

APPENDIX II

AGE-FRIENDLY SURVEY – FINAL RESULTS

Analysis below is based on data from 3357 respondents. Including:

- 2941 people responding to a convenience sample (via URL or paper copy) in English. A convenience sample is a type of non-probability sampling method where the sample is taken from a group of people easy to contact or to reach;
- 211 people that responded to a mailing that was sent out to 1,000 households randomly selected from voter registration rolls;
- 205 individuals responding to surveys in a foreign language (89 in Korean, 57 in Mandarin Chinese, and 59 in Spanish).

The mailing to households from the voter registration rolls, while of smaller size (n = 211) is likely to be a more representative picture of the County overall due to the higher level of self-selection bias involved in convenience samples. Where the results of the random sample differ from the larger convenience sample these differences will be pointed out.

The on-line survey was set up to allow unlimited responses from any given computer, in order to facilitate submission via libraries, 50+ Centers, and instances where multiple members of a household wanted to all participate. Examining IP addresses that were captured, 9% of surveys (141 IP addresses) represented cases where multiple surveys were received from the same IP address. It is our hope that the majority of these instances reflect cases where multiple, independent members of a household completed the survey independently; though we cannot rule out that specific individuals took the survey multiple times. It is unlikely that any such duplicate entries would have a significant bearing on the overall findings given the size of the overall respondent population.

The aim of this analysis is to try and draw inferences about the underlying population of the County, while recognizing that surveys of this nature are typically skewed due to self-selection biases. An examination of the demographic data illustrated that, among other traits, respondents were significantly skewed towards individuals who had higher educational attainment (78% with college degrees in raw sample vs. 45% in comparable age groups in the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS) data). As a result, the data was weighted¹ to help compensate for this bias. Unless otherwise

¹ statistically adjusted using SPSS software to give greater and lesser weight to specific responses based upon demographic attributes to more accurately reflect the underlying County population

noted, the results presented below reflect the weighted data, because this provides a somewhat more accurate picture of the community as a whole.

Even when weighted, the overall sample was disproportionately female (71% vs. 29% male) and skewed towards older adults (42% were age 70+). As a result, any inferences drawn from the survey results need to be framed in the context of who is represented in the population of survey respondents. Representation by race and ethnicity was comparable to the community at large for the age groups represented.

DEMOGRAPHICS OF RESPONDENTS:

		Unweighted	Weighted
Gender ²			
	Male	29%	27%
	Female	71%	73%
Age ³			
	Under 50	10%	8%
	50-59	16%	14%
	60-69	32%	30%
	70-79	33%	33%
	80+	9%	14%
Race and Ethnicity			
	White / Caucasian	78%	74%
	African American / African-American	9%	8%
	Asian / Pacific Islander	9%	12%
	Hispanic / Latino	3%	6%
Living Arrangements			
	Living with spouse/partner	72%	67%
	Living with family members (no spouse)	6%	7%
	Living with unrelated others	1%	1%
	Living alone	21%	25%
Educational Attainment ⁴			
	High school or less	11%	49%
	Associates degree or trade school	11%	4%
	Bachelor's degree	32%	21%
	Graduate degree	46%	26%

² Random sample presented a more representative picture on gender, with 45% male vs. 24% in convenience

³ Random sample was less dominated by older adults. Whereas 67% of the convenience sample was age 65+, in the random sample it was 59%

⁴ Random sample gave less weight to those with college degrees (33% vs. 54%)

Household Income ⁵			
	Less than \$25,000	8%	17%
	\$25,000 – 49,999	10%	15%
	\$50,000 – 74,999	13%	15%
	\$75,000 – 99,999	15%	14%
	\$100,000 – 149,999	26%	21%
	\$150,000 or more	28%	18%
Area of County (via zip code) ⁶			
	Columbia	43%	41%
	Ellicott City	30%	28%
	Elkridge	6%	8%
	Southern Howard County	14%	14%
	Western Howard County	9%	10%
Barriers to Transportation			
	Do not own a car ⁷	4%	7%
	No family/friends to provide a ride ⁸	8%	8%
	Restrict driving due to weather, daylight	18%	20%
	Public transportation not convenient	22%	22%
	Difficulty walking and/or climbing stairs	14%	17%
	No, or poorly maintained sidewalks	14%	14%
Employment status:			
	Working full-time (35+ hrs/week)	29%	24%
	Working part-time	15%	13%
	Not work, but seeking work	3%	3%
	Not working, not seeking work (retired)	54%	60%
Experienced difficulty affording (in last 12 months)			
	Rent/Mortgage ⁹	5%	7%
	Food	5%	6%
	Medications ¹⁰	7%	8%
	Small luxuries/extras ¹¹	15%	18%

⁵ Random sample gave more weight to those under \$25,000 in household income (16% vs. 9%), and less weight to those above \$150,000 (16% vs. 21%)

⁶ Random sample was less concentrated in Columbia (which was 41% of convenience sample but only 22% of random sample), and gave more weight to Ellicott City and southern Howard County

⁷ Random sample had larger problem: 8% vs. 4% of convenience sample

⁸ Random sample had larger problem: 12% vs. 7% of convenience sample

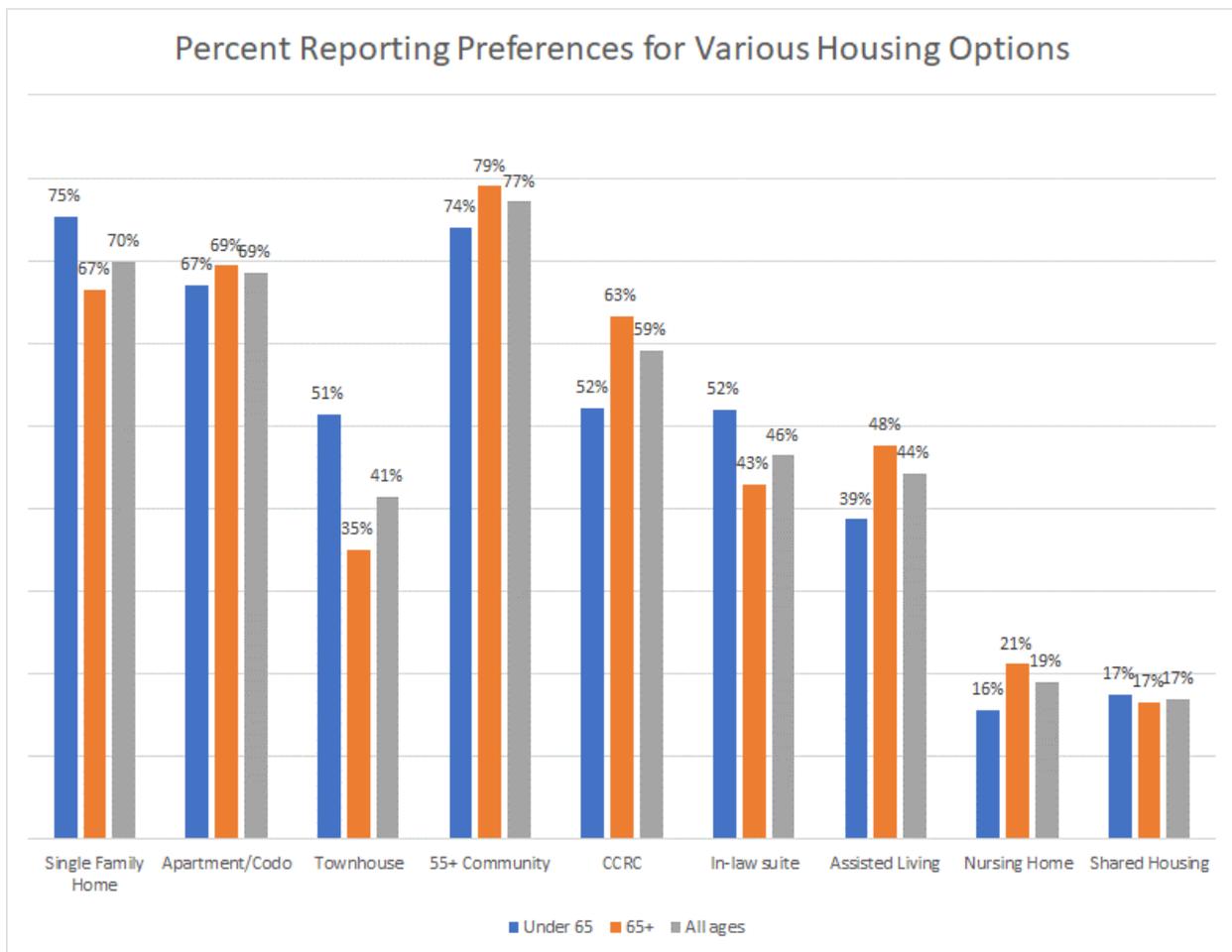
⁹ Random sample experienced more problems with affording rent/mortgage, 9% having a problem, as opposed to 6% in convenience sample (reflective of random sampling drawing more people at lower household income)

¹⁰ Random sample experienced more problems with affording medications, 12% vs. 7% of convenience sample

¹¹ Random sample experienced more problems with affording small luxuries, 22% vs. 16% of convenience sample

The questions related to difficulty affording items (e.g., rent, food, small luxuries), are proxies for poverty drawn from the national OARS survey. The figures for difficulty affording rent, food, medications, are somewhat higher than County figures for poverty among these age cohorts, however, “inability to afford small luxuries/extras” is a proxy used to capture people (similar to the ALICE population) who are not technically in poverty but are experiencing financial hardship.

HOUSING

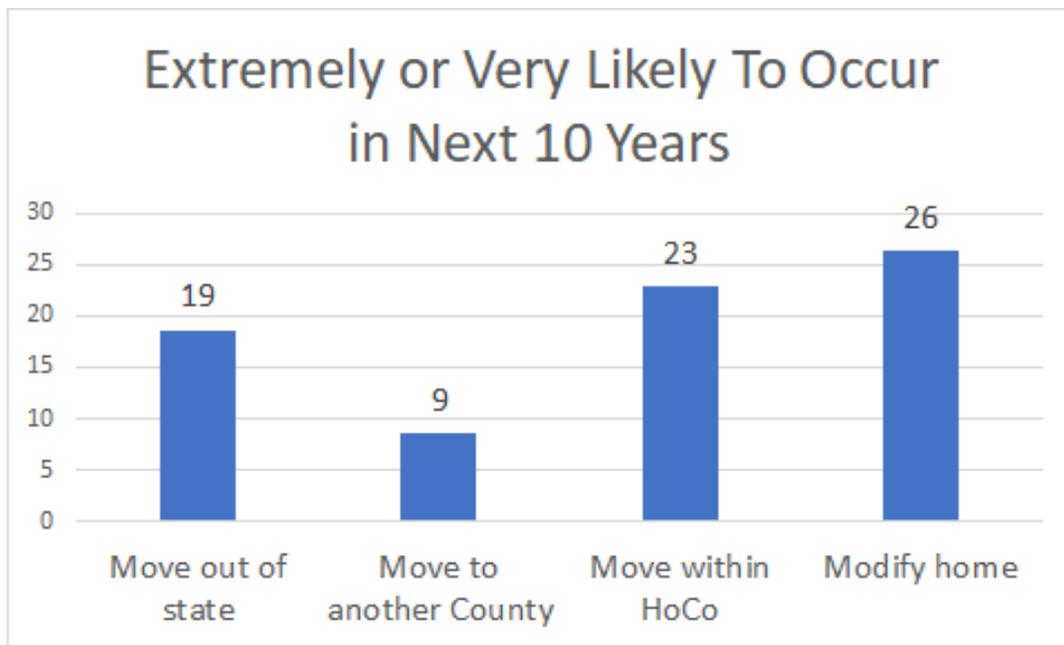


While single family homes (SFH) were preferred by respondents over other forms of housing stock, it is notable that this preference starts to shift with age. As illustrated in the graphic above, as age increases preferences for structures with multiple levels decline, and preferences for single level homes (i.e., apartments/condos) increase. It is also notable that “shared housing”, which is an increasingly popular housing alternative in Europe, was the least popular living option, ranking below nursing homes.

