

# River Falls, WI

## The National Community Survey

Report of Results  
2023

**Report by:**



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National Research Center at Polco is a charter member of the AAPOR Transparency Initiative, providing clear disclosure of our sound and ethical survey research practices.

## About The NCS™

The National Community Survey™ (The NCS™) report is about the “livability” of River Falls. A livable community is a place that is not simply habitable, but that is desirable. It is not only where people do live, but where they want to live. The survey was developed by the experts from National Research Center at Polco.

Great communities are partnerships of the government, private sector, community-based organizations and residents, all geographically connected. The NCS captures residents’ opinions considering ten central facets of a community:

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

The report provides the opinions of a representative sample of 524 residents of the City of River Falls collected from May 1, 2023 to June 12, 2023. The margin of error around any reported percentage is 4% for all respondents and the response rate for the 2023 survey was 19%. Survey results were weighted so that the demographic profile of respondents was representative of the demographic profile of adults in River Falls.

### How the results are reported

For the most part, the percentages presented in the following tabs represent the “percent positive.” Most commonly, the percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, etc.). On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the tab “Complete data.” However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in most of the tabs. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

### Comparisons to benchmarks

NRC’s database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in surveys from over 600 communities whose residents evaluated the same kinds of topics on The National Community Survey. The comparison evaluations are from the most recent survey completed in each community in the last five years. NRC adds the latest results quickly upon survey completion, keeping the benchmark data fresh and relevant. The communities in the database represent a wide geographic and population range. In each tab, River Falls’s results are noted as being “higher” than the benchmark, “lower” than the benchmark, or “similar” to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by River Falls residents is statistically similar to or different (greater or lesser) than the benchmark. Being rated as “higher” or “lower” than the benchmark means that River Falls’s average rating for a particular item was more than 10 points different than the benchmark. If a rating was “much higher” or “much lower,” then River Falls’s average rating was more than 20 points different when compared to the benchmark.

The survey was administered after the COVID-19 pandemic, a time of challenge for many local governments. While we provide comparisons to national benchmarks, it is important to note that much of the benchmark data was collected prior to the pandemic. This may impact how your City’s 2023 ratings compare to other communities’ ratings from the past five years.



## Trends over time

Trend data for River Falls represent important comparison data and should be examined for improvements or declines\*. Deviations from stable trends over time represent opportunities for understanding how local policies, programs, or public information may have affected residents' opinions. Changes between survey years have been noted with an arrow and the percent difference. If the difference is greater than six percentage points between the 2021 and 2023 surveys, the change is statistically significant.

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

## Methods

### Selecting survey recipients

All households within the City of River Falls were eligible to participate in the survey. A list of all households within the zip codes serving River Falls was purchased from Go-Dog Direct based on updated listings from the United States Postal Service. Since some of the zip codes that serve the City of River Falls households may also serve addresses that lie outside of the community, the exact geographic location of each housing unit was compared to community boundaries using the most current municipal boundary file. Addresses located outside of the City of River Falls boundaries were removed from the list of potential households to survey. From that list, addresses were randomly selected as survey recipients, with multi-family housing units (defined as those with a unit number) sampled at a rate of 5:3 compared to single family housing units.

An individual within each household was selected using the birthday method. The birthday method selects a person within the household by asking the “person whose birthday has most recently passed” to complete the questionnaire. The underlying assumption in this method is that day of birth has no relationship to the way people respond to surveys. This instruction was contained in the introduction of the survey.

### Conducting the survey

The 2,800 randomly selected households received mailings beginning on May 1, 2023 and the survey remained open for six weeks. The first mailing was a postcard inviting the household to participate in the survey. The next mailing contained a cover letter with instructions, the survey questionnaire, and a postage-paid return envelope. All mailings included a web link to give residents the opportunity to respond to the survey online. All follow-up mailings asked those who had not completed the survey to do so and those who had already done so to refrain from completing the survey again.

About 4% of the 2,800 mailed invitations or surveys were returned because the household address was vacant or the postal service was unable to deliver the survey as addressed. Of the remaining 2,697 households that received the invitations to participate, 524 completed the survey, providing an overall response rate of 19%. The response rate was calculated using AAPOR’s response rate #2 for mailed surveys of unnamed persons.\*

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates made from surveys by a “level of confidence” and accompanying “confidence interval” (or margin of error). A traditional level of confidence, and the one used here, is 95%. The 95% confidence interval can be any size and quantifies the sampling error or imprecision of the survey results because some residents’ opinions are relied on to estimate all residents’ opinions. The margin of error for the City of River Falls survey is no greater than plus or minus four percentage points around any given percent reported for all respondents (524 completed surveys).

In addition to the randomly selected “probability sample” of households, a link to an online open participation survey was publicized by the City of River Falls. The open participation survey was identical to the probability sample survey with two small updates; it included a question at the beginning asking if the respondent lives within the City and a question at the end about where they heard about the survey. The open participation survey was open to all city residents and became available on May 29, 2023. The survey remained open for 2 weeks. The data presented in the following tabs exclude the open participation survey data, but a tab at the end provides the complete frequency of responses to questions by the open participation respondents.

## Analyzing the data

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

The demographics of the survey respondents were compared to those found in the 2020 Census and 2022 American Community Survey estimates for adults in the City of River Falls. The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey respondents reflective of the larger population of the community. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, and housing tenure. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.\* The results of the weighting scheme for the probability sample are presented in the following table.

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

		Unweighted	Weighted	Target*
Age	18-34	13%	51%	53%
	35-54	29%	25%	24%
	55+	58%	25%	24%
Hispanic origin	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	98%	98%	97%
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	2%	2%	3%
Housing tenure	Own	75%	56%	56%
	Rent	25%	44%	44%
Housing type	Attached	36%	52%	52%
	Detached	64%	48%	48%
Race & Hispanic origin	Not white alone	5%	8%	8%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	95%	92%	92%
Sex	Man	43%	42%	44%
	Woman	57%	58%	56%
Sex/age	Man 18-34	4%	18%	21%
	Man 35-54	14%	13%	13%
	Man 55+	25%	11%	10%
	Woman 18-34	10%	33%	32%
	Woman 35-54	15%	11%	11%
	Woman 55+	33%	14%	13%

The survey datasets were analyzed using all or some of a combination of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), R, Python and Tableau. For the most part, the percentages presented in the reports represent the “percent positive.” The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, essential/very important, etc.), or, in the case of resident behaviors/participation, the percent positive represents the proportion of respondents indicating “yes” or participating in an activity at least once a month.

On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the tab “Complete data”. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the reports. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

## Contact

The City of River Falls funded this research. Please contact Jennifer J. Smith of the City of River Falls at [jsmith@rfcity.org](mailto:jsmith@rfcity.org) if you have any questions about the survey.

## Survey Validity

See the Polco Knowledge Base article on survey validity at <https://info.polco.us/knowledge/statistical-vali>

\* See AAPOR’s Standard Definitions for more information at

<https://www.aapor.org/Publications-Media/AAPOR-Journals/Standard-Definitions.aspx>

\* Pasek, J. (2010). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from

<https://web.stanford.edu/group/iriss/cgi-bin/anesrake/resources/RakingDescription.pdf>

\* Targets come from the 2020 Census and 2023 American Community Survey

## Key Findings

### **Residents show a renewed appreciation for education, arts, and culture in River Falls.**

While 2021 survey results identified newfound concerns in several areas relating to education, arts, and culture, many 2023 ratings in this category surpassed those previous results. Areas exhibiting noticeable upward trends included community support for the arts (74% positive), adult educational opportunities (74%), and K-12 education (89%), all of which ranked higher than comparison communities. Also on the rise were ratings for opportunities to attend special events and festivals (79%), scoring similar to national benchmarks.

Other items maintained favorable ratings similar to the City's 2021 results. About 8 in 10 residents gave above-average marks to the overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts in River Falls. Likewise, 7 in 10 offered excellent or good ratings for opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities. Evaluations of public library services remained very high, with 95% of respondents responding positively. An additional custom question developed by the City sought to evaluate certain aspects of the River Falls Public Library services. Nearly all respondents offered positive ratings for library programs (95% excellent or good), library building(s) and grounds (95%), and the availability of staff (94%). At least 8 in 10 were also satisfied with the library's hours of operation and computer services/internet/wi-fi services.

### **While there have been gains in the local economy, it remains an area of importance for residents.**

Compared to other facets of livability, residents placed the highest importance on the overall economic health of the city, with 86% of respondents rating this an essential or very important focus area for the coming two years. While most individual assessments relating to the economy held steady with previous results, a few saw improvements since the 2021 survey. Nearly 7 in 10 residents continued to rate the overall economic health of River Falls as excellent or good, and three-quarters did the same for River Falls as a place to visit. Evaluations for the vibrancy of River Falls' downtown/commercial area and economic development services both remained strong, garnering positive assessments from 6 in 10. The City received more favorable marks this year for River Falls as a place to work (59%) and the overall quality of business and service establishments (69%), both of which represent the highest scores recorded since surveying began. Still, results indicated some opportunities for growth in the local economy: only 4 in 10 positively rated the variety of business and service establishments, and one-quarter of residents were pleased with the city's shopping opportunities, both scoring lower than national comparison communities.

### **The natural environment is both an asset and potential focus area.**

Over 8 in 10 residents continued to place high importance on the quality of the natural environment. Despite generally high ratings in this area, some items experienced downward trends, indicating a potential need for focus. Areas exhibiting this slight decline included the overall quality of natural environment (falling from 93% positive in 2021 to 87% positive in 2023), preservation of natural areas (from 72% to 64%), and yard waste pick-up services (from 70% to 61%). Most other survey items pertaining to the natural environment remained strong and stable with prior results. At least 8 in 10 were pleased with the city's air quality, cleanliness, and recycling services, while two-thirds praised River Falls' open space and water resources. All items in this category remained similar to national benchmark comparisons.

### **Residents appreciate opportunities to engage with their community.**

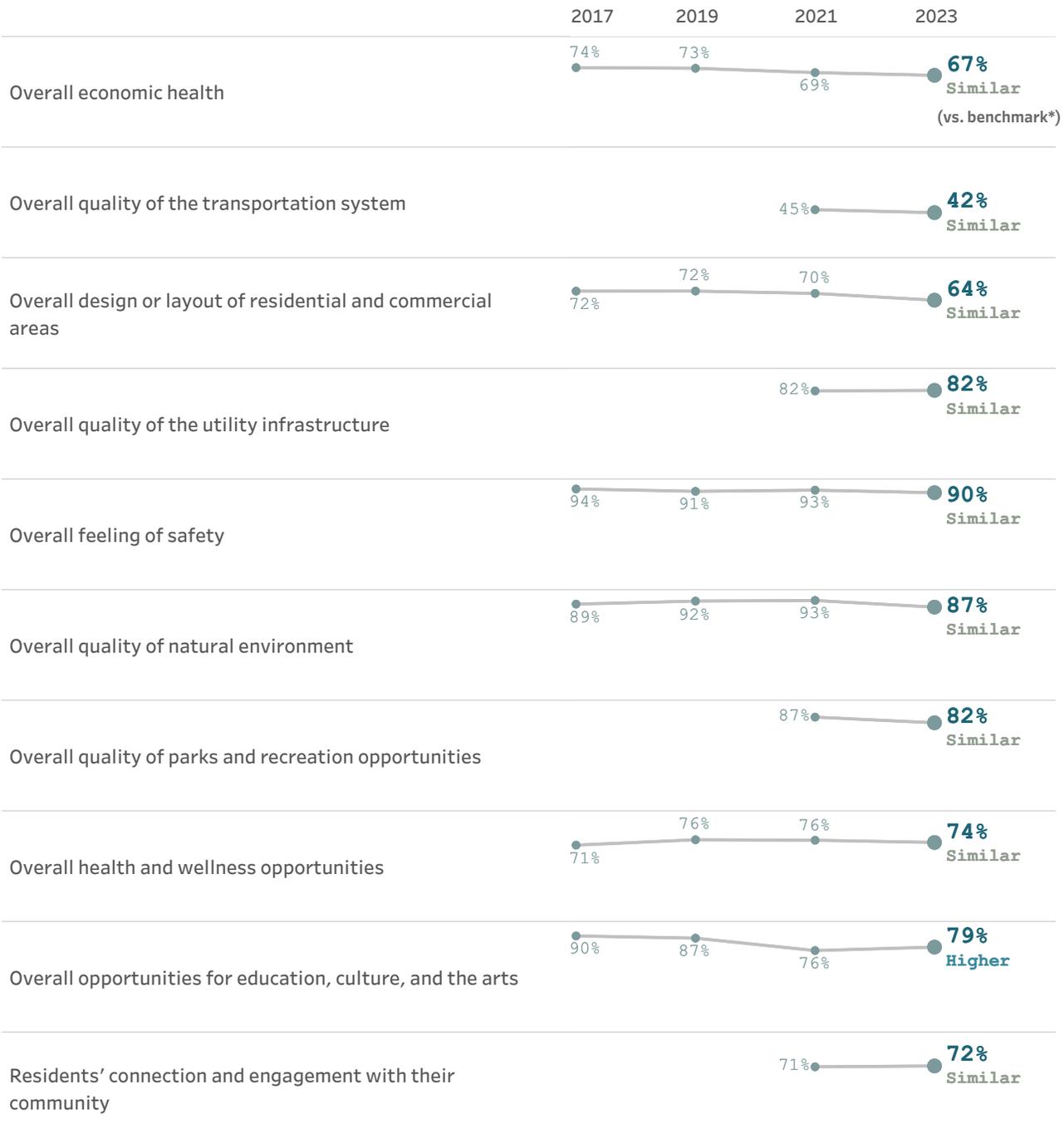
Most residents continued to experience a positive connection and engagement with their community, with 7 in 10 rating this area as excellent or good in River Falls. A slightly larger proportion, about three-quarters of residents, felt that the River Falls community does an excellent or good job at making all residents feel welcome. A similar number also gave high marks to the sense of civic/community pride and neighborliness of residents. A few related aspects also saw ratings bounce back after a brief decline in 2021, including opportunities to volunteer (81% positive in 2023), opportunities to participate in social events and activities (76%), and opportunities to participate in community matters (70%).

## Facets of livability

Resident perceptions of quality and importance for each of the facets of community livability provide an overview of community strengths and challenges that are useful for planning, budgeting and performance evaluation.

The charts below show the proportion of residents who rated the community facets positively for quality and the priority (importance) placed on each. Also displayed is whether local ratings were lower, similar, or higher than communities across the country (the national benchmark).

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



Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the River Falls community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.  
 (% essential or very important)



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

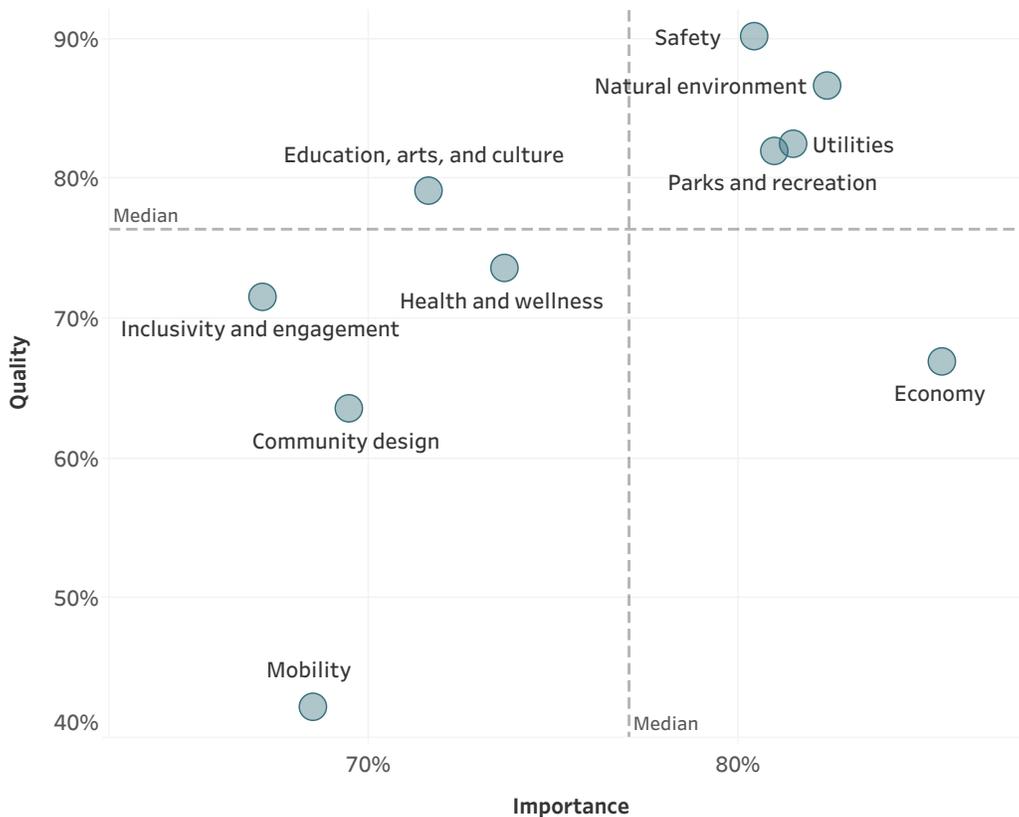
## Balancing performance and importance

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

To help guide City staff and officials with decisions on future resource allocation, resident ratings of the importance of services were compared to their ratings of the quality of these services. To identify the services perceived by residents to have relatively lower quality at the same time as relatively higher importance, all services were ranked from highest perceived quality to lowest perceived quality and from highest perceived importance to lowest perceived importance. Some services were in the top half of both lists (higher quality and higher importance); some were in the top half of one list but the bottom half of the other (higher quality and lower importance or lower quality and higher importance); and some services were in the bottom half of both lists.

Services receiving quality ratings of excellent or good by 76% or more of respondents were considered of “higher quality” and those with ratings lower than 76% were considered to be of “lower quality.” Services were classified as “more important” if they were rated as essential or very important by 77% or more of respondents. Services were rated as “less important” if they received a rating of less than 77%. This classification uses the median ratings for quality and importance to divide the services in half.

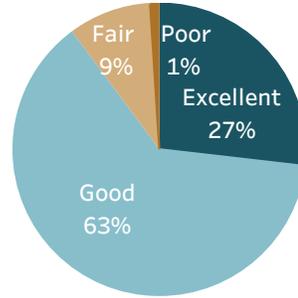
The quadrants in the figure below show which community facets were given higher or lower importance ratings (right-left) and which had higher or lower quality ratings (up-down). Facets of livability falling closer to a diagonal line from the lower left to the upper right are those where performance ratings are more commensurate with resident priorities. Facets scoring closest to the lower right hand corner of the matrix ( higher in importance and lower in quality) are those that may warrant further investigation to see if changes to their delivery are necessary to improve their performance. This is the key part of this chart on which to focus. Facets falling in the top left hand corner of the chart (lower in importance but higher in quality) are areas where performance may outscore resident priorities, and may be a consideration for lower resource allocation.



## Quality of life

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

The overall quality of life in River Falls, 2023



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



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



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

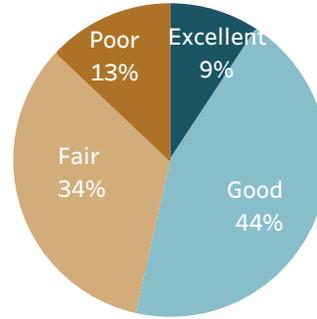


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

## Governance

Strong local governments produce results that meet the needs of residents while making the best use of available resources, and are responsive to the present and future needs of the community as a whole.

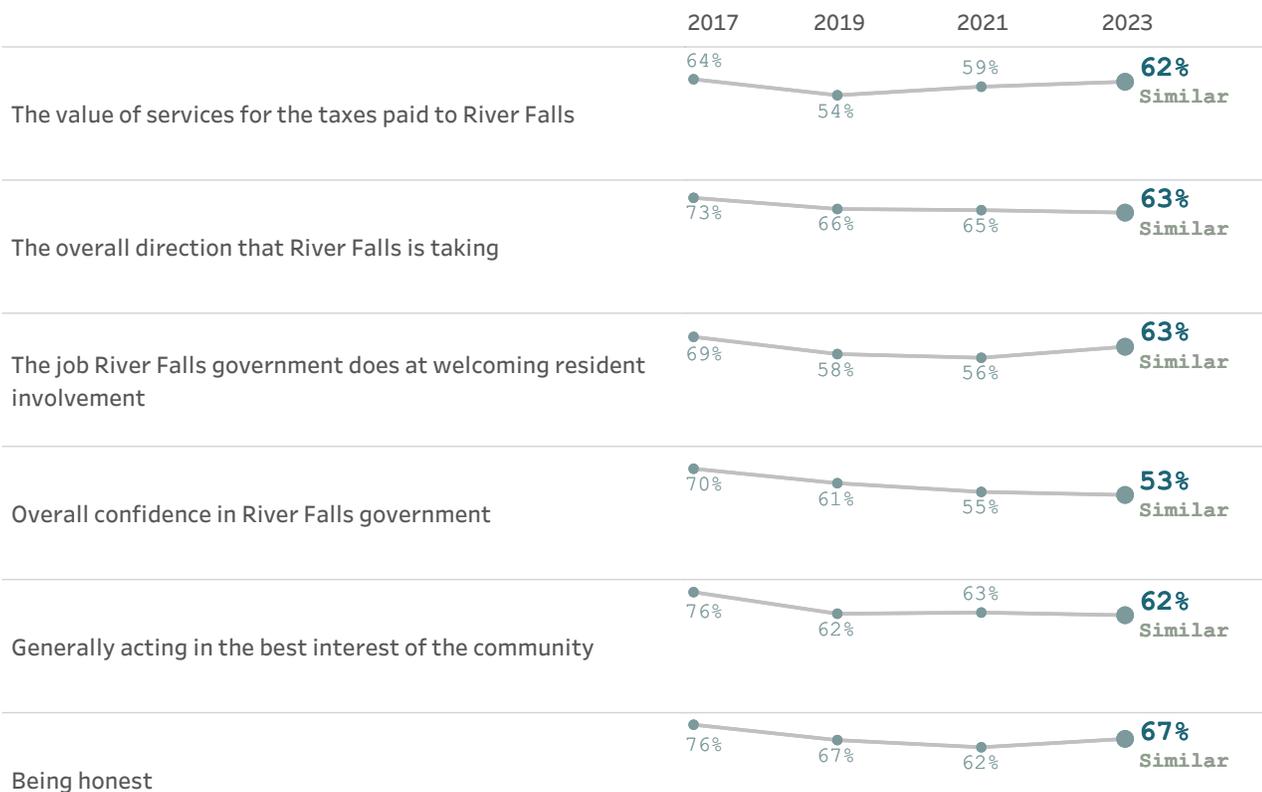
Overall confidence in River Falls government, 2023

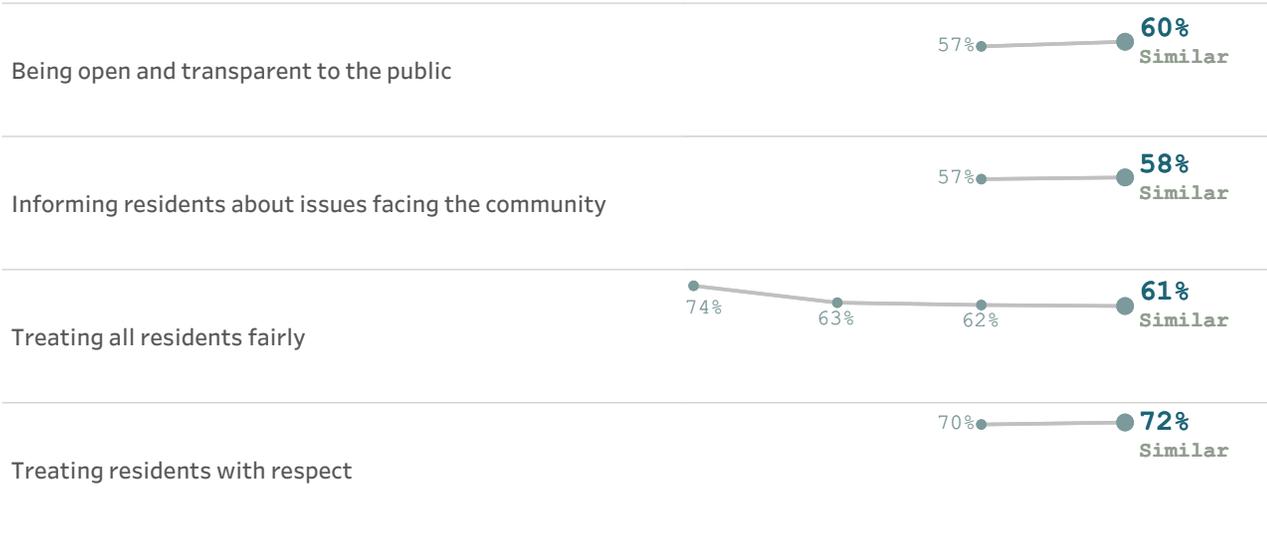


Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls. (% excellent or good)

