



Polco

ECIAAAA Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA)



Survey Goals

Immediate

Make more informed decisions in

- Planning
- Advocacy
- Engagement

Intermediate

Create and offer:

- Programs to meet community needs
- Better-quality programs
- More effective policies

Long-Term

Support a community of older adults that is:

- Healthier
- More engaged
- More empowered
- More independent
- More productive
- More vibrant



Survey Objectives

- Identify community strengths to support successful aging.
- Articulate the specific needs of older adults in the community.
- Estimate contributions made by older adults to the community.
- Develop estimates and projections of resident need in the future.



Survey Methods

- Random sample of older adult households.
- Multi-contact method mailed and online survey.
- Data statistically weighted to reflect older adult population.



Survey Sample & Collection

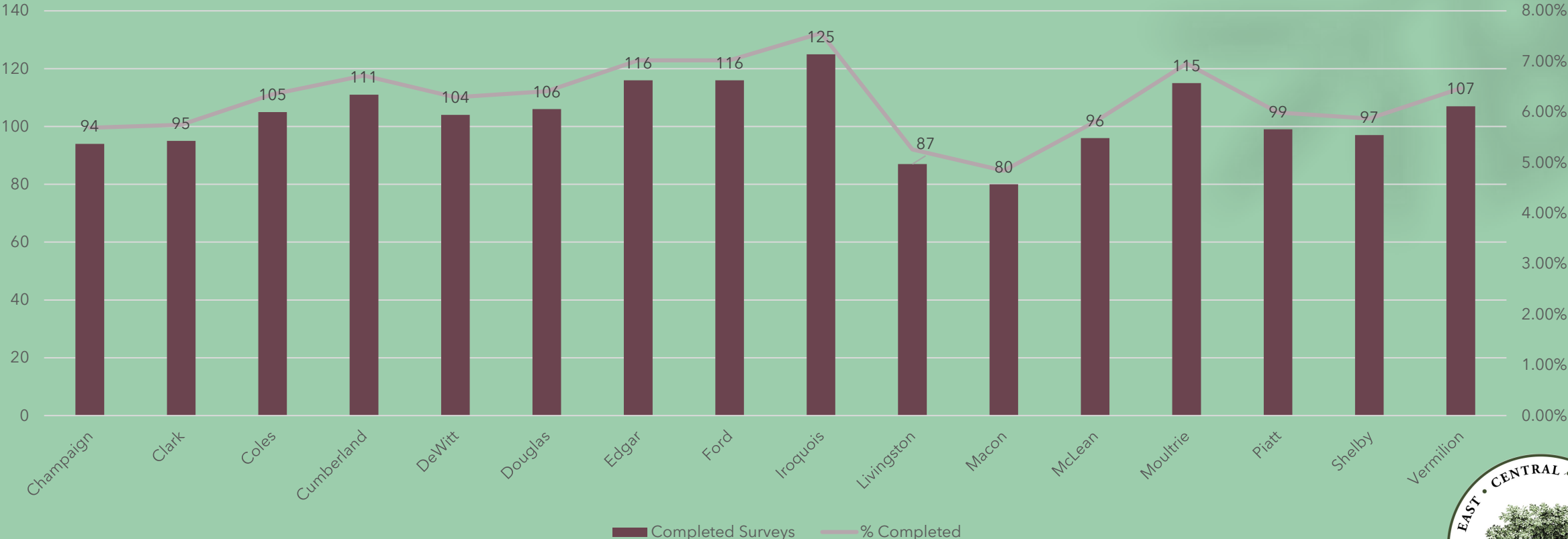
ECIAAA Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA)

- 22,400 invitations sent (1,400 per county)
- Age range targeted: 50-100
- 801 invitations undeliverable (3.5%)
- 1,653 completed surveys (8%)



