

Bloomington, MN

The National Community Survey

Report of Results
2026

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Table of Contents

About The NCS™	1
- Purpose of the Survey	
- How Results Are Reported	
- Comparisons to Benchmarks	
- Trends Over Time	
Methods	2
- Selecting the Survey Recipients	
- Conducting the Survey	
- Analyzing the Data	
- Contact Information	
- Study Limitations	
- Survey Validity	
Key Findings	5
- Community Strengths	
- Focus Areas	
- Other Notable Results	
- Areas of Greatest Change	
Facets of Livability	7
- Overview and Gap Analysis	
- Quality and Importance Ratings	
Quality of Life	8
Governance	9
Economy	11
Mobility	13
Community Design	15
Utilities	17
Safety	18
Natural Environment	20
Parks and Recreation	21
Health and Wellness	22
Education, Arts, and Culture	24
Community Connection	25
Custom Questions	27

About The NCS™

The National Community Survey™ (The NCS™) report is about the “livability” of Bloomington. A livable community is a place that is not simply habitable, but that is desirable. It is not only where people do live, but where they want to live. The NCS was developed by the experts from National Research Center at Polco in partnership with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and has been administered in hundreds of communities across the United States.



Great communities are partnerships of the government, private sector, community-based organizations, and residents, all geographically connected. The NCS focuses on the livability of Bloomington by categorizing survey questions into the ten main “facets” of community livability shown below, in addition to ratings for quality of life and local governance. These facets have been identified through years of extensive survey research as those that are most impactful to residents’ quality of life.

- Economy
- Mobility
- Community Design
- Utilities
- Safety
- Natural Environment
- Parks and Recreation
- Health and Wellness
- Education, Arts, and Culture
- Community Connection

The report provides the opinions of a representative sample of 828 residents of the City of Bloomington collected from June 17th, 2026 to August 12th, 2026. The margin of error around any reported percentage is 3.4% for all respondents. Survey results were weighted so that the demographic profile of respondents was representative of the demographic profile of adults in Bloomington.

Reporting Results

For the most part, the percentages presented in this report represent the “percent positive.” Most commonly, the percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, etc.). On many of the questions in the survey, respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving a “don’t know” response is shown in the full set of responses included in the “Complete Data” section; however, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the main body of the report. Therefore, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Benchmark Comparisons

Polco’s database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in surveys from over 400 communities whose residents evaluated the same kinds of topics on The NCS. The comparison evaluations include surveys from the past five years. If a jurisdiction has conducted multiple efforts in the past five years, only the most recent survey is included in the benchmark database. Polco adds the latest results quickly upon survey completion, keeping the benchmark data fresh and relevant. The communities in the database represent a wide geographic and population range.

In each tab, Bloomington’s results are noted as being “higher” than the benchmark, “lower” than the benchmark, or “similar” to the benchmark. Being rated as “higher” or “lower” than the benchmark means that Bloomington’s average rating for a particular item was more than 10 points different than the benchmark. If a rating was “much higher” or “much lower,” then Bloomington’s average rating was more than 20 points different when compared to the benchmark.

Trends over time

Trend data for Bloomington represent important comparison data and should be examined for improvements or declines.¹ Deviations from stable trends over time represent opportunities for understanding how local policies, programs, or public information may have affected residents’ opinions. Changes between survey years have been noted with an arrow and the percent difference. If the difference is greater than 5.4 percentage points between the 2024 and 2026 surveys, the change is statistically significant.

1. In 2020 and 2025, The NCS survey was updated to include new and refreshed items. Consequently, some of the trends may be impacted due to wording modifications that could have potentially altered the meaning of the item for the respondent...

Methods

Selecting Survey Recipients

All households within the City of Bloomington were eligible to participate in the survey. A list of all households within the zip codes serving Bloomington was purchased from Polco's mailing vendor, based on updated listings from the United States Postal Service.

Since some of the zip codes that serve Bloomington households may also serve addresses that lie outside of the community, the exact geographic location of each housing unit was compared to community boundaries using the most current municipal boundary file. Addresses located outside of Bloomington boundaries were removed from the list of potential households to survey. Each address identified as being within City boundaries was further identified as being within one of the four areas. From that list, addresses were randomly selected as survey recipients, with multi-family housing units sampled at a rate of 5:3 compared to single family housing units.

Conducting the Random Sample Survey

The 6,000 randomly selected households received mailings beginning on June 17th, 2026 and data collection for the survey remained open for eight weeks. The first mailing was a postcard inviting the household to participate in the survey online. The next mailing contained a cover letter with instructions, the survey questionnaire, and a postage-paid return envelope. All mailings included a web link to give residents the opportunity to respond to the survey online, as well as QR codes to further encourage participation.

The survey was available in English and Spanish. All mailings contained paragraphs in both languages instructing participants on how to access the survey in their preferred language.

About 3% of the 6,000 mailed invitations were returned because the household address was vacant or the postal service was unable to deliver the survey as addressed. Of the remaining 5,807 households that received the invitations to participate, 828 completed the survey, providing an overall response rate of 14%. Of the 828 responses, 820 were completed in English and 8 were completed in Spanish. The response rate was calculated using AAPOR's response rate #2 for mailed surveys of unnamed persons.¹

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates by a "level of confidence" and accompanying "confidence interval" (or margin of error). A traditional level of confidence, and the one used here, is 95%. The 95% confidence interval quantifies the sampling error or imprecision of the survey results based on the total number of responses received. This is because *some* residents' opinions are relied on to estimate *all* residents' opinions. The margin of error for the City of Bloomington survey is no greater than plus or minus 3.4 percentage points around any given percent reported for all respondents (828 completed surveys).

Conducting the Open Participation Survey

In addition to the randomly selected "probability sample" of households, a link to an online open-participation survey was publicized by the City of Bloomington. The open-participation survey was identical to the random sample survey, with two small updates; it asked a question to confirm the respondent was a resident of Bloomington and also a question about where they heard about the survey.

The open participation survey was open to all city residents and became available on July 22nd, 2026. The survey remained open for three weeks and 172 responses were received. The data presented in the following report excludes the open participation survey data, but the online report includes a tab which provides the complete open participation results.

Analyzing the Data

Responses from mailed surveys were entered into an electronic dataset using a “key and verify” method, where all responses are entered twice and compared to each other. Any discrepancies were resolved in comparison to the original survey form. Range checks as well as other forms of quality control were also performed. Responses from surveys completed on Polco were downloaded and merged with the mailed survey responses.

The survey datasets were analyzed using all or some of a combination of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), R, Python, and Tableau.

The demographics of the survey respondents were compared to those found in the 2020 Census and 2024 American Community Survey estimates for adults in the City of Bloomington. The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey respondents reflective of the larger population of the community. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, housing tenure, and area. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.² The results of the weighting scheme for the probability sample are presented in the following table.

Polco aligns demographic labels with those used by the U.S. Census for reporting purposes, when possible. Some categories (age, race/Hispanic origin, housing type, and length of residency) are combined into smaller subgroups.

		Unweighted	Weighted	Target ⁴
Age	18-34	5%	21%	27%
	35-54	19%	34%	31%
	55+	76%	45%	42%
Area	District 1	27%	22%	23%
	District 2	29%	26%	24%
	District 3	27%	25%	27%
	District 4	18%	27%	26%
Hispanic origin	No	96%	92%	92%
	Yes	4%	8%	8%
Housing tenure	Own	85%	66%	66%
	Rent	15%	34%	34%
Housing type	Attached	54%	45%	45%
	Detached	46%	55%	55%
Race & Hispanic origin	Not white alone	13%	31%	28%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	87%	69%	72%
Sex	Man	40%	44%	49%
	Woman	60%	56%	51%
Sex/age	Man 18-34	1%	6%	14%
	Man 35-54	8%	17%	16%
	Man 55+	32%	21%	19%
	Woman 18-34	3%	14%	13%
	Woman 35-54	11%	17%	15%
	Woman 55+	45%	25%	23%

Study Limitations

All public opinion research is subject to unmeasured error. While the methodologies employed for this survey were designed to minimize this error as much as possible, these other sources of potential error should be acknowledged, and can include non-response error, coverage error, recall bias, and social desirability bias.

Non-response error arises when those who were selected to participate in the survey did not do so, and may have different opinions or experiences than survey responders. For general resident surveys, where the results are meant to be generalized to the entire adult population living in households, the mailing lists based on the Delivery Sequence File from the United States Post Office may exclude certain types of housing units, such as those in multi-family buildings where mail is addressed to a named resident at the address rather than to a specific unit or where residents only receive their mail at a post office box and the geographic location of a residence cannot be determined, there may be a *coverage error*, although for most locations, this is minimal. Respondents may not perfectly remember their experiences in the past year (such as participation in social or civic events, for example), and for some survey items, they may answer in ways they think cast their responses in a more favorable light (*recall bias* and *social desirability bias*).

Survey Validity

See the Polco Knowledge Base article on survey validity at <https://blog.polco.us/polco-knowledgebase/margin-of-error-and-confidence-level-in-survey-results>

Contact

The City of Bloomington funded this research. Please contact Eric Holthaus of the City of Bloomington at eholthaus@bloomingtonmn.gov if you have any questions about the survey.

1. See AAPOR's Standard Definitions for more information at <https://aapor.org/standards-and-ethics/standard-definitions/>
2. Pasek, J. (2014). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from <https://surveyinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Full-anesrake-paper.pdf>
3. Targets come from the 2020 Census and 2024 American Community Survey

Key Findings

Community Strengths

Residents continue to view Bloomington as a desirable place to live.

- About 8 in 10 residents positively rated the overall quality of life.
- A similar proportion said they would recommend living in Bloomington to someone who asks, and plan to remain in Bloomington for the next five years.
- About 8 in 10 respondents gave positive ratings to Bloomington as a place to live, though this declined from 9 in 10 in 2025.
- Over three-quarters of community members gave excellent or good ratings to Bloomington as a place to raise children.

Residents feel safe and give strong ratings to emergency services.

- About 9 in 10 respondents gave excellent or good ratings to several safety items including feeling safe:
 - In their neighborhood during the day (93%)
 - From fire, flood, or other natural disaster (90%)
 - In Bloomington's commercial area during the day (87%)
- Over three-quarters of community members positively rated feeling safe from property crime, and 8 in 10 reported feeling safe from violent crime.
- A strong majority of residents gave excellent or good ratings to several safety services including:
 - Fire services (96%)
 - Ambulance or emergency medical services (93%)
 - Fire prevention and education (89%)
- About 8 in 10 respondents rated crime prevention positively, higher than the national benchmark.

Residents value Bloomington's natural environment, parks, and recreation opportunities.

- Several items related to natural environment services were rated higher than the national benchmark including:
 - Recycling (83%)
 - Yard waste pick-up (83%)
 - Bloomington open space (80%)
 - Water resources (80%; declined from 86% in 2025)
 - Preservation of natural areas (open space and greenbelts; 80%, declined from 87%)
- About 8 in 10 residents gave favorable ratings to the overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities, though this has declined since 2025.
- A similar proportion of respondents rated the availability of paths and walking trails positively, higher than the national benchmark, though this also declined from 88% in 2025.

Focus Areas

Economic ratings may show opportunities to support affordability and local economic vitality.

- About 4 in 10 residents positively rated the cost of living, similar to the national benchmark but a significant decline from 2025.
- About 6 in 10 respondents gave positive ratings to economic development, a significant decrease from 70% in 2025 but similar to the national comparison.
- A similar proportion rated employment opportunities positively, down from 2025 but higher than the national benchmark.
- About 7 in 10 positively rated the overall quality of business and service establishments, and the variety of business and service establishments. Both of these decreased from 2025 though the latter is rated higher than the national benchmark.

Mobility results may point to continued needs around streets, sidewalks, and travel options.

- Almost 6 in 10 residents positively rated the overall quality of the transportation system.
- Only about 4 in 10 respondents gave excellent or good reviews to the ease of travel by public transportation, but this is higher than the national benchmark.

- Several mobility service items decreased in ratings since 2025 including:
- Street repair (from 63% in 2025 to 57%)
 - Traffic signal timing (65% to 58%)
 - Sidewalk maintenance (74% to 65%)
 - Snow removal (85% to 79%; higher than the national benchmark)

Governance ratings may indicate room to strengthen trust, transparency, and communication.

- Several items related to governance declined significantly since 2025 including:
 - The value of services for the taxes paid to Bloomington (from 61% to 55%)
 - Being open and transparent to the public (65% to 57%)
 - Informing residents about issues facing the community (68% to 58%)
 - Being honest (65% to 58%)
 - Treating all residents fairly (70% to 62%)

Other Notable Results

- When asked, many residents reported some creative involvement, including engaging creative activities as a hobby (61% strongly or somewhat describes them) and supporting or participating in arts and culture (attend events, volunteer, etc.; 57%).
 - Only 14% described themselves as a professional artist or creative worker, and 12% said they would identify as an emerging or part-time artist/creative.
- Residents were asked how many bottles of purchased drinking water they consumed within a typical week at home:
 - Most indicated they do not drink any bottles of water at home (61%)
 - About a quarter of residents reported they drink at least one but less than ten bottles per week
- The vast majority of residents reported that they use a gasoline or diesel-fueled passenger vehicle or motorcycle at least once a week, with 58% using one 6-7 days a week.
 - Over 9 in 10 residents reported never using an electric passenger vehicle or motorcycle, electric bicycle or moped, or scooter, skateboard, or wheelchair during the week.
 - Almost 3 in 10 indicated using a non-electric bicycle at least once a week, and 14% report using public transportation.
 - Only 2 in 10 residents indicate they never walk during the week, with 34% walking at least 1-2 times a week.
- Residents gave strong ratings to Bloomington's trees, with about 8 in 10 giving excellent or good ratings to the amount of trees, and quality of trees in Bloomington.
- The top two barriers to participating in City programs, services, or public input opportunities were lack of awareness or information (46%) and time constraints (41%).
- The most common information sources for residents were the City of Bloomington newsletter (Bloomington Brief; 93%), conversations with other people (89%), and the City of Bloomington website (bloomingtonmn.gov; (87%).
- The strong majority of respondents were not interested in receiving communication from the City of Bloomington via any social media.
- Most residents reported having no problems with issues such as unemployment, difficulty accessing food, or discrimination.
- About 6 in 10 community members reported that they have not been affected in their daily lives by immigration-related concerns, policies, or enforcement activity.
 - Almost 2 in 10 indicated they have been affected in their work or employment.

Benchmark Comparisons

Of the evaluative questions asked within the survey, 91 were statistically similar to the national benchmark while 28 were rated higher. The highest rated items are listed below.

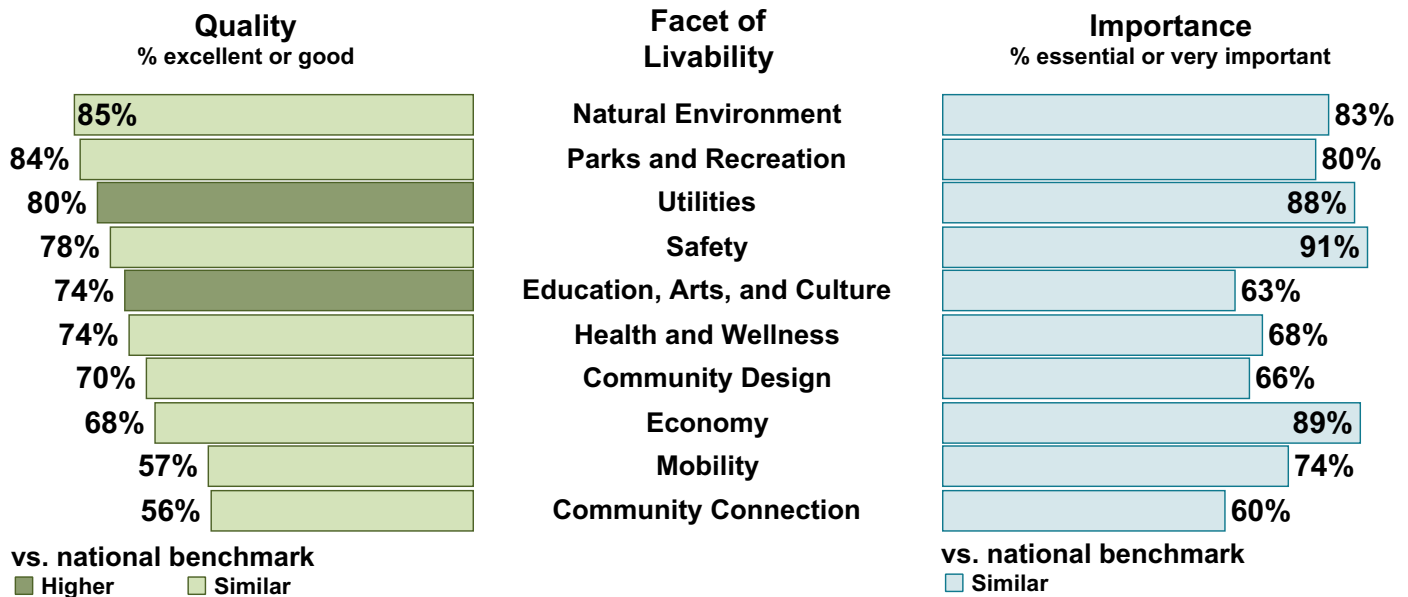
- Drinking water (88%)
- Storm water management (84%)
- Recycling (83%)
- Yard waste pick-up (83%)
- Availability of paths and walking trails (82%)

Facets of Livability

Every jurisdiction must balance limited resources while meeting resident needs and striving to optimize community livability. To this end, it is helpful to know what aspects of the community are most important to residents and which they perceive as being of higher or lower quality. It is especially helpful to know when a facet of livability is considered of high importance but rated as lower quality, as this should be a top priority to address.

