

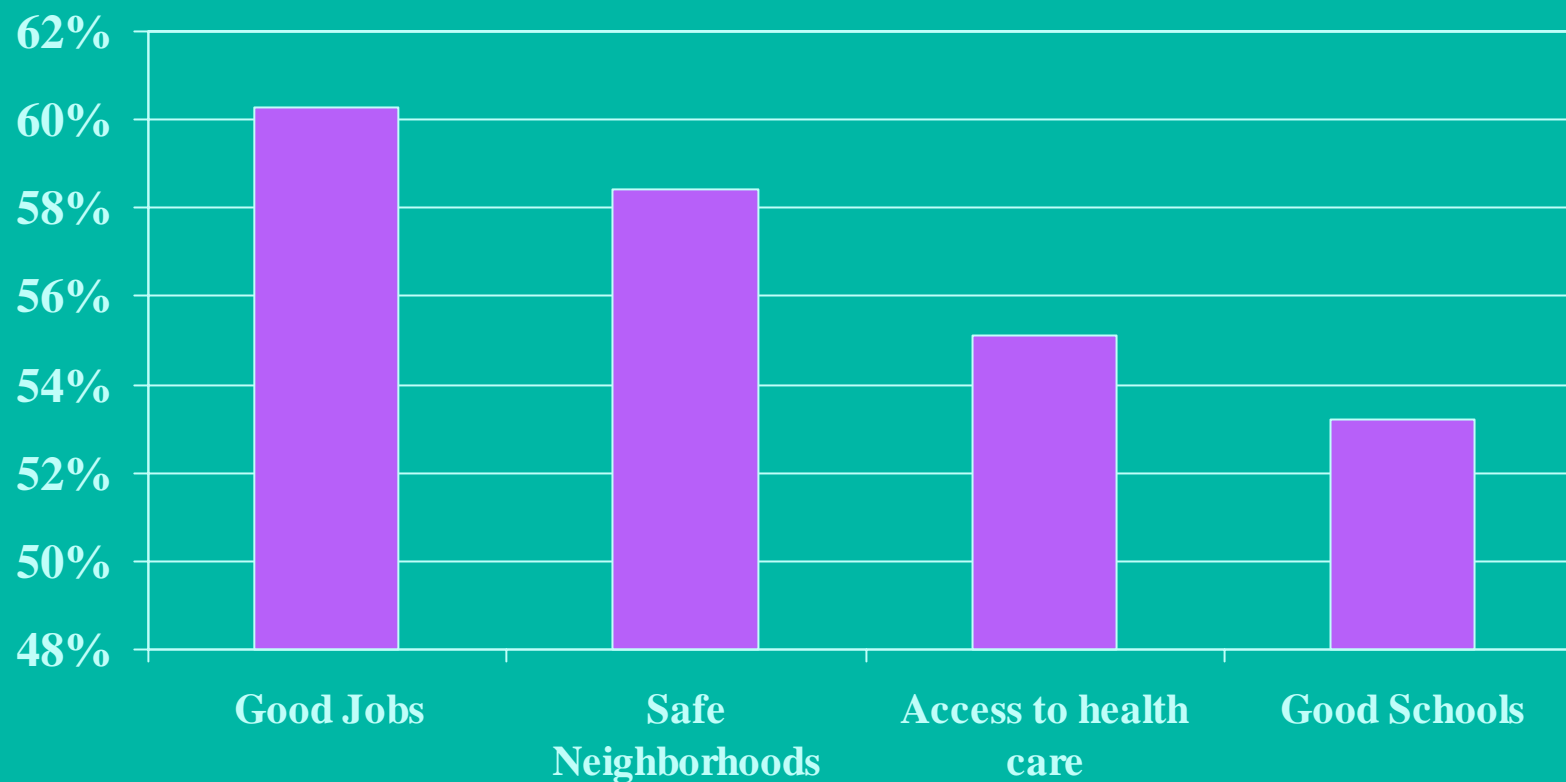
Quality of Life Survey
Results of the 2006 Survey in
Cowlitz County

Cowlitz County Health Department
Pathways 2020

Survey Facts

- Survey tool used in 2002 was revised, but most of the questions are the same
- 975 persons completed the survey between 10/10/06 and 12/18/06
- 88% of the persons completing the survey listed zip codes found in Cowlitz County, an additional 2% report living in the county for some length of time despite having an out-of-county zip code
- Surveys were collected online and by hard copy
- Results are unweighted

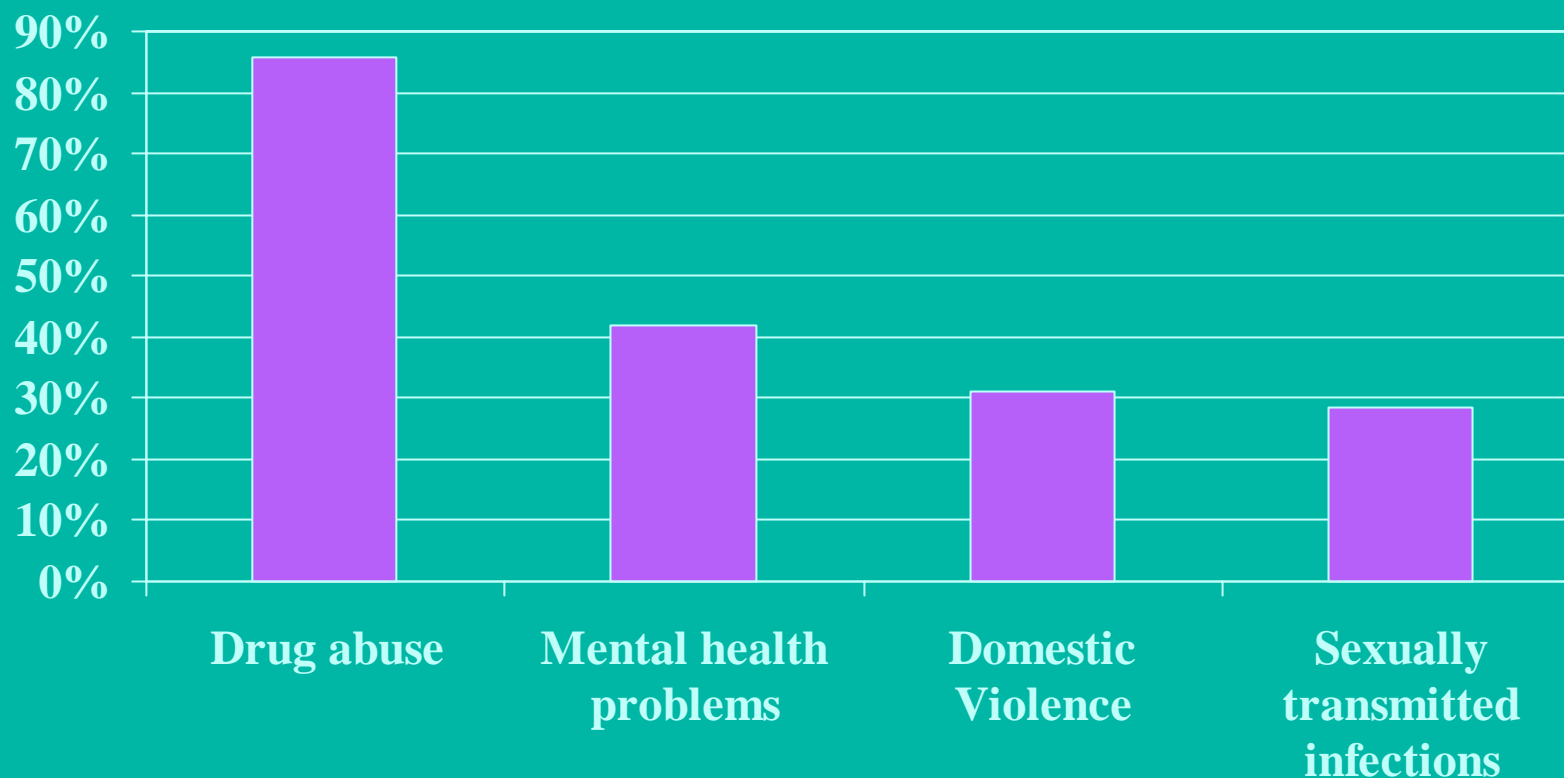
What do you think are the most important (4) factors for a Healthy Community?



Factors for a Healthy Community

| Factor | Percent of Respondents Selecting Factor (1 of 4 possible choices) |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Good jobs | 60.3 |
| Safe neighborhoods | 58.4 |
| Access to Health Care | 55.1 |
| Good schools | 53.2 |
| Healthy behaviors and life styles | 37.7 |
| Strong family life | 35.8 |
| Clean environment | 30.4 |
| Religious or spiritual values | 25.0 |
| No Child abuse | 22.4 |
| Other | 12.8 |
| Parks and recreation | 11.7 |
| Arts and cultural events | 10.3 |
| Excellent race relations | 7.3 |
| Low adult death and disease rates | 4.3 |
| Low infant death rates | 3.8 |