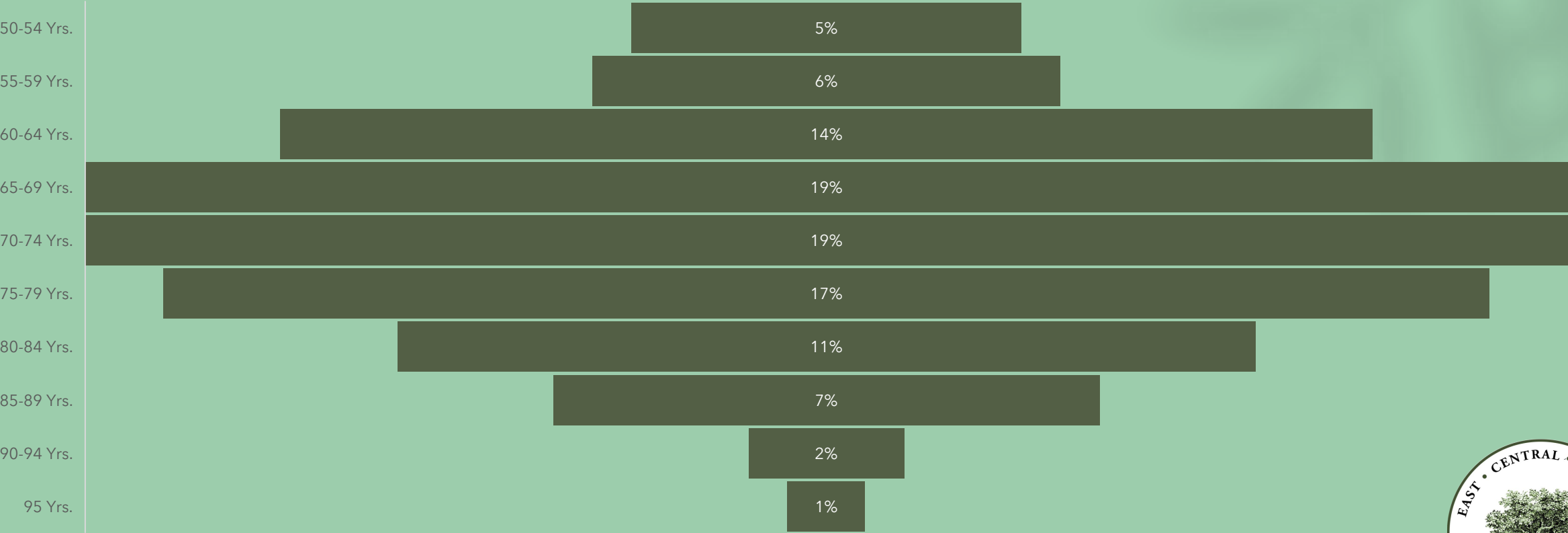
Completed CASOA Surveys by County

COMPLETED BY COUNTY

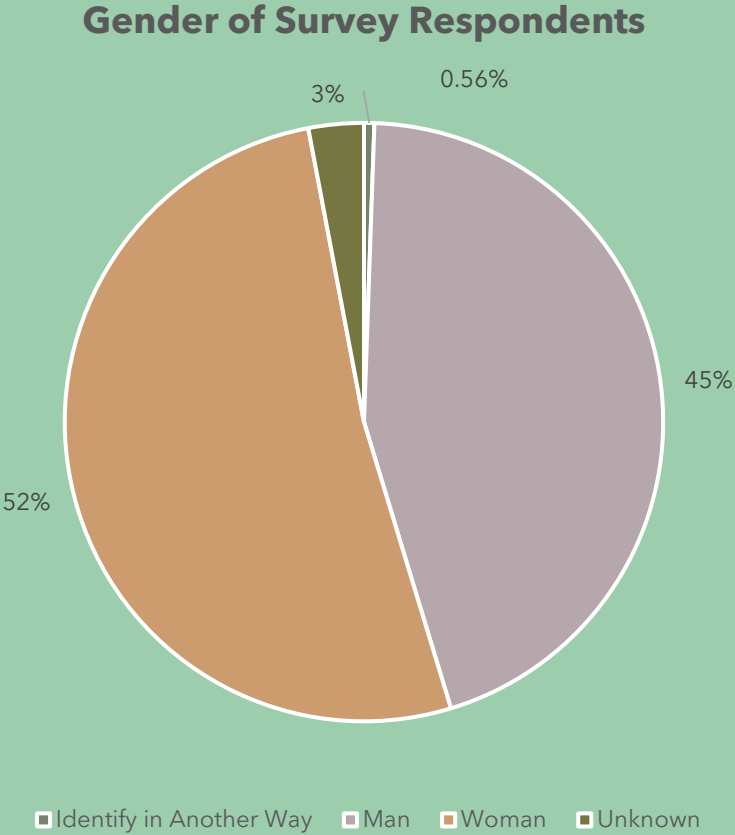


Completed CASOA Surveys by Age

Age of Survey Respondents - 89% Over Age 60

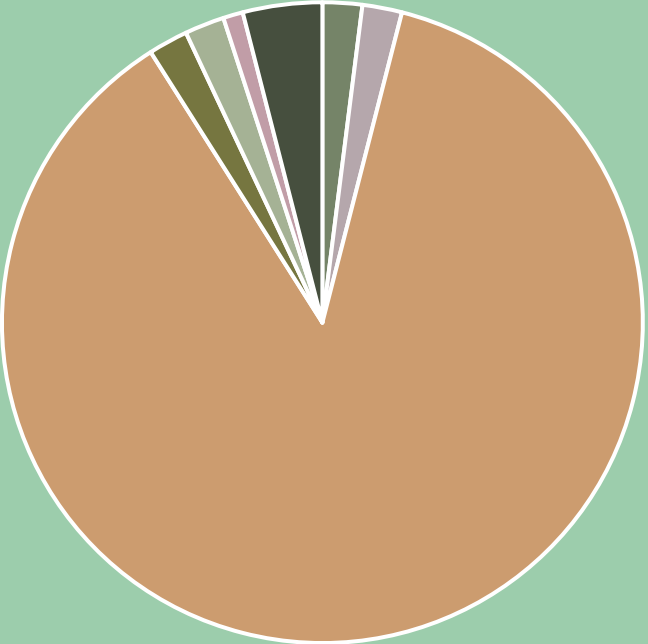


Completed CASOA Surveys by Gender



Completed CASOA Surveys by Race

Race of Survey Respondents

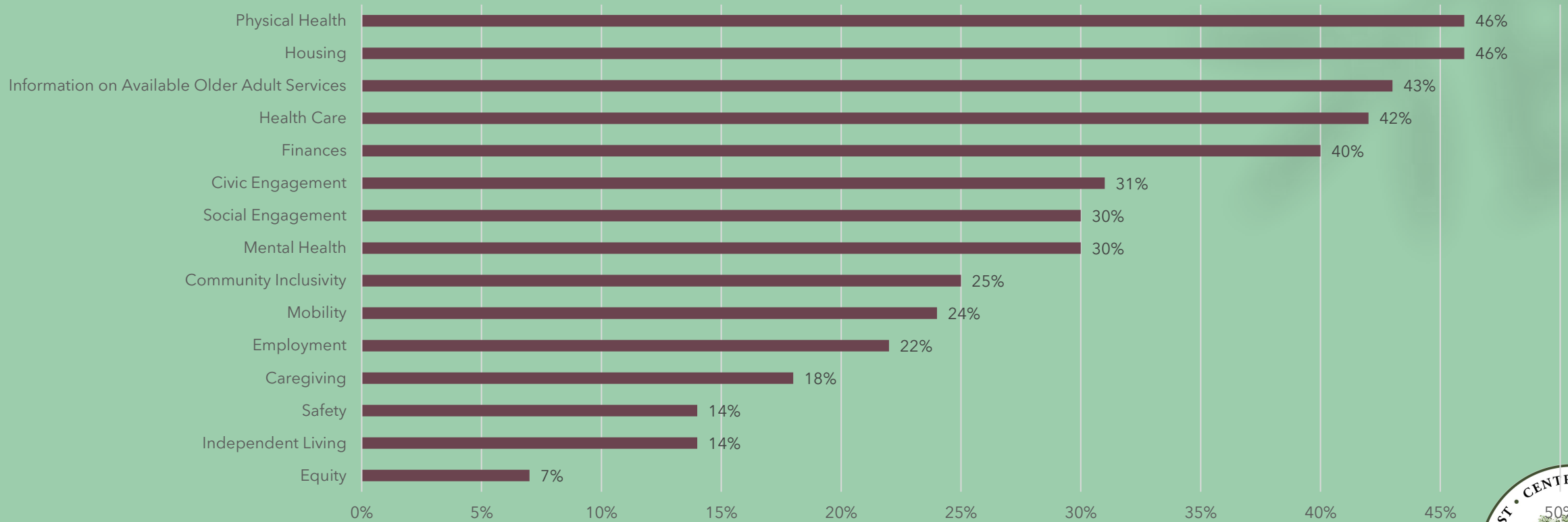


More Than One Race (2%) Asian (2%) White (87%) American Indian or Alaska Native (2%) Black or African American (2%) A Race Not Listed (1%) Unknown (4%)



Survey Percent and Estimated Number of Older Adults with a Need

Older Adults with a Need



The figure above shows the percent of respondents who reported that one or more items within each of these 17 areas was a major or moderate problem.



Overall Results of Community Readiness

COMMUNITY READINESS CHART			
	DIMENSION	COMMUNITY LIVABILITY TOPICS	SCORE (out of 100)
	Overall Community Quality	Place to Live and Retire; Recommend and Remain in Community	61
1	Community Design	Housing, Mobility, Land Use	44
2	Employment and Finances	Employment, Finances	30
3	Equity and Inclusivity	Equity, Community Inclusivity	44
4	Health and Wellness	Safety, Physical Health, Mental Health, Health Care, Independent Living	40
5	Information and Assistance	Quality of Older Adult Services, Information on Available Older Adult Services	31
6	Productive Activities	Civic Engagement, Social Engagement, Caregiving	46



Overall Community Quality

Measuring community livability for older adults starts with assessing the quality of life of those who live there, and ensuring that the community is attractive, accessible, and welcoming to all. Exploring how older residents view their community overall and how likely they are to recommend and remain in their communities can provide a high-level overview of the quality and livability of the community.

- About 67% of older residents living in the region rated their overall quality of life as excellent or good. Most of the older adult respondents scored their communities positively as a place to live and would recommend their communities to others. About 74% of residents planned to stay in their community throughout their retirement.
- Positive scores were given to their communities as places to retire by 56% of older residents.



Overall Scores of Community Livability

The Community Assessment Survey of Older Adults (CASOA) is designed to examine the status of older adults and the community around many (17) topics of livability within six domains: Community Design, Employment and Finances, Equity and Inclusivity, Health and Wellness, Information and Assistance, and Productive Activities. Summary scores of community livability were created through the aggregation of a series of resident ratings within each of these different livability aspects and domains. Of the 17 aspects of livability examined, the aspects found to be strongest in the region related to areas of Mobility (average positive score of 62%), Safety (62%), and Social Engagement (57%). The areas showing the greatest need for improvement related to Housing (25%), Mental Health (26%) and Employment (28%). More detailed information about each livability domain follows.



Domains of Community Livability

- Survey participants rated the overall quality of life in their community. They also evaluated their communities as livable communities for older adults within six domains:
 - Community Design
 - Employment and Finances
 - Equity and Inclusivity
 - Health and Wellness
 - Information and Assistance
 - Productive Activities



Community Design

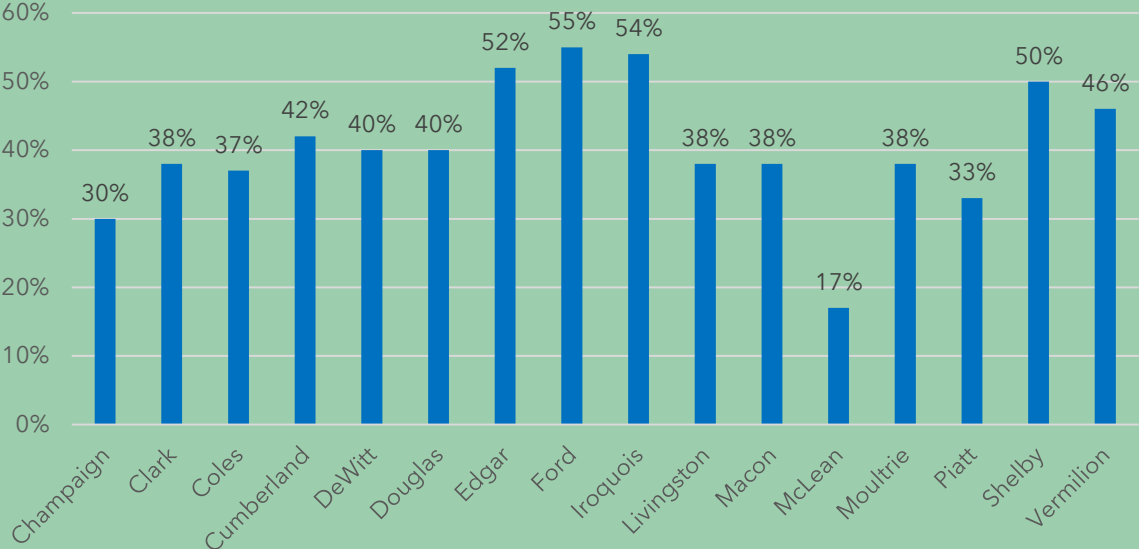
Livable communities (which include those with mixed-use neighborhoods, higher-density development, increased connections, shared community spaces and more human-scale design) will become a necessity for communities to age successfully. Communities that have planned and been designed for older adults tend to emphasize access, helping to facilitate movement and participation.