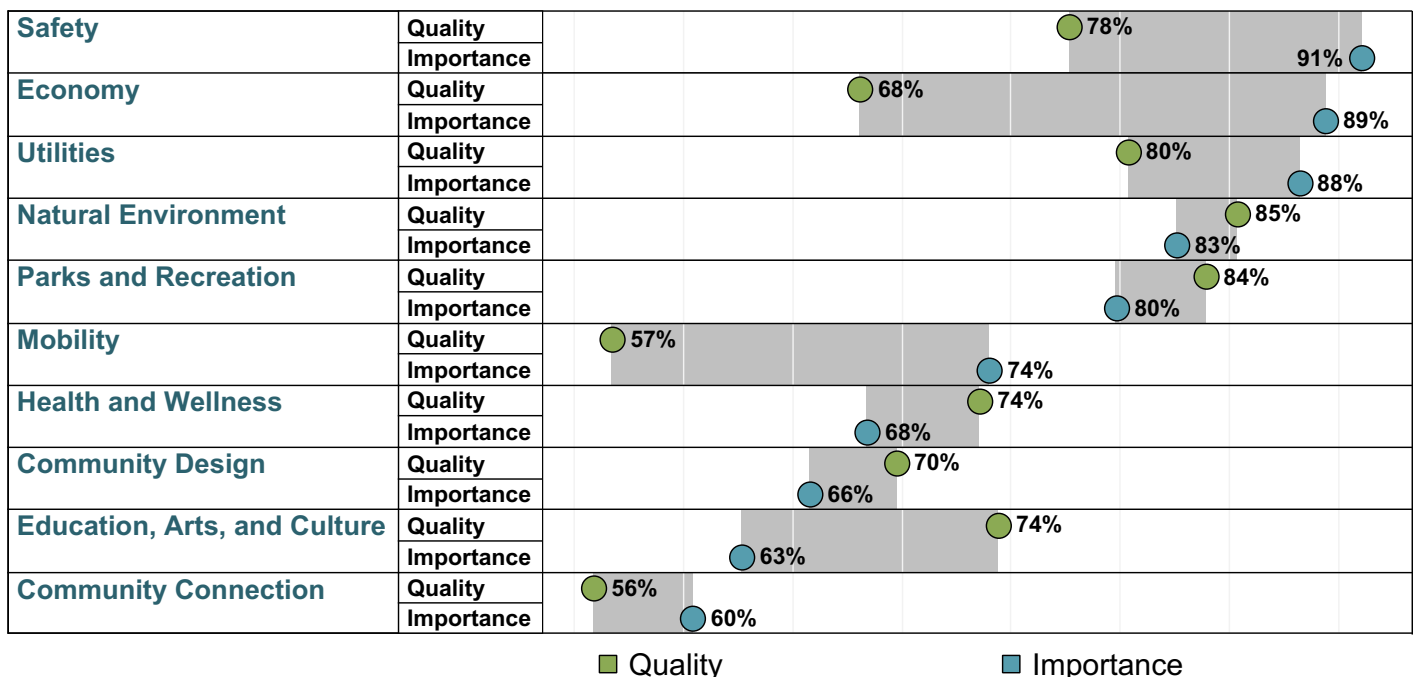
Quality and Importance by the Numbers

The chart below shows the proportion of respondents who provided excellent or good quality ratings for each of the ten facets of community livability (shown in green). Also displayed are the importance ratings for each of the ten facets (percent essential or very important, shown in blue). Finally, the shading in each chart corresponds with the national benchmark comparison.



Quality/Importance Gap Analysis

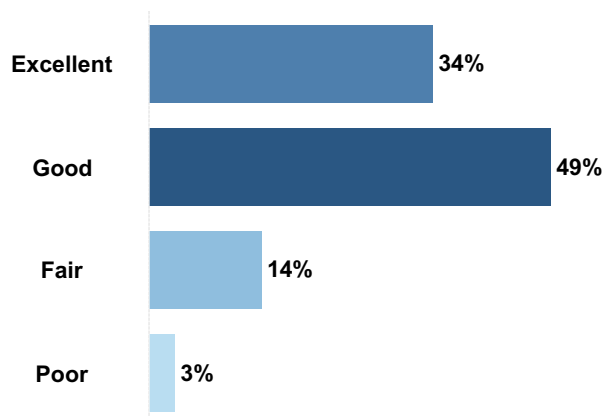
The gap analysis chart below shows the same data as above; however, this chart illustrates the differences in quality and importance ratings for each facet, as well as the absolute ratings for each.



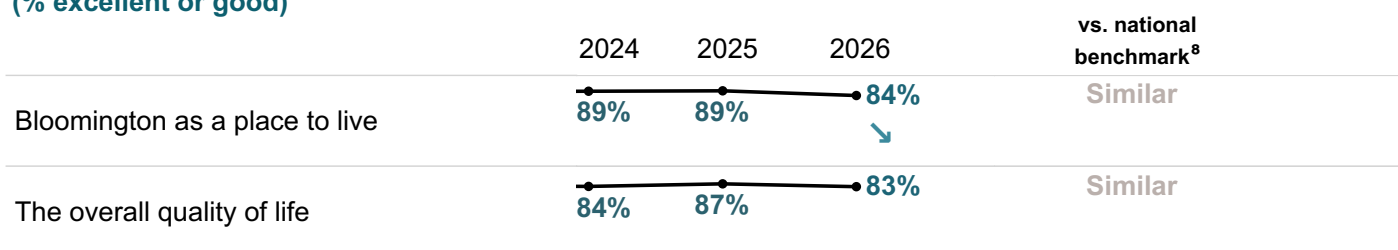
Quality of Life

Measuring community livability starts with assessing the quality of life of those who live there, and ensuring that the community is attractive, accessible, and welcoming to all.

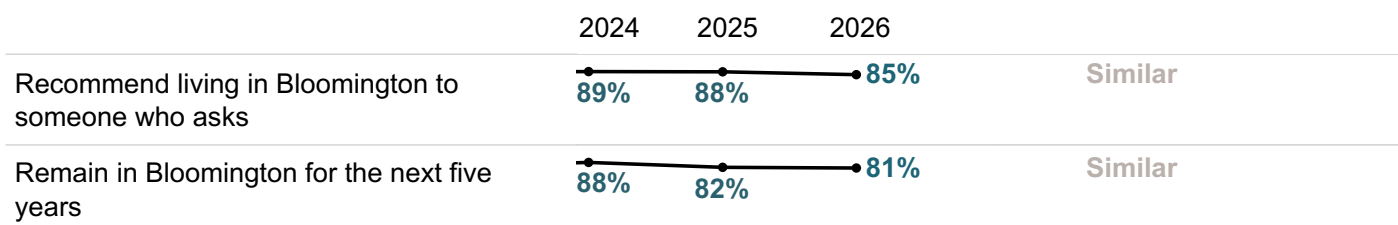
The overall quality of life in Bloomington



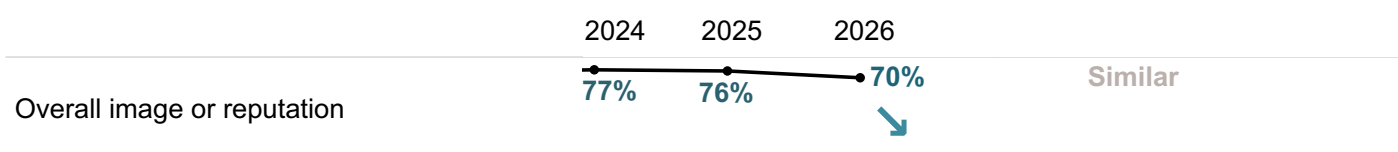
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)



Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.
(% very or somewhat likely)



Please rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.
(% excellent or good)

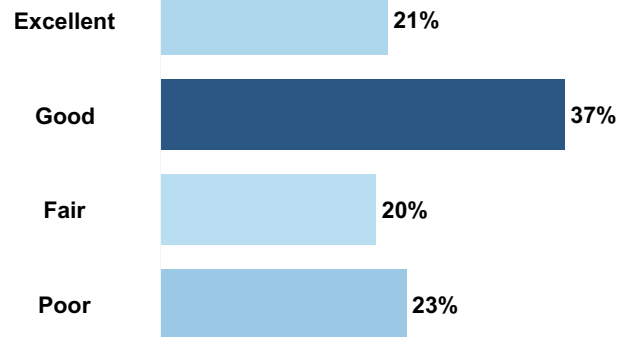


8. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

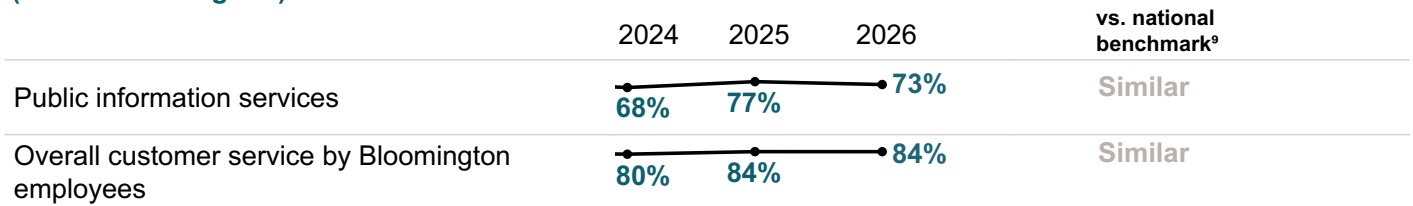
Governance

Strong local governments deliver results that meet residents' needs, use resources effectively, and respond to both current and future community priorities.

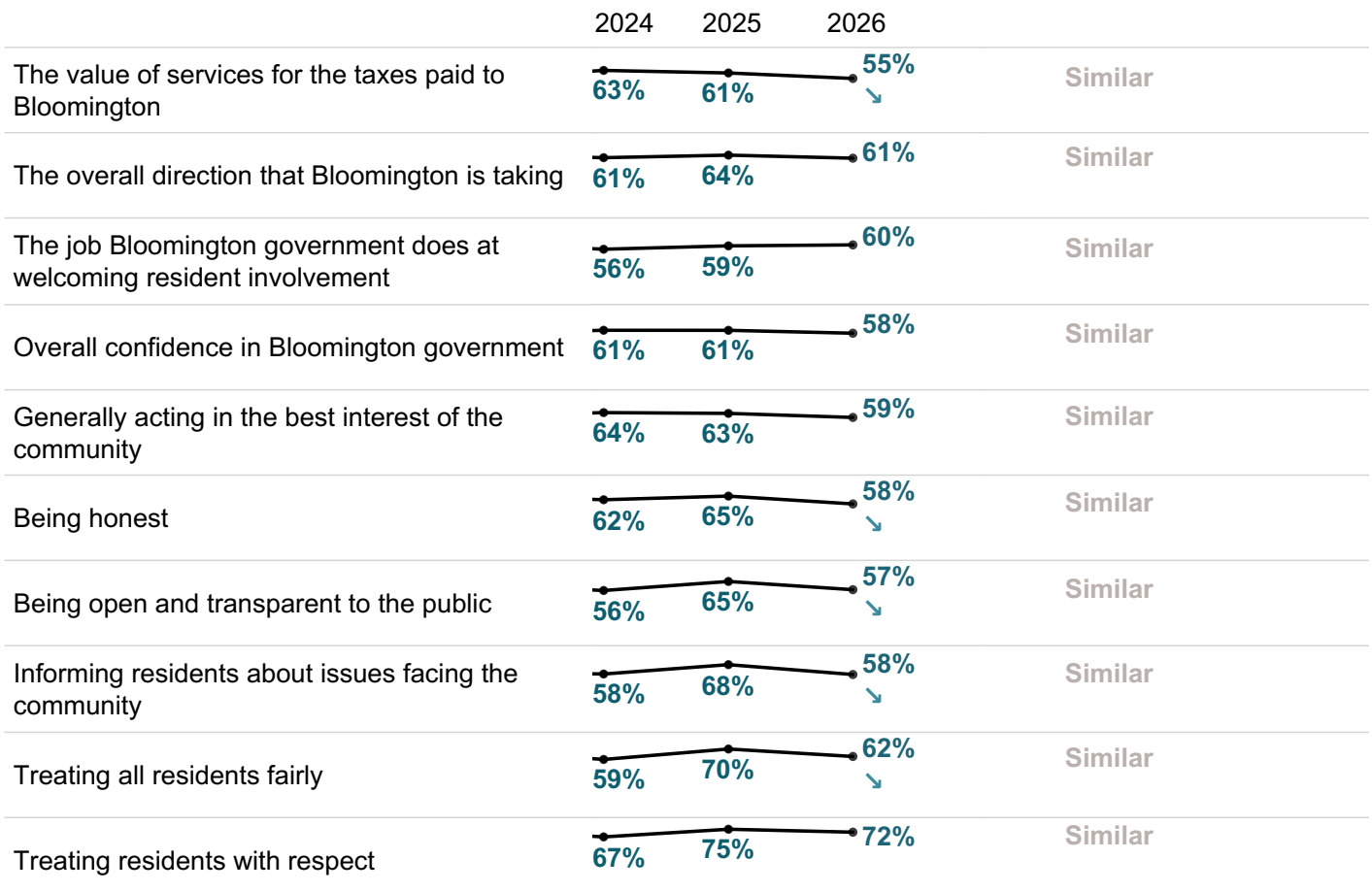
Overall confidence in Bloomington government



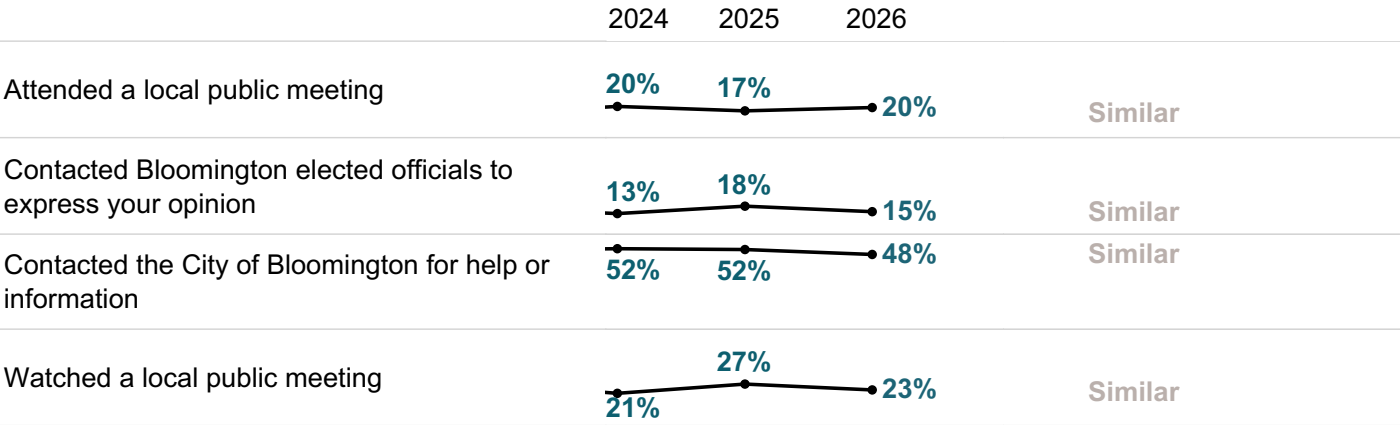
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)



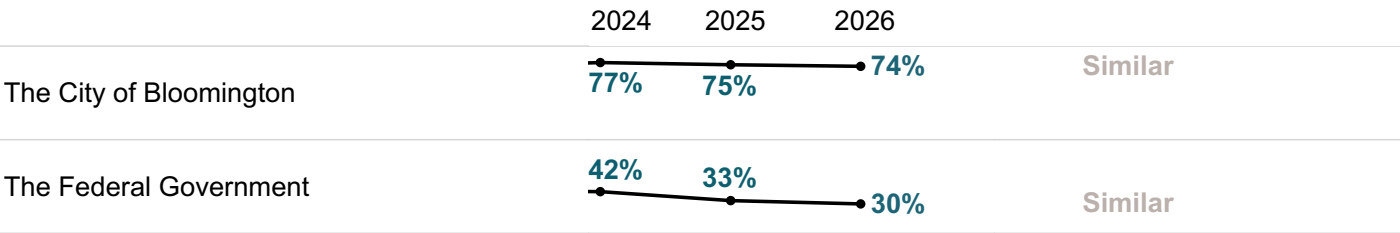
Please rate the following categories of Bloomington government performance.
(% excellent or good)



Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.
 (% yes)



Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?
 (% excellent or good)

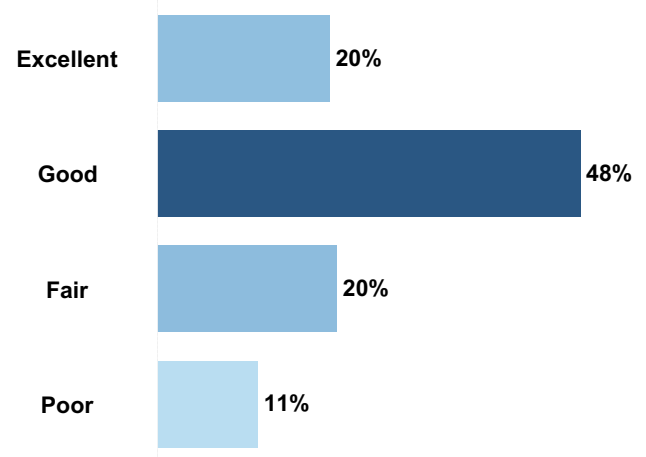


9. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

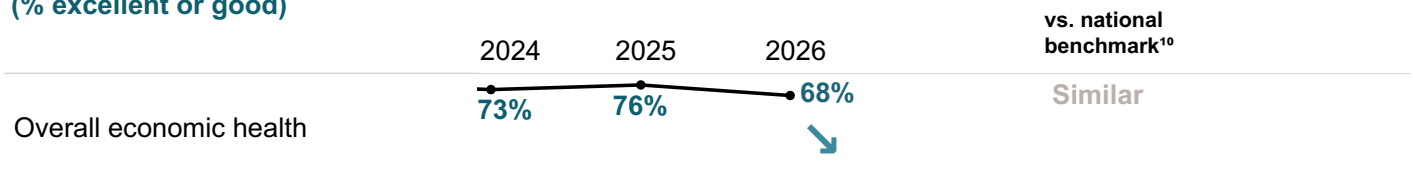
Economy

Local governments work together with private and nonprofit businesses, and with the community at large, to foster sustainable growth, create jobs, and promote a thriving local economy.

