



Parks and Recreation Master Plan **Appendix**



K. Vision & Implementation Workshop Summary



VISION WORKSHOP NOTES & SUMMARY

Hernando County
Parks, Recreation & Trails Master Plan

Workshop Date:	August 13, 2025 Staff: 2pm to 4:30 pm Focus Group Participants: 5:30pm – 7:00pm
Location:	Hernando County Utilities Department 15365 Cortez Boulevard, Brooksville, FL 34613
Consultant Team:	Kimley-Horn: Nick Kuhn, Jennifer Daoulas, Jessica Braud, Hadley Peterson

Two (2) Vision Workshops were held in the Hernando County Utilities Department on August 13, 2025. Both Vision Workshops began with a presentation of initial needs assessment findings and then ask participants to complete two exercises in groups of 5-8 people.

Vision Workshop 1: Participants of the first session included Hernando County staff from the Parks, Recreation, Natural Resources/ Environmentally Sensitive Lands, and Tourism Departments. **Exercise 1: SWOT** ask participants to identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) of the existing Hernando County Parks system. **Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives** asked participants to define 1-4 long term goals for the parks system or Department. For each goal, participants were asked to define 1-2 objectives or measurements such as projects, potential partners and/or changes that would support the success of that goal.

Vision Workshop 2: Focus group participants that were interviewed as part of the initial project needs assessment were invited back to participate in the second evening Vision Workshop. Vision Workshop 2 began with the same presentation and was followed by two exercises. **Exercise 1: Key Findings and Implications** asked participants to identify findings that stood out to them as most important from the needs assessment summary and their experiences. **Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives** asked participants to define 1-4 long term goals related to key findings and implications. For each goal, participants were asked to define 1-2 objectives or measurements such as projects, potential partners and/or changes that would support the success of that goal.

The following notes document the written input of the Vision Workshop exercises. Written information that was emphasized (underlined, circled, or with a check mark) by participants have been **emphasized** within the format of these notes. A summary of Vision Workshop input is included at the beginning of the following notes summary. Detailed record of input is included in the following pages.

SUMMARY:**Vision Workshop 1: Hernando County Staff****Summary of Exercise 1: SWOT****Strengths:**

- **Trails & Natural Assets** – walking trails, preserves, coastal areas.
- **Variety of Parks & Recreation Assets** – diversity of facilities, evening recreation opportunities.
- **Committed Staff** – dedication of employees noted as a key asset.
- **Free Parking / Accessibility** – highlighted as a user benefit (though budget strain noted).
- **Community-Friendly Features** – no communication barriers, pet-friendly potential.

Weaknesses:

- **Budget Limitations** – restricted funding, “cheap taxes,” financial strain on services.
- **Staffing Shortages** – under-staffed departments, lack of manpower.
- **Maintenance Issues** – trails, fields, parks in need of upkeep; outdated infrastructure; lack of equipment.
- **Insufficient Facilities** – lack of courts, boat ramps, and limited number of parks.
- **Parking Challenges** – not enough parking spots in popular areas.

Opportunities:

- **Grants & External Funding** – consistently cited as the most viable new revenue stream.
- **Sponsorships & Partnerships** – local business or organizational support.
- **Growing Population** – more potential users and community engagement.
- **Expansion Potential** – room for new parks, trails, and improvements.
- **Special Features** – more pet-friendly parks, unique trails, or tourism-focused amenities.

Threats:

- **Funding Shortages** – lack of money is a dominant, repeated concern.
- **Vandalism & Security Issues** – increasing concern about damage and lack of park security.
- **Parking Conflicts** – both unregulated private parking and insufficient spaces.
- **Homeless Population & Unauthorized Vendors** – challenges with park use and regulation.
- **Growth Pressures** – population increases strain limited facilities and staff.



Summary of Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives

GOALS IDENTIFIED BY HERNANDO COUNTY STAFF:

- *Increase Funding & Financial Resources*
- *Expand & Improve Parks, Facilities, and Amenities*
- *Adequate Staffing & Resources*
- *Improve Safety & Security*
- *Community Engagement & Access*



Vision Workshop 2: Focus Group Participants

Summary of Exercise 1: Key Findings & Implications

KEY FINDINGS IDENTIFIED BY FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS:

- *Lack of Funding & Resources*
- *Insufficient Park Space & Facilities (especially for youth sports)*
- *Maintenance & Equity Concerns*

Summary of Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives

GOALS IDENTIFIED BY FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS:

- *More Funding & Resource Allocation*
- *More Facilities & Improved Infrastructure*
- *Expanded Sports Fields, Trails & Parks*

COUNTY STAFF GROUP 1:

Exercise 1: SWOT

Strengths

- **Nature trails**
- Multi-purpose areas
- Clean parks
- Largest splash pad
- **We do more w/ less staff**
- **Variety of parks**
- No parking fees

Weaknesses

- **Not enough staff**
- Not enough beaches
- Not enough parking
- Not enough boat/kayak ramps
- No community swimming pools
- Parking fees could fund more
- Not enough youth programs
- **Streamlining (less time) approvals/planning**
- **Aging infrastructure (bathrooms, etc.)**

Opportunities

- **North/Royal Highlands lack of parks**
- Large parks that can be developed
- Another dog park
- **Sports-related parks (basketball, pickleball, etc.)**
- Indoor rec center & after school activities
- Coffee at the next meeting
- Food trucks in the parks

Threats

- Financial priorities
- **Better pay would attract more and more skilled employees**
- Solution for homeless
- Locking parks/bathrooms to prevent vandalism



Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Develop a multiuse park in Royal Highlands or multiple smaller "neighborhood" parks*

Objective(s):

- Acquire the land
- Decide on usage
- Create a funding plan
- Partners – Rotary, etc.

Goal: *More variety of activities in existing parks*

Objective(s):

- Utilize open spaces for other activities (Basketball, Pickleball, etc.)
- Change focus of an existing park to be more inclusive of other activities (e.g., instead of more basketball fields at A.S.P., why not basketball, disc golf, pickleball, etc.)

Goal: *Develop more boat/kayak ramps*

Objective(s):

- Acquire land
- Repurpose existing owned land
- Larger boat area – Fort Desoto style

Goal: *More focused financial priorities*

Objective(s):

- Figure out funding for:
 - More staff
 - Better pay to recruit & retain employees
- Streamlined planning & development process
- Smaller “neighborhood” parks

COUNTY STAFF GROUP 2

Exercise 1: SWOT

Strengths

- Maintain parks
- **Variety of activities**
- Walking trails / preserves
- Cleanliness
- Location of the county
- Coastline to rural

Weaknesses

- **Short staffed**
- Budget restrictions
- Modernization (need to upgrade)
- Quality of parks on the coast
- Accessibility
- Lack of lighting (update)
- Indoor facilities – pools, basketball courts
- Lack of parking in some parks

Opportunities

- Charge fee
- More land
- **Grant funding**
- Volunteers
- Social media
- More outreach
- Sports leagues

Threats

- Improper spending
- Politics
- **Employee retention**
- Too much development / zoning

**Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives**

Goal: *Adding variety of activities (like pools/indoor, basketball) and improve cleanliness*

Objective(s):

- Partner w/ schools
- Partner w/ civic orgs. (Rotary, Kiwanis)

Goal: *Higher wages and more staff*

Objective(s):

- Increase staff to minimize being spread too thin
- Pay more to retain staff (comparable wages)

Goal: *Funding/ grant funding; Regain revenue*

Objective(s):

- Need a grant writer
- A Friends Org.
- Charge a token fee for parking

COUNTY STAFF GROUP 3

Exercise 1: SWOT

Strengths

- **Adaptability (with staffing)**
- Preserves & nature trails
- Efficiency (working within our means)

Weaknesses:

- Staff shortage
- **Funding**
- Strong opposition to developing parks
- Lack of ball fields, sports facilities
- **Lack of growth within parks & staffing**
- Lack of support from county
- Lack of public education on how fees are used
- Outdated buildings

Opportunities

- Rural lands not yet developed
- Charging fees for amenities
- Company sponsorships
- **Event funding → directly to parks (instead of general fund)**
- Raising field rates for leagues

Threats

- **Funding denied / voters vote against**
- Falling behind other counties
- **Budget cuts**



Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Improve & expand current parks & facilities*

Objective(s):

- **Educate the county on why we need more funding & staff**
- Budget & policy changes
- Staff support & education

Goal: *Educate the public*

- Create short videos for social media on park staff members / work that they do

Goal: *Increase of Staffing*

- Budget & policy changes
- Educate leadership & the public on the need for more staff

COUNTY STAFF GROUP 4

Exercise 1: SWOT

Strengths

- **Walking trails**
- Water activities: kayak, boat, fishing
- Sporting fields
- Low taxes
- Natural springs
- Good weather
- **Tourism**
- Willingness to work together

Weaknesses

- We need larger parks
- Distance to parks
- **More staff**
- Lack of funding
- Aging infrastructure
- Fences in poor condition
- **Public pool**
- Rec center
- Lack of parking
- Procurement process / length of time

Opportunities

- Northern section of county
- **Weeki Wachee Preserve**
- **Newer amenities for youth**
- **Return of the pay stations**
- Annual park pass
- Camping
- Basketball hoop replacement
- Disc golf

Threats

- **Under funded**
- Population growth
- Storms
- Recovery – replacement
- Vandalism
- **Security at night**
- Homelessness



Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Public Safety* (Securing parks at night, self-locking gates)

Objective(s):

- Park security person
- Volunteer position

Goal: *Funding*

Objective(s):

- Pay stations
- Grants
- Fundraiser events
- Tourism
- Adopt-a-Park

Goal: *Improve amenities*

Objective(s):

- Add amenities (e.g., public pool, disc golf)
- Cooling stations
- Restroom remodeling
- Landscaping

Goal: *Rec Center*

Objective(s):

- Indoor activities (e.g., arts & leisure)

COUNTY STAFF GROUP 5

Exercise 1: SWOT

Strengths

- **Walking trails**
- **Variety of assets**
- Maintenance of fields
- Recreation opportunities – evenings
- No communication barriers
- **Commitment of staff**
- Free parking

Weaknesses

- Maintenance of trails & parks
- Lack of pickleball courts
- **Understaffed**
- **Budget / Free parking**
- Distance of population from parks
- **Lack of equipment for maintenance (fields)**
- Lack of parking spots
- Lack of boat ramps / parks

Opportunities

- **Grants**
- Sponsorships
- Growing population
- More pet friendly parks

Threats

- Unregulated private parking
- Unauthorized/permitted vendors
- Homeless population
- **Growing population**

**Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives**

Goal: *Capital Improvement Plan for Equipment*

Objective(s):

- Grants for equipment
- Sponsorships
- Donor program – naming rights

Goal: *More boat ramps & parks*

Objective(s):

- Land acquisition plan/program

Goal: *Adequate staff*

Objective(s):

- Realistic budget
- Hire preemptively

Goal: *Higher/greater law enforcement*

Objective(s):

- Budget

COUNTY STAFF GROUP 6

Exercise 1: SWOT

Strengths

- **Walking trails**
- **Preserves**
- Frugal “cheap” taxes
- Mermaid trail
- **Coastal county**

Weaknesses

- **Cheap = Low taxes**
- **Under manned / staff**
- Amount of parks
- **Budget restrictions**
- Outdated everything
- No park security

Opportunities

- **Grants**
- Room for expansion
- Room for improvement

Threats

- **Lack of money**
- **Parking**
- **No staff**
- Not enough acres of parks
- **Vandalism**

**Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives**

Goal: *Get more money*

Objective(s):

- Convince to raise taxes
- Parking fees
- Grants
- Money collected to go to parks, not general fund

Vision Workshop 2: Focus Group Participants

FOCUS GROUP A:

Exercise 1: Key Findings & Implications

Key Finding: *Not enough money*

Implication or impact:

- Constraints = creativity
- Link to maintenance

Key Finding: *Surprised, many feel parks not properly maintained*

Implication or impact:

- Perception problem [sometimes]
- Certain facilities in disrepair, not all
- Clean vs. safe
- Response time

Key Finding: *People are using passive recreational areas*

Implication or impact:

- Good facilities → rec. areas

Key Finding: *Shrinking private resources put pressure on public resources*

Implication or impact:

- Private business ought to contribute



Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives

Goal: *Reprioritizing funds for Parks & Rec. improvement*

Objective(s):

- Public Forum/input
- Focus on high need

Goal: *Indoor facilities*

Objective(s):

- Bring awareness of the need for indoor, cool spaces in Florida



FOCUS GROUP B:

Exercise 1: Key Findings & Implications

Key Finding: *Lack of funding*

Implication or impact:

- Poor staffing & maintenance
- Willing to pay

Key Finding: *Meet the needs of existing parks before building new*

Implication or impact:

- What we have has to work

Key Finding: *Equity in distribution of funds, facilities, amenities*

Implication or impact:

- Underserved areas



Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives

Goal: *More Funding*

Objective(s):

- Take advantage of private/public partnerships (Ex: Ernie Weaver, Coach Hamilton)
- "Friends of" Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.
- Impact fees from new development

Goal: *More Walking/Bike Trails*

Objective(s):

- Coach Hamilton; Linda Pederson
- Outdoor exercise equipment

Goal: *New Facilities in the County*

Objective(s):

- Community centers
- Pool
- Gym

FOCUS GROUP C:

Exercise 1: Key Findings & Implications

Key Finding: *More Walking Trails*

Key Finding: *Not enough staffing*

Key Finding: *Not enough park space*

Implication or impact:

- Not enough youth sports complexes

Key Finding: *Not a lot of survey responses (1% of population)*

Implication or impact:

- Not a good representation

Key Finding: *Not enough focus on youth sports/ Poorly laid out complexes*

Implication or impact:

- Maxed out leagues – losing players to other counties

**Exercise 2: Goals and Objectives**

Goal: *More youth sports fields (softball quadplex @ Anderson Snow)*

Objective(s):

- Private sponsorship

Goal: *Ernie Weber*

Objective(s):

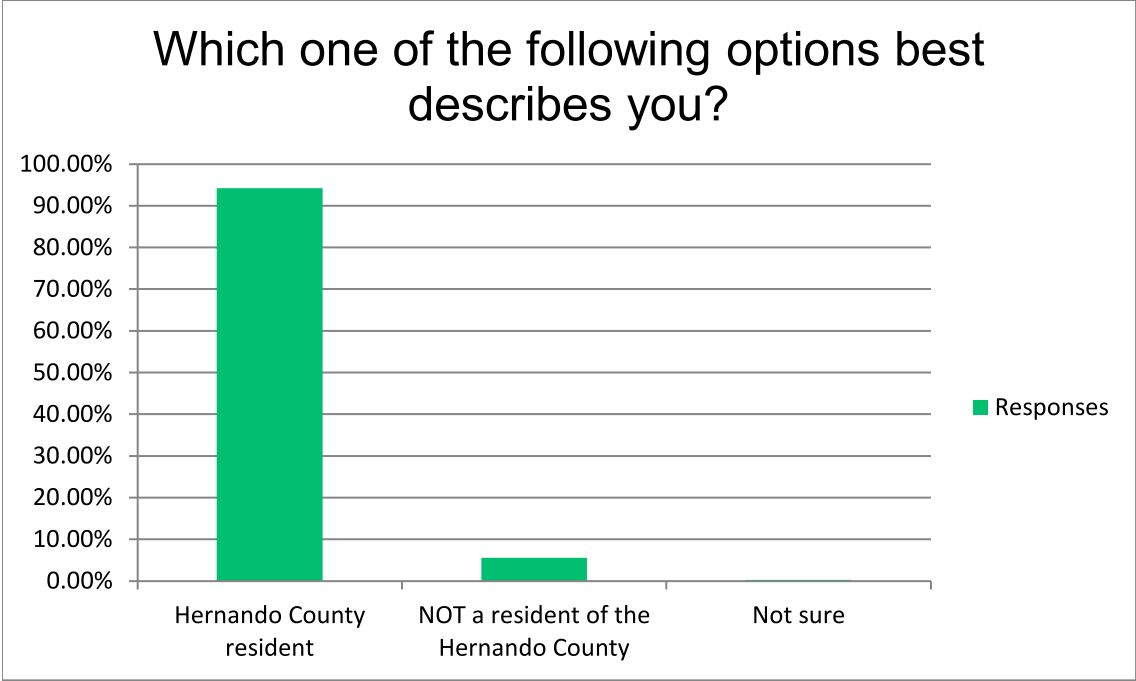
- Soccer
- Football
- Walking trails

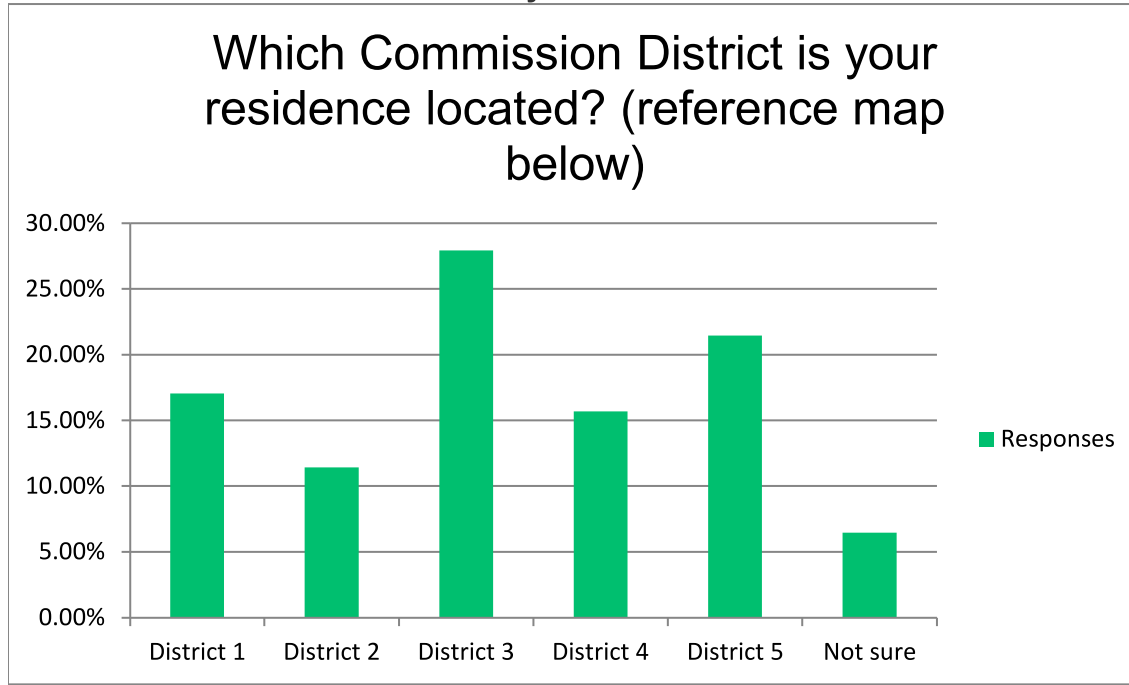
Goal: *Fix existing infrastructure – not band-aid*

Goal: *More parks & rec staff*

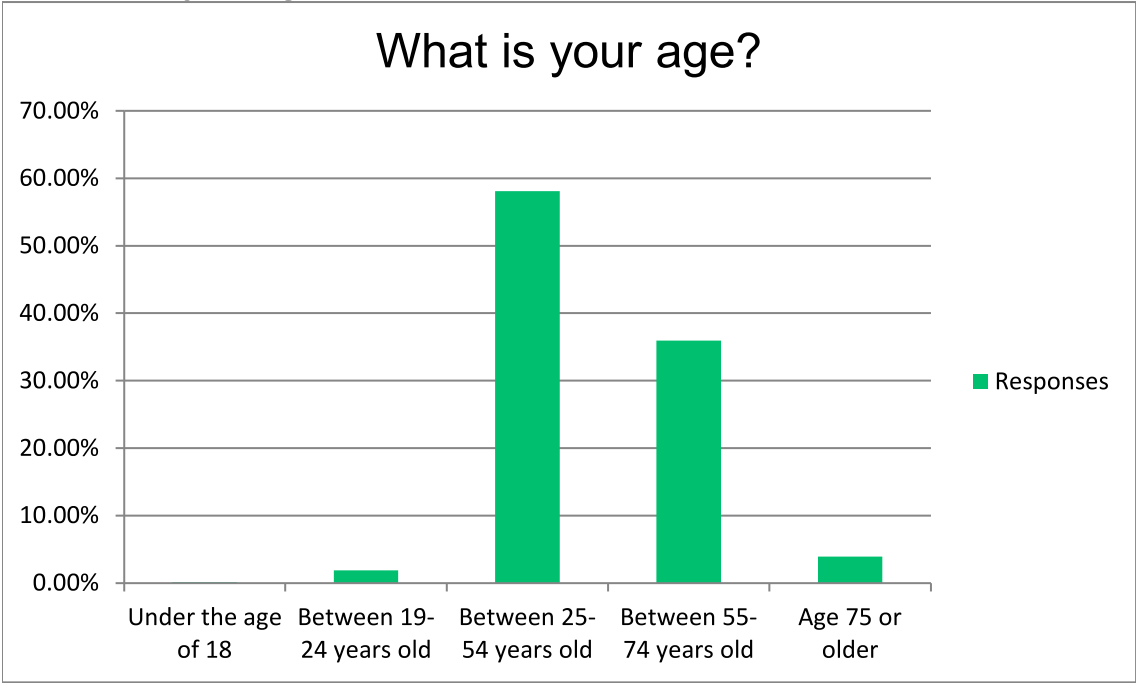
L. Online Survey Results

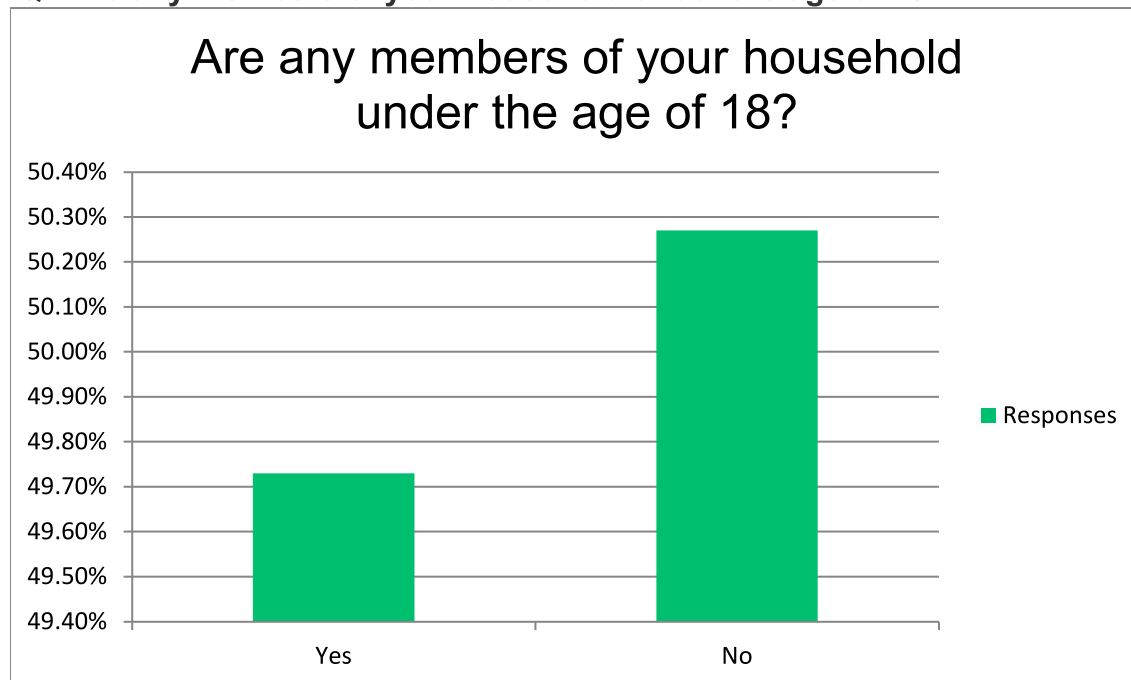
Q1 Which one of the following options best describes you?



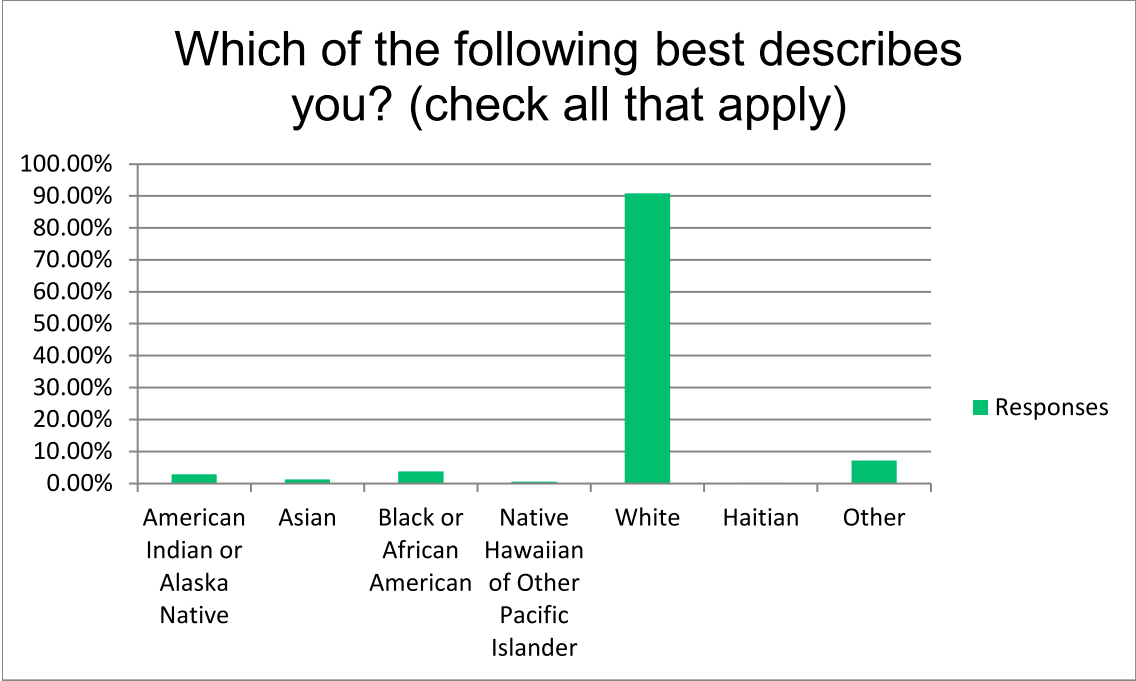
Q2 Which Commission District is your residence located?

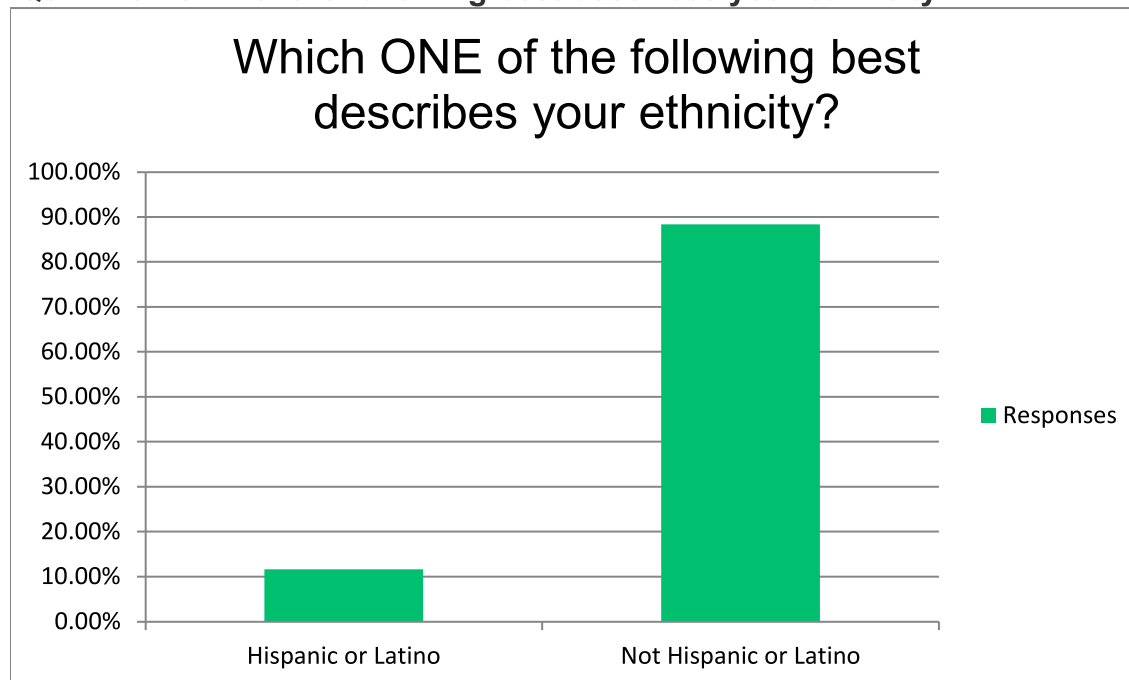
Q3 What is your age?



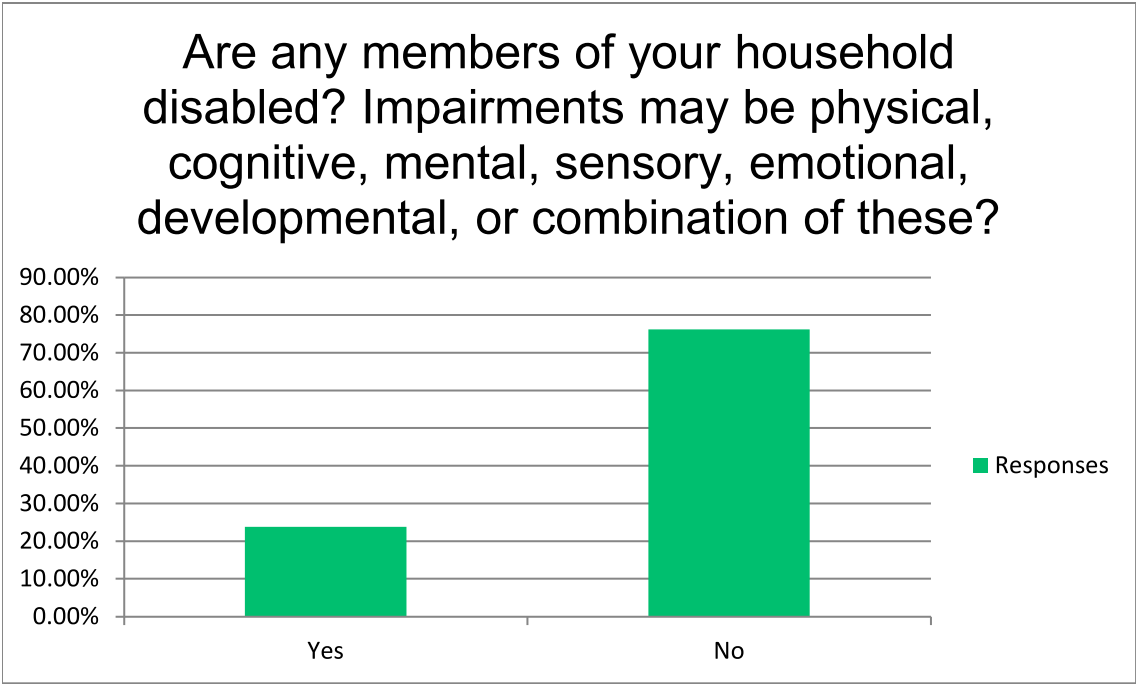
Q4 Are any members of your household under the age of 18?

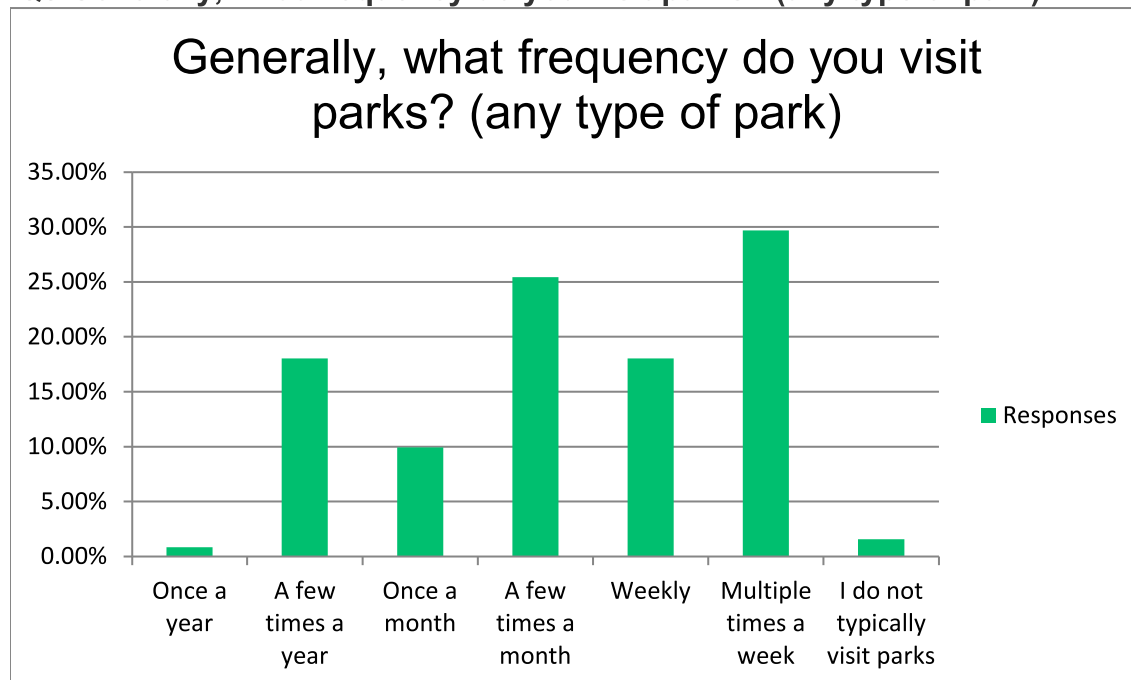
Q5 Which of the following best describes you? (check all that apply)



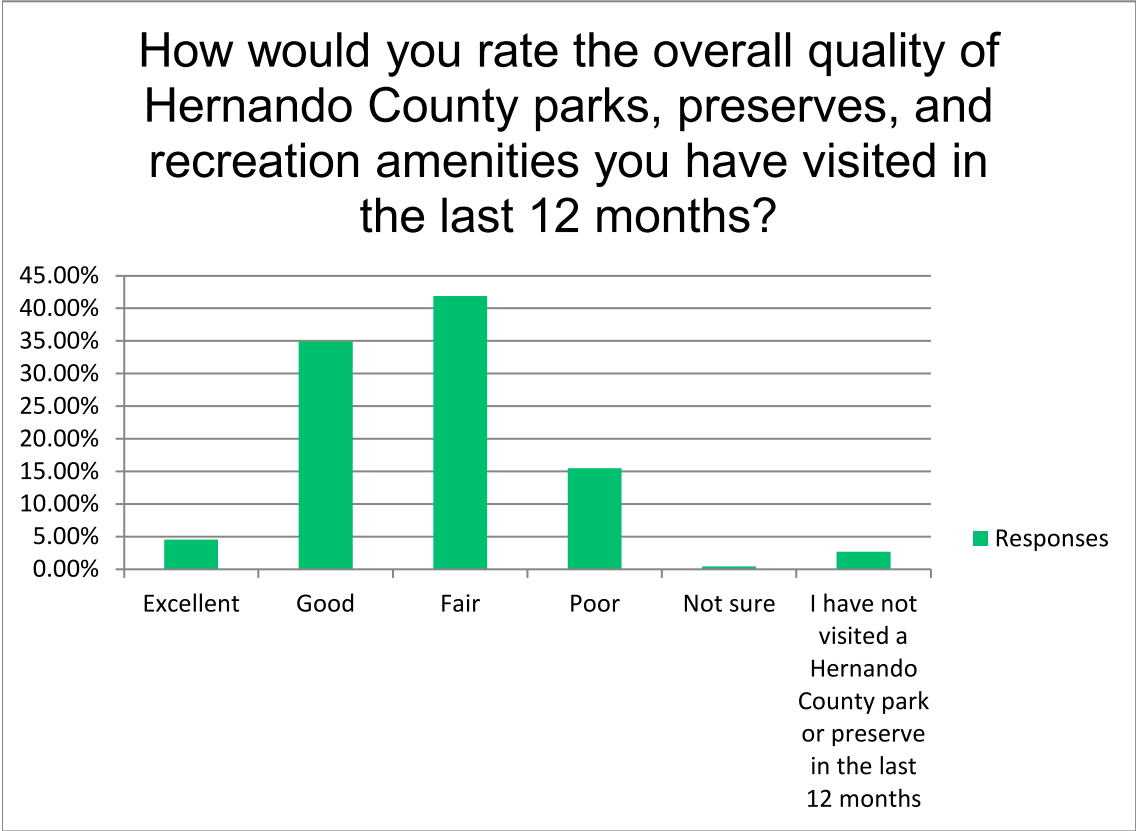
Q6 Which ONE of the following best describes your ethnicity?

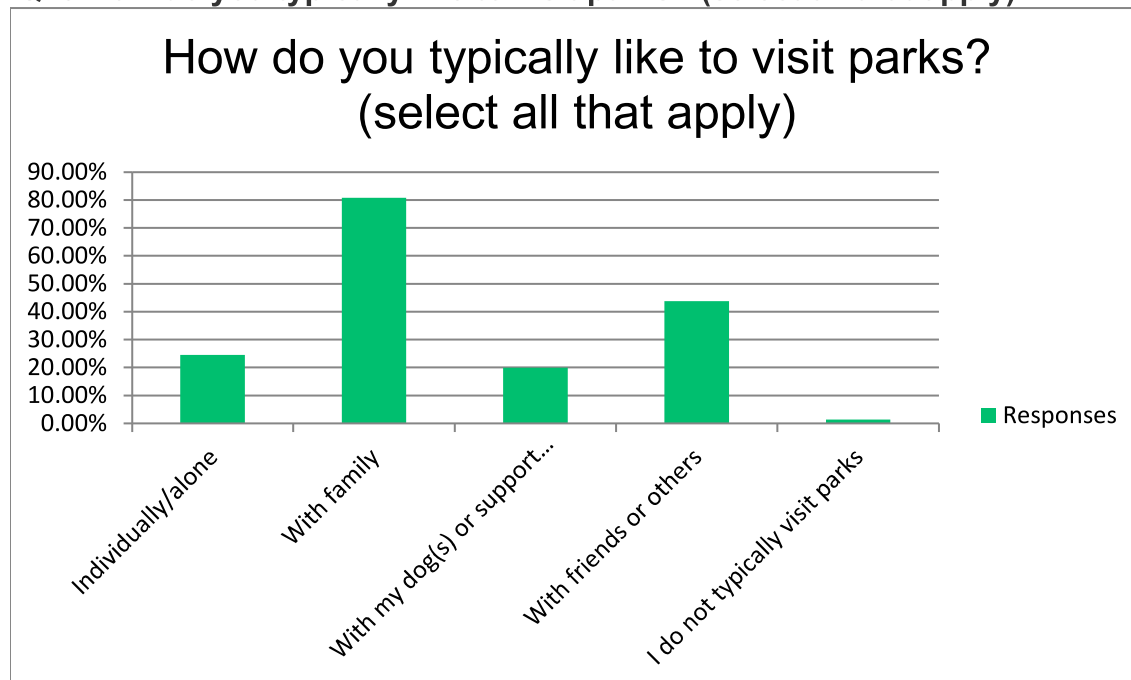
Q7 Are any members of your household disabled? Impairments may be physical, cognitive, mental, sensory, emotional, developmental, or combination of these?



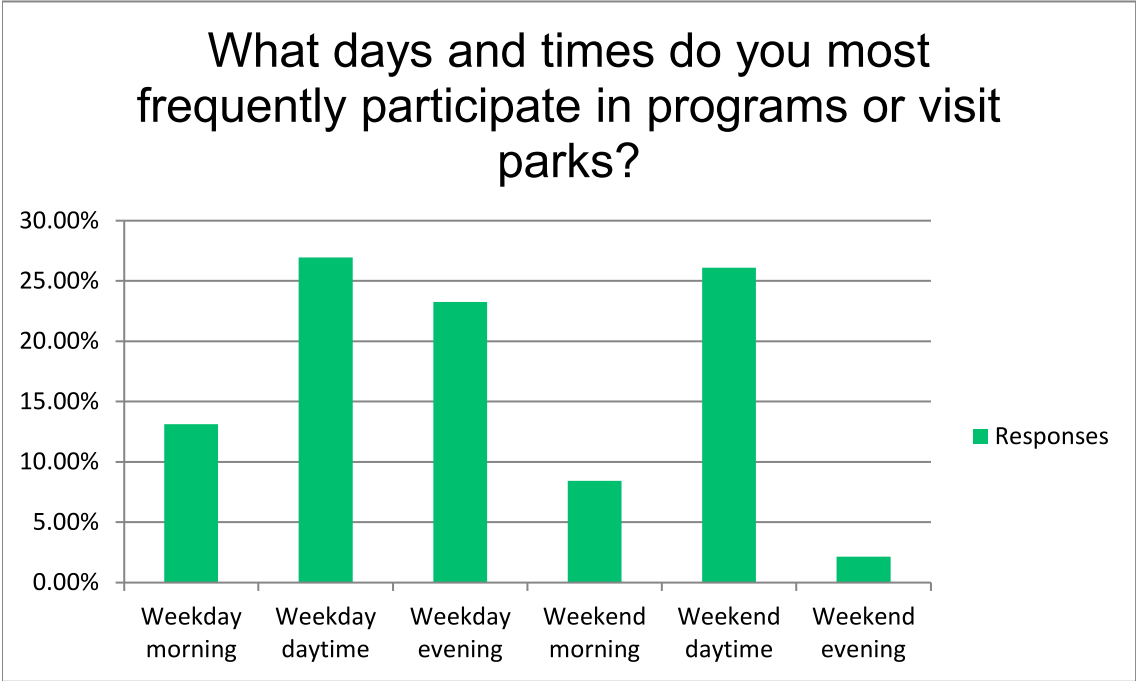
Q8 Generally, what frequency do you visit parks? (any type of park)

Q9 How would you rate the overall quality of Hernando County parks, preserves, and recreation amenities you have visited in the last 12 months?

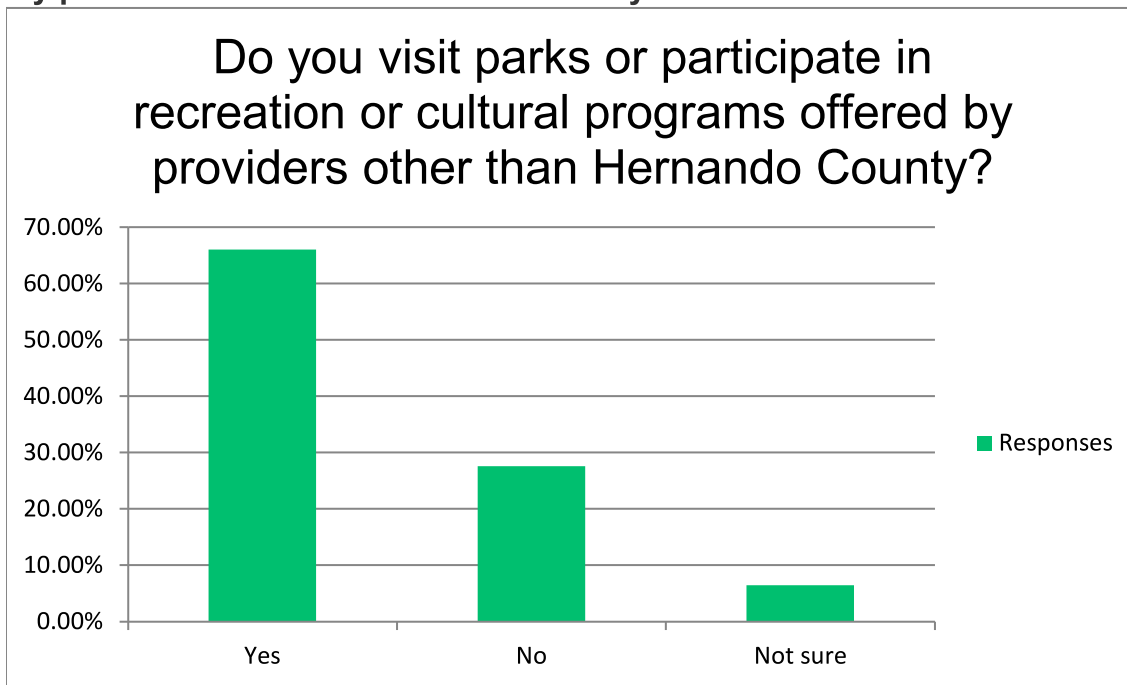


Q10 How do you typically like to visit parks? (select all that apply)

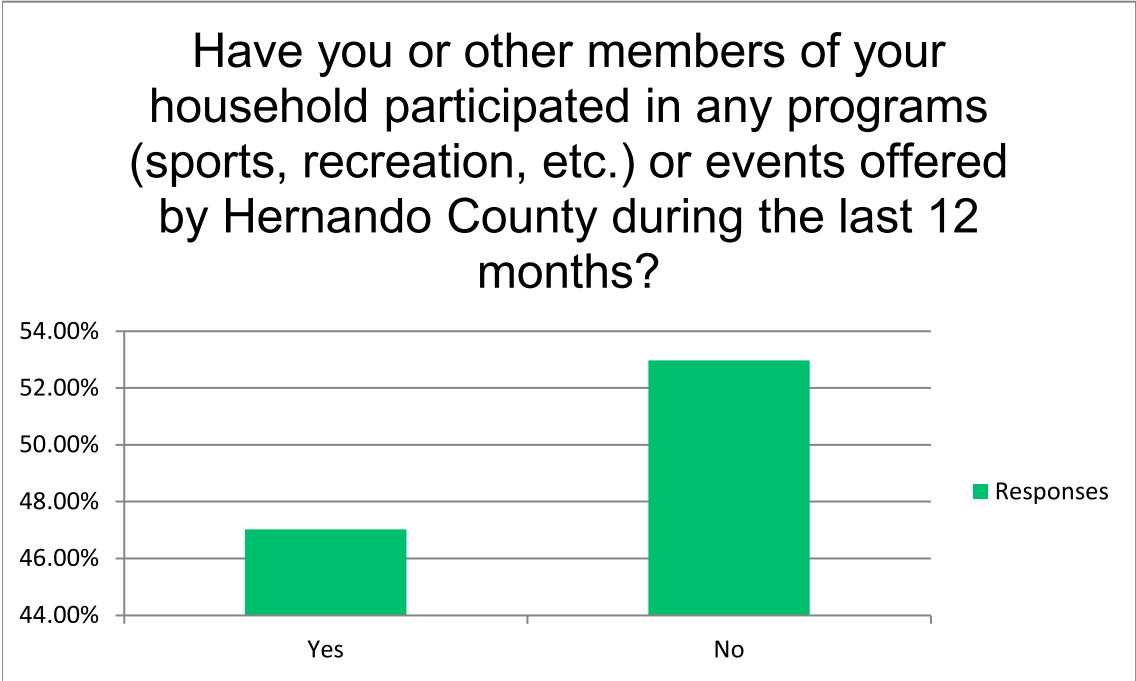
Q11 What days and times do you most frequently participate in programs or visit parks?



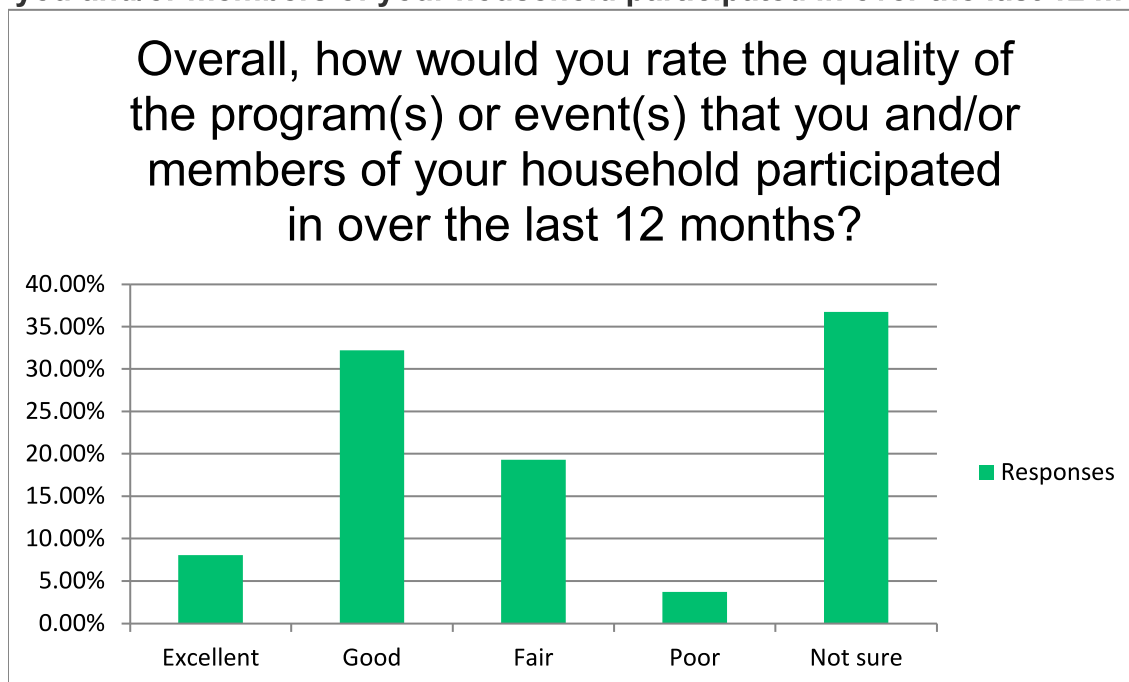
Q12 Do you visit parks or participate in recreation or cultural programs offered by providers other than Hernando County?



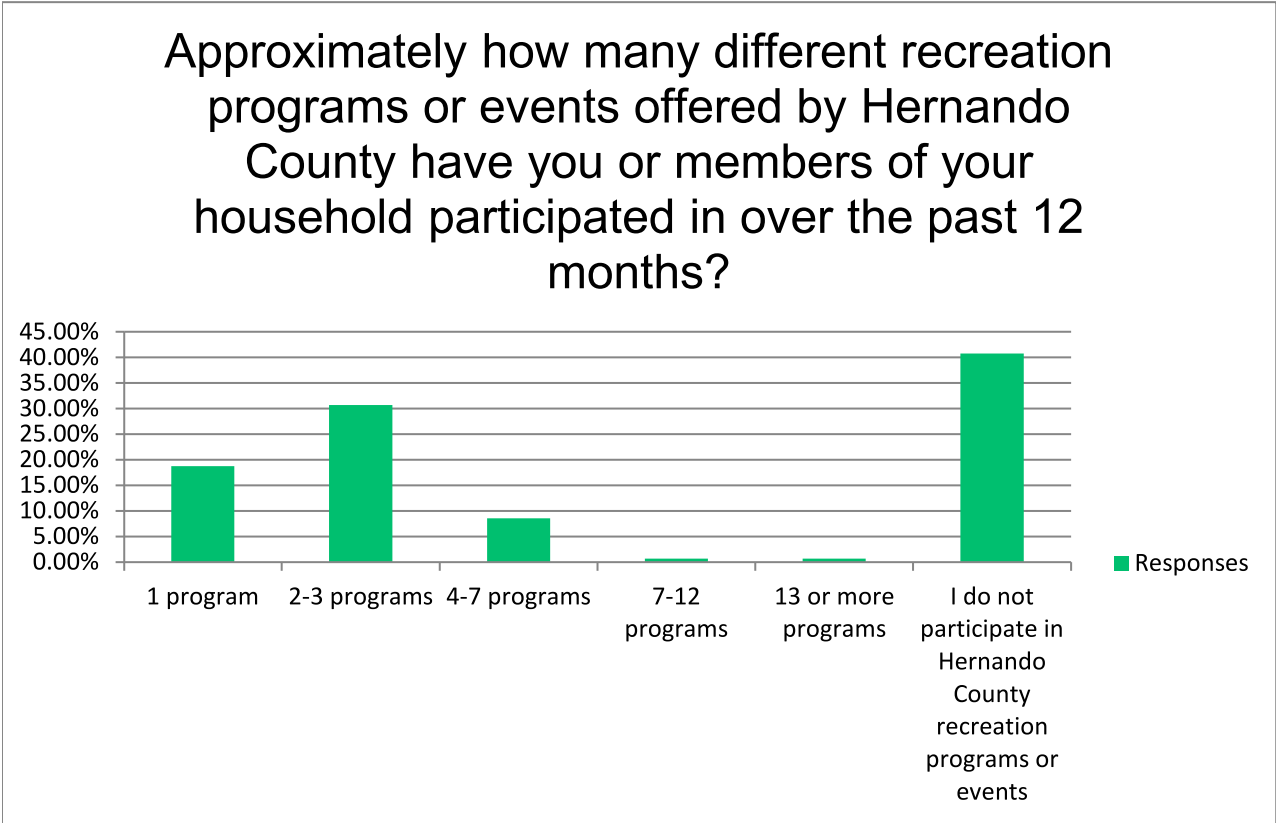
Q13 Have you or other members of your household participated in any programs (sports, recreation, etc.) or events offered by Hernando County during the last 12 months?



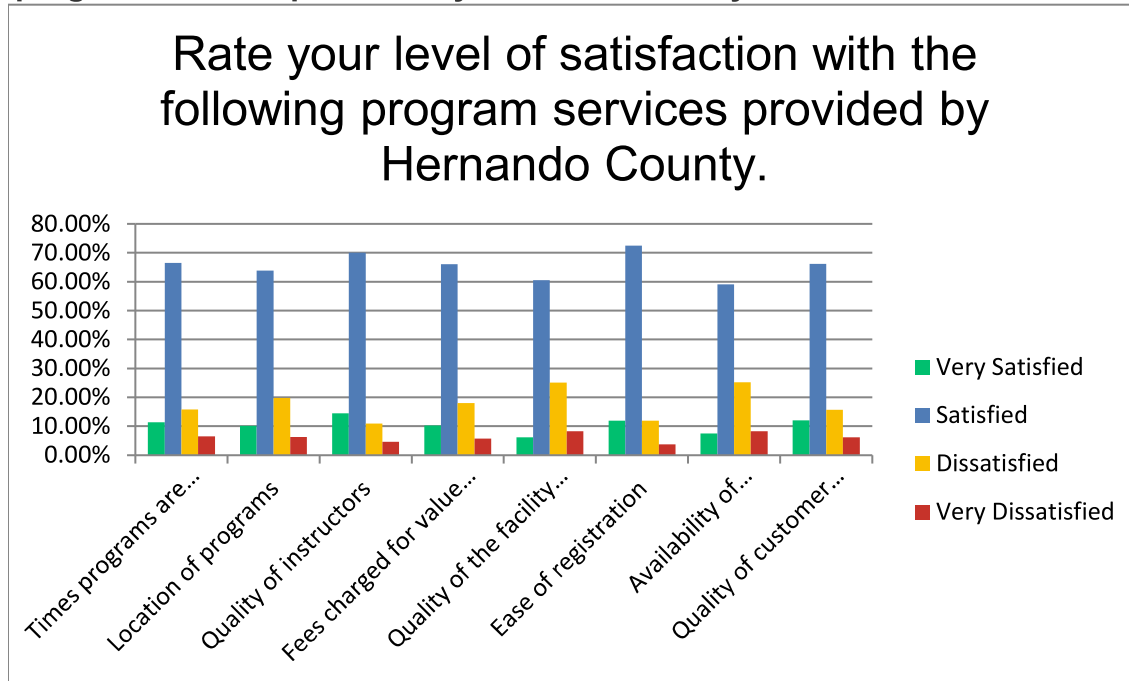
Q14 Overall, how would you rate the quality of the program(s) or event(s) that you and/or members of your household participated in over the last 12 months?



