



NJ Makers Day (2017) Project Summary Statement

Project Statement

The third [NJ Makers Day](#) was a fantastic success with 306 sites across all 21 NJ counties hosting programs, exhibitors, hands-on demonstrations and workshops! Sites included public and academic libraries, museums, schools, association makerspaces, afterschool programs, non-profit organizations and more. With approximately 35% of sites reporting, we can estimate a total attendee count of more than 80,000 for the entire state.

There was also a marked improvement in the type and level of press coverage, as well as social media content, from both sites and media outlets this year. Much of the formal press coverage has been added to the Press page on our website.

Two contests were also offered this year: Soldering Sunday Maker Story Contest and Buildtak 3D Design Challenge. In addition, nine professional development events for site staff (all free of charge) in the areas of engineering, electronics, and making in education.

And finally, I would like to recognize our two game-changing sponsors for this year, PSEG and NJ State Library, whose support in our first year as non-profit was instrumental in the continued impact, growth, and reach of this project.

Year Over Year Comparison 2015-17 (based on 35% of sites reporting)

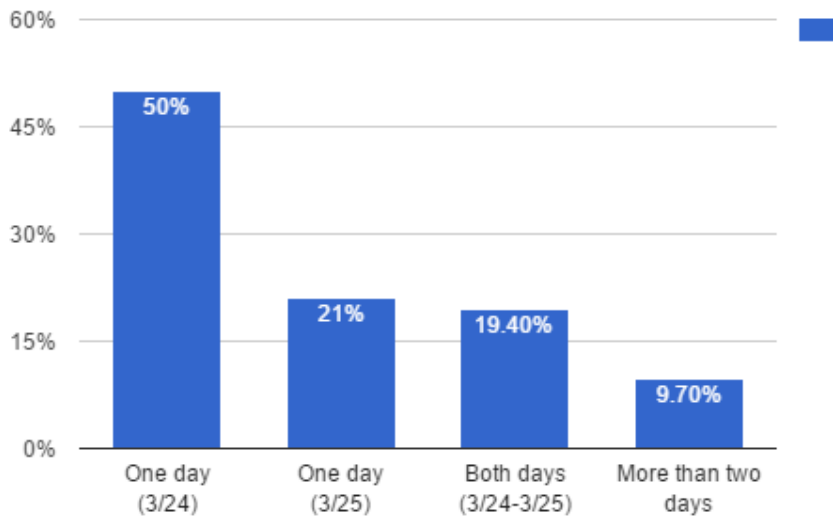
	2015	2016	2017
Total Number of Sites	150	242	306
Total Number of Library Sites	110	155	181
Total Number of Schools Sites	4	63	89
Total Estimated Attendee Count	15,000	40,000	80,000
Average Attendee Count Per Site	100	188	215



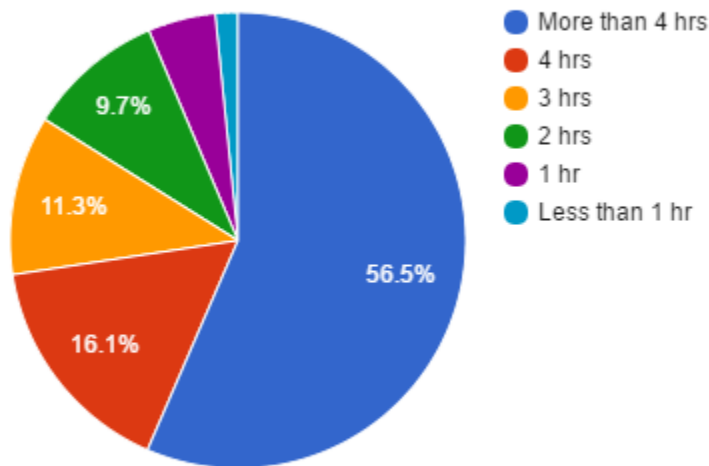


Evaluation Results

How many days did your site participate in NJMD?