- About 52% of respondents rated the overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in their community as excellent or good. In many communities, ease of travel by walking or bicycling is given lower ratings than travel by car. Here, ease of travel by car was considered excellent or good by 85% of respondents, while ease of travel by walking and bicycling was considered excellent or good by 62% and 56% of respondents, respectively.
- When considering aspects of housing (affordability and variety) and community features of new urbanism (where people can live close to places where they can eat, shop, work, and receive services), relatively lower scores were given by older adults compared to many other items on the survey. Only 26% of respondents gave a positive score to the availability of affordable quality housing in their communities, and only about 26% older adults gave excellent or good ratings to the availability of mixed-use neighborhoods.
- About 46% of older residents in the region reported experiencing housing needs and 24% reported mobility needs.

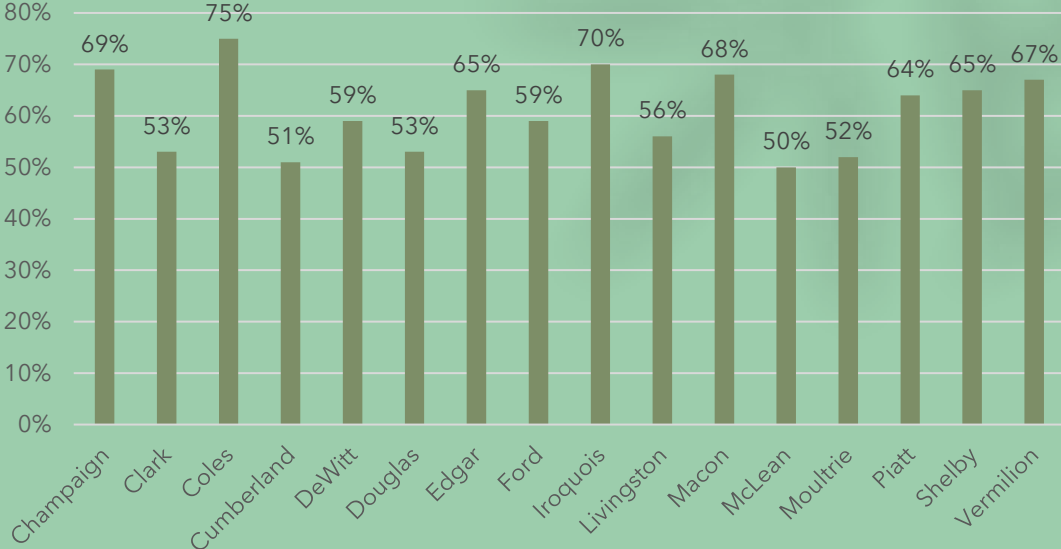


Community Design - Housing

Having Housing to Suit Your Needs



Doing Heavy or Intense Housework

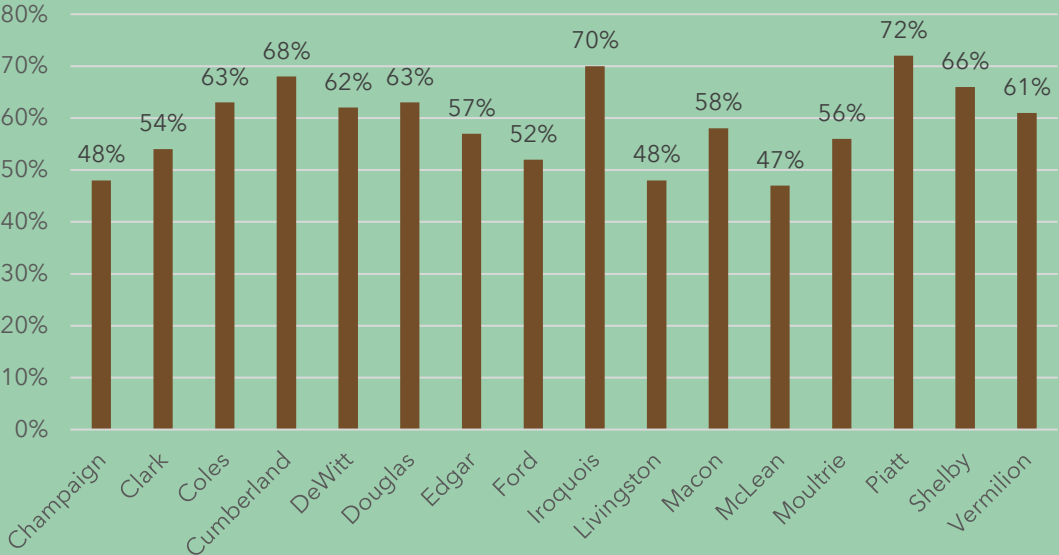


Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

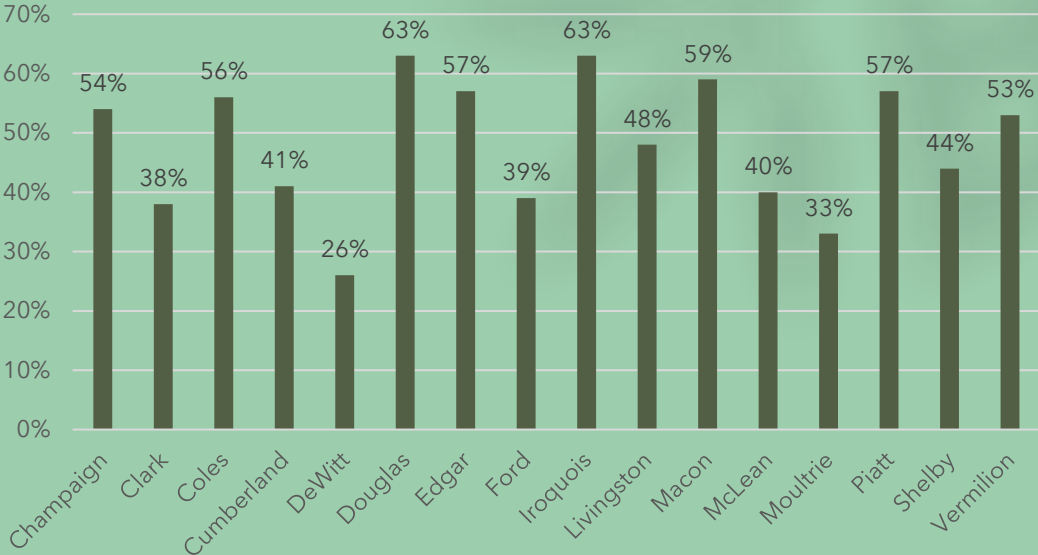


Community Design - Housing

Maintaining Your Home



Maintaining Your Yard



Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.



Community Design – Land Use

Overall Quality of the Quality Infrastructure in Your Community (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas/broadband)



Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *excellent or good*.



