



Mount Vernon, Illinois 2024 Community Survey Findings Report

Presented to Mount Vernon

July 2024



ETC
INSTITUTE

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Executive Summary

Mount Vernon, Illinois Community Survey Executive Summary

Overview

ETC Institute administered a community survey for the City of Mount Vernon, Illinois during the winter and spring of 2024. The purpose of the survey was to help determine potential improvements to Veteran's Park and Lincoln Park and need for indoor recreation facility.

Methodology

ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to a random number of households in Mount Vernon area. 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 MtVernonsurvey.org.

After the surveys were mailed, ETC Institute followed up with residents to encourage participation. To prevent people who were not residents of Mount Vernon from participating, everyone who completed the survey online was required to enter their home address prior to submitting their survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses entered online with the addresses 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 423 completed surveys collected. The overall results for the sample of 423 residents have a precision of at least +/-4.75% at the 95% level of confidence.

In addition to this executive summary the report contains the following:

- Charts showing the overall results of the survey (Section 1),
- Tabular data showing the results for all questions on the survey (Section 2), and
- A copy of the cover letter and survey instrument (Section 3).

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

Parks/Facilities Use

Veteran's Park: Respondents were asked how often they visited Veteran's Park over the past year. 9% visited "more than once a week," 8% visited "once per week," 21% visited "1 to 2 times a month," 44% visited "a few times per week," and 19% "haven't visited the park in the past 12 months." For those that said they "haven't visited the park in the past 12 months," they gave barriers that prevented them from visiting the park more often. The barriers that were highly selected were: do not feel safe using the park (31%), lack of amenities we want to use (25%), and too busy/not interested (23%). They also rated their level of support for the additions/improvements that could be made at Veteran's Park. The additions/improvements that respondents supported the most were: improve existing restrooms (81%), add amenities along walking trail (i.e., benches, drinking fountains, exercise stations) (80%), and Pond beautification improvements (i.e., lake edge planting, decorative boulders, fishing dock) (78%). Then, they selected additions/improvements that were most important to them. The additions/improvements that were highly selected were: add amenities along walking trail (44%), extend walking/biking trail (34%), and Pond beautification improvements (33%).

Rolland Lewis Community Building: Respondents were asked if they attended an event at the Rolland Lewis Community Building in Veteran's Park in the past year. 54% responded "yes." Ten percent (10%) indicated that they rented the facility for their own event.

Lincoln Park: Respondents were asked how often they visited Lincoln park in the past year. 4% visited "more than once a week," 3% visited "once per week," 6% visited "1 to 2 times a month," 19% visited "a few times per year," and 68% "haven't visited the park in the past 12 month." For those that said they "haven't visited the park in the past 12 months," they gave barriers that prevented them from visiting Lincoln park more often. The barriers that were highly selected were: too busy/not interested (25%), lack of amenities we want to use (25%), and use other parks/facilities (18%). They also rated their level of support for the additions/improvements that could be made at Lincoln park. The additions/improvements that respondents supported the most were: add picnic shelters/areas (67%), add restrooms (67%), and extend walking/biking trail (62%). Then, they selected the additions/improvements that are most important to them. The additions/improvements that were highly selected were: add picnic shelters/areas (31%), add restrooms (30%), and extend walking/biking trail (28%).

Aquatic Zoo Water Park: Respondents were asked how often they visited the Aquatic Zoo Water Park in the past year. 2% visited "more than once a week," 3% visited "once per week," 7% visited "1 to 2 times a month," 28% visited "a few times per year," and 60% "haven't visited the park in the past 12 months." For those that "haven't visited the park in the past 12 months," they gave barriers that prevented them from visiting the park more often. The barriers that were highly selected include: too busy/not interested (39%), lack of shade (18%), and lack of amenities we want to use (10%).

Indoor Recreation Facilities in Other Communities: Respondents were asked how far they travel to use indoor recreation facilities in other communities. 7% travels “10 to 15 miles,” 2% travels “15 to 20 miles,” 12% travels “20 to 30 miles,” 19% travels “30+ miles,” and 59% said “we don’t travel to other communities for indoor recreation.” Then, they were asked how often they visited indoor recreation facilities in other communities in the past year. 3% visited “more than once a week,” 3% visited “once per week,” 8% visited “1 to 2 times a month,” 28% visited “a few times per week,” and 58% visited “haven’t visited the park in past 12 months.” They also gave their preferred method of payment for use of a new indoor recreation facility (if one were to be developed). 28% preferred “daily admission fees,” 16% preferred “10-punch admission pass,” 38% preferred “monthly membership,” and 18% preferred “annual membership.”

Benefits, Importance, and Improvements to Parks and Recreation

Plans for a New Indoor Recreation Facility: The city wants to explore the importance of a new indoor recreation facility that would meet the needs of the community. Respondents were asked to select the features that they would like to see in the new indoor recreation facility. The features that were selected the most were: indoor running/walking track (82%), lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes (74%), and aerobics/fitness/gymnastics space (73%). Then, they selected the features they would be most likely to use if they were included in the new indoor recreation facility. The features that were highly selected were: indoor running/walking track (46%), lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes (33%), and aerobics/fitness/gymnastic space (30%).

Additional Findings

Resident/Non-Resident Fees: Respondents were asked if they believe that Mt. Vernon resident fees should be lower than non-resident fees. 88% responded “yes.”

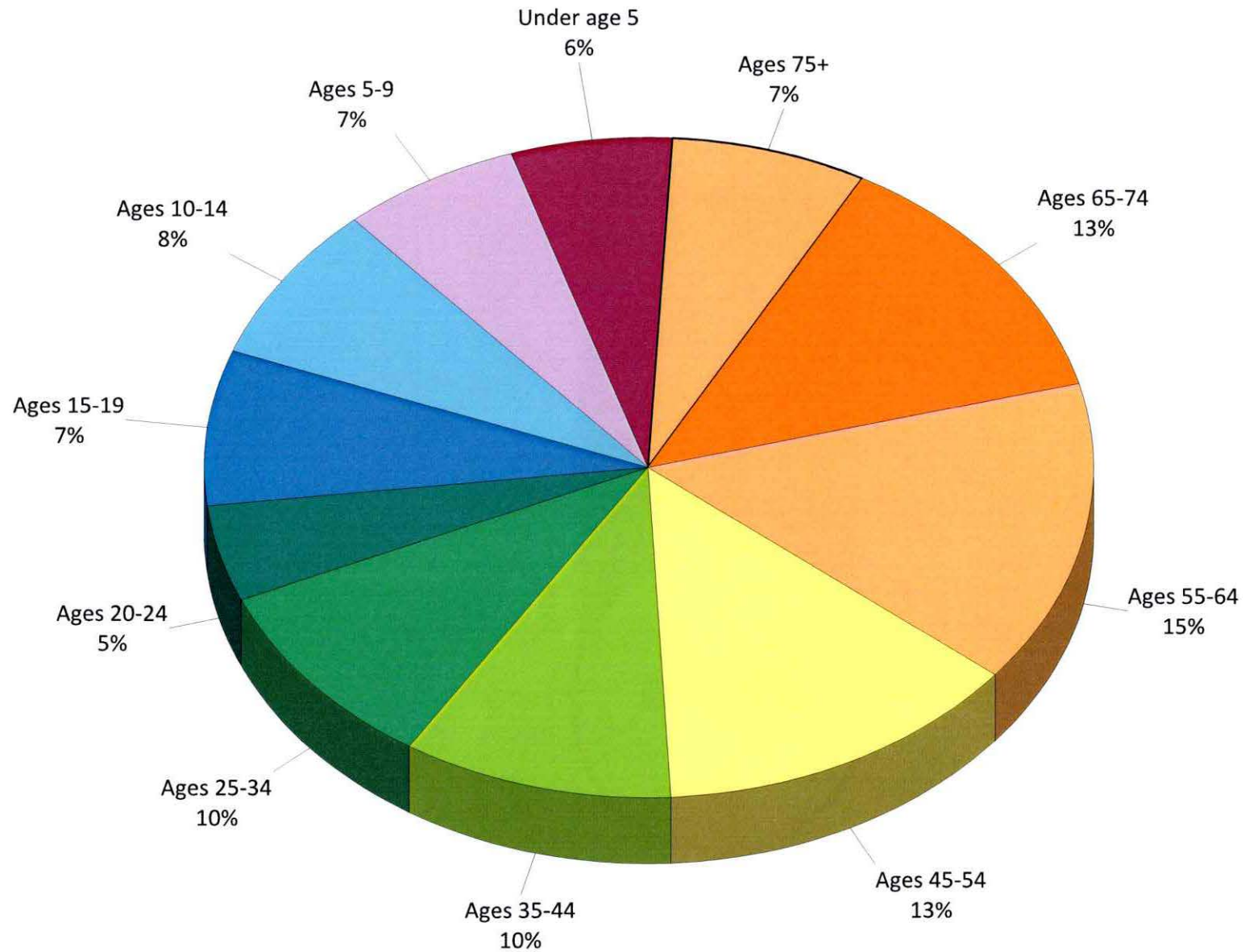
Positive Economic Impact on the Community: Respondents were asked if they believe that it is important for an indoor recreation center to have a positive economic impact on the community. 83% responded “yes.”

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Charts and Graphs

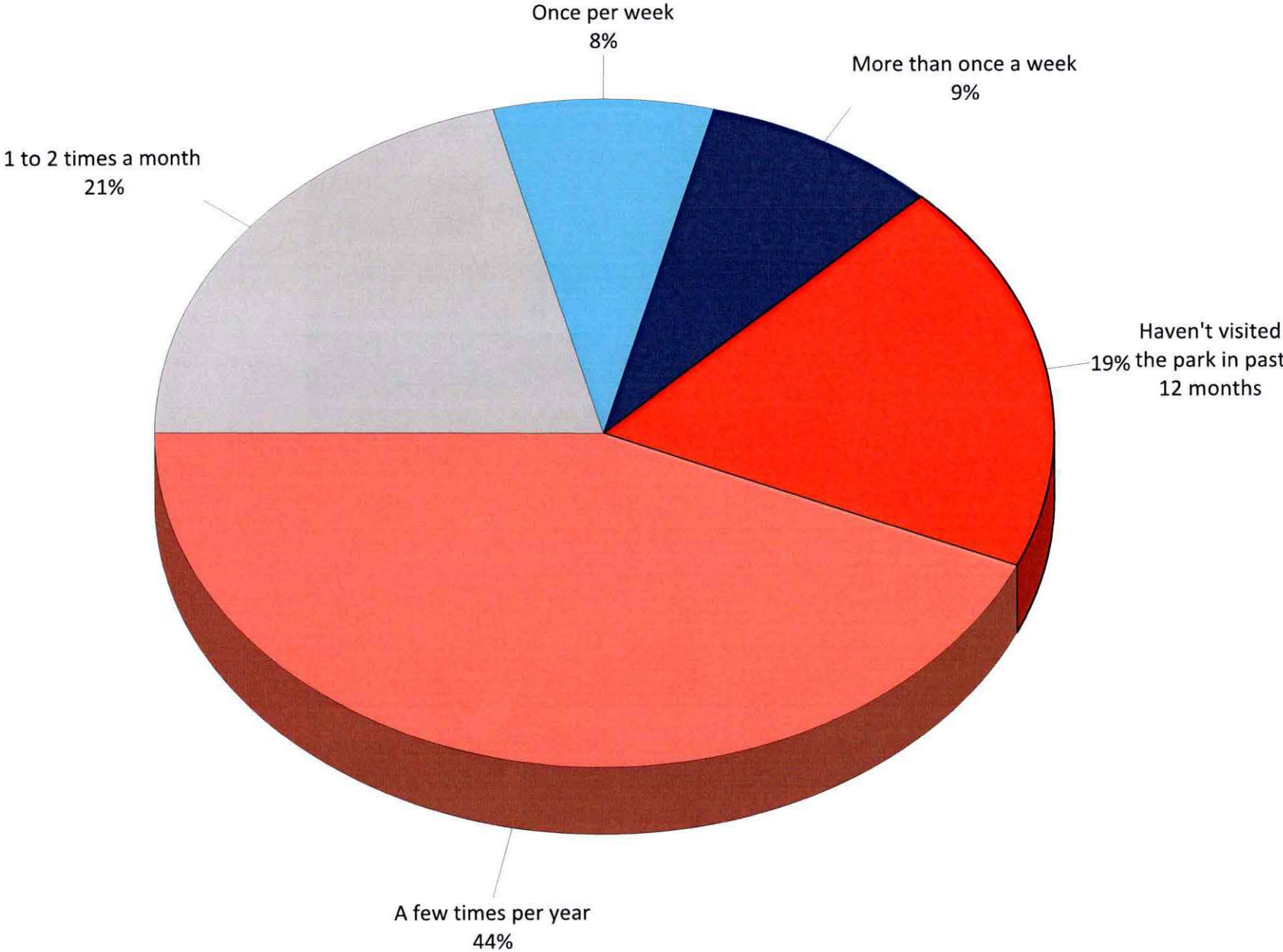
Q1. Including yourself, how many people in your household are...

by percentage of persons in household



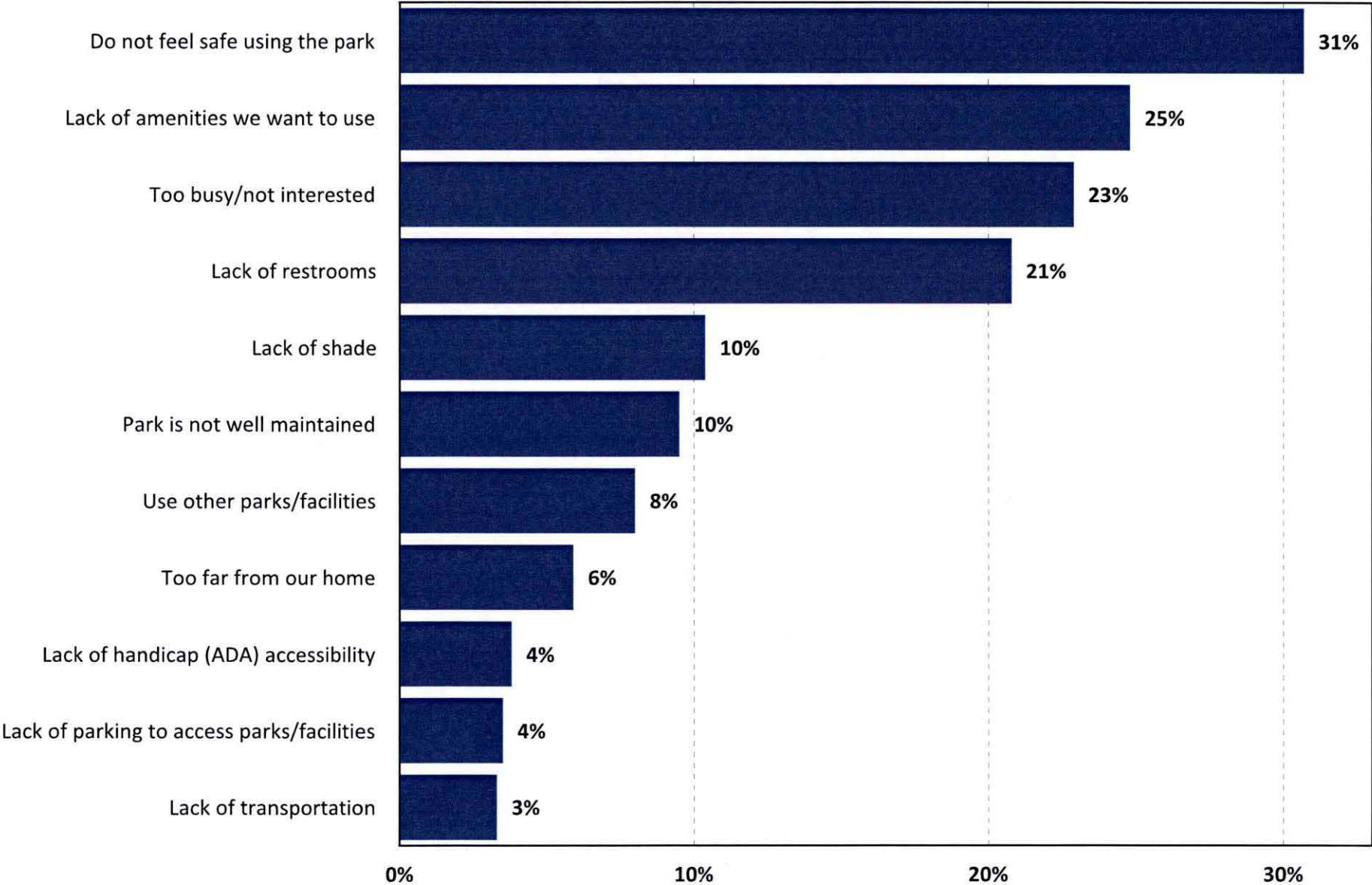
Q2. How often have you/your household visited Veteran's Park over the past year?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