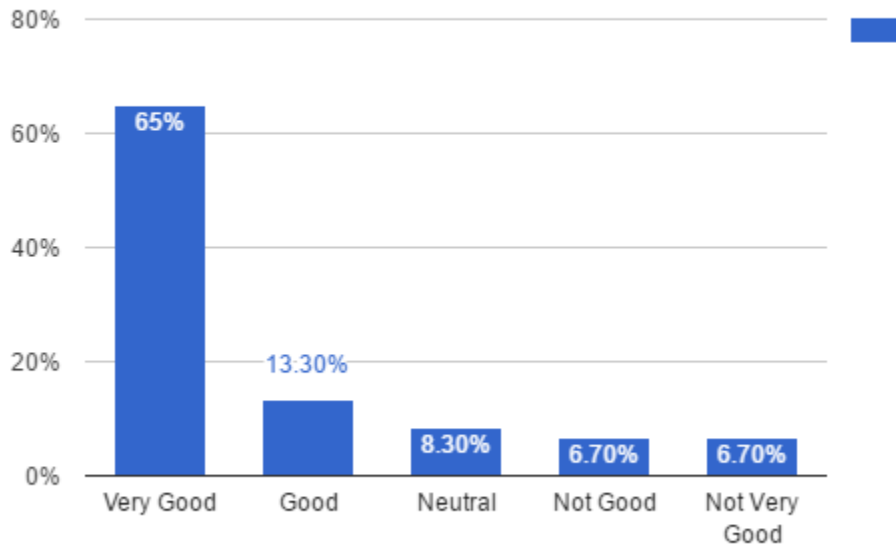


How long did you host your event?

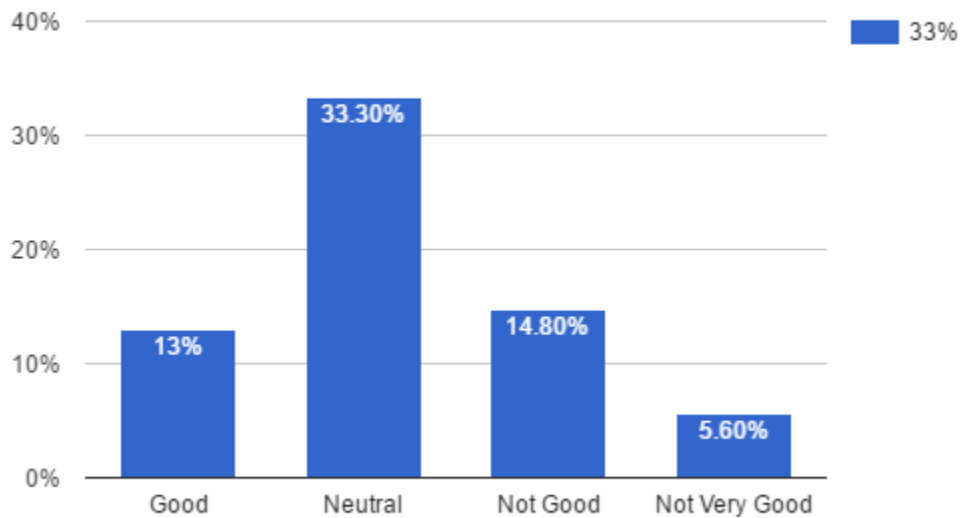




How would you rate your overall experience communicating with the NJMD Planning Team?