As anticipated, a person’s current housing situation was highly predictive of their future preferences. For example, whereas only 28% of people “strongly preferred” residing in an apartment/condo in retirement, among those already residing in an apartment/condo the figure was 73% (whereas only 14% of those currently residing in a single-family house viewed an apartment/condo as a strongly referred option in the future). Likewise, whereas among those currently in a single-family home, 61% viewed it as a highly preferred option for retirement, compared with only 9% of those currently in an apartment who shared that view.

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to housing preferences were¹²:

	Random		Convenience
Higher preference for single family homes:	78%	vs.	69%
Lower preference for apartment/condo’s:	59%	vs.	67%
Lower preference for CCRC’s:	40%	vs.	61%
Lower preference for shared housing:	10%	vs.	17%



Among the attributes that distinguished those who claimed that in the next 10 years they plan to relocate, or modify their homes, were the following:

¹² Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

Move out of State:

- Those with high school (HS) degrees or less were more likely to report the intent to move (20% vs. 17% of college graduates);
- Those at higher incomes were more likely to report moving (18% among those \$150K+ vs. 14% at less than \$25K annual income);
- Rural zip codes were more likely to report likelihood of moving (21% rural vs. 17% suburban);
- Those who identified their ethnicity as Hispanic, and persons identifying as White, were more likely to report moving (44% of all races identifying as Hispanics; 19% of Whites vs. 14% of African Americans; and 5% of Asians). The unusually large percentage of persons of Hispanic-origin reporting they intend to move out of the County is likely linked to the fact that these respondents were significantly younger than other respondents (i.e., 52% of Hispanic respondents were under age 50 vs. 6% for White and Asian respondents);
- ***In aggregate, those with higher income, those of Hispanic/Latino/Spanish ethnicity; Whites; and persons with less educational attainment were more likely to report an intention to move out of the state in the next 10 years.***

Move to another county:

- Those with high school degrees or less were more likely to report moving (10% vs. 7% of college graduates);
- Those at lower incomes were more likely to report moving (6% among those \$150K+ vs. 9% at less than \$25K annual income);
- Those of Hispanic ethnicity and African Americans were more likely to report moving (22% Hispanic; 12% African American vs. 8% White and 6% Asian). Again, the figures for Hispanics may be a result of the bias in this respondent population towards those who were younger;
- ***In aggregate, those with low income; persons identifying as Hispanic/Latino/Spanish ethnicity; African-Americans; and persons with less education; were more likely to report an intention to move to another county in Maryland.***

Move within Howard County:

- Those with HS degrees or less were more likely to report moving (23% vs. 21% of college grads);
- Those who identified their ethnicity as Hispanic, and African Americans were more likely to report moving (50% Hispanic; 29% African American; vs. 21% White and 22% Asian). Again, the high percentage of Hispanic individuals reporting intent to move within the County may be a by-product of the overall younger age of this cohort of respondents (i.e., younger individuals in any population are more likely to move than older individuals);
- ***In aggregate, those of Hispanic ethnicity and African-Americans were more likely to report moving within Howard County than other respondents.***

Modify home:

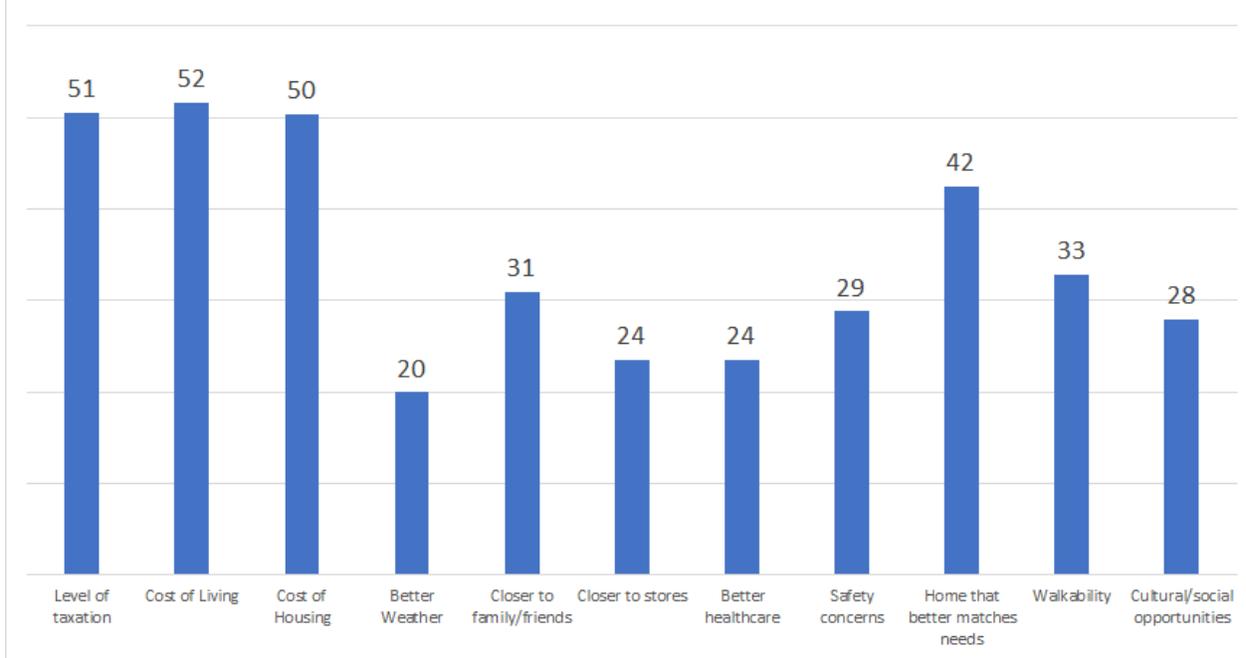
- Those at lower incomes were more likely to report making home modifications (20% among those with incomes \$150K+ vs. 28% at less than \$25K annually;
- Persons of Hispanic ethnicity and Asians were more likely to report making home modifications (56% for Hispanics; 32% Asian vs. 27% African Americans and 24% Whites);
- ***In aggregate, those at lower incomes are the individuals most likely to report the intention of making modifications to their home to remain living here*** (this may possibly reflect an inability to afford to move somewhere else).

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample, when it came to whether they would move in the next 10 years were¹³:

	Random	Convenience
• More likely to move out of the state:	23%	vs. 19%
• Move to another county in Maryland:	13%	vs. 8%

¹³ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

Factors That Would Influence Moving
(Percent Reporting it is Extremely or Very Likely to Lead to them Moving)



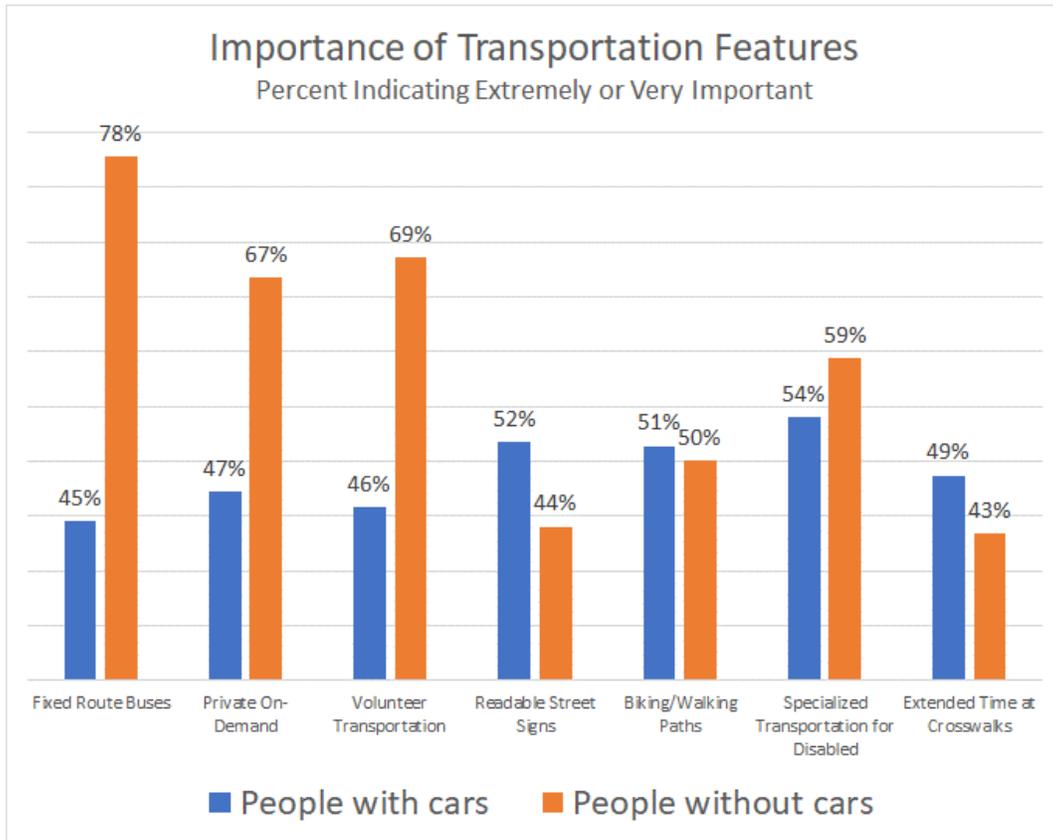
The most frequently cited factors that would precipitate moving were related to the financial stresses of living in the County (i.e., taxation, cost of living, cost of housing). Outside of direct financial stressors, the most commonly cited reasons for a potential move were “to live in a home that better matches my needs/capabilities” (42%), followed by walkability (32%), to be closer to family/friends (29%), and safety concerns in neighborhood (which was a concern particularly among Korean and Chinese respondents).

