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2006 Utah Transportation Survey: Aging and Mobility

**Reported Findings of Rural
Residents Age 50+**

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June 2006



2006 Utah Transportation Survey: Aging and Mobility

Reported Findings of Rural Residents Age 50+

Report Prepared by Anita Stowell-Ritter

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AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50+ have independence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as a whole. We produce *AARP The Magazine*, published bimonthly; *AARP Bulletin*, our monthly newspaper; *AARP Segunda Juventud*, our bimonthly magazine in Spanish and English; *NRTA Live & Learn*, our quarterly newsletter for 50+ educators; and our website, www.aarp.org. 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. We have staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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Background

Transportation is a major element in maintaining personal independence and a high quality of life. Flexible transportation options are essential for accessing health care services, establishing and maintaining social contacts, and preserving independence and general well being.¹

Today, older persons are heavily reliant on the automobile to take them where they need and want to go. Even in urban and suburban areas where public transportation is available, older adults maintain a heavy reliance on the car.

As the population ages and more persons experience barriers to driving and riding alternative forms of transportation, more attention must be given to policies that assure persons have flexible and safe mobility options that allow them to get the services they need. The Utah Department of Transportation in collaboration with AARP Utah is examining a myriad of transportation issues that will affect the quality of life of all Utahans as they age. These data will be used to help define appropriate policies and strategies to aid rural residents in accessing needed transportation services.

¹ Houser, A. *Community Mobility Options: The Older Person's Interest*. AARP Public Policy Institute, 2005.

Highlights: Rural Respondents Age 50+

- Nearly all (98%) rural Utah residents age 50 and over report that they have driven in the last month.
- More than nine in ten (91%) rural residents indicate that they usually drive when they need to get somewhere.
- Nearly nine in ten (88%) of rural drivers age 50 and over report they drive to where they want to go at least three times per week.
- While nearly one in five (19%) of rural residents report they have a health problem or disability that prevents them from walking, fewer than one in ten indicate they have a problem that prevents them from using other modes of transportation.
- Half (50%) of rural drivers indicate that inconsiderate drivers are at least a small problem for them.
- Half (50%) of rural residents indicate they ride share with someone, usually a family member or friend, during a typical week.
- Slightly more than one in four (26%) rural residents report that public transportation is available in their community; however, seven in ten of these respondents say that it is three or more miles from their home. Nearly all (98%) of those who say that public transportation is available never ride it.
- Nearly all rural residents report they never use taxicabs (98%) or senior or community vans (94%).
- Slightly more than half (53%) of rural residents report that they have walked to where they wanted to go in the past two months. Of these, more than one in three (36%) say that having no sidewalks or sidewalks are in poor condition are at least a small problem for them.
- Nearly two in three (63%) rural respondents indicate that medical transportation services are available in their community; however, only two respondents report that they have ever used the service.
- On average, rural respondents report that they live more than ten miles from a hospital and more than twenty miles from their doctor.
- Nearly all (98%) of rural respondents report they leave their home to go somewhere during a typical week.
- One in seven (14%) rural residents say they do miss something they would like to do at least occasionally due to lack of transportation.
- More than nine in ten (91%) rural residents report they are satisfied with their ability to get around their community when they need and want to go someplace, with more than seven in ten (72%) saying they are completely satisfied.

Detailed Findings

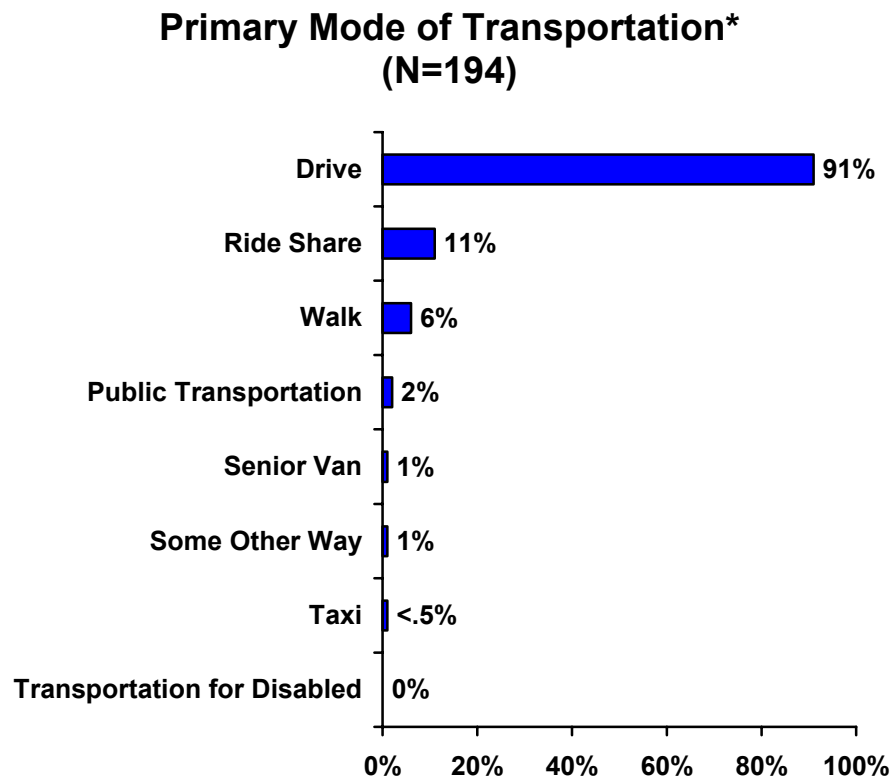
A. Transportation Mode and Behavior

Nearly all Utah rural licensed drivers report they have driven in the last month.

Nearly all (98%) rural residents with driver's licenses report they have driven in the last month. Only two percent indicate they have not driven in the last month. Those rural residents who have not driven in the past month are considered non-drivers for the purpose of this report.

More than nine in ten rural residents indicate they usually drive when they need to get somewhere.

Rural residents were asked in general how they got to somewhere when they needed to go. More than nine in ten rural respondents report they drive a car. Slightly more than one in ten report that they get a ride with family or friends. Less than one in ten reports they use other modes of transportation.



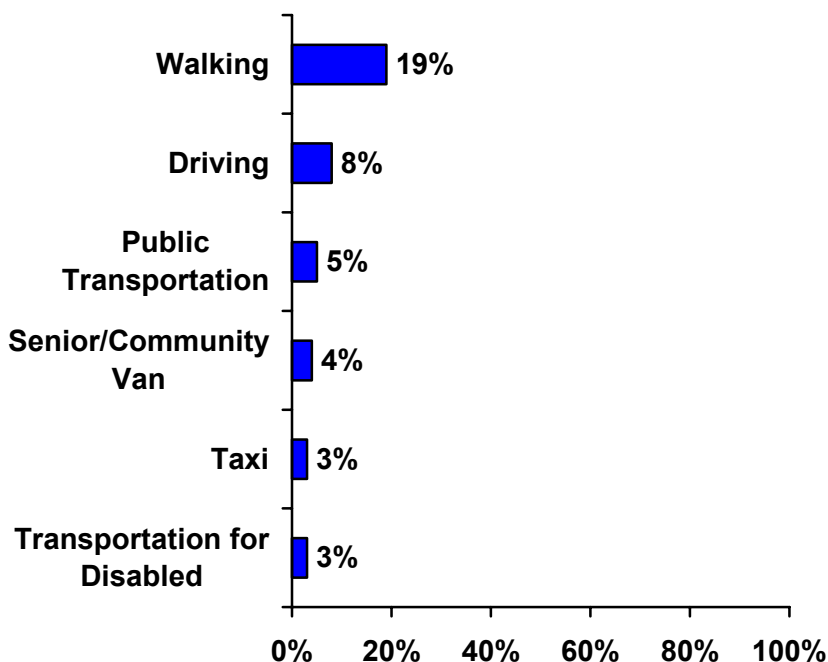
**Percentages exceed 100% due to multiple responses.*

B. Effects of Age and Disability on Transportation Choice and Use

Age and disability status have an effect on a respondent's ability to use all modes of transportation.

Rural residents were asked whether they have any health problems or disabilities that prevented them from using six modes of transportation. Nearly one in five rural respondents reports that they have a health problem or disability that prevents them from walking. Eight percent report they have a health problem or disability that prevents them from driving. Five percent or fewer than one in ten report they have problems that prevent them from using other forms of transportation such as public transportation, taxis, senior and community vans, and transportation for those with disabilities.

Health Problems or Disabilities Prevent Use of Six Modes of Transportation (N=194)

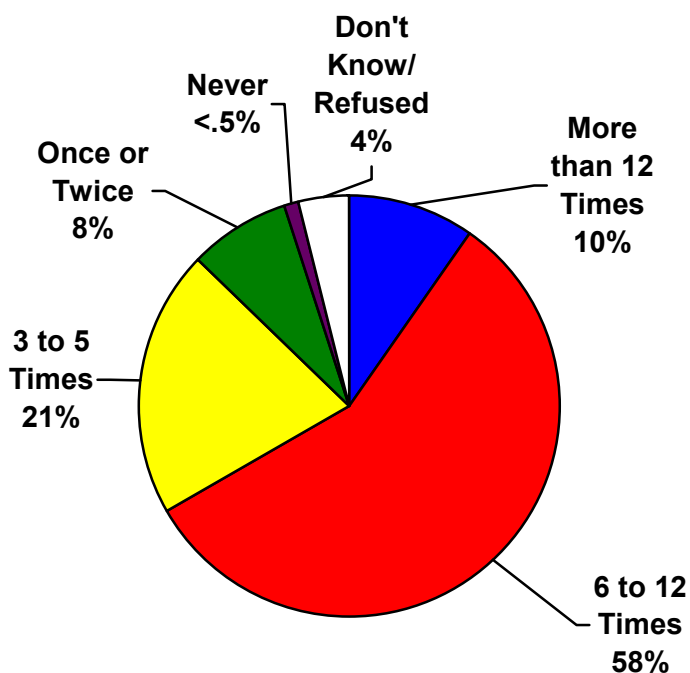


C. Driving Behavior

Nearly nine in ten rural residents who are licensed and have driven in the last month indicate they drive to where they want to go at least three times per week.

