but I see that may not be the best way of storing food scraps.

10. Would you buy bags to participate in the program if it cost \$20-\$30 per year for your household?

41 Responses

28 68% Positive

absolutely!!
we love the program and hope to continue it and would be happy to purchase bags.
We are about to use our coupon to buy new bags, so came close to a year with what you gave out. I hope still to use the coupon! Also we are away part of the summer so that helps us use fewer bags. And we do some onsite composting...
Thank you!
I have no problem with it. Where I grew up we had to purchase town garbage bags too. It is a small price to pay for a large service.
I love this program!
Certainly. This is absolutely the most convenient way to deal with garbage.
It's not a lot of money and is the best thing to do, no problem.
I'd definitely do it for \$20, but \$30 is getting up there
I compost because I believe it is good for the environment, and that is worth \$20-\$30 per year. This program makes it very easy to be proactive and make good choices for my family and for others.
Absolutely! I LOVE this program - please don't stop!
Continuing to have my compost picked up would be worth that amount of money to me. Over the course of a year that isn't a lot of money - less than \$1/week. More than we spend on a cup of coffee, etc.
can't quite understand this question. We are happy to buy biobags.
I am committed to composting, so I would be willing to pay the extra cash.
It doesn't bother me.
I'm a HUGE advocate of composting.
small price to pay for such a beneficial-all-around program
Obviously, I like the free bags, but it's worth it to pay for them.
I would ALWAYS participate in this program even if I had to pay for pick up! Although, I might just switch to no bags but is this ok in the bin? I wasn't sure.
Same as purchasing garbage bags
I live in a 2-person household and so far we are only using 1 bag per week, so the cost of the bags are not a concern.
We only use about 1 bag per week, so I think \$20-\$30 would be more money than we'd need to spend for bags.
It is, of course, another expense, but seems reasonable and I am committed to composting. Also, the benefit of having the program at all is really amazing. I never thought I would be able to compost in the city, as a renter, with such little effort! Thanks so much for providing this service, I hope it continues.
Absolutely
Having them supplied was very nice and I still have plenty left. If need be I'd go out to buy more.
I'd probably purchase bags... especially because, as a 1-person household, I only use about 1 per week.
Absolutely would participate.
No problem! Please keep program going!
We buy trash bags so doesn't seem any different.
I love composting. I would be happy to invest in it. Note: I am the only one in my family that does. The rest of the family compost to make me happy, but would never buy bags.

6 15% Negative/

		The hassle & additional cost is a turn off... I'll just use old newspaper for fishbones & other animal bones. Will use my sink disposal for other smelly or rotting food refuse & skip the rest.
		That's how much we spend on trash/recycling bags every few months!
		\$20-\$30 a year is ridiculous. That's twice what I'm paying for 13 gal. regular trash bags.
		I wish they were cheaper!
		They should be free to eliminate cost as a barrier for people who want to compost but don't have extra \$\$.
		That seems an unreasonable price for 50 small bags. I would probably drop out at that cost
2	5%	<b>Rodent Complaints</b>
		We will no longer participate in program, as it has already cost us over \$1000 to remove mice, replace dishwasher. NO THANK YOU!!!
		great product for attracting rodents. never had a rodent problem in DECADES until beginninf composting. No more!! Not worth it!!
14	34%	<b>Mixed/Conditonal</b>
		I supposed it is no different than buying trash bags, it feels extra and a little annoying but you have to buy trash bags to put trash out.
		Yes.. But of course I don't want to have to spend more..perhaps reducing it to \$10-15 week per household will be more palatable to get better cooperation. * what is we find other biobags cheaper elsewhere? I guess as consumers we would like to have options, just as we do for trash bags, etc.
		If it was easy to get more bags or a replacement bin as needed, I'd definitely be willing to buy them through the program itself. If it was difficult to pay and it was a flat fee just to participate... I might be less inclined.
		As long as the bags are easily found. This was a problem earlier where several stores were not carrying them (at least staff did not know where to find them in store)
		\$10-12 per year seems more appropriate to me
		It would be convenient if the cost of bags was wrapped into the cost of the program, and they were just delivered.
		Would prefer if it was less costly. I use paper bags for dry compostable material such as peanut shells etc.
		Personally I'd be committed to doing so, but other people may not want to pay for bags and just throw the compost away with the trash. The incentive now is that I can, for free, do the environment some good (or at least believe that it is doing good.) But I think people may not see it that way; they'll only see it as having to separate their trash from their recycling and their compost and carry out three different bags to three different bins.
		We really really enjoy the ease and cost (free) of the pilot. I think our habit would now continue but it might be less of an incentive if we had to shop at a separate location just for the bags.
		I think paying more than 10 cents a bag sounds kind of steep -- at our current rate, we would need 100 bags a year, so \$10 sounds much better than \$20-\$30 but there are households where i imagine that would be a disincentive....
		I probably wouldn't need that many, but I think this would be a big problem for lower income residents.
		I think a better solution would be to give the bio bags away and charge for regular trash bags or something.
		Not thrilled since it is a benefit to the city however I hate to see waste and I am glad it can be turned into compost
9	22%	<b>Coupon</b>
		I only got one coupon. I'll have to check online to see if it's posted.
		where do i find the biobag coupon? did you send it via email?
		We bought replacement bags at Tag's. They didn't know what we were talking about or asking for at first. Once they figured it out, the ones we got are a bit small and I have to stretch them to fit in the bin.

	Please extend the expiration date of the coupon. We waste so little food that we probably won't have to do our first purchase until after the expiration date. I think we deserve a reward for that!
	The time I had the coupon with me Pemberton told me they didn't have them, but they did. I bought them on another trip. Suggest you train workers at places who carry the bags.
	I used the coupon once, but the number of bags per package was much smaller than the originally provided rolls. I ran out of bags and went back to Cambridge Naturals and they only had the "tall" size, which is much too big--I take the compost out to the bin every day or two to avoid attracting pests. Fridge/freezer both too crowded to use them.
	Since I haven't had to buy more bags yet, I don't know what they cost. Will there be more coupons after April, please????
	I didn't use the coupon at Pemberton Farms, because they didn't have any of the bags. I'd buy them, but it'd be nice if there could be continued coupons/discounts.
	I will stock-up on the buy one get one free, if the coupon allows.
10	<b>24% Other</b>
	Difficult to judge the quality of bags when on the grocery shelf. Higher cost = better?
	it would be great if they could be ordered on line and delivered at pickup time. Or if Boston Organics could deliver them? Just a thought.
	I am concerned with families that could not afford the cost. think using brown paper bags for non-wet items should be discussed.
	Hard to see how it could work if we didn't purchase bags. Not sure what price point feels reasonable. Hopefully if there's enough of a market, price will come down.
	Though I'd be even happier if we continue to be able to get small amounts of the compost we're helping generate through the year.
	Some at Whole Foods are quite large and too big for the bins so part of it is unused. I would like an in-between size - a little larger than the bin.
	In SF we could use paper grocery bags or a few sheets of newspaper.
	How many bags per roll? Need more info to make decision.
	I have found that I am able to fill 1 3-gallon compost bag each week, except when I make chicken soup, which takes an extra bag.
	Hard to find a place that sold them--finally found them at Pemberton Market after trying Trader Joe and Star.

**Additional Comments**

**89 Responses**

1	1%	<b>Negative</b>	not practical in city living
8	9%	<b>Bin/Bag Complaint</b>	<p>the lid to my new inside bin doesn't stay open like it said it would; not a big deal but I wanted to give feedback.</p> <p>Please revise your survey to provide answer choices that reflect all the possibilities, including those which are NOT positive. As written the survey is very biased and does not allow respondents to describe the whole story clearly.</p> <p>Wish the bags didn't leak with wet scraps</p> <p>hinge piece snapped on the lid of the plastic bin. cheap plastic, so now the lid is separate/loose.</p> <p>Wish the bags had compostable twist ties</p> <p>The bags get soggy and leak if I put in coffee grinds or other light liquid (yogurt, sour cream, etc.).</p> <p>Also - did not participate in summer so some question are not relevant but no place to answer that way.</p> <p>Moving the bin for a 2 family house is a bit of a challenge because the handle is so short. You have to either bend down at an uncomfortable angle (especially for the aging folks in our family) or pick it up, which is unwieldy. We are thinking of trying to attach a longer handle once the weather warms up a bit. It would be great to have that built into the bins.</p> <p>The only place I could find the bio bags was at Bed Bath and Beyond. They had a different brand at Tags when I looked. Could we get Whole Foods to use compostable produce bags? Is it OK to use paper bags to hold compost in the big green bin? It would also be really really useful if you would post on the web page an exhaustive list of items that are compostable: Wax paper? Parchment paper? The absorbent pad under meat? etc.</p>
11	12%	<b>Other</b>	<p>I may have already competed this survey-can't remember. Sorry!</p> <p>It would be great to receive a Q and A listing all the questions/answers neighbors have asked. We are still confused about pizza and take out paper boxes and if they can go in the recycle bin even if food stained. I believe they can but is it best to put these kinds of containers in the compost? (If so, some are quite large and it takes time to crush/rip up.)</p> <p>We love the new kitchen container (white and green with vent holes on top). It's much better than the green one!!</p> <p>I am slightly miffed at neighbors who don't compost. Should it be mandatory? I don't know. I don't like to tell people how to live their lives.</p> <p>I really like the new kitchen bin that I got as part of the pilot of that new style. It keeps the area under the sink cleaner. I think this is because it has a larger opening at the top.</p> <p>Jeffrey Lamoreaux (jefflamx@gmail.com), 25 Hollis St. Apt. 1 is also composting with us. Please make sure he is on your email list.</p> <p>Where does one get the buy one-get one coupon? Is it a physical coupon, or electronic?</p> <p>Where do I find the coupon for the bio Bags?</p> <p>Your survey should include I don't know as answer. Also would love to see bigger bags for plants and cut flowers.</p> <p>I must admit the weather has cowed me. I have not brought my compost container out the last couple times. SO MUCH SNOW.</p> <p>I did not receive a notice the first time the compost collection was canceled. The only notice I received was the 2nd time: "Again, due to the snow, DPW has to dedicate our personnel to clearing the streets and sidewalks. This means that we need to postpone collection until Wednesday, February 11...."</p>
69	78%	<b>Postive</b>	Thank you.