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to the influence of various factors on whether they would move or not were¹⁴:

- More likely to cite taxation: Random 60% vs. Convenience 51%

¹⁴ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

TRANSPORTATION



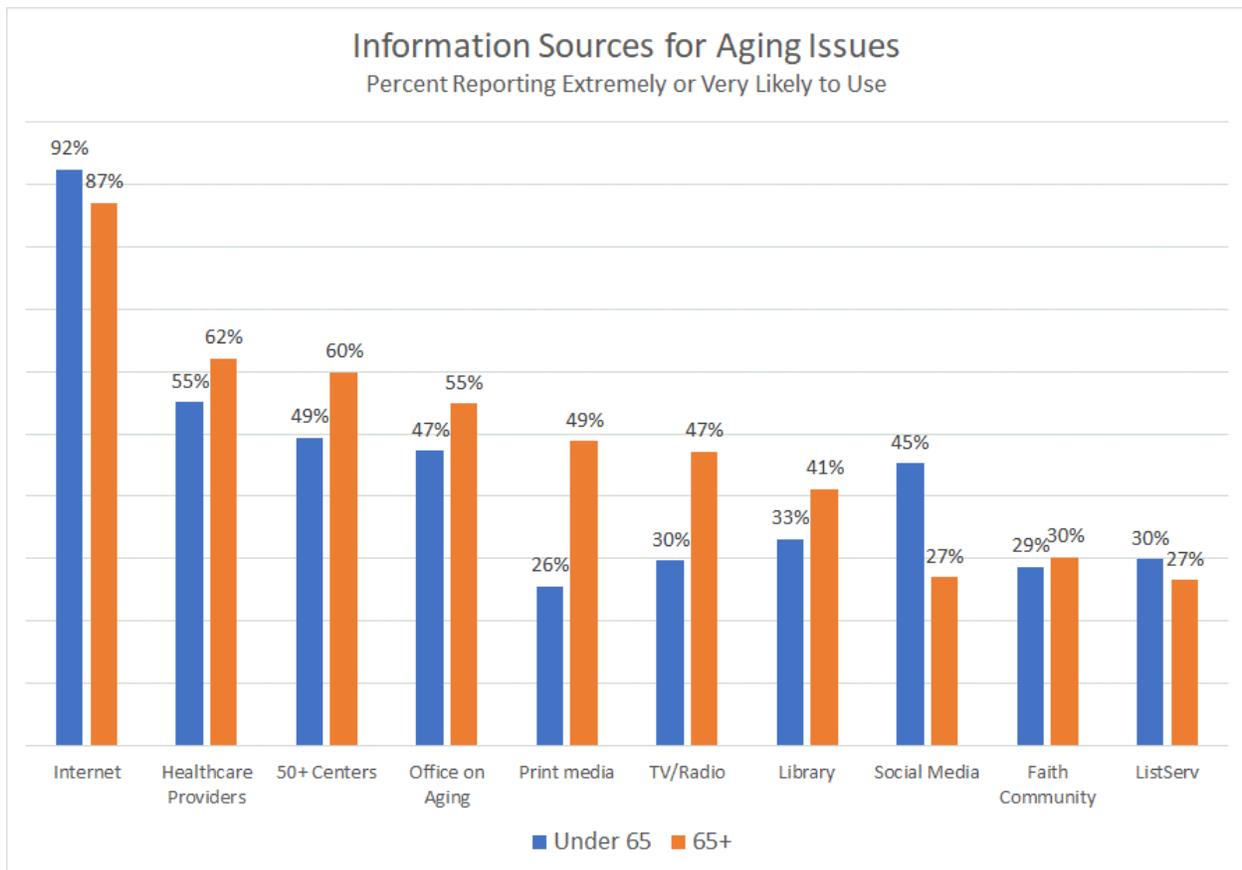
While public transportation was the most frequently cited transportation need in the narrative comments, when asked to rate the relative importance of these seven types of transportation services/features, public transportation was rated as the least important by the whole of the respondents. However, among the 15% of people with limited access to a car (i.e. no car, no one who can give them a ride, or unable to drive due to environmental conditions), the relative importance picture changes (see above in orange bars) with fixed route bus services now the second most important feature behind specialized transportation for persons with a disability.

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to importance of transportation features were¹⁵:

- | | Random | Convenience |
|---|--------|-------------|
| • Lower importance of volunteer transportation: | 35% | vs. 45% |
| • Lower importance of readable street signs: | 41% | vs. 50% |
| • Lower importance of bike/walking paths: | 43% | vs. 50% |

¹⁵ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

COMMUNICATION



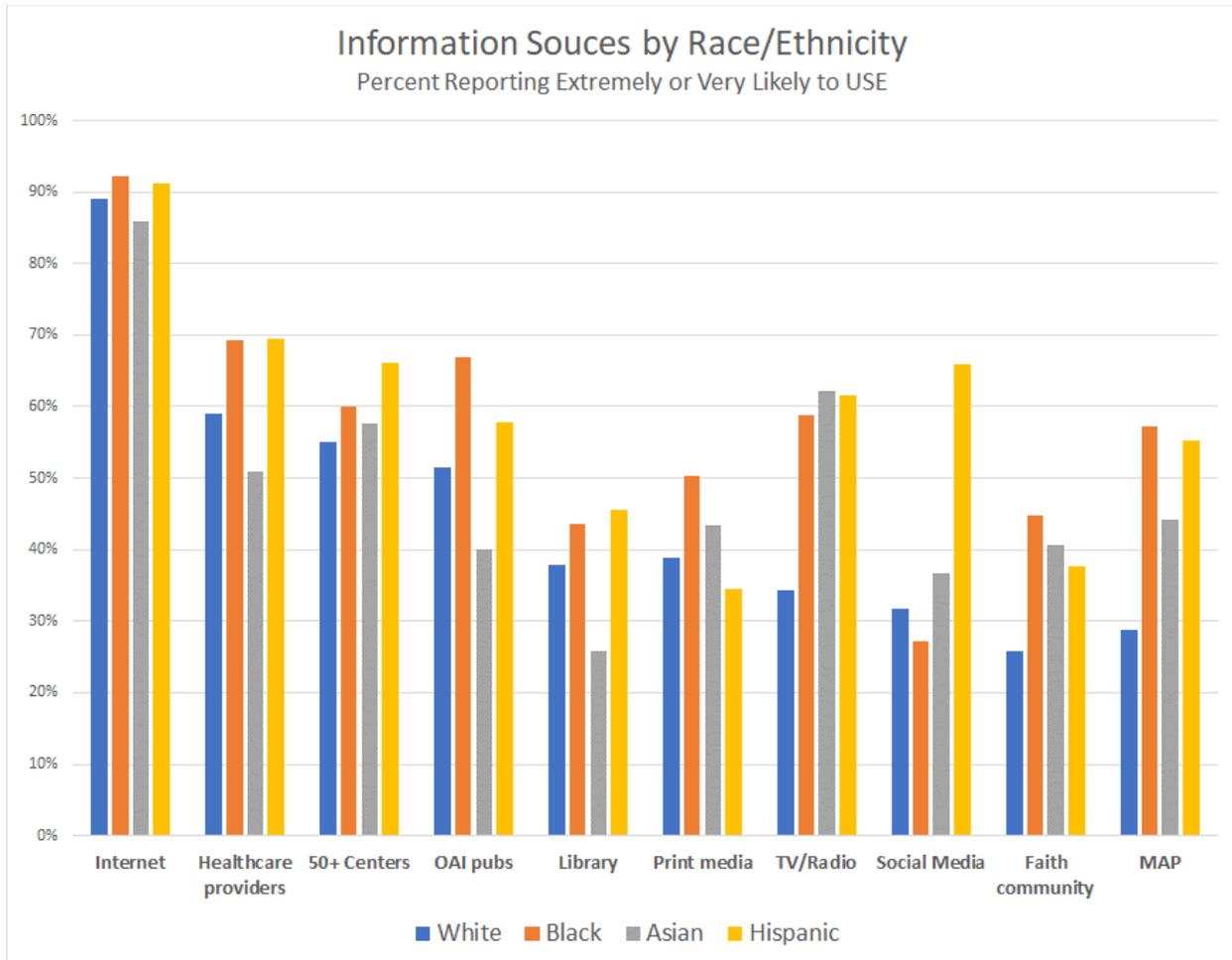
The Internet was (far and away) the source most often cited as likely to be used to find out information related to aging issues. Avenues differed somewhat ($p < .003$) based upon the age of the respondent. For example, younger people were much less likely to cite print media (23% vs. 48%) or TV/Radio as sources for information, and they were much more likely to cite social media as an information source (41% vs. 27% of those age 65+).

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to use of different sources of information were¹⁶:

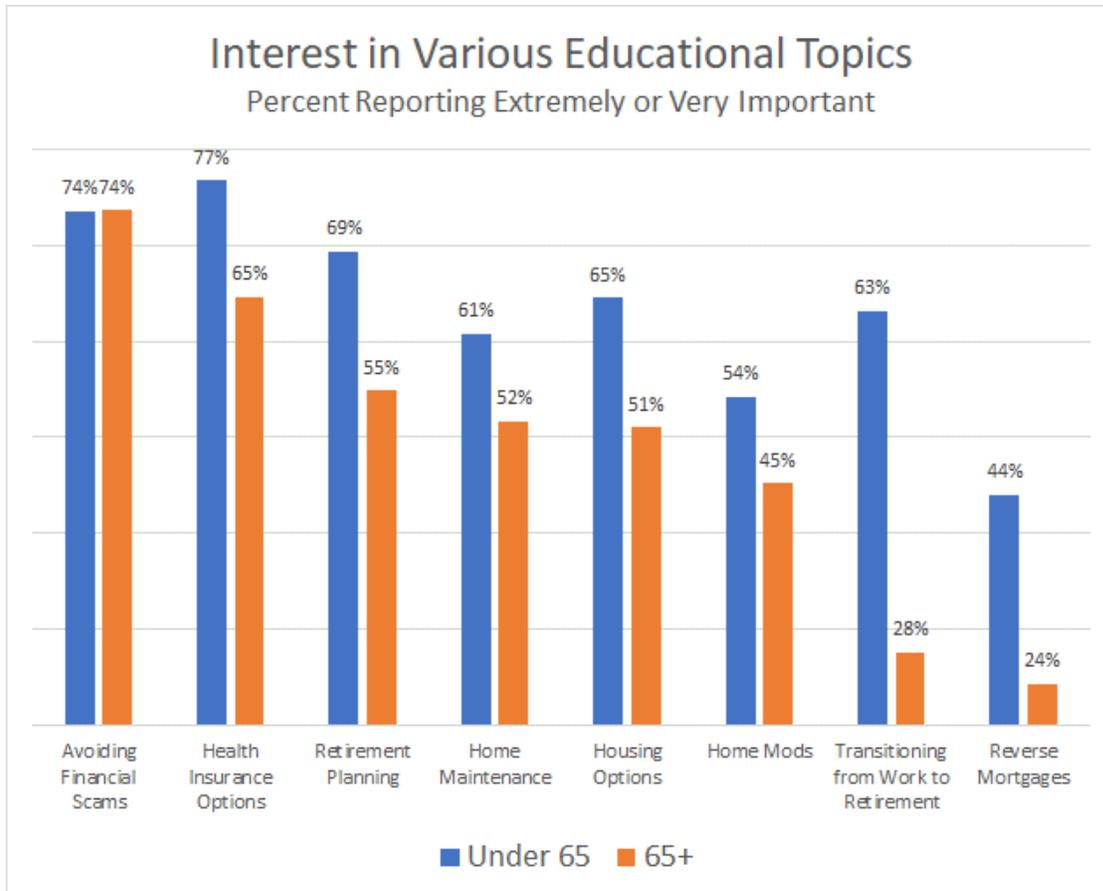
	Random	Convenience
• More likely to use TV/radio:	45%	vs. 36%
• Less likely to use internet:	74%	vs. 90%
• Less likely to use social media:	18%	vs. 33%
• Less likely to use print media:	36%	vs. 40%

¹⁶ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

- Less likely to use ListSerts: 19% vs. 27%
- Less likely to use 50+ Centers: 42% vs. 56%
- Less likely to use Office on Aging: 44% vs. 53%



Another way to view the issue of information sources is to examine whether or not preferences vary by race/ethnicity. In the graphic above you see that while all groups had similarly high preferences for the Internet, preferences diverged in terms of other sources. For example, all non-white groups had a much higher likelihood of using TV/Radio as an information source, as well as Faith Communities. The Asian community (which was disproportionately older in this sample), stated a lower likelihood of using the Office on Aging and Independence publications and libraries as a source of information relative to other groups (which could be a product of limited English proficiency and inability to access information in their primary language through these sources).

