

# Marion, IA

## 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 Marion. 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



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The report provides the opinions of a representative sample of 593 residents of the City of Marion collected from September 13, 2023 to October 25, 2023. The margin of error around any reported percentage is 4% for all respondents and the response rate for the 2023 survey was 21%. Survey results were weighted so that the demographic profile of respondents was representative of the demographic profile of adults in Marion.



## 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 500 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, Marion'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 Marion residents is statistically similar to or different (greater or lesser) than the benchmark. Being rated as “higher” or “lower” than the benchmark means that Marion'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 Marion'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 or during 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 Marion represent important comparison data and should be examined for improvements or declines.<sup>1</sup> 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 2022 and 2023 surveys, the change is statistically significant.

1. 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 Marion were eligible to participate in the survey. A list of all households within the zip codes serving Marion was purchased from Polco's mailing vendor, Go-Dog Direct, based on updated listings from the United States Postal Service. Since some of the zip codes that serve the City of Marion 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 Marion boundaries were removed from the list of potential households to survey. Each address identified as being within City boundaries was further identified as being within one of the four Council districts. 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 randomly selected using the "birthday method". The birthday method selects a person within the household by asking the "person who most recently had a birthday" 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 593 randomly selected households received mailings beginning on September 23, 2023 and data collection for 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. The final mailing was a reminder postcard inviting the household one final time to participate in the survey. All mailings included a web link to give residents the opportunity to respond to the survey online, as well as QR codes to further encourage participation. 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 3,000 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 2,893 households that received the invitations to participate, 593 completed the survey, providing an overall response rate of 21%. The response rate was calculated using AAPOR's response rate #2 for mailed surveys of unnamed persons.<sup>1</sup>

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 Marion survey is no greater than plus or minus four percentage points around any given percent reported for all respondents (593 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 Marion. The open-participation survey was identical to the random sample survey, with two small updates; it asked a question to confirm the respondent was a resident of Marion and also a question about where they heard about the survey. The open-participation survey was open to all city residents and became available on October 11, 2023. The survey remained open for two weeks.

## 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 Marion. 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, housing tenure, and area. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.<sup>3</sup> 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 <sup>4</sup>
<b>Age</b>	18-34	<b>7%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>25%</b>
	35-54	<b>25%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>37%</b>
	55+	<b>68%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Area</b>	District 1	<b>25%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>27%</b>
	District 2	<b>26%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>24%</b>
	District 3	<b>26%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>25%</b>
	District 4	<b>23%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>Hispanic origin</b>	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	<b>98%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>98%</b>
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Housing tenure</b>	Own	<b>90%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>77%</b>
	Rent	<b>10%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>Housing type</b>	Attached	<b>29%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>35%</b>
	Detached	<b>71%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>65%</b>
<b>Race &amp; Hispanic origin</b>	Not white alone	<b>5%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>8%</b>
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	<b>95%</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>92%</b>
<b>Sex</b>	Man	<b>42%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>47%</b>
	Woman	<b>58%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>53%</b>

<b>Sex/age</b>	Man 18-34	<b>2%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>12%</b>
	Man 35-54	<b>11%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>19%</b>
	Man 55+	<b>29%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>17%</b>
	Woman 18-34	<b>5%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>13%</b>
	Woman 35-54	<b>14%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>19%</b>
	Woman 55+	<b>39%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>21%</b>

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 Marion funded this research. Please contact Amber Bisinger of the City of Marion at [abisinger@cityofmarion.org](mailto:abisinger@cityofmarion.org) if you have any questions about the survey.

### Study Limitations

All public opinion research is subject to unmeasured error. While the methodologies employed for this survey were designed to minimize this error as much as possible, these other sources of potential error should be acknowledged, and can include non-response error, coverage error, recall bias and social desirability bias. Non-response error arises when those who were selected to participate in the survey did not do so, and may have different opinions or experiences that survey responders. For general resident surveys, where the results are meant to be generalized to the entire adult population living in households, the mailing lists based on the Delivery Sequence File from the United States Post Office may exclude certain types of housing units, such as those in multi-family buildings where mail is addressed to a named resident at the address rather than to a specific unit or where residents only receive their mail at a post office box and the geographic location of a residence cannot be determined, there may be a coverage error, although for most locations, this is minimal. Respondents may not perfectly remember their experiences in the past year (such as participation in social or civic events), and for some survey items they may answer in ways they think cast their responses in a more favorable light (recall bias and social desirability bias).

### Survey Validity

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

2. See AAPOR's Standard Definitions for more information at <https://aapor.org/standards-and-ethics/standard-definitions/>
3. Pasek, J. (2014). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from <https://surveyinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Full-anesrake-paper.pdf>
4. Targets come from the 2020 Census and 2022 American Community Survey

## Key Findings

### **Marion residents continue to enjoy an excellent quality of life and report feeling safe in the community.**

As in previous years, most Marion residents gave positive ratings to general aspects of the community related to their quality of life. About 9 in 10 survey respondents gave excellent or good ratings to Marion as a place to live, as a place to raise children, the overall appearance of Marion, and the overall quality of life in the city, and about 8 in 10 or more gave favorable scores to their neighborhood as a place to live, the overall feeling of safety in the city, Marion as a place to retire, the overall image or reputation of Marion, and the cleanliness of the city. About 7 in 10 residents positively rated the sense of community in the city. Further, about 9 in 10 respondents would recommend living in Marion to someone who asked and planned to remain in the city for the next five years. These ratings were all similar to or higher than those given in other communities across the nation and remained stable from 2022 to 2023 with the exception of Marion as a place to retire, sense of community, overall appearance, and the proportion of residents who planned to remain in Marion, all of which increased.

### **Ratings for Marion government performance are strong and above national averages.**

About three-quarters of residents gave excellent or good reviews to the job Marion City government does at treating residents with respect, being honest, generally acting in the best interest of the community, and treating all residents fairly. Roughly 7 in 10 respondents positively assessed the overall direction of the City government, overall confidence in Marion government, being open and transparent to the public, and the job City government does at informing residents of issues facing the community and at welcoming resident involvement. Almost all of these ratings for public trust were higher than national averages. Additionally, when assessing City services, about 9 in 10 respondents were pleased with the customer service provided by the City and 8 in 10 gave favorable ratings to public information services. These scores remained stable from 2022 to 2023 except for public information services and the job Marion government does at welcoming resident involvement; both of these improved over time.

### **Education, cultural opportunities, and the arts are features of the community.**

Virtually all residents (96%) gave excellent or good ratings to public library services in Marion, which was higher than the national benchmark and represented a 22% increase from the previous year, indicating residents' satisfaction with the new City library. Ratings for many other aspects of Education, Arts, and Culture also rose above national averages: about 8 in 10 respondents gave positive scores to K-12 education and opportunities to attend special events and festivals, while three-quarters were pleased with opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities, community support for the arts, overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts, and opportunities to participate in social events and activities. Most of these ratings increased from 2022 to 2023 other than for K-12 education, which declined slightly.

In a custom question unique to the Marion survey, residents were asked to what extent they supported or opposed a property tax or fee increase to fund improvements to a number of facilities or services. About 7 in 10 residents supported a tax or fee increase to fund schools or a community center, and 6 in 10 supported an increase for library services. However, only about half supported a tax or fee increase for public art, with the other half in opposition to this.

# Facets of livability



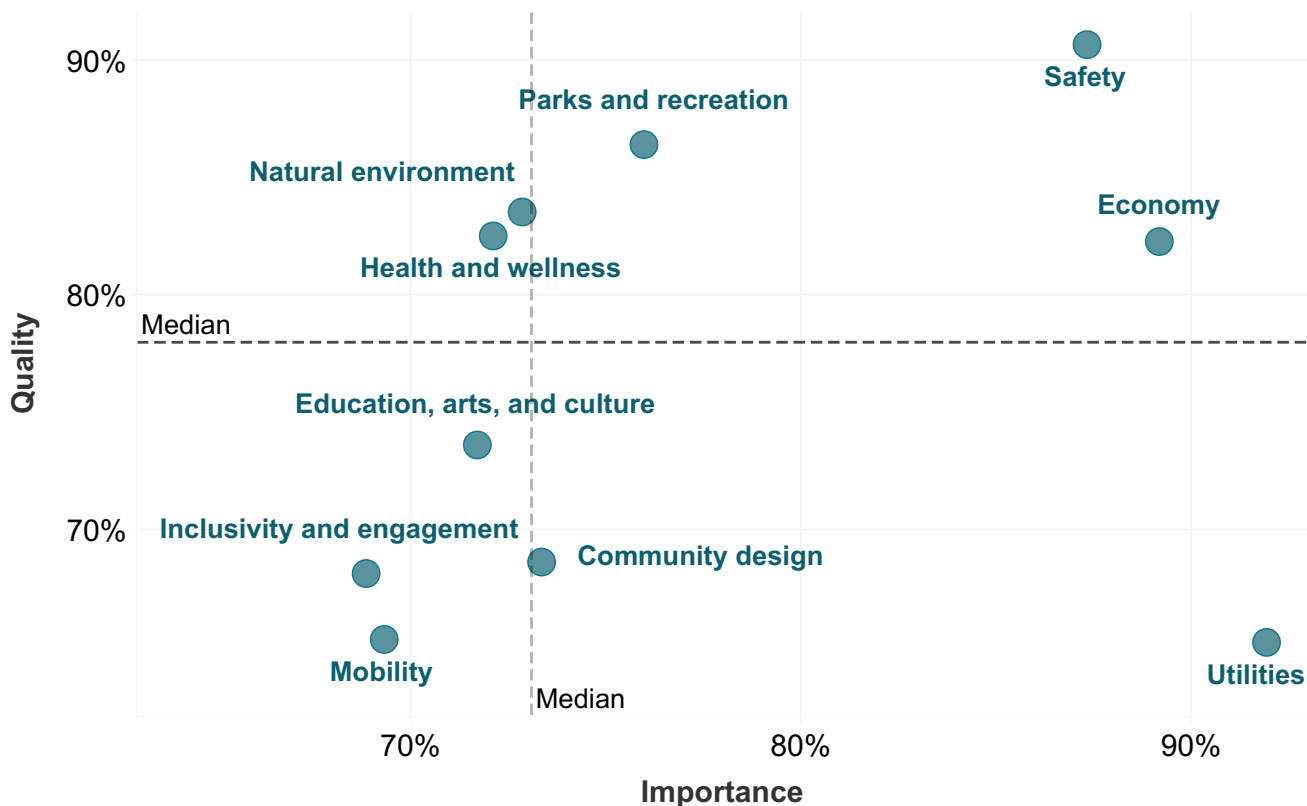
Every jurisdiction must balance limited resources while meeting resident needs and striving to optimize community livability. To this end, it is helpful to know what aspects of the community are most important to residents and which they perceive as being of higher or lower quality. It is especially 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.

## Quality-Importance Matrix

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

Facets receiving quality ratings of excellent or good by 78% or more of respondents were considered of “higher quality” and those with ratings lower than 78% were considered to be of “lower quality.” Services were classified as “more important” if they were rated as essential or very important by 73% or more of respondents. Services were rated as “less important” if they received a rating of less than 73%. This classification uses the median ratings for quality and importance to divide the services in half.

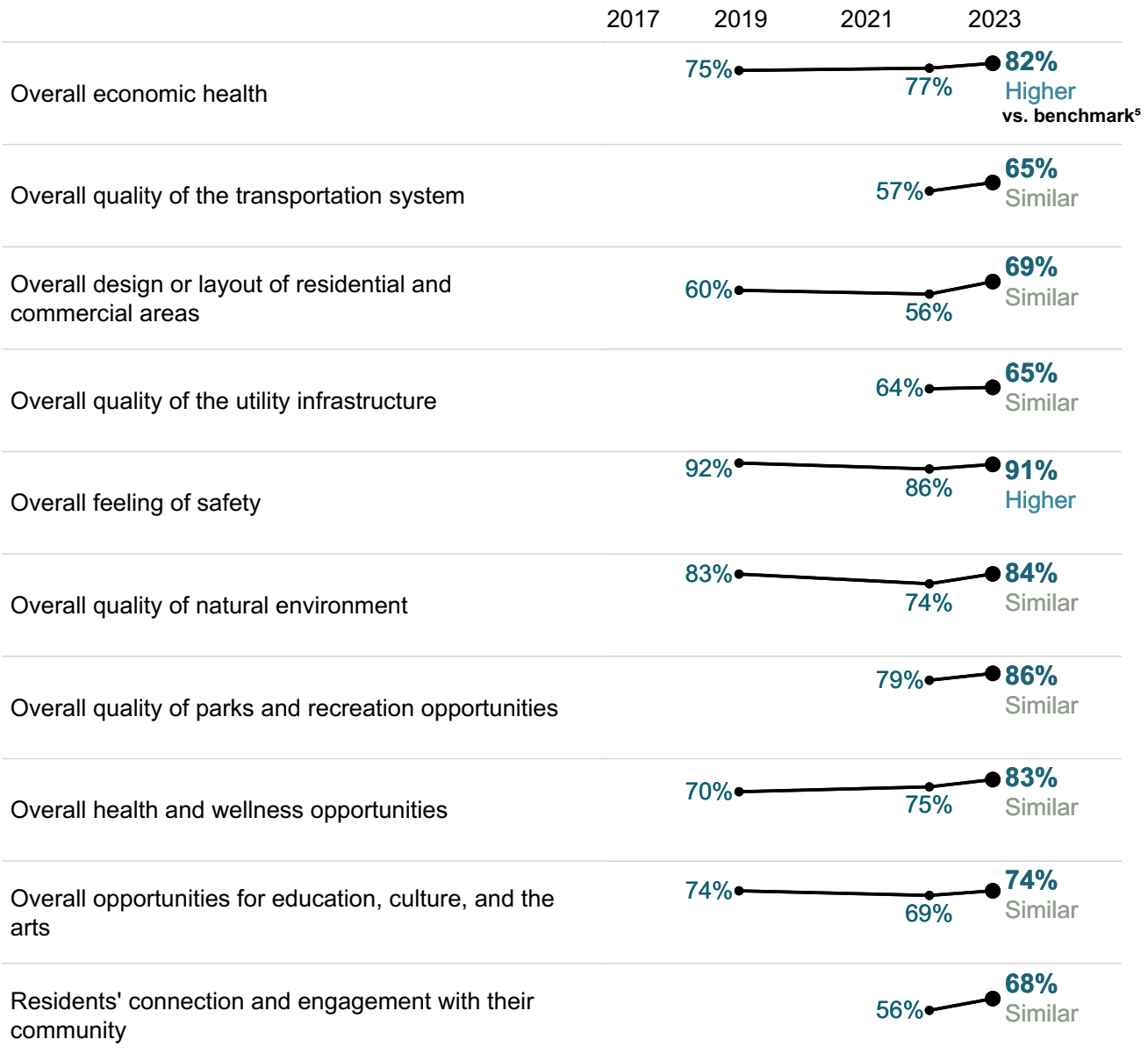
The quadrants in the figure below show which community facets were given higher or lower importance ratings (right-left) and which had higher or lower quality ratings (up-down). Facets of livability falling closer to a diagonal line from the lower left to the upper right are those where performance ratings 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.



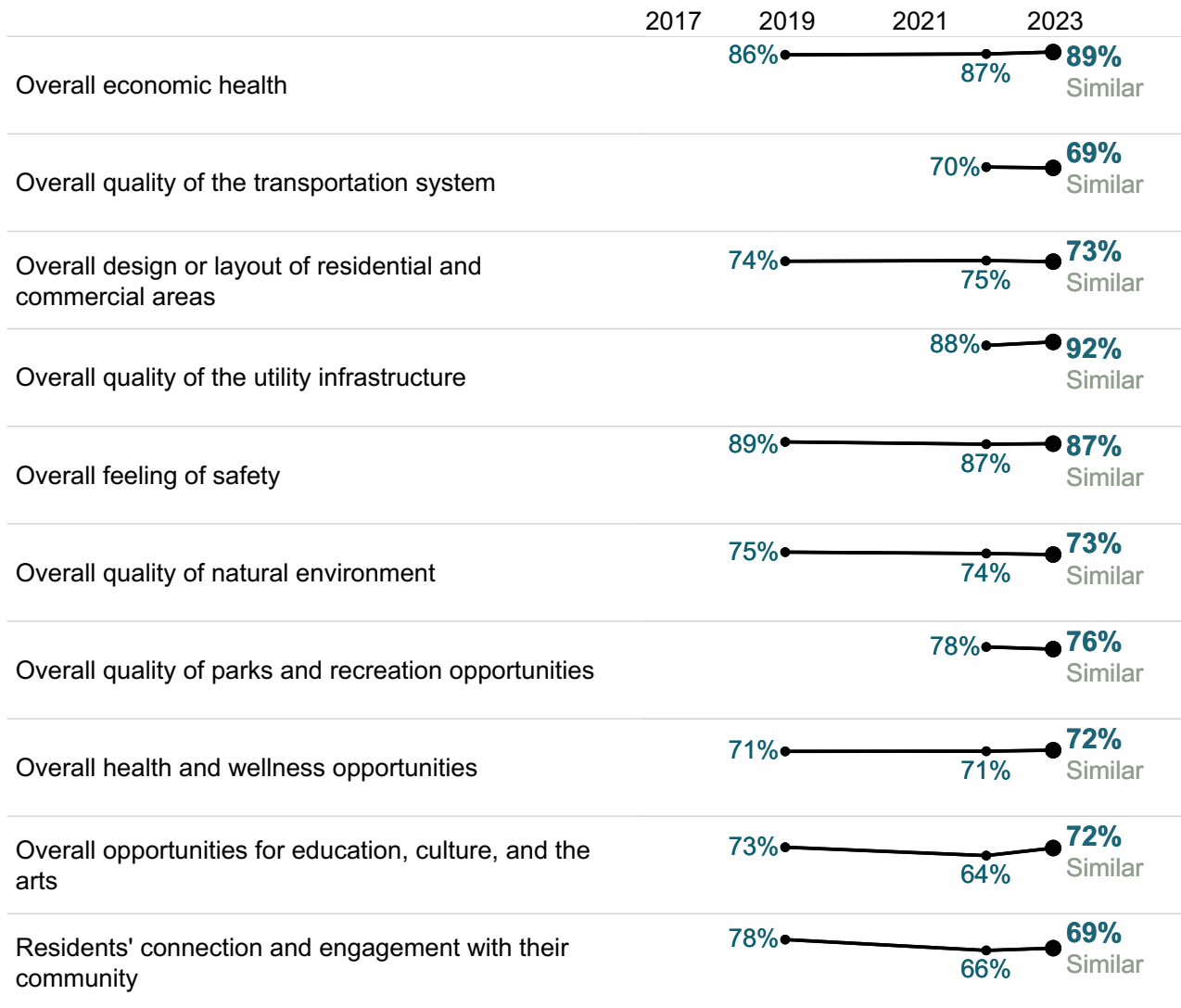
### Quality and Importance by the Numbers

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 Marion as a whole.**  
 (% excellent or good)



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

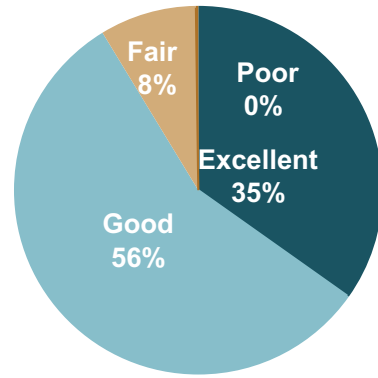


5. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

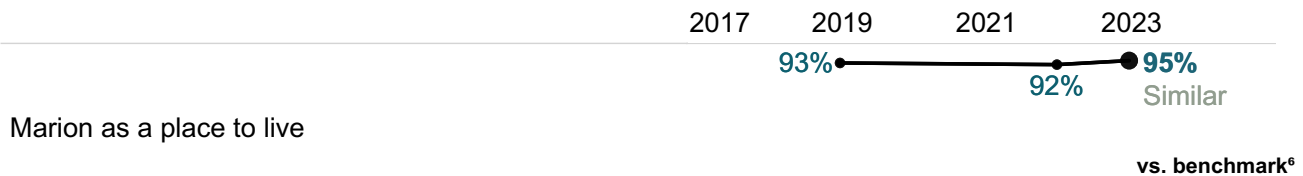
The overall quality of life in Marion, 2023

Quality of Life

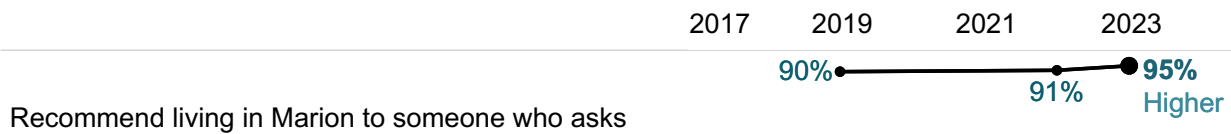
Measuring community livability starts with assessing the quality of life of those who live there, and ensuring that the community is attractive, accessible, and welcoming to all.



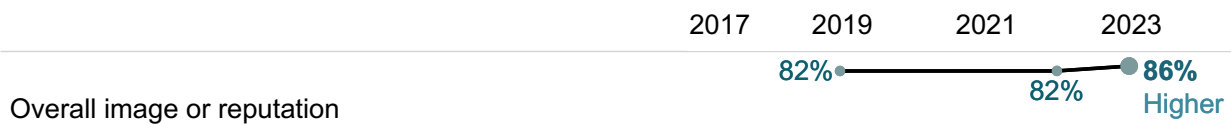
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.  
(% excellent or good)



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 Marion community.  
(% excellent or good)



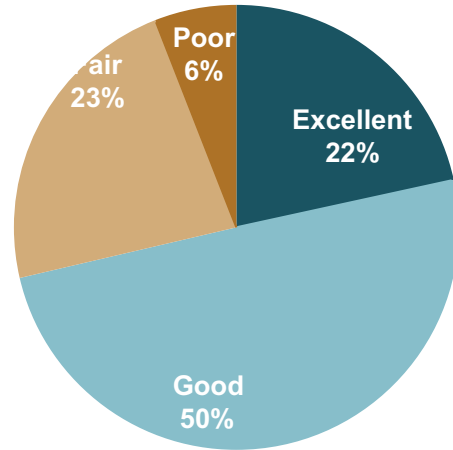
6. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.



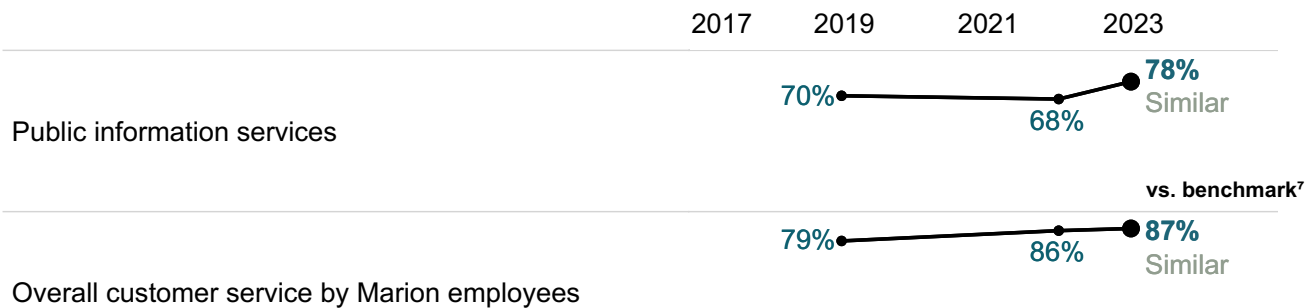
## Governance

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.

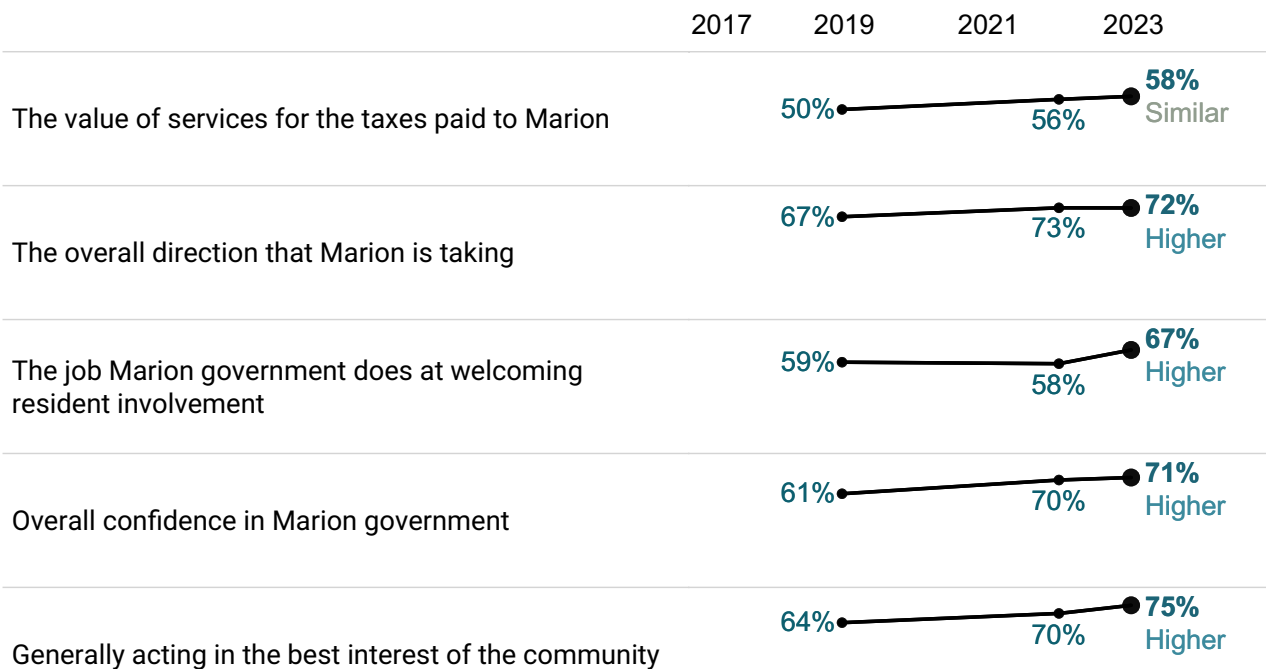
Overall confidence in Marion government, 2023

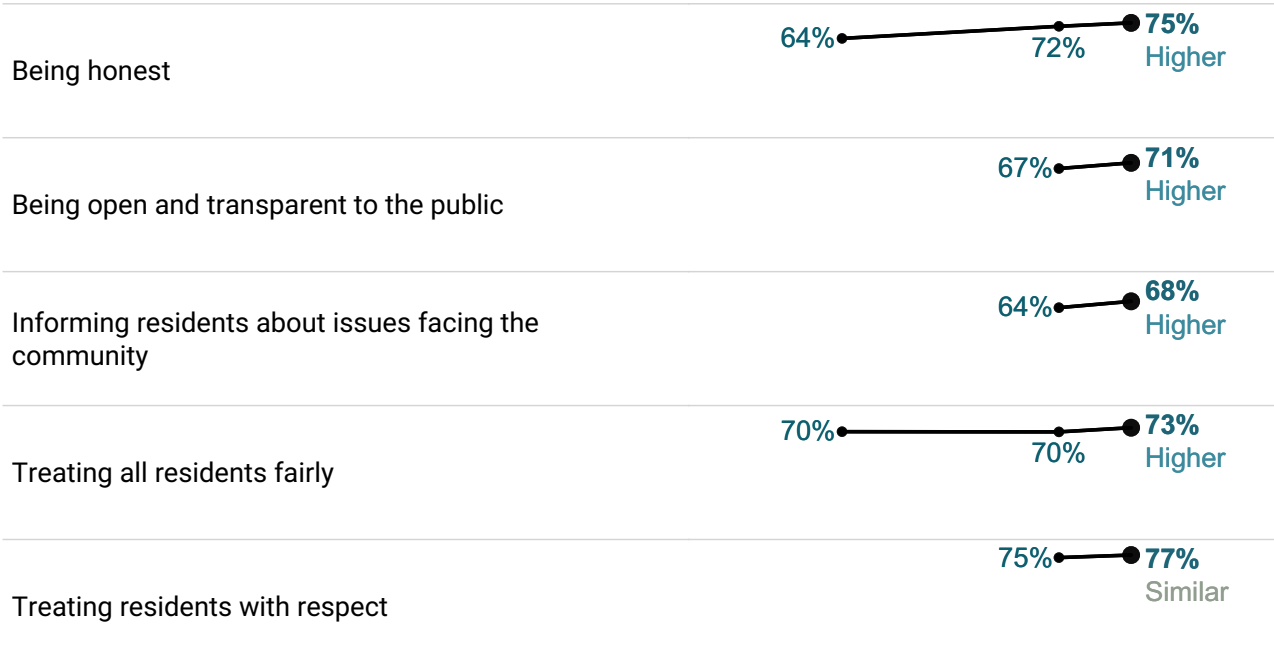


Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.  
(% excellent or good)

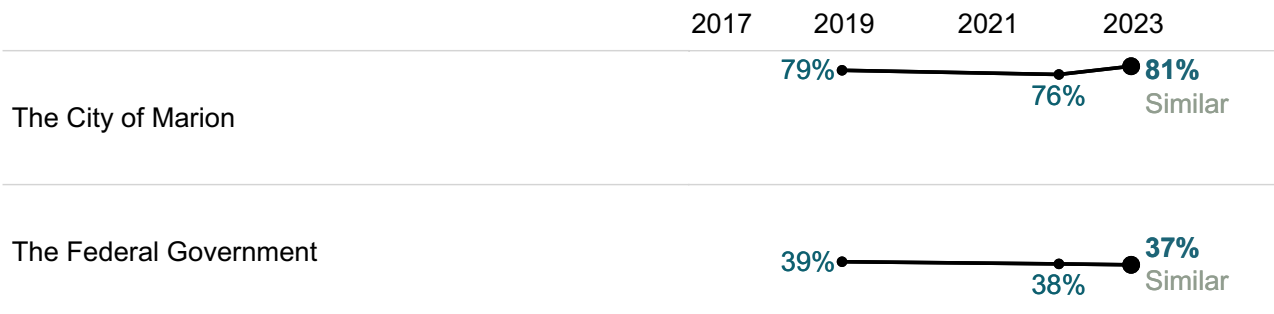


Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.  
(% excellent or good)





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



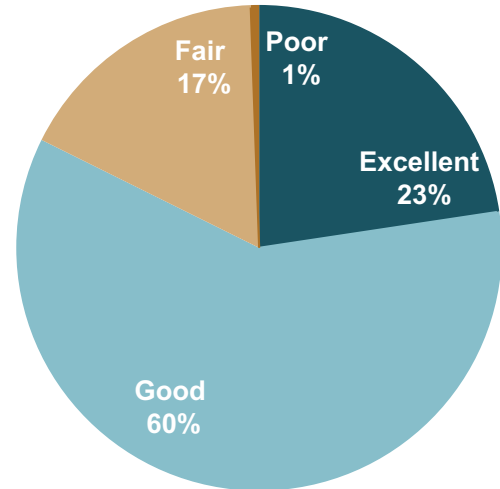
7. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.