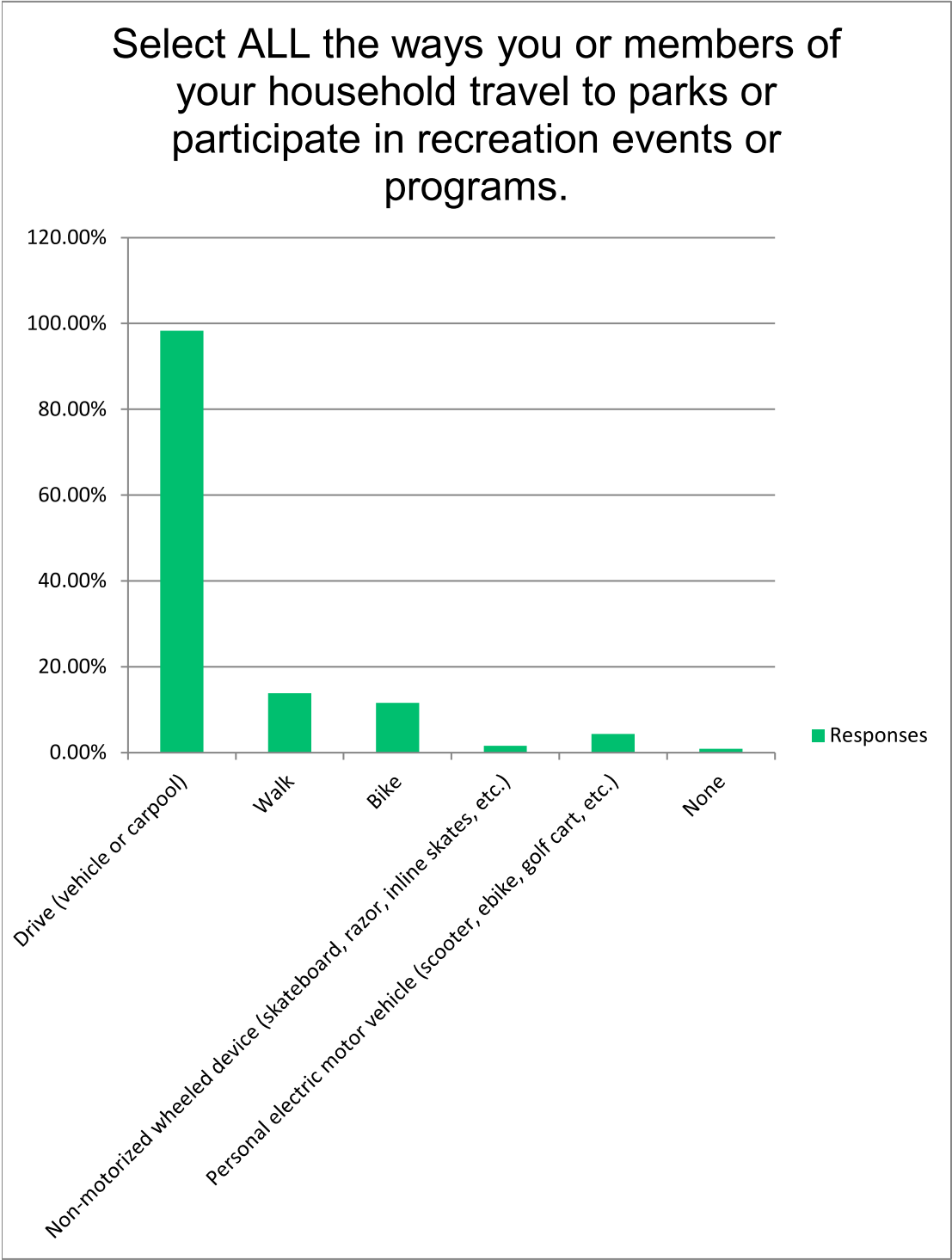
Q15 Approximately how many different recreation programs or events offered by Hernando County have you or members of your household participated in over the past 12 months?

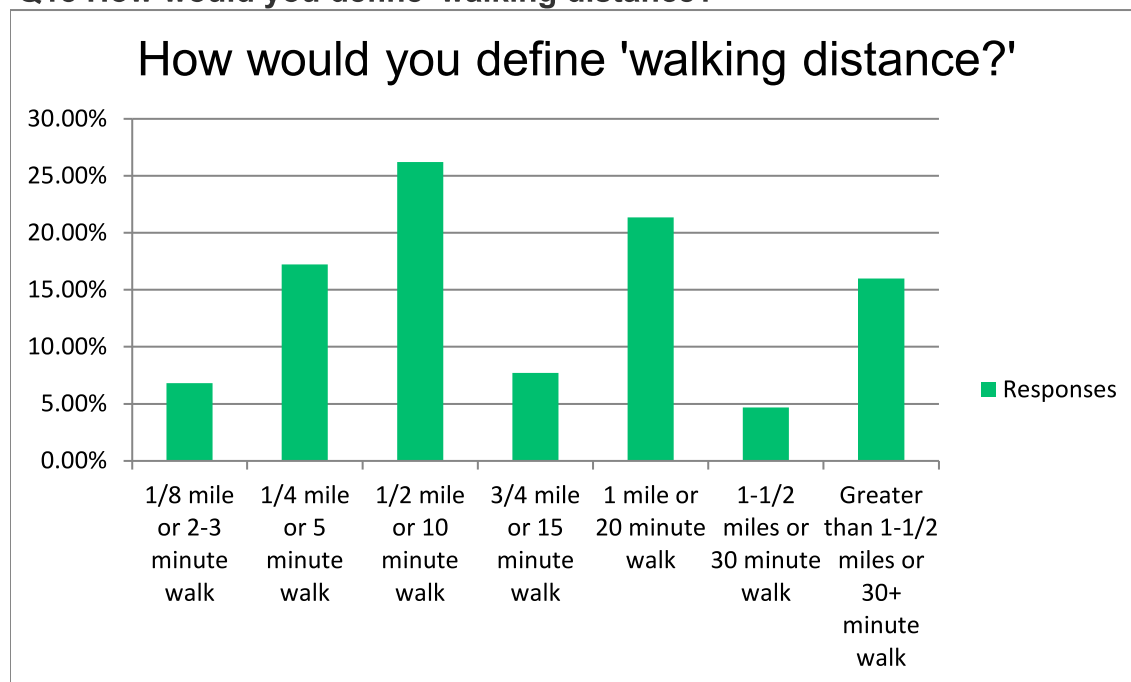


Q16 Rate your level of satisfaction with the following program services provided by Hernando County.

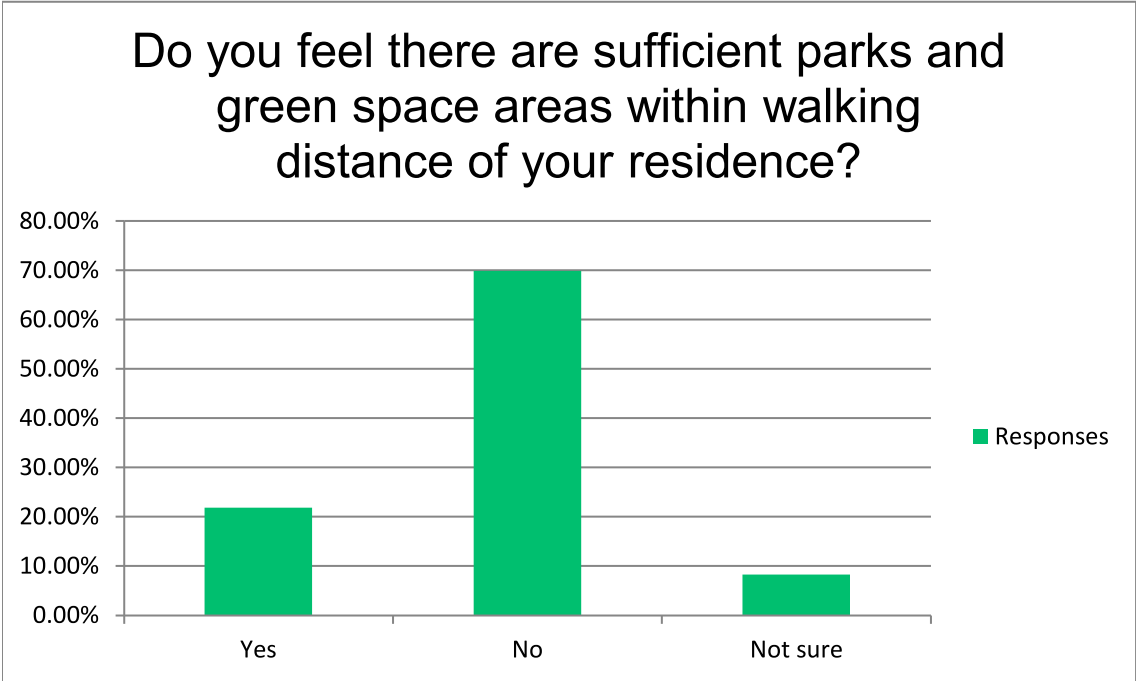


Q17 Select ALL the ways you or members of your household travel to parks or participate in recreation events or programs.

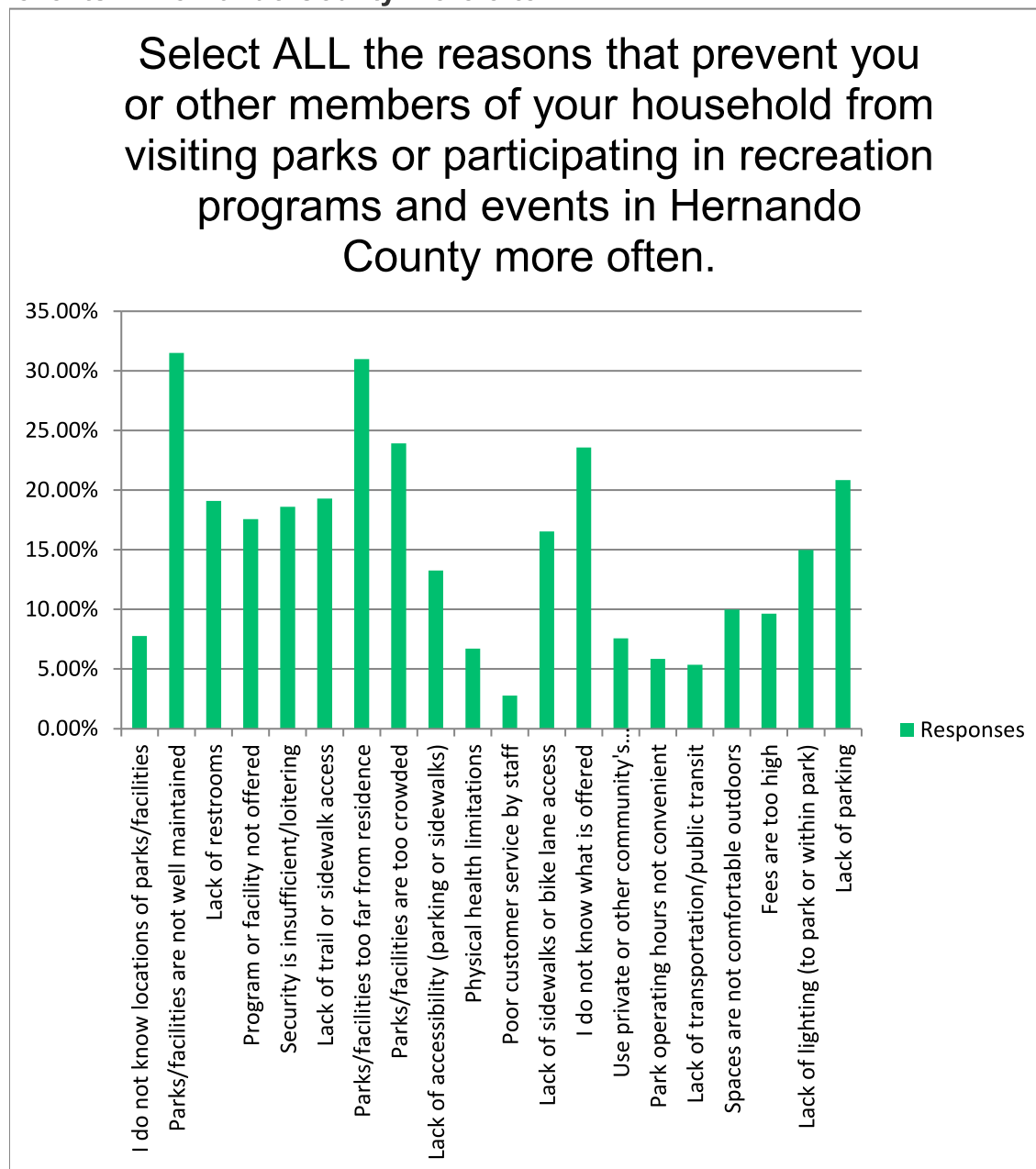


Q18 How would you define 'walking distance?'

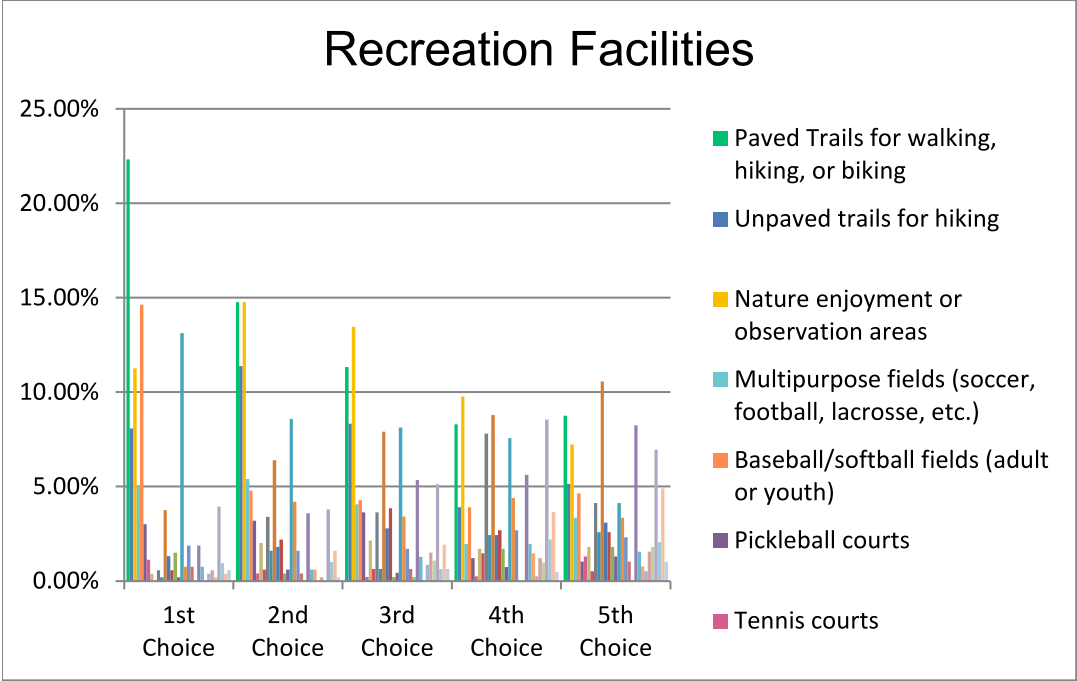
Q19 Do you feel there are sufficient parks and green space areas within walking distance of your residence?



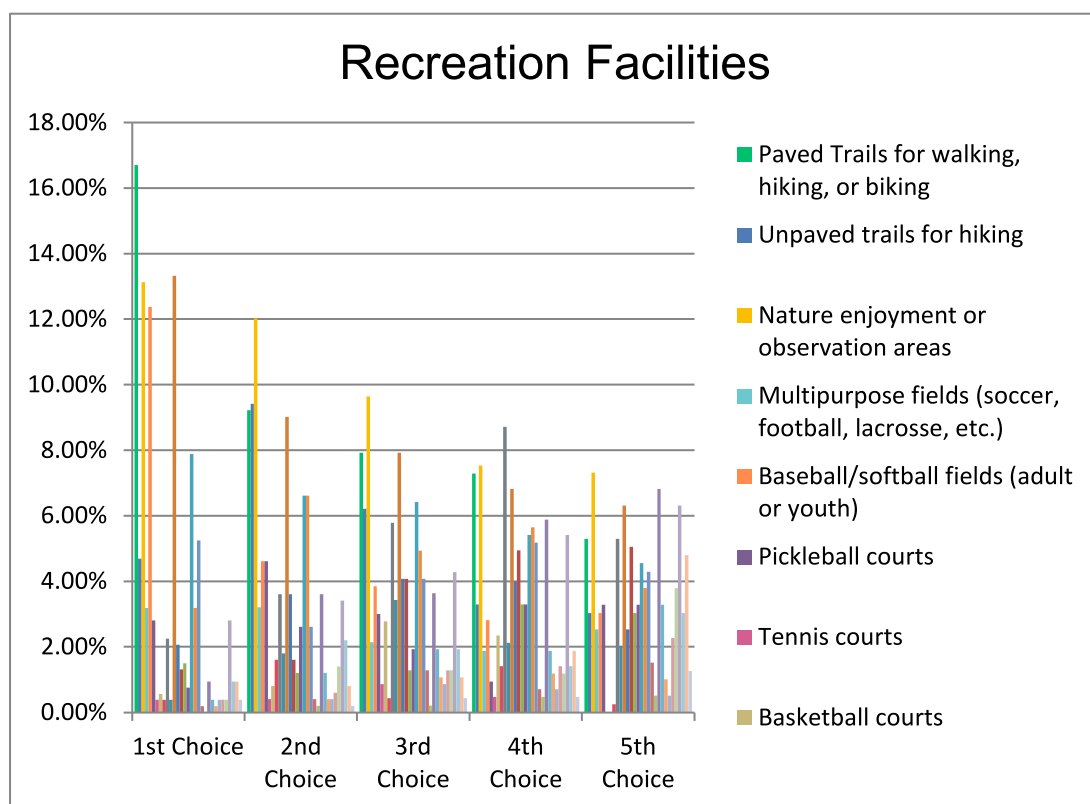
Q20 Select ALL the reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from visiting parks or participating in recreation programs and events in Hernando County more often.



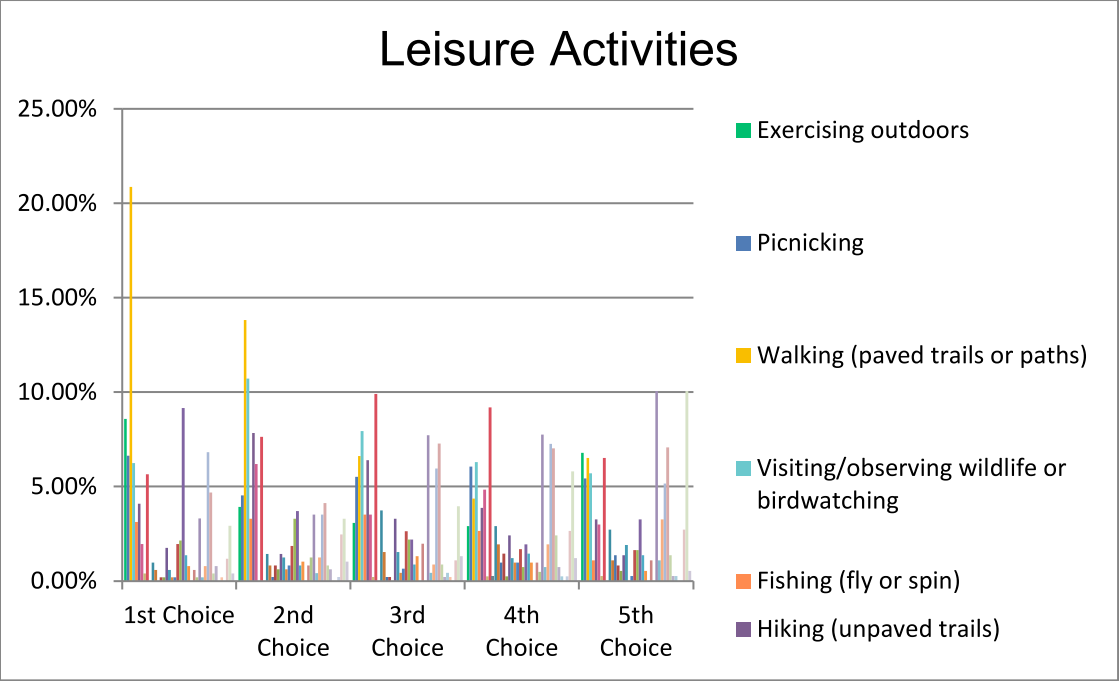
Q21 What five (5) park or recreation amenities do you use most?



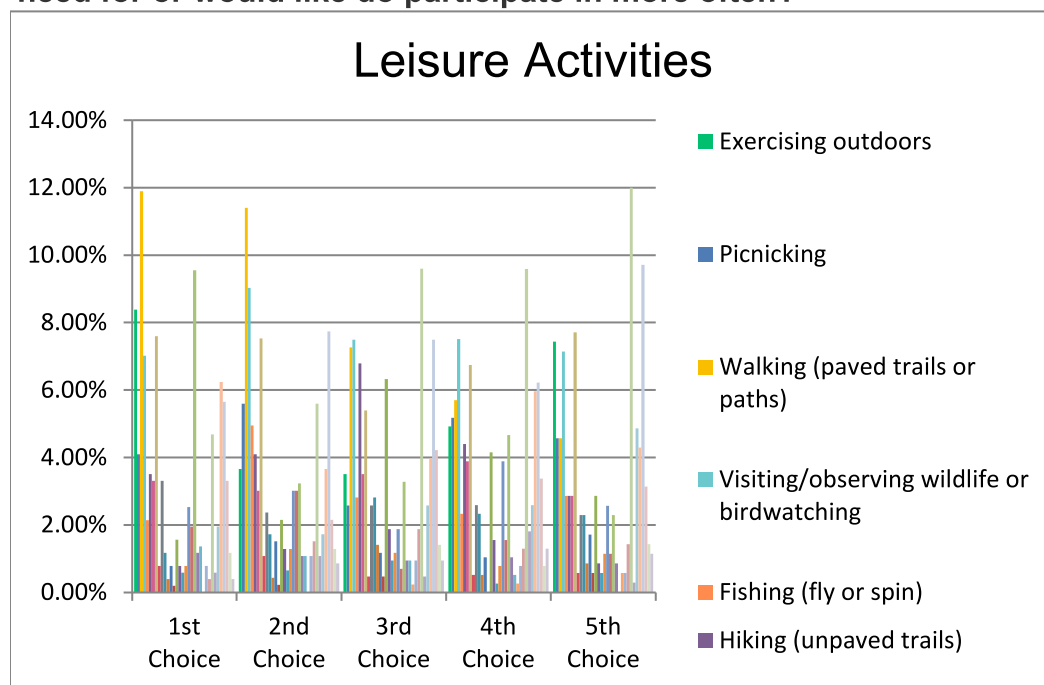
Q22 What are your five (5) most important amenities you have a need for in a park or would like more?



Q23 Which five (5) leisure activities do you participate in most often?



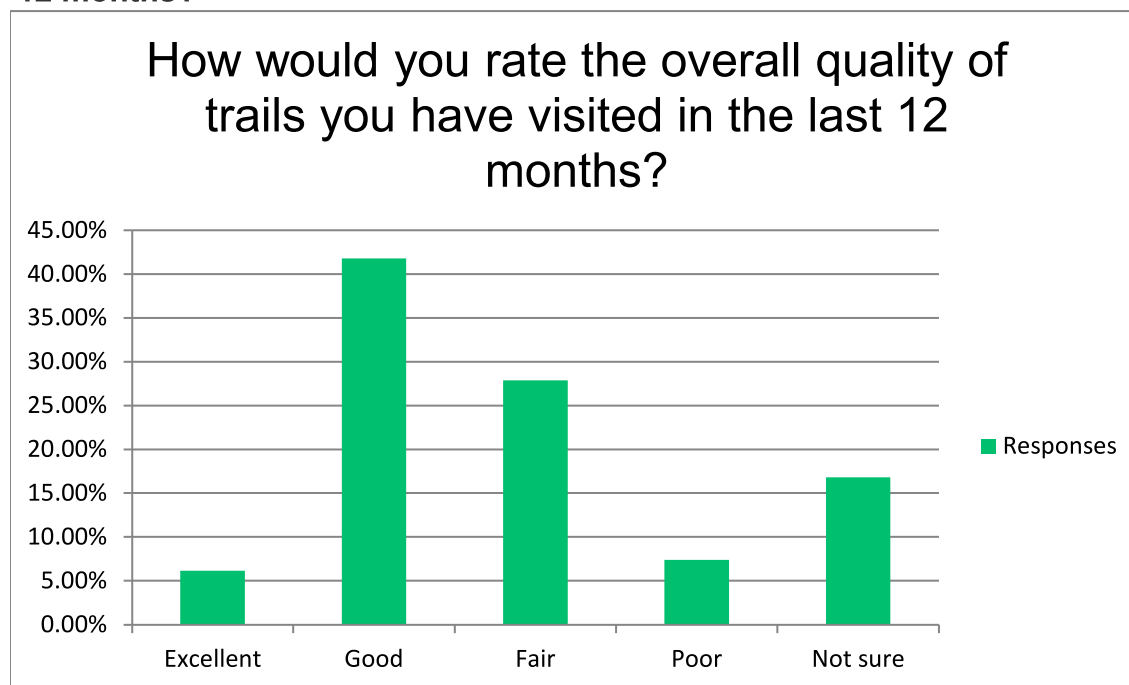
Q24 What are your five (5) most important leisure activities you have a need for or would like to participate in more often?



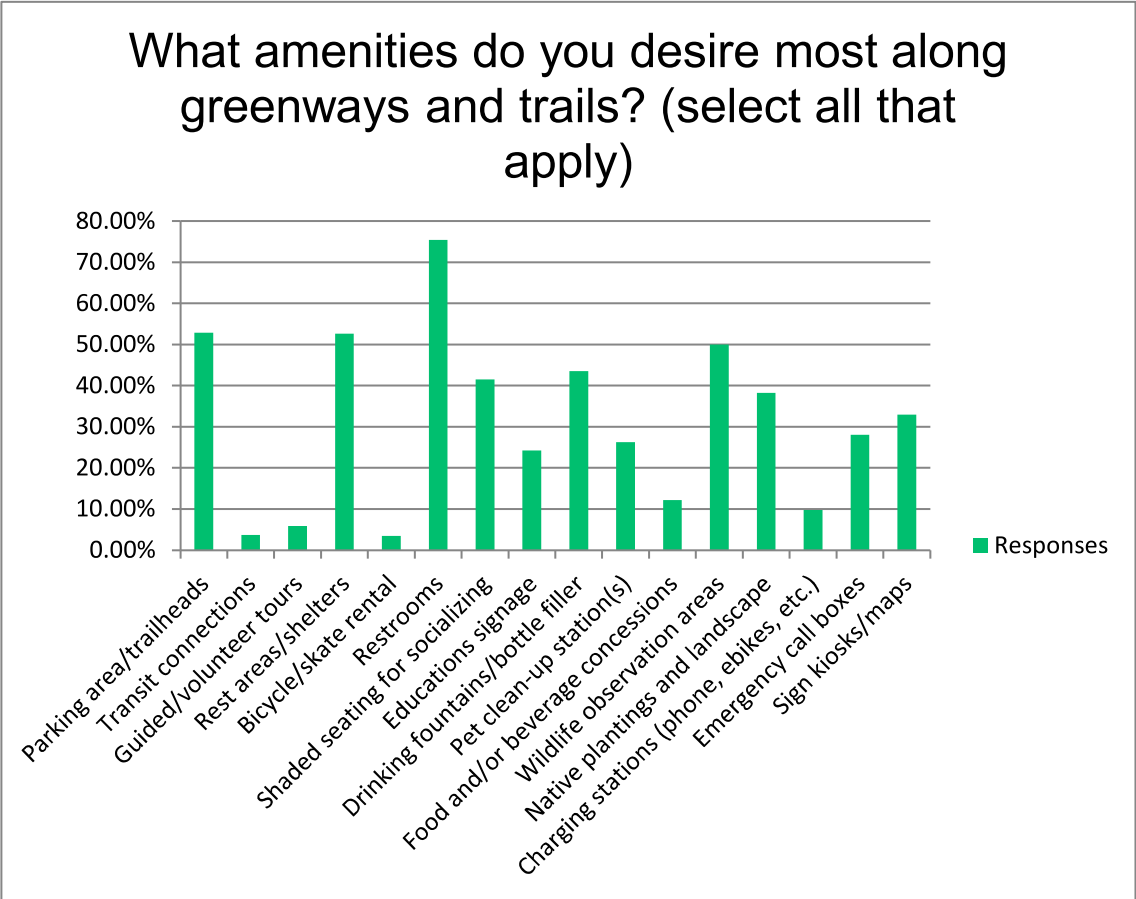
Q25 Have you visited or used a trail in the previous 12 months?



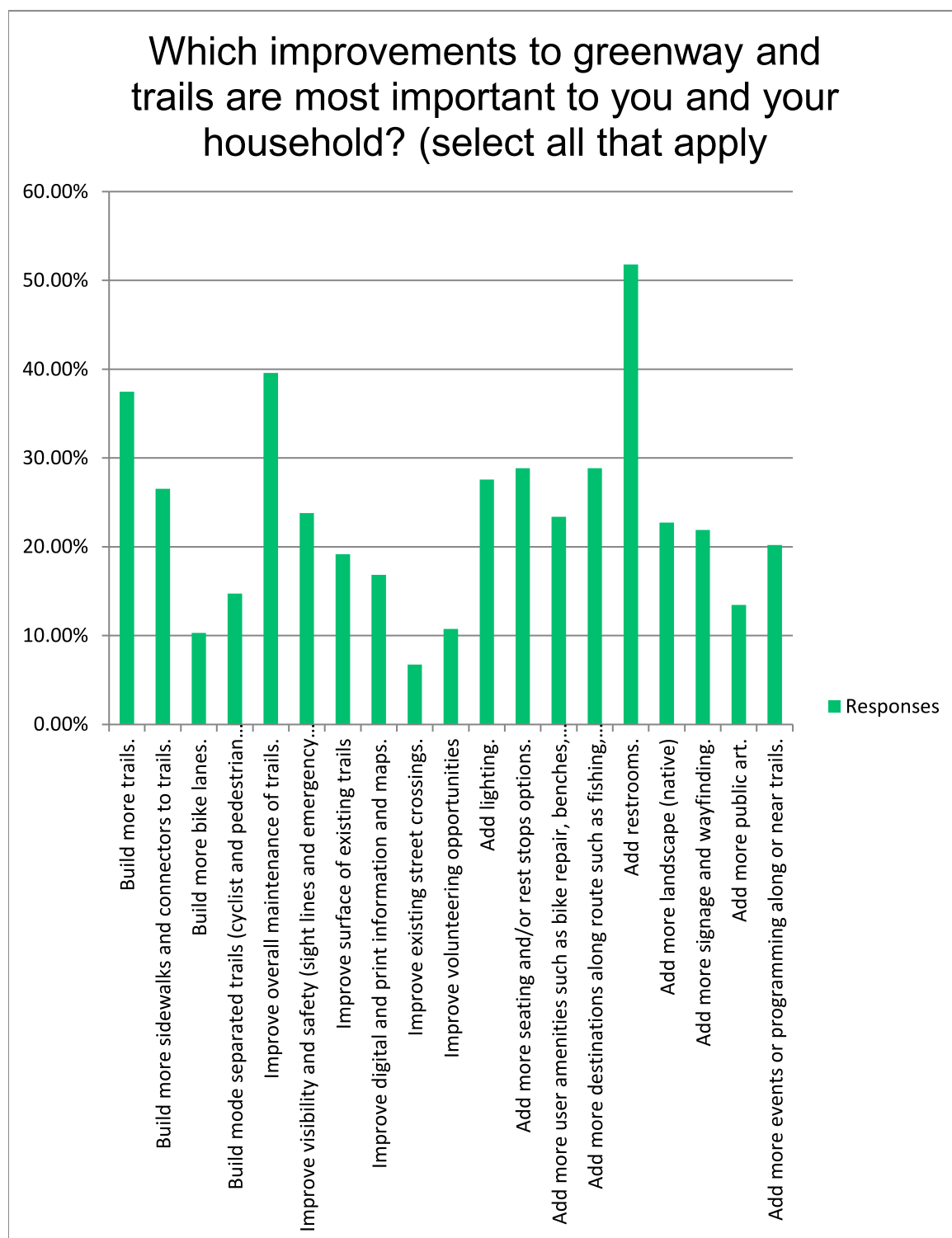
Q26 How would you rate the overall quality of trails you have visited in the last 12 months?



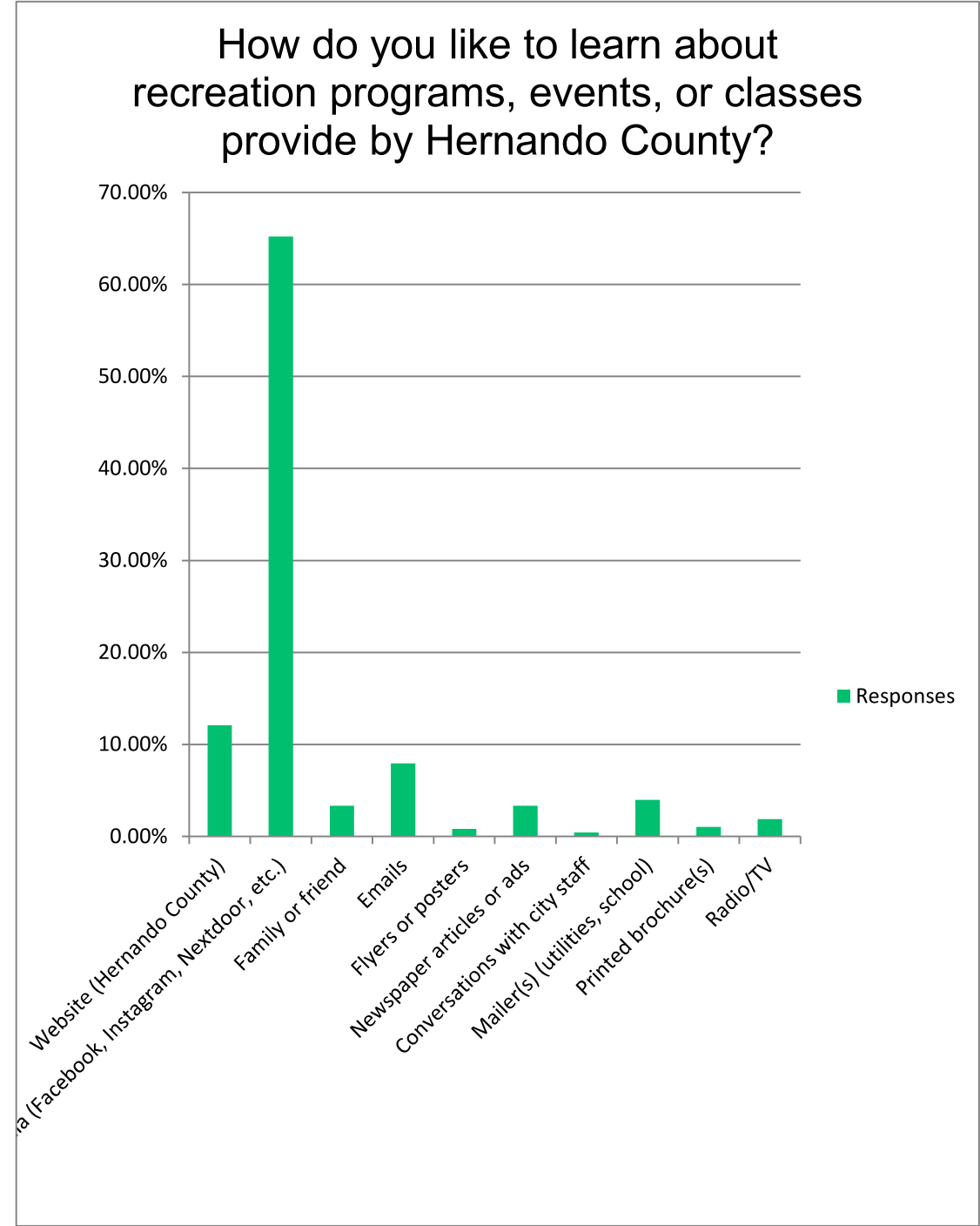
Q27 What amenities do you desire most along greenways and trails? (select all that apply)



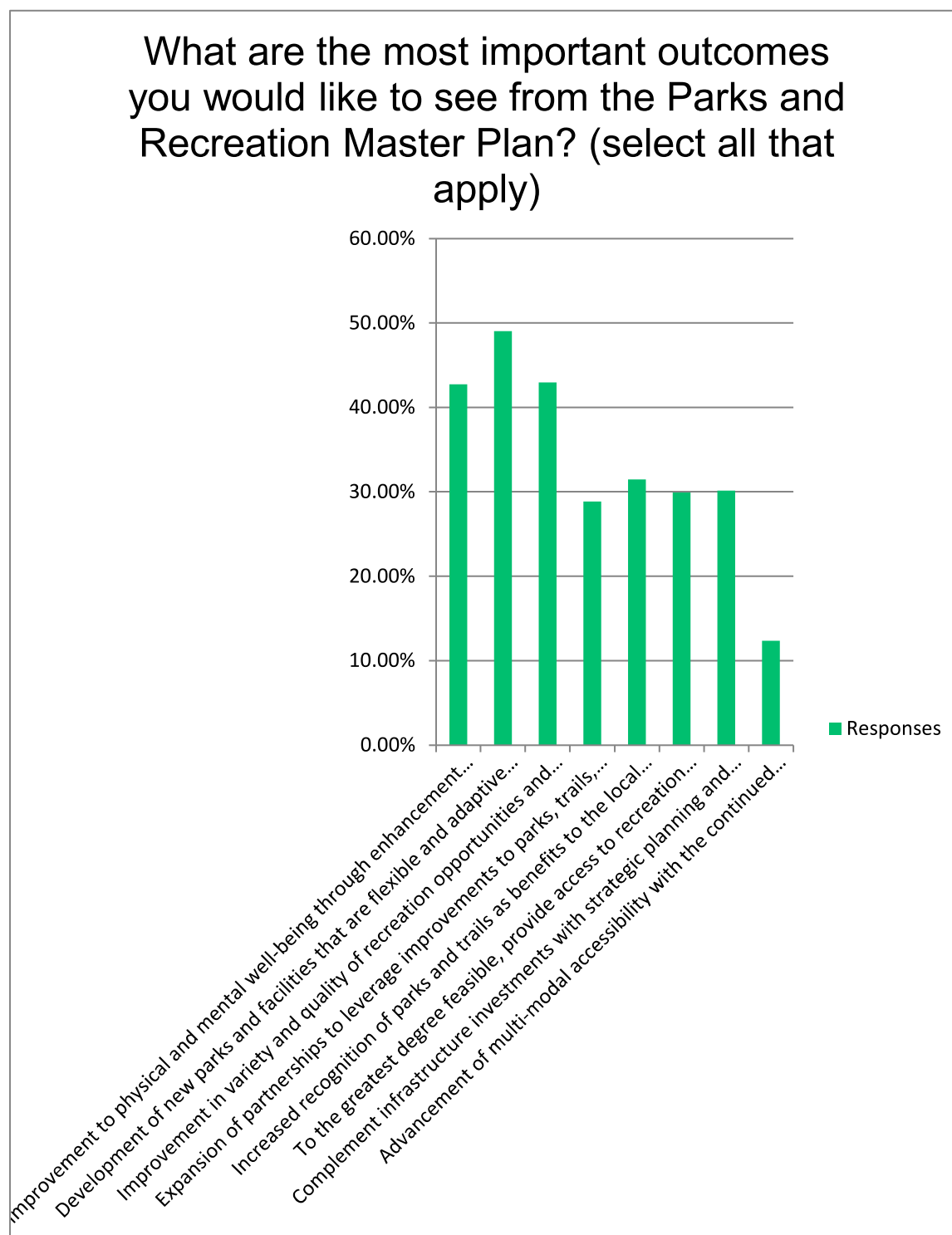
Q28 Which improvements to greenway and trails are most important to you and your household? (select all that apply)



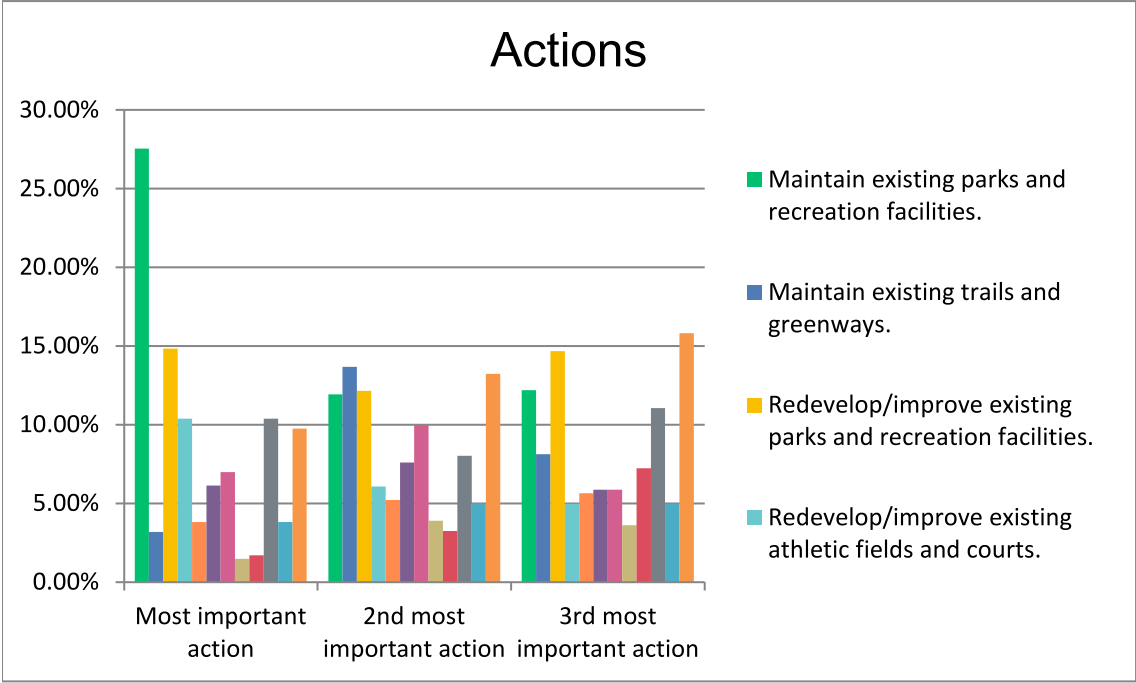
Q29 How do you like to learn about recreation programs, events, or classes provide by Hernando County?



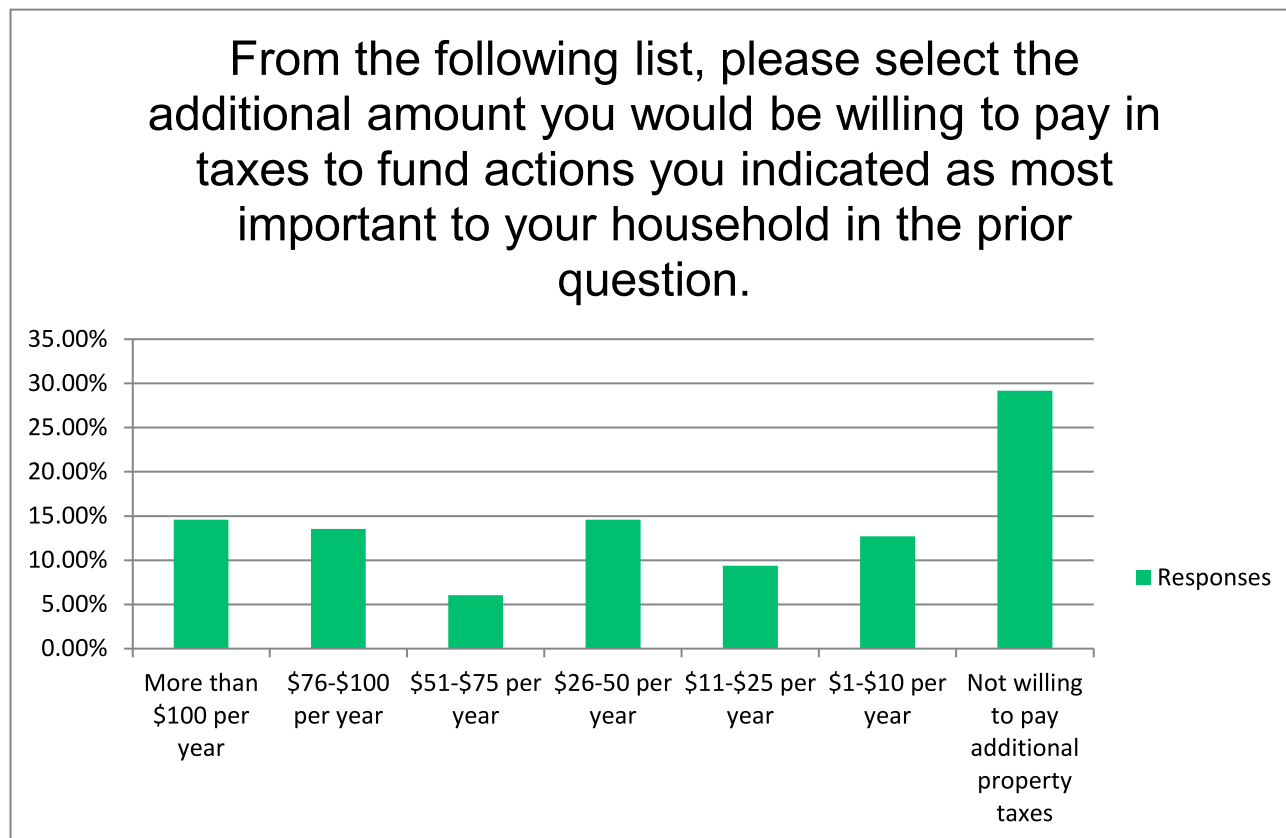
Q30 What are the most important outcomes you would like to see from the Parks and Recreation Master Plan? (select all that apply)



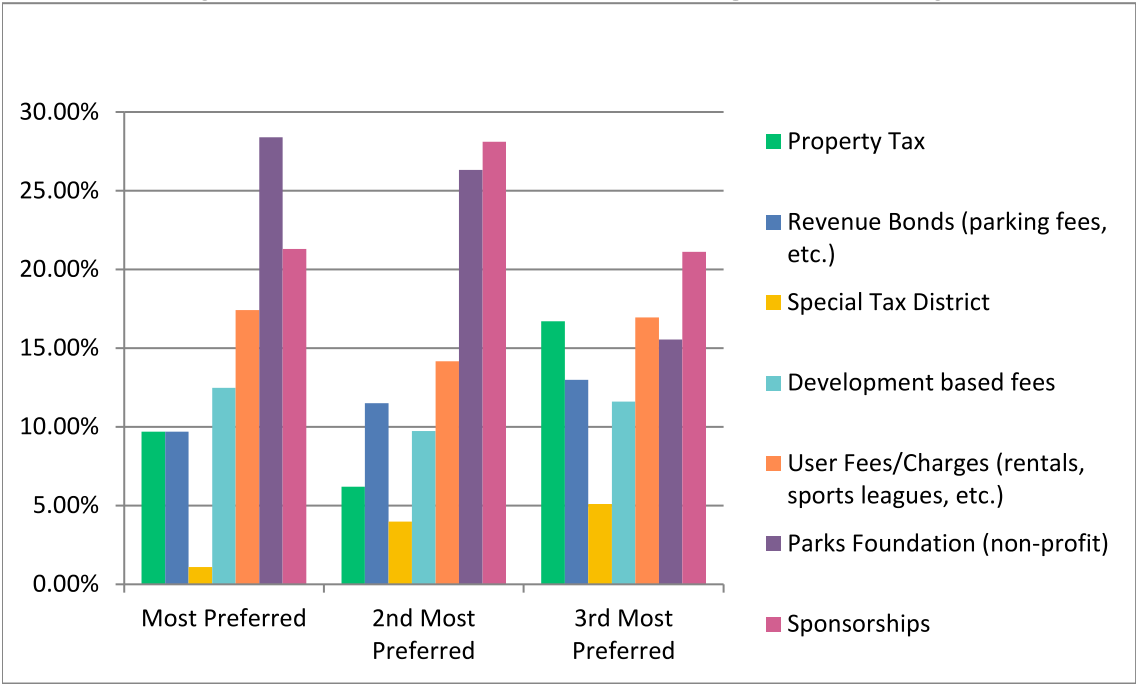
Q31 The following are actions that Hernando County could take to improve parks, recreation, and trails. Select the THREE most important actions to you or your household that you would support with your tax dollars.



Q32 From the following list, please select the additional amount you would be willing to pay in taxes to fund actions you indicated as most important to your household in the prior question.

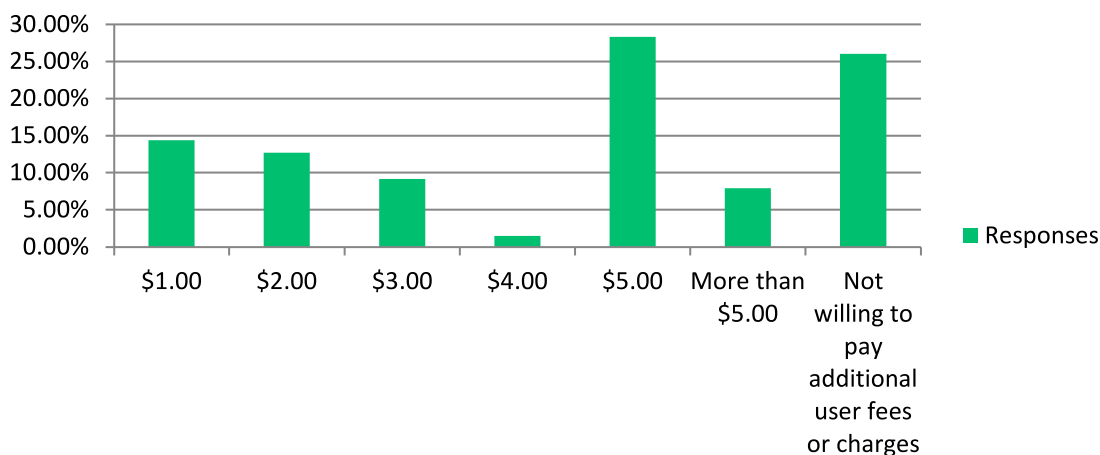


Q33 Funding for parks, recreation facilities/programs and trails may be secured from a variety of sources. Which THREE funding sources do you most prefer?



Q34 Funding collected through user fees and charges helps the County to provide high-quality programs and services through lower property taxes. Such programs are likely to be recreation programs, youth or adult sports, paid park events, and special events and festivals. Please check the additional amount in user fees or charges you would be willing to pay for your favorite park and recreation activity or program which you or members of your household participate. (additional amounts are per event or program for an individual).

Funding collected through user fees and charges helps the County to provide high-quality programs and services through lower property taxes. Such programs are likely to be recreation programs, youth or adult sports, paid park events, and special events and festivals. Please...



M. Statistical Survey Results

2025 Hernando County Community Interest and Opinion Survey Executive Summary

Overview

ETC Institute administered a community interest and opinion survey for Hernando County during the spring of 2025. The survey goals were to understand park and recreation priorities for the community and to hear from residents about how Hernando County is performing in key park and recreation areas. These findings will help shape priorities for the future.

Methodology

ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to a random selection of residents in Hernando County. Each survey packet contained a cover letter, a copy of the survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. Residents who received the survey were given the option of returning the survey by mail or completing it online at HernandoCountyParkSurvey.org.

After the surveys were mailed, ETC Institute followed up with residents to encourage participation. To prevent people who were not residents of the service area from participating, everyone who completed the survey online was required to enter their home address prior to submitting the survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses that were entered online with the addresses that were originally selected for the random sample. If the address from a survey completed online did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the online survey was not included in the final database for this report.

The survey aimed to collect a minimum of 300 completed responses from residents, and this target was surpassed with 390 completed surveys collected. The overall results for the sample of 390 residents have a precision of at least ± 4.96 at the 95% level of confidence.

This report contains the following:

- Executive Summary with Major Findings
- Charts showing the overall results of the survey and benchmarking (Section 1)
- Priority Investment Ratings (PIR) (Section 2)
- Open-Ended Comments from the survey (Section 3)
- Tabular data showing the overall results for all questions on the survey (Section 4)
- A copy of the cover letter and survey instrument (Section 5)

The major findings of the survey are summarized in the following pages.

Parks, Recreation and Trails

When residents were asked to rate their level of agreement with various potential benefits of parks, recreation, and trails, the top three benefits receiving the highest levels of agreement were: improving physical health and fitness (90%), enhancing mental health and reducing stress (88%), and preserving open space and the environment (83%). The only benefit that received less than 50% agreement was crime reduction (46%). The benefits considered most important to Hernando County residents are: 1) improving physical health and fitness, 2) preserving open space and the environment, and 3) enhancing mental health and reducing stress.

Residents currently learn about recreation opportunities in Hernando County from 1.) Social media, 2.) From friends and neighbors, and 3.) The Hernando County Website. The County can improve communication with residents by better aligning with resident communication preferences.

Amenity Ratings

- Thirty-nine percent (39%) of respondents rated the quality of parks and recreation amenities offered by Hernando County as “excellent” or “good.”
- Only three percent (3%) of respondents have not visited any Hernando County parks and recreation amenities.

Program Ratings

- Twenty-four percent (24%) of respondents rated the quality of parks and recreation programs offered by Hernando County as “excellent” or “good.”
- Thirty-one percent (31%) of respondents have not participated in any Hernando County parks and recreation programs.

The top reasons that prevent respondents from using parks, trails, recreation facilities, or programs by the Hernando County are parks or amenities are not well maintained, parks and trails are too far from residence, and lack of interesting amenities or programs.

