

Responsive Management™



MISSOURI RESIDENTS' AND RECREATION PROFESSIONALS' OPINIONS ON PARKS AND RECREATION IN MISSOURI

Conducted for the Missouri Park & Recreation Association

by Responsive Management

2009

MISSOURI RESIDENTS' AND RECREATION PROFESSIONALS' OPINIONS ON PARKS AND RECREATION IN MISSOURI

2009

Responsive Management National Office

Mark Damian Duda, Executive Director
Martin Jones, Senior Research Associate
Tom Beppler, Research Associate
Steven J. Bissell, Ph.D., Qualitative Research Associate
Andrea Criscione, Research Associate
James B. Herrick, Ph.D., Research Associate
Weldon Miller, Research Associate
Joanne Nobile, Research Associate
Amanda Ritchie, Research Associate
Carol L. Schilli, Research Associate
Tim Winegord, Survey Center Manager
Alison Lanier, Business Manager

130 Franklin Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801
Phone: 540/432-1888 Fax: 540/432-1892
E-mail: mark@responsivemanagement.com
www.responsivemanagement.com

Acknowledgments

The Missouri Park & Recreation Association gratefully acknowledges its partners, The Missouri Department of Natural Resources, The Conservation Federation of Missouri, The Open Space Council of the St. Louis Region, and The Missouri Parks Association, without whose assistance this project would not have been possible. Finally, many thanks to those who gave countless hours to undertake this project for the betterment of parks, recreation, and open space in Missouri.

Missouri Park & Recreation Association

- Susan Trautman, Co-Chair Strategic Plan Committee, Des Peres
- Michael R. Herron, Co-Chair Strategic Plan Committee, Kansas City
- Erika Coffman, President, Columbia
- Tom Lovell, President-Elect, Lee's Summit
- Teresa Proebsting, Past-President, Richmond Heights
- Jan Neitzert, Executive Director
- Jodie Adams, Springfield
- Richard Ash, St. Charles
- Linda Bruer, Ballwin
- Mary Jo Dessieux, Wentzville
- Mark McHenry, Kansas City
- Chad Shoemaker, Mexico
- Janet Snook, Raymore
- Eric Urfer, Independence
- Mary Vaughan, Maryland Heights
- David Vaught, University of Missouri-Columbia
- Dave White, Westport Pools
- Sonja Wilhelm-Stanis, University of Missouri-Columbia

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources – Division of State Parks

- Chris Buckland, Planner-Grants Management
- Jane Lale, Planning & Development Director
- Mary Donze, Planner
- Denny Bopp, Field Operations Supervisor-Ozark

The Conservation Federation of Missouri

- Dave Murphy, Executive Director

The Open Space Council for the St. Louis Region

- Ron Coleman, President

The Missouri Parks Association

- Terry Whaley, President

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the Missouri Park & Recreation Association (MPRA) to determine parks and recreation professionals' and Missouri residents' opinions on, attitudes toward, perceptions of, and values that they place on parks and recreation services in Missouri. The survey had questions exploring the value of recreation, perceptions of governmental priorities for spending as those priorities relate to recreation, perceptions of strengths and weaknesses of the parks and recreation profession, and residents' participation in recreation in Missouri. The study entailed two surveys: a multi-modal survey of recreation professionals and a telephone survey of Missouri residents.

For the multi-modal survey of parks and recreation professionals, a list of professionals to be surveyed was provided by the MPRA and the Missouri Municipal League. The survey was attached as a PDF file to an email to each of these professionals. Parks and recreation professionals could then complete the survey at their own convenience. The PDF forms could be filled out electronically or printed and filled out by hand. The completed PDF forms were then emailed, transmitted by facsimile, or mailed to Responsive Management. These results are identified on the graphs as "Professionals."

For the survey of Missouri residents, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the almost universal ownership of telephones; note that both landlines and cellular telephones were called in the proportion in which these types of telephones are used in Missouri. An additional reason for selecting telephones for the survey is that telephone surveys, relative to mail or Internet surveys, allow for more scientific sampling and data collection, provide higher quality data, obtain higher response rates, are more timely, and are more cost-effective. Telephone surveys also have fewer negative effects on the environment than do mail surveys because of the reduced use of paper and reduced energy consumption for delivering and returning the questionnaires. These results are identified on the graphs as "Missouri residents."

Both the multi-modal survey and the telephone survey questionnaires were developed cooperatively by Responsive Management and the MPRA. Responsive Management conducted

pre-tests of the questionnaires to ensure proper wording, flow, and logic in the surveys. Telephone interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday from noon to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., local time.

The multi-modal survey was conducted in November and December 2009; the telephone survey was conducted in November 2009. Responsive Management obtained a total of 349 completed questionnaires from recreation professionals and 874 completed interviews with Missouri residents.

The software used for telephone interviewing and telephone survey data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language (QPL). The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the sample of Missouri residents, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 3.3 percentage points. The sampling error for the telephone survey data was calculated using a sample size of 874 and a population size of 4,450,742 Missouri residents 18 years of age and older. No sampling error was calculated for the survey of professionals because the total population of professionals could not be determined.

PRIORITIES AND IMPORTANCE OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL EFFORTS

- The survey asked about 13 governmental efforts, as shown in the text box on the following page. For each effort, the survey asked residents to indicate if the effort was *very* important, *somewhat* important, *not very* important, or *not at all* important as a government expense. The governmental efforts fall into four tiers when ranked by the percentage who say each effort is *very* important as a government expense.
 - In the top tier are schools and education (85% say this is *very* important) and public safety, such as police and fire departments (81%).
 - The second tier consists of 5 of the 13 items, each with 60% or more saying it is *very* important: social services, such as food, job training, and health care (70%), public works, such as roads and sewers (67%), affordable housing (62%), environmental protection (62%), and conservation of natural resources (60%).

- The third tier consists of economic development (54%), parks and open spaces (48%), recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers (42%), and preservation of historic and cultural resources (39%).
- The bottom tier consists of communities connected by sidewalks and trails (26%) and city and town beautification (17%).

Governmental Efforts About Which the Survey Asked

Schools and education
Public safety, such as police and fire departments
Public works, such as roads and sewers
City and town beautification
Conservation of natural resources
Preservation of historic and cultural resources
Parks and open spaces
Affordable housing
Environmental protection
Communities connected by sidewalks and trails
Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers
Social services, such as food, job training, and health care
Economic development

- Professionals were also asked to rate the importance of the 13 governmental efforts. The list of governmental efforts can be placed into four tiers when ranked by the percentage who say each effort is *very* important as a government expense.
- In the top tier are schools and education (90% say this is *very* important), public safety, such as police and fire departments (89%), and public works, such as roads and sewers (78%).
 - The second tier consists of 3 of the 13 items, each with between 50% and 60% saying it is *very* important: parks and open spaces (58%), environmental protection (53%), and conservation of natural resources (52%).
 - The third tier consists of recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers (44%), economic development (40%), and social services, such as food, job training, and health care (33%).
 - The bottom tier consists of communities connected by sidewalks and trails (29%), affordable housing (25%), preservation of historic and cultural resources (24%), and city and town beautification (20%).

- The survey also asked about the importance of government spending on the provision of parks and recreation services for children. An overwhelming majority of Missouri residents (92%) say that this is *very* or *somewhat* important; only 7% say that it is *not very* or *not at all* important.
 - Professionals almost unanimously think that it is *very* or *somewhat* important for the government to spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children (97% think so, with 69% saying it is *very* important).

- The survey asked residents who have children living in their household if they would like to make educating their children about nature and the outdoors a higher priority, about the same level of priority, or a lower priority. They are about evenly split between saying that they would like to make it a higher priority (50%) or would like to keep it about the same priority (46%); a low percentage would like to make it a lower priority (1%).
 - Professionals who have children were also asked this question, with similar results: 54% would like to make it a higher priority, and 43% would like to keep it about the same priority; only 1% would like to make it a lower priority.

- The survey asked residents about those same 13 governmental efforts previously listed, but asked them how important each *personally* is to their *quality of life*, using the same scale that was previously used (*very* important, *somewhat* important, *not very* important, or *not at all* important). The governmental efforts fall into four tiers when ranked by the percentage who say each effort is *very* important to them personally.
 - In the top tier are schools and education (78% say this is *very* important) and public safety, such as police and fire departments (77%).
 - The second tier consists of 5 of the 13 items, each with from 50% to 60% saying it is *very* important: environmental protection (59%), public works, such as roads and sewers (57%), conservation of natural resources (56%), affordable housing (56%), and social services, such as food, job training, and health care (54%).
 - The third tier consists of parks and open spaces (47%), economic development (47%), preservation of historic and cultural resources (37%), and recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers (35%).

- The bottom tier consists of communities connected by sidewalks and trails (25%) and city and town beautification (19%).

- An examination of the residents' survey results regarding how the governmental efforts ranked in importance as government expenses versus how the governmental efforts ranked in importance to the respondents personally for their quality of life found only minor differences in the rankings. There was no difference in the tiers into which they fell.

- Professionals were also asked to rate the importance of the 13 governmental efforts to them personally for their quality of life. Again, the efforts can be grouped into four tiers.
 - In the top tier are public safety, such as police and fire departments (76% say this is *very* important), schools and education (70%), and parks and open spaces (65%).
 - The second tier consists of public works, such as roads and sewers (57%), conservation of natural resources (53%), environmental protection (53%), and recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers (49%).
 - The third tier consists of economic development (35%) and communities connected by sidewalks and trails (30%).
 - The bottom tier consists of city and town beautification (23%), preservation of historic and cultural resources (23%), social services, such as food, job training, and health care (22%), and affordable housing (20%).

PARTICIPATION IN RECREATION, AND CONSTRAINTS TO PARTICIPATION

- Outdoor recreational activities are more popular than indoor recreational activities, when survey respondents are asked about their non-work time: 36% say that they enjoy mostly outdoor recreational activities, compared to 10% who say that they enjoy mostly indoor recreational activities (note that the most common answer is both about equally, at 53%).
 - Among professionals, results are similar: 41% say that they enjoy mostly outdoor recreational activities, compared to 3% who say that they enjoy mostly indoor recreational activities. Again, the most common answer is both about equally, at 56%.

-
- Half of Missouri residents surveyed (50%) indicate that they do *not* participate in recreational activities or things that they like to do in their non-work time as much as they would like.
 - When asked about things that prevent them from participating in recreational activities as much as they would like, residents most commonly name work obligations (65% of those who do not participate in recreation as much as they would like), distantly followed by age/health (15%), family obligations (8%), and cost (7%).
 - Professionals are even less satisfied with their amount of participation in recreation: 72% of professionals indicate that they do *not* participate in recreational activities or things that they like to do in their non-work time as much as they would like.
 - Among professionals, the most commonly named things that prevent them from participating in recreational activities as much as they would like include lack of time in general, work obligations, and family obligations.

 - Residents with children living in their household were asked to indicate how many hours per week, on average, that each child spends outdoors. While the answers ranged widely, the median is 12 hours.
 - Professionals' answers also ranged widely on this question. Among professionals, the median is 10 hours.

 - The survey asked residents to indicate the frequency that they had visited the following in Missouri within the past 2 years: a national park or national monument, a state park, a local park, or a local public recreation facility. More than three quarters of residents (78%) had visited a local park *frequently* or *sometimes*, the most popular location by far. This was followed by a state park (60%), a local public recreation facility (53%), and a national park or monument (50%).
 - The survey asked residents to name the last park, recreation area, or facility that they had visited in Missouri. The top ones include Forest Park in St. Louis, Mark Twain State Park, Creve Coeur Park in St. Louis County, Bennett Spring State Park, Harry S Truman State Park, and the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (also known as the Gateway Arch).

- Residents were also asked to indicate the type of park, recreation area, or facility that they had last visited. The most popular type is a local park (39%) or a state park (25%).
 - Those who had *not* visited a park, recreation area, or facility were asked to indicate why they had *not* done so. Most commonly, they indicated that health/age was to blame. Other common responses include a disability preventing their going to a park and lack of interest.
- The above questions about visitation were also asked of professionals. For the most part, professionals were more avid in visiting the recreational places in Missouri: 97% had visited a local park *frequently* or *sometimes* in the past 2 years in Missouri, 81% had visited a local public recreation facility, 72% had visited a state park, and 47% had visited a national park or monument.
- Professionals' most popular types of park, recreation area, or facility that they had last visited were a local park (36%), a state park (19%), or a community center (14%).

IMPORTANCE OF AND VALUES ASSOCIATED WITH RECREATION

- The overwhelming majority of Missouri residents (93%) indicate that recreational activities or things they do in their non-work time are *very* or *somewhat* important to their overall quality of life, with most of those responses being *very* important (62%). Only 6% indicate that they are not important.
- Nearly all professionals surveyed (98%) indicate that recreational activities or things they do in their non-work time are *very* or *somewhat* important to their overall quality of life, with most of those responses being *very* important (71%).
- In an open-ended question, Missouri residents were asked what they think of when they think of parks and recreation. Responses ranged widely, with some people giving broad responses and other people naming specific sports or activities. The most common responses relate to park facilities and/or the actual parks themselves (33%). Other common topics named

include ball fields and/or leagues (20%), playgrounds (16%), hiking/trails (16%), wildlife (11%), and swimming (11%).

- Professionals were also asked this question. Their top responses are outdoors/open and/or green spaces (23%), parks (20%), responses related to places (not necessarily parks) that have a variety of activities (19%), hiking/trails (17%), fun/enjoyment (17%), and family/children (17%).
- The survey listed 16 possible benefits of parks and recreation activities and asked residents to indicate the importance of each, using a four-point scale (*very important*, *somewhat important*, *not very important*, *not at all important*). These are listed in the text box below.
- Three of them stand out markedly above the rest in the percentage who rate each as *very important*: cleaner air and water (79%), healthy childhood development (78%), and positive family activities (75%).
 - A middle tier is below these top three, consisting of items with at least 60% of residents saying the potential benefit is *very important*: providing wildlife habitat (68%), health and fitness (67%), a sense of peace and stress relief (64%), providing employment opportunities (62%), and protecting natural and historic resources (60%).

Possible Benefits of Parks and Recreation Activities About Which the Survey Asked

72. Health and fitness
73. Connecting with nature
74. A sense of peace and stress relief
75. Opportunities for play and competition
76. Positive family activities
77. Healthy childhood development
78. Providing cultural awareness
79. Opportunities to be with people
80. Attracting businesses
81. Promoting tourism
82. Enhancing property values
83. Providing employment opportunities
84. Preserving open space
85. Protecting natural and historic resources
86. Providing wildlife habitat
87. Cleaner air and water

- Professionals, too, were asked to rate the potential benefits of parks and recreation activities.
 - Three have more than 70% saying each is a *very* important benefit: health and fitness (80%), positive family activities (75%), and healthy childhood development (71%).
 - A middle tier below these three, but each with at least a majority saying it is a *very* important benefit, consists of preserving open space (66%), a sense of peace and stress relief (64%), cleaner air and water (63%), connections with nature (59%), protecting natural and historic resources (57%), providing wildlife habitat (56%), and opportunities for play and competition (51%).

- The survey asked respondents to indicate the importance of having parks and open space nearby if they were to choose a new residence. The large majority (84%) indicate that it would be important, including about half who say it would be *very* important (52%).

- A final way to explore the values associated with parks and recreation entailed reading statements to Missouri residents and asking them if they agree or disagree with each, using a five-point scale (strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree). The statements are generally favorable toward parks and recreation and/or suggest an obligation for society to have parks and recreation, with the exception of two statements that are not favorable toward parks and recreation. The statements are shown in the text box on the following page.
 - A majority indicate that they *strongly agree* or *agree* with each statement, with the exception of the two statements that are not favorable toward parks and recreation. In particular, four statements have 85% or more in agreement:
 - Spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives. (95%)
 - Parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health. (90%)
 - Local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space. (88%)
 - Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide. (85%)
 - Of interest is that the two statements that are not favorable (although they are not necessarily *unfavorable*) toward parks and recreation have only a little more than a third agreeing with them.

- Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity. (38%)
- Public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity. (38%)
- Note that these latter *statements* are not favorable to parks and recreation; these *results*, however, suggest a favorable attitude toward parks and recreation, as 49% *disagree* that parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity and 48% *disagree* that recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity.

Statements Relating To Parks and Recreation About Which the Survey Asked

- 106. Parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health.
- 107. Local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space.
- 108. Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide.
- 109. Parks and open space increase property values in your community.
- 110. Parks and open space are important to your community's economy.
- 111. Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas should be budget priorities in your community even during economic hard times.
- 112. Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity.
- 113. Spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives.
- 114. Public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity.

- The above statements were also read to professionals, and they used the same scale regarding their agreement or disagreement with the statements.
 - A majority indicate that they *strongly agree* or *agree* with each statement, with the exception of the two that are not favorable toward parks and recreation. In particular, five statements have 90% or more in agreement:
 - Parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health. (96%)
 - Spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives. (95%)
 - Local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space. (93%)
 - Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide. (93%)
 - Parks and open spaces increase property values in your community. (90%)

- The two statements that are not favorable toward parks and recreation have very small percentages agreeing with them (also shown is the percentage in *disagreement*).
 - Public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity. (14% agree; 71% disagree)
 - Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity. (13% agree; 74% disagree)

RATINGS OF PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES

- Residents rated the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri as a whole and in their community. They then rated the availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri and in their community. On all four questions, ratings are more positive than negative, as *excellent* and *good* ratings exceed *fair* and *poor* ratings. In general, ratings are better for “in Missouri” than for “in your community.”
 - For overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri, 82% give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 12% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For overall quality of parks and recreation services in their community, 72% give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 22% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri, 80% give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 14% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For availability of parks and recreation services in their community, 75% give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 21% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
- As was done in the survey of residents, professionals were asked to rate the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri as a whole and in their community. On all four questions, professionals' ratings are more positive than negative, as *excellent* and *good* ratings exceed *fair* and *poor* ratings. While the sum of *excellent* and *good* ratings are higher for the “in Missouri” questions than for the “in your community” questions, ratings of *excellent* by itself are higher for the “in your community” questions.
 - For overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri, 92% of professionals give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 7% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.

- For overall quality of parks and recreation services in their community, 84% of professionals give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 15% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri, 86% of professionals give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 12% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For availability of parks and recreation services in their community, 80% of professionals give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 20% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
- Residents also rated the overall safety of the parks in their community, with results similar to those above: 72% rate overall safety *excellent* or *good*, while 19% rate it *fair* or *poor* (with only 5% rating it *poor*).
- Professionals also give positive ratings to safety of parks in their community: 84% rate it excellent or good, while 12% rate it fair or poor.
- The survey examined residents' opinions on the quality of services of various providers of parks, recreation, and conservation services in Missouri. These are shown in the text box below. For all agencies, a majority give a rating of *excellent* or *good* (from 55% to 73%), and quite low percentages give a rating of *poor* (no more than 3% for any agency).
- In looking at the *excellent* and *good* responses combined, the top-rated agencies are the Missouri Department of Conservation (73% rate its services as *excellent* or *good*), the Missouri Division of State Parks (69%), the National Park Service (67%), the respondent's city park and recreation agency (66%), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (64%).
 - Three agencies have more than 10% of residents giving a *fair* or *poor* rating: the respondent's county park and recreation agency (18%), the respondent's city park and recreation agency (18%), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (13%).

Agencies That Provide Parks and Recreation Services About Which the Survey Asked

96. The Missouri Division of State Parks
97. The National Park Service
98. The U.S. Forest Service
99. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
100. The Missouri Department of Conservation
101. The respondent's city park and recreation agency
102. The respondent's county park and recreation agency
103. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- Professionals also rated the quality of services of those providers of parks, recreation, and conservation services in Missouri.
 - In looking at the *excellent* and *good* responses combined, the top-rated agencies are the respondent's city park and recreation agency (83% rate its services as *excellent* or *good*), the Missouri Division of State Parks (81%), the Missouri Department of Conservation (81%), the National Park Service (68%), and the respondent's county park and recreation agency (57%)—each with a majority of respondents giving it positive ratings.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction and Methodology	1
Priorities and Importance of Various Governmental Efforts	14
Participation in Recreation, and Constraints to Participation	47
Importance of and Values Associated With Recreation	77
Ratings of Parks and Recreation Services	104
Demographic Data	123
Appendix A: Parks, Recreation Areas, or Facilities Visited by Residents in the Previous 2 Years	139
About Responsive Management	144

INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted for the Missouri Park & Recreation Association (MPRA) to determine parks and recreation professionals' and Missouri residents' opinions on, attitudes toward, perceptions of, and values that they place on parks and recreation services in Missouri. The survey had questions exploring the value of recreation, perceptions of governmental priorities for spending as those priorities relate to recreation, perceptions of strengths and weaknesses of the parks and recreation profession, and residents' participation in recreation in Missouri. The study entailed two surveys: a multi-modal survey of recreation professionals and a telephone survey of Missouri residents. Specific aspects of the research methodology are discussed below.

For the multi-modal survey of parks and recreation professionals, a list of professionals to be surveyed was provided by the MPRA and the Missouri Municipal League. The survey was attached as a PDF file to an email to each of these professionals. Parks and recreation professionals could then complete the survey at their own convenience. The PDF forms could be filled out electronically or printed and filled out by hand. The completed PDF forms were then emailed, transmitted by facsimile, or mailed to Responsive Management. The completed PDF forms returned by email were imported directly into the database; completed surveys returned by facsimile or mail were entered into Responsive Management's database by data entry personnel. These results are identified on the graphs as "Professionals."

For the survey of Missouri residents, telephones were selected as the preferred sampling medium because of the almost universal ownership of telephones; note that both landlines and cellular telephones were called in the proportion in which these types of telephones are used in Missouri. An additional reason for selecting telephones for the survey is that telephone surveys, relative to mail or Internet surveys, allow for more scientific sampling and data collection, provide higher quality data, obtain higher response rates, are more timely, and are more cost-effective. Telephone surveys also have fewer negative effects on the environment than do mail surveys because of the reduced use of paper and reduced energy consumption for delivering and returning the questionnaires. A central polling site at the Responsive Management office allowed for rigorous quality control over the interviews and data collection. Responsive Management maintains its own in-house telephone interviewing facilities. These facilities are

staffed by interviewers with experience conducting computer-assisted telephone interviews on the subjects of natural resources and outdoor recreation. These results are identified on the graphs as “Missouri residents.”

Both the multi-modal survey and the telephone survey questionnaires were developed cooperatively by Responsive Management and the MPRA. Responsive Management conducted pre-tests of the questionnaires to ensure proper wording, flow, and logic in the surveys.

The data entry process was monitored by the Survey Center manager to ensure the integrity of the data from the survey of recreation professionals. Responsive Management’s data-entry personnel have experience with conducting research about natural resources and outdoor recreation.

To ensure the integrity of the telephone survey data, Responsive Management has interviewers who have been trained according to the standards established by the Council of American Survey Research Organizations. Methods of instruction included lecture and role-playing. The Survey Center Managers and other professional staff conducted project briefings with the interviewers prior to the administration of the telephone survey. Interviewers were instructed on type of study, study goals and objectives, handling of survey questions, interview length, termination points and qualifiers for participation, interviewer instructions within the survey instrument, reading of the survey instrument, skip patterns, and probing and clarifying techniques necessary for specific questions on the survey instrument. The Survey Center Managers and statisticians monitored the data collection, including monitoring of the actual telephone interviews without the interviewers’ knowledge, to evaluate the performance of each interviewer and ensure the integrity of the data. After the surveys were obtained by the interviewers, the Survey Center Managers and/or statisticians checked each completed survey to ensure clarity and completeness.

Telephone interviews were conducted Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday from noon to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., local time. A five-callback design was used to maintain the representativeness of the sample, to avoid bias toward people easy to reach by telephone, and to provide an equal opportunity for all to participate.

When a respondent could not be reached on the first call, subsequent calls were placed on different days of the week and at different times of the day. As stated previously, both landlines and cellular telephones were called in the proportion in which these types of telephones are used in Missouri.

The multi-modal survey was conducted in November through December 2009; the telephone survey was conducted in November 2009. Responsive Management obtained a total of 349 completed questionnaires from parks and recreation professionals and 874 completed interviews with Missouri residents.

The software used for telephone interviewing and telephone survey data collection was Questionnaire Programming Language (QPL). The telephone survey data were entered into the computer as each interview was being conducted. The survey instrument was programmed so that QPL branched, coded, and substituted phrases in the survey based on previous responses to ensure the integrity and consistency of the data collection.

The analysis of data was performed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences as well as proprietary software developed by Responsive Management. The results of the telephone survey were weighted by gender and age to ensure that the sample was properly proportioned to represent Missouri residents as a whole.

For this report, a nonparametric analysis of the data from the telephone survey of residents examined how various responses related to behavioral, participatory and demographic characteristics. Responses for selected questions in the telephone survey were tested by means of z-scores for relationships to behavioral, participatory, and demographic characteristics. The analysis examined more than 175 variables regarding characteristics of the respondents entailing approximately 16,000 calculations. A positive z-score means that the response and characteristic are positively related; a negative z-score means that the response and characteristic are negatively related.

The z-score shows the strength of the relationship between the characteristic and the response to the question. Those z-scores that have an absolute value of 3.30 or greater indicate a relationship that is so strong that it would happen by chance only 1 out of 1,000 times ($p \leq 0.001$). Those z-scores that have an absolute value of 2.58 to 3.29 indicate a relationship that is so strong that it would happen by chance only 1 out of 100 times ($p \leq 0.01$). Finally, those z-scores that have an absolute value of 1.96 to 2.57 indicate a relationship that is so strong that it would happen by chance only 5 out of 100 times ($p \leq 0.05$).

The z-scores were calculated as shown in the formula below.

$$z = \frac{(p_1 - p_2)}{\sqrt{p(1-p) \left[\frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2} \right]}}$$

where:

- n_1 represents the number of observations in Group 1.
- n_2 represents the number of observations in Group 2.
- $p_1 = a/(a + b) = a/n_1$ and represents the proportion of observations in Group 1 that falls in Cell a . It is employed to estimate the population proportion Π_1 (% of Group 1 who had specific characteristic).
- $p_2 = c/(c + d) = c/n_2$ and represents the proportion of observations in Group 2 that falls in Cell c . It is employed to estimate the population proportion Π_2 (% of Group 2 who had specific characteristic).
- $p = (a + c)/(n_1 + n_2) = (a + c)/n$ and is a pooled estimate of the proportion of respondents who had specific characteristic in the underlying population.

(Equation from *Handbook of Parametric and Nonparametric Statistical Procedures*, 2nd Edition by David J. Sheskin. © 2000, Chapman & Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, FL.)

The characteristics examined in the nonparametric analysis of the telephone survey data are shown in the tabulation that starts on the following page.

Question from Resident Survey	Z-Score Run and Labels
13. Schools and education? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: schools and education
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: schools and education
14. Public safety, such as police and fire departments? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: public safety, such as police and fire departments
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: public safety, such as police and fire departments
15. Public works, such as roads and sewers? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: public works, such as roads and sewers
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: public works, such as roads and sewers
16. City and town beautification? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: city and town beautification
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: city and town beautification
17. Conservation of natural resources? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: conservation of natural resources
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: conservation of natural resources
18. Preservation of historic and cultural resources? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: preservation of historic and cultural resources
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: preservation of historic and cultural resources
19. Parks and open spaces? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: parks and open spaces
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: parks and open spaces
20. Affordable housing? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: affordable housing
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: affordable housing
21. Environmental protection? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: environmental protection
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: environmental protection
22. Communities connected by sidewalks and trails? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: communities connected by sidewalks and trails
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: communities connected by sidewalks and trails
23. Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers
24. Social services, such as food, job training, and health care? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: social services, such as food, job training, and health care
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: social services, such as food, job training, and health care
25. Economic development? (How important is this as a government expense?)	Says this is very important as a government expense: economic development
	Does not indicate this is very important as a government expense: economic development

Question from Resident Survey	Z-Score Run and Labels
28. Schools and education? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: schools and education Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: schools and education
29. Public safety, such as police and fire departments? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: public safety, such as police and fire departments Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: public safety, such as police and fire departments
30. Public works, such as roads and sewers? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: public works, such as roads and sewers Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: public works, such as roads and sewers
31. City and town beautification? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: city and town beautification Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: city and town beautification
32. Conservation of natural resources? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: conservation of natural resources Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: conservation of natural resources
33. Preservation of historic and cultural resources? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: preservation of historic and cultural resources Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: preservation of historic and cultural resources
34. Parks and open spaces? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: parks and open spaces Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: parks and open spaces
35. Affordable housing? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: affordable housing Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: affordable housing
36. Environmental protection? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: environmental protection Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: environmental protection
37. Communities connected by sidewalks and trails? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: communities connected by sidewalks and trails Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: communities connected by sidewalks and trails
38. Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers
39. Social services, such as food, job training, and health care? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: social services, such as food, job training, and health care Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: social services, such as food, job training, and health care

Question from Resident Survey	Z-Score Run and Labels
40. Economic development? (How important is this to you personally for your overall quality of life?)	Says this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: economic development
	Does not indicate this is very important to him/her personally for overall quality of life: economic development
41. When it comes to recreational activities or things you do in your non-work time, would you say you're someone who mostly enjoys indoor recreational activities, outdoor recreational activities, or indoor and outdoor recreational activities equally?	Mostly enjoys indoor recreation
	Mostly enjoys outdoor recreation
	Enjoys both indoor and outdoor recreation about equally
42. Considering everything, do you find that you participate in these activities as much as you like?	Participates in his/her activities as much as he/she likes
	Does not indicate participating in his/her activities as much as he/she likes
44. Overall, how important are recreational activities or things you do in your non-work time to your overall quality of life?	Says recreational activities or things he/she does in his/her non-work time are very important to overall quality of life
	Does not indicate that recreational activities or things he/she does in his/her non-work time are very important to overall quality of life
47. What do you think of when you think of parks and recreation?	Thinks of parks when he/she thinks of parks and recreation
	Thinks of ball fields and leagues when he/she thinks of parks and recreation
	Thinks of playgrounds when he/she thinks of parks and recreation
	Thinks of hiking and trails when he/she thinks of parks and recreation
50. A national park or monument? (How often have you visited this in Missouri in the last 2 years?)	Has visited a national park or monument in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years
	Does not indicate visiting a national park or monument in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years
51. A state park? (How often have you visited this in Missouri in the last 2 years?)	Has visited a state park in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years
	Does not indicate visiting a state park in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years
52. A local park? (How often have you visited this in Missouri in the last 2 years?)	Has visited a local park in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years
	Does not indicate visiting a local park in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years
53. A local public recreation facility, including indoor and outdoor facilities, such as community centers, sports complexes, and aquatic complexes? (How often have you visited this in Missouri in the last 2 years?)	Has visited a local public recreation facility, including indoor and outdoor facilities, in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years
	Does not indicate visiting a local public recreation facility, including indoor and outdoor facilities, in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years
61. How many children, age 17 or younger, do you have living in your household?	Has children living at home
	Does not have children living at home [add don't know to this category]
68. How important do you think it is for government to spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children?	Says it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children
	Does not indicate that it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children

Question from Resident Survey	Z-Score Run and Labels
72. Health and fitness? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says health and fitness is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that health and fitness is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
73. Connections with nature? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says connecting with nature is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that connecting with nature is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
74. A sense of peace and stress relief? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says a sense of peace/stress relief is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that a sense of peace/stress relief is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
75. Opportunities for play and competition? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says opportunities for play and competition are very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that opportunities for play and competition are very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
76. Positive family activities? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says positive family activities are very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that positive family activities are very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
77. Healthy childhood development? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says healthy childhood development is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that healthy childhood development is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
78. Providing cultural awareness? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says providing cultural awareness is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that providing cultural awareness is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
79. Opportunities to be with people? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says opportunities to be with people are very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that opportunities to be with people are very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
80. Attracting businesses? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says attracting businesses is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that attracting businesses is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
81. Promoting tourism? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says promoting tourism is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that promoting tourism is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
82. Enhancing property values? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says enhancing property values is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that enhancing property values is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
83. Providing employment opportunities? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says providing employment opportunities is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that providing employment opportunities is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
84. Preserving open space? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says preserving open space is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that preserving open space is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities

Question from Resident Survey	Z-Score Run and Labels
85. Protecting natural and historic resources? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says protecting natural and historic resources is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that protecting natural and historic resources is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
86. Providing wildlife habitat? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says providing wildlife habitat is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that providing wildlife habitat is very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
87. Cleaner air and water? (How important is this as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities?)	Says cleaner air and water are very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
	Does not indicate that cleaner air and water are very or somewhat important as a possible benefit of parks and recreation activities
88. If you were choosing a new residence, how important would it be to have parks and open space nearby?	Says it would be very important to have parks and open space nearby when choosing a new residence
	Does not indicate that it would be very important to have parks and open space nearby when choosing a new residence
89. How would you rate the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri?	Rates the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri as excellent or good
	Does not rate the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri as excellent or good
90. How would you rate the availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri?	Rates the availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri as excellent or good
	Does not rate the availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri as excellent or good
91. How would you rate the overall quality of parks and recreation services in your community?	Rates the overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community as excellent or good
	Does not rate the overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community as excellent or good
92. How would you rate the availability of parks and recreation services in your community?	Rates the availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community as excellent or good
	Does not rate the availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community as excellent or good
93. How would you rate the overall safety of the parks in your community?	Rates the overall safety of the parks in his/her community as excellent or good
	Does not rate the overall safety of the parks in his/her community as excellent or good
96. The Missouri Division of State Parks? (How would you rate the quality of services provided by this?)	Rates the quality of services provided by the Missouri Division of State Parks as excellent or good
	Does not rate the quality of services provided by the Missouri Division of State Parks as excellent or good
97. The National Park Service? (How would you rate the quality of services provided by this?)	Rates the quality of services provided by the National Park Service as excellent or good
	Does not rate the quality of services provided by the National Park Service as excellent or good
98. The U.S. Forest Service? (How would you rate the quality of services provided by this?)	Rates the quality of services provided by the U.S. Forest Service as excellent or good
	Does not rate the quality of services provided by the U.S. Forest Service as excellent or good
99. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers? (How would you rate the quality of services provided by this?)	Rates the quality of services provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as excellent or good
	Does not rate the quality of services provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as excellent or good

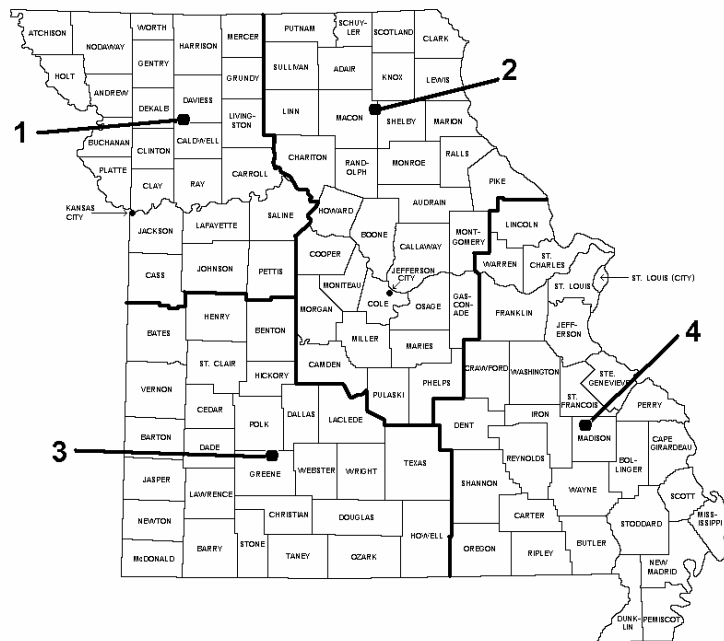
Question from Resident Survey	Z-Score Run and Labels
100. The Missouri Department of Conservation? (How would you rate the quality of services provided by this?)	Rates the quality of services provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation as excellent or good
	Does not rate the quality of services provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation as excellent or good
101. Your city park and recreation agency? (How would you rate the quality of services provided by this?)	Rates the quality of services provided by his/her city park and recreation agency as excellent or good
	Does not rate the quality of services provided by his/her city park and recreation agency as excellent or good
102. Your county park and recreation agency? (How would you rate the quality of services provided by this?)	Rates the quality of services provided by his/her county park and recreation agency as excellent or good
	Does not rate the quality of services provided by his/her county park and recreation agency as excellent or good
103. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service? (How would you rate the quality of services provided by this?)	Rates the quality of services provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as excellent or good
	Does not rate the quality of services provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as excellent or good
106. Parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)	Agrees that parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health
	Does not agree that parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health
107. Local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)	Agrees that local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space
	Does not agree that local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space
108. Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)	Agrees that Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide
	Does not agree that Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide
109. Parks and open space increase property values in your community. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)	Agrees that parks and open space increase property values in his/her community
	Does not agree that parks and open space increase property values in his/her community
110. Parks and open space are important to your community's economy. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)	Agrees that parks and open space are important to his/her community's economy
	Does not agree that parks and open space are important to his/her community's economy
111. Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas should be budget priorities in your community even during economic hard times. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)	Agrees that parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas should be budget priorities in his/her community even during economic hard times
	Does not agree that parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas should be budget priorities in his/her community even during economic hard times
112. Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)	Agrees that parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity
	Does not agree that parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity

Question from Resident Survey	Z-Score Run and Labels
113. Spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)	Agrees that spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives
	Does not agree that spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives
114. Public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity. (Do you agree or disagree with this statement?)	Agrees that public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity
	Does not agree that public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity
116. Which county in Missouri do you live in?	(Analyzed by the four MPRA regions.*)
119. Do you consider your place of residence to be a large city or urban area, a suburban area, a small city or town, a rural area on a farm or ranch, or a rural area not on a farm or ranch?	Considers place of residence to be rural
	Considers place of residence to be small city or town
	Considers place of residence to be suburban area or large city/urban area
120. What is the highest level of education you have completed?	Highest education level is no higher than high school
	Highest education level is some college, but no bachelor's degree
	Highest education level is bachelor's degree or higher
123. What races or ethnic backgrounds do you consider yourself, and please mention all that apply?	Is white
	Is non-white
125. Which of these categories best describes your total household income before taxes last year?	Income is less than \$60,000
	Income is from \$60,000 to \$99,999
	Income is \$100,000 or more
126. May I ask your age?	Age is less than 35 years old
	Age is from 35 to 54 years old
	Age is 55 years old or older
133. Observe and record respondent's gender (not asked; observed by interviewer).	Is male
	Is female

* The regions for the nonparametric analysis are discussed and shown immediately at the end of this tabulation.

For the nonparametric analysis, the regional breakdown of the MPRA is used, as found on its website at <http://mopark.org/associations/9662/files/MAP-OF-REGIONS.jpg>. The state is divided into four regions, as shown in the map on the following page.

MISSOURI PARK AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION REGIONS



Throughout this report, findings of the telephone survey are reported at a 95% confidence interval. For the entire sample of Missouri residents, the sampling error is at most plus or minus 3.3 percentage points. This means that if the telephone survey were conducted 100 times on different samples of Missouri residents that were selected in the same way, the findings of 95 out of the 100 surveys would fall within plus or minus 3.3 percentage points of each other.

Sampling error was calculated using the formula described on the following page, with a sample size of 874 and a population size of 4,450,742 Missouri residents 18 years of age and older.

No sampling error was determined for the sample of parks and recreation professionals because the total population of parks and recreation professionals could not be determined.

Sampling Error Equation

$$B = \left(\sqrt{\frac{N_p(.25) - N_s}{N_p - 1}} \right) (1.96)$$

Where: B = maximum sampling error (as decimal)
N_p = population size (i.e., total number who could be surveyed)
N_s = sample size (i.e., total number of respondents surveyed)

Derived from formula: p. 206 in Dillman, D. A. 2000. *Mail and Internet Surveys*. John Wiley & Sons, NY.

Note: This is a simplified version of the formula that calculates the maximum sampling error using a 50:50 split (the most conservative calculation because a 50:50 split would give maximum variation).

Note that some results may not sum to exactly 100% because of rounding. Additionally, rounding on the graphs may cause apparent discrepancies of 1 percentage point between the graphs and the reported results of combined responses (e.g., when “strongly agree” and “agree” are summed to determine the total percentage in agreement).

PRIORITIES AND IMPORTANCE OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENTAL EFFORTS

- The survey asked about 13 governmental efforts, as shown in the text box below. For each effort, the survey asked residents to indicate if the effort was *very* important, *somewhat* important, *not very* important, or *not at all* important as a government expense. The survey randomized the beginning point in the series of questions for each respondent to minimize “order” bias (which refers to the influence a question can have on responses to subsequent questions). All of the individual questions were then ranked and analyzed relative to one another. The governmental efforts fall into four tiers when ranked by the percentage who say each effort is *very* important as a government expense.
- In the top tier are schools and education (85% say this is *very* important) and public safety, such as police and fire departments (81%).
 - The second tier consists of 5 of the 13 items, each with 60% or more saying it is *very* important: social services, such as food, job training, and health care (70%), public works, such as roads and sewers (67%), affordable housing (62%), environmental protection (62%), and conservation of natural resources (60%).
 - The third tier consists of economic development (54%), parks and open spaces (48%), recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers (42%), and preservation of historic and cultural resources (39%).
 - The bottom tier consists of communities connected by sidewalks and trails (26%) and city and town beautification (17%).

Governmental Efforts About Which the Survey Asked

Schools and education
 Public safety, such as police and fire departments
 Public works, such as roads and sewers
 City and town beautification
 Conservation of natural resources
 Preservation of historic and cultural resources
 Parks and open spaces
 Affordable housing
 Environmental protection
 Communities connected by sidewalks and trails
 Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers
 Social services, such as food, job training, and health care
 Economic development

- An examination of the nonparametric analysis on six of the above governmental efforts in the survey of residents is discussed below. The six governmental efforts examined in detail are those that have the most pertinence to the MPRA: conservation of natural resources; preservation of historic and cultural resources; parks and open spaces; environmental protection; communities connected by sidewalks and trails; and recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers. How residents' opinions on these six governmental efforts relate to opinions on the other governmental efforts, on the perceived benefits of parks and recreation activities, and on agreement/disagreement with the value statements that were read to respondents are shown in three tabulations that follow this discussion.
- In addition to the correlations shown in the tabulations that follow, those residents who say that **conservation of natural resources** is *very* important as a government expense show the following correlations:
 - Saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Saying that it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services to children ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Rating the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.05$); rating the quality of services provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - Having visited a national park or monument in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years ($p \leq 0.01$).
 - Being non-white ($p \leq 0.05$); being younger than 35 years of age ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - In addition to the correlations shown in the tabulations that follow, those residents who say that **preservation of historic and cultural resources** is *very* important as a government expense show the following correlations:
 - Saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Saying that it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services to children ($p \leq 0.001$).

- Rating the quality of services provided by his/her county park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.05$), by the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.05$), by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.05$), and/or by the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.05$) as excellent or good.
- Mostly enjoying outdoor recreation ($p \leq 0.05$); having visited a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.01$), a state park ($p \leq 0.05$), and/or a local park ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
- Being non-white ($p \leq 0.05$), living in Region 4 ($p \leq 0.05$), being younger than 35 years of age ($p \leq 0.05$).
- In addition to the correlations shown in the tabulations that follow, those residents who say that **parks/open space** is *very* important as a government expense show the following correlations:
 - Saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Saying that it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services to children ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Rating the quality of services provided by his/her county park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.01$), his/her city park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.01$), the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.01$), and/or the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.01$) as excellent or good.
 - Having visited a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.05$), a state park ($p \leq 0.05$), and/or a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Having a household income of less than \$60,000 ($p \leq 0.05$).
- In addition to the correlations shown in the tabulations that follow, those residents who say that **environmental protection** is *very* important as a government expense show the following correlations:
 - Saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Saying that it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services to children ($p \leq 0.001$).

- Rating the quality of services provided by the National Park Service as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.05$).
- (There were no visitation correlations.)
- Being non-white ($p \leq 0.001$), considering place of residence to be a suburban area or large city/urban area ($p \leq 0.05$), being female ($p \leq 0.05$), having an educational level of no higher than high school ($p \leq 0.05$), living in Region 4 ($p \leq 0.05$), having a household income of less than \$60,000 ($p \leq 0.05$).
- In addition to the correlations shown in the tabulations that follow, those residents who say that **communities connected by sidewalks and trails** is *very* important as a government expense show the following correlations:
 - Saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Saying that it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services to children ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - *Not* rating the overall safety of the parks in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.01$).
 - Enjoying both indoor and outdoor recreation about equally ($p \leq 0.05$); having visited a local park ($p \leq 0.01$) and/or a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Being non-white ($p \leq 0.001$), having a household income of less than \$60,000 ($p \leq 0.01$), being younger than 35 years of age ($p \leq 0.05$), having children living in household ($p \leq 0.05$).
- In addition to the correlations shown in the tabulations that follow, those residents who say that **recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers**, is *very* important as a government expense show the following correlations:
 - Saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Saying that it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services to children ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Rating the quality of services provided by his/her county park and recreation agency as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.05$).

- Enjoying both indoor and outdoor recreation about equally ($p \leq 0.05$); having visited a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.001$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Being non-white ($p \leq 0.01$), being younger than 35 years of age ($p \leq 0.01$).
- As stated previously, the nonparametric analysis of residents' opinions on the six governmental efforts discussed above also found correlations to the other governmental efforts, to the perceived benefits of parks and recreation activities, and to agreement/disagreement with the value statements that were read to respondents. In the three tabulations that follow, the number of asterisks indicate the strength of the correlation: three asterisks indicate a relationship that is so strong that it would happen by chance only 1 out of 1,000 times ($p \leq 0.001$); two asterisks indicate a relationship that is so strong that it would happen by chance only 1 out of 100 times ($p \leq 0.01$); and one asterisk indicates a relationship that is so strong that it would happen by chance only 5 out of 100 times ($p \leq 0.05$). These tabulations start on the next page.

- The first tabulation shows the correlations (among residents) between saying that the government efforts are *very* important and saying that the other governmental efforts are very important as government expenses and are very important to the respondent personally for his/her quality of life.
 - How to read the table: Saying that the conservation of natural resources is *very* important as a government expense is positively correlated to saying that all of the other governmental efforts are very important as government expenses. Furthermore, saying that the conservation of natural resources is *very* important as a government expense is positively correlated to saying that all of the other governmental efforts are very important to the respondent personally for his/her quality of life.
 - Note that all of the correlations in this table have the same level of significance ($p < 0.001$), which is shown by three asterisks, with the exception of one, shown with two asterisks: Saying that communities connected by sidewalks and trails is very important as a government expense is correlated to saying that schools and education is very important to the respondent personally for his/her quality of life ($p < 0.01$).

Governmental Efforts Correlations

	Conservation of natural resources		Preservation of historic and cultural resources		Parks and open space		Environmental protection		Communities connected by sidewalks and trails		Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers	
	e	p	e	p	e	p	e	p	e	p	e	p
Schools and education	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	**	***	***
Public safety, such as police and fire departments	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Public works, such as roads and sewers	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
City and town beautification	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Conservation of natural resources	na	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Preservation of historic and cultural resources	***	***	na	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Parks and open spaces	***	***	***	***	na	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Affordable housing	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Environmental protection	***	***	***	***	***	***	na	***	***	***	***	***
Communities connected by sidewalks and trails	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	na	***	***	***
Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	na	***
Social services, such as food, job training, and health care	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Economic development	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***

*** = ($p \leq 0.001$) ** = ($p \leq 0.01$) * = ($p \leq 0.05$)

- The second tabulation shows the correlations (among residents) between saying that the governmental efforts are *very* important and perceiving the benefits of parks and recreation activities to be *very* or *somewhat* important.
- How to read the table: Saying that the conservation of natural resources is *very* important as a government expense is positively correlated to saying that health/fitness is a very or somewhat important benefit of parks and recreation activities ($p \leq 0.05$), to saying that connecting with nature is a very or somewhat important benefit of parks and recreation activities ($p \leq 0.001$), to saying that a sense of peace/ stress relief is a very or somewhat important benefit of parks and recreation activities ($p \leq 0.001$), but not to saying that opportunities for play and competition is a very or somewhat important benefit of parks and recreation activities (because that cell in the table is blank), and so on.

Benefits Correlations

	Conservation of natural resources	Preservation of historic and cultural resources	Parks and open space	Environmental protection	Communities connected by sidewalks and trails	Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers
Health and fitness	*	***	***	*	***	***
Connecting with nature	***		***	**	**	*
A sense of peace and stress relief	***	***	***	***	**	***
Opportunities for play and competition		**	**	**	*	***
Positive family activities		*	*		*	*
Healthy childhood development	*		***	***	*	
Providing cultural awareness	***	***	***	***	***	***
Opportunities to be with people		***	**	***	**	***
Attracting businesses		*	**	***	***	***
Promoting tourism		**	**	*		**
Enhancing property values			*	*	*	
Providing employment opportunities	*	**			**	**
Preserving open space	***		***	***	**	**
Protecting natural and historic resources	**	***	**	***	*	***
Providing wildlife habitat	***	*	**	***	*	
Cleaner air and water	***			***	*	

*** = ($p \leq 0.001$)

** = ($p \leq 0.01$)

* = ($p \leq 0.05$)

- The third tabulation in this section shows the correlations (among residents) between saying that the governmental efforts are *very* important as government expenses and *strongly* or *moderately* agreeing or not agreeing (not agreeing includes *disagreeing* as well as neutral statements and “don’t know”) with the value statements.
 - How to read the table: Saying that the conservation of natural resources is *very* important as a government expense is positively correlated to agreeing with the statements in the first six rows (all at $p \leq 0.001$), to not agreeing with the statement in the seventh row ($p \leq 0.01$), and to not agreeing with the statement in the last row ($p \leq 0.01$). There is no correlation to the eighth statement, for which the cell is blank.

Agreement/Disagreement Correlations

	Conservation of natural resources	Preservation of historic and cultural resources	Parks and open space	Environmental protection	Communities connected by sidewalks and trails	Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers
Parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health.	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***
Local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space.	Agrees ***		Agrees ***	Agrees ***		
Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide.	Agrees ***	Agrees *	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees *	Agrees **
Parks and open space increase property values in your community.	Agrees ***	Agrees **	Agrees ***	Agrees *	Agrees ***	Agrees **
Parks and open space are important to your community's economy.	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***
Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas should be budget priorities in your community even during economic hard times.	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***	Agrees ***
Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity.	Does not agree ***	Does not agree ***	Does not agree ***	Does not agree ***		
Spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives.			Agrees *	Agrees *		Agrees **
Public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity.	Does not agree **	Does not agree *	Does not agree *	Does not agree ***	Does not agree *	Does not agree **

*** = ($p \leq 0.001$) ** = ($p \leq 0.01$) * = ($p \leq 0.05$)

- Professionals were also asked to rate the importance of the 13 governmental efforts. All of the individual questions were then ranked and analyzed relative to one another. The list of governmental efforts can be placed into four tiers when ranked by the percentage who say each effort is *very* important as a government expense.
- In the top tier are schools and education (90% say this is *very* important), public safety, such as police and fire departments (89%), and public works, such as roads and sewers (78%).
 - The second tier consists of 3 of the 13 items, each with between 50% and 60% saying it is *very* important: parks and open spaces (58%), environmental protection (53%), and conservation of natural resources (52%).
 - The third tier consists of recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers (44%), economic development (40%), and social services, such as food, job training, and health care (33%).
 - The bottom tier consists of communities connected by sidewalks and trails (29%), affordable housing (25%), preservation of historic and cultural resources (24%), and city and town beautification (20%).
- The tabulation on the following page shows the *very* important ratings among residents and professionals as well as the ranking. The most marked differences between residents' ratings and professionals' ratings are for the following:
- Parks and open space (48% of residents rate it *very* important, ranked 9th; 58% of professionals, ranked 4th).
 - Affordable housing (62% among residents, ranked 5th; 25% among professionals, ranked 11th).
 - Social services (70% among residents, ranked 3rd; 33% among professionals, ranked 9th).