Rural residents who drive were asked: “In a typical week, how often do you drive a car to get to where you want to go?” Nearly nine in ten (88%) report they drive at least three times or more per week. Eight percent indicate they go out once or twice per week, and less than one percent report they never go out.

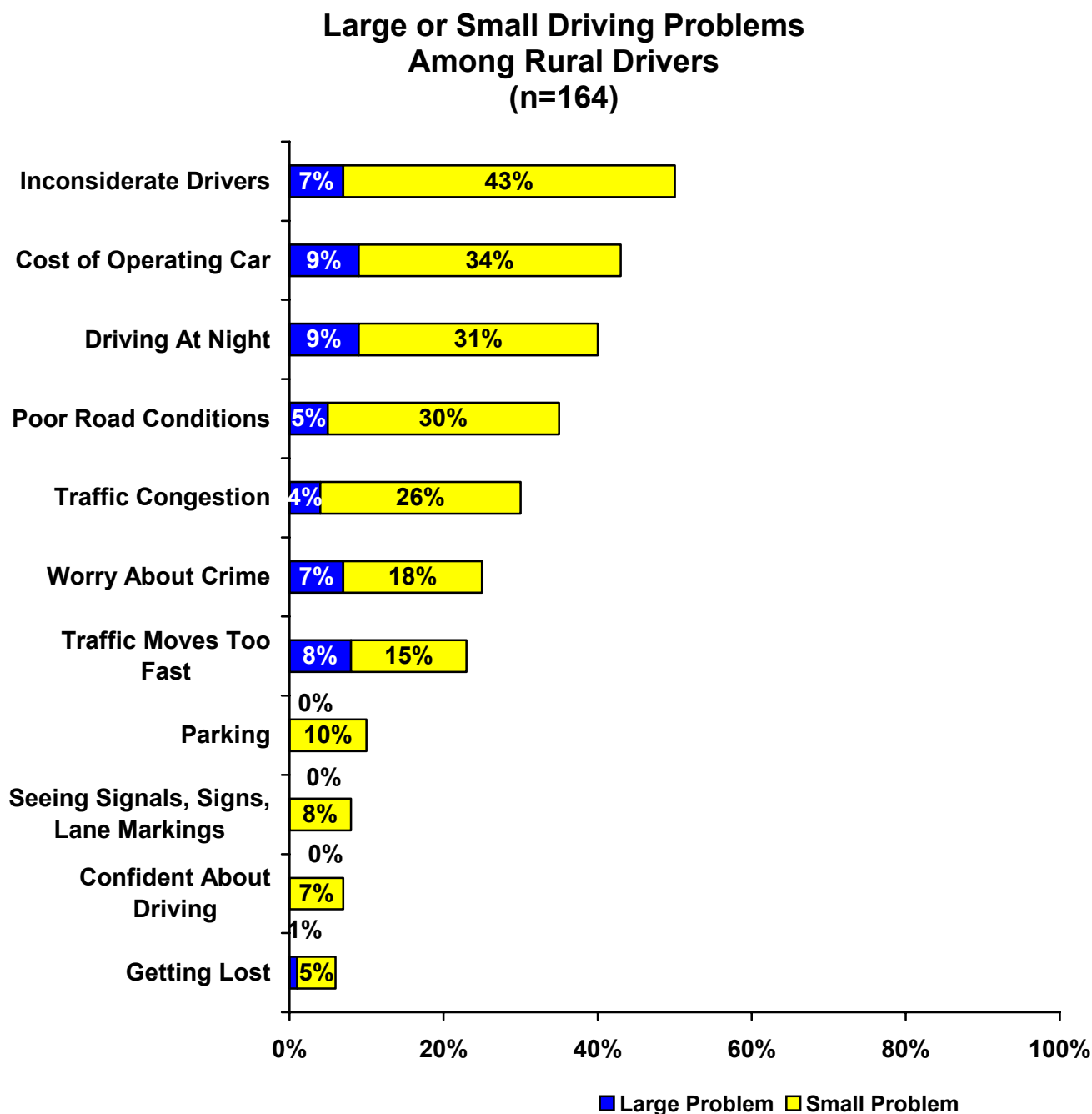
**Frequency of Driving During a Typical Week
Among Rural Respondents
(n=171 respondents who regularly drive)**



Half of drivers report they have at least a small problem with inconsiderate drivers.

Drivers were presented with a list of 11 difficulties people experience when driving and asked whether each presented a small problem, a large problem, or no problem for them.

Half of all drivers indicate they have at least a small problem with inconsiderate drivers. Two in five or more say that the cost of operating a car and driving at night are at least small problems.

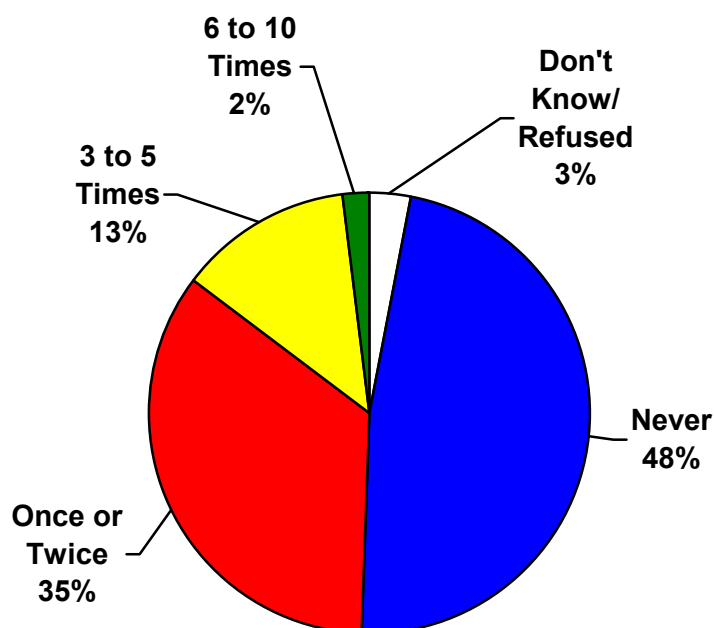


D. Ride Sharing Experience

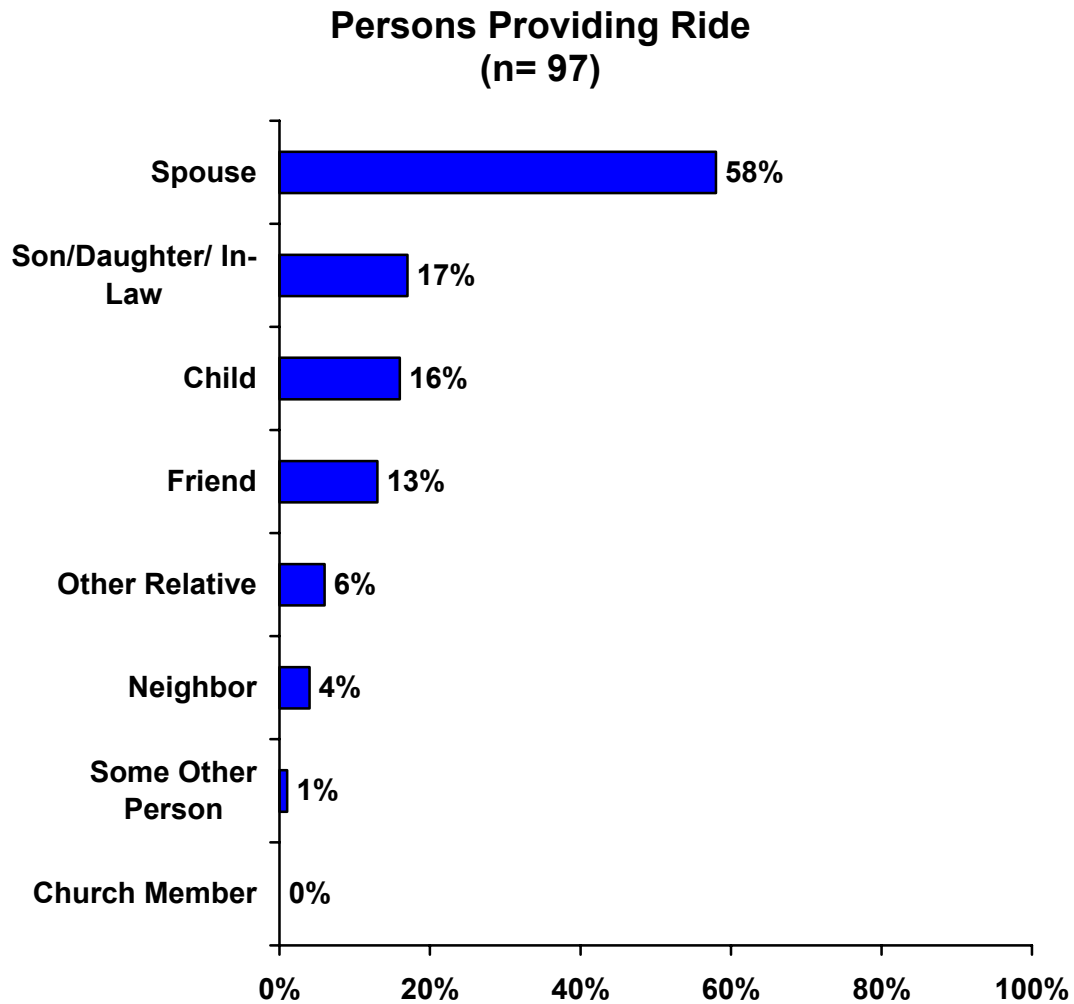
Half of Utah rural residents indicate that in a typical week they ride with someone else to where they need and want to go.