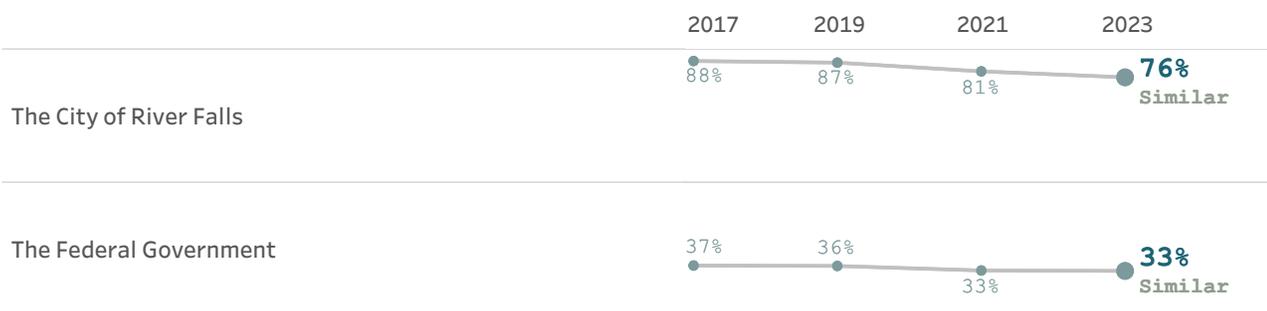


Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance. (% excellent or good)





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

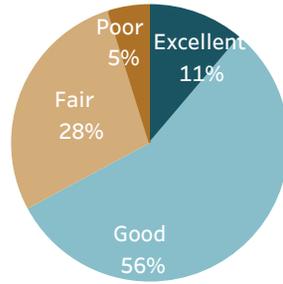


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

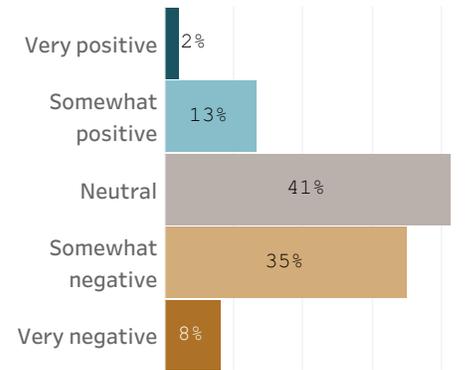
## Economy

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

Overall economic health of River Falls, 2023



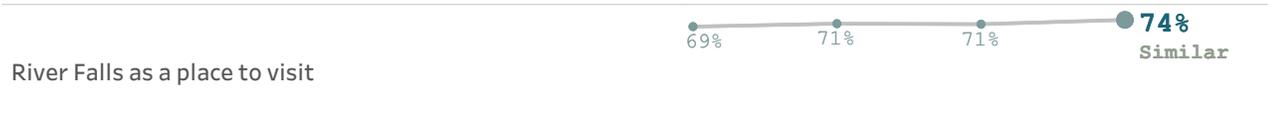
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:



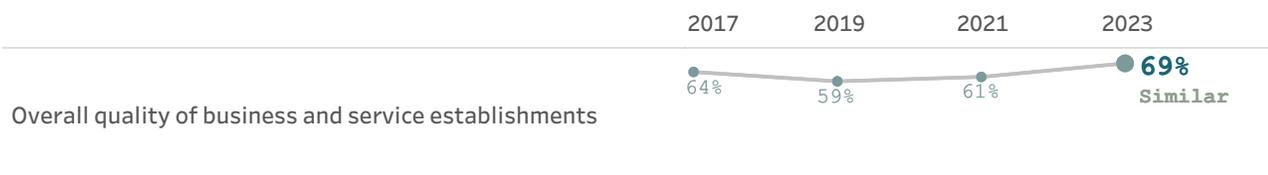
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole. (% excellent or good)



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



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

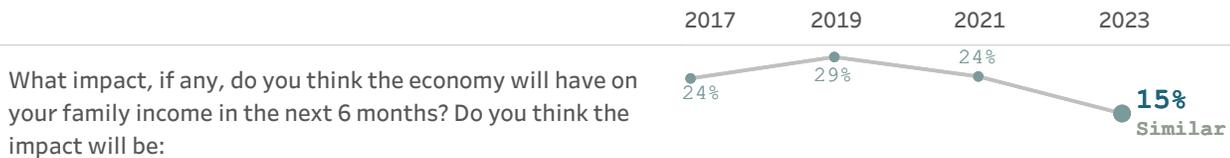




**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.  
(% excellent or good)**



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

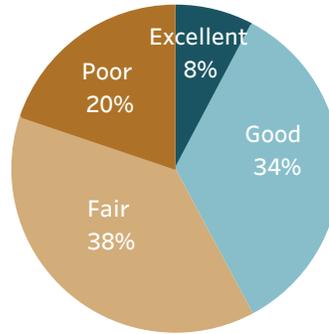


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

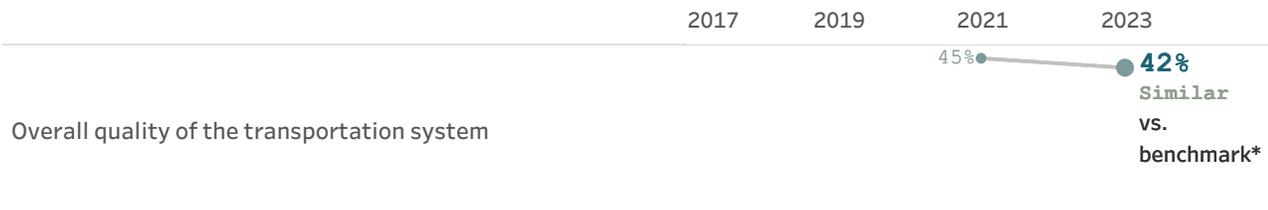
## Mobility

The ease with which residents can move about their communities, whether for commuting, leisure, or recreation, plays a major role in the quality of life for all who live, work, and play in the community.

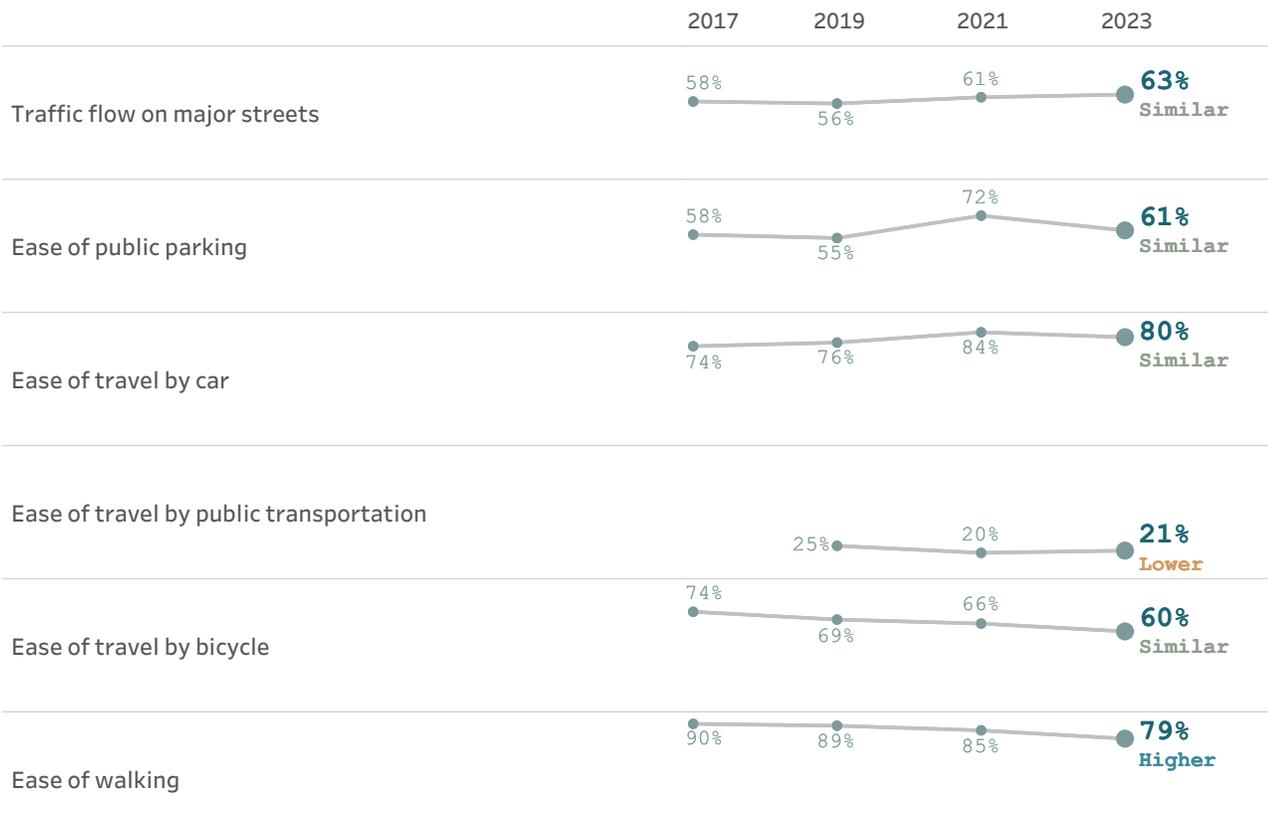
Overall quality of the transportation system in River Falls, 2023



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

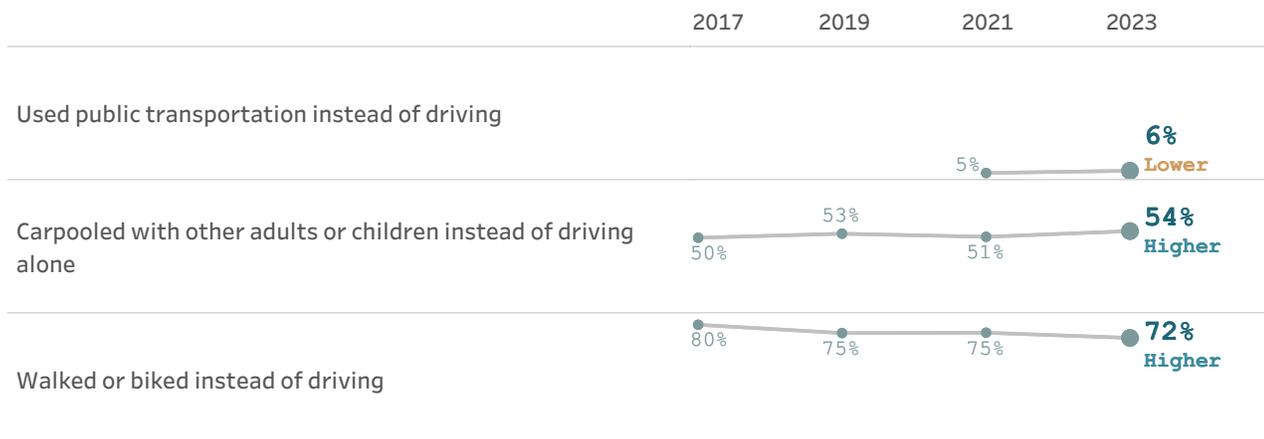


Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.  
(% excellent or good)



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

(% yes)



**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.**

(% excellent or good)

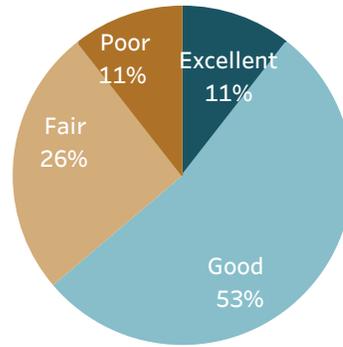


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

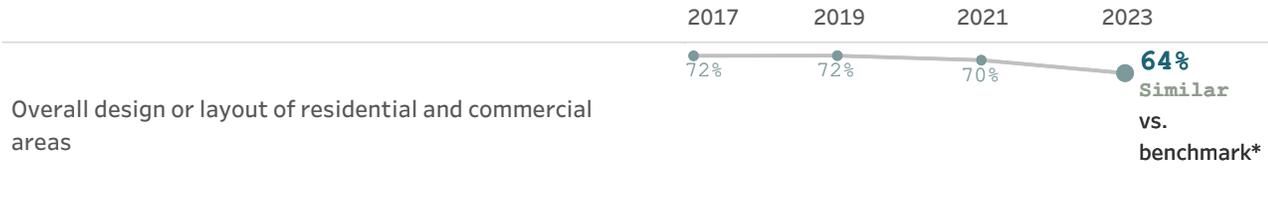
Overall design or layout of River Falls's residential and commercial areas, 2023

## Community design

A well-designed community enhances the quality of life for its residents by encouraging smart land use and zoning, ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to all, and providing access to parks and other green spaces.



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

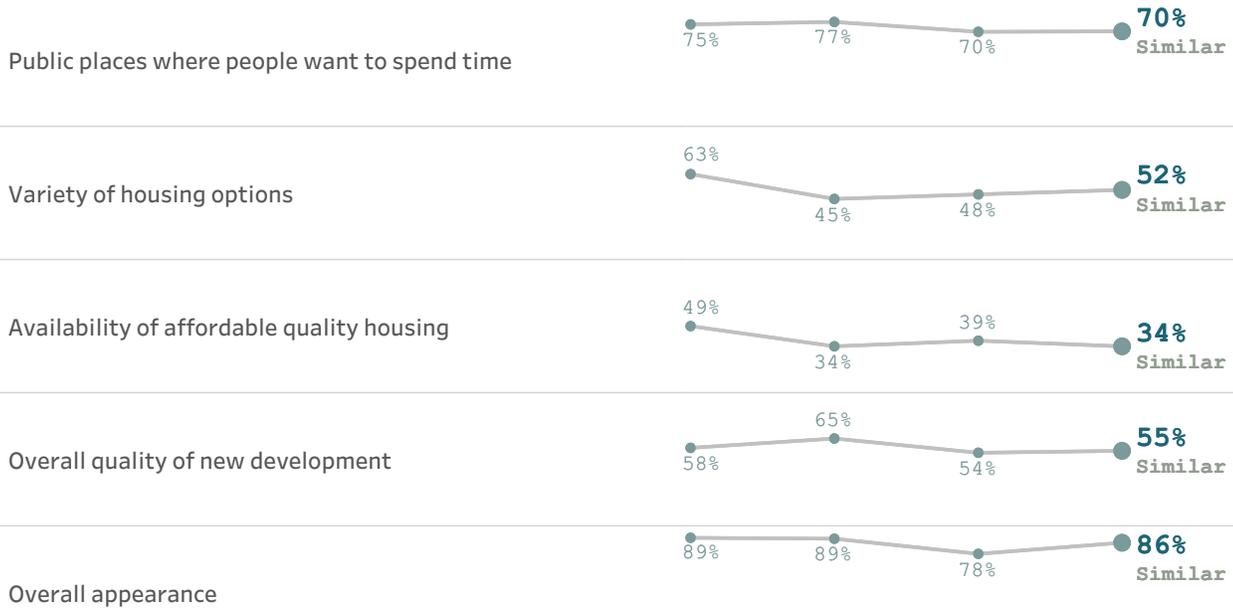


Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in River Falls.  
(% excellent or good)



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



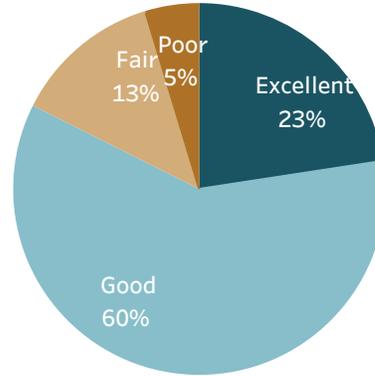


**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.  
(% excellent or good)**



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

Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in River Falls, 2023



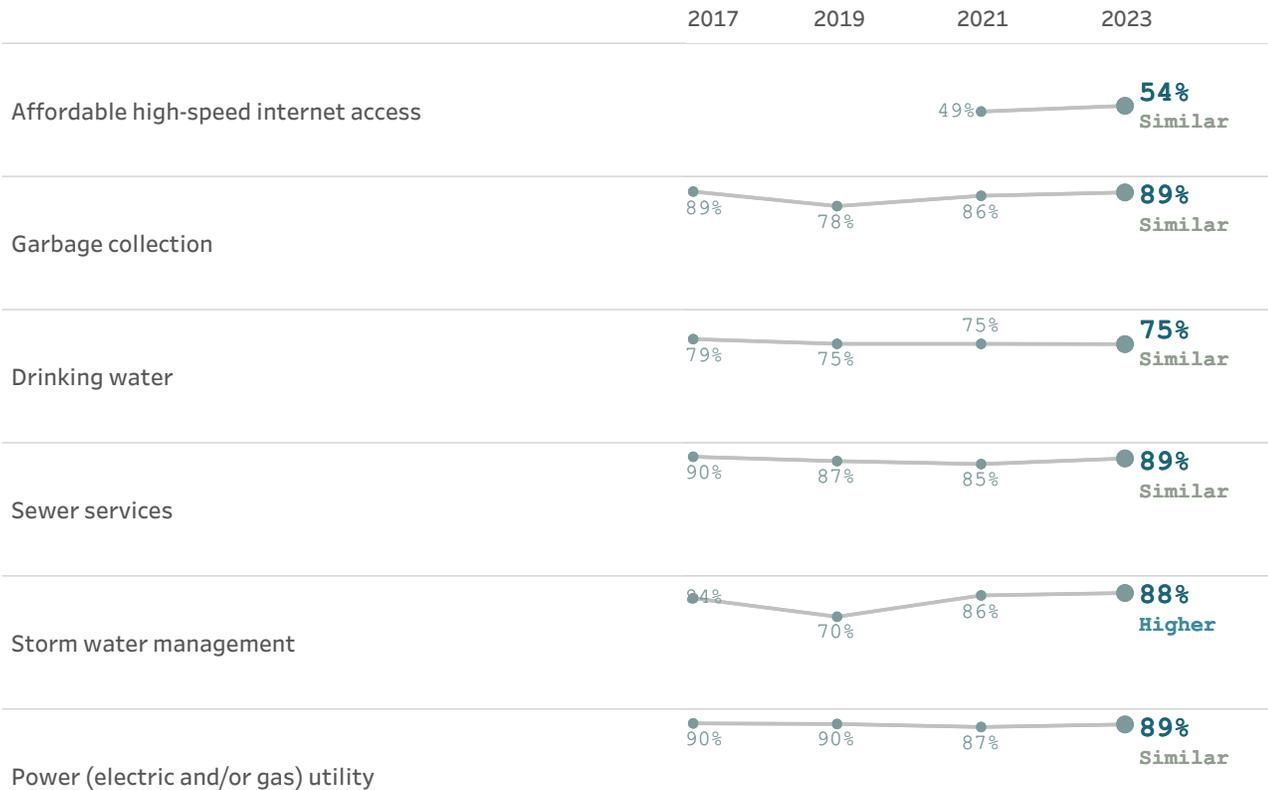
## Utilities

Services such as water, gas, electricity, and internet access play a vital role in ensuring the physical and economic health and well-being of the communities they serve.

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



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



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Utility billing

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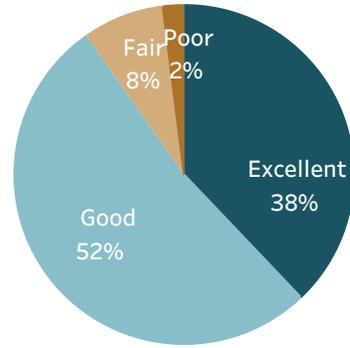


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

## Safety

Public safety is often the most important task facing local governments. All residents should feel safe and secure in their neighborhoods and in the greater community, and providing robust safety-related services is essential to residents' quality of life.

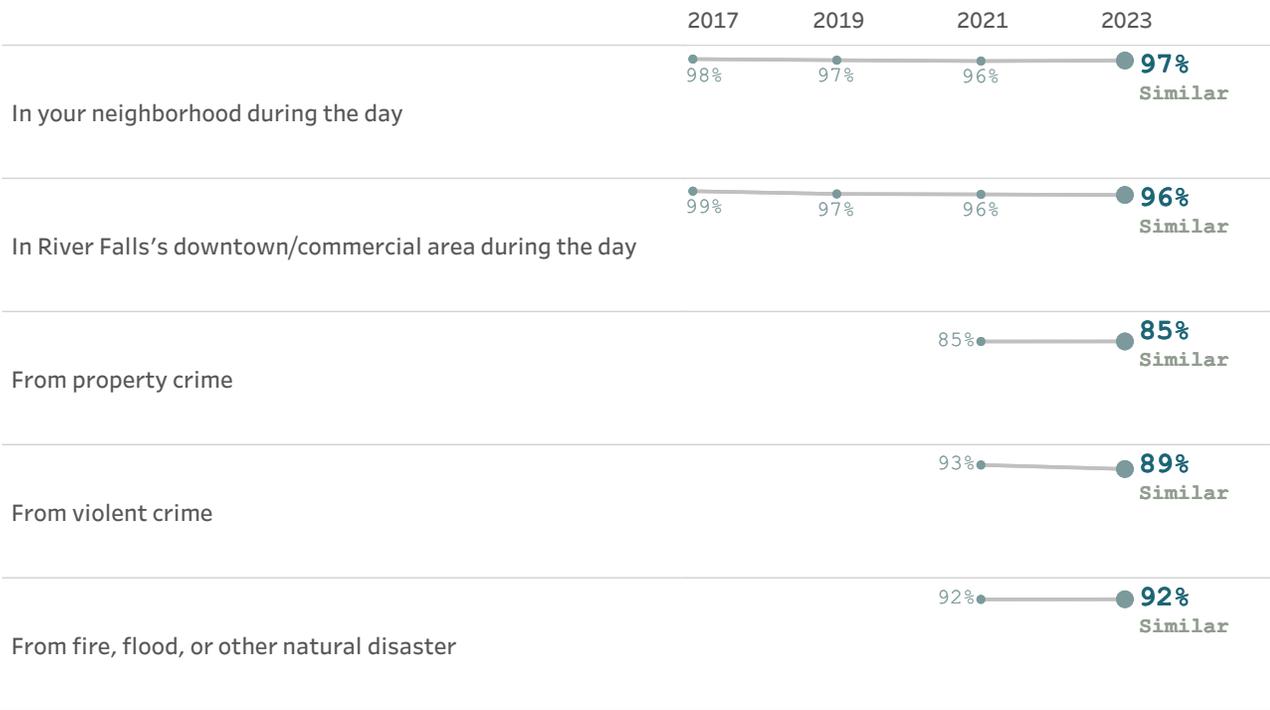
Overall feeling of safety in River Falls, 2023



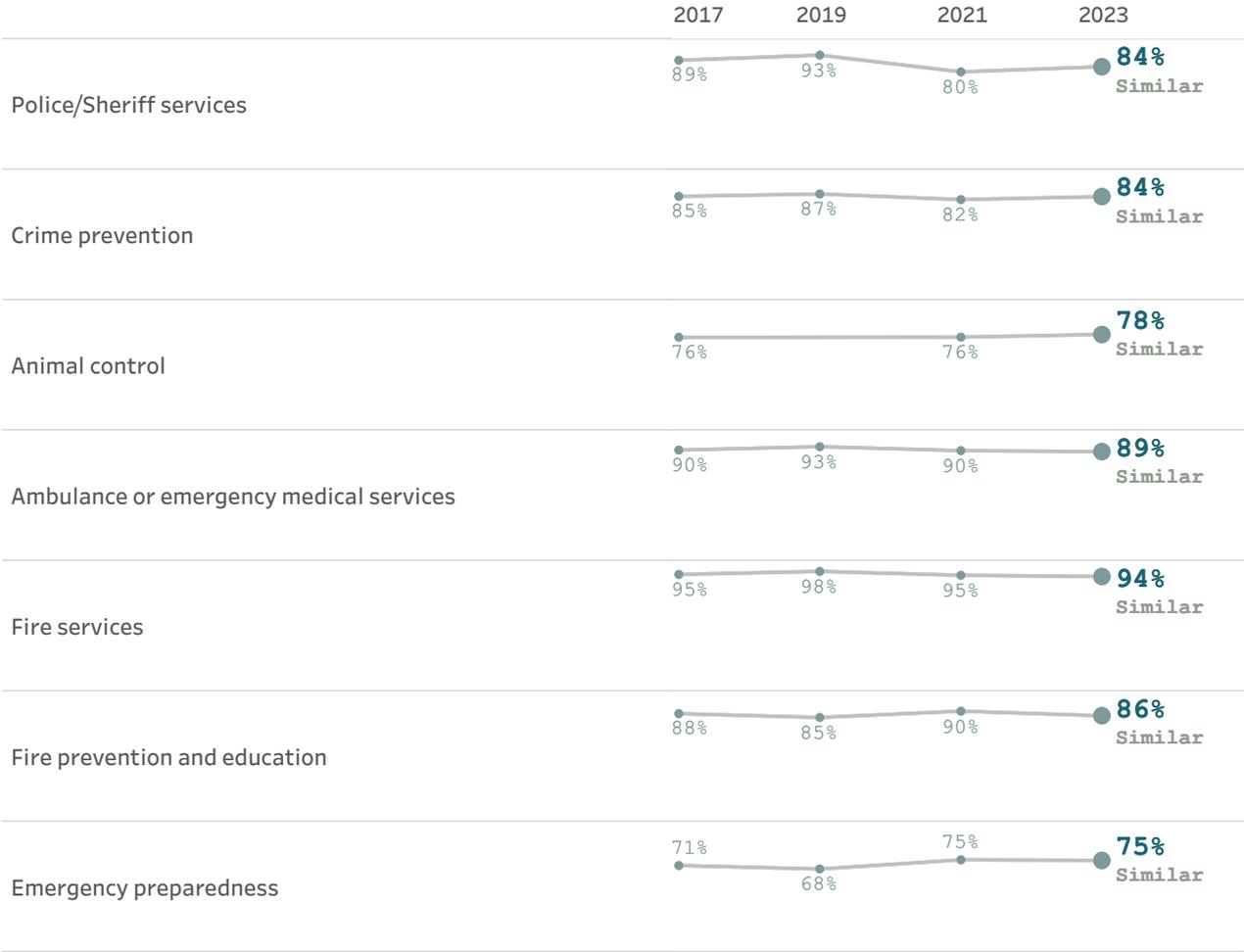
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole. (% excellent or good)



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



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

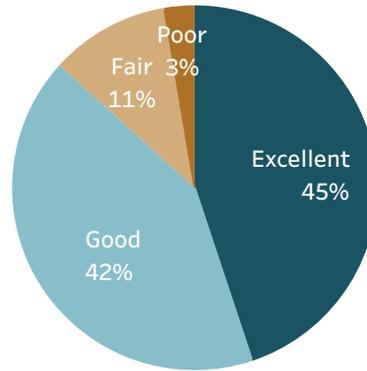


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall quality of natural environment in River Falls, 2023

## Natural environment

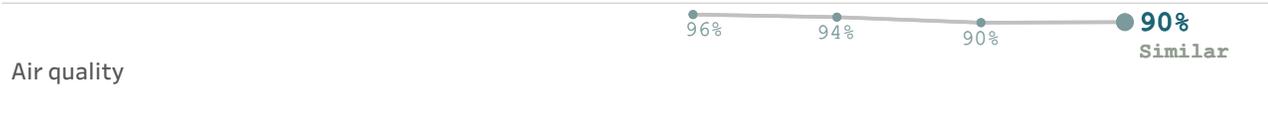
The natural environment plays a vital role in the health and well-being of residents. The natural spaces in which residents live and experience their communities has a direct and profound effect on quality of life.



