

Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults

DeWitt County Results

East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging, Inc.



OLDER
AMERICANS
MONTH



FLIP THE SCRIPT ON AGING: MAY 2025





East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging

Mission Statement

Who We Are, What We Do, and Who We Serve

Our mission is to lead and advocate for inclusive resources and services that empower the optimal aging of East Central Illinois' diverse older adults, individuals with disabilities, and their care partners.

Serving Champaign, Clark, Coles, Cumberland, DeWitt, Douglas, Edgar, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Moultrie, Piatt, Shelby and Vermilion Counties (PSA 05).





VISION STATEMENT

Action oriented direction that responds to the mission and is future thinking

To optimize aging through innovative person-centered services in East Central Illinois.



CORE PRINCIPLES

Statements with measurable outputs to guide organizational behavior

Principle 1: **Lead**

We are committed to leading through collaborative planning, effective communication and oversight, advocacy, and innovative service development to meet the diverse needs of those we serve.

Principle 2: **Advocate**

We are committed to optimal aging through advocacy that is person-centered, supported by public policy, and provided by adequately funded services.

Principle 3: **Innovate**

We are committed to encouraging, valuing, and supporting new and creative service ideas that meet the needs of those we serve.

Principle 4: **Collaborate**

We are committed to strengthening programs and services through inclusive and diverse community partnerships.



ECIAAA Services Funded Through The Older Americans Act

Senior Information Services/Coordinated Point of Entry

- Options Counseling

- Senior Health Insurance Program

- Benefits Access

Caregiver Advisory Services/Grandparents Raising Grandchildren & Other Relatives as Parents

- Support Groups

- Training & Education, such as Stress Busting

- Information & Counseling

- Respite

Nutrition

- Congregate Meals

- Home Delivered Meals

- Nutritional Assessments

Legal Services

Healthy Aging

- Evidenced-Based Programs such as Chronic Disease Self-Management, Diabetes Self-Management, PEARLS, Bingocize, Matter of Balance

Social Connectedness (Reducing Social Isolation)

Ombudsman Program



The Older Americans Act (OAA) was last reauthorized in 2020 and is up for reauthorization in 2025.

What happens next, and what can you do?

The reauthorization bill still needs to pass the House. If we want legislation to be enacted before the end of the 119th Congress, we need to continue educating representatives about why OAA services and strategies are important.

Introduction

East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging, Inc. contracted with Polco, a powerful community engagement and data insights platform designed to help organizations better understand and respond to the needs of their communities, to conduct a 16-county area wide Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA)[®]. The CASOA[®] provides a statistically valid survey of the strengths and needs of older adults as reported by older adults themselves. This report is intended to enable local governments, community-based organizations, the private sector and other community members to understand more thoroughly and predict more accurately the services and resources required to serve an aging population. With this data, community stakeholders can shape public policy, educate the public and assist communities and organizations in their efforts to sustain a high quality of life for older adults.



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 Method

The CASOA® survey instrument and its administration are standardized to assure high-quality survey methods and comparable results across communities. Two methods were used to solicit survey responses among the 16-county service area: A random sample mailed survey and an open participation survey. The open participation survey results were combined with responses from the probability sample survey, for a total of 1,653 completed surveys, providing an overall response rate of 8% and a margin of error plus or minus 2 around any given percent and one point around any given average rating for the entire sample (e.g., average number of caregiving hours). Results were statistically weighted to reflect the proper demographic composition of older adults in the entire community.



Survey Sample & Collection

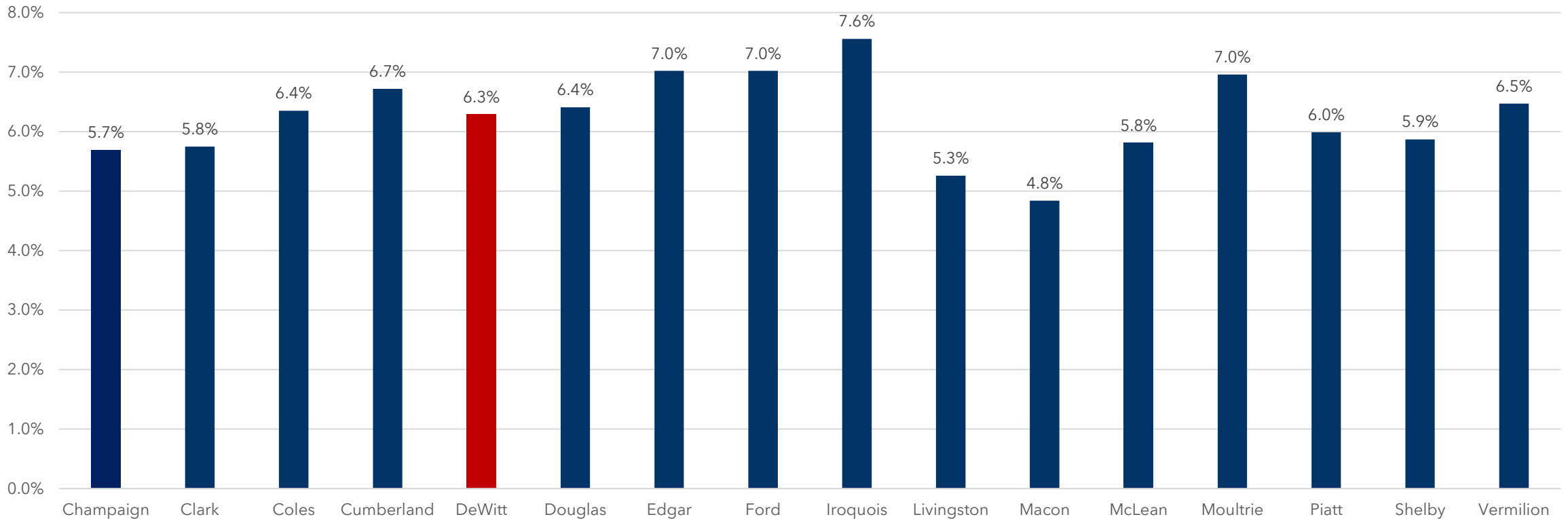
ECIAAA Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA®)

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



Surveys Completed by County

1,653 Surveys Completed

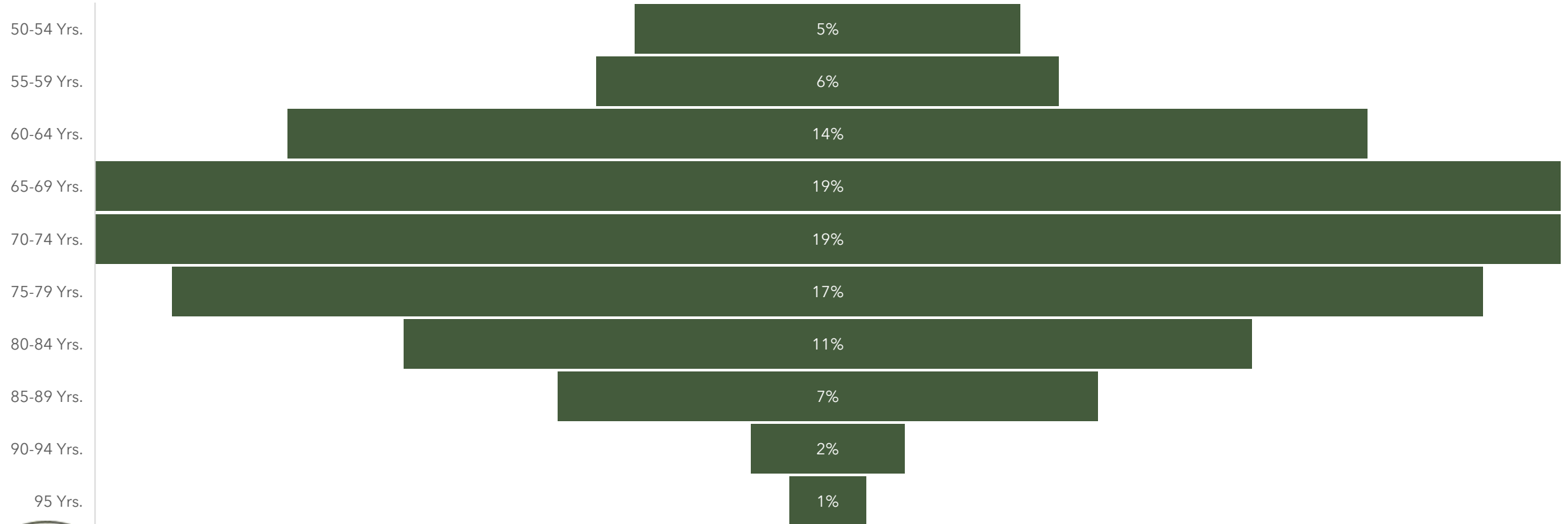


22,400 Surveys (1,400 Random Surveys Sent Per County X 16 Counties)



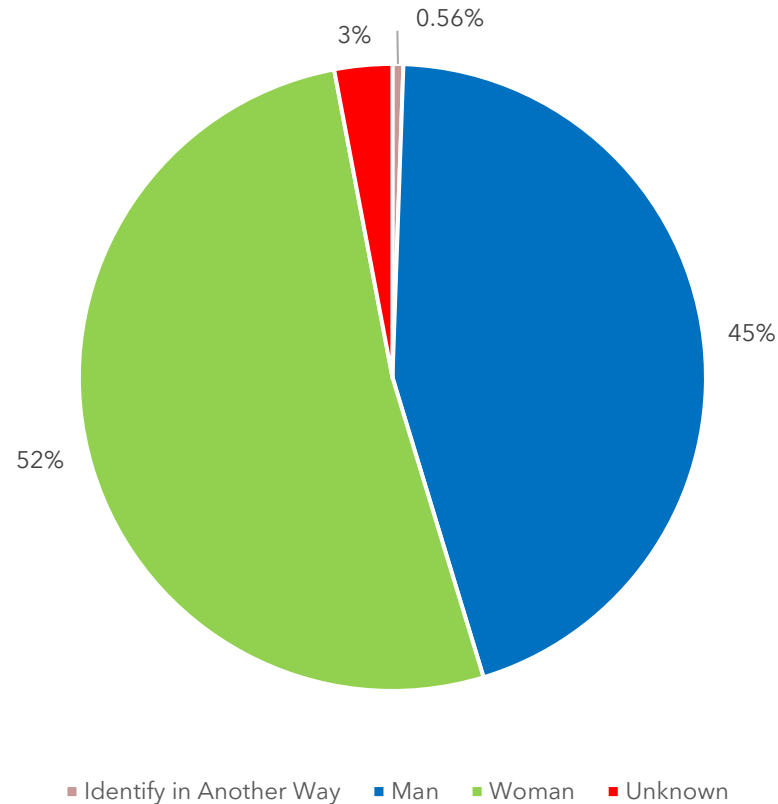
Overall Surveys Completed by Age

Age of Survey Respondents - 89% Over Age 60

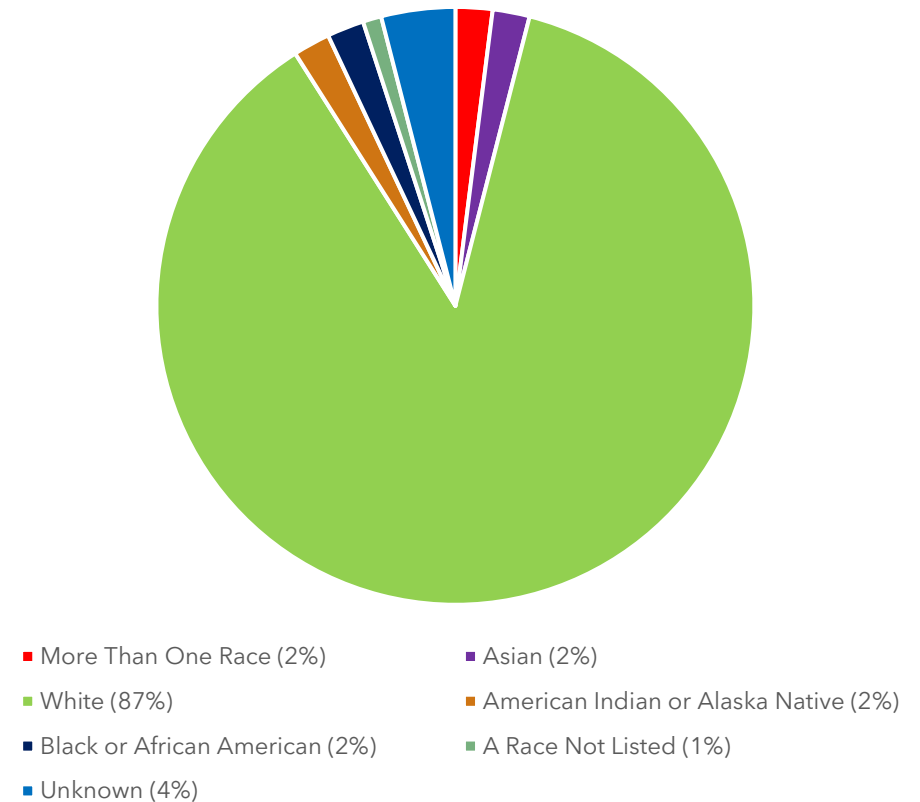


Overall Surveys Completed by Gender & Race

Gender of Survey Respondents

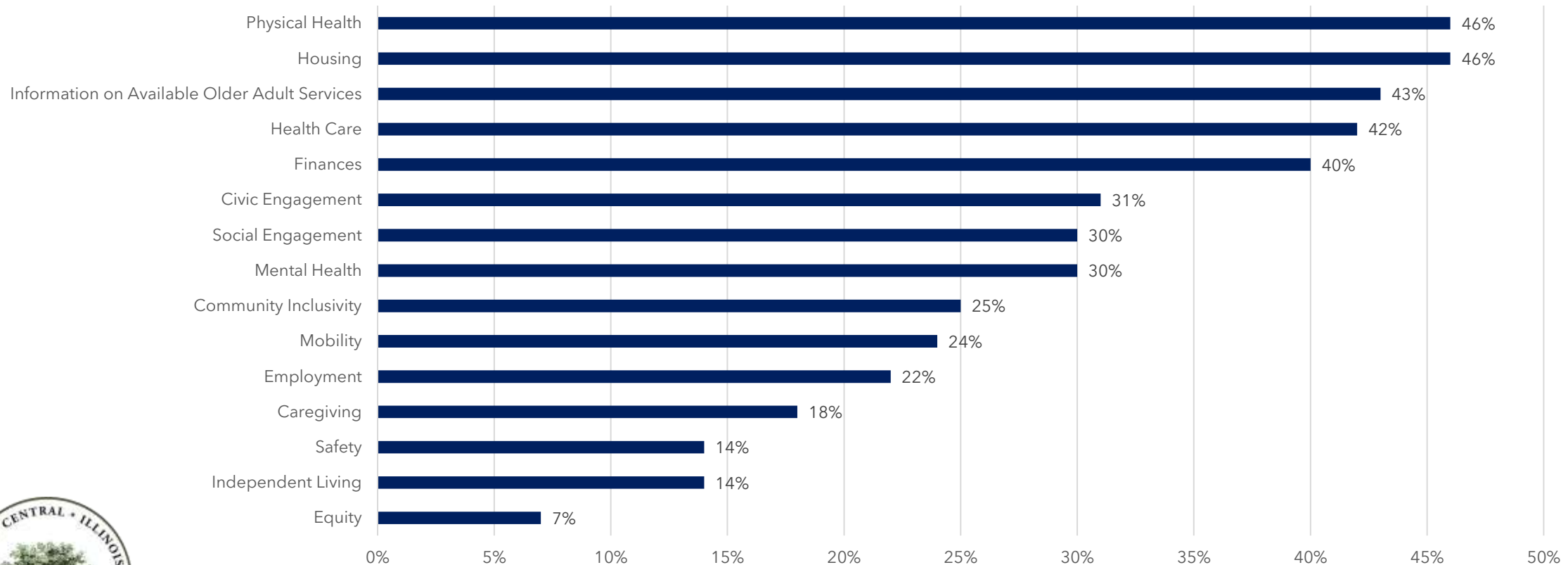


Race of Survey Respondents



Overall Survey Percent & Estimated Number of Older Adults with 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.



Benchmark Comparison Data

National Research Center at Polco has developed a database that collates responses to CASOA® and related surveys administered in other communities, which allows the results from East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging to be compared against a set of national benchmarks. This benchmarking database includes responses from more than 35,000 older adults (age 55 and over) in over 344 communities across the nation.

The results of this exploration will provide useful information for planning and resource development as well as strengthen advocacy efforts and stakeholder engagement. The ultimate goal of the assessment is to create empowered communities that support vibrant older adult populations.



Community Dimensions

This report summarizes how older residents view their community and its success in creating a thriving environment for older adults. Aspects of livability are explored within six community dimensions:

1. Community Design
2. Employment and Finances
3. Equity and Inclusivity
4. Health and Wellness
5. Information and Assistance
6. Productive Activities

Overall community quality also is assessed.



