

**Working Toward an Age Friendly
Community: An AARP Livable
Communities Survey of Greater
Des Moines/Polk County, Iowa
Residents Ages 50+**

**Report
Prepared by
Joanne Binette**

November 2013

Copyright © 2013 AARP
Membership & Integrated Value
601 E Street NW Washington, DC 20049
www.aarp.org/research
Reprinting with Permission

Working Toward an Age Friendly Community: An AARP Livable Communities Survey of Greater Des Moines/Polk County, Iowa Residents Ages 50+

Key Findings

- ❖ **Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ have lived in this area for a long time and are likely to remain there as they get older.**
 - ✓ Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ have lived in this area for an average of 41 years.
 - ✓ 40% say it is extremely or very important to stay in their neighborhood and 64% say it is extremely or very important for them to stay in their home as they age.
 - ✓ 69% say they are not too or not at all likely to move outside their community in the next 10 years.

- ❖ **Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ were asked to give their opinions of their neighborhoods based on housing, transportation, outdoor spaces, public services, older adult resources and services and social activities.**
 - ✓ Housing: Four in five (81%) agree people in their neighborhood take care of their homes and property while over half agree that home repair contractors do quality work (56%) and are trustworthy (54%); there are many homes for sale (55%); and home prices are affordable (51%).
 - ✓ Transportation: 88% agree their neighborhood has easy to read traffic signs, 78% agree there are well-maintained streets, and about three in five agree there is sufficient public parking (65%) and speed limits are enforced (62%).
 - ✓ Outdoor spaces: About three in four agree there are enough public parks (79%) and there are well-maintained parks (79%) and public buildings (76%).
 - ✓ Public/Private Services: 86% say their neighborhood has elementary and secondary schools while slightly fewer say there is a fire department (80%) and a public library (76%).
 - ✓ Older adult resources and services: 71% say their neighborhood has seasonal lawn or snow removal while about three in five say there are nursing homes (58%) and retirement communities (58%).
 - ✓ Social activities: 88% say there are places of worship in their neighborhood while about four in five say there are pharmacies (83%) and grocery stores (80%). Additionally, about three in five agree there are many events open to all ages (65%) and entertainment venues are conveniently located (60%).

- ❖ **Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say local TV affiliates are the most helpful source for news and information in their neighborhood followed by public television, newspapers and radio.**
 - ✓ 74% find local television affiliates to be an extremely or very helpful source of information in their neighborhood while about half say they find public television (57%), daily newspapers (57%) and local radio stations (54%) helpful.

- ❖ **Many Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ are currently working and plan to keep on working as long as possible.**
 - ✓ 45% are employed either full or part-time, and 45% of these survey respondents are extremely or very likely to put off full-time retirement for as long as possible.
 - ✓ 80% of all survey respondents agree that the state of Iowa needs to do more to ensure that people age 50 and older can continue to work for as long as they want or need to regardless of their age.

The AARP Iowa State Office commissioned a survey to explore the views of Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ on characteristics of an age friendly neighborhood. These results are based on a mail survey fielded in September 2012 of 3,500 residents age 50+ in Des Moines/Polk County, Iowa. A total of 724 surveys were returned. The margin of error for these residents is ± 3.7 percent. An annotated survey of the responses begins on page 22 followed by a description of the methodology.

Detailed Findings

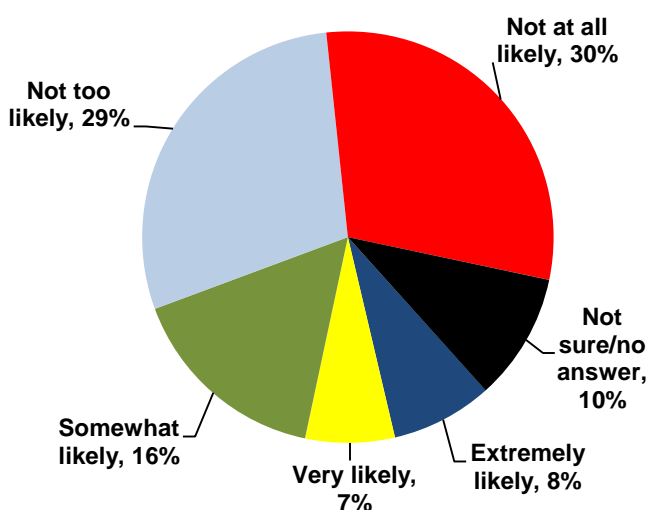
Neighborhood Tenure

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ are long-time residents of this area and are likely to remain there as they get older.

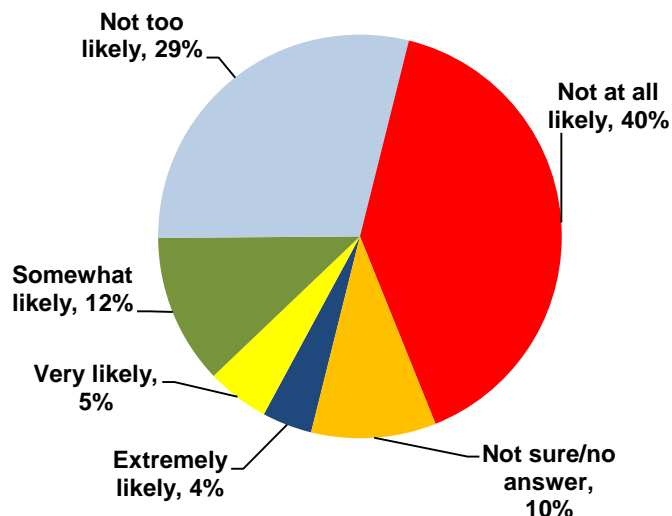
Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ have lived in their current neighborhood for an average of 23 years; and they have lived in the Des Moines/Polk County area for an average of 41 years. Furthermore, over four in five (84%) are year round residents of Des Moines/Polk County while only six percent are either seasonal residents or temporary residents.

Most Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ are unlikely to move into a different home within the area or move outside the area in the next 10 years. About three in five (59%) say they are not too or not at all likely to move to a different home within Des Moines/Polk County, and another one in six says they are only somewhat likely to do this. Des Moines/Polk County residents are even less likely to move to a different home outside of the area with seven in ten (69%) saying they are not too or not at all likely to move to a different home outside of Des Moines/Polk County, and another one in eight saying they are only somewhat likely to do so.

Likelihood of Moving to a Different Home in Des Moines/Polk County in the Next 10 Years (N=724)

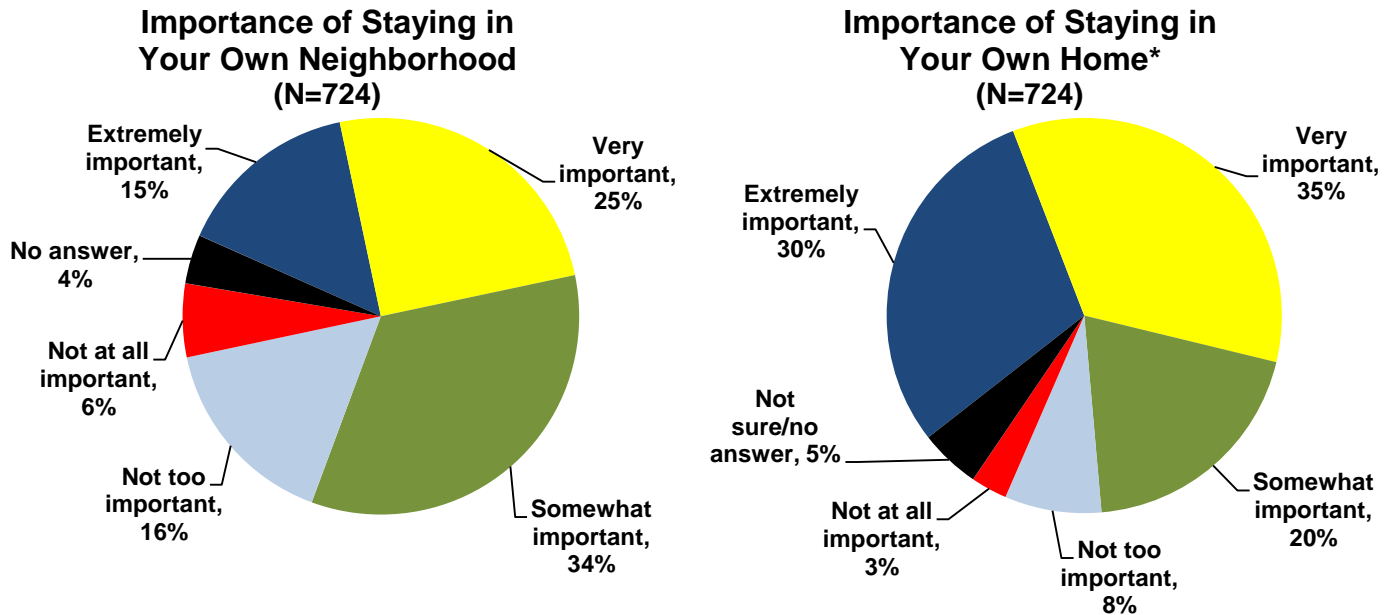


Likelihood of Moving to a Different Home outside of Des Moines/Polk County in the Next 10 Years (N=724)



Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say it is important for them to remain in their home and neighborhood; and they believe that their neighborhood is a good place for older people to live.

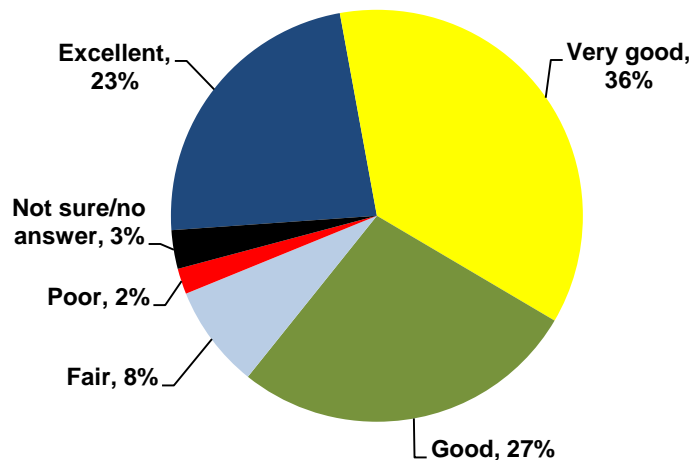
Two in five (40%) say it is extremely or very important to stay in their neighborhood as they age and another third says this is somewhat important. Many more respondents, about two-thirds (64%), say it is extremely or very important to stay in their own home as they age and another one in five says this is somewhat important.



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Nearly nine in ten (87%) rate their neighborhood as an excellent, very good or good place for older people to live as they age while only one in ten (10%) rate their neighborhood as a fair or poor place for people to live as they age.

Neighborhood Rating as a Place for Older People to Live* (N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

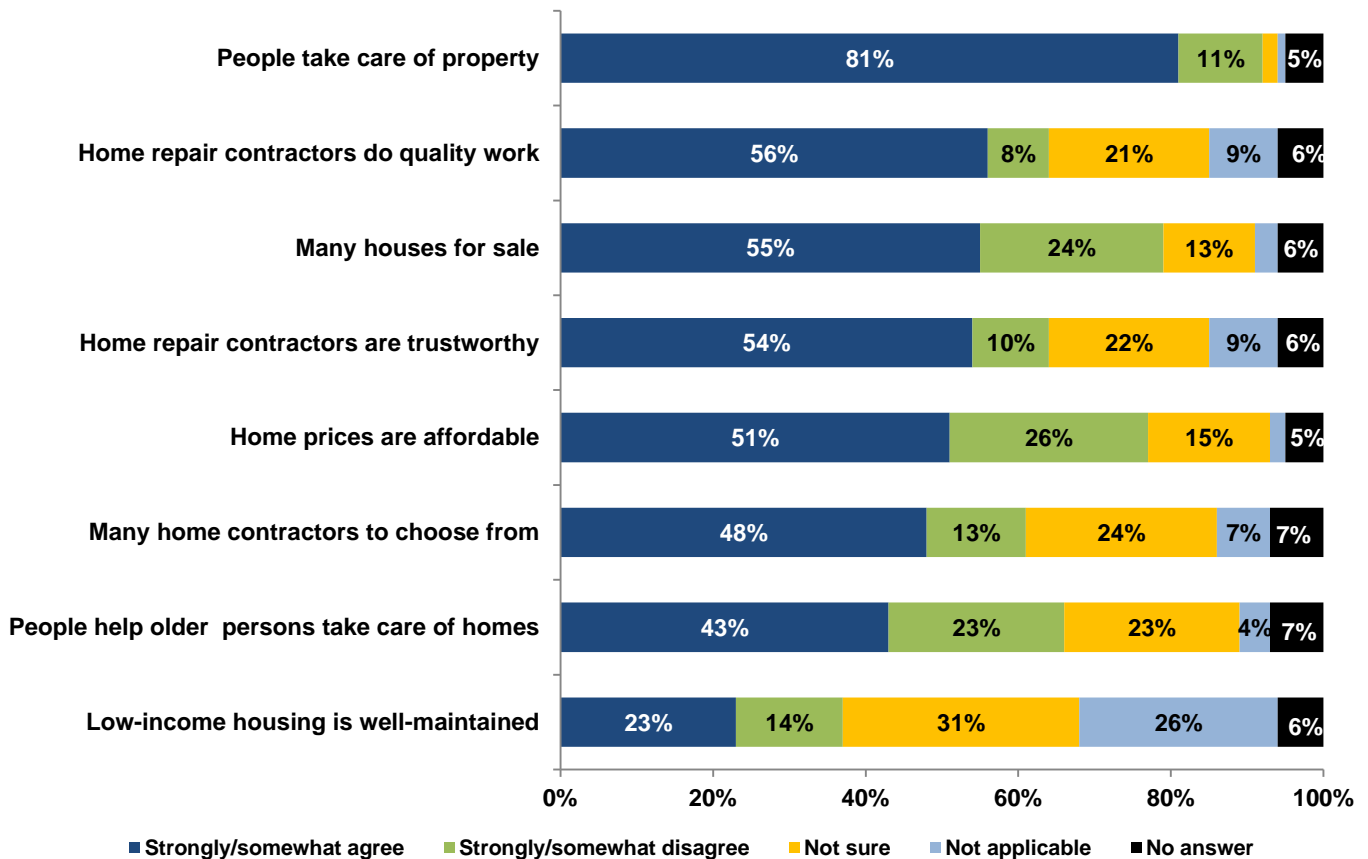
Neighborhood Characteristics and Features

Housing

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ agree that people in their neighborhood take good care of their own property; however, fewer agree there are quality trustworthy home contractors to choose from and there are many affordable houses for sale.

