

## Community Satisfaction and Needs Assessment Survey Results (August 2014)



Lacoochee-Trilby-Trilacoochee



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# Executive Summary

## Survey Characteristics



Pasco County Development Division (PCDD) and Pasco County Housing Authority (PCHA) launched the 2013 Community Satisfaction and Needs Assessment Survey (CSNAS) in July 2013 in order to determine conditions in and around the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) housing facilities in the Lacoochee-Trilby-Trilacoochee (LTT) area. The survey's goal was to obtain community feedback in support of future quality of life improvements, promoting a positive neighborhood identity, and increased community commitment for a large scale model redevelopment effort. A three-step method was used in as-

essment survey. Survey questions attempt to quantify resident's perceptions pertaining to: healthcare, housing, poverty, children, youth, basic needs, community safety, employment, income/finances, and household demographic data.

- First, the survey was developed, initiated, and completed in collaboration with the CDD and PCHA, and community stakeholders including: Lacoochee Boys and Girls Club, Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, Inc., Lacoochee Elementary School staff, Premier Community Healthcare Group, Inc., local social service agency representatives, and Lacoochee-Trilby-Trilacoochee community representatives. These community groups nominated survey questions based on majority consensus.
- Secondly, PCCD and Housing Authority (PCHA,) then finalized the NAS and conducted training in survey interview techniques for approximately thirty community volunteers.
- Finally, previously trained volunteer survey interviewers administered the NAS in pre-assigned geographic areas within the Pasco County Housing Authority (PCHA) communities and the overall Lacoochee-Trilby-Trilacoochee neighborhood. The survey administration process included one questionnaire per adult interviewed. Overall, 236 residents responded leading to a response rate of 13.5% which was considered acceptable. With this survey, Pasco County aims to discover LTT resident satisfaction with current public and social services provided by Pasco County Agencies. Survey results will also identify the LTT resident's perception of strengths and weaknesses of those services.

On July 4, 2014, Pasco County ordered production of a base-line CSNAS report derived from analytical assessment of the 2013 CSNAS data. The project was completed on time and within budget by Intelligent Global Force L.L.C (IGF), a woman-owned Florida small business. Due to the base-line nature of the NAS, previous county, state, and federal statistical data sources were utilized for comparative analysis findings for this report. *Primary references used for this report include: 2010 U.S. Census, American Community Survey 2010, the National Community Survey for Pasco County 2014 and Pasco County's own internal community development research and analysis.*

IGF utilized comparative analytical techniques to develop objective evaluations between resident's perception (survey feedback) and statistical data of main service categories. Recommendations are provided when results indicated significant dissatisfaction with Pasco County services provided to the residents within the LTT community.

## 2013 Community Satisfaction and Needs Assessment Survey

The survey consisted of 36 questions divided into 13 categories:

<u>Questions</u>	<u>Category</u>
3	Community Characteristics
3	Housing Characteristics
1	Public Services rating
1	Social Services rating
1	Educational Services rating
1	Elderly Services rating
1	Youth Services participation
3	Health Service
5	Transportation
4	Economic Development
1	Community Engagement
9	Demographics
3	Military Services



## Survey Findings

Phase-one survey questions were, for the most part, very broad in scope and covered a wide range of topics. Survey analysis was very effective identifying problem areas and providing a general community assessment overview. This report represents analysis of a relatively small segment (LTT community) of the overall Pasco County population. County, state, and federal comparative data is presented throughout the report in order to provide context and as a means to drawing objective conclusions that enable effective decision making by Pasco County Board of County Commissioners. The survey questions, however, were not detailed enough to provide researchers with specific cause and effect data to enable comprehensive needs assessment for individuals nor families. **Survey results indicate several gaps may exist in social services available to LTT area residents and may constitute an environment where the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens are at serious risk.**

*Note: A large population of transient Hispanic migrant workers were lodged in the USDA housing development located within the LTT area during the time the survey was conducted. In addition, at times, multiple adults from the same household were given surveys, therefore, sample results may be adversely weighted and analytical data (especially demographic data) may be somewhat skewed as a result.*

### Evaluation:

#### **Social Services**

- **Received very low marks across the board!** This is very concerning as between 60% and 78% of LTT residents indicated there were few, if any, social services available in their community.
- All education services received an overall rating of less than good.
- The overwhelming number of remaining residents rated elderly services as unavailable
- Less than one percent of children are members of the community organizations listed.
- 77% of residents gauge the cleanliness of their neighborhoods less than good.
- 68% of residents feel that the level of public safety in their neighborhoods is less than good.

#### **Health Services**

- 80% of residents rated health services as poor or unavailable.

#### **Housing**

- Home ownership rates among LTT communities is less than half the national average.
- 58% of residents feel the condition of current housing is less than good.

#### **Economics**

- 93% of residents responded that there are no jobs for themselves within the LTT area.
- Over 30% are not interested in job or vocational training for them or for family members.

## Public Services

- 73% of residents feel that **Police Protection** of their community rates between excellent and fair.
- 91% of residents feel that **Fire Protection** of their community rates between excellent and fair.
- **Animal Services** was rated lowest with 75% of residents rating between poor and unavailable.
- **Street Repair** and **Street Lighting** was also rated very low with 82% responding that it was between fair to unavailable.
- **Garbage Pickup** had a very favorable rating with 86% identifying between fair to excellent.
- **Recycling Pickup** scored very low with 80% saying it was unavailable to them.
- **Satellite and Internet services** rated high at 85% identifying them as excellent or good.
- LTT residents also gave high marks for their **Utility Services** with most rating between good and excellent.
- Of the residents that use the bus service, 88% rate it at fair to excellent.
- Approximately 47% of residents rated **Parks and Recreational** facilities as good to excellent.
- 35% rated **Parks and Recreational** facilities as fair to unavailable.
- Low marks were given for **Library** facilities as 79% indicated they were unavailable.

## Transportation

- 75% of LTT residents drive a private auto when traveling to and from school or work, while 33% utilize the bus, 17% car pool, 11% walk and 7% ride their bikes.

## Recommendation:

Phase I findings suggest Pasco County is now ready and should begin its Phase II comprehensive needs assessment (similar to the recent 2014 National Citizen Survey and Pasco County Online Citizen Survey) immediately. Phase II should delve deeper into areas discovered in these Phase I findings in order to develop a comprehensive picture of current conditions, combined with thorough cause and effect understanding that is critical to the achievement of strategic community improvement goals. The Phase II NAS will provide an accurate and objective picture to:

Guide board governance in sound decision making  
 Insure services meet the needs of the community  
 Indicate causes and conditions  
 Build credibility  
 Create openings for increased community by-in  
 Generate authentic input from stakeholders

Enhance capacity to respond to change  
 Create opportunities for new alliances and connections with new partners  
 Form successful strategies  
 Provide a foundation for funding  
 Guide staff training and educational planning

The Phase I community satisfaction assessment when combined with the Phase II LTT Needs Assessment will provide the specific information requirements necessary to build a strong foundation for receiving future funding. This two-phased NAS collection and analysis effort will assist Pasco County in presenting validated and objective proof-of-need justification. NAS reporting will be shared throughout all county service agencies enabling better coordinated services, direct change rather than just maintaining the status quo, and set the framework for innovation in service delivery.

The Phase II needs assessment of the LTT community is a vital part of Pasco County's overall assessment process. When completed it can be used to help participating agencies "develop a picture of organizational quality, recognize best practices, and identify possible opportunities for improvement".

When an agency is being reviewed, its review is graded as follows on the needs assessment process:

1. At risk	There is little or no needs assessment data, and the agency has no system for synthesizing available data to guide the direction of comprehensive agency strategic or operational plans.
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2. Insufficient but making progress	There are needs assessments for specific programs required by funding sources. The data is only used to meet program requirements
3. Sufficient	Systems exist for utilizing the program needs assessment data on an agency level, or for disseminating funding within the agency. There is a regularly conducted, broad based community needs assessment and a system is in place to utilize the data across program lines
4. Sufficient and making strides toward excellence	There is a regularly conducted, broad based community needs assessment and a system is in place to utilize data in developing the agency strategic plan, and in formulating goals and objectives
5. Excellent	The agency meets the criteria in 4 and the information from the needs assessment is used in formulating agency goals and objectives in which the board members were involved and approved. Information is also shared with the community, local policy makers, and legislators. The agency needs assessment and strategic plan is utilized in seeking funding through government and private funding sources.

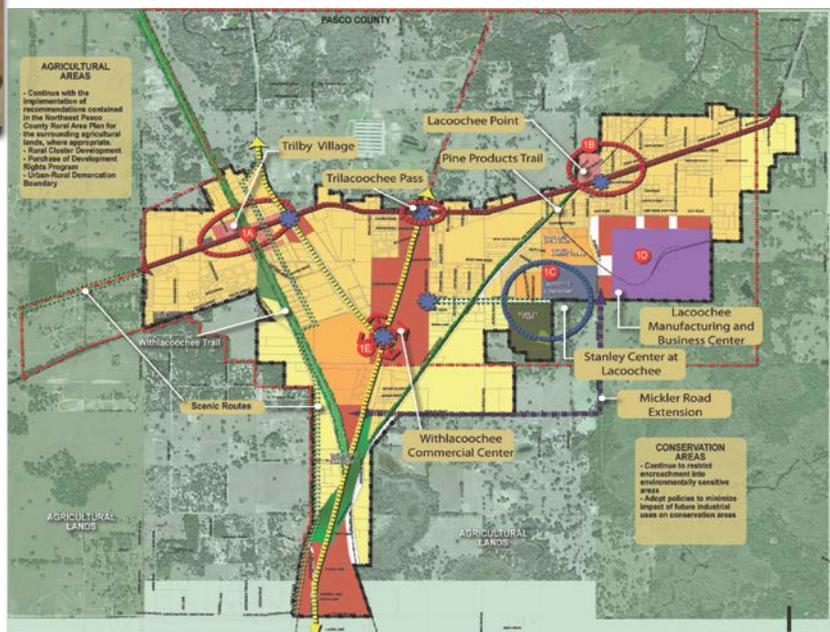
**TABLE1: NAS Program Rating Scale**



The Phase I and II assessments can and should be more than just a gathering and analyzing of data, they can also be a basis for creating change. A community based needs assessment can help the agency address families by providing a snapshot of families in the service area with their economic well-being, educational status, health and welfare. Pasco County Agencies can begin to create change either by setting a framework for programs and plans that work toward ending poverty (or helping individuals and families to move up and out)

or family stabilization (helping individuals and families to stop moving down). It can and will provide important community information as to who may be working on issues and where gaps in community services lie.

Finally, a comprehensive needs assessment will help the county in its planning process by providing the foundation for strategic operational planning, assessing if the agency is meeting the needs of the community and determining what programs or projects may have become obsolete, and what programs or projects may provide new opportunities for the agency. It is the beginning of a comprehensive strategic planning process.



**Figure 1: PCCD Development Plan for Lacochee-Trilby-Trilacoochee**



# Pasco County Outreach Programs



Pasco County has an extensive network of services and resources to assist its citizens. The following is an example of just a few and is not intended to be a comprehensive list.

## **Medical/Dental/Health Services**

Area Veteran's Clinics and Hospital  
Good Samaritan Health Clinic  
Healthy Start Coalition of Pasco County Inc.  
West Pasco Pregnancy Center  
Pasco County Health Department  
Pasco Health Dept. Dental Clinic  
Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida

## **Domestic Violence and Abuse Centers**

Domestic Violence Shelters, Florida  
Sunrise of Pasco County  
Alpha Counseling Services

## **Food Resources**

LocalHarvest.org  
Suncoast Harvest Food Bank  
Volunteer Way

## **Community/Social Organizations**

Metropolitan Ministries in Pasco  
Pasco County Human Services  
Red Cross of Tampa Bay  
Youth and Family Alternatives Inc.  
Salvation Army  
Suncoast YMCA  
United Way of Pasco County  
Youth and Family Alternatives Inc.

## **Business/Legal/Career**

Bay Area Legal Services  
Better Business Bureau  
Career Central  
Connections of Pasco County  
Pasco County Economic Development  
Pasco Hernando SCORE-CH 439

## **Community Information Websites**

Pasco County - [pascocountyfl.net](http://pascocountyfl.net)  
Dade City – [dadecity.com](http://dadecity.com)  
New Port Richey – [www.cityofnewportrichey.org](http://www.cityofnewportrichey.org)  
Port Richey – [cityofportrichey.com](http://cityofportrichey.com)  
San Antonio - [sanantonioflorida.org](http://sanantonioflorida.org)  
St. Leo - [townofstleo-fl.gov](http://townofstleo-fl.gov)  
Zephyrhills.fl.us - [www.ci.zephyrhills.fl.us](http://www.ci.zephyrhills.fl.us)

## **Addiction Recovery/Treatment**

Alpha Counseling Services  
West Pasco/Tarpon Springs Alcoholics Anonymous

## **Senior/Elderly/Caregiver Resources**

AARP of Florida  
Area Agency on Aging  
CARES Senior Centers  
Gulfside Regional Hospice  
Hernando Pasco Hospice  
Pasco County Human Services

## **Services for Blind/Deaf/Disabled**

A.F.I.R.E. of Pasco County  
Agency for Persons with Disabilities  
Angelus

## **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services of Florida**

Deaf Services Bureau  
Family Network on Disabilities of Florida  
Florida Braille and Talking Book Library  
Florida Telecommunications Relay  
Goodwill Industries-Suncoast  
Red Apple Adult Training Center  
WUSF Radio Reading Service

## **Transportation Services**

Pasco County Public Transportation  
Super Shuttle Tampa Bay  
Transportation Options for Seniors  
Yellow Cab

## **Education-Adult and Child**

Early Learning Coalition of Pasco Hernando  
Florida Head Start  
Pasco County School Board  
Pasco Safety Town  
PHCC-ABE and GED

## **Animal/Pet /Agricultural**

P.A.W.S. Pasco Animal Welfare Society  
Pasco County Animal Services  
Pasco County Cooperative Extension  
SPCA Suncoast



# Pasco County Outreach Programs Continued



## **Recreation Resources**

Florida Smart Guide to Pasco Sports  
Great Florida Birding Trail  
Sun-coast Trail  
Pasco County Parks

## **Consumer Information/Protection**

Catalog Choice-Stop Junk Mail  
Consumer Credit Counseling Florida  
Sunshine State One Call/811  
Charity Navigator

## **Environmental**

Earth911  
Mail Order Catalog Canceling Service  
Pasco County Recycling  
Recycling Drop-off Locations

## **Other Community Information Websites**

Church Angel  
Gas Buddy  
Gas Prices-Map quest  
My Safe Florida Home  
Our Town Florida  
Pasco County Veterans Services  
Snowbird Resources

## **Links to Other Pasco County Library System**

### **Blog Pages**

Pasco County Library System Blog  
Pasco County Library System en Español  
E-Government Blog  
Job Seeker Services Blog  
Health Care Blog  
Reader's Advisory Blog

Pasco County has an aggressive Community Development program and effective Strategic Plan to create thriving communities.

Several services and resources are available to residents in order to improve the quality of life and housing conditions. Survey findings often indicated that county services were unavailable to LTT residents. Further research is required to determine why residents feel this way.

The PCCD dedicates approximately \$8 million dollars to county neighborhood revitalization, housing and home-less programs utilizing: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP), Housing Preservation Grant (HPG), and Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funds.



**Evaluation:** Pasco County has an extensive array of services to help aid residents and especially those most at risk. Delivery of these services and relief for LTT residents is dependent on effective provider communication and beneficiary engagement. Residents don't always know what's available to them, qualification requirements, or who to contact. Complicating this beneficiary to provider engagement challenge is the fact that nearly 30% of LTT residence have no cable nor internet connectivity.

**Recommendation:** Pasco County Community Services should coordinate and facilitate an LTT community wide, social services awareness campaign designed to meet selected health, social, educational and economic needs of its citizens. A Social Services representative should establish a presence within the LTT community on, at least, a periodic basis.

## Combating Poverty

Poverty is a continuing problem in LTT communities. Research indicates that 50% of LTT children live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level, and approximately 39% live in families that could be classified as low-income. Although there are more Caucasian children who live in poverty, the percentage of Hispanic and African American children growing up in poverty still remains disproportionately high.

Often times we use the term *poverty* to simply refer to a lack of money, but it is much more complex and far reaching. LTT residents living in a state of financial instability face cultural realities that are both physically and emotionally damaging. It negatively affects a child's worth and motivation. Children who grow up in middle class families believe that he or she can go to college, marry, and have rewarding careers. Children born into poverty struggle to simply make it to adulthood.

**Evaluation:** Within the LTT community, the lack of economic development and poverty are mutually dependent. If Pasco County pursues its current economic growth and employment strategy, an increase in the overall standard of living for much of the population should be realized. Experience suggests that economic growth has the effect of reducing poverty levels, but this effect can vary greatly.

**Recommendation:** Pasco County should evaluate flexible, economic growth strategies which diversify industry in rural areas, and increase productivity by raising levels of education and improving rural infrastructure, while keeping their goal to eliminate poverty. This strategy can raise incomes in LTT areas and halt the drift of her most promising young people from the countryside into the surrounding cities. A pro-poor growth strategy must actively manage the relationship between economic growth and poverty, empowering the poor and enabling them to obtain the necessary levels of health, training, and skills.



