Westchester County Residents Recreation Preferences Survey

Prepared for:

NATIONALLY ACCREDITED
PARKS
WESTCHESTER COUNTY

Prepared by:

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Table of Contents

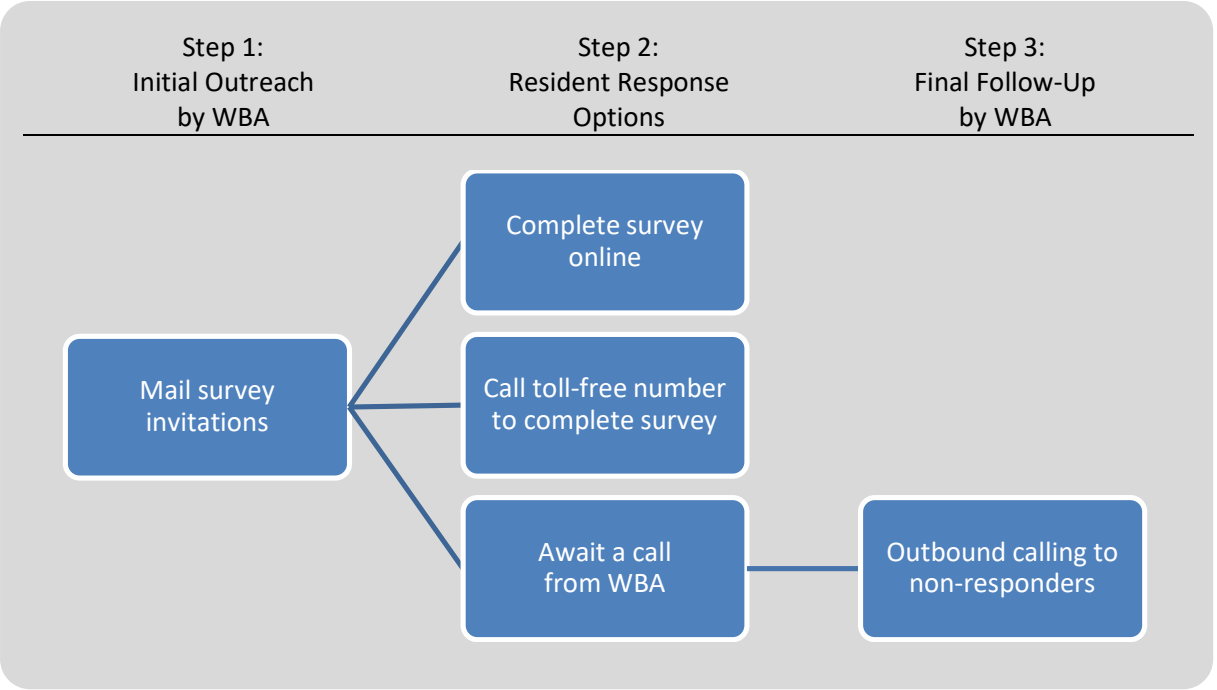
	Page Number
Background, Purpose, and Research Approach	2
Standard Error of the Data	5
Executive Summary	7
Detailed Findings	
Westchester County Parks Visited, Past 12 Months	12
Westchester County Parks Visited Most Often	15
Westchester County Recreation Facilities Visited, Past 12 Months	17
Westchester County Recreation Facilities Visited Most Often	20
Types of Westchester County Facilities Visited/Used, Past 12 Months	22
Physical Condition of Westchester County Parks and Recreation Sites	25
Sources of Information about Westchester County PRC Programs and Activities	26
Types of Parks/Recreation Facilities Needed	28
How Well Parks/Recreation Facilities Meet Needs	31
Most Important Types of Recreation Facilities for Westchester County to Provide	35
Benefits of Park and Recreation Facilities	37
Most Important Benefits of Park and Recreation Facilities	40
Reasons for Not Using Westchester County Parks, Trails, Facilities and Programs More Often	42
Desired Events/Services at Westchester County Center	44
Investing in the Westchester County Park System	46
Satisfaction with Overall Value Received from Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation	49
Effect of COVID-19 Pandemic on Use of Westchester County's Outdoor Parks and Recreation Facilities	50
Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	51
Appendix	
Survey	53

Background, Purpose and Research Approach

Westchester County Parks maintains an 18,000-acre system that includes six public golf courses, swimming pools, beaches, hiking/biking trails, nature preserves, Playland family amusement park and the County Center, an indoor entertainment and civic center. In 2008, the County commissioned a Residents Recreation Preferences Survey. That survey presented information on uses of the County park system, types of recreational activities county residents enjoy and want developed, and what County facilities residents are familiar with and visit. As the County population continues to change in its ethnic and age composition, residents may become interested in different recreational activities, which may require changes in park facilities and capital investment. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought a significant increase of use to the park system.

Therefore, in 2022, Westchester County commissioned WBA Research to conduct an updated Residents Recreation Preferences Survey in an effort to respond according to these changes and make strategic investments in maintaining and improving its parks, as well as obtain information from its residents regarding their use of County facilities, what they think about those facilities, and how more residents can be attracted to use County recreational facilities.

In order to gather this information, WBA Research conducted a quantitative study between July 2 and October 3, 2022 using an Address-Based Sampling (ABS) approach, which involved randomly drawing 15,000 addresses of residents throughout the County. Each address was mailed a letter (in English and Spanish) informing them of the Survey. The letter included a link to the online survey and a phone number they could call to schedule a telephone interview. Outbound calling began approximately 3 weeks after letters started arriving at households. To augment this sample, an additional 1,750 addresses in the Southern region of the County were added to the sample.



Background, Purpose and Research Approach (continued)

From this survey approach, WBA collected 792 completed interviews among Westchester County Residents, broken out by County region and gender as outlined in the table below. In order to more accurately represent the region and gender populations in the County, the data were weighted using data from the 2021 release of the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

The regions were defined by zip code of residence and are shown overlaid on the parks and recreation facility map on the next page.