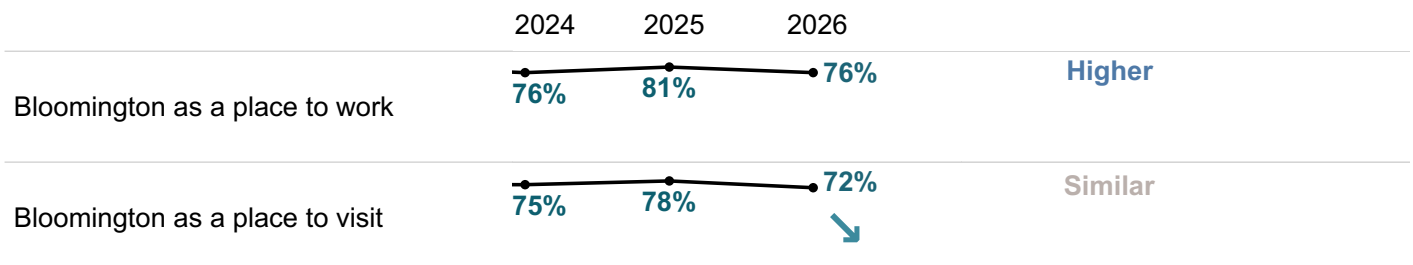
Overall economic health of Bloomington



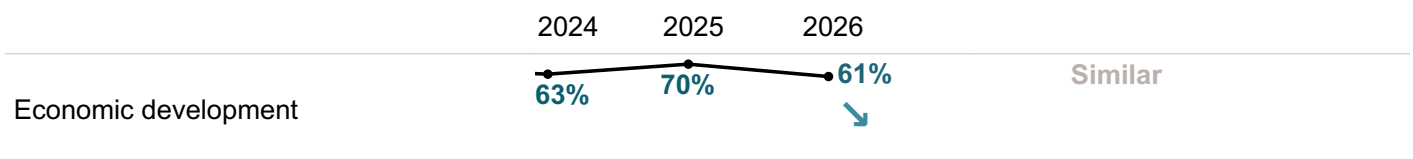
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



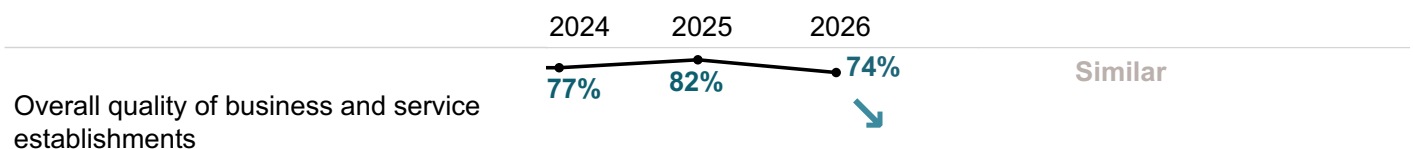
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)

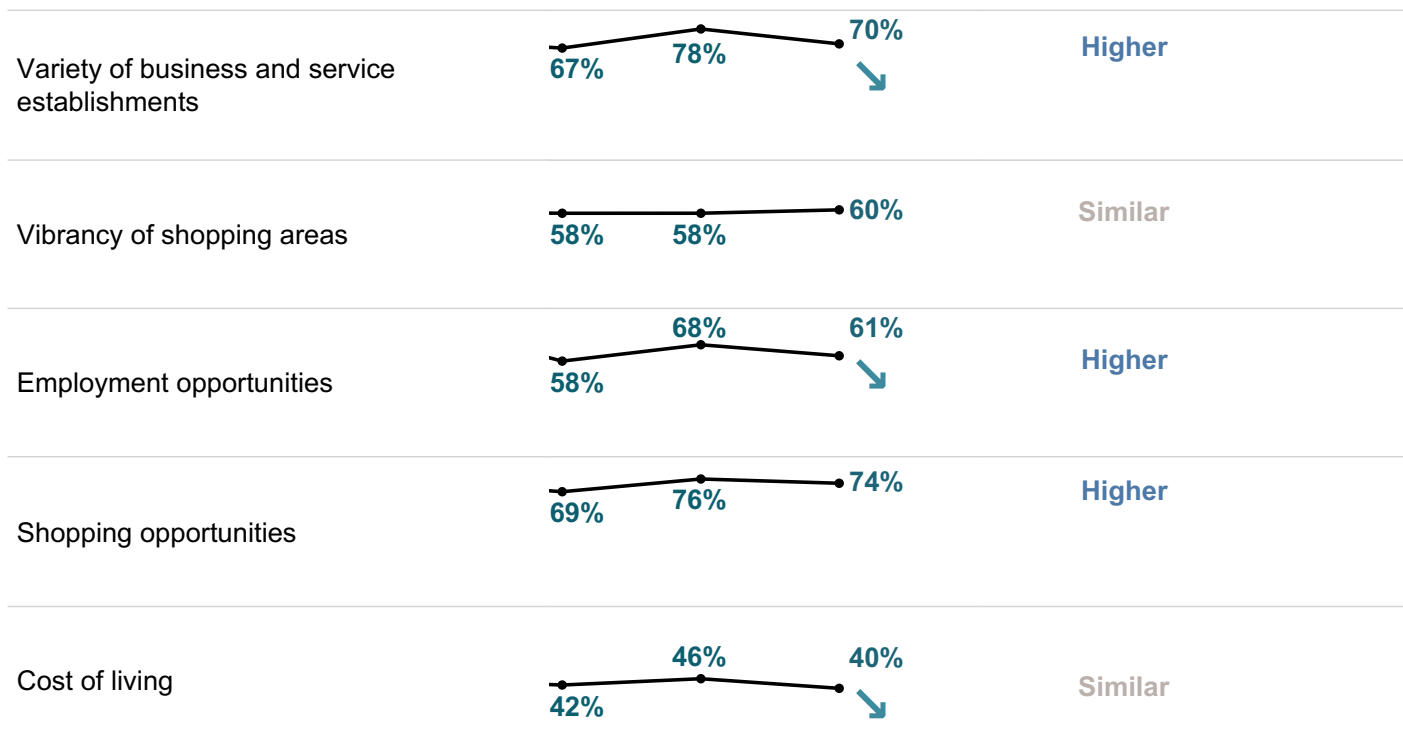


Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)

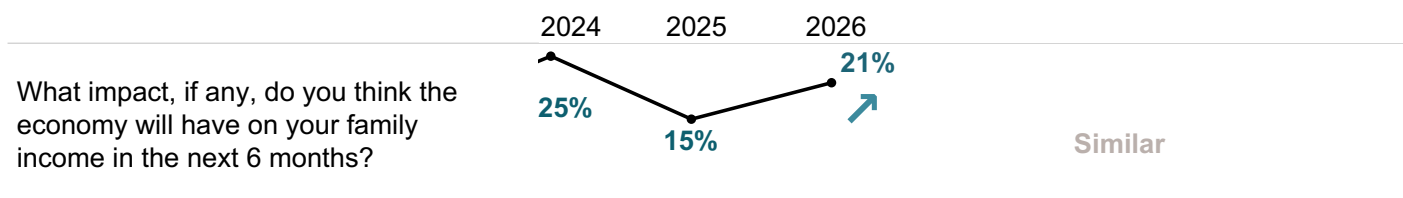


Please rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.
(% excellent or good)





What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:
 (% very or somewhat positive)

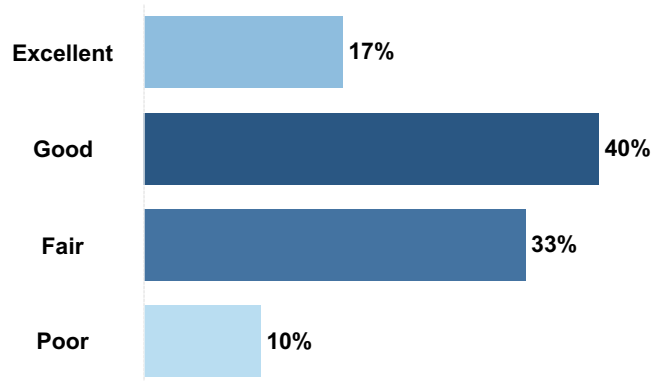


11. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

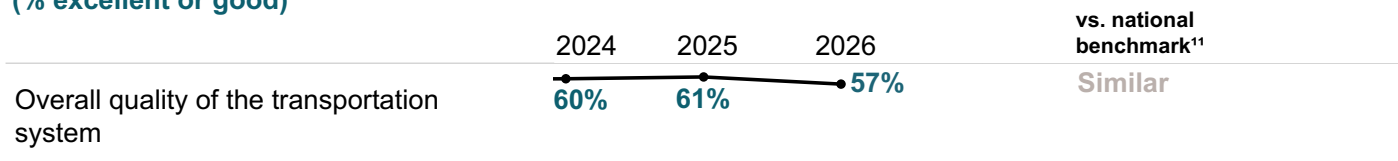
Mobility

The ability of residents to move about their community with ease plays an important role in the overall quality of life for everyone who lives, works, and spends time there.

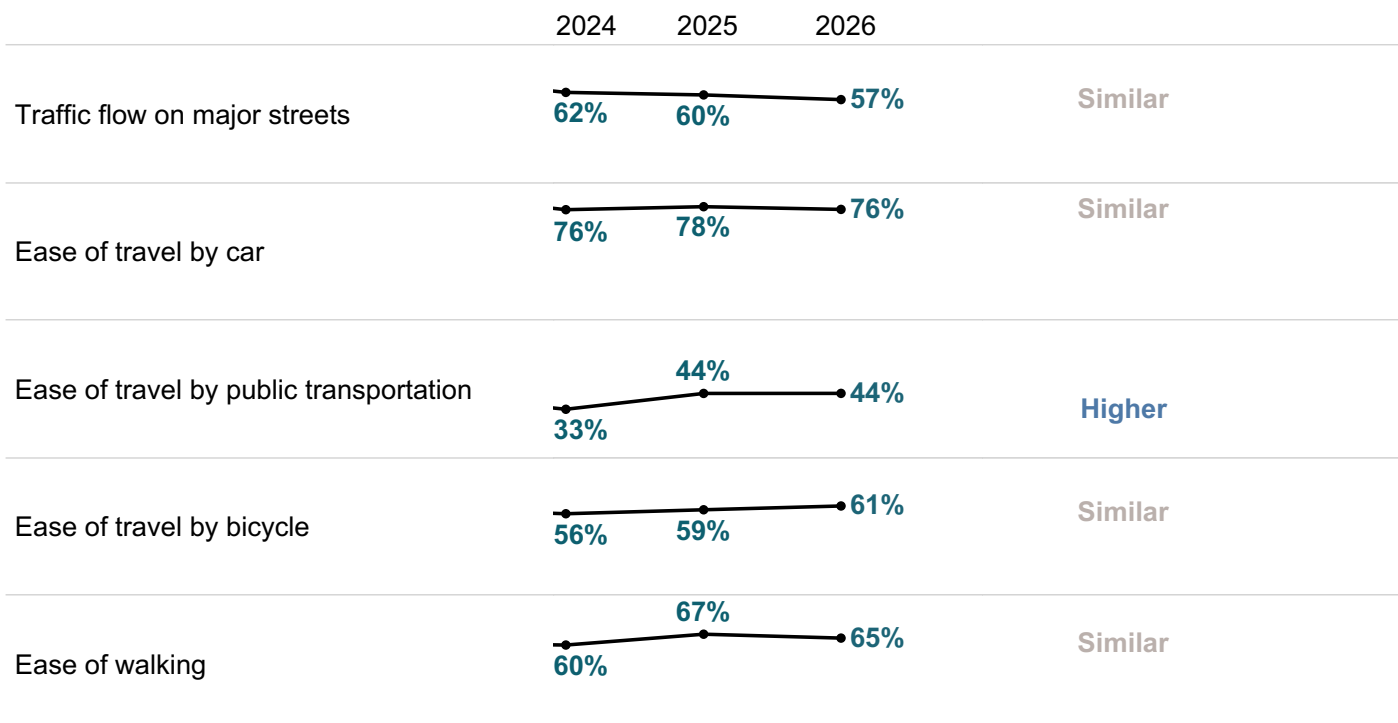
Overall quality of the transportation system in Bloomington



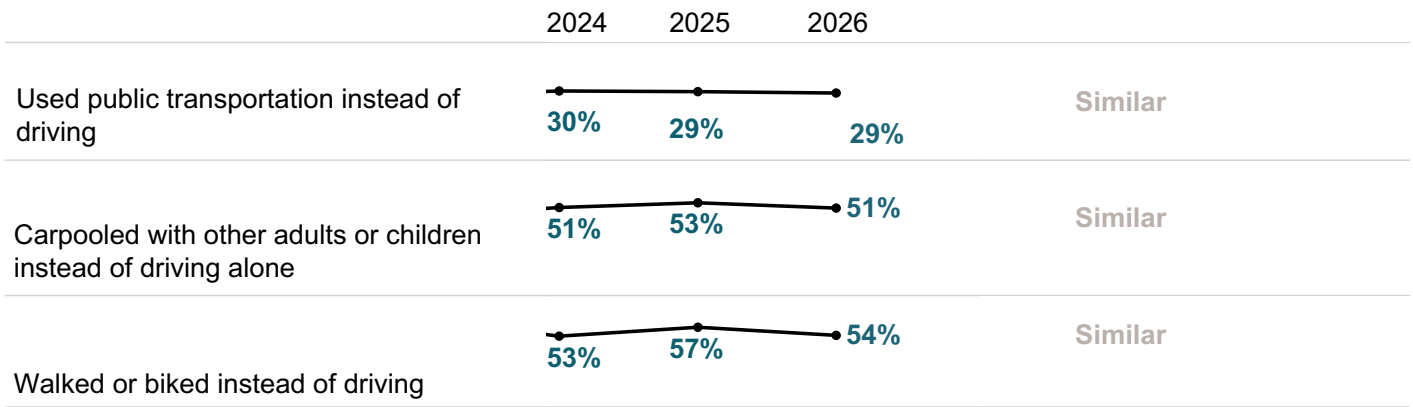
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



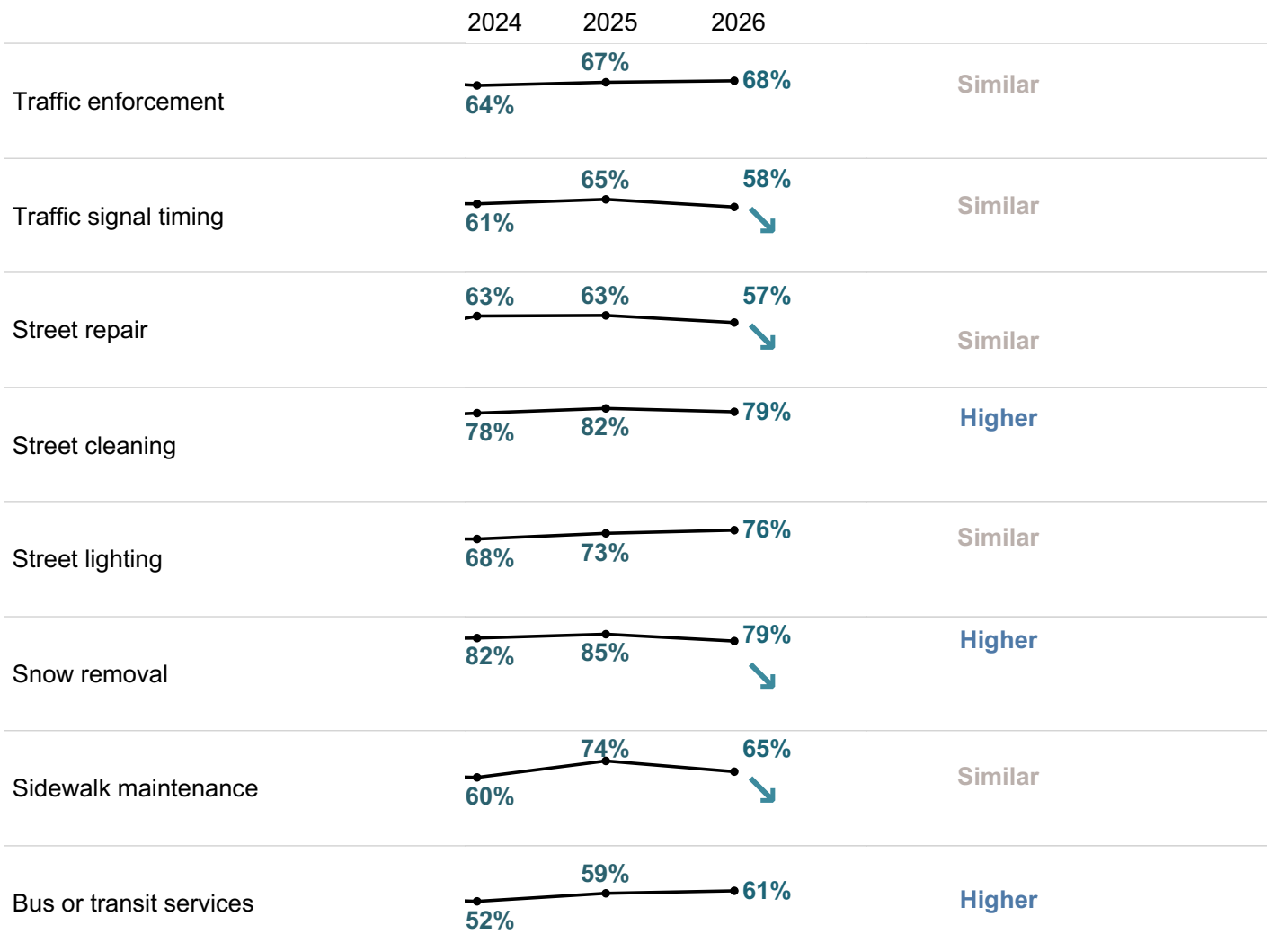
Please also rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.
(% excellent or good)



Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.(% yes)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)

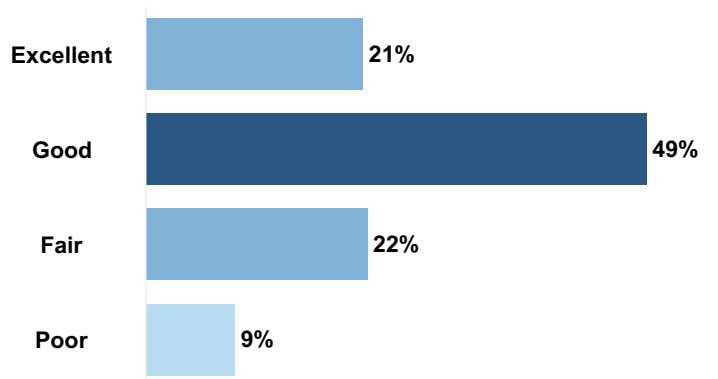


11. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

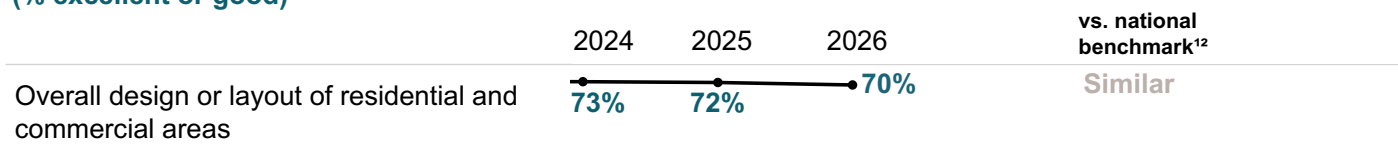
Community Design

A well-designed community enhances the quality of life for its residents by encouraging smart land use and zoning, ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to all, and supporting development that suits residents' needs.