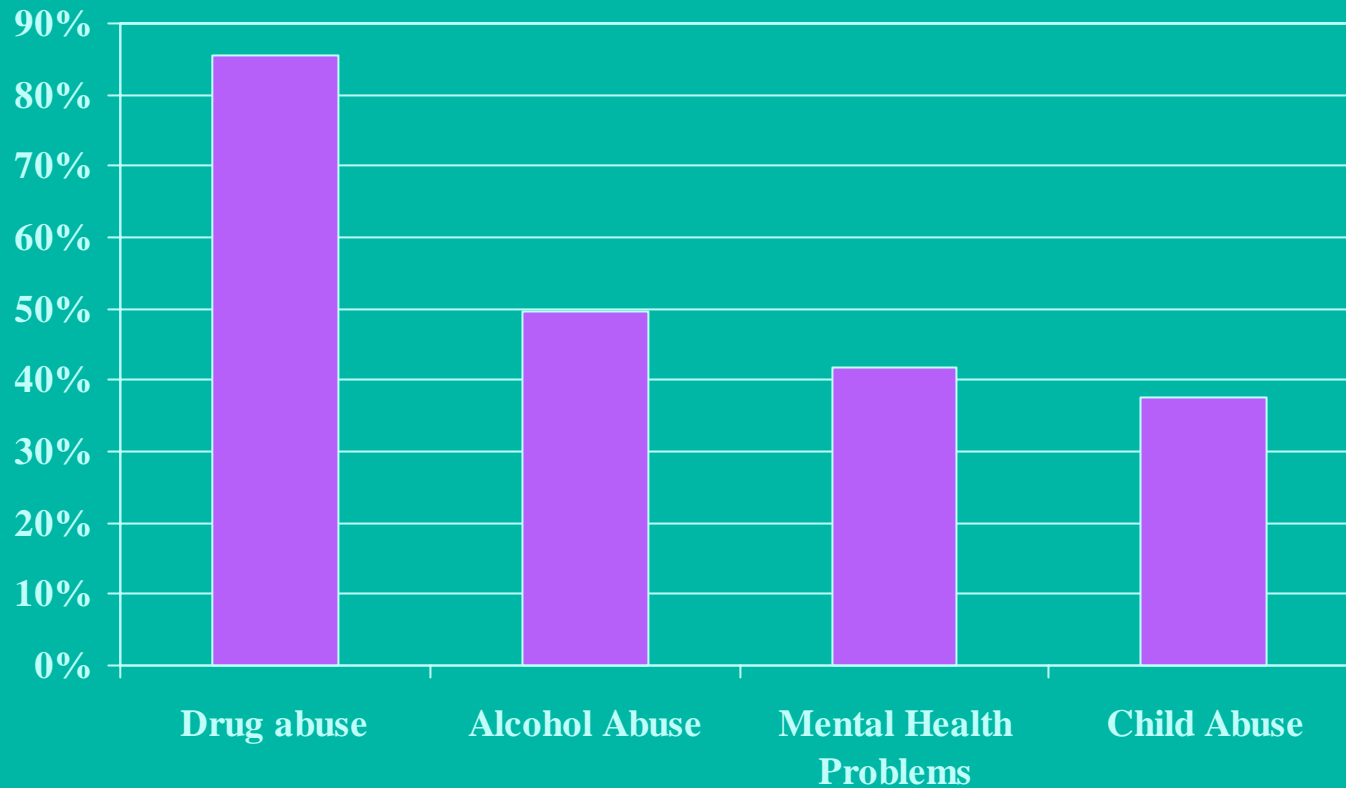
What do you think are the 4 most important health problems in our community?



Most Important Health Problems in Our Community

| Factor | Percent of Respondents Selecting Factor (1 of 4 possible choices) |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Drug abuse | 85.6 |
| Alcohol abuse | 49.7 |
| Mental Health problems | 41.8 |
| Child abuse | 37.5 |
| Domestic Violence | 31.0 |
| Sexually transmitted infections | 28.4 |
| Cancers | 21.0 |
| Teen pregnancy | 18.6 |
| Aging problems | 16.0 |
| Infectious disease | 15.0 |
| Heart disease and stroke | 9.7 |
| Diabetes | 9.2 |
| Dental problems | 8.1 |
| HIV/AIDS | 7.9 |
| Sexual assault | 7.1 |

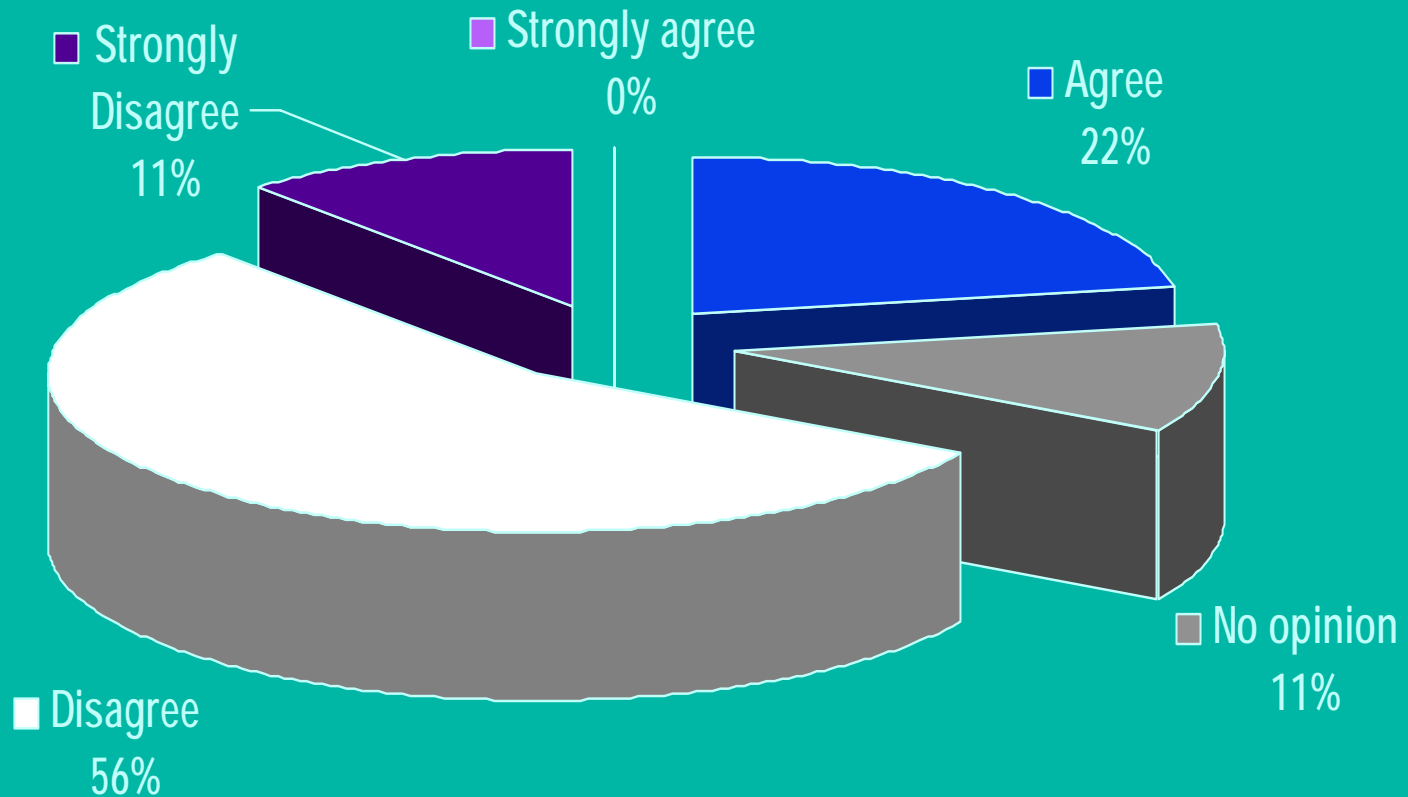
What are the 4 most important risky behaviors in our community?



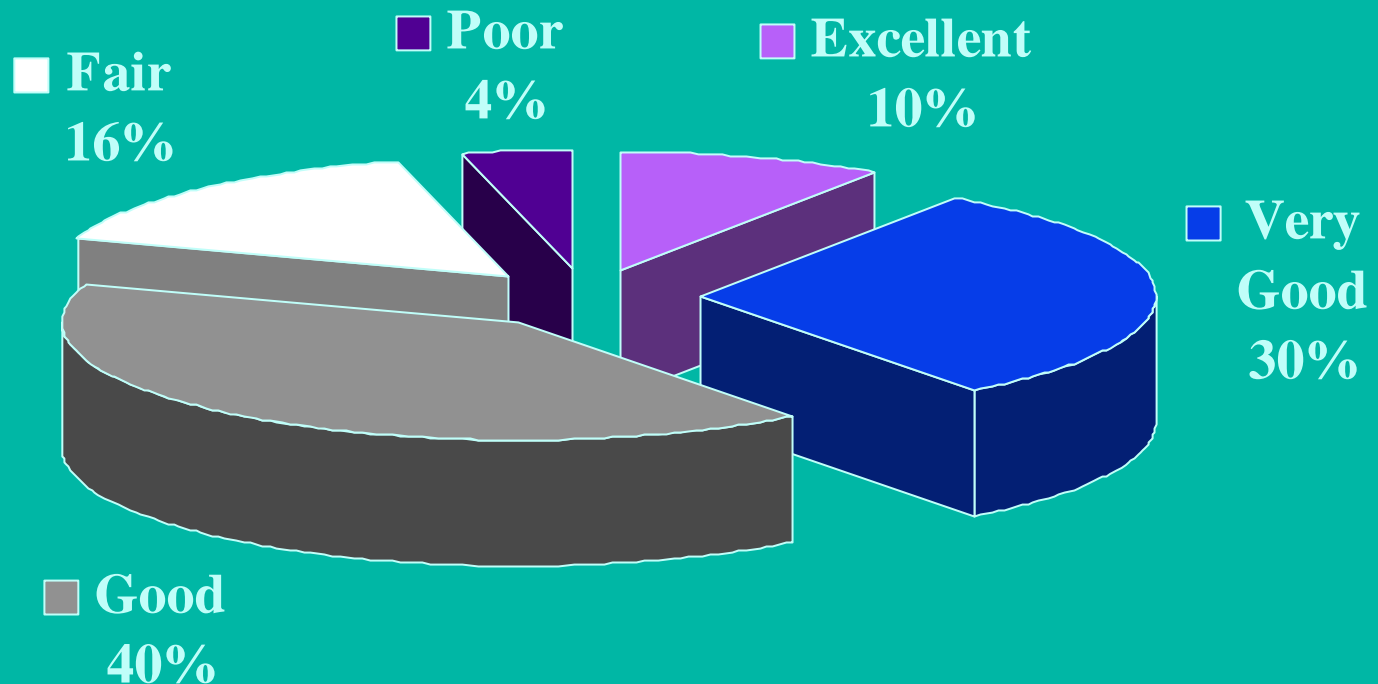
Most Important Risky Behaviors in Our Community

| Factor | Percent of Respondents Selecting Factor (1 of 4 possible choices) |
|---|---|
| Drug abuse | 88.3 |
| Alcohol abuse | 69.4 |
| Unsafe sex | 50.1 |
| Dropping out of school | 39.0 |
| Being overweight | 38.2 |
| Poor eating habits | 29.5 |
| Lack of exercise | 25.3 |
| Not using birth control | 21.4 |
| Racial stereotyping | 11.3 |
| Not using seat belts/child safety seats | 9.6 |
| Being unvaccinated | 8.3 |
| Other | 5.3 |