Governmental Efforts	Percent rating as very important as government expenses (and rank)	
	Residents	Professionals
Schools and education	85 (1)	90 (1)
Public safety, such as police and fire departments	81 (2)	89 (2)
Public works, such as roads and sewers	67 (4)	78 (3)
City and town beautification	17 (14)	20 (13)
Conservation of natural resources	60 (7)	52 (6)
Preservation of historic and cultural resources	39 (11)	24 (12)
Parks and open spaces	48 (9)	58 (4)
Affordable housing	62 (5 t)	25 (11)
Environmental protection	62 (5 t)	53 (5)
Communities connected by sidewalks and trails	26 (12)	29 (10)
Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers	42 (10)	44 (7)
Social services, such as food, job training, and health care	70 (3)	33 (9)
Economic development	54 (8)	40 (8)

- The survey also asked residents about the importance of government spending on the provision of parks and recreation services for children. An overwhelming majority of Missouri residents (92%) say that this is *very* or *somewhat* important; only 7% say that it is *not very* or *not at all* important. Note that the results (54% rated this *very* important) would put it in the third tier of priorities for government spending in the series of questions discussed immediately above.
 - Professionals almost unanimously think that it is *very* or *somewhat* important for the government to spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children (97% think so, with 69% saying it is *very* important).
 - The nonparametric analysis found that those residents who say that it is *very* important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children have the following correlations:
 - Rating all of the governmental efforts asked about in the survey as *very* important as government expenses and to them personally for their quality of life (all at $p \leq 0.001$).
 - Saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Rating the overall safety of parks in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.05$); rating the quality of services provided by his/her county park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri

- Division of State Parks ($p \leq 0.01$), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.01$), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ($p \leq 0.01$), his/her city park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.01$), the U.S. Forest Service ($p \leq 0.05$), and/or the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.05$) as excellent or good.
- Having visited a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.001$), a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a state park ($p \leq 0.01$), and/or a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Being non-white ($p \leq 0.01$), considering place of residence to be a suburban area or large city/urban area ($p \leq 0.01$), living in Region 1 ($p \leq 0.05$), living in Region 4 ($p \leq 0.05$).
- The survey asked residents who have children living in their household if they would like to make educating their children about nature and the outdoors a higher priority, about the same level of priority, or a lower priority. They are about evenly split between saying that they would like to make it a higher priority (50%) or would like to keep it about the same priority (46%); a low percentage would like to make it a lower priority (1%).
- Professionals who have children were also asked this question, with similar results: 54% would like to make it a higher priority, and 43% would like to keep it about the same priority; only 1% would like to make it a lower priority.
- The survey asked residents about those same 13 governmental efforts previously listed, but asked them how important each *personally* is to their *quality of life*, using the same scale that was previously used (*very* important, *somewhat* important, *not very* important, or *not at all* important). The survey randomized the beginning point in the series of questions for each respondent to minimize order bias. All of the individual questions were then ranked and analyzed relative to one another. The governmental efforts fall into four tiers when ranked by the percentage who say each effort is *very* important to them personally.
- In the top tier are schools and education (78% say this is *very* important) and public safety, such as police and fire departments (77%).
 - The second tier consists of 5 of the 13 items, each with from 50% to 60% saying it is *very* important: environmental protection (59%), public works, such as roads and sewers

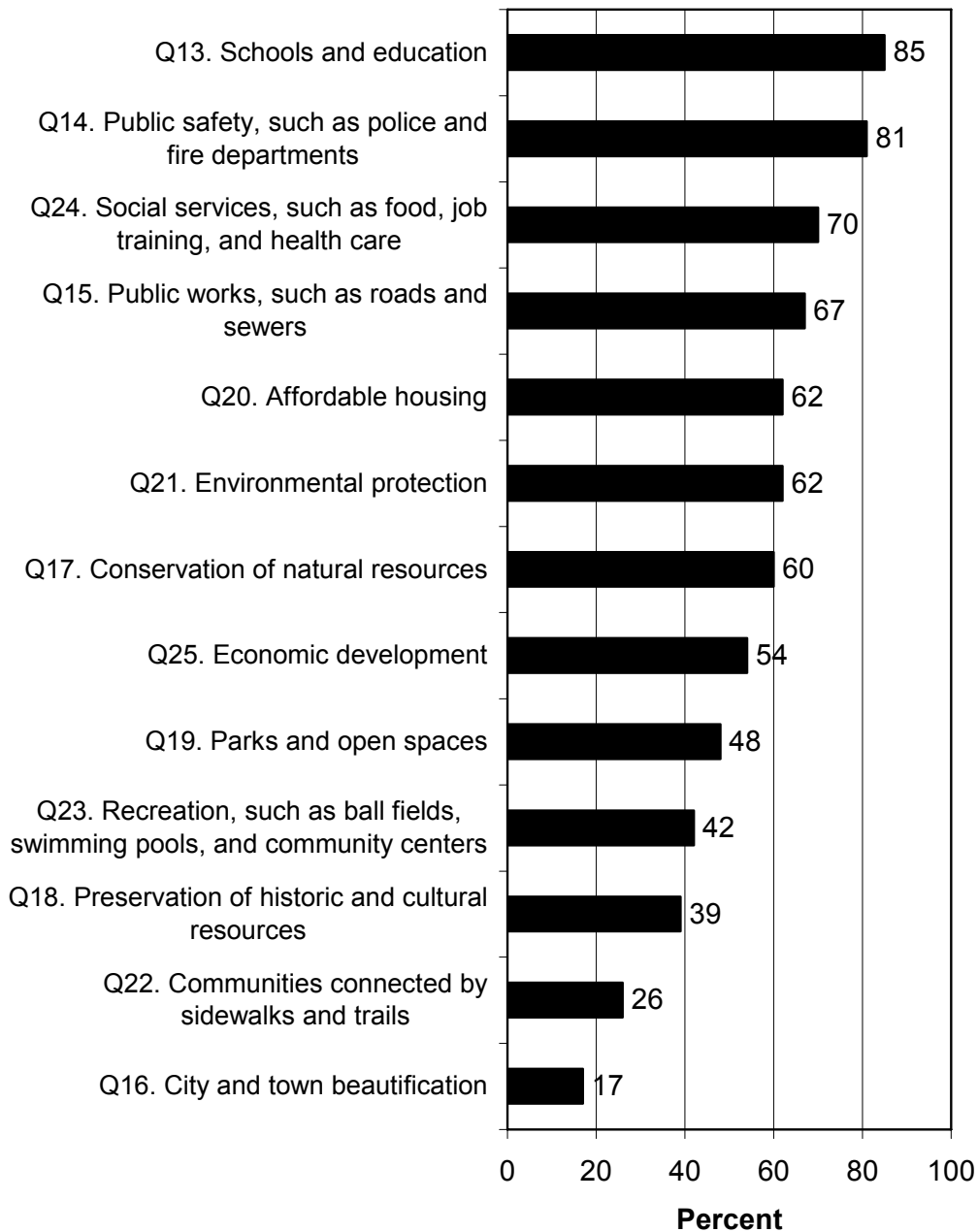
- (57%), conservation of natural resources (56%), affordable housing (56%), and social services, such as food, job training, and health care (54%).
- The third tier consists of parks and open spaces (47%), economic development (47%), preservation of historic and cultural resources (37%), and recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers (35%).
 - The bottom tier consists of communities connected by sidewalks and trails (25%) and city and town beautification (19%).
- For the residents' survey, an examination of how the governmental efforts ranked in importance as government expenses versus how the governmental efforts ranked in importance to residents personally for their quality of life found only minor differences in the rankings. There was no difference in the tiers into which they fell.
- Professionals were also asked to rate the importance of the 13 governmental efforts to them personally for their quality of life. Again, the efforts can be grouped into four tiers.
- In the top tier are public safety, such as police and fire departments (76% say this is *very* important), schools and education (70%), and parks and open spaces (65%).
 - The second tier consists of public works, such as roads and sewers (57%), conservation of natural resources (53%), environmental protection (53%), and recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers (49%).
 - The third tier consists of economic development (35%) and communities connected by sidewalks and trails (30%).
 - The bottom tier consists of city and town beautification (23%), preservation of historic and cultural resources (23%), social services, such as food, job training, and health care (22%), and affordable housing (20%).
- For the professionals' survey, an examination of how the governmental efforts ranked in importance as government expenses versus how the governmental efforts ranked in importance to professionals personally for their quality of life found only minor differences in the rankings. Parks and open spaces moves up in the ranking in importance to them *personally*, as does recreation, when compared to importance *as government expenses*. On

the other hand, public works and social services move slightly down in relative importance to professionals *personally* when compared to importance *as government expenses*.

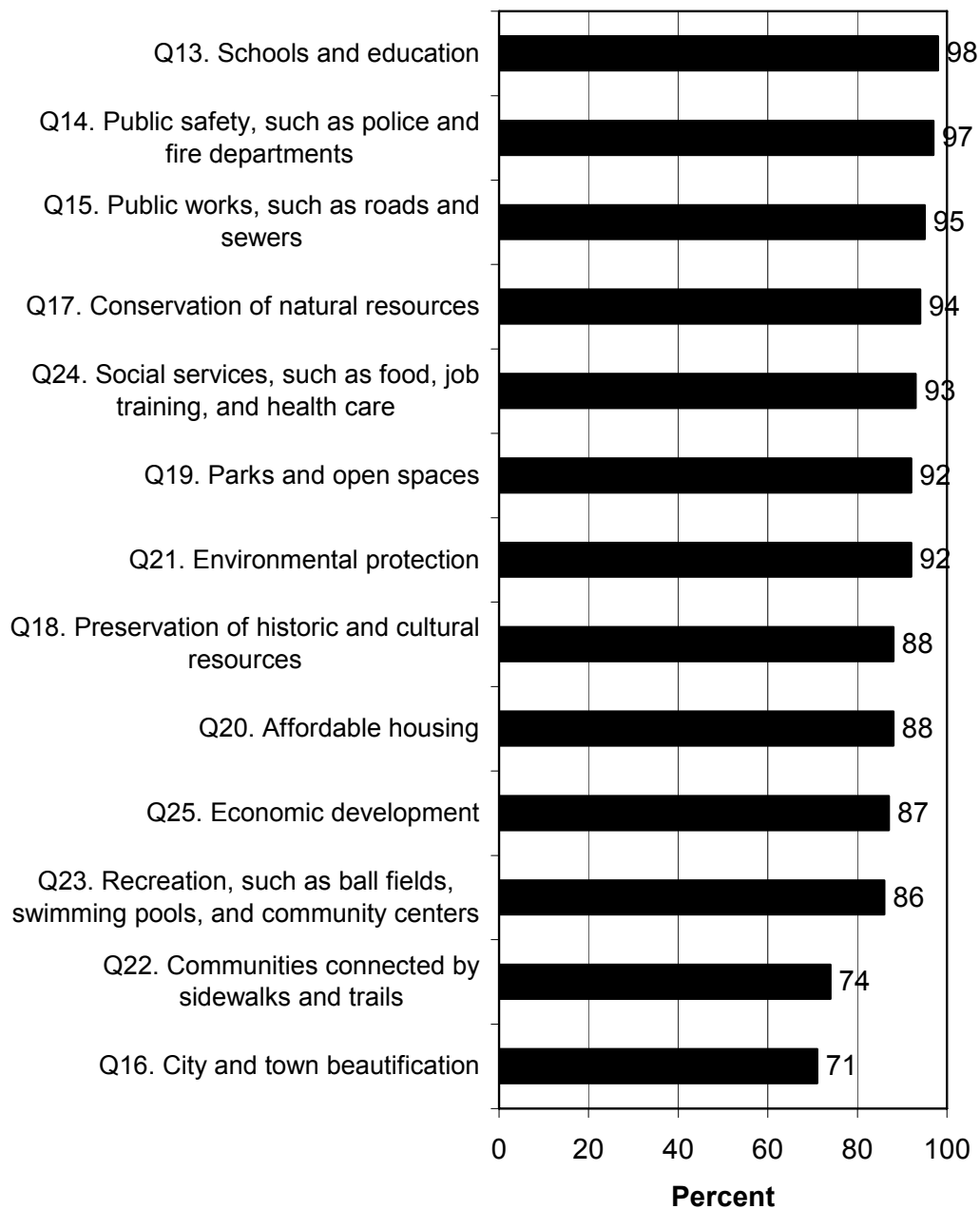
- The tabulation below shows the *very* important ratings among residents and professionals. When comparing residents' ratings to professionals' ratings of importance to them personally, the most marked differences between residents' ratings and professionals' ratings are for the following:
- Parks and open space (47% of residents rate it *very* important, ranked 8th; 65% of professionals, ranked 3rd).
 - Affordable housing (56% among residents, ranked 5th; 20% among professionals, ranked 13th).
 - Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers (35% among residents, ranked 11th; 49% among professionals, ranked 7th).
 - Social services (54% among residents, ranked 7th; 22% among professionals, ranked 12th).
 - Economic development (47% among residents; 35% among professionals; the rank is the same).

Governmental Efforts	Percent rating as very important to them personally (and rank)	
	Residents	Professionals
Schools and education	78 (1)	70 (2)
Public safety, such as police and fire departments	77 (2)	76 (1)
Public works, such as roads and sewers	57 (4)	57 (4)
City and town beautification	19 (13)	23 (10 t)
Conservation of natural resources	56 (5 t)	53 (5 t)
Preservation of historic and cultural resources	37 (10)	23 (10 t)
Parks and open spaces	47 (8 t)	65 (3)
Affordable housing	56 (5 t)	20 (13)
Environmental protection	59 (3)	53 (5 t)
Communities connected by sidewalks and trails	25 (12)	30 (9)
Recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers	35 (11)	49 (7)
Social services, such as food, job training, and health care	54 (7)	22 (12)
Economic development	47 (8 t)	35 (8)

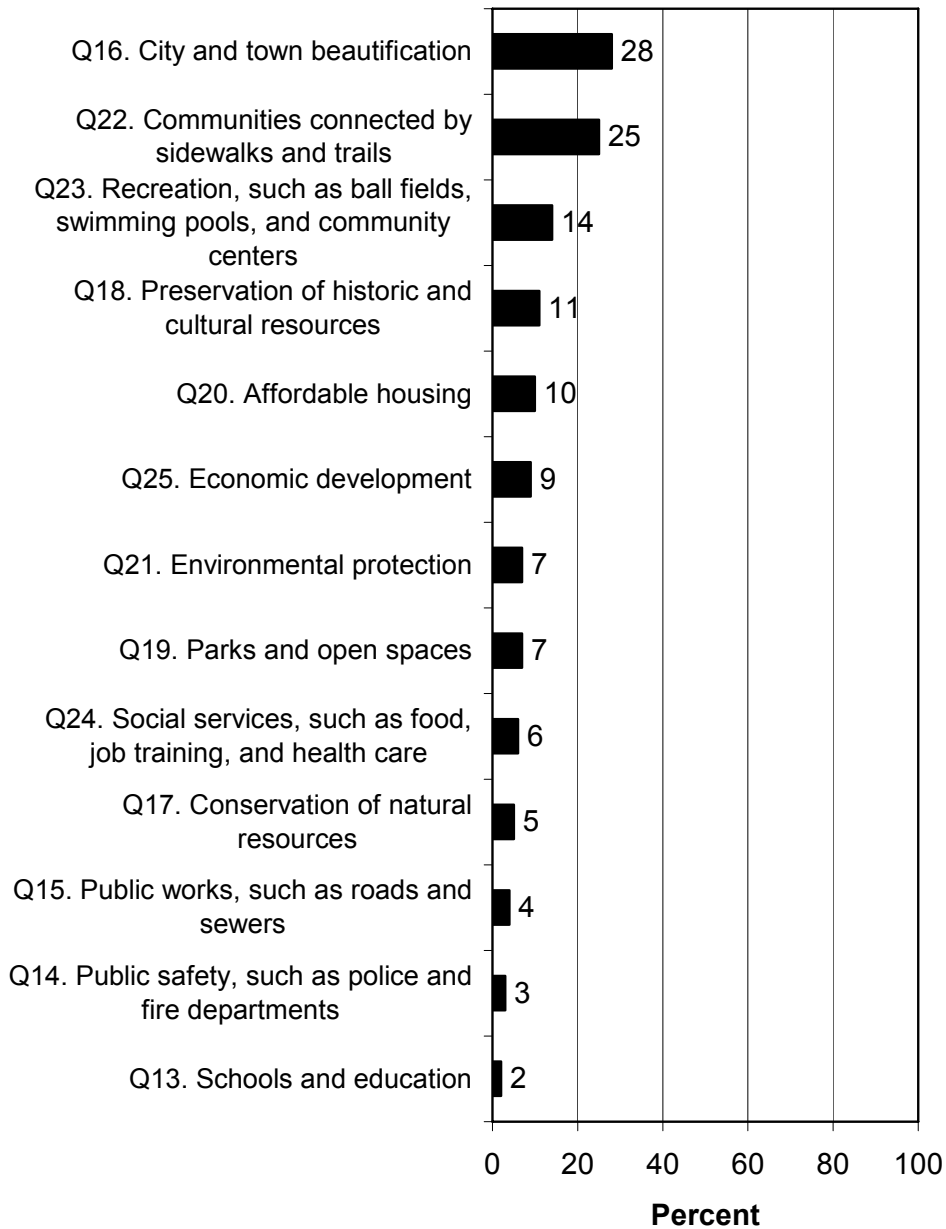
**Percent who indicated that the following are very important as a governmental expense.
(Missouri residents)**



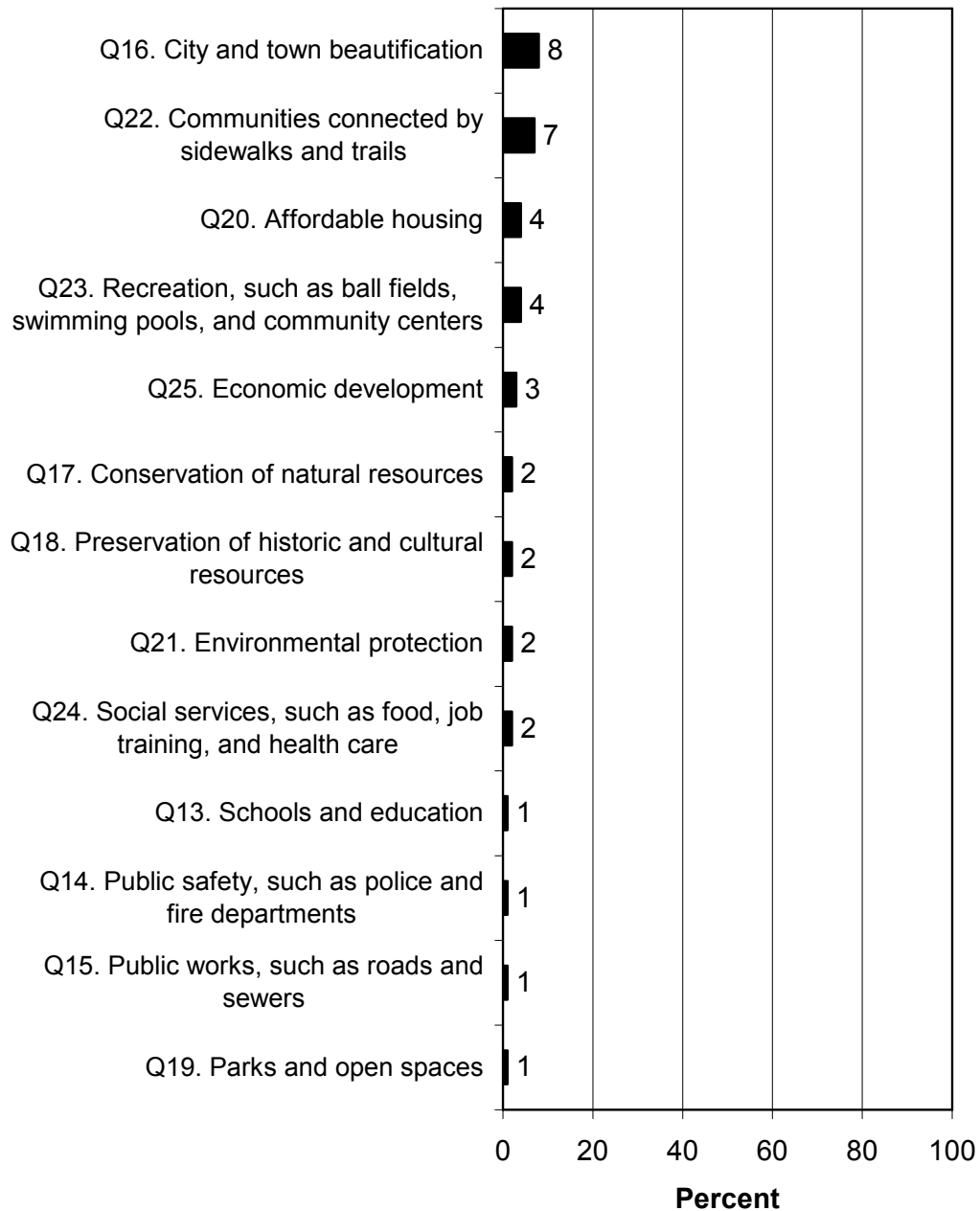
**Percent who indicated that the following are very or somewhat important as a governmental expense.
(Missouri residents)**



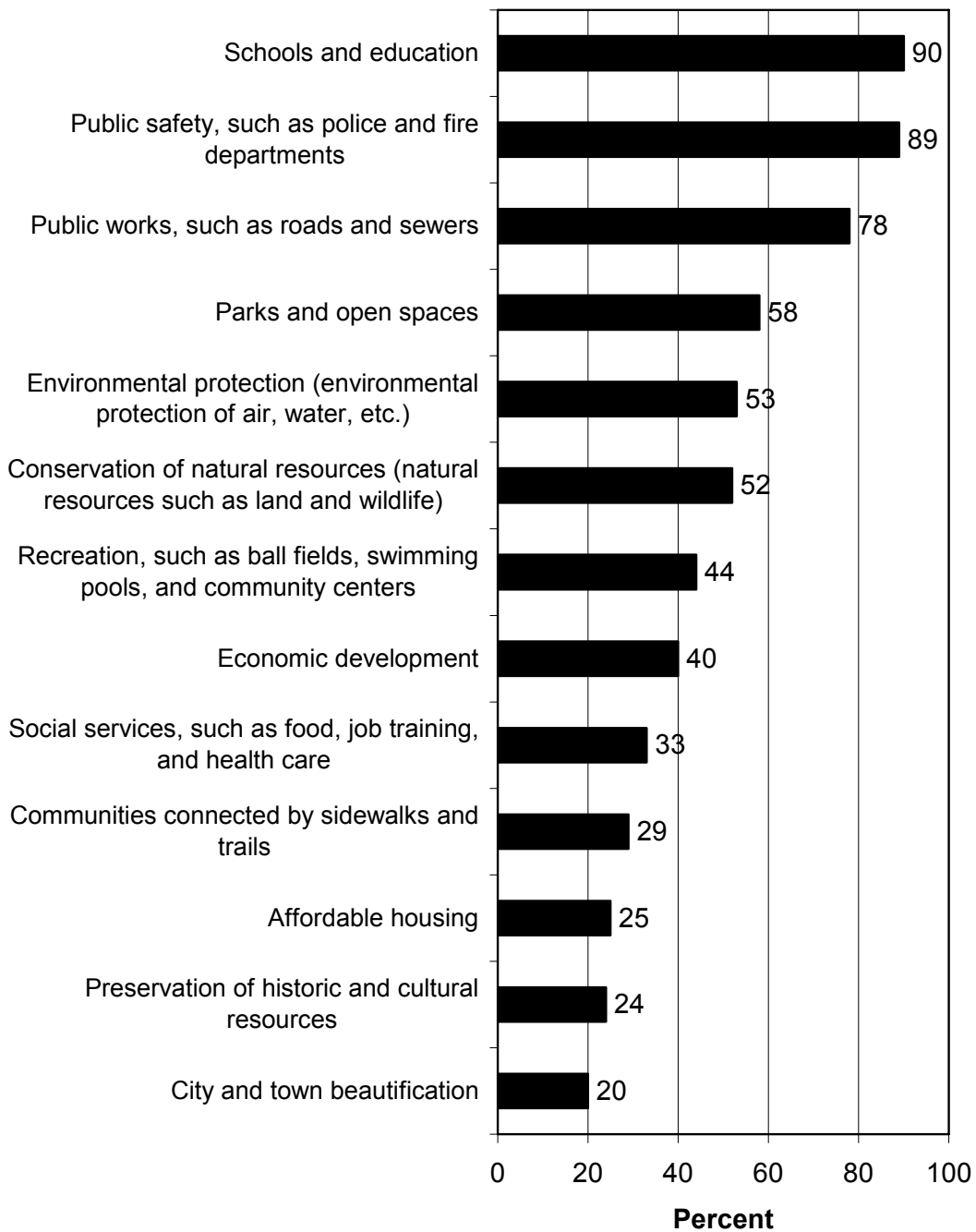
**Percent who indicated that the following are not very important or not important at all as a governmental expense.
(Missouri residents)**



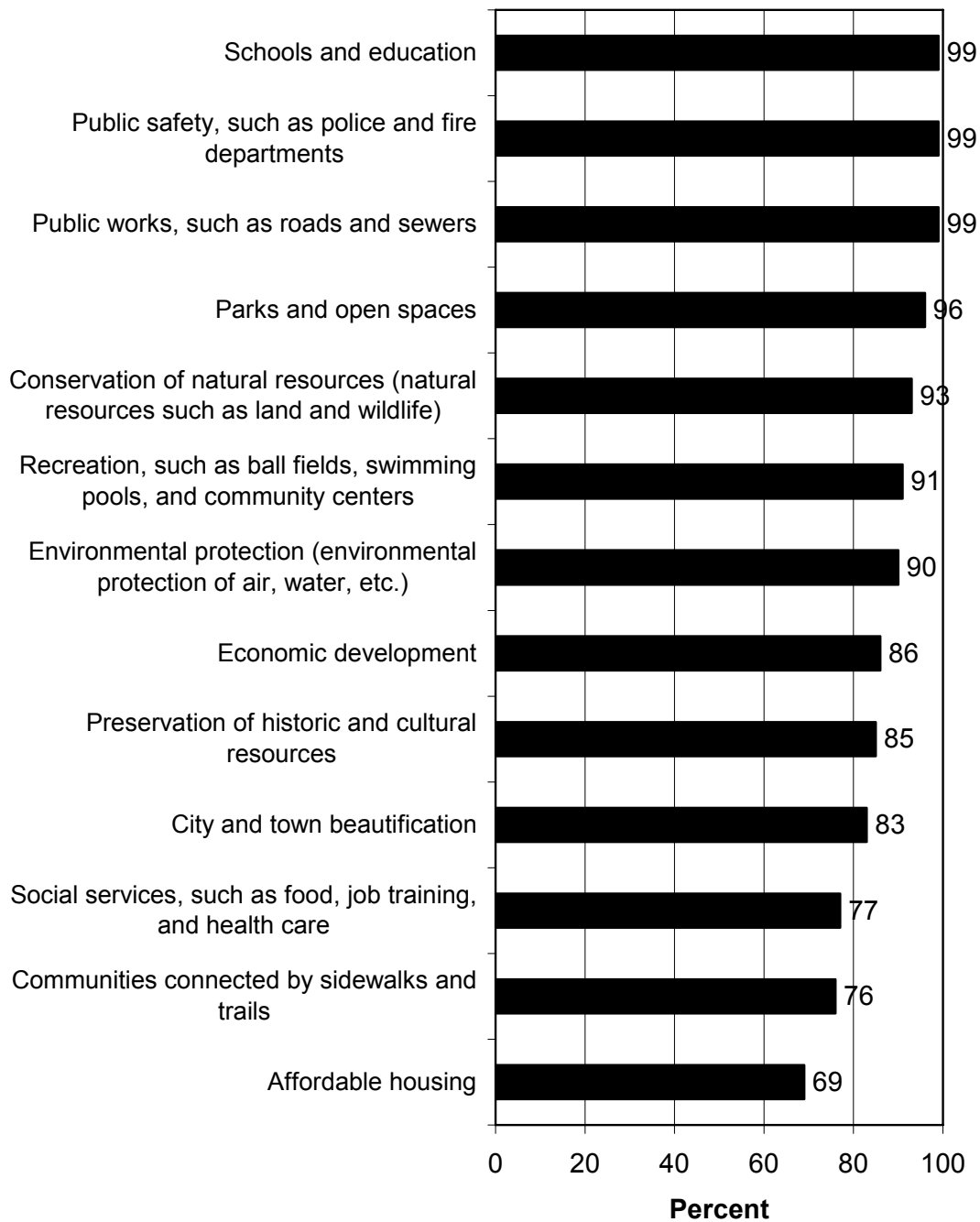
**Percent who indicated that the following are not important at all as a governmental expense.
(Missouri residents)**



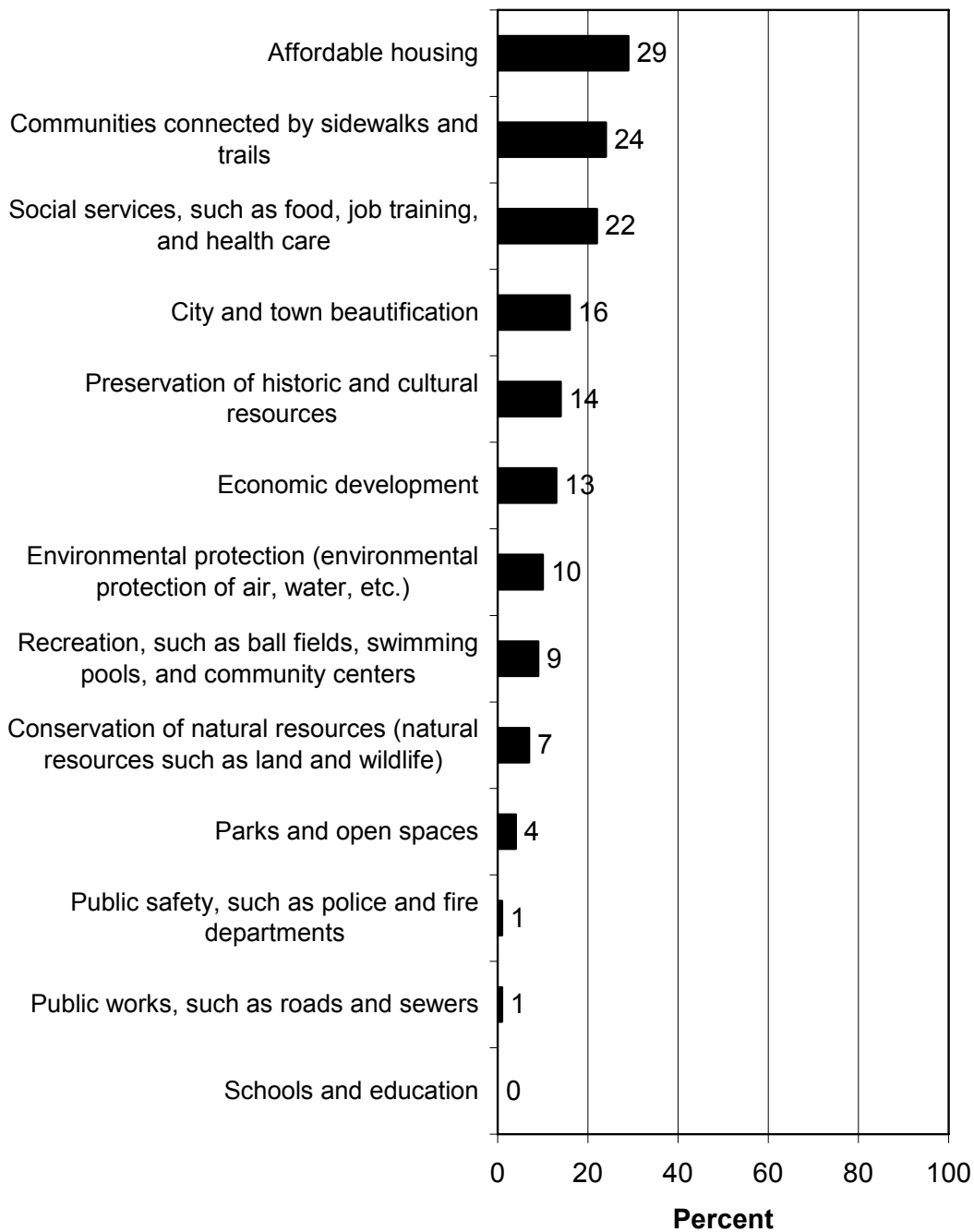
**Percent who indicated that the following are very important as a governmental expense.
(Professionals)**



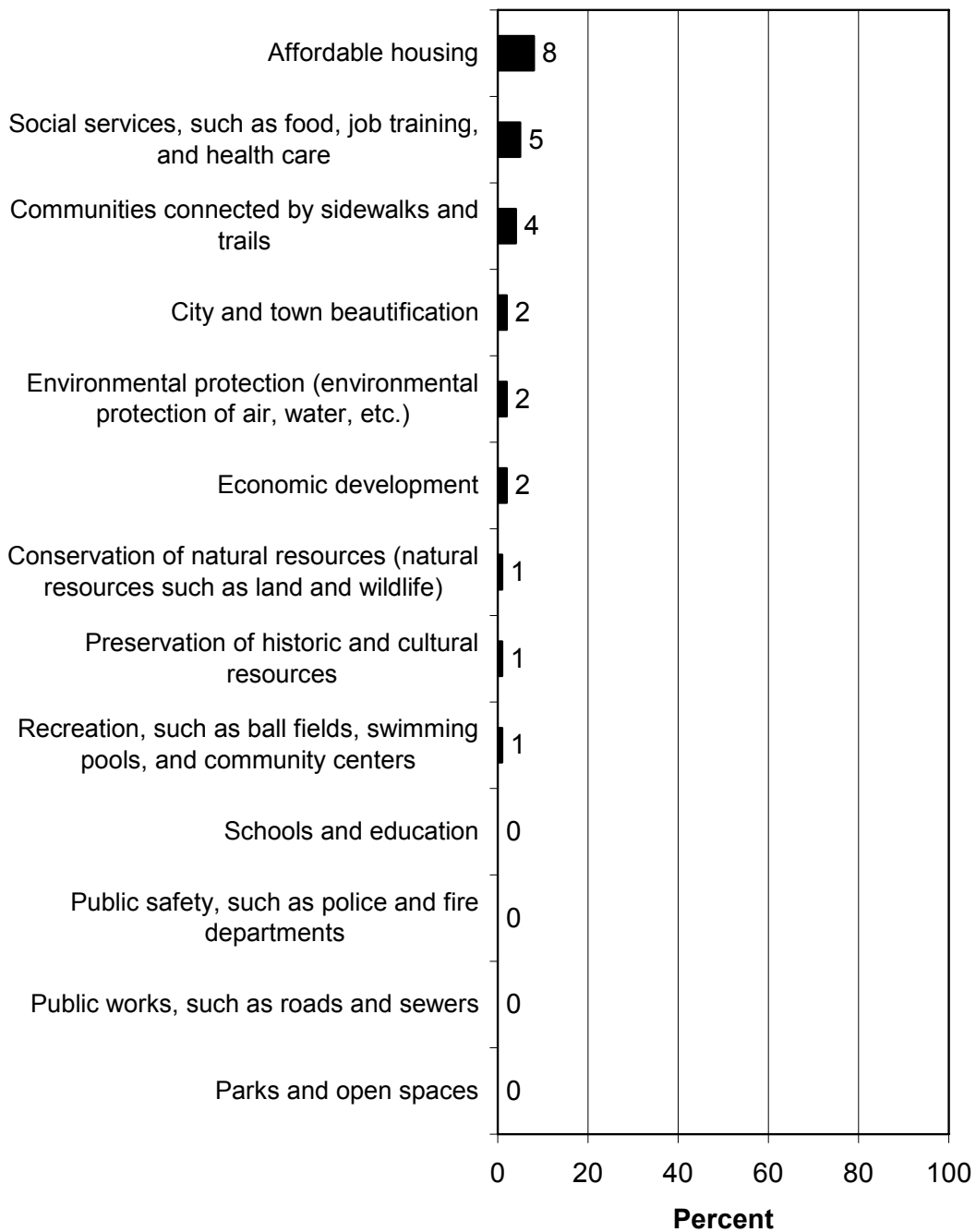
**Percent who indicated that the following are very or somewhat important as a governmental expense.
(Professionals)**



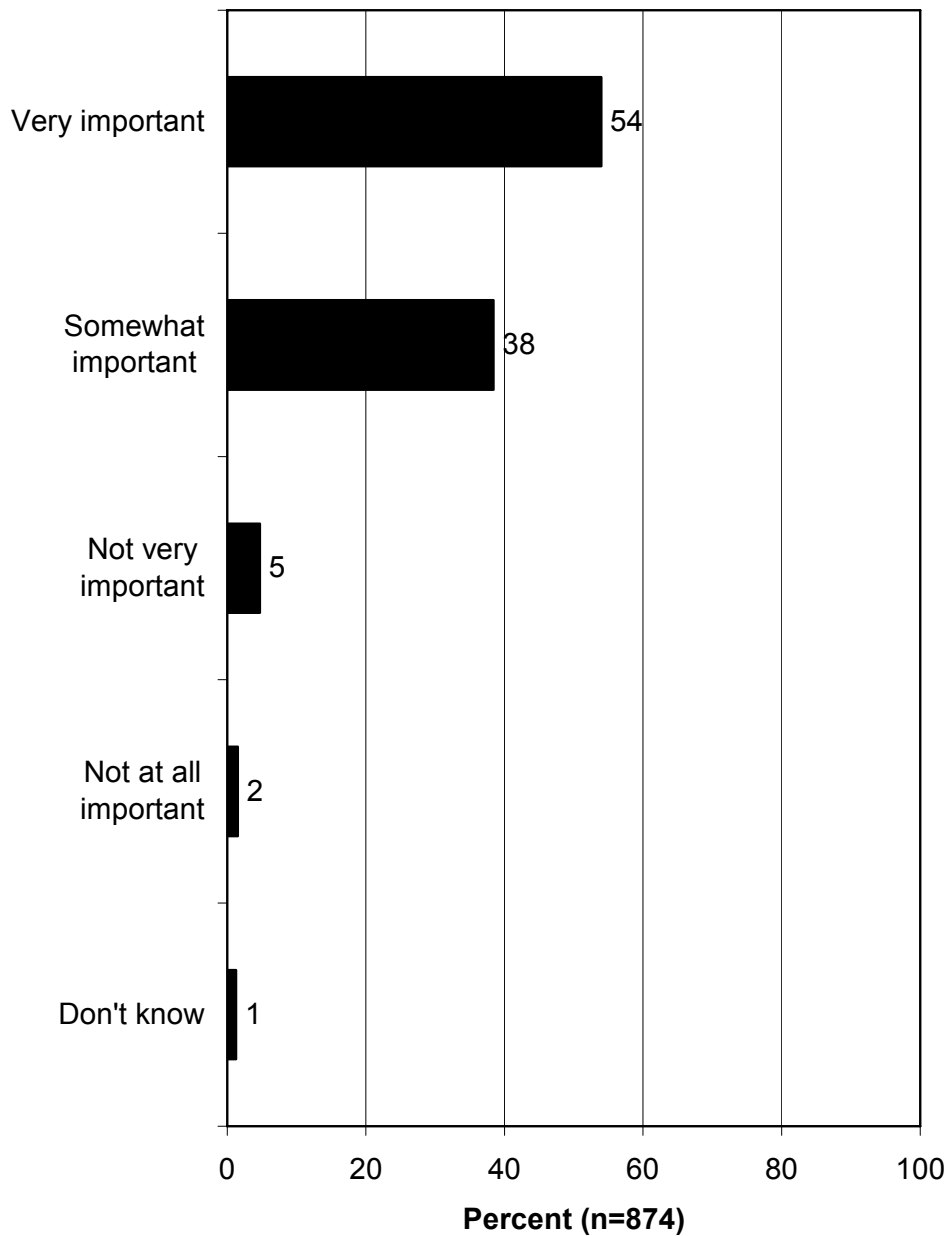
Percent who indicated that the following are not very important or not at all important as a governmental expense. (Professionals)



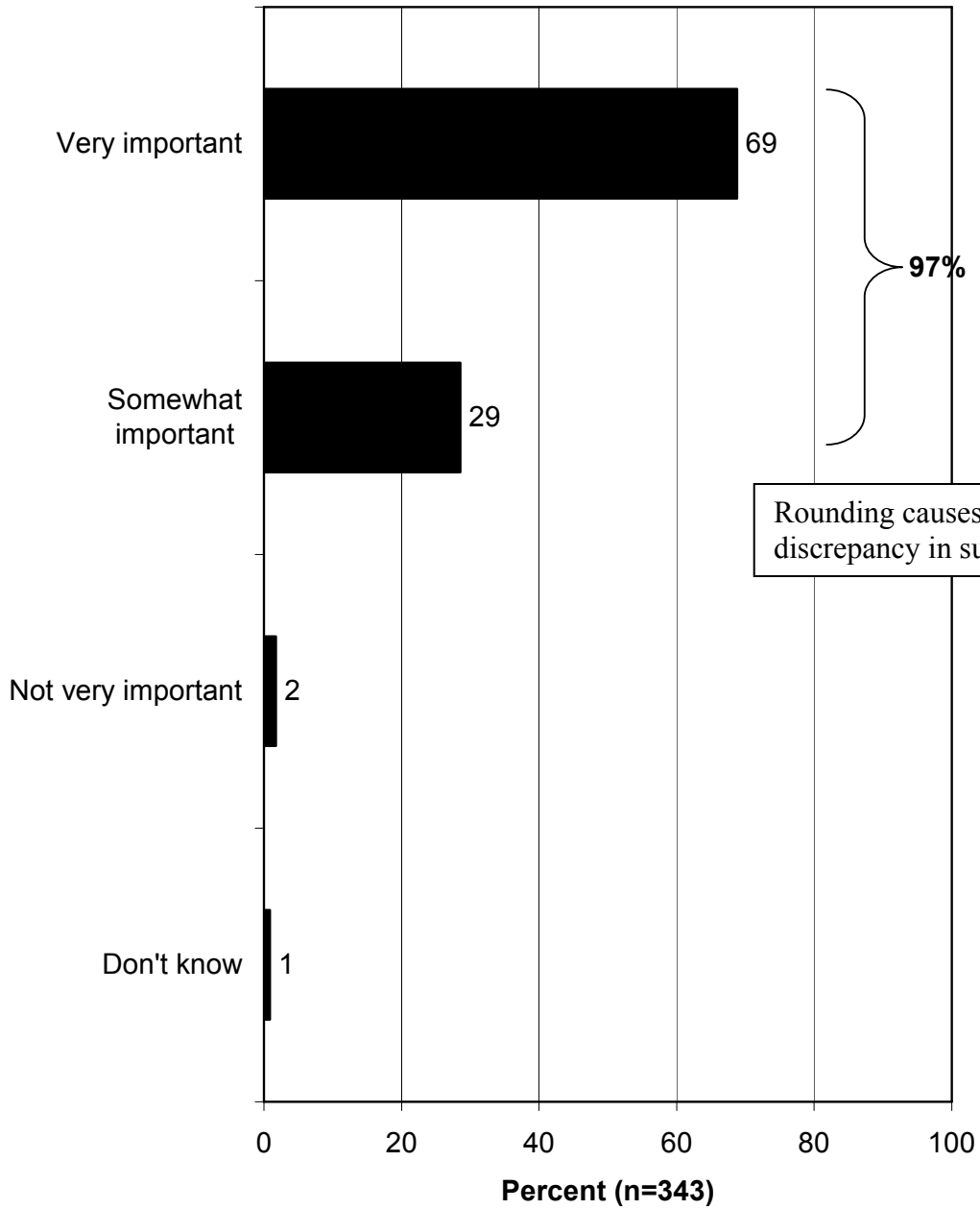
**Percent who indicated that the following are not at all important as a governmental expense.
(Professionals)**



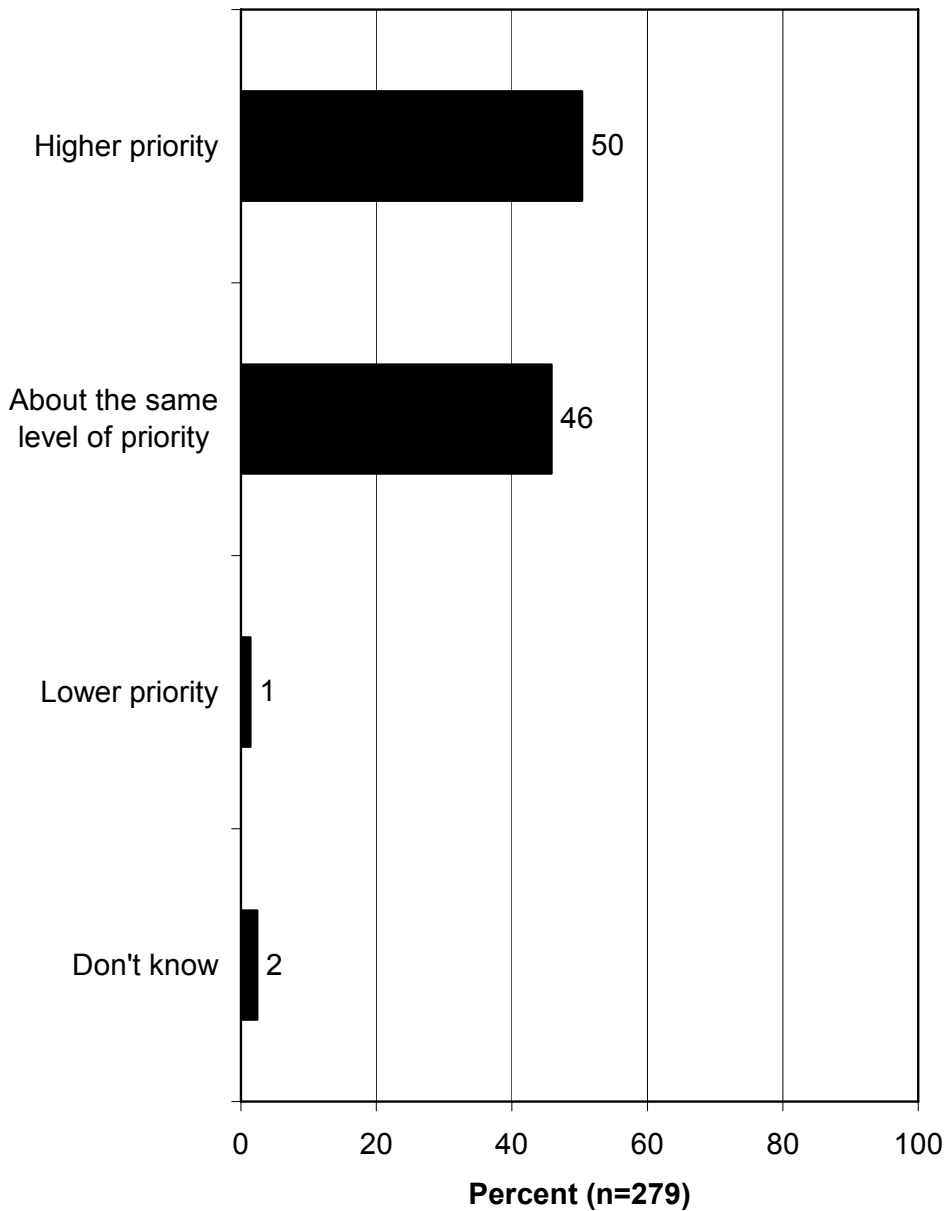
**Q68. How important do you think it is for government to spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children?
(Missouri residents)**



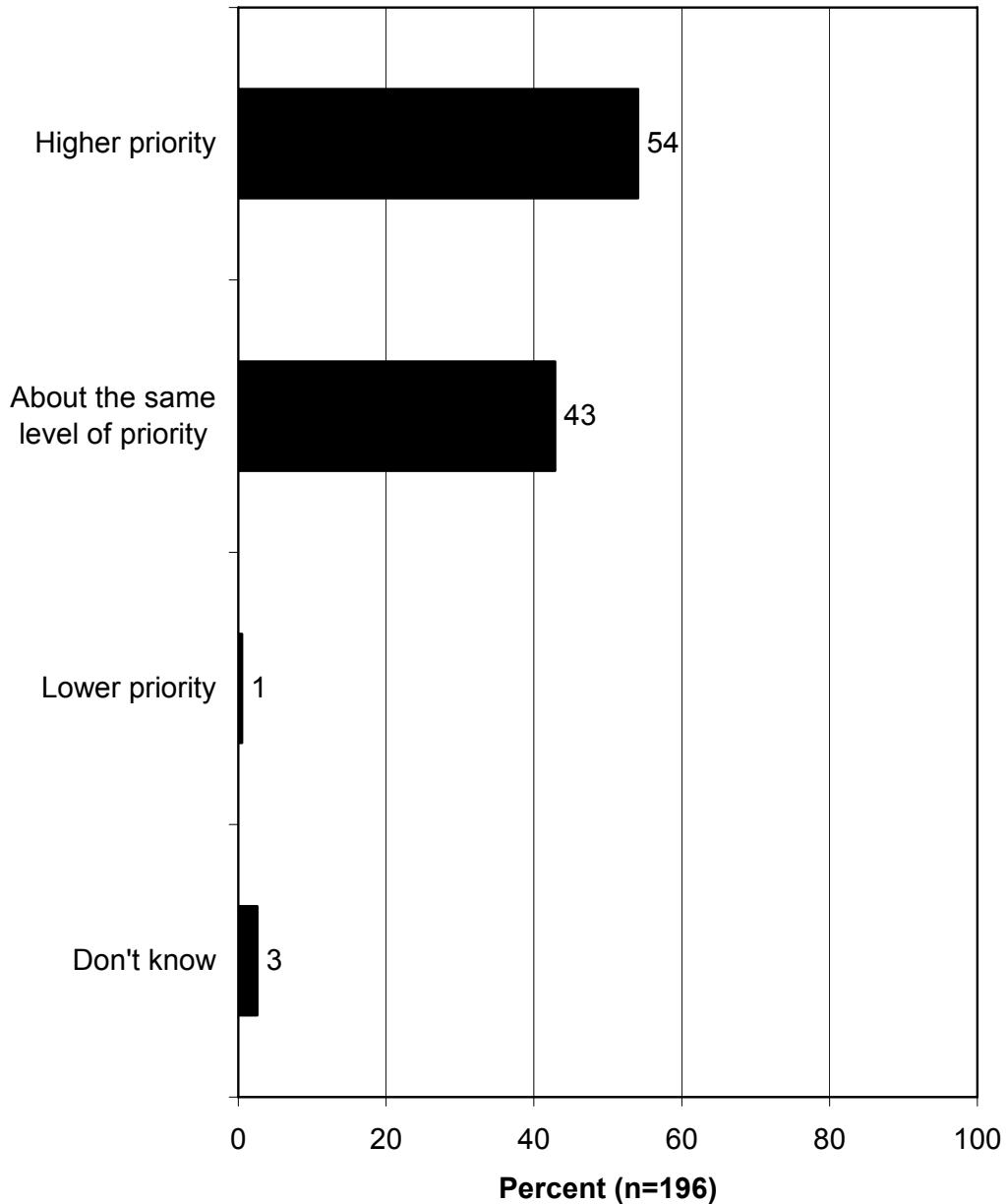
**Q16. How important do you think it is for government to spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children?
(Professionals)**



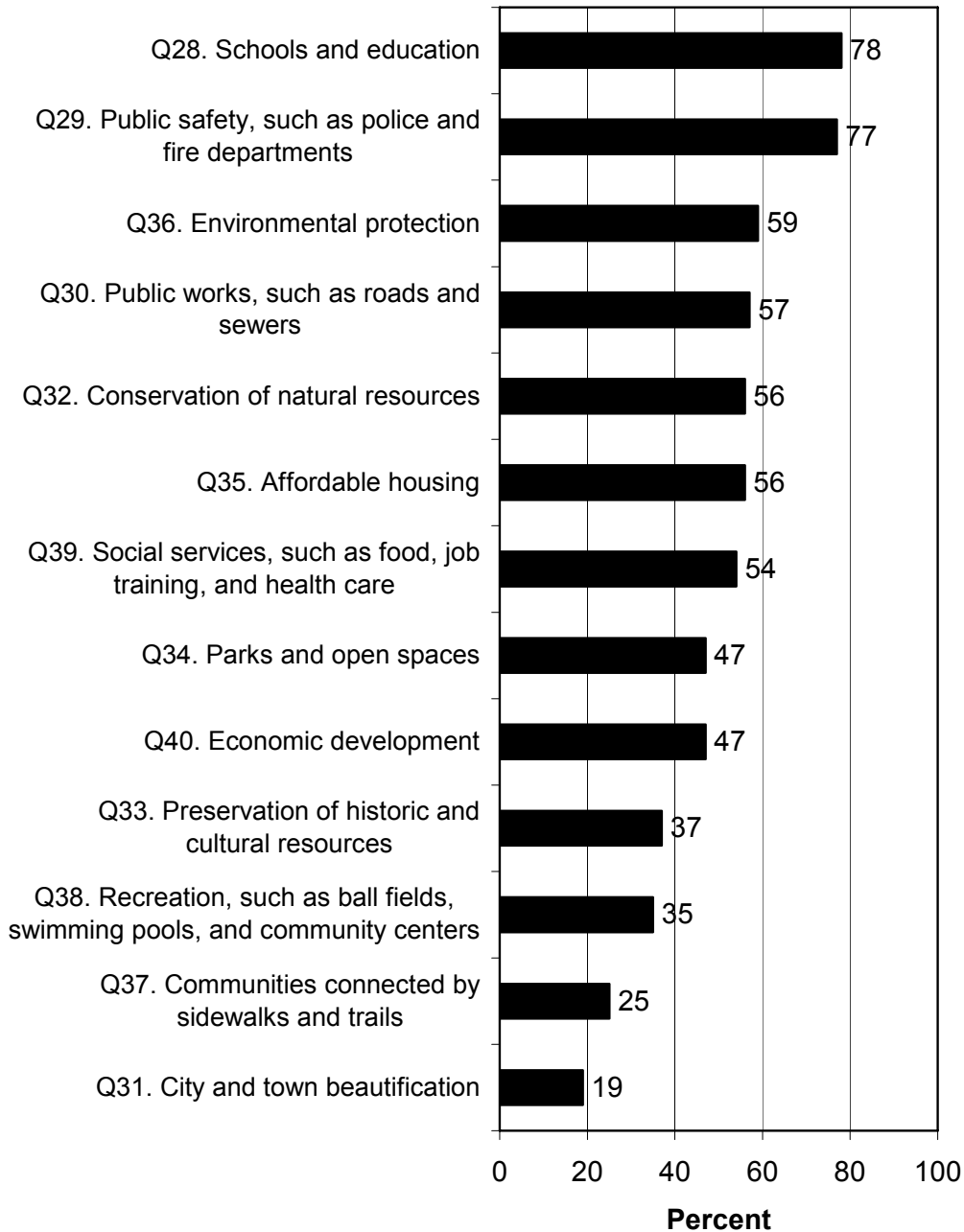
**Q69. Would you like to make educating your children about nature and the outdoors a higher priority, about the same level of priority, or a lower priority than it has been for the past 2 years? (Asked of those with children living in their household.)
(Missouri residents)**



