AGE-FRIENDLY
Delaware County

2018 ASSESSMENT REPORT

source point
Thrive after 55

Delaware General Health District
Dedicated to your health

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PARTNERS

Thank you to the following partners who provided guidance on question selection and development of the survey tool.

AAA Ohio Auto Club
AARP Ohio
Bridges Community Action Partnership
Community Member - Nina Stokes
Community Member - Tom Kaelber
Connections Volunteer Center
Delaware Area Transit Authority
Delaware City Police
Delaware County Department of Job and Family Services
Delaware County District Library
Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Delaware County Regional Planning Commission
Delaware County Sheriff's Office
Del-Mor Dwellings
Employment for Seniors
Helpline of Delaware & Morrow Counties, Inc.
Liberty Township
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
Ohio Living Sarah Moore
OhioHealth
Preservation Parks of Delaware County
The Salvation Army
Willow Brook Christian Communities

AGE-FRIENDLY PROJECT OVERVIEW

Age-Friendly Delaware County is a local initiative aimed at creating a community in which residents of all ages can lead happy, healthy lives. The Age-Friendly Delaware County process is based on framework provided by the World Health Organization (WHO) and is part of a national network facilitated by AARP. Each Age-Friendly community must focus on WHO's 8 Domains of an Age-Friendly Community. These 8 domains guide the steps of the Age-Friendly Process and help determine which partners should be engaged in the planning and facilitation of the assessment and strategic plan.

Age-Friendly Communities must also follow a five-year process in which year two focuses on a strategic assessment to gather data on the health, well-being, interests, and resources related to the 8 domains of an age-friendly community. The following report will provide an overview of the 2018 survey methodology and results.
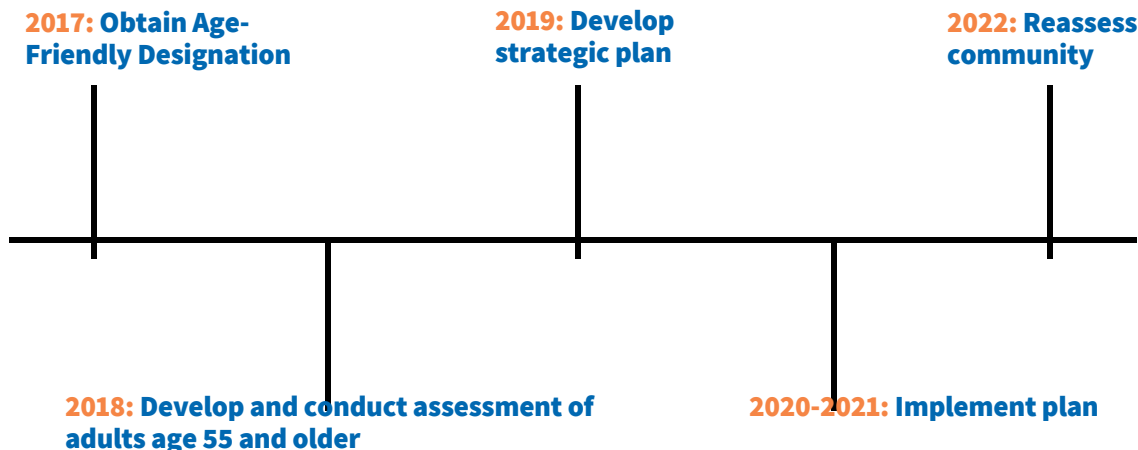
DOMAINS

1: **Outdoor Spaces and Buildings**
2: **Transportation**
3: **Housing**
4: **Social Participation**

5: **Respect and Social Inclusion**
6: **Civic Participation and Engagement**
7: **Communication and Information**
8: **Community and Health Services**

PROJECT TIMELINE

2017: Obtain Age-Friendly Designation

2019: Develop strategic plan

2022: Reassess community

2018: Develop and conduct assessment of adults age 55 and older

2020-2021: Implement plan

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The Age-Friendly Delaware County Assessment began in 2018 with research of tailored survey designs, focus groups, data gap identification and an advisory group in order to determine the focus and design of the assessment process. Following these steps, the "My Life in Delaware County" survey tool was created. The survey tool included 75 questions divided between 7 sections. Cover letters, thank you/reminder letters and a reminder postcard were included in the mailings sent to residents during summer 2018.

All documents were sent to the Ohio Department of Health Institutional Review Board (IRB). Final documents underwent full review and the project was approved by the IRB.

A single sample frame was used to select which residents would receive the survey. Individuals were selected via random sampling from the Delaware County Board of Election Voter Registration Database. 1,500 registered voters age 55 and older were selected to become the sampling frame. This group was then sent a cover letter, survey and a pre-stamped envelope in which to return the survey. All sampled residents were then sent a letter as a reminder to return the survey or thank them for their participation. A few weeks later, a second survey packet was mailed to residents who had not yet responded. Lastly a reminder postcard was sent to any remaining residents who had not returned the survey. The timeline of mailings is shown below.