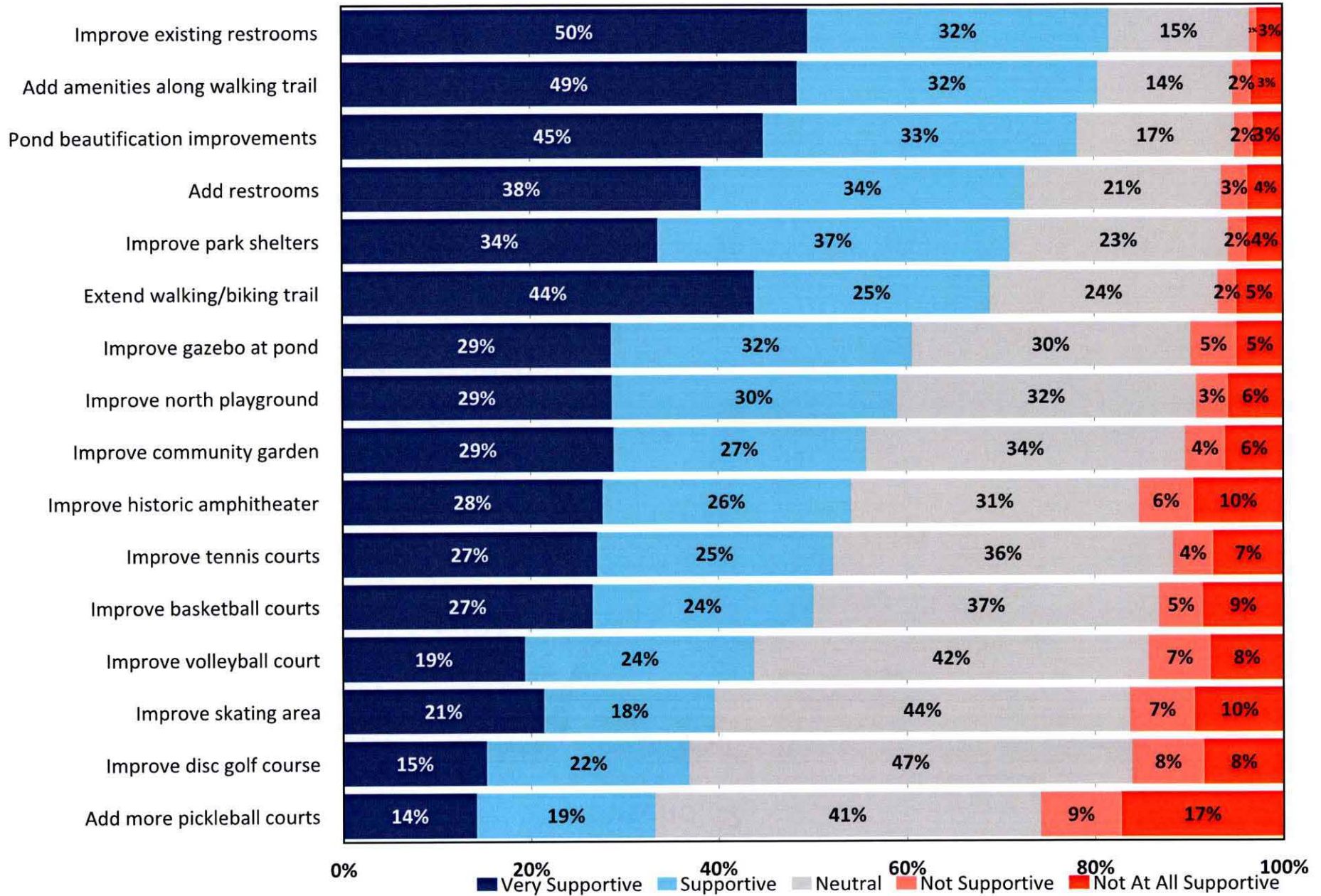
Q3. Please check all the following reasons that prevent you/your households from visiting Veteran's Park more often.

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



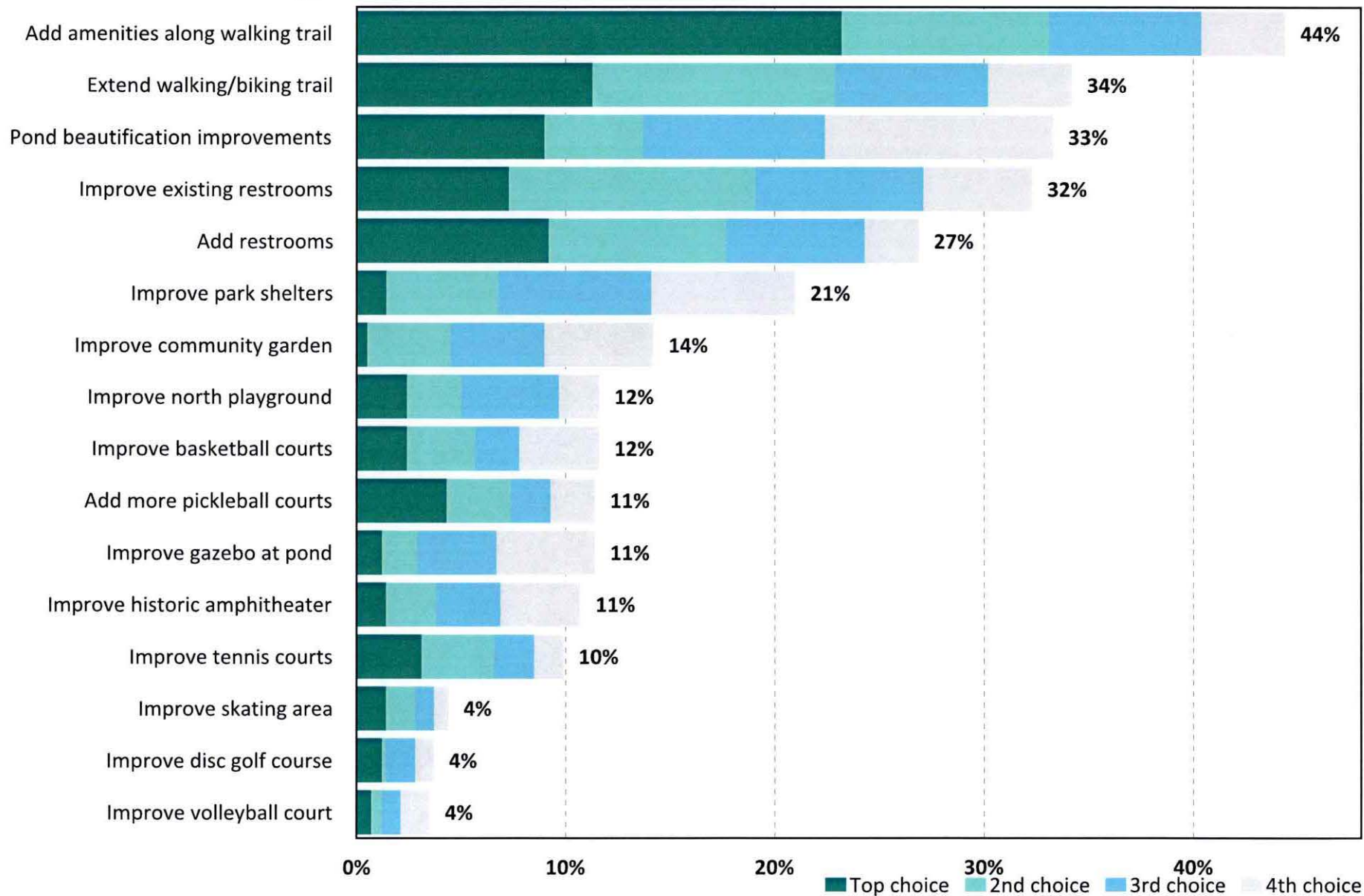
Q4. Please indicate your level of support for the following additions/improvements.

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



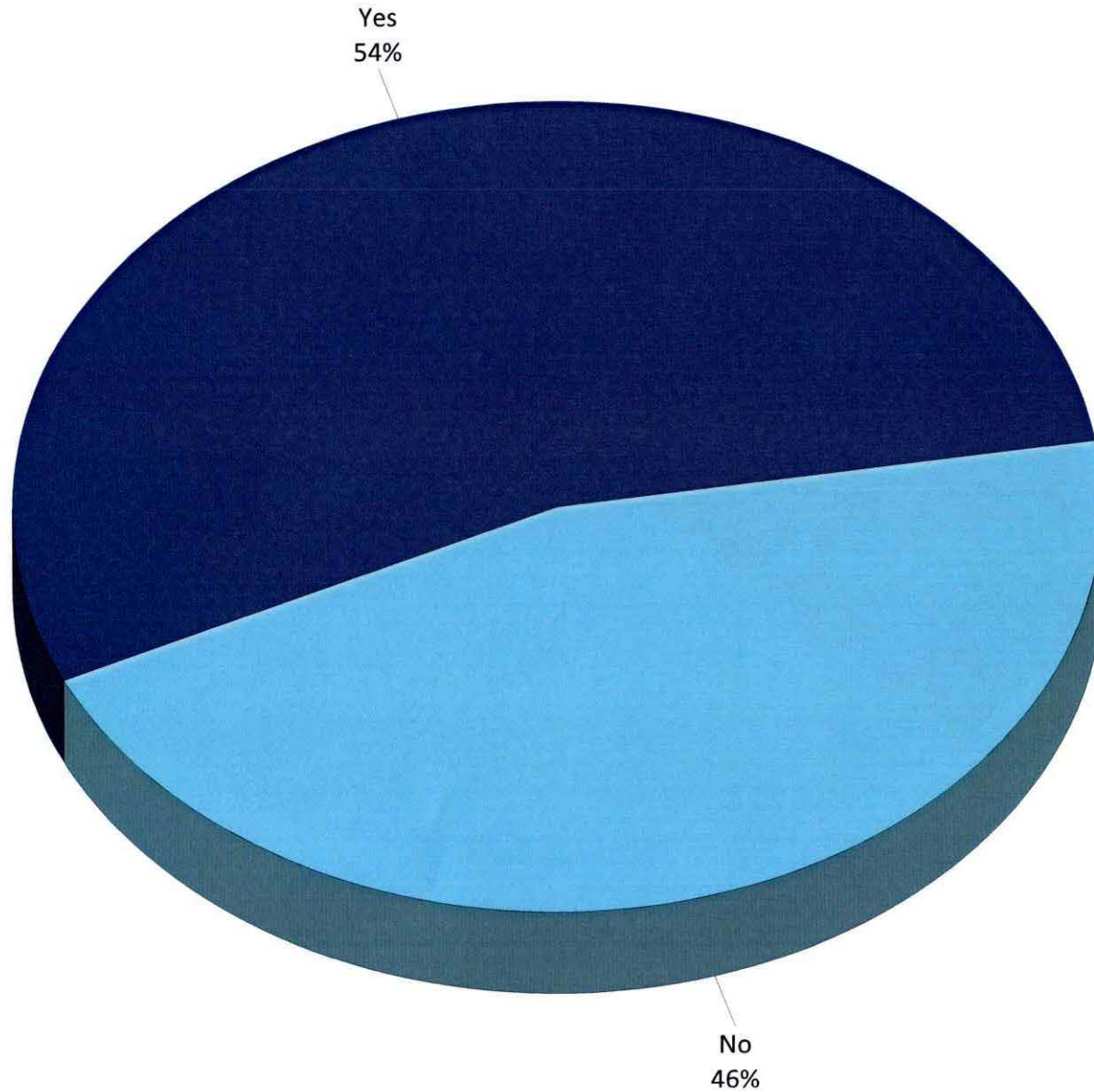
Q5. Which four potential additions/improvements are most important to your household?

by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top four choices



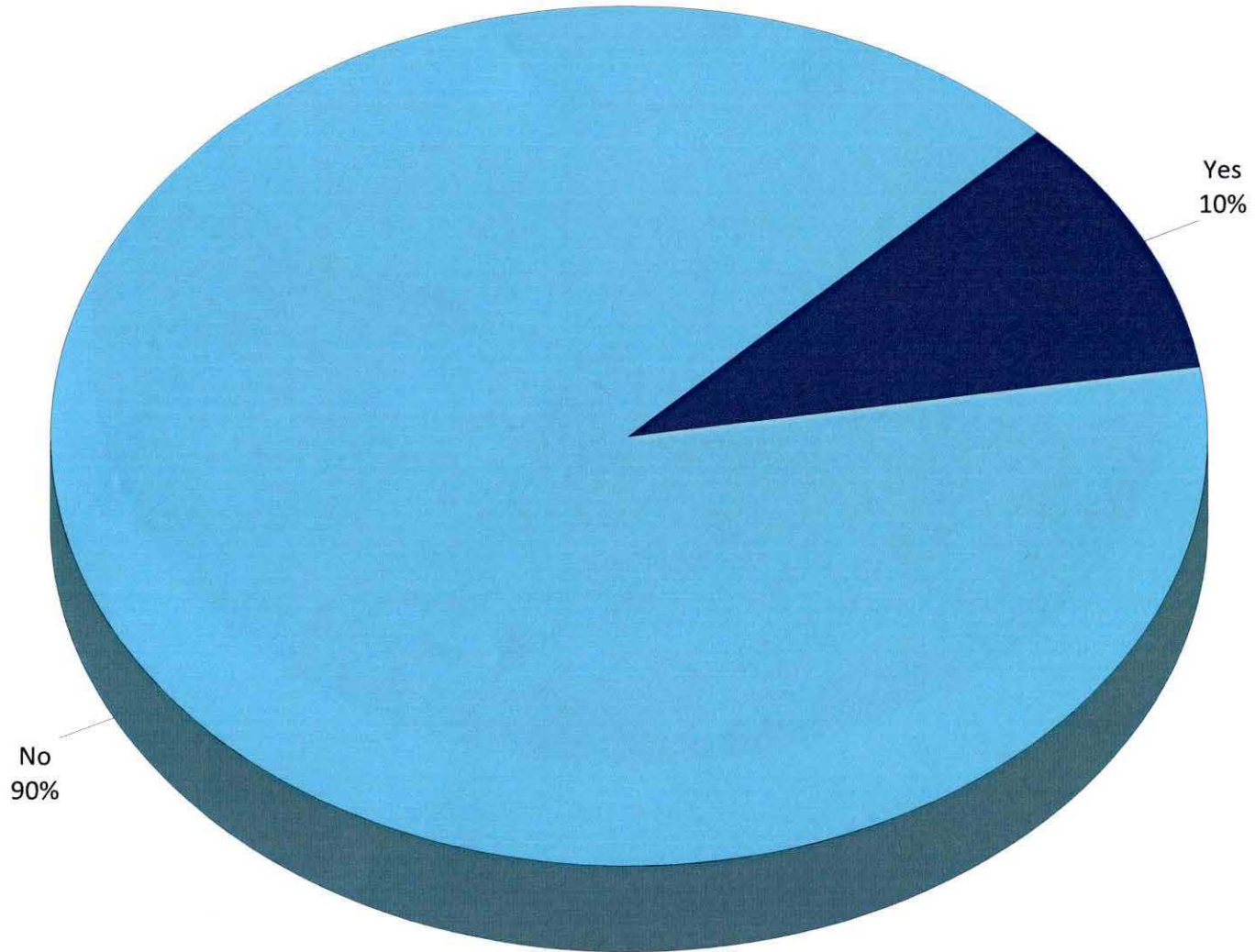
Q6. Have you/your household attended an event at the Rolland Lewis Community Building in Veterans Park in the past year?

by percentage of respondents



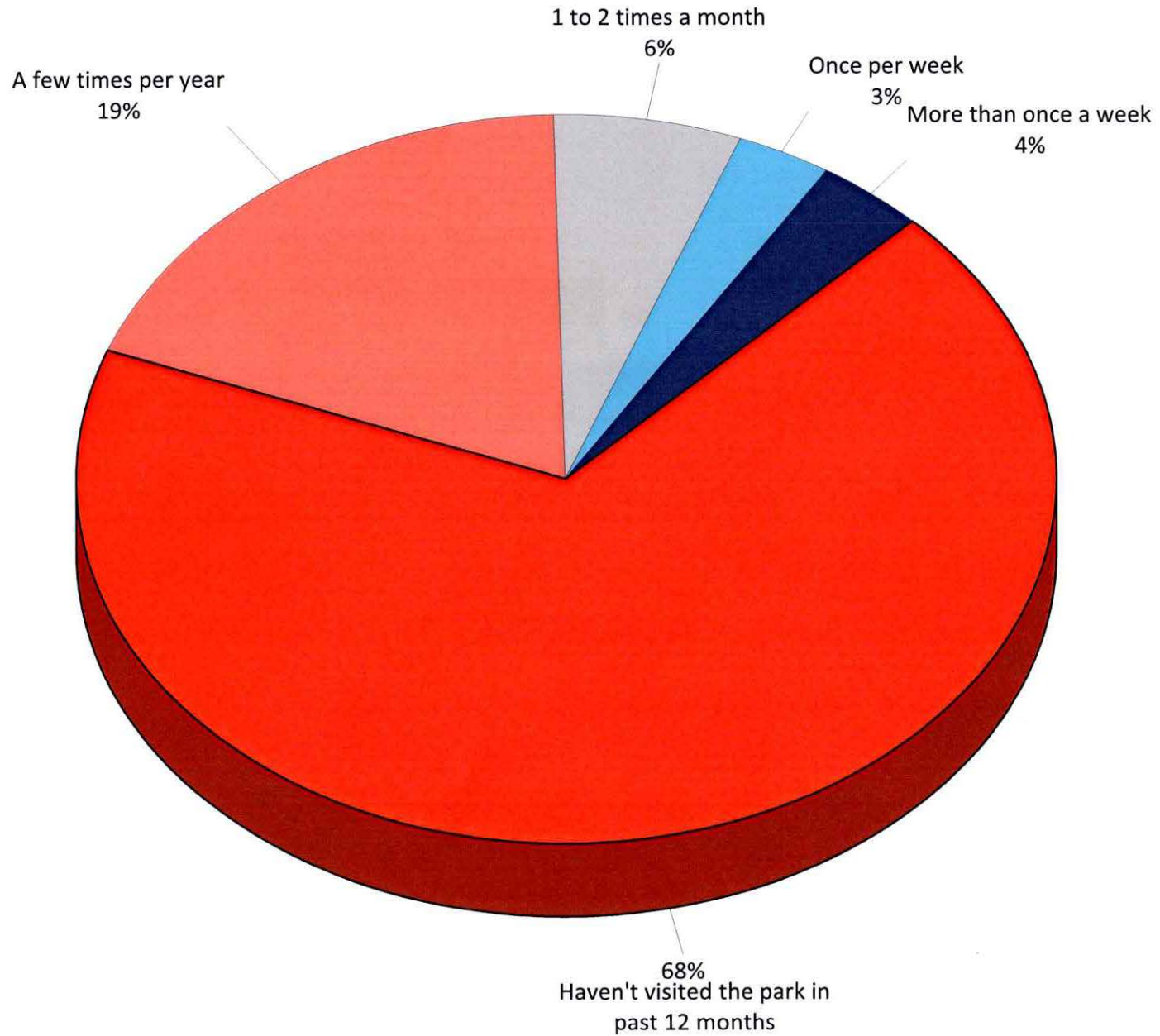
Q6a. Did you rent the facility for your own event?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