## Overall economic health of Marion, 2023

### 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.



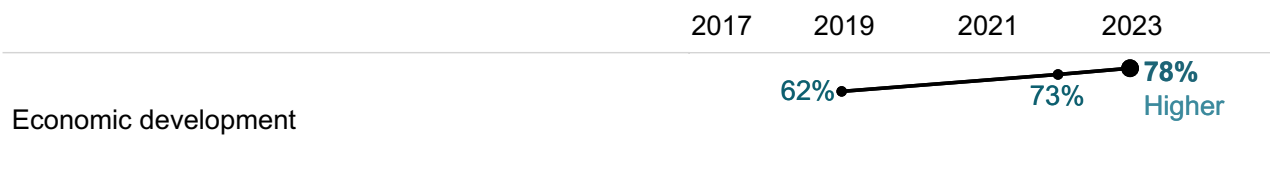
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



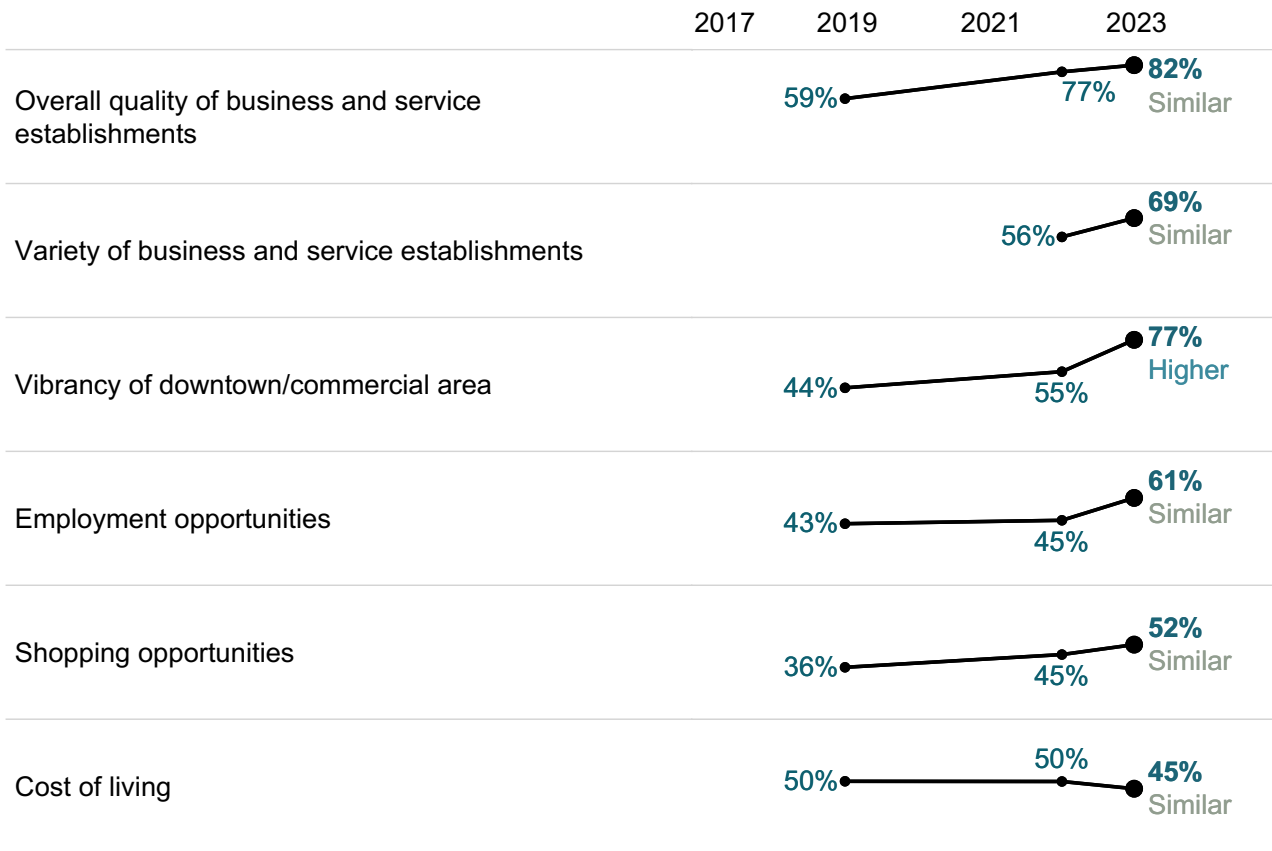
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.  
(% excellent or good)



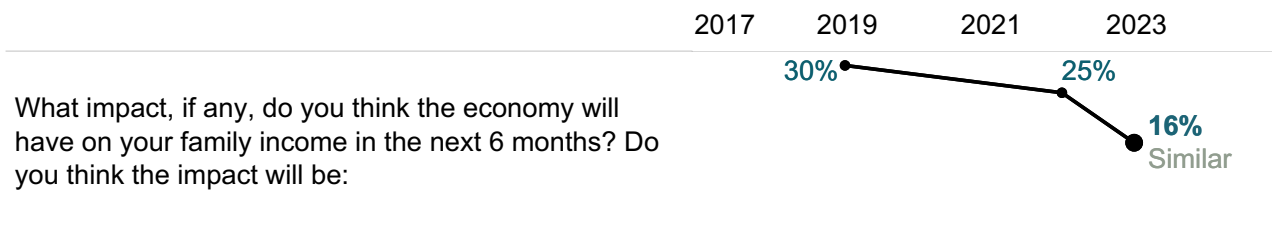
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.  
(% excellent or good)



**Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.**  
 (% 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)

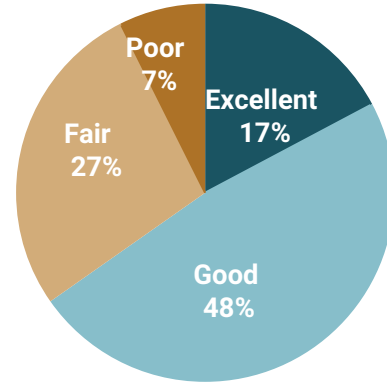


8. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

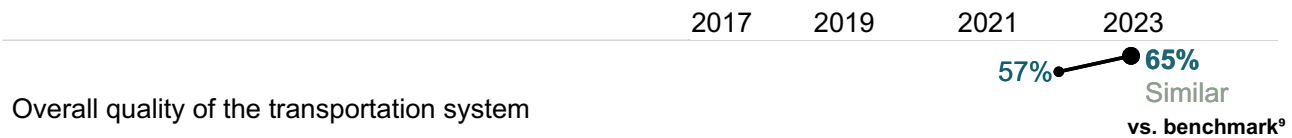
## Overall quality of the transportation system in Marion, 2023

### Mobility

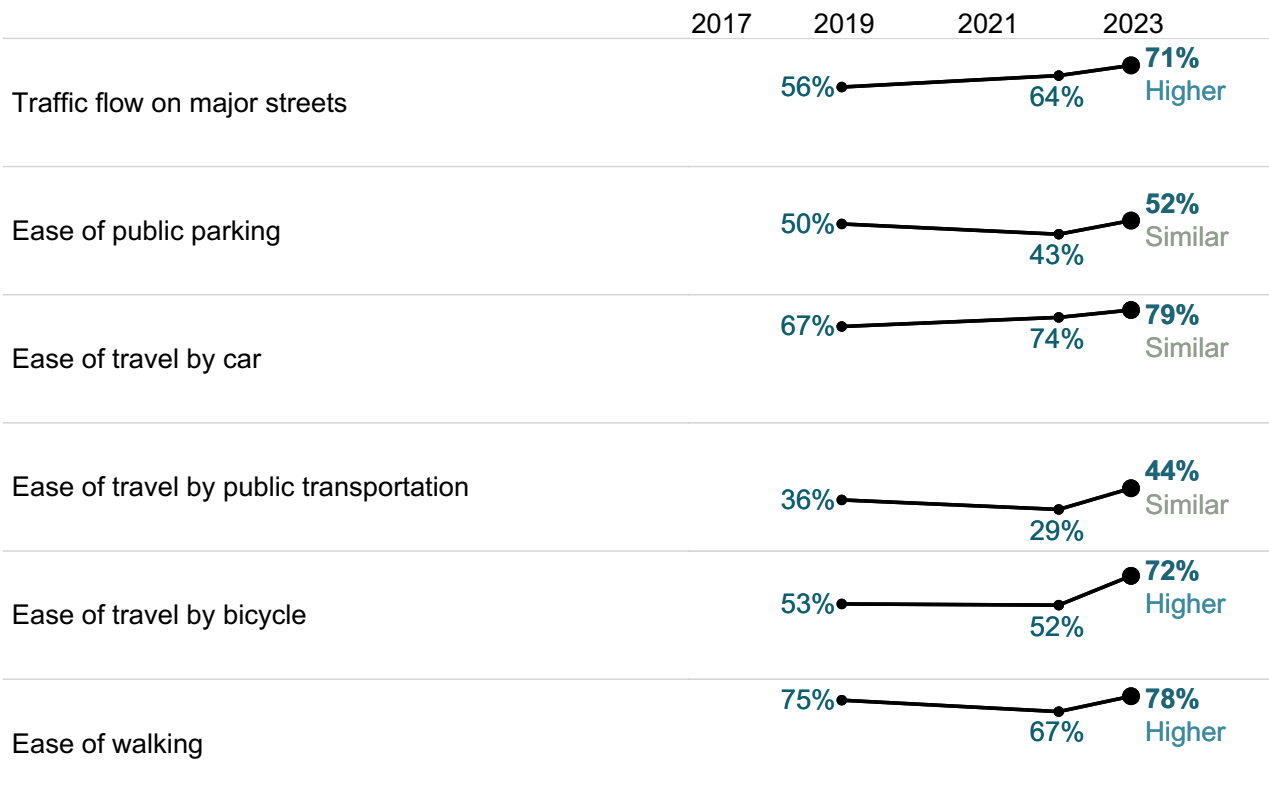
The ease with which residents can move about their communities, whether for commuting, leisure, or recreation, plays a major role in the quality of life for all who live, work, and play in the community.



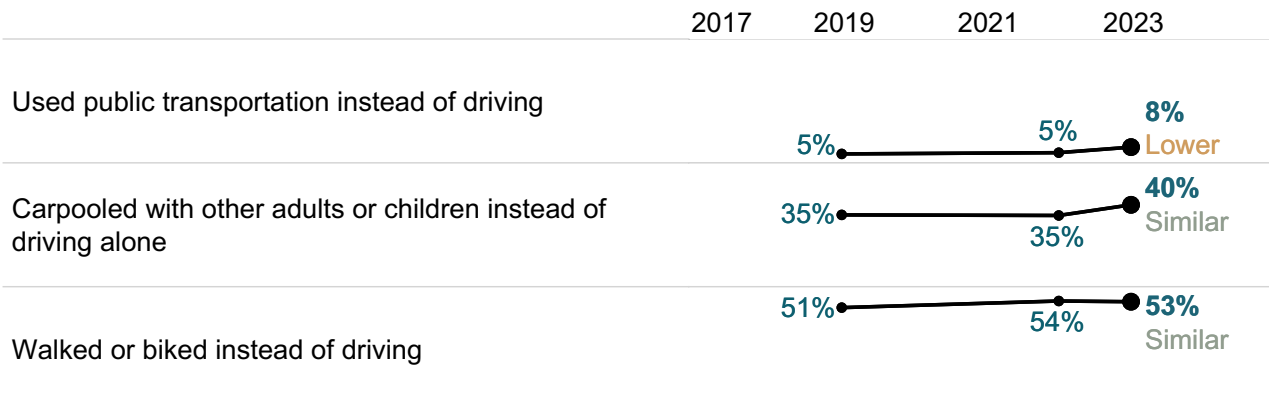
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



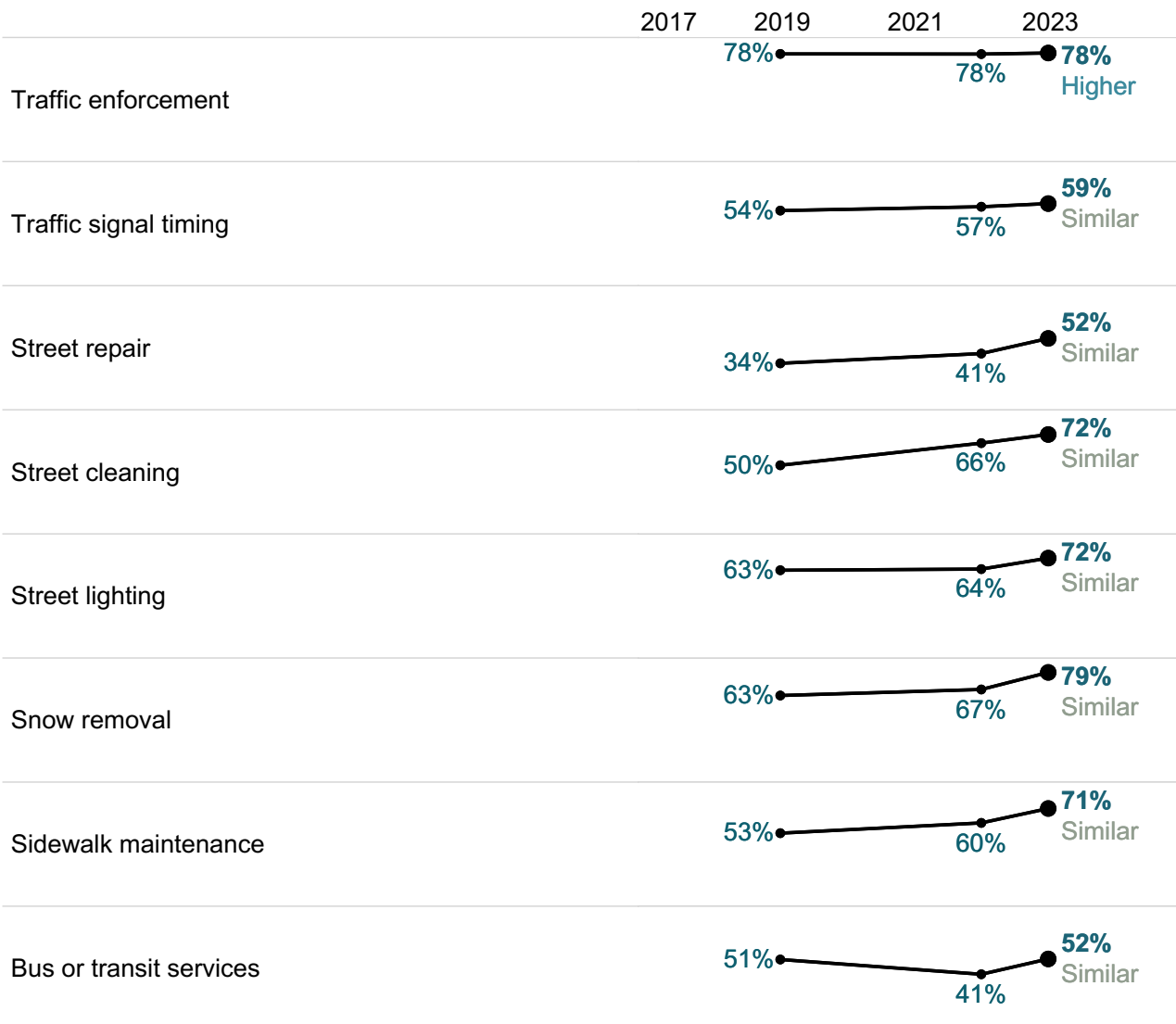
Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.  
(% excellent or good)



**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 Marion.**  
 (% excellent or good)

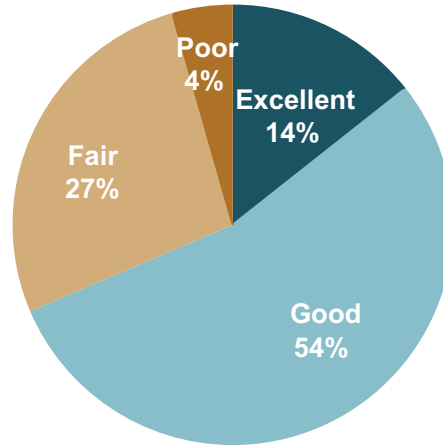


9. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

**Overall design or layout of Marion'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.



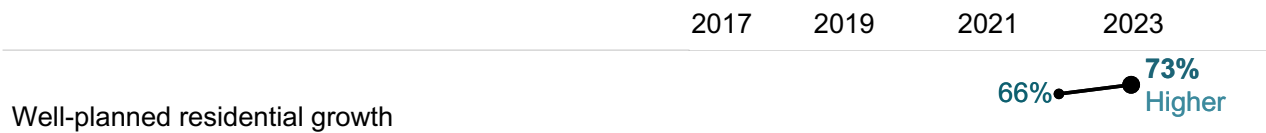
**Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.**  
(% excellent or good)

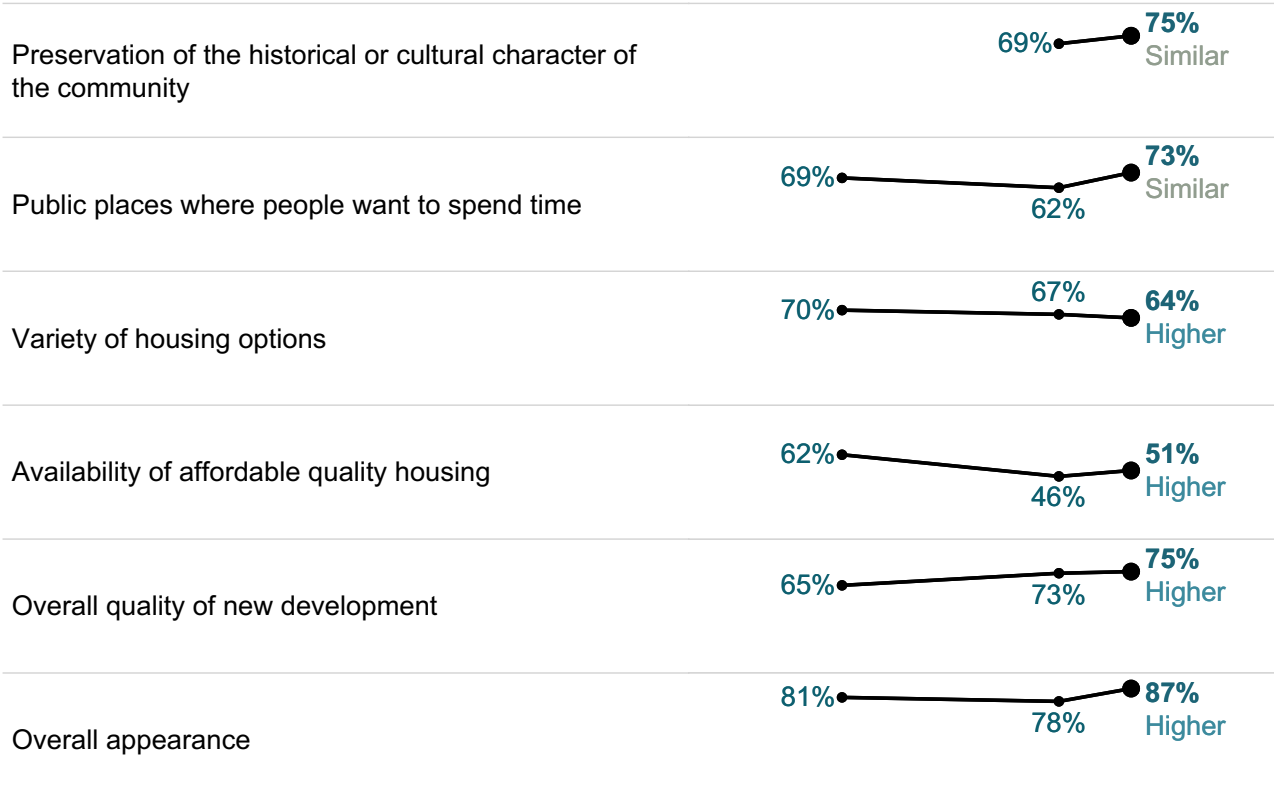


**Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.**  
(% excellent or good)



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





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

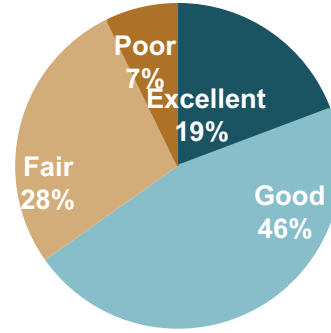


10. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

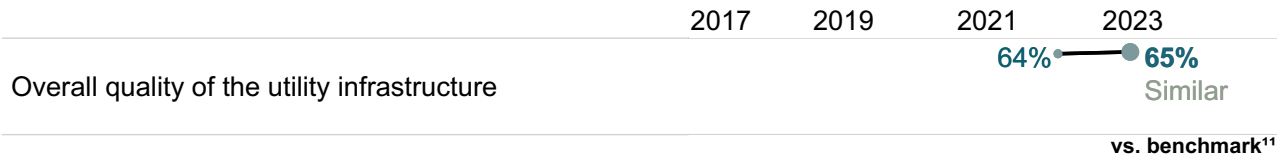
## Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Marion, 2023

### Utilities

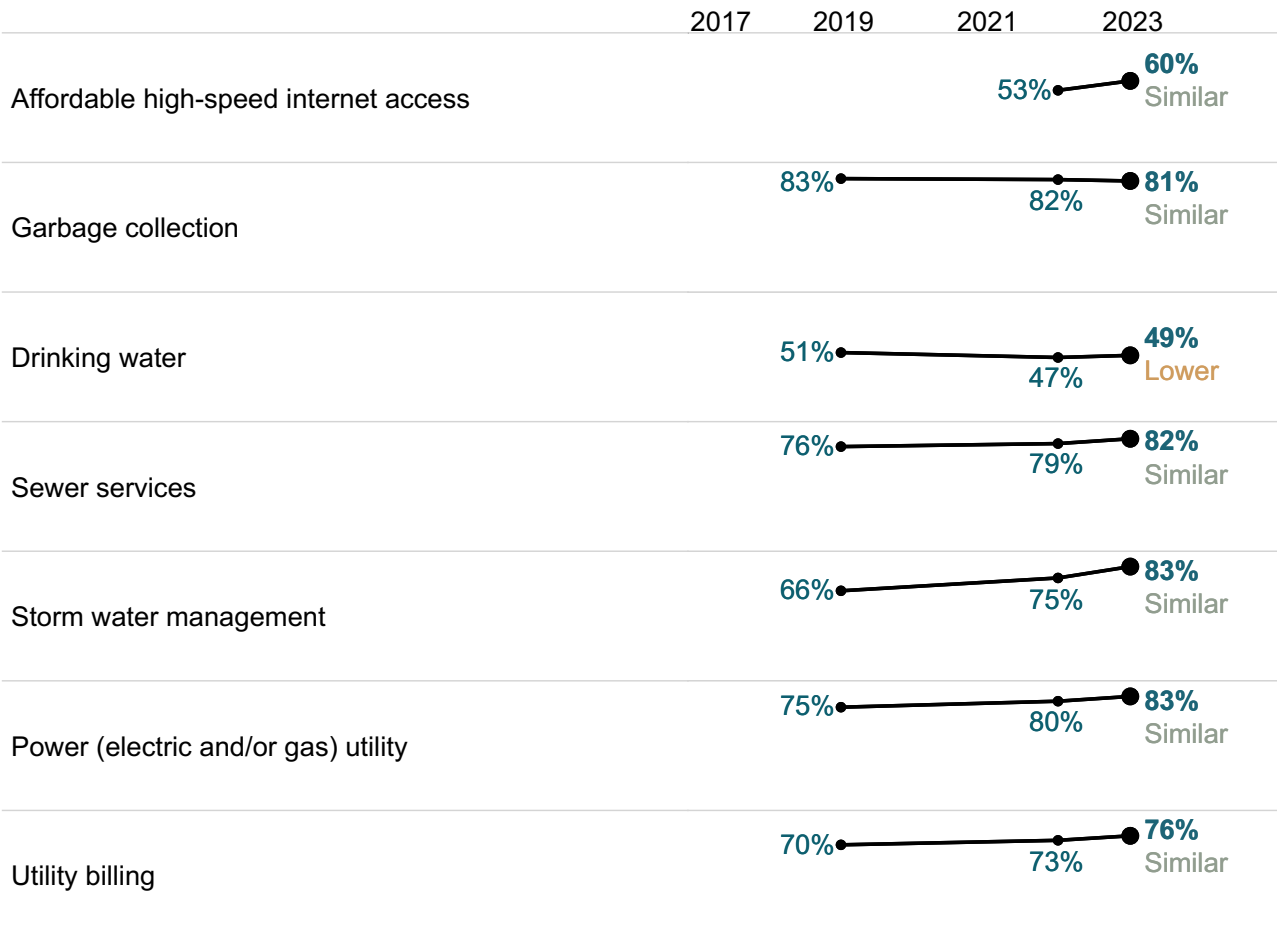
Services such as water, gas, electricity, and internet access play a vital role in ensuring the physical and economic health and well-being of the communities they serve.



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



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

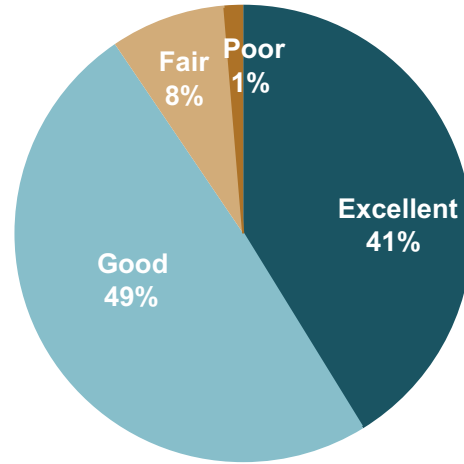


11. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall feeling of safety in Marion, 2023

**Safety**

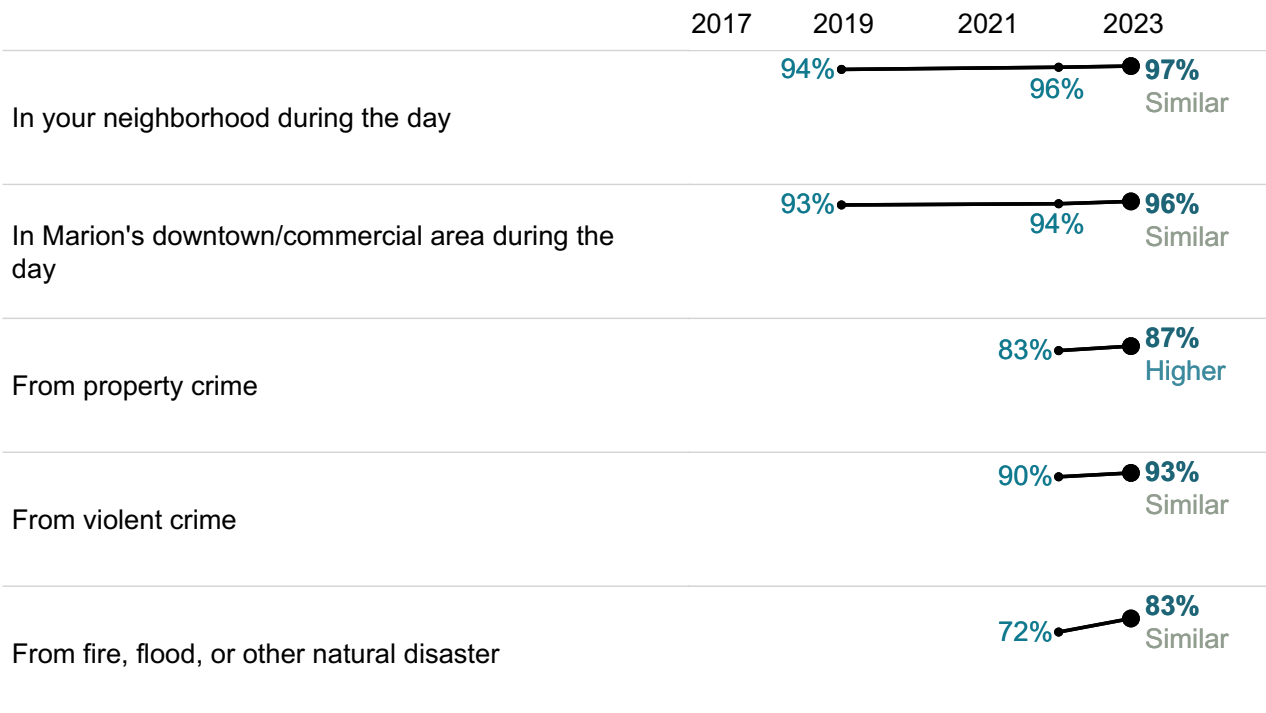
Public safety is often the most important task facing local governments. All residents should feel safe and secure in their neighborhoods and in the greater community, and providing robust safety-related services is essential to residents' quality of life.