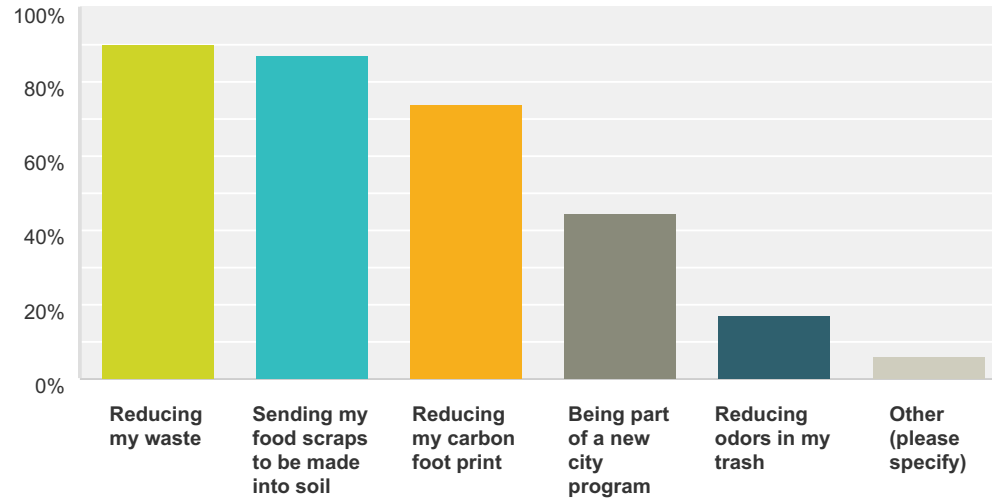
We are very happy with the pilot and hope that it becomes a Cambridge wide program.
We love being able to compost! Please continue the program!
i appreciate the snowy weather updates around compost collection
Keep up the great work.
We love the program!
I love the program and actively try to recruit people to it across Cambridge and elsewhere. I don't have a good explanation for what is done with the compost - could you provide that (again, if you've already done that.) Thanks
thank you1
Hoping this pilot will convert into an ongoing program in our City!
Good program--good luck!
Keep up the great work. Nothing but praise!
Please keep this program and make it citywide. Toronto does it we can too. Encourage Target and Costco to carry the bags. This has a huge effect on refuse volume.
Love the composting program and don't understand why all our neighbors are not doing it. I am going to spread the word:)
I love this program. Everyone who has seen how I manage compostable garbage would love to have this system.
Thank you
I really hope that this is a service that will be expanded to the entire city of Cambridge. We have a great opportunity to be a community leader in the area of sustainability with this initiative, and I would love to see this spread to other areas of the Commonwealth over time. Thank you for piloting this program!
Keep the program going!!
We love the program and really hope the city decides to continue it. It's part of what makes Cambridge such a great place to live.
I know so many people outside of the pilot neighborhood who can't wait for compost pickup to come to their neck of Cambridge.
I hope this becomes a permanent program - we think it is really great and has definitely cut back on the # of trash bags per week - we are down to just 1
we love the program
love the compost program!
We love this program!
Happy that collections have not spilled scraps onto the street. If it did, I would reject the program immediately.
This is a great program. I hope that it will continue.
love being in this pilot and hope it continues and becomes available permanently throughout the city
we love the program and hope it will continue!
love this service!!!! Even my non-eco husband is excited about it!!! Thank you!!!!
Wonderful program!! Thank you for the great coordination. It's been simple and effective!
we love the program! and also really love the new containers we go
Awesome program!
I'm happy with this system & hope that it continues,
We like the program. Thanks for running this!
We're really appreciating the program - especially since our two local compost bins have become full and it'll be a year yet before we can empty them. Even so, the Cambridge project takes many items we wouldn't be able to use in our backyard composters - and we love reducing our trash footprint further!
winter is much easier with out the smell and flies of summer
I love composting!!!!



The containers could be better designed. When they are empty, opening the lid causes it to be unstable. Also, a stable position where the lid is open straight up would allow scraps to be tossed in during food prep with minimal footprint on the counter.
From talking to other program participants, I think part of the reason we don't have summer problems is vegetarian households keep these bags moving--nothing sits around too long. Yet another reason to encourage that trend (preaching to the choir)!
We probably would have needed to buy more bags, but we volunteered to try a 2nd type of kitchen collector and got more bags when we got the new collector.
Thank you for this program!!!
I'm SO greatfuk! Thank you
love this program
Love this program.
Thank you for the new bin. It is hard to tell whether it will be better re: flies until summer comes but we will try. Thank you, too for including some bags.
Mostly I am composting things I would have put in the disposal
still really enjoying this.
I'm much hoping the program will continue after the pilot is done.
Thank you, this service is great. PLEASE keep it going and extend it to more of Cambridge.
Great job, and keep it coming
this is a great program! it makes composting easy, it has become routine in our house. I hope it continues and spreads to the rest of the city.
You are all doing a great job, I feel very lucky to be able to compost!
PLEASE continue this forever!
I switched over to trash during winter because of problems created by snowstorms.
We were given the improved home scrap container which is a big improvement, much less odor and easier to fill.
I appreciate that surveys can be very useful / but it feels like a lot - everyone is inundated with "feedback" forms these days /if it's super useful say exactly why -
It's a great system--we're very happy participating and hope it continues. We also like the new kitchen container with a lid that can be propped open.
Great results. Bags are fine. Pickups prompt. Significant reduction in trash.
Hope this continues past October.
Great program. I hope it continues and that you roll it out to the whole city! Friends of ours who do not live in our neighborhood are envious.
i love this service! i hope it continues and spreads to the rest of the city.
Love the composting program. My friends in other parts of Cambridge are jealous -- they want to do it too!
valuable program
I love it!! I hope you take it citywide.
No comments needed, it's working out well for me as it is.
I like the new bins better mostly, but i do need to wipe them out bc some moisture collects whereas that wasn't a problem with the old bins. Also, we've moved since the program started to a single family home and now have a smaller outdoor collection bin. It is much harder to close this bin and I'm worried about animals getting to the compost in the summer. The larger bin was easier to secure.
LOVE, LOVE, LOVE your composting program. So GRATEFUL for it! It even makes me feel as though I can do a bit of gardening (or at least earth-care) in the winter.
:D.P.S. My husband prefers the new experimental mini compost collector to the old one. He thinks it looks better, and he's sensitive to odor, and thinks it's better at handling that. I like both mini collectors equally.
Thank you for doing this! I am grateful to have the opportunity to compost.
It's a great program for a great city!
I hope this program extends to all of Cambridge. It's now deeply embedded in our routine.

**Q1 What are the most meaningful aspects of the program for you? (check all that apply)**

Answered: 278 Skipped: 0



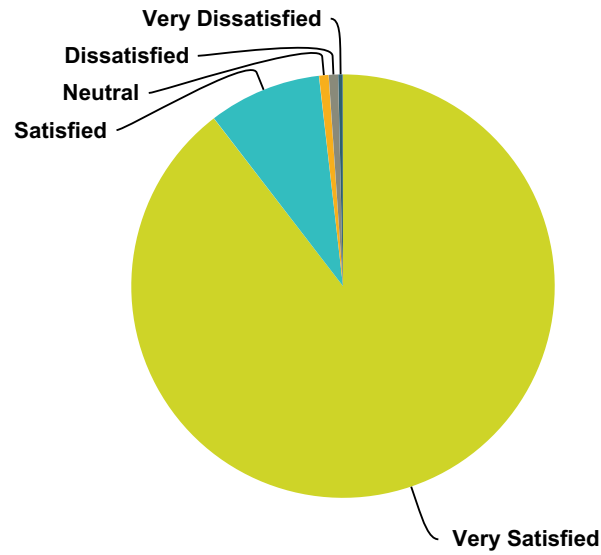
Answer Choices	Responses
Reducing my waste	89.93% 250
Sending my food scraps to be made into soil	87.05% 242
Reducing my carbon foot print	74.10% 206
Being part of a new city program	44.60% 124
Reducing odors in my trash	16.91% 47
Other (please specify)	5.76% 16
<b>Total Respondents: 278</b>	

**S5 Q1 What are the most meaningful aspects of the program for you? (check all that apply)**

Comments:
Being part of the first program to promote curbside composting on the east coast.
Teaching my children good habits of environmental stewardship
Convenience of bagging food waste and having it collected.
Being able to compost food waste that can't go in a garden compost bin (pet food, dairy, etc.)
Teaching my kids about environmental responsibility and food security/responsibility.
Not taking up yard space with a composter and still composting
I grew up composting in the 1970's. It is all I've ever known to do.
We have compost bins in our condo association, but this is neater and easier.
Making it more likely that others will reduce their carbon footprints by reducing their waste
To convince my family and friends that America is becoming more environmentally aware.
This survey is not worded well because there is no option for "program is not working meaningfully for me", so all choices cannot be captured.
this is awesome!
Not having to compost in my yard and being able to compost meat, etc.
Once this is permanent, gaining space in my tiny yard where our big home compost bin goes. Looking forward to getting rid of that!
It's just so nice to be able to compost even though I live in an urban environment with no outdoor space of my own!
changing my behavior with regard to consumption- even being frugal, it has made me even more aware of margin of waste that we produce weekly and has lead to purchase behavior changes.

### Q2 How satisfied are you with the curbside composting program?

Answered: 278 Skipped: 0



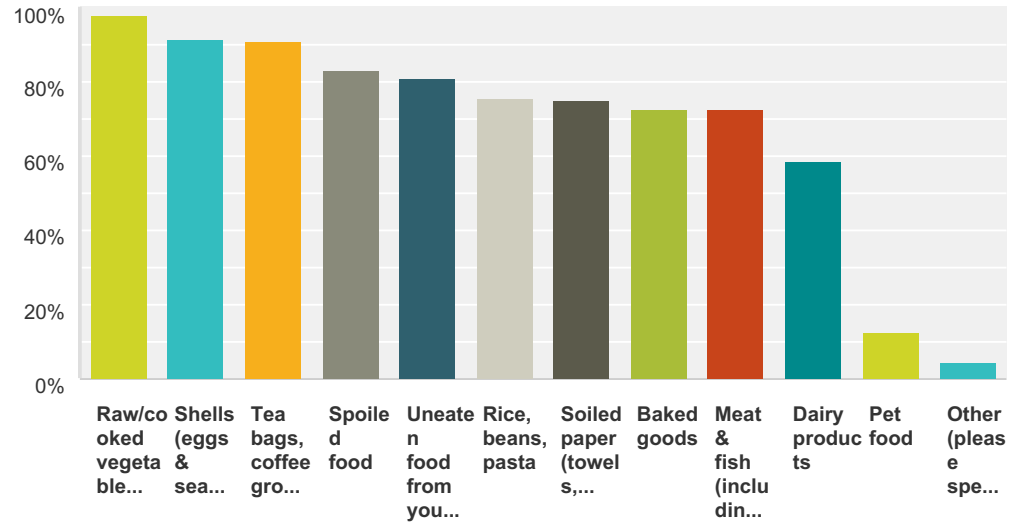
Answer Choices	Responses	
Very Satisfied	89.57%	249
Satisfied	8.63%	24
Neutral	0.72%	2
Dissatisfied	0.72%	2
Very Dissatisfied	0.36%	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>278</b>

**S5 Q2 How satisfied are you with the curbside composting program?**

<b>Positive</b>
it's awesome!
Might be moving in September and I hate the thought of no longer having this service!
The program is working very well our my perspective.
It's an absolutely fabulous program!
It's amazing - with 2 young kids I wouldn't have the time or energy to compost in my backyard but it's very important to me, so I really appreciate this service.
S5 Q2 Since I started on this pilot project, our weekly garbage went way down
Every part of this works great! Honestly, the best new product / service I've experiences in years.
Very thoughtful planning has paid off
So easy!!
Fantastic program - love it!
I'm so pleased to be a part of this! Great job!
<b>Negative</b>
too much of a hassle
My green outdoor container came apart at some part during the pick-up process. I'll try to fix it, but I do wish that more care would be taken to be careful not to break the containers, and to leave them standing up, out of the paths of cars.
bags tend to disintegrate very quickly--bin needs constant cleaning
Only problem was pick up a couple of times and bag leakage.
I'd guess the labor and processor costs of the program are substantial. I fear the the carbon footprint of the fuel for collection far outweigh the benefit.
Except for today when our bin didn't get picked up!
Because of problems with the program our family has ceased participation.