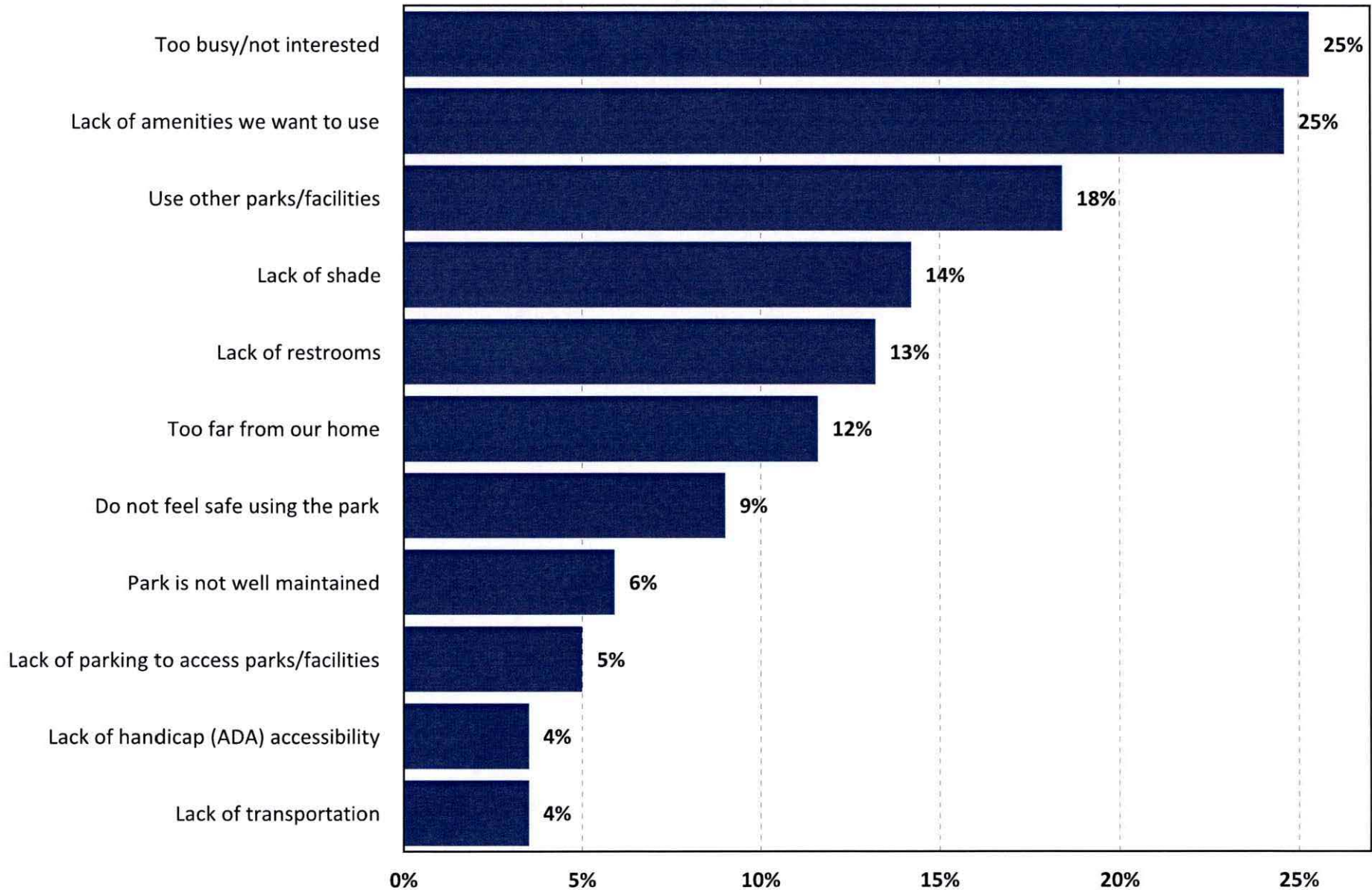
Q8. How often have you/your household visited Lincoln Park in the past year?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



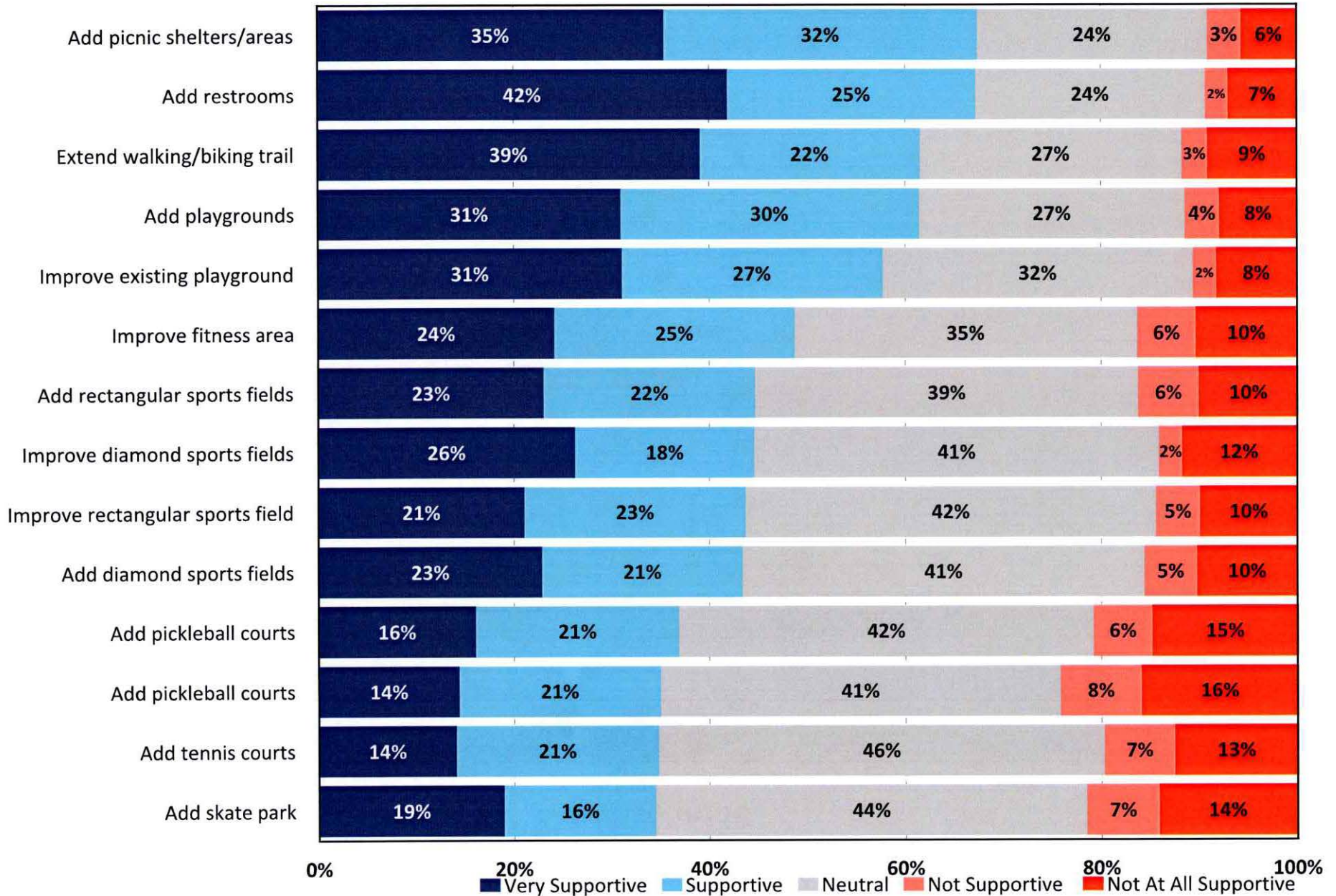
Q9. Please check all the reasons that prevent you/your household from visiting Lincoln Park more often.

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



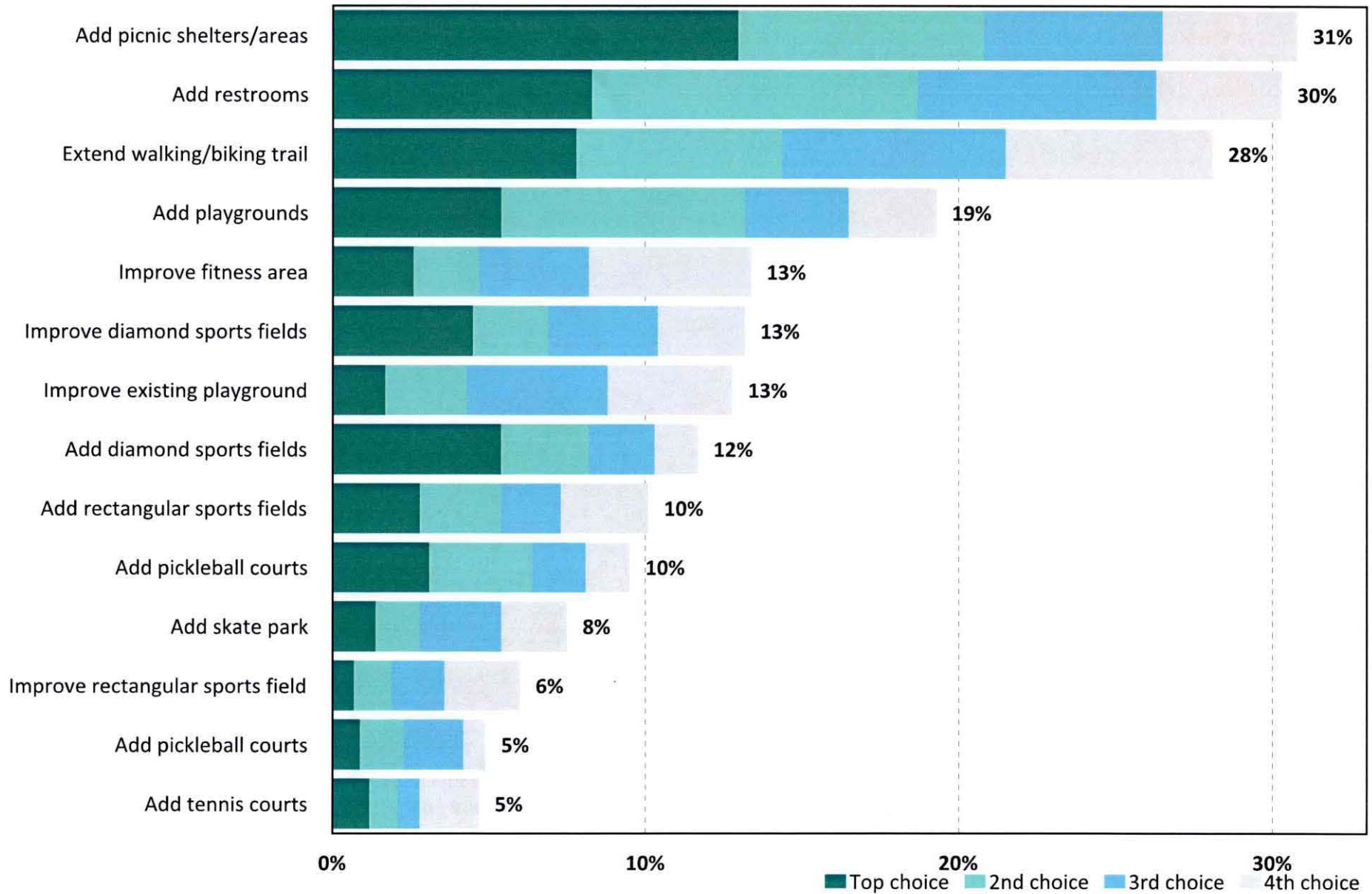
Q10. Please indicate your level of support for these additions/improvements.

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



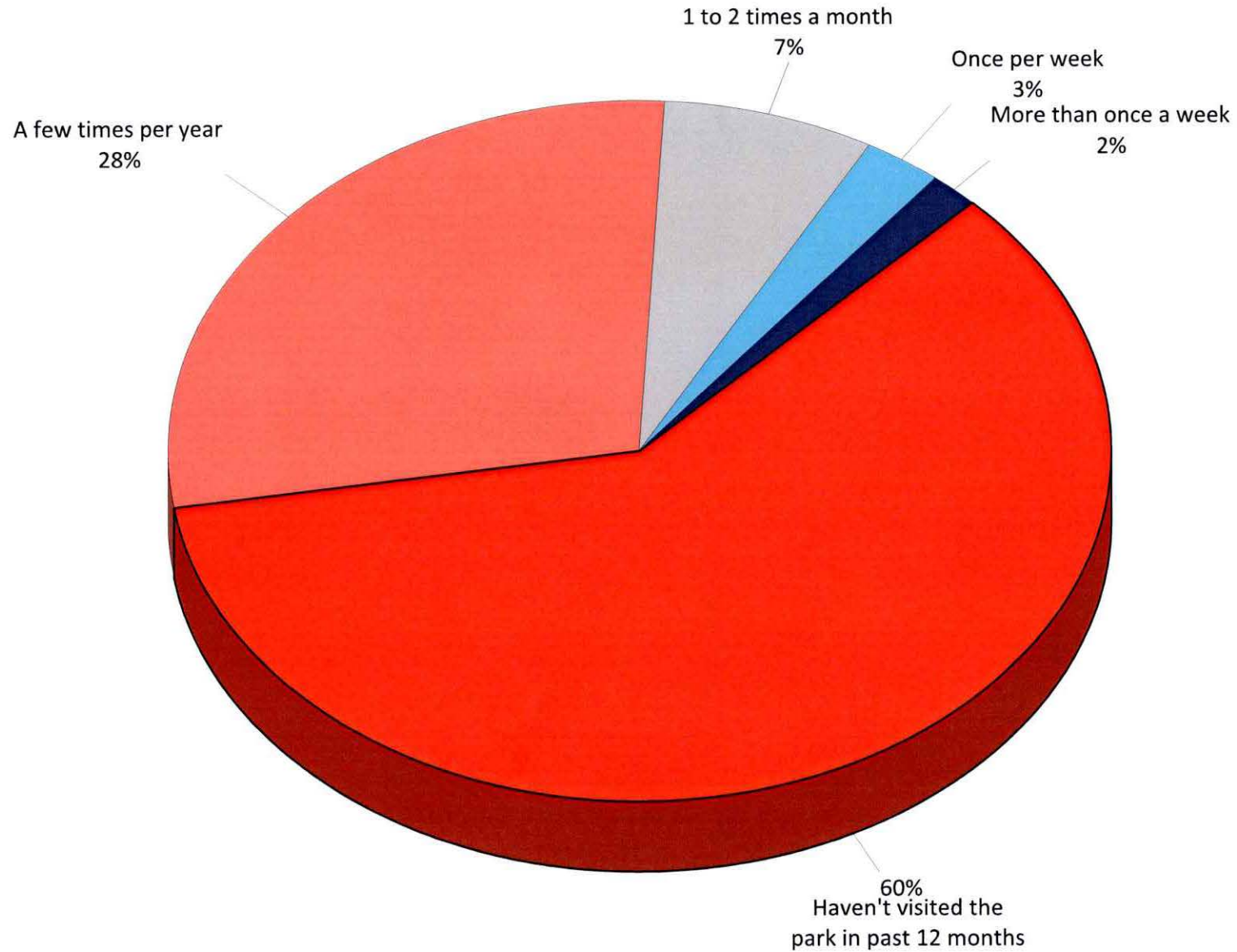
Q11. Which four potential additions/improvements are the most important to your household?