When respondents were asked how often does someone else drive you to where you need and want to go, half of respondents indicate that they ride with someone else at least once or twice a week, and about half report they never share a ride with others.

**Frequency of Ride Sharing During a Typical Week
(N=194)**



A majority of those who ride share report they ride with an immediate family member or friend.

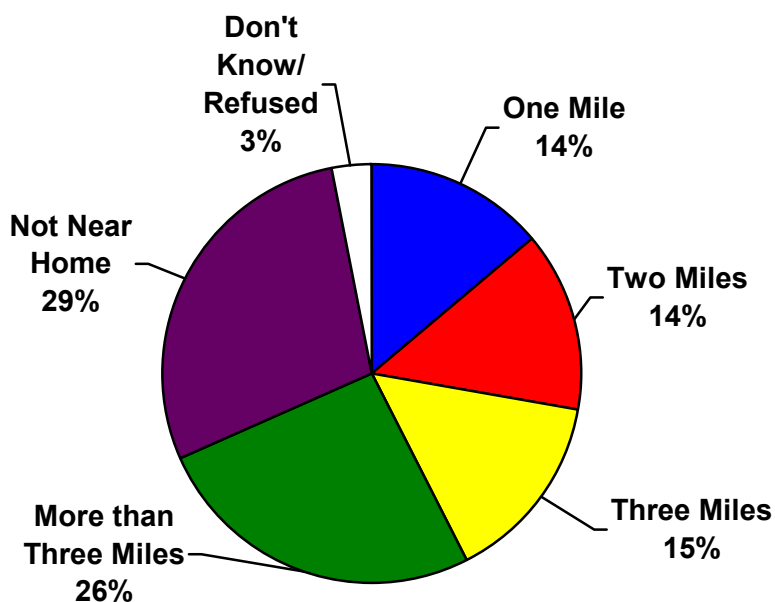


E. Experience with Public Transportation

Slightly more than one in four rural residents report there is public transportation available in their community.

Using their best knowledge, rural residents were asked whether public transportation is available in their community. Slightly more than one in four (26%) estimates it is available. Of these, about one in seven report the closest public transportation stop is within a mile of their home, and another one in seven say it is within two miles. About seven in ten respondents (69%) say it is three or more miles from their home or there is no stop near their home.

**Approximate Distance of Nearest Public Transportation Stop
(n=50)**



Few rural residents with access to public transportation use it on a regular basis.

Respondents who indicate a distance from the nearest transportation stop were asked how often they have used public transportation in the past two months. Nearly all (98%) rural residents indicate they never use public transportation. Only one person indicates that he/she rides public transportation once or twice a month. This person indicates that accessibility is a small problem.

F. Experience with Taxicabs

Most Utah rural residents do not use taxis regularly.

Respondents were asked how frequently they have used a taxicab in the past two months. Nearly all respondents (98%) indicate they have not taken a taxicab in the past two months. Two percent (four persons) reports that it is not available in the community.

G. Experience with Senior or Community Vans

Nearly all rural residents indicate they have not used a senior or community van in the past two months.

Respondents were asked how often they had used a senior or community van during the past two months. More than nine in ten (94%) report they never use a van. Two percent (3 persons) indicates that neither a senior nor a community van serve the community.

One percent (2 persons) says they have used a van at least once a week, and an additional two percent (4 persons) indicate they use it once or twice a month. One percent (2 persons) says they use it less than once a month.

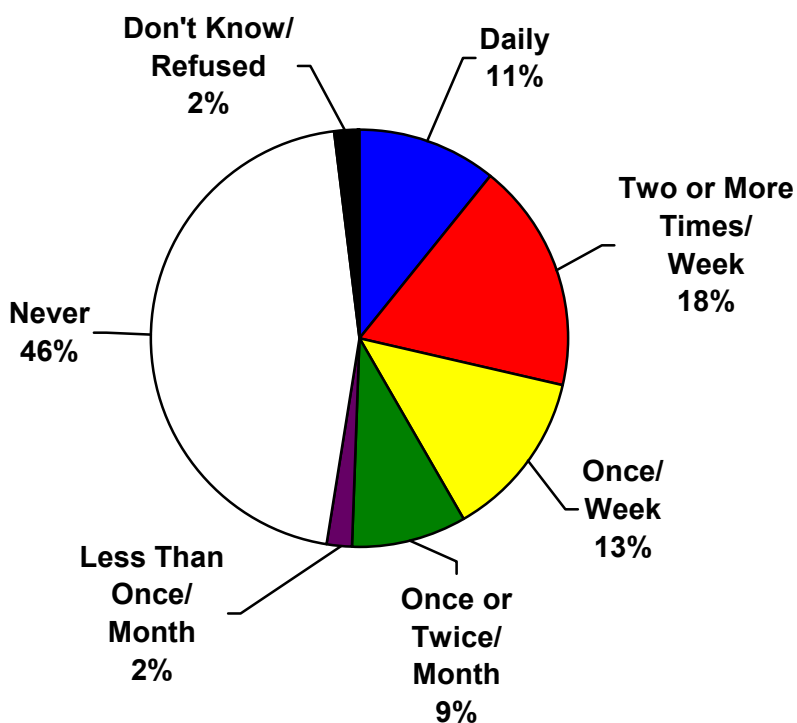
Of the eight respondents who report using a van during the past two months, none reported any problems using senior or community van.

H. Experience Walking

Slightly more than half of respondents indicate they have walked to where they wanted to go in the past two months.

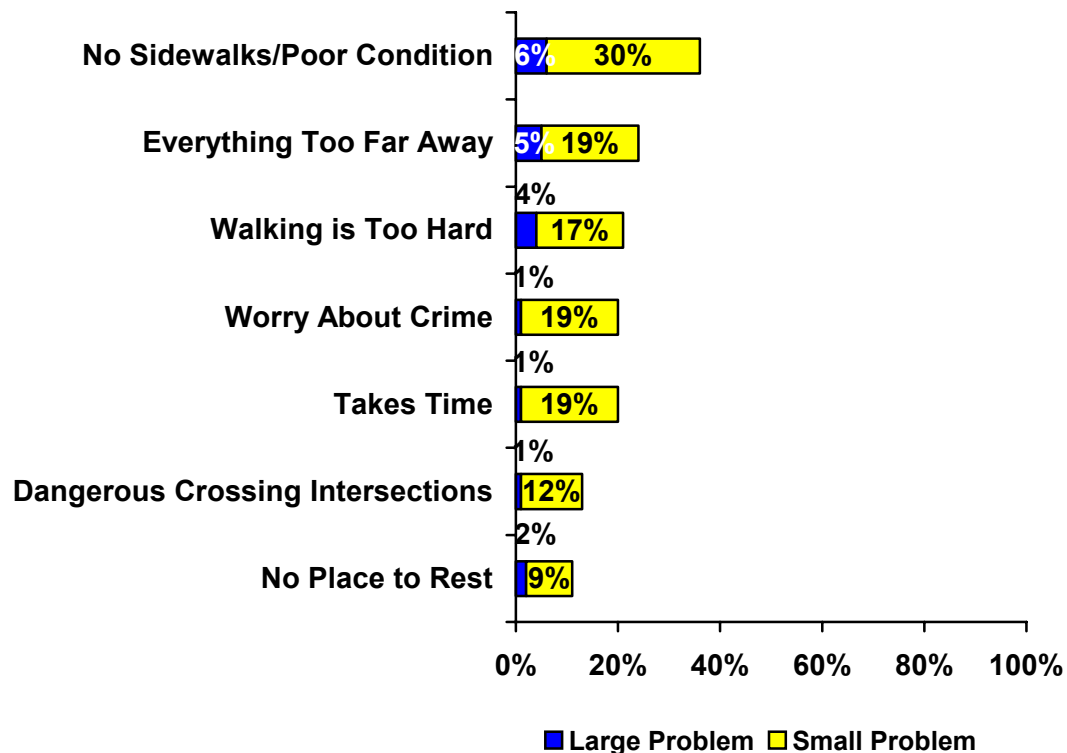
Slightly more than half (53%) of respondents report that they have walked to where they wanted to go in the past two months while more than two in five (46%) respondents say they have never walked to where they wanted to go.

**Frequency of Walking In Last Two Months
(N=194)**



Those respondents who say they have walked to where they wanted to go in the past two months (n=102) were provided with a list of some problems some people experience while walking. They were asked to indicate whether each of the seven items presented a large problem, small problem, or no problem for them. More than one in three respondents report that having no sidewalks or sidewalks are in poor condition is at least a small problem. Nearly one in four reports that it is at least a small problem that everything is too far away.