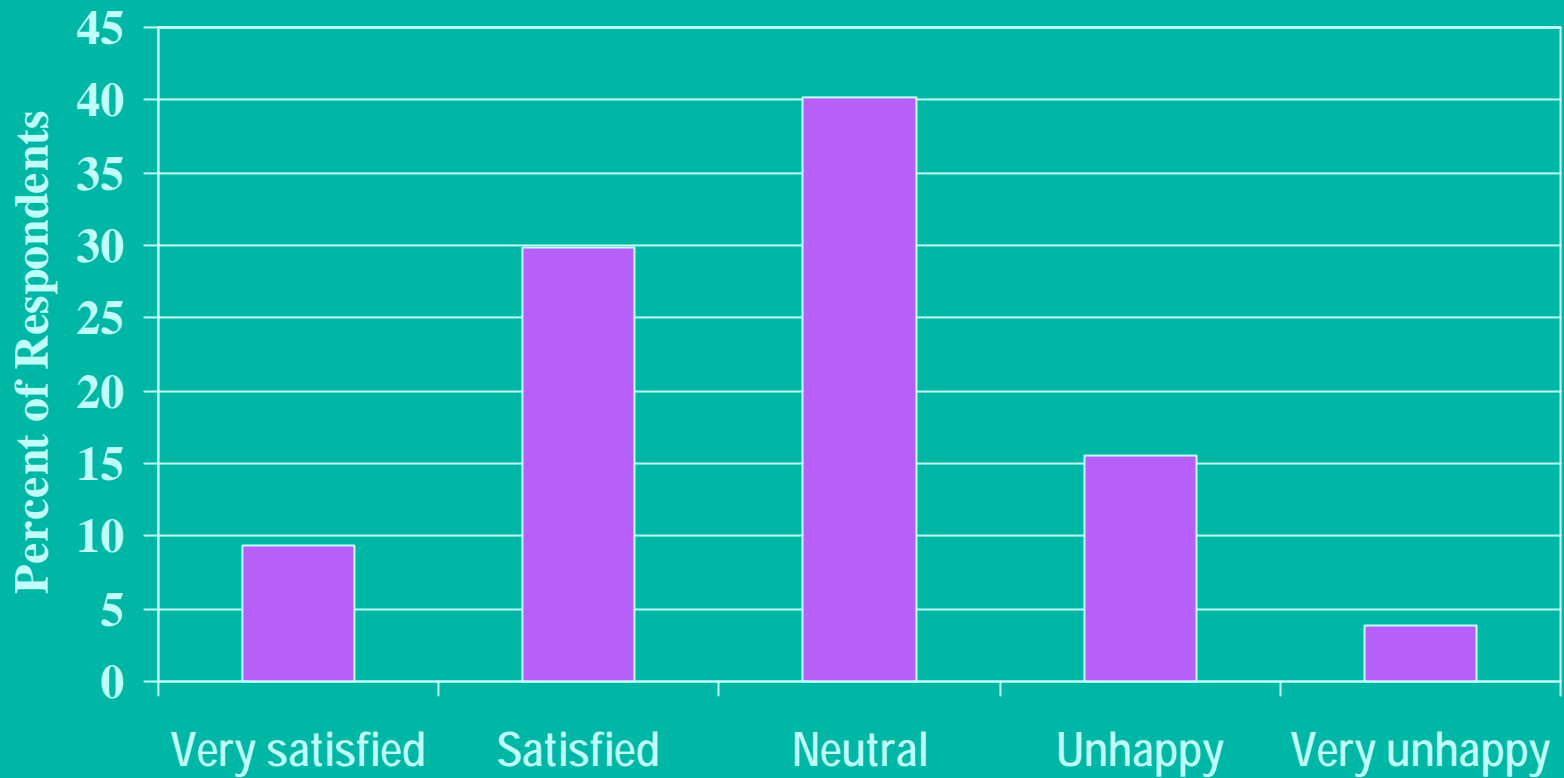
Would you agree that our community is a "healthy community?"



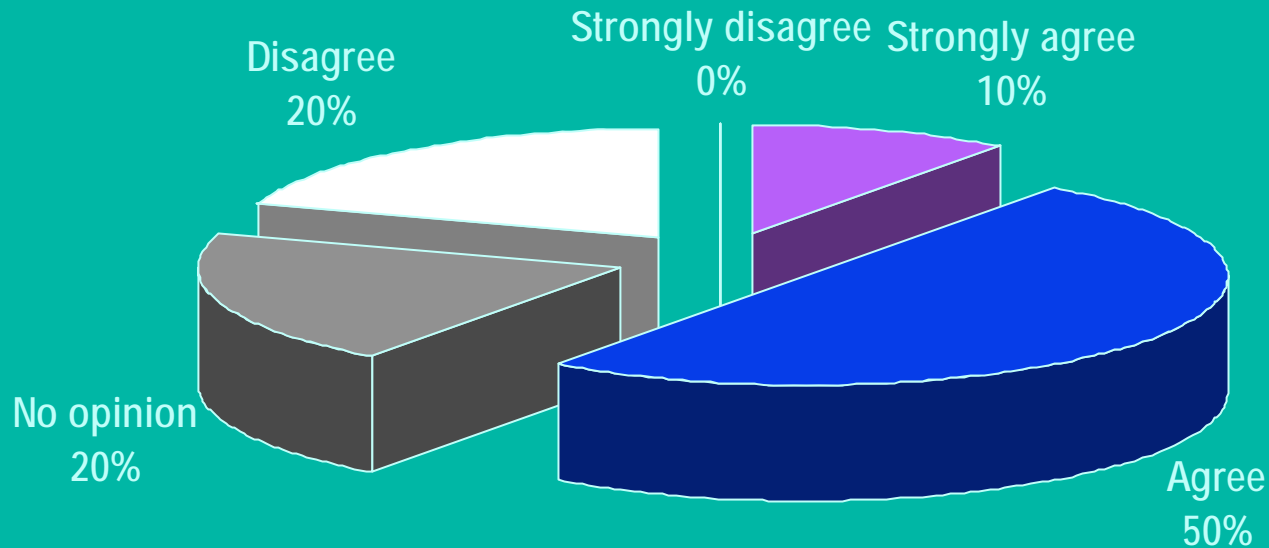
How would you rate your personal health?



How would you rate your overall satisfaction with your health care?



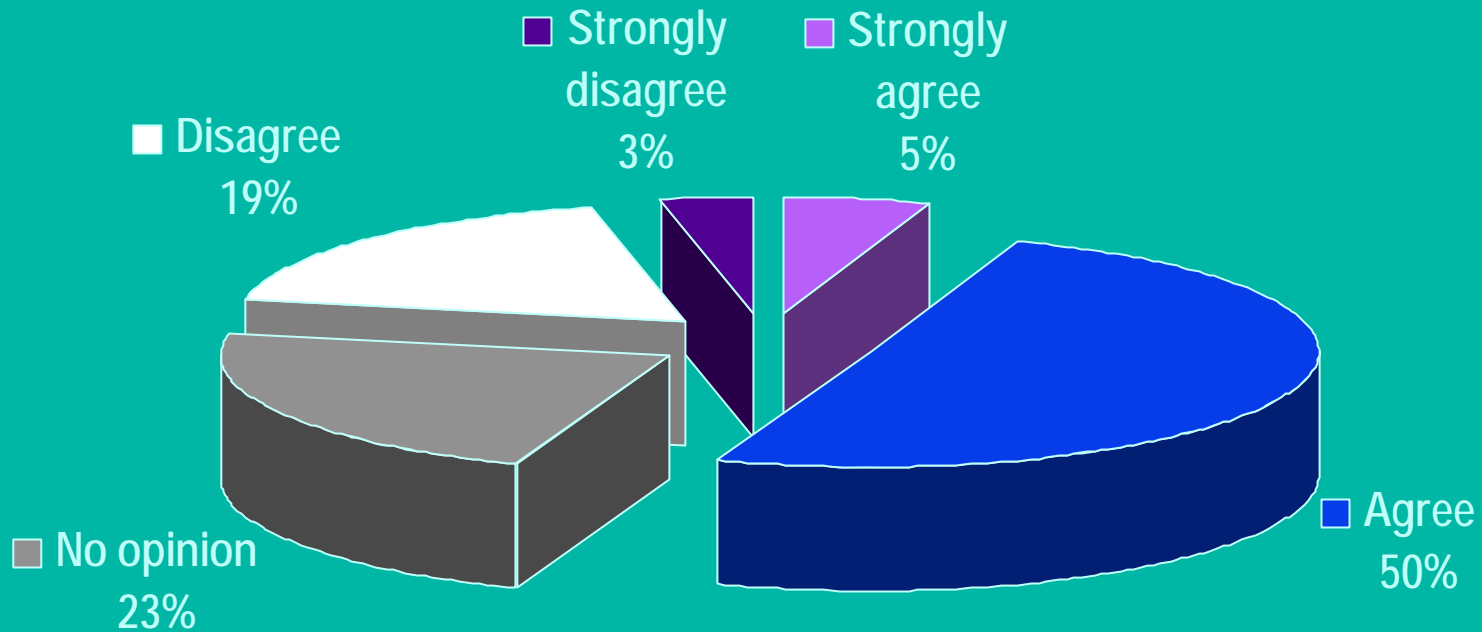
Is this community a good place to raise children?



