

# Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults

## Ford 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)<sup>®</sup>. The CASOA<sup>®</sup> 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*

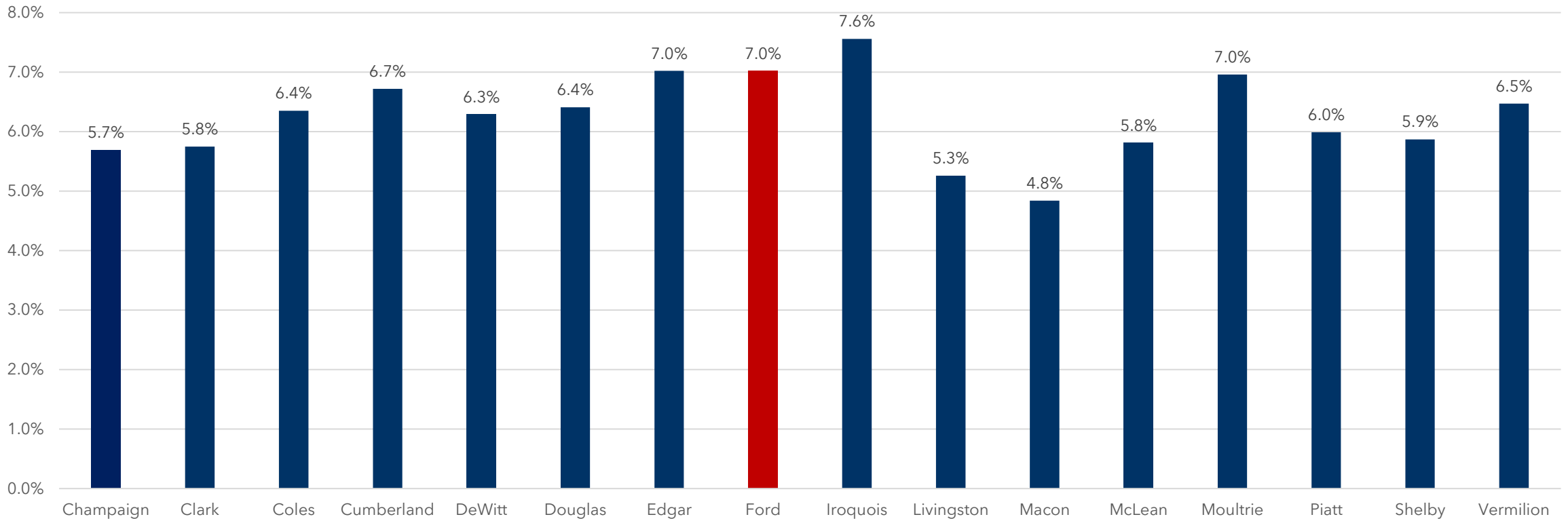
## ECIAAA Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA®)

- 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

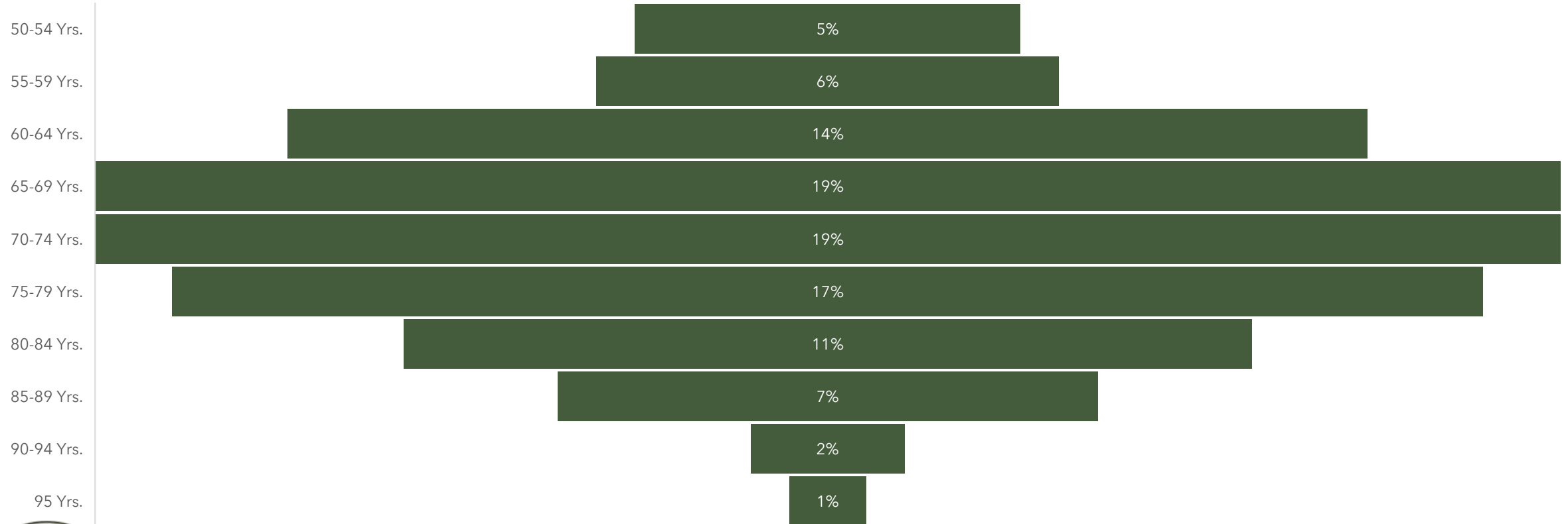


22,400 Surveys (1,400 Random Surveys Sent Per County X 16 Counties)



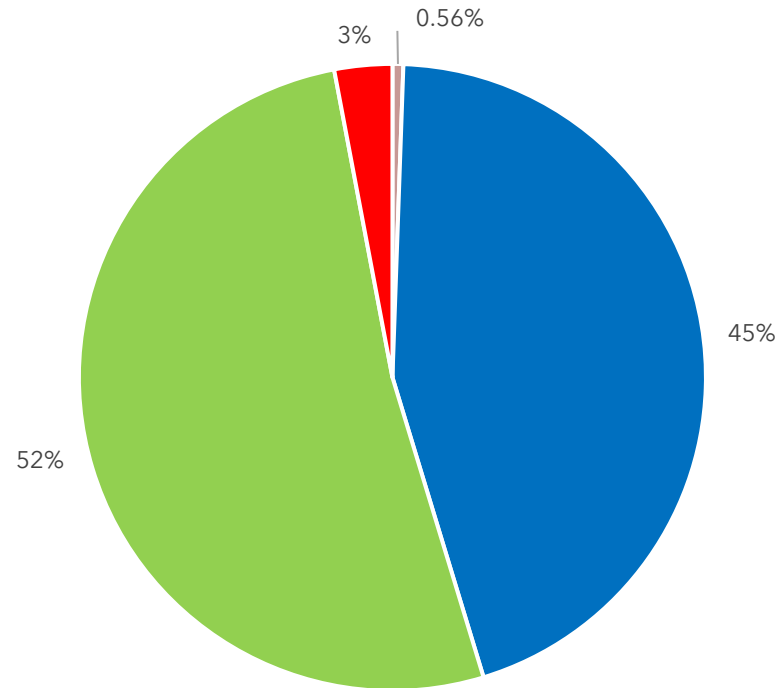
# Overall Surveys Completed by Age

Age of Survey Respondents - 89% Over Age 60



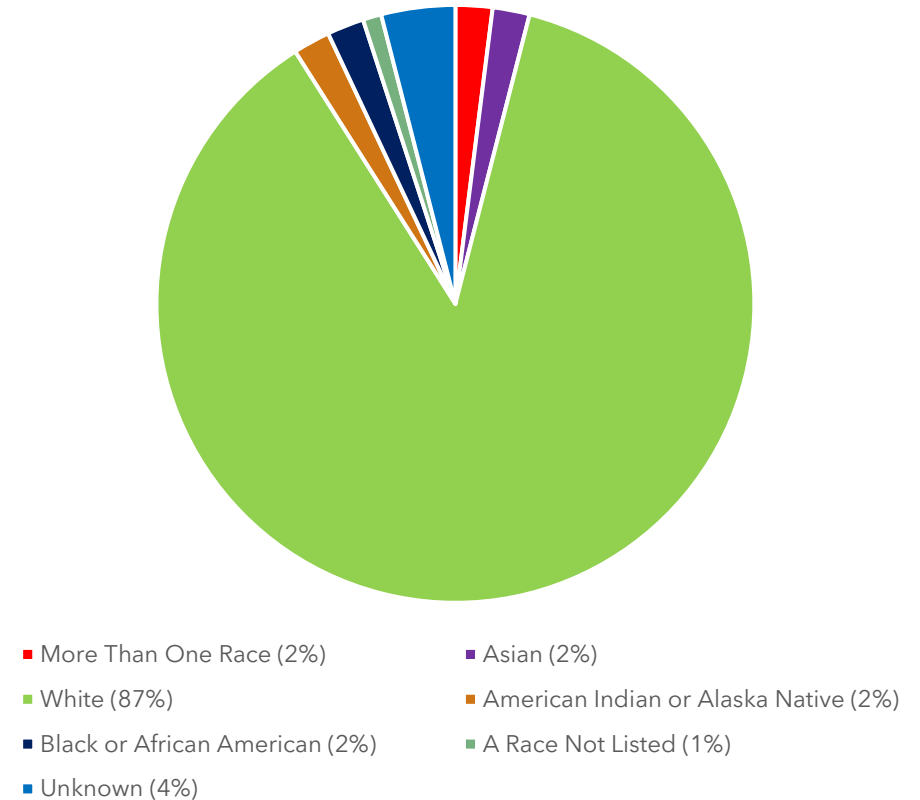
# Overall Surveys Completed by Gender & Race

Gender of Survey Respondents



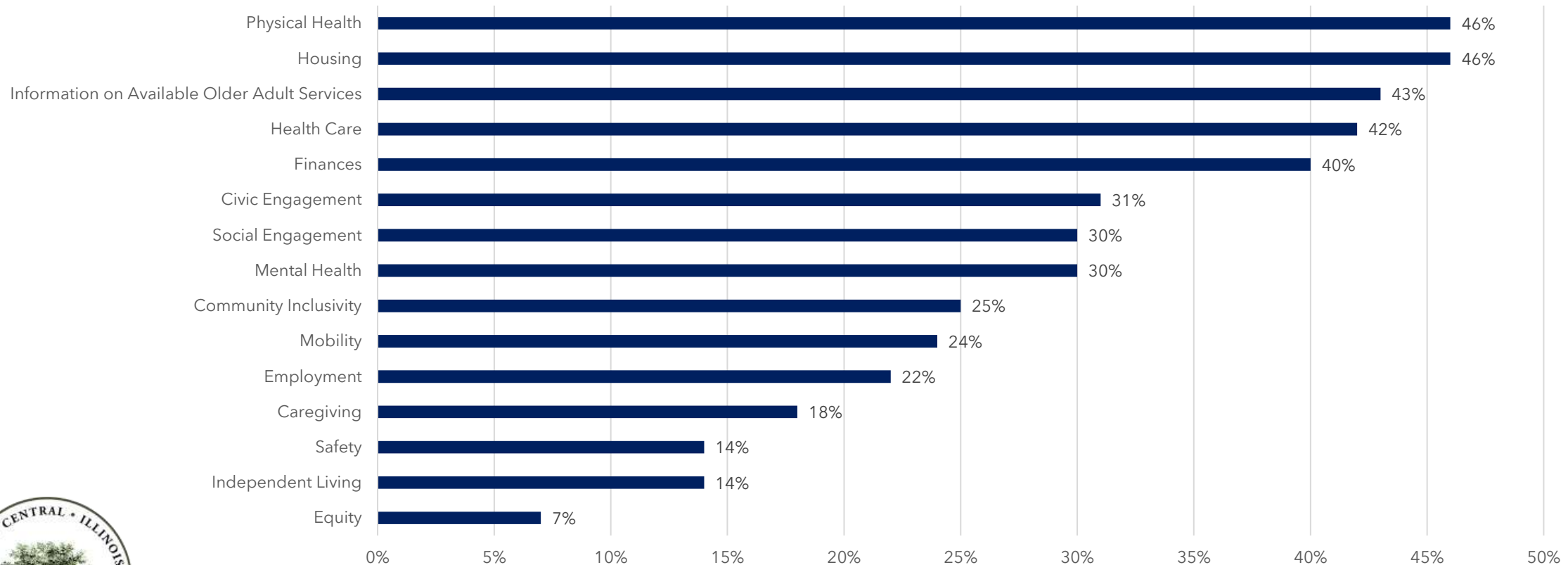
Identify in Another Way Man Woman Unknown

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.

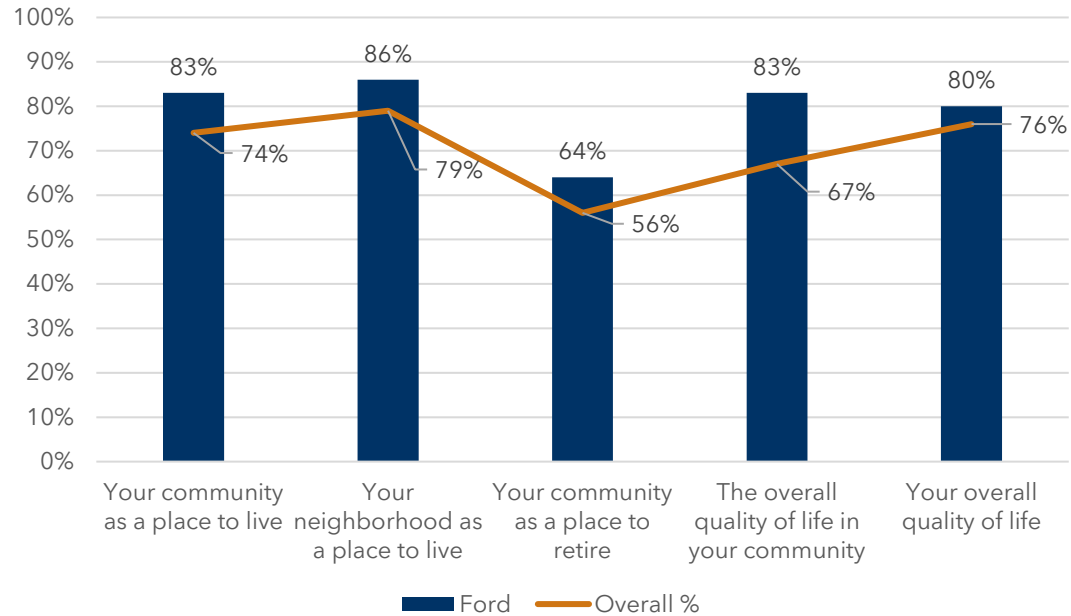
## Community Livability Topics

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

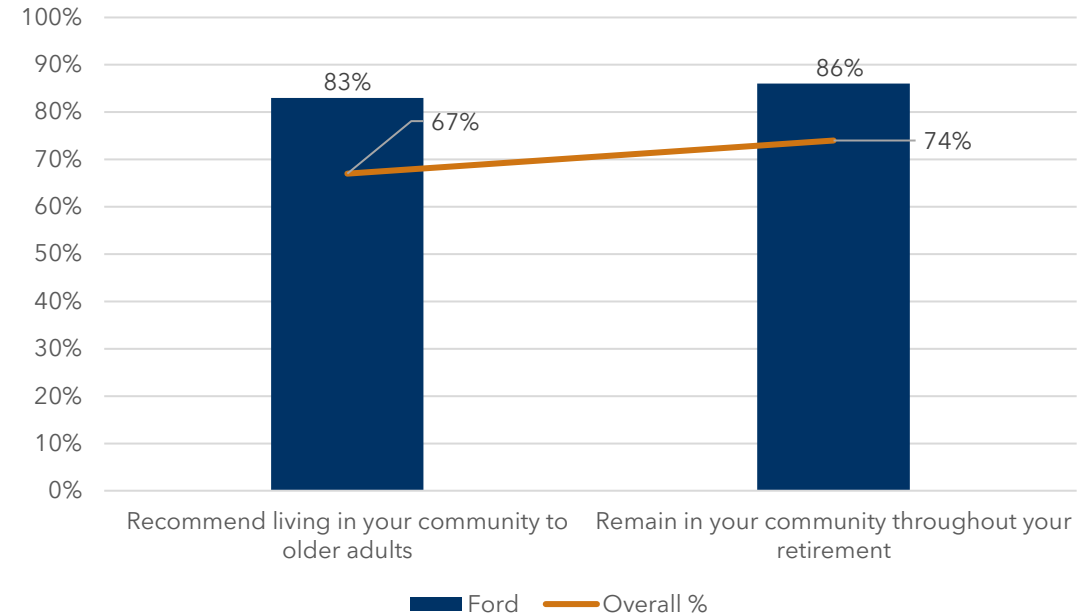


# Overall Community Quality

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.