Large or Small Problems Experienced While Walking Among Those Respondents Who Walk to Where They Want to Go (n=102)



I. Experience with Medical Transportation Services

Nearly two in three respondents report transportation services that take persons to medical appointments are available in their community.

Respondents were asked to the best of their knowledge whether there are medical transportation services available in their community. Nearly two in three respondents (63%) indicate these services are available. More than one in three say that it is not available (29%) or is unsure whether they are available (8%).

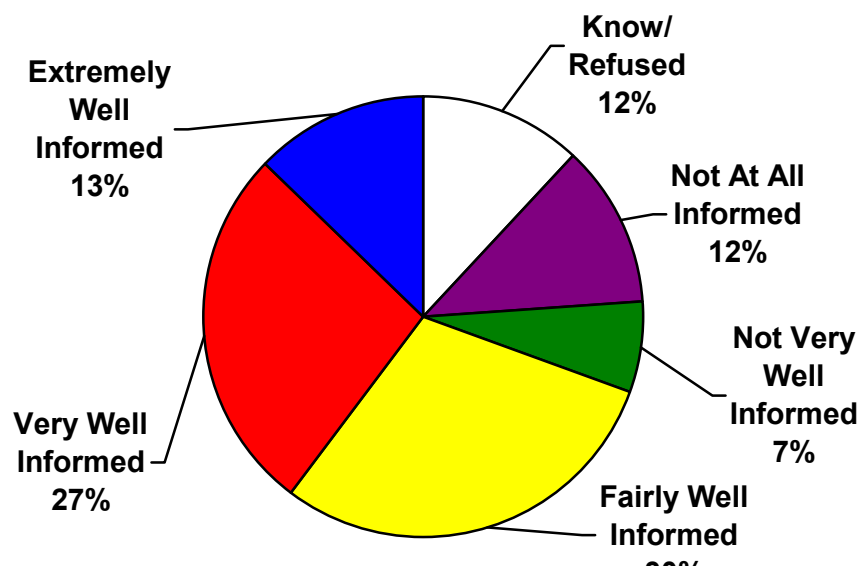
Of those who say services are available (n=123), only two percent indicates they have ever used the service. Of those who have used the service (n=2), one says he/she never uses it and the other indicates he/she uses it two or more times per week. No problem with use of the service was reported.

J. Informed about Community Transportation Services

Nearly two in five respondents report they are extremely or very well informed about transportation services in their community.

While nearly two in five (39%) rural respondents report they are extremely or very well informed about transportation services in their community, nearly three in ten say they are not well or not at all informed about transportation services or say they don't know.

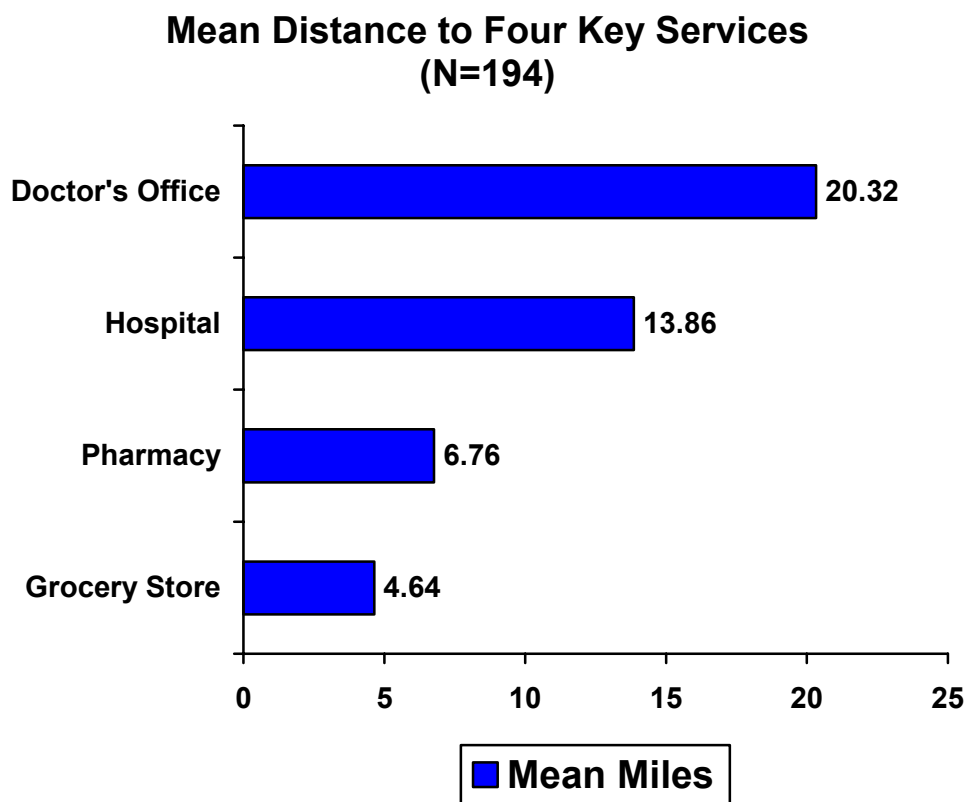
**Informed About Community Transportation Services
(N=194)**



K. Distance from Necessary Goods and Services

Most Utah rural residents live more than ten miles from a hospital or their doctor.

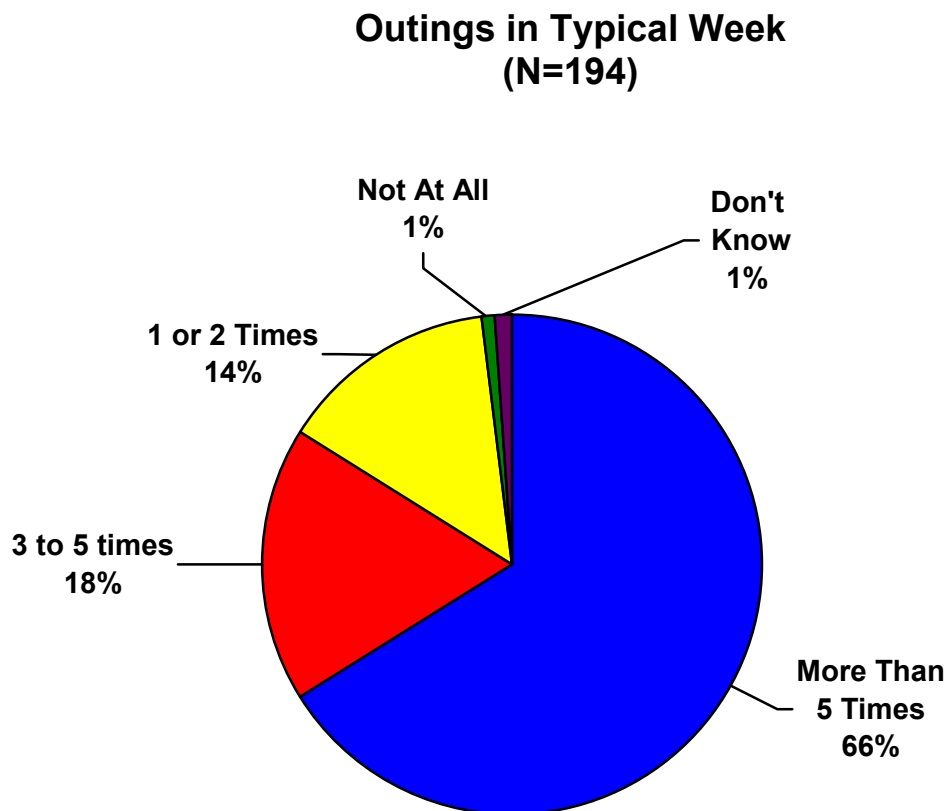
Respondents were asked to estimate the distance from their home to four key services: grocery store, pharmacy, hospital, and their doctor's office. While distance to these services differed significantly, the mean distance provides an efficient estimator of distance. While their grocery store is within approximately five miles of their home, they must travel greater distances to get to other key services. Rural respondents must travel more than ten miles to get to a hospital and more than twenty to get to their doctor.



L. Outings during a Typical Week

Nearly all rural residents indicate they leave their home to go somewhere during the typical week.

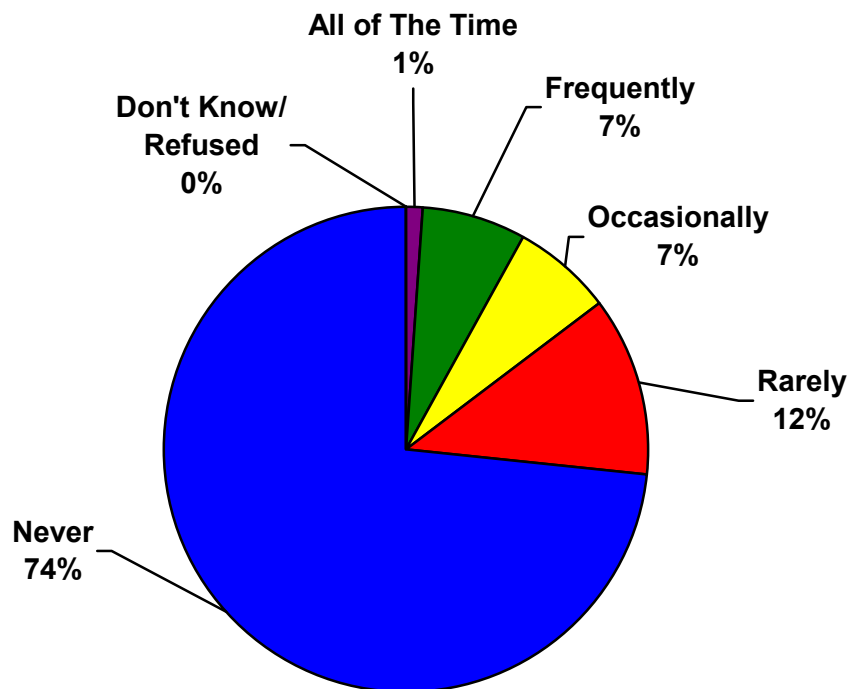
Nearly all (98%) rural residents report that during a typical week they leave their house or apartment to go somewhere, and two in three report they get out of their homes more than five times in a typical week. Only one percent indicates they do not leave their house at all during a typical week.