Additional Findings

- Only twenty-one percent (21%) of residents believe there are sufficient parks and green space areas within walking distance of their residence.
- Seventy-three percent (73%) of residents do not believe there are sufficient parks and green space areas within walking distance of their residence.
- Seventy-one percent (71%) of respondents indicated that they are willing to walk 10 minutes for park or recreation amenities.
- The three activities that respondents participate in most are 1.) Swimming for fun, 2.) Kayaking, canoeing, or rowing, and 3.) Enjoying or learning about nature.

Level of Support for Improvements

The highest levels of support for potential improvements or developments were maintaining and renovating existing parks and recreation amenities (98%), maintaining and renovating existing trails (96%), and acquiring land for preservation of natural resources and open space (95%). The lowest level of support was with developing and building new athletic fields and/or courts (67%). The clear top choice among residents that they would most be willing to support with tax dollars was maintaining and renovating existing parks and recreation amenities.

Funding

- Sixty percent (60%) of respondents indicated they would be willing to pay \$25 or more to fund improvements most important to their household. Twenty-eight percent (28%) of respondents would not be willing to pay anything additional.
- Thirty percent (30%) of respondents would be willing to pay an additional \$5 for their favorite parks and recreation activity or program. Thirty-six percent (36%) of respondents would not be willing to pay any additional fees.
- The four funding choices respondents prefer for parks, recreation facilities/programs, and trails are 1.) Parks Foundation, 2.) Sponsorships, 3.) User Fees/Charges, and 4.) Impact or development-based fees.

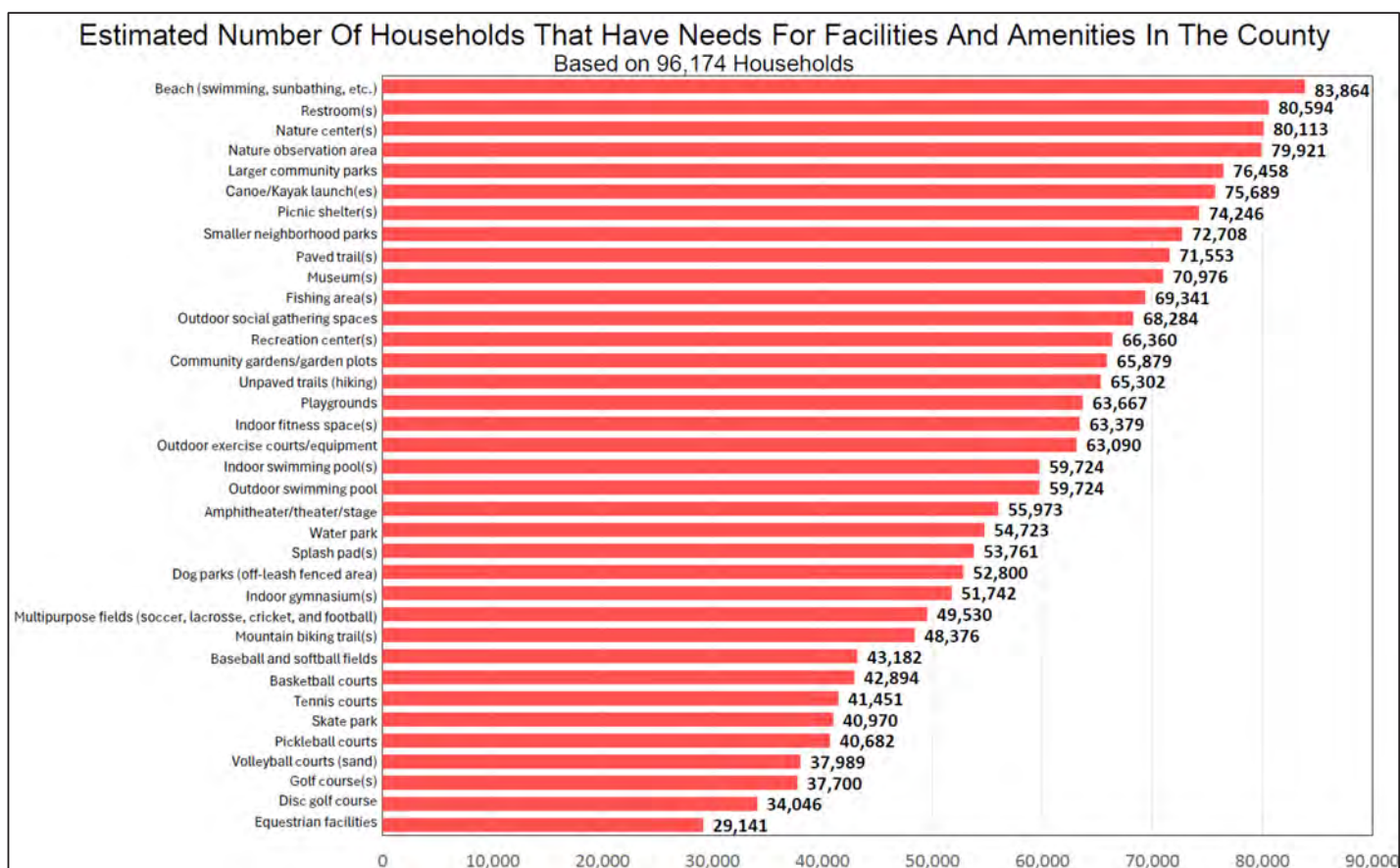
Parks and Recreation Facilities and Amenities Needs and Priorities

Facility and Amenity Needs: Respondents were asked to identify if their household had a need for 36 facilities and amenities and to rate how well their needs for each were currently being met. Based on this analysis, ETC Institute was able to estimate the number of households in the community that had the greatest “unmet” need for various facilities.

The three facilities with the highest percentage of households that have an unmet need:

1. Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.) – 83,864 households
2. Restrooms – 80,594 households
3. Nature Center (s) – 80,113 households

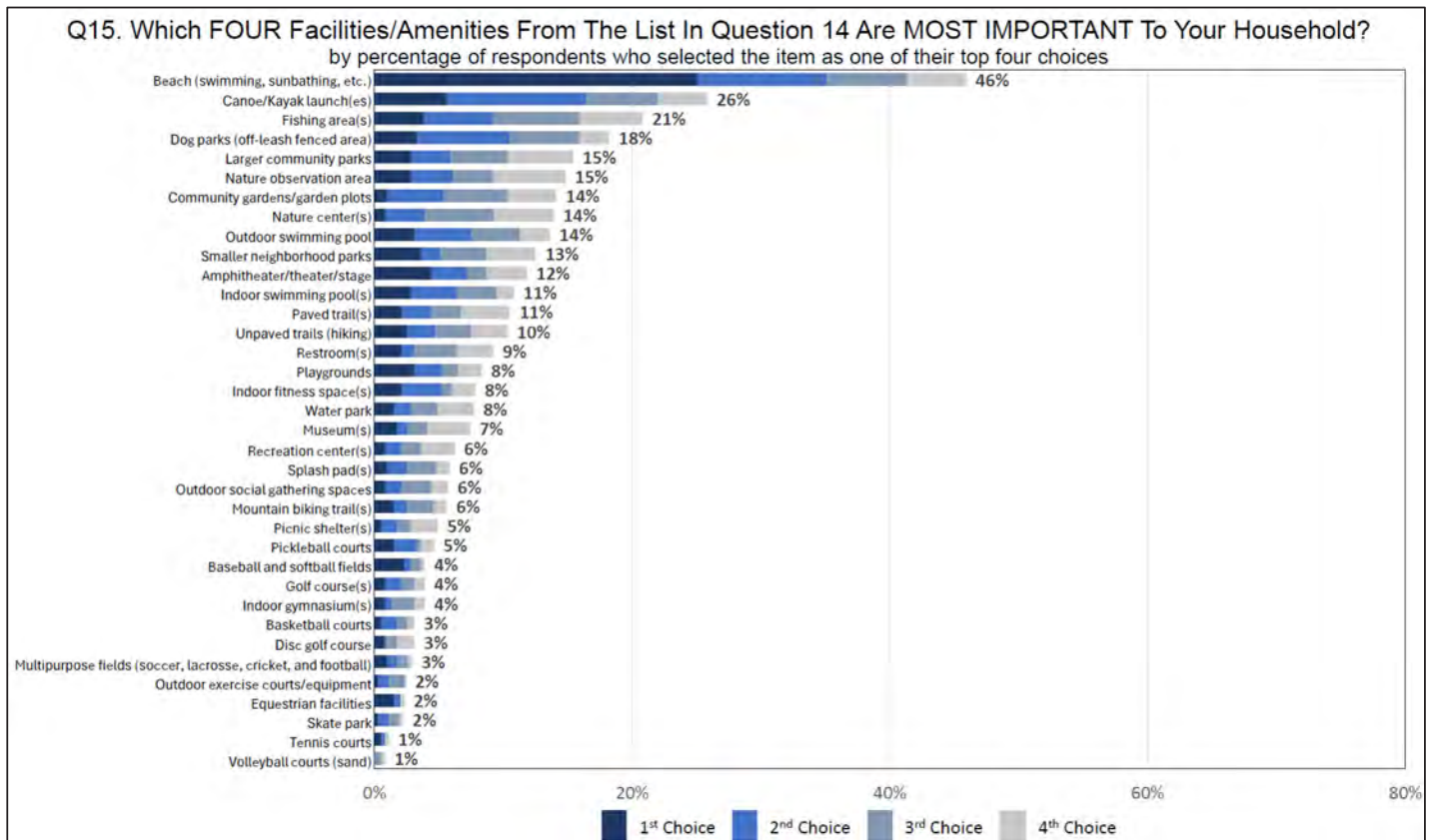
The estimated number of households that have unmet needs for each of the 36 facilities and amenities assessed is shown in the chart below.



Facility and Amenity Importance: In addition to assessing the needs for each facility and amenity, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each item. Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, these were the four facilities and amenities that ranked most important to residents:

1. Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.) (46%)
2. Canoe/Kayak launch(es) (26%)
3. Fishing area(s) (21%)
4. Dog parks (off-leash fenced areas) (18%)

The percentage of residents who selected each facility and amenity as one of their top four choices is shown in the chart below.

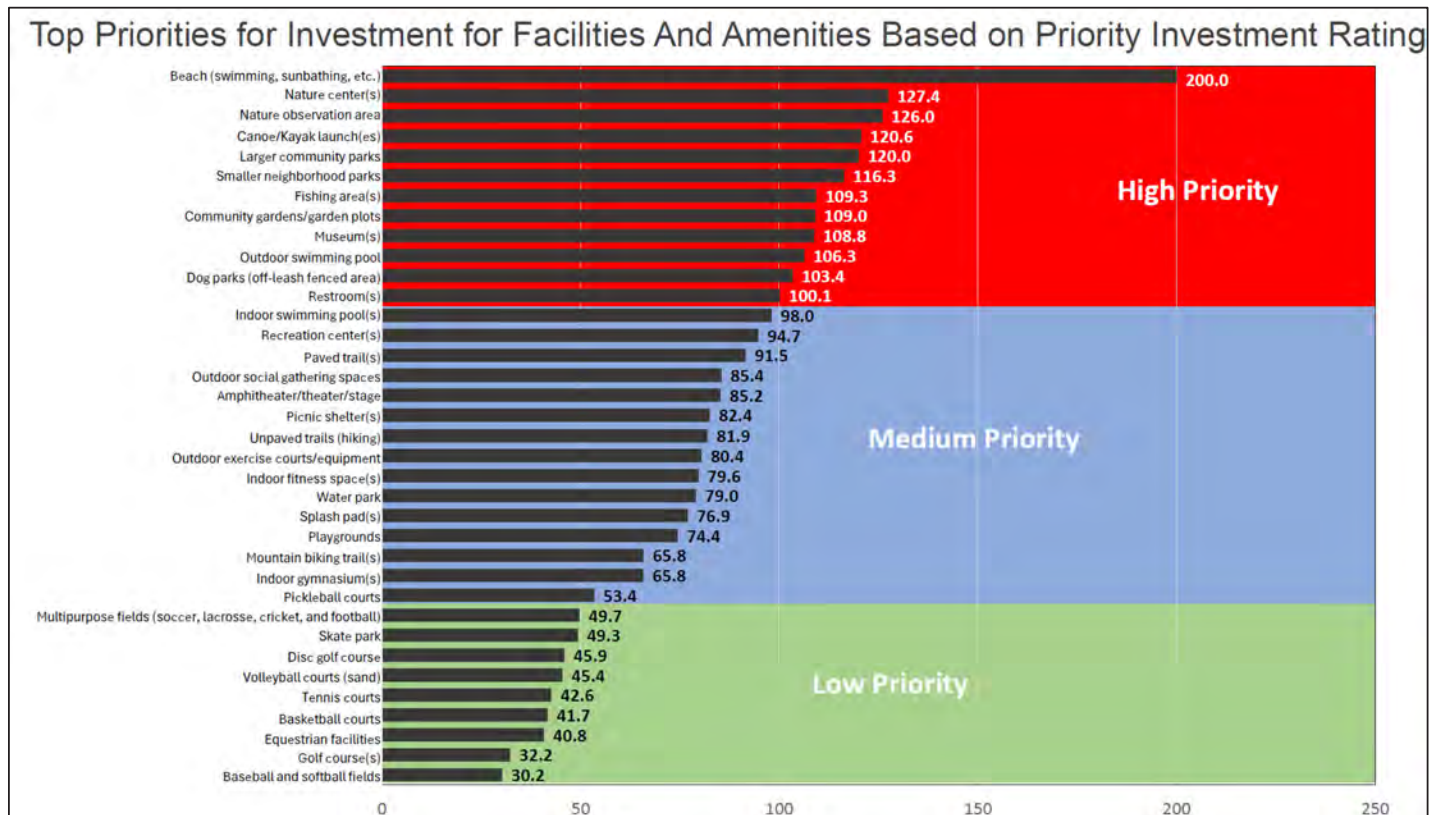


Priorities for Facility and Amenities Investments: The **Priority Investment Rating (PIR)** was developed by ETC Institute to provide organizations with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed on recreation and parks investments. The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) equally weighs (1) the importance that residents place on facilities and (2) how many residents have unmet needs for the facility. [Details regarding the methodology for this analysis are provided in Section 2 of this report.]

Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the following facilities and amenities were rated as high priorities for investment:

- Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.) (**PIR=200**)
- Nature center(s) (**PIR=127.4**)
- Nature observation area (**PIR=126**)
- Canoe/Kayak launch(es) (**PIR=120.6**)
- Larger community parks (**PIR=120.0**)
- Smaller neighborhood parks (**PIR=116.3**)
- Fishing area(s) (**PIR=109.3**)
- Community gardens/garden plots (**PIR=109.0**)
- Museum(s) (**PIR=108.8**)
- Outdoor swimming pool (**PIR=106.3**)
- Dog parks (off-leash fenced area) (**PIR=103.4**)
- Restroom(s) (**PIR=100.1**)

The chart below shows the Priority Investment Rating for each of the 36 facilities and amenities assessed in the survey.



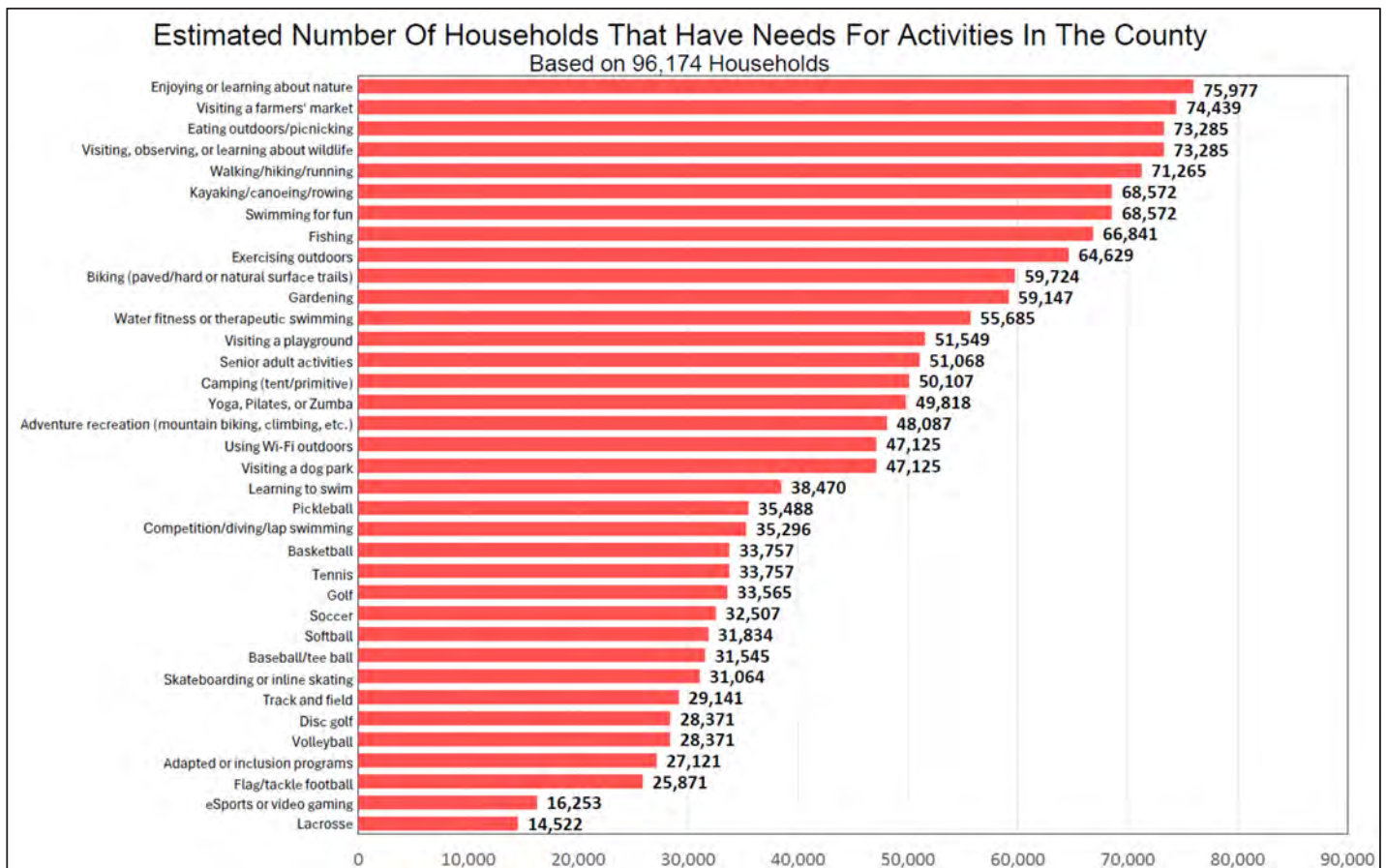
Parks and Recreation Activities Needs and Priorities

Activities Needs: Respondents were asked to identify if their household had a need for 36 activities and to rate how well their needs for each were currently being met. Based on this analysis, ETC Institute was able to estimate the number of households in the community that had the greatest “unmet” need for various activities.

The four activities with the highest percentage of households that have an unmet need:

1. Enjoying or learning about nature – 75,977 households
2. Visiting a farmers’ market – 74,439 households
3. Eating outdoors/picnicking – 73,285 households
4. Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife – 73,285 households

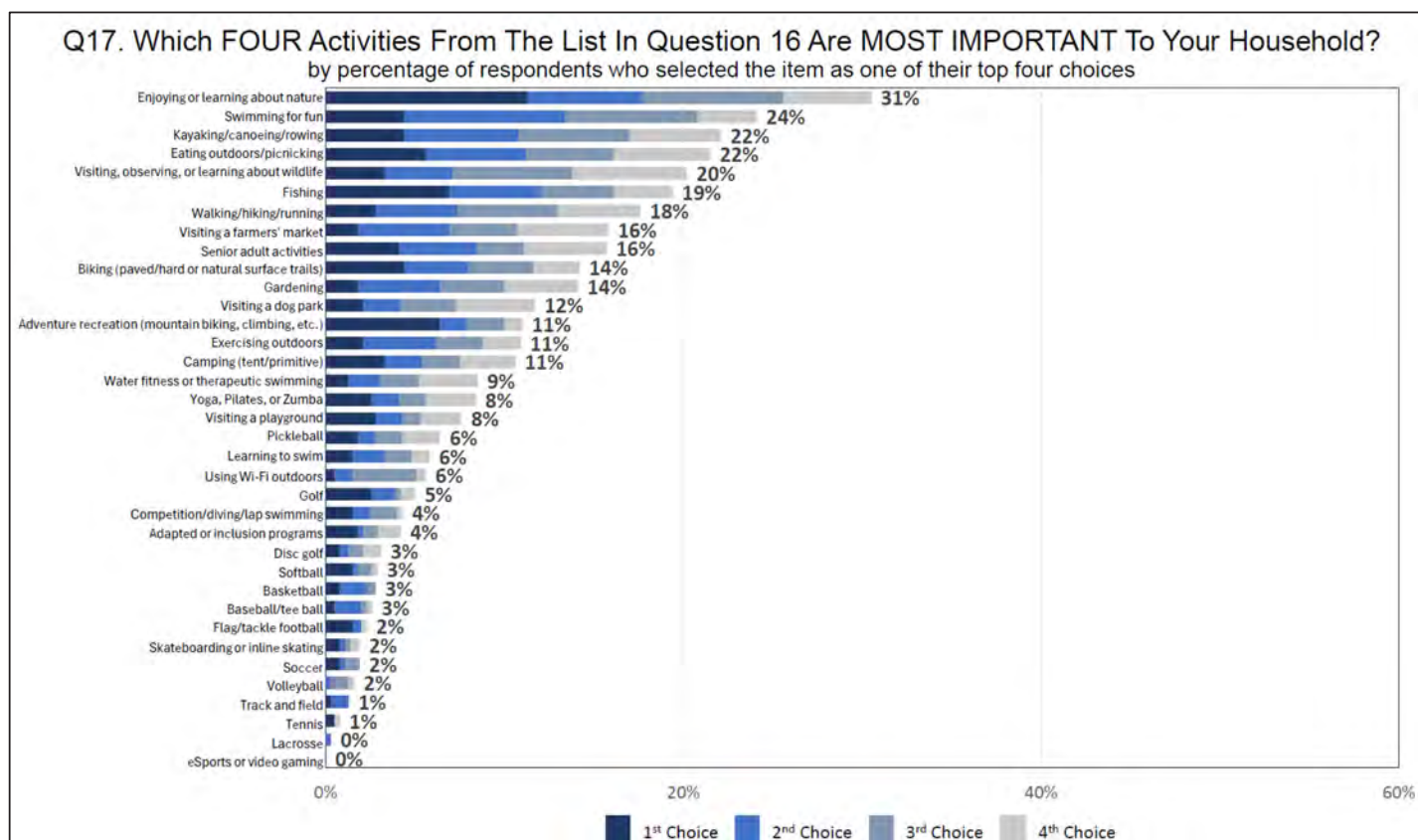
The estimated number of households that have unmet needs for each of the 36 activities assessed is shown in the chart below.



Activities Importance: In addition to assessing the needs for each activity, ETC Institute also assessed the importance that residents placed on each item. Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, these were the four activities that were ranked most important to residents:

1. Enjoying or learning about nature (31%)
2. Swimming for fun (24%)
3. Kayaking/canoeing/rowing (22%)
4. Eating outdoors/picnicking (22%)

The percentage of residents who selected each activity as one of their top four choices is shown in the chart below.

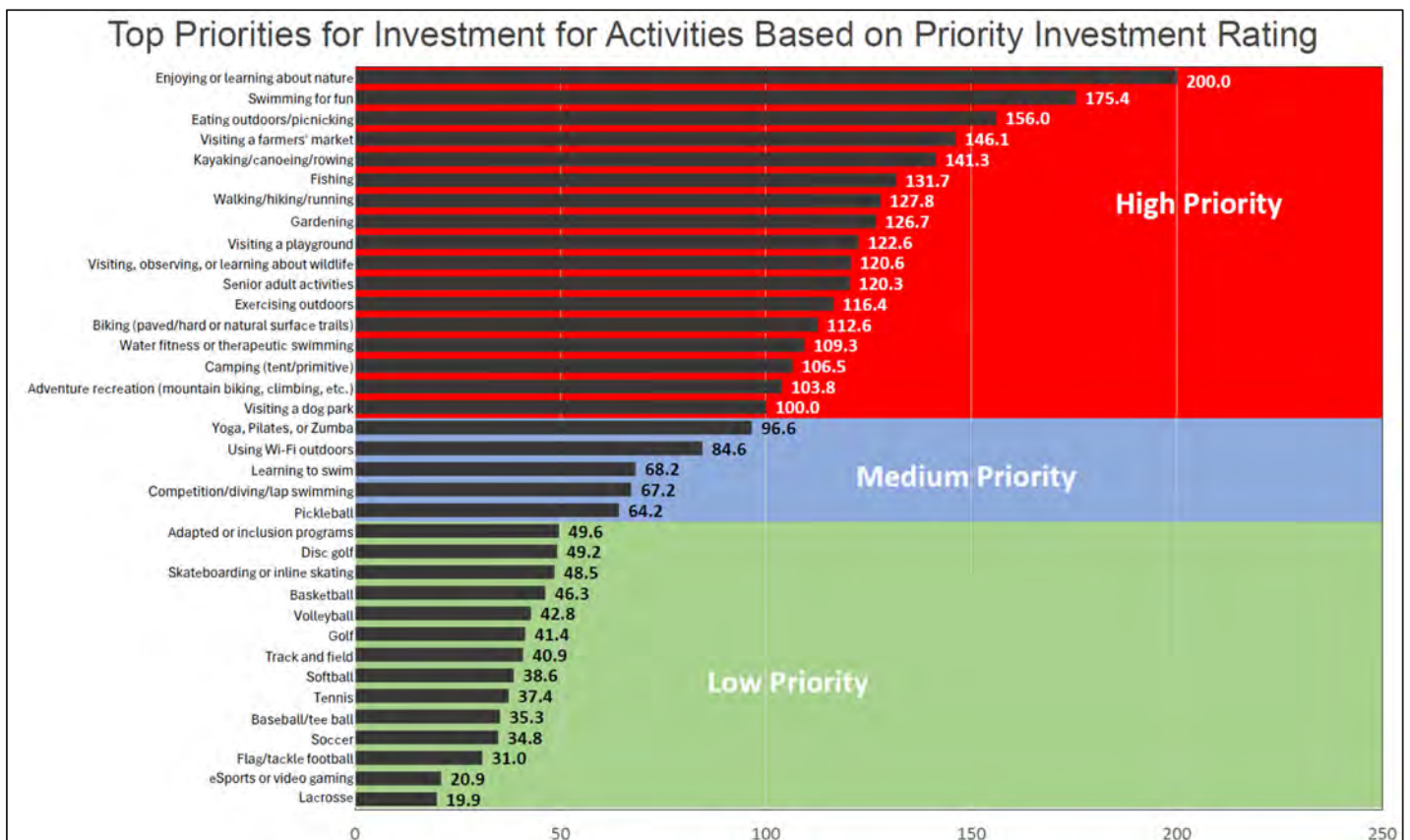


Priorities for Activities Investments: The **Priority Investment Rating (PIR)** was developed by ETC Institute to provide organizations with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed on recreation and parks investments. The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) equally weighs (1) the importance that residents place on activities and (2) how many residents have unmet needs for the activity. [Details regarding the methodology for this analysis are provided in Section 2 of this report.]

Based the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the following activities were rated as high priorities for investment:

- Enjoying or learning about nature (**PIR=200**)
- Swimming for fun (**PIR=175.4**)
- Eating outdoors/picnicking (**PIR=156**)
- Visiting a farmers' market (**PIR=146.1**)
- Kayaking/canoeing/rowing (**PIR=141.3**)
- Fishing (**PIR=131.7**)
- Walking/hiking/running (**PIR=127.8**)
- Gardening (**PIR=126.7**)
- Visiting a playground (**PIR=122.6**)
- Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife (**PIR=120.6**)
- Senior adult activities (**PIR=120.3**)
- Exercising outdoors (**PIR=116.4**)
- Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails) (**PIR=112.6**)
- Water fitness or therapeutic swimming (**PIR=109.3**)
- Camping (tent/primitive) (**PIR=106.5**)
- Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.) (**PIR=103.8**)
- Visiting a dog park (**PIR=100**)

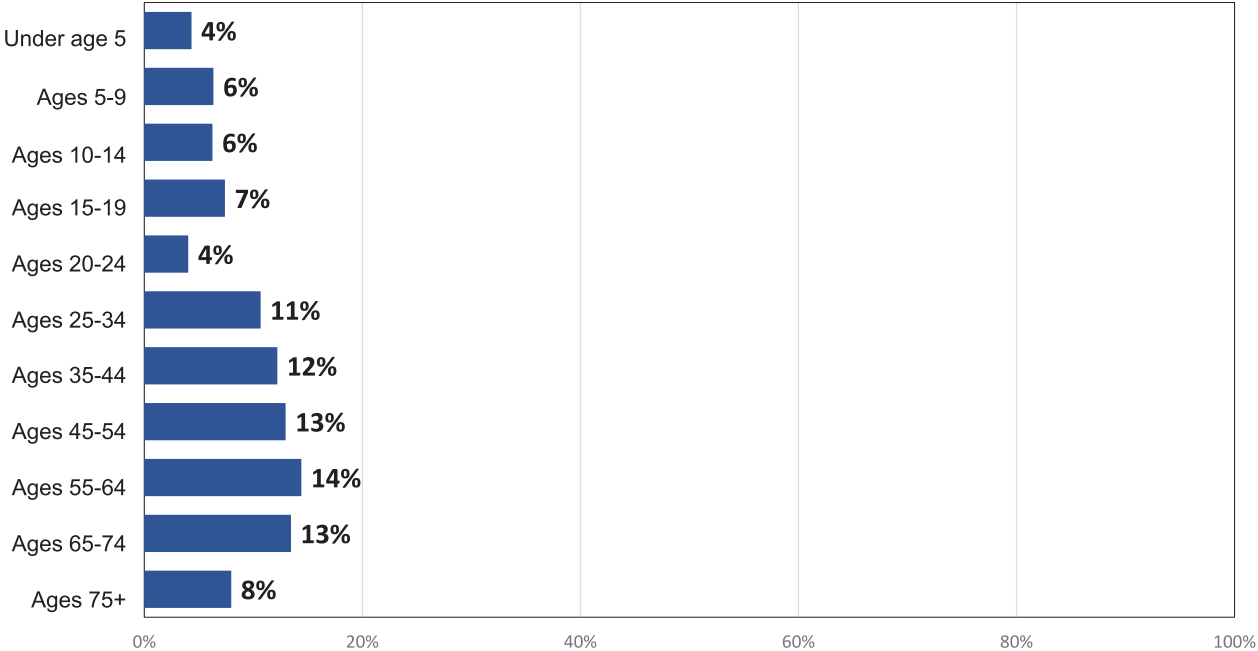
The chart below shows the Priority Investment Rating for each of the 36 activities assessed in the survey.



1

Charts and Graphs

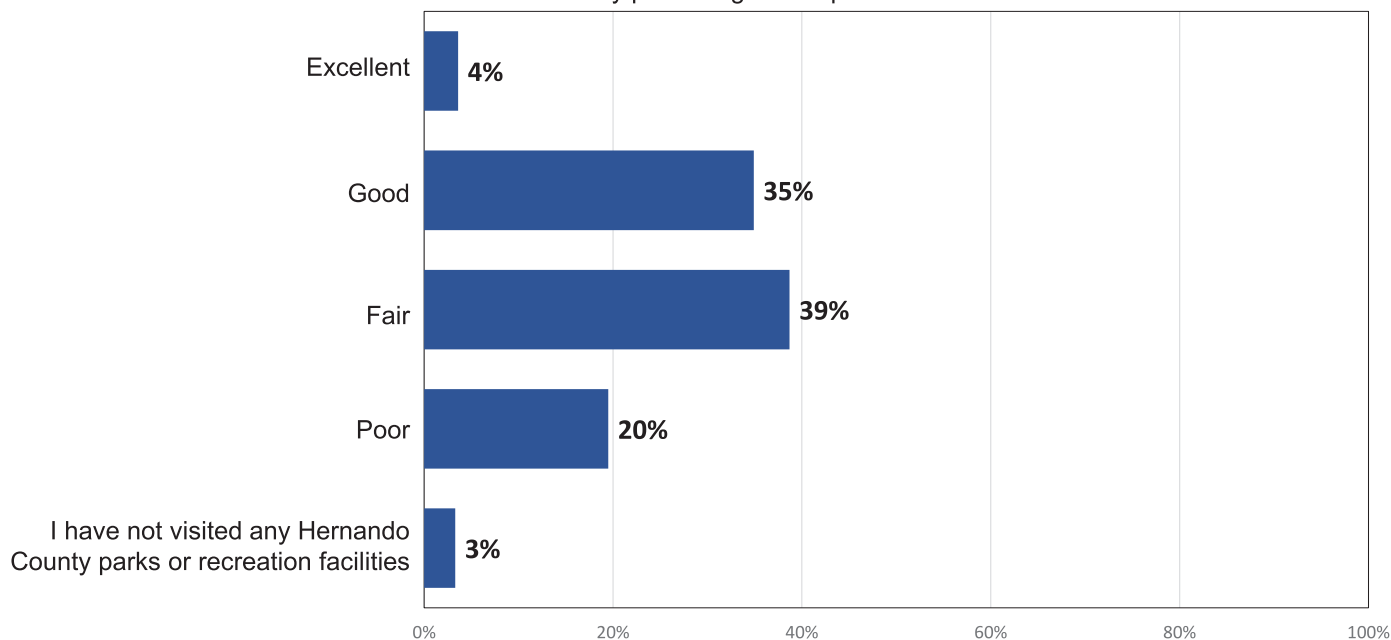
Q1. Counting Yourself, How Many People In Your Household Are...
by percentage of respondents



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Q6. How Would You Rate The Overall Quality Of Parks And/Or Recreation Amenities Offered By The Hernando County That You And Members Of Your Household Have Visited?

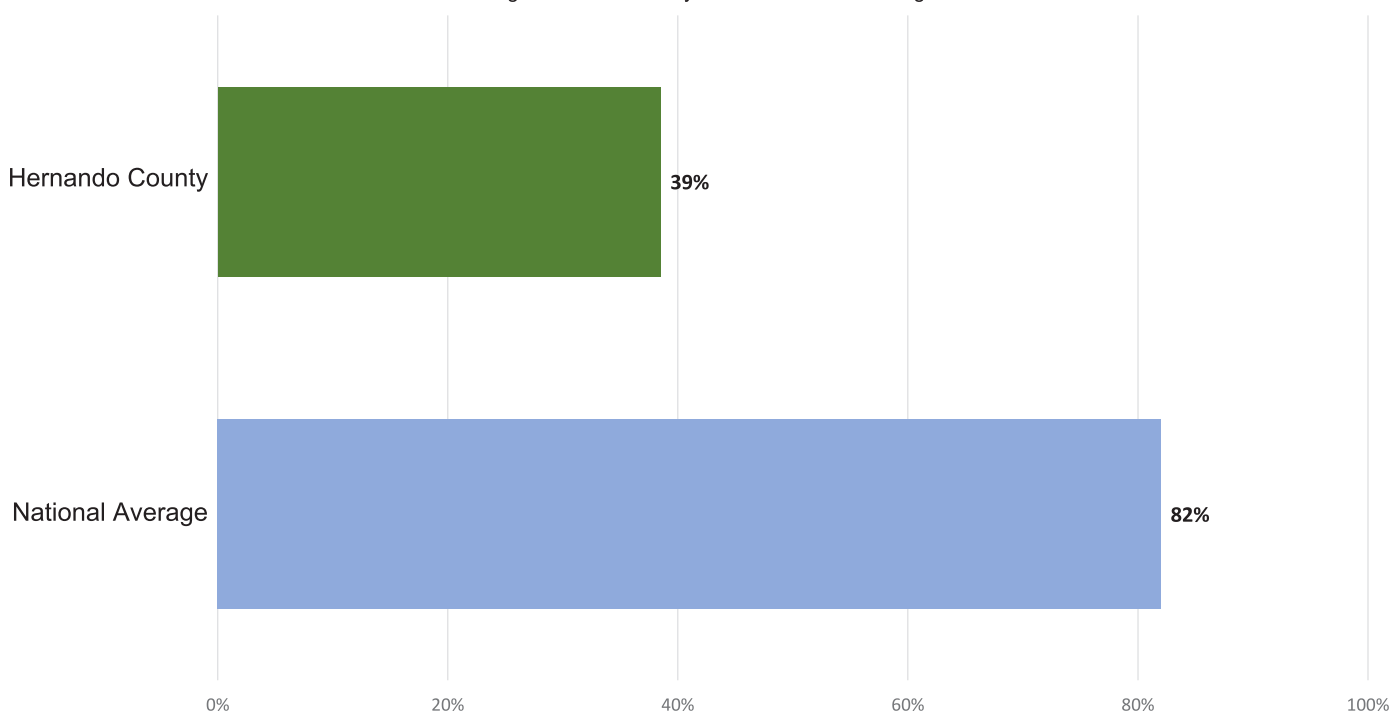
by percentage of respondents



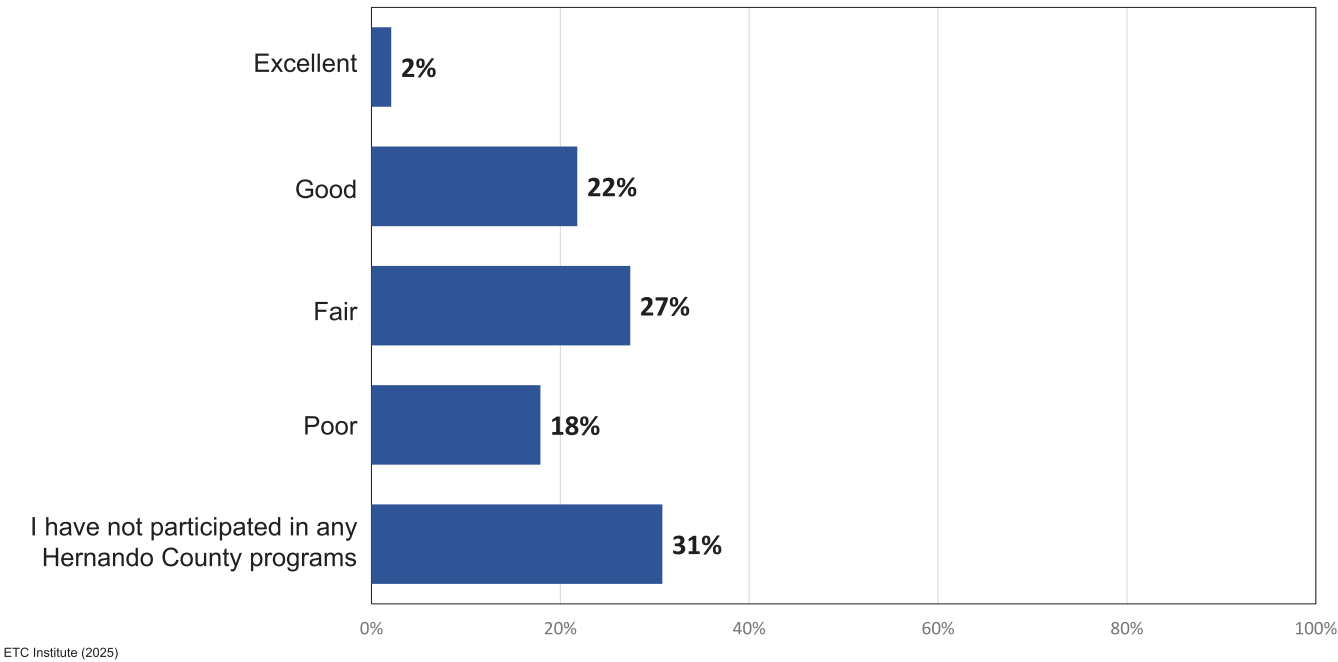
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Q6. Overall Quality Of Parks And/Or Recreation Amenities.

Benchmarking: Hernando County 2025 vs National Average

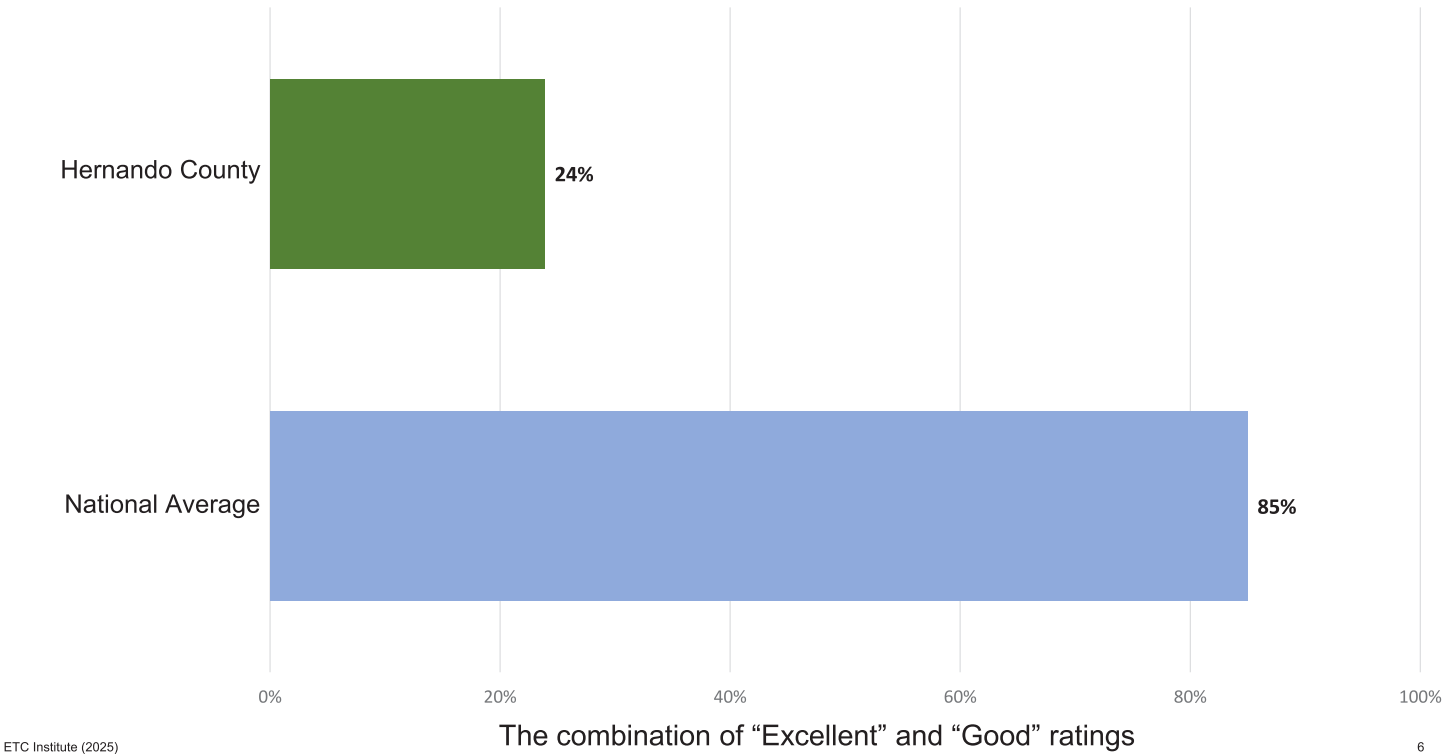


Q7. How Would You Rate The Overall Quality Of The Programs (Sports, Recreation, Camps, Nature, Historic, Etc.) Offered By The Hernando County?
by percentage of respondents



5

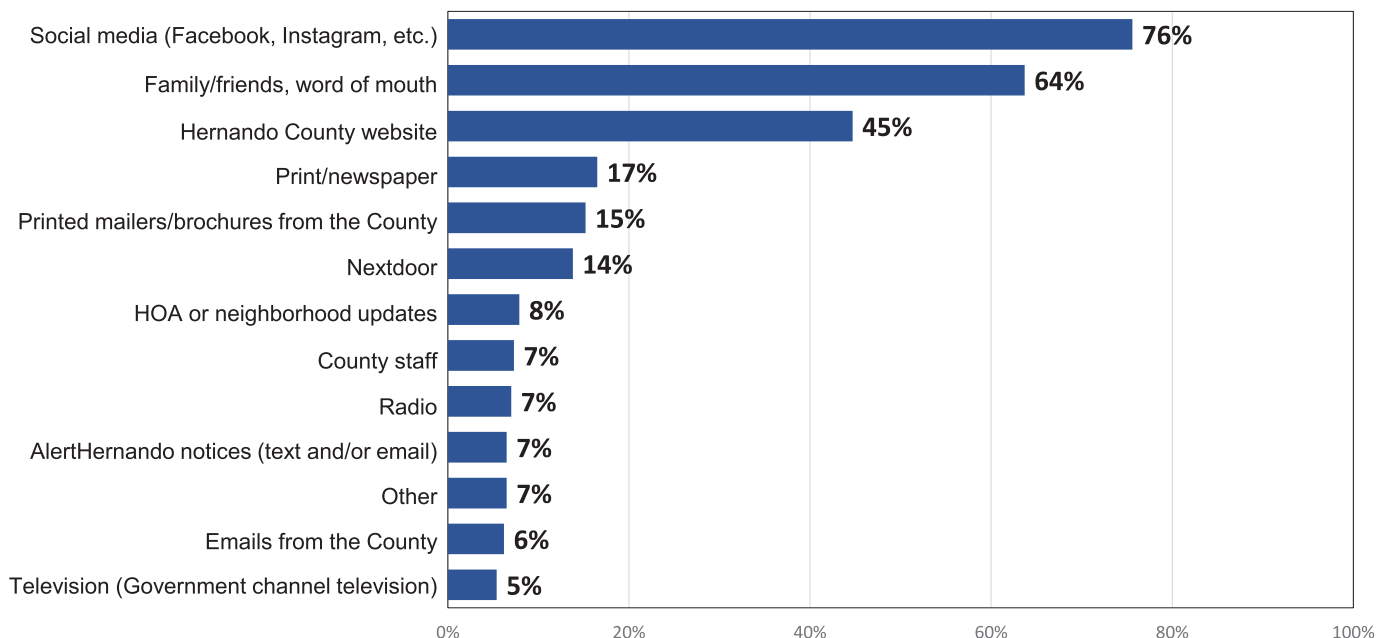
Q7. The Overall Quality Of The Programs.
Benchmarking: Hernando County 2025 vs National Average



6

Q8. From The Following List, Please CHECK ALL The Ways In Which You Learn About Recreation Opportunities In Hernando County.

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)

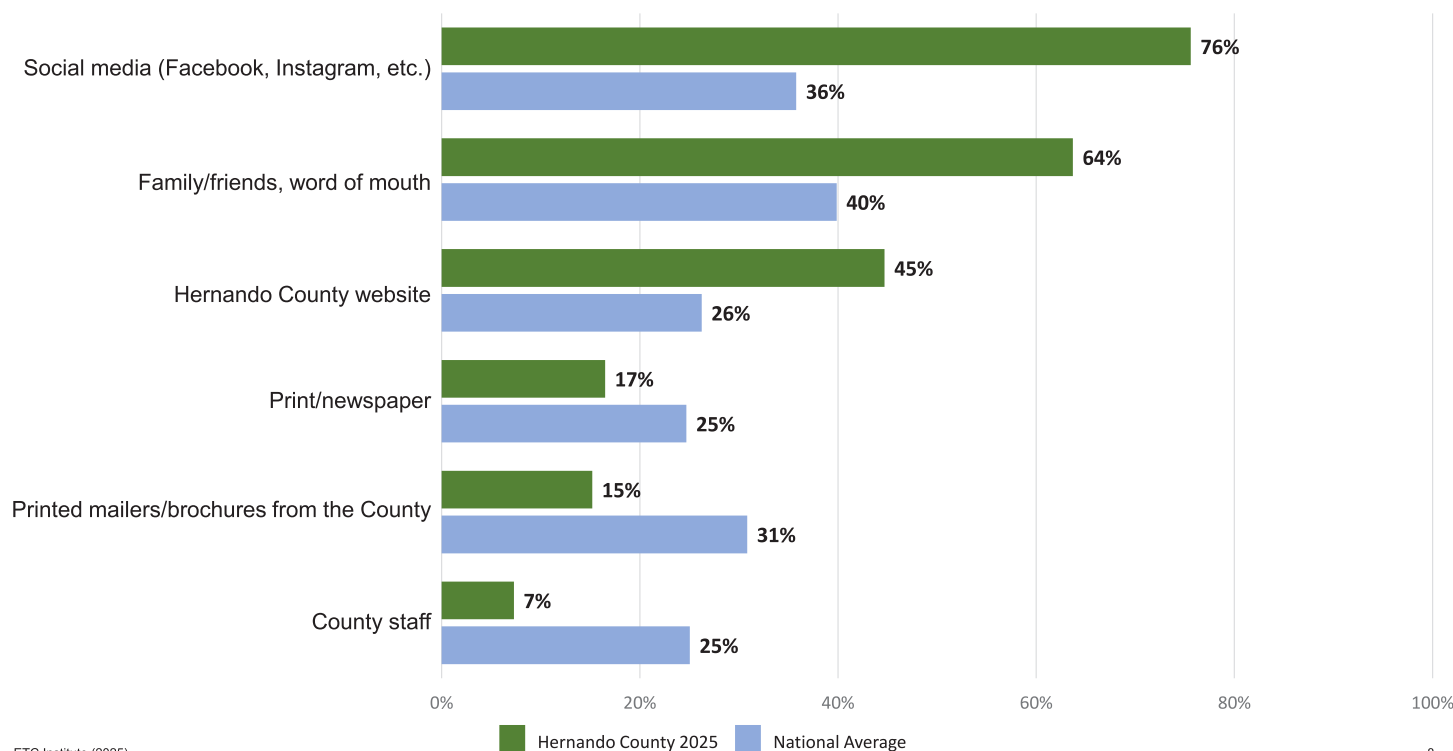


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7

Q8. The Ways In Which You Learn About Recreation Opportunities.

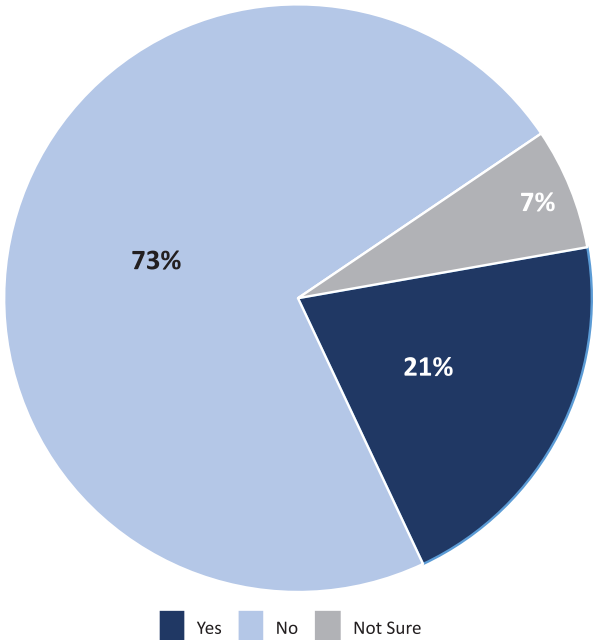
Benchmarking: Hernando County 2025 vs National Average



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8

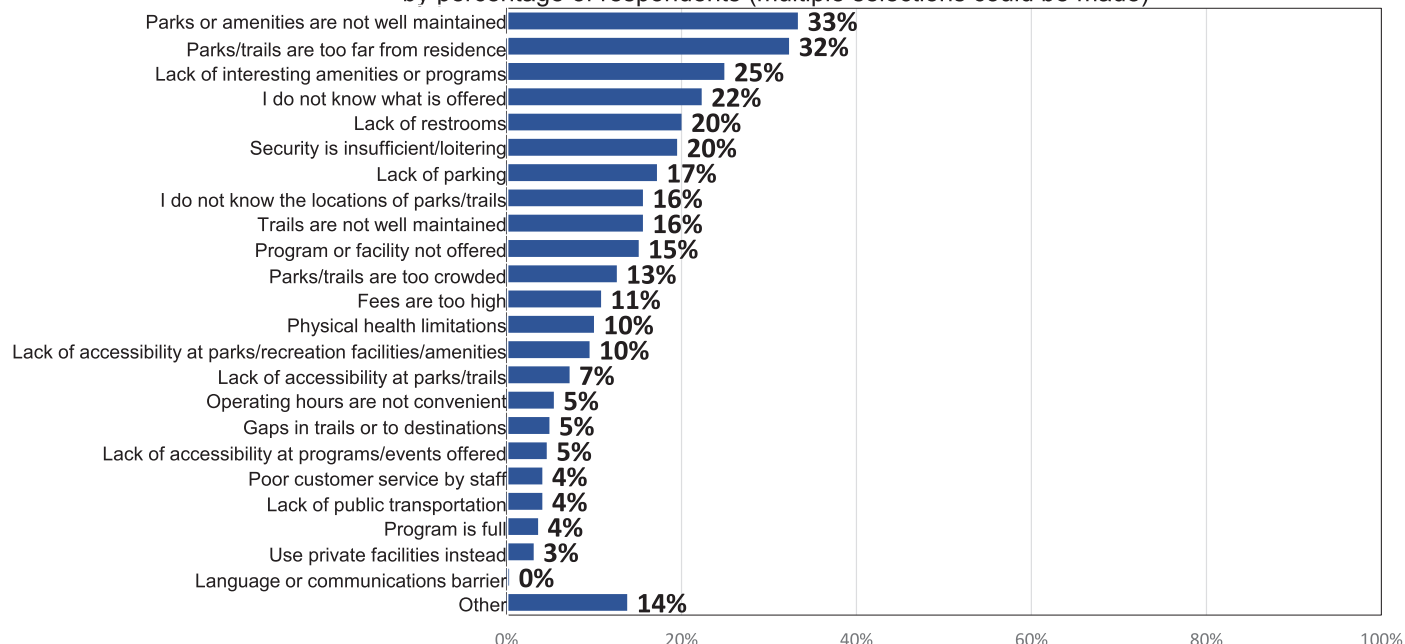
Q9. Do You Feel There Are Sufficient Parks And Green Space Areas Within Walking Distance Of Your Residence?
by percentage of respondents



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Q10. Please CHECK ALL The Reasons That Prevent You Or Other Members Of Your Household From Using Parks, Trails, Recreation Facilities, Or Programs By The Hernando County.

