

Seacoast Private Well Initiative Update

Amy Hudnor, Private Well Coordinator
NH Department of Environmental Services



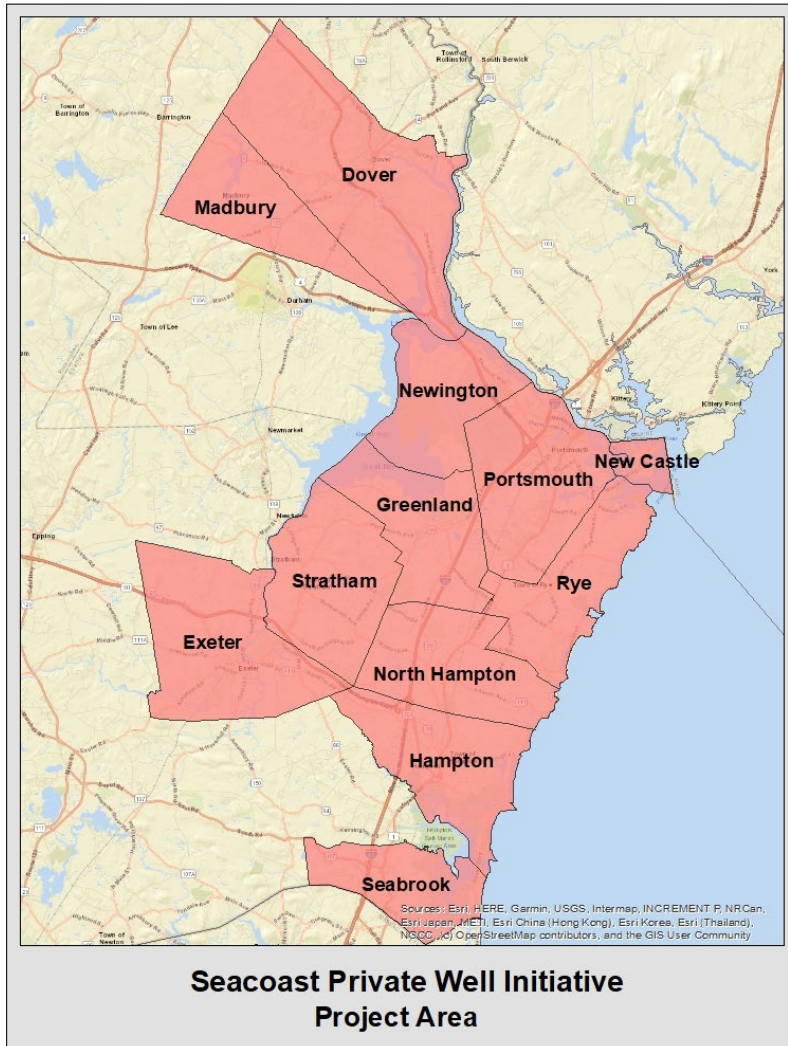
NEW HAMPSHIRE DRINKING WATER
& GROUNDWATER TRUST FUND



Seacoast Commission
on Drinking Water



NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF
**Environmental
Services**



Free workshop & well testing for private well users in 12 towns represented by the Seacoast Drinking Water Commission

Workshop: focus on common NH well contaminants, health impacts, and water treatment options. Hand out test kits.