Utah respondents were asked how frequently they miss doing something they would like to do because of lack of transportation.

While the majority of respondents report they never or rarely miss doing something because of lack of transportation, one in seven indicate they do miss something at least occasionally.

**Frequency of Missing Something
Due to Transportation Problems
(N=194)**

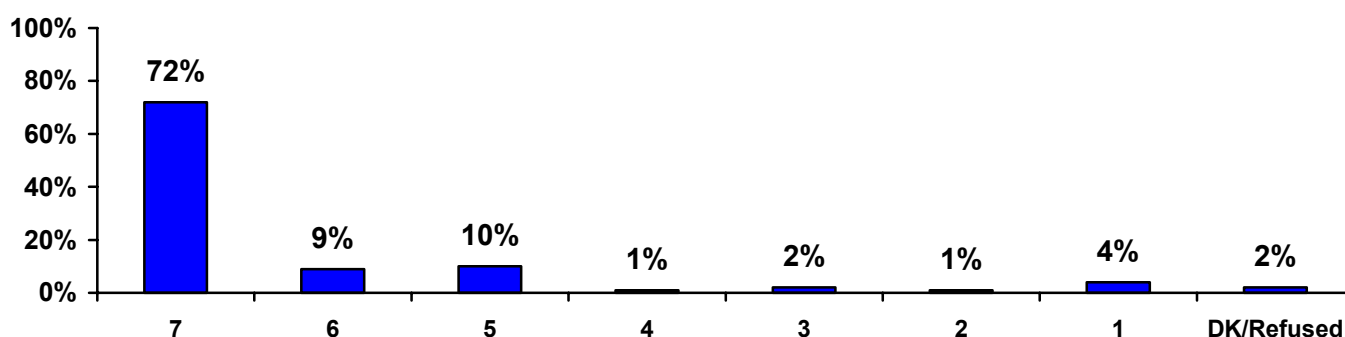


M. Satisfaction with Community Transportation Services

Most Utah rural residents are satisfied with their ability to get around their community when they want or need to go someplace.

Using a seven-point scale where “7” was completely satisfied and “1” was completely dissatisfied, rural residents were asked how satisfied they are with how they can get around their community when they want or need to go someplace. Most rural residents indicate they are satisfied, with more than seven in ten rural residents indicating they are extremely satisfied.

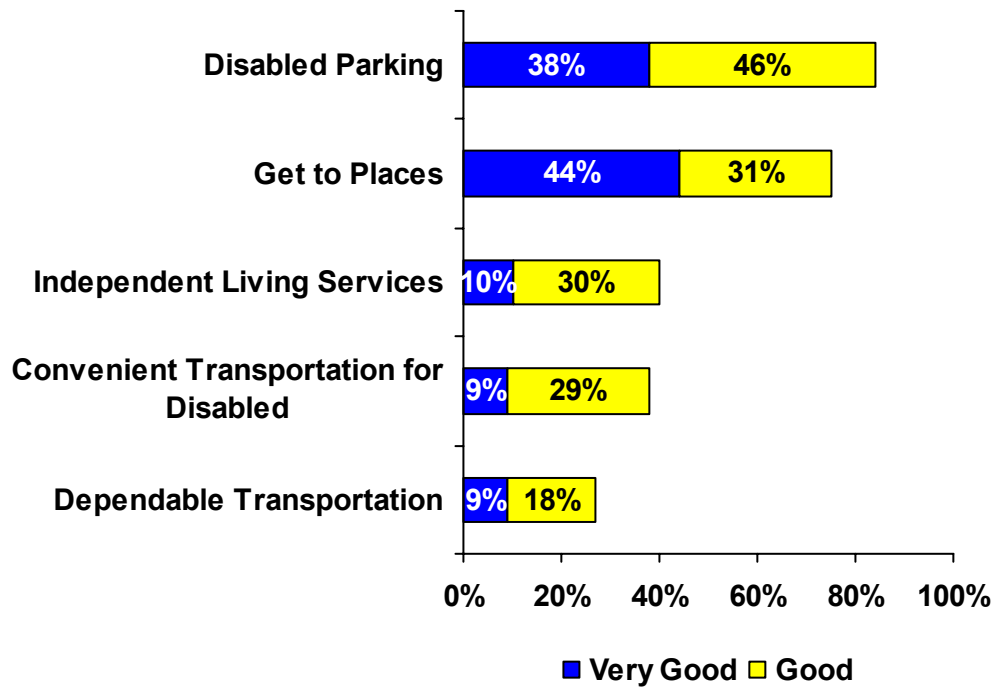
**Satisfaction with Transportation
(N=194)**



Most rural residents rate their community as at least good in being able to get to where they wish to go.

Rural residents were asked to rate their community on five dimensions. More than four in five indicate their community is very good or good in terms of their “*providing adequate parking for people with disabilities or health problems,*” and approximately the same percentage say their community is at least good for “*being able to get to most of the places they wish to go.*” About four in ten or more respondents also say their community is at least good in: “*providing a variety of transportation services to help them maintain their independence as they grow older*” and “*offering convenient transportation for people with disabilities or health problems.*” Slightly more than one in four say their community is at least good in “*offering dependable public transportation.*”

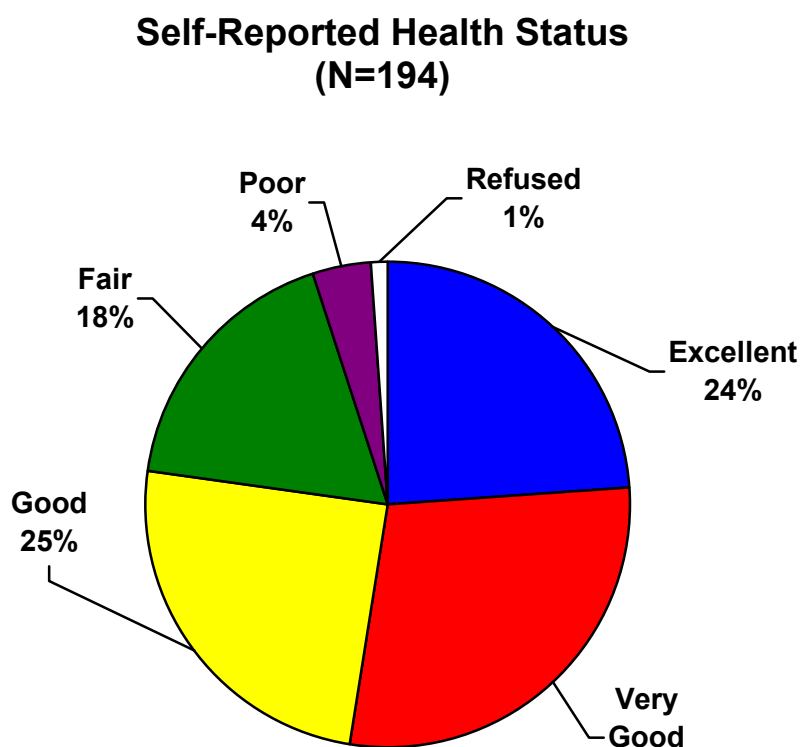
**Very Good and Good Ratings
Of Communities on Six Dimensions
(N=194)**



N. Respondent's Health Reports

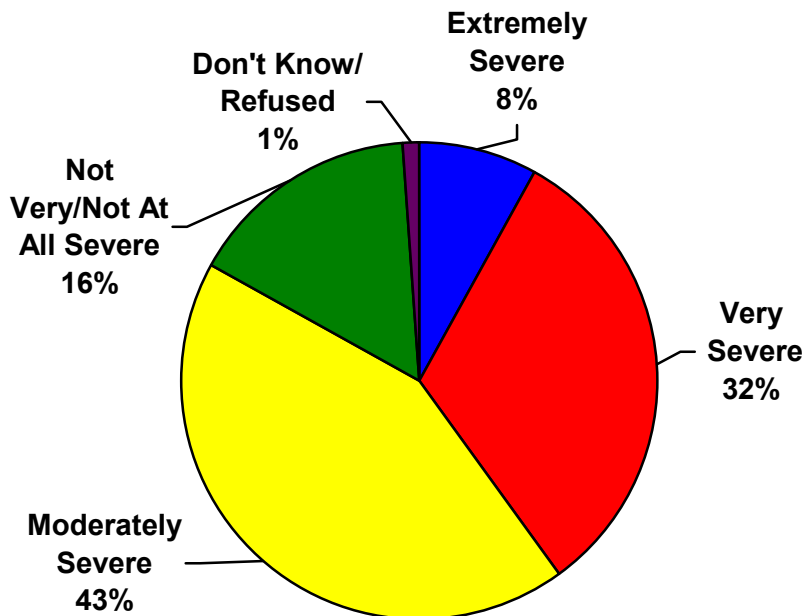
A majority of rural respondents report that their health is at least good.