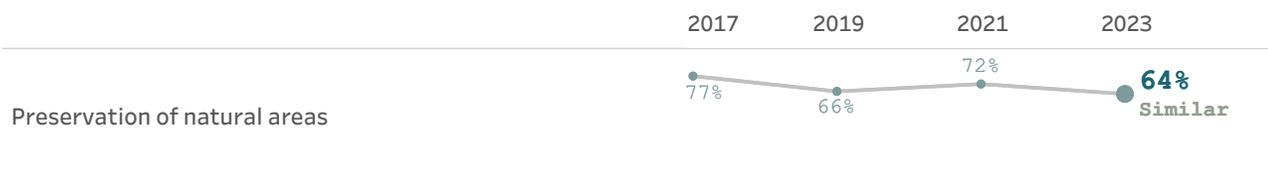
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole. (% excellent or good)

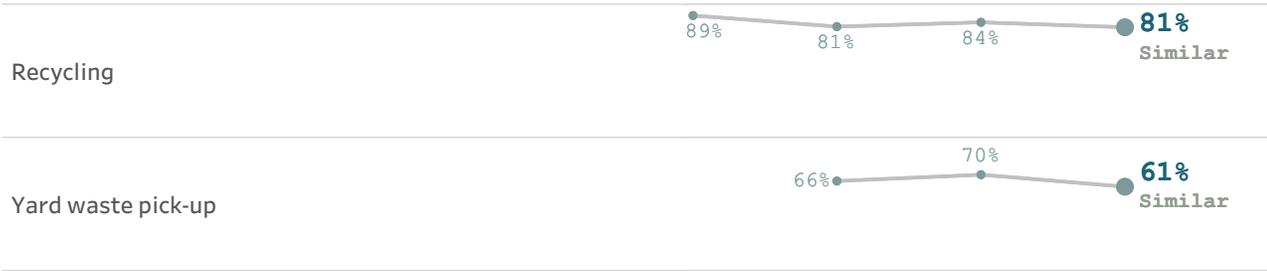


Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community. (% excellent or good)



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





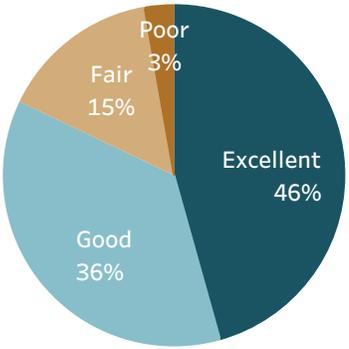
\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities, 2023

Parks and recreation

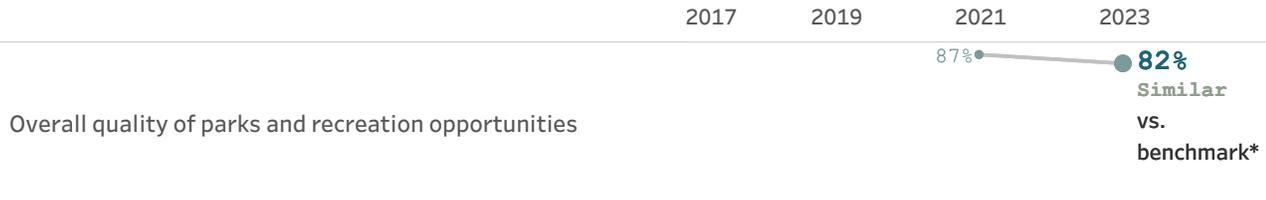
“There are no communities that pride themselves on their quality of life, promote themselves as a desirable location for businesses to relocate, or maintain that they are environmental stewards of their natural resources, without such communities having a robust, active system of parks and recreation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

- National Recreation and Park Association



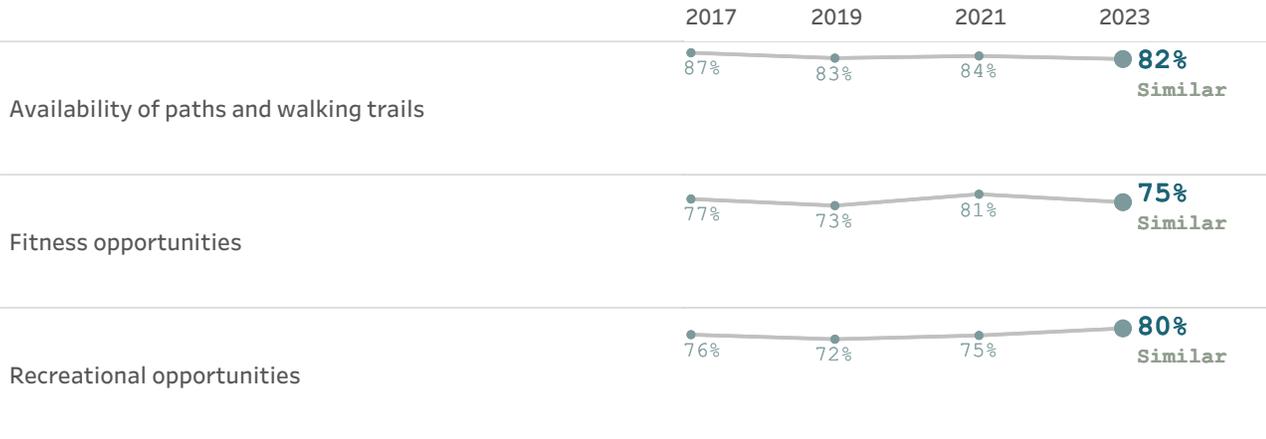
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.

(% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.

(% excellent or good)



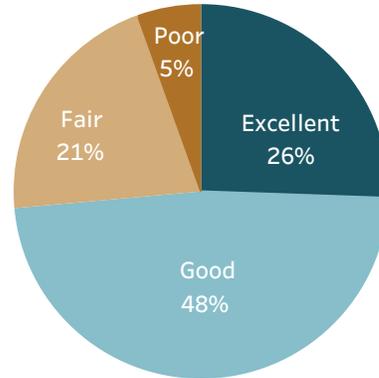
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Recreation centers or facilities



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

Overall health and wellness opportunities in River Falls, 2023



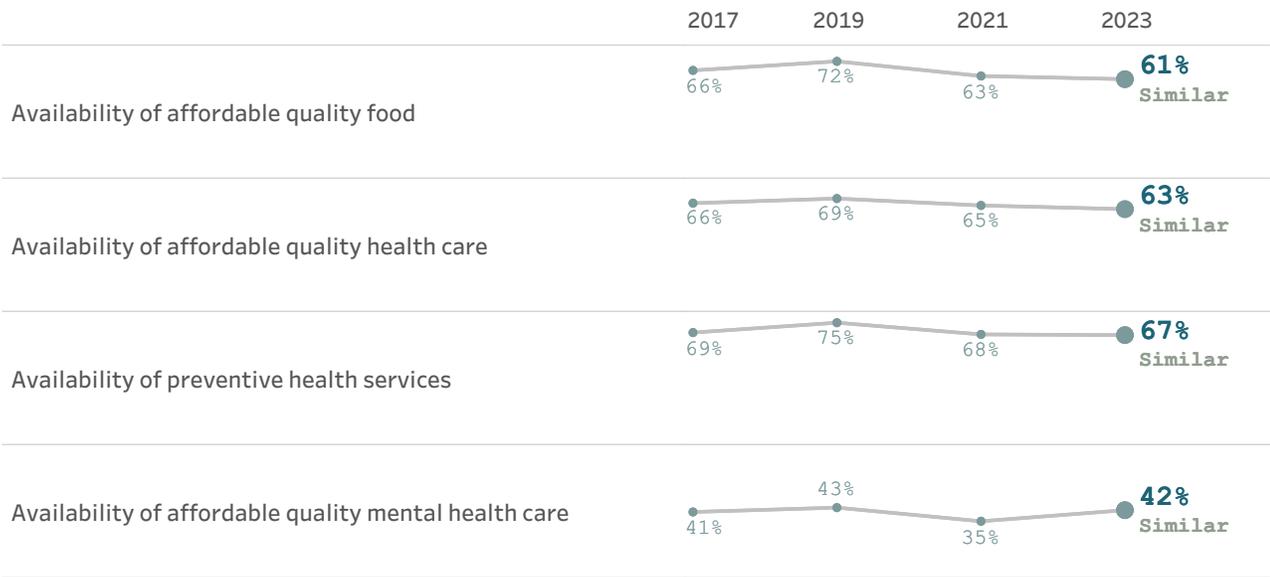
## Health and wellness

The characteristics of and amenities available in the communities in which people live has a direct impact on the health and wellness of residents, and thus, on their quality of life overall.

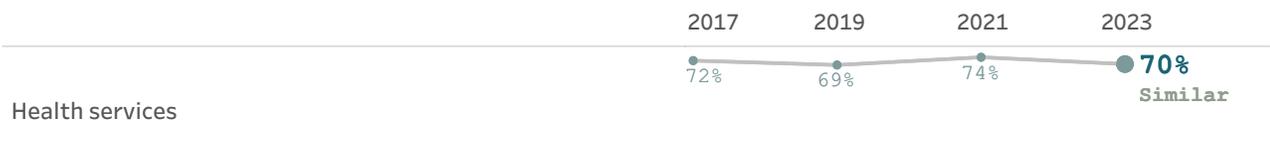
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



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



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

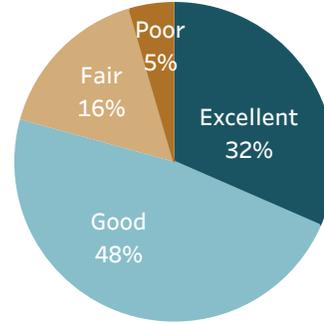


Please rate your overall health.  
(% excellent or very good)



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

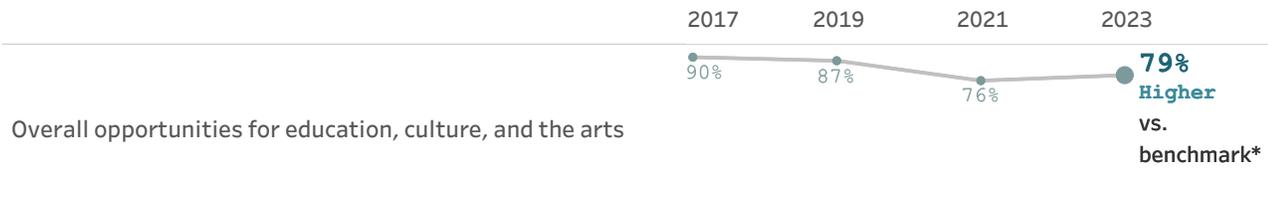
Overall opportunities for education, culture and the arts, 2023



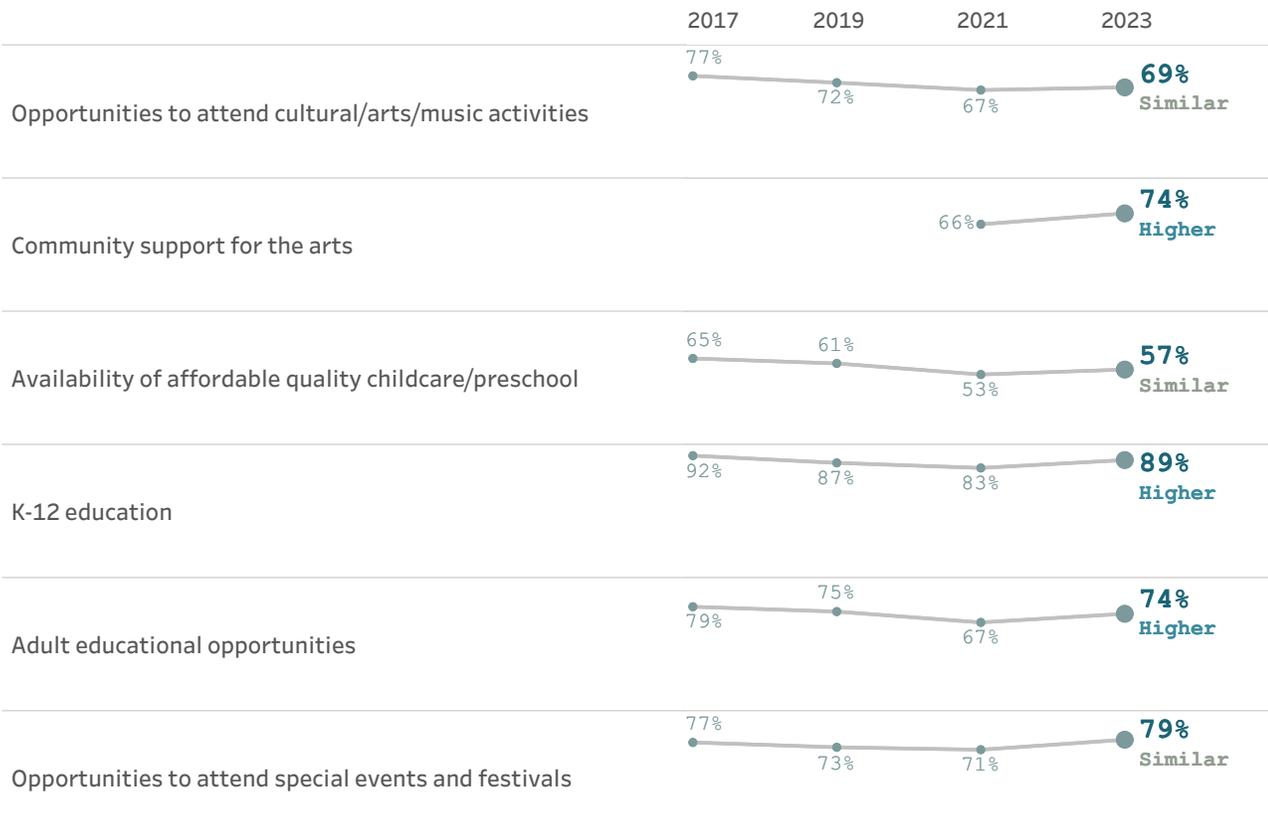
## Education, arts, and culture

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

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

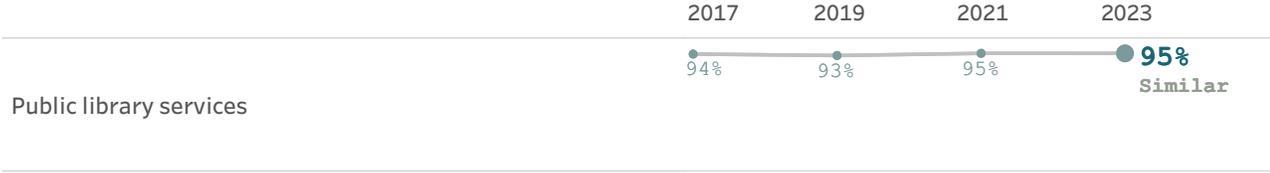


Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.  
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.

(% excellent or good)

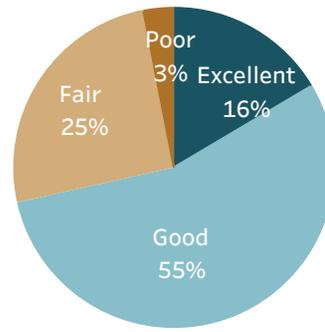


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

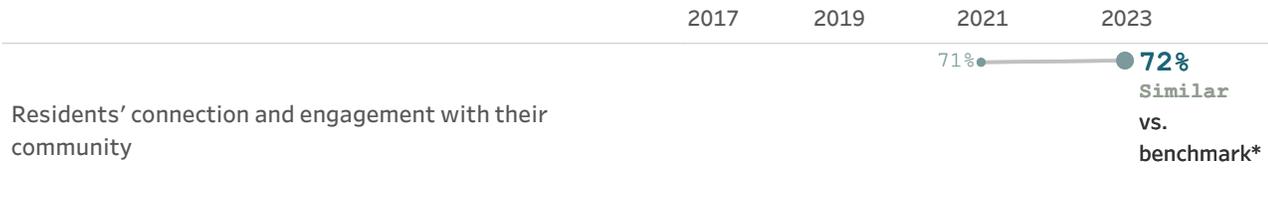
Residents' connection and engagement with their community, 2023

## Inclusivity and engagement

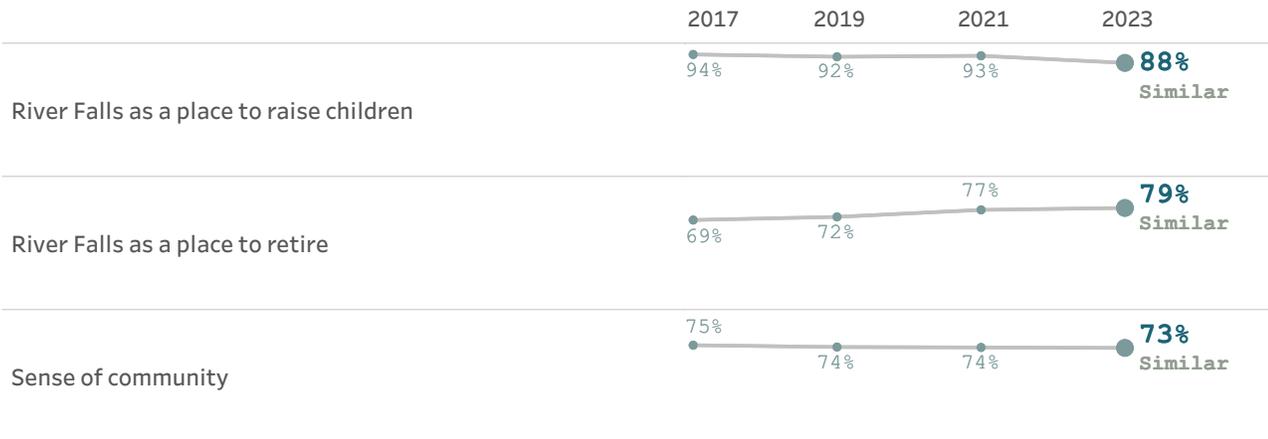
Inclusivity refers to a cultural and environmental feeling of belonging; residents who feel invited to participate within their communities feel more included, involved, and engaged than those who do not.



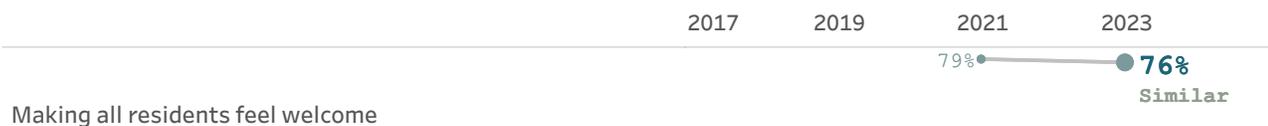
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole. (% excellent or good)



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



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



Attracting people from diverse backgrounds



Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds



Taking care of vulnerable residents



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

2017 2019 2021 2023

Sense of civic/community pride



Neighborliness of residents



Opportunities to participate in social events and activities



Opportunities to volunteer



Opportunities to participate in community matters



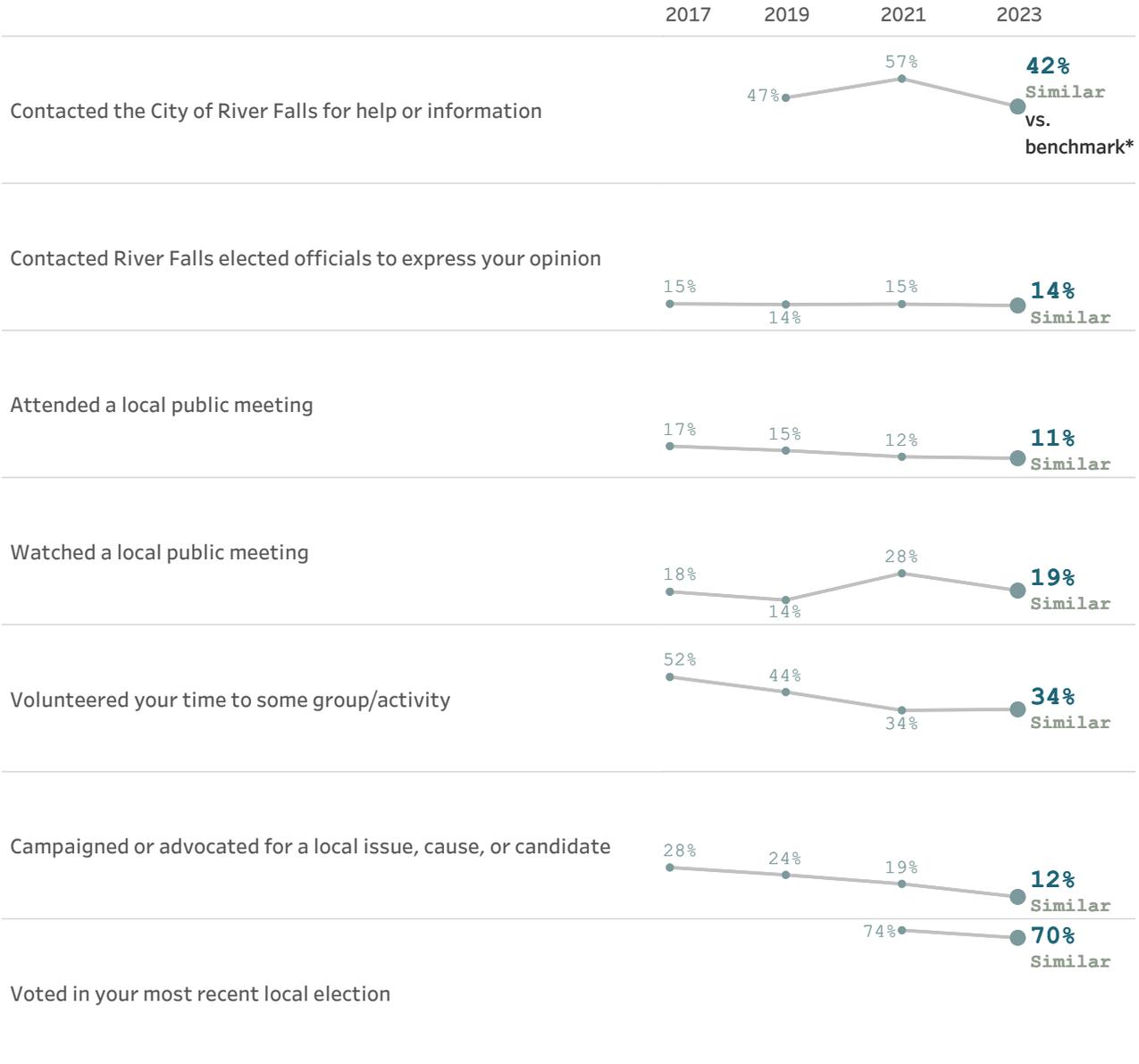
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds



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

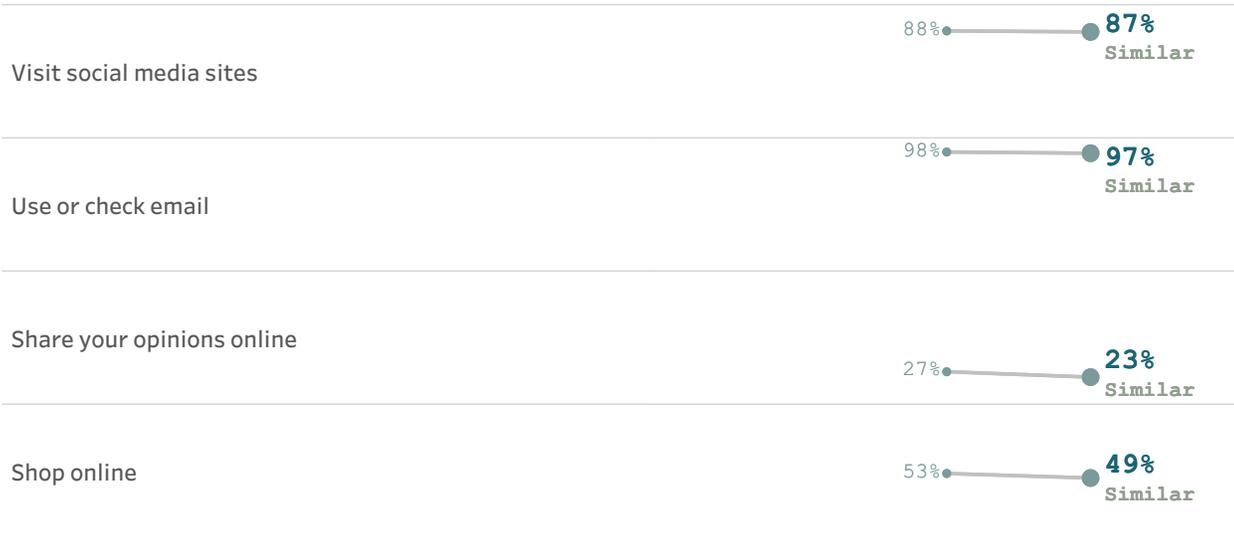
## Residents' participation levels

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



In general, how many times do you:  
(% a few times a week or more)



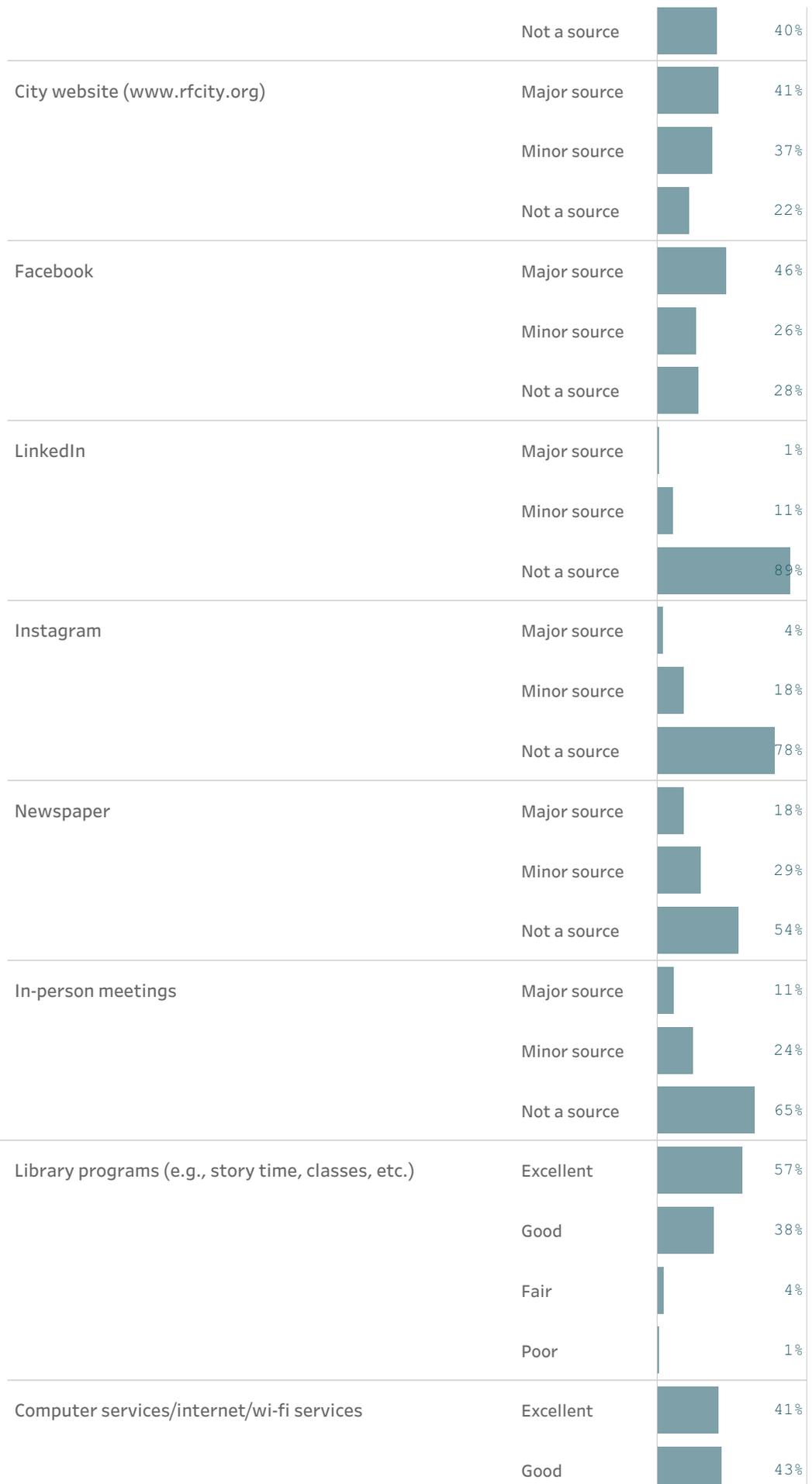


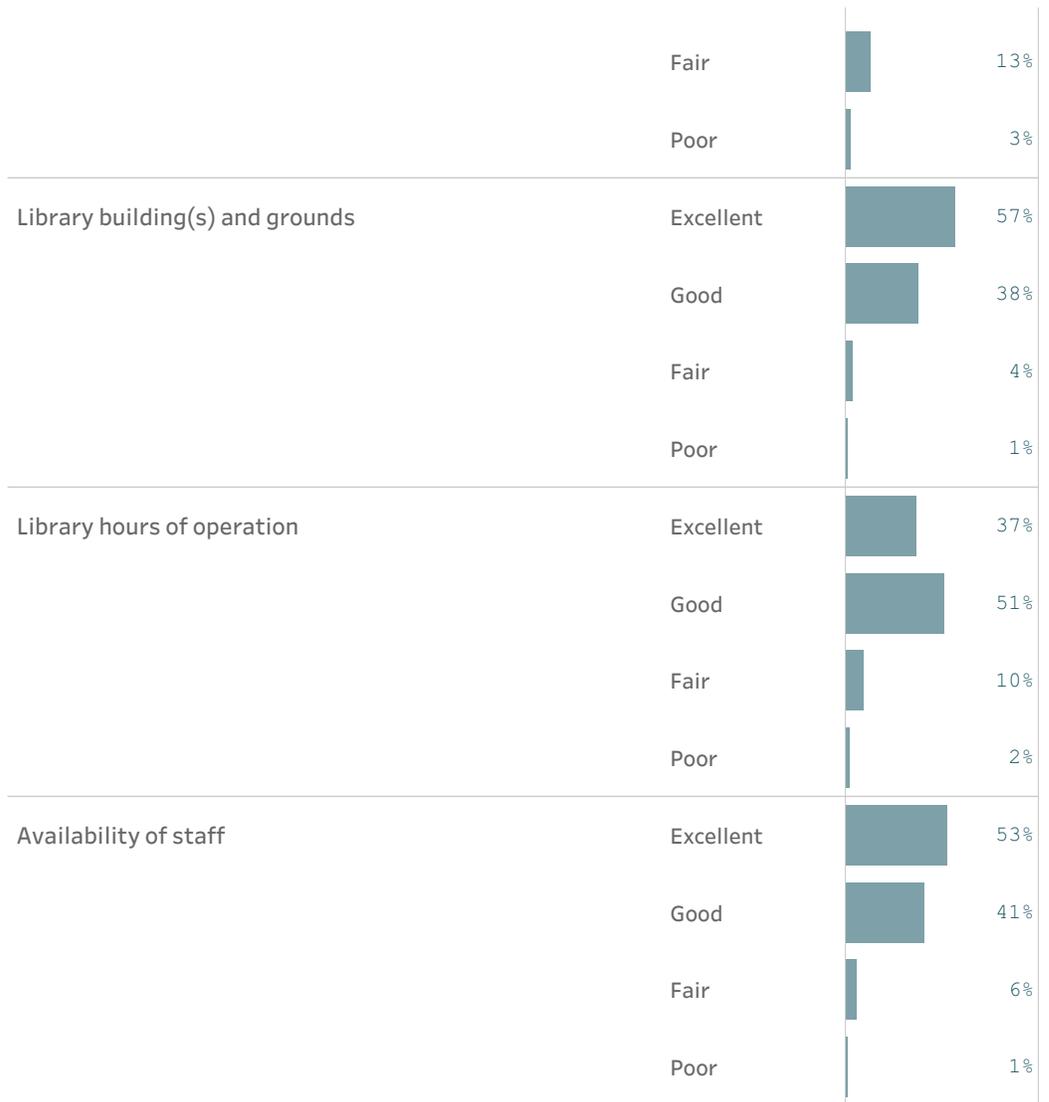
\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

## Custom questions

Below are the complete set of responses to each custom question on the survey. By default, "don't know" responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter below.

		% positive	
	Have you had any in-person, phone, email, or other contact with an employee of the City of River Falls within the last 12 months (including police, utility representative, customer service representative, or any others)?	No	52%
		Yes	48%
<b>What was your impression of the employee(s) of the City of River Falls during your most recent contact? (Rate each characteristic below.)</b>	Knowledge	Excellent	57%
		Good	30%
		Fair	10%
		Poor	3%
Responsiveness	Excellent	56%	
	Good	33%	
	Fair	7%	
	Poor	5%	
Courtesy	Excellent	62%	
	Good	27%	
	Fair	8%	
	Poor	4%	
Overall impression	Excellent	57%	
	Good	28%	
	Fair	10%	
	Poor	5%	
<b>How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?</b>	Electronic newsletter	Major source	24%
		Minor source	36%





## National benchmark tables

This table contains the comparisons of River Falls’s results to those from other communities. The first column shows the comparison of River Falls’s rating to the benchmark. River Falls’s results are noted as being “higher”, “lower” or “similar” to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by River Falls residents is statistically similar to or different than the benchmark. The second column is River Falls’s “percent positive.” Most commonly, the percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good). The third column is the rank assigned to River Falls’s rating among communities where a similar question was asked. The fourth column is the number of communities that asked a similar question. The fifth column shows the percentile for River Falls’s result -- that is what percent of surveyed communities had a lower rating than River Falls.

			% positive	Rank	Number of communities	Percentile
<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in River Falls.</b>	River Falls as a place to live	Similar	92%	150	345	56
	Your neighborhood as a place to live	Similar	78%	210	307	31
	River Falls as a place to raise children	Similar	88%	137	349	61
	River Falls as a place to work	Similar	59%	234	341	31
	River Falls as a place to visit	Similar	74%	97	305	68
	River Falls as a place to retire	Similar	79%	68	346	80
	The overall quality of life	Similar	90%	151	363	58
	Sense of community	Similar	73%	46	314	85
<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health	Similar	67%	155	299	48
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Similar	42%	157	235	33
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Similar	64%	148	292	49
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Similar	82%	49	226	78
	Overall feeling of safety	Similar	90%	92	334	72
	Overall quality of natural environment	Similar	87%	61	301	80
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Similar	82%	76	232	67
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Similar	74%	139	294	53
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Higher	79%	52	296	82
	Residents’ connection and engagement with their community	Similar	72%	33	229	86
<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in River Falls to someone who asks	Similar	91%	101	299	66

<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Remain in River Falls for the next five years	Similar	84%	140	297	53
<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	In your neighborhood during the day	Similar	97%	63	316	80
	In River Falls's downtown/commercial area during the day	Similar	96%	36	306	88
	From property crime	Similar	85%	52	237	78
	From violent crime	Similar	89%	88	237	63
	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Similar	92%	36	227	84
<b>Please rate the job you feel the River Falls community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome	Similar	76%	66	234	72
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Similar	48%	169	231	27
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Similar	60%	136	232	41
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Similar	59%	89	228	61
<b>Please rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Similar	69%	169	301	44
	Variety of business and service establishments	Lower	40%	195	229	15
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Similar	59%	112	281	60
	Employment opportunities	Similar	38%	224	312	28
	Shopping opportunities	Lower	25%	264	303	13
	Cost of living	Similar	43%	139	292	52
	Overall image or reputation	Similar	82%	131	340	61
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	Similar	63%	96	315	69
	Ease of public parking	Similar	61%	134	279	52
	Ease of travel by car	Similar	80%	72	309	77
	Ease of travel by public transportation	Lower	21%	233	281	17
	Ease of travel by bicycle	Similar	60%	92	309	70
	Ease of walking	Higher	79%	57	312	82
	Well-planned residential growth	Similar	58%	77	230	66
	Well-planned commercial growth	Similar	52%	80	230	65
	Well-designed neighborhoods	Similar	61%	96	228	58

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.	Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.					
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Similar	73%	67	227	70	
Public places where people want to spend time	Similar	70%	97	287	66	
Variety of housing options	Similar	52%	130	299	56	
Availability of affordable quality housing	Similar	34%	134	320	58	
Overall quality of new development	Similar	55%	136	309	56	
Overall appearance	Similar	86%	93	319	71	
Cleanliness	Similar	85%	105	316	67	
Water resources	Similar	67%	83	210	60	
Air quality	Similar	90%	52	286	82	
Availability of paths and walking trails	Similar	82%	81	312	74	
Fitness opportunities	Similar	75%	133	289	54	
Recreational opportunities	Similar	80%	102	306	66	
Availability of affordable quality food	Similar	61%	148	282	47	
Availability of affordable quality health care	Similar	63%	121	292	58	
Availability of preventive health services	Similar	67%	100	279	64	
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Similar	42%	133	282	53	
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Similar	69%	74	301	75	
Community support for the arts	Higher	74%	50	227	78	
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Similar	57%	108	292	63	
K-12 education	Higher	89%	63	295	78	
Adult educational opportunities	Higher	74%	29	287	90	
Sense of civic/community pride	Similar	75%	46	228	80	
Neighborliness of residents	Similar	74%	61	288	79	
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Similar	76%	54	297	82	
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Similar	79%	62	291	79	
Opportunities to volunteer	Similar	81%	49	292	83	

<b>Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Opportunities to participate in community matters	Similar	70%	68	293	77
	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Similar	54%	210	310	32
<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of River Falls for help or information	Similar	42%	214	315	32
	Contacted River Falls elected officials to express your opinion	Similar	14%	186	285	35
	Attended a local public meeting	Similar	11%	268	289	7
	Watched a local public meeting	Similar	19%	196	277	29
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	Similar	34%	115	292	60
	Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	Similar	12%	244	282	13
	Voted in your most recent local election	Similar	70%	168	227	26
	Used public transportation instead of driving	Lower	6%	217	267	19
	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	Higher	54%	36	284	87
	Walked or biked instead of driving	Higher	72%	42	286	85
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.</b>	Public information services	Similar	74%	115	301	62
	Economic development	Similar	60%	132	296	55
	Traffic enforcement	Similar	73%	108	334	67
	Traffic signal timing	Similar	66%	55	291	81
	Street repair	Similar	43%	211	334	37
	Street cleaning	Similar	74%	115	301	62
	Street lighting	Similar	66%	121	323	62
	Snow removal	Similar	72%	91	249	63
	Sidewalk maintenance	Similar	59%	161	302	47
	Bus or transit services	Much lower	15%	248	272	9
	Land use, planning and zoning	Similar	47%	150	304	50
	Code enforcement	Similar	59%	99	327	70
	Affordable high-speed internet access	Similar	54%	115	224	49
Garbage collection	Similar	89%	115	313	63	

<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.</b>	Drinking water	Similar	75%	144	298	52	
	Sewer services	Similar	89%	73	296	75	
	Storm water management	Higher	88%	37	308	88	
	Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Similar	89%	36	254	86	
	Utility billing	Similar	80%	50	276	82	
	Police/Sheriff services	Similar	84%	158	356	55	
	Crime prevention	Similar	84%	78	333	76	
	Animal control	Similar	78%	117	309	62	
	Ambulance or emergency medical services	Similar	89%	145	303	52	
	Fire services	Similar	94%	139	323	57	
	Fire prevention and education	Similar	86%	79	297	73	
	Emergency preparedness	Similar	75%	95	299	68	
	Preservation of natural areas	Similar	64%	133	286	53	
	River Falls open space	Similar	66%	128	283	55	
	Recycling	Similar	81%	109	316	65	
	Yard waste pick-up	Similar	61%	215	278	23	
	City parks	Similar	88%	94	312	70	
	Recreation programs or classes	Similar	79%	90	307	71	
	Recreation centers or facilities	Similar	68%	159	295	46	
	Health services	Similar	70%	119	273	56	
	Public library services	Similar	95%	63	308	79	
	Overall customer service by River Falls employees	Similar	83%	91	342	73	
	<b>Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to River Falls	Similar	62%	118	347	66
		The overall direction that River Falls is taking	Similar	63%	135	326	58
		The job River Falls government does at welcoming resident involvement	Similar	63%	90	323	72
Overall confidence in River Falls government		Similar	53%	141	295	52	

<b>Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance.</b>	Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Similar	62%	119	299	60
	Being honest	Similar	67%	102	290	65
	Being open and transparent to the public	Similar	60%	89	234	62
	Informing residents about issues facing the community	Similar	58%	76	239	68
	Treating all residents fairly	Similar	61%	129	296	56
	Treating residents with respect	Similar	72%	87	230	62
<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of River Falls	Similar	76%	127	342	63
	The Federal Government	Similar	33%	217	282	23
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the River Falls community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	Similar	86%	233	275	15
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Similar	68%	151	226	33
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Similar	69%	216	276	21
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Similar	81%	208	225	8
	Overall feeling of safety	Similar	80%	242	276	12
	Overall quality of natural environment	Similar	82%	171	276	38
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Similar	81%	117	227	48
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Similar	74%	169	276	38
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Similar	72%	177	275	35
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Similar	67%	177	275	35
<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Access the internet from your home	Similar	91%	179	225	20
	Access the internet from your cell phone	Similar	94%	122	227	46
	Visit social media sites	Similar	87%	8	226	96
	Use or check email	Similar	97%	124	227	45
	Share your opinions online	Similar	23%	198	227	13
	Shop online	Similar	49%	171	226	24
	Please rate your overall health.	Similar	71%	144	282	49
	What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	Similar	15%	218	284	23

## Complete set of frequencies

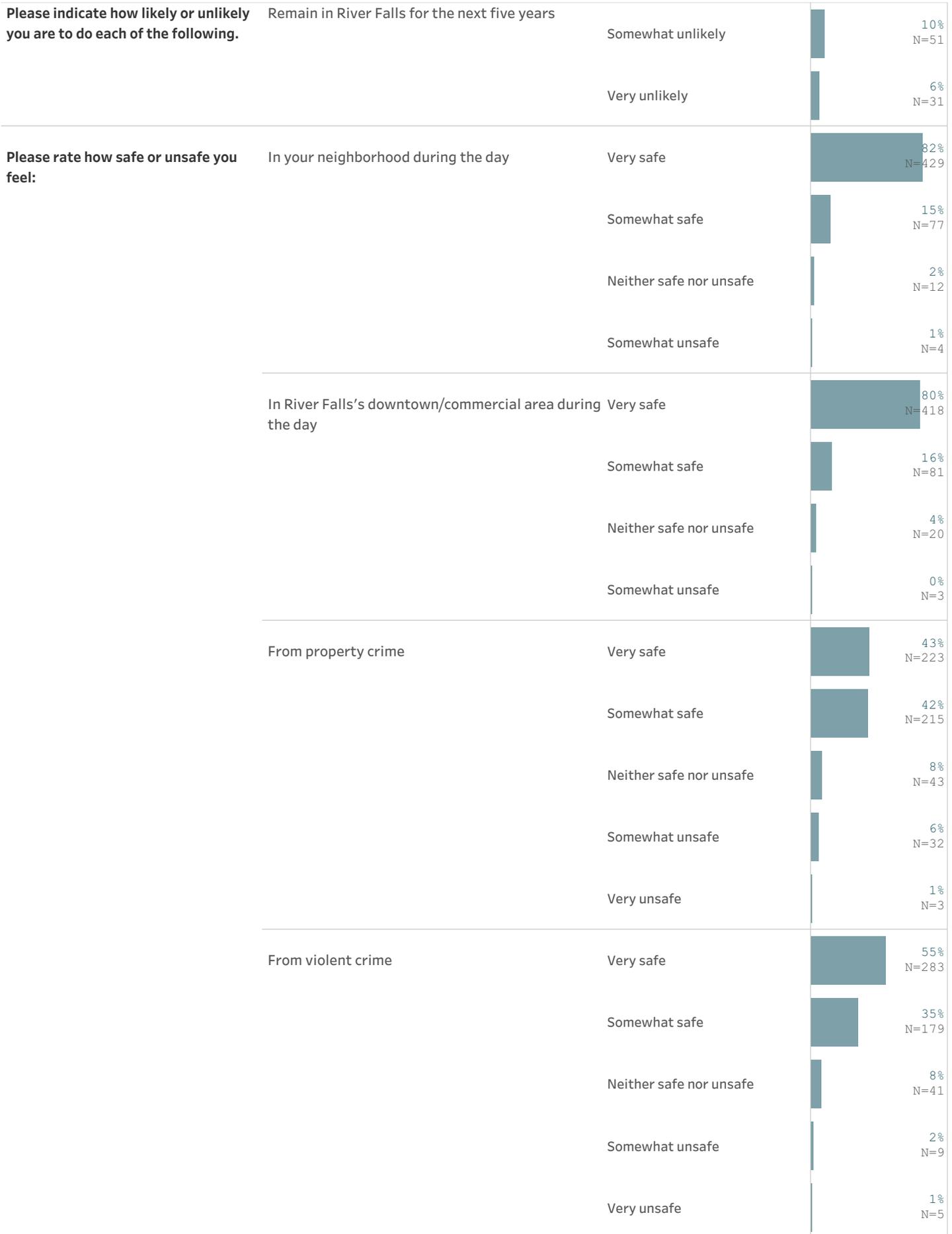
This dashboard contains a complete set of responses to each question on the survey. By default, "don't know" responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter to the right. In some tables, the percentages may not sum to 100%; this is either because the question permitted the respondent to "choose all that apply", or for a question that asked the respondent to select one answer, it is due to the customary practice of rounding values to the nearest whole number.