Overall Community Quality

Domain of Community Livability



Description

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 residents of all ages.

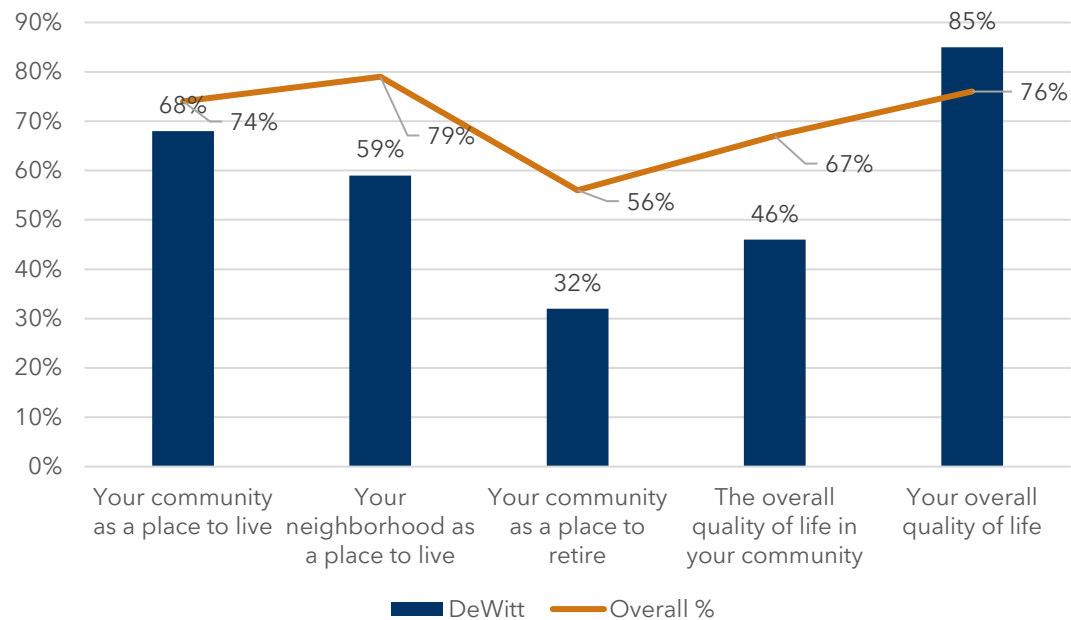
Community Livability Topics

- Place to Live and Retire
- Recommend and Remain in Community

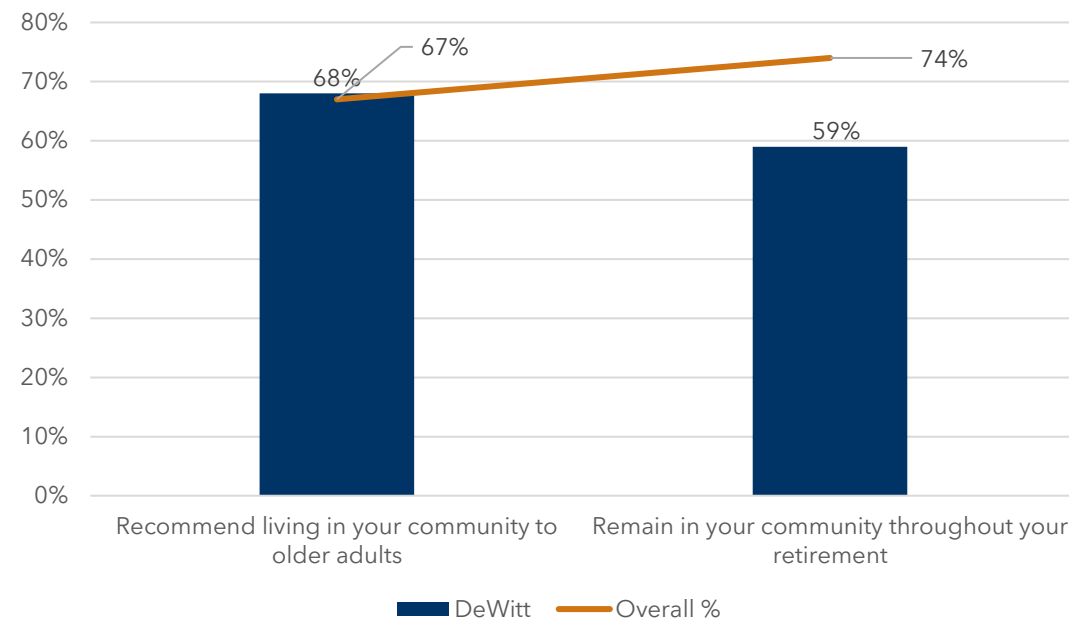


Overall Community Quality

Place to Live & Retire
Rated Excellent or Good



Recommend & Remain in Community
Rated Very Likely or Somewhat Likely



Community Design

Domain of Community Livability



Community Design

Description

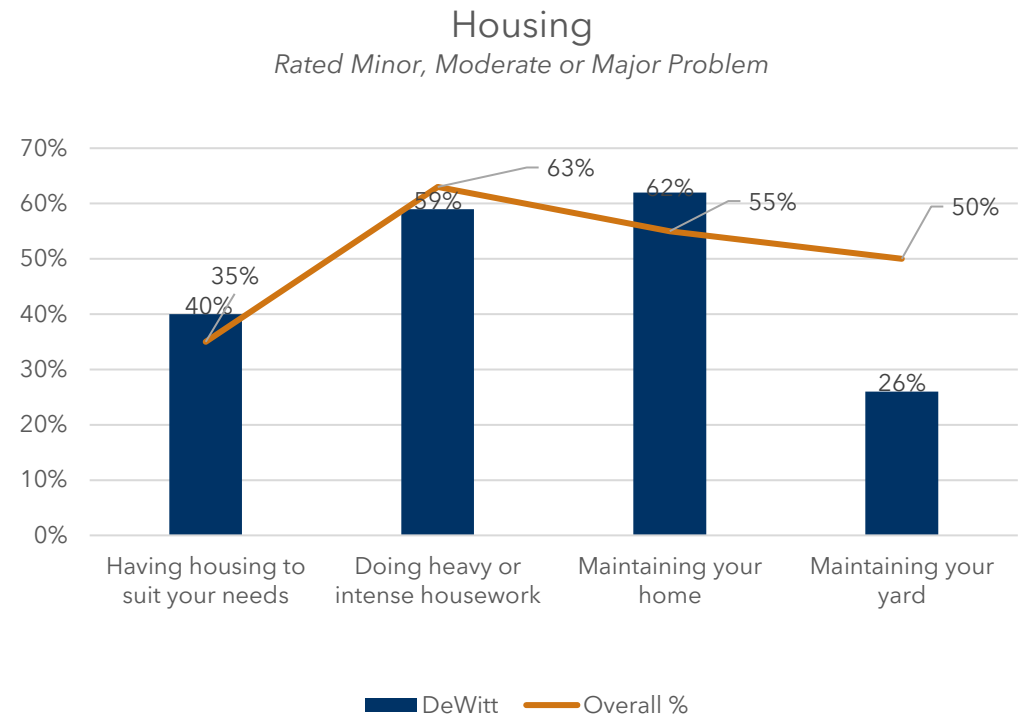
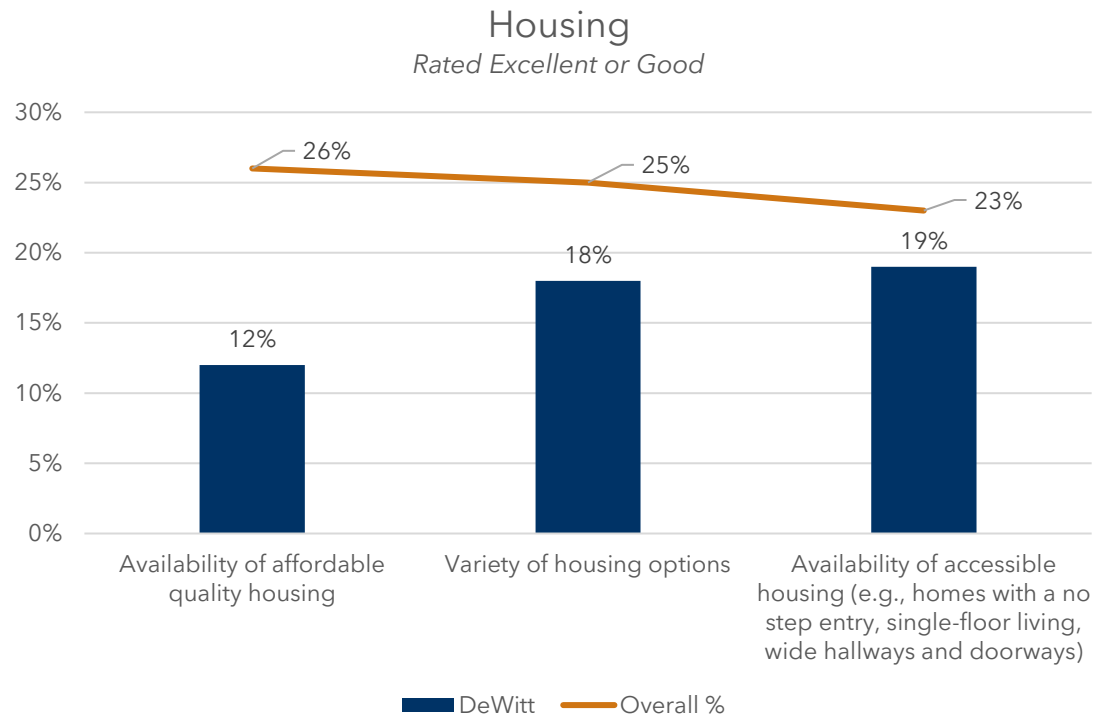
A well-designed community enhances the quality of life for its residents by encouraging smart land use and zoning, ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to all, and providing mobility options to support residents aging in place.

Community Livability Topics

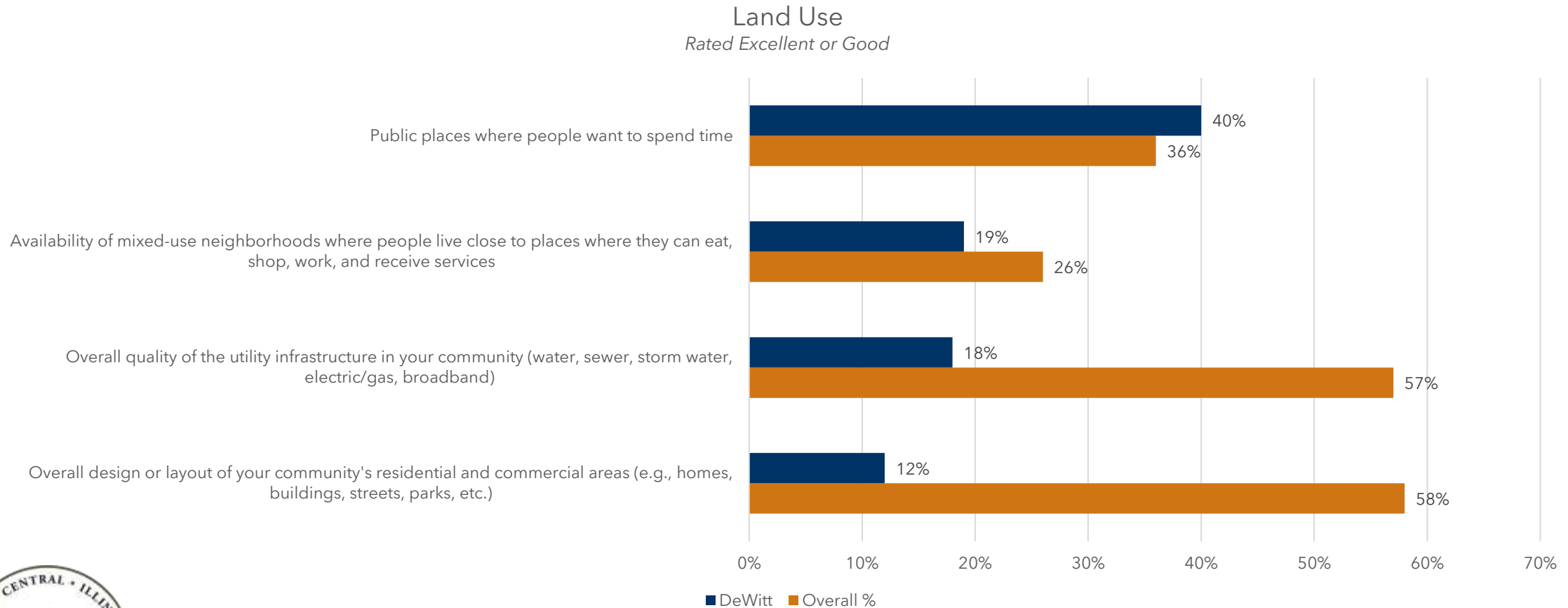
- Housing
- Mobility
- Land Use



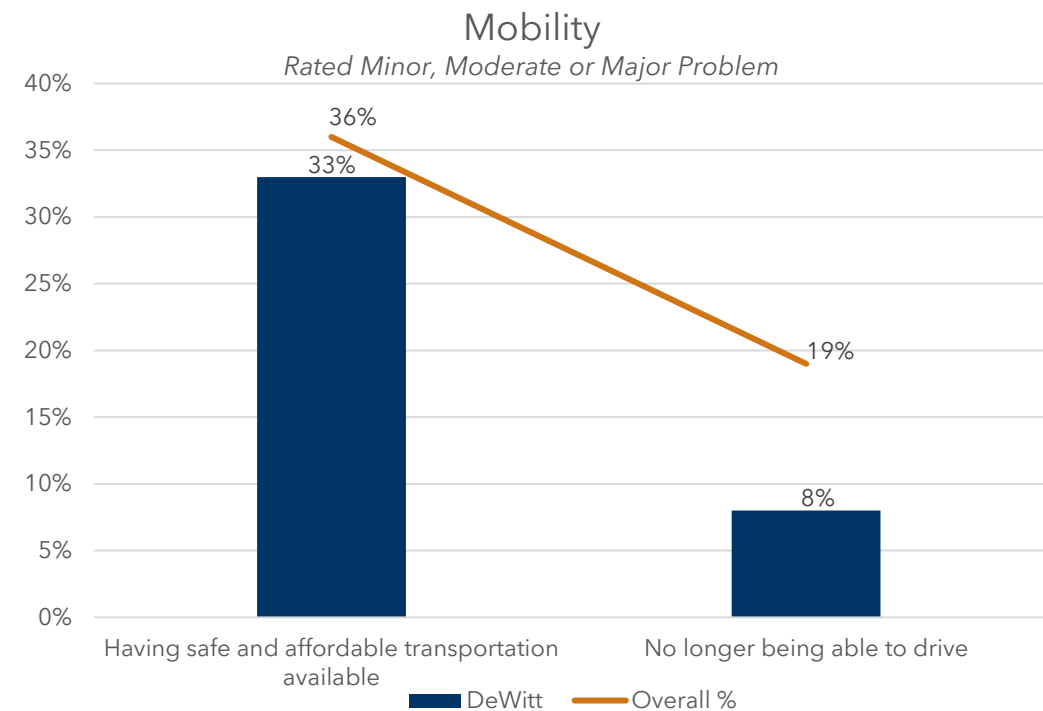
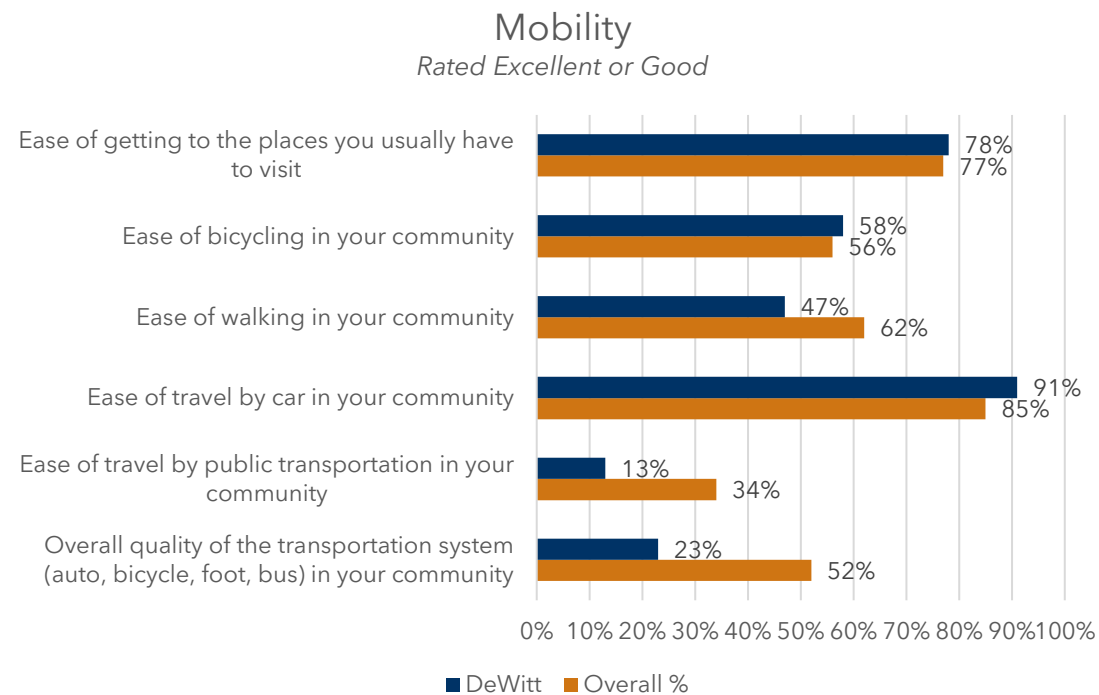
Community Design - Housing



Community Design - Land Use



Community Design - Mobility



Employment & Finances

Domain of Community Livability



Employment and Finances

Description

Communities that work to foster sustainable growth, create jobs and workforce training for persons of all ages, and promote equitable economies ensure older adults are able to sustain their financial well-being through retirement and not outlive their life investments.