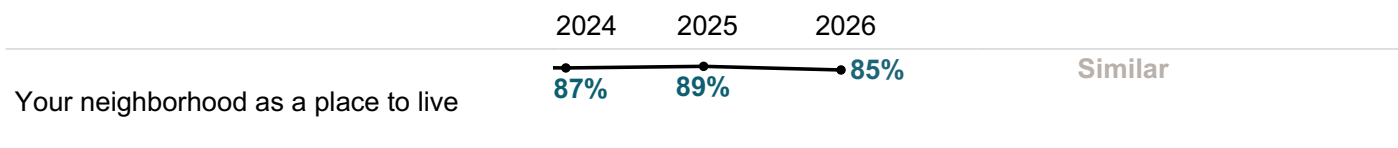
Overall design or layout of Bloomington's residential and commercial areas



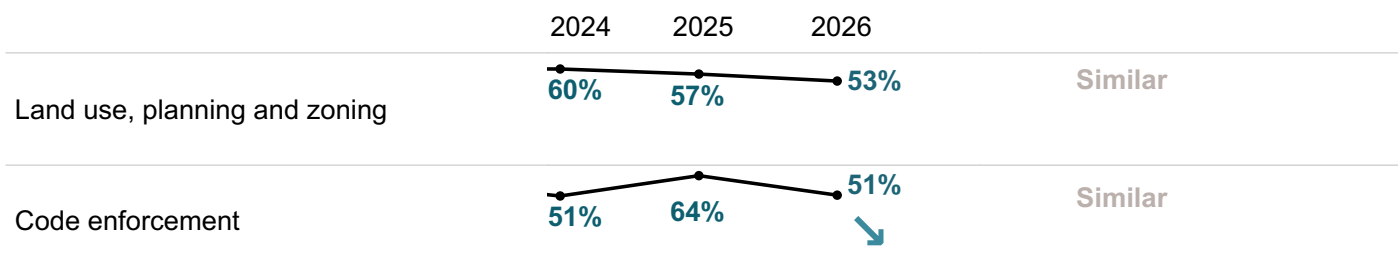
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



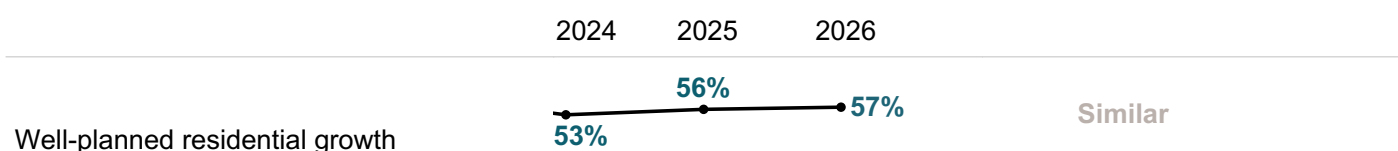
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)

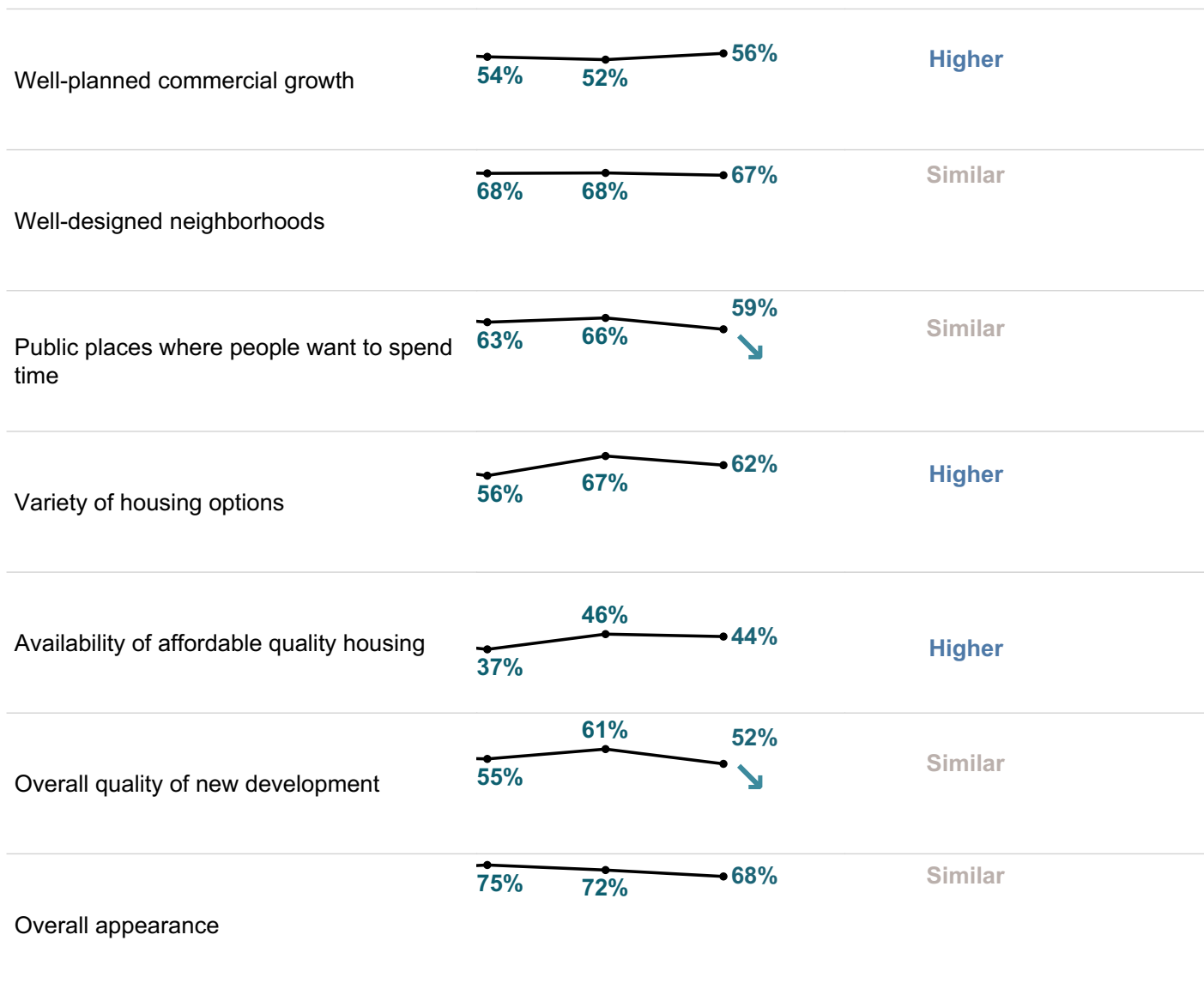


Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.
(% excellent or good)



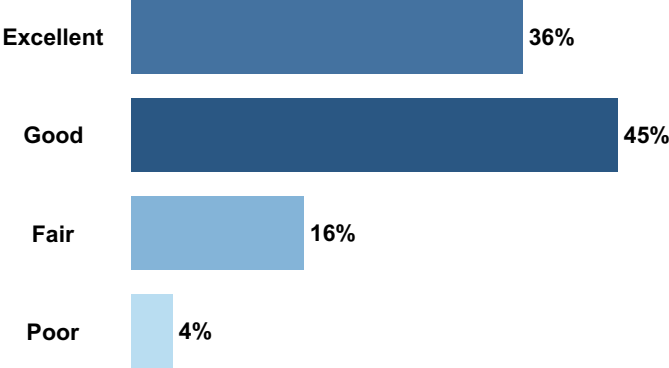


12. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

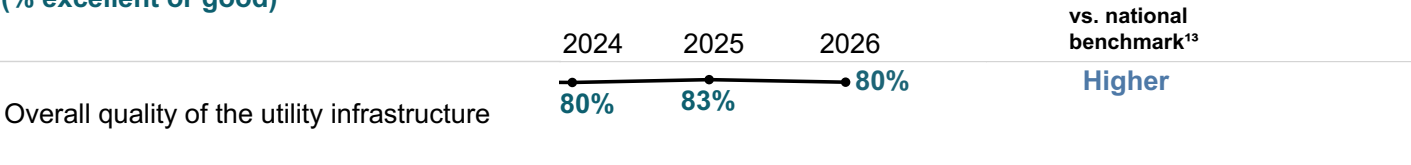
Utilities

Access to essential services like water, gas, electricity, and internet is crucial for safeguarding the physical health, economic stability, and overall well-being of the communities they support.

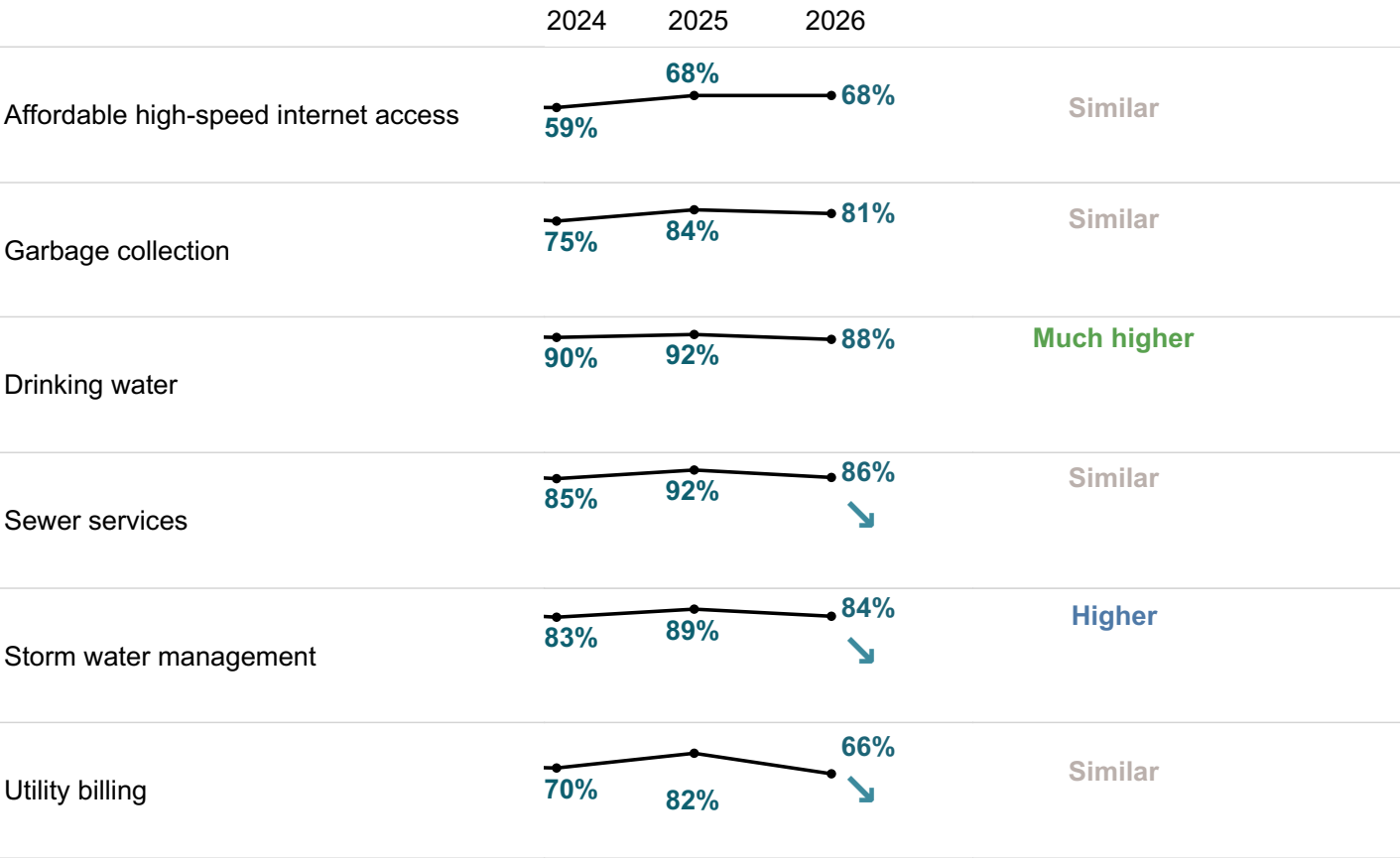
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Bloomington



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)

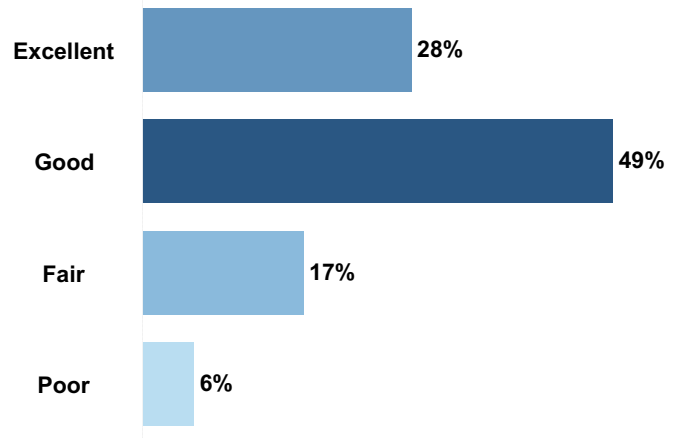


13. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

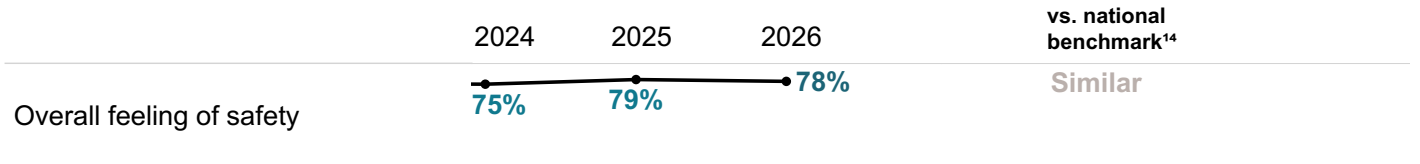
Safety

Public safety is one of the most important responsibilities of local governments, as every resident deserves to feel safe and secure both in their neighborhoods and across the wider community. The provision of strong, reliable safety services is essential to ensuring a high quality of life.

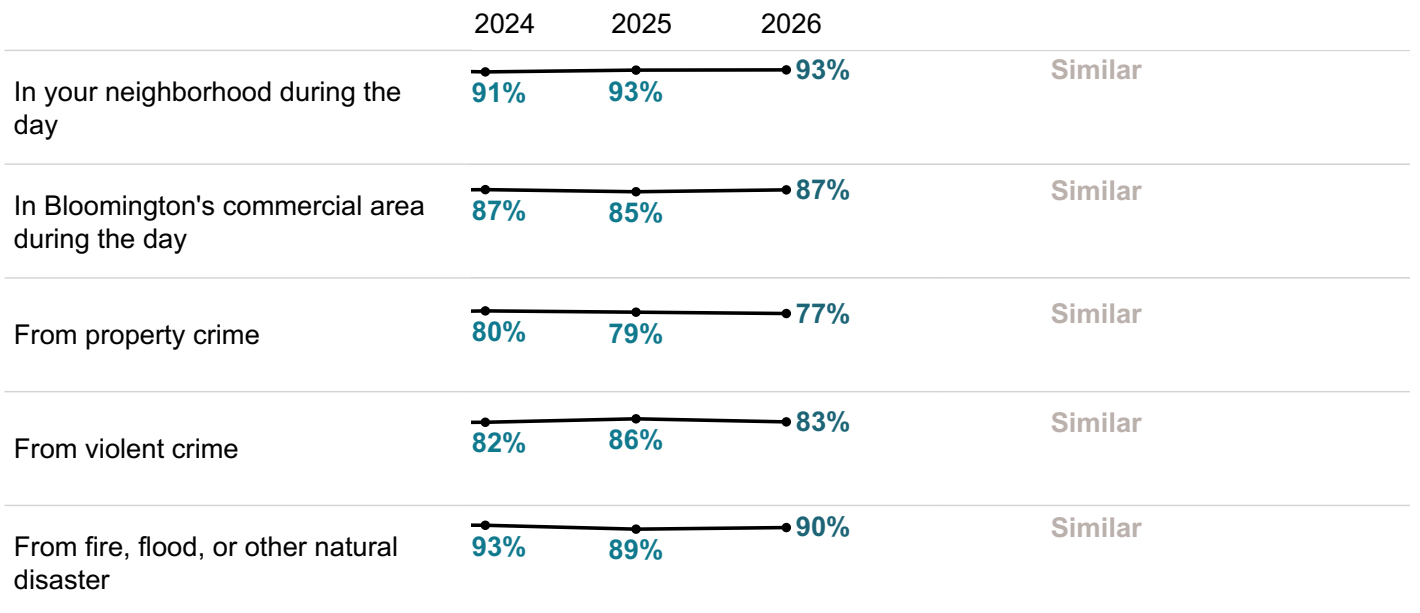
Overall feeling of safety in Bloomington



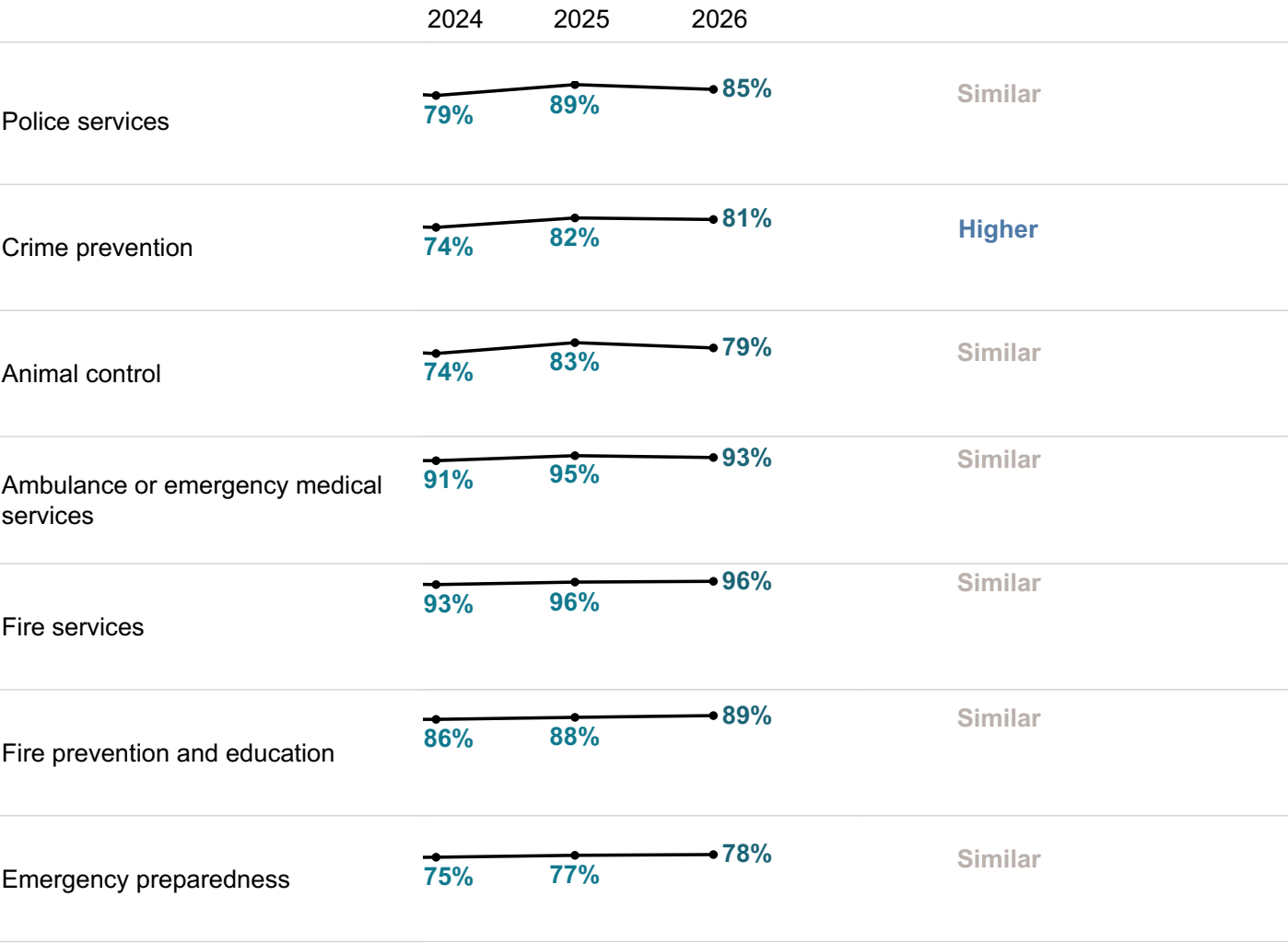
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:
(% very or somewhat safe)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)

