

Dover, NH

The National Community Survey

Report of Results
2023

Report by:



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National Research Center at Polco is a charter member of the AAPOR Transparency Initiative, providing clear disclosure of our sound and ethical survey research practices.

About The NCS™

The National Community Survey™ (The NCS™) report is about the “livability” of Dover. A livable community is a place that is not simply habitable, but that is desirable. It is not only where people do live, but where they want to live. The survey was developed by the experts from National Research Center at Polco.

Great communities are partnerships of the government, private sector, community-based organizations and residents, all geographically connected. The NCS captures residents’ opinions considering ten central facets of a community:

- Economy
- Mobility
- Community Design
- Utilities
- Safety
- Natural Environment
- Parks and Recreation
- Health and Wellness
- Education, Arts, and Culture
- Inclusivity and Engagement

The report provides the opinions of a representative sample of 620 residents of the City of Dover collected from May 4th, 2023 to June 15th, 2023. The margin of error around any reported percentage is 4% for all respondents and the response rate for the 2023 survey was 21%. Survey results were weighted so that the demographic profile of respondents was representative of the demographic profile of adults in Dover.

How the results are reported

For the most part, the percentages presented in the following tabs represent the “percent positive.” Most commonly, the percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, etc.). On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the tab “Complete data.” However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in most of the tabs. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Comparisons to benchmarks

NRC’s database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in surveys from over 600 communities whose residents evaluated the same kinds of topics on The National Community Survey. The comparison evaluations are from the most recent survey completed in each community in the last five years. NRC adds the latest results quickly upon survey completion, keeping the benchmark data fresh and relevant. The communities in the database represent a wide geographic and population range. In each tab, Dover’s results are noted as being “higher” than the benchmark, “lower” than the benchmark, or “similar” to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by Dover residents is statistically similar to or different (greater or lesser) than the benchmark. Being rated as “higher” or “lower” than the benchmark means that Dover’s average rating for a particular item was more than 10 points different than the benchmark. If a rating was “much higher” or “much lower,” then Dover’s average rating was more than 20 points different when compared to the benchmark.

The survey was administered after the COVID-19 pandemic, a time of challenge for many local governments. While we provide comparisons to national benchmarks, it is important to note that much of the benchmark data was collected prior to the pandemic. This may impact how your City’s 2023 ratings compare to other communities’ ratings from the past five years.



Trends over time

Trend data for Dover represent important comparison data and should be examined for improvements or declines*. Deviations from stable trends over time represent opportunities for understanding how local policies, programs, or public information may have affected residents' opinions. Changes between survey years have been noted with an arrow and the percent difference. If the difference is greater than 6 percentage points between the 2021 and 2023 surveys, the change is statistically significant.

* In 2020, The NCS survey was updated to include new and refreshed items. Consequently, some of the trends may be impacted due to wording modifications that could have potentially altered the meaning of the item for the respondent.

Methods

Selecting survey recipients

All households within the City of Dover were eligible to participate in the survey. A list of all households within the zip codes serving Dover was purchased from Go-Dog Direct based on updated listings from the United States Postal Service. Since some of the zip codes that serve the City of Dover households may also serve addresses that lie outside of the community, the exact geographic location of each housing unit was compared to community boundaries using the most current municipal boundary file. Addresses located outside of the City of Dover boundaries were removed from the list of potential households to survey. From that list, addresses were randomly selected as survey recipients, with multi-family housing units (defined as those with a unit number) sampled at a rate of 5:3 compared to single family housing units.

An individual within each household was selected using the birthday method. The birthday method selects a person within the household by asking the “person whose birthday has most recently passed” to complete the questionnaire. The underlying assumption in this method is that day of birth has no relationship to the way people respond to surveys. This instruction was contained in the introduction of the survey.

Conducting the survey

The 3,000 randomly selected households received mailings beginning on May 4th, 2023 and the survey remained open for 6 weeks. The first mailing was a postcard inviting the household to participate in the survey. The next mailing contained a cover letter with instructions, the survey questionnaire, and a postage-paid return envelope. All mailings included a web link to give residents the opportunity to respond to the survey online. All follow-up mailings asked those who had not completed the survey to do so and those who had already done so to refrain from completing the survey again.

About 4% of the 3,000 mailed invitations or surveys were returned because the household address was vacant or the postal service was unable to deliver the survey as addressed. Of the remaining 2,892 households that received the invitations to participate, 620 completed the survey, providing an overall response rate of 21%. The response rate was calculated using AAPOR’s response rate #2* for mailed surveys of unnamed persons.

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates made from surveys by a “level of confidence” and accompanying “confidence interval” (or margin of error). A traditional level of confidence, and the one used here, is 95%. The 95% confidence interval can be any size and quantifies the sampling error or imprecision of the survey results because some residents’ opinions are relied on to estimate all residents’ opinions. The margin of error for the City of Dover survey is no greater than plus or minus 4 percentage points around any given percent reported for all respondents (620 completed surveys).

In addition to the randomly selected “probability sample” of households, a link to an online open participation survey was publicized by the City of Dover. The open participation survey was identical to the probability sample survey with two small updates; it included a map at the beginning asking where the respondent lives and a question about where they heard about the survey. The open participation survey was open to all city residents and became available on June 1st, 2023. The survey remained open for 2 weeks. The data presented in the following tabs exclude the open participation survey data, but a tab at the end provides the complete frequency of responses to questions by the open participation respondents.

Analyzing the data

Responses from mailed surveys were entered into an electronic dataset using a “key and verify” method, where all responses are entered twice and compared to each other. Any discrepancies were resolved in comparison to the original survey form. Range checks as well as other forms of quality control were also performed. Responses from surveys completed on Polco were downloaded and merged with the mailed survey responses.

The demographics of the survey respondents were compared to those found in the 2020 Census and 2022 American Community Survey estimates for adults in the City of Dover. The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey respondents reflective of the larger population of the community. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, and housing tenure. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.* The results of the weighting scheme for the probability sample are presented in the following table.

NRC aligns demographic labels with those used by the U.S. Census for reporting purposes, when possible. Some categories (e.g., age, race/Hispanic origin, housing type, and length of residency) are combined into smaller subgroups.

		Unweighted	Weighted	Target*
Age	18-34	16%	37%	37%
	35-54	23%	30%	30%
	55+	60%	33%	33%
Hispanic origin	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish ..	98%	95%	97%
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, La..	2%	5%	3%
Housing tenure	Own	65%	52%	52%
	Rent	35%	48%	48%
Housing type	Attached	47%	57%	57%
	Detached	53%	43%	43%
Race & Hispanic origin	Not white alone	6%	12%	12%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	94%	88%	88%
Sex	Man	44%	50%	50%
	Woman	56%	50%	50%
Sex/age	Man 18-34	6%	18%	18%
	Man 35-54	11%	16%	16%
	Man 55+	26%	16%	16%
	Woman 18-34	10%	19%	19%
	Woman 35-54	13%	14%	14%
	Woman 55+	34%	17%	17%

The survey datasets were analyzed using all or some of a combination of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), R, Python and Tableau. For the most part, the percentages presented in the reports represent the “percent positive.” The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, essential/very important, etc.), or, in the case of resident behaviors/participation, the percent positive represents the proportion of respondents indicating “yes” or participating in an activity at least once a month.

On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the tab “Complete data”. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the reports. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Contact

The City of Dover funded this research. Please contact Colleen Bessette of the City of Dover at C.Bessette@dover.nh.gov if you have any questions about the survey.

Survey Validity

See the Polco Knowledge Base article on survey validity at <https://info.polco.us/knowledge/statistical-vali>

* See AAPOR’s Standard Definitions for more information at

<https://www.aapor.org/Publications-Media/AAPOR-Journals/Standard-Definitions.aspx>

* Pasek, J. (2010). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from

<https://web.stanford.edu/group/iriss/cgi-bin/anesrake/resources/RakingDescription.pdf>

* Targets come from the 2020 Census and 2021 American Community Survey

Key Findings

Dover residents feel safe and experience a high quality of life.

Overall, residents gave positive ratings to many measures of the quality of life in Dover. Nearly 9 in 10 favorably evaluated Dover as a place to live. About 8 in 10 were pleased with their neighborhood as a place to live, Dover as a place to raise children, and the overall quality of life in Dover. Additionally, most residents reported that they planned to remain in Dover for the next five years (80%) and would recommend living in Dover to someone who asks (87%).

These relatively strong results for quality-of-life measures are likely correlated with the positive ratings provided for safety topics within Dover. Over 9 in 10 residents reported feeling very or somewhat safe in their neighborhood during the day and in Dover's downtown/commercial areas during the day. Three-quarters also reported feeling safe from property crime, and 85% said the same about violent crime. Many safety-related services received positive marks, including fire services (96% excellent or good) and ambulance or emergency medical services (94%). Around 8 in 10 favorably reviewed the City's police/sheriff services and animal control, as well as fire prevention and education. While results in this facet were largely positive and on par with previous survey results, 86% of residents stated that safety is an important issue for the Dover community to focus on in the coming two years, indicating a need for continued attention in this area.

Residents appreciate Dover's natural environment and recreational opportunities.

When asked about aspects of the community that the City should focus on in the next two years, over 8 in 10 residents prioritized the overall quality of the natural environment as essential or very important. Three-quarters of residents also gave high importance ratings to the overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities. The quality ratings for these two facets, the natural environment (73% excellent or good) and parks and recreation (68%), were in line with national trends.

Residents' assessments pertaining to these areas tended to be favorable. Fitness opportunities and the availability of paths and walking trails in Dover both received high marks from three-quarters of residents. About 7 in 10 respondents were pleased with City parks and the city's overall appearance. In addition, 85% offered positive reviews of Dover's air quality, and 7 in 10 gave excellent or good ratings to the cleanliness of the City. Over two-thirds of residents continued to be pleased with recreation programs or classes and recreation centers or facilities, while 6 in 10 felt favorably about the city's recreational opportunities and preservation of natural areas. Each of these ratings were comparable to those seen in other jurisdictions across the country.

Many aspects of the local economy continue to receive positive reviews, but residents show additional concerns about general affordability and their own economic outlook.

Residents offered high ratings of importance (91% essential or very important) to Dover's overall economic health when asked to assess priorities for the coming two years. Around 6 in 10 positively rated the quality of Dover's overall economic health, in line with benchmark comparisons. About 8 in 10 respondents praised the overall quality of business and service establishments, and 69% gave excellent or good marks to the variety of business and service establishments in Dover. A majority of residents also positively reviewed Dover as a place to work (71% excellent or good), Dover as a place to visit (68%), and the vibrancy of downtown/commercial areas (63%), all on par with national benchmarks.

While most evaluations related to Dover's economy were similar to the national benchmarks, results indicated that residents were less optimistic about their own personal economic outlook and the affordability of resources within the city. When asked what impact the economy would likely have on their family income in the next six months, only 15% anticipated that it would be very or somewhat positive, a significant decline from 2021. The cost of living in Dover (19% excellent or good) and the availability of affordable quality housing (11%) received ratings lower than both the national averages and the City's previous survey results. The availability of affordable quality food (65%), affordable quality health care (66%), preventative health services (68%), affordable quality childcare/preschool (34%), and affordable quality mental health care (40%) each saw statistically significant declines as well. Overall, residents are satisfied with the current local economy in Dover; however, high rankings for importance and low rankings for affordability and other forward-looking indicators suggest that this is an area warranting the City's continued focus.

Residents' usage rates for alternative transportation are on the rise, but declining ratings in quality may indicate an opportunity for growth.

In comparison to 2021, Dover residents are utilizing alternative forms of transportation at higher rates. Around 3 in 10 respondents stated that, in the past year, they had used public transportation instead of driving. Nearly half of residents also reported carpooling with other adults instead of driving alone. Both of these experienced a statistically significant increase, rising by 13% and 8%, respectively. Additionally, 69% of residents reported walking or biking instead of driving, a number stable with previous survey results but higher than national benchmarks.

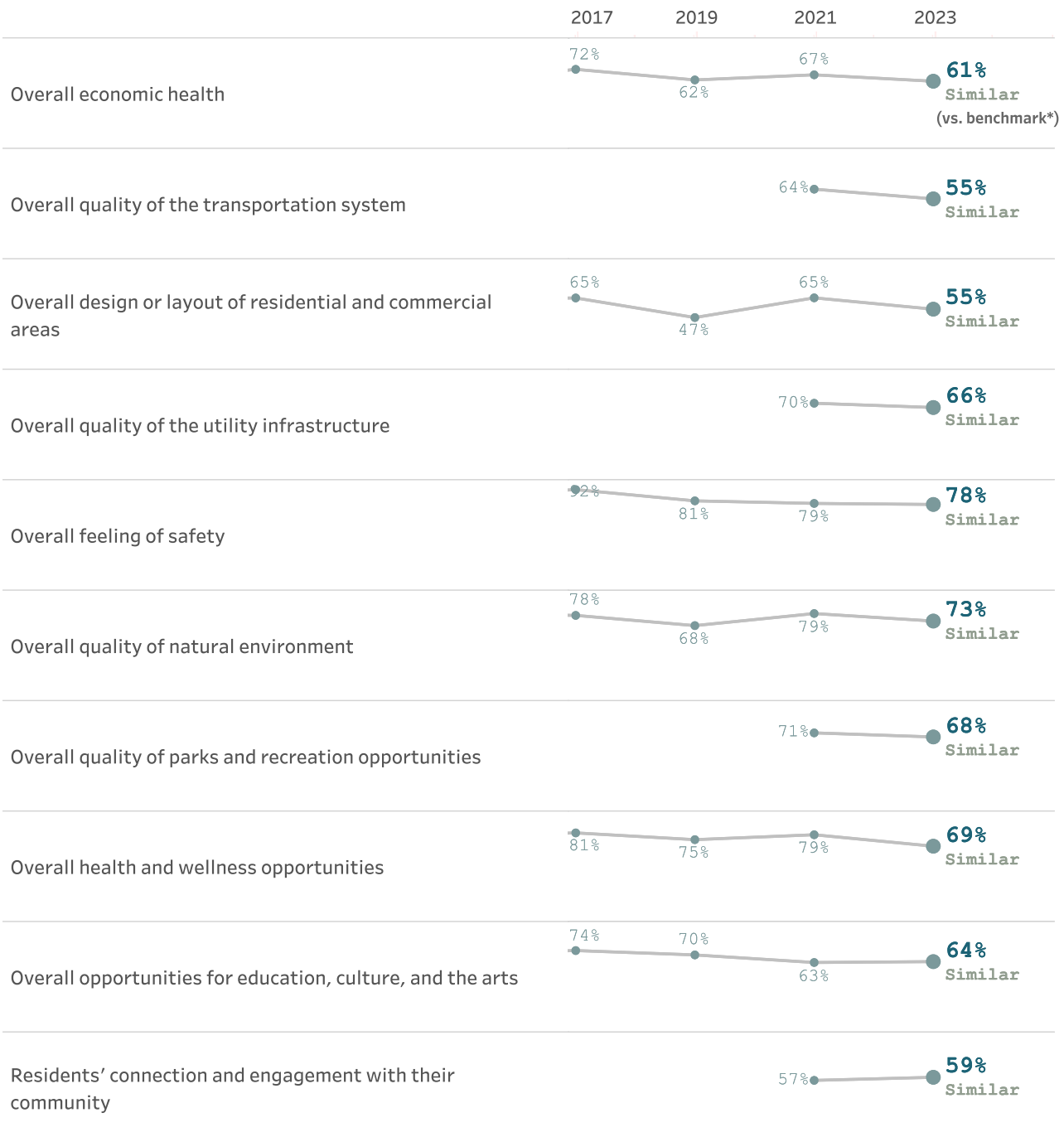
While usage ratings for alternative forms of transportation have increased, some measures of mobility saw statistically significant declines in this report. The ease of travel by bicycle was rated favorably by fewer than 4 in 10, decreasing by 12% since the previous survey. The ease of walking, the ease of travel by public transportation, and street lighting all declined slightly. Bus and transit services also fell by 9% between the 2021 and 2023 reports. Although nearly all measures for mobility were in line with benchmark comparisons from other communities, these declining ratings for alternative transportation quality may require additional monitoring and investigation.

Facets of livability

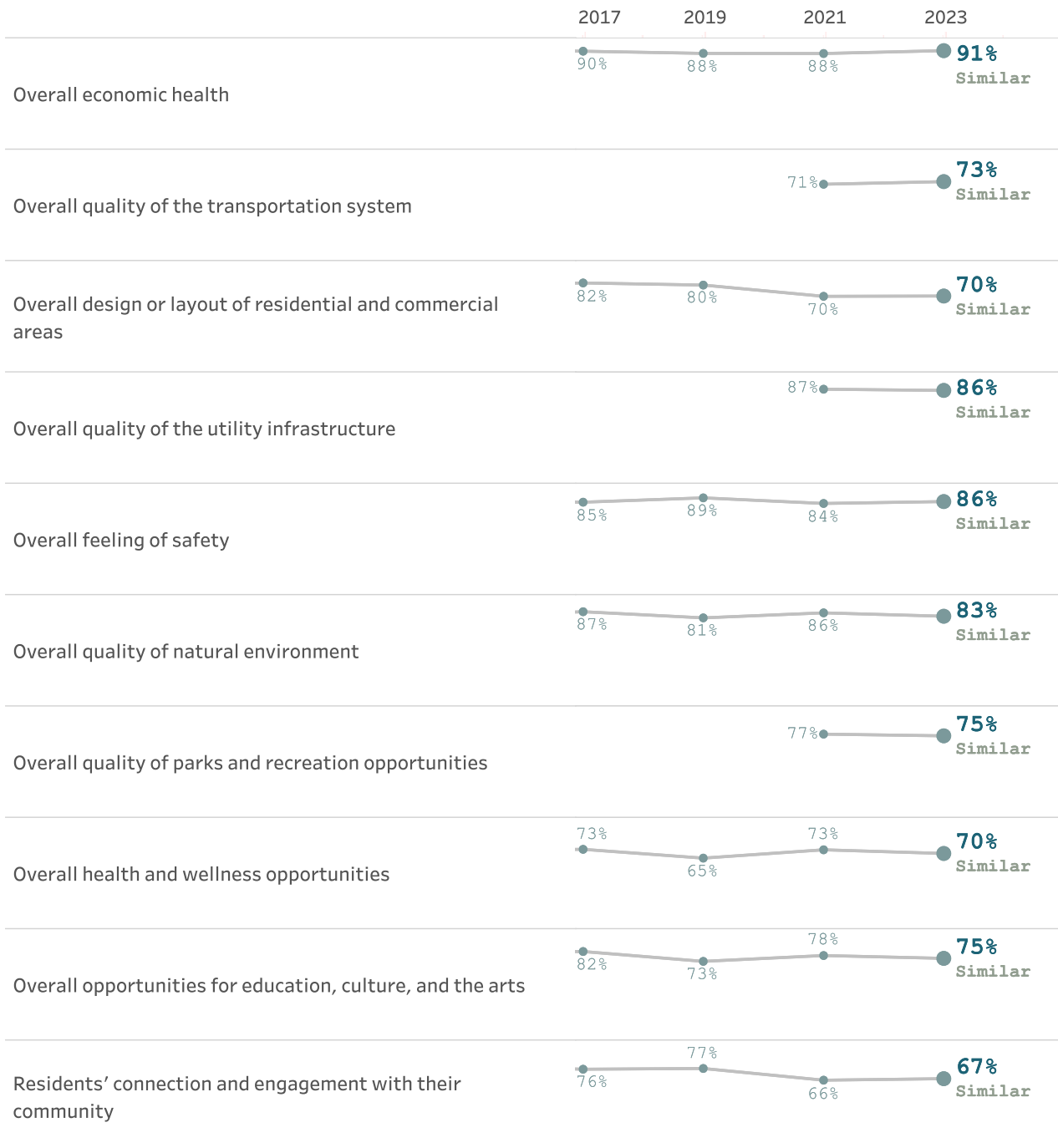
Resident perceptions of quality and importance for each of the facets of community livability provide an overview of community strengths and challenges that are useful for planning, budgeting and performance evaluation.

The charts below show the proportion of residents who rated the community facets positively for quality and the priority (importance) placed on each. Also displayed is whether local ratings were lower, similar, or higher than communities across the country (the national benchmark).

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.
 (% excellent or good)



Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Dover community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.
 (% essential or very important)



* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

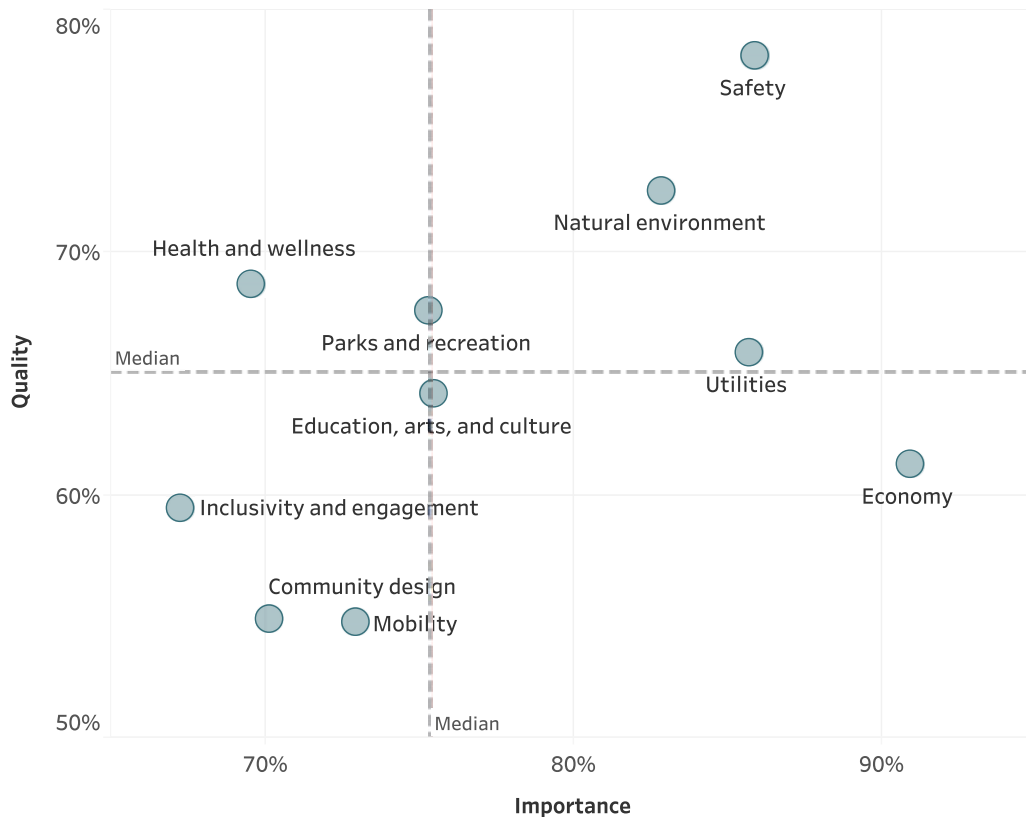
Balancing performance and importance

Every jurisdiction must balance limited resources while meeting resident needs and striving to optimize community livability. To this end, it is helpful to know what aspects of the community are most important to residents and which they perceive as being of higher or lower quality. It is especially helpful to know when a facet of livability is considered of high importance but rated as lower quality, as this should be a top priority to address.