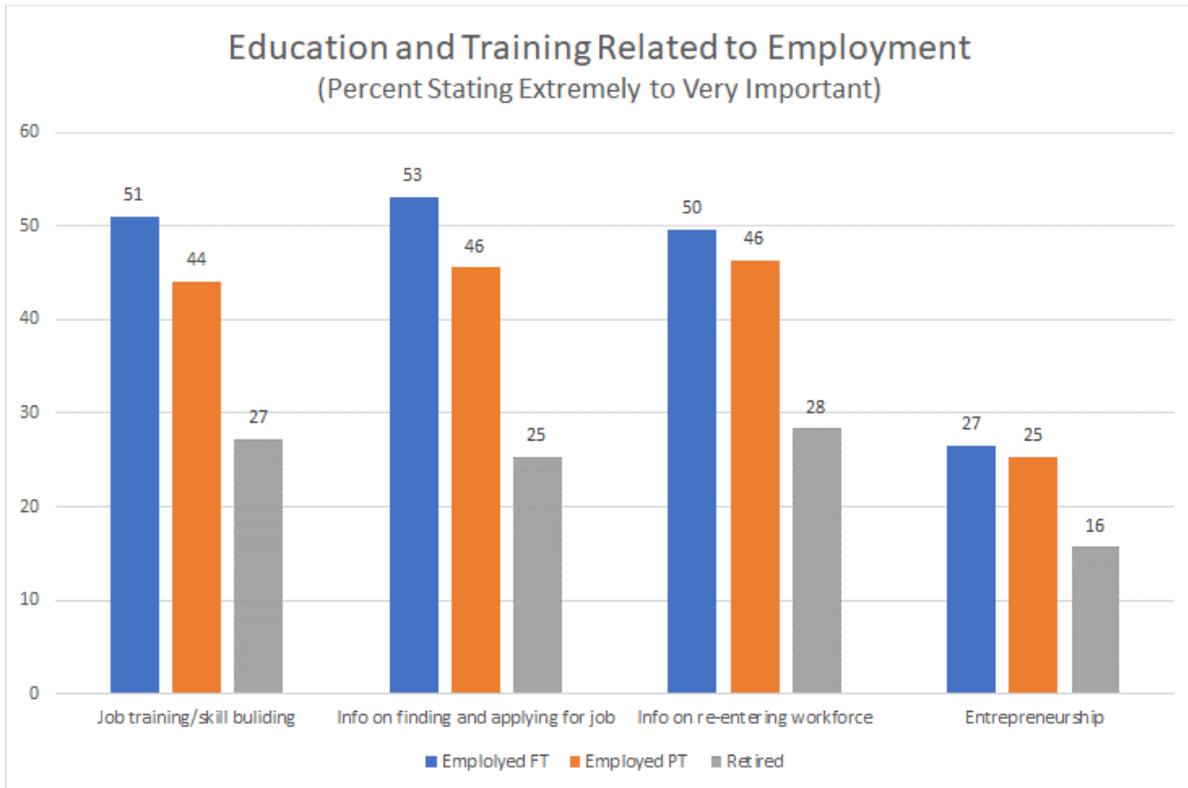


Younger respondents reported more interest in all of the various topics noted in this graph, relative to older respondents. The greatest variance was on the topics of transitioning to retirement (60% vs. 27%) and the advantages and disadvantages of reverse mortgages (40% vs. 24%).

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to types of information they wanted available related to housing were¹⁷:

- | | Random | | Convenience |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-----|-------------|
| • More interested in financial scams: | 81% | vs. | 71% |
| • Less interested in housing options: | 47% | vs. | 56% |

¹⁷ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples



Individuals who are already retired expressed less interest in each of the employment related resources that were asked about, including “re-entering the workforce” and “entrepreneurship”. Notable is that, overall, entrepreneurship was the topic area in which respondents expressed the least interest.

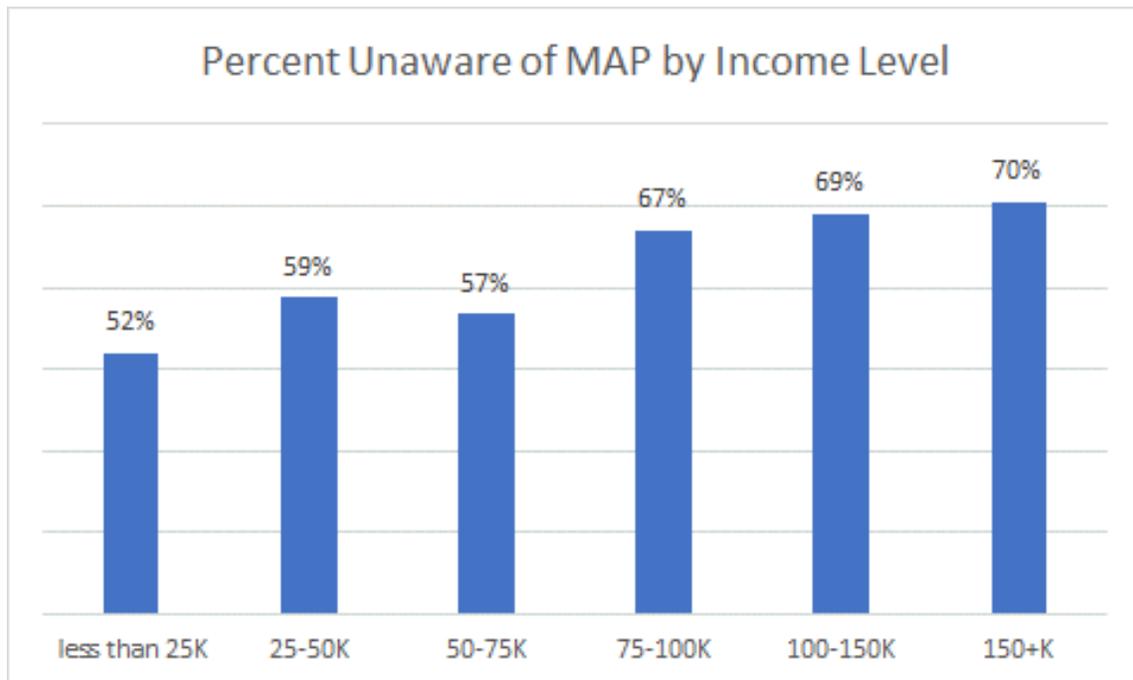
A linear regression analysis was run to determine what factors predict whether or not a person will express an interest in entrepreneurship. Analysis identified three variables associated with increased interest in this topic: Younger age (with younger adults most interested, 49% of those under age 50 expressed an interest vs. 13% among those 70-79), racial/ethnic minority (43% of African-Americans and 55% of persons of Hispanic/Latino/Spanish ethnicity vs. 17% of White/Caucasians), and higher educational attainment (23% of those with college degrees vs. 17% of those without). Current level of household income was not predictive of interest in entrepreneurship.

KNOWLEDGE OF MARYLAND ACCESS POINT (MAP)

Overall, 63% of all respondents were not aware of the Maryland Access Point (MAP) or what it provides¹⁸

- Awareness was lower among younger populations (e.g., 72% of those 50-59 vs. 57% of those 70+)
- African-Americans were more aware of MAP (e.g., 51% of African Americans vs. 35% of Whites and 32% Asians and 27% of persons with Hispanic ethnicity)¹⁹
- Higher income people were less aware of MAP (see graphic below)
- People with no chronic medical condition were less aware of MAP (68% vs. 54% among those with a condition that imposes a significant impact on their lives)
- Non-caregivers were less likely to know about MAP (64% vs. 59% among primary caregivers)

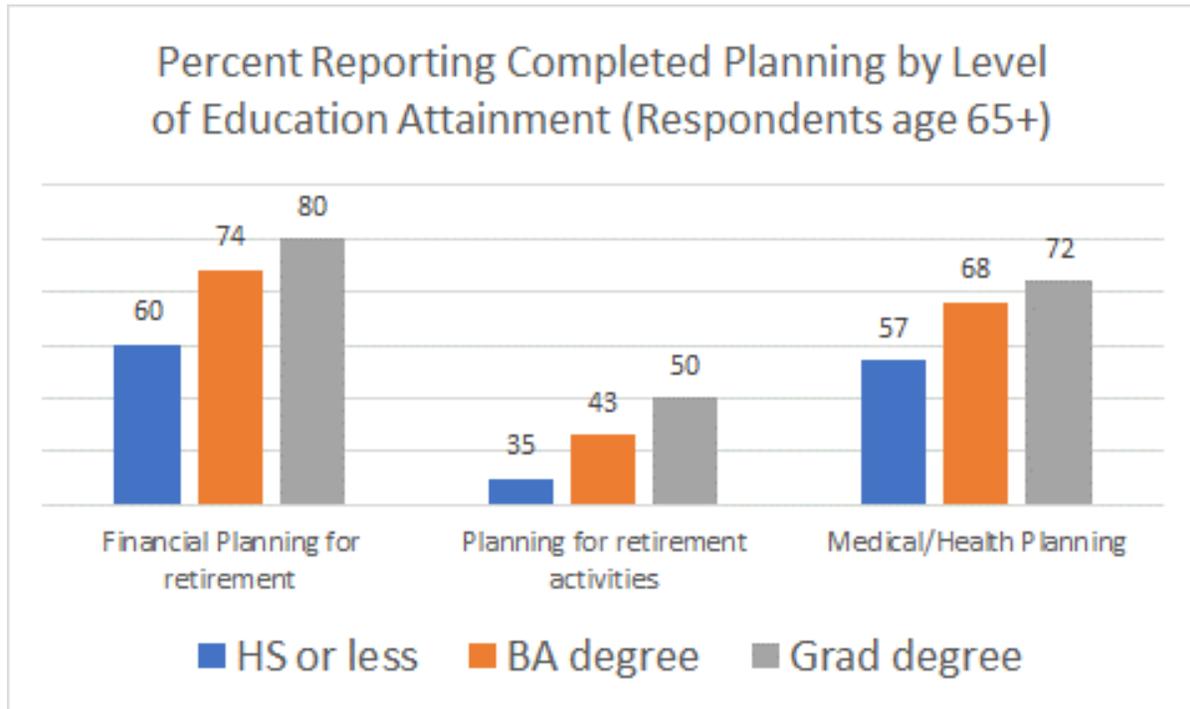
However, the key take-away has to be that a disappointing percent of people are unaware of MAP, including: 59% of caregivers, 58% of those with significant disabilities, and 57% of those age 70+.



¹⁸ In random sample this percentage was 77%, which may be a more accurate predictor of the community as a whole. The convenience sample relied to a large extent on people who were known to County agencies, hence it probably inflated the percent who were knowledgeable about the MAP service.