### Q3 What type of scraps do you collect in your kitchen container? (check all that apply)

Answered: 278 Skipped: 0



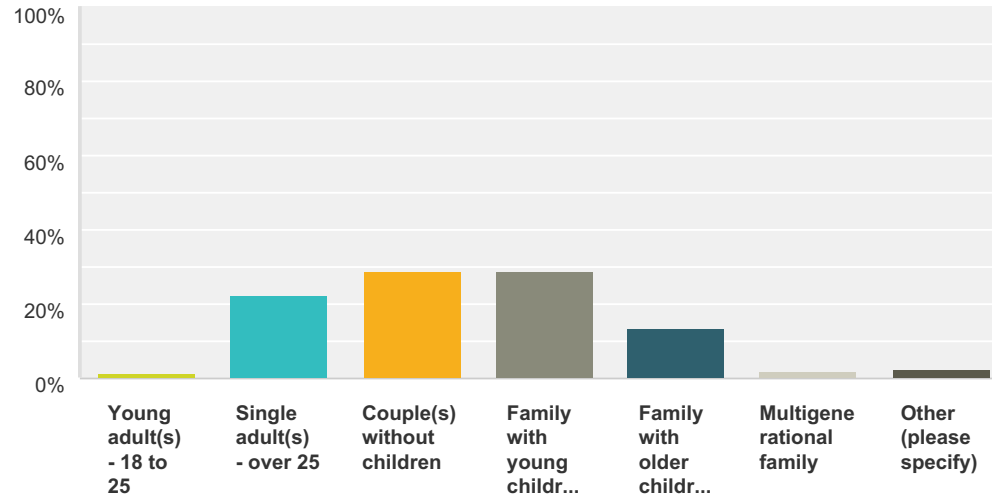
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Raw/cooked vegetables & fruit	97.84%	272
Shells (eggs & seafood)	91.73%	255
Tea bags, coffee grounds	91.01%	253
Spoiled food	83.09%	231
Uneaten food from your plates	80.94%	225
Rice, beans, pasta	75.54%	210
Soiled paper (towels, napkins, plates, waxed paper)	74.82%	208
Baked goods	72.66%	202
Meat & fish (including bones)	72.30%	201

## Cambridge MA Curbside Compost Pilot- Survey 5

Dairy products	58.27%	162
Pet food	12.59%	35
Other (please specify)	4.32%	12
<b>Total Respondents: 278</b>		

### Q4 How would you describe who live in your household?

Answered: 278 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Young adult(s) - 18 to 25	1.44% 4
Single adult(s) - over 25	22.66% 63
Couple(s) without children	29.14% 81
Family with young children (youngest 13 and under)	28.78% 80
Family with older children (youngest 14 and over)	13.67% 38
Multigenerational family	1.80% 5
Other (please specify)	2.52% 7
<b>Total</b>	<b>278</b>



**S5 Q5 Buildings with 2+ Units Only: Why do you think that non-participating households in your building, choose not to compost?**

60

32 53%

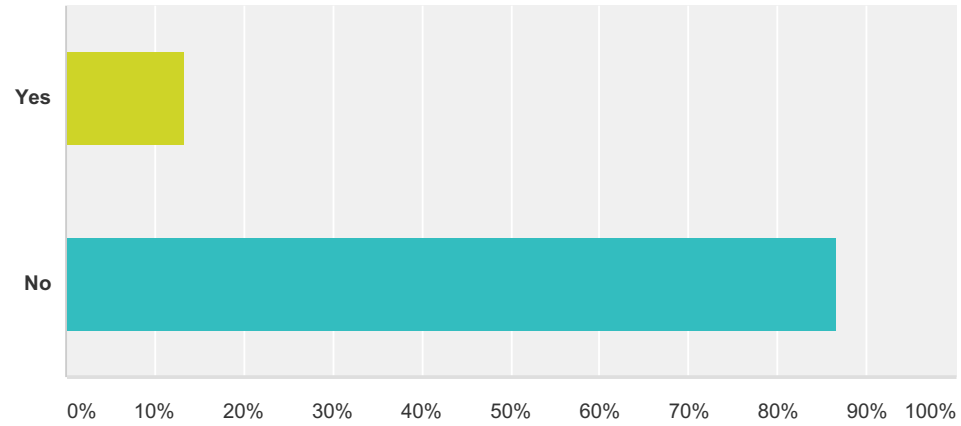
<b>Not interested</b>
Not interested? Time?
they are lazy
They are selfish
Lack of motivation to change habits. Person who lives in the other unit is probably over 80 years old, and older people tend to dislike changes in their routine.
They're assholes. Or they don't know about it.
Honestly, I think it's a combination of them being too lazy to do something new and it's also not a priority for them. We may have a skewed sample, though, because the neighbors in our building (2 other units, 3 people total) also do not participate in basic maintenance chores that are the renters responsibility (snow removal from sidewalk, putting out trash and recycling to the curb, etc.) so I think they're just generally not concerned with the greater good or their impact on others/their footprint. Not sure how you reach people like that -- they aren't motivated to change. However, we've had neighbors down the street who are just outside the pilot area who have asked if we'd mind if they put their compost in our bin because they'd much rather contribute to that than to their trash.
The 1 unit that did not participate was an elderly woman who perhaps did not generate much food waste, if any.
Laziness
They are not in the habit of doing it. Are older and used to doing things in their own way. Generate very little trash anyway.
Can't be bothered to separate their trash. (They don't really recycle either.)
i asked, and they said that they did not generate enough vegetable peels to make it worthwhile.
not motivated to do anything extra
Not in the habit of it. Lazy.
I never spoke with my downstairs tenants. They are terrible about regular recycling (bottles, plastic, etc) so I couldn't imagine them being able to deal with composting. The next time I get new tenants I will speak with them about it.
not being committed to reducing waste or carbon footprint
Young renters, possibly 1st unit, maybe don't want extra responsibility - hard to get them to take out the trash at all.
pure laziness
Lazy, didn't realize how easy it is
Lack of initiative
Because they are young and stupid.
Because she is incapable of being a functional, responsible adult
Lack of interest & concern. Most don't even recycle, putting everything into the dumpster, instead of the convenient sorting for single stream (containers RIGHT NEXT TO dumpster!)
They feel like it's too much work for them. I've tried to convince them otherwise to no avail.
She said she knew she "should", but I don't know why she didn't. She might when the full program gets rolled out.
Single mother, no time
Busy, don't cook much
Older people who didn't want to make the 'effort'

	<b>Effort</b>
	My tenants signed up, but I've noticed that they're not actually composting. I assume it's because of fruit flies and smell last summer, which I think is around the time they stopped.
	Not sure. Most do. Mostly I think don't see the value/necessity, so choose not to join. One person/unit in general does not participate in our building Citty activities/ initiative so reflects same pattern here.
	No interest in doing it.
	Too difficult for them to carry compost in and out
	1) Mice getting inside walls and kitchen during colder weather attracted by smell of food scraps in non-sealed container 2) Disgusting smell and liquids from outside container as weather gets warmer 3) Mice
14	23% <b>Uninformed</b>
	The other two units in my building don't know much about the program, having moved in after it was started.
	they are renters and not planning to be here long, they are also foreign there might be a language or cultural understanding barrier
	I think they just didn't know about the program. I have talked my downstairs neighbors' kids into taking over the composting duties, even though I know they still haven't signed up.
	They moved in after the program started and are unaware of it
	Perhaps unfamiliarity with the process (and ease)
	They may not understand how easy it is.
	Don't know about it.
	aren't educated about composting and the program
	Our third floor resident is a single guy, aged 60+, and he just doesn't understand why he should compost. His carbon footprint is small, but another kind of pitch seems necessary....
	Maybe they aren't aware of the program?
	I'm not sure if everyone knows about it.
	Because some of them eat a lot of meat
	They simply don't know about it (even though I emailed them). I could have been a stronger advocate, I admit.
	Rents leased after start of program and may not have been aware.
11	18% <b>Unsure</b>
	I know that 2 of the 3 units here participate. Not sure about the third.
	I have no idea!
	Unknown
	I have no idea.
	Unsure. They moved in last September. I mentioned it to them at that time. Perhaps they were overwhelmed and would consider it now.
	Not sure. Said they ordered a lot of take out and did not have much food waste. I also think they were uncomfortable with the idea.
	Not sure
	My town house is one of 7 in my association. I have no idea why someone would not participate.
3	5% <b>Compost at home</b>
	Backyard compost bin available for the majority of the scraps

Two households are participating. The other composts in our yard to make her own soil.
One owner decided to compost on her own to fertilize the garden.
<b>All participating</b>
all 3 units in my building participate.
Everyone is participating!
I hope all 3 units are participating but I am not sure!
not applicable - we all do
Everyone participates!
both units enthusiastically chose the program
All participated.
everyone is participating in our 3 unit building
All three units in building participate.
We all do it!
Both participate.
We are a 4-unit building and EVERYBODY COMPOSTS!
Everyone participated
We're not really sure.
Everyone participated.
All participated
Both of us are composting.
All compost
N/a
We have 3 units, 2 signed up, the other couldn't figure out how. So, I helped her register and we were all on board.
Both do
I believe they all participate.
N/A, my upstairs neighbor also composts
But they doo compost.
n/a -- NO NONPARTICIPATING HOUSEHOLDS
Everyone in my building does. But maybe lots of people just don't get it or feel grossed out by it
one is rented out; other says she doesn't have waste to contribute
Everyone participates (at my urging :))!
I live in a 3-family. We all participate. I might have to get a larger container--- a good thing!
We all participate
we both do and share our container
We are lucky, we all participate
NA -- everyone participates

**Q6 Since the beginning of April 2015, have you had any issues with compost collection?**

Answered: 278 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	13.31%	37
No	86.69%	241
<b>Total</b>		<b>278</b>

**S5 Q6 Since the beginning of April 2015, have you had any issues with compost collection?**

39

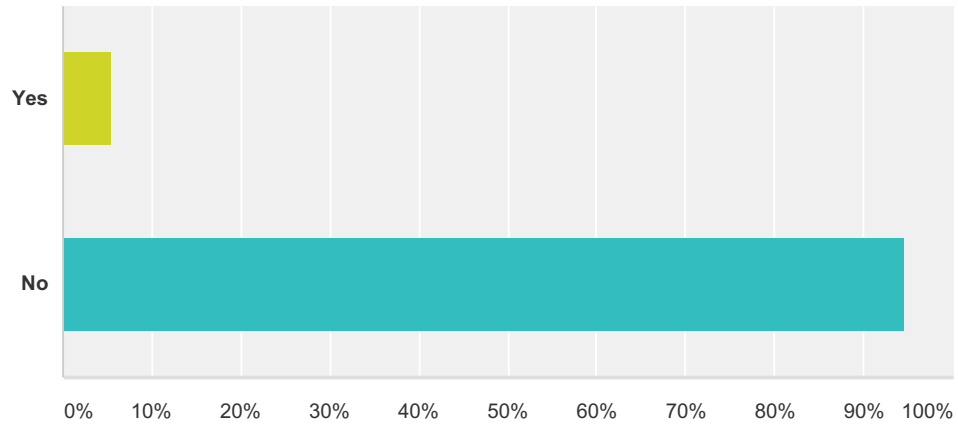
14	36%	<b>Missed due to snow (NOT relevant)</b>
		a few weeks when truck could not get here because of the snow. Understandable.
		Very minor - a few times pickup was missed.
		Not sure on the dates but there were a couple of times I received an email about day changes for pick up and then pick up did not happen.
		occasionally you did not make it -- but you were very informative when the schedule changed - thanks!
		Once or twice during the winter the collection missed our street.
		One week in winter, the truck was a day late.
		There have been a few issues on account of the massive amount of snow we received this winter. But the city has been very good about informing us of the delay.
		Just that one day in winter when pickup was delayed a couple of days
		During snow storms, maybe one or two pickups missed. No big deal.
		I think one pick up was missed. But it may have been in march.
		Only during winter two missed collections. Really minor
		Missed a couple of collections due to snow. Totally understandable though.
		Just during the excess snow time, didn't get picked up for 2 weeks. But since it was cold and we're the only composters in the building, bags in the bin were not a problem.
		Just during the snowstorms, which was understandable.
18	46%	<b>Missed</b>
		Just a couple instances of compost not being picked up with trash. Not much of an inconvenience for us though.
		missed one week but ok
		The collection missed the bin last week.
		Wasn't collected this week (5/26). Probably because it was a holiday week though?
		I think one week it did not get picked up, but that may have been back in March or April? I don't recall. It was fine, got picked up next week.
		occasionally our compost is not collected
		Once since April our compost wasn't picked up. It wasn't a big deal, since our bin wasn't full, but it is confusing.
		Pick up was missed a couple of times.
		occasional missed pickups, but nothing big
		A couple of missed or late pickups.
		There have been three missed pick up days. Since I store the food scraps in the freezer, they thaw and smell while waiting for the missed pick up on the side walk.
		I think one week pick up of the bins was missed on a Monday; we received an email that afternoon telling us to just leave the bins out. So we left them out and I think they were picked up on Wednesday. It wasn't a problem at all - good communication and the bins are small and light so it was no trouble to leave them on the curb.
		A missed Monday collection that the city informed us of
		Was not collected. Waited one week.
		There was 1 week when it didn't happen, no notification but usually it works without fail.
		Our bin was missed. I took it over to the collection area on Hampshire street.
		It didn't get picked up once or twice, but it wasn't an ongoing issue.
		Collection was missed one day recently, but they came the next day, so no big deal

