



Livability for All in Wilmington, NC

An Age-Friendly Community Survey of Residents Age 50-Plus

AARP

August 2017

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Real Possibilities

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Livable Community

A livable community is one that is safe and secure, has affordable and appropriate housing and transportation options, and offers supportive community features and services. Once in place, those resources enhance personal independence; allow residents to age in place; and foster residents' engagement in the community's civic, economic, and social life.

– AARP Policy Book, Chapter 9



AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities

- AARP's Age-Friendly Network is an affiliate of the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Program.
- The program was established to connect cities, communities and organizations worldwide with the common vision of making their community a great place where people can grow up and grow old.
- The program targets the environmental, social, and economic factors that influence the health and well-being of residents of all ages.

The WHO 8 Domains of Livability



Community
& Health
Care



Transportation



Housing



Social
Participation



Outdoor
Spaces &
Buildings



Respect &
Social
Inclusion



Civic
Participation
&
Employment

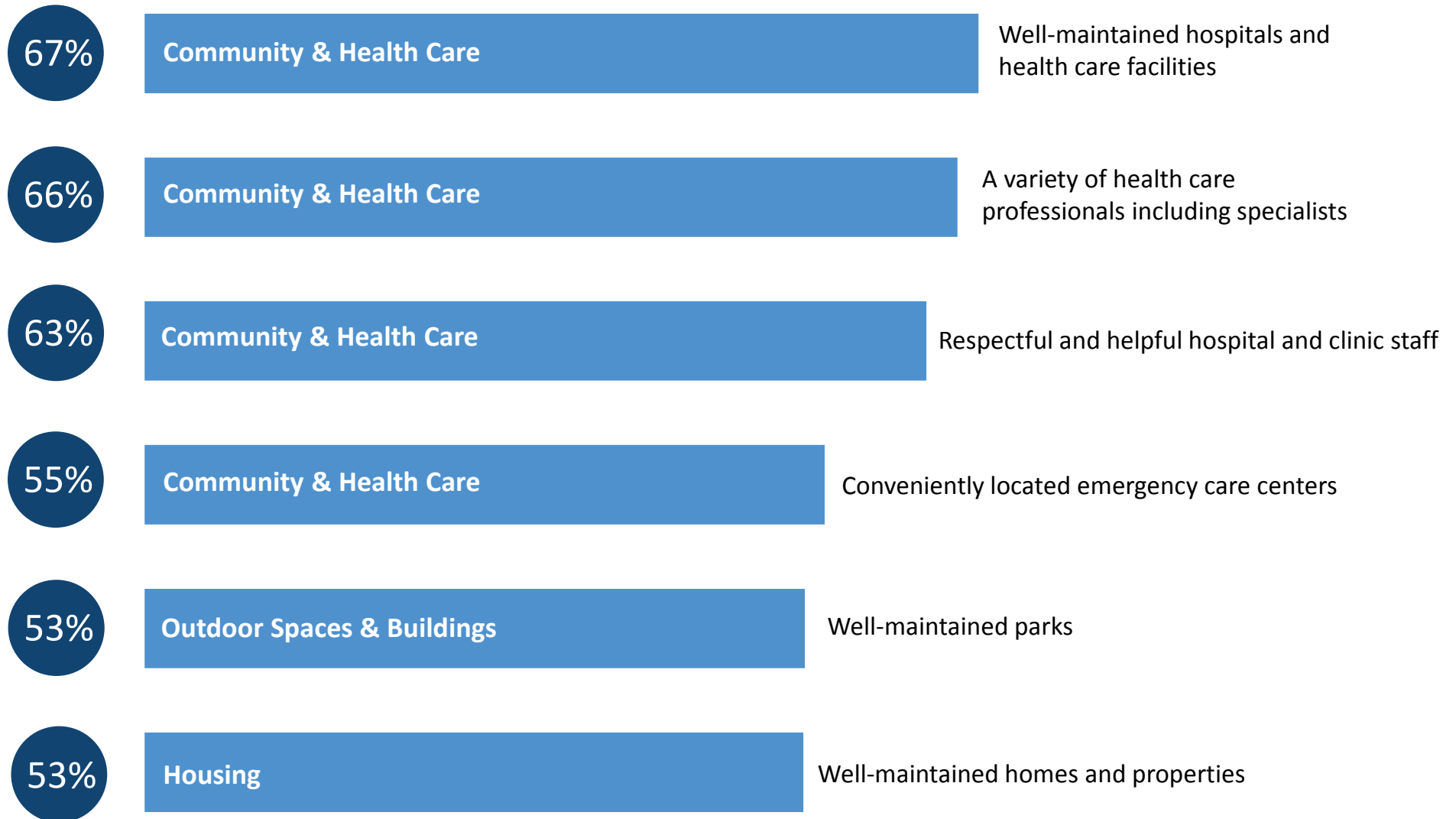


Communication
& Information

Icons from FlatIcon.com

Top Community Features

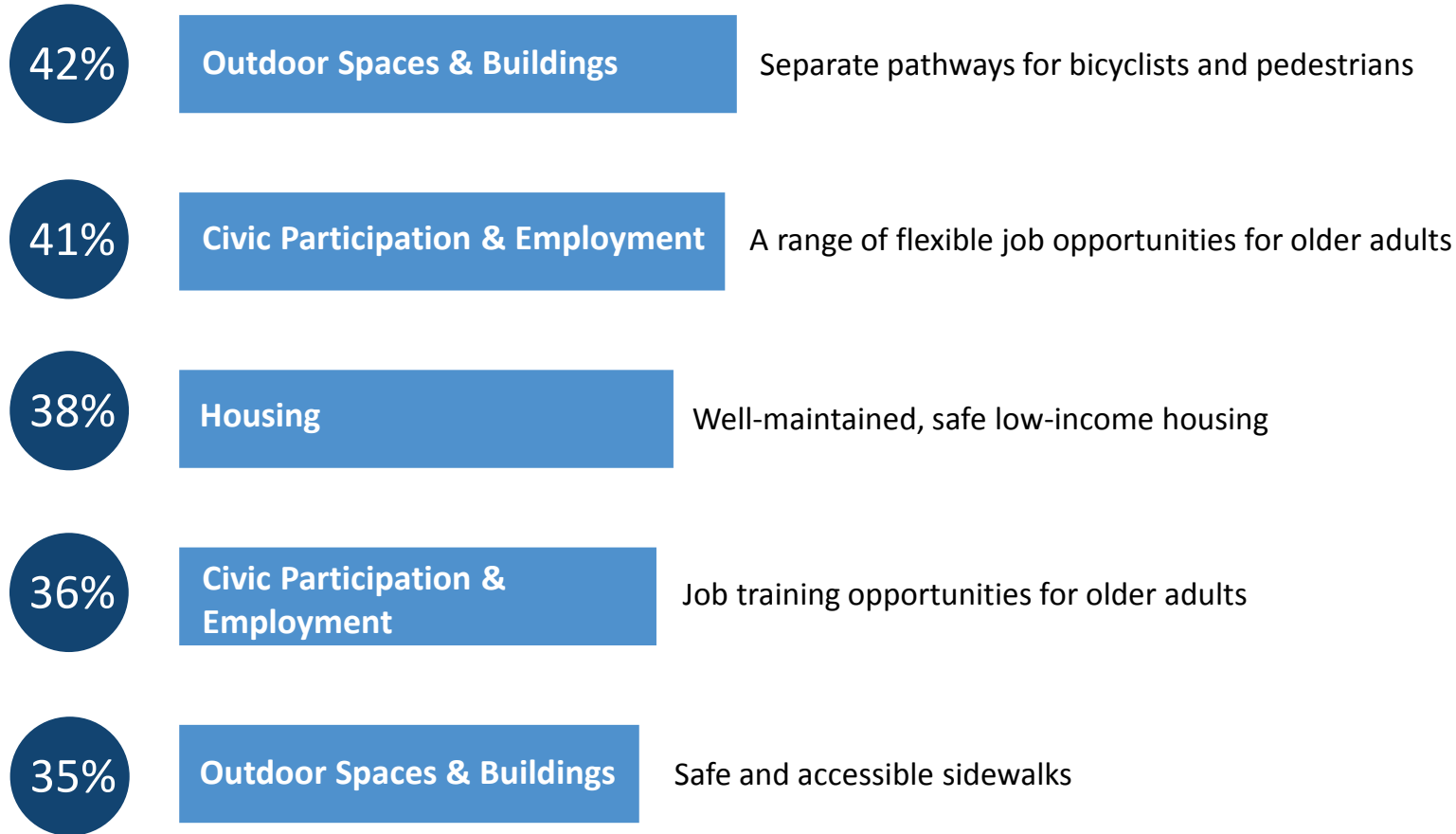
(% Excellent/Very Good)



Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+

Bottom Community Features

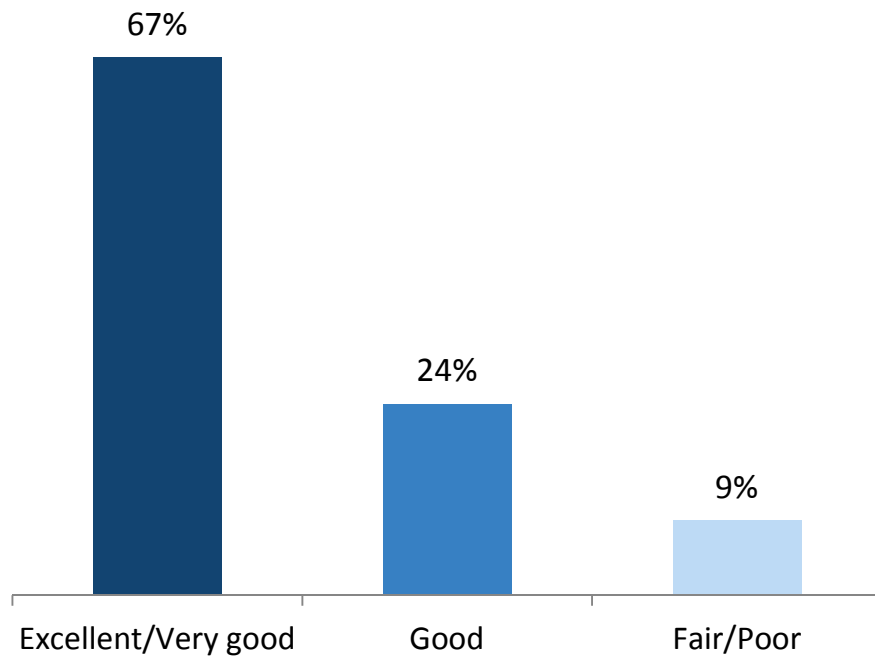
(% Fair/Poor)



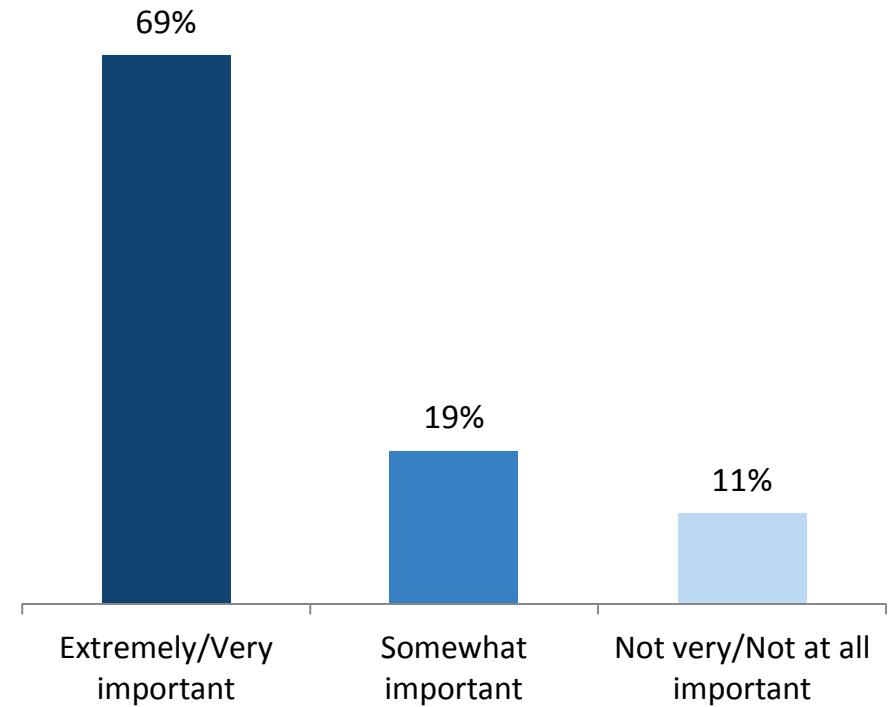
Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+

The majority of Wilmington residents age 50+ believe their community is a good place to age and want to live there independently for as long as possible.

Rating of Current Community
as a Place for People to Live as They Age



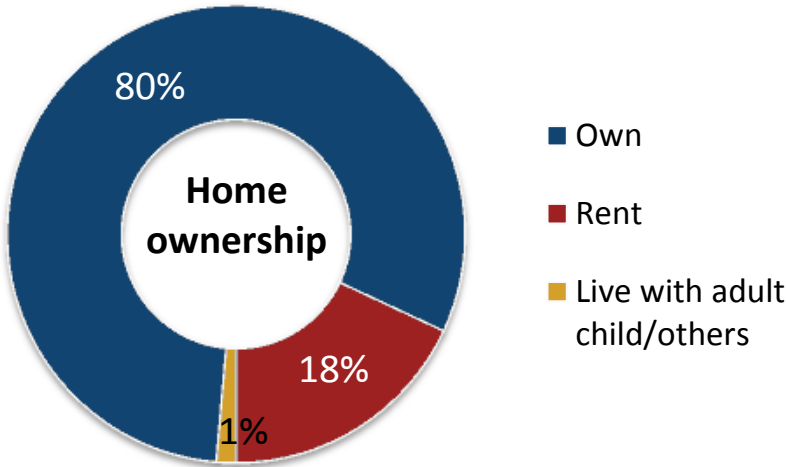
Importance of
Remaining in Current Community



Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+

Most Wilmington residents age 50+ own single family homes.

Type of Home	
A single family house	80%
An apartment	8%
A townhouse/Row house	4%
A mobile home	3%
A condominium/Coop	3%
Senior housing/Assisted living facility	1%
A two family house that has two separate living units	1%
Other	0%