¹⁹ The fact that 73% of Hispanic respondents reported not knowing about MAP is consistent with the reality that services provided by the Department of Community Resources and Services consistently underrepresent the Hispanic population

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

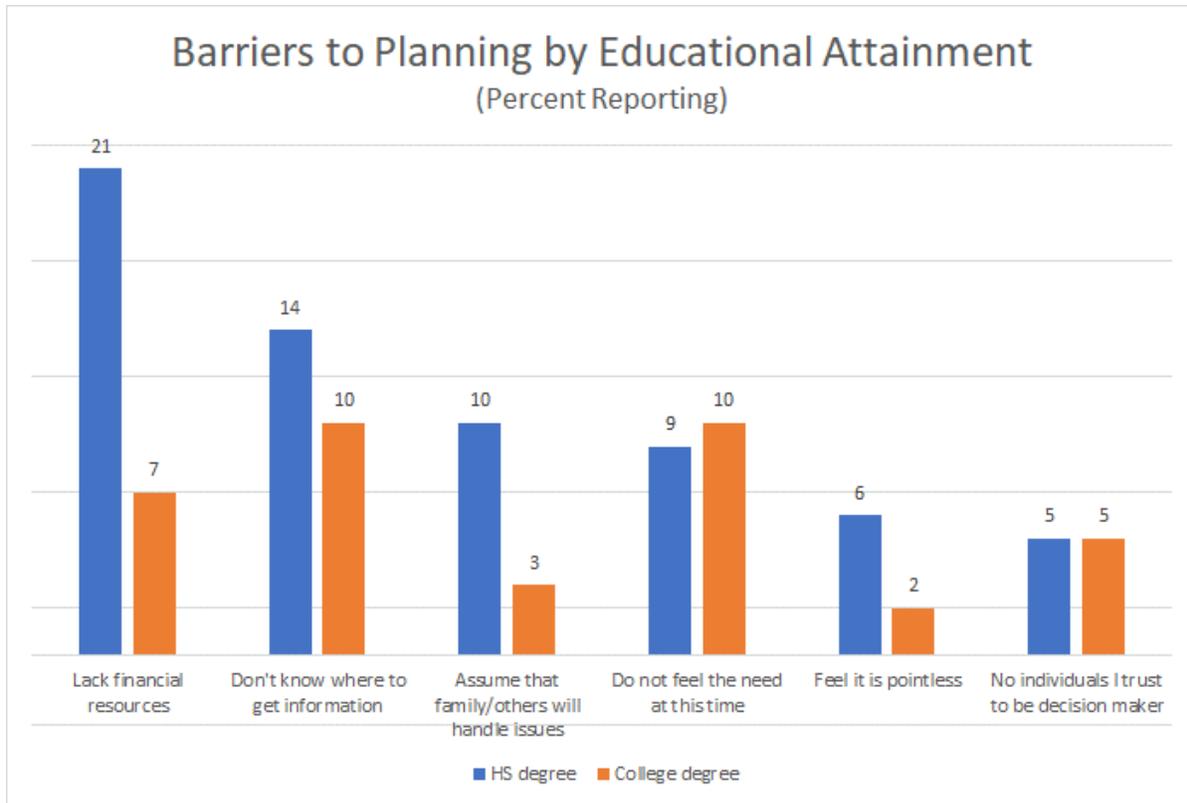


Planning is strongly related to level of educational attainment, with people at progressively higher levels of educational attainment more likely to have completed planning in each of the three areas asked about. Also, notable was that people were much more likely to have planned for the medical/health and financial aspects of their life but have given less systematic thought to what they want to actually do in their retirement years.

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to having planned for the future were²⁰:

- | | Random | | Convenience |
|--|--------|-----|-------------|
| • More likely to have done financial planning: | 67% | vs. | 59% |
| • More likely to have done health planning: | 67% | vs. | 55% |

²⁰ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples



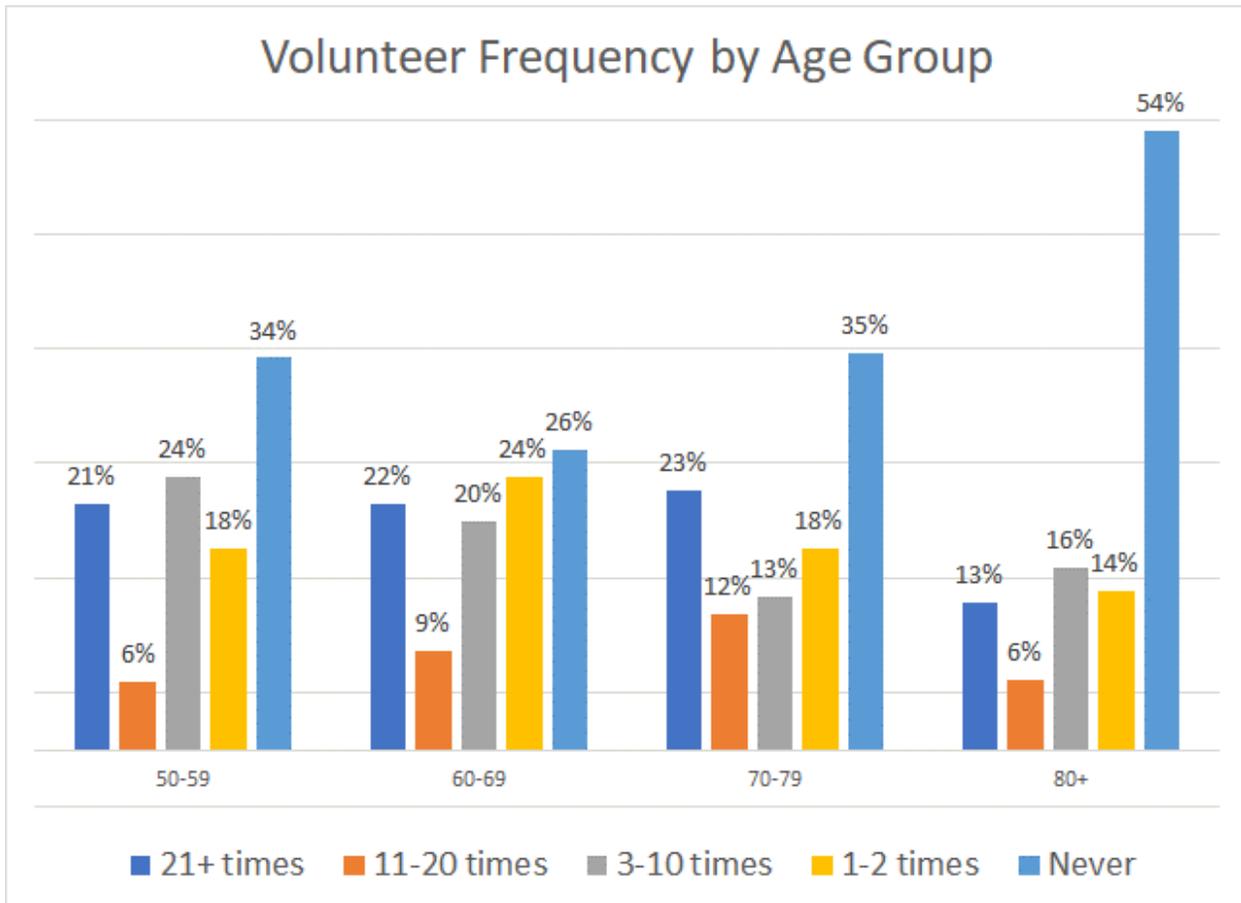
Individuals at lower educational attainment, report significantly more barriers to planning, with the biggest difference being in terms of “lack of financial resources” (21% vs. 7%), but also including lack of knowledge about where to get information (14% vs. 10%), and expressions of futility [i.e., someone else will handle it (10% vs. 3%), and that planning is pointless (6% vs. 2%)].

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to barriers to planning were²¹:

	Random	Convenience
• Less likely to not know where to get info:	3%	vs. 10%
• Less likely to not feel need to plan:	5%	vs. 10%
• More likely to assume others will handle it:	10%	vs. 5%

²¹ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

VOLUNTEERISM



Overall, 21% of respondents reported volunteering 21+ times in the prior year (and 31% reported volunteering 11+ times). These figures are much higher than national estimates of volunteer engagement, which may reflect a bias in terms of who completed the survey and/or social desirability bias in terms of inflating respondent's estimates of frequency.

The graphic above illustrates the changes in frequency of volunteer engagement in the prior year that occurred with increasing age: Among frequent volunteers (11+ times a year), the rate increases slightly then drops in the oldest age category (80+). Meanwhile, intermittent volunteering (less than 10 times a year) steadily drops off after age 60, and the proportion of those not volunteering at all continually grows, reaching 51% among those 80+ years of age.

A significant fraction of people, 28% report that they would like to volunteer MORE in the coming year (6% would like to volunteer less). Desire to increase (or decrease) volunteerism in the coming year was strongly linked to age ($p < .0005$), with older ages associated with an increased likelihood of decreasing volunteer engagement in the

subsequent year. For example, whereas 36% of those under age 50 wanted to increase their volunteerism, only 7% of those 80+ and 27% of those 70-79 expressed a desire to increase volunteer activities (and 7% of those age 65+ stated they intended to decrease the amount of their volunteer activities).

Individuals who completed the survey in Korean, Chinese or Spanish (i.e., LEP) were less likely to report engaging in volunteer activities in the prior year

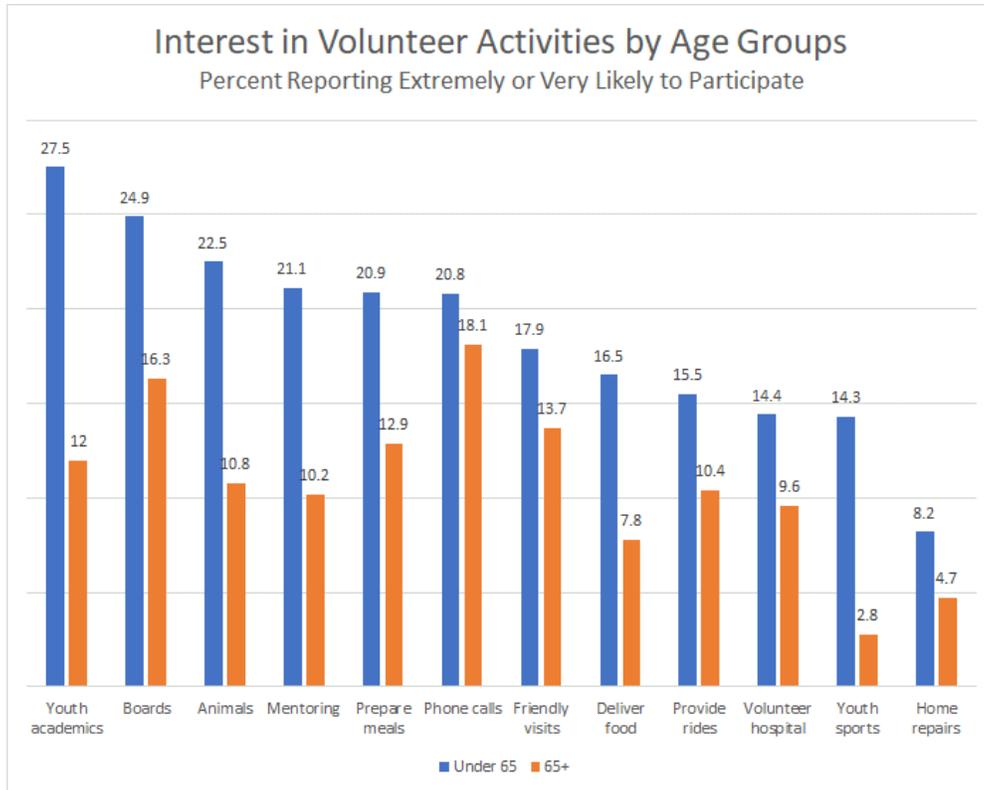
- 65% of Limited English Proficiency (LEP) population reported doing no volunteer activity (vs. 31% of those completing the survey in English)
- Only 2% of LEP population reported volunteering 21+ times (vs. 11% of people completing the English language survey)

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to volunteering were²²:

	Random	Convenience
• Less likely to have volunteered 21+ times prior year	12%	vs. 23%
• More likely to have never volunteered:	37%	vs. 31%
• Less likely to volunteer 21+ in next year:	16%	vs. 24%
• More likely to not volunteer next year:	35%	vs. 19%

The difference between the random and convenience sample when it comes to high levels of volunteerism is important to note. The figures for the random sample are much closer to national estimates, and likely reflects a bias in terms of who completed the convenience sample.

²² Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples



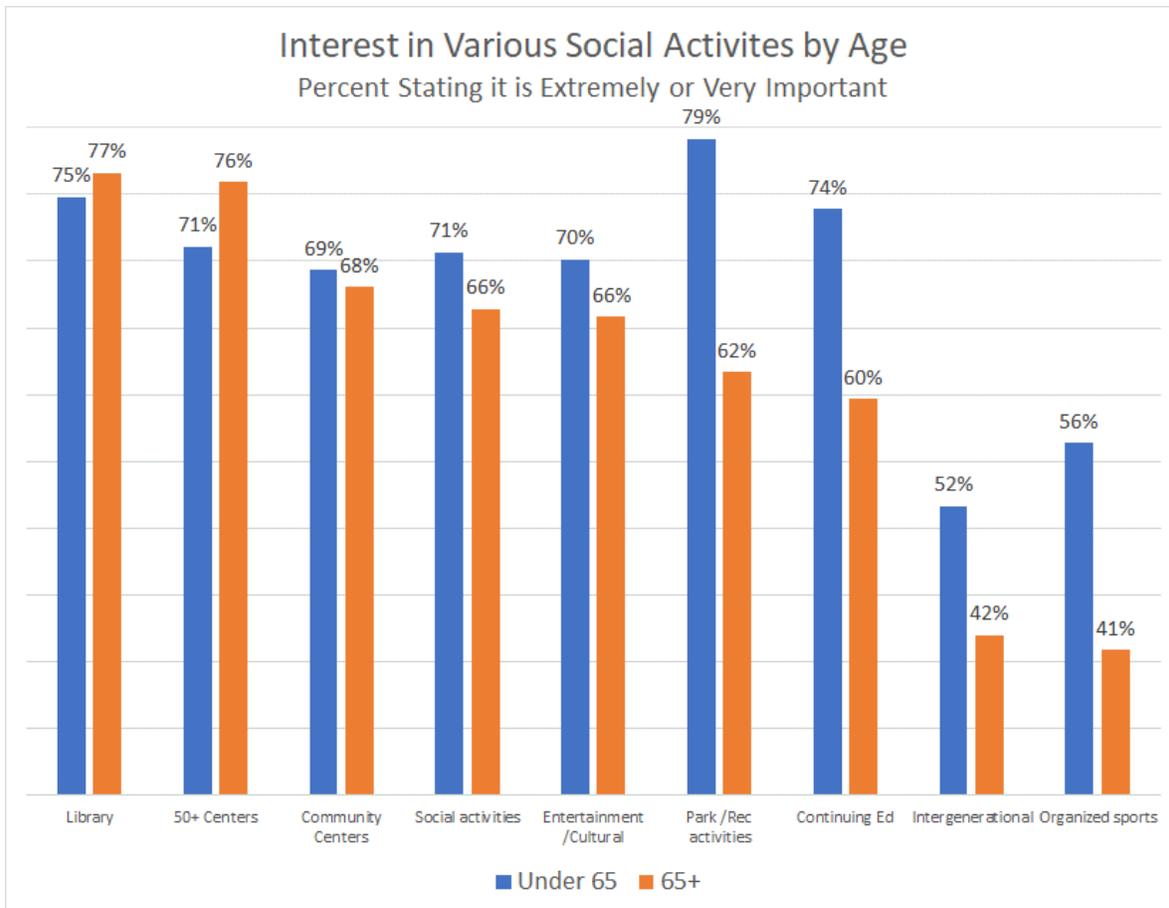
The graphic above illustrates that interest in all specific volunteer activities declines with age (i.e., under 65 vs. over 65 years of age). Notable are:

- Younger individuals more interested in being mentors (21% vs. 10%),
- Younger individuals more interested in preparing and delivery food (21% vs. 13%, and 16% vs. 8%),
- Among those 65+, the activity that produced the highest level of interest as to “Provide phone calls to check on isolated individuals and/or stressed caregivers”

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to different specific types of volunteer engagement they might participate in were²³:

- | | Random | | Convenience |
|--|--------|-----|-------------|
| • Less interested in youth around academics: | 15% | vs. | 18% |
| • Less interested in making phone calls: | 16% | vs. | 19% |
| • Less interested in mentoring: | 11% | vs. | 15% |
| • Less interested in board/commission: | 8% | vs. | 21% |
| • More interested in youth and sports: | 9% | vs. | 6% |
| • More interested in preparing meals: | 18% | vs. | 16% |
| • More interested in home repairs: | 10% | vs. | 5% |

²³ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples



Survey results showed a relatively high level of interest across all the various activities we asked about, with “libraries convenient to you” rated as the most important. Notable is that while “intergenerational” activities is often cited as an important part of a community for all ages, it was the next to lowest rated type of activity in terms of respondent’s subjective importance.

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to different specific social activities were²⁴:

	Random	Convenience
• Less interest in intergenerational activities:	36%	vs. 45%
• Less interest in continuing education:	49%	vs. 65%
• Less interest in 50+ Centers:	62%	vs. 75%
• Less interest in community centers:	64%	vs. 69%
• Less interest in cultural activities	56%	vs. 68%
• Less interest in libraries	71%	vs. 77%
• Less interest in organized sports	38%	vs. 45%

²⁴ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

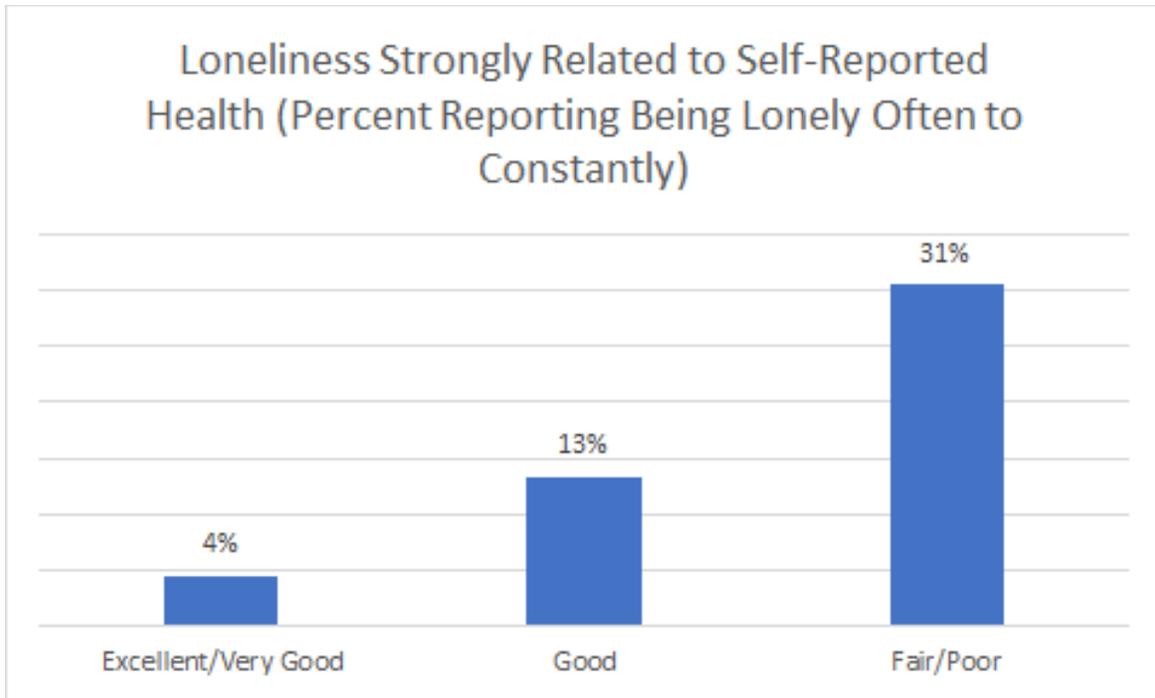
HEALTH STATUS

In relation to self-reported health, 16% of respondents reported themselves to be in Fair or Poor health at the current time. Differences embedded within this overall number included:

- Asians (56%) and Hispanics (18%) were more likely to report fair/poor health compared to African-Americans (13%) or Whites (11%) -- $p < .0005$,
- Even within ethnic minority groups, the percent of people reporting fair/poor health was influenced by Limited English Proficiency (LEP) status: 79% of LEP Koreans, and 57% of LEP Chinese indicated fair/poor health, as did 21% of LEP Spanish (though this group was much younger than any other respondent cohort);
- As age goes up, the percentage of people reporting fair/poor health increases, with a major increase after 80:
 - Aged 60-69: 10%
 - Aged 70-79: 16%
 - Aged 80+ 34%

In relation to a question about chronic medical or health conditions, 65% reported having some form of chronic medical or health condition, however only 14% reported that this condition had a significant impact on their lives. Differences embedded within these overall numbers were:

- Asians (23%) were more likely to report a chronic condition that impact their lives compared to African-Americans (10%) or White's (13%) – $p < .0005$
- As age goes up, the percentage of people reporting a chronic condition that impact their lives increases:
 - Aged 60-69: 9%
 - Aged 70-79: 14%
 - Aged 80+ 25%
- Having a chronic condition also contributes to being lonely:
 - 6% of those without a chronic condition reported feeling lonely versus
 - 30% of those with a chronic condition that impacts their daily lives



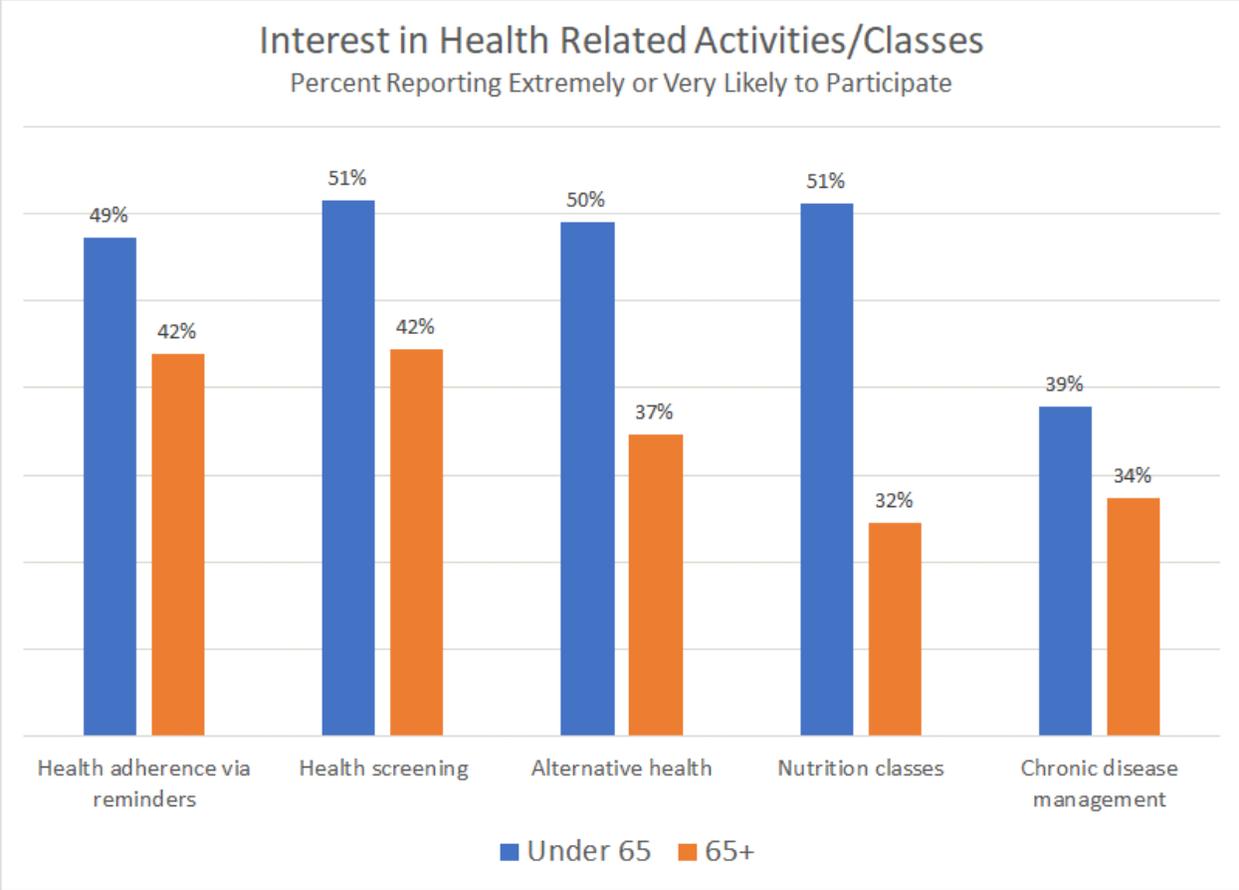
In relation to a question about loneliness, 11% of respondents overall reported feeling lonely “often” or “almost constantly” (This is lower than national estimates, which are around 17%). Differences embedded within this overall number included:

- Females were more likely to report loneliness (11% vs. 10% for males);
- Those with lower educational attainment were more likely to report loneliness (14% vs. 8%) – $p < .0005$;
- Those at lower income levels were also more likely to report loneliness (28% among those under \$25K vs. 6% for those above \$150K) – $p < .0005$;
- People reporting fair to poor health were more likely ($p < .0005$) to report being lonely (31% of those at fair/poor health vs. 4% of those at excellent to very good health);
- Individuals who don’t speak English (i.e., those filling out surveys in non-English formats) were more likely to report loneliness (28% vs. 10%) – $P < .0005$;
- Asians (25%) and person of Hispanic ethnicity (18%) were more likely to report loneliness than Whites (10%) or African-Americans (8%);
- Loneliness declines with age, until an uptick at the oldest age category (which is consistent with prior research in terms of the relationship between depression and age):
 - Aged 50-59: 14%
 - Aged 60-69: 10%
 - Aged 70-79: 9%
 - Aged 80+: 15%

- When a linear regression analysis was run on predictors of loneliness, the overall model was significant at $p < .0005$, and the most powerful predictor of loneliness was living alone, followed by: LEP status, then age, and gender (i.e., being male).