### 2013 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Persons in family/ household                      Poverty guideline

1	\$11,490
2	15,510
3	19,530
4	23,550
5	27,570
6	31,590
7	35,610
8	39,630

*For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$4,020 for each additional person.*

SOURCE: Federal Register, Vol. 78, No. 16, January 24, 2013, pp. 5182-5183

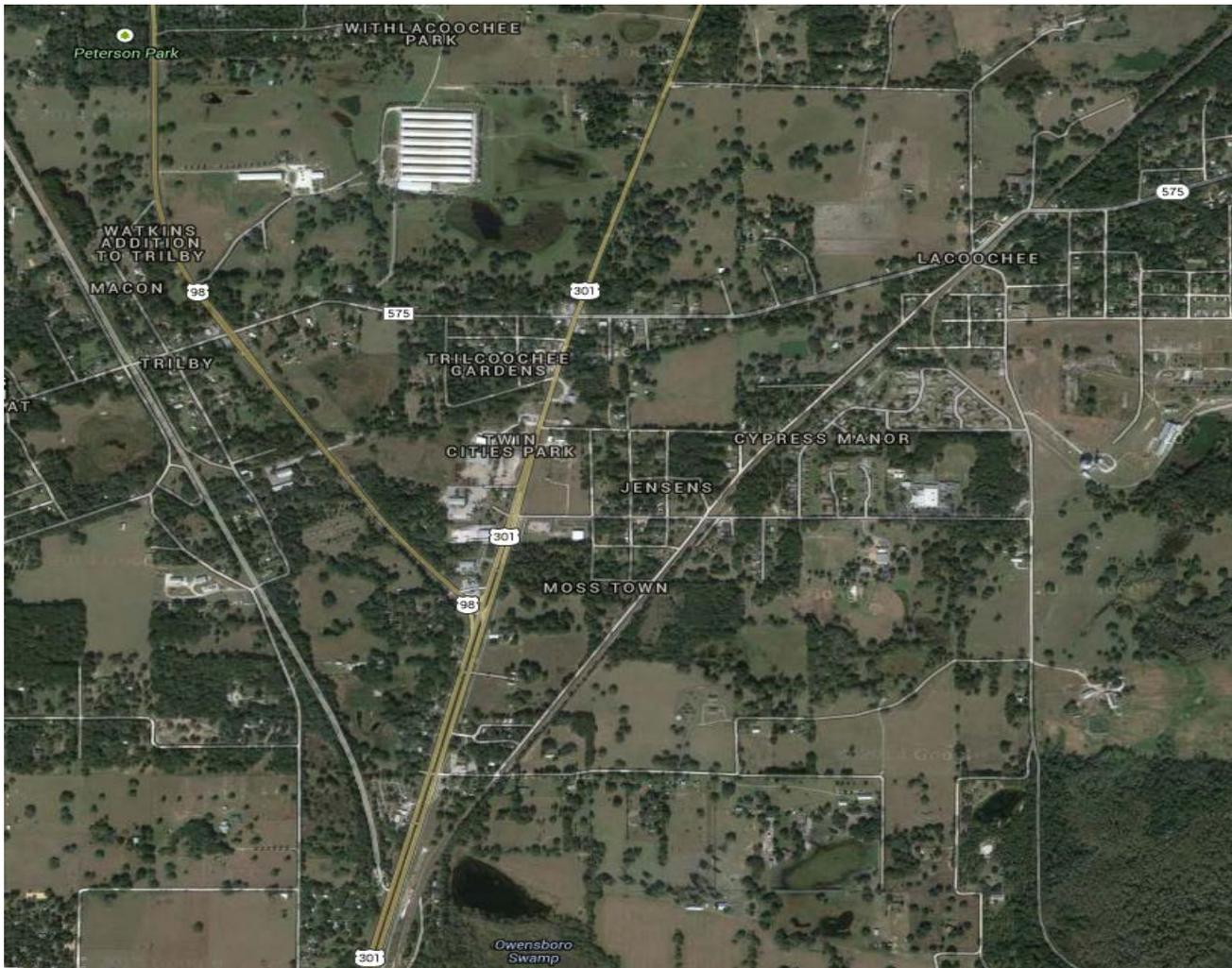




# Lacoochee-Trilby-Trilacoochee

## Introduction

The 2.5 square mile Lacoochee-Trilby-Trilacoochee area is made up of three small rural communities located in the northeast corner of Pasco County, centered on the intersection of Highways 98 and 301. Lacoochee, located along the eastern boundary, has the largest population density of the three. Trilacoochee is located in the center with the north-south running Highway 301 running through its center. Trilby is located on the western boundary with the north-south running Highway 98 passing along its eastern edge. These three communities are bounded on the north by Withlacoochee and on the south by Owensboro swamp. From 1922 to 1959, the Lacoochee-Trilby area was a thriving industrial area in Pasco County with a major cypress saw mill. With the closing of the saw mill, the Lacoochee-Trilby area has witnessed a gradual decline in its economic and physical environment. Although rich in history, this area is now one of the most distressed areas in the entire Tampa Bay region and is now the focus of public and private partnerships to bring improvements to its neighborhoods. Although Pasco County is considered an urban county, the Lacoochee-Trilby neighborhood is located in the rural, northeastern portion of the county, with a total population of 1,993 people. Nearly half of permanent residents live at or below the poverty line. In addition, USDA maintains approximately 100 housing units of mostly transient Hispanic migrant workers (all living below the poverty line). The majority of LTT homes are over 30 years old and many are in poor condition. The jobless rate is high and available job opportunities are scarce. Poverty effects nearly 75% of LTT residents. These survey results indicate Pasco County public and social service efforts inadequate to meet the current need.



**Figure 2: LTT Communities**

The Pasco County Board of County Commissioners has identified the LTT community as a revitalization target area. In addition, the HUD/EPA have chosen the LTT area as a *Designated Signature Community*. During the course of four years there has been a planning phase which is based on public involvement, with the intent of transforming the Laccochee-Trilby neighborhood, and to discuss the wishes and goals of the community members on how they wanted the transformation to take place. The county staff has worked with a diverse group of participants including residents, community stakeholders, civic organizations, business owners, elected officials, and state and federal government representatives to create a realistic plan reflective of the community and stakeholder interests and aspirations. Community participants at the workshops included those from all demographic groups: including young and old, Hispanic, African-American, White, rural landowners, businessmen, and residents living in the public and USDA housing complexes in Laccochee.

## Community Characteristics

### Length of residency

**Question 1** sought to determine the approximate length of residency within each household asking “How long have you and your family lived in the LTT community?” The majority of respondents indicated they had lived in the LTT area from 0 to 10 years. Results showed 8% chose less than a year, 18% 1 to 3 years, 31% of LTT residents chose 4 to 10 years, 16% 11 to 20 years, 5% chose 21 to 30 years, and 22% over 30 years. In addition, 2010 census data revealed the average household size is 2.9 persons. The 2012 ACS data shows that 10.4% of LTT residents were under age five, 24.5% were 5-19, 26.6% were age 20-44, 23.8% age 45-64, and 5.6% age 65 and older.



**Question 2** sought to determine perception of LTT residents concerning general cleanliness of their neighborhoods. “How would you rate the overall cleanliness of the streets, sidewalks, parks, and open spaces?” Results show that 77% of residents gauge the cleanliness of their neighborhoods less than good. 46.26% chose a fair rating, 25.23% poor, 21.03% good, 4.67% very poor, and 2.8% excellent. When compared to the National Citizen Survey, Community Livability Report 2014, LTT resident perception ratings were below the benchmark for the rest of the Pasco County (52%), and significantly lower than those nationally.

**Evaluation:** If the average citizen were to drive thru or conduct a Google search of the LTT community they would be left with the overall impression of an old, rundown, poverty stricken town. The eroding effect of time and lack of infrastructure improvements combine to make the LTT area unattractive to middle to upper income families. Problem areas include: lack of sidewalks, deteriorating road conditions, lack of community beautification standards, and poor code enforcement.

**Recommendation:** Develop incentive supported community beautification standards and enforce; establish a local non-profit self- help store; expand financial support for housing improvement organizations like Habitat for Humanity and Workforce Housing Ventures; initiate a community wide white picket fence program; develop community beautification teams; remove dilapidated structures; establish mini-parks and playgrounds; improve curb appeal thru installation of sidewalks, walk/bike way paths inter-connecting all the neighborhoods; resurface all roads, and consider rezoning options along highway 301.

### Safety

**Question 3** sought to determine perception of LTT residents concerning the overall level of public safety of their neighborhoods. “How would you rate the overall level of public safety?” Results reveal that 68% of residents feel that the level of public safety in their neighborhoods is less than good. 37.85% gave a fair rating, 28.51% poor, and 1.4% very poor. 27.1% rated safety as good and 5.14% rated it as excellent.

**Evaluation:** Two-thirds of residents obviously feel improvements can be made regarding policing of neighborhoods in order to create a safer environment. Further study is indicated when comparing the National Citizen Survey and Community Livability Report 2014 to LTT resident perceptions of neighborhood safety levels. LTT ratings are close to national benchmarks, but significantly lower than those for greater Pasco County (86%).

Pasco County has plans to implement the Officer Friendly program in order to provide a resource that the residents can trust and confide in, providing a myriad of services to the community such as education and prevention in the schools, organizing community events, and assisting in providing food and health services to residents, as well as assisting in the prevention of crime. This is a proven, evidence-based program to educate young people about making positive choices, and helps serve as a deterrent to joining and associating with gangs.

**Recommendation:** Conduct comprehensive NAS focused on safety and develop incentivized community policing options to assist current Pasco County Sheriff operations. Immediately implement the Officer Friendly program. Expand “reserve officer program” to recruit young LTT candidates. Improve lighting along streets, walkways, and communal areas. Institute “Caring Neighbor programs” to facilitate crime reporting and victim support.

## *Housing Characteristics*

**Question 4** sought to determine satisfaction of LLT residents concerning their current housing status. “How satisfied are you with your present housing?” Sixty-nine percent of residents indicated they were satisfied (50.7%) or very satisfied (18.61%) with their current housing. 24.19% chose somewhat satisfied, 4.19% very dissatisfied, and 2.33% chose dissatisfied. Of the four percent that were very dissatisfied, and two percent which were dissatisfied, over 90% considered the condition of the houses as less than fair.

**Question 5** sought to determine whether residents owned or rented their homes. “Do you own or rent your home?” The LTT area homeownership rate is 29.38%, and is less than half the national average of 64.6% (2010 U.S. Census).



**Question 6** sought to determine perception of LLT residents concerning overall condition of their current housing. “How would you rate the overall condition of housing?” Results show that 58% of LTT residents feel the condition of current housing is less than good. 40.93% rated condition at fair, 32.09% good, 13.95% poor, 10.23% excellent, and 2.79% as very poor. The greater majority of housing units are more than thirty years old. As age and normal deterioration increase, Pasco County should anticipate a corresponding increased demand for resources will be required in an effort to improve and maintain, or replace current housing.

**Evaluation:** While the PCHA does not directly offer services to its residents, Premier Community healthcare group, the district school board of Pasco County, and the Pasco County sheriff’s office through the officer friendly program partner with the agency. Closer ties with these and other agency partners are being developed through the Choice Neighborhood initiative. Still, surveys results indicate over half the LTT residents indicated that the condition of their home needs improving.

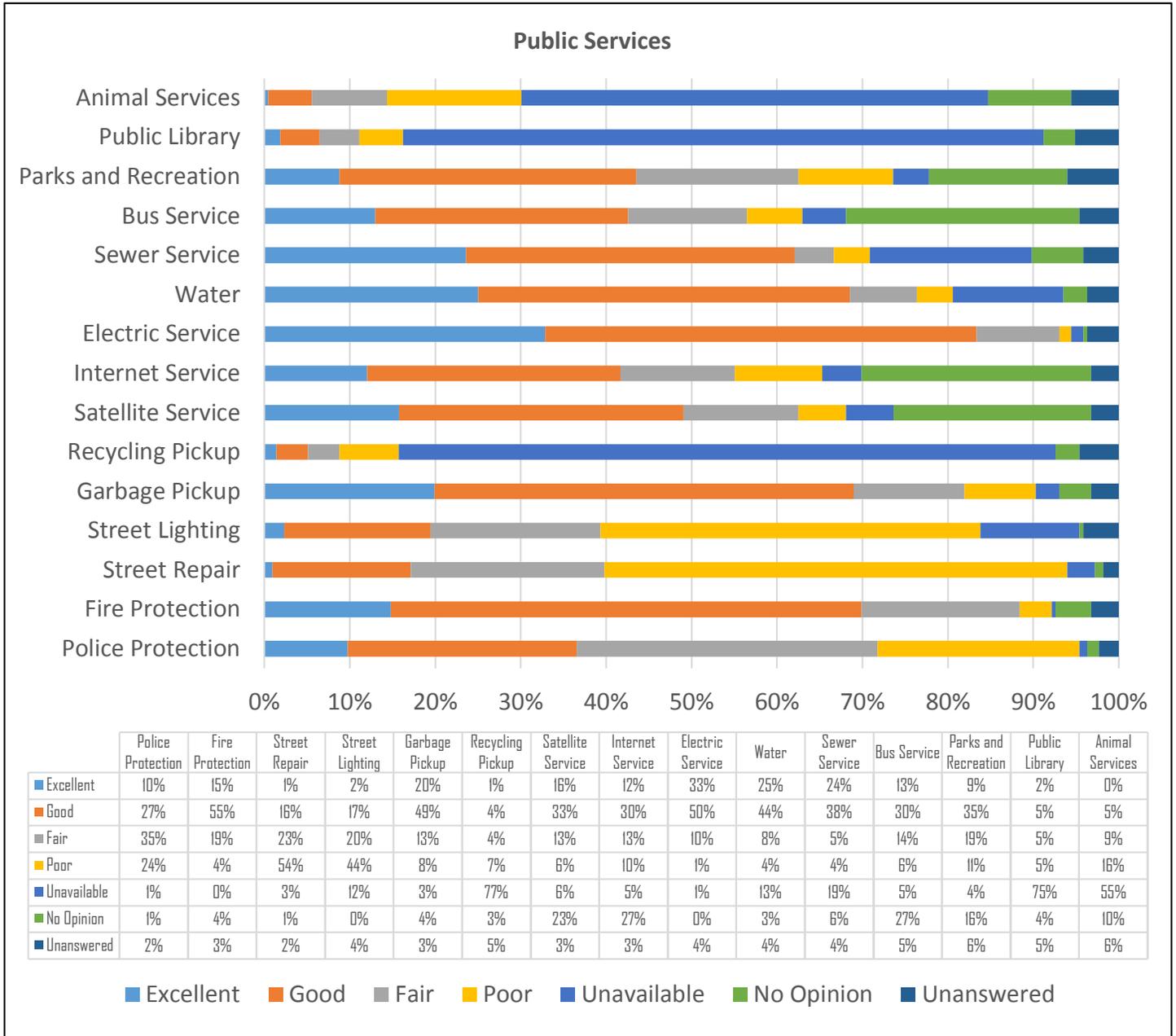


**Recommendation:** Develop incentive supported community beautification standards and enforce; establish a local non-profit, self- help store; expand financial support for housing improvement organizations like Habitat for Humanity and Workforce Housing Ventures.

## Public Services

**Question 7** – “Please rate the following Public Services”:

**Police Protection** - 73% of residents feel that police protection in their community rates between excellent and fair (36.19% chose fair, 27.14% good, 24.29% poor, and 10% excellent, 1.43% had no opinion, and 0.95% unavailable).



**Fire Protection** – 90% rated fire protection between fair and excellent (56.73% good, 19.23% fair, 15.39% excellent, and 3.85% poor)

**Street Repair** was also rated very low with 82% responding that it was between fair to unavailable (55.45% poor, 23.22% fair, 16.11% good, 3.32% unavailable, 0.95% excellent and 0.95% no opinion).

**Street Lighting** was rated 46.6%poor, 20.87 % fair, 17.48% good, and 2.43% excellent. 12.41% rated it as unavailable, while 0.49% had no opinion).

**Garbage Pickup** had a very favorable rating with 86% identifying between fair to excellent (50.48% good, 20.67% excellent, 13.46% fair, 8.65 poor, 2.89% chose unavailable while 3.85 had no opinion).

**Recycling Pickup** scored very low with 80.49% of residents saying it was unavailable to them (7.32% poor, 3.9% fair, 3.9% good, 1.46% excellent, and 2.93 had no opinion).

**Satellite Service** rated well with at 63% identifying them from fair to excellent (34.14% good, 16.35% excellent, 13.94% fair, 5.77% poor, 5.77% unavailable, and 24.4% had no opinion).

**Internet Service** 55% of residences gave a rating between fair and excellent (30.29% good, 13.94% fair, 12.5% excellent, 10.58% poor, 4.81% unavailable while 27.89% had no opinion).

**Electric Service** – received very high marks with 97.5% of residents rating it between fair and excellent (52.17% good, 34.3% excellent, 10.15% fair, 1.45% poor, and 1.45% unavailable while 0.48% had no opinion).

**Water Service** – also rated high with 78% rating between fair and excellent (44.93% good, 26.09% excellent, 8.21% fair, 4.35% poor, 13.53% chose unavailable and 2.9 had no opinion).

**Sewer Service** – rated fair to excellent by 77% of residents (39.81% good, 24.76% excellent, 4.85% fair, 4.37% poor, 19.9% unavailable, and 2.9% had no opinion).

LTT residents gave high marks for their **Utility Services** with most rating between good and excellent. The survey does suggest that approximately 16% may rely on well water and another 25% having septic system instead of county sewage service.

**Bus Transportation** – received high marks as 57% rated it between fair and excellent (30.73% good, 14.63% fair, 13.66% excellent, and 6.83% poor) 5.37% indicated that bus transportation was not available to them and another 28.78% had no opinion suggesting that close to 30% of residents never use the bus.



another 28.78% had no opinion suggesting that close to 30% of residents never use the bus.

**Parks and Recreational** facilities were rated by 65% of residents as fair to excellent, 36.63% good, 20.3% fair, and 9.41% excellent. 11.88% rated them as poor, 4.46% as unavailable, and 17.33% had no opinion.

**Library Service** - Rated very low with over 84% of residents indicating poor or unavailable (78.92% unavailable, 5.39% poor, 4.9% fair, 4.9% good, 1.96% excellent, and 3.92% with no opinion).

**Animal Services** - was rated lowest 75% of residents rating between poor and unavailable 57.64% unavailable, 16.75% poor, 9.36% fair, 5.42% good, 0.49% excellent, and 10% no opinion.

## Social Services

**Question 8** - "Please rate the following Social Services." **Social Services received very low marks across the board.** This is very concerning as between 60% and 78% of LTT residents indicated most or all services were unavailable. Currently, Pasco County offers dozens of assistance programs related to providing social services to its citizenry. Are LTT residents aware of these programs? Is health care unavailable due to affordability or access?

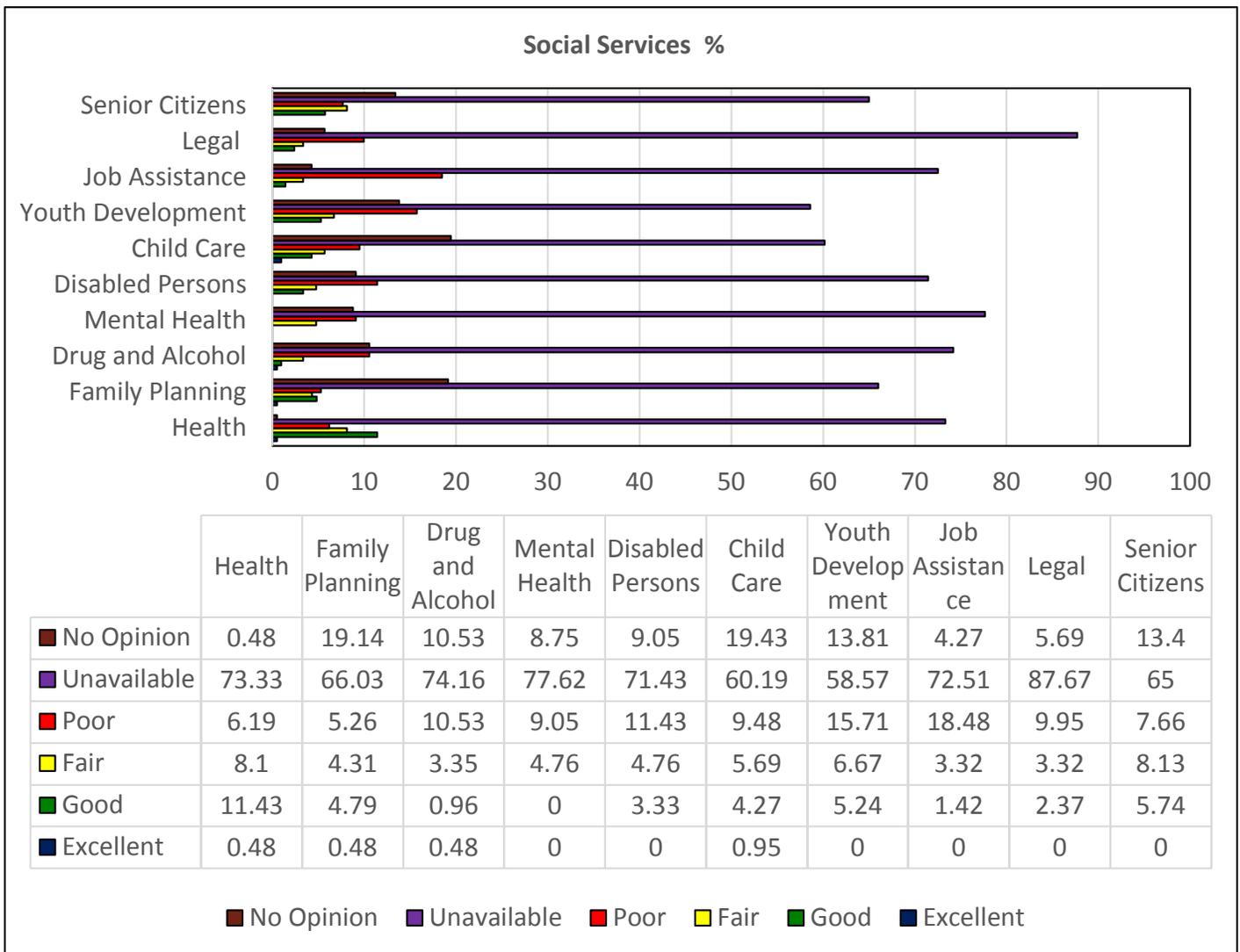
**Evaluation:** The opening of the new 16,000 sq. ft. community center in late 2014 will immediately and significantly improve the lives of LTT residents. Once the gym, library, health clinic, and education and training rooms are operating, Pasco County's ability to deliver services to the LTT community will be dramatically transformed. Pasco County has an extensive array of services to help aid residents and especially those most at risk. Delivery of those services is dependent on effective provider/ beneficiary communication and engagement. Typical problem areas usually include: affordable food, affordable clothing, keeping up with utility costs, and delays in seeking medical assistance due to associated costs (lost wages, transportation, and lack of insurance.) Complicating this beneficiary to provider engagement challenge is the fact that nearly 30% of LTT residence have no cable nor internet connectivity.