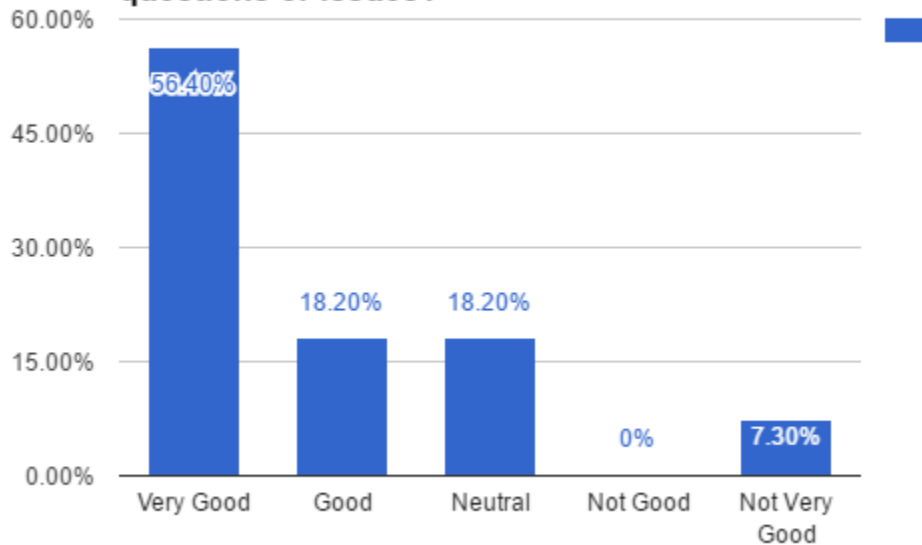


How would you rate the discount benefits your sites received as a NJMD participant?

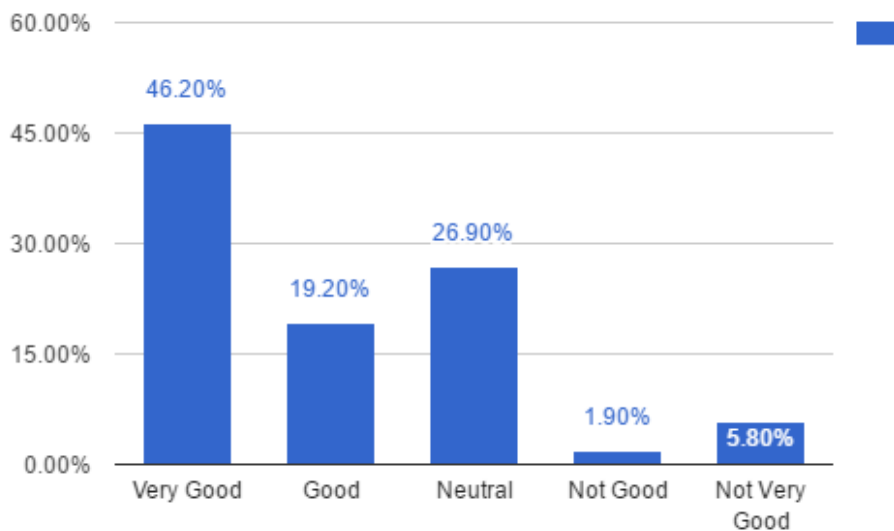




How would you rate the quality of services provided by the planning team in dealing with questions or issues?

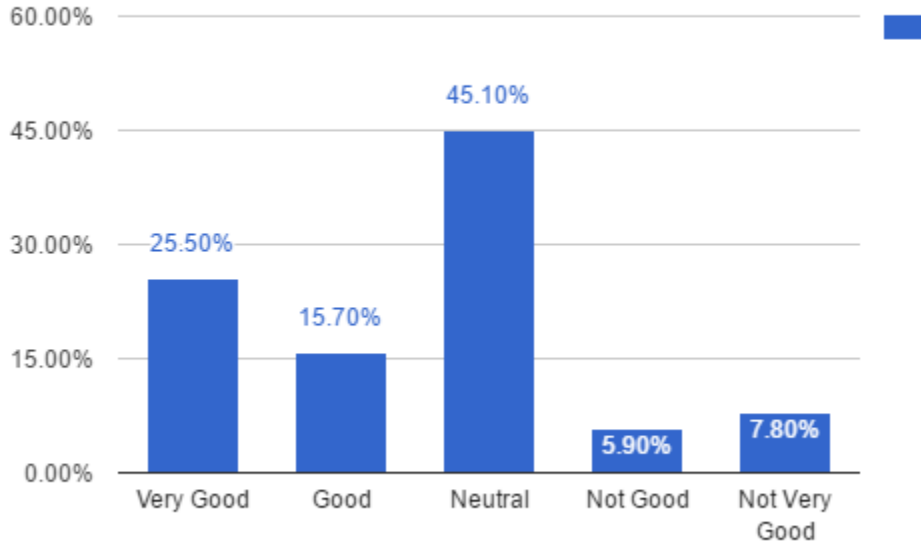


How would you rate the usefulness of the online site representatives meetings?