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



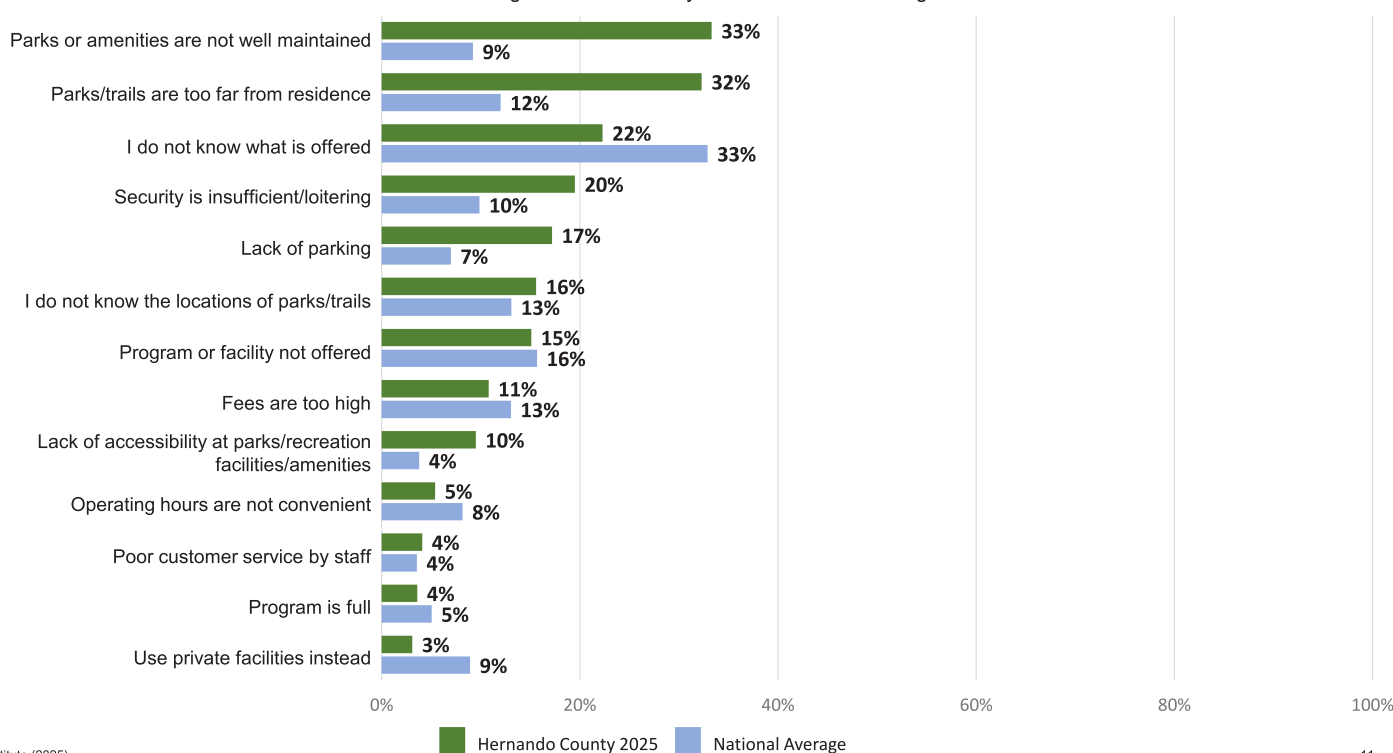
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10

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Q10. Reasons Why You Did NOT Participate.

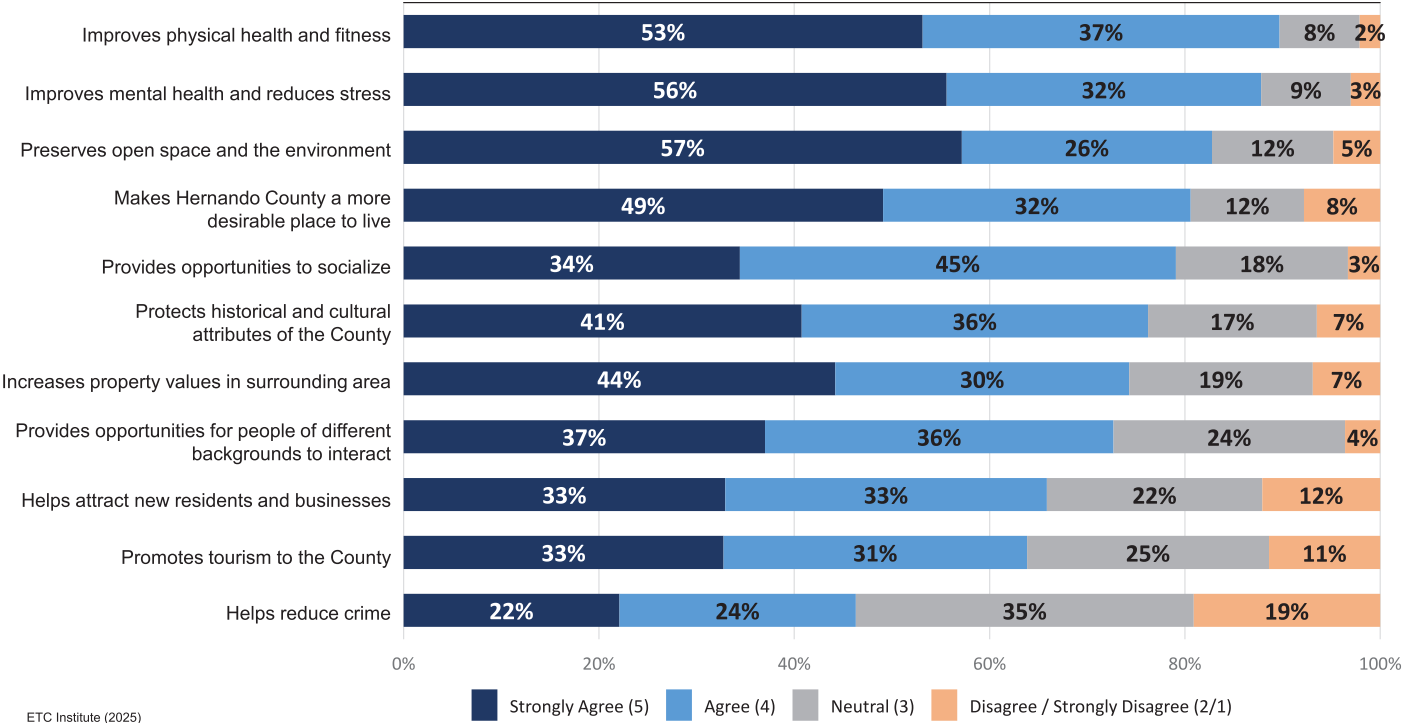
Benchmarking: Hernando County 2025 vs National Average



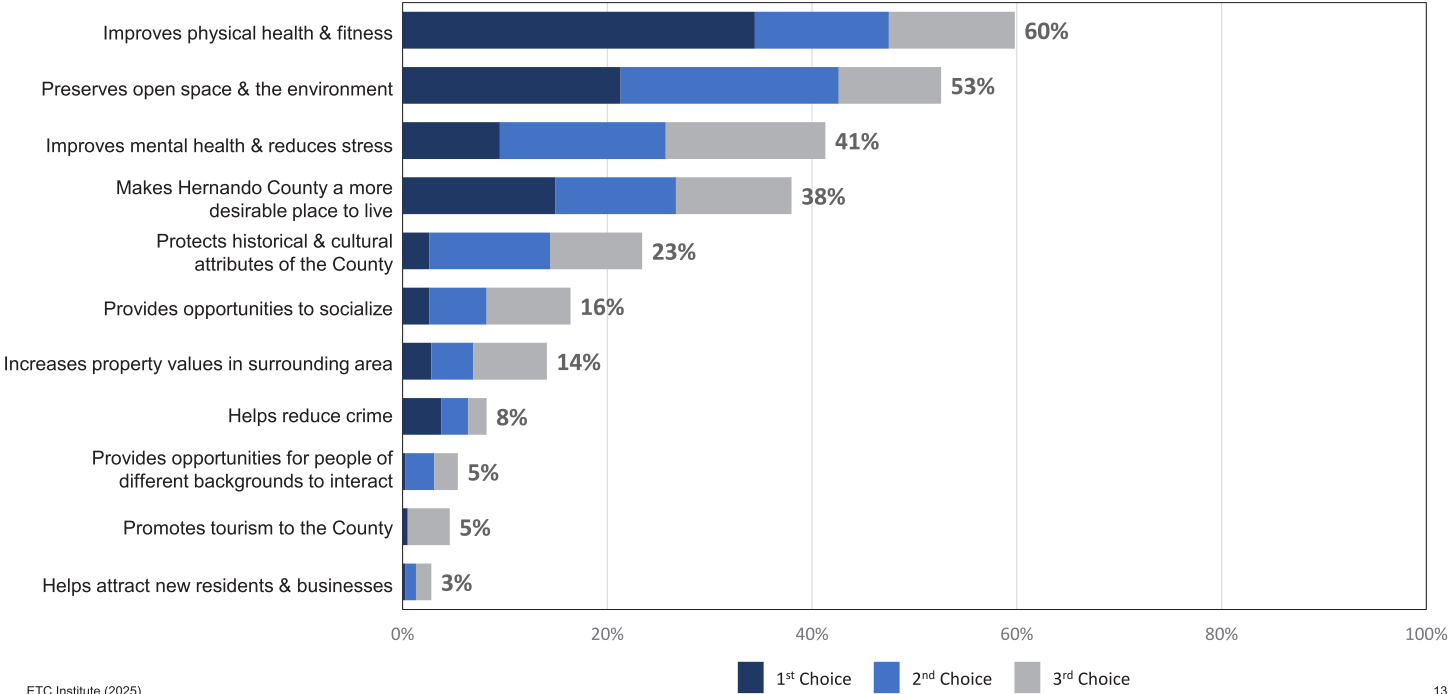
ETC Institute (2025)

11

Q11. Parks, Trails, Recreation Facilities, And Open Spaces Offer Various Potential Benefits To You And Your Household. Please Indicate Your Level Of Agreement With Each Benefit.
by percentage of respondents (excluding don't know)

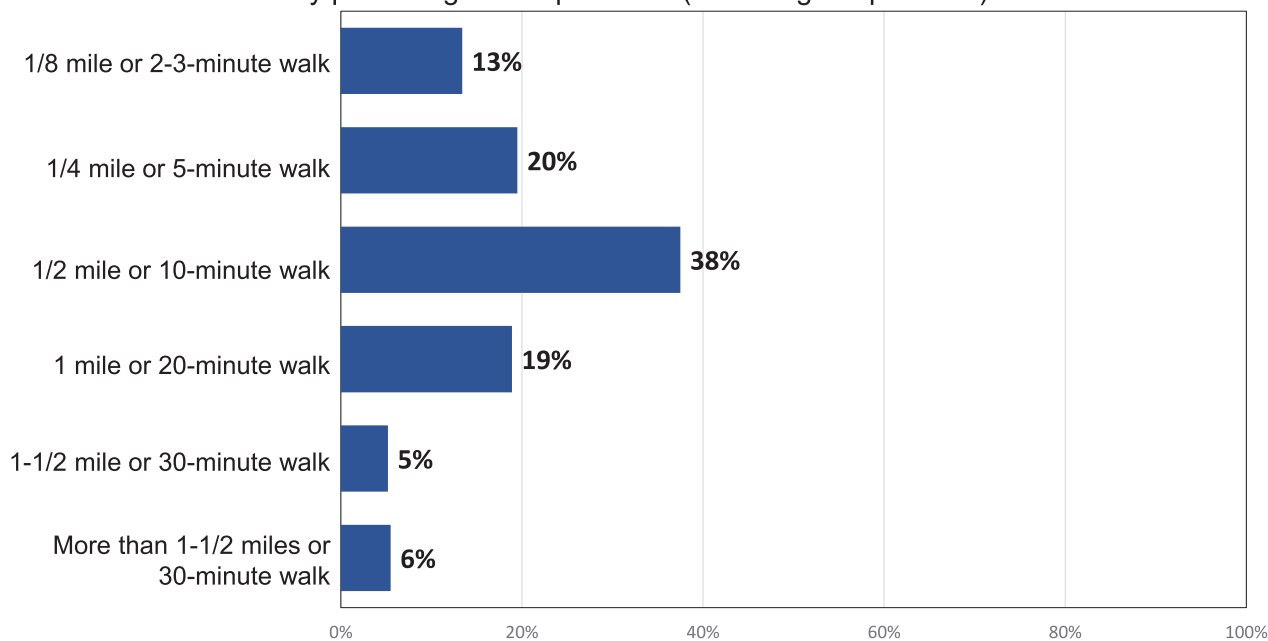


Q12. Which THREE Of The BENEFITS From The List In Question 11 Are Most Important To You And Members Of Your Household?
by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top three choices



Q13. How Far Are You Willing To Walk For Park Or Recreation Amenities?

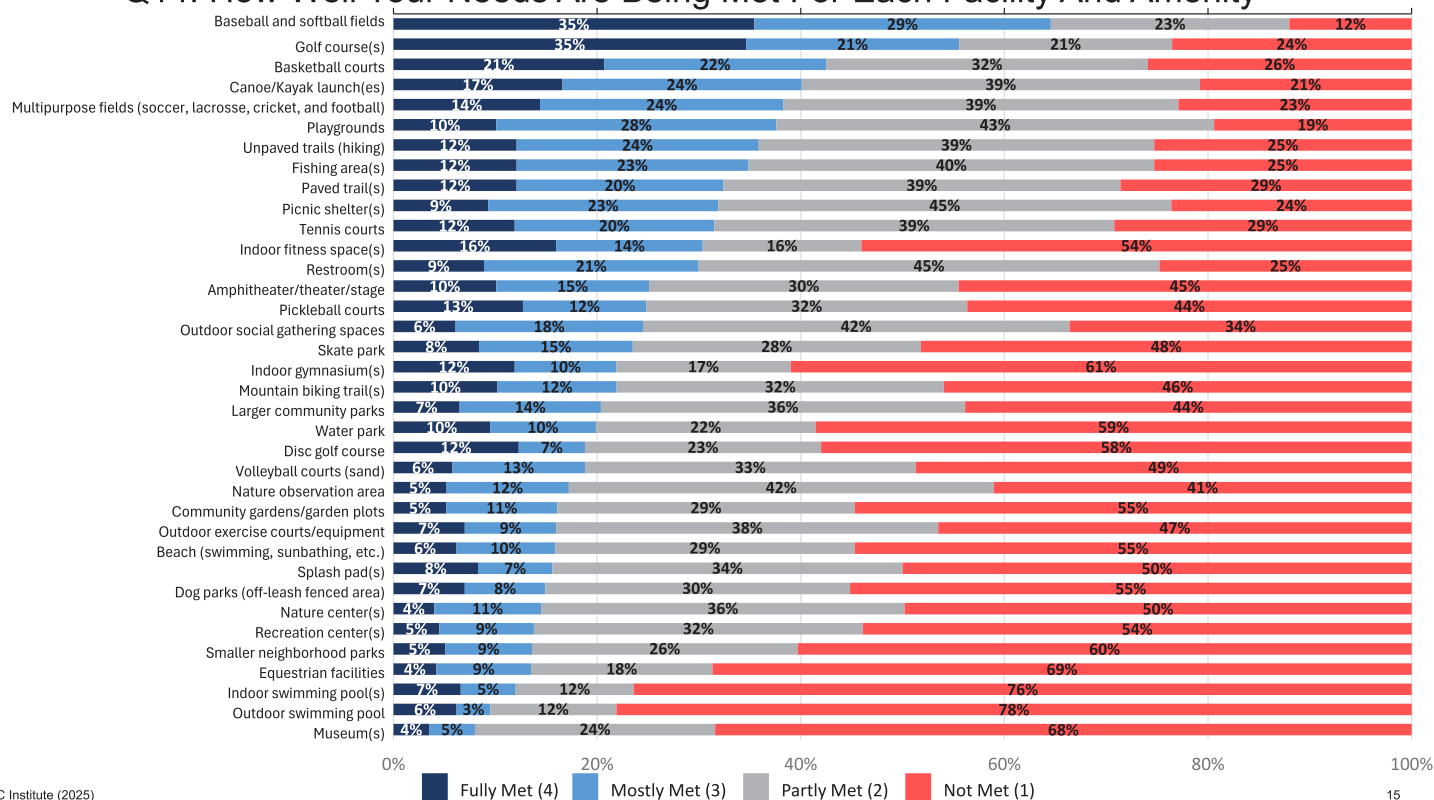
by percentage of respondents (excluding not provided)



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14

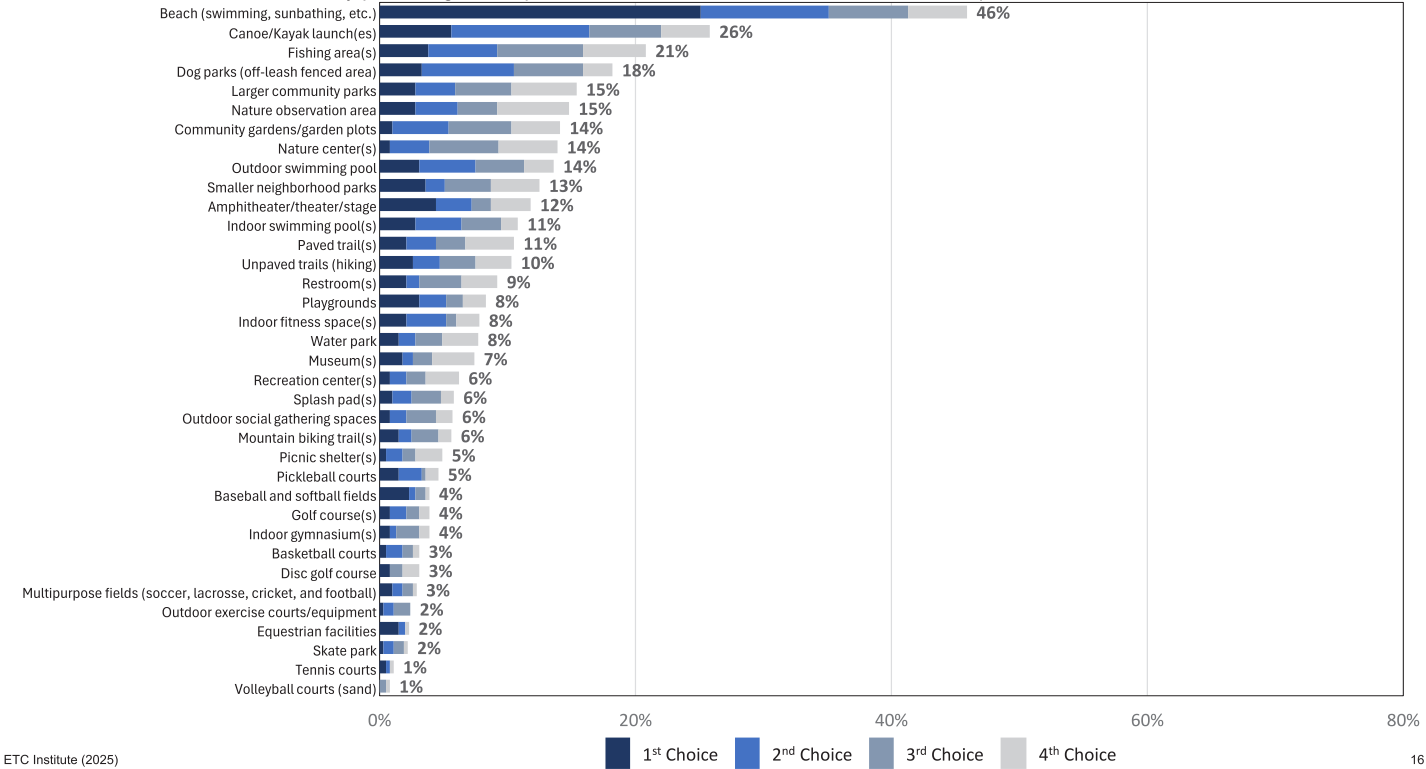
Q14. How Well Your Needs Are Being Met For Each Facility And Amenity



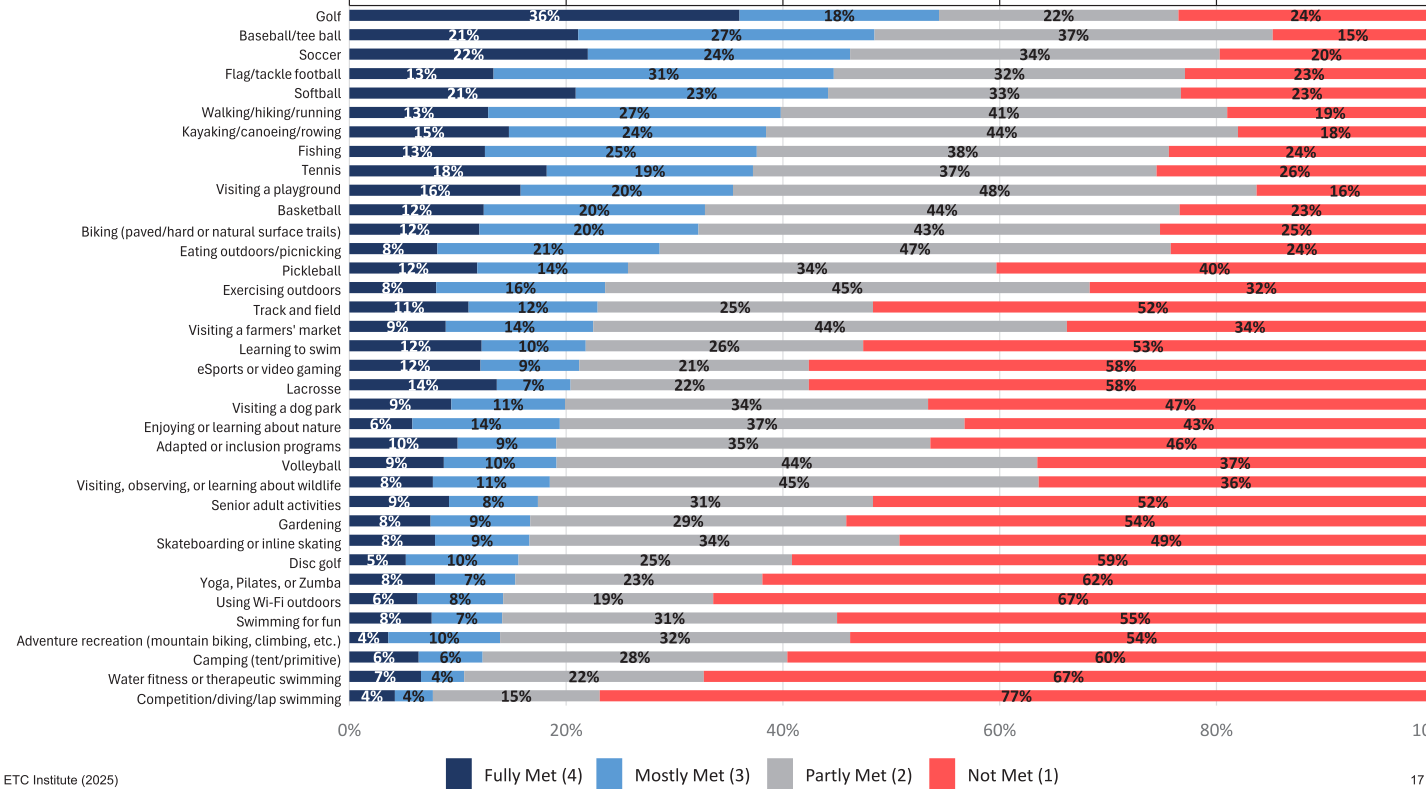
ETC Institute (2025)

15

Q15. Which FOUR Facilities/Amenities From The List In Question 14 Are MOST IMPORTANT To Your Household?
by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices

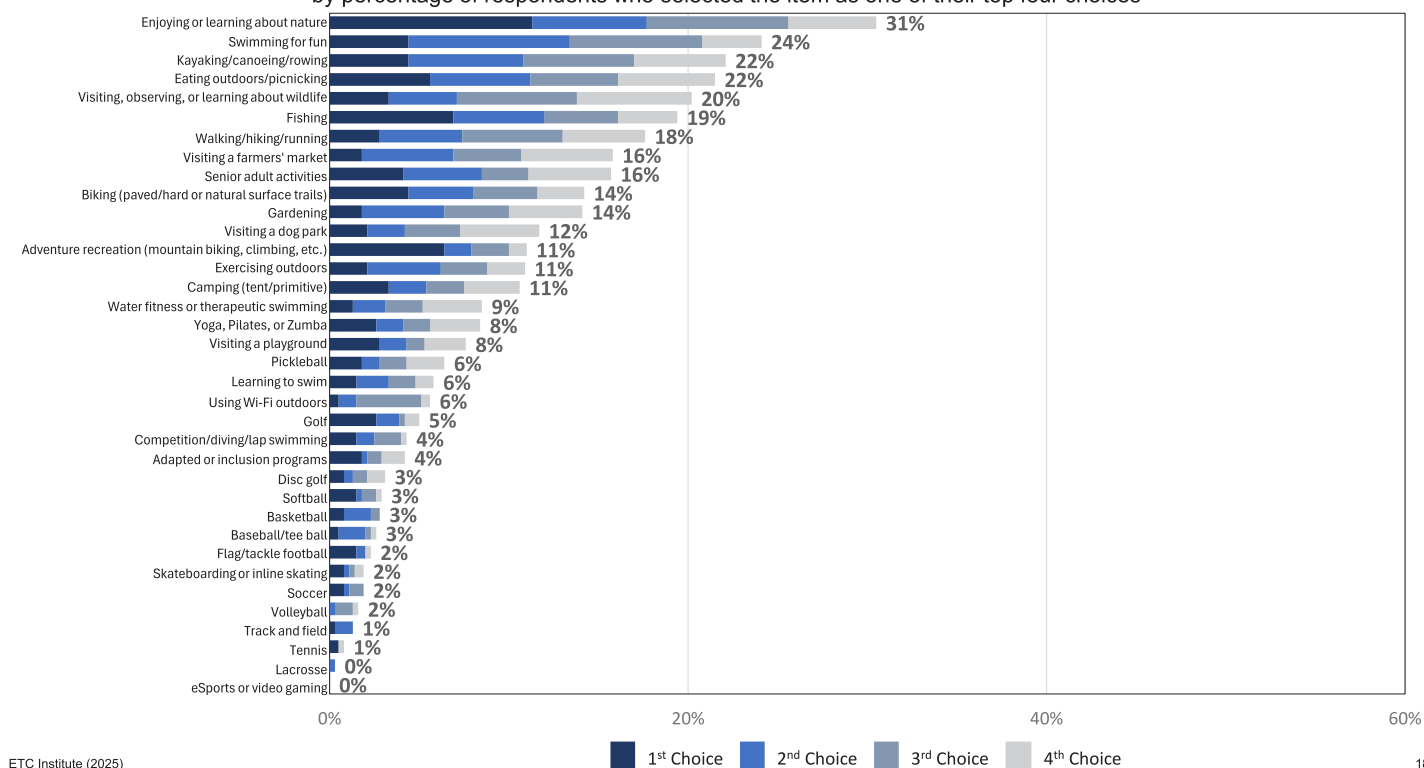


Q16. How Well Your Needs Are Being Met For Each Activity



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Q17. Which FOUR Activities From The List In Question 16 Are MOST IMPORTANT To Your Household?
by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices

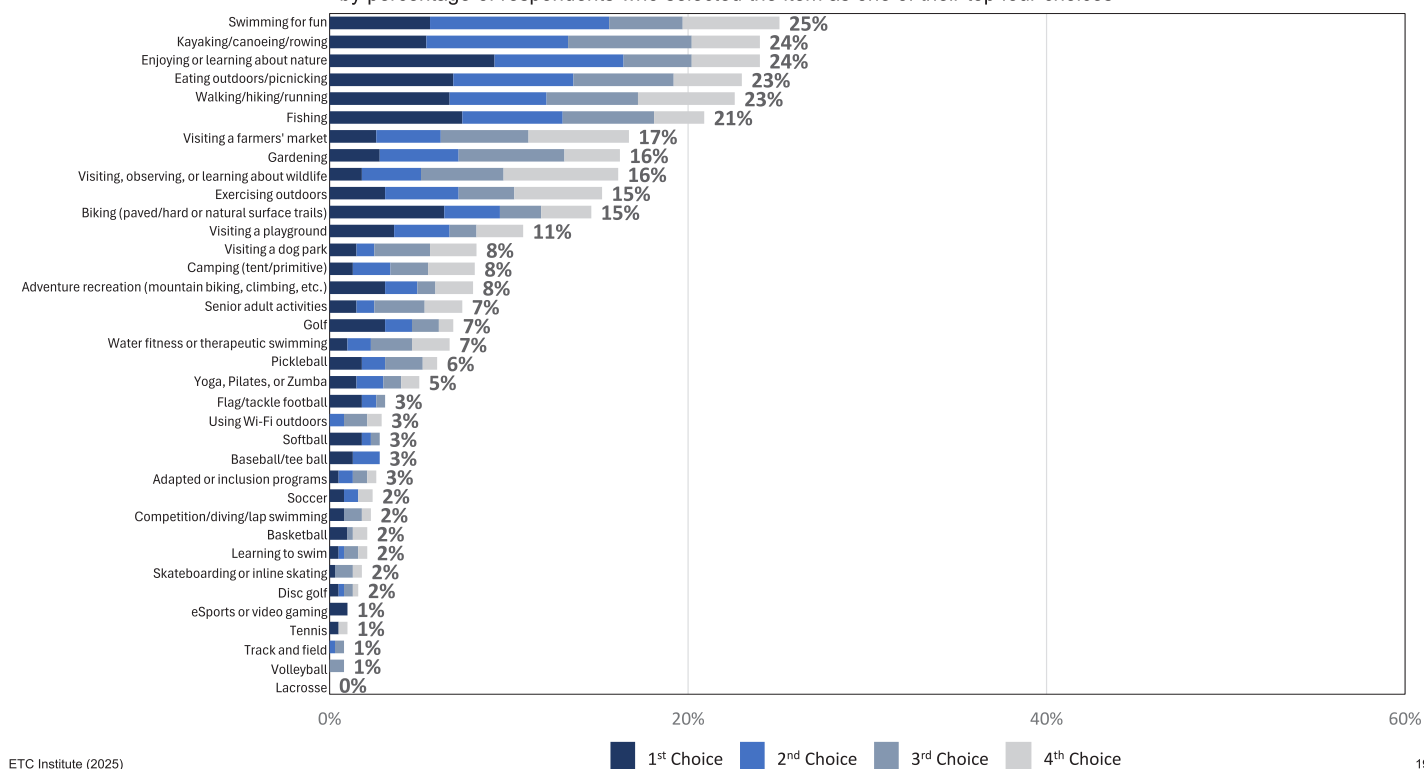


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18

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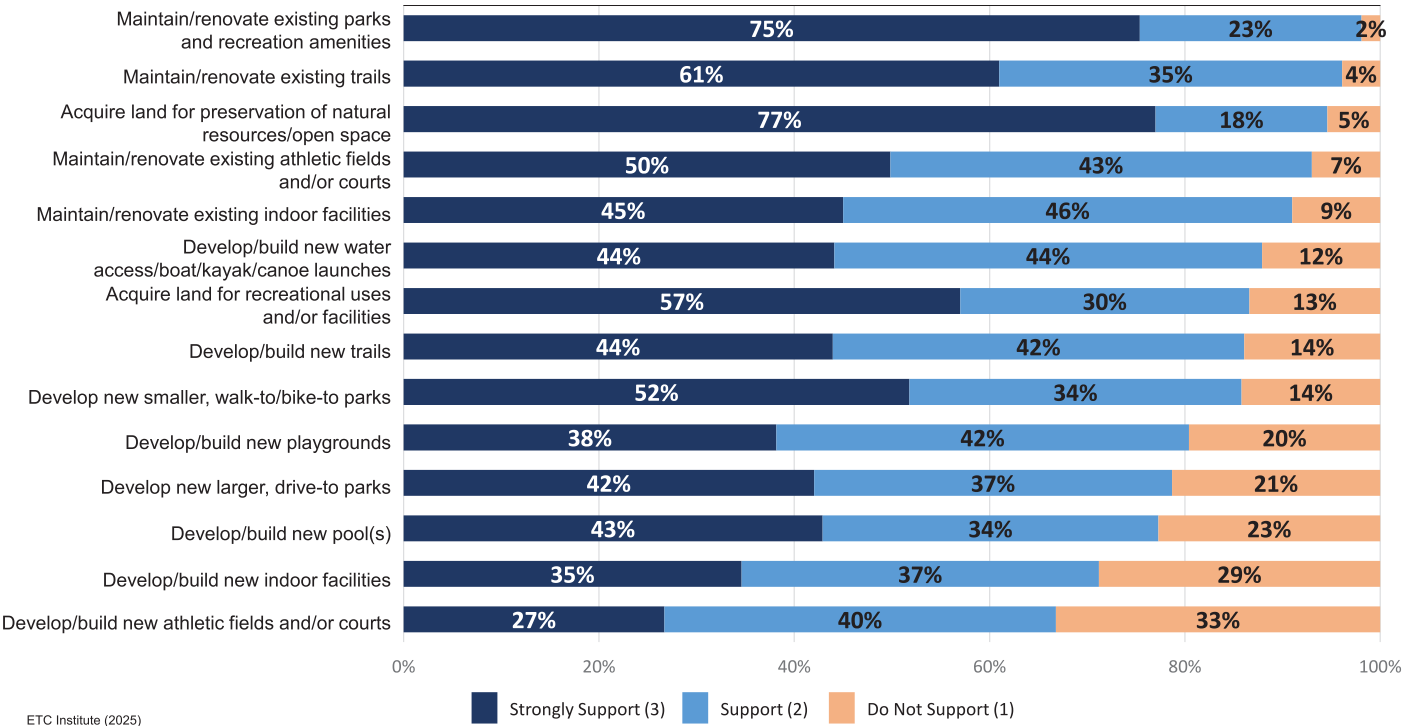
Q18. Which FOUR Activities Listed In Question 16 Do You Or Members Of Your Household Participate In MOST OFTEN?
by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



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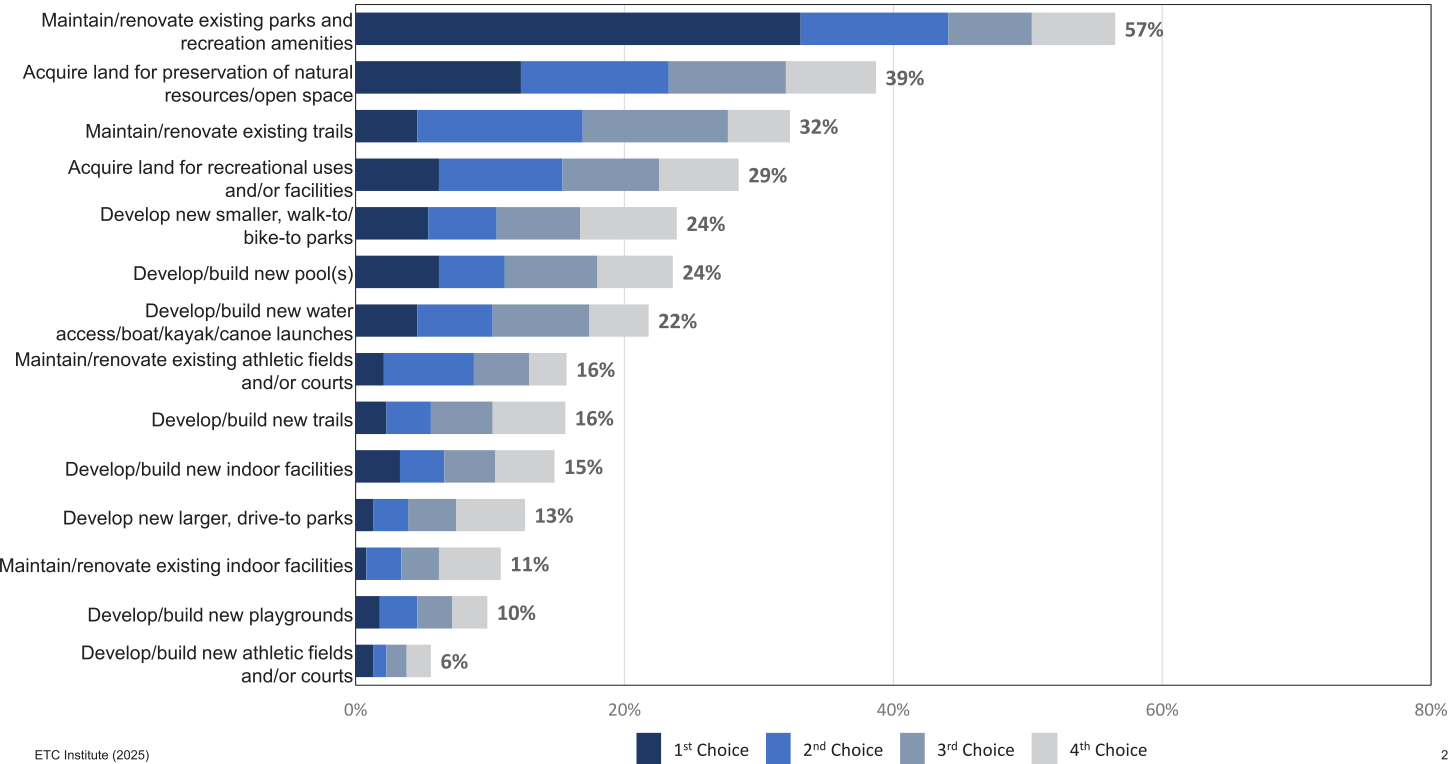
19

Q19. Please Rate The Level Of Support Of Each Action.
by percentage of respondents (excluding don't know)



20

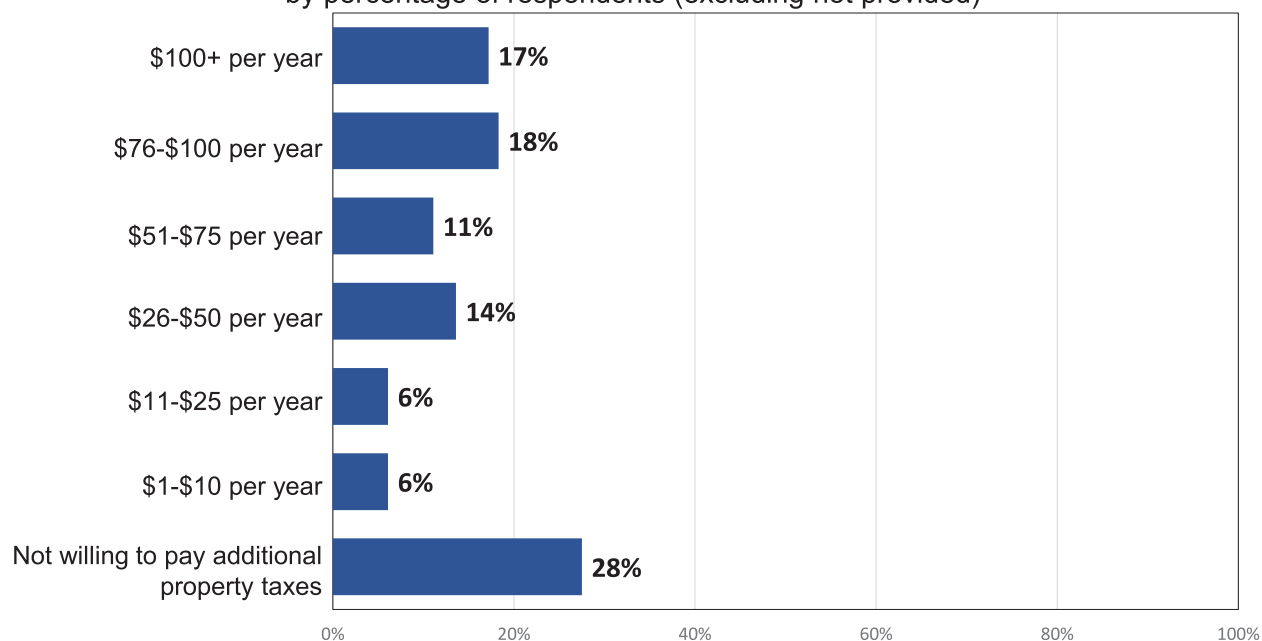
Q20. Which FOUR Actions From The List In Question 19 Would You Be Most Willing To Fund With Your Tax Dollars?
by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



21

Q21. From The Following List, Please Check The Additional Amount You Would Be Willing To Pay To Fund The Actions That You Indicated In Question 19 As Most Important To Your Household?

by percentage of respondents (excluding not provided)

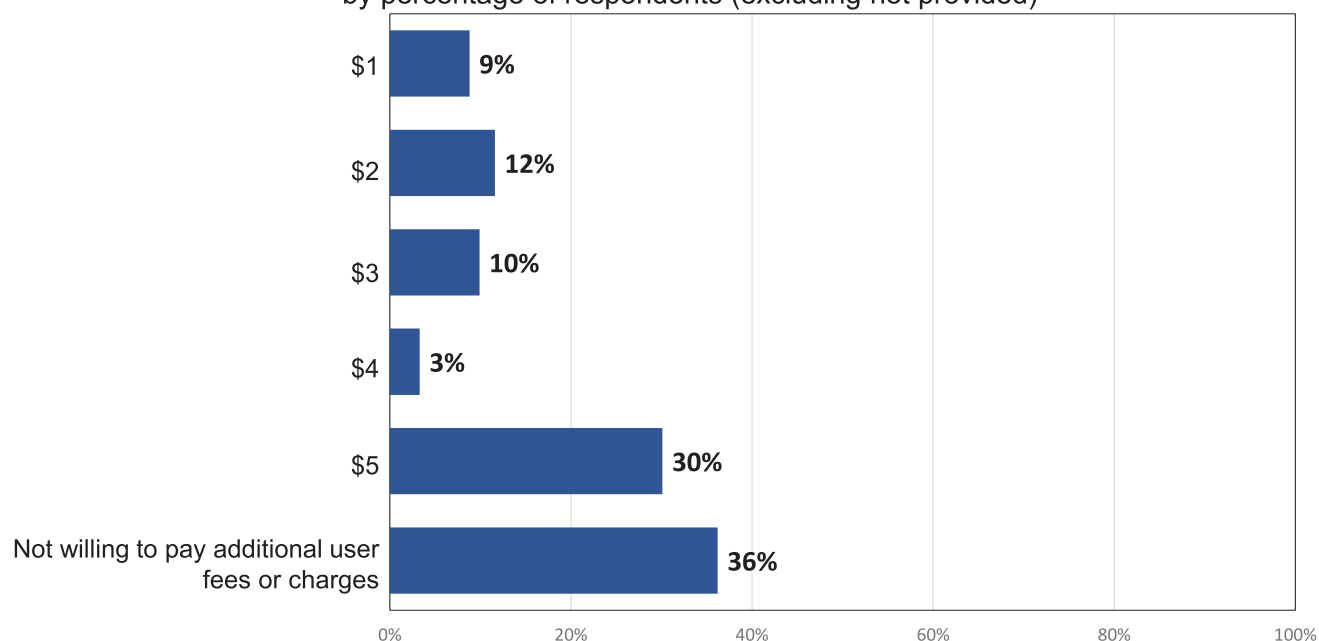


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22

Q22. Please Check The Additional Amount In User Fees Or Charges You Would Be Willing To Pay For Your Favorite Parks And Recreation Activity Or Program Which You Or Members Of Your Household Participate.

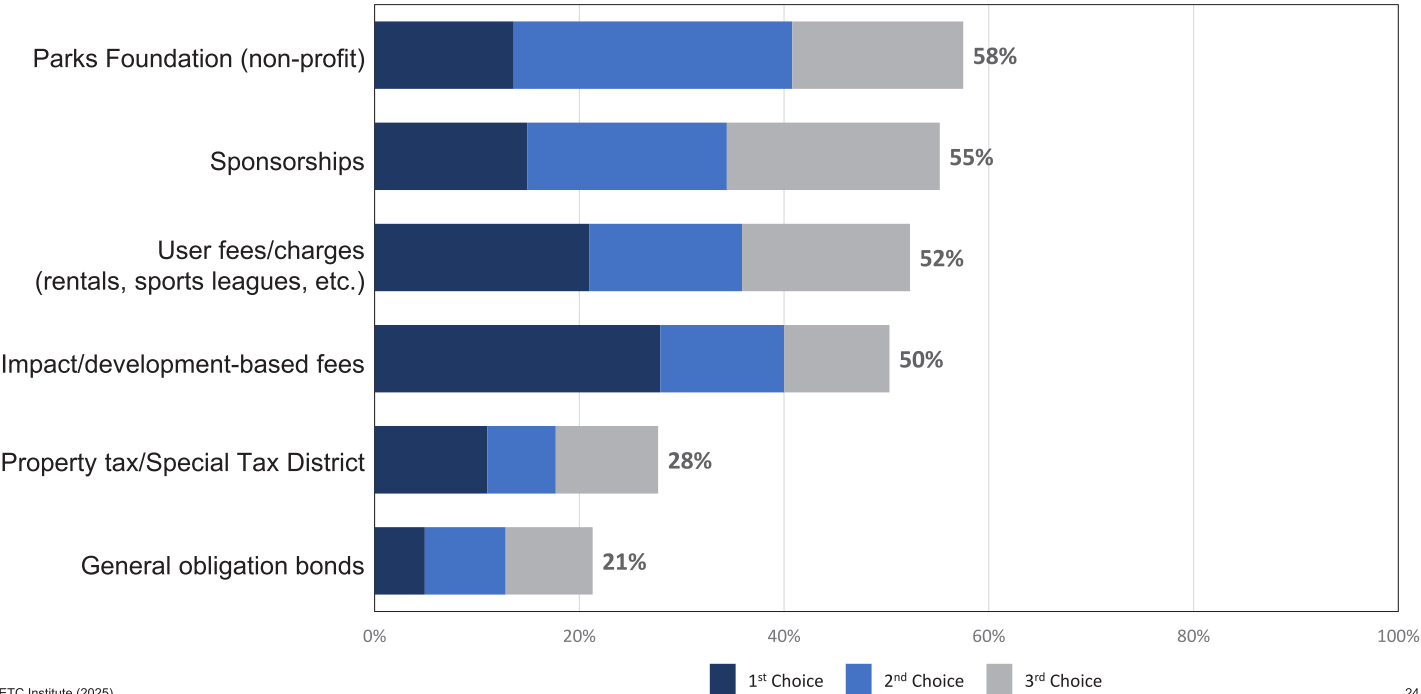
by percentage of respondents (excluding not provided)



ETC Institute (2025)

23

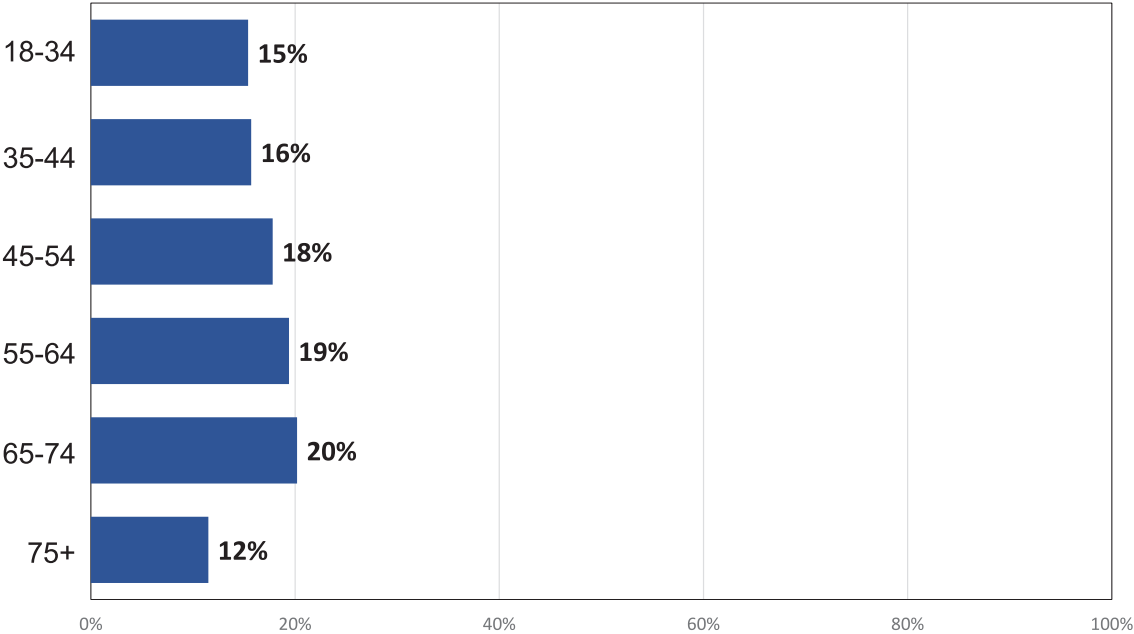
Q23. Funding For Parks, Recreation Facilities/Programs, And Trails May Be Secured From A Variety Of Sources. Which THREE Of The Following Choices Of Funding Sources Do You Most Prefer?
by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top three choices



Demographics

Q2. What Is Your Age?

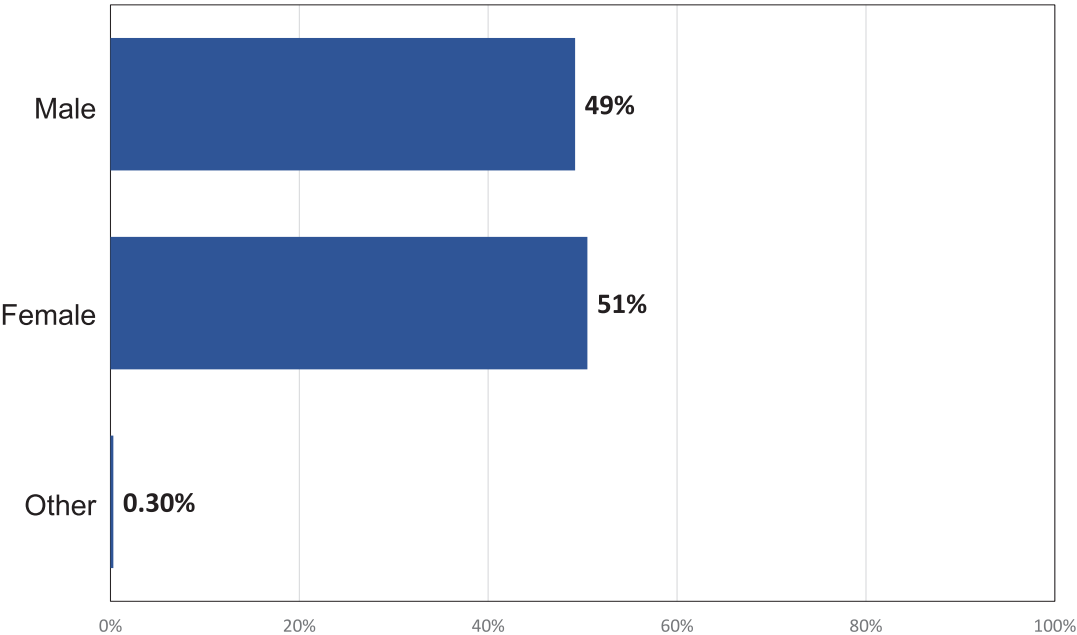
by percentage of respondents



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Q3. Your Gender:

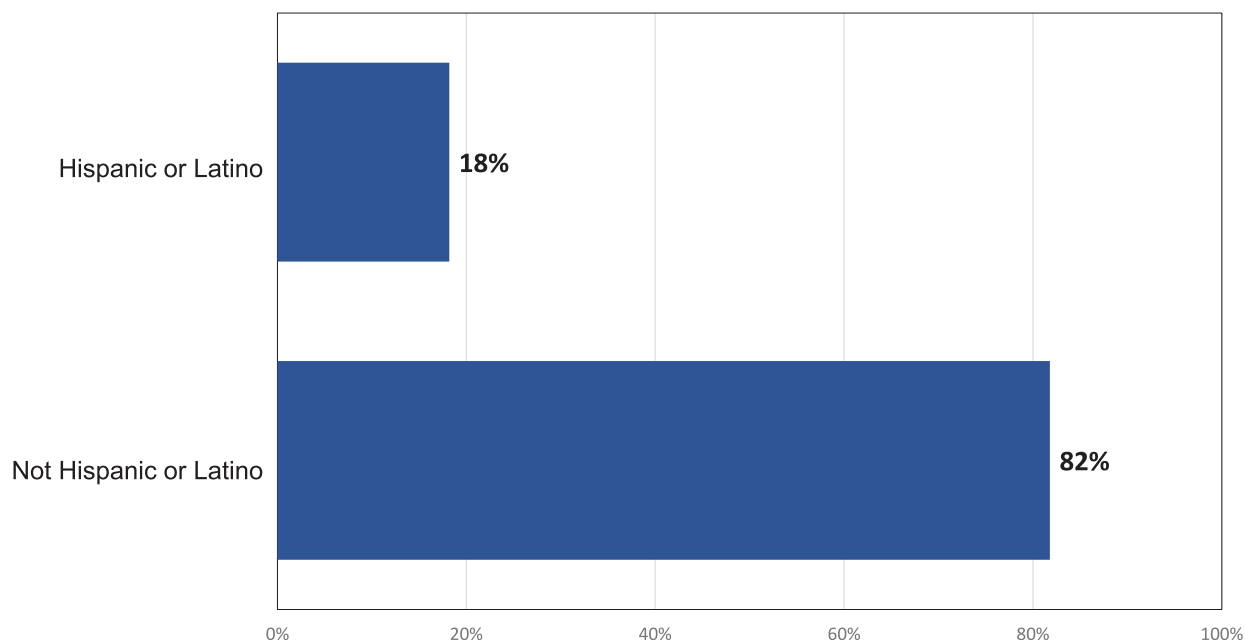
by percentage of respondents (excluding not provided)



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Q4. Which ONE Of The Following Best Describes Your Ethnicity?

by percentage of respondents (excluding not provided)

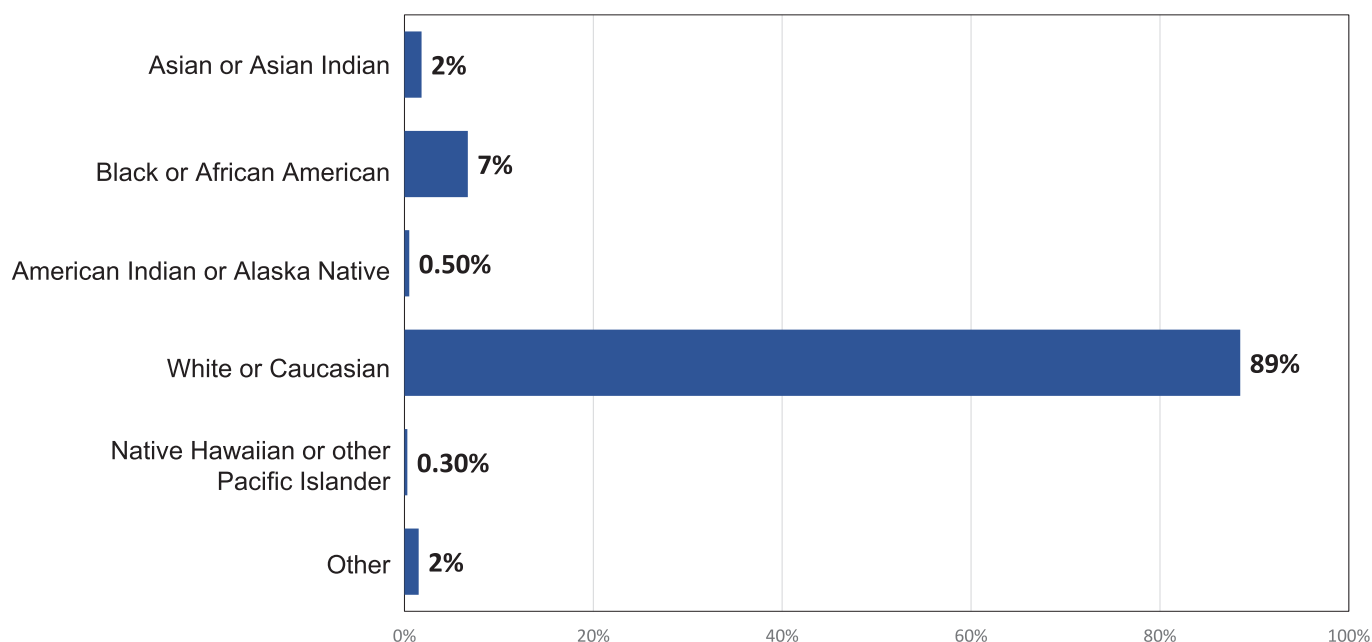


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Q5. Which Of The Following Best Describes You?

by percentage of respondents



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2

Priority Investment Rating

Priority Investment Rating

Hernando County Community Interest and Opinion Survey

The **Priority Investment Rating (PIR)** was developed by ETC Institute to provide governments with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed on parks and recreation investments. The Priority Investment Rating was developed by ETC Institute to identify the facilities and programs residents think should receive the highest priority for investment. The priority investment rating reflects the importance residents place on items (sum of top 3 choices) and the unmet needs (needs that are only being partly or not met) for each facility/program relative to the facility/program that rated the highest overall. Since decisions related to future investments should consider both the level of unmet need and the importance of facilities and programs, the PIR weights each of these components equally.