To help guide City staff and officials with decisions on future resource allocation, resident ratings of the importance of services were compared to their ratings of the quality of these services. To identify the services perceived by residents to have relatively lower quality at the same time as relatively higher importance, all services were ranked from highest perceived quality to lowest perceived quality and from highest perceived importance to lowest perceived importance. Some services were in the top half of both lists (higher quality and higher importance); some were in the top half of one list but the bottom half of the other (higher quality and lower importance or lower quality and higher importance); and some services were in the bottom half of both lists.

Services receiving quality ratings of excellent or good by 75% or more of respondents were considered of “higher quality” and those with ratings lower than 75% were considered to be of “lower quality.” Services were classified as “more important” if they were rated as essential or very important by 65% or more of respondents. Services were rated as “less important” if they received a rating of less than 65%. This classification uses the median ratings for quality and importance to divide the services in half.

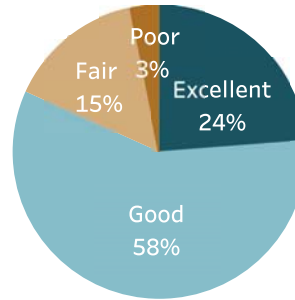
The quadrants in the figure below show which community facets were given higher or lower importance ratings (right-left) and which had higher or lower quality ratings (up-down). Facets of livability falling closer to a diagonal line from the lower left to the upper right are those where performance ratings are more commensurate with resident priorities. Facets scoring closest to the lower right hand corner of the matrix (higher in importance and lower in quality) are those that may warrant further investigation to see if changes to their delivery are necessary to improve their performance. This is the key part of this chart on which to focus. Facets falling in the top left hand corner of the chart (lower in importance but higher in quality) are areas where performance may outscore resident priorities, and may be a consideration for lower resource allocation.



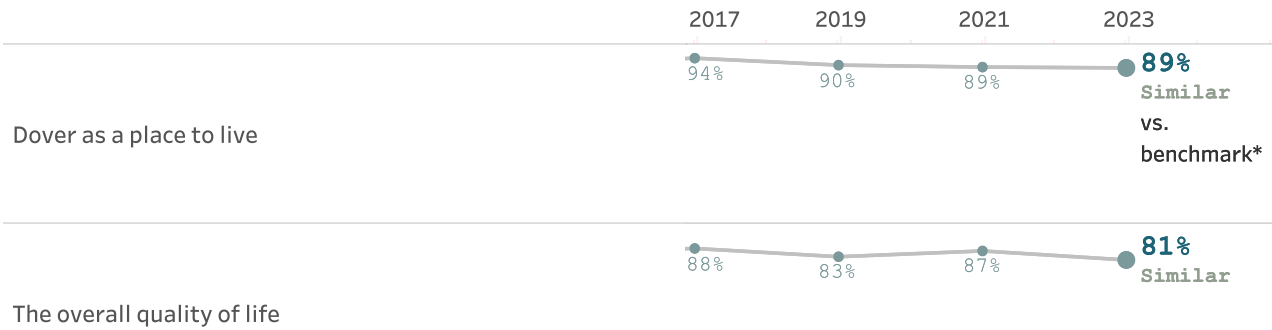
Quality of life

Measuring community livability starts with assessing the quality of life of those who live there, and ensuring that the community is attractive, accessible, and welcoming to all.

The overall quality of life in Dover, 2023



Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover.
(% excellent or good)



Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.
(% very or somewhat likely)



Please rate each of the following in the Dover community.
(% excellent or good)



* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

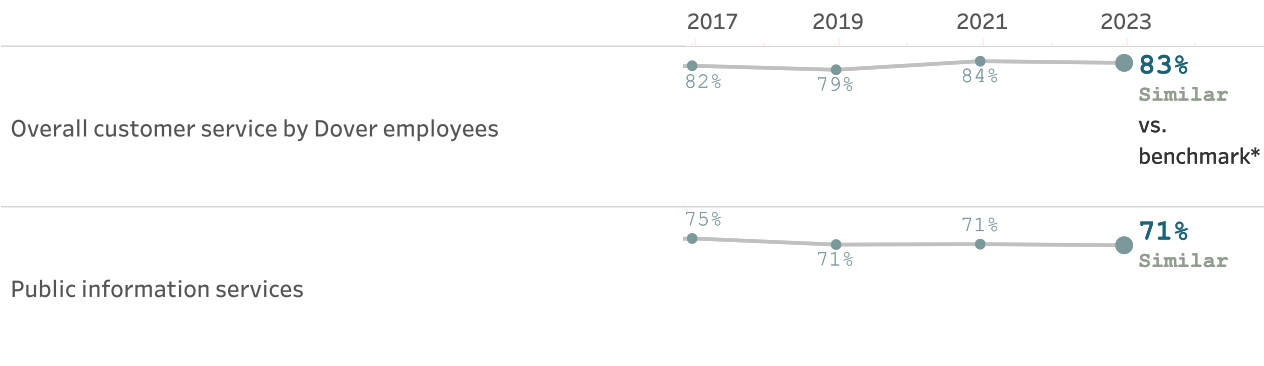
Governance

Strong local governments produce results that meet the needs of residents while making the best use of available resources, and are responsive to the present and future needs of the community as a whole.

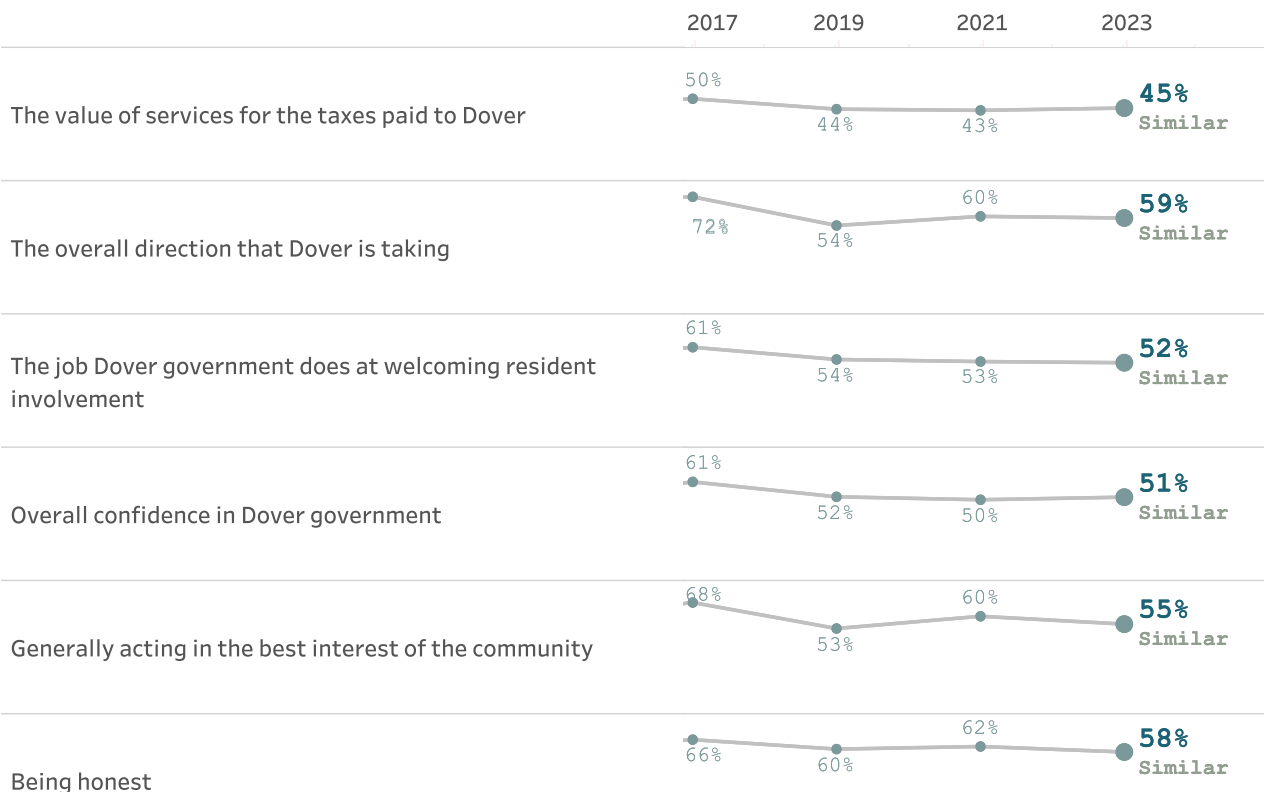
Overall confidence in Dover government, 2023

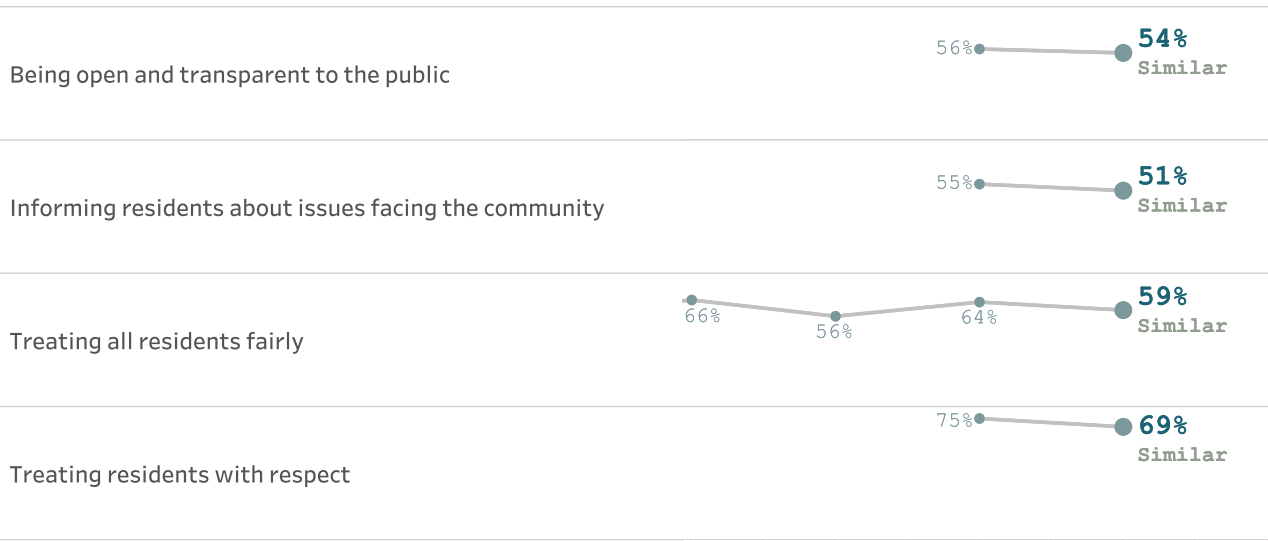


Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover. (% excellent or good)

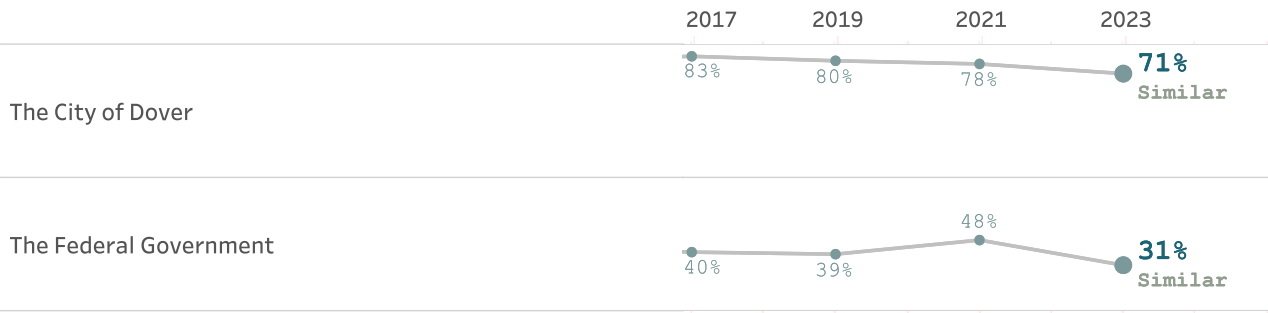


Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance. (% excellent or good)





**Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?
(% excellent or good)**

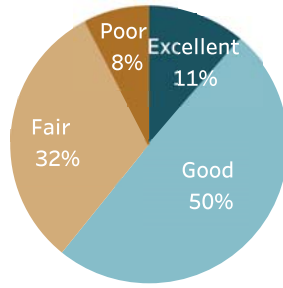


* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

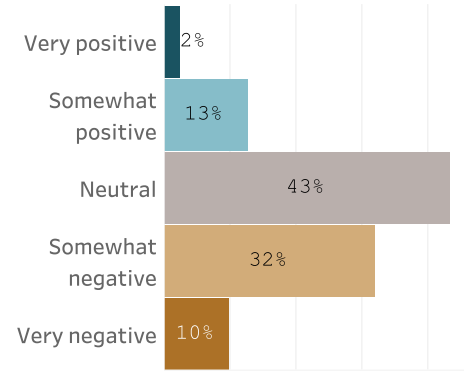
Economy

Local governments work together with private and nonprofit businesses, and with the community at large, to foster sustainable growth, create jobs, and promote a thriving local economy.

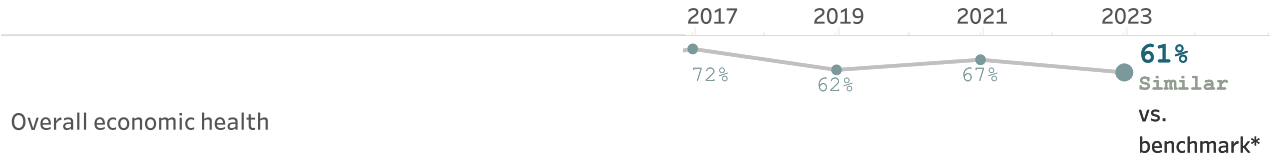
Overall economic health of Dover, 2023



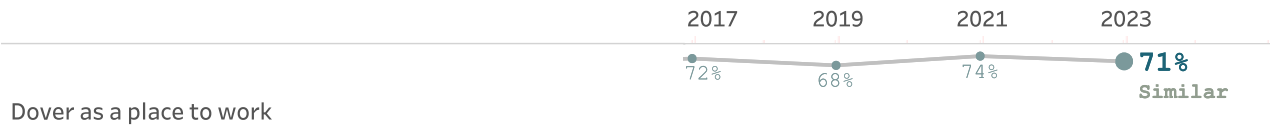
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:



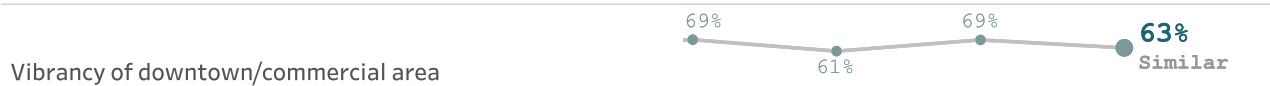
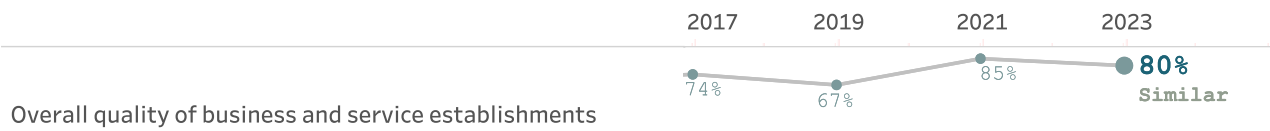
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole. (% excellent or good)

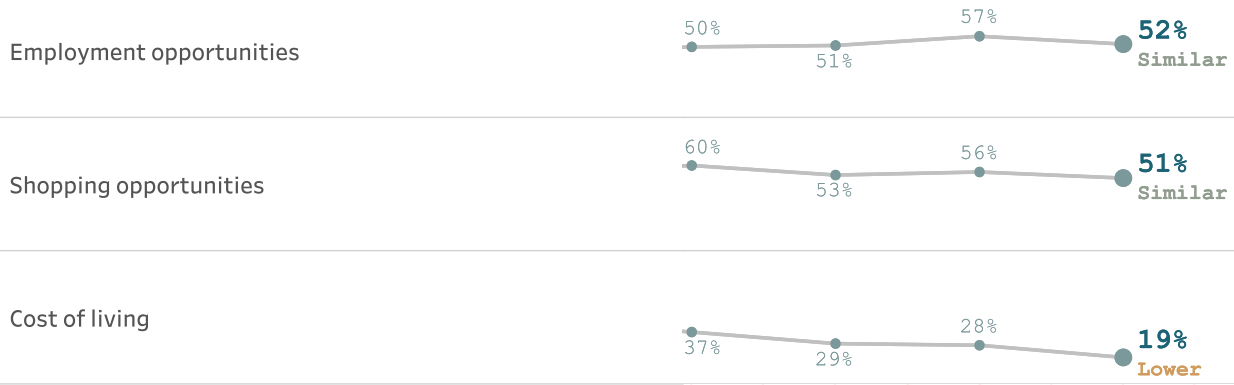


Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover. (% excellent or good)

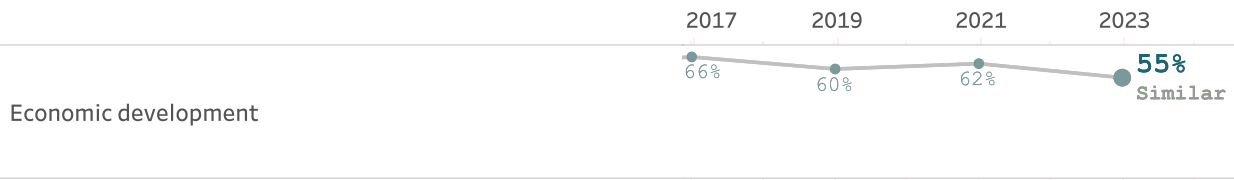


Please rate each of the following in the Dover community. (% excellent or good)

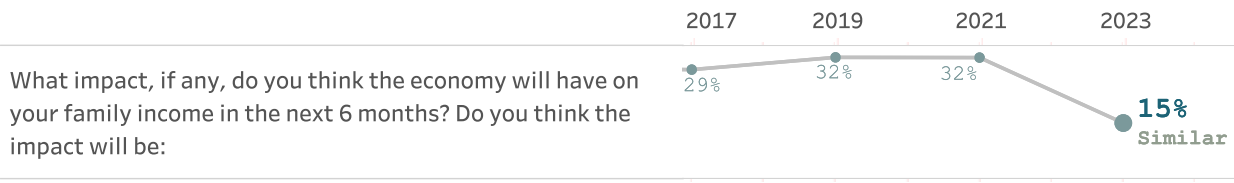




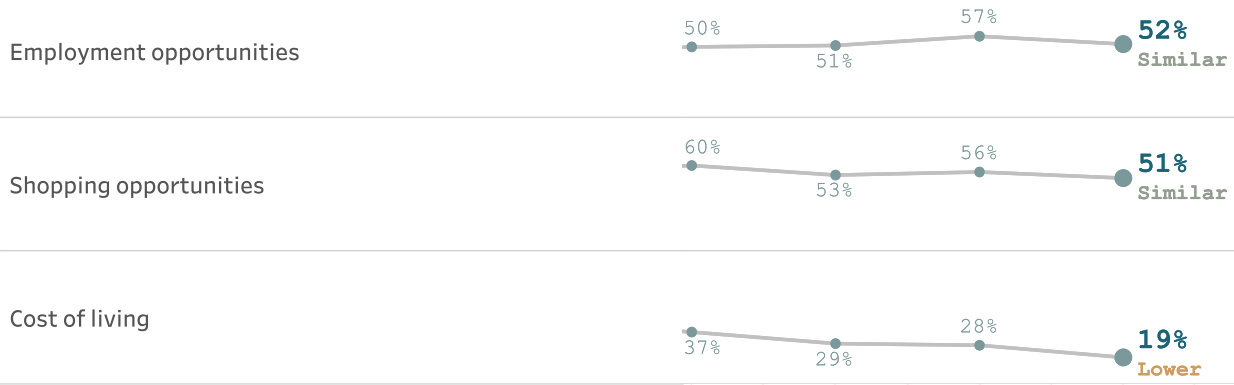
**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.
(% excellent or good)**



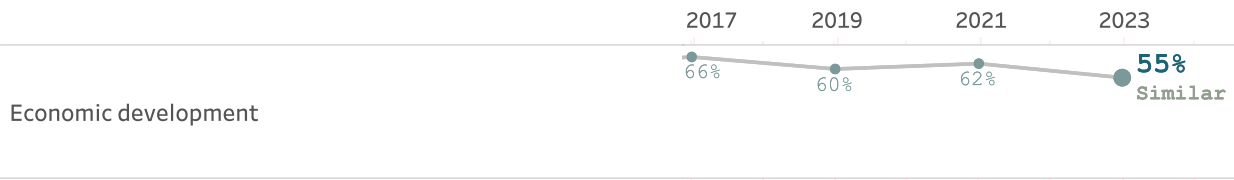
**What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:
(% very or somewhat positive)**



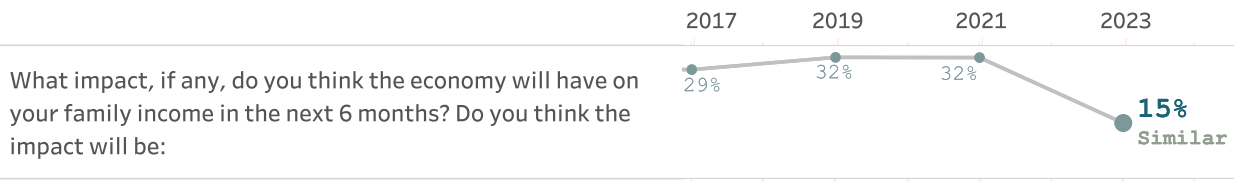
* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.