Returned survey responses were entered into a secure database. Data was cleaned and then analyzed using Stata software. A total of 766 valid surveys were included in the dataset for a response rate of 51%.
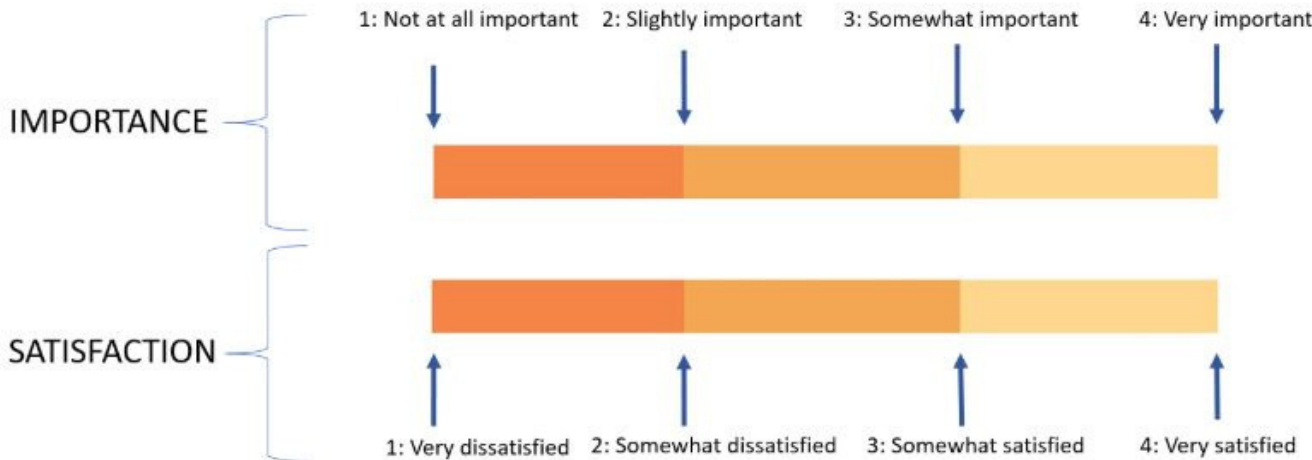
The full methodology report can be found at DelawareHealth.org/community-health-data
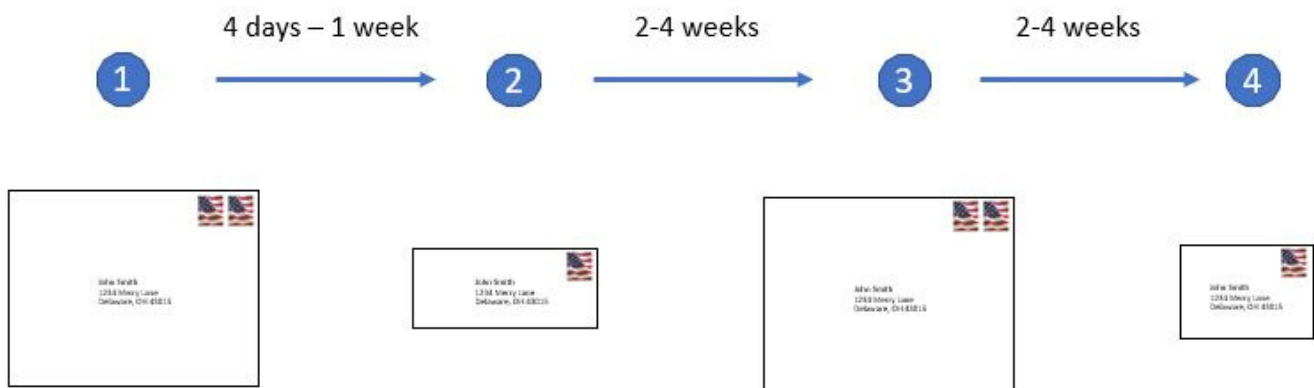
DATA INTERPRETATION

Bars are used to help interpret the importance and satisfaction questions that are throughout the report. Each bar is divided by the response options "Not at all important" to "Very important" and "Very dissatisfied" to "Very satisfied" depending on whether the bar refers to an importance or a satisfaction question. Each response corresponds to a value one through four. The values are then averaged to indicate how residents feel about the various topics and are included above each bar.

All satisfaction questions included the option "does not apply to me." This percentage is provided so that anyone interpreting the data knows how many individuals were not included in the satisfaction average.

IMPORTANCE

1: Not at all important   2: Slightly important   3: Somewhat important   4: Very important

SATISFACTION

1: Very dissatisfied   2: Somewhat dissatisfied   3: Somewhat satisfied   4: Very satisfied

Multi-use trails

3.34

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT   VERY IMPORTANT

3.23

VERY DISSATISFIED   VERY SATISFIED

25% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about multi-use trail satisfaction
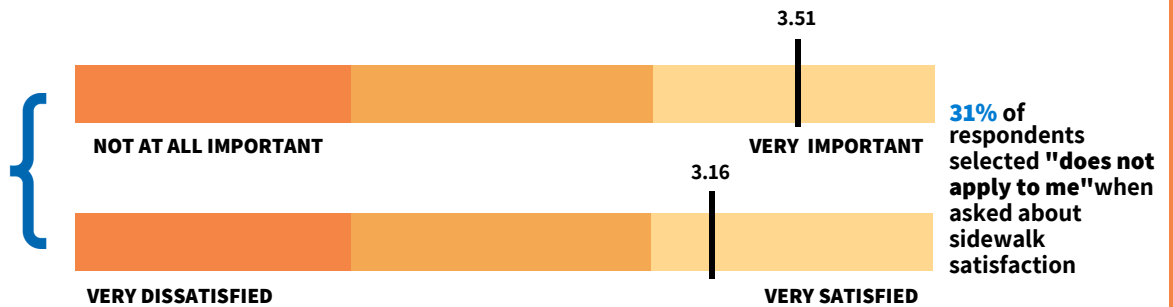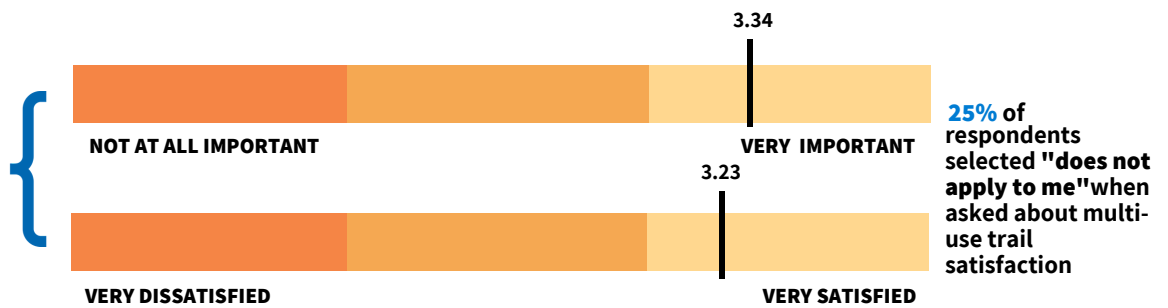
OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS

This section covered Q1-Q15 on the survey tool and addressed topics relating to safe and accessible places for people to gather, public buildings and greenspaces. Questions included importance and satisfaction scales for various resources and are broken down below. Differences within each resource and among various resources should be considered. Many respondents did not feel that certain resources applied to them and this is noted along the side of each graphic. For a full breakdown of results, please refer to Appendix B.
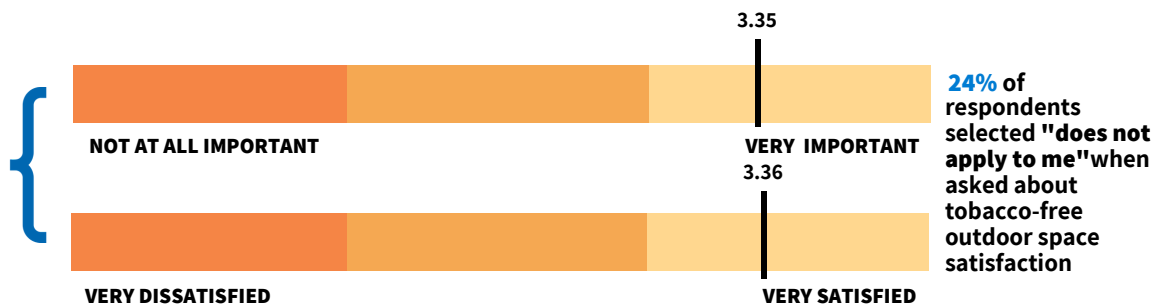
Well-maintained sidewalks

