



# Huerfano County Community Survey

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April 7<sup>th</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022



# Methodology



Hello! Huerfano County invites you to participate in an important community survey regarding local issues and the quality of county services and programs.

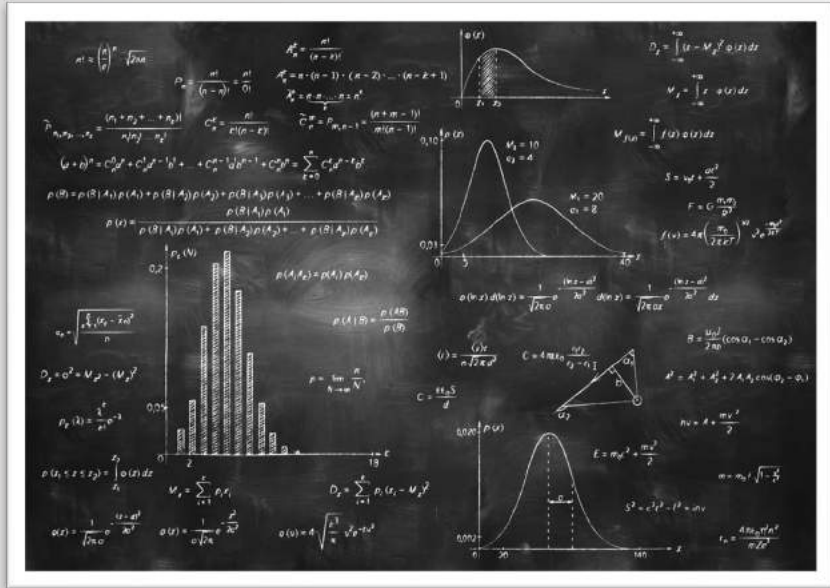
Your responses will have a direct impact on decisions affecting your community now and in the future. Make your voice heard by sharing your thoughts and opinions. The survey will take just 15 minutes to complete, and your answers will remain strictly confidential. [link]  
REPLY STOP TO OPT OUT

Magellan Strategies is pleased to present the results of an online survey of 515 residents in Huerfano County, Colorado. The survey data was collected using MMS text messaging. The interviews were conducted from April 7<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The overall survey responses have a margin of error of +/- 4.15% at the 95% confidence interval. Population subgroups will have a higher margin of error than the overall sample.

The survey results were weighted to be representative of the adult population demographics for Huerfano County.

# Survey Objectives



The objectives of this community survey were to measure and understand Huerfano County residents' thoughts and opinions of county services, programs, priorities, and quality of life aspects.

The survey established opinion benchmarks of the performance of county services and amenities and gathered resident input about the most important issues facing Huerfano County.



# Quality of Life Questions



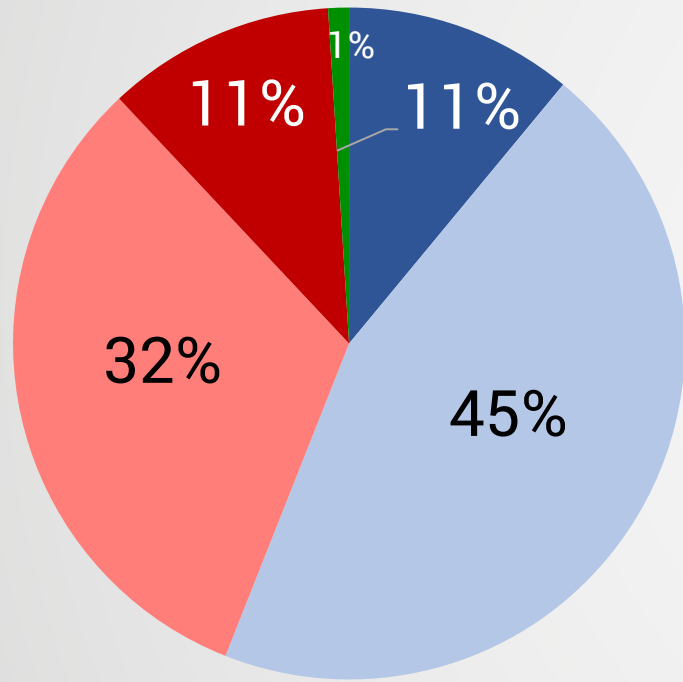
Please rate the following aspects of life in Huerfano County:

- Huerfano County as a place to live
- Your neighborhood as a place to live
- Huerfano County as a place to raise children
- Huerfano County as a place to retire
- Overall quality of life in Huerfano County

Then, you will be asked to rate several characteristics as they relate to Huerfano County as a whole.

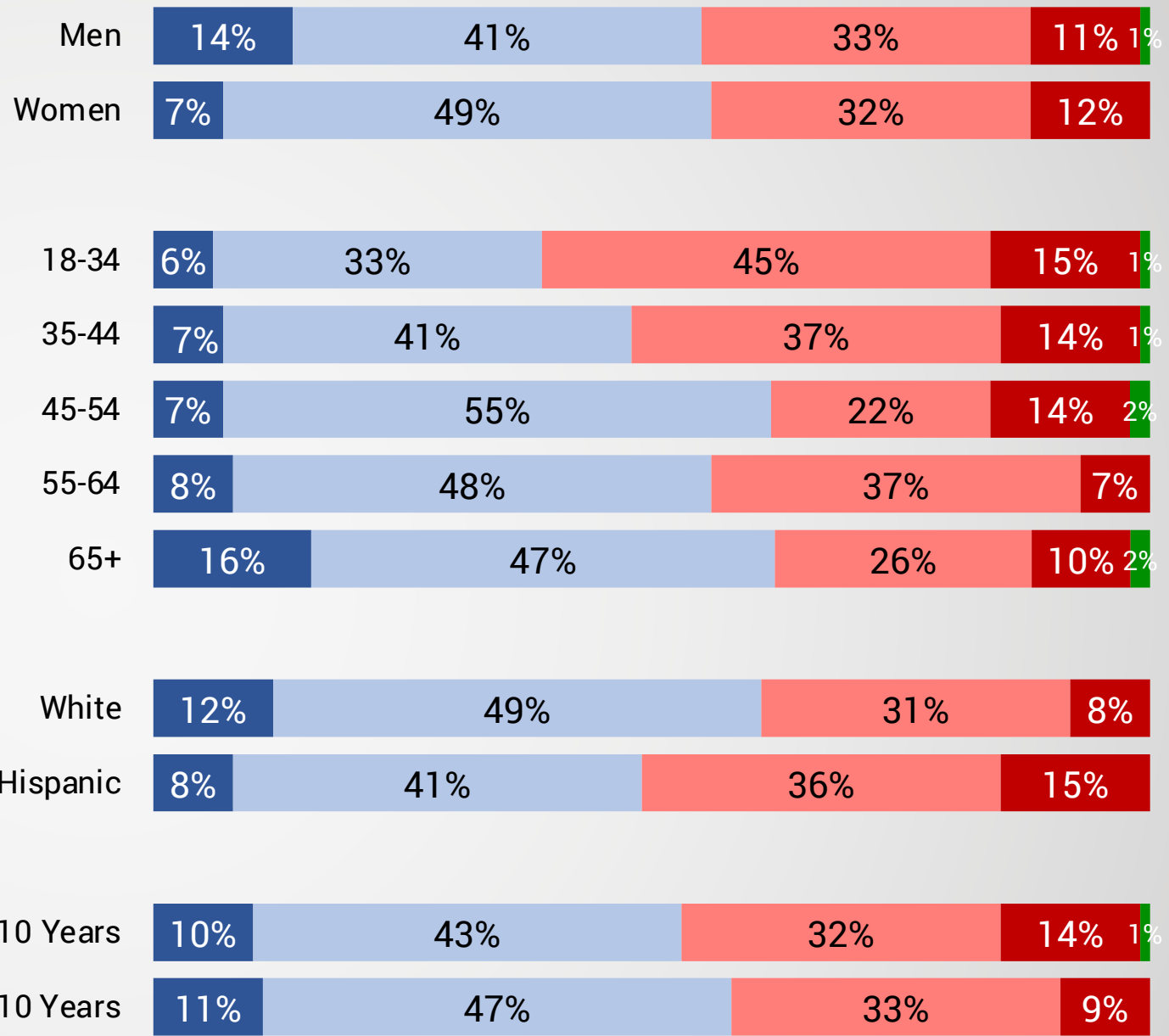
# Please rate the following aspects of life in Huerfano County.

## Huerfano County as a Place to Live



■ Excellent    ■ Good    ■ Fair  
■ Poor    ■ No Opinion

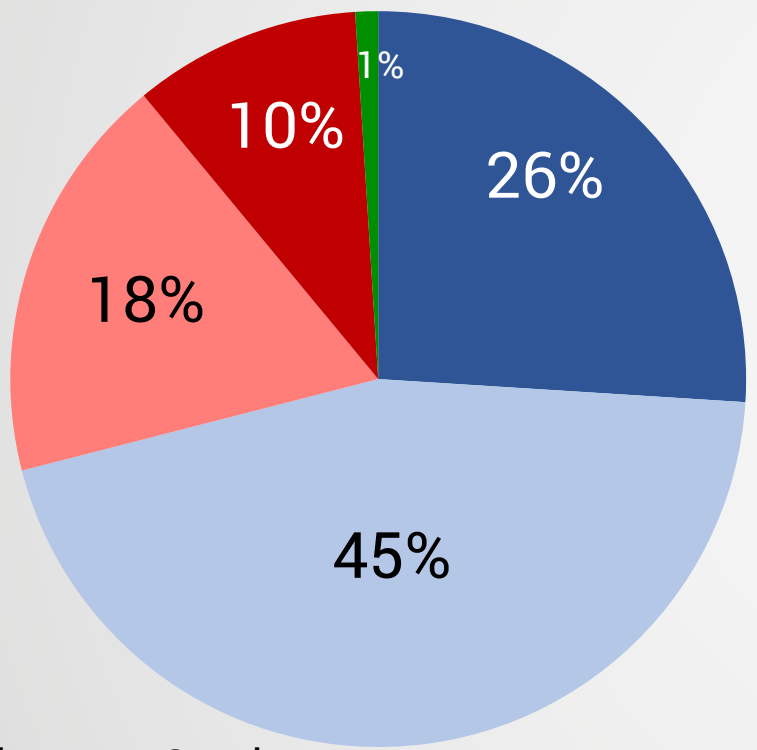
Excellent & Good Combined	56%
Fair & Poor Combined	43%



■ Excellent    ■ Good    ■ Fair    ■ Poor    ■ No Opinion

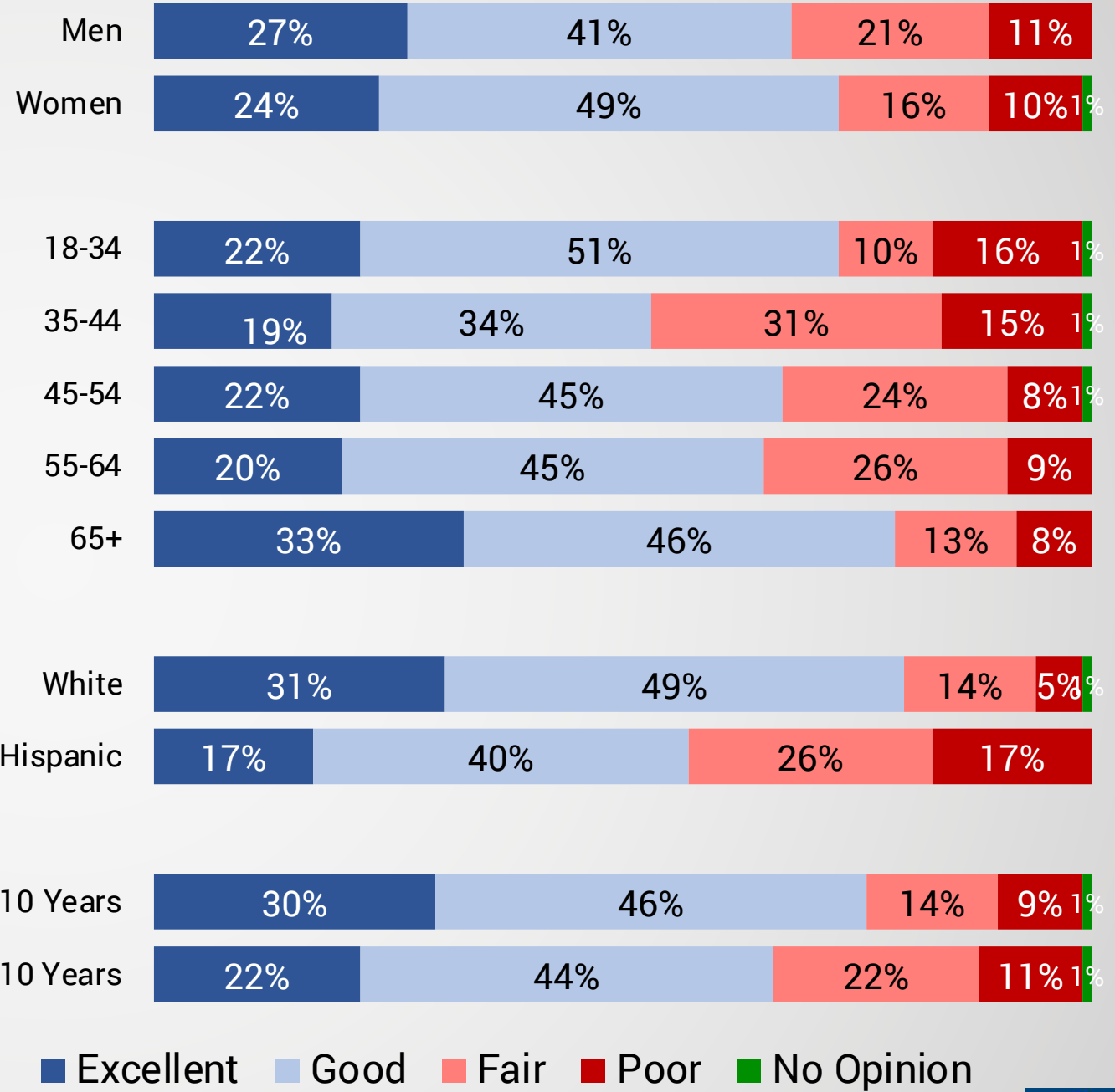
# Please rate the following aspects of life in Huerfano County.

## Your Neighborhood as a Place to Live



■ Excellent    ■ Good  
■ Fair        ■ Poor  
■ No Opinion

Excellent & Good Combined	71%
Fair & Poor Combined	28%

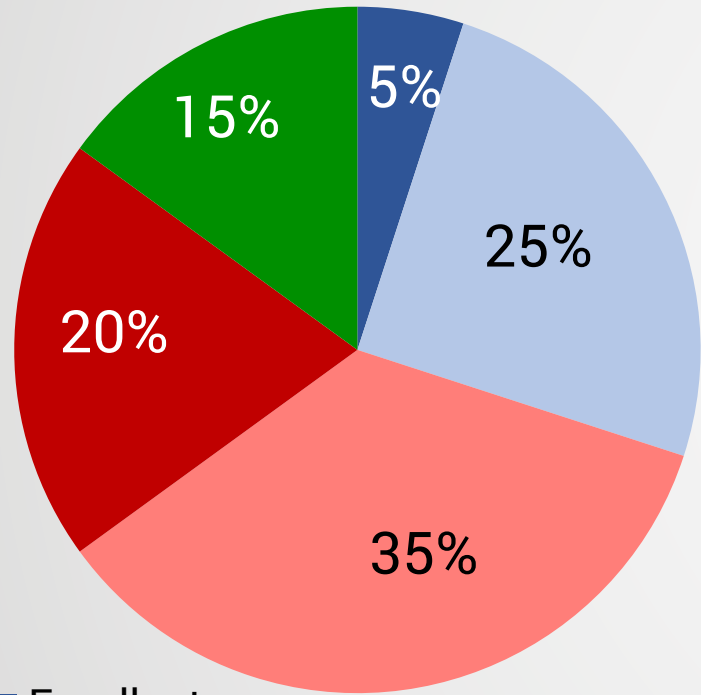


■ Excellent    ■ Good    ■ Fair    ■ Poor    ■ No Opinion



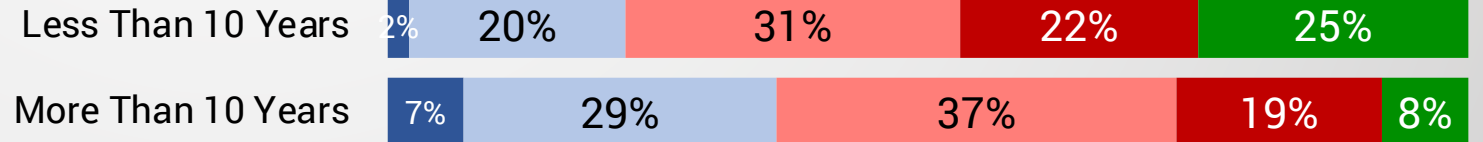
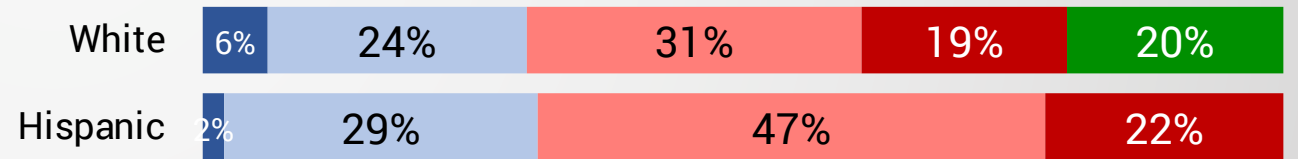
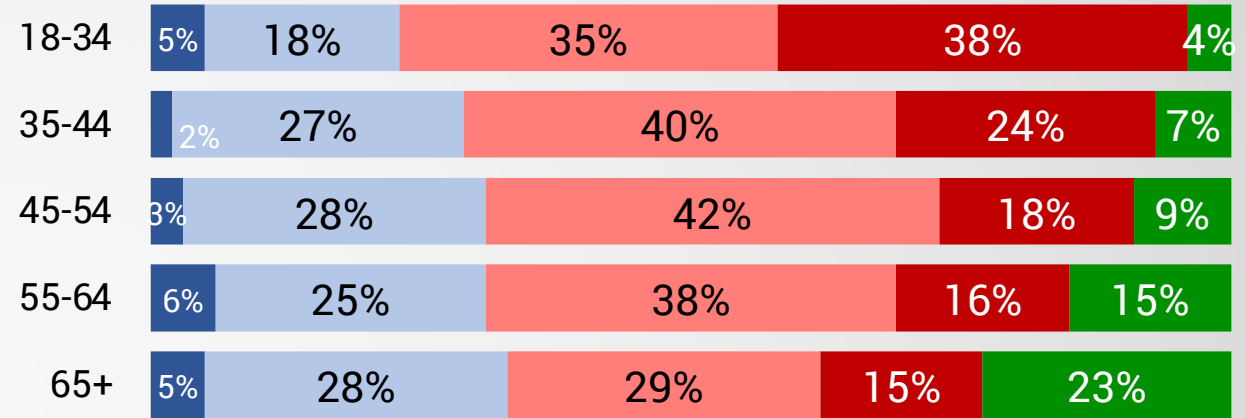
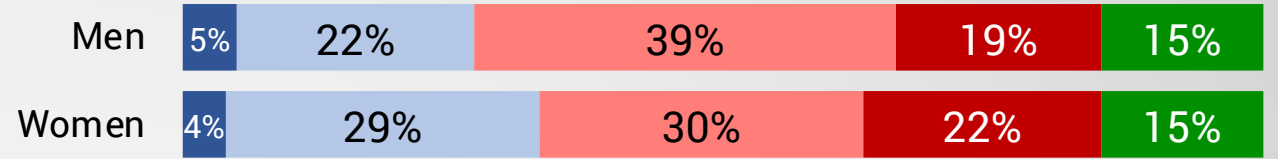
# Please rate the following aspects of life in Huerfano County.

