

**The New Jersey  
Library  
Construction  
Bond Act**

**Jeanne Marie Ryan  
Patricia A. Tumulty**

# **The New Jersey Construction Bond Act Referendum**

- **On November 7, 2017, the voters of New Jersey approved a \$125,000,000 Library Construction Bond Referendum by a twenty percent margin.**
- **970,334 people supported bonding for library construction and improvements, despite the fiscal challenges facing the state.**
- **The Library Construction Bond Act had been introduced in the New Jersey Legislature nearly three years earlier-on December 11, 2014.**



**7/21/2017 Approved P.L.2017, c.149.  
Governor Chris Christie signs The  
New Jersey Construction Bond  
Referendum into law.**

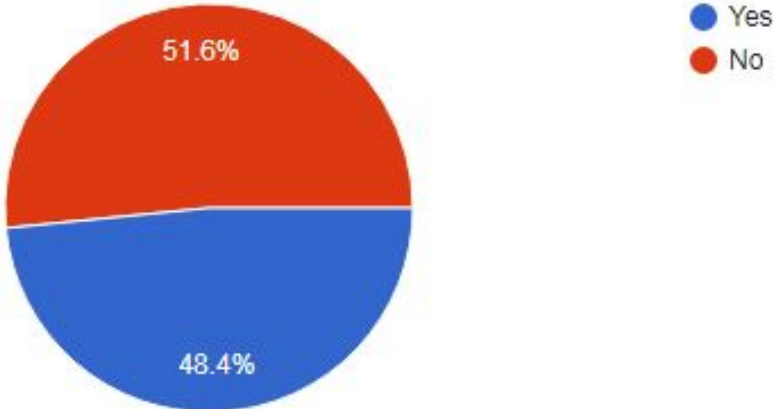
**On November 7, 2017, the voters of  
New Jersey approved a \$125,000,000  
Library Construction Bond  
Referendum by a twenty percent  
margin—nearly a million people came  
out to vote in support of it!**

# **October 2018 New Jersey Library Construction Survey**

- This survey was sent out to public libraries in New Jersey during the month of October to assess current needs.**
- One hundred and fifty-nine libraries from all over the state of New Jersey responded to the survey.**
- Respondents ranged from association to municipal to county libraries.**
- The buildings represented in the survey range from thirteen to over one hundred years old.**

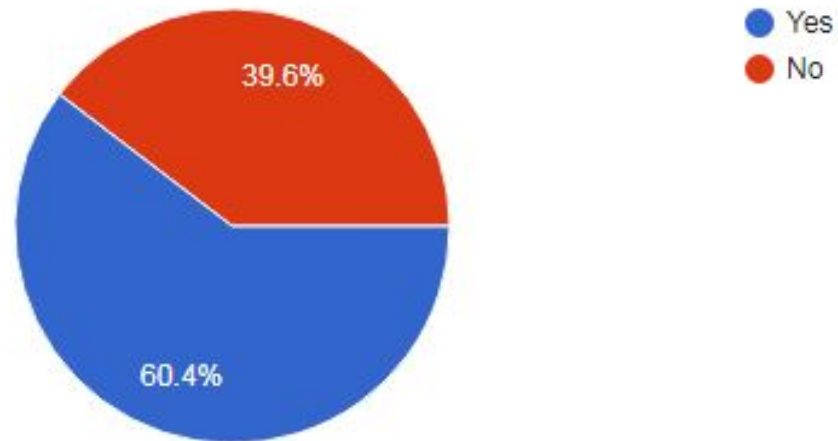
# Is your library fully compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act?

