

# ***TallahasseeVoices***

## Property Tax Survey

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And The Tallahassee Democrat

*TallahasseeVoices* is a pro bono Internet survey panel sponsored by Kerr & Downs Research and The Tallahassee Democrat. There were 719 responses to the survey sent out in June 14 and 15, 2007. Panel results have been weighted to reflect the demographics of Leon County and results are representative of all local residents who have access to the Internet at home, work, or school. Go to our website at [www.tallahasseevoices.com](http://www.tallahasseevoices.com) to join our panel and let your voice be heard.

*TallahasseeVoices* surveys have accurately predicted local votes on:

- The coal plant
- Sales tax increase for healthcare
- Switching City elections from Fall to the Spring
- Nearly all local elections it has covered

*TallahasseeVoices*, an experiment in democracy

To join, go to [www.tallahasseevoices.com](http://www.tallahasseevoices.com)

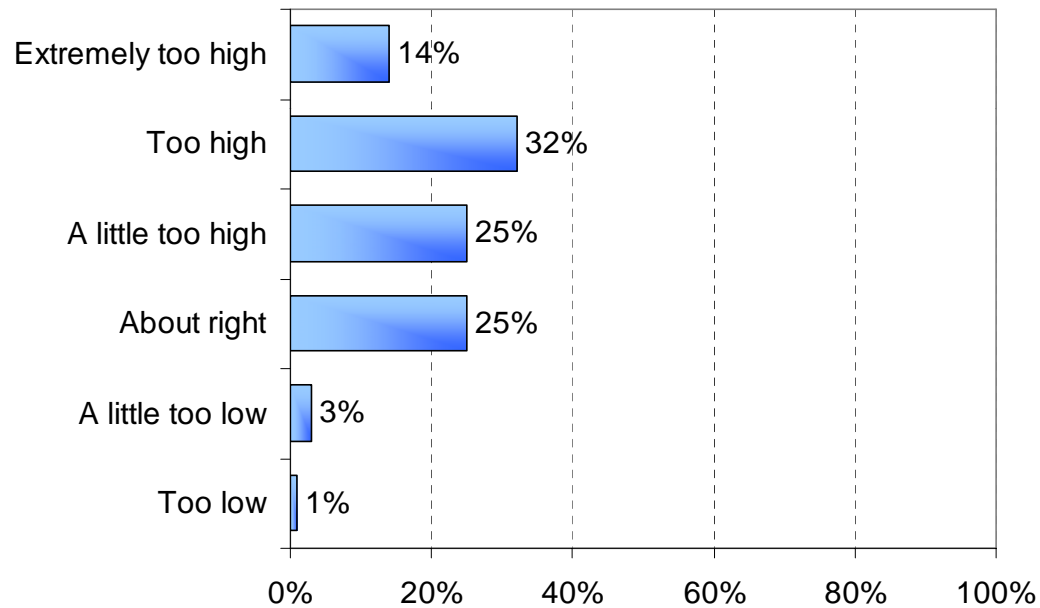
# Summary

- Leon County residents favor cutting property taxes and instituting more fairness in implementing property taxes.
- These are the primary findings from a TallahasseeVoices survey of 719 residents conducted during the week of June 14 and 15, 2007.