7 18%

<b>Pests/Odor</b>
I had a fruit fly issue last summer, but then started keeping the countertop bin in the fridge and that works fine.
Fruit flies
Some mice
Bags tear occasionally, and occasional odor - both easily dealt with
See above comments - we (and other families that we know) have ceased participating because of problems mentioned above: 1) Colder weather - rodents are attracted to warmth and smell of food scraps in breathable bags NEVER HAD MICE BEFORE PARTICIPATING IN PROGRAM - DURING 20+ YEARS IN SAME BUILDING!!!
Only with squirrels getting into the bins.
The bins get really smelly in the summer since we were overfilling the bags and they were breaking or something in the bin. We have to fill them less full and then, with the heat this summer, we'll see if it becomes less nasty.

### Q7 Have you ever considered stopping your participation in the program?

Answered: 278 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	5.40%	15
No	94.60%	263
<b>Total</b>		<b>278</b>

**S5 Q7 Have you ever considered stopping your participation in the program?**

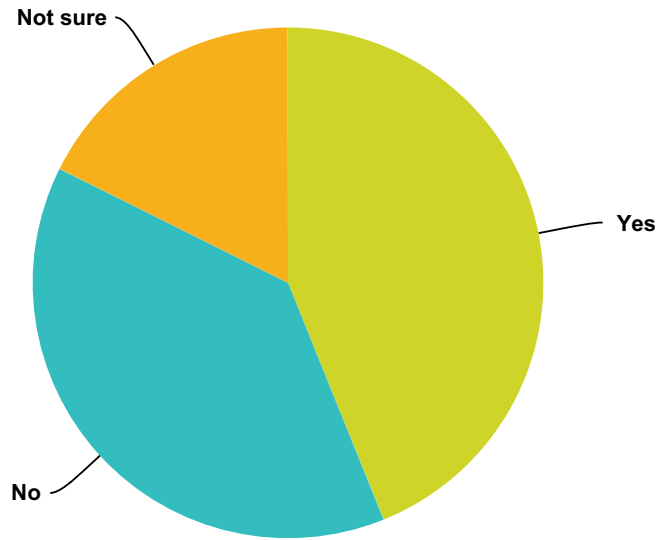
28

18	64%	<b>No!</b>
		I feel that this is a great program.
		Makes composting so easy!
		It's good for the community.
		It is wonderful to be able to compost things I can't in my backyard and so much easier to do. Also, I was running out of places to put compost, so this program is great.
		Because Cambridge must set the example for others to copy/refine.
		I love the program. Please don't ever stop.
		No way! We're moving out of the neighborhood and are SO sad we can't get curbside compost where we are going. Seriously, it was a major consideration in our decision of places to live.
		Bins and kitchen container do get messy. Suggestion to put container in fridge was good, but I don't always have the space. Won't stop participating because I think it's the right thing to do.
		Love knowing that I can reduce the waste from my household, and that this is a free program to residents. It is one of the reasons I love living in Cambridge -- in a community where people prioritize something like this!
		we already maintain onsite composting bin and have done so for years.
		Just taking some weeks off during the summer when we are away a lot
		It is a great program that take away a lot of garbage & reduces my trash by 2/3.
		My wife thought it was going to attract bugs or smell but that never happened.
		are you kidding?! I love it!! :)
		Because I really like the idea of composting.
		works good. reduces my trash.
		why would !!? the program is so well organized!
		I will not stop but I will reduce my use of the program since I compost in the garden
3	11%	<b>Too much work</b>
		too much hassle. i will use try to set up a small composter in my yard
		Every once in a while I feel like it is a lot of work dealing with regular garbage, yard waste, recycling and composting. BUT it's worth doing good for the planet and I LOVE not having so much "regular" trash!
		I have a garbage disposal and composting is more work.
4	14%	<b>Summer/Winter</b>
		During the hot summer months it is hard golive with fruit flies.
		sometimes i take a break in the summer when i am away alot.
		As weather gets warmer, odors and fruit flies become an issue. We have been putting the bag in th freezer to get around; but it is not convenient. Also, once we run out of bags, do we need to buy the bags? Thar may influence our decision as well.
		Stopped while curbside bin was buried under feet of snow.
3	11%	<b>Yes</b>
		I'd guess same \$\$\$ spent on insulation or solar would be better carbon-wise
		Because in cold weather rodents attracted to smell of composting food in breathable bags NEVER HAD RODENTS BEFORE, OVER 20+ YEARS LIVING IN SAME LOCATION! 2) In warm weather the smell and liquids pooling at the bottom of the outside bin are disgusting and impossible to remove without a lot of water and hosing -- which cancels out the environmental aspects of program. We tried but won't participate again.
		expense of bags and invasion of ants that we felt were, in part, drawn by the compost container



**Q8 With weekly recycling and weekly compost collection, do you think your trash needs to be picked up every week?**

Answered: 278 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	43.88%	122
No	38.49%	107
Not sure	17.63%	49
<b>Total</b>		<b>278</b>

S5 Q8 With weekly recycling and weekly compost collection, do you think your trash needs to be picked up every week?

83

9	11%	<b>Volume Concerns</b>
		My house hold alone fills at least one trash can, one and a half recycling bins, and 4 - 6 little composting bags (there are six of us).
		We have one common trashcan for the three units in our condo building so we still fill a trash can each week!
		We have definitely reduced our weekly trash generation, but I'm not sure if I'd want it to go 2 weeks.
		our trash bins are small.
		my recycling and regular trash would need to be picked up every week unless I got many more bins/cans. And that would take up a lot of space in my yard. I don't compost that much so going for longer periods of time, say every other week, would be ok. But it would be hard to keep track of what was to be picked up when. So it would be best to stick to once a week for everything. Also, to pick up regular trash just once a week could still cause problems with animals getting into garbage seeking food (given downstairs folks don't compost or recycle very well).
		currently yes as 3 unit building
		As a building of 11 units, still need weekly pick up, would not have barrel space to go to alternate weeks.
		Please don't think of decreasing any of the four components: yard, trash, recycle, compost.
		In a 3fam, there's still enough trash it's often needed.
2	2%	<b>Forgetful Concerns</b>
		Not "needs to", but I'm glad it is. If it were biweekly and I missed one, that would be a month between collections!
		For me, the answer is no, because I don't otherwise end up creating a lot of waste. HOWEVER, if it were every other week, it would be hard to remember which week is which. Is there documentation of whether fewer garbage bins were put out each week for collection? I know I brought mine out less frequently.
18	22%	<b>Odor Concerns (Summer)</b>
		The trash still gets very stinky, mostly from plastic that meat was wrapped in.
		There are meat scraps that would get smelly as they rot in the trash.
		maybe in the heat of the summer when trash can get stinky but definately not in the cooler or cold months.
		If reducing pick ups meant program could continue that would be okay.... Might be stinky though
		It would be great if it were twice a week in the summer!
		I think people (including me) would forget an every other week schedule but might be worth a try. Might get smelly in the summer, though.
		Often we have meat containers and such that would smell pretty bad if they didn't get picked up every week.
		Yes during summer months when it's warm. Not needed during winter.
		In the winter, every other week would be plenty. Due to trash odors in summer, weekly is best.
		There are items that rot that are not allowed in compost.
		Maybe not in the winter - but there are times when we do have more than one bag of trash - holiday, birthday party, house guests so I might be concerned if trash had to stay outside in the summer over a long time - that would cause odor and attract bugs and animals - over the winter months it might not be an issue at all
		We certainly have enough room in our garbage can for two weeks worth of garbage, but I would worry about the odor (even though the food is being composted) if it were left for two weeks.

We probably could have our trash picked up every other week, but there's always something stinky we don't want to keep in the apartment that long. If we had sturdy outside bins like our recycling bins we could slowly fill it over two weeks, but since we have the flimsy, broken-bottom cans my landlord provides, we don't want to put trash bags outside until it's time for collection.

You've got to be kidding!!!! If trash is not picked up weekly in summer, the smells, the animals, the bugs will be really a health hazard!! In fact the composting seems to ADD to the health hazard not decrease it.

but the compost could get stinky in the summer!

YES!!! Especially in the summer

Our trash has been reduced to about one bag/week, but in the summer, I wouldn't want it to sit in the heat for two weeks.

I imagine it would get rather unsightly particularly in the summer.

6 7% **Diapers/Pet Waste**

Our house with 3 households has several kids under age 3 who produce diaper/ poopy trash

We have a baby still in diapers... Once he's out of them perhaps not!

We generate enough pet and other waste for weekly pickup

With a 2 year old, we're (unfortunately) throwing away diapers and I don't like to think what our barrels would smell like, especially in the summer, if trash weren't collected weekly.

We have diapers. I'd be afraid they'd get funky in the summer.

I need to dispose of used litter weekly.

13 16% **Neighbor Concerns**

Mine doesn't, but the other people in my building do need their trash picked up weekly.

but my neighbors make more trash than me -- and they'd need it every week!

For our household, probably not. But we've still got two neighbors in our building who trash everything (including plenty of recyclable products...argh!) so if there wasn't pickup we'd be stuck with some smelly stuff in the summer.

Other people in my building do not compost (or recycle....ugh) so our trash gets very full.

We have trash for the whole community and while our personal trash is less than one kitchen-sized bag a week, other people seem to produce a lot more.

By myself I don't produce enough for it to be needed, but if my roommates were better about it, weekly would be fine.

For my unit, perhaps, but not for the building as a whole.

I have a single very small bag of non biodegradable misc. such as floss and grungy stuff that shouldn't go into a drain. However, my neighbors have plenty of garbage on a weekly basis which needs to go out.

Trying to get new downstairs neighbor to reduce her trash and recycle and compost more. Until that time, we still need trash pick-up.

We are in a multi-unit building and the other tenants do not participate in composting.