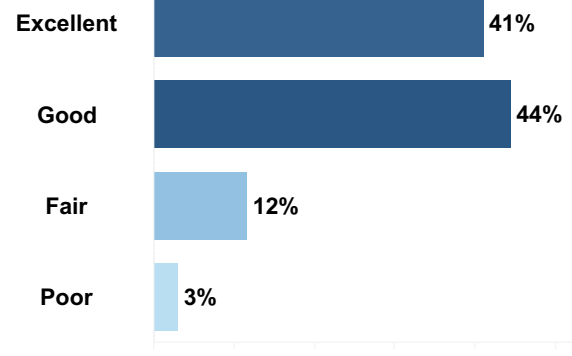


14. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

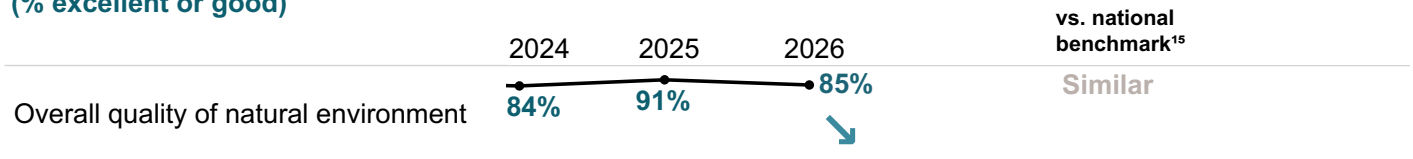
Natural Environment

The natural spaces in which residents live and experience their communities has a direct and profound effect on quality of life. The natural environment plays a vital role in the health and well-being of residents.

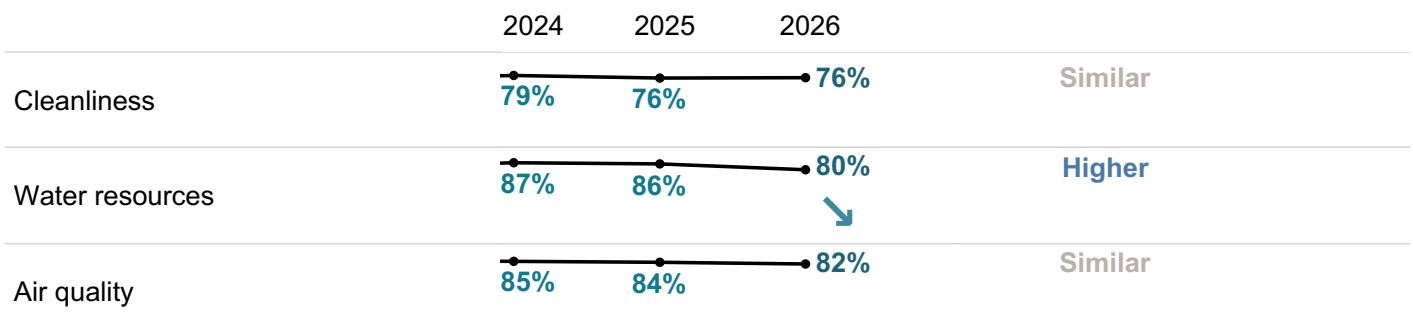
Overall quality of natural environment in Bloomington



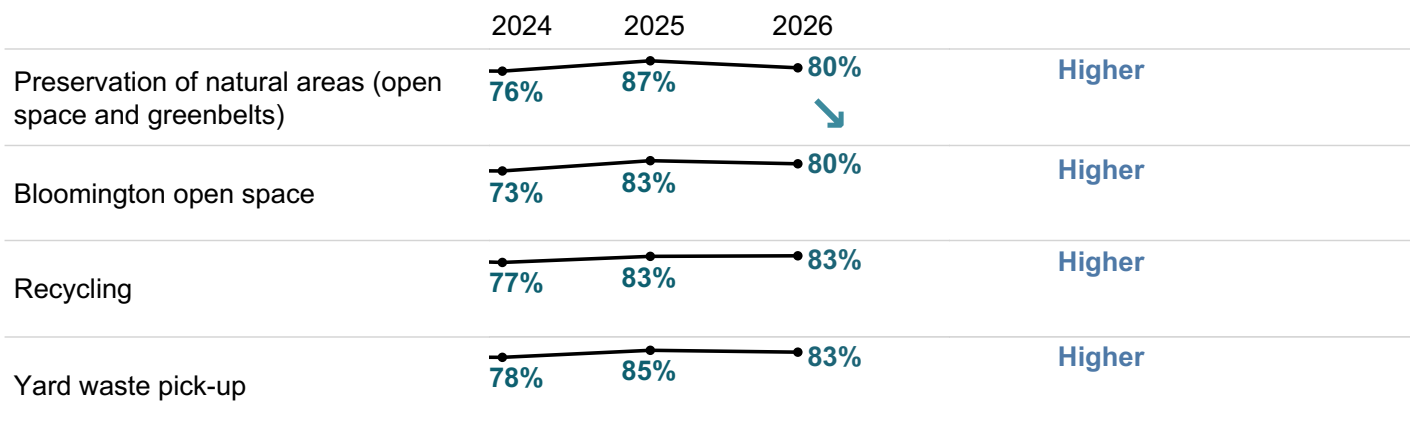
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)



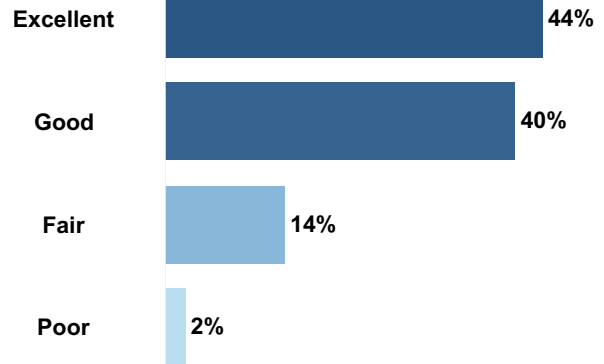
15. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Parks and Recreation

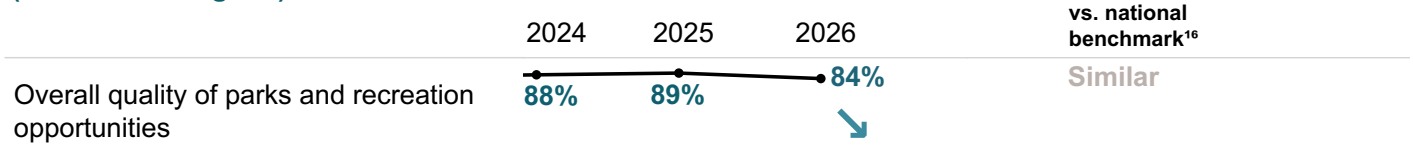
"There are no communities that pride themselves on their quality of life, promote themselves as a desirable location for businesses to relocate, or maintain that they are environmental stewards of their natural resources, without such communities having a robust, active system of parks and recreation programs for public use and enjoyment."

- National Recreation and Park Association

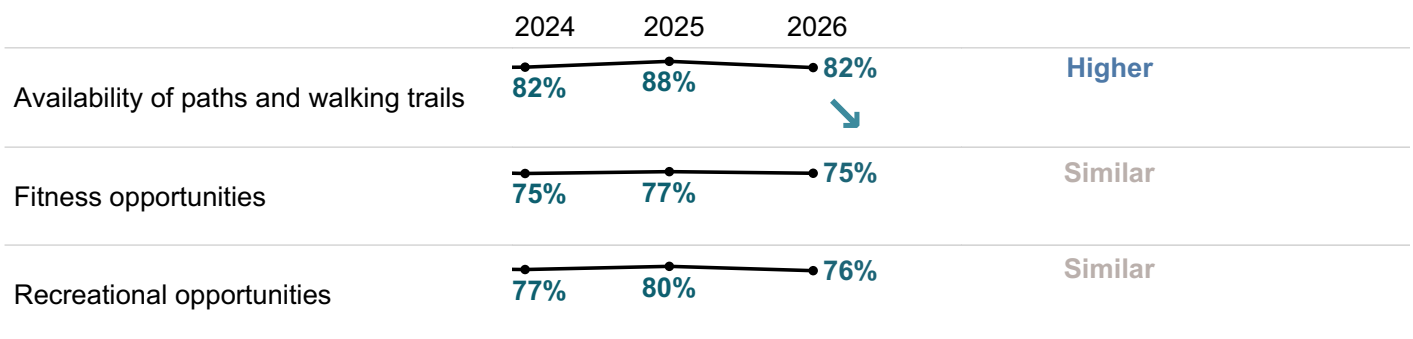
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities



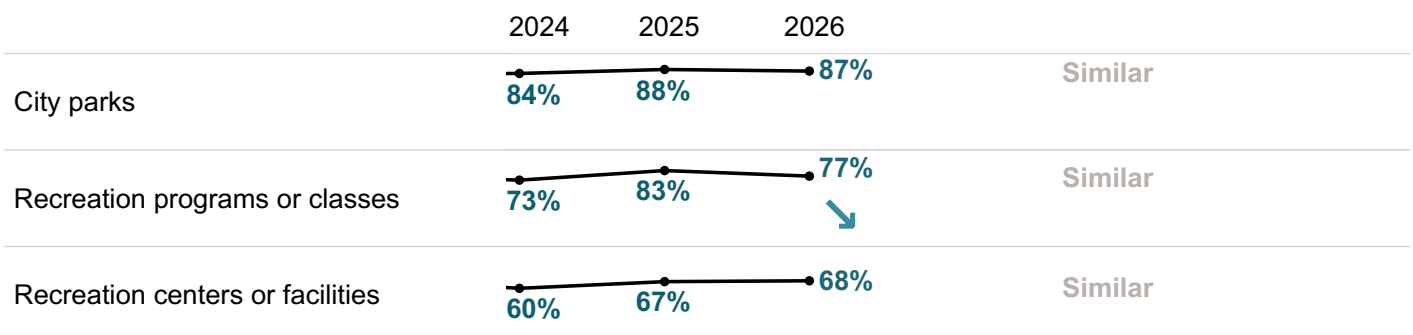
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)

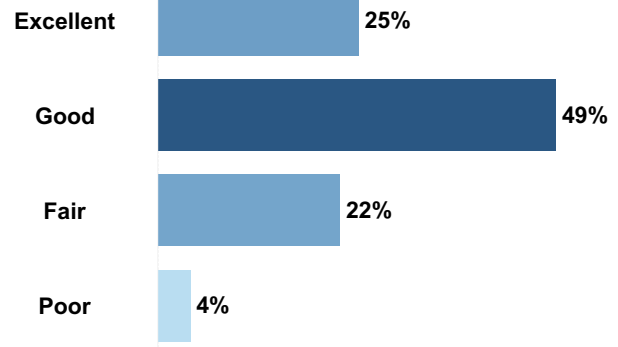


¹⁶. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

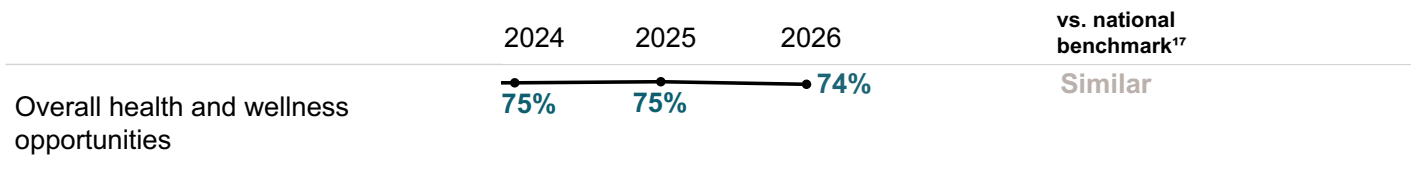
Health and Wellness

The features and amenities of a community directly influence residents' health and well-being, shaping their overall quality of life.

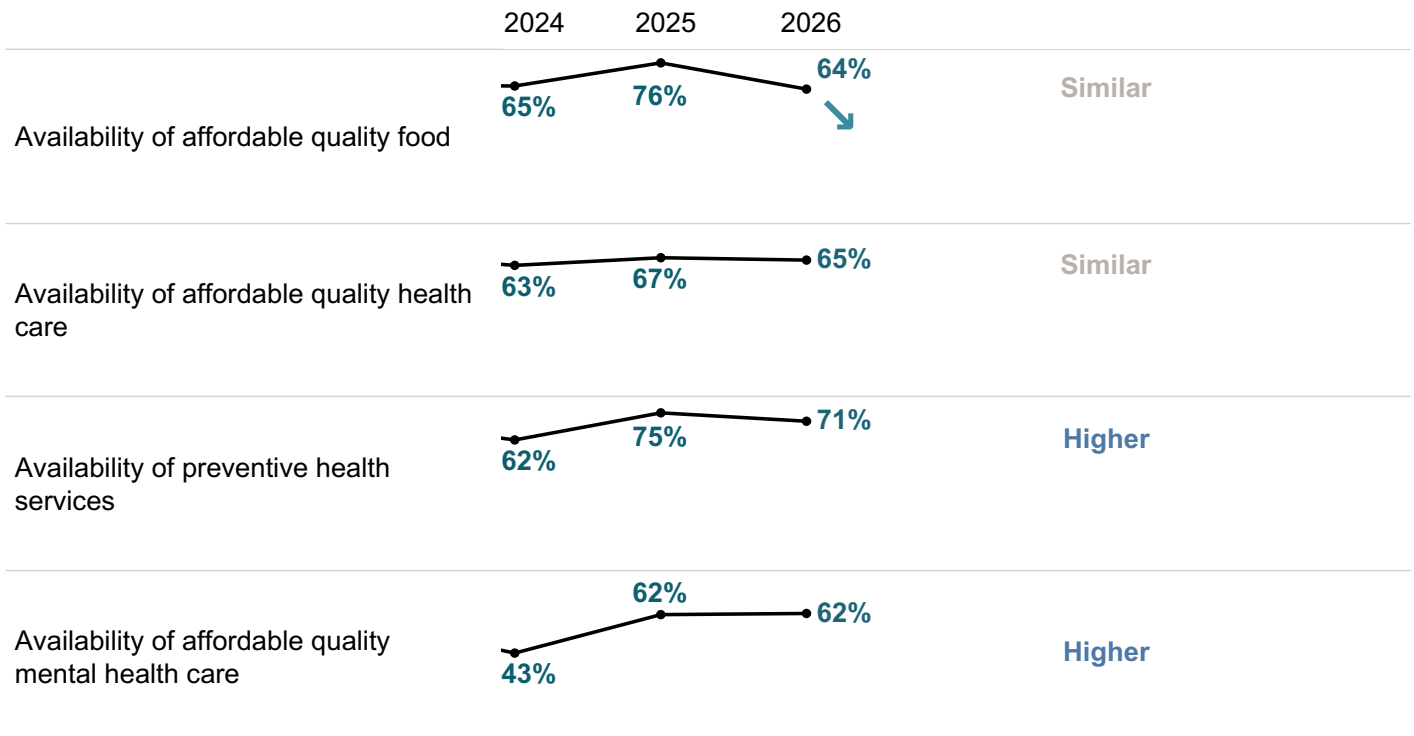
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Bloomington



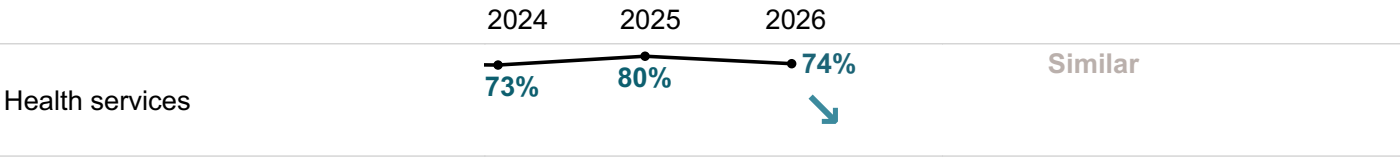
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



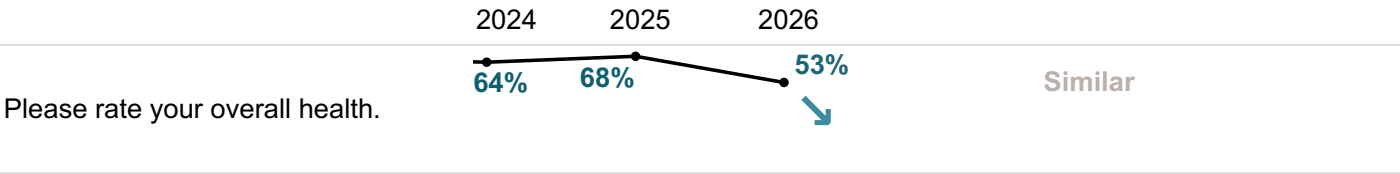
Please also rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)



Please rate your overall health.
(% excellent or very good)

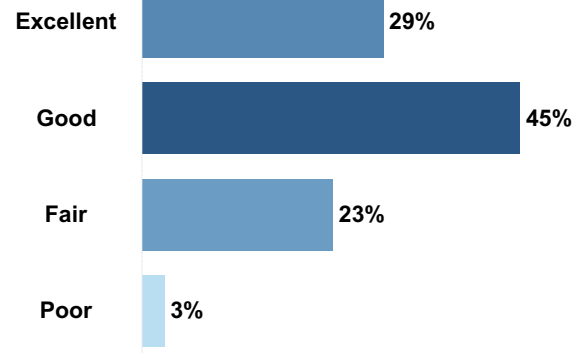


17. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

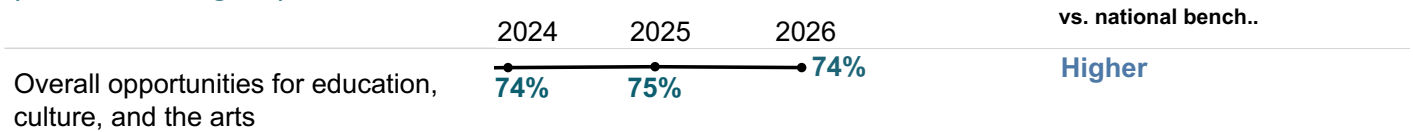
Education, Arts, and Culture

Participation in the arts, in educational opportunities, and in cultural activities is linked to increased civic engagement, greater social tolerance, and enhanced enjoyment of the local community.