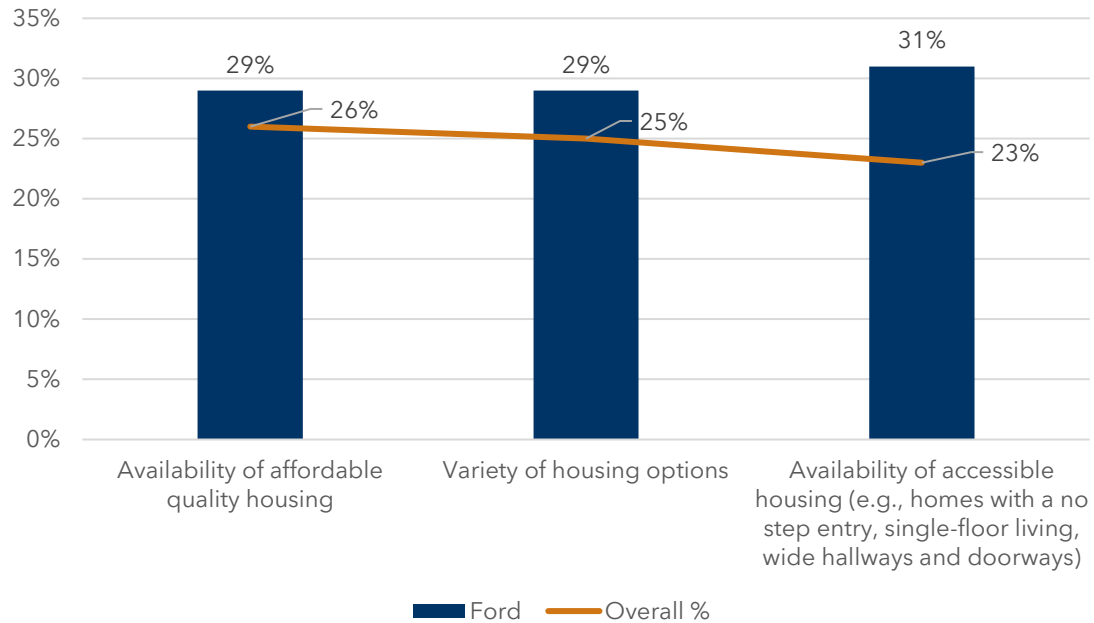
## **Community Livability Topics**

- Housing
- Mobility
- Land Use

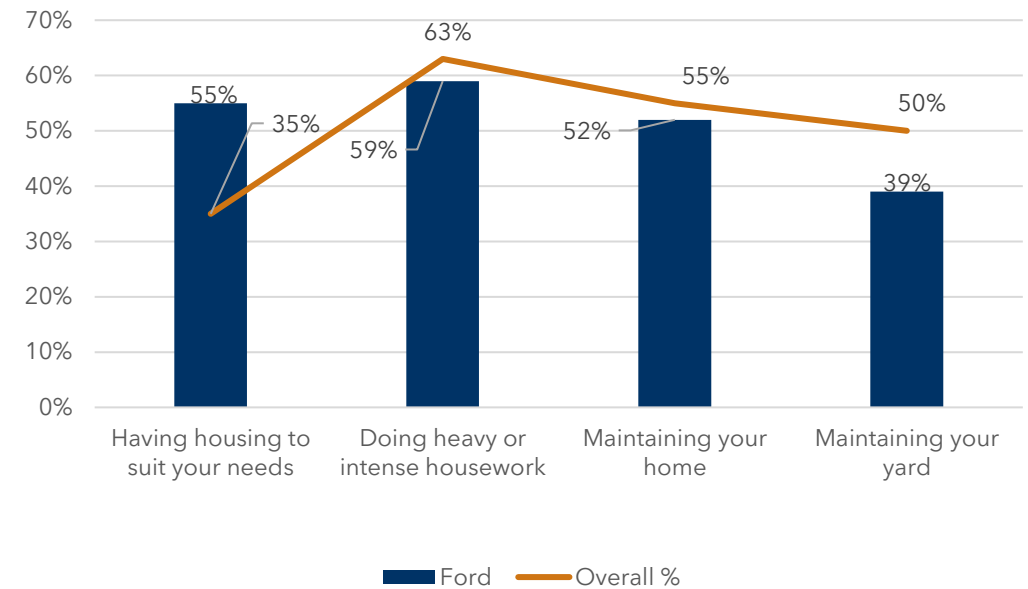


# Community Design - Housing

Housing  
*Rated Excellent or Good*

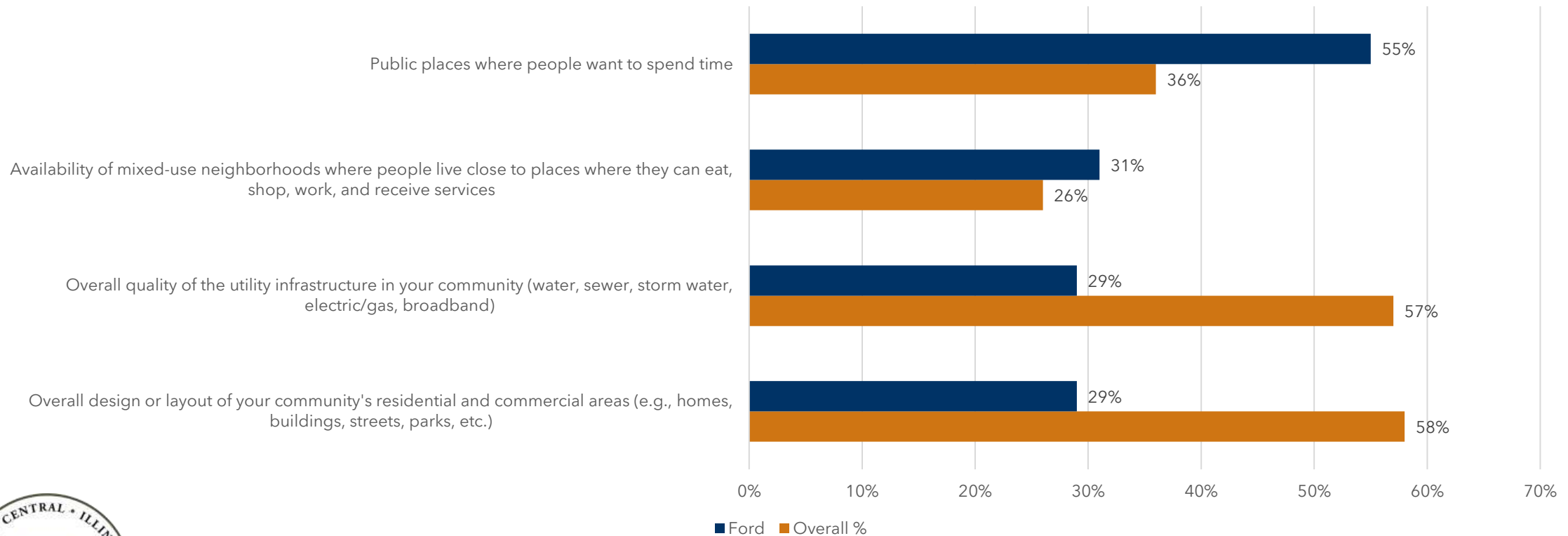


Housing  
*Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem*



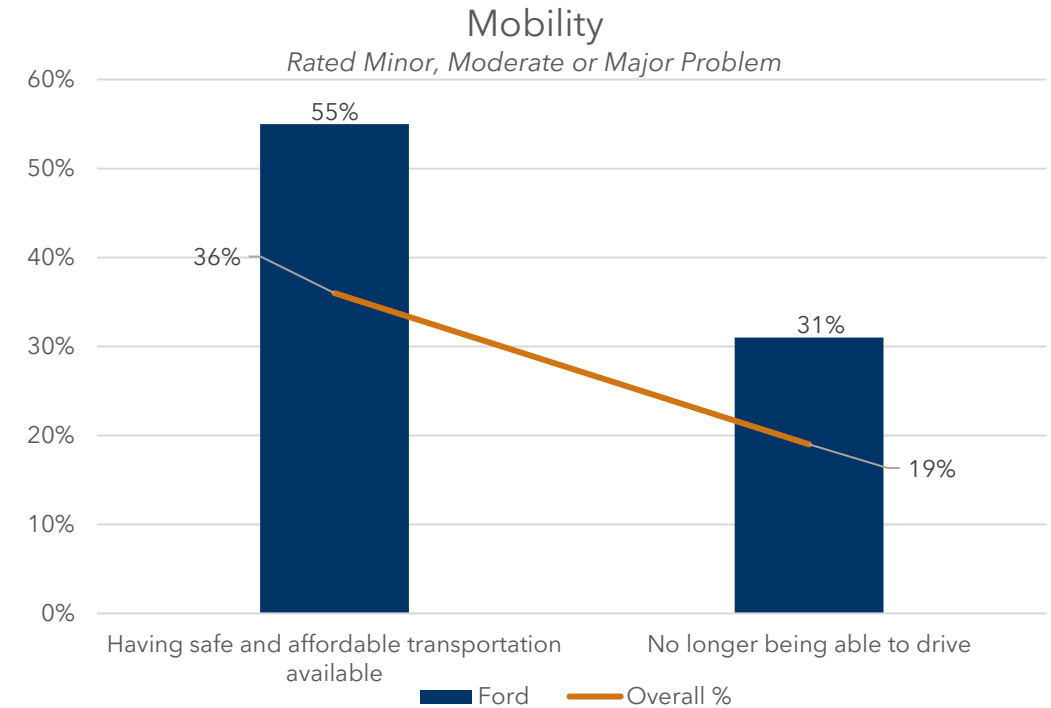
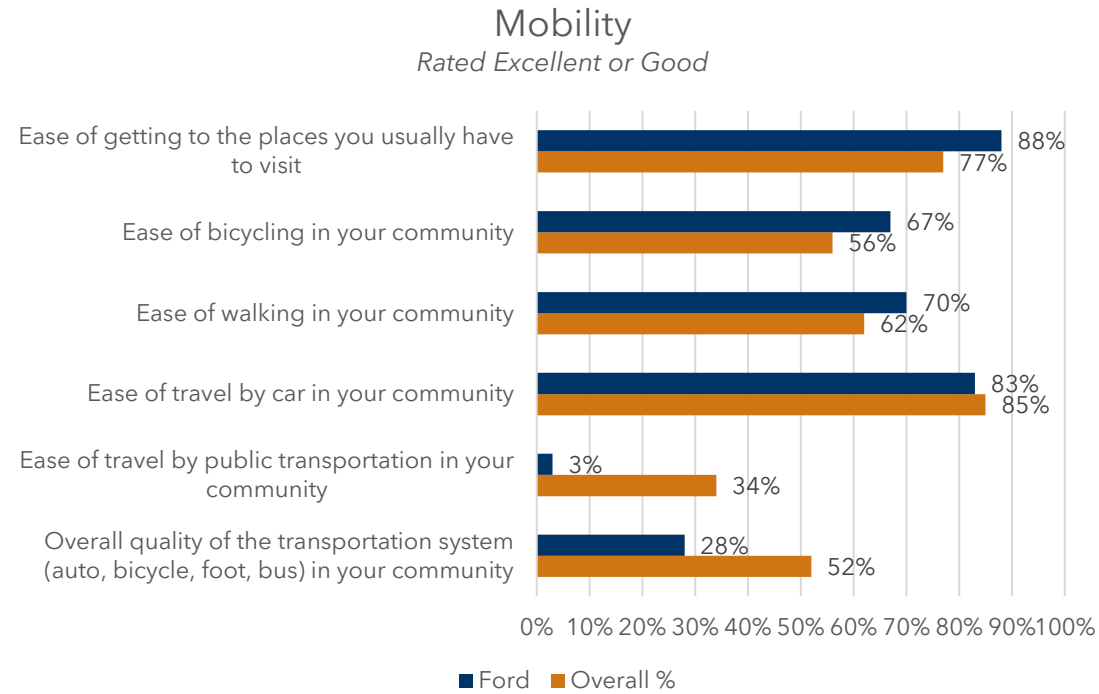
# Community Design - Land Use