3.51

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT | VERY IMPORTANT

3.16

VERY DISSATISFIED | VERY SATISFIED

31% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about sidewalk satisfaction

Multi-use trails

3.34

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT | VERY IMPORTANT

3.23

VERY DISSATISFIED | VERY SATISFIED

25% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about multi-use trail satisfaction

Tobacco-free outdoor spaces

3.35

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT | VERY IMPORTANT

3.36

VERY DISSATISFIED | VERY SATISFIED

24% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about tobacco-free outdoor space satisfaction

OUTDOOR SPACES AND BUILDINGS

Parks

3.74

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT — VERY IMPORTANT

3.58

VERY DISSATISFIED — VERY SATISFIED

9% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about park satisfaction

Playgrounds

3.48

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT — VERY IMPORTANT

3.45

VERY DISSATISFIED — VERY SATISFIED
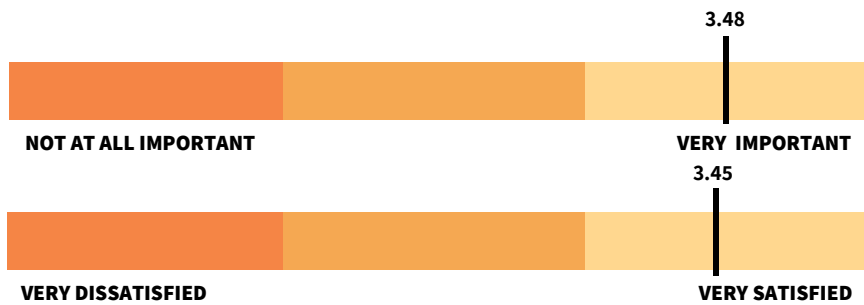
28% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about playground satisfaction

Public parking

3.36

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT — VERY IMPORTANT

2.85

VERY DISSATISFIED — VERY SATISFIED
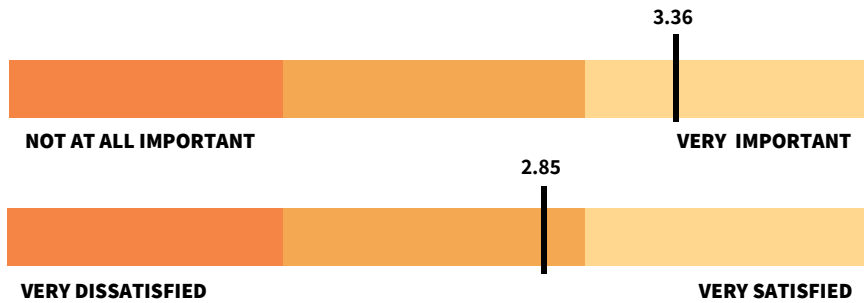
18% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about public parking satisfaction

97% of Delaware County older adults consider their community **to be somewhat or very safe.**

Are outdoor spaces accessible to those with different abilities?	
68%	Yes
26%	Not sure
6%	No

Are public buildings accessible to those with different abilities?	
63%	Yes
37%	Not sure
0%	No

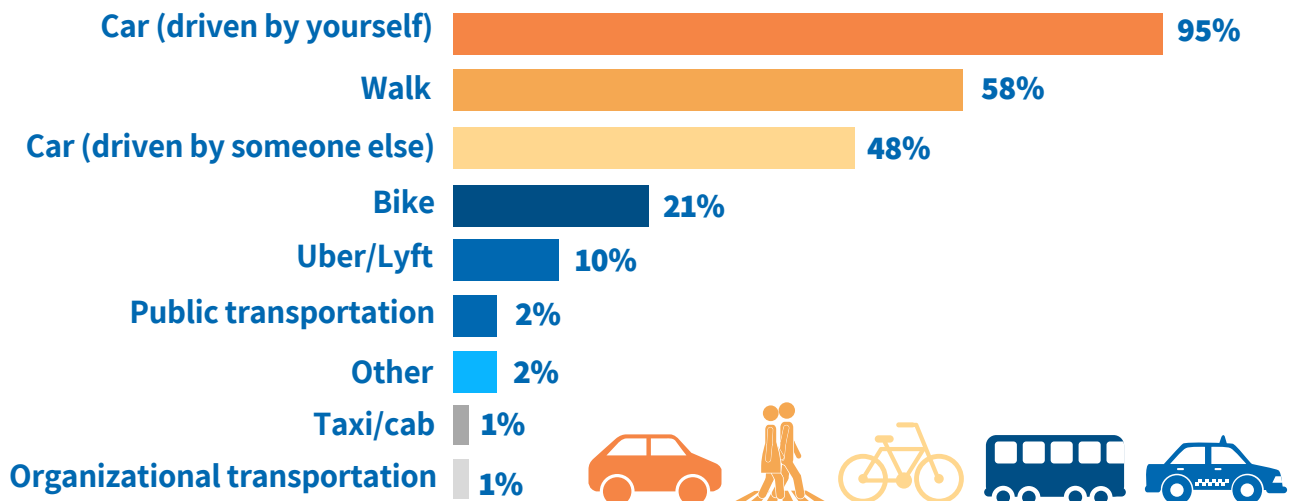*" The trail surfaces are usually dirt or covered with mulch which is too hard for maneuvering.*

" Parking often is not nearby, steps or stairs are unavoidable, need periodic seating to rest. Remember, many handicapped are not in wheelchairs or scooters. "

TRANSPORTATION

This section covered Q16-Q19 on the survey tool and addressed topics relating to how older adults currently navigate their community and what methods they would prefer to utilize more often. For a full breakdown of results, please refer to the Appendix B.

Methods of transportation used by older adults in Delaware County

Method	Percentage
Car (driven by yourself)	95%
Walk	58%
Car (driven by someone else)	48%
Bike	21%
Uber/Lyft	10%
Public transportation	2%
Other	2%
Taxi/cab	1%
Organizational transportation	1%

Olders adults identified biking and public transit as methods of transportation they wish they could utilize more.

We need more and safer bike lanes.

Bike more-connected paved paths.

Bike paths from neighborhoods don't exist.

Like to see rail transportation around the Columbus area.

*I would use public transit more if it was available in the county.*

HOUSING

This section covered Q20-Q25 on the survey tool and addressed topics relating to aging in place, as well as current and preferred housing types. For a full breakdown of results, please refer to Appendix B.