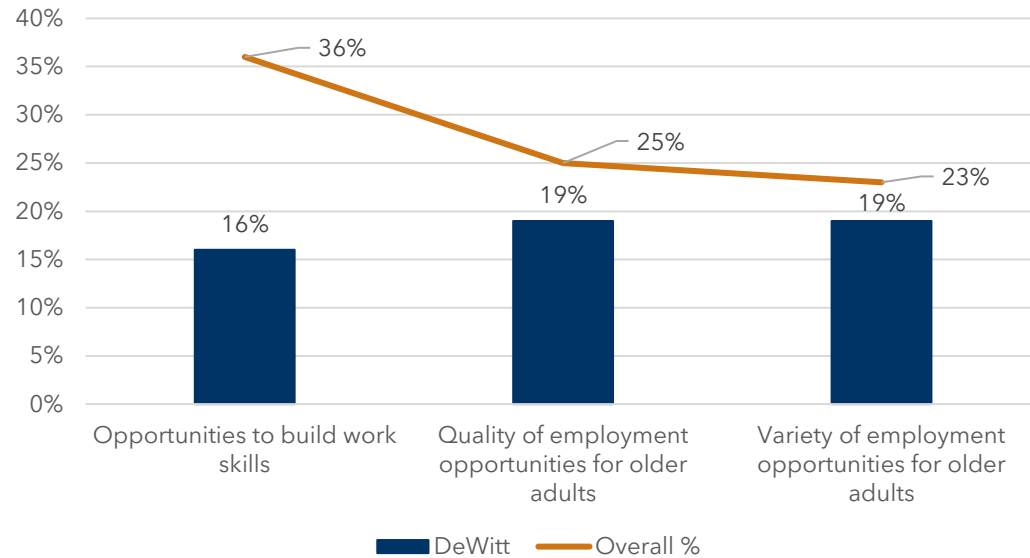
Community Livability Topics

- Employment
- Finances

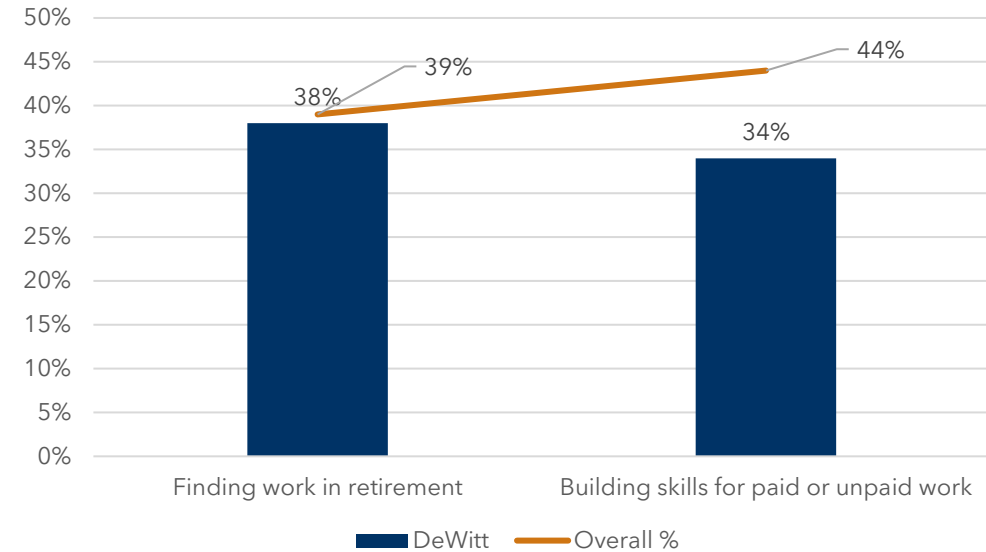


Employment

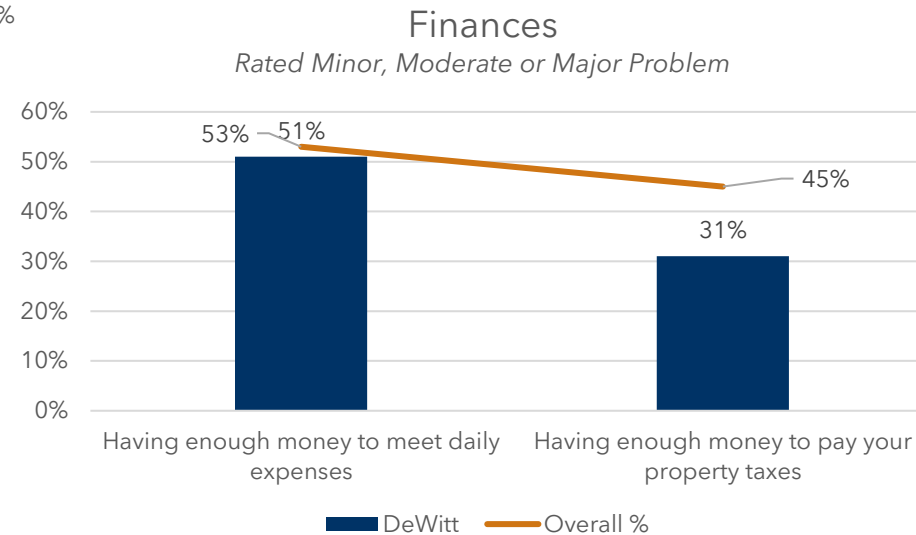
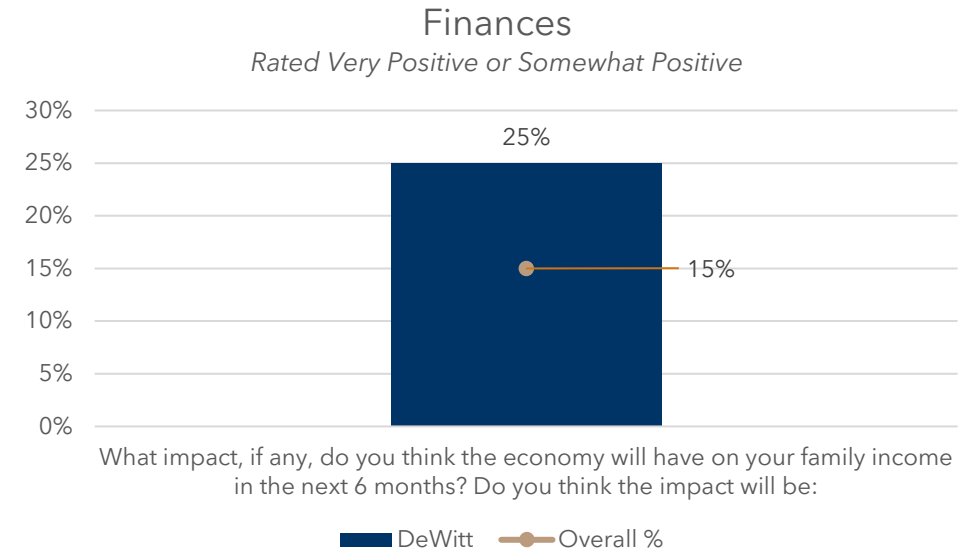
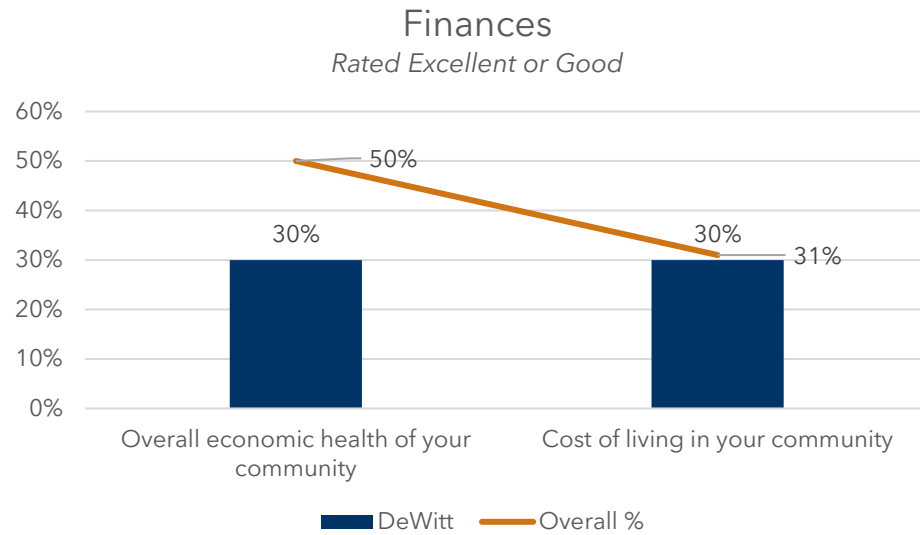
Employment
Rated Excellent or Good



Employment
Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem



Finances



Overall 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



■ Unpaid ■ Paid

2024

\$3,413,764,450

\$3,937,659,872

\$7,351,424,322



Equity & Inclusivity

Domain of Community Livability



Equity and Inclusivity

Description

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 safety and trust in the other members of the community.

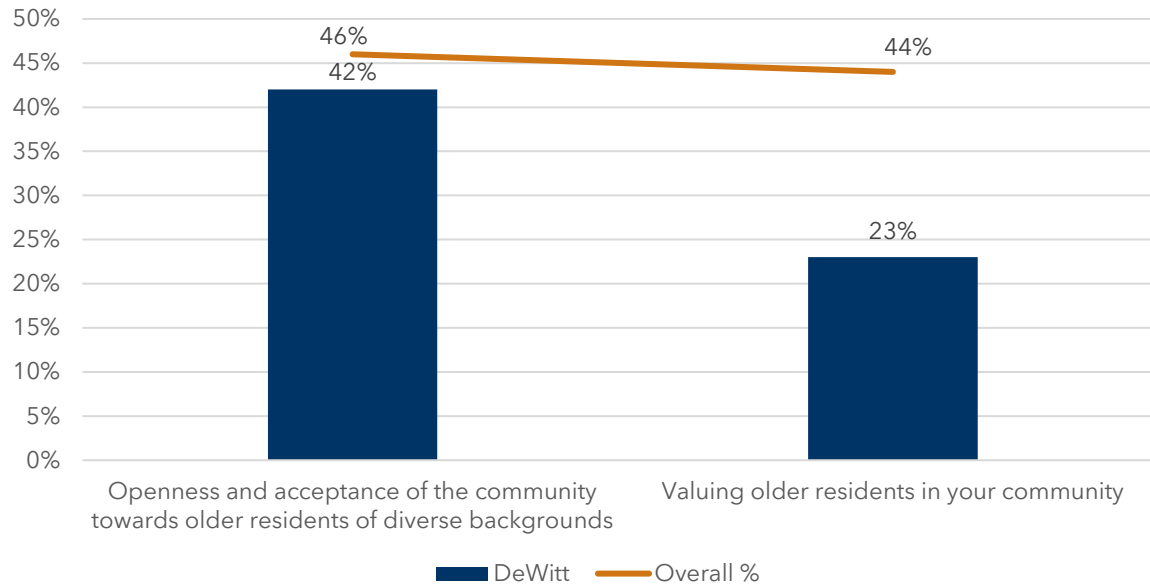
Community Livability Topics

- Equity
- Community Inclusivity

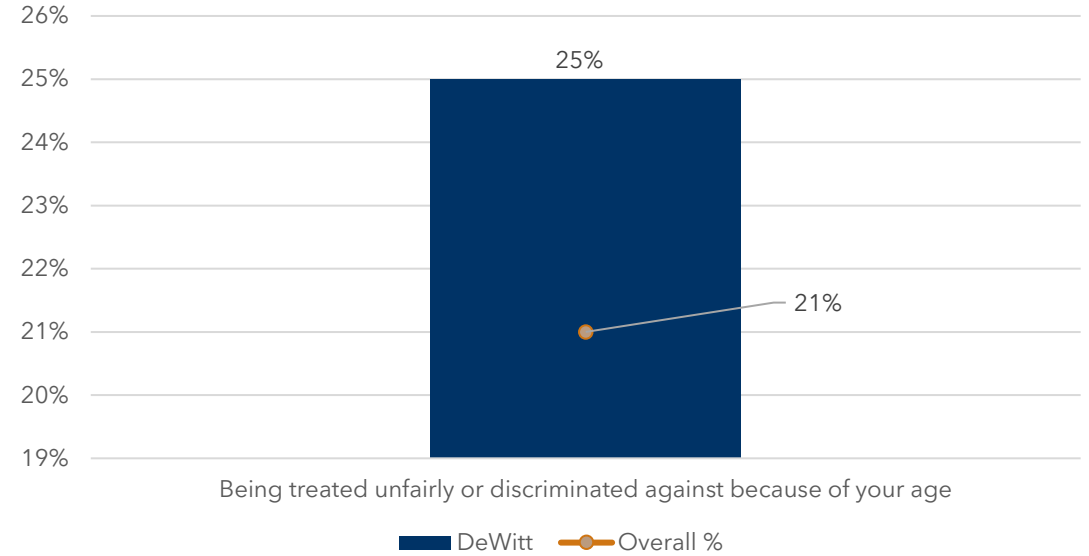


Equity

Equity
Rated Excellent or Good

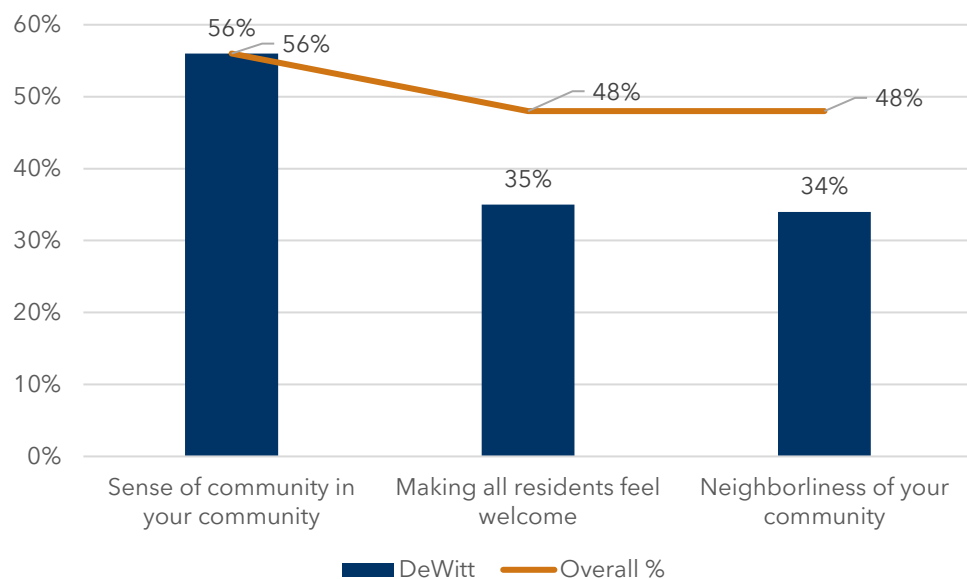


Equity
Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem

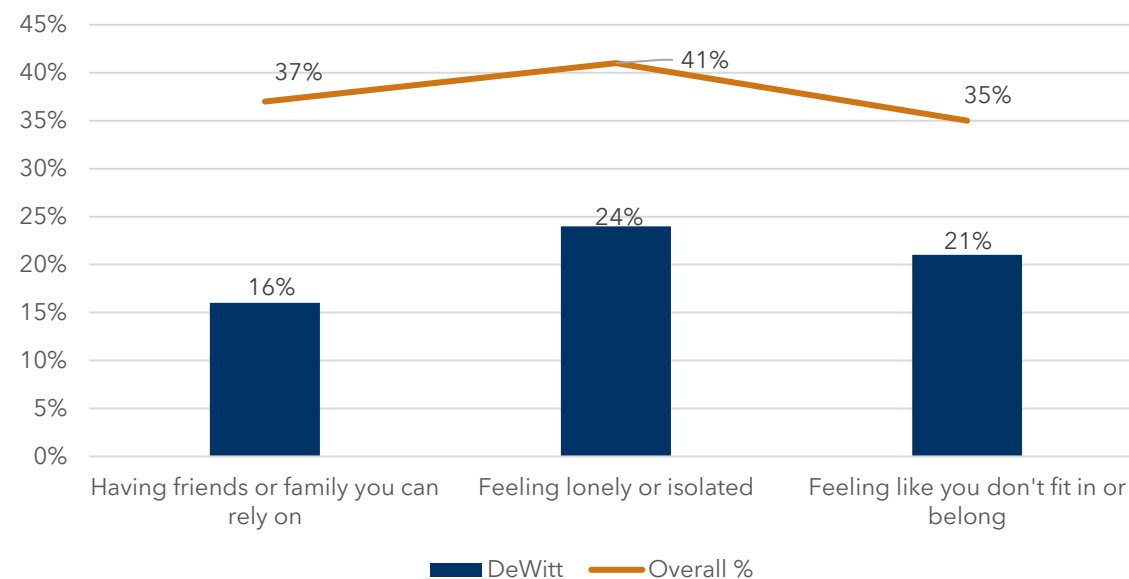


Community Inclusivity

Community Inclusivity
Rated Excellent or Good



Community Inclusivity
Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem



Health & Wellness

Domain of Community Livability



Health and Wellness

Description

The amenities available in the communities have a direct impact on the health and wellness of residents, and thus, on their quality of life overall.