When thinking about housing in their neighborhood, four in five Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ believe residents take good care of their homes and property. About half says home repair contractors do quality work, are trustworthy and there are many to choose from. About half also believe there are many homes for sale at affordable prices. Just over two in five say neighborhood residents help older residents take care of their home's property and about a quarter believes low-income housing is well-maintained. It is worth noting that almost a third says they are unsure about the maintenance of low-income housing in their neighborhood.

Level of Agreement with Neighborhood Housing Characteristics*
(N=724)



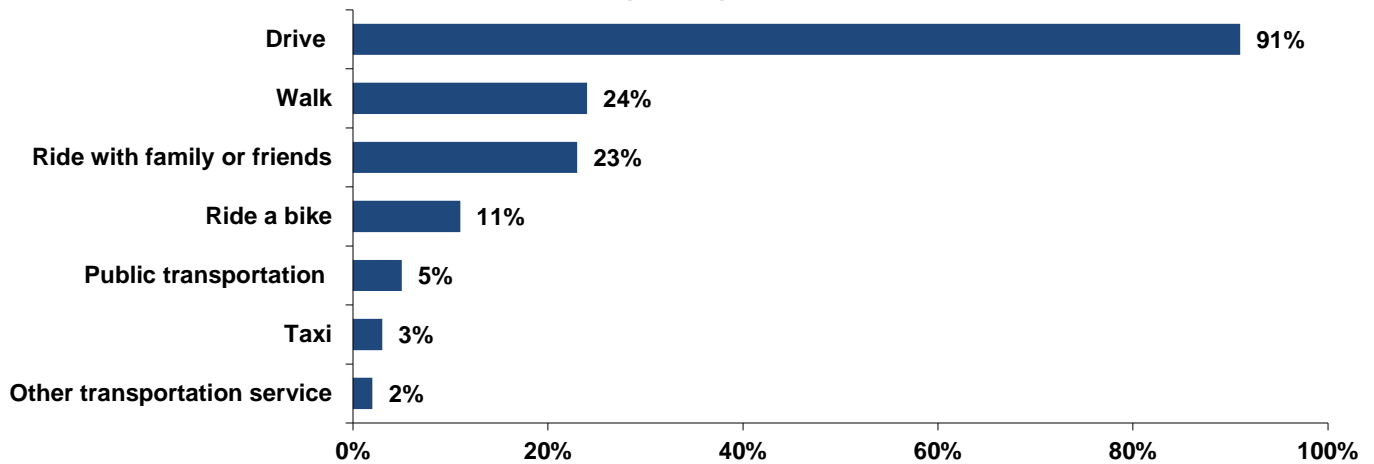
*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Percentages less than 4 percent are not shown.

Transportation

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ drive themselves to get to where they want to go and most agree there are easy to read traffic signs and well-maintained streets in their neighborhood.

Just over nine in ten Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ drive themselves in order to do things like shopping, visiting the doctor, running errands or getting to other places in their communities. About a quarter walks or rides with family or friends. Approximately one in ten rides a bike and far fewer uses public transportation, takes a taxi or uses some other transportation service.

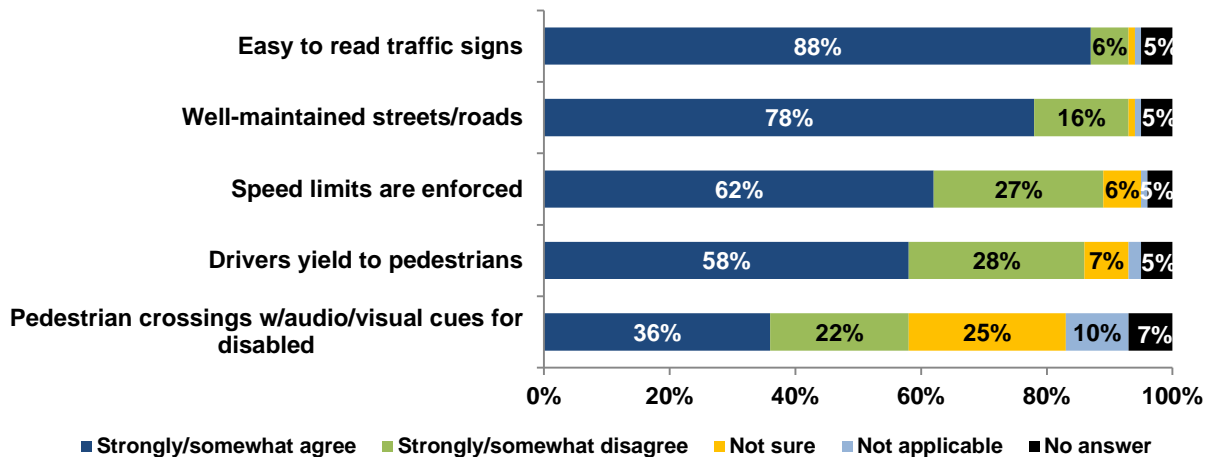
Transportation Modes of Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+*
(N=724)



*Graph shows respondents who checked "yes" under each mode of transportation.

When thinking about the streets and roads in their neighborhood, almost nine in ten strongly or somewhat agree that there neighborhood has traffic signs that are easy to read. Over three in four agree the streets and roads in their neighborhood are well-maintained. About three in five agree that neighborhood speed limits are enforced and drivers yield to pedestrians. Over a third strongly or somewhat agrees pedestrian crossings in their neighborhood have audio/visual cues for the hearing and visually impaired.

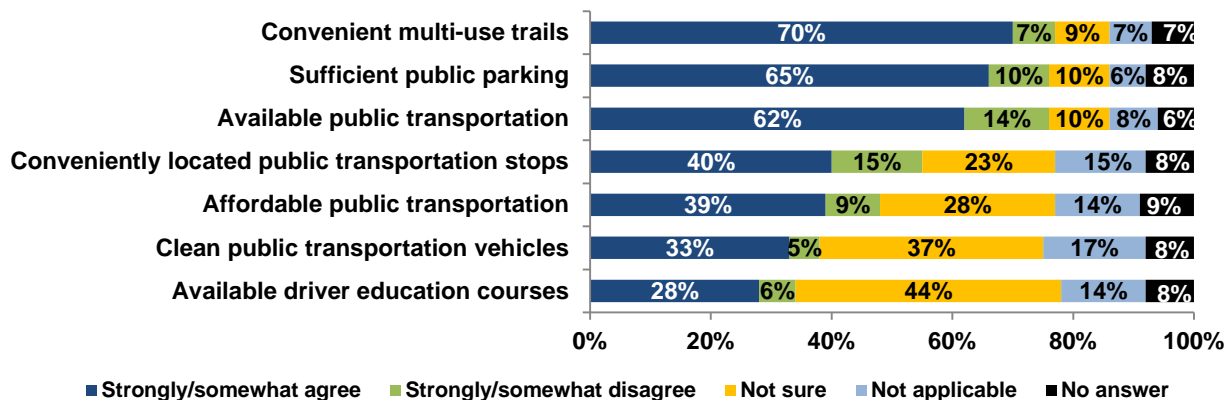
Level of Agreement with Neighborhood Streets and Roads Characteristics*
(N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Percentages less than 4 percent are not shown.

When thinking about transportation options in their neighborhood, seven in ten strongly or somewhat agree convenient multi-use trails for biking, running and walking are present in their neighborhood. Nearly two-thirds agree that their neighborhood has sufficient public parking and just over three in five agree that public transportation is available. About two in five strongly or somewhat agree there are conveniently located public transportation stops and affordable public transportation is available. Approximately three in ten agree that public transportation vehicles are clean and there are driver education and refresher courses available in their neighborhood.

Level of Agreement with Neighborhood Transportation Characteristics* (N=724)



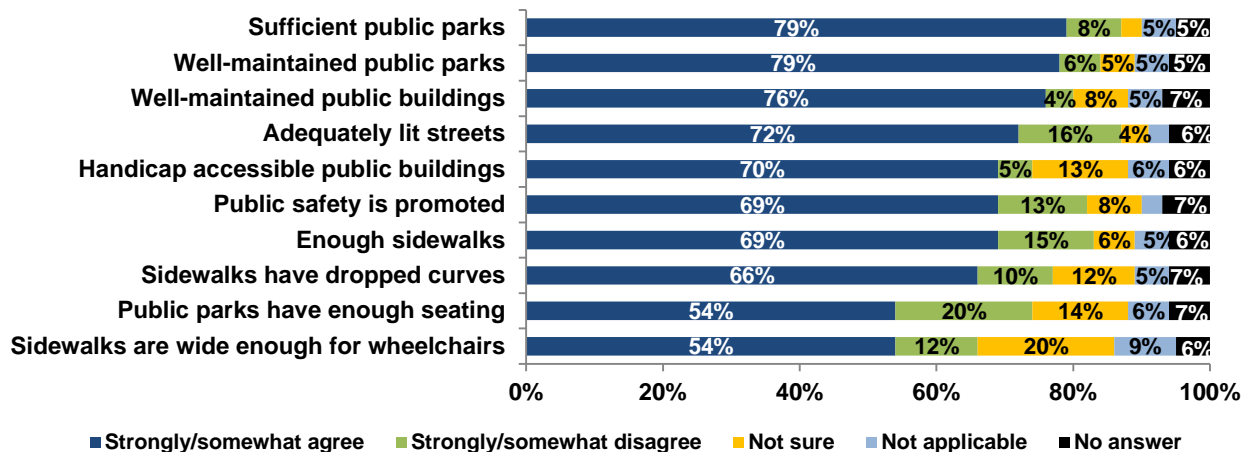
*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Outdoor Spaces

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ agree their neighborhood has good outdoor spaces including well-maintained public parks and buildings and adequately lit streets.

Nearly four in five Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ strongly or somewhat agree their neighborhood has enough well-maintained public parks as well as well-maintained public buildings. About seven in ten agree there are adequately lit streets, handicap accessible buildings, public safety is actively promoted and there are enough sidewalks. About two in three agree sidewalks in their neighborhood have dropped curves to the road level and just over half believe there are public parks with enough seating and sidewalks that are wide enough for wheelchairs.

Level of Agreement with Neighborhood Outdoor Space Characteristics* (N=724)



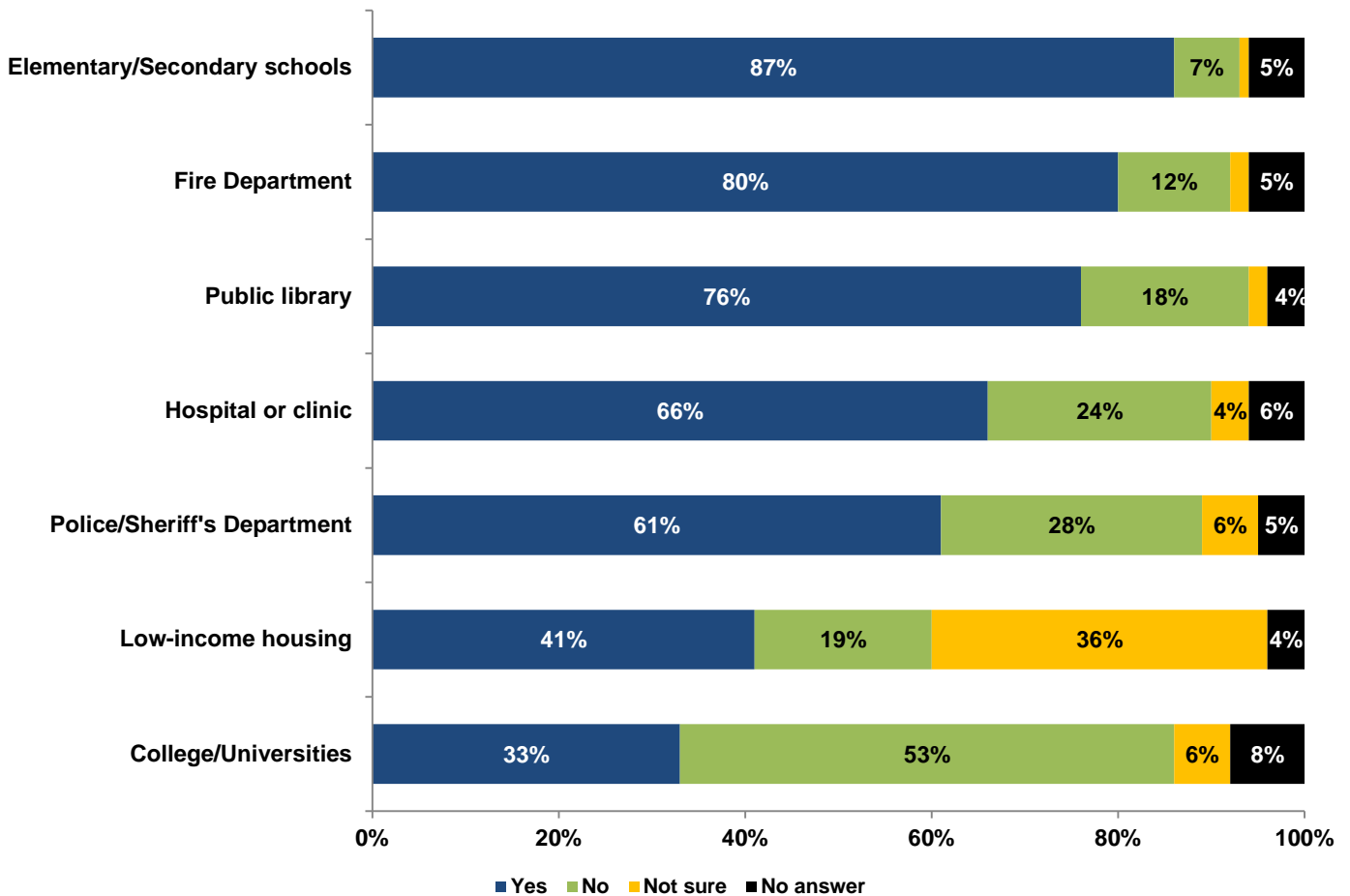
*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Percentages less than 4 percent are not shown.

Public/Private Services

Most Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say their neighborhood has elementary and secondary schools, fire departments and libraries while far fewer say they have colleges or universities.