43% of Delaware County older adults need assistance maintaining the **exterior** of their home

42% of Delaware County older adults need assistance maintaining the **interior** of their home
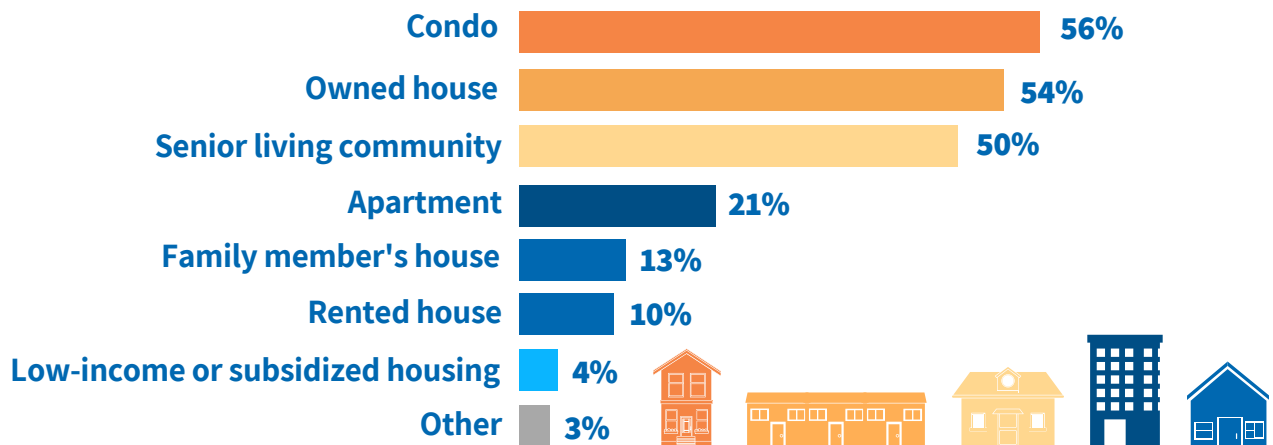
76%
Owned house

18%
Owned condo
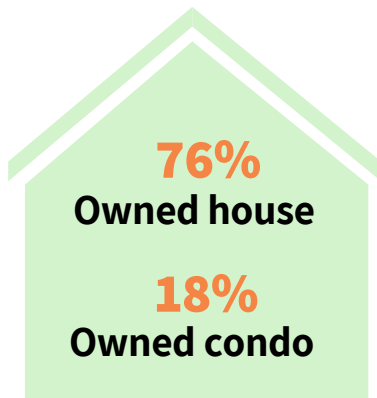
The majority of older adults find it important to stay in both their community and current home as they age:

89% find it important or very important to stay in their community

86% find it important or very important to stay in their current home

Older adults indicated they would consider the following housing types if they were to move in the future:

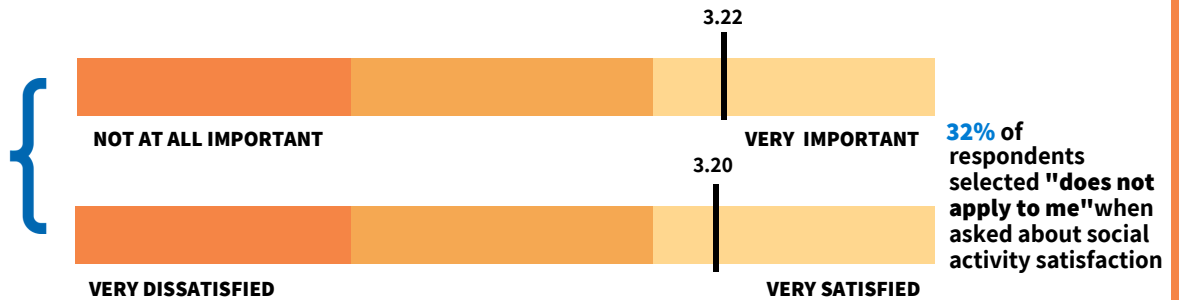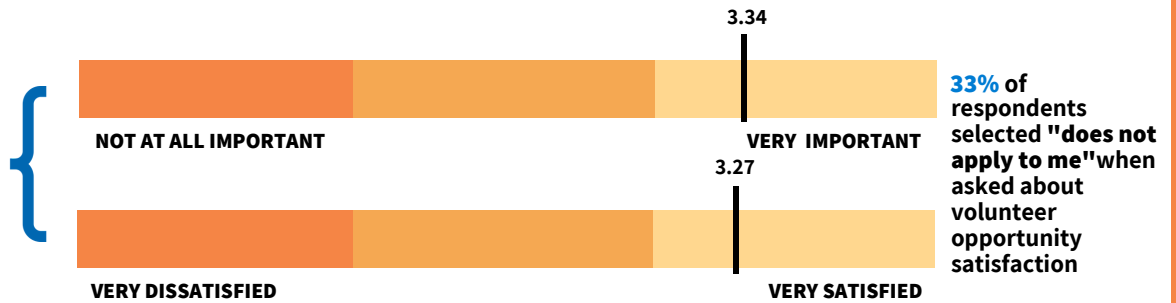| Housing type	Percentage
Condo	56%
Owned house	54%
Senior living community	50%
Apartment	21%
Family member's house	13%
Rented house	10%
Low-income or subsidized housing	4%
Other	3%

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

This section covered Q26-Q45 on the survey tool and combines the social participation, respect and social inclusion, and civic participation and engagement domains. Questions included importance and satisfaction scales for various topics and are broken down below. Differences within each topic and among various topics should be considered. Many respondents did not feel certain topics applied to them and this is noted along the side of each graphic. For a full breakdown of results, please refer to Appendix B.

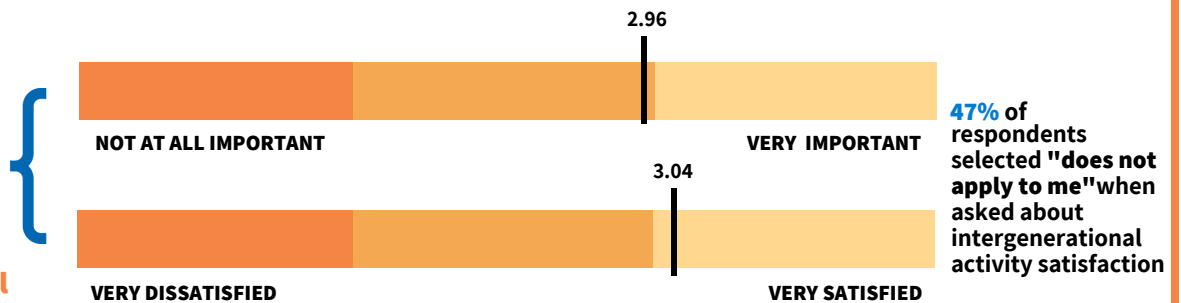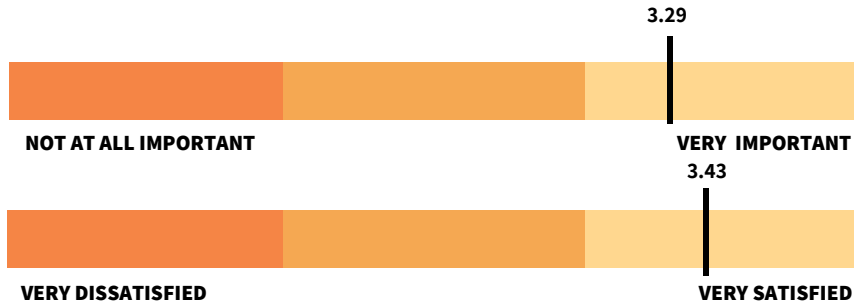## Social Activities

