



The Episcopal Diocese
of Southern Ohio

DSO Check Up Survey

Results

May 2022

Introduction

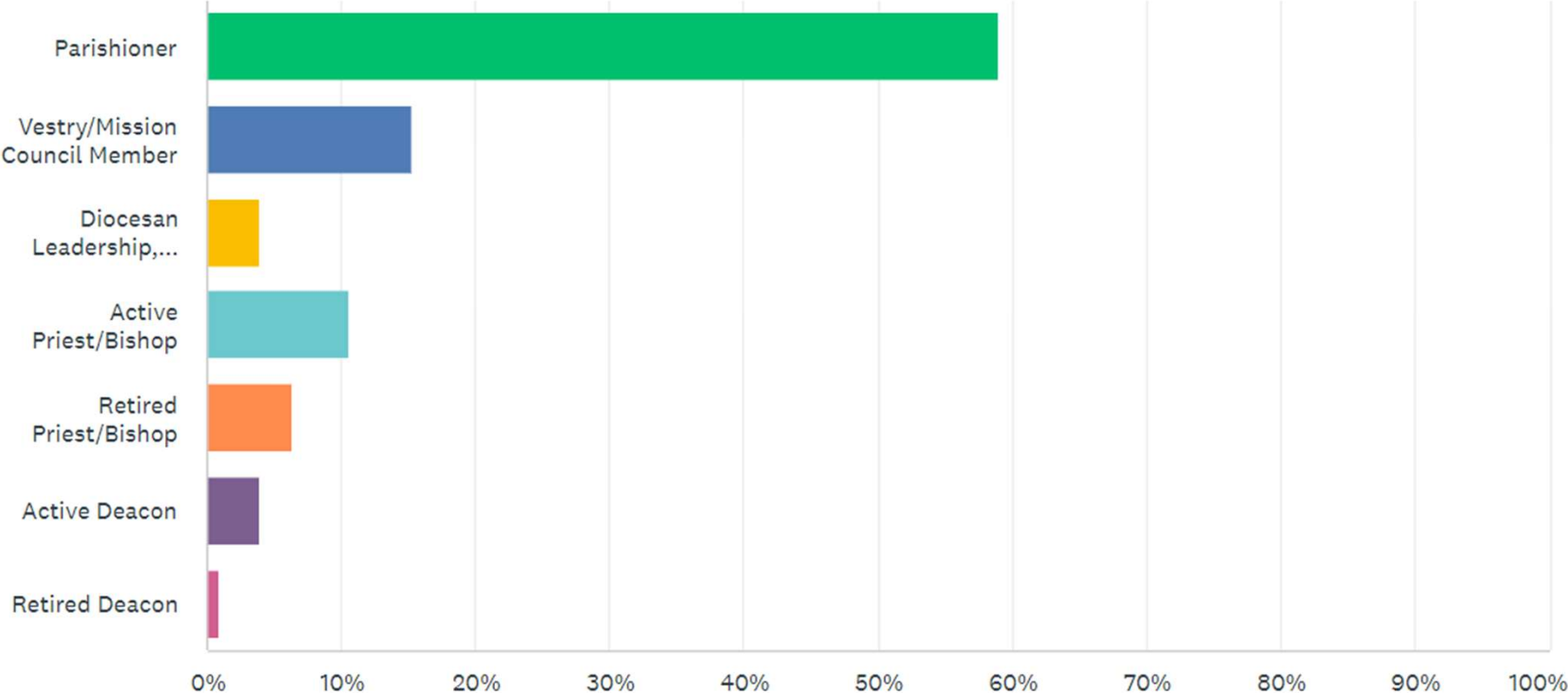
We continue to discern the best time to move forward with the next major step in the process that will lead to the discernment, call, election, consent, and ordination of our next diocesan bishop. This survey is to see what may have changed since the survey we conducted about a year ago, and to hear your thoughts on our readiness as a diocese for the next step in our search process. Your input is very important to us. This brief survey will only take a few minutes of your time.

THANK YOU!

Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio

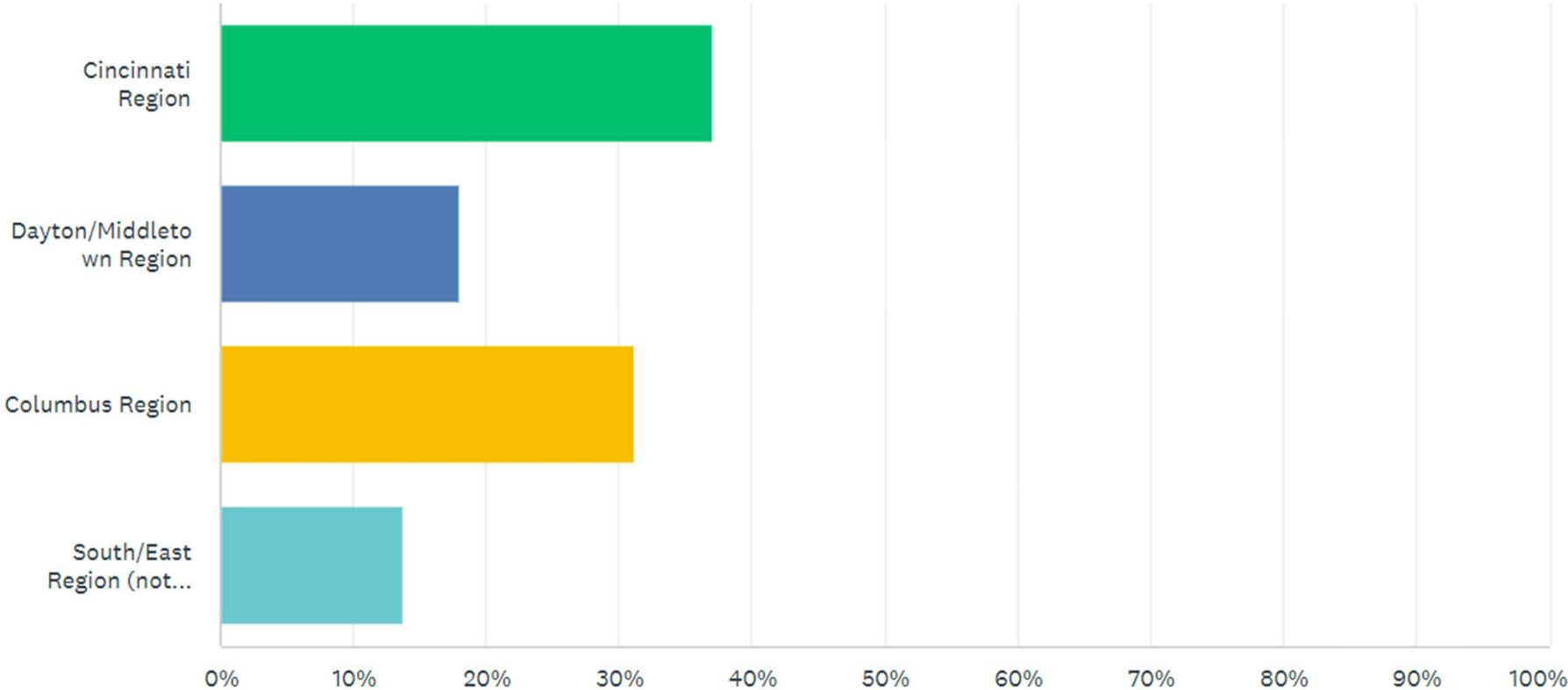
Which of the following best describes your role in the Diocese of Southern Ohio? (Please select one)