Nearly nine in ten Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say there are elementary and secondary schools in their neighborhood. Four in five say there is a fire department in their neighborhood while three in four say there is a public library. Two-thirds say a hospital or clinic is present and three in five say there is a police department in their neighborhood. While two in five say that there are low-income housing options in their neighborhood almost as many say they are unsure if these options exist. A third says that there are higher education institutions like colleges and universities in their neighborhood while more than half say these educational institutions are not present in their neighborhood.

Presence of Neighborhood Public/Private Services*
(N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Percentages less than 4 percent are not shown.

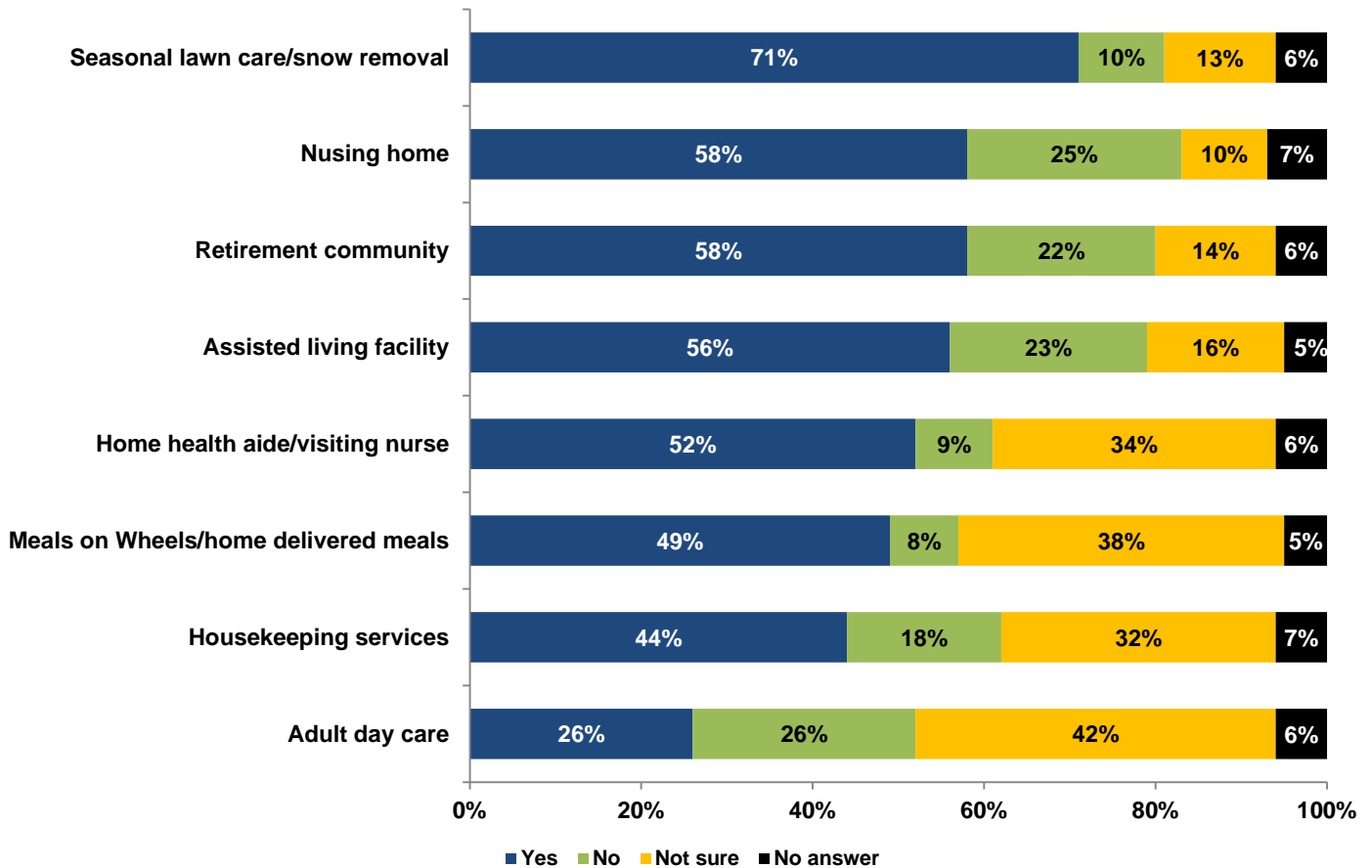
Older Adult Resources and Services

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ agree their neighborhood has services like seasonal lawn care and snow removal, retirement communities and long-term care facilities and services.

While seven in ten say seasonal lawn care or snow removal services exist in their neighborhood nearly three in five say nursing homes, assisted living facilities and retirement communities exist in their neighborhood. About half says there are home health aides and home delivered meal services like meals on wheels in their neighborhood. About two in five say there are housekeeping services available in their neighborhood and a quarter says there are adult day care options present.

It is important to note that there is a fair amount (between three in ten and four in ten) of respondents who are not sure if housekeeping services, home health aides, home delivered meals or adult day care exist in their neighborhood.

**Presence of Neighborhood Older Adult Resources and Services*
(N=724)**



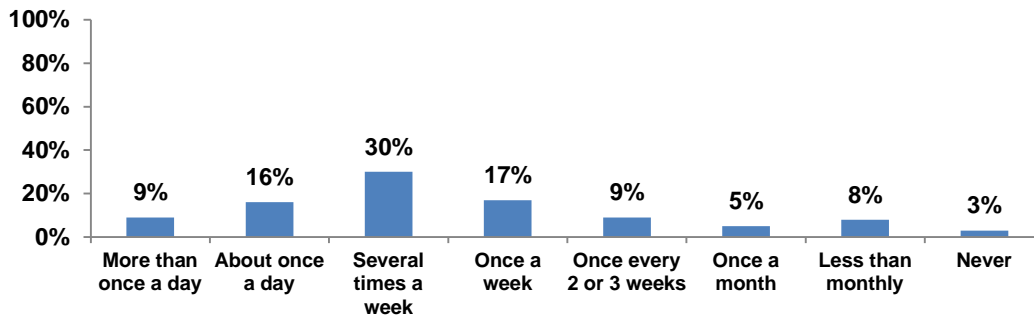
*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Social Activities

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ regularly interact with their friends and neighbors.

More than half (55%) says they interact with friends and neighbors in their neighborhood several times a week or more. One in six says they interact with others in their neighborhood once a week and about one in five (22%) interacts with people in their neighborhood less than weekly.

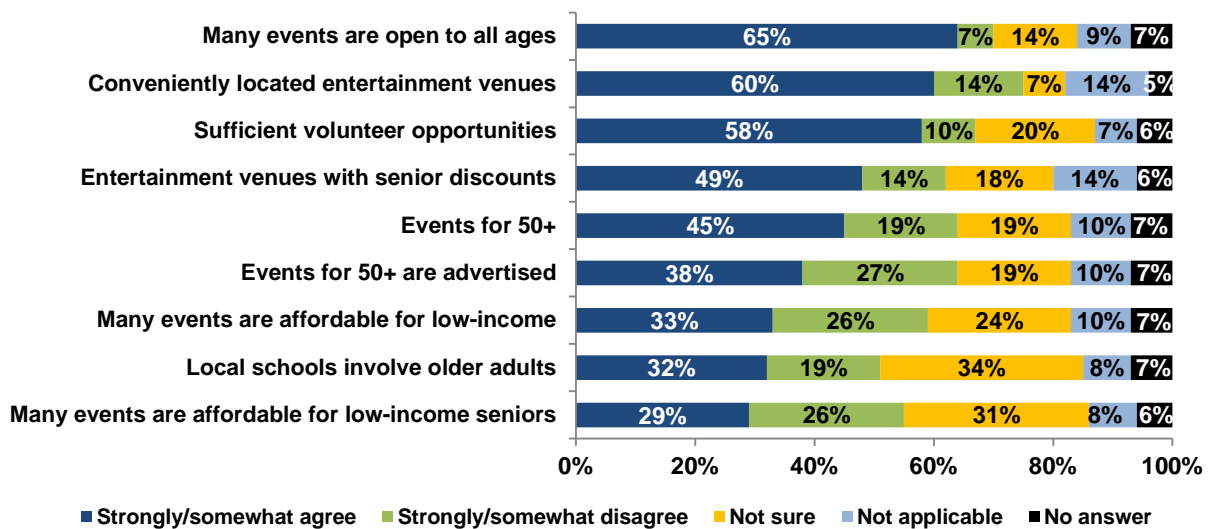
Frequency that Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ Interact with People in their Neighborhood (N=724)



Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ believe their neighborhood has some social events, activities, entertainment, restaurants and shopping.

Nearly two-thirds of Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ strongly or somewhat agree their neighborhood has many events that are open to all ages. About three five strongly or somewhat agree their neighborhood has venues for entertainment that are conveniently located and enough volunteer opportunities. About half agree there are entertainment venues that offer senior discounts and events for 50+ adults in their neighborhood; and nearly two in five agree events for 50+ adults are advertised. Fewer, about a third, agree their neighborhood has many events that are affordable for low-income adults as well as low-income seniors and local schools involve older adults in activities.

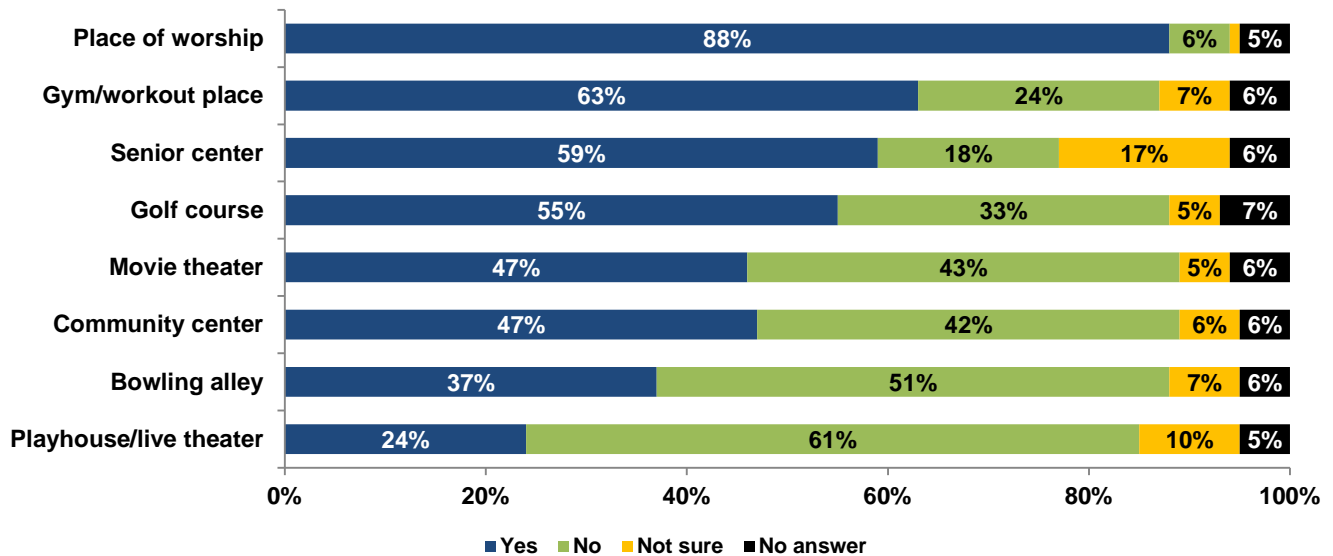
Level of Agreement with Neighborhood Social Characteristics* (N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Almost nine in ten Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say that places of worship such as churches or synagogues exist in their neighborhood. About three in five say that there are gyms and senior centers in their neighborhood. Other activities and services that about half say exist are golf courses, movie theaters and community centers. About a third or fewer say there are bowling alleys and playhouses or live theaters in their neighborhood.

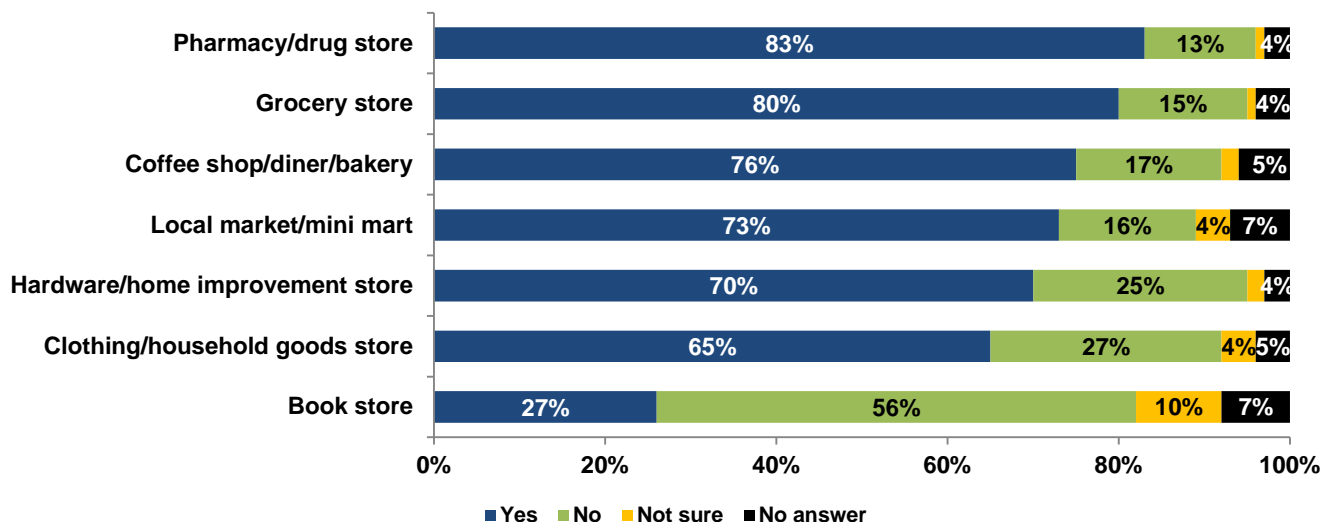
Presence of Neighborhood Activities and Entertainment* (N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Percentages less than 4 percent are not shown.

Most Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ are aware of the various restaurant and shopping options in their neighborhood. About four in five say that pharmacies and grocery stores are present in their neighborhoods while three in four say their neighborhood has coffee shops, diners or bakeries. About seven in ten say local markets and hardware or home improvement stores exist in their neighborhood and nearly two in three say there are stores to shop for clothing and household goods. Only about a quarter says there are book stores in their neighborhood.