by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top four choices



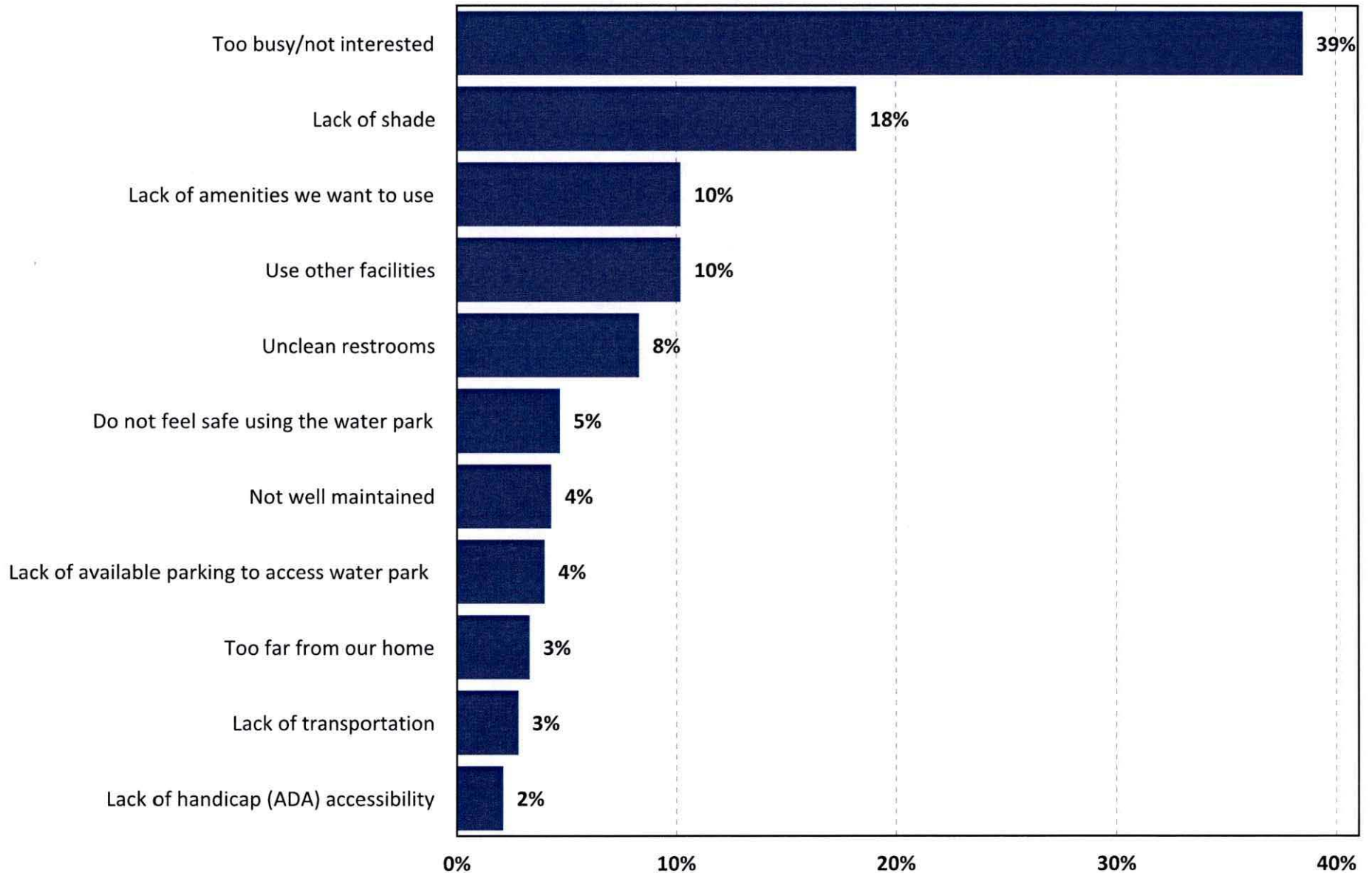
Q12. How often have you/your household visited the Aquatic Zoo Water Park in the past year?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



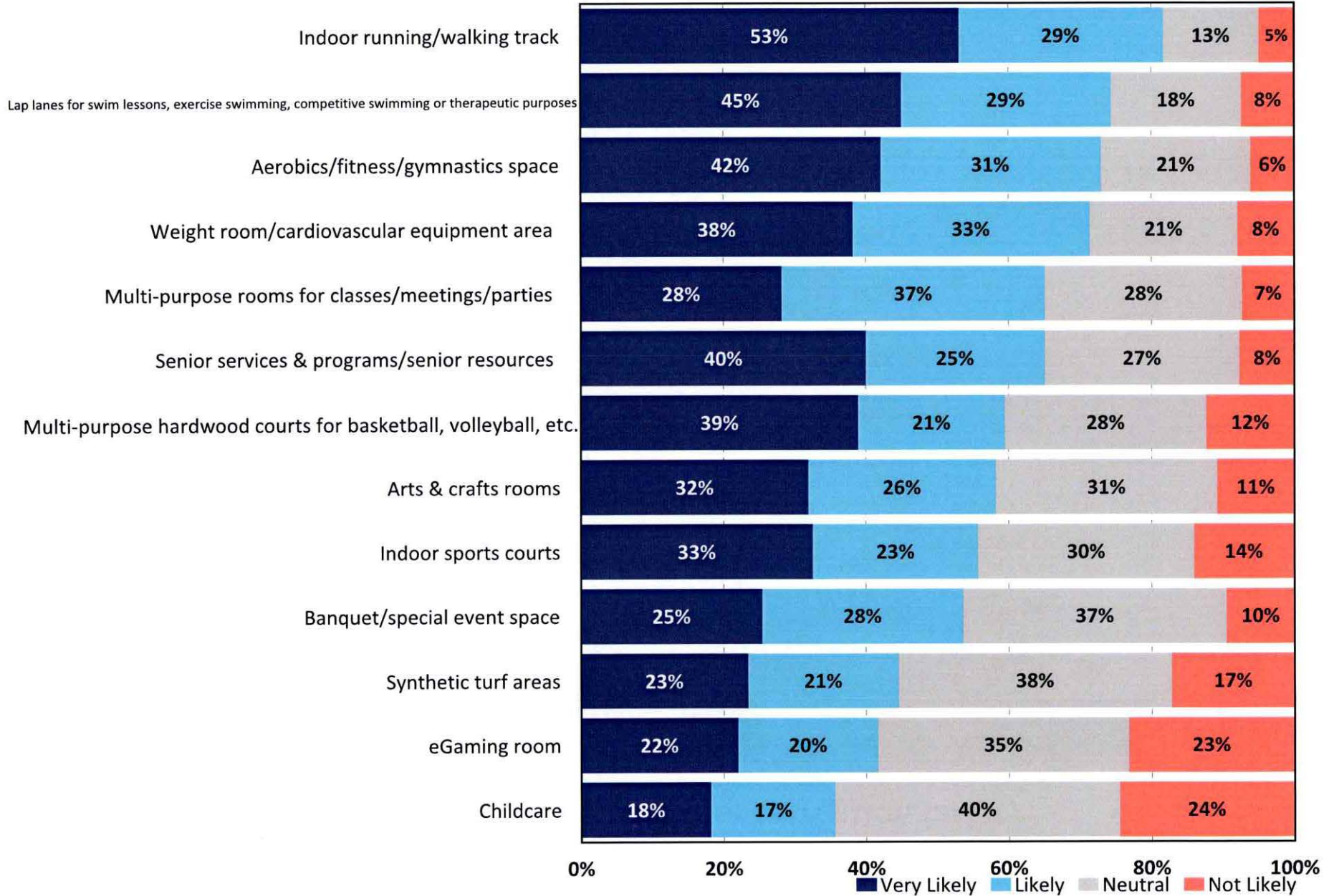
Q13. Please check all the reasons that prevent you/your household from visiting Aquatic Zoo Water Park more often.

by percentage of respondents (multiple selections could be made)



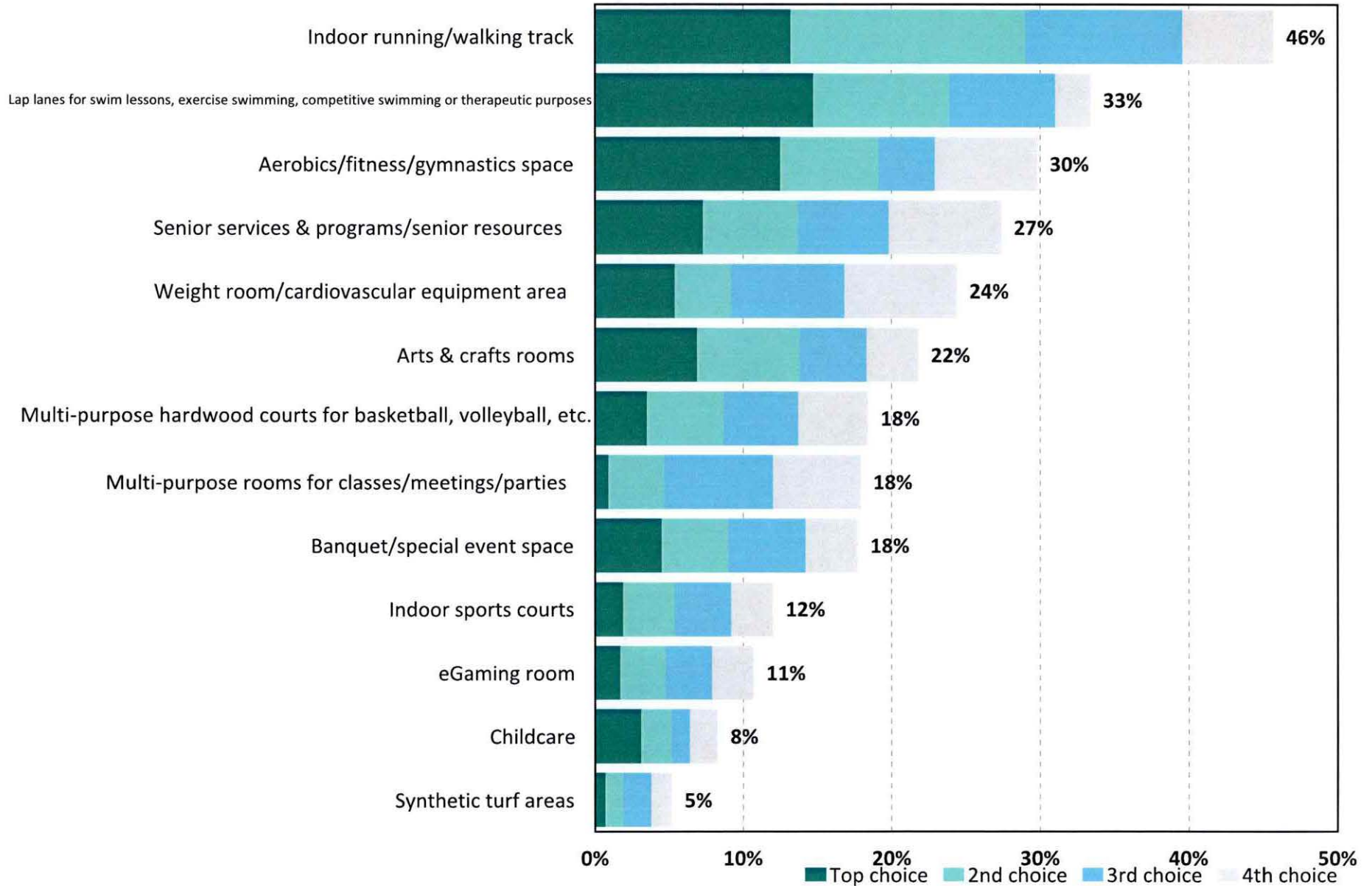
Q14. How likely would you use these features?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "Not At All Likely")



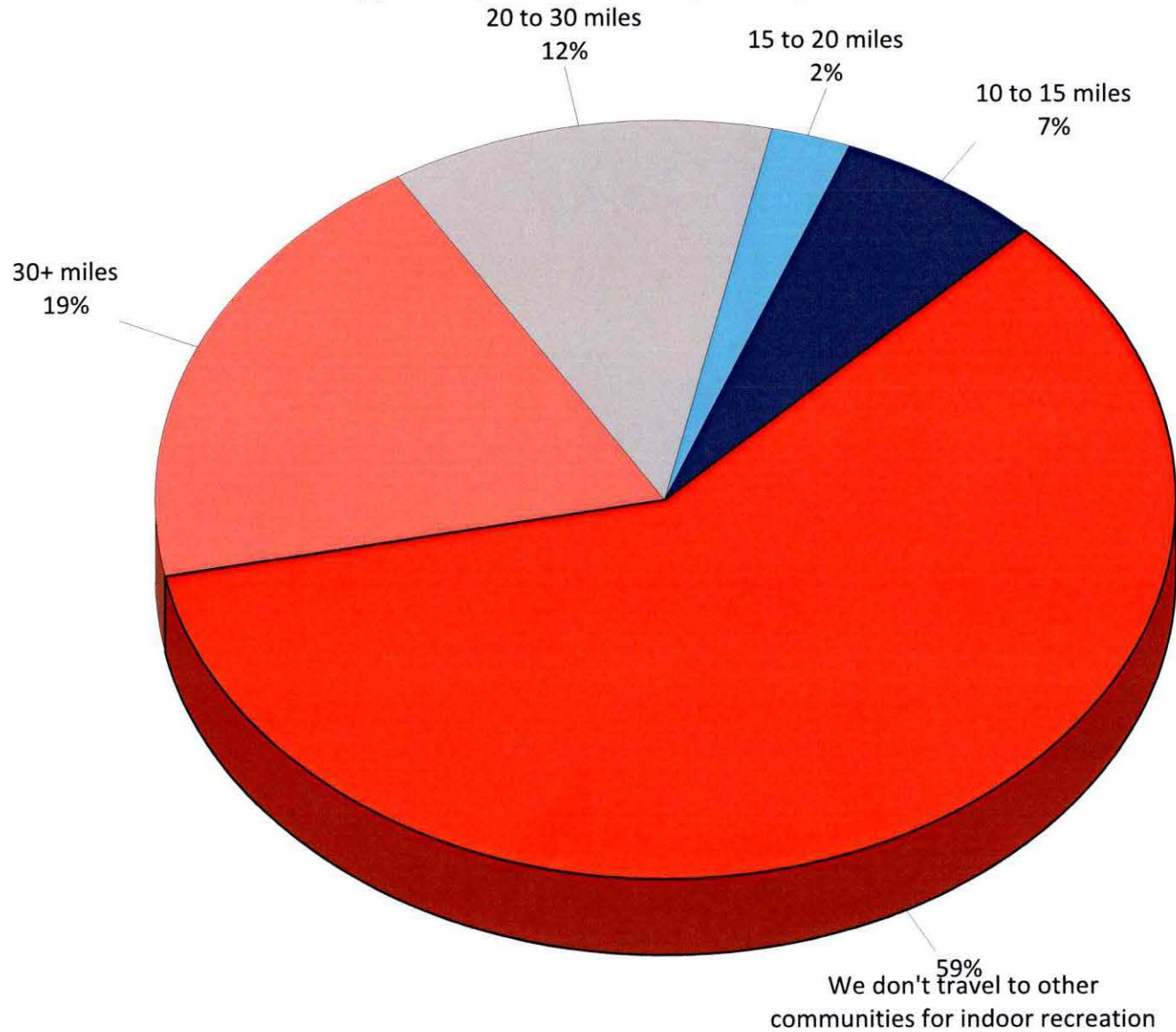
Q15. Which four of the features would your household be most likely to use if they were included in a new indoor recreation facility?

by percentage of respondents who selected the items as one of their top four choices



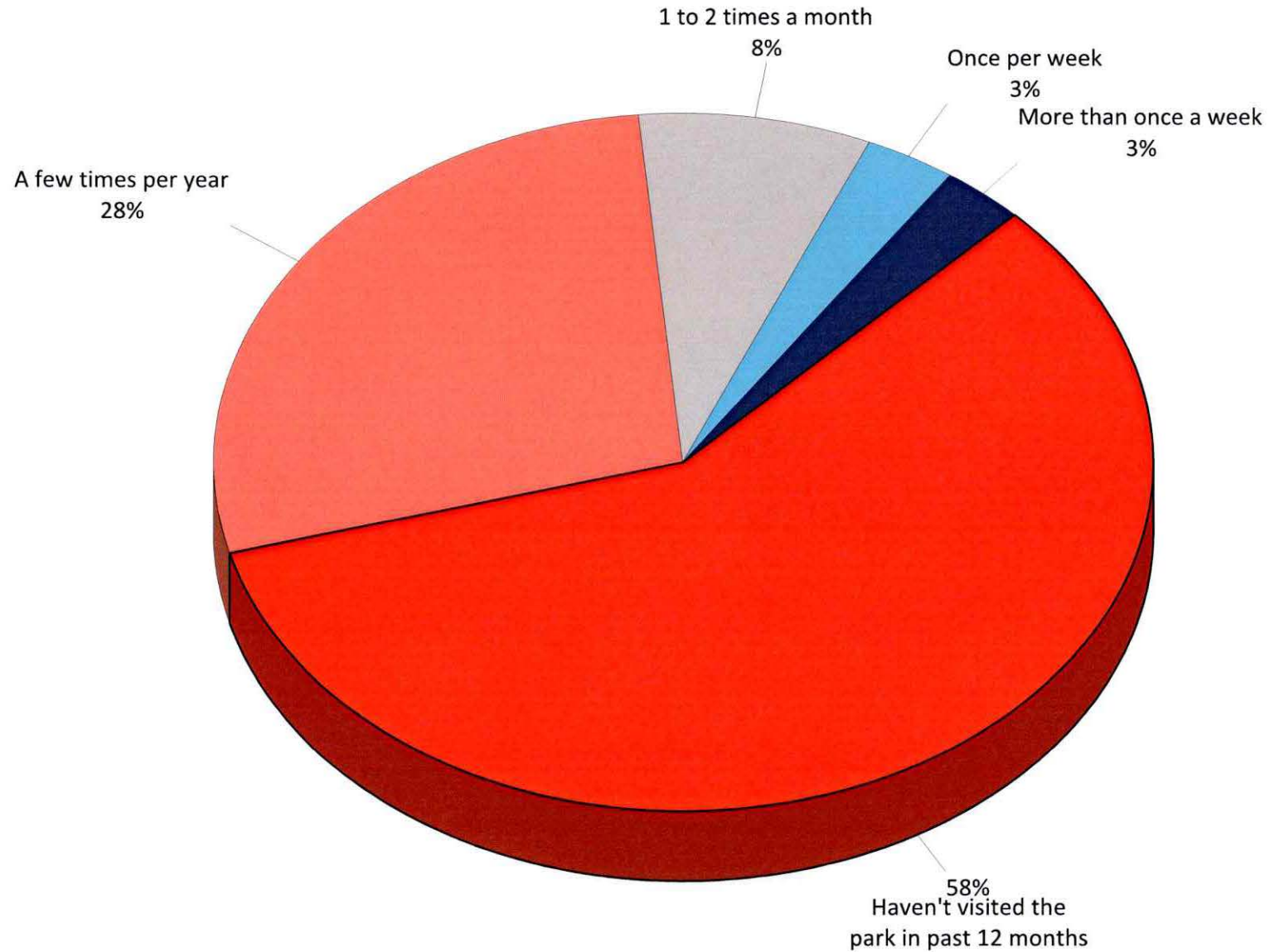
Q16. How far do you/your family travel to use indoor recreation facilities in other communities?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