In relation to a question about isolation (i.e., frequency of contact with others), 15% of respondents reported having contact with others once a week or less. Differences embedded within this overall number included:

- Males were more likely to report isolation than females (24% vs. 12%);
- Individuals who don't speak English (those filling out surveys in non-English formats) were more likely to report isolation (23% vs. 14%) – $p < .0005$;
- Those of Hispanic ethnicity (39%) and Asians (22%) were more likely to report isolation than African-Americans (18%) or Whites (13%);
- Isolation declines with increasing age
 - Under 50: 23%
 - Aged 50-59: 19%
 - Aged 60-69: 14%
 - Aged 70-79: 14%
 - Aged 80+: 11%
- Whether a person lived in a rural or suburban zip code was unrelated to level of depression;
- As to be expected ... isolation was a significant predictor of loneliness ($p < .0005$)
 - Contact 1x a day or more 6% lonely
 - 2-6 x a week 13% lonely
 - Once a week 23% lonely
 - Never 30% lonely



Younger respondents were more interested in all health-related activities compared to older cohorts, with the exception of chronic disease management, where there was no statistically significant difference. It is notable that interest in chronic disease management was very high (33%), whereas actual participation in Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME) courses offered by the County and its partners have been relatively low; indicating an untapped interest in this form of intervention.

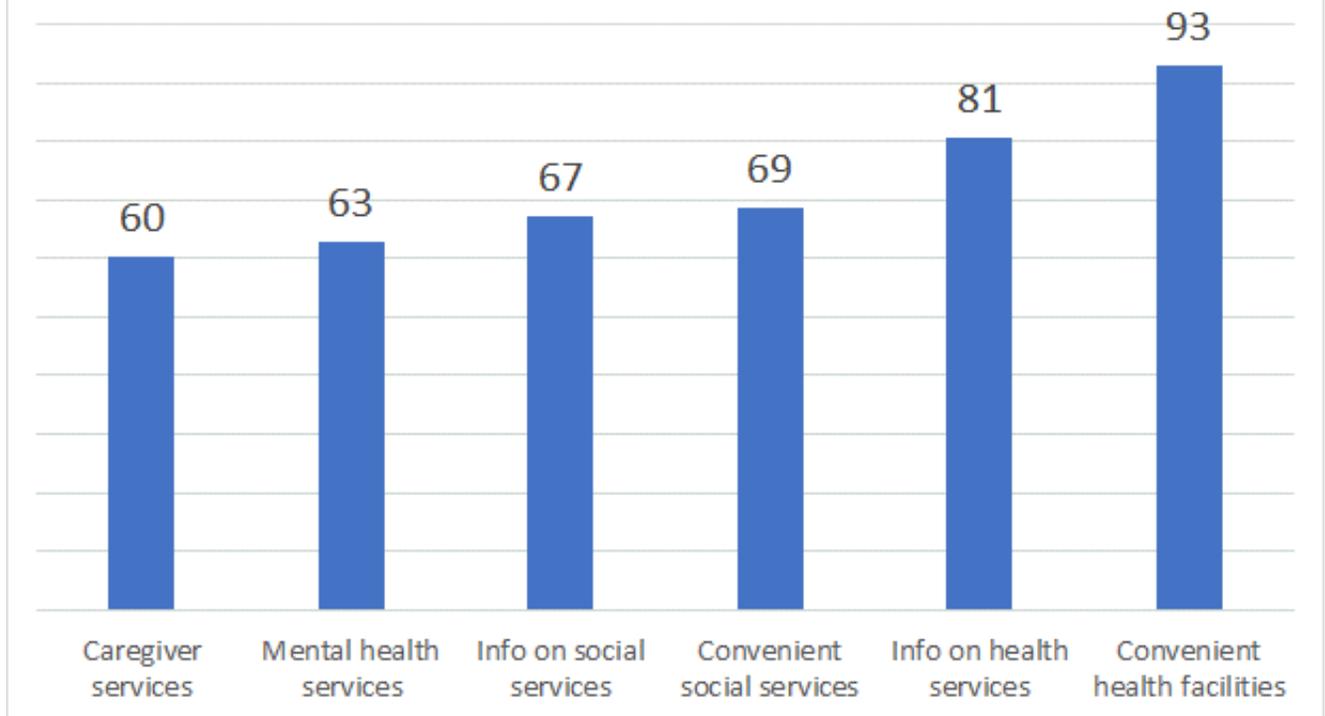
Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample in relation to interest in health-related activities and classes were²⁵:

	Random		Convenience
• Less interest in chronic disease classes:	26%	vs.	34%
• Less interest in alternative health:	32%	vs.	39%
• Less interest in health reminders	34%	vs.	43%

²⁵ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

Importance of Services and Information

Percent Reporting it as Extremely or Very Important



Respondents appear to place a premium on health-related services and information, with secondary importance on social services, and then slightly less importance on mental health services/supports and caregiver supports/services.

Difference between the convenience sample and the random sample, when it came to importance of health-related services and information were²⁶:

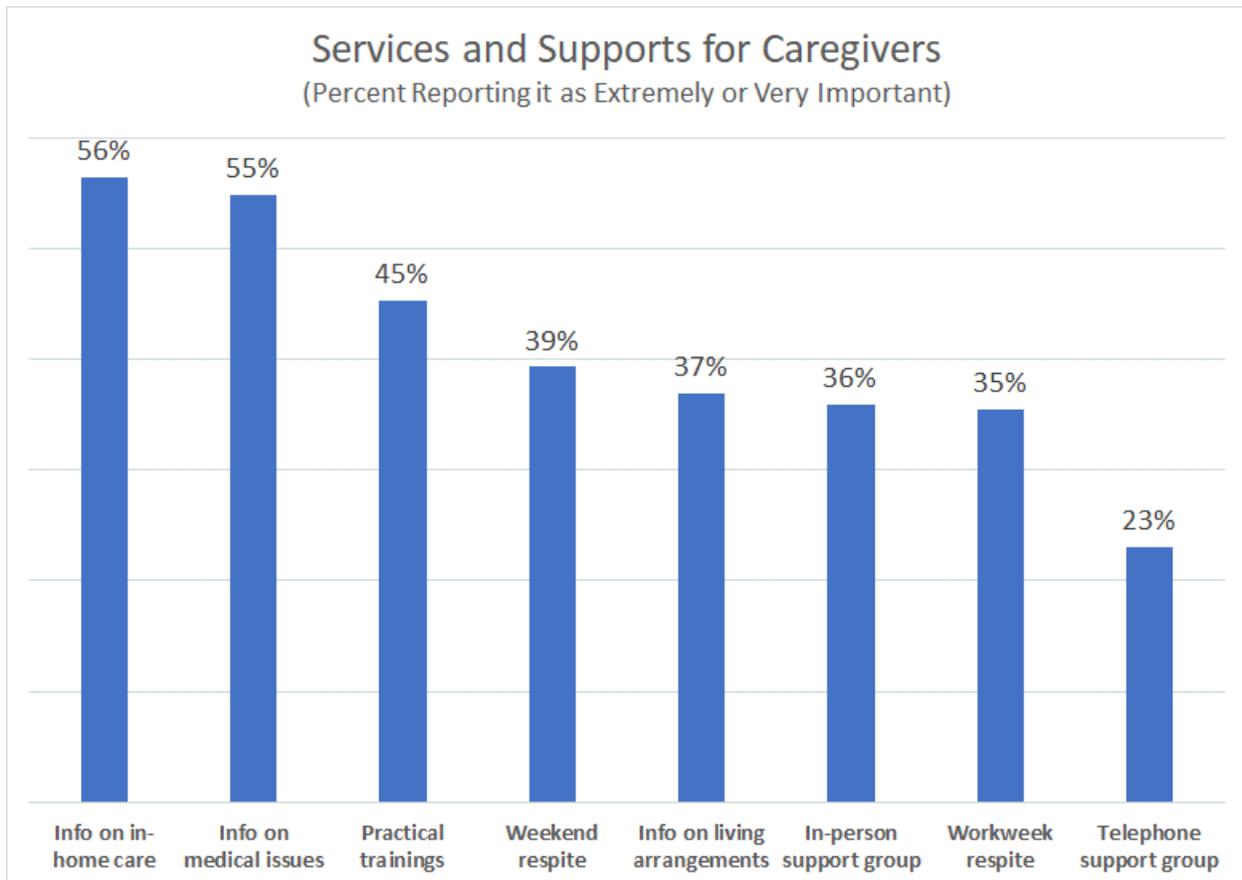
- | | | | |
|---|---------------|-----|--------------------|
| less importance of health service info: | Random
77% | vs. | Convenience
80% |
|---|---------------|-----|--------------------|

CAREGIVERS

Twenty percent (20%) of respondents reported being a caregiver to a family member or friend (12% reported being the primary caregiver), which is consistent with national estimates on caregiving. Findings related to caregivers included:

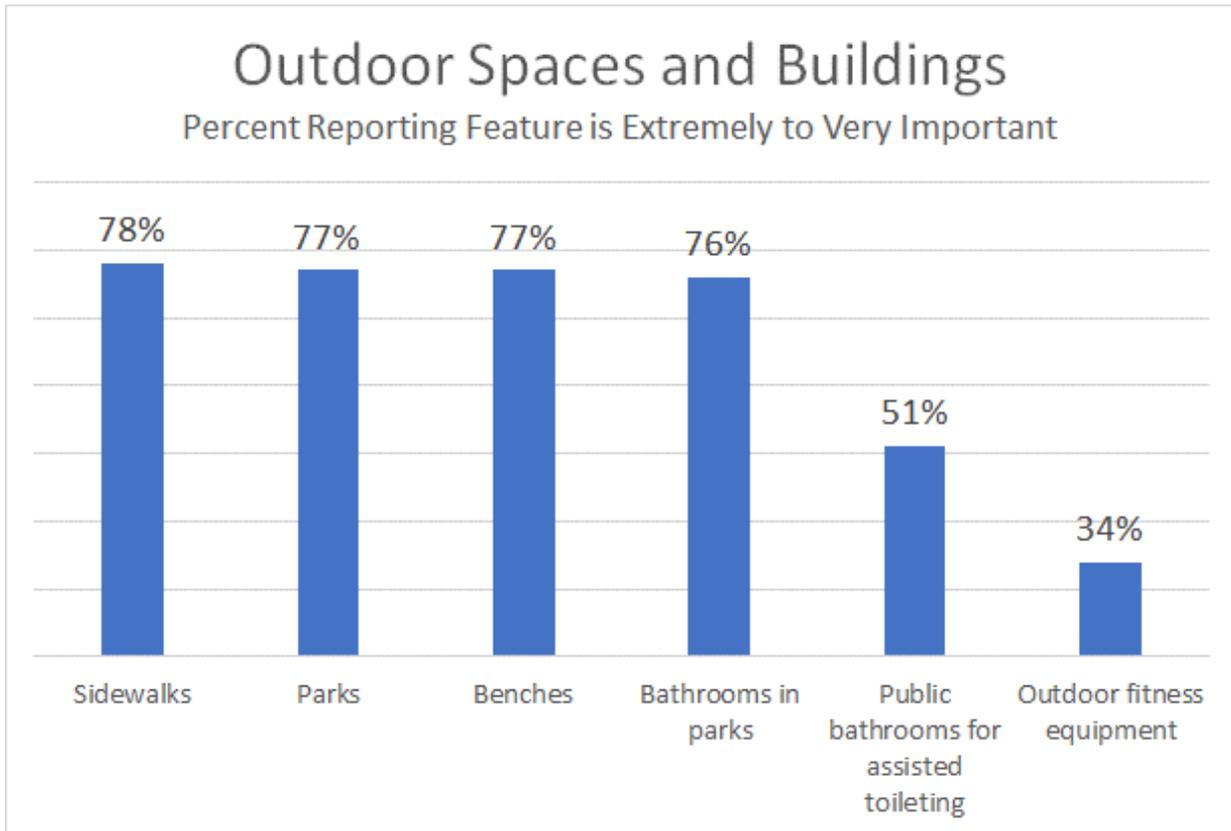
²⁶ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

- Caregivers are more likely to be female (82% in this sample vs. 71% of non-caregivers)
- More likely to be White (86% vs. 78%) and less likely to be Asian (6% vs. 12% of non-caregivers)
- More likely to be somewhat younger (60% in the 50-69 age group vs. 42% of those who are non-caregivers)



As illustrated in the graphic above, among individuals that self-identify as a primary caregiver, the resources they feel are most important are information related to in-home care and medical conditions/treatments, and “practical trainings on how to assist a family member with a disability/illness”. Notable is that weekend respite care was identified as more important than respite care during the workweek.

OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS



Sidewalks, convenient parks, benches, and bathrooms in parks were rated of almost equal importance. Public bathrooms equipped to allow for adults to be assisted with toileting was of secondary importance, and “outdoor fitness equipment in parks” trailed far behind.

It was found that the stated importance of parks varied by age groups, with declining importance as age increased:

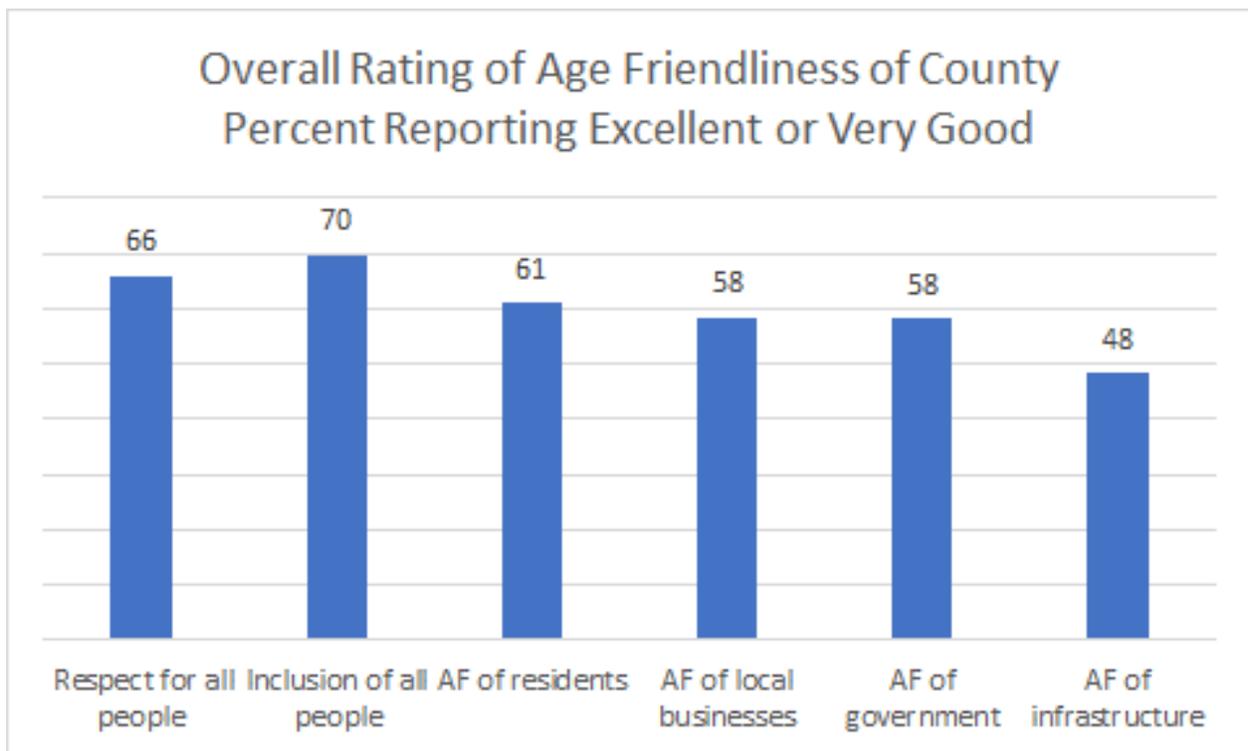
- Aged 50-59 83
- Aged 60-69 80
- Aged 70-79 71
- Aged 80+ 69

Differences between the convenience sample and the random sample when it came to features of the outdoor environment or buildings were²⁷:

	Random		Convenience
• Higher importance of sidewalks:	83%	vs.	78%
• Higher importance of benches	79%	vs.	76%
• Higher importance on fitness:	38%	vs.	32%

OVERALL RATINGS

The survey asked respondents to give their impressions about the overall Age-Friendliness (AF) of six aspects of the County, as illustrated in the graphic below.



Overall, as illustrated in the graphic, perceptions of inclusiveness and respect were the highest, with perceptions of "Age-Friendliness" declining from residents, to local businesses and government (which were tied), and physical infrastructure being rated the least Age-Friendly.

²⁷ Listed differences reflect where the difference met the standard of $p < .05$, with the weighted representations of the random vs. convenience samples

Respect for all people:

A regression analysis was conducted to determine what characteristics were most likely to predict people's perceptions of "respect for all people" (analysis was significant at $p < .0005$, though it accounted for a low level of variance, 5.1% R^2). The significant predictors, in order of importance were: health status (as health declines, so do subjective perceptions of respect), age (older people perceive more respect), loneliness (as loneliness increases, sense of respect declines), and rural/urban (people in rural zip codes perceive less respect). Other differences in terms of respect were:

- Older individuals were more likely to rate the County higher on this attribute
 - Aged 50-59 56%
 - Aged 70-79 72%
- Asians rated this attribute lower than Whites or African Americans
 - Asian 58%
 - Hispanic ethnicity 66%
 - White 67%
 - African American 67%

Inclusion of all people²⁸

A regression analysis was conducted to determine what characteristics were most likely to predict people's perceptions of "inclusion of all people" (analysis was significant at $p = 0.041$, though it accounted for a low level of variance, 5.6% R^2). The significant predictors, in order of importance were: health status (as health declines, so do perceptions of inclusiveness), age (older people perceive more inclusion), loneliness (as loneliness increases, sense of inclusion declines), rural/urban (people in rural zip codes perceive less inclusion), and race/ethnicity (minorities perceive less inclusion). Other differences in terms of inclusion were:

- Older individuals were more likely to rate County higher on this attribute
 - Aged 50-59 61%
 - Aged 70-79 73%
- Asians and African Americans rated this lower
 - White 72%
 - African American 63%
 - Hispanic ethnicity 62%
 - Asian 58%

²⁸ Random sample showed lower rating for inclusion ($p = .002$), with overall rate (Excellent or Very Good) being at 67% vs. 71% for convenience sample

Age-Friendliness (AF) of residents

A regression analysis was conducted to determine what characteristics were most likely to predict people's perceptions of "age-friendliness of residents" (analysis was significant at $p < .0005$, though it accounted for a low level of variance, 6.1% R^2). The significant predictors, in order of importance were: health status (as health declines, so do perceptions of AF), age (older people perceive more AF), loneliness (as loneliness increases, sense of AF declines), rural/urban (people in rural zip codes perceive less AF). While race/ethnicity alone was significantly related to perception of AF, when combined into the regression analysis it was not a significant predictor on its own. Other differences in terms of AF of residents were:

- Older individuals were more likely to rate County higher on this attribute
 - Aged 50-59 51%
 - Aged 70-79 65%
- Hispanics and Asians rated it lower
 - Hispanic ethnicity 49%
 - Asian 51%
 - White 62%
 - African American 65%

Age-Friendliness of local businesses

A regression analysis was conducted to determine what characteristics were most likely to predict people's perceptions of "age-friendliness of local businesses" (analysis was significant at $p < .0005$, though it accounted for a low level of variance, 5.8% R^2). The significant predictors, in order of importance were: Loneliness (as loneliness increases, sense of AF declines), health status (as health declines, so do perceptions of AF), rural/urban (people in rural zip codes perceive less AF), and age (older people perceive more AF). While race/ethnicity alone was significantly related to perception of AF, when combined into the regression analysis it was not a significant predictor on its own. Other differences in terms of AF of local businesses were:

- Older individuals more likely to rate County higher on this attribute
 - 50-59 50%
 - 70-79 61%
- Hispanics and Asians rated this attribute lower
 - Hispanic ethnicity 48%
 - Asian 50%
 - African American 56%
 - White 60%

Age-Friendliness of government

A regression analysis was conducted to determine what characteristics were most likely to predict people's perceptions of "age-friendliness of residents" (analysis was significant at $p = 0.001$, though it accounted for a low level of variance, 7.0% R^2). The significant predictors, in order of importance were: health status (as health declines, so do perceptions of AF), loneliness (as loneliness increases, sense of AF declines), age (older people perceive more AF), rural/urban (people in rural zip codes perceive less AF), and household income (as income goes up, perceptions of AF increase). While race/ethnicity alone was significantly related to perception of AF, when combined into the regression analysis it was not a significant predictor on its own. Other differences in terms of AF of residents were:

- Older individuals more likely to rate County higher on this attribute
 - 50-59 51%
 - 70-79 60%
- Asians rated it lower
 - Asian 52%
 - Hispanic ethnicity 56%
 - White 59%
 - African American 60%

Age-Friendliness of infrastructure

A regression analysis was conducted to determine what characteristics were most likely to predict people's perceptions of "age-friendliness of residents" (analysis was significant at $p = 0.003$, though it accounted for a low level of variance, 7.0% R^2). The significant predictors, in order of importance were: loneliness (as loneliness increases, sense of AF declines), health status (as health declines, so do perceptions of AF), rural/urban (people in rural zip codes perceive less AF), educational attainment (people at higher educational attainment perceive AF lower), age (older people perceive more AF), and race (minorities perceived less AF). Other differences in terms of AF of residents were:

- Older individuals more likely to rate County higher on this attribute
 - 50-59 39%
 - 70-79 52%
- Asians and White rated it lower
 - Asian 43%
 - White 48%
 - Hispanic ethnicity 52%
 - African American 54%