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in River Falls.				38% N=198
	River Falls as a place to live	Excellent		
		Good		54% N=280
		Fair		8% N=41
		Poor		0% N=3
	Your neighborhood as a place to live	Excellent		34% N=177
		Good		45% N=232
		Fair		20% N=103
		Poor		2% N=9
	River Falls as a place to raise children	Excellent		43% N=190
		Good		45% N=199
		Fair		9% N=41
		Poor		3% N=13
	River Falls as a place to work	Excellent		17% N=66
		Good		41% N=156
		Fair		23% N=88
		Poor		18% N=68
	River Falls as a place to visit	Excellent		26% N=133
		Good		48% N=242

<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in River Falls.</b>	River Falls as a place to visit	Fair		21% N=109
		Poor		5% N=24
	River Falls as a place to retire	Excellent		32% N=117
		Good		47% N=176
		Fair		17% N=61
		Poor		5% N=17
	The overall quality of life	Excellent		27% N=140
		Good		63% N=329
		Fair		9% N=48
		Poor		1% N=5
	Sense of community	Excellent		29% N=149
		Good		44% N=227
		Fair		23% N=120
		Poor		3% N=16
<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health	Excellent		11% N=50
		Good		56% N=248
		Fair		28% N=124
		Poor		5% N=21
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Excellent		8% N=38
		Good		34% N=170

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.	Characteristic	Rating	Percentage and Count	
			Percentage	Count (N)
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Fair	38%	187
		Poor	20%	98
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Excellent	11%	53
		Good	53%	270
		Fair	26%	130
		Poor	11%	54
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Excellent	23%	111
		Good	60%	295
		Fair	13%	64
		Poor	5%	23
	Overall feeling of safety	Excellent	38%	197
		Good	52%	272
		Fair	8%	40
		Poor	2%	10
	Overall quality of natural environment	Excellent	45%	232
		Good	42%	216
		Fair	11%	55
		Poor	3%	14
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Excellent	46%	229
		Good	36%	182

<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Fair		15% N=76
		Poor		3% N=14
Overall health and wellness opportunities	Excellent		26% N=125	
	Good		48% N=235	
	Fair		21% N=103	
	Poor		5% N=27	
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Excellent		32% N=154	
	Good		48% N=233	
	Fair		16% N=79	
	Poor		5% N=22	
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Excellent		16% N=79	
	Good		55% N=264	
	Fair		25% N=122	
	Poor		3% N=15	
<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in River Falls to someone who asks	Very likely		53% N=275
		Somewhat likely		37% N=192
		Somewhat unlikely		6% N=30
		Very unlikely		4% N=18
Remain in River Falls for the next five years	Very likely		56% N=282	
	Somewhat likely		28% N=139	



<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Very safe		54% N=276
		Somewhat safe		37% N=189
		Neither safe nor unsafe		7% N=34
		Somewhat unsafe		1% N=6
		Very unsafe		0% N=2
<b>Please rate the job you feel the River Falls community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome	Excellent		24% N=122
		Good		52% N=264
		Fair		20% N=102
		Poor		3% N=17
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		17% N=78
		Good		31% N=139
		Fair		33% N=149
		Poor		19% N=89
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		18% N=80
		Good		42% N=185
		Fair		30% N=135
		Poor		10% N=43
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Excellent		20% N=93
		Good		38% N=175
		Fair		28% N=128

<b>Please rate the job you feel the River Falls community does at each of the following.</b>	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Poor		13% N=60
	<b>Please rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Excellent	
Good			54% N=279	
Fair			22% N=115	
Poor			8% N=42	
Variety of business and service establishments	Excellent		8% N=38	
	Good		33% N=169	
	Fair		36% N=184	
	Poor		23% N=119	
Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Excellent		13% N=66	
	Good		46% N=233	
	Fair		33% N=167	
	Poor		8% N=43	
Employment opportunities	Excellent		6% N=23	
	Good		32% N=131	
	Fair		38% N=156	
	Poor		24% N=99	
Shopping opportunities	Excellent		4% N=21	
	Good		21% N=111	
	Fair		38% N=197	

<b>Please rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Shopping opportunities	Poor		36% N=188
	Cost of living	Excellent		8% N=40
		Good		35% N=183
		Fair		36% N=185
Overall image or reputation	Poor		21% N=110	
	Excellent		22% N=113	
	Good		60% N=307	
	Fair		15% N=76	
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	Poor		3% N=16
		Excellent		11% N=59
		Good		52% N=270
		Fair		24% N=126
Ease of public parking	Poor		13% N=65	
	Excellent		18% N=93	
	Good		43% N=222	
	Fair		26% N=132	
Ease of travel by car	Poor		14% N=71	
	Excellent		28% N=146	
	Good		52% N=272	
		Fair		18% N=92

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

Ease of travel by car	Poor		2% N=9
	Excellent		2% N=9
Ease of travel by public transportation	Good		19% N=67
	Fair		22% N=77
	Poor		57% N=206
	Excellent		16% N=70
Ease of travel by bicycle	Good		43% N=185
	Fair		33% N=139
	Poor		7% N=32
	Excellent		30% N=152
Ease of walking	Good		49% N=253
	Fair		16% N=85
	Poor		5% N=24
	Excellent		13% N=51
Well-planned residential growth	Good		45% N=181
	Fair		24% N=96
	Poor		18% N=74
	Excellent		11% N=44
Well-planned commercial growth	Good		41% N=162
	Fair		26% N=101

**Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.**

Well-planned commercial growth	Poor		22% N=86
Well-designed neighborhoods	Excellent		12% N=60
	Good		49% N=231
	Fair		29% N=140
	Poor		10% N=46
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Excellent		14% N=63
	Good		59% N=256
	Fair		21% N=90
	Poor		6% N=27
Public places where people want to spend time	Excellent		20% N=99
	Good		51% N=258
	Fair		22% N=111
	Poor		8% N=40
Variety of housing options	Excellent		11% N=54
	Good		40% N=192
	Fair		27% N=129
	Poor		21% N=101
Availability of affordable quality housing	Excellent		9% N=43
	Good		25% N=116
	Fair		33% N=150

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

Availability of affordable quality housing	Poor		33% N=150
	Excellent		9% N=39
Overall quality of new development	Good		47% N=206
	Fair		33% N=148
	Poor		11% N=49
	Excellent		24% N=124
Overall appearance	Good		62% N=318
	Fair		12% N=63
	Poor		2% N=10
	Excellent		32% N=165
Cleanliness	Good		53% N=274
	Fair		13% N=66
	Poor		3% N=14
	Excellent		22% N=106
Water resources	Good		45% N=219
	Fair		28% N=136
	Poor		5% N=24
	Excellent		40% N=204
Air quality	Good		50% N=253
	Fair		9% N=45

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

Air quality	Poor		1% N=5
Availability of paths and walking trails	Excellent		39% N=201
	Good		43% N=217
	Fair		12% N=61
	Poor		6% N=30
Fitness opportunities	Excellent		28% N=138
	Good		47% N=231
	Fair		16% N=81
	Poor		8% N=41
Recreational opportunities	Excellent		23% N=113
	Good		57% N=285
	Fair		17% N=82
	Poor		3% N=16
Availability of affordable quality food	Excellent		18% N=90
	Good		43% N=223
	Fair		29% N=148
	Poor		10% N=54
Availability of affordable quality health care	Excellent		20% N=88
	Good		43% N=194
	Fair		26% N=115

**Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.**

Availability of affordable quality health care	Poor		11% N=50
	Excellent		18% N=77
Availability of preventive health services	Good		49% N=209
	Fair		26% N=109
	Poor		7% N=30
	Excellent		12% N=38
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Good		30% N=97
	Fair		30% N=96
	Poor		28% N=90
	Excellent		22% N=108
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Good		46% N=224
	Fair		25% N=121
	Poor		6% N=30
	Excellent		23% N=105
Community support for the arts	Good		51% N=227
	Fair		23% N=103
	Poor		3% N=12
	Excellent		12% N=31
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Good		45% N=114
	Fair		22% N=55
	Excellent		12% N=31

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.				
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Poor		21%	N=55
K-12 education	Excellent		36%	N=118
	Good		53%	N=176
	Fair		9%	N=29
	Poor		2%	N=7
Adult educational opportunities	Excellent		26%	N=113
	Good		48%	N=208
	Fair		22%	N=94
	Poor		5%	N=21
Sense of civic/community pride	Excellent		22%	N=101
	Good		54%	N=252
	Fair		21%	N=96
	Poor		4%	N=19
Neighborliness of residents	Excellent		19%	N=97
	Good		55%	N=273
	Fair		22%	N=109
	Poor		4%	N=19
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Excellent		19%	N=93
	Good		58%	N=284
	Fair		19%	N=94

<b>Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Poor		4% N=22
	Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Excellent		23% N=117
		Good		56% N=287
		Fair		17% N=89
		Poor		4% N=18
Opportunities to volunteer	Excellent		23% N=98	
	Good		58% N=246	
	Fair		16% N=68	
	Poor		3% N=12	
Opportunities to participate in community matters	Excellent		17% N=75	
	Good		53% N=227	
	Fair		25% N=110	
	Poor		4% N=19	
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Excellent		13% N=55	
	Good		41% N=170	
	Fair		33% N=138	
	Poor		13% N=54	
<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of River Falls for help or information	No		58% N=302
		Yes		42% N=219
	Contacted River Falls elected officials to express your opinion	No		86% N=449

<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted River Falls elected officials to express your opinion	Yes		14% N=72
	Attended a local public meeting	No		89% N=466
		Yes		11% N=56
	Watched a local public meeting	No		81% N=423
		Yes		19% N=98
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	No		66% N=343
		Yes		34% N=179
	Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	No		88% N=458
		Yes		12% N=64
	Voted in your most recent local election	No		30% N=155
		Yes		70% N=366
	Used public transportation instead of driving	No		94% N=489
		Yes		6% N=32
	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	No		46% N=239
		Yes		54% N=283
	Walked or biked instead of driving	No		28% N=148
		Yes		72% N=374
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.</b>	Public information services	Excellent		14% N=61
		Good		60% N=258
		Fair		20% N=87

**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.**

Public information services	Poor		6% N=24
Economic development	Excellent		10% N=40
	Good		50% N=196
	Fair		27% N=104
	Poor		13% N=50
Traffic enforcement	Excellent		13% N=57
	Good		60% N=271
	Fair		18% N=81
	Poor		9% N=40
Traffic signal timing	Excellent		15% N=75
	Good		51% N=259
	Fair		21% N=107
	Poor		13% N=63
Street repair	Excellent		4% N=23
	Good		39% N=201
	Fair		34% N=174
	Poor		23% N=121
Street cleaning	Excellent		22% N=107
	Good		52% N=257
	Fair		17% N=85

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.			
Street cleaning	Poor		9% N=43
Street lighting	Excellent		18% N=92
	Good		49% N=252
	Fair		26% N=136
	Poor		7% N=37
Snow removal	Excellent		26% N=132
	Good		47% N=240
	Fair		20% N=102
	Poor		8% N=39
Sidewalk maintenance	Excellent		12% N=57
	Good		47% N=229
	Fair		26% N=124
	Poor		15% N=72
Bus or transit services	Excellent		8% N=23
	Good		8% N=24
	Fair		19% N=58
	Poor		66% N=202
Land use, planning and zoning	Excellent		8% N=29
	Good		39% N=144
	Fair		33% N=120

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.			
Land use, planning and zoning	Poor		20% N=73
Code enforcement	Excellent		14% N=42
	Good		45% N=138
	Fair		26% N=79
	Poor		16% N=48
Affordable high-speed internet access	Excellent		13% N=62
	Good		41% N=199
	Fair		26% N=127
	Poor		20% N=97
Garbage collection	Excellent		30% N=155
	Good		59% N=300
	Fair		10% N=53
	Poor		1% N=4
Drinking water	Excellent		28% N=144
	Good		47% N=242
	Fair		16% N=82
	Poor		9% N=48
Sewer services	Excellent		33% N=154
	Good		56% N=267
	Fair		10% N=46

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.			
Sewer services	Poor		1% N=6
	Excellent		29% N=135
Storm water management	Good		59% N=273
	Fair		9% N=42
	Poor		3% N=14
	Excellent		32% N=160
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Good		58% N=292
	Fair		10% N=52
	Poor		1% N=3
	Excellent		28% N=141
Utility billing	Good		52% N=257
	Fair		14% N=71
	Poor		6% N=28
	Excellent		33% N=160
Police/Sheriff services	Good		51% N=245
	Fair		12% N=57
	Poor		4% N=20
	Excellent		27% N=118
Crime prevention	Good		57% N=249
	Fair		13% N=56

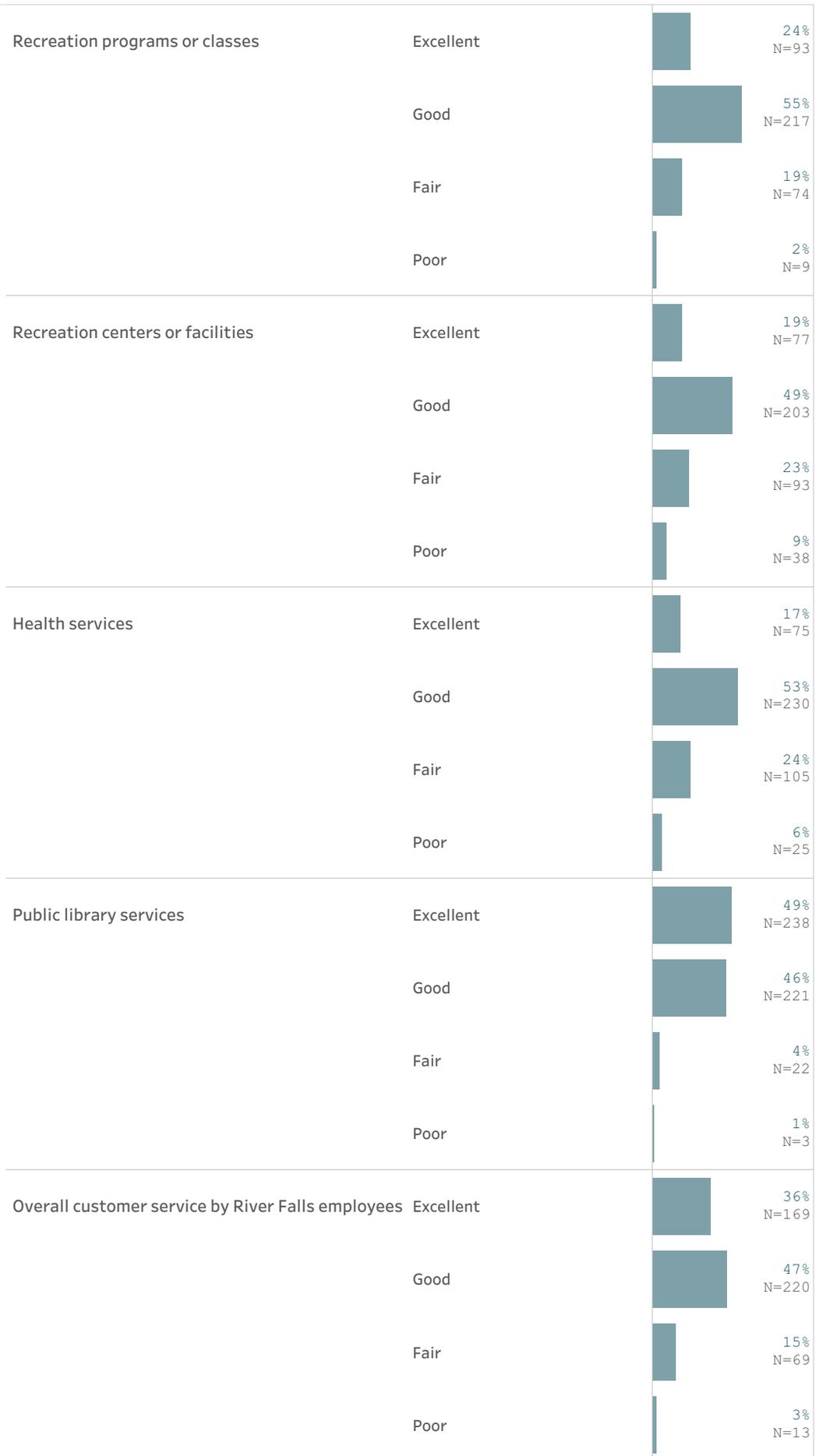
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.

Crime prevention	Poor		3% N=11
Animal control	Excellent		19% N=62
	Good		59% N=192
	Fair		16% N=53
	Poor		5% N=17
Ambulance or emergency medical services	Excellent		41% N=155
	Good		49% N=186
	Fair		8% N=31
	Poor		3% N=10
Fire services	Excellent		45% N=180
	Good		49% N=198
	Fair		6% N=26
Fire prevention and education	Excellent		31% N=104
	Good		55% N=182
	Fair		13% N=42
	Poor		1% N=3
Emergency preparedness	Excellent		23% N=80
	Good		52% N=182
	Fair		18% N=62
	Poor		7% N=26

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.

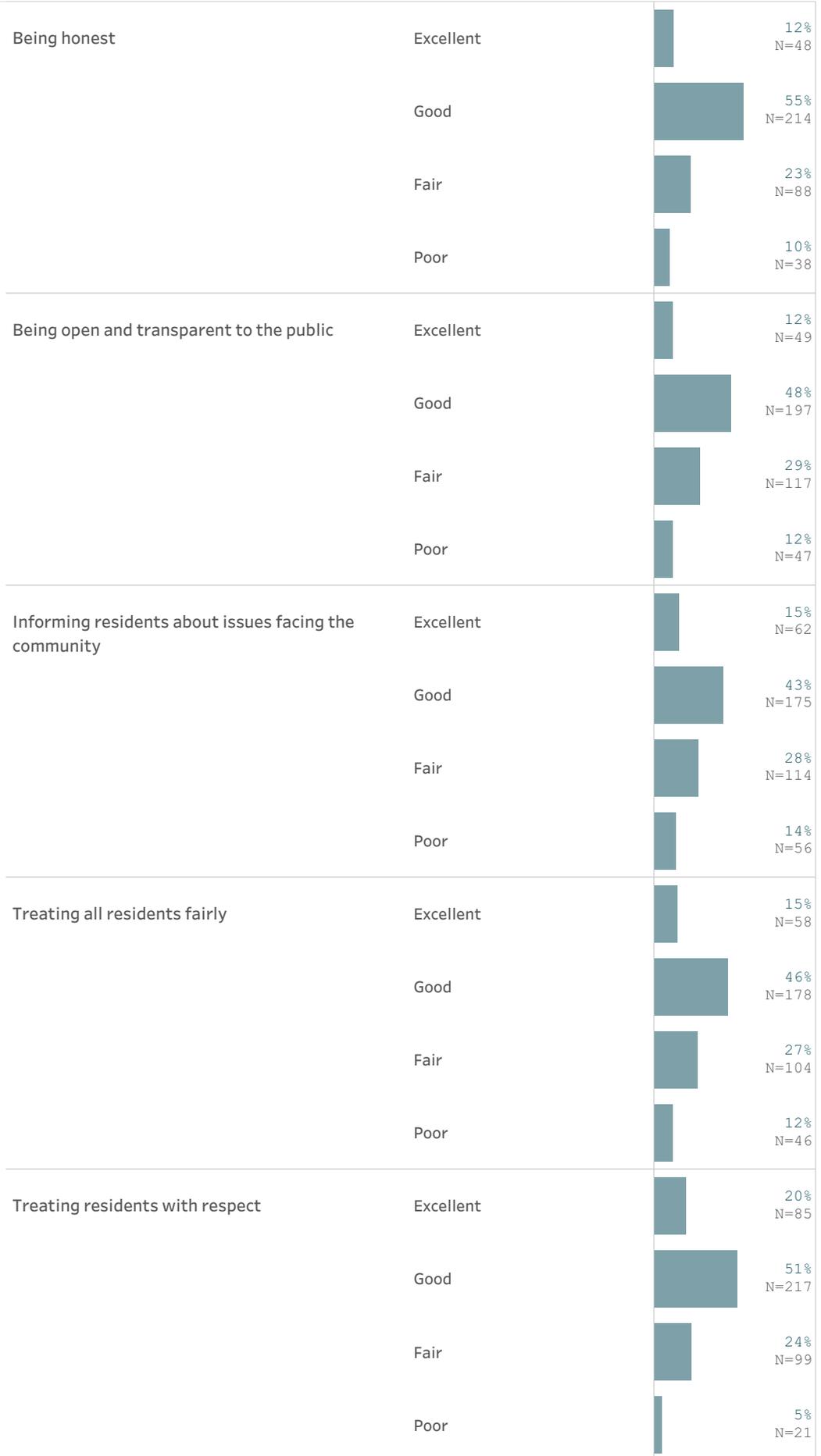
Preservation of natural areas	Excellent		19% N=88
	Good		45% N=206
	Fair		23% N=106
	Poor		12% N=56
River Falls open space	Excellent		19% N=80
	Good		47% N=199
	Fair		25% N=106
	Poor		10% N=41
Recycling	Excellent		28% N=139
	Good		53% N=261
	Fair		12% N=58
	Poor		8% N=38
Yard waste pick-up	Excellent		21% N=77
	Good		41% N=150
	Fair		18% N=68
	Poor		20% N=74
City parks	Excellent		36% N=179
	Good		52% N=263
	Fair		10% N=53
	Poor		1% N=7

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.



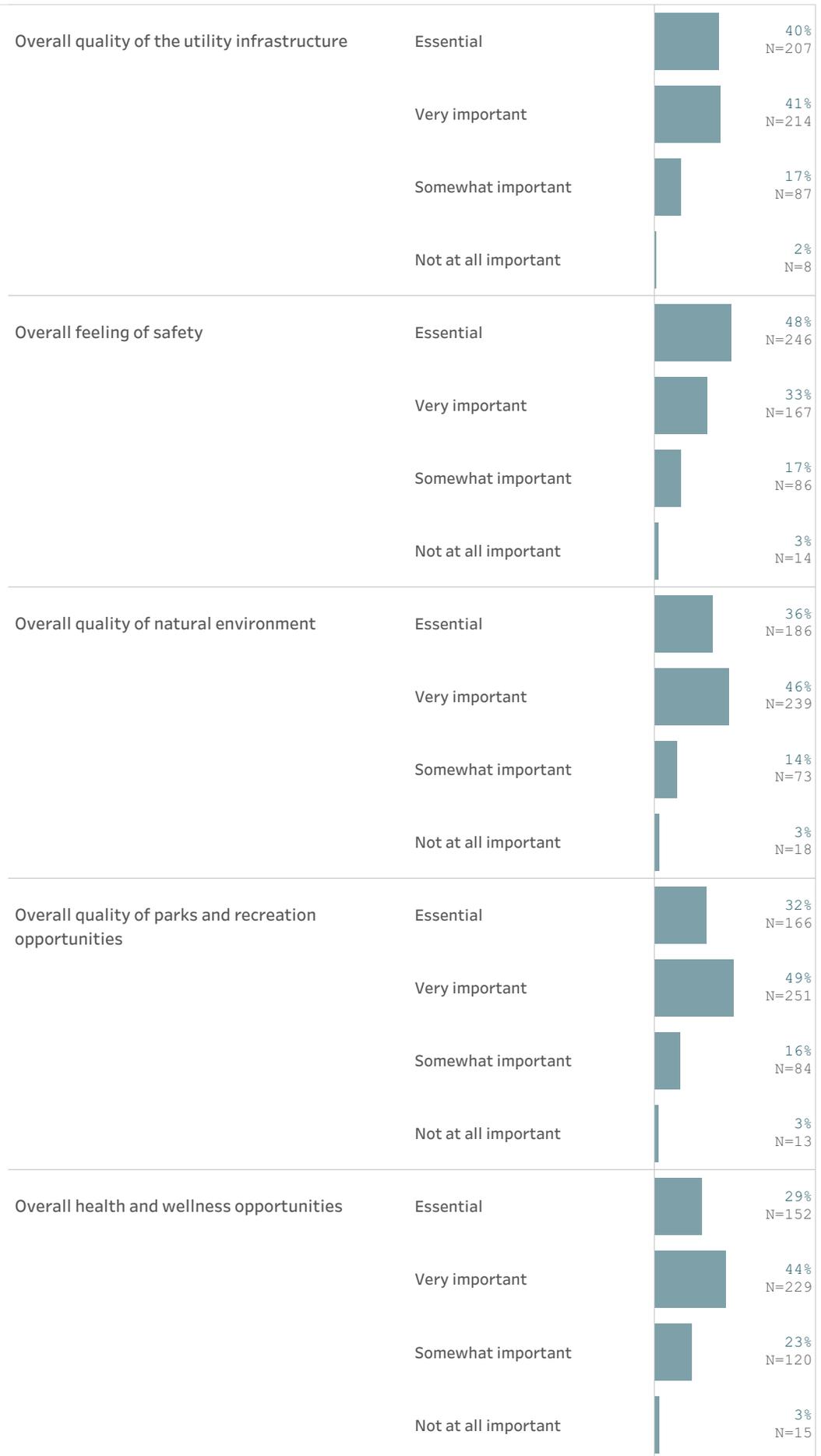
Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance.	The value of services for the taxes paid to River Falls	Excellent	12%	N=52
		Good	50%	N=218
		Fair	25%	N=110
		Poor	12%	N=54
		<hr/>		
The overall direction that River Falls is taking	Excellent	10%	N=46	
	Good	54%	N=247	
	Fair	25%	N=115	
	Poor	11%	N=53	
<hr/>				
The job River Falls government does at welcoming resident involvement	Excellent	11%	N=45	
	Good	52%	N=204	
	Fair	26%	N=104	
	Poor	11%	N=42	
<hr/>				
Overall confidence in River Falls government	Excellent	9%	N=41	
	Good	44%	N=197	
	Fair	34%	N=149	
	Poor	13%	N=58	
<hr/>				
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Excellent	12%	N=52	
	Good	50%	N=226	
	Fair	27%	N=123	
	Poor	11%	N=50	

**Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance.**



<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of River Falls	Excellent		23% N=116
		Good		53% N=265
		Fair		19% N=95
		Poor		4% N=21
	The Federal Government	Excellent		3% N=15
		Good		29% N=134
		Fair		37% N=172
		Poor		30% N=137
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the River Falls community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	Essential		40% N=201
		Very important		46% N=233
		Somewhat important		14% N=70
		Not at all important		1% N=3
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Essential		29% N=149
		Very important		40% N=205
		Somewhat important		28% N=144
		Not at all important		4% N=19
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Essential		29% N=148
		Very important		41% N=212
		Somewhat important		27% N=138
		Not at all important		4% N=20