Presence of Neighborhood Restaurants and Shopping* (N=724)



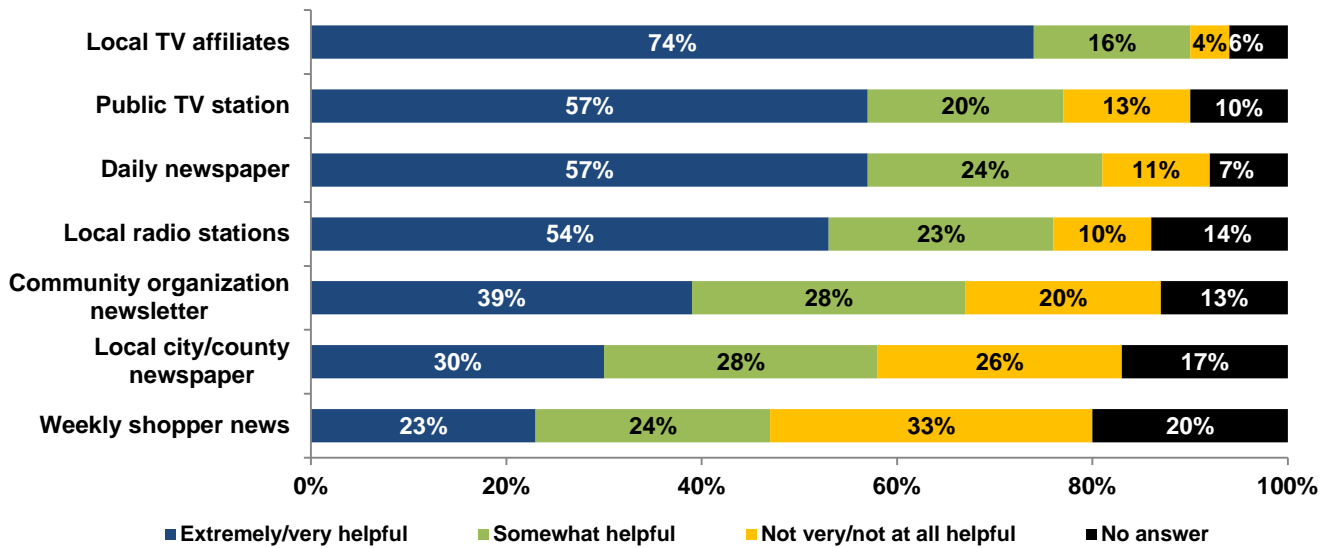
*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Percentages less than 4 percent are not shown.

Neighborhood News and Information

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ find local television affiliates to be the most helpful source for information and news in their neighborhood.

Nearly three-quarters say they find local TV affiliates to be an extremely or very helpful source of information for happenings in their neighborhood while almost three in five say they find public TV stations and daily newspapers to be extremely or very helpful. About half find local radio stations extremely or very helpful neighborhood information and news sources while about two in five find community newsletters extremely or very helpful. Fewer find local city or county newspapers or the weekly shopper news to be extremely or very helpful news sources.

Helpfulness of Neighborhood Information Sources*
(N=724)



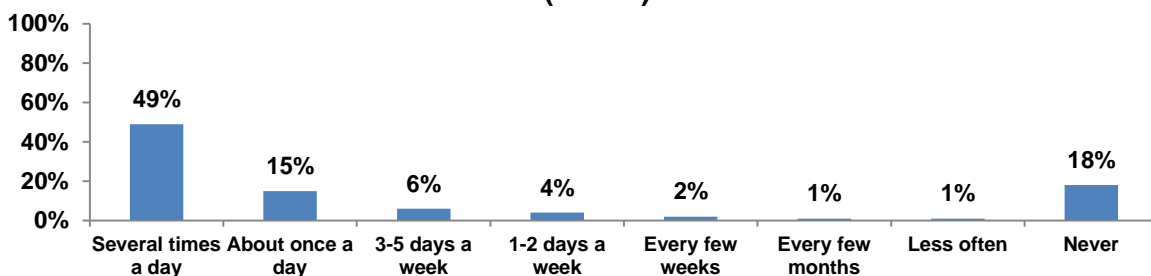
*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ and are active Internet users who mostly access the Internet for email, news and shopping.

Over seven in ten (73%) Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say they own a computer with Internet access.

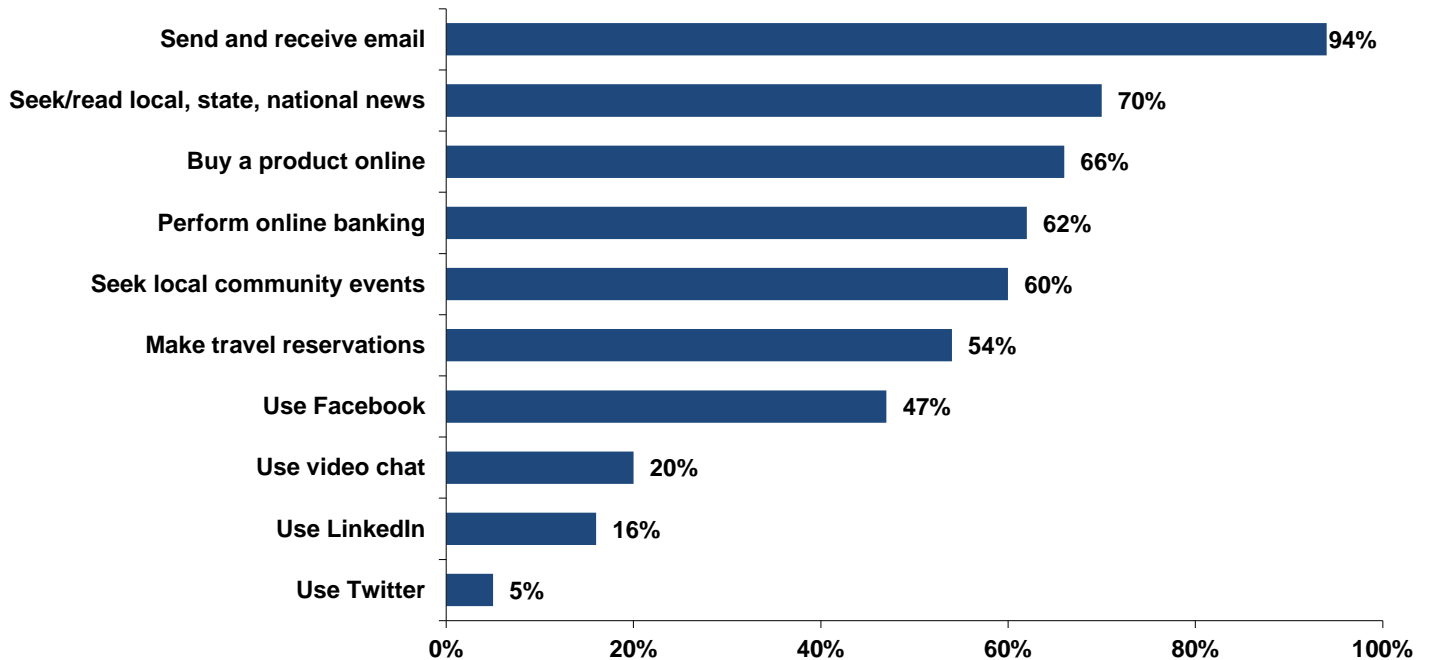
Just about half of Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ says they access the Internet several times a day and another 15 percent access it about once a day. Only one in eight (13%) says they access the Internet less than daily. It is important to note that almost one in five Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say they never access the Internet.

Frequency that Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ Access the Internet
(N=724)



Nearly all Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ who access the Internet do so mostly to send and receive email. Seven in ten use the Internet to look up local, state or national news while about two-thirds use the Internet to purchase products. About three in five perform online banking or seek out information on local community events, entertainment or dining when they access the Internet. About half use the Internet for making travel arrangements or getting on Facebook while fewer use it for video chats, LinkedIn or Twitter.

Internet Activities of Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+*
(n=556, Respondents Who Access the Internet)



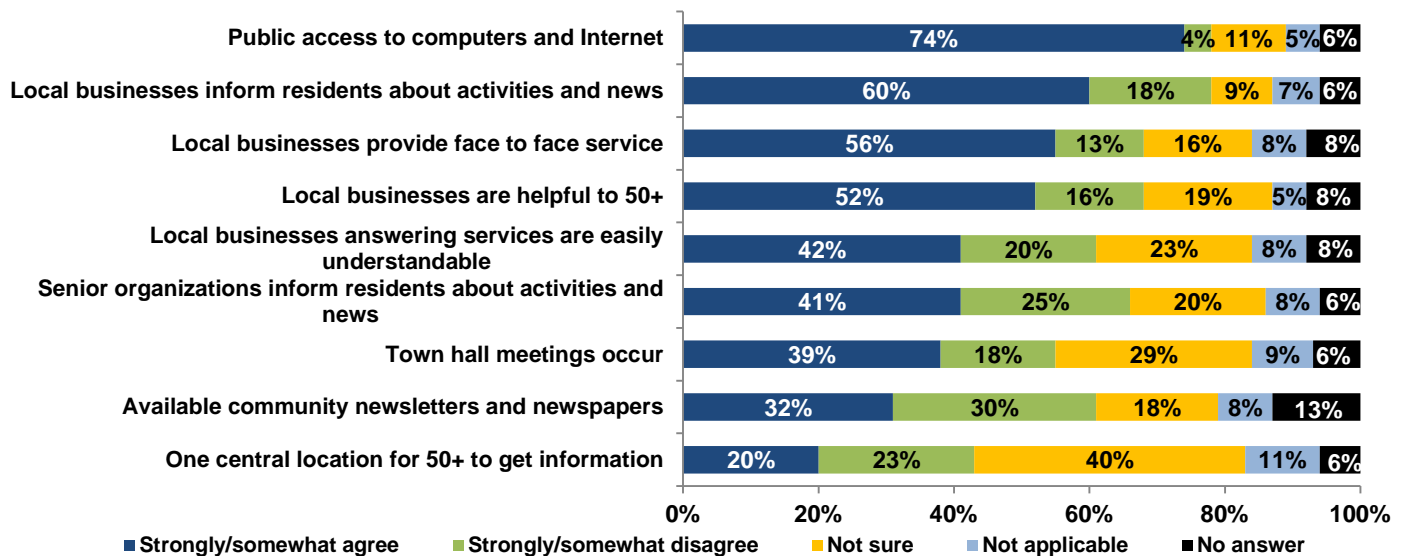
*Graph shows respondents who checked "yes" under each mode of transportation.

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ agree their neighborhood has public access to computers and the Internet as well as businesses that inform residents of activities and news.

When thinking about the information that local organizations and services in their neighborhood provide, nearly three in four Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ strongly or somewhat agree their neighborhood has public access to computers and the Internet. Three in five agree local businesses do a good job of informing residents about neighborhood activities, news and issues. About half agree local businesses provide face to face service and are helpful to 50+ adults.

About two in five agree local businesses answering services are easy to understand, senior organizations do a good job of providing information to older residents and town hall meetings are held. Less than a third strongly or somewhat agrees there are community newsletters and newspapers available and there is one central location for older adults to get information that is relevant to them.

Level of Agreement with Neighborhood Organizations and Services Ability to Provide Information* (N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

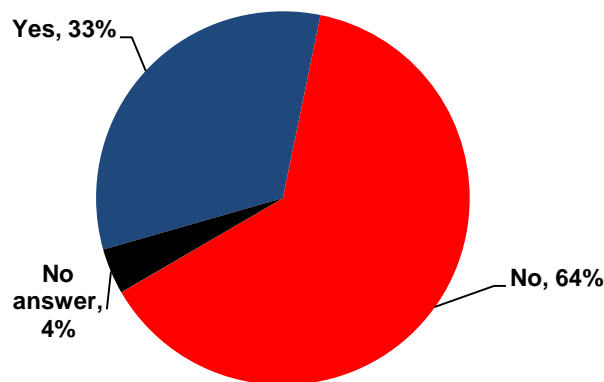
Communication

Although most Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ have cell phones they still receive most of their phone calls on their landlines.

Nearly nine in ten (87%) Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+, or someone living in their household, have or has a working cell phone.

Of these residents (n=631), a third says their cell phone is a smartphone while nearly two-thirds say it is not a smartphone.

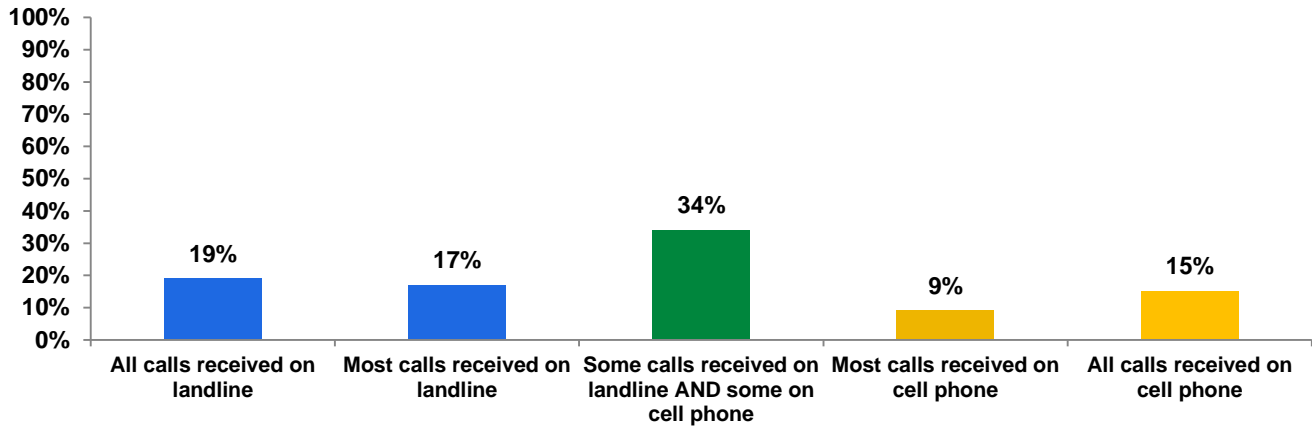
Smart Phone Ownership Among Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+* (n=631, Respondents Who Have a Cell Phone)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Over a third (37%) of Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say they receive all or most of their calls on their landline while about the same proportion says they receive some calls both their landline AND their cell phone. Only 15 percent say they receive all of their calls on their cell phone.