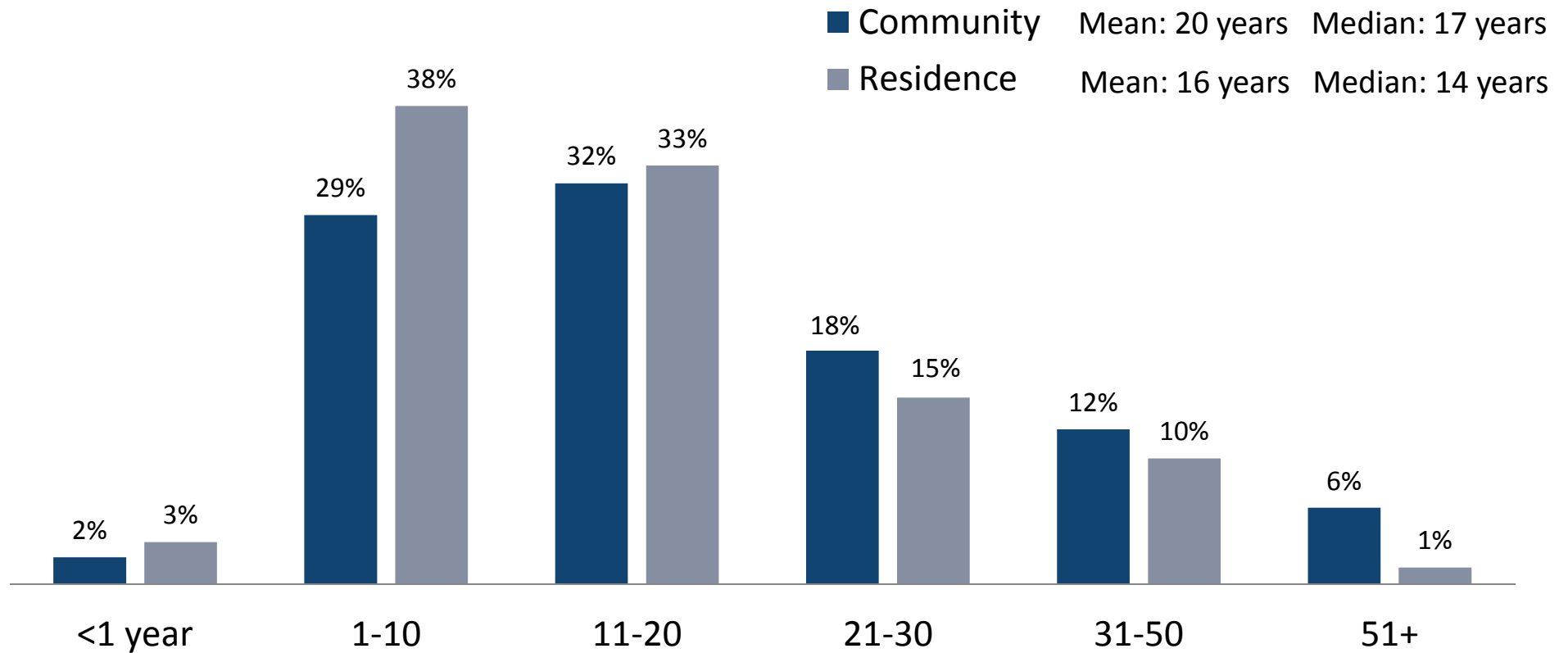


66% of respondents say remaining in their current home is extremely/very important.

16% of respondents say they need to make major repairs, home modifications, or changes

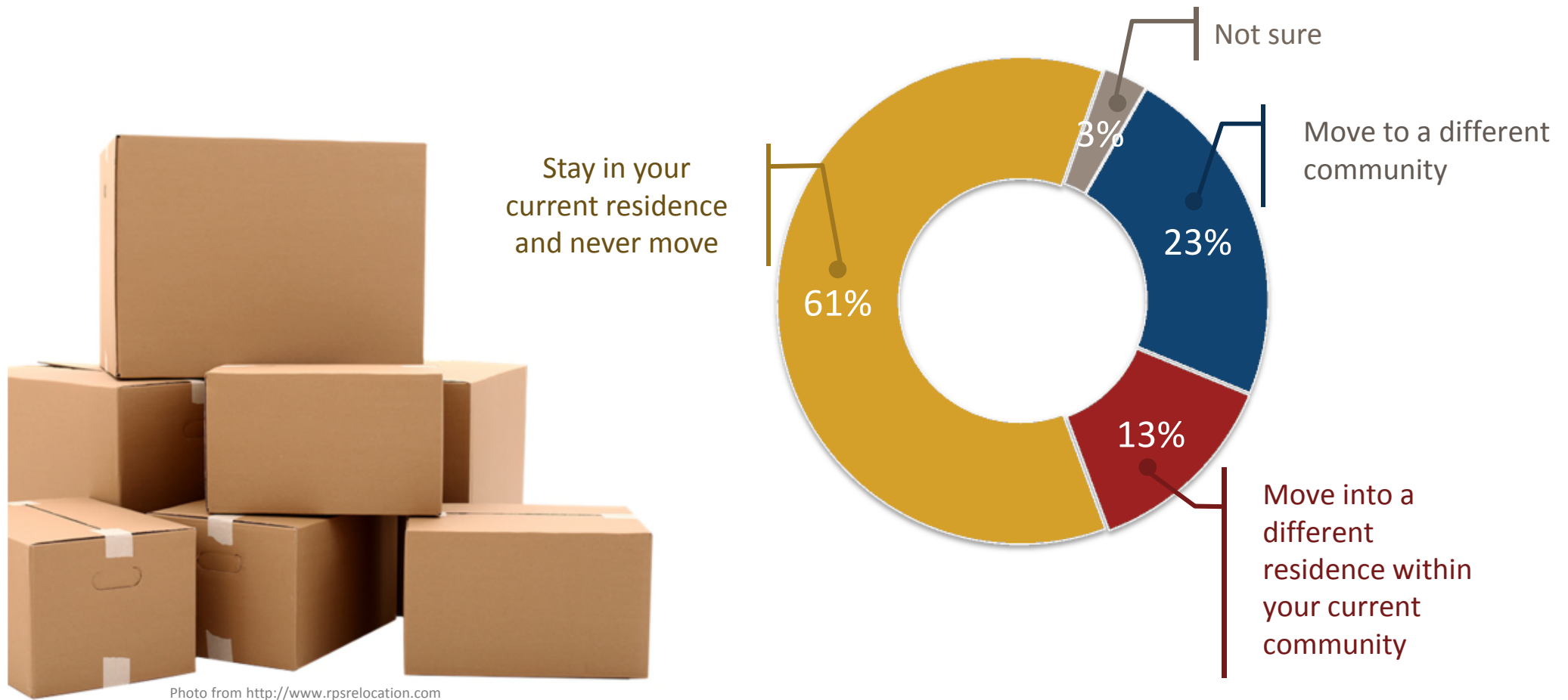
Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+

Wilmington residents age 50+ have lived in their home for an average of 16 years and have lived in their community even longer, an average of 20 years.



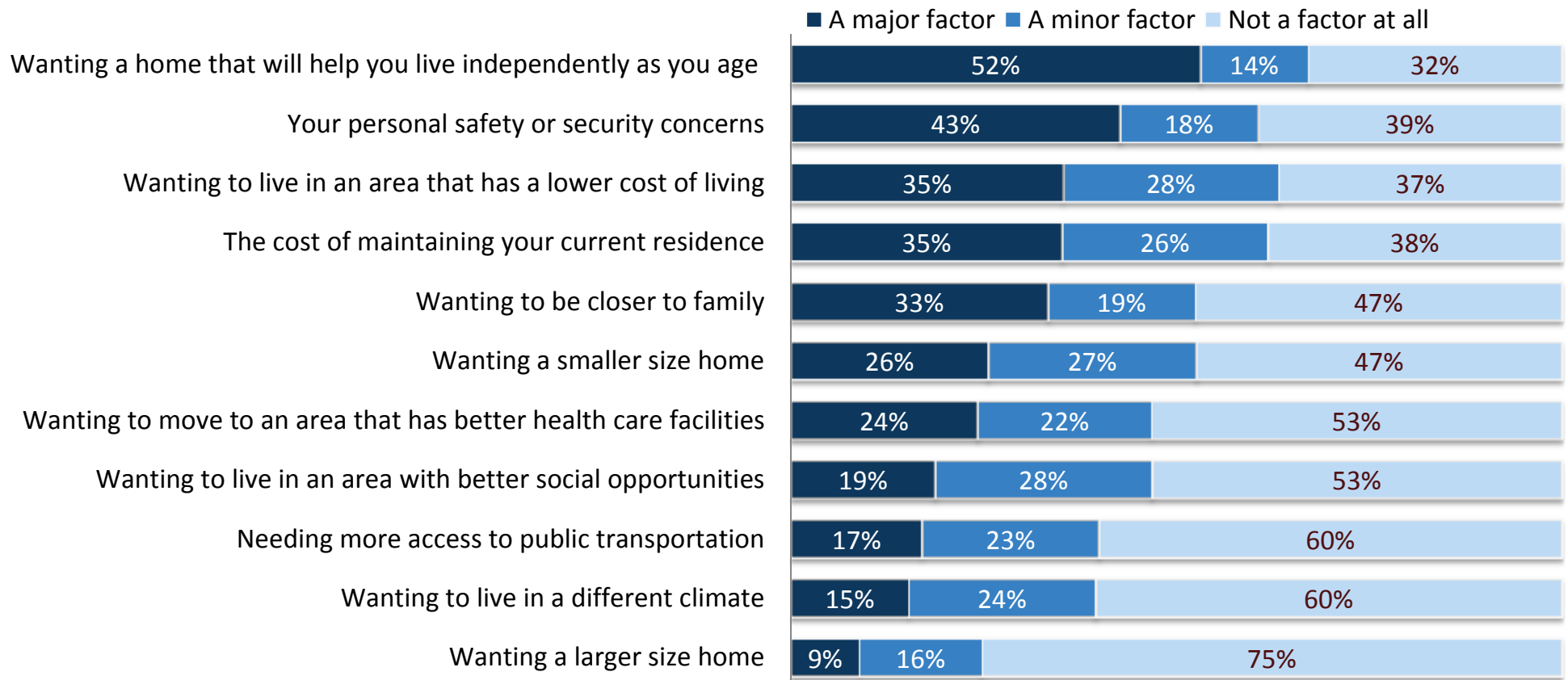
Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+

The majority of Wilmington residents age 50+ expect to stay in their home or community as they get older.



Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+

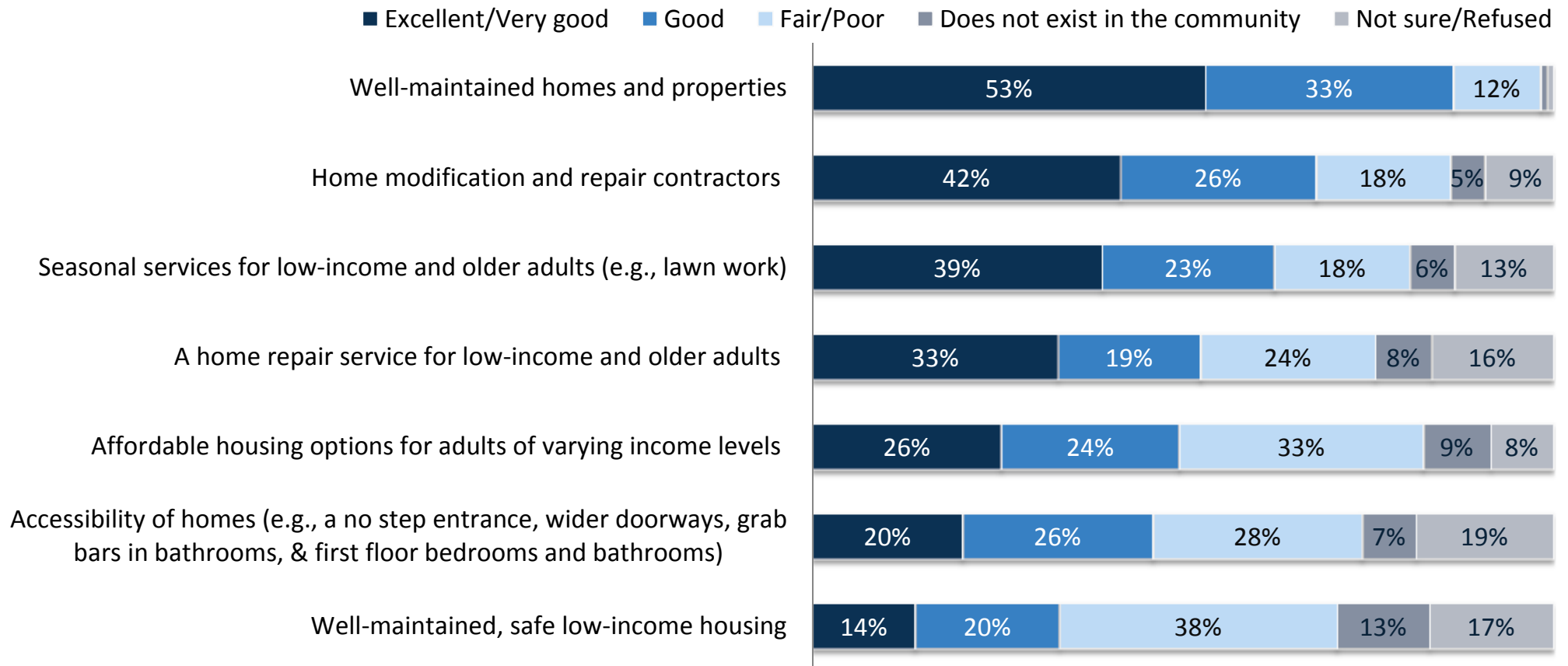
Age-friendly housing, safety, and affordability are influential factors for Wilmington residents age 50+ considering moving when they get older.



Question: If you were to consider moving out of your residence, would the following be a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor at all in your decision to move?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+

Wilmington residents age 50+ rate their community positively on having well-maintained homes and properties as well as good home modification and repair contractors.



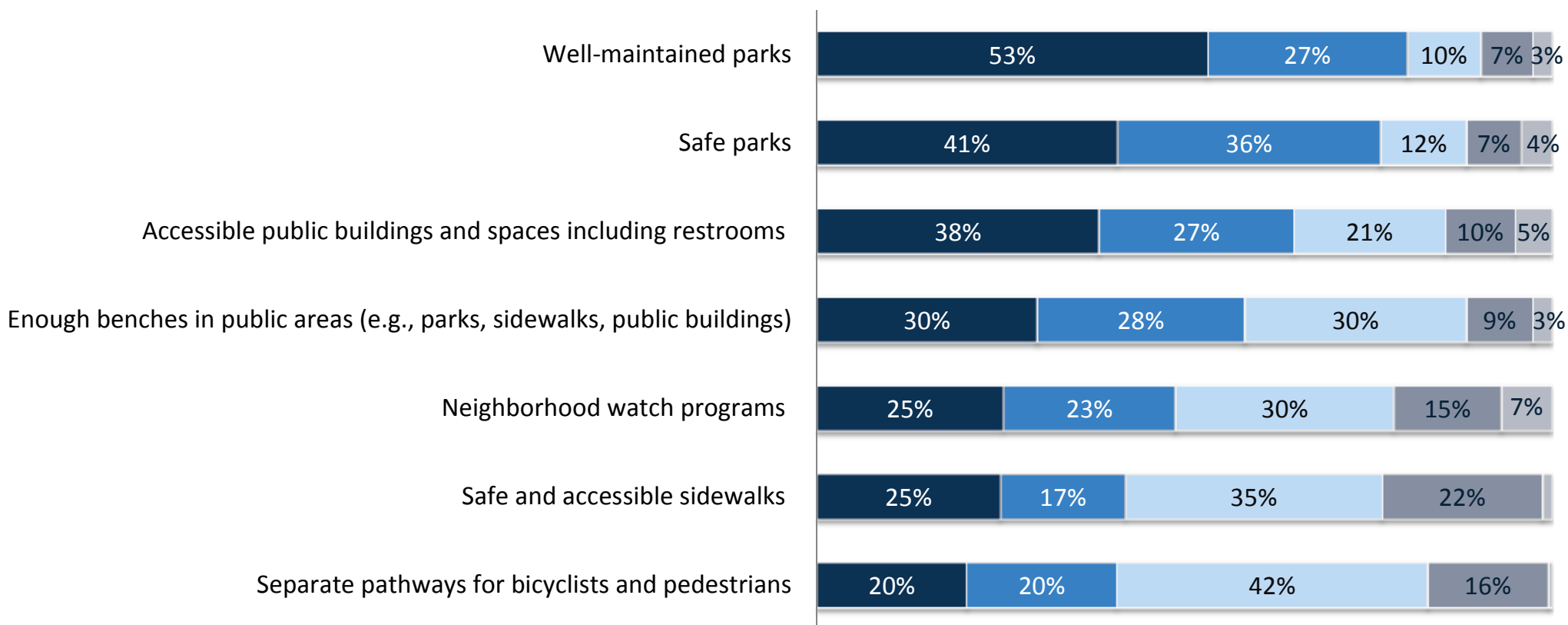
Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+



Wilmington residents age 50+ rate their community excellent to good at having well-maintained, safe parks.