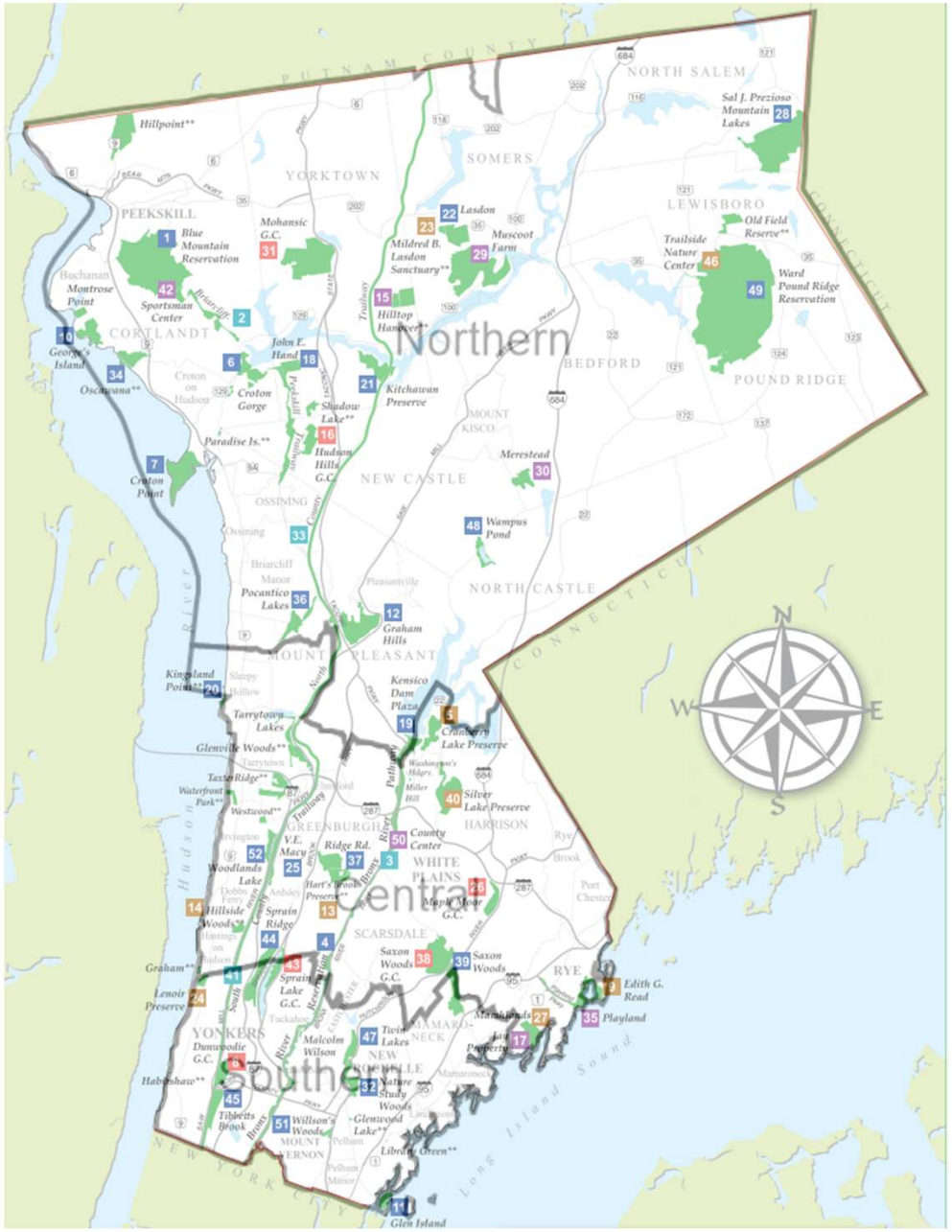
Unweighted					
	North County	Central County	South County	Total	
	#	#	#	#	%
Male	109	143	84	**336**	**42%**
Female	137	121	149	**407**	**51%**
Non-binary/ Refused gender	10	21	18	**49**	**6%**
Total #	**256**	**285**	**251**	**792**	**100%**
Total %	**32%**	**36%**	**32%**	**100%**	

Weighted*					
	North County	Central County	South County	Total	
	#	#	#	#	%
Male	117	98	145	**361**	**46%**
Female	119	104	159	**382**	**48%**
Non-binary/ Refused gender	16	13	20	**49**	**6%**
Total #	**252**	**216**	**325**	**792**	**100%**
Total %	**32%**	**27%**	**41%**	**100%**	

**Individual weighted counts may not add up to totals due to rounding*

Background, Purpose and Research Approach (continued)

PARKS Westchester County Parks and Facilities	Map Location	Accessible	Ball Fields	Bicycling	Boat Launch	Camping	Cabin Rental	X-Country Ski	Driving Range	Fishing	Golf	Hiking / Walking	Horse Trails	Ice Skating	In-Line Skating	Mini Golf	Mountain Biking	Museum	Nature Study	Picnicking	Playground	Refreshments	Swimming	Target Range
Blue Mountain Reservation	1	♿	•				•	•		•		•	•	•				•	•	•	•			
Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway	2	♿						•				•							•					
Bronx River Pathway	3	♿		•				•				•							•					
Bronx River Reservation	4	♿		•				•		•		•							•					
Cranberry Lake Preserve	5	♿						•				•						•	•					
Croton Gorge Park	6	♿	•					•		•		•							•	•	•			
Croton Point Park	7	♿	•		•	•	•			•		•						•	•	•	•		•	
Dunwoodie Golf Course	8	♿						•	•		•											•		
Edith G.Read Wildlife Sanctuary	9	♿										•						•	•	•				
George's Island Park	10	♿	•		•					•		•							•	•	•			
Glen Island Park	11	♿			•					•		•							•	•	•	•	•	
Graham Hills	12											•					•		•					
Hart's Brook Nature Preserve and Arboretum	13											•							•					
Hillside Woods	14											•							•					
Hilltop Hanover Farm	15											•												
Hudson Hills Golf Course	16	♿						•			•											•		
Jay Property	17											•						•	•					
John E. Hand Park	18											•							•					
Kensico Dam Plaza	19	♿		•								•			•				•	•	•			
Kingsland Point Park	20	♿	•							•		•							•	•	•			
Kitchawan Preserve	21	♿	•							•		•							•	•	•			
Lasdon Park, Arboretum and Veterans Memorial	22	♿										•						•	•					
Lasdon, Mildred B. Bird and Nature Sanctuary	23	♿										•							•					
Lenoir Preserve	24	♿										•						•	•	•				
Macy, V.E. Park	25	♿	•	•				•			•											•		
Maple Moor Golf Course	26	♿						•			•											•		
Marshlands Conservancy	27	♿										•						•	•	•				
Mountain Lakes Park, Sal J. Prezioso	28					•	•			•		•		•					•	•				
Muscoot Farm, Alfred B. DelBello	29	♿										•						•	•	•		•		
Merestead	30											•							•					
Mohansic Golf Course	31	♿						•	•		•											•		
Nature Study Woods	32							•		•		•	•						•					
North County Trailway	33	♿		•				•				•							•					
Oscawana	34					•						•							•	•				
Playland Park	35	♿								•		•		•		•		•	•	•		•	•	
Pocantico Lake	36									•		•	•						•					
Ridge Road Park	37	♿	•									•							•	•	•			
Saxon Woods Golf Course	38	♿						•	•		•											•		
Saxon Woods Park	39	♿						•		•		•	•			•			•	•	•	•	•	
Silver Lake Preserve	40											•							•					
South County Trailway	41	♿		•				•				•							•					
Sportsman Center	42	♿										•												•
Sprain Lake Golf Course	43	♿						•	•		•											•		
Sprain Ridge Park	44	♿										•					•		•	•	•			
Tibbetts Brook Park	45	♿	•	•						•		•		•		•			•	•	•	•	•	
Trailside Nature Museum	46	♿						•				•						•	•	•				
Twin Lakes	47							•		•		•	•	•					•					
Wampus Pond	48	♿								•				•						•				
Ward Pound Ridge Reservation	49	♿				•		•		•		•	•					•	•	•	•			
Westchester County Center	50	♿																				•		
Willson's Woods Park	51	♿								•		•		•					•	•	•	•	•	
Woodlands Lake	52			•				•		•		•		•					•	•				