**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.
(% excellent or good)**

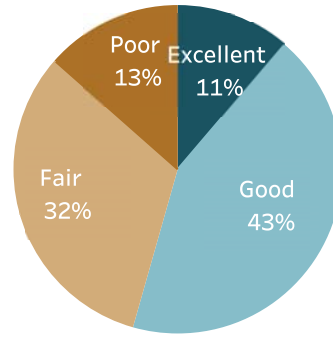


**What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:
(% very or somewhat positive)**



* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

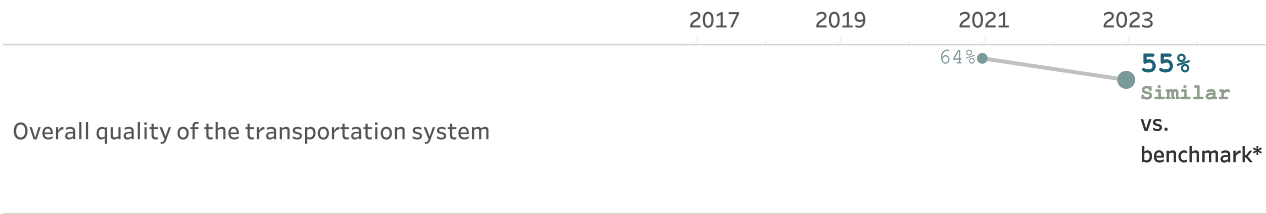
Overall quality of the transportation system in Dover, 2023



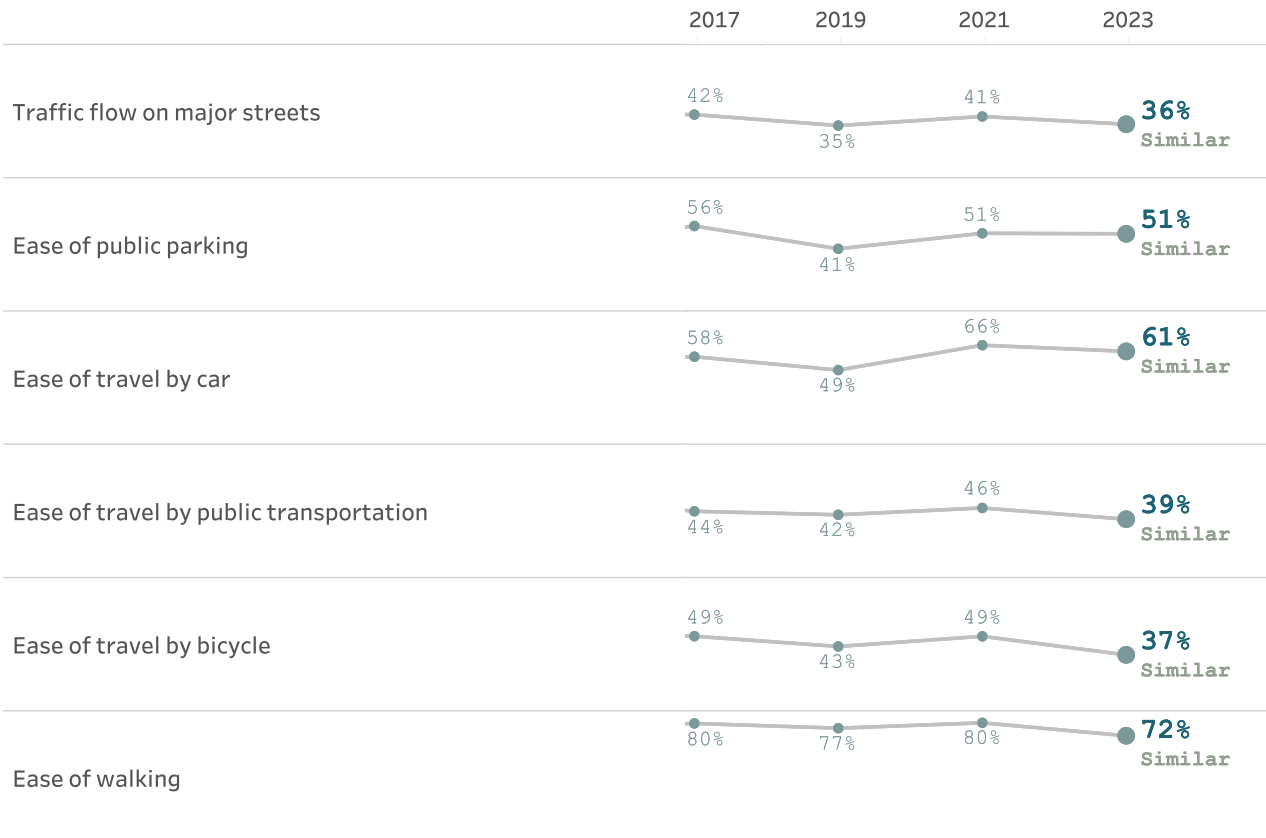
Mobility

The ease with which residents can move about their communities, whether for commuting, leisure, or recreation, plays a major role in the quality of life for all who live, work, and play in the community.

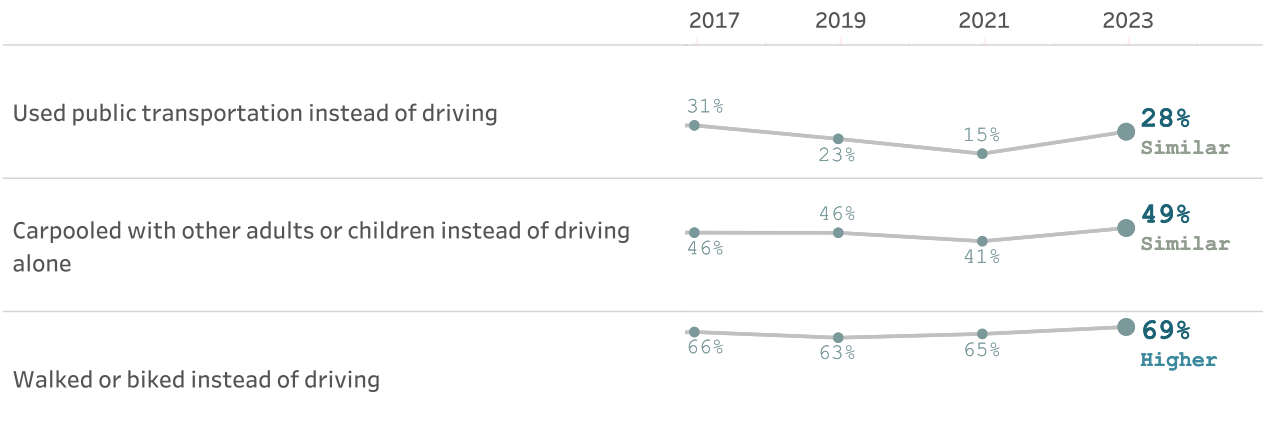
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community. (% excellent or good)



Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.
(% yes)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.
(% excellent or good)

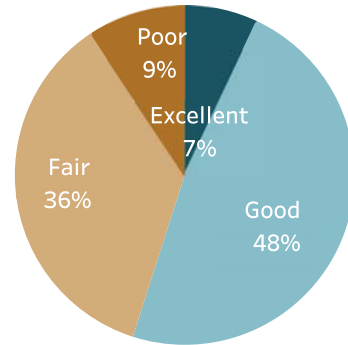


* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

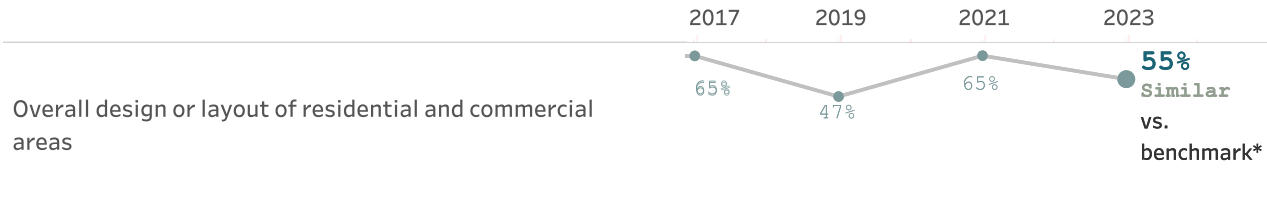
Overall design or layout of Dover's residential and commercial areas, 2023

Community design

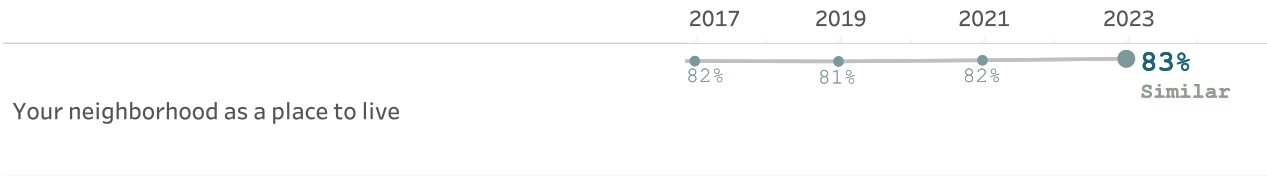
A well-designed community enhances the quality of life for its residents by encouraging smart land use and zoning, ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to all, and providing access to parks and other green spaces.



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole. (% excellent or good)

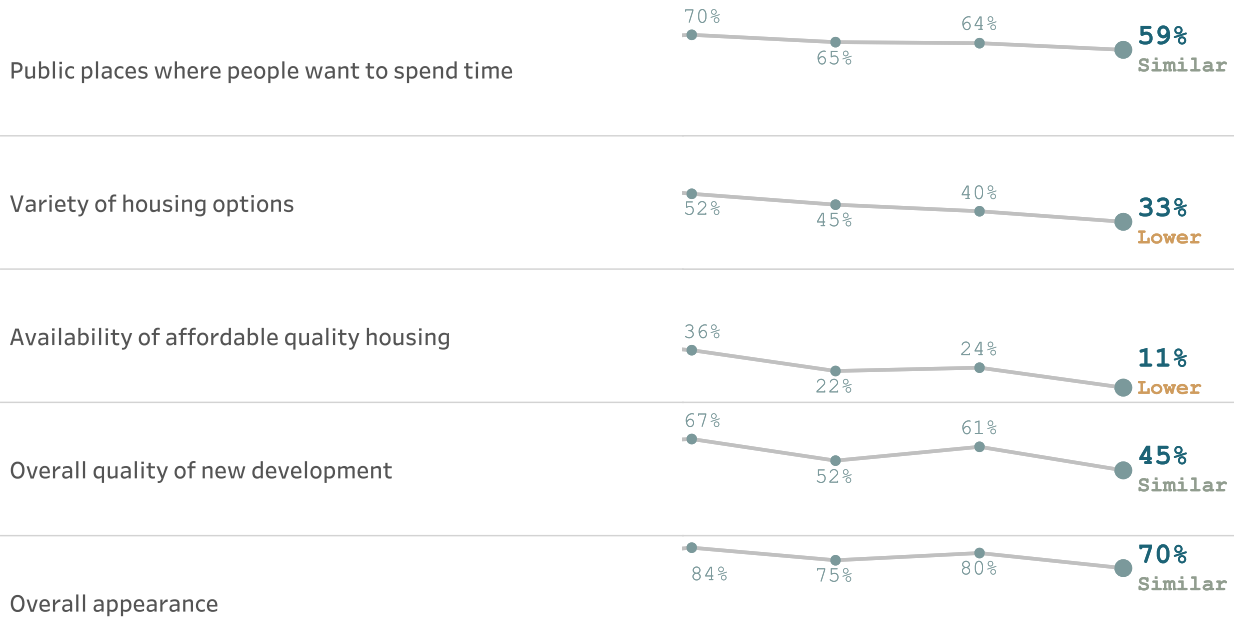


Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover. (% excellent or good)

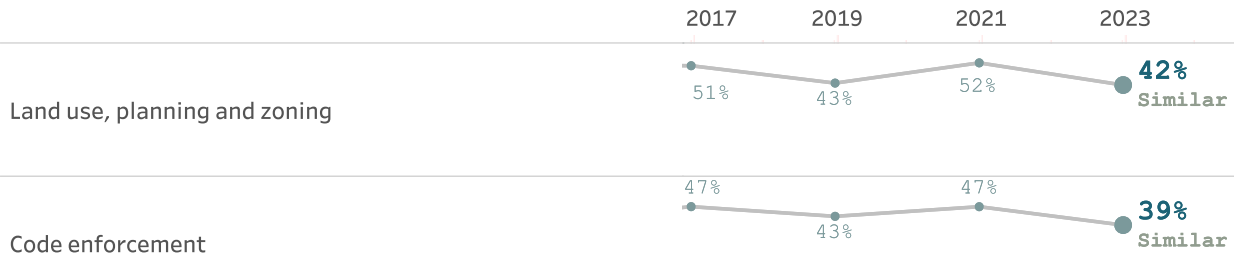


Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community. (% excellent or good)



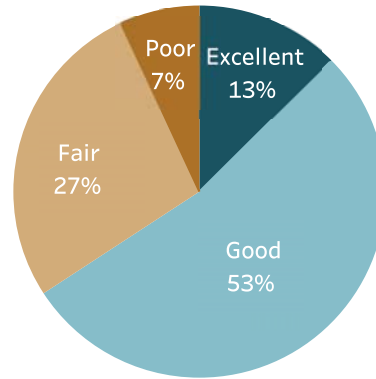


**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.
(% excellent or good)**



* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

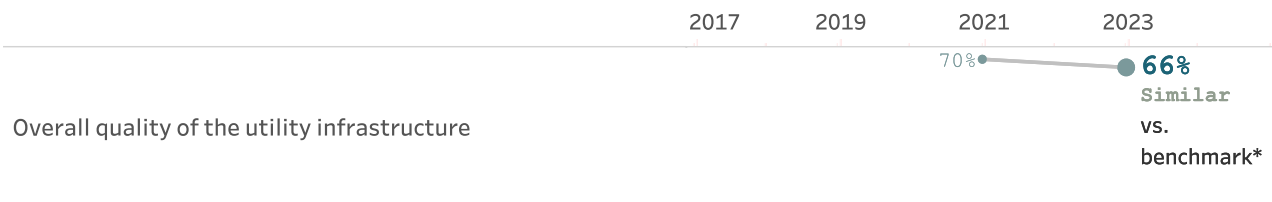
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Dover, 2023



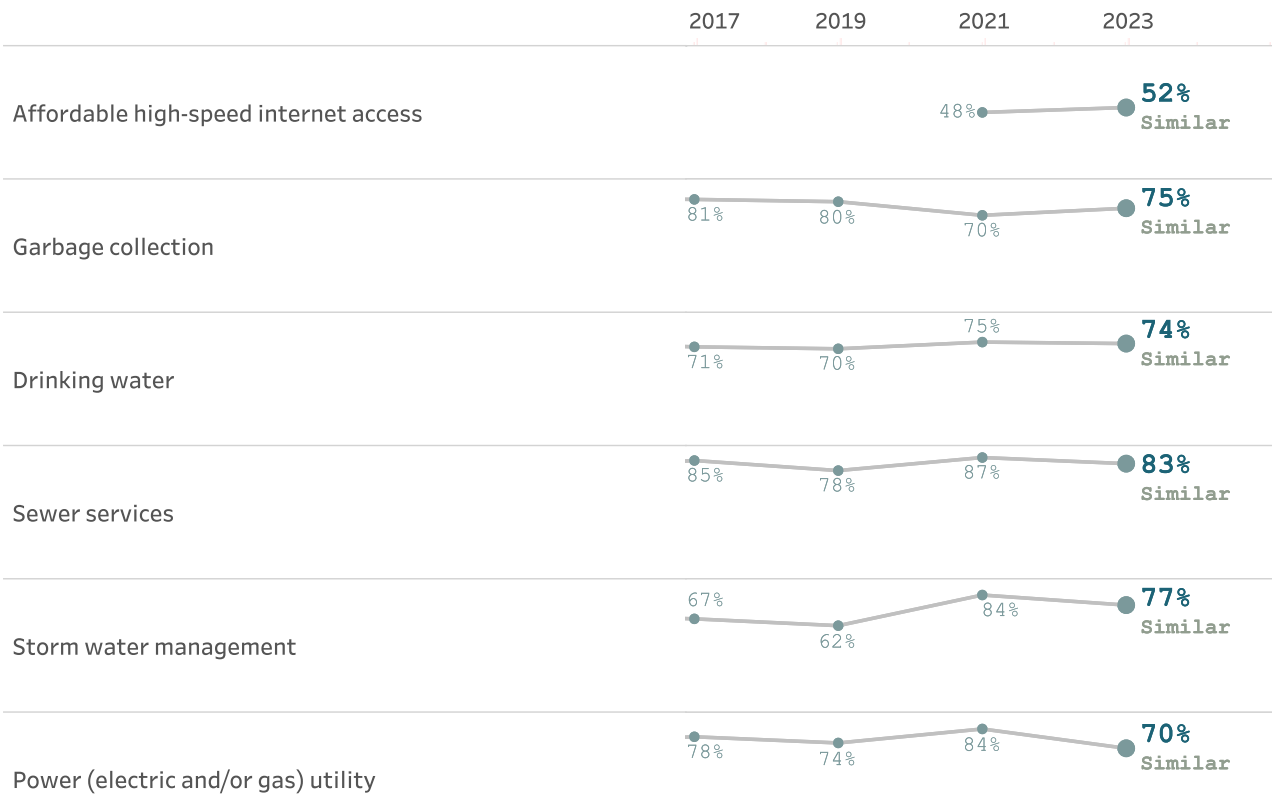
Utilities

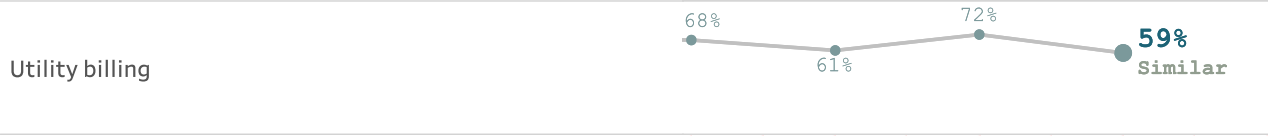
Services such as water, gas, electricity, and internet access play a vital role in ensuring the physical and economic health and well-being of the communities they serve.

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover. (% excellent or good)



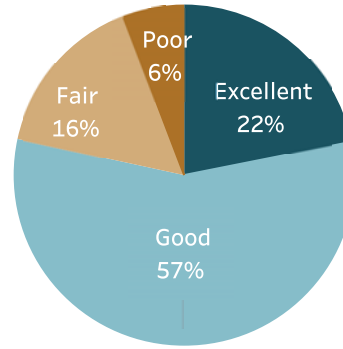


* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

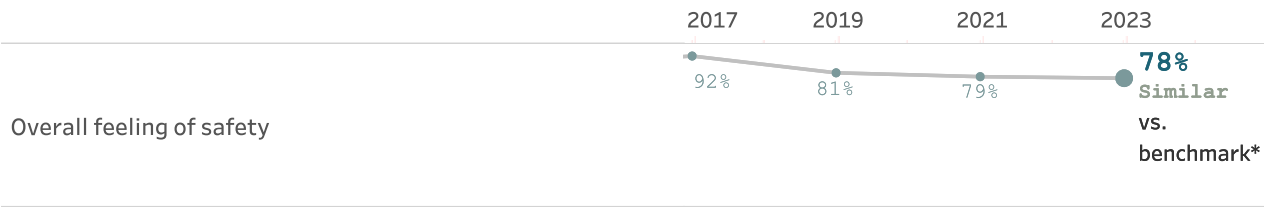
Safety

Public safety is often the most important task facing local governments. All residents should feel safe and secure in their neighborhoods and in the greater community, and providing robust safety-related services is essential to residents' quality of life.