We're in a condo and putting out the trash isn't my job, so I'm not sure what's happened to our trash.

for my tenants, but not for me.

We wouldn't if the other occupants of our building participated.

31 37% **Supportive**

i have very, very little trash now, so it could easily be picked up every other week

We only produce one small bag per week

we recycle a lot here

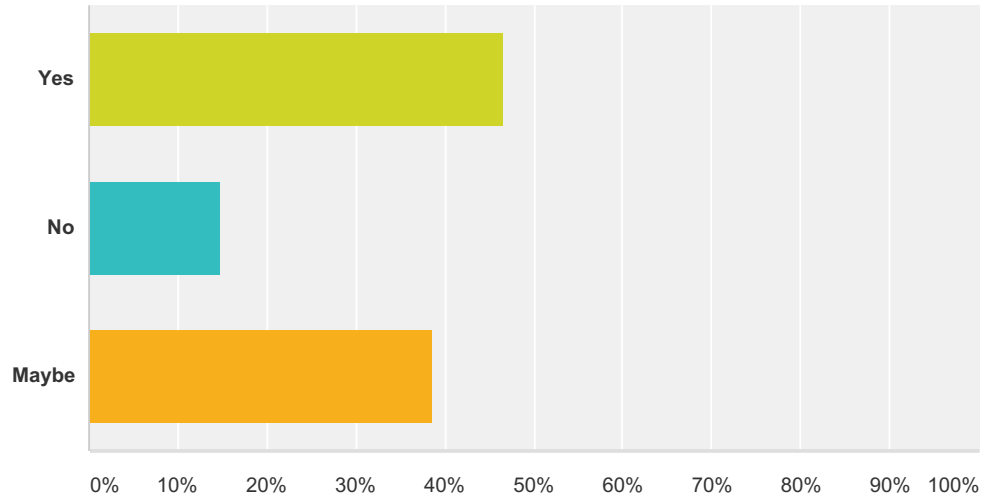
We are down to just more than half a barrel.

I think every other week is sufficient.
I have very little trash now, maybe 1 bag per week. And the bags we do throw out no longer smell as food is in the compost.
90% of weeks we don't need weekly trash pickup. But during those other 10% of weeks, it would have been really inconvenient not to have trash picked up.
We reduced our trash from 2 bags to one though!
The compost could be done every two weeks, but our two recycling bins are always filled.
Well, maybe the trash could be delayed. But the recycling and compost needs to be picked up weekly.
Since the garbage doesn't have as much gross stuff in it, I'd probably be willing to store it for an extra week and get pickup every 2 weeks
I put one bag of trash out every 2-3 weeks -- but I am only one person.
Most of our waste is recyclable/compostable, and so our landfill waste is about a 10-gallon trash bag once every 3-4 weeks.
we only make one bag of garbage a week (and it isn't usually very full). It also doesn't usually smell, so it could wait another week for pick up. I worry that we would forget which week was garbage and which wasn't, so having some type of reminder system (e.g. email) would be helpful
We very rarely have a full bin after just one week.
Great idea!!
I now produce only one small bag of trash every three weeks.
If you mean OTHER trash, then NO, because most of our trash is recycling or food compost
In general, no, but some weeks (like if we host an event) we would need weekly pick up for trash.
Our recycling bins are full every week. Composting bin is big enough that it could be done every 2 weeks.
Probably could go a week and a half, but we do still have about one bag a week.
I only put true trash out approximately every 6-8 weeks.
We could easily get by with trash being picked up every other week! We rarely have more than one trash bag in our barrel and even that trash bag isn't full. Love it!
It's definitely less trash and completely spoil-free.
Every-other week would be sufficient!
Our trash can is usually not full each week, so perhaps not
I could imagine reducing the number of collections - it does feel luxurious to get everything gone quickly.
in fact, I stopped putting it out during all the snow - compost too for that matter. Recycling needs every week.
It could probably go twice a month.
Most weeks, yes.
some weeks I have a lot of stuff from the basement, etc. but my regular weekly stuff could easily go 2 weeks.
<b>Other/Unclear</b>
I still set it out every week even if it's not necessary.
interesting question.
This is because at least 4 or 5 units are participating, and we use only 1 bin.
As happy as I am with the program, there is still a need for trash pick up every week.

4 5%

**Q9 Buildings with 3 Units Only: You were given a 21 gallon green bin. Do you think a 12 gallon bin would provide enough space for food scraps from your building?**

Answered: 88 Skipped: 190



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	46.59%	41
No	14.77%	13
Maybe	38.64%	34
<b>Total</b>		<b>88</b>

**S5 Q9 Buildings with 3 Units Only: You were given a 21 gallon green bin. Do you think a 12 gallon bin would provide enough space for food scraps from your building?**

34

16	47%	<b>Partial Participation/would need the space</b>
		at current participation rates with 1.5 units. If all 3 participated, would need 21, but that won't happen...
		If everyone in our building used it, a 21 gal would be necessary. If a building had more than 3 or 4 people generating compost, definitely the larger.
		what we have is satisfactory I think, but I am not 100% sure if all units are participating
		Yes, but it might not if all three units participated.
		If all three unit actually participated, a 21 gal bin would be necessary. Otherwise, 12 gal would suffice.
		Most weeks 12 gallons would be more than sufficient. But then we were really the only participants in our building. There were a few weeks where 12 gallons would have been insufficient.
		Only if not everyone is actively using it. (Like in my building.)
		I'm in a 3-family and started with 12 gal bin. Now that we all participate, we might need 21 gal container--- a good thing! I'll let you know if we need a larger one.
		though the other 2 units are not composting..
		At present yes, because only one of three units is using the bin. (us)
		Only my unit currently participates so it's hard to tell
		But that's only because one of the units is not composting.
		Only as long as none of our neighbors compost. As it is we sometimes half fill the thing in a week.
		Probably not if all three units were recycling. For 2 units, it's more than enough.
		We were in a larger building and definitely needed the larger bin. Furthermore, the latch on the smaller bin is much more difficult to use than the larger bin (we have the smaller bin now in our new house).
		I'd rather keep the bin we have. If the bin gets too full, we're likely to just pack it down, which is then likely to break the bags and make a mess.
10	29%	<b>12 Gallons might be suitable</b>
		more than enough
		ours is rarely even half full. Usually only 3-4 bio-bags
		I think we'd probably fill a 12 gal bin every week. Our 21 gallon bin is usually about half full every week.
		21 is way too big
		Yes, usually our bin was half full.
		There were maybe 4-5 weeks in the year when we needed it. Probably 1-2 of those because nobody was around to put it to the curb on pickup day.
		definitely - 21 gallon green bin is waaaay too big
		Yes, plenty. We generate 1-4 small bags a week.
		It's huge.but I am the only participant in the program. I weighed out my scraps for the sake of discussion and have 5-10 # per week so the bin is far too big
		we've 2 small households participating. 21 gal bin is larger than we've ever needed. 12 gal bin would be fine.
5	15%	<b>Not sure</b>
		not sure, I'd have to see it filled up.
		I'm not sure what size we have [definitely not the smallest] but one unit never participated and I don't think the new tenants in the 2nd unit are currently participating.
		Not sure, I don't bring the bin to the curb so I don't know how full it is
		It depends on the week how many bags are put in the bin

3 9% **Other**

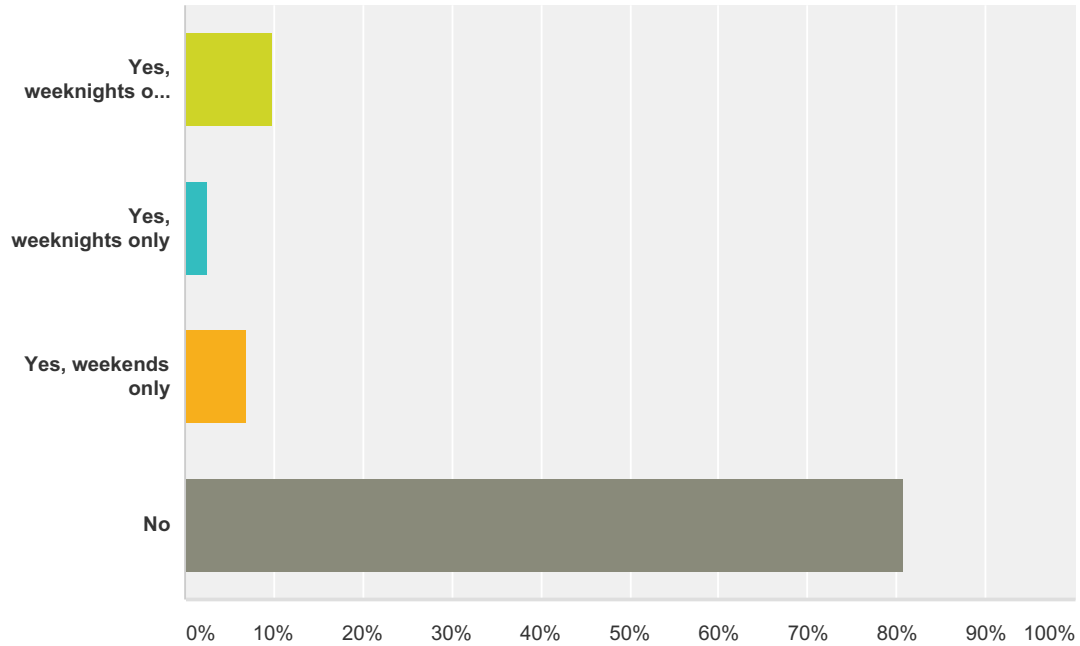
The latch on the green bin broke. The handle remained intact. Sliding latch should be stronger.

I think we only have a 12 gallon bin

some of us have ceased participating due to the reasons mentioned above - warmer weather brings smelly liquids in outdoor bin, colder weather brings rodents attracted to breathable bag in indoor bin.

**Q10 Would you help City staff go door to door this Fall to help us educate your neighbors in the Monday collection route about the expanded compost program?**

Answered: 275 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes, weeknights or weekends	9.82% 27
Yes, weeknights only	2.55% 7
Yes, weekends only	6.91% 19
No	80.73% 222
<b>Total</b>	<b>275</b>



**S5 Q10 Would you help City staff go door to door this Fall to help us educate your neighbors in the Monday collection route about the expanded compost program?**

53

15	28%	<b>Yes/Maybe</b>
		maybe, keep me posted!
		Maybe
		Just a little bit though.
		Sounds like fun! I might not be able to manage it with kids, though.
		I'd be happy to once or twice.
		Depends on work schedule
		I'm a student and unsure of my schedule for the fall...
		maybe!. Depends on time commitment, etc.
		Could do this in September or October.
		not sure why folks who don't participate decide not to. I think visits might help a lot
		Not sure.
		Can't commit at this time, but would to join this effort, if closer to fall, some time opens up. Probably weekends.
		I would be happy to make phone calls or send out an email testimonial as well.
11	21%	<b>Moving</b>
		moving
		Relocating
		I will no longer be living here
		Totally would, except that we're moving out of state.
		Unfortunately, we're moving away, otherwise I would.
		Unfortunately, we're moving to Wisconsin in June. Otherwise I would have loved to help out.
		Currently relocating to New York
		Will make an effort to help educate new neighbors when curbside composting comes to East Cambridge.
		We are moving from Cambridge.
		sorry, i'm moving. otherwise i would.
		No...I recently left Cambridge so am sadly no longer in the program or neighborhood
8	15%	<b>Conditional</b>
		I would help if I could go door to door with a buddy. Not totally sure I have the time but please put me on your contact list.
		door to door is rough, but would be interested in other efforts! composting workshop or...?
		I don't know if I could commit to this, or be good at explaining things.
		I could talk with neighbors I know in my neighborhood, but I don't want to go door to door.
		Happy to staff a table at an event though!
		Maybe with another person.
		Perhaps, if you really need it. I'm not the most sociable of people.
		Can't do that but would be available if people want a participant to call/email or if there is a single weekend event to encourage composting that would benefit from participant involvement
19	36%	<b>No</b>
		Sorry, single working mom in grad school. No extra time.
		Sorry, single parent, schedule is too full in fall
		too busy as it is, so sorry

Probably not (bad knees!)
All of our neighbors participate
This does not reflect our satisfaction with the program.
Wish we could but fall is busy busy time at work.
I'd love to but can't spare the time. If you are really stuck, i could find an hour or two.
I'm really bad with talking to people, especially when giving a "sales" pitch.
Sorry-way too shy
Sorry, too busy.
Sorry. I just don't have time.
I'm sorry, but I'd probably faint from fear.
I tried to encourage my neighbors for the pilot program and it didn't go well
Program needs adjustment - it lacks a way to fix the problems mentioned above - rodents in colder weather and foul smelling liquids in warmer weather.
I would be willing, but just don't have the time.
Sorry, too many other projects.
Sorry - most people don't want to be educated. If they won't read information that is circulated (signs, flyers), I don't think they will listen to door to door outreach.
We have encouraged our neighbors to participate. Some live alone and feel they would not produce enough compost for the collection every week. Hence, they do not participate. Not sure if they can be convinced otherwise.