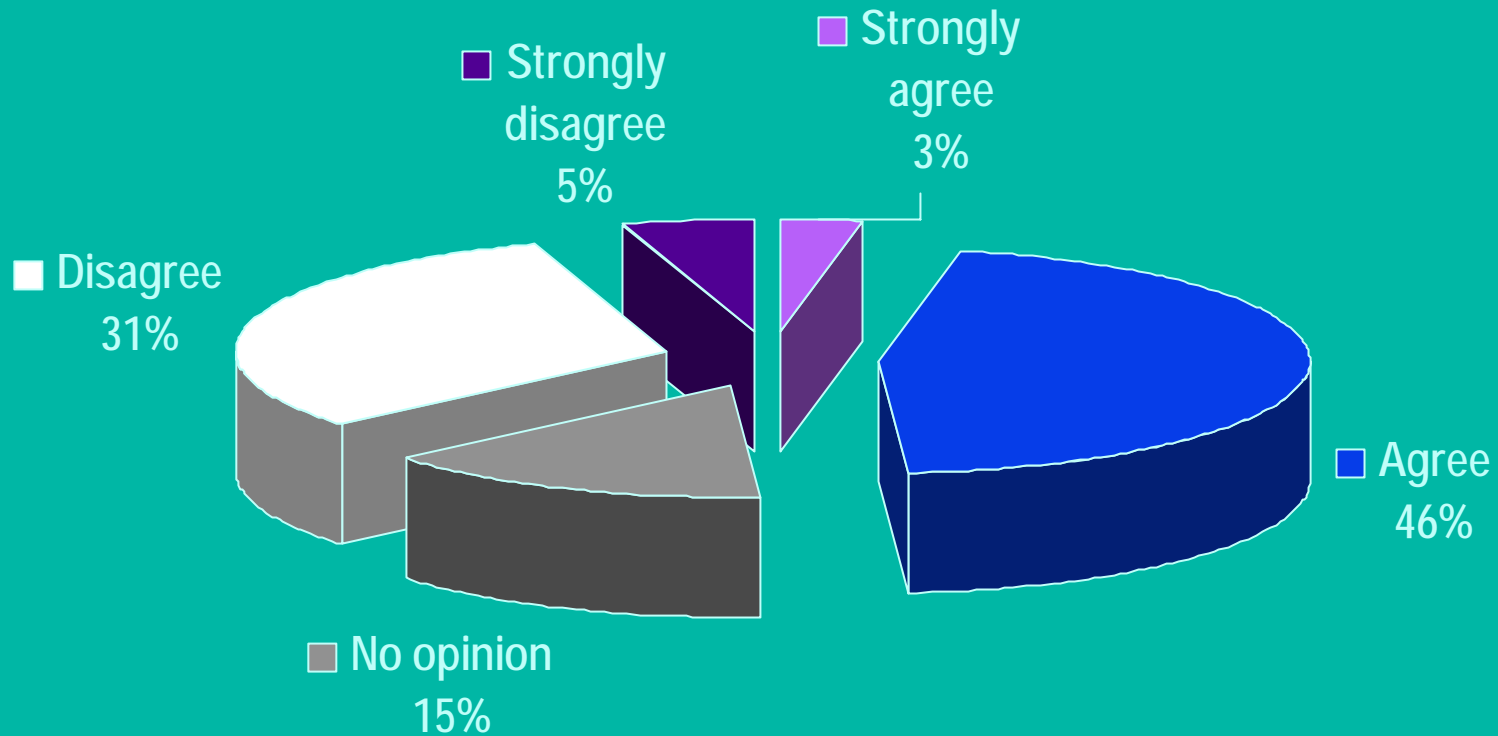
Perspective of Age

- Younger adults (18-44 year olds) were significantly less likely to report this as a community that was good to raise children in (OR=2.10, CI=1.6,2.8, $p < 0.000$)
- Similarly, younger adults (18-44 year olds) also were less likely to report this as a good community to grow old in (OR=1.90, CI=1.4,2.5, $p < 0.000$)

Is this community a good place to grow old?



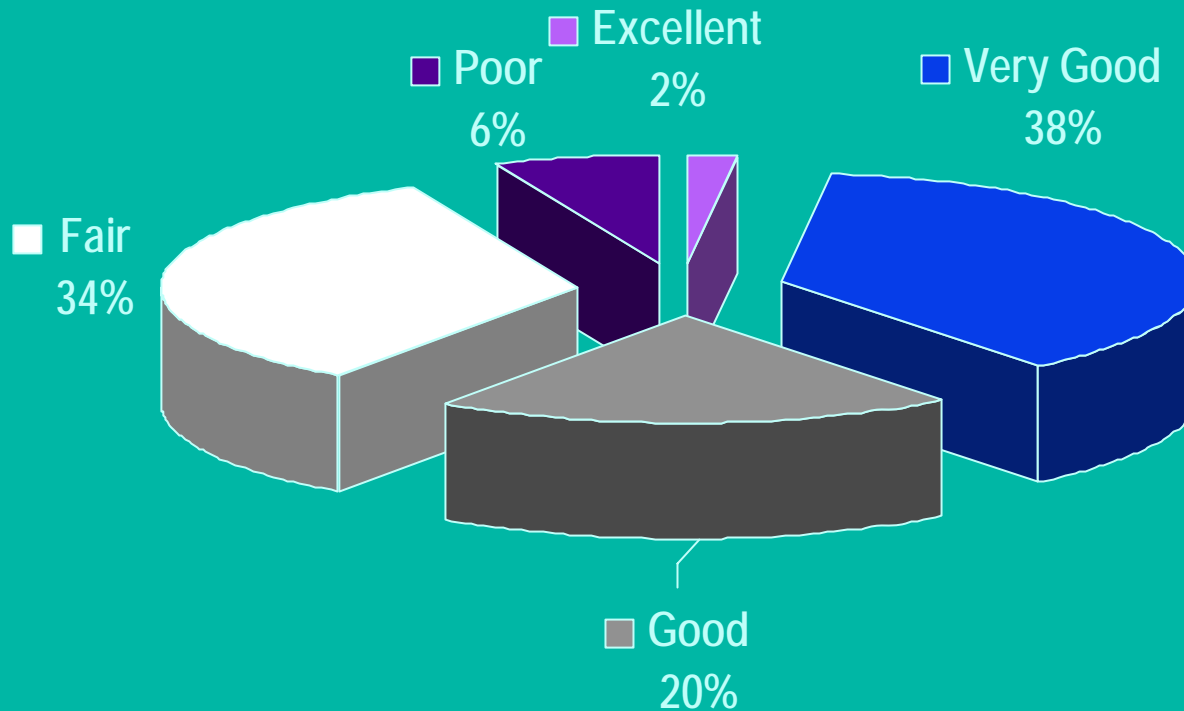
Is this community a safe place to live?



Personal Safety

- Younger adults (18-44 year olds) were significantly less likely to report this as a safe place to live (OR=1.59, CI=1.2,2.1, $p < 0.001$)

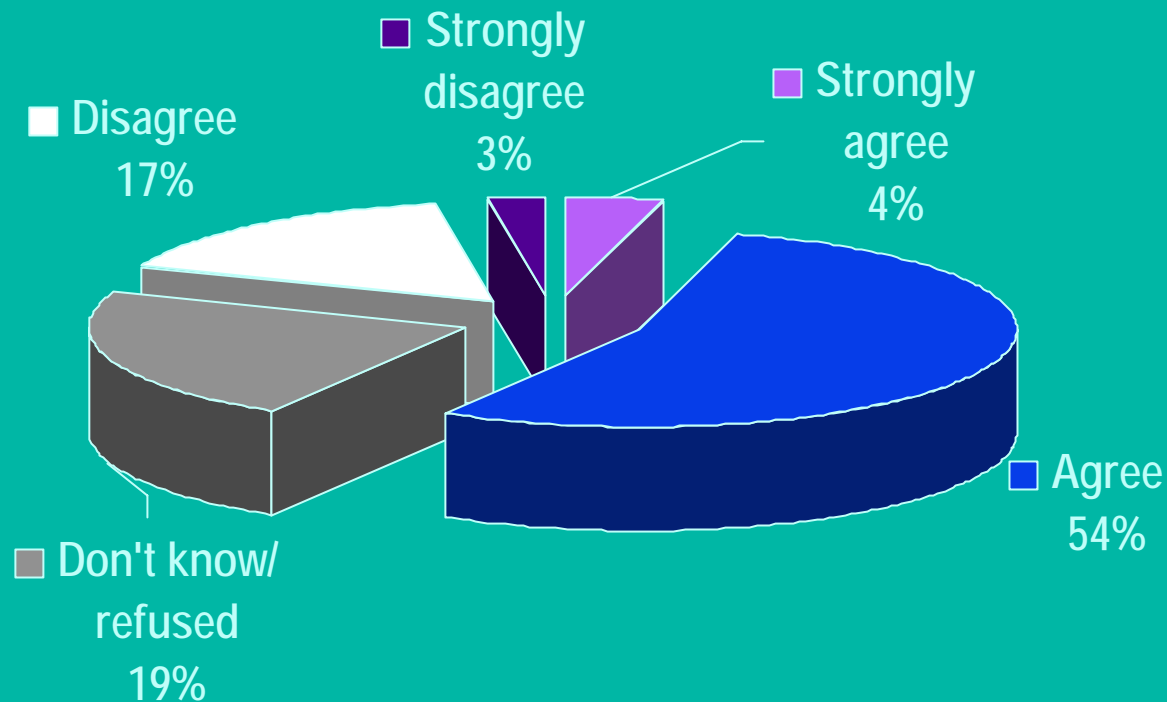
Is there economic opportunity in the community?