Employment & Finances

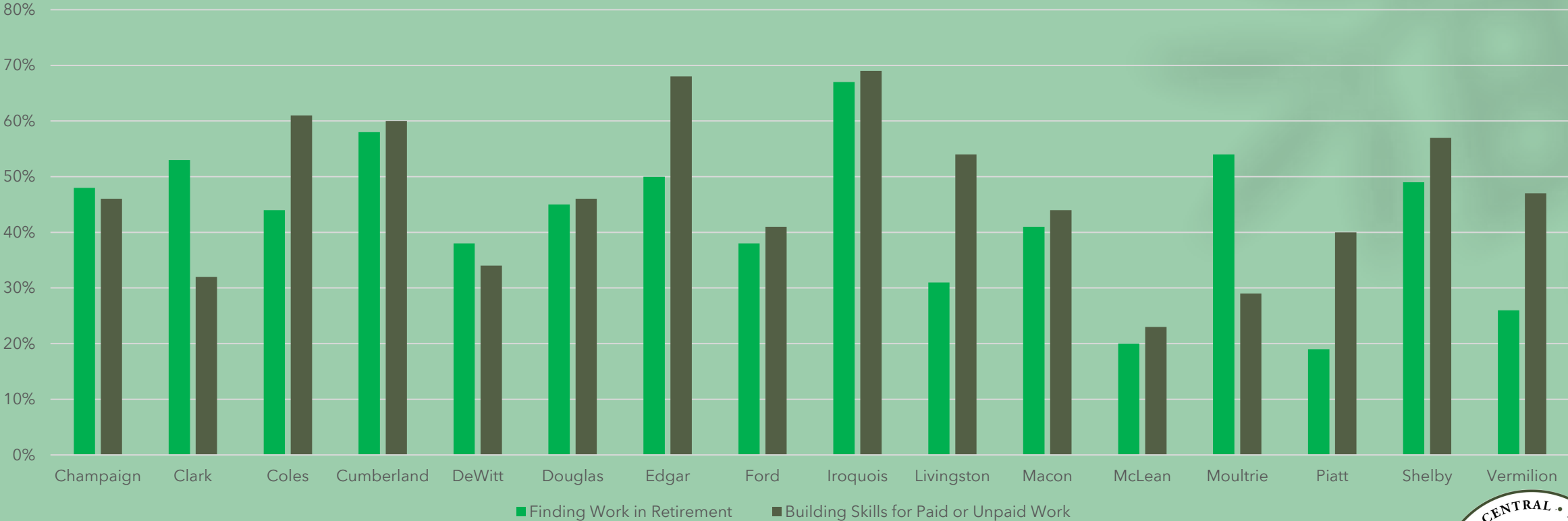
The life expectancy for those born between 1940 and 1960 has increased dramatically due to advances in health care and lifestyle changes. While this is a very positive trend overall, it also highlights both the importance of communities providing employment opportunities for older adults and the need for older adults to plan well for their retirement years.

- About 50% of older residents rated the overall economic health of their communities positively, although the cost of living was rated as excellent or good by only 31%.
- Employment opportunities for older adults (quality and variety) received low ratings (25% and 23% positive, respectively), and the opportunity to build work skills also was found to be lacking (23% excellent or good).
- About 40% older adults reported financial challenges and 22% reported employment needs.



Employment & Finances - Challenges

Employment Challenges Among Older Adults

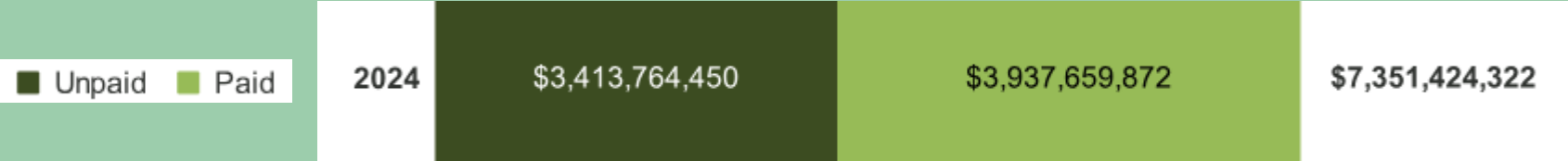


Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.



Economic Contribution in PSA 05

	% of older adults	# of older adults	Average # of hours	Average hourly rate	Annual Total
Providing care to older adult(s)	42%	118,150	9.23	\$12.74	\$722,047,536
Providing care to adult(s)	25%	70,881	10.3	\$12.74	\$483,812,659
Providing care to child(ren)	26%	74,251	11.53	\$11.80	\$525,199,104
Providing help to family and friends	80%	227,504	6.19	\$14.84	\$1,086,076,627
Volunteering	51%	145,290	4.61	\$17.14	\$596,628,524
Subtotal unpaid					\$3,413,764,450
Working part time	12%	34,722	15	\$23.24	\$629,386,272
Working full time	30%	85,552	32	\$23.24	\$3,308,273,600
Subtotal paid					\$3,937,659,872
Total contribution					\$7,351,424,322



Equity & Inclusion

A community is often greater than the sum of its parts. Having a sense of community entails not only a sense of membership and belonging, but also feelings of equity and trust in the other members of the community.

- About 56% of older residents rated the sense of community in their towns as excellent or good, and neighborliness was rated positively by 48% of residents.
- About 46% of the respondents positively rated their community's openness and acceptance toward older residents of diverse backgrounds, and 44% indicated that their community valued older residents.
- Inclusion challenges were reported by about 25% of older residents and equity challenges by 7%.



Equity & Inclusion – Community Inclusivity

Community Inclusivity by Location

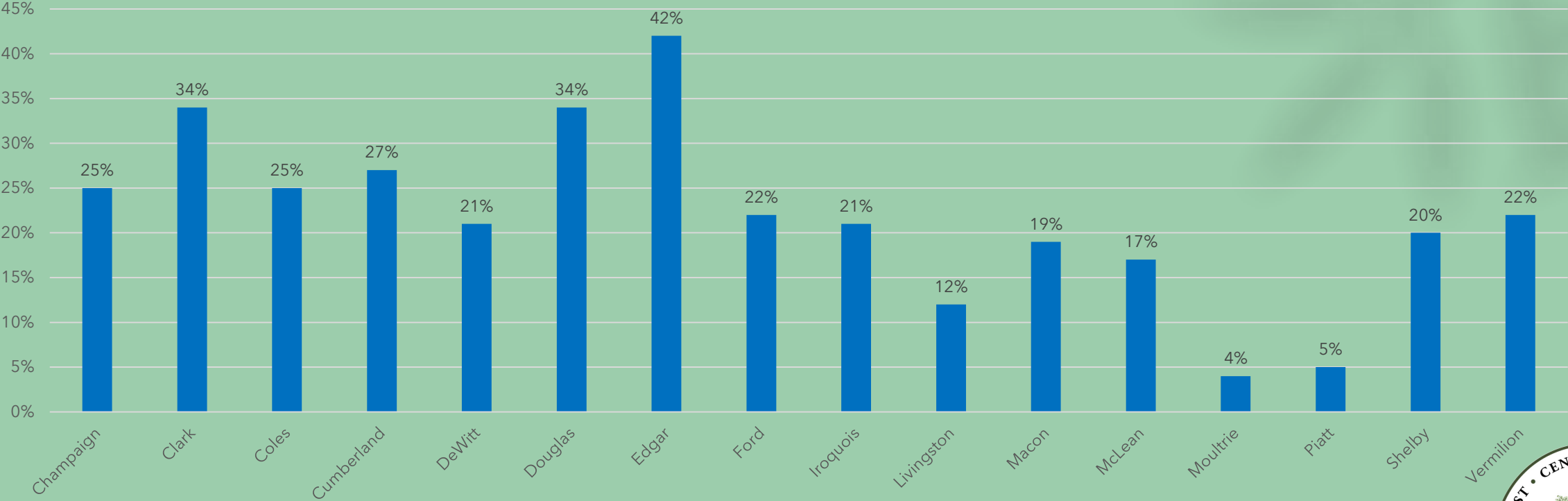


Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.



Equity & Inclusion – Equity

Being Treated Unfairly or Discriminated Against Because of Your Age



Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.



Health & Wellness

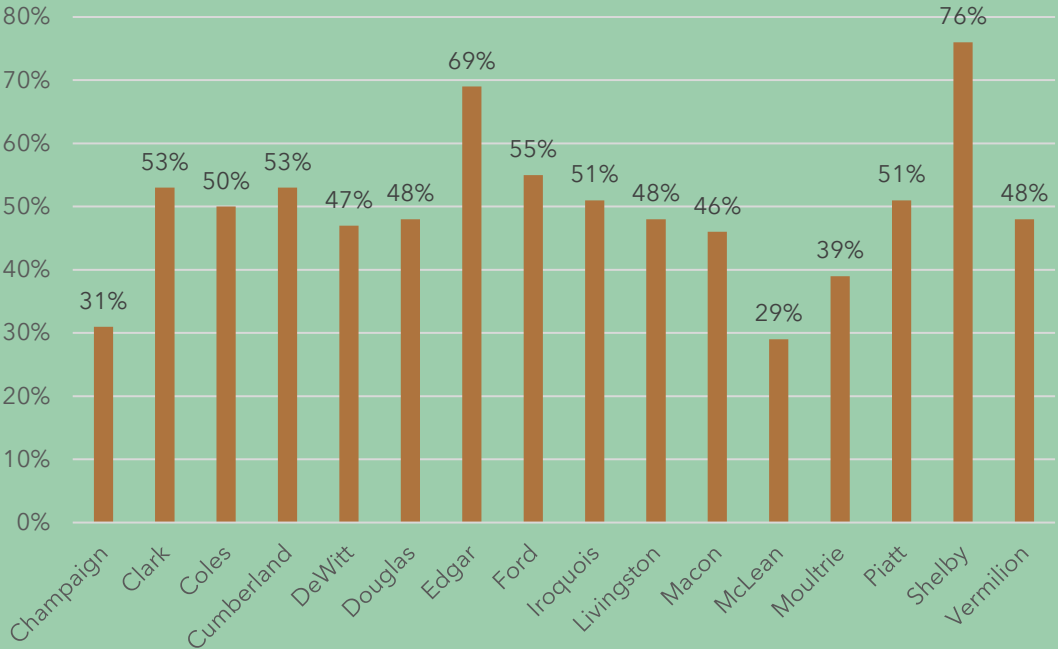
Of all the attributes of aging, health poses the greatest risk and the biggest opportunity for communities to ensure the independence and contributions of their aging populations. Health and wellness, for the purposes of this study, included not only physical and mental health, but issues of safety, independent living and health care.