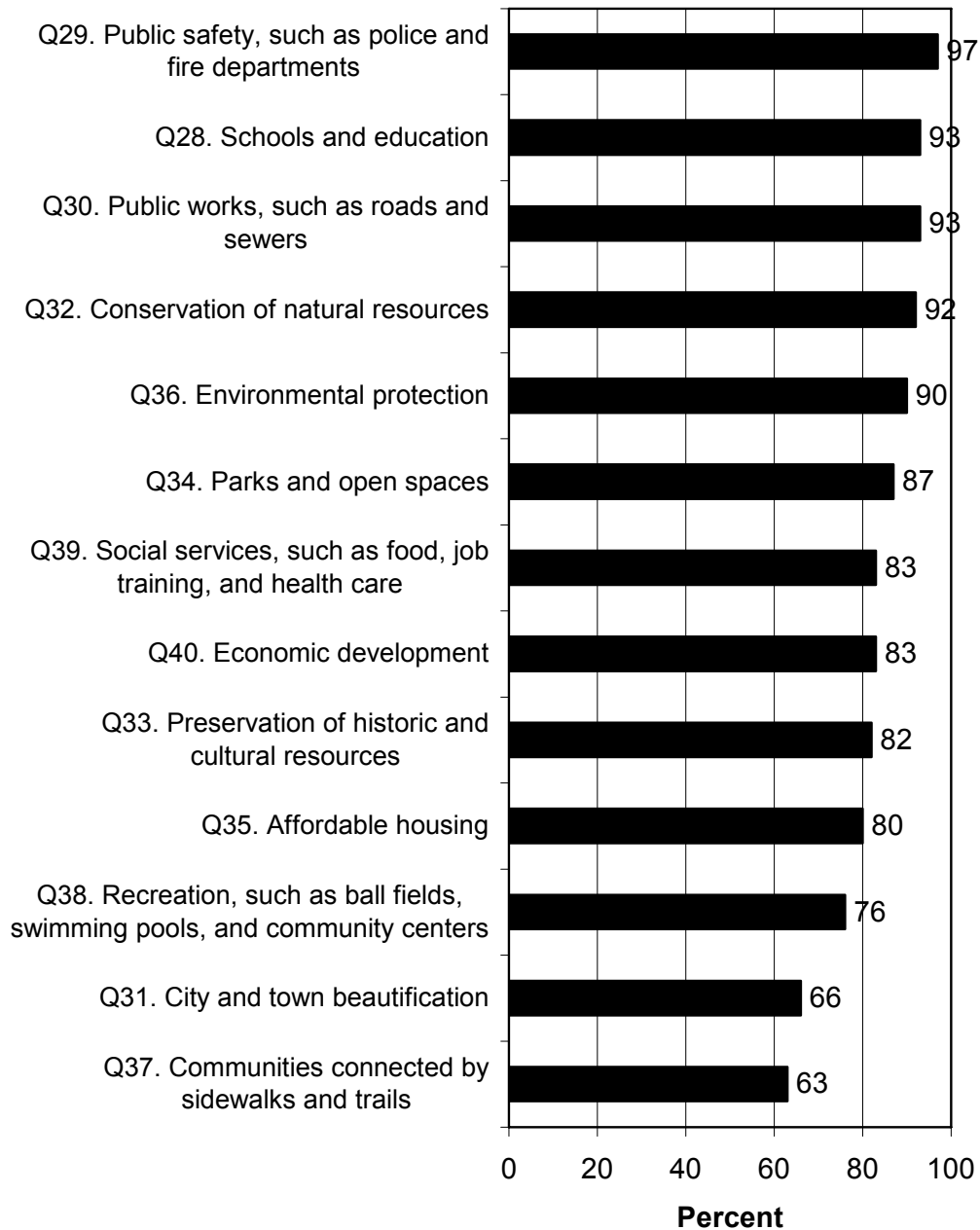
Q17. Would you like to make educating your children about nature and the outdoors a higher priority, about the same level of priority, or a lower priority than it has been for the past 2 years? (Asked of those who have children, age 17 or younger, living in the household.) (Professionals)



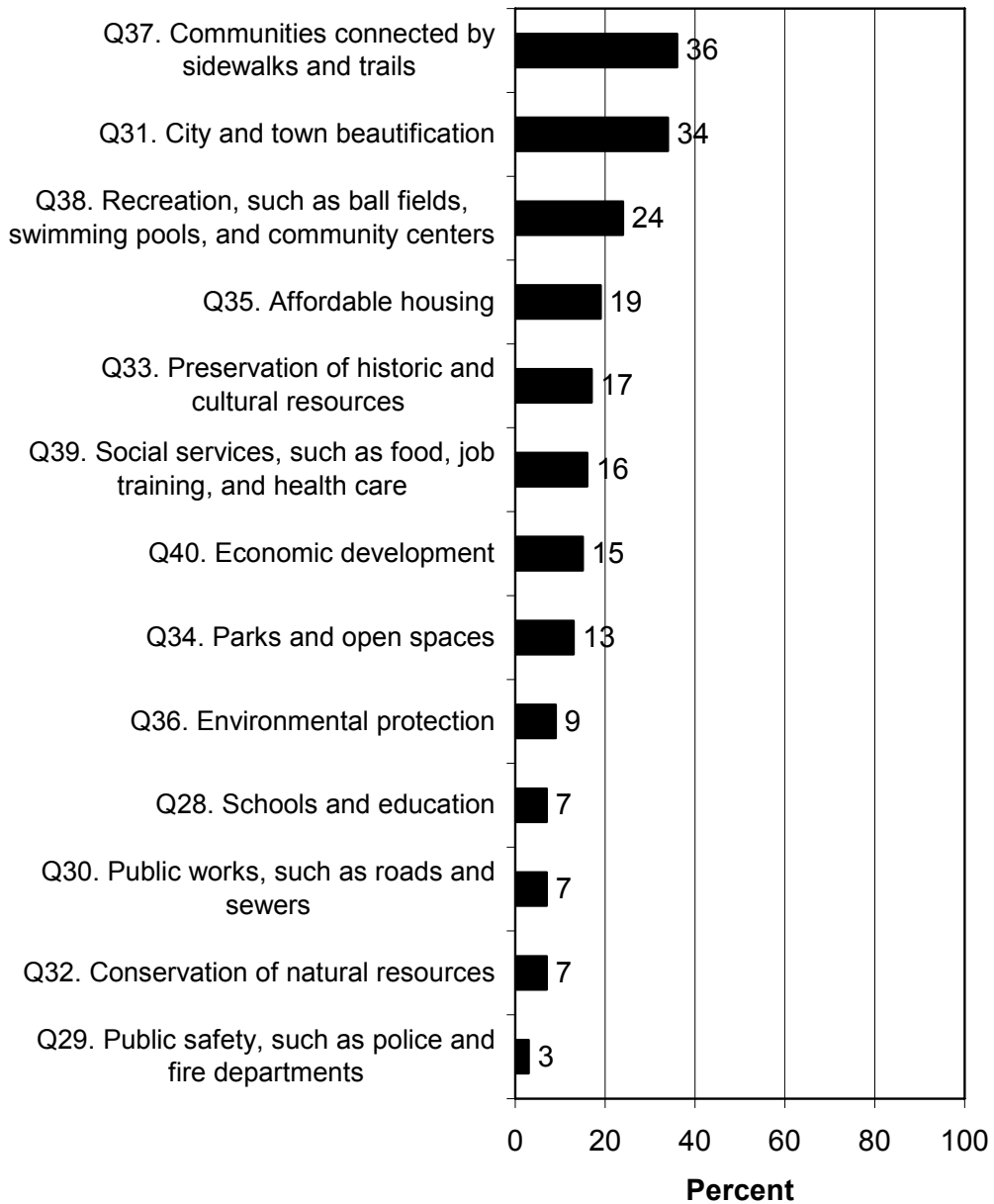
**Percent who indicated that the following are very important to their quality of life.
(Missouri residents)**



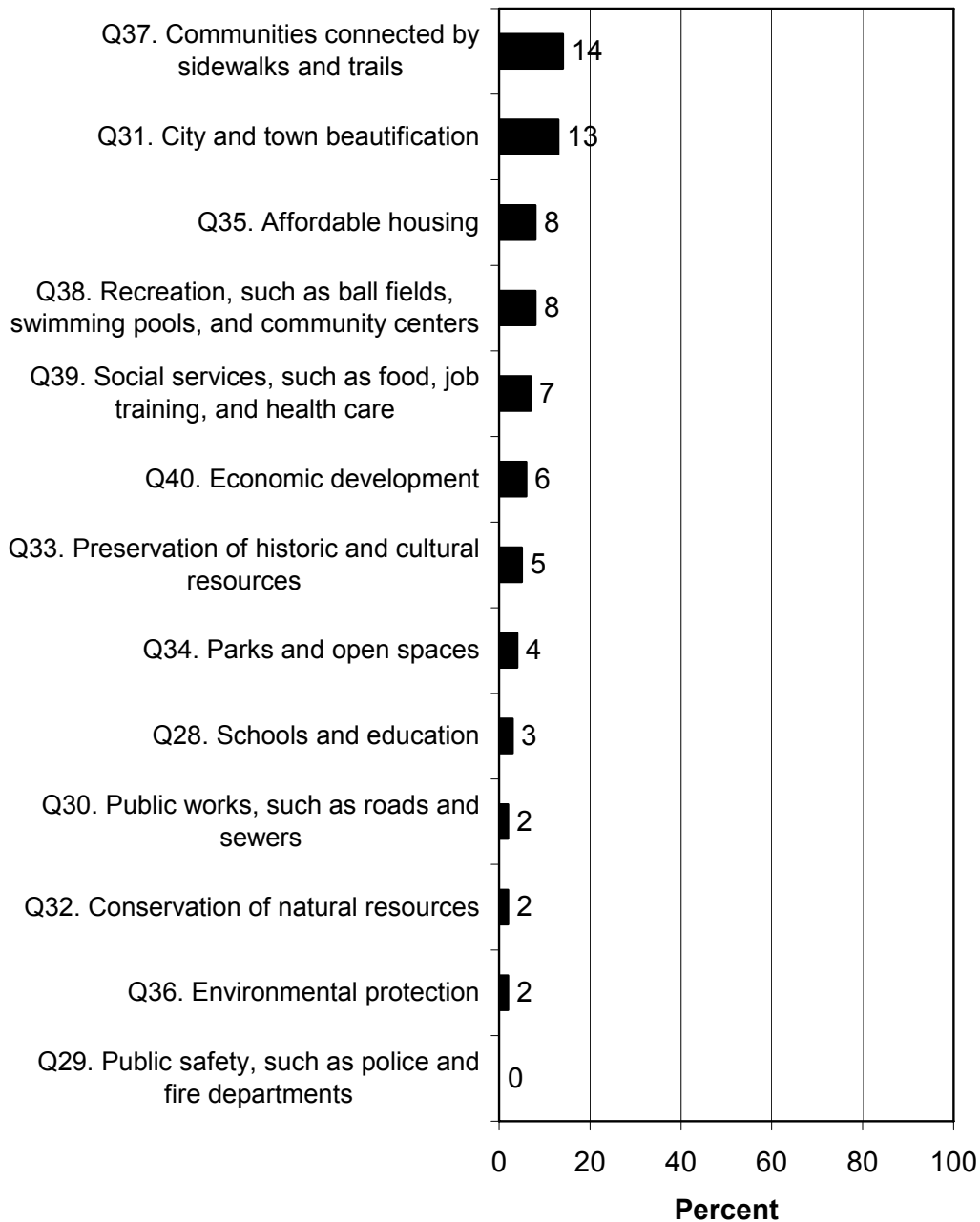
**Percent who indicated that the following are very or somewhat important to their quality of life.
(Missouri residents)**



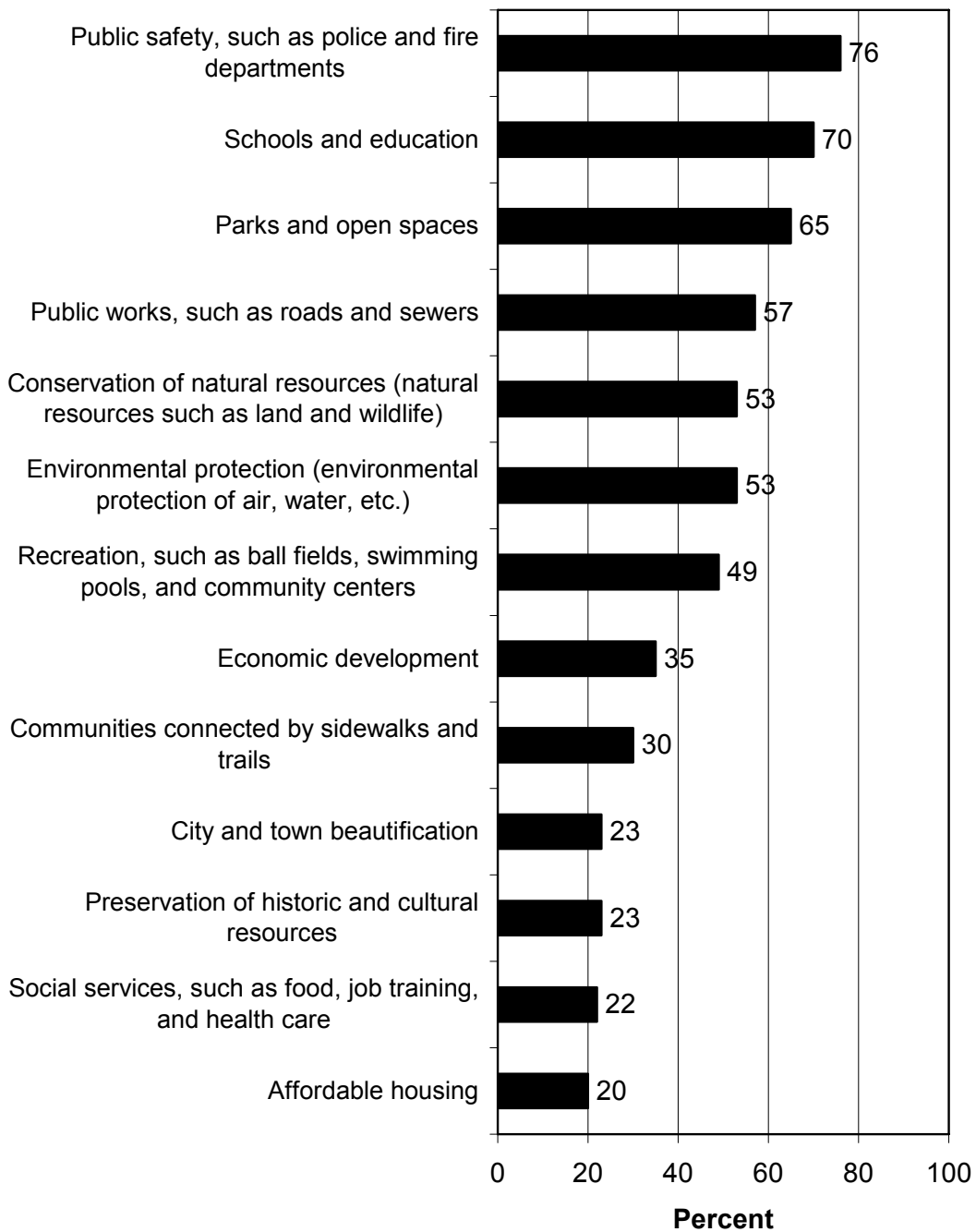
**Percent who indicated that the following are not very important or not at all important to their quality of life.
(Missouri residents)**



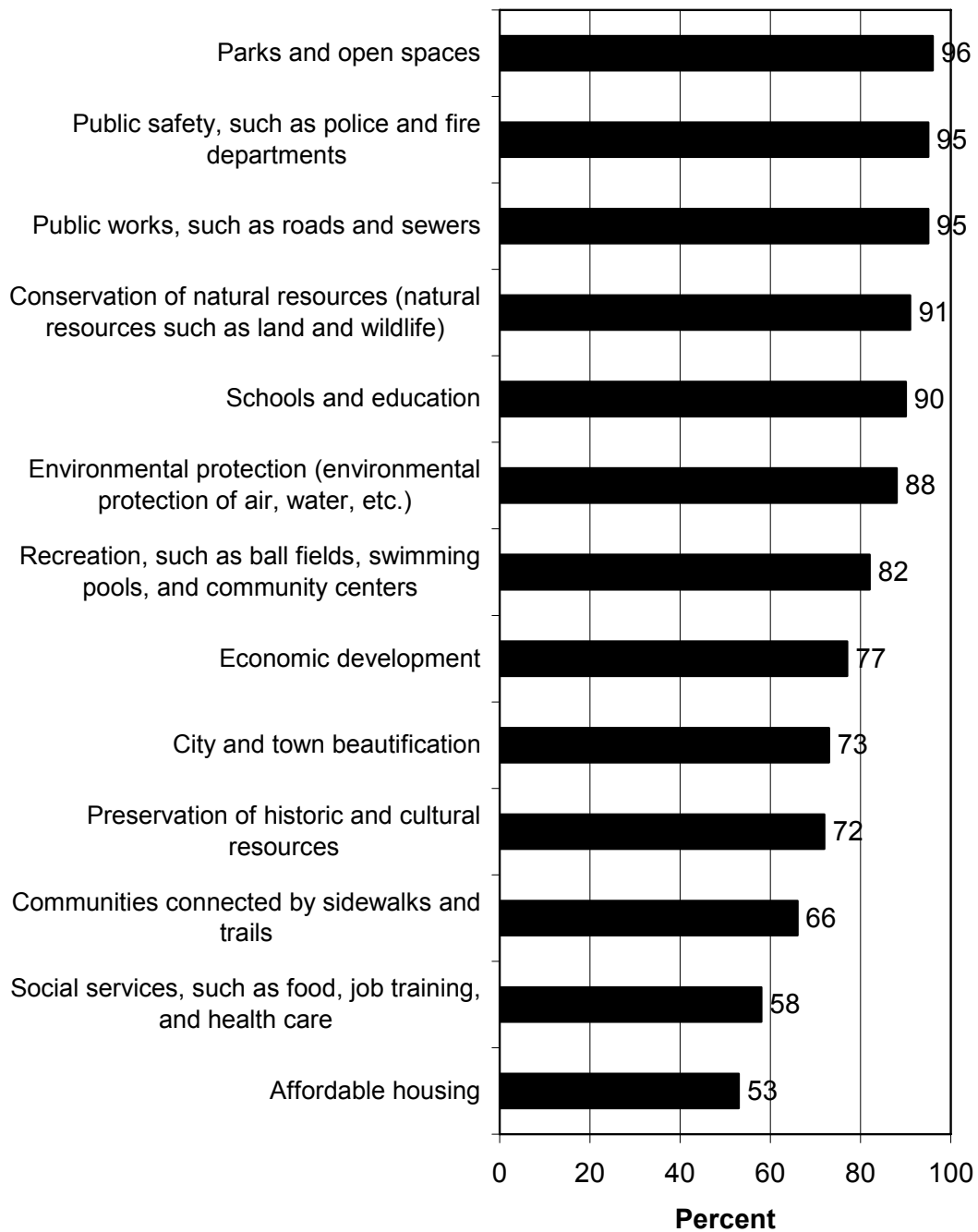
**Percent who indicated that the following are not at all important to their quality of life.
(Missouri residents)**



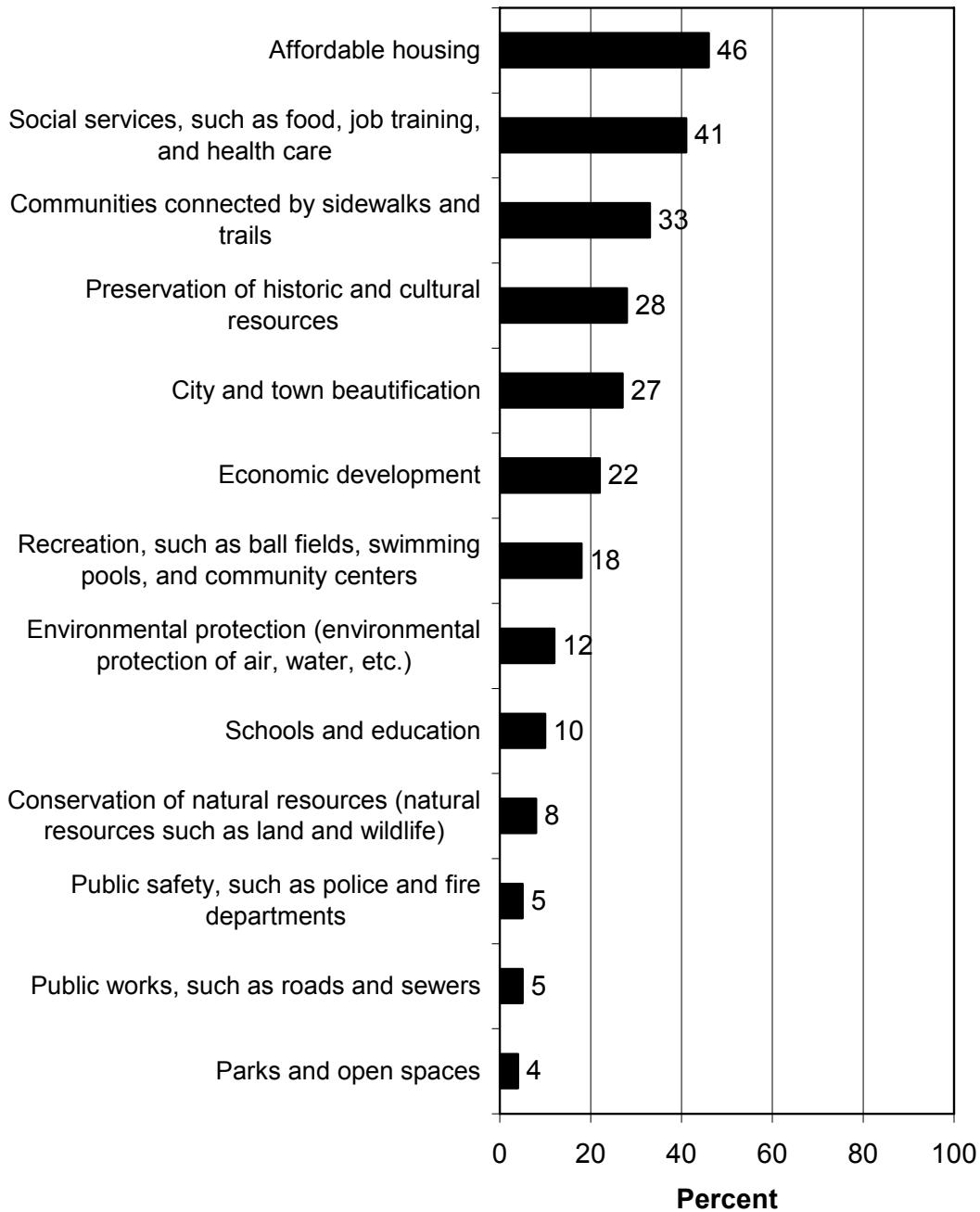
Percent who indicated that the following are very important to them personally for their overall quality of life. (Professionals)



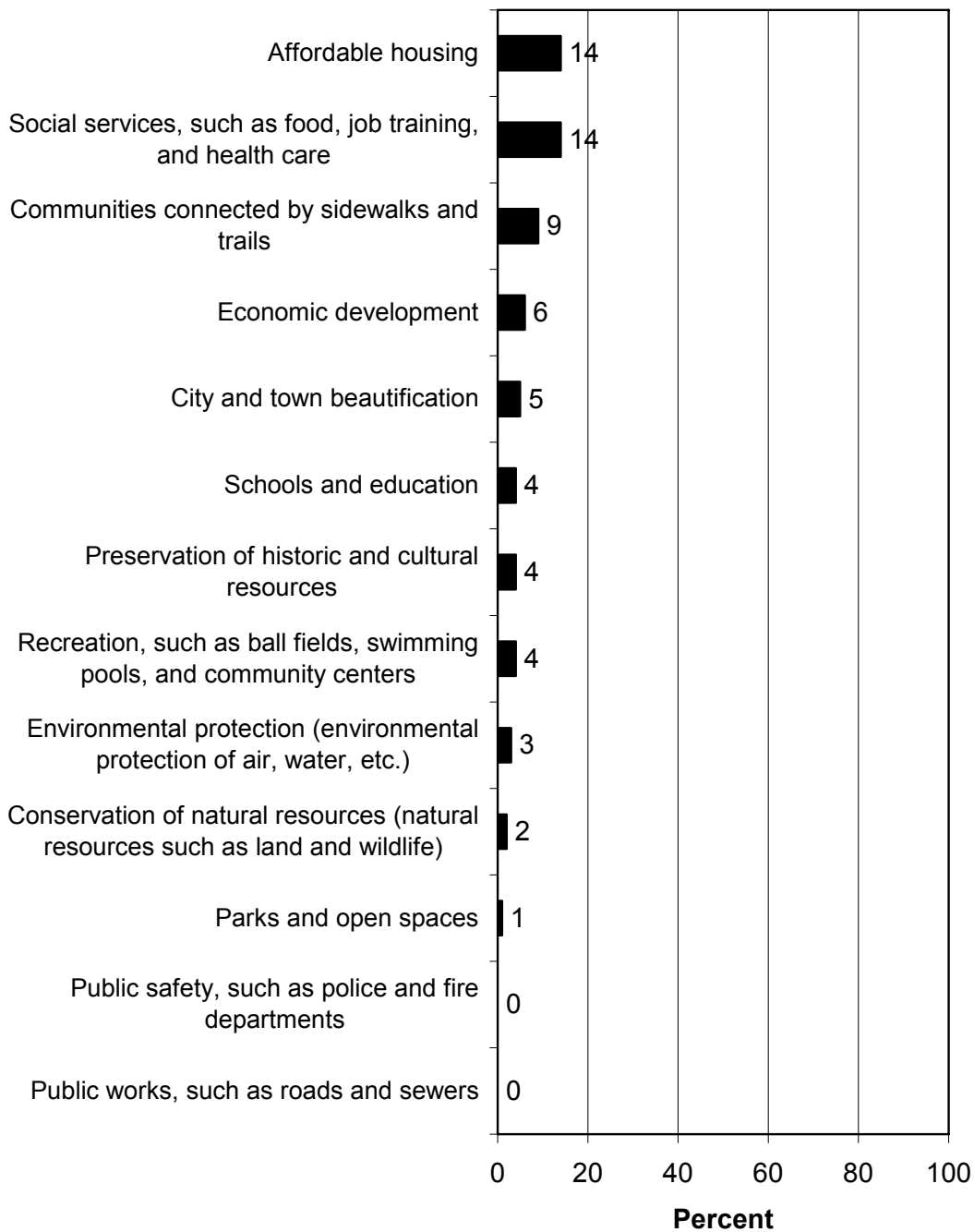
Percent who indicated that the following are very or somewhat important to them personally for their overall quality of life. (Professionals)



**Percent who indicated that the following are not very important or not at all important to them personally for their overall quality of life.
(Professionals)**



Percent who indicated that the following are not at all important to them personally for their overall quality of life. (Professionals)



PARTICIPATION IN RECREATION, AND CONSTRAINTS TO PARTICIPATION

- Outdoor recreational activities are more popular than indoor recreational activities, when survey respondents are asked about their non-work time: 36% say that they enjoy mostly outdoor recreational activities, compared to 10% who say that they enjoy mostly indoor recreational activities (note that the most common answer is both about equally, at 53%).
 - Among professionals, results are similar: 41% say that they enjoy mostly outdoor recreational activities, compared to 3% who say that they enjoy mostly indoor recreational activities. Again, the most common answer is both about equally, at 56%.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey examined this question, finding the following correlations to enjoying mostly *outdoor* recreation:
 - *Not* indicating that the following are very important as government expenses: schools and education ($p \leq 0.001$); social services, such as food, job training, and health care ($p \leq 0.001$); public safety, such as police and fire departments ($p \leq 0.01$); affordable housing ($p \leq 0.01$); public works, such as roads and sewers ($p \leq 0.05$); economic development ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - However, indicating that the following is very important as a government expense: preservation of historic and cultural resources ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - *Not* indicating that the following are very important to him/her personally for his/her quality of life: schools and education ($p \leq 0.01$); public safety, such as police and fire departments ($p \leq 0.01$); public works, such as roads and sewers ($p \leq 0.01$); affordable housing ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - However, indicating that the following are very important to him/her personally for his/her quality of life: parks and open spaces ($p \leq 0.01$), conservation of natural resources ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - Agreeing that parks/open space is important to his/her community's economy ($p \leq 0.05$); agreeing that public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - Saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.001$).

- Rating the availability ($p \leq 0.01$) and overall quality ($p \leq 0.05$) of parks and recreation services in Missouri as excellent or good.
- Rating the quality of services provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri Division of State Parks ($p \leq 0.001$), the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Forest Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ($p \leq 0.01$), and/or the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.05$) as excellent or good.
- Having visited a state park ($p \leq 0.001$) and/or a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years; but *not* indicating having visited a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.01$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
- Being male ($p \leq 0.001$), considering place of residence to be rural ($p \leq 0.001$), being white ($p \leq 0.01$), being from 35 to 54 years old ($p \leq 0.05$).
- The following are correlations to enjoying mostly *indoor* recreation (in the nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey):
 - *Not* indicating that the following are very important as government expenses: parks and open space ($p \leq 0.001$); recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers ($p \leq 0.01$); public works, such as roads and sewers ($p \leq 0.05$); communities connected by sidewalks and trails ($p \leq 0.05$); city and town beautification ($p \leq 0.05$); and/or public safety, such as police and fire departments ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - *Not* indicating that the following are very important to him/her personally for his/her quality of life: parks and open space ($p \leq 0.01$); recreation, such as ball fields, swimming pools, and community centers ($p \leq 0.05$); and/or communities connected by sidewalks and trails ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - *Not* indicating that the following are very or somewhat important benefits of parks and recreation activities: healthy childhood development ($p \leq 0.001$), providing wildlife habitat ($p \leq 0.01$); providing employment opportunities ($p \leq 0.01$), health and fitness ($p \leq 0.01$), connecting with nature ($p \leq 0.01$), attracting business ($p \leq 0.05$), a sense of peace and stress relief ($p \leq 0.05$), and/or protecting natural and historic resources ($p \leq 0.05$).

- *Not* agreeing that parks and open space are important to his/her community's economy ($p \leq 0.001$); *not* agreeing that parks, recreation, and open spaces are important for people to improve and maintain good health ($p \leq 0.01$); *not* agreeing that parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas should be budget priorities in his/her community even during economic hard times ($p \leq 0.01$); and/or *not* agreeing that spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - *Not* saying that it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children ($p \leq 0.01$).
 - *Not* saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - *Not* rating the quality of services provided by the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.01$), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.01$), the U.S. Forest Service ($p \leq 0.05$), and/or the Missouri Division of State Parks ($p \leq 0.05$) as excellent or good.
 - *Not* rating the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - *Not* having visited a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.001$), a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a state park ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - *Not* having children living in his/her household ($p \leq 0.001$), being female ($p \leq 0.001$), being 55 years old or older ($p \leq 0.01$).
- Half of Missouri residents surveyed (50%) indicate that they do *not* participate in recreational activities or things that they like to do in their non-work time as much as they would like.
- Professionals are even less satisfied with their amount of participation in recreation: 72% of professionals indicate that they do *not* participate in recreational activities or things that they like to do in their non-work time as much as they would like.
 - When asked about things that prevent them from participating in recreational activities as much as they would like, residents most commonly name work obligations (65% of those

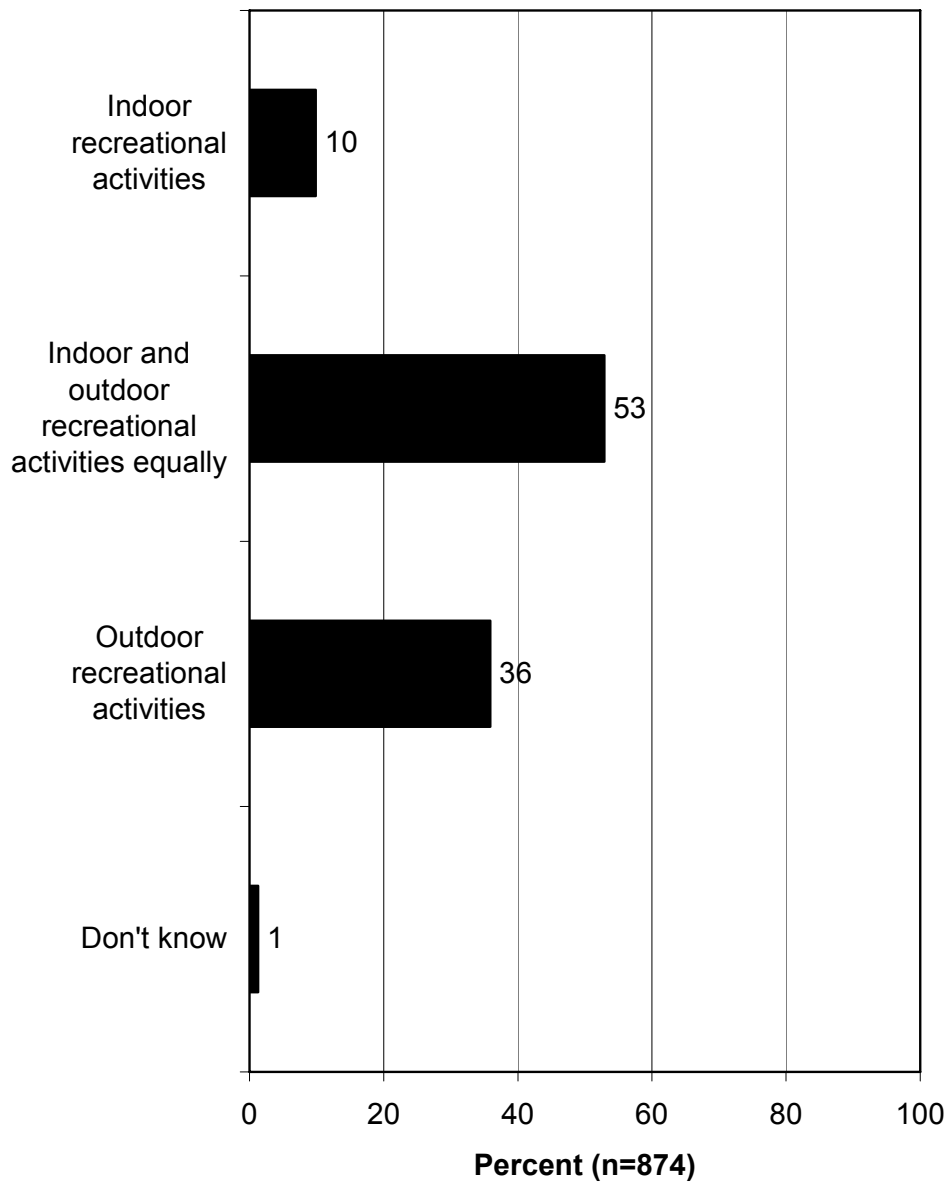
who do not participate in recreation as much as they would like), distantly followed by age/health (15%), family obligations (8%), and cost (7%).

- Among professionals, the most commonly named things that prevent them from participating in recreational activities as much as they would like include lack of time in general, work obligations, and family obligations.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the results of the residents' survey examined this question, finding the following correlations to participating in his/her activities as much as he/she would like (among residents):
 - Saying that city and town beautification is very important as a government expense ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - Saying that city and town beautification is very important to him/her personally for his/her overall quality of life ($p \leq 0.01$).
 - Having visited a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.01$) and/or a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Being non-white ($p \leq 0.01$).
 - The nonparametric analysis found the following correlations to *not* participating in his/her activities as much as he/she would like (among residents):
 - *Not* saying that city and town beautification is very important as a government expense ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - *Not* saying that city and town beautification is very important to him/her personally for his/her overall quality of life ($p \leq 0.01$).
 - *Not* having visited a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.01$) and/or a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Being white ($p \leq 0.01$); having children living in household ($p \leq 0.05$).
- Residents with children living in their household were asked to indicate how many hours per week, on average, that each child spends outdoors. While the answers ranged widely, the median is 12 hours.
- Professionals' answers also ranged widely on this question. Among professionals, the median is 10 hours.

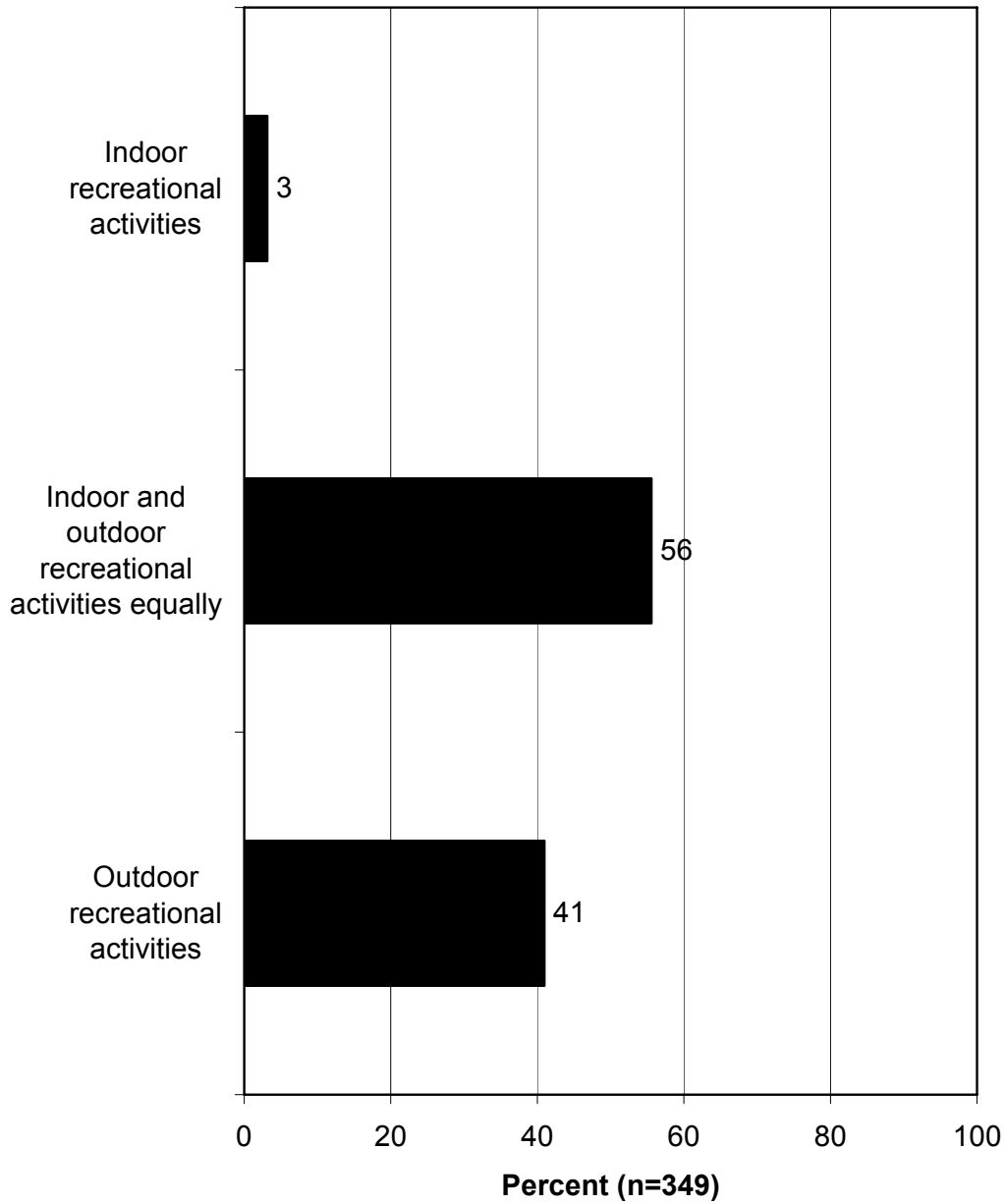
- The survey asked residents to indicate the frequency that they had visited the following in Missouri within the past 2 years: a national park or national monument, a state park, a local park, or a local public recreation facility. More than three quarters of residents (78%) had visited a local park *frequently* or *sometimes*, the most popular location by far. This was followed by a state park (60%), a local public recreation facility (53%), and a national park or monument (50%).
 - The survey asked residents to name the last park, recreation area, or facility that they had visited in Missouri. The top ones include Forest Park in St. Louis, Mark Twain State Park, Creve Coeur Park in St. Louis County, Bennett Spring State Park, Harry S Truman State Park, and the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (also known as the Gateway Arch). The full results are tabulated after the graph for this question in this section; an alphabetical listing of these parks, recreation areas, and facilities is shown in Appendix A.
 - Residents were also asked to indicate the type of park, recreation area, or facility that they had last visited. The most popular type is a local park (39%) or a state park (25%).
 - Those who had *not* visited a park, recreation area, or facility were asked to indicate why they had *not* done so. Most commonly, they indicated that health/age was to blame. Other common responses include a disability preventing their going to a park and lack of interest.

- The above questions about visitation were also asked of professionals. For the most part, professionals were more avid in visiting the recreational places in Missouri: 97% had visited a local park *frequently* or *sometimes* in the past 2 years in Missouri, 81% had visited a local public recreation facility, 72% had visited a state park, and 47% had visited a national park or monument.
 - Professionals most popular types of park, recreation area, or facility that they had last visited were a local park (36%), a state park (19%), or a community center (14%).

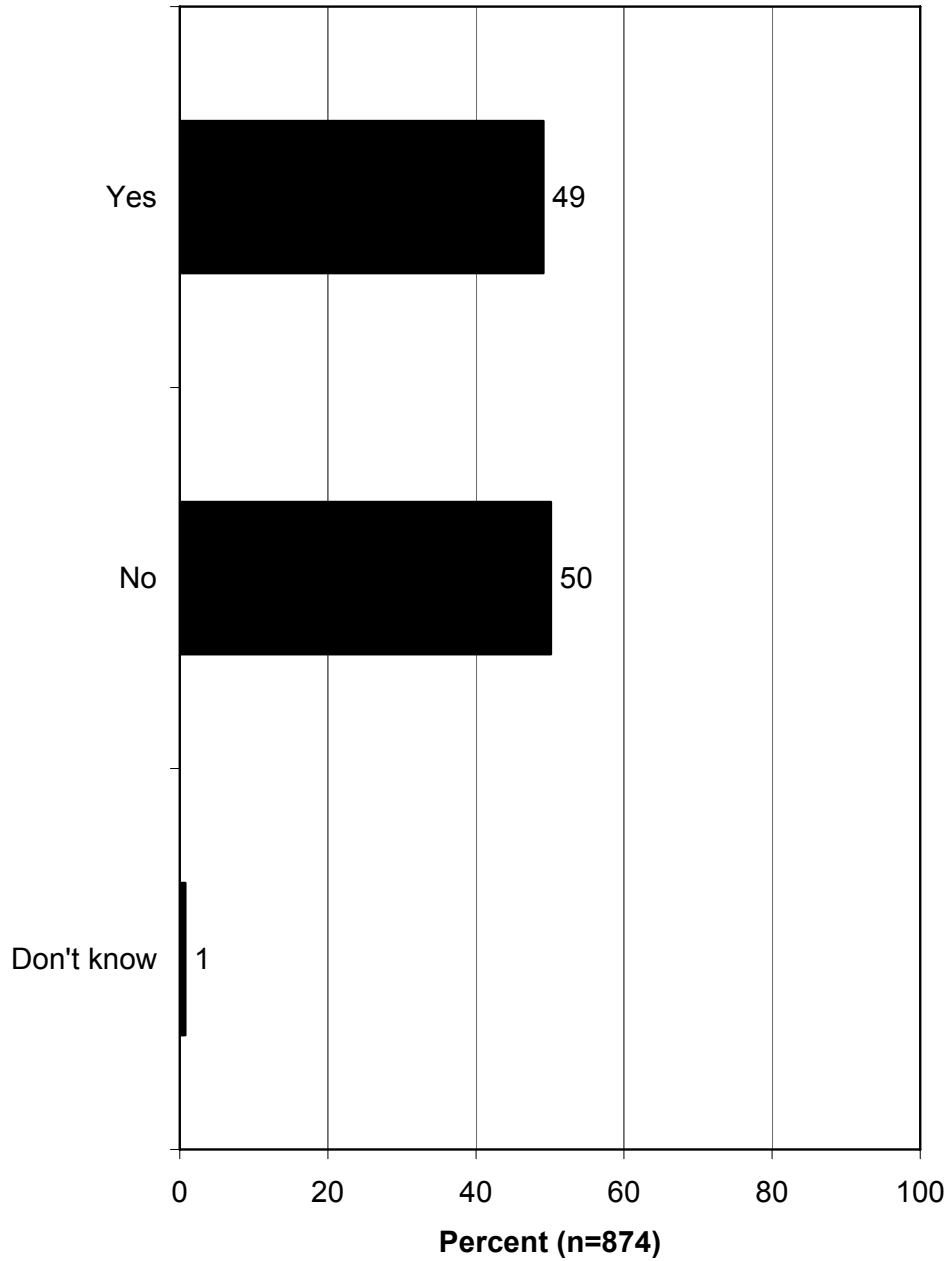
**Q41. When it comes to recreational activities or things you do in your non-work time, would you say you're someone who mostly enjoys indoor recreational activities, outdoor recreational activities, or indoor and outdoor recreational activities equally?
(Missouri residents)**



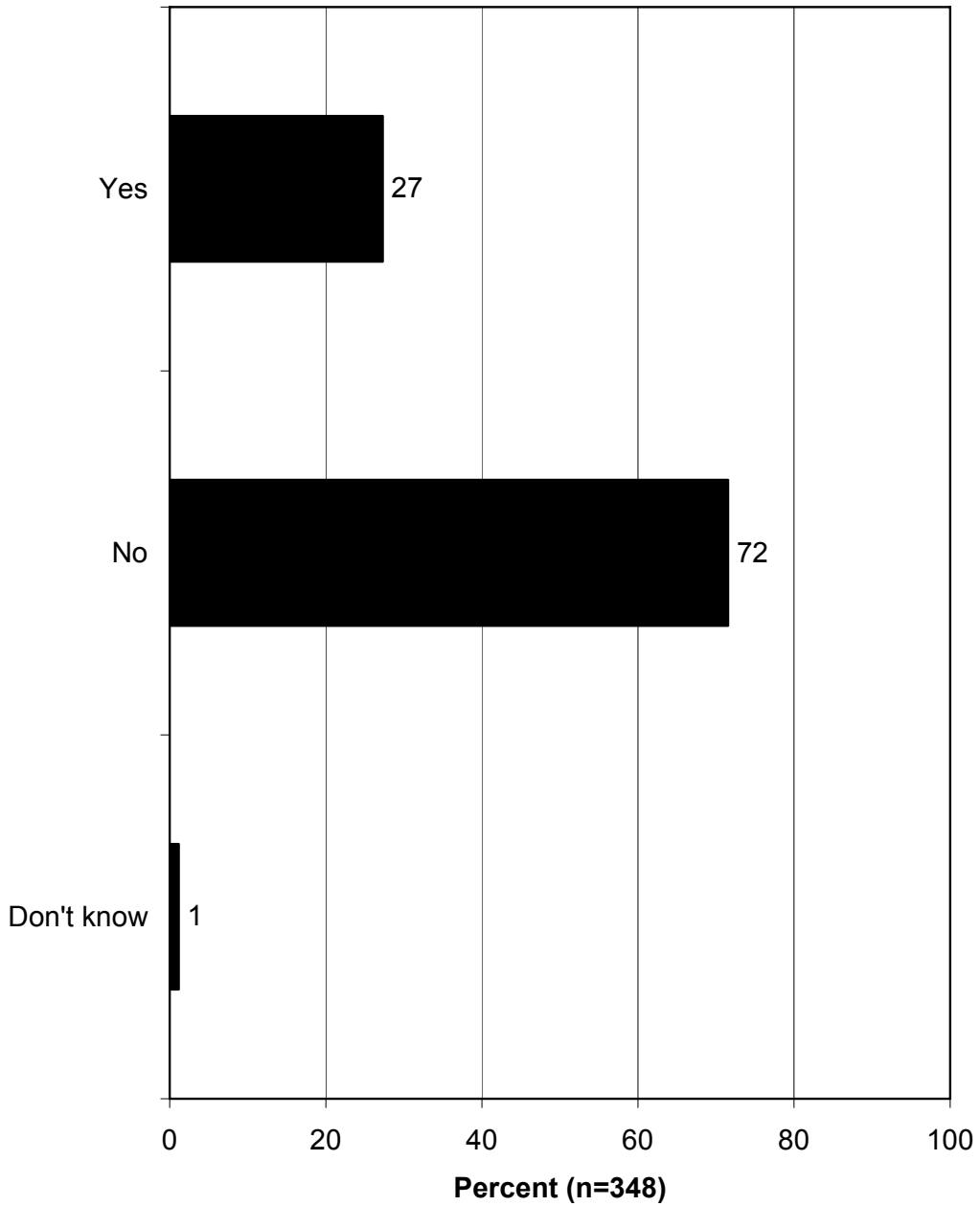
Q3. When it comes to recreational activities or things you do in your non-work time, would you say you are someone who mostly enjoys indoor recreational activities, outdoor recreational activities, or indoor and outdoor recreational activities equally? (Professionals)



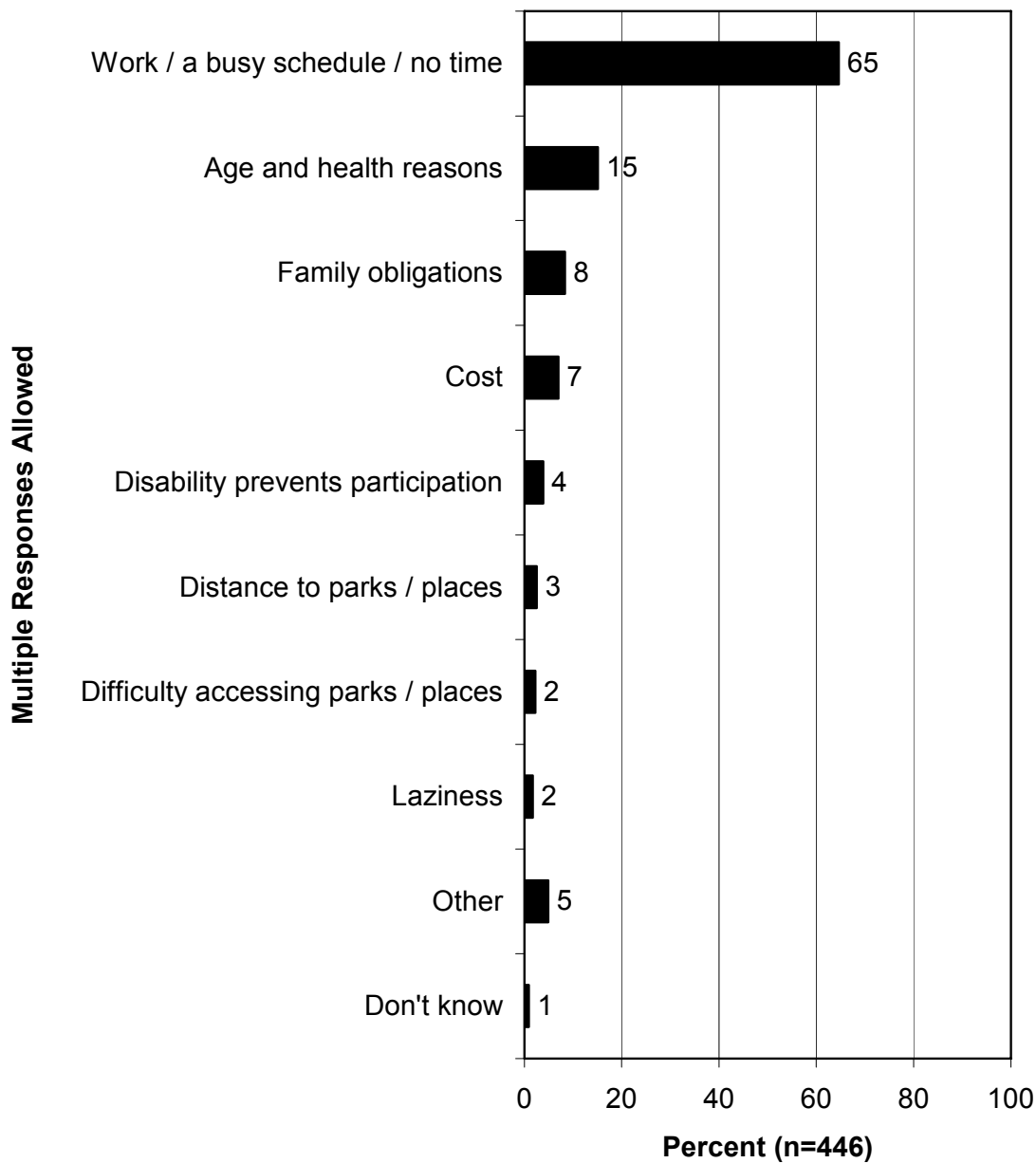
**Q42. Considering everything, do you find that you participate in these activities as much as you like?
(Missouri residents)**