**Recommendation:** Pasco County should consider establishing dedicated computer access within the community center for residents in order to access an LTT website with links to county information and service providers.

Pasco County Community Services should coordinate and facilitate an LTT community wide social services awareness campaign (from the community Center) designed to meet selected health, social, educational and economic needs of its citizens. A Social services representative should establish a presence within the LTT community on, at least, a periodic basis.

LTT community leadership should organize a youth development counsel to bring various stakeholders together to plan, organize, promote, and fund community-wide youth activities. Youth outreach programs should be encouraged to utilize the new community center as a hub for planned outreach and recruitment activities (i.e. lock-ins, field trips, labor hiring, etc.) Vibrancy principles should be promoted with youth training as the goal, not that of baby-sitting. (See attachment 1)



**Figure 3: Social Services Dissatisfaction**

## Education Services



**Question 9** - "Please rate the quality of LTT area schools." **Every category of educational service received less than a good rating from residents.** On average, 39.13% of residents had no opinion on any category. Of the remaining 61% that did have an opinion, approximately 58% rated education as poor or unavailable. 42% rated education services as fair to excellent.

**Evaluation:** A high quality education is vitally important for productive citizenship, and it is a guaranteed right for all Florida children. A high quality education requires an adequate level of resources—a level not present in many places, and particularly not in low property wealth areas. The LTT area has experienced shrinking tax bases, a shifting local economy, and brain drain among young people who move to more urban areas after high school graduation. Given limited levels of resources and the mission to provide all children with high quality learning opportunities, making effective and efficient use of resources is crucial to success.

The public usually thinks of large urban schools when it considers reforms to the American education system. But rural students account for a large and growing segment of the school-age population and their needs have too often been overlooked in some school improvement efforts. The LTT community and Pasco County political leadership must become outspoken proponents of rural education and make it a priority for state and federal resource allocation if communities like those of LTT are to make marked gains in student outcomes.

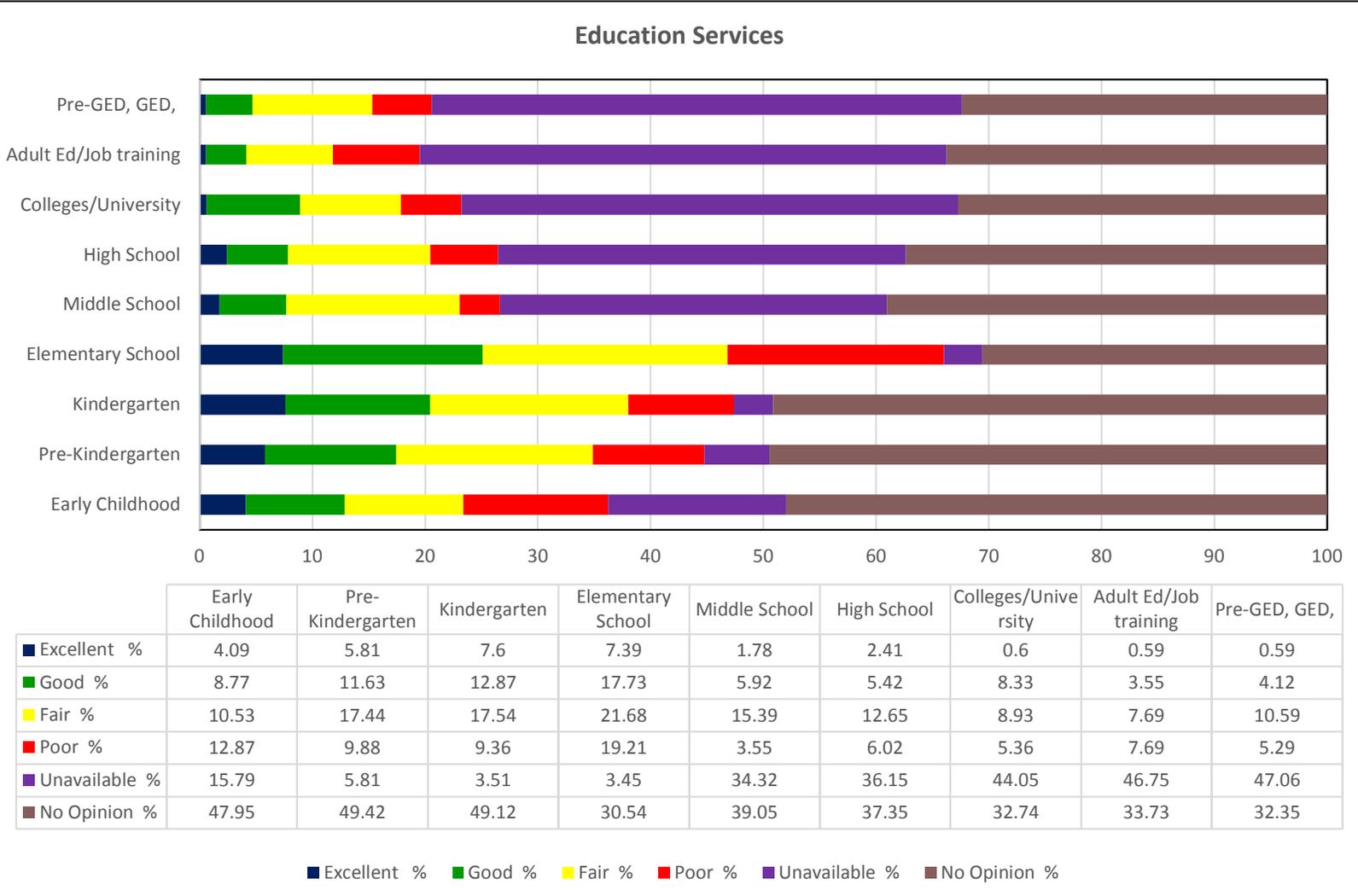


The new LTT community with its library and continuing education/training area should enable Internet access to Pasco County information and Service providers. Prioritized usage schedules and policies (i.e. adults during school hours, high school and college age students in the evening) can facilitate in the way more urban and suburban areas have now.

**Recommendation:** Pasco County should conduct a basic needs assessment to determine LTT education priorities and develop mitigation strategies. Challenges faced by LTT families include: access to educational support services for children; access to a Head Start program; access to preschool programs; and access to parenting classes.

Pasco County should work with FLDOE to immediately fund incentive based solutions to attract highly productive and proven teachers and educators to help address education/skills short falls. Pasco County and LTT community leadership should consider reviewing and increasing its education funding level for LTT elementary school centered programs.

**Fight for funding!** Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, or ESEA, is the largest federal funding stream designed to support educational services for schools with concentrations of low-income students. Two of Title I's four complex formulas, however, unfairly steer more funds to large districts, despite some districts' comparatively lower concentration of poverty. Some evidence exists that rural high schools receive less funding than high schools in suburban or urban areas due to the ways in which high schools can be funded in Title I allocations.

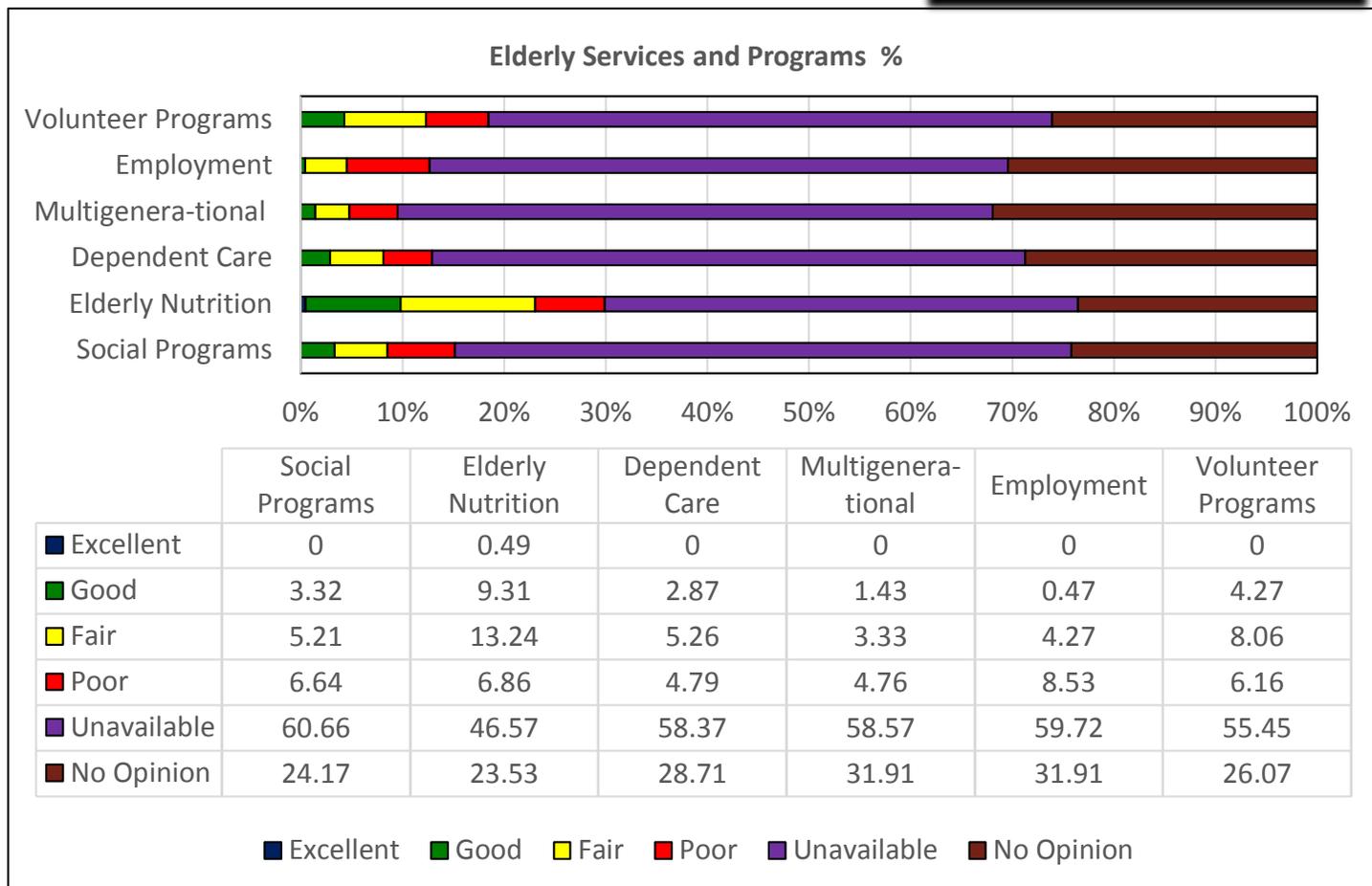


**Figure 4: Education Services Dissatisfaction**

## Elderly Services

**Question 10** – “Please rate the quality of elderly services and programs in the LTT community.” Over 50% of residents rated elderly services as poor or unavailable.

**Recommendation:** A comprehensive needs assessment should be conducted for LTT families with elderly residents. Elderly residents often identify home maintenance as a barrier to independent living followed by shopping and then meals. Those who report that home maintenance is a barrier to independent living also usually express concerns about structural problems, plumbing and electrical repairs, heating and cooling maintenance, and appliance repair.



**Figure 5: Elderly Services Dissatisfaction**

**Evaluation:** 73% percent of residents surveyed said Senior Citizen Services were unavailable in the community, while 11% rated the services as good. It is unclear as to why services were listed as unavailable (distance, lack of transportation, no need for the services, etc.). While it appears there are senior services available in Pasco County, a large amount of individuals appear to be unaware of those services provided.

In Pasco County, nearly 15,000 senior citizens are eligible for food stamps, but only 2,100 are receiving them. Pasco County Elderly Nutrition feeds 800 senior citizens a day, 5 days a week, but, financial funding has been cut. There are currently over 200 home-bound senior citizens on the waiting list for one meal a day.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the community set up a food kitchen/bank facility specifically designed to meet the needs of the elderly nutrition program, staffed primarily by volunteers from the community. Perhaps the school's kitchen could be used? The facility should be established in close proximity to areas where a higher concentration of elderly citizens reside.

In addition, many programs have been streamlined and made more efficient by use of the internet. While technology is an effective tool, older citizens are often at a disadvantage, due to either lack of access to a computer, and or, a lack of training in using the new technological methods to sign up for services available to them. It is recommended that, along with an enhanced marketing strategy, Pasco County seek to identify all elderly residents within the LTT area and solicit volunteers in contacting, enrolling, and providing either training or assistance for online registration.

**Question 11** – “Do you or your child currently participate in the following youth activities?” According to 2010 US Census data, the LTT community houses approximately 689 children over the age of five years. According to respondents, less than one percent of children are members of the organizations listed. Again, further assessment is required to understand lack of involvement and develop programs to encourage participation.

### Health Services

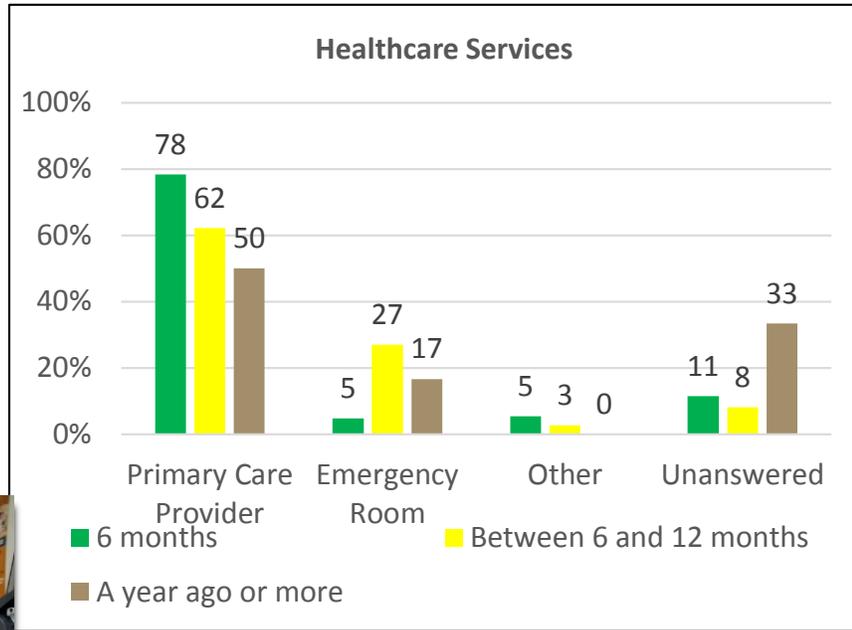
**Question 12** – **Questions 12 and 13** sought to determine the time since resident’s last visit to the doctor and what prompted the visit. Seventy-seven percent of residents surveyed have been to the doctor within the past 6 months; 17% have been between 6 and 12 months; 6% haven’t been to the doctor in over a year, and .5% left the question unanswered.

Of the 77% of residents who have been to the doctor within the past 6 months, 78% went to see a Primary Care Provider, 5% went to the Emergency Room, 5% marked “Other”, and 11% left the question unanswered.

Of the 17% of residents who have been to the doctor between 6 and 12 months, 62% went to a Primary Care Provider, 27% went to the Emergency Room, 3% marked other, and 8% left the question unanswered.

Of the 6% that last went to the doctor a year ago or more, 50% visited a Primary Care Provider, 17% visited the Emergency Room, and 33% left the question unanswered.

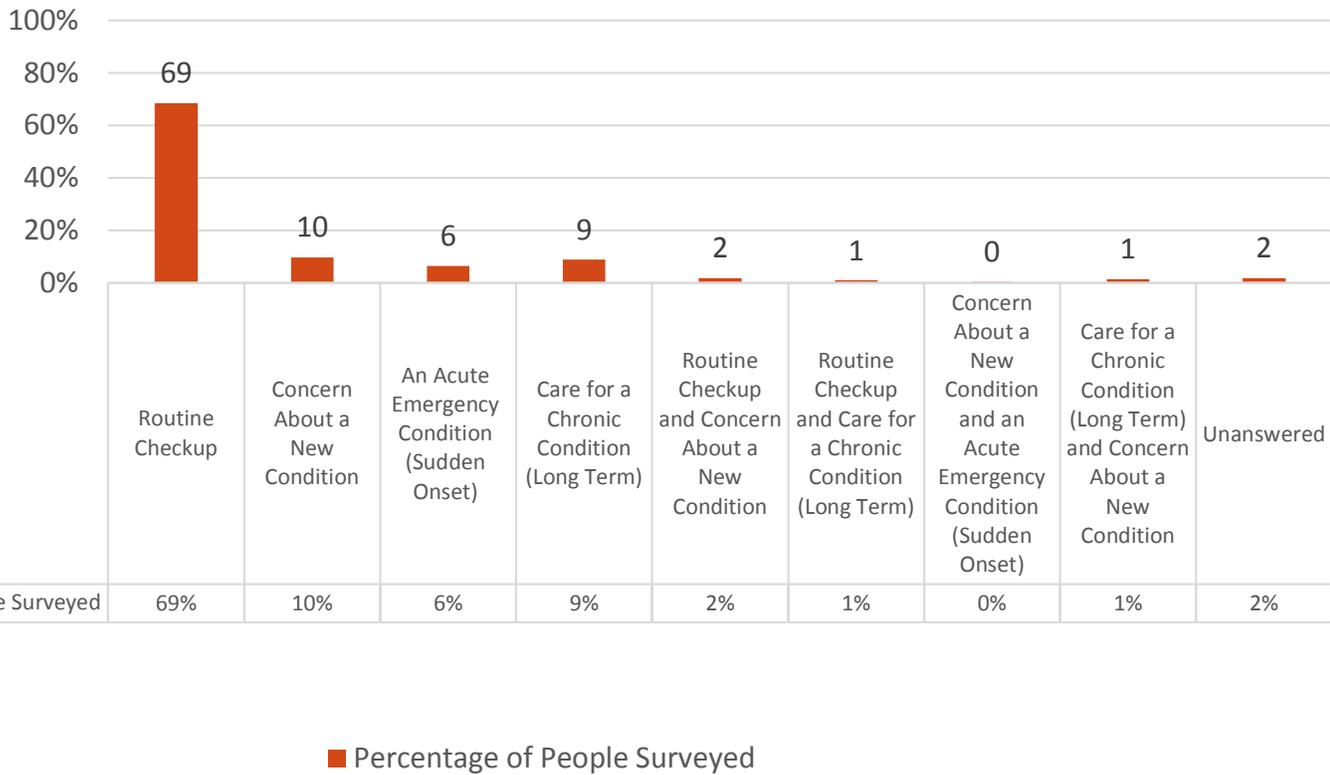
Sixty-nine percent of residents surveyed cited routine check-ups as their condition for visiting the doctor, 10% marked concern about a new condition, 6% cited an acute emergency condition, 9% marked care for a chronic condition, and 2% left the question unanswered. Less than 5% marked two conditions that led them to visit the doctor.