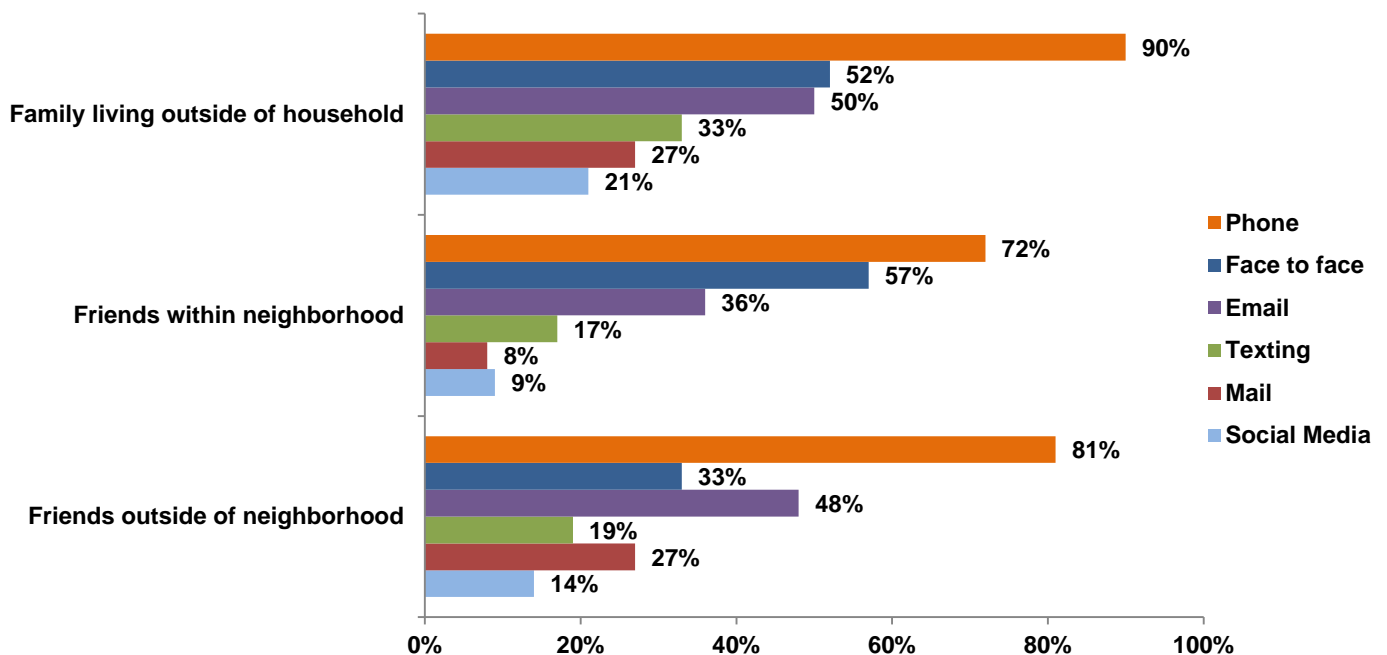
Method of Receiving Phone Calls Among Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ (N=724)



Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ prefer communicating with family, friends, coworkers and businesses by telephone over any other method.

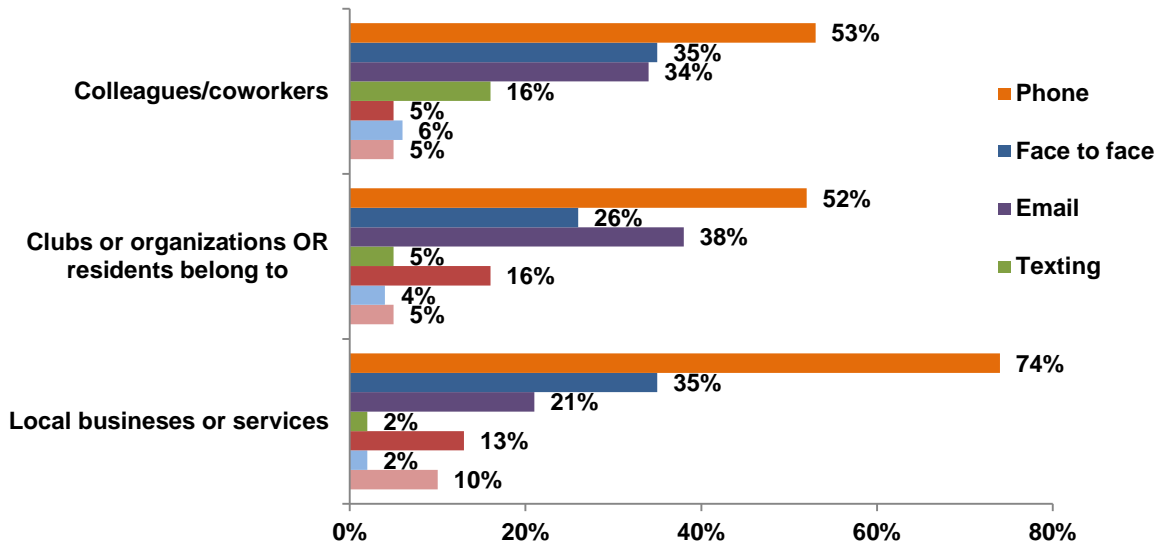
Survey respondents were given various methods of communication and asked how they typically communicate with their family, friends, work colleagues and businesses and organizations. At least seven in ten say they communicate with family, outside of their household and friends both within and outside of their neighborhood by phone. The next most preferred methods of communication with family and friends are face to face visits and email with more Des Moines/Polk County residents preferring email for family and friends who live outside of their neighborhood. About a third prefers texting with family outside their household while about one in six prefers texting with friends both inside and outside their neighborhood. Just over a quarter prefer to communicate by mail with family and friends outside of their neighborhood and fewer prefer using Social Media to communicate.

Method of Communicating with Family/Friends Among Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ (N=724)



The same trend occurs when looking at the preferred communication methods with work colleagues, membership organizations and businesses. Again, phone is the most preferred communication method among Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ with about three in four saying they communicate with local businesses via phone and about half say they use this method of communication with coworkers and clubs or organizations they belong to. About a third communicates face to face with coworkers and local businesses while a quarter use this method with clubs or organizations they belong to. About a third also uses email to communicate with coworkers and clubs or organizations and one in five uses this method with local businesses. Far fewer communicate using mail, Social Media or websites.

Method of Communicating with Work Colleagues, Clubs and Businesses Among Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ (N=724)

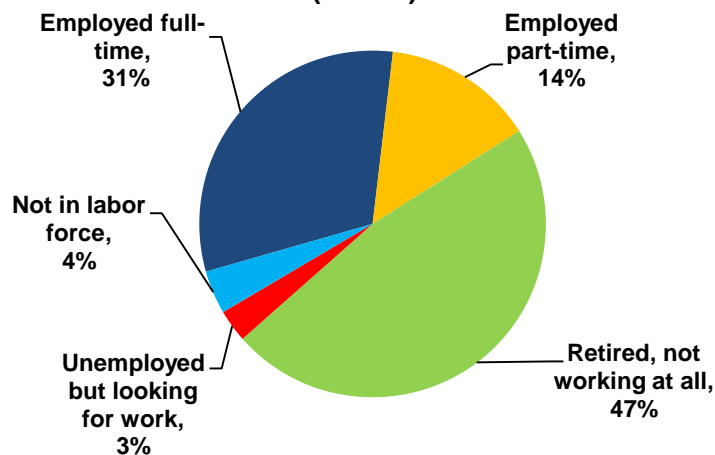


Work and Retirement

Many Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ are currently working and plan to put off retirement for as long as possible.

Over two in five (45%) Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ are employed either full or part-time while nearly half is retired and not working at all.

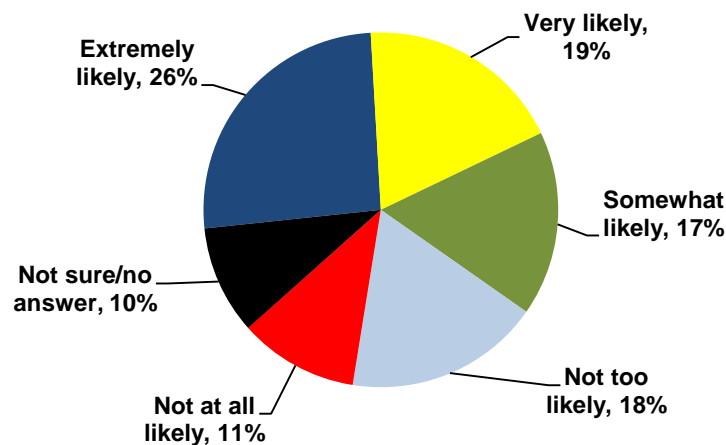
Employment Status of Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+* (N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Over two in five (45%) Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say they are extremely or very likely to put off full retirement as long as possible while another one in six says they are somewhat likely to do this.

Likelihood of Putting Off Full Retirement*
(n=361, Respondents Who Are Currently in the Workforce)



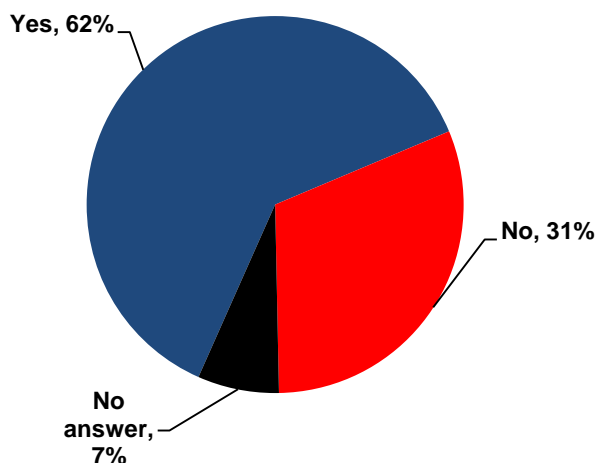
*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ believe that 50+ adults face workplace age discrimination and most agree Iowa needs to ensure that these adults can work as long as they want to regardless of their age.

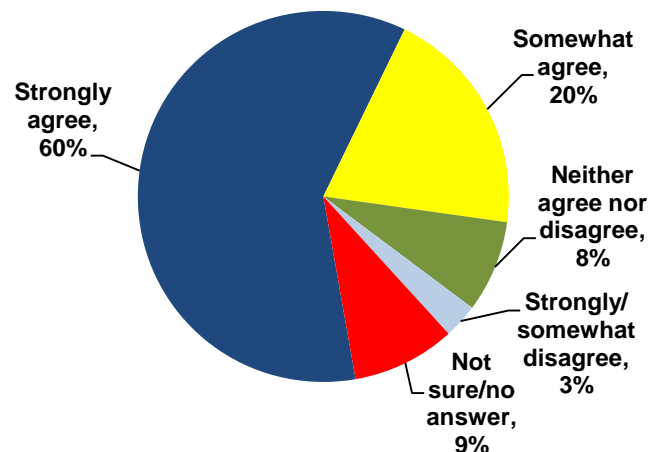
More than three in five Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say they think people over age 50 face age discrimination in the workplace. In fact 23 percent say they know someone who has faced age discrimination in the workplace such as refusal to hire, reduced compensation or limitations by an employer.

Four in five (80%) agree the state of Iowa needs to do more to ensure that people age 50 and older have equal opportunity to work for as long as they want or need to regardless of their age with 60 percent of these respondents strongly agreeing with this concept.

Do Des Moines/Polk County 50+ Residents Believe 50+ Adults Face Workplace Age Discrimination Today?
(N=724)



Level of Agreement that Iowa Needs to Ensure 50+ Adults Can Continue to Work Regardless of Age
(N=724)

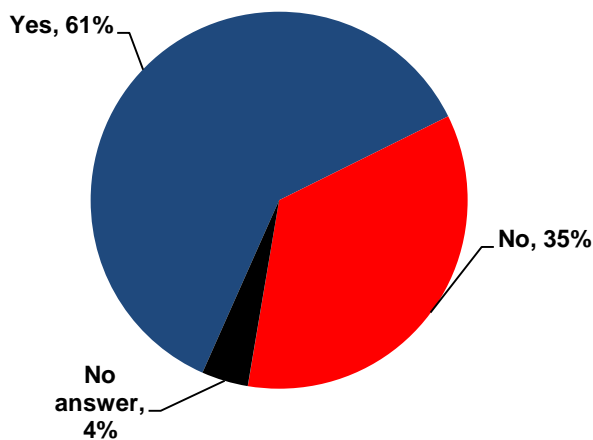


Religious/Faith Practice in Your Community

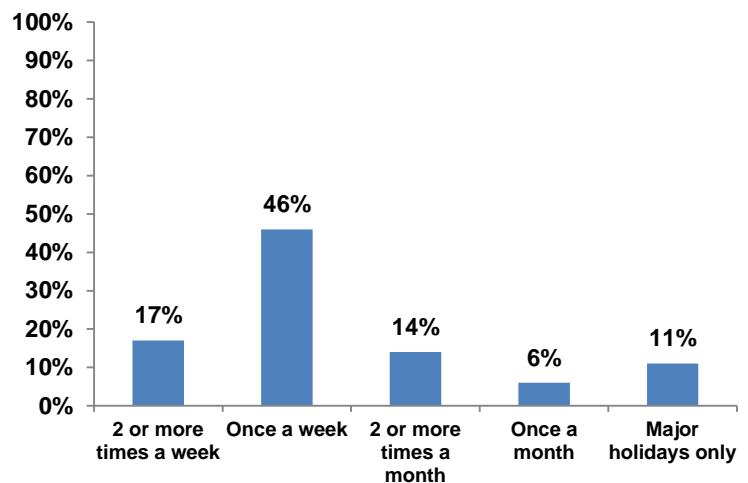
Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ belong to faith-based organizations and they regularly attend religious services.

Three in five say they are members of a religious or faith-based organization. More than three in five (62%) attend religious services once a week or more while one in seven says they attend services two or more times a month. About one in ten says they only attend religious services on major holidays.