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

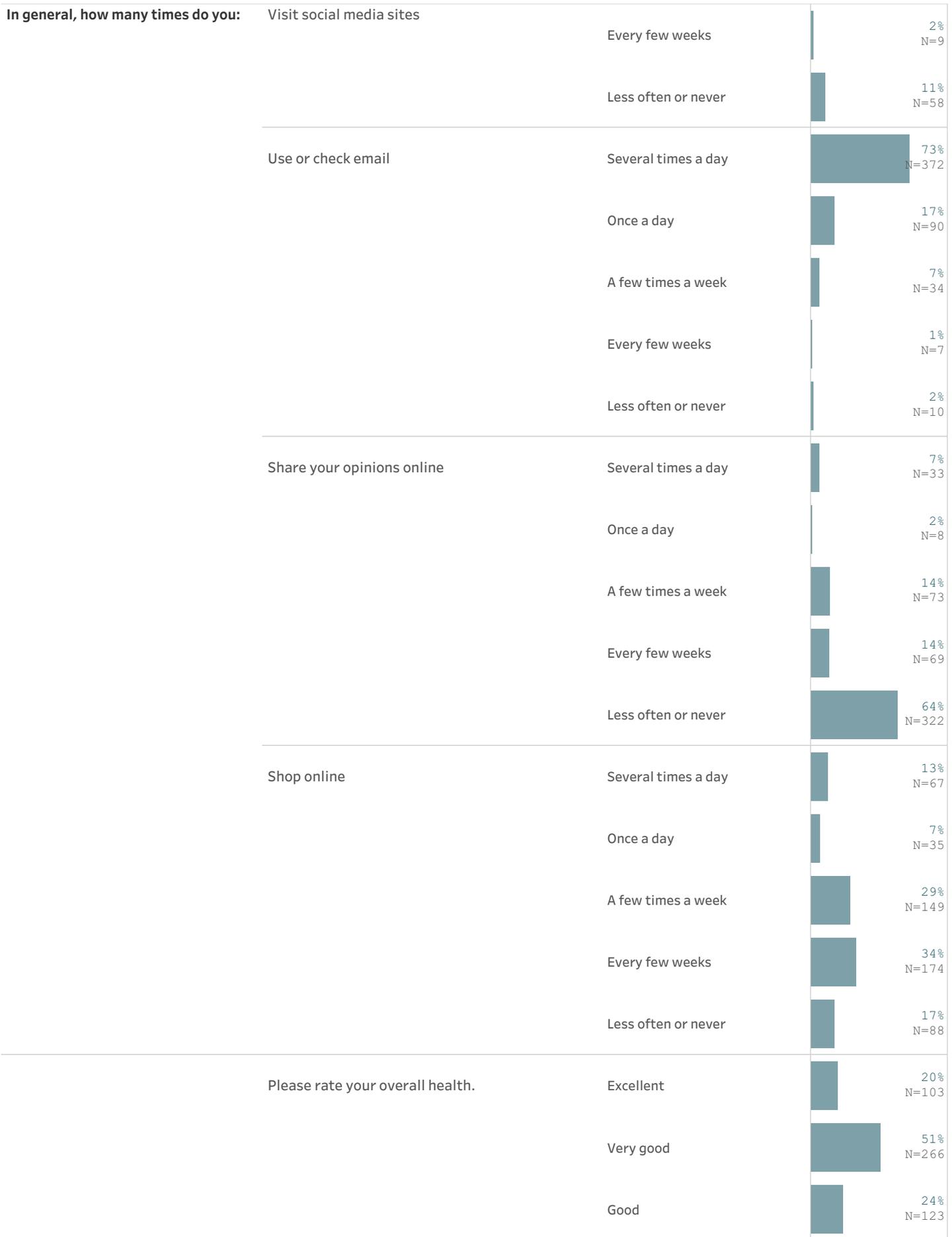


<p><b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the River Falls community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b></p>	<p>Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts</p>	Essential		30% N=155
		Very important		41% N=211
		Somewhat important		23% N=120
		Not at all important		5% N=25
<p>Residents' connection and engagement with their community</p>	<p>Essential</p>	Essential		21% N=106
		Very important		47% N=242
		Somewhat important		32% N=164
		Not at all important		1% N=6
<p>Have you had any in-person, phone, email, or other contact with an employee of the City of River Falls within the last 12 months (including police, utility representative, customer service representative, or any others)?</p>	<p>No</p>	No		52% N=257
		Yes		48% N=233
<p><b>What was your impression of the employee(s) of the City of River Falls during your most recent contact? (Rate each characteristic below.)</b></p>	<p>Knowledge</p>	Excellent		57% N=145
		Good		30% N=75
		Fair		10% N=26
		Poor		3% N=7
<p>Responsiveness</p>	<p>Excellent</p>	Excellent		56% N=144
		Good		33% N=83
		Fair		7% N=17
		Poor		5% N=12
<p>Courtesy</p>	<p>Excellent</p>	Excellent		62% N=159
		Good		27% N=67

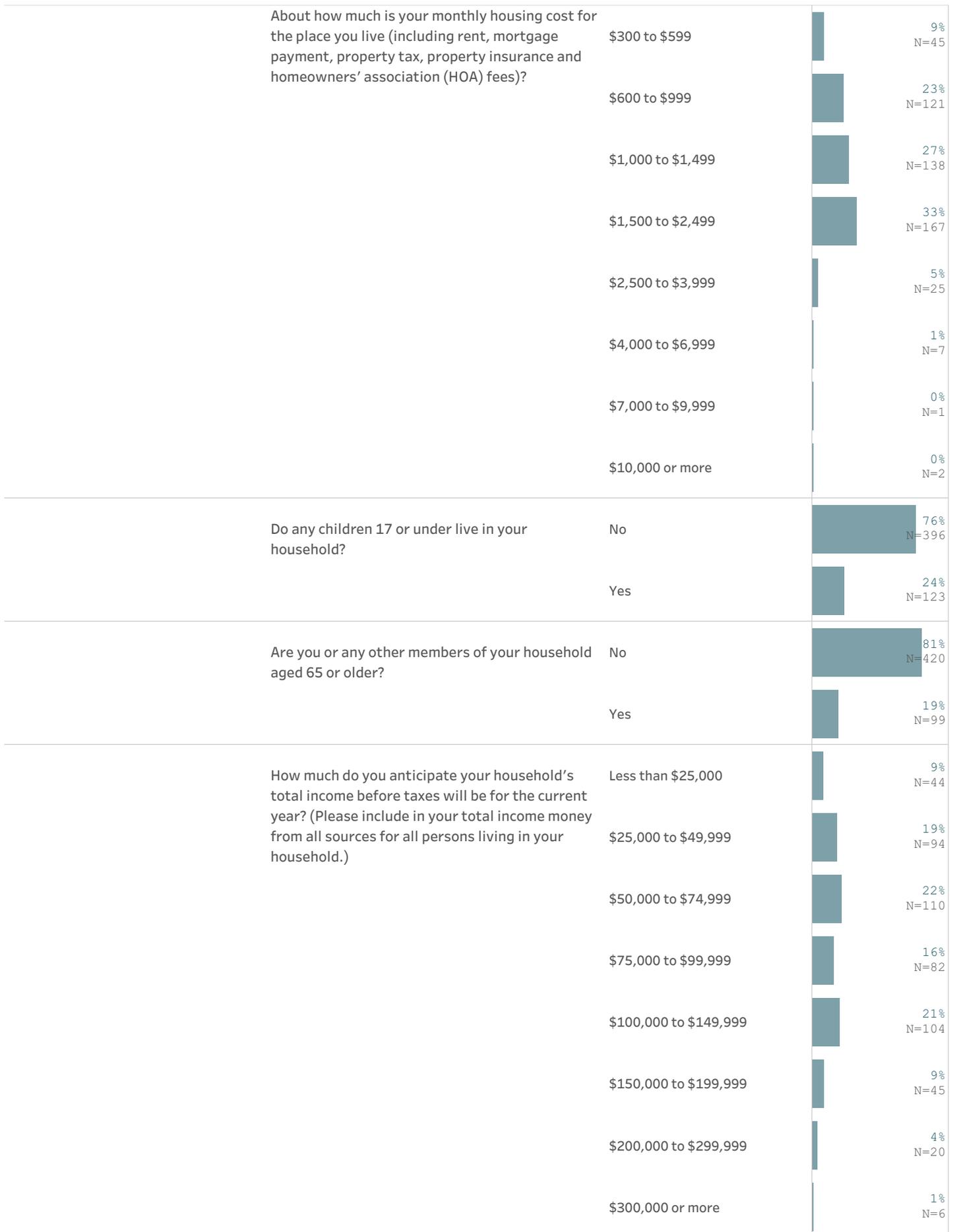
<b>What was your impression of the employee(s) of the City of River Falls during your most recent contact? (Rate each characteristic below.)</b>	Courtesy	Fair		8% N=19
		Poor		4% N=9
	Overall impression	Excellent		57% N=146
		Good		28% N=71
Fair			10% N=26	
Poor			5% N=13	
<b>How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?</b>	Electronic newsletter	Major source		24% N=119
		Minor source		36% N=179
		Not a source		40% N=199
	City website (www.rfcity.org)	Major source		41% N=206
		Minor source		37% N=187
		Not a source		22% N=109
	Facebook	Major source		46% N=233
		Minor source		26% N=132
		Not a source		28% N=138
	LinkedIn	Major source		1% N=3
		Minor source		11% N=53
		Not a source		89% N=442
Instagram	Major source		4% N=20	
	Minor source		18% N=88	

<b>How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?</b>	Instagram	Not a source		78% N=387	
	Newspaper	Major source		18% N=89	
		Minor source		29% N=143	
		Not a source		54% N=269	
	In-person meetings	Major source		11% N=55	
		Minor source		24% N=119	
		Not a source		65% N=322	
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following areas of the River Falls Public Library services.</b>	Library programs (e.g., story time, classes, etc.)	Excellent		57% N=197
			Good		38% N=130
Fair				4% N=15	
Poor				1% N=2	
Computer services/internet/wi-fi services		Excellent		41% N=130	
		Good		43% N=136	
		Fair		13% N=42	
		Poor		3% N=10	
Library building(s) and grounds		Excellent		57% N=251	
		Good		38% N=166	
		Fair		4% N=17	
		Poor		1% N=4	
Library hours of operation		Excellent		37% N=150	

Please rate the quality of each of the following areas of the River Falls Public Library services.			
Library hours of operation	Good		51% N=207
	Fair		10% N=40
	Poor		2% N=10
Availability of staff	Excellent		53% N=202
	Good		41% N=155
	Fair		6% N=23
	Poor		1% N=2
In general, how many times do you:	Access the internet from your home	Several times a day	 76% N=394
		Once a day	 6% N=33
		A few times a week	 8% N=40
		Every few weeks	 1% N=6
		Less often or never	 8% N=43
Access the internet from your cell phone	Several times a day	 89% N=459	
	Once a day	 2% N=11	
	A few times a week	 2% N=12	
	Every few weeks	 0% N=2	
	Less often or never	 6% N=30	
Visit social media sites	Several times a day	 74% N=380	
	Once a day	 8% N=43	
	A few times a week	 5% N=23	



Please rate your overall health.	Fair	5% N=24
	Poor	1% N=3
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	Very positive	2% N=11
	Somewhat positive	13% N=68
	Neutral	41% N=212
	Somewhat negative	35% N=181
	Very negative	8% N=42
How many years have you lived in River Falls?	Less than 2 years	11% N=58
	2-5 years	31% N=163
	6-10 years	15% N=79
	11-20 years	17% N=87
	More than 20 years	26% N=134
Which best describes the building you live in?	Single-family detached home	47% N=242
	Townhouse or duplex (may share walls but no units above or below you)	21% N=111
	Condominium or apartment (have units above or below you)	29% N=153
	Mobile home	0% N=1
	Other	2% N=13
Do you rent or own your home?	Rent	44% N=226
	Own	56% N=291
About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	Less than \$300	2% N=8



Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	98% N=507
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	2% N=10
What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)	American Indian or Alaska Native	1% N=5
	Asian	2% N=10
	Black or African American	2% N=12
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0% N=2
	White	96% N=498
	A race not listed	2% N=11
In which category is your age?	18-24 years	13% N=67
	25-34 years	38% N=196
	35-44 years	12% N=64
	45-54 years	12% N=65
	55-64 years	7% N=34
	65-74 years	10% N=50
	75 years or older	8% N=43
What is your gender?	Woman	57% N=297
	Man	42% N=219
	Identify in another way	0% N=1
If you identify in another way, how would you describe your gender?	Agender/I don't identify with any gender	19% N=
	Non-binary	66% N=1

If you identify in another way, how would you describe your gender?

Identify in another way



16%  
N=

## Full trends

This table contains the trends over time for the City of River Falls. The combined “percent positive” responses for each survey year are presented (e.g., excellent/good or yes). If an item was not included during an administration of the survey, no percentage will be shown in the table. If the difference between the 2021 and 2023 surveys is greater than six percentage points, the change is statistically significant.

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

		2013	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023
<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in River Falls.</b>	River Falls as a place to live	92%	92%	93%	93%	92%	92%
	Your neighborhood as a place to live	84%	78%	86%	88%	85%	78%
	River Falls as a place to raise children	89%	86%	94%	92%	93%	88%
	River Falls as a place to work	53%	45%	55%	57%	53%	59%
	River Falls as a place to visit		67%	69%	71%	71%	74%
	River Falls as a place to retire	68%	71%	69%	72%	77%	79%
	The overall quality of life	86%	87%	90%	90%	88%	90%
	Sense of community	83%	81%	75%	74%	74%	73%
<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health		74%	74%	73%	69%	67%
	Overall quality of the transportation system					45%	42%
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas		69%	72%	72%	70%	64%
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure					82%	82%
	Overall feeling of safety		90%	94%	91%	93%	90%
	Overall quality of natural environment	89%	89%	89%	92%	93%	87%
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities					87%	82%
	Overall health and wellness opportunities		67%	71%	76%	76%	74%
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts		88%	90%	87%	76%	79%

<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.</b>	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	71% 72%
<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in River Falls to someone who asks	89% 94% 94% 92% 92% 91%
	Remain in River Falls for the next five years	81% 79% 87% 83% 83% 84%
<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	In your neighborhood during the day	98% 98% 98% 97% 96% 97%
	In River Falls's downtown/commercial area during the day	98% 97% 99% 97% 96% 96%
	From property crime	76% 85% 85%
	From violent crime	90% 93% 89%
	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	92% 92%
<b>Please rate the job you feel the River Falls community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome	79% 76%
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	45% 48%
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	60% 60%
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	64% 59%
<b>Please rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Overall quality of business and service establishments	55% 61% 64% 59% 61% 69%
	Variety of business and service establishments	38% 40%
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	61% 56% 54% 55% 59%
	Employment opportunities	32% 31% 36% 46% 35% 38%
	Shopping opportunities	27% 27% 34% 26% 20% 25%
	Cost of living	53% 51% 44% 41% 43%
	Overall image or reputation	80% 84% 86% 85% 80% 82%
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	53% 49% 58% 56% 61% 63%
	Ease of public parking	60% 58% 55% 72% 61%
	Ease of travel by car	65% 72% 74% 76% 84% 80%
	Ease of travel by public transportation	25% 20% 21%

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

Ease of travel by bicycle	68% 71% 74% 69% 66% 60%
Ease of walking	84% 89% 90% 89% 85% 79%
Well-planned residential growth	61% 58%
Well-planned commercial growth	44% 52%
Well-designed neighborhoods	59% 61%
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	69% 73%
Public places where people want to spend time	76% 75% 77% 70% 70%
Variety of housing options	65% 63% 63% 45% 48% 52%
Availability of affordable quality housing	60% 55% 49% 34% 39% 34%
Overall quality of new development	67% 65% 58% 65% 54% 55%
Overall appearance	85% 87% 89% 89% 78% 86%
Cleanliness	86% 86% 93% 89% 86% 85%
Water resources	65% 67%
Air quality	93% 95% 96% 94% 90% 90%
Availability of paths and walking trails	74% 78% 87% 83% 84% 82%
Fitness opportunities	75% 77% 73% 81% 75%
Recreational opportunities	72% 73% 76% 72% 75% 80%
Availability of affordable quality food	74% 60% 66% 72% 63% 61%
Availability of affordable quality health care	60% 62% 66% 69% 65% 63%
Availability of preventive health services	75% 74% 69% 75% 68% 67%
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	40% 41% 43% 35% 42%
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	53% 77% 77% 72% 67% 69%
Community support for the arts	66% 74%

<b>Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	63%	64%	65%	61%	53%	57%
	K-12 education	87%	91%	92%	87%	83%	89%
	Adult educational opportunities	84%	79%	75%	67%	74%	
	Sense of civic/community pride					72%	75%
	Neighborliness of residents	70%	72%	69%	75%	74%	
	Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	78%	72%	76%	74%	69%	76%
	Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	78%	77%	73%	71%	79%	
	Opportunities to volunteer	75%	73%	82%	76%	69%	81%
	Opportunities to participate in community matters	72%	72%	77%	71%	60%	70%
	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	66%	64%	65%	60%	53%	54%
	<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of River Falls for help or information	61%		47%	57%	42%
Contacted River Falls elected officials to express your opinion		17%	15%	14%	15%	14%	
Attended a local public meeting		27%	16%	17%	15%	12%	11%
Watched a local public meeting		27%	21%	18%	14%	28%	19%
Volunteered your time to some group/activity		53%	55%	52%	44%	34%	34%
Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate		21%	28%	24%	19%	12%	
Voted in your most recent local election		85%			74%	70%	
Used public transportation instead of driving						5%	6%
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone		42%	50%	53%	51%	54%	
Walked or biked instead of driving		79%	80%	75%	75%	72%	
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.</b>	Public information services	82%	77%	77%	75%	68%	74%
	Economic development	59%	55%	67%	56%	57%	60%
	Traffic enforcement	74%	74%	81%	79%	70%	73%

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.

Traffic signal timing	60% 62% 70% 66% 66% 66%
Street repair	52% 53% 56% 55% 59% 43%
Street cleaning	73% 73% 78% 77% 80% 74%
Street lighting	72% 70% 79% 78% 73% 66%
Snow removal	62% 72% 77% 73% 71% 72%
Sidewalk maintenance	57% 63% 66% 65% 62% 59%
Bus or transit services	29% 15% 15%
Land use, planning and zoning	60% 61% 65% 61% 53% 47%
Code enforcement	55% 54% 57% 60% 48% 59%
Affordable high-speed internet access	49% 54%
Garbage collection	84% 84% 89% 78% 86% 89%
Drinking water	79% 77% 79% 75% 75% 75%
Sewer services	87% 90% 90% 87% 85% 89%
Storm water management	80% 82% 84% 70% 86% 88%
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	86% 90% 90% 90% 87% 89%
Utility billing	78% 84% 84% 83% 80%
Police/Sheriff services	87% 82% 89% 93% 80% 84%
Crime prevention	78% 73% 85% 87% 82% 84%
Animal control	71% 73% 76% 76% 78%
Ambulance or emergency medical services	95% 96% 90% 93% 90% 89%
Fire services	94% 95% 95% 98% 95% 94%
Fire prevention and education	88% 86% 88% 85% 90% 86%
Emergency preparedness	71% 61% 71% 68% 75% 75%

<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.</b>	Preservation of natural areas	73% 71% 77% 66% 72% 64%
	River Falls open space	70% 75% 67% 70% 66%
	Recycling	87% 83% 89% 81% 84% 81%
	Yard waste pick-up	66% 70% 61%
	City parks	93% 87% 93% 93% 89% 88%
	Recreation programs or classes	89% 77% 82% 85% 70% 79%
	Recreation centers or facilities	75% 63% 68%
	Health services	77% 75% 72% 69% 74% 70%
	Public library services	96% 90% 94% 93% 95% 95%
	Overall customer service by River Falls employees	87% 86% 88% 83%
<b>Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to River Falls	62% 53% 64% 54% 59% 62%
	The overall direction that River Falls is taking	64% 69% 73% 66% 65% 63%
	The job River Falls government does at welcoming resident involvement	65% 62% 69% 58% 56% 63%
	Overall confidence in River Falls government	63% 70% 61% 55% 53%
	Generally acting in the best interest of the community	65% 76% 62% 63% 62%
	Being honest	68% 76% 67% 62% 67%
	Being open and transparent to the public	57% 60%
	Informing residents about issues facing the community	57% 58%
	Treating all residents fairly	63% 74% 63% 62% 61%
	Treating residents with respect	70% 72%
<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of River Falls	83% 87% 88% 87% 81% 76%
	The Federal Government	41% 30% 37% 36% 33% 33%
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the River Falls community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	88% 86% 86% 87% 86%

<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the River Falls community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of the transportation system	67% 68%
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	72% 74% 73% 68% 69%
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	84% 81%
	Overall feeling of safety	83% 81% 86% 77% 80%
	Overall quality of natural environment	83% 79% 89% 83% 82%
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	85% 81%
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	73% 76% 77% 79% 74%
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	81% 75% 78% 76% 72%
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	73% 74% 81% 70% 67%
	<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Access the internet from your home
Access the internet from your cell phone		94% 94%
Visit social media sites		88% 87%
Use or check email		98% 97%
Share your opinions online		27% 23%
Shop online		53% 49%
Please rate your overall health.		57% 62% 58% 69% 71%
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	26% 24% 24% 29% 24% 15%	

## Methods (open participation)

As part of its participation in The National Community Survey™ (The NCST™), the City of River Falls conducted a survey of 524 residents. Survey invitations were mailed to randomly selected households and data were collected from May 1, 2023 to June 12, 2023. The results from this main survey effort represent the most robust estimate of your residents’ opinions.

After the above data collection period was underway, a link to an online open participation survey was publicized by the City of River Falls. The open participation survey was identical to the probability sample survey with two small updates; it included a question at the beginning asking if the respondent lives within the City and also a question at the end about where they heard about the survey. The open participation survey was open to all city residents and became available on May 29, 2023. The survey remained open for 2 weeks and there were 161 responses.

The open participation survey data were not collected through a random sample and it is unknown who in the community was aware of the survey; therefore, a level of confidence in the representativeness of the sample cannot be estimated. However, to reduce bias where possible, these data were statistically weighted to match the demographic characteristics of the 2020 Census and 2022 American Community Survey estimates for adults in the City of River Falls. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, and housing tenure. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.\* The results of the weighting scheme for the open participation survey are presented in the following table.

\* Pasek, J. (2010). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from <https://web.stanford.edu/group/iriss/cgi-bin/anesrake/resources/RakingDescription.pdf>

		Unweighted	Weighted	Target*
Age	18-34	18%	53%	53%
	35-54	45%	24%	24%
	55+	37%	24%	24%
Hispanic origin	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish ..	96%	96%	97%
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, La..	4%	4%	3%
Housing tenure	Own	79%	56%	56%
	Rent	21%	44%	44%
Housing type	Attached	26%	52%	52%
	Detached	74%	48%	48%
Race & Hispanic origin	Not white alone	11%	8%	8%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	89%	92%	92%
Sex	Man	32%	44%	44%
	Woman	68%	56%	56%
Sex/age	Man 18-34	6%	21%	21%
	Man 35-54	17%	13%	13%
	Man 55+	8%	10%	10%
	Woman 18-34	12%	32%	32%
	Woman 35-54	29%	11%	11%
	Woman 55+	27%	13%	13%

## Open participation survey results

This dashboard contains a complete set of responses to each question on the open participation survey. By default, "don't know" responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter to the right. In some tables, the percentages may not sum to 100%; this is either because the question permitted the respondent to "choose all that apply", or for a question that asked the respondent to select one answer, it is due to the customary practice of rounding values to the nearest whole number.

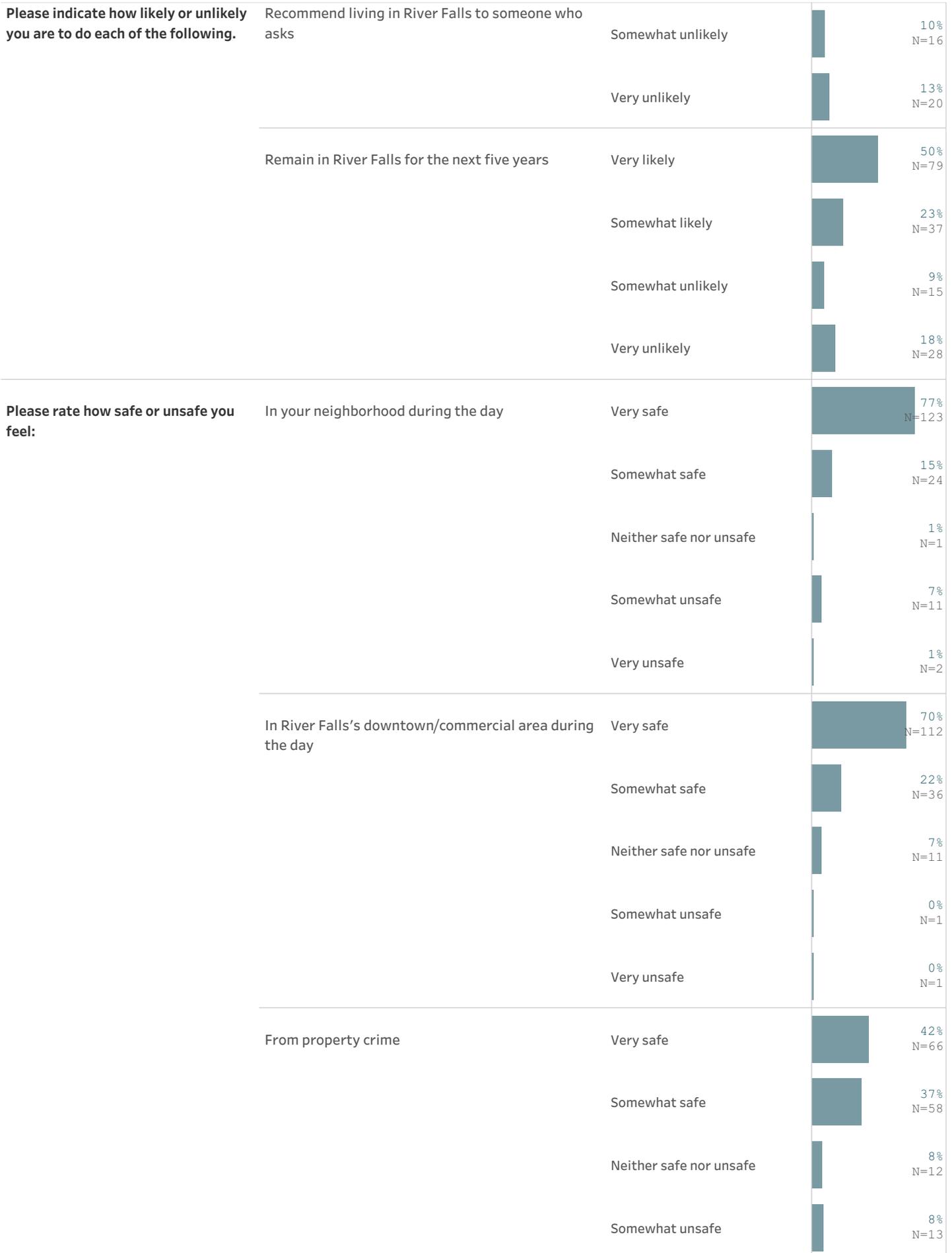
		Do you live within the city limits of River Falls?	Yes		93% N=150
			No		6% N=10
			I don't know		0% N=1
<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in River Falls.</b>	River Falls as a place to live	Excellent		34% N=55	
		Good		29% N=47	
		Fair		35% N=56	
		Poor		2% N=3	
		Your neighborhood as a place to live	Excellent		34% N=53
			Good		47% N=75
			Fair		19% N=30
			Poor		0% N=
		River Falls as a place to raise children	Excellent		40% N=55
			Good		40% N=55
			Fair		18% N=25
			Poor		2% N=2
		River Falls as a place to work	Excellent		21% N=28
			Good		15% N=19

<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in River Falls.</b>	River Falls as a place to work	Fair		23% N=30
		Poor		41% N=54
	River Falls as a place to visit	Excellent		22% N=34
		Good		28% N=44
		Fair		41% N=66
		Poor		9% N=15
	River Falls as a place to retire	Excellent		17% N=18
		Good		39% N=40
		Fair		33% N=34
		Poor		11% N=12
	The overall quality of life	Excellent		18% N=28
		Good		47% N=73
		Fair		32% N=50
		Poor		4% N=6
	Sense of community	Excellent		24% N=37
		Good		43% N=66
		Fair		22% N=35
		Poor		12% N=18
<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health	Excellent		3% N=5
		Good		38% N=53

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.