**Figure 6: Medical Visit Analysis**

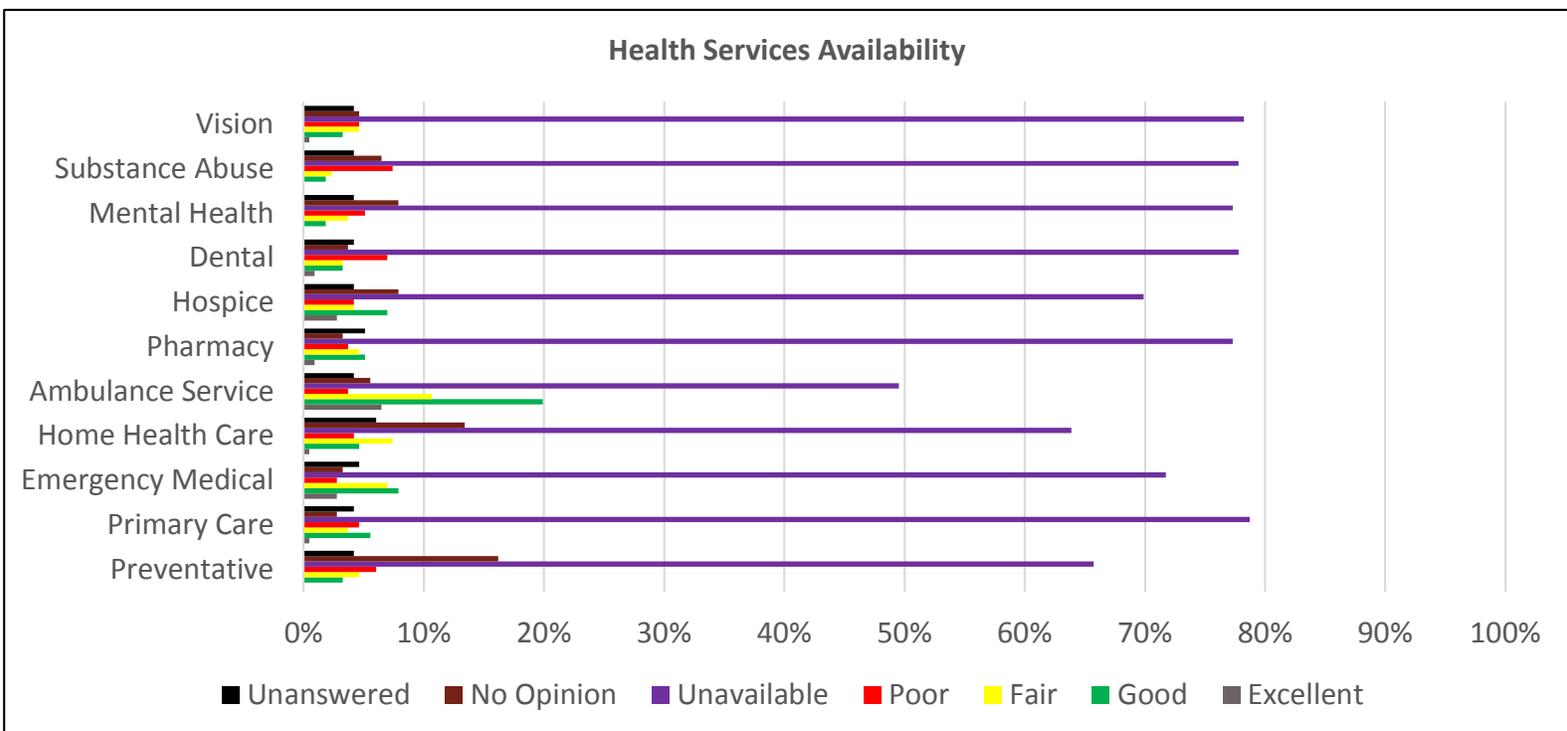


### Types of medical visits



**Figure 7: Reason for Visit**

**Question 13**– What prompted your last visit to the doctor? This question sought to determine the type of condition residents seek medical attention for most frequently. Routine checkups accounted for 73% of doctor visits, followed by 14% with a new condition, 11% due to chronic illness, and 7% for emergency conditions.



**Figure 8: Health Service Availability**

**Question 14** - Sought to determine the availability of general health services to LTT residents. Results were very consistent with results from question 8. Ambulance service availability was rated fair to excellent by 40% of respondents; however, an average of 80% of residents rated the remaining services listed as either poor or unavailable.

**Evaluation:** With the opening of the health clinic within the LTT community center, overall access to care will dramatically improve. Professional health evaluations and referral capacity should improve each area that ranked poorly.

**Recommendation:** Conduct a needs assessment between 6 to 12 months after clinic opens to evaluate progress.

## Transportation

One Mode of Transportation			Two Modes of Transportation			Three or more Modes of Transportation					
Type	Number of people	Percentage out of Total	Type	Number of People	Percentage out of Total	Type	Number of People	Percentage out of Total			
Car	116	80%	Car & Bike	2	5%	Car, Bike, & Bus	1	5%			
Walk	0	0				Car & Bus	23	56%	Car, Walk, & Bike	1	5%
Motorcycle	0	0				Car & Car Pool	3	7%	Car, Walk, & Bus	2	11%
Bike	4	3%				Car & Motorcycle	1	2%	Walk, Bus, & Car Pool	10	56%
Bus	21	14%				Car & Walk	1	2%	Car, Walk, Bike, & Car Pool	3	17%
Car Pool	5	3%				Bike & Car Pool	2	4%	Walk, Bus, Bike, Car Pool	1	6%
Total	146					Bus & Car Pool	5	12%	Total	18	
						Walk & Bus	4	10%			
						Walk & Car Pool	1	2%			
						Total	42				

**Figure 8: Mode of Transportation**

Questions 15 through 19 sought to determine modes of transportation used by LTT residents and their family members to get to and from work, travel time, and satisfaction with PCPT service.

**Question 15** – Seventy-one percent of residents indicated use of a private vehicle. Out of those 153 residents, 116 (about 80%) use the private vehicle as their only mode of transportation. Sixty-eight percent of residents use one mode of transportation, 19% use 2 modes of transportation, and roughly 8% of residents use 3 or more modes of transportation. Ten of the residents surveyed left the question unanswered.



**Questions 16 and 17** – sought resident feedback on quality of PCPT bus service, and if that service needed to be improved. Over 59% indicated they were satisfied or very satisfied with PCPT bus service (47.55% satisfied, and 12.59% very satisfied), 22.38% were indifferent resulting in a 16-17% dissatisfied rating (12.59% dissatisfied, and 4.9% very dissatisfied), 76.3%, however, indicated PCPT bus service for the LTT community needs improvement.

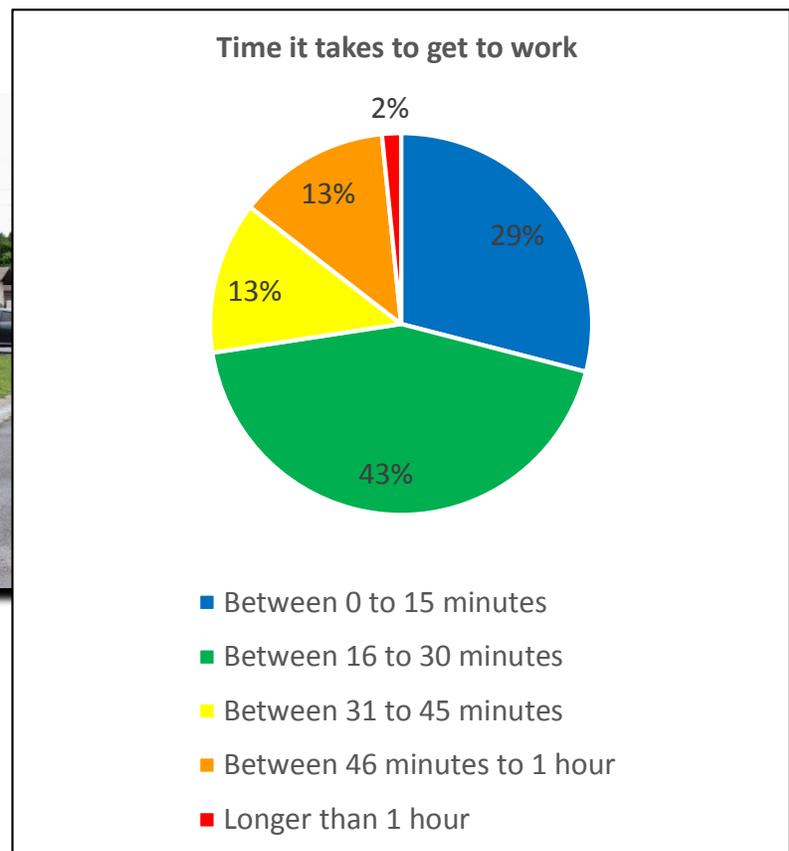
**Recommendation:** Residents should be solicited for input on how to best improve bus services. **In addition to bus service there are other forms of transit, but it may be somewhat disparate and uncoordinated.** Small towns and rural areas, faced with a geographically scattered population, can have trouble stretching transit resources to cover all of the area and to reach potential riders. The result can be “pockets” of transit service that omit significant numbers of potential destinations and riders who are unserved or under-served. Pasco County should consider coordinating service planning on a regional level in order for public, non-profit, and transit services to more effectively address access.

**There is a need for cross-region travel.** People who must travel across counties to a medical center, residents of one city that work in another, non-drivers who want to travel to retail or services not available in their own area, are just some of the people who benefit from transportation services that can travel past the usual county or city boundaries of a single transit provider.

**Questions 17 and 18** sought to determine travel time, to and from, work and school.



Roughly 30% of residents gave information for the amount of time it takes them to get to work. Of those 30%, about 29% indicated a time of 15 minutes or less, 43% indicated between 16 to 30 minutes, 13% indicated between 31 to 45 minutes, another 13% indicated between 46 minutes to an hour, and just 2% indicated a time longer than one hour.



**Figure 9: Travel time**

Only 11% of residents gave information for the amount of time it takes to get to school. Of those residents that did answer, 84% indicated a time of 30 minutes or less, 12% indicated a time between 30 minutes to an hour, and one answer simply indicated it took “too long” to get to school.

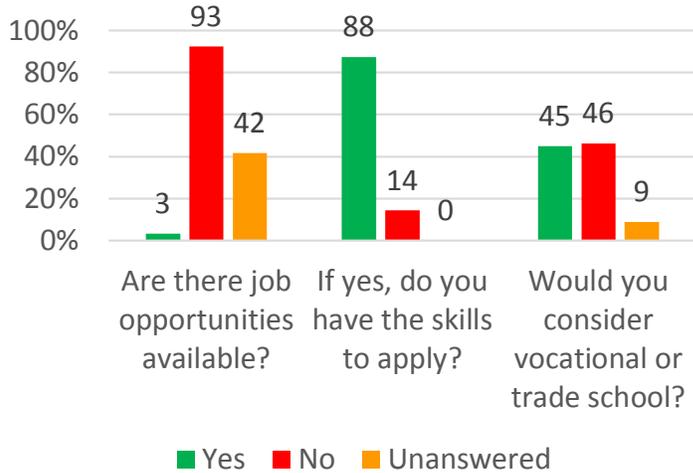
**Questions 19** results (page 37) indicate that 84% of residents favor bus transportation of school children.



### Economic Development

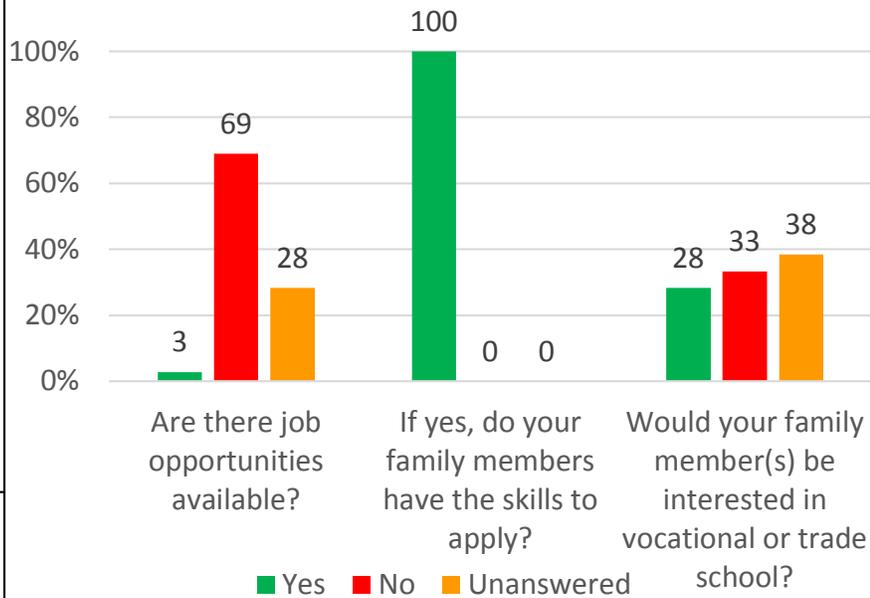
**Questions 20 thru 23** sought to obtain resident perception on job availability, whether residents have the skills needed to perform jobs available jobs, and interest in obtaining additional job training. Residents were also asked what career fields interested them.

**Economic Development – Job availability for yourself**



**Figure 10: Job Availability (Self)**

**Economic Development – Job availability for family member(s)**



**Figure 11: Job Availability (Family)**

When asked about job opportunities “for yourself or your family member(s)”, only 3% said there were job opportunities for themselves, and 3% indicated job opportunities for family. Forty-two percent of residents surveyed left the question unanswered for themselves and only 28% left it unanswered for family members.



Of the 3% that answered yes, 88% of residents said they personally had the skills to apply for those jobs available; while 100% indicated that a family member had the skills to apply for the jobs available. Roughly, 3% indicated that there were no jobs available to them, but that they had the skills to apply. About 7% indicated that there were no jobs available to them, and they did not have the skills to apply. Roughly, 2% indicated a lack of job availability for family member(s) who have the skills necessary to apply. About 4% indicated there was no

job availability for family member(s) and their family member(s) do not have the skills to apply.

Forty-five percent of individuals surveyed would consider vocational or trade school for themselves, while 46% would not, and 9% of residents surveyed left the question unanswered. Twenty-eight percent of residents surveyed indicated that family members would be interested in vocational or trade school, while 33% indicated family member(s) would not be interested, and 38% did not answer.

**Evaluation:** The LTT community suffers from a faltering economy and requires an infusion of funding to make much needed capital improvements in order to attract business return of middle income families into the area. The current PCCD Development Plan for Lacoochee-

Trilby-Trilacoochee is both aggressive, well thought out, and just what the LTT community needs in order to transform their towns from poor declining rural status into thriving, revitalized, quaint, historic small towns with tightly knit communities.

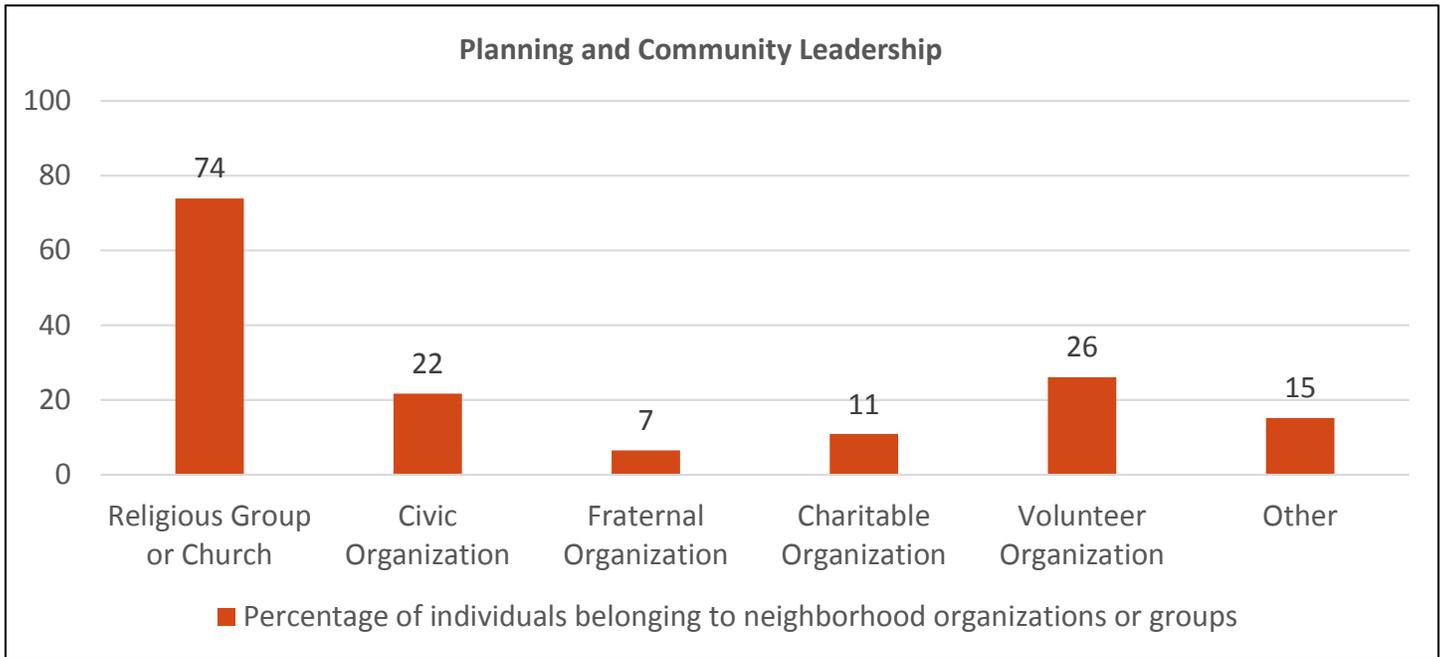
**Recommendation:** Pasco County should continue to adopt and implement Smart Growth Principles as identified by the EPA into their LTT revitalization plan to include:

- Mixed land use.
- Take advantage of compact design.
- Create a range of housing opportunities and choices.
- Create walkable communities.
- Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place.
- Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas.
- Strengthen and direct development toward existing communities.
- Provide a variety of transportation options.
- Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost-effective.
- Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration in development decisions.

## *Planning and Community Leadership*

**Question 24** – sought to determine resident community involvement by inquiring about organization memberships. Respondents could choose more than one answer.





**Figure 11: Community Involvement**

Out of the 216 individuals surveyed, 46 (21.30%) indicated that they belonged to a neighborhood organization or group. The chart above represents the percentage of community involvement of those 46 individuals.

**Recommendation:** Establish the community center as the social hub. LTT community leaders and Pasco County need to sponsor a “get to know each other” celebration after the new community center opening. Encourage various organizations to set up display tables in similar fashion to a college fraternity recruiting event. Establish a community board where residents can post information similar to a “classified” section of a newspaper. LTT Steering Committee should establish a community award fund and recognize and reward residents for outstanding achievement. Award winners should have picture and citations posted on the community board regularly!

**Question 25 thru 33** – sought to identify certain demographic information concerning survey respondents.

Results showed that 58% of respondents were female and 39% were male. When asked about their race, 39% indicated Hispanic, 28% indicated White, and 24% indicated Black. Over 50% of respondents were between the ages of 25 and 54 years of age.

Based on the American Community Survey (ACS) 2012, LTT’s population was estimated to be 2,133. The average age for residents is 36 years with approximately 49% male and 51% female. Sixty-five percent of residents identified themselves as White, 24.9% as Black, 25% Hispanic or Latino, and 2% identified themselves as some other race or two or more races. The margin of error for Lacoochee CDP is between + or – 0.7 to 10.1, and for Trilby CDP + or – 6.5 to 45.4 account for lack of detailed accuracy. In addition, the transient nature of residents within the USDA migrant housing community of approximately 100 units possibly accounts for somewhat inflated Hispanic population numbers.