## Huerfano County as a Place to Raise Children



- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- No Opinion

Excellent & Good Combined	30%
Fair & Poor Combined	55%

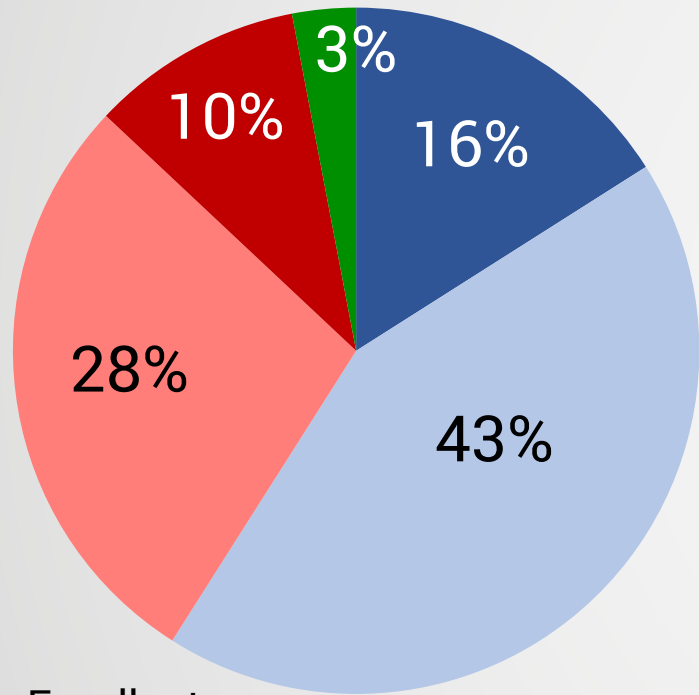


■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ No Opinion



# Please rate the following aspects of life in Huerfano County.

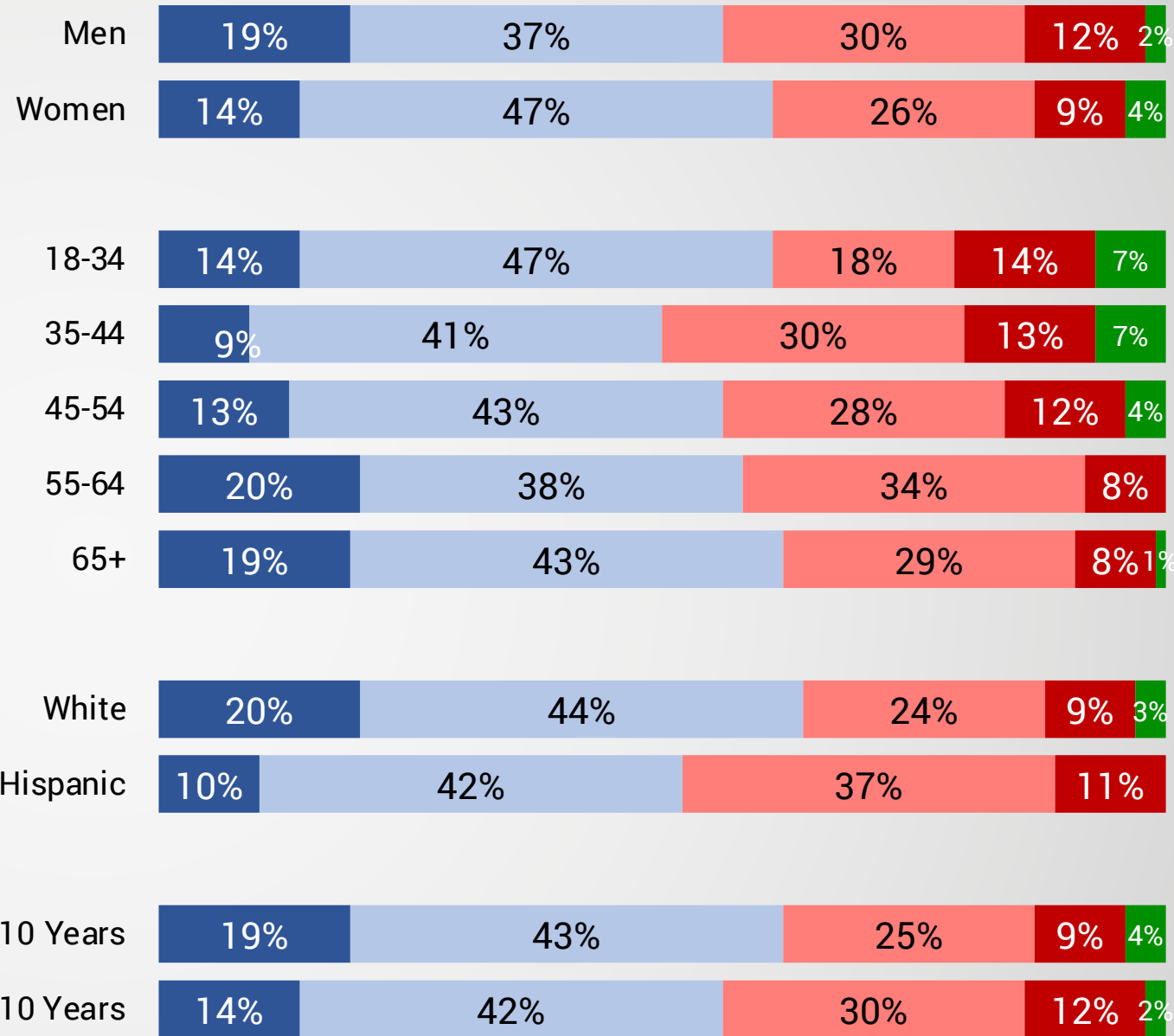
## Huerfano County as a Place to Retire



■ Excellent  
■ Good  
■ Fair  
■ Poor  
■ No Opinion

Excellent & Good Combined	59%
Fair & Poor Combined	38%

Less Than 10 Years  
 More Than 10 Years



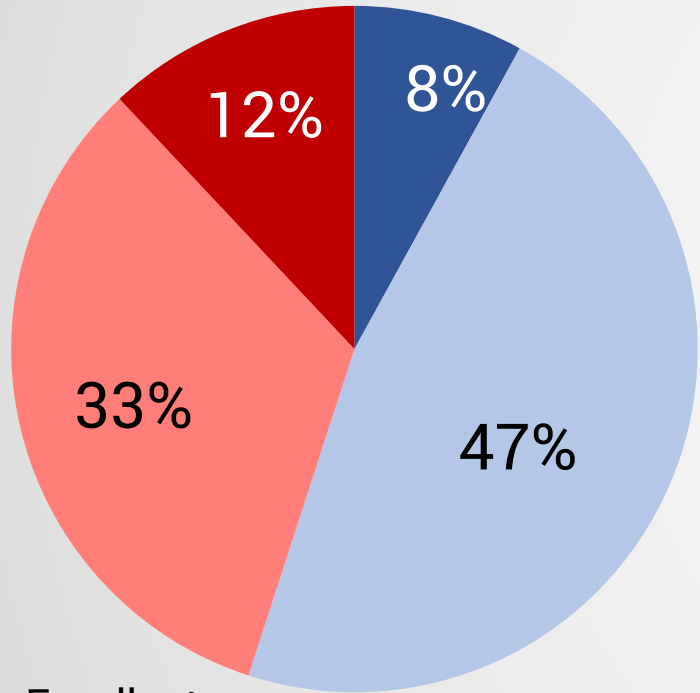
■ Excellent  
 ■ Good  
 ■ Fair  
 ■ Poor  
 ■ No Opinion





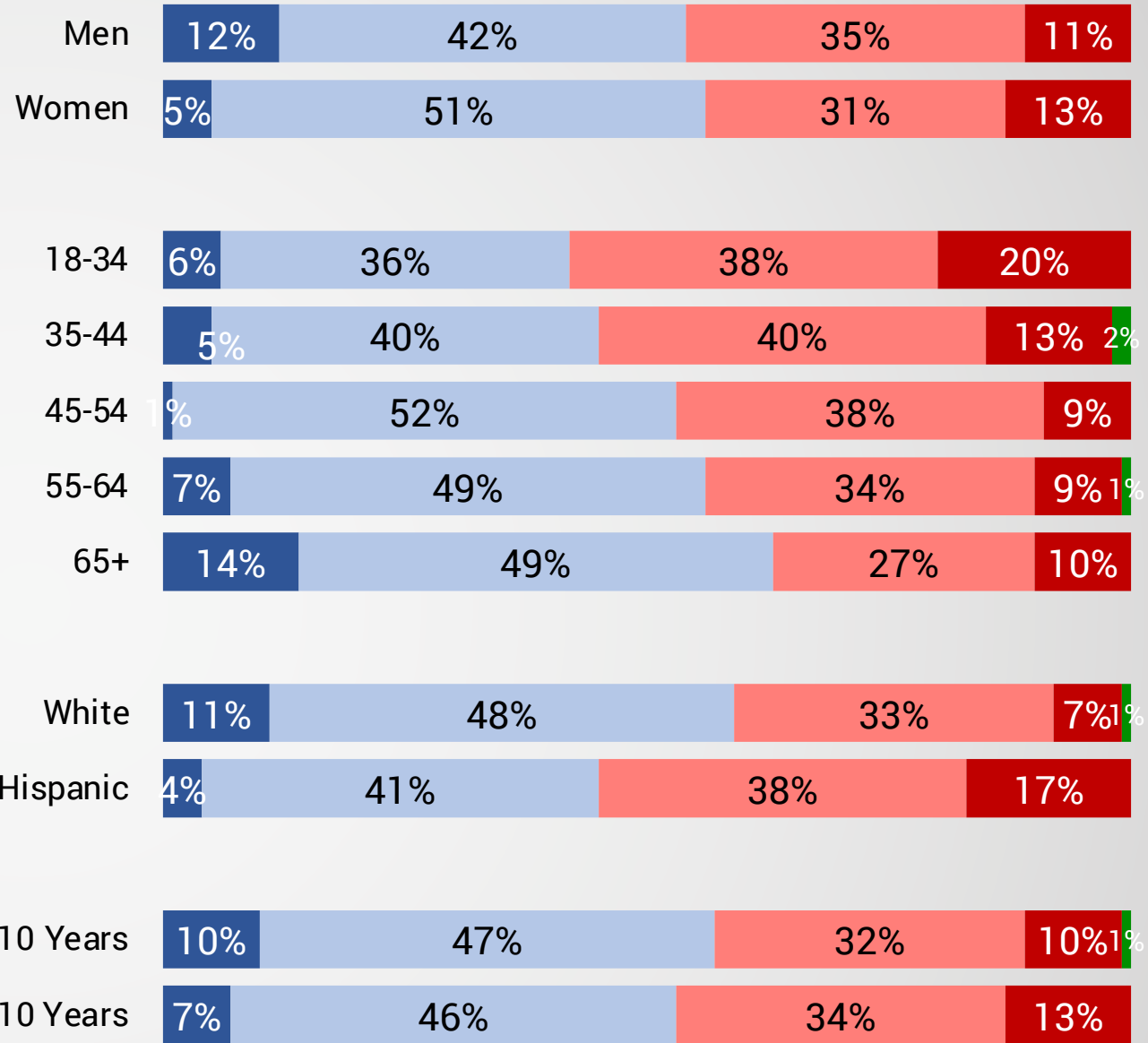
# Please rate the following aspects of life in Huerfano County.