Rural Utah residents were asked to rate their current health as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor. More than three in four (78%) rural respondents report that their health is at least good. Very few indicate that their health is poor.



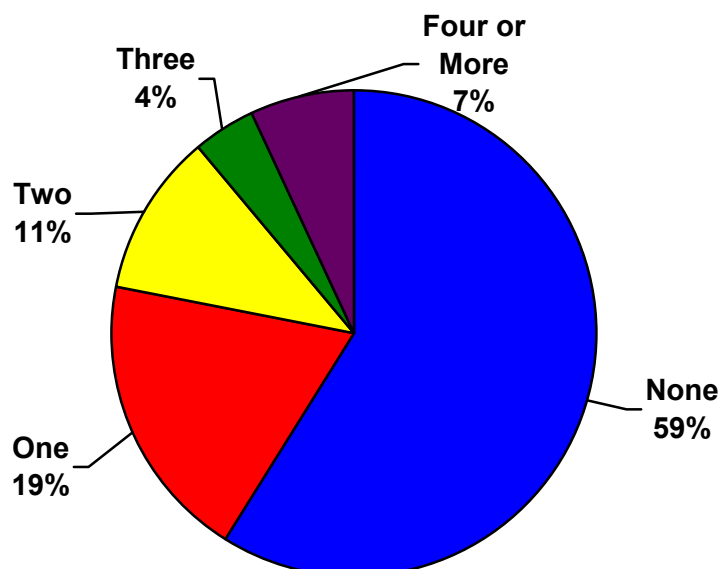
When asked if any disability, handicap, or other chronic disease keeps them from participating fully in work, school, housework, or other activities, less than one in five (19%) report they have such a condition. Those who report such a condition (n=36) were asked how they would describe the severity of their health difficulties or disabilities. A majority of these respondents report that their health difficulties or disabilities are very or moderately severe.

Severity of Health Difficulties or Disabilities (n=36)



Rural residents were also asked whether they had difficulty with seven types of routine activities such as climbing stairs, walking a quarter of a mile, or lifting or carrying something as heavy as ten pounds. Nearly three in five rural residents (59%) indicate they have none of the difficulties. One in five say they have one difficulty. Slightly more than one in five (22%) report they have more than one difficulty.

Count of Difficulties with Seven Routine Activities (N=194)

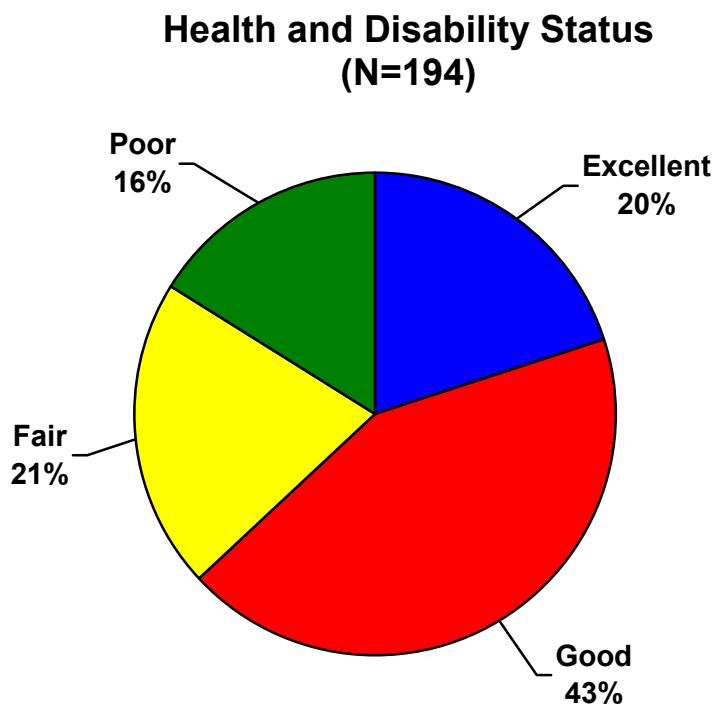


O. Health and Disability Index

Since health and disability are interrelated, a health and disability status (HDS) index has been created to simultaneously capture the variation in each measure.² The HDS index is drawn from two survey questions: *Question 32*, which assesses self-reported health status and *Question 33*, which assesses the difficulties the rural residents have in seven key routine activities such as reading, hearing, lifting, climbing stairs, and walking (See Appendix I: Annotated Survey Questionnaire).

The health status of a respondent is recorded on a 5-point scale with *excellent* health rated as 5 and *poor* health rated as 1. The count of disabilities is used to describe disability status. For example, a respondent who reports no disabilities gets a disability score of 0, while a respondent with seven disabilities gets a score of 7. The HDS index rating is then calculated by subtracting the number of disabilities from the self-described health rating. Thus, a respondent who reports he/she is in *excellent* health with no disabilities has an HDS score of 5, while a respondent who reports *poor* health and seven disabilities has an HDS score of -6. On the basis of their HDS scores, rural residents are classified into four groups: *excellent* HDS (a score of 5), *good* HDS (a score of 4 or 3), *fair* HDS (a score of 2 or 1), or *poor* HDS (a score of 0 to -6).

The majority of rural respondents have *excellent or good* HDS. Only about one in six have *poor* HDS.



² This Index was created by Edward Evans, AARP Knowledge Management, to account for the influence of both health status and disability on mobility options. This Index was first introduced in *Understanding Senior Transportation: Report and Analysis of a Survey of Consumers Age 50+*, a 2002 publication of the AARP Public Policy Institute.

Conclusion

Rural Utah residents age 50+ are entirely dependent on the automobile to get them to where they need and want to go. Nearly all drive, and more than nine in ten report they usually drive when they need to get somewhere. Half also report that they share rides, usually with a family member or friend.

Most rural residents drive because they have few other modes of transportation available to them. Slightly more than one in four say that public transportation is available in their community, but, of these, seventy percent indicate that the stop is three or more miles from their home. As a consequence, few use public transportation. Nearly all also report that they have not used taxis or senior or community vans in the past two months.

Rural residents must travel about five miles to a grocery store and more than six miles to get to a pharmacy. They must travel even greater distances to get to a hospital or their family doctor. Notably, about two in three indicate that medical transportation services are available to take them to medical appointments; however, only two respondents indicate that they have ever used the service.

Despite the limited transportation options available to them, most rural residents are satisfied with their ability to get to where they need and want to go. More than three in four respondents rate their community as at least good on two dimensions (providing adequate parking for people with disabilities and health problems and being able to get to most of the places you wish to go). Only slightly more than one in four, however, give at least good ratings to their community on offering dependable public transportation.

Rural residents are mobile. Nearly all report they leave their homes to go somewhere during a typical week, and two in three go out more than five times a week. Three in four respondents report that they never miss something they would like to do because they do not have transportation, but about one in seven say they miss something at least occasionally.

The findings from this research demonstrate that rural residents are underserved by public transportation. It also raises concerns about whether the oldest age groups are required to move from their homes in rural communities to more urban settings once their health starts to decline because they have few options for getting to the core services that they need. Based on the questions asked in this survey, we cannot evaluate this situation. Findings suggest that more data are needed on potential dislocations due to limited transportation options as well as whether frail elderly are continuing to drive even as their ability to do so declines.

Methodology

AARP commissioned Dan Jones and Associates to conduct a telephone survey of residents age 50 or older in Utah. The survey was conducted between February 25, 2006 and March 22, 2006. A total of 1,210 interviews were completed. Survey responses were weighted to reflect the distribution by age of persons age 50 and older in Utah as estimated in the 2000 Current Population Survey Voter Supplement. The weighted sample is 1,188. Weighted responses to all survey questions are in the attached annotated questionnaire. The survey has a sampling error of plus or minus 2.8 percent. The survey has a response rate of 13.8 percent and a cooperation rate of 24.5 percent.

Contained in the full sample of 1,188 interviews are 206 interviews with residents age 85 and over and 194 interviews with those who reside in predominantly rural counties³. The size of these two sub samples allowed for the in-depth review of data for each of these groups. This report focuses on the data gathered through the 194 interviews with Utah residents residing in rural counties.

This report summarizes the findings gathered from rural respondents. In the full report and the report on residents age 85 and older, subgroup analysis based on health and disability and driving status was possible due to the distribution of respondents across the categories. In this report, these subgroup analyses are not included because the respondents are densely clustered in specific categories. There are only 24 non-drivers in the sample, and there are only 30 respondents who have been identified as having *poor* Health and Disability Status.

Throughout the report, statistics representing responses are reported in percentages. In some instances, percentages are small and may not seem to represent a significant proportion of rural residents, yet when projected to the total number of Utah rural residents the actual number of people may be substantial.

³ Rural counties are defined as any county in Utah with the exception of Davis County, Salt Lake County, Utah County, Washington County, or Webber County.