The PIR reflects the sum of the Unmet Needs Rating and the Importance Rating as shown in the equation below:

$$\text{PIR} = \text{UNR} + \text{IR}$$

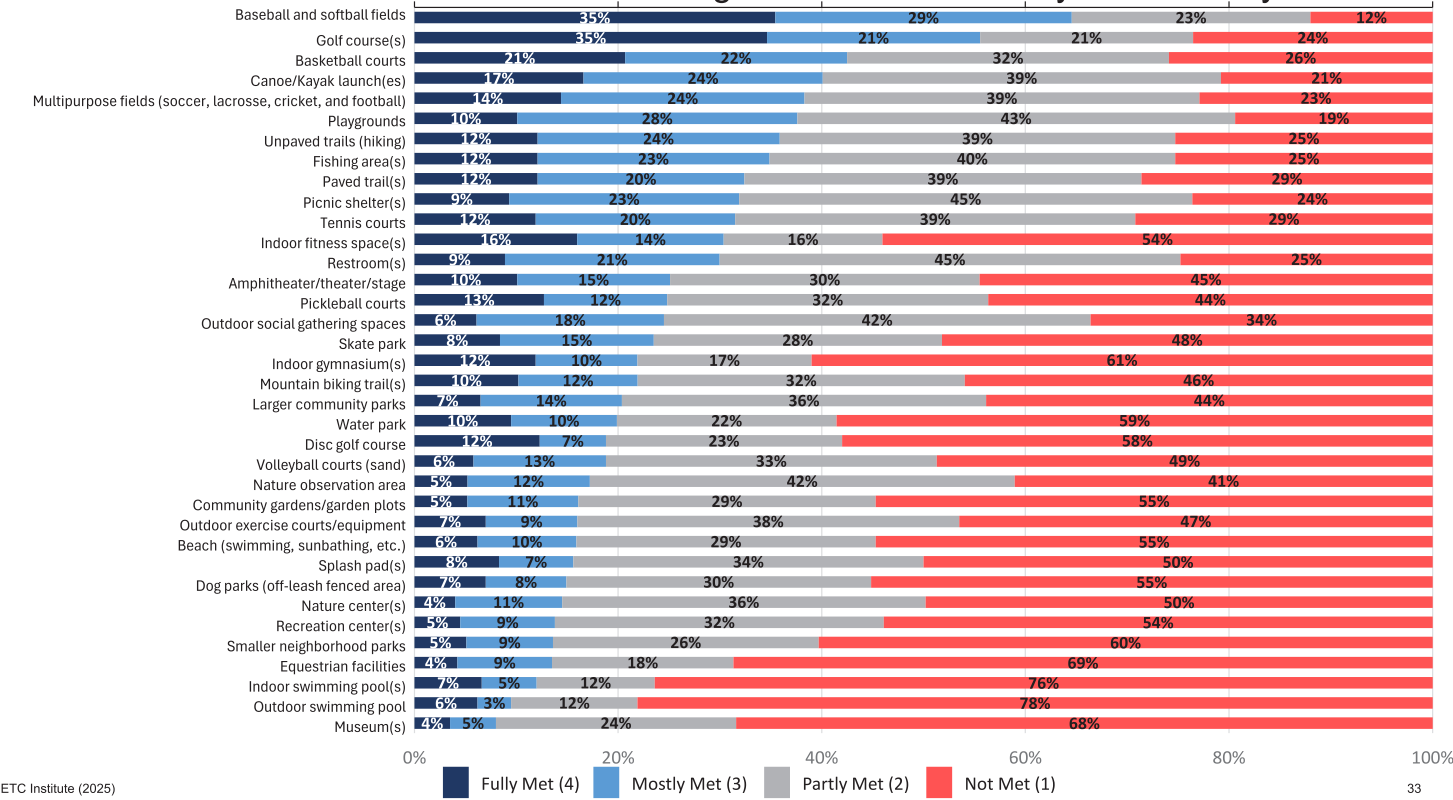
For example, suppose the Unmet Needs Rating for playgrounds is 26.5 (out of 100) and the Importance Rating for playgrounds is 52 (out of 100), the Priority Investment Rating for playgrounds would be 78.5 (out of 200).

How to Analyze the Charts:

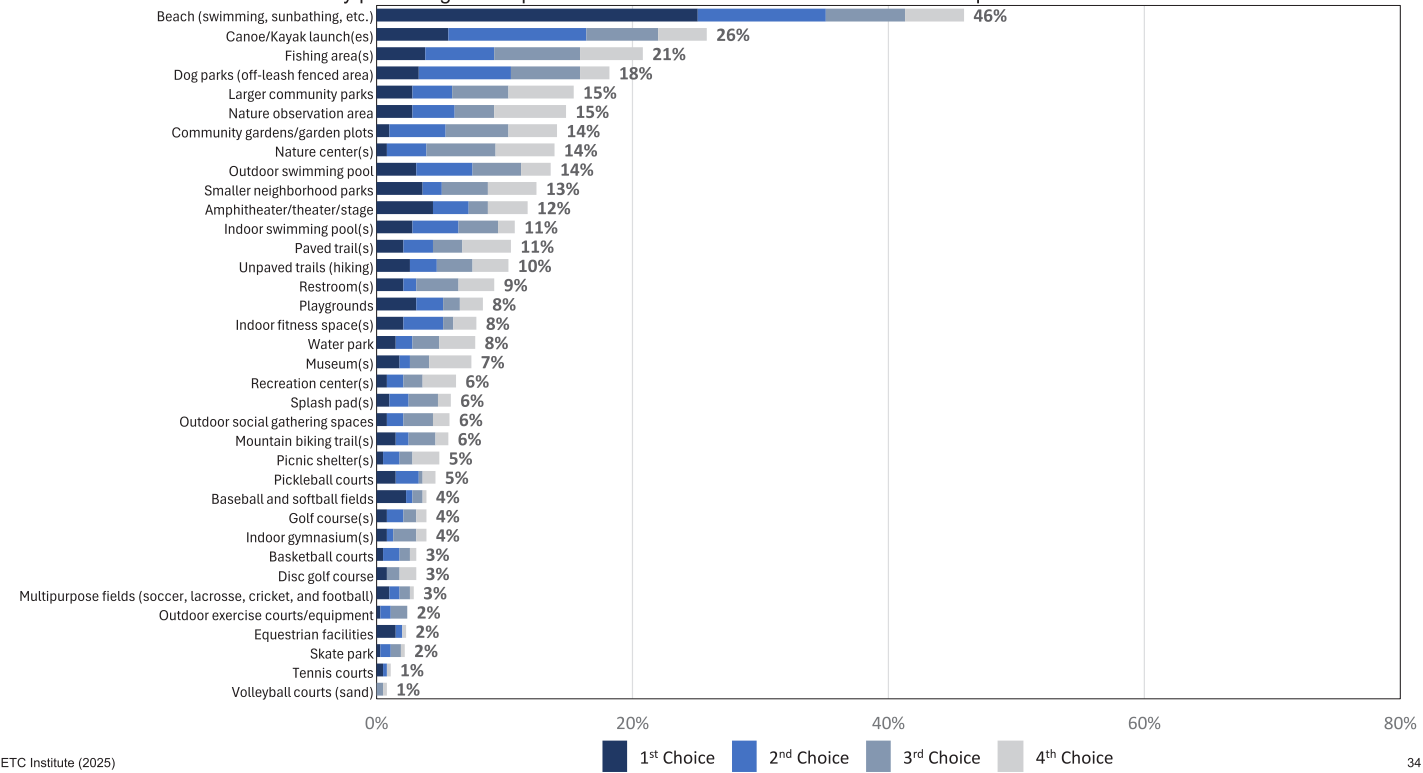
- **High Priority Areas** are those with a PIR of at least 100. A rating of 100 or above generally indicates there is a relatively high level of unmet need and residents generally think it is important to fund improvements in these areas. Improvements in this area are likely to have a positive impact on the greatest number of households.
- **Medium Priority Areas** are those with a PIR of 50-99. A rating in this range generally indicates there is a medium to high level of unmet need or a significant percentage of residents generally think it is important to fund improvements in these areas.
- **Low Priority Areas** are those with a PIR below 50. A rating in this range generally indicates there is a relatively low level of unmet need and residents do not think it is important to fund improvements in these areas. Improvements may be warranted if the needs of very specialized populations are being targeted.

The following pages show the Unmet Needs Rating, Importance Rating, and Priority Investment Rating for programs and activities.

Q14. How Well Your Needs Are Being Met For Each Facility And Amenity



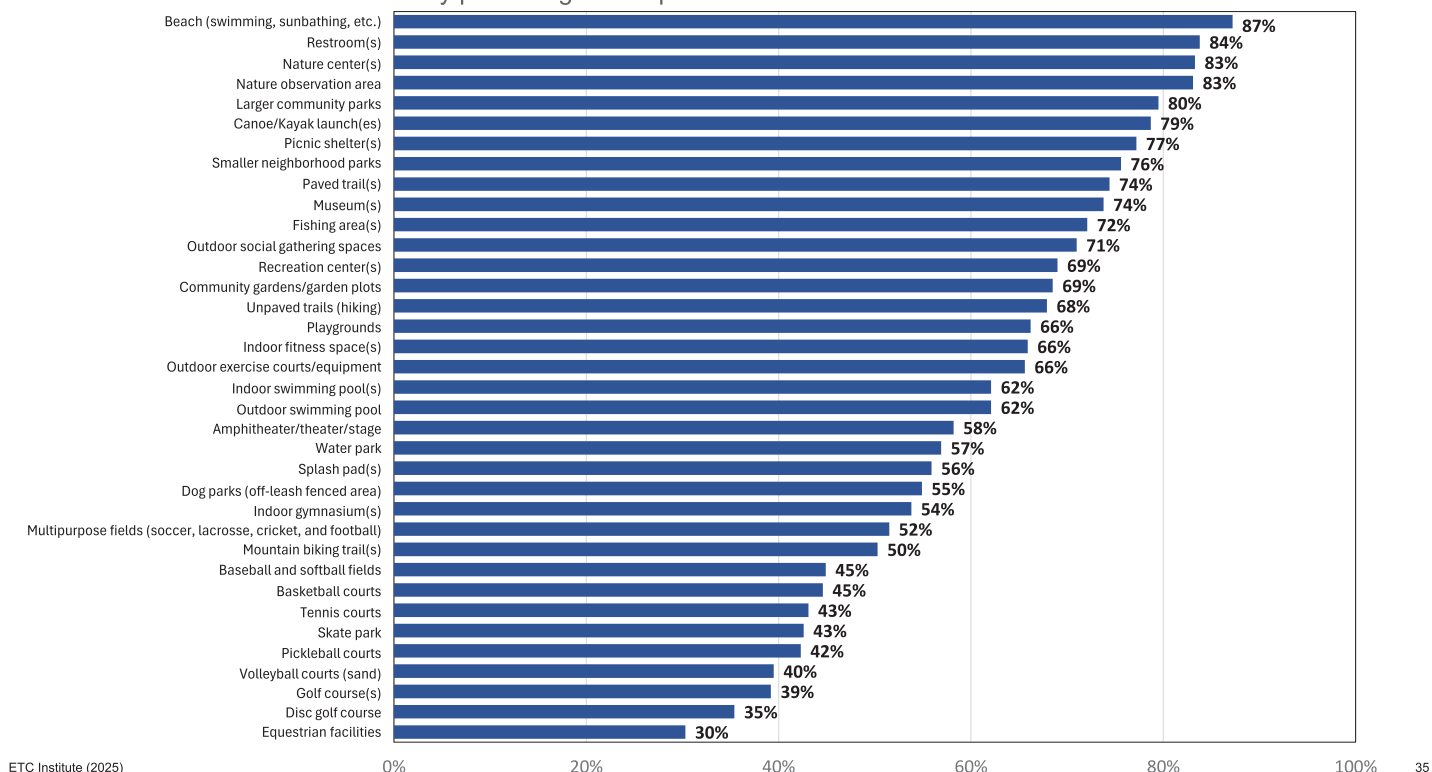
Q15. Which FOUR Facilities/Amenities From The List In Question 14 Are MOST IMPORTANT To Your Household?
by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



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Need For Facilities And Amenities In Hernando County

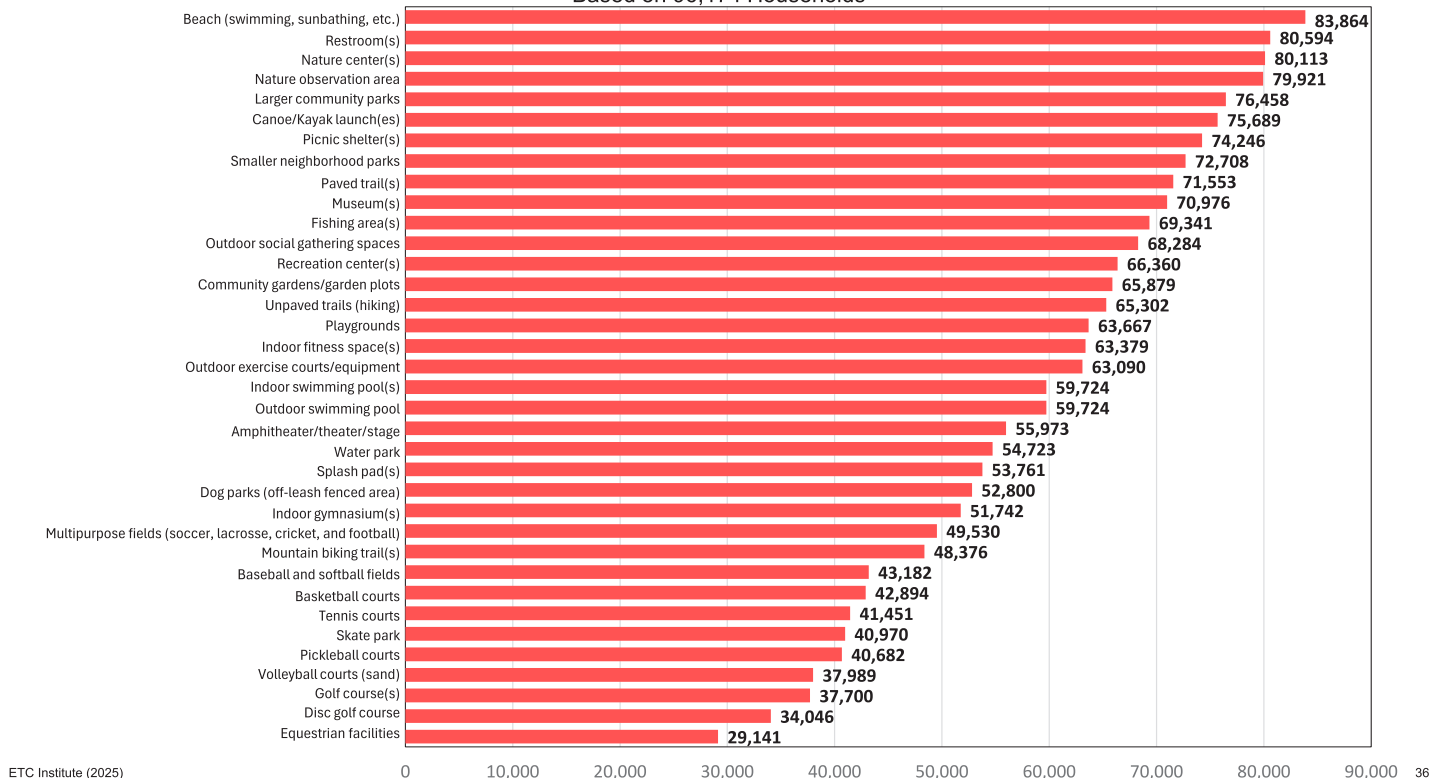
by percentage of respondents who indicated a need



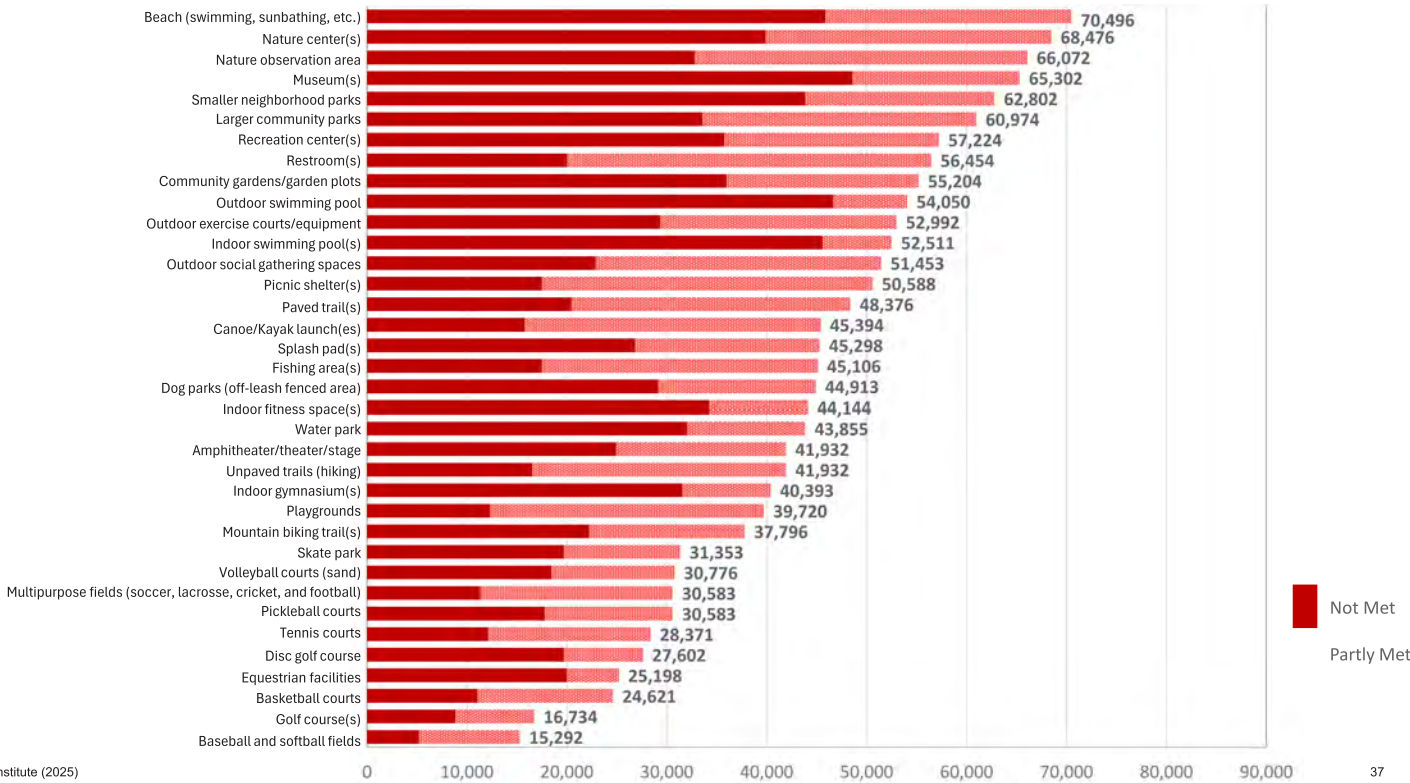
2025 Hernando County Community Interest and Opinion Survey: Findings Report

Estimated Number Of Households That Have Needs For Facilities And Amenities In The County

Based on 96,174 Households



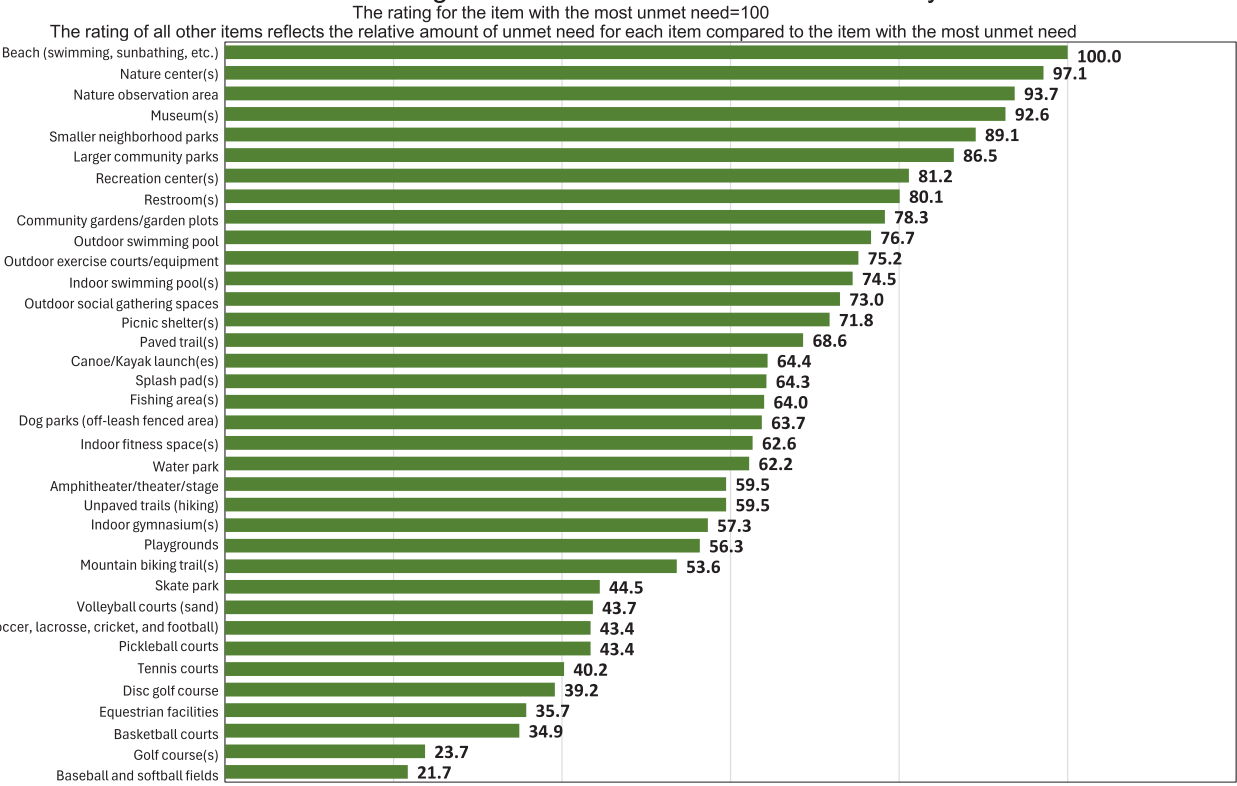
Estimated Number Of Households That's Needs For Facilities And Amenities Is Partly Met Or Not Met
Based on 96,174 Households



ETC Institute (2025)

37

Unmet Needs Rating For Facilities And Amenities In County



ETC Institute (2025)

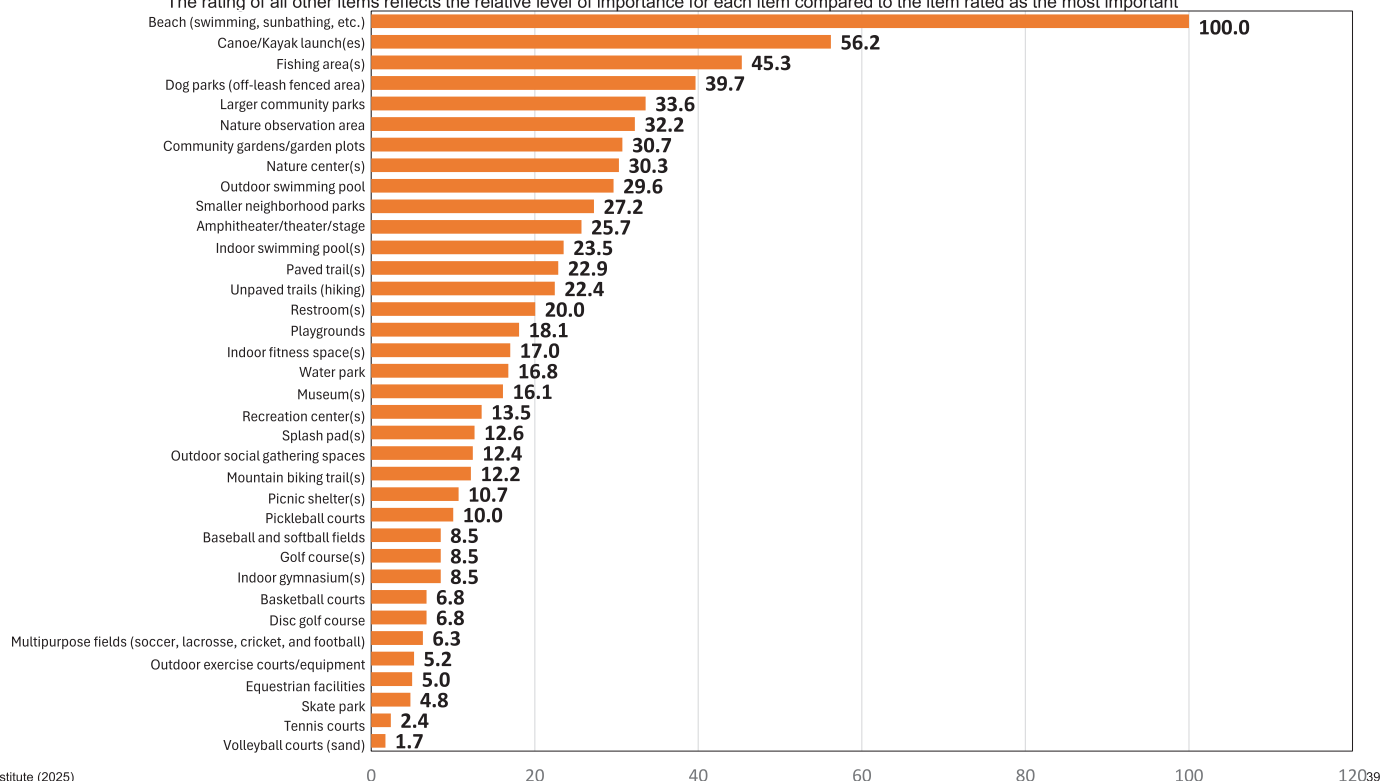
38

Importance Rating for Facilities and Amenities In County

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The rating for the item rated as the most important=100

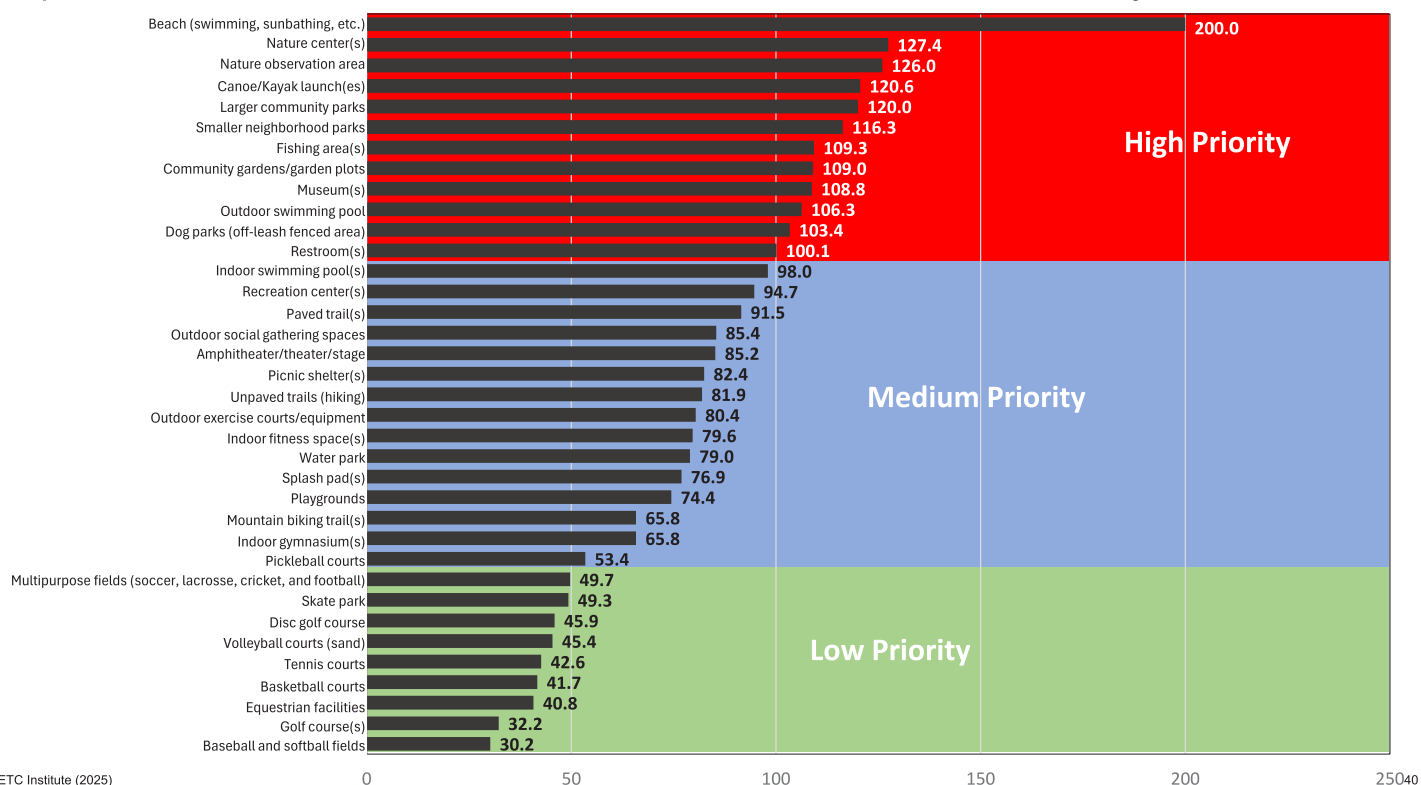
The rating of all other items reflects the relative level of importance for each item compared to the item rated as the most important



ETC Institute (2025)

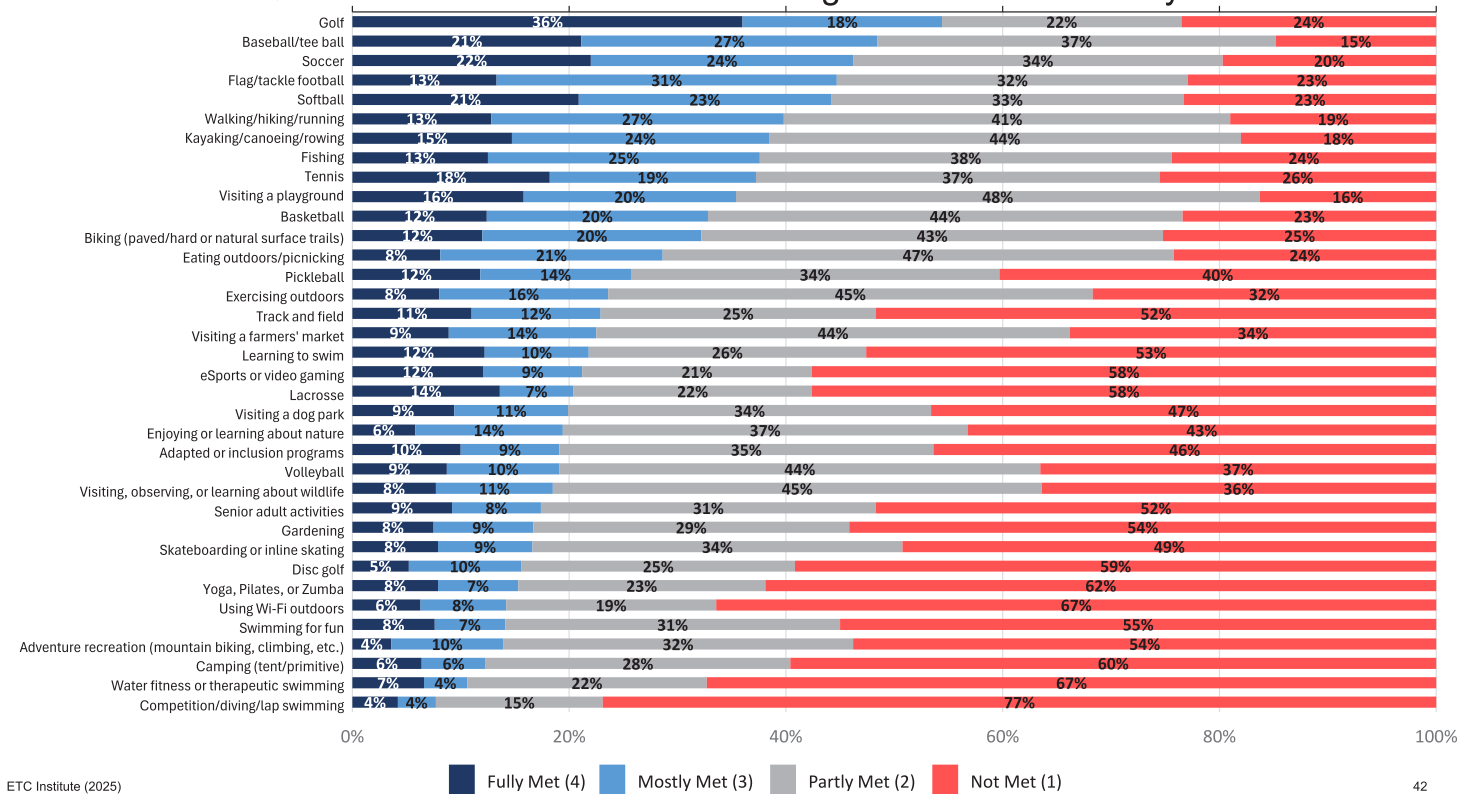
2025 Hernando County Community Interest and Opinion Survey: Findings Report

Top Priorities for Investment for Facilities And Amenities Based on Priority Investment Rating

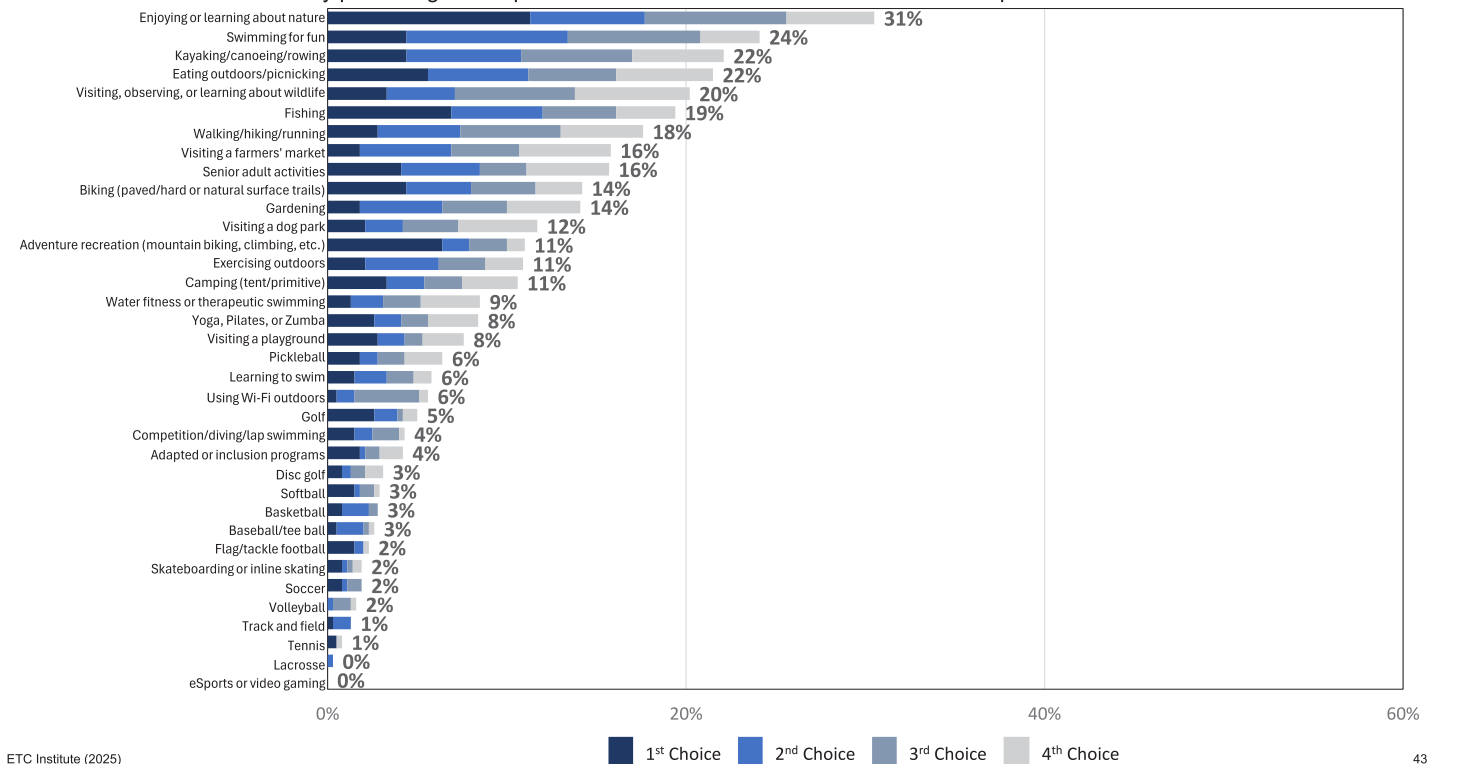


ETC Institute (2025)

Q16. How Well Your Needs Are Being Met For Each Activity

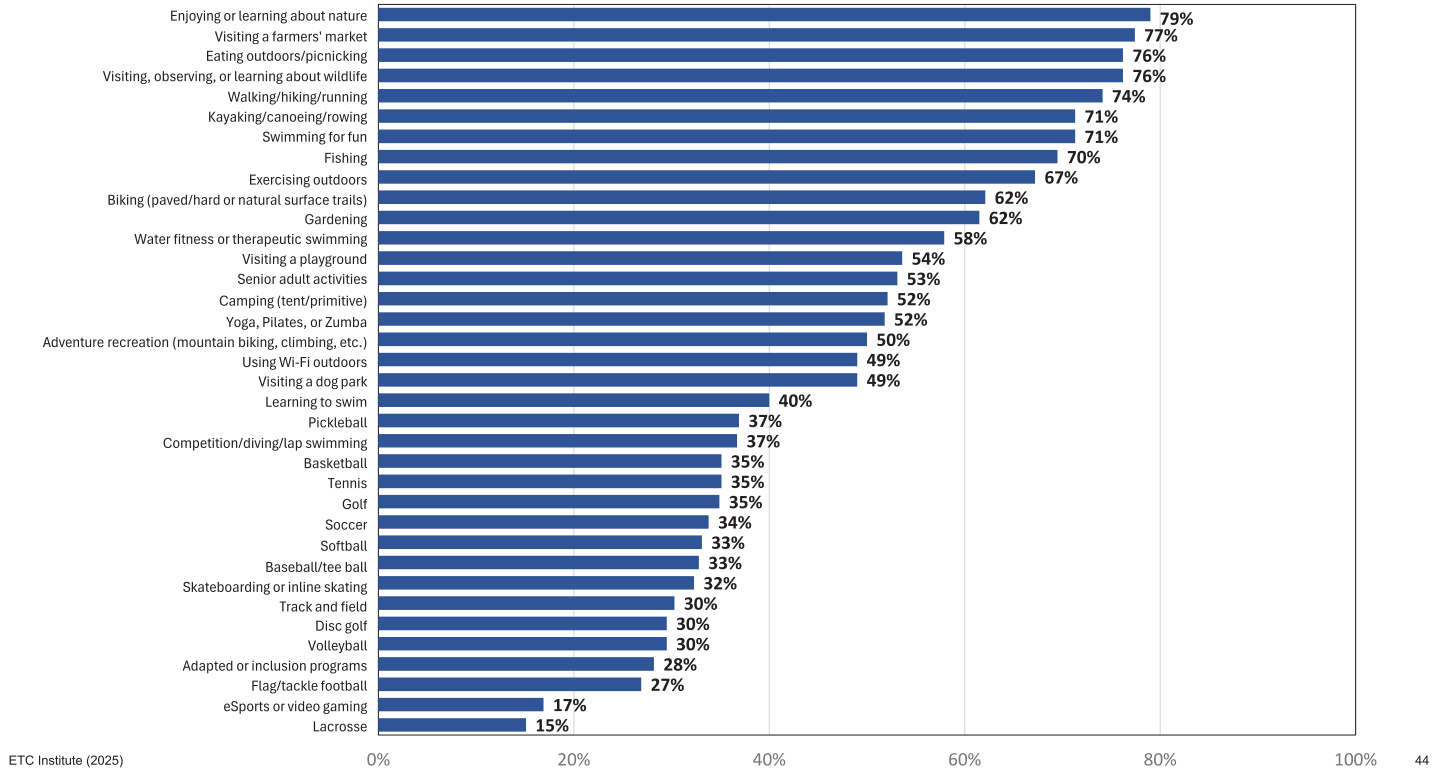


Q17. Which FOUR Activities From The List In Question 16 Are MOST IMPORTANT To Your Household?
by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



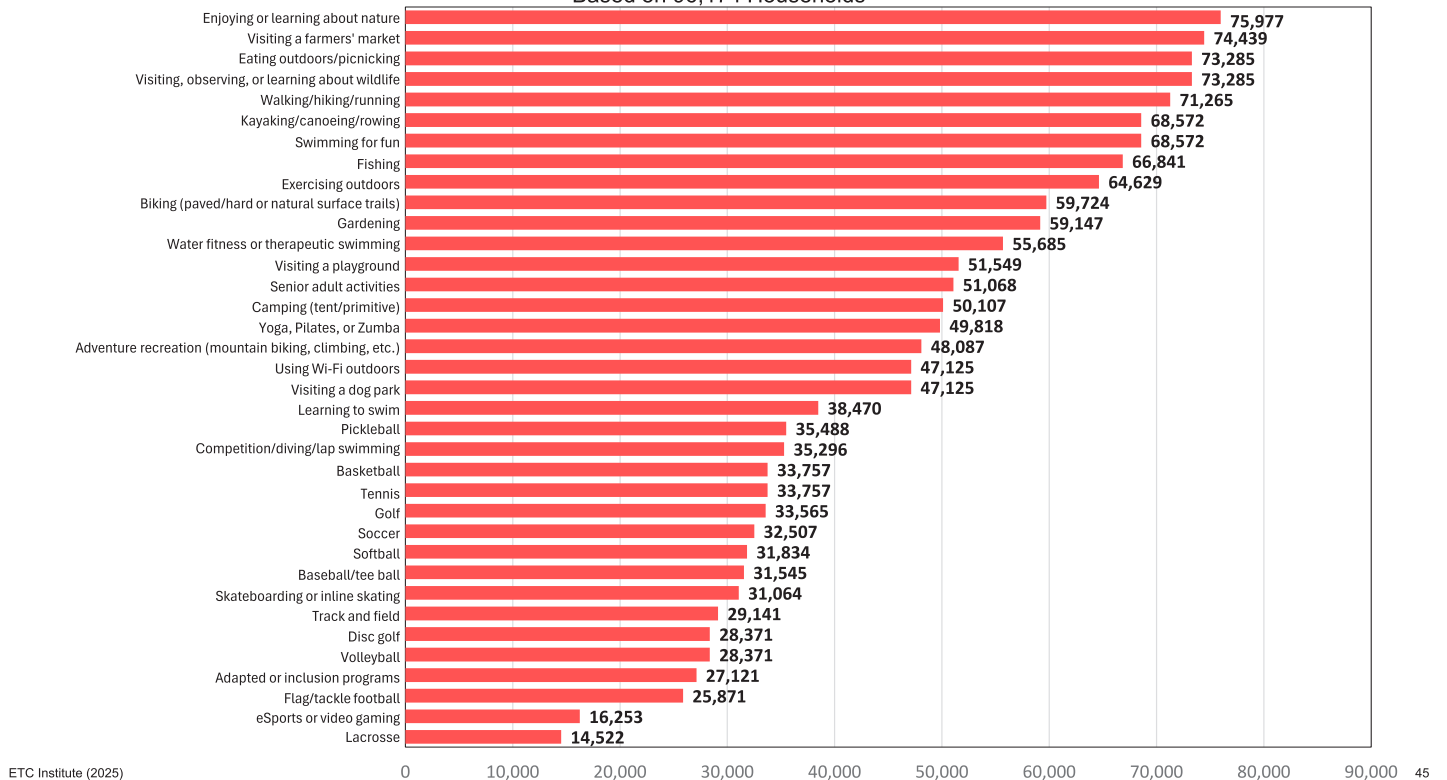
Need For Activities In Hernando County by percentage of respondents who indicated a need

2025 Hernando County Community Interest and Opinion Survey: Findings Report

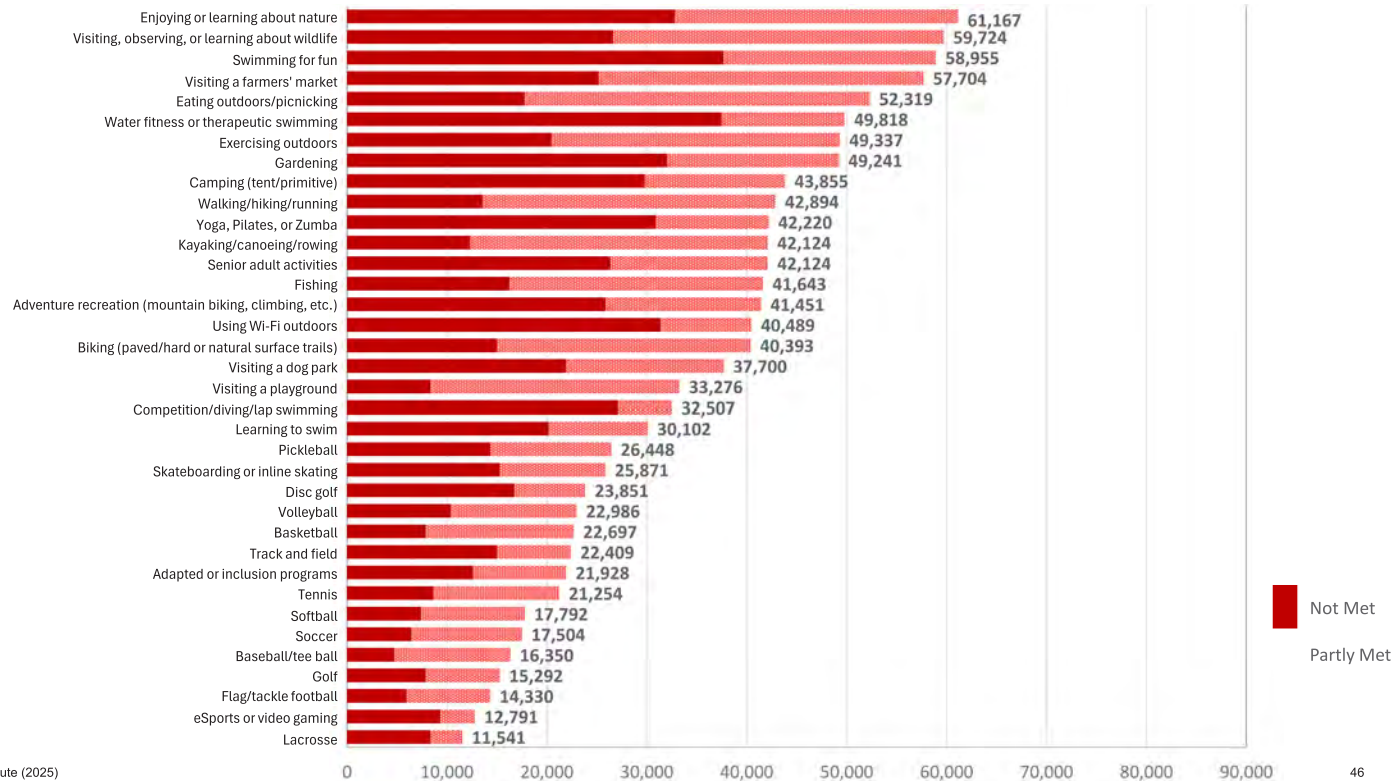


Estimated Number Of Households That Have Needs For Activities In The County Based on 96,174 Households

2025 Hernando County Community Interest and Opinion Survey: Findings Report



Estimated Number Of Households That's Needs For Activities Is Partly Met Or Not Met
Based on 96,174 Households

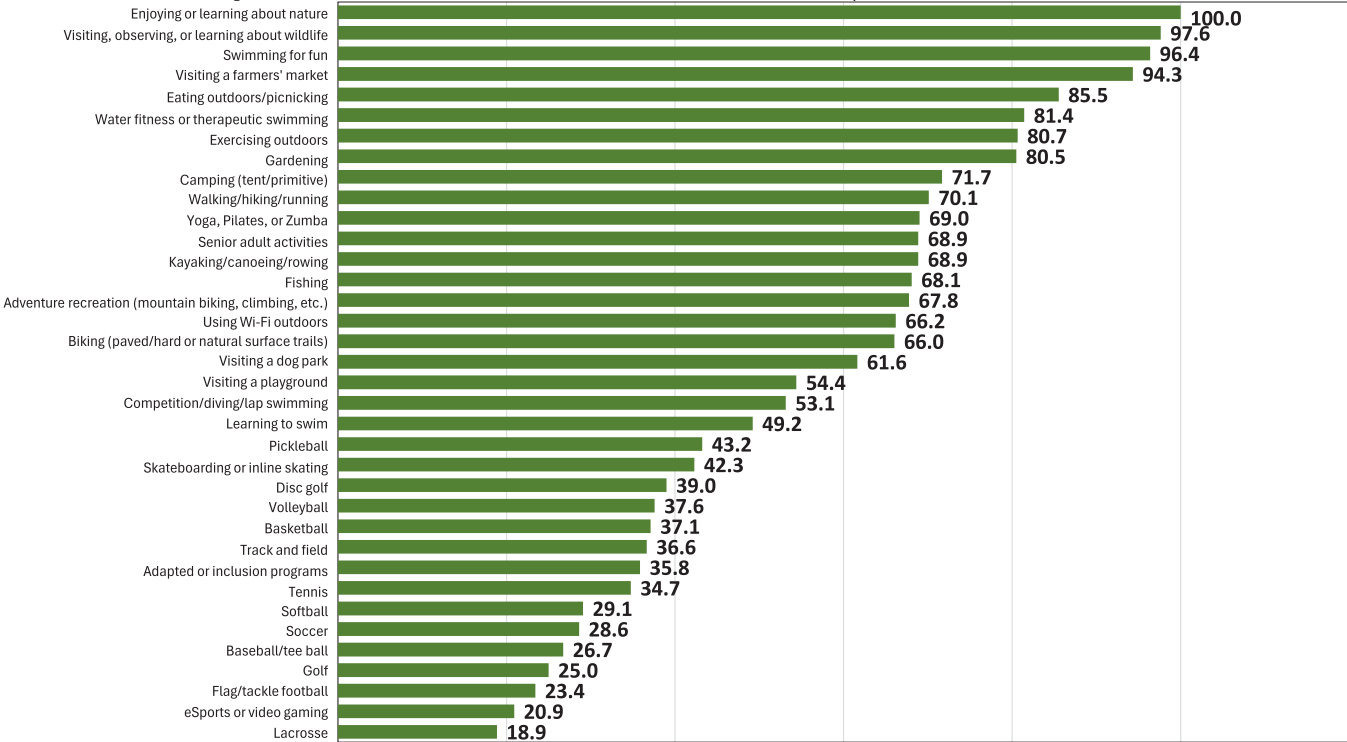


ETC Institute (2025)

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Unmet Needs Rating For Activities In The County

The rating of all other items reflects the relative amount of unmet need for each item compared to the item with the most unmet need
The rating for the item with the most unmet need=100