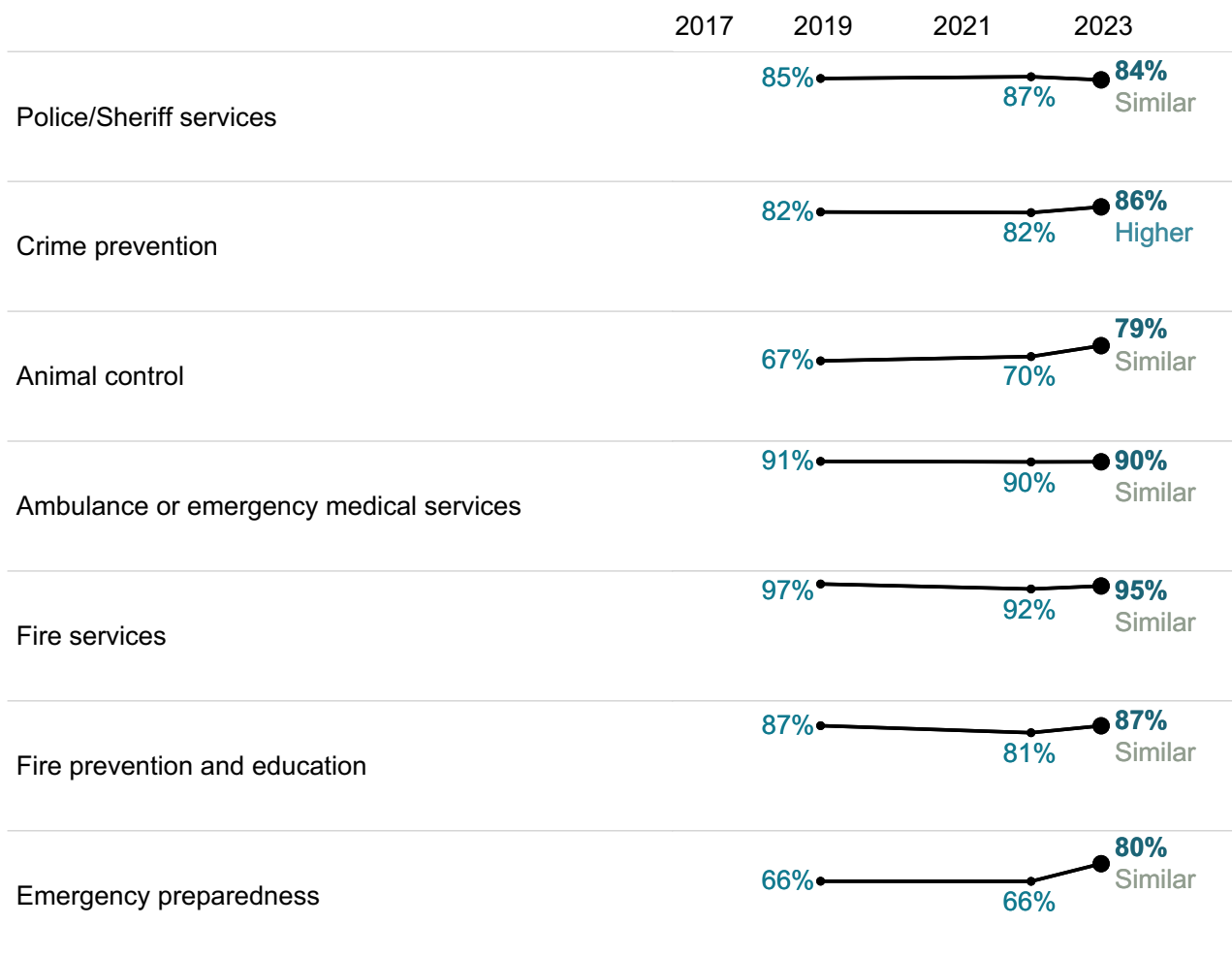
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



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



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

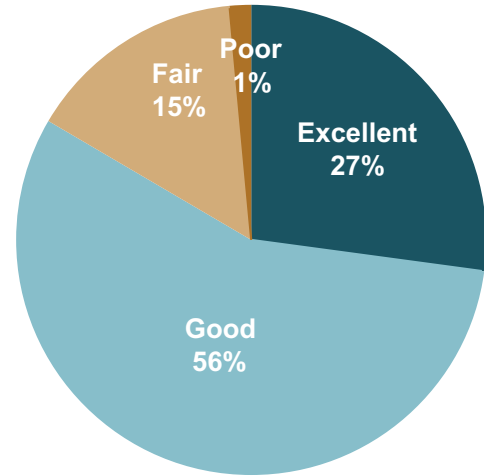


12. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

**Overall quality of natural environment in Marion, 2023**

**Natural Environment**

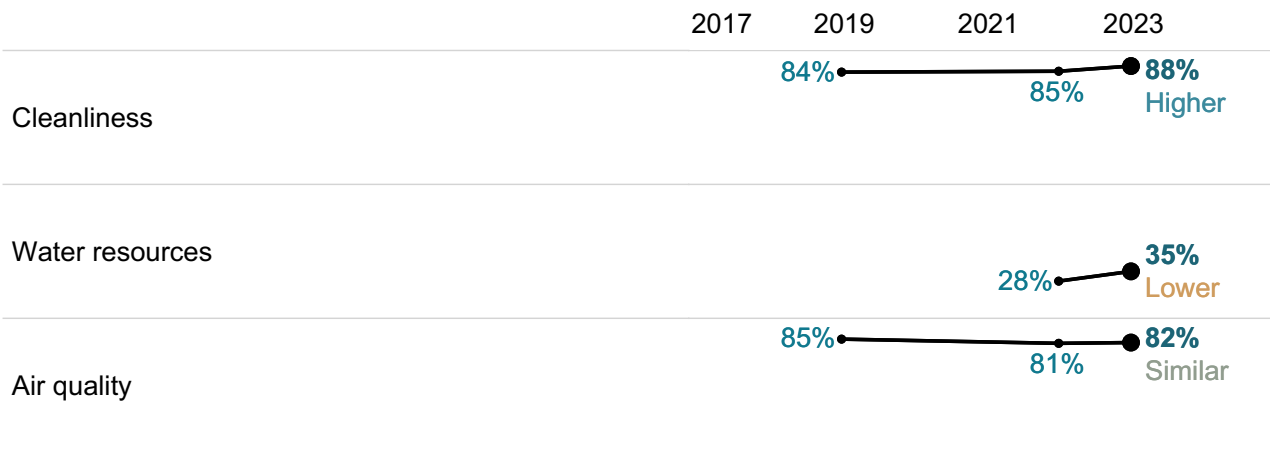
The natural environment plays a vital role in the health and well-being of residents. The natural spaces in which residents live and experience their communities has a direct and profound effect on quality of life.



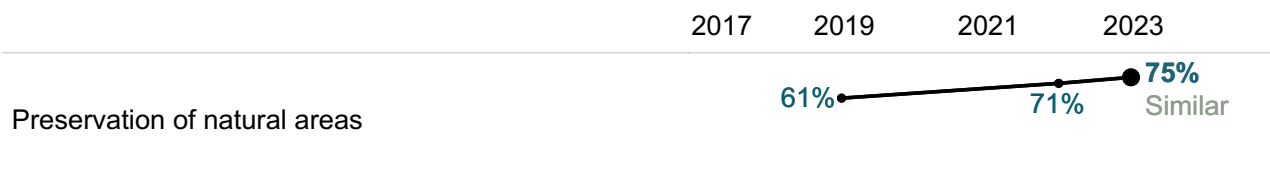
**Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.**  
(% excellent or good)

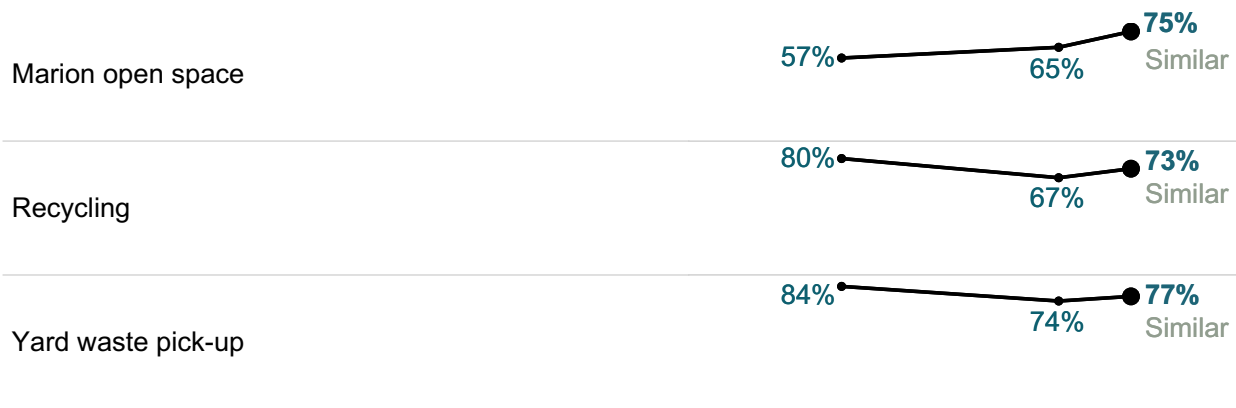


**Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.**  
(% excellent or good)



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





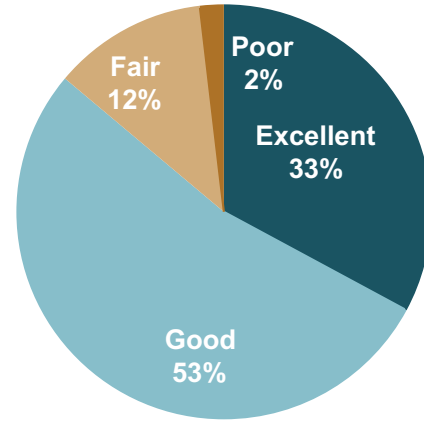
13. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

## Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities, 2023

### Parks and Recreation

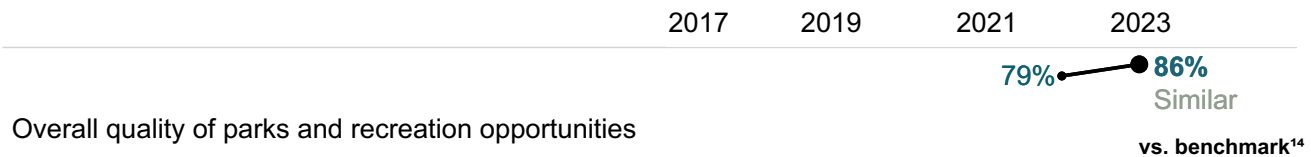
"There are no communities that pride themselves on their quality of life, promote themselves as a desirable location for businesses to relocate, or maintain that they are environmental stewards of their natural resources, without such communities having a robust, active system of parks and recreation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

- National Recreation and Park Association



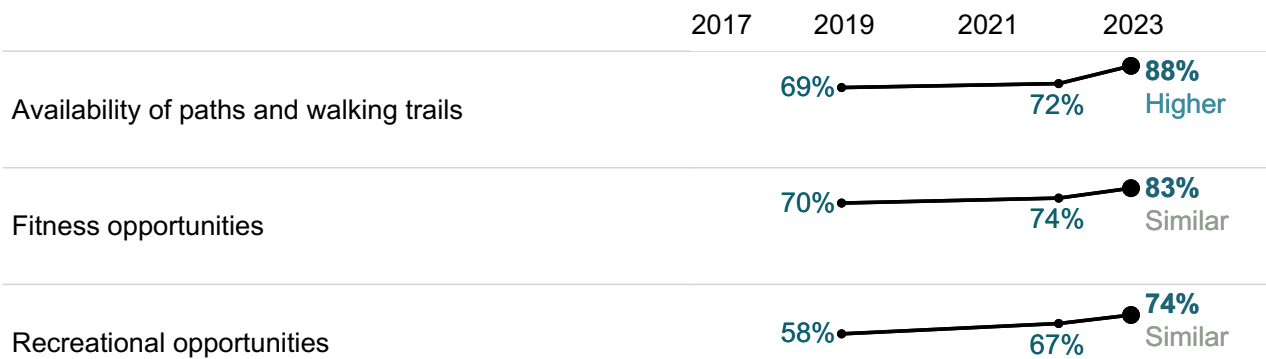
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.

(% excellent or good)



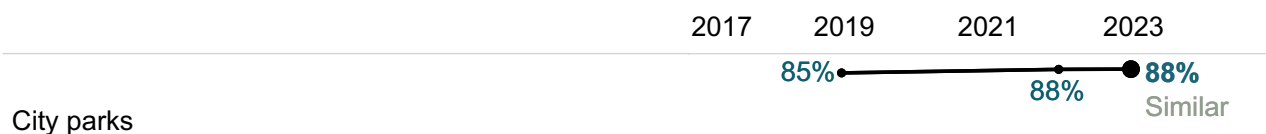
Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.

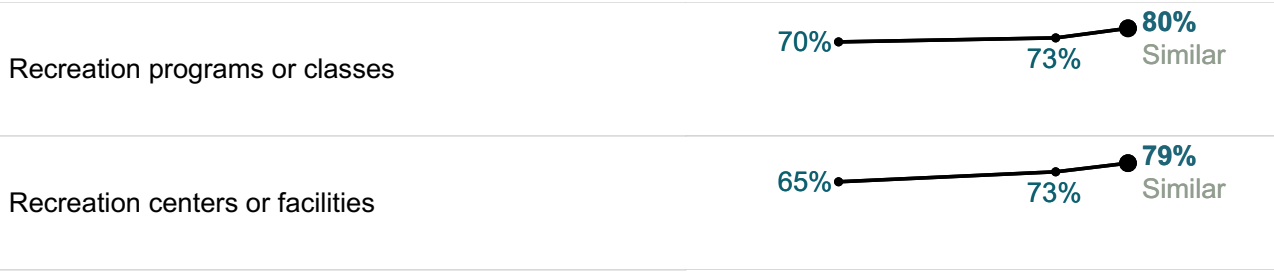
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.

(% excellent or good)





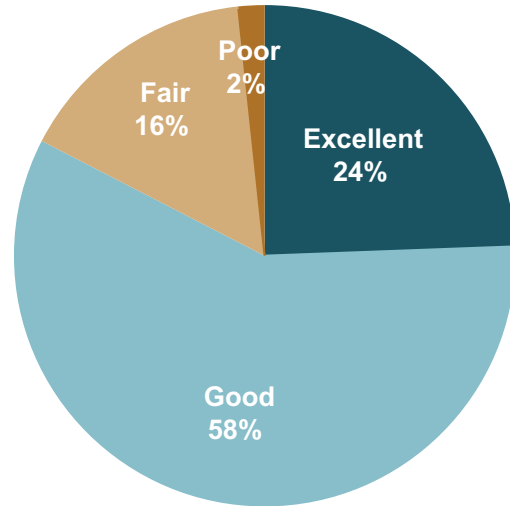
14. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

## Overall health and wellness opportunities in Marion, 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.

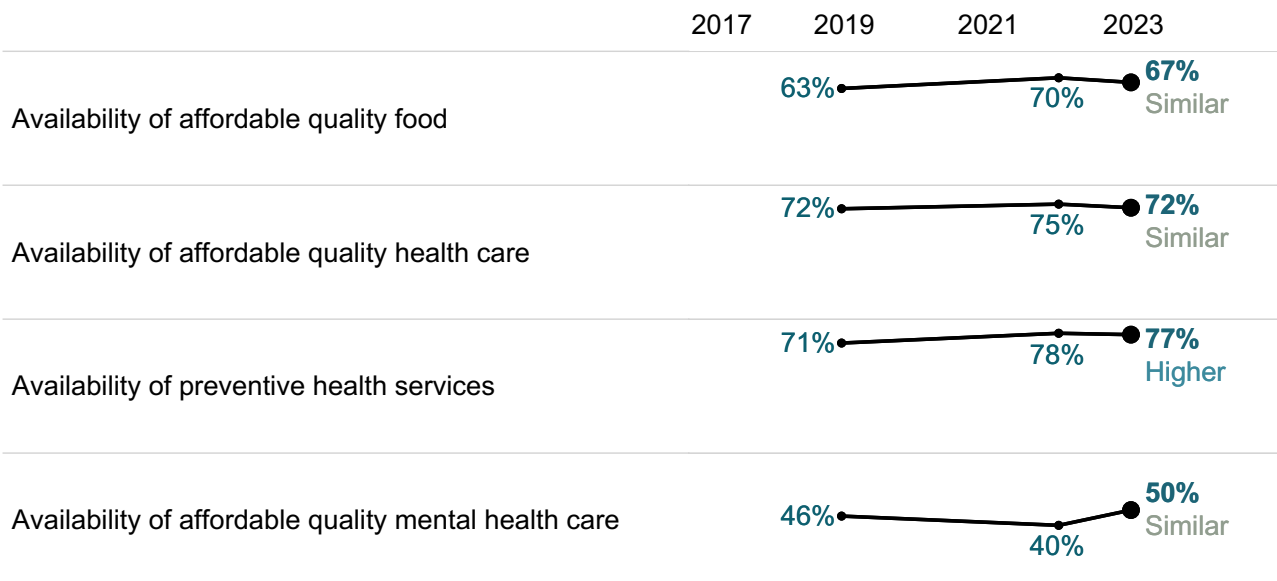


Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)

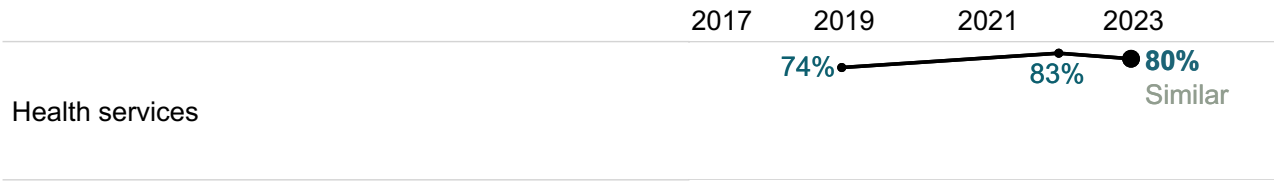


vs. benchmark<sup>15</sup>

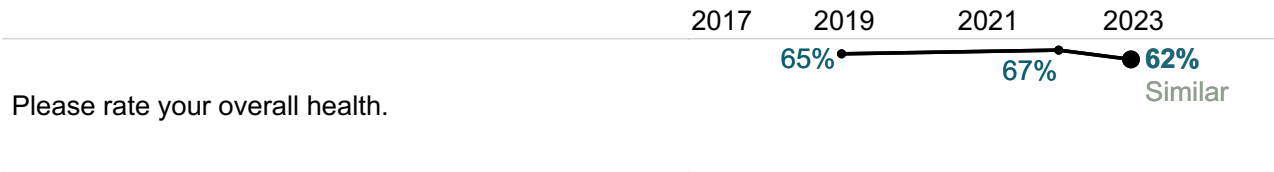
Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.  
(% excellent or good)



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



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



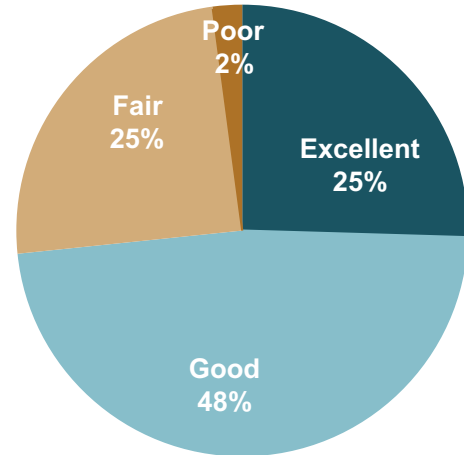
15. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.



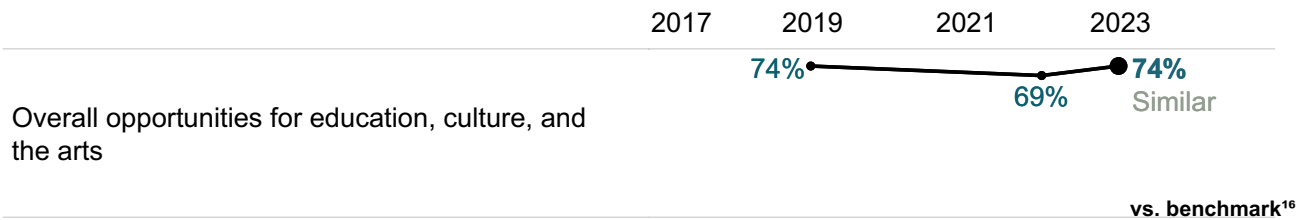
## Overall opportunities for education, culture and the arts, 2023

### Education, Arts, and Culture

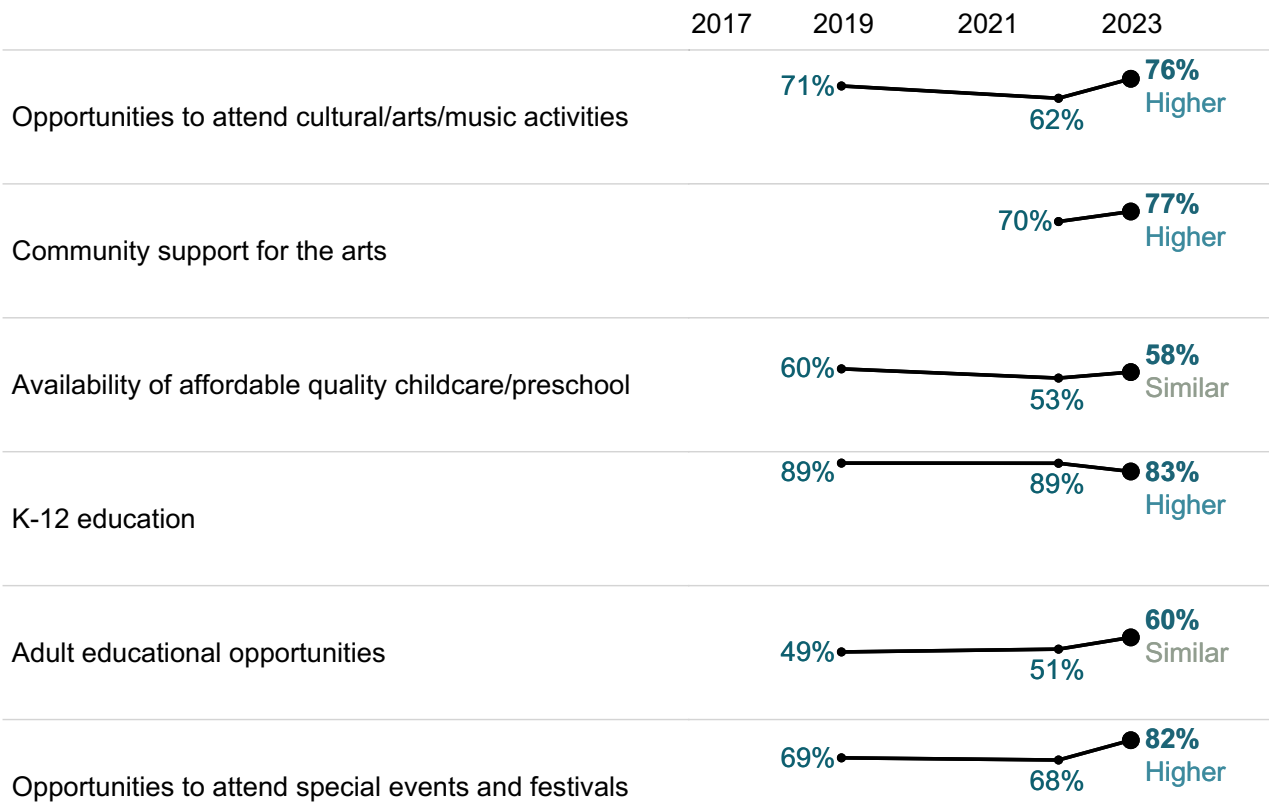
Participation in the arts, in educational opportunities, and in cultural activities is linked to increased civic engagement, greater social tolerance, and enhanced enjoyment of the local community.



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

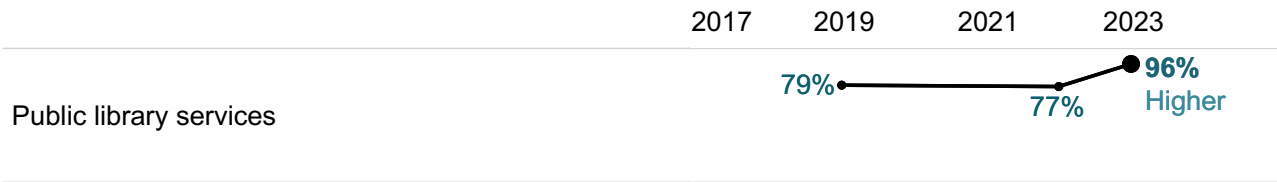


Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.  
(% excellent or good)



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

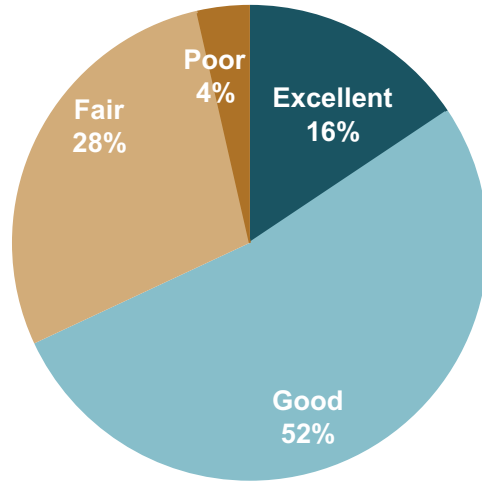


10. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

**Residents' connection and engagement with their community, 2023**

**Inclusivity and Engagement**

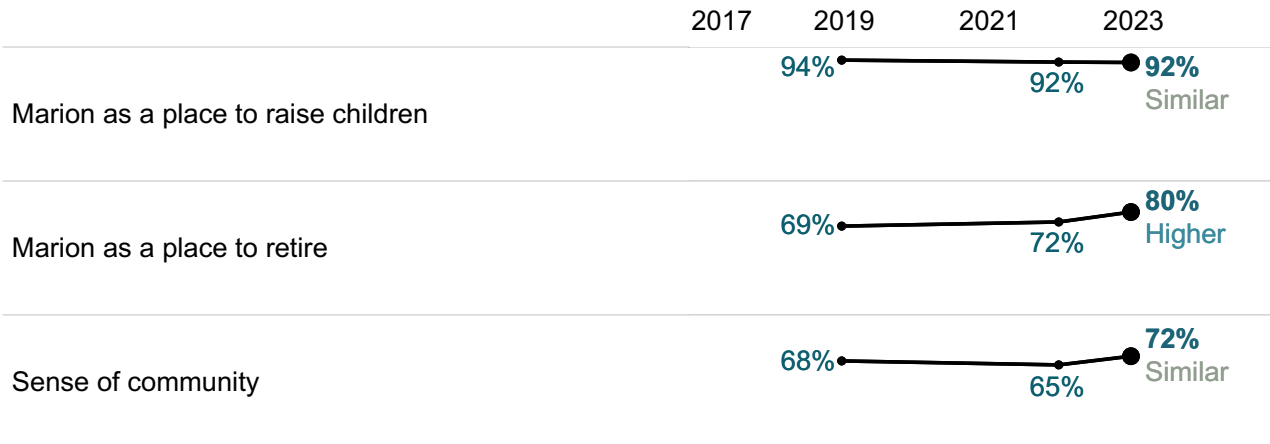
Inclusivity refers to a cultural and environmental feeling of belonging; residents who feel invited to participate within their communities feel more included, involved, and engaged than those who do not.