■ Excellent/Very good ■ Good ■ Fair/Poor ■ Does not exist in community ■ Not sure/Refused



Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+





Most Wilmington residents age 50+ drive themselves to get around their community.



Photo from iStock.com/diego_cervo

87% drive themselves around
34% have others drive them



Photo from iStock.com/Satoshi-K

33% walk

20% ride a bike
12% use public transportation



Photo from iStock.com/kali9

17% take a taxi
8% use a special transportation service
1% get around some other way



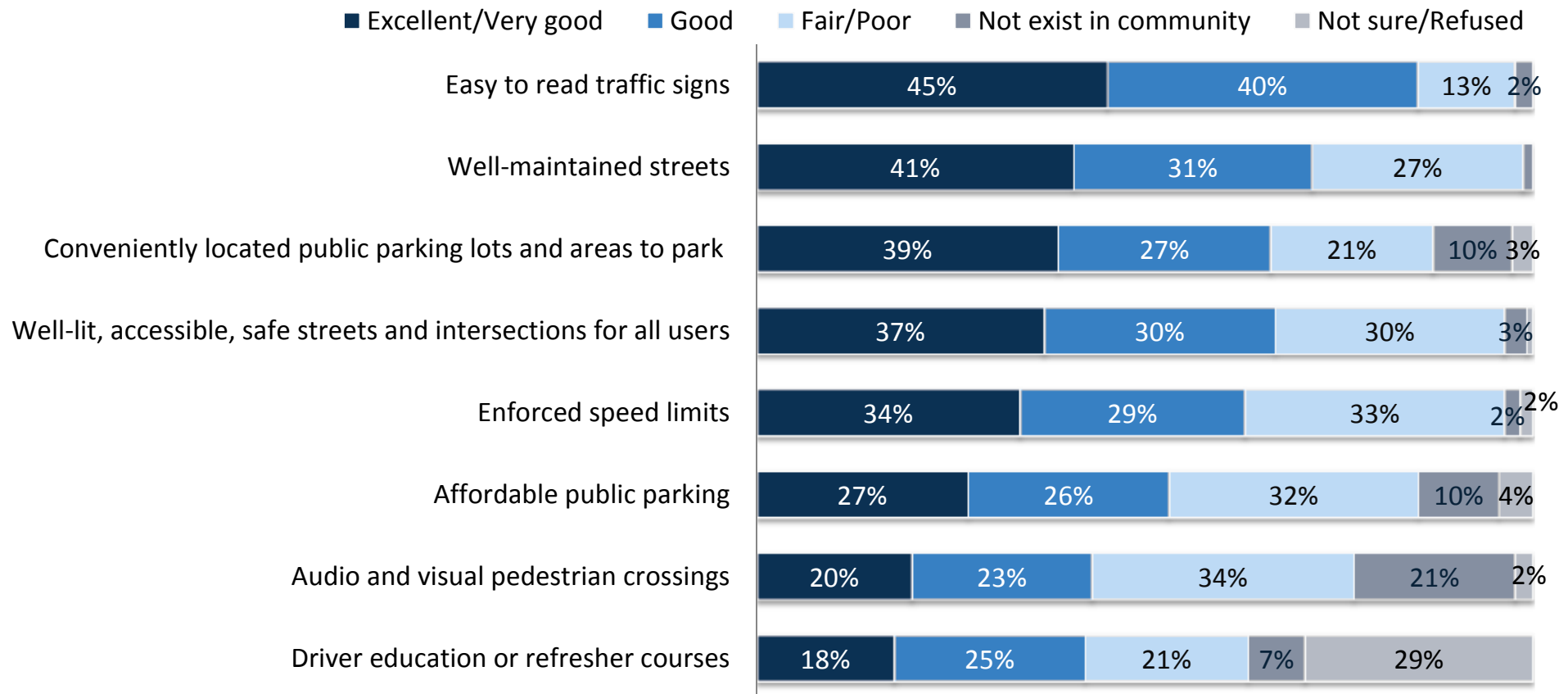
Photo from ScienceWorldReport.com

Question: How do you usually get around your community for things like shopping, visiting the doctor, running errands, or other things?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+



Wilmington residents age 50+ rate their community excellent to good on having easy to read traffic signs and well-maintained streets.



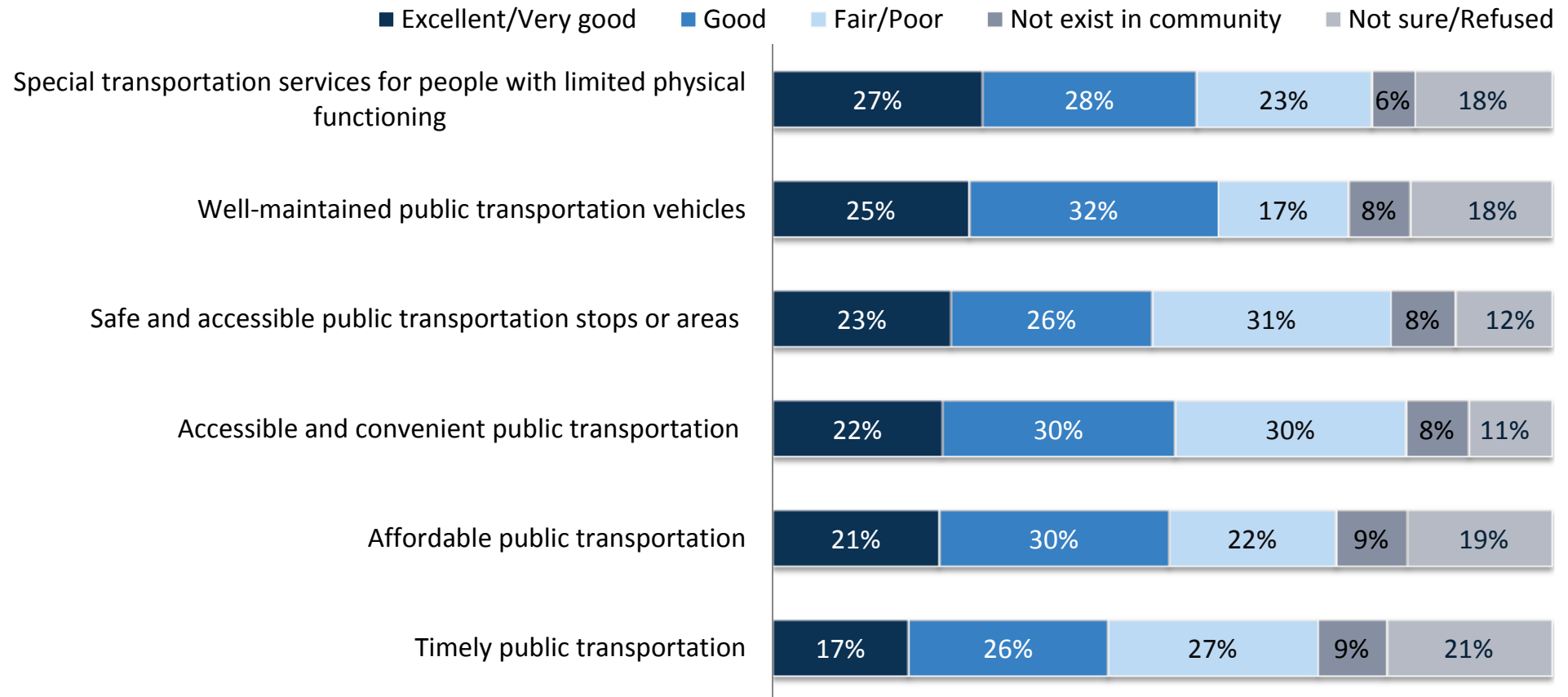
Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+





About half of Wilmington residents age 50+ feel their community offers excellent to good special transportation options and well-maintained public transportation vehicles.