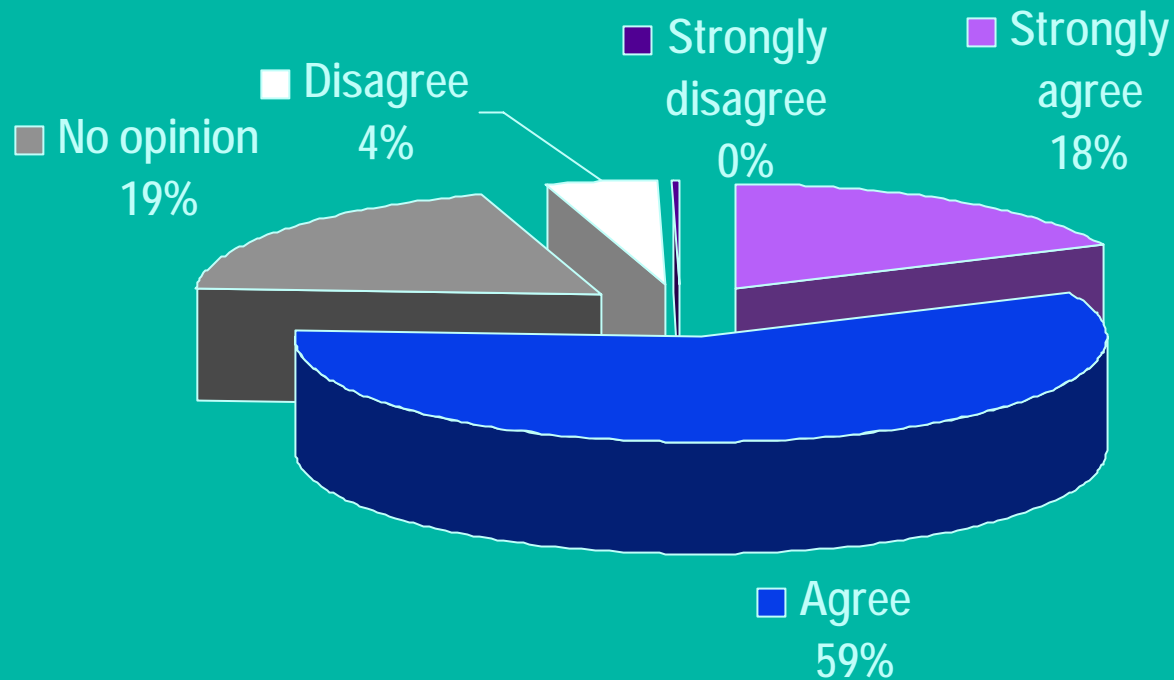
Notes

- This question (economic opportunity) had the least number of responses to it and also the second most negative findings
- Younger adults (18-44 year olds) were significantly less likely to report finding economic opportunity in the community (OR=1.95, CI=1.5,2.6, $p < 0.001$)

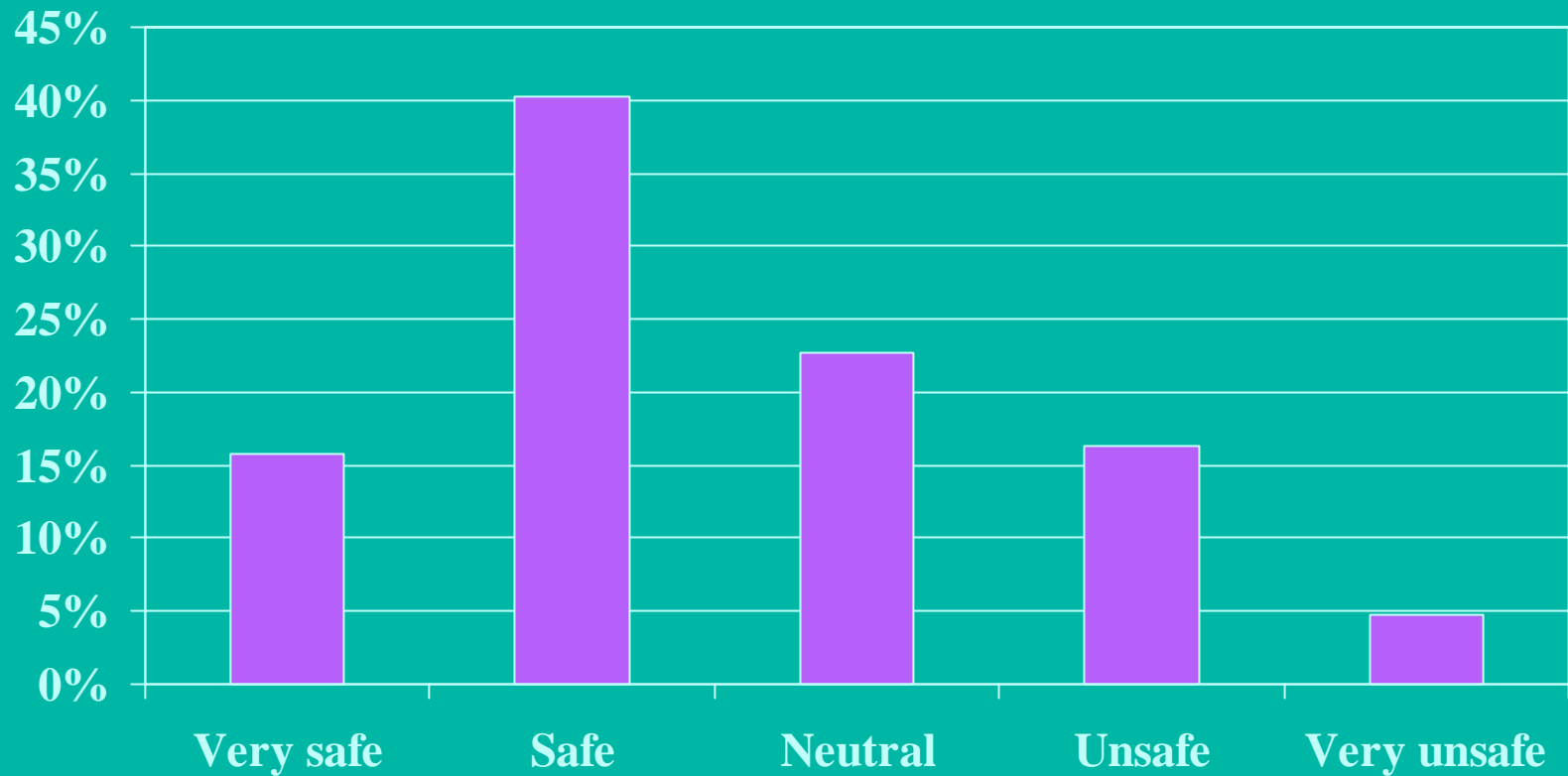
Are there networks of support for individuals and families during times of stress and need?



Do residents perceive that they can make the community a better place to live?



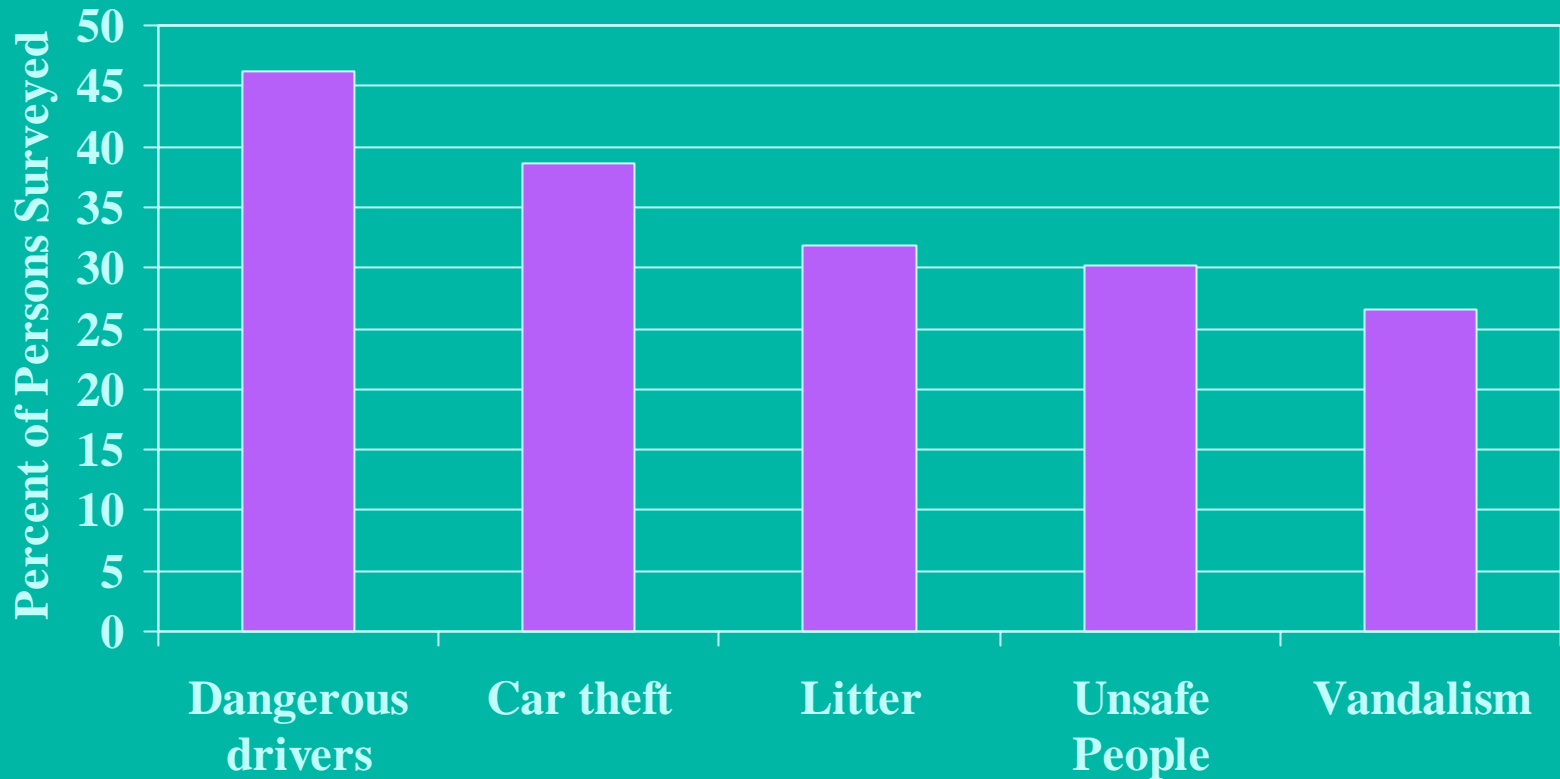
Residents feel safe in their neighborhood after dark