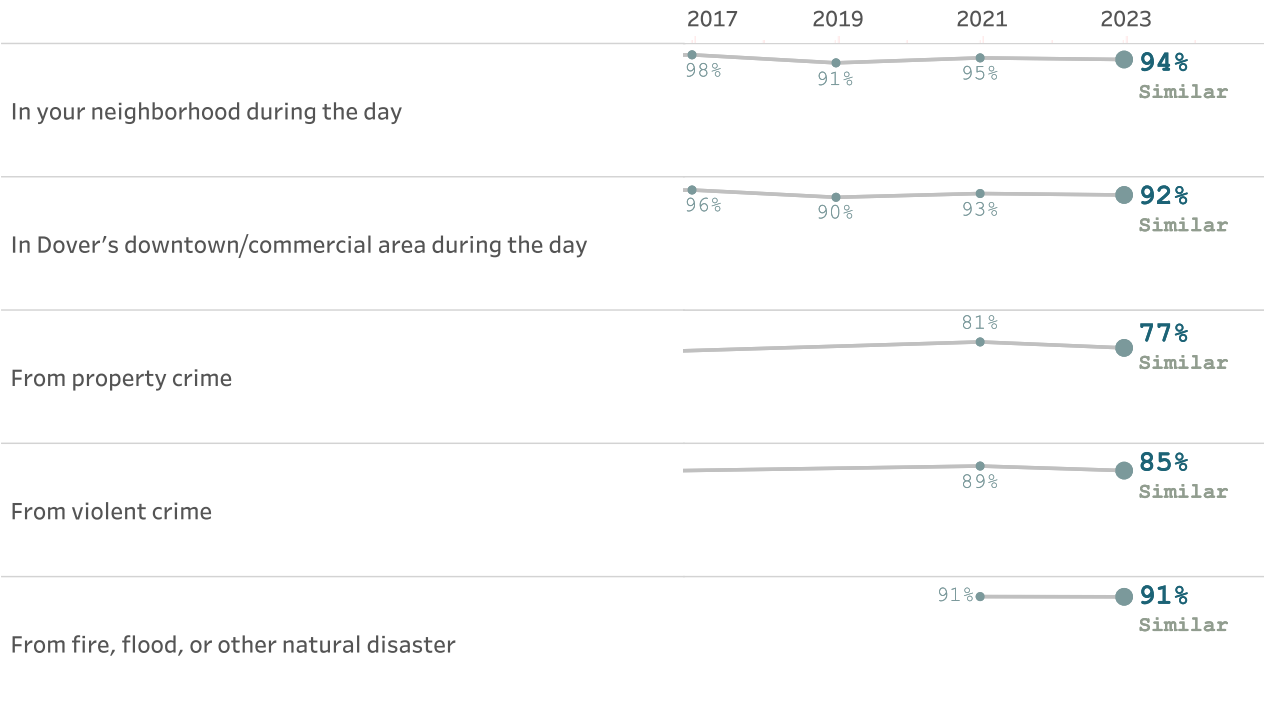
Overall feeling of safety in Dover, 2023



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel: (% very or somewhat safe)

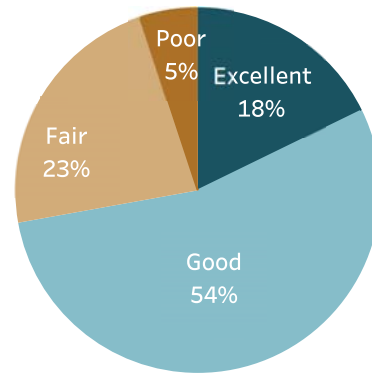


**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.
(% excellent or good)**



* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

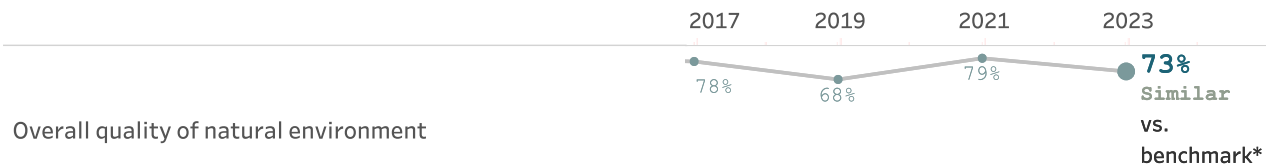
Overall quality of natural environment in Dover, 2023



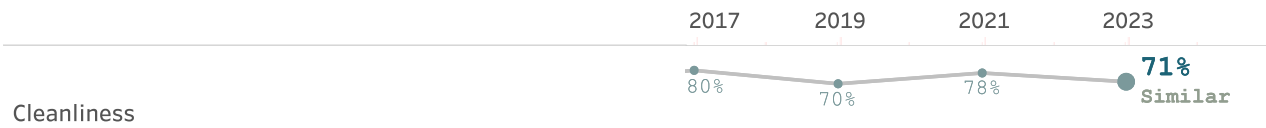
Natural environment

The natural environment plays a vital role in the health and well-being of residents. The natural spaces in which residents live and experience their communities has a direct and profound effect on quality of life.

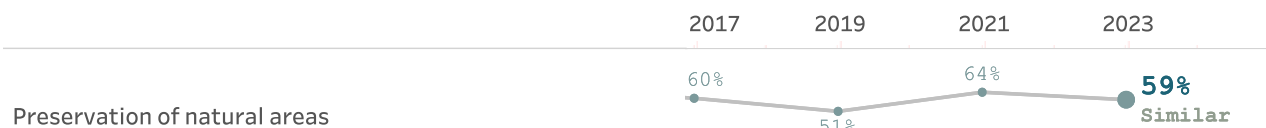
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.
(% excellent or good)

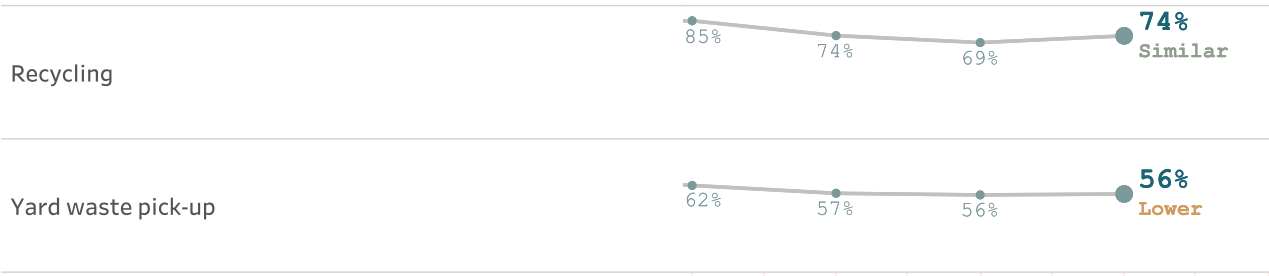


Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.
(% excellent or good)



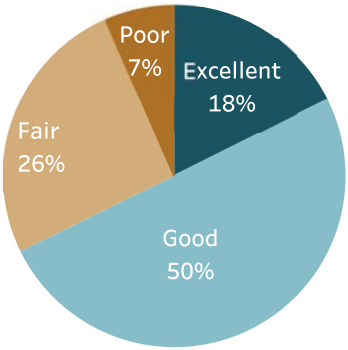


* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

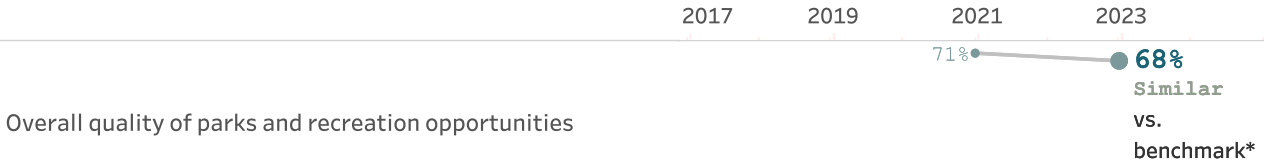
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities, 2023

Parks and recreation

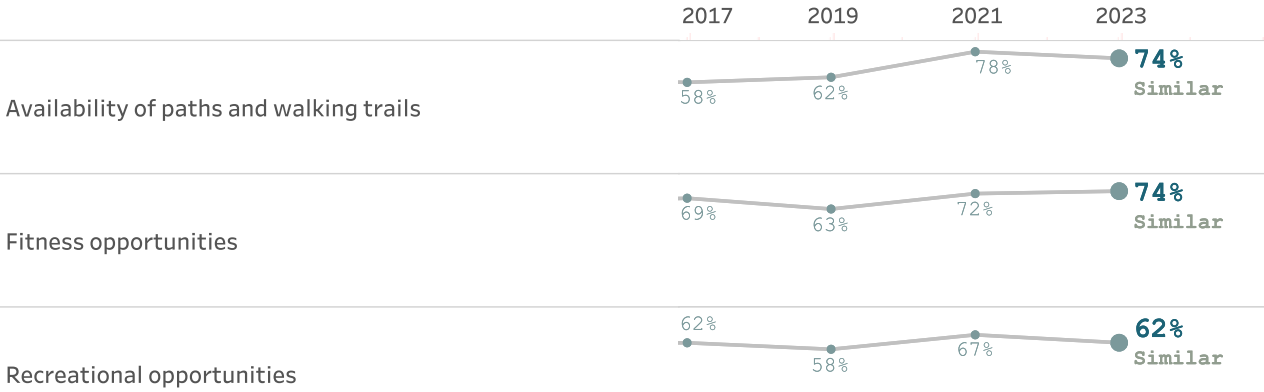
“There are no communities that pride themselves on their quality of life, promote themselves as a desirable location for businesses to relocate, or maintain that they are environmental stewards of their natural resources, without such communities having a robust, active system of parks and recreation programs for public use and enjoyment.”
 - National Recreation and Park Association



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.
 (% excellent or good)

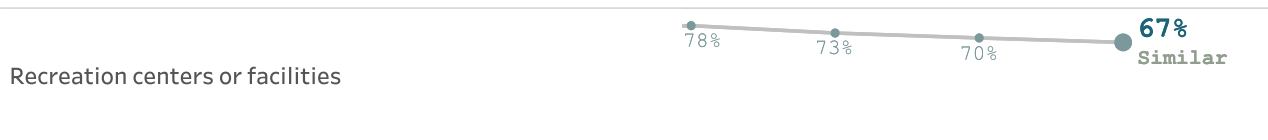


Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.
 (% excellent or good)



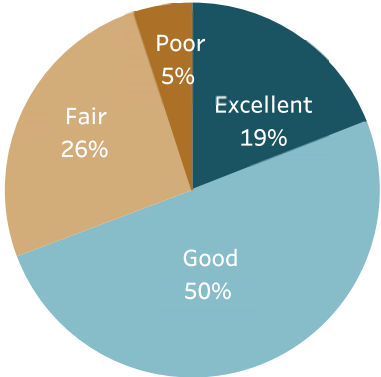
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.
 (% excellent or good)





* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

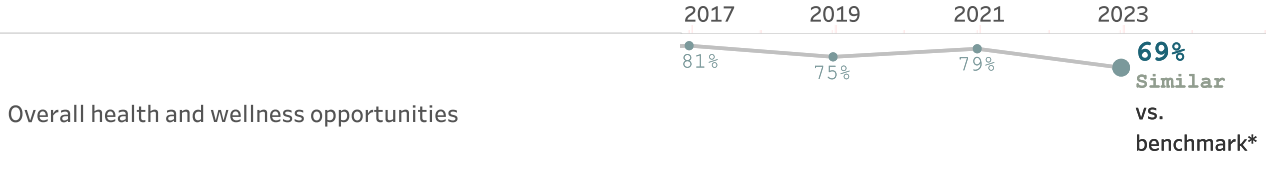
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Dover, 2023



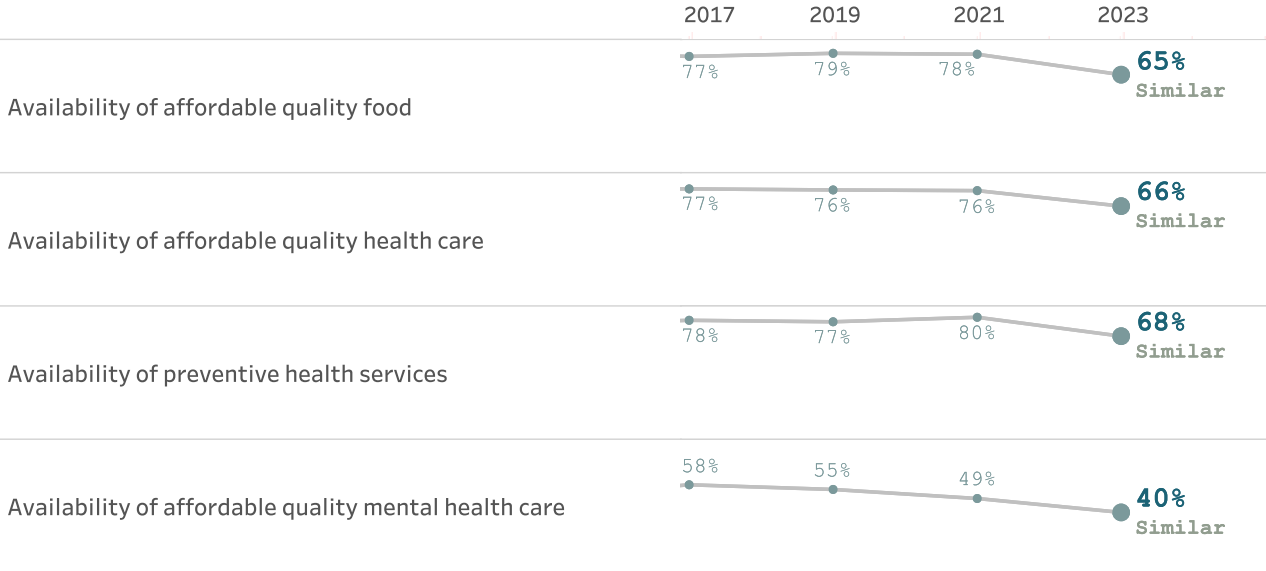
Health and wellness

The characteristics of and amenities available in the communities in which people live has a direct impact on the health and wellness of residents, and thus, on their quality of life overall.

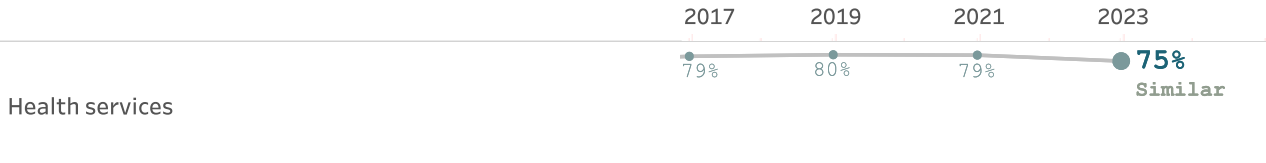
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole. (% excellent or good)



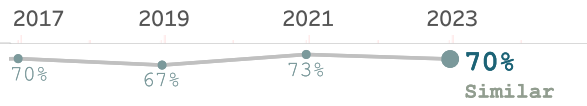
Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community. (% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover. (% excellent or good)



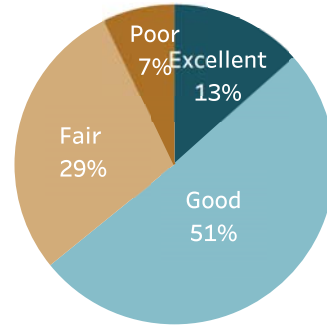
Please rate your overall health.
(% excellent or very good)



Please rate your overall health.

* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

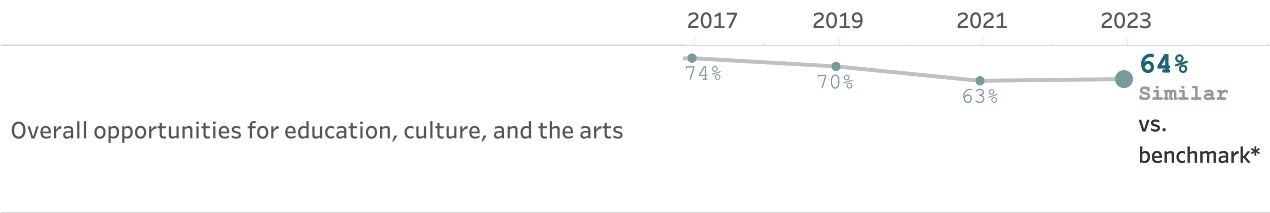
Overall opportunities for education, culture and the arts, 2023



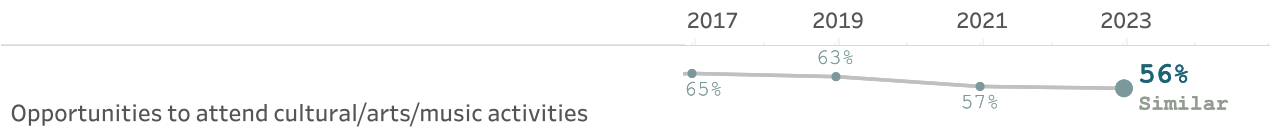
Education, arts, and culture

Participation in the arts, in educational opportunities, and in cultural activities is linked to increased civic engagement, greater social tolerance, and enhanced enjoyment of the local community.

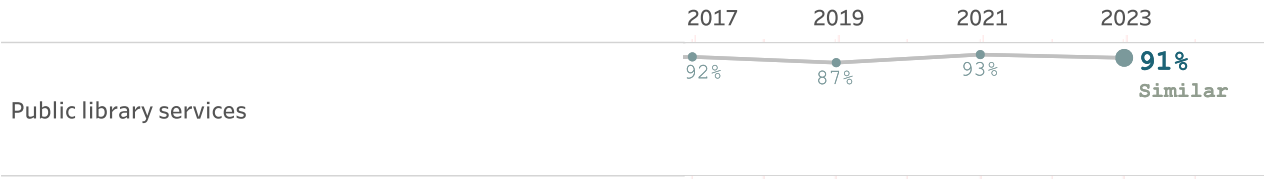
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.
(% excellent or good)

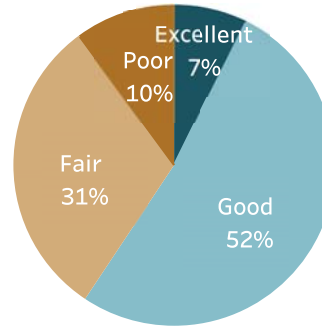


* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

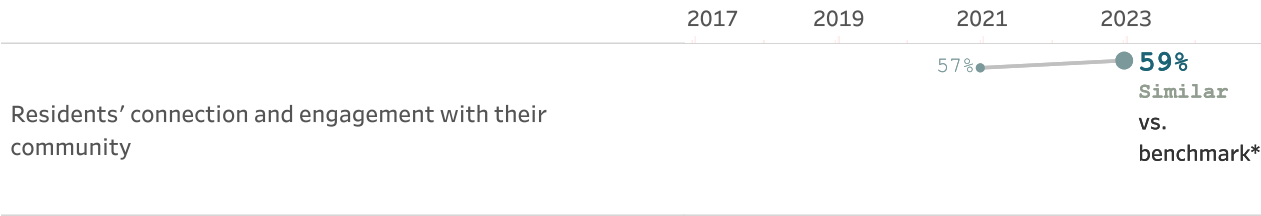
Residents' connection and engagement with their community, 2023

Inclusivity and engagement

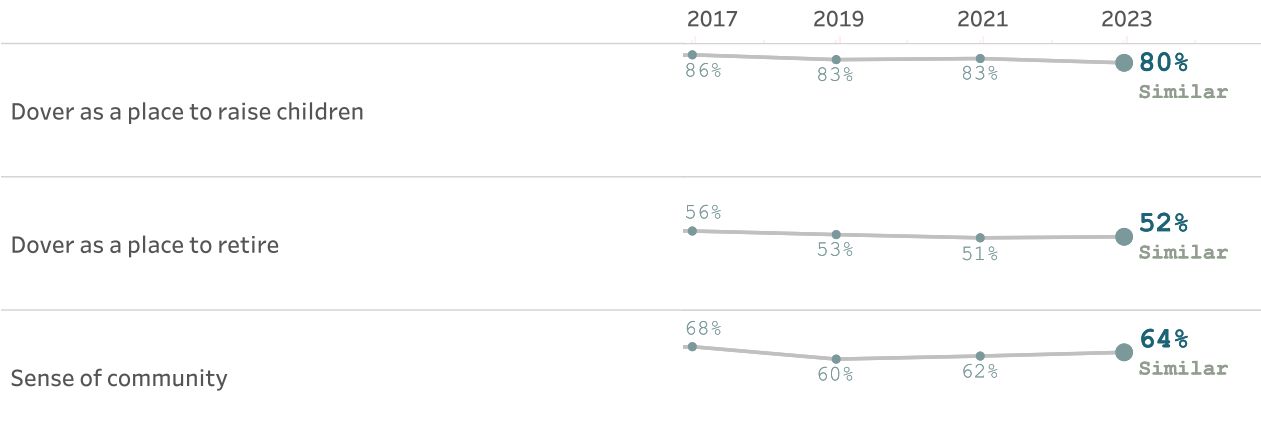
Inclusivity refers to a cultural and environmental feeling of belonging; residents who feel invited to participate within their communities feel more included, involved, and engaged than those who do not.