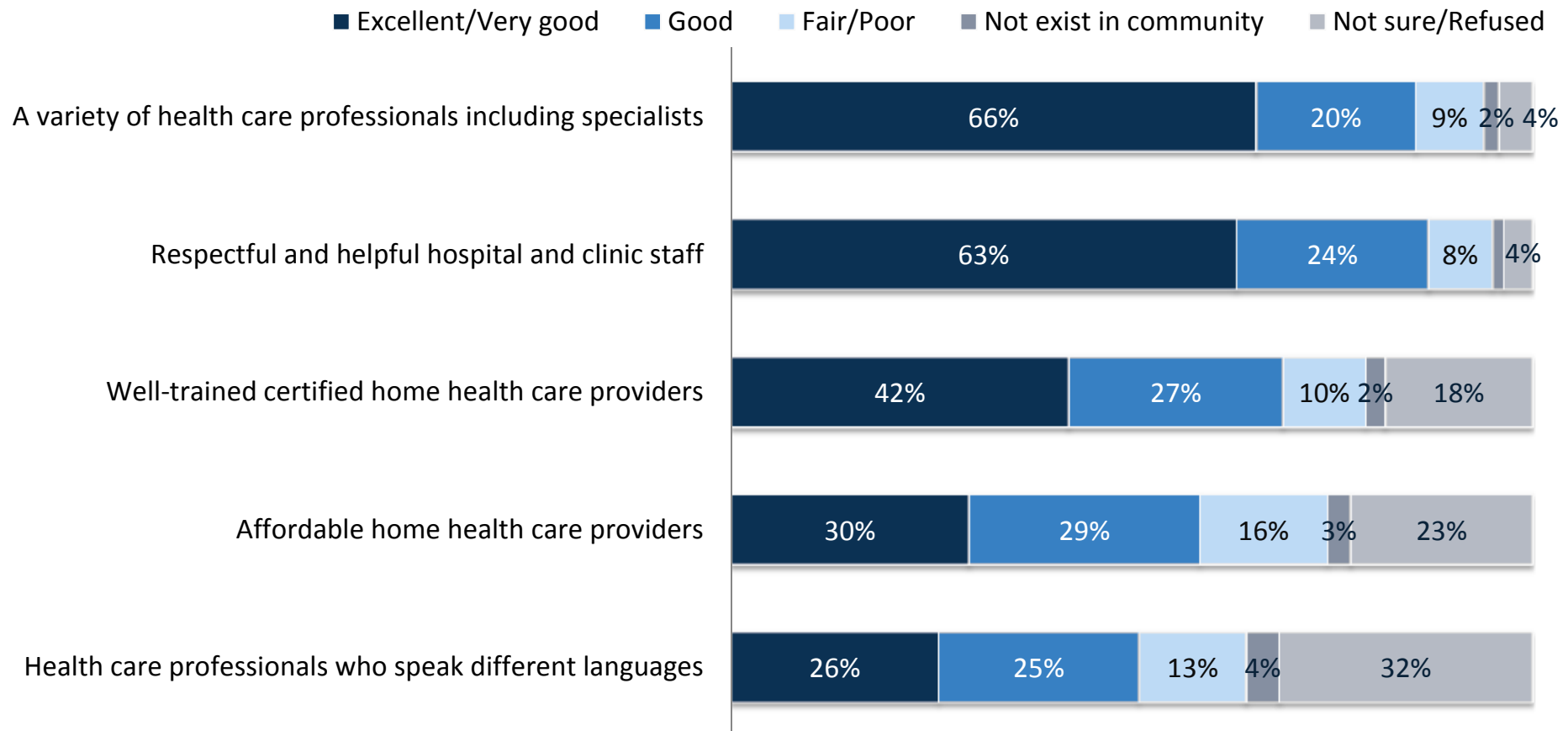
Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+





The majority of Wilmington residents age 50+ rate their community excellent to very good on having a variety of helpful and respectful health care professionals.



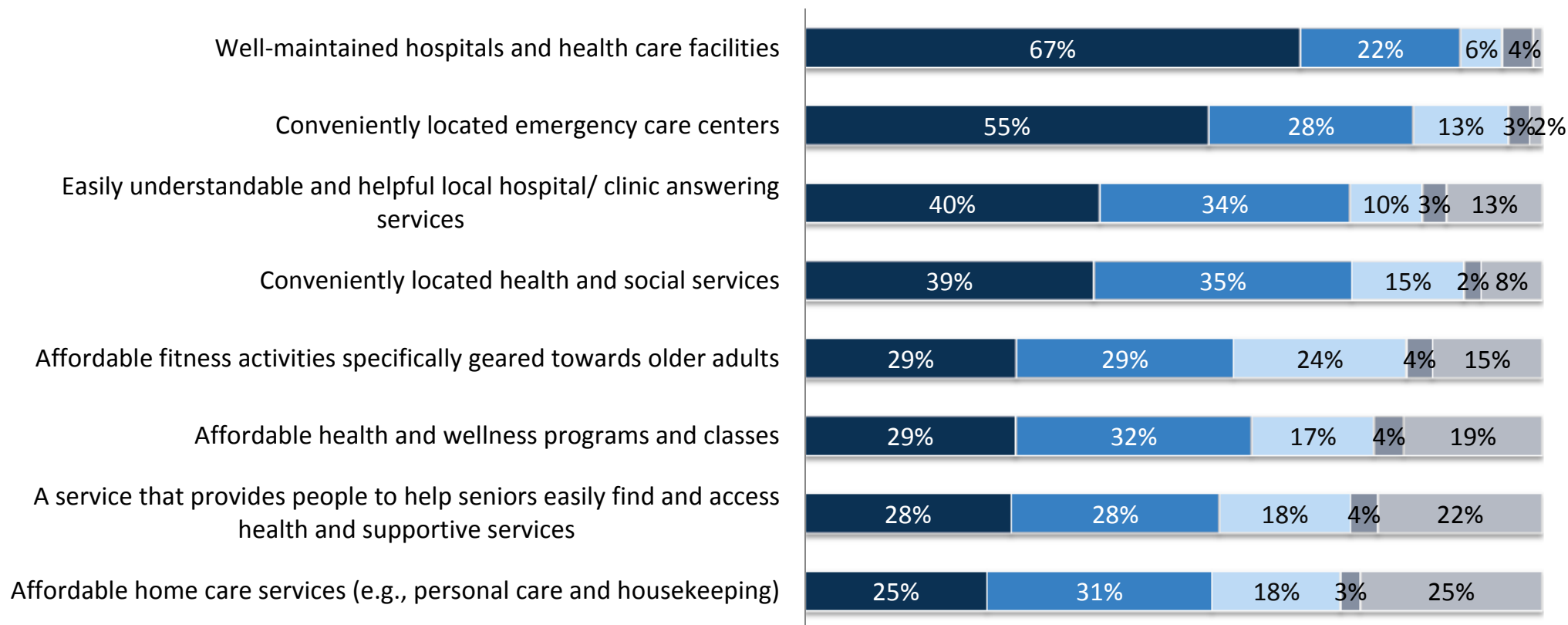
Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+



Over half of Wilmington residents age 50+ rate their community excellent to very good on having well-maintained health care facilities in convenient locations.