Answered: 407 Skipped: 0



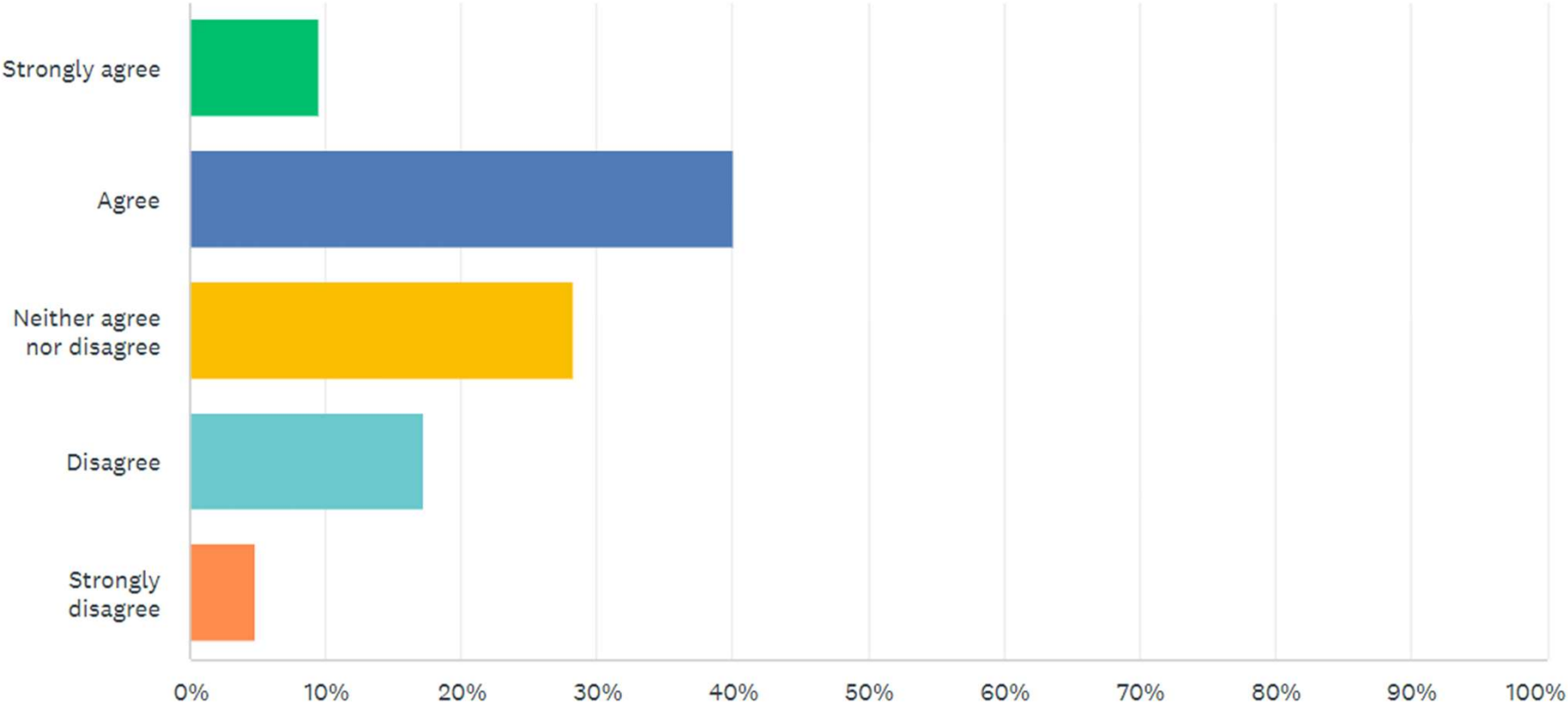
In which region of the Diocese of Southern Ohio do you practice your Episcopal faith? (please select one)