Standard Error of the Data

Because in research the entire population is typically not interviewed, but rather a sample of that population is surveyed, the data are subject to sampling error. The maximum sampling error for the Total Sample of 792 interviews is ±3.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. However, the actual standard error may be smaller, depending on the data being examined.

If the percentage found is around:	50%	40% or 60%	30% or 70%	20% or 80%	10% or 90%	1% or 99%
Then, the standard error in percentage points is:						
Total Sample (n=792)	±3.5	±3.4	±3.2	±2.8	±2.1	±0.7

For example, if a question in the study asked among the Total Sample of respondents yielded a percentage of 20%, then we can be sure 95 out of 100 times that the true percentage would lie between 17.2% and 22.8% (20% ±2.8 percentage points).

Notes on Reading the Report

Significant differences are shown, when applicable, through the use of letters (e.g. B vs. D) for comparisons between Respondent Region of Residence.

- For example, if a percentage of residents answering from the Northern region of Westchester County (B) is significantly higher than the percentage of those answering from Southern Westchester County (D), there will be a "D" next to the higher North County percentage.

Where applicable, the 2022 survey data is compared to data collected in 2008. Significant changes from 2008 to 2022 are shown through the use of arrows (↑,↓) next to the 2022 percentage.

- For example, if a measure has significantly increased from 2008 to 2022, there will be a ↑ next to the 2022 percentage.

Executive Summary

Executive Summary

Background, Purpose and Methodology

Westchester County Parks, Recreation and Conservation commissioned WBA Research to conduct a Residents Recreation Preferences Survey to support strategic investments in maintaining and improving its parks, as well as obtain information from its residents regarding their use of County facilities, what they think about those facilities, and how more residents can be attracted to use County recreational facilities. In order to gather this information, WBA Research conducted a quantitative study between July 2 and October 3, 2022 using an Address-Based Sampling (ABS) approach, which resulted in a total of 792 completed interviews stratified across the three regions of the County.

Key Findings

Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The results of this research suggest that the COVID-19 pandemic prompted a net increase in use of Westchester County parks and recreation facilities that many residents intend to maintain, especially those in the North and Central regions of the County. While close to one-fourth of County residents (23%) indicated their use of County parks and recreation facilities decreased during this time, an even greater proportion (43%) cited increased use. Likewise, the proportion who intend to maintain their increased use of Westchester County parks and recreation facilities is more than five times that of those who plan to maintain a post-pandemic decrease (37% vs. 7%). In addition, increased use of County parks and recreation facilities is evident throughout this report when comparing the 2022 data to the findings of the 2008 Residents Recreation Preferences Survey.

Usage of County Parks and Facilities

Several measures in this study indicate that the top benefit County residents see as being provided by Westchester County parks and recreation facilities are the walking, hiking, and biking trails. Residents cite these trails most often as a need from Westchester County parks (88%), they receive the highest ratings for being the most important type of parks and recreation facilities they want Westchester County to provide (76%), and more than eight in ten (83%) have used these trails in the past 12 months.

Among all parks and facilities, Kensico Dam Plaza (54%), Playland Park (45%), Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway (39%), Westchester County Center* (38%), Muscoot Farm (33%), Saxon Woods Park/Pool (32%), Glen Island Park/Beach (32%), Croton Point Park/Beach (29%), and North County Trailway (22%) are the parks and recreation facilities visited by the largest proportions of residents in the past 12 months.

* Regarding Westchester County Center, this facility has served as a field hospital for administering COVID-19 vaccinations over the past few years. When asked, the residents surveyed in 2022 most often said they would like to see concerts return to the venue (76%), followed by family entertainment (56%), recreational events (44%), and professional sporting events (41%).

Executive Summary (continued)