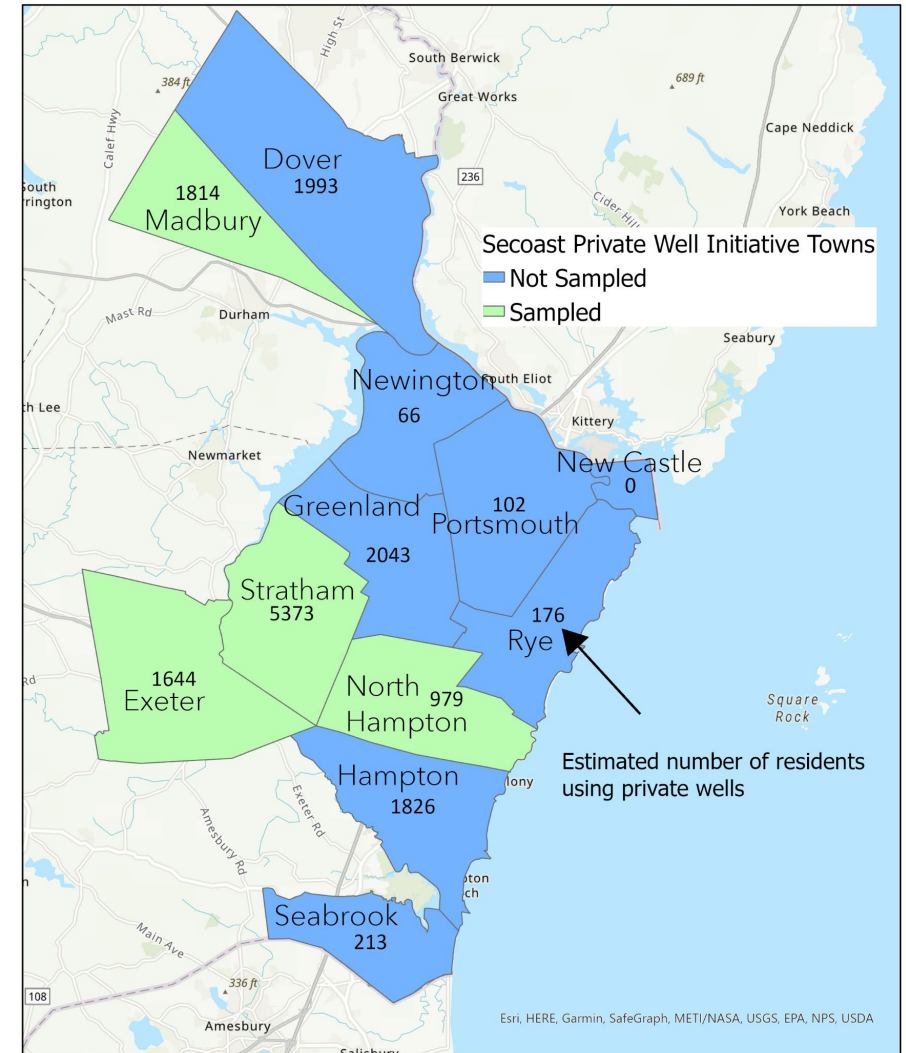
Free Water Test:

- Standard Analysis: arsenic, copper, manganese, lead and a few others
- Radon
- 4 PFAS that have NH health limits

Participants receive results, a Be Well Informed report with treatment recommendations, our contact info if they need further help. Those with PFAS exceedances referred to PFAS Treatment Rebate.

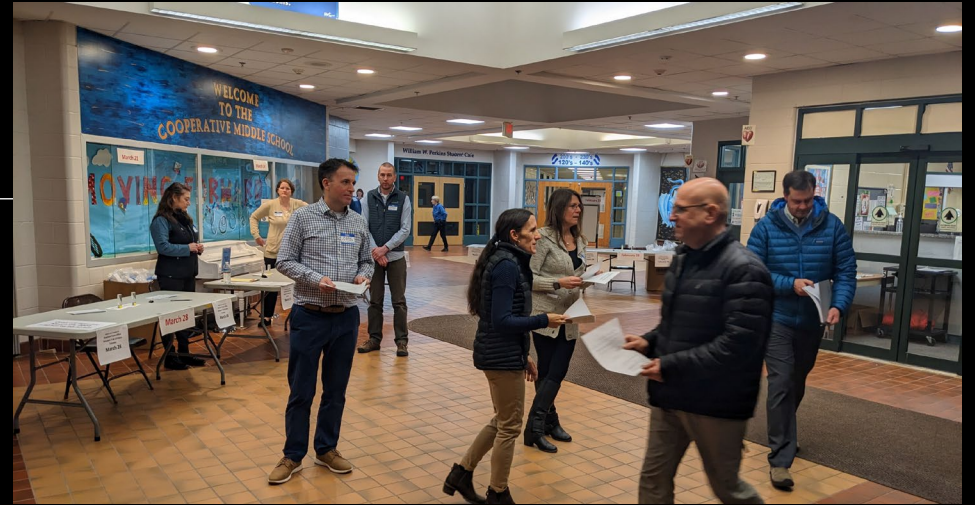
467 households have fully participated by so far
by attending workshop and submitting water samples

Madbury	Workshop September 2022	84 households
Exeter	Workshop for Exeter & North Hampton	65 households
North Hampton	January 2023	42 households
Stratham	Workshop February 2023	276 households