Membership in a Religious/Faith-Based Organization Among Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ (N=724)



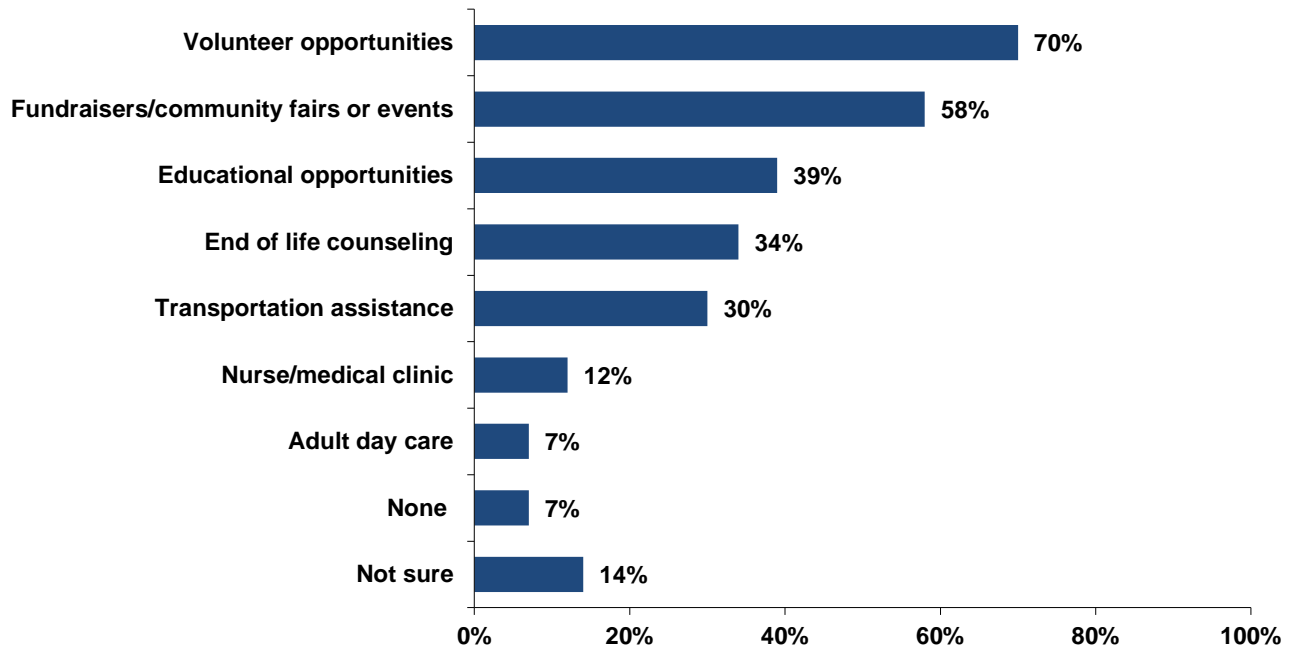
Frequency of Attending Religious Services Among Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ (n=442, Respondents Who Belong to a Religious/Faith-Based Organization)



Survey respondents who say they belong to religious or faith-based organizations were given a list of services and activities and asked if their faith-based organizations have these services and activities.

Seven in ten of these respondents say their faith-based organization has volunteer opportunities and about three in five say the faith-based organization they belong to has fundraisers or community fairs and events. Two in five say educational opportunities are offered at their faith-based organization while about a third says there is end of life counseling and transportation assistance offered here. About one in ten or fewer say their faith-based organization has nurses or medical clinics or adult day care. Only seven percent say their faith-based organization does not offer any of these services or activities and about one in seven says they are not sure what their faith-based organization has to offer.

Religious Organization Services and Events*
(n=442, Respondents Who Belong to a Religious/Faith-Based Organization)



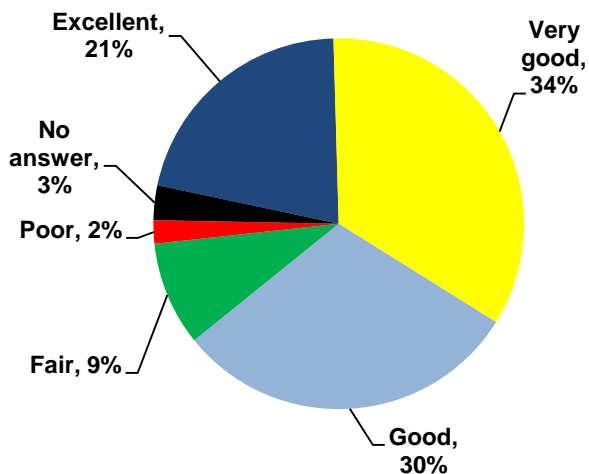
*Graph shows respondents who checked that each event or service was available within their religious/faith-based organization.

Health and Wellness

Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ believe they are in good health and that it is important for them to remain physically active.

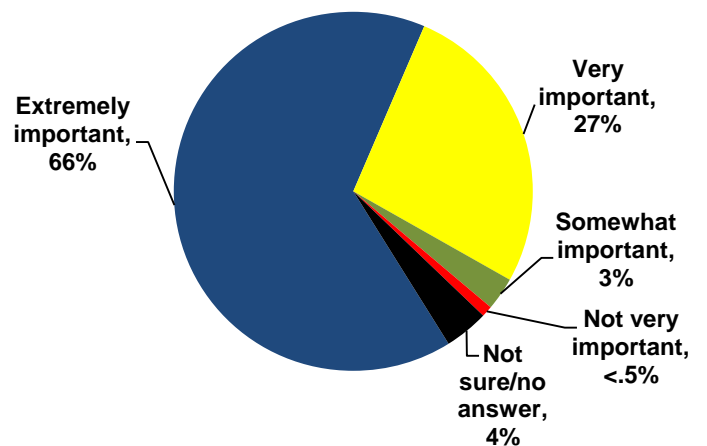
Over four in five (85%) Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say they are in excellent, very good or good health. Moreover, nearly all (96%) say it is important to them to remain physically active for as long as possible.

Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ Rating of Their Health*
(N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

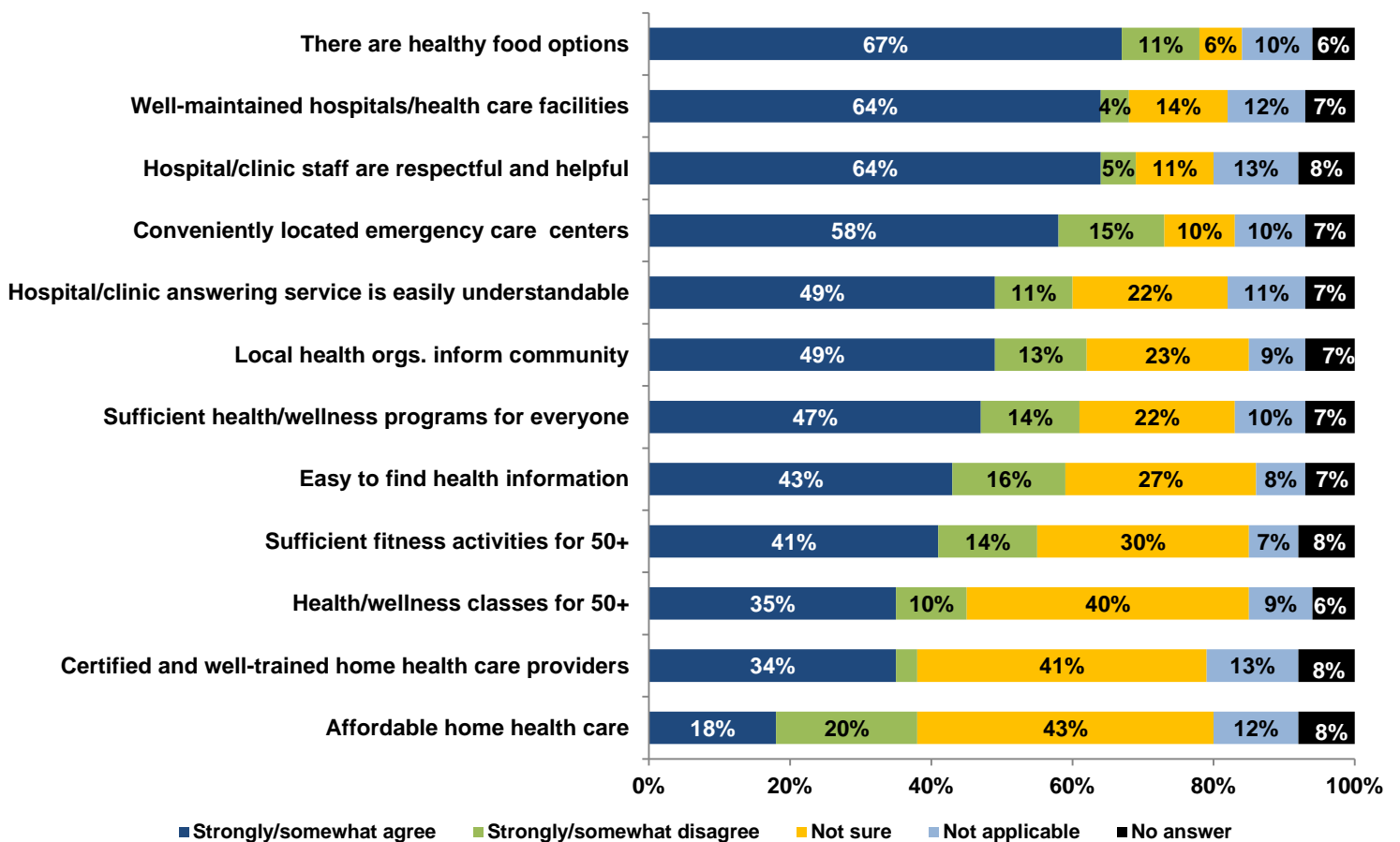
Importance of Remaining Physically Active*
(N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

When thinking about community health services in their neighborhood, about two-thirds of Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ strongly or somewhat agree there are healthy food options, like farmer’s markets and community gardens, well-maintained hospitals and health care facilities and hospital and clinic staff within their community is respectful and helpful to patients. Approximately three in five agree there are conveniently located emergency care centers in their neighborhood and about half agree neighborhood hospitals and clinics have easily understandable answering services, local health organizations do a good job of informing the community about important health issues and there are wellness programs for all residents. About two in five agree information on health issues is easy to find in their neighborhood and there are sufficient activities for 50+ adults. About a third strongly or somewhat agrees there are health and wellness classes for 50+ adults and there are neighborhood home health care providers who are certified and well-trained. Fewer than one in five agrees there is affordable home health care in their neighborhood.

Level of Agreement with Neighborhood Health Service Characteristics* (N=724)



*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

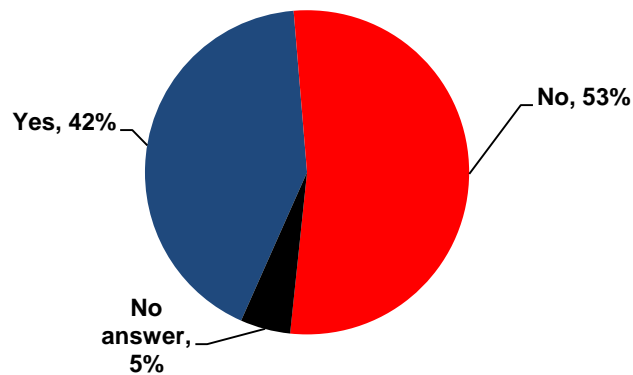
Caregiving and Grandparenting

Many Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ have provided unpaid care to an adult relative or friend in the past, and many currently provide care for their grandchildren.

More than two in five Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say they have provided unpaid care such as doing household chores or helping with personal or financial needs to a spouse, other relative, partner or friend in the past two years.

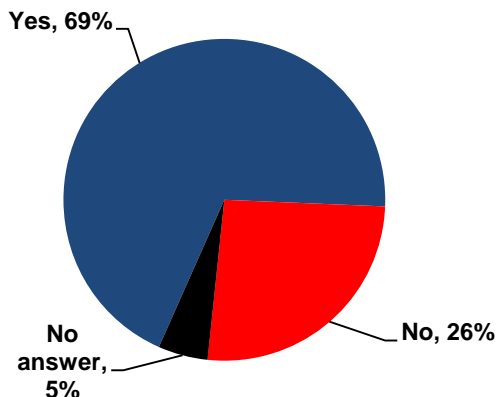
When asked if they are currently receiving any unpaid care or assistance, three percent of Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ say they are receiving this type of care from a spouse or partner. Another five percent say they are receiving this type of care from a family member other than their spouse or partner, and two percent say they are receiving help from a friend or neighbor.

Have Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ Provided Caregiving in the Past Two Years? (N=724)

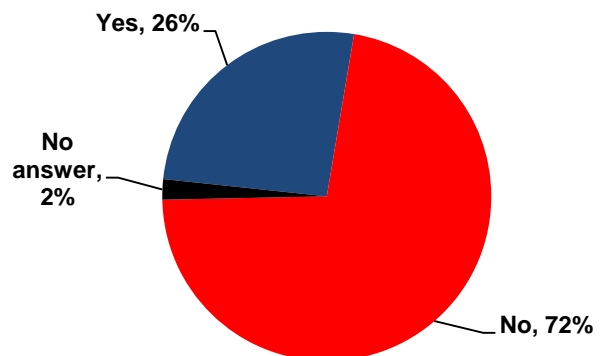


About seven in ten Des Moines/Polk County residents age 50+ are grandparents and of these residents, over a quarter says they help with the day-to-day responsibilities of caring for these children. Another one in eight (13%) says they provide care to the children or grandchildren of their friends or neighbors.