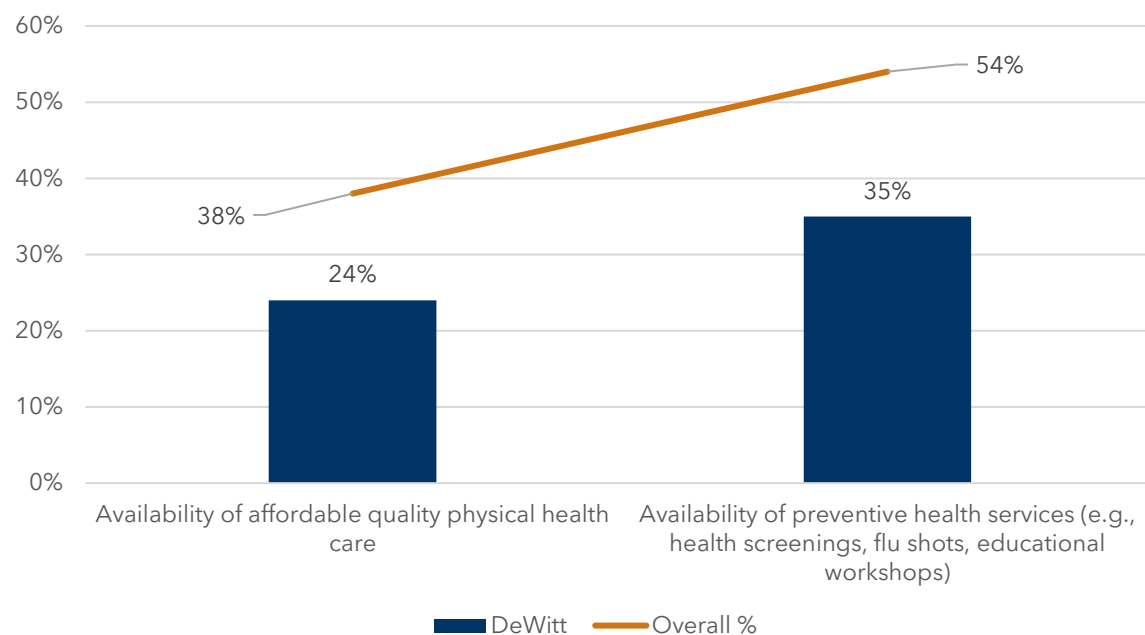
Community Livability Topics

- Safety
- Physical Health
- Mental Health
- Health Care
- Independent Living

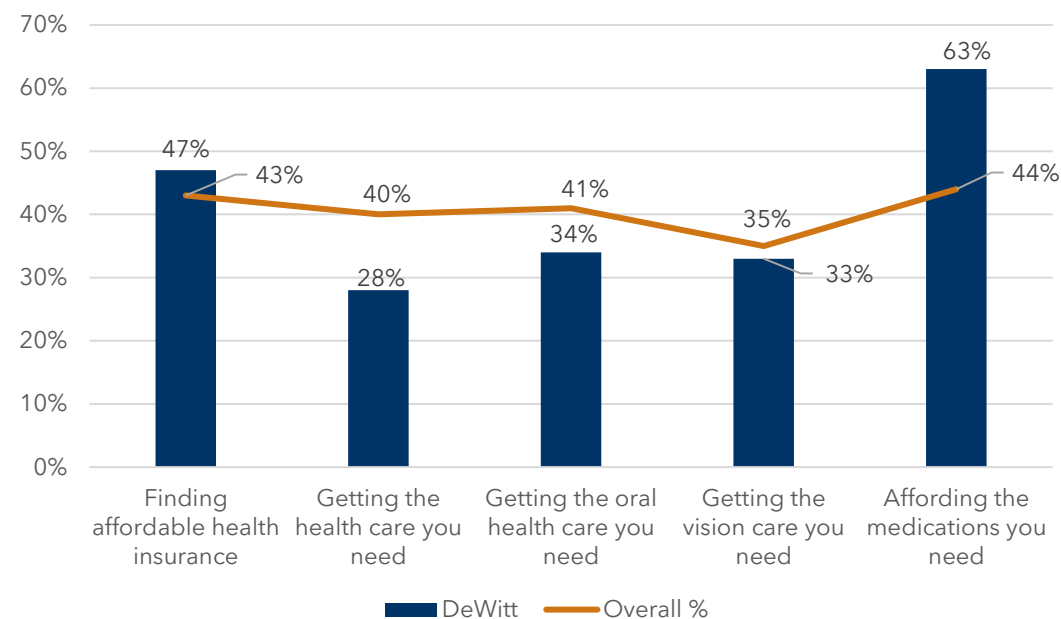


Health & Wellness – Health Care

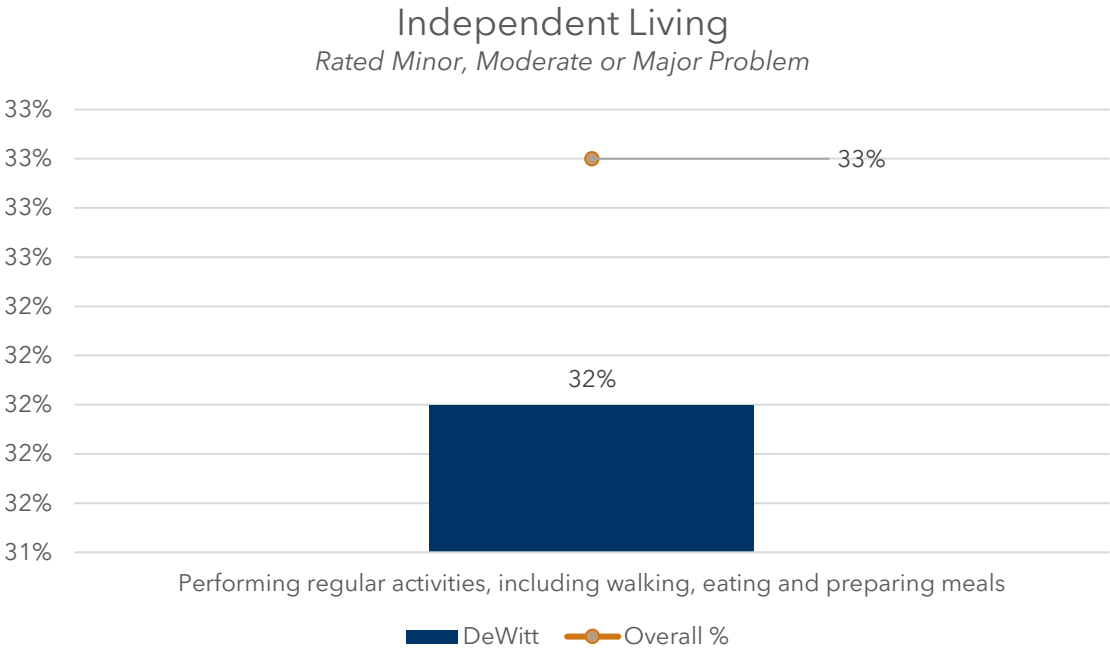
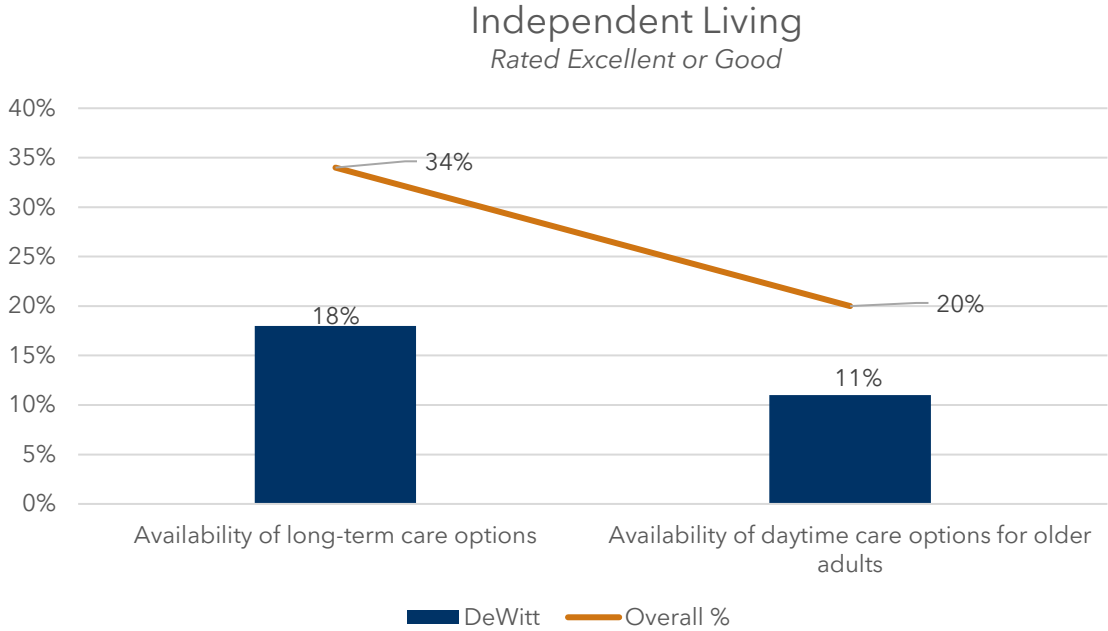
Health Care
Rated Excellent or Good



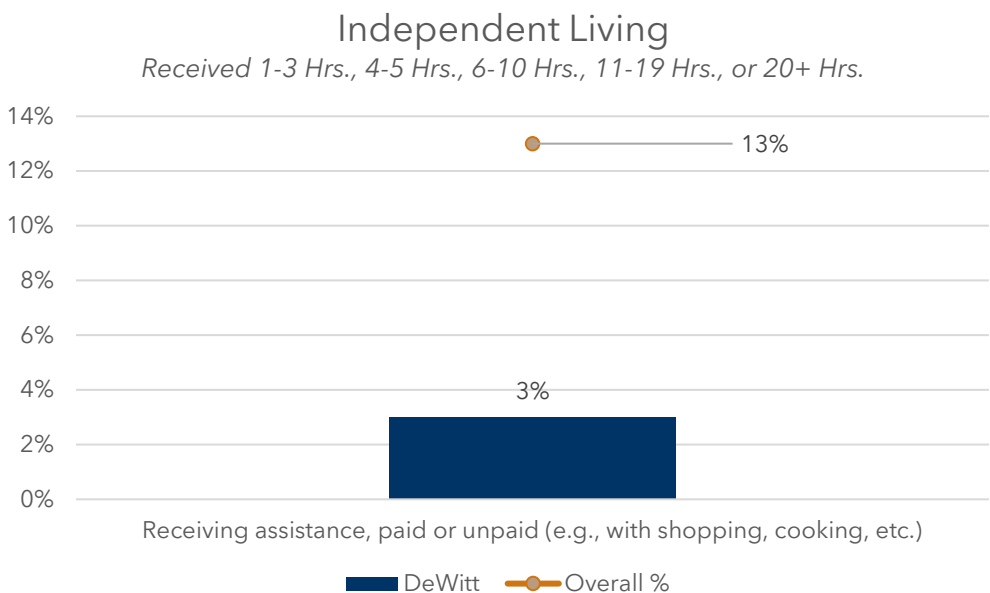
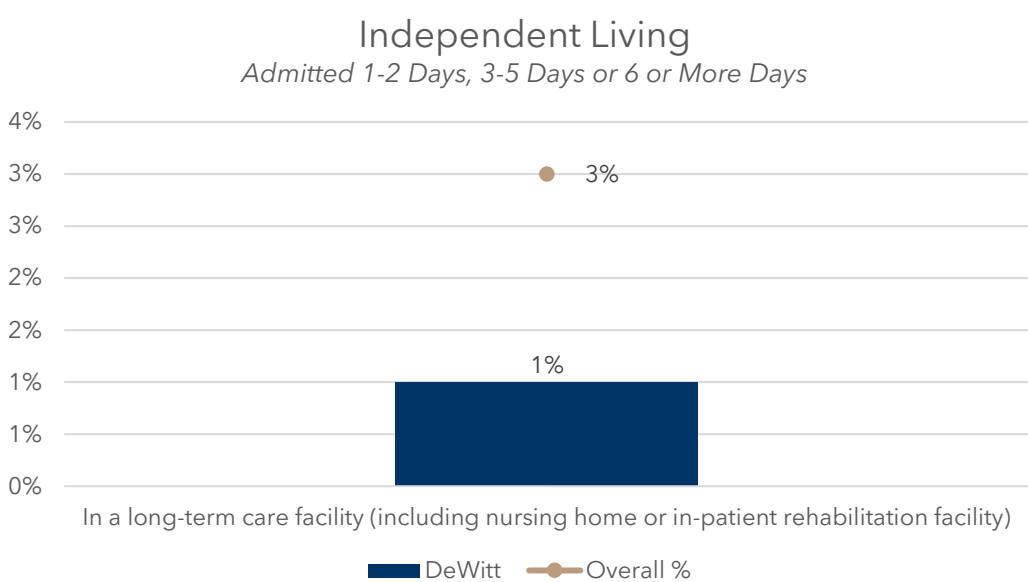
Health Care
Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem



Health & Wellness - Independent Living



Health & Wellness - Independent Living





Congregate Indicators- Food Security & Socialization

FY 2024 Congregate POMP Survey

SEE THEIR FRIENDS MORE OFTEN

88.35%

EAT AT SITE AT LEAST MONTHLY

91.48%

HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY FOOD

80.28%

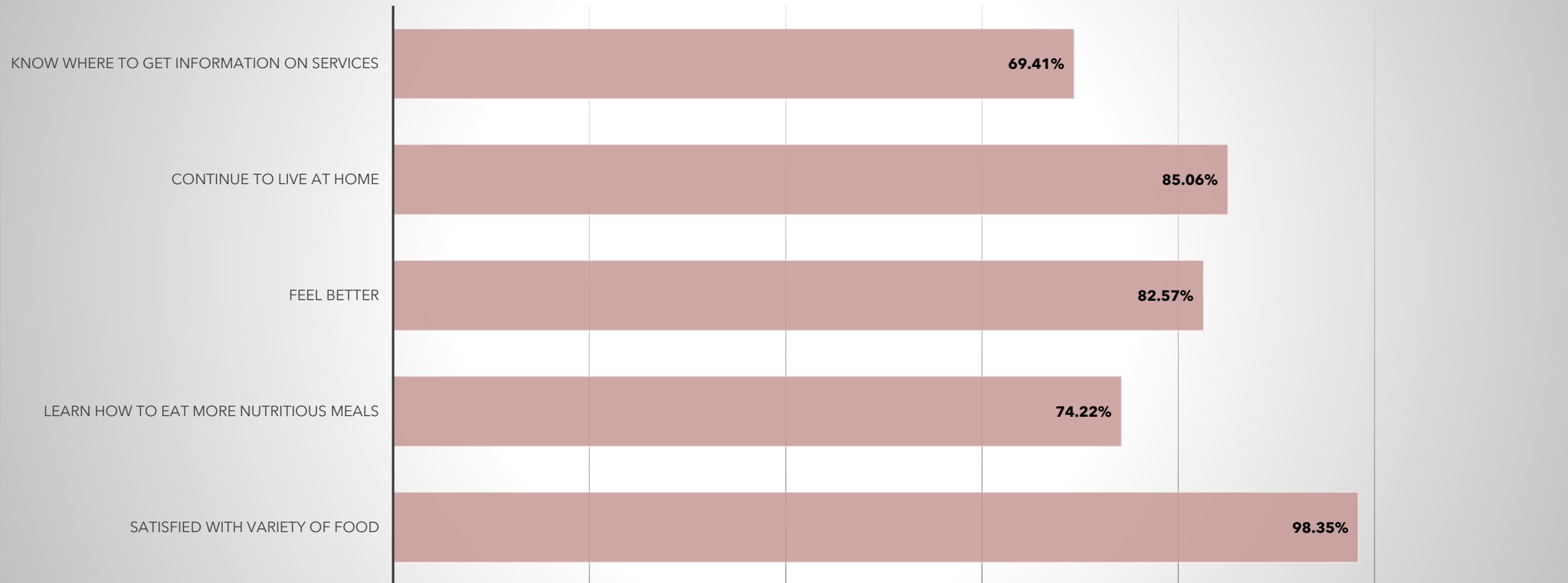
MEAL IS 1/2 OR LESS THAN OF DAILY FOOD

80.78%



Congregate Indicators- Dietary Intake, Health, Nutritional Knowledge & Independence