Land Use  
Rated Excellent or Good





# 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.

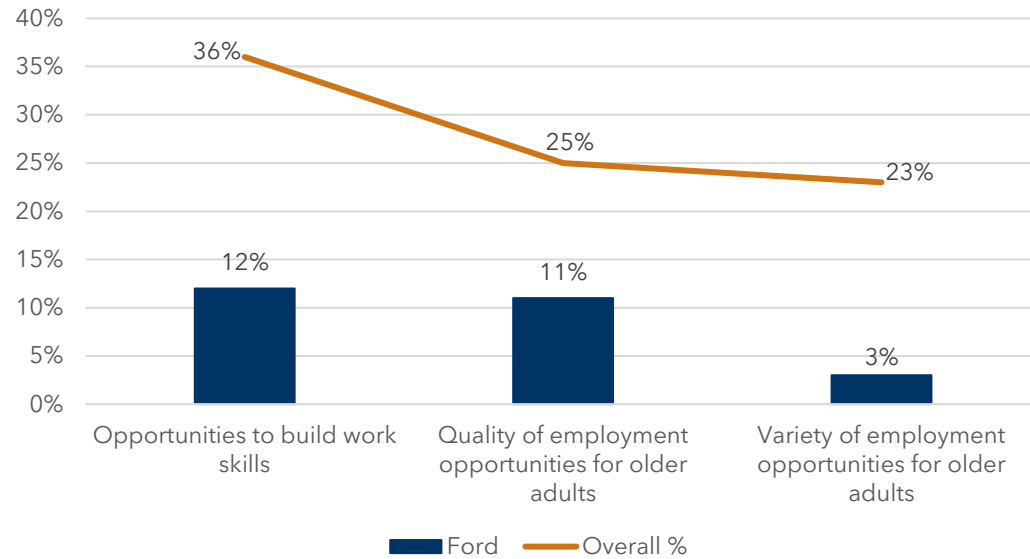
## **Community Livability Topics**

- Employment
- Finances

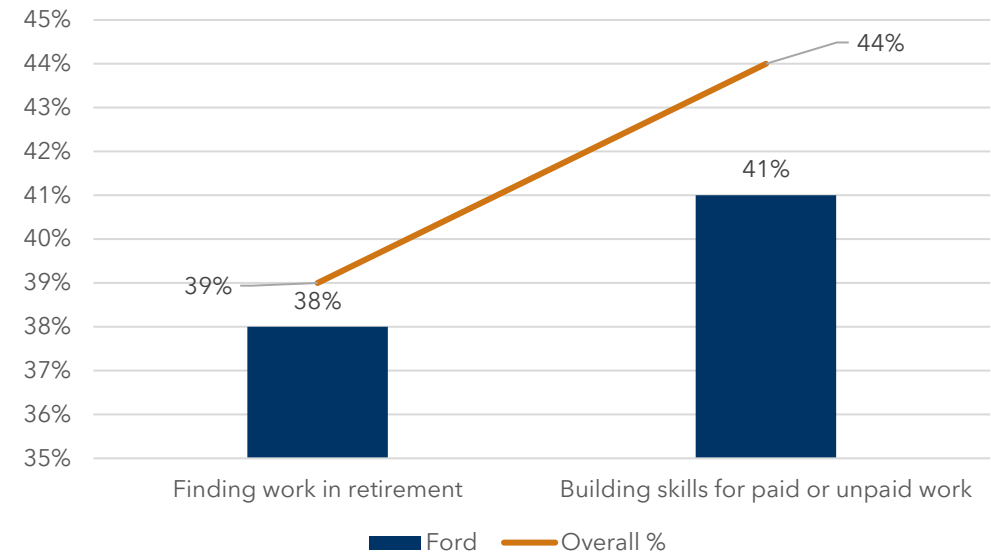


# Employment

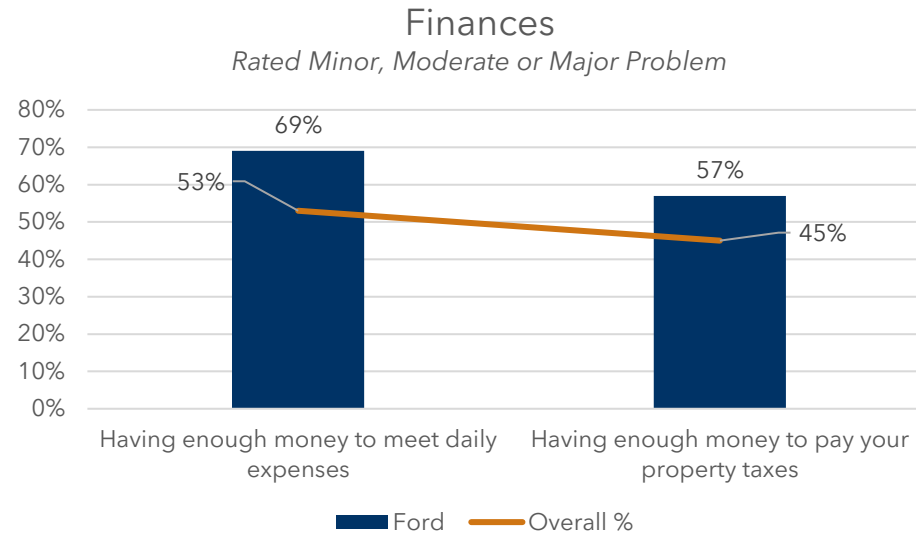
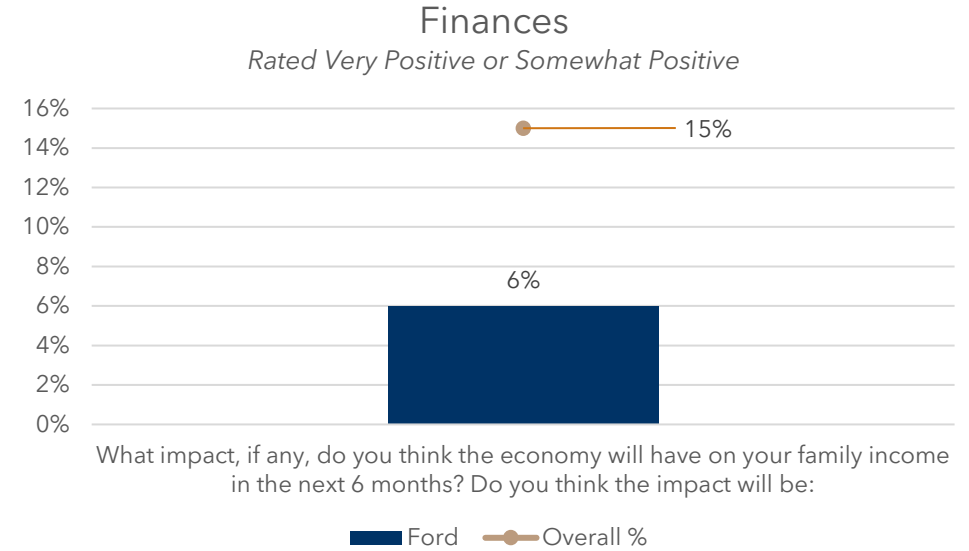
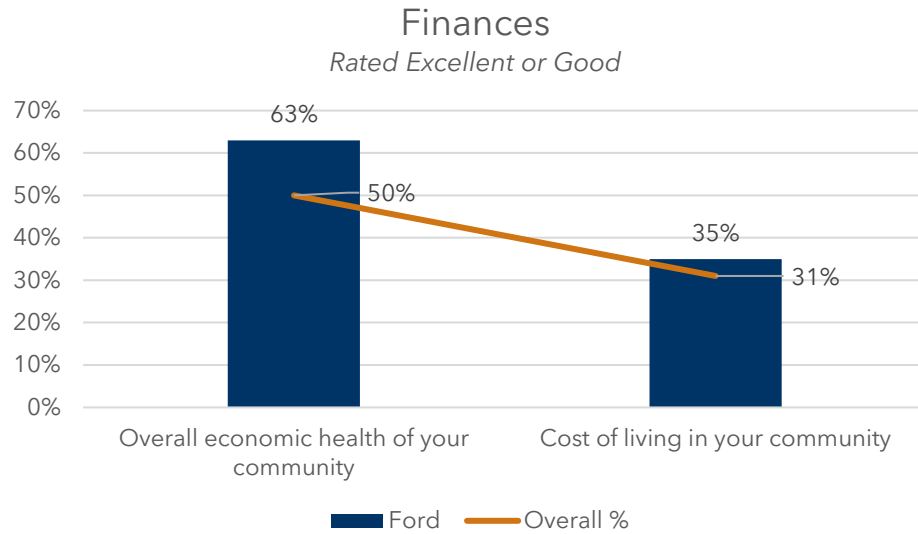
Employment  
*Rated Excellent or Good*



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
<b>Subtotal unpaid</b>					<b>\$3,413,764,450</b>
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
<b>Subtotal paid</b>					<b>\$3,937,659,872</b>
<b>Total contribution</b>					<b>\$7,351,424,322</b>



■ 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

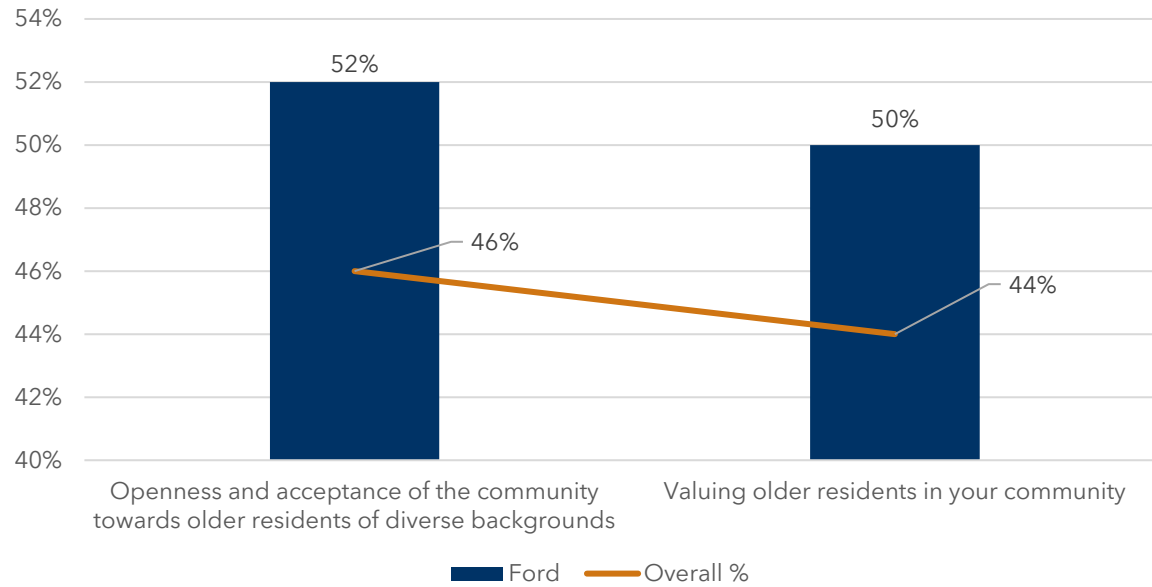
- Equity
- Community Inclusivity



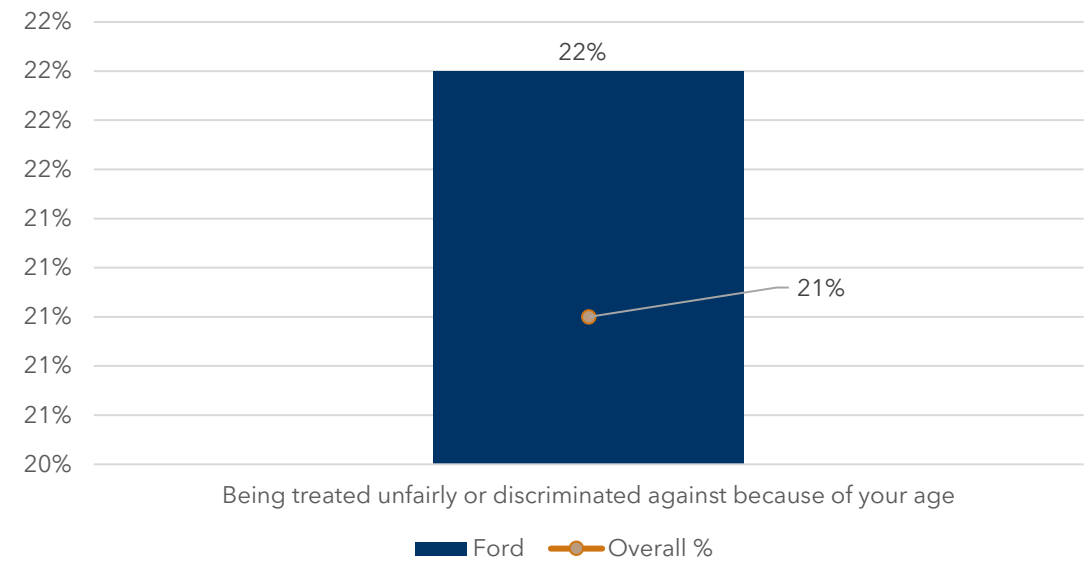


# Equity

Equity  
*Rated Excellent or Good*

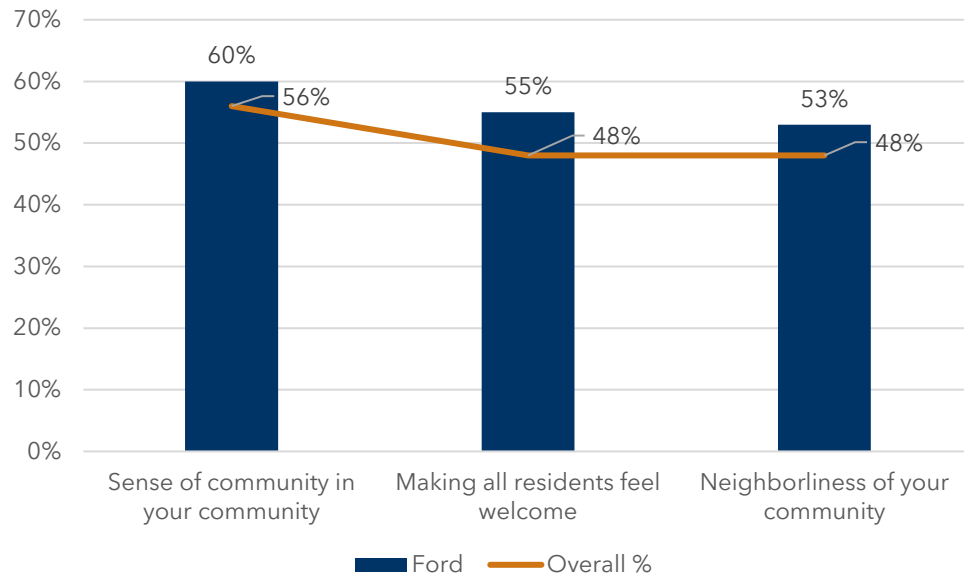


Equity  
*Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem*

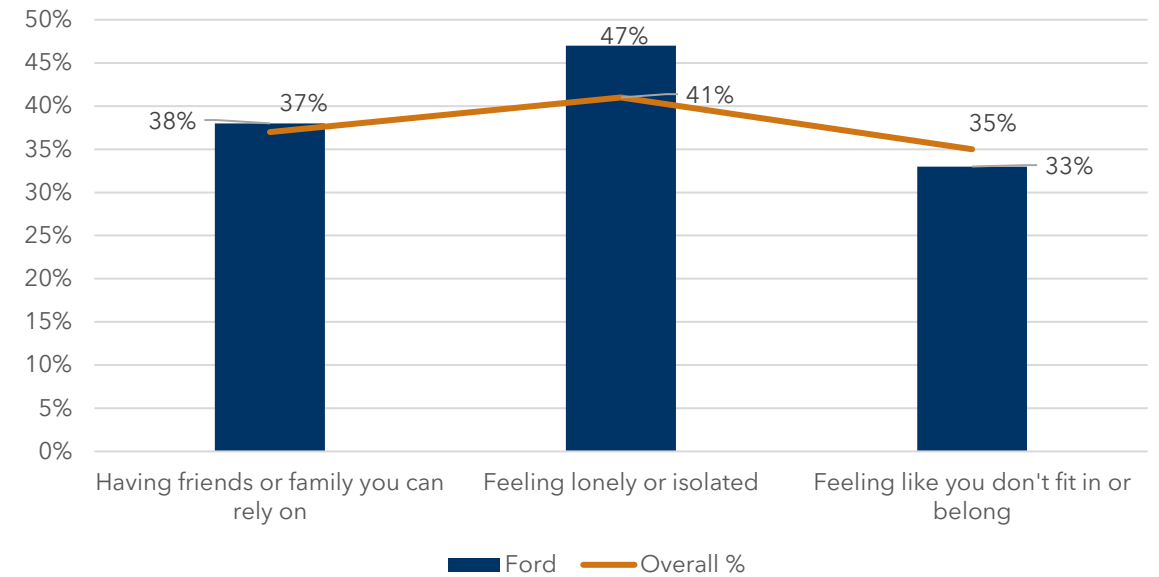


# Community Inclusivity

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.