Feeling very safe/safe in your neighborhood by city

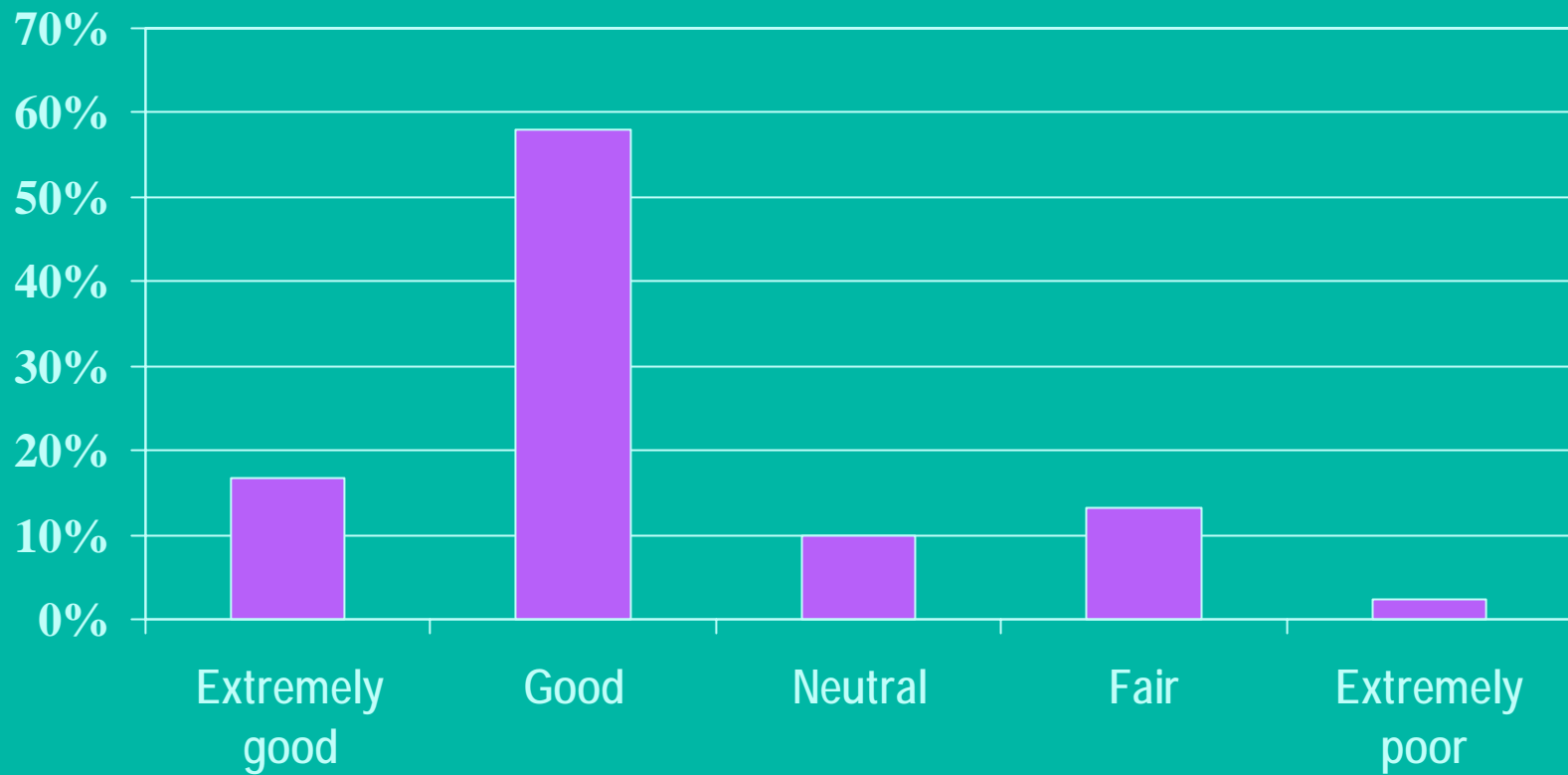


Most common issues in respondent's neighborhood*

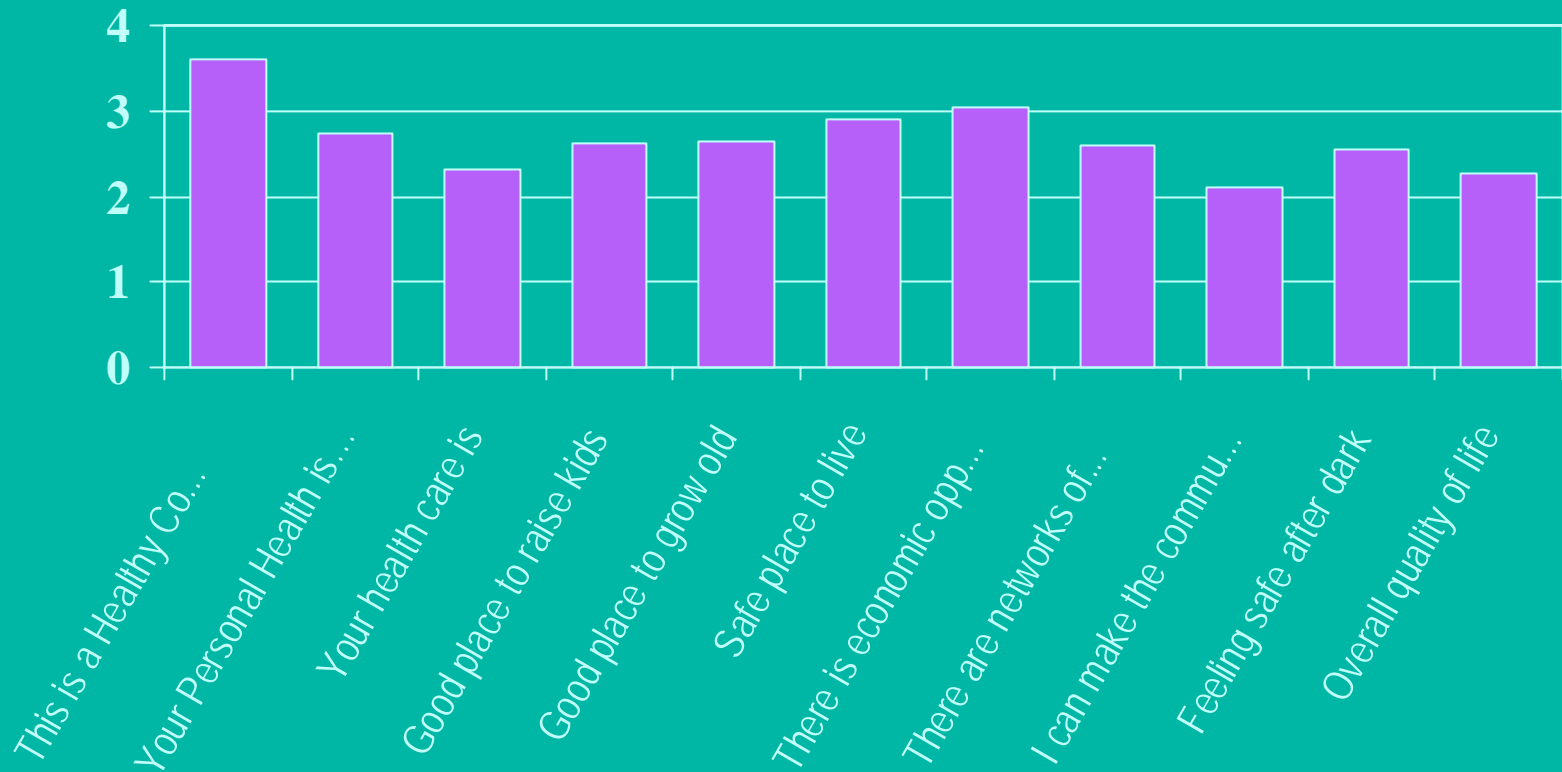


*Dangerous drivers was the most common issue identified by respondents from every city in Cowlitz County.

Quality of Life



Mean Scores of Selected Questions



Note: Strongly Agree=1, Strongly Disagree=5

Reporting High Quality of Life Is Associated With These Factors*

| Factor | OR** | CI | P-value |
|--|------|------------|---------|
| Good personal health | 6.03 | 4.18,8.85 | <0.000 |
| Income of ≥25,000 Household annually | 5.84 | 4.23, 8.09 | <0.000 |
| Satisfaction with Health Care | 4.98 | 3.70, 6.73 | <0.000 |
| Being Married or Cohabiting | 3.53 | 2.60,4.79 | <0.000 |
| Having health insurance | 3.02 | 1.94,4.71 | <0.000 |
| More education (some college or more) | 2.72 | 1.93, 3.84 | <0.000 |
| Residing in Cowlitz County 5 or more years | 1.52 | 1.06, 2.16 | 0.022 |
| Age (31 years and older) | 1.58 | 1.05, 2.35 | 0.03 |

*In other words: If you reported being in “excellent” or “very good” health, you were over six times more likely to report a high quality of life, “extremely good” or “good”.

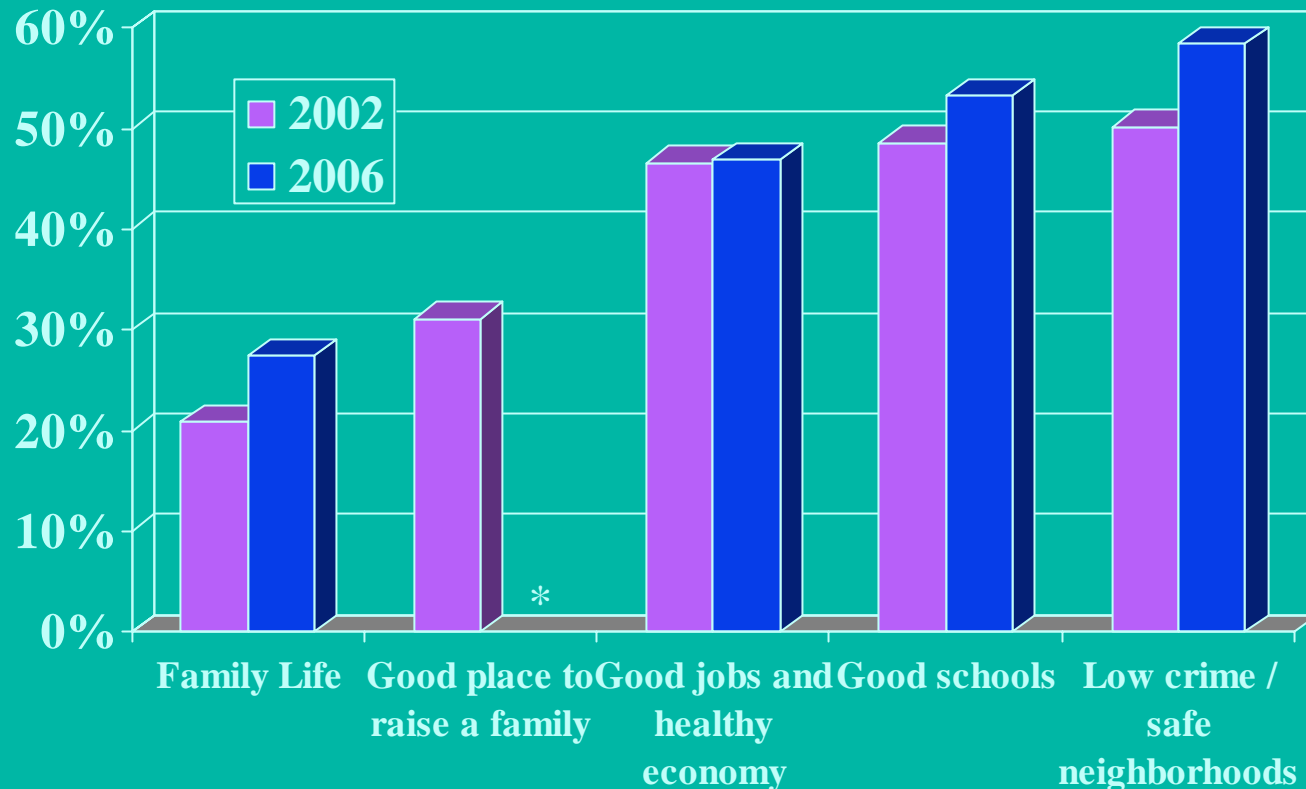
**Yates corrected chi-square used with CMLE Odds Ratio and the Mid-P exact one tail p-value are shown here. OR=odds ratio, and CI=confidence interval.