How would you rate contests offered for NJMD?



Selected Site Feedback

“Our high school robotics club came and demonstrated two robots that they made and a 3d printer which got a lot of buzz and interest. They were excellent! The local historical society brought blue prints of our original borough hall and a photograph. Participants tried to recreate the structure with wooden coffee stirrers and marshmallows. .A parent volunteer was doing demos with a Raspberry Pi and Scratch and now he'd like to start a club because so many kids were interested. Our mayor came to hang out for several hours and NJ Rep. Josh Gottheimer came to visit us with his kids (plus his outreach manager and someone else from his office). Glen Rock TV filmed the event, check out the 5 minute video <https://vimeo.com/210083484>”
Glen Rock Public Library

“We had many more children this year which brought a fun dynamic to our Makerspace that we don't normally get to experience as a college!”
Hudson County Community College





“Assemblywoman Nancy Pinkin and one of our town councilman came and participated in Makers Day, and helped kick off the first interviews for the library’s future podcast. We also got to partner with outside organizations that complemented our programs.”

East Brunswick Public Library

“I was able to convince 20 members of the public to sign up for upcoming Arduino classes at the library. Almost all of whom have no previous experience with computer programming or electronics.”

New Jersey State Library Information Center

“Four of our seven board of ed members attended and were floored by what we were able to offer the community. One of them shared, “What you’re offering here is just great. I am so impressed. Keep doing what you’re doing!” Another brought his grandson and did all of the stations with him.

One family, currently homeless, came with five of the seven kids and did all of the stations to earn their “badge” at the end, which is a 3D Printed disk reading “NJ Makers Day” which we string on a piece of yarn. They were so proud to walk out with the badges they earned. Kids get a badge once they visit and get stamped at 10 stations. This event is free to anyone, with items for sale at the bake sale (including pizza). It is an absolute highlight to our year and allows for community outreach unlike any other activity we run.”

Von E Mauger School

“A Gifted and Talented Teacher seeing how Design Thinking was a really nice fit for her demographic who tend to not work well in groups. She liked the individual element of designing for the partner (empathy stage). She was excited to implement the model with her kids. Another teacher seeing the high bar of providing context for making through the Design Thinking problem solving model. Nice to see the light bulb go on!”

Rutgers University - CMSCE

“We had a Principal from a local elementary school visit our Makers Day,, because he was interested in setting up a Makerspace/Makers Day in his school. We also had a Cresskill High School filming the event for his cinema class project.”

Cresskill Public Library

“Loved seeing the different ways that the kids approached the same scenarios with the same materials. Teachers mentioned that the students who were the most enthusiastic were the ones who were quieter in their regular classes.”

Northern Valley Demarest High School

“This year we hosted 12 workshops over a week which worked out much better for our community. Other than the overall excitement of children and teens sewing, learning 3D





printing software, coding, and experiencing virtual reality one story stuck out the most to me. A 10 year old boy after participating in our Google Cardboard demo came in a few days later to tell me he had downloaded the specs and started making one of his own."

East Orange Public Library

The interactions between the teen volunteers from the Academy of Allied Health & Science and the kids was wonderful. One of our young (age 4) library patrons, Ridge Dellett, told his grandmother and parents that "It was the most awesomest day ever!"

Middletown Public Library

*"The 4_H Robotics Club unleashed the "Monster Book of Monsters" robot
The parking lot and road were so crowded a police officer asked a librarian "What's all the excitement about?" I guess he missed seeing the banner on Main Street! A teacher spent the afternoon talking to exhibitors to gain knowledge for a Makers program for her middle school."*

Hunterdon County Library

"Our maker day was a "Prehistoric Adventure" - Ice Age themed making. We offered a giant diorama with made landscape and creatures (walruses, mammoths and polar bears, trees, glaciers, snow); sensory discovery areas; fossil puzzles and games; and cave painting. Families spend 20-30 minutes per making area, and we got such a great diversity of projects!"

New Jersey State Museum

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Baldwin

President - [New Jersey Makers Day](#), A NJ Nonprofit Corporation