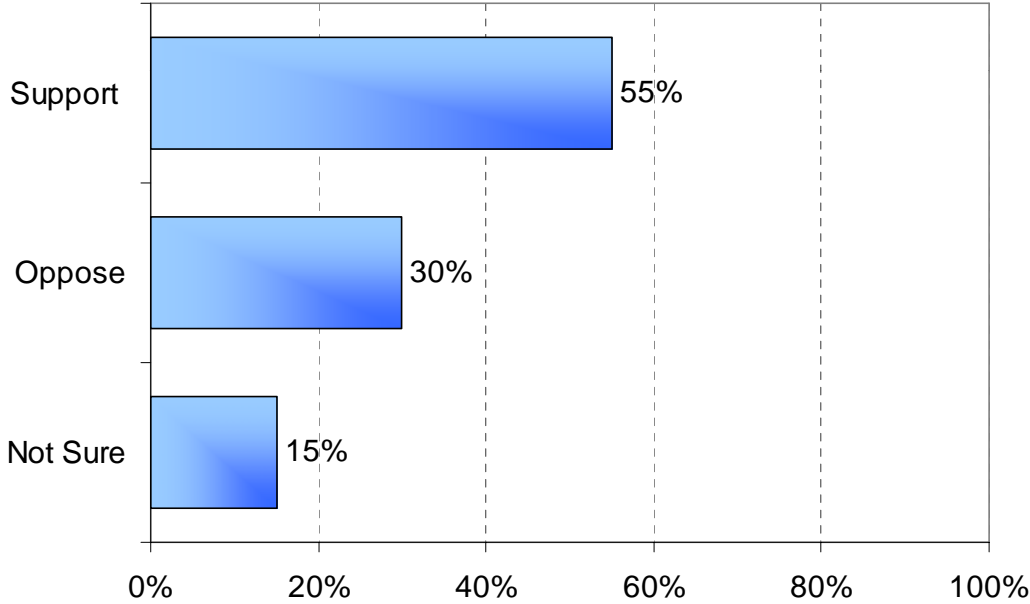
# Highlights

- Over 7 out of 10 residents (71%) feel that property taxes are too high.
- By a 55% to 30% margin, local residents support property tax reductions even if it means cutting back on some local government services.
- Only 23% of residents think property taxes are fine as is.
- 85% of residents believe that properties of similar value in the same neighborhood should be taxed at the same level.
- Only 26% of residents think it is fair that those who bought property from 2001 to 2006 during the run-up in the property prices pay significantly more in property taxes than their neighbors who were protected by Save Our Homes (3%/year cap on property tax increases)
- Only 23% of residents prefer increasing sales tax to 8.5% and eliminating property taxes.
- 7 out of 10 think the homestead exemption should be no higher than \$50,000.
- A majority of residents (62%) say owners of business and rental property should receive no homestead exemption.

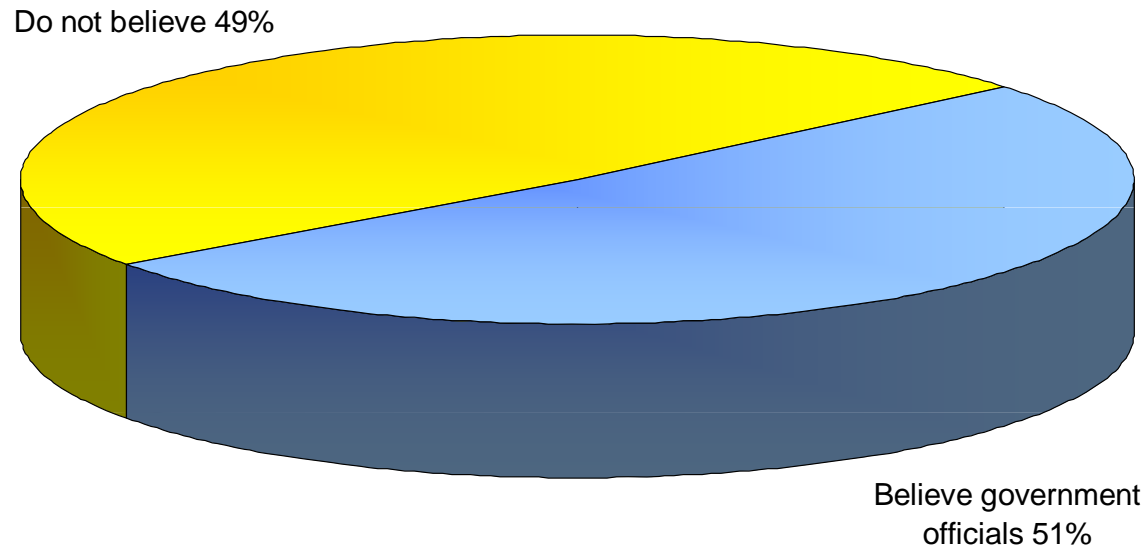
# In your opinion, are property taxes in Leon County:



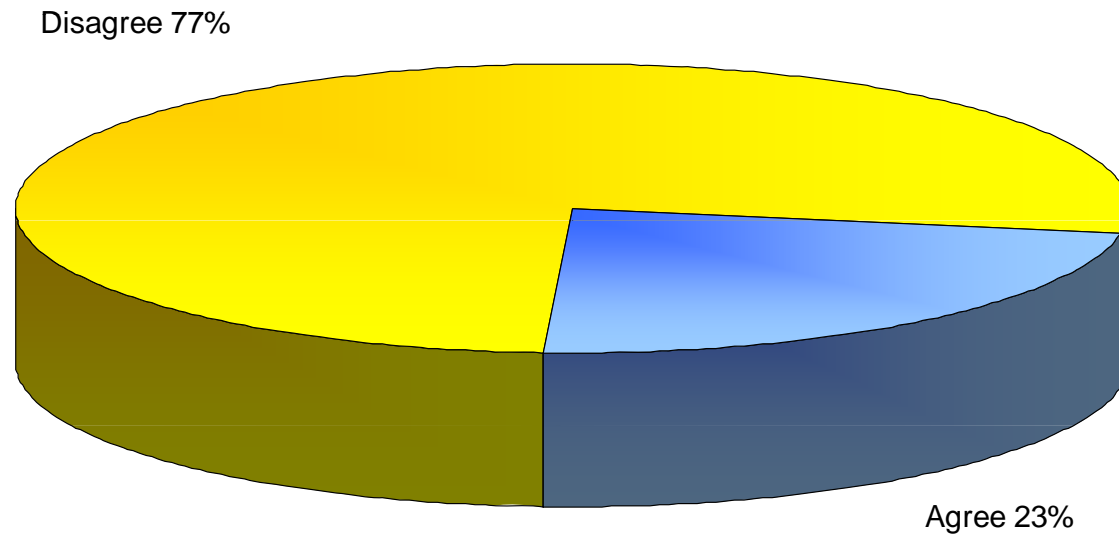
Do you support or oppose property tax reductions if it means cutting back on some local government services?



Local government officials say if property taxes are reduced, some local government services will have to be cut or eliminated. Do you believe them when they make these claims?

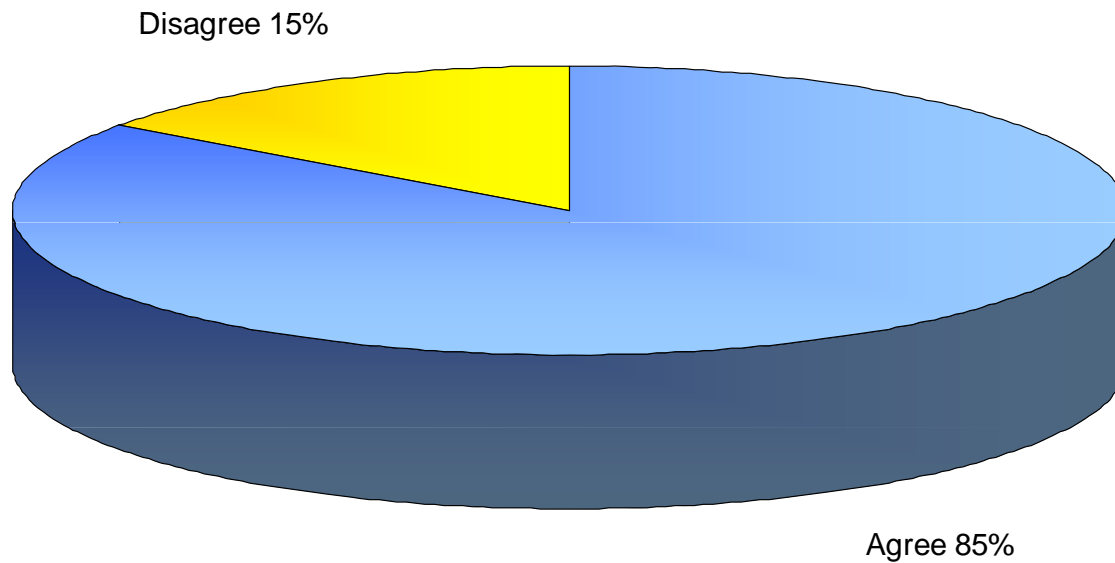


Agree/Disagree: Sales taxes should be increased to 8.5% and eliminate property taxes.