## Overall Quality of Life in Huerfano County



- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- No Opinion

Excellent & Good Combined	55%
Fair & Poor Combined	45%

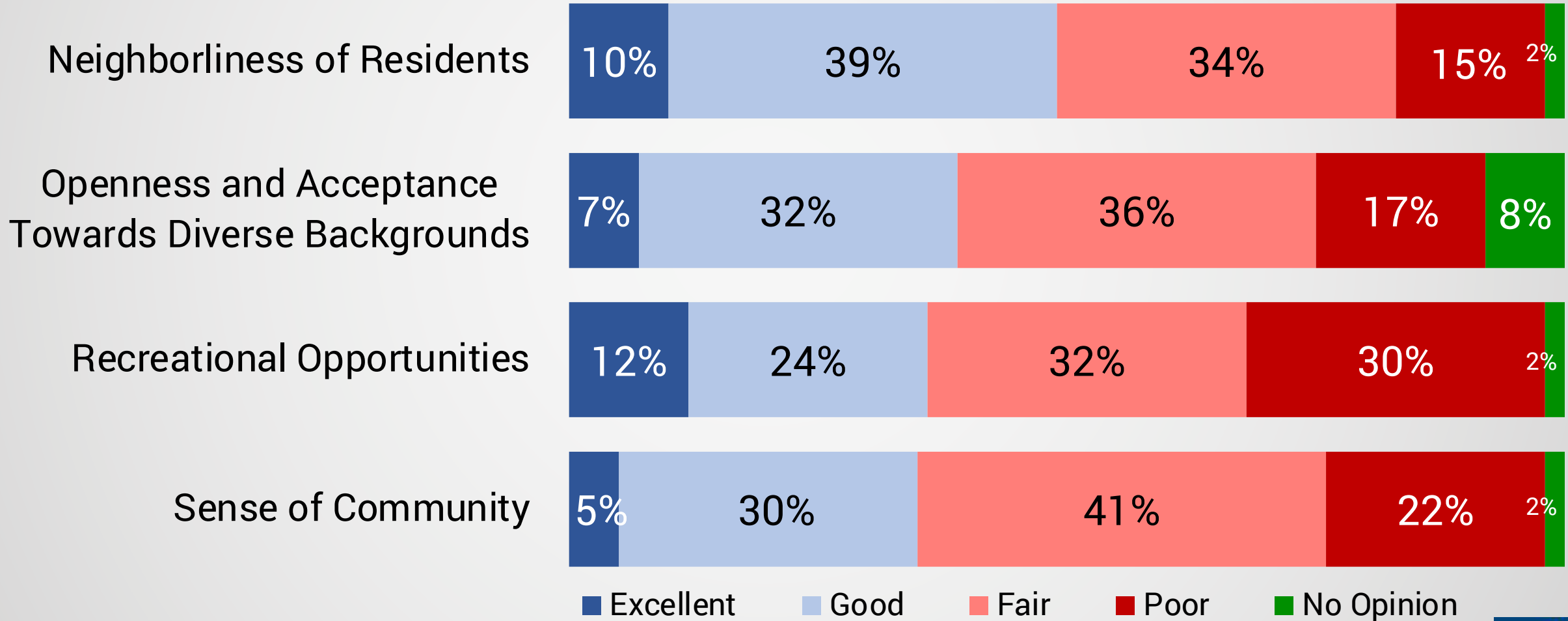


■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ No Opinion



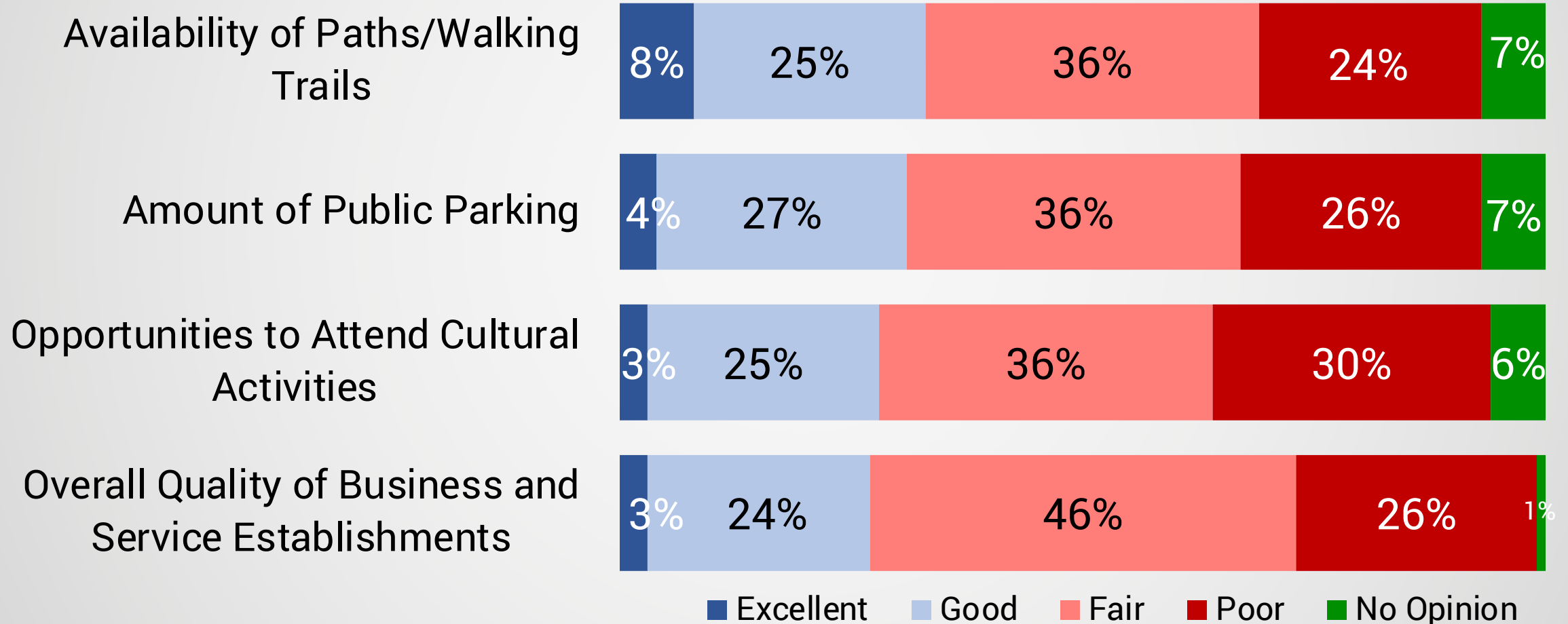
# Quality of Life Questions

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



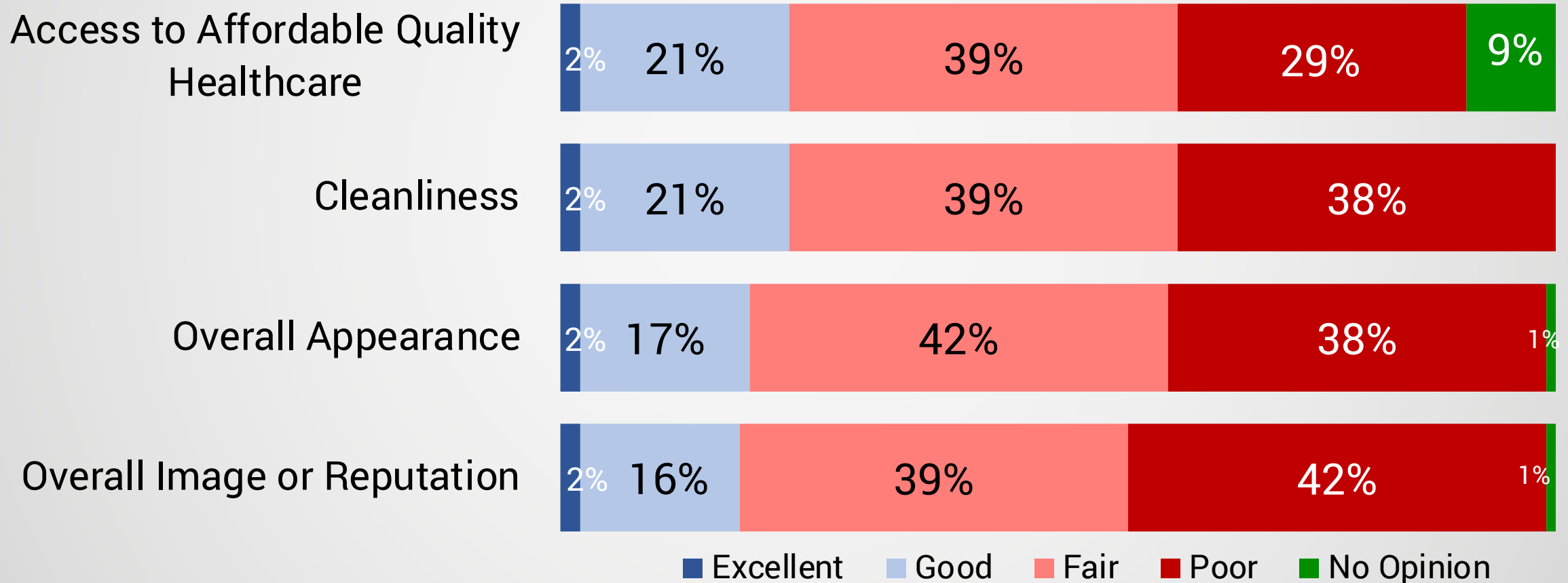
# Quality of Life Questions

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



# Quality of Life Questions

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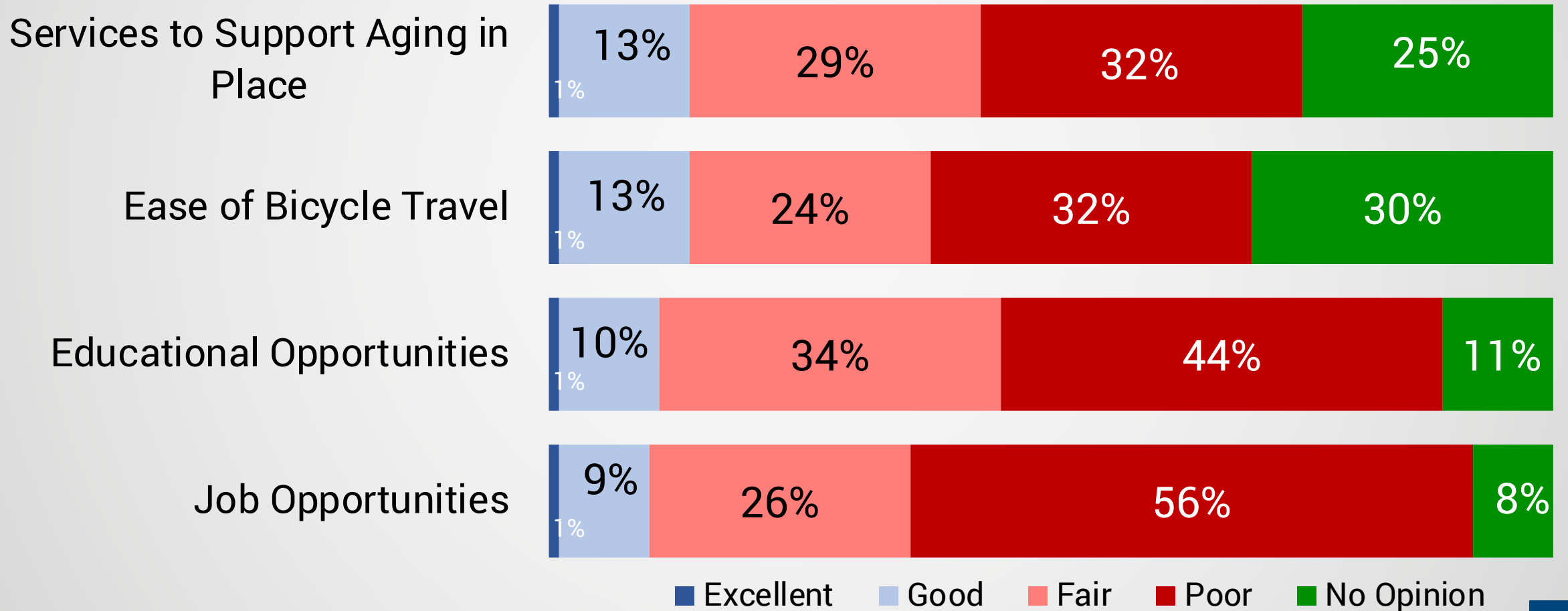
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ No Opinion





# Quality of Life Questions

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

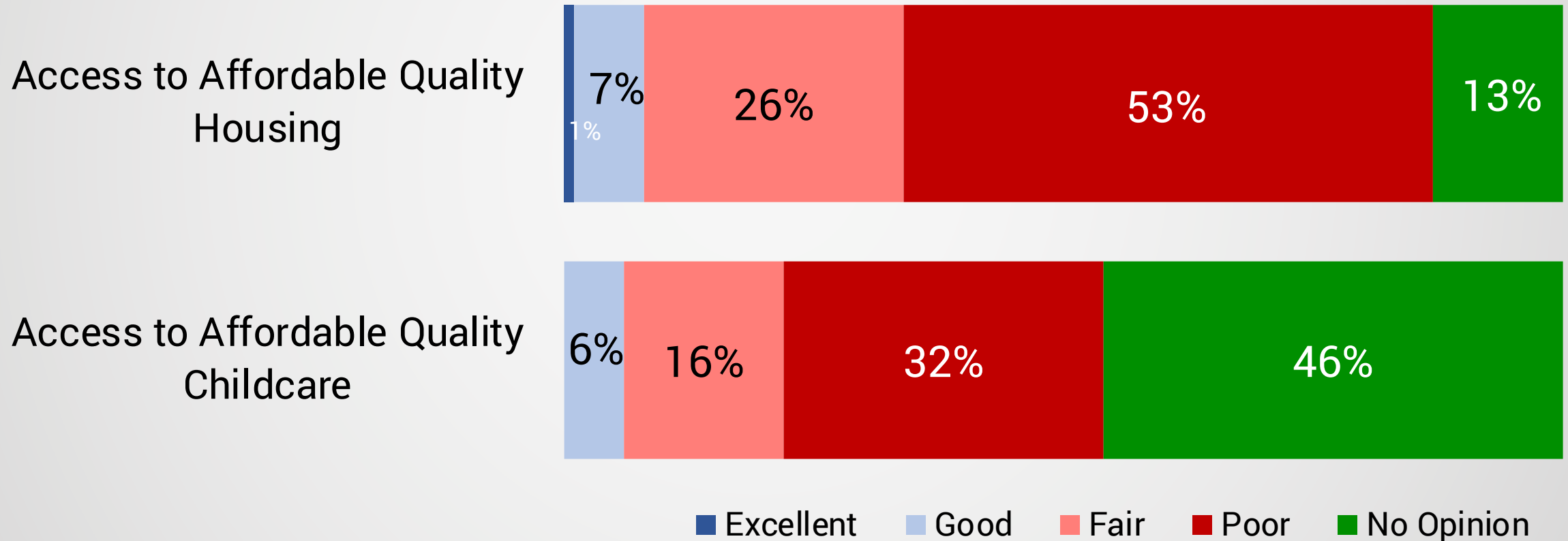


■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ No Opinion



# Quality of Life Questions

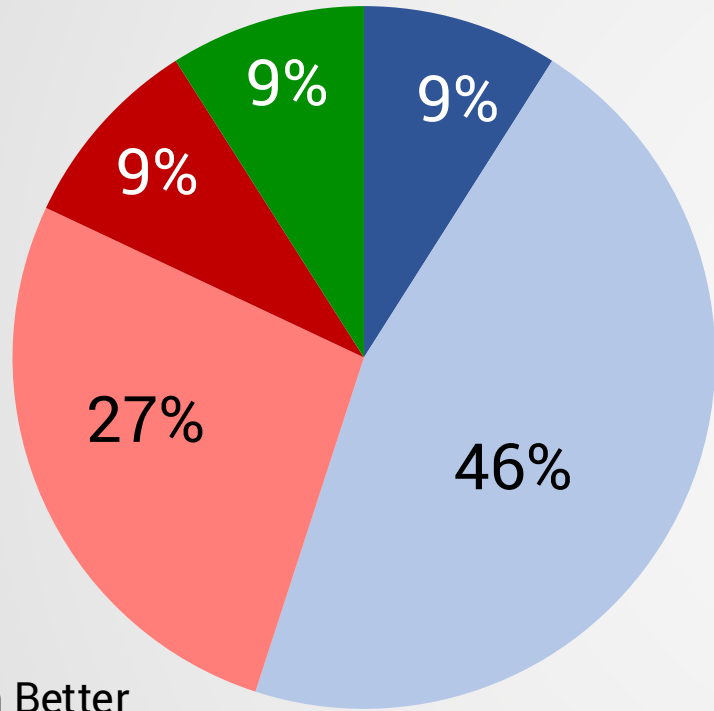
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Huerfano County as a whole.



■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ No Opinion

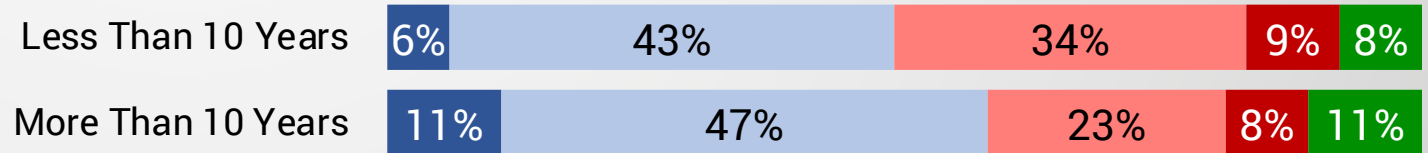
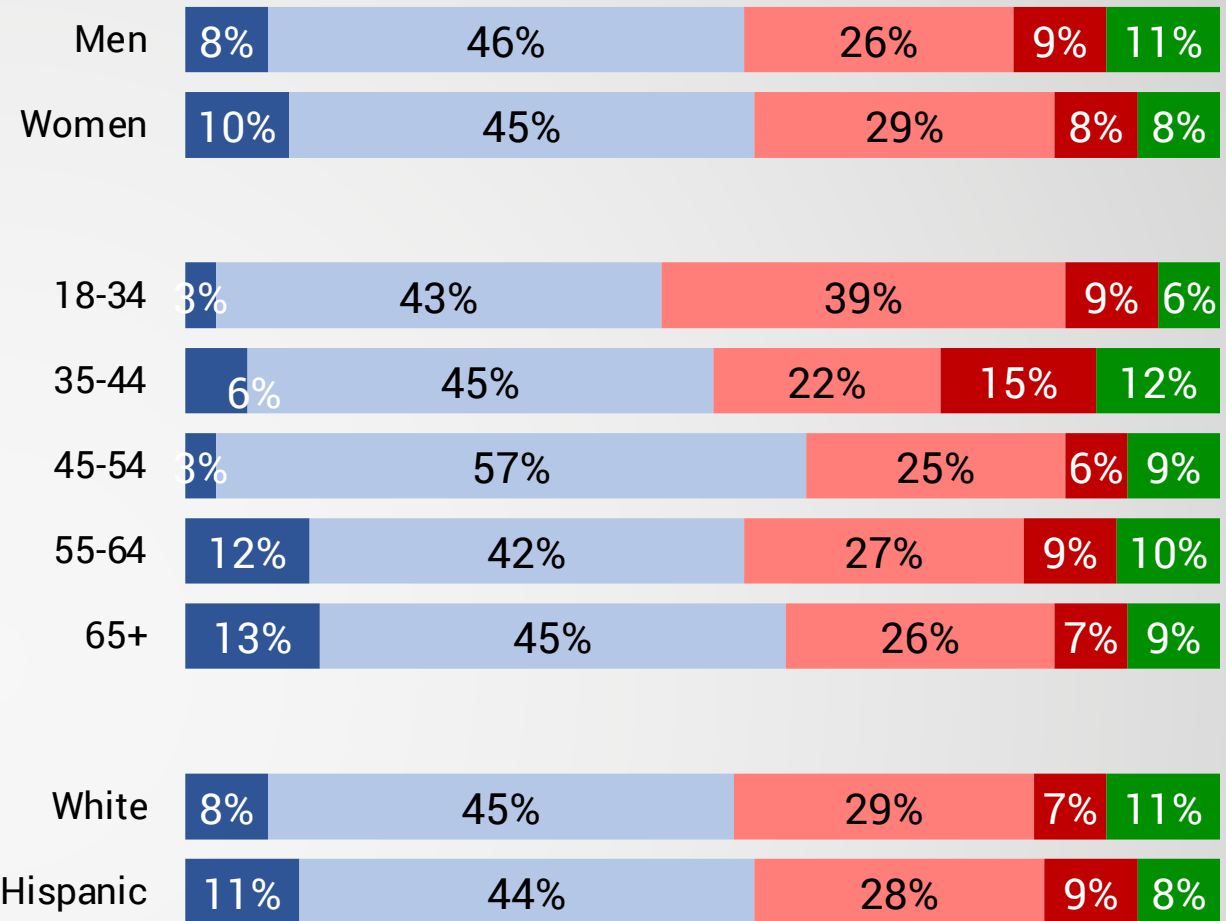


# Compared to other counties in Colorado, how would you rate Huerfano County as a place to live?



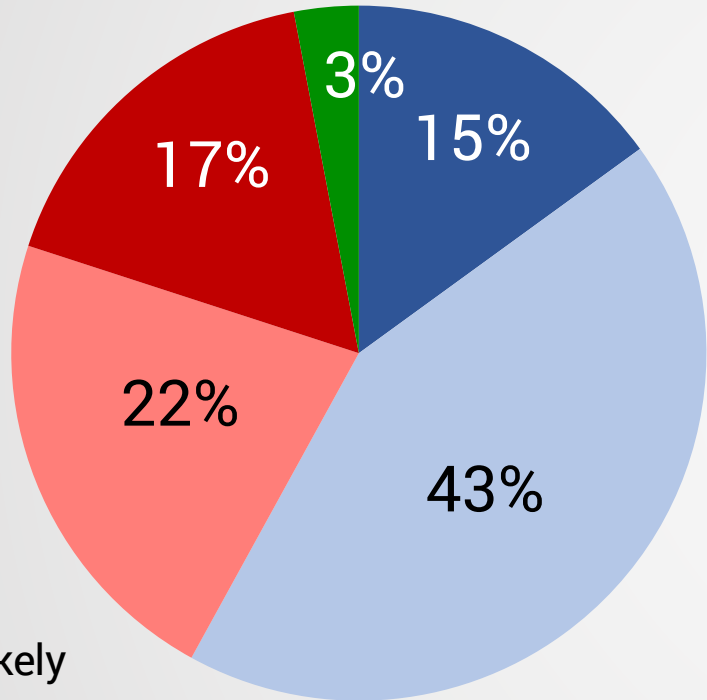
- Much Better
- Somewhat Better
- Somewhat Worse
- Much Worse
- No Opinion

Better Place Combined	55%
Worse Place Combined	36%



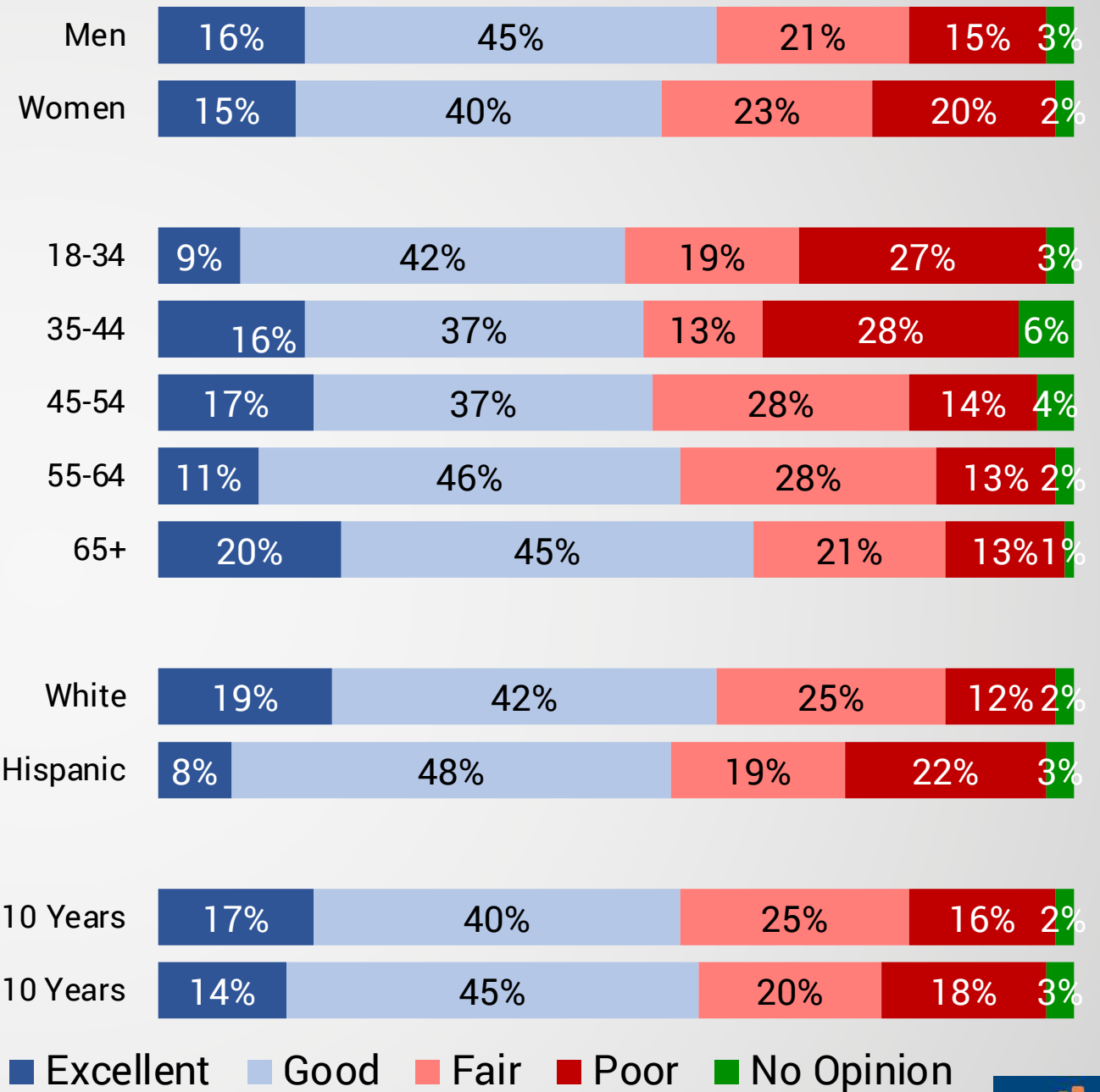
- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- No Opinion

Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.  
**Recommend Living in Huerfano County to Someone Who Asks**



- Very Likely
- Somewhat Likely
- Somewhat Unlikely
- Very Unlikely
- No Opinion

Very & Somewhat Likely	58%
Very & Somewhat Unlikely	39%

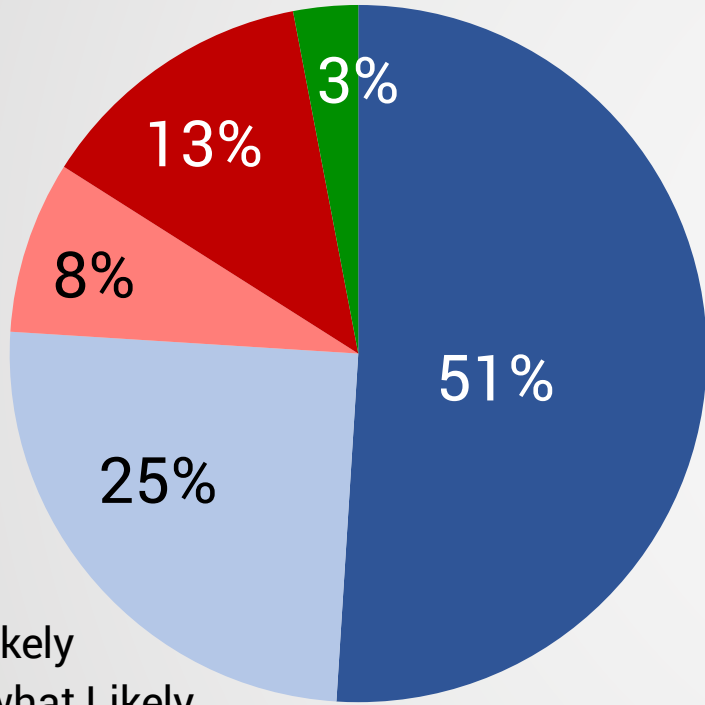


- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- No Opinion



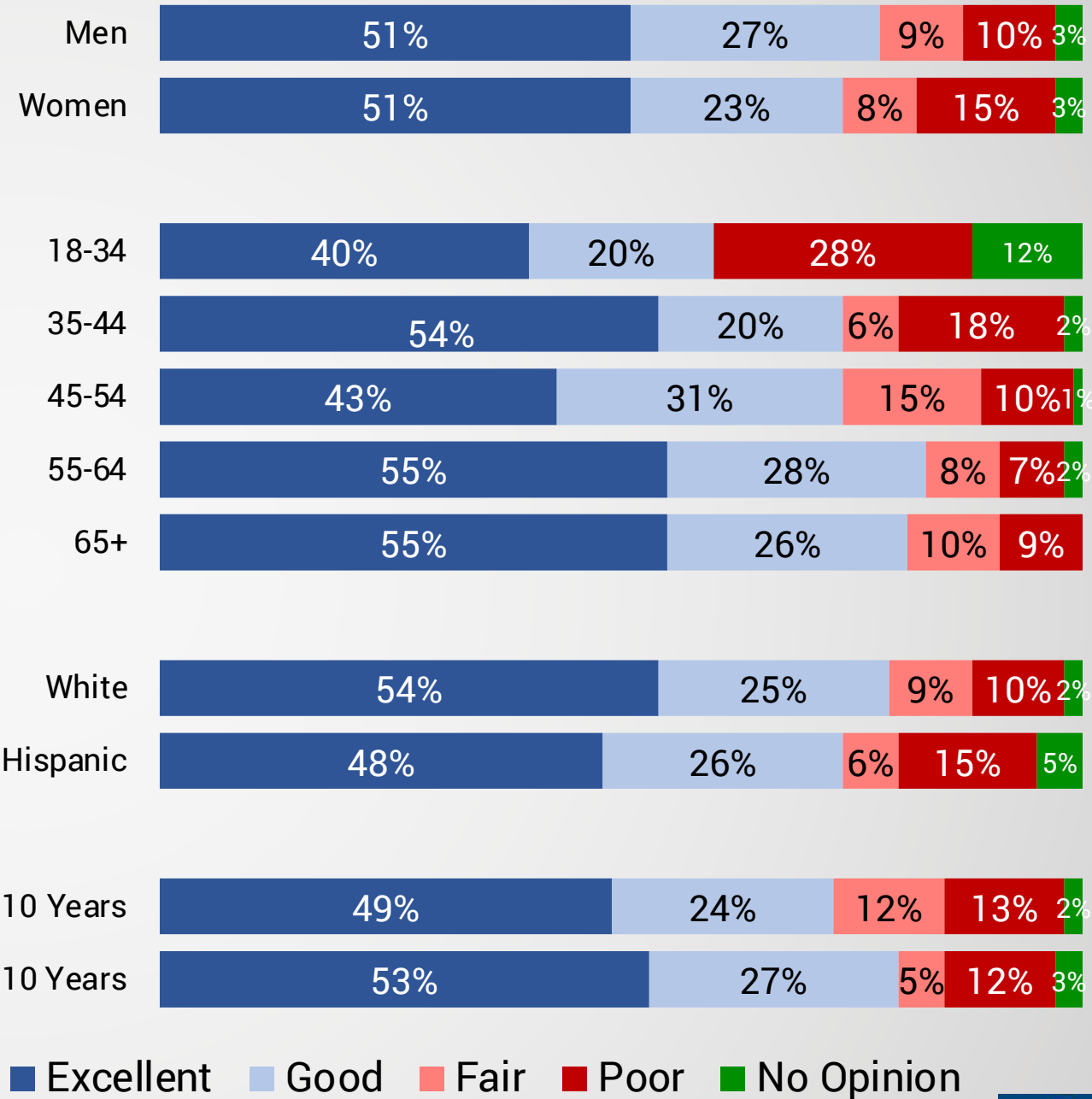


Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.  
**Remain in Huerfano County for the Next Five Years**



- Very Likely
- Somewhat Likely
- Somewhat Unlikely
- Very Unlikely
- No Opinion

Very & Somewhat Likely	76%
Very & Somewhat Unlikely	21%

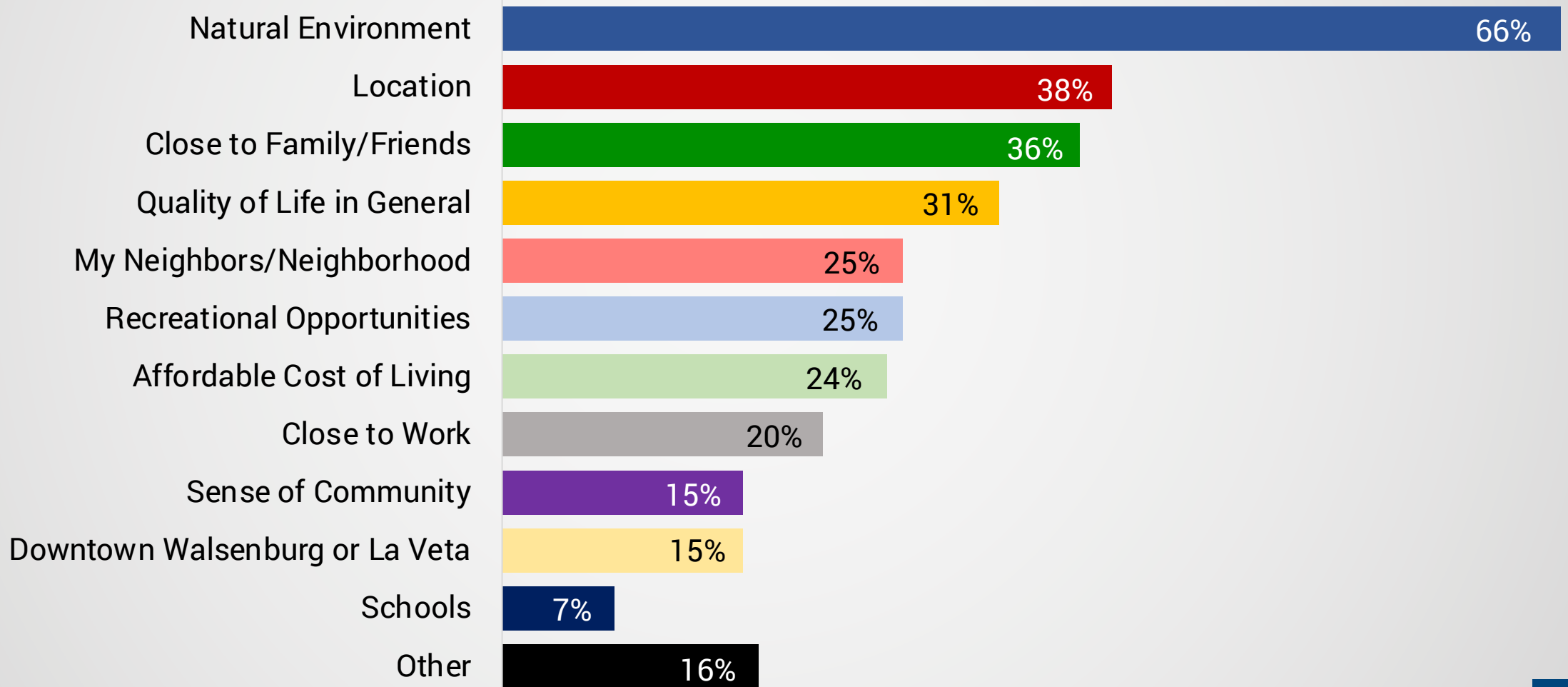


- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- No Opinion



# Huerfano County Quality of Life Favorite Aspects

What are your favorite aspects of living in Huerfano County? Please check all that apply.



# The Top Issues & Challenges Residents Want Addressed the Most



Huerfano County wants to know the top issues, priorities, or problems that you think the Huerfano County Government should be addressing the most.

Your feedback helps the town identify priorities and address problems to better meet the needs of our residents.

Please describe the top issues, priorities, or problems that you think the Huerfano County Government should be addressing the most.

Themes
Communication and Community Engagement
Accessibility and Information Dissemination
Community Input and Participation

“Lack of housing. Need more activities for the youth to give them a reason to stay, help the small businesses attract more business.” -**Male, 25-34, Living in County 20+ Years, Walsenburg**

“Employment opportunities, affordable housing, education, crime prevention.” -**Male, 65+, Living in County 6-10 Years, Unincorporated**

“Crime, drugs, road/street condition, more assistance for the elderly population which is growing.” -**Female, 65+, Living in County 11-15 Years, Navajo Ranch**

“Bringing in new business, job opportunities, education, recreation.” -**Male, 45-54, Living in County 0-5 Years, La Veta**

“Streets, sidewalks, building permits, town cleanliness.” -**Female, 55-64, Living in County 0–5 Years, Gardner**

“Law enforcement, better schools, enforcement of drug activity and criminal activity.” -**Female, 55-64, Living in County 11-15 Years, Walsenburg**





# Huerfano County Top Issues & Challenges

Please describe the top issues, priorities, or problems that you think the Huerfano County Government should be addressing the most.

**Communication and Community Engagement:** Residents emphasize the importance of effective communication channels between the government and the community. They suggest various methods such as virtual public meetings, town hall meetings, social media promotion, newsletters, emails, text alerts, and newspaper coverage to keep residents informed and engaged in local affairs. Additionally, there is a call for increased transparency, listening to community input, and utilizing bilingual resources to ensure inclusivity.

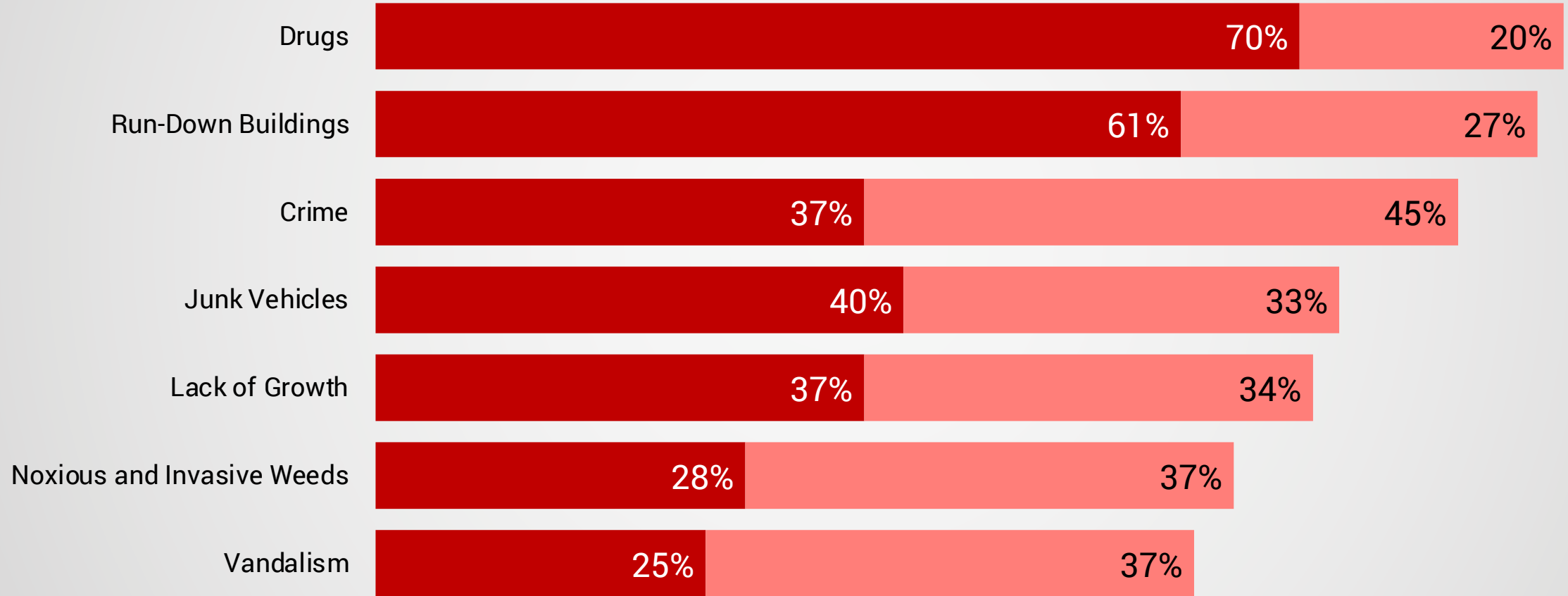
**Accessibility and Information Dissemination:** Many residents express the need for information to be easily accessible and available through multiple platforms such as websites, emails, text messages, social media, radio, and direct mail. They emphasize the importance of providing timely updates on important issues, events, and city council meetings. Some suggest utilizing existing resources like public bulletin boards, libraries, and community centers for disseminating information.

**Community Input and Participation:** Residents stress the importance of actively seeking input from the community and incorporating their feedback into decision-making processes. They advocate for more opportunities for residents to voice their opinions, participate in surveys, attend public meetings, and engage in discussions about local issues. There is a desire for greater community involvement in shaping policies, development plans, and resource allocation decisions.



# Problems Facing Huerfano County

To what degree, if at all, are each of the following a problem in Huerfano County?

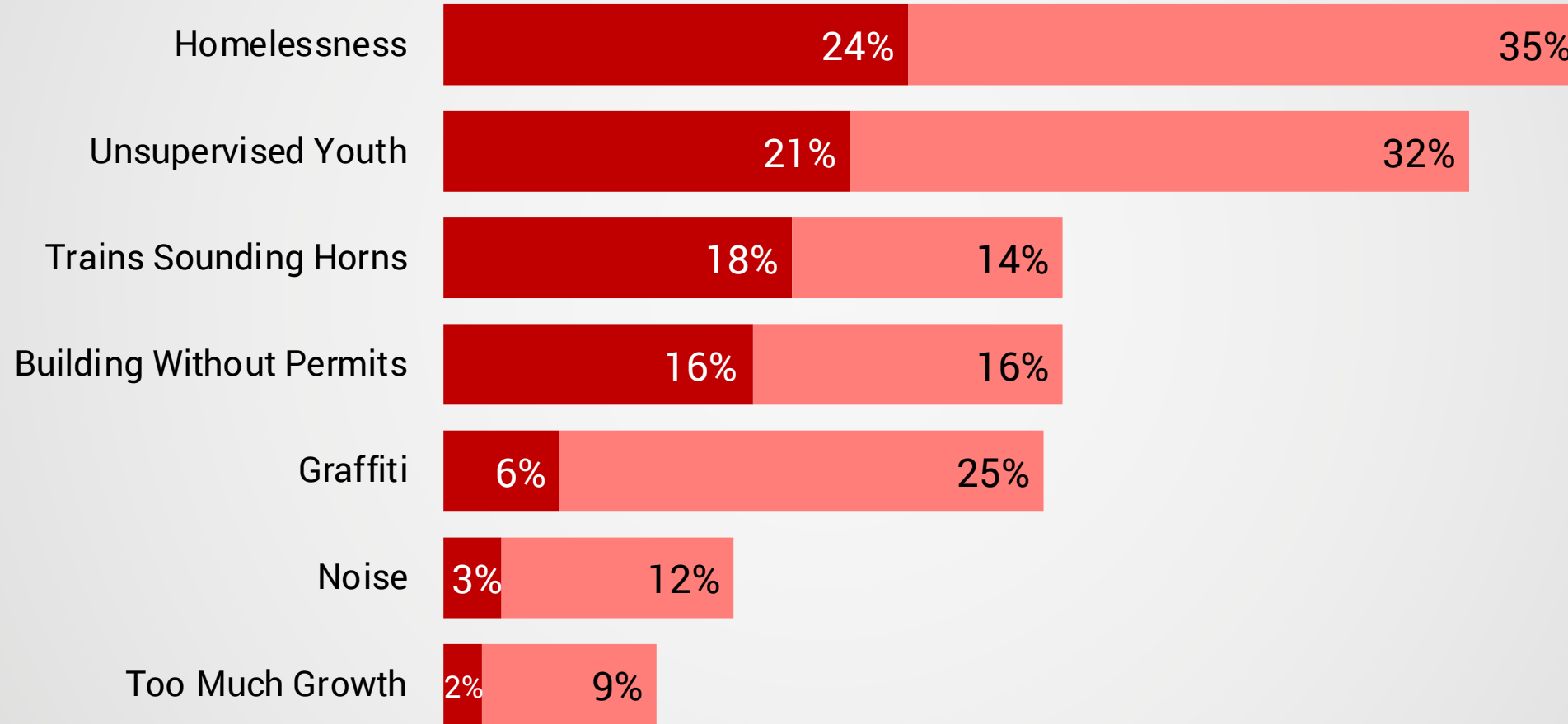


■ Major Problem    ■ Moderate Problem



# Problems Facing Huerfano County

To what degree, if at all, are each of the following a problem in Huerfano County?