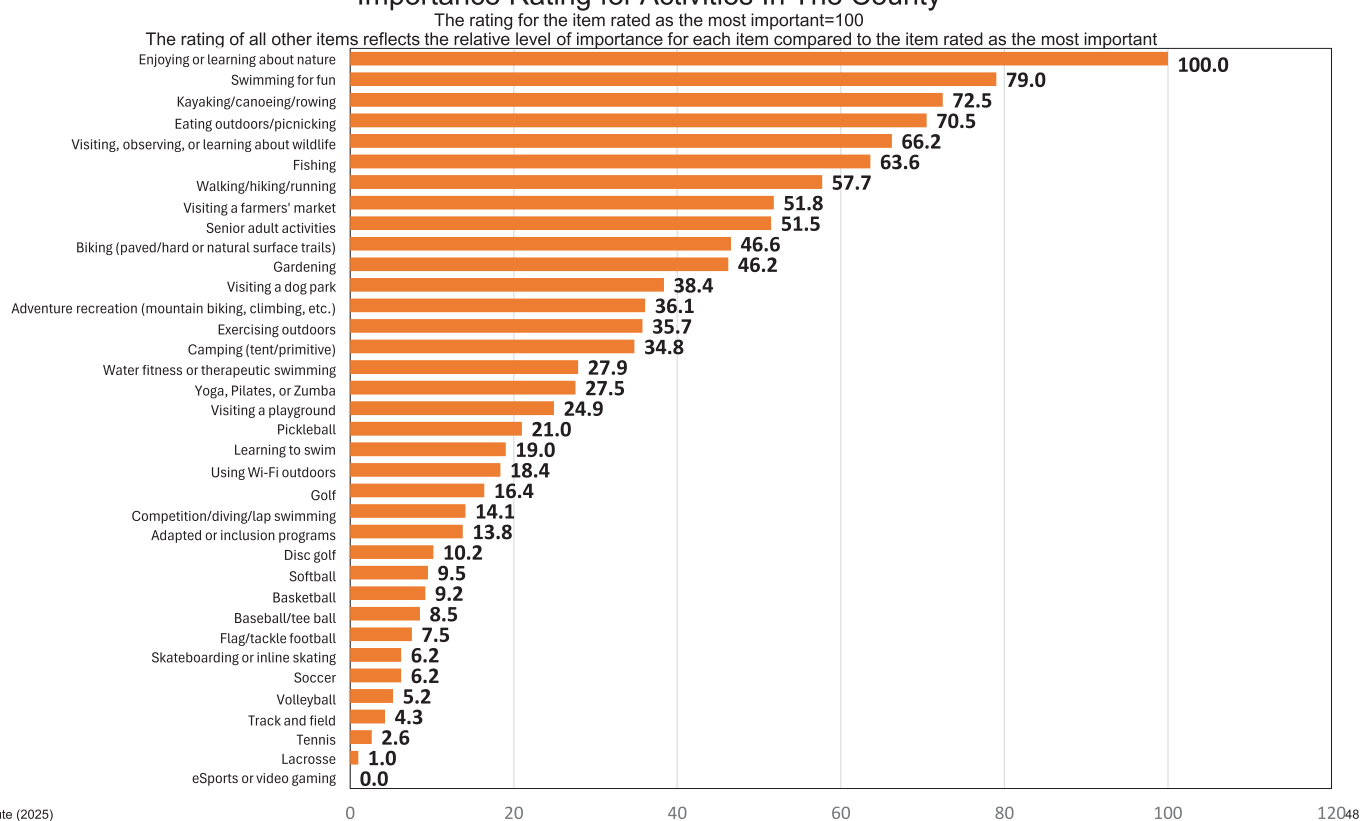


ETC Institute (2025)

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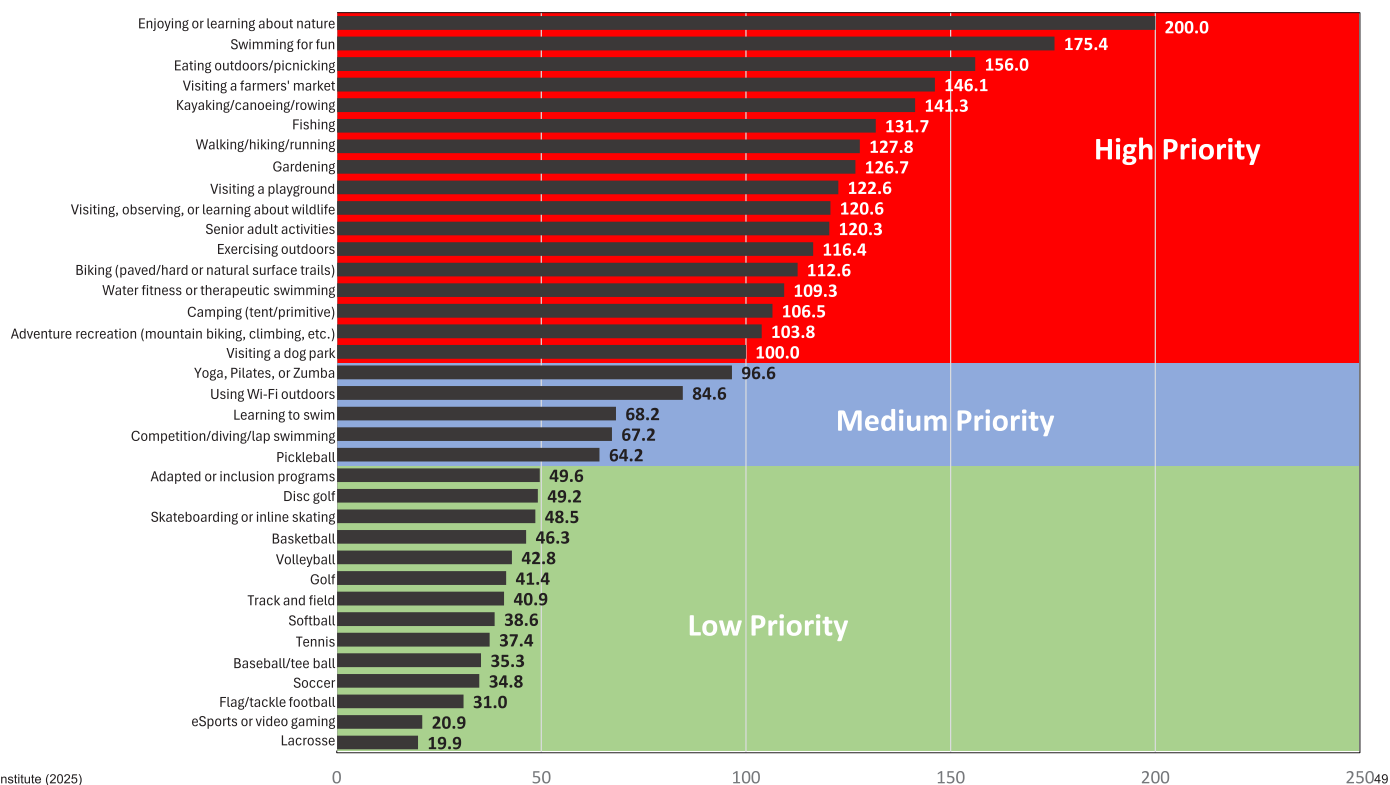
Importance Rating for Activities In The County

2025 Hernando County Community Interest and Opinion Survey: Findings Report



Top Priorities for Investment for Activities Based on Priority Investment Rating

2025 Hernando County Community Interest and Opinion Survey: Findings Report





3 Open-Ended Comments

Q8-14. Other

- Art in the park
- BOCC and Planning and Zoning meetings
- By driving through the county!
- Drive-by
- Drive-by
- Going there
- Google maps
- Google maps
- Google search
- Google search
- I do walking in the parks
- I DRIVE AROUND AND KNOW MY TOWN
- I drive by n see for myself
- I have no idea where I'd go look for camps? Etc. I come from a town where it was one booklet with every type of sport, camp, class, etc. etc. available. Here? It's the YMCA it's 60 different spots to look at, there should be one county site with all available camps, parks, sports options etc.
- Internet search
- Internet search
- Internet/Google
- Master gardener field trips
- Nature coaster
- NatureCoaster.com
- Rarely get information
- RV recreation
- Through my place of employment
- Wondering around to see new places and things

Q10-24. Other

- Appears some parks get higher attention than others such as general maintenance and upkeep. This then discourages members from utilizing do to poor maintenance of facilities. Also creates a sense of insecurity and safety if and when attend
- Cannot enjoy the weeki wachee with all of the canoes. The rentals need to be regulated
- Closed all the time
- Fox the pine island pier and open it.
- Gate not open any more at Weeki Wacki Preserve
- I need to take my dogs my leashed trained dogs
- I work too much
- I would really love to walk my leashed dogs in Hernando County park/trail locations, but since that is not currently allowed, I mostly utilize other entities' green spaces (SWFWMD, FWC, Pasco County Parks, etc.)
- Lack of dog friendly facilities- not just off leash dog parks but also allowing on-leash on property.
- Lack of security on the trails and water stations
- Lack of shade
- Lack of shade on trails and parks
- Lack of special needs programs and facility equipment
- Lack of tennis courts
- Need more options!
- never open
- No adequate shade at the parks in my area. No shade tents or tall trees. No safety features to prevent kids from leaving the play area and entering the parking lot. Most parks are geared to activities for children (which is great for my kid) but not much in my are is for adults as well. I also feel like the park area at pine island is a money trap. The equipment in all these parks without shade are too hot for kids skin. Please get a wheelchair swing for kids who are bound to a chair with a path that allows them to access the swing. There are very few of those in Florida and it would actually also add a tourism benefit. Also put some obstacle style things in the playgrounds.
- No one to participate with
- No pavilions offered. Florida needs shade.
- NO TIME-TOO BUSY
- Not enough of them. The county has been allowing the natural parts of our once lovey home to be destroyed instead of protected.
- not open!
- Not pet friendly
- Not pet friendly
- Not so much lack of restrooms but gross restrooms.
- Open Pine Island & the swimming area at Linda Pederson park & keep the tower. & open the preserve every day to drive thru gate on osowa
- Our parks are maintained more like a money making venture than with consideration of the landscape, natural features, conservation and protection of plants as animal habitats - MOW MOW MOW!
- Park/beaches/hammocks are closed by hurricanes and closed

- Parks around here are gross. Restrooms filthy and stinky, if they're even open at all. Trash cans overflowing, litter everywhere. Pine Island has been closed entirely too long. Same goes for the swim area at Linda Pederson park. Now they're removing the tower??? Whoever is in charge of the parks needs to be fired. Get someone in there that can actually do their job
- Parks closed too often for an extensive time like months after hurricanes
- Pay too much taxes for a little benefit
- Pine Island Beach is not opened at this time
- Pine island has been closed way longer than acceptable.
- Pine Island has been closed. Linda Pederson has been partially closed.
- Pine Island is closed
- Pine Island is our favorite and it has been closed for months
- Pine Island is still closed and the repairs were not done in a timely manner.
- REALLY ONLY USE THE BIKE TRAIL OR GO TO PINE ISLAND
- Rogers Park needs better access to the water. Also kayak ramp is overcrowded.
- See the corner of Coronado and Lynden - that lot could be redeveloped for surrounding community
- Should work in congress with road planning. Lack of sidewalks, bike lanes to get to parks and just walk or bike safely. Examples: Centralia and Sunshine Grove. Lack of kayak launches or dangerous launches. Examples: Bayport launch is too steep and slippery, Hernando Beach is too busy and no county person there to keep people organized so they get angry and mean, lack of Parking at Roger's Park. Pine Island closed. MOST IMPORTANT: COMMUNITY SWIMMING POOLS. Need them for lap swimming and exercise and for children to LEARN to swim and swim teams. WE NEED IMPACT FEES for the new construction for all of the above.
- Sidewalks are inefficient
- Sometimes it's just too hot to be outside.
- The park system here is a joke, coming from Pinellas county, nothing here compares
- The parks are in terrible condition...Jenkins creek fishing pier is ready to fail ... Linda pederson is unfinished... manatee viewing area ..Weekie wachee recreational needs to be opened up so people can use the lakes without walking a mile . Pine Island needs to be opened. Bayou Rd. needs to be made a one-way rd.
- Time
- Too busy at work
- Too hot
- Under county construction
- Very few parks are dog friendly compared to parks in Pinellas and Hillsborough counties. Hernando county is severely lacking waterfront parks with green space and bike trails compared to neighboring counties.
- Very hot outside. Need more splash pads.
- Very slow at fixing are parks.
- We live the trails and walk them often. They are not close, but they make up for it in beauty.
- We use VA Park regularly to play senior softball. Not pet friendly.

Q11-12. Other

- Bring communities together.
- Enjoy nature
- Gives kids and teenagers something beneficial to do.
- Gives teenagers a place to be and play without feeling awkward or isolated
- I haven't really been to any parks. I Would definitely enjoy concerts if there were restrooms nearby. It would also be nice if there were food trucks or a concession stand.
- I think rest room facilities that are maintained would help the parks overall. The trails have no restrooms, so If you plan to take a long ride, there are no facilities.
- I've seen a large number of dog parent/dog friendly residents here in Hernando county and I think a good dog park would be great addition. Or reconditioning the current ones. Right now there's a good park with plenty of space for the dogs to run around, but the area is full of dark sand that makes it a bit hard to maintain the dogs clean. For example, I own 4 dogs, they are all lazy and like to socialize w people and some dogs, and its hard to keep them clean whenever time I have to visit the only dog park in spring hill I have to give them a bath to remove all the dark sand. Having an area with grass or a cleaner/sandless spot would be incredible and would attract more residents w pets. Adding 1 or 2 grilling spots would be nice too. It would attract more people to visit.
- More residents are not a benefit
- Need beach wheelchairs. No tearing down park structures (tower Linda Peterson park)cutting trees and preservation sites.
- Need to have more fishing areas
- Need to know more about programs
- Our parks are grounds for drug dealers, trouble makers, and vandalism. I have messaged the department about the hill n dale park and received no response. Even after a juvenile was arrested with a semi automatic rifle. There are bullet holes in the backboard of the basketball hoops. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out we as a county have a drug problem and no authority whatsoever. We have no "beach", and the one place we can go to cool off in the river is so overwhelming with people that you can not enjoy it. The splash pads have NO fencing or shade. The restrooms at every park I've been to in Hernando county is disgusting or just locked. The homeless people destroy the facilities. I travel to other counties to take my kids to CLEAN parks. With all of the county employees that we see driving around or sitting in their trucks, the parks should be clean and maintained. This county is a disgrace. And I was born and raised here.
- Protect wildlife
- Protection of native flora and fauna
- Provides safe places to get exercise.
- RV recreation
- Should charge visitors for using kayaks and boats.
- Some of the Parks are simply overused like Our Weeki Wachee River!!! There should be daily limits on the River! Everyone that uses the River knows this but nothing is done!!! Also those who live on the River and Pay taxes on it should have some user rights!!!
- The preserved and historical areas need to remain untouched. Will help maintain the beauty of Hernando County instead of looking like Tampa and other large cities. More shaded trails would be beneficial

- The rivers are overcrowded and we can't enjoy beaching our tiny boat and having a picnic.
- Too crowded
- Way to much building with out appropriate infrastructure. Shame to see all the wildlife so displaced
- We need new state of the art indoor and outdoor fitness centers
- Would like to see walking paths

Q14-37. Other

- Beach swim
- Dade Battlefield gives classes i.e. pine needle baskets, weaving palm fronds, etc.
- Indoor facilities, places to rent and use equipment like tennis or basketballs
- Indoor rec center with indoor pool
- More softball fields!!
- No beach
- Observation TOWER/sunset viewing locations
- Parks and rec classes
- Please complete work that has been left unfinished at places like Linda Peterson. Please complete work in a more timely manner, St Pete beaches like Ft DeSoto and Honeymoon got reopened much quicker and we are still waiting for pine island, this country has limited "beach" resources and you took so long we missed the best time of year to just sit and enjoy sunrises/sunsets. Also indoor pickleball and activities for adults ages 30-40s w are looking to socialize too.
- POOLS and pedestrian/bike path along thoroughfares to get to neighborhood parks. Look at Centralia... THAT is supposed to be a place to ride your bike to the bike trail along the Suncoast and to walk to the two neighborhood parks? Really? That's a way to get killed. And swimming? You have to join the YMCA. A community pool complex in Royal Highlands would be AWESOME. The kids would have something to do and the adults could use it for fitness. I, for one, would volunteer to teach kids to swim and would be there for lap swimming three times a week. And the pools need to be open all year.
- Refer to my last "other" answer
- Space for outside roller skating rink
- Take better care of the parks you already have before building more
- The Lake House property has been environmentally DAMAGED by aggressive mowing, tree cutting, dumping of weed-seeded mulch into a pile that sat for YEARS and replaced native flora; the Lake House itself is no longer a community center it's a money grab; bathrooms are locked. Dixie League field disassembled. Stage, disassembled. Gopher tortoises and owls killed and disturbed by PARKS staff mindlessly mowing. Dogs on leash? In the best field and stream environment we have in Spring Hill? With a perfect stick and frisbee throwing field?! You've misused this facility. It should be a wilderness park with a good stage.
- The park nearest me is in horrible disrepair. I actually purchased this property with the intention of utilizing the park across the street for equestrian recreation, but the County has cut off access and ignored trail maintenance, as well as let a dilapidated fence fall down around the park. I have called, written and have been ignored while the park becomes useless to me. It is planned to be a gopher

tortoise sanctuary but when residents who use the horse trails spoke against this to the BOCC several years ago, it appears the park was put on the “let it rot list”.

- There needs to be a new park in the northwest area of the county that is equivalent to Tom Varn and Anderson Snow.
- This county is being destroyed by over development, There are no areas for anything because they are being cleared out for more housing
- Trap, skeet, sporting clays
- Uninterrupted green space connecting to other green spaces in the state
- We need a lot in this country We the people feel our country is just lining there pockets and not spending money where it needs.

Q16-37. Other

- Art in the park is an amazing yearly event that should be repeated at least 2 or 3 times. Or maybe it could be a gateway to opening some seasonal art classes and having those art pieces as Expositions in the ART IN THE PARK fair. Hernando county has a lot of art enthusiast but I rarely see any art related activities announced on time for participation. In my household we occasionally read the Hernando news paper (once a month maybe), and we would be inclined to participating if we saw more advertisement on these activities online.
- Beach access
- BIKING
- Cruises, RV, golf, bingo
- Enjoying the rivers not met. Too many rental canoes makes it a commercial space not a family space.
- Honors Lake boat ramp needs to be fixed and the channel needs to be dug out when it was dry season y'all didn't do shit
- If you can't get to these places safely due to the roads being so crowded with no shoulders and no sidewalks - work on the list above is useless.
- Indoor rec and indoor swim
- Indoor recreation center because it's hot outside
- Local programs that inspired love for nature and natural things
- My equestrian access has been blocked to Lake Townsend Preserve. The barriers do not allow equestrian carts to get through.
- Observation tower in Hernando Beach
- obstacle courses like American ninja warrior
- Open Green Spaces beltways connecting to other green spaces
- Outdoor covered roller skating rink.
- Places with in walking distance
- Programs that include specials or have a special needs day separate from the original event but the same programs would be wonderful.
- Reading outside and quiet setting
- RV parking
- Special need programs for adults, like buddy ball
- There needs to be a new park in the northwest area of the county.

Q19-15. Other

- Amphitheater
- Connect current open spaces stop development
- Halting rezoning of green spaces
- I strongly support preservation for future generations and have a primary concern about the disposition of Chinsegut Hill.
- In my household we do not support buying land to create the same type of parks we already have. We DO SUPPORT taking tax payers money to improve the incredible and well maintained areas we already have. Hernando county has done a good job with public recreational space and keeps it very clean. We think that we have enough parks in big enough areas were we can implement some of these ideas. Andrews snow park has enough space to have a small dog area. Its big enough to have a tennis court or whatever sport. Its big enough to have a second play ground if need be. But buying more land to have the same amenities? Feels like a waste when a large part of the Hernando county population don't visit the ones we got already.
- Indoor volleyball for seniors
- Keep the tower and allow us to swim in the Weeki Wachee again!
- Maintain and fix what is there already.
- Make 7 hills golf course a golf course again.
- make more fishing areas
- More classes
- More pools
- More pools, splash pads, indoor play
- MORE TRAILS LESS HOUSES
- New dog park
- New state of art indoor gym and pool badly needed in Brooksville
- Not enough beach/water areas for residents. Pine Island, Rogers Park, Buc Bay overflow.
- Offer more “inside” activities towards younger children 3 under, libraries are full and hardly ever have spots the one day a week they do the reading time
- Open Pine Island
- Open Pine Island with food offerings
- Please build a new park with all the amenities in the northwest area of the county. All of the focus is always in Brooksville or Spring Hill which is to far for the residents in the Royal Highlands.
- Preserve nature, remodeled existing to accommodate needs
- Preserve our wildlife!! And nature preserves!!!
- Provide more restrooms at veterans park. The amount of people with only one stall for men’s bathroom is not sufficient.
- Put up sun shades
- Removing forests for land development
- Retro all parks with special needs equipment for all ages
- RV parks
- Skate park with bowl
- The parks we have are small and do not included something for everyone. Go to other counties and visit places like Sims park in Pasco, Carolwood village park is Tampa or the depot park in Citrus, non

of which charge fees for people to use. They all have something for every age without sports fields. Sports parks need to be separate parks also. The better parks in Hernando get so packed and congested that people that are just visiting can't enjoy them. The smaller parks she to have homeless people sleeping where we would picnic. While all the parks have bathrooms, they aren't accessible and often locked.

- The Welcome to Spring Hill fountain sign an old brick is terrible. Get it redone. The brick looks crumbled.
- Too many people here

4

Tabular Data

	Mean	Sum
number	2.7	1041
Under age 5	0.1	45
Ages 5-9	0.2	66
Ages 10-14	0.2	65
Ages 15-19	0.2	77
Ages 20-24	0.1	42
Ages 25-34	0.3	111
Ages 35-44	0.3	127
Ages 45-54	0.4	135
Ages 55-64	0.4	150
Ages 65-74	0.4	140
Ages 75+	0.2	83

Q2. What is your age?

Q2. Your age	Number	Percent
18-34	59	15.1 %
35-44	60	15.4 %
45-54	68	17.4 %
55-64	74	19.0 %
65-74	77	19.7 %
75+	44	11.3 %
Not provided	8	2.1 %
Total	390	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"**Q2. What is your age? (without "not provided")**

Q2. Your age	Number	Percent
18-34	59	15.4 %
35-44	60	15.7 %
45-54	68	17.8 %
55-64	74	19.4 %
65-74	77	20.2 %
75+	44	11.5 %
Total	382	100.0 %

Q3. Your gender:

Q3. Your gender	Number	Percent
Male	190	48.7 %
Female	195	50.0 %
Other	1	0.3 %
Not provided	4	1.0 %
Total	390	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"**Q3. Your gender: (without "not provided")**

Q3. Your gender	Number	Percent
Male	190	49.2 %
Female	195	50.5 %
Other	1	0.3 %
Total	386	100.0 %

Q3-3. Self-describe your gender:

Q3-3. Self-describe your gender	Number	Percent
Nonbinary	1	100.0 %
Total	1	100.0 %

Q4. Which ONE of the following best describes your ethnicity?

Q4. Your ethnicity	Number	Percent
Hispanic or Latino	70	17.9 %
Not Hispanic or Latino	315	80.8 %
Not provided	5	1.3 %
Total	390	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"

Q4. Which ONE of the following best describes your ethnicity? (without "not provided")

Q4. Your ethnicity	Number	Percent
Hispanic or Latino	70	18.2 %
Not Hispanic or Latino	315	81.8 %
Total	385	100.0 %

Q5. Which of the following best describes you?

Q5. Your race	Number	Percent
Asian or Asian Indian	7	1.8 %
Black or African American	26	6.7 %
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	0.5 %
White or Caucasian	345	88.5 %
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	1	0.3 %
Other	6	1.5 %
Total	387	

Q5-6. Self-describe your race:

Q5-6. Self-describe your race	Number	Percent
Jewish	1	16.7 %
Sicilian	1	16.7 %
Mixed race	1	16.7 %
Scottish	1	16.7 %
Latino	1	16.7 %
Northern European	1	16.7 %
Total	6	100.0 %

Q6. How would you rate the overall quality of parks and/or recreation amenities offered by the Hernando County that you and members of your household have visited?

Q6. How would you rate overall quality of parks and/or recreation amenities	Number	Percent
Excellent	14	3.6 %
Good	136	34.9 %
Fair	151	38.7 %
Poor	76	19.5 %
I have not visited any Hernando County parks or recreation facilities	13	3.3 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q7. How would you rate the overall quality of the programs (sports, recreation, camps, nature, historic, etc.) offered by the Hernando County?

Q7. How would you rate overall quality of programs	Number	Percent
Excellent	8	2.1 %
Good	85	21.8 %
Fair	107	27.4 %
Poor	70	17.9 %
I have not participated in any Hernando County programs	120	30.8 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q8. From the following list, please CHECK ALL the ways in which you learn about recreation opportunities in Hernando County.

Q8. Ways in which you learn about recreation opportunities in Hernando County	Number	Percent
Hernando County website	165	42.3 %
Television (Government channel television)	20	5.1 %
Printed mailers/brochures from the County	56	14.4 %
Print/newspaper	61	15.6 %
Radio	26	6.7 %
Nextdoor	51	13.1 %
Social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)	279	71.5 %
County staff	27	6.9 %
Emails from the County	23	5.9 %
AlertHernando notices (text and/or email)	24	6.2 %
HOA or neighborhood updates	29	7.4 %
Family/friends, word of mouth	235	60.3 %
Not sure or not applicable	21	5.4 %
Other	24	6.2 %
Total	1041	

WITHOUT "NOT SURE OR NOT APPLICABLE"

Q8. From the following list, please CHECK ALL the ways in which you learn about recreation opportunities in Hernando County. (without "not sure or not applicable")

Q8. Ways in which you learn about recreation opportunities in Hernando County	Number	Percent
Social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)	279	75.6 %
Family/friends, word of mouth	235	63.7 %
Hernando County website	165	44.7 %
Print/newspaper	61	16.5 %
Printed mailers/brochures from the County	56	15.2 %
Nextdoor	51	13.8 %
HOA or neighborhood updates	29	7.9 %
County staff	27	7.3 %
Radio	26	7.0 %
AlertHernando notices (text and/or email)	24	6.5 %
Other	24	6.5 %
Emails from the County	23	6.2 %
Television (Government channel television)	20	5.4 %
Total	1020	

Q9. Do you feel there are sufficient parks and green space areas within walking distance of your residence?

Q9. Are there sufficient parks & green space areas within walking distance of your residence	Number	Percent
Yes	81	20.8 %
No	283	72.6 %
Not sure	26	6.7 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q10. Please CHECK ALL the reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from using parks, trails, recreation facilities, or programs by the Hernando County.

Q10. Reasons that prevent your household members from using parks, trails, recreation facilities, or programs	Number	Percent
I do not know the locations of parks/trails	61	15.6 %
Lack of restrooms	78	20.0 %
Program or facility not offered	59	15.1 %
Security is insufficient/loitering	76	19.5 %
Lack of interesting amenities or programs	97	24.9 %
Parks/trails are too far from residence	126	32.3 %
Parks/trails are too crowded	49	12.6 %
Lack of parking	67	17.2 %
Physical health limitations	39	10.0 %
Lack of accessibility at parks/trails	28	7.2 %
Poor customer service by staff	16	4.1 %
Language or communications barrier	1	0.3 %
Program is full	14	3.6 %
Parks or amenities are not well maintained	130	33.3 %
Trails are not well maintained	61	15.6 %
Use private facilities instead	12	3.1 %
Lack of accessibility at parks/recreation facilities/amenities	37	9.5 %
Lack of accessibility at programs/events offered	18	4.6 %
I do not know what is offered	87	22.3 %
Gaps in trails or to destinations	19	4.9 %
Fees are too high	42	10.8 %
Operating hours are not convenient	21	5.4 %
Lack of public transportation	16	4.1 %
Other	54	13.8 %
Total	1208	

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

(N=390)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Q11-1. Improves physical health & fitness	50.0%	34.4%	7.7%	1.5%	0.5%	5.9%
Q11-2. Helps reduce crime	19.0%	20.8%	29.7%	11.5%	4.9%	14.1%
Q11-3. Makes Hernando County a more desirable place to live	46.7%	30.0%	11.0%	3.6%	3.8%	4.9%
Q11-4. Preserves open space & the environment	54.4%	24.4%	11.8%	2.3%	2.3%	4.9%
Q11-5. Increases property values in surrounding area	41.0%	27.9%	17.4%	2.6%	3.8%	7.2%
Q11-6. Improves mental health & reduces stress	52.6%	30.5%	8.7%	1.3%	1.5%	5.4%
Q11-7. Provides opportunities for people of different backgrounds to interact	34.1%	32.8%	21.8%	2.1%	1.3%	7.9%
Q11-8. Provides opportunities to socialize	32.1%	41.5%	16.4%	1.3%	1.8%	6.9%
Q11-9. Helps attract new residents & businesses	29.5%	29.5%	19.7%	6.4%	4.4%	10.5%
Q11-10. Protects historical & cultural attributes of the County	37.4%	32.6%	15.9%	2.8%	3.1%	8.2%
Q11-11. Promotes tourism to the County	29.5%	27.9%	22.3%	6.4%	3.8%	10.0%
Q11-12. Other	3.3%	1.3%	1.0%	0.0%	0.5%	93.8%

WITHOUT "DONT KNOW"

Q11. Parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open spaces offer various potential benefits to you and your household. Please indicate your level of agreement with each benefit. (without "don't know")

(N=390)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Q11-1. Improves physical health & fitness	53.1%	36.5%	8.2%	1.6%	0.5%
Q11-2. Helps reduce crime	22.1%	24.2%	34.6%	13.4%	5.7%
Q11-3. Makes Hernando County a more desirable place to live	49.1%	31.5%	11.6%	3.8%	4.0%
Q11-4. Preserves open space & the environment	57.1%	25.6%	12.4%	2.4%	2.4%
Q11-5. Increases property values in surrounding area	44.2%	30.1%	18.8%	2.8%	4.1%
Q11-6. Improves mental health & reduces stress	55.6%	32.2%	9.2%	1.4%	1.6%
Q11-7. Provides opportunities for people of different backgrounds to interact	37.0%	35.7%	23.7%	2.2%	1.4%
Q11-8. Provides opportunities to socialize	34.4%	44.6%	17.6%	1.4%	1.9%
Q11-9. Helps attract new residents & businesses	33.0%	33.0%	22.1%	7.2%	4.9%
Q11-10. Protects historical & cultural attributes of the County	40.8%	35.5%	17.3%	3.1%	3.4%
Q11-11. Promotes tourism to the County	32.8%	31.1%	24.8%	7.1%	4.3%
Q11-12. Other	54.2%	20.8%	16.7%	0.0%	8.3%

Q12. Which THREE of the BENEFITS from the list in Question 11 are most important to you and members of your household?

<u>Q12. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Improves physical health & fitness	134	34.4 %
Helps reduce crime	15	3.8 %
Makes Hernando County a more desirable place to live	58	14.9 %
Preserves open space & the environment	83	21.3 %
Increases property values in surrounding area	11	2.8 %
Improves mental health & reduces stress	37	9.5 %
Provides opportunities for people of different backgrounds to interact	1	0.3 %
Provides opportunities to socialize	10	2.6 %
Helps attract new residents & businesses	1	0.3 %
Protects historical & cultural attributes of the County	10	2.6 %
Promotes tourism to the County	2	0.5 %
None chosen	28	7.2 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q12. Which THREE of the BENEFITS from the list in Question 11 are most important to you and members of your household?

<u>Q12. 2nd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Improves physical health & fitness	51	13.1 %
Helps reduce crime	10	2.6 %
Makes Hernando County a more desirable place to live	46	11.8 %
Preserves open space & the environment	83	21.3 %
Increases property values in surrounding area	16	4.1 %
Improves mental health & reduces stress	63	16.2 %
Provides opportunities for people of different backgrounds to interact	11	2.8 %
Provides opportunities to socialize	22	5.6 %
Helps attract new residents & businesses	4	1.0 %
Protects historical & cultural attributes of the County	46	11.8 %
None chosen	38	9.7 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q12. Which THREE of the BENEFITS from the list in Question 11 are most important to you and members of your household?

Q12. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Improves physical health & fitness	48	12.3 %
Helps reduce crime	7	1.8 %
Makes Hernando County a more desirable place to live	44	11.3 %
Preserves open space & the environment	39	10.0 %
Increases property values in surrounding area	28	7.2 %
Improves mental health & reduces stress	61	15.6 %
Provides opportunities for people of different backgrounds to interact	9	2.3 %
Provides opportunities to socialize	32	8.2 %
Helps attract new residents & businesses	6	1.5 %
Protects historical & cultural attributes of the County	35	9.0 %
Promotes tourism to the County	16	4.1 %
None chosen	65	16.7 %
Total	390	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP THREE CHOICES**Q12. Which THREE of the BENEFITS from the list in Question 11 are most important to you and members of your household? (top 3)**

Q12. Top choice	Number	Percent
Improves physical health & fitness	233	59.7 %
Helps reduce crime	32	8.2 %
Makes Hernando County a more desirable place to live	148	37.9 %
Preserves open space & the environment	205	52.6 %
Increases property values in surrounding area	55	14.1 %
Improves mental health & reduces stress	161	41.3 %
Provides opportunities for people of different backgrounds to interact	21	5.4 %
Provides opportunities to socialize	64	16.4 %
Helps attract new residents & businesses	11	2.8 %
Protects historical & cultural attributes of the County	91	23.3 %
Promotes tourism to the County	18	4.6 %
None chosen	28	7.2 %
Total	1067	

Q13. How far are you willing to walk for park or recreation amenities?

Q13. How far are you willing to walk for park or recreation amenities	Number	Percent
1/8 mile or 2-3-minute walk	49	12.6 %
1/4 mile or 5-minute walk	71	18.2 %
1/2 mile or 10-minute walk	137	35.1 %
1 mile or 20-minute walk	69	17.7 %
1-1/2 mile or 30-minute walk	19	4.9 %
More than 1-1/2 miles or 30-minute walk	20	5.1 %
Not provided	25	6.4 %
Total	390	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"

Q13. How far are you willing to walk for park or recreation amenities? (without "not provided")

Q13. How far are you willing to walk for park or recreation amenities	Number	Percent
1/8 mile or 2-3-minute walk	49	13.4 %
1/4 mile or 5-minute walk	71	19.5 %
1/2 mile or 10-minute walk	137	37.5 %
1 mile or 20-minute walk	69	18.9 %
1-1/2 mile or 30-minute walk	19	5.2 %
More than 1-1/2 miles or 30-minute walk	20	5.5 %
Total	365	100.0 %

Q14. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the FACILITIES or AMENITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met."

(N=390)

	Fully met	Mostly met	Partly met	Not met	No need
Q14-1. Amphitheater/theater/stage	5.9%	8.7%	17.7%	25.9%	41.8%
Q14-2. Baseball & softball fields	15.9%	13.1%	10.5%	5.4%	55.1%
Q14-3. Basketball courts	9.2%	9.7%	14.1%	11.5%	55.4%
Q14-4. Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.)	5.4%	8.5%	25.6%	47.7%	12.8%
Q14-5. Canoe/kayak launches	13.1%	18.5%	30.8%	16.4%	21.3%
Q14-6. Community gardens/garden plots	3.6%	7.4%	20.0%	37.4%	31.5%
Q14-7. Disc golf course	4.4%	2.3%	8.2%	20.5%	64.6%
Q14-8. Dog parks (off-leash fenced area)	3.8%	4.4%	16.4%	30.3%	45.1%
Q14-9. Equestrian facilities	1.3%	2.8%	5.4%	20.8%	69.7%
Q14-10. Fishing areas	8.7%	16.4%	28.7%	18.2%	27.9%
Q14-11. Golf courses	13.6%	8.2%	8.2%	9.2%	60.8%
Q14-12. Indoor fitness spaces	10.5%	9.5%	10.3%	35.6%	34.1%
Q14-13. Indoor gymnasiums	6.4%	5.4%	9.2%	32.8%	46.2%
Q14-14. Indoor swimming pools	4.1%	3.3%	7.2%	47.4%	37.9%
Q14-15. Larger community parks	5.1%	11.0%	28.5%	34.9%	20.5%
Q14-16. Mountain biking trails	5.1%	5.9%	16.2%	23.1%	49.7%
Q14-17. Multipurpose fields (soccer, lacrosse, cricket, & football)	7.4%	12.3%	20.0%	11.8%	48.5%
Q14-18. Museums	2.6%	3.3%	17.4%	50.5%	26.2%
Q14-19. Nature centers	3.3%	8.7%	29.7%	41.5%	16.7%
Q14-20. Nature observation area	4.4%	10.0%	34.6%	34.1%	16.9%
Q14-21. Outdoor exercise courts/equipment	4.6%	5.9%	24.6%	30.5%	34.4%
Q14-22. Outdoor social gathering spaces	4.4%	13.1%	29.7%	23.8%	29.0%
Q14-23. Outdoor swimming pool	3.8%	2.1%	7.7%	48.5%	37.9%

Q14. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the FACILITIES or AMENITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met."

	Fully met	Mostly met	Partly met	Not met	No need
Q14-24. Paved trails	9.0%	15.1%	29.0%	21.3%	25.6%
Q14-25. Pickleball courts	5.4%	5.1%	13.3%	18.5%	57.7%
Q14-26. Picnic shelters	7.2%	17.4%	34.4%	18.2%	22.8%
Q14-27. Playgrounds	6.7%	18.2%	28.5%	12.8%	33.8%
Q14-28. Recreation centers	3.1%	6.4%	22.3%	37.2%	31.0%
Q14-29. Restrooms	7.4%	17.7%	37.9%	20.8%	16.2%
Q14-30. Skate park	3.6%	6.4%	12.1%	20.5%	57.4%
Q14-31. Smaller neighborhood parks	3.8%	6.4%	19.7%	45.6%	24.4%
Q14-32. Splash pads	4.6%	4.1%	19.2%	27.9%	44.1%
Q14-33. Tennis courts	5.1%	8.5%	16.9%	12.6%	56.9%
Q14-34. Unpaved trails (hiking)	8.2%	16.2%	26.4%	17.2%	32.1%
Q14-35. Volleyball courts (sand)	2.3%	5.1%	12.8%	19.2%	60.5%
Q14-36. Water park	5.4%	5.9%	12.3%	33.3%	43.1%
Q14-37. Other	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	4.4%	94.9%

WITHOUT "NO NEED"

Q14. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the FACILITIES or AMENITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met." (without "no need")

(N=390)

	Fully met	Mostly met	Partly met	Not met
Q14-1. Amphitheater/theater/stage	10.1%	15.0%	30.4%	44.5%
Q14-2. Baseball & softball fields	35.4%	29.1%	23.4%	12.0%
Q14-3. Basketball courts	20.7%	21.8%	31.6%	25.9%
Q14-4. Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.)	6.2%	9.7%	29.4%	54.7%
Q14-5. Canoe/kayak launches	16.6%	23.5%	39.1%	20.8%
Q14-6. Community gardens/garden plots	5.2%	10.9%	29.2%	54.7%
Q14-7. Disc golf course	12.3%	6.5%	23.2%	58.0%
Q14-8. Dog parks (off-leash fenced area)	7.0%	7.9%	29.9%	55.1%
Q14-9. Equestrian facilities	4.2%	9.3%	17.8%	68.6%
Q14-10. Fishing areas	12.1%	22.8%	39.9%	25.3%
Q14-11. Golf courses	34.6%	20.9%	20.9%	23.5%
Q14-12. Indoor fitness spaces	16.0%	14.4%	15.6%	54.1%
Q14-13. Indoor gymnasiums	11.9%	10.0%	17.1%	61.0%
Q14-14. Indoor swimming pools	6.6%	5.4%	11.6%	76.4%
Q14-15. Larger community parks	6.5%	13.9%	35.8%	43.9%
Q14-16. Mountain biking trails	10.2%	11.7%	32.1%	45.9%
Q14-17. Multipurpose fields (soccer, lacrosse, cricket, & football)	14.4%	23.9%	38.8%	22.9%
Q14-18. Museums	3.5%	4.5%	23.6%	68.4%
Q14-19. Nature centers	4.0%	10.5%	35.7%	49.8%
Q14-20. Nature observation area	5.2%	12.0%	41.7%	41.0%
Q14-21. Outdoor exercise courts/equipment	7.0%	9.0%	37.5%	46.5%
Q14-22. Outdoor social gathering spaces	6.1%	18.4%	41.9%	33.6%
Q14-23. Outdoor swimming pool	6.2%	3.3%	12.4%	78.1%

Q14. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the FACILITIES or AMENITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met." (without "no need")

	Fully met	Mostly met	Partly met	Not met
Q14-24. Paved trails	12.1%	20.3%	39.0%	28.6%
Q14-25. Pickleball courts	12.7%	12.1%	31.5%	43.6%
Q14-26. Picnic shelters	9.3%	22.6%	44.5%	23.6%
Q14-27. Playgrounds	10.1%	27.5%	43.0%	19.4%
Q14-28. Recreation centers	4.5%	9.3%	32.3%	53.9%
Q14-29. Restrooms	8.9%	21.1%	45.3%	24.8%
Q14-30. Skate park	8.4%	15.1%	28.3%	48.2%
Q14-31. Smaller neighborhood parks	5.1%	8.5%	26.1%	60.3%
Q14-32. Splash pads	8.3%	7.3%	34.4%	50.0%
Q14-33. Tennis courts	11.9%	19.6%	39.3%	29.2%
Q14-34. Unpaved trails (hiking)	12.1%	23.8%	38.9%	25.3%
Q14-35. Volleyball courts (sand)	5.8%	13.0%	32.5%	48.7%
Q14-36. Water park	9.5%	10.4%	21.6%	58.6%
Q14-37. Other	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	85.0%

Q15. Which FOUR facilities or amenities listed in Question 14 are most important for you and members of your household?

Q15. Top choice	Number	Percent
Amphitheater/theater/stage	17	4.4 %
Baseball & softball fields	9	2.3 %
Basketball courts	2	0.5 %
Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.)	98	25.1 %
Canoe/kayak launches	22	5.6 %
Community gardens/garden plots	4	1.0 %
Disc golf course	3	0.8 %
Dog parks (off-leash fenced area)	13	3.3 %
Equestrian facilities	6	1.5 %
Fishing areas	15	3.8 %
Golf courses	3	0.8 %
Indoor fitness spaces	8	2.1 %
Indoor gymnasiums	3	0.8 %
Indoor swimming pools	11	2.8 %
Larger community parks	11	2.8 %
Mountain biking trails	6	1.5 %
Multipurpose fields (soccer, lacrosse, cricket, & football)	4	1.0 %
Museums	7	1.8 %
Nature centers	3	0.8 %
Nature observation area	11	2.8 %
Outdoor exercise courts/equipment	1	0.3 %
Outdoor social gathering spaces	3	0.8 %
Outdoor swimming pool	12	3.1 %
Paved trails	8	2.1 %
Pickleball courts	6	1.5 %
Picnic shelters	2	0.5 %
Playgrounds	12	3.1 %
Recreation centers	3	0.8 %
Restrooms	8	2.1 %
Skate park	1	0.3 %
Smaller neighborhood parks	14	3.6 %
Splash pads	4	1.0 %
Tennis courts	2	0.5 %
Unpaved trails (hiking)	10	2.6 %
Water park	6	1.5 %
None chosen	42	10.8 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q15. Which FOUR facilities or amenities listed in Question 14 are most important for you and members of your household?

Q15. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Amphitheater/theater/stage	11	2.8 %
Baseball & softball fields	2	0.5 %
Basketball courts	5	1.3 %
Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.)	39	10.0 %
Canoe/kayak launches	42	10.8 %
Community gardens/garden plots	17	4.4 %
Dog parks (off-leash fenced area)	28	7.2 %
Equestrian facilities	2	0.5 %
Fishing areas	21	5.4 %
Golf courses	5	1.3 %
Indoor fitness spaces	12	3.1 %
Indoor gymnasiums	2	0.5 %
Indoor swimming pools	14	3.6 %
Larger community parks	12	3.1 %
Mountain biking trails	4	1.0 %
Multipurpose fields (soccer, lacrosse, cricket, & football)	3	0.8 %
Museums	3	0.8 %
Nature centers	12	3.1 %
Nature observation area	13	3.3 %
Outdoor exercise courts/equipment	3	0.8 %
Outdoor social gathering spaces	5	1.3 %
Outdoor swimming pool	17	4.4 %
Paved trails	9	2.3 %
Pickleball courts	7	1.8 %
Picnic shelters	5	1.3 %
Playgrounds	8	2.1 %
Recreation centers	5	1.3 %
Restrooms	4	1.0 %
Skate park	3	0.8 %
Smaller neighborhood parks	6	1.5 %
Splash pads	6	1.5 %
Tennis courts	1	0.3 %
Unpaved trails (hiking)	8	2.1 %
Water park	5	1.3 %
None chosen	51	13.1 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q15. Which FOUR facilities or amenities listed in Question 14 are most important for you and members of your household?

Q15. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Amphitheater/theater/stage	6	1.5 %
Baseball & softball fields	3	0.8 %
Basketball courts	3	0.8 %
Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.)	24	6.2 %
Canoe/kayak launches	22	5.6 %
Community gardens/garden plots	19	4.9 %
Disc golf course	4	1.0 %
Dog parks (off-leash fenced area)	21	5.4 %
Fishing areas	26	6.7 %
Golf courses	4	1.0 %
Indoor fitness spaces	3	0.8 %
Indoor gymnasiums	7	1.8 %
Indoor swimming pools	12	3.1 %
Larger community parks	17	4.4 %
Mountain biking trails	8	2.1 %
Multipurpose fields (soccer, lacrosse, cricket, & football)	3	0.8 %
Museums	6	1.5 %
Nature centers	21	5.4 %
Nature observation area	12	3.1 %
Outdoor exercise courts/equipment	5	1.3 %
Outdoor social gathering spaces	9	2.3 %
Outdoor swimming pool	15	3.8 %
Paved trails	9	2.3 %
Pickleball courts	1	0.3 %
Picnic shelters	4	1.0 %
Playgrounds	5	1.3 %
Recreation centers	6	1.5 %
Restrooms	13	3.3 %
Skate park	3	0.8 %
Smaller neighborhood parks	14	3.6 %
Splash pads	9	2.3 %
Unpaved trails (hiking)	11	2.8 %
Volleyball courts (sand)	2	0.5 %
Water park	8	2.1 %
None chosen	55	14.1 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q15. Which FOUR facilities or amenities listed in Question 14 are most important for you and members of your household?

Q15. 4th choice	Number	Percent
Amphitheater/theater/stage	12	3.1 %
Baseball & softball fields	1	0.3 %
Basketball courts	2	0.5 %
Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.)	18	4.6 %
Canoe/kayak launches	15	3.8 %
Community gardens/garden plots	15	3.8 %
Disc golf course	5	1.3 %
Dog parks (off-leash fenced area)	9	2.3 %
Equestrian facilities	1	0.3 %
Fishing areas	19	4.9 %
Golf courses	3	0.8 %
Indoor fitness spaces	7	1.8 %
Indoor gymnasiums	3	0.8 %
Indoor swimming pools	5	1.3 %
Larger community parks	20	5.1 %
Mountain biking trails	4	1.0 %
Multipurpose fields (soccer, lacrosse, cricket, & football)	1	0.3 %
Museums	13	3.3 %
Nature centers	18	4.6 %
Nature observation area	22	5.6 %
Outdoor social gathering spaces	5	1.3 %
Outdoor swimming pool	9	2.3 %
Paved trails	15	3.8 %
Pickleball courts	4	1.0 %
Picnic shelters	8	2.1 %
Playgrounds	7	1.8 %
Recreation centers	10	2.6 %
Restrooms	11	2.8 %
Skate park	1	0.3 %
Smaller neighborhood parks	15	3.8 %
Splash pads	4	1.0 %
Tennis courts	1	0.3 %
Unpaved trails (hiking)	11	2.8 %
Volleyball courts (sand)	1	0.3 %
Water park	11	2.8 %
None chosen	84	21.5 %
Total	390	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP FOUR CHOICES

Q15. Which FOUR facilities or amenities listed in Question 14 are most important for you and members of your household? (top 4)

Q15. Top choice	Number	Percent
Amphitheater/theater/stage	46	11.8 %
Baseball & softball fields	15	3.8 %
Basketball courts	12	3.1 %
Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.)	179	45.9 %
Canoe/kayak launches	101	25.9 %
Community gardens/garden plots	55	14.1 %
Disc golf course	12	3.1 %
Dog parks (off-leash fenced area)	71	18.2 %
Equestrian facilities	9	2.3 %
Fishing areas	81	20.8 %
Golf courses	15	3.8 %
Indoor fitness spaces	30	7.7 %
Indoor gymnasiums	15	3.8 %
Indoor swimming pools	42	10.8 %
Larger community parks	60	15.4 %
Mountain biking trails	22	5.6 %
Multipurpose fields (soccer, lacrosse, cricket, & football)	11	2.8 %
Museums	29	7.4 %
Nature centers	54	13.8 %
Nature observation area	58	14.9 %
Outdoor exercise courts/equipment	9	2.3 %
Outdoor social gathering spaces	22	5.6 %
Outdoor swimming pool	53	13.6 %
Paved trails	41	10.5 %
Pickleball courts	18	4.6 %
Picnic shelters	19	4.9 %
Playgrounds	32	8.2 %
Recreation centers	24	6.2 %
Restrooms	36	9.2 %
Skate park	8	2.1 %
Smaller neighborhood parks	49	12.6 %
Splash pads	23	5.9 %
Tennis courts	4	1.0 %
Unpaved trails (hiking)	40	10.3 %
Volleyball courts (sand)	3	0.8 %
Water park	30	7.7 %
None chosen	42	10.8 %
Total	1370	

Q16. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the ACTIVITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met."

(N=390)

	Fully met	Mostly met	Partly met	Not met	No need
Q16-1. Adapted or inclusion programs	2.8%	2.6%	9.7%	13.1%	71.8%
Q16-2. Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	1.8%	5.1%	16.2%	26.9%	50.0%
Q16-3. Baseball/tee ball	6.9%	9.0%	12.1%	4.9%	67.2%
Q16-4. Basketball	4.4%	7.2%	15.4%	8.2%	64.9%
Q16-5. Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	7.4%	12.6%	26.4%	15.6%	37.9%
Q16-6. Camping (tent/primitive)	3.3%	3.1%	14.6%	31.0%	47.9%
Q16-7. Competition/diving/lap swimming	1.5%	1.3%	5.6%	28.2%	63.3%
Q16-8. Disc golf	1.5%	3.1%	7.4%	17.4%	70.5%
Q16-9. Eating outdoors/picnicking	6.2%	15.6%	35.9%	18.5%	23.8%
Q16-10. Enjoying or learning about nature	4.6%	10.8%	29.5%	34.1%	21.0%
Q16-11. eSports or video gaming	2.1%	1.5%	3.6%	9.7%	83.1%
Q16-12. Exercising outdoors	5.4%	10.5%	30.0%	21.3%	32.8%
Q16-13. Fishing	8.7%	17.4%	26.4%	16.9%	30.5%
Q16-14. Flag/tackle football	3.6%	8.5%	8.7%	6.2%	73.1%
Q16-15. Gardening	4.6%	5.6%	17.9%	33.3%	38.5%
Q16-16. Golf	12.6%	6.4%	7.7%	8.2%	65.1%
Q16-17. Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	10.5%	16.9%	31.0%	12.8%	28.7%
Q16-18. Lacrosse	2.1%	1.0%	3.3%	8.7%	84.9%
Q16-19. Learning to swim	4.9%	3.8%	10.3%	21.0%	60.0%
Q16-20. Pickleball	4.4%	5.1%	12.6%	14.9%	63.1%
Q16-21. Senior adult activities	4.9%	4.4%	16.4%	27.4%	46.9%
Q16-22. Skateboarding or inline skating	2.6%	2.8%	11.0%	15.9%	67.7%
Q16-23. Soccer	7.4%	8.2%	11.5%	6.7%	66.2%

Q16. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the ACTIVITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met."

	Fully met	Mostly met	Partly met	Not met	No need
Q16-24. Softball	6.9%	7.7%	10.8%	7.7%	66.9%
Q16-25. Swimming for fun	5.4%	4.6%	22.1%	39.2%	28.7%
Q16-26. Tennis	6.4%	6.7%	13.1%	9.0%	64.9%
Q16-27. Track & field	3.3%	3.6%	7.7%	15.6%	69.7%
Q16-28. Using Wi-Fi outdoors	3.1%	3.8%	9.5%	32.6%	51.0%
Q16-29. Visiting a dog park	4.6%	5.1%	16.4%	22.8%	51.0%
Q16-30. Visiting a farmers' market	6.9%	10.5%	33.8%	26.2%	22.6%
Q16-31. Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	5.9%	8.2%	34.4%	27.7%	23.8%
Q16-32. Visiting a playground	8.5%	10.5%	25.9%	8.7%	46.4%
Q16-33. Volleyball	2.6%	3.1%	13.1%	10.8%	70.5%
Q16-34. Walking/hiking/running	9.5%	20.0%	30.5%	14.1%	25.9%
Q16-35. Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	3.8%	2.3%	12.8%	39.0%	42.1%
Q16-36. Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	4.1%	3.8%	11.8%	32.1%	48.2%
Q16-37. Other	0.3%	0.0%	0.8%	4.4%	94.6%

WITHOUT "NO NEED"

Q16. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the ACTIVITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met." (without "no need")

(N=390)

	Fully met	Mostly met	Partly met	Not met
Q16-1. Adapted or inclusion programs	10.0%	9.1%	34.5%	46.4%
Q16-2. Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	3.6%	10.3%	32.3%	53.8%
Q16-3. Baseball/tee ball	21.1%	27.3%	36.7%	14.8%
Q16-4. Basketball	12.4%	20.4%	43.8%	23.4%
Q16-5. Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	12.0%	20.2%	42.6%	25.2%
Q16-6. Camping (tent/primitive)	6.4%	5.9%	28.1%	59.6%
Q16-7. Competition/diving/lap swimming	4.2%	3.5%	15.4%	76.9%
Q16-8. Disc golf	5.2%	10.4%	25.2%	59.1%
Q16-9. Eating outdoors/picnicking	8.1%	20.5%	47.1%	24.2%
Q16-10. Enjoying or learning about nature	5.8%	13.6%	37.3%	43.2%
Q16-11. eSports or video gaming	12.1%	9.1%	21.2%	57.6%
Q16-12. Exercising outdoors	8.0%	15.6%	44.7%	31.7%
Q16-13. Fishing	12.5%	25.1%	38.0%	24.4%
Q16-14. Flag/tackle football	13.3%	31.4%	32.4%	22.9%
Q16-15. Gardening	7.5%	9.2%	29.2%	54.2%
Q16-16. Golf	36.0%	18.4%	22.1%	23.5%
Q16-17. Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	14.7%	23.7%	43.5%	18.0%
Q16-18. Lacrosse	13.6%	6.8%	22.0%	57.6%
Q16-19. Learning to swim	12.2%	9.6%	25.6%	52.6%
Q16-20. Pickleball	11.8%	13.9%	34.0%	40.3%
Q16-21. Senior adult activities	9.2%	8.2%	30.9%	51.7%
Q16-22. Skateboarding or inline skating	7.9%	8.7%	34.1%	49.2%
Q16-23. Soccer	22.0%	24.2%	34.1%	19.7%

Q16. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the ACTIVITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met." (without "no need")

	Fully met	Mostly met	Partly met	Not met
Q16-24. Softball	20.9%	23.3%	32.6%	23.3%
Q16-25. Swimming for fun	7.6%	6.5%	30.9%	55.0%
Q16-26. Tennis	18.2%	19.0%	37.2%	25.5%
Q16-27. Track & field	11.0%	11.9%	25.4%	51.7%
Q16-28. Using Wi-Fi outdoors	6.3%	7.9%	19.4%	66.5%
Q16-29. Visiting a dog park	9.4%	10.5%	33.5%	46.6%
Q16-30. Visiting a farmers' market	8.9%	13.6%	43.7%	33.8%
Q16-31. Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	7.7%	10.8%	45.1%	36.4%
Q16-32. Visiting a playground	15.8%	19.6%	48.3%	16.3%
Q16-33. Volleyball	8.7%	10.4%	44.3%	36.5%
Q16-34. Walking/hiking/running	12.8%	27.0%	41.2%	19.0%
Q16-35. Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	6.6%	4.0%	22.1%	67.3%
Q16-36. Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	7.9%	7.4%	22.8%	61.9%
Q16-37. Other	4.8%	0.0%	14.3%	81.0%

Q17. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 are most important for you and members of your household?