Approximately 80% of respondents indicated they were receiving some type of government assistance. When asked how many government assistance programs they were participating in: 19% indicated 1 program, 19% chose 2 programs, 48% indicated 3 programs, and 14% answered 4 or more programs.

When asked how much education they have received: 40% had not completed high school, 34% had a high school diploma or GED, 11% had some college, 4% had a Bachelor's Degree, and 2% a Master's or higher.

When asked the total number of people residing in the household: 56% indicated between 2 and 4 persons, 17% had between 5 and 6 persons, 15% indicated they live alone, and 5% indicated they had 7 or more persons living in the home.

When asked the number of adults residing in the home: 34.72% chose 1 adult, 43.52% chose 2 adults, 10% indicated 3 adults and 8% had 4 or more adults living in the home.

When asked the number of children living in the home: 37.50% had no children, 35% indicated 1 to 2 children, 18% indicated 3 to 4 children, and 4% had 5 or more children living in the home.

When asked how many children were enrolled in daycare or an education program: 71% had children in an education program, 15% had no children in either, and 14% had children in daycare only.

**Question 34 thru 36** – sought to determine the status of veteran residency within the LTT area. Out of 216 individuals surveyed, 23 (11%) marked involvement in the military. Of those 23, there were 20 that marked their status as veteran and 14 marked that they receive benefits.



## Summary

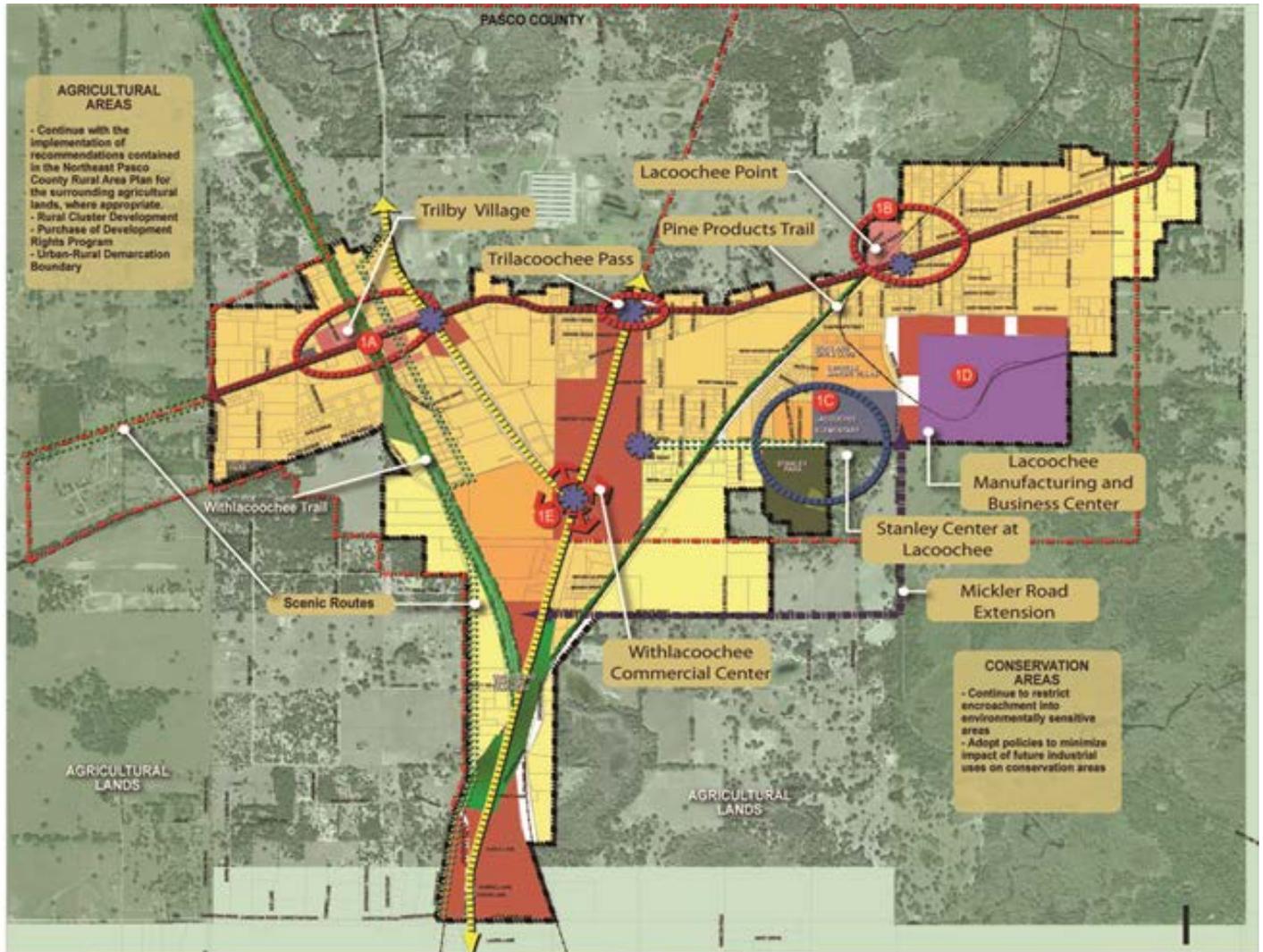
The results from the July 2013 Community Satisfaction and Needs Assessment Survey indicate the LTT communities currently suffer from a variety of social and economic problem sets, all of which will require integrated solutions and complimentary strategies to overcome. Survey results indicate LTT communities suffer from: inadequate infrastructure, inadequate service delivery, ineffective self-sufficiency family strategies, failing economies, middle income exodus, high unemployment, lack of skilled/educated workers, limited housing options, increasing dependency on social services, failing education system, lack of access to both public and social services to include health services. Simply pumping more money into the PCCD system will not solve these problems.

Transforming poverty into prosperity in the LTT community is dependent upon expansion of income and employment opportunities for residents. Hard work and successful manipulation of natural resources do not guarantee economic success. Significant challenges to successful LTT community transformation include: maintaining/enhancing competitiveness of farms and LTT businesses; stemming human/financial capital outflow from the community; and a diminishing local control over their destiny. Revitalization planning and, more importantly, implementations are increasingly dependent on volunteer leadership; and services demand on Pasco County assistance programs are growing even as revenues diminish.

Fortunately, PSCD staff and LTT community leaders understand these challenges and are well on their way to overcoming them. They have developed both short and long term strategies to meet them. The current PCCD Development Plan for Lacoochee-Trilby-Trilacoochee is both aggressive, well thought out, and just what the LTT community needs in order to transform their reputation from “poor, declining, rural status” into “thriving, revitalized, quaint, historic small towns with tightly knit communities”.

With effective planning and zoning that supports their vision, LTT communities could once again flourish and improve the quality of life for their residents, attract and support businesses, and provide new opportunities while protecting the way of life they cherish.

When completed, the new LTT community will emerge and provide extraordinary quality of life improvements that each resident can take pride in. Middle income and retired citizens will be drawn by the transformed economic, civic, cultural, social hubs, and homes within walking distance of stores and workplaces, and safe environment.

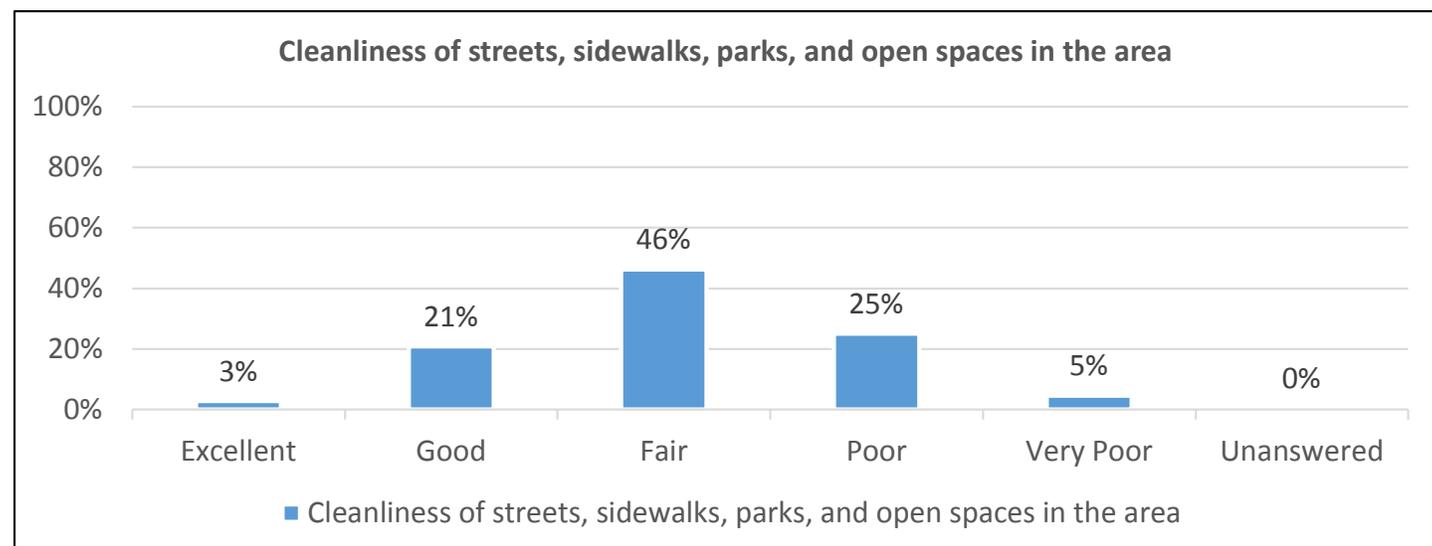
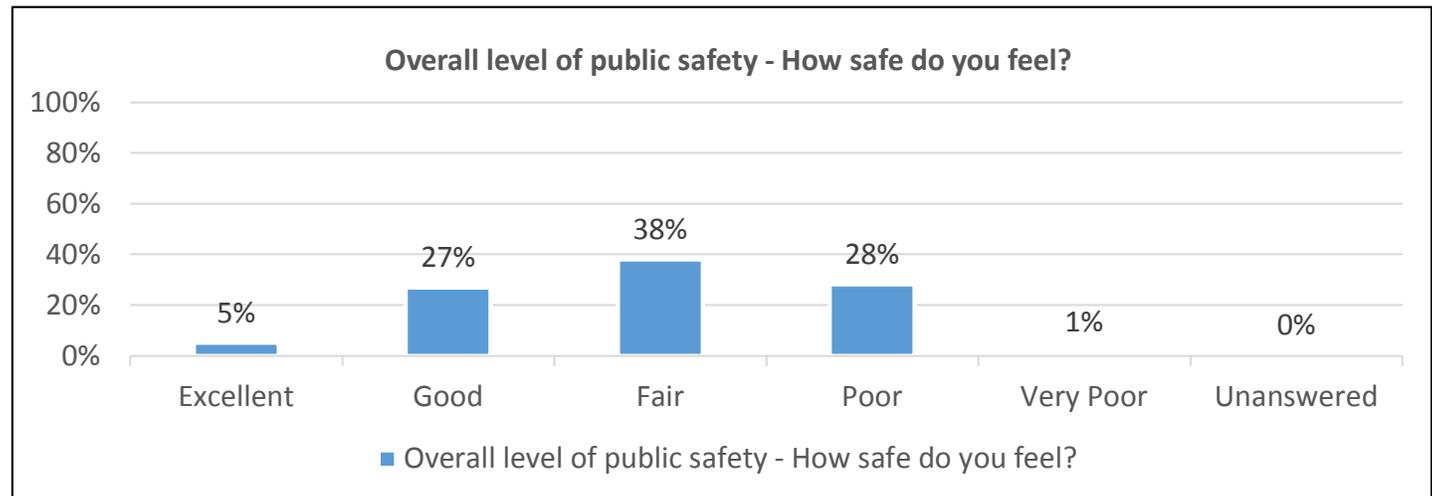
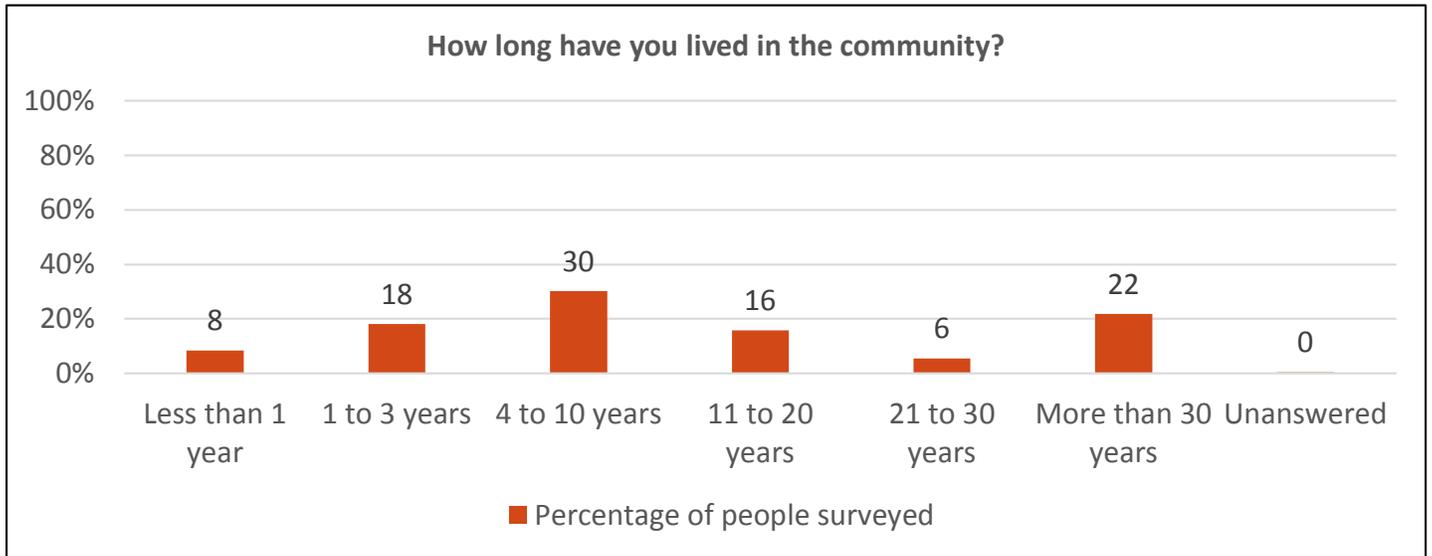