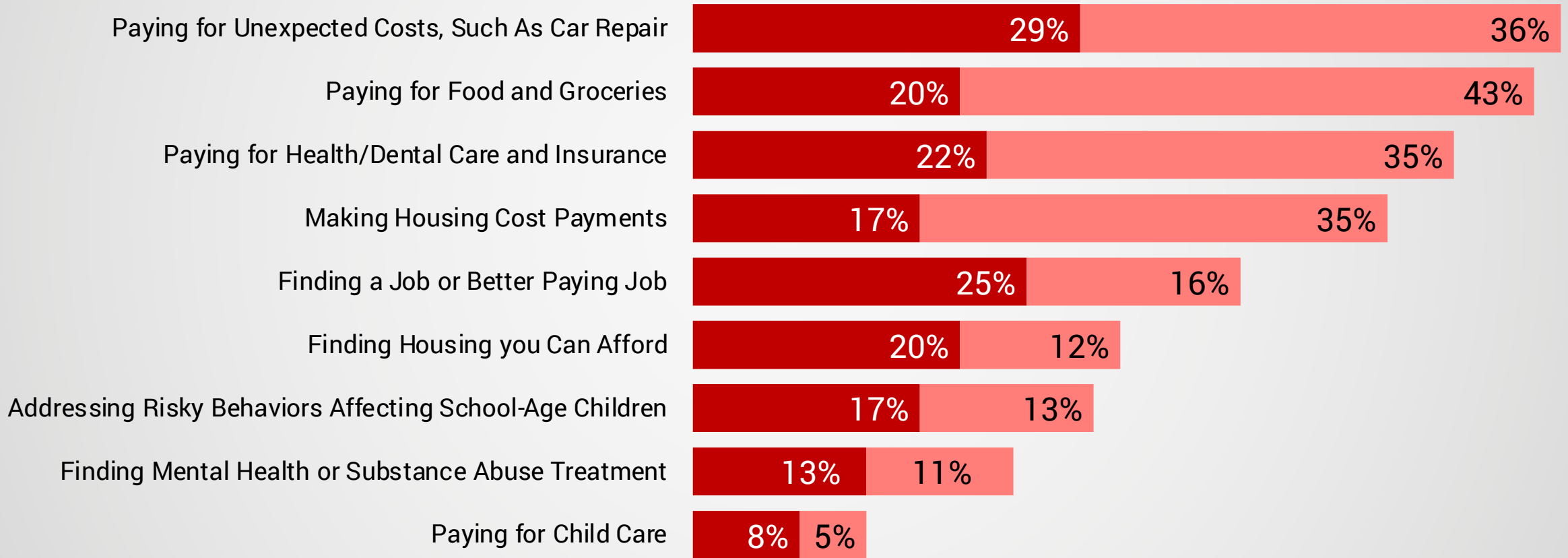
■ Major Problem    ■ Moderate Problem

Huerfano County 2022 Community Survey, 515n, +/-4.15% MoE, April 2022



# Huerfano County Personal & Household Concerns

To what extent have you or members of your household worried about each of the following in the last 12 months:



■ A Lot ■ A Little Bit



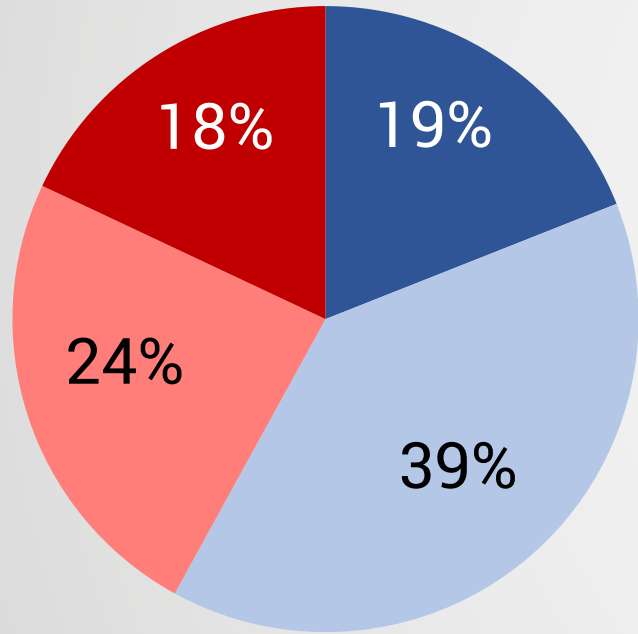
# Opinions of a Huerfano County Health Department



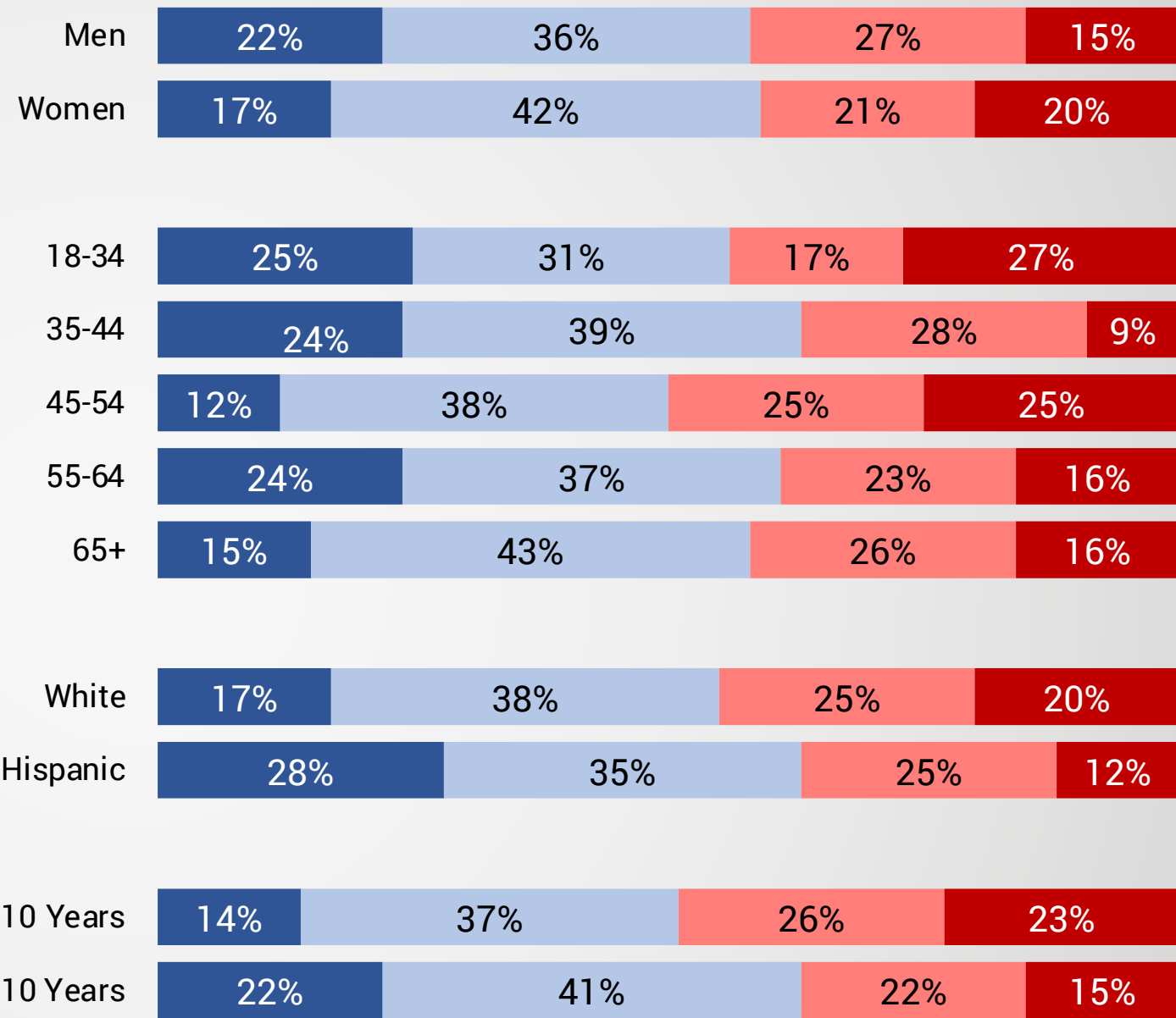
As you may know, Huerfano County shares the Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department with Las Animas County. The County would like your opinion on these services.

As you may also know, the Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department is funded by a contribution from Huerfano County's general fund. If Huerfano County created its own Health Department, it may need a dedicated funding source.

As you may know, Huerfano County shares the Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department with Las Animas County. How familiar would you say you are with the services provided by the Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department?



■ Very Familiar  
■ Somewhat Familiar  
■ Not Too Familiar at All  
■ Not Familiar at All



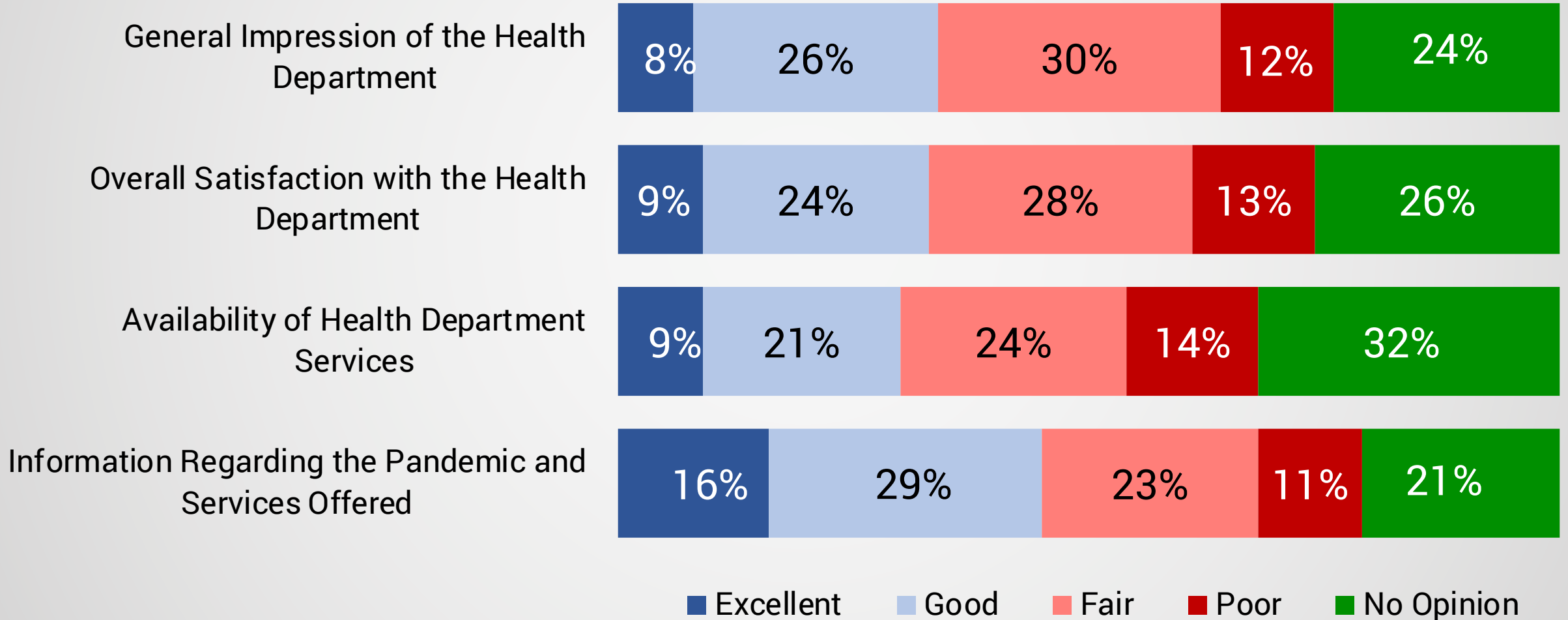
■ Very Familiar ■ Smwt. Familiar ■ Not Too Familiar ■ Not Familiar at All





# Opinion of Health Department Aspects

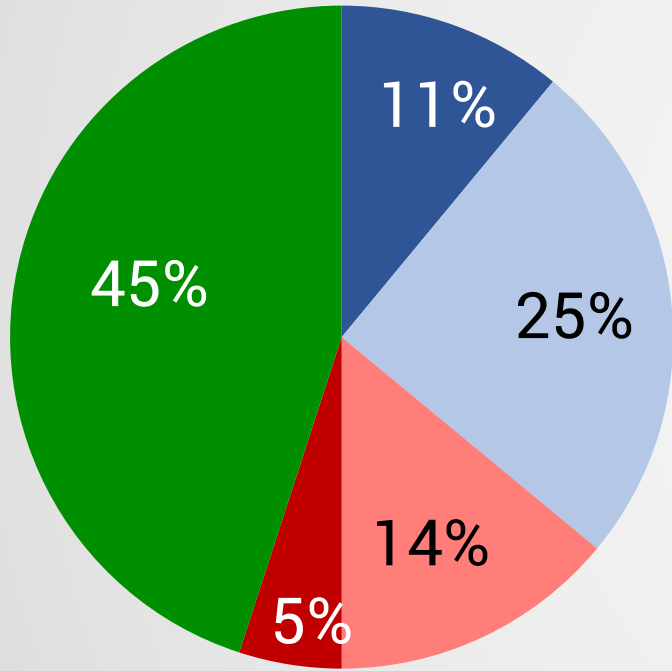
Please rate the Health Department on the following aspects.



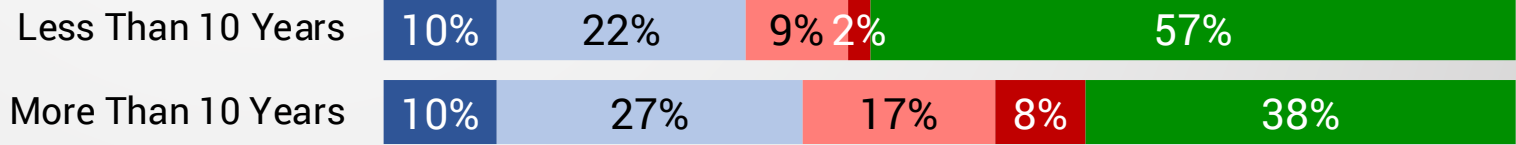
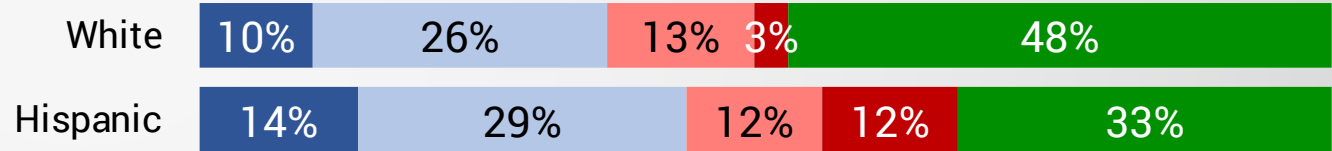
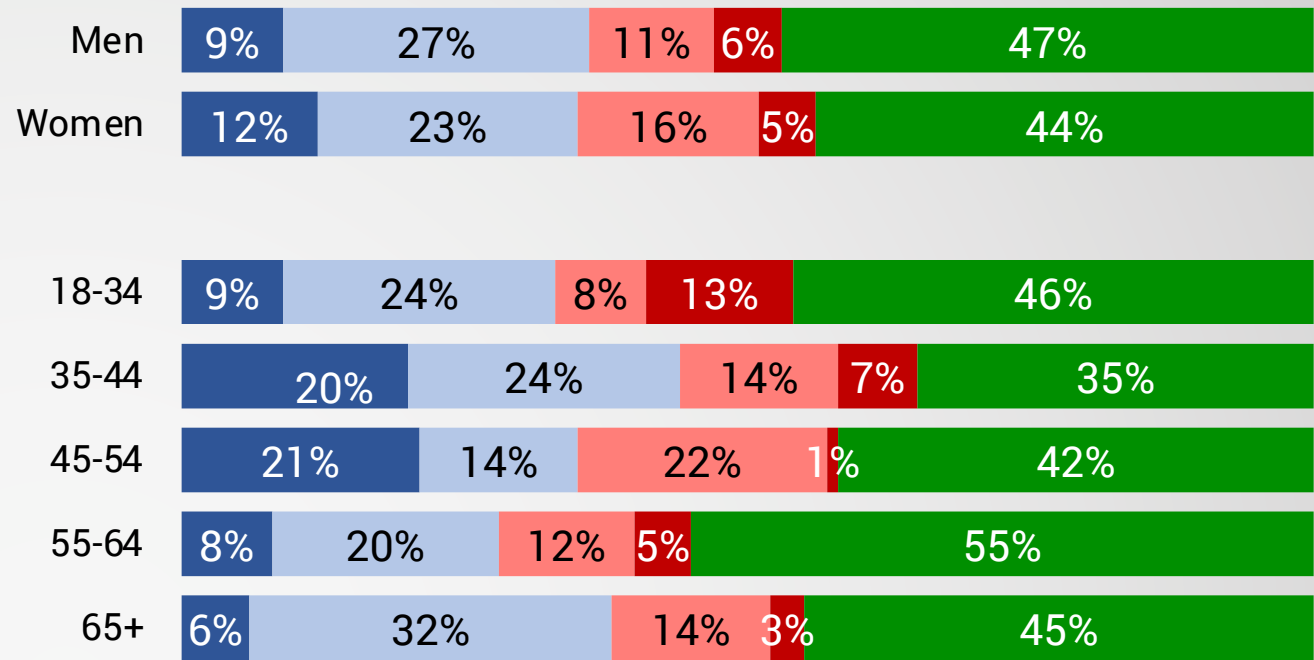
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ No Opinion



# Do you think Las Animas County residents benefit more from the Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department than Huerfano County residents?