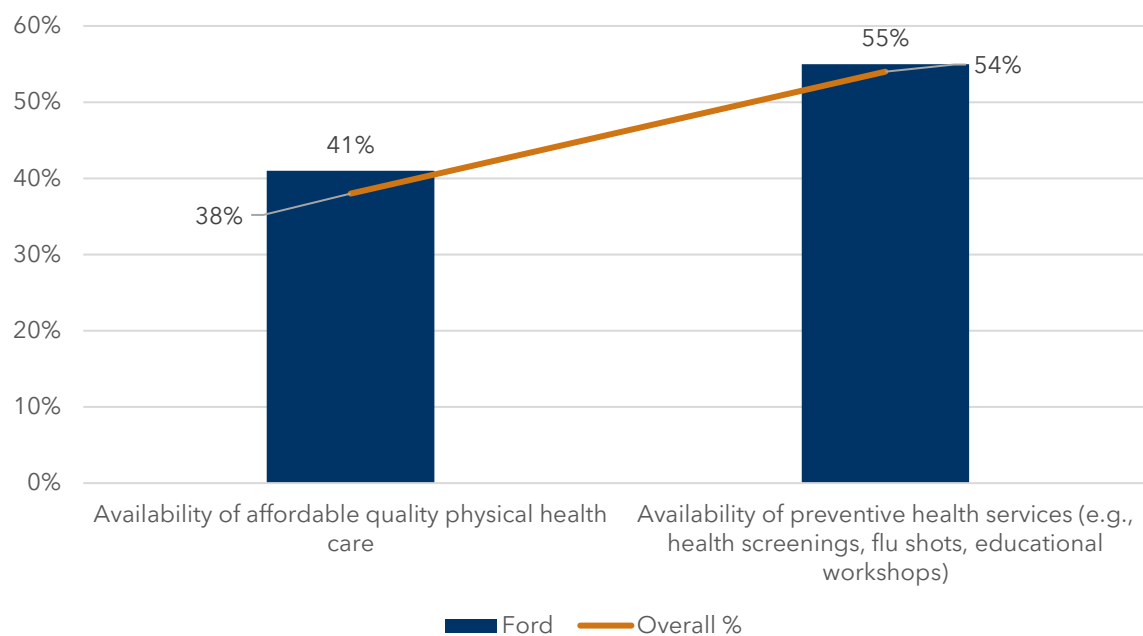
## **Community Livability Topics**

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

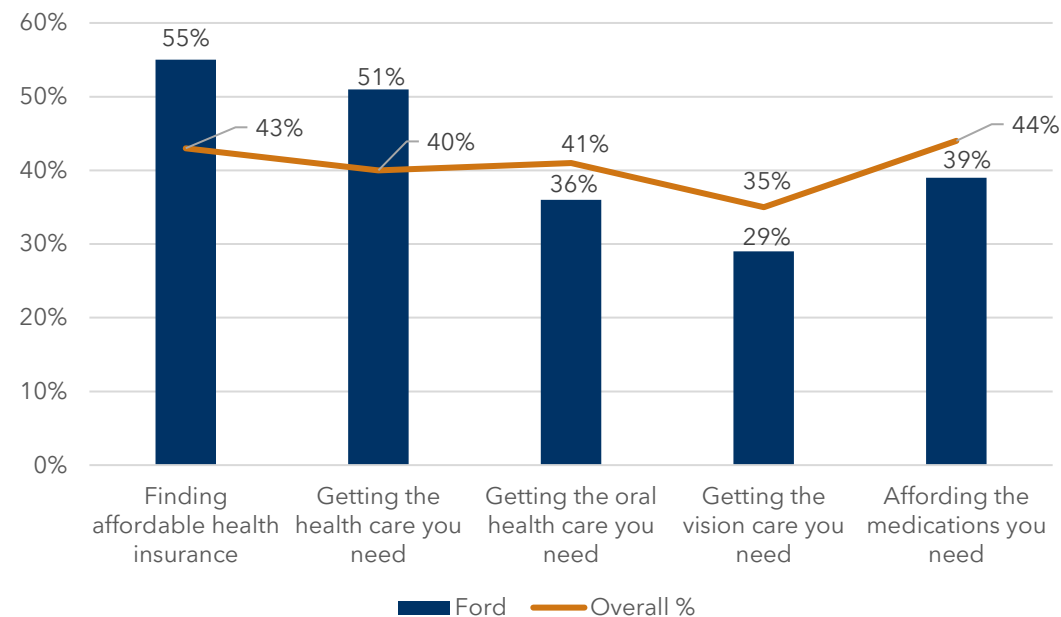


# Health & Wellness – Health Care

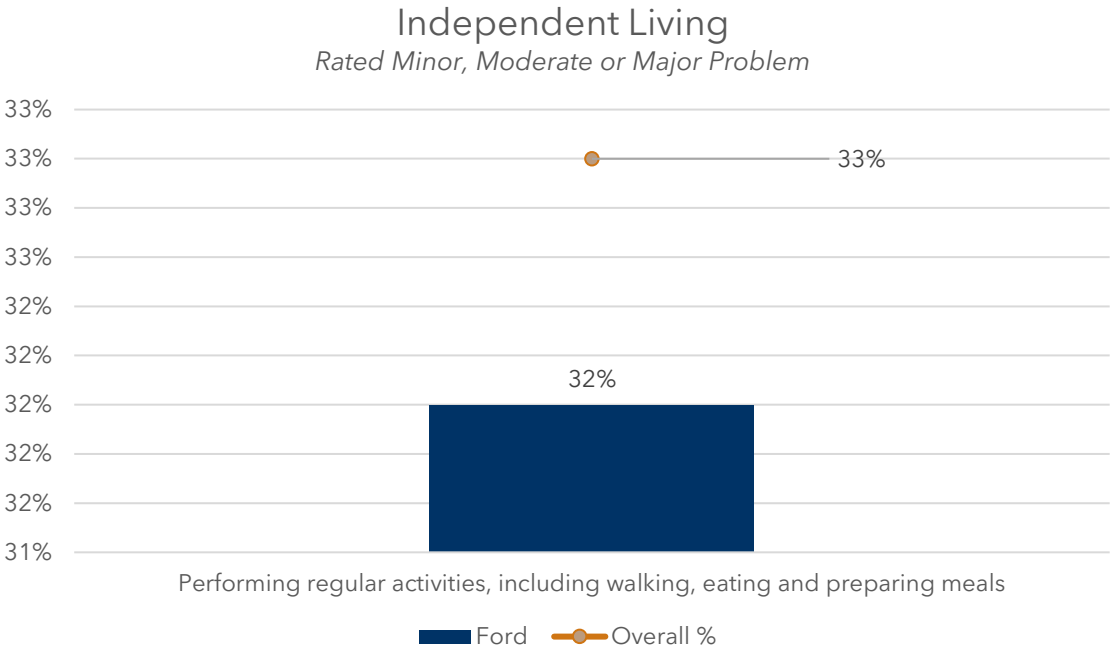
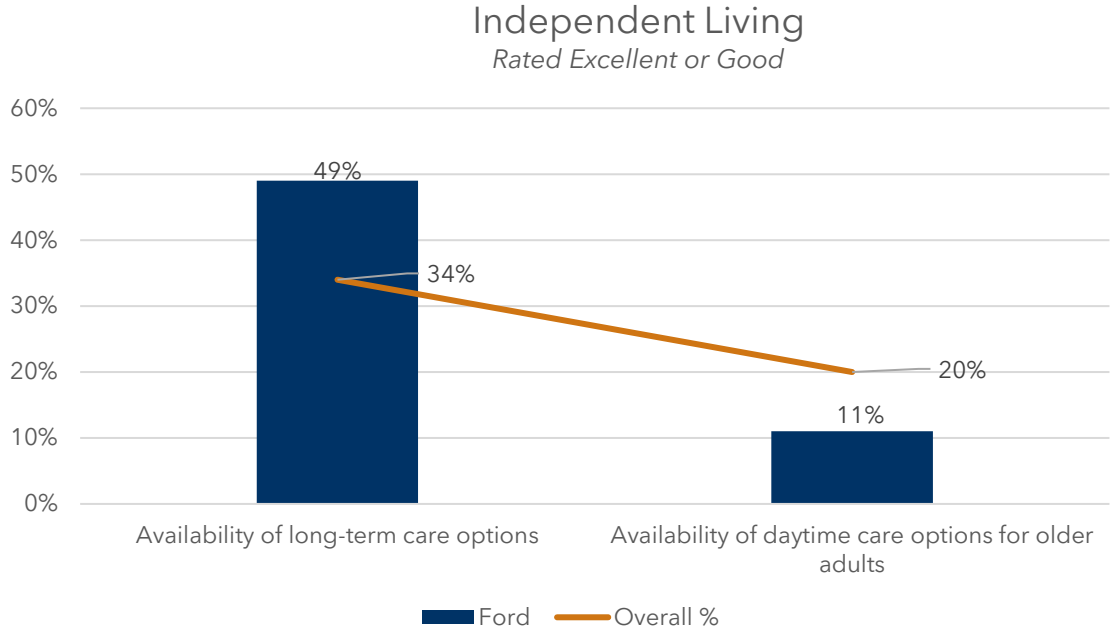
Health Care  
*Rated Excellent or Good*



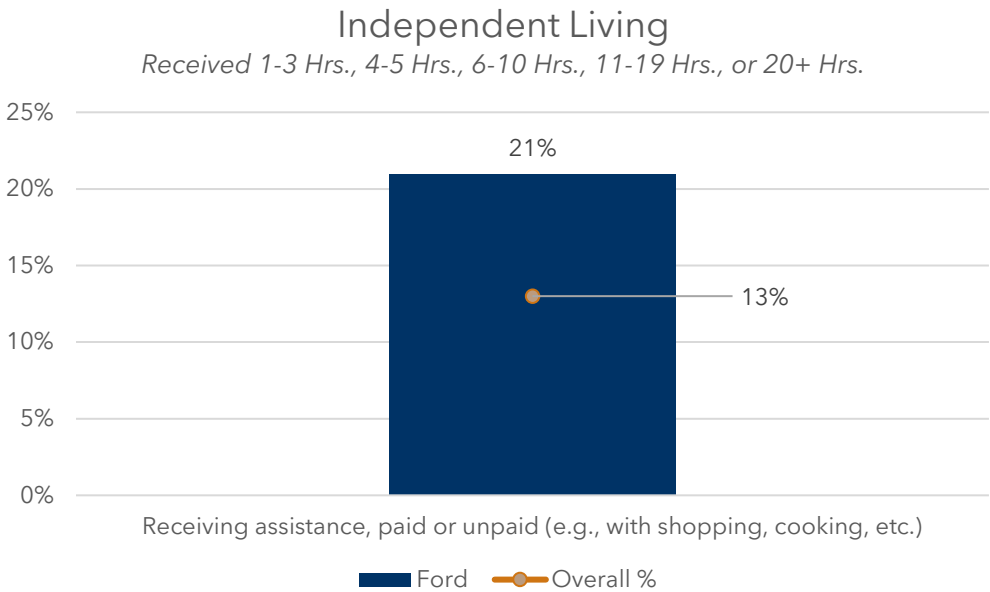
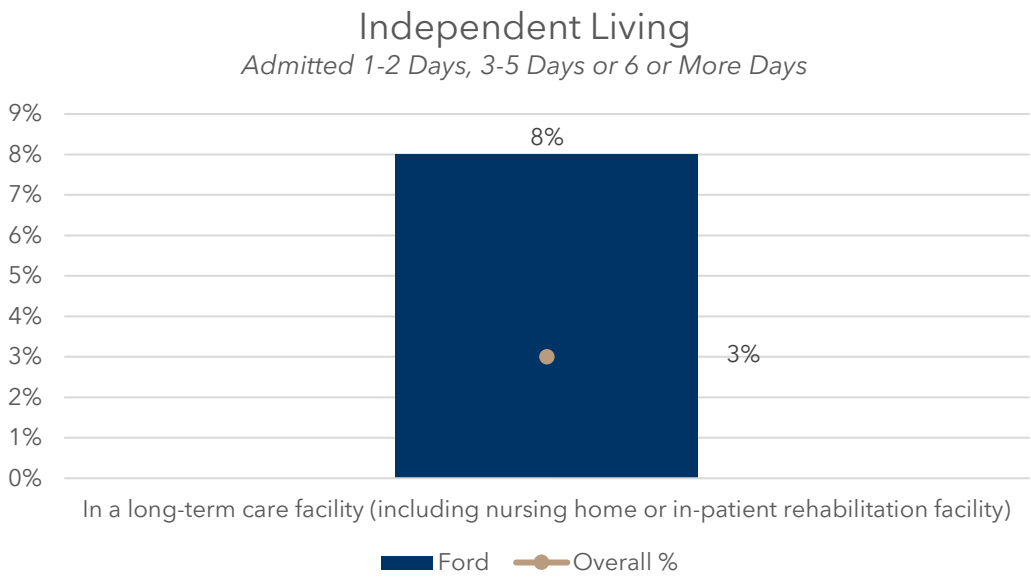
Health Care  
*Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem*