Respondents

- 75% female
- 81% have lived in county for >5 years
- 65% are married or are cohabitating
- 45% have a college degree or higher
- 90% are White, Non-Hispanic
- Average age is 47 years, range 18-94 years
- 49% report an annual household income of >\$50,000 before taxes

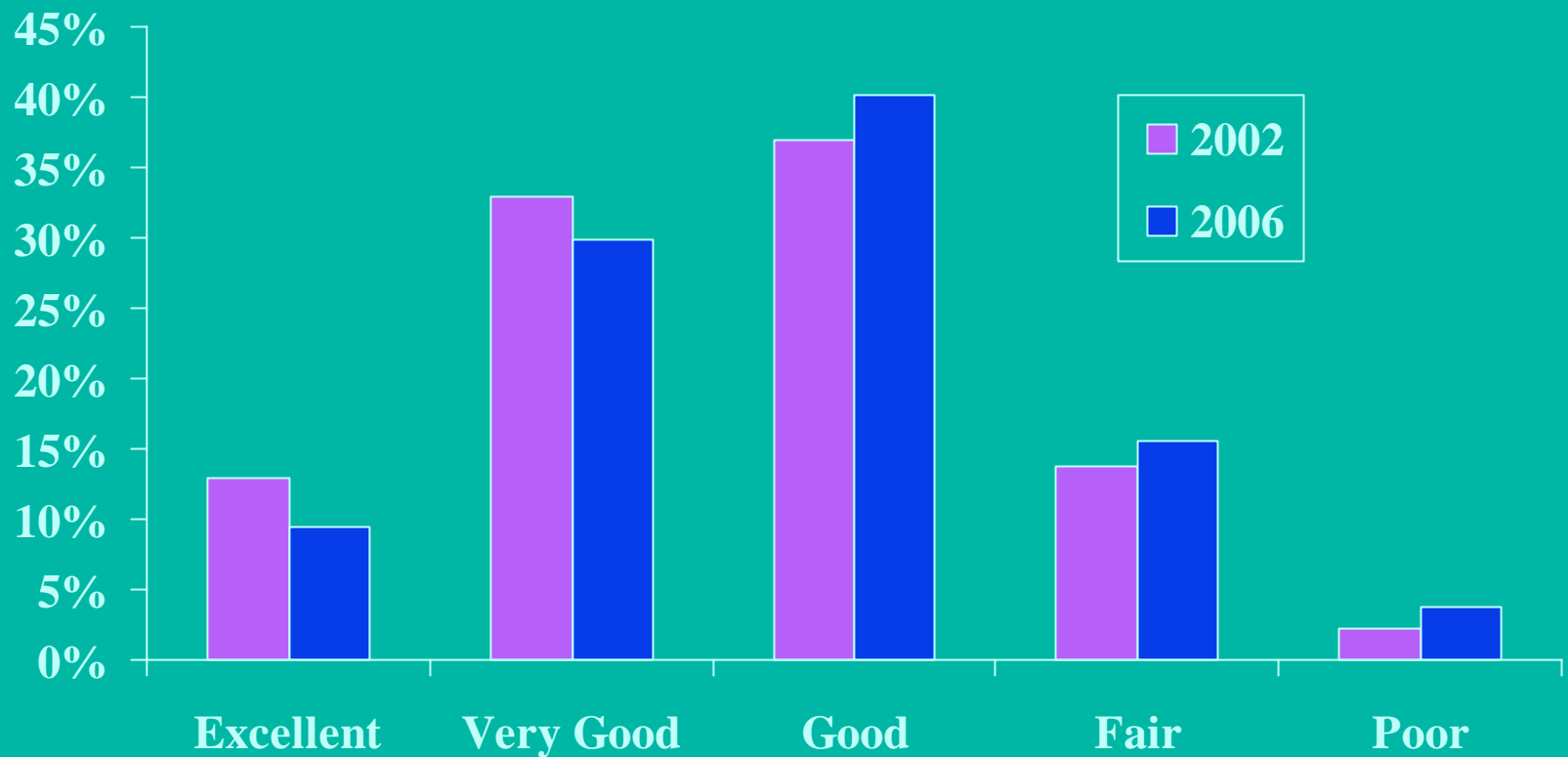
Comparing Results to the 2002 Survey

Most Important Factors for a Healthy Community, 2002 and 2006



*This factor not included in the 2006 questionnaire.

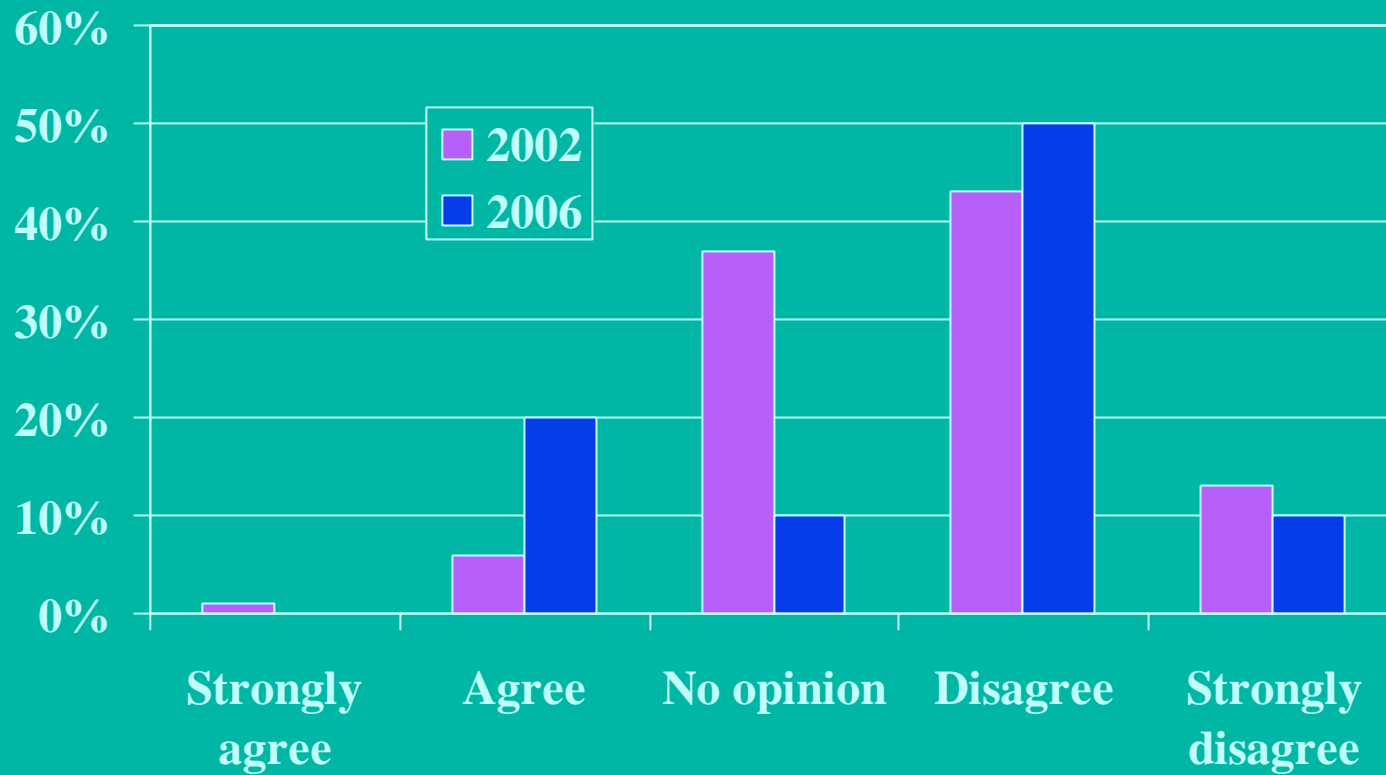
How would you rate your personal health, 2002 and 2006



How would you rate your overall satisfaction with your health care?