3.22

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT — VERY IMPORTANT

3.20

VERY DISSATISFIED — VERY SATISFIED

32% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about social activity satisfaction

Volunteer Opportunities

3.34

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT — VERY IMPORTANT

3.27

VERY DISSATISFIED — VERY SATISFIED

33% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about volunteer opportunity satisfaction

Intergenerational Activities

2.96

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT — VERY IMPORTANT

3.04

VERY DISSATISFIED — VERY SATISFIED

47% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about intergenerational activity satisfaction

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

School Engagement

3.29

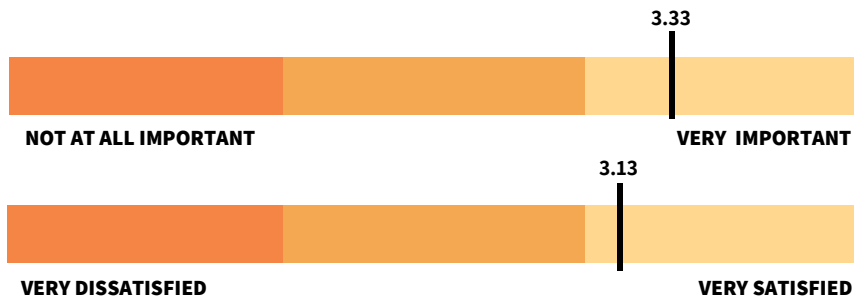NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT — VERY IMPORTANT

3.43

VERY DISSATISFIED — VERY SATISFIED

33% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about school engagement satisfaction

Educational Opportunities

3.33

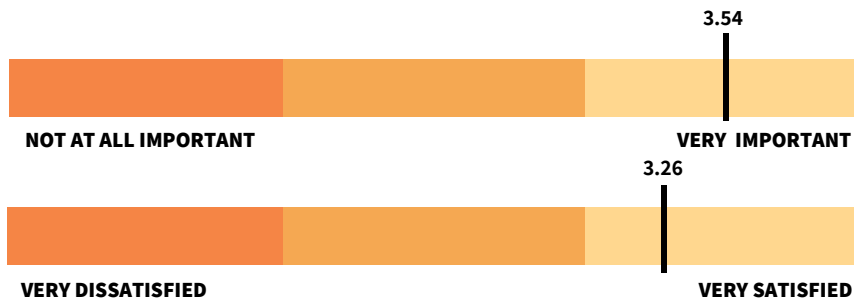NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT — VERY IMPORTANT

3.13

VERY DISSATISFIED — VERY SATISFIED

31% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about educational opportunity satisfaction

Physical Activity Opportunities

3.54

NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT — VERY IMPORTANT

3.26

VERY DISSATISFIED — VERY SATISFIED

24% of respondents selected **"does not apply to me"** when asked about physical activity opportunity satisfaction

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

53%
Fully retired

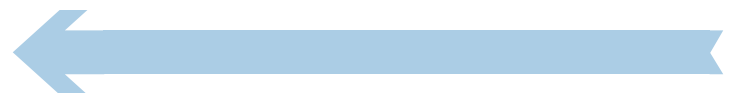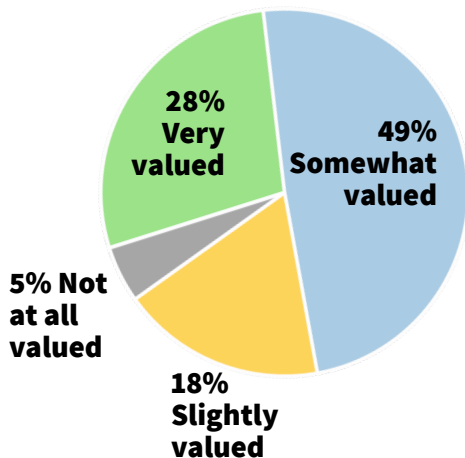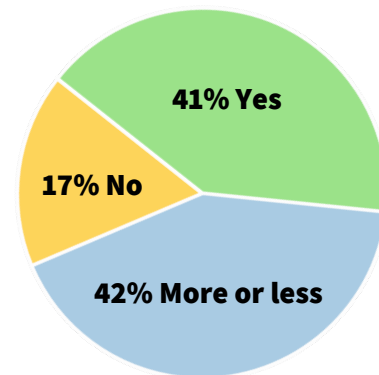**15%**
Retired, still working

32%
Not retired

31% Concerned about financially supporting themselves throughout retirement

16% Unsure about financially supporting themselves throughout retirement

12% of older adults still working felt there were not job opportunities available that utilize their skill sets

Do older adults feel they have a purpose within their community?

41% Yes

17% No

42% More or less

28% Very valued

49% Somewhat valued

5% Not at all valued

18% Slightly valued

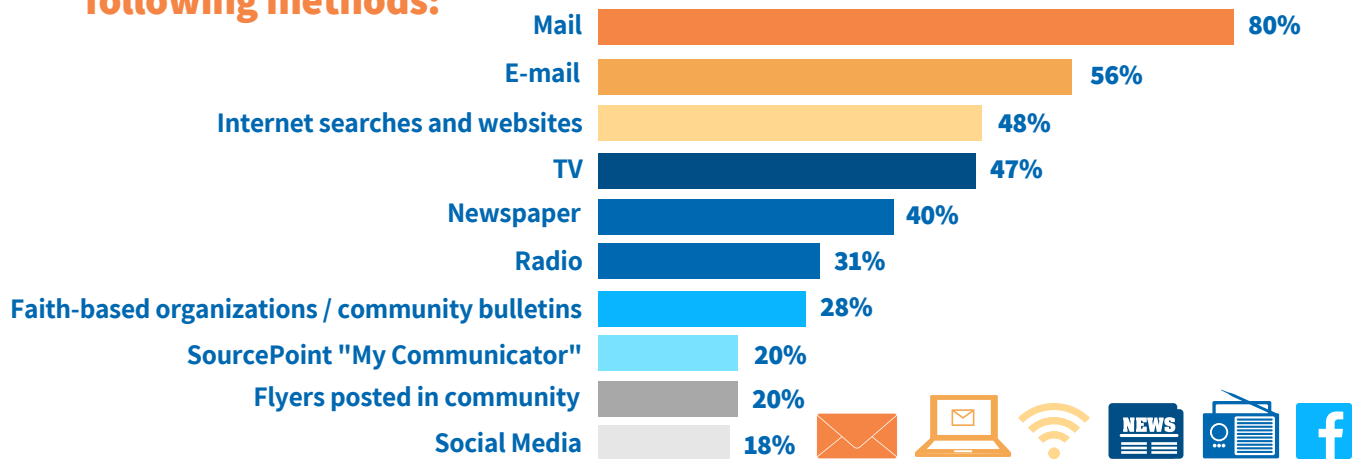**Do older adults feel their opinions are of value to decision makers in their community?**