# 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%

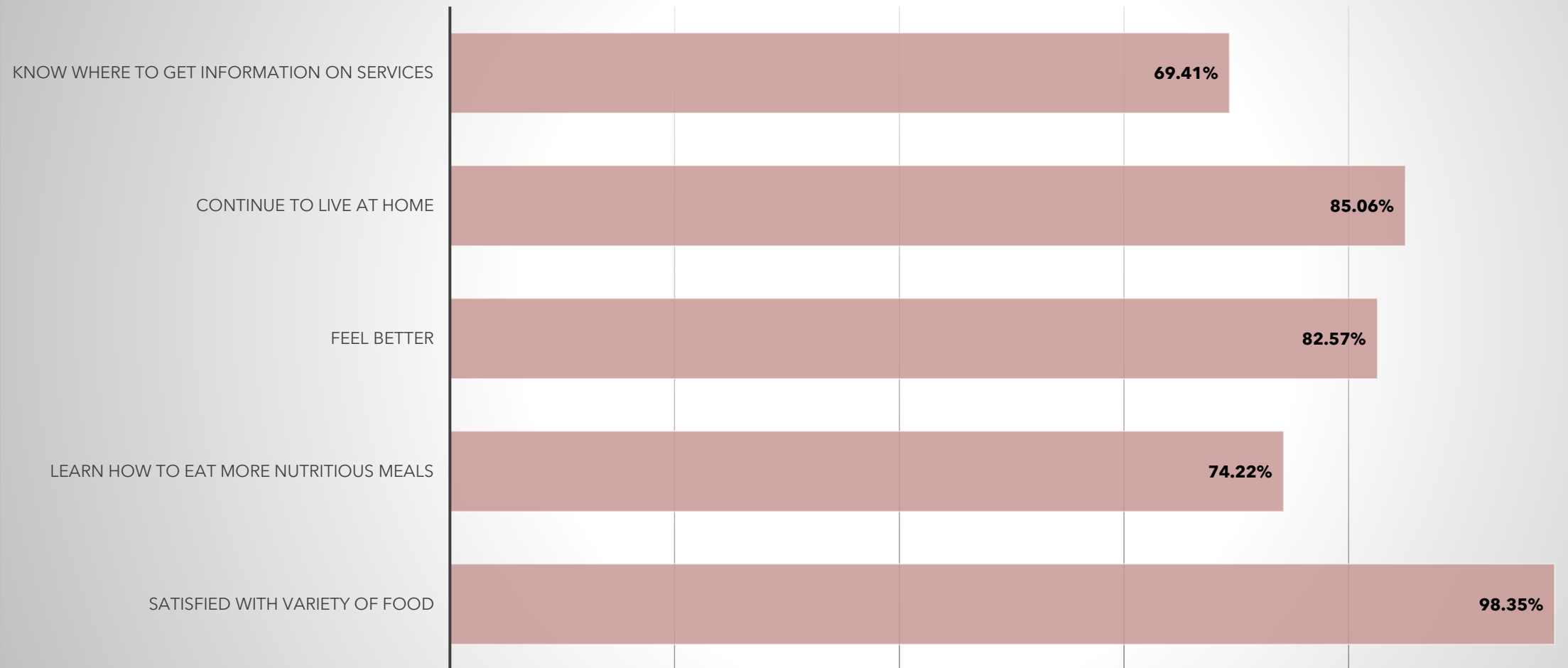
MEAL IS 1/2 OR LESS THAN OF DAILY FOOD

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

MEAL PROGRAM HAS HELPED THEM

94.93%

RECOMMEND THE PROGRAM TO FRIENDS

96.69%

REPORT HOT FOOD IS HOT COLD FOOD IS COLD

90.78%

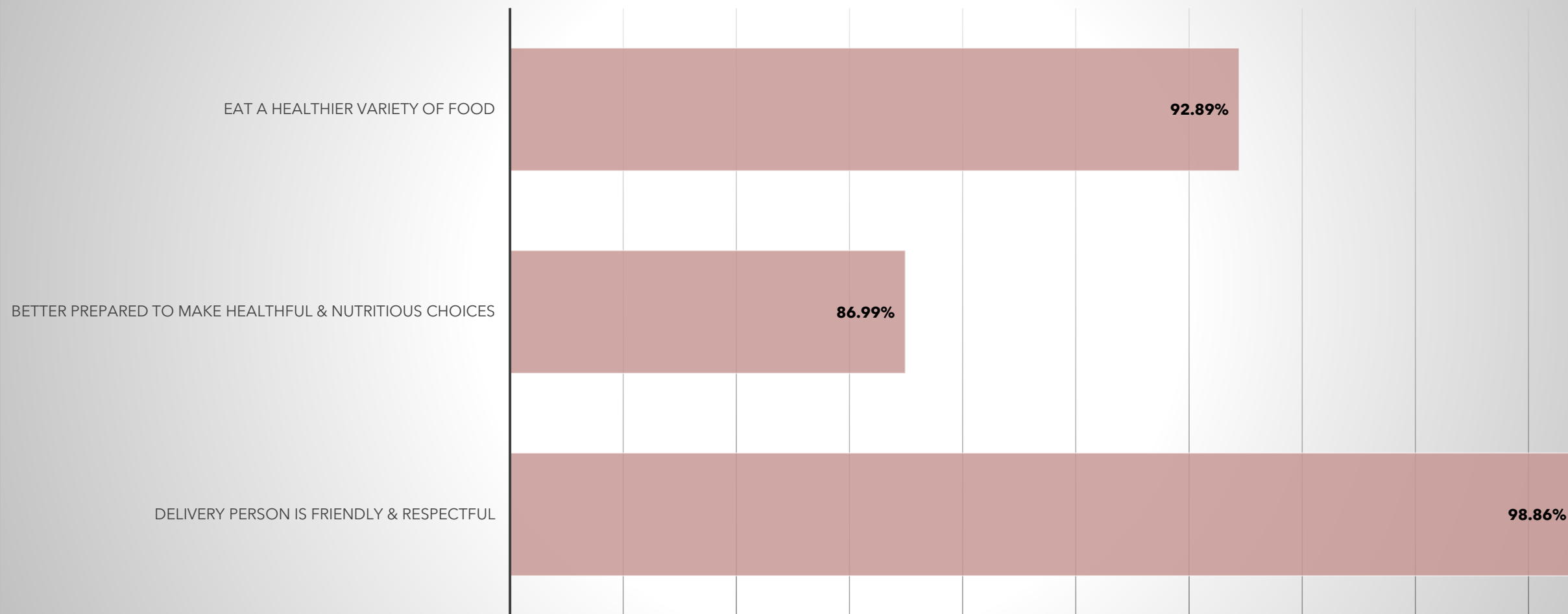
RATE PROGRAM AS GOOD

97.31%



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

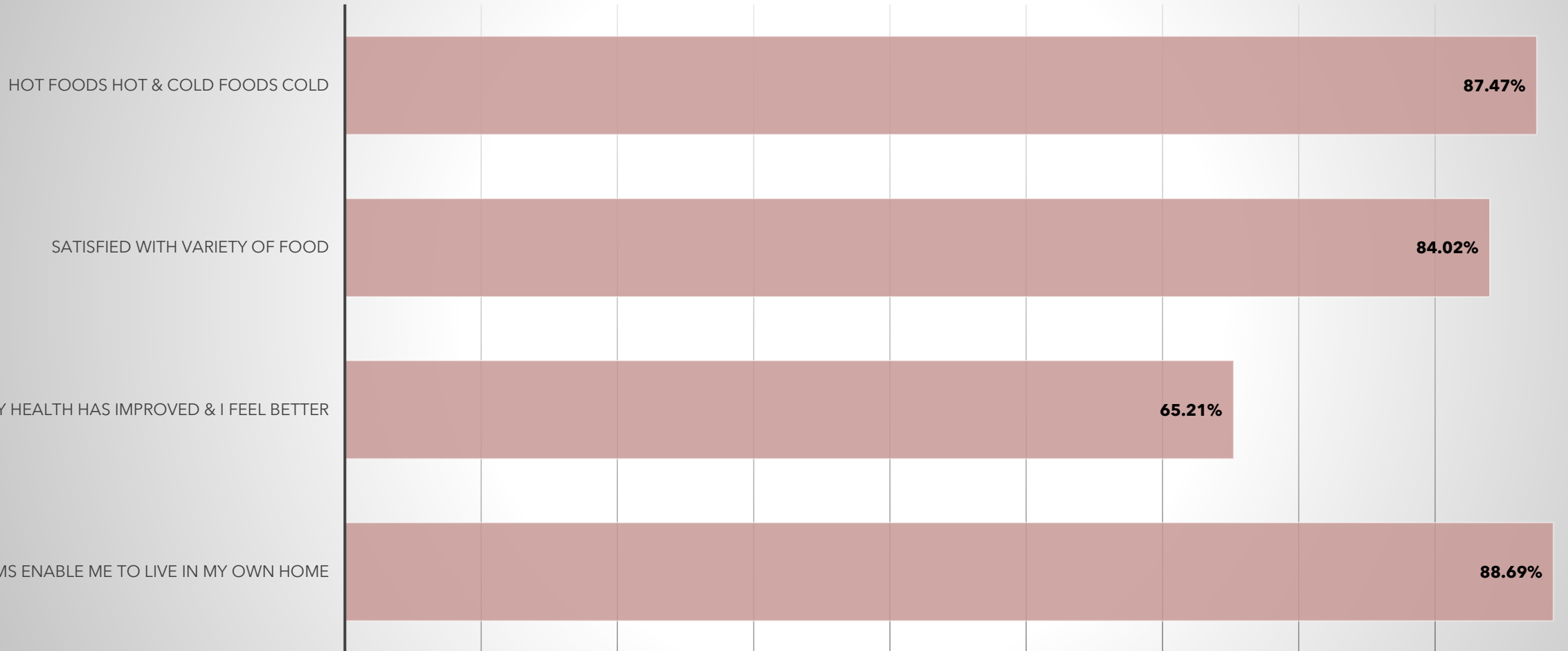
## FY 2024 HDM POMP Survey Results





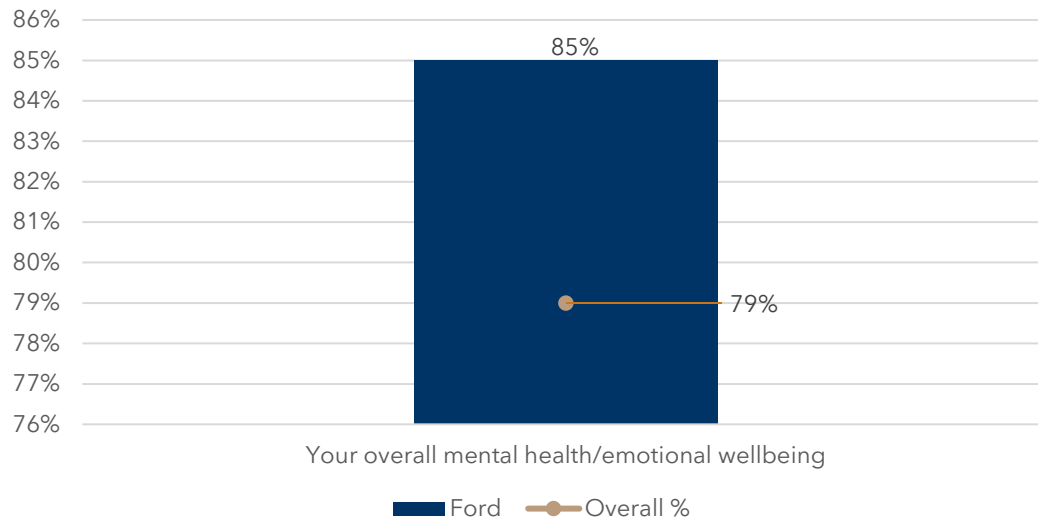
# Home Delivered Meals Indicators- Independence and Client Satisfaction

## FY 2024 HDM POMP Survey Results

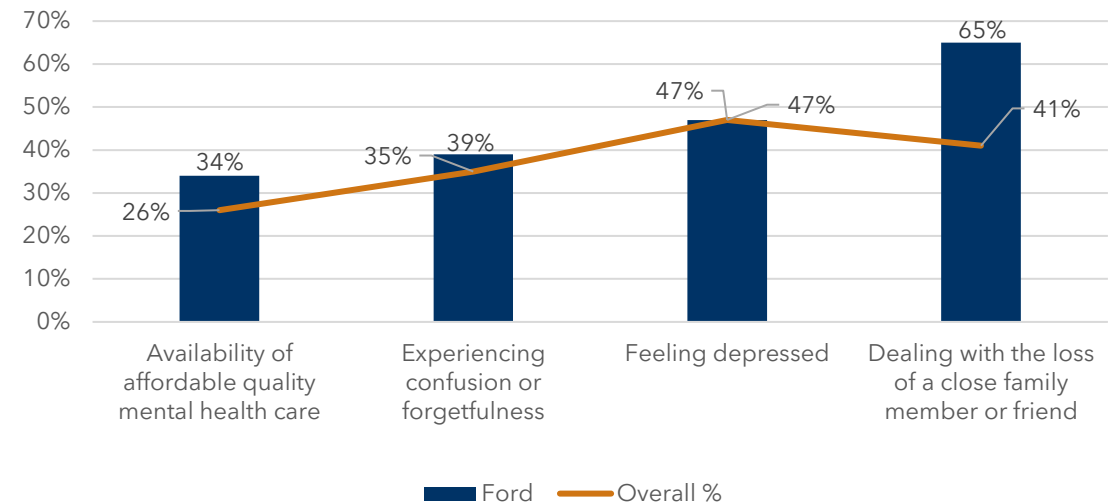


# Health & Wellness - Mental Health

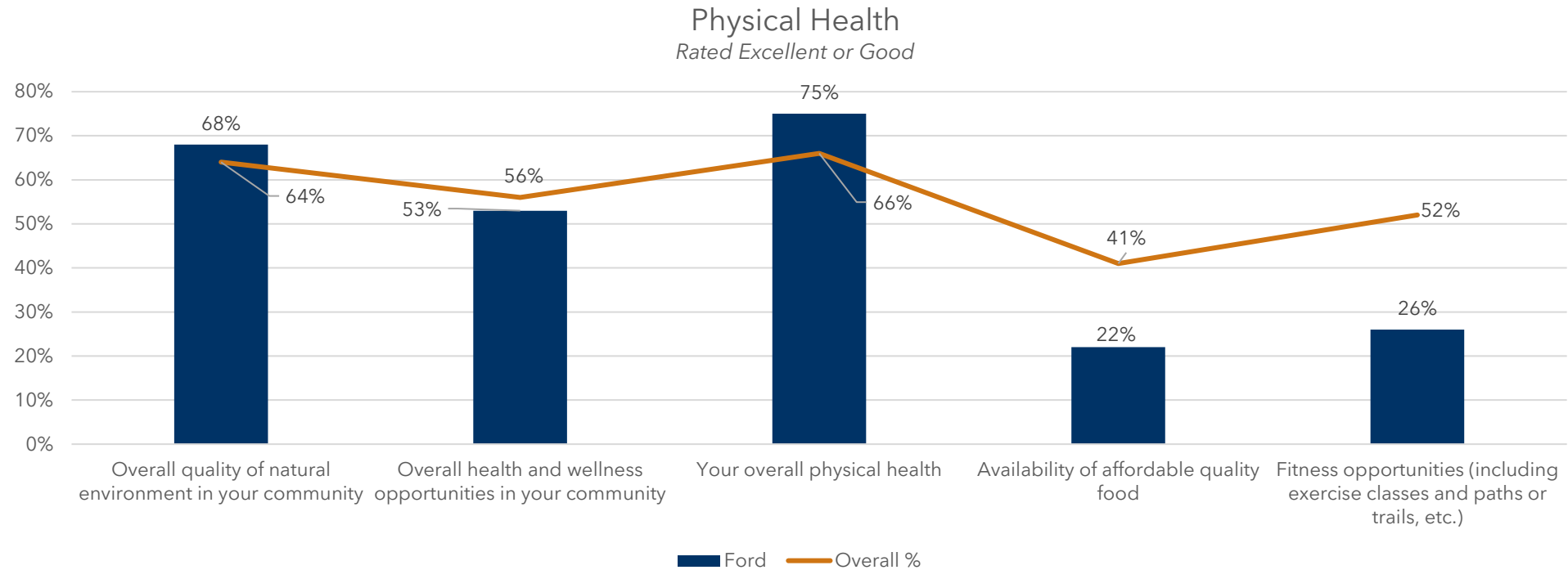
Mental Health  
*Rated Excellent or Good*



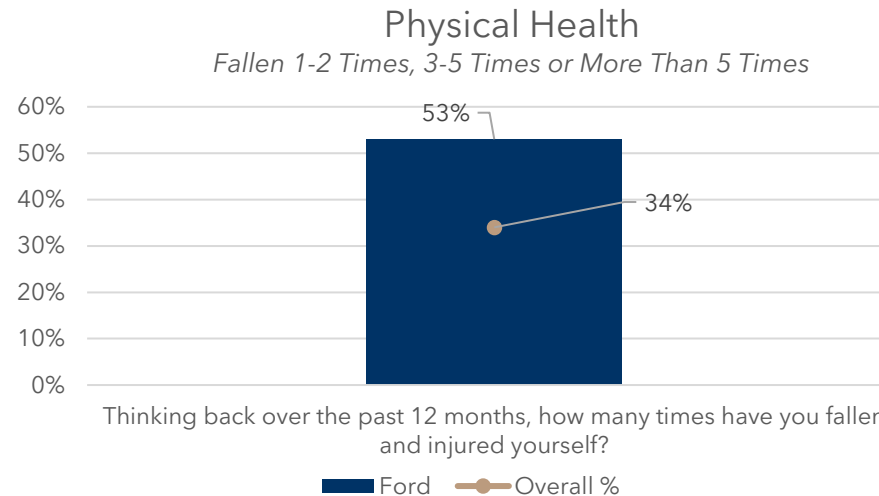
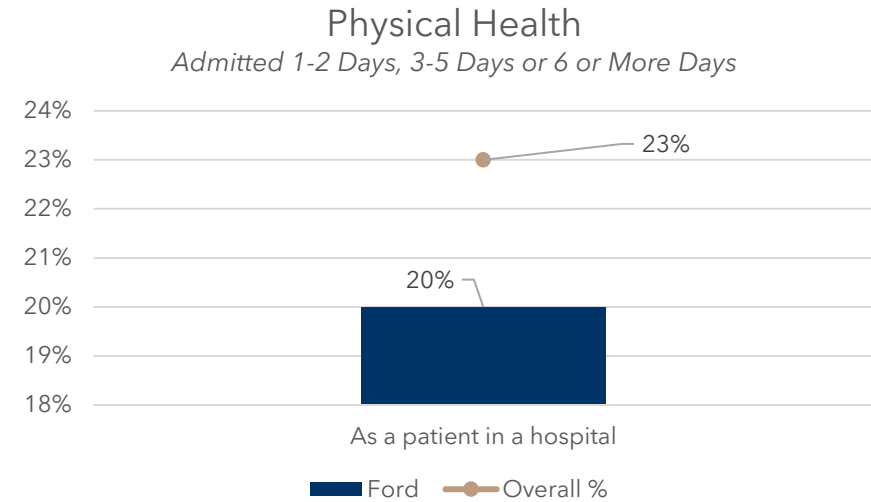
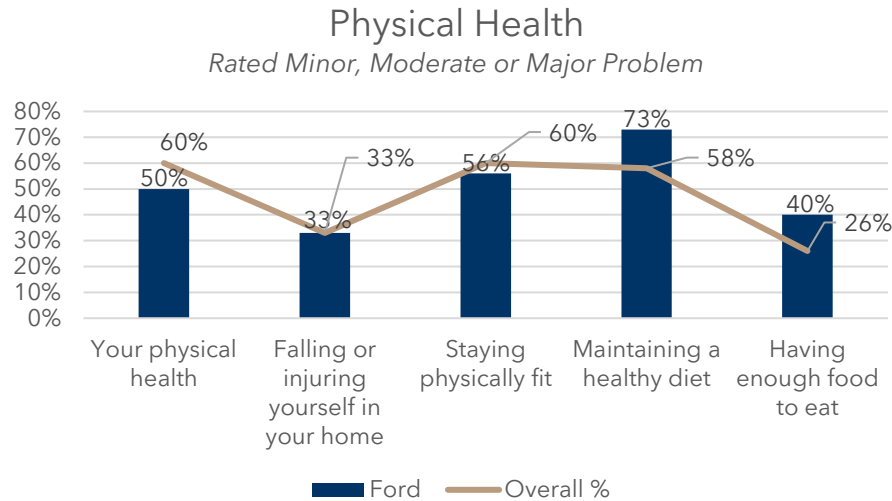
Mental Health  
*Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem*