Overall economic health	Fair		41% N=57
	Poor		18% N=24
Overall quality of the transportation system	Excellent		6% N=9
	Good		23% N=36
	Fair		39% N=62
	Poor		33% N=52
Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Excellent		7% N=11
	Good		42% N=67
	Fair		32% N=51
	Poor		20% N=32
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Excellent		20% N=30
	Good		49% N=73
	Fair		21% N=31
	Poor		10% N=15
Overall feeling of safety	Excellent		38% N=60
	Good		40% N=63
	Fair		19% N=29
	Poor		4% N=7
Overall quality of natural environment	Excellent		36% N=57
	Good		46% N=73

<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of natural environment	Fair		15% N=24
		Poor		4% N=6
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Excellent		32% N=50
		Good		46% N=73
		Fair		18% N=28
		Poor		5% N=8
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Excellent		18% N=26
		Good		45% N=65
		Fair		25% N=36
		Poor		13% N=18
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Excellent		27% N=40
		Good		37% N=56
		Fair		25% N=38
		Poor		12% N=18
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Excellent		11% N=17
		Good		42% N=62
		Fair		36% N=54
		Poor		11% N=16
<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in River Falls to someone who asks	Very likely		40% N=64
		Somewhat likely		38% N=61

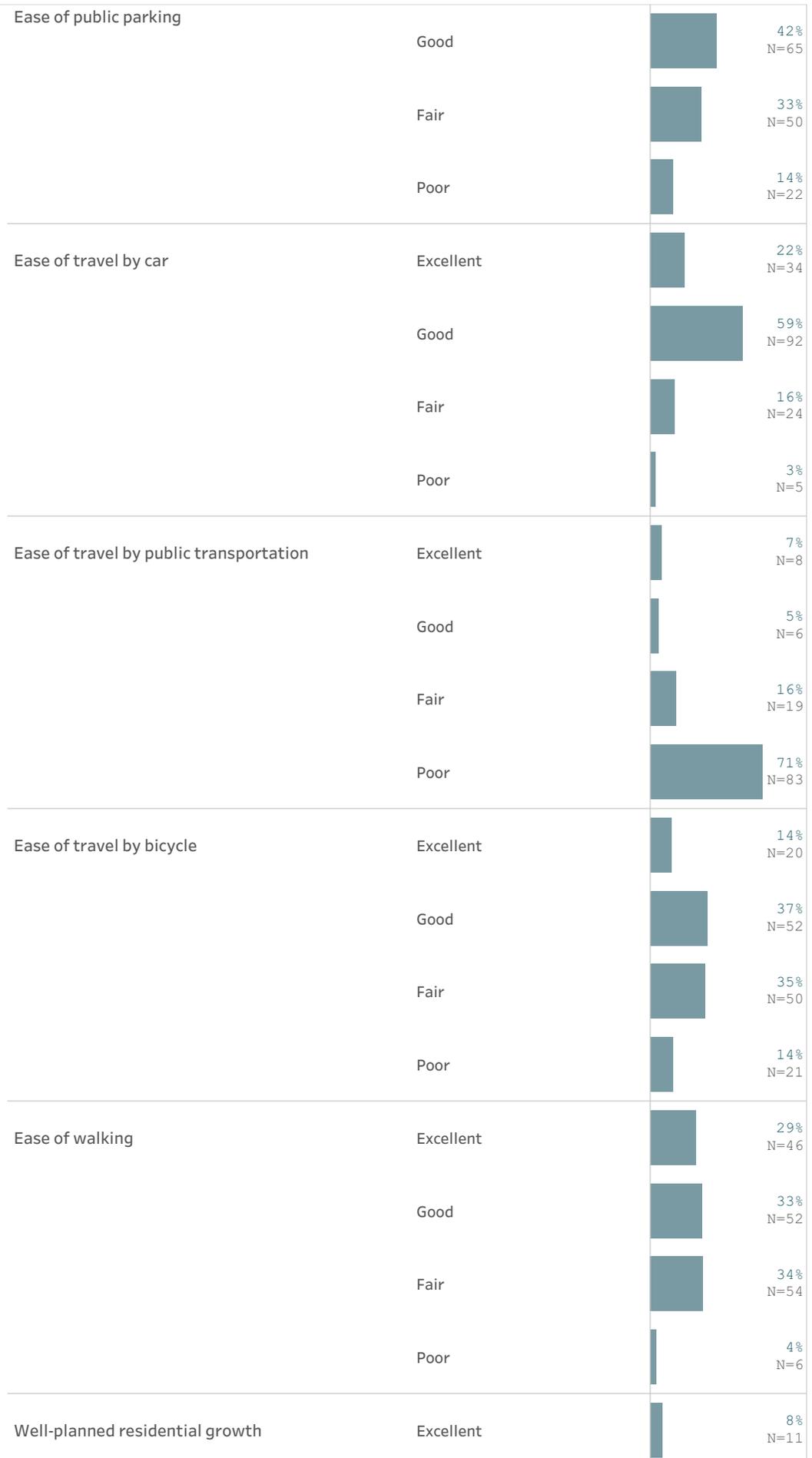


<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	From property crime	Very unsafe		5% N=8
	From violent crime	Very safe		60% N=91
		Somewhat safe		28% N=42
		Neither safe nor unsafe		7% N=11
		Somewhat unsafe		4% N=7
From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Very safe		48% N=74	
	Somewhat safe		37% N=57	
	Neither safe nor unsafe		13% N=21	
	Somewhat unsafe		1% N=2	
	Very unsafe		0% N=1	
<b>Please rate the job you feel the River Falls community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome	Excellent		16% N=26
		Good		47% N=75
		Fair		31% N=49
		Poor		6% N=9
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		7% N=11
		Good		26% N=39
		Fair		34% N=51
		Poor		32% N=47
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		13% N=17

<b>Please rate the job you feel the River Falls community does at each of the following.</b>	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Good		29% N=39
		Fair		27% N=36
		Poor		32% N=43
Taking care of vulnerable residents	Excellent		11% N=15	
	Good		27% N=37	
	Fair		33% N=45	
	Poor		30% N=40	
<b>Please rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Excellent		9% N=14
		Good		45% N=71
		Fair		29% N=46
		Poor		17% N=27
Variety of business and service establishments	Excellent		2% N=4	
	Good		13% N=21	
	Fair		30% N=48	
	Poor		55% N=88	
Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Excellent		9% N=14	
	Good		31% N=49	
	Fair		40% N=63	
	Poor		21% N=33	
Employment opportunities	Excellent		7% N=9	

<b>Please rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Employment opportunities	Good		17% N=22
		Fair		36% N=48
		Poor		41% N=54
	Shopping opportunities	Excellent		0% N=1
		Good		6% N=10
		Fair		30% N=47
		Poor		63% N=98
	Cost of living	Excellent		5% N=8
		Good		14% N=22
		Fair		46% N=71
		Poor		35% N=54
	Overall image or reputation	Excellent		12% N=19
		Good		50% N=81
		Fair		24% N=39
		Poor		13% N=22
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	Excellent		9% N=15
		Good		45% N=73
		Fair		29% N=46
		Poor		17% N=27
	Ease of public parking	Excellent		11% N=17

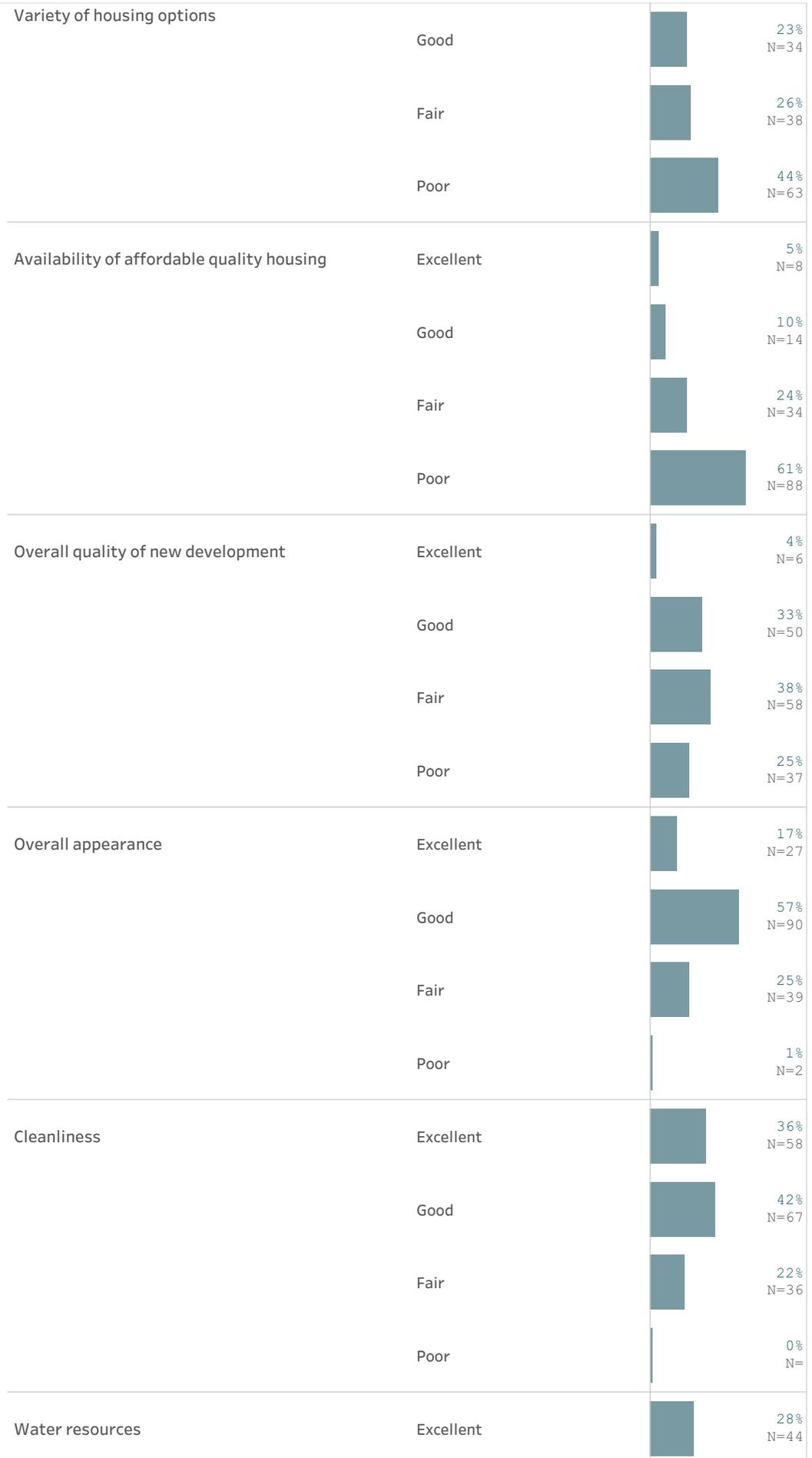
Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.



Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

Well-planned residential growth	Good		21% N=30
	Fair		37% N=52
	Poor		34% N=49
Well-planned commercial growth	Excellent		6% N=8
	Good		16% N=21
	Fair		33% N=43
	Poor		46% N=61
Well-designed neighborhoods	Excellent		9% N=14
	Good		36% N=56
	Fair		38% N=59
	Poor		17% N=26
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Excellent		13% N=18
	Good		42% N=56
	Fair		34% N=45
	Poor		11% N=15
Public places where people want to spend time	Excellent		19% N=29
	Good		35% N=54
	Fair		34% N=52
	Poor		11% N=17
Variety of housing options	Excellent		7% N=10

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.



Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

Water resources	Good		28% N=45
	Fair		40% N=63
	Poor		3% N=6
Air quality	Excellent		45% N=71
	Good		40% N=63
	Fair		13% N=20
	Poor		2% N=3
Availability of paths and walking trails	Excellent		28% N=46
	Good		41% N=66
	Fair		27% N=43
	Poor		4% N=7
Fitness opportunities	Excellent		19% N=28
	Good		43% N=62
	Fair		29% N=42
	Poor		9% N=13
Recreational opportunities	Excellent		14% N=20
	Good		43% N=63
	Fair		28% N=42
	Poor		15% N=22
Availability of affordable quality food	Excellent		20% N=30

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

Availability of affordable quality food	Good		25% N=39
	Fair		35% N=53
	Poor		20% N=31
Availability of affordable quality health care	Excellent		17% N=25
	Good		34% N=49
	Fair		34% N=49
	Poor		16% N=23
Availability of preventive health services	Excellent		21% N=29
	Good		39% N=55
	Fair		22% N=31
	Poor		18% N=25
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Excellent		10% N=11
	Good		15% N=18
	Fair		27% N=31
	Poor		48% N=54
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Excellent		18% N=27
	Good		43% N=66
	Fair		32% N=48
	Poor		7% N=11
Community support for the arts	Excellent		24% N=33

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

Community support for the arts	Good		44% N=59
	Fair		25% N=35
	Poor		7% N=9
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Excellent		18% N=17
	Good		13% N=12
	Fair		29% N=27
	Poor		40% N=36
K-12 education	Excellent		38% N=43
	Good		48% N=55
	Fair		11% N=12
	Poor		4% N=4
Adult educational opportunities	Excellent		26% N=36
	Good		39% N=54
	Fair		23% N=32
	Poor		11% N=15
Sense of civic/community pride	Excellent		14% N=20
	Good		53% N=78
	Fair		27% N=40
	Poor		6% N=9
Neighborliness of residents	Excellent		21% N=33

Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

Neighborhoodliness of residents	Good		41% N=64
	Fair		24% N=37
	Poor		14% N=21
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Excellent		15% N=22
	Good		45% N=66
	Fair		29% N=44
	Poor		11% N=17
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Excellent		22% N=34
	Good		45% N=69
	Fair		30% N=46
	Poor		3% N=5
Opportunities to volunteer	Excellent		28% N=32
	Good		45% N=50
	Fair		23% N=26
	Poor		4% N=4
Opportunities to participate in community matters	Excellent		21% N=26
	Good		44% N=56
	Fair		27% N=35
	Poor		9% N=11
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Excellent		17% N=22

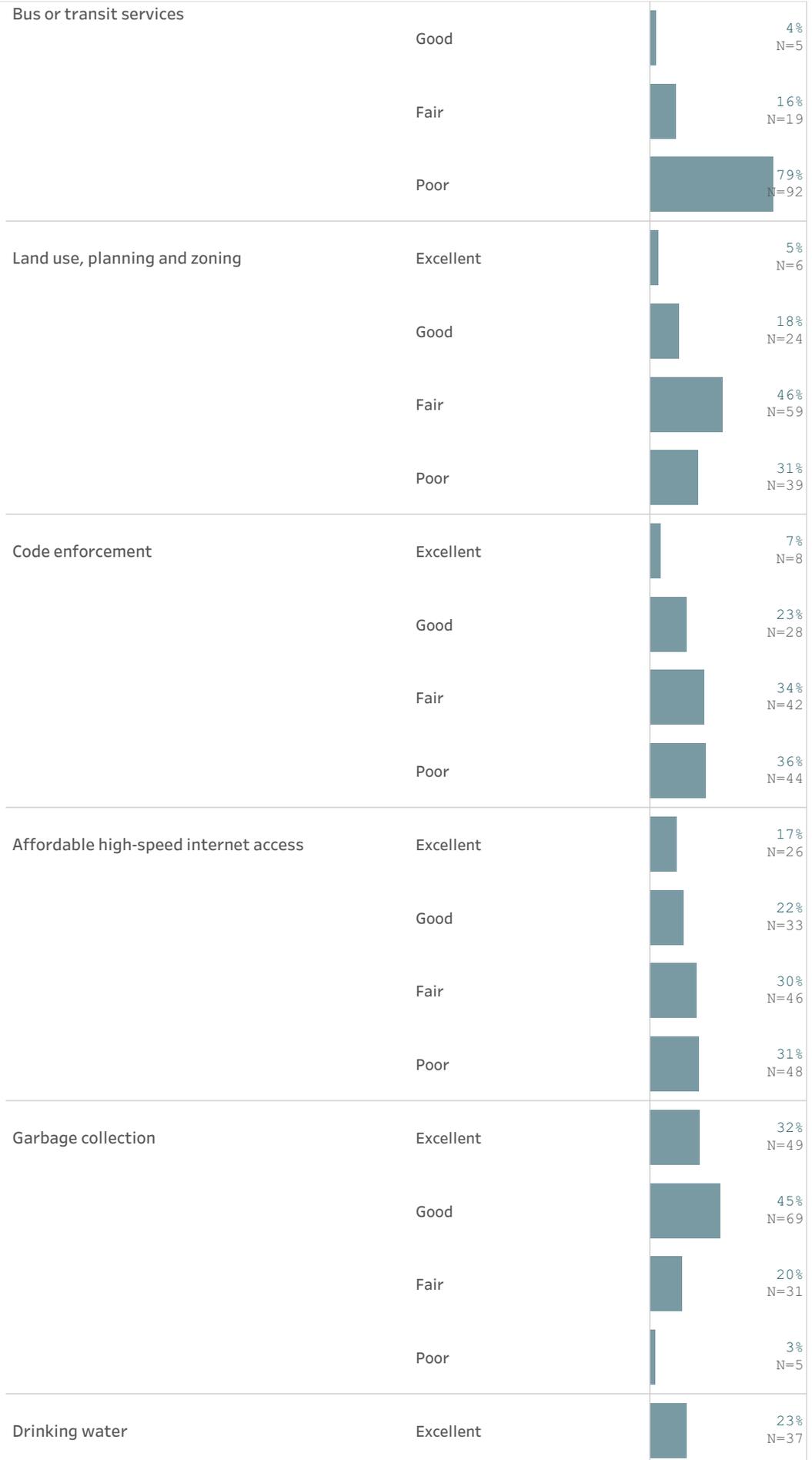
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.</b>	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Good		26% N=35
		Fair		22% N=29
		Poor		35% N=46
<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of River Falls for help or information	No		49% N=77
		Yes		51% N=79
	Contacted River Falls elected officials to express your opinion	No		78% N=125
		Yes		22% N=36
	Attended a local public meeting	No		86% N=137
		Yes		14% N=23
	Watched a local public meeting	No		66% N=106
		Yes		34% N=55
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	No		51% N=82
		Yes		49% N=78
	Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	No		73% N=117
		Yes		27% N=43
	Voted in your most recent local election	No		13% N=21
		Yes		87% N=140
Used public transportation instead of driving	No		93% N=146	
	Yes		7% N=11	
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	No		46% N=73	
	Yes		54% N=87	

<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	Yes		54% N=87
	Walked or biked instead of driving	No		20% N=32
		Yes		80% N=129
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.</b>	Public information services	Excellent		9% N=13
		Good		41% N=58
		Fair		34% N=48
		Poor		16% N=22
	Economic development	Excellent		10% N=13
		Good		22% N=29
		Fair		37% N=49
		Poor		31% N=41
	Traffic enforcement	Excellent		14% N=20
		Good		41% N=59
		Fair		27% N=39
		Poor		18% N=26
	Traffic signal timing	Excellent		11% N=17
		Good		50% N=79
		Fair		19% N=30
		Poor		20% N=32
Street repair	Excellent		10% N=15	

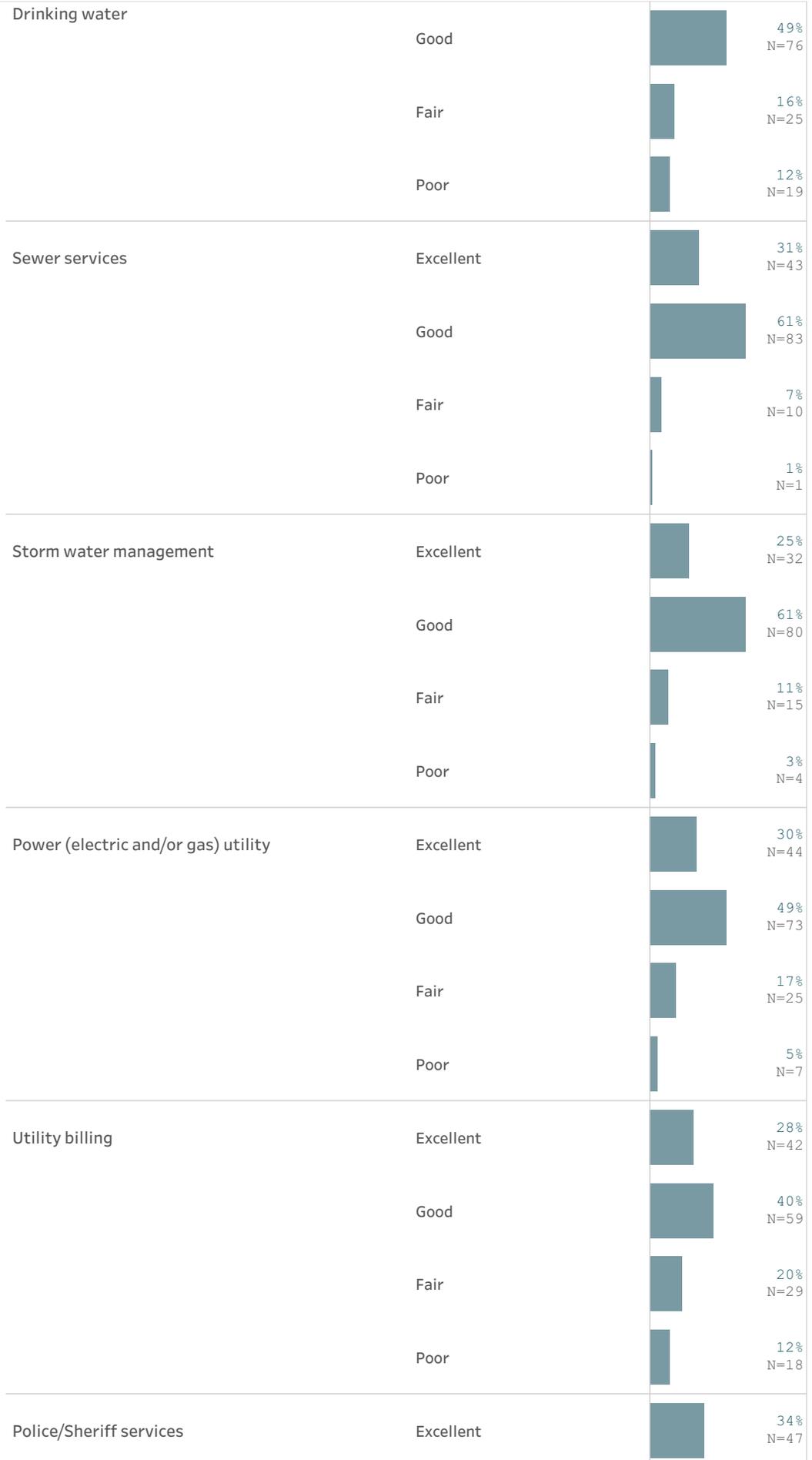
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.

Street repair	Good		26% N=40
	Fair		32% N=50
	Poor		32% N=49
Street cleaning	Excellent		34% N=54
	Good		40% N=64
	Fair		21% N=33
	Poor		5% N=8
Street lighting	Excellent		21% N=34
	Good		43% N=69
	Fair		24% N=38
	Poor		12% N=19
Snow removal	Excellent		39% N=62
	Good		31% N=50
	Fair		20% N=32
	Poor		9% N=15
Sidewalk maintenance	Excellent		17% N=26
	Good		42% N=64
	Fair		25% N=39
	Poor		16% N=25
Bus or transit services	Excellent		1% N=2

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.