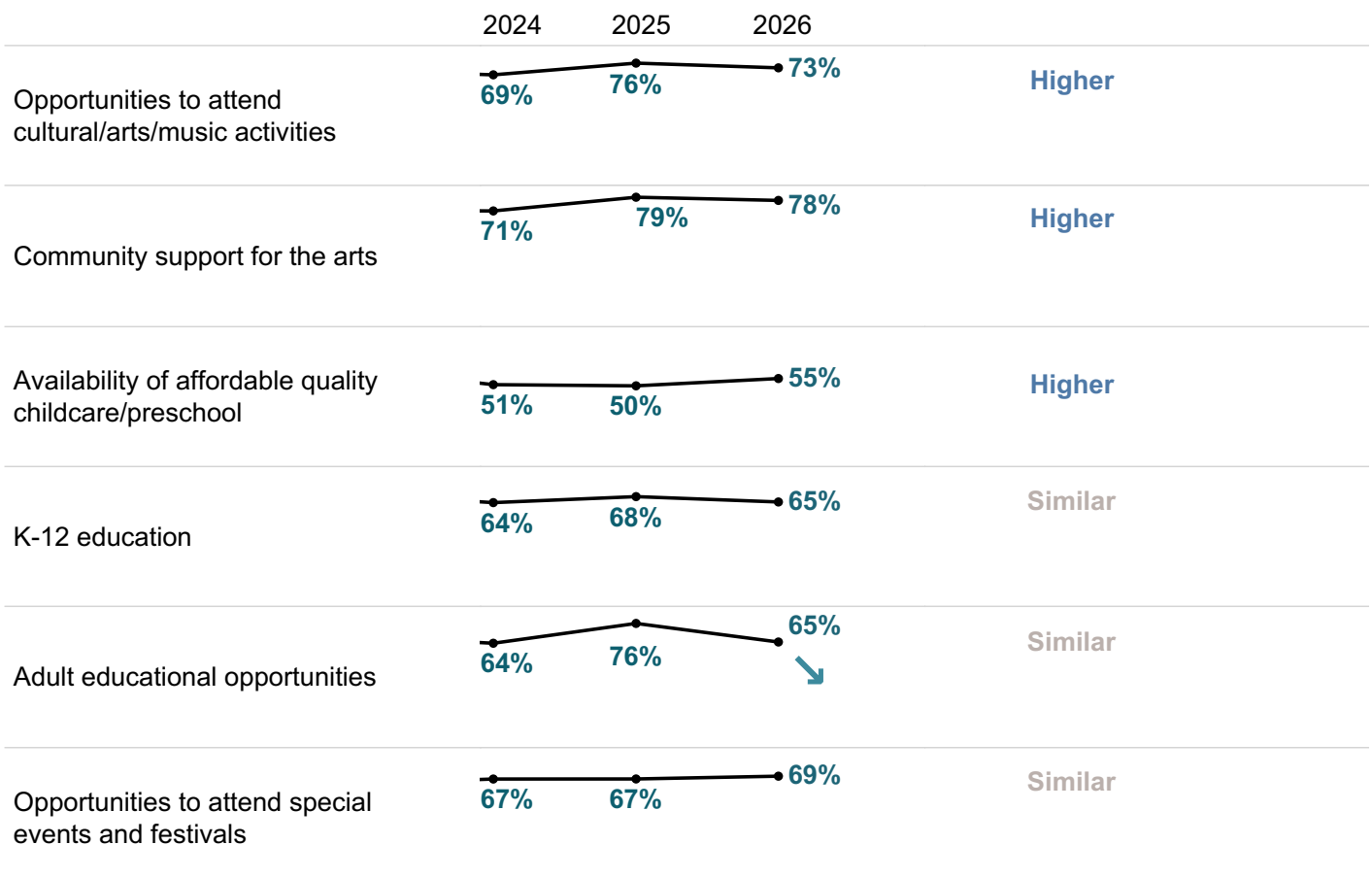
Overall opportunities for education, culture and the arts



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.
(% excellent or good)

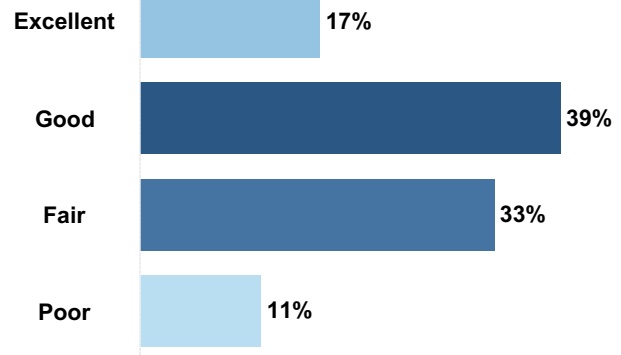


18. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

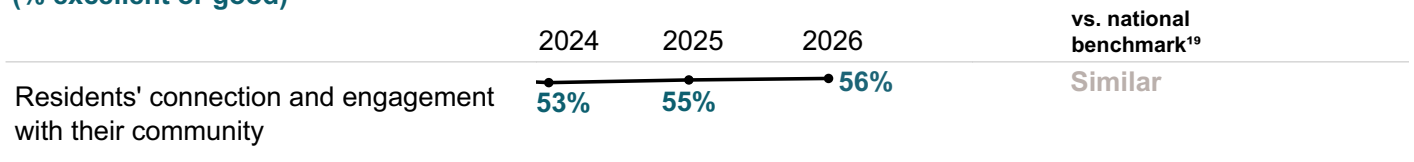
Community Connection

Community connection reflects residents' sense of belonging. When residents feel welcomed and encouraged to participate, they are more likely to feel engaged and connected to their community.

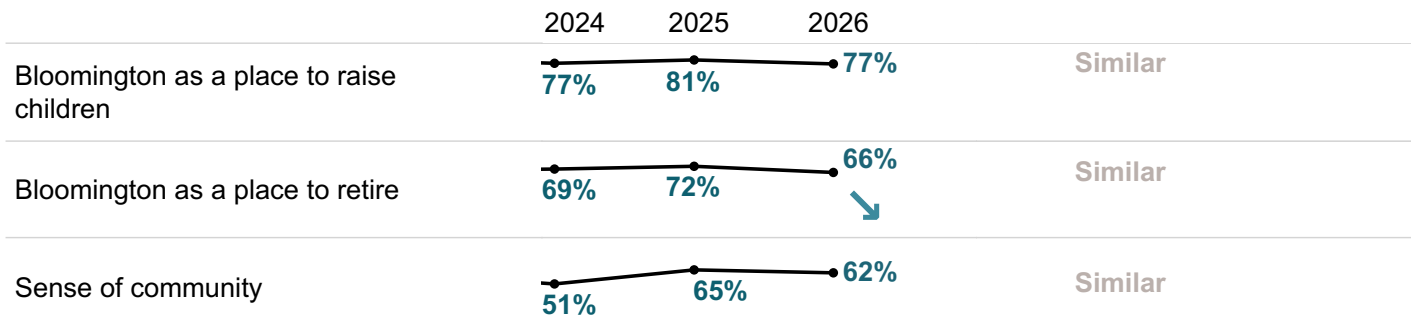
Residents' connection and engagement with their community



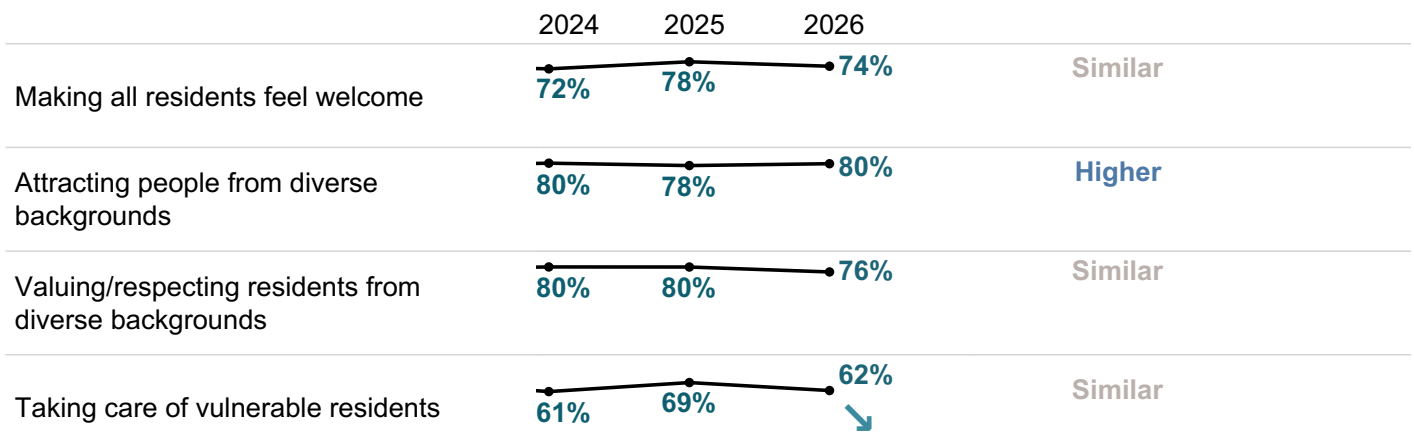
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



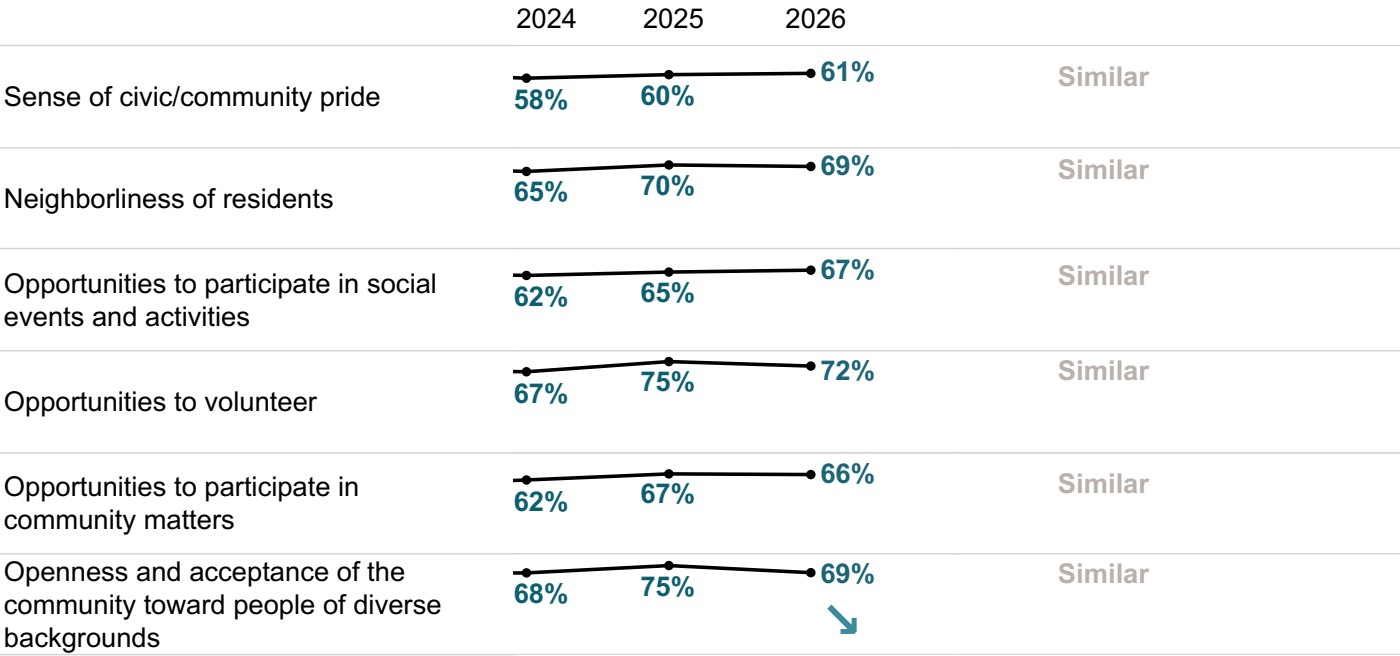
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Bloomington.
(% excellent or good)



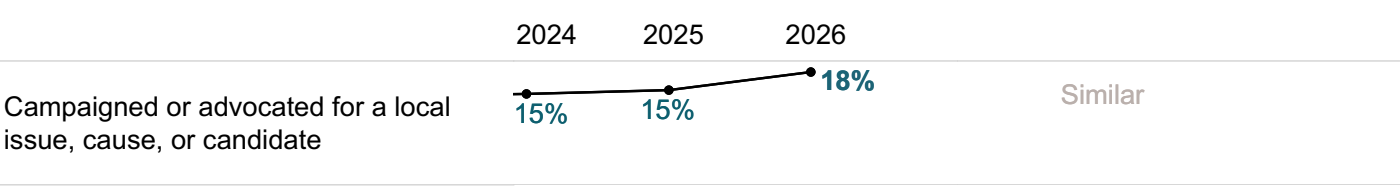
Please rate the job you feel the Bloomington community does at each of the following.
(% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.
 (% excellent or good)



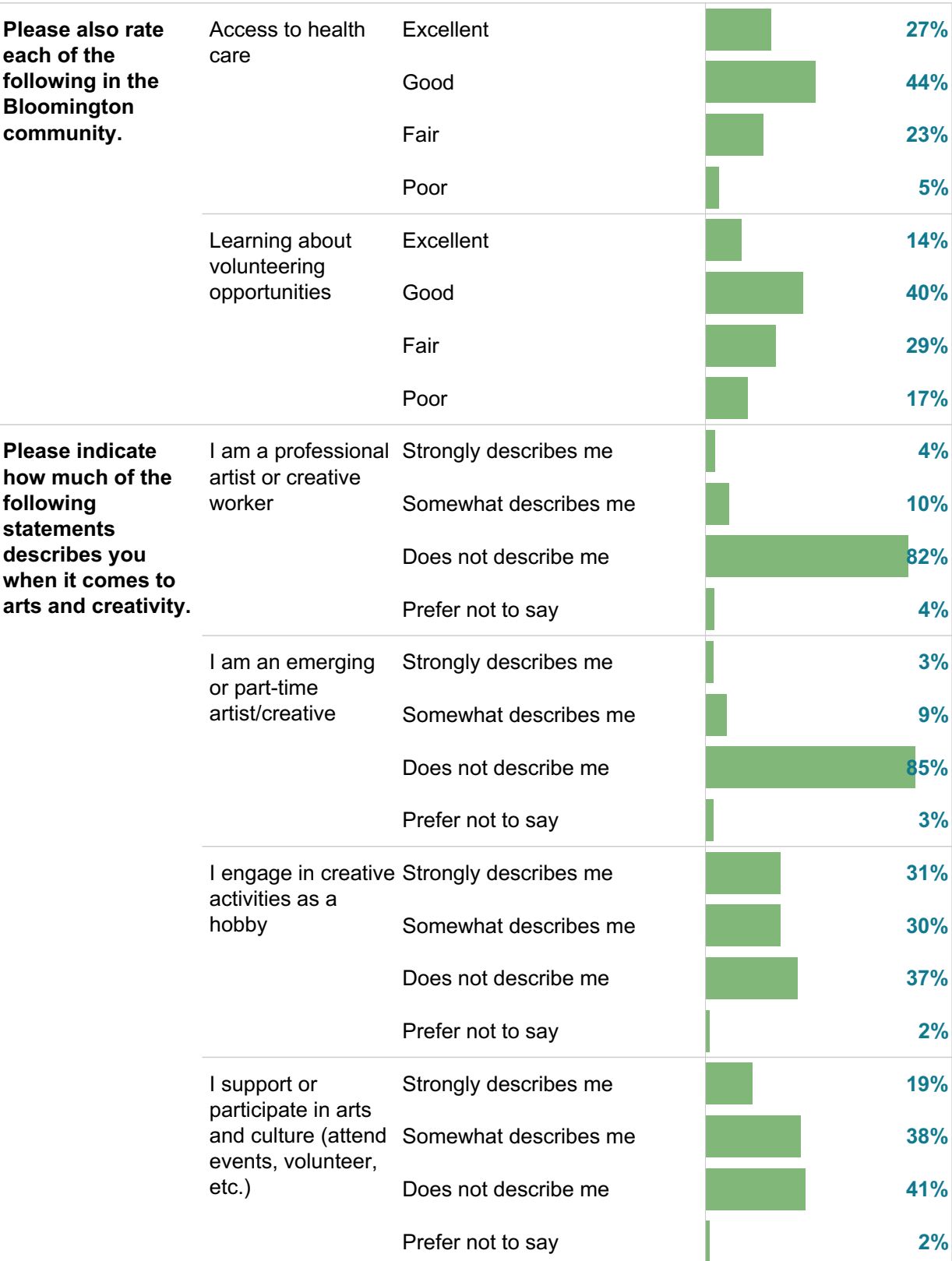
Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.
 (% yes)