Answered: 407 Skipped: 0



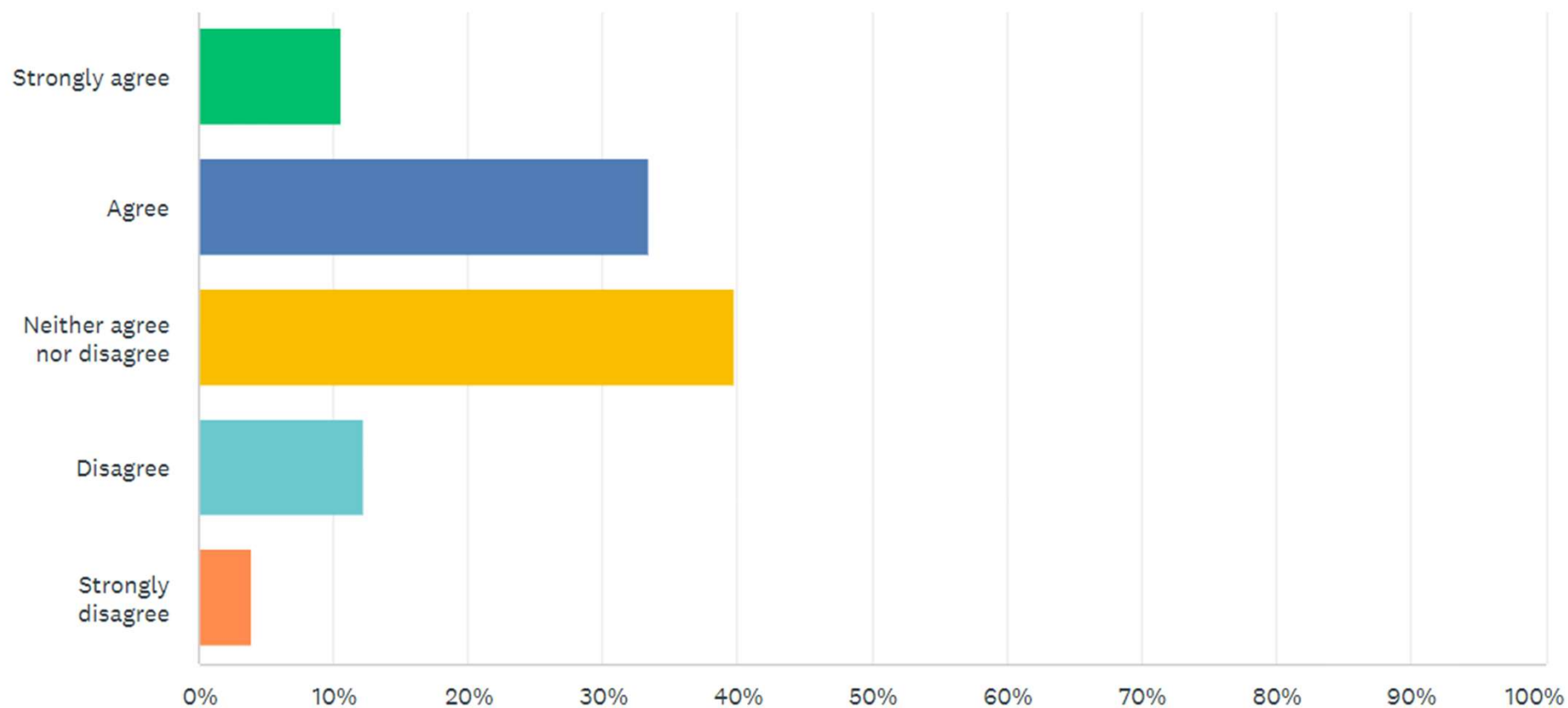
The Diocese provides church leaders with the information and support they need to work during a challenging time. (please select one)