# Health & Wellness – Physical Health

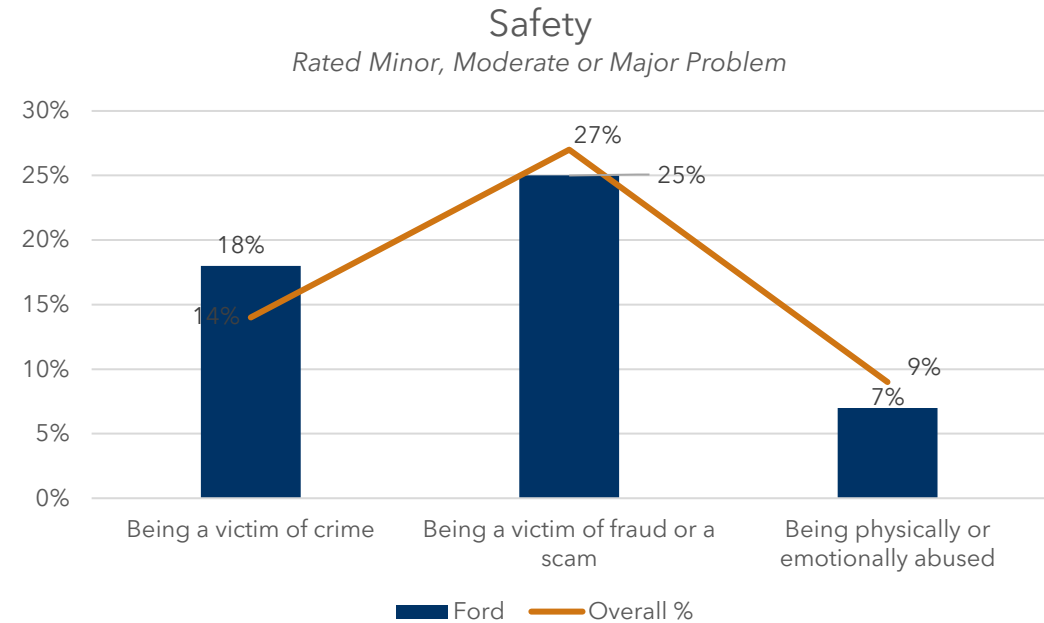


# Health & Wellness - Physical Health





# 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.

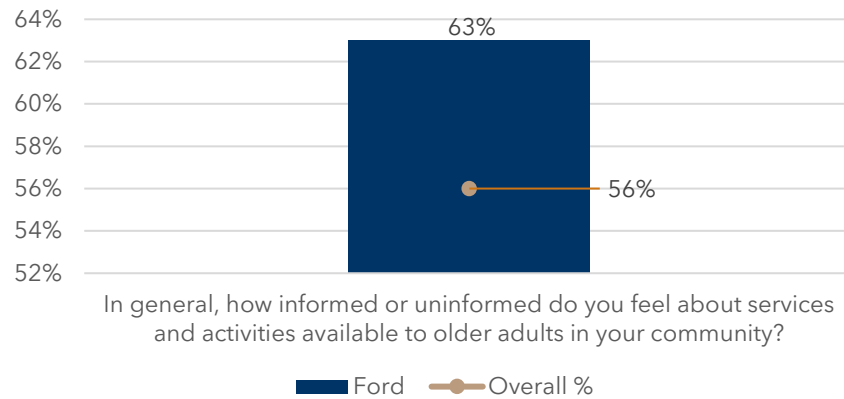
## Community Livability Topics

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

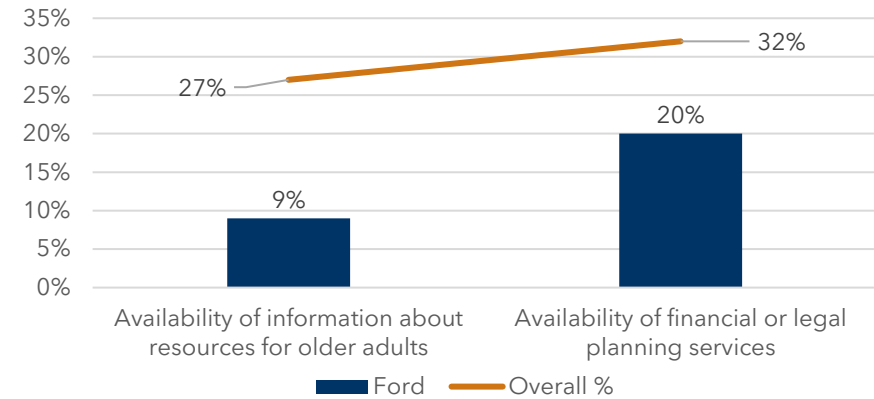


# Information & Assistance

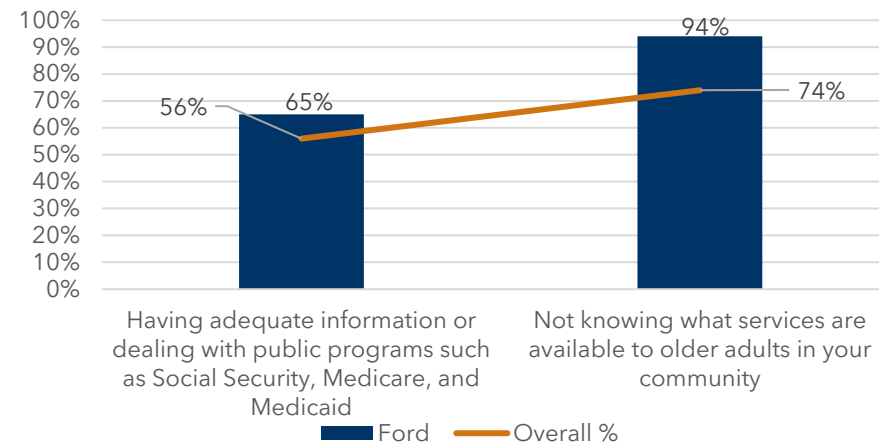
Information on Available Older Adult Services  
*Rated Very Informed or Somewhat Informed*



Information on Available Older Adult Services  
*Rated Excellent or Good*

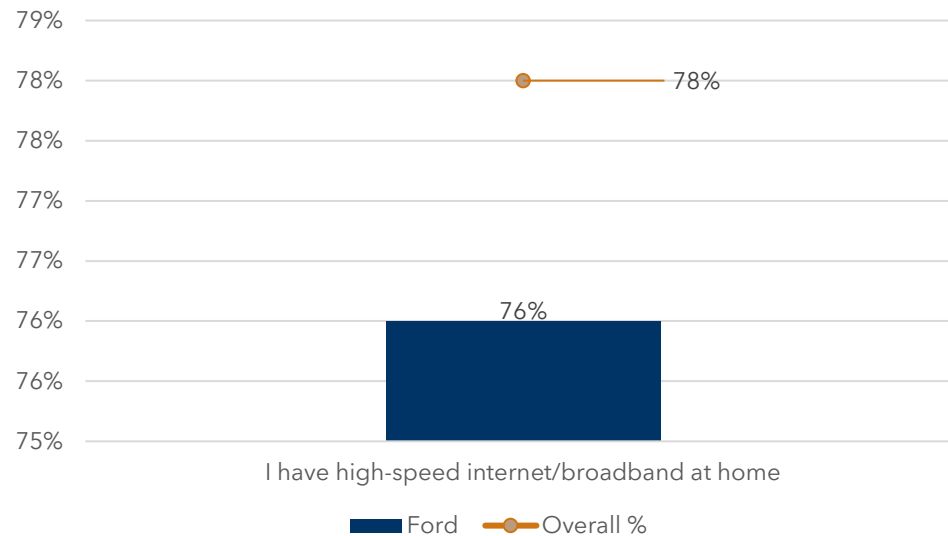


Information on Available Older Adult Services  
*Rated Minor, Moderate or Major Problem*

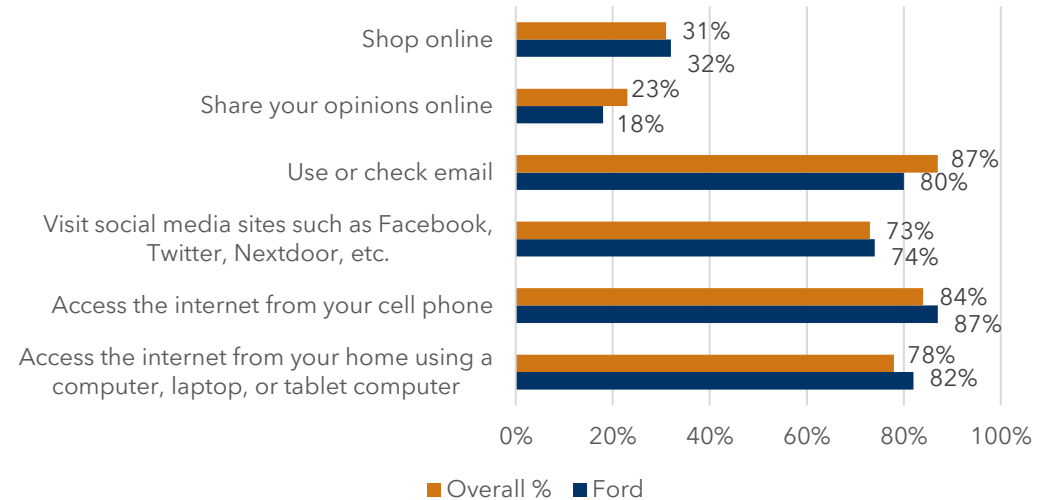


# Information & Assistance

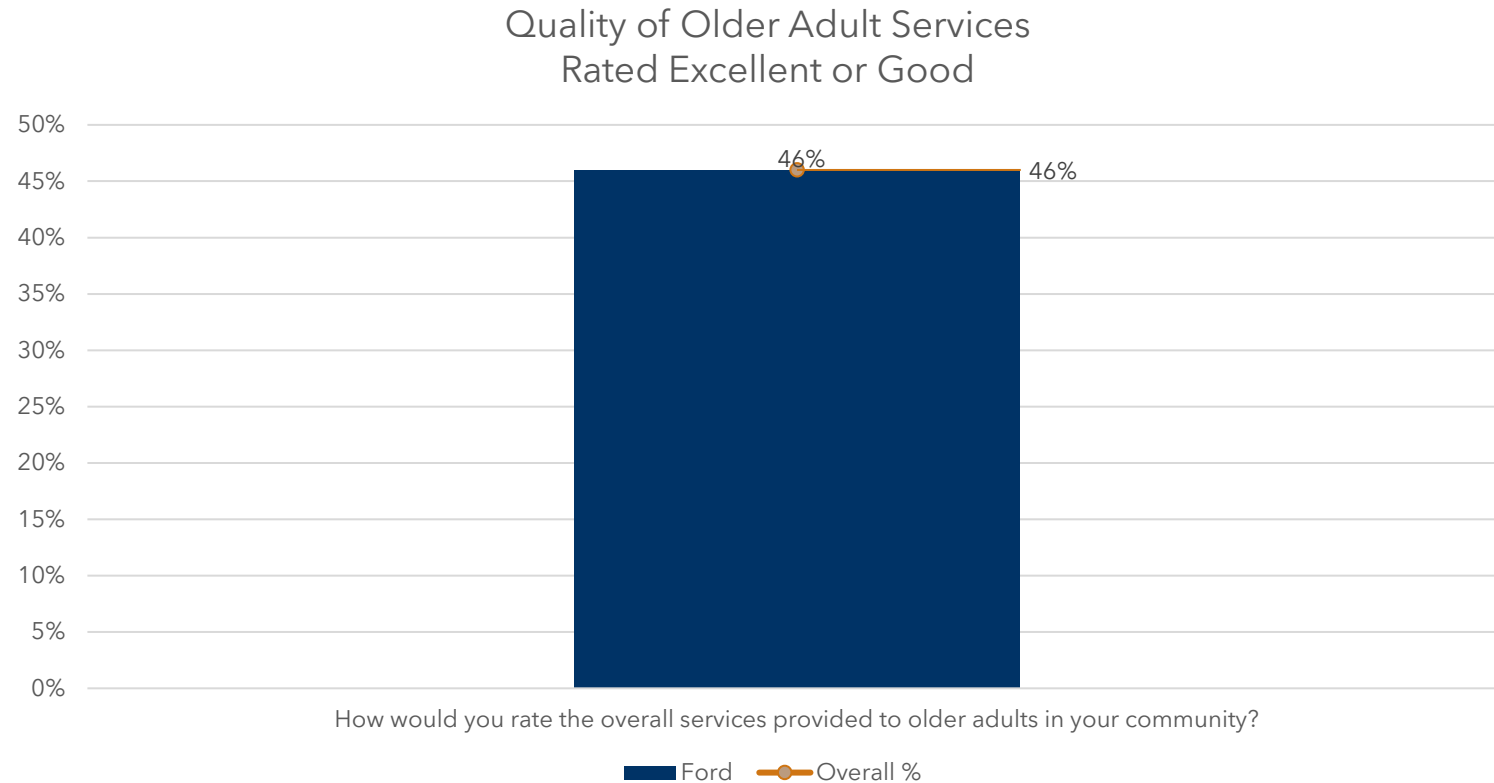
Information on Available Older Adult Services  
*Answered Yes*