S5 Q11 What tips would you offer to Cambridge residents that are new participants in an expanded compost program?

108

51 47% **It's Easy/Habitual/Fun/Beneficial**

Its super easy and not smelly!
I have never had problems with smells. The program has been quite convenient, and reduces my garage load every week.
I think your tips are pretty good. Nothing else to add.
It's easier than you think and very habit forming.
it's very easy to do! Many of my Cambridge friends can't wait for it to come to their neighborhoods:)
Try it, it's easy- a no brainer, you'll like it.
That it is not a big deal to do and that it does not take any more time or trouble than regular disposal of garbage.
That it's painless and a real benefit for the city -- and ultimately helps keep Cambridge rates and charges down.
its easy to use
Feeding the worms is fun! (OK, so there probably aren't real worms involved, but that's how we talk about it in our house.)
You can compost more than you think you can, it's easy, and it greatly reduces your trash output!
no tips, just love it
i feel like it not only reduced my waste, it also encouraged better eating and shopping habits.
It does not smell, it reduces garbage, its easy.
You can compost even more things than you think!
Just do it.
Try it, you'll like it ...
It takes time to accustom yourself tot he process of saving compostable materials, however it becomes normal and routine.
Start small - don't burn yourself out trying to decide what goes where. Keep the kitchen bin handy - if it's out of sight, it's more likely to be out of mind.
Give it a try
It is amazing! The green bags keep down the odors & I don't need to put out the trash as much. Usually one bag or less/week. Combining that with recycling paper & plastic makes for much less landfill production.
Participate.
Reduce, reuse, recycle, COMPOST.
You'll be amazed how little trash you have if you do this!
Participate.
No tip. Just emphasize how easy it is.
It does not smell and it's easy to do.
It's so easy. No tips needed.
So much more can be composted than what you might think. Oily donut bags, pizza boxes, Chinese food take-out boxes.
this is a win-win program. Good for the city and for individual households
It's great! Don't forget you can put in soiled paper. And keep the bin in the fridge in the summer!
It seems like an excellent thing to do. It's good for the environment, and the compost is a good addition.
Just throw it all in. Almost nothing needs to go into the disposal or into trash. You probably don't need your trash to go to the curb every week anymore.
It's easy. It's essential for us to reduce our waste. It's what the neighbors are doing. It's the new normal.

It is really easy!

I'd say to try it - you can always stop. I'd also say that you, Everett, are a very willing and responsive resource.

The people who designed and run the program make it very easy

No tips. Everything worked beautifully!

DO IT!

nothing beyond what you already provide.

At least try it for 3 months--if they haven't composted before it might take a while to develop new kitchen patterns/habits

I don't have tips, but I would indicate the benefits and the range of items that can be composted.

It's easier than you think.

It takes a few weeks to get used to.

Great program, well organized and very easy to do.

It's an easy way to give back, reduce our footprint, hopefully decrease cost to the city as well so more funds can be put into things like education, parks, music, etc

super easy

It's very easy to compost.

Do it - we love it!

This is really easy to do. don't put bird seed in the bag in the house because the mice will chew through. but other than that, no problems at all.

start small/simple - pre-consumer fruit/veggie waste and expand as you get used to it

17 16%

**Bin Storage Tips**

keep the bin in the fridge, then keep the full, tied bags in the freezer or fridge till you put it on the curb, to eliminate fruit flies and smells.

Find a good accessible spot for your container in the kitchen. Then you don't spill and the container stays clean. Also, you don't hesitate to bring it out for the collection

put full bags in freezer until pickup day

I let my compostables (salmon skins, chicken bones, banana peels, apple cores, strawberry tops, spoiled fruit and vegetables) dry out in a container on my kitchen counter and then transfer it to a compost bag with some paper napkins which is kept in the basement until collection time. I started doing this because the collection people reported me for having too much liquid in the compost container.

Keep the bin in the freezer - it takes up space but is WAY worth it. Be careful not to drop the bin, it can break easily.

Have a tray underneath your compost bin. Because of the nature of the compost liners and bin, liquid will drip.

Finding the best place to store the bin inside is important (you always say the freezer, but who has room?!).

I'd be sure to include what they can put in their bins, who do they communicate with if they have any questions, and remind them that they can pick up the composted soil at the DPW.

Keep the counter top bin in the fridge.

Use your freezer in the summer. Or replace compost bag every day or two.

Put the compost bin in the house right next to your normal trash bin, maybe at the same height as your trash bin to make it easy to remember to separate food from trash.

Find a regular place for the container, inform all family members and guests about how to use it, give them data about effectiveness, present personal stories from pilot project users, explain benefits it offers as an alternative to garbage disposal

Put small container on the counter so you can deposit in scraps as you chop and prep.

In summer put the compost in the fridge if you have any ant problems

Put the bin in the cabinet under your sink and you won't have to worry about odors

Find a spot for your kitchen collection basket that is realistic -it's not pretty - but if I don't keep it front and center handy then I don't use it most efficiently. "lean in" to compost green!

Keeping the bin out or under the sink is convenient, but the freezer is the way to go. No worries about leaving it too long, odors, pests ...

29 27%

**Bag Use Tips**

Don't feel the bag too much and take it outside every few days even if it's not full.

Take the compost out frequently to reduce odor and bugs and don't forget that almost everything that is food can be composted!

Keep the compost bag closed when it's warm. We use a chip clip.

Freeze or empty bags frequently in the summer. Rinse out bin and let air dry to avoid stench and maggots!

keep bags in freezer until collection day

Empty your kitchen bin at least once a week, even if the bag is not full, to reduce odors, molding, etc.

Take it out before you think it needs to, because that bag gets soggy - as is the point.

Always have lots of bags on hand and change/take out very frequently

Keep an eye on your bag and fruit flies as the weather heats up.

use double bags in collection container

keep bag in freezer in summer if it's full before collection. You can still garden compost--we put more things in the city compost--paper, fish, citrus, fruit pits, that we don't put in our own garden compost.

Put full bags in freezer 12 months of the year. Makes it easier, less odor, less messy

Make putting your scraps in the bin a habit - it's easy to remember after a while. Squeeze out excess water from scraps/paper so the material won't be very wet.

Empty the little bin a little more frequently during warm(fruit fly) weather.

Use double bags if your compost is runny. Keeps container cleaner.

If the kitchen container smells, take the bag out to the bin. Composting makes trash less smelly and lighter.

Take out your bag frequently, don't let the container get too stuffed

During the summer if they have no AC, remember to put full bags in the fridge/freeze in between trash days.

We kept a large composting bowl on counter with a lid. Dumped it into a green bag right before it went out to keep bag from tearing.

Freeze your scraps in the bags provided.

Do not overfill your bags!

Change bag frequently to prevent fruit flies. During really hot weather, keep scraps in the freezer until you are ready to take the bag out, or keep your bin under sink to reduce heat exposure which encouraged flies

Empty the in house container at least twice a week

Move your green bag from the kitchen to the bin twice a week, even if it's not full yet.

Make the night before pick-up your night to clean out the fridge so you don't end up with decomposing leftovers in your compost container.

Don't overfill the bags.

don't put anything wet or liquidy in the bag or the bag will fall apart and make a disgusting mess!

compost paper towels used in the kitchen - this also helps modulate moisture buildup in your bin.

Be very mindful of the quantity of liquid going into the bag; it can and will leak or seep out.

11 10%

**Other**

Take advantage of the discount coupons for the bags.

The most persuasive thing I found was telling people their garbage would no longer smell bad and you'd go through fewer trash bags.

We use an air tight bin with no holes. That way, we avoid bug issues. But sometimes the bags get very wet that way. So we sometimes need to dump the bin into a new bag when we bring it outside to the bin.

Set up a simple cider vinegar trap in the summer.

Keep the flier that tells you what you can compost on the fridge. My daughter and I like to reference it when the 'can we compost this?' questions arise.

Don't do it. Same environmental effect by using the sink disposal and purchasing, cooking, preparing food portions more carefully.

The only issue we have had is squirrels tried to get into our green bin. Since they chewed a hole in the lid, we moved the bin to the garage. We haven't had any issues with odors or insects in our kitchen bin. It has been great to reduce our trash. Between curbside compost and recycling, we are left with little trash. We mostly end up with kitty litter and plastic bags and are inspired to try to further reduce those from our trash.

Investing in a closed compost bin so that flies and smells don't build up.

You can buy a prettier kitchen compost container online.

use duct tape if squirrels attack your container

1) definitely use the coupons for the bio bags

**Additional Comments**

91

66 73%

<b>Generally Positive</b>
You guys have done a great job providing everything one needs to compost easier. I'm not sure all the places that are supposed to take that bag coupon actually take it though.
Great program.
This a great program and we hope it extends to the whole city permanently.
I definitely want the program to continue!
It ruled! Spread it to the whole Boston area (including Belmont!) please!!
GREAT program!
I love it.
I LOVE COMPOST!!!!
Just that it's a great program -- and about time too!
Love it!
I really love this program! I think you've made it extremely accessible and it's a matter of helping enable people to change their habits. It will take a while, but I like that the door-to-door education program is a great idea.
Great program -- thanks!
Thanks for persevering! Just wish I could get a community garden spot... :)
Great program! I support it's continuation. There's been great communication and support for participants.
It's worked very well and I hope we continue it!
This program was great!
This pilot was a huge success and I hope you guys continue to move this forward to the whole city of Cambridge in the near future.
Thank you so much for spearheading this important program--I'm proud to be living in a city that takes reducing our carbon footprint seriously!
hope very much it will continue and expand
The program is easy, convenient, efficient, and worthwhile.
Love it. Thanks!
The info thing about what we could put in it was great. The more comprehensive and accessible the better.
Love it. Very pleasant surprise when we moved into the area.
I appreciate the positive tone and easy instructions in compost related communications. Way to keep it friendly and fun! Thanks for letting us take part.
This program adds to our commitment to contributing what we are able to do for the health and well-being of one another and the environment.
Best program!
We're thrilled to have been part of this pilot program!
We're in the process of moving to East Cambridge. Is it ok for us to leave the kitchen and outdoor food waste collection bins and some biodegradable bags for the future owners of 94 Reed?
LOVE IT. LET'S GO CITY-WIDE!
Keep up the good work!
It would be helpful if the compost bin had a tall handle, it is awkward to roll the bin with out bending way over.
We love this program and are so happy the City started it!
wonderful! I don't have room in my fridge/freezer for that container, and so I usually put spoiled food in the disposal, even though I know that is not a good environmental practice.
Well run program.
Love it!