Participation has been around 12% of the private well households in each town

Stratham in February 2023



Our largest workshop:

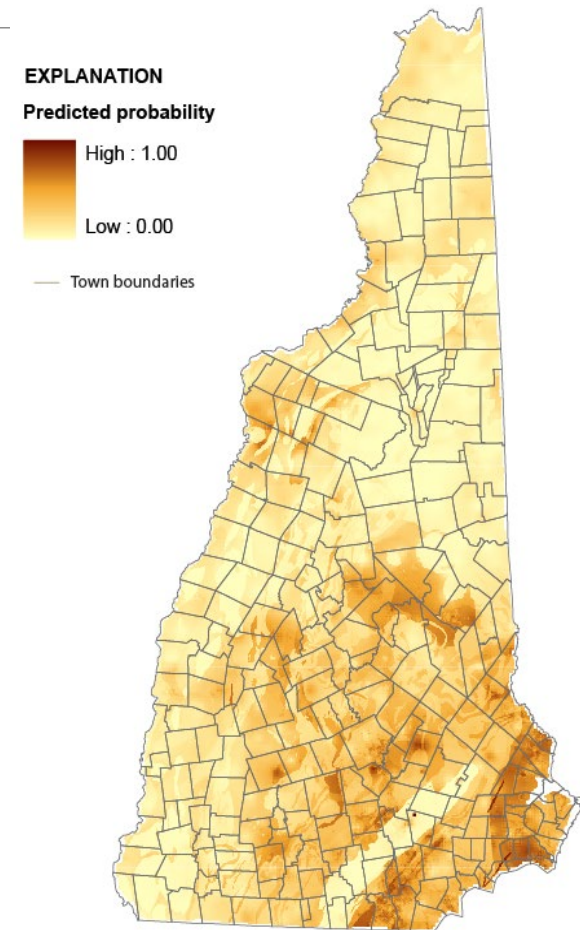
Over 300 people attended

291 sample kits distributed

276 samples returned in 6 drop off dates

Arsenic—prominent in the Seacoast region

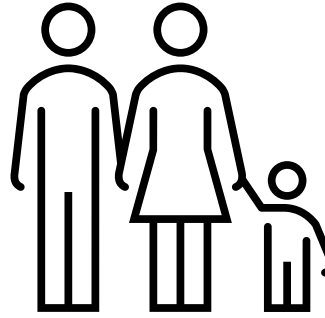
USGS Geologic map showing probability of Arsenic
in well water above NH Health Limit of 5 parts per billion (ppb)



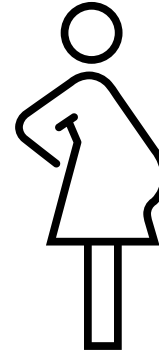
Arsenic

Arsenic is a naturally-occurring **element common in NH bedrock.**

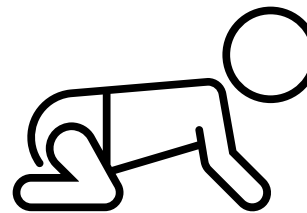
>5 ppb ($\mu\text{g/L}$)
or
0.005 mg/L



- ↑ risks for certain cancers (e.g., lung and bladder)
- ↑ risk for diabetes
- ↑ risk for cardiovascular disease
- ↓ immune system function



- ↓ fetal growth and birth weight
- ↓ early immune system function



- ↑ lifetime risk for cancer
- ↑ lifetime risk of respiratory diseases
- ↓ IQ and brain development