Q17. Top choice	Number	Percent
Adapted or inclusion programs	7	1.8 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	25	6.4 %
Baseball/tee ball	2	0.5 %
Basketball	3	0.8 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	17	4.4 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	13	3.3 %
Competition/diving/lap swimming	6	1.5 %
Disc golf	3	0.8 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	22	5.6 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	44	11.3 %
Exercising outdoors	8	2.1 %
Fishing	27	6.9 %
Flag/tackle football	6	1.5 %
Gardening	7	1.8 %
Golf	10	2.6 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	17	4.4 %
Learning to swim	6	1.5 %
Pickleball	7	1.8 %
Senior adult activities	16	4.1 %
Skateboarding or inline skating	3	0.8 %
Soccer	3	0.8 %
Softball	6	1.5 %
Swimming for fun	17	4.4 %
Tennis	2	0.5 %
Track & field	1	0.3 %
Using Wi-Fi outdoors	2	0.5 %
Visiting a dog park	8	2.1 %
Visiting a farmers' market	7	1.8 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	13	3.3 %
Visiting a playground	11	2.8 %
Walking/hiking/running	11	2.8 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	5	1.3 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	10	2.6 %
None chosen	45	11.5 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q17. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 are most important for you and members of your household?

Q17. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Adapted or inclusion programs	1	0.3 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	6	1.5 %
Baseball/tee ball	6	1.5 %
Basketball	6	1.5 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	14	3.6 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	8	2.1 %
Competition/diving/lap swimming	4	1.0 %
Disc golf	2	0.5 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	22	5.6 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	25	6.4 %
Exercising outdoors	16	4.1 %
Fishing	20	5.1 %
Flag/tackle football	2	0.5 %
Gardening	18	4.6 %
Golf	5	1.3 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	25	6.4 %
Lacrosse	1	0.3 %
Learning to swim	7	1.8 %
Pickleball	4	1.0 %
Senior adult activities	17	4.4 %
Skateboarding or inline skating	1	0.3 %
Soccer	1	0.3 %
Softball	1	0.3 %
Swimming for fun	35	9.0 %
Track & field	4	1.0 %
Using Wi-Fi outdoors	4	1.0 %
Visiting a dog park	8	2.1 %
Visiting a farmers' market	20	5.1 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	15	3.8 %
Visiting a playground	6	1.5 %
Volleyball	1	0.3 %
Walking/hiking/running	18	4.6 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	7	1.8 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	6	1.5 %
None chosen	54	13.8 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q17. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 are most important for you and members of your household?

Q17. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Adapted or inclusion programs	3	0.8 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	8	2.1 %
Baseball/tee ball	1	0.3 %
Basketball	2	0.5 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	14	3.6 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	8	2.1 %
Competition/diving/lap swimming	6	1.5 %
Disc golf	3	0.8 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	19	4.9 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	31	7.9 %
Exercising outdoors	10	2.6 %
Fishing	16	4.1 %
Gardening	14	3.6 %
Golf	1	0.3 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	24	6.2 %
Learning to swim	6	1.5 %
Pickleball	6	1.5 %
Senior adult activities	10	2.6 %
Skateboarding or inline skating	1	0.3 %
Soccer	3	0.8 %
Softball	3	0.8 %
Swimming for fun	29	7.4 %
Using Wi-Fi outdoors	14	3.6 %
Visiting a dog park	12	3.1 %
Visiting a farmers' market	15	3.8 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	26	6.7 %
Visiting a playground	4	1.0 %
Volleyball	4	1.0 %
Walking/hiking/running	22	5.6 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	8	2.1 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	6	1.5 %
None chosen	61	15.6 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q17. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 are most important for you and members of your household?

Q17. 4th choice	Number	Percent
Adapted or inclusion programs	5	1.3 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	4	1.0 %
Baseball/tee ball	1	0.3 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	10	2.6 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	12	3.1 %
Competition/diving/lap swimming	1	0.3 %
Disc golf	4	1.0 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	21	5.4 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	19	4.9 %
Exercising outdoors	8	2.1 %
Fishing	13	3.3 %
Flag/tackle football	1	0.3 %
Gardening	16	4.1 %
Golf	3	0.8 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	20	5.1 %
Learning to swim	4	1.0 %
Pickleball	8	2.1 %
Senior adult activities	18	4.6 %
Skateboarding or inline skating	2	0.5 %
Softball	1	0.3 %
Swimming for fun	13	3.3 %
Tennis	1	0.3 %
Using Wi-Fi outdoors	2	0.5 %
Visiting a dog park	17	4.4 %
Visiting a farmers' market	20	5.1 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	25	6.4 %
Visiting a playground	9	2.3 %
Volleyball	1	0.3 %
Walking/hiking/running	18	4.6 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	13	3.3 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	11	2.8 %
None chosen	89	22.8 %
Total	390	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP FOUR CHOICES

Q17. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 are most important for you and members of your household? (top 4)

Q17. Top choice	Number	Percent
Adapted or inclusion programs	16	4.1 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	43	11.0 %
Baseball/tee ball	10	2.6 %
Basketball	11	2.8 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	55	14.1 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	41	10.5 %
Competition/diving/lap swimming	17	4.4 %
Disc golf	12	3.1 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	84	21.5 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	119	30.5 %
Exercising outdoors	42	10.8 %
Fishing	76	19.5 %
Flag/tackle football	9	2.3 %
Gardening	55	14.1 %
Golf	19	4.9 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	86	22.1 %
Lacrosse	1	0.3 %
Learning to swim	23	5.9 %
Pickleball	25	6.4 %
Senior adult activities	61	15.6 %
Skateboarding or inline skating	7	1.8 %
Soccer	7	1.8 %
Softball	11	2.8 %
Swimming for fun	94	24.1 %
Tennis	3	0.8 %
Track & field	5	1.3 %
Using Wi-Fi outdoors	22	5.6 %
Visiting a dog park	45	11.5 %
Visiting a farmers' market	62	15.9 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	79	20.3 %
Visiting a playground	30	7.7 %
Volleyball	6	1.5 %
Walking/hiking/running	69	17.7 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	33	8.5 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	33	8.5 %
None chosen	45	11.5 %
Total	1356	

Q18. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 do you or members of your household participate in MOST OFTEN?

<u>Q18. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Adapted or inclusion programs	2	0.5 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	12	3.1 %
Baseball/tee ball	5	1.3 %
Basketball	4	1.0 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	25	6.4 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	5	1.3 %
Competition/diving/lap swimming	3	0.8 %
Disc golf	2	0.5 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	27	6.9 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	36	9.2 %
eSports or video gaming	4	1.0 %
Exercising outdoors	12	3.1 %
Fishing	29	7.4 %
Flag/tackle football	7	1.8 %
Gardening	11	2.8 %
Golf	12	3.1 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	21	5.4 %
Learning to swim	2	0.5 %
Pickleball	7	1.8 %
Senior adult activities	6	1.5 %
Skateboarding or inline skating	1	0.3 %
Soccer	3	0.8 %
Softball	7	1.8 %
Swimming for fun	22	5.6 %
Tennis	2	0.5 %
Visiting a dog park	6	1.5 %
Visiting a farmers' market	10	2.6 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	7	1.8 %
Visiting a playground	14	3.6 %
Walking/hiking/running	26	6.7 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	4	1.0 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	6	1.5 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>12.8 %</u>
Total	390	100.0 %

Q18. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 do you or members of your household participate in MOST OFTEN?

Q18. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Adapted or inclusion programs	3	0.8 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	7	1.8 %
Baseball/tee ball	6	1.5 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	12	3.1 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	8	2.1 %
Disc golf	1	0.3 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	26	6.7 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	28	7.2 %
Exercising outdoors	16	4.1 %
Fishing	22	5.6 %
Flag/tackle football	3	0.8 %
Gardening	17	4.4 %
Golf	6	1.5 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	31	7.9 %
Learning to swim	1	0.3 %
Pickleball	5	1.3 %
Senior adult activities	4	1.0 %
Soccer	3	0.8 %
Softball	2	0.5 %
Swimming for fun	39	10.0 %
Track & field	1	0.3 %
Using Wi-Fi outdoors	3	0.8 %
Visiting a dog park	4	1.0 %
Visiting a farmers' market	14	3.6 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	13	3.3 %
Visiting a playground	12	3.1 %
Walking/hiking/running	21	5.4 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	5	1.3 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	6	1.5 %
None chosen	71	18.2 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q18. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 do you or members of your household participate in MOST OFTEN?

<u>Q18. 3rd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Adapted or inclusion programs	3	0.8 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	4	1.0 %
Basketball	1	0.3 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	9	2.3 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	8	2.1 %
Competition/diving/lap swimming	4	1.0 %
Disc golf	2	0.5 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	22	5.6 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	15	3.8 %
Exercising outdoors	12	3.1 %
Fishing	20	5.1 %
Flag/tackle football	2	0.5 %
Gardening	23	5.9 %
Golf	6	1.5 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	27	6.9 %
Learning to swim	3	0.8 %
Pickleball	8	2.1 %
Senior adult activities	11	2.8 %
Skateboarding or inline skating	4	1.0 %
Softball	2	0.5 %
Swimming for fun	16	4.1 %
Track & field	2	0.5 %
Using Wi-Fi outdoors	5	1.3 %
Visiting a dog park	12	3.1 %
Visiting a farmers' market	19	4.9 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	18	4.6 %
Visiting a playground	6	1.5 %
Volleyball	3	0.8 %
Walking/hiking/running	20	5.1 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	9	2.3 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	4	1.0 %
None chosen	90	23.1 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q18. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 do you or members of your household participate in MOST OFTEN?

Q18. 4th choice	Number	Percent
Adapted or inclusion programs	2	0.5 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	8	2.1 %
Basketball	3	0.8 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	11	2.8 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	10	2.6 %
Competition/diving/lap swimming	2	0.5 %
Disc golf	1	0.3 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	15	3.8 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	15	3.8 %
Exercising outdoors	19	4.9 %
Fishing	11	2.8 %
Gardening	12	3.1 %
Golf	3	0.8 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	15	3.8 %
Learning to swim	2	0.5 %
Pickleball	3	0.8 %
Senior adult activities	8	2.1 %
Skateboarding or inline skating	2	0.5 %
Soccer	3	0.8 %
Swimming for fun	21	5.4 %
Tennis	2	0.5 %
Using Wi-Fi outdoors	3	0.8 %
Visiting a dog park	10	2.6 %
Visiting a farmers' market	22	5.6 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	25	6.4 %
Visiting a playground	10	2.6 %
Walking/hiking/running	21	5.4 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	8	2.1 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	4	1.0 %
None chosen	119	30.5 %
Total	390	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP FOUR CHOICES**Q18. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 do you or members of your household participate in MOST OFTEN? (top 4)**

Q18. Top choice	Number	Percent
Adapted or inclusion programs	10	2.6 %
Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	31	7.9 %
Baseball/tee ball	11	2.8 %
Basketball	8	2.1 %
Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	57	14.6 %
Camping (tent/primitive)	31	7.9 %
Competition/diving/lap swimming	9	2.3 %
Disc golf	6	1.5 %
Eating outdoors/picnicking	90	23.1 %
Enjoying or learning about nature	94	24.1 %
eSports or video gaming	4	1.0 %
Exercising outdoors	59	15.1 %
Fishing	82	21.0 %
Flag/tackle football	12	3.1 %
Gardening	63	16.2 %
Golf	27	6.9 %
Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	94	24.1 %
Learning to swim	8	2.1 %
Pickleball	23	5.9 %
Senior adult activities	29	7.4 %
Skateboarding or inline skating	7	1.8 %
Soccer	9	2.3 %
Softball	11	2.8 %
Swimming for fun	98	25.1 %
Tennis	4	1.0 %
Track & field	3	0.8 %
Using Wi-Fi outdoors	11	2.8 %
Visiting a dog park	32	8.2 %
Visiting a farmers' market	65	16.7 %
Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	63	16.2 %
Visiting a playground	42	10.8 %
Volleyball	3	0.8 %
Walking/hiking/running	88	22.6 %
Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	26	6.7 %
Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	20	5.1 %
None chosen	50	12.8 %
Total	1280	

Q19. Using a scale of 3 to 1, where 3 means "Strongly Support" and 1 means "Do Not Support," please rate the level of support of each action.

(N=390)

	Strongly supportive	Support	Do not supportive	Not sure
Q19-1. Maintain/renovate existing parks & recreation amenities	70.5%	21.3%	1.8%	6.4%
Q19-2. Maintain/renovate existing athletic fields and/or courts	44.1%	38.2%	6.2%	11.5%
Q19-3. Maintain/renovate existing trails	55.6%	32.1%	3.6%	8.7%
Q19-4. Maintain/renovate existing indoor facilities	35.9%	36.7%	7.2%	20.3%
Q19-5. Acquire land for recreational uses and/or facilities	46.9%	24.4%	11.0%	17.7%
Q19-6. Acquire land for preservation of natural resources/open space	69.5%	15.9%	4.9%	9.7%
Q19-7. Develop new smaller, walk-to/bike-to parks	44.1%	29.0%	12.1%	14.9%
Q19-8. Develop new larger, drive-to parks	33.8%	29.5%	17.2%	19.5%
Q19-9. Develop/build new playgrounds	31.0%	34.4%	15.9%	18.7%
Q19-10. Develop/build new water access/boat/kayak/canoe launches	36.4%	36.2%	10.0%	17.4%
Q19-11. Develop/build new athletic fields and/or courts	20.0%	30.0%	24.9%	25.1%
Q19-12. Develop/build new indoor facilities	25.9%	27.4%	21.5%	25.1%
Q19-13. Develop/build new pools	34.9%	27.9%	18.5%	18.7%
Q19-14. Develop/build new trails	37.2%	35.6%	11.8%	15.4%
Q19-15. Other	5.4%	2.1%	0.8%	91.8%

WITHOUT "NOT SURE"

Q19. Using a scale of 3 to 1, where 3 means "Strongly Support" and 1 means "Do Not Support," please rate the level of support of each action. (without "not sure")

(N=390)

	Strongly supportive	Support	Do not supportive
Q19-1. Maintain/renovate existing parks & recreation amenities	75.3%	22.7%	1.9%
Q19-2. Maintain/renovate existing athletic fields and/or courts	49.9%	43.2%	7.0%
Q19-3. Maintain/renovate existing trails	61.0%	35.1%	3.9%
Q19-4. Maintain/renovate existing indoor facilities	45.0%	46.0%	9.0%
Q19-5. Acquire land for recreational uses and/or facilities	57.0%	29.6%	13.4%
Q19-6. Acquire land for preservation of natural resources/open space	77.0%	17.6%	5.4%
Q19-7. Develop new smaller, walk-to/bike-to parks	51.8%	34.0%	14.2%
Q19-8. Develop new larger, drive-to parks	42.0%	36.6%	21.3%
Q19-9. Develop/build new playgrounds	38.2%	42.3%	19.6%
Q19-10. Develop/build new water access/boat/kayak/canoe launches	44.1%	43.8%	12.1%
Q19-11. Develop/build new athletic fields and/or courts	26.7%	40.1%	33.2%
Q19-12. Develop/build new indoor facilities	34.6%	36.6%	28.8%
Q19-13. Develop/build new pools	42.9%	34.4%	22.7%
Q19-14. Develop/build new trails	43.9%	42.1%	13.9%
Q19-15. Other	65.6%	25.0%	9.4%

Q20. Which FOUR actions from the list in Question 19 would you be most willing to fund with your tax dollars?

<u>Q20. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Maintain/renovate existing parks & recreation amenities	129	33.1 %
Maintain/renovate existing athletic fields and/or courts	8	2.1 %
Maintain/renovate existing trails	18	4.6 %
Maintain/renovate existing indoor facilities	3	0.8 %
Acquire land for recreational uses and/or facilities	24	6.2 %
Acquire land for preservation of natural resources/open space	48	12.3 %
Develop new smaller, walk-to/bike-to parks	21	5.4 %
Develop new larger, drive-to parks	5	1.3 %
Develop/build new playgrounds	7	1.8 %
Develop/build new water access/boat/kayak/canoe launches	18	4.6 %
Develop/build new athletic fields and/or courts	5	1.3 %
Develop/build new indoor facilities	13	3.3 %
Develop/build new pools	24	6.2 %
Develop/build new trails	9	2.3 %
None chosen	58	14.9 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q20. Which FOUR actions from the list in Question 19 would you be most willing to fund with your tax dollars?

<u>Q20. 2nd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Maintain/renovate existing parks & recreation amenities	43	11.0 %
Maintain/renovate existing athletic fields and/or courts	26	6.7 %
Maintain/renovate existing trails	48	12.3 %
Maintain/renovate existing indoor facilities	10	2.6 %
Acquire land for recreational uses and/or facilities	36	9.2 %
Acquire land for preservation of natural resources/open space	43	11.0 %
Develop new smaller, walk-to/bike-to parks	20	5.1 %
Develop new larger, drive-to parks	10	2.6 %
Develop/build new playgrounds	11	2.8 %
Develop/build new water access/boat/kayak/canoe launches	22	5.6 %
Develop/build new athletic fields and/or courts	4	1.0 %
Develop/build new indoor facilities	13	3.3 %
Develop/build new pools	19	4.9 %
Develop/build new trails	13	3.3 %
None chosen	72	18.5 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q20. Which FOUR actions from the list in Question 19 would you be most willing to fund with your tax dollars?

Q20. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Maintain/renovate existing parks & recreation amenities	24	6.2 %
Maintain/renovate existing athletic fields and/or courts	16	4.1 %
Maintain/renovate existing trails	42	10.8 %
Maintain/renovate existing indoor facilities	11	2.8 %
Acquire land for recreational uses and/or facilities	28	7.2 %
Acquire land for preservation of natural resources/open space	34	8.7 %
Develop new smaller, walk-to/bike-to parks	24	6.2 %
Develop new larger, drive-to parks	14	3.6 %
Develop/build new playgrounds	10	2.6 %
Develop/build new water access/boat/kayak/canoe launches	28	7.2 %
Develop/build new athletic fields and/or courts	6	1.5 %
Develop/build new indoor facilities	15	3.8 %
Develop/build new pools	27	6.9 %
Develop/build new trails	18	4.6 %
None chosen	93	23.8 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q20. Which FOUR actions from the list in Question 19 would you be most willing to fund with your tax dollars?

Q20. 4th choice	Number	Percent
Maintain/renovate existing parks & recreation amenities	24	6.2 %
Maintain/renovate existing athletic fields and/or courts	11	2.8 %
Maintain/renovate existing trails	18	4.6 %
Maintain/renovate existing indoor facilities	18	4.6 %
Acquire land for recreational uses and/or facilities	23	5.9 %
Acquire land for preservation of natural resources/open space	26	6.7 %
Develop new smaller, walk-to/bike-to parks	28	7.2 %
Develop new larger, drive-to parks	20	5.1 %
Develop/build new playgrounds	10	2.6 %
Develop/build new water access/boat/kayak/canoe launches	17	4.4 %
Develop/build new athletic fields and/or courts	7	1.8 %
Develop/build new indoor facilities	17	4.4 %
Develop/build new pools	22	5.6 %
Develop/build new trails	21	5.4 %
None chosen	128	32.8 %
Total	390	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP FOUR CHOICES

Q20. Which FOUR actions from the list in Question 19 would you be most willing to fund with your tax dollars? (top 4)

Q20. Top choice	Number	Percent
Maintain/renovate existing parks & recreation amenities	220	56.4 %
Maintain/renovate existing athletic fields and/or courts	61	15.6 %
Maintain/renovate existing trails	126	32.3 %
Maintain/renovate existing indoor facilities	42	10.8 %
Acquire land for recreational uses and/or facilities	111	28.5 %
Acquire land for preservation of natural resources/open space	151	38.7 %
Develop new smaller, walk-to/bike-to parks	93	23.8 %
Develop new larger, drive-to parks	49	12.6 %
Develop/build new playgrounds	38	9.7 %
Develop/build new water access/boat/kayak/canoe launches	85	21.8 %
Develop/build new athletic fields and/or courts	22	5.6 %
Develop/build new indoor facilities	58	14.9 %
Develop/build new pools	92	23.6 %
Develop/build new trails	61	15.6 %
None chosen	58	14.9 %
Total	1267	

Q21. From the following list, please check the additional amount you would be willing to pay to fund the actions that you indicated in Question 19 as most important to your household?

Q21. Additional amount you would be willing to pay to fund the actions that are most important to your household

	Number	Percent
\$100+ per year	62	15.9 %
\$76-\$100 per year	66	16.9 %
\$51-\$75 per year	40	10.3 %
\$26-\$50 per year	49	12.6 %
\$11-\$25 per year	22	5.6 %
\$1-\$10 per year	22	5.6 %
Not willing to pay additional property taxes	99	25.4 %
Not provided	30	7.7 %
Total	390	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"

Q21. From the following list, please check the additional amount you would be willing to pay to fund the actions that you indicated in Question 19 as most important to your household? (without "not provided")

Q21. Additional amount you would be willing to pay to fund the actions that are most important to your household

	Number	Percent
\$100+ per year	62	17.2 %
\$76-\$100 per year	66	18.3 %
\$51-\$75 per year	40	11.1 %
\$26-\$50 per year	49	13.6 %
\$11-\$25 per year	22	6.1 %
\$1-\$10 per year	22	6.1 %
Not willing to pay additional property taxes	99	27.5 %
Total	360	100.0 %

Q22. Please check the additional amount in user fees or charges you would be willing to pay for your favorite parks and recreation activity or program which you or members of your household participate.

Q22. Additional amount in user fees or charges you would be willing to pay for your favorite parks & recreation activity or program

	Number	Percent
\$1	32	8.2 %
\$2	42	10.8 %
\$3	36	9.2 %
\$4	12	3.1 %
\$5	109	27.9 %
Not willing to pay additional user fees or charges	131	33.6 %
Not provided	28	7.2 %
Total	390	100.0 %

WITHOUT "NOT PROVIDED"

Q22. Please check the additional amount in user fees or charges you would be willing to pay for your favorite parks and recreation activity or program which you or members of your household participate. (without "not provided")

Q22. Additional amount in user fees or charges you would be willing to pay for your favorite parks & recreation activity or program

	Number	Percent
\$1	32	8.8 %
\$2	42	11.6 %
\$3	36	9.9 %
\$4	12	3.3 %
\$5	109	30.1 %
Not willing to pay additional user fees or charges	131	36.2 %
Total	362	100.0 %

Q23. Funding for parks, recreation facilities/programs, and trails may be secured from a variety of sources. Which THREE of the following choices of funding sources do you most prefer?

Q23. Top choice	Number	Percent
Property tax/Special Tax District	43	11.0 %
General obligation bonds	19	4.9 %
Impact/development-based fees	109	27.9 %
User fees/charges (rentals, sports leagues, etc.)	82	21.0 %
Parks Foundation (non-profit)	53	13.6 %
Sponsorships	58	14.9 %
None chosen	26	6.7 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q23. Funding for parks, recreation facilities/programs, and trails may be secured from a variety of sources. Which THREE of the following choices of funding sources do you most prefer?

Q23. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Property tax/Special Tax District	26	6.7 %
General obligation bonds	31	7.9 %
Impact/development-based fees	47	12.1 %
User fees/charges (rentals, sports leagues, etc.)	58	14.9 %
Parks Foundation (non-profit)	106	27.2 %
Sponsorships	76	19.5 %
None chosen	46	11.8 %
Total	390	100.0 %

Q23. Funding for parks, recreation facilities/programs, and trails may be secured from a variety of sources. Which THREE of the following choices of funding sources do you most prefer?

Q23. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Property tax/Special Tax District	39	10.0 %
General obligation bonds	33	8.5 %
Impact/development-based fees	40	10.3 %
User fees/charges (rentals, sports leagues, etc.)	64	16.4 %
Parks Foundation (non-profit)	65	16.7 %
Sponsorships	81	20.8 %
None chosen	68	17.4 %
Total	390	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP THREE CHOICES

Q23. Funding for parks, recreation facilities/programs, and trails may be secured from a variety of sources. Which THREE of the following choices of funding sources do you most prefer? (top 3)

Q23. Top choice	Number	Percent
Property tax/Special Tax District	108	27.7 %
General obligation bonds	83	21.3 %
Impact/development-based fees	196	50.3 %
User fees/charges (rentals, sports leagues, etc.)	204	52.3 %
Parks Foundation (non-profit)	224	57.4 %
Sponsorships	215	55.1 %
None chosen	26	6.7 %
Total	1056	

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Survey Instrument



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

16161 FLIGHT PATH DRIVE ♦ BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA 34604 ♦ W www.HernandoCounty.us
 PARKS P 352.754.4027 ♦ F 352.754.4427 ♦ RECREATION P 352.754.4031 ♦ F 352.754.4415

Dear Hernando County Resident,

We want to hear from you! Hernando County is conducting a survey to help us understand parks and recreation priorities for the community. Your feedback is essential in shaping the future of recreation in our community.

Your Opinion Matters:

You've been randomly selected to participate, making your voice especially important. This is your chance to directly influence the programs and facilities that matter most to you and your neighbors.

Share Your Input:

- **Confidentiality:** Your response will remain confidential and reported in a group form.
- **Time Commitment:** We value your time. The survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete.
- **Mail:** Simply return the enclosed survey in the postage-paid reply envelope in the mail within the next two weeks to ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061
- **Online:** Visit HernandoCountyParkSurvey.org for a quick and easy way to complete the survey.
- **Phone:** Call ETC Institute toll-free at 1-888-801-5368 and ask to have your survey administered over the phone.

If you have any questions, please contact ETC Institute's project manager Ryan Murray at 913-254-4598 or at ryan.murray@etcinstitute.com.

Don't miss this opportunity to have your voice heard and help us meet the ever-changing recreation needs of all community members.

Sincerely,

Robert Talmage, Administrator
 Hernando County Parks and Recreation

Si desea completar esta encuesta en línea, visite HernandoCountyParkSurvey.org o llame al 844-811-0411.

2025 Hernando County Community Interest and Opinion Survey

Let your voice be heard today!

Hernando County would like your input to help determine park and recreation needs for our community. This survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your survey in the enclosed postage-paid, return-reply envelope. We appreciate your time and invaluable input.

Demographics: *The following demographic questions are optional and are included in order to validate the survey. All responses are confidential.*

1. Counting yourself, how many people in your household are...

Under age 5: _____	Ages 15-19: _____	Ages 35-44: _____	Ages 65-74: _____
Ages 5-9: _____	Ages 20-24: _____	Ages 45-54: _____	Ages 75+: _____
Ages 10-14: _____	Ages 25-34: _____	Ages 55-64: _____	

2. What is your age? _____ years

3. Your gender: _____(1) Male _____(2) Female _____(3) Other: _____

4. Which ONE of the following best describes your ethnicity?

_____ (1) Hispanic or Latino _____ (2) Not Hispanic or Latino

5. Which of the following best describes you? [Check all that apply.]

_____ (01) Asian or Asian Indian	_____ (04) White or Caucasian
_____ (02) Black or African American	_____ (05) Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
_____ (03) American Indian or Alaska Native	_____ (99) Other: _____

Parks, Recreation, and Trails

6. How would you rate the overall quality of parks and/or recreation amenities offered by Hernando County that you and members of your household have visited?

_____ (4) Excellent	_____ (2) Fair	_____ (9) I have not visited any Hernando County parks or recreation facilities
_____ (3) Good	_____ (1) Poor	

7. How would you rate the overall quality of the programs (sports, recreation, camps, nature, historic, etc.) offered by Hernando County?

_____ (4) Excellent	_____ (2) Fair	_____ (9) I have not participated in any Hernando County programs
_____ (3) Good	_____ (1) Poor	

8. From the following list, please CHECK ALL the ways in which you learn about recreation opportunities in Hernando County.

_____ (01) Hernando County website	_____ (08) County staff
_____ (02) Television (Government channel television)	_____ (09) Emails from the County
_____ (03) Printed mailers/brochures from the County	_____ (10) AlertHernando notices (text and/or email)
_____ (04) Print/Newspaper	_____ (11) HOA or neighborhood updates
_____ (05) Radio	_____ (12) Family/friends, word of mouth
_____ (06) Nextdoor	_____ (13) Not sure or not applicable
_____ (07) Social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)	_____ (14) Other: _____

9. **Do you feel there are sufficient parks and green space areas within walking distance of your residence?**

____(1) Yes ____ (2) No ____ (3) Not sure

10. **Please CHECK ALL the reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from using parks, trails, recreation facilities, or programs by the Hernando County.**

- | | |
|--|---|
| ____(01) I do not know the locations of parks/trails | ____(14) Parks or amenities are not well maintained |
| ____(02) Lack of restrooms | ____(15) Trails are not well maintained |
| ____(03) Program or facility not offered | ____(16) Use private facilities instead |
| ____(04) Security is insufficient/loitering | ____(17) Lack of accessibility at parks/recreation facilities/amenities |
| ____(05) Lack of interesting amenities or programs | ____(18) Lack of accessibility at programs/events offered |
| ____(06) Parks/trails are too far from residence | ____(19) I do not know what is offered |
| ____(07) Parks/trails are too crowded | ____(20) Gaps in trails or to destinations |
| ____(08) Lack of parking | ____(21) Fees are too high |
| ____(09) Physical health limitations | ____(22) Operating hours are not convenient |
| ____(10) Lack of accessibility at parks/trails | ____(23) Lack of public transportation |
| ____(11) Poor customer service by staff | ____(24) Other: _____ |
| ____(12) Language or communications barrier | |
| ____(13) Program is full | |

11. **Parks, trails, recreation facilities, and open spaces offer various potential benefits to you and your household. Please indicate your level of agreement with each benefit by selecting the corresponding number.**

Benefits		Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
01.	Improves physical health and fitness	5	4	3	2	1	9
02.	Helps reduce crime	5	4	3	2	1	9
03.	Makes Hernando County a more desirable place to live	5	4	3	2	1	9
04.	Preserves open space and the environment	5	4	3	2	1	9
05.	Increases property values in surrounding area	5	4	3	2	1	9
06.	Improves mental health and reduces stress	5	4	3	2	1	9
07.	Provides opportunities for people of different backgrounds to interact	5	4	3	2	1	9
08.	Provides opportunities to socialize	5	4	3	2	1	9
09.	Helps attract new residents and businesses	5	4	3	2	1	9
10.	Protects historical and cultural attributes of the County	5	4	3	2	1	9
11.	Promotes tourism to the County	5	4	3	2	1	9
12.	Other (explain): _____	5	4	3	2	1	9

12. **Which THREE of the BENEFITS from the list in Question 11 are most important to you and members of your household? [Using the numbers in Question 11 above, please write in the numbers below for your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices, or circle "NONE."]**

1st: ____ 2nd: ____ 3rd: ____ NONE

13. **How far are you willing to walk for park or recreation amenities?**

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| ____(1) 1/8 mile or 2-3-minute walk | ____(4) 1 mile or 20-minute walk |
| ____(2) 1/4 mile or 5-minute walk | ____(5) 1-1/2 mile or 30-minute walk |
| ____(3) 1/2 mile or 10-minute walk | ____(6) More than 1-1/2 miles or more than a 30-minute walk |

- 14. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the FACILITIES or AMENITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met," or select 9 for "No Need" if you do not have a need for the facility or amenity.**

Type of Facility or Amenity		How well are your needs being met?				
		Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met	No Need
01. Amphitheater/theater/stage		4	3	2	1	9
02. Baseball and softball fields		4	3	2	1	9
03. Basketball courts		4	3	2	1	9
04. Beach (swimming, sunbathing, etc.)		4	3	2	1	9
05. Canoe/Kayak launch(es)		4	3	2	1	9
06. Community gardens/garden plots		4	3	2	1	9
07. Disc golf course		4	3	2	1	9
08. Dog parks (off-leash fenced area)		4	3	2	1	9
09. Equestrian facilities		4	3	2	1	9
10. Fishing area(s)		4	3	2	1	9
11. Golf course(s)		4	3	2	1	9
12. Indoor fitness space(s)		4	3	2	1	9
13. Indoor gymnasium(s)		4	3	2	1	9
14. Indoor swimming pool(s)		4	3	2	1	9
15. Larger community parks		4	3	2	1	9
16. Mountain biking trail(s)		4	3	2	1	9
17. Multipurpose fields (soccer, lacrosse, cricket, and football)		4	3	2	1	9
18. Museum(s)		4	3	2	1	9
19. Nature center(s)		4	3	2	1	9
20. Nature observation area		4	3	2	1	9
21. Outdoor exercise courts/equipment		4	3	2	1	9
22. Outdoor social gathering spaces		4	3	2	1	9
23. Outdoor swimming pool		4	3	2	1	9
24. Paved trail(s)		4	3	2	1	9
25. Pickleball courts		4	3	2	1	9
26. Picnic shelter(s)		4	3	2	1	9
27. Playgrounds		4	3	2	1	9
28. Recreation center(s)		4	3	2	1	9
29. Restroom(s)		4	3	2	1	9
30. Skate park		4	3	2	1	9
31. Smaller neighborhood parks		4	3	2	1	9
32. Splash pad(s)		4	3	2	1	9
33. Tennis courts		4	3	2	1	9
34. Unpaved trails (hiking)		4	3	2	1	9
35. Volleyball courts (sand)		4	3	2	1	9
36. Water park		4	3	2	1	9
37. Other (explain): _____		4	3	2	1	9

- 15. Which FOUR facilities or amenities listed in Question 14 are most important for you and members of your household? [Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 14.]**

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____

- 16. Please indicate the level of need you or members of your household currently have for the ACTIVITIES listed below by using a scale of 4 to 1, where 4 means "Fully Met" and 1 means "Not Met," or select 9 for "No Need" if you do not have a need for the activity.**

Type of Activity	How well are your needs being met?				
	Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met	No Need
01. Adapted or inclusion programs	4	3	2	1	9
02. Adventure recreation (mountain biking, climbing, etc.)	4	3	2	1	9
03. Baseball/tee ball	4	3	2	1	9
04. Basketball	4	3	2	1	9
05. Biking (paved/hard or natural surface trails)	4	3	2	1	9
06. Camping (tent/primitive)	4	3	2	1	9
07. Competition/diving/lap swimming	4	3	2	1	9
08. Disc golf	4	3	2	1	9
09. Eating outdoors/picnicking	4	3	2	1	9
10. Enjoying or learning about nature	4	3	2	1	9
11. eSports or video gaming	4	3	2	1	9
12. Exercising outdoors	4	3	2	1	9
13. Fishing	4	3	2	1	9
14. Flag/tackle football	4	3	2	1	9
15. Gardening	4	3	2	1	9
16. Golf	4	3	2	1	9
17. Kayaking/canoeing/rowing	4	3	2	1	9
18. Lacrosse	4	3	2	1	9
19. Learning to swim	4	3	2	1	9
20. Pickleball	4	3	2	1	9
21. Senior adult activities	4	3	2	1	9
22. Skateboarding or inline skating	4	3	2	1	9
23. Soccer	4	3	2	1	9
24. Softball	4	3	2	1	9
25. Swimming for fun	4	3	2	1	9
26. Tennis	4	3	2	1	9
27. Track and field	4	3	2	1	9
28. Using Wi-Fi outdoors	4	3	2	1	9
29. Visiting a dog park	4	3	2	1	9
30. Visiting a farmers' market	4	3	2	1	9
31. Visiting, observing, or learning about wildlife	4	3	2	1	9
32. Visiting a playground	4	3	2	1	9
33. Volleyball	4	3	2	1	9
34. Walking/hiking/running	4	3	2	1	9
35. Water fitness or therapeutic swimming	4	3	2	1	9
36. Yoga, Pilates, or Zumba	4	3	2	1	9
37. Other (explain): _____	4	3	2	1	9

- 17. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 are most important for you and members of your household?** *[Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 16.]*

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____

- 18. Which FOUR activities listed in Question 16 do you or members of your household participate in MOST OFTEN?** *[Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 16.]*

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____

19. Using a scale of 3 to 1, where 3 means "Strongly Support" and 1 means "Do Not Support," please rate your level of support for each of the following actions by circling the number next to the action.

What is your level of support?		Strongly Support	Support	Do Not Support	Not Sure
01.	Maintain/renovate existing parks and recreation amenities	3	2	1	9
02.	Maintain/renovate existing athletic fields and/or courts	3	2	1	9
03.	Maintain/renovate existing trails	3	2	1	9
04.	Maintain/renovate existing indoor facilities	3	2	1	9
05.	Acquire land for recreational uses and/or facilities	3	2	1	9
06.	Acquire land for preservation of natural resources/open space	3	2	1	9
07.	Develop new smaller, walk-to/bike-to parks	3	2	1	9
08.	Develop new larger, drive-to parks	3	2	1	9
09.	Develop/build new playgrounds	3	2	1	9
10.	Develop/build new water access/boat/kayak/canoe launches	3	2	1	9
11.	Develop/build new athletic fields and/or courts	3	2	1	9
12.	Develop/build new indoor facilities	3	2	1	9
13.	Develop/build new pool(s)	3	2	1	9
14.	Develop/build new trails	3	2	1	9
15.	Other (explain): _____	3	2	1	9

20. Which FOUR actions from the list in Question 19 would you be most willing to fund with your tax dollars? [Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 19, or circle "NONE."]

1st: ____ 2nd: ____ 3rd: ____ 4th: ____ NONE

21. From the following list, please check the additional amount you would be willing to pay to fund the actions that you indicated in Question 20 as most important to your household.

____ (1) More than \$100 per year ____ (4) \$26-50 per year ____ (7) Not willing to pay additional property taxes
 ____ (2) \$76-100 per year ____ (5) \$11-25 per year
 ____ (3) \$51-75 per year ____ (6) \$1-10 per year

22. Please check the additional amount in user fees or charges you would be willing to pay for your favorite parks and recreation activity or program which you or members of your household participate.

____ (1) \$1.00 ____ (3) \$3.00 ____ (5) \$5.00
 ____ (2) \$2.00 ____ (4) \$4.00 ____ (6) Not willing to pay additional user fees or charges

23. Funding for parks, recreation facilities/programs, and trails may be secured from a variety of sources. Which THREE of the following choices of funding sources do you most prefer? [Using the numbers below for each funding source, write in the number in order of preference.]

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Property tax/Special Tax District | 4. User fees/charges (rentals, sports leagues, etc.) |
| 2. General obligation bonds | 5. Parks Foundation (non-profit) |
| 3. Impact/development-based fees | 6. Sponsorships |

Most Preferred: ____ 2nd Most Preferred: ____ 3rd Most Preferred: ____

24. Would you be willing to participate in future surveys sponsored by Hernando County?

____ (1) Yes [Answer Q24a.] ____ (2) No

24a. Please provide your contact information.

Mobile Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

N. Recreation Program Assessment



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Recreation Facilities & Programs

Recreation Trends

Recreation Programming Trends

Recreation departments now often serve as a coordinating agency and a clearinghouse for multiple recreation organizations and providers, in an effort to bring a comprehensive scope of recreation programs to a community. This has also increased the number of partnerships that are in place to deliver a broader base of programs in a more cost-effective manner.

There is a greater emphasis on a fee for service concept, especially for more specialized programming. This is supported by a formal fee policy.

Programming continues to emphasize the needs of youth and seniors but has also focuses more on adults, and the family unit. Specific programming development trends include.

- Developing programs that are single day or no more than 4 sessions in length.
- Developing programs for youth during non-school days, Christmas break, spring break and any other extended breaks.
- Offering a variety of summer camps with different areas of interest.
- More Saturday programs and the introduction of some Sunday programming (especially in adult sports leagues).
- Senior programming that occurs in the evening or on the weekends to appeal to seniors who are still in the work force.
- Introducing programs that are oriented toward specific ethnic groups.
- Developing a baseline of programs that appeal to the family unit.
- Staggering the days and times of similar programs that are offered at multiple locations.
- Expanded senior programming to include a greater focus on the Baby Boomer generation which often means programs and services that are available in the evenings and on weekends and those that have a more active orientation.

There has been a concerted effort to integrate conventional recreation programming with community based social service programs and education. Most of the social service programs are offered by other community-based agencies and education is often coordinated with school districts.



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According to the National Sporting Goods Association the top 10 activities based on participation are:

Sport	Nat'l Rank ¹	Nat'l Participation (in millions)
Exercise Walking	1	110.2
Exercising w/ Equipment	2	52.9
Hiking	3	51.8
Swimming	4	44.9
Running/Jogging	5	43.1
Bicycle Riding	6	42.4
Camping	7	40.4
Weightlifting	8	36.8
Yoga	9	30.7
Fishing	10	29.9

Below are listed several sports activities and the percentage of growth or decline that each has experienced nationally over the last ten years (2014-2023).

Increase in Participation	2014 Participation	2023 Participation	Percent Increase
Pickleball	1.7	9.9	482.4%
Kayaking	9.0	11.8	31.1%
Mountain Biking (off road)	5.4	7.0	29.6%
Hiking	41.1	51.8	26.0%
Tennis	12.4	15.1	21.8%
Soccer	13.4	15.3	14.2%
Golf	18.4	20.5	11.4%
Fishing (salt water)	9.4	10.1	7.4%
Exercise Walking	104.3	110.2	5.7%
Backpack/Wilderness Camping	12.0	12.4	3.3%
Basketball	23.7	24.2	2.1%

Decrease in Participation	2014 Participation	2023 Participation	Percent Decrease
Football (flag)	6.3	6.2	-1.6%
Baseball	11.3	11.1	-1.8%
Swimming	45.9	44.9	-2.2%
Football (tackle)	7.5	6.8	-9.3%
Softball	9.5	8.4	-11.6%
Archery (Target)	8.3	6.3	-24.1%

¹ This rank is based upon the 58 activities reported on by NSGA in their 2023 survey instrument.



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Youth Sports Trends

Participation in youth team sports reached an all-time low during COVID-19. Progress has been made, however still lags 2019, and significantly below the high in 2018. In addition to the participation rate falling, the pure numbers are as well due to the declining birthrate. Interesting though, the number of households spent playing sports has stayed steady.

The contentious debate between early specialization and multi-sport participation continues to reverberate throughout youth athletics, with advocates on both sides presenting compelling arguments. While some tout the benefits of diversifying skills through participation in multiple sports to stave off burnout and prevent overuse injuries, others argue that early specialization yields a competitive edge. However, this trend towards specialization has not been without consequences, as community programs find themselves dwindling in resources and perceived quality. Consequently, many parents are turning towards private club programs, further exacerbating the disparity in access and resources.

In response to these challenges, a shift towards emphasizing Long-Term Athletic Development (LTAD) has emerged, prioritizing age-appropriate training, skill cultivation, and sustainable physical conditioning. This holistic approach aims to nurture athletes in a manner that fosters both their immediate success and long-term well-being. Furthermore, there's been a concerted effort to diversify youth travel sports, fostering inclusivity across various demographics, including different backgrounds, genders, and socioeconomic statuses. However, the looming concern of travel costs continues to loom large, prompting organizations to explore more affordable options and offer financial assistance, ensuring that talent isn't stifled by financial barriers.

Outdoor Participation and Park Trends

Participation in outdoor recreation grew 4.1% in 2023 to 175.8 million, amounting to 57.3% of the U.S. population. 22.2 million more Americans aged six and older are participating in outdoor recreation in 2023 than were participating in 2019. Participation growth began in 2016 and soared in 2020 with the pandemic and many indoor venues having restrictions, and as these have been lifted many questioned if participation would be sustained. This proves once individuals are introduced to a new activity, they tend to continue to participate.

The overall participant base is more diverse than ever in both race/ethnicity and age. New and young participants are driving growth. Participants of color are driving an increase in overall outdoor recreation with 10.3% of participants Black and 13.4% Hispanic. In addition, the participation rate for those 65 and older grew by 11.5% in the past year.



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Despite the overall increase in participation, not all information is positive. Core participation, 51 times or more, has been steadily declining. The average number of outings fell to 62.5 outings per participant.

Based on the market information, the existing parks, and typical outdoor recreation needs within a community, there are specific market areas that need to be addressed with any new park in order to maximize the participation.

- **Multi-functional Spaces:** Outdoor parks that offer a variety of activities in one space are becoming increasingly popular. Consider a design that includes features such as hiking trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, sports fields, and nature walks.
- **Adventure Activities:** Activities that involve some level of risk or challenge are on the rise. This could include zip lining, rock climbing walls, and obstacle courses. Consider incorporating some of these activities to attract thrill-seekers.
- **Nature-Based Activities:** Many people are looking to reconnect with nature and engage in outdoor activities that promote sustainability. Consider incorporating green spaces, gardening areas, and nature walks.
- **Dog-Friendly Spaces:** Dog ownership is on the rise, and many people are looking for outdoor spaces where they can bring their furry friends. Consider incorporating a dog park, dog-friendly walking trails or policies.
- **Fitness and Wellness:** People are increasingly interested in maintaining their physical and mental health, and outdoor parks can provide the perfect setting for fitness and wellness activities. Consider incorporating yoga and fitness classes, outdoor gym equipment, and meditation areas.
- **Social Gathering Spaces:** Parks are often a gathering place for friends and families, and many people are looking for spaces where they can come together and socialize. Consider incorporating picnic areas, amphitheaters, and community event spaces.

Taking an approach to park development that focuses on understanding and meeting the needs of potential participants involves understanding the preferences, behaviors, and needs of park visitors. The overall design and management of parks and recreation facilities to meet those needs. Here are some key elements to include:

- **Hiking:** Hiking continues to be a popular outdoor activity, with people of all ages and fitness levels hitting the trails. From short, easy walks to multi-day backpacking trips, hiking offers something for everyone.
- **Biking:** Biking is another popular outdoor activity, with more people taking up cycling for exercise, transportation, and recreation. Mountain biking and road cycling are two popular sub-categories within biking.



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- **Water Sports:** Activities like kayaking, paddleboarding, and rafting are increasingly popular, particularly in areas with access to lakes, rivers, and other bodies of water.
- **Camping:** Camping has always been a popular outdoor activity, but it has seen a resurgence in recent years as people look for ways to unplug and reconnect with nature. Glamping, or "glamorous camping," is also growing in popularity as a more comfortable and luxurious alternative to traditional camping.
- **Fishing:** Fishing remains a popular outdoor activity, with people of all ages enjoying the challenge of catching fish in rivers, lakes, and oceans.
- **Rock Climbing:** Rock climbing has seen a surge in popularity in recent years, with indoor climbing gyms popping up all over the country. Outdoor rock climbing is also growing in popularity, with more people taking up the sport as a way to challenge themselves both physically and mentally.
- **Wildlife Watching:** Many people enjoy spending time in nature observing and photographing wildlife. Activities like birdwatching, wildlife safaris, and nature photography are all growing in popularity.

By keeping up with these trends in outdoor recreation activities, park and recreation managers can design and develop facilities that meet the changing needs and interests of their communities.

Walking and hiking are two of the most popular sports and leisure activities, meaning that there is a significant market for these pursuits. Over 50% of the population in the South Atlantic region of the country participates in one or both of these activities. This is a significant segment of the population.

Parks and recreation facilities can attract more visitors, increase customer satisfaction, and ultimately achieve their goals of promoting outdoor recreation and providing enjoyable experiences for park visitors.



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Hernando County Recreation Programs

The Hernando County Parks and Recreation Department has a limited range of programming available to residents. With only one community (Brooksville) incorporated and providing parks and recreation services, the Department serves a large geographic area and is the primary provider of recreation facilities.

- Programs, activities and special events take place at various parks across the County.
 - The primary parks are Veterans Park, Delta Woods Park, Anderson Snow, Pioneer Park, and Ridge Manor Park in addition to the Lake House.
- The primary focus of the department is to be a provider of facilities and spaces.
- All programs have fees associated with them with fees fluctuating by program and instructor/program intensity as well as the market.
- The registration process can be completed in person, online, email and phone-in with the County utilizing RecTrac to process recreation program registration and facility reservations.
 - The County has also utilized EventBright for registration for the Father/Daughter Dance.

Recreation Program Participation

The chart below summarizes participation in recreation activities over the past 2-3 years.

- The Department offered the following programs:
 - Cheerleading
 - Baton
 - Tae Kwon Do
 - Belly Dance
 - Dance
 - Summer Camp
 - Women's Softball League
- Summer Camp is offered for 9 weeks during the summer. Over the course of the summer, there was a maximum of 219 spots available. The enrollment was 190, or 86.8% of the available spots. Participation is restricted due to the size of the facility, limits of transportation for field trips and availability of staff.
- In addition, the department offers a Father/Daughter Dance. The event sells out the 2 nights it is available.
- It is important to point out that drop-in use of facilities and passive use of parks are in fact programs.



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Sports Leagues	2022	2023	2024
HYL Master Board	1,144	1,179	1,716
Spring Hill NFL Flag	1,300	1,500	1,400
Spring Hill Screaming Eagles (tackle)	176	167	180
Anderson Snow Senior Softball	48	52	56
WHACS Senior Softball	60	64	68
SSIL Senior Softball	64	68	68
Hernando Soccer Club	700	700	700
Adult Softball		894	651
Ladies Softball		162	200

- HYL (Hernando Youth League) offers baseball, football, soccer and softball. In 2024, the breakdown was:
 - Brooksville Baseball – 344 (197 Spring, 153 Fall)
 - Ridge Manor Baseball – 115
 - Spring Hill Baseball – 538 (306 Spring, 232 Fall)
 - Football – 90
 - Brooksville Soccer – 170
 - Premier Soccer – 146
 - Spring Hill Softball – 313 (165 Spring, 148 Fall)
- The Adult Softball League is operated by Hernando County. There were 3 Seasons in 2023 (Winter, Spring & Fall) and 2 Seasons in 2022 (Winter/Spring, Fall). A typical season is 10 games, and played Monday through Thursday.
- Ladies Softball is operated by Hernando County. There are 2 seasons and games are played on Friday nights.

Registration numbers for organizations has been steady or increasing. When conducting stakeholder meetings, the common challenge mentioned was the programs are at or beyond capacity given the current facility use. This situation puts additional stress and strain on the existing athletic facilities.

When reviewing estimated participation in the activities listed above, each organization is capturing a high percentage of the overall organized market. Organized participation is defined as part of a team or league rather than recreational, which is playing with family or friends. This signifies a strong interest in youth sports in Hernando County.



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While not a program, the department allows reservations of facilities and has parking meters at various parks.

	2022	2023	2024
Pavilions		307	315
Lake House	300	373	319
Pine Island Meter	586	401	330
Rogers Meter	57	34	0
Bayport Meter	64	34	0
Dog Park Meter	64	11	0
Hernando Beach Meter	61	34	0
Hunters Lake Meter	62	32	0

Parking passes are a significant part of the operation.

	2022 – 2023	2023 – 2024
October	116	63
November	69	43
December	117	39
January	180	68
February	178	75
March	264	117
April	226	211
May	263	139
June	241	98
July	168	55
August	124	51
September	77	30



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General Program Categories

The following is a listing of general program categories where programs are often offered by a full-service parks and recreation agencies. It is unusual for an agency to directly offer programs in all of these areas, but there are usually either agreements with other providers for some of these activities or a referral to them.

Area	General Description
Aquatics	Learn to swim classes, aqua exercise classes, competitive swimming/diving SCUBA, and other programs (artistic swimming, water polo, etc.).
Cultural Arts	Performing arts classes, visual arts classes, music/video production and arts events.
Education	Language programs, tutoring, science (STEAM) classes, computer, and financial planning.
Fitness/Wellness	Group fitness classes, personal training, education, and nutrition.
General Interest	Personal development classes.
Outdoor Recreation	Environmental education, hiking, camping, kayaking, and other activities.
Self-Directed	This includes the opportunities for individuals to recreate on their own.
Seniors/Older Adults	Programs and services that are dedicated to serving the needs of seniors. This can include all of the activity areas noted above plus social service functions.
Social Services	This can include nutrition and feeding programs, job training, life skills training, and other activities such as health screenings.
Special Events	City wide special events that are conducted throughout the year.
Special Needs	Programs for the physically and mentally impaired. Also, inclusion programs.
Sports	Youth and adult team and individual sports. Also includes adventure/non-traditional sports.
Teens	Programs and services that are focused on serving the needs of teens. This can include all of the activity areas noted above (except seniors).
Youth	Before and after school programs, summer/school break camps, and preschool.



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The City of Hernando County offers programming in the following categories:

Cultural Arts

Programs are focused on youth. The programs utilize spaces provided by the Department through rental of facilities.

Special Events

The County offers a limited number of special events ranging from smaller park/facility related to County wide events. While the Father/Daughter Dance has a registration, others are free to attend. In addition, the County is a provider of space for many special events. Staff and equipment from the Parks and Recreation Department support these events.

Sports

Hernando County provides team sports primarily for adults. Adult softball is one that is typically offered by parks and recreation departments. Associations, leagues and organizations provide the bulk of the youth sports programs and utilize athletic fields through agreements with the County.

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Recreation programs are not specifically offered, however facilities are available for these activities at the Preserves.

Self-Directed

The parks provide ample opportunity for both active and passive recreation. While not fee based or staff led, the County parks provide among other activities, pavilions for enjoying a meal and shade, open space to view nature and trails for walking/running.

Youth

The summer camp programs is offered at the Lake House. The camp is offered for 10 weeks with scheduled activities and field trips.



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Program Delivery

The Department currently uses multiple models to deliver programs to the community. The primary models can be described as follows:

- **Staff Run.** These programs are offered by the Department and are run by staff, both full-time and part-time, and can take place on a seasonal or annual basis.
 - **Benefit.** The Department has maximum control over the program, its content, and the instructors. They can also maximize revenue generation.
 - **Challenges.** The Department is responsible for managing and maintaining the staff.
 - **Examples:** summer camp, adult softball
- **Third Party.** These programs may or may not appear in the Department's program brochure but are run by a third-party contractor. These instructors are paid on a contract basis and there is typically a revenue split between the contractor and the Department.
 - **Benefit.** Using contract instructors/programmers allows the Department to pivot as trends shift. It also means that the Department does not have to hire additional part-time staff.
 - **Challenges.** The biggest challenge is managing the contract as to how the program is run will be a reflection on the Department.
 - **Examples:** youth sports
- **Renter.** These programs may or may not appear in the Department's program brochure and are run by an outside group that is utilizing facility space from the Department.
 - **Benefit.** The Department is only utilizing the space, there is minimal staff time required, and it is transactional in nature.
 - **Challenges.** The programs taking place can be associated with the Department which can cause challenges if not done properly.
 - **Examples:** Baton, Tae Kwon Do, Cheerleading, Dance, Belly Dance Begin & Int/Adv

It is important to note that the program delivery model does not impact whether a program is a core service.