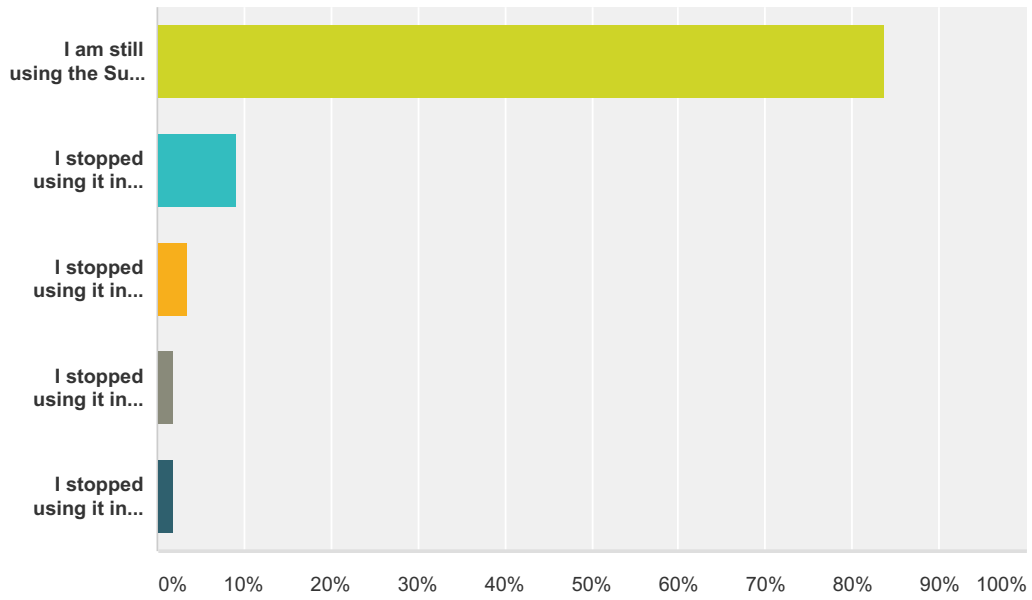
This program is absolutely fabulous. Our waste stream is vastly diminished and we are mindful of adjusting our grocery purchases because we see what we throw out
It has been a great pleasure to participate! I am astonished by how my trash volume has decreased. I barely have one bag of trash a week now..
It is really awesome. I have never been a super green person and had never thought of composting myself but this pilot makes it so easy!!!
We are a family of 4 with two small children. After a week of composting and recycling we have two kitchen bags of garbage to collect for landfill. One of those is diapers which we will be giving up soon (hopefully). That means a family of four in Cambridge can really produce very little waste if the community provides great recycling and composting resources.
We love it
Thank you for doing this!
So glad to be in the pilot area.
Really hope that this will continue to be picked up. Otherwise, it won't spread
Please convince Somerville to join! How can I help get Somerville on board??
It's great! We love it.
So grateful for the program.
Really appreciate this program!!
Thank you! Might it be possible to have a second location --e.g., Sherman at DPW site, where you could have & we could pick up composted soil, a supply closer to this neighborhood.
Excellent program! It should expand to all of Cambridge, not just Monday pick up residents!
I like the program! Keep it up!
Great program - I love that you are expanding it. I hope it goes to the whole city - my friends on the other side of town are envious of us!
Welcome your emails.
See previous comments.
Great job, Evan et al.
thank you. impressive
Great program!
Please keep this program going. I love it!
Thanks for this service, it's been great.
Keep it up!
I love this program, because I hate wasting all that compostable material, but I don't have room on my tiny lot to do it.
Love it!!
We love it. Thank you!
Thanks again!
It's great. I love the program!
we love the program and are very grateful that it is continuing for now.
This is just AWESOME!
<b>16 18% Bag/Bin Issues/Comments</b>
The cornstarch bags are fairly expensive. I think that the price would need to come down for some people to want to participate
If we can compost some stuff in paper bags this information should be made known.
I wish the compost bags were provided by the city at a reduce prize
Small bags are really annoying.



	We have found it difficult to find the Biobags. Never at Shaws, or Whole Foods. Once found 1 box at Tags.
	Please allow for paper bags in the compost bins that had dry compost in them, or that contained fresh compost from Sunday.
	would it be possible to have two sizes of bags? Sometimes, when planning a large meal, with lots of veggies, we end up filling two bags. One larger bag would be better.
	I actually like the bigger bin. The small one was hard to manage, and there are times that the bigger one is filled. I was initially given the smallest bin available and requested the next size up.
	I had a terrible time finding replacement compost bags. The whole foods on River had no idea what we were looking for. They eventually found 3gal bags which are too big. They are impossible to buy online. I wish I could buy them online.
	Remind people of the discounts for the bags and where they can buy them (it'd be nice if they were available at more than just Tags or online.)
	The tip broke off of our compost can so it no longer latches shut. Something you might want to look into and see if it's been a problem for others before buying more.
	I would like some kind of tie for the bag so I could fir more in the bag
	the bags decompose too quickly.
	I find I have to double-bag the compost most of the time. The bio-bags are so thin that they sometimes start leaking, especially if I put something like a compostable utensil into the bag, and it pokes a hole in the bag.
	Green kitchen bins are a little flimsy. Maybe make a more durable product.
	Wish there were degradable twist ties that came with the bags
9 10%	<b>Suggestions/Questions</b>
	What is total cost of program and total pounds collected? I am likely to revert to backyard compost bin use unless an unbiased cost benefit analysis is provided.
	Would be great if we could purchase the soil that was made out of our compost. May not be practical though.
	Frequent disposal of scraps helps to avoid bad smells and leakage.
	Since we are moving, what should I do with the kitchen bin? Leave it for next occupant?
	I think the program could only work with people who are interested and sign up to participate. If it was mandatory, there would be a lot of noncompliance and the compost would be contaminated with plastic take-out containers and so on.
	I'll probably stop while it's hot out so I don't get fruit flies. And there's no way I can fit the bin into my frig or freezer.
	Somehow I missed some of the items that can be composted and will be putting them in my green bin from now on.
	We have a garbage disposal, but this has been useful particularly for paper towels, napkins, muffin wrappers -- things that can't be recycled and shouldn't go in the trash.
	I wish the quality of the compost available from the city was a little better quality now that it supposedly incorporates the food waste - still seemed like mostly yard waste compost; but still happy to collect something.

### Q1 How long did you use the Sure Close kitchen container?

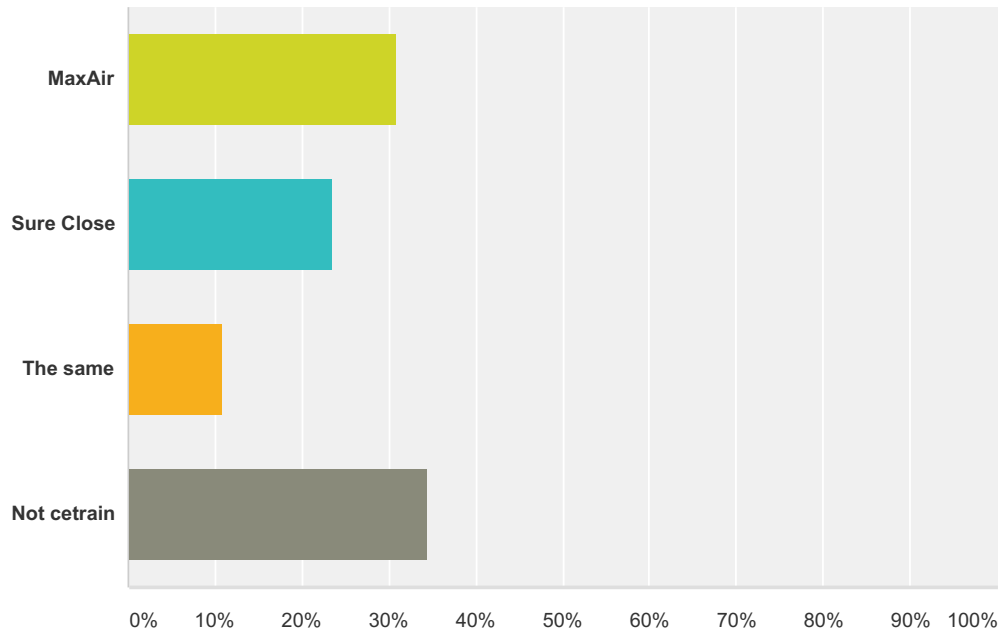
Answered: 55 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
I am still using the Sure Close	83.64%	46
I stopped using it in January	9.09%	5
I stopped using it in February	3.64%	2
I stopped using it in March	1.82%	1
I stopped using it in April	1.82%	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>55</b>

## Q2 With which kitchen collector did you notice less moisture?

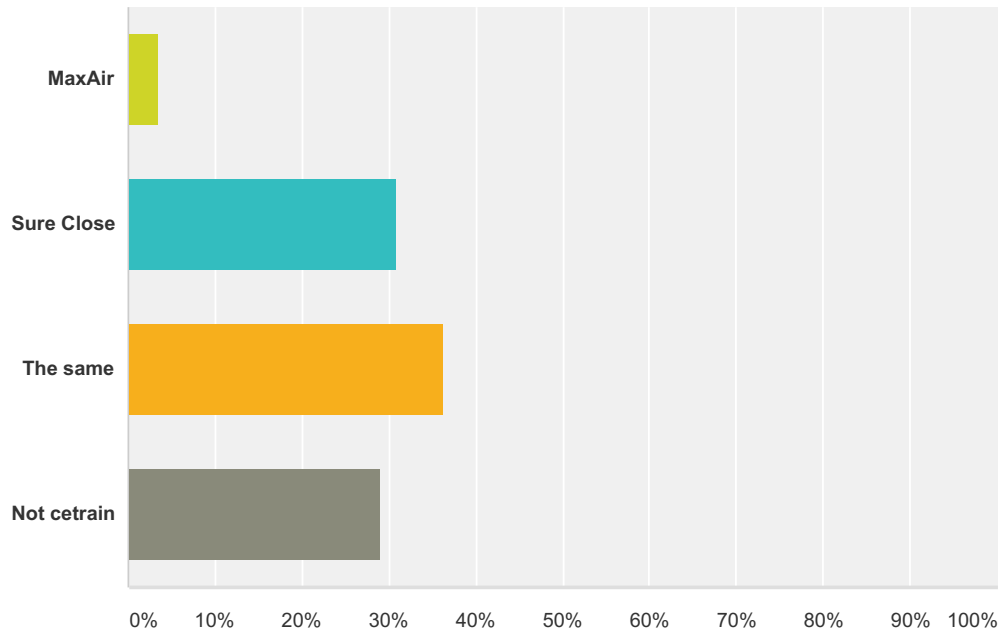
Answered: 55 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
MaxAir	30.91%	17
Sure Close	23.64%	13
The same	10.91%	6
Not cetrain	34.55%	19
<b>Total</b>		<b>55</b>