- About 66% older residents in the region rated their overall physical health as excellent or good and 79% rated their mental health as excellent or good.
- In most places, opportunities for health and wellness receive higher ratings from older adults than do health care ratings. Here, community opportunities for health and wellness were scored positively by 56% residents, while the percent giving ratings of excellent or good to the availability of physical health care was 38%, to mental health care 26%, and to long term care options 34%.
- Health-related problems were some of the most common challenges noted by older adults in the survey. Even those who report their overall physical or mental health as excellent or good may sometimes face these challenges; 46% reported physical health challenges and 30% reported mental health challenges. Health care was also a challenge about 42% of older residents.

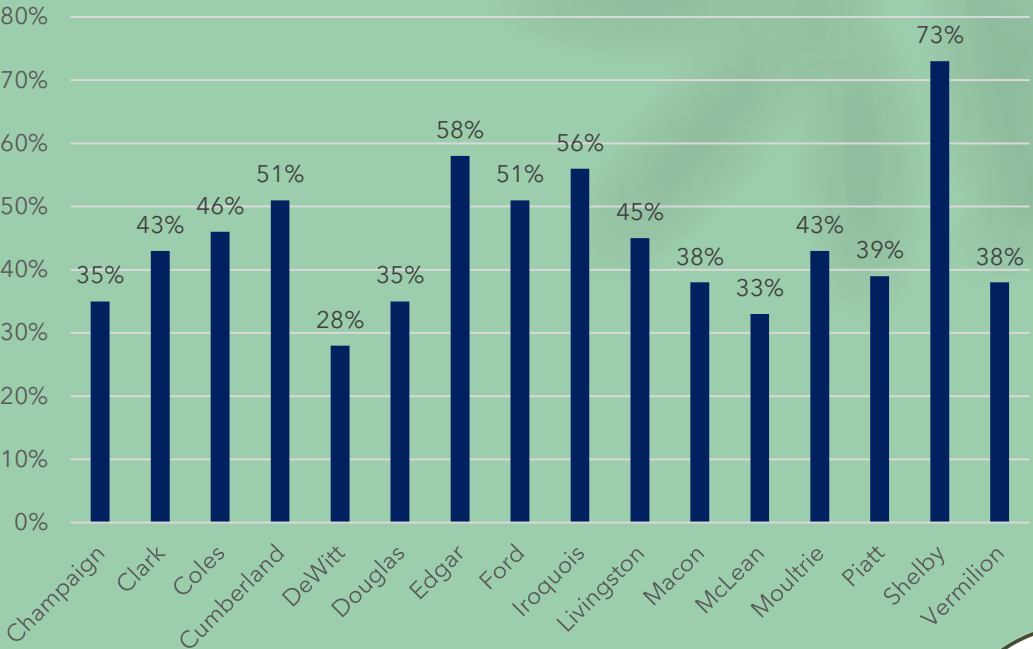


Health & Wellness – Health Care

Finding Affordable Health Insurance



Getting the Health Care You Need



Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

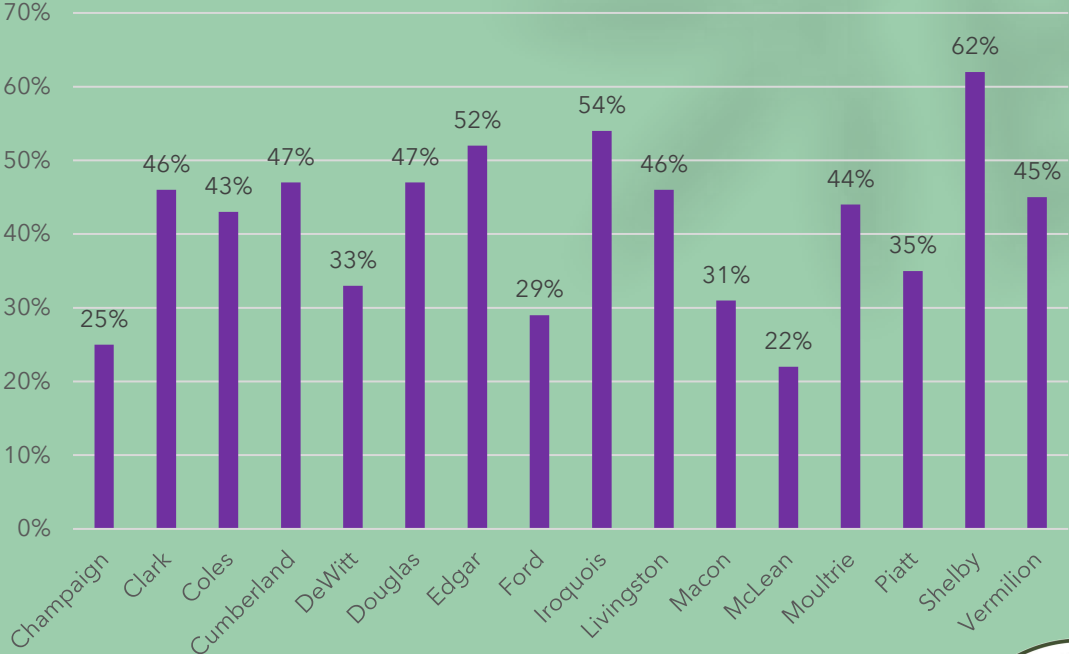


Health & Wellness – Health Care

Getting the Oral Health Care You Need



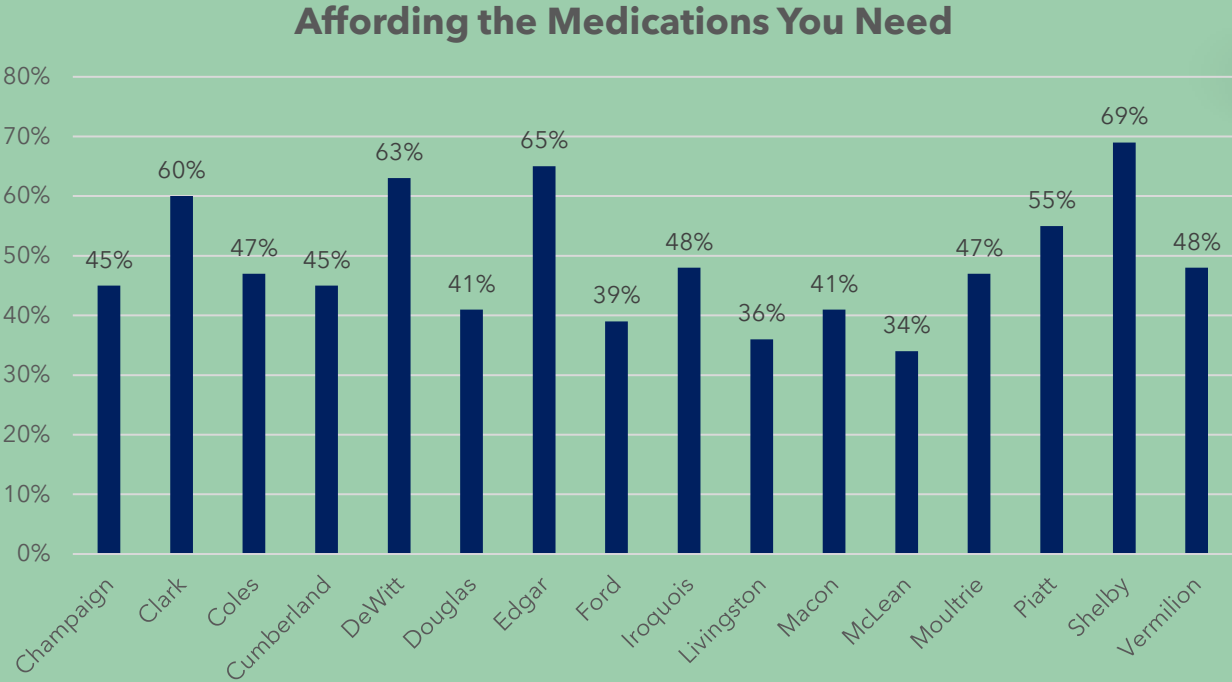
Getting the Vision Care You Need



Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem, moderate problem or major problem.*