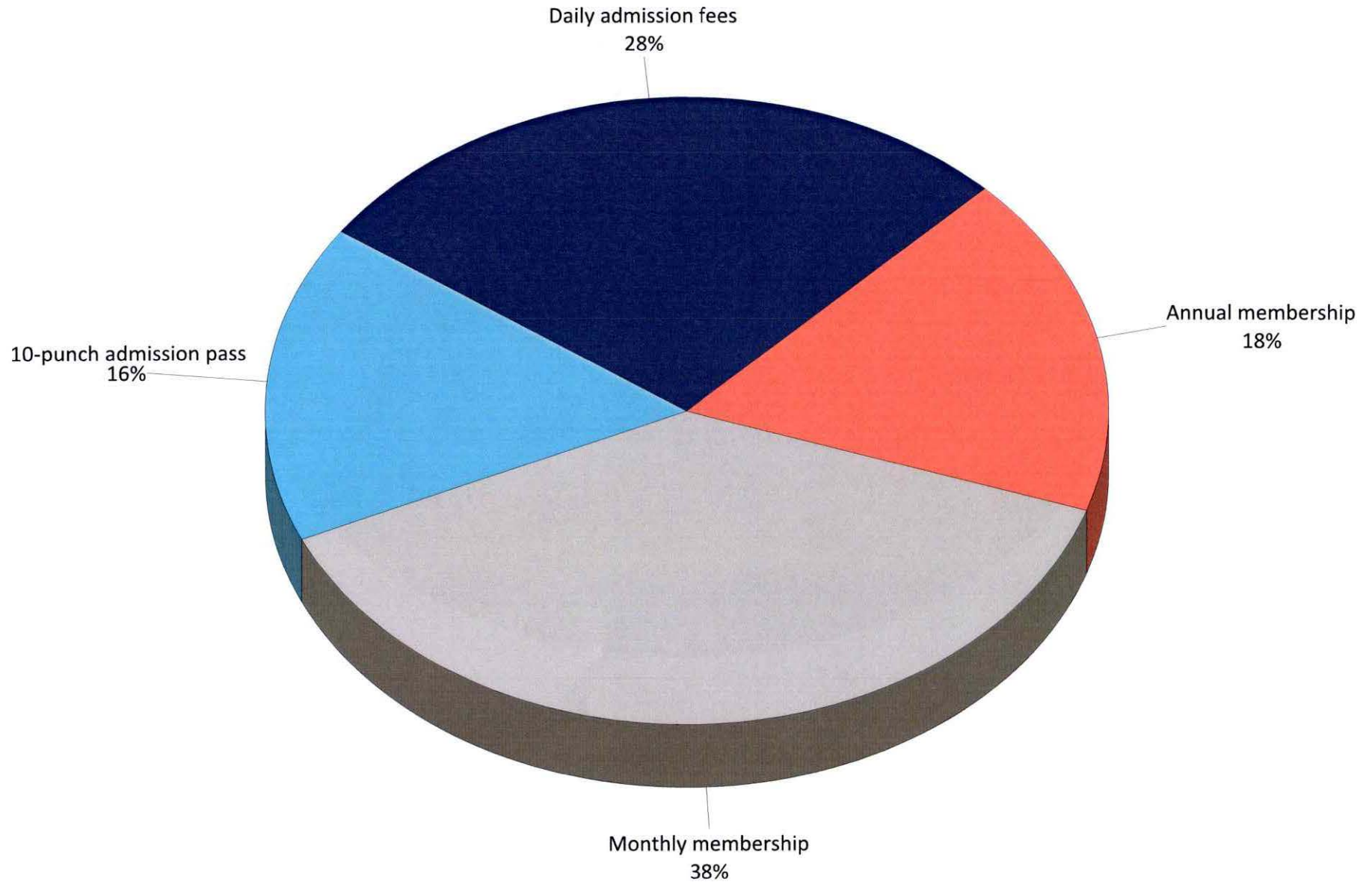
Q17. How often have you/your household visited an indoor recreation facility in other communities in the past year?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



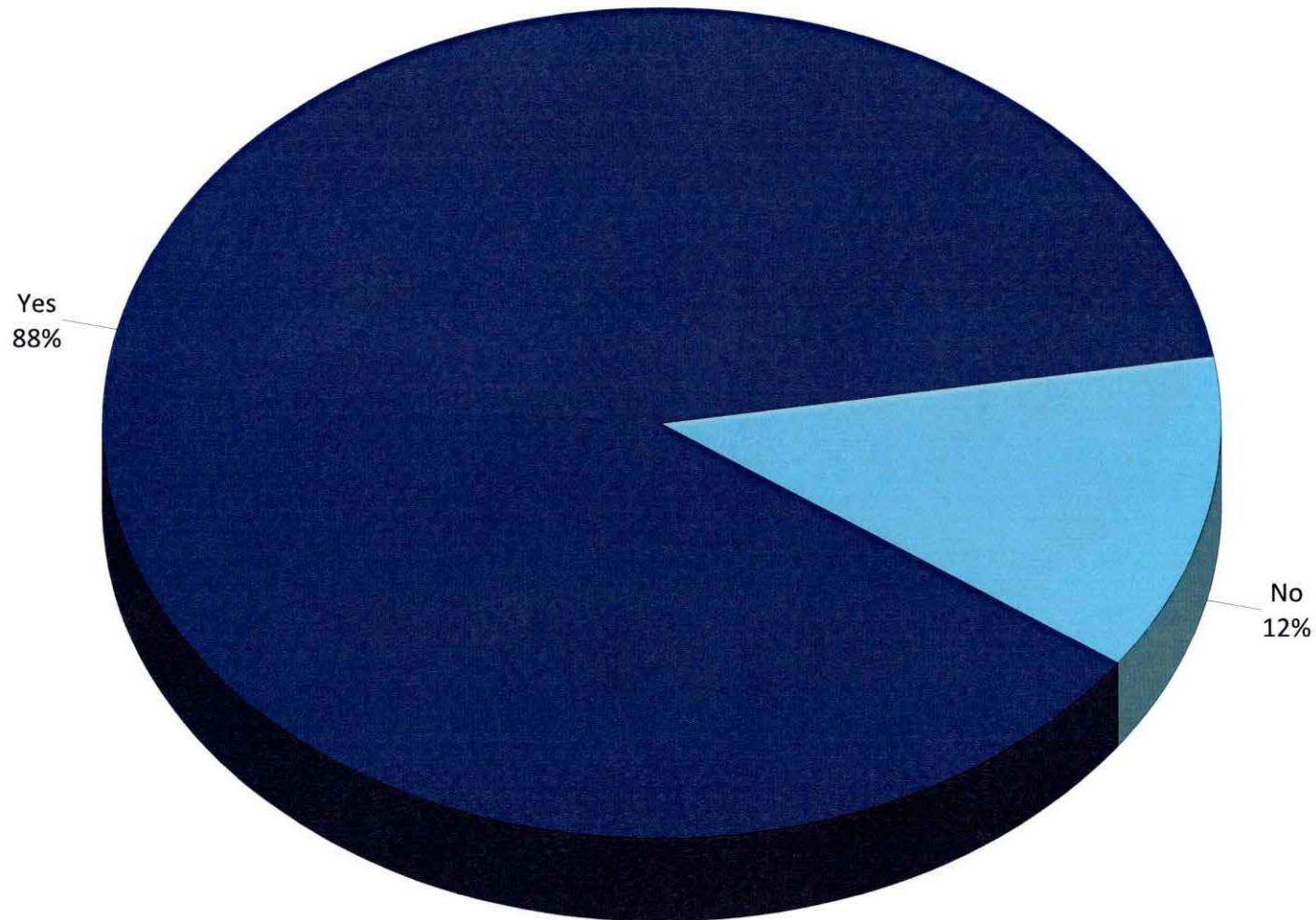
Q18. If a new indoor recreation facility were developed, what would be your preferred method of payment for use of the facility?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



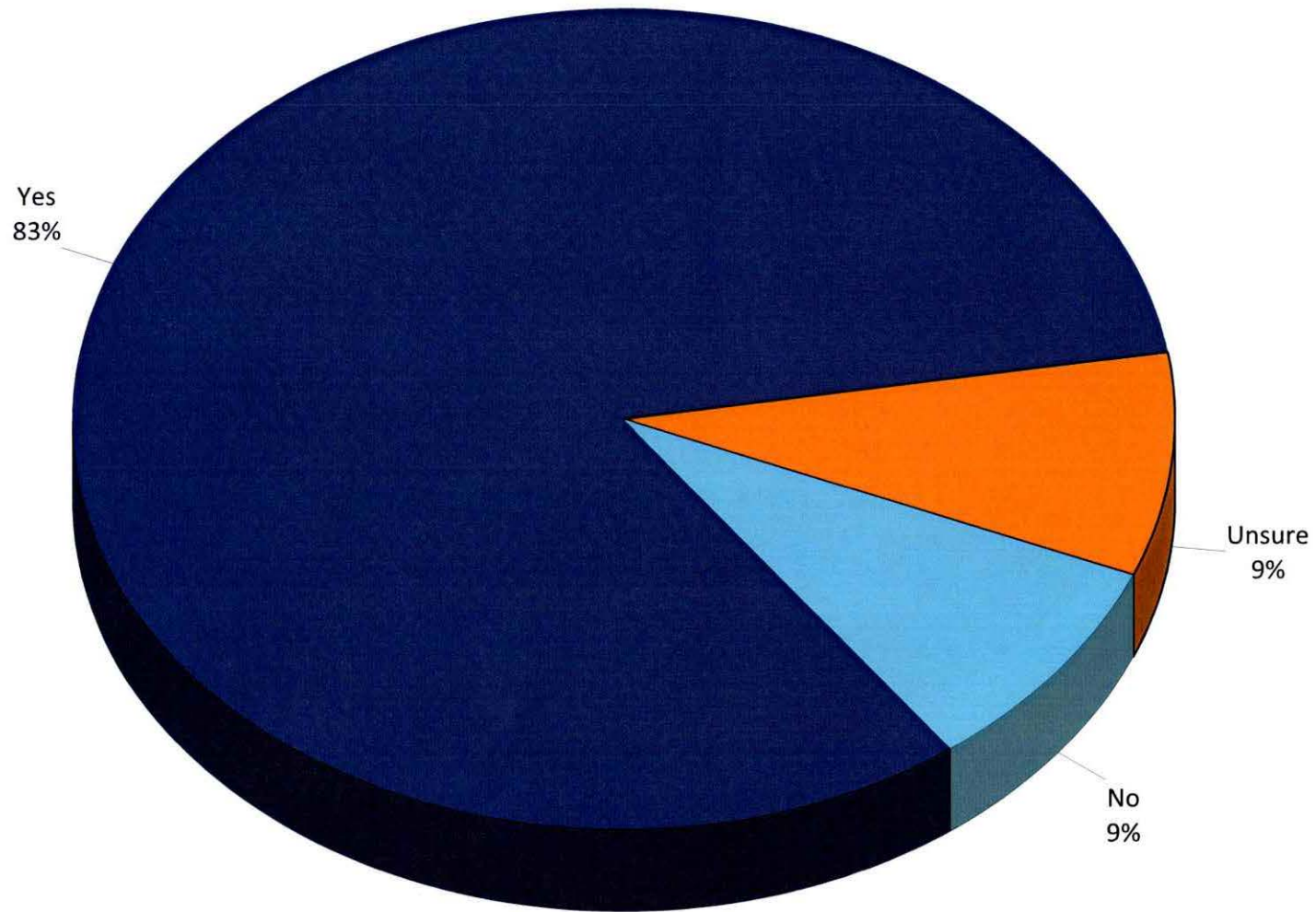
Q19. Do you think that Mt. Vernon resident fees should be lower than non-resident fees?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



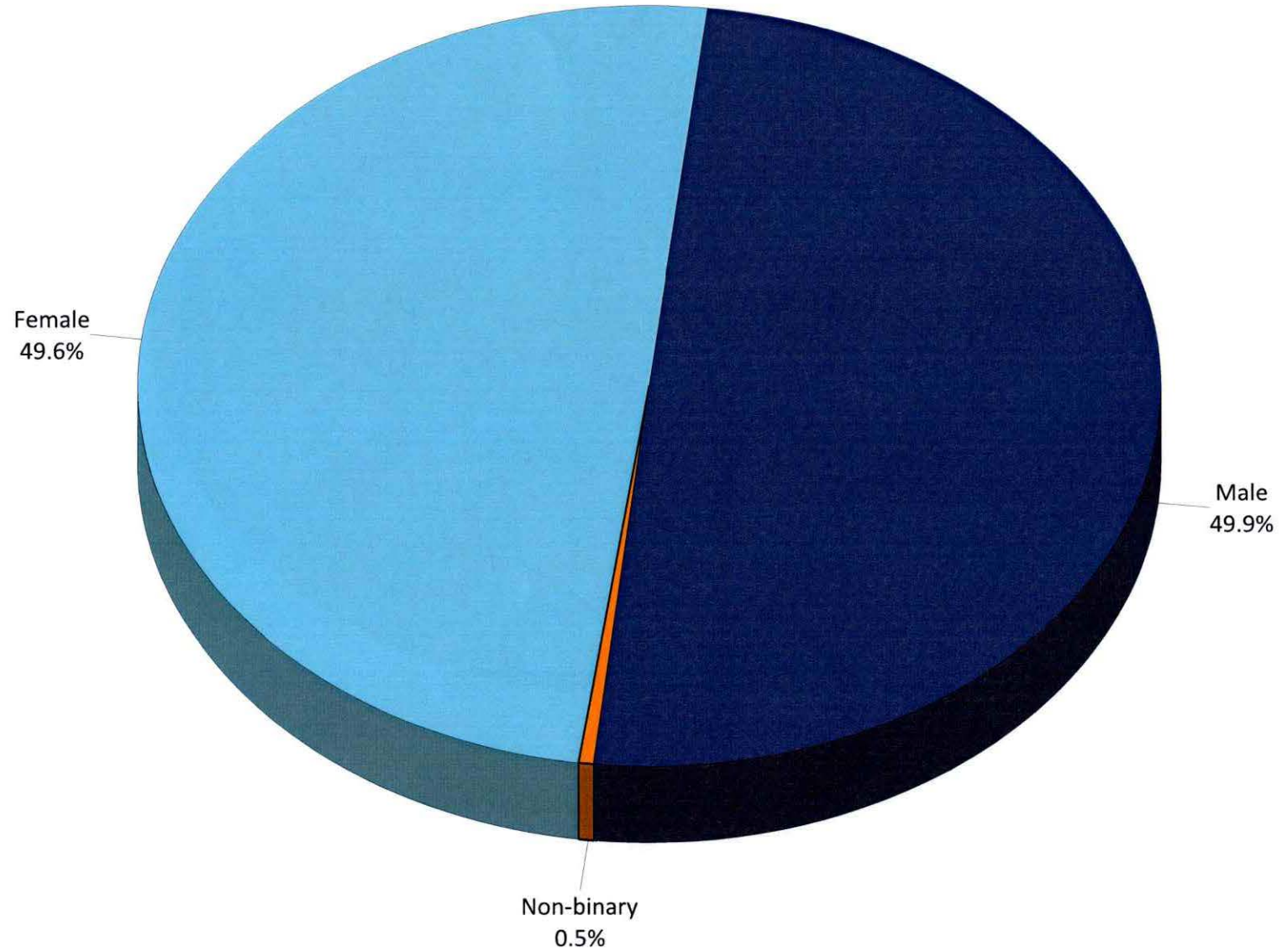
Q20. Is it important for an indoor recreation center to have a positive economic impact on the community?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