**Figure 12: PCCD Development Plan for Lacochee-Trilby-Trilacoochee**

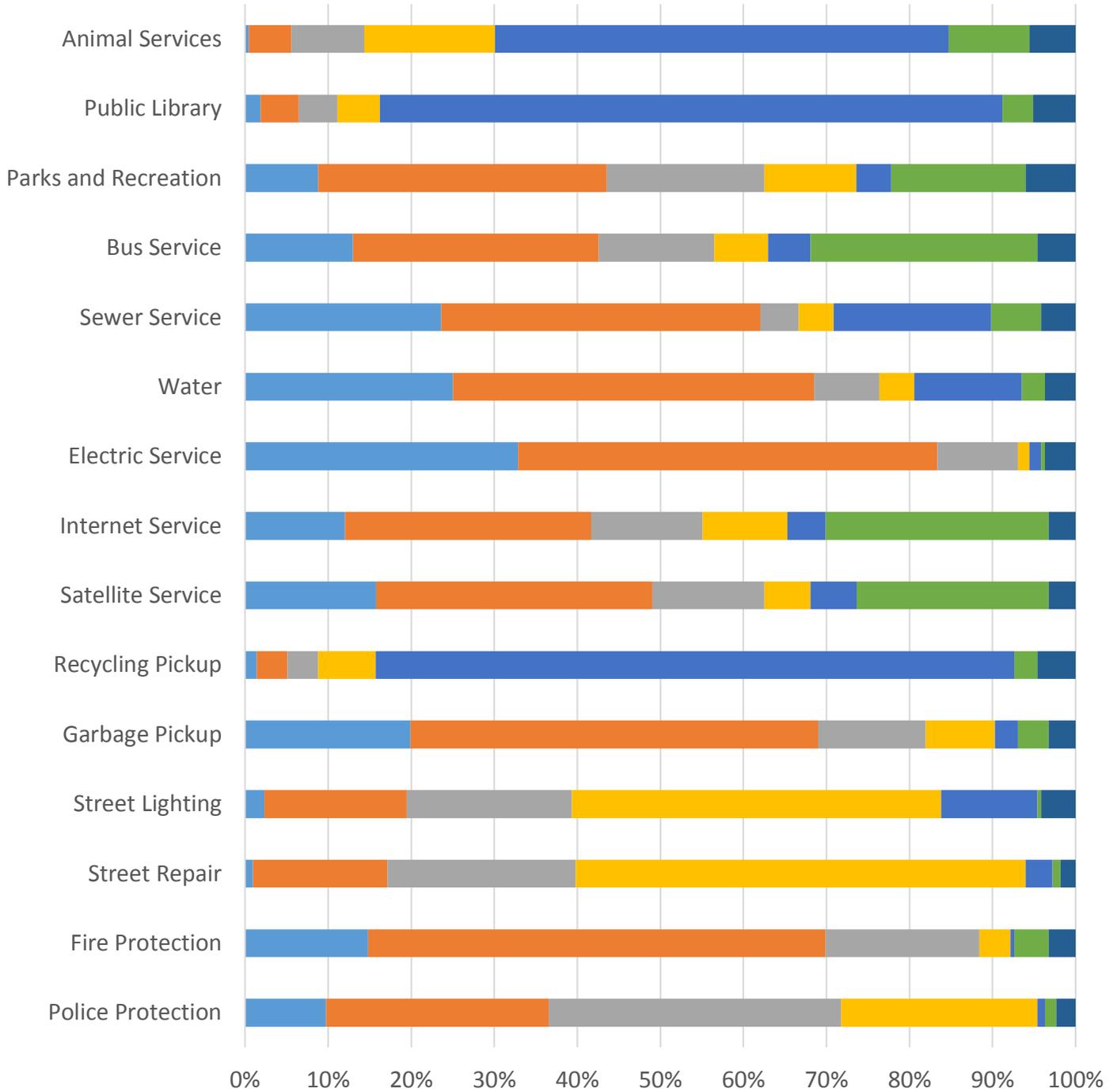


**Figure 12: New Community Center**

## Analytical charts



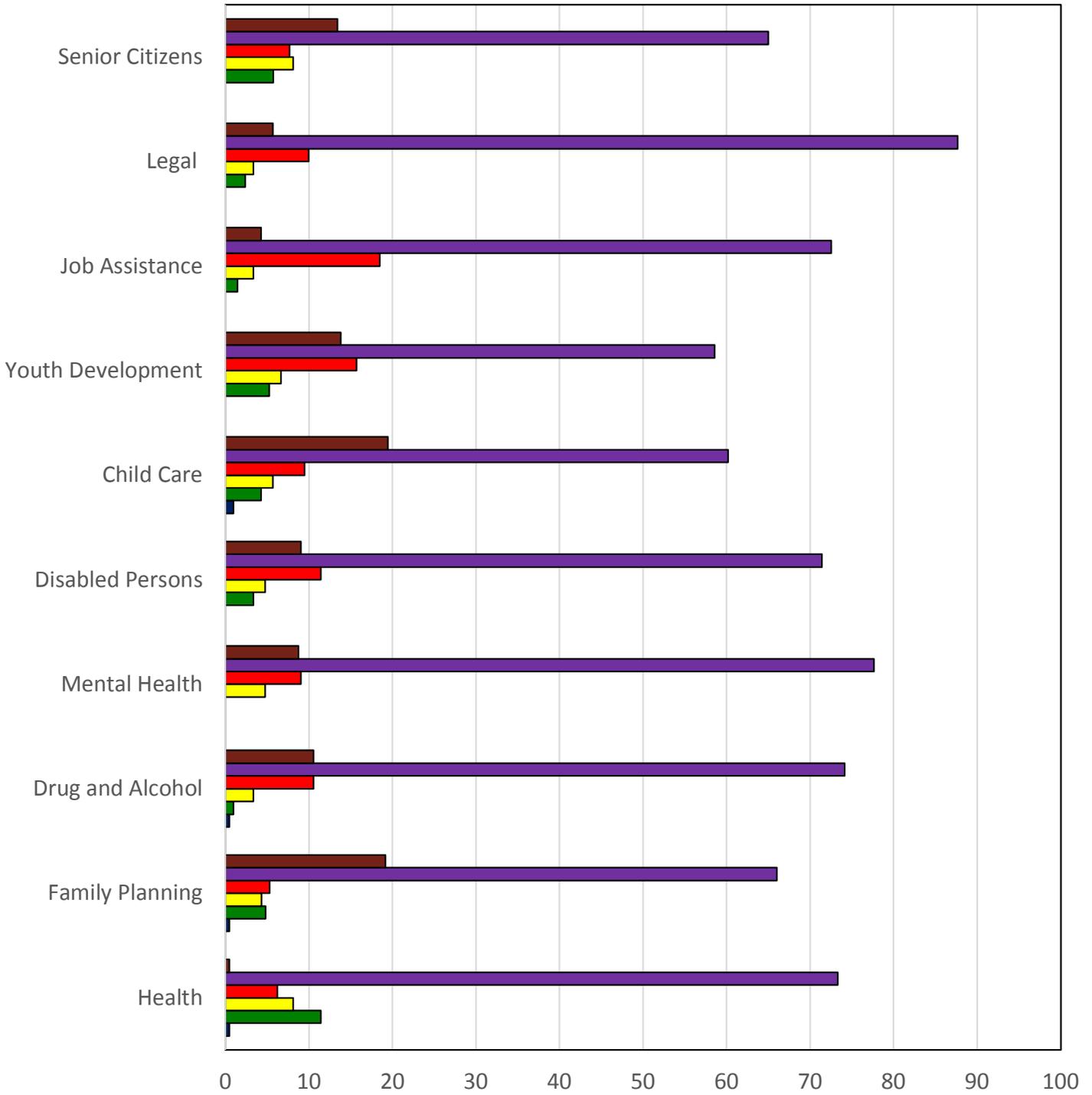
## Public Services



	Police Protection	Fire Protection	Street Repair	Street Lighting	Garbage Pickup	Recycling Pickup	Satellite Service	Internet Service	Electric Service	Water	Sewer Service	Bus Service	Parks and Recreation	Public Library	Animal Services
Excellent	10%	15%	1%	2%	20%	1%	16%	12%	33%	25%	24%	13%	9%	2%	0%
Good	27%	55%	16%	17%	49%	4%	33%	30%	50%	44%	38%	30%	35%	5%	5%
Fair	35%	19%	23%	20%	13%	4%	13%	13%	10%	8%	5%	14%	19%	5%	9%
Poor	24%	4%	54%	44%	8%	7%	6%	10%	1%	4%	4%	6%	11%	5%	16%
Unavailable	1%	0%	3%	12%	3%	77%	6%	5%	1%	13%	19%	5%	4%	75%	55%
No Opinion	1%	4%	1%	0%	4%	3%	23%	27%	0%	3%	6%	27%	16%	4%	10%
Unanswered	2%	3%	2%	4%	3%	5%	3%	3%	4%	4%	4%	5%	6%	5%	6%

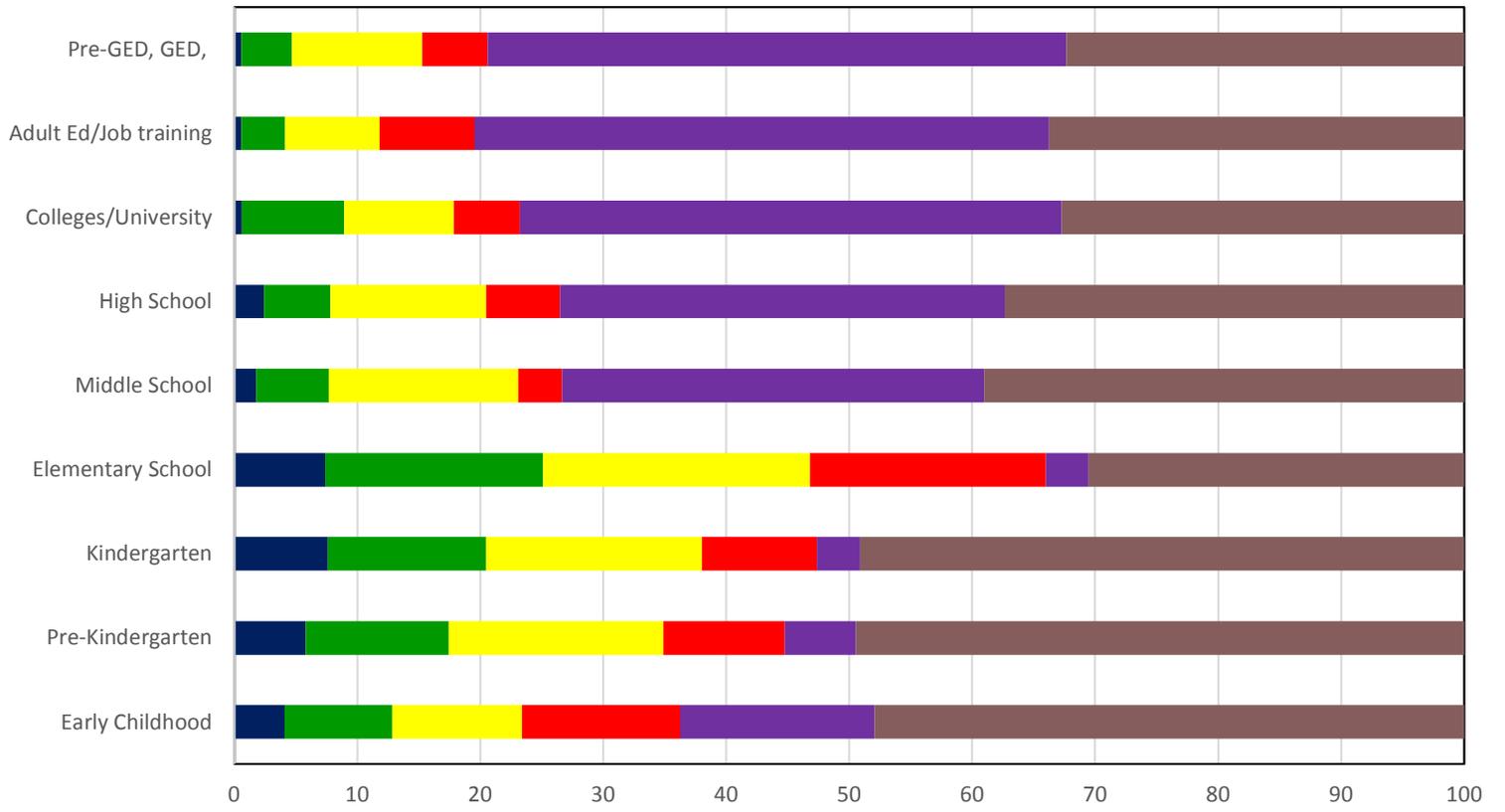
■ Excellent  
 ■ Good  
 ■ Fair  
 ■ Poor  
 ■ Unavailable  
 ■ No Opinion  
 ■ Unanswered

### Social Services %



■ No Opinion 
 ■ Unavailable 
 ■ Poor 
 ■ Fair 
 ■ Good 
 ■ Excellent

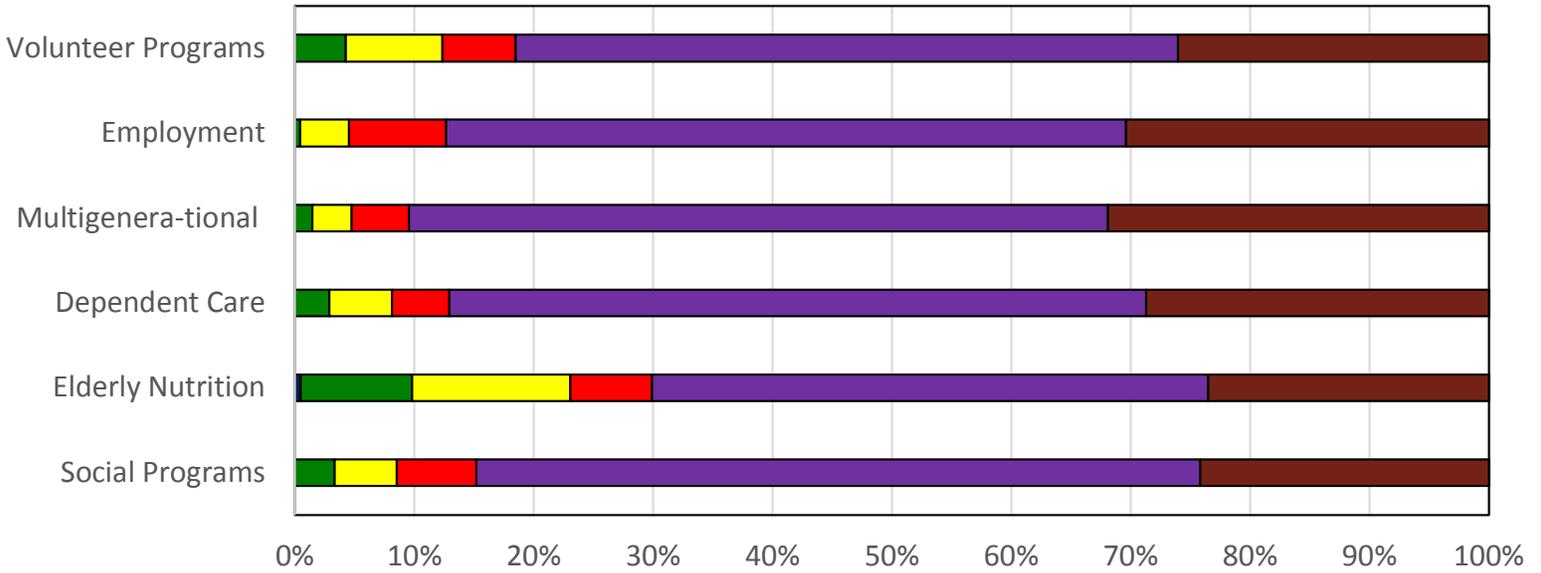
## Education Services



	Early Childhood	Pre-Kindergarten	Kindergarten	Elementary School	Middle School	High School	Colleges/University	Adult Ed/Job training	Pre-GED, GED,
■ Excellent %	4.09	5.81	7.6	7.39	1.78	2.41	0.6	0.59	0.59
■ Good %	8.77	11.63	12.87	17.73	5.92	5.42	8.33	3.55	4.12
■ Fair %	10.53	17.44	17.54	21.68	15.39	12.65	8.93	7.69	10.59
■ Poor %	12.87	9.88	9.36	19.21	3.55	6.02	5.36	7.69	5.29
■ Unavailable %	15.79	5.81	3.51	3.45	34.32	36.15	44.05	46.75	47.06
■ No Opinion %	47.95	49.42	49.12	30.54	39.05	37.35	32.74	33.73	32.35

■ Excellent %   
 ■ Good %   
 ■ Fair %   
 ■ Poor %   
 ■ Unavailable %   
 ■ No Opinion %

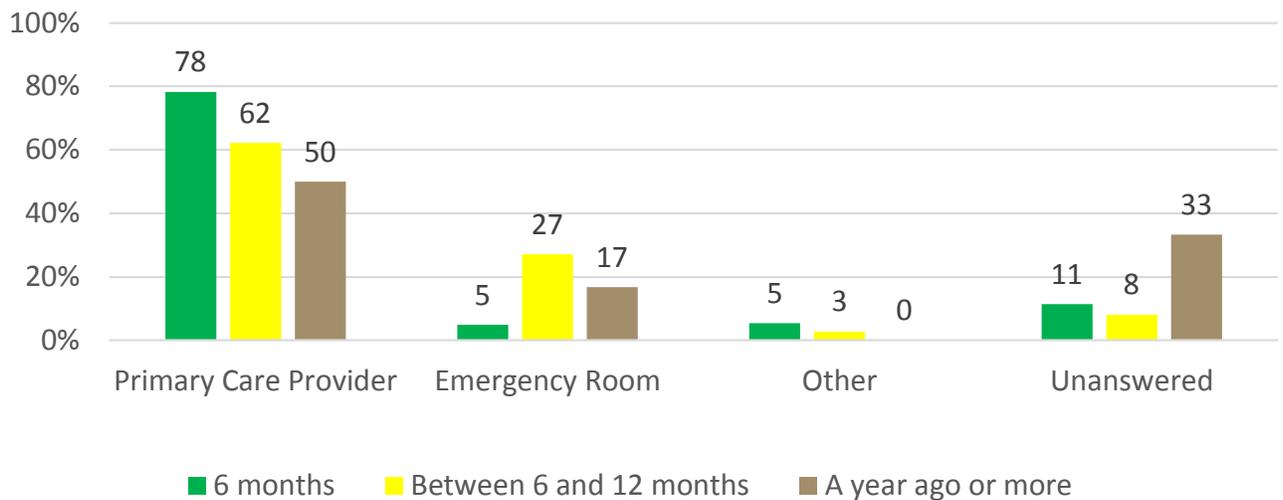
### Elderly Services and Programs %

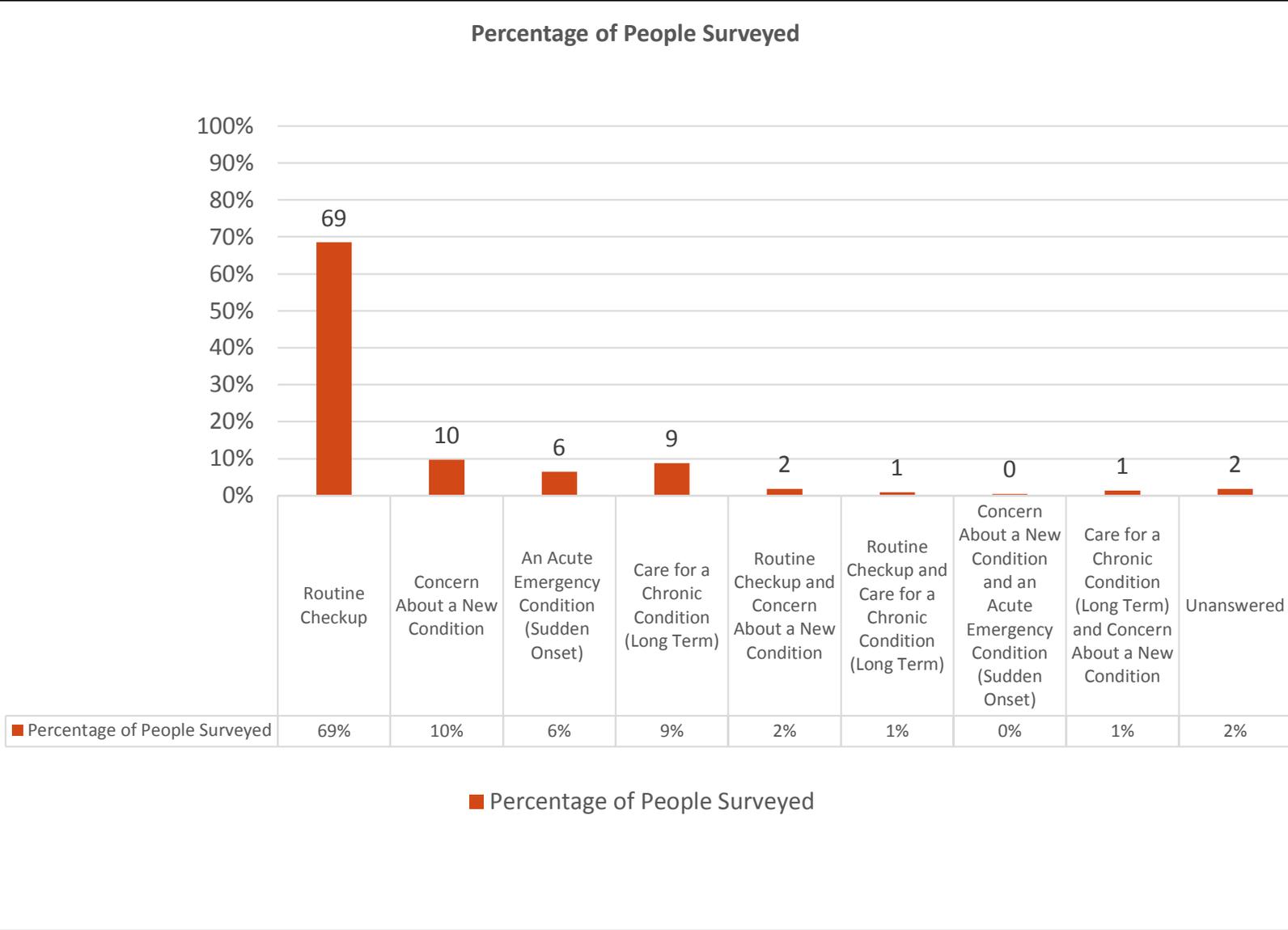
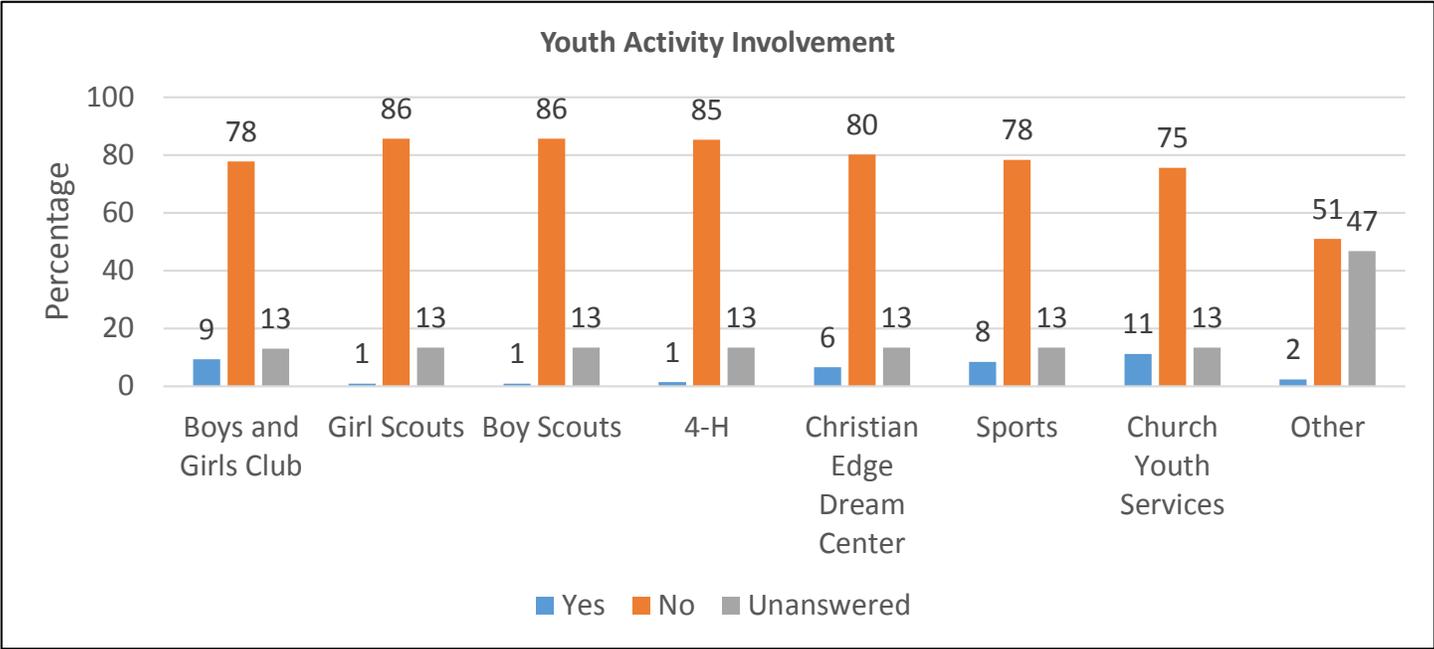