Arsenic—discovered in this project so far



206 households informed of their arsenic exceedances

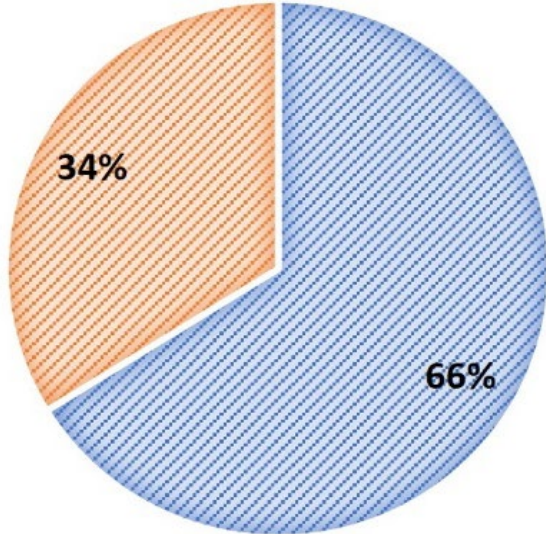
■ % wells above Arsenic Health Limit

■ % wells below Arsenic Health Limit

EXETER

Samples=65

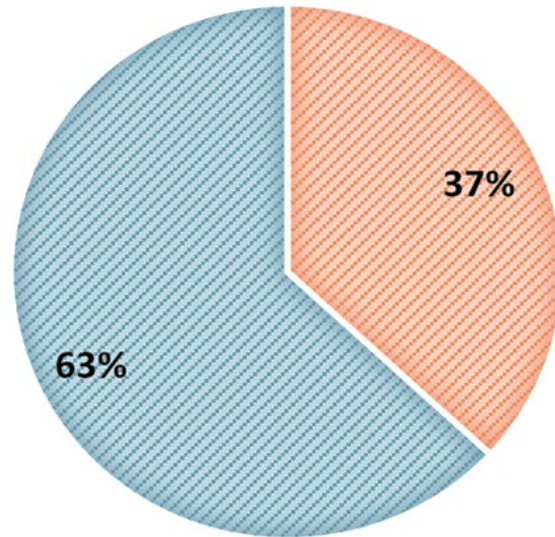
- Above= 22



MADBURY

Samples= 84

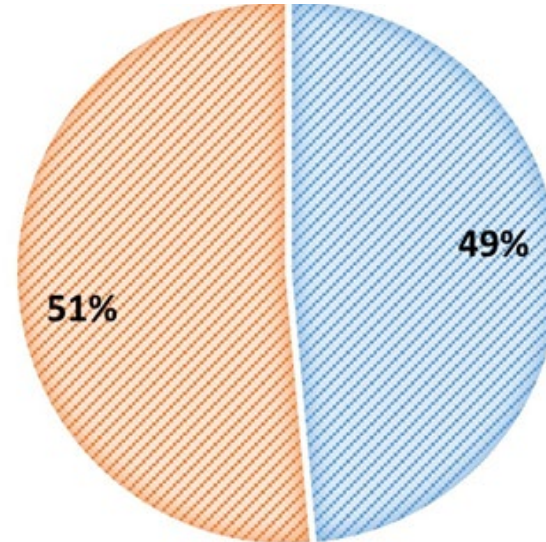
- Above = 31



STRATHAM

Samples= 276

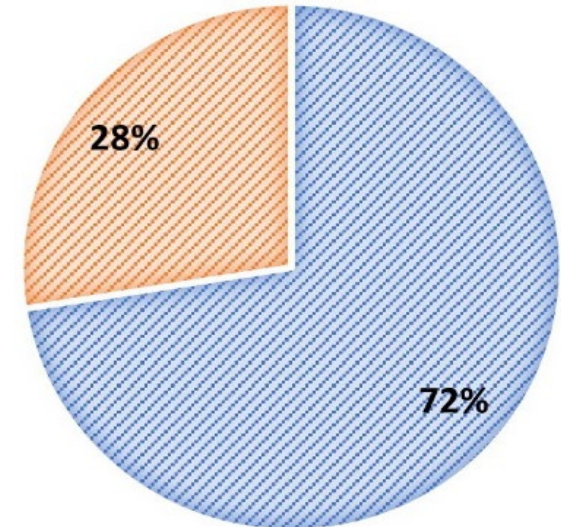
- Above = 142



NORTH HAMPTON

Samples= 40

- Above = 11





Free Zero Water pitcher for low-income households with arsenic:

16 have received free pitchers

PFAS:

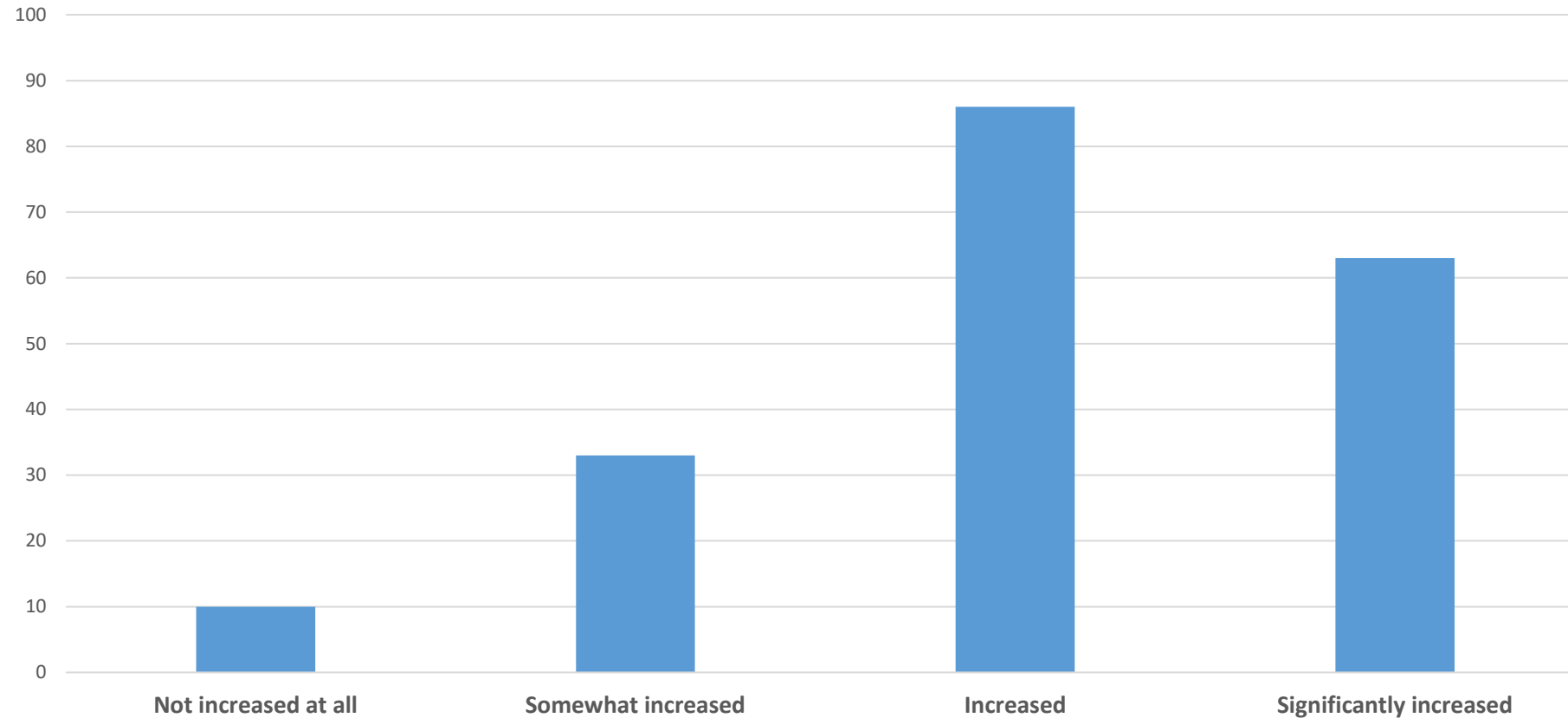
We tested for the 4 PFAS with NH health limits.

The screenshot shows the website header with navigation links: Home, Health Impacts, PFAS Occurrences, Response Areas, Firefighting Foam, Funding Opportunities, and Information Center. The main content area features a large landscape image of New Hampshire. Below the image is a breadcrumb trail: Home > Funding > PFAS Removal Rebate Program for Private Wells. The main heading is "PFAS Removal Rebate Program for Private Wells" with a sub-heading: "Funding for eligible private well owners to install a treatment system or connect to a water system." There are two callout boxes: one with a question mark icon titled "Urgent information regarding rebate payment processing!" and another titled "Arsenic Payments" with links to "Form 1099-G Guidance" and "Division of Accounting (DAS) Services Bulletin - IRS Form 1099-G". A "How To Apply" section is partially visible at the bottom.