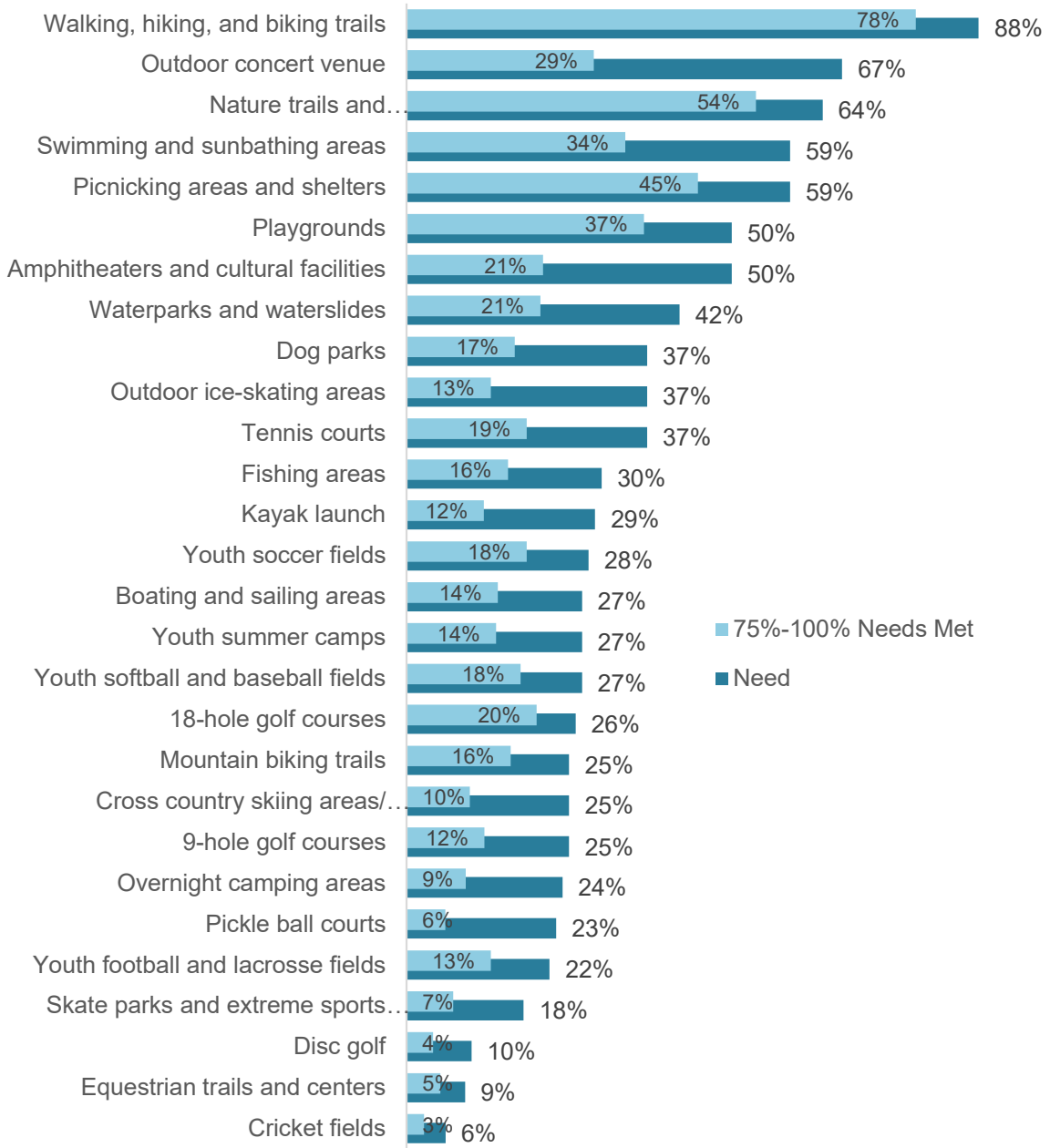
Meeting the Needs of County Residents

The chart to the right illustrates County residents' reported needs in term of parks and recreation facilities in Westchester County, as well the proportion who feel those needs are being mostly to completely met (75%-100% met).

Walking, hiking, and biking trails tops the list of reported needs (88%). At the same time, the majority of these residents also indicated this need is mostly to completely being met by Westchester County parks.

Nature trails and nature interpretive centers represent another top need of County residents (64%) where Westchester County parks and recreation facilities are also filling a significant proportion of the need.

In contrast, any areas where there is a large gap between the reported need and the proportion of the need being mostly or completely met represents an opportunity for Westchester County to potentially improve. For example, two-thirds of the County residents surveyed (67%) indicated the need for an outdoor concert venue. However, the proportion indicating this need is being mostly or completely met is comparatively low.



Impressions/Benefits of Parks and Recreation Facilities

The results of this research show that the majority of Westchester County residents value the parks and recreation facilities in available to them and recognize many of the benefits they offer.

- Eight in ten residents surveyed in 2022 indicated they are satisfied with the overall value their household receives from Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation (80% very or somewhat satisfied, up from 67% in 2008).

- In addition, many benefits are clear. Almost all residents surveyed agree that improving physical health and fitness (97%), preserving open space and the environment (96%), making Westchester County a more desirable place to live (95%), and improving mental health and reducing stress (95%) are all benefits of the parks and recreation facilities. The vast majority feel the most important benefit is improving physical health and fitness (86%).

- More than nine in ten residents (91%) have positive impressions of the physical condition of the parks and recreation sites they have visited in Westchester County (up from 84% in 2008). However, most of these ratings are in the "good" category (65%), while about one-fourth (26%) gave a rating of excellent, suggesting there is still room for improvement. In fact, about one-fourth indicated poor maintenance of the facilities (27%) and/or parks (23%) might prevent them from using the parks, trails, recreations facilities, and programs more often.

- When tasked with investing $100 in funds in the Westchester County Park System over seven possible categories, the residents were most likely to allocate funds to improvements and maintenance of existing Westchester County parks (75%), further suggesting there is room to improve in this area. On average, these residents would allocate the largest sums to improvements and maintenance of existing Westchester County parks ($26.86 out of $100), followed by an almost even division of funds among Development of new trails and pathways, i.e., walking, hiking and biking trails, etc. ($15.91), development of water-based recreation, i.e., swimming facilities, boating and fishing areas, beaches, etc. ($15.38), and acquisition of new parkland and open space ($13.89).

Keeping County Residents Informed

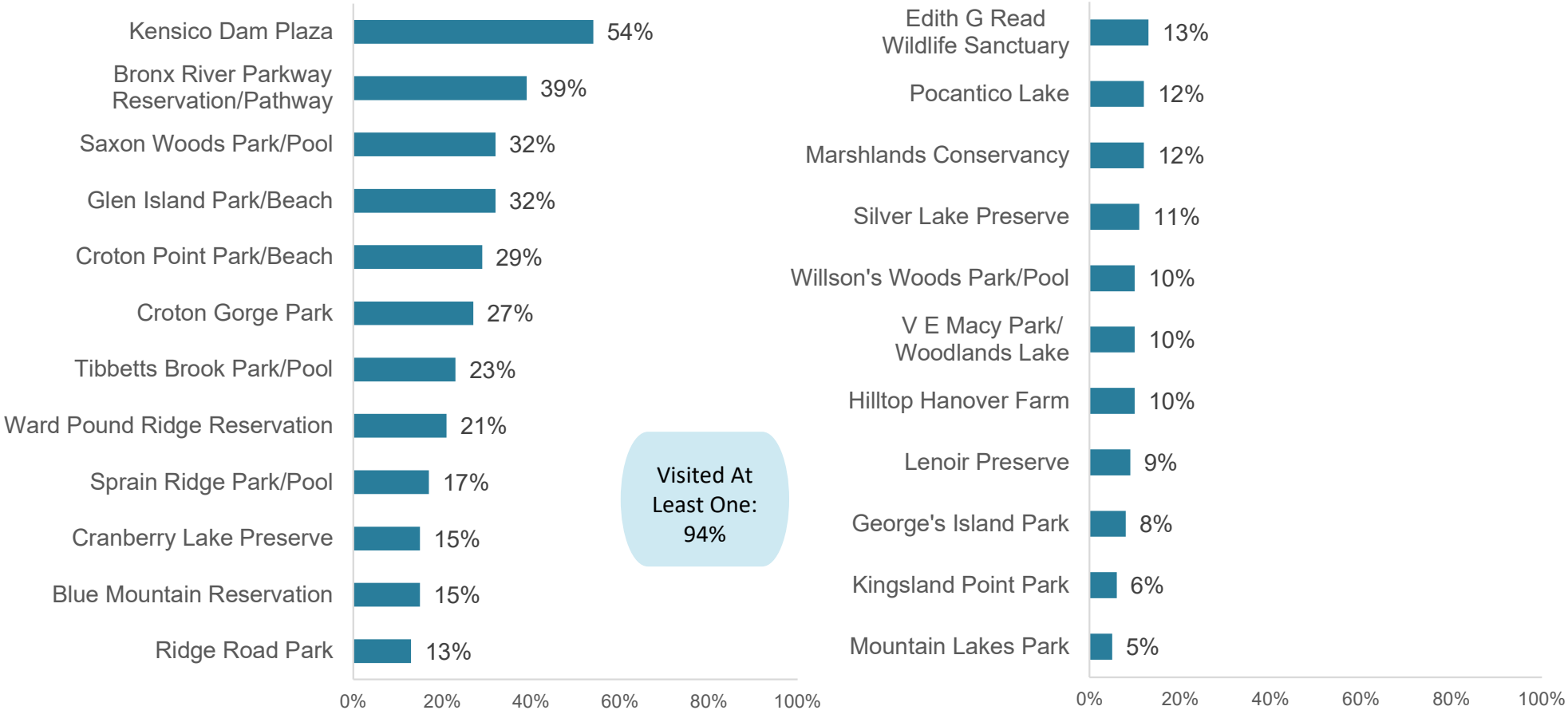
This research suggests that one of the biggest issues that might prevent residents from using parks, trails, recreation facilities, or programs of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation more often, is a basic lack of information. One-half (50%) of the residents surveyed indicated they have a lack of knowledge including not knowing what is being offered (45%), not knowing the locations of parks and facilities (31%), and/or not being aware which are County parks (29%). These represent an opportunity for the County to better inform residents.