159 responses



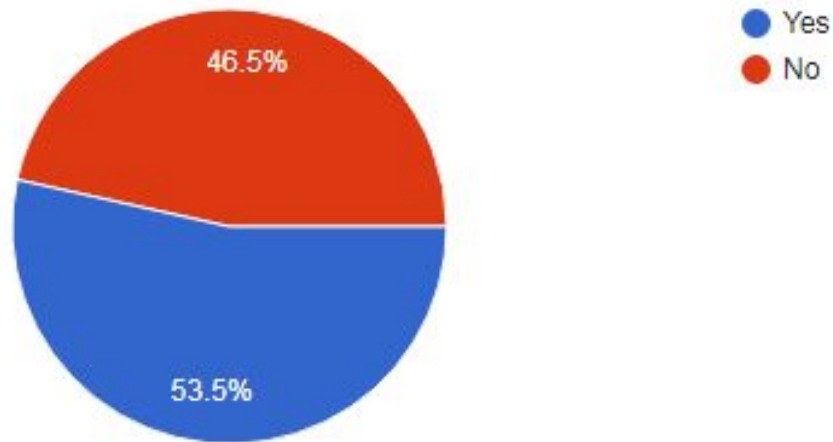
## Is your library in need of additional square footage?

159 responses



## Do you have property available for expansion?

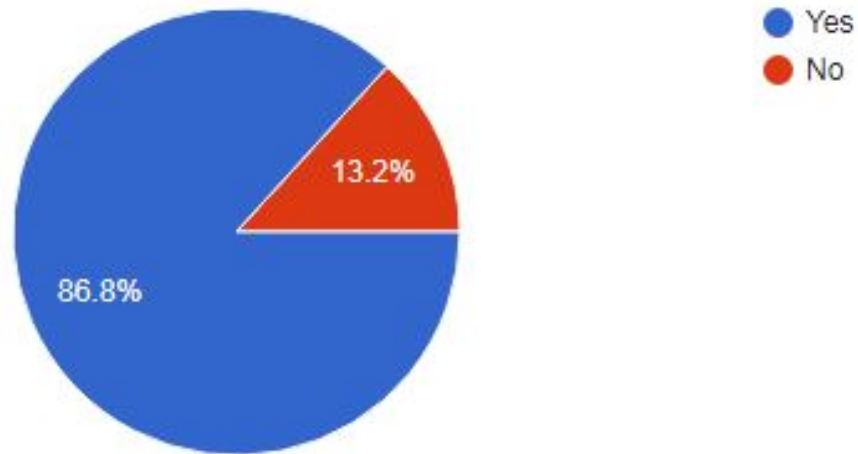
159 responses





# Are you planning for expansion, renovation, or ADA compliance within the next two years?

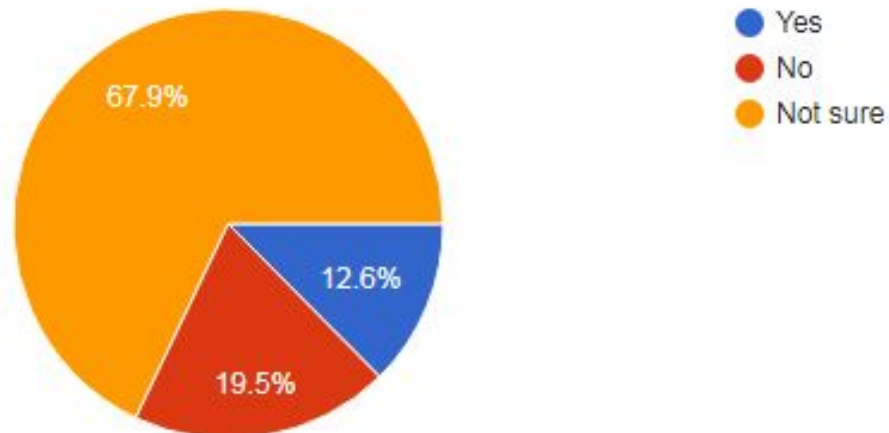
159 responses



## Will you put your plans into effect with or without funding from the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act?



159 responses



# **Where The Library Construction Bond Act Is Today:**

- The New Jersey State Library and Thomas Edison State University held an initial meeting with their seven partner agencies in early October. These seven state agencies and organizations in conjunction with The New Jersey State Library and Thomas Edison State University are integral to the establishment of the procedures that will guide the administration of the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act Program. Library users all over the state are waiting for the release of the regulations that will govern this program and the public comments that will impact its implementation.**

**With a 1:1 match  
required to receive funds,  
anticipated revenues  
generated by these  
projects will be in excess  
of a quarter of a billion  
dollars.**