■ Excellent/Very good ■ Good ■ Fair/Poor ■ Not exist in community ■ Not sure/Refused



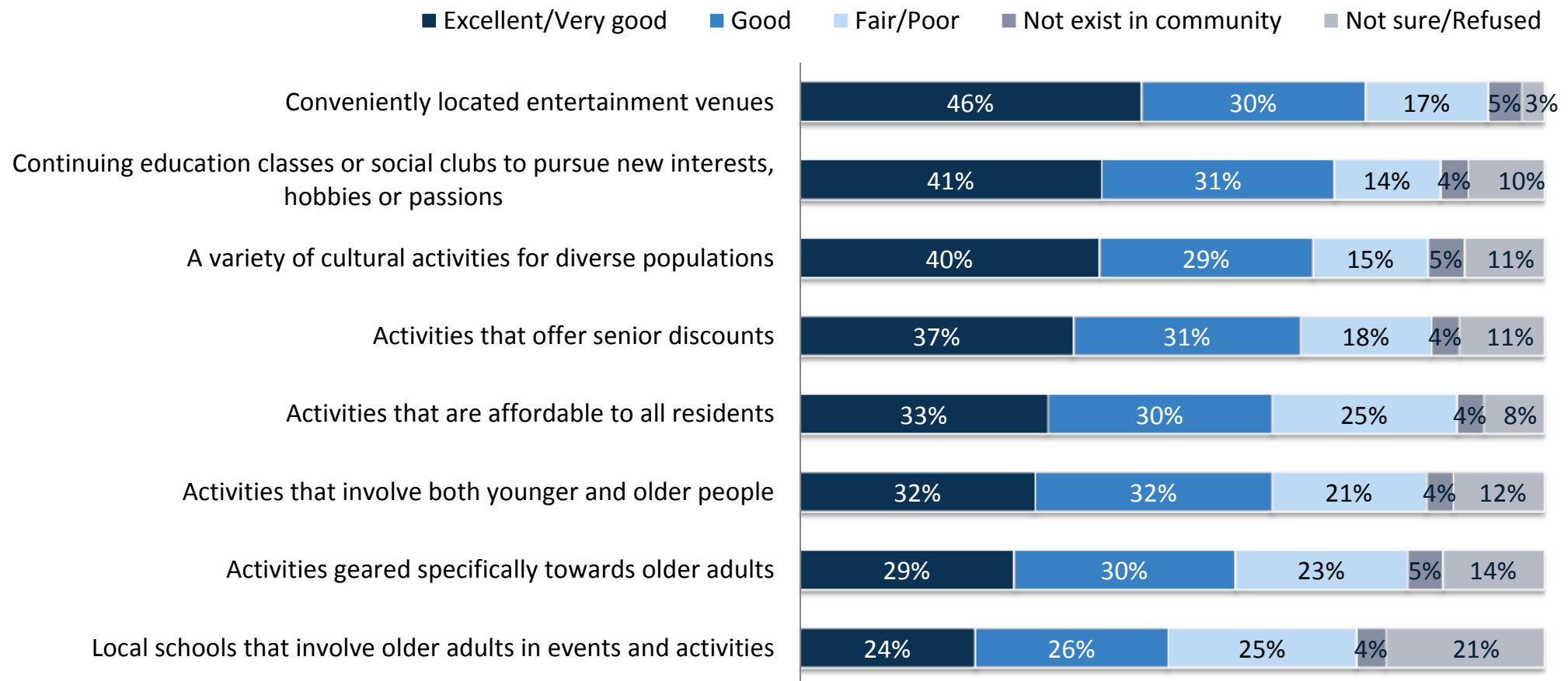
Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+





Wilmington residents age 50+ say their community has a variety of affordable social activities at convenient locations.

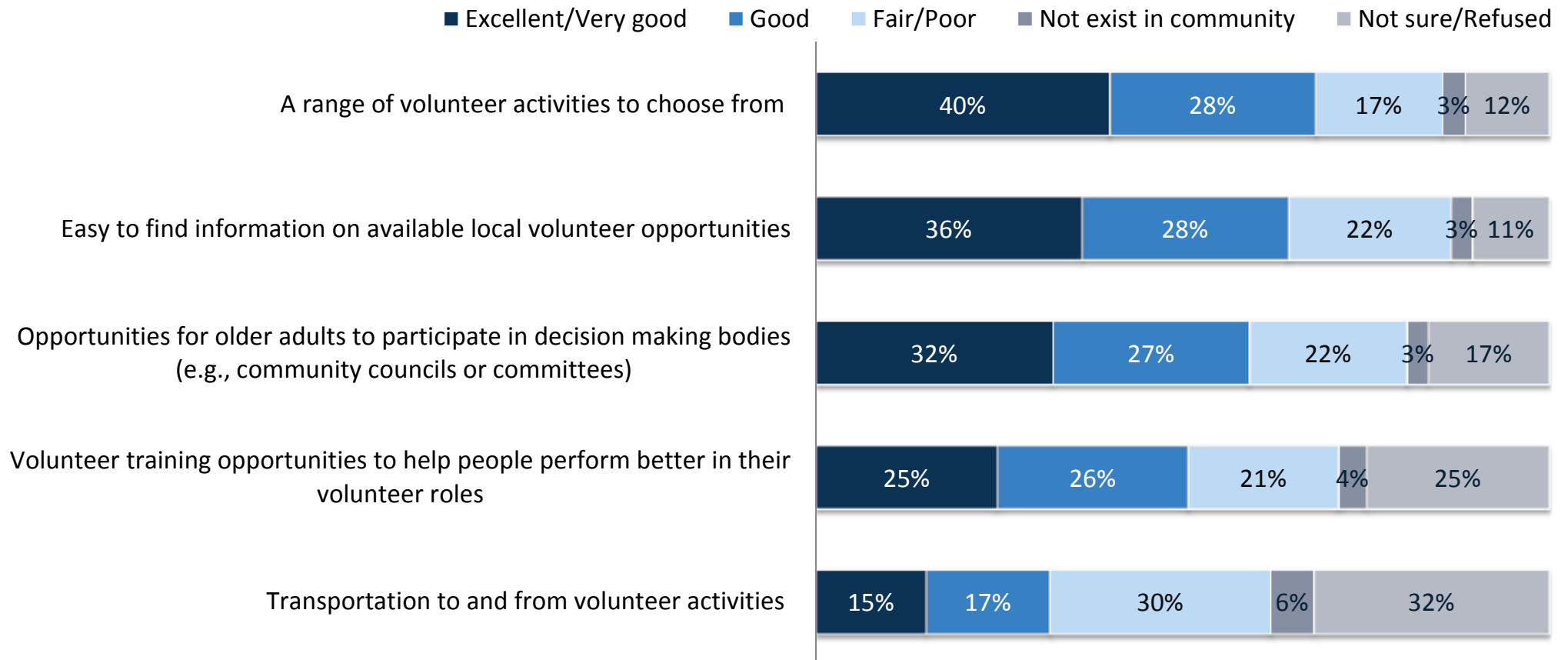


Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+



The majority of Wilmington residents age 50+ rate their community positively on having access to a variety of volunteer activities that are easy to find although having volunteer transportation receives mixed ratings.