- The residents surveyed most often said they learn about Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation programs and activities from friends and neighbors (79%) and/or the Parks website (65%), followed by Parks literature (44%), online news articles (44%), and or social media (43%) – typically Facebook (33%) and/or Instagram (21%). These sources may be of assistance with filling in residents' knowledge gaps.

Detailed Findings

Westchester County Parks Visited, Past 12 Months

The vast majority of Westchester County residents surveyed in 2022 (94%) have visited at least one County park in the past 12 months, most often citing Kensico Dam Plaza (54%), followed by Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway (39%), Saxon Woods Park/Pool (32%), Glen Island Park/Beach (32%), Croton Point Park/Beach (29%), and/or Croton Gorge Park (27%).



Base=Those Answering (n=791-792)
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q1. Please tell us which of the following Westchester County parks you or a member of your household have visited in the past 12 months.

Westchester County Parks Visited, Past 12 Months (continued)

Residents of Northern Westchester County were most likely to have visited Croton Point Park/Beach (53%), Croton Gorge Park (47%), Kensico Dam Plaza (46%), Ward Pound Ridge Reservation (36%) and/or Blue Mountain Reservation (32%).

Central region residents were mostly likely to have visited Kensico Dam Plaza (70%), Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway (50%), and/or Saxon Woods Park/Pool (39%).

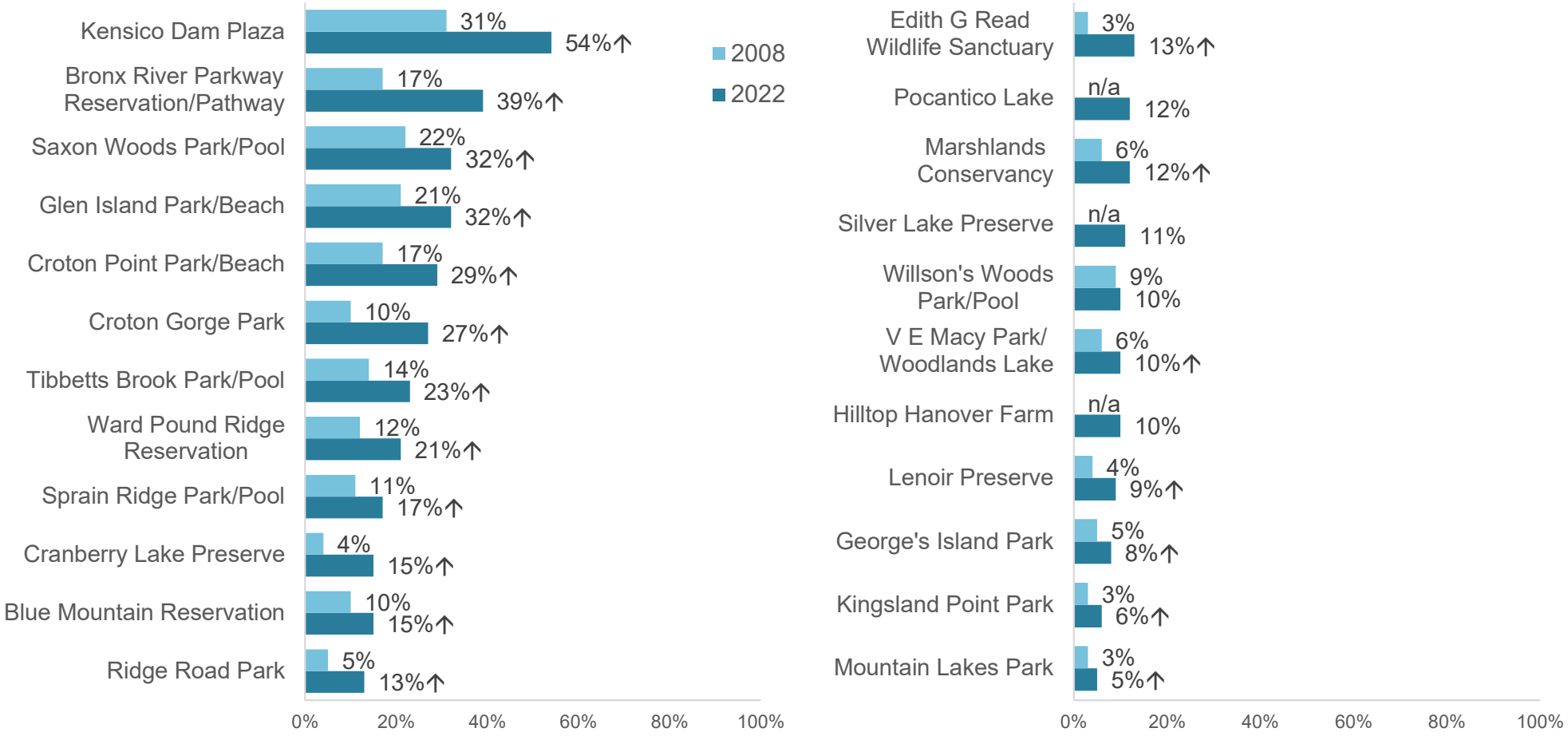
South County residents were most likely to have visited Glen Island Park/Beach (52%), Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway (48%), Kensico Dam Plaza (48%), Saxon Woods Park/Pool (43%), Tibbetts Brook Park/Pool (41%), and/or Sprain Ridge Park/Pool (30%).