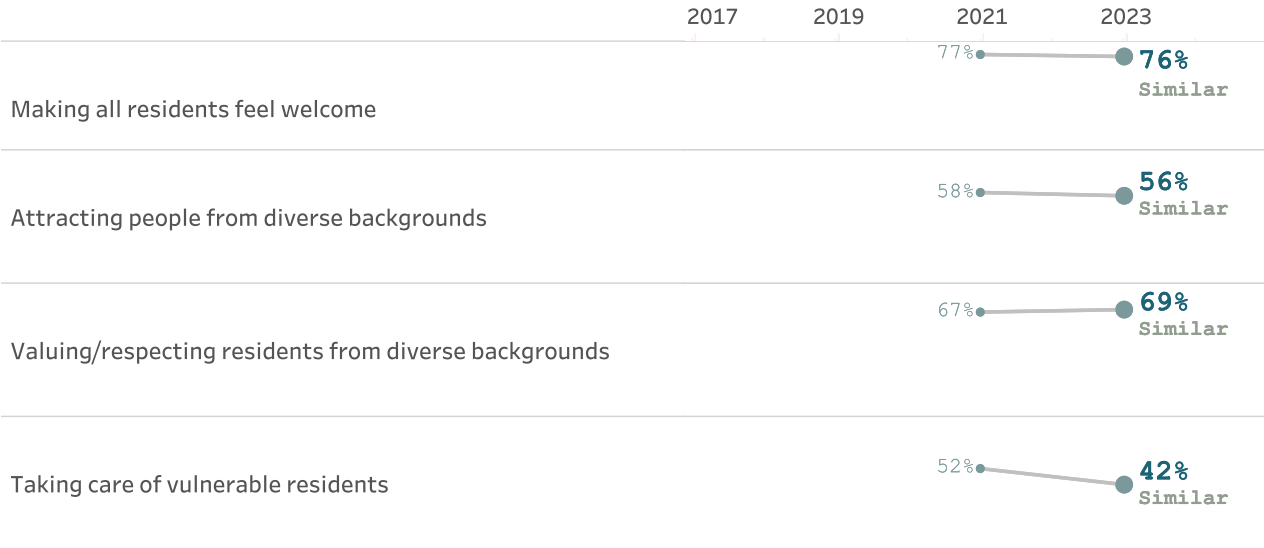
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole. (% excellent or good)



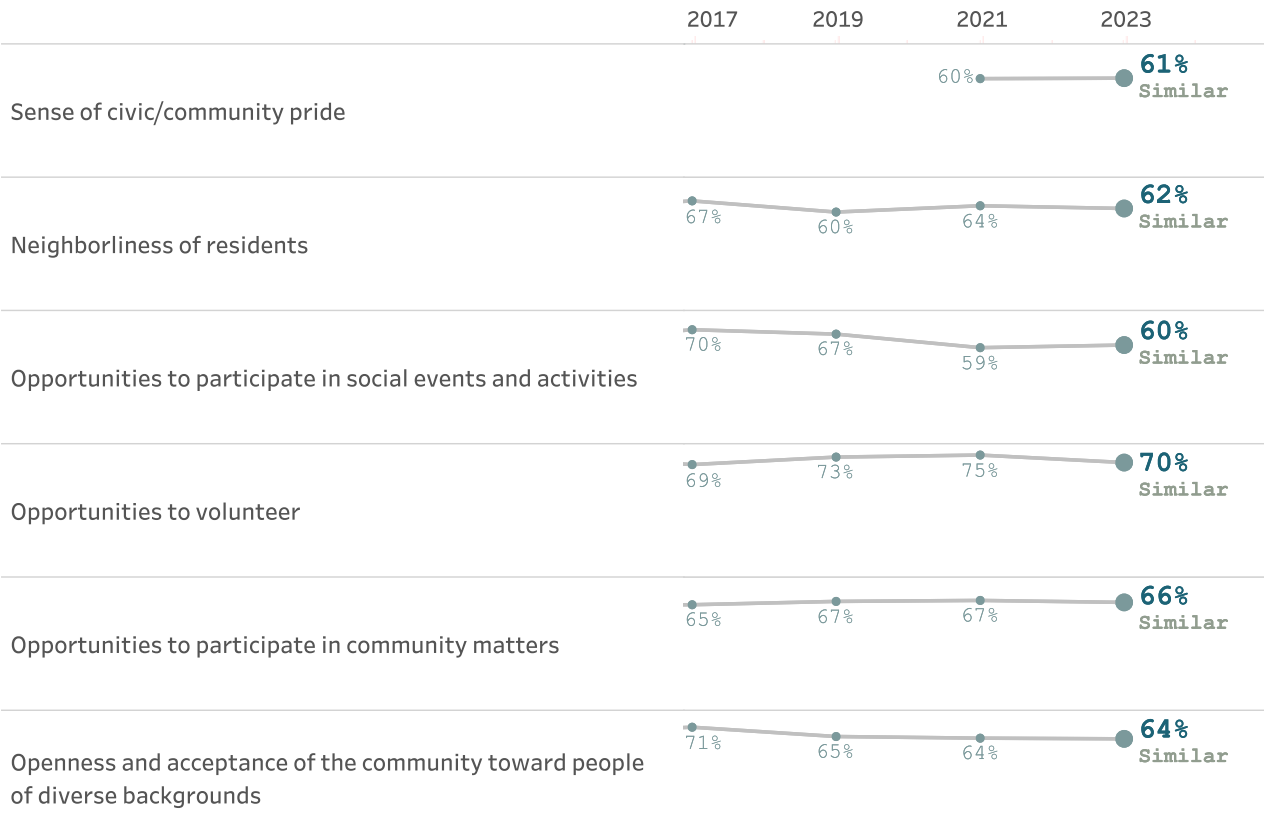
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover. (% excellent or good)



**Please rate the job you feel the Dover community does at each of the following.
(% excellent or good)**



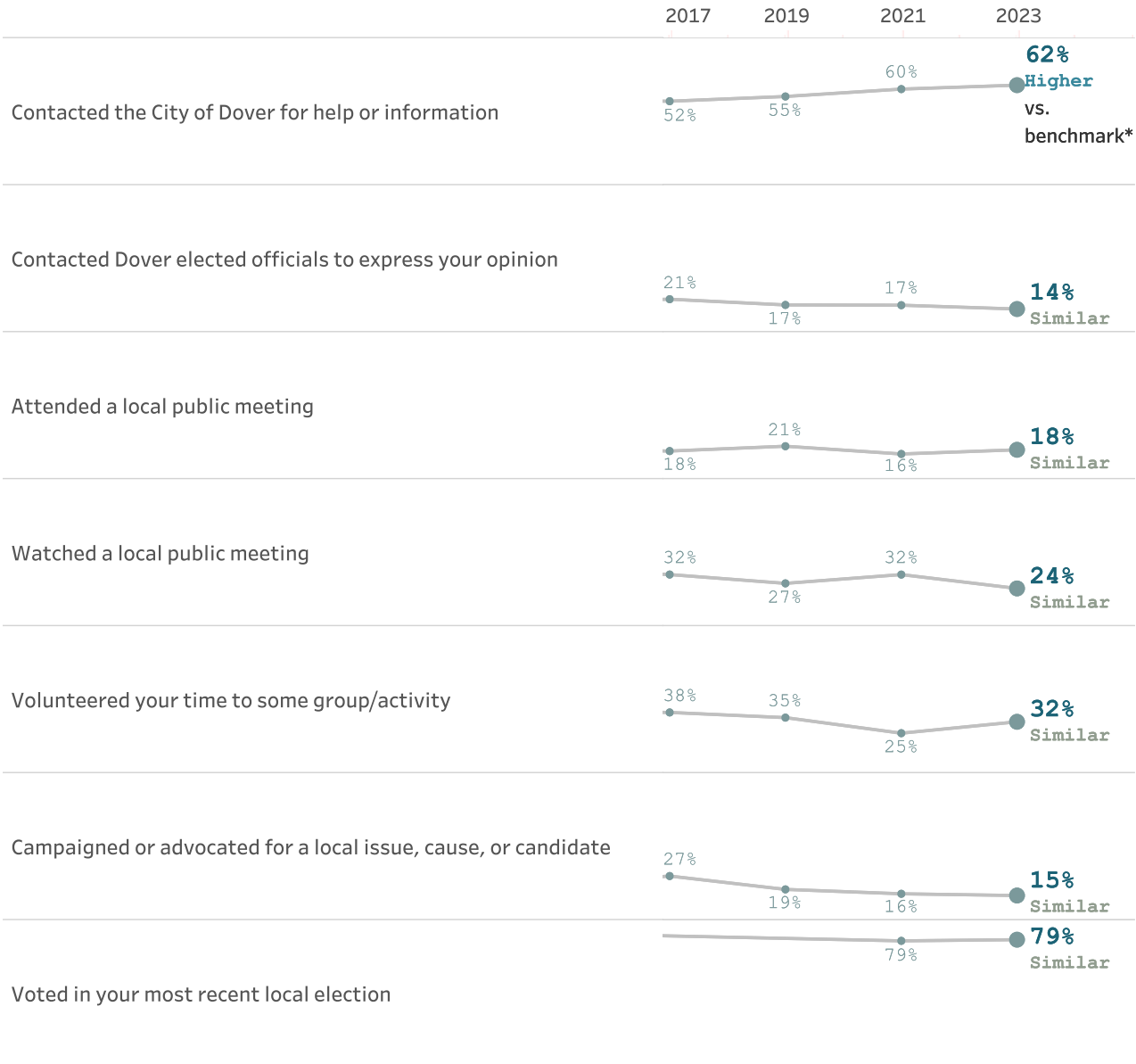
**Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.
(% excellent or good)**



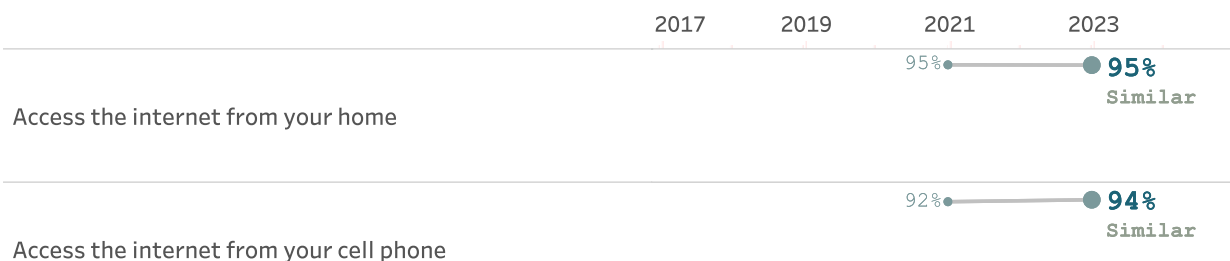
* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

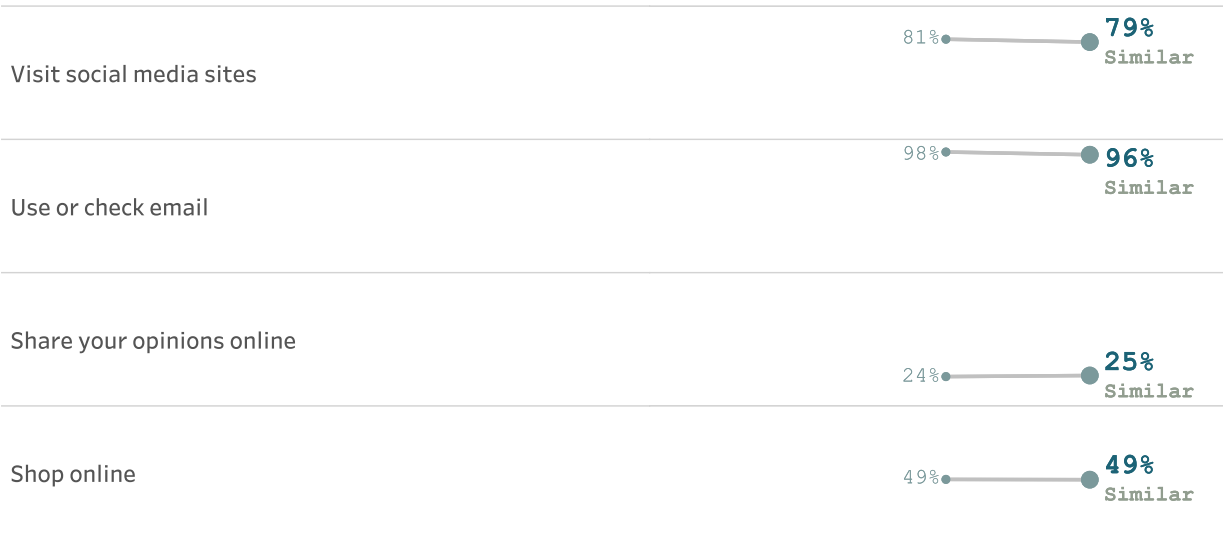
Residents' participation levels

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.
(% yes)



In general, how many times do you:
(% a few times a week or more)





* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

National benchmark tables

This table contains the comparisons of Dover’s results to those from other communities. The first column shows the comparison of Dover’s rating to the benchmark. Dover’s results are noted as being “higher”, “lower” or “similar” to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by Dover residents is statistically similar to or different than the benchmark. The second column is Dover’s “percent positive.” Most commonly, the percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good). The third column is the rank assigned to Dover’s rating among communities where a similar question was asked. The fourth column is the number of communities that asked a similar question. The fifth column shows the percentile for Dover’s result -- that is what percent of surveyed communities had a lower rating than Dover.

			% positive	Rank	Number of communities	Percentile
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover.	Dover as a place to live	Similar	89%	186	345	46
	Your neighborhood as a place to live	Similar	83%	182	307	41
	Dover as a place to raise children	Similar	80%	204	349	41
	Dover as a place to work	Similar	71%	121	341	64
	Dover as a place to visit	Similar	68%	122	305	60
	Dover as a place to retire	Similar	52%	271	346	21
	The overall quality of life	Similar	81%	214	363	41
	Sense of community	Similar	64%	151	314	52
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.	Overall economic health	Similar	61%	177	299	41
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Similar	55%	103	236	56
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Similar	55%	187	292	36
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Similar	66%	126	227	44
	Overall feeling of safety	Similar	78%	206	334	38
	Overall quality of natural environment	Similar	73%	212	301	29
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Similar	68%	185	233	21
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Similar	69%	172	294	41
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Similar	64%	162	296	45
	Residents’ connection and engagement with their community	Similar	59%	120	230	48
Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.	Recommend living in Dover to someone who asks	Similar	87%	138	299	54

Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.	Remain in Dover for the next five years	Similar	80%	207	297	30
Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:	In your neighborhood during the day	Similar	94%	153	316	51
	In Dover's downtown/commercial area during the day	Similar	92%	136	306	55
	From property crime	Similar	77%	104	238	56
	From violent crime	Similar	85%	120	238	50
	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Similar	91%	36	228	84
Please rate the job you feel the Dover community does at each of the following.	Making all residents feel welcome	Similar	76%	81	235	65
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Similar	56%	135	232	42
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Similar	69%	93	233	60
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Similar	42%	175	229	24
Please rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Similar	80%	79	301	74
	Variety of business and service establishments	Similar	69%	72	230	69
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Similar	63%	94	281	66
	Employment opportunities	Similar	52%	112	312	64
	Shopping opportunities	Similar	51%	160	303	47
	Cost of living	Lower	19%	260	292	11
	Overall image or reputation	Similar	73%	195	340	42
Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Traffic flow on major streets	Similar	36%	237	315	25
	Ease of public parking	Similar	51%	185	279	34
	Ease of travel by car	Similar	61%	224	309	27
	Ease of travel by public transportation	Similar	39%	114	281	59
	Ease of travel by bicycle	Similar	37%	217	309	30
	Ease of walking	Similar	72%	85	312	73
	Well-planned residential growth	Similar	41%	139	231	40
	Well-planned commercial growth	Similar	41%	115	231	50
	Well-designed neighborhoods	Similar	52%	140	229	39

Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.

Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Similar	70%	72	228	68
Public places where people want to spend time	Similar	59%	161	287	44
Variety of housing options	Lower	33%	250	299	16
Availability of affordable quality housing	Lower	11%	285	320	11
Overall quality of new development	Similar	45%	216	309	30
Overall appearance	Similar	70%	193	319	39
Cleanliness	Similar	71%	197	316	37
Water resources	Similar	51%	148	211	30
Air quality	Similar	85%	116	286	59
Availability of paths and walking trails	Similar	74%	157	312	50
Fitness opportunities	Similar	74%	158	289	45
Recreational opportunities	Similar	62%	194	306	36
Availability of affordable quality food	Similar	65%	131	283	54
Availability of affordable quality health care	Similar	66%	88	292	70
Availability of preventive health services	Similar	68%	92	279	67
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Similar	40%	148	282	47
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Similar	56%	146	301	51
Community support for the arts	Similar	63%	100	228	56
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Similar	34%	235	292	19
K-12 education	Similar	59%	200	295	32
Adult educational opportunities	Similar	54%	166	287	42
Sense of civic/community pride	Similar	61%	125	229	45
Neighborliness of residents	Similar	62%	161	288	44
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Similar	60%	160	297	46
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Similar	67%	137	291	53
Opportunities to volunteer	Similar	70%	141	292	52

Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Opportunities to participate in community matters	Similar	66%	111	293	62
	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Similar	64%	113	310	63
Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.	Contacted the City of Dover for help or information	Higher	62%	20	315	93
	Contacted Dover elected officials to express your opinion	Similar	14%	175	285	38
	Attended a local public meeting	Similar	18%	147	289	49
	Watched a local public meeting	Similar	24%	141	277	49
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	Similar	32%	140	292	52
	Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	Similar	15%	190	282	32
	Voted in your most recent local election	Similar	79%	88	228	61
	Used public transportation instead of driving	Similar	28%	57	267	79
	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	Similar	49%	63	284	78
	Walked or biked instead of driving	Higher	69%	61	286	79
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.	Public information services	Similar	71%	122	301	59
	Economic development	Similar	55%	148	296	50
	Traffic enforcement	Similar	64%	153	334	54
	Traffic signal timing	Similar	54%	146	291	50
	Street repair	Similar	40%	202	334	39
	Street cleaning	Similar	71%	132	301	56
	Street lighting	Similar	66%	143	323	55
	Snow removal	Similar	74%	92	249	63
	Sidewalk maintenance	Similar	57%	155	302	49
	Bus or transit services	Similar	55%	80	272	70
	Land use, planning and zoning	Similar	42%	164	304	46
	Code enforcement	Similar	39%	191	327	41
	Affordable high-speed internet access	Similar	52%	106	225	53
Garbage collection	Similar	75%	243	313	22	
































Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.	Drinking water	Similar	74%	163	298	45
	Sewer services	Similar	83%	144	296	51
	Storm water management	Similar	77%	119	308	61
	Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Similar	70%	201	254	21
	Utility billing	Similar	59%	233	276	15
	Police/Sheriff services	Similar	81%	197	356	44
	Crime prevention	Similar	74%	176	333	47
	Animal control	Similar	86%	41	309	87
	Ambulance or emergency medical services	Similar	94%	91	303	70
	Fire services	Similar	96%	110	323	66
	Fire prevention and education	Similar	82%	119	297	60
	Emergency preparedness	Similar	65%	161	299	46
	Preservation of natural areas	Similar	59%	179	286	37
	Dover open space	Similar	57%	169	283	40
	Recycling	Similar	74%	151	316	52
	Yard waste pick-up	Lower	56%	227	278	18
	City parks	Similar	71%	252	312	19
	Recreation programs or classes	Similar	67%	200	307	35
	Recreation centers or facilities	Similar	67%	184	295	37
	Health services	Similar	75%	91	273	67
	Public library services	Similar	91%	95	308	69
	Overall customer service by Dover employees	Similar	83%	134	342	60
	Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance.	The value of services for the taxes paid to Dover	Similar	45%	247	347
The overall direction that Dover is taking		Similar	59%	169	326	48
The job Dover government does at welcoming resident involvement		Similar	52%	147	323	54
Overall confidence in Dover government		Similar	51%	154	295	48
































Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance.	Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Similar	55%	160	299	46
	Being honest	Similar	58%	136	290	53
	Being open and transparent to the public	Similar	54%	109	235	54
	Informing residents about issues facing the community	Similar	51%	110	240	54
	Treating all residents fairly	Similar	59%	141	296	52
	Treating residents with respect	Similar	69%	114	231	51
Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?	The City of Dover	Similar	71%	200	342	41
	The Federal Government	Similar	31%	196	282	30
Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Dover community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall economic health	Similar	91%	145	275	47
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Similar	73%	142	227	37
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Similar	70%	216	276	21
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Similar	86%	169	226	25
	Overall feeling of safety	Similar	86%	206	276	25
	Overall quality of natural environment	Similar	83%	131	276	52
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Similar	75%	171	228	25
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Similar	70%	182	276	34
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Similar	75%	87	275	68
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Similar	67%	176	275	36
In general, how many times do you:	Access the internet from your home	Similar	95%	99	226	56
	Access the internet from your cell phone	Similar	94%	113	228	50
	Visit social media sites	Similar	79%	114	227	50
	Use or check email	Similar	96%	150	228	34
	Share your opinions online	Similar	25%	164	228	28
	Shop online	Similar	49%	173	227	24
	Please rate your overall health.	Similar	70%	112	282	60
	What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	Similar	15%	227	284	20
































Complete set of frequencies
































This dashboard contains a complete set of responses to each question on the survey. By default, "don't know" responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter to the right. In some tables, the percentages may not sum to 100%; this is either because the question permitted the respondent to "choose all that apply", or for a question that asked the respondent to select one answer, it is due to the customary practice of rounding values to the nearest whole number.