Answered: 407 Skipped: 0



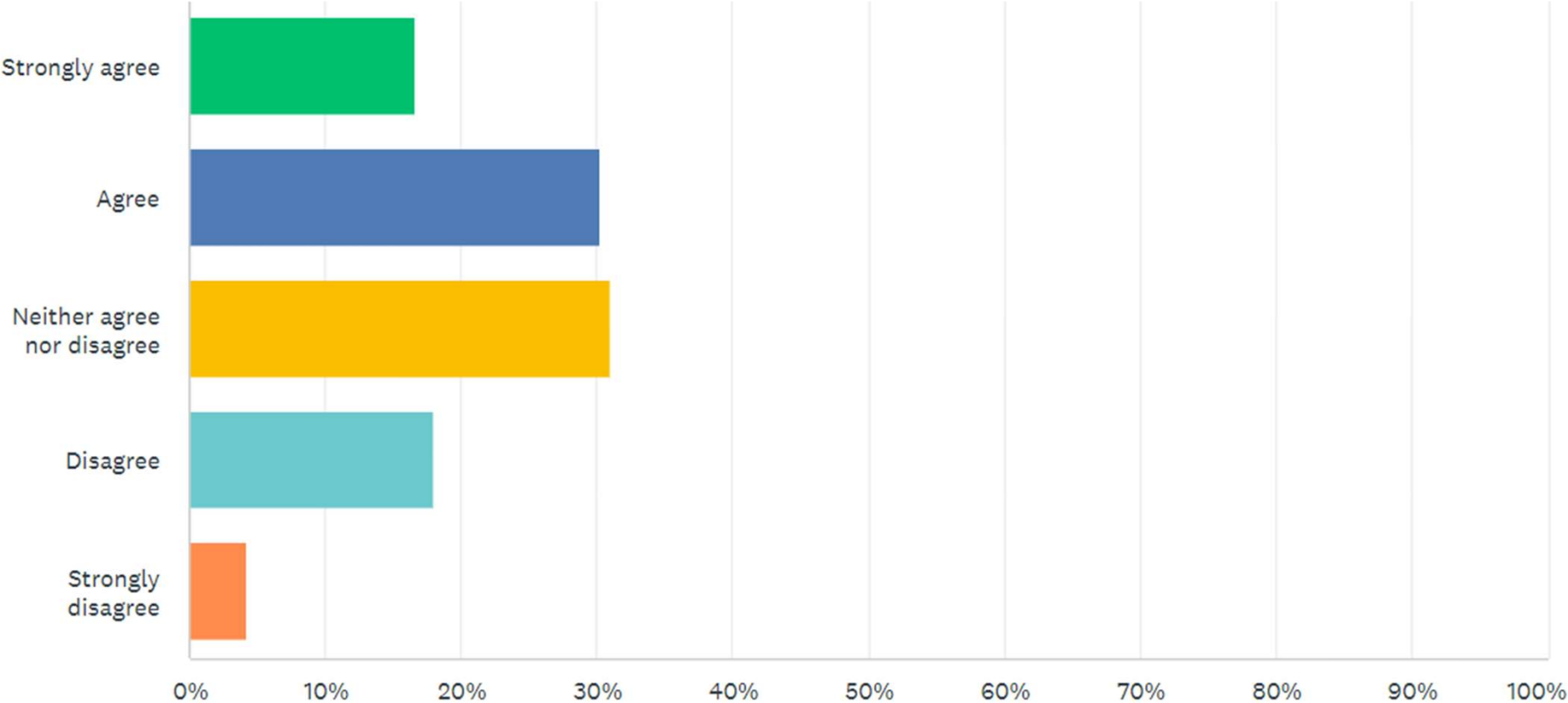
Opportunities for Diocesan members to provide feedback regarding important issues have improved. (please select one)