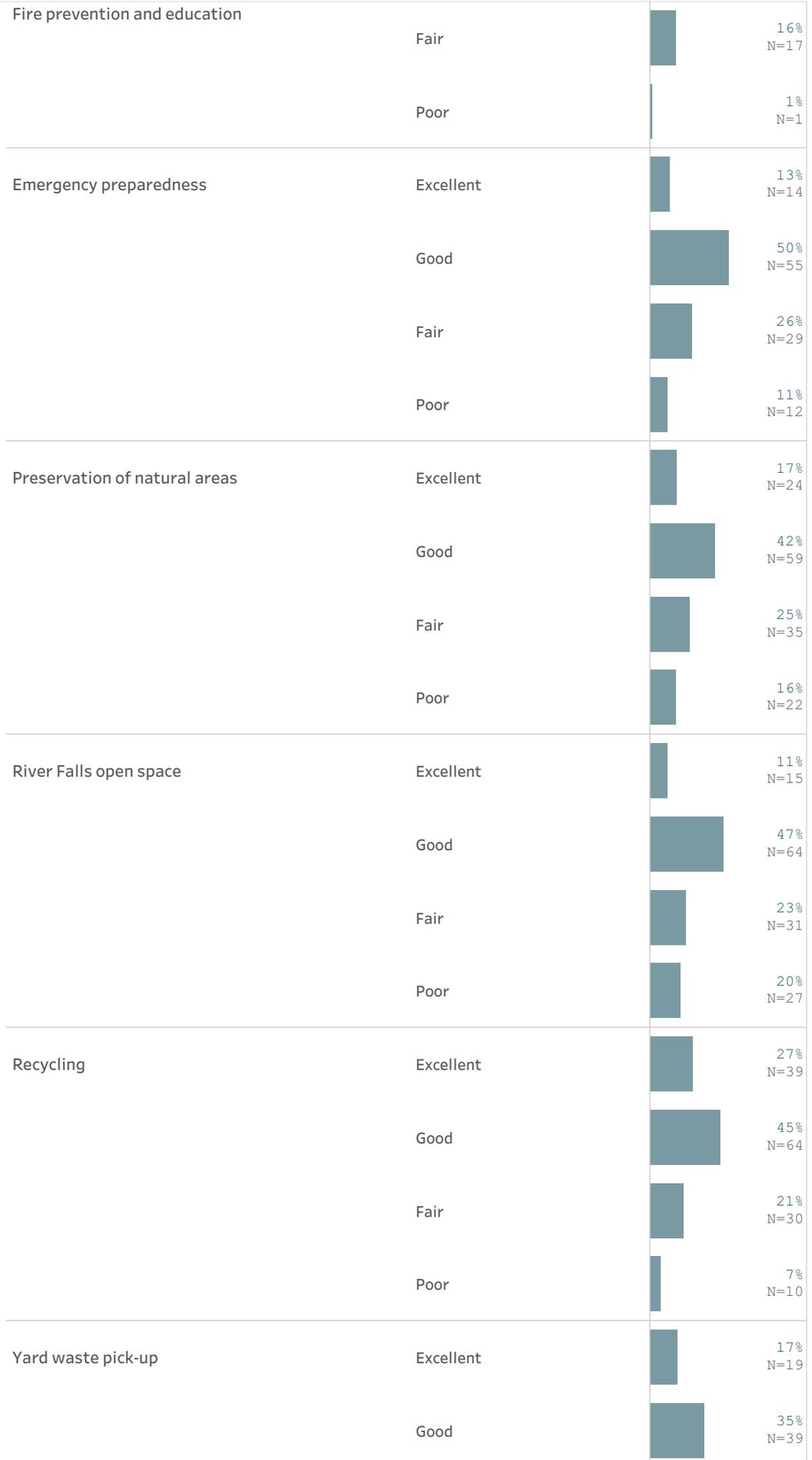
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.

Police/Sheriff services	Good		51% N=70
	Fair		13% N=17
	Poor		2% N=3
Crime prevention	Excellent		27% N=37
	Good		51% N=72
	Fair		16% N=23
	Poor		6% N=9
Animal control	Excellent		22% N=23
	Good		43% N=46
	Fair		28% N=29
	Poor		8% N=8
Ambulance or emergency medical services	Excellent		30% N=38
	Good		52% N=65
	Fair		15% N=18
	Poor		4% N=5
Fire services	Excellent		37% N=48
	Good		57% N=74
	Fair		6% N=7
Fire prevention and education	Excellent		26% N=28
	Good		57% N=59

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.

Yard waste pick-up	Fair		25% N=28
	Poor		23% N=26
City parks	Excellent		28% N=45
	Good		58% N=92
	Fair		13% N=21
	Poor		1% N=1
Recreation programs or classes	Excellent		20% N=25
	Good		45% N=57
	Fair		27% N=35
	Poor		9% N=11
Recreation centers or facilities	Excellent		16% N=20
	Good		30% N=38
	Fair		30% N=38
	Poor		25% N=32
Health services	Excellent		15% N=20
	Good		40% N=55
	Fair		31% N=42
	Poor		14% N=19
Public library services	Excellent		69% N=92
	Good		27% N=37

<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.</b>	Public library services	Fair		4% N=5
		Poor		0% N=0
	Overall customer service by River Falls employees	Excellent		33% N=49
		Good		39% N=58
Fair			24% N=36	
Poor			4% N=6	
<b>Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to River Falls	Excellent		9% N=12
		Good		37% N=50
		Fair		33% N=45
		Poor		20% N=27
The overall direction that River Falls is taking	Excellent		13% N=19	
	Good		26% N=36	
	Fair		31% N=44	
	Poor		30% N=43	
The job River Falls government does at welcoming resident involvement	Excellent		10% N=14	
	Good		47% N=66	
	Fair		30% N=42	
	Poor		13% N=18	
Overall confidence in River Falls government	Excellent		7% N=11	
	Good		32% N=49	

Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance.	Overall confidence in River Falls government	Fair	
		Percentage	Count (N)
		30%	N=45
		31%	N=48
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Excellent	11%	N=16
	Good	31%	N=46
	Fair	30%	N=45
	Poor	28%	N=42
Being honest	Excellent	12%	N=15
	Good	43%	N=56
	Fair	24%	N=32
	Poor	20%	N=26
Being open and transparent to the public	Excellent	9%	N=11
	Good	36%	N=47
	Fair	35%	N=45
	Poor	21%	N=28
Informing residents about issues facing the community	Excellent	11%	N=16
	Good	23%	N=33
	Fair	29%	N=42
	Poor	38%	N=56
Treating all residents fairly	Excellent	15%	N=20
	Good	37%	N=50

<b>Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance.</b>	Treating all residents fairly	Fair		26% N=35		
		Poor		23% N=31		
	Treating residents with respect	Excellent		17% N=24		
		Good		37% N=53		
Fair			33% N=46			
		Poor		13% N=18		
		<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of River Falls	Excellent		19% N=29
				Good		41% N=64
				Fair		26% N=41
Poor				14% N=21		
	The Federal Government	Excellent		2% N=3		
		Good		24% N=31		
		Fair		41% N=54		
		Poor		33% N=43		
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the River Falls community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	Essential		44% N=70		
		Very important		37% N=58		
		Somewhat important		19% N=29		
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Essential		35% N=55		
		Very important		33% N=52		
		Somewhat important		30% N=47		

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

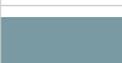
Overall quality of the transportation system	Not at all important		2% N=2
	Essential		35% N=55
Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Very important		42% N=66
	Somewhat important		20% N=31
	Not at all important		4% N=6
	Essential		49% N=78
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Very important		33% N=51
	Somewhat important		17% N=27
	Not at all important		1% N=1
	Essential		47% N=73
Overall feeling of safety	Very important		41% N=63
	Somewhat important		12% N=19
	Essential		42% N=67
Overall quality of natural environment	Very important		46% N=74
	Somewhat important		11% N=17
	Not at all important		1% N=1
	Essential		34% N=55
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Very important		51% N=81
	Somewhat important		14% N=23
	Not at all important		0% N=1
	Essential		

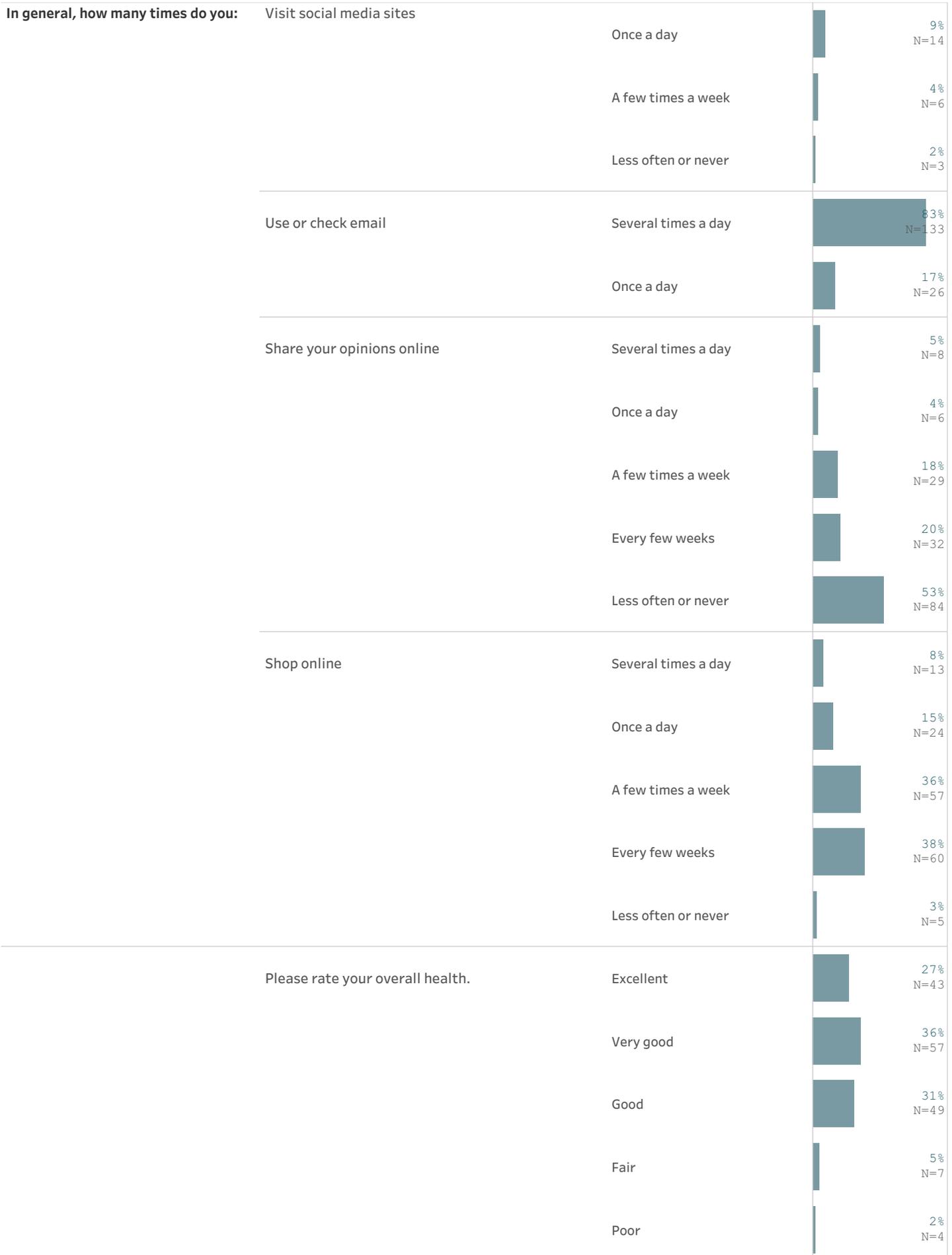
Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the River Falls community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.

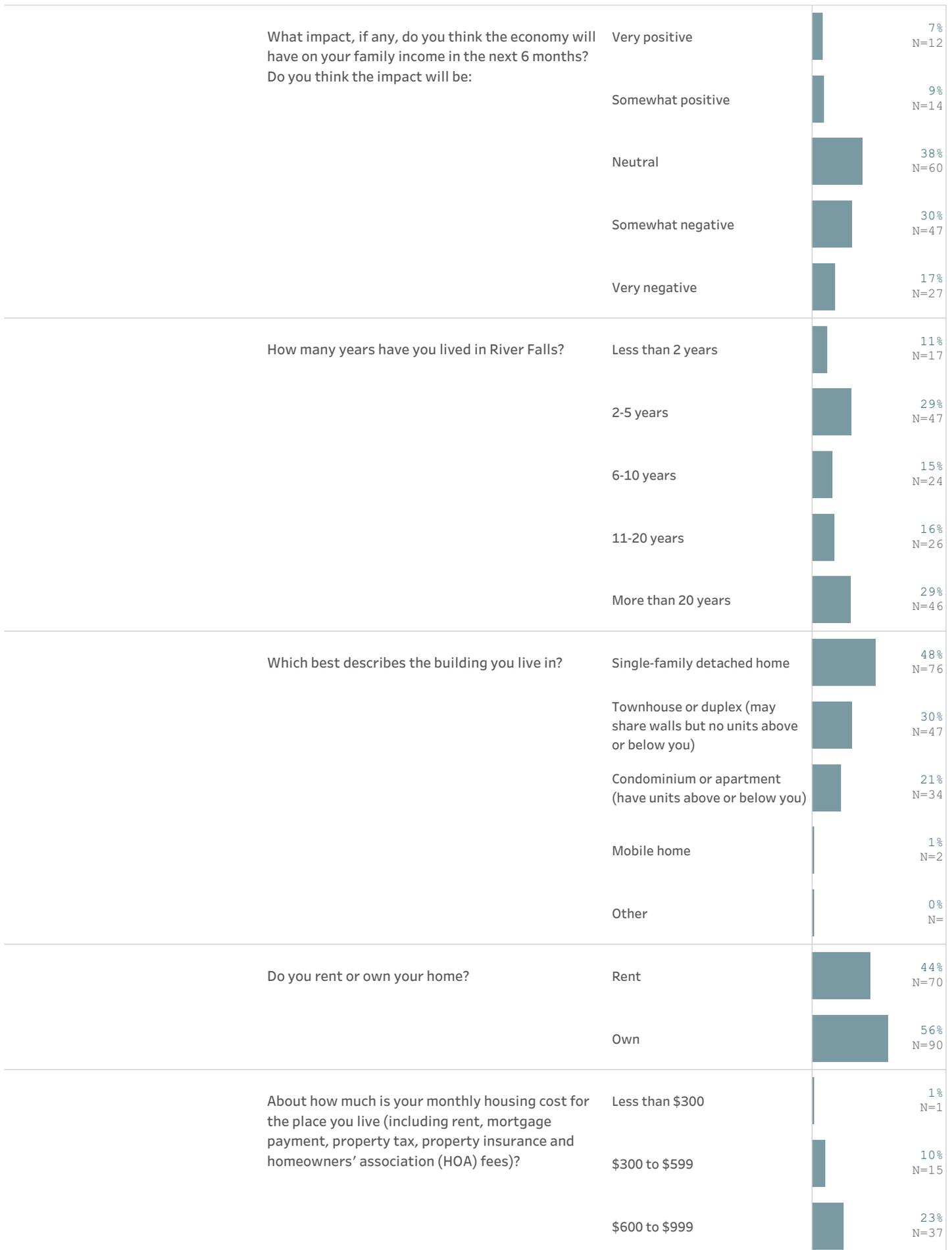


<b>What was your impression of the employee(s) of the City of River Falls during your most recent contact? (Rate each characteristic below.)</b>	Responsiveness	Fair		20% N=25
		Poor		8% N=9
	Courtesy	Excellent		48% N=60
		Good		29% N=36
Fair			12% N=15	
Poor			11% N=13	
Overall impression	Excellent		45% N=56	
	Good		33% N=42	
	Fair		17% N=21	
	Poor		5% N=6	
<b>How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?</b>	Electronic newsletter	Major source		37% N=58
		Minor source		30% N=48
		Not a source		33% N=53
	City website (www.rfcity.org)	Major source		47% N=73
		Minor source		48% N=74
		Not a source		5% N=7
	Facebook	Major source		54% N=85
		Minor source		37% N=59
		Not a source		9% N=14
	LinkedIn	Minor source		4% N=6

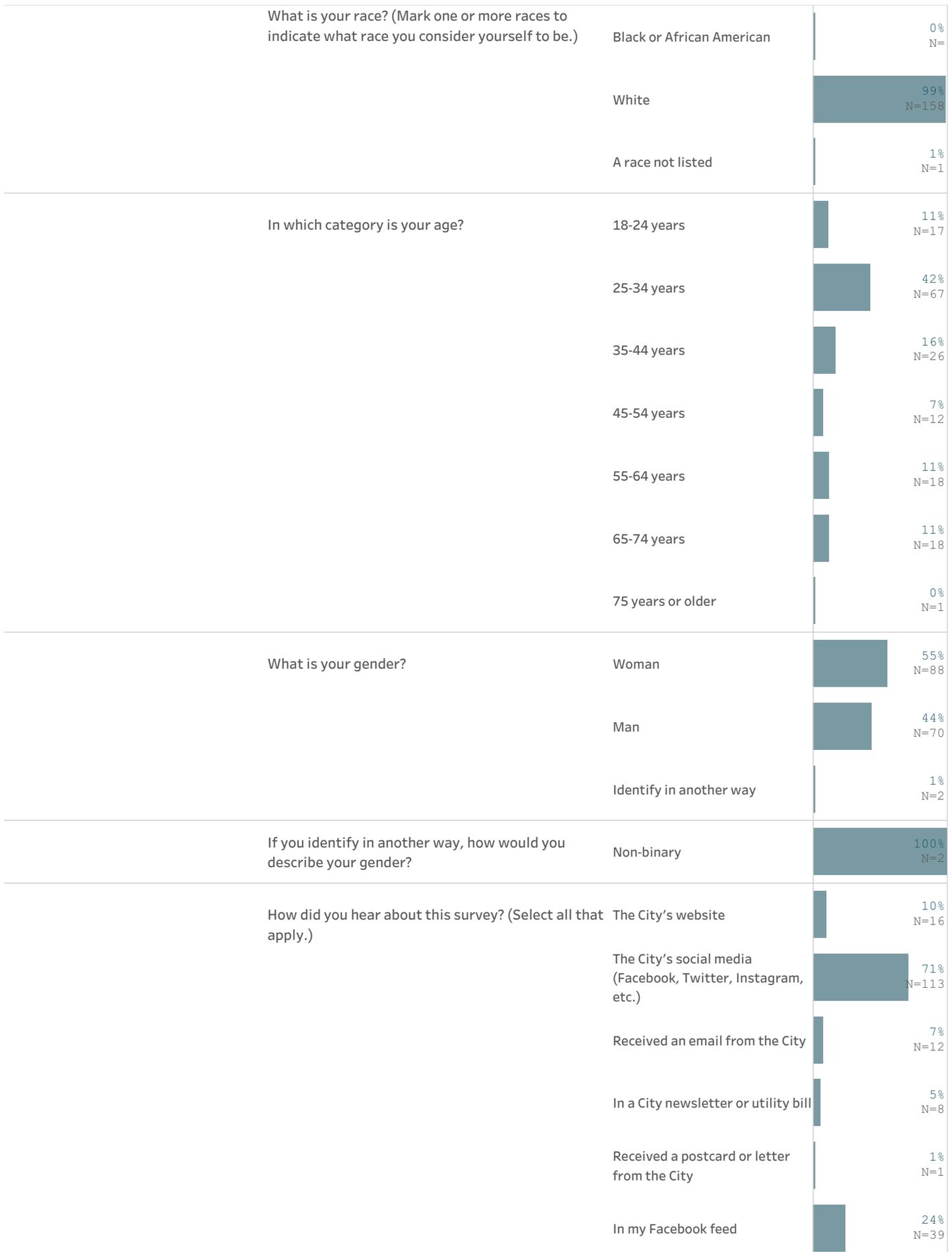
<b>How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?</b>	LinkedIn	Not a source		96% N=152	
	Instagram	Major source		5% N=7	
		Minor source		15% N=23	
		Not a source		81% N=129	
	Newspaper	Major source		9% N=13	
		Minor source		44% N=69	
		Not a source		48% N=75	
	In-person meetings	Major source		14% N=22	
		Minor source		34% N=55	
		Not a source		52% N=83	
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following areas of the River Falls Public Library services.</b>	Library programs (e.g., story time, classes, etc.)	Excellent		62% N=68
			Good		35% N=39
Fair				2% N=2	
Poor				2% N=2	
Computer services/internet/wi-fi services		Excellent		40% N=44	
		Good		46% N=50	
		Fair		12% N=13	
		Poor		1% N=1	
Library building(s) and grounds		Excellent		56% N=74	
		Good		38% N=50	

Please rate the quality of each of the following areas of the River Falls Public Library services.			
Library building(s) and grounds	Fair		5% N=7
	Poor		0% N=
	Excellent		39% N=49
	Good		42% N=53
Library hours of operation	Fair		19% N=24
	Poor		0% N=
	Excellent		60% N=69
	Good		35% N=40
Availability of staff	Fair		5% N=6
	Several times a day		89% N=139
	Once a day		3% N=4
In general, how many times do you:	Access the internet from your home	A few times a week	1% N=2
	Access the internet from your cell phone	Several times a day	5% N=8
		Once a day	2% N=4
		A few times a week	95% N=150
		Every few weeks	3% N=5
Less often or never		1% N=2	
Visit social media sites	Several times a day	0% N=1	
	Once a day	0% N=1	
	A few times a week	86% N=136	
	Every few weeks		
	Less often or never		





About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	\$1,000 to \$1,499		21% N=33
	\$1,500 to \$2,499		36% N=57
	\$2,500 to \$3,999		8% N=13
	\$4,000 to \$6,999		1% N=2
Do any children 17 or under live in your household?	No		67% N=106
	Yes		33% N=53
Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?	No		86% N=137
	Yes		14% N=23
How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Less than \$25,000		5% N=8
	\$25,000 to \$49,999		14% N=21
	\$50,000 to \$74,999		25% N=38
	\$75,000 to \$99,999		18% N=28
	\$100,000 to \$149,999		17% N=26
	\$150,000 to \$199,999		14% N=22
	\$200,000 to \$299,999		5% N=8
	\$300,000 or more		0% N=1
Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin		96% N=153
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin		4% N=6
What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)	American Indian or Alaska Native		4% N=7
	Asian		0% N=1



How did you hear about this survey? (Select all that apply.)		2% N=4
Saw a flyer or poster about it		2% N=4
Heard about it from a family member, friend or neighbor		3% N=5
Heard about it from a business or social organization in my community		3% N=5
Other		0% N=

# The City of River Falls 2023 Community Survey

Please complete this survey if you are the adult (age 18 or older) in the household who most recently had a birthday (the year of birth does not matter). Your responses are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

## 1. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in River Falls.

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

## 2. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to River Falls as a whole.

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

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

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

## 4. Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:

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

## 5. Please rate the job you feel the River Falls community does at each of the following.

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

## 6. Please rate each of the following in the River Falls community.

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

**7. Please also rate each of the following in the River Falls community.**

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

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

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

# The City of River Falls 2023 Community Survey

## 9. Please rate the quality of each of the following services in River Falls.

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

## 10. Please rate the following categories of River Falls government performance.

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

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

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

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

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

**13. Have you had any in-person, phone, email, or other contact with an employee of the City of River Falls within the last 12 months (including police, utility representative, customer service representative, or any others)?**

No → Go to Question 15       Yes → Go to Question 14

**14. What was your impression of the employee(s) of the City of River Falls during your most recent contact? (Rate each characteristic below.)**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Knowledge .....	1	2	3	4	5
Responsiveness.....	1	2	3	4	5
Courtesy.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall impression .....	1	2	3	4	5

**15. How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?**

	<u>Major source</u>	<u>Minor source</u>	<u>Not a source</u>
Electronic newsletter .....	1	2	3
City website (www.rfcity.org).....	1	2	3
Facebook.....	1	2	3
LinkedIn.....	1	2	3
Instagram .....	1	2	3
Newspaper.....	1	2	3
In-person meetings.....	1	2	3

**16. Please rate the quality of each of the following areas of the River Falls Public Library services.**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Library programs (e.g., story time, classes, etc.) .....	1	2	3	4	5
Computer services/internet/wi-fi services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Library building(s) and grounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Library hours of operation .....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of staff.....	1	2	3	4	5

# The City of River Falls 2023 Community Survey

Our last questions are about you and your household.

Again, all of your responses to this survey are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

<b>D1. In general, how many times do you:</b>	Several <u>times a day</u>	Once <u>a day</u>	A few times <u>a week</u>	Every <u>few weeks</u>	Less often <u>or never</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
Access the internet from your home using a computer, laptop, or tablet computer .....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Access the internet from your cell phone.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Visit social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc. ....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Use or check email.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Share your opinions online.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Shop online.....	1	2	3	4	5	6

**D2. Please rate your overall health.**

- Excellent     Very good     Good     Fair     Poor

**D3. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months?**

**Do you think the impact will be:**

- Very positive     Somewhat positive     Neutral     Somewhat negative     Very negative

**D4. How many years have you lived in River Falls?**

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

**D5. Which best describes the building you live in?**

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

**D6. Do you rent or own your home?**

- Rent  
 Own

**D7. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?**

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

**D8. Do any children 17 or under live in your household?**

- No     Yes

**D9. Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?**

- No     Yes

**D10. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)**

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

**D11. Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?**

- No     Yes

**D12. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)**

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

**D13. In which category is your age?**

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

**D14. What is your gender?**

- Woman  
 Man  
 Identify in another way → go to D14a

**D14a. If you identify in another way, how would you describe your gender?**

- Agender/I don't identify with any gender  
 Genderqueer/gender fluid  
 Non-binary  
 Transgender man  
 Transgender woman  
 Two-spirit  
 Identify in another way

**Thank you!**

Please return the completed survey in the postage-paid envelope to:  
**National Research Center, Inc., PO Box 549, Belle Mead, NJ 08502**