	North *n=256*	Central *n=284-285*	South *n=250-251*
	B	*C*	*D*
NET: Visited at least one	93%	92%	95%
Northern County Parks	**91%^{CD}**	**83%^{D}**	**61%**
Croton Point Park/Beach	53^{CD}	24^{D}	14
Croton Gorge Park	47^{CD}	20	16
Kensico Dam Plaza	46	70^{BD}	48
Ward Pound Ridge Reservation	36^{CD}	18^{D}	12
Blue Mountain Reservation	32^{CD}	6	7
Hilltop Hanover Farm	25^{CD}	4	3
George's Island Park	19^{CD}	3	4
Pocantico Lake	16^{D}	15^{D}	7
Mountain Lakes Park	10^{CD}	3	3
Marshlands Conservancy	7	13^{B}	14^{B}
Central County Parks	**38%**	**81%^{B}**	**76%^{B}**
Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway	20	50^{B}	48^{B}
Saxon Woods Park/Pool	11	39^{B}	43^{B}
Ridge Road Park	2	21^{B}	16^{B}
Cranberry Lake Preserve	12	20^{BD}	14
Edith G Read Wildlife Sanctuary	7	19^{B}	14^{B}
V E Macy Park/Woodlands Lake	5	16^{B}	11^{B}
Silver Lake Preserve	6	15^{B}	12^{B}
Kingsland Point Park	4	12^{BD}	4
Southern County Parks	**18%**	**40%^{B}**	**76%^{BC}**
Glen Island Park/Beach	12	24^{B}	52^{BC}
Tibbetts Brook Park/Pool	7	13^{B}	41^{BC}
Sprain Ridge Park/Pool	4	13^{B}	30^{BC}
Willson's Woods Park/Pool	<1	3^{B}	23^{BC}
Lenoir Preserve	3	10^{B}	13^{B}

Base=Those Answering
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q1. Please tell us which of the following Westchester County parks you or a member of your household have visited in the past 12 months.
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Westchester County Parks Visited, Past 12 Months (continued)

Compared to 2008, the residents surveyed in 2022 were more likely to report having visited each of the Westchester County parks. The only exception is Willson's Woods Park/Pool for which mentions of visiting remained more consistent.

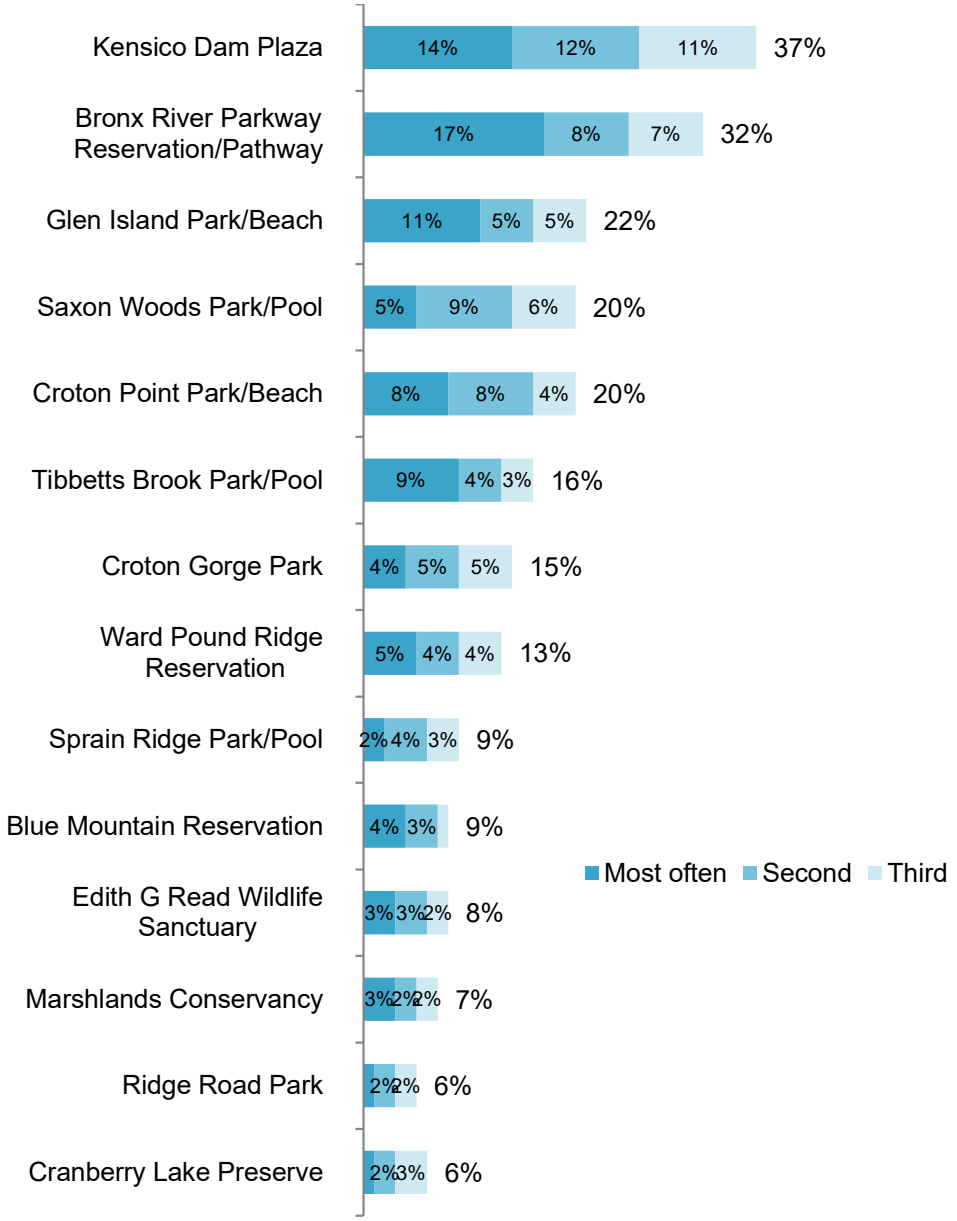


Base=Those Answering (2022 n=791-792, 2008 n=823)
Multiple Responses Accepted
n/a=Not Asked in 2008
2022 Q1. Please tell us which of the following Westchester County parks you or a member of your household have visited in the past 12 months.
2008 Q1. From the following list, please check ALL the Westchester County parks you or members of your household have visited over the past 12 months.