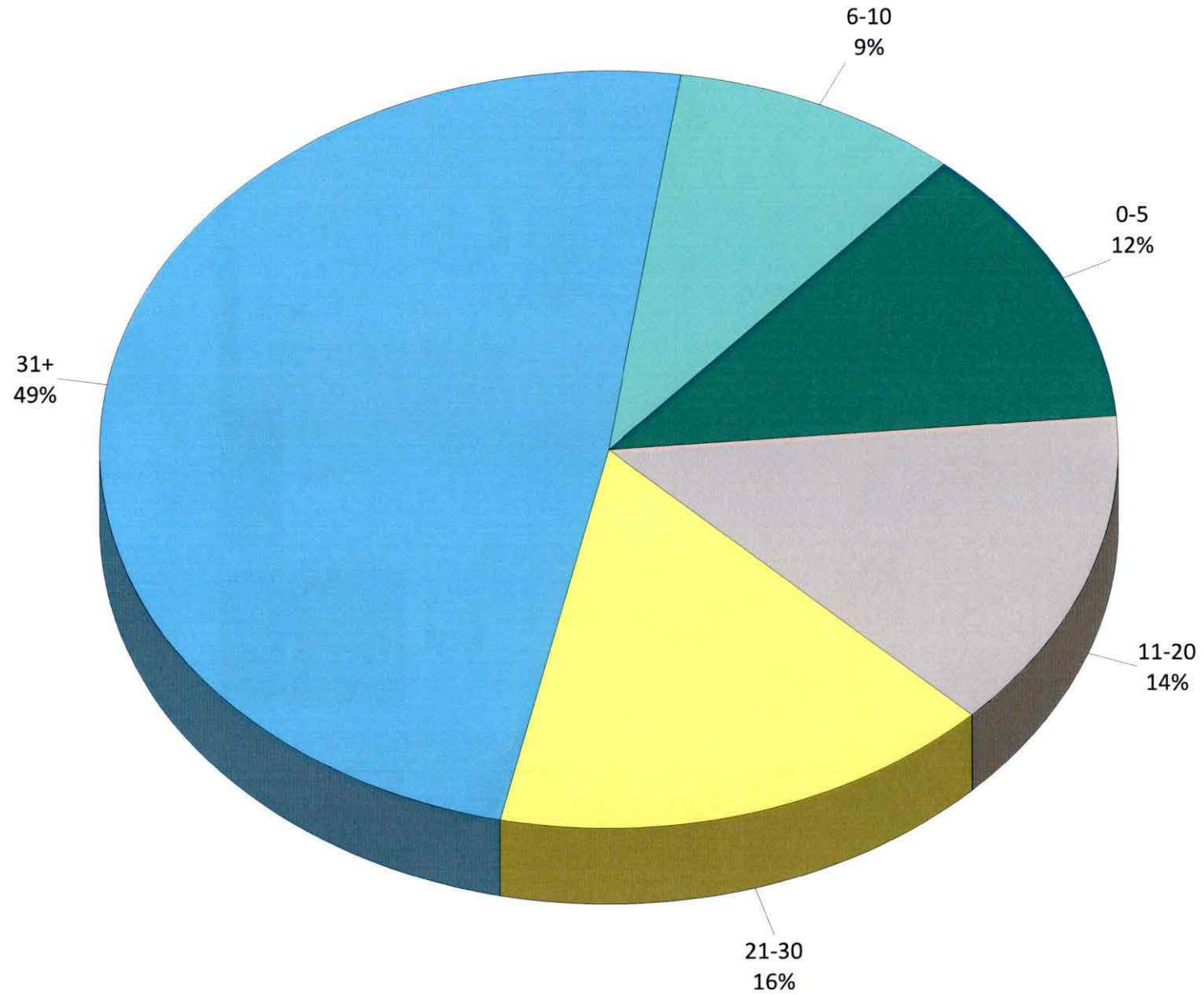
Q21. Your gender identity:

by percentage of respondents (excluding "prefer not to disclose")



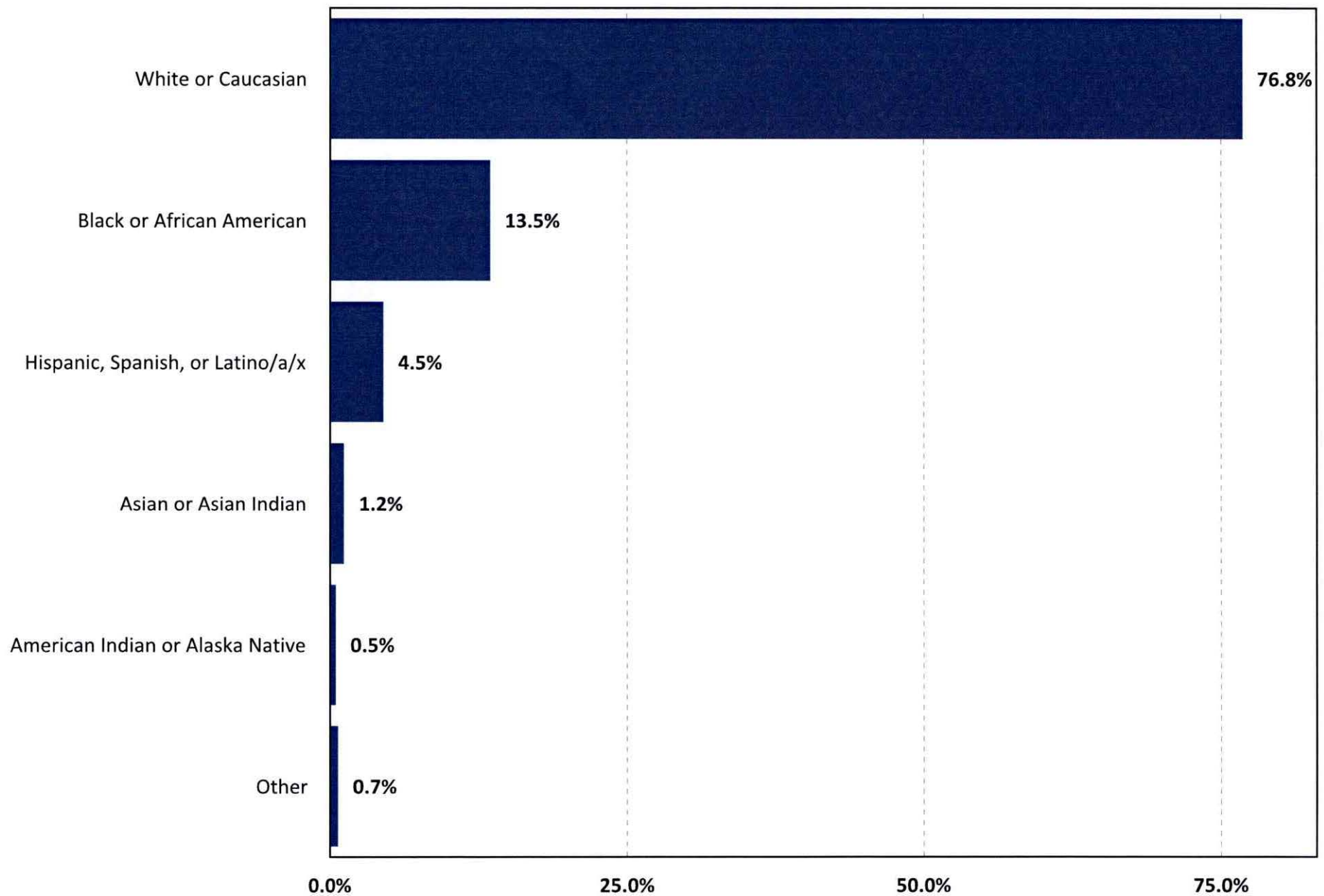
Q22. How many years have you lived in Mt. Vernon?

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Q23. Which of the following best describes your race/ethnicity?

by percentage of respondents



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Tabular Data

Q1. Including yourself, how many people in your household are...

	Mean	Sum
number	2.6	1091
Under age 5	0.1	62
Ages 5-9	0.2	72
Ages 10-14	0.2	86
Ages 15-19	0.2	81
Ages 20-24	0.1	51
Ages 25-34	0.3	105
Ages 35-44	0.3	106
Ages 45-54	0.4	147
Ages 55-64	0.4	161
Ages 65-74	0.3	143
Ages 75+	0.2	77

Q2. How often have you or the members of your household visited Veteran's Park over the past 12 months?

Q2. How often has your household visited Veteran's

<u>Park over past 12 months</u>	Number	Percent
More than once a week	36	8.5 %
Once per week	32	7.6 %
1 to 2 times a month	88	20.8 %
A few times per year	182	43.0 %
Haven't visited the park in past 12 months	79	18.7 %
<u>Not provided</u>	6	1.4 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

**Q2. How often have you or the members of your household visited Veteran's Park over the past 12 months?
(without "not provided")**

Q2. How often has your household visited Veteran's

<u>Park over past 12 months</u>	Number	Percent
More than once a week	36	8.6 %
Once per week	32	7.7 %
1 to 2 times a month	88	21.1 %
A few times per year	182	43.6 %
<u>Haven't visited the park in past 12 months</u>	79	18.9 %
Total	417	100.0 %

Q3. Please CHECK ALL of the following reasons that prevent you or members of your households from visiting Veteran's Park more often.

Q3. All reasons that prevent your households from visiting Veteran's Park more often	Number	Percent
Do not feel safe using the park	130	30.7 %
Lack of amenities we want to use	105	24.8 %
Lack of handicap (ADA) accessibility	16	3.8 %
Lack of parking to access parks/facilities	15	3.5 %
Lack of restrooms	88	20.8 %
Lack of shade	44	10.4 %
Lack of transportation	14	3.3 %
Park is not well maintained	40	9.5 %
Too busy/not interested	97	22.9 %
Too far from our home	25	5.9 %
Use other parks/facilities	34	8.0 %
Other	62	14.7 %
Total	670	

Q4. Please indicate your level of support for the following additions/improvements that could be made at Veteran's Park using a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being "Very Supportive" and 1 being "Not Supportive."

(N=423)

	Very supportive	Supportive	Neutral	Not supportive	Not at all supportive	Not provided
Q4-1. Add amenities along walking trail (i.e., benches, drinking fountains, exercise stations)	45.6%	30.0%	13.5%	1.9%	3.1%	5.9%
Q4-2. Add more pickleball courts	13.2%	17.7%	38.3%	8.0%	16.1%	6.6%
Q4-3. Add restrooms	35.9%	32.2%	19.6%	2.6%	3.5%	6.1%
Q4-4. Extend walking/biking trail	40.7%	23.2%	22.5%	1.9%	4.5%	7.3%
Q4-5. Improve basketball courts	24.3%	21.5%	33.6%	4.3%	7.8%	8.5%
Q4-6. Improve existing restrooms	46.6%	30.0%	13.9%	0.7%	2.6%	6.1%
Q4-7. Improve park shelters	31.2%	34.8%	21.5%	1.9%	3.5%	7.1%
Q4-8. Improve north playground	25.8%	27.2%	28.6%	3.1%	5.2%	10.2%
Q4-9. Improve skating area	19.1%	16.3%	39.5%	6.1%	8.5%	10.4%
Q4-10. Improve tennis courts	25.1%	23.2%	33.3%	4.0%	6.9%	7.6%
Q4-11. Improve community garden	27.0%	25.1%	31.7%	4.0%	5.7%	6.6%
Q4-12. Improve historic amphitheater	24.8%	23.6%	27.4%	5.2%	8.5%	10.4%
Q4-13. Improve volleyball court	17.3%	21.7%	37.4%	5.9%	6.9%	10.9%
Q4-14. Improve disc golf course	13.7%	19.4%	42.1%	6.9%	7.6%	10.4%
Q4-15. Improve gazebo at pond	26.2%	29.3%	27.2%	4.5%	4.5%	8.3%
Q4-16. Pond beautification improvements (i.e., lake edge planting, decorative boulders, fishing dock)	42.1%	31.2%	15.6%	1.9%	2.8%	6.4%
Q4-17. Other	11.1%	2.6%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	85.3%

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q4. Please indicate your level of support for the following additions/improvements that could be made at Veteran's Park using a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being "Very Supportive" and 1 being "Not Supportive." (without "not provided")

(N=423)

	Very supportive	Supportive	Neutral	Not supportive	Not at all supportive
Q4-1. Add amenities along walking trail (i.e., benches, drinking fountains, exercise stations)	48.5%	31.9%	14.3%	2.0%	3.3%
Q4-2. Add more pickleball courts	14.2%	19.0%	41.0%	8.6%	17.2%
Q4-3. Add restrooms	38.3%	34.3%	20.9%	2.8%	3.8%
Q4-4. Extend walking/biking trail	43.9%	25.0%	24.2%	2.0%	4.8%
Q4-5. Improve basketball courts	26.6%	23.5%	36.7%	4.7%	8.5%
Q4-6. Improve existing restrooms	49.6%	32.0%	14.9%	0.8%	2.8%
Q4-7. Improve park shelters	33.6%	37.4%	23.2%	2.0%	3.8%
Q4-8. Improve north playground	28.7%	30.3%	31.8%	3.4%	5.8%
Q4-9. Improve skating area	21.4%	18.2%	44.1%	6.9%	9.5%
Q4-10. Improve tennis courts	27.1%	25.1%	36.1%	4.3%	7.4%
Q4-11. Improve community garden	28.9%	26.8%	33.9%	4.3%	6.1%
Q4-12. Improve historic amphitheater	27.7%	26.4%	30.6%	5.8%	9.5%
Q4-13. Improve volleyball court	19.4%	24.4%	41.9%	6.6%	7.7%
Q4-14. Improve disc golf course	15.3%	21.6%	47.0%	7.7%	8.4%
Q4-15. Improve gazebo at pond	28.6%	32.0%	29.6%	4.9%	4.9%

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q4. Please indicate your level of support for the following additions/improvements that could be made at Veteran's Park using a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being "Very Supportive" and 1 being "Not Supportive." (without "not provided")

	Very supportive	Supportive	Neutral	Not supportive	Not at all supportive
Q4-16. Pond beautification improvements (i.e., lake edge planting, decorative boulders, fishing dock)	44.9%	33.3%	16.7%	2.0%	3.0%
Q4-17. Other	75.8%	17.7%	3.2%	0.0%	3.2%

Q5. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 4 are the most important to your household?

Q5. Top choice	Number	Percent
Add amenities along walking trail (i.e., benches, drinking fountains, exercise stations)	98	23.2 %
Add more pickleball courts	18	4.3 %
Add restrooms	39	9.2 %
Extend walking/biking trail	48	11.3 %
Improve basketball courts	10	2.4 %
Improve existing restrooms	31	7.3 %
Improve park shelters	6	1.4 %
Improve north playground	10	2.4 %
Improve skating area	6	1.4 %
Improve tennis courts	13	3.1 %
Improve community garden	2	0.5 %
Improve historic amphitheater	6	1.4 %
Improve volleyball court	3	0.7 %
Improve disc golf course	5	1.2 %
Improve gazebo at pond	5	1.2 %
Pond beautification improvements (i.e., lake edge planting, decorative boulders, fishing dock)	38	9.0 %
None chosen	85	20.1 %
Total	423	100.0 %

Q5. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 4 are the most important to your household?

<u>Q5. 2nd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Add amenities along walking trail (i.e., benches, drinking fountains, exercise stations)	42	9.9 %
Add more pickleball courts	13	3.1 %
Add restrooms	36	8.5 %
Extend walking/biking trail	49	11.6 %
Improve basketball courts	14	3.3 %
Improve existing restrooms	50	11.8 %
Improve park shelters	23	5.4 %
Improve north playground	11	2.6 %
Improve skating area	6	1.4 %
Improve tennis courts	15	3.5 %
Improve community garden	17	4.0 %
Improve historic amphitheater	10	2.4 %
Improve volleyball court	2	0.5 %
Improve disc golf course	1	0.2 %
Improve gazebo at pond	7	1.7 %
Pond beautification improvements (i.e., lake edge planting, decorative boulders, fishing dock)	20	4.7 %
None chosen	107	25.3 %
Total	423	100.0 %

Q5. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 4 are the most important to your household?

<u>Q5. 3rd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Add amenities along walking trail (i.e., benches, drinking fountains, exercise stations)	31	7.3 %
Add more pickleball courts	8	1.9 %
Add restrooms	28	6.6 %
Extend walking/biking trail	31	7.3 %
Improve basketball courts	9	2.1 %
Improve existing restrooms	34	8.0 %
Improve park shelters	31	7.3 %
Improve north playground	20	4.7 %
Improve skating area	4	0.9 %
Improve tennis courts	8	1.9 %
Improve community garden	19	4.5 %
Improve historic amphitheater	13	3.1 %
Improve volleyball court	4	0.9 %
Improve disc golf course	6	1.4 %
Improve gazebo at pond	16	3.8 %
Pond beautification improvements (i.e., lake edge planting, decorative boulders, fishing dock)	37	8.7 %
None chosen	124	29.3 %
Total	423	100.0 %

Q5. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 4 are the most important to your household?

<u>Q5. 4th choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Add amenities along walking trail (i.e., benches, drinking fountains, exercise stations)	17	4.0 %
Add more pickleball courts	9	2.1 %
Add restrooms	11	2.6 %
Extend walking/biking trail	17	4.0 %
Improve basketball courts	16	3.8 %
Improve existing restrooms	22	5.2 %
Improve park shelters	29	6.9 %
Improve north playground	8	1.9 %
Improve skating area	3	0.7 %
Improve tennis courts	6	1.4 %
Improve community garden	22	5.2 %
Improve historic amphitheater	16	3.8 %
Improve volleyball court	6	1.4 %
Improve disc golf course	4	0.9 %
Improve gazebo at pond	20	4.7 %
Pond beautification improvements (i.e., lake edge planting, decorative boulders, fishing dock)	46	10.9 %
None chosen	171	40.4 %
Total	423	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP 4 CHOICES

Q5. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 4 are the most important to your household? (top 4)

<u>Q5. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Add amenities along walking trail (i.e., benches, drinking fountains, exercise stations)	188	44.4 %
Add more pickleball courts	48	11.3 %
Add restrooms	114	27.0 %
Extend walking/biking trail	145	34.3 %
Improve basketball courts	49	11.6 %
Improve existing restrooms	137	32.4 %
Improve park shelters	89	21.0 %
Improve north playground	49	11.6 %
Improve skating area	19	4.5 %
Improve tennis courts	42	9.9 %
Improve community garden	60	14.2 %
Improve historic amphitheater	45	10.6 %
Improve volleyball court	15	3.5 %
Improve disc golf course	16	3.8 %
Improve gazebo at pond	48	11.3 %
Pond beautification improvements (i.e., lake edge planting, decorative boulders, fishing dock)	141	33.3 %
None chosen	85	20.1 %
Total	1290	

Q6. Have you or the members of your household attended an event at the Rolland Lewis Community Building in Veterans Park over the past 12 months?