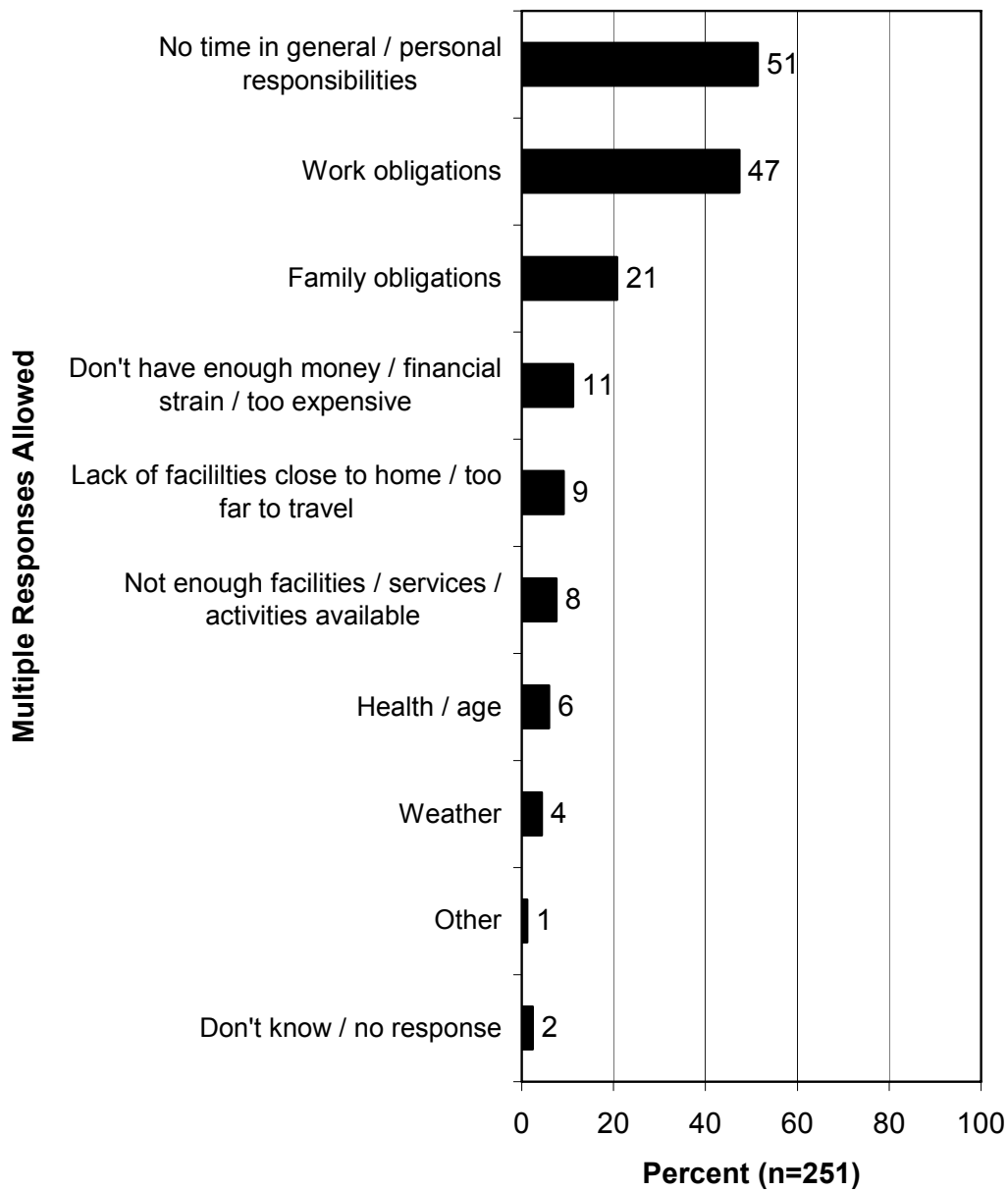
**Q4. Considering everything, do you find that you participate in these activities as much as you like?
(Professionals)**



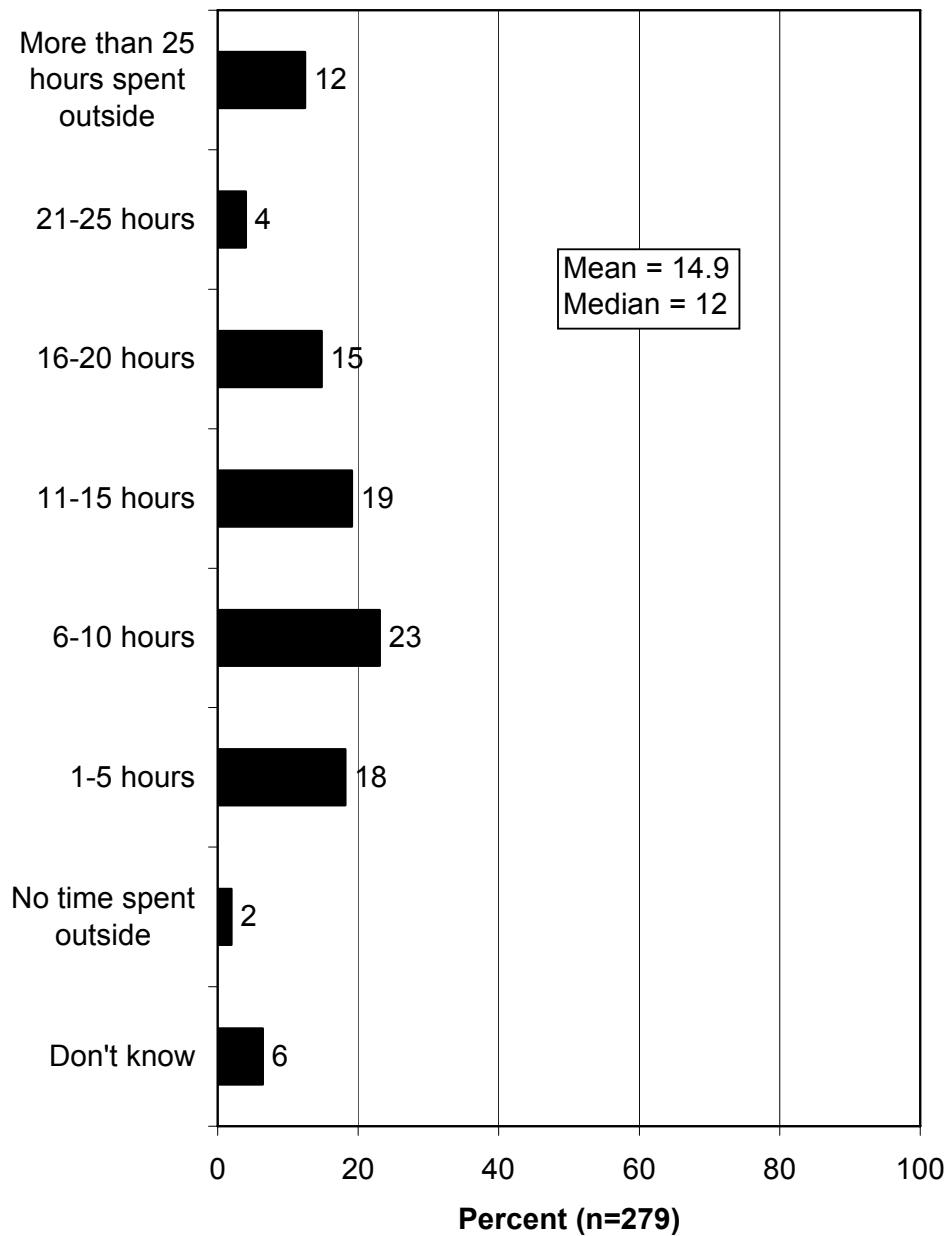
Q43. What things prevent you from participating in these activities as much as you like? (Among those who indicated that they do not participate in recreational activities as much as they would like.) (Missouri residents)



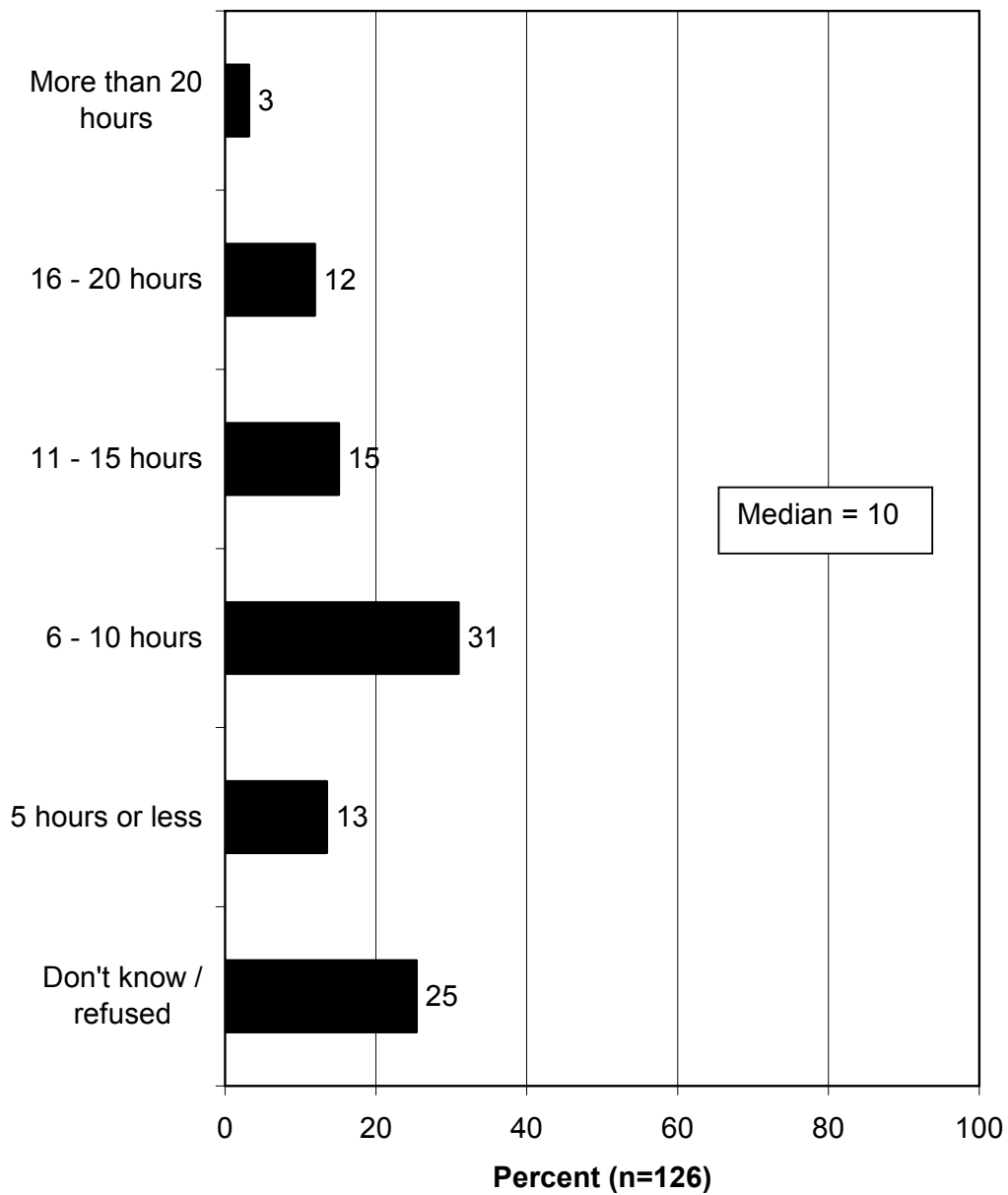
**Q5. What things prevent you from participating in these activities as much as you like? (Asked of those who do not participate in recreational activities as much as they would like.)
(Professionals)**



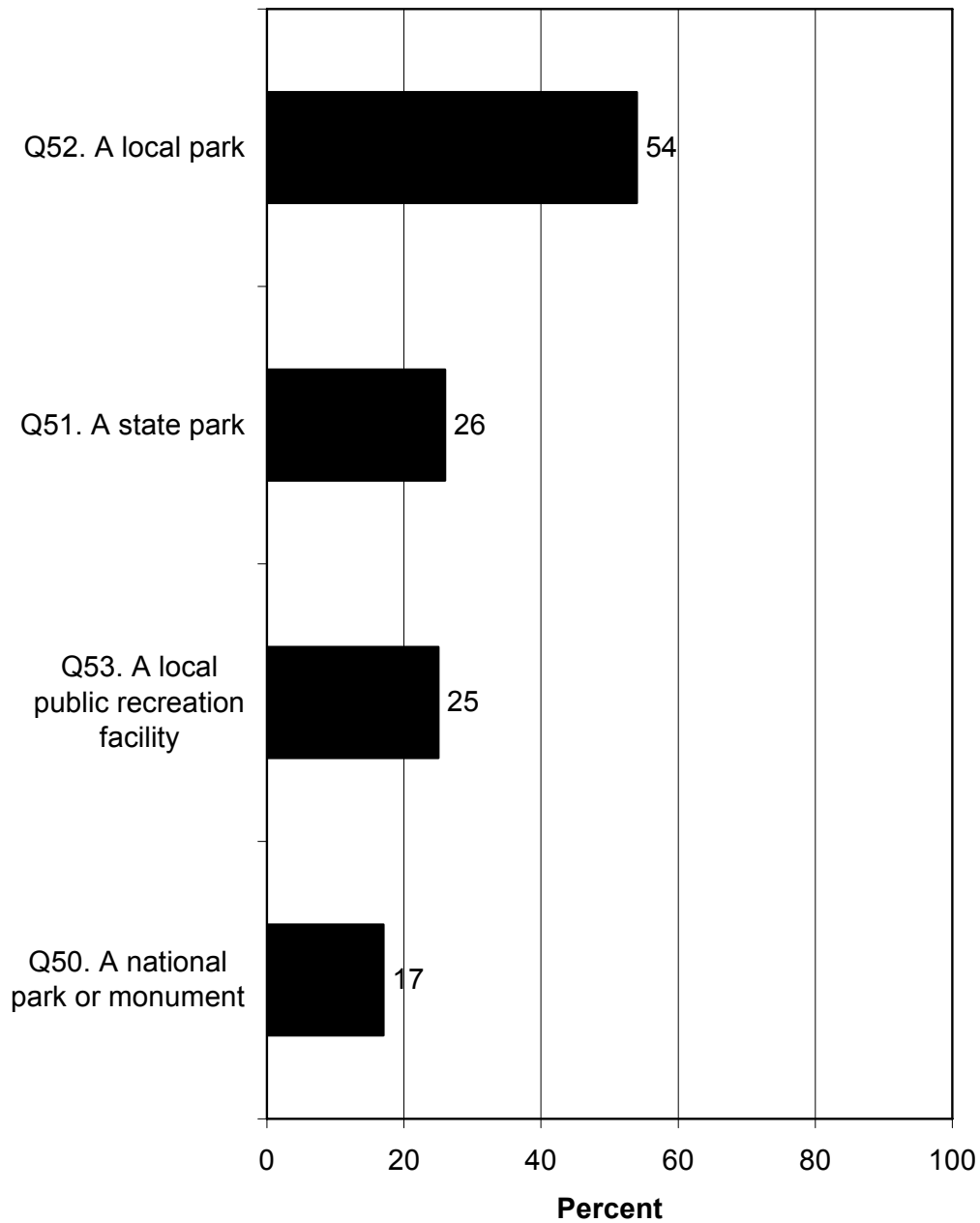
**Q65. On average, how many hours per week does each child living in your household spend outdoors? (Asked of those with children living in their household.)
(Missouri residents)**



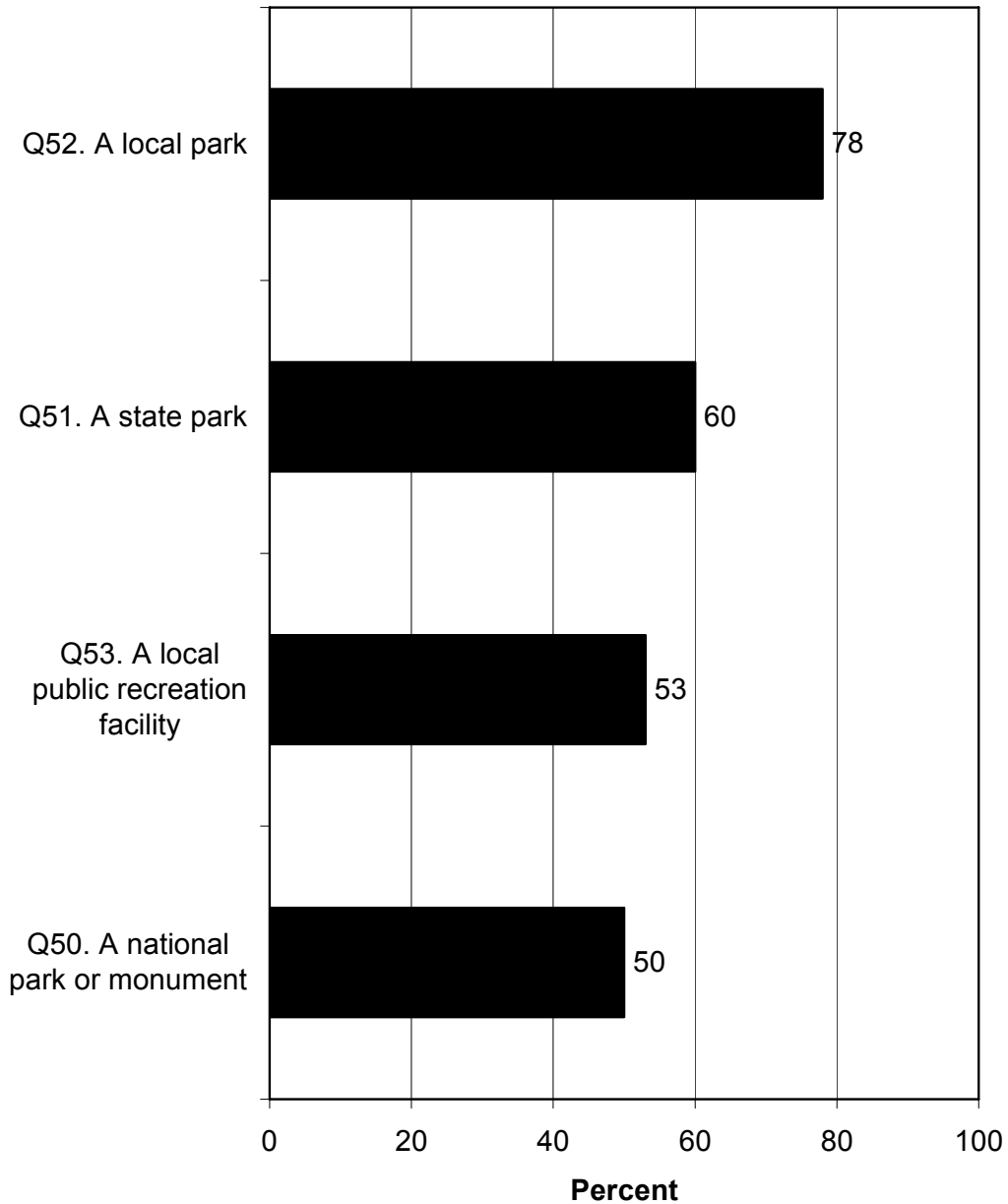
**Q15. On average, how many hours per week does each child living in your household spend outdoors? (Asked of those who have children, age 17 or younger, living in their household.)
(Professionals)**



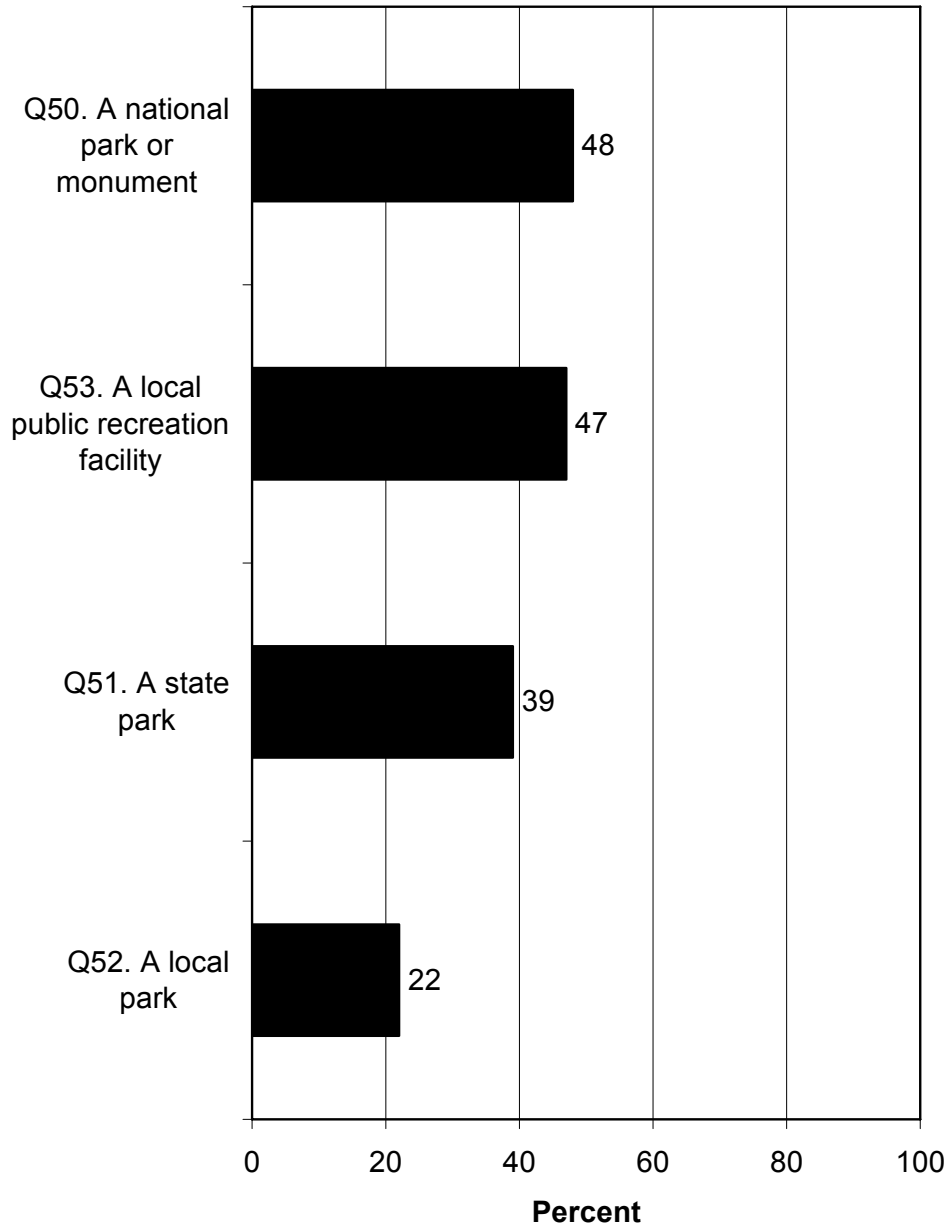
**Percent who indicated that they frequently visited
the park type in Missouri in the past 2 years.
(Missouri residents)**



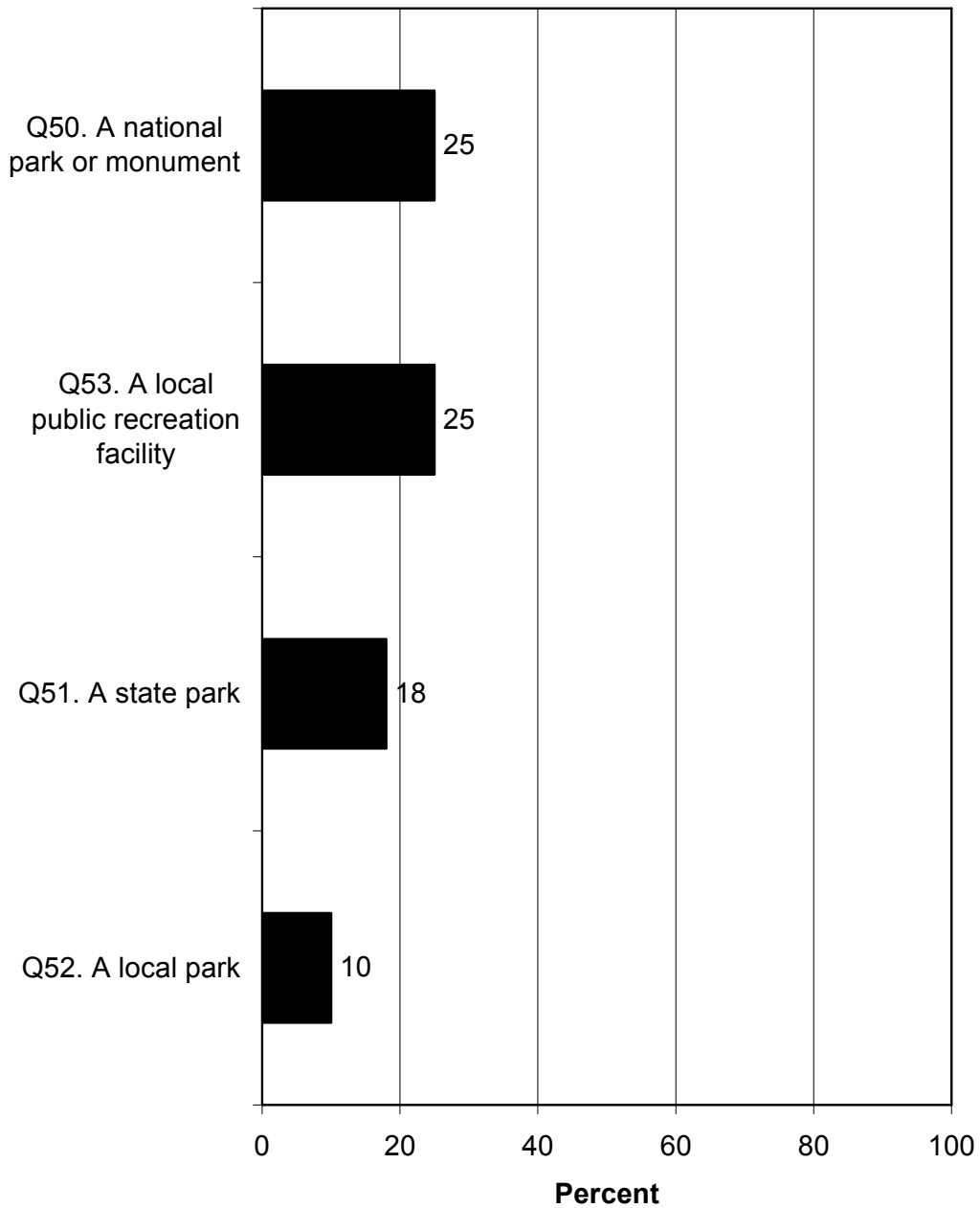
**Percent who indicated that they frequently or sometimes visited the park type in Missouri in the past 2 years.
(Missouri residents)**



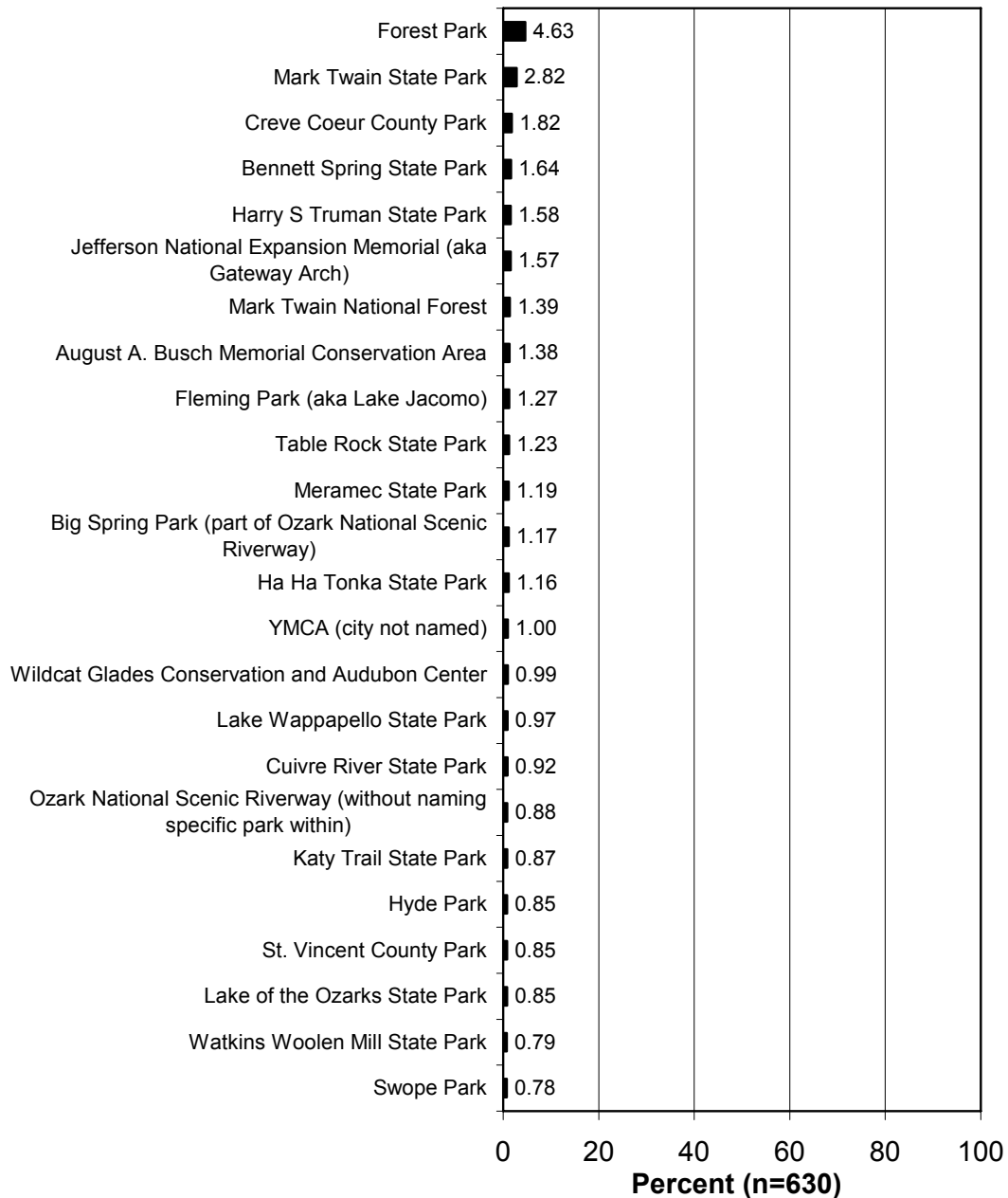
**Percent who indicated that they rarely or never visited the park type in Missouri in the past 2 years.
(Missouri residents)**



**Percent who indicated that they never visited the park type in Missouri in the past 2 years.
(Missouri residents)**



**Q56. Name of the public park, recreational area, or facility last visited in Missouri. (Among those who could name the park, area, or facility.)
(Shows only those locations with 0.75% or higher.)
(Missouri residents)**



Name	Percent Visited*
Forest Park	4.63
Mark Twain State Park	2.82
Creve Coeur County Park	1.82
Bennett Spring State Park	1.64
Harry S Truman State Park	1.58
Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (aka Gateway Arch)	1.57
Mark Twain National Forest	1.39
August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area	1.38
Fleming Park (aka Lake Jacomo)	1.27
Table Rock State Park	1.23
Meramec State Park	1.19
Big Spring Park (part of Ozark National Scenic Riverway)	1.17
Ha Ha Tonka State Park	1.16
YMCA (city not named)	1.00
Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center	0.99
Lake Wappapello State Park	0.97
Cuivre River State Park	0.92
Ozark National Scenic Riverway (without naming specific park within)	0.88
Katy Trail State Park	0.87
Hyde Park	0.85
St. Vincent County Park	0.85
Lake of the Ozarks State Park	0.85
Watkins Woolen Mill State Park	0.79
Swope Park	0.78
Stockton State Park	0.67
Babler State Park	0.63
Clifton Heights Lake	0.62
Rock Bridge Memorial State Park	0.61
Elephant Rocks State Park	0.58
Queeny County Park	0.58
Jefferson Barracks County Park	0.57
Chesterfield (general area)	0.56
Quail Ridge Park	0.56
Stevens Lake	0.56
Mingo National Wildlife Refuge	0.55
Deer Ridge (general area)	0.53
St. Louis County (general area)	0.52
Legacy Park	0.52
St. Joe State Park	0.52
Longview Lake	0.51
Centennial Park	0.50
McCoy Park	0.50
St. Francois State Park	0.49
Missouri Botanical Garden	0.49
Lone Elk County Park	0.47
John Anderson Park	0.47
Loose Park	0.47
Harris Park Community Center	0.46
Darter Park	0.46
Kenneth E. Cowan Civic Center	0.46

Name	Percent Visited*
King Jack Park	0.46
Overland (general area)	0.46
Parkville (general area)	0.46
Salisbury Park	0.46
Whitely Park	0.46
Sequoiota (general area)	0.45
Arnold City Park	0.43
St. Peters Rec-Plex	0.43
Crowder State Park	0.42
O'Fallon Park	0.42
Wallace State Park	0.41
Fort Zumwalt Park	0.40
Engler Park	0.40
Marshall Diggs Wildlife Area	0.40
Lewis and Clark State Park	0.39
Monkey Mountain Trail	0.39
Big Lake State Park	0.39
Weston Bend State Park	0.39
Alley Spring Park (part of Ozark National Scenic Riverway)	0.39
Tanglewood Park	0.39
Little Indian Creek	0.39
Pershing State Park	0.38
Hawn State Park	0.37
Castlewood State Park	0.36
Dexter (general area)	0.36
James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area	0.36
Apple Creek Conservation Area	0.35
Sam A. Baker State Park	0.34
Finley River Park	0.34
Onondaga Cave State Park	0.34
Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park	0.33
Black River	0.32
Pomme de Terre State Park	0.32
Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center	0.31
Arrow Rock State Historic Site	0.31
Jackson (general area)	0.31
Springfield (general area)	0.30
Lindenwood (general area)	0.30
Long Branch State Park	0.30
Roaring River State Park	0.30
Thousand Hills State Park	0.29
Capen Park	0.27
Garvin Park	0.27
Van Meter State Park	0.27
Rothwell Park	0.27
Morris State Park	0.26
Nathaniel Greene Park	0.26
National World War I Museum	0.26
LaBenite Park	0.26
Laumeier Sculpture Park	0.26
Pony Express National Historic Trail	0.26

Name	Percent Visited*
Sioux Passage County Park	0.26
St. Louis Zoo	0.26
Three Creeks Conservation Area	0.26
Warrensburg Community Center	0.26
Springfield Nature Center	0.25
Trail of Tears State Park	0.25
Clearwater (general area)	0.24
Spanish Lake County Park	0.24
Tower Grove Park	0.23
Branson (general area)	0.23
Washington State Park	0.22
Klondike Park	0.21
Burch Creek	0.20
Happy Rock Park	0.20
Harrisonville (general area)	0.20
Knob Noster State Park	0.20
Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center	0.20
Robertsville State Park	0.20
Springfield Conservation Nature Center	0.20
Unionville (general area)	0.20
Willard (general area)	0.20
Amidon Memorial Conservation Area	0.19
Ashley Park (Lebanon)	0.19
Cole County (general area)	0.19
English Landing Park	0.19
Gasconade River	0.19
Heisler Park	0.19
Joplin (general area)	0.19
Liberty Community Center	0.19
Remington Nature Center	0.19
Shaw Park	0.19
Tilles County Park	0.19
Washington Riverfront Trail	0.19
Battlefield City Park	0.19
J.D. Trail Riding Camp	0.18
Oak Grove (general area)	0.18
Dewey Park (general area)	0.17
Dockery Park	0.17
Frontier Park	0.17
Hill Park	0.17
January-Wabash Park	0.17
Kibler Park	0.17
Manchester (general area)	0.17
Marquette Park	0.17
Meadowmere Park	0.17
Missouri Town 1855	0.17
North Kansas City Park	0.17
Ozark Community Center	0.17
Phelps Grove Park	0.17
Pickle Springs Natural Area	0.17
Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge	0.17

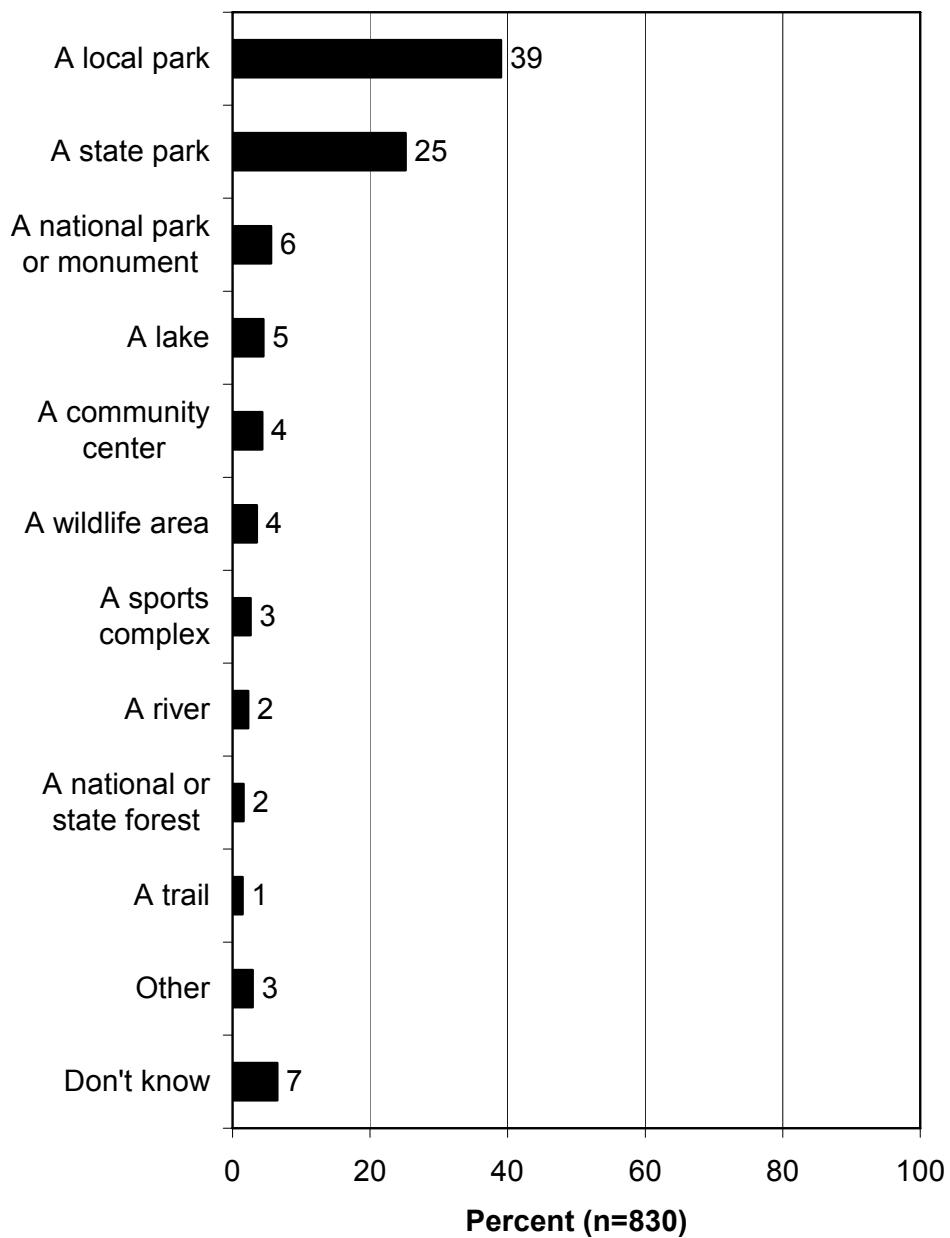
Name	Percent Visited*
Westboro-Canterbury Greenway	0.17
Baldwin Park	0.14
Belton Community Center	0.14
Butler (general area)	0.14
Columbia (general area)	0.14
Fort Osage	0.14
Fountain Bluffs Sports Complex	0.14
Gerald (general area)	0.14
Grants Trail County Park	0.14
Greentop (general area)	0.14
Harry S Truman Library and Museum	0.14
Henderson Park (Norfolk Lake area)	0.14
Holden (general area)	0.14
Kentucky Lake	0.14
Krug Park	0.14
Liberty (general area)	0.14
Markham Springs Recreation Area (in Mark Twain National Fore	0.14
Mussel Fork Conservation Area	0.14
Painted Rock State Forest	0.14
Theodosia (general area)	0.14
Tiffany Springs (general area)	0.14
Veterans Park	0.14
Wyaconda (general area)	0.14
Affton White-Rodgers Community Center	0.14
Mill Creek Park	0.14
Republic (general area)	0.14
Bohrer County Park	0.13
C. Lee Kenagy Park	0.13
Cunningham Park	0.13
Deer Lake Golf Course	0.13
Fellows Lake	0.13
Galloway (general area)	0.13
George Washington Carver National Monument	0.13
Grant Beach Park	0.13
Hodge Park Lake	0.13
Indian Creek (general area)	0.13
Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park	0.13
Norfolk River	0.13
Normandy (general area)	0.13
Nottoway Lake	0.13
Orleans Trail Resort and Marina	0.13
Stewart Heights Park/Odair Baseball Field	0.13
Sugar Creek State Forest	0.13
Arena Park (Cape Girardeau Co.)	0.13
Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area (aka Cosmo Park)	0.13
Ferndale Park	0.13
Grant's Farm	0.13
Hannibal (general area)	0.13
Hermann (general area)	0.13
Jones-Confluence Point State Park	0.13
Kirkwood (general area)	0.13

Name	Percent Visited*
Marshfield Rotary Park	0.13
Mastodon State Historic Site	0.13
Missouri Conservation Center	0.13
Owensville (general area)	0.13
River Cut Golf Course	0.13
White Marble Park	0.13
Dawt Mill	0.12
Empire Park	0.12
Living Memorial Park	0.12
Mississippi River	0.12
Perkins Park	0.12
Perryville (general area)	0.12
Powell's Garden	0.12
Rabbit Run Park	0.12
Rogers Lake	0.12
St. Anne's Park and Rose Gardens	0.12
Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge	0.12
Washington (general area)	0.12
Arrowhead Stadium	0.11
Brookfield (general area)	0.11
Close Memorial Park	0.11
Fenton City Park	0.11
Hammons Field (Springfield Cardinals stadium)	0.11
Indian Foothills Park	0.11
Polo (general area)	0.11
Progress Park	0.11
Route 66 State Park	0.11
Southmoreland (general area)	0.11
Union (general area)	0.11
Wilson's Creek National Battlefield	0.11
Blind Pony Lake	0.10
Blue Bird Park	0.10
Clydesdale County Park	0.10
Dolling Park	0.10
James River	0.10
Montauk State Park	0.10
Public Beach 1 and 2 (Lake Ozark)	0.10
River Oaks Golf Course	0.10
Rock Port (general area)	0.10
Runge Conservation Nature Center	0.10
Smithville Lake	0.10
Ted Shanks Conservation Area	0.10
Tipton Park Lake	0.10
Wheeler Park	0.10
Named park not in Missouri (e.g., "Yellowstone")	0.72
Unknown / Not specific (e.g., "county park")	12.89

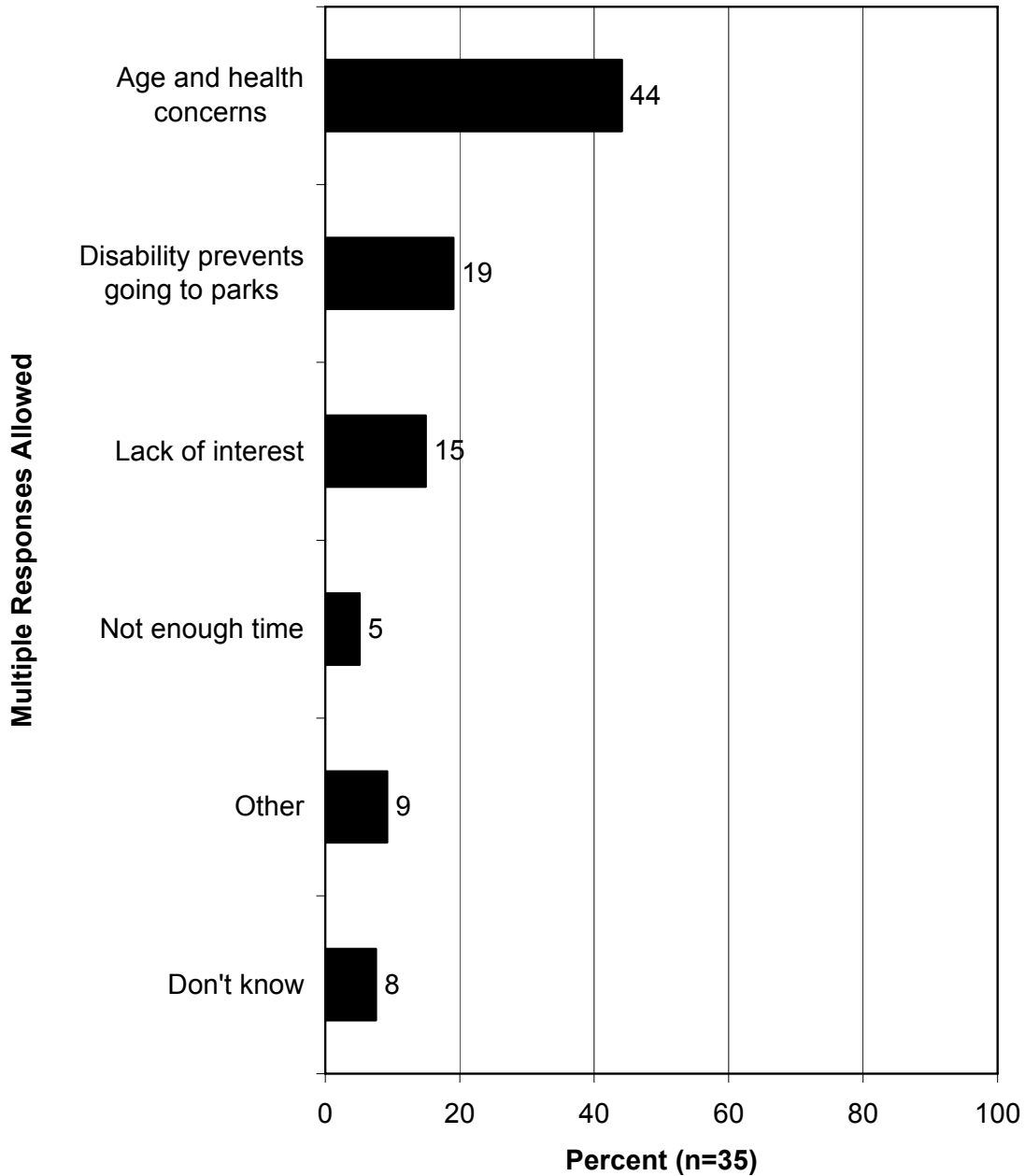
* Percentage is among those who could name the last park, recreation area, or facility they visited.

(Appendix A shows the above table sorted alphabetically.)