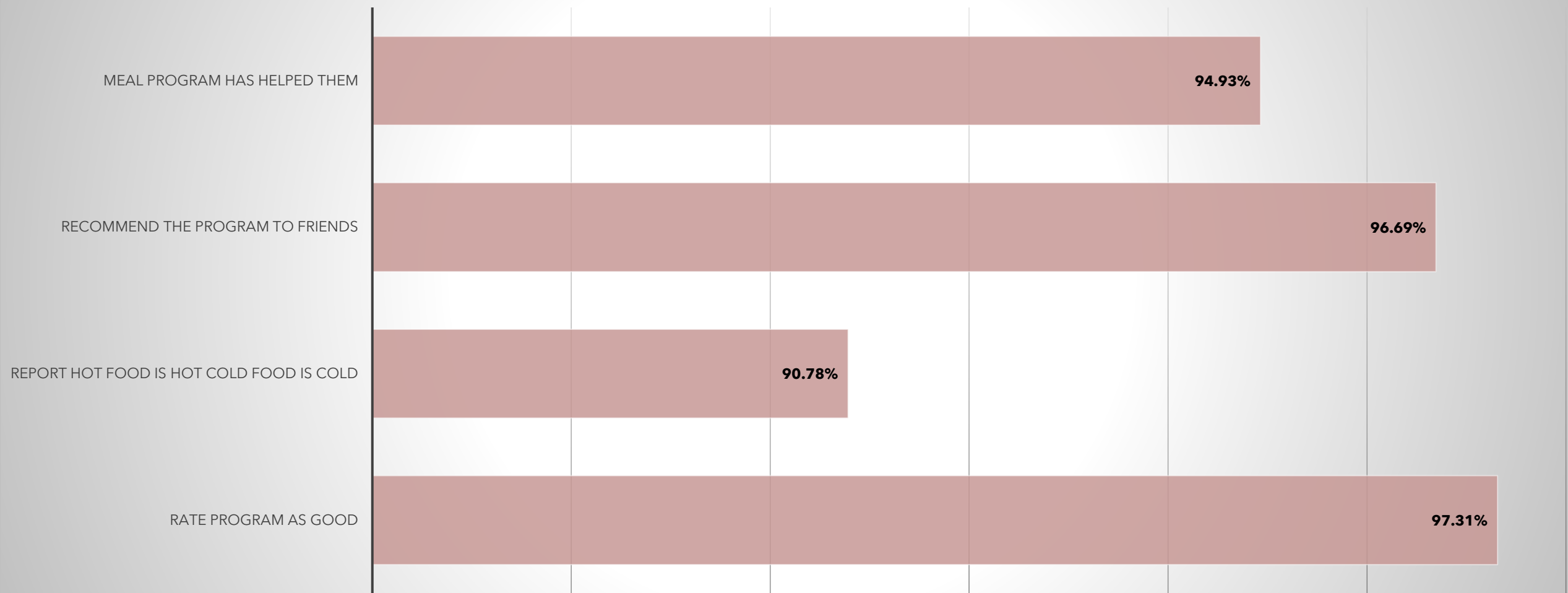
FY 2024 Congregate POMP Survey Results





Congregate Indicators- Client Satisfaction

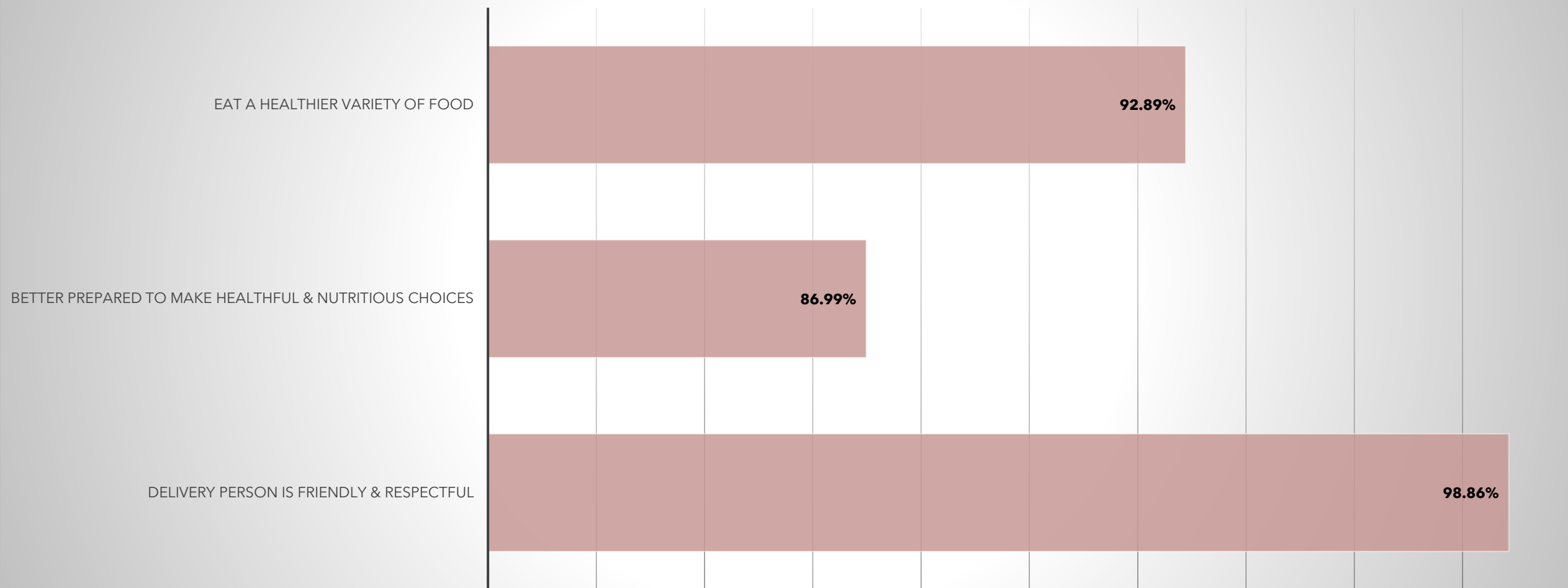
FY 2024 Congregate POMP Survey Results





Home Delivered Meals Indicators- Socialization, Dietary Intake, Health & Nutritional Knowledge

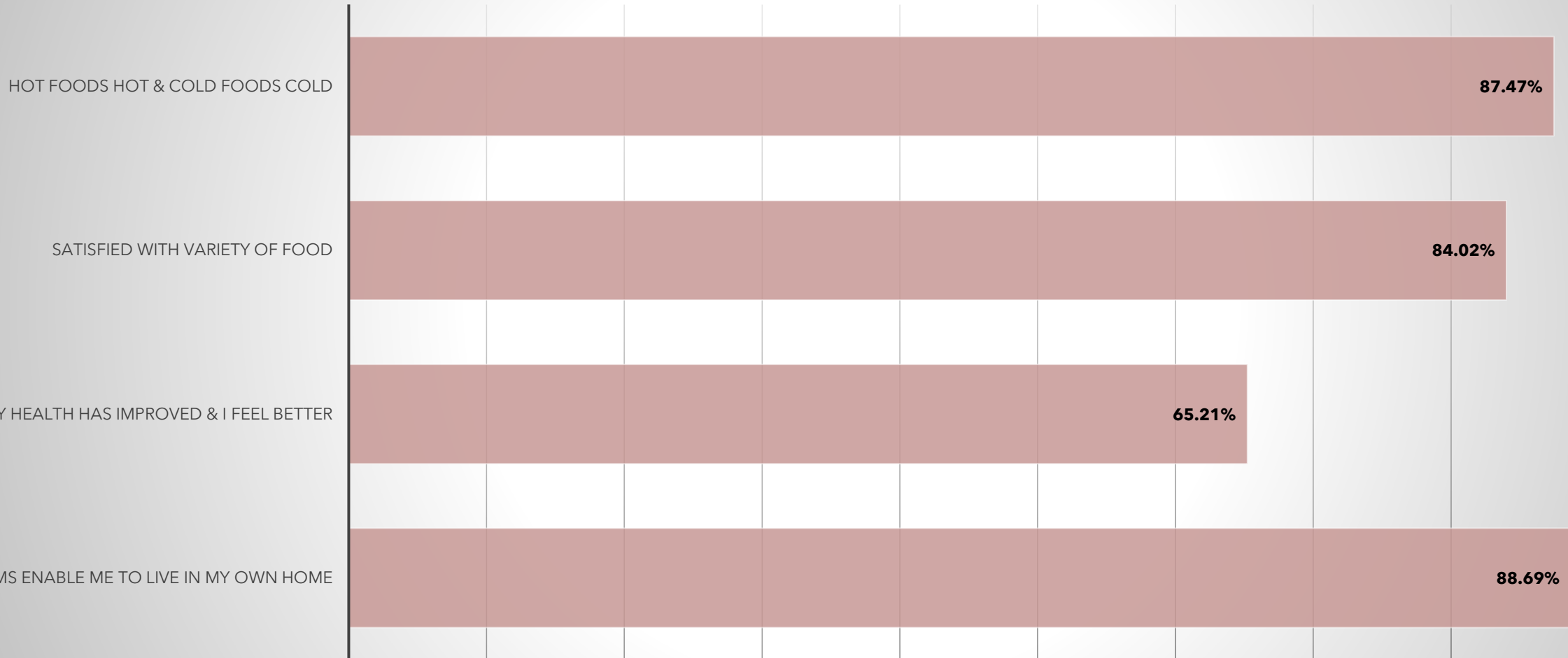
FY 2024 HDM POMP Survey Results



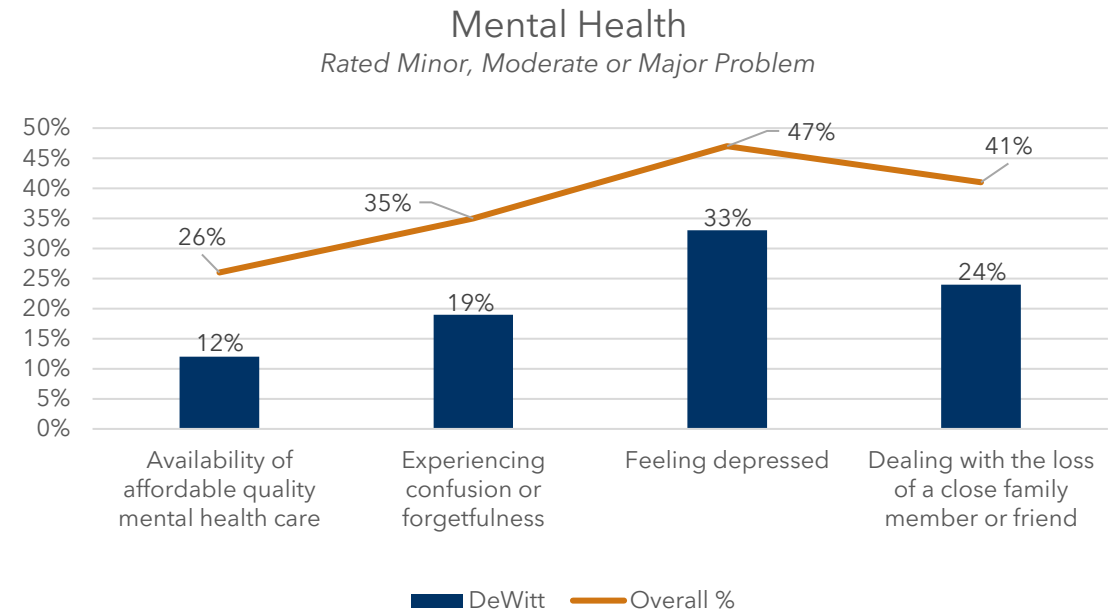
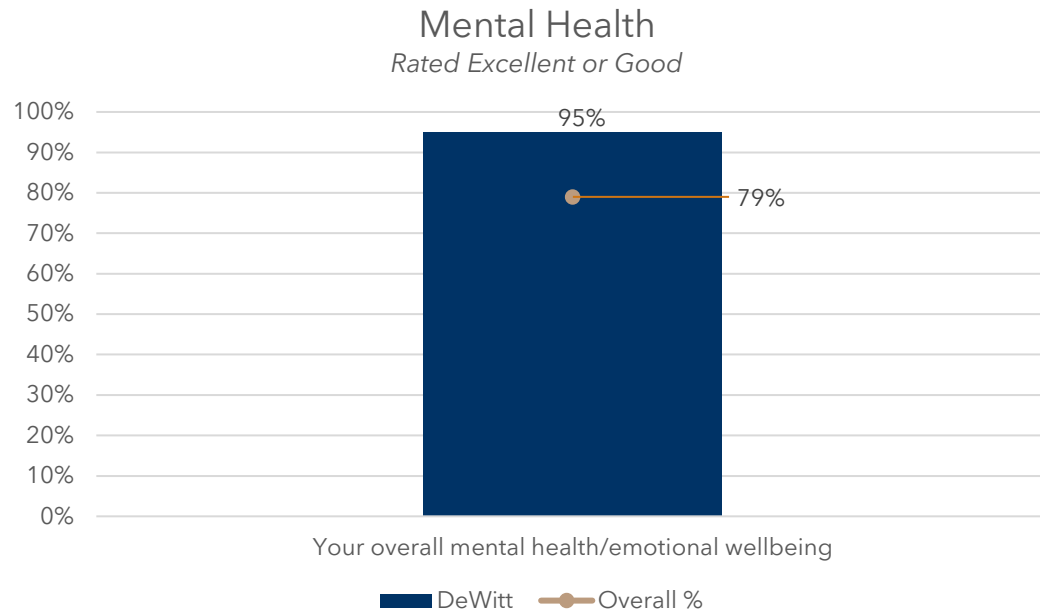