Answered: 407 Skipped: 0



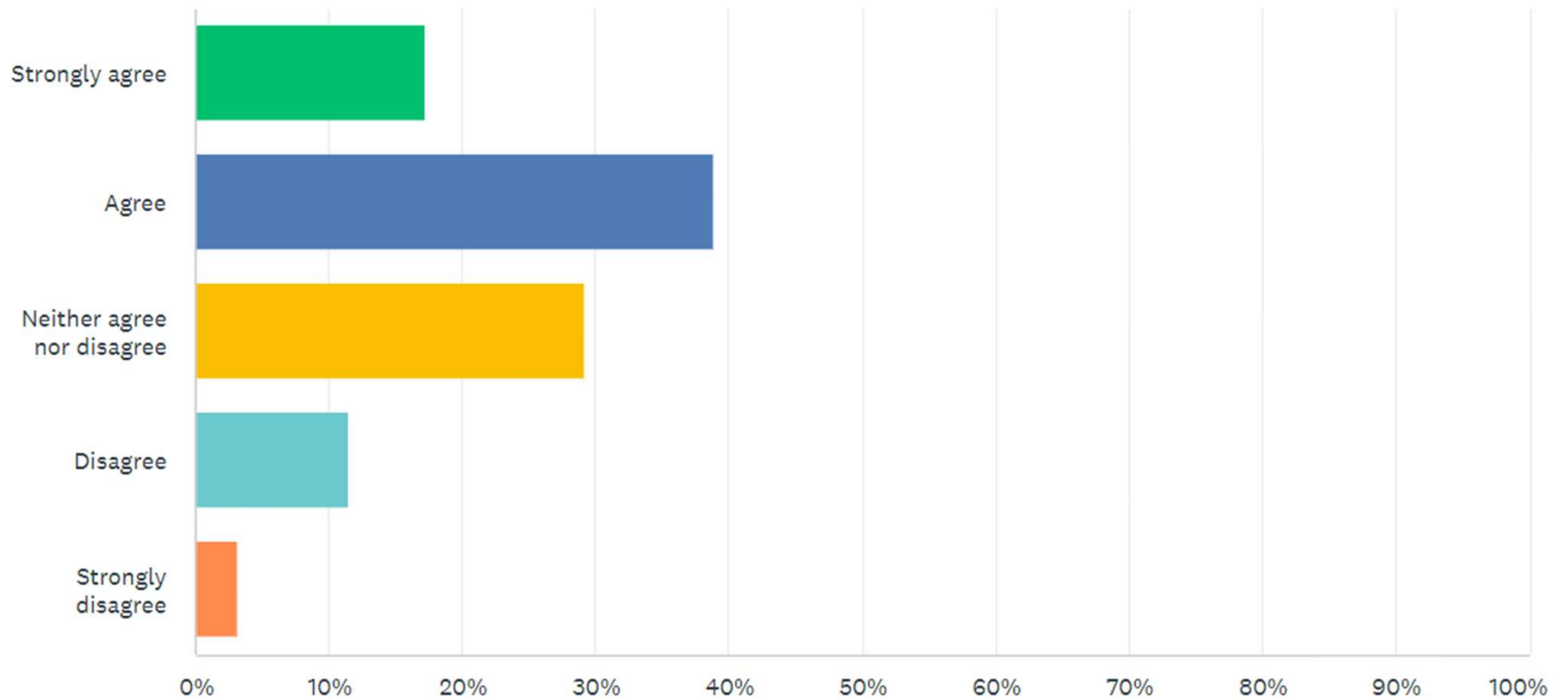
Diocesan issues related to Bishop Breidenthal's resignation have been adequately addressed. (please select one)

Answered: 407 Skipped: 0



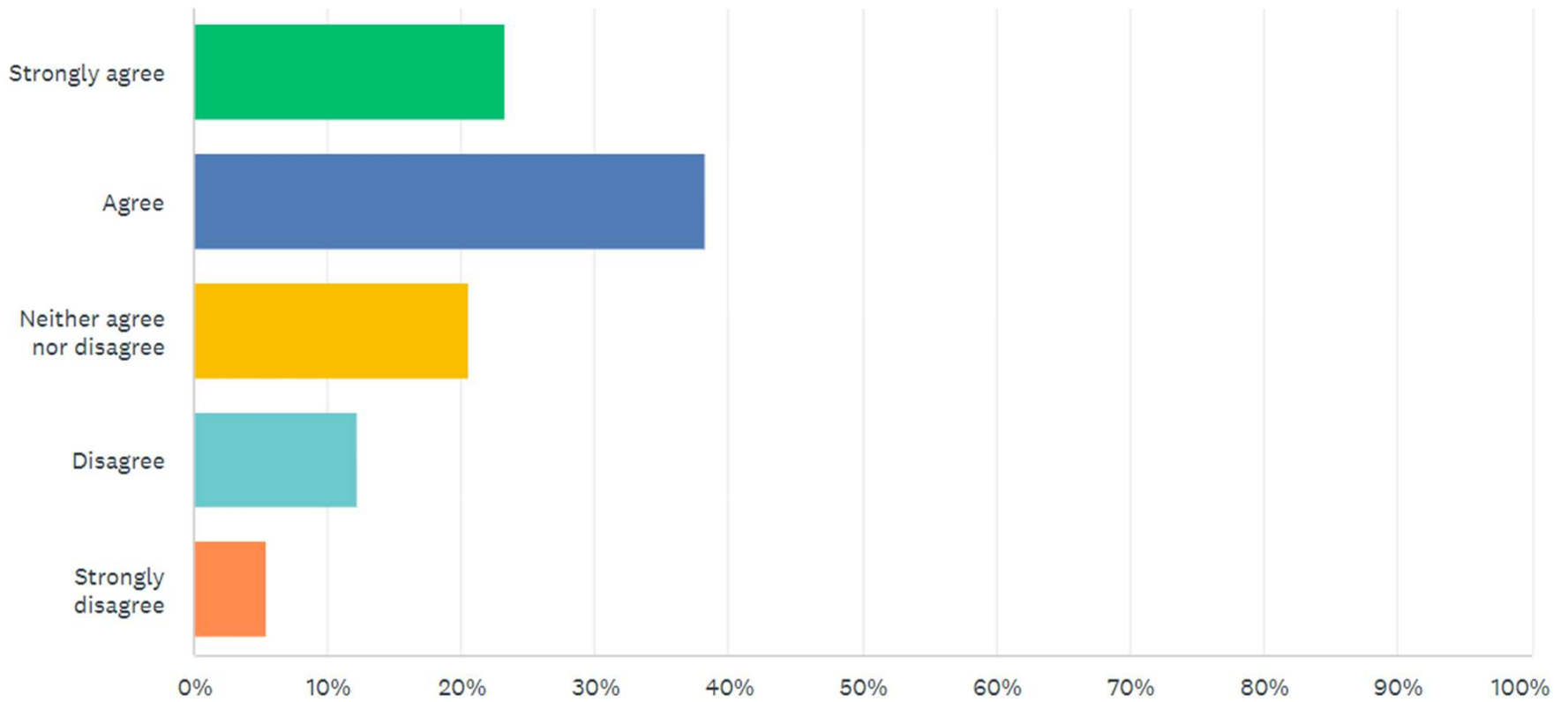
Diocesan leaders have the information, skills, and support they need to launch a successful search for our next Bishop. (please select one)