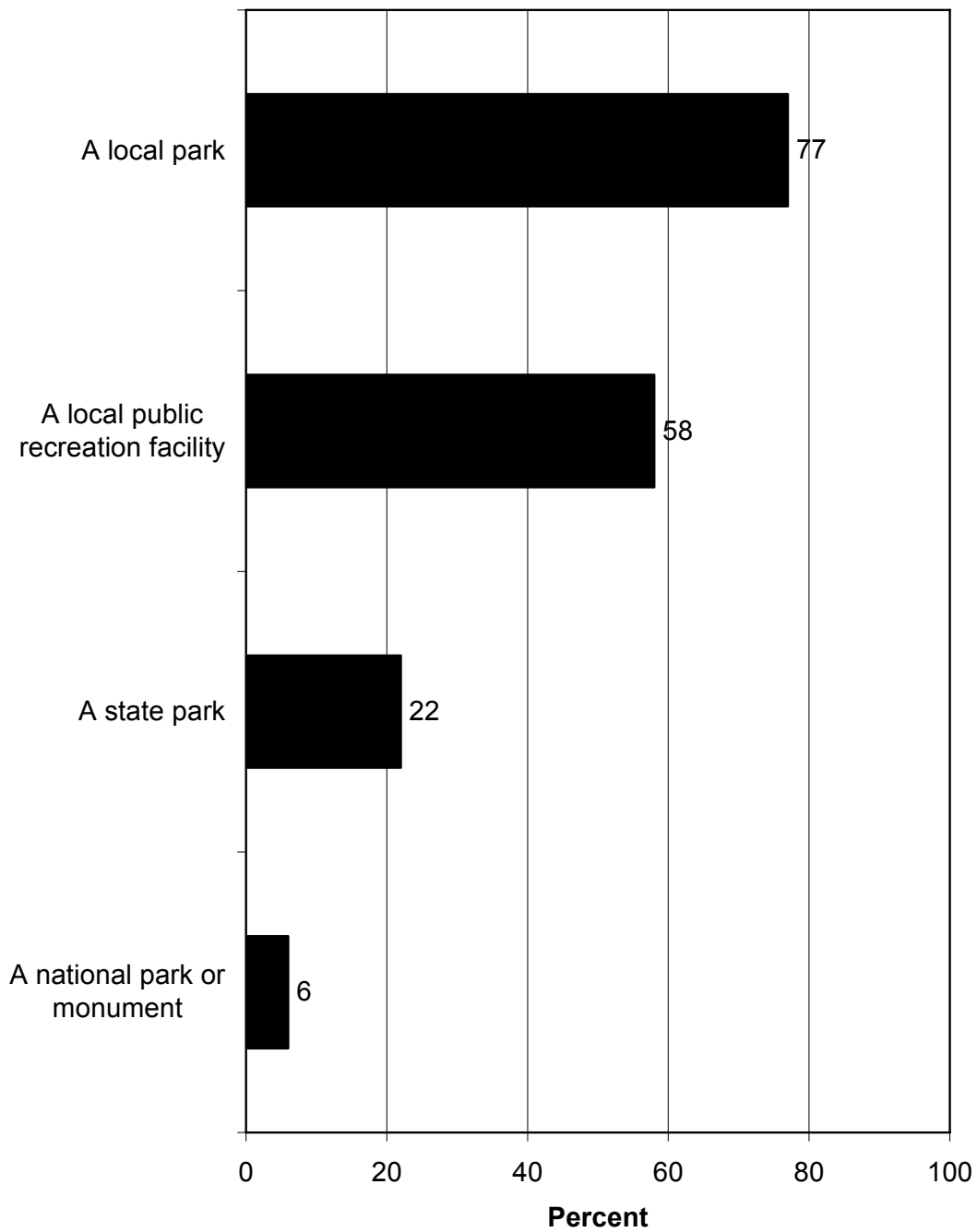
**Q57. Please tell me what type of public park, recreation area, or facility you last visited in Missouri. (Asked of those who visited a park, recreation area, or facility in the past 2 years.)
(Missouri residents)**



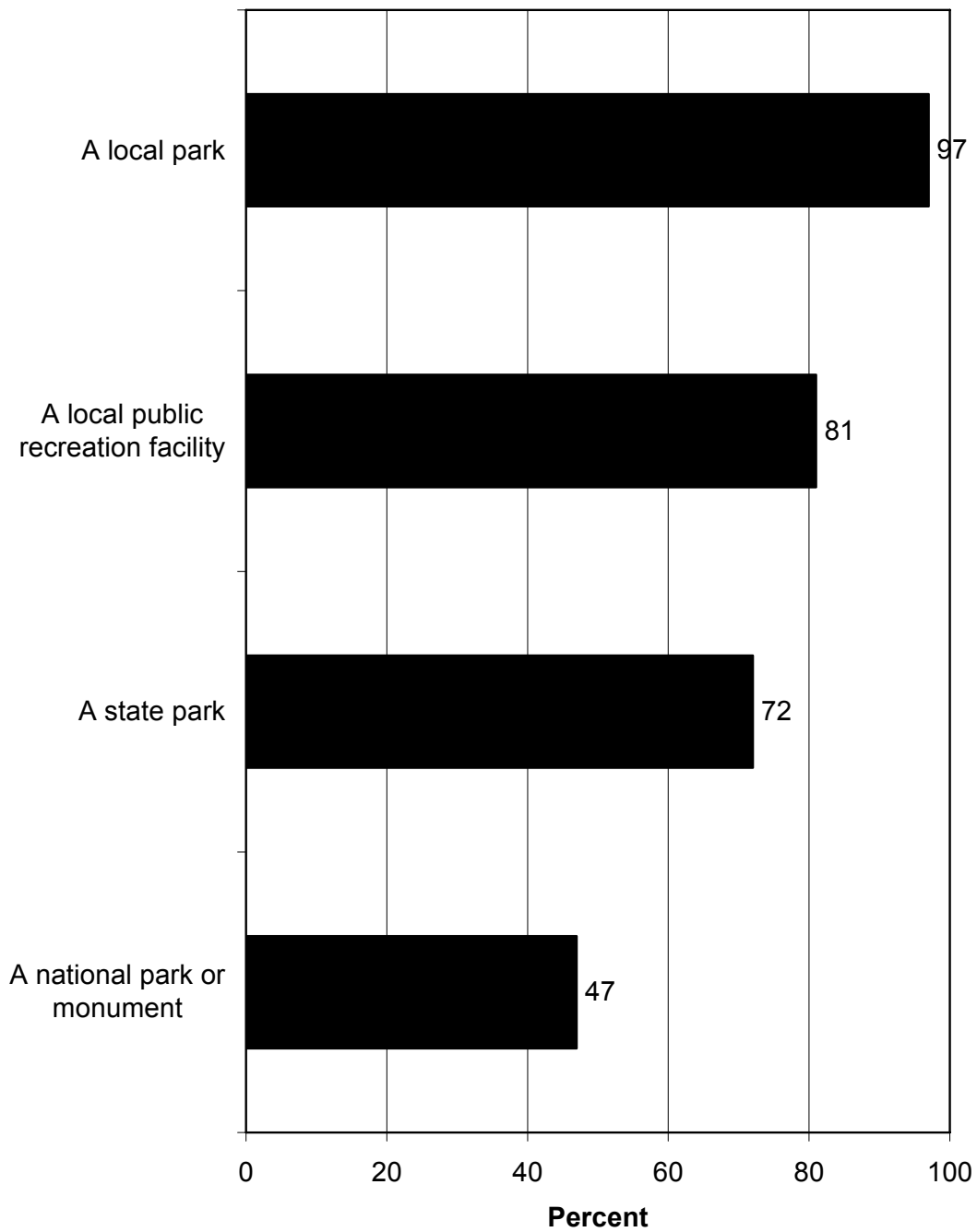
Q60. Why haven't you visited any public parks, recreation areas, or facilities in Missouri in the last 2 years? (Asked of those who did not visit a public park, recreation area, or facility.) (Missouri residents)



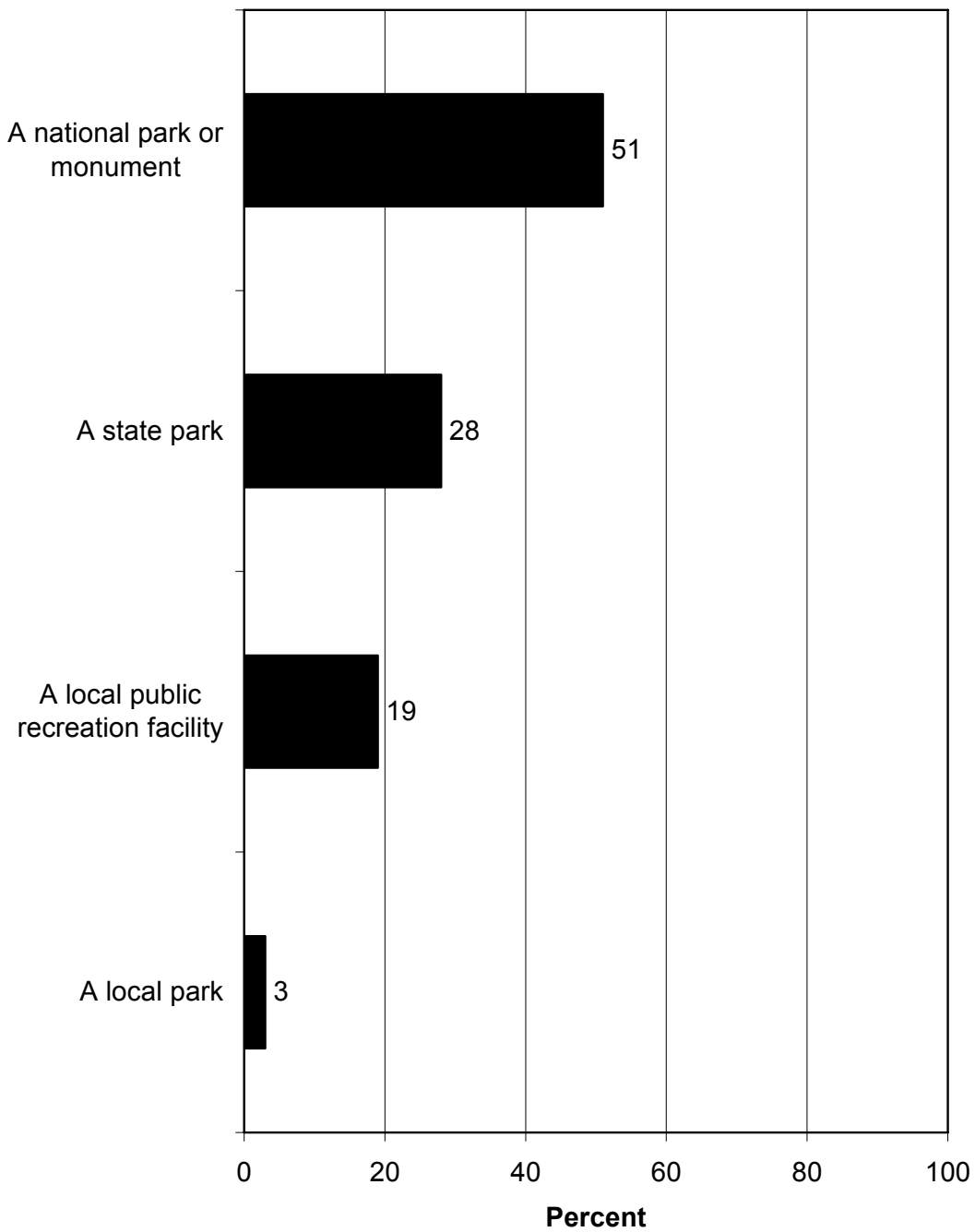
**Percent who indicated that they frequently visited
the park type in Missouri in the past 2 years.
(Professionals)**



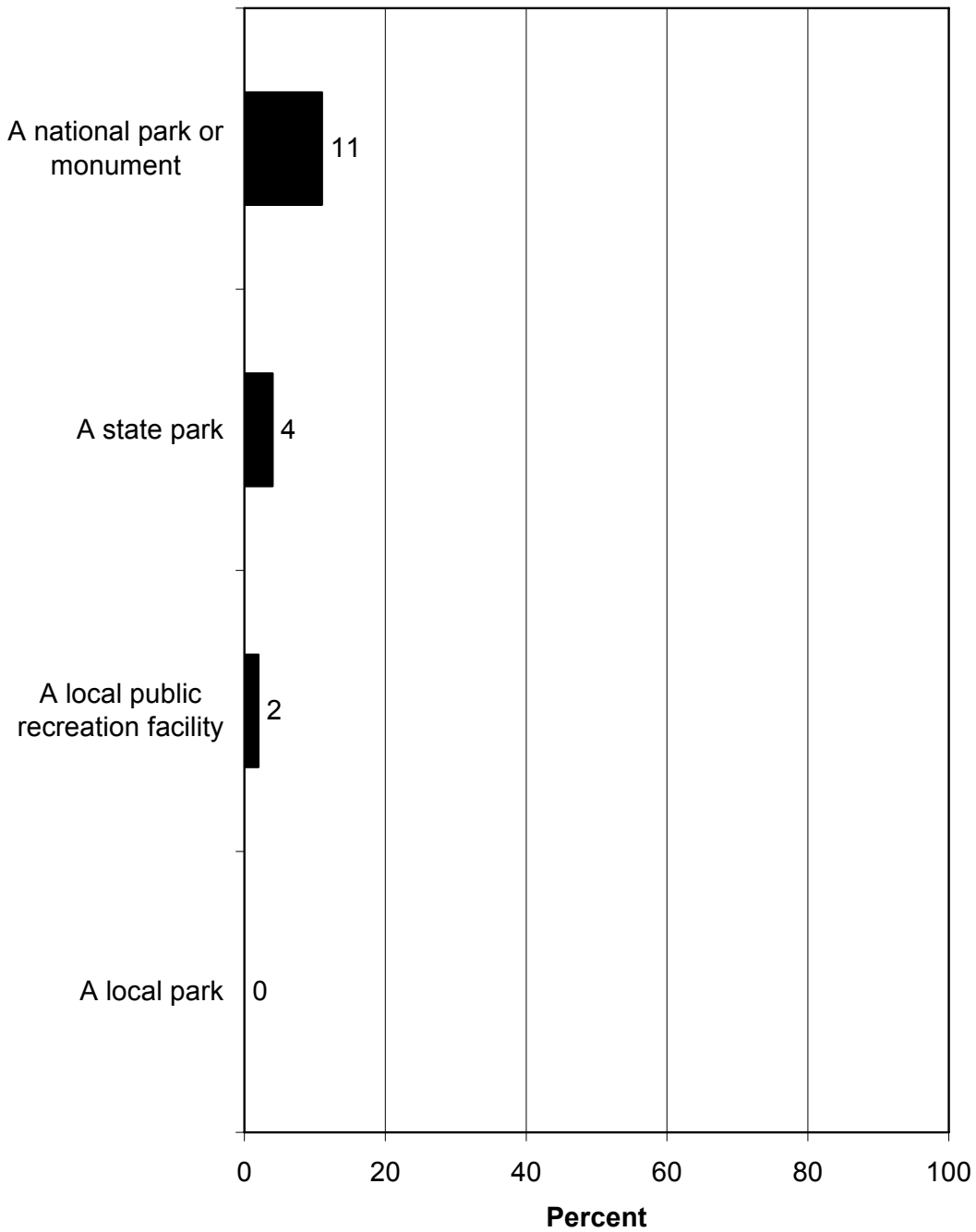
Percent who indicated that they frequently or sometimes visited the park type in Missouri in the past 2 years. (Professionals)



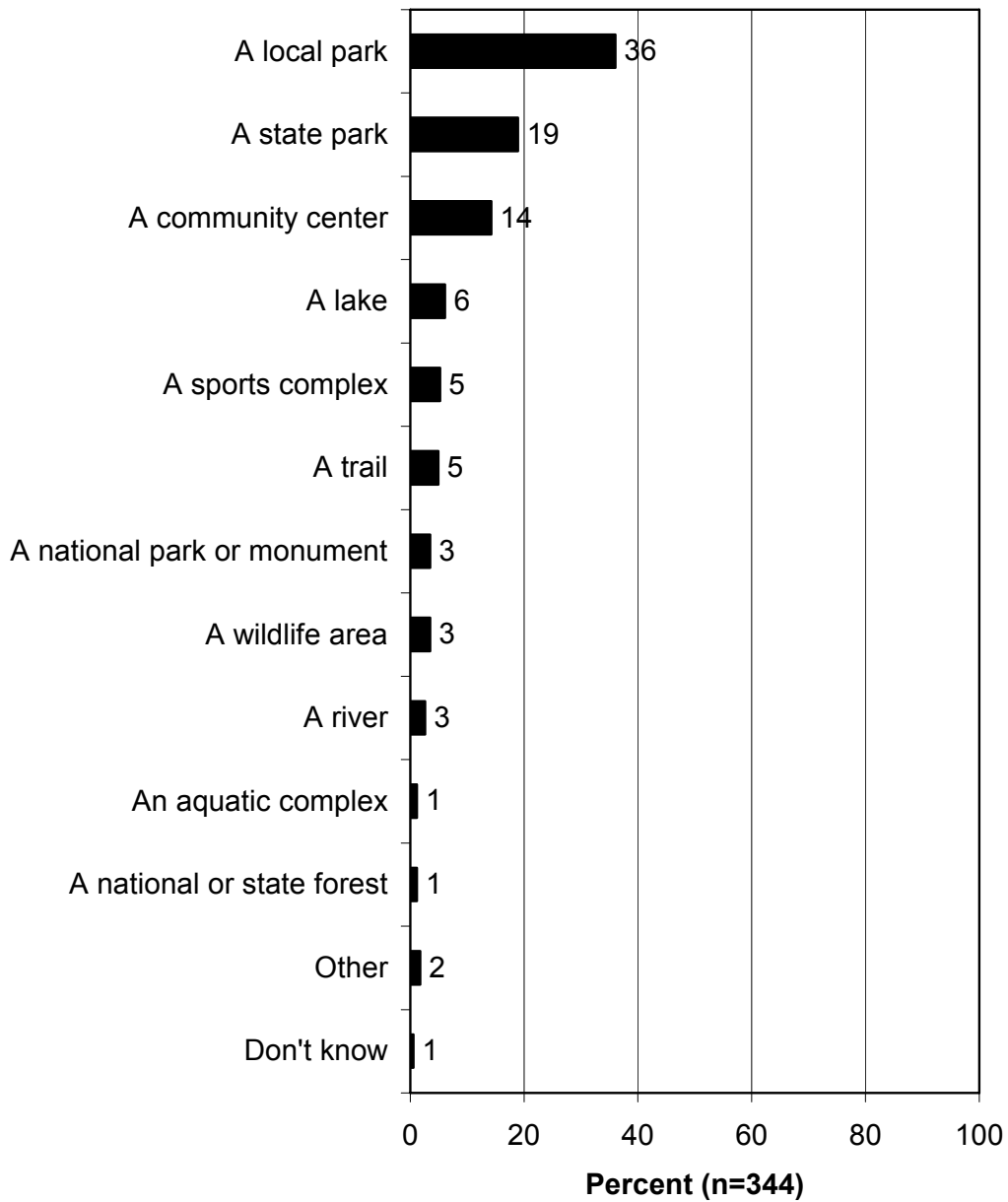
**Percent who indicated that they rarely or never visited the park type in Missouri in the past 2 years.
(Professionals)**



Percent who indicated that they never visited the park type in Missouri in the past 2 years. (Professionals)



Q12. Can you please indicate the type of public park, area, or recreation facility you last visited in Missouri? (Asked of those who have visited a public park, area, or facility in Missouri within the past 2 years.) (Professionals)



IMPORTANCE OF AND VALUES ASSOCIATED WITH RECREATION

- The overwhelming majority of Missouri residents (93%) indicate that recreational activities or things they do in their non-work time are *very* or *somewhat* important to their overall quality of life, with most of those responses being *very* important (62%). Only 6% indicate that they are not important.
 - Nearly all professionals surveyed (98%) indicate that recreational activities or things they do in their non-work time are *very* or *somewhat* important to their overall quality of life, with most of those responses being *very* important (71%).

- In an open-ended question, Missouri residents were asked what they think of when they think of parks and recreation. Responses ranged widely, with some people giving broad responses and other people naming specific sports or activities. The most common responses relate to park facilities and/or the actual parks themselves (33%). Other common topics named include ball fields and/or leagues (20%), playgrounds (16%), hiking/trails (16%), wildlife (11%), and swimming (11%). The graph shows the extensive list of things named when residents think of parks and recreation.
 - Professionals were also asked this question. Their top responses are outdoors/open and/or green spaces (23%), parks (20%), responses related to places (not necessarily parks) that have a variety of activities (19%), hiking/trails (17%), fun/enjoyment (17%), and family/children (17%).

- The survey listed 16 possible benefits of parks and recreation activities and asked residents to indicate the importance of each, using a four-point scale (*very important*, *somewhat important*, *not very important*, *not at all important*). The survey randomized the beginning point in the series of potential benefits to minimize “order” bias. These are listed in the text box below.
- Three of them stand out markedly above the rest in the percentage who rate each as *very important*: cleaner air and water (79%), healthy childhood development (78%), and positive family activities (75%).
 - A middle tier is below these top three, consisting of items with at least 60% of residents saying the potential benefit is *very important*: providing wildlife habitat (68%), health and fitness (67%), a sense of peace and stress relief (64%), providing employment opportunities (62%), and protecting natural and historic resources (60%).
 - The ranking is not easily summarized, as the top possible benefits vary widely and include those that relate to ecological values (e.g., cleaner air and water, providing wildlife habitat), those that relate to the family (healthy childhood development, positive family activities), those that relate to community values (providing employment opportunities), and those that relate to receiving a personal benefit (health and fitness, a sense of peace and stress relief).

Possible Benefits of Parks and Recreation Activities About Which the Survey Asked

72. Health and fitness
73. Connecting with nature
74. A sense of peace and stress relief
75. Opportunities for play and competition
76. Positive family activities
77. Healthy childhood development
78. Providing cultural awareness
79. Opportunities to be with people
80. Attracting businesses
81. Promoting tourism
82. Enhancing property values
83. Providing employment opportunities
84. Preserving open space
85. Protecting natural and historic resources
86. Providing wildlife habitat
87. Cleaner air and water

- Professionals, too, were asked to rate the potential benefits of parks and recreation activities.
 - Three have more than 70% saying each is a *very* important benefit: health and fitness (80%), positive family activities (75%), and healthy childhood development (71%).
 - A middle tier below these three, but each with at least a majority saying it is a *very* important benefit, consists of preserving open space (66%), a sense of peace and stress relief (64%), cleaner air and water (63%), connections with nature (59%), protecting natural and historic resources (57%), providing wildlife habitat (56%), and opportunities for play and competition (51%).
 - As with the resident survey, these results are not easily summarized, with the top possible benefits varying quite widely.

- The tabulation on the following page looks at how residents and professionals compare on perceived benefits of parks and recreation activities. The tabulation shows the percentage saying the benefit is *very* important and its rank in parentheses.
 - Residents are more likely than are professionals to say that the following are *very* important benefits of parks and recreation activities:
 - Providing cultural awareness (45% among residents, and 27% among professionals; the rank, however, is the same).
 - Opportunities to be with people (53% vs. 29%; although the rank is not greatly different).
 - Attracting business (46% vs. 30%; although the rank is not greatly different).
 - Providing employment opportunities (62% vs. 34%; the rank is much higher among residents).
 - Cleaner air and water (79% vs. 63%; the rank is much higher among residents).
 - On the other hand, professionals are more likely than are residents to say that the following is a *very* important benefits of parks and recreation activities:
 - Health and fitness (67% among residents, compared to 80% among professionals; the rank is higher among professionals).

Comparison of Perceived Benefits of Parks and Recreation Activities

	Percent of residents who say the benefit is very important (and its rank)	Percent of professionals who say the benefit is very important (and its rank)
Health and fitness	67 (5)	80 (1)
Connecting with nature	56 (10)	59 (7)
A sense of peace and stress relief	64 (6)	64 (5)
Opportunities for play and competition	48 (13 t)	51 (10)
Positive family activities	75 (3)	75 (2)
Healthy childhood development	78 (2)	71 (3)
Providing cultural awareness	45 (16)	27 (16)
Opportunities to be with people	53 (11)	29 (15)
Attracting businesses	46 (15)	30 (14)
Promoting tourism	49 (12)	43 (12)
Enhancing property values	48 (13 t)	45 (11)
Providing employment opportunities	62 (7)	34 (13)
Preserving open space	58 (9)	66 (4)
Protecting natural and historic resources	60 (8)	57 (8)
Providing wildlife habitat	68 (4)	56 (9)
Cleaner air and water	79 (1)	63 (6)

- The survey asked respondents to indicate the importance of having parks and open space nearby if they were to choose a new residence. The large majority (84%) indicate that it would be important, including slightly more than half who say it would be *very* important (52%).
 - Results of the professionals' survey are similar: 94% indicate that it would be important, including more than half who say it would be *very* important (55%).

- A final way to explore the values associated with parks and recreation entailed reading statements to Missouri residents and asking them if they agree or disagree with each, using a five-point scale (strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, strongly disagree). The statements are generally favorable toward parks and recreation and/or suggest an obligation for society to have parks and recreation, with the exception of two statements that are not favorable toward parks and recreation. The survey randomized the beginning point in the series of

statements for each respondent to minimize “order” bias. The statements are shown in the text box below.

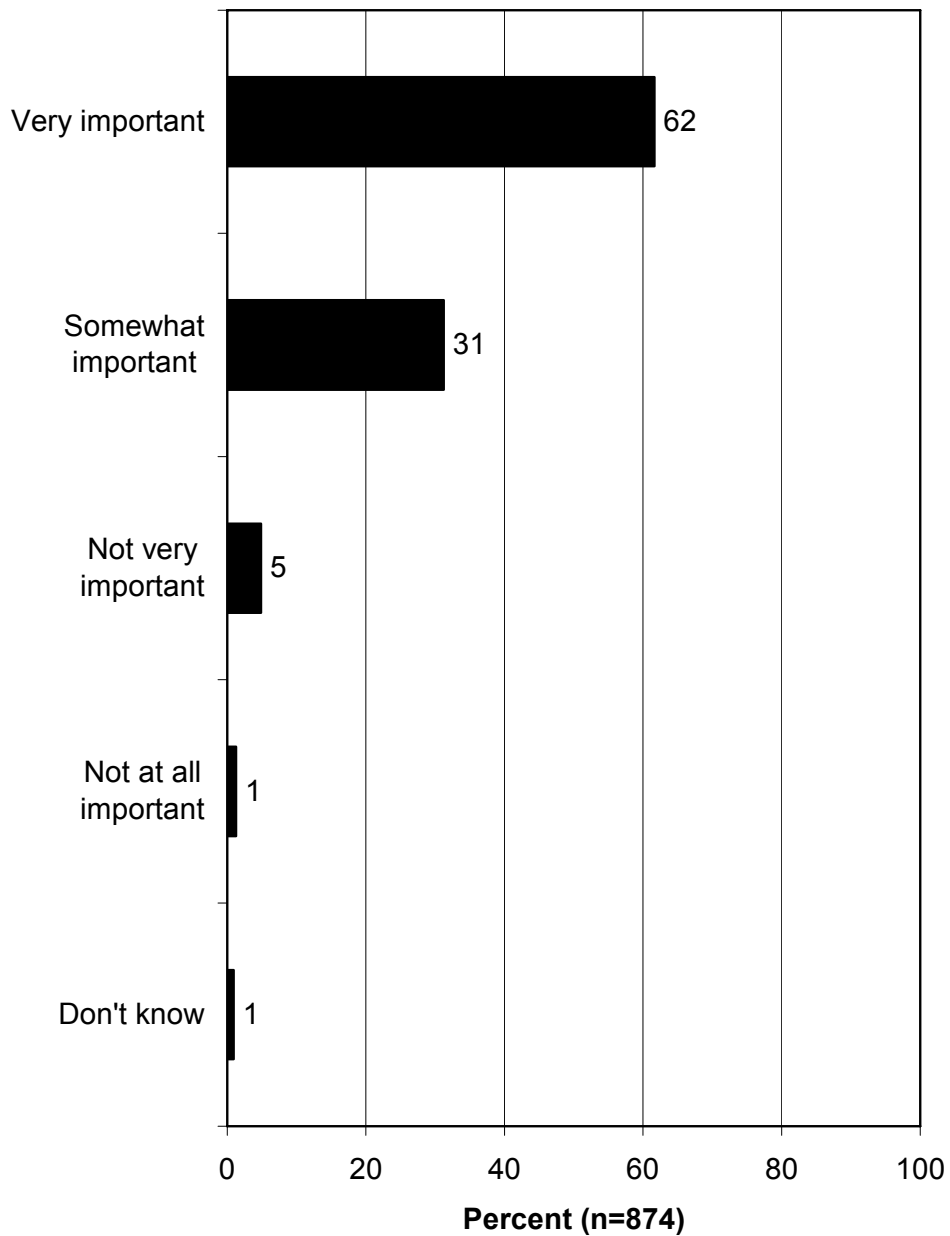
- A majority indicate that they *strongly agree* or *agree* with each statement, with the exception of the two that are not favorable toward parks and recreation. In particular, four statements have 85% or more in agreement:
 - Spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives. (95%)
 - Parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health. (90%)
 - Local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space. (88%)
 - Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide. (85%)
- Of interest is that the two statements that are not favorable (although they are not necessarily *unfavorable*) toward parks and recreation have only a little more than a third agreeing with them.
 - Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity. (38%)
 - Public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity. (38%)
- Note that these latter *statements* are not favorable to parks and recreation; these *results*, however, suggest a favorable attitude toward parks and recreation, as 49% *disagree* that parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity and 48% *disagree* that recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity.

Statements Relating To Parks and Recreation About Which the Survey Asked

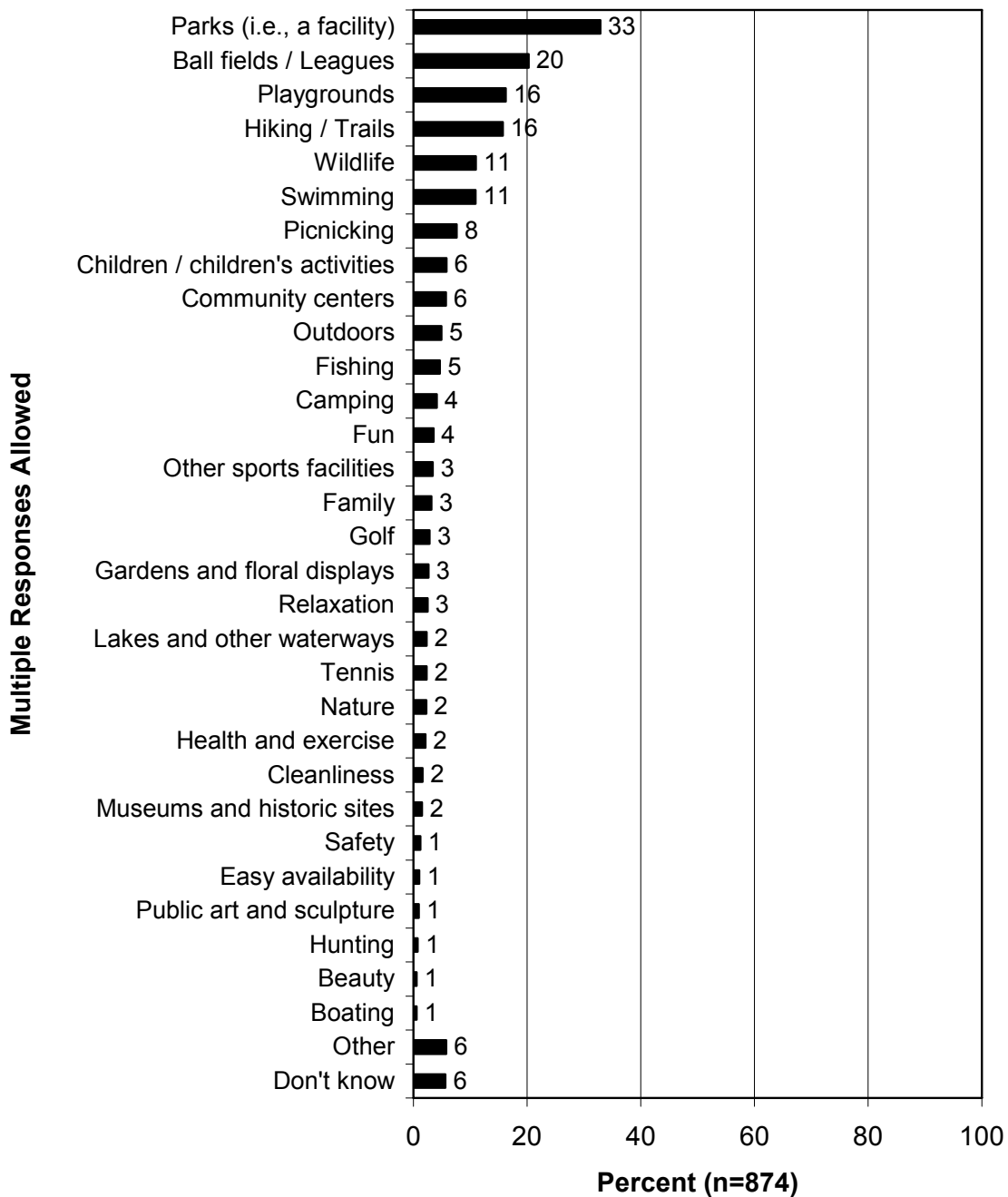
- 106. Parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health.
- 107. Local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space.
- 108. Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide.
- 109. Parks and open space increase property values in your community.
- 110. Parks and open space are important to your community's economy.
- 111. Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas should be budget priorities in your community even during economic hard times.
- 112. Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity.
- 113. Spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives.
- 114. Public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity.

- The above statements were also read to professionals, and they used the same scale regarding their agreement or disagreement with the statements.
 - A majority indicate that they *strongly agree* or *agree* with each statement, with the exception of the two that are not favorable toward parks and recreation. In particular, five statements have 90% or more in agreement:
 - Parks, recreation, and open space are important for people to improve and maintain good health. (96%)
 - Spending time in the outdoors leads to happier and healthier lives. (95%)
 - Local communities in Missouri have a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space. (93%)
 - Missouri has a responsibility to preserve and maintain open space statewide. (93%)
 - Parks and open spaces increase property values in your community. (90%)
 - The two statements that are not favorable toward parks and recreation have very small percentages agreeing with them (also shown is the percentage in *disagreement*).
 - Public recreation programs are a luxury rather than a necessity. (14% agree; 71% disagree)
 - Parks, open spaces, greenways, and conservation areas are a luxury rather than a necessity. (13% agree; 74% disagree)

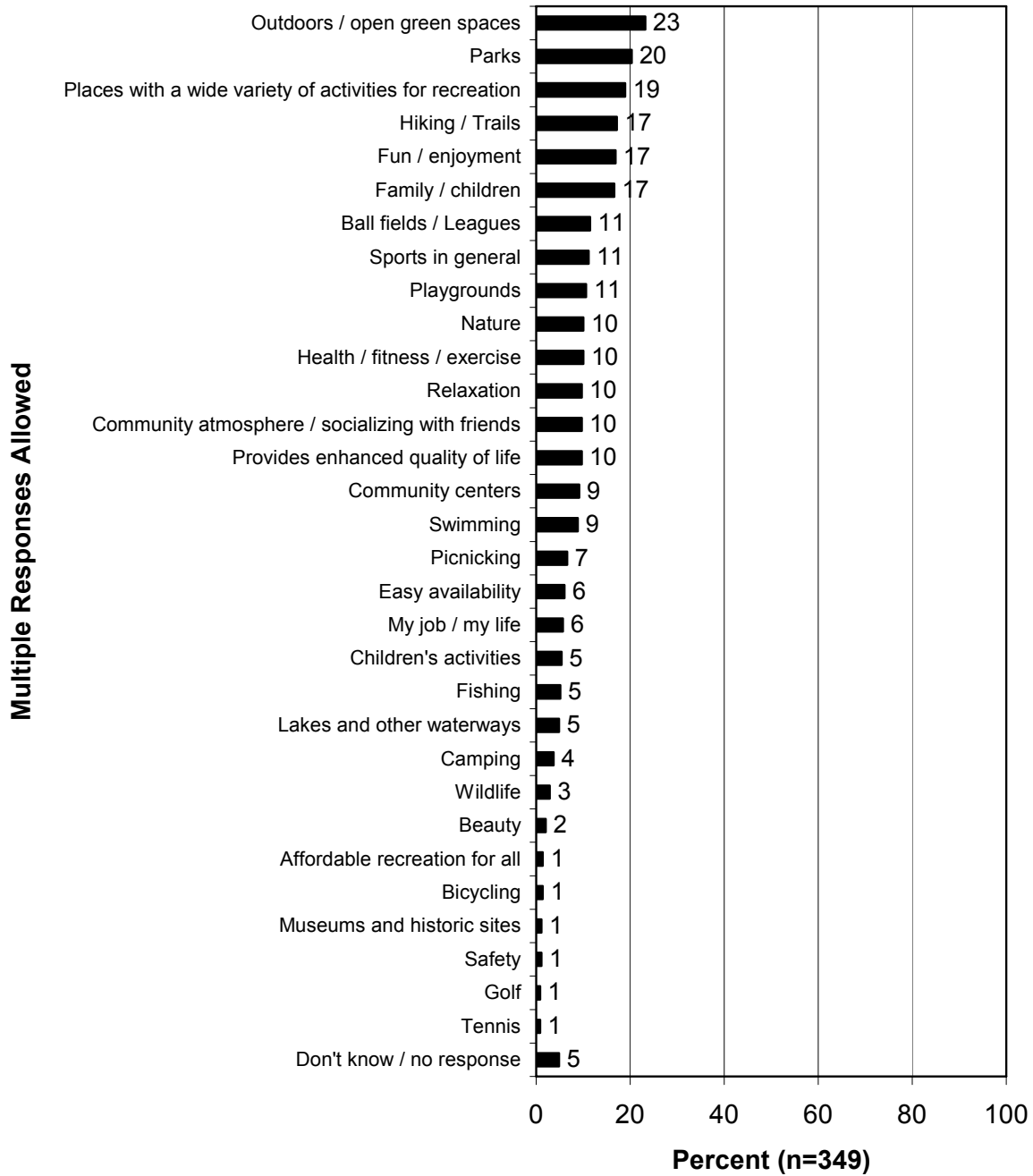
**Q44. Overall, how important are recreational activities or things you do in your non-work time to your overall quality of life?
(Missouri residents)**



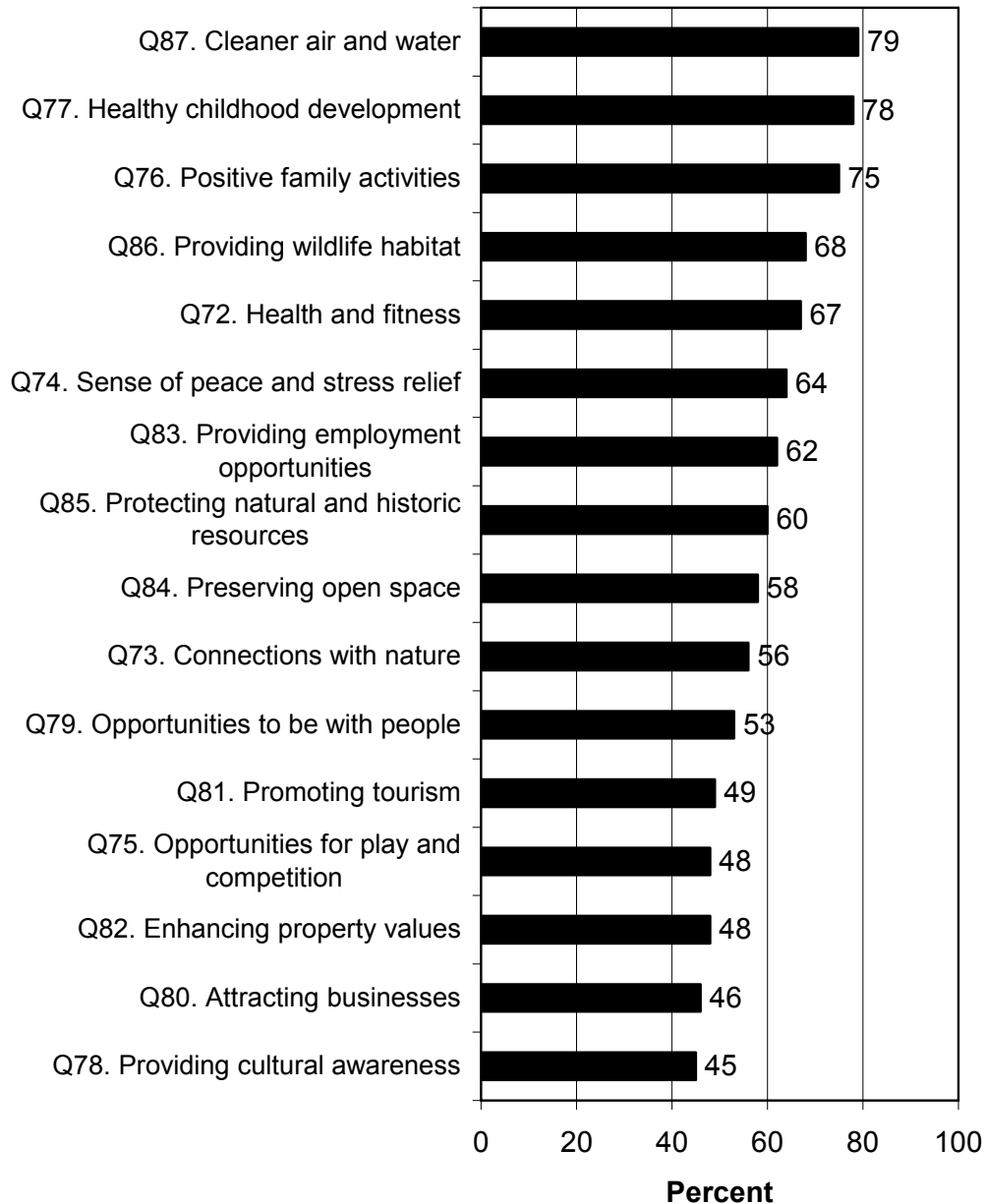
**Q47. What do you think of when you think of parks and recreation?
(Missouri residents)**



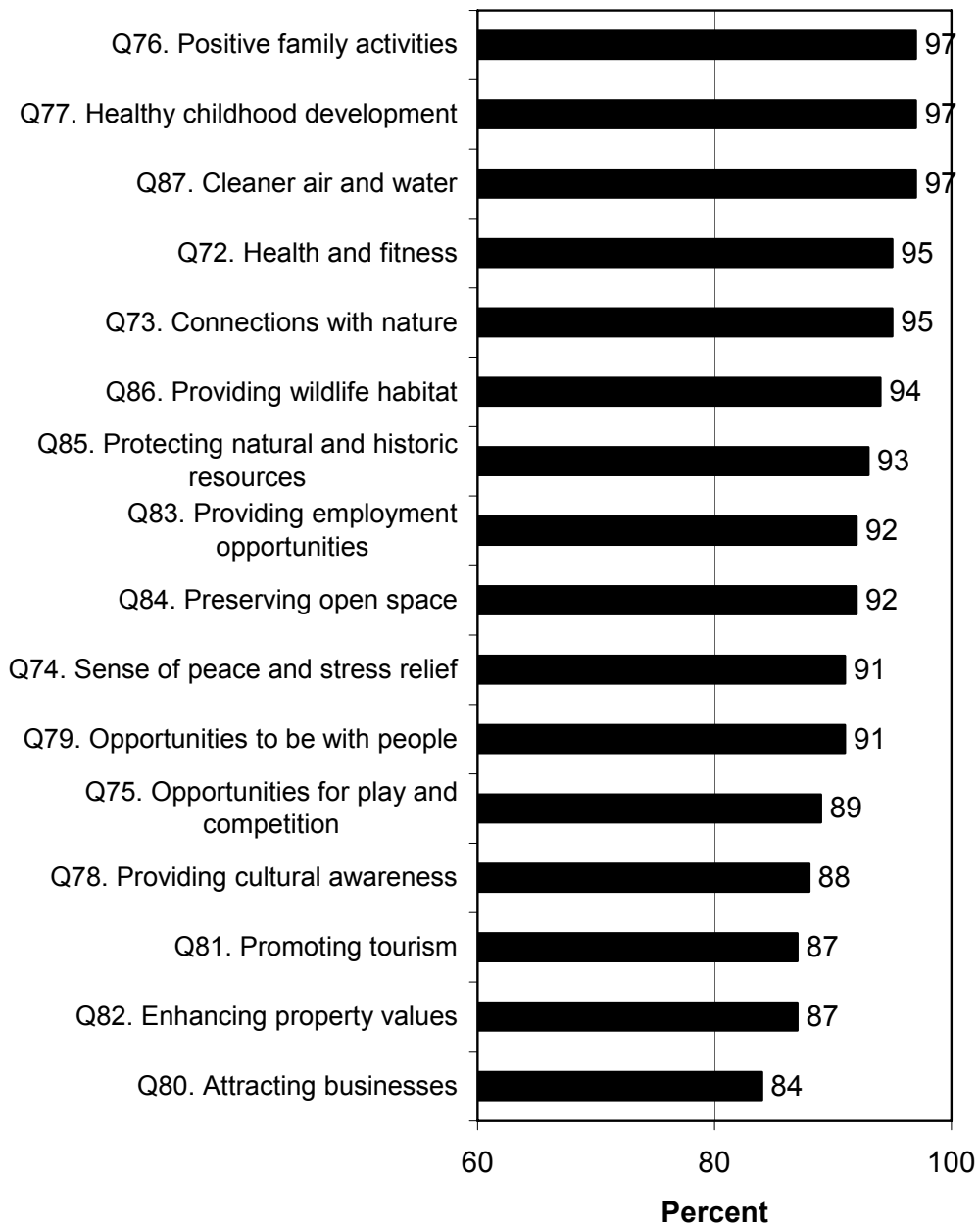
Q7. What do you think of when you think of Parks and Recreation? (Professionals)



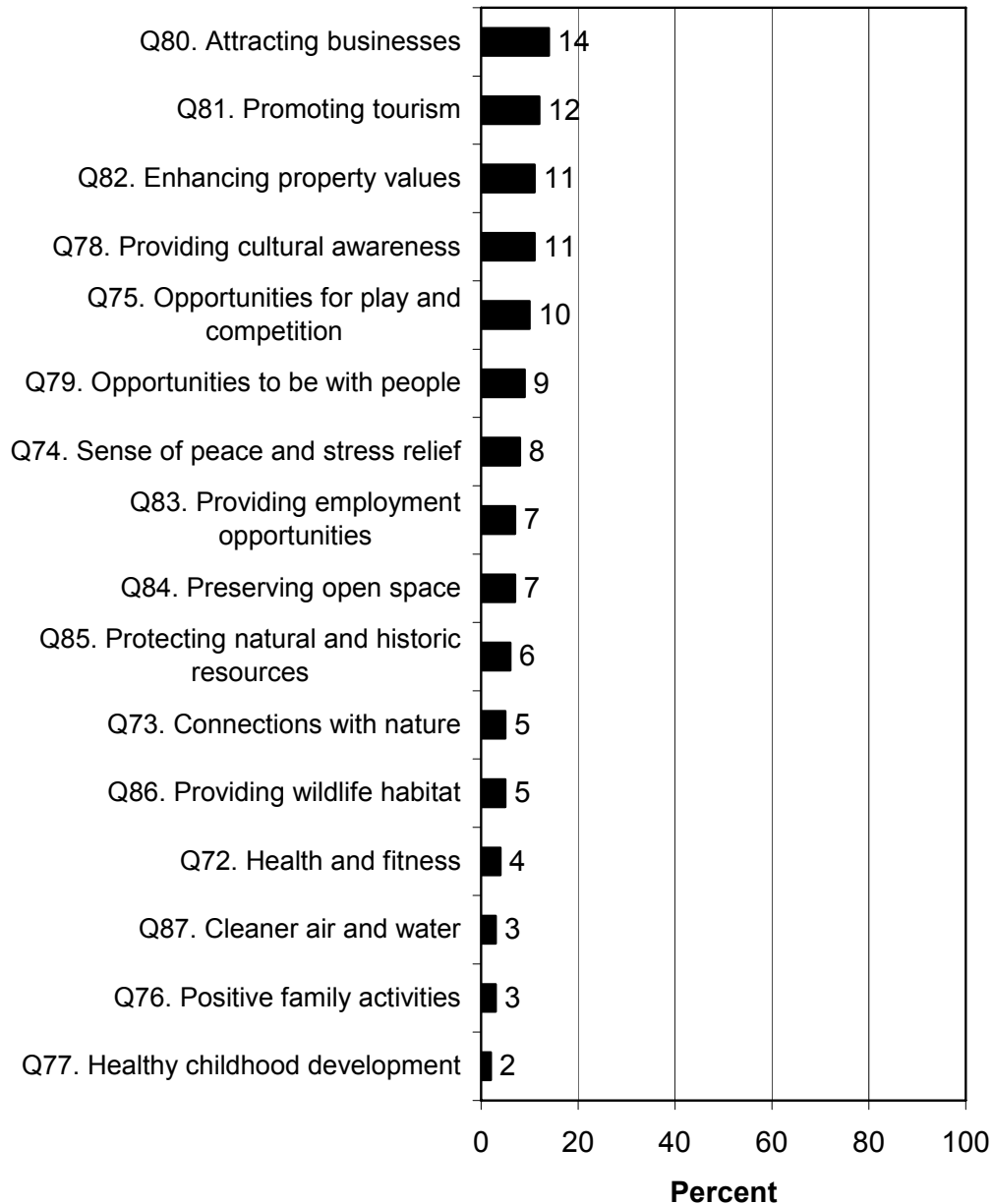
**Percent who indicated that each of the following is
a very important benefit of parks and recreation
activities.
(Missouri residents)**



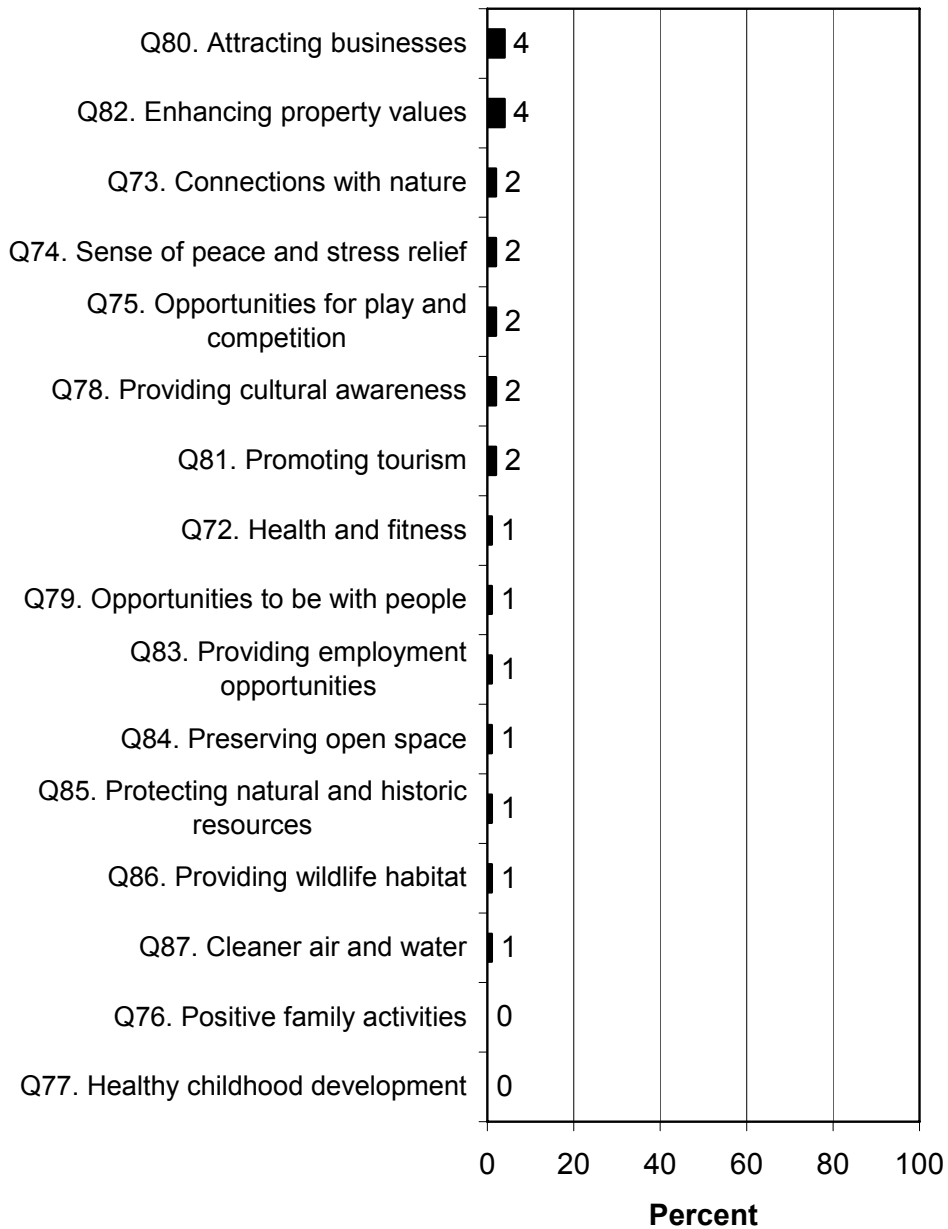
**Percent who indicated that each of the following is a very important or somewhat important benefit of parks and recreation activities.
(Missouri residents)**



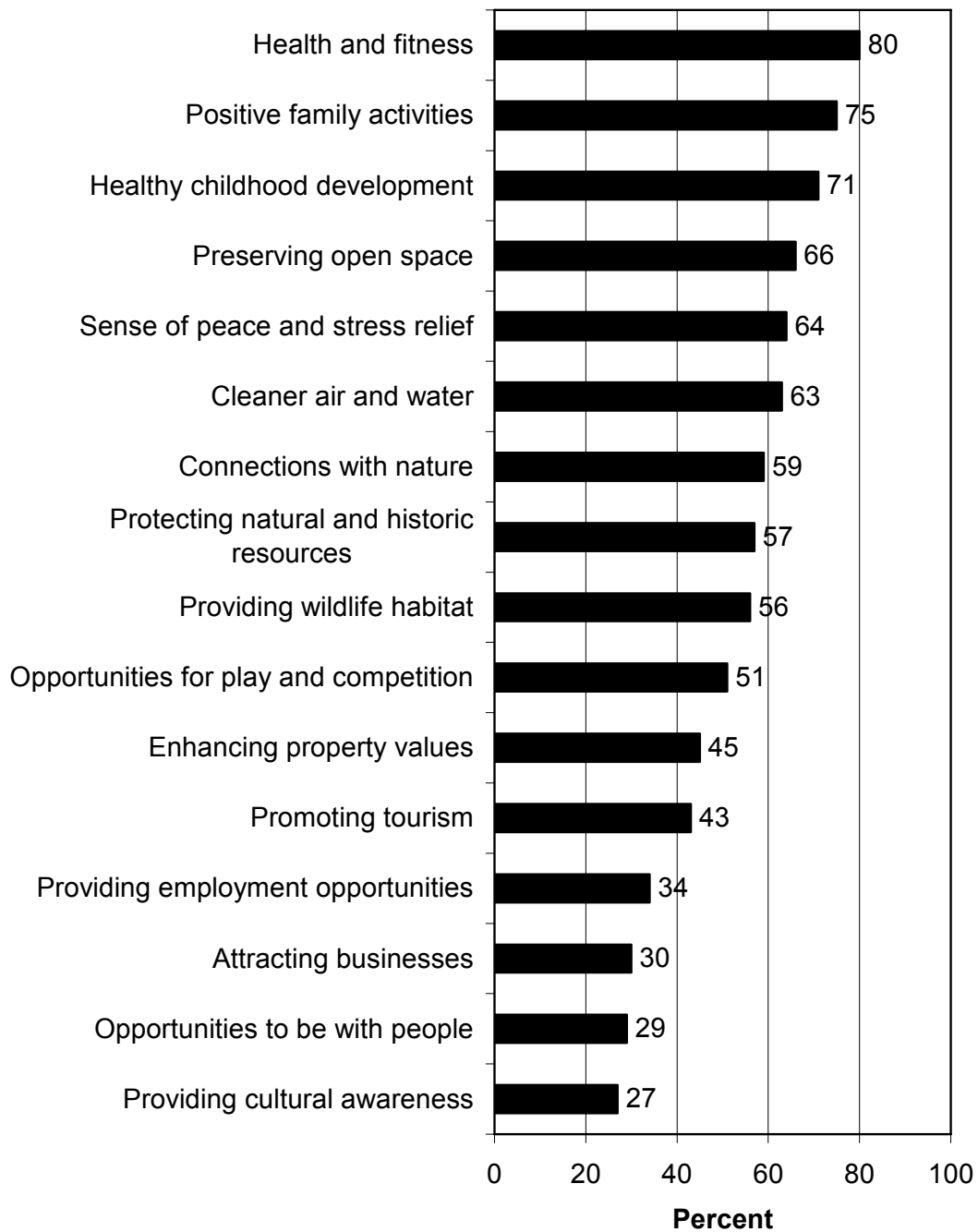
**Percent who indicated that each of the following is not very important or not at all an important benefit of parks and recreation activities.
(Missouri residents)**