Utah Transportation Survey

Annotated Survey – Rural 50+ Oversample

(N=192)

1. How well informed would you say you are about transportation services available in your community

<u>%</u>	
13	Extremely well informed
27	Very well informed
30	Fairly well informed
7	Not very well informed
12	Not at all informed
10	(DO NOT READ) Don't know
2	(DO NOT READ) Refused

**2. In general, when you need to get somewhere how do you usually get there?
(Probe: Is there any other way?)**

(DO NOT READ LIST) (ENTER ALL THAT APPLY)

<u>%</u>	
91	Drive
11	Get a ride with family or friends
6	Walk
<.5	Take a taxi
2	Take public transportation
1	Take a senior or community van
0	Take transportation provided to people with disabilities who cannot use or get to public transportation
1	Some other way
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

3. **How many miles do you live from...(Note to interviewer: capture information to the closet mile; for less than a mile, indicate less than on mile)**

a. The nearest hospital Mean = 13.86 Miles

<u>%</u>	
6	< 1 mile
32	1-4 miles
16	5-9 miles
17	10-19 miles
12	20-29 miles
12	30-49 miles
5	50+ miles
2	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know/Refused

b. Your doctors' office (allow for multiple responses since person may have multiple doctors) Note: The following percentages represent the average number of miles to their doctors. The average respondent has 1.2 doctors. Average mean miles = 20.32 miles

<u>%</u>	
0	< 1 mile
30	1-4 miles
18	5-9 miles
14	10-19 miles
8	20-29 miles
6	30-49 miles
13	50+ miles
11	(DO NOT READ) No Doctors/ Don't Know/Refused

c. The nearest grocery store Mean = 4.64 Miles

<u>%</u>	
24	< 1 mile
45	1-4 miles
17	5-9 miles
10	10-19 miles
2	20-29 miles
<.5	30-49 miles
2	50+ miles
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know/Refused

d. The nearest pharmacy Mean = 6.75 Miles

<u>%</u>	
24	< 1 mile
35	1-4 miles
17	5-9 miles
17	10-19 miles
2	20-29 miles
1	30-49 miles
4	50+ miles
<.5	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know/Refused

4. Do you have any health problems or disabilities that prevent you from using any of the following modes of transportation? (Note to interviewer: Repeat full question as necessary.)

a. Walking

<u>%</u>	
19	Yes
81	No
1	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

b. Driving

<u>%</u>	
8	Yes
92	No
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

c. Riding public transportation

<u>%</u>	
5	Yes
90	No
4	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
1	(DO NOT READ) Refused

d. Taking a taxi

<u>%</u>	
3	Yes
92	No
5	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

e. Riding a senior or community van

<u>%</u>	
4	Yes
95	No
1	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
1	(DO NOT READ) Refused

f. Riding transportation for those with disabilities

<u>%</u>	
3	Yes
93	No
4	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
<.5	(DO NOT READ) Refused

5. Does anyone in your household own a car or other motor vehicle?

<u>%</u>	
97	Yes
3	No
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

6. Does anyone in your household (including yourself) drive?

<u>%</u>	
94	Yes
6	No (SKIP TO Q.11)
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know (SKIP TO Q.11)
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused (SKIP TO Q.11)

7. **Do you have a driver's license? (n=183 respondents who have someone in their household who drives)**

%

96 Yes
5 No (SKIP TO Q.11)
0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know (SKIP TO Q.11)
0 (DO NOT READ) Refused (SKIP TO Q.11)

8. **Have you driven a car or other motor vehicle in the last month? (n=174 respondents who have someone in their household who drives)**

%

98 Yes
2 No (SKIP TO Q.11)
0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know (SKIP TO Q.11)
0 (DO NOT READ) Refused (SKIP TO Q.11)

9. **In a typical week, how often do you drive a car to get to where you want to go? (n=171 respondents who have someone in their household who drives and who have driven a car or motor vehicle in the last month.)**

%

<.5 Never SKIP TO Q.11
8 Once or Twice
21 Three to Five
58 Six to 12
10 More than 12
1 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know (SKIP TO Q.11)
3 (DO NOT READ) Refused (SKIP TO Q.11)

10. **I'm going to read you a list of some difficulties people have when driving. Thinking about your driving, please tell me whether each of these is a large problem, a small problem, or no problem at all for you. The first/next is...(n=164 respondents who have someone in their household who drives, who drive, and who typical drives and gets out of the house during a typical week)**

%

Large problem
Small problem
No problem
(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
(DO NOT READ) Refused

(READ LIST) (ROTATE) (IF NECESSARY, REPEAT: IS THIS A LARGE PROBLEM, A SMALL PROBLEM, OR NO PROBLEM?)

a. The cost of operating a car

<u>%</u>	
9	Large problem
34	Small problem
56	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

b. Dealing with traffic congestion

<u>%</u>	
4	Large problem
26	Small problem
70	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

c. Being worried about getting lost

<u>%</u>	
1	Large problem
5	Small problem
94	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

d. Inconsiderate drivers

<u>%</u>	
7	Large problem
43	Small problem
50	No problem
1	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

e. Traffic moves too fast

<u>%</u>	
8	Large problem
15	Small problem
77	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

f. Being able to see signals, signs, and lane markings

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
8	Small problem
91	No problem
1	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

g. Poor road conditions

<u>%</u>	
5	Large problem
30	Small problem
65	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

h. Parking

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
10	Small problem
90	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
<.5	(DO NOT READ) Refused

i. Crime

<u>%</u>	
7	Large problem
18	Small problem
73	No problem
1	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

j. Feeling confident about driving

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
7	Small problem
93	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

k. Driving at night

<u>%</u>	
9	Large problem
31	Small problem
59	No problem
1	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

11. In a typical week, how often does someone else drive you to where you need or want to go?

<u>%</u>	
48	Never SKIP TO Q.13
35	Once or Twice
13	Three to Five
2	Six to Ten
0	More than 10
2	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know (SKIP TO Q.13)
1	(DO NOT READ) Refused (SKIP TO Q.13)

12. When you get a ride with someone else, who do you typically ride with? (n=97, respondents to get a ride with someone else during a typical week)

<u>%</u>	
58	Spouse
17	Son or daughter or in-laws
16	Child
6	Other relative
4	Neighbor
13	Friend
0	Member of my church
1	Some other person
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

13. To the best of your knowledge, is there public transportation such as buses or trains available in your community?

<u>%</u>	
26	Yes
72	No (SKIP TO Q.17)
2	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know (SKIP TO Q.17)
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused (SKIP TO Q.17)

- 14. How close is the nearest public transportation stop from your home?...(Note to interviewer: Capture information to the closest mile; for less than a mile, indicate less than one mile) (n=50, respondents who state that public transportation is available in their community)**

%

- 14 1 mile
- 14 2 miles
- 15 3 miles
- 26 More than 3 miles
- 29 There is no public transportation stop near my home (SKIP TO Q.17)
- 3 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know (SKIP TO Q.17)
- 0 (DO NOT READ) Refused (SKIP TO Q.17)

- 15. In the last two months, about how often have you used public transportation? By public transportation I mean public buses, trains, etc., but not taxicabs. (n=35, respondents who identified how far public transportation was from their home)**

%

- 0 Every day
- 0 Two or more times a week
- 0 About once a week
- 2 Once or twice a month
- 0 Less than once a month
- 98 Never (SKIP TO Q.17)
- 0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know (SKIP TO Q.17)
- 0 (DO NOT READ) Refused (SKIP TO Q.17)

- 16. Thinking about public transportation, please tell me whether you would consider each of the following items a large problem, a small problem, or no problem at all for you. The first/next is...(n=1 respondent who report riding public transportation)**

a. Accessibility

%

- 0 Large problem
- 100 Small problem
- 0 No problem
- 0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know
- 0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

b. Difficulty boarding

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
0	Small problem
100	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

c. Being able to get a seat

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
0	Small problem
100	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

d. Getting information about fares, routes, and schedules

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
0	Small problem
100	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

e. Being worried about crime

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
0	Small problem
100	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

f. The time it takes to use public transportation (schedules and the like)

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
0	Small problem
100	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

g. Public transportation stations and vehicles are poorly maintained

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
0	Small problem
0	No problem
100	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

h. Public transportation is too expensive

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
0	Small problem
0	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
100	(DO NOT READ) Refused

i. Transfers between routes are difficult

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
0	Small problem
0	No problem
100	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

j. Public transportation doesn't go where I need to go

<u>%</u>	
0	Large problem
0	Small problem
0	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
100	(DO NOT READ) Refused

17. In the last two months, about how often have you taken a taxicab?

- %
- 0 Every day
 - 0 Two or more times a week
 - 0 About once a week
 - <.5 Once or twice a month
 - <.5 Less than once a month
 - 98 Never SKIP TO Q. 19
 - 2 (DO NOT READ) Taxicabs do not serve my community SKIP TO Q. 19
 - 0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know SKIP TO Q. 19
 - 0 (DO NOT READ) Refused SKIP TO Q. 19

18. Thinking about taking a cab, what types of problems have you encountered when using a taxicab? (n=1, respondents who report using a taxicab in the past two months.)

(DO NOT READ LIST; ENTER ALL THAT APPLY)

- %
- 0 It's hard to get a taxi
 - 0 Taxis take too long to come after you call
 - 0 Being worried about crime
 - 0 Drivers are not helpful
 - 0 Taxis are too expensive
 - 0 Taxis are poorly maintained
 - 0 Drivers are unfamiliar with the area
 - 0 Difficulty communicating with drivers
 - 0 Getting information about fares
 - 100 (DO NOT READ) None
 - 0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know
 - 0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

19. In the last two months, about how often have you taken a senior or community van?

<u>%</u>	
0	Every day
0	Two or more times a week
1	About once a week
2	Once or twice a month
1	Less than once a month
94	Never SKIP TO Q. 21
2	(DO NOT READ) Neither senior nor community vans serve my community SKIP TO Q. 21
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know SKIP TO Q. 21
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused SKIP TO Q. 21

20. Thinking about senior or community vans, what types of problems have you encountered when using a van? (n=9 respondents who report they have taken a senior or community van in the last two months)

(DO NOT READ LIST.) (ENTER ALL THAT APPLY.)