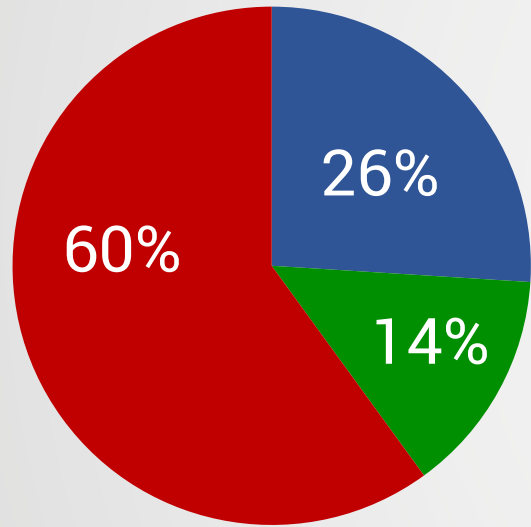
■ Yes, Definitely      ■ Yes, Probably  
■ No, Probably Not      ■ No, Definitely Not  
■ No Opinion



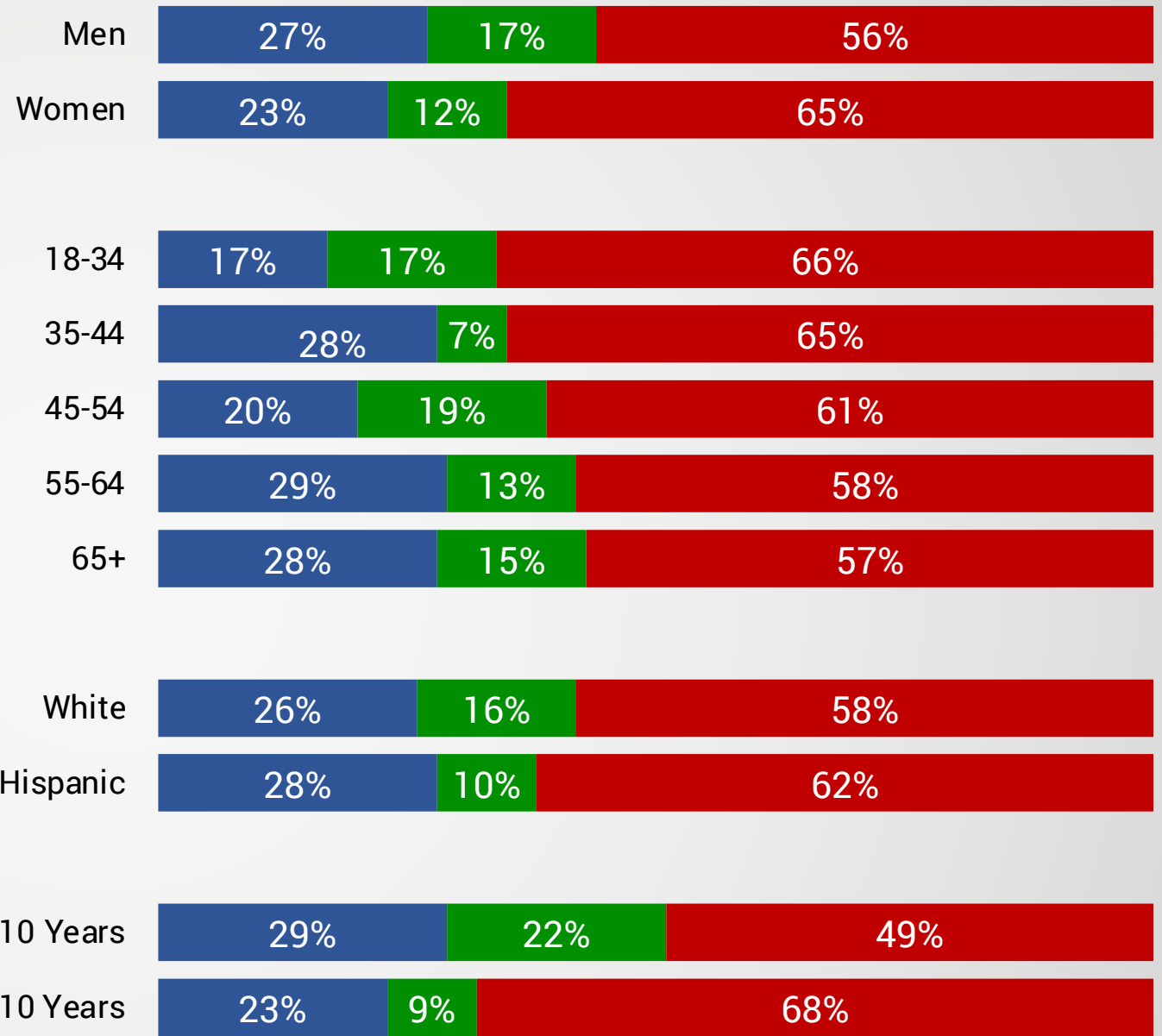
■ Yes, Definin.    ■ Yes, Prob.    ■ No, Prob.    ■ No, Def. Not    ■ No Opinion



As you may know, the Las Animas-Huerfano Counties District Health Department is funded by a contribution from Huerfano County's general fund. If Huerfano County created its own Health Department, it may need a dedicated funding source. Knowing this, which of the following funding options would you prefer?



- Sales Tax Increase
- Property Tax Increase
- Would Not Support a Tax to Fund a Health Department



- Sales Tax
- Property Tax
- Wouldn't Support



# Opinions of the District Attorney's Office

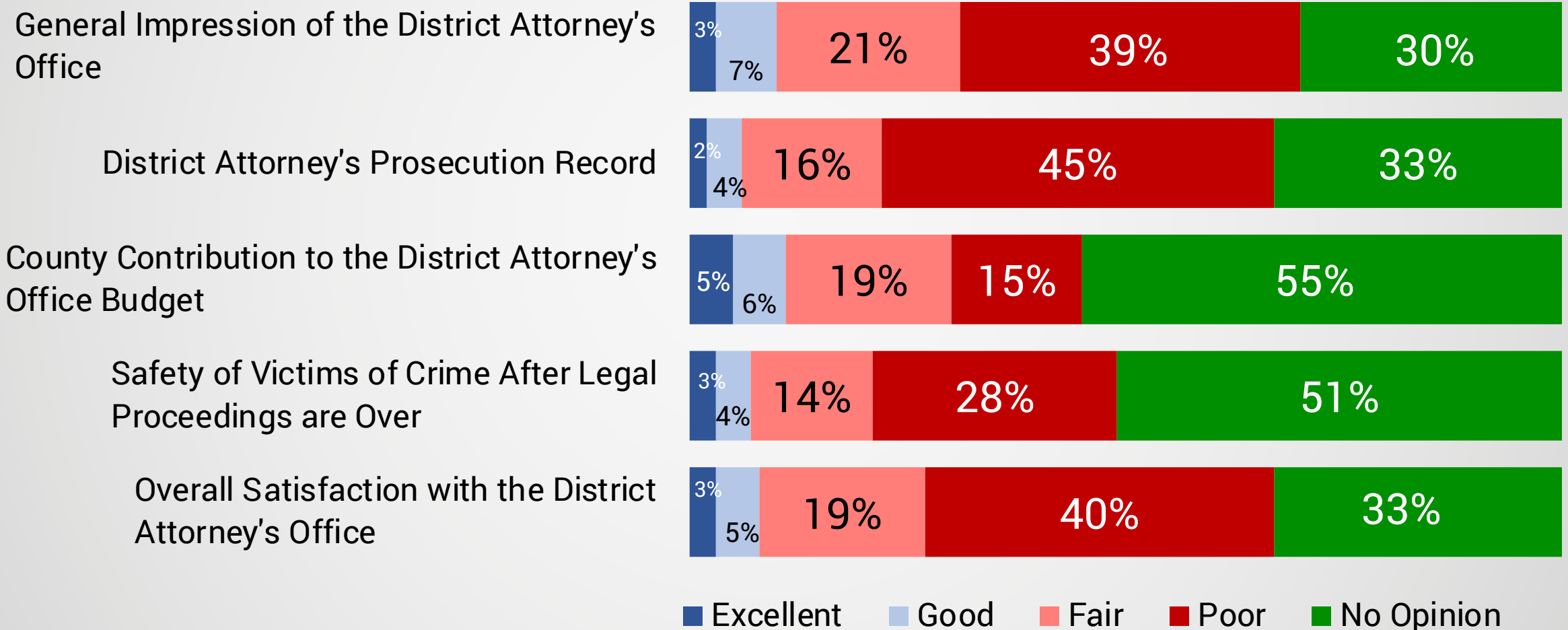


As you may know, Huerfano County shares a District Attorney's Office with Las Animas County. Please rate the District Attorney's Office on the following aspects:

- General impression of the District Attorney's Office
- District Attorney's prosecution record
- County contribution to the District Attorney's Office budget
- Safety of victims of crime after legal proceedings are over
- Overall satisfaction with the District Attorney's Office

# Opinions of the District Attorney's Office

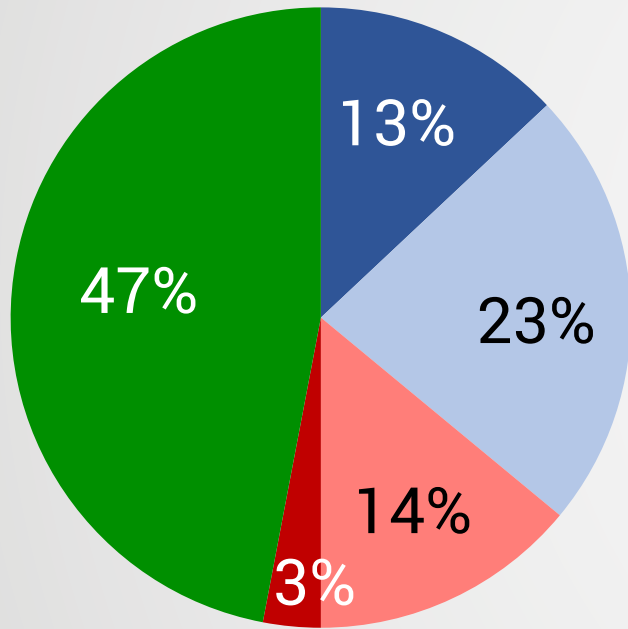
As you may know, Huerfano County shares a District Attorney's Office with Las Animas County. Please rate the District Attorney's Office on the following aspects.



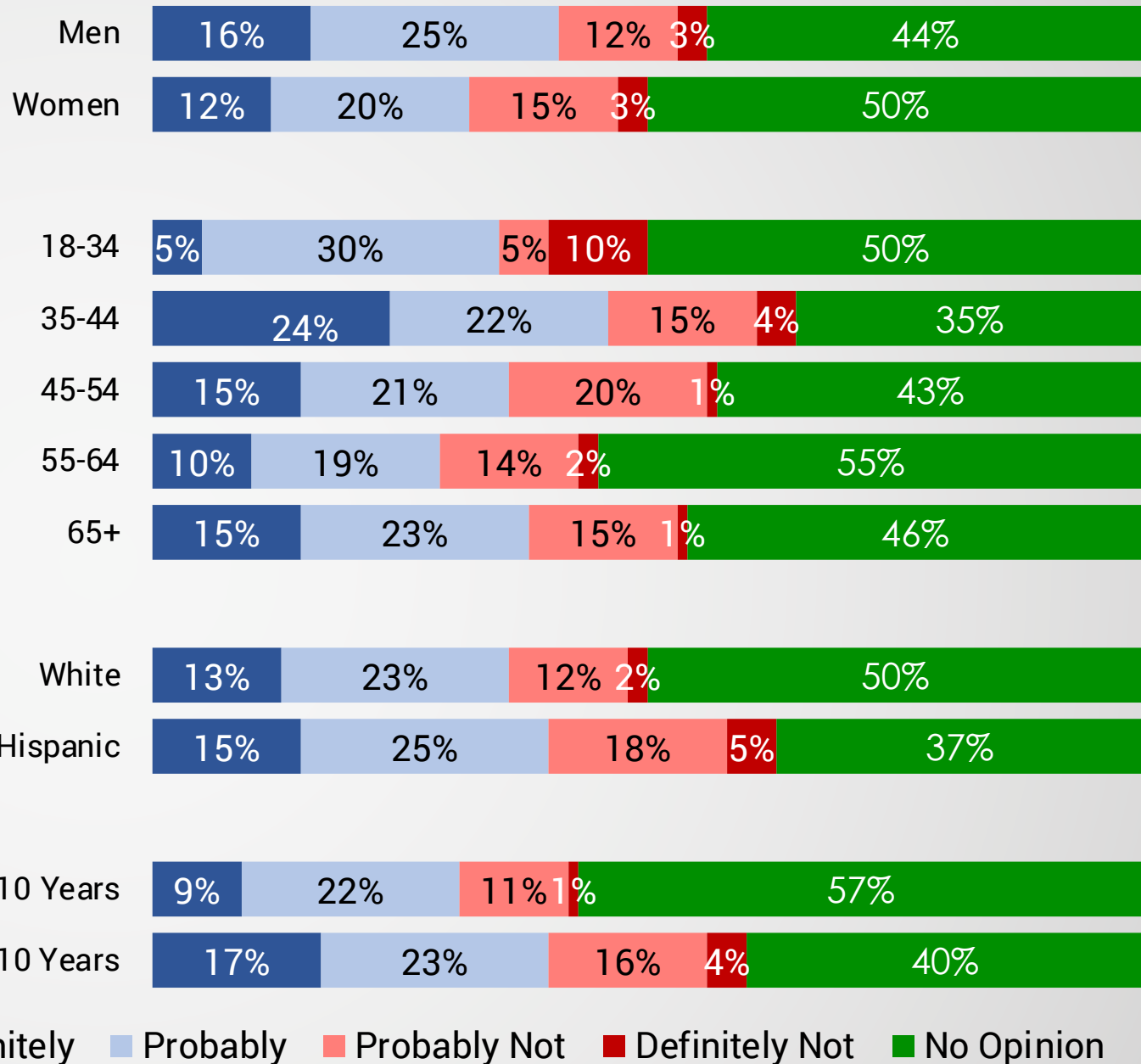
■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Fair ■ Poor ■ No Opinion



# Do you think Las Animas County residents benefit more from the District Attorney's Office than Huerfano County residents?



■ Yes, Definitely      ■ Yes, Probably  
■ No, Probably Not      ■ No, Definitely Not  
■ No Opinion



■ Definitely      ■ Probably      ■ Probably Not      ■ Definitely Not      ■ No Opinion





# Opinions of the Huerfano County Sheriff's Office

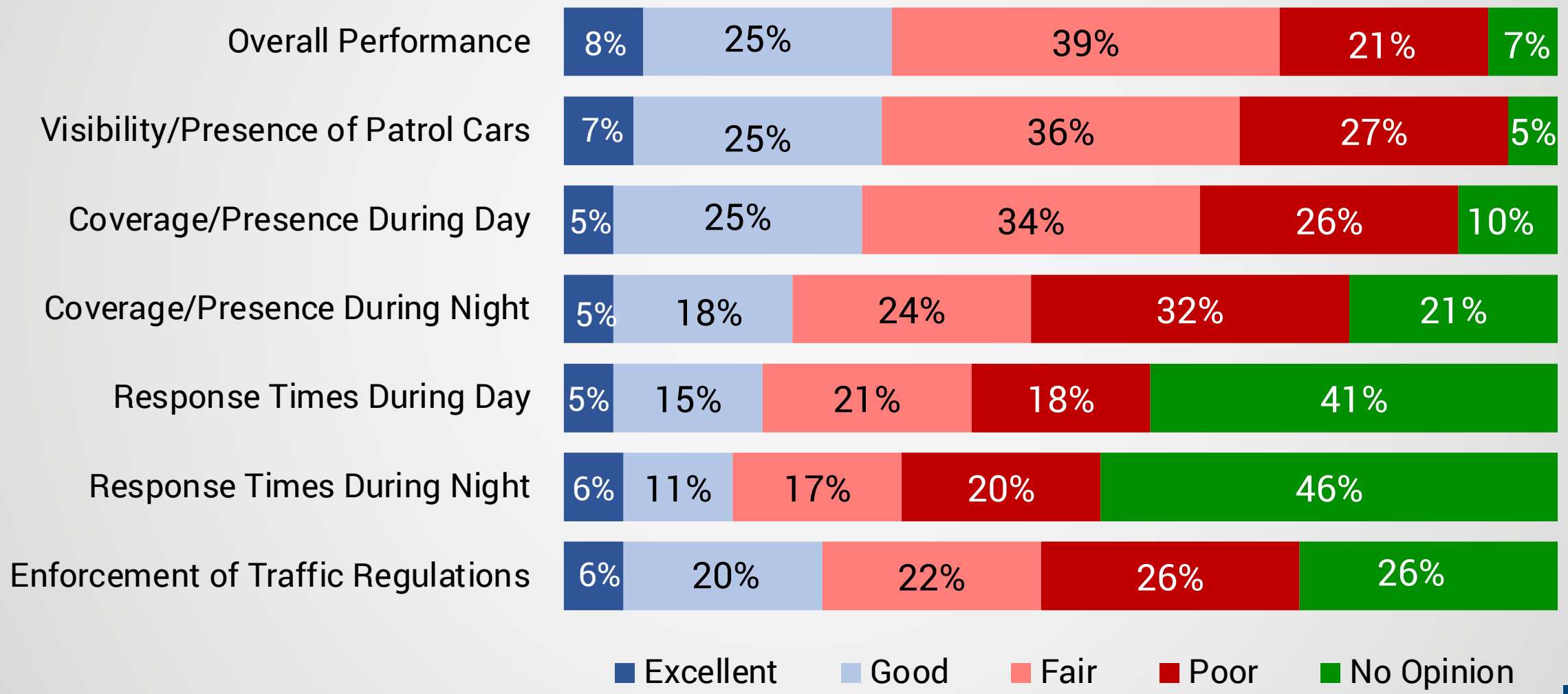


Please rate the County Sherriff's Office on the following aspects:

- Overall performance
- Visibility/presence of patrol cars
- Coverage/presence during day
- Coverage/presence during night
- Response times during day
- Response times during night
- Enforcement of traffic regulations

# Opinions of the Huerfano County Sheriff's Office

Please rate the County Sherriff's Office on the following aspects.