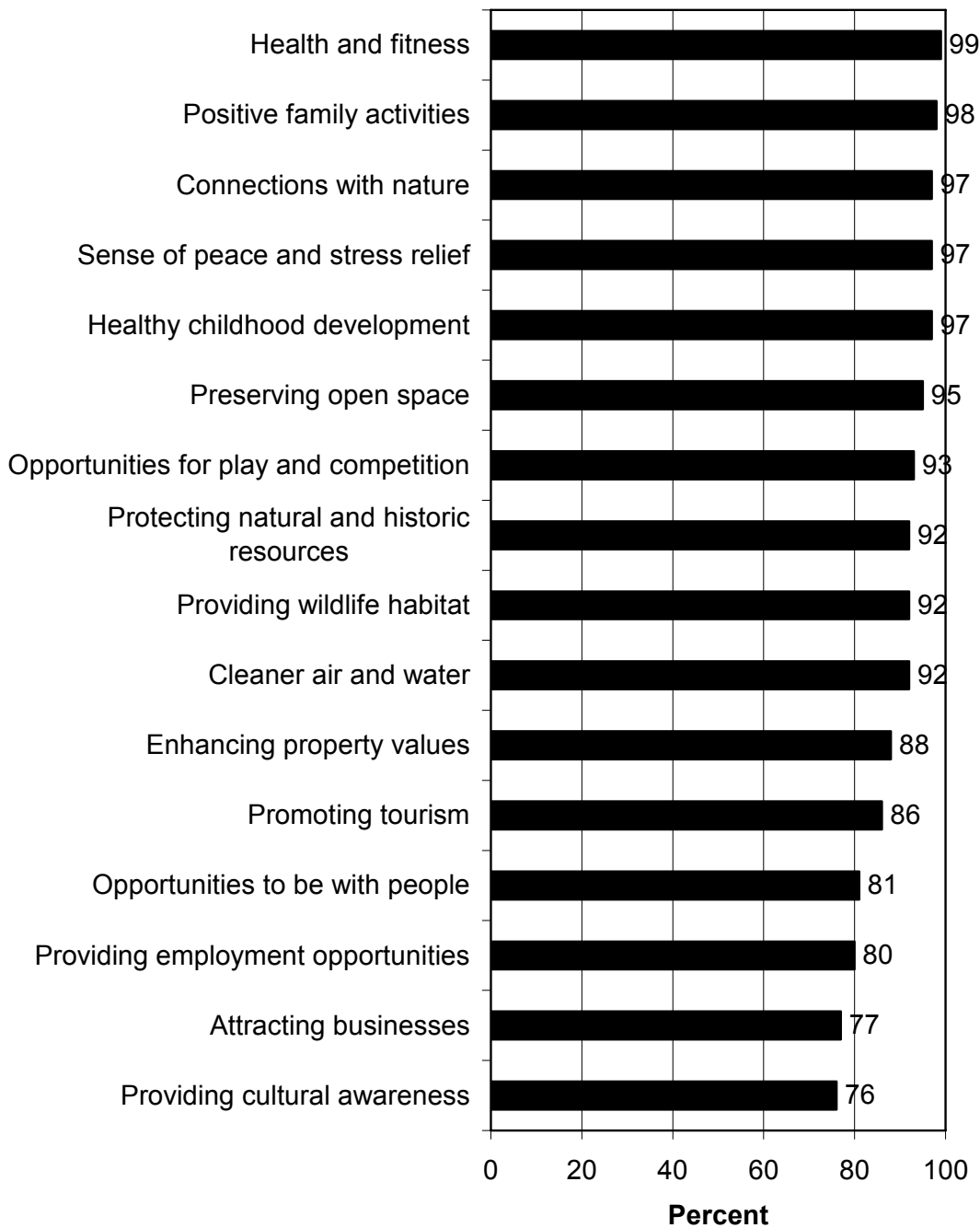
**Percent who indicated that each of the following is not at all an important benefit of parks and recreation activities.
(Missouri residents)**



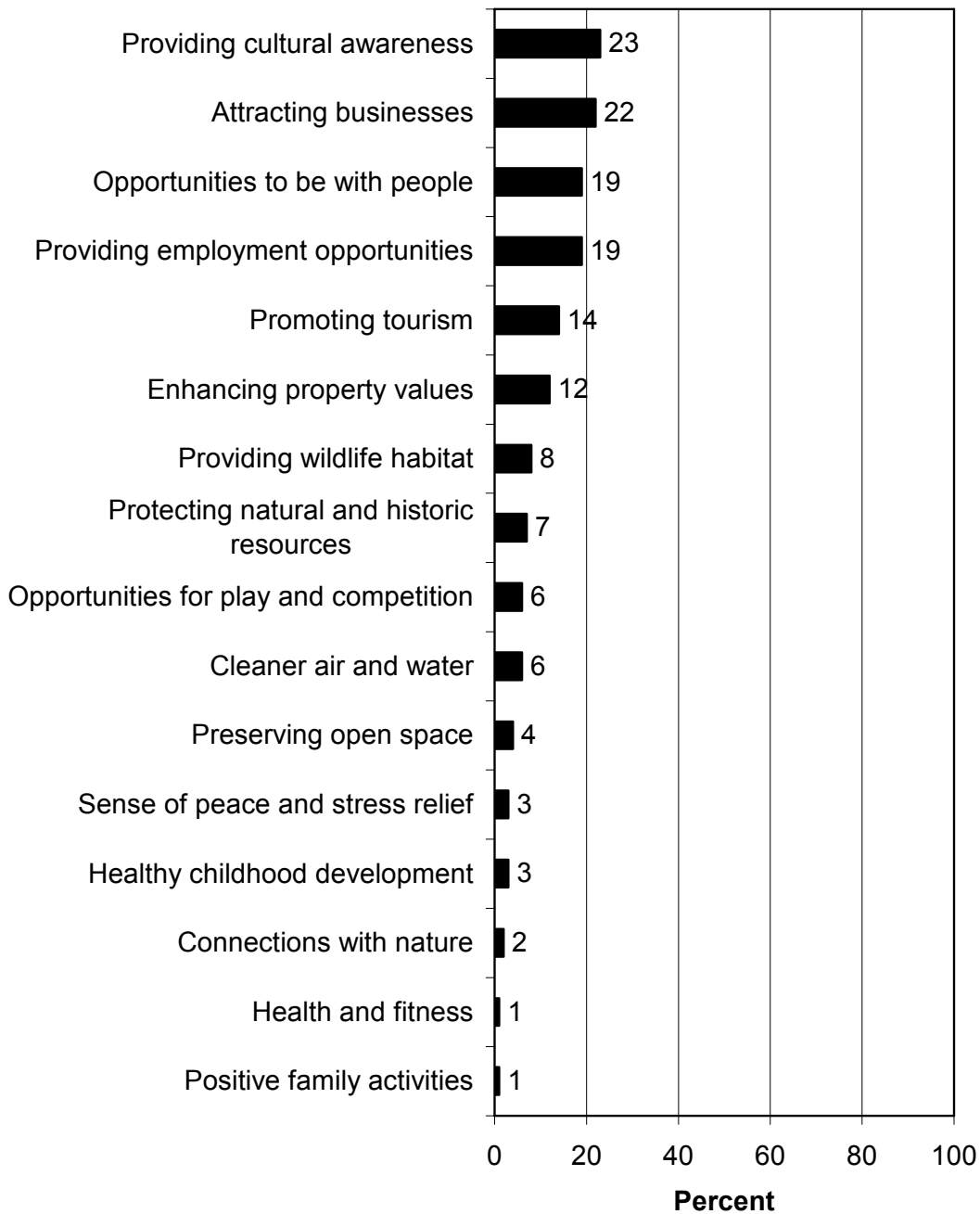
Percent who indicated that each of the following is a very important benefit of parks and recreation activities. (Professionals)



Percent who indicated that each of the following is a very important or somewhat important benefit of parks and recreation activities. (Professionals)



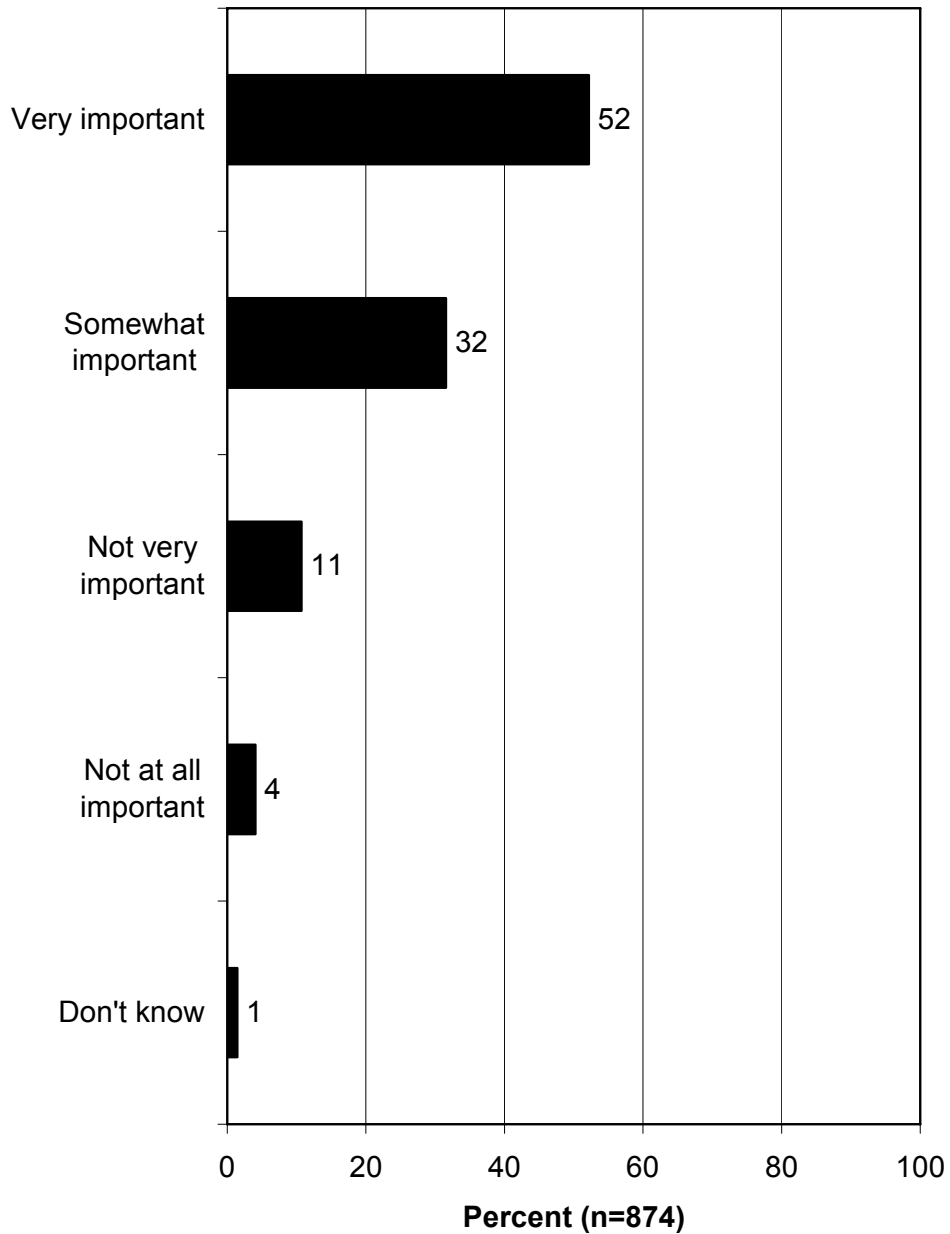
Percent who indicated that each of the following is not very important or not at all an important benefit of parks and recreation activities. (Professionals)



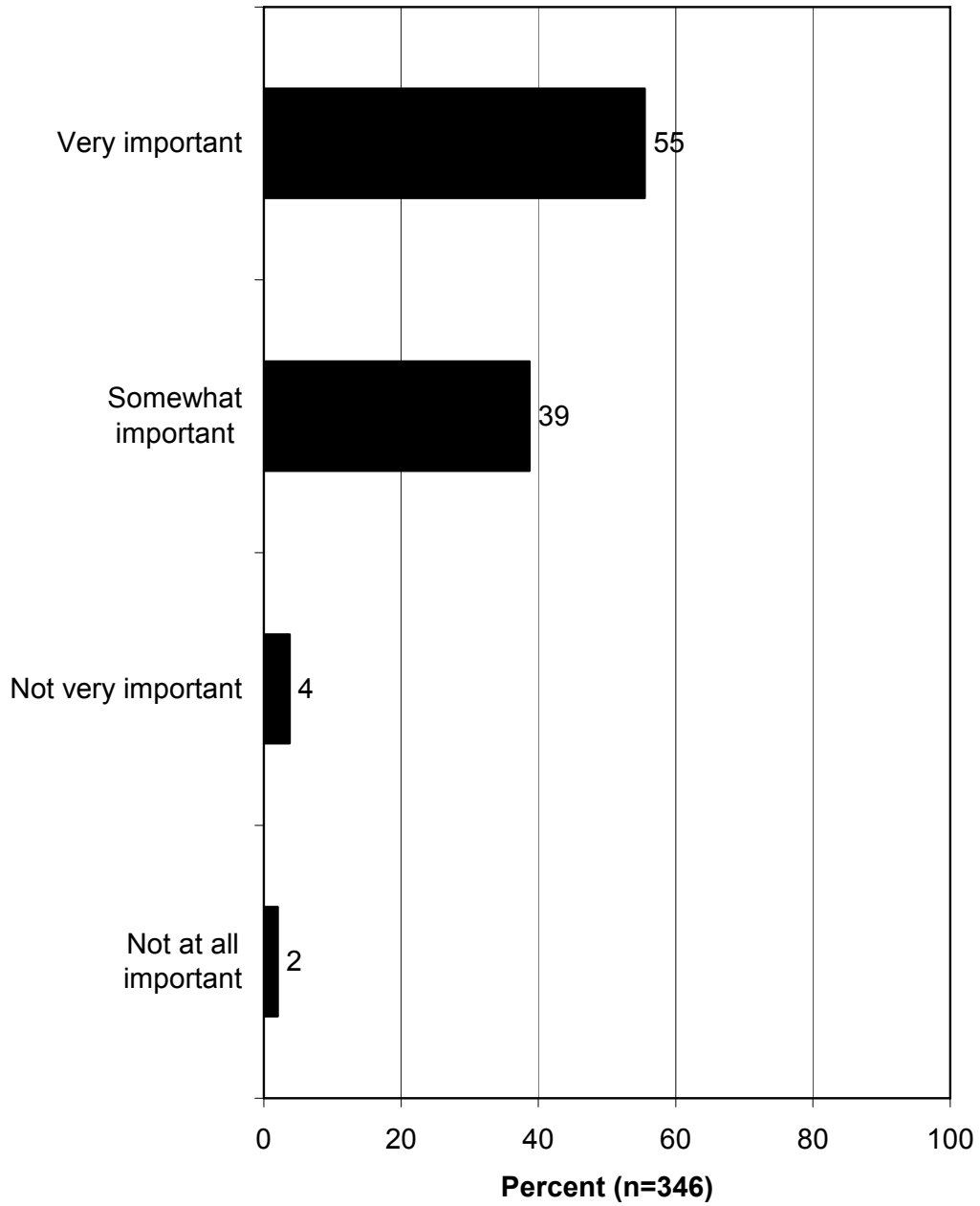
Percent who indicated that each of the following is not at all an important benefit of parks and recreation activities. (Professionals)



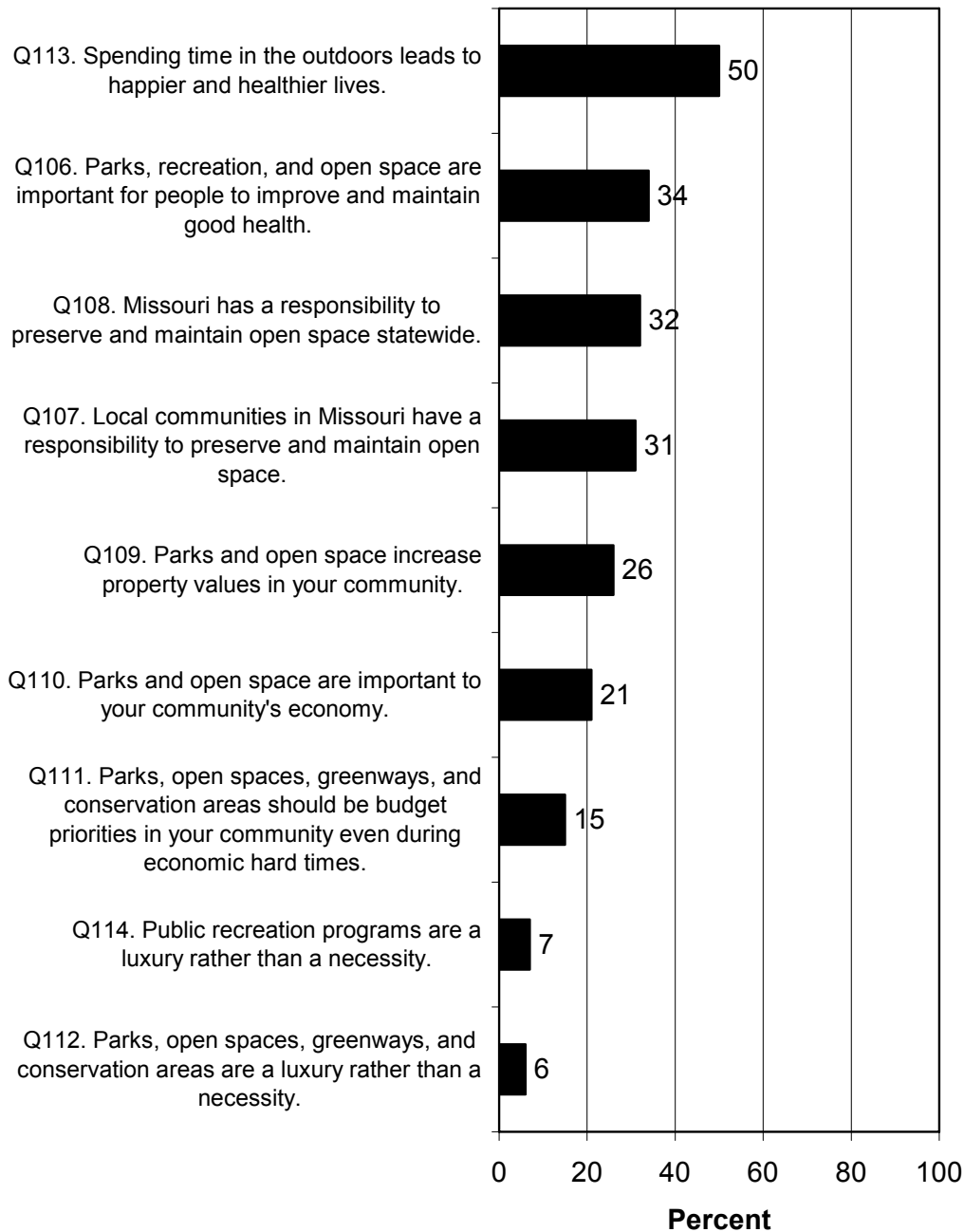
**Q88. If you were choosing a new residence, how important would it be to have parks and open space nearby?
(Missouri residents)**



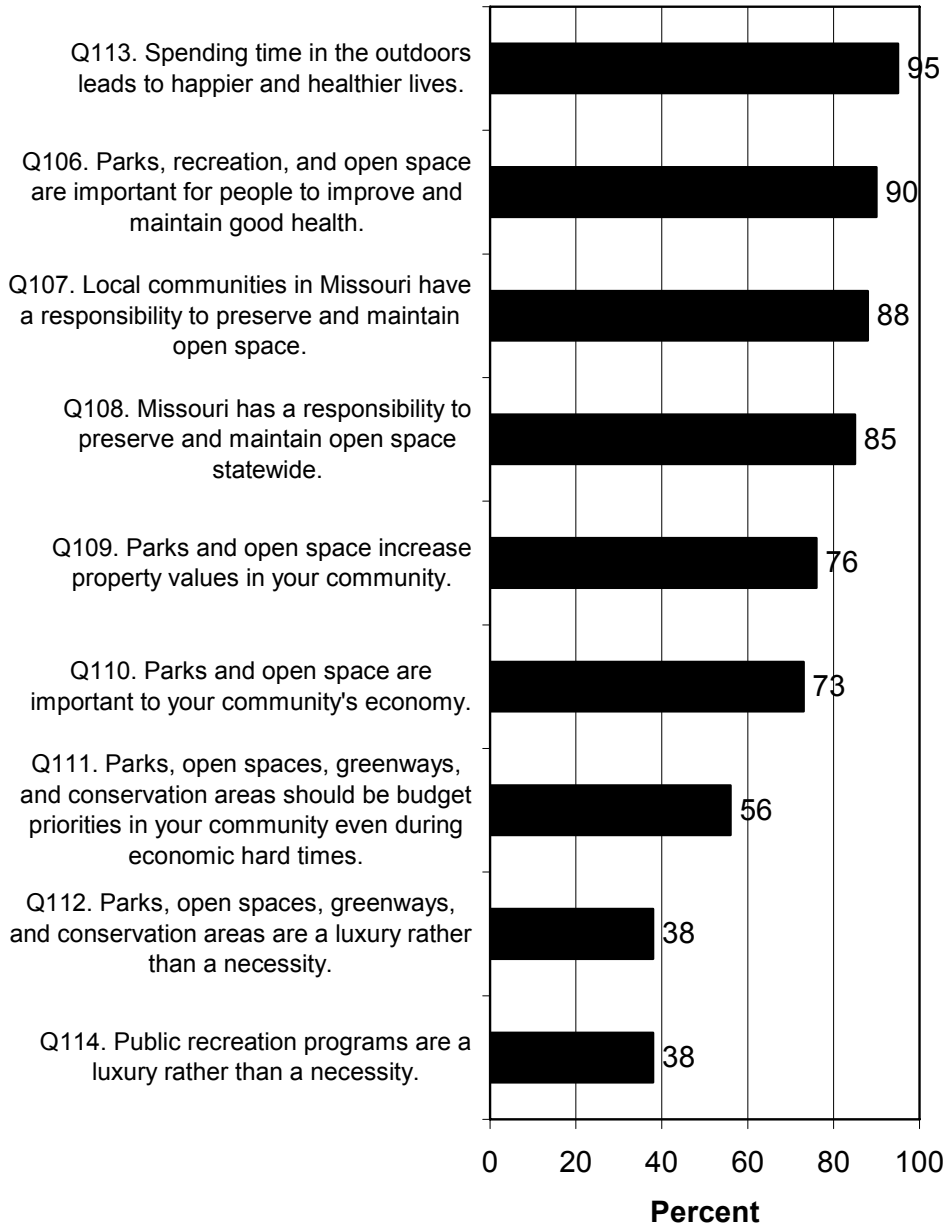
Q19. If you were choosing a new residence, how important would it be to have parks and open space nearby? (Professionals)



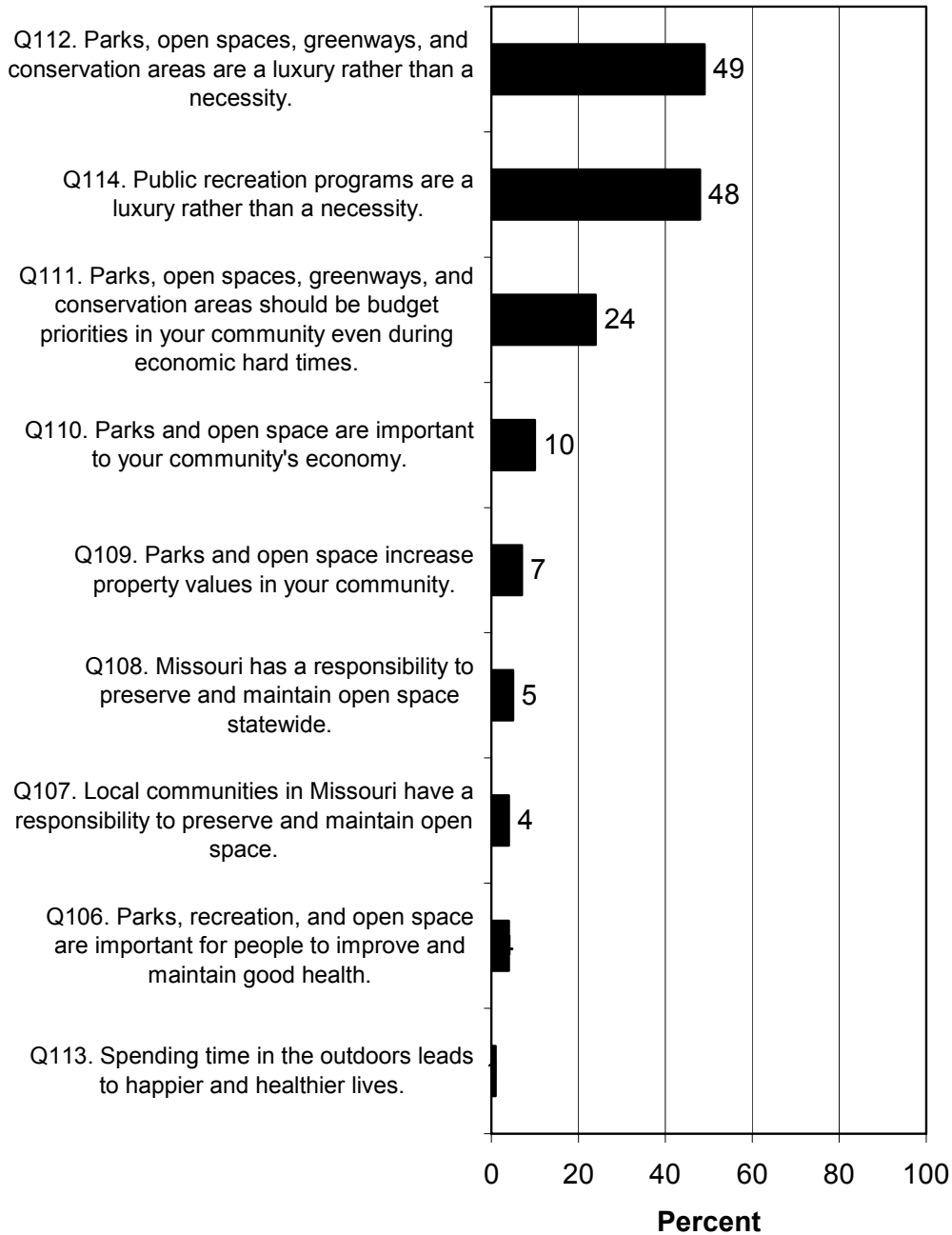
**Percent who said they strongly agree with each of
the following statements.
(Missouri residents)**



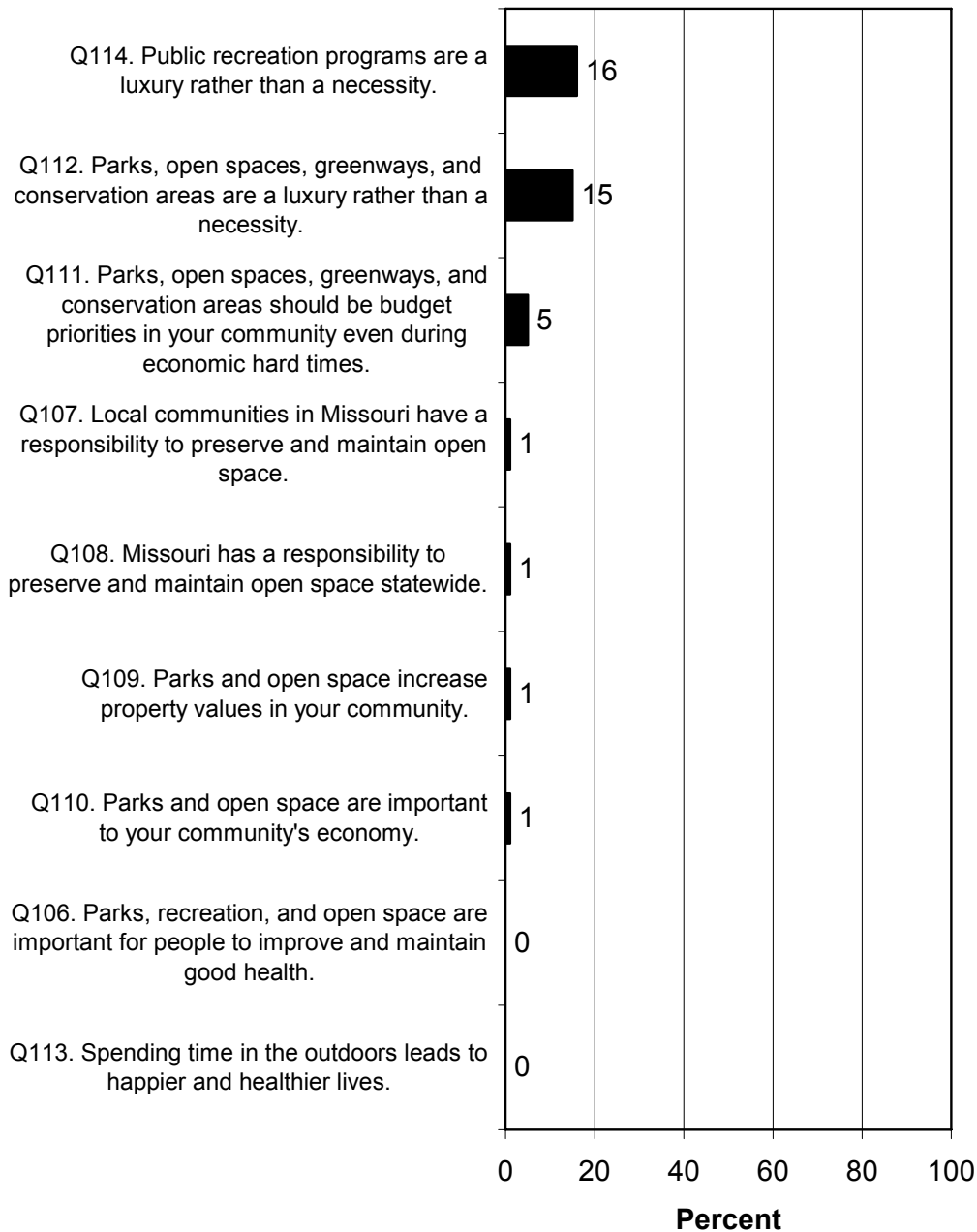
Percent who said they strongly agree or agree with each of the following statements. (Missouri residents)



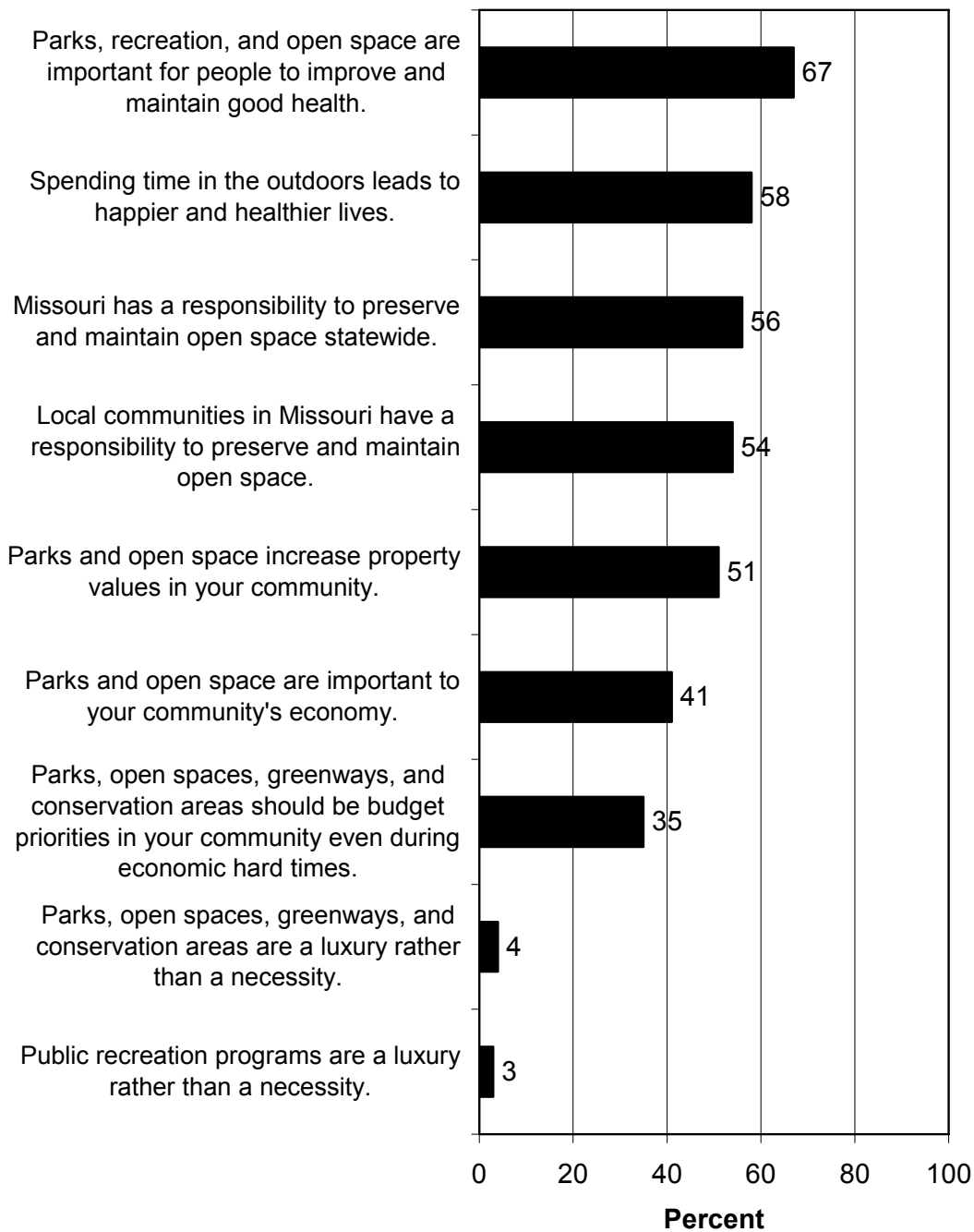
**Percent who said they disagree or strongly disagree with each of the following statements.
(Missouri residents)**



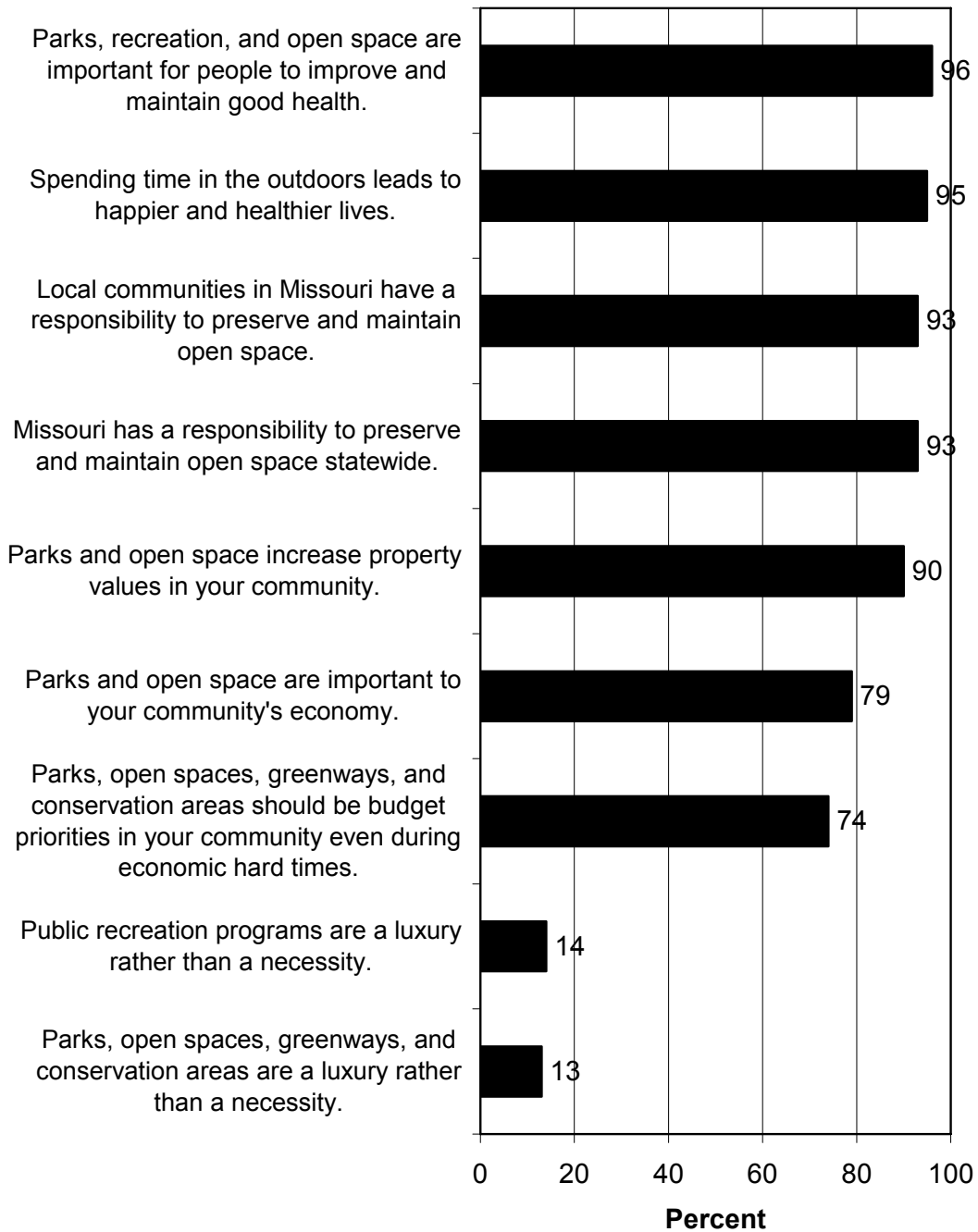
**Percent who said they strongly disagree with each of the following statements.
(Missouri residents)**



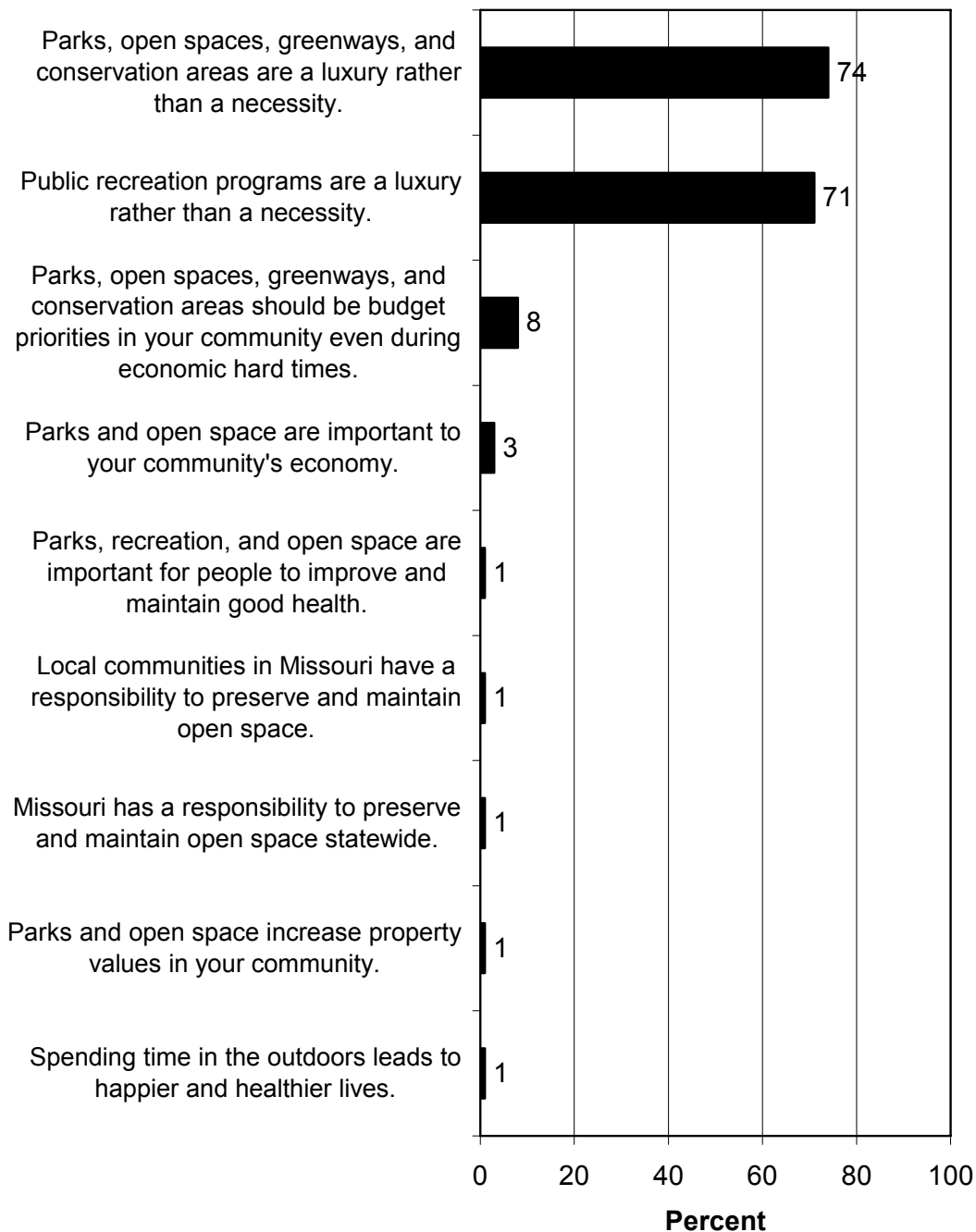
Percent who strongly agree with the following statements. (Professionals)



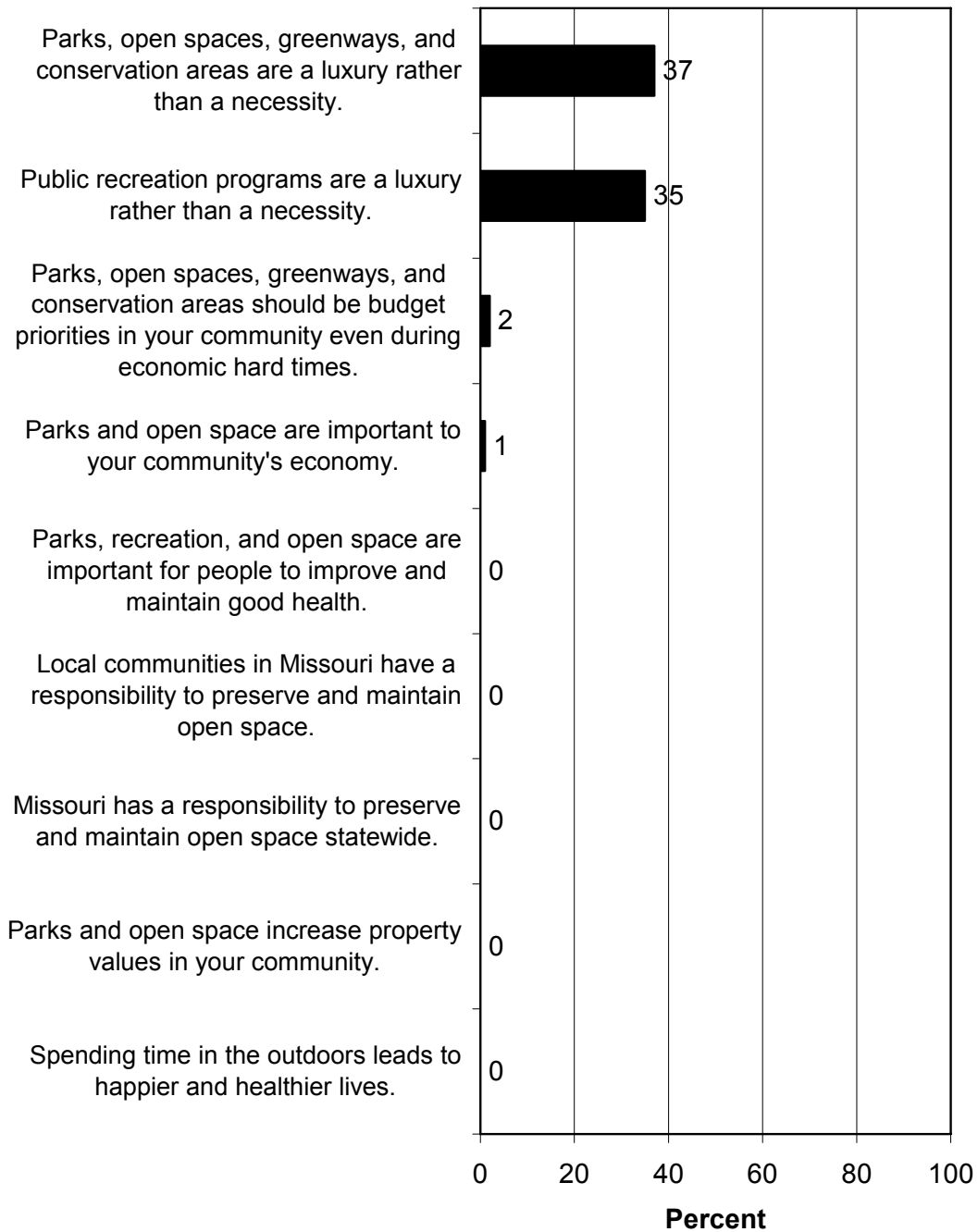
Percent who strongly agree or agree with the following statements. (Professionals)



Percent who disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements. (Professionals)



Percent who strongly disagree with the following statements. (Professionals)



RATINGS OF PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES

- Residents rated the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri as a whole and in their community. They then rated the availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri and in their community. On all four questions, ratings are more positive than negative, as *excellent* and *good* ratings exceed *fair* and *poor* ratings. In general, ratings are better for “in Missouri” than for “in your community.”
 - For overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri, 82% of residents give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 12% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For overall quality of parks and recreation services in their community, 72% of residents give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 22% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri, 80% of residents give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 14% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For availability of parks and recreation services in their community, 75% of residents give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 21% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.

- As was done in the survey of residents, professionals were asked to rate the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri as a whole and in their community. On all four questions, professionals’ ratings are more positive than negative, as *excellent* and *good* ratings exceed *fair* and *poor* ratings. While the sum of *excellent* and *good* ratings are higher for the “in Missouri” questions than for the “in your community” questions, ratings of *excellent* are higher for the “in your community” questions.
 - For overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri, 92% of professionals give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 7% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For overall quality of parks and recreation services in their community, 84% of professionals give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 15% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri, 86% of professionals give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 12% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.
 - For availability of parks and recreation services in their community, 80% of professionals give a rating of *excellent* or *good*, and 20% give a rating of *fair* or *poor*.

- The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey examined the ratings questions. Because the analysis found similar results in examining ratings at the state level and at the community level, the discussion here is limited to the residents' ratings of overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services *in Missouri*.
 - The correlations to giving a rating of excellent or good to the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri (among residents) are as follows:
 - Saying that conservation of natural resources is very important as a governmental expense ($p \leq 0.05$); note that this is the only correlation in the “government expense” series of questions.
 - Saying that public safety, such as police and fire departments, is very important to him/her personally for his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.01$); note that this is the only correlation in the “personally for his/her quality of life” series of questions.
 - Saying that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.01$).
 - Rating the overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.001$); rating the availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri ($p \leq 0.001$) and in his/her community ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good; rating the overall safety of the parks in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - Rating the quality of services provided by the Missouri Division of State Parks ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her city park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her county park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Forest Service ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good.
 - Enjoying mostly outdoor recreation ($p \leq 0.05$); having visited a state park ($p \leq 0.001$), a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Being white ($p \leq 0.001$), having a household income of \$100,000 or more ($p \leq 0.05$), having an education level of bachelor's degree or higher ($p \leq 0.05$).

- The correlations to *not* giving a rating of excellent or good to the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri (among residents) are as follows:
 - *Not* indicating that conservation of natural resources is very important as a government expense ($p \leq 0.05$); note that this is the only correlation in the “government expense” series of questions.
 - *Not* indicating that public safety, such as police and fire departments, is very important to him/her personally for his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.01$); note that this is the only correlation in the “personally for his/her quality of life” series of questions.
 - *Not* indicating that recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time are very important to his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.01$).
 - *Not* rating the overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.001$); *not* rating the availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri ($p \leq 0.001$) and in his/her community ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good; *not* rating the overall safety of the parks in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - *Not* rating the quality of services provided by the Missouri Division of State Parks ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her city park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her county park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Forest Service ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good.
 - Enjoying mostly indoor recreation ($p \leq 0.05$); *not* having visited a state park ($p \leq 0.001$), a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or a local public recreation facility in Missouri ($p \leq 0.05$) frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Being non-white ($p \leq 0.001$), having an education level of no higher than high school ($p \leq 0.01$).
- The correlations to giving a rating of excellent or good to the availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri (among residents) are as follows:
 - (There were no correlations to opinions on government efforts.)

- (There were no correlations to importance of recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time to his/her quality of life.)
- Rating the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri ($p \leq 0.001$) and in his/her community ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good; rating the availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.001$); rating the overall safety of the parks in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.001$).
- Rating the quality of services provided by the Missouri Division of State Parks ($p \leq 0.001$), the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her city park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her county park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Forest Service ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good.
- Enjoying mostly outdoor recreation ($p \leq 0.01$); having visited a state park ($p \leq 0.001$), a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.05$), and/or a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
- Being white ($p \leq 0.001$), having a household income of \$60,000 or more ($p \leq 0.05$), having an education level of bachelor's degree or higher ($p \leq 0.05$).
- The correlations to *not* giving a rating of excellent or good to the availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri (among residents) are as follows:
 - (There were no correlations to opinions on government efforts.)
 - (There were no correlations to importance of recreational activities/things he/she does in non-work time to his/her quality of life.)
 - *Not* rating the overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri ($p \leq 0.001$) and in his/her community ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good; *not* rating the availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.001$); *not* rating the overall safety of the parks in his/her community as excellent or good ($p \leq 0.001$).
 - *Not* rating the quality of services provided by the Missouri Division of State Parks ($p \leq 0.001$), the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her city park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her county park and recreation agency

- ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Forest Service ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good.
- *Not* having visited a state park ($p \leq 0.001$), a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.05$), and/or a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.05$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Being non-white ($p \leq 0.001$), having an education level of no higher than high school ($p \leq 0.05$).
- Residents also rated the overall safety of the parks in their community, with results similar to those above: 72% rate overall safety *excellent* or *good*, while 19% rate it *fair* or *poor* (with only 5% rating it *poor*).
- Professionals also give positive ratings to safety of parks in their community: 84% rate it excellent or good, while 12% rate it fair or poor.
 - The correlations to giving a rating of excellent or good to the overall safety of parks and recreation services in his/her community (among residents) are as follows:
 - *Not* saying that communities connected by sidewalks and trails is very important as a governmental expense ($p \leq 0.01$); however, saying that schools/education is very important as a governmental expense ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - *Not* saying that city and town beautification is very important to him/her personally for his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.05$); note that this is the only correlation in the “personally for his/her quality of life” series of questions.
 - Saying it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - Rating the overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community ($p \leq 0.001$) and in Missouri ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good; rating the availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community ($p \leq 0.001$) and in Missouri ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good.
 - Rating the quality of services provided by his/her city park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her county park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri Division of State Parks ($p \leq 0.001$), the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri Department of Conservation

- ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Forest Service ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good.
- Having visited a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a state park ($p \leq 0.001$), a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.01$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.
 - Having a household income of \$60,000 or more ($p \leq 0.01$), being white ($p \leq 0.01$), having an education level of bachelor's degree or higher ($p \leq 0.05$), having children living in household ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - The correlations to *not* giving a rating of excellent or good to the overall safety of parks and recreation services in his/her community (among residents) are as follows:
 - Saying that communities connected by sidewalks and trails is very important as a governmental expense ($p \leq 0.01$); however, *not* saying that schools/education is very important as a governmental expense ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - Saying that city and town beautification is very important to him/her personally for his/her quality of life ($p \leq 0.05$); note that this is the only correlation in the “personally for his/her quality of life” series of questions.
 - *Not* saying it is very important that the government spend tax dollars on the provision of parks and recreation services for children ($p \leq 0.05$).
 - *Not* rating the overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community ($p \leq 0.001$) and in Missouri ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good; rating the availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community ($p \leq 0.001$) and in Missouri ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good.
 - *Not* rating the quality of services provided by his/her city park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), his/her county park and recreation agency ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri Division of State Parks ($p \leq 0.001$), the National Park Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ($p \leq 0.001$), the Missouri Department of Conservation ($p \leq 0.001$), the U.S. Forest Service ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ($p \leq 0.001$) as excellent or good.
 - *Not* having visited a local park ($p \leq 0.001$), a state park ($p \leq 0.001$), a national park or monument ($p \leq 0.001$), and/or a local public recreation facility ($p \leq 0.01$) in Missouri frequently or sometimes in the past 2 years.