Home Delivered Meals Indicators- Independence and Client Satisfaction

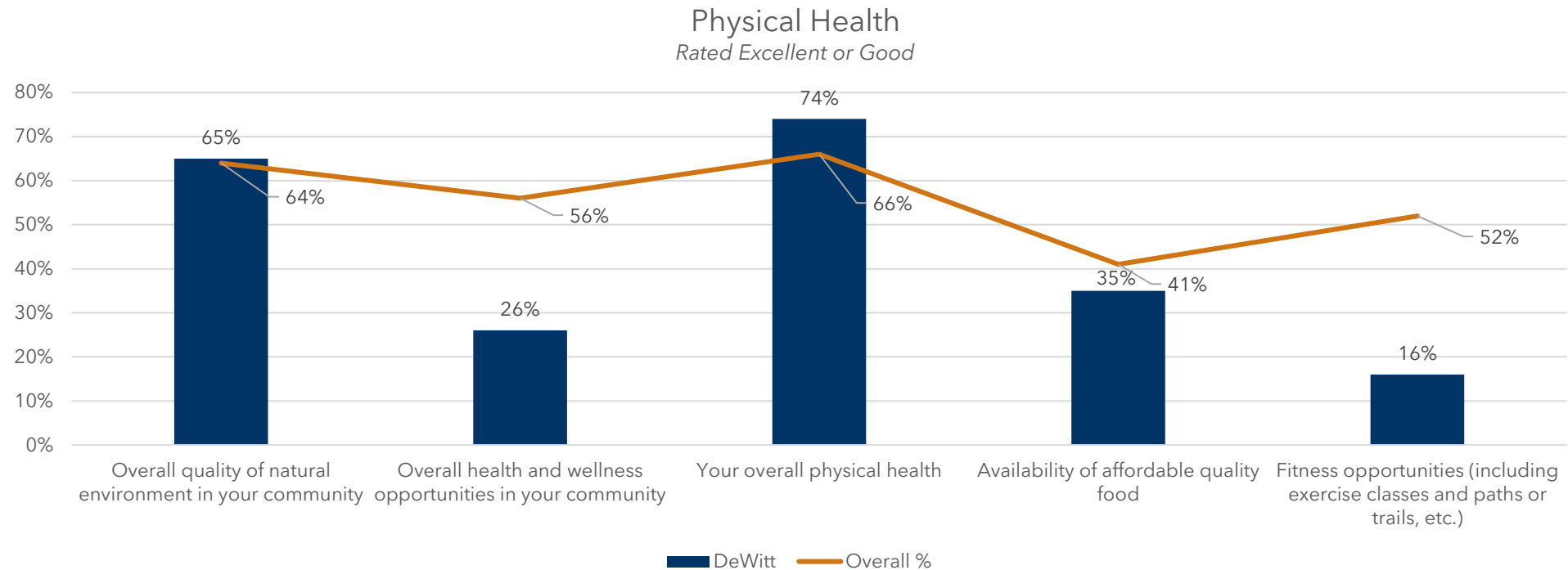
FY 2024 HDM POMP Survey Results



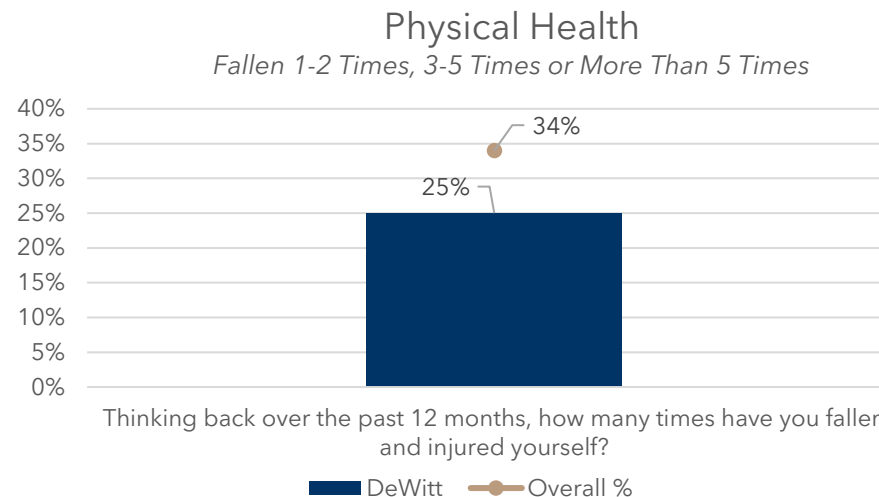
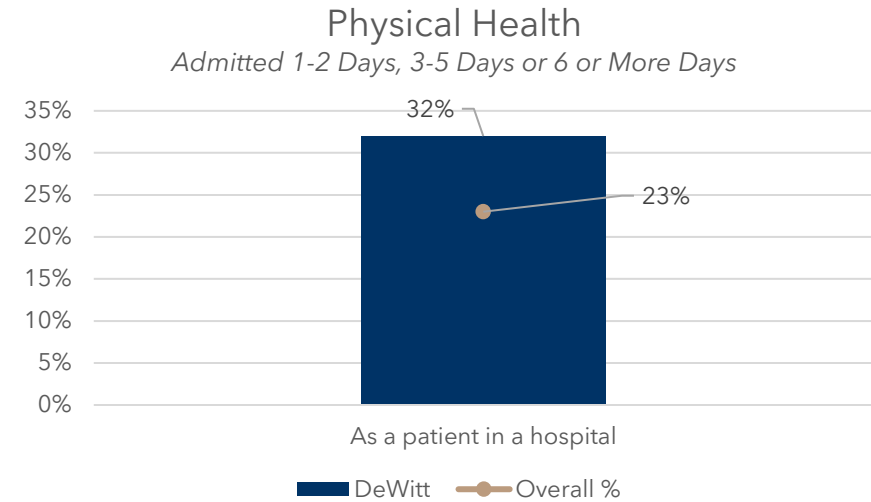
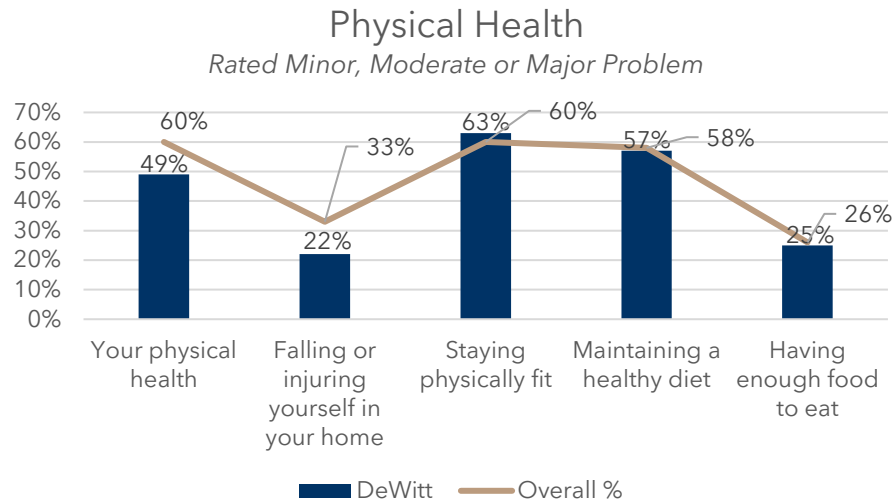
Health & Wellness - Mental Health



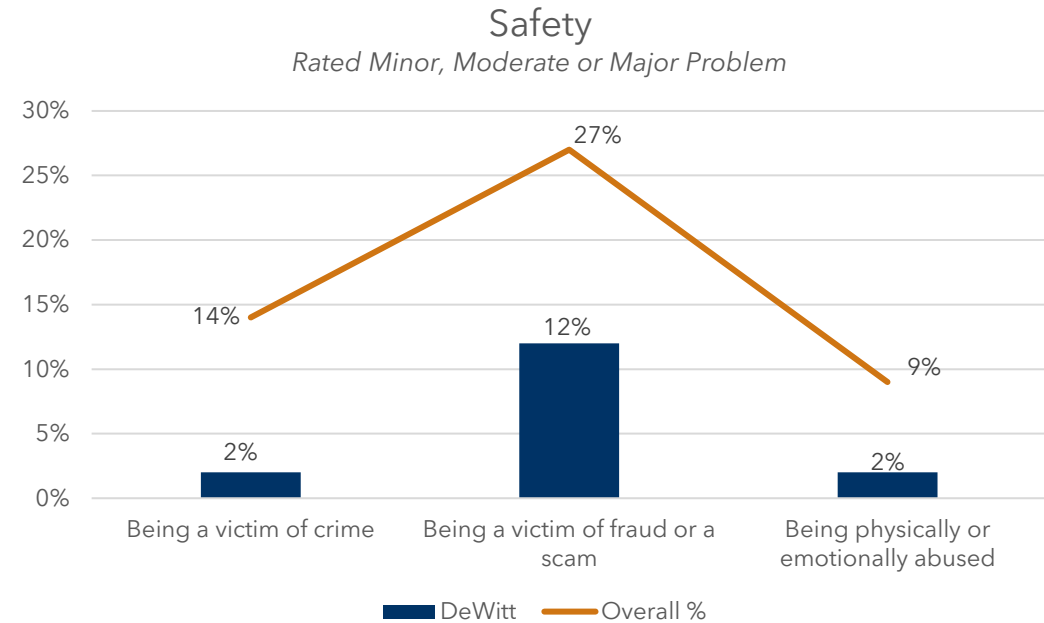
Health & Wellness – Physical Health



Health & Wellness - Physical Health



Health & Wellness - Safety



Information & Assistance

Domain of Community Livability



Information and Assistance

Description

Government programs, policies and information assistance can support successful aging initiatives allowing older residents to remain independent contributors to community quality.

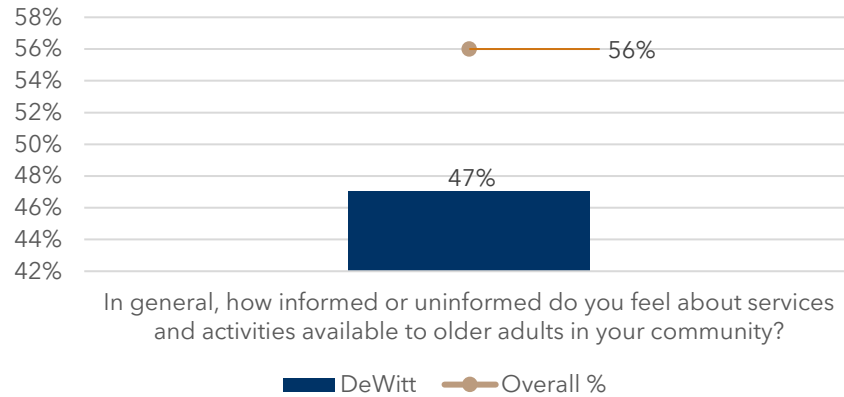
Community Livability Topics

- Quality of Older Adult Services
- Information on Available Older Adult Services

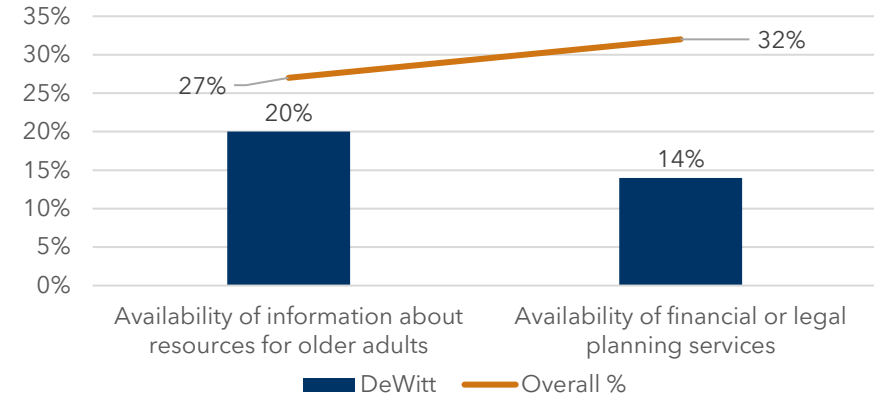


Information & Assistance

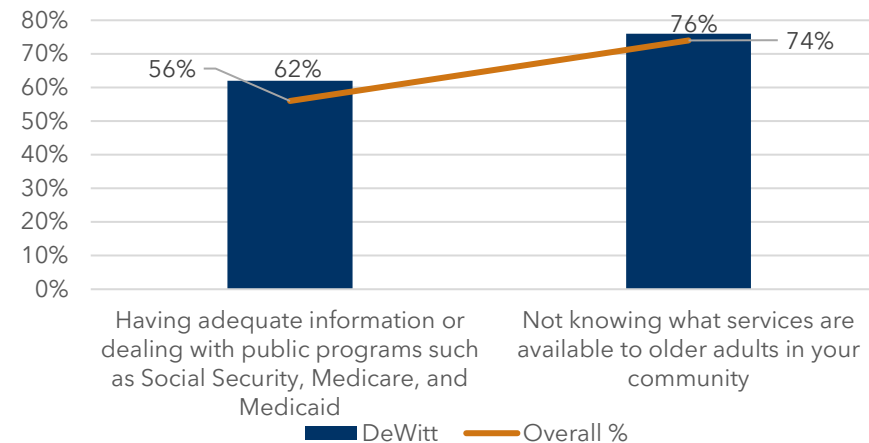
Information on Available Older Adult Services
Rated Very Informed or Somewhat Informed



Information on Available Older Adult Services
Rated Excellent or Good

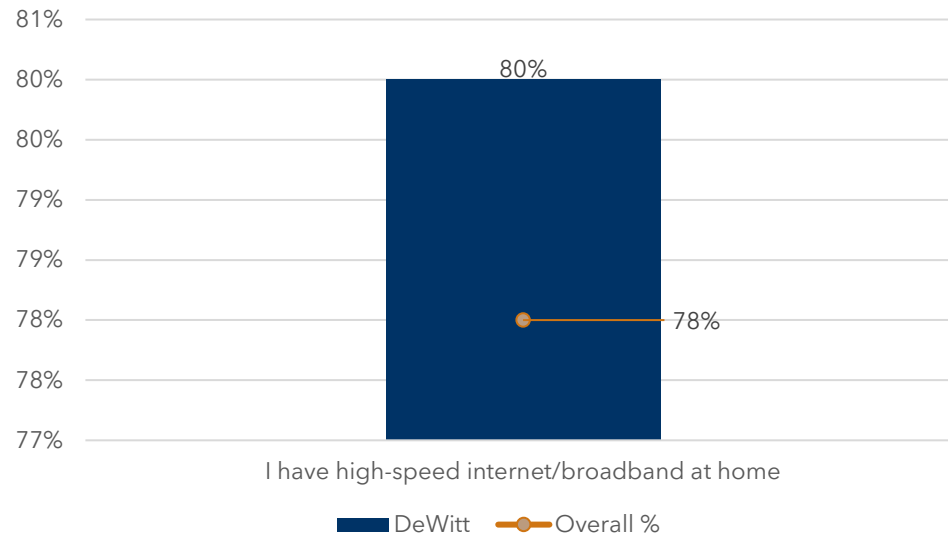


Information on Available Older Adult Services
Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem

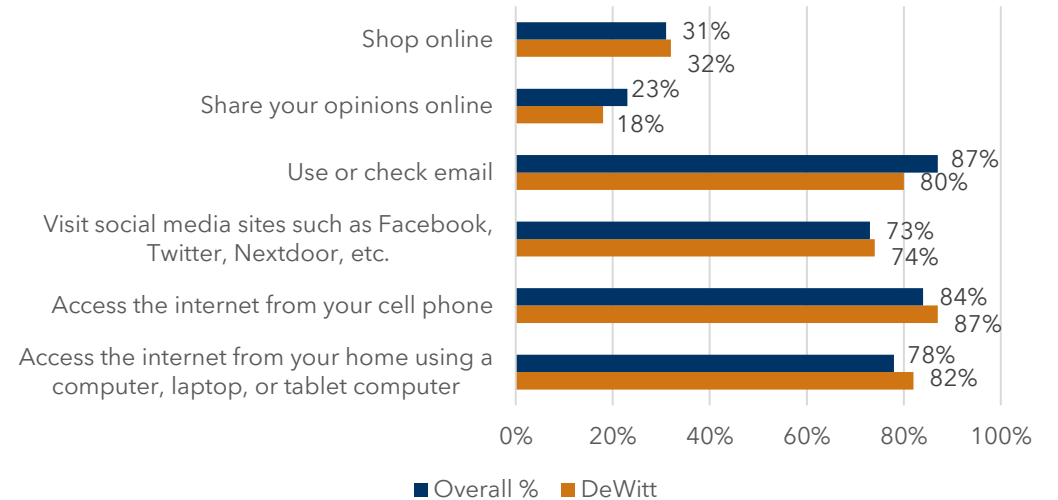


Information & Assistance

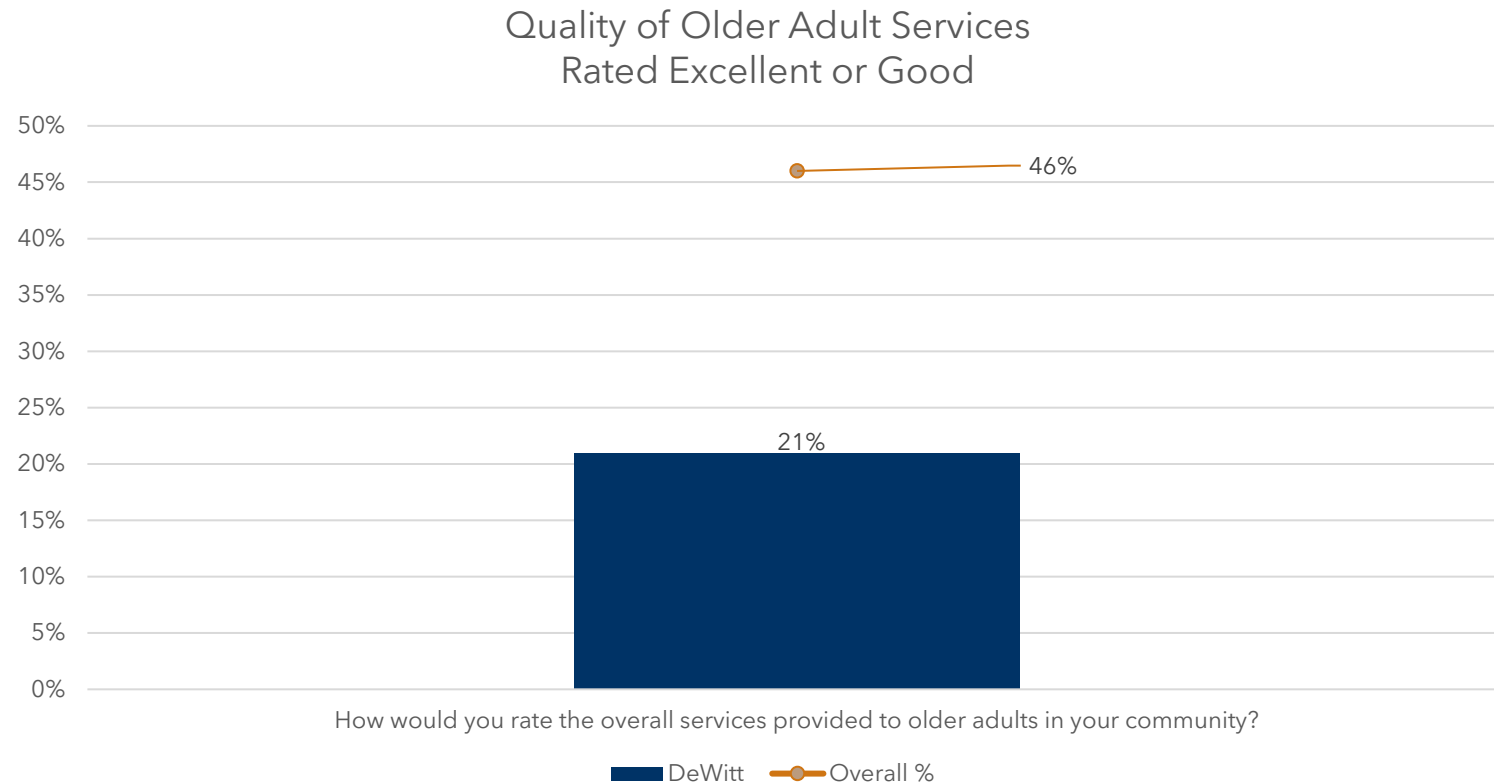
Information on Available Older Adult Services
Answered Yes