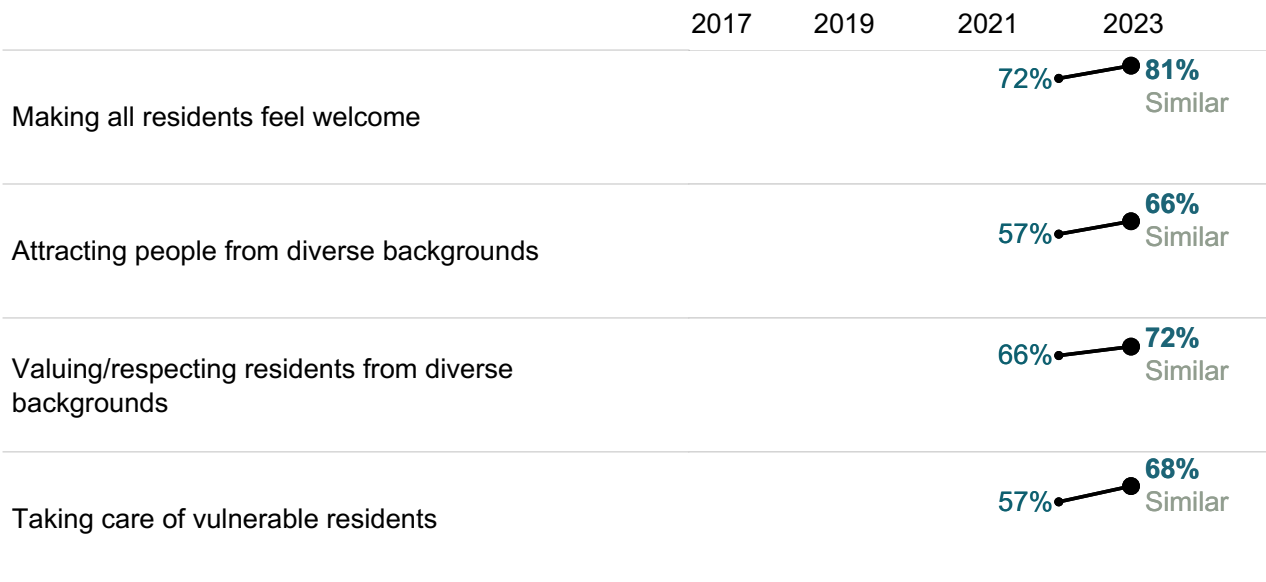
**Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.**  
(% excellent or good)



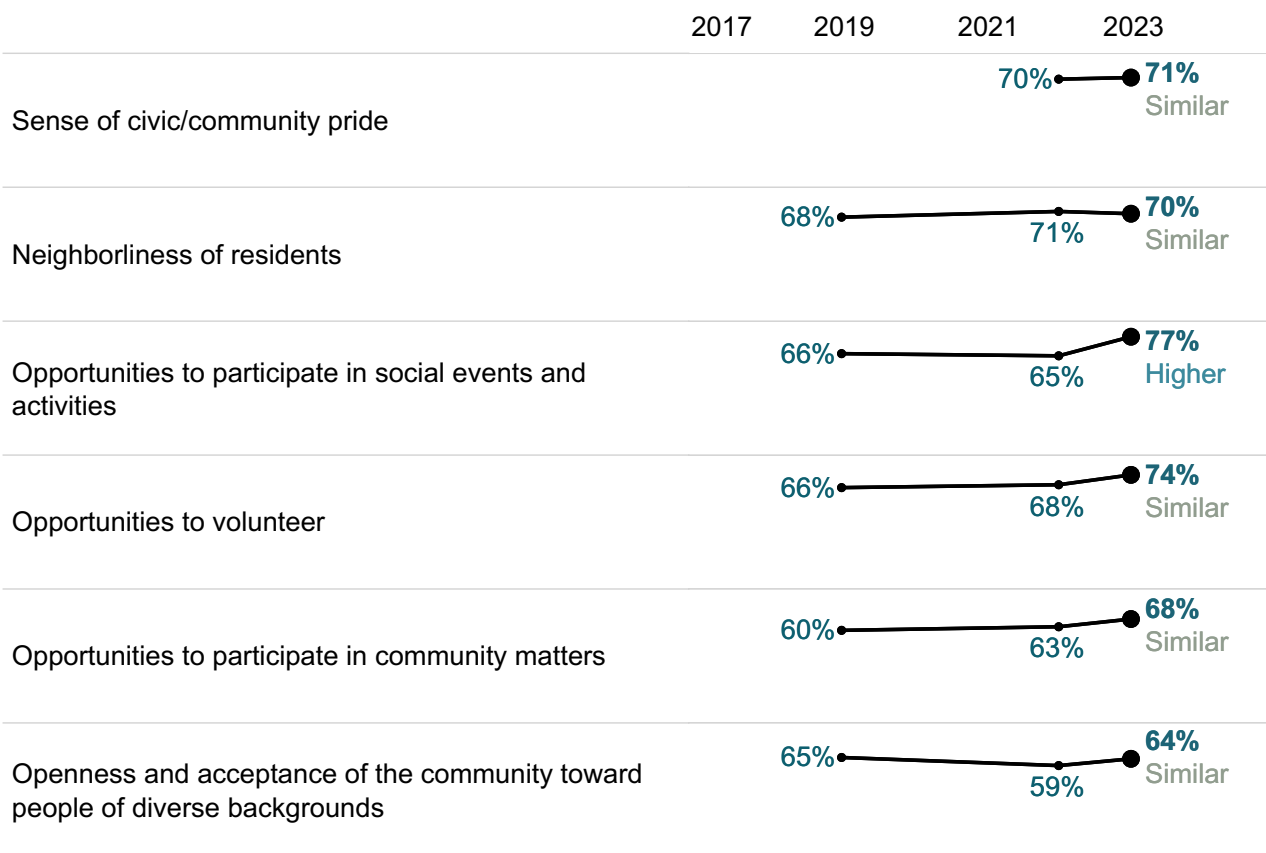
**Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.**  
(% excellent or good)



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



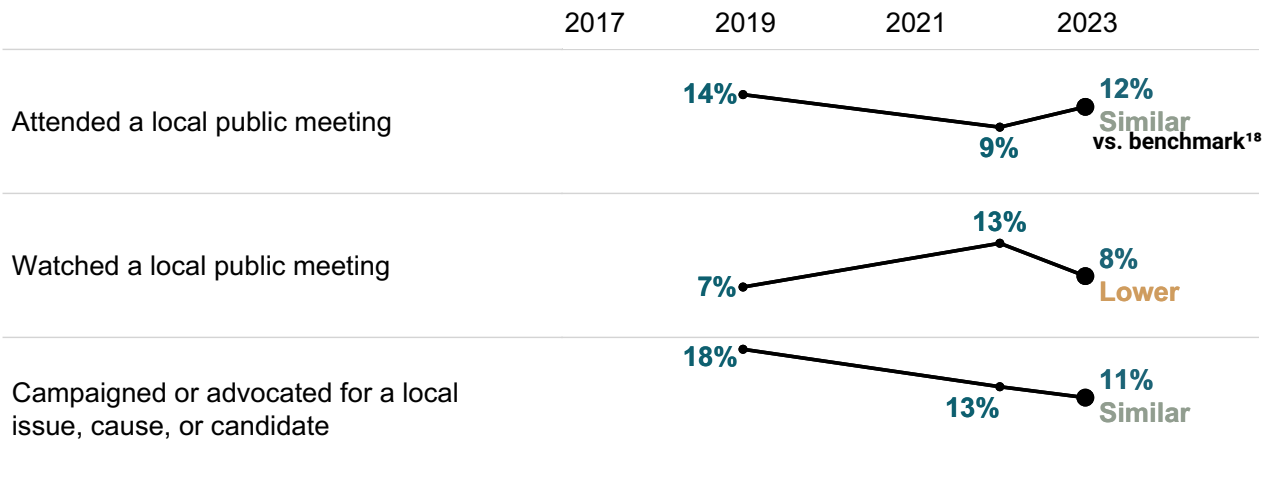
**Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.**  
 (% excellent or good)



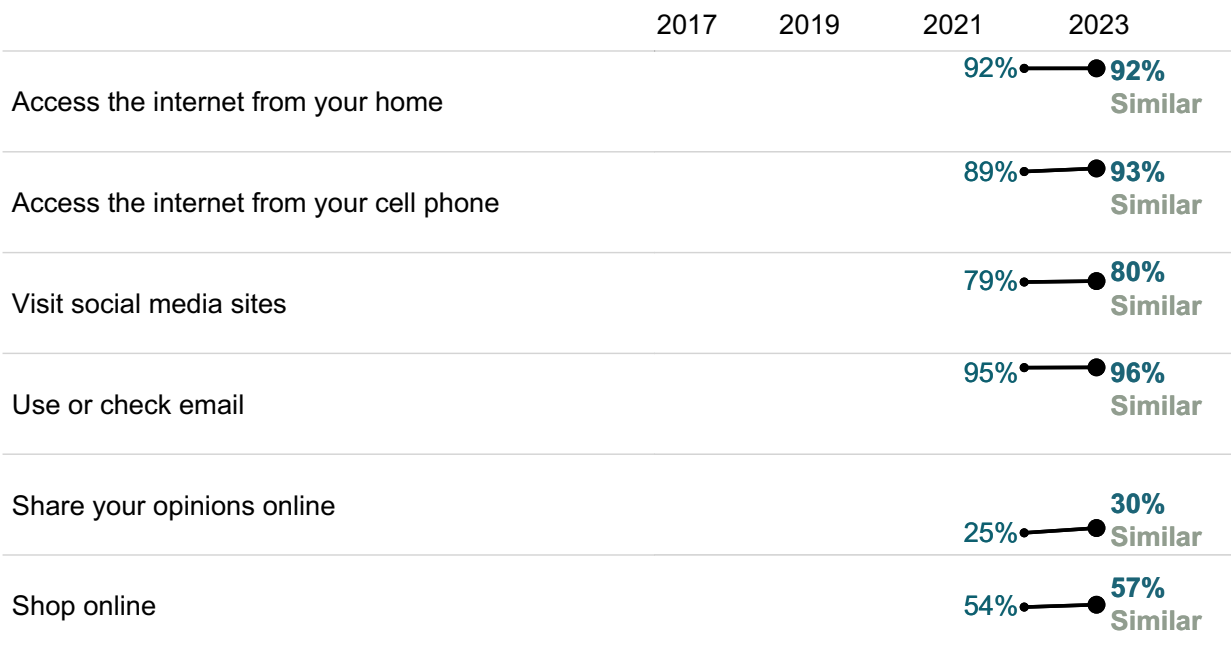
17. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

## 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)
































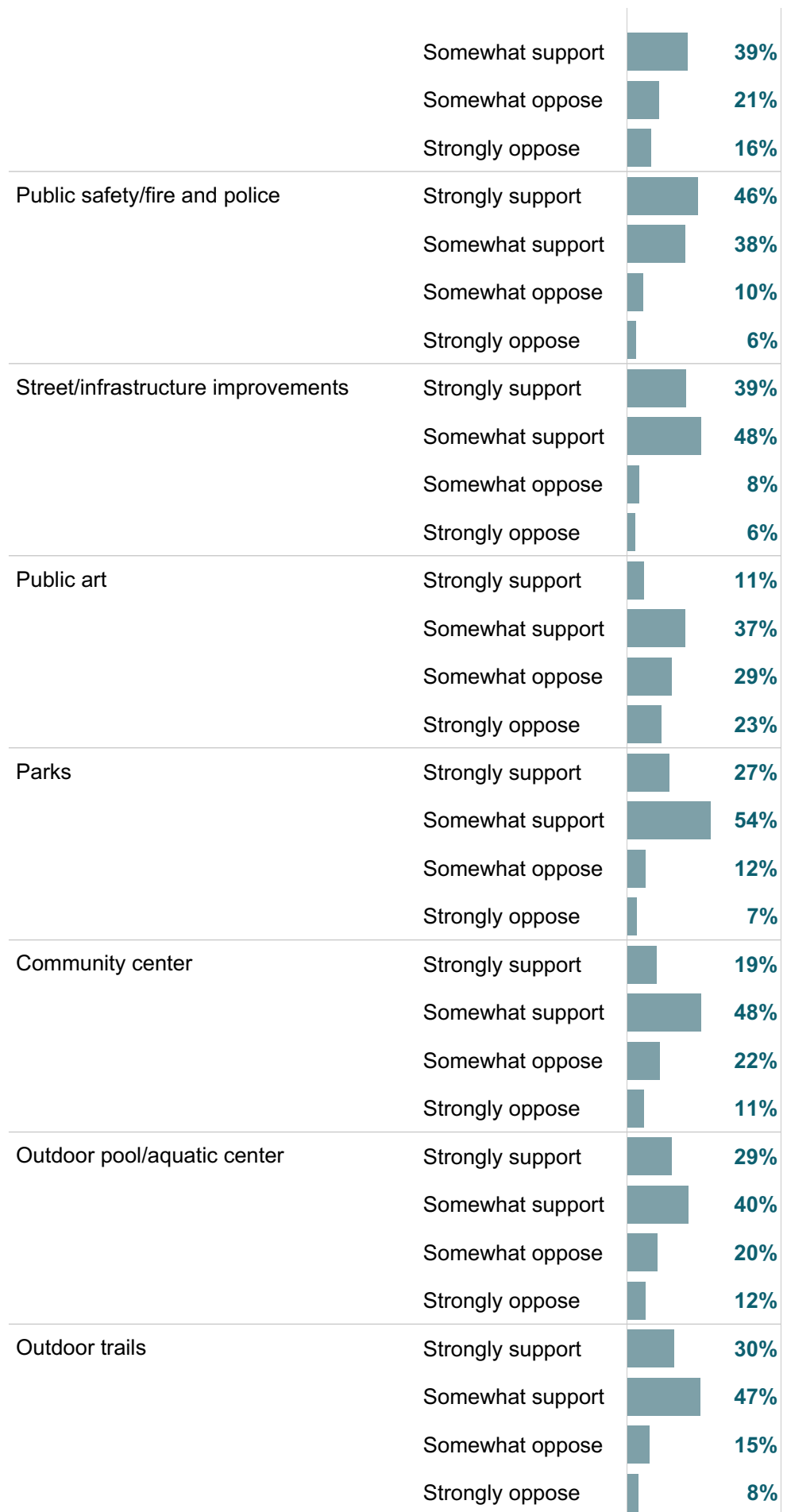
18. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.























# 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.

<b>Please indicate how much of a source, if at all, you consider each of the following to be for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events and services:</b>	The City website (www.cityofmarion.org)	Major source		63%
		Minor source		29%
		Not a source		8%
	Local media outlets (newspapers, radio, local television stations)	Major source		41%
		Minor source		50%
		Not a source		9%
	Marion Messenger (City newsletter)	Major source		59%
		Minor source		32%
		Not a source		9%
	City Council meetings and other public meetings	Major source		23%
Minor source			45%	
Not a source			31%	
Recordings of City Council Meetings	Major source		20%	
	Minor source		38%	
	Not a source		41%	
Talking with City officials	Major source		25%	
	Minor source		42%	
	Not a source		33%	
City communications via social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)	Major source		48%	
	Minor source		31%	
	Not a source		22%	
Word-of-mouth	Major source		28%	
	Minor source		48%	
	Not a source		24%	
<b>Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a property tax or fee increase to fund improvements to each of the following facilities or services:</b>	Schools	Strongly support		38%
		Somewhat support		34%
		Somewhat oppose		14%
		Strongly oppose		14%
	Library services	Strongly support		24%



Recreation services	Strongly support		20%	
	Somewhat support		58%	
	Somewhat oppose		15%	
	Strongly oppose		8%	
Park development	Strongly support		25%	
	Somewhat support		52%	
	Somewhat oppose		15%	
	Strongly oppose		8%	
Public transportation	Strongly support		21%	
	Somewhat support		44%	
	Somewhat oppose		23%	
	Strongly oppose		13%	
Ambulance service	Strongly support		46%	
	Somewhat support		38%	
	Somewhat oppose		9%	
	Strongly oppose		6%	
<p><b>The City is currently reviewing options for the future of some of its original brick streets. Understanding that saving and reusing the original brick increases the cost of reconstruction, to what extent do you support the reuse of original brick as:</b></p>	A reconstructed street in historic neighborhoods	Strongly support		25%
		Somewhat support		33%
		Somewhat oppose		24%
		Strongly oppose		18%
	A crosswalk-like band in historic neighborhoods	Strongly support		37%
		Somewhat support		39%
		Somewhat oppose		11%
		Strongly oppose		13%
The City of Marion is required by the State of Iowa to allow the sale of fireworks within city limits. City Council has authorized the use of fireworks on private property two days each year (July 4 and Dec. 31). To what extent do you support or oppose the private use of fireworks within city limits?	Strongly support		28%	
	Somewhat support		16%	
	Neutral		19%	
	Somewhat oppose		14%	
	Strongly oppose		22%	

## National Benchmark Tables

This table contains the comparisons of Marion's results to those from other communities. The first column shows the comparison of Marion's rating to the benchmark. Marion's results are noted as being "higher", "lower" or "similar" to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by Marion residents is statistically similar to or different than the benchmark. The second column is Marion'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 Marion'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 Marion's result -- that is what percent of surveyed communities had a lower rating than Marion.

			% positive	Rank	Number of communities	Percentile	
<b>Quality of Life</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to live	Similar	95%	97	369	73
		The overall quality of life	Similar	91%	100	385	73
	<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in Marion to someone who asks	Higher	95%	38	317	88
		Remain in Marion for the next five years	Higher	93%	13	315	96
	<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Overall image or reputation	Higher	86%	84	363	76
<b>Governance</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Public information services	Similar	78%	71	317	77
		Overall customer service by Marion employees	Similar	87%	47	365	86
	<b>Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to Marion	Similar	58%	120	370	66
		The overall direction that Marion is taking	Higher	72%	22	345	93
		The job Marion government does at welcoming resident involvement	Higher	67%	31	337	91
		Overall confidence in Marion government	Higher	71%	18	309	94
		Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Higher	75%	22	313	93
		Being honest	Higher	75%	28	304	91

<b>Governance</b>	<b>Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.</b>	Being open and transparent to the public	Higher	71%	22	256	91
		Informing residents about issues facing the community	Higher	68%	32	261	88
		Treating all residents fairly	Higher	73%	46	310	85
		Treating residents with respect	Similar	77%	47	253	81
		<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of Marion	Similar	81%	88	364
	The Federal Government	Similar	37%	138	297	53	
<b>Economy</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to work	Similar	76%	97	363	72
		Marion as a place to visit	Similar	68%	132	322	58
	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health	Higher	82%	76	316	76
	<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Similar	82%	58	316	81
		Variety of business and service establishments	Similar	69%	64	251	74
		Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Higher	77%	30	295	90
		Employment opportunities	Similar	61%	72	329	78
		Shopping opportunities	Similar	52%	162	319	49
		Cost of living	Similar	45%	87	306	71
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Economic development	Higher	78%	20	311	93
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	Similar	89%	205	290	29	

<b>Economy</b>	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	16%	223	299	25	
<b>Mobility</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of the transportation system	Similar	65%	54	259	79
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	Higher	71%	53	337	84
		Ease of public parking	Similar	52%	193	295	34
		Ease of travel by car	Similar	79%	110	327	66
		Ease of travel by public transportation	Similar	44%	111	299	62
		Ease of travel by bicycle	Higher	72%	47	327	85
		Ease of walking	Higher	78%	54	331	83
		<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Used public transportation instead of driving	Lower	8%	212	281
	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone		Similar	40%	191	298	36
	Walked or biked instead of driving		Similar	53%	190	300	37
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Traffic enforcement	Higher	78%	21	358	94	
	Traffic signal timing	Similar	59%	102	308	67	
	Street repair	Similar	52%	120	350	65	
	Street cleaning	Similar	72%	123	320	61	
	Street lighting	Similar	72%	88	348	73	
	Snow removal	Similar	79%	82	272	69	

<b>Mobility</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Sidewalk maintenance	Similar	71%	74	320	76
		Bus or transit services	Similar	52%	110	288	62
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of the transportation system	Similar	69%	179	249	28
<b>Community Design</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Your neighborhood as a place to live	Similar	89%	125	323	61
	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Similar	69%	94	307	69
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Well-planned residential growth	Higher	73%	13	253	95
		Well-planned commercial growth	Higher	61%	23	252	91
		Well-designed neighborhoods	Similar	67%	70	253	72
		Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Similar	75%	41	249	83
		Public places where people want to spend time	Similar	73%	70	301	77
		Variety of housing options	Higher	64%	55	314	82
		Availability of affordable quality housing	Higher	51%	40	336	88
		Overall quality of new development	Higher	75%	13	325	96
Overall appearance	Higher	87%	71	339	78		
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Land use, planning and zoning	Higher	62%	36	320	88	
	Code enforcement	Similar	55%	96	350	71	
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Similar	73%	192	290	33	

Utilities	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Similar	65%	122	250	51
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Affordable high-speed internet access	Similar	60%	72	246	71
		Garbage collection	Similar	81%	164	330	49
		Drinking water	Lower	49%	290	318	7
		Sewer services	Similar	82%	151	315	51
		Storm water management	Similar	83%	72	330	78
		Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Similar	83%	90	272	67
		Utility billing	Similar	76%	99	294	66
		<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Similar	92%	96	249
	Safety	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall feeling of safety	Higher	91%	78	355
<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>		In your neighborhood during the day	Similar	97%	57	334	82
		In Marion's downtown/commercial area during the day	Similar	96%	36	322	89
		From property crime	Higher	87%	39	261	85
		From violent crime	Similar	93%	58	261	78
		From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Similar	83%	104	251	58
		<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Police/Sheriff services	Similar	84%	122	382
Crime prevention		Higher	86%	40	359	88	

<b>Safety</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Animal control	Similar	79%	98	331	69
		Ambulance or emergency medical services	Similar	90%	110	326	65
		Fire services	Similar	95%	96	346	71
		Fire prevention and education	Similar	87%	52	315	83
		Emergency preparedness	Similar	80%	65	316	79
		<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall feeling of safety	Similar	87%	195	290
	<b>Natural environment</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of natural environment	Similar	84%	138	316
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>			Cleanliness	Higher	88%	71	330
		Water resources	Lower	35%	203	232	12
		Air quality	Similar	82%	153	302	49
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>		Preservation of natural areas	Similar	75%	64	301	79
		Marion open space	Similar	75%	77	299	74
		Recycling	Similar	73%	157	334	52
	Yard waste pick-up	Similar	77%	128	296	56	
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of natural environment	Similar	73%	282	290	2	
<b>Parks and Recreation</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Similar	86%	106	256	58
		<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Availability of paths and walking trails	Higher	88%	68	331

Parks and Recreation	Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.	Fitness opportunities	Similar	83%	80	303	73	
		Recreational opportunities	Similar	74%	142	321	55	
	Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.	City parks	Similar	88%	123	327	62	
		Recreation programs or classes	Similar	80%	73	324	77	
		Recreation centers or facilities	Similar	79%	72	311	77	
	Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Similar	76%	212	250	15	
	Health and wellness	Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Similar	83%	93	309	70
		Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.	Availability of affordable quality food	Similar	67%	110	300	63
Availability of affordable quality health care			Similar	72%	70	307	77	
Availability of preventive health services			Higher	77%	52	294	82	
Availability of affordable quality mental health care			Similar	50%	88	298	70	
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.		Health services	Similar	80%	56	290	80	
Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Similar	72%	204	290	29		
	Please rate your overall health.	Similar	62%	208	296	30		
Education, Arts and Culture	Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Similar	74%	74	312	76	
	Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.	Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Higher	76%	53	317	83	
Community support for the arts		Higher	77%	37	249	85		

<b>Education, Arts and Culture</b>	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Similar	58%	82	309	73
		K-12 education	Higher	83%	83	312	73
		Adult educational opportunities	Similar	60%	122	302	59
		Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Higher	82%	30	307	90
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Public library services	Higher	96%	27	326	91
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Similar	72%	230	290	20
<b>Inclusivity and Engagement</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to raise children	Similar	92%	94	373	74
		Marion as a place to retire	Higher	80%	55	368	84
		Sense of community	Similar	72%	51	334	84
	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Similar	68%	51	253	80
<b>Please rate the job you feel the Marion community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome	Similar	81%	47	256	82	
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Similar	66%	71	253	72	
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Similar	72%	58	254	77	
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Similar	68%	57	250	77	
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Sense of civic/community pride	Similar	71%	70	250	72	
	Neighborliness of residents	Similar	70%	69	302	77	
	Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Higher	77%	36	312	88	

<b>Inclusivity and Engagement</b>	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Opportunities to volunteer	Similar	74%	109	307	64
		Opportunities to participate in community matters	Similar	68%	83	307	73
		Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Similar	64%	104	325	68
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Similar	69%	188	290	35
<hr/>							
<b>Participation</b>	<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of Marion for help or information	Similar	42%	229	329	30
		Contacted Marion elected officials to express your opinion	Similar	10%	273	300	9
		Attended a local public meeting	Similar	12%	269	303	11
		Watched a local public meeting	Lower	8%	289	292	1
		Volunteered your time to some group/activity	Lower	22%	253	306	17
		Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	Similar	11%	252	296	15
		Voted in your most recent local election	Similar	72%	169	249	32
		<hr/>					
<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Access the internet from your home	Similar	92%	179	249	28	
	Access the internet from your cell phone	Similar	93%	169	251	33	
	Visit social media sites	Similar	80%	107	250	57	
	Use or check email	Similar	96%	176	251	30	
	Share your opinions online	Similar	30%	89	250	64	
	Shop online	Similar	57%	111	249	55	

## Custom Benchmark Tables

This table contains the comparisons of Marion's results to those from other communities with secondary cities (cities that were in a metro area, but not the primary city in a metro area), with smaller a smaller population (between 25,000 and 55,000) and a similar average annual household income (\$50,000 to \$75,000). The first column shows the comparison of Marion's rating to the benchmark. Marion's results are noted as being "higher", "lower" or "similar" to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by Marion residents is statistically similar to or different than the benchmark. The second column is Marion'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 Marion'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 Marion's result -- that is what percent of surveyed communities had a lower rating than Marion.

			% positive	Rank	Number of communities	Percentile	
<b>Quality of Life</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to live	Higher	95%	3	27	92
		The overall quality of life	Higher	91%	2	27	96
	<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in Marion to someone who asks	Higher	95%	1	26	100
		Remain in Marion for the next five years	Higher	93%	1	26	100
	<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Overall image or reputation	Higher	86%	2	27	96
<b>Governance</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Public information services	Similar	78%	3	26	92
		Overall customer service by Marion employees	Higher	87%	1	27	100
	<b>Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to Marion	Similar	58%	5	27	85
		The overall direction that Marion is taking	Higher	72%	2	26	96
		The job Marion government does at welcoming resident involvement	Higher	67%	1	26	100
		Overall confidence in Marion government	Higher	71%	2	24	95
		Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Higher	75%	2	25	96
		Being honest	Higher	75%	2	24	95

<b>Governance</b>	<b>Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.</b>	Being open and transparent to the public	Higher	71%	2	19	94
		Informing residents about issues facing the community	Higher	68%	2	21	95
		Treating all residents fairly	Higher	73%	3	25	92
		Treating residents with respect	Higher	77%	2	19	94
	<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of Marion	Similar	81%	4	26	88
		The Federal Government	Similar	37%	12	23	52
<b>Economy</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to work	Similar	76%	6	27	81
		Marion as a place to visit	Similar	68%	10	25	64
	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health	Higher	82%	2	25	96
		<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Higher	82%	3	25
	Variety of business and service establishments		Similar	69%	5	19	78
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area		Higher	77%	2	22	95
	Employment opportunities		Similar	61%	6	26	80
Shopping opportunities	Similar		52%	16	26	42	
Cost of living	Similar	45%	8	24	70		
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Economic development	Higher	78%	1	24	100

<b>Economy</b>	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	Similar	89%	15	23	39
		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	16%	15	23	39
<b>Mobility</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of the transportation system	Higher	65%	4	19	84
		<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	Higher	71%	5	26
		Ease of public parking	Similar	52%	19	23	21
		Ease of travel by car	Similar	79%	8	26	73
		Ease of travel by public transportation	Similar	44%	13	25	52
		Ease of travel by bicycle	Higher	72%	4	26	88
		Ease of walking	Higher	78%	2	26	96
	<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Used public transportation instead of driving	Lower	8%	21	24	16
		Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	Similar	40%	14	23	43
		Walked or biked instead of driving	Similar	53%	13	23	47
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Traffic enforcement	Higher	78%	2	26	96	
	Traffic signal timing	Similar	59%	6	22	77	
	Street repair	Similar	52%	7	27	77	
	Street cleaning	Similar	72%	5	26	84	

<b>Mobility</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Street lighting	Similar	72%	4	24	87
		Snow removal	Higher	79%	4	20	85
		Sidewalk maintenance	Similar	71%	5	24	83
		Bus or transit services	Similar	52%	13	24	50
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of the transportation system	Similar	69%	14	19	31
<b>Community Design</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Your neighborhood as a place to live	Similar	89%	6	26	80
	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Similar	69%	6	23	78
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Well-planned residential growth	Higher	73%	1	19	100
		Well-planned commercial growth	Higher	61%	3	19	89
		Well-designed neighborhoods	Higher	67%	3	18	88
		Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Similar	75%	1	19	100
		Public places where people want to spend time	Similar	73%	3	23	91
		Variety of housing options	Higher	64%	5	26	84
		Availability of affordable quality housing	Higher	51%	6	25	80
		Overall quality of new development	Higher	75%	1	26	100
Overall appearance	Higher	87%	1	24	100		

Community Design	Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.	Land use, planning and zoning	Higher	62%	5	26	84
		Code enforcement	Higher	55%	4	27	88
	Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Similar	73%	16	23	34
Utilities	Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Similar	65%	8	19	63
		Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.	Affordable high-speed internet access	Similar	60%	2	19
	Garbage collection	Similar	81%	11	25	60	
	Drinking water	Lower	49%	21	23	13	
	Sewer services	Similar	82%	12	22	50	
	Storm water management	Similar	83%	4	23	86	
	Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Similar	83%	6	21	76	
	Utility billing	Similar	76%	5	23	82	
	Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Similar	92%	5	19	78
Safety	Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.	Overall feeling of safety	Higher	91%	2	24	95
		Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:	In your neighborhood during the day	Similar	97%	2	26
	In Marion's downtown/commercial area during the day	Higher	96%	1	24	100	
	From property crime	Higher	87%	2	19	94	

<b>Safety</b>	<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	From violent crime	Higher	93%	2	19	94
		From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Similar	83%	11	19	47
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Police/Sheriff services	Similar	84%	7	27	77
		Crime prevention	Higher	86%	2	27	96
		Animal control	Similar	79%	3	26	92
		Ambulance or emergency medical services	Similar	90%	4	24	87
		Fire services	Similar	95%	3	24	91
		Fire prevention and education	Higher	87%	2	25	96
		Emergency preparedness	Higher	80%	2	25	96
		<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall feeling of safety	Similar	87%	16	23
<b>Natural environment</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of natural environment	Similar	84%	8	26	73
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Cleanliness	Higher	88%	1	27	100
		Water resources	Lower	35%	13	17	29
		Air quality	Similar	82%	8	25	72
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Preservation of natural areas	Higher	75%	5	23	82
		Marion open space	Similar	75%	3	23	91

Natural environment	Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.	Recycling	Similar	73%	10	25	64
		Yard waste pick-up	Similar	77%	7	24	75
	Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall quality of natural environment	Similar	73%	22	23	8
Parks and Recreation	Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Similar	86%	4	20	85
	Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.	Availability of paths and walking trails	Higher	88%	4	27	88
		Fitness opportunities	Similar	83%	6	23	78
		Recreational opportunities	Similar	74%	10	26	65
	Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.	City parks	Similar	88%	5	25	84
		Recreation programs or classes	Similar	80%	3	25	92
Recreation centers or facilities		Similar	79%	4	25	88	
Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Similar	76%	14	19	31	
Health and wellness	Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Similar	83%	4	23	86
	Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.	Availability of affordable quality food	Similar	67%	9	25	68
		Availability of affordable quality health care	Higher	72%	6	25	80
		Availability of preventive health services	Higher	77%	4	25	88
		Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Similar	50%	8	23	69

Health and wellness	Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.	Health services	Higher	80%	3	23	91
	Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Similar	72%	18	23	26
		Please rate your overall health.	Similar	62%	12	23	52
Education, Arts and Culture	Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Higher	74%	4	23	86
	Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.	Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Higher	76%	2	26	96
		Community support for the arts	Higher	77%	2	19	94
		Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Higher	58%	7	25	76
		K-12 education	Higher	83%	3	24	91
		Adult educational opportunities	Similar	60%	11	23	56
		Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Higher	82%	1	24	100
	Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.	Public library services	Higher	96%	1	23	100
	Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Similar	72%	19	23	21
	Inclusivity and Engagement	Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.	Marion as a place to raise children	Higher	92%	2	27
		Marion as a place to retire	Higher	80%	4	27	88
		Sense of community	Higher	72%	1	26	100
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.		Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Higher	68%	1	19	100

**Inclusivity and Engagement**

<p><b>Please rate the job you feel the Marion community does at each of the following.</b></p>	Making all residents feel welcome	Higher	81%	2	21	95
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Similar	66%	6	21	76
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Similar	72%	3	20	90
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Higher	68%	4	19	84
<p><b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b></p>	Sense of civic/community pride	Similar	71%	1	19	100
	Neighborliness of residents	Similar	70%	4	22	86
	Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Higher	77%	1	26	100
	Opportunities to volunteer	Similar	74%	9	26	69
	Opportunities to participate in community matters	Similar	68%	2	26	96
	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Similar	64%	8	26	73
<p><b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b></p>	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Similar	69%	16	23	34
<p><b>Participation</b></p> <p><b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b></p>	Contacted the City of Marion for help or information	Similar	42%	17	25	36
	Contacted Marion elected officials to express your opinion	Similar	10%	21	23	13
	Attended a local public meeting	Similar	12%	21	25	20
	Watched a local public meeting	Lower	8%	22	23	8
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	Similar	22%	18	23	26

<b>Participation</b>	<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>					
	Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	Similar	11%	18	23	26
	Voted in your most recent local election	Similar	72%	12	20	45
<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Access the internet from your home	Similar	92%	9	19	57
	Access the internet from your cell phone	Similar	93%	8	19	63
	Visit social media sites	Similar	80%	7	19	68
	Use or check email	Similar	96%	9	19	57
	Share your opinions online	Similar	30%	7	19	68
	Shop online	Similar	57%	3	19	89

## Full Trends

This table contains the trends over time for the City of Marion. 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 2022 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.