" *All in all, Delaware County is a great place to live and retire for those who can afford it.* "
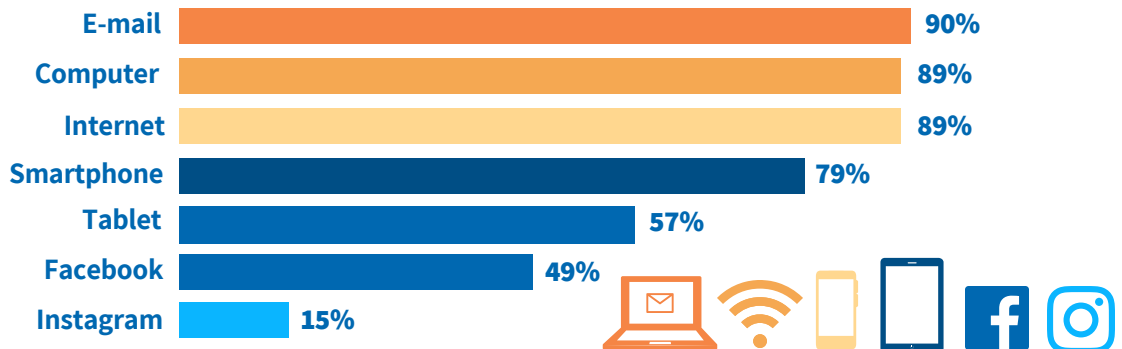
COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION

This section covered Q46-Q48 on the survey tool and addressed topics relating to technology and preferred methods of communication. For a full breakdown of results, please refer to Appendix B.

Older adults would prefer to receive information by the following methods:

Method	Percentage
Mail	80%
E-mail	56%
Internet searches and websites	48%
TV	47%
Newspaper	40%
Radio	31%
Faith-based organizations / community bulletins	28%
SourcePoint "My Communicator"	20%
Flyers posted in community	20%
Social Media	18%

Older adults reported using the following types of technology:

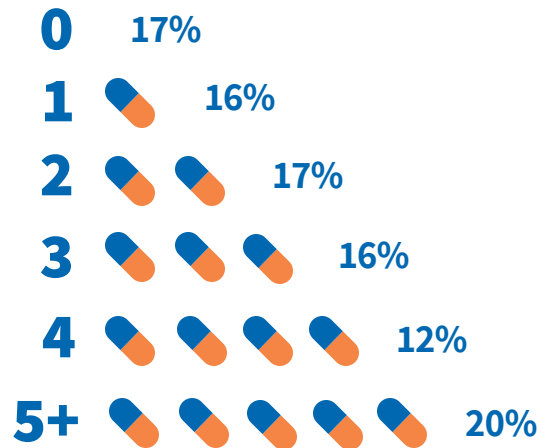| Technology	Percentage
E-mail	90%
Computer	89%
Internet	89%
Smartphone	79%
Tablet	57%
Facebook	49%
Instagram	15%

COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES

This section covered Q49-Q59 on the survey tool and addressed topics relating to health issues commonly affecting older adults. For a full breakdown of results, please refer to Appendix B.

In general, older adults reported their health status as:

- 21% Good
- 6% Fair
- 2% Poor
- 27% Excellent
- 44% Very Good
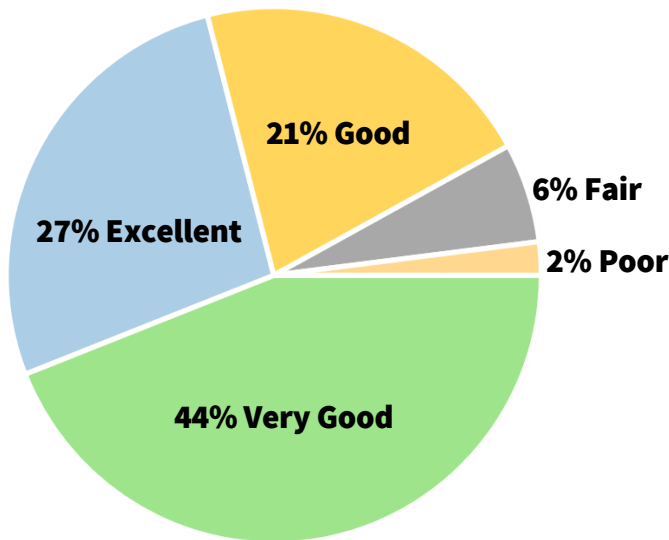
Number of prescription medications taken by older adults:

- **0** 17%
- **1** 16%
- **2** 17%
- **3** 16%
- **4** 12%
- **5+** 20%

Of those older adults currently taking prescription medications, **54%** do not review their medications with a pharmacist every year.

18% of older adults have fallen in the past 6 months
18% are anxious about falling

Older adults reported they:
Do not eat out or bring home takeout: **11%**
Eat out or bring home takeout 1-2 times per week: **59%**
Eat out or bring home takeout 3+ times per week: **29%**

69% of older adults exercise every day to several times a week
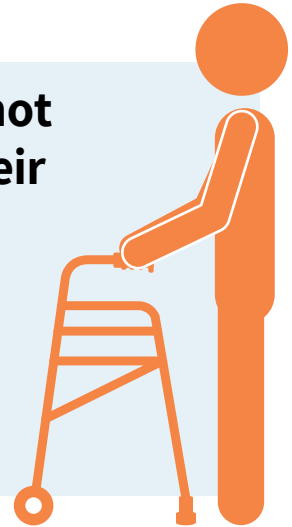
3 out of every 100 adults have felt abused

8 out of every 100 older adults have been a victim of a financial scam

COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SERVICES

41% **of Delaware County older adults are not aware of mental health services in their community**

25% **of Delaware County older adults are living with some sort of physical or mental limitation**