<u>%</u>	
0	Getting information about availability or eligibility
0	Making reservations is difficult
0	Vans are late for scheduled pick-ups
0	Fares are too high
0	Operators are not helpful
0	It's embarrassing to use special transportation
0	Having to schedule ahead is not convenient
0	The time it takes to use
0	Vehicles are poorly maintained
0	Not being eligible
0	There is no van in my community
100	None of these
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

21. In the last two months, how often have you walked to where you wanted to go?

<u>%</u>	
11	Every day
18	Two or more times a week
13	About once a week
9	Once or twice a month
2	Less than once a month
46	Never SKIP TO Q. 23
2	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know SKIP TO Q. 23
<.5	(DO NOT READ) Refused SKIP TO Q. 23

22. Thinking about walking, please tell me whether you would consider each of these a large problem, a small problem, or no problem at all for you. The first/next is...(n=102, respondents who report they walk somewhere)

Large problem
Small problem
No problem
(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
(DO NOT READ) Refused

(READ LIST) (ROTATE) (IF NECESSARY, REPEAT: IS THIS A LARGE PROBLEM, A SMALL PROBLEM, OR NO PROBLEM?)

Walking is too hard (Volunteered: I can't walk anywhere or I'm not able to go far enough)

<u>%</u>	
4	Large problem
17	Small problem
79	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

Being worried about crime

<u>%</u>	
1	Large problem
19	Small problem
80	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

The time it takes to walk

<u>%</u>	
1	Large problem
19	Small problem
79	No problem
1	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

No place to rest

<u>%</u>	
2	Large problem
9	Small problem
90	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

No sidewalks or sidewalks are in poor condition

<u>%</u>	
6	Large problem
30	Small problem
63	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

Crossing intersections is too dangerous

<u>%</u>	
1	Large problem
12	Small problem
87	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

Everything is too far away

<u>%</u>	
5	Large problem
19	Small problem
75	No problem
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

23. To the best of your knowledge, are there any transportation services in your community that drive people to medical appointments

%

63 Yes

29 No SKIP TO Q. 28

8 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know SKIP TO Q. 28

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused SKIP TO Q. 28

24. Have you ever used this service to take you to a medical appointment? (n=123 respondent who report medical transportation service is available in their community.)

%

2 Yes

98 No SKIP TO Q. 28

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know SKIP TO Q. 28

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused SKIP TO Q. 28

25. In the past two months, how often have you used this service to take you to a medical appointment? (n=2 respondents who have used the medical transportation service)

%

0 Every day

50 Two or more times a week

0 About once a week

0 Once or twice a month

0 Less than once a month

50 Never SKIP TO Q. 28

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know SKIP TO Q. 28

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused SKIP TO Q. 28

26. Have you ever experienced any problem(s) using this service? (n=1 respondents who have used medical transportation in the last two months)

%

0 Yes

100 No SKIP TO Q. 28

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know SKIP TO Q. 28

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused SKIP TO Q. 28

27. What problem(s) did you experience? (n=0)

%

(RECORD VERBATIM)

(DO NOT READ) Don't Know

(DO NOT READ) Refused

28. On a scale from 1 to 7, where 1 means extremely dissatisfied and 7 means extremely satisfied, how would you rate your ability to get around your community when you need or want to go someplace?

%

72 Extremely Satisfied

9

10

1

2

1

4 Extremely Dissatisfied

1 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

1 (DO NOT READ) Refused

29. How often would you say you go out in a typical week?

%

1 Not at all

14 1 or 2 times

18 3 to 5 times

66 More than 5 times

1 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

- 30. How often do you miss doing something that you would like to do because you do not have transportation? Would you say all of the time, frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never?**

%

1	All of the time
7	Frequently
7	Occasionally
12	Rarely
74	Never
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

- 31. I am going to read you a list of descriptions about the quality of transportation services in your community. Please rate each statement as a very good description of your community or as a good, fair, poor, or very poor description of the quality of transportation services in your community.**

- a. Being able to get to most of the places you wish to go**

%

44	Very good
31	Good
3	Fair
9	Poor
8	Very poor
5	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
1	(DO NOT READ) Refused

- b. Offering dependable public transportation**

%

9	Very good
18	Good
12	Fair
24	Poor
21	Very poor
16	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
1	(DO NOT READ) Refused

c. Offering convenient transportation for people with disabilities or health problems

%

9 Very good
29 Good
12 Fair
14 Poor
13 Very poor
23 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know
1 (DO NOT READ) Refused

d. Providing a variety of transportation services to help you maintain your independence as you grow older

%

10 Very good
30 Good
16 Fair
11 Poor
16 Very poor
18 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know
<.5 (DO NOT READ) Refused

e. Providing adequate parking for people with disabilities or health problems

%

38 Very good
46 Good
7 Fair
3 Poor
3 Very poor
4 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

The last few questions are just to help us classify our results. Your individual responses are anonymous and will be held in the strictest confidence.

32. How would you describe your current health? Would you describe it as excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?

<u>%</u>	
24	Excellent
29	Very good
25	Good
18	Fair
4	Poor
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
1	(DO NOT READ) Refused

33. I am going to read you a list of health difficulties. Can you tell me if you have any difficulty with them? (Note to interviewer: repeat full question as necessary)

a. Going out alone, for instance to shop or visit a doctor's office

<u>%</u>	
5	Yes
95	No
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

b. Dressing, bathing, or getting around inside your home

<u>%</u>	
4	Yes
96	No
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

c. Seeing the words or letters in an ordinary newspaper even when wearing glasses

<u>%</u>	
8	Yes
91	No
1	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
0	(DO NOT READ) Refused

d. Hearing what is said in a normal conversation when using a hearing aid if one is used

%

16 Yes

81 No

1 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

2 (DO NOT READ) Refused

e. Lifting or carrying something as heavy as ten pounds, like a bag full of groceries

%

11 Yes

89 No

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

f. Climbing a flight of stairs without resting

%

19 Yes

81 No

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

g. Walking a quarter mile (That is about three city blocks)

%

20 Yes

79 No

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

1 (DO NOT READ) Refused

h. None of these

%

43 Yes

57 No

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

34. Do you have any disability, handicap, or chronic disease that keeps you from participating fully in work, school, housework, or other activities?

%

19 Yes

81 No SKIP TO Q. 36

<.5 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know SKIP TO Q. 36

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused SKIP TO Q. 36

35. In general, how severe would you say these health difficulties or disabilities are? (n=36 respondents who say they have a disability)

%

8 Extremely severe

32 Very severe

43 Moderately severe

16 Not very severe

0 Not at all severe

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

36. Do you use any of the following aids to get around? (Note to interviewer: repeat full question as necessary)

a. A cane, crutch, or walker

%

11 Yes

89 No

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

b. An electric scooter

%

2 Yes

98 No

0 (DO NOT READ) Don't Know

0 (DO NOT READ) Refused

c. A wheel chair

<u>%</u>	
2	Yes
97	No
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
1	(DO NOT READ) Refused

37. What is your current employment status? Are you?

<u>%</u>	
2	Self-employed, part-time
4	Self-employed, full-time
6	Employed, part-time
22	Employed, full-time
55	Retired, not working at all
11	Not in labor force for other reasons
0	Unemployed but looking for work
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
<.5	(DO NOT READ) Refused

38. What is the highest grade of school you completed, is it?

<u>%</u>	
8	0-12 th grade (no diploma)
32	High school graduate (or equivalent)
27	Post-high school education (no degree)
12	2-year college degree
11	4-year college degree
<.5	Post-graduate study (no degree)
10	Graduate or professional degree (s)
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
<.5	(DO NOT READ) Refused

39. What is your age as of your last birthday? (Record in years) Mean =

<u>%</u>	
77	50-74
8	75-79
10	80-84
4	85+
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
1	(DO NOT READ) Refused

40. How many persons live in your household? Is there?

<u>%</u>	
25	1 person
53	2 people
10	3 people
3	4 people
9	5 or more people
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
<.5	(DO NOT READ) Refused

41. What is your marital status? Are you?

<u>%</u>	
67	Married
1	Not married, living with partner
1	Separated
8	Divorced
20	Widowed
3	Never married
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
<.5	(DO NOT READ) Refused

42. Are you of Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino origin or descent?

<u>%</u>	
2	Yes
97	No
0	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
1	(DO NOT READ) Refused

43. What is your race?

<u>%</u>	
94	White or Caucasian
0	Black or African American
<.5	American Indian or Alaska Native
0	Asian
0	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
3	Other
<.5	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
2	(DO NOT READ) Refused

44. What is your 5-digit Zip Code? (WRITE IN YOUR ZIP CODE.)

D	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
R	(DO NOT READ) Refused

45. What county do you live in?

COUNTY
D (DO NOT READ) Don't Know
R (DO NOT READ) Refused

46. What was your annual household income before taxes in 2005? Was it?

%	
7	Less than \$10,000
11	\$10,000 but less than \$20,000
18	\$20,000 but less than \$35,000
12	\$35,000 but less than \$50,000
7	\$50,000 but less than \$60,000
7	\$60,000 but less than \$75,000
14	\$75,000 or more
8	(DO NOT READ) Don't Know
15	(DO NOT READ) Refused

47. NOTE TO INTERVIEWER: Record the gender of the respondent.

<u>%</u>	
43	Male
58	Female

(THANK AND TERMINATE.)

AARP
Knowledge Management
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