	Social Programs	Elderly Nutrition	Dependent Care	Multigenerational	Employment	Volunteer Programs
■ Excellent	0	0.49	0	0	0	0
■ Good	3.32	9.31	2.87	1.43	0.47	4.27
■ Fair	5.21	13.24	5.26	3.33	4.27	8.06
■ Poor	6.64	6.86	4.79	4.76	8.53	6.16
■ Unavailable	60.66	46.57	58.37	58.57	59.72	55.45
■ No Opinion	24.17	23.53	28.71	31.91	31.91	26.07

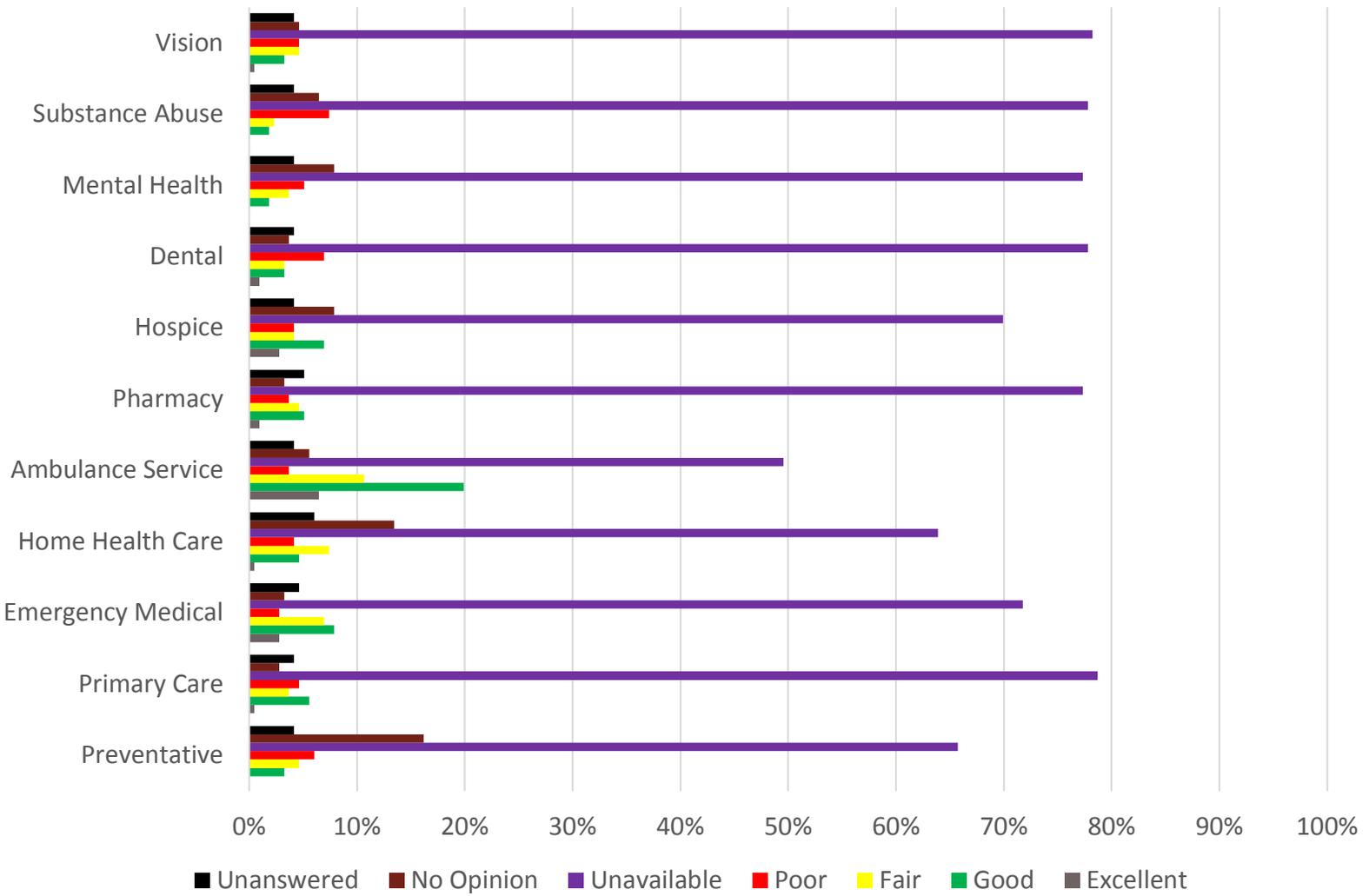
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ Unavailable ■ No Opinion

### Healthcare Services



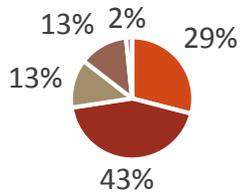


### Health Services Availability



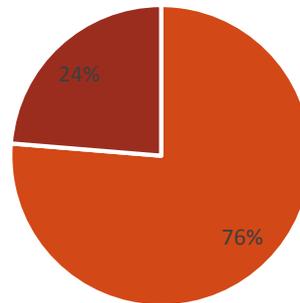
One Mode of Transportation			Two Modes of Transportation			Three or more Modes of Transportation		
Type	Number of people	Percentage out of Total	Type	Number of People	Percentage out of Total	Type	Number of People	Percentage out of Total
Car	116	80%	Car & Bike	2	5%	Car, Bike, & Bus	1	5%
Walk	0	0	Car & Bus	23	56%	Car, Walk, & Bike	1	5%
Motorcycle	0	0	Car & Car Pool	3	7%	Car, Walk, & Bus	2	11%
Bike	4	3%	Car & Motorcycle	1	2%	Walk, Bus, & Car Pool	10	56%
Bus	21	14%	Car & Walk	1	2%	Car, Walk, Bike, & Car Pool	3	17%
Car Pool	5	3%	Bike & Car Pool	2	4%	Walk, Bus, Bike, Car Pool	1	6%
Total	146		Bus & Car Pool	5	12%	Total	18	
			Walk & Bus	4	10%			
			Walk & Car Pool	1	2%			
			Total	42				

### Time it takes to get to work



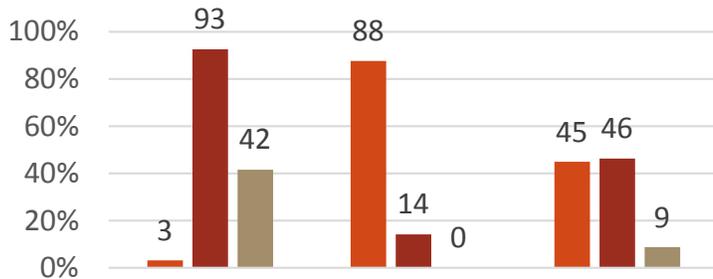
- Between 0 to 15 minutes
- Between 16 to 30 minutes
- Between 31 to 45 minutes
- Between 46 minutes to 1 hour
- Longer than 1 hour

### Bus Improvement

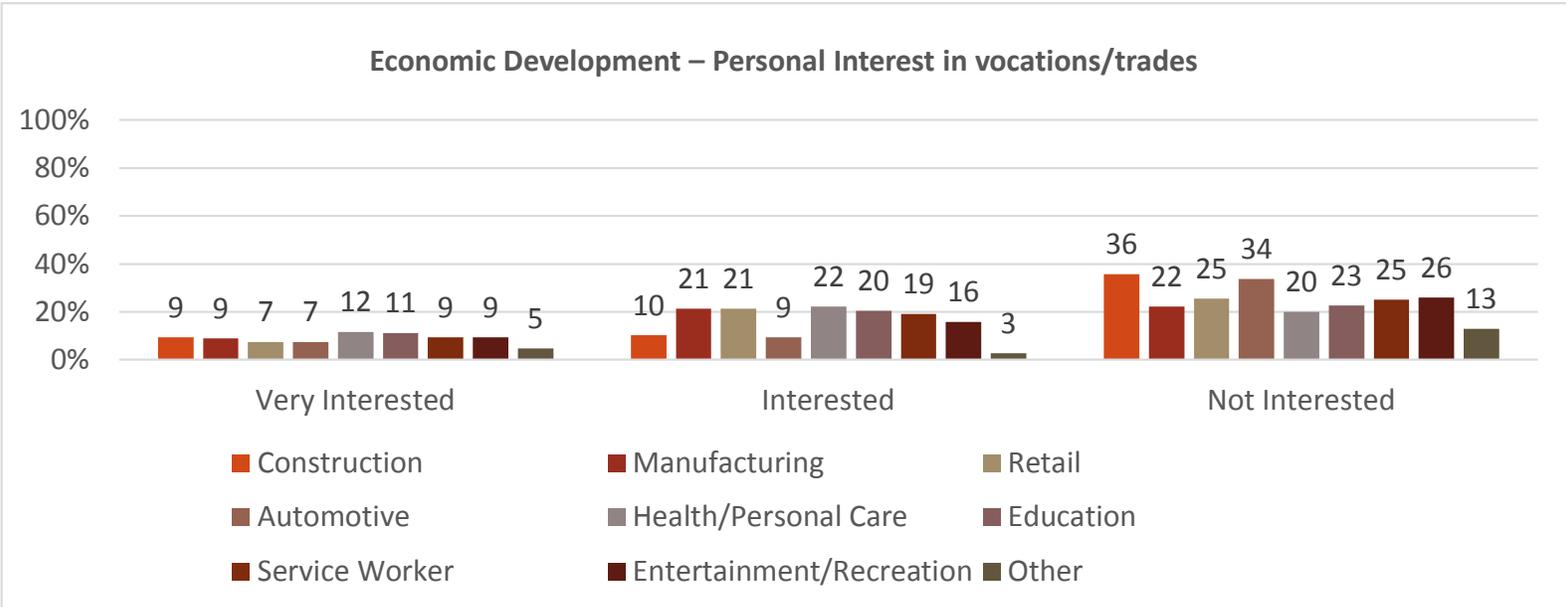
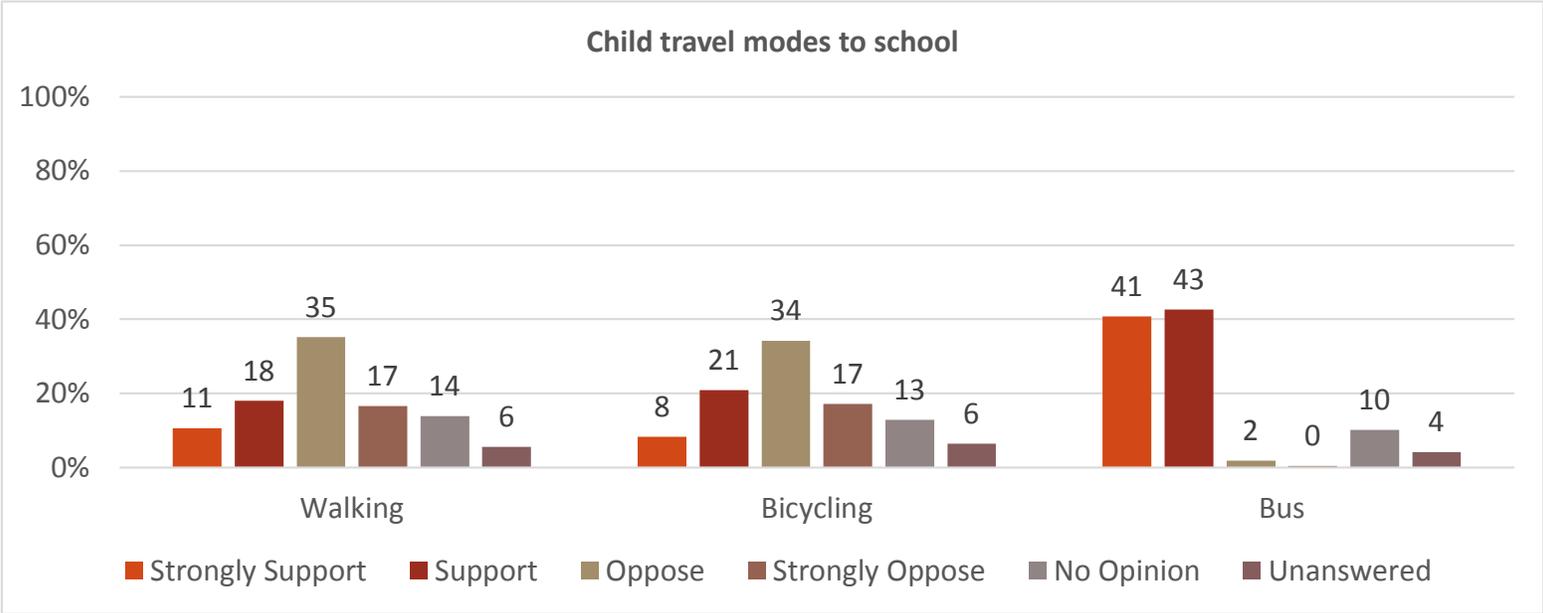
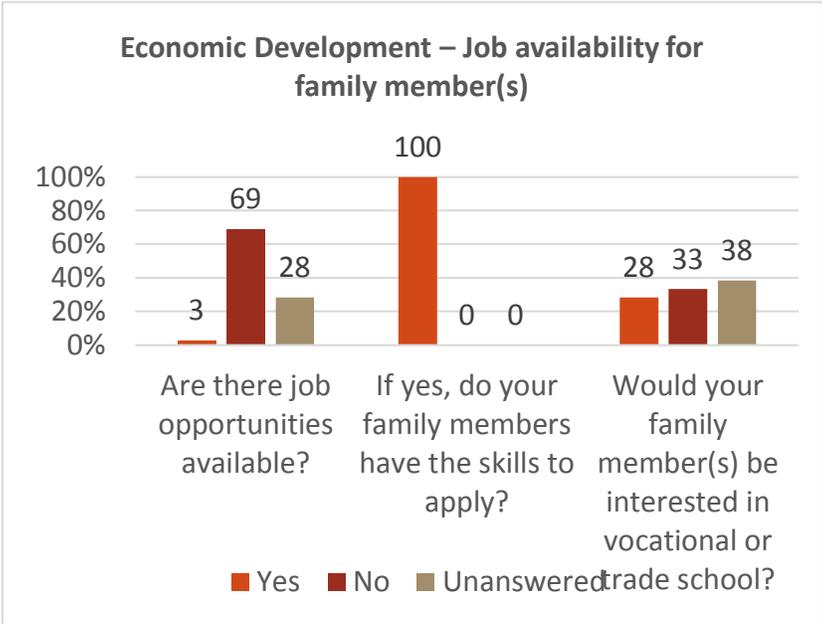


- Yes
- No

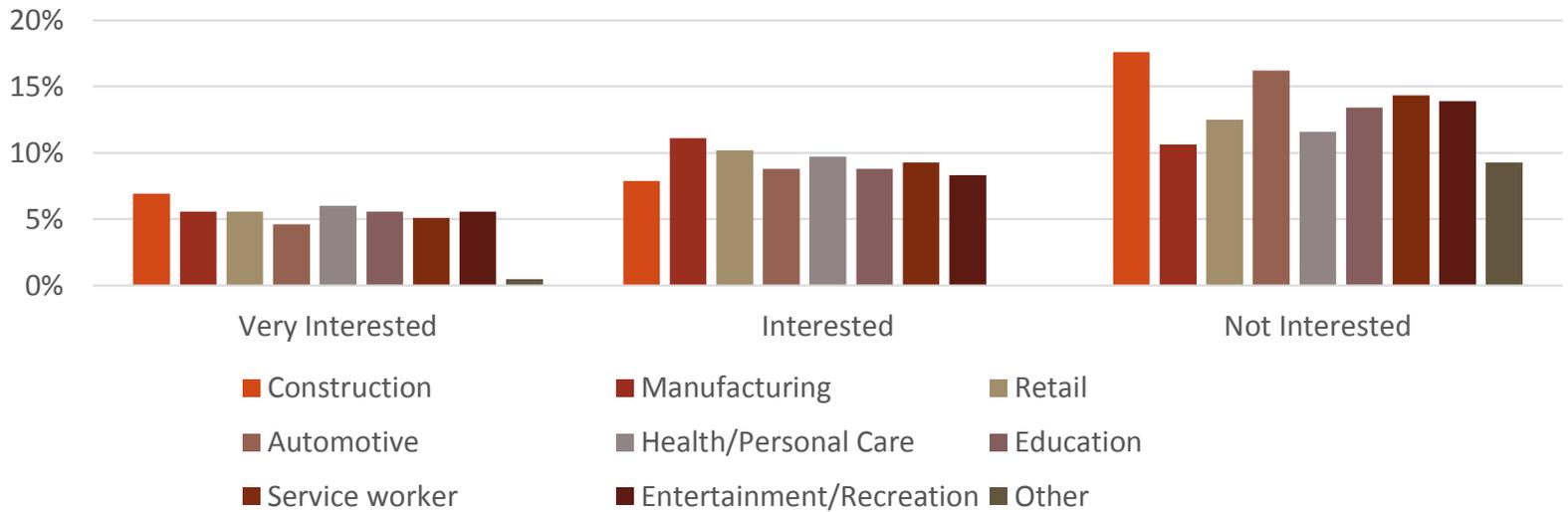
### Economic Development – Job availability for yourself



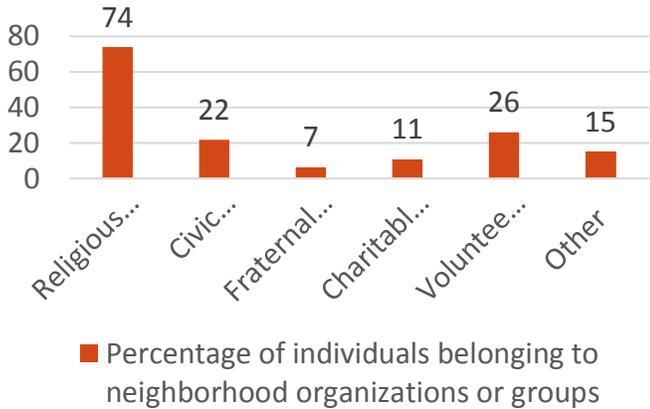
- Yes
- No
- Unanswered



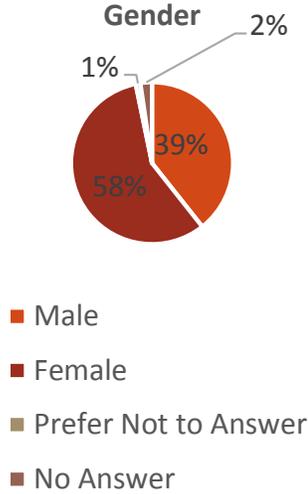
### Economic Development – Family Interest in Vocations/Trades