			2017	2019	2022	2023
<b>Quality of Life</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to live	92%	93%	92%	95%
		The overall quality of life	88%	88%	90%	91%
	<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in Marion to someone who asks	92%	90%	91%	95%
		Remain in Marion for the next five years	91%	85%	87%	93%
	<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Overall image or reputation	80%	82%	82%	86%
<b>Governance</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Public information services	65%	70%	68%	78%
		Overall customer service by Marion employees	79%	79%	86%	87%
	<b>Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to Marion	50%	50%	56%	58%
		The overall direction that Marion is taking	60%	67%	73%	72%
		The job Marion government does at welcoming resident involvement	53%	59%	58%	67%
		Overall confidence in Marion government	58%	61%	70%	71%
		Generally acting in the best interest of the community	60%	64%	70%	75%

<b>Governance</b>	<b>Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.</b>	Being honest	63%	64%	72%	75%	
		Being open and transparent to the public			67%	71%	
		Informing residents about issues facing the community			64%	68%	
		Treating all residents fairly	62%	70%	70%	73%	
		Treating residents with respect			75%	77%	
	<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of Marion	83%	79%	76%	81%	
		The Federal Government	39%	39%	38%	37%	
	<b>Economy</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to work	71%	66%	71%	76%
			Marion as a place to visit	51%	52%	53%	68%
		<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health	74%	75%	77%	82%
<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>		Overall quality of business and service establishments	65%	59%	77%	82%	
		Variety of business and service establishments			56%	69%	
		Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	45%	44%	55%	77%	
		Employment opportunities	41%	43%	45%	61%	
		Shopping opportunities	40%	36%	45%	52%	

<b>Economy</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Cost of living	55%	50%	50%	45%
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Economic development	64%	62%	73%	78%
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	86%	86%	87%	89%
		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:	30%	30%	25%	16%
<b>Mobility</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of the transportation system			57%	65%
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	54%	56%	64%	71%
		Ease of public parking	47%	50%	43%	52%
		Ease of travel by car	64%	67%	74%	79%
		Ease of travel by public transportation	29%	36%	29%	44%
		Ease of travel by bicycle	47%	53%	52%	72%
		Ease of walking	74%	75%	67%	78%
	<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Used public transportation instead of driving	3%	5%	5%	8%
		Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	42%	35%	35%	40%
		Walked or biked instead of driving	51%	51%	54%	53%
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Traffic enforcement	76%	78%	78%	78%	

<b>Mobility</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Traffic signal timing	53%	54%	57%	59%	
		Street repair	35%	34%	41%	52%	
		Street cleaning	57%	50%	66%	72%	
		Street lighting	63%	63%	64%	72%	
		Snow removal	72%	63%	67%	79%	
		Sidewalk maintenance	55%	53%	60%	71%	
		Bus or transit services	47%	51%	41%	52%	
		<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of the transportation system			70%	69%
		<b>Community Design</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Your neighborhood as a place to live	82%	84%	86%
Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	60%			60%	56%	69%	
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Well-planned residential growth				66%	73%	
	Well-planned commercial growth				55%	61%	
	Well-designed neighborhoods				65%	67%	
	Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community				69%	75%	
	Public places where people want to spend time		63%	69%	62%	73%	

<b>Community Design</b>	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Variety of housing options	71%	70%	67%	64%	
		Availability of affordable quality housing	62%	62%	46%	51%	
		Overall quality of new development	59%	65%	73%	75%	
		Overall appearance	78%	81%	78%	87%	
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Land use, planning and zoning	48%	54%	64%	62%	
		Code enforcement	53%	42%	55%	55%	
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	78%	74%	75%	73%	
	<b>Utilities</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure			64%	65%
		<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Affordable high-speed internet access			53%	60%
			Garbage collection	83%	83%	82%	81%
Drinking water			47%	51%	47%	49%	
Sewer services			75%	76%	79%	82%	
Storm water management			76%	66%	75%	83%	
Power (electric and/or gas) utility			82%	75%	80%	83%	
Utility billing			74%	70%	73%	76%	

<b>Utilities</b>	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	88%	92%		
<b>Safety</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall feeling of safety	93%	92%	86%	91%
	<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	In your neighborhood during the day	94%	94%	96%	97%
		In Marion's downtown/commercial area during the day	95%	93%	94%	96%
		From property crime	83%		87%	
		From violent crime	90%		93%	
		From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	72%		83%	
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Police/Sheriff services	88%	85%	87%	84%
		Crime prevention	83%	82%	82%	86%
		Animal control	63%	67%	70%	79%
		Ambulance or emergency medical services	94%	91%	90%	90%
		Fire services	97%	97%	92%	95%
		Fire prevention and education	85%	87%	81%	87%
		Emergency preparedness	68%	66%	66%	80%
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall feeling of safety	88%	89%	87%	87%

<b>Natural environment</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of natural environment	78%	83%	74%	84%
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Cleanliness	81%	84%	85%	88%
		Water resources			28%	35%
		Air quality	82%	85%	81%	82%
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Preservation of natural areas	56%	61%	71%	75%
		Marion open space	57%	57%	65%	75%
		Recycling	78%	80%	67%	73%
		Yard waste pick-up	81%	84%	74%	77%
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of natural environment	78%	75%	74%	73%
	<b>Parks and Recreation</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities			79%
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>		Availability of paths and walking trails	69%	69%	72%	88%
		Fitness opportunities	67%	70%	74%	83%
		Recreational opportunities	58%	58%	67%	74%
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>		City parks	82%	85%	88%	88%
		Recreation programs or classes	66%	70%	73%	80%

<b>Parks and Recreation</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Recreation centers or facilities	57%	65%	73%	79%
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities			78%	76%
<b>Health and wellness</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall health and wellness opportunities	76%	70%	75%	83%
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Availability of affordable quality food	71%	63%	70%	67%
		Availability of affordable quality health care	77%	72%	75%	72%
		Availability of preventive health services	70%	71%	78%	77%
		Availability of affordable quality mental health care	42%	46%	40%	50%
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Health services	76%	74%	83%	80%
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall health and wellness opportunities	76%	71%	71%	72%
Please rate your overall health.		63%	65%	67%	62%	
<b>Education, Arts and Culture</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	76%	74%	69%	74%
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	59%	71%	62%	76%
		Community support for the arts			70%	77%
		Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	61%	60%	53%	58%
		K-12 education	86%	89%	89%	83%

<b>Education, Arts and Culture</b>	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Adult educational opportunities	52%	49%	51%	60%
		Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	66%	69%	68%	82%
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Public library services	86%	79%	77%	96%
		<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	78%	73%	64%
<b>Inclusivity and Engagement</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to raise children	90%	94%	92%	92%
		Marion as a place to retire	67%	69%	72%	80%
		Sense of community	68%	68%	65%	72%
	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Residents' connection and engagement with their community			56%	68%
	<b>Please rate the job you feel the Marion community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome			72%	81%
		Attracting people from diverse backgrounds			57%	66%
		Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds			66%	72%
Taking care of vulnerable residents				57%	68%	
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Sense of civic/community pride			70%	71%	
	Neighborliness of residents	69%	68%	71%	70%	
	Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	58%	66%	65%	77%	

<b>Inclusivity and Engagement</b>	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Opportunities to volunteer	63%	66%	68%	74%
		Opportunities to participate in community matters	62%	60%	63%	68%
		Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	63%	65%	59%	64%
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	78%	78%	66%	69%
<b>Participation</b>	<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of Marion for help or information	40%	40%	38%	42%
		Contacted Marion elected officials to express your opinion	12%	13%	10%	10%
		Attended a local public meeting	15%	14%	9%	12%
		Watched a local public meeting		7%	13%	8%
		Volunteered your time to some group/activity	32%	27%	22%	22%
		Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	25%	18%	13%	11%
		Voted in your most recent local election			69%	72%
		<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Access the internet from your home			92%
	Access the internet from your cell phone			89%	93%	
	Visit social media sites			79%	80%	
	Use or check email			95%	96%	

**Participation**

**In general, how many times do you:**

Share your opinions online























**25%** **30%**

























Shop online

**54%** **57%**

























## 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.
























<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	<b>Marion as a place to live</b>	Excellent		<b>46%</b> N=269
		Good		<b>49%</b> N=289
		Fair		<b>5%</b> N=31
		Poor		<b>0%</b> N=
<b>Your neighborhood as a place to live</b>		Excellent		<b>44%</b> N=260
		Good		<b>45%</b> N=269
		Fair		<b>9%</b> N=56
		Poor		<b>1%</b> N=7
<b>Marion as a place to raise children</b>		Excellent		<b>48%</b> N=240
		Good		<b>44%</b> N=220
		Fair		<b>7%</b> N=33
		Poor		<b>1%</b> N=7
<b>Marion as a place to work</b>		Excellent		<b>27%</b> N=121
		Good		<b>48%</b> N=211
		Fair		<b>20%</b> N=89
		Poor		<b>4%</b> N=18
<b>Marion as a place to visit</b>		Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=115
		Good		<b>47%</b> N=263
		Fair		<b>26%</b> N=146
		Poor		<b>6%</b> N=31
<b>Marion as a place to retire</b>		Excellent		<b>34%</b> N=167
		Good		<b>46%</b> N=231

<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	<b>Marion as a place to retire</b>	Fair		<b>15%</b> N=77
		Poor		<b>5%</b> N=23
	<b>The overall quality of life</b>	Excellent		<b>35%</b> N=202
		Good		<b>56%</b> N=328
		Fair		<b>8%</b> N=49
		Poor		<b>0%</b> N=1
	<b>Sense of community</b>	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=167
		Good		<b>43%</b> N=243
		Fair		<b>25%</b> N=144
		Poor		<b>3%</b> N=16
<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	<b>Overall economic health</b>	Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=116
		Good		<b>60%</b> N=307
		Fair		<b>17%</b> N=88
		Poor		<b>1%</b> N=3
	<b>Overall quality of the transportation system</b>	Excellent		<b>17%</b> N=95
		Good		<b>48%</b> N=265
		Fair		<b>27%</b> N=151
		Poor		<b>7%</b> N=41
	<b>Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas</b>	Excellent		<b>14%</b> N=83
		Good		<b>54%</b> N=314
		Fair		<b>27%</b> N=156
		Poor		<b>4%</b> N=26
	<b>Overall quality of the utility infrastructure</b>	Excellent		<b>19%</b> N=110
		Good		<b>46%</b> N=261

























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

<b>Overall quality of the utility infrastructure</b>	Fair		<b>28%</b> N=157
	Poor		<b>7%</b> N=41
<b>Overall feeling of safety</b>	Excellent		<b>41%</b> N=243
	Good		<b>49%</b> N=290
	Fair		<b>8%</b> N=48
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=8
<b>Overall quality of natural environment</b>	Excellent		<b>27%</b> N=158
	Good		<b>56%</b> N=327
	Fair		<b>15%</b> N=88
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=9
<b>Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities</b>	Excellent		<b>33%</b> N=186
	Good		<b>53%</b> N=301
	Fair		<b>12%</b> N=68
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=10
<b>Overall health and wellness opportunities</b>	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=134
	Good		<b>58%</b> N=320
	Fair		<b>16%</b> N=87
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=9
<b>Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts</b>	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=140
	Good		<b>48%</b> N=263
	Fair		<b>25%</b> N=134
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=12
<b>Residents' connection and engagement with their community</b>	Excellent		<b>16%</b> N=83
	Good		<b>52%</b> N=278

























Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Fair		28% N=151
		Poor		4% N=19
Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.	Recommend living in Marion to someone who asks	Very likely		58% N=333
		Somewhat likely		36% N=208
		Somewhat unlikely		4% N=24
		Very unlikely		1% N=6
Remain in Marion for the next five years		Very likely		69% N=391
		Somewhat likely		24% N=138
		Somewhat unlikely		4% N=22
		Very unlikely		3% N=18
Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:	In your neighborhood during the day	Very safe		83% N=492
		Somewhat safe		14% N=81
		Neither safe nor unsafe		3% N=17
		Somewhat unsafe		0% N=2
In Marion's downtown/commercial area during the day		Very safe		79% N=451
		Somewhat safe		17% N=96
		Neither safe nor unsafe		4% N=24
		Somewhat unsafe		0% N=
From property crime		Very safe		45% N=261
		Somewhat safe		42% N=246
		Neither safe nor unsafe		8% N=49
		Somewhat unsafe		4% N=26
		Very unsafe		0% N=1
From violent crime		Very safe		62% N=361

<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	<b>From violent crime</b>	Somewhat safe		<b>31%</b> N=182
		Neither safe nor unsafe		<b>5%</b> N=29
		Somewhat unsafe		<b>2%</b> N=14
<b>From fire, flood, or other natural disaster</b>		Very safe		<b>46%</b> N=269
		Somewhat safe		<b>37%</b> N=216
		Neither safe nor unsafe		<b>14%</b> N=81
		Somewhat unsafe		<b>3%</b> N=15
		Very unsafe		<b>0%</b> N=1
<b>Please rate the job you feel the Marion community does at each of the following.</b>	<b>Making all residents feel welcome</b>	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=158
		Good		<b>52%</b> N=287
		Fair		<b>15%</b> N=81
		Poor		<b>5%</b> N=25
<b>Attracting people from diverse backgrounds</b>		Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=115
		Good		<b>43%</b> N=211
		Fair		<b>25%</b> N=122
		Poor		<b>9%</b> N=47
<b>Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds</b>		Excellent		<b>28%</b> N=137
		Good		<b>44%</b> N=217
		Fair		<b>21%</b> N=105
		Poor		<b>7%</b> N=35
<b>Taking care of vulnerable residents</b>		Excellent		<b>20%</b> N=87
		Good		<b>48%</b> N=207
		Fair		<b>24%</b> N=105
		Poor		<b>7%</b> N=32

























Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		
		Bar	Percentage	Bar	Percentage	Bar	Percentage	Bar	Percentage	
	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Excellent		26%		56%		17%		2%
		Good		N=153		N=322		N=96		N=9
		Fair								
		Poor								
	Variety of business and service establishments	Excellent		22%		47%		25%		6%
		Good		N=128		N=269		N=147		N=34
		Fair								
		Poor								
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Excellent		31%		46%		19%		4%
		Good		N=174		N=262		N=110		N=20
		Fair								
		Poor								
	Employment opportunities	Excellent		16%		45%		29%		10%
		Good		N=64		N=186		N=121		N=42
		Fair								
		Poor								
	Shopping opportunities	Excellent		13%		39%		35%		13%
		Good		N=75		N=222		N=200		N=77
		Fair								
		Poor								
	Cost of living	Excellent		10%		34%		41%		15%
		Good		N=60		N=199		N=234		N=84
		Fair								
		Poor								

<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	<b>Overall image or reputation</b>	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=168
		Good		<b>57%</b> N=331
		Fair		<b>12%</b> N=70
		Poor		<b>2%</b> N=9
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	<b>Traffic flow on major streets</b>	Excellent		<b>14%</b> N=79
		Good		<b>57%</b> N=332
		Fair		<b>22%</b> N=126
		Poor		<b>8%</b> N=45
<b>Ease of public parking</b>	Excellent		<b>12%</b> N=71	
	Good		<b>40%</b> N=226	
	Fair		<b>32%</b> N=184	
	Poor		<b>16%</b> N=92	
<b>Ease of travel by car</b>	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=148	
	Good		<b>53%</b> N=312	
	Fair		<b>16%</b> N=95	
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=28	
<b>Ease of travel by public transportation</b>	Excellent		<b>10%</b> N=25	
	Good		<b>34%</b> N=85	
	Fair		<b>25%</b> N=63	
	Poor		<b>31%</b> N=77	
<b>Ease of travel by bicycle</b>	Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=84	
	Good		<b>51%</b> N=204	
	Fair		<b>24%</b> N=96	
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=14	

























Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.

<b>Ease of walking</b>	Excellent		<b>30%</b> N=166
	Good		<b>47%</b> N=260
	Fair		<b>21%</b> N=113
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=11
<b>Well-planned residential growth</b>	Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=108
	Good		<b>50%</b> N=237
	Fair		<b>20%</b> N=95
	Poor		<b>7%</b> N=32
<b>Well-planned commercial growth</b>	Excellent		<b>16%</b> N=75
	Good		<b>45%</b> N=203
	Fair		<b>29%</b> N=133
	Poor		<b>10%</b> N=45
<b>Well-designed neighborhoods</b>	Excellent		<b>16%</b> N=88
	Good		<b>51%</b> N=277
	Fair		<b>27%</b> N=145
	Poor		<b>6%</b> N=34
<b>Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community</b>	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=122
	Good		<b>51%</b> N=257
	Fair		<b>19%</b> N=95
	Poor		<b>7%</b> N=33
<b>Public places where people want to spend time</b>	Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=115
	Good		<b>52%</b> N=291
	Fair		<b>24%</b> N=134
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=20

























Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.

<b>Variety of housing options</b>	Excellent		15% N=80
	Good		49% N=260
	Fair		27% N=144
	Poor		9% N=45
<b>Availability of affordable quality housing</b>	Excellent		12% N=54
	Good		39% N=185
	Fair		30% N=143
	Poor		19% N=91
<b>Overall quality of new development</b>	Excellent		20% N=106
	Good		54% N=285
	Fair		22% N=116
	Poor		3% N=17
<b>Overall appearance</b>	Excellent		29% N=172
	Good		58% N=339
	Fair		12% N=69
	Poor		1% N=7
<b>Cleanliness</b>	Excellent		37% N=215
	Good		52% N=301
	Fair		11% N=63
	Poor		1% N=5
<b>Water resources</b>	Excellent		5% N=24
	Good		30% N=150
	Fair		36% N=178
	Poor		28% N=139

























Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.

























<b>Air quality</b>	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=136
	Good		<b>58%</b> N=327
	Fair		<b>17%</b> N=97
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=6
<b>Availability of paths and walking trails</b>	Excellent		<b>35%</b> N=196
	Good		<b>53%</b> N=295
	Fair		<b>11%</b> N=63
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=7
<b>Fitness opportunities</b>	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=157
	Good		<b>53%</b> N=283
	Fair		<b>15%</b> N=81
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=12
<b>Recreational opportunities</b>	Excellent		<b>20%</b> N=105
	Good		<b>54%</b> N=290
	Fair		<b>23%</b> N=123
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=16
<b>Availability of affordable quality food</b>	Excellent		<b>17%</b> N=98
	Good		<b>50%</b> N=289
	Fair		<b>26%</b> N=148
	Poor		<b>8%</b> N=45
<b>Availability of affordable quality health care</b>	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=126
	Good		<b>49%</b> N=258
	Fair		<b>19%</b> N=98
	Poor		<b>9%</b> N=49

























Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.

<b>Availability of preventive health services</b>	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=116
	Good		<b>53%</b> N=258
	Fair		<b>18%</b> N=87
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=25
<b>Availability of affordable quality mental health care</b>	Excellent		<b>16%</b> N=54
	Good		<b>34%</b> N=110
	Fair		<b>28%</b> N=92
	Poor		<b>22%</b> N=72
<b>Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities</b>	Excellent		<b>27%</b> N=148
	Good		<b>49%</b> N=268
	Fair		<b>19%</b> N=107
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=25
<b>Community support for the arts</b>	Excellent		<b>30%</b> N=148
	Good		<b>47%</b> N=233
	Fair		<b>20%</b> N=97
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=17
<b>Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool</b>	Excellent		<b>16%</b> N=47
	Good		<b>42%</b> N=120
	Fair		<b>27%</b> N=77
	Poor		<b>15%</b> N=44
<b>K-12 education</b>	Excellent		<b>36%</b> N=163
	Good		<b>46%</b> N=209
	Fair		<b>14%</b> N=61
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=18

























Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.

<b>Adult educational opportunities</b>	Excellent		<b>15%</b> N=49
	Good		<b>45%</b> N=152
	Fair		<b>28%</b> N=95
	Poor		<b>12%</b> N=41
<b>Sense of civic/community pride</b>	Excellent		<b>19%</b> N=102
	Good		<b>52%</b> N=284
	Fair		<b>25%</b> N=133
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=24
<b>Neighborliness of residents</b>	Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=131
	Good		<b>47%</b> N=268
	Fair		<b>26%</b> N=147
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=25
<b>Opportunities to participate in social events and activities</b>	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=129
	Good		<b>52%</b> N=278
	Fair		<b>20%</b> N=107
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=16
<b>Opportunities to attend special events and festivals</b>	Excellent		<b>30%</b> N=165
	Good		<b>52%</b> N=287
	Fair		<b>15%</b> N=85
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=14
<b>Opportunities to volunteer</b>	Excellent		<b>20%</b> N=81
	Good		<b>54%</b> N=217
	Fair		<b>23%</b> N=91
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=12























<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	<b>Opportunities to participate in community matters</b>	Excellent		<b>19%</b> N=79
		Good		<b>49%</b> N=202
		Fair		<b>27%</b> N=114
		Poor		<b>5%</b> N=21
	<b>Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds</b>	Excellent		<b>18%</b> N=84
		Good		<b>45%</b> N=208
		Fair		<b>28%</b> N=129
		Poor		<b>8%</b> N=37
<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	<b>Contacted the City of Marion for help or information</b>	No		<b>58%</b> N=337
		Yes		<b>42%</b> N=245
	<b>Contacted Marion elected officials to express your opinion</b>	No		<b>90%</b> N=527
		Yes		<b>10%</b> N=58
	<b>Attended a local public meeting</b>	No		<b>88%</b> N=518
		Yes		<b>12%</b> N=69
	<b>Watched a local public meeting</b>	No		<b>92%</b> N=538
		Yes		<b>8%</b> N=49
	<b>Volunteered your time to some group/activity</b>	No		<b>78%</b> N=460
		Yes		<b>22%</b> N=127
	<b>Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate</b>	No		<b>89%</b> N=517
		Yes		<b>11%</b> N=67
	<b>Voted in your most recent local election</b>	No		<b>28%</b> N=165
		Yes		<b>72%</b> N=421
<b>Used public transportation instead of driving</b>	No		<b>92%</b> N=540	
	Yes		<b>8%</b> N=47	

<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	<b>Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone</b>	No		<b>60%</b> N=351
		Yes		<b>40%</b> N=237
	<b>Walked or biked instead of driving</b>	No		<b>47%</b> N=274
		Yes		<b>53%</b> N=314
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	<b>Public information services</b>	Excellent		<b>18%</b> N=83
		Good		<b>60%</b> N=283
		Fair		<b>18%</b> N=85
		Poor		<b>4%</b> N=18
<b>Economic development</b>	Excellent		<b>20%</b> N=90	
	Good		<b>58%</b> N=263	
	Fair		<b>20%</b> N=91	
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=11	
<b>Traffic enforcement</b>	Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=123	
	Good		<b>56%</b> N=303	
	Fair		<b>18%</b> N=97	
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=21	
<b>Traffic signal timing</b>	Excellent		<b>14%</b> N=81	
	Good		<b>45%</b> N=253	
	Fair		<b>27%</b> N=153	
	Poor		<b>14%</b> N=78	
<b>Street repair</b>	Excellent		<b>9%</b> N=51	
	Good		<b>43%</b> N=242	
	Fair		<b>36%</b> N=205	
	Poor		<b>12%</b> N=71	

























Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.

<b>Street cleaning</b>	Excellent		<b>19%</b> N=104
	Good		<b>53%</b> N=296
	Fair		<b>23%</b> N=129
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=29
<b>Street lighting</b>	Excellent		<b>18%</b> N=104
	Good		<b>54%</b> N=306
	Fair		<b>22%</b> N=125
	Poor		<b>6%</b> N=34
<b>Snow removal</b>	Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=120
	Good		<b>58%</b> N=326
	Fair		<b>15%</b> N=86
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=30
<b>Sidewalk maintenance</b>	Excellent		<b>11%</b> N=59
	Good		<b>60%</b> N=318
	Fair		<b>24%</b> N=130
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=27
<b>Bus or transit services</b>	Excellent		<b>13%</b> N=28
	Good		<b>38%</b> N=84
	Fair		<b>30%</b> N=65
	Poor		<b>19%</b> N=42
<b>Land use, planning and zoning</b>	Excellent		<b>11%</b> N=42
	Good		<b>50%</b> N=193
	Fair		<b>30%</b> N=115
	Poor		<b>8%</b> N=32

























Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.

<b>Code enforcement</b>	Excellent		<b>12%</b> N=50
	Good		<b>43%</b> N=175
	Fair		<b>36%</b> N=147
	Poor		<b>9%</b> N=37
<b>Affordable high-speed internet access</b>	Excellent		<b>18%</b> N=98
	Good		<b>41%</b> N=223
	Fair		<b>26%</b> N=142
	Poor		<b>14%</b> N=75
<b>Garbage collection</b>	Excellent		<b>38%</b> N=213
	Good		<b>43%</b> N=240
	Fair		<b>12%</b> N=67
	Poor		<b>7%</b> N=38
<b>Drinking water</b>	Excellent		<b>15%</b> N=84
	Good		<b>34%</b> N=196
	Fair		<b>24%</b> N=138
	Poor		<b>27%</b> N=155
<b>Sewer services</b>	Excellent		<b>26%</b> N=141
	Good		<b>57%</b> N=312
	Fair		<b>16%</b> N=90
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=9
<b>Storm water management</b>	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=126
	Good		<b>58%</b> N=298
	Fair		<b>15%</b> N=75
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=11

























Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.

