Q6. Have you attended an event at Rolland Lewis Community Building in Veterans Park over past 12 months

	Number	Percent
Yes	230	54.4 %
No	193	45.6 %
Total	423	100.0 %

Q6a. Did you rent the facility for your own event?

Q6a. Did you rent the facility for your own event	Number	Percent
Yes	22	9.6 %
No	198	86.1 %
Not provided	10	4.3 %
Total	230	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q6a. Did you rent the facility for your own event? (without "not provided")

Q6a. Did you rent the facility for your own event	Number	Percent
Yes	22	10.0 %
No	198	90.0 %
Total	220	100.0 %

Q8. How often have you or the members of your household visited Lincoln Park over the past 12 months?

Q8. How often have you visited Lincoln Park over past 12 months

	Number	Percent
More than once a week	15	3.5 %
Once per week	13	3.1 %
1 to 2 times a month	25	5.9 %
A few times per year	78	18.4 %
Haven't visited the park in past 12 months	281	66.4 %
Not provided	11	2.6 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q8. How often have you or the members of your household visited Lincoln Park over the past 12 months? (without "not provided")

Q8. How often have you visited Lincoln Park over past 12 months

	Number	Percent
More than once a week	15	3.6 %
Once per week	13	3.2 %
1 to 2 times a month	25	6.1 %
A few times per year	78	18.9 %
Haven't visited the park in past 12 months	281	68.2 %
Total	412	100.0 %

Q9. Please CHECK ALL of the following reasons that prevent you or members of your households from visiting Lincoln Park more often.

Q9. All reasons that prevent your households from

<u>visiting Lincoln Park more often</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Do not feel safe using the park	38	9.0 %
Lack of amenities we want to use	104	24.6 %
Lack of handicap (ADA) accessibility	15	3.5 %
Lack of parking to access parks/facilities	21	5.0 %
Lack of restrooms	56	13.2 %
Lack of shade	60	14.2 %
Lack of transportation	15	3.5 %
Park is not well maintained	25	5.9 %
Too busy/not interested	107	25.3 %
Too far from our home	49	11.6 %
Use other parks/facilities	78	18.4 %
<u>Other</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>9.2 %</u>
Total	607	

Q10. Please indicate your level of support for the following additions/improvements that could be made at Lincoln Park using a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being "Very Supportive" and 1 being "Not Supportive."

(N=423)

	Very supportive	Supportive	Neutral	Not supportive	Not at all supportive	Not provided
Q10-1. Add diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	18.0%	16.1%	32.2%	4.3%	8.0%	21.5%
Q10-2. Add pickleball courts	12.8%	16.5%	33.6%	4.7%	11.8%	20.6%
Q10-3. Add picnic shelters/areas	29.6%	26.7%	19.6%	2.8%	4.7%	16.5%
Q10-4. Add playgrounds	25.1%	24.6%	22.0%	2.8%	6.4%	19.1%
Q10-5. Add rectangular sports fields (soccer, football, rugby)	18.4%	17.3%	31.2%	5.0%	8.0%	20.1%
Q10-6. Add restrooms	34.0%	20.6%	19.1%	1.9%	5.7%	18.7%
Q10-7. Add skate park	15.1%	12.3%	35.0%	5.9%	11.1%	20.6%
Q10-8. Add pickleball courts	11.1%	15.8%	31.4%	6.4%	12.3%	22.9%
Q10-9. Add tennis courts	11.1%	16.3%	35.9%	5.7%	9.9%	21.0%
Q10-10. Extend walking/biking trail	31.4%	18.0%	21.5%	2.1%	7.3%	19.6%
Q10-11. Improve diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	20.3%	14.2%	31.9%	1.9%	9.0%	22.7%
Q10-12. Improve existing playground	24.6%	21.0%	25.1%	1.9%	6.4%	21.0%
Q10-13. Improve rectangular sports field (soccer, football, rugby)	16.5%	17.7%	32.9%	3.5%	7.8%	21.5%
Q10-14. Improve fitness area	18.9%	19.1%	27.4%	4.7%	8.0%	21.7%
Q10-15. Other	5.0%	1.4%	0.7%	0.2%	0.9%	91.7%

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q10. Please indicate your level of support for the following additions/improvements that could be made at Lincoln Park using a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being "Very Supportive" and 1 being "Not Supportive." (without "not provided")

(N=423)

	Very supportive	Supportive	Neutral	Not supportive	Not at all supportive
Q10-1. Add diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	22.9%	20.5%	41.0%	5.4%	10.2%
Q10-2. Add pickleball courts	16.1%	20.8%	42.3%	6.0%	14.9%
Q10-3. Add picnic shelters/ areas	35.4%	32.0%	23.5%	3.4%	5.7%
Q10-4. Add playgrounds	31.0%	30.4%	27.2%	3.5%	7.9%
Q10-5. Add rectangular sports fields (soccer, football, rugby)	23.1%	21.6%	39.1%	6.2%	10.1%
Q10-6. Add restrooms	41.9%	25.3%	23.5%	2.3%	7.0%
Q10-7. Add skate park	19.0%	15.5%	44.0%	7.4%	14.0%
Q10-8. Add pickleball courts	14.4%	20.6%	40.8%	8.3%	16.0%
Q10-9. Add tennis courts	14.1%	20.7%	45.5%	7.2%	12.6%
Q10-10. Extend walking/ biking trail	39.1%	22.4%	26.8%	2.6%	9.1%
Q10-11. Improve diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	26.3%	18.3%	41.3%	2.4%	11.6%
Q10-12. Improve existing playground	31.1%	26.6%	31.7%	2.4%	8.1%
Q10-13. Improve rectangular sports field (soccer, football, rugby)	21.1%	22.6%	41.9%	4.5%	9.9%
Q10-14. Improve fitness area	24.2%	24.5%	35.0%	6.0%	10.3%
Q10-15. Other	60.0%	17.1%	8.6%	2.9%	11.4%

Q11. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 10 are the most important to your household?

<u>Q11. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Add diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	23	5.4 %
Add pickleball courts	13	3.1 %
Add picnic shelters/areas	55	13.0 %
Add playgrounds	23	5.4 %
Add rectangular sports fields (soccer, football, rugby)	12	2.8 %
Add restrooms	35	8.3 %
Add skate park	6	1.4 %
Add pickleball courts	4	0.9 %
Add tennis courts	5	1.2 %
Extend walking/biking trail	33	7.8 %
Improve diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	19	4.5 %
Improve existing playground	7	1.7 %
Improve rectangular sports field (soccer, football, rugby)	3	0.7 %
Improve fitness area	11	2.6 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>174</u>	<u>41.1 %</u>
Total	423	100.0 %

Q11. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 10 are the most important to your household?

<u>Q11. 2nd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Add diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	12	2.8 %
Add pickleball courts	14	3.3 %
Add picnic shelters/areas	33	7.8 %
Add playgrounds	33	7.8 %
Add rectangular sports fields (soccer, football, rugby)	11	2.6 %
Add restrooms	44	10.4 %
Add skate park	6	1.4 %
Add pickleball courts	6	1.4 %
Add tennis courts	4	0.9 %
Extend walking/biking trail	28	6.6 %
Improve diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	10	2.4 %
Improve existing playground	11	2.6 %
Improve rectangular sports field (soccer, football, rugby)	5	1.2 %
Improve fitness area	9	2.1 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>197</u>	<u>46.6 %</u>
Total	423	100.0 %

Q11. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 10 are the most important to your household?

<u>Q11. 3rd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Add diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	9	2.1 %
Add pickleball courts	7	1.7 %
Add picnic shelters/areas	24	5.7 %
Add playgrounds	14	3.3 %
Add rectangular sports fields (soccer, football, rugby)	8	1.9 %
Add restrooms	32	7.6 %
Add skate park	11	2.6 %
Add pickleball courts	8	1.9 %
Add tennis courts	3	0.7 %
Extend walking/biking trail	30	7.1 %
Improve diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	15	3.5 %
Improve existing playground	19	4.5 %
Improve rectangular sports field (soccer, football, rugby)	7	1.7 %
Improve fitness area	15	3.5 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>52.2 %</u>
Total	423	100.0 %

Q11. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 10 are the most important to your household?

<u>Q11. 4th choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Add diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	6	1.4 %
Add pickleball courts	6	1.4 %
Add picnic shelters/areas	18	4.3 %
Add playgrounds	12	2.8 %
Add rectangular sports fields (soccer, football, rugby)	12	2.8 %
Add restrooms	17	4.0 %
Add skate park	9	2.1 %
Add pickleball courts	3	0.7 %
Add tennis courts	8	1.9 %
Extend walking/biking trail	28	6.6 %
Improve diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	12	2.8 %
Improve existing playground	17	4.0 %
Improve rectangular sports field (soccer, football, rugby)	10	2.4 %
Improve fitness area	22	5.2 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>243</u>	<u>57.4 %</u>
Total	423	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP 4 CHOICES

Q11. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 10 are the most important to your household? (top 4)

Q11. Top choice	Number	Percent
Add diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	50	11.8 %
Add pickleball courts	40	9.5 %
Add picnic shelters/areas	130	30.7 %
Add playgrounds	82	19.4 %
Add rectangular sports fields (soccer, football, rugby)	43	10.2 %
Add restrooms	128	30.3 %
Add skate park	32	7.6 %
Add pickleball courts	21	5.0 %
Add tennis courts	20	4.7 %
Extend walking/biking trail	119	28.1 %
Improve diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	56	13.2 %
Improve existing playground	54	12.8 %
Improve rectangular sports field (soccer, football, rugby)	25	5.9 %
Improve fitness area	57	13.5 %
None chosen	174	41.1 %
Total	1031	

Q12. How often have you or the members of your household visited the Aquatic Zoo Water Park over the past 12 months?

Q12. How often have you visited Aquatic Zoo Water Park over past 12 months	Number	Percent
More than once a week	7	1.7 %
Once per week	11	2.6 %
1 to 2 times a month	29	6.9 %
A few times per year	114	27.0 %
Haven't visited the park in past 12 months	242	57.2 %
Not provided	20	4.7 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q12. How often have you or the members of your household visited the Aquatic Zoo Water Park over the past 12 months? (without "not provided")

Q12. How often have you visited Aquatic Zoo Water Park over past 12 months	Number	Percent
More than once a week	7	1.7 %
Once per week	11	2.7 %
1 to 2 times a month	29	7.2 %
A few times per year	114	28.3 %
Haven't visited the park in past 12 months	242	60.0 %
Total	403	100.0 %

Q13. Please CHECK ALL of the following reasons that prevent you or members of your households from visiting Aquatic Zoo Water Park more often.

Q13. All reasons that prevent your households from visiting Aquatic Zoo Water Park more often

	Number	Percent
Do not feel safe using the water park	20	4.7 %
Lack of amenities we want to use	43	10.2 %
Lack of handicap (ADA) accessibility	9	2.1 %
Lack of available parking to access water park	17	4.0 %
Unclean restrooms	35	8.3 %
Lack of shade	77	18.2 %
Lack of transportation	12	2.8 %
Not well maintained	18	4.3 %
Too busy/not interested	163	38.5 %
Too far from our home	14	3.3 %
Use other facilities	43	10.2 %
Other	79	18.7 %
Total	530	

Q14. The City of Mt. Vernon is exploring the importance of a new indoor recreation facility that would meet the needs of the community. Below are some elements that could be included in that facility. Please indicate how likely your household would use each of these features.

(N=423)

	Very likely	Likely	Neutral	Not likely	Not at all likely
Q14-1. Aerobics/fitness/gymnastics space	33.8%	24.8%	16.8%	5.0%	19.6%
Q14-2. Arts & crafts rooms	24.3%	20.1%	23.6%	8.3%	23.6%
Q14-3. Banquet/special event space	20.8%	23.2%	30.3%	7.8%	18.0%
Q14-4. Childcare (limited service)	11.1%	10.6%	24.3%	14.9%	39.0%
Q14-5. eGaming room	13.0%	11.6%	20.8%	13.7%	40.9%
Q14-6. Lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes	36.9%	24.1%	14.9%	6.1%	18.0%
Q14-7. Indoor running/walking track	46.1%	24.8%	11.6%	4.3%	13.2%
Q14-8. Indoor sports courts (handball, racquetball, squash)	24.8%	17.7%	23.2%	10.6%	23.6%
Q14-9. Synthetic turf areas	16.8%	15.1%	27.4%	12.3%	28.4%
Q14-10. Multi-purpose hardwood courts for basketball, volleyball, etc.	29.1%	15.4%	21.0%	9.2%	25.3%
Q14-11. Multi-purpose rooms for classes/meetings/parties	22.9%	30.0%	22.5%	5.9%	18.7%
Q14-12. Senior services & programs/senior resources	31.7%	19.9%	21.5%	6.1%	20.8%
Q14-13. Weight room/cardiovascular equipment area	31.0%	27.0%	16.8%	6.4%	18.9%
Q14-14. Other	4.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	95.3%

WITHOUT NOT AT ALL LIKELY

Q14. The City of Mt. Vernon is exploring the importance of a new indoor recreation facility that would meet the needs of the community. Below are some elements that could be included in that facility. Please indicate how likely your household would use each of these features. (without "not at all likely")

(N=423)

	Very likely	Likely	Neutral	Not likely
Q14-1. Aerobics/fitness/gymnastics space	42.1%	30.9%	20.9%	6.2%
Q14-2. Arts & crafts rooms	31.9%	26.3%	31.0%	10.8%
Q14-3. Banquet/special event space	25.4%	28.2%	36.9%	9.5%
Q14-4. Childcare (limited service)	18.2%	17.4%	39.9%	24.4%
Q14-5. eGaming room	22.0%	19.6%	35.2%	23.2%
Q14-6. Lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes	45.0%	29.4%	18.2%	7.5%
Q14-7. Indoor running/walking track	53.1%	28.6%	13.4%	4.9%
Q14-8. Indoor sports courts (handball, racquetball, squash)	32.5%	23.2%	30.3%	13.9%
Q14-9. Synthetic turf areas	23.4%	21.1%	38.3%	17.2%
Q14-10. Multi-purpose hardwood courts for basketball, volleyball, etc.	38.9%	20.6%	28.2%	12.3%
Q14-11. Multi-purpose rooms for classes/meetings/parties	28.2%	36.9%	27.6%	7.3%
Q14-12. Senior services & programs/senior resources	40.0%	25.1%	27.2%	7.8%
Q14-13. Weight room/cardiovascular equipment area	38.2%	33.2%	20.7%	7.9%
Q14-14. Other	85.0%	15.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Q15. Which FOUR of the features listed in Question 14 would your household be MOST LIKELY to use if they were included in a new indoor recreation facility?

<u>Q15. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Aerobics/fitness/gymnastics space	53	12.5 %
Arts & crafts rooms	29	6.9 %
Banquet/special event space	19	4.5 %
Childcare (limited service)	13	3.1 %
eGaming room	7	1.7 %
Lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes	62	14.7 %
Indoor running/walking track	56	13.2 %
Indoor sports courts (handball, racquetball, squash)	8	1.9 %
Synthetic turf areas	3	0.7 %
Multi-purpose hardwood courts for basketball, volleyball, etc.	15	3.5 %
Multi-purpose rooms for classes/meetings/parties	4	0.9 %
Senior services & programs/senior resources	31	7.3 %
Weight room/cardiovascular equipment area	23	5.4 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>23.6 %</u>
Total	423	100.0 %

Q15. Which FOUR of the features listed in Question 14 would your household be MOST LIKELY to use if they were included in a new indoor recreation facility?

<u>Q15. 2nd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Aerobics/fitness/gymnastics space	28	6.6 %
Arts & crafts rooms	29	6.9 %
Banquet/special event space	19	4.5 %
Childcare (limited service)	9	2.1 %
eGaming room	13	3.1 %
Lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes	39	9.2 %
Indoor running/walking track	67	15.8 %
Indoor sports courts (handball, racquetball, squash)	15	3.5 %
Synthetic turf areas	5	1.2 %
Multi-purpose hardwood courts for basketball, volleyball, etc.	22	5.2 %
Multi-purpose rooms for classes/meetings/parties	16	3.8 %
Senior services & programs/senior resources	27	6.4 %
Weight room/cardiovascular equipment area	16	3.8 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>27.9 %</u>
Total	423	100.0 %

Q15. Which FOUR of the features listed in Question 14 would your household be MOST LIKELY to use if they were included in a new indoor recreation facility?

<u>Q15. 3rd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Aerobics/fitness/gymnastics space	16	3.8 %
Arts & crafts rooms	19	4.5 %
Banquet/special event space	22	5.2 %
Childcare (limited service)	5	1.2 %
eGaming room	13	3.1 %
Lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes	30	7.1 %
Indoor running/walking track	45	10.6 %
Indoor sports courts (handball, racquetball, squash)	16	3.8 %
Synthetic turf areas	8	1.9 %
Multi-purpose hardwood courts for basketball, volleyball, etc.	21	5.0 %
Multi-purpose rooms for classes/meetings/parties	31	7.3 %
Senior services & programs/senior resources	26	6.1 %
Weight room/cardiovascular equipment area	32	7.6 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>32.9 %</u>
Total	423	100.0 %

Q15. Which FOUR of the features listed in Question 14 would your household be MOST LIKELY to use if they were included in a new indoor recreation facility?