Out of every 100 Delaware County older adults...
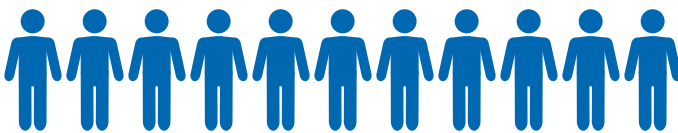
2 experience difficulty dressing or bathing

2 experience blindness or serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses

4 experience difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions due to a physical, mental or emotional condition

6 experience difficulty doing errands alone due to a physical, mental or emotional condition

11 experience deafness or serious difficulty hearing

16 experience difficulty walking or climbing stairs

RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

This section includes socioeconomic characteristics of those who responded to the Age-Friendly survey. Demographic data can be used to divide the larger older adult population into relevant sub-groups and provide a description of the County's older adult population as a whole. For this survey, older adults were defined as those 55 and older.
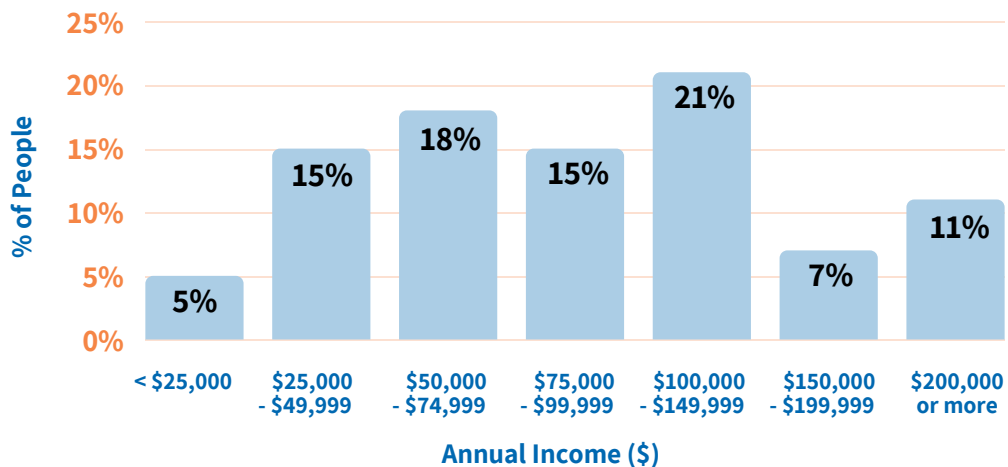
43% Male
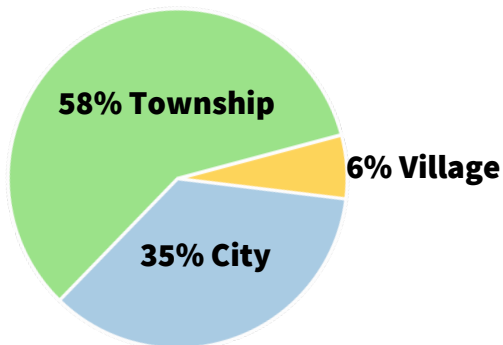
57% Female

Average Age: 68 years old

Race:
White 94%
Other 3%
African American 2%

Household income breakdown for Delaware County older adults

% of People

- < $25,000: 5%
- $25,000 - $49,999: 15%
- $50,000 - $74,999: 18%
- $75,000 - $99,999: 15%
- $100,000 - $149,999: 21%
- $150,000 - $199,999: 7%
- $200,000 or more: 11%

Annual Income ($)

Municipality

58% Township
35% City
6% Village

Education:
K-12th grade (no diploma) 2%
High school graduate, GED or equivalent 14%
Post-high school education/ training (no degree) 15%
2- year college degree 11%
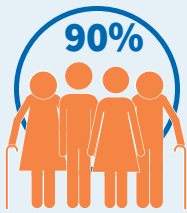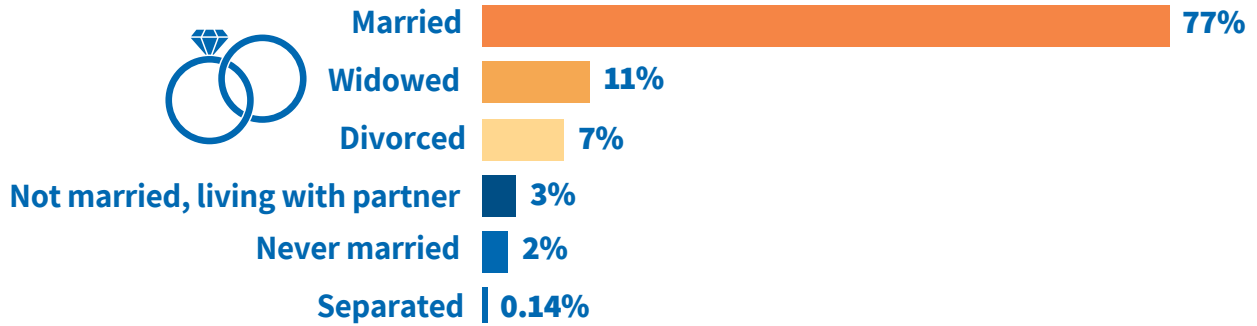**4-year college degree** 25%
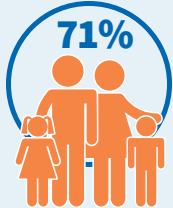**Post-graduate study (no degree)** 10%
Graduate or professional degree(s) 23%

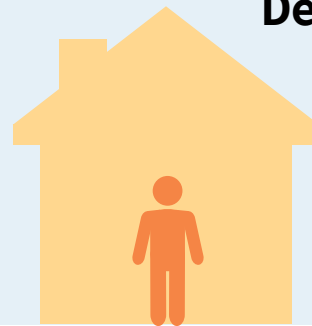# RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Current marital status of older adults

- Married **77%**
- Widowed **11%**
- Divorced **7%**
- Not married, living with partner **3%**
- Never married **2%**
- Separated **0.14%**

90% of Delaware County older adults have **children**

71% of Delaware County older adults have **grandchildren**

16 out of every 100 Delaware County older adults live alone

Average length of time lived in Delaware County **23 years**

80% of older adults would rate their community as a very good or excellent place to live as they age

How likely are Delaware County older adults to move out of the County as they age?

- **36%** Not at all likely
- **22%** Somewhat likely
- **18%** Slightly likely
- **15%** Don't know
- **9%** Very likely

Top reasons given as to why older adults would move out of Delaware County:

$ Finances   Family   Housing   Climate

DATA EXAMPLES AND REQUESTS

The report is a synopsis of the overall data gathered from the 2018 Age-Friendly Assessment. In addition to the data provided in this report and its appendices, further data analysis can be conducted by the Delaware General Health District upon request. Cross tabulations (as shown below) can compare questions to other questions or to various groups of people. Any further analysis will be published on the Delaware General Health District's website.