Information on Available Older Adult Services
Rated Several Times a Day, Once a Day, or a Few Times a Week



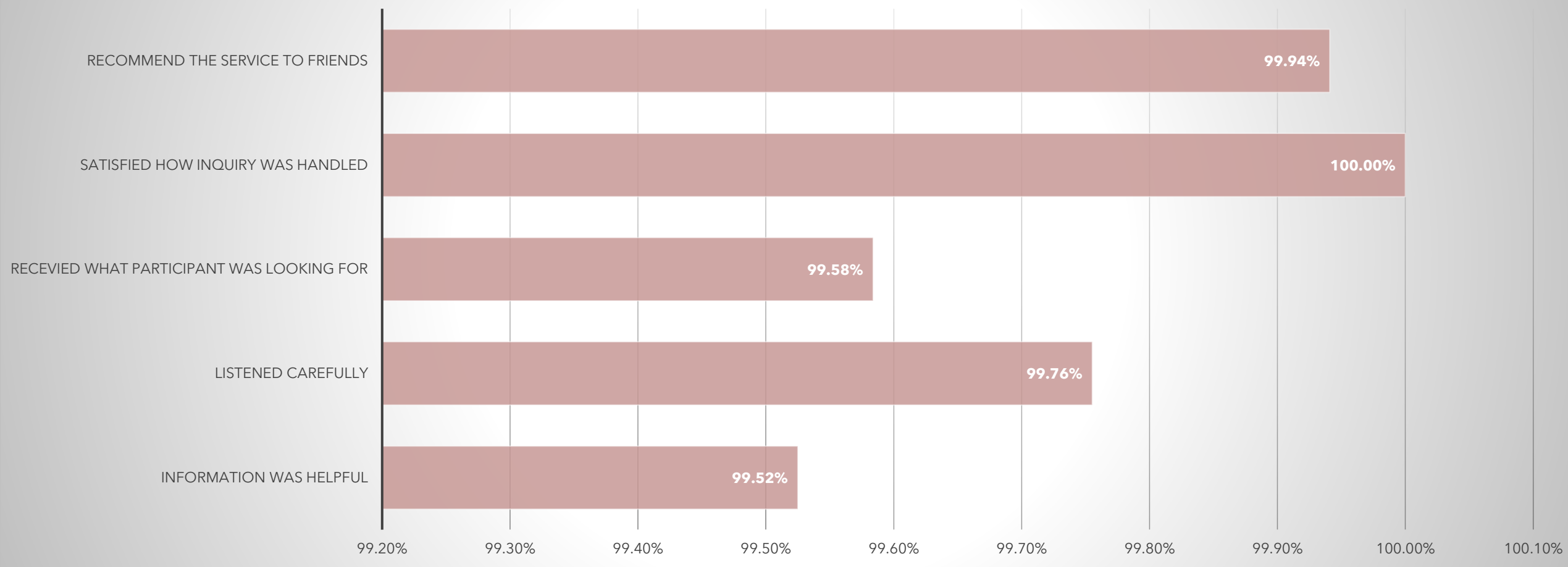
Information & Assistance Quality of Older Adult Services





SIS Indicators-Independence & Quality of Life, Client Satisfaction

Information & Assistance POMP Survey Results



All indicators saw an increase in positive response

Productive Activities

Domain of Community Livability



Productive Activities

Description

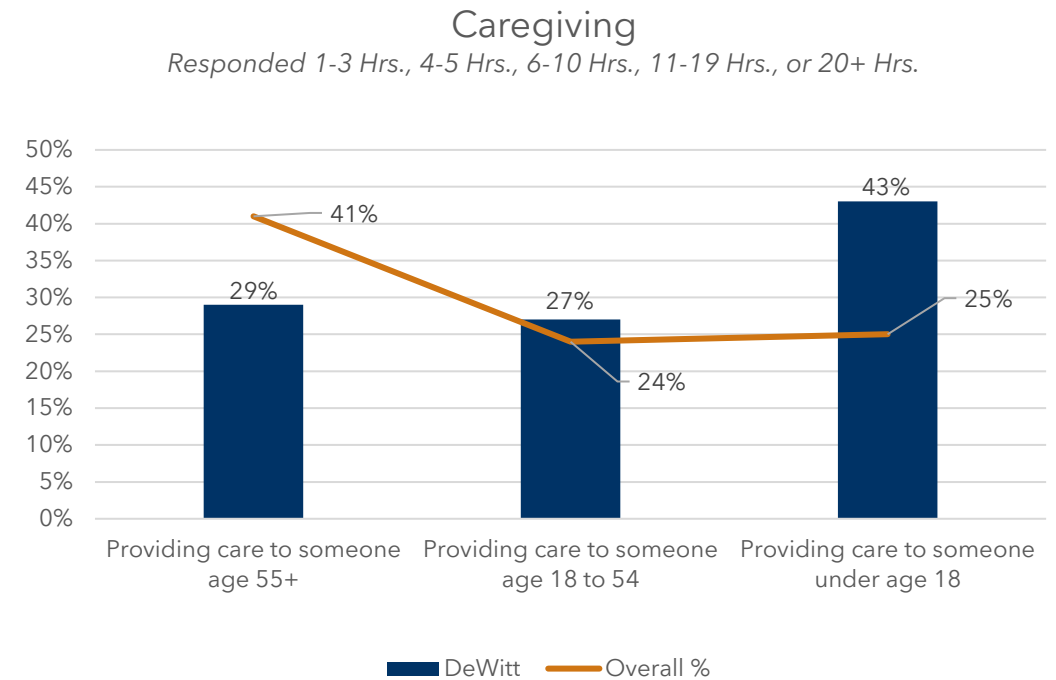
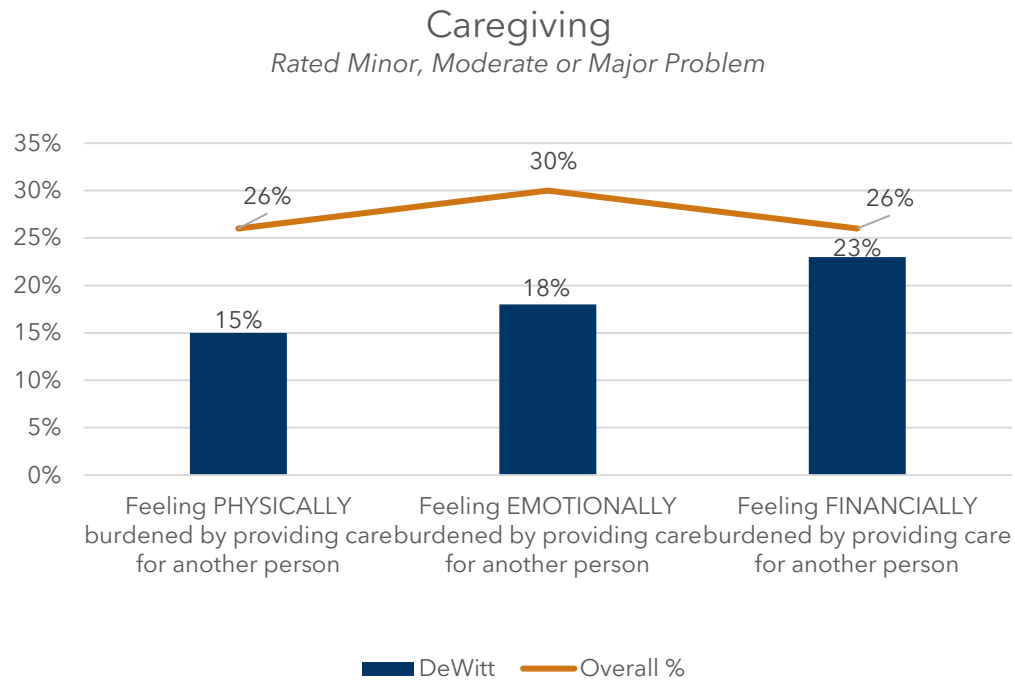
Productivity is the touchstone of a thriving old age. Older adults' engagement and contribution to the community can be determined by their time spent in civic meetings and social activities or providing help to others.

Community Livability Topics

- Civic Engagement
- Social Engagement
- Caregiving



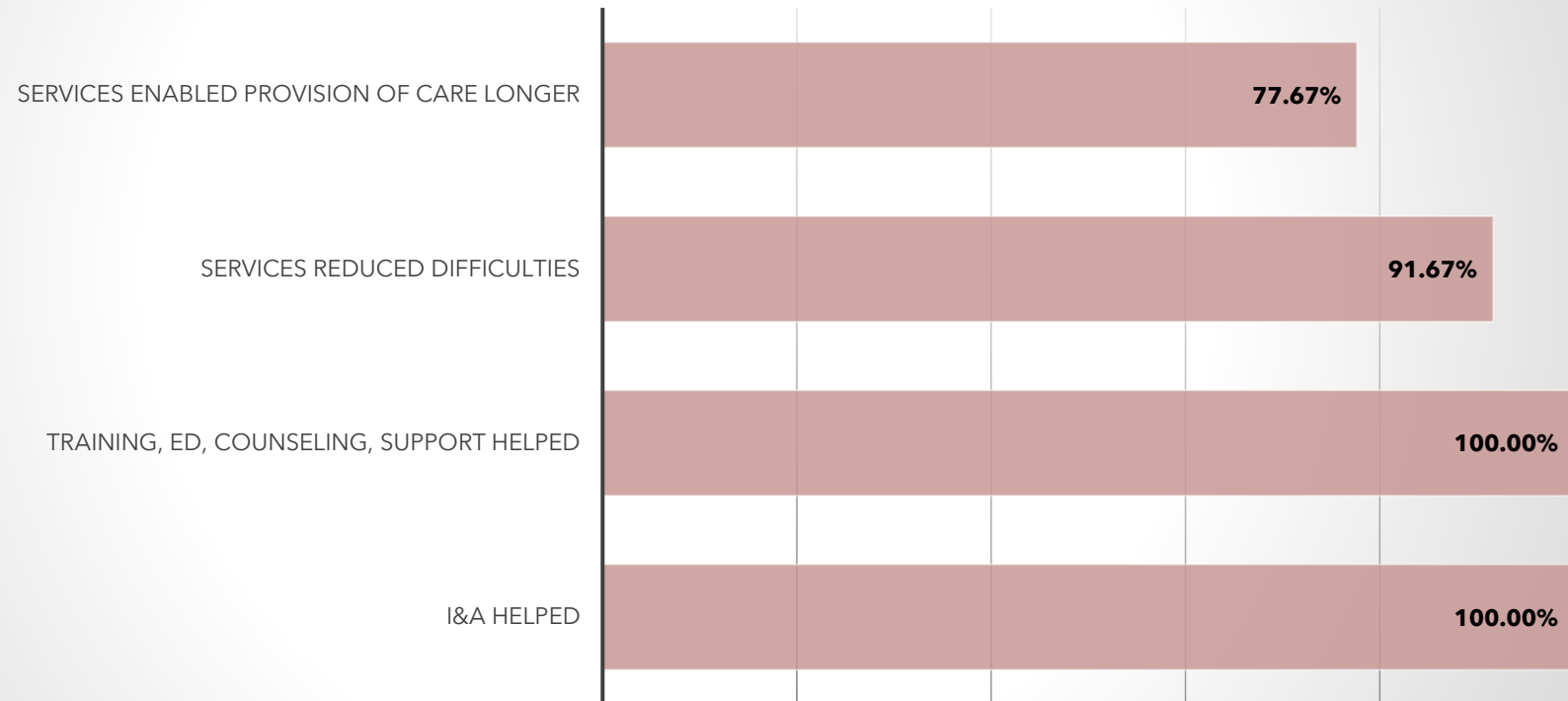
Productive Activities - Caregiving





ECIAAA Caregiver Advisory Services Indicators - Education & Information, Support for Better Care Family Caregivers

FY 2024 Caregiver POMP Survey Results

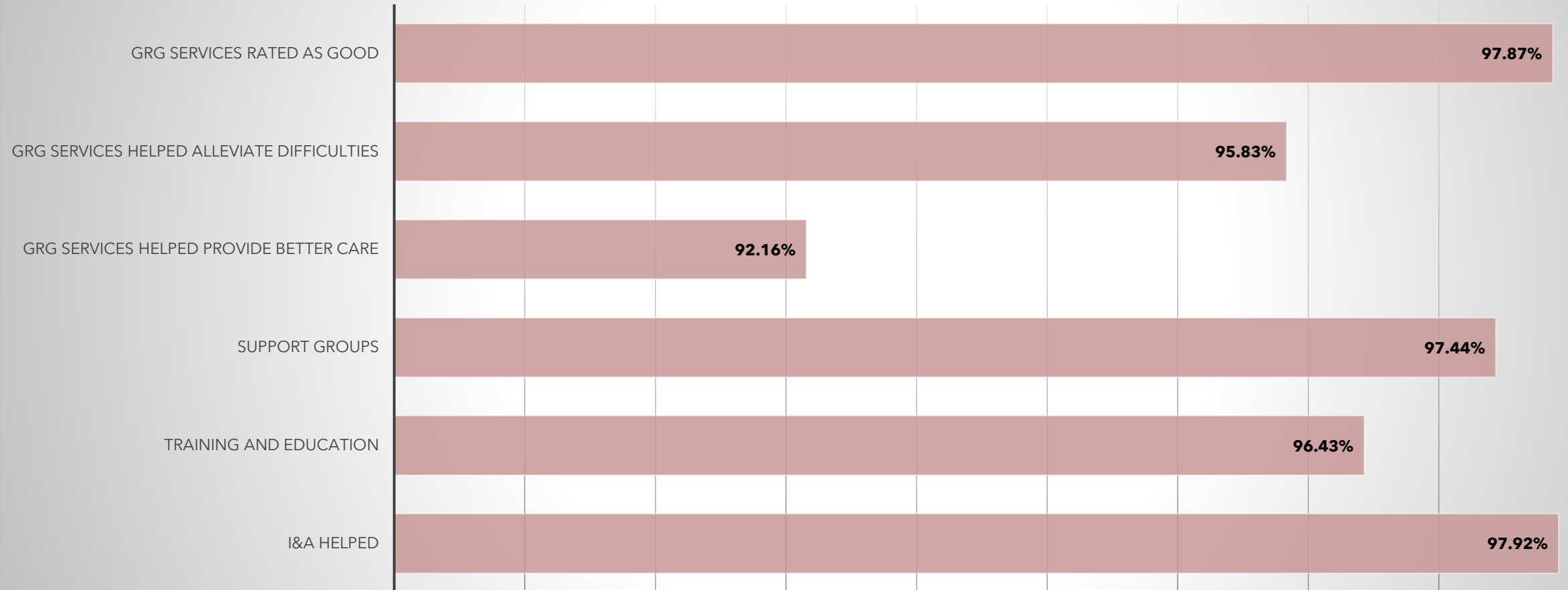


Tailored Care (TCARE) data indicates that 96% lowered or maintained caregiver stress levels 133 Screenings; 112 Assessments