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



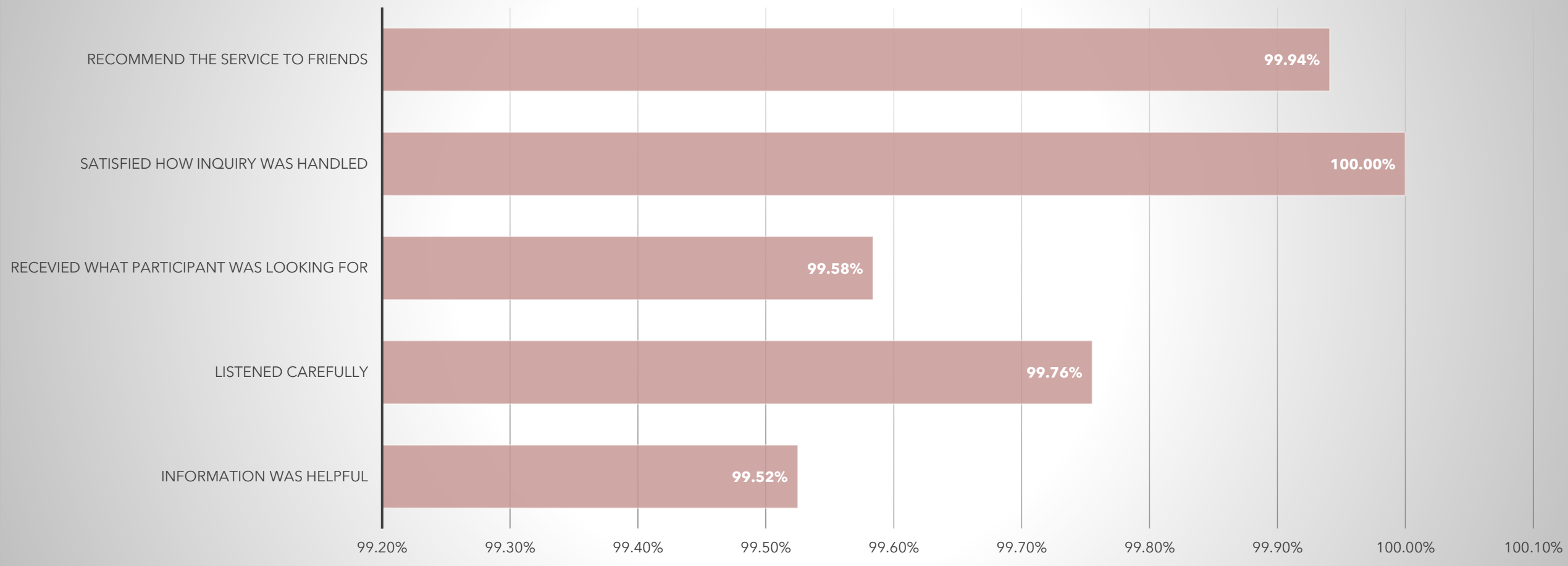
# *Information & Assistance Quality of Older Adult Services*





# *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

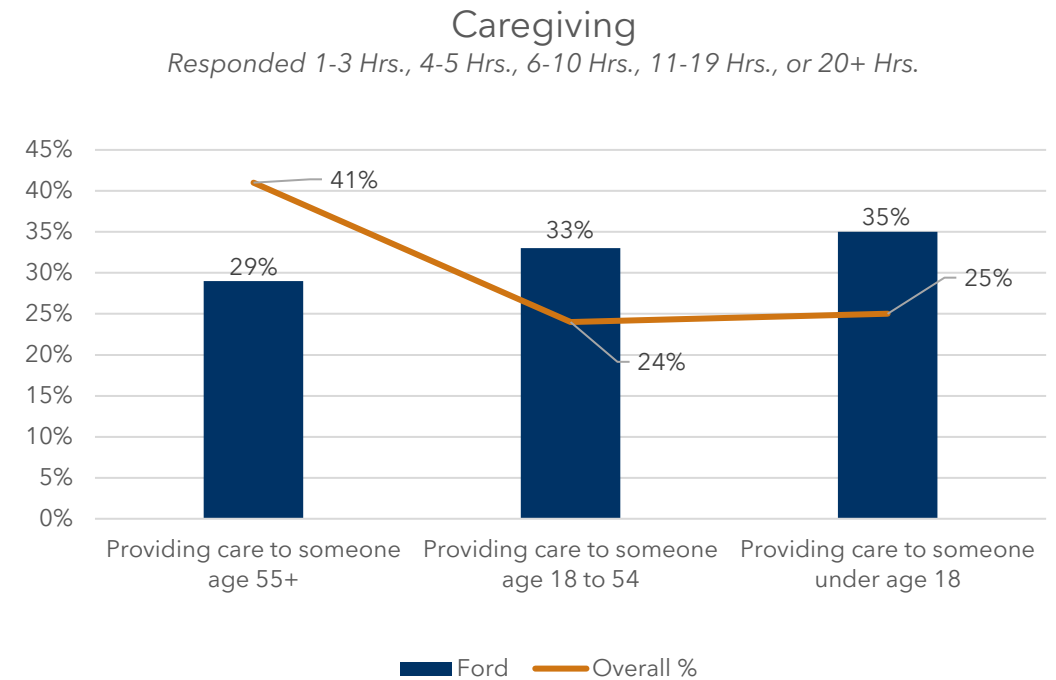
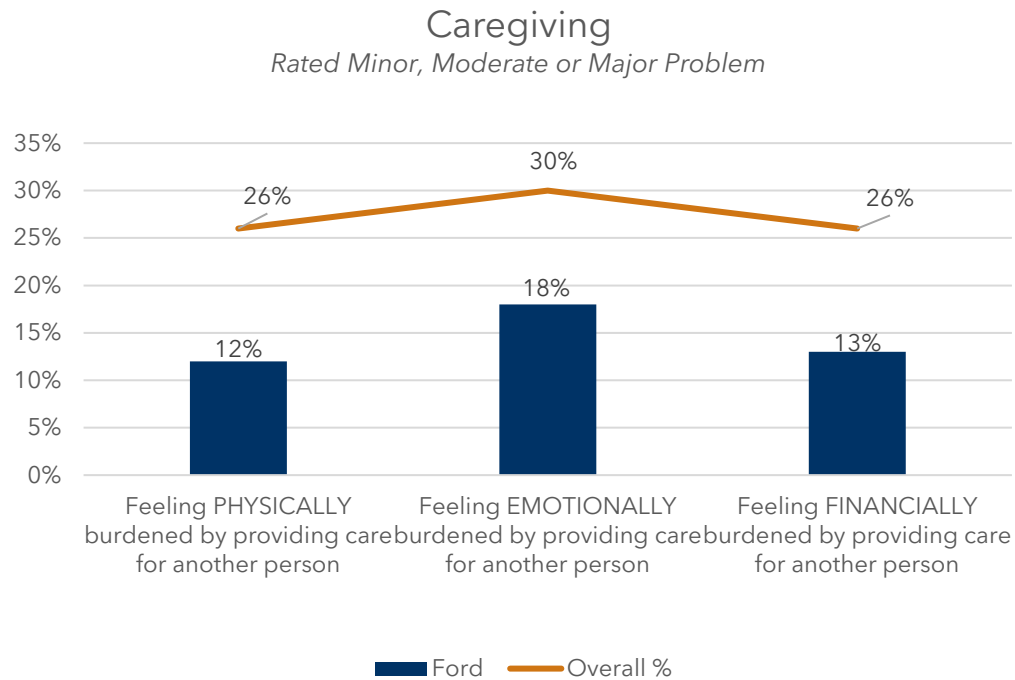
Productivity is the touchstone of a thriving old age. Older adults' engagement and contribution to the community can be determined by their time spent in civic meetings and social activities or providing help to others.

## Community Livability Topics

- Civic Engagement
- Social Engagement
- Caregiving



# Productive Activities - Caregiving

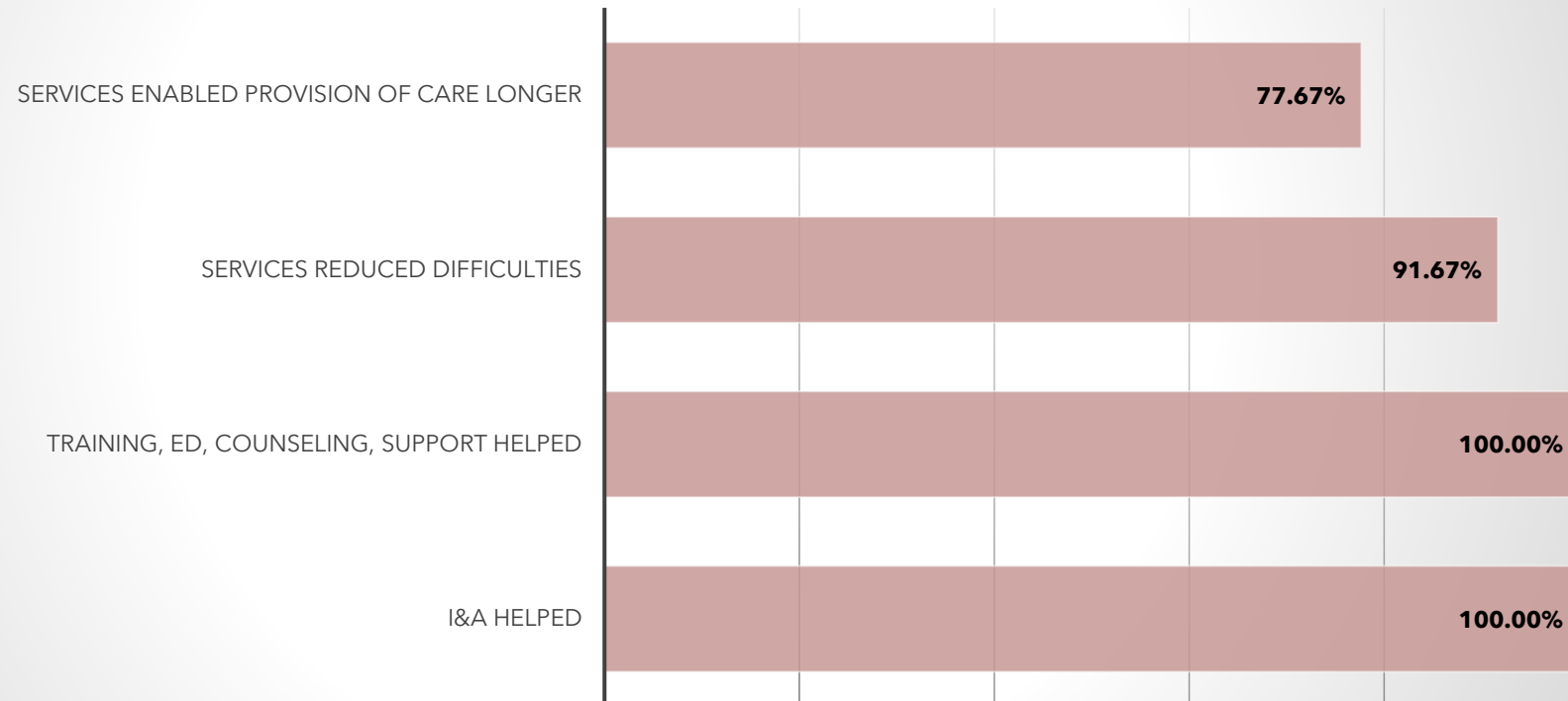






# *ECIAAA Caregiver Advisory Services Indicators - Education & Information, Support for Better Care Family Caregivers*

## **FY 2024 Caregiver POMP Survey Results**

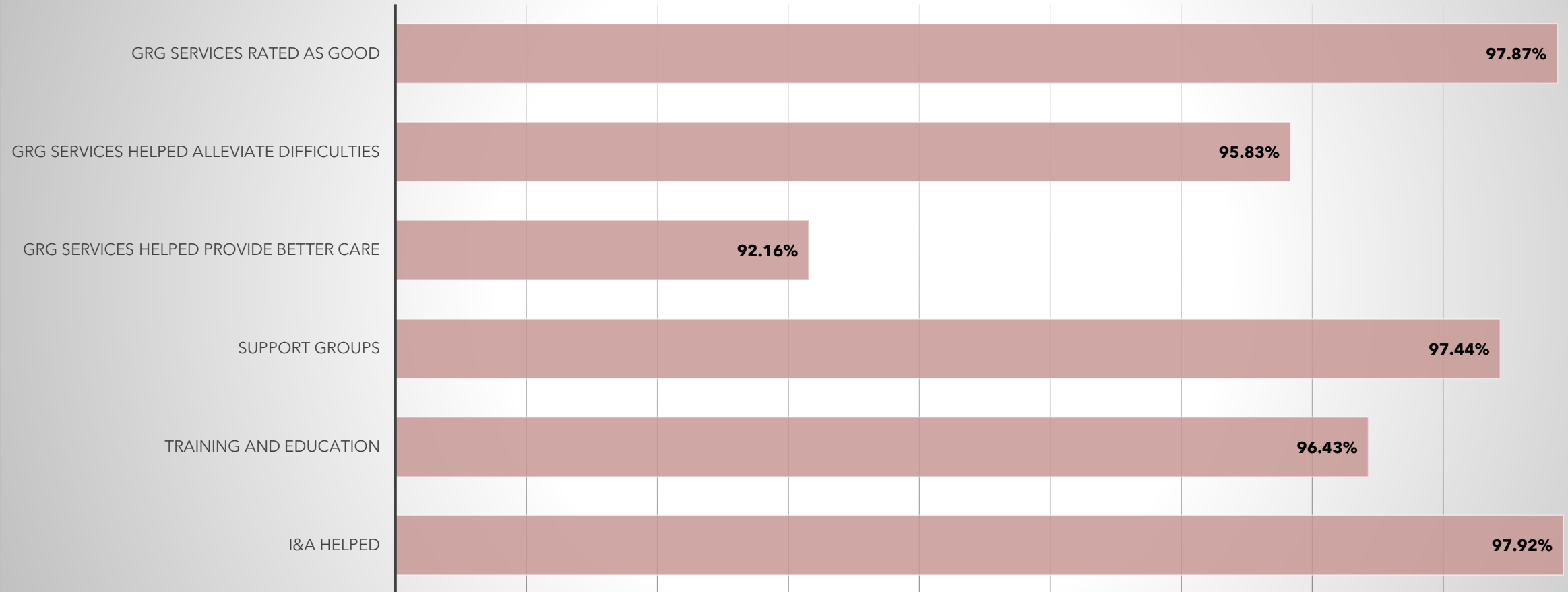


\*\*\*Tailored Care (TCARE) data indicates that 96% lowered or maintained caregiver stress levels\*\*\* 133 Screenings; 112 Assessments



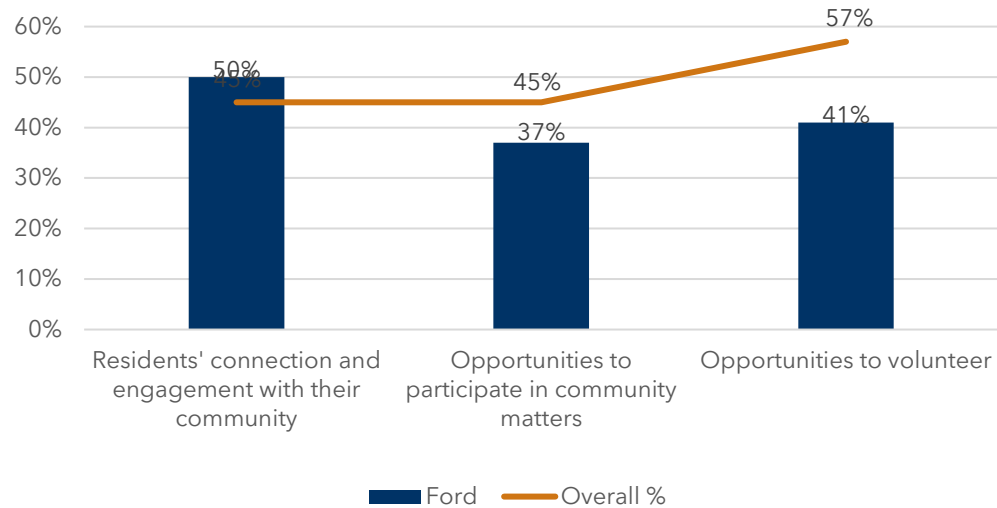
# *ECIAAA Caregiver Advisory Services Indicators - Education & Information, Support for Better Care Grandparents Raising Grandchildren*