# Overall Satisfaction with County Offices and Services

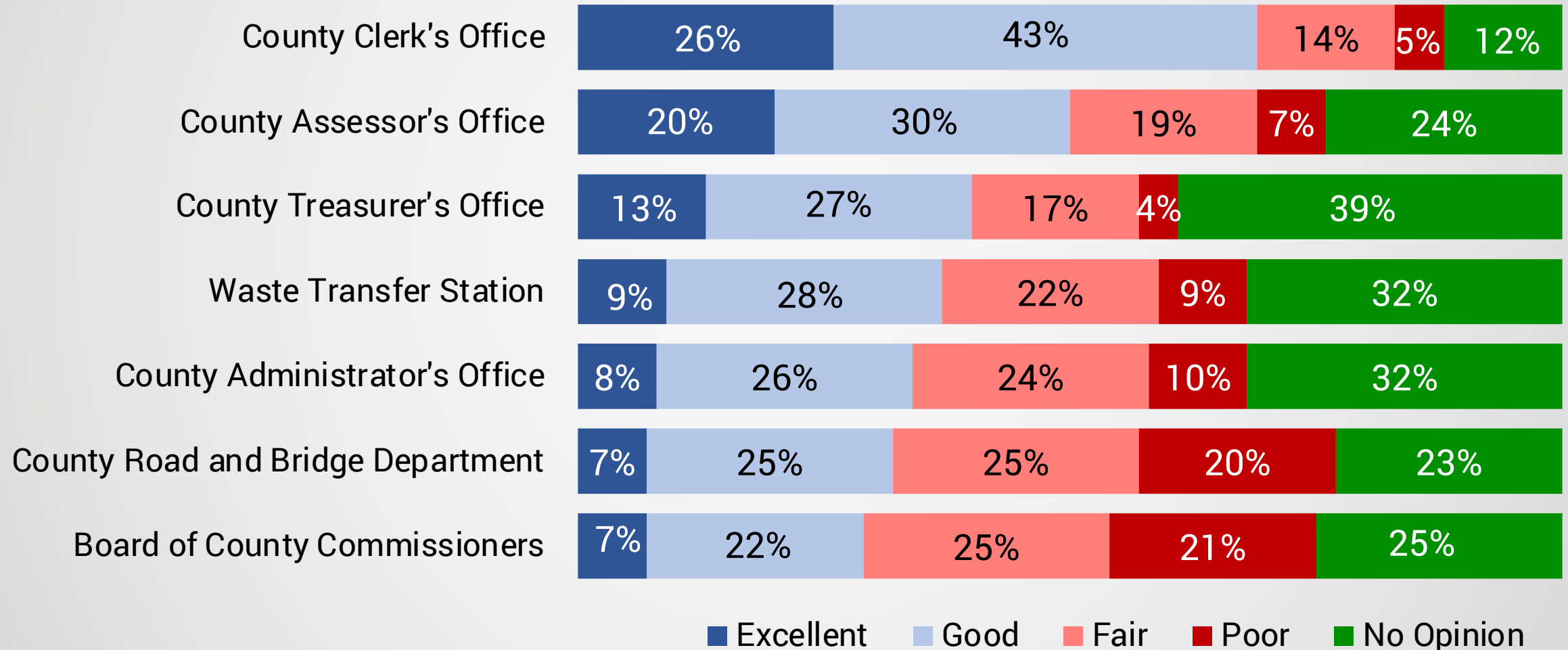


Please rate your overall satisfaction with the services provided by the following County offices:

- County Clerk's Office
- County Assessor's Office
- County Treasurer's Office
- Waste Transfer Station
- County Administrator's Office
- County Road and Bridge Department
- Board of County Commissioners
- County Coroner's Office
- County Human Services Department
- CSU Cooperative Extension
- County Building Office
- County Planning Office
- Gardner Public Improvement District

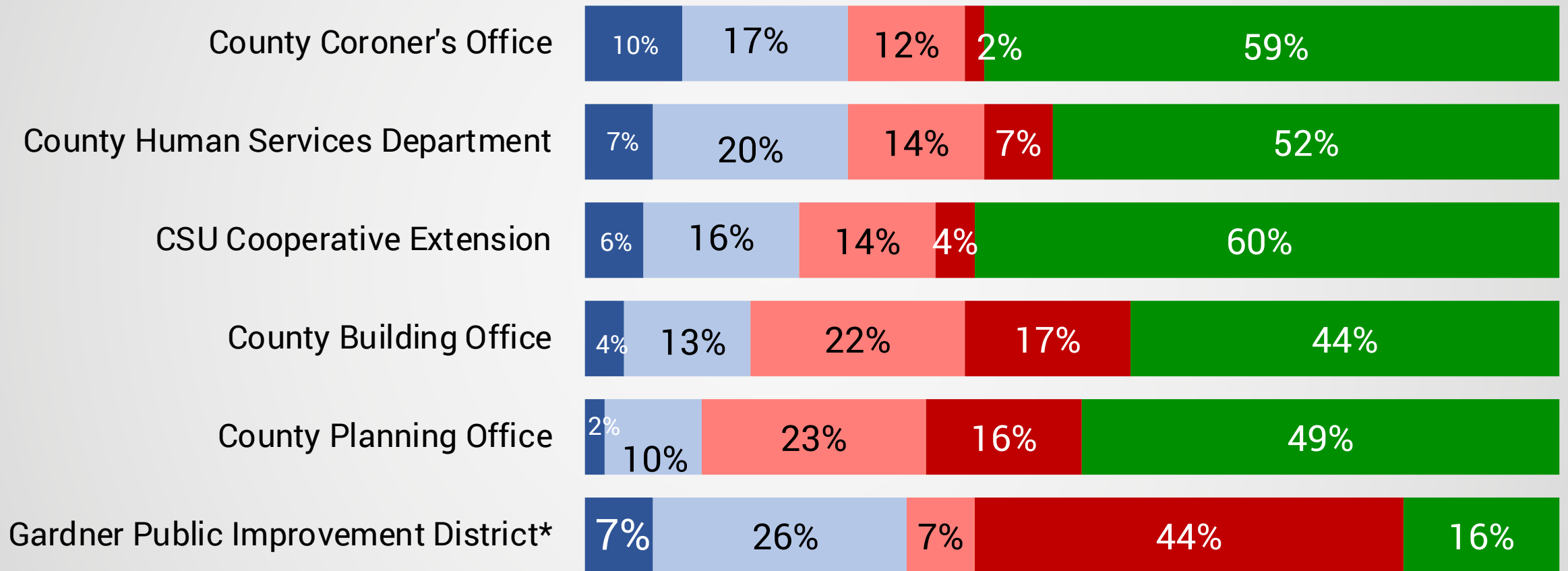
# Resident Satisfaction with County Offices

Please rate your overall satisfaction with the services provided by the following County offices.



# Resident Satisfaction with County Offices

Please rate your overall satisfaction with the services provided by the following County offices.

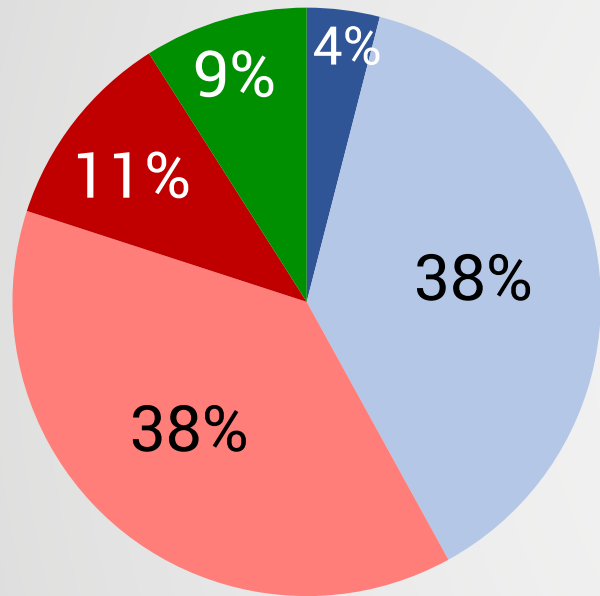


\*Only among respondents in Gardner

■ Excellent   
 ■ Good   
 ■ Fair   
 ■ Poor   
 ■ No Opinion

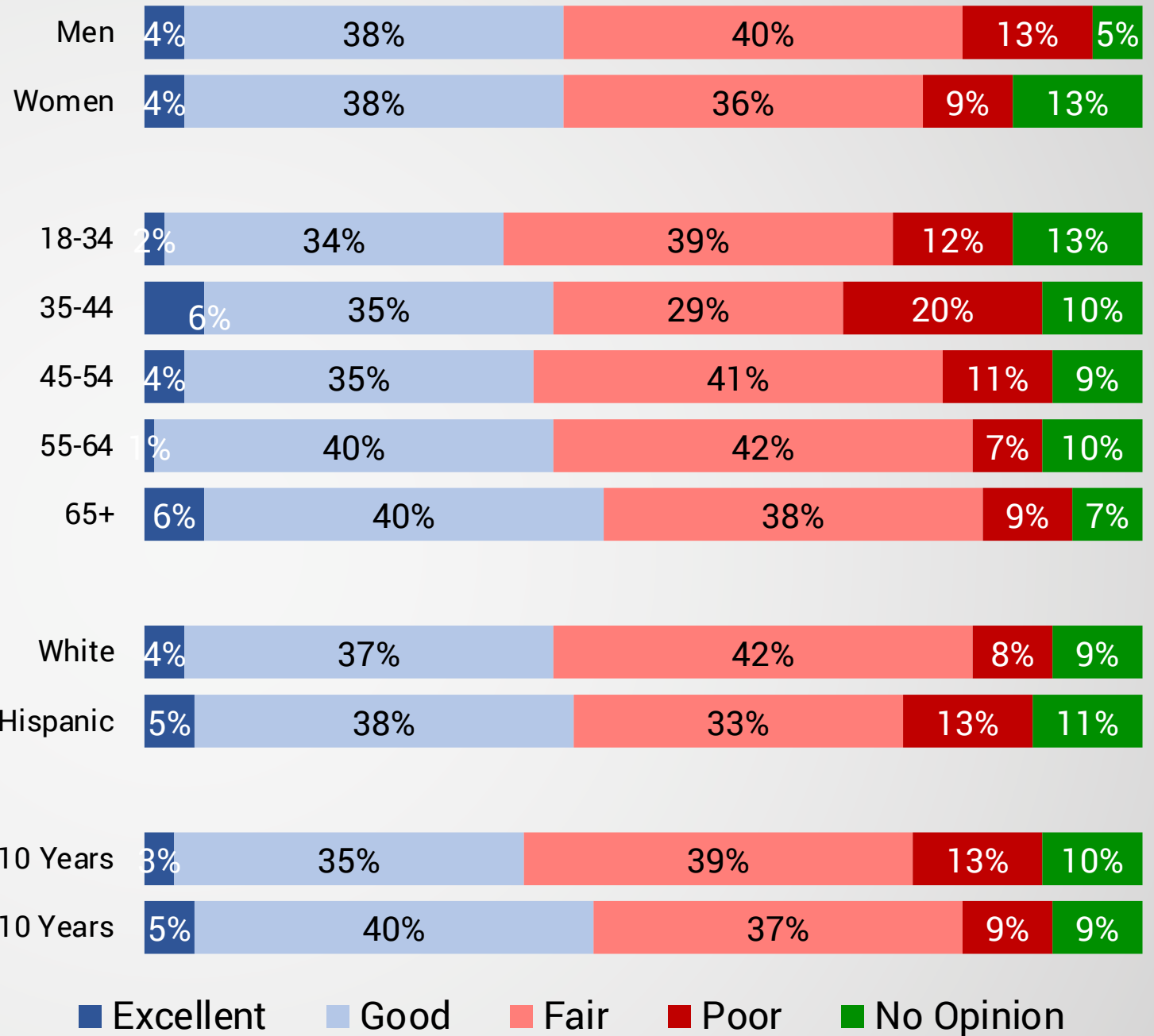


# Please rate the overall quality of the County services you receive.



■ Excellent      ■ Good  
■ Fair              ■ Poor  
■ No Opinion

Excellent & Good Combined	42%
Fair and Poor Combined	49%





# Opinions of Growth in Huerfano County

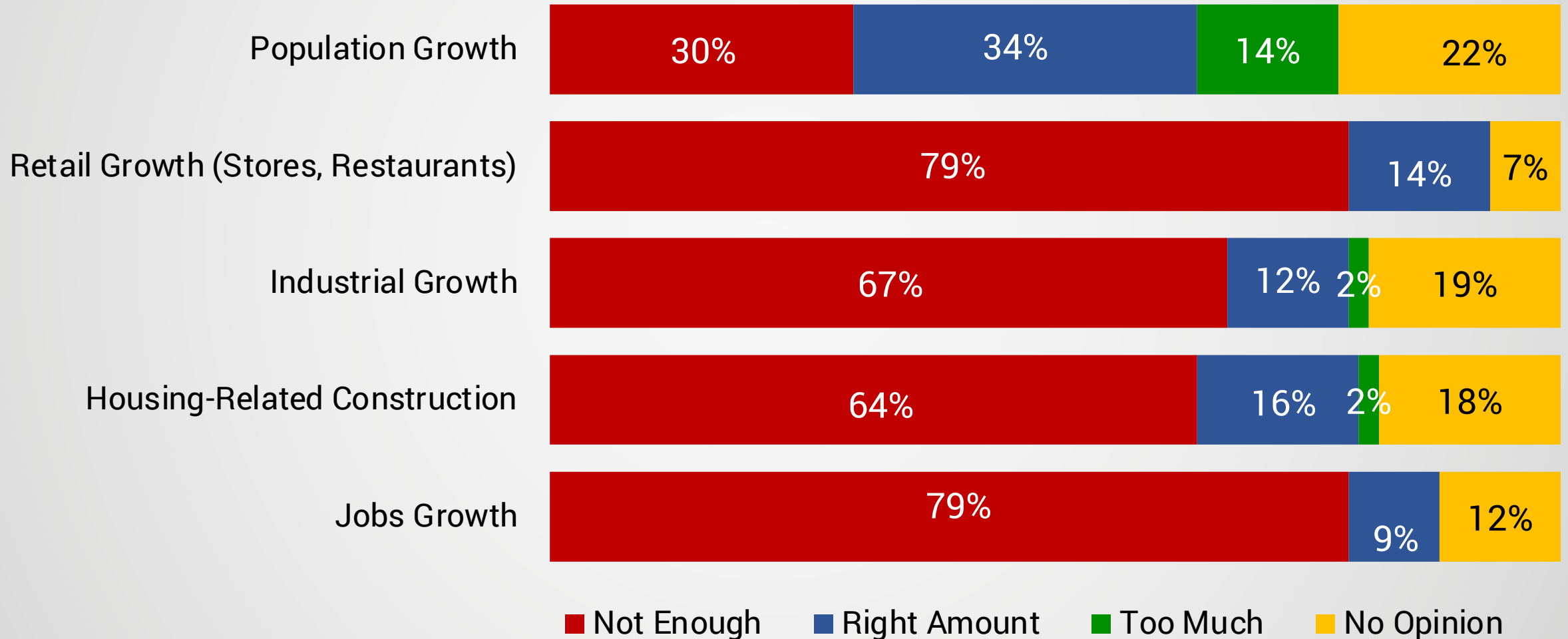


Please rate the amount of growth in the following categories in Huerfano County over the past 2 years.

- Population growth
- Retail growth (stores, restaurants)
- Industrial growth
- Housing-related construction
- Job growth

# Opinions of Growth in Huerfano

Please rate the amount of growth in the following categories in Huerfano County over the past 2 years.



■ Not Enough   ■ Right Amount   ■ Too Much   ■ No Opinion



# Opinions of Term-Limits for County Officials



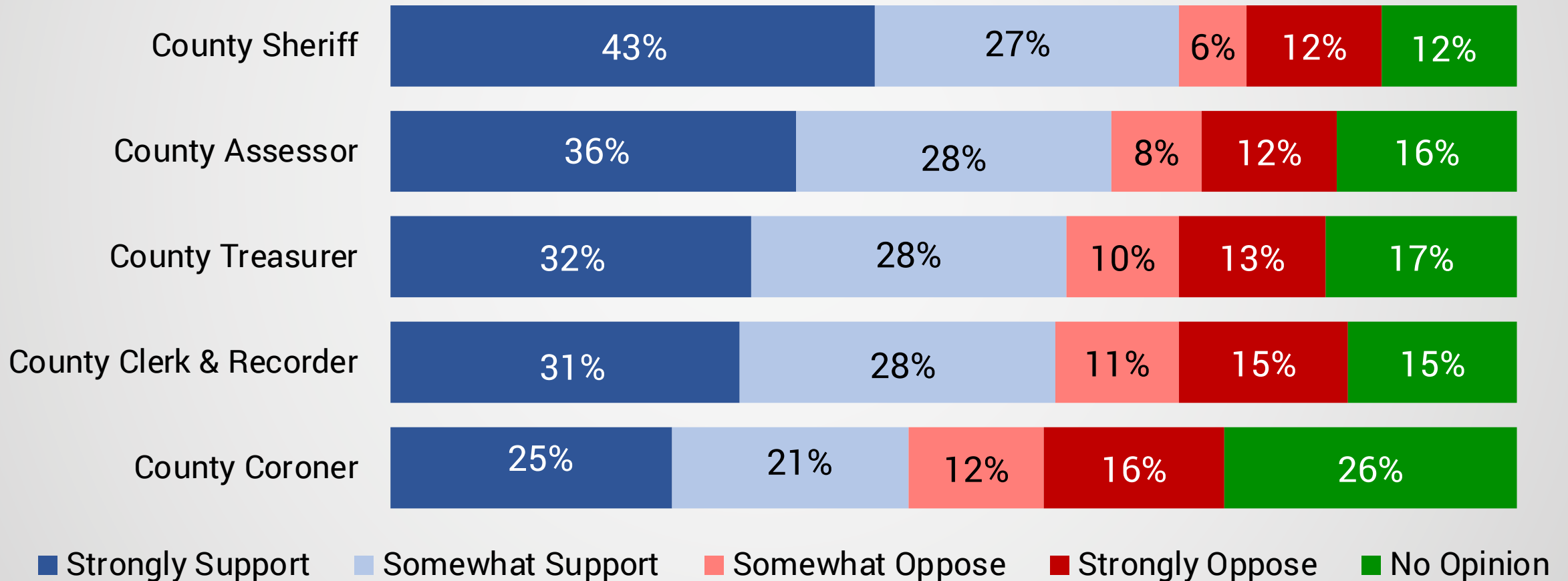
As you may know, County Commissioners in Huerfano County can only serve two consecutive terms in office.

However, there are no term limits for other countywide elected offices, including County Assessor, County Coroner, County Treasurer, County Clerk and Recorder, and County Sheriff.

Would you support or oppose creating term limits for these five offices?

# Opinions of Term Limits for County Officials

As you may know, County Commissioners in Huerfano County can only serve two consecutive terms in office. However, there are no term limits for other countywide elected offices, including County Assessor, County Coroner, County Treasurer, County Clerk and Recorder, and County Sherriff. Would you support or oppose creating term limits for these five offices?



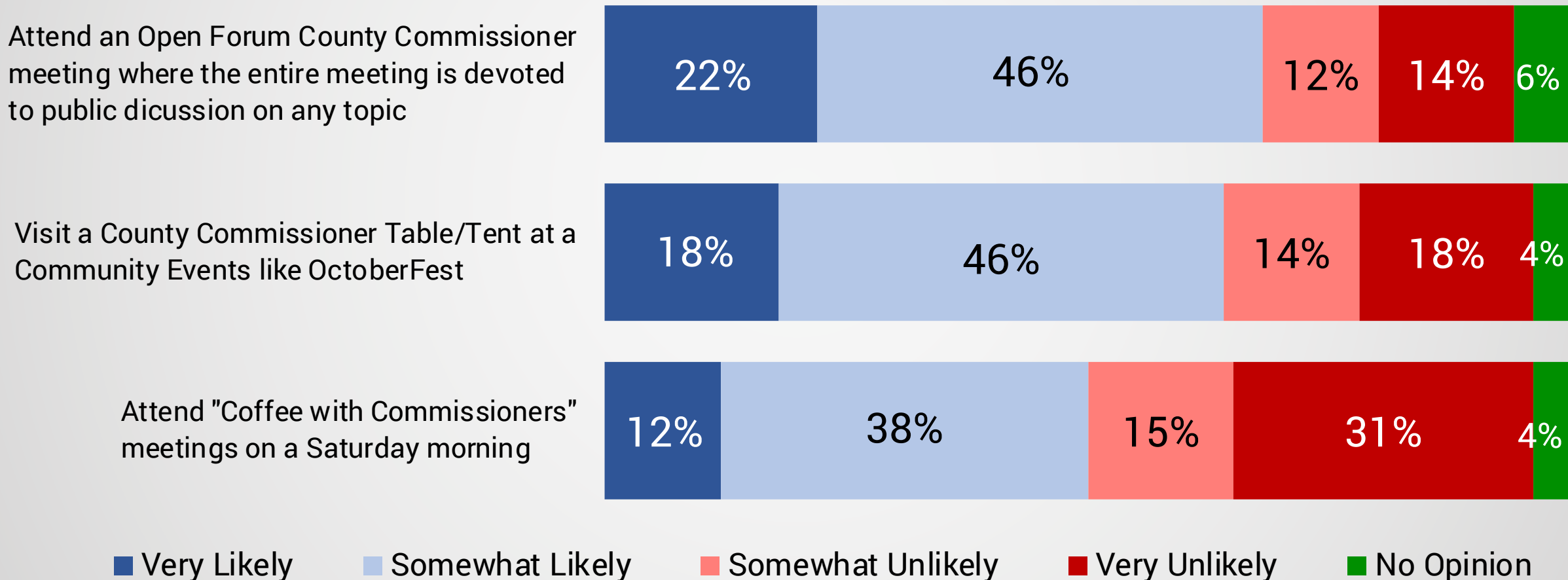
# Opinions of County Communications



Please answer the following questions about communications within the County. Your feedback on County communications is essential for Huerfano County to meet residents' needs.