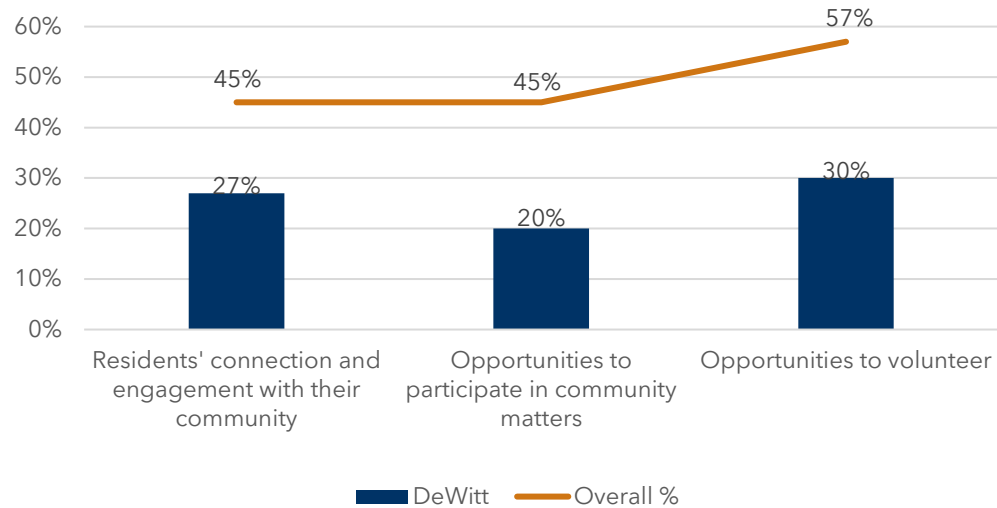
ECIAAA Caregiver Advisory Services Indicators - Education & Information, Support for Better Care Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

FY 2024 GRG Survey Results

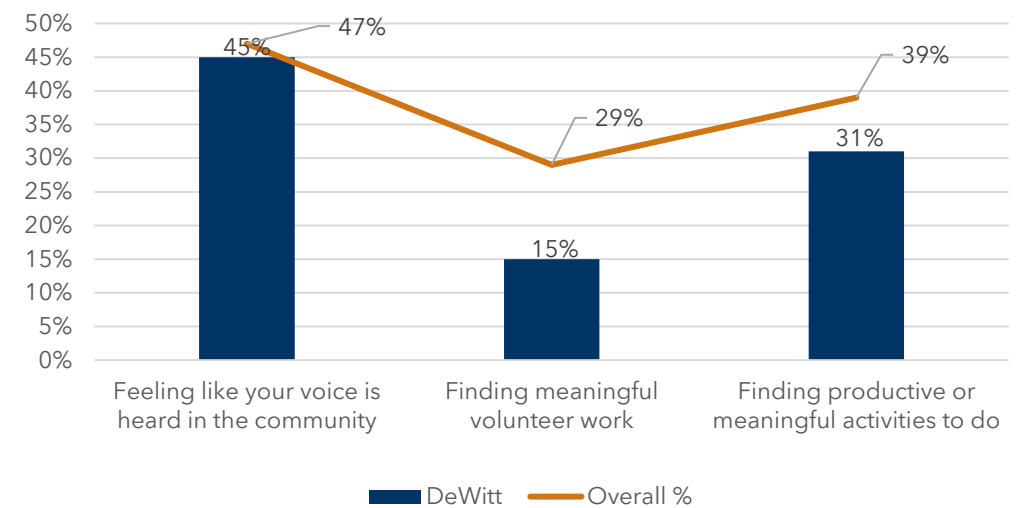


Productive Activities Civic Engagement

Civic Engagement
Excellent or Good

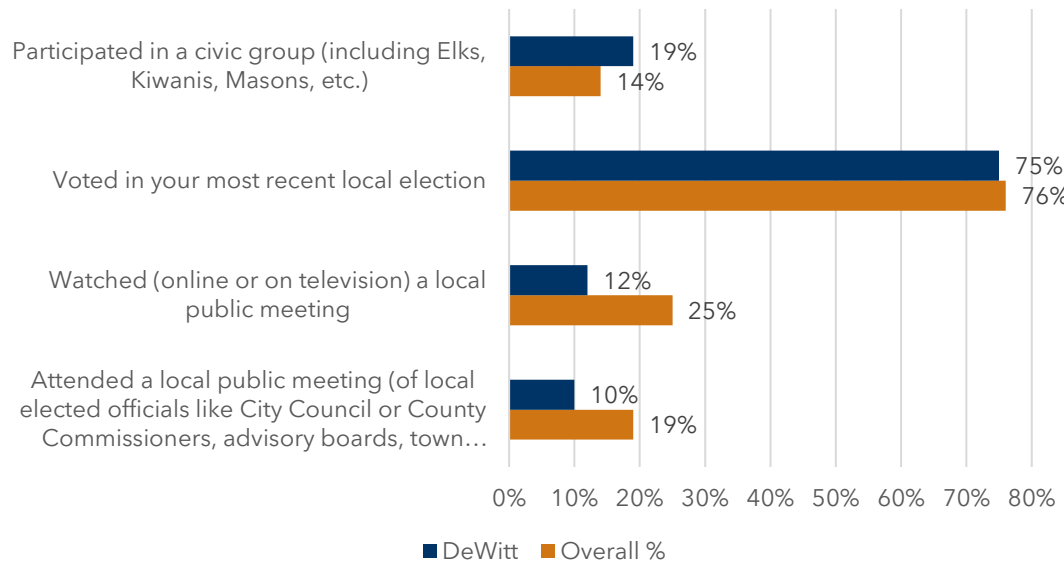


Civic Engagement
Minor, Moderate or Major Problem

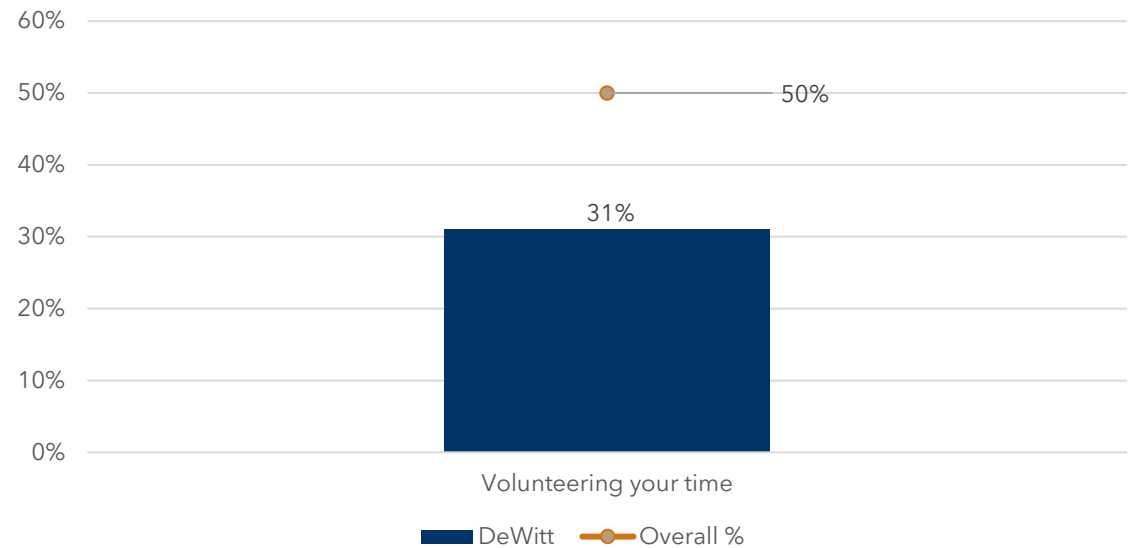


Productive Activities Civic Engagement

Civic Engagement
Responded Yes in the Last 12 Months

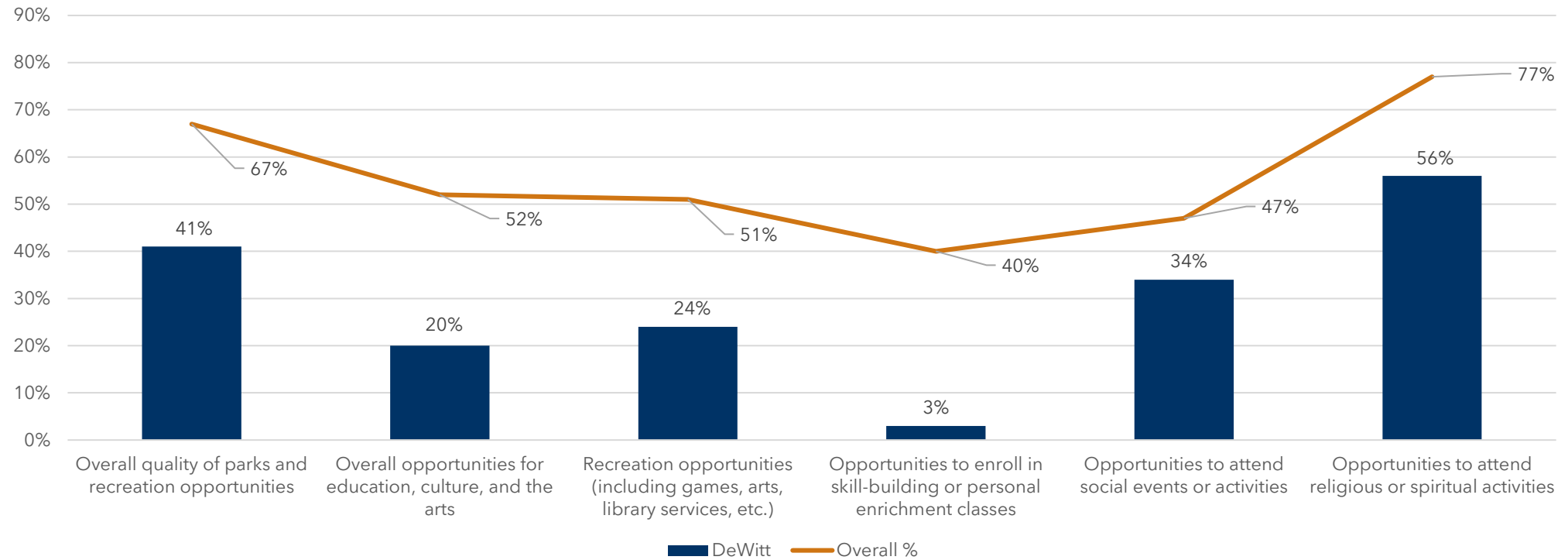


Civic Engagement
Responded 1-3 Hrs., 4-5 Hrs., 6-10 Hrs., 11-19 Hrs., or 20+ Hrs.

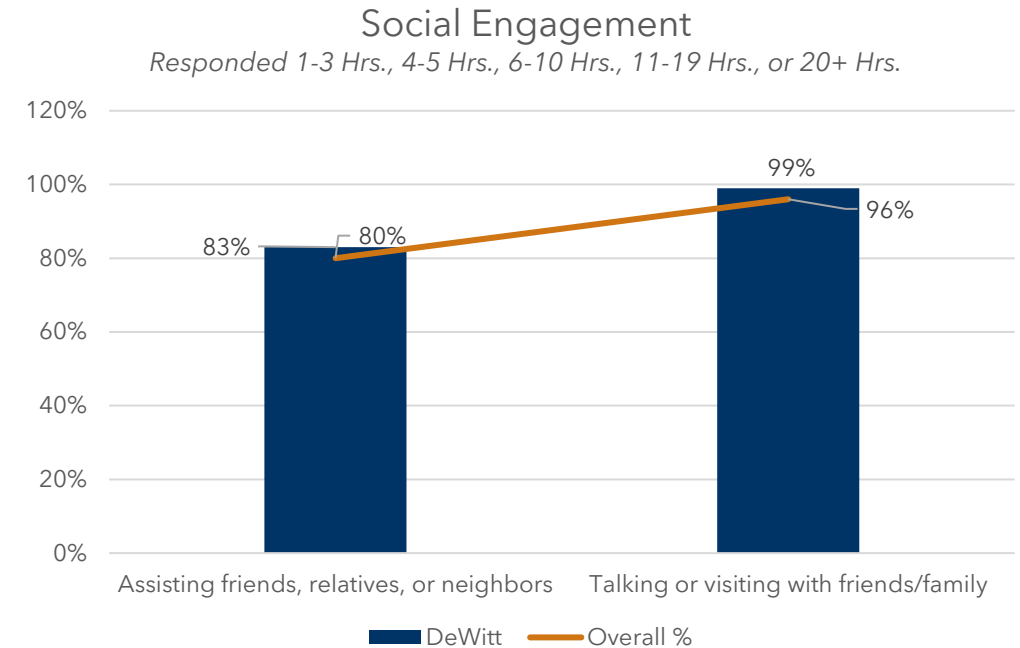
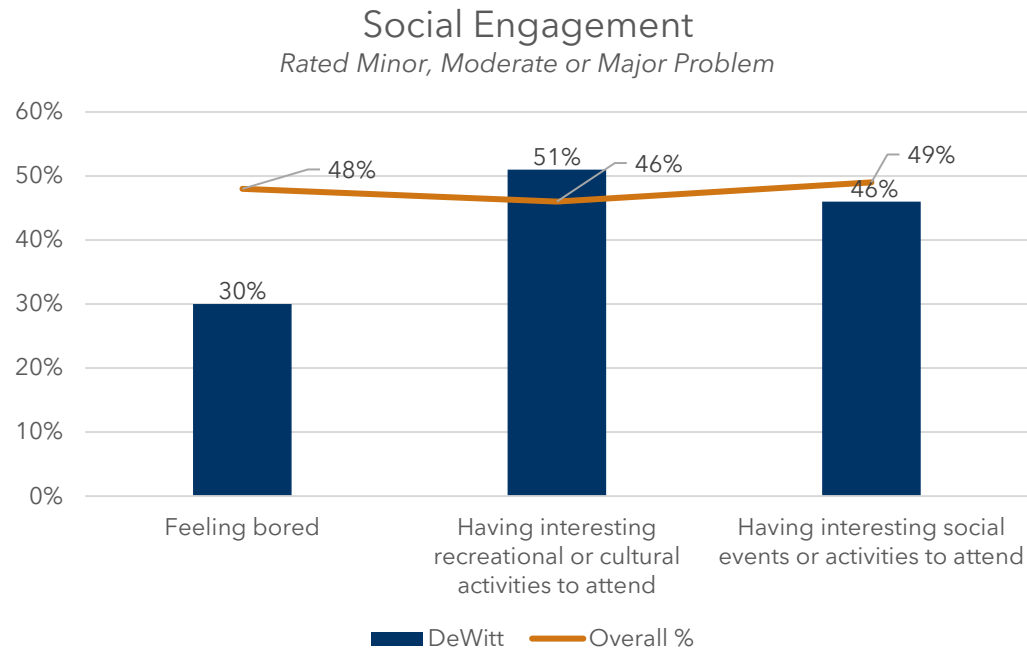


Productive Activities Social Engagement

Social Engagement
Rated Excellent or Good

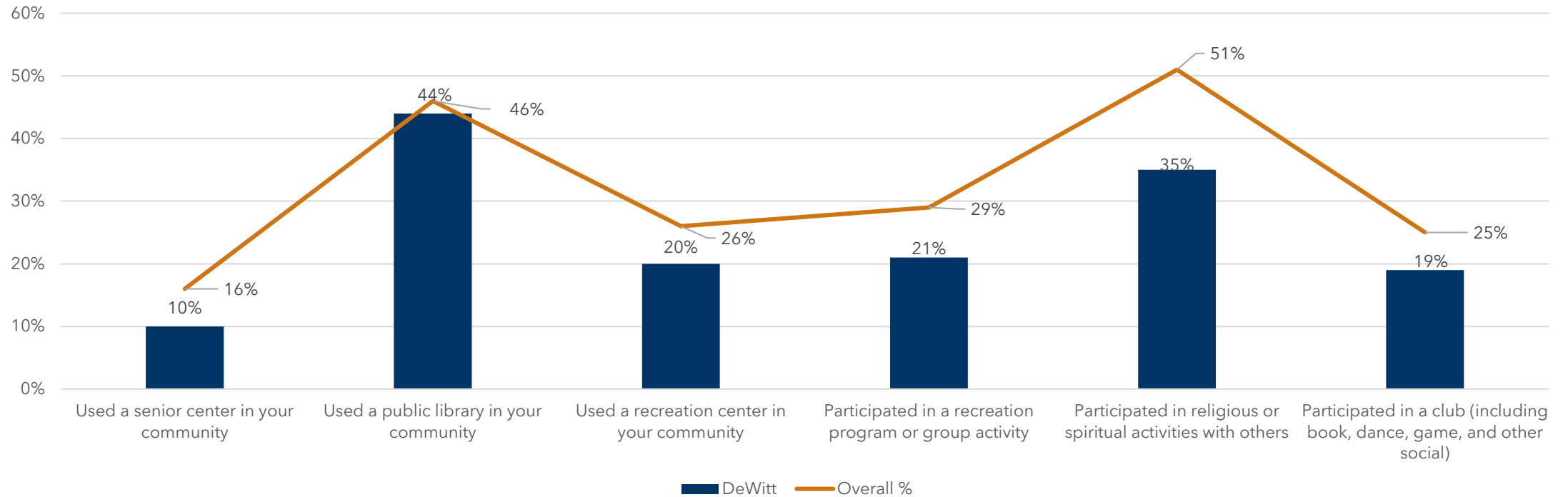


Productive Activities Social Engagement



Productive Activities Social Engagement

Social Engagement
Responded Yes in the Last 12 Months



Overall Key Findings

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%)



Overall Key Findings

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