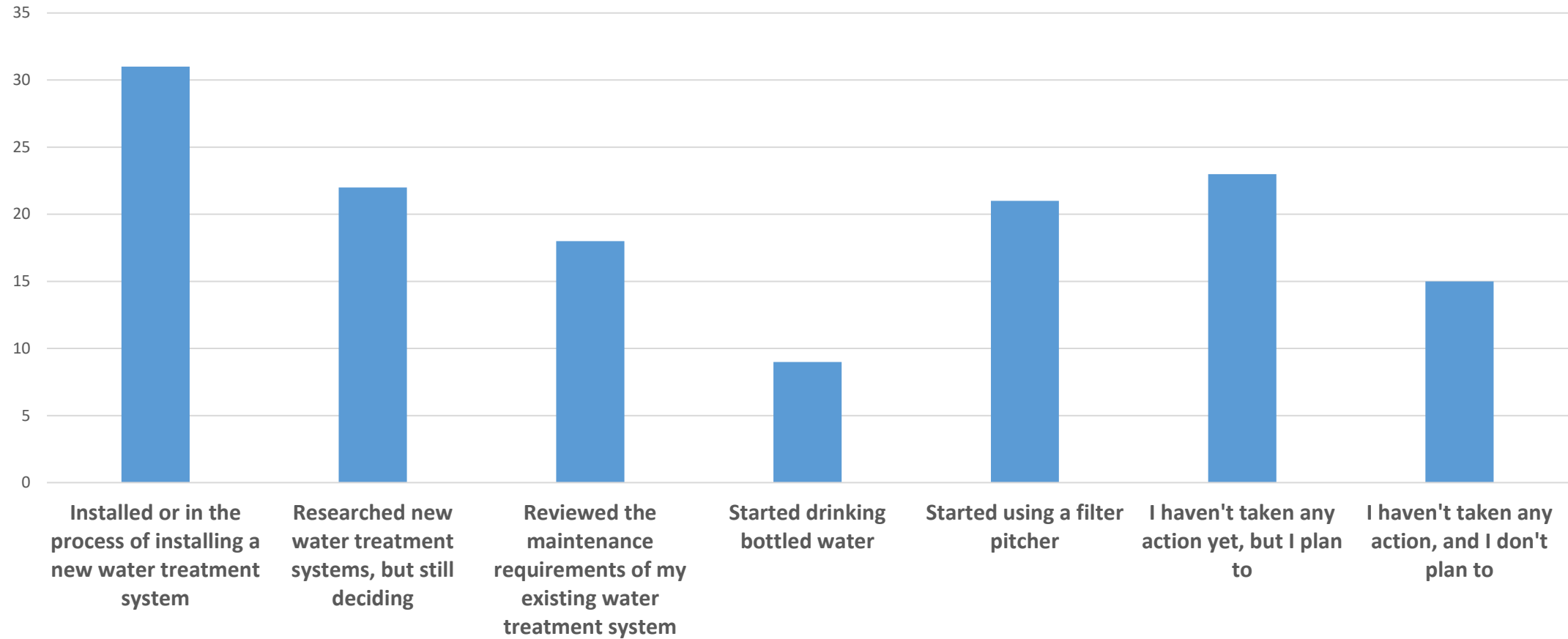
- Identified **19** households with at least 1 PFAS above health limit
- Encouraged each household to utilize PFAS Treatment Rebate of up to \$5,000

Surveys were sent to all 468 participants: 193 responded

How has your knowledge of private well water contaminants increased as a result of participation?



For respondents with contaminants above health limits, we asked, “What action(s) have you taken?”



Free Workshop & Water Testing for Hampton & Seabrook Private Well Users



The Seacoast Private Well Initiative
invites residential private well users in Hampton & Seabrook:

Hampton & Seabrook Private Well Workshop

Thursday, September 14, 2023 @ 6:00PM
Hampton Academy Auditorium
29 Academy Ave, Hampton NH

**Keep your family safe from health risks of common well
water contaminants. Test your water.**

At the Private Well Workshop we'll:

- Explain what contaminants you should test for and why;
- Send you home with a test kit and tell you when & where to return with filled bottles;
- Test your water for common well water contaminants including: radon, arsenic, lead & PFAS;
- Teach you about selecting the appropriate water treatment if contaminants are found.

Workshop & water testing are free, and registration is simple! Just send an e-mail saying you plan to attend to Amy Hudnor, NHDES Private Well Coordinator at welltest@des.nh.gov

**Please register & we'll see you at Hampton Academy
Thursday, September 14 at 6pm!**

Got questions? Feel free to contact us!

NHDES: Amy Hudnor at (603) 271-5986 or welltest@des.nh.gov
Town of Hampton: Brianna O'Brien at (603) 929-5808 or bobrien@hamptonnh.gov



Seacoast
Commission
on Drinking
Water



Hampton held last week,
Remaining 2 regions will be
completed by May 2024