<b>Power (electric and/or gas) utility</b>	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=166
	Good		<b>54%</b> N=311
	Fair		<b>13%</b> N=74
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=23
<b>Utility billing</b>	Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=117
	Good		<b>55%</b> N=310
	Fair		<b>17%</b> N=95
	Poor		<b>7%</b> N=40
<b>Police/Sheriff services</b>	Excellent		<b>38%</b> N=204
	Good		<b>46%</b> N=244
	Fair		<b>12%</b> N=65
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=21
<b>Crime prevention</b>	Excellent		<b>33%</b> N=167
	Good		<b>53%</b> N=266
	Fair		<b>13%</b> N=63
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=5
<b>Animal control</b>	Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=95
	Good		<b>56%</b> N=228
	Fair		<b>16%</b> N=65
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=21
<b>Ambulance or emergency medical services</b>	Excellent		<b>43%</b> N=189
	Good		<b>47%</b> N=207
	Fair		<b>9%</b> N=40
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=4

























Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.

























<b>Fire services</b>	Excellent		<b>50%</b> N=229
	Good		<b>45%</b> N=203
	Fair		<b>4%</b> N=20
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=4
<b>Fire prevention and education</b>	Excellent		<b>36%</b> N=133
	Good		<b>50%</b> N=184
	Fair		<b>12%</b> N=46
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=3
<b>Emergency preparedness</b>	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=103
	Good		<b>56%</b> N=235
	Fair		<b>16%</b> N=68
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=16
<b>Preservation of natural areas</b>	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=107
	Good		<b>51%</b> N=234
	Fair		<b>19%</b> N=88
	Poor		<b>6%</b> N=26
<b>Marion open space</b>	Excellent		<b>19%</b> N=93
	Good		<b>56%</b> N=274
	Fair		<b>21%</b> N=105
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=17
<b>Recycling</b>	Excellent		<b>26%</b> N=143
	Good		<b>47%</b> N=254
	Fair		<b>18%</b> N=98
	Poor		<b>9%</b> N=48

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.

























<b>Yard waste pick-up</b>	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=145
	Good		<b>49%</b> N=246
	Fair		<b>15%</b> N=75
	Poor		<b>8%</b> N=39
<b>City parks</b>	Excellent		<b>31%</b> N=174
	Good		<b>57%</b> N=324
	Fair		<b>11%</b> N=65
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=5
<b>Recreation programs or classes</b>	Excellent		<b>26%</b> N=111
	Good		<b>53%</b> N=224
	Fair		<b>19%</b> N=82
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=4
<b>Recreation centers or facilities</b>	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=127
	Good		<b>50%</b> N=222
	Fair		<b>18%</b> N=80
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=13
<b>Health services</b>	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=123
	Good		<b>54%</b> N=264
	Fair		<b>18%</b> N=87
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=12
<b>Public library services</b>	Excellent		<b>59%</b> N=308
	Good		<b>36%</b> N=186
	Fair		<b>4%</b> N=19
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=5

























Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.	<b>Overall customer service by Marion employees</b>	Excellent		<b>41%</b> N=206
		Good		<b>46%</b> N=234
		Fair		<b>11%</b> N=55
		Poor		<b>2%</b> N=11
				<hr/>
Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.	<b>The value of services for the taxes paid to Marion</b>	Excellent		<b>12%</b> N=63
		Good		<b>46%</b> N=237
		Fair		<b>32%</b> N=165
		Poor		<b>10%</b> N=51
				<hr/>
	<b>The overall direction that Marion is taking</b>	Excellent		<b>26%</b> N=140
		Good		<b>46%</b> N=244
		Fair		<b>23%</b> N=123
		Poor		<b>4%</b> N=23
				<hr/>
	<b>The job Marion government does at welcoming resident involvement</b>	Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=87
		Good		<b>46%</b> N=189
		Fair		<b>26%</b> N=107
		Poor		<b>7%</b> N=29
				<hr/>
	<b>Overall confidence in Marion government</b>	Excellent		<b>22%</b> N=112
		Good		<b>50%</b> N=258
		Fair		<b>23%</b> N=118
		Poor		<b>6%</b> N=31
				<hr/>
	<b>Generally acting in the best interest of the community</b>	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=128
		Good		<b>51%</b> N=270
		Fair		<b>19%</b> N=99
		Poor		<b>6%</b> N=31

Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.			
<b>Being honest</b>	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=114
	Good		<b>49%</b> N=224
	Fair		<b>19%</b> N=87
	Poor		<b>6%</b> N=29
<b>Being open and transparent to the public</b>	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=109
	Good		<b>46%</b> N=207
	Fair		<b>22%</b> N=99
	Poor		<b>7%</b> N=32
<b>Informing residents about issues facing the community</b>	Excellent		<b>20%</b> N=97
	Good		<b>48%</b> N=228
	Fair		<b>22%</b> N=108
	Poor		<b>10%</b> N=47
<b>Treating all residents fairly</b>	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=108
	Good		<b>48%</b> N=210
	Fair		<b>20%</b> N=85
	Poor		<b>8%</b> N=34
<b>Treating residents with respect</b>	Excellent		<b>28%</b> N=128
	Good		<b>49%</b> N=230
	Fair		<b>19%</b> N=90
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=18
<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	<b>The City of Marion</b>	Excellent	
		Good	
		Fair	
		Poor	

























<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	<b>The Federal Government</b>	Excellent		<b>4%</b> N=24
		Good		<b>33%</b> N=177
		Fair		<b>41%</b> N=220
		Poor		<b>22%</b> N=121
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	<b>Overall economic health</b>	Essential		<b>42%</b> N=240
		Very important		<b>48%</b> N=276
		Somewhat important		<b>10%</b> N=59
		Not at all important		<b>1%</b> N=3
<b>Overall quality of the transportation system</b>	Essential		<b>26%</b> N=149	
	Very important		<b>44%</b> N=255	
	Somewhat important		<b>27%</b> N=157	
	Not at all important		<b>4%</b> N=22	
<b>Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas</b>	Essential		<b>28%</b> N=164	
	Very important		<b>45%</b> N=266	
	Somewhat important		<b>24%</b> N=142	
	Not at all important		<b>2%</b> N=14	
<b>Overall quality of the utility infrastructure</b>	Essential		<b>49%</b> N=287	
	Very important		<b>43%</b> N=247	
	Somewhat important		<b>7%</b> N=40	
	Not at all important		<b>1%</b> N=6	
<b>Overall feeling of safety</b>	Essential		<b>53%</b> N=312	
	Very important		<b>34%</b> N=199	
	Somewhat important		<b>11%</b> N=62	
	Not at all important		<b>2%</b> N=13	

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

























<b>Overall quality of natural environment</b>	Essential		25% N=145	
	Very important		48% N=279	
	Somewhat important		25% N=144	
	Not at all important		3% N=15	
<b>Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities</b>	Essential		25% N=146	
	Very important		51% N=298	
	Somewhat important		23% N=136	
	Not at all important		1% N=4	
<b>Overall health and wellness opportunities</b>	Essential		27% N=158	
	Very important		45% N=265	
	Somewhat important		25% N=145	
	Not at all important		3% N=18	
<b>Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts</b>	Essential		24% N=142	
	Very important		47% N=278	
	Somewhat important		23% N=136	
	Not at all important		5% N=32	
<b>Residents' connection and engagement with their community</b>	Essential		20% N=115	
	Very important		49% N=289	
	Somewhat important		29% N=168	
	Not at all important		2% N=14	
<b>Please indicate how much of a source, if at all, you consider each of the following to be for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events and services:</b>	<b>The City website (www.cityofmarion.org)</b>	Major source		63% N=359
		Minor source		29% N=164
		Not a source		8% N=49
	<b>Local media outlets (newspapers, radio, local television stations)</b>	Major source		41% N=238

























Please indicate how much of a source, if at all, you consider each of the following to be for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events and services:	<b>Local media outlets (newspapers, radio, local television stations)</b>	Minor source		<b>50%</b> N=288
		Not a source		<b>9%</b> N=55
	<b>Marion Messenger (City newsletter)</b>	Major source		<b>59%</b> N=340
		Minor source		<b>32%</b> N=186
		Not a source		<b>9%</b> N=50
	<b>City Council meetings and other public meetings</b>	Major source		<b>23%</b> N=134
		Minor source		<b>45%</b> N=262
		Not a source		<b>31%</b> N=182
	<b>Recordings of City Council Meetings</b>	Major source		<b>20%</b> N=117
		Minor source		<b>38%</b> N=220
		Not a source		<b>41%</b> N=238
	<b>Talking with City officials</b>	Major source		<b>25%</b> N=142
		Minor source		<b>42%</b> N=241
		Not a source		<b>33%</b> N=190
	<b>City communications via social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)</b>	Major source		<b>48%</b> N=278
		Minor source		<b>31%</b> N=178
		Not a source		<b>22%</b> N=127
	<b>Word-of-mouth</b>	Major source		<b>28%</b> N=165
Minor source			<b>48%</b> N=280	
Not a source			<b>24%</b> N=139	
Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a property tax or fee increase to fund improvements to each of the following facilities or services:	<b>Schools</b>	Strongly support		<b>38%</b> N=216
		Somewhat support		<b>34%</b> N=193
		Somewhat oppose		<b>14%</b> N=82
		Strongly oppose		<b>14%</b> N=77

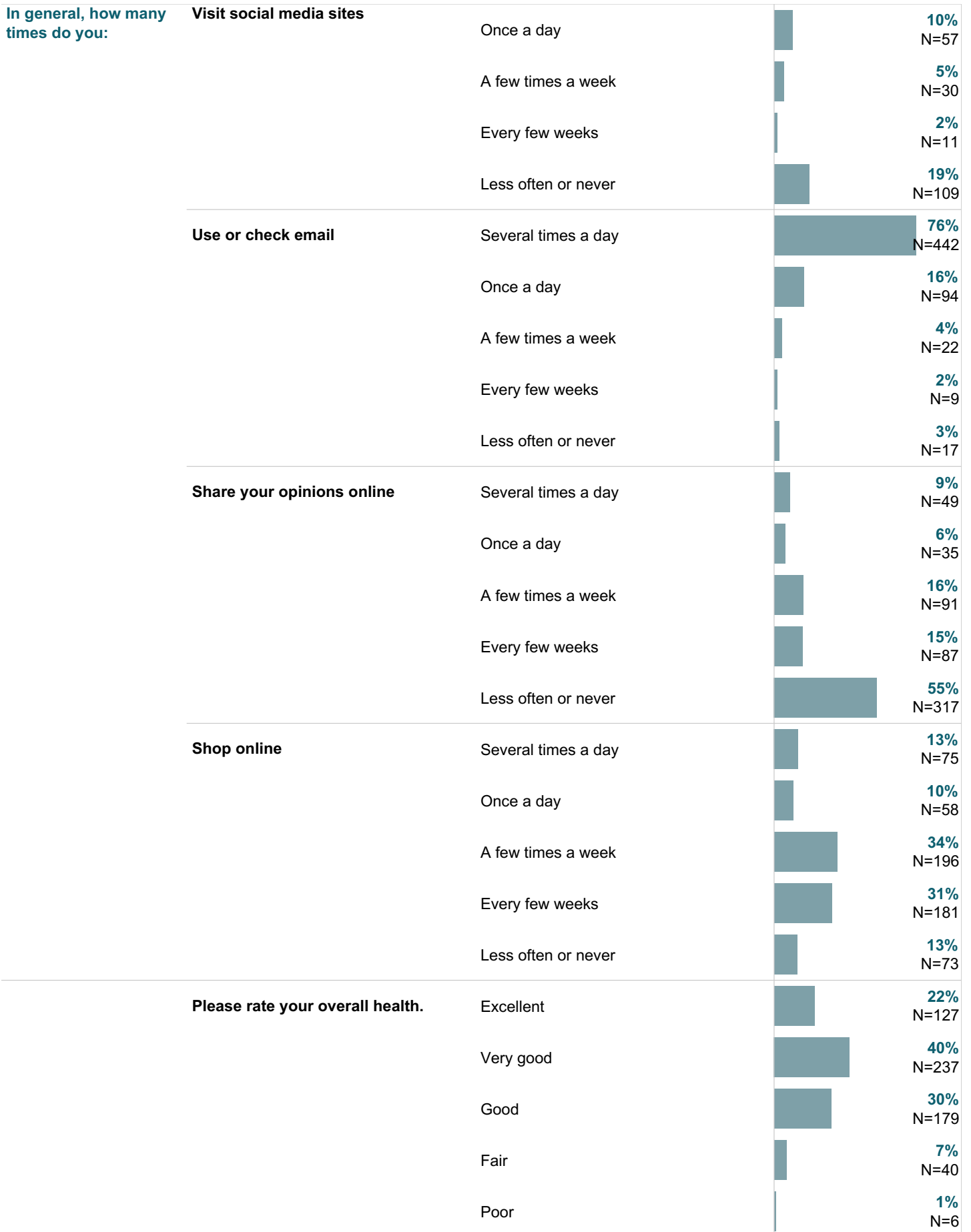
Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a property tax or fee increase to fund improvements to each of the following facilities or services:

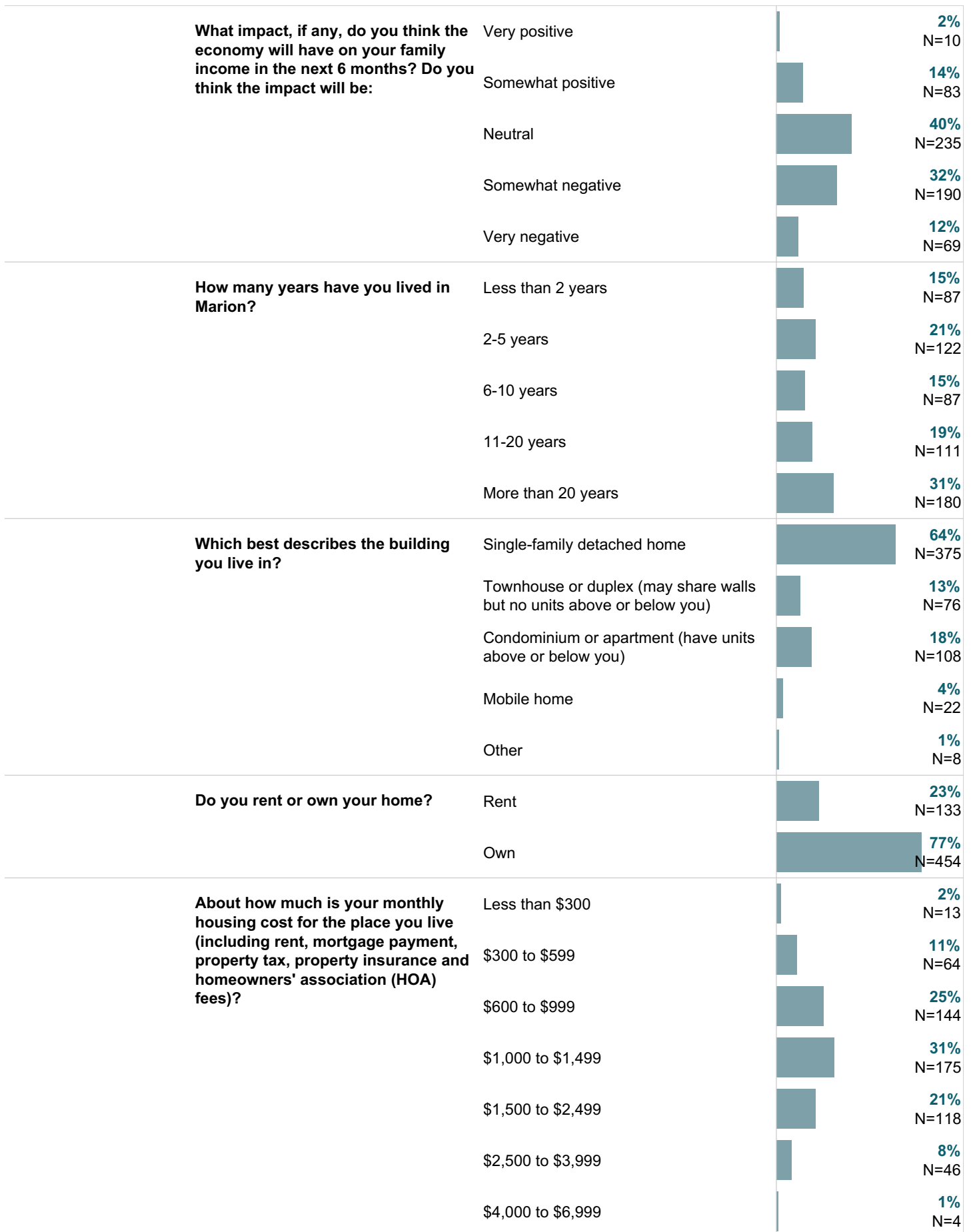
<b>Library services</b>	Strongly support		<b>24%</b> N=141
	Somewhat support		<b>39%</b> N=228
	Somewhat oppose		<b>21%</b> N=123
	Strongly oppose		<b>16%</b> N=93
<b>Public safety/fire and police</b>	Strongly support		<b>46%</b> N=268
	Somewhat support		<b>38%</b> N=220
	Somewhat oppose		<b>10%</b> N=62
	Strongly oppose		<b>6%</b> N=37
<b>Street/infrastructure improvements</b>	Strongly support		<b>39%</b> N=227
	Somewhat support		<b>48%</b> N=281
	Somewhat oppose		<b>8%</b> N=47
	Strongly oppose		<b>6%</b> N=32
<b>Public art</b>	Strongly support		<b>11%</b> N=66
	Somewhat support		<b>37%</b> N=218
	Somewhat oppose		<b>29%</b> N=167
	Strongly oppose		<b>23%</b> N=131
<b>Parks</b>	Strongly support		<b>27%</b> N=158
	Somewhat support		<b>54%</b> N=316
	Somewhat oppose		<b>12%</b> N=70
	Strongly oppose		<b>7%</b> N=40
<b>Community center</b>	Strongly support		<b>19%</b> N=111
	Somewhat support		<b>48%</b> N=276
	Somewhat oppose		<b>22%</b> N=126
	Strongly oppose		<b>11%</b> N=64























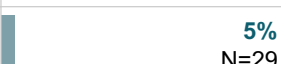

Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a property tax or fee increase to fund improvements to each of the following facilities or services:

<b>Outdoor pool/aquatic center</b>	Strongly support		<b>29%</b> N=166
	Somewhat support		<b>40%</b> N=231
	Somewhat oppose		<b>20%</b> N=115
	Strongly oppose		<b>12%</b> N=68
<b>Outdoor trails</b>	Strongly support		<b>30%</b> N=178
	Somewhat support		<b>47%</b> N=278
	Somewhat oppose		<b>15%</b> N=86
	Strongly oppose		<b>8%</b> N=45
<b>Recreation services</b>	Strongly support		<b>20%</b> N=118
	Somewhat support		<b>58%</b> N=337
	Somewhat oppose		<b>15%</b> N=86
	Strongly oppose		<b>8%</b> N=45
<b>Park development</b>	Strongly support		<b>25%</b> N=144
	Somewhat support		<b>52%</b> N=301
	Somewhat oppose		<b>15%</b> N=89
	Strongly oppose		<b>8%</b> N=47
<b>Public transportation</b>	Strongly support		<b>21%</b> N=122
	Somewhat support		<b>44%</b> N=255
	Somewhat oppose		<b>23%</b> N=133
	Strongly oppose		<b>13%</b> N=76
<b>Ambulance service</b>	Strongly support		<b>46%</b> N=272
	Somewhat support		<b>38%</b> N=225
	Somewhat oppose		<b>9%</b> N=51
	Strongly oppose		<b>6%</b> N=38

<p><b>The City is currently reviewing options for the future of some of its original brick streets. Understanding that saving and reusing the original brick increases the cost of reconstruction, to what extent do you support the reuse of original brick as:</b></p>	<p><b>A reconstructed street in historic neighborhoods</b></p>	Strongly support		<b>25%</b> N=145
		Somewhat support		<b>33%</b> N=192
		Somewhat oppose		<b>24%</b> N=141
		Strongly oppose		<b>18%</b> N=106
	<p><b>A crosswalk-like band in historic neighborhoods</b></p>	Strongly support		<b>37%</b> N=218
		Somewhat support		<b>39%</b> N=229
		Somewhat oppose		<b>11%</b> N=62
		Strongly oppose		<b>13%</b> N=74
<p><b>The City of Marion is required by the State of Iowa to allow the sale of fireworks within city limits. City Council has authorized the use of fireworks on private property two days each year (July 4 and Dec. 31). To what extent do you support or oppose the private use of fireworks within city limits?</b></p>	Strongly support		<b>28%</b> N=90	
	Somewhat support		<b>16%</b> N=51	
	Neutral		<b>19%</b> N=61	
	Somewhat oppose		<b>14%</b> N=45	
	Strongly oppose		<b>22%</b> N=70	
<p><b>In general, how many times do you:</b></p>	<p><b>Access the internet from your home</b></p>	Several times a day		<b>78%</b> N=458
		Once a day		<b>6%</b> N=34
		A few times a week		<b>8%</b> N=47
		Every few weeks		<b>3%</b> N=16
		Less often or never		<b>5%</b> N=32
	<p><b>Access the internet from your cell phone</b></p>	Several times a day		<b>86%</b> N=499
		Once a day		<b>4%</b> N=24
		A few times a week		<b>2%</b> N=14
		Every few weeks		<b>0%</b> N=3
		Less often or never		<b>7%</b> N=40
<p><b>Visit social media sites</b></p>	Several times a day		<b>65%</b> N=377	





<b>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)?</b>	\$7,000 to \$9,999		<b>0%</b> N=2
	\$10,000 or more		<b>0%</b> N=2
<b>Do any children 17 or under live in your household?</b>	No		<b>65%</b> N=382
	Yes		<b>35%</b> N=207
<b>Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?</b>	No		<b>70%</b> N=411
	Yes		<b>30%</b> N=178
<b>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.)</b>	Less than \$25,000		<b>7%</b> N=38
	\$25,000 to \$49,999		<b>19%</b> N=106
	\$50,000 to \$74,999		<b>21%</b> N=120
	\$75,000 to \$99,999		<b>13%</b> N=74
	\$100,000 to \$149,999		<b>19%</b> N=108
	\$150,000 to \$199,999		<b>12%</b> N=70
	\$200,000 to \$299,999		<b>7%</b> N=38
	\$300,000 or more		<b>3%</b> N=18
<b>Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?</b>	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin		<b>98%</b> N=573
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin		<b>2%</b> N=10
<b>What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)</b>	American Indian or Alaska Native		<b>1%</b> N=5
	Asian		<b>2%</b> N=9
	Black or African American		<b>2%</b> N=15
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		<b>0%</b> N=1
	White		<b>93%</b> N=547
	A race not listed		<b>3%</b> N=19
<b>In which category is your age?</b>	18-24 years		<b>5%</b> N=29
	25-34 years		<b>19%</b> N=114

<b>In which category is your age?</b>	35-44 years		<b>18%</b> N=105
	45-54 years		<b>20%</b> N=116
	55-64 years		<b>10%</b> N=59
	65-74 years		<b>15%</b> N=89
	75 years or older		<b>13%</b> N=77
<b>What is your gender?</b>	Woman		<b>53%</b> N=313
	Man		<b>46%</b> N=269
	Identify in another way		<b>1%</b> N=5
<b>If you identify in another way, how would you describe your gender?</b>	Genderqueer/gender fluid		<b>100%</b> N=5

## Methods (open participation)



As part of its participation in The National Community Survey™ (The NCS™), the City of Marion conducted a survey of 593 residents. Survey invitations were mailed to randomly selected households and data were collected from September 13, 2023 to October 25, 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 Marion. The open participation survey was identical to the probability sample survey with two small updates; it included a map at the beginning asking where the respondent lives and also a question about where they heard about the survey. The open participation survey was open to all city residents and became available on October 11, 2023. The survey remained open for two weeks and there were 272 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 Marion. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, housing tenure, and area. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.<sup>19</sup> The results of the weighting scheme for the open participation survey are presented in the following table.

		Unweighted	Weighted	Target <sup>20</sup>
<b>Age</b>	18-34	10%	25%	25%
	35-54	41%	37%	37%
	55+	49%	38%	38%
<b>Area</b>	District 1	26%	27%	27%
	District 2	22%	24%	24%
	District 3	23%	25%	25%
	District 4	28%	24%	24%
<b>Hispanic origin</b>	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	98%	98%	98%
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	2%	2%	2%
<b>Housing tenure</b>	Own	94%	77%	77%
	Rent	6%	23%	23%
<b>Housing type</b>	Attached	14%	35%	35%
	Detached	86%	65%	65%
<b>Race &amp; Hispanic origin</b>	Not white alone	6%	8%	8%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	94%	92%	92%

















<b>Sex</b>	Man	<b>43%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>47%</b>
	Woman	<b>57%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>53%</b>
<b>Sex/age</b>	Man 18-34	<b>5%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>12%</b>
	Man 35-54	<b>17%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>19%</b>
	Man 55+	<b>21%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>17%</b>
	Woman 18-34	<b>6%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>13%</b>
	Woman 35-54	<b>24%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>19%</b>
	Woman 55+	<b>28%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>21%</b>



















19. Pasek, J. (2014). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from <https://surveyinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Full-anesrake-paper.pdf>

20. Targets come from the 2020 Census and 2022 American Community Survey.



















## 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.

<b>Quality of Life</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to live	Excellent		<b>50%</b> N=135
			Good		<b>39%</b> N=107
			Fair		<b>10%</b> N=27
			Poor		<b>1%</b> N=3
		The overall quality of life	Excellent		<b>34%</b> N=92
			Good		<b>53%</b> N=143
			Fair		<b>11%</b> N=30
			Poor		<b>2%</b> N=5
	<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in Marion to someone who asks	Very likely		<b>54%</b> N=146
			Somewhat likely		<b>35%</b> N=94
			Somewhat unlikely		<b>5%</b> N=15
			Very unlikely		<b>6%</b> N=15
		Remain in Marion for the next five years	Very likely		<b>72%</b> N=191
			Somewhat likely		<b>16%</b> N=42
			Somewhat unlikely		<b>8%</b> N=21
			Very unlikely		<b>4%</b> N=11

<b>Quality of Life</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Overall image or reputation	Excellent		<b>32%</b> N=84	
			Good		<b>51%</b> N=135	
			Fair		<b>14%</b> N=37	
			Poor		<b>3%</b> N=9	
<b>Governance</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Public information services	Excellent		<b>22%</b> N=55	
			Good		<b>48%</b> N=121	
			Fair		<b>26%</b> N=67	
			Poor		<b>4%</b> N=10	
			Overall customer service by Marion employees	Excellent		<b>34%</b> N=81
				Good		<b>45%</b> N=109
				Fair		<b>17%</b> N=40
				Poor		<b>4%</b> N=10
	<b>Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to Marion	Excellent		<b>18%</b> N=44	
			Good		<b>36%</b> N=87	
			Fair		<b>28%</b> N=67	
			Poor		<b>19%</b> N=46	
				The overall direction that Marion is taking	Excellent	
			Good		<b>38%</b> N=98	

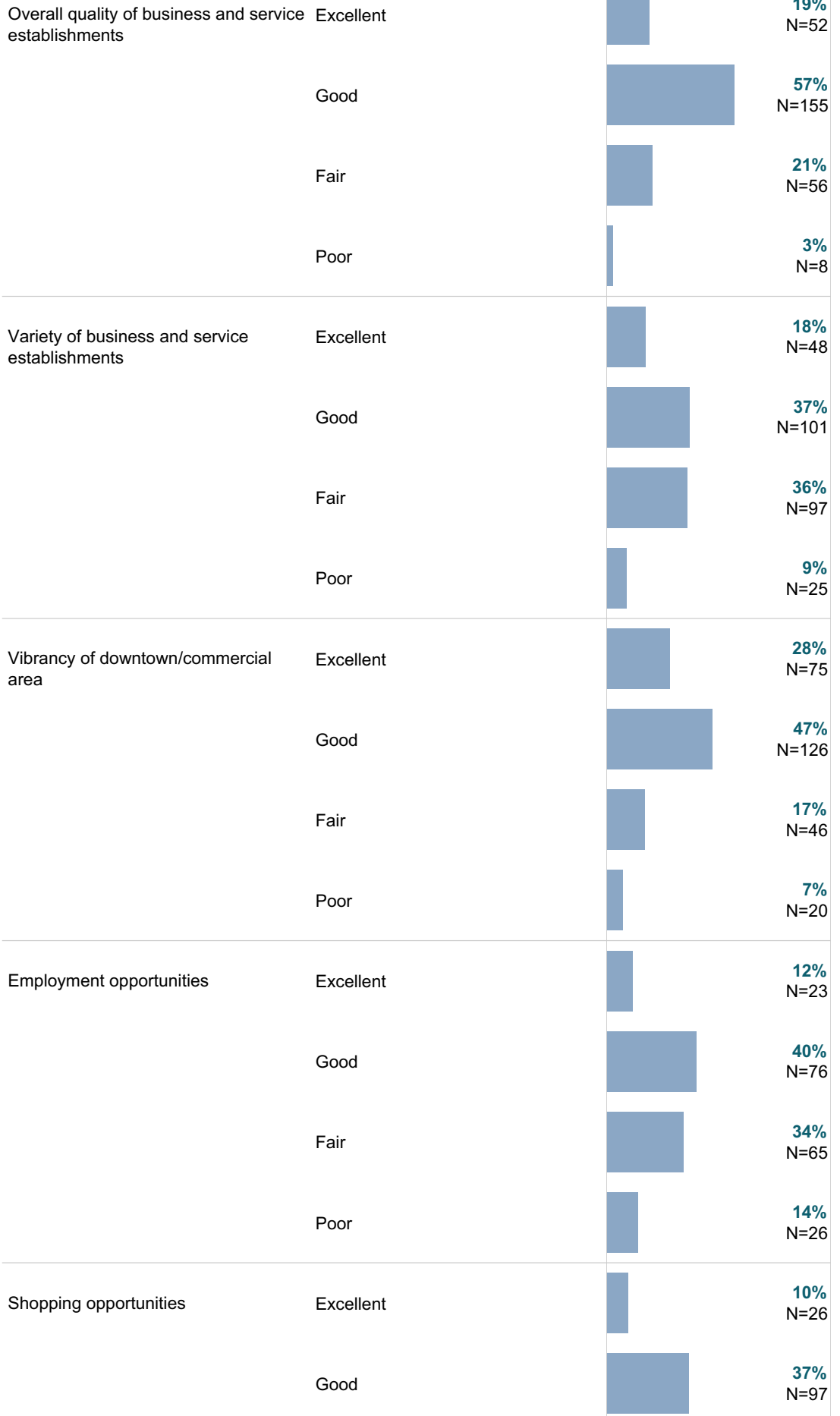
Governance	Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.		
		Category	Percentage / Count
	The overall direction that Marion is taking	Fair	18% N=47
		Poor	9% N=23
	The job Marion government does at welcoming resident involvement	Excellent	22% N=51
		Good	38% N=87
		Fair	30% N=69
		Poor	10% N=22
	Overall confidence in Marion government	Excellent	30% N=76
		Good	36% N=92
		Fair	19% N=48
		Poor	15% N=39
	Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Excellent	33% N=88
		Good	34% N=89
		Fair	18% N=48
		Poor	15% N=38
	Being honest	Excellent	29% N=72
		Good	40% N=98
		Fair	16% N=39
		Poor	15% N=38



