**Q3 With which kitchen collector did you notice less odor?**

Answered: 55 Skipped: 0

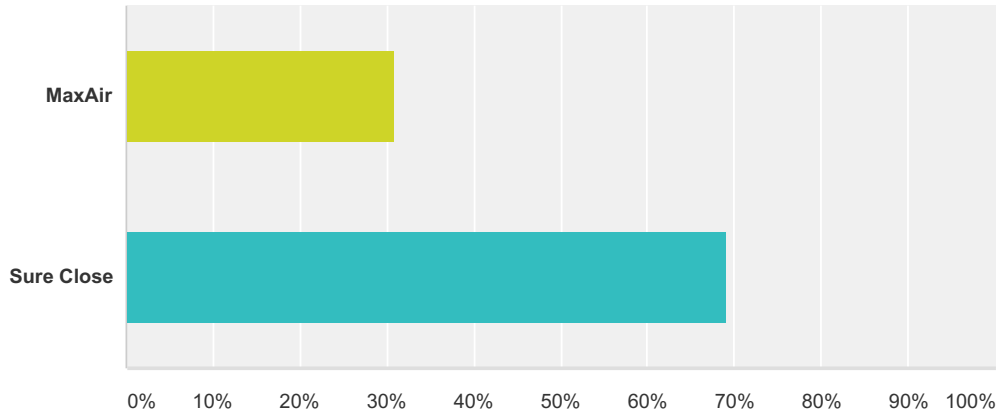


Answer Choices	Responses
MaxAir	3.64% 2
Sure Close	30.91% 17
The same	36.36% 20
Not cetrain	29.09% 16
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>

# Sure Close & MaxAir Survey

## Q4 Which kitchen collector do you prefer?

Answered: 55 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
MaxAir	30.91%	17
Sure Close	69.09%	38
<b>Total</b>		<b>55</b>

Q4 Which kitchen collector do you prefer? 54 responses

1. Small size, easy to use.
2. It's a close one - but I like the smaller footprint of the maxair and how easy it is to use with one hand.
3. With the MaxAir, I can see when the bag is getting full or if something is pushing through. With the Sure Close, b/c you can't see the bag I've had several bags rip either b/c something protruded or b/c I just overfilled the bag.
4. Not really sure-but had to put in an answer. Using the Sure Close means we use more bags b/c the bottom gets weaker faster from the increased moisture than the Max Air, but the way the lid can stay open is useful.
5. Moisture condensing in the Sure Close container was the problem that iced it for me. I would have switched back to our MaxAir sooner, but it was buried under snow until March.
6. More convenient to use. Vent hole just on top seems to be better.
7. more contained
8. stays open more easily without tipping over
9. I like the way the Sure Close stays closed and isn't as tippy (more stable) but it does collect moisture on the bottom. I also feel we really need to get to summer to compare. The biggest problem last summer was the amount of fruit flies, which was the greatest drawback to the whole kitchen composting as our kitchen is small and we have the composted right next to the sink and the fruit flies situation got seriously bad.
10. We had big ant problems with the Max Air. So far no critters have gotten into the Sure Close. I know I can keep this in the fridge or freezer, but i have no room.
11. Ease of use. We do not keep our collector on the counter so aesthetics are not a concern for us. It is under the sink. What we value about MaxAir is that it efficiently fits (rectangle design) under the sink and it easily opens.
12. My favorite thing about the sure close is that it is more contained. The holes on the maxair made it so my scraps frequently stuck out of the sides of the container, punching a hole in the bag and causing leakage (kale stems were the most frequent culprit). I didn't have this problem with the sureclose. The downside of the sureclose was that the lid wouldn't open all the way unless you use quite a bit of force. it was a minor annoyance to have it closing itself all them time when we were trying to load our scraps.
13. Just to be sure -- MaxAir is the original one we got when the program started, right? I like it because it takes up less space on the counter
14. We've had fewer bag breaks because of the more solid bottom of the Sure Close. Also, the bag holds open better.
15. Any leaks from the bag is contained inside the basket, which makes it easy to clean.
16. I have a cat and dog, and the opening on the side of max air were problematic. Animals kept on trying to get to it. Not a problem with sure close.
17. The lid is much better. I like how it stays up. I think the bags fit better in the Sure close as well. The Max Air lid always fell off.
18. Better ventilation with the max air, but the sure close is more sturdy.
19. I like not smelling the compost and it is easy to clean.
20. it seems sturdier and closes better. Bags seem to fit better.
21. We find the MaxAir has less moisture (due to the open sides) and the bags are easier to tie up when full, but the Sure Close feels sturdier and the bag is more protected from potential punctures while sitting on our kitchen counter. The only drawbacks we've noticed with the Sure Close are that it retains more moisture and the bags are easier to over-fill.
22. It seems sturdier. The locking lid is more likely to keep out pets and prevent accidents when it gets knocked to the floor. I like the hooks on the side that keep the bag open.
23. It is perfect. Odor is well contained, it does not hold moisture and ruin the bags, it is a good size, it is very well designed (lid stays up for counter use) and sturdy, handle is convenient, and fits nicely under the sink.
24. Better containment, less leakage, good sizing for the bag

25. Bag stays in place and less messy
26. I actually use both. My only objection to the MaxAir (that was the first one, right?) was that things often poked through the holes and tore the bag
27. I found it a bit more difficult to get the bag to stay put, but I do like the size of the Sure Close better.
28. no flies -- at least so far
29. I like that it's more substantial, solid. It's difficult to say whether it creates less odor, as I've only used it during cold/cool weather months so far.
30. It seems easier to place the new bag in and open and close.
31. larger, sturdier, easier to use
32. Much sturdier not leaky or smelly. Just looks more tidy.
33. It does not drip onto the counter and the bag is less likely to rip.
34. The Sure Close is a little sturdier
35. less moisture
36. We had mice in the house for a while, and they would eat holes in the composter bags through the vents in the MaxAir. The SureClose kept the mice out until we could catch them!
37. It fits on my refrigerator door.
38. It's easier to use and cleaner.
39. The shape is easier. The straight (not bowed) make it easy to simply put it against the counter and hand sweep onion skin, carrot tops, wandering pieces of garlic into the Max Air.
40. For most of the reasons above, it definitely seals better and there is less odor with the different style of tub.
41. Wide mouth makes it easier to empty plates, etc. Looks nice.
42. I prefer the lid of the MaxAir because it's very easy to quickly flip it open with the back of your hand while holding, for example, a knife in one hand, and a plate in another. In addition, the MaxAir gave me the impression of being more airy (although I didn't pay attention to smell).
43. Prettier. Less flimsy. No counter top leaks. Bag doesn't catch on frame of the container.
44. I like that the top stays open - it is great when I am cooking and I can peel carrots etc directly into the container. Not sure about the odor - I will have to see how it does over the summer. I think it was about the same over the winter.
45. It's really all about how well the bag fits. If the bag is too small for the container then we tended to fill it too full and it was hard to tie up and close later. We also hate it when the bag tears because we have to stretch it too far in order to get it to stay in the bag. Both containers were pretty similar in size, but the SureClose got slight bonus points for being either to put the bag on.
46. More substantial
47. Less opportunity for fruit flies
48. easier to use--the lid stays up.
49. Less smelly; more lightweight
50. more stable and contained
51. Less conspicuous/smaller footprint.
52. My needs are low-volume, so I need the bags to stay dry for longer. There was a significant difference between the number of days a bag would stay intact for me between the two collectors, with the MaxAir as the clear victor. I liked that the lid of the SureClose stayed up, and it seemed to have a larger volume space, allowing for better utilization of the bag... until they got too wet and broke.
53. Easy to use and clean. Top stays open during kitchen cleanup. Also rodent proof.
54. Less odor

# Sure Close & MaxAir Survey

## Q5 Additional Feedback

Answered: 21 Skipped: 34

#	Responses	Date
1	We didn't "really" use the Sure Close because the wife didn't like it. She liked the MaxAir because it was simple to use.	5/27/2015 10:32 AM
2	I would be happy with either bin.	5/20/2015 9:41 AM
3	The weather hasn't gotten really hot yet, so it's tough to compare if there is a difference w/the fruit flies between the two containers. I think that's an important bit of feedback, but one you can't really get until/unless you've used each of them in the summer months.	5/19/2015 12:37 PM
4	I just feel lucky that we have this program. I haven't tried using the Sure Close in the refrigerator yet-will put it there soon. Not sure if that will cut down on the moisture difference or not.	5/18/2015 10:30 PM
5	We liked the way the bags fit on Sure Close than MaxAir slightly better - tighter and more secure, but also more difficult to get on and off, so kind of a wash.	5/18/2015 4:37 PM
6	I wish the lid stayed open - not sure if it is defective since it was one of the features	5/18/2015 11:50 AM
7	Sure Close seemed to take up more space and the lid was more difficult to deal with.	5/18/2015 9:36 AM
8	The Sure Close could use more ventilation - the lid on the grid is very fine and there's no other openings. Also, the Sure Close is harder to quickly open to just toss something into than the Max Air; however, the locking lid of the Sure Close is probably better for people with inquisitive pets.	5/18/2015 1:21 AM
9	I wouldn't want to switch back to the Max Air. The Sure Close is a sturdier and more functional product.	5/15/2015 7:33 PM
10	We love this program and hope you extend it. This container solves the few issues we were having.	5/15/2015 1:23 PM
11	sadly, we are moving out of our home on June 15th. Do you want to collect our compost bucket and Sure Close or should we leave it for the new buyers?	5/15/2015 8:24 AM
12	If the MaxAir had a sturdier handle and slightly more protected sides, it would probably be our favorite, but thinking of potential widespread usage across the city, we think the Sure Close has the best chance of success.	5/15/2015 7:53 AM
13	We are thrilled with the composting program! Thank you for getting it going. We have had three missed pickups... I try to set the container in an obvious place, but it has gotten missed.	5/14/2015 9:12 PM
14	thanks!	5/14/2015 5:08 PM
15	I never started using the sure close. It would have taken up too much room in my refrigerator.	5/14/2015 4:56 PM
16	(1) My Sureclose requires two hands to get the cover to snap into the stay open position. This is awkward when you already have one hand full of compost. Is this a defect in the manufacture or a design issue? (2) You can never fill the bin to the top because the bags designed for this don't have any extra flaps to securely close the bag up. So I end up only being able to fill the bin about 1/3 to 1/2 full. I cross-tie the top of the bag, but it's not all that secure/leak proof.	5/14/2015 4:34 PM
17	Although I prefer the MaxAir overall, I wish the base of the MaxAir was heavier so it wouldn't be pushed back while opening the lid. I thought about hammering it down on a piece of scrap wood...	5/14/2015 4:33 PM
18	This is a fabulous program and I hope you roll it out to the whole city. My kids compost in school and it is natural for them to do it at home as well. Our trash has been reduced and friends who live in other neighborhoods are envious and can not wait for the program to roll out city wide!	5/14/2015 4:19 PM
19	However have stopped it for the summer and gone back to my xox kitchen container which is totally closed and doesn'tet flies in or out. It's a bit smaller but better in the summer	5/14/2015 3:39 PM
20	Since we didn't test it in the summer, I'm not sure if it's better in the heat.	5/14/2015 3:36 PM
21	For people who change out their bags every day or two, the SureClose is probably superior. For me, the MaxAir is hands down the winner. When I remembered in February that I could switch back to the MaxAir, I was pretty happy!	5/14/2015 3:20 PM