Health & Wellness – Health Care

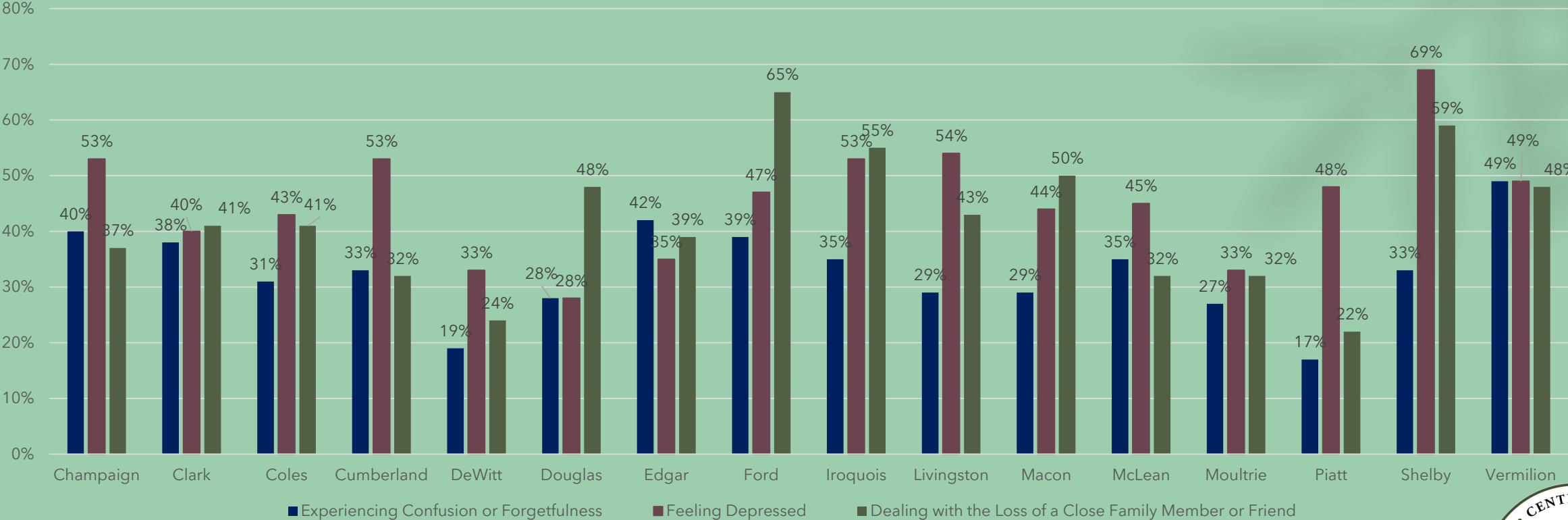


Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.



Health & Wellness – Mental Health

Mental Health Challenges Within Past 12-Months



Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.



Information & Assistance

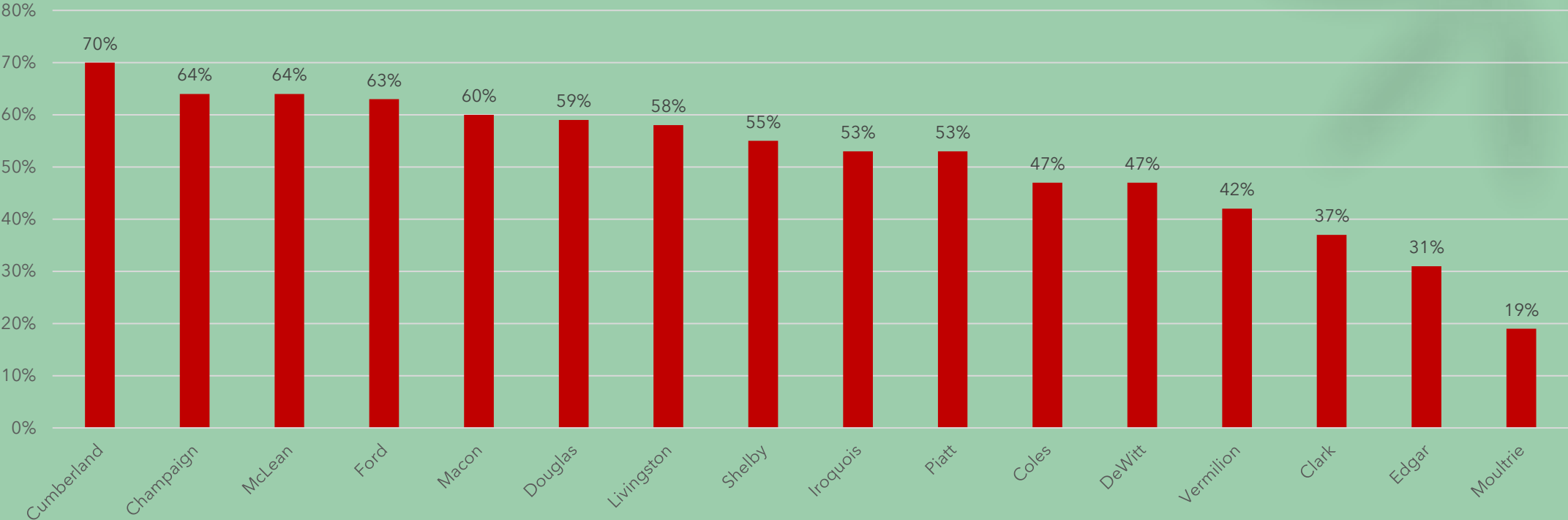
The older adult service network, while strong, is under-resourced and unable to single-handedly meet the needs of the continuously growing population of older adults. Providing useful and well-designed programs, as well as informing residents about other assistance resources, is an important way that government agencies can help residents age in place.

- The overall services provided to older adults in the region were rated as excellent or good by 46% of survey respondents.
- About 56% of survey respondents reported being somewhat informed or very informed about services and activities available to older adults. The availability of information about resources for older adults was rated positively by 27% of older residents and the availability of financial or legal planning services was rated positively by 32% of older residents.
- About 43% of older adults were found to have information access challenges in the region.



Information & Assistance - Awareness

In General, How Informed or Uninformed Do You Feel About Services & Activities Available to Older Adults in Your Community?

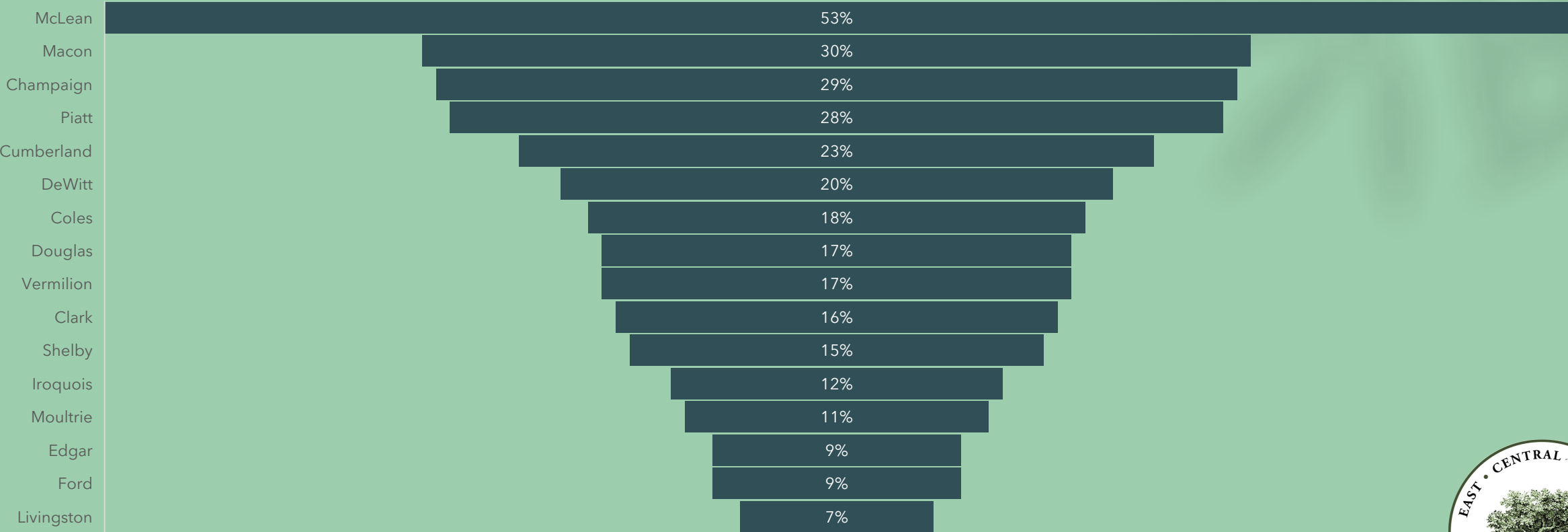


Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *very informed* or *somewhat informed*.