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ESRI utilizes socioeconomic and demographic information to segment populations to provide information about consumers and their behaviors in order to provide insight into potential products and services. In Hernando County, these illustrate a market that is primarily senior and family oriented, budget conscious, careful shoppers and limit spending. There is a large and diverse community, including Hispanics and Spanish speakers. There is some interest in health and recreation, filtered with a focus on necessities. As such the programs offered should align with these segments.

The Market Potential Index (MPI) indicates that the overall propensity for adults to participate in activities is greater than the national number of 100 in a number of activities. The following shows the participation rates for outdoor activities.

Activity	Expected Number of Adults	Percent of Population	MPI
Archery	4,550	2.6%	106
Baseball	4,271	2.5%	85
Basketball	7,027	4.1%	74
Bicycling (Mountain)	4,773	2.8%	84
Bicycling (Road)	17,391	10.1%	91
Boating (Power)	9,519	5.5%	123
Canoeing/Kayaking	14,773	8.6%	116
Fishing (Salt Water)	7,119	4.1%	121
Football	3,340	1.9%	76
Golf	15,774	9.1%	114
Hiking	31,172	18.1%	94
Horseback Riding	3,609	2.1%	103
Jogging/Running	13,282	7.7%	75
Pickleball	4,222	2.5%	98
Soccer	3,489	2.0%	64
Softball	2,675	1.5%	89
Swimming	28,529	16.5%	105
Tennis	5,234	3.0%	80
Volleyball	3,323	1.9%	77
Walking	58,739	34.0%	104



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Programs Offered by Other Organizations

Beyond the County there are a significant number of other community organizations that provide recreation opportunities in the community. These include:

Recreation Providers	Service	City
Bricks N Blocks	Amusement & Recreation NEC	Brooksville
Camper's Holiday Travel Park	Campgrounds	Brooksville
Clover Leaf Forest RV Resort	Campgrounds	Brooksville
Frontier Campgrounds & Mobile	Campgrounds	Brooksville
Masaryktown Community Center	Community Centers	Brooksville
Charlene's School of Dance	Dancing/Gymnastic Instruction	Brooksville
Brooksville Golf & Country Club	Golf Courses	Brooksville
Cabot Citrus Farms	Golf Courses	Brooksville
Hernando Oaks Golf Course	Golf Courses	Brooksville
Par-3 Golf Course	Golf Courses	Brooksville
Pine Barrens Golf Course	Golf Courses	Brooksville
Rivard Golf Course	Golf Courses	Brooksville
Rolling Oaks Golf Course	Golf Courses	Brooksville
Sherman Hills Golf Course	Golf Courses	Brooksville
Southern Hills Golf Course	Golf Courses	Brooksville
Flatwater Guide	Guide Service	Brooksville
Historic Monkey Island Inc	Historical Places	Brooksville
Aikido School of Self Defense	Martial Arts Instruction	Brooksville
Train Depot Museum	Museums, Historical Places	Brooksville
Hernando County Fair Grounds	Non-Profit Organizations	Brooksville
Florida Classic Park	Rental Space, Parks	Brooksville
Sticks Seams Baseball	Sports Instruction	Brooksville
Emerald M Therapeutic Riding Center	Stables	Brooksville
Lone Palm Stables	Stables, Riding Academies	Brooksville
Harvestmoon Fun Farm	Tourist Attractions	Brooksville
Another Turn Yoga Art	Yoga Instruction	Brooksville
Ridge Manor Campground	Campgrounds	Dade City
Hernando Beach Club	Beach & Cabana Clubs	Hernando Beach
The Dock	Boats-Rental & Charter	Hernando Beach
Angling Adventures Charter	Guide Service	Hernando Beach
Gulf Coast Fishing Homes LLC	Guide Service	Hernando Beach


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Gulf Grouper Deep Sea Fishing	Guide Service	Hernando Beach
Thunder Deep Sea Fishing	Guide Service, Boats-Rental & Charter	Hernando Beach
Summit Adventure Park	Amusement & Recreation	Spring Hill
Chief Aripeka Travel Park	Campgrounds	Spring Hill
Encore Topics	Campgrounds	Spring Hill
Holiday Springs Recreational Vehicle Resort	Campgrounds	Spring Hill
Hernando County YMCA	Community Center/Pool	Spring Hill
Adventure Coast Fun Park	Family Entertainment Centers	Spring Hill
Golf and Country Club at the Heather LLC	Golf Courses	Spring Hill
Grand Pines Golf Course	Golf Courses	Spring Hill
Highlands Golf Course	Golf Courses	Spring Hill
Hills Golf Course	Golf Courses	Spring Hill
Lakes Golf Course	Golf Courses	Spring Hill
Oak Hills Golf Club	Golf Courses	Spring Hill
Silverthorn Golf Course	Golf Courses	Spring Hill
Timber Pines Country Club	Golf Courses	Spring Hill
Top Contenders Gymnastics	Gymnastic Instruction	Spring Hill
Burgess Modern Day Warriors Karate & MMA	Martial Arts Instruction	Spring Hill
Green Dragon Dojo	Martial Arts Instruction	Spring Hill
Holmes Martial Arts	Martial Arts Instruction	Spring Hill
Just For Kicks Karate	Martial Arts Instruction	Spring Hill
Kaufmanns Karate	Martial Arts Instruction	Spring Hill
Sensei Kicks LLC	Martial Arts Instruction	Spring Hill
Aidan Park, Inc	Parks	Spring Hill
Paddock Park LLC	Parks	Spring Hill
Weeki Wachee Springs State Park	Parks	Spring Hill
Locomo	Skating Rinks	Spring Hill
Gulf Coast Homing Club	Sports Clubs	Spring Hill
Tru Elite Athletes & Mentors	Sports-Motivational Training	Spring Hill
Paddling Adventures at Weeki	Water Sports Equipment-Rental	Spring Hill
Happiness Yoga Retreat	Yoga Instruction	Spring Hill
Yog Ah LLC	Yoga Instruction	Spring Hill
Weeki Wachee Boat Rentals	Boats-Rental & Charter	Weeki Wachee
Camp-A-Wyle Lake Resort	Campgrounds	Weeki Wachee
Cody's RV & Recreational Park	Campgrounds	Weeki Wachee
Hawks Nest RV Park & Campground	Campgrounds	Weeki Wachee
Glen Lakes Golf Course	Golf Courses	Weeki Wachee



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Captain Ron's Charters	Guide Service, Canoes	Weeki Wachee
Weeki Wachee the Kayak Shack	Kayaks, Boats-Rental & Charter, Canoes	Weeki Wachee
Weeki Wachee Marina	Marinas, Boats-Rental & Charter, Kayaks	Weeki Wachee
Hernando Sportsman's Club	Rifle & Pistol Ranges	Weeki Wachee
Aqua Minnies	Swimming Instruction	Weeki Wachee

Most of these organizations have their own facilities, and not dependent on county facilities for their programs.

Recreation Service Providers within Hernando County

While there are a significant number of private recreation service providers in Hernando County (FL), communities in the County only offer limited recreation services and facilities. These include:

Recreation Service Providers	Facilities
Brooksville, FL	
Adult Basketball	Community Center
Senior Fitness	4 parks
	Disc Golf course

Organized recreation programs are limited in other communities and are primarily self-directed. As a result, the City of Hernando County is a primary provider of recreation programs.

Program Partners

The primary provider of youth sports in Hernando County is through organizations and associations as identified previously. These organizations must be non-profit.

While not formally partners, the following organizations provide minimal recreation programs and activities.

- Enrichments Centers Inc. of Hernando
- Hernando County Fine Arts Council
- Hernando Historical Museum Association
- ARC of the Nature Coast

Partners play a significant role in providing recreation programming to the community. The leagues and associations are primarily responsible for the youth sports limiting the amount of staff time associated with the activities. The relationships can be further strengthened by hosting an annual meeting to discuss participation and scheduling.



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Events

Special events are a staple of many recreation departments across the country. The primary role for the Hernando County Parks and Recreation Department is for its parks and facilities to serve as a host and staff to provide support. The Department hosts four Signature Events annually, Father/Daughter Dance, Swamp Fest, Hispanic Heritage and the Christmas Parade.

A permit process is in place for special events taking place in parks. The impact of these events on staff is limited as minimal staffing is provided during events. At times, an electrician is necessary. All staffing costs are passed along to the one providing the event.

Indoor Recreation Facilities

In order to provide a comprehensive recreation program, adequate indoor facilities are critical. Hernando County has 2 indoor facilities. The Kennedy Park Recreation Building is in Brooksville, centrally located within the county. The Lake House is in the southwestern portion of the county. Generally to increase participation in programs and use, facilities are spread across the entire County providing easier access.

Kennedy Park Recreation Building is a single room community center located at 553 899 Kennedy Blvd. The building has an office, storage and bathrooms. The facility is solely used for rentals. While the Parks and Recreation Department schedules the Facility Department cleans it.

The Lake House is a multi-use facility located at 1202 Kenlake Ave., Spring Hill. The facility hosts the summer camp offered by Hernando County as well as other activities through rental agreements. The space includes medium sized community room that is primarily used for rentals, a kitchen and office space. A cleaning contractor cleans once a week with all other responsibilities performed by the Parks and Recreation Department.

While the facilities are in good condition, they are not optimal for use for recreation. The indoor spaces themselves limit the opportunity for programming. Each have a singular focus due to the constraints of the facility. Parking is inadequate at both Kennedy Park Recreation Center and the Lake House. The spaces are dated and only allow limited programming options which are classroom based. Neither have internet access or security cameras. Upgrades to the facilities should also include making them more appealing for public use.

The County should pursue an Indoor Needs Assessment and/or Feasibility Study. The County should strive to have recreation facilities that have a geographic distribution that provides equal access to the entire community. This type of study would evaluate the existing indoor space and their long-term use, specify recreation needs, consider other



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public and private recreation providers, recommend appropriate spaces, identify potential sites and examine the operational impact.

In comparison to metrics provided by the National Recreation and Parks Association, similarly sized communities to Hernando County has the following indoor spaces:

Facility Type	Median Facilities per Population 100,000 – 250,000
Recreation Centers	3.6
Community Centers	3.8
Senior Centers	1.7
Nature Centers	1.5
Aquatic Centers	1.9

Outdoor Recreation Facilities

Hernando County provides a number of parks with opportunities for organized recreation. The parks are spread out throughout the county.

Anderson Snow Park is the signature facility. The facility boasts 8 diamonds, 6 rectangles, multiple restrooms, splash pad and a newly constructed maintenance building. All fields have lights, and 5 of the infields are grass. While the parking is in good condition, it is inadequate considering the volume of activity that takes place.

Delta Woods Park has 2 rectangles, 8 tennis courts, 2 sand volleyball courts, handball courts, bocce courts and restroom. All sports facilities have lights except the sand volleyball.

Ernie Wever Park has 7 diamonds, rectangles that can be utilized in multiple configurations/sizes, a dedicated football field, and maintenance building. 4 of the diamonds have lights as well as the football field. All diamonds are grass infields. Parking is adequate for the diamonds, but poor for the rectangles. The restrooms are located near the diamonds, with a small restroom for the rectangles which are in a separate location.

Hamilton Park (formerly Kennedy Park) has 2 diamonds and restroom. Each have grass infields and lights. Parking is limited.

Ridge Manor has 4 diamonds, 1 rectangle field, sand volleyball court, batting cage, restroom and maintenance building. All diamonds have grass infields and 3 of the diamonds have lights. Parking is adequate.

Veterans Park has a diamond, 4 rectangles and restroom. The diamond and 2 of the rectangles have lights. The parking is inadequate.



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In comparison to metrics provided by the National Recreation and Parks Association, similarly sized communities to Hernando County has the following outdoor spaces:

Facility Type	Median Facilities per Population 100,000 – 250,000
Diamond Fields	30.7
Rectangle Fields	28.4
Tennis Courts	24.0
Pickleball Courts	10.4
Volleyball Courts	4.5
Splash Pad	3.1



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Program Gap Analysis & Opportunities

Program Areas	City	Other Organizations
Aquatics		
Cultural Arts		
Education		
Fitness/Wellness		
General Interest		
Outdoor Recreation		
Self-Directed		
Seniors/Older Adults		
Social Services		
Special Events		
Special Needs		
Sports		
Teens		
Youth		

When the recreation services that the County and the other organizations are providing are analyzed, a few program areas are not covered including Cultural Arts, General Interest, Senior/Older Adults and Teens. For the program areas that the County or non-profit organizations are not providing, the community has to be reliant on private providers in the area for these services. While the majority of the program areas are being covered, overall there are limited recreation programs being offered by the County. With limited staffing and program space, the focus area of programs is Youth and Sports. The vast majority of programs are provided by staff or other organizations. The lack of indoor space limits the expansion of program opportunities in certain areas. These include:

- Cultural Arts
- Education
- Fitness
- General Interest
- Seniors/Older Adults
- Teens



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County Recreation Program Determinants

Enrollment in programs has stayed consistent as staff has focused on the limited program offerings. While programs take place year-round, the most staff intensive time is during the summer months with adult softball continuing from the spring and camp is provided during the time school is not in session. With 43.9% of the population aged 55 and over, it is important to provide programs and opportunities that interest this demographic.

While new or additional seasons or sessions have been added at times, lack of staff and facility space has not allowed for programs to grow. Programs are not cancelled and are often at full capacity. While this is not ideal, it demonstrates the interest in the programs that are offered.

Core Programs are those the Parks and Recreation Department has primary responsibility for providing programs for the community.

Secondary Programs are those that may or may not be provided by the County, and are a lower priority to provide for the community. These may be offered by other organizations.

Support Programs are programs that are not a priority for the Department to be providing directly to the community. The County may provide information and/or promote the activities but they are administered by other organizations.

Based on the recreation programs offered by the County above, the following are general categories of programs by degree of emphasis.

Core Programs	Secondary Programs	Support Programs
Self-Directed	General Interest	Aquatics
Special Events	Outdoor Recreation	Cultural Arts
Sports		Education
Youth		Fitness/Wellness
		Seniors/Older Adults
		Special Needs
		Teens

This determination is also based on the staffing dedicated to supporting the programs. There are 3 Full-time Specialist positions. One has a primary responsibility for the sports leagues both internal and external. One has primary responsibility for the summer camp and rentals while another one has responsibility for special events.



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Recreation Staff

The recreation staff is under the Operations Supervisor. This area is responsible for the administration of the department. As part of the review process, staff was interviewed to better understand how programs and events are provided to the community. As a result of these meetings, the following observations were made:

- Current staff is a strength. From, employees are knowledgeable and passionate about their work, and the hospitality extends to users creates a welcoming, family-friendly environment.
- There appears to be overall responsiveness, as well as the resourcefulness and creativity of working with groups.
- The Department is constrained to expand programs due to limited staffing and facilities. In addition to programs and special events, staff is responsible for manning the office and answering phones. This includes issuing parks parking passes. Staff time is spent handling calls and customers rather than planning new activities.
- The process for financial reconciliation is cumbersome.
- Adult softball continues to be popular. League size is limited due to only having one field to play on. Officials are contracted out to Nature Coast Umpires.
- Youth sports have seen increased demand. Many of the associations are capping participation due to lack of fields.
 - While there are agreements with most of the leagues, they are inconsistent in the requirements as well as fees.
- All field space is used by leagues and fields are not rented to outside groups or entities.
- There is not a facility use policy or prioritization for use of fields.
- Fees are approved by the County Commissioners, however there is not a fee policy in place.
- There is not a written cost recovery policy although programs and special events should recover all direct costs.
- Marketing is handled by staff including developing flyers and updating the website.

Critical to having strong management and operations of recreation programs, services, and facilities; is having a strong staffing and operations plan in place. It must be recognized that staffing levels in recreation are at a minimum level and if programs and activities are going to be improved and added, then additional staffing will be required. With lower staffing levels it is difficult to find adequate time for long range planning, operations tracking, cost recovery monitoring and policies and procedures development.



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Program Recommendation Summary

Hernando County will need to determine the areas of focus for future recreation programming efforts based on the level of financial and resource commitment that it wants to make to recreation programs and services.

Establish a Programming Philosophy

The Parks and Recreation Department should develop an overall basic programming philosophy to guide programming decisions. This should be a simple, straight forward, document that includes the following objectives:

- The County will not be the primary provider of most recreation programs and services that are available in the community but will coordinate these efforts to ensure there are opportunities for additional recreation services.
- Develop partnerships with other providers to bring a full spectrum of recreation programs and services to the community.
- For recreation programs and services that occur at County facilities, develop an approach that relies on:
 - Parks and Recreation staffed programs in core program areas.
 - Contract provided programs where revenues are shared.
 - Rental of space to other providers for their programs.
- Ensure that recreation program and service opportunities (regardless of who provides them) are available to all ages, incomes, abilities, gender, and ethnic groups in an equitable and inclusive manner.
- Provide recreation programs and service opportunities in strategic locations throughout the County.
- Ensure that recreation program and service opportunities are available in areas of interest that are identified as a need in the community.

This should be a simple one-to-two-page document that clearly articulates the programming philosophy.

Develop a Program Plan

No program plan is in place to guide the delivery of services by the County and other organizations, and ensure that the needs of the community are being met in all program areas. Based on the programming philosophy, develop a program plan that includes the general direction of recreation programming for the next 5 plus years. This should also be a simple document that includes the following areas:

- Establish the basics of the plan:
- Determine which programs will be primarily offered by city staff. This currently includes:
 - Special Events
 - Sports - Adult



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- Youth
- Keep programming contracts/agreements with existing organizations and explore possible contracts with other providers for specific program areas when possible. This could include program areas where there are not currently programs being provided by city staff or contract organizations. There could also be simple referrals to other organizations that are offering these services to the community:
- Priorities for general programming based on community input (survey) should include:
 - Self-directed Activities
 - Walking/Hiking
 - Observing Wildlife or Birdwatching
 - Outdoor/Nature Education
 - Guided habitat or interpretive walks/tours
 - Environmental stewardship workshops (habitat conservation, water quality, etc.)
 - Special Events/Festivals
 - Water-access activities
 - Kayaking, canoeing and paddle boarding
- Regarding participation in sports or athletic activities, priorities include:
 - Baseball
 - Football
 - Pickleball
 - Soccer
 - Softball
 - Self-directed activities
 - Walking, hiking and jogging
- The County does not have to be the actual source of all these activities but working with other providers through partnerships or referrals will be important to providing a broad range of recreation program opportunities to the community.
- Ensure that recreation programs are available for specific demographic groups including:
 - *Youth* – Programs that serve a variety of interest areas beyond just sports including after-school and summer camps.
 - *Teens* – Activities designed specifically for teens that are both organized and drop-in in nature.
 - *Older Adults* – Programs and services that serve a wide range of the older adult age category, including an appeal to the younger more active based senior.
 - *Intergenerational/Multigenerational* – Offering programs and services that have an appeal to multiple generations or across generations.
 - *Ethnic/Culturally Based* – There should be an effort to offer programs and services that are appropriate for the cultural orientation of the area.



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- For other organizations and recreation providers in the area, clearly identify areas of programmatic responsibility to ensure that there is not overlap in resource allocation.

Program Trends and Metrics

Track program trends on a regional and national basis to ensure that program offerings are current and reflect the opportunities that are available.

There are no existing program metrics that detail the number of people being served by in-house programs or ones offered by contract providers. There will need to be the enhancement of basic performance measures to track recreation programming effectiveness. This includes the following for both County programs as well as those that are contracted:

- Rates of fill for programs and activities (capacity vs. actual numbers).
- Resident and non-resident participation rates
- Participation numbers and comparisons to past years/seasons.
- Financial performance including cost per participant.
- Evaluations from participants.

Marketing Plan

A challenge for marketing is the ability to promote general awareness of parks and regular recreation programming. The primary method is through the seasonal program guide and the website. Marketing works with the Recreation staff to understand the reason for promoting a program, event, activity, i.e. increase participation, new demographic, increase revenue.

Maintaining a strong programming emphasis requires a marketing plan to support these efforts. This should be a brief but pointed plan that emphasizes marketing priorities, the mechanisms and tools for marketing as well as who is responsible for each of the marketing tasks.

Comprehensive Fee Policy

There is not a fee policy in place to guide fee setting for internal programs and facility use.

Establishing a comprehensive fee policy to guide fee setting for recreation programs and facilities will be essential. This document should outline the philosophy behind fee setting (higher rate of cost recovery and/or maintaining existing levels of recovery), the need to have different levels of cost recovery, the criteria for determining specific fees, and how fees are evaluated. This effort could be completed by staff or through a contracted consultant.



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Part of the consideration in the development of the Fee Policy is the ability to pay for parks and recreation services. Hernando County has a lower median household income (\$65,341) than the state of Florida and the national average (\$73,000 - \$74,000). Income level is important when it comes to price point for programs and services, and subsequently the cost recovery level of a facility.

According to the ESRI Recreation Spending Index, Hernando County spends approximately 20% less than the national average on participant sports and recreation lessons. While this level of spending is in line with other household expenditures, it indicates the challenge in charging fees. Also, the limited spending could be due to the lack of programs, facilities and services.

Program/Special Event Evaluation

The Department should develop a program/special event evaluation form. Some important characteristics of a program evaluation form:

- It is completed by the participant. Ideally, this would take place on the last day of class and would be completed by the participant or the parent of the participant.
- The instructors should be involved. Because the best time for this to happen is on the last day of class, getting the instructors involved in handing out the program evaluation and collecting the responses is important.
- The evaluation can be either paper or electronic and can vary by location.
- The evaluation should be brief, it should not take more than 5 minutes to complete.
- If the participant has bigger concerns, there should be a point of contact listed to discuss this.
- The evaluation should be focused on the program, not the program instructor. There can be 2-3 questions about the instructor, but they should be more generic in nature.

The most important part of a program evaluation is taking the time to review the information received. This is a feedback loop that has been provided to your patrons/customers. It will help the Department improve the product and can be used as a mechanism to discuss future facility enhancements that tie back to program participation.



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Recommendations for Recreation Facilities that Support Recreation Programs and Services

Specific recommendations for active use recreation facilities in the City of Hernando County include:

- Complete a feasibility study that determines the best approach to developing more capacity for indoor recreation and aquatic activities. This should include the full assessment of the community centers and outdoor pools as well as the development of new facilities. The existing community centers are in need of upgrades to make them more functional and appealing for recreation use and/or how they fit within equitable distribution of recreation programming throughout the City. The department relies on the school district to provide gym space. This leads to challenges in providing and expanding youth and indoor sports. There should also be a determination of level of service, sites, funding, and timing for these facilities.

There is strong interest in aquatics and the current distribution of outdoor pools is not balanced. The existing pools are in the west and north, limiting access on the east side of Hernando County. Due to their location, the service areas of Marcus and Carver have considerable overlap. These facilities have some recreational value with a splash pad and slide at Carver and a diving board and slide at Marcus, but the configurations do not allow for multiple activities to take place concurrently. To meet the demand for lap swimming, an indoor facility should be considered as indicated previously communities the size of Hernando County typically have an indoor aquatic center.

- Athletic field renovations are needed to improve utilization by the community, as well as the addition of soccer fields to meet the current and future demand.
 - The conversion of Kennedy to artificial turf would greatly improve the utilization of this field but will still require on-going maintenance as well as long term funding for the replacement of the turf in 10 to 15 years.
- There is not a comprehensive athletic field use policy. Complete an athletic field capacity analysis to determine the accepted level of use for existing fields. Establish a ceiling for annual hourly level of use for fields to minimize turf damage and keep fields usable. This will need to be unique to the type of field turf that is present for each field as well as the maintenance standards that are in place.
- Establish clear staffing and operational budget requirements for the Recreation Division to support the program plan.

O. Vision Capital Cost Estimate

Hernando County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Vision - Probable Cost Estimate (2025) - Capital Projects

Phasing Legend*

ST Short-Term - 1-5 Years

MT Medium-Term - 6-10 Y

LT Long-Term - 10+ Years

				Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Subtotal
A. Existing Parks and Facilities: Neighborhood Parks							
AM	Phase*	District	Alfred McKethan Pine Island Park				
AM	LT	3	Elevate and Harden Concession Building & Restroom Facility	LS	1	\$900,000	\$900,000
AM	MT	3	Stem Wall Renovation	LS	1	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
AM	MT	3	Playground Replacement	LS	1	\$280,000	\$280,000
Subtotal:							\$2,180,000

AM \$2,180,000

HD	Phase*	District	Hill N Dale Community Park				
HD	MT	5	Remove existing bathroom and renovate existing picnic structures	LS	1	\$150,000	\$150,000
HD	MT	5	Playground replacement with EWF surface (5-12 age)	LS	1	\$280,000	\$280,000
HD	ST	5	Resurface existing basketball courts and new nets/posts	LS	1	\$50,000	\$50,000
Subtotal:							\$480,000

HD \$480,000

LC	Phase*	District	Lonnie C. Coburn Park				
LC	ST	5	Install new park signage with public access notice; install ADA accessible parking space	LS	1	\$18,000	\$18,000
LC	MT	5	Renovate existing Pavilion & Restroom Facilities	SF	1500	\$300	\$450,000
LC	ST	5	Trails upgrade to Paved	LF	500	\$105	\$52,500
Subtotal:							\$520,500

LC \$520,500

NW	Phase*	District	Nobleton Wayside Park				
NW	LT	5	County acquires existing residential property and expands waterfront access to Withlacoochee River with kayak launch	LS	1	\$850,000	\$850,000
NW	MT	5	Removal of Existing half-court basketball and three (3) small pavilions. Replace with boat trailer parking and resurface looped entry drive	LS	1	\$200,000	\$200,000
NW	ST	5	Install new park signage with public access notice; install ADA accessible parking space	LS	1	\$18,000	\$18,000
NW	ST	5	Upgrade existing boat ramp, add blueway signage, add kayak/canoe washdown	LS	1	\$350,000	\$350,000
Subtotal:							\$1,418,000

NW \$1,418,000

PS	Phase*	District	Pioneer Park Skate Complex				
PS	ST	2	Renovation and Expansion of Existing Skate Park	LS	1	\$475,000	\$475,000
PS	ST	2	Paved Walking Trail with two (2) picnic pavilions	LS	1	\$150,000	\$150,000
PS	MT	2	Removal of old playground footprint. Construct new BMX Track and Tot Bike Path	LS	1	\$300,000	\$300,000
PS	ST	2	Install Shade Trees in Parking lot	LS	1	\$10,000	\$10,000
Subtotal:							\$935,000

PS \$935,000

RP	Phase*	District	Rogers Park				
RP	ST	2	Upgrade and relocate Park Signage and install along Shoal Line Boulevard	LS	1	\$15,000	\$15,000
RP	MT	2	Sidewalk/ ADA improvements from parking lot to playground/ volleyball & restroom area, install benches and trash receptacles	EA	1	\$30,000	\$30,000
RP	ST	2	Install permanent shade over playground and add bench seating	LS	1	\$50,000	\$50,000
RP	LT	2	Create new vehicular entrance along Shoal Line Boulevard, expand parking limits to allow for 90 degree parking on both sides. Move boat trailer parking away from playground edge and into center parking bay. Install trees in parking lot	LS	1	\$650,000	\$650,000
RP	ST	2	Replace sand and refurbish beach area	SF	13875	\$10	\$138,750
RP	ST	2	Restroom Replacement	LS	1	\$450,000	\$450,000
Subtotal:							\$1,333,750

RP \$1,333,750

RC	Phase*	District	Rotary Centennial Park				
RC	ST	1	Update site furnishings (trash, bench, picnic tables)	LS	1	\$25,000	\$25,000
RC	MT	1	Create a 30x30 ft paved pad within Large Dog Park area for events. Add water hookup.	LS	1	\$15,000	\$15,000
RC	ST	1	Upgrade and relocate Park Signage for better visibility	LS	1	\$15,000	\$15,000
Subtotal:							\$55,000

RC \$55,000

A. Existing Parks and Facilities: Neighborhood Parks **Subtotal** **\$6,922,250**

By Phasing (unfunded)

Short-Term	\$1,817,250	26.3%
Medium-Term	\$2,705,000	39.1%
Long-Term	\$2,400,000	34.7%

Prioritization Scoring

0-5	0-3	0-5	0-5	0-5	0-4	0-5	0-3	0-4	0-39
Improve Access or Connectivity Goals	Improve or Enhances Open Space Goals	Supports Identified Public Need/Demand	Leverages alternative funding sources/matches	Capital/operations partnership potential	Revenue Generation Potential	Deferred maintenance or lifecycle need	Enhances critical infrastructure	Promotes Tourism	
0	0	4	0	0	3	4	3	0	14
0	0	3	0	0	0	3	3	0	9
0	1	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	7

0	1	3	0	0	1	4	0	0	9
0	1	3	0	0	0	5	0	0	9
0	2	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	8

5	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	10
0	2	4	0	0	1	4	1	0	12
3	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	8

4	3	5	0	2	1	0	1	3	19
2	0	2	0	0	2	5	1	1	13
5	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	10
5	2	3	0	0	4	5	1	4	24

1	2	5	0	4	3	5	0	1	21
3	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
0	2	2	0	2	3	0	0	2	11
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

4	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	7
4	1	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	11
3	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
5	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	1	12
0	2	3	0	0	0	5	2	4	16
0	2	3	0	0	0	5	2	0	12

1	3	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	9
0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	4
4	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	7

B. Existing Parks and Facilities: Community Parks				Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Subtotal
LH	Phase*	District	Coach Lorenzo Hamilton Sr. Park				
LH	ST	5	Extension of Kennedy Boulevard to Emerson Road and creation of new primary park entrance. Add new surface parking lot adjacent to Emerson Road	LS	1	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000
LH	MT	5	Paved Walking Trail Loop and upgrade surface storm drainage	LF	3150	\$105	\$330,750
LH	MT	5	Removal of existing Picnic Pavilions and add five (5) new pavilions	LS	1	\$200,000	\$200,000
LH	ST	5	Removal of existing baseball field and create space for new multi-purpose field	LS	1	\$450,000	\$450,000
LH	MT	5	Renovate and upgrade existing Community Center	SF	3000	\$300	\$900,000
LH	MT	5	Remove EWF mulch from Playground and Install PIP/ Artificial Turf	LS	1	\$75,000	\$75,000
Subtotal:							\$3,355,750
LH							\$3,355,750
DW	Phase*	District	Delta Woods Park				
DW	ST	1	Convert three (3) of the existing tennis courts to six (6) pickleball	LS	1	\$175,000	\$175,000
DW	ST	1	Convert existing 6 ft perimeter path to 10 ft wide paved accessible route. Add Dog waste stations along.	LS	1	\$120,000	\$120,000
DW	ST	1	Remove existing field adjacent to Weeki Wachee Prairie lake and construct new Dog Park.	LS	1	\$250,000	\$250,000
DW	ST	1	Install three (3) medium 20x20 picnic pavilions adjacent to water	EA	3	\$45,000	\$135,000
DW	MT	1	Expand playground area footprint with kid's ropes course and install shade canopy. Reconfigure sidewalks for access from parking lot and bathrooms	LS	1	\$120,000	\$120,000
DW	MT	1	Remove Bocce Courts and Shuffleboard Courts. Install four (4) new Pickleball Courts with cover	LS	1	\$225,000	\$225,000
Subtotal:							\$1,025,000
DW							\$1,025,000
VM	Phase*	District	Veterans Memorial Park				
VM	ST	4	Upgrade existing park signage and locate outside of fence. Enhance / Connect pedestrian sidewalk from Right-of-Way and Bus stop into the park.	LS	1	\$35,000	\$35,000
VM	LT	4	Reconfigure existing parking lot, create safe pedestrian connections into park	LS	1	\$200,000	\$200,000
VM	MT	4	Replace fitness nodes with new equipment. Resurface with PIP	LS	1	\$200,000	\$200,000
VM	ST	4	Update existing Veteran's memorial . New landscaping. Replace wooden bridge. Replace lighting for flag. Replace individual benches with decorative seat wall/signage.	LS	1	\$505,000	\$505,000
VM	MT	4	Four (4) small (12x12) picnic shelters	EA	4	\$25,000	\$100,000
VM	ST	4	Replace existing scoreboard	EA	1	\$20,000	\$20,000
Subtotal:							\$1,060,000
VM							\$1,060,000
B. Existing Parks and Facilities: Community Parks						Subtotal	\$5,440,750

5	0	5	0	0	1	4	1	0	16
3	3	4	0	0	0	1	3	0	14
0	3	4	0	0	2	3	0	0	12
0	2	5	0	2	2	1	0	2	14
0	0	5	0	4	4	5	0	0	18
0	2	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	7

0	2	4	0	2	2	2	0	0	12
5	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	10
0	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	6
0	3	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	9
2	3	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	11
0	3	4	0	2	2	2	0	0	13

5	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	10
3	1	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	10
0	3	4	0	1	0	5	0	0	13
0	3	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	11
0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3

By Phasing (unfunded)	Short-Term	\$3,090,000	56.8%
	Medium-Term	\$2,150,750	39.5%
	Long-Term	\$200,000	3.7%

C. Existing Parks and Facilities: District Parks

				Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Subtotal
AS	Phase*	District	Anderson Snow Sports Complex				
AS	MT	4	Completion of remaining Park Master Plan Projects: additional fields, softball complex, parking, and utilities	LS	1	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000
AS	LT	4	Indoor Recreational Facility	LS	1	\$2,600,000	\$2,600,000
AS	MT	4	Renovate existing playground area: expand 5-12 yr old playground equipment, remove sand area and mulch, install artificial turf throughout entire playground area with accessible sidewalk route, install perimeter aluminum fence. Install shade over large playground equipment	LS	1	\$650,000	\$650,000
AS	ST	4	Install trailhead kiosk near Sun Trail Entrance with bike repair station	LS	1	\$40,000	\$40,000
AS	LT	4	Indoor Aquatic Facility	LS	1	\$35,000,000	\$45,000,000
AS	ST	4	Install additional Canopy Trees	LS	1	\$30,000	\$30,000
Subtotal:							\$49,370,000

AS **\$49,370,000**

EW	Phase*	District	Ernie Wever Youth Park				
EW	ST	5	Paved looped walking trail	LF	8000	\$35	\$280,000
EW	ST	5	Additional Surface Parking lot south of Youth Drive. Remove existing basketball court and install unpaved overflow parking. Add Surface Parking lot north of existing large field	LS	1	\$250,000	\$250,000
EW	MT	5	Install new Playground (ages 2-5, 5-12) South of Youth Drive with PIP surface and ADA access with two (2) picnic pavilions	LS	1	\$550,000	\$550,000
EW	MT	5	Install Disc Golf Course	LS	1	\$18,000	\$18,000
EW	ST	5	Removal of existing lighting at Soccer Fields. Install new lighting to maximize field layout	LS	1	\$200,000	\$200,000
EW	LT	5	Recreation Center and Outdoor Aquatic Facility	LS	1	\$35,000,000	\$35,000,000
EW	ST	5	Shop Replacement	SF	1000	\$100	\$100,000
EW	MT	5	Renovate existing playground	LS	1	\$280,000	\$280,000
Subtotal:							\$36,678,000

EW **\$36,678,000**

RM	Phase*	District	Ridge Manor Community Park				
RM	ST	5	Construct 8 ft wide paved looped walking path around perimeter and center of site (1 mile)	LF	5500	\$105	\$577,500
RM	MT	5	Install two (2) new softball/ baseball fields in the South side of the park	EA	2	\$300,000	\$600,000
RM	ST	5	Replace batting cages, paint dugouts, new benches in dugouts	LS	1	\$150,000	\$150,000
RM	ST	5	Relocate sand volleyball adjacent to basketball court away from baseball complex	LS	1	\$25,000	\$25,000
RM	ST	5	Add three (3) bench seating near playground	LS	1	\$10,000	\$10,000
RM	MT	5	Dog Park	LS	1	\$150,000	\$150,000
RM	ST	5	Concession building renovation (roof)	LS	1	\$60,000	\$60,000
Subtotal:							\$1,572,500

RM **\$1,572,500**

C. Existing Parks and Facilities: District Parks

Subtotal **\$87,620,500**

By Phasing (unfunded)

Short-Term	\$1,722,500	2.0%
Medium-Term	\$3,298,000	3.8%
Long-Term	\$82,600,000	94.3%

4	3	5	0	5	4	0	1	4	26
0	0	5	0	5	4	0	0	3	17
2	2	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	9
3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
0	0	5	5	5	4	0	0	3	22
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

5	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
0	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	6
2	3	5	0	3	0	3	0	1	17
0	0	5	0	5	4	0	0	4	18
0	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	6
0	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	5

5	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
0	3	5	0	4	4	0	0	0	16
0	1	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	8
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
0	0	2	0	0	2	5	0	0	9

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

				Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Subtotal
D. Existing Parks and Facilities: Preserves							
BP	Phase*	District	Bayport Park				
BP	ST	2	Connect sidewalk gaps within park and create continuous looped paved trail	LF	500	\$105	\$52,500
BP	ST	2	Upgrade Park Signage and include wayfinding signage for park amenities. Include blueway signage.	LS	1	\$20,000	\$20,000
BP	ST	2	Re-stripe Boat Trailer Parking	LS	1	\$2,500	\$2,500
	MT	2	Construct boardwalk from Cortez Boulevard at Bayport Historical Marker westward to existing raised boardwalk and historical marker trail. Tie into parking lot with existing kayak launch. Remove and replace existing raised boardwalk damaged during 2024 storm season. Create small fishing/ sunset viewing nodes along coastal edge with educational signage with tower viewing area at Western Point.	LS	1	\$650,000	\$650,000
BP	ST	2	Fish cleaning area	LS	1	\$15,000	\$15,000
BP	LT	2	Elevated Restroom Facility	LS	1	\$500,000	\$500,000
Subtotal:							\$1,240,000
BP							\$1,240,000
CL	Phase*	District	Cypress Lakes Preserve				
CL	MT	5	One (1) pre-fabricated restroom facility (350 SF) at Ridge Manor entrance with utility connections	LS	1	\$200,000	\$200,000
CL	ST	5	Install small wood boardwalks at low point areas prone to flooding	LF	250	\$600	\$150,000
CL	ST	5	Observation Boardwalk	LS	1	\$175,000	\$175,000
Subtotal:							\$525,000
CL							\$525,000
FH	Phase*	District	Fickett Hammock Preserve				
FH	MT	3	One (1) combined pre-fabricated restroom/picnic Shelter at entrance	LS	1	\$250,000	\$250,000
Subtotal:							\$250,000
FH							\$250,000
JC	Phase*	District	Jenkins Creek Park				
JC	ST	2	Fish cleaning area	LS	1	\$15,000	\$15,000
JC	MT	2	Boat Ramp Replacement	LS	1	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
JC	LT	2	Restroom Replacement	LS	1	\$300,000	\$300,000
Subtotal:							\$3,315,000
JC							\$3,315,000
LT	Phase*	District	Lake Townsen Preserve				
LT	ST	5	Refurbish existing playground equipment, install PIP surfacing in lieu of mulch	LS	1	\$500,000	\$500,000
LT	MT	5	Replace restroom facility. Small Family Restroom with pavilion	LS	1	\$250,000	\$250,000
LT	LT	5	Replace existing baseball field with new Nature Center. Create new entrance off of Lingie Road	LS	1	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
LT	ST	5	Resurface existing basketball courts and new nets/posts, Remove Volleyball Court	LS	1	\$35,000	\$35,000
LT	ST	5	Internal Wayfinding signage	LS	1	\$20,000	\$20,000
LT	ST	5	Boat Ramp Improvements (Grant Match)	LS	1	\$750,000	\$750,000
LT	MT	5	Dog Park	LS	1	\$125,000	\$125,000
LT	ST	5	Fishing Pier Replacement	LS	1	\$500,000	\$500,000
Subtotal:							\$4,680,000
LT							\$4,680,000
LP	Phase*	District	Linda Pedersen Park				
LP	MT	2	Boardwalk extension from existing improvement area to Spring with picnic pavilions and gathering space	LS	1	\$150,000	\$150,000
LP	MT	2	Renovate detached restroom facility	SF	900	\$300	\$270,000
LP	MT	2	Playground replacement with PIP surface and ADA access	LS	1	\$450,000	\$450,000
LP	ST	2	Trailhead Kiosk and unpaved trail to State Managed Lands	LS	1	\$20,000	\$20,000
LP	ST	2	Paved Walking Trail with one pedestrian bridge crossing	LF	5000	\$35	\$175,000
LP	LT	2	Fifteen (15) Campsite locations with electrical/ water hookups, resurface existing road	LS	1	\$200,000	\$200,000
LP	ST	2	Construct New Dog Park and Paved Parking adjacent to Shoal Line Blvd	LS	1	\$300,000	\$300,000
LP	ST	2	Remove existing Parking Lot at SE corner and install three (3) 15x30 pavilions with tables	LS	1	\$225,000	\$225,000
Subtotal:							\$1,790,000
LP							\$1,790,000
PC	Phase*	District	Peck Sink Preserve				
PC	ST	5	Unpaved looped trail	LF	4500	\$25	\$112,500
PC	ST	5	Educational Signage	LS	1	\$15,000	\$15,000
Subtotal:							\$127,500
PC							\$127,500
D. Existing Parks and Facilities: Preserves							Subtotal
							\$11,927,500

By Phasing (unfunded)				Short-Term	\$3,082,500	25.8%
				Medium-Term	\$5,345,000	44.8%
				Long-Term	\$3,500,000	29.3%
Existing Parks and Facilities:				Total	\$11,911,000	
By Phasing (unfunded)				Short-Term	\$9,712,250	8.7%
				Medium-Term	\$13,498,750	12.1%
				Long-Term	\$88,700,000	79.3%
Council Districts				1	\$1,080,000	1.0%
				2	\$8,613,750	7.7%
				3	\$2,430,000	2.2%
				4	\$50,430,000	45.1%
				5	\$49,357,250	44.1%

			Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Subtotal
F. New Parks and Facilities						
NP	Typical Future Neighborhood Park Cost Estimate					
NP	Park Improvements					
NP		Picnic shelter	EA	1	\$35,000	\$35,000
NP		Playground w/ EWF surface	EA	1	\$350,000	\$350,000
NP		Sport court, lighted	LS	1	\$100,000	\$100,000
NP		Landscape & Irrigation	LS	1	\$250,000	\$250,000
NP		Sidewalk and access points	LS	1	\$35,000	\$35,000
NP		Site furnishings	LS	1	\$50,000	\$50,000
NP		Wayfinding and Signage	LS	1	\$15,000	\$15,000
NP		Site Prep and Utilities	LS	1	\$200,000	\$200,000
NP		Planning, Design and Permitting	LS	1	\$10,000	\$10,000
NP		Subtotal:				\$1,045,000
NP	Acquisition					
NP		3-20 acres, each	LS	1	\$300,000	\$300,000
NP		Subtotal:				\$300,000

Prototypical Neighborhood Park **\$1,345,000**

NP	Phase*	District	Future Neighborhood Parks			
NP	ST	1	Neighborhood Park #1	LS	1	\$1,345,000
NP	ST	1	Neighborhood Park #2	LS	1	\$1,345,000
NP	MT	2	Neighborhood Park #3	LS	1	\$1,345,000
NP	MT	4	Neighborhood Park #4	LS	1	\$1,345,000
NP	MT	3	Neighborhood Park #5	LS	1	\$1,345,000
NP	LT	5	Neighborhood Park #6	LS	1	\$1,345,000
Proposed Neighborhood Parks						\$8,070,000

2	3	5	0	5	0	0	1	0	16
2	3	5	0	5	0	0	1	0	16
2	3	5	0	5	0	0	1	0	16
2	3	5	0	5	0	0	1	0	16
2	3	5	0	5	0	0	1	0	16
2	3	5	0	5	0	0	1	0	16

CP	Typical Future Community Park Cost Estimate					
CP	Park Improvements					
CP		Picnic shelter	EA	2	\$35,000	\$70,000
CP		Playground w/ PIP surface	EA	1	\$450,000	\$450,000
CP		Sport court, lighted	LS	2	\$100,000	\$200,000
CP		Athletic Field - Multipurpose with back stop	EA	1	\$500,000	\$500,000
CP		Parking	LS	1	\$250,000	\$250,000
CP		Restrooms	SF	500	\$450	\$225,000
CP		Fitness court/stations	LS	1	\$175,000	\$175,000
CP		Landscape & Irrigation	LS	1	\$500,000	\$500,000
CP		Sidewalk and access points	LS	1	\$250,000	\$250,000
CP		Site furnishings	LS	1	\$50,000	\$50,000
CP		Wayfinding and Signage	LS	1	\$25,000	\$25,000
CP		Site Prep and Utilities	LS	1	\$450,000	\$450,000
CP		Planning, Design and Permitting	LS	1	\$300,000	\$300,000
CP		Subtotal:				\$3,445,000
CP	Acquisition					
CP		20-40 acres, each	LS	1	\$500,000	\$500,000
CP		Subtotal:				\$500,000

Prototypical Community Park **\$3,945,000**

CP	Phase*	District	Future Community Parks			
CP	ST	3	Community Park #1	LS	1	\$3,945,000
CP	MT	1	Community Park #2	LS	1	\$3,945,000
CP	LT	5	Community Park #3	LS	1	\$3,945,000
CP	LT	4	Community Park #4	LS	1	\$3,945,000
Proposed Community Parks						\$15,780,000

2	3	5	0	5	2	0	1	0	18
2	3	5	0	5	2	0	1	0	18
2	3	5	0	5	2	0	1	0	18
2	3	5	0	5	2	0	1	0	18

DP	Typical Future District Park Cost Estimate					
DP	Park Improvements					
DP		Picnic shelter (20 x 20)	EA	6	\$100,000	\$600,000
DP		Playground w/ PIP surface	EA	1	\$500,000	\$500,000
DP		Sport court, lighted	EA	6	\$100,000	\$600,000
DP		Athletic Field	EA	6	\$375,000	\$2,250,000
DP		Parking	LS	1	\$950,000	\$950,000
DP		Restroom & Concession	SF	1000	\$450	\$450,000
DP		Softball and baseball fields	EA	6	\$300,000	\$1,800,000
DP		Fitness court/stations	LS	1	\$175,000	\$175,000
DP		Landscape & Irrigation	LS	1	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
DP		Sidewalk and access points	LS	1	\$700,000	\$700,000
DP		Site furnishings	LS	1	\$200,000	\$200,000
DP		Wayfinding and Signage	LS	1	\$50,000	\$50,000
DP		Site Prep and Utilities	LS	1	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000
DP		Planning, Design and Permitting	LS	1	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
DP		Site and Field Lighting	LS	1	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
DP		Large Pavilion	LS	1	\$250,000	\$250,000
DP		Subtotal:				\$21,025,000
DP	Acquisition					
DP		40 acres or more, each	LS	1	\$800,000	\$800,000
DP		Subtotal:				\$800,000

Prototypical District Park **\$21,825,000**

DP	Phase*	District	Future District Parks			
DP	LT	4	District Park #1	LS	1	\$21,825,000
DP	LT	3	District Park #2	LS	1	\$21,825,000
Proposed District Parks						\$43,650,000

3	3	5	2	5	4	0	2	4	28
3	3	5	2	5	4	0	2	4	28

DP	Phase*	District	Future Preserve Acquisition			
DP	LT	5	Future Preserve Acquisition (200-300 ac)	LS	1	\$9,000,000
DP	MT	3	Future Preserve Acquisition (200-300 ac)	LS	1	\$9,000,000
DP	LT	5	Planning and Phase 1 Design and Construction for Future Preserve	LS	1	\$1,500,000
DP	MT	3	Planning and Phase 1 Design and Construction for Future Preserve	LS	1	\$1,500,000
Proposed District Parks						\$21,000,000

2	3	5	0	5	1	0	0	3	19
2	3	5	0	5	1	0	0	3	19
2	3	5	0	5	1	0	0	3	19
2	3	5	0	5	1	0	0	3	19

F. New Parks and Facilities		Subtotal	\$88,500,000	
By Phasing	Short-Term	\$6,635,000	7.5%	
	Medium-Term	\$18,480,000	20.9%	
	Long-Term	\$63,385,000	71.6%	
Acquisitions		\$23,400,000	26.4%	
Proposed Park Development		\$65,100,000	73.6%	
Commission Districts	1	\$6,635,000	7.5%	
	2	\$1,345,000	1.5%	
	3	\$37,615,000	42.5%	
	4	\$27,115,000	30.6%	
	5	\$15,790,000	17.8%	
PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECTS TOTAL		TOTAL	\$200,411,000	
By Phasing	Short-Term	\$16,347,250	8.2%	
	Medium-Term	\$31,978,750	16.0%	
	Long-Term	\$152,085,000	75.9%	
Commission Districts	1	\$7,715,000	3.8%	
	2	\$9,958,750	5.0%	
	3	\$40,045,000	20.0%	
	4	\$77,545,000	38.7%	
	5	\$65,147,250	32.5%	

Short-Term (1-5 Years) Project Prioritization Rankings

Priority #	Location/Project	Cost	Score
Future District Parks			
1	District Park #2	\$21,825,000	28
2	District Park #1	\$21,825,000	28
Nobleton Wayside Park			
3	Upgrade existing boat ramp, add blueway signage, add kayak/canoe washdown	\$350,000	24
Pioneer Park Skate Complex			
4	Renovation and Expansion of Existing Skate Park	\$475,000	21
Lake Townsen Preserve			
5	Boat Ramp Improvements (Grant Match)	\$750,000	20
Future Preserve Acquisition			
6	Future Preserve Acquisition (200-300 ac)	\$9,000,000	19
7	Future Preserve Acquisition (200-300 ac)	\$9,000,000	19
8	Planning and Phase 1 Design and Construction for Future Preserve	\$1,500,000	19
9	Planning and Phase 1 Design and Construction for Future Preserve	\$1,500,000	19
Future Community Parks			
10	Community Park #1	\$3,945,000	18
11	Community Park #3	\$3,945,000	18
12	Community Park #2	\$3,945,000	18
13	Community Park #4	\$3,945,000	18
Ernie Wever Youth Park			
14	Removal of existing lighting at Soccer Fields. Install new lighting to maximize field layout	\$200,000	17
Coach Lorenzo Hamilton Sr. Park			
15	Extension of Kennedy Boulevard to Emerson Road and creation of new primary park entrance. Add new surface parking lot adjacent to Emerson Road	\$1,400,000	16
Future Neighborhood Parks			
16	Neighborhood Park #5	\$1,345,000	16
17	Neighborhood Park #6	\$1,345,000	16
18	Neighborhood Park #1	\$1,345,000	16
19	Neighborhood Park #4	\$1,345,000	16
20	Neighborhood Park #3	\$1,345,000	16

Medium-Term (6-10 Years) Project Prioritization Rankings

Priority #	Location/Project	Cost	Score
Anderson Snow Sports Complex			
1	Completion of remaining Park Master Plan Projects: additional fields, softball complex, parking, and utilities	\$1,050,000	26
Future Preserve Acquisition			
2	Future Preserve Acquisition (200-300 ac)	\$9,000,000	19
3	Planning and Phase 1 Design and Construction for Future Preserve	\$1,500,000	19
Coach Lorenzo Hamilton Sr. Park			
4	Renovate and upgrade existing Community Center	\$300	18
Future Community Parks			
5	Community Park #2	\$3,945,000	18
Bayport Park			
6	Construct boardwalk from Cortez Boulevard at Bayport Historical Marker westward to existing raised boardwalk area and historical marker trail. Tie into parking lot with existing kayak launch. Remove and replace existing raised boardwalk that was damaged during 2024 storm season. Create small fishing/ sunset viewing nodes along coastal edge with educational signage with tower viewing area at Western Point.	\$650,000	17
Ridge Manor Community Park			
7	Install two (2) new softball/ baseball fields in the South side of the park	\$300,000	16
Future Neighborhood Parks			
8	Neighborhood Park #5	\$1,345,000	16
9	Neighborhood Park #4	\$1,345,000	16
10	Neighborhood Park #3	\$1,345,000	16
Linda Pedersen Park			
11	Boardwalk extension from existing improvement area to Spring with picnic pavilions and gathering space	\$150,000	15
Jenkins Creek Park			
12	Boat Ramp Replacement	\$3,000,000	15
Coach Lorenzo Hamilton Sr. Park			
13	Paved Walking Trail Loop and upgrade surface storm drainage	\$105	14
Veterans Memorial Park			
14	Replace fitness nodes with new equipment. Resurface with PIP	\$200,000	13
Nobleton Wayside Park			
15	Removal of Existing half-court basketball and three (3) small pavilions. Replace with boat trailer parking and resurface looped entry drive	\$200,000	13
Delta Woods Park			
16	Remove Bocce Courts and Shuffleboard Courts. Install four (4) new Pickleball Courts with cover	\$225,000	13
Lonnie C. Coburn Park			
17	Renovate existing Pavilion & Restroom Facilities	\$300	12
Coach Lorenzo Hamilton Sr. Park			
18	Removal of existing Picnic Pavilions and add five (5) new pavilions	\$200,000	12
Delta Woods Park			
19	Expand playground area footprint with kid's ropes course and install shade canopy. Reconfigure sidewalks for access from parking lot and bathrooms	\$120,000	11
Nobleton Wayside Park			
20	Sidewalk/ ADA improvements from parking lot to playground/ volleyball & restroom area, install benches and trash receptacles	\$30,000	11

Long-Term (10+ Years) Project Prioritization Rankings

Priority #	Location/Project	Cost	Score
Future District Parks			
1	District Park #2	\$21,825,000	28
2	District Park #1	\$21,825,000	28
Lake Townsen Preserve			
3	Replace existing baseball field with new Nature Center. Create new entrance off of Lingle Road	\$2,500,000	24
Anderson Snow Sports Complex			
4	Indoor Aquatic Facility	\$35,000,000	22
Future Preserve Acquisition			
5	Future Preserve Acquisition (200-300 ac)	\$9,000,000	19
6	Planning and Phase 1 Design and Construction for Future Preserve	\$1,500,000	19
Nobleton Wayside Park			
7	County acquires existing residential property and expands waterfront access to Withlacoochee River with kayak launch	\$850,000	19
Ernie Wever Youth Park			
8	Recreation Center and Outdoor Aquatic Facility	\$35,000,000	18
Future Community Parks			
9	Community Park #3	\$3,945,000	18
10	Community Park #4	\$3,945,000	18
Anderson Snow Sports Complex			
11	Indoor Recreational Facility	\$2,600,000	17
Future Neighborhood Parks			
12	Neighborhood Park #6	\$1,345,000	16
Alfred Mckethan Pine Island Park			
13	Elevate and Harden Concession Building & Restroom Facility	\$900,000	14
Rogers Park			
14	Create new vehicular entrance along Shoal Line Boulevard, expand parking limits to allow for 90 degree parking on both sides. Move boat trailer parking away from playground edge and into center parking bay. Install trees in parking lot	\$650,000	12
Bayport Park			
15	Elevated Restroom Facility	\$500,000	11
Linda Pedersen Park			
16	Fifteen (15) Campsite locations with electrical/ water hookups, resurface existing road	\$200,000	10
Veterans Memorial Park			
17	Reconfigure existing parking lot, create safe pedestrian connections into park	\$200,000	10
Jenkins Creek Park			
18	Restroom Replacement	\$300,000	9