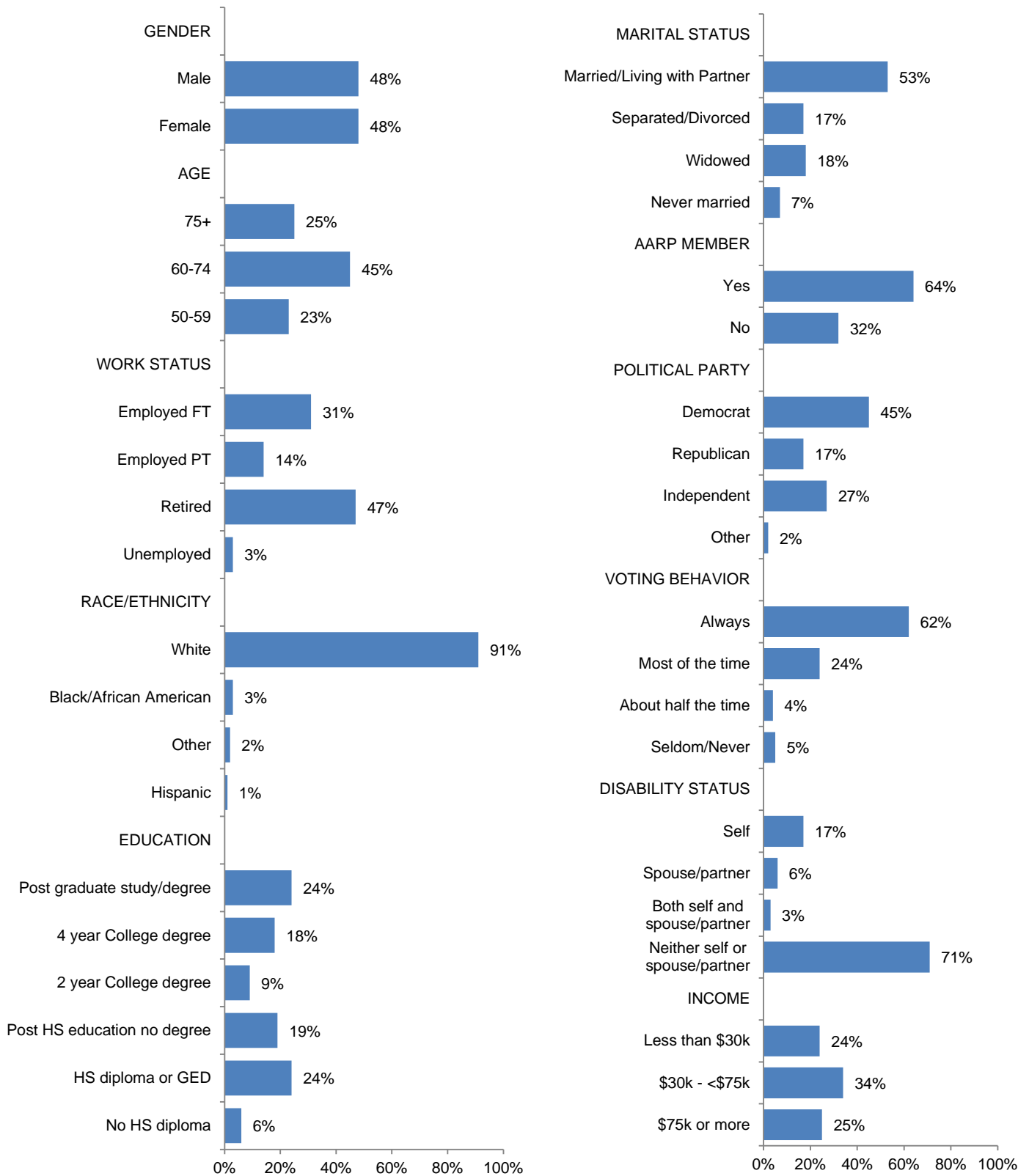
Do Des Moines/Polk County Residents Age 50+ Have Grandchildren? (N=724)



Do Des Moines/Polk County Grandparents Help with the Care of Their Grandchildren?*(N=486, Respondents with Grandchildren)



Demographic Profile of Respondents (N=724)



Annotated Questionnaire

2012 AARP Survey of Greater Des Moines/Polk County Iowa Residents Ages 50 and Older

(n = 724; Margin of Error = ± 3.7 percent)

Your Neighborhood

1. What is the name of your neighborhood? (This would be the geographical location where your home is located. A neighborhood can be located within a city or town or county. For example, Beaverdale, Drake, Union Park, etc. are neighborhoods or communities located within the greater Des Moines Metropolitan area and Polk County). _____
2. How long have you lived in this neighborhood? **Average number of years: 23**
3. How long have you lived in Polk County/Des Moines? **Average number of years: 41**
4. Currently about how frequently do you interact with your neighbors in your neighborhood? (This could be by phone, in person, via social media like Facebook, email, or Skype)
 - 9% Several times a day
 - 16% About once a day
 - 30% Several times a week
 - 17% Once a week
 - 9% Once every 2 or 3 weeks
 - 5% Once a month
 - 8% Less than monthly
 - 3% Never
 - 4% No answer
5. Some people reside in places outside of Greater Des Moines for part of the year. Which of the following describes how you reside in Greater Des Moines? [**CHECK ONE ONLY**]
 - 84% Year round, do not reside anywhere outside of Greater Des Moines
 - 6% Seasonally, reside outside of Greater Des Moines during winter, spring, summer, or fall on regular basis
 - 6% Temporary, sometimes reside outside of Greater Des Moines during holidays, local, or family events
 - 5% No answer
6. Thinking about the next 10 years, how likely is it that you will move to a different home in Des Moines/Polk County?
 - 8% Extremely likely
 - 7% Very likely
 - 16% Somewhat likely
 - 29% Not too likely
 - 30% Not at all likely
 - 8% Not sure
 - 3% No answer

7. Thinking of the next 10 years, how likely is it that you will move to a different home *outside* of Des Moines/Polk County?

- 4% Extremely likely
- 5% Very likely
- 12% Somewhat likely
- 29% Not too likely
- 40% Not at all likely
- 7% Not sure
- 3% No answer

8. How would you rate your neighborhood as a place for people to live as they age?

- 2% Excellent
- 8% Very good
- 27% Good
- 36% Fair
- 23% Poor
- 1% Not sure
- 3% No answer

9. How important is it for you to remain in your *neighborhood* as you grow older?

- 15% Extremely important
- 25% Very important
- 34% Somewhat important
- 16% Not too important
- 6% Not important at all
- 1% Not sure
- 3% No answer

10. How important is it for you to remain in your own *home* as you age?

- 30% Extremely important
- 35% Very important
- 20% Somewhat important
- 8% Not too important
- 3% Not important at all
- 1% Not sure
- 4% No answer

11. When you think about *your neighborhood*, how strongly would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (If the feature does *not exist* in your neighborhood, please check 'Not applicable').

Social Events and Activities

In my neighborhood.....

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure	N/A	No Ans.
a. Venues for entertainment are conveniently located	24%	36%	8%	6%	6%	14%	5%
b. Venues for entertainment offer senior discounts.....	16%	33%	10%	4%	18%	14%	6%
c. There are events for people 50 or older	14%	32%	12%	7%	19%	10%	7%
d. Many events are open to all ages	29%	36%	5%	2%	14%	9%	7%
e. Many events are affordable to low-income residents.....	9%	24%	18%	8%	24%	10%	7%
f. Events for people 50 and older are advertised	9%	29%	18%	9%	19%	10%	7%
g. There are a sufficient number of volunteer opportunities	23%	35%	6%	4%	20%	7%	6%
h. Local schools involve older people in events/activities ..	10%	23%	13%	6%	34%	8%	6%
i. Many events are affordable to low income seniors	8%	22%	16%	10%	31%	8%	6%

12. In which of the following ways do you usually get around for things like shopping, visiting the doctor, running errands, etc? Do you:

	Yes	No	No Ans.
a. Drive.....	91%	4%	5%
b. Get a ride with family or friends	23%	41%	37%
c. Walk	24%	39%	37%
d. Ride a bike	11%	49%	40%
e. Use public transportation.....	5%	55%	40%
f. Take a taxi/cab.....	3%	57%	41%
g. Use other transportation service.....	2%	58%	41%
h. Other: (specify): _____	2%	0%	98%

13. When you think about *your neighborhood*, how strongly would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (If the feature does *not exist* in your neighborhood, please check 'Not applicable').

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure	N/A	No Ans.
Outdoor Spaces							
<i>In my neighborhood...</i>							
a. There is a sufficient number of public parks.....	42%	37%	6%	3%	3%	5%	5%
b. The public parks are well maintained/clean.....	42%	37%	5%	1%	5%	5%	5%
c. Public parks have enough seating.....	21%	33%	15%	4%	14%	6%	7%
d. There are enough sidewalks.....	33%	36%	11%	4%	6%	5%	6%
e. Sidewalks are wide enough for wheelchairs	26%	28%	8%	4%	20%	9%	6%
f. Sidewalks have dropped curbs to road level.....	30%	35%	6%	3%	12%	5%	7%
g. Public buildings are handicap accessible.....	35%	35%	5%	1%	13%	6%	6%
h. Public buildings are well maintained/clean.....	36%	40%	3%	1%	8%	5%	7%
i. Streets are adequately lit at night.....	31%	41%	10%	5%	4%	3%	6%
j. Public safety is actively promoted	30%	39%	9%	4%	8%	3%	7%
Transportation							
<i>In my neighborhood...</i>							
a. Public transportation is available	30%	32%	8%	6%	10%	8%	6%
b. Public transportation vehicles are clean.....	16%	18%	4%	1%	37%	17%	8%
c. Public transportation stops are conveniently located..	17%	23%	9%	6%	23%	15%	8%
d. Public transportation is affordable.....	16%	24%	7%	2%	28%	14%	9%
e. Driver education/refresher courses are available	12%	16%	4%	2%	44%	14%	8%
f. There is sufficient public parking (lots, spaces, areas)	25%	40%	7%	3%	10%	6%	8%
g. Multi-use trails are convenient (bike, running, walking)	38%	31%	4%	3%	9%	7%	9%

Roads

In my neighborhood....

a. Streets/roads are well maintained	33%	45%	11%	5%	1%	<.5%	5%
b. Traffic signs are easy to read.....	46%	41%	5%	1%	1%	1%	5%
c. Pedestrian crossings have audio/visual cues for hearing /visually disabled.....	15%	21%	11%	12%	25%	10%	7%
d. Drivers yield to pedestrians crossing the street	18%	41%	20%	8%	7%	2%	5%
e. Speed limits are enforced	22%	40%	16%	11%	6%	<.5%	5%

News and Community Information

14. How helpful do you find each of the following sources for news and information in your local community?

	Extremely helpful	Very helpful	Somewhat helpful	Not very helpful	Not helpful at all	No Answer
a. Daily newspaper (Des Moines Register).....	28%	29%	24%	7%	5%	7%
b. Local city/county newspaper	11%	19%	28%	10%	16%	17%
c. Weekly Shopper News	8%	15%	24%	15%	18%	20%
d. Local TV affiliates (KCCI, WHO, WOI, Fox-17)..	38%	36%	16%	3%	2%	6%
e. Public television station	27%	30%	20%	8%	5%	10%
f. Local radio stations	22%	31%	23%	6%	4%	14%
g. Other community organization newsletter, such as from a church, civic group, neighborhood association	14%	25%	28%	10%	10%	13%

15. Do you own a computer with Internet access (wireless, dial-up/modem, or cable)?

73% Yes 21% No 7% No answer

16. About how often do you access the Internet (from home, a cellphone, the library, an office, etc.)?

49% Several times a day
 15% About once a day
 6% 3-5 days a week
 4% 1-2 days a week
 2% Every few weeks
 1% Every few months
 1% Less often
 18% Never/Not at all **[GO TO QUESTION 18]**
 5% No answer

17. Do you do any of the following activities when you use the Internet? (n=556, respondents who access the Internet)

	Yes	No	No Ans.
a. Send and receive email or text	94%	5%	1%
b. Perform online banking or other financial services.....	62%	37%	2%
c. Seek/read local, state, or national news/information	70%	28%	2%
d. Buy reservations online for various travel services	54%	44%	2%
e. Buy a product online, such as books, music, toys, clothing	66%	32%	3%
f. Use Facebook	47%	51%	2%
g. Use Twitter	5%	91%	3%
h. Use LinkedIn	16%	81%	3%
i. Use Video chat (such as Skype)	20%	77%	3%
j. Seek local community events, entertainment, dining	60%	36%	3%

18. Do you or anyone living in your household have a working cell phone?

87% Yes 9% No **[GO TO QUESTION 20]** 4% No answer

19. Is this cell phone a smartphone such as a blackberry, iPhone, or Droid? (n=631, respondents with a working cell phone)

33% Yes 64% No 4% No answer

20. Which of the following best describes how you or any other adults living in your household receive all of the telephone calls coming into the household? **[CHECK ONLY ONE ANSWER]**

- 19% All calls received on regular (landline) phones
- 17% Most calls but not all calls received on regular (landline) phones
- 34% Some calls received on cell phones AND some calls received on regular (landline) phones
- 9% Most calls but not all calls received on cell phones
- 15% All calls received on cell phones
- 6% No answer

21. How do you typically communicate with the following: For each, **[CHECK ALL types]** of communication you use to communicate with each.

	Marked	Unmarked
a. Family living <i>outside</i> household.....		
Phone	90%	10%
Mail	27%	74%
Face to face visits	52%	48%
Email	50%	50%
Phone texting	33%	67%
Phone texting	21%	79%
Social Media (Facebook, Skype, etc)		
Business/organization websites	1%	99%

	Marked	Unmarked
b. Friends/neighbors <i>in</i> community		
Phone	72%	28%
Mail	8%	92%
Face to face visits	57%	43%
Email	36%	65%
Phone texting	17%	83%
Phone texting	9%	91%
Social Media (Facebook, Skype, etc)		
Business/organization websites	1%	99%
c. Friends/neighbors <i>outside</i> community .		
Phone	81%	19%
Mail	27%	73%
Face to face visits	33%	69%
Face to face visits	48%	52%
Email	19%	81%
Phone texting	14%	86%
Phone texting		
Social Media (Facebook, Skype, etc)		
Business/organization websites	1%	99%
d. Colleagues/coworkers		
Phone	53%	47%
Mail	5%	95%
Mail	35%	66%
Face to face visits	34%	66%
Face to face visits	16%	84%
Email	6%	94%
Phone texting		
Phone texting		
Social Media (Facebook, Skype, etc)		
Business/organization websites	5%	95%
e. Clubs or organizations you belong to ...		
Phone	52%	48%
Mail	16%	85%
Mail	26%	75%
Face to face visits	38%	63%
Face to face visits	5%	95%
Email	4%	96%
Phone texting		
Phone texting		
Social Media (Facebook, Skype, etc)		
Business/organization websites	5%	95%
f. Local businesses or services.....		
Phone	74%	26%
Mail	13%	87%
Mail	35%	65%
Face to face visits	21%	79%
Face to face visits	2%	98%
Email	2%	98%
Phone texting		
Phone texting		
Social Media (Facebook, Skype, etc)		
Social Media (Facebook, Skype, etc)	10%	90%
Business/organization websites		

22. When you think about *your neighborhood*, how strongly would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (If the feature does *not exist* in your neighborhood, please check '**Not applicable**').