## **FY 2024 GRG Survey Results**

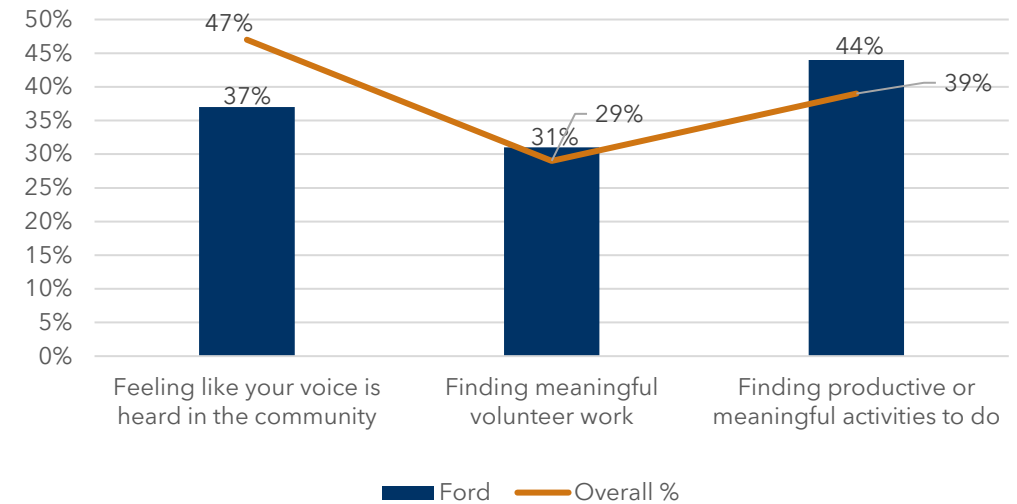


# Productive Activities Civic Engagement

Civic Engagement  
*Excellent or Good*

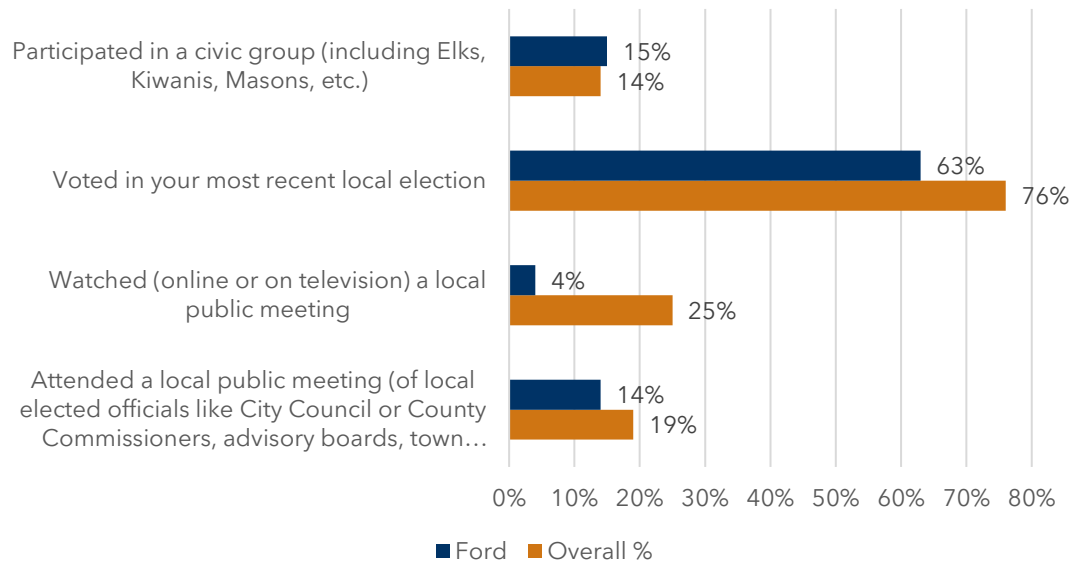


Civic Engagement  
*Minor, Moderate or Major Problem*

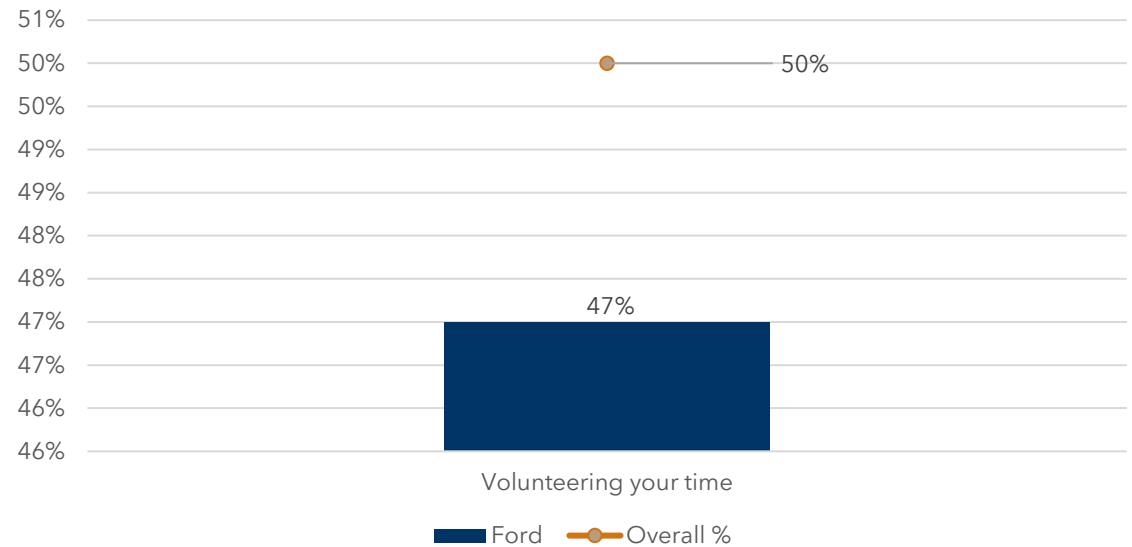


# Productive Activities Civic Engagement

Civic Engagement  
*Responded Yes in the Last 12 Months*

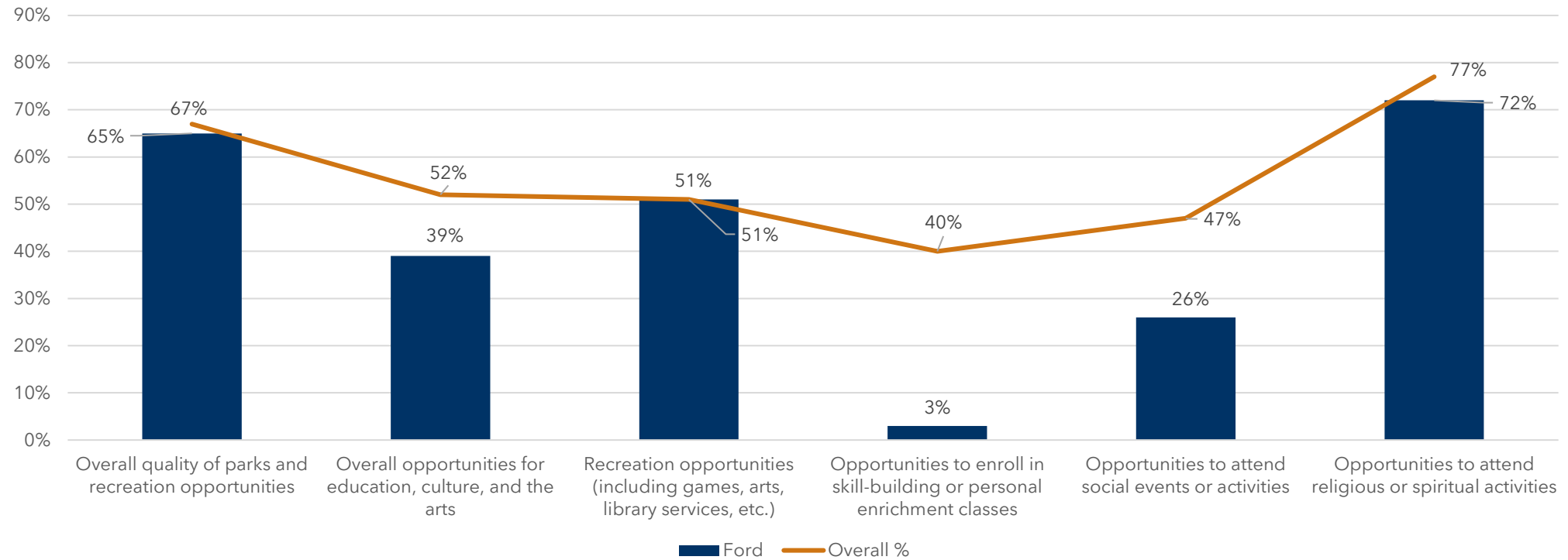


Civic Engagement  
*Responded 1-3 Hrs., 4-5 Hrs., 6-10 Hrs., 11-19 Hrs., or 20+ Hrs.*

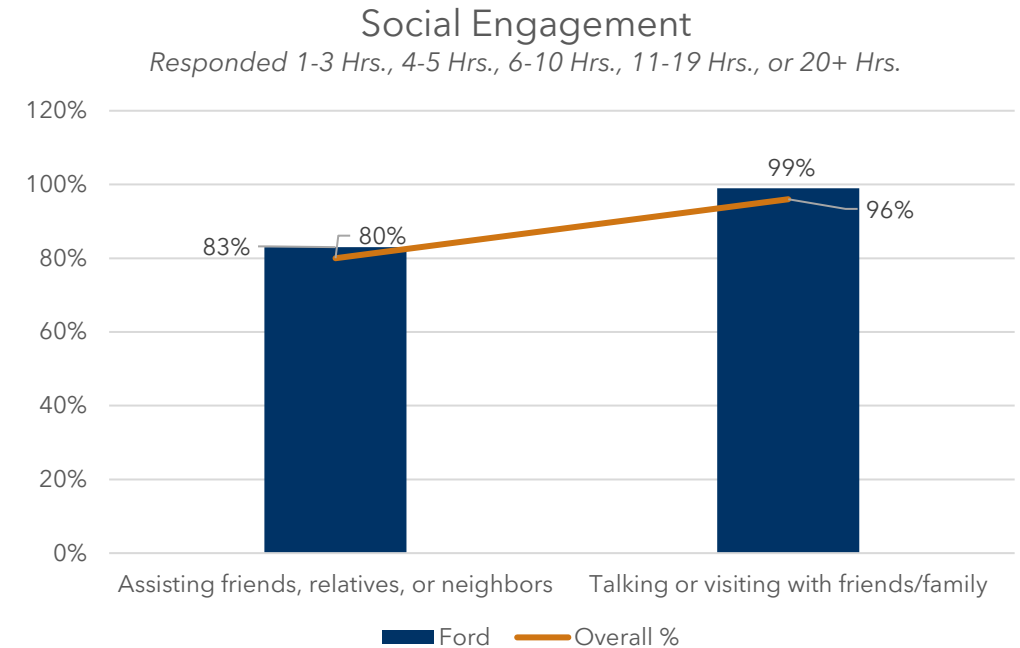
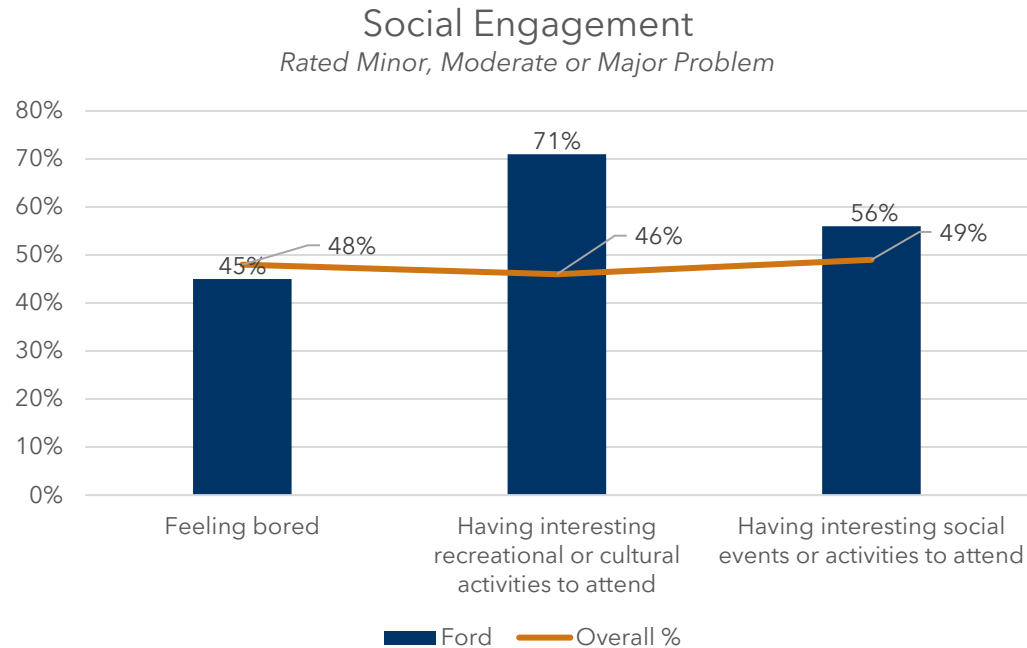


# Productive Activities Social Engagement

Social Engagement  
*Rated Excellent or Good*

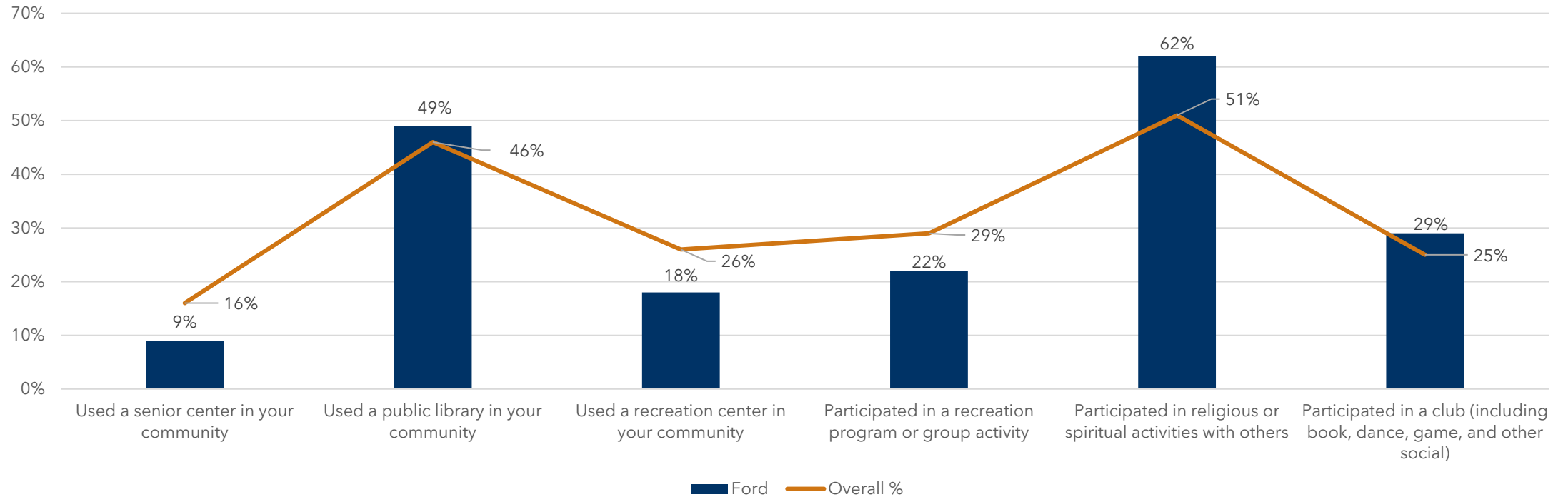


# Productive Activities Social Engagement



# 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