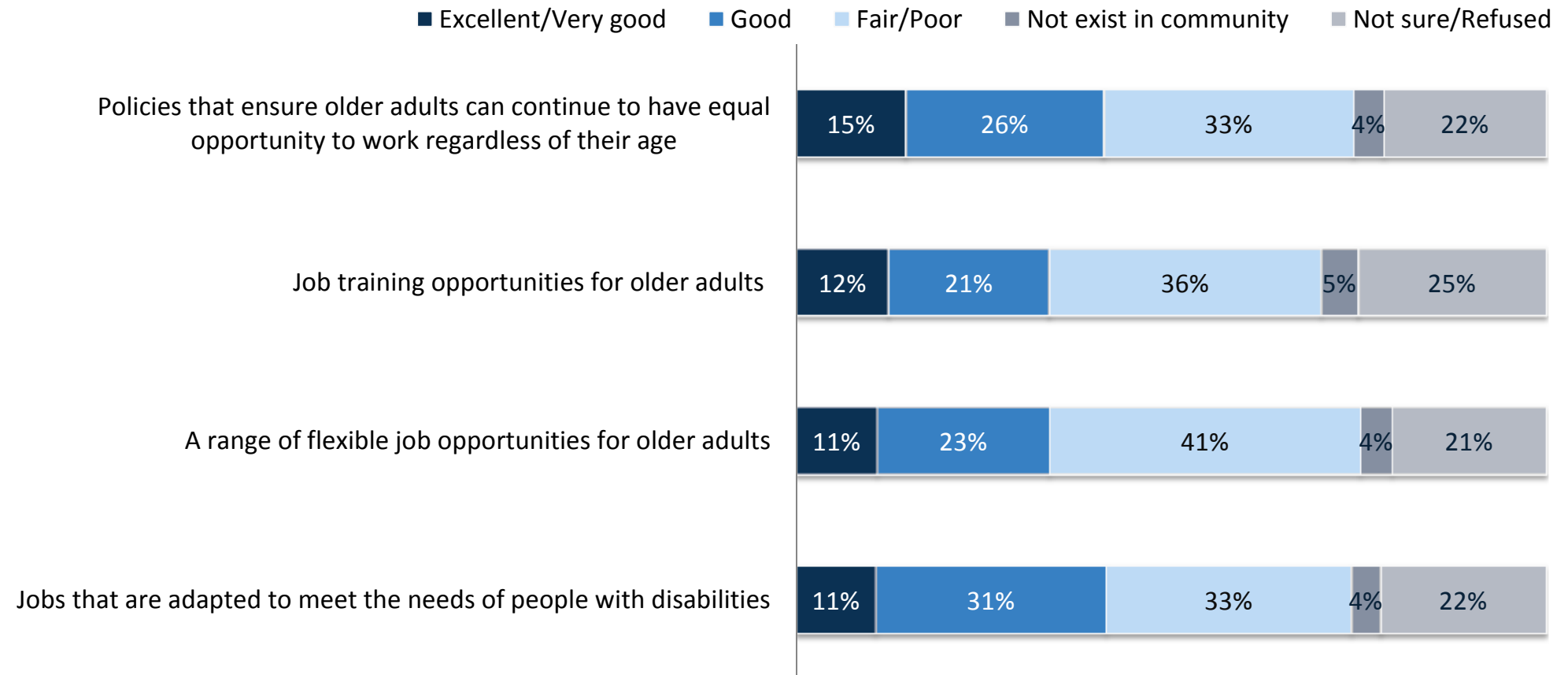


Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+



Wilmington residents age 50+ are somewhat divided in their opinions on how well their community is doing in terms of having employment opportunities for older residents.



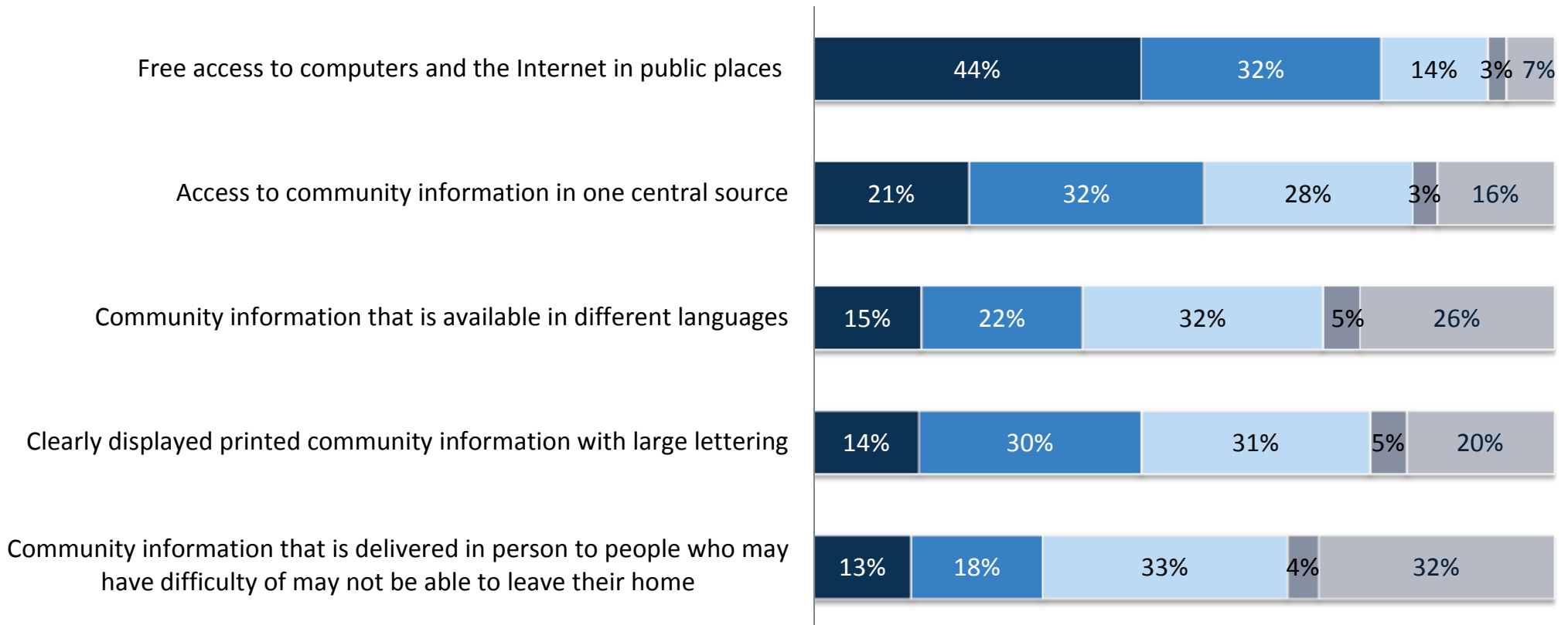
Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+



The majority of Wilmington residents age 50+ rate their community positively on having free access to computers and the Internet in public places; however, having information that is available in different languages and for residents with limited mobility receives more negative ratings.

■ Excellent/Very good ■ Good ■ Fair/Poor ■ Not exist in community ■ Not sure/Refused



Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+



Respondent Profile: Demographics

Gender	
Male	45%
Female	55%

AARP Membership	
Yes	34%
No	65%

Age	
50-54	19%
55-64	36%
65-74	26%
75-84	13%
85 or older	5%

Race/Ethnicity*	
White or Caucasian	83%
Black	13%
Asian	0%
Native American or Alaskan Native	1%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%
Hispanic	2%
Other	1%

Marital Status	
Single, never married	10%
Married	56%
Not married, living with your partner or significant other	3%
Separated	1%
Divorced	14%
Widowed	16%

Caregiver Status	
Current	21%
Future*	38%

Health Status	
Excellent/Very good	53%
Good	31%
Fair/Poor	16%

Disability Status	
Yes, myself	26%
Yes, my spouse or partner	5%
Yes, both myself and my spouse or partner	4%
No	64%

*Based on total number of survey respondents.

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+

Respondent Profile: Socioeconomic & Voting

Education

0 to 12th grade, but with no diploma	5%
High school graduate or equivalent	20%
Post high school education, but with no degree	12%
2 year degree (Associate's Degree)	17%
4 year degree (Bachelor's Degree)	23%
Post graduate study, but with no degree	5%
Graduate or professional degree	19%

Employment Status

Self-employed full-time	6%
Self-employed part-time	2%
Employed full-time	20%
Employed part-time	6%
Retired and not working at all	51%
Unemployed and looking for work	4%
Not in the labor force for other reasons	10%

Income

< \$10,000	6%
\$10,000 - \$19,999	9%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	11%
\$30,000 - \$49,999	17%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	16%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	10%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	12%
\$150,000 +	10%

Voting Behavior

Always	63%
Most of the time	23%
About half of the time	4%
Seldom	3%
Never	6%

Political Party

Democrat	34%
Republican	34%
Independent	27%
Something else	<1%

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+



Survey Methodology:

- A telephone survey was commissioned by AARP to assess public opinion among Wilmington residents age 50+ about age-friendly and livable community topics in Wilmington.
- Telephone interviewing was conducted by Alan Newman Research from July 7th to July 21st 2017.
- A total of 500 interviews were conducted. The margin of error for this sample is $\pm 4.4\%$.
- The sample utilized RDD landline and cell phone records.

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Wilmington, NC Residents Age 50+



Contact Information:

- This deck, the annotated survey, the methodology report, and an infographic can be accessed at: www.aarp.org/AgeFriendlyCommunities
- For more information about age-friendly work in Wilmington, please contact Suzanne Black, AARP North Carolina, at sblack@aarp.org.
- For more information about the survey, please contact Joanne Binette, AARP Research, at jbinette@aarp.org.