Local Service and Organization Communication <i>In my neighborhood...</i>	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure	N/A	No Ans.
a. Local businesses and organizations do a good job of informing all residents about activities, news, or issues	15%	45%	14%	4%	9%	7%	6%
b. Senior organizations do a good job of informing older residents about activities, news or issues	12%	29%	17%	8%	20%	8%	6%
c. There is ONE central location for older persons to get all information, news, announcements relevant to them.	5%	15%	13%	10%	40%	11%	6%
d. There are town halls or similar local meetings for residents to get information about local happenings.	11%	28%	11%	7%	29%	9%	6%
e. Local business' or organization's answering services are easy to understand and helpful	9%	32%	14%	5%	23%	8%	8%
f. Local businesses are helpful to people age 50 and older	13%	39%	12%	4%	19%	5%	8%
g. There are many community newsletters or newspapers	9%	23%	18%	12%	18%	8%	13%
h. Local businesses' provide face-to-face service	19%	37%	10%	3%	16%	8%	8%
i. There is public access to computers and Internet (such as at a library, school, government/public building, etc.)	39%	35%	3%	1%	11%	5%	6%

Work and Retirement

23. Which of the following best describes your current employment status?

Marked Unmarked

3%	97%	Self employed full-time
3%	97%	Self-employed part-time
28%	72%	Employed full-time
11%	89%	Employed part-time
47%	53%	Retired, not working at all [GO TO QUESTION 25]
3%	97%	Unemployed but looking for work
4%	97%	Not in labor force for other reasons

24. How likely is it that you will put off full retirement and work as long as possible? (n=361, respondents currently in the workforce or not in labor force for other reasons)

26%	Extremely likely
19%	Very likely
17%	Somewhat likely
18%	Not too likely
11%	Not at all likely
5%	Not sure
5%	No answer

25. Based on what you have seen or experienced, do you think people over the age of 50 face age discrimination today in the workplace?

62% Yes 31% No 7% No answer

26. In the last 4 years, have you or has anyone you know faced age discrimination in the workplace such as refusal to hire, reduced compensation, or limitations by an employer? **[CHECK ONLY ONE]**

4% Yes, myself and someone I know
 4% Yes, myself
 23% Yes, someone I know
 38% No
 27% Not sure
 5% No answer

27. How strongly do you agree or disagree that the state of Iowa needs to do more to ensure people age 50 and older continue to have equal opportunity to work for as long as they want or need regardless of their age?

60% Strongly agree
 20% Somewhat agree
 8% Neither agree nor disagree
 1% Somewhat disagree
 1% Strongly disagree
 6% Not sure
 4% No answer

Community/Neighborhood Features

28. Please think *only of your neighborhood* and indicate whether or not each of the following types of businesses or services are located in your neighborhood.

	Yes	No	Not sure	No Answer
a. Coffee shop, diner, bakery	76%	17%	2%	5%
b. Grocery store	80%	15%	<.5%	4%
c. Local market or mini-mart.....	73%	16%	4%	7%
d. Pharmacy/Drug store.....	83%	13%	1%	4%
e. Book store	27%	56%	10%	7%
f. Community center (YMCA, YWCA, similar)	47%	42%	6%	6%
g. Nursing home	58%	25%	10%	7%
h. Housekeeping services (cleaning or light maintenance services)	44%	18%	32%	7%
i. Seasonal lawn care or snow removal	71%	10%	13%	6%
j. Assisted living facility.....	56%	23%	16%	5%
k. Retirement community.....	58%	22%	14%	6%
l. Golf course.....	55%	33%	5%	7%
m. Gym or place to work out.....	63%	24%	7%	6%
n. Adult day care services or centers.....	26%	26%	42%	6%
o. Meals-on-wheels or similar home delivered meals	49%	8%	38%	5%
p. Home health aide or visiting nurse services.....	52%	9%	34%	6%

28. (Continued) Please think *only of your neighborhood* and indicate whether or not each of the following types of businesses or services are located in your neighborhood.

	Yes	No	Not sure	No Answer
q. Hospital or clinic	66%	24%	4%	6%
r. Senior center	59%	18%	17%	6%
s. Police department or Sheriff's office	61%	28%	6%	5%
t. Fire department	80%	12%	2%	5%
u. Stores to shop for clothes or household goods	65%	27%	4%	5%
v. Public library	76%	18%	2%	4%
w. Schools (elementary or secondary)	87%	7%	1%	5%
x. College or University	33%	53%	6%	8%
y. Church, Synagogue, or other place of worship	88%	6%	1%	5%
z. Movie theater	46%	43%	5%	6%
aa. Playhouse/Live Theater	24%	61%	10%	5%
bb. Bowling alley	37%	51%	7%	6%
cc. Hardware store (local business, Home Depot, Lowe's, etc.)	70%	25%	2%	4%
dd. Low-income housing	41%	19%	36%	4%

29. When you think about *your neighborhood*, how strongly would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (If the feature does *not exist* in your neighborhood, please check 'Not applicable').

Housing In my neighborhood...	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure	N/A	No Ans.
a. Home repair contractors are trustworthy.....	12%	42%	8%	2%	22%	9%	6%
b. Home repair contractors do quality work	13%	44%	7%	2%	21%	9%	6%
c. There are many home contractors to choose from	17%	31%	10%	4%	24%	7%	7%
d. People take good care of their homes/property	29%	52%	10%	2%	2%	1%	5%
e. People help older persons take care of their home's property.....	12%	31%	14%	9%	23%	4%	7%
f. Low-income housing in my neighborhood is well maintained.....	6%	17%	10%	5%	31%	26%	6%
g. Home prices overall are affordable (not too high or low).....	12%	42%	18%	6%	13%	3%	6%
h. There are many homes for sale	14%	38%	18%	8%	15%	2%	5%

Religious/Faith Practice In Your Community

30. Do you belong to a religious or faith based organization, such as a church, synagogue, mosque?

- 61% Yes
- 35% No [GO TO QUESTION 33]
- 4% No answer

31. How often do you attend religious services? **[CHECK ONLY ONE]** (n=442, respondents who belong to a religious or faith-based organization)
- 17% 2 or more times a week
 - 46% Once a week
 - 14% 2 or more times a month
 - 6% Once a month
 - 11% Only on major holidays
 - 3% Not sure
 - 4% No answer
32. Does your religious or faith-based organization have any of the following: **[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]** (n=442, respondents who belong to a religious or faith-based organization)

Marked

- 12% Nurse or medical clinic (n = 51)
- 7% Adult/senior day care (n = 31)
- 39% Educational opportunities (n = 171)
- 34% End of life counseling (n = 151)
- 70% Volunteer opportunities (n = 308)
- 58% Fundraisers or community fairs or events (n = 254)
- 30% Transportation assistance (n = 131)
- 7% My local religious/faith-based organization have **NONE** of these (n = 31)
- 14% Not sure if my religious/faith-based organization have any of these (n = 60)

Health and Wellness

33. In general, when compared to most people your age, how would you rate your health?
- 21% Excellent
 - 34% Very good
 - 30% Good
 - 9% Fair
 - 2% Poor
 - 3% No answer
34. How important is it to you to remain physically active for as long as possible?
- 66% Extremely important
 - 27% Very important
 - 3% Somewhat important
 - <.5% Not too important
 - <.5% Not sure
 - 4% No answer
35. Thinking about *your neighborhood*, how strongly would you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? (If the feature does *not* exist in your neighborhood, please check 'Not applicable').

Community Health Services <i>In my neighborhood...</i>	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure	N/A	No Ans.
a. There are healthy food options (organic foods, farmers markets, community gardens).....	34%	33%	5%	6%	6%	10%	6%
b. There are sufficient health/wellness programs /classes (i.e. nutrition, smoking cessation, weight control).....	20%	27%	8%	6%	22%	10%	7%
c. Emergency care centers are conveniently located	28%	31%	9%	7%	10%	10%	7%
d. Home health care providers are well trained and certified.....	17%	17%	2%	2%	41%	13%	8%
e. Community/local public health information is easy to find.....	15%	28%	11%	6%	27%	8%	7%
f. There are health/wellness classes for people age 50 and older	15%	20%	5%	4%	40%	9%	6%
g. There are sufficient fitness activities for people 50 and older	17%	24%	8%	5%	30%	7%	8%
h. Hospital and clinic staff are respectful and helpful	29%	35%	3%	2%	11%	13%	8%
i. Home health care is affordable	6%	12%	10%	9%	43%	12%	8%
j. Hospitals and health care facilities are well maintained	28%	37%	3%	1%	14%	12%	7%
k. Local health organizations do a good job of informing the community about important issues and staying healthy	16%	33%	9%	4%	23%	9%	7%
l. Local hospital or clinic answering services are easy to understand and helpful	16%	33%	8%	3%	22%	11%	7%

Caregiving and Grandparenting

36. In the past 2 years, have you provided any *unpaid assistance* (e.g. household chores, personal needs, financial or medical management) to care for a relative, friend, spouse, companion, or partner 18 years or older who is ill, frail, elderly, has a physical, mental, or emotional disability?

- 42% Yes
- 53% No
- 5% No answer

37. Are you currently *receiving* any unpaid care or help like that described in Question 36 from a friend or relative or neighbor? **[CHECK ONLY ONE]**

- 3% Yes, primarily from a spouse or partner
- 5% Yes, primarily from a family member other than a spouse or partner
- 2% Yes, primarily from a friend or neighbor
- 86% No
- 5% No answer

38. Do you have any grandchildren, including great grandchildren or step-grandchildren?

- 69% Yes
- 26% No **[GO TO QUESTION 40]**
- 5% No answer

39. Do you help with any of the day-to-day responsibilities of caring for any of your grandchildren, great grandchildren, or step-grandchildren? (n=486, respondents with grandchildren)

- 26% Yes
- 72% No
- 2% No answer

40. Do you provide any care to or baby-sit the children or grandchildren of your friends or neighbors?

- 13% Yes
- 82% No
- 6% No answer

About You

D1. Are you male or female?

- 48% Male
- 48% Female
- 5% No answer

D2. What is your age as of your last birthday? (AGE IN YEARS)

- 23% 50-59 years old
- 45% 60-74 years old
- 25% 75+ years old
- 7% No answer

D3. What is your current marital status?

- 52% Married
- 1% Not married, living with partner
- 1% Separated
- 16% Divorced
- 18% Widowed
- 7% Never married
- 6% No answer

D4. Besides you, do you have any of the following people living in your household?

	Yes	No	No Answer
a. Child/children under 18	5%	69%	26%
b. Child/children 18 or older.....	10%	65%	24%
c. Child/children away at college	4%	67%	29%
d. Adult relative or friend 18 or older	25%	59%	17%

D5. What is your race and/or ethnicity? [CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

Marked Unmarked

91%	9%	White or Caucasian
3%	97%	Black or African American
1%	99%	American Indian or Alaska Native
<.5%	100%	Asian
0%	100%	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
1%	99%	Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino
1%	99%	Other: (Specify)_____

D6. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

Marked Unmarked

6%	94%	K-12 th grade (no diploma)
24%	76%	High school graduate, GED or equivalent
19%	81%	Post-high school education/training (no degree)
9%	91%	2-year college degree
18%	82%	4-year college degree
8%	92%	Post-graduate study (no degree)
16%	84%	Graduate or professional degree(s)

D7. Thinking about state elections for Iowa Governor and Legislators in the last ten years, how often would you say you vote?

62%	Always
24%	Most of the time
4%	About half of the time
2%	Seldom
3%	Never
4%	No answer

D8. Do you consider yourself to be a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?

45%	Democrat
17%	Republican
27%	Independent
2%	Other
4%	Not sure
6%	No answer

D9. Do you have any kind of health care coverage, including employer-provided health insurance, private health insurance, or government plans such as Medicare or Medicaid?

94%	Yes
2%	No
<.5%	Not sure
3%	No answer

D10. Does any disability, handicap, or chronic disease keep you and your spouse or partner from participating fully in work, school, housework, or other activities? [**CHECK ONLY ONE**].

- 17% Yes, myself
- 6% Yes, spouse or partner
- 3% Yes, both me and my spouse or partner
- 71% No
- 3% No answer

D11. Are you or your spouse currently a member of AARP?

- 64% Yes
- 32% No
- 4% No answer

D12. What was your annual household income before taxes in 2011?

- 3% Less than \$10,000
- 9% \$10,000 to \$19,999
- 11% \$20,000 to \$29,999
- 16% \$30,000 to \$49,999
- 18% \$50,000 to \$74,999
- 10% \$75,000 to \$99,999
- 10% \$100,000 to \$149,999
- 5% \$150,000 or more
- 6% Not sure
- 12% No answer

D13. What is your 5-digit Iowa ZIP Code?

**Thank you very much for completing this survey.
Your assistance in providing this information is very much appreciated.**

**Please return your completed survey by September 5, 2012
in the enclosed postage-paid envelope to:
AARP State Research
601 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20049**

Full Methodology

AARP commissioned a mail survey on the topic of age friendly communities of 3,500 residents age 50 and older living in Greater Des Moines/Polk County, Iowa. AARP purchased a sample from SSI, Inc. of household addresses in Greater Des Moines/Polk County, Iowa where at the age of head of household is 50 years or older.

The survey was fielded in September 2012 and exactly 724 useable surveys were returned by the cut-off date, for a response rate of 21 percent. Each sampled resident was contacted about the survey four times receiving the following pieces of mail: pre-notification postcard, the survey itself, a reminder postcard, and a second copy of the survey. The survey has a margin of error of ± 3.7 percent. This means that if 95 out of 100 samples of this same size and population were given the same survey, the responses to the questions would fall within a range of plus or minus 3.7 percentage points of what would have been obtained if every resident age 50 years and older in the sampled area were asked the same questions.

Percentages may not add to 100 percent due to rounding, multiple answers permitted for some items and non-response. Percentages in the text may also differ slightly from the graphs due to rounding.

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, with a membership of more than 37 million, that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities and protection from financial abuse. We advocate for individuals in the marketplace by selecting products and services of high quality and value to carry the AARP name as well as help our members obtain discounts on a wide range of products, travel, and services. A trusted source for lifestyle tips, news and educational information, AARP produces AARP The Magazine, the world's largest circulation magazine; AARP Bulletin; www.aarp.org; AARP TV & Radio; AARP Books; and AARP en Español, a Spanish-language website addressing the interests and needs of Hispanics. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to political campaigns or candidates. The AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. AARP has staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Learn more at www.aarp.org.

State Research brings the right knowledge at the right time to our state and national partners in support of their efforts to improve the lives of people age 50+. State Research consultants provide strategic insights and actionable research to attain measurable state and national outcomes. The views expressed herein are for information, debate, and discussion, and do not necessarily represent official policies of AARP.

AARP staff from the Iowa State Office, State and National Group and State Research contributed to the design, implementation and reporting of this study. Special thanks go to AARP staff including Kent Sovern, State Director, Ann Black, Associate State Director of Communications for AARP in Iowa; Coralette Hannon, State and National Group; Rachelle Cummins, Darlene Matthews, Jennifer Sauer and Cheryl Barnes, State Research; and Michael Schuster, Office of General Counsel. Please contact Joanne Binette at 202-434-6303 for more information regarding this survey.



AARP Research

**For more information about this survey, please contact Joanne Binette at:
202.434.6303 or e-mail jbinette@aarp.org**