Westchester County Parks Visit Most Often

Those who have visited at least one Westchester County park in the past 12 months (94% of the residents surveyed) were asked which one they visit most often, second most often, and third most often.

These County residents reported most often visiting Kensico Dam Plaza (37%) and/or Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway (32%), followed by Glen Island Park/Beach (22%), Saxon Woods Park/Pool (20%), and Croton Point Park/Beach (20%).



Base=Those who visited at least one Westchester County park in the past 12 months (n=735)
Top Mentions
Q2A,B,C. Which one of these parks do you and members of your household visit most often/second most often/third most often?
Note: Percentages not shown equal 1% or less.

Westchester County Parks Visit Most Often (continued)

Residents of Northern Westchester County were most likely to say they visit the following parks most often: Croton Point Park/Beach (48%), Croton Gorge Park (36%), Kensico Dam Plaza (33%), Ward Pound Ridge Reservation (27%) and/or Blue Mountain Reservation (25%).

Those in Central Westchester County were most likely to say they visit Kensico Dam Plaza most often (60%), followed by Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway (43%), and Saxon Woods Park/Pool (28%).

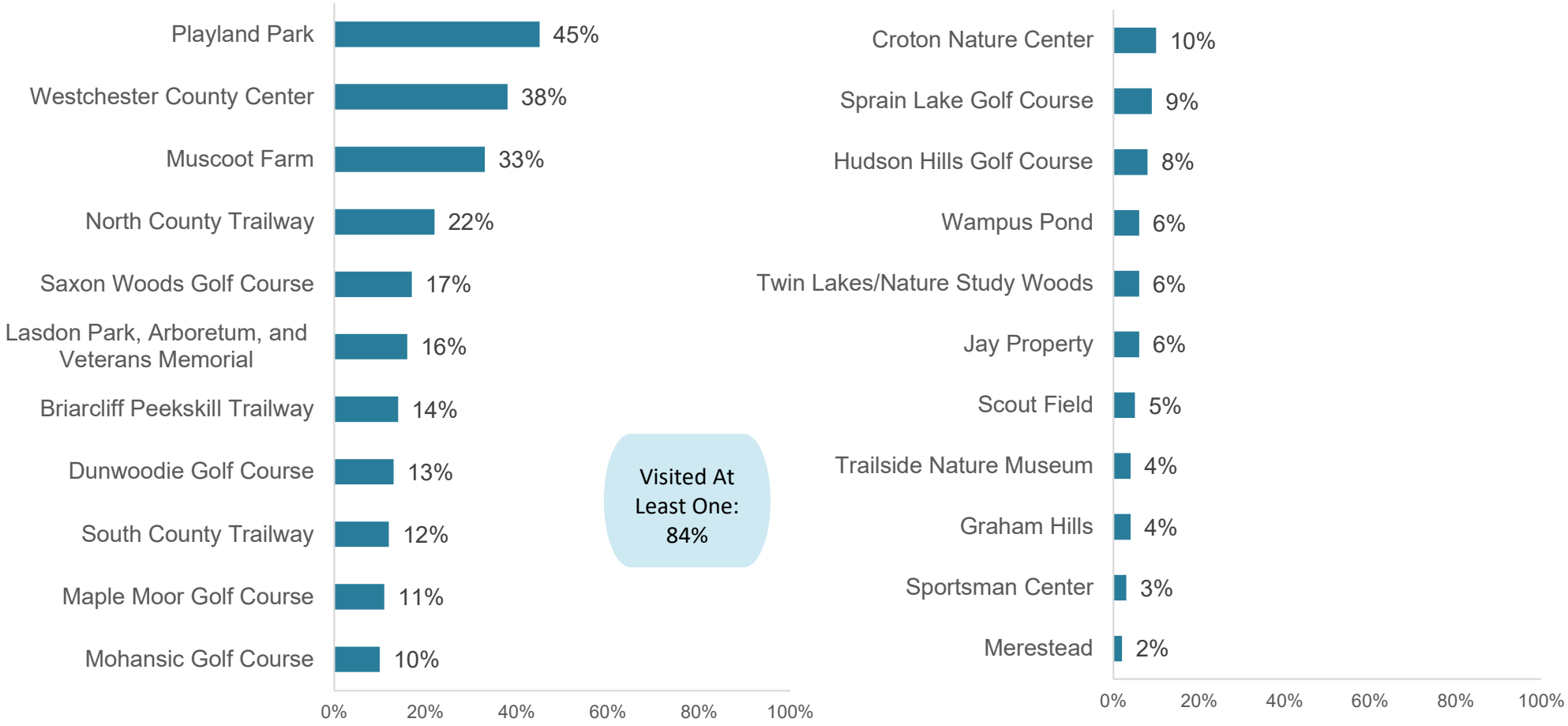
South County residents were most likely to say they visit the following parks most often: Glen Island Park/Beach (40%), Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway (39%), Tibbets Brook Park/Pool (33%), Kensico Dam Plaza (26%), and/or Saxon Woods Park/Pool (26%).

Three Parks Visit Most Often	North *n=237*	Central *n=262*	South *n=236*
	B	*C*	*D*
Northern County Parks	**98%^{CD}**	**84%^{D}**	**44%**
Croton Point Park/Beach	48^{CD}	13^{D}	3
Croton Gorge Park	36^{CD}	8	4
Kensico Dam Plaza	33	60^{BD}	26
Ward Pound Ridge Reservation	27^{CD}	10^{D}	4
Blue Mountain Reservation	25^{CD}	2	1
Hilltop Hanover Farm	16^{CD}	1	-
George's Island Park	12^{CD}	2	<1
Pocantico Lake	7	5	3
Mountain Lakes Park	6^{CD}	<1	1
Marshlands Conservancy	3	8^{B}	8^{B}
Central County Parks	**29%**	**87%^{BD}**	**74%^{B}**
Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway	14	43^{B}	39^{B}
Saxon Woods Park/Pool	6	28^{B}	26^{B}
Edith G Read Wildlife Sanctuary	3	14^{B}	9^{B}
Ridge Road Park	<1	11^{B}	7^{B}
Kingsland Point Park	1	10^{BD}	1
Cranberry Lake Preserve	4	8^{B}	6
V E Macy Park/Woodlands Lake	2	8^{B}	5^{B}
Silver Lake Preserve	3	7^{D}	3
Southern County Parks	**7%**	**24%^{B}**	**74%^{BC}**
Glen Island Park/Beach	5	12^{B}	40^{BC}
Tibbetts Brook Park/Pool	2	5	33^{BC}
Sprain Ridge Park/Pool	1	6^{B}	17^{BC}
Willson's Woods Park/Pool	-	1	13^{BC}
Lenoir Preserve	<1	3^{B}	4^{B}

Base=Those who visited at least one Westchester County park in the past 12 months
Q2A,B,C. Which one of these parks do you and members of your household visit most often/second most often/third most often?
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Westchester County Recreation Facilities Visited, Past 12 Months

The majority of Westchester County residents surveyed (84%) have visited at least one County recreation facility in the past 12 months, most often citing Playland Park (45%), Westchester County Center (38%), Muscoot Farm (33%), and/or North County Trailway (22%)



Base=Total Sample (n=792)
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q3. Please tell us which of the following Westchester County recreation facilities you or a member of your household have visited in the past 12 months.