<b>Governance</b>		<b>Please rate the following categories of Marion government performance.</b>			
	Being open and transparent to the public	Excellent		<b>28%</b>	N=69
		Good		<b>36%</b>	N=89
		Fair		<b>22%</b>	N=56
		Poor		<b>15%</b>	N=36
	Informing residents about issues facing the community	Excellent		<b>23%</b>	N=57
		Good		<b>39%</b>	N=97
		Fair		<b>24%</b>	N=59
		Poor		<b>14%</b>	N=35
	Treating all residents fairly	Excellent		<b>22%</b>	N=48
		Good		<b>42%</b>	N=91
		Fair		<b>25%</b>	N=54
		Poor		<b>12%</b>	N=26
	Treating residents with respect	Excellent		<b>32%</b>	N=72
		Good		<b>42%</b>	N=96
		Fair		<b>20%</b>	N=47
		Poor		<b>6%</b>	N=14
	Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the City of Marion departments?	Excellent		<b>30%</b>	N=79
		Good		<b>44%</b>	N=117



















<b>Governance</b>	<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of Marion	Fair		<b>22%</b> N=59		
			Poor		<b>5%</b> N=13		
		The Federal Government	Excellent		<b>5%</b> N=14		
			Good		<b>25%</b> N=66		
			Fair		<b>40%</b> N=102		
			Poor		<b>30%</b> N=76		
		<b>Economy</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b>	Marion as a place to work	Excellent		<b>26%</b> N=47
					Good		<b>38%</b> N=70
Fair					<b>25%</b> N=46		
Poor					<b>11%</b> N=20		
Marion as a place to visit	Excellent				<b>20%</b> N=52		
	Good				<b>42%</b> N=106		
	Fair				<b>28%</b> N=72		
	Poor				<b>10%</b> N=25		
<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health			Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=57	
				Good		<b>52%</b> N=129	
				Fair		<b>21%</b> N=51	
				Poor		<b>5%</b> N=12	

**Economy**



















**Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.**



<b>Economy</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Shopping opportunities	Fair		<b>34%</b> N=89
			Poor		<b>20%</b> N=54
		Cost of living	Excellent		<b>7%</b> N=19
			Good		<b>35%</b> N=95
			Fair		<b>40%</b> N=108
			Poor		<b>17%</b> N=46
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Economic development	Excellent		<b>22%</b> N=56	
		Good		<b>49%</b> N=124	
		Fair		<b>22%</b> N=55	
		Poor		<b>6%</b> N=15	
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	Essential		<b>46%</b> N=121	
		Very important		<b>45%</b> N=118	
		Somewhat important		<b>10%</b> N=26	
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		<b>2%</b> N=6		
	Somewhat positive		<b>11%</b> N=31		
	Neutral		<b>36%</b> N=98		
	Somewhat negative		<b>36%</b> N=97		
	Very negative		<b>14%</b> N=38		



















<b>Mobility</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of the transportation system	Excellent		<b>9%</b> N=23
			Good		<b>49%</b> N=125
			Fair		<b>33%</b> N=84
			Poor		<b>9%</b> N=22
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	Excellent		<b>13%</b> N=36
		Good		<b>51%</b> N=138	
		Fair		<b>25%</b> N=68	
		Poor		<b>11%</b> N=29	
	Ease of public parking	Excellent		<b>9%</b> N=25	
		Good		<b>42%</b> N=110	
		Fair		<b>31%</b> N=81	
		Poor		<b>18%</b> N=46	
	Ease of travel by car	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=78	
		Good		<b>44%</b> N=119	
		Fair		<b>23%</b> N=62	
		Poor		<b>5%</b> N=12	
	Ease of travel by public transportation	Excellent		<b>5%</b> N=5	
		Good		<b>16%</b> N=19	

**Mobility**

<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Ease of travel by public transportation	Fair		<b>30%</b> N=35
		Poor		<b>49%</b> N=56
	Ease of travel by bicycle	Excellent		<b>18%</b> N=39
		Good		<b>44%</b> N=93
Fair			<b>27%</b> N=58	
Poor			<b>11%</b> N=23	
Ease of walking	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=66	
	Good		<b>40%</b> N=105	
	Fair		<b>29%</b> N=74	
	Poor		<b>6%</b> N=15	
<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Used public transportation instead of driving	No		<b>93%</b> N=254
		Yes		<b>7%</b> N=18
	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	No		<b>54%</b> N=147
		Yes		<b>46%</b> N=125
	Walked or biked instead of driving	No		<b>42%</b> N=112
		Yes		<b>58%</b> N=158
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Traffic enforcement	Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=55
		Good		<b>49%</b> N=131

















**Mobility**

**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.**

Traffic enforcement	Fair		<b>18%</b> N=47
	Poor		<b>12%</b> N=33
Traffic signal timing	Excellent		<b>11%</b> N=30
	Good		<b>38%</b> N=103
	Fair		<b>29%</b> N=78
	Poor		<b>22%</b> N=59
Street repair	Excellent		<b>11%</b> N=30
	Good		<b>34%</b> N=91
	Fair		<b>33%</b> N=90
	Poor		<b>22%</b> N=60
Street cleaning	Excellent		<b>17%</b> N=45
	Good		<b>45%</b> N=120
	Fair		<b>29%</b> N=78
	Poor		<b>9%</b> N=24
Street lighting	Excellent		<b>19%</b> N=50
	Good		<b>42%</b> N=111
	Fair		<b>27%</b> N=71
	Poor		<b>13%</b> N=35



**Mobility**

**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.**



















Snow removal	Excellent		<b>28%</b> N=73
	Good		<b>46%</b> N=117
	Fair		<b>16%</b> N=41
	Poor		<b>10%</b> N=25
Sidewalk maintenance	Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=53
	Good		<b>37%</b> N=92
	Fair		<b>35%</b> N=86
	Poor		<b>7%</b> N=17
Bus or transit services	Excellent		<b>12%</b> N=12
	Good		<b>12%</b> N=12
	Fair		<b>37%</b> N=38
	Poor		<b>39%</b> N=40
Overall quality of the transportation system	Essential		<b>28%</b> N=75
	Very important		<b>44%</b> N=118
	Somewhat important		<b>22%</b> N=60
	Not at all important		<b>6%</b> N=17

**Community Design**

**Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.**

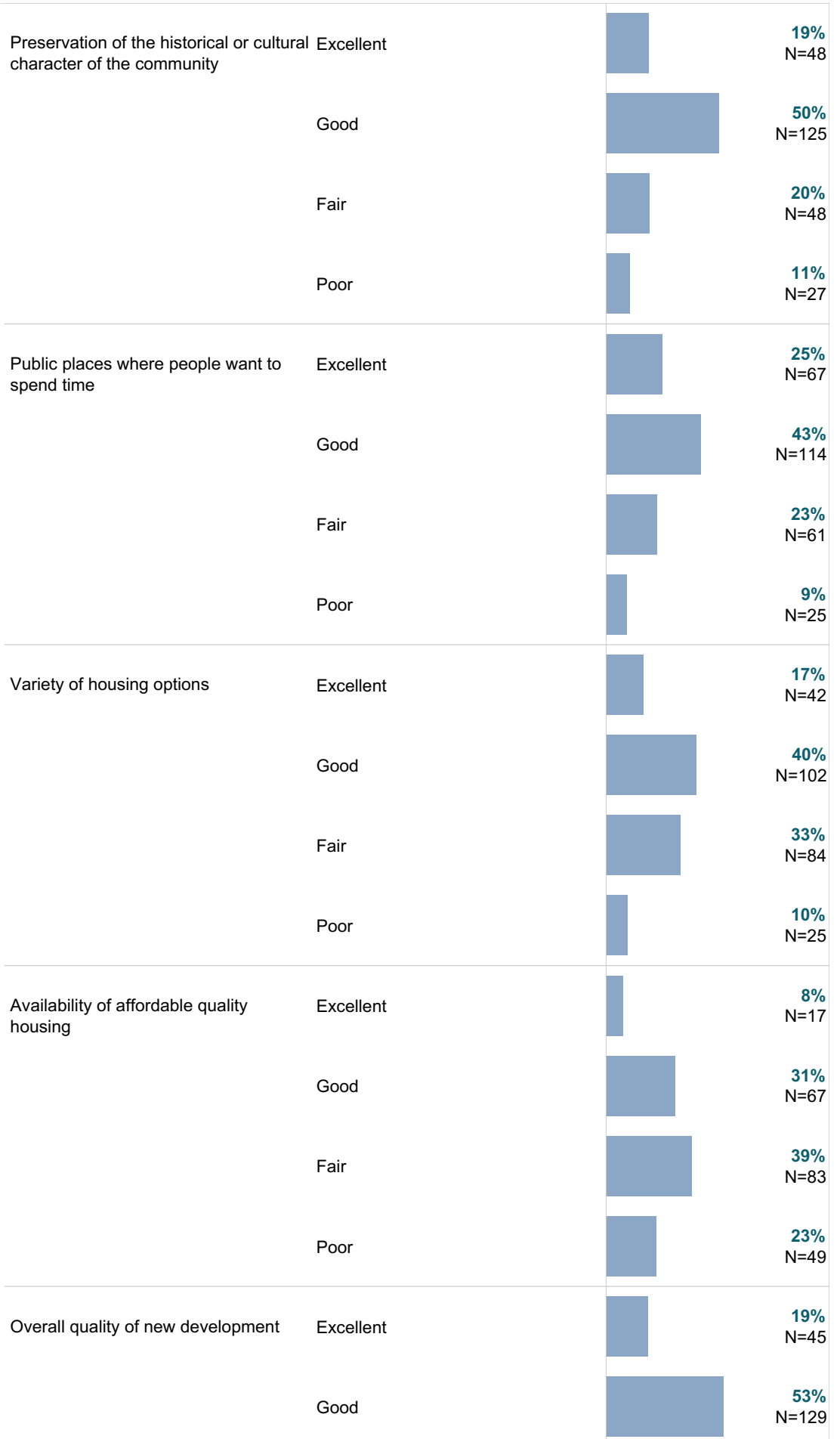
Your neighborhood as a place to live	Excellent		<b>45%</b> N=118
	Good		<b>40%</b> N=107

**Community Design**

<p><b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.</b></p>	Your neighborhood as a place to live	Fair		12% N=33
		Poor		3% N=7
<p><b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b></p>	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Excellent		16% N=42
		Good		51% N=136
		Fair		26% N=69
		Poor		8% N=21
<p><b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b></p>	Well-planned residential growth	Excellent		16% N=39
		Good		51% N=122
		Fair		22% N=51
		Poor		11% N=27
	Well-planned commercial growth	Excellent		12% N=27
		Good		45% N=102
		Fair		30% N=68
		Poor		14% N=32
	Well-designed neighborhoods	Excellent		12% N=29
		Good		47% N=115
		Fair		34% N=83
		Poor		7% N=17



















**Community Design**

**Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.**






































**Community Design**

**Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.**

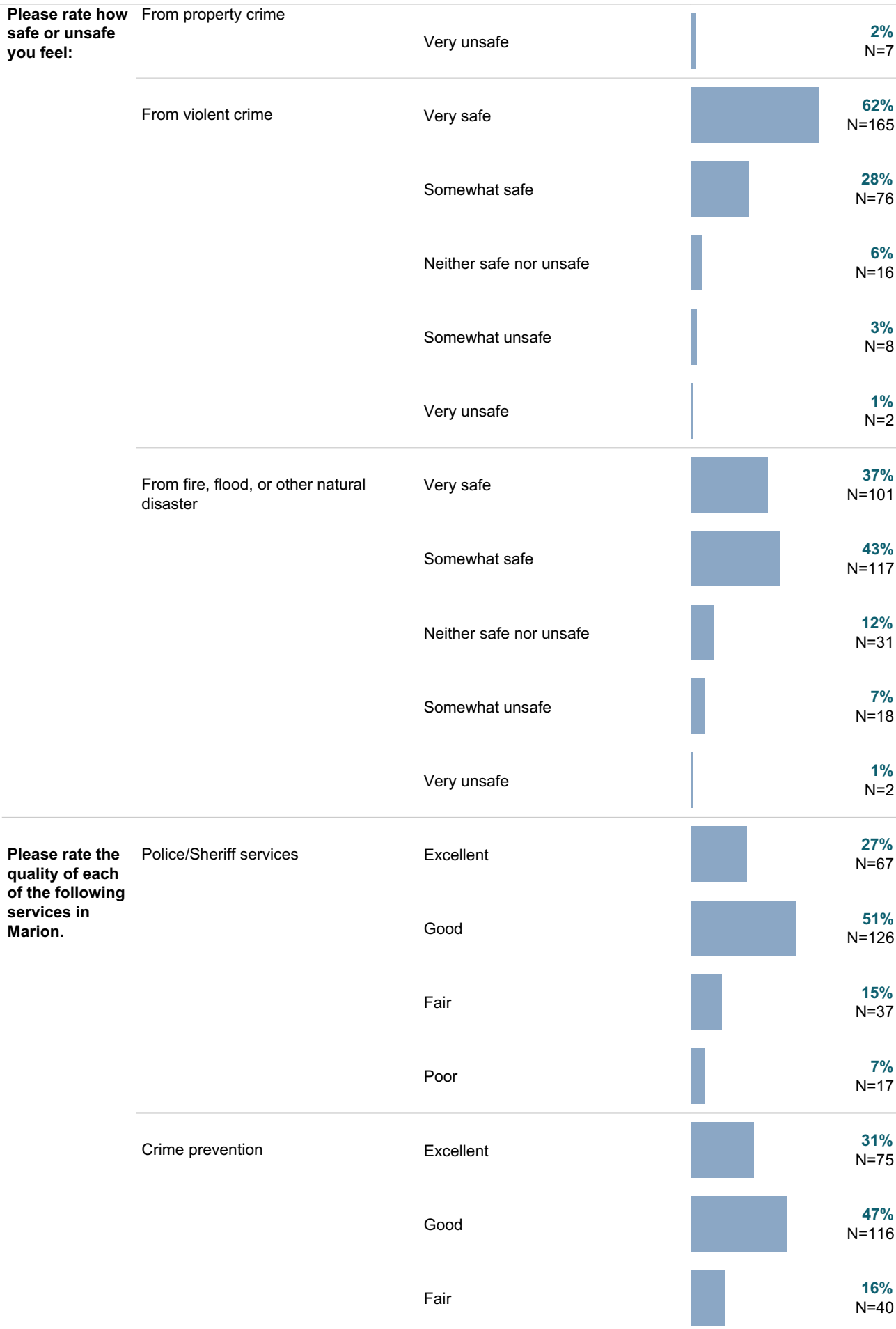
Overall quality of new development	Fair		<b>24%</b> N=59
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=11
Overall appearance	Excellent		<b>30%</b> N=80
	Good		<b>48%</b> N=129
	Fair		<b>19%</b> N=53
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=9
Land use, planning and zoning	Excellent		<b>15%</b> N=28
	Good		<b>42%</b> N=80
	Fair		<b>27%</b> N=51
	Poor		<b>17%</b> N=32
Code enforcement	Excellent		<b>18%</b> N=38
	Good		<b>31%</b> N=64
	Fair		<b>32%</b> N=67
	Poor		<b>19%</b> N=41
Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Essential		<b>24%</b> N=64
	Very important		<b>51%</b> N=138
	Somewhat important		<b>23%</b> N=63
	Not at all important		<b>2%</b> N=5

Utilities	Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.				
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Excellent		14%	N=37
		Good		46%	N=121
		Fair		27%	N=70
		Poor		13%	N=33
	Affordable high-speed internet access	Excellent		19%	N=48
		Good		41%	N=103
		Fair		24%	N=61
		Poor		17%	N=43
Garbage collection	Excellent		38%	N=93	
	Good		41%	N=100	
	Fair		15%	N=36	
	Poor		6%	N=15	
Drinking water	Excellent		18%	N=49	
	Good		31%	N=82	
	Fair		27%	N=71	
	Poor		24%	N=65	
Sewer services	Excellent		28%	N=69	
	Good		51%	N=126	

Utilities	Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.			
	Sewer services	Fair		18% N=44
		Poor		3% N=8
	Storm water management	Excellent		27% N=62
		Good		53% N=122
		Fair		18% N=41
		Poor		3% N=7
	Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Excellent		26% N=68
		Good		52% N=136
		Fair		18% N=46
		Poor		5% N=12
Utility billing	Excellent		22% N=56	
	Good		51% N=131	
	Fair		21% N=55	
	Poor		6% N=15	
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Essential		57% N=152
		Very important		37% N=99
		Somewhat important		6% N=17
		Not at all important		0% N=



















<b>Safety</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall feeling of safety	Excellent		<b>41%</b> N=110
			Good		<b>42%</b> N=115
			Fair		<b>15%</b> N=42
			Poor		<b>2%</b> N=4
	<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	In your neighborhood during the day	Very safe		<b>77%</b> N=208
		Somewhat safe		<b>19%</b> N=52	
		Neither safe nor unsafe		<b>1%</b> N=2	
		Somewhat unsafe		<b>2%</b> N=7	
		Very unsafe		<b>1%</b> N=2	
		In Marion's downtown/commercial area during the day	Very safe		<b>78%</b> N=204
			Somewhat safe		<b>16%</b> N=43
			Neither safe nor unsafe		<b>3%</b> N=7
			Somewhat unsafe		<b>2%</b> N=5
			Very unsafe		<b>1%</b> N=3
		From property crime	Very safe		<b>45%</b> N=121
			Somewhat safe		<b>36%</b> N=97
			Neither safe nor unsafe		<b>10%</b> N=27
			Somewhat unsafe		<b>6%</b> N=17


















**Safety**







































**Safety**

**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.**

Crime prevention	Poor		<b>6%</b> N=15
Animal control	Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=37
	Good		<b>40%</b> N=64
	Fair		<b>27%</b> N=43
	Poor		<b>11%</b> N=17
Ambulance or emergency medical services	Excellent		<b>39%</b> N=73
	Good		<b>55%</b> N=104
	Fair		<b>3%</b> N=5
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=6
Fire services	Excellent		<b>46%</b> N=94
	Good		<b>50%</b> N=104
	Fair		<b>3%</b> N=7
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=2
Fire prevention and education	Excellent		<b>38%</b> N=67
	Good		<b>38%</b> N=68
	Fair		<b>21%</b> N=38
	Poor		<b>3%</b> N=5
Emergency preparedness	Excellent		<b>22%</b> N=48



















<b>Safety</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Emergency preparedness	Good		<b>42%</b> N=91
			Fair		<b>24%</b> N=51
			Poor		<b>12%</b> N=26
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall feeling of safety	Essential		<b>51%</b> N=138
			Very important		<b>37%</b> N=99
			Somewhat important		<b>12%</b> N=32
			Not at all important		<b>0%</b> N=1
<b>Natural environment</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of natural environment	Excellent		<b>22%</b> N=59
			Good		<b>59%</b> N=159
			Fair		<b>15%</b> N=41
			Poor		<b>4%</b> N=12
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Cleanliness	Excellent		<b>39%</b> N=105
			Good		<b>43%</b> N=116
			Fair		<b>15%</b> N=41
		Poor		<b>3%</b> N=7	
	Water resources	Excellent		<b>4%</b> N=10	
		Good		<b>15%</b> N=37	
		Fair		<b>38%</b> N=90	

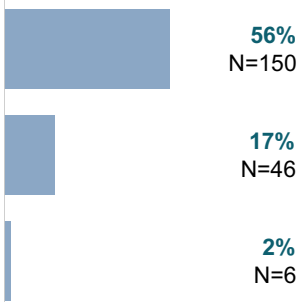
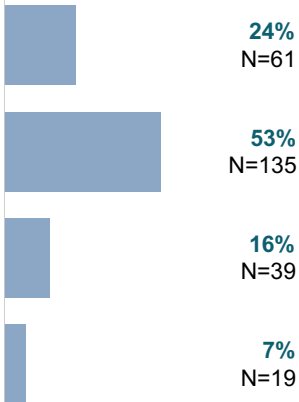
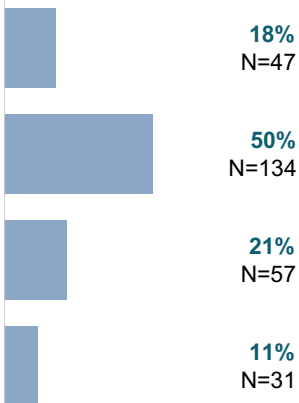
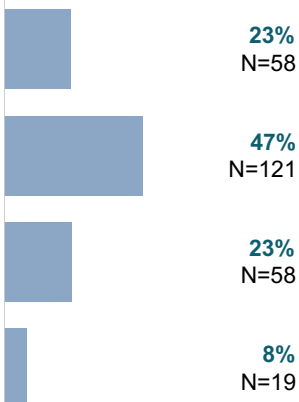
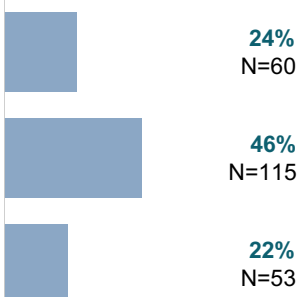
<b>Natural environment</b>	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Water resources	Poor		<b>42%</b> N=101
		Air quality	Excellent		<b>27%</b> N=70
			Good		<b>50%</b> N=130
			Fair		<b>20%</b> N=51
			Poor		<b>3%</b> N=8
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Preservation of natural areas	Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=50	
		Good		<b>45%</b> N=106	
		Fair		<b>25%</b> N=58	
		Poor		<b>8%</b> N=20	
Marion open space	Excellent		<b>20%</b> N=48		
	Good		<b>42%</b> N=103		
	Fair		<b>30%</b> N=74		
	Poor		<b>7%</b> N=18		
Recycling	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=63		
	Good		<b>38%</b> N=95		
	Fair		<b>26%</b> N=64		
	Poor		<b>11%</b> N=28		
Yard waste pick-up	Excellent		<b>33%</b> N=72		

<b>Natural environment</b>	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Yard waste pick-up	Good		<b>40%</b> N=87
			Fair		<b>18%</b> N=39
			Poor		<b>9%</b> N=19
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of natural environment	Essential		<b>28%</b> N=74
			Very important		<b>51%</b> N=136
			Somewhat important		<b>21%</b> N=55
			Not at all important		<b>1%</b> N=4
<b>Parks and Recreation</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Excellent		<b>36%</b> N=93
			Good		<b>48%</b> N=124
			Fair		<b>14%</b> N=36
			Poor		<b>3%</b> N=8
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Availability of paths and walking trails	Excellent		<b>40%</b> N=107
			Good		<b>37%</b> N=99
			Fair		<b>17%</b> N=46
		Poor		<b>5%</b> N=12	
	Fitness opportunities	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=73	
		Good		<b>49%</b> N=123	
		Fair		<b>16%</b> N=40	



















**Parks and Recreation**



















**Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.**

Fitness opportunities	Poor		<b>6%</b> N=16
Recreational opportunities	Excellent		<b>22%</b> N=54
	Good		<b>43%</b> N=105
	Fair		<b>27%</b> N=65
	Poor		<b>8%</b> N=21
	City parks	Excellent	
City parks	Good		<b>49%</b> N=130
	Fair		<b>13%</b> N=34
	Poor		<b>2%</b> N=6
	Recreation programs or classes	Excellent	
Recreation programs or classes	Good		<b>49%</b> N=107
	Fair		<b>18%</b> N=39
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=11
	Recreation centers or facilities	Excellent	
Recreation centers or facilities	Good		<b>42%</b> N=95
	Fair		<b>19%</b> N=42
	Poor		<b>11%</b> N=24
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Essential	

<b>Parks and Recreation</b>	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Very important		<b>56%</b> N=150
			Somewhat important		<b>17%</b> N=46
			Not at all important		<b>2%</b> N=6
<b>Health and wellness</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=61
			Good		<b>53%</b> N=135
			Fair		<b>16%</b> N=39
			Poor		<b>7%</b> N=19
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Availability of affordable quality food		Excellent		<b>18%</b> N=47
			Good		<b>50%</b> N=134
			Fair		<b>21%</b> N=57
			Poor		<b>11%</b> N=31
	Availability of affordable quality health care		Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=58
			Good		<b>47%</b> N=121
			Fair		<b>23%</b> N=58
			Poor		<b>8%</b> N=19
	Availability of preventive health services		Excellent		<b>24%</b> N=60
			Good		<b>46%</b> N=115
			Fair		<b>22%</b> N=53



















**Health and wellness**

<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Availability of preventive health services	Poor		<b>8%</b> N=19
	Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Excellent		<b>10%</b> N=16
		Good		<b>28%</b> N=45
		Fair		<b>30%</b> N=48
		Poor		<b>32%</b> N=50
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Health services	Excellent		<b>21%</b> N=47
		Good		<b>55%</b> N=125
		Fair		<b>15%</b> N=34
		Poor		<b>9%</b> N=19
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Essential		<b>30%</b> N=80
		Very important		<b>44%</b> N=121
		Somewhat important		<b>23%</b> N=63
		Not at all important		<b>3%</b> N=7
Please rate your overall health.	Excellent		<b>19%</b> N=52	
	Very good		<b>46%</b> N=126	
	Good		<b>27%</b> N=73	
	Fair		<b>8%</b> N=20	
	Poor		<b>0%</b> N=	

<b>Education, Arts and Culture</b>	<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.</b>	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Excellent		<b>18%</b> N=47
			Good		<b>53%</b> N=140
			Fair		<b>25%</b> N=66
			Poor		<b>5%</b> N=12
	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=74
		Good		<b>44%</b> N=113	
		Fair		<b>22%</b> N=55	
		Poor		<b>6%</b> N=14	
	Community support for the arts	Excellent		<b>30%</b> N=71	
		Good		<b>48%</b> N=116	
		Fair		<b>20%</b> N=48	
		Poor		<b>1%</b> N=3	
	Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Excellent		<b>14%</b> N=19	
		Good		<b>23%</b> N=31	
		Fair		<b>45%</b> N=60	
		Poor		<b>18%</b> N=24	
	K-12 education	Excellent		<b>44%</b> N=93	
		Good		<b>39%</b> N=82	



















**Education,  
Arts and  
Culture**

**Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.**

K-12 education	Fair		<b>12%</b> N=25	
	Poor		<b>6%</b> N=13	
Adult educational opportunities	Excellent		<b>9%</b> N=15	
	Good		<b>37%</b> N=64	
	Fair		<b>36%</b> N=62	
	Poor		<b>18%</b> N=30	
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Excellent		<b>34%</b> N=90	
	Good		<b>45%</b> N=117	
	Fair		<b>17%</b> N=44	
	Poor		<b>4%</b> N=11	
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Marion.</b>	Public library services	Excellent		<b>62%</b> N=160
		Good		<b>29%</b> N=75
		Fair		<b>7%</b> N=17
		Poor		<b>2%</b> N=4
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Essential		<b>30%</b> N=81
		Very important		<b>38%</b> N=103
		Somewhat important		<b>27%</b> N=74
		Not at all important		<b>5%</b> N=13

**Inclusivity and Engagement**



















Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Marion.



