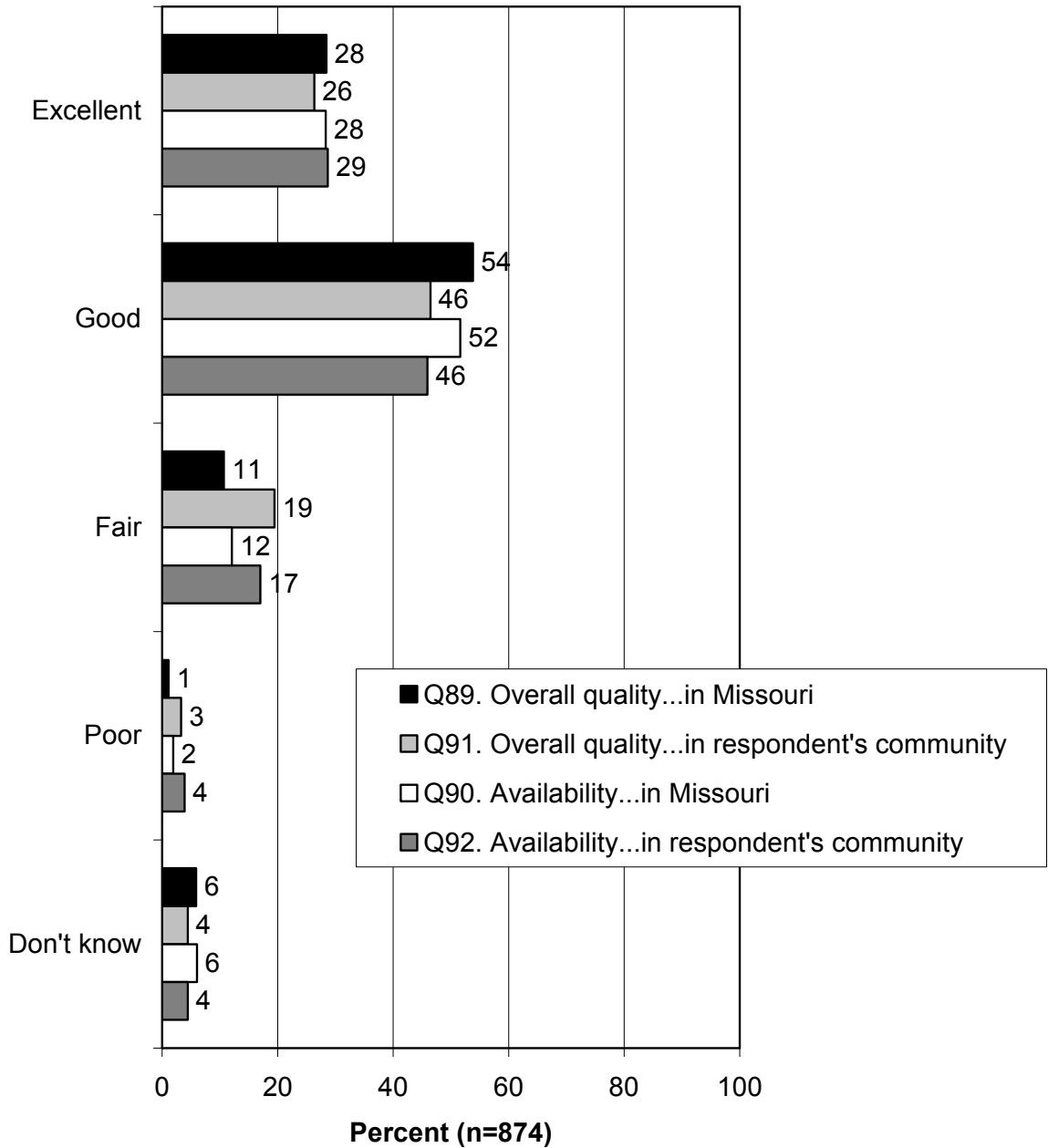
- Having an education level of no higher than high school ($p \leq 0.01$), being non-white ($p \leq 0.01$), *not* having children living in household ($p \leq 0.05$).
- The survey examined residents' opinions on the quality of services of various providers of parks, recreation, and conservation services in Missouri. The survey randomized the beginning point in the listing of providers to minimize "order" bias. These are shown in the text box below. For all agencies, a majority give a rating of *excellent* or *good* (from 55% to 73%), and quite low percentages give a rating of *poor* (no more than 3% for any agency).
- In looking at the *excellent* and *good* responses combined, the top-rated agencies are the Missouri Department of Conservation (73% rate its services as *excellent* or *good*), the Missouri Division of State Parks (69%), the National Park Service (67%), the respondent's city park and recreation agency (66%), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (64%).
 - Note that the percentage giving a "don't know" response is relatively high for all of the agencies (ranging from 15% to 35%).
 - Three agencies have more than 10% of respondents giving a *fair* or *poor* rating: the respondent's county park and recreation agency (18%), the respondent's city park and recreation agency (18%), and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (13%).

Agencies That Provide Parks and Recreation Services About Which the Survey Asked

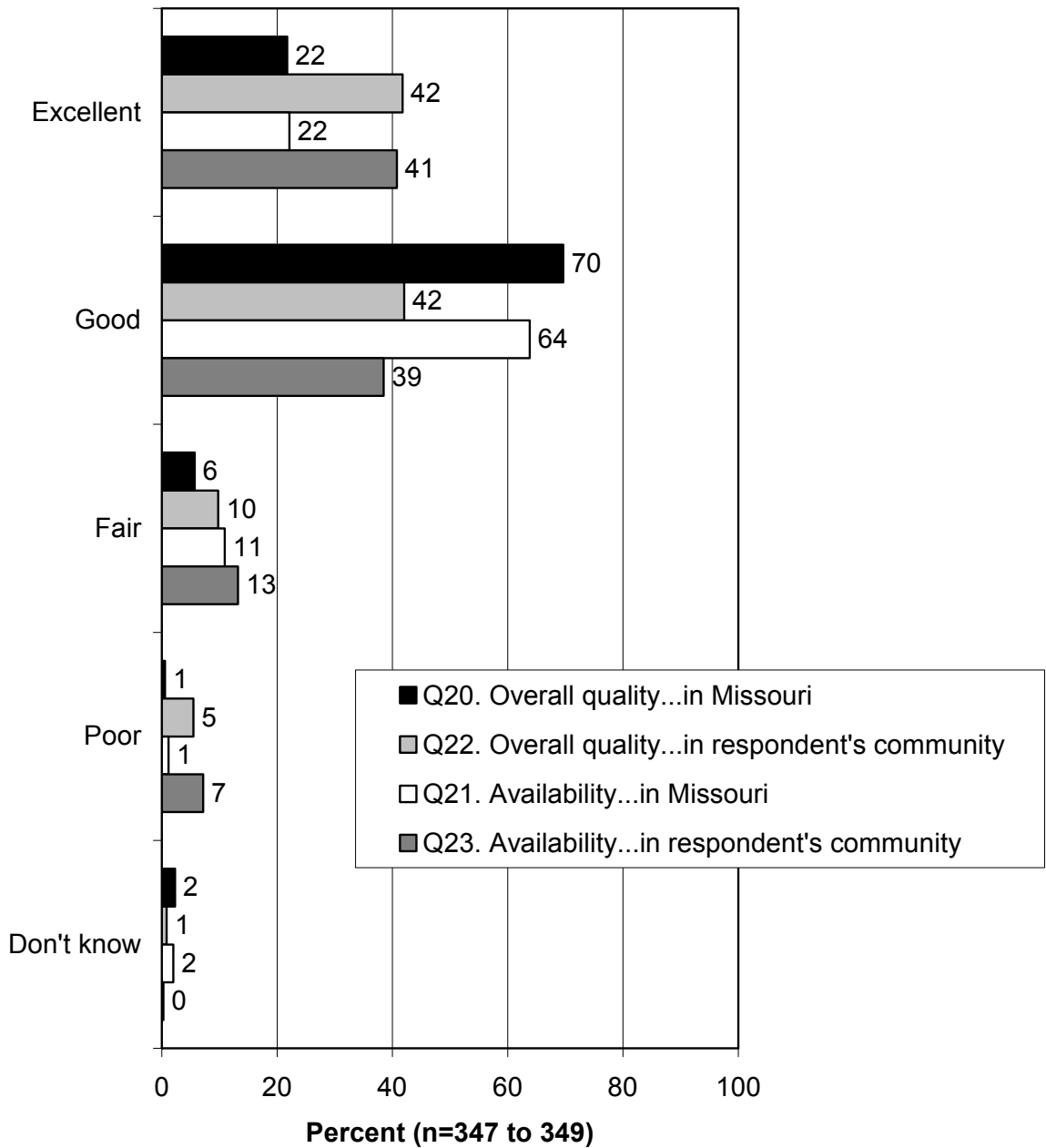
96. The Missouri Division of State Parks
97. The National Park Service
98. The U.S. Forest Service
99. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
100. The Missouri Department of Conservation
101. The respondent's city park and recreation agency
102. The respondent's county park and recreation agency
103. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- Professionals rated the quality of services of those same providers of parks, recreation, and conservation services in Missouri.
- In looking at the *excellent* and *good* responses combined, the top-rated agencies are the respondent's city park and recreation agency (83% rate its services as *excellent* or *good*), the Missouri Division of State Parks (81%), the Missouri Department of Conservation (81%), the National Park Service (68%), and the respondent's county park and recreation agency (57%)—each with a majority of respondents giving it positive ratings.

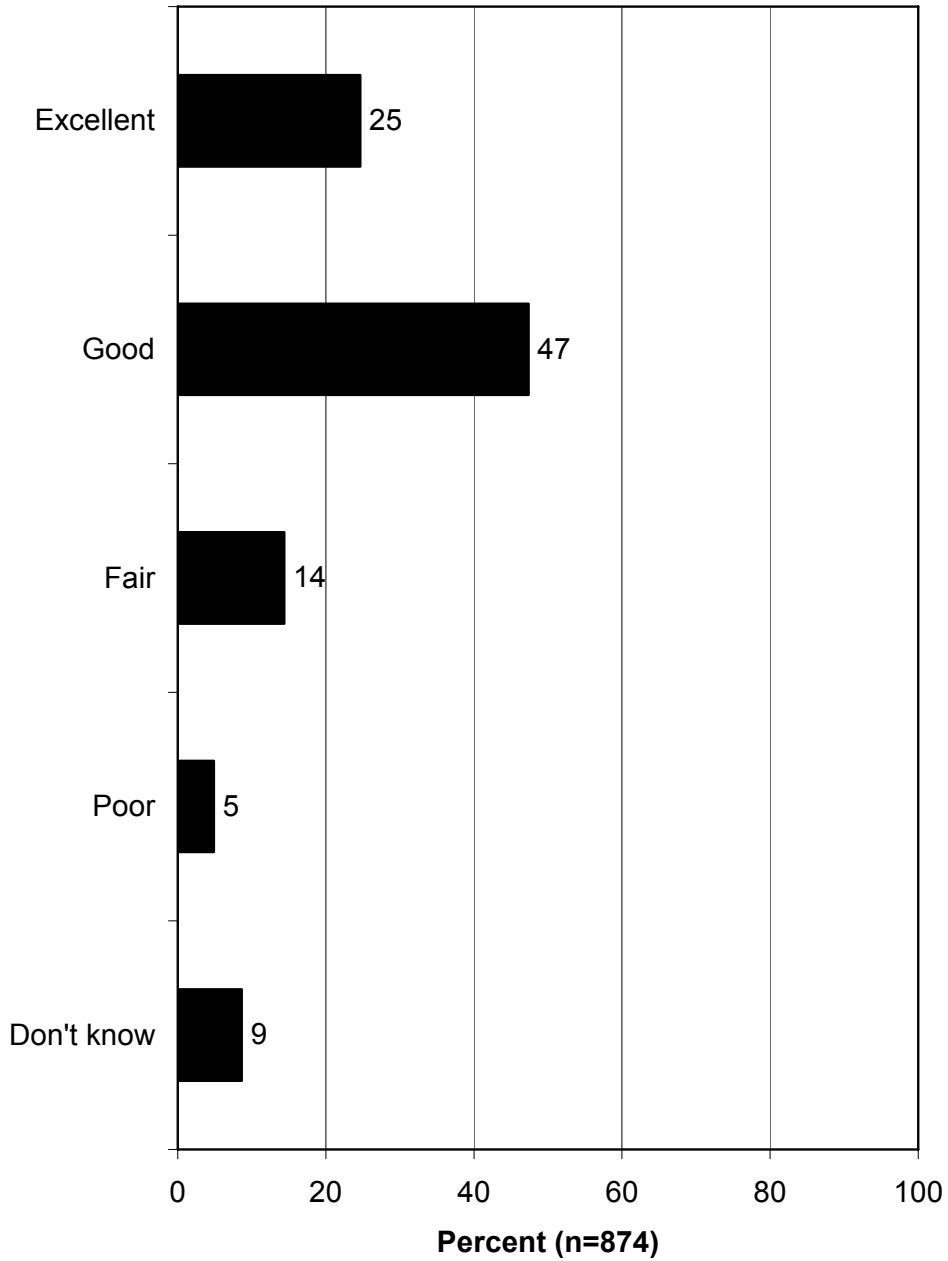
Q89/90/91/92. How would you rate the (overall quality / the availability) of parks and recreation services (in Missouri / in your community)? (Missouri residents)



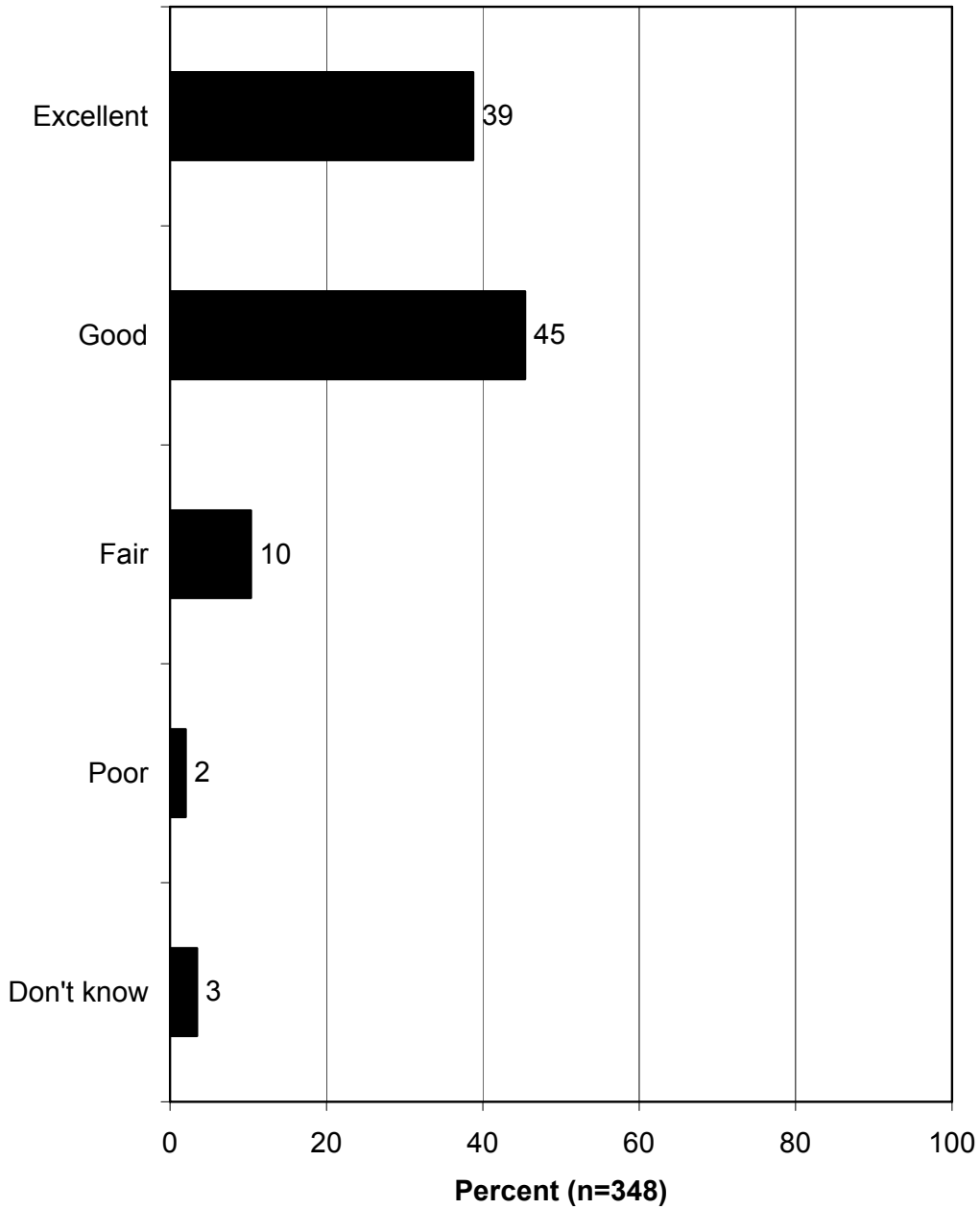
Q20/21/22/23. How would you rate the (overall quality / the availability) of parks and recreation services (in Missouri / in your community)? (Professionals)



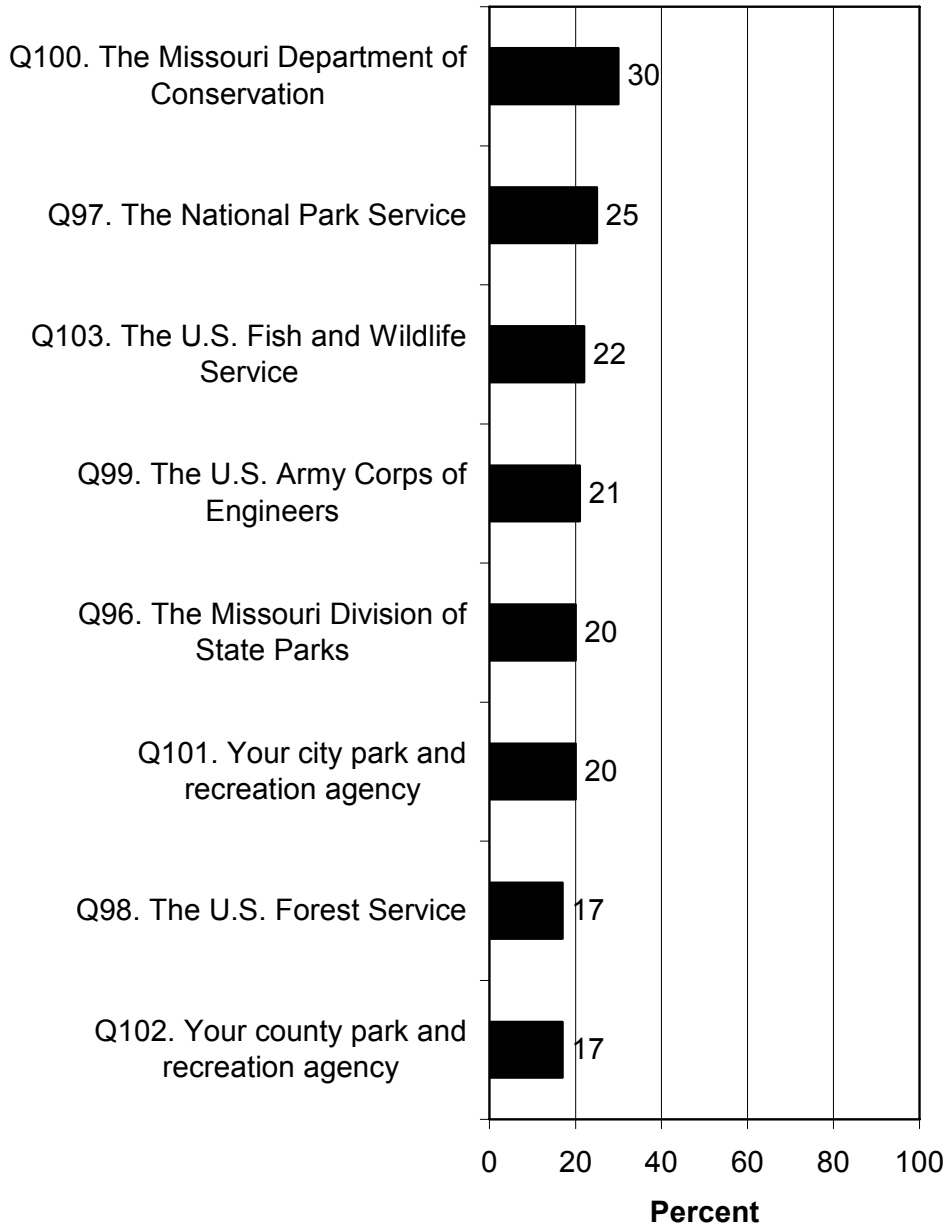
**Q93. How would you rate the overall safety of the parks in your community?
(Missouri residents)**



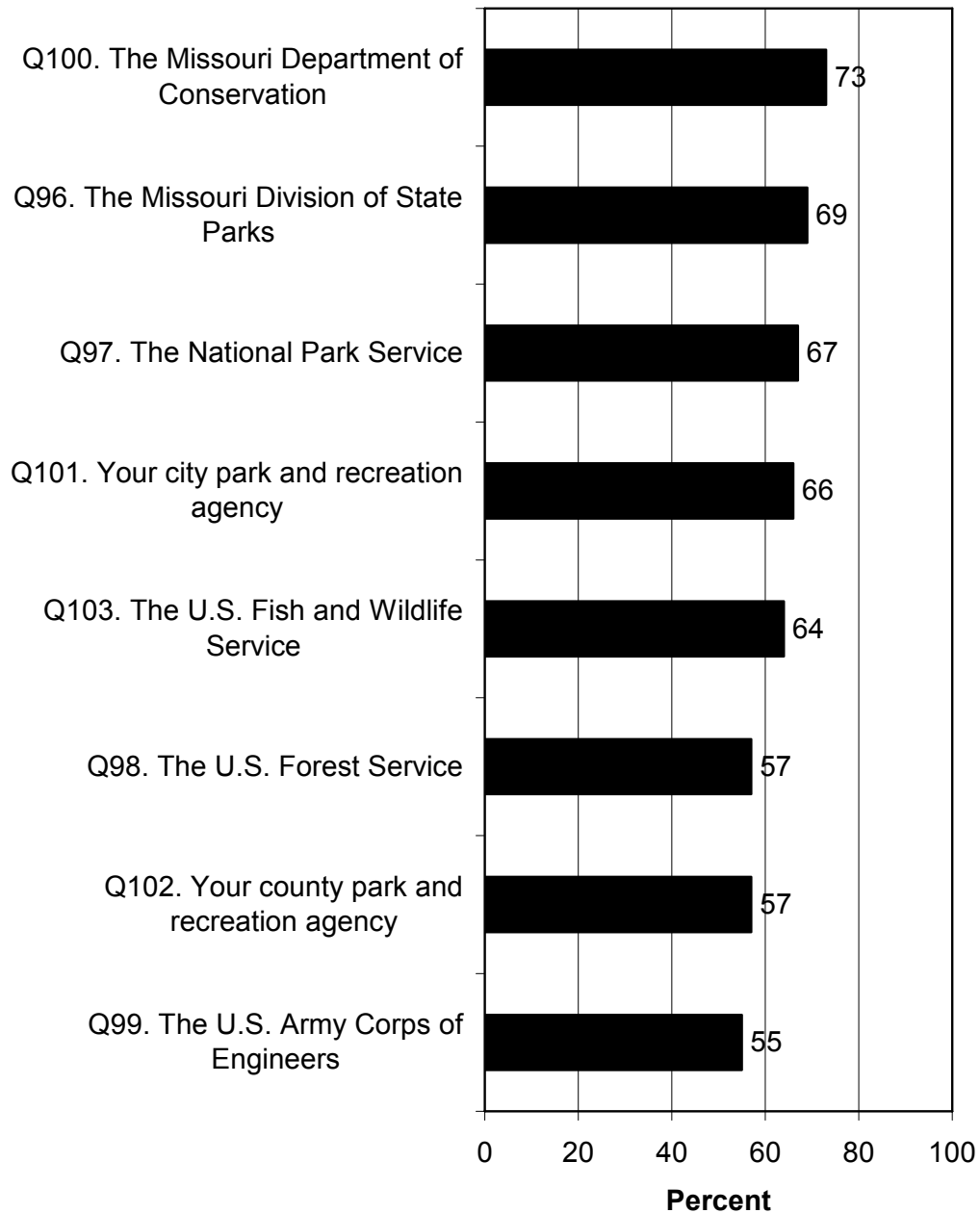
Q24. How would you rate the overall safety of the parks in your community? (Professionals)



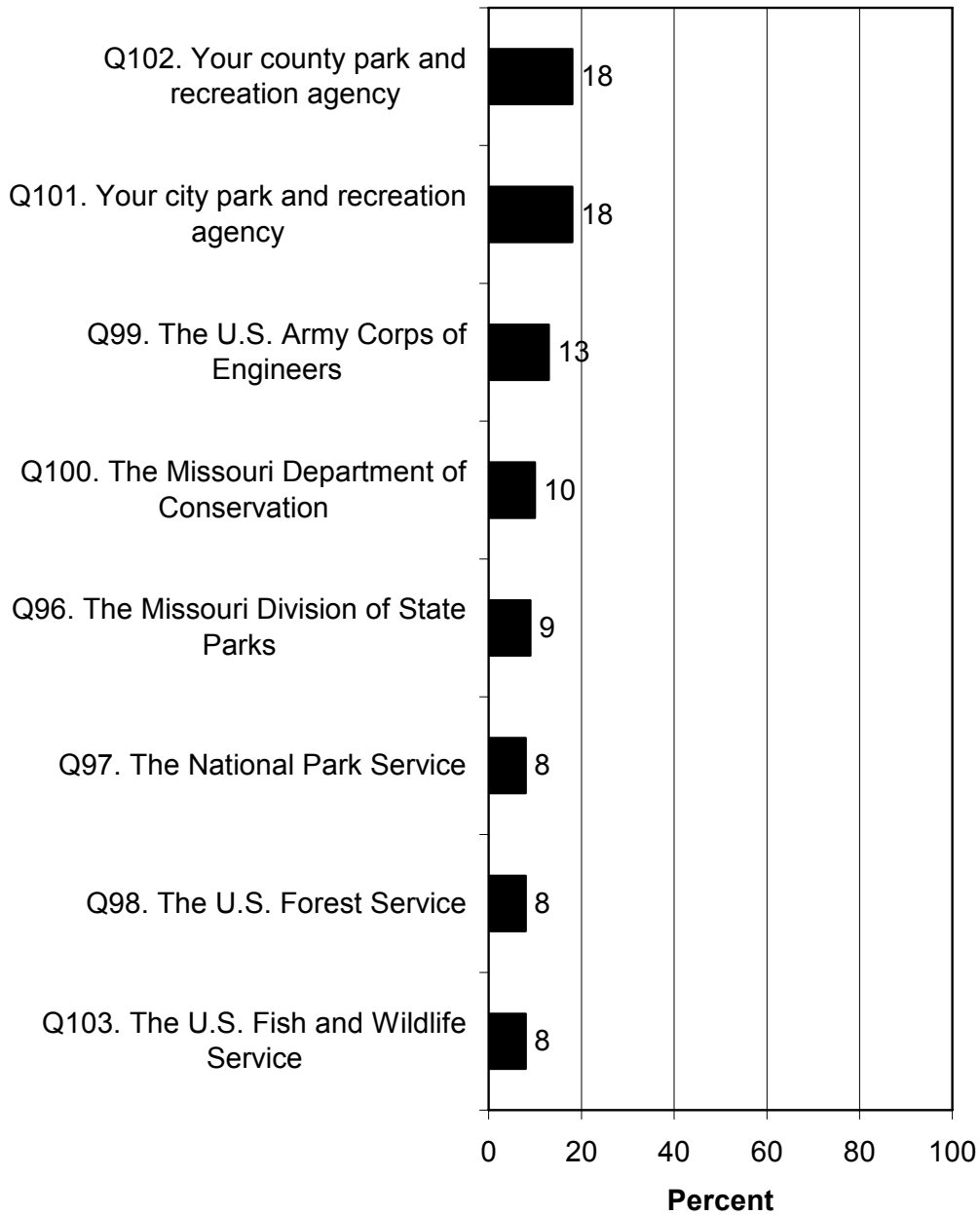
**Percent who rated the quality of services provided
by each of the following as excellent.
(Missouri residents)**



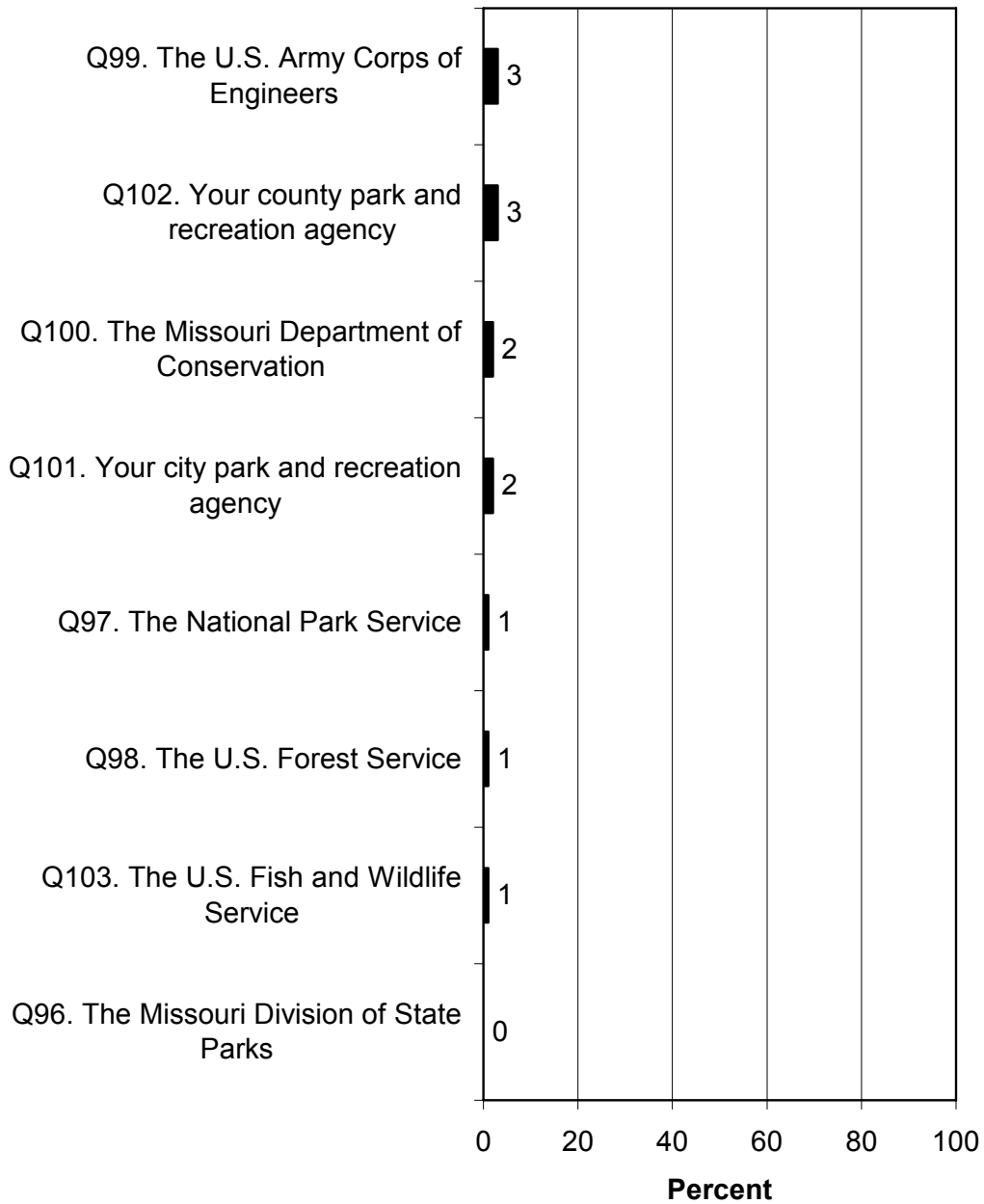
**Percent who rated the quality of services provided
by each of the following as excellent or good.
(Missouri residents)**



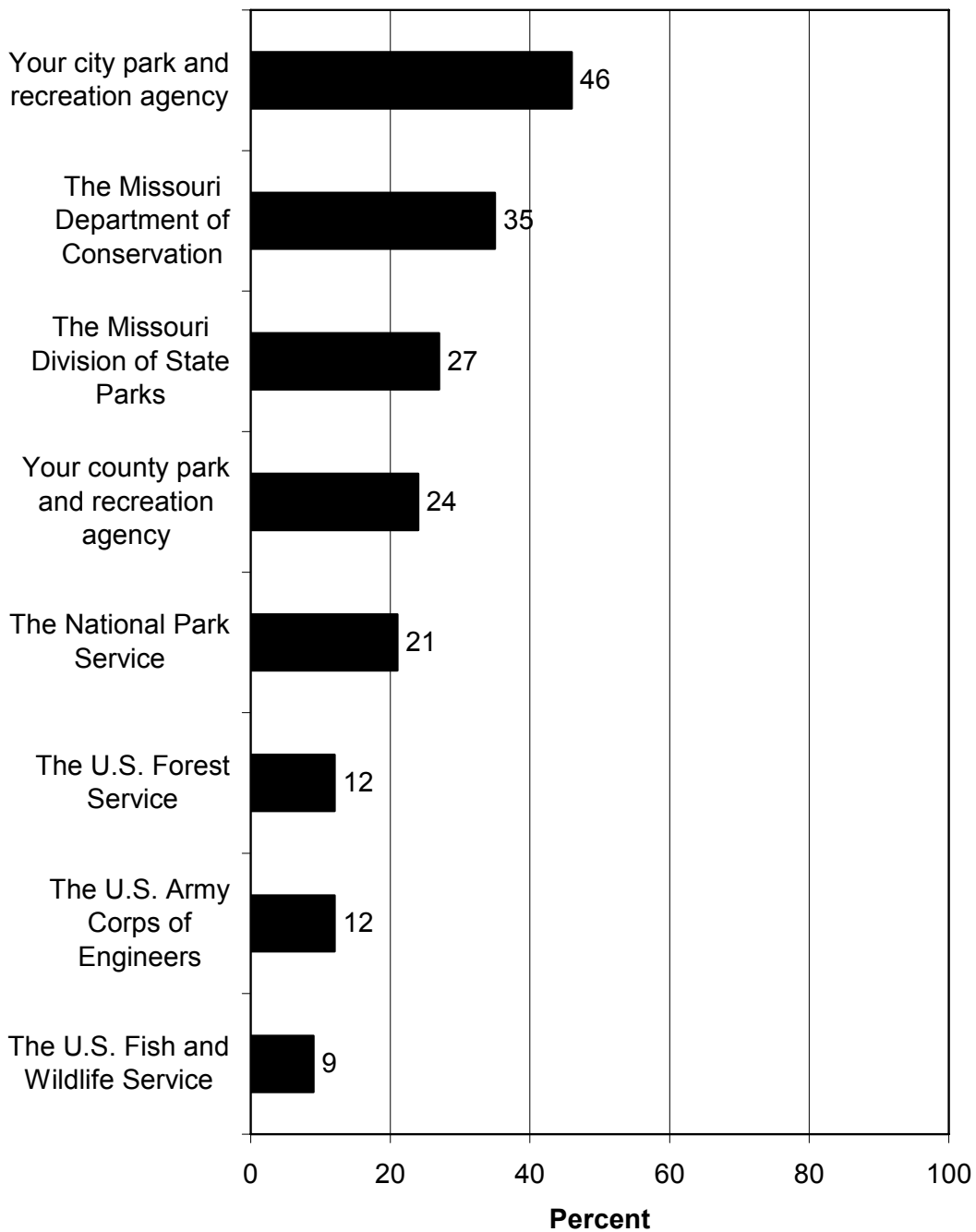
**Percent who rated the quality of services provided
by each of the following as fair or poor.
(Missouri residents)**



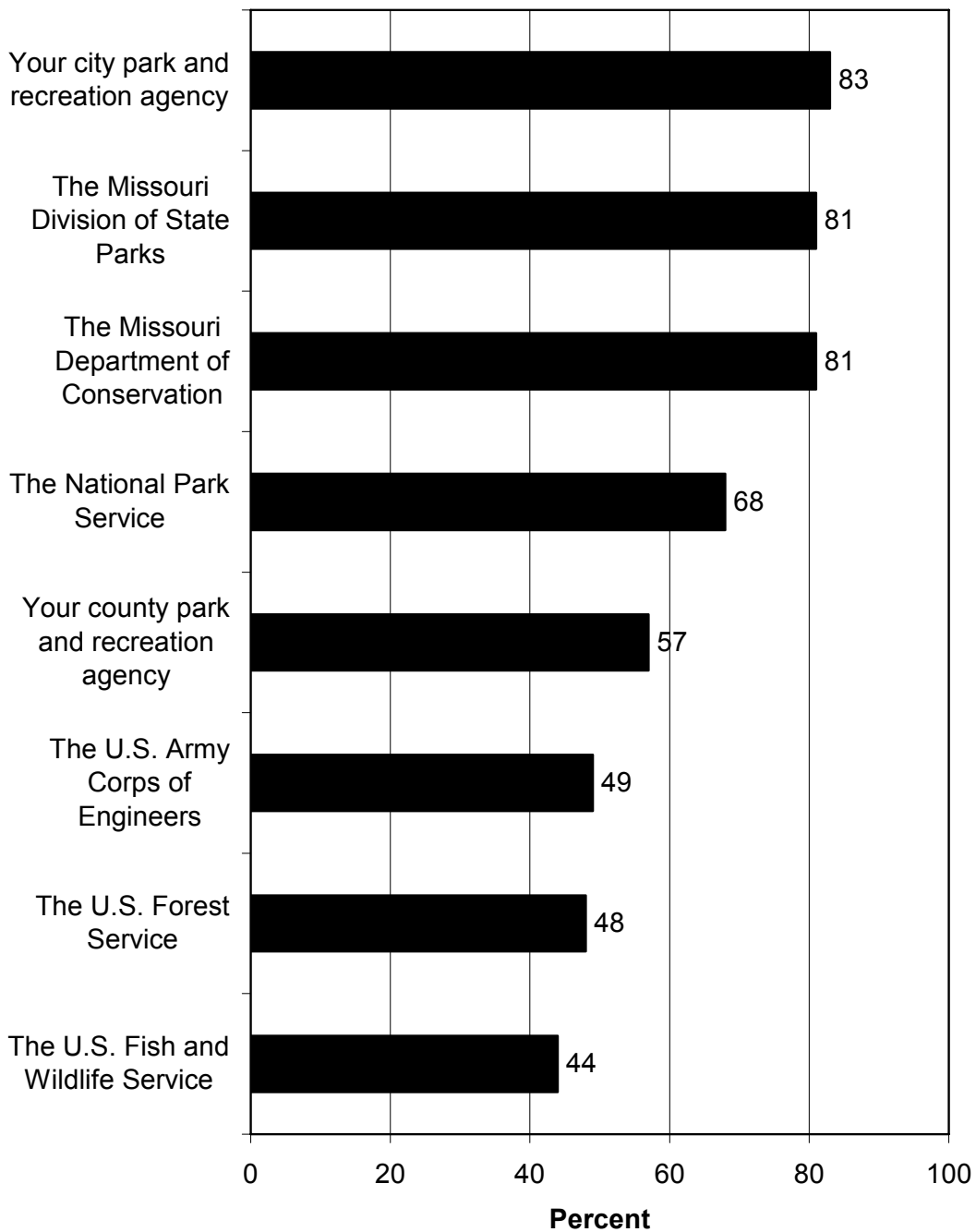
**Percent who rated the quality of services provided
by each of the following as poor.
(Missouri residents)**



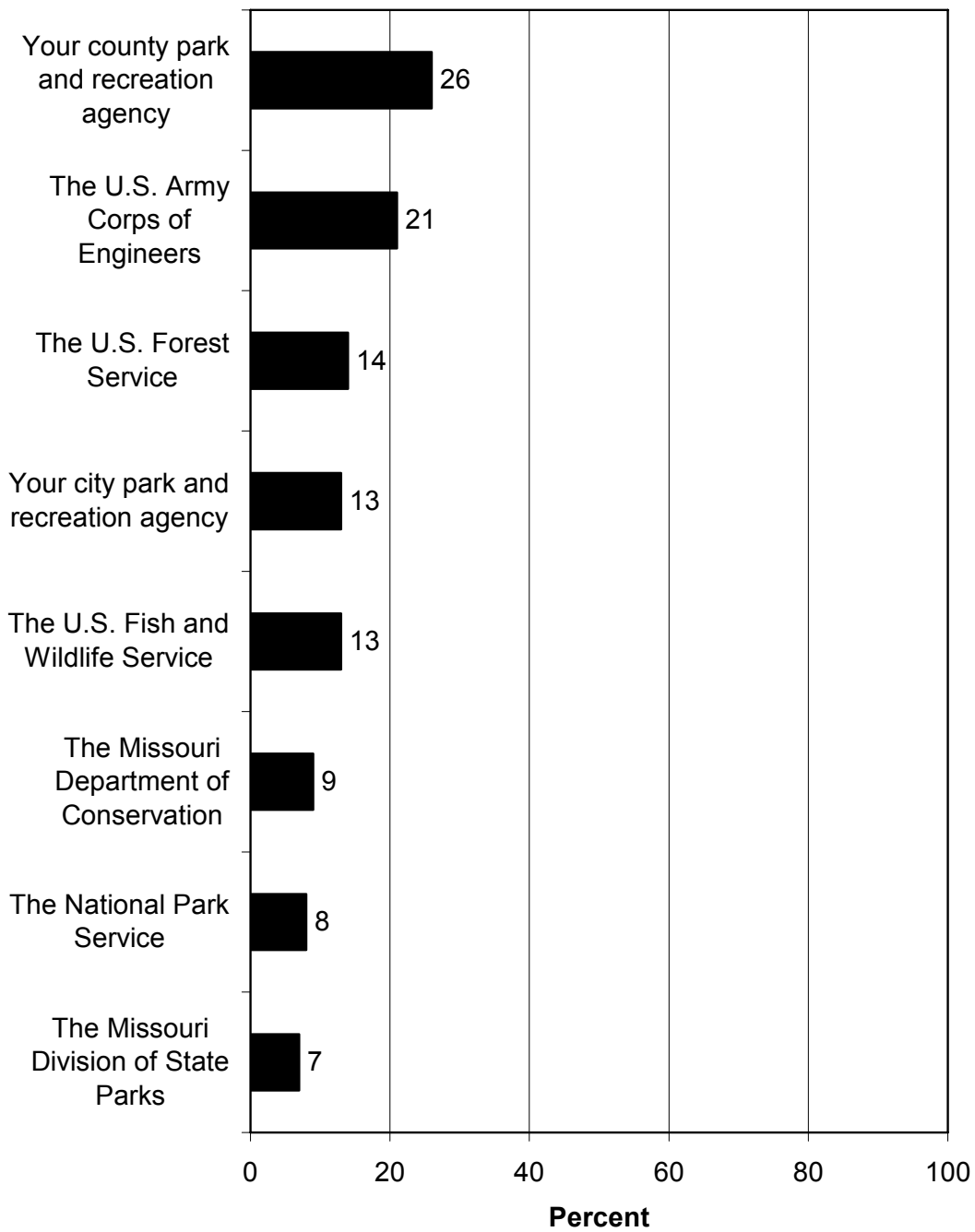
**Percent who rated the quality of services provided
by each of the following as excellent.
(Professionals)**



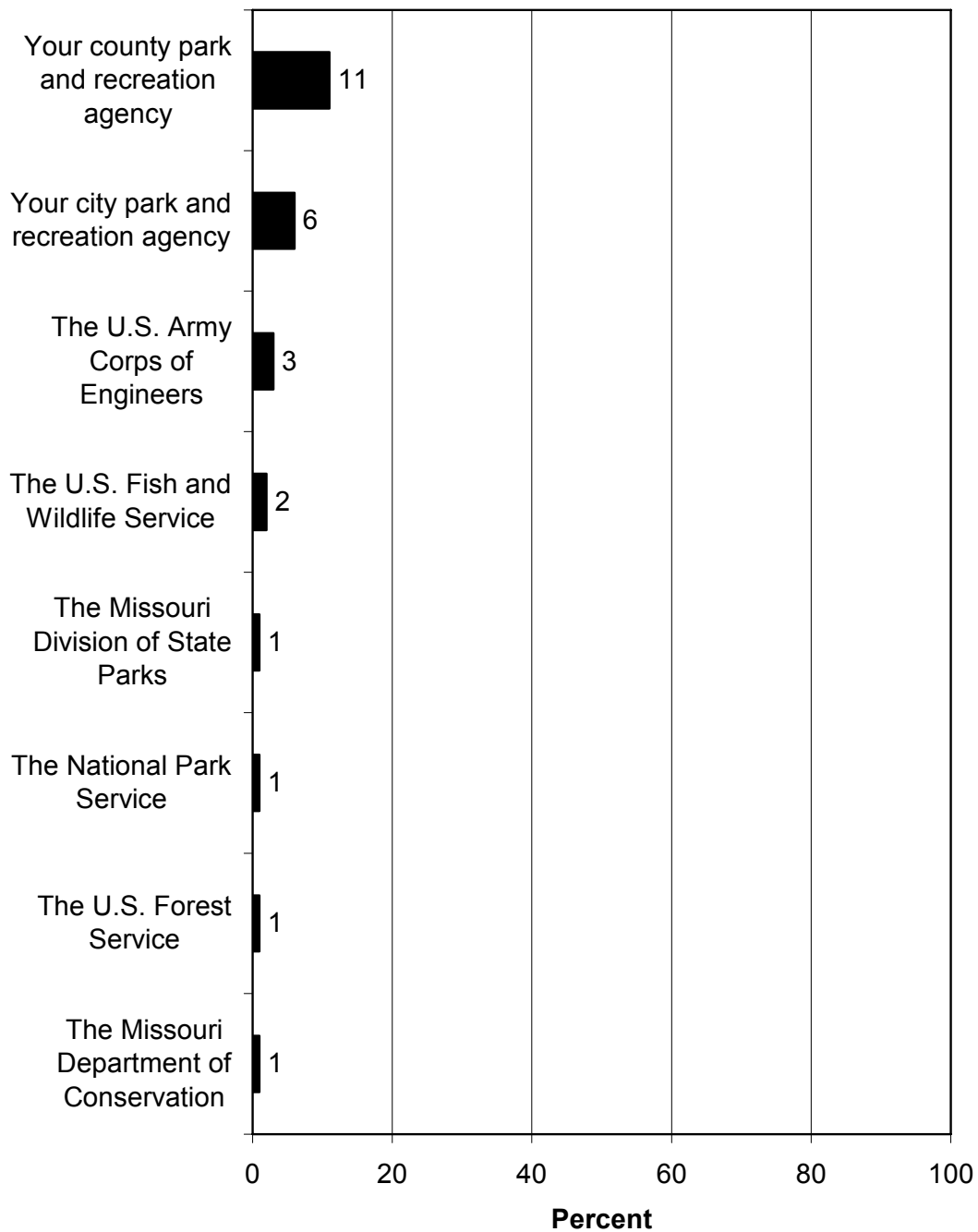
**Percent who rated the quality of services provided
by each of the following as excellent or good.
(Professionals)**



**Percent who rated the quality of services provided
by each of the following as fair or poor.
(Professionals)**



**Percent who rated the quality of services provided
by each of the following as poor. (Professionals)**



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

- For all the demographic questions, the nonparametric analysis of the data from the survey of residents examined how the demographic characteristics correlated to ratings of overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the respondent's community and in Missouri, as well as how they correlated to the ratings of overall safety of parks in the respondent's community.

- The majority of residents (86%) identify themselves as white or Caucasian. Meanwhile, 7% identify themselves as black or African-American, and 3% identify themselves as native American.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that being white is correlated to giving excellent or good ratings to:
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.001$)
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.001$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.001$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The overall safety of parks in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that being non-white is correlated to *not* giving excellent or good ratings to:
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.001$)
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.001$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.001$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The overall safety of parks in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.01$)

- Just more than a third of residents (37%) have at least one child 17 years old or younger living in their household.
 - Of those residents with at least one child living at home, 62% have more than one child (23% of all residents).
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that having children living in his/her household is correlated to giving excellent or good ratings to:
 - The overall safety of parks in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that *not* having children living in his/her household is correlated to *not* giving excellent or good ratings to:
 - The overall safety of parks in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.05$)

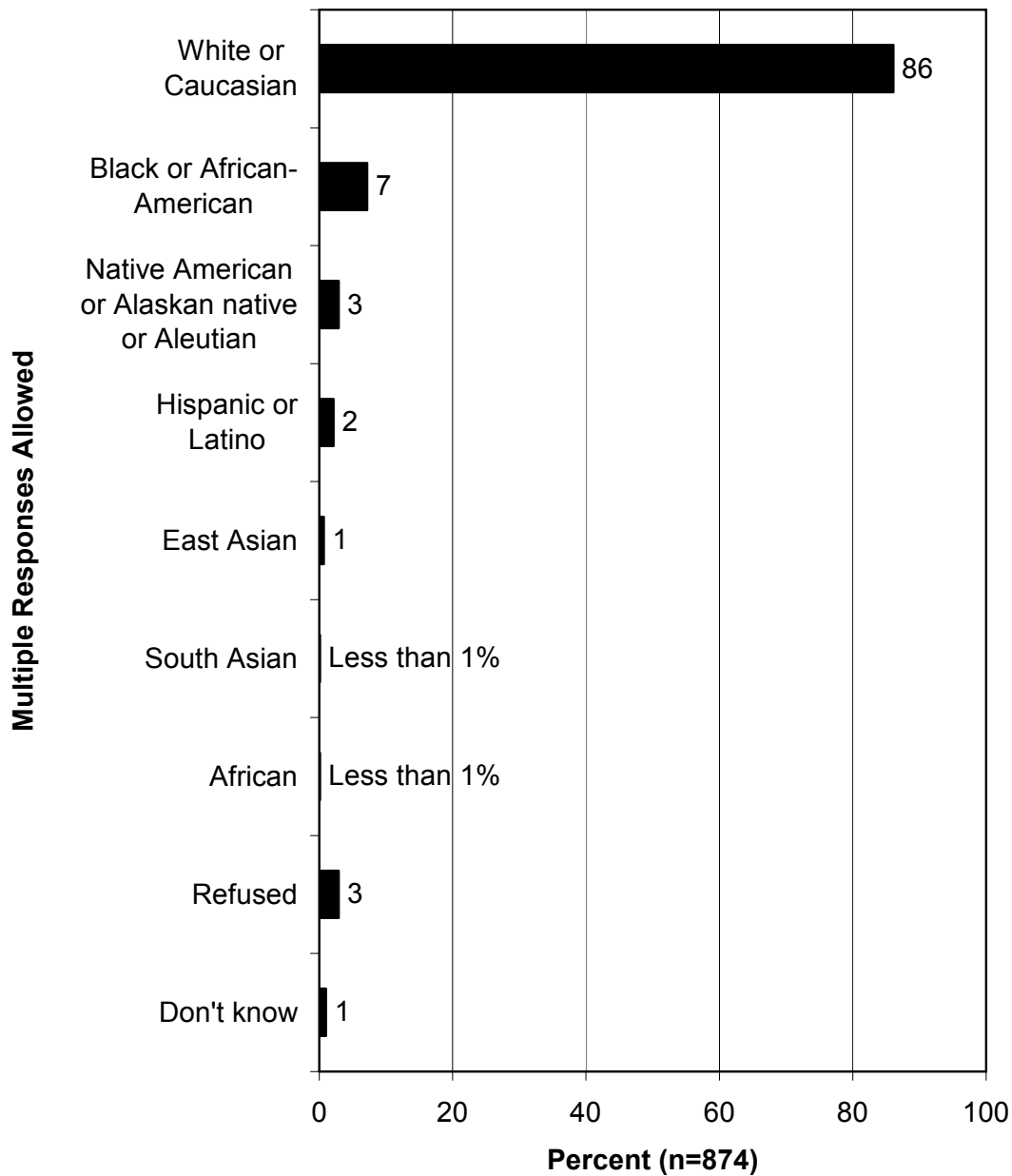
- Regarding their residence, 25% of Missouri residents describe their place of residence as rural, 31% describe it as a small city or town, and 43% describe it as suburban or a large city/urban area.
 - A graph of the results of this question among professionals is shown.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that living in a rural area has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that living in a small city or town has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that living in a suburban area or a large city/urban area has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.