Information & Assistance - Resources

Availability of Information About Resources for Older Adults

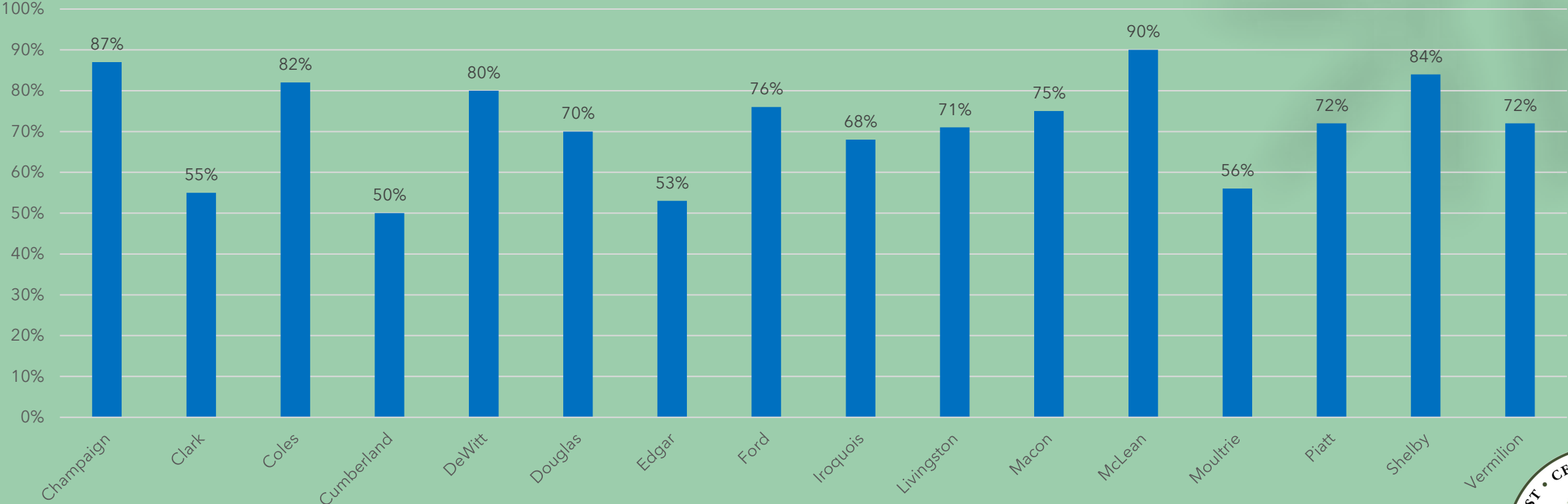


Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *excellent or good*.



Information & Assistance – Internet/Broadband

I Have High-Speed Internet/Broadband at Home

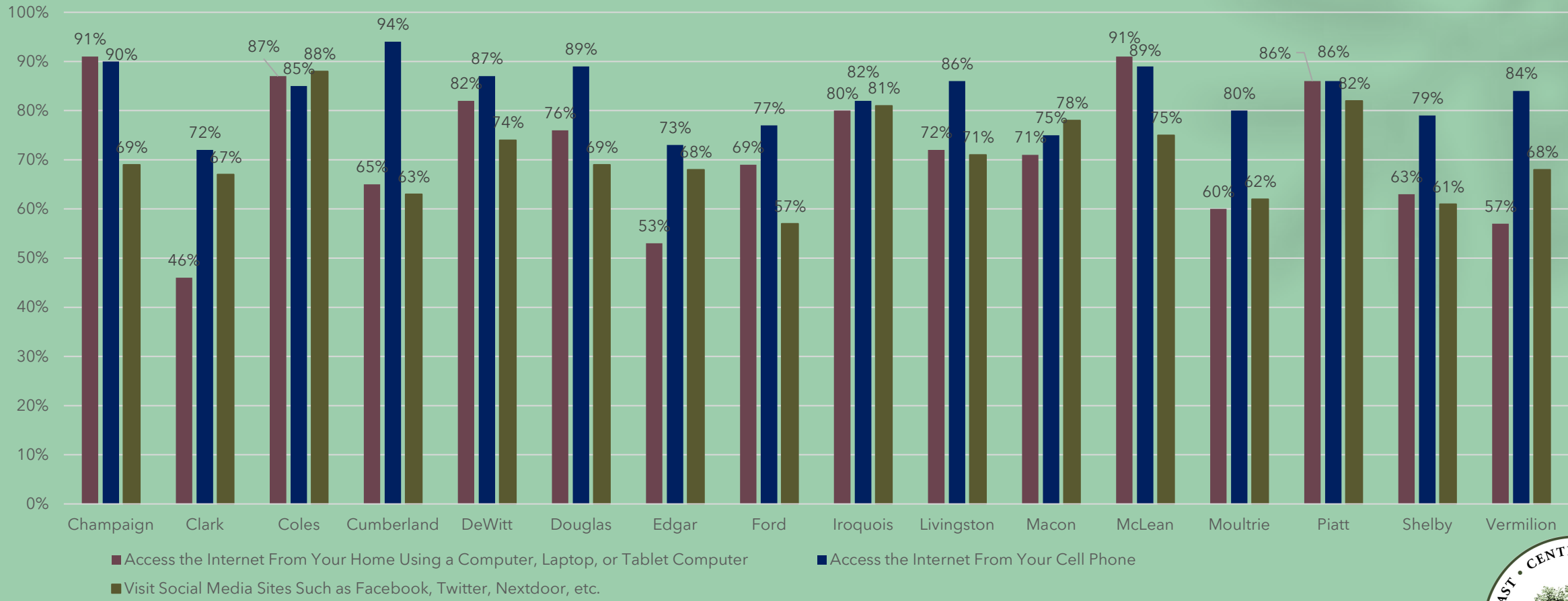


Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as yes.



Information & Assistance - Technology

How Many Times Do You Use...



Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *several times a day, once a day or a few times a week.*



Productive Activities

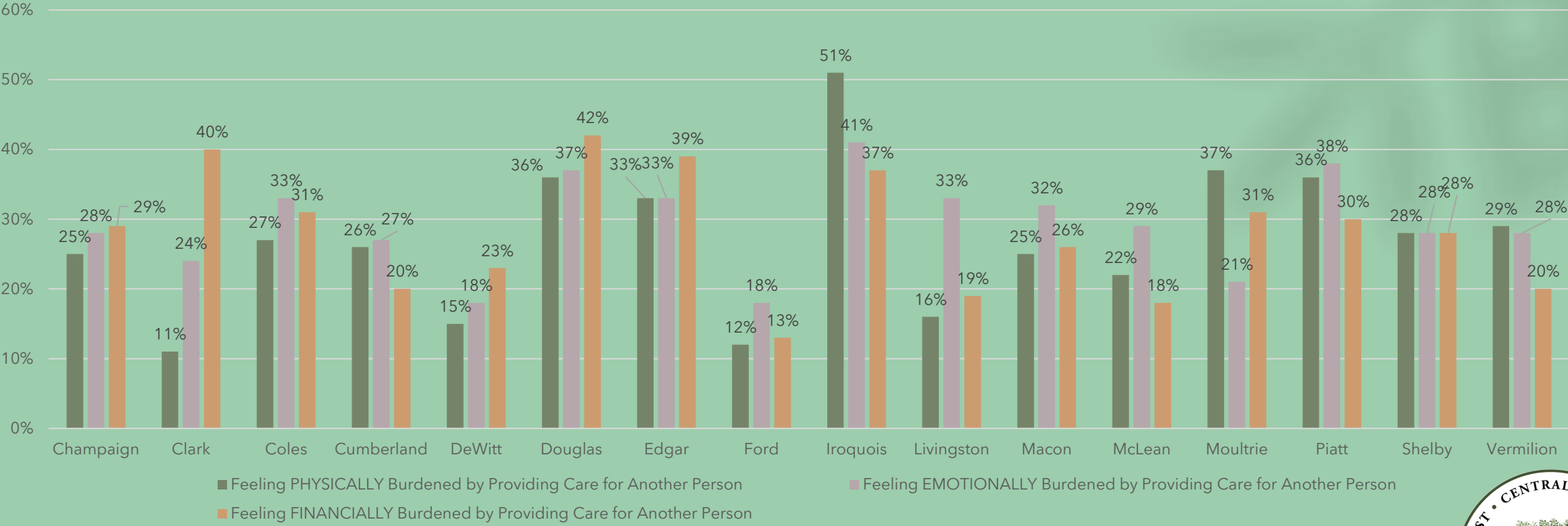
Productive activities outside of work (such as volunteerism and social activity) promote quality of life and contribute to active aging. This domain examines the extent of older adults' participation in social and leisure programs and their time spent attending or viewing civic meetings, volunteering or providing help to others.