<u>Q15. 4th choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Aerobics/fitness/gymnastics space	29	6.9 %
Arts & crafts rooms	15	3.5 %
Banquet/special event space	15	3.5 %
Childcare (limited service)	8	1.9 %
eGaming room	12	2.8 %
Lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes	10	2.4 %
Indoor running/walking track	26	6.1 %
Indoor sports courts (handball, racquetball, squash)	12	2.8 %
Synthetic turf areas	6	1.4 %
Multi-purpose hardwood courts for basketball, volleyball, etc.	20	4.7 %
Multi-purpose rooms for classes/meetings/parties	25	5.9 %
Senior services & programs/senior resources	32	7.6 %
Weight room/cardiovascular equipment area	32	7.6 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>181</u>	<u>42.8 %</u>
Total	423	100.0 %

SUM OF TOP 4 CHOICES

Q15. Which FOUR of the features listed in Question 14 would your household be MOST LIKELY to use if they were included in a new indoor recreation facility? (top 4)

Q15. Top choice	Number	Percent
Aerobics/fitness/gymnastics space	126	29.8 %
Arts & crafts rooms	92	21.7 %
Banquet/special event space	75	17.7 %
Childcare (limited service)	35	8.3 %
eGaming room	45	10.6 %
Lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes	141	33.3 %
Indoor running/walking track	194	45.9 %
Indoor sports courts (handball, racquetball, squash)	51	12.1 %
Synthetic turf areas	22	5.2 %
Multi-purpose hardwood courts for basketball, volleyball, etc.	78	18.4 %
Multi-purpose rooms for classes/meetings/parties	76	18.0 %
Senior services & programs/senior resources	116	27.4 %
Weight room/cardiovascular equipment area	103	24.3 %
None chosen	100	23.6 %
Total	1254	

Q16. How far do you or the members of your family travel to use indoor recreation facilities in other communities?

Q16. How far do you travel to use indoor recreation facilities in other communities	Number	Percent
10 to 15 miles	27	6.4 %
15 to 20 miles	10	2.4 %
20 to 30 miles	48	11.3 %
30+ miles	78	18.4 %
We don't travel to other communities for indoor recreation	239	56.5 %
Not provided	21	5.0 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q16. How far do you or the members of your family travel to use indoor recreation facilities in other communities? (without "not provided")

Q16. How far do you travel to use indoor recreation facilities in other communities	Number	Percent
10 to 15 miles	27	6.7 %
15 to 20 miles	10	2.5 %
20 to 30 miles	48	11.9 %
30+ miles	78	19.4 %
We don't travel to other communities for indoor recreation	239	59.5 %
Total	402	100.0 %

Q17. How often have you or the members of your household visited an indoor recreation facility in other communities over the past 12 months?

Q17. How often have you visited an indoor recreation facility in other communities over past 12 months	Number	Percent
More than once a week	12	2.8 %
Once per week	13	3.1 %
1 to 2 times a month	32	7.6 %
A few times per year	113	26.7 %
Haven't visited the park in past 12 months	239	56.5 %
Not provided	14	3.3 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q17. How often have you or the members of your household visited an indoor recreation facility in other communities over the past 12 months? (without "not provided")

Q17. How often have you visited an indoor recreation facility in other communities over past 12 months	Number	Percent
More than once a week	12	2.9 %
Once per week	13	3.2 %
1 to 2 times a month	32	7.8 %
A few times per year	113	27.6 %
Haven't visited the park in past 12 months	239	58.4 %
Total	409	100.0 %

Q18. If a new indoor recreation facility were developed, what would be your preferred method of payment for use of the facility?

Q18. What would be your preferred method of payment for use of a new indoor recreation facility	Number	Percent
Daily admission fees	103	24.3 %
10-punch admission pass	60	14.2 %
Monthly membership	142	33.6 %
Annual membership	65	15.4 %
Not provided	53	12.5 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q18. If a new indoor recreation facility were developed, what would be your preferred method of payment for use of the facility? (without "not provided")

Q18. What would be your preferred method of payment for use of a new indoor recreation facility	Number	Percent
Daily admission fees	103	27.8 %
10-punch admission pass	60	16.2 %
Monthly membership	142	38.4 %
Annual membership	65	17.6 %
Total	370	100.0 %

Q19. Do you think that Mt. Vernon resident fees should be lower than non-resident fees?

Q19. Should Mt. Vernon resident fees be lower than non-resident fees	Number	Percent
Yes	351	83.0 %
No	49	11.6 %
Not provided	23	5.4 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q19. Do you think that Mt. Vernon resident fees should be lower than non-resident fees? (without "not provided")

Q19. Should Mt. Vernon resident fees be lower than non-resident fees	Number	Percent
Yes	351	87.8 %
No	49	12.3 %
Total	400	100.0 %

Q20. Is it important for an indoor recreation center to have a positive economic impact on the community?

Q20. Is it important for an indoor recreation center to have a positive economic impact on the community	Number	Percent
Yes	336	79.4 %
No	36	8.5 %
Unsure	35	8.3 %
Not provided	16	3.8 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED

Q20. Is it important for an indoor recreation center to have a positive economic impact on the community? (without "not provided")

Q20. Is it important for an indoor recreation center to have a positive economic impact on the community	Number	Percent
Yes	336	82.6 %
No	36	8.8 %
Unsure	35	8.6 %
Total	407	100.0 %

Q21. Your gender identity:

Q21. Your gender identity	Number	Percent
Male	207	48.9 %
Female	206	48.7 %
Non-binary	2	0.5 %
Prefer not to disclose	8	1.9 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT PREFER NOT TO DISCLOSE**Q21. Your gender identity: (without "prefer not to disclose")**

<u>Q21. Your gender identity</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Male	207	49.9 %
Female	206	49.6 %
Non-binary	2	0.5 %
Total	415	100.0 %

Q22. How many years have you lived in Mt. Vernon?

<u>Q22. How many years have you lived in Mt. Vernon</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0-5	49	11.6 %
6-10	37	8.7 %
11-20	55	13.0 %
21-30	64	15.1 %
31+	196	46.3 %
Not provided	22	5.2 %
Total	423	100.0 %

WITHOUT NOT PROVIDED**Q22. How many years have you lived in Mt. Vernon? (without "not provided")**

<u>Q22. How many years have you lived in Mt. Vernon</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0-5	49	12.2 %
6-10	37	9.2 %
11-20	55	13.7 %
21-30	64	16.0 %
31+	196	48.9 %
Total	401	100.0 %

Q23. Which of the following best describes your race/ethnicity?

<u>Q23. Your race/ethnicity</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Asian or Asian Indian	5	1.2 %
Black or African American	57	13.5 %
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	0.5 %
White or Caucasian	325	76.8 %
Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino/a/x	19	4.5 %
Other	3	0.7 %
Total	411	

Q23-7. Self-describe your race/ethnicity:

<u>Q23-7. Self-describe your race/ethnicity</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Mixed	2	66.7 %
More than one	1	33.3 %
Total	3	100.0 %

3

Survey Instrument

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY HALL

JOHN LEWIS



CITY OF MT. VERNON
1100 MAIN CITY HALL
MT. VERNON, ILLINOIS 62864

618/242-5000
FAX 618/244-0746

April 2024

Dear Mt. Vernon Resident,

The City of Mt. Vernon is conducting a survey as a part of developing a Master Plan for future improvements at Veteran's Park and development of Lincoln Park and the Cusumano Sports Complex. Your input is vital as we create a long-term vision for both parks that will serve as a guide in meeting the recreational needs of our residents for generations to come.

Your household is one of a limited number selected at random to receive this survey. We sincerely hope you choose to participate in this important planning step. A primary objective of the Master Plan process is to have a high level of community involvement. The survey is just one component of the resident engagement process. Future public engagement sessions will provide an additional opportunity for residents to provide valuable input towards each parks' Master Plan.

We appreciate your time.

The survey should take approximately 10 – 15 minutes to complete. The time you invest in completing each question of the survey will aid the city in initiating a resident-driven approach to decision making that will positively enhance the lives of all residents. Your input is valued, whether or not you utilize these parks. Please take this opportunity to let your voice be heard.

Please complete and return your survey within the next two weeks.

To ensure confidentiality, the city has partnered with ETC Institute, an independent consulting company, to administer the survey. Please return your completed survey in the enclosed, postage-paid envelope, addressed to ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful input.

Sincerely yours,

John Lewis
Mayor
City of Mt. Vernon



2024 City of Mt. Vernon Community Survey



The City of Mt. Vernon would like your input to help determine potential improvements to Veteran's Park and Lincoln Park, as well as the need for an indoor recreation facility. This survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your completed survey in the enclosed postage-paid, return-reply envelope. If you prefer, you can complete the survey online at MtVernonsurvey.org. We greatly appreciate your time!

1. Including 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. How often have you or the members of your household visited Veteran's Park over the past 12 months?

___ (1) More than once a week ___ (3) 1 to 2 times a month ___ (5) Haven't visited the park in the past 12 months
 ___ (2) Once per week ___ (4) A few times per year

3. Please CHECK ALL of the following reasons that prevent you or members of your households from visiting Veteran's Park more often.

- ___ (01) Do not feel safe using the park
- ___ (02) Lack of amenities we want to use
- ___ (03) Lack of handicap (ADA) accessibility
- ___ (04) Lack of parking to access parks/facilities
- ___ (05) Lack of restrooms
- ___ (06) Lack of shade
- ___ (07) Lack of transportation
- ___ (08) Park is not well maintained
- ___ (09) Too busy/not interested
- ___ (10) Too far from our home
- ___ (11) Use other parks/facilities
- ___ (12) Other: _____

4. Please indicate your level of support for the following additions/improvements that could be made at Veteran's Park using a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being "Very Supportive" and 1 being "Not Supportive."

Potential additions/improvements to Veteran's Park		Very Supportive	Supportive	Neutral	Not Supportive	Not at All Supportive
01.	Add amenities along walking trail (i.e., benches, drinking fountains, exercise stations)	5	4	3	2	1
02.	Add more pickleball courts	5	4	3	2	1
03.	Add restrooms	5	4	3	2	1
04.	Extend walking/biking trail	5	4	3	2	1
05.	Improve basketball courts	5	4	3	2	1
06.	Improve existing restrooms	5	4	3	2	1
07.	Improve park shelters	5	4	3	2	1
08.	Improve north playground	5	4	3	2	1
09.	Improve skating area	5	4	3	2	1
10.	Improve tennis courts	5	4	3	2	1
11.	Improve community garden	5	4	3	2	1
12.	Improve historic amphitheater	5	4	3	2	1
13.	Improve volleyball court	5	4	3	2	1
14.	Improve disc golf course	5	4	3	2	1
15.	Improve gazebo at pond	5	4	3	2	1
16.	Pond beautification Improvements (i.e., lake edge planting, decorative boulders, fishing dock)	5	4	3	2	1
17.	Other: _____	5	4	3	2	1

5. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 4 on the previous page are the most important to your household? [Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 4, or circle "NONE."]

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

6. Have you or the members of your household attended an event at the Rolland Lewis Community Building in Veterans Park over the past 12 months?

____(1) Yes [Answer Q6a.] ____ (2) No [Skip to Q7.]

6a. Did you rent the facility for your own event? ____ (1) Yes ____ (2) No

7. Indicate below what type of programming you or members of your family would like to see offered at the Rolland Lewis Community Building.

8. How often have you or the members of your household visited Lincoln Park over the past 12 months?

____(1) More than once a week ____ (3) 1 to 2 times a month ____ (5) Haven't visited the park in the past 12 months
 ____ (2) Once per week ____ (4) A few times per year

9. Please CHECK ALL of the following reasons that prevent you or members of your households from visiting Lincoln Park more often.

- ____ (01) Do not feel safe using the park
- ____ (02) Lack of amenities we want to use
- ____ (03) Lack of handicap (ADA) accessibility
- ____ (04) Lack of parking to access parks/facilities
- ____ (05) Lack of restrooms
- ____ (06) Lack of shade
- ____ (07) Lack of transportation
- ____ (08) Park is not well maintained
- ____ (09) Too busy/not interested
- ____ (10) Too far from our home
- ____ (11) Use other parks/facilities
- ____ (12) Other: _____

10. Please indicate your level of support for the following additions/improvements that could be made at Lincoln Park using a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being "Very Supportive" and 1 being "Not Supportive".

Potential additions/improvements to Lincoln Park	Very Supportive	Supportive	Neutral	Not Supportive	Not at All Supportive
01. Add diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	5	4	3	2	1
02. Add pickleball courts	5	4	3	2	1
03. Add picnic shelters/areas	5	4	3	2	1
04. Add playgrounds	5	4	3	2	1
05. Add rectangular sports fields (soccer, football, rugby)	5	4	3	2	1
06. Add restrooms	5	4	3	2	1
07. Add skate park	5	4	3	2	1
08. Add pickleball courts	5	4	3	2	1
09. Add tennis courts	5	4	3	2	1
10. Extend walking/biking trail	5	4	3	2	1
11. Improve diamond sports fields (baseball, softball)	5	4	3	2	1
12. Improve existing playground	5	4	3	2	1
13. Improve rectangular sports field (soccer, football, rugby)	5	4	3	2	1
14. Improve fitness area	5	4	3	2	1
15. Other: _____	5	4	3	2	1

11. Which FOUR potential additions/improvements from the list in Question 10 on the previous page are the most important to your household? [Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 10, or circle "NONE."]

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

12. How often have you or the members of your household visited the Aquatic Zoo Water Park over the past 12 months?

____(1) More than once a week ____ (3) 1 to 2 times a month ____ (5) Haven't visited the park in the past 12 months
 ____ (2) Once per week ____ (4) A few times per year

13. Please CHECK ALL of the following reasons that prevent you or members of your households from visiting Aquatic Zoo Water Park more often.

- ____ (01) Do not feel safe using the water park
- ____ (02) Lack of amenities we want to use
- ____ (03) Lack of handicap (ADA) accessibility
- ____ (04) Lack of available parking to access water park
- ____ (05) Unclean restrooms
- ____ (06) Lack of shade
- ____ (07) Lack of transportation
- ____ (08) Not well maintained
- ____ (09) Too busy/not interested
- ____ (10) Too far from our home
- ____ (11) Use other facilities
- ____ (12) Other: _____

14. The City of Mt. Vernon is exploring the importance of a new indoor recreation facility that would meet the needs of the community. Below are some elements that could be included in that facility. Please indicate how likely your household would use each of these features.

How likely would you use these features?	Very Likely	Likely	Neutral	Not Likely	Not at All Likely
01. Aerobics/Fitness/Gymnastics space	4	3	2	1	9
02. Arts and crafts rooms	4	3	2	1	9
03. Banquet/Special event space	4	3	2	1	9
04. Childcare (limited service)	4	3	2	1	9
05. E-Gaming room	4	3	2	1	9
06. Lap lanes for swim lessons, exercise swimming, competitive swimming or therapeutic purposes	4	3	2	1	9
07. Indoor running/walking track	4	3	2	1	9
08. Indoor sports courts (handball, racquetball, squash)	4	3	2	1	9
09. Synthetic turf areas	4	3	2	1	9
10. Multi-purpose hardwood courts for basketball, volleyball, etc.	4	3	2	1	9
11. Multi-purpose rooms for classes/meetings/parties	4	3	2	1	9
12. Senior services and programs/senior resources	4	3	2	1	9
13. Weight room/cardiovascular equipment area	4	3	2	1	9
14. Other: _____	4	3	2	1	9

15. Which FOUR of the features listed in Question 14 would your household be MOST LIKELY to use if they were included in a new indoor recreation facility? [Write in your answers below using the numbers from the list in Question 14, or circle "NONE".]

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

16. How far do you or the members of your family travel to use indoor recreation facilities in other communities?

____ (1) 10 to 15 miles ____ (3) 20 to 30 miles ____ (5) We don't travel to other communities for indoor recreation
 ____ (2) 15 to 20 miles ____ (4) Over 30 miles

17. **How often have you or the members of your household visited an indoor recreation facility in other communities over the past 12 months?**
 (1) More than once a week (3) 1 to 2 times a month (5) Haven't visited the park in the past 12 months
 (2) Once per week (4) A few times per year
18. **If a new indoor recreation facility were developed, what would be your preferred method of payment for use of the facility?**
 (1) Daily Admission Fees (3) Monthly Membership
 (2) 10-Punch Admission Pass (4) Annual Membership
19. **Do you think that Mt. Vernon resident fees should be lower than non-resident fees?**
 (1) Yes (2) No
20. **Is it important for an indoor recreation center to have a positive economic impact on the community?**
 (1) Yes (2) No (3) Unsure
21. **Your gender identity:**
 (1) Male (4) Prefer to self-describe: _____
 (2) Female (5) Prefer not to disclose
 (3) Non-binary
22. **How many years have you lived in Mt. Vernon?** _____ years
23. **Which of the following best describes your race/ethnicity?**
 (01) Asian or Asian Indian (05) Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
 (02) Black or African American (06) Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino/a/x
 (03) American Indian or Alaska Native (99) Other: _____
 (04) White or Caucasian

This concludes the survey. Thank you for your time!

Please return your completed survey in the enclosed return-reply envelope addressed to:
 ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061

Your responses will remain completely confidential. The information to the right will ONLY be used to help identify the level of need in your area. Thank you!