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover.	Aspect	Rating	Frequency	
			Percentage	Count (N)
Dover as a place to live		Excellent	34%	N=209
		Good	55%	N=341
		Fair	9%	N=56
		Poor	2%	N=10
Your neighborhood as a place to live		Excellent	39%	N=239
		Good	45%	N=277
		Fair	14%	N=85
		Poor	3%	N=17
Dover as a place to raise children		Excellent	30%	N=143
		Good	51%	N=246
		Fair	16%	N=76
		Poor	4%	N=18
Dover as a place to work		Excellent	24%	N=102
		Good	46%	N=191
		Fair	25%	N=102
		Poor	5%	N=19
Dover as a place to visit		Excellent	21%	N=124
		Good	47%	N=278
		Fair	27%	N=159
		Poor	5%	N=28
Dover as a place to retire		Excellent	17%	N=78
		Good	35%	N=158
		Fair	29%	N=130
		Poor	18%	N=81
The overall quality of life		Excellent	24%	N=146
		Good	58%	N=357
		Fair	15%	N=93
		Poor	3%	N=19
































Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover.	Sense of community	Excellent		18% N=103
		Good		47% N=272
		Fair		28% N=164
		Poor		7% N=44
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.	Overall economic health	Excellent		11% N=60
		Good		50% N=266
		Fair		32% N=170
		Poor		8% N=41
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Excellent		11% N=65
		Good		43% N=251
		Fair		32% N=187
		Poor		13% N=78
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Excellent		7% N=42
		Good		48% N=289
		Fair		36% N=216
		Poor		9% N=56
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Excellent		13% N=73	
	Good		53% N=309	
	Fair		27% N=159	
	Poor		7% N=40	
Overall feeling of safety	Excellent		22% N=134	
	Good		57% N=347	
	Fair		16% N=97	
	Poor		6% N=36	
Overall quality of natural environment	Excellent		18% N=107	
	Good		54% N=328	
	Fair		23% N=137	
	Poor		5% N=31	
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Excellent		18% N=100	
	Good		50% N=285	
	Fair		26% N=146	

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Poor		7% N=37	
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Excellent		19% N=106	
		Good		50% N=280	
		Fair		26% N=143	
		Poor		5% N=28	
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Excellent		13% N=76	
		Good		51% N=287	
		Fair		29% N=163	
		Poor		7% N=40	
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Excellent		7% N=39	
		Good		52% N=276	
		Fair		31% N=162	
		Poor		10% N=53	
	Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.	Recommend living in Dover to someone who asks you	Very likely		45% N=273
			Somewhat likely		42% N=254
			Somewhat unlikely		7% N=45
Very unlikely				5% N=33	
Remain in Dover for the next five years		Very likely		50% N=292	
		Somewhat likely		31% N=179	
		Somewhat unlikely		11% N=62	
		Very unlikely		9% N=54	
Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:	In your neighborhood during the day	Very safe		77% N=476	
		Somewhat safe		17% N=106	
		Neither safe nor unsafe		3% N=19	
		Somewhat unsafe		2% N=13	
		Very unsafe		1% N=6	
	In Dover's downtown/commercial area during the day	Very safe		66% N=405	
		Somewhat safe		26% N=159	
		Neither safe nor unsafe		4% N=22	
		Somewhat unsafe		3% N=20	
		Very unsafe		1% N=7	
































Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:	From property crime	Very safe		37% N=225
		Somewhat safe		40% N=241
		Neither safe nor unsafe		12% N=75
		Somewhat unsafe		9% N=53
		Very unsafe		2% N=15
	From violent crime	Very safe		51% N=314
		Somewhat safe		33% N=203
		Neither safe nor unsafe		10% N=60
		Somewhat unsafe		3% N=21
		Very unsafe		2% N=12
	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Very safe		55% N=329
		Somewhat safe		35% N=211
		Neither safe nor unsafe		8% N=45
		Somewhat unsafe		2% N=11
		Very unsafe		0% N=1
Please rate the job you feel the Dover community does at each of the following.	Making all residents feel welcome	Excellent		22% N=126
		Good		53% N=295
		Fair		19% N=107
		Poor		5% N=30
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		15% N=79
		Good		40% N=208
		Fair		29% N=147
		Poor		16% N=80
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		19% N=93
		Good		50% N=250
		Fair		25% N=124
		Poor		7% N=33
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Excellent		8% N=36
		Good		34% N=162
		Fair		37% N=172
		Poor		21% N=100

Please rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Excellent		23% N=139
		Good		58% N=354
		Fair		17% N=102
		Poor		3% N=17
Variety of business and service establishments	Excellent		20% N=124	
	Good		48% N=293	
	Fair		25% N=152	
	Poor		7% N=40	
Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Excellent		18% N=108	
	Good		45% N=274	
	Fair		28% N=171	
	Poor		9% N=52	
Employment opportunities	Excellent		13% N=54	
	Good		39% N=163	
	Fair		38% N=158	
	Poor		10% N=41	
Shopping opportunities	Excellent		12% N=73	
	Good		40% N=244	
	Fair		36% N=222	
	Poor		12% N=74	
Cost of living	Excellent		1% N=9	
	Good		18% N=109	
	Fair		40% N=245	
	Poor		40% N=247	
Overall image or reputation	Excellent		14% N=86	
	Good		59% N=358	
	Fair		22% N=131	
	Poor		5% N=30	
Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Traffic flow on major streets	Excellent		4% N=22
		Good		32% N=196
		Fair		42% N=260
































Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.

Traffic flow on major streets	Poor		22% N=134
Ease of public parking	Excellent		13% N=76
	Good		39% N=233
	Fair		32% N=192
	Poor		16% N=97
Ease of travel by car	Excellent		13% N=78
	Good		49% N=297
	Fair		29% N=179
	Poor		9% N=54
Ease of travel by public transportation	Excellent		10% N=32
	Good		29% N=91
	Fair		33% N=102
	Poor		28% N=88
Ease of travel by bicycle	Excellent		11% N=40
	Good		27% N=99
	Fair		41% N=155
	Poor		21% N=80
Ease of walking	Excellent		26% N=154
	Good		46% N=275
	Fair		24% N=144
	Poor		4% N=22
Well-planned residential growth	Excellent		10% N=45
	Good		31% N=143
	Fair		33% N=147
	Poor		26% N=119
Well-planned commercial growth	Excellent		10% N=42
	Good		32% N=138
	Fair		37% N=161
	Poor		22% N=94
Well-designed neighborhoods	Excellent		8% N=43
	Good		44% N=233
































Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.
































Well-designed neighborhoods	Fair		36% N=191
	Poor		12% N=65
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Excellent		17% N=93
	Good		53% N=293
	Fair		22% N=124
	Poor		7% N=41
Public places where people want to spend time	Excellent		12% N=70
	Good		47% N=278
	Fair		30% N=178
	Poor		10% N=60
Variety of housing options	Excellent		5% N=29
	Good		28% N=156
	Fair		32% N=177
	Poor		35% N=193
Availability of affordable quality housing	Excellent		2% N=10
	Good		9% N=47
	Fair		30% N=163
	Poor		60% N=326
Overall quality of new development	Excellent		7% N=36
	Good		38% N=190
	Fair		37% N=184
	Poor		18% N=91
Overall appearance	Excellent		14% N=84
	Good		56% N=337
	Fair		26% N=157
	Poor		4% N=26
Cleanliness	Excellent		19% N=115
	Good		53% N=320
	Fair		23% N=138
	Poor		6% N=36
Water resources	Excellent		11% N=61
































Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.

Water resources	Good		40% N=223
	Fair		34% N=189
	Poor		15% N=83
Air quality	Excellent		30% N=173
	Good		55% N=319
	Fair		13% N=74
	Poor		2% N=13
Availability of paths and walking trails	Excellent		23% N=131
	Good		51% N=298
	Fair		22% N=127
	Poor		5% N=26
Fitness opportunities	Excellent		18% N=99
	Good		56% N=300
	Fair		23% N=123
	Poor		3% N=17
Recreational opportunities	Excellent		13% N=71
	Good		49% N=269
	Fair		32% N=173
	Poor		5% N=29
Availability of affordable quality food	Excellent		15% N=91
	Good		50% N=297
	Fair		27% N=164
	Poor		8% N=46
Availability of affordable quality health care	Excellent		24% N=129
	Good		42% N=219
	Fair		24% N=125
	Poor		10% N=54
Availability of preventive health services	Excellent		25% N=122
	Good		43% N=215
	Fair		22% N=106
	Poor		10% N=51
































Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.

Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Excellent		11% N=41
	Good		29% N=108
	Fair		30% N=112
	Poor		30% N=113
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Excellent		12% N=67
	Good		44% N=243
	Fair		36% N=198
	Poor		9% N=48
Community support for the arts	Excellent		14% N=65
	Good		49% N=231
	Fair		32% N=149
	Poor		6% N=29
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Excellent		6% N=13
	Good		28% N=66
	Fair		34% N=80
	Poor		33% N=78
K-12 education	Excellent		14% N=45
	Good		45% N=148
	Fair		30% N=99
	Poor		11% N=36
Adult educational opportunities	Excellent		9% N=28
	Good		45% N=146
	Fair		33% N=107
	Poor		13% N=41
Sense of civic/community pride	Excellent		11% N=62
	Good		50% N=270
	Fair		32% N=175
	Poor		7% N=37
Neighborliness of residents	Excellent		13% N=76
	Good		49% N=284
	Fair		31% N=178
































Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Neighborliness of residents	Poor		7% N=39
	Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Excellent		12% N=65
		Good		48% N=249
		Fair		32% N=168
		Poor		7% N=39
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Excellent		18% N=99	
	Good		49% N=272	
	Fair		28% N=155	
	Poor		6% N=33	
Opportunities to volunteer	Excellent		16% N=73	
	Good		54% N=239	
	Fair		25% N=110	
	Poor		5% N=23	
Opportunities to participate in community matters	Excellent		15% N=71	
	Good		51% N=234	
	Fair		27% N=127	
	Poor		7% N=30	
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Excellent		14% N=65	
	Good		51% N=243	
	Fair		29% N=139	
	Poor		6% N=31	
Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.	Contacted the City of Dover for help or information	No		37% N=229
		Yes		63% N=381
	Contacted Dover elected officials to express your opinion	No		85% N=518
		Yes		15% N=92
	Attended a local public meeting	No		81% N=496
		Yes		19% N=113
	Watched a local public meeting	No		77% N=468
		Yes		23% N=142
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	No		68% N=414
		Yes		32% N=198

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.	Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	No		85% N=515
		Yes		15% N=93
	Voted in your most recent local election	No		21% N=126
		Yes		79% N=482
	Used public transportation instead of driving	No		73% N=444
		Yes		27% N=166
	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	No		51% N=311
Yes			49% N=298	
Walked or biked instead of driving	No		31% N=188	
	Yes		69% N=424	
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.	Public information services	Excellent		15% N=78
		Good		56% N=295
		Fair		24% N=126
		Poor		5% N=24
	Economic development	Excellent		9% N=45
		Good		46% N=216
		Fair		33% N=156
		Poor		12% N=57
	Traffic enforcement	Excellent		12% N=63
		Good		52% N=285
		Fair		28% N=152
		Poor		9% N=47
	Traffic signal timing	Excellent		9% N=51
		Good		46% N=271
		Fair		33% N=198
		Poor		12% N=73
Street repair	Excellent		7% N=42	
	Good		33% N=198	
	Fair		40% N=239	
	Poor		20% N=122	
Street cleaning	Excellent		16% N=97	
































Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.

Street cleaning	Good		55% N=327
	Fair		23% N=139
	Poor		6% N=36
Street lighting	Excellent		12% N=71
	Good		55% N=330
	Fair		27% N=161
	Poor		7% N=40
Snow removal	Excellent		23% N=136
	Good		51% N=300
	Fair		19% N=113
	Poor		7% N=39
Sidewalk maintenance	Excellent		12% N=69
	Good		44% N=257
	Fair		32% N=186
	Poor		12% N=67
Bus or transit services	Excellent		14% N=45
	Good		41% N=129
	Fair		29% N=93
	Poor		16% N=50
Land use, planning and zoning	Excellent		8% N=29
	Good		34% N=131
	Fair		38% N=144
	Poor		20% N=76
Code enforcement	Excellent		8% N=28
	Good		31% N=109
	Fair		42% N=148
	Poor		19% N=67
Affordable high-speed internet access	Excellent		15% N=85
	Good		36% N=200
	Fair		31% N=172
	Poor		18% N=98

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.
































Garbage collection	Excellent		28% N=158
	Good		48% N=271
	Fair		17% N=96
	Poor		8% N=44
Drinking water	Excellent		23% N=136
	Good		50% N=292
	Fair		18% N=102
	Poor		9% N=49
Sewer services	Excellent		25% N=125
	Good		59% N=298
	Fair		14% N=72
	Poor		3% N=14
Storm water management	Excellent		22% N=108
	Good		56% N=277
	Fair		18% N=90
	Poor		5% N=22
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Excellent		17% N=99
	Good		53% N=310
	Fair		23% N=136
	Poor		6% N=37
Utility billing	Excellent		11% N=62
	Good		48% N=266
	Fair		28% N=158
	Poor		13% N=73
Police/Sheriff services	Excellent		28% N=151
	Good		54% N=291
	Fair		15% N=82
	Poor		4% N=19
Crime prevention	Excellent		20% N=99
	Good		54% N=276
	Fair		19% N=96
































Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.

Crime prevention	Poor		7% N=37
Animal control	Excellent		24% N=87
	Good		62% N=223
	Fair		11% N=40
	Poor		3% N=10
Ambulance or emergency medical services	Excellent		43% N=190
	Good		52% N=228
	Fair		4% N=16
	Poor		2% N=8
Fire services	Excellent		46% N=213
	Good		50% N=229
	Fair		3% N=15
	Poor		1% N=3
Fire prevention and education	Excellent		30% N=104
	Good		53% N=184
	Fair		15% N=53
	Poor		3% N=9
Emergency preparedness	Excellent		18% N=54
	Good		48% N=147
	Fair		27% N=82
	Poor		7% N=22
Preservation of natural areas	Excellent		12% N=54
	Good		47% N=213
	Fair		29% N=133
	Poor		12% N=54
Dover open space	Excellent		14% N=69
	Good		42% N=208
	Fair		35% N=172
	Poor		8% N=41
Recycling	Excellent		24% N=131
	Good		50% N=277

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.				
Recycling	Fair		19%	N=106
	Poor		7%	N=38
Yard waste pick-up	Excellent		13%	N=51
	Good		43%	N=174
	Fair		28%	N=110
	Poor		16%	N=65
City parks	Excellent		17%	N=94
	Good		54%	N=304
	Fair		22%	N=123
	Poor		7%	N=38
Recreation programs or classes	Excellent		14%	N=55
	Good		53%	N=201
	Fair		25%	N=96
	Poor		8%	N=30
Recreation centers or facilities	Excellent		14%	N=60
	Good		53%	N=222
	Fair		24%	N=101
	Poor		9%	N=39
Health services	Excellent		20%	N=84
	Good		56%	N=239
	Fair		19%	N=82
	Poor		5%	N=23
Public library services	Excellent		48%	N=255
	Good		43%	N=230
	Fair		7%	N=37
	Poor		2%	N=11
Overall customer service by Dover employees	Excellent		29%	N=166
	Good		54%	N=306
	Fair		13%	N=72
	Poor		3%	N=19
Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance.	The value of services for the taxes paid to Dover	Excellent	7%	N=33

Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance.
































The value of services for the taxes paid to Dover	Good		38% N=192
	Fair		36% N=181
	Poor		19% N=96
The overall direction that Dover is taking	Excellent		11% N=60
	Good		48% N=270
	Fair		27% N=153
	Poor		13% N=75
The job Dover government does at welcoming resident involvement	Excellent		12% N=53
	Good		41% N=180
	Fair		33% N=147
	Poor		14% N=63
Overall confidence in Dover government	Excellent		10% N=51
	Good		42% N=217
	Fair		33% N=169
	Poor		16% N=81
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Excellent		10% N=52
	Good		45% N=240
	Fair		31% N=166
	Poor		13% N=71
Being honest	Excellent		13% N=58
	Good		46% N=205
	Fair		31% N=139
	Poor		10% N=47
Being open and transparent to the public	Excellent		13% N=63
	Good		40% N=189
	Fair		31% N=146
	Poor		15% N=70
Informing residents about issues facing the community	Excellent		12% N=58
	Good		40% N=197
	Fair		32% N=160
	Poor		16% N=80


























Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance.	Treating all residents fairly	Excellent		13% N=56
		Good		47% N=208
		Fair		29% N=130
		Poor		11% N=48
	Treating residents with respect	Excellent		16% N=76
		Good		54% N=257
		Fair		23% N=110
		Poor		8% N=36
Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?	The City of Dover	Excellent		14% N=82
		Good		57% N=335
		Fair		23% N=136
		Poor		5% N=31
	The Federal Government	Excellent		5% N=25
		Good		27% N=152
		Fair		44% N=245
		Poor		24% N=134
Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Dover community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall economic health	Essential		45% N=261
		Very important		46% N=271
		Somewhat important		9% N=50
		Not at all important		0% N=2
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Essential		25% N=152
		Very important		48% N=284
		Somewhat important		24% N=140
		Not at all important		3% N=20
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Essential		29% N=174
		Very important		42% N=251
		Somewhat important		26% N=154
		Not at all important		4% N=25
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Essential		44% N=268
		Very important		41% N=249
		Somewhat important		13% N=81

Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Dover community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.

Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Not at all important		1% N=5	
Overall feeling of safety	Essential		52% N=309	
	Very important		34% N=206	
	Somewhat important		11% N=69	
	Not at all important		3% N=16	
Overall quality of natural environment	Essential		38% N=231	
	Very important		45% N=271	
	Somewhat important		16% N=97	
	Not at all important		1% N=6	
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Essential		28% N=170	
	Very important		47% N=285	
	Somewhat important		24% N=143	
	Not at all important		1% N=6	
Overall health and wellness opportunities	Essential		31% N=187	
	Very important		39% N=234	
	Somewhat important		28% N=169	
	Not at all important		2% N=13	
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Essential		34% N=203	
	Very important		42% N=252	
	Somewhat important		23% N=139	
	Not at all important		1% N=8	
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Essential		22% N=135	
	Very important		45% N=272	
	Somewhat important		30% N=181	
	Not at all important		2% N=15	
In general, how many times do you:	Access the internet from your home	Several times a day		86% N=510
		Once a day		6% N=33
		A few times a week		3% N=20
		Every few weeks		1% N=5
		Less often or never		4% N=24
Access the internet from your cell phone	Several times a day		87% N=519	

In general, how many times do you:	Access the internet from your cell phone	Once a day	3% N=19
		A few times a week	4% N=23
		Every few weeks	0% N=2
		Less often or never	6% N=34
Visit social media sites	Several times a day	60% N=355	
	Once a day	14% N=82	
	A few times a week	6% N=35	
	Every few weeks	4% N=21	
	Less often or never	17% N=103	
Use or check email	Several times a day	80% N=476	
	Once a day	14% N=82	
	A few times a week	2% N=14	
	Every few weeks	1% N=7	
	Less often or never	3% N=18	
Share your opinions online	Several times a day	10% N=62	
	Once a day	4% N=26	
	A few times a week	10% N=60	
	Every few weeks	18% N=105	
	Less often or never	57% N=336	
Shop online	Several times a day	11% N=64	
	Once a day	5% N=29	
	A few times a week	33% N=195	
	Every few weeks	38% N=227	
	Less often or never	13% N=79	
Please rate your overall health.	Excellent	26% N=157	
	Very good	44% N=259	
	Good	25% N=150	
	Fair	4% N=23	
	Poor	1% N=4	
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	Very positive	2% N=14	
	Somewhat positive	13% N=75	

What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	Neutral		43% N=257
	Somewhat negative		32% N=190
	Very negative		10% N=58
How many years have you lived in Dover?	Less than 2 years		18% N=107
	2-5 years		23% N=141
	6-10 years		19% N=112
	11-20 years		17% N=99
	More than 20 years		24% N=142
Which best describes the building you live in?	Single-family detached home		42% N=253
	Townhouse or duplex (may share walls but no units above ..		15% N=92
	Condominium or apartment (have units above or below you)		38% N=226
	Mobile home		2% N=12
	Other		3% N=17
Do you rent or own your home?	Rent		48% N=289
	Own		52% N=310
About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	Less than \$300		2% N=10
	\$300 to \$599		4% N=24
	\$600 to \$999		8% N=49
	\$1,000 to \$1,499		22% N=126
	\$1,500 to \$2,499		42% N=246
	\$2,500 to \$3,999		16% N=95
	\$4,000 to \$6,999		4% N=24
	\$7,000 to \$9,999		1% N=6
	\$10,000 or more		1% N=5
Do any children 17 or under live in your household?	No		77% N=460
	Yes		23% N=136
Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?	No		74% N=440
	Yes		26% N=157
How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Less than \$25,000		7% N=40
	\$25,000 to \$49,999		13% N=76
	\$50,000 to \$74,999		16% N=91

How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	\$75,000 to \$99,999		20% N=117
	\$100,000 to \$149,999		16% N=89
	\$150,000 to \$199,999		11% N=65
	\$200,000 to \$299,999		11% N=64
	\$300,000 or more		5% N=31
Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin		95% N=562
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanis..		5% N=27
What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)	American Indian or Alaska Native		1% N=5
	Asian		6% N=32
	Black or African American		1% N=7
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		0% N=2
	White		93% N=545
	A race not listed		3% N=18
In which category is your age?	18-24 years		4% N=22
	25-34 years		33% N=199
	35-44 years		16% N=96
	45-54 years		14% N=84
	55-64 years		10% N=59
	65-74 years		13% N=80
	75 years or older		10% N=58
What is your gender?	Woman		50% N=297
	Man		49% N=292
	Identify in another way		1% N=5
If you identify in another way, how would you describe your gender?	Non-binary		76% N=3
	Transgender man		24% N=1

Full trends

This table contains the trends over time for the City of Dover. The combined "percent positive" responses for each survey year are presented (e.g., excellent/good or yes). If an item was not included during an administration of the survey, no percentage will be shown in the table. If the difference between the 2021 and 2023 surveys is greater than 6 percentage points, the change is statistically significant.

It is important to note that in 2020, The NCS survey was updated to include new and refreshed items. Consequently, some of the trends may be impacted due to wording modifications that could have potentially altered the meaning of the item for the respondent.