Park importance by municipality

Importance Level: Parks	Municipality		
	Township % (n)	Village % (n)	City % (n)
Not at all important	2% (9)	0% (0)	1% (3)
Slightly important	4% (17)	5% (2)	2% (6)
Somewhat important	15% (62)	14% (6)	10% (25)
Very important	79% (328)	82% (36)	86% (216)

Interpretation: 82% of those who live in a village said parks were very important compared to 79% of those who live in a township.

Current methods of transportation by age groups

Current Method of Transportation	Age Group (years)			
	54-64 % (n)	65-74 % (n)	75-84 % (n)	85+
Car (driven by self)	99% (281)	97% (267)	94% (110)	65% (28)
Car (driven by someone else)	53% (151)	49% (135)	38% (44)	42% (18)
Public Transportation	1% (4)	1% (3)	3% (4)	9% (4)
Taxi/cab	1% (3)	1% (2)	3% (3)	2% (1)
Uber/Lyft	13% (38)	9% (26)	4% (5)	2% (1)
Bike	31% (89)	20% (56)	7% (8)	2% (1)
Walk	68% (193)	59% (163)	44% (52)	36% (15)
Organizational Transportation	1% (2)	0.4% (1)	1% (1)	10% (4)

Interpretation: 1% of those age 54-64 use organizational transportation compared to 10% of those age 85 and older.

Annual medication reviews by number of prescription medications

Annual medication review with pharmacist	Number of prescription medications		
	1-2 % (n)	3-4 % (n)	5+ % (n)
Yes	42% (104)	47% (96)	46% (68)
No	56% (138)	53% (107)	53% (78)

**Interpretation:** 53% of those who took 5+ prescription medications do not have an annual review with their pharmacist.

Preferred methods of communication by age groups

Preferred method of communication	Age Group (years)			
	54-64 % (n)	65-74 % (n)	75-84 % (n)	85+
Mail	75% (215)	84% (224)	84% (113)	85% (35)
Social Media	24% (67)	19% (52)	9% (10)	2% (1)
Email	59% (167)	63% (168)	47% (53)	29% (12)
Internet Searches/Websites	59% (169)	47% (125)	33% (38)	15% (6)
Faith-based organizations and community bulletins	30% (86)	28% (76)	26% (29)	24% (10)
Community Flyers	24% (67)	19% (52)	14% (16)	12% (5)
Newspaper	35% (101)	43% (115)	46% (52)	49% (20)
My Communicator	17% (49)	24% (63)	22% (25)	20% (8)
TV	46% (130)	47% (126)	50% (56)	56% (23)
Radio	37% (106)	30% (81)	19% (21)	12% (5)

Interpretation: Popularity of receiving information via newspapers increased as age increased from 35% in those aged 54-64 to 49% in those aged 85+.

Data is available by the below geographic regions. While this data is not statistically significant, it can be useful in examining regional trends. Data can be requested from the Delaware General Health District.
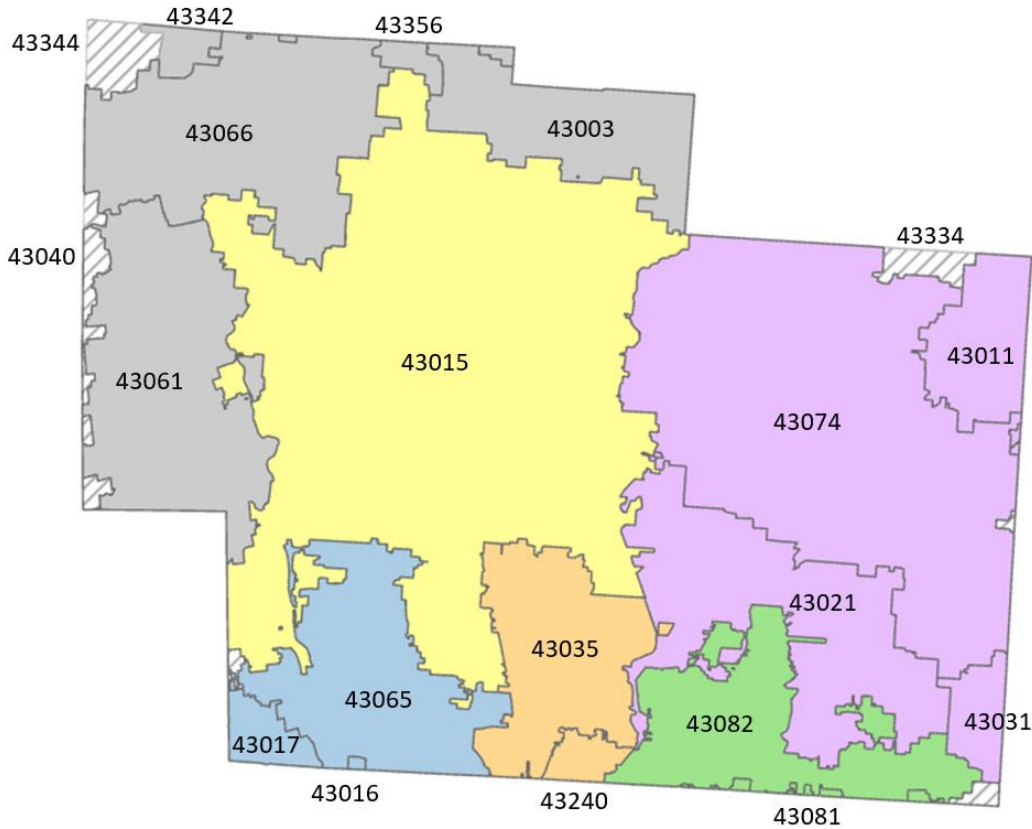
Grey Region: Ostrander, Radnor, Waldo, Ashley, Prospect I Blue Region: Dublin, Powell I Yellow Region: Delaware I Orange Region: Lewis Center, Columbus I Purple Region: Sunbury, Galena, Johnstown, Centerburg I Green Region: Westerville

Blue Region	Purple Region	Grey Region
43016 I 43017 43065 Total respondents: 183	43074 I 43011 43021 I 43031 Total respondents: 87	43003 I 43061 I 43066 43342 I 43356 Total respondents: 29 *Not enough responses to report aggregate results

Yellow Region	Orange Region	Green Region
43015 Total respondents: 197	43035 I 43240 Total respondents: 73	43081 I 43082 Total respondents: 160

For more information regarding:

Assessment results, further data analysis, survey methodology, or this report, please contact the Delaware General Health District.

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Strategic planning, workgroups, current initiatives, and ways to get involved please contact SourcePoint.

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This study includes data provide by the Ohio Department of Health which should not be considered an endorsement of this study or its conclusions.