- About 57% of older adults surveyed felt they had excellent or good opportunities to volunteer, and 50% participated in some kind of volunteer work.
- The caregiving contribution of older adults was substantial in the region. About 41% of older residents reported providing care to individuals 55 and older, 24% to individuals 18-54 and 25% to individuals under 18.
- Older adults in the region reported challenges with being civically engaged 31%, being socially engaged 30% and caregiving 18%.



Productive Activities - Caregiving

Caregiver Burden

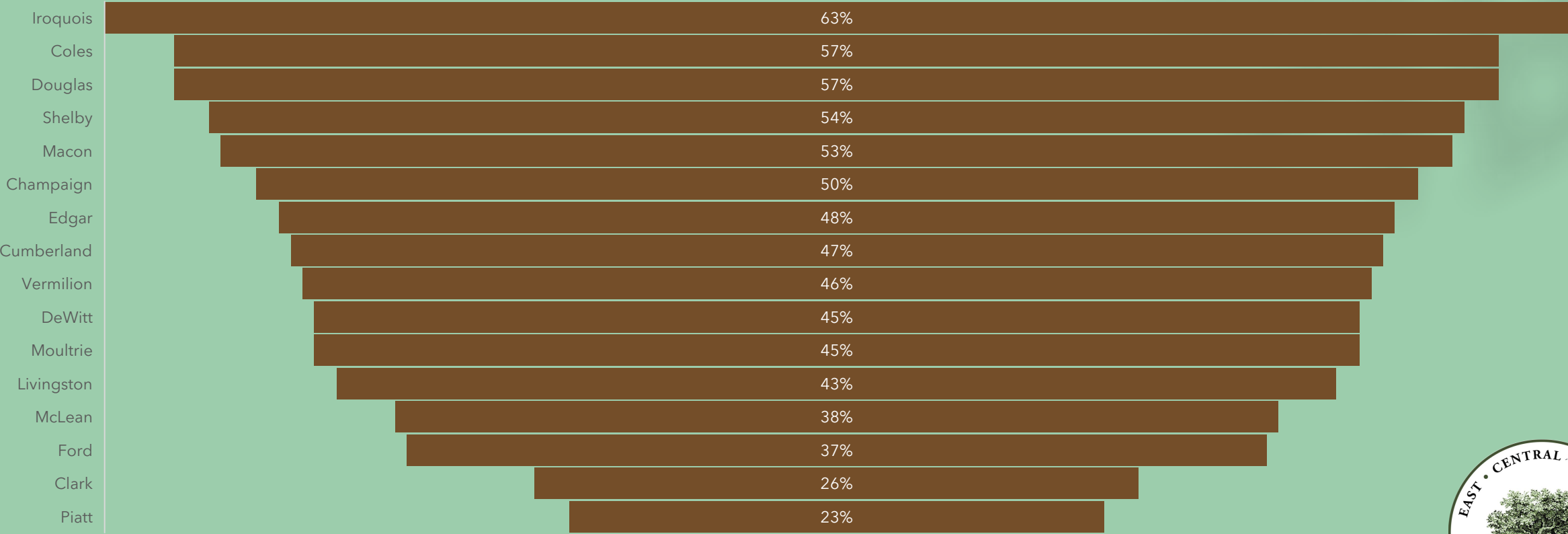


Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.



Productive Activities – Civic Engagement

Feeling Like Your Voice is Heard in the Community

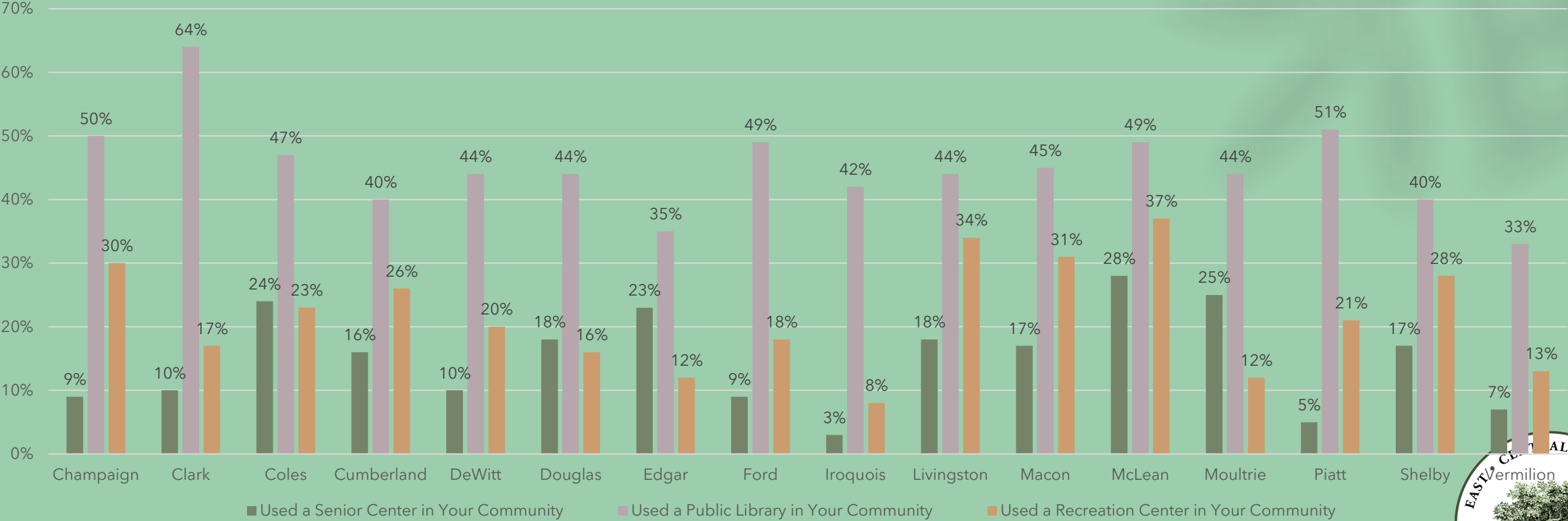


Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.



Productive Activities – Civic Engagement

Used Within Last 12-Months



Percentage of demographic that rated the characteristic as yes.



Presentation Highlights

1,653 ECIAAA Area-Wide CASOA Surveys Completed (8% Return)

- Highest Response Rate by County was Iroquois (125)
- Lowest Response Rate by County was Macon (80)
- 89% of Respondents Were Over the Age of 60
- 52% of Respondents Were Female/45% Male
- Majority of Respondents Identified as White (87%)



Presentation Highlights

Overall Scores of Community Livability

- Of the 17 Aspects of Livability Examined, the Aspects Found to be Strongest in the Region Related to Areas of:
 - Mobility (62%)
 - Safety (62%)
 - Social Engagement (57%)
- The areas showing the greatest need for improvement related to:
 - Housing (25%)
 - Mental Health (26%)
 - Employment (28%)



Presentation Highlights – Greatest Need for Improvement in PSA 05

Housing Challenges

- Having Housing to Suit Needs
- Doing Heavy or Intense Housework
- Maintaining Home
- Maintaining Yard

Mental Health Challenges

- Experiencing Confusion or Forgetfulness
- Feeling Depressed
- Dealing with the Loss of a Close Family Member or Friend

Employment Challenges

- Finding Work in Retirement
- Building Skills for Paid or Unpaid Work