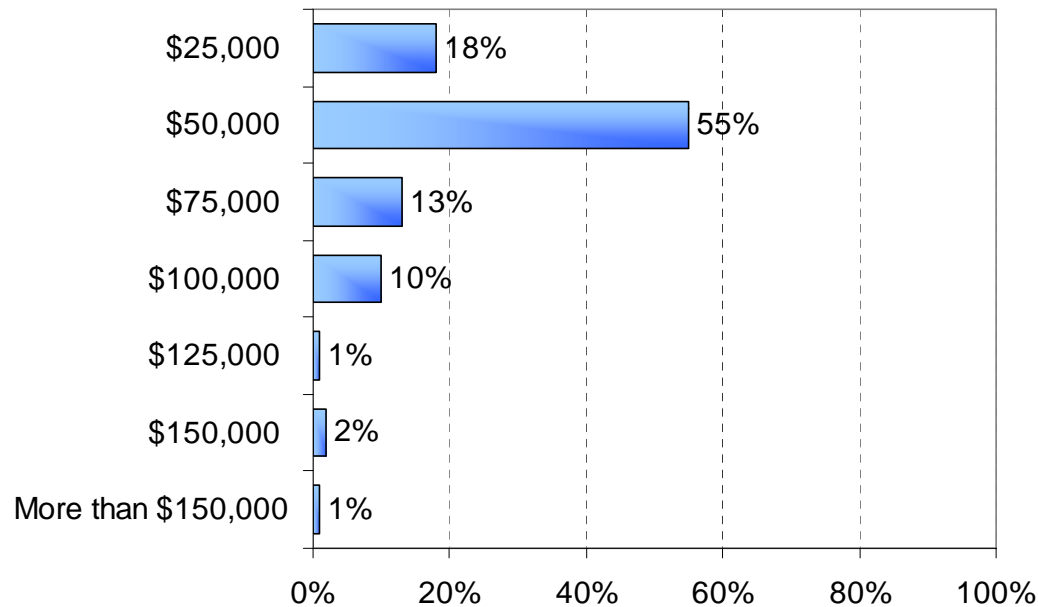




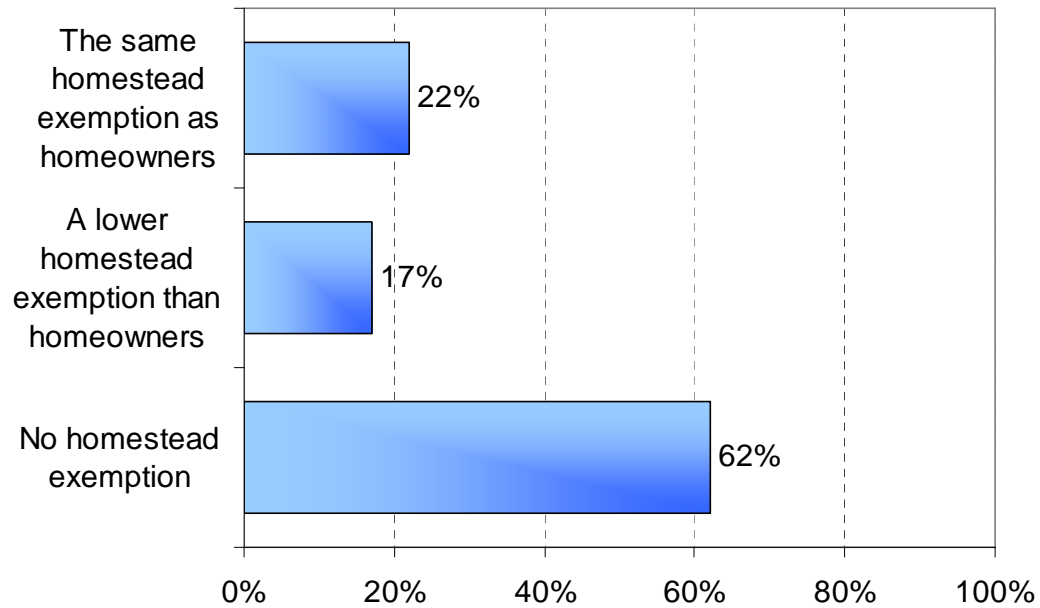
Agree/Disagree: People whose properties are of similar value and who live in the same neighborhood should be taxed at the same level.



The homestead exemption is now \$25,000. Based on increases in home prices, what should the homestead exemption be?



# Owners of business and rental property should receive:



Is it fair that people who built or moved into new houses, offices, business, etc., from 2001 to 2006 pay significantly more property tax than those who received the 3% cap?