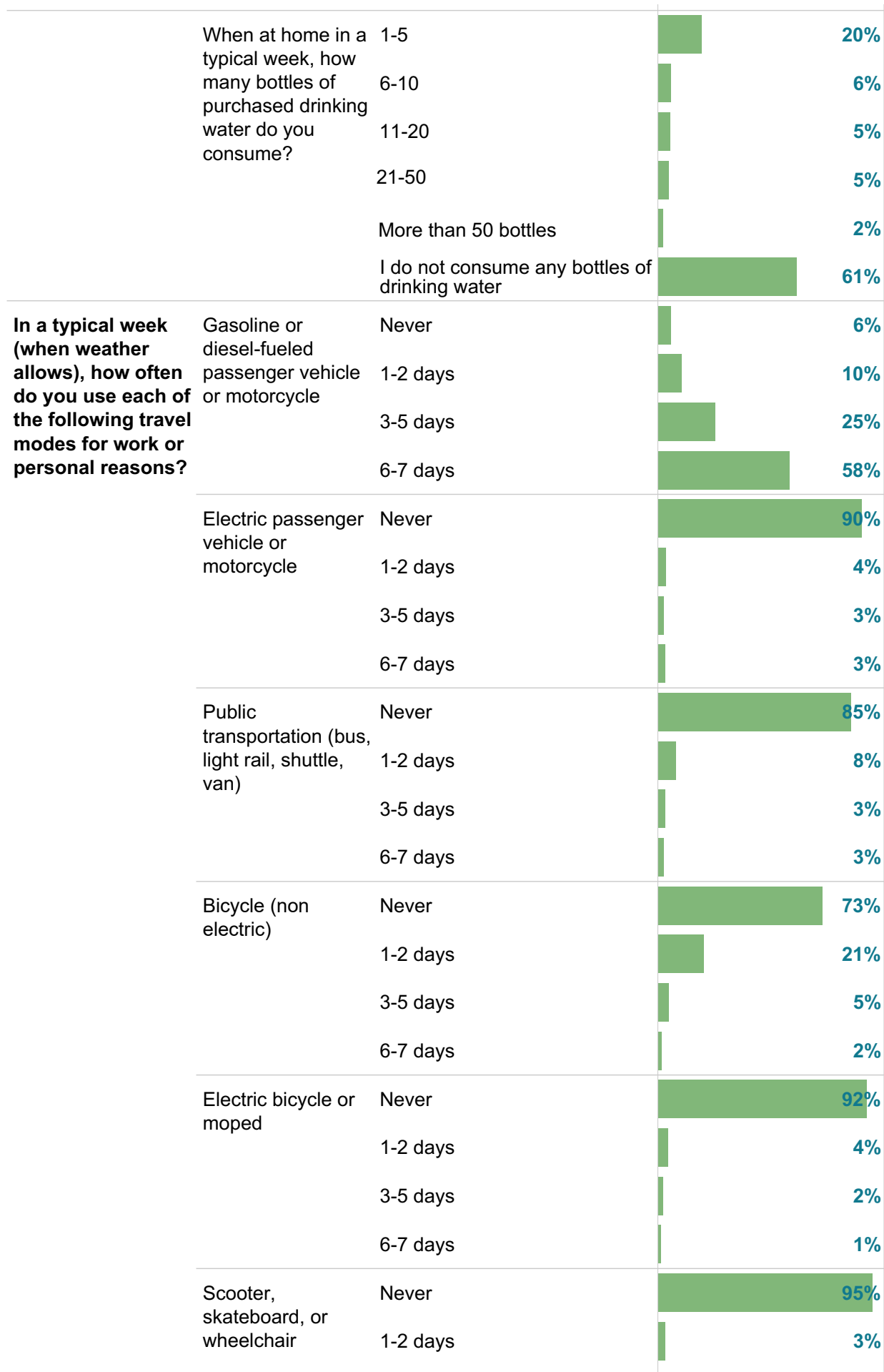


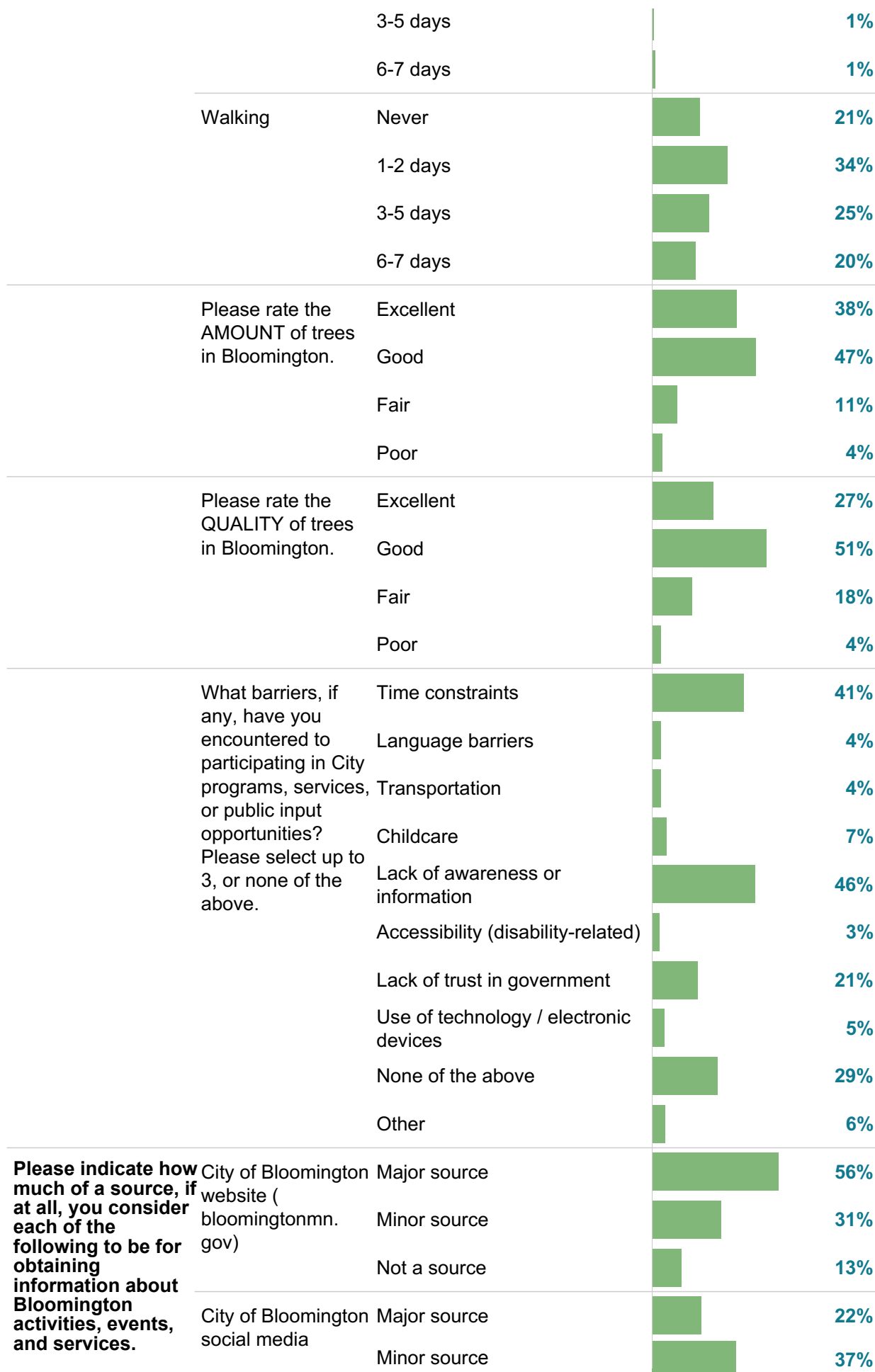
19. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

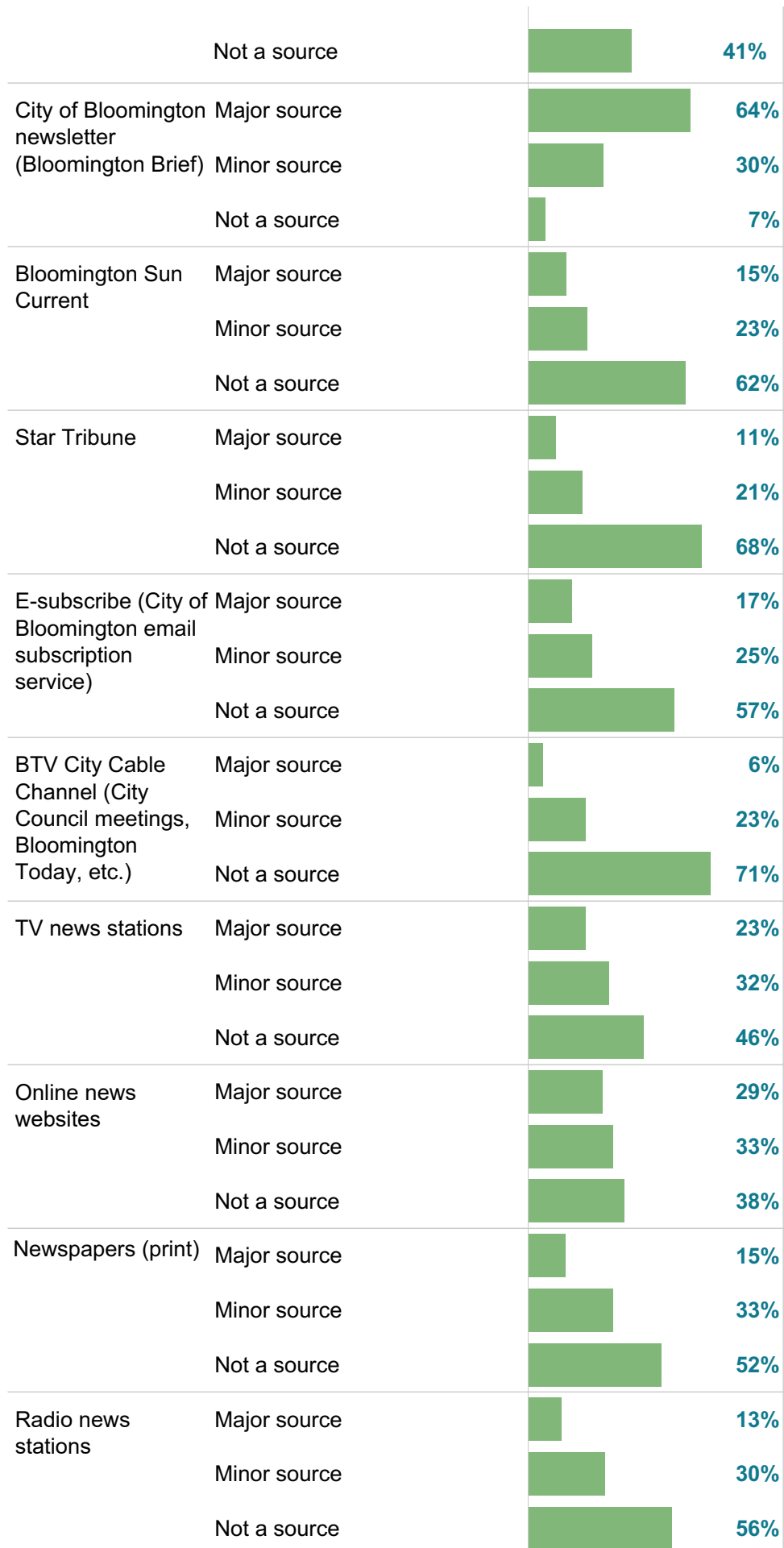
Custom Questions

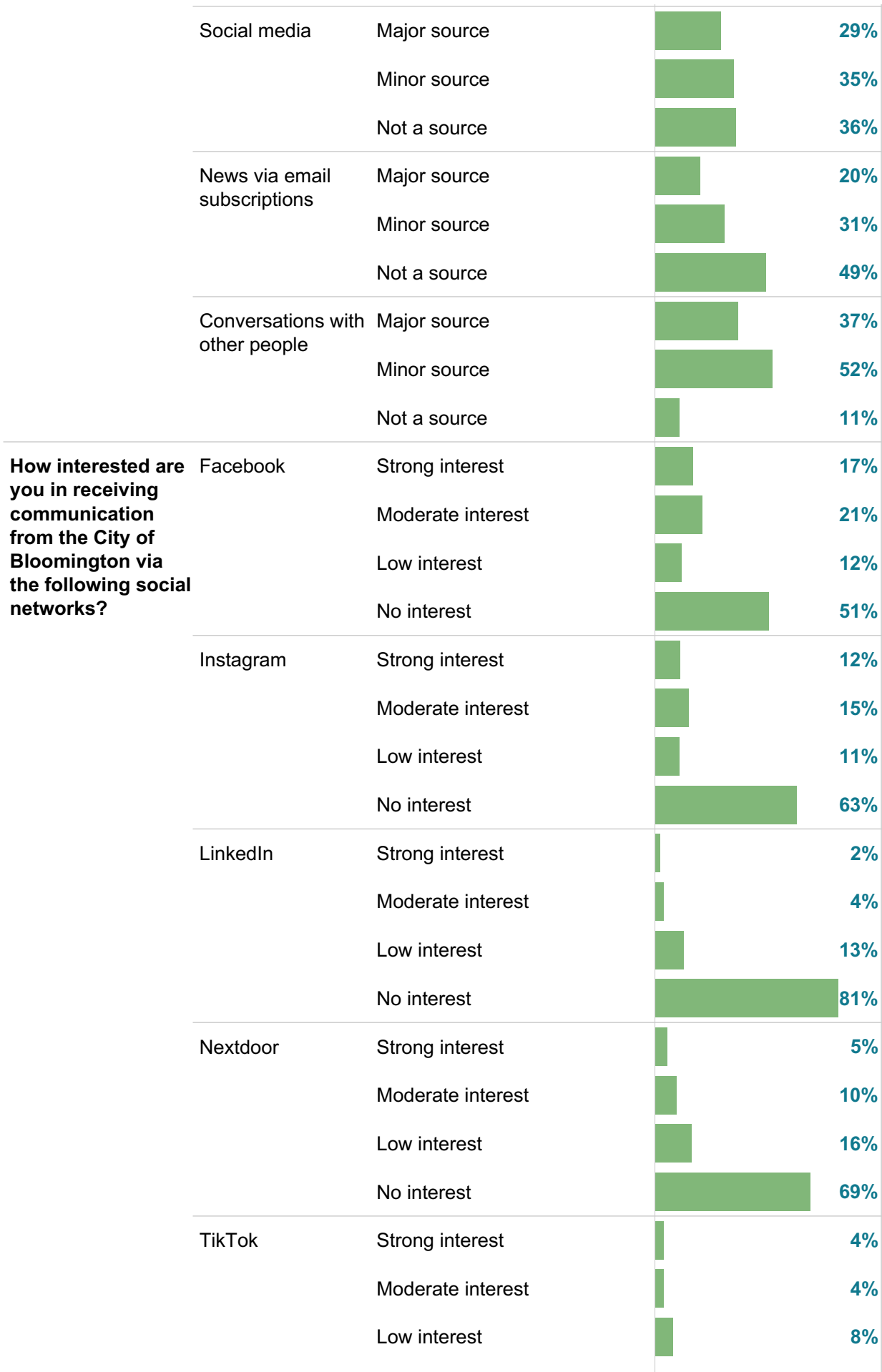
Below are the complete set of responses to each custom question on the survey. By default, “don’t know” responses are excluded.