		2004	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover.	Dover as a place to live	89%	89%	90%	92%	91%	94%	90%	89%	89%
	Your neighborhood as a place to live	78%	77%	79%	79%	81%	82%	81%	82%	83%
	Dover as a place to raise children	80%	85%	80%	83%	83%	86%	83%	83%	80%
	Dover as a place to work		61%	61%	75%	70%	72%	68%	74%	71%
	Dover as a place to visit					68%	68%	64%	71%	68%
	Dover as a place to retire	51%	55%	57%	62%	57%	56%	53%	51%	52%
	The overall quality of life	82%	83%	84%	83%	86%	88%	83%	87%	81%
	Sense of community	66%	61%	70%	72%	65%	68%	60%	62%	64%
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.	Overall economic health					61%	72%	62%	67%	61%
	Overall quality of the transportation system								64%	55%
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas					64%	65%	47%	65%	55%
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure								70%	66%
	Overall feeling of safety					86%	92%	81%	79%	78%
	Overall quality of natural environment		68%	72%	76%	79%	78%	68%	79%	73%
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities								71%	68%
	Overall health and wellness opportunities					78%	81%	75%	79%	69%
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts					71%	74%	70%	63%	64%
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community								57%	59%
Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.	Recommend living in Dover to someone who asks		89%	88%	89%	91%	92%	87%	88%	87%
	Remain in Dover for the next five years		84%	82%	84%	82%	81%	78%	83%	80%
Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:	In your neighborhood during the day	96%	95%	94%	95%	95%	98%	91%	95%	94%
	In Dover's downtown/commercial area during the day	95%	96%	97%	95%	95%	96%	90%	93%	92%
	From property crime	68%	72%	75%	68%				81%	77%
	From violent crime	76%	82%	85%	82%				89%	85%
	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster								91%	91%
Please rate the job you feel the Dover community does at each of the following.	Making all residents feel welcome								77%	76%
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds								58%	56%
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds								67%	69%
	Taking care of vulnerable residents								52%	42%
Please rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Overall quality of business and service establishments		67%	62%	73%	70%	74%	67%	85%	80%

Please rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Variety of business and service establishments								66%	69%
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area					63%	69%	61%	69%	63%
	Employment opportunities	27%	26%	35%	37%	45%	50%	51%	57%	52%
	Shopping opportunities	50%	48%	45%	54%	55%	60%	53%	56%	51%
	Cost of living					44%	37%	29%	28%	19%
	Overall image or reputation	69%	74%	72%	72%	79%	69%	76%	73%	
Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Traffic flow on major streets	29%	38%	42%	41%	42%	35%	41%	36%	
	Ease of public parking					44%	56%	41%	51%	51%
	Ease of travel by car	41%	47%	55%	61%	56%	58%	49%	66%	61%
	Ease of travel by public transportation	65%	72%	66%	54%	44%	42%	46%	39%	
	Ease of travel by bicycle	31%	41%	48%	48%	52%	49%	43%	49%	37%
	Ease of walking	59%	72%	71%	77%	80%	77%	80%	72%	
	Well-planned residential growth								41%	41%
	Well-planned commercial growth								50%	41%
	Well-designed neighborhoods								53%	52%
	Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community								73%	70%
	Public places where people want to spend time					65%	70%	65%	64%	59%
	Variety of housing options	54%	59%	64%	61%	52%	45%	40%	33%	
	Availability of affordable quality housing	17%	29%	41%	43%	44%	36%	22%	24%	11%
	Overall quality of new development	53%	55%	66%	63%	67%	52%	61%	45%	
	Overall appearance	74%	71%	79%	78%	75%	84%	75%	80%	70%
	Cleanliness	72%	78%	73%	70%	80%	70%	78%	71%	
	Water resources								56%	51%
	Air quality	77%	78%	81%	84%	86%	81%	90%	85%	
	Availability of paths and walking trails	40%	51%	57%	60%	58%	62%	78%	74%	
	Fitness opportunities					66%	69%	63%	72%	74%
	Recreational opportunities	58%	57%	61%	64%	62%	62%	58%	67%	62%
	Availability of affordable quality food					79%	77%	79%	78%	65%
	Availability of affordable quality health care	60%	53%	62%	67%	77%	77%	76%	76%	66%
	Availability of preventive health services					76%	78%	77%	80%	68%
	Availability of affordable quality mental health care					50%	58%	55%	49%	40%
	Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	49%	56%	61%	62%	65%	63%	57%	56%	
	Community support for the arts								65%	63%
	Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	36%	43%	47%	47%	67%	60%	52%	46%	34%
	K-12 education	75%	75%	69%	71%	69%	76%	71%	69%	59%
	Adult educational opportunities					65%	62%	57%	56%	54%

Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Sense of civic/community pride							60%	61%	
	Neighborhoodliness of residents					62%	67%	60%	64%	62%
	Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	56%	66%	68%	63%	70%	67%	59%	60%	
	Opportunities to attend special events and festivals					70%	75%	69%	63%	67%
	Opportunities to volunteer	69%	74%	69%	74%	69%	73%	75%	70%	
	Opportunities to participate in community matters	61%	61%	68%	64%	65%	67%	67%	66%	
	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diver..					68%	71%	65%	64%	64%
Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.	Contacted the City of Dover for help or information	72%	69%	54%	66%	53%	52%	55%	60%	62%
	Contacted Dover elected officials to express your opinion					19%	21%	17%	17%	14%
	Attended a local public meeting	28%	34%	27%	28%	19%	18%	21%	16%	18%
	Watched a local public meeting	62%	59%	51%	45%	36%	32%	27%	32%	24%
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	40%	47%	38%	36%	39%	38%	35%	25%	32%
	Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate					23%	27%	19%	16%	15%
	Voted in your most recent local election	75%	83%	72%	85%				79%	79%
	Used public transportation instead of driving					30%	31%	23%	15%	28%
	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone					47%	46%	46%	41%	49%
	Walked or biked instead of driving					63%	66%	63%	65%	69%
	Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.	Public information services			75%	76%	72%	75%	71%	71%
Economic development			36%	50%	61%	61%	66%	60%	62%	55%
Traffic enforcement		72%	68%	71%	76%	69%	70%	67%	71%	64%
Traffic signal timing		49%	50%	58%	60%	53%	55%	49%	52%	54%
Street repair		26%	34%	37%	37%	37%	37%	34%	46%	40%
Street cleaning		53%	47%	59%	59%	50%	58%	57%	67%	71%
Street lighting		62%	54%	62%	63%	56%	67%	69%	72%	66%
Snow removal		62%	61%	64%	67%	61%	70%	69%	76%	74%
Sidewalk maintenance		46%	42%	50%	52%	46%	54%	48%	62%	57%
Bus or transit services		63%	69%	76%	70%	66%	66%	62%	64%	55%
Land use, planning and zoning		31%	37%	48%	56%	51%	51%	43%	52%	42%
Code enforcement		48%	42%	48%	52%	41%	47%	43%	47%	39%
Affordable high-speed internet access									48%	52%
Garbage collection		78%	81%	85%	85%	82%	81%	80%	70%	75%
Drinking water		63%	67%	71%	74%	75%	71%	70%	75%	74%
Sewer services		78%	79%	79%	84%	79%	85%	78%	87%	83%
Storm water management		68%	64%	71%	77%	71%	67%	62%	84%	77%
Power (electric and/or gas) utility					74%	78%	74%	84%	70%	
Utility billing					70%	68%	61%	72%	59%	

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.	Police/Sheriff services	84%	86%	88%	89%	90%	91%	90%	83%	81%
	Crime prevention			79%	82%	85%	86%	78%	80%	74%
	Animal control			71%	79%	69%	80%	73%	86%	86%
	Ambulance or emergency medical services	95%	96%	94%	97%	95%	97%	97%	93%	94%
	Fire services	95%	98%	96%	98%	97%	97%	96%	95%	96%
	Fire prevention and education			88%	88%	91%	89%	89%	85%	82%
	Emergency preparedness			65%	69%	70%	71%	61%	68%	65%
	Preservation of natural areas		52%	62%	64%	67%	60%	51%	64%	59%
	Dover open space					58%	58%	46%	61%	57%
	Recycling	81%	88%	83%	86%	84%	85%	74%	69%	74%
	Yard waste pick-up					69%	62%	57%	56%	56%
	City parks	75%	73%	72%	76%	76%	82%	74%	76%	71%
	Recreation programs or classes	80%	69%	75%	74%	72%	76%	70%	66%	67%
	Recreation centers or facilities	70%	68%	73%	75%	74%	78%	73%	70%	67%
	Health services			74%	81%	75%	79%	80%	79%	75%
	Public library services	89%	86%	87%	90%	89%	92%	87%	93%	91%
Overall customer service by Dover employees	76%	77%	80%	81%	77%	82%	79%	84%	83%	
Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance.	The value of services for the taxes paid to Dover	45%	44%	46%	46%	46%	50%	44%	43%	45%
	The overall direction that Dover is taking	51%	49%	57%	63%	69%	72%	54%	60%	59%
	The job Dover government does at welcoming resident involvement	61%	47%	55%	54%	54%	61%	54%	53%	52%
	Overall confidence in Dover government					50%	61%	52%	50%	51%
	Generally acting in the best interest of the community					58%	68%	53%	60%	55%
	Being honest					60%	66%	60%	62%	58%
	Being open and transparent to the public								56%	54%
	Informing residents about issues facing the community								55%	51%
	Treating all residents fairly					57%	66%	56%	64%	59%
	Treating residents with respect								75%	69%
Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?	The City of Dover	81%	72%	78%	83%	80%	83%	80%	78%	71%
	The Federal Government	40%	47%	38%	41%	44%	40%	39%	48%	31%
Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Dover community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall economic health					92%	90%	88%	88%	91%
	Overall quality of the transportation system								71%	73%
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas					80%	82%	80%	70%	70%
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure								87%	86%
	Overall feeling of safety					86%	85%	89%	84%	86%
	Overall quality of natural environment					83%	87%	81%	86%	83%
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities								77%	75%

Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Dover community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall health and wellness opportunities	73%	73%	65%	73%	70%				
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	81%	82%	73%	78%	75%				
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	79%	76%	77%	66%	67%				
In general, how many times do you:	Access the internet from your home				95%	95%				
	Access the internet from your cell phone				92%	94%				
	Visit social media sites				81%	79%				
	Use or check email				98%	96%				
	Share your opinions online				24%	25%				
	Shop online				49%	49%				
	Please rate your overall health.	69%	70%	67%	73%	70%				
	What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your fa..	18%	12%	14%	23%	29%	29%	32%	32%	15%

Methods (open participation)

As part of its participation in The National Community Survey™ (The NCST™), the City of Dover conducted a survey of 620 residents. Survey invitations were mailed to randomly selected households and data were collected from May 4th, 2023 to June 15th, 2023. The results from this main survey effort represent the most robust estimate of your residents' opinions.

After the above data collection period was underway, a link to an online open participation survey was publicized by the City of Dover. The open participation survey was identical to the probability sample survey with two small updates; it included a map at the beginning asking where the respondent lives and also a question about where they heard about the survey. The open participation survey was open to all city residents and became available on June 1st, 2023. The survey remained open for 2 weeks and there were 311 responses.





























The open participation survey data were not collected through a random sample and it is unknown who in the community was aware of the survey; therefore, a level of confidence in the representativeness of the sample cannot be estimated. However, to reduce bias where possible, these data were statistically weighted to match the demographic characteristics of the 2020 Census and 2022 American Community Survey estimates for adults in the City of Dover. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, and housing tenure. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.* The results of the weighting scheme for the open participation survey are presented in the following table.

































* Pasek, J. (2010). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from <https://web.stanford.edu/group/iriss/cgi-bin/anesrake/resources/RakingDescription.pdf>

































		Unweighted	Weighted	Target*
Age	18-34	14%	37%	37%
	35-54	34%	30%	30%
	55+	52%	33%	33%
Hispanic origin	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish ..	98%	96%	97%
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, La..	2%	4%	3%
Housing tenure	Own	81%	52%	52%
	Rent	19%	48%	48%
Housing type	Attached	30%	57%	57%
	Detached	70%	43%	43%
Race & Hispanic origin	Not white alone	8%	12%	12%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	92%	88%	88%
Sex	Man	45%	50%	50%
	Woman	55%	50%	50%
Sex/age	Man 18-34	5%	18%	18%
	Man 35-54	16%	16%	16%
	Man 55+	24%	16%	16%
	Woman 18-34	9%	19%	19%
	Woman 35-54	20%	14%	14%
	Woman 55+	27%	17%	17%

































Open participation survey results

































This dashboard contains a complete set of responses to each question on the open participation survey. By default, "don't know" responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter to the right. In some tables, the percentages may not sum to 100%; this is either because the question permitted the respondent to "choose all that apply", or for a question that asked the respondent to select one answer, it is due to the customary practice of rounding values to the nearest whole number.

	Do you live within the city limits of Dover?	Yes		98% N=302	
		No		1% N=4	
		I don't know		1% N=2	
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover.	Dover as a place to live	Excellent		24% N=75	
		Good		58% N=179	
		Fair		13% N=40	
		Poor		4% N=14	
	Your neighborhood as a place to live	Excellent		40% N=119	
		Good		39% N=117	
		Fair		13% N=40	
		Poor		8% N=24	
	Dover as a place to raise children	Excellent		23% N=56	
		Good		45% N=112	
		Fair		22% N=54	
		Poor		10% N=24	
	Dover as a place to work	Excellent		21% N=46	
		Good		46% N=102	
		Fair		26% N=57	
		Poor		8% N=17	
	Dover as a place to visit	Excellent		12% N=34	
		Good		50% N=146	
		Fair		34% N=99	
		Poor		5% N=16	
	Dover as a place to retire	Excellent		11% N=25	
		Good		32% N=75	
		Fair		34% N=80	
		Poor		24% N=58	
		The overall quality of life	Excellent		13% N=39















Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover.	The overall quality of life	Good		60% N=183
		Fair		18% N=55
		Poor		9% N=27
	Sense of community	Excellent		14% N=43
		Good		47% N=144
		Fair		26% N=81
Poor			12% N=38	
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.	Overall economic health	Excellent		7% N=19
		Good		49% N=143
		Fair		28% N=81
		Poor		17% N=51
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Excellent		6% N=18
		Good		37% N=112
		Fair		36% N=110
		Poor		21% N=65
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Excellent		2% N=8
		Good		44% N=135
		Fair		43% N=132
		Poor		10% N=31
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Excellent		9% N=26	
	Good		53% N=155	
	Fair		25% N=71	
	Poor		13% N=37	
Overall feeling of safety	Excellent		15% N=46	
	Good		47% N=145	
	Fair		24% N=72	
	Poor		14% N=44	
Overall quality of natural environment	Excellent		14% N=43	
	Good		47% N=146	
	Fair		29% N=90	
	Poor		9% N=29	
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Excellent		15% N=46	

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Good		42% N=128
		Fair		33% N=101
		Poor		9% N=28
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Excellent		16% N=47
		Good		48% N=138
		Fair		26% N=74
		Poor		10% N=28
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Excellent		14% N=40
		Good		43% N=124
		Fair		35% N=102
		Poor		9% N=25
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Excellent		8% N=23
Good			46% N=137	
Fair			35% N=107	
Poor			11% N=35	
Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.	Recommend living in Dover to someone who asks	Very likely		34% N=103
		Somewhat likely		44% N=130
		Somewhat unlikely		13% N=37
		Very unlikely		10% N=29
	Remain in Dover for the next five years	Very likely		47% N=138
		Somewhat likely		31% N=91
		Somewhat unlikely		13% N=37
		Very unlikely		8% N=25
Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:	In your neighborhood during the day	Very safe		72% N=218
		Somewhat safe		21% N=63
		Neither safe nor unsafe		3% N=9
		Somewhat unsafe		2% N=6
		Very unsafe		3% N=9
	In Dover's downtown/commercial area during the day	Very safe		58% N=173
		Somewhat safe		28% N=83
		Neither safe nor unsafe		6% N=17
Somewhat unsafe			6% N=18	































Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:	In Dover's downtown/commercial area during the day	Very unsafe		3% N=9
	From property crime	Very safe		32% N=97
		Somewhat safe		38% N=115
		Neither safe nor unsafe		9% N=28
		Somewhat unsafe		16% N=48
		Very unsafe		5% N=15
	From violent crime	Very safe		47% N=141
		Somewhat safe		29% N=89
		Neither safe nor unsafe		11% N=35
		Somewhat unsafe		11% N=32
		Very unsafe		2% N=5
	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Very safe		49% N=145
		Somewhat safe		37% N=109
		Neither safe nor unsafe		13% N=39
		Somewhat unsafe		1% N=4
Very unsafe			0% N=	
Please rate the job you feel the Dover community does at each of the following.	Making all residents feel welcome	Excellent		16% N=48
		Good		52% N=154
		Fair		24% N=70
		Poor		8% N=22
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		10% N=27
		Good		38% N=99
		Fair		35% N=91
		Poor		17% N=44
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		19% N=49
		Good		48% N=124
		Fair		22% N=58
		Poor		10% N=27
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Excellent		6% N=17
		Good		26% N=67
		Fair		27% N=71
		Poor		41% N=109

Please rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Excellent		18% N=57
		Good		57% N=176
		Fair		22% N=68
		Poor		2% N=7
	Variety of business and service establishments	Excellent		13% N=40
		Good		46% N=142
		Fair		33% N=100
		Poor		8% N=25
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Excellent		16% N=50
		Good		44% N=135
		Fair		28% N=84
		Poor		12% N=35
	Employment opportunities	Excellent		8% N=17
		Good		38% N=80
		Fair		38% N=81
		Poor		16% N=34
	Shopping opportunities	Excellent		8% N=24
		Good		38% N=115
		Fair		35% N=105
		Poor		19% N=57
	Cost of living	Excellent		0% N=1
		Good		18% N=54
		Fair		34% N=103
		Poor		48% N=149
	Overall image or reputation	Excellent		11% N=32
		Good		53% N=157
		Fair		28% N=84
		Poor		9% N=25
Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.	Traffic flow on major streets	Excellent		4% N=11
		Good		23% N=70
		Fair		39% N=120
		Poor		35% N=107

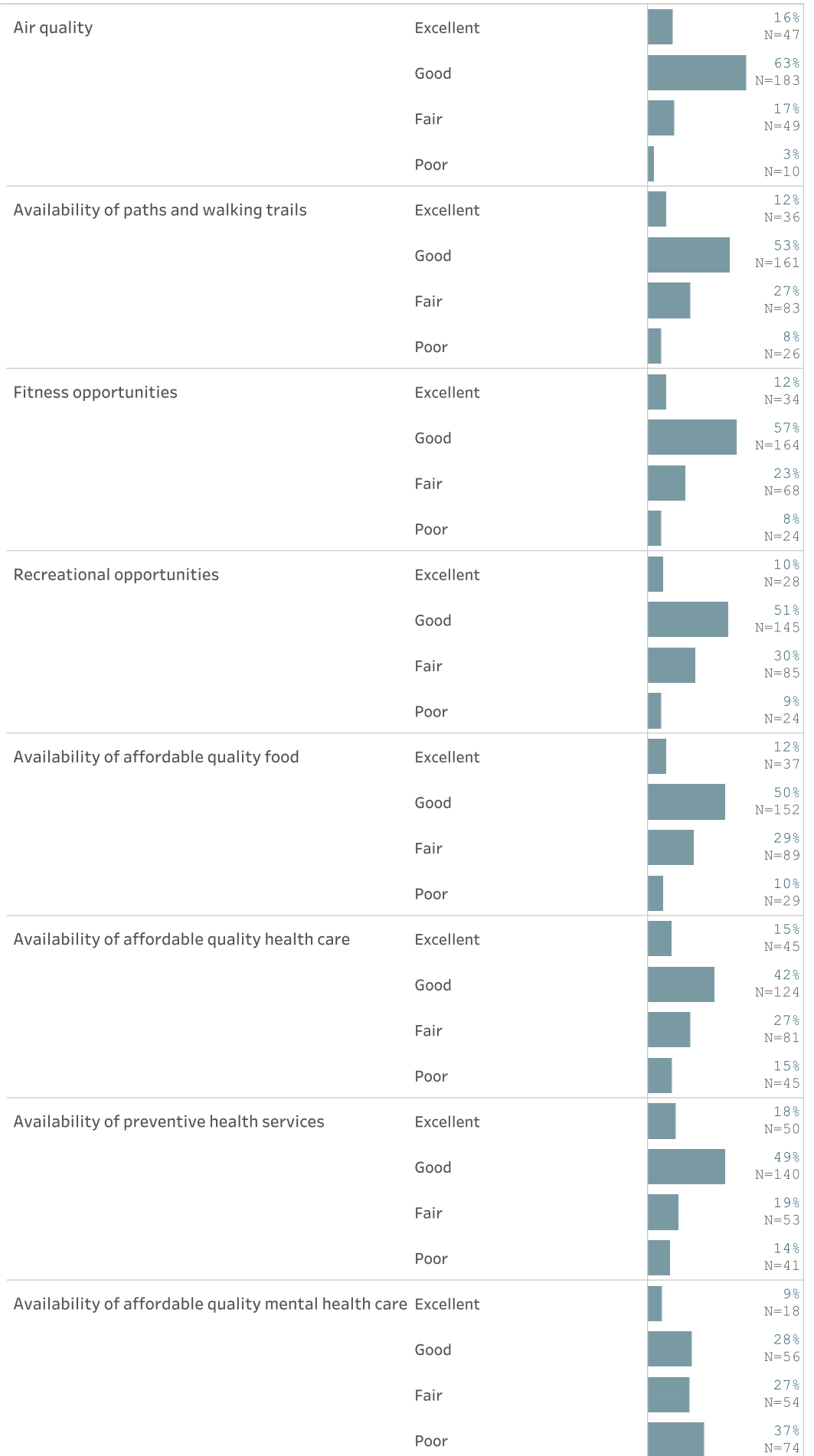
Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.

Ease of public parking	Excellent		9% N=29
	Good		36% N=111
	Fair		32% N=97
	Poor		23% N=69
Ease of travel by car	Excellent		12% N=37
	Good		38% N=118
	Fair		35% N=107
	Poor		15% N=45
Ease of travel by public transportation	Excellent		5% N=10
	Good		19% N=36
	Fair		44% N=82
	Poor		32% N=59
Ease of travel by bicycle	Excellent		3% N=6
	Good		31% N=63
	Fair		27% N=56
	Poor		39% N=80
Ease of walking	Excellent		18% N=55
	Good		39% N=117
	Fair		31% N=94
	Poor		11% N=32
Well-planned residential growth	Excellent		5% N=12
	Good		28% N=70
	Fair		36% N=91
	Poor		32% N=82
Well-planned commercial growth	Excellent		2% N=6
	Good		37% N=84
	Fair		36% N=83
	Poor		24% N=56
Well-designed neighborhoods	Excellent		1% N=3
	Good		40% N=104
	Fair		40% N=105
	Poor		19% N=51
































Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.

Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Excellent		14% N=37
	Good		47% N=128
	Fair		26% N=71
	Poor		12% N=33
Public places where people want to spend time	Excellent		10% N=31
	Good		39% N=114
	Fair		34% N=101
	Poor		17% N=50
Variety of housing options	Excellent		4% N=10
	Good		20% N=58
	Fair		35% N=101
	Poor		42% N=122
Availability of affordable quality housing	Excellent		0% N=1
	Good		8% N=23
	Fair		25% N=71
	Poor		67% N=190
Overall quality of new development	Excellent		6% N=14
	Good		31% N=79
	Fair		45% N=115
	Poor		19% N=49
Overall appearance	Excellent		10% N=30
	Good		56% N=167
	Fair		25% N=75
	Poor		8% N=25
Cleanliness	Excellent		11% N=32
	Good		49% N=148
	Fair		25% N=76
	Poor		15% N=47
Water resources	Excellent		6% N=18
	Good		30% N=90
	Fair		36% N=107
	Poor		27% N=81

















Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.



















Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.

































Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Excellent		10% N=26
	Good		49% N=135
	Fair		35% N=97
	Poor		6% N=16
Community support for the arts	Excellent		20% N=52
	Good		43% N=113
	Fair		32% N=84
	Poor		5% N=14
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Excellent		4% N=6
	Good		21% N=29
	Fair		27% N=39
	Poor		48% N=69
K-12 education	Excellent		12% N=21
	Good		48% N=83
	Fair		28% N=48
	Poor		12% N=21
Adult educational opportunities	Excellent		5% N=9
	Good		50% N=95
	Fair		31% N=59
	Poor		14% N=28
Sense of civic/community pride	Excellent		11% N=32
	Good		48% N=135
	Fair		30% N=85
	Poor		11% N=31
Neighborliness of residents	Excellent		18% N=53
	Good		48% N=145
	Fair		23% N=70
	Poor		11% N=35
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Excellent		8% N=24
	Good		60% N=176
	Fair		23% N=68
	Poor		8% N=24

Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.

































Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Excellent		17% N=48
	Good		60% N=173
	Fair		18% N=52
	Poor		5% N=16
Opportunities to volunteer	Excellent		20% N=49
	Good		57% N=140
	Fair		19% N=48
	Poor		4% N=10
Opportunities to participate in community matters	Excellent		18% N=47
	Good		53% N=137
	Fair		22% N=57
	Poor		7% N=17
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Excellent		18% N=47
	Good		48% N=122
	Fair		24% N=62
	Poor		9% N=24

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.

































Contacted the City of Dover for help or information	No		32% N=96
	Yes		68% N=207
Contacted Dover elected officials to express your opinion	No		69% N=209
	Yes		31% N=96
Attended a local public meeting	No		71% N=219
	Yes		29% N=87
Watched a local public meeting	No		55% N=165
	Yes		45% N=137
Volunteered your time to some group/activity	No		55% N=169
	Yes		45% N=136
Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	No		76% N=232
	Yes		24% N=72
Voted in your most recent local election	No		14% N=42
	Yes		86% N=263
Used public transportation instead of driving	No		65% N=197
	Yes		35% N=108

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	No		40% N=124
		Yes		60% N=182
	Walked or biked instead of driving	No		28% N=87
		Yes		72% N=219
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.	Public information services	Excellent		19% N=54
		Good		49% N=136
		Fair		22% N=60
		Poor		10% N=27
	Economic development	Excellent		9% N=21
		Good		47% N=115
		Fair		25% N=63
		Poor		19% N=48
	Traffic enforcement	Excellent		7% N=18
		Good		49% N=127
		Fair		25% N=65
		Poor		19% N=50
	Traffic signal timing	Excellent		4% N=11
		Good		43% N=132
		Fair		37% N=113
		Poor		15% N=47
	Street repair	Excellent		5% N=15
		Good		39% N=118
		Fair		31% N=92
		Poor		25% N=76
Street cleaning	Excellent		11% N=32	
	Good		54% N=162	
	Fair		20% N=61	
	Poor		14% N=43	
Street lighting	Excellent		7% N=22	
	Good		53% N=161	
	Fair		28% N=85	
	Poor		11% N=34	

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.

Snow removal	Excellent		22% N=66
	Good		46% N=139
	Fair		18% N=53
	Poor		15% N=45
Sidewalk maintenance	Excellent		6% N=19
	Good		37% N=111
	Fair		33% N=100
	Poor		24% N=71
Bus or transit services	Excellent		5% N=8
	Good		32% N=55
	Fair		38% N=65
	Poor		25% N=42
Land use, planning and zoning	Excellent		5% N=11
	Good		32% N=72
	Fair		41% N=93
	Poor		22% N=51
Code enforcement	Excellent		5% N=10
	Good		29% N=62
	Fair		39% N=82
	Poor		27% N=56
Affordable high-speed internet access	Excellent		12% N=35
	Good		38% N=109
	Fair		29% N=84
	Poor		21% N=62
Garbage collection	Excellent		26% N=74
	Good		44% N=125
	Fair		17% N=47
	Poor		14% N=39
Drinking water	Excellent		21% N=60
	Good		47% N=136
	Fair		24% N=71
	Poor		8% N=25





















Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.

Sewer services	Excellent		27% N=71
	Good		53% N=139
	Fair		13% N=34
	Poor		7% N=17
Storm water management	Excellent		18% N=47
	Good		61% N=157
	Fair		12% N=32
	Poor		9% N=22
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Excellent		17% N=50
	Good		49% N=148
	Fair		22% N=66
	Poor		12% N=34
Utility billing	Excellent		9% N=28
	Good		41% N=120
	Fair		29% N=85
	Poor		21% N=62
Police/Sheriff services	Excellent		26% N=73
	Good		45% N=125
	Fair		18% N=51
	Poor		11% N=32
Crime prevention	Excellent		13% N=34
	Good		48% N=129
	Fair		20% N=53
	Poor		20% N=55
Animal control	Excellent		18% N=32
	Good		64% N=114
	Fair		13% N=23
	Poor		5% N=8
Ambulance or emergency medical services	Excellent		44% N=89
	Good		44% N=89
	Fair		9% N=18
	Poor		3% N=6













Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.

Fire services	Excellent		47% N=107
	Good		46% N=107
	Fair		6% N=14
	Poor		1% N=2
Fire prevention and education	Excellent		31% N=54
	Good		59% N=104
	Fair		7% N=12
	Poor		4% N=6
Emergency preparedness	Excellent		16% N=28
	Good		52% N=89
	Fair		16% N=28
	Poor		15% N=25
Preservation of natural areas	Excellent		8% N=21
	Good		46% N=116
	Fair		29% N=73
	Poor		17% N=44
Dover open space	Excellent		8% N=22
	Good		34% N=87
	Fair		37% N=96
	Poor		21% N=55
Recycling	Excellent		20% N=57
	Good		40% N=115
	Fair		27% N=79
	Poor		14% N=39
Yard waste pick-up	Excellent		12% N=25
	Good		38% N=78
	Fair		30% N=62
	Poor		21% N=43
City parks	Excellent		11% N=32
	Good		44% N=132
	Fair		28% N=82
	Poor		17% N=50

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.

































Recreation programs or classes	Excellent		11% N=22
	Good		50% N=102
	Fair		29% N=61
	Poor		10% N=21
Recreation centers or facilities	Excellent		15% N=34
	Good		51% N=115
	Fair		24% N=54
	Poor		9% N=21
Health services	Excellent		16% N=39
	Good		49% N=124
	Fair		20% N=51
	Poor		15% N=37
Public library services	Excellent		52% N=145
	Good		42% N=118
	Fair		5% N=14
	Poor		2% N=4
Overall customer service by Dover employees	Excellent		32% N=92
	Good		45% N=130
	Fair		17% N=50
	Poor		6% N=16

































Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance.

































The value of services for the taxes paid to Dover	Excellent		7% N=21
	Good		31% N=87
	Fair		31% N=89
	Poor		31% N=88
The overall direction that Dover is taking	Excellent		12% N=34
	Good		35% N=99
	Fair		29% N=81
	Poor		24% N=69
The job Dover government does at welcoming resident involvement	Excellent		13% N=33
	Good		39% N=96
	Fair		30% N=75
	Poor		18% N=45
































Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance.

Overall confidence in Dover government	Excellent		9% N=26
	Good		34% N=101
	Fair		31% N=92
	Poor		26% N=76
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Excellent		11% N=31
	Good		37% N=105
	Fair		29% N=84
	Poor		23% N=66
Being honest	Excellent		16% N=41
	Good		29% N=73
	Fair		31% N=78
	Poor		23% N=57
Being open and transparent to the public	Excellent		17% N=44
	Good		29% N=77
	Fair		31% N=80
	Poor		23% N=61
Informing residents about issues facing the community	Excellent		18% N=49
	Good		30% N=84
	Fair		26% N=73
	Poor		26% N=72
Treating all residents fairly	Excellent		15% N=37
	Good		35% N=87
	Fair		29% N=71
	Poor		21% N=53
Treating residents with respect	Excellent		23% N=59
	Good		35% N=89
	Fair		29% N=73
	Poor		14% N=35
Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?	The City of Dover	Excellent	
		Good	
		Fair	
		Poor	

Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?	The Federal Government	Excellent		1% N=3
		Good		27% N=78
		Fair		44% N=127
		Poor		28% N=82
Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Dover community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall economic health	Essential		44% N=131
		Very important		45% N=133
		Somewhat important		12% N=34
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Essential		29% N=87
		Very important		44% N=132
		Somewhat important		25% N=76
		Not at all important		2% N=7
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Essential		27% N=83
		Very important		41% N=124
		Somewhat important		31% N=93
		Not at all important		2% N=6
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Essential		48% N=145
Very important			39% N=119	
Somewhat important			11% N=34	
Not at all important			1% N=4	
Overall feeling of safety	Essential		41% N=124	
	Very important		42% N=127	
	Somewhat important		16% N=48	
	Not at all important		2% N=6	
Overall quality of natural environment	Essential		34% N=103	
	Very important		48% N=147	
	Somewhat important		17% N=52	
	Not at all important		1% N=4	
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Essential		22% N=67	
	Very important		47% N=142	
	Somewhat important		30% N=91	
	Not at all important		0% N=1	
Overall health and wellness opportunities	Essential		17% N=53	

Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Dover community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Very important		46% N=139
		Somewhat important		30% N=91
		Not at all important		7% N=22
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Essential		22% N=67
		Very important		38% N=115
		Somewhat important		36% N=108
		Not at all important		4% N=12
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Essential		21% N=65
		Very important		39% N=121
Somewhat important			37% N=114	
Not at all important			2% N=7	
In general, how many times do you:	Access the internet from your home	Several times a day		83% N=254
		Once a day		8% N=25
		A few times a week		4% N=13
		Every few weeks		2% N=5
		Less often or never		3% N=9
		Access the internet from your cell phone	Several times a day	
	Once a day			3% N=9
	A few times a week			2% N=6
	Less often or never			1% N=4
	Visit social media sites	Several times a day		65% N=200
		Once a day		11% N=32
		A few times a week		6% N=18
Every few weeks			5% N=14	
Less often or never			14% N=43	
Use or check email	Several times a day		87% N=268	
	Once a day		10% N=29	
	A few times a week		3% N=8	
	Every few weeks		0% N=	
	Less often or never		0% N=	
Share your opinions online	Several times a day		12% N=37	
	Once a day		6% N=18	

In general, how many times do you:	Share your opinions online	A few times a week		22% N=66
		Every few weeks		24% N=73
		Less often or never		37% N=112
Shop online	Several times a day			14% N=42
	Once a day			8% N=25
	A few times a week			34% N=105
	Every few weeks			39% N=121
	Less often or never			4% N=14
Please rate your overall health.	Excellent			23% N=70
	Very good			44% N=135
	Good			25% N=78
	Fair			6% N=17
	Poor			2% N=7
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	Very positive			3% N=10
	Somewhat positive			14% N=42
	Neutral			39% N=120
	Somewhat negative			31% N=95
	Very negative			13% N=40
How many years have you lived in Dover?	Less than 2 years			15% N=46
	2-5 years			27% N=82
	6-10 years			16% N=49
	11-20 years			17% N=52
	More than 20 years			25% N=77
Which best describes the building you live in?	Single-family detached home			43% N=132
	Townhouse or duplex (may share walls but no units above ..			15% N=47
	Condominium or apartment (have units above or below you)			40% N=122
	Mobile home			1% N=3
	Other			1% N=3
Do you rent or own your home?	Rent			48% N=146
	Own			52% N=156
About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	Less than \$300			2% N=6
	\$300 to \$599			2% N=5

About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	\$600 to \$999		8% N=23
	\$1,000 to \$1,499		14% N=44
	\$1,500 to \$2,499		48% N=147
	\$2,500 to \$3,999		20% N=62
	\$4,000 to \$6,999		4% N=11
	\$7,000 to \$9,999		0% N=1
	\$10,000 or more		2% N=5
Do any children 17 or under live in your household?	No		79% N=243
	Yes		21% N=64
Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?	No		73% N=219
	Yes		27% N=83
How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Less than \$25,000		5% N=16
	\$25,000 to \$49,999		11% N=32
	\$50,000 to \$74,999		21% N=63
	\$75,000 to \$99,999		16% N=50
	\$100,000 to \$149,999		17% N=51
	\$150,000 to \$199,999		20% N=59
	\$200,000 to \$299,999		5% N=15
\$300,000 or more		5% N=14	
Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin		96% N=290
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanis..		4% N=11
What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)	American Indian or Alaska Native		1% N=4
	Asian		4% N=11
	Black or African American		0% N=1
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		0% N=1
	White		93% N=281
	A race not listed		4% N=12
	In which category is your age?	18-24 years	
25-34 years		33% N=101	
35-44 years		15% N=47	
45-54 years		15% N=45	
55-64 years		11% N=34	

In which category is your age?	65-74 years		14% N=43
	75 years or older		8% N=23
What is your gender?	Woman		50% N=153
	Man		49% N=150
	Identify in another way		1% N=4
If you identify in another way, how would you describe your gender?	Genderqueer/gender fluid		59% N=2
	Non-binary		41% N=2
How did you hear about this survey? (Select all that apply.)	The City's website		10% N=30
	The City's social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram,..)		18% N=55
	Received an email from the City		59% N=182
	In a City newsletter or utility bill		12% N=38
	Received a postcard or letter from the City		2% N=6
	In my Facebook feed		16% N=50
	Saw it on a video of a public meeting or at a meeting I atten..		1% N=3
	Saw it in a newspaper article or ad (hard copy or online)		0% N=1
	Heard about it from a family member, friend or neighbor		1% N=4
	Polco's weekly email		1% N=3
	Polco social media post		1% N=2
	Other		1% N=4

The City of Dover 2023 Community Survey

Please complete this survey if you are the adult (age 18 or older) in the household who most recently had a birthday (the year of birth does not matter). Your responses are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

1. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Dover.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Dover as a place to live	1	2	3	4	5
Your neighborhood as a place to live	1	2	3	4	5
Dover as a place to raise children	1	2	3	4	5
Dover as a place to work.....	1	2	3	4	5
Dover as a place to visit.....	1	2	3	4	5
Dover as a place to retire.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall quality of life in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of community.....	1	2	3	4	5

2. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Dover as a whole.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall economic health of Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall design or layout of Dover's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Dover (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband).....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall feeling of safety in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of natural environment in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts.....	1	2	3	4	5
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	1	2	3	4	5

3. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.

	<u>Very likely</u>	<u>Somewhat likely</u>	<u>Somewhat unlikely</u>	<u>Very unlikely</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Recommend living in Dover to someone who asks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Remain in Dover for the next five years.....	1	2	3	4	5

4. Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:

	<u>Very safe</u>	<u>Somewhat safe</u>	<u>Neither safe nor unsafe</u>	<u>Somewhat unsafe</u>	<u>Very unsafe</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
In your neighborhood during the day.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
In Dover's downtown/commercial area during the day	1	2	3	4	5	6
From property crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From violent crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	1	2	3	4	5	6

5. Please rate the job you feel the Dover community does at each of the following.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Making all residents feel welcome	1	2	3	4	5
Attracting people from diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Taking care of vulnerable residents (elderly, disabled, homeless, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5

6. Please rate each of the following in the Dover community.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of business and service establishments in Dover	1	2	3	4	5
Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	1	2	3	4	5
Employment opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Shopping opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Cost of living in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall image or reputation of Dover	1	2	3	4	5

7. Please also rate each of the following in the Dover community.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Traffic flow on major streets.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of public parking.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by car in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by public transportation in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by bicycle in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of walking in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned residential growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned commercial growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-designed neighborhoods.....	1	2	3	4	5
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public places where people want to spend time.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of housing options.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality housing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of new development in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall appearance of Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Water resources (beaches, lakes, ponds, riverways, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Air quality.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of paths and walking trails.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)... ..	1	2	3	4	5
Recreational opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality food.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality health care.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of preventive health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality mental health care.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Community support for the arts.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool.....	1	2	3	4	5
K-12 education.....	1	2	3	4	5
Adult educational opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of civic/community pride.....	1	2	3	4	5
Neighborliness of residents in Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to volunteer.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in community matters.....	1	2	3	4	5
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5

8. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.

	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Contacted the City of Dover (in-person, phone, email, or web) for help or information.....	1	2
Contacted Dover elected officials (in-person, phone, email, or web) to express your opinion.....	1	2
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like City Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.).....	1	2
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting.....	1	2
Volunteered your time to some group/activity in Dover.....	1	2
Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate.....	1	2
Voted in your most recent local election.....	1	2
Used bus, rail, subway, or other public transportation instead of driving.....	1	2
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone.....	1	2
Walked or biked instead of driving.....	1	2

The City of Dover 2023 Community Survey

9. Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Dover.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Public information services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Economic development.....	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic enforcement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic signal timing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street repair.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street cleaning.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street lighting.....	1	2	3	4	5
Snow removal.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sidewalk maintenance.....	1	2	3	4	5
Bus or transit services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Land use, planning, and zoning.....	1	2	3	4	5
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Affordable high-speed internet access.....	1	2	3	4	5
Garbage collection.....	1	2	3	4	5
Drinking water.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sewer services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Storm water management (storm drainage, dams, levees, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Power (electric and/or gas) utility.....	1	2	3	4	5
Utility billing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Police services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Crime prevention.....	1	2	3	4	5
Animal control.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ambulance or emergency medical services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire prevention and education.....	1	2	3	4	5
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations).....	1	2	3	4	5
Preservation of natural areas (open space, farmlands, and greenbelts).....	1	2	3	4	5
Dover open space.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recycling.....	1	2	3	4	5
Yard waste pick-up.....	1	2	3	4	5
City parks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation programs or classes.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation centers or facilities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public library services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall customer service by Dover employees (police, receptionists, planners, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5

10. Please rate the following categories of Dover government performance.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
The value of services for the taxes paid to Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall direction that Dover is taking.....	1	2	3	4	5
The job Dover government does at welcoming resident involvement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall confidence in Dover government.....	1	2	3	4	5
Generally acting in the best interest of the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Being honest.....	1	2	3	4	5
Being open and transparent to the public.....	1	2	3	4	5
Informing residents about issues facing the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Treating all residents fairly.....	1	2	3	4	5
Treating residents with respect.....	1	2	3	4	5

11. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
The City of Dover.....	1	2	3	4	5
The Federal Government.....	1	2	3	4	5

12. Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Dover community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.

	<u>Essential</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>
Overall economic health of Dover.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Dover	1	2	3	4
Overall design or layout of Dover’s residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Dover (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband).....	1	2	3	4
Overall feeling of safety in Dover	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of natural environment in Dover.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	1	2	3	4
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Dover	1	2	3	4
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts.....	1	2	3	4
Residents’ connection and engagement with their community	1	2	3	4

The City of Dover 2023 Community Survey

Our last questions are about you and your household.
Again, all of your responses to this survey are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

D1. In general, how many times do you:

	Several <u>times a day</u>	Once <u>a day</u>	A few times <u>a week</u>	Every <u>few weeks</u>	Less often <u>or never</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
Access the internet from your home using a computer, laptop, or tablet computer	1	2	3	4	5	6
Access the internet from your cell phone.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Visit social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Use or check email.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Share your opinions online.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Shop online.....	1	2	3	4	5	6

D2. Please rate your overall health.

- Excellent
 Very good
 Good
 Fair
 Poor

D3. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:

- Very positive
 Somewhat positive
 Neutral
 Somewhat negative
 Very negative

D4. How many years have you lived in Dover?

- Less than 2 years
 2-5 years
 6-10 years
 11-20 years
 More than 20 years

D5. Which best describes the building you live in?

- Single-family detached home
 Townhouse or duplex (may share walls but no units above or below you)
 Condominium or apartment (have units above or below you)
 Mobile home
 Other

D6. Do you rent or own your home?

- Rent
 Own

D7. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?

- Less than \$300 \$2,500 to \$3,999
 \$300 to \$599 \$4,000 to \$6,999
 \$600 to \$999 \$7,000 to \$9,999
 \$1,000 to \$1,499 \$10,000 or more
 \$1,500 to \$2,499

D8. Do any children 17 or under live in your household?

- No Yes

D9. Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?

- No Yes

D10. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)

- Less than \$25,000 \$100,000 to \$149,999
 \$25,000 to \$49,999 \$150,000 to \$199,999
 \$50,000 to \$74,999 \$200,000 to \$299,999
 \$75,000 to \$99,999 \$300,000 or more

D11. Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?

- No Yes

D12. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
 Asian
 Black or African American
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 White
 A race not listed

D13. In which category is your age?

- 18-24 years 55-64 years
 25-34 years 65-74 years
 35-44 years 75 years or older
 45-54 years

D14. What is your gender?

- Woman
 Man
 Identify in another way → go to D14a

D14a. If you identify in another way, how would you describe your gender?

- Agender/I don't identify with any gender
 Genderqueer/gender fluid
 Non-binary
 Transgender man
 Transgender woman
 Two-spirit
 Identify in another way

Thank you!

Please return the completed survey in the postage-paid envelope to:
National Research Center, Inc., PO Box 549, Belle Mead, NJ 08502