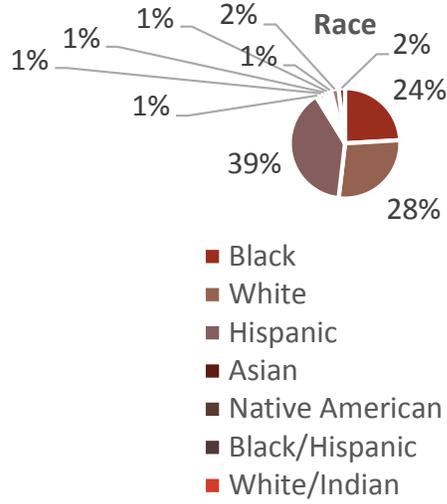
### Planning and Community Leadership

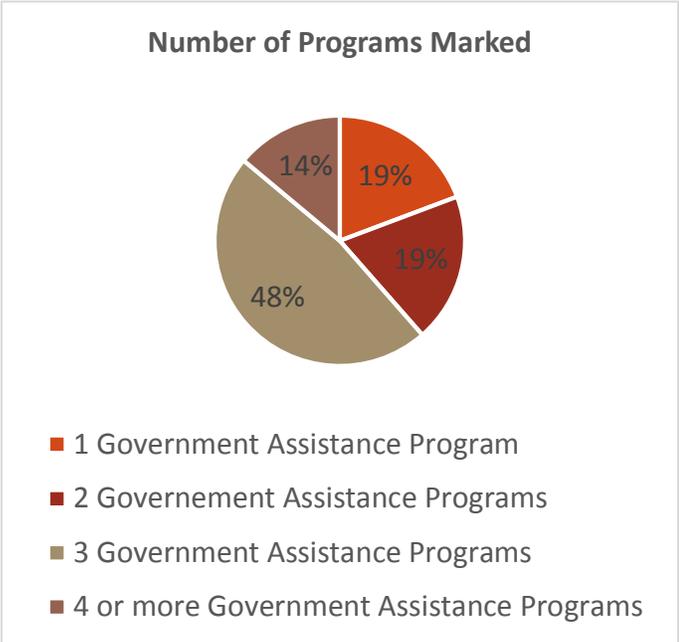
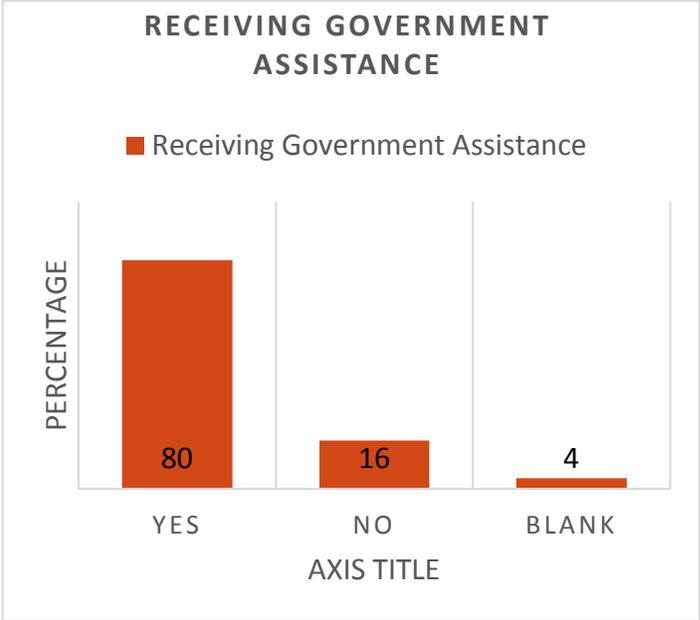
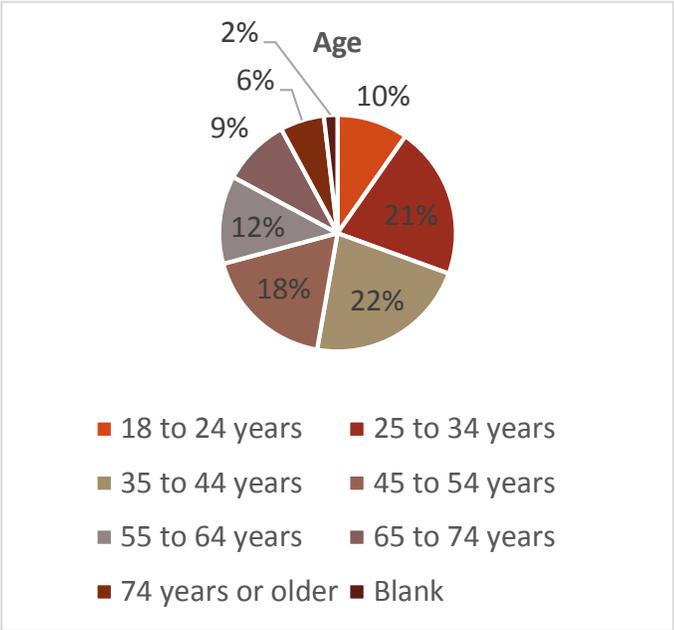


### Gender

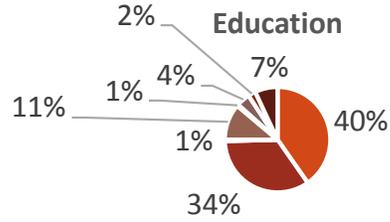
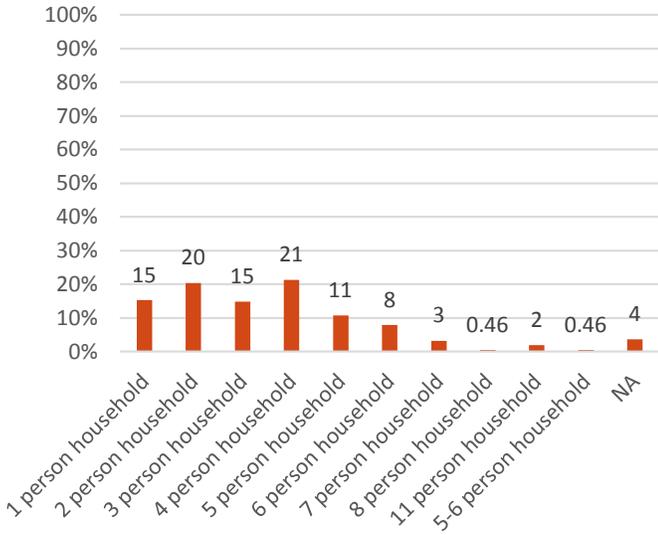


### Race



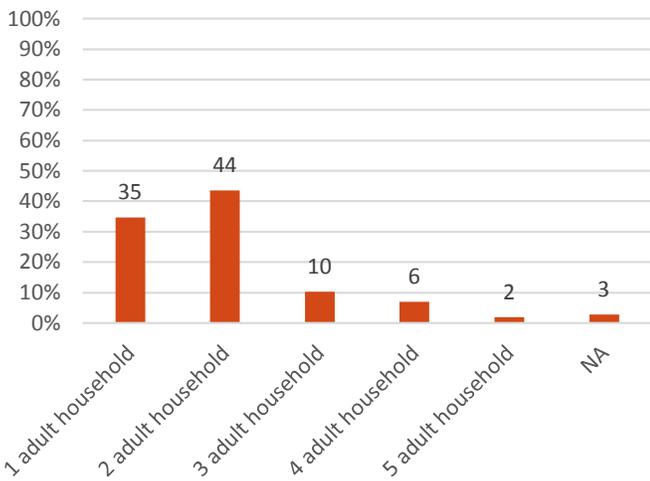


### Number of People in the Household

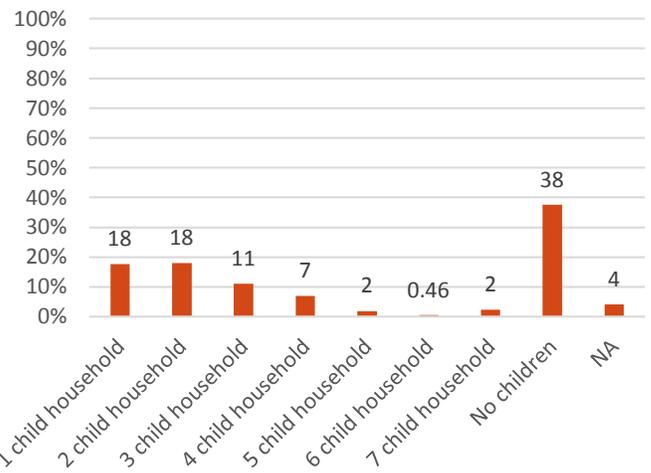


- Did not graduate high school
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Trade/Vocational school
- Some College
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree

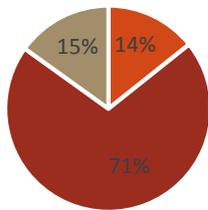
### Number of Adults in the Household



### Number of Children in the Household

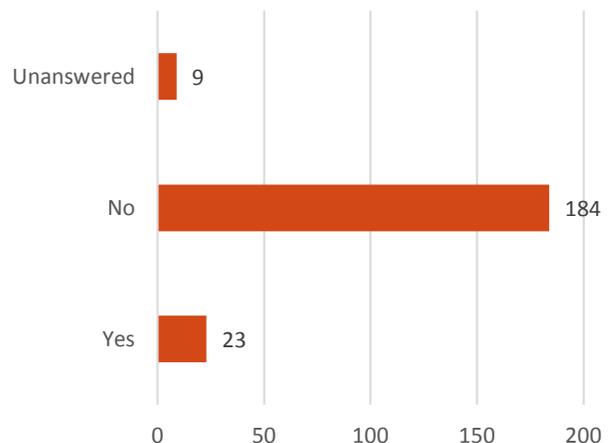


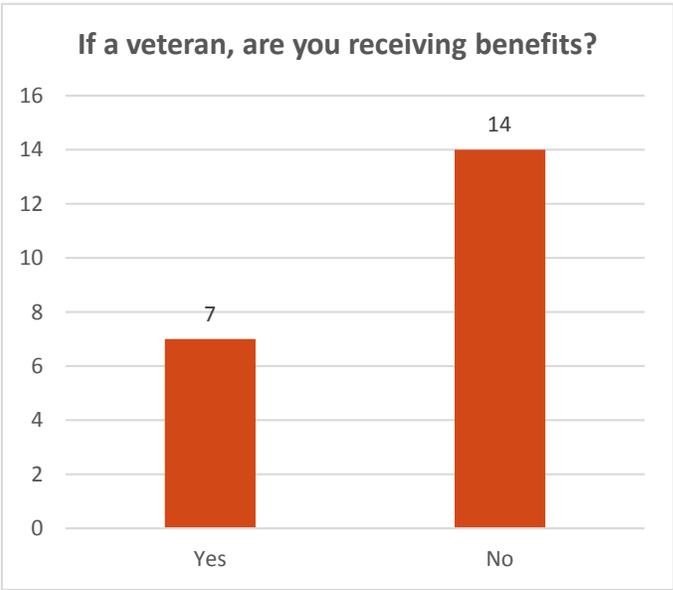
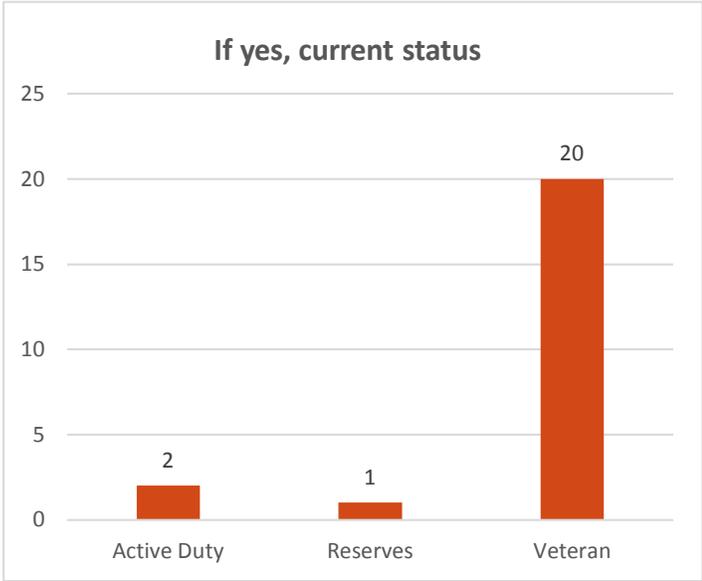
### Children in Daycare or an Education Program



- Children in Daycare
- Children in Education Program
- No Children in Daycare or Education Program

### Question: Has anyone in the household served in the military?





# Attachment 1

## BUILDING VIBRANT YOUTH GROUPS

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Kirk A. Astroth

4-H Youth Specialist

Why are some youth groups more effective than others? What are the distinguishing characteristics of highly effective youth groups? Some research which I recently conducted to identify the characteristics of such youth groups sheds some light on why some groups are better for youth development than others. For a year, I intensively studied five youth groups with 163 members from three randomly selected Montana counties. I participated in all their meetings, interviewed 27 key youth members, 7 adult group leaders, 12 parents and many others. In addition, I administered several survey instruments to measure satisfaction and self-confidence. The results have much to say to those of us who work with youth programs.

In trying to capture the essence of effective youth groups, I have adopted the concept of vibrancy. I first came across this term in Mary Pipher's seminal book about adolescent girls called *Reviving Ophelia*. According to Pipher, vibrancy is a characteristic of people whose psychological health is such that "they accept themselves rather than waiting for others to accept them." The concept of vibrancy is similar in many ways to the concept of autonomy developed by Piaget and elaborated upon by Constance Kamii. Vibrant youth groups, then, are pulsating with life, vigor and activity and foster a sense of influence over life's events rather than submission to the will and whims of others.

Vibrant youth groups help youth reach their potential and become self-directing, autonomous adults. Vibrant youth groups are those which have achieved a sense of genuineness and possess a drive toward the future--not in some smug way but rather in a way that they believe in themselves and have a sense of inner confidence. Vibrant youth groups believe in what they do, celebrate their commitments to action and express a sense of hope and courage for youth and their role in it.

After a year of research into the specific distinguishing features of effective youth groups, I have identified ten essential characteristics of vibrant youth groups.

- **Vibrant youth groups are more concerned with weaning, not winning.**

Kids are the focus of vibrant groups. Effective youth groups help youngsters develop a sense that they "own" the group. Young people in such programs, particularly older members, want to feel that the group is theirs and want adults to reduce their part in decision-making. Fun, learning, growth--these are the important concerns in vibrant groups. Training youth to become independent, thinking people are the goals of vibrant groups. Less effective groups were focused on winning and beating others. Winning awards, competitions, contests, numbers of ribbons or trophies and "being the best" are the greatest concerns in less effective youth groups.

- **Vibrant youth groups change how they do things but not what they do.**

Truly effective youth groups are "firm yet flexible." Vibrant youth groups experiment with seating arrangements, try new activities, and experiment within a certain accepted structure and organizational culture. As one youth put it, "Our club is really original in our meetings."

At the same time, though, vibrant groups provide a consistency and reliability on which members could always count. Other research has indicated that moderate levels of structure are often characteristic of healthy groups. Vibrant groups meet regularly and consistently. Traditions, rituals, and ceremonies are used to foster a sense of continuity with the past and with an organization larger than the local group.

- **Vibrant youth groups work hard and play hard.**

A common theme was that groups were not meeting just to meet or just to conduct business. Vibrant youth groups provided a way for members to do things together in fun ways--from ski trips, to weekend outings to roller skating parties. But vibrant youth groups also worked hard. They were involved in community service activities and fund-raisers that spanned a wide variety of interests--cleaning up a section of highway to providing programs at a local nursing home. Effective clubs get involved and help youth develop an ethic of service to their community. As one youth observed: "In our group, you've got a lot of responsibility, but the work is fun. It's hard work, but it's worth it."

- **Vibrant youth groups empower rather than embalm young people.**

Empowerment means to "authorize, delegate, give authority, enable or permit a person to do something. In short, vibrant youth groups enable youth to do what they are qualified to do. Rather than try and preserve young people in some child-like state, vibrant youth groups empower members to develop personal responsibility.

- **Vibrant youth groups communicate and listen.**

Members in the vibrant youth groups I studied frequently mentioned that they felt listened to, respect, and their input was genuinely valued. Vibrant youth groups make a conscious effort to involve members in discussions and deliberations. Effective youth groups also communicate well and listen to one another. Vibrant youth groups viewed communication and leadership as two-way processes in which adults and youth shared responsibilities. Young people in vibrant youth groups felt listened to and included. Again, one member commented: "If I wanted to recruit somebody who is older into our group, I would show them how they get to voice their opinions in a meeting without being ridiculed or being told, 'That's dumb!' by other people."

- **Vibrant youth groups are able to achieve a balance between chaos and rigidity.**

Effective youth groups were able to achieve a certain harmony between too much chaos and too much rigidity-- ordered chaos, or as the new buzzword puts it--chaordic. When circumstances change, vibrant youth groups are able to adapt by making the necessary changes in rules, power structures or relations to move on. Ineffective groups are devastated by change and are so rigid as to be unable to fit in to new circumstances.

- **Vibrant youth groups affirm and support one another.**

From my research, it was evident that healthy youth groups celebrated the successes of all members and did not define themselves by any single accomplishment of the group or its members. Instead, they took pride in and celebrated the collective efforts of all members. One parent commented that their goal was "not necessarily to be the best but to do our best." Adult leaders in such groups encouraged youth with specific, positive feedback. Discouraging comments were rarely heard in vibrant youth groups whereas discounting and demeaning comments were voiced in control-oriented groups.

- **Vibrant youth groups use a mentoring system to socialize newcomers into the club environment.**

Helping new members feel welcomed into the group is a hallmark of vibrant youth groups. Such efforts help new members learn the language and traditions of the program or organization. Buddy systems were common in vibrant groups where older, more experienced members adopted younger members and served as practical role models for them.

- **Vibrant youth groups value and practice service to others.**

Although community service is a key value for many youth groups, vibrant groups actively practices and treasured community service. Community service was not viewed in these groups as just another requirement for a charter or as program expectation, but rather community service was valued as important in itself. Indeed, vibrant youth groups perceived community service as a part of the group's fundamental experiences. One member said: "Helping is the fun part."

- **Vibrant youth groups take time for training.**

Effective youth groups set aside time to train youth for the roles they will assume in adulthood. Adults saw as one of their primary responsibilities of training and development of young people to become involved as equal partners in the process of planning, implementation, and evaluation. This is a key characteristic of vibrancy. Research has demonstrated that well-functioning groups do not just happen. Rather, they result from consistent efforts to create, maintain, and (occasionally) restore conditions that foster effective learning.

- **The whole is greater than the sum of these elements.**

There is a synergy that develops in vibrant youth groups that creates an energy far in excess of the contributions of the ten previous elements. Effective youth groups are effective precisely because all the various parts work in harmony toward the larger goal of youth development. A synergistic relationship can be detected in vibrant groups and is evident in the way these groups approach tasks and activities. The synergy is reflected in the quality of their accomplishments as well.

In essence, then, it's not enough to possess just some of these characteristics to be truly vibrant. Instead, all these elements must be present, and all these elements work together to create a synergy that would be absent otherwise. There is a synergy in vibrant groups that creates an energy far in excess of the contributions of individual components. Effective youth programs that help youth develop life skills focus on developing these skills in an educational context. As Alfie Kohn observed, youth "acquire a sense of significance from doing significant things, from being active participants in their own education." Real success will mean doing a better job of listening to young people and sharing leadership with them.

From: Astroth, Kirk A. (1996). *Welcome to the Club: Education Where the Bell Never Rings*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation. Bozeman, MT: Montana State University.

**Would you like to know how "vibrant" your own youth group is? A program self-assessment tool and scoring matrix is available for both volunteer leaders and professional staff (specify which instrument you would like). This instrument measures vibrancy in five broad domains: staff, programs, philosophy, culture and power structure. Write to Dr. Kirk Astroth, Montana State University, 210 Taylor Hall, Bozeman, MT 59717-0358 or call 406-994-3501. For a full explanation of the *Domains of Vibrancy*, refer to Astroth's 1997 article titled "Beyond Resiliency: Fostering Vibrancy in Youth Groups," *New Designs for Youth Development*, 13(4): 5-11.**

In addition, you can examine some of the strategies for increasing the vibrancy of your youth group by clicking here: [Strategies for Improving Vibrancy](#)