# Opinions of County Communications

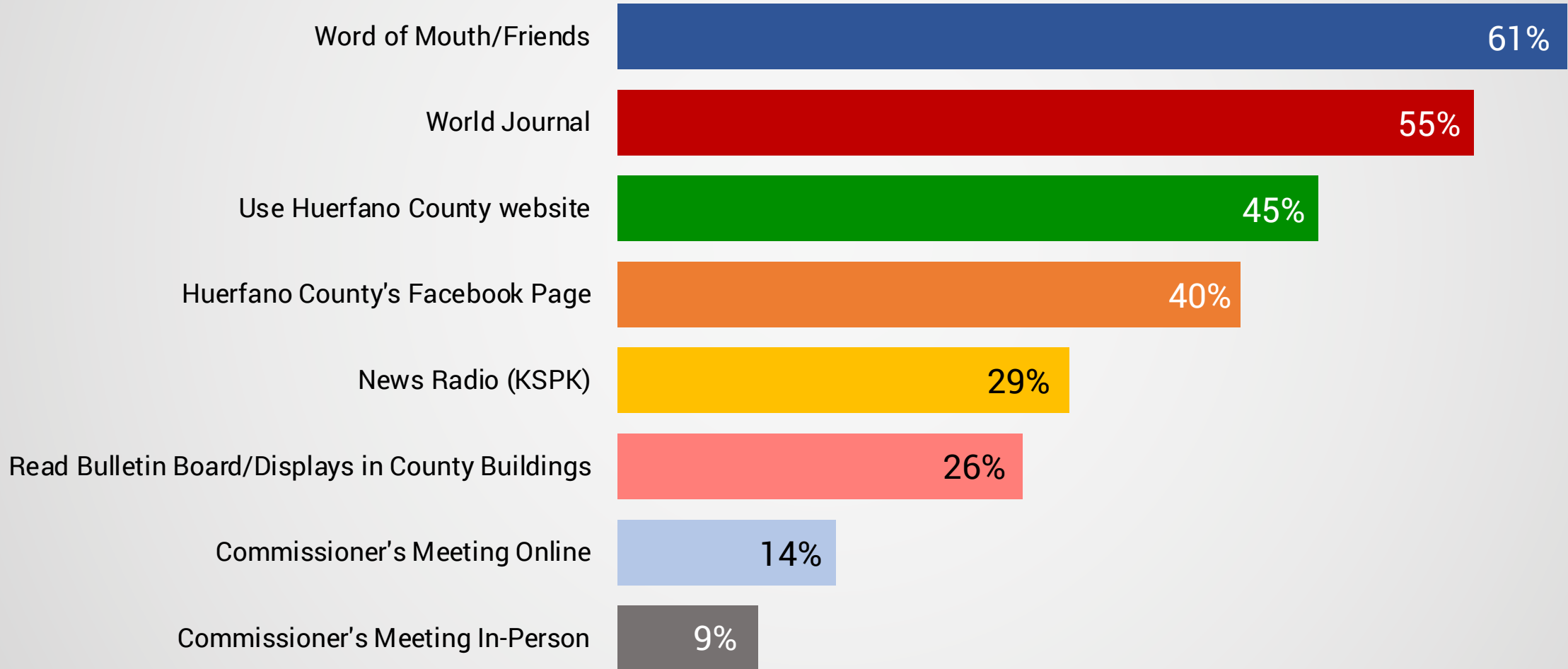
Please indicate how likely or unlikely you or another household member would be to participate in each of the following activities in Huerfano County at least once in a typical year.



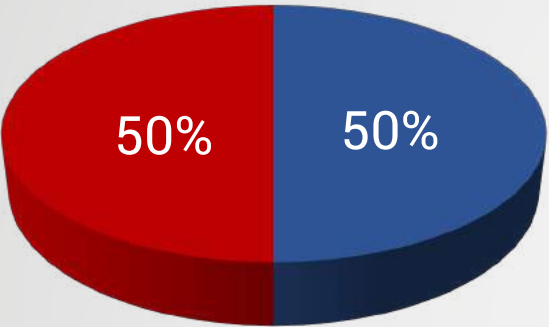


# Opinions of County Communications

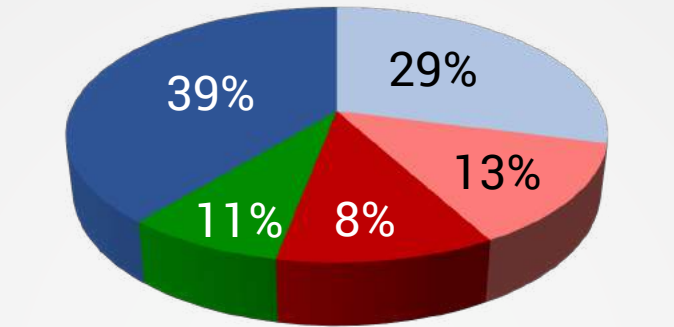
How often do you use the following sources to gain information about Huerfano County? (Ranked by Percentage Who Answered Very or Somewhat Frequently)



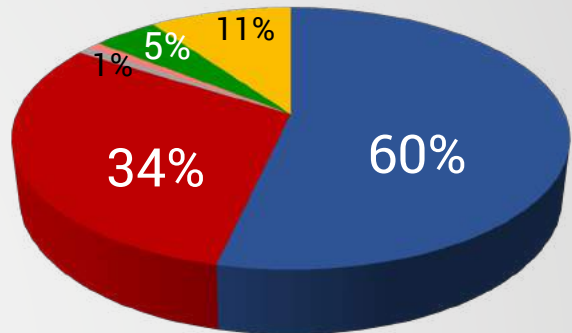
# Survey Demographics



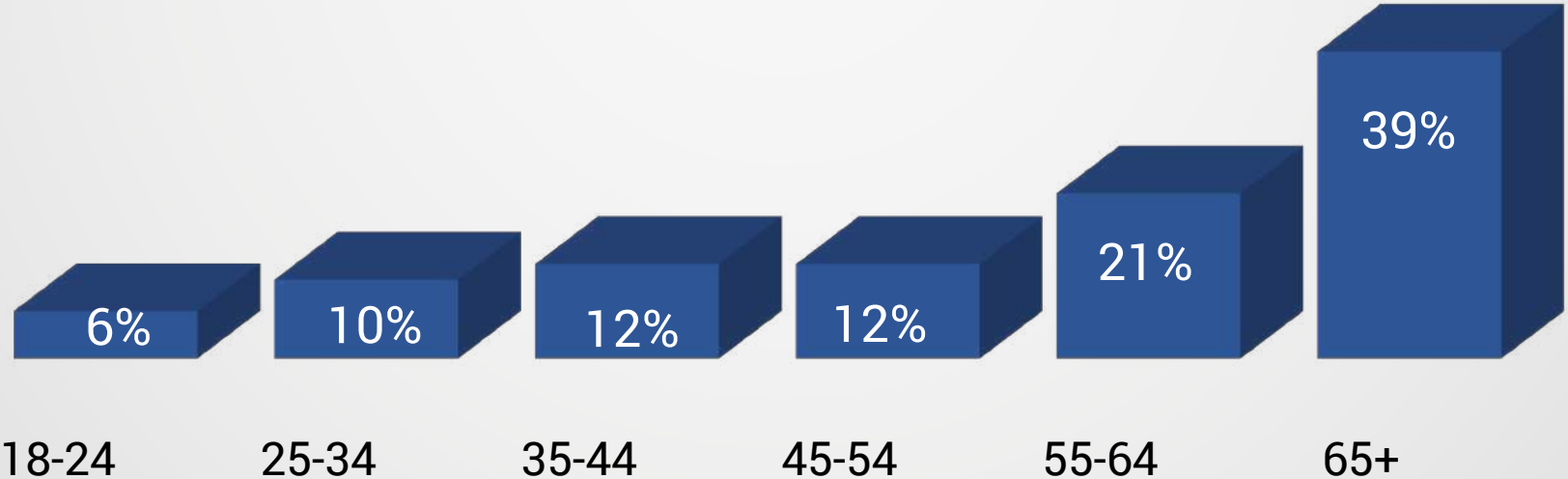
Female Male



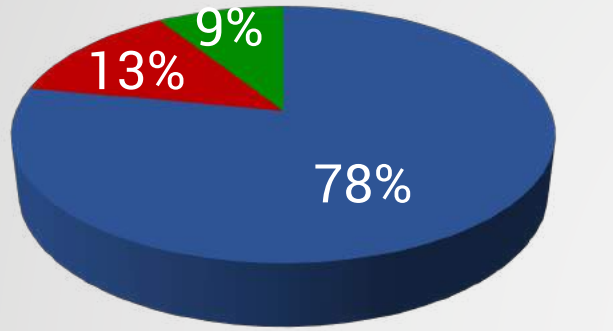
0-5 Years 6-10 Years  
 11-15 Years 16-20 Years  
 20+ Years



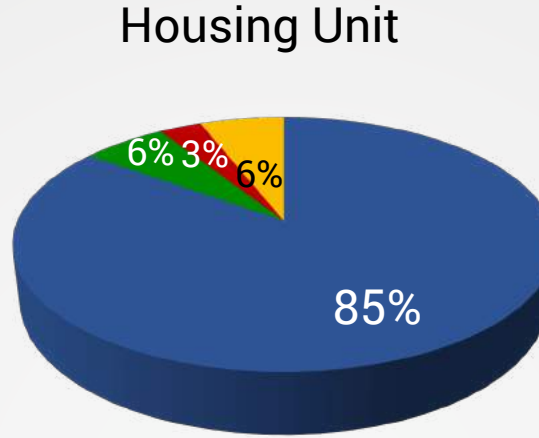
White/Caucasian  
 Hispanic  
 Black, African American



# Survey Demographics

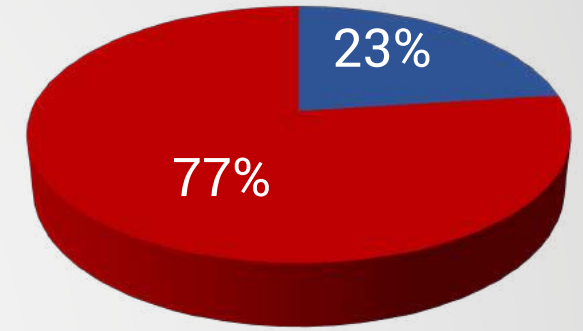


■ Own Home ■ Rent ■ Other

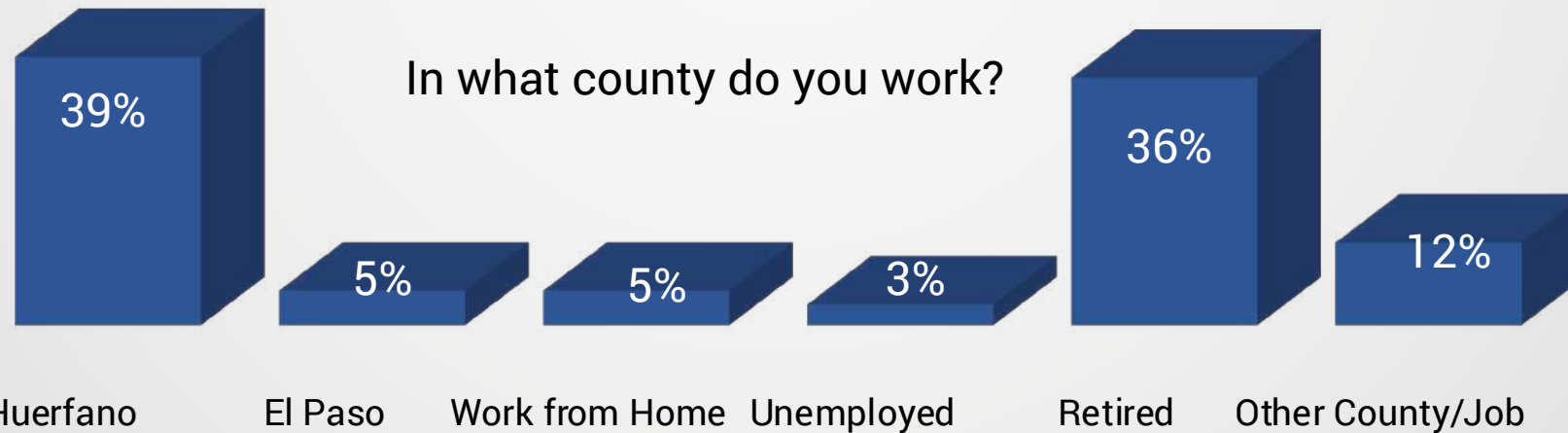


■ Single-Family ■ Mobile Home

Anyone under age 17 in HH?



■ Yes ■ No



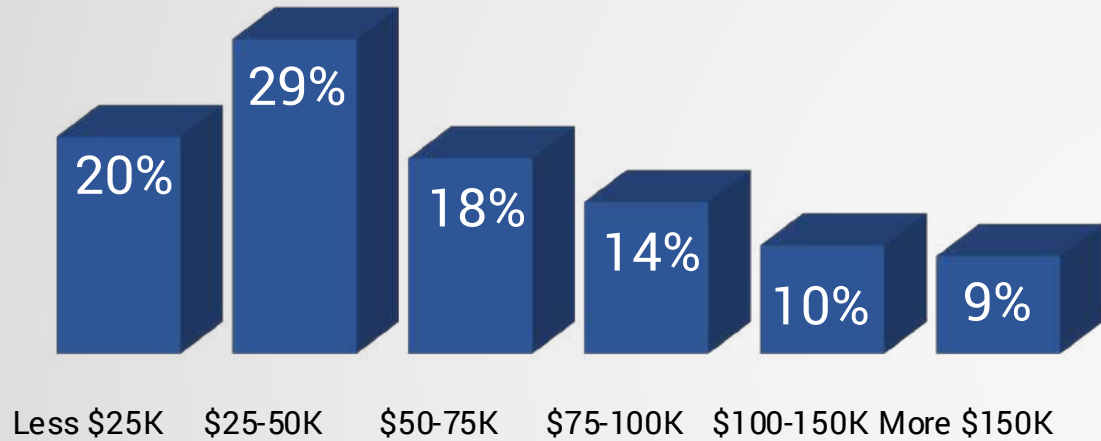
In what county do you work?



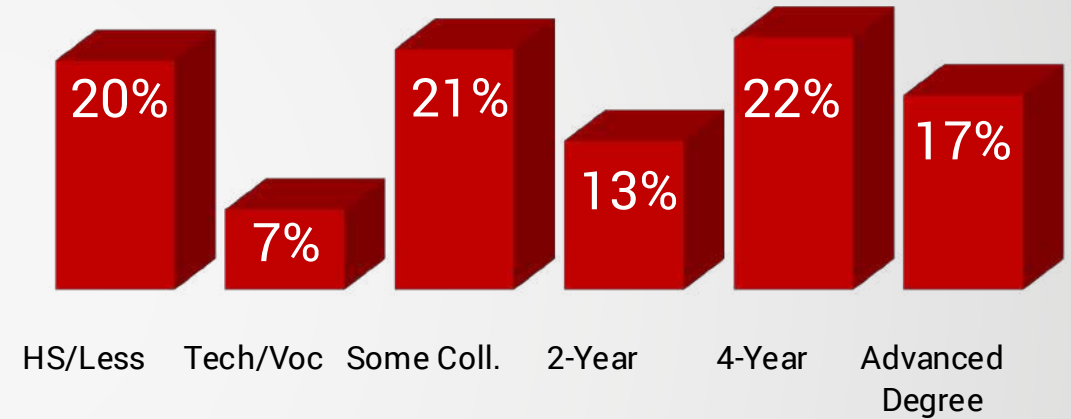
# Survey Demographics

96% of respondents are registered to vote, and 95% are likely to vote in November 2022

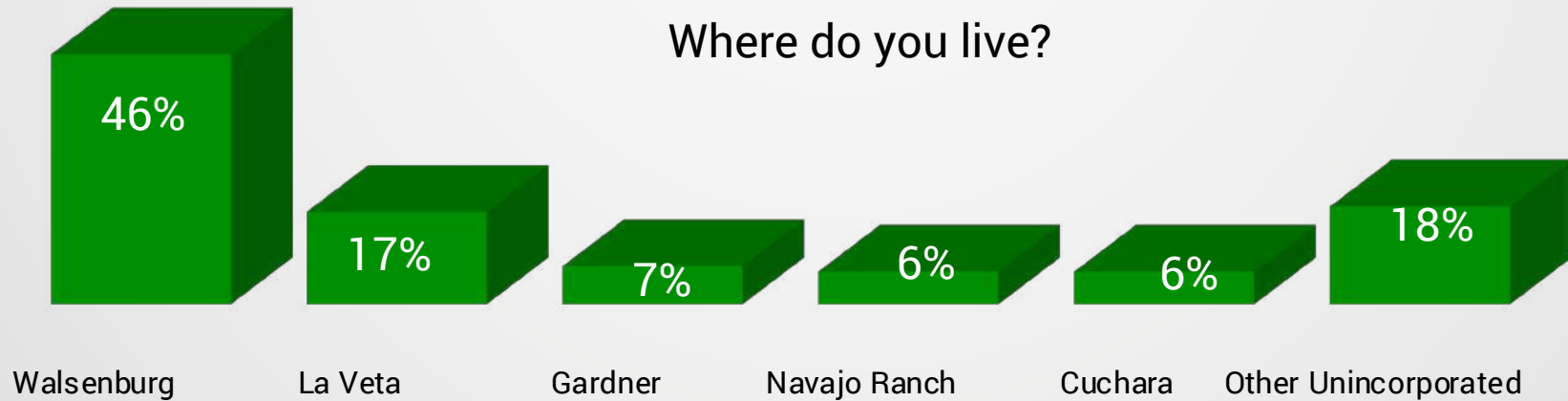
## Annual Income



## Education Level



## Where do you live?





David Flaherty  
Courtney Sievers  
Ryan Winger

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