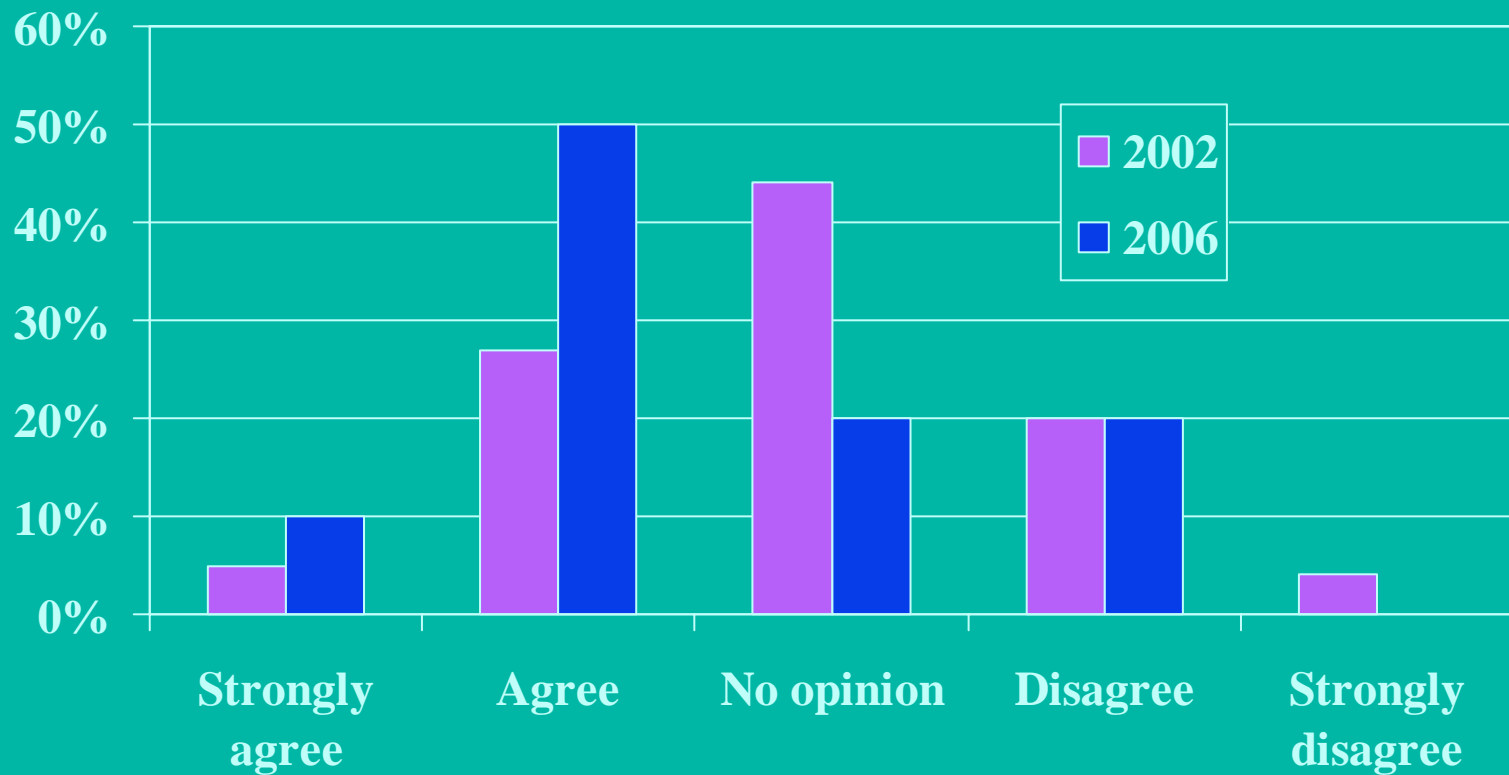
How would you rate our community as a "healthy community?"



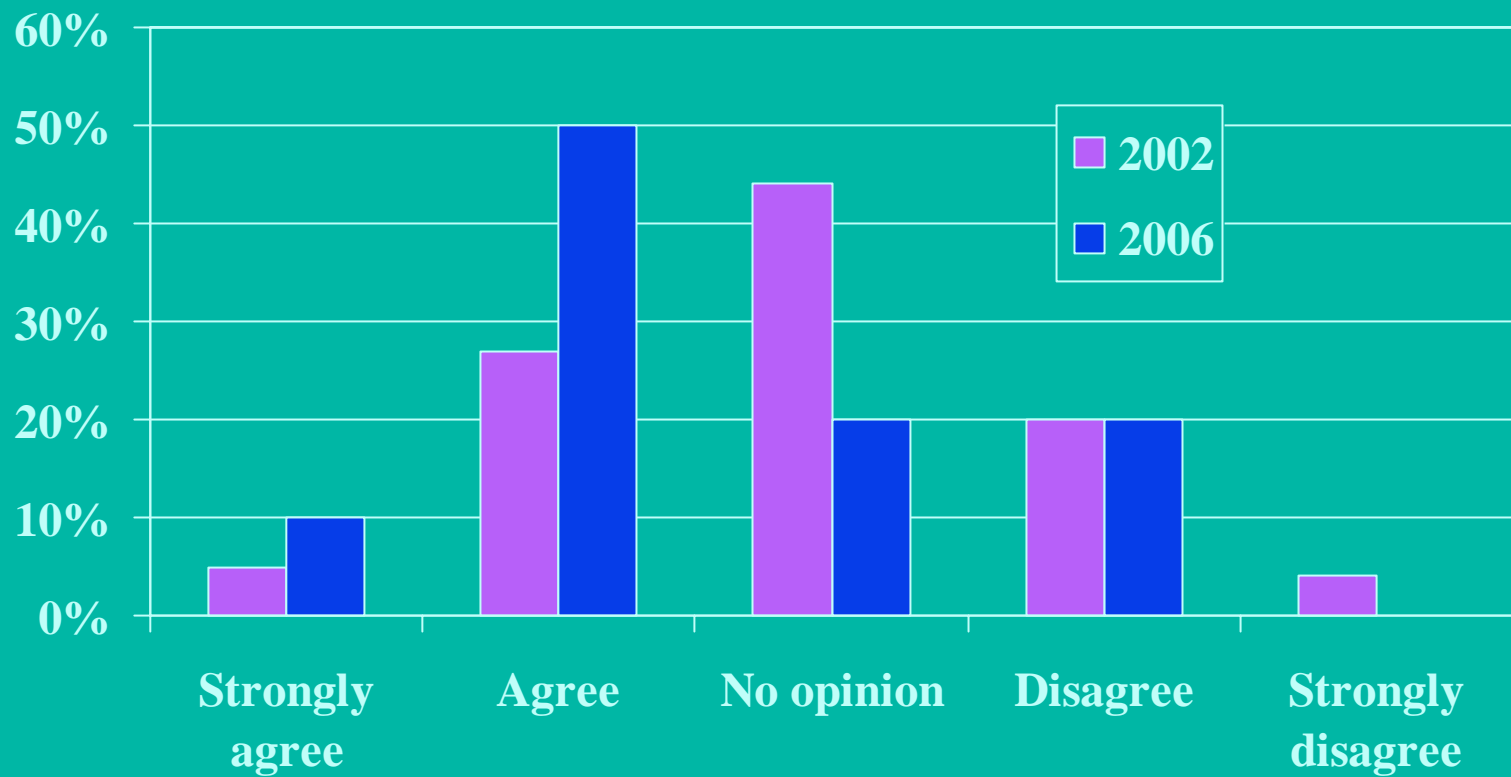
Health Care Coverage

- 92% in 2002 reported having health insurance, 89% in 2006 reported having it
 - Over half (53%) report being covered through their employer
 - 18% report coverage through Medicaid/Medicare programs
 - 9% report being covered by a family member's plan

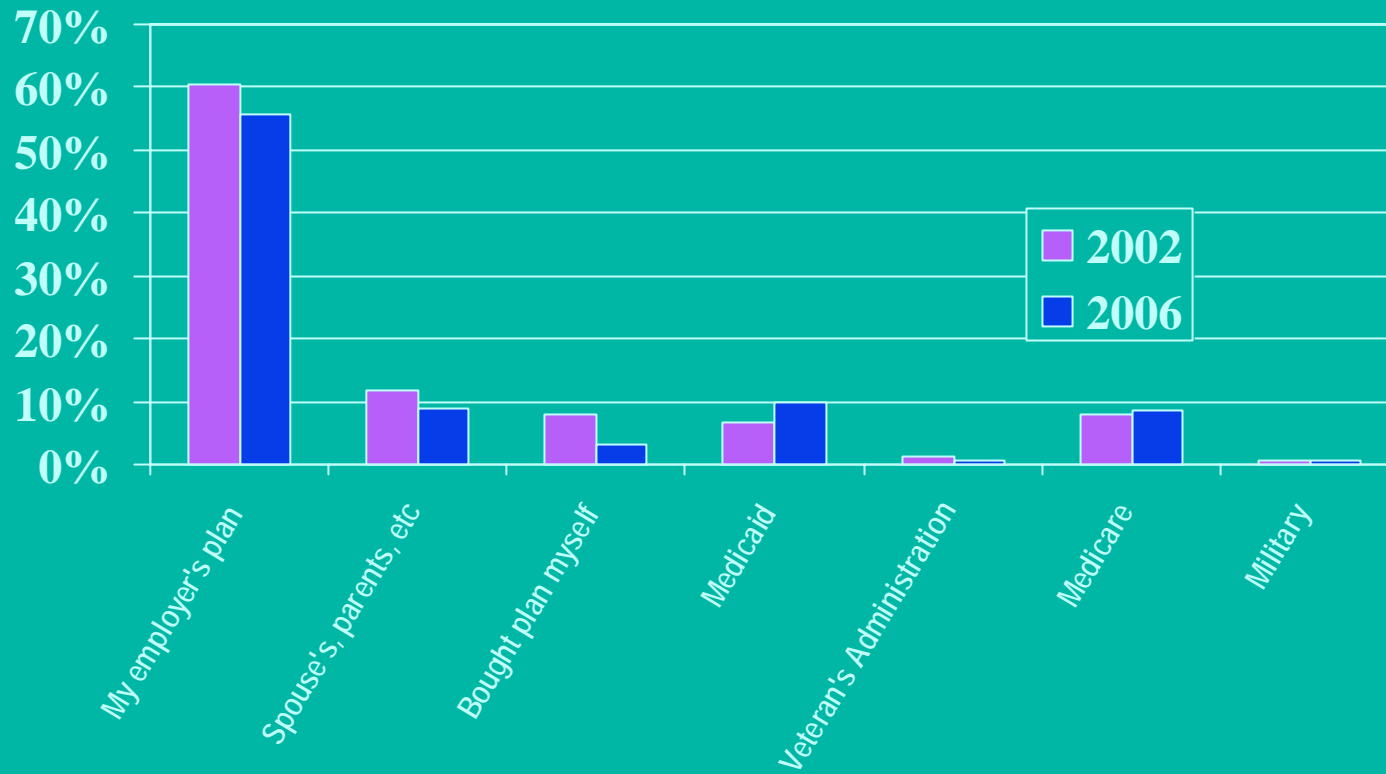
Is this Community a Good Place to Grow Old, 2002 and 2006



Is this community a good place to raise children, 2002 and 2006



Source of Health Care Coverage



Respondents of 2002 Survey

- 69% Female
- 80% have lived in county for >5 years
- 72% are married or cohabitating
- 41% have a college degree or higher
- 88% Caucasian
- Average age is 47 years