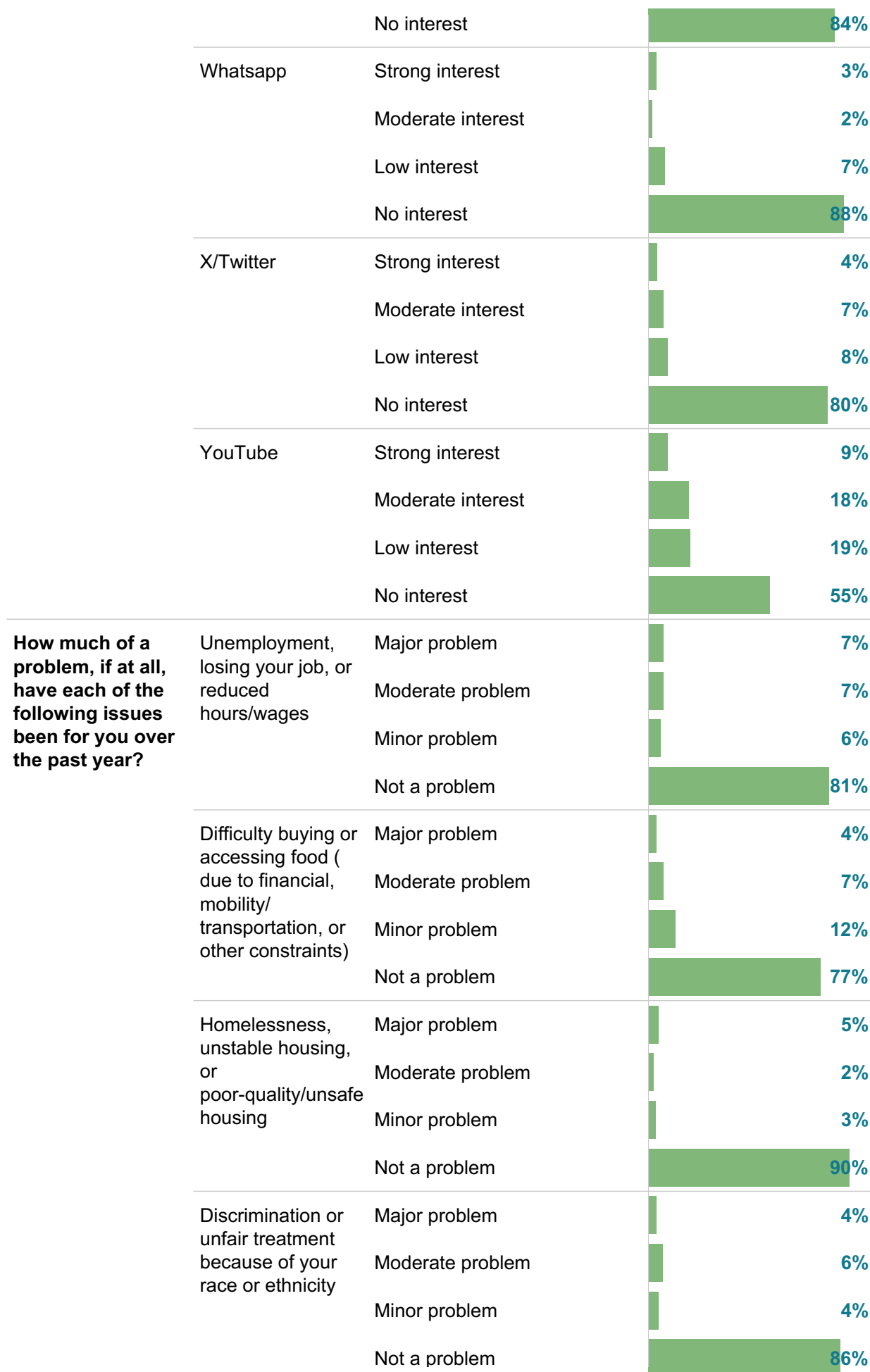


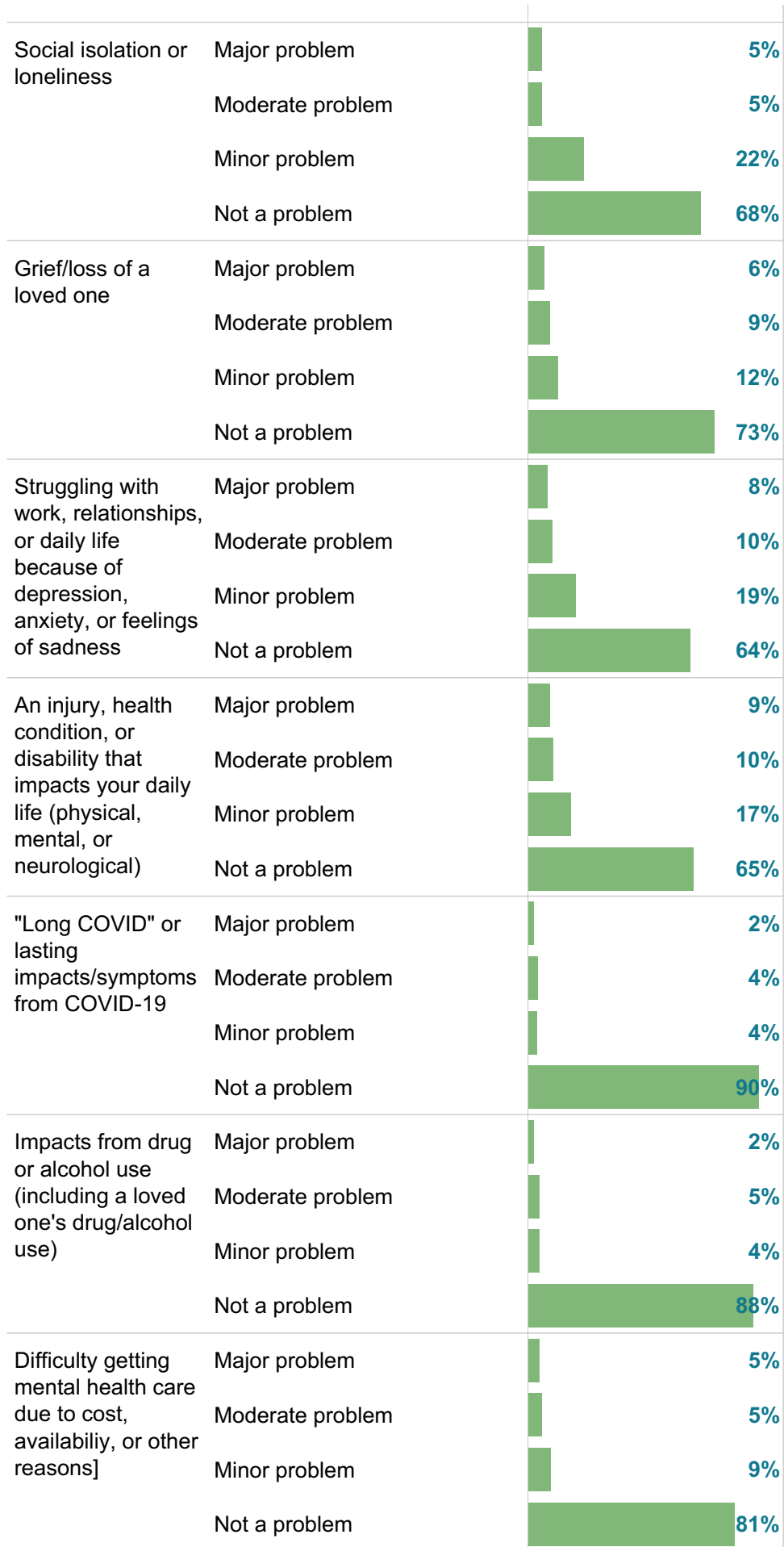


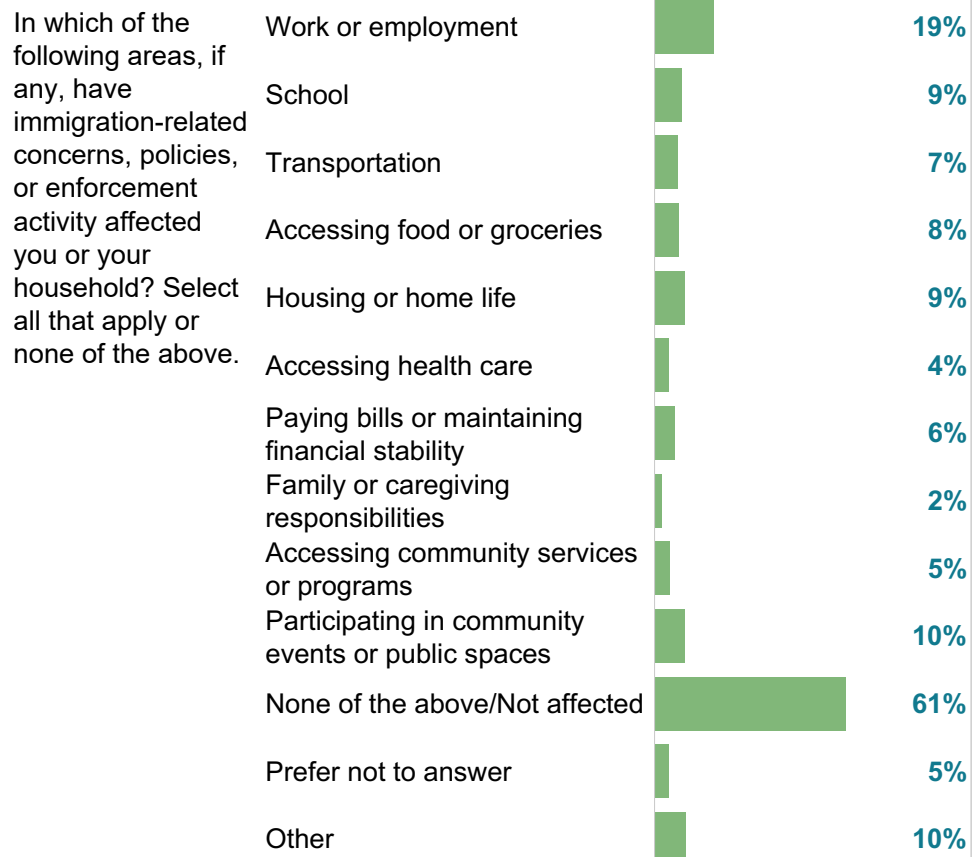












The City of Bloomington 2026 Community Survey

Please complete this survey if you are an adult (age 18 or older). Your responses are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

1. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Bloomington.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Bloomington as a place to live.....	1	2	3	4	5
Your neighborhood as a place to live	1	2	3	4	5
Bloomington as a place to raise children	1	2	3	4	5
Bloomington as a place to work.....	1	2	3	4	5
Bloomington as a place to visit	1	2	3	4	5
Bloomington as a place to retire	1	2	3	4	5
The overall quality of life in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of community	1	2	3	4	5

2. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Bloomington as a whole.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall economic health of Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Overall design or layout of Bloomington's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Bloomington (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	1	2	3	4	5
Overall feeling of safety in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of natural environment in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	1	2	3	4	5
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	1	2	3	4	5

3. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.

	<u>Very likely</u>	<u>Somewhat likely</u>	<u>Somewhat unlikely</u>	<u>Very unlikely</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Recommend living in Bloomington to someone who asks	1	2	3	4	5
Remain in Bloomington for the next five years	1	2	3	4	5

4. Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:

	<u>Very safe</u>	<u>Somewhat safe</u>	<u>Neither safe nor unsafe</u>	<u>Somewhat unsafe</u>	<u>Very unsafe</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
In your neighborhood during the day	1	2	3	4	5	6
In Bloomington's commercial area during the day.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From property crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From violent crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	1	2	3	4	5	6

5. Please rate the job you feel the Bloomington community does at each of the following.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Making all residents feel welcome	1	2	3	4	5
Attracting people from diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	1	2	3	4	5
Taking care of vulnerable residents (elderly, disabled, homeless, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5

6. Please rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Bloomington.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of business and service establishments in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Vibrancy of shopping areas	1	2	3	4	5
Employment opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Shopping opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Cost of living in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Overall image or reputation of Bloomington.....	1	2	3	4	5

7. Please also rate each of the following in the Bloomington community.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Traffic flow on major streets	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by car in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by public transportation in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by bicycle in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of walking in Bloomington.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned residential growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned commercial growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-designed neighborhoods.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public places where people want to spend time.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of housing options.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality housing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of new development in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Overall appearance of Bloomington.....	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of Bloomington.....	1	2	3	4	5
Water resources (beaches, lakes, ponds, riverways, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Air quality	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of paths and walking trails.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreational opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality food	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality health care	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of preventive health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality mental health care.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	1	2	3	4	5
Community support for the arts	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	1	2	3	4	5
K-12 education.....	1	2	3	4	5
Adult educational opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of civic/community pride	1	2	3	4	5
Neighborliness of residents in Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to volunteer.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in community matters.....	1	2	3	4	5
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Access to healthcare	1	2	3	4	5
Learning about volunteering opportunities	1	2	3	4	5

8. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.

	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Contacted the City of Bloomington (in-person, phone, email, or web) for help or information.....	1	2
Contacted Bloomington elected officials (in-person, phone, email, or web) to express your opinion	1	2
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like City Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.)	1	2
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting	1	2
Volunteered your time to some group/activity in Bloomington	1	2
Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	1	2
Voted in your most recent local election.....	1	2
Used bus, rail, subway, or other public transportation instead of driving.....	1	2
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone.....	1	2
Walked or biked instead of driving.....	1	2

The City of Bloomington 2026 Community Survey

9. Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Bloomington.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Public information services	1	2	3	4	5
Economic development.....	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic enforcement	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic signal timing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street repair.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street cleaning	1	2	3	4	5
Street lighting.....	1	2	3	4	5
Snow removal.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sidewalk maintenance.....	1	2	3	4	5
Bus or transit services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Land use, planning, and zoning	1	2	3	4	5
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Affordable high-speed internet access	1	2	3	4	5
Garbage collection.....	1	2	3	4	5
Drinking water.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sewer services	1	2	3	4	5
Storm water management (storm drainage, dams, levees, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Utility billing	1	2	3	4	5
Police services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Crime prevention.....	1	2	3	4	5
Animal control	1	2	3	4	5
Ambulance or emergency medical services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire prevention and education	1	2	3	4	5
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations)	1	2	3	4	5
Preservation of natural areas (open space and greenbelts).....	1	2	3	4	5
Bloomington open space	1	2	3	4	5
Recycling	1	2	3	4	5
Yard waste pick-up	1	2	3	4	5
City parks	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation programs or classes.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation centers or facilities	1	2	3	4	5
Health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall customer service by Bloomington employees (police, receptionists, planners, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5

10. Please rate the following categories of Bloomington government performance.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
The value of services for the taxes paid to Bloomington.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall direction that Bloomington is taking.....	1	2	3	4	5
The job Bloomington government does at welcoming resident involvement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall confidence in Bloomington government.....	1	2	3	4	5
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	1	2	3	4	5
Being honest	1	2	3	4	5
Being open and transparent to the public	1	2	3	4	5
Informing residents about issues facing the community	1	2	3	4	5
Treating all residents fairly.....	1	2	3	4	5
Treating residents with respect.....	1	2	3	4	5

11. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
The City of Bloomington	1	2	3	4	5
The Federal Government.....	1	2	3	4	5

12. Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Bloomington community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.

	<u>Essential</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>
Overall economic health of Bloomington	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Bloomington	1	2	3	4
Overall design or layout of Bloomington's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Bloomington (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	1	2	3	4
Overall feeling of safety in Bloomington	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of natural environment in Bloomington	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	1	2	3	4
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Bloomington	1	2	3	4
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	1	2	3	4
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	1	2	3	4

13. Please indicate how much of the following statements describes you when it comes to arts and creativity.

	<u>Strongly describes me</u>	<u>Somewhat describes me</u>	<u>Does not describe me</u>	<u>Prefer not to say</u>
I am a professional artist or creative worker	1	2	3	4
I am an emerging or part-time artist/creative	1	2	3	4
I engage in creative activities as a hobby	1	2	3	4
I support or participate in arts and culture (attend events, volunteer, etc.)	1	2	3	4

14. When at home in a typical week, how many bottles of purchased drinking water do you consume?

☐ 1-5 ☐ 6-10 ☐ 11-20 ☐ 21-50 ☐ More than 50 ☐ I do not consume any bottles of drinking water

15. In a typical week (when weather allows), how often do you use each of the following travel modes for work or personal reasons?

	<u>Never</u>	<u>1-2 days</u>	<u>3-5 days</u>	<u>6-7 days</u>
Gasoline or diesel-fueled passenger vehicle or motorcycle	1	2	3	4
Electric passenger vehicle or motorcycle	1	2	3	4
Public transportation (bus, light rail, shuttle, van)	1	2	3	4
Bicycle (non-electric)	1	2	3	4
Electric bicycle or moped	1	2	3	4
Scooter, skateboard, or wheelchair	1	2	3	4
Walking	1	2	3	4

16. Please rate the AMOUNT of trees in Bloomington.

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Don't know

17. Please rate the QUALITY of trees in Bloomington.

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Don't know

18. What barriers, if any, have you encountered to participating in City programs, services, or public input opportunities? Please select up to 3, or none of the above.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Time constraints | ☐ Accessibility (disability-related) |
| ☐ Language barriers | ☐ Lack of trust in government |
| ☐ Transportation | ☐ Use of technology / electronic devices |
| ☐ Childcare | ☐ None of the above |
| ☐ Lack of awareness or information | ☐ Other (Please Specify): _____ |

19. Please indicate how much of a source, if at all, you consider each of the following to be for obtaining information about Bloomington activities, events, and services.

	<u>Major source</u>	<u>Minor source</u>	<u>Not a source</u>
City of Bloomington website (bloomingtonmn.gov)	1	2	3
City of Bloomington social media (Facebook, X/Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Nextdoor)	1	2	3
City of Bloomington newsletter (<i>Bloomington Brief</i>)	1	2	3
<i>Bloomington Sun Current</i>	1	2	3
<i>Star Tribune</i>	1	2	3
E-subscribe (City of Bloomington email subscription service)	1	2	3
BTV City Cable Channel (City Council meetings, Bloomington Today, etc.)	1	2	3

The City of Bloomington 2026 Community Survey

20. Please indicate how much of a source, if at all, you consider each of the following to be for obtaining information about Bloomington activities, events, and services.

	<u>Major source</u>	<u>Minor source</u>	<u>Not a source</u>
TV news stations.....	1	2	3
Online news websites	1	2	3
Newspapers (print)	1	2	3
Radio news stations.....	1	2	3
Social media	1	2	3
News via email subscriptions.....	1	2	3
Conversations with other people.....	1	2	3

21. How interested are you in receiving communication from the City of Bloomington via the following social networks?

	<u>Strong interest</u>	<u>Moderate interest</u>	<u>Low interest</u>	<u>No interest</u>
Facebook	1	2	3	4
Instagram	1	2	3	4
LinkedIn.....	1	2	3	4
Nextdoor	1	2	3	4
TikTok.....	1	2	3	4
Whatsapp	1	2	3	4
X/Twitter.....	1	2	3	4
YouTube.....	1	2	3	4

22. How much of a problem, if at all, have each of the following issues been for you over the past year?

	<u>Major problem</u>	<u>Moderate problem</u>	<u>Minor problem</u>	<u>Not a problem</u>
Unemployment, losing your job, or reduced hours/wages.....	1	2	3	4
Difficulty buying or accessing food (due to financial, mobility/transportation, or other constraints)	1	2	3	4
Homelessness, unstable housing, or poor-quality/unsafe housing	1	2	3	4
Discrimination or unfair treatment because of your race or ethnicity	1	2	3	4
Social isolation or loneliness	1	2	3	4
Grief/loss of a loved one	1	2	3	4
Struggling with work, relationships, or daily life because of depression, anxiety, or feelings of sadness	1	2	3	4
An injury, health condition, or disability that impacts your daily life (physical, mental, or neurological)	1	2	3	4
“Long COVID” or lasting impacts/symptoms from COVID-19.....	1	2	3	4
Impacts from drug or alcohol use (including a loved one’s drug/alcohol use)	1	2	3	4
Difficulty getting mental health care due to cost, availability, or other reasons.....	1	2	3	4

23. In which of the following areas, if any, have immigration-related concerns, policies, or enforcement activity affected you or your household? Select all that apply or none of the above.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Work or employment | ☐ Family or caregiving responsibilities |
| ☐ School | ☐ Accessing community services or programs |
| ☐ Transportation | ☐ Participating in community events or public spaces |
| ☐ Accessing food or groceries | ☐ None of the above/not affected |
| ☐ Housing or home life | ☐ Prefer not to say |
| ☐ Accessing health care | ☐ Other (Please Specify): _____ |
| ☐ Paying bills or maintaining financial stability | |

24. Are there any other thoughts, experiences, or perspectives you would like to share related to the topics covered in this survey?

Our last questions are about you and your household.
Again, all of your responses to this survey are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

D1. Please rate your overall health.

- ☐ Excellent ☐ Very good ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor

D2. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months?

Do you think the impact will be:

- ☐ Very positive ☐ Somewhat positive ☐ Neutral ☐ Somewhat negative ☐ Very negative

D3. How many years have you lived in Bloomington?

- ☐ Less than 2 years
☐ 2-5 years
☐ 6-10 years
☐ 11-20 years
☐ More than 20 years

D4. Which best describes the building you live in?

- ☐ Single-family detached home
☐ Townhouse or duplex (may share walls but no units above or below you)
☐ Condominium or apartment (have units above or below you)
☐ Mobile home
☐ Other

D5. Do you rent or own your home?

- ☐ Rent
☐ Own

D6. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Less than \$300 | ☐ \$2,500 to \$3,999 |
| ☐ \$300 to \$599 | ☐ \$4,000 to \$6,999 |
| ☐ \$600 to \$999 | ☐ \$7,000 to \$9,999 |
| ☐ \$1,000 to \$1,499 | ☐ \$10,000 or more |
| ☐ \$1,500 to \$2,499 | |

D7. Do any children 17 or under live in your household?

- ☐ No ☐ Yes

D8. Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?

- ☐ No ☐ Yes

D9. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Less than \$25,000 | ☐ \$100,000 to \$149,999 |
| ☐ \$25,000 to \$49,999 | ☐ \$150,000 to \$199,999 |
| ☐ \$50,000 to \$74,999 | ☐ \$200,000 to \$299,999 |
| ☐ \$75,000 to \$99,999 | ☐ \$300,000 or more |

D10. Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?

- ☐ No ☐ Yes

D11. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)

- ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
☐ Asian
☐ Black or African American
☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
☐ White
☐ A race not listed

D12. In which category is your age?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ☐ 18-24 years | ☐ 55-64 years |
| ☐ 25-34 years | ☐ 65-74 years |
| ☐ 35-44 years | ☐ 75 years or older |
| ☐ 45-54 years | |

D13. What is your gender?

- ☐ Woman
☐ Man
☐ Identify in another way

Thank you!

Please return the completed survey in the postage-paid envelope to:
National Research Center, Inc., PO Box 14050, Houston, TX 77221-9904