Marion as a place to raise children	Excellent		<b>55%</b> N=128	
	Good		<b>36%</b> N=83	
	Fair		<b>7%</b> N=17	
	Poor		<b>1%</b> N=3	
Marion as a place to retire	Excellent		<b>29%</b> N=63	
	Good		<b>39%</b> N=83	
	Fair		<b>21%</b> N=44	
	Poor		<b>11%</b> N=24	
Sense of community	Excellent		<b>26%</b> N=68	
	Good		<b>39%</b> N=104	
	Fair		<b>30%</b> N=81	
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=14	
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Marion as a whole.	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Excellent		<b>13%</b> N=35
		Good		<b>46%</b> N=120
		Fair		<b>31%</b> N=83
		Poor		<b>10%</b> N=26
Please rate the job you feel the Marion community does at each of the following.	Making all residents feel welcome	Excellent		<b>25%</b> N=64
		Good		<b>51%</b> N=130

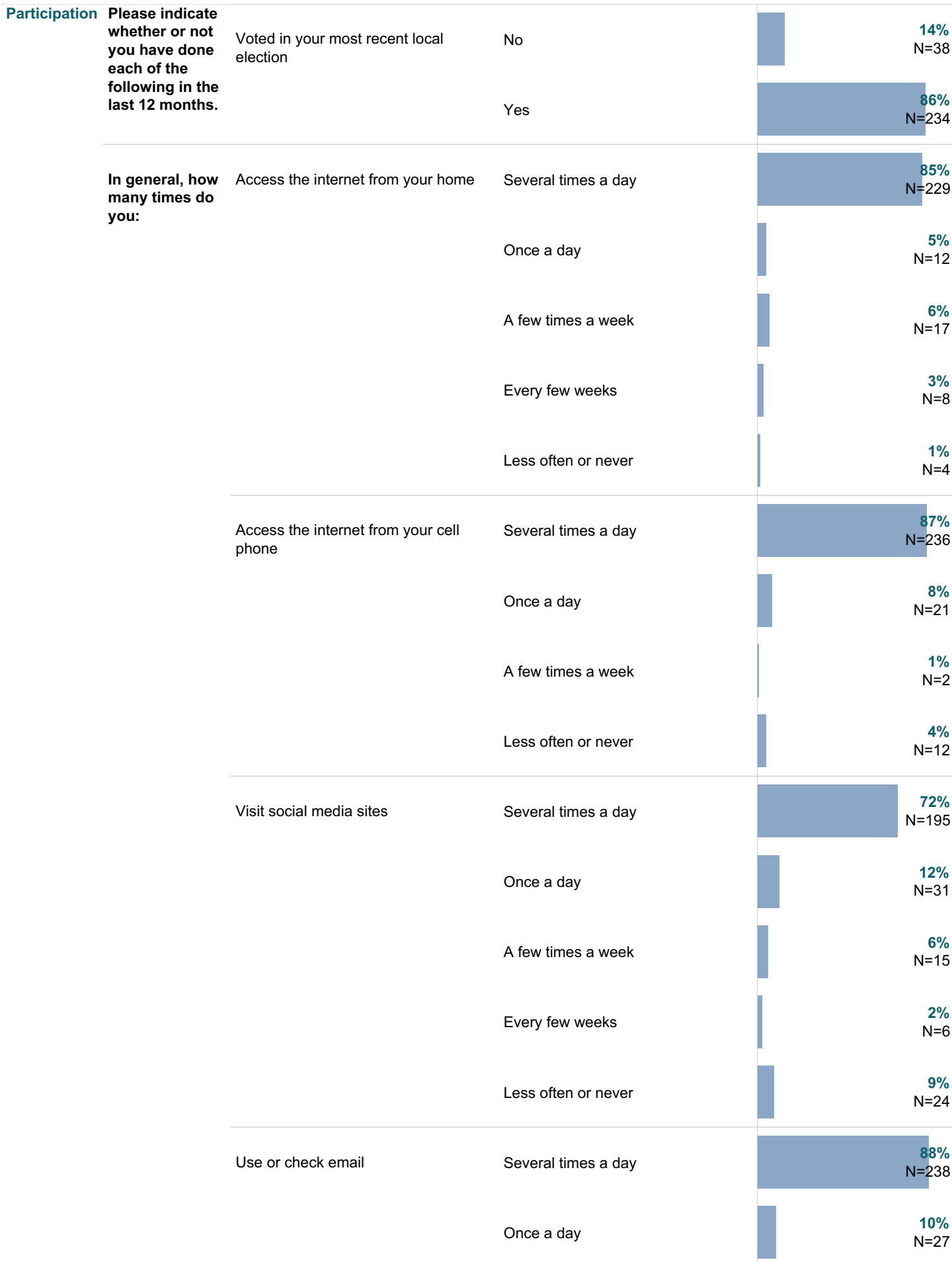
Inclusivity and Engagement	Please rate the job you feel the Marion community does at each of the following.	Making all residents feel welcome	Fair	20%	N=51
			Poor	4%	N=10
		Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Excellent	20%	N=48
			Good	37%	N=88
			Fair	32%	N=76
			Poor	12%	N=29
		Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Excellent	21%	N=50
			Good	47%	N=111
			Fair	25%	N=60
			Poor	7%	N=16
		Taking care of vulnerable residents	Excellent	11%	N=22
			Good	48%	N=101
			Fair	31%	N=66
			Poor	10%	N=22
Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.		Sense of civic/community pride	Excellent	22%	N=57
			Good	44%	N=114
			Fair	28%	N=73
			Poor	6%	N=15

**Inclusivity and Engagement**



















Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.



















Neighborhoodliness of residents	Excellent		<b>23%</b> N=61
	Good		<b>46%</b> N=123
	Fair		<b>25%</b> N=67
	Poor		<b>6%</b> N=16
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Excellent		<b>22%</b> N=57
	Good		<b>52%</b> N=135
	Fair		<b>20%</b> N=53
	Poor		<b>5%</b> N=13
Opportunities to volunteer	Excellent		<b>20%</b> N=39
	Good		<b>52%</b> N=104
	Fair		<b>21%</b> N=43
	Poor		<b>7%</b> N=13
Opportunities to participate in community matters	Excellent		<b>14%</b> N=33
	Good		<b>47%</b> N=109
	Fair		<b>29%</b> N=66
	Poor		<b>10%</b> N=23
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Excellent		<b>19%</b> N=43
	Good		<b>38%</b> N=87



















<b>Inclusivity and Engagement</b>	<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Marion community.</b>	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Fair		<b>32%</b> N=73	
			Poor		<b>12%</b> N=27	
	<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Marion community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Essential		<b>25%</b> N=69	
			Very important		<b>41%</b> N=111	
			Somewhat important		<b>30%</b> N=82	
			Not at all important		<b>3%</b> N=8	
<b>Participation</b>	<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of Marion for help or information	No		<b>51%</b> N=139	
			Yes		<b>49%</b> N=132	
			Contacted Marion elected officials to express your opinion	No		<b>74%</b> N=201
				Yes		<b>26%</b> N=71
			Attended a local public meeting	No		<b>79%</b> N=214
				Yes		<b>21%</b> N=58
			Watched a local public meeting	No		<b>81%</b> N=220
				Yes		<b>19%</b> N=52
			Volunteered your time to some group/activity	No		<b>61%</b> N=167
				Yes		<b>39%</b> N=105
			Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	No		<b>84%</b> N=230
				Yes		<b>16%</b> N=42





















<b>Participation</b>	In general, how many times do you:	Use or check email	A few times a week	2% N=5
			Less often or never	0% N=1
	Share your opinions online		Several times a day	11% N=31
			Once a day	4% N=11
			A few times a week	13% N=34
			Every few weeks	17% N=46
			Less often or never	55% N=147
	Shop online		Several times a day	12% N=31
			Once a day	11% N=30
			A few times a week	35% N=92
		Every few weeks	35% N=91	
		Less often or never	8% N=21	
<b>Custom</b>	In which district of Marion do you live? (Refer to map above.)	District 1 - purple	27% N=73	
		District 2 - green	24% N=65	
		District 3 - blue	25% N=67	
		District 4 - orange	24% N=65	
		None of these/I don't live in Marion	1% N=2	
		Please indicate how much of a source, if at all	The City website (www.cityofmarion.org)	Major source



















Custom	Please indicate how much of a source, if at all, you consider each of the following to be for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events and services:			
	The City website (www.cityofmarion.org)	Minor source		<b>35%</b> N=94
		Not a source		<b>4%</b> N=10
	Local media outlets (newspapers, radio, local television stations)	Major source		<b>46%</b> N=123
		Minor source		<b>43%</b> N=117
		Not a source		<b>11%</b> N=29
	Marion Messenger (City newsletter)	Major source		<b>57%</b> N=153
		Minor source		<b>34%</b> N=91
		Not a source		<b>10%</b> N=26
	City Council meetings and other public meetings	Major source		<b>23%</b> N=63
		Minor source		<b>46%</b> N=124
		Not a source		<b>31%</b> N=83
	Recordings of City Council Meetings	Major source		<b>16%</b> N=43
		Minor source		<b>39%</b> N=106
		Not a source		<b>45%</b> N=123
	Talking with City officials	Major source		<b>26%</b> N=69
		Minor source		<b>39%</b> N=104
		Not a source		<b>35%</b> N=95
	City communications via social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)	Major source		<b>58%</b> N=158

<b>Custom</b>	<b>Please indicate how much of a source, if at all, you consider each of the following to be for obtaining information about the City government and its activities, events and services:</b>	City communications via social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)	Minor source		<b>25%</b> N=69
			Not a source		<b>17%</b> N=45
		Word-of-mouth	Major source		<b>34%</b> N=91
			Minor source		<b>48%</b> N=130
			Not a source		<b>18%</b> N=50
<b>Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a property tax or fee increase to fund improvements to each of the following facilities or services:</b>	Schools	Strongly support		<b>39%</b> N=104	
		Somewhat support		<b>30%</b> N=80	
		Somewhat oppose		<b>14%</b> N=37	
		Strongly oppose		<b>17%</b> N=45	
	Library services	Strongly support		<b>24%</b> N=65	
		Somewhat support		<b>35%</b> N=93	
		Somewhat oppose		<b>19%</b> N=50	
		Strongly oppose		<b>22%</b> N=60	
	Public safety/fire and police	Strongly support		<b>39%</b> N=106	
		Somewhat support		<b>42%</b> N=114	
		Somewhat oppose		<b>9%</b> N=24	
		Strongly oppose		<b>9%</b> N=25	
	Street/infrastructure improvements	Strongly support		<b>42%</b> N=114	

Custom	Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a property tax or fee increase to fund improvements to each of the following facilities or services:			
	Street/infrastructure improvements	Somewhat support		<b>42%</b> N=115
		Somewhat oppose		<b>10%</b> N=26
		Strongly oppose		<b>6%</b> N=16
	Public art	Strongly support		<b>8%</b> N=23
		Somewhat support		<b>36%</b> N=97
		Somewhat oppose		<b>26%</b> N=69
		Strongly oppose		<b>30%</b> N=82
	Parks	Strongly support		<b>31%</b> N=82
		Somewhat support		<b>53%</b> N=141
		Somewhat oppose		<b>10%</b> N=26
		Strongly oppose		<b>7%</b> N=20
	Community center	Strongly support		<b>17%</b> N=45
Somewhat support			<b>46%</b> N=124	
Somewhat oppose			<b>21%</b> N=58	
Strongly oppose			<b>16%</b> N=44	
Outdoor pool/aquatic center	Strongly support		<b>24%</b> N=65	
	Somewhat support		<b>40%</b> N=107	
	Somewhat oppose		<b>19%</b> N=52	

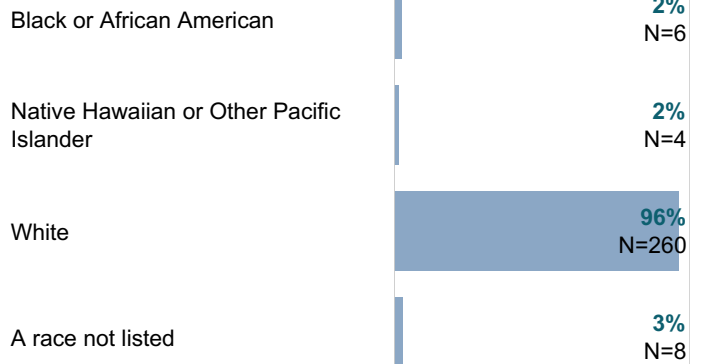
Custom	Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a property tax or fee increase to fund improvements to each of the following facilities or services:			
	Outdoor pool/aquatic center	Strongly oppose		17% N=47
	Outdoor trails	Strongly support		36% N=95
		Somewhat support		47% N=126
		Somewhat oppose		10% N=26
		Strongly oppose		8% N=20
	Recreation services	Strongly support		19% N=51
		Somewhat support		59% N=159
		Somewhat oppose		12% N=34
		Strongly oppose		10% N=28
	Park development	Strongly support		28% N=76
		Somewhat support		54% N=147
		Somewhat oppose		8% N=23
		Strongly oppose		9% N=24
	Public transportation	Strongly support		20% N=54
		Somewhat support		41% N=110
		Somewhat oppose		25% N=67
		Strongly oppose		15% N=40
	Ambulance service	Strongly support		45% N=120

Custom

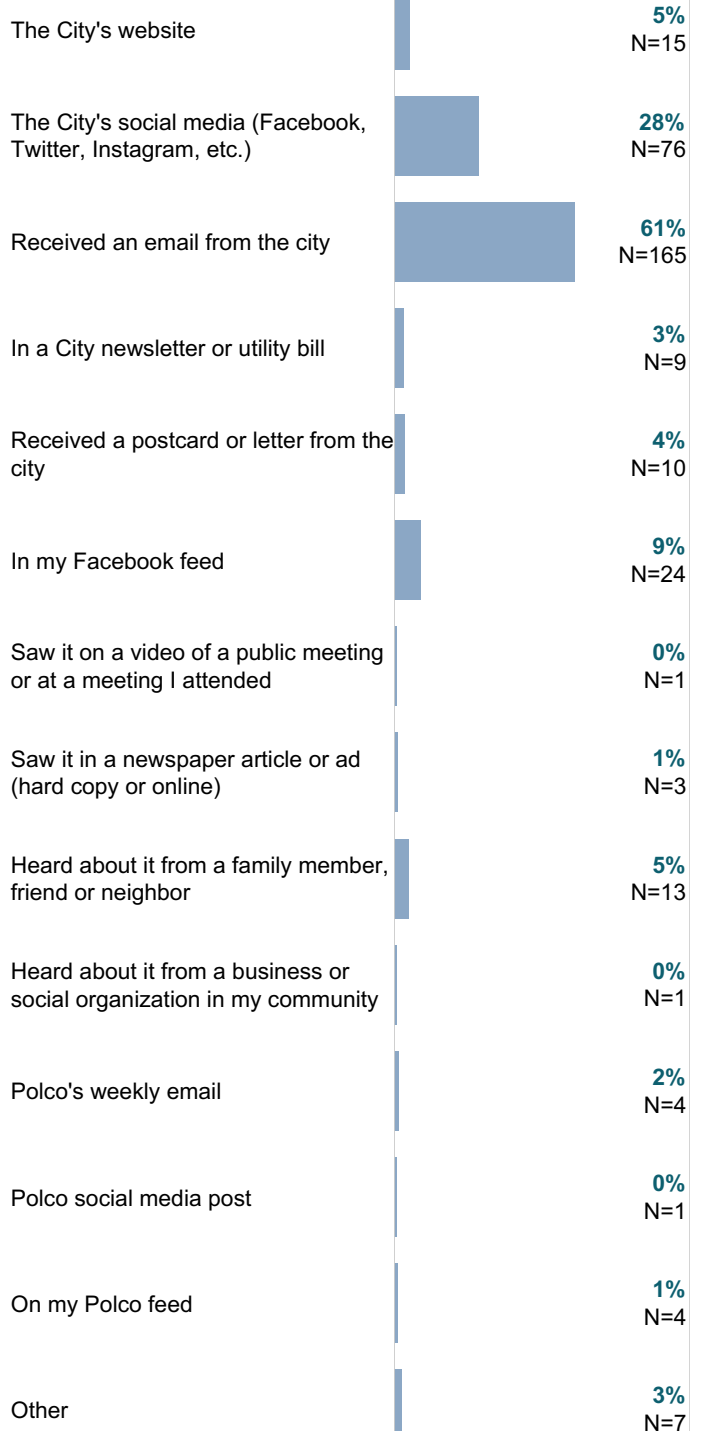
	Ambulance service	Somewhat support		<b>38%</b> N=103
		Somewhat oppose		<b>13%</b> N=35
		Strongly oppose		<b>4%</b> N=12
<b>The City is currently reviewing options for the future of some of its original brick streets. Understanding that saving and reusing the original brick increases the cost of reconstruction, to what extent do you support the reuse of original brick as:</b>	A reconstructed street in historic neighborhoods	Strongly support		<b>20%</b> N=54
		Somewhat support		<b>39%</b> N=105
		Somewhat oppose		<b>17%</b> N=45
		Strongly oppose		<b>24%</b> N=65
	A crosswalk-like band in historic neighborhoods	Strongly support		<b>42%</b> N=113
		Somewhat support		<b>32%</b> N=86
		Somewhat oppose		<b>13%</b> N=35
		Strongly oppose		<b>14%</b> N=37
	The City of Marion is required by the State of Iowa to allow the sale of fireworks within city limits. City Council has authorized the use of fireworks on private property two days each year (July 4 and Dec. 31). To what extent do you support or oppose the private use of fireworks within city limits?	Strongly support		<b>17%</b> N=47
		Somewhat support		<b>10%</b> N=26
		Neutral		<b>12%</b> N=32
		Somewhat oppose		<b>21%</b> N=56
		Strongly oppose		<b>40%</b> N=110
	What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)	American Indian or Alaska Native		<b>1%</b> N=3
		Asian		<b>4%</b> N=10

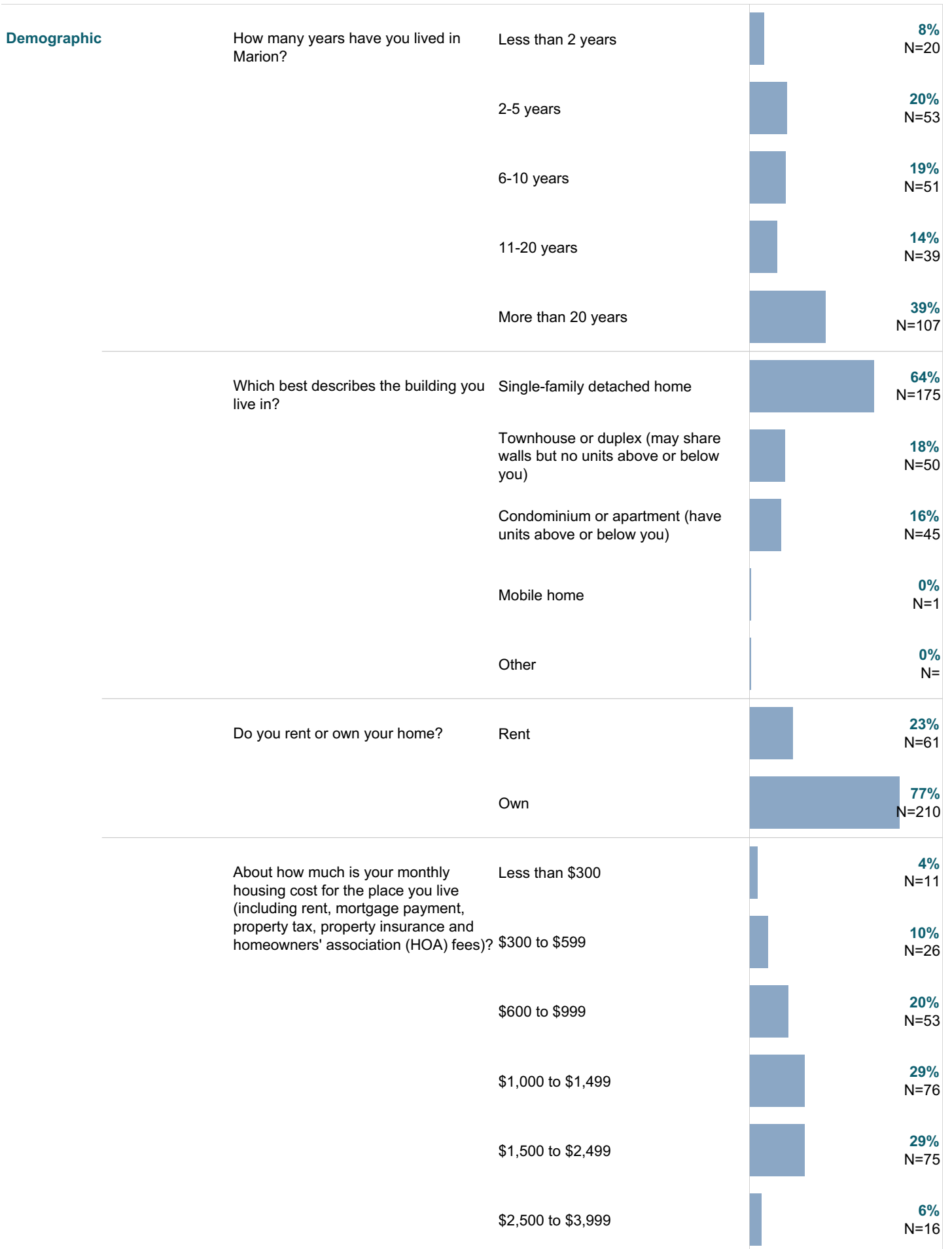
**Custom**

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





















How did you hear about this survey? (Select all that apply.)

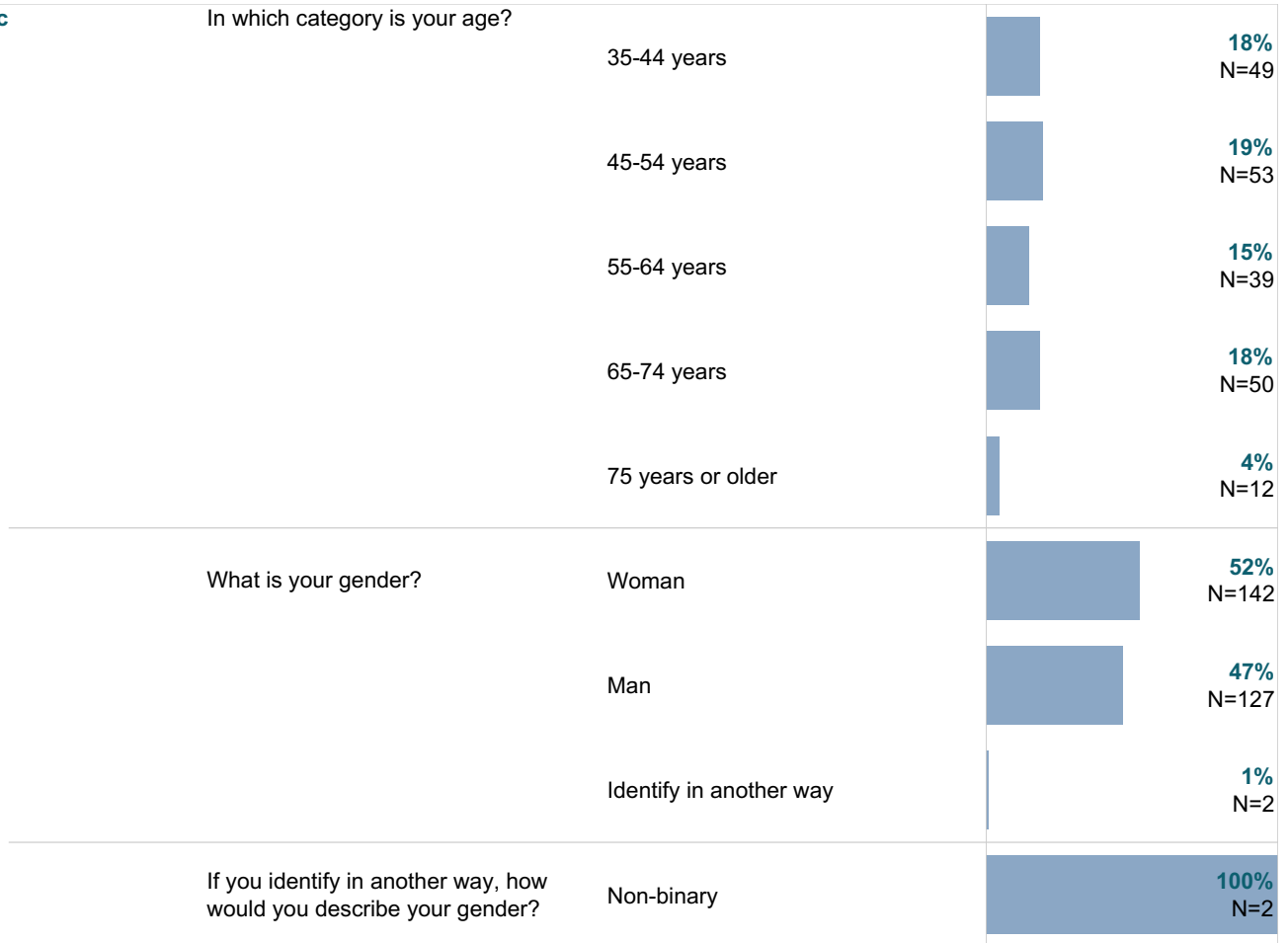




**Demographic**

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)?	\$4,000 to \$6,999		<b>2%</b> N=5
	\$7,000 to \$9,999		<b>0%</b> N=1
	\$10,000 or more		<b>0%</b> N=1
Do any children 17 or under live in your household?	No		<b>62%</b> N=167
	Yes		<b>38%</b> N=104
Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?	No		<b>74%</b> N=201
	Yes		<b>26%</b> N=70
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		<b>7%</b> N=17
	\$25,000 to \$49,999		<b>16%</b> N=42
	\$50,000 to \$74,999		<b>13%</b> N=35
	\$75,000 to \$99,999		<b>13%</b> N=34
	\$100,000 to \$149,999		<b>24%</b> N=64
	\$150,000 to \$199,999		<b>16%</b> N=43
	\$200,000 to \$299,999		<b>7%</b> N=19
	\$300,000 or more		<b>3%</b> N=8
Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin		<b>98%</b> N=263
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin		<b>2%</b> N=6
In which category is your age?	25-34 years		<b>25%</b> N=67

**Demographic**





September 2023

Dear City of Marion Resident:

Please help us shape the future of Marion! You have been selected at random to participate in the 2023 Marion Community Survey. **If you've already completed the survey online, thank you. Please do not respond twice.**

Please take a few minutes to fill out the enclosed survey. Your participation in this survey is very important—especially since your household is one of only a small number being surveyed. Your feedback will help Marion make decisions that affect our city.

**A few things to remember:**

- **Your responses are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.**
- In order to hear from a diverse group of residents, the adult 18 years or older in your household who most recently had a birthday should complete this survey.
- **You may return the survey by mail in the enclosed postage-paid envelope, or you can complete the survey online at:**

**<https://polco.us/xxplaceholder>**

**Please do not share your survey link.** This survey is for randomly selected households only. The City will conduct a separate survey that is open to all residents just a few weeks from now.

If you have any questions about the survey, please call 319-743-6301.

Thank you for your time and participation!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicolas AbouAssaly". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Nicolas AbouAssaly  
Mayor

# The City of Marion 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 Marion.

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

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall economic health of Marion .....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Marion .....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall design or layout of Marion's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.) .....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Marion (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband).....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall feeling of safety in Marion.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of natural environment in Marion .....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Marion.....	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 Marion to someone who asks .....	1	2	3	4	5
Remain in Marion 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 Marion's 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 Marion 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 Marion 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 Marion .....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of business and service establishments in Marion.....	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 Marion.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall image or reputation of Marion.....	1	2	3	4	5

**7. Please also rate each of the following in the Marion 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 Marion.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by public transportation in Marion.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by bicycle in Marion.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of walking in Marion.....	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 Marion.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall appearance of Marion.....	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of Marion.....	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 Marion.....	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 Marion (in-person, phone, email, or web) for help or information.....	1	2
Contacted Marion 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 Marion.....	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 Marion 2023 Community Survey

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

	<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
Marion 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 Marion employees (police, receptionists, planners, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5

## 10. Please rate the following categories of Marion 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 Marion.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall direction that Marion is taking.....	1	2	3	4	5
The job Marion government does at welcoming resident involvement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall confidence in Marion 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 Marion.....	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 Marion 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 Marion.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Marion.....	1	2	3	4
Overall design or layout of Marion’s residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.).....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Marion (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband).....	1	2	3	4
Overall feeling of safety in Marion.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of natural environment in Marion.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Marion.....	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. Please indicate how much of a source, if at all, you consider each of the following to be 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>
The City website (www.cityofmarion.org).....	1	2	3
Local media outlets (newspapers, radio, local television stations).....	1	2	3
Marion Messenger (City newsletter).....	1	2	3
City Council meetings and other public meetings.....	1	2	3
Recordings of City Council Meetings.....	1	2	3
Talking with City officials.....	1	2	3
City communications via social media (i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)..	1	2	3
Word-of-mouth.....	1	2	3

**14. Please indicate to what extent you would support or oppose a property tax or fee increase to fund improvements to each of the following facilities or services:**

	<u>Strongly support</u>	<u>Somewhat support</u>	<u>Somewhat oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>
Schools.....	1	2	3	4
Library services.....	1	2	3	4
Public safety/fire and police.....	1	2	3	4
Street/infrastructure improvements.....	1	2	3	4
Public art.....	1	2	3	4
Parks.....	1	2	3	4
Community center.....	1	2	3	4
Outdoor pool/aquatic center.....	1	2	3	4
Outdoor trails.....	1	2	3	4
Recreation services.....	1	2	3	4
Park development.....	1	2	3	4
Public transportation.....	1	2	3	4
Ambulance service.....	1	2	3	4

**15. The City is currently reviewing options for the future of some of its original brick streets. Understanding that saving and reusing the original brick increases the cost of reconstruction, to what extent do you support the reuse of original brick as:**

	<u>Strongly support</u>	<u>Somewhat support</u>	<u>Somewhat oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>
A reconstructed street in historic neighborhoods.....	1	2	3	4
A crosswalk-like band in historic neighborhoods.....	1	2	3	4

**16. The City of Marion is required by the State of Iowa to allow the sale of fireworks within city limits. City Council has authorized the use of fireworks on private property two days each year (July 4 and Dec. 31). To what extent do you support or oppose the private use of fireworks within city limits?**

- Strongly support    Somewhat support    Neutral    Somewhat oppose    Strongly oppose

# The City of Marion 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 Marion?**

- 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**