Answered: 407 Skipped: 0



I feel the level of trust in the Diocese is sufficient to begin the search for our next Bishop. (please select one)

Answered: 407 Skipped: 0



COMMENTS THEMES

Theme	Number of Comments (N=208)
Get on with it, Time to Start, Stop Wasting Time	53
Need more communication, disconnection, transparency, (e.g., search process, changes since Breidenthal left, sharing of vision, clarity on issues and priorities, some without internet,)	35
Need more support for parishes, clergy (e.g. spiritual advisors for all clergy, help with growth, financial help, too corporate, more bishop visits, recognize lay contributions)	15
Cincinnati centric leadership, not involve parishes, east, move offices to Columbus, Regionalism	13
Negative handling of Breidenthal's alcoholism and departure (lack of proactive action, poor communication, disrespected Breidenthal,)	11
Bishop qualities (e.g. pastoral care, pastor/administrator, not an activist, a people person, energetic, connect to parishes, support LGBTQ+, leadership, collaboration, know their issues, Christian leader, stand up to clergy, woman of color,)	10
Not ready for a search (e.g. low moral, understand Episcopacy, novena to St. Joseph, disfunction with decisions, too much control by individuals/staff,	8
Positive Standing Committee/Leadership (surveys, communications, attempting to get at core issues,)	7
Negative Standing Committee/Leadership (closed, lack of responsibility, lack of action,)	7
We rely on a Bishop for leadership	7
Positive regarding recent clergy gathering	7
Staff issues, concerns	5
Blessings, prayers, God with guide	5
Racial issues (e.g. We have white churches and black churches, too much focus on BLM, too liberal, not diverse enough)	4
DSO too political, not spiritual enough	4
Concern with shrinking membership	4
High salaries (negative)	4
Too much money taken from parishes	4
Need more clarity, plans, actions	3
Give churches more freedom to do what they want	3
Positive Bishop Smith (good communication, keep him longer)	3
Positive handling of Breidenthal's alcoholism and departure	2
Look for new ways of doing church, change how we do things	2
Need more communication with parishioners (not just clergy)	2
Negative Bishop Smith (keeping the doors open, not enough action)	2
Need more priests	2
Very few doing all the work	1
The church did not take covid seriously	1
Recognize BBC more	1