- Educational attainment of residents is shown: 64% of Missouri residents have taken some college or trade school coursework, with or without a degree, and 32% have a Bachelor's degree, with or without a higher degree.
 - A graph of the results of this question among professionals is shown.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that having an education level of no higher than high school is correlated to *not* giving excellent or good ratings to:
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The overall safety of parks in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that having an education level of some college without a bachelor's degree has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that having an education level of bachelor's degree or higher is correlated to giving excellent or good ratings to:
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The overall safety of parks in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.05$)

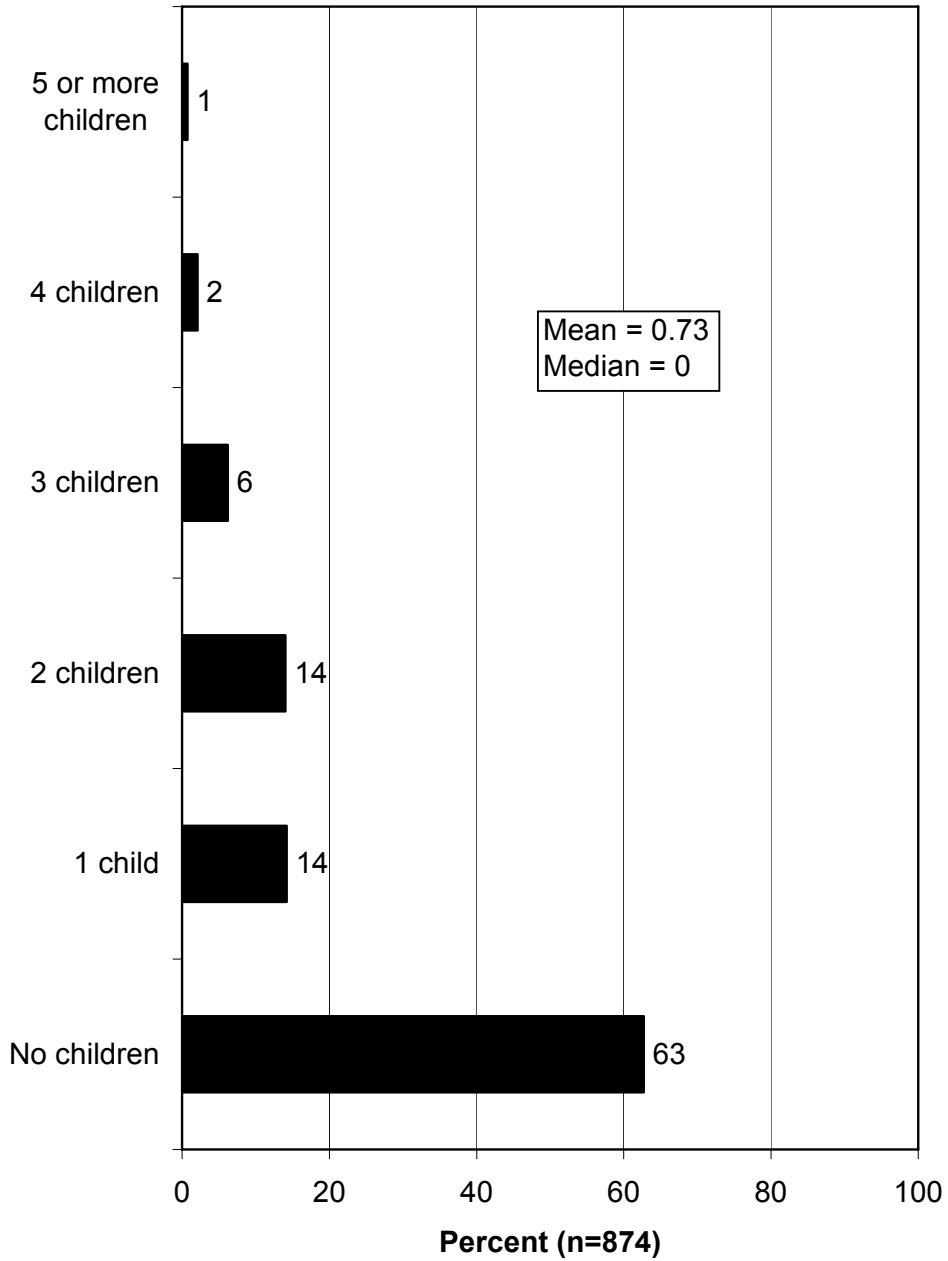
- Household incomes of residents are shown, in general following a bell-curve.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that having a household income of less than \$60,000 has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that having a household income of from \$60,000 to \$99,999 is correlated to giving excellent or good ratings to:
 - The overall safety of parks in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.001$)
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that having a household income of \$100,000 or more is correlated to giving excellent or good ratings to:
 - The overall safety of parks in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.01$)
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The availability of parks and recreation services in his/her community. ($p \leq 0.05$)
 - The overall quality of parks and recreation services in Missouri. ($p \leq 0.05$)
- The data from the survey of residents were weighted by age and gender to match the Missouri population as a whole. The weighted proportions in the survey are shown in the pie graphs that are included in this section.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that being less than 35 years old has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that being from 35 to 54 years old has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.

- The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that being 55 years old or older has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that being male has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.
 - The nonparametric analysis of the residents' survey found that being female has no correlations to giving or not giving excellent or good ratings to the overall quality and availability of parks and recreation services in the his/her community and in Missouri, as well as to the overall safety of parks in the his/her community.
- A graph of the results of the gender question among professionals is shown.
- The final graph shows a categorization of professionals who were surveyed by type of professional. A majority of professionals (57%) in the survey are MPRA members. Additionally, 26% are city/town/village council members, 18% are city/town/village employees, and 12% are mayors.

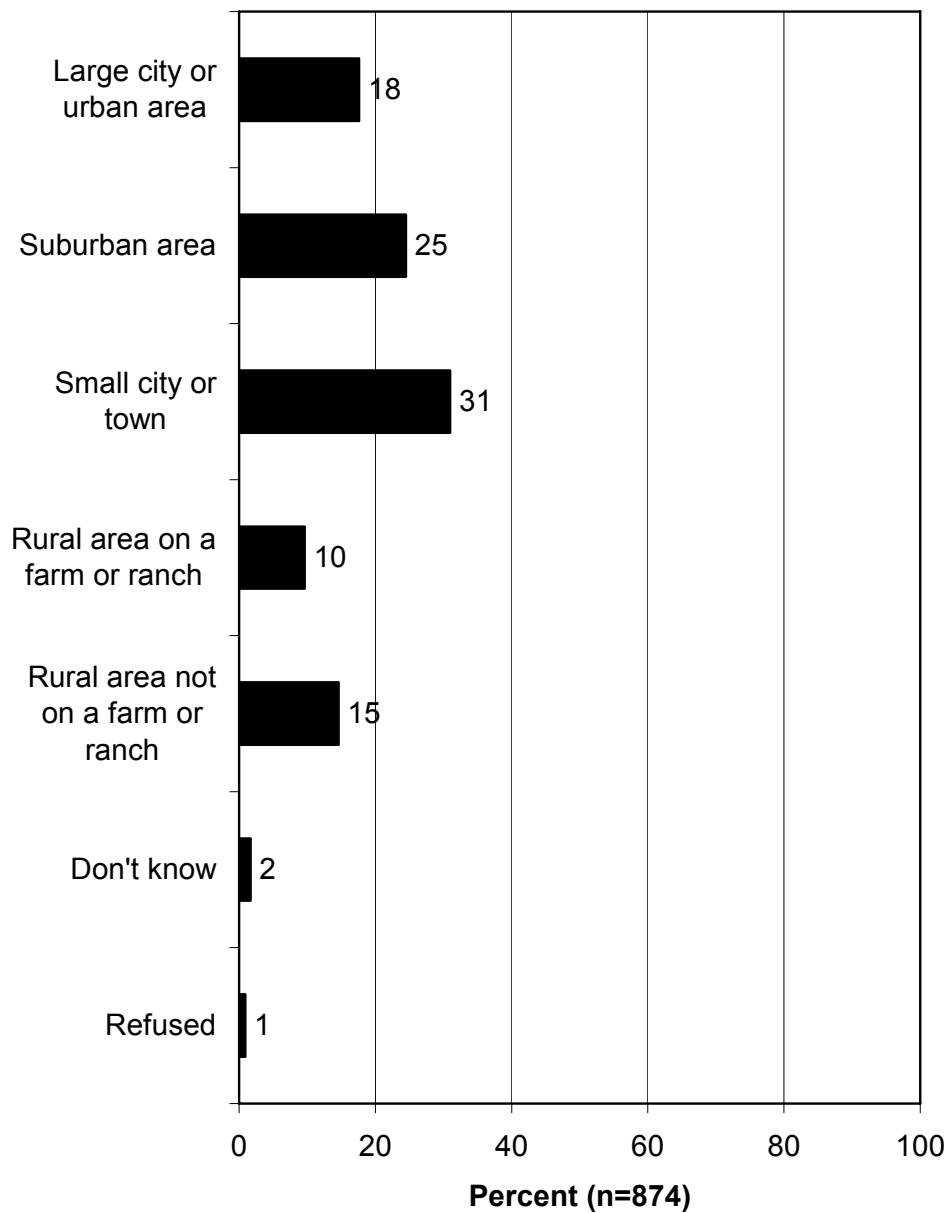
**Q123. What races or ethnic backgrounds do you consider yourself? Please mention all that apply.
(Missouri residents)**



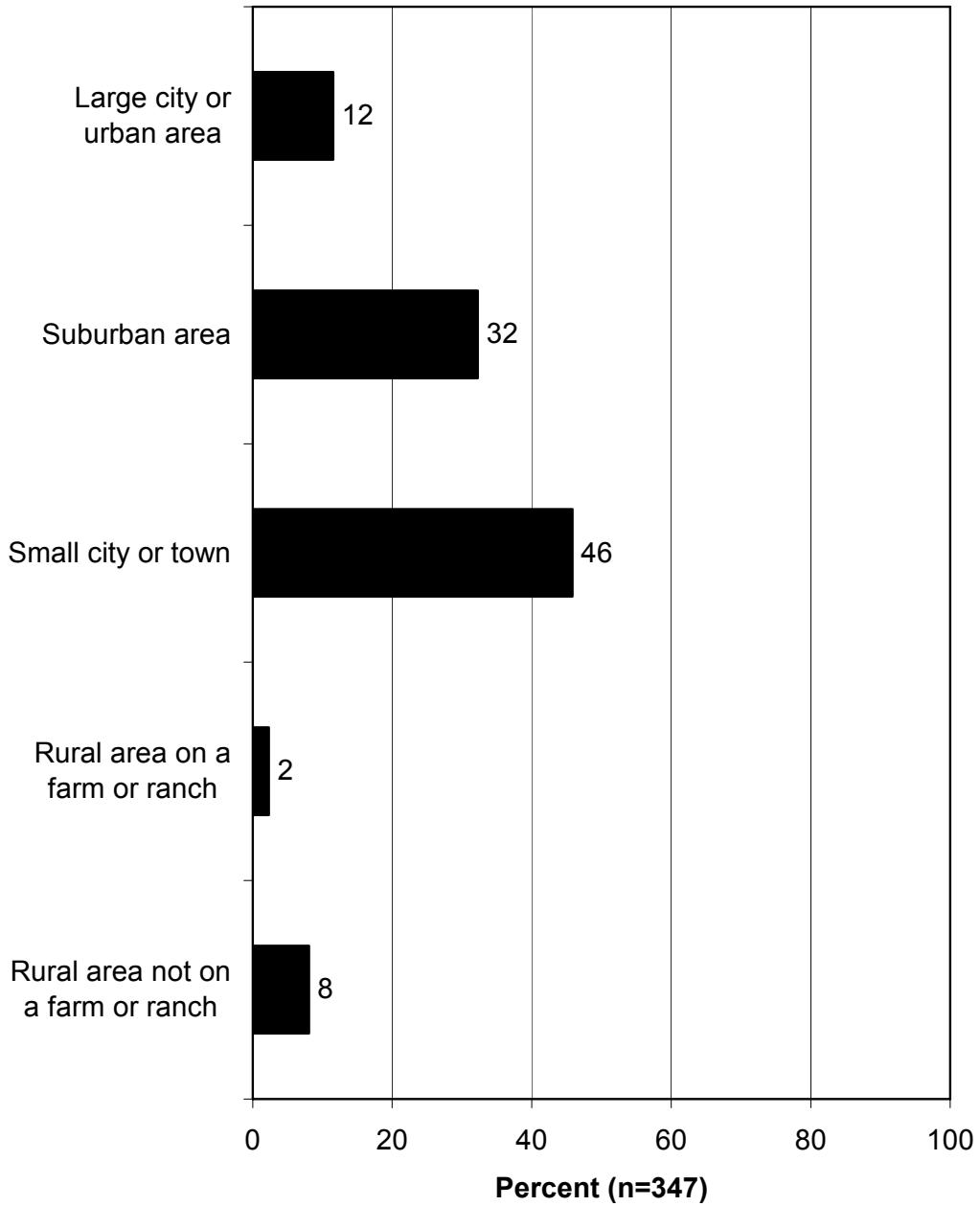
**Q61. How many children, age 17 or younger, do you have living in your household?
(Missouri residents)**



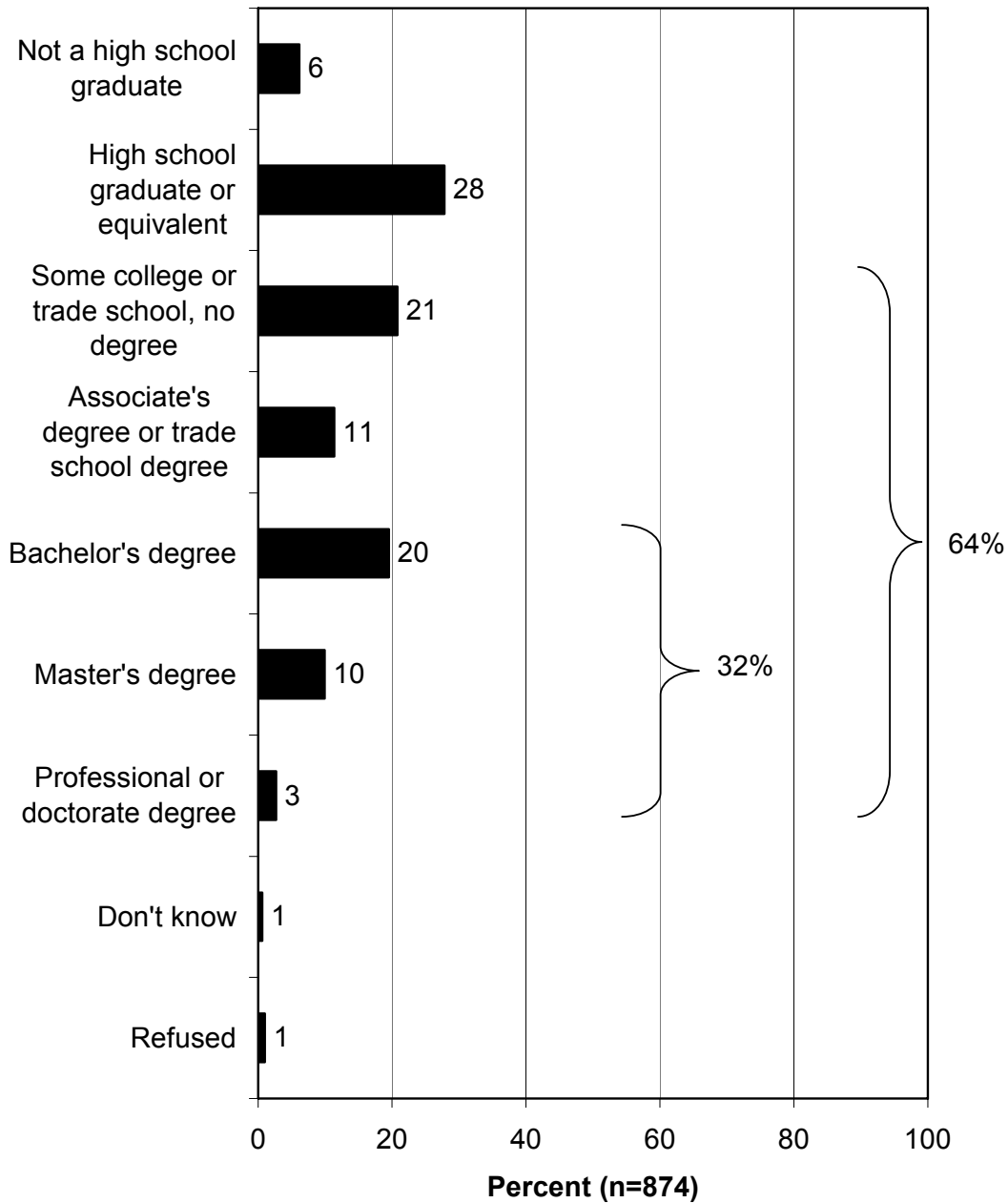
**Q119. Do you consider your place of residence to be a large city or urban area, a suburban area, a small city or town, a rural area on a farm or ranch, or a rural area not on a farm or ranch?
(Missouri residents)**



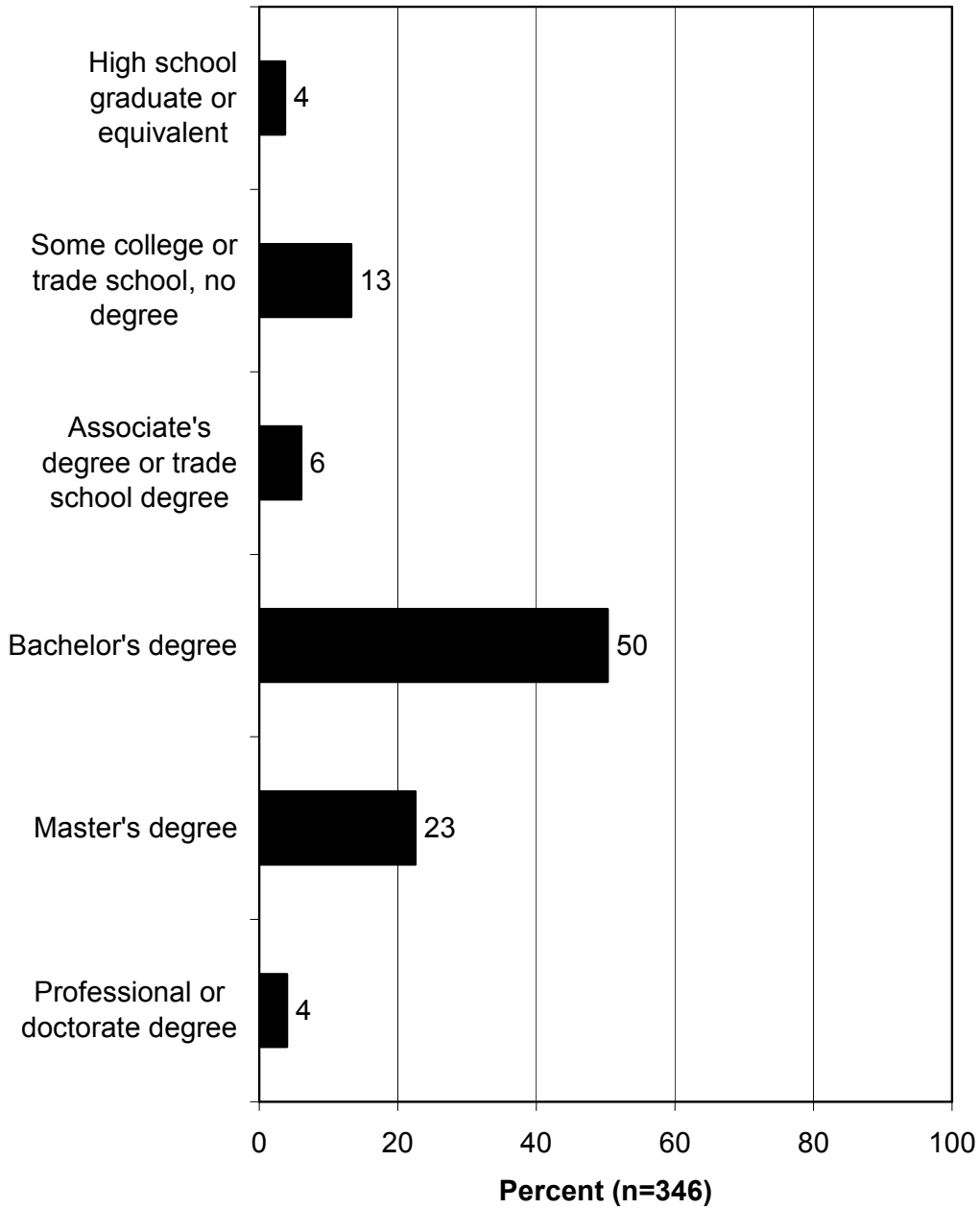
Q29. Do you consider your place of residence to be a ...? (Professionals)



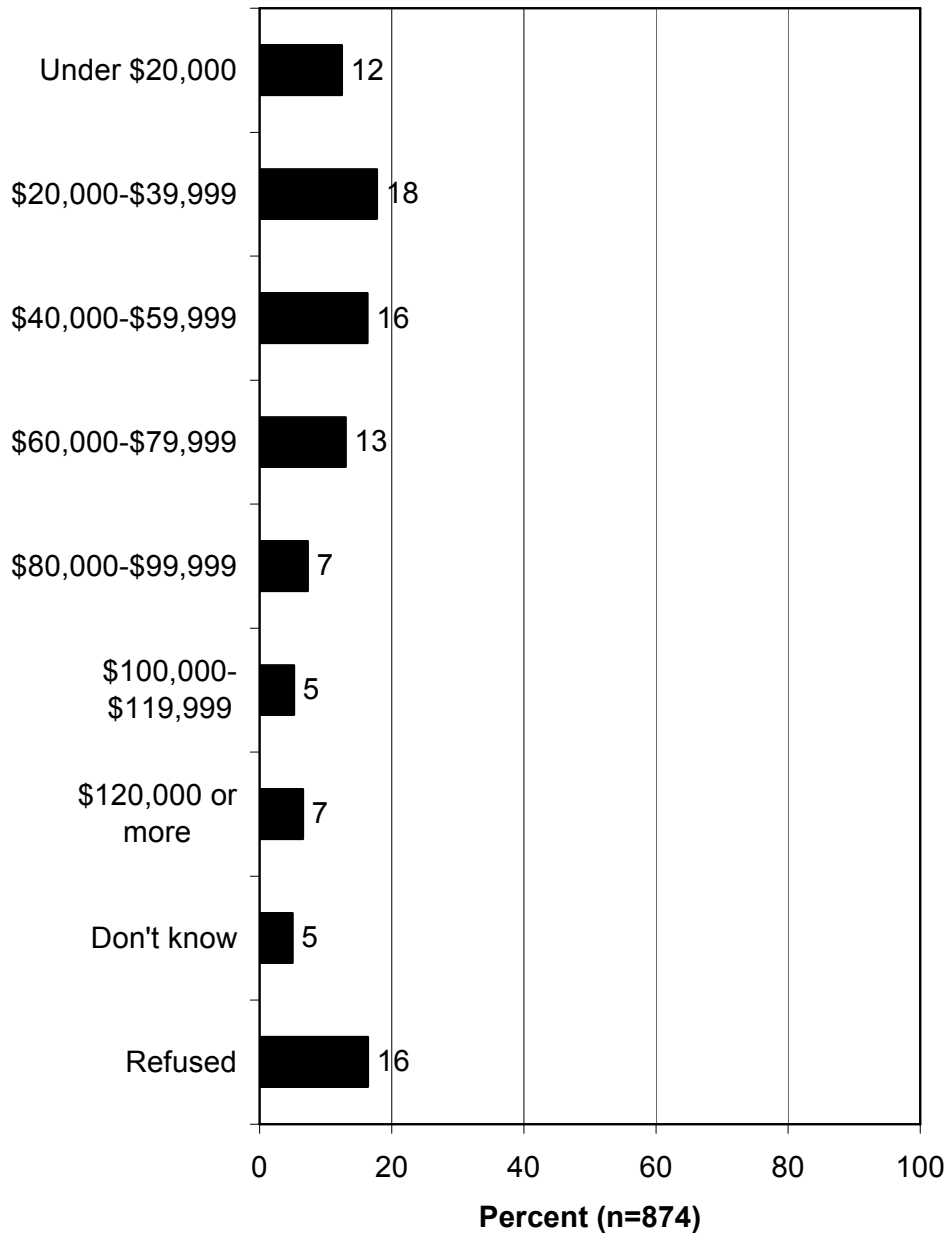
**Q120. What is the highest level of education you have completed?
(Missouri residents)**



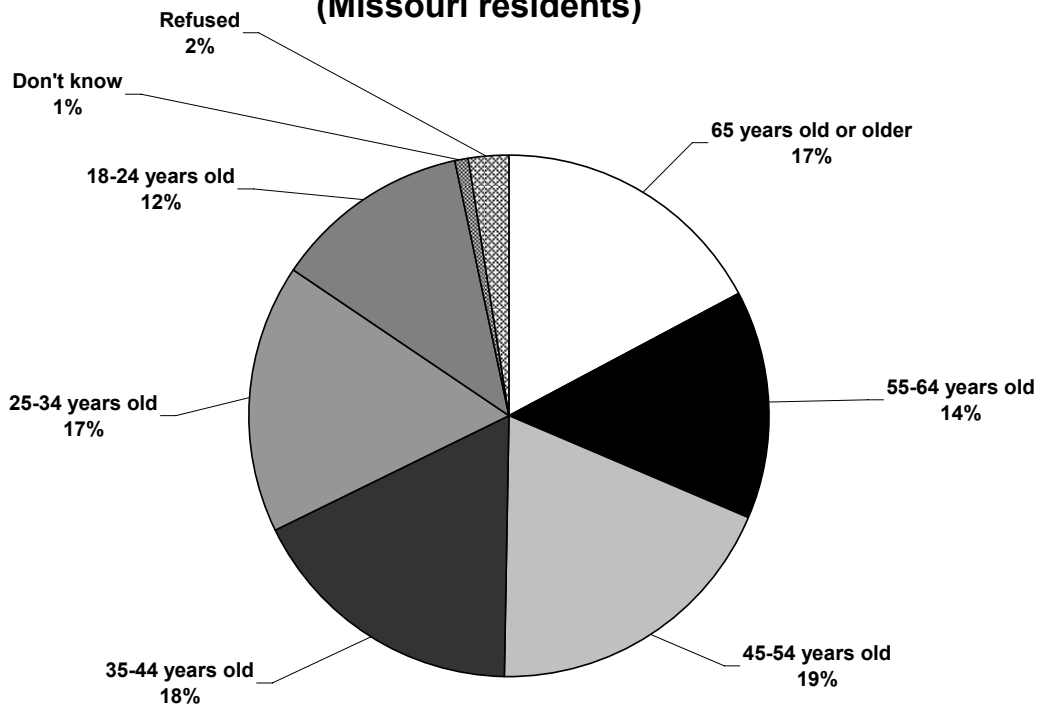
Q30. What is the highest level of education you have completed? (Professionals)



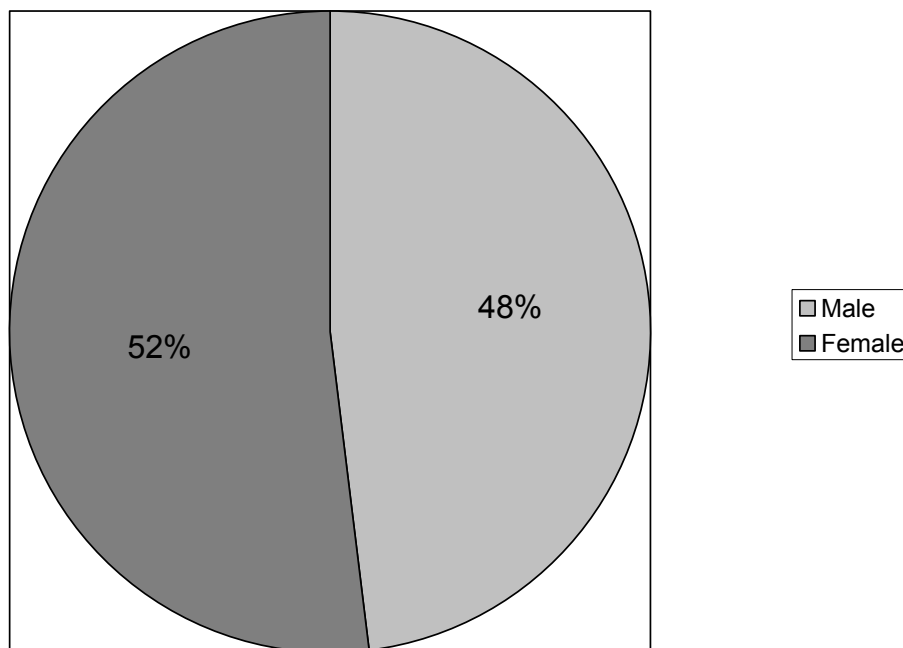
**Q125. Which of these categories best describes
your total household income before taxes last
year?
(Missouri residents)**

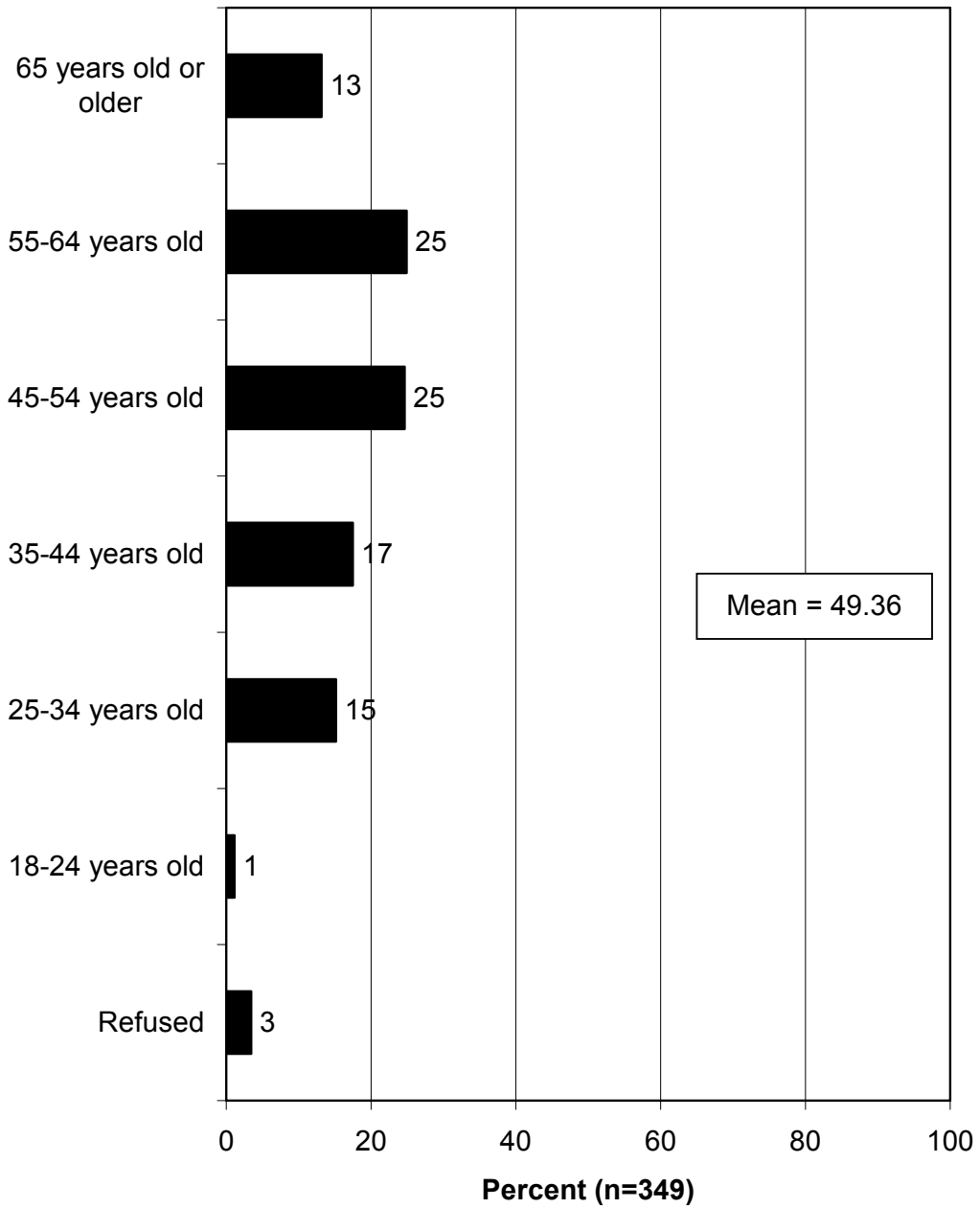


**Q126. Respondent's age.
(Missouri residents)**

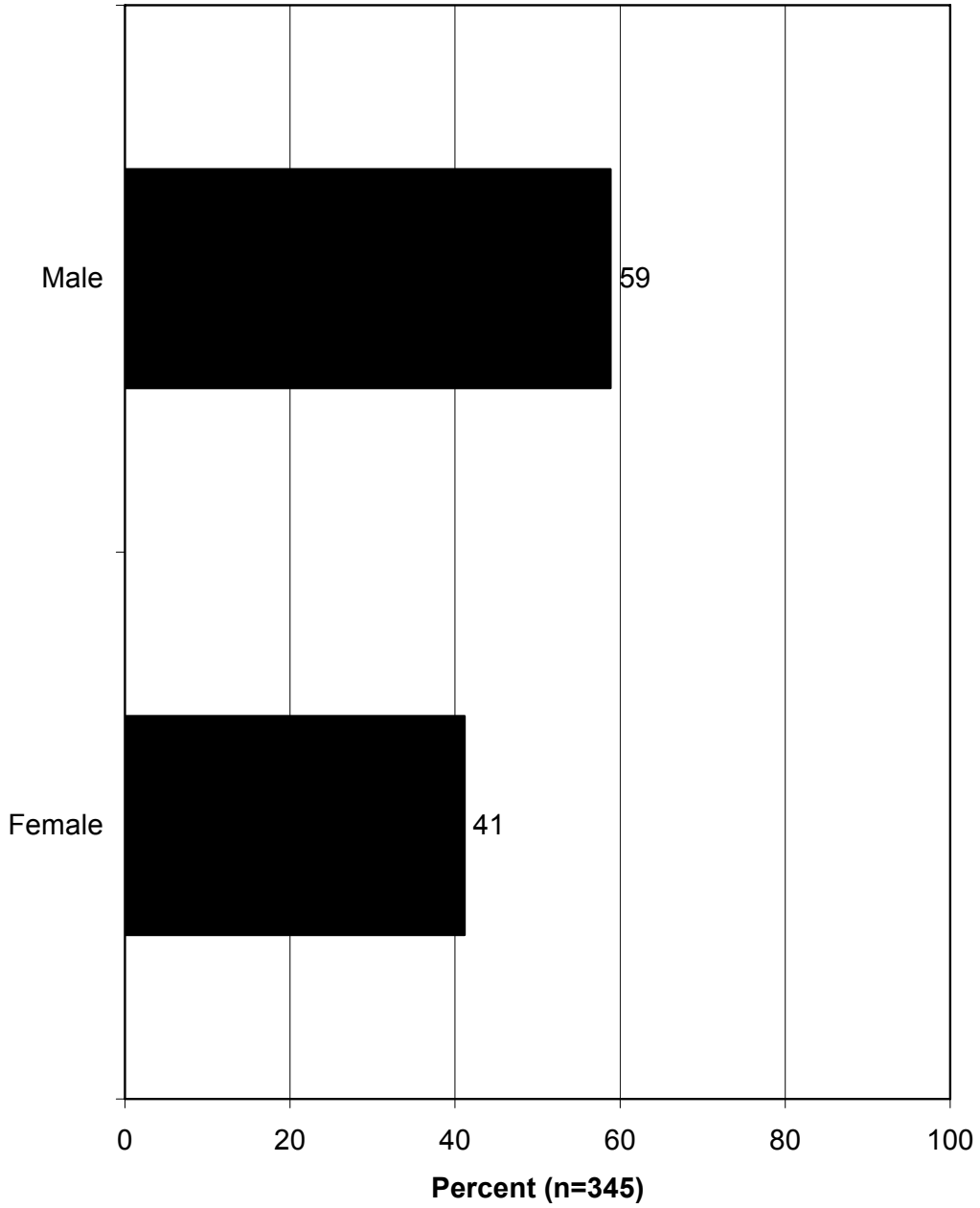


**Q126. Respondent's gender.
(Missouri residents)**

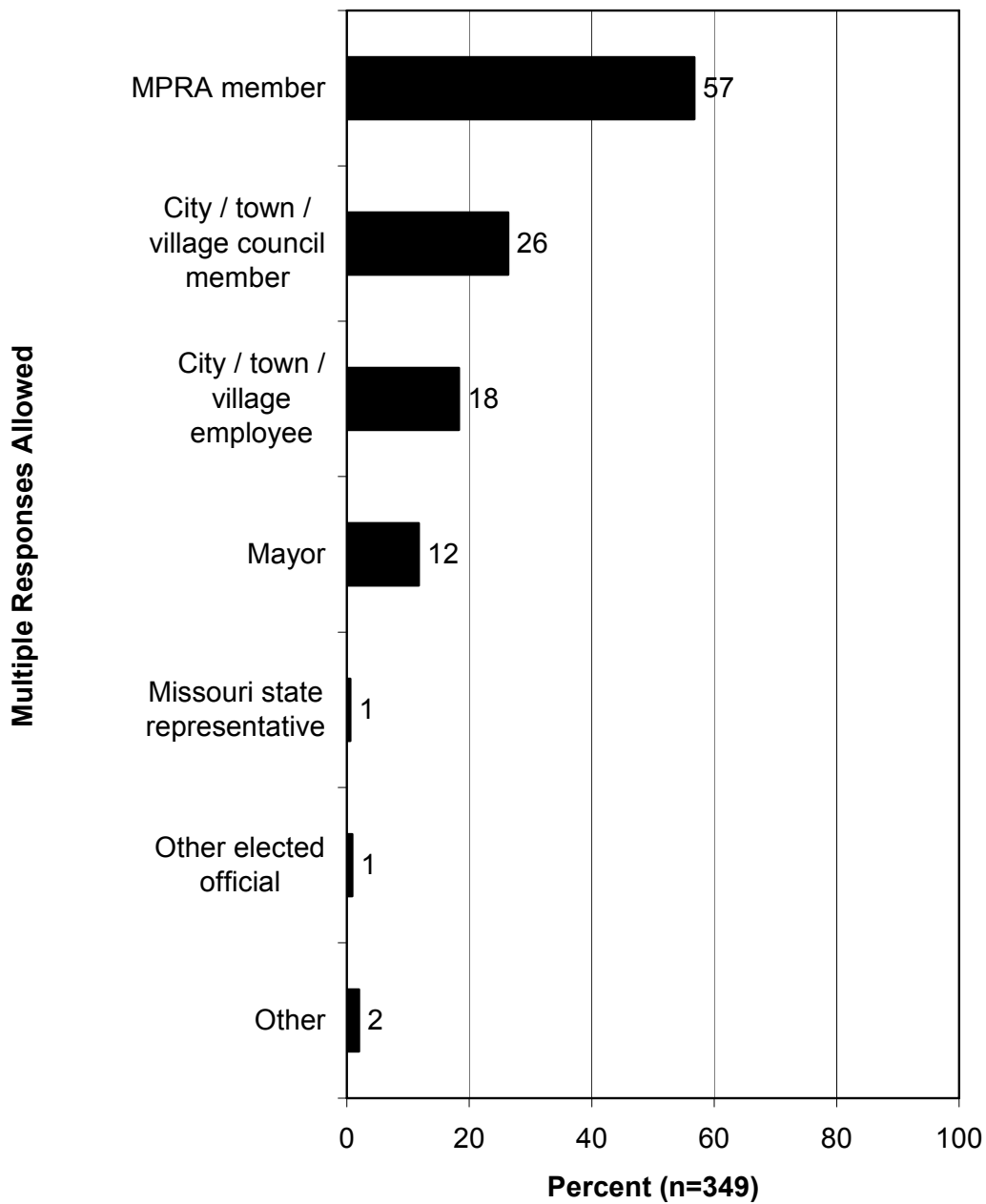


Q32. Respondent's age. (Professionals)

Q33. Are you male or female? (Professionals)



Q27. Which of the following describes your current position and/or association with the Missouri Park & Recreation Association? (Professionals)



APPENDIX A: PARKS, RECREATION AREAS, OR FACILITIES VISITED BY RESIDENTS IN THE PREVIOUS 2 YEARS (Listed Alphabetically)

Note that the following tabulation shows the percentage among those residents who could name the last park, recreation area, or facility they visited.

Name	Percent Visited*
Affton White-Rodgers Community Center	0.14
Alley Spring Park (part of Ozark National Scenic Riverway)	0.39
Amidon Memorial Conservation Area	0.19
Apple Creek Conservation Area	0.35
Arena Park (Cape Girardeau Co.)	0.13
Arnold City Park	0.43
Arrow Rock State Historic Site	0.31
Arrowhead Stadium	0.11
Ashley Park (Lebanon)	0.19
August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area	1.38
Babler State Park	0.63
Baldwin Park	0.14
Battlefield City Park	0.19
Belton Community Center	0.14
Bennett Spring State Park	1.64
Big Lake State Park	0.39
Big Spring Park (part of Ozark National Scenic Riverway)	1.17
Black River	0.32
Blind Pony Lake	0.10
Blue Bird Park	0.10
Bohrer County Park	0.13
Branson (general area)	0.23
Brookfield (general area)	0.11
Burch Creek	0.20
Burr Oak Woods Conservation Nature Center	0.31
Butler (general area)	0.14
C. Lee Kenagy Park	0.13
Capen Park	0.27
Castlewood State Park	0.36
Centennial Park	0.50
Chesterfield (general area)	0.56
Clearwater (general area)	0.24
Clifton Heights Lake	0.62
Close Memorial Park	0.11
Clydesdale County Park	0.10
Cole County (general area)	0.19
Columbia (general area)	0.14
Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area (aka Cosmo Park)	0.13
Creve Coeur County Park	1.82
Crowder State Park	0.42
Cuivre River State Park	0.92
Cunningham Park	0.13
Darter Park	0.46
Dawt Mill	0.12
Deer Lake Golf Course	0.13
Deer Ridge (general area)	0.53
Dewey Park (general area)	0.17
Dexter (general area)	0.36
Dockery Park	0.17
Dolling Park	0.10

Name	Percent Visited*
Elephant Rocks State Park	0.58
Empire Park	0.12
Engler Park	0.40
English Landing Park	0.19
Fellows Lake	0.13
Fenton City Park	0.11
Ferndale Park	0.13
Finley River Park	0.34
Fleming Park (aka Lake Jacomo)	1.27
Forest Park	4.63
Fort Osage	0.14
Fort Zumwalt Park	0.40
Fountain Bluffs Sports Complex	0.14
Frontier Park	0.17
Galloway (general area)	0.13
Garvin Park	0.27
Gasconade River	0.19
George Washington Carver National Monument	0.13
Gerald (general area)	0.14
Grant Beach Park	0.13
Grant's Farm	0.13
Grants Trail County Park	0.14
Greentop (general area)	0.14
Ha Ha Tonka State Park	1.16
Hammons Field (Springfield Cardinals stadium)	0.11
Hannibal (general area)	0.13
Happy Rock Park	0.20
Harris Park Community Center	0.46
Harrisonville (general area)	0.20
Harry S Truman Library and Museum	0.14
Harry S Truman State Park	1.58
Hawn State Park	0.37
Heisler Park	0.19
Henderson Park (Norfolk Lake area)	0.14
Hermann (general area)	0.13
Hill Park	0.17
Hodge Park Lake	0.13
Holden (general area)	0.14
Hyde Park	0.85
Indian Creek (general area)	0.13
Indian Foothills Park	0.11
J.D. Trail Riding Camp	0.18
Jackson (general area)	0.31
James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area	0.36
James River	0.10
January-Wabash Park	0.17
Jefferson Barracks County Park	0.57
Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (aka Gateway Arch)	1.57
John Anderson Park	0.47
Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park	0.13
Jones-Confluence Point State Park	0.13
Joplin (general area)	0.19
Katy Trail State Park	0.87
Kenneth E. Cowan Civic Center	0.46
Kentucky Lake	0.14
Kibler Park	0.17
King Jack Park	0.46
Kirkwood (general area)	0.13
Klondike Park	0.21

Name	Percent Visited*
Knob Noster State Park	0.20
Krug Park	0.14
LaBenite Park	0.26
Lake of the Ozarks State Park	0.85
Lake Wappapello State Park	0.97
Laumeier Sculpture Park	0.26
Legacy Park	0.52
Lewis and Clark State Park	0.39
Liberty (general area)	0.14
Liberty Community Center	0.19
Lindenwood (general area)	0.30
Little Indian Creek	0.39
Living Memorial Park	0.12
Lone Elk County Park	0.47
Long Branch State Park	0.30
Longview Lake	0.51
Loose Park	0.47
Manchester (general area)	0.17
Mark Twain National Forest	1.39
Mark Twain State Park	2.82
Markham Springs Recreation Area (in Mark Twain National Fore	0.14
Marquette Park	0.17
Marshall Diggs Wildlife Area	0.40
Marshfield Rotary Park	0.13
Mastodon State Historic Site	0.13
McCoy Park	0.50
Meadowmere Park	0.17
Meramec State Park	1.19
Mill Creek Park	0.14
Mingo National Wildlife Refuge	0.55
Mississippi River	0.12
Missouri Botanical Garden	0.49
Missouri Conservation Center	0.13
Missouri Town 1855	0.17
Monkey Mountain Trail	0.39
Montauk State Park	0.10
Morris State Park	0.26
Mussel Fork Conservation Area	0.14
Nathaniel Greene Park	0.26
National World War I Museum	0.26
Norfolk River	0.13
Normandy (general area)	0.13
North Kansas City Park	0.17
Nottoway Lake	0.13
Oak Grove (general area)	0.18
O'Fallon Park	0.42
Onondaga Cave State Park	0.34
Orleans Trail Resort and Marina	0.13
Overland (general area)	0.46
Owensville (general area)	0.13
Ozark Community Center	0.17
Ozark National Scenic Riverway (without naming specific park within)	0.88
Painted Rock State Forest	0.14
Parkville (general area)	0.46
Perkins Park	0.12
Perryville (general area)	0.12
Pershing State Park	0.38
Phelps Grove Park	0.17
Pickle Springs Natural Area	0.17

Name	Percent Visited*
Polo (general area)	0.11
Pomme de Terre State Park	0.32
Pony Express National Historic Trail	0.26
Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center	0.20
Powell's Garden	0.12
Progress Park	0.11
Public Beach 1 and 2 (Lake Ozark)	0.10
Quail Ridge Park	0.56
Queeney County Park	0.58
Rabbit Run Park	0.12
Remington Nature Center	0.19
Republic (general area)	0.14
River Cut Golf Course	0.13
River Oaks Golf Course	0.10
Roaring River State Park	0.30
Robertsville State Park	0.20
Rock Bridge Memorial State Park	0.61
Rock Port (general area)	0.10
Rogers Lake	0.12
Rothwell Park	0.27
Route 66 State Park	0.11
Runge Conservation Nature Center	0.10
Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park	0.33
Salisbury Park	0.46
Sam A. Baker State Park	0.34
Sequiota (general area)	0.45
Shaw Park	0.19
Sioux Passage County Park	0.26
Smithville Lake	0.10
Southmoreland (general area)	0.11
Spanish Lake County Park	0.24
Springfield (general area)	0.30
Springfield Conservation Nature Center	0.20
Springfield Nature Center	0.25
Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge	0.17
St. Anne's Park and Rose Gardens	0.12
St. Francois State Park	0.49
St. Joe State Park	0.52
St. Louis County (general area)	0.52
St. Louis Zoo	0.26
St. Peters Rec-Plex	0.43
St. Vincent County Park	0.85
Stevens Lake	0.56
Stewart Heights Park/Odair Baseball Field	0.13
Stockton State Park	0.67
Sugar Creek State Forest	0.13
Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge	0.12
Swope Park	0.78
Table Rock State Park	1.23
Tanglewood Park	0.39
Ted Shanks Conservation Area	0.10
Theodosia (general area)	0.14
Thousand Hills State Park	0.29
Three Creeks Conservation Area	0.26
Tiffany Springs (general area)	0.14
Tilles County Park	0.19
Tipton Park Lake	0.10
Tower Grove Park	0.23
Trail of Tears State Park	0.25

Name	Percent Visited*
Union (general area)	0.11
Unionville (general area)	0.20
Van Meter State Park	0.27
Veterans Park	0.14
Wallace State Park	0.41
Warrensburg Community Center	0.26
Washington (general area)	0.12
Washington Riverfront Trail	0.19
Washington State Park	0.22
Watkins Woolen Mill State Park	0.79
Westboro-Canterbury Greenway	0.17
Weston Bend State Park	0.39
Wheeler Park	0.10
White Marble Park	0.13
Whitely Park	0.46
Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center	0.99
Willard (general area)	0.20
Wilson's Creek National Battlefield	0.11
Wyaconda (general area)	0.14
YMCA (city not named)	1.00
Named park not in Missouri (e.g., "Yellowstone")	0.72
Unknown / Not specific (e.g., "county park")	12.89

* Among those who could name the last park, recreation area, or facility they visited.

ABOUT RESPONSIVE MANAGEMENT

Responsive Management is a nationally recognized public opinion and attitude survey research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues. Its mission is to help natural resource and outdoor recreation agencies and organizations better understand and work with their constituents, customers, and the public.

Utilizing its in-house, full-service, computer-assisted telephone and mail survey center with 45 professional interviewers, Responsive Management has conducted more than 1,000 telephone surveys, mail surveys, personal interviews, and focus groups, as well as numerous marketing and communications plans, need assessments, and program evaluations on natural resource and outdoor recreation issues.

Clients include most of the federal and state natural resource, outdoor recreation, and environmental agencies, and most of the top conservation organizations. Responsive Management also collects attitude and opinion data for many of the nation's top universities, including the University of Southern California, Virginia Tech, Colorado State University, Auburn, Texas Tech, the University of California—Davis, Michigan State University, the University of Florida, North Carolina State University, Penn State, West Virginia University, and others.

Among the wide range of work Responsive Management has completed during the past 20 years are studies on how the general population values natural resources and outdoor recreation, and their opinions on and attitudes toward an array of natural resource-related issues. Responsive Management has conducted dozens of studies of selected groups of outdoor recreationists, including anglers, boaters, hunters, wildlife watchers, birdwatchers, park visitors, historic site visitors, hikers, and campers, as well as selected groups within the general population, such as landowners, farmers, urban and rural residents, women, senior citizens, children, Hispanics, Asians, and African-Americans. Responsive Management has conducted studies on environmental education, endangered species, waterfowl, wetlands, water quality, and the reintroduction of numerous species such as wolves, grizzly bears, the California condor, and the Florida panther.

Responsive Management has conducted research on numerous natural resource ballot initiatives and referenda and helped agencies and organizations find alternative funding and increase their memberships and donations. Responsive Management has conducted major agency and organizational program needs assessments and helped develop more effective programs based upon a solid foundation of fact. Responsive Management has developed websites for natural resource organizations, conducted training workshops on the human dimensions of natural resources, and presented numerous studies each year in presentations and as keynote speakers at major natural resource, outdoor recreation, conservation, and environmental conferences and meetings.

Responsive Management has conducted research on public attitudes toward natural resources and outdoor recreation in almost every state in the United States, as well as in Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Japan. Responsive Management routinely conducts surveys in Spanish and has also conducted surveys and focus groups in Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese.

Responsive Management's research has been featured in most of the nation's major media, including CNN, ESPN, *The Washington Times*, *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and on the front pages of *The Washington Post* and *USA Today*.

Visit the Responsive Management website at:

www.responsivemanagement.com