Westchester County Recreation Facilities Visited, Past 12 Months (continued)

Residents of Northern Westchester County were most likely to have visited Muscoot Farm (56%), North County Trailway (42%), Lasdon Park, Arboretum, and Veterans Memorial (34%), and/or Westchester County Center (32%).

Those in Central Westchester County were most likely to have visited Playland Park (49%) and/or Westchester County Center (41%).

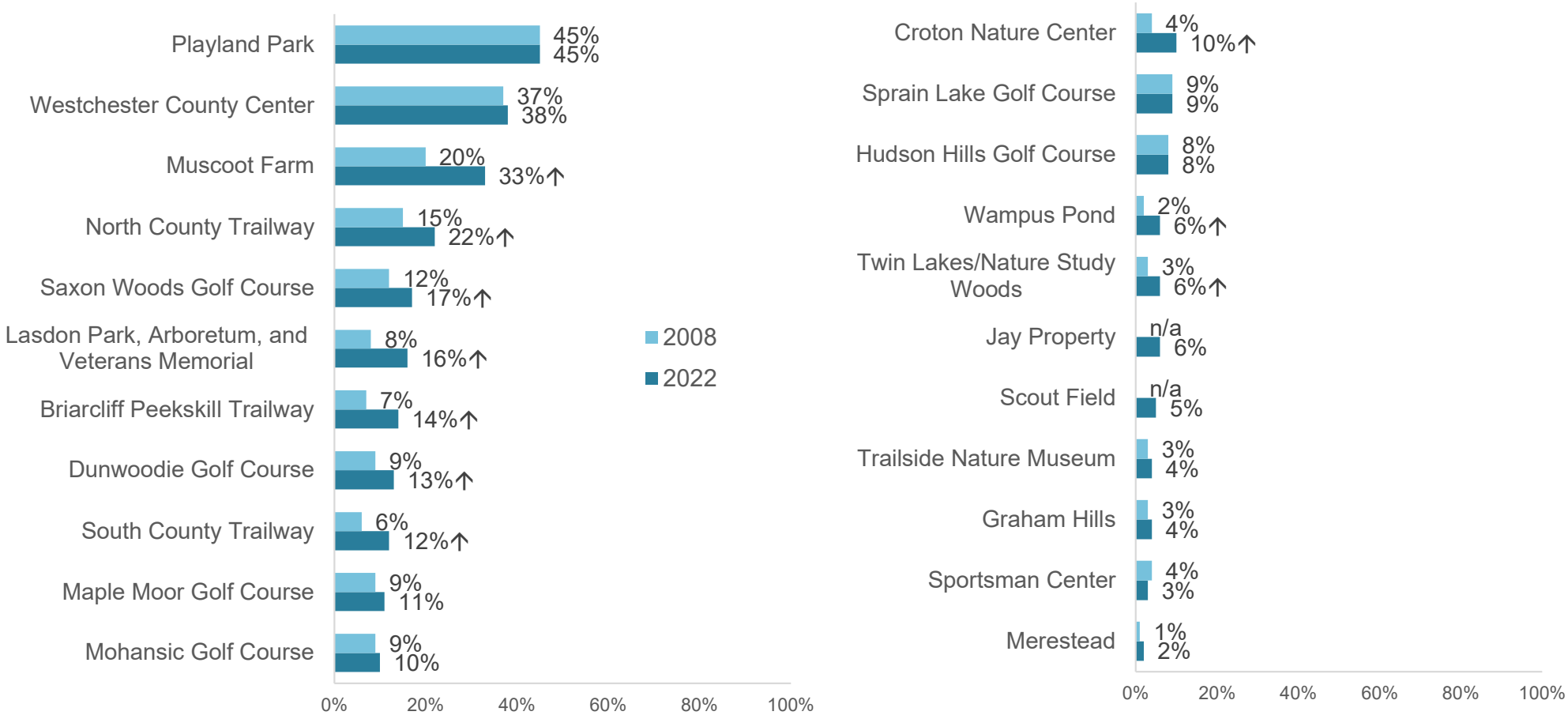
South County residents were most likely to have visited Playland Park (55%) and/or Westchester County Center (42%).

	North *n=256*	Central *n=285*	South *n=251*
	B	*C*	*D*
NET: Visited at least one	89%[D]	85%	81%
Northern County Recreation Facilities	**84%[CD]**	**50%[D]**	**39%**
Muscoot Farm	56[CD]	25	19
North County Trailway	42[CD]	18[D]	10
Lasdon Park, Arboretum, and Veterans Memorial	34[CD]	7	7
Briarcliff Peekskill Trailway	30[CD]	7	7
Mohansic Golf Course	20[CD]	6	5
Croton Nature Center	16[CD]	5	8
Hudson Hills Golf Course	12[D]	8	6
Wampus Pond	9[C]	4	5
Trailside Nature Museum	9[CD]	2	3
Graham Hills	6[D]	4	2
Sportsman Center	6[CD]	2	2
Merestead	5[CD]	1	1
Central County Recreation Facilities	**50%**	**73%[B]**	**72%[B]**
Playland Park	29	49[B]	55
Westchester County Center	32	41[B]	42[B]
Saxon Woods Golf Course	8	20[B]	22[B]
Maple Moor Golf Course	10	14	9
Jay Property	6	7	6
Southern County Recreation Facilities	**21%**	**30%[B]**	**39%[BC]**
Dunwoodie Golf Course	6	10	20[BC]
South County Trailway	12	16	11
Sprain Lake Golf Course	7	10	11
Twin Lakes/Nature Study Woods	2	2	11[BC]
Scout Field	<1	2[B]	11[BC]

Base=Total Sample
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q3. Please tell us which of the following Westchester County recreation facilities you or a member of your household have visited in the past 12 months.
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Westchester County Recreation Facilities Visited, Past 12 Months (continued)

Compared to 2008, the residents surveyed in 2022 were more likely to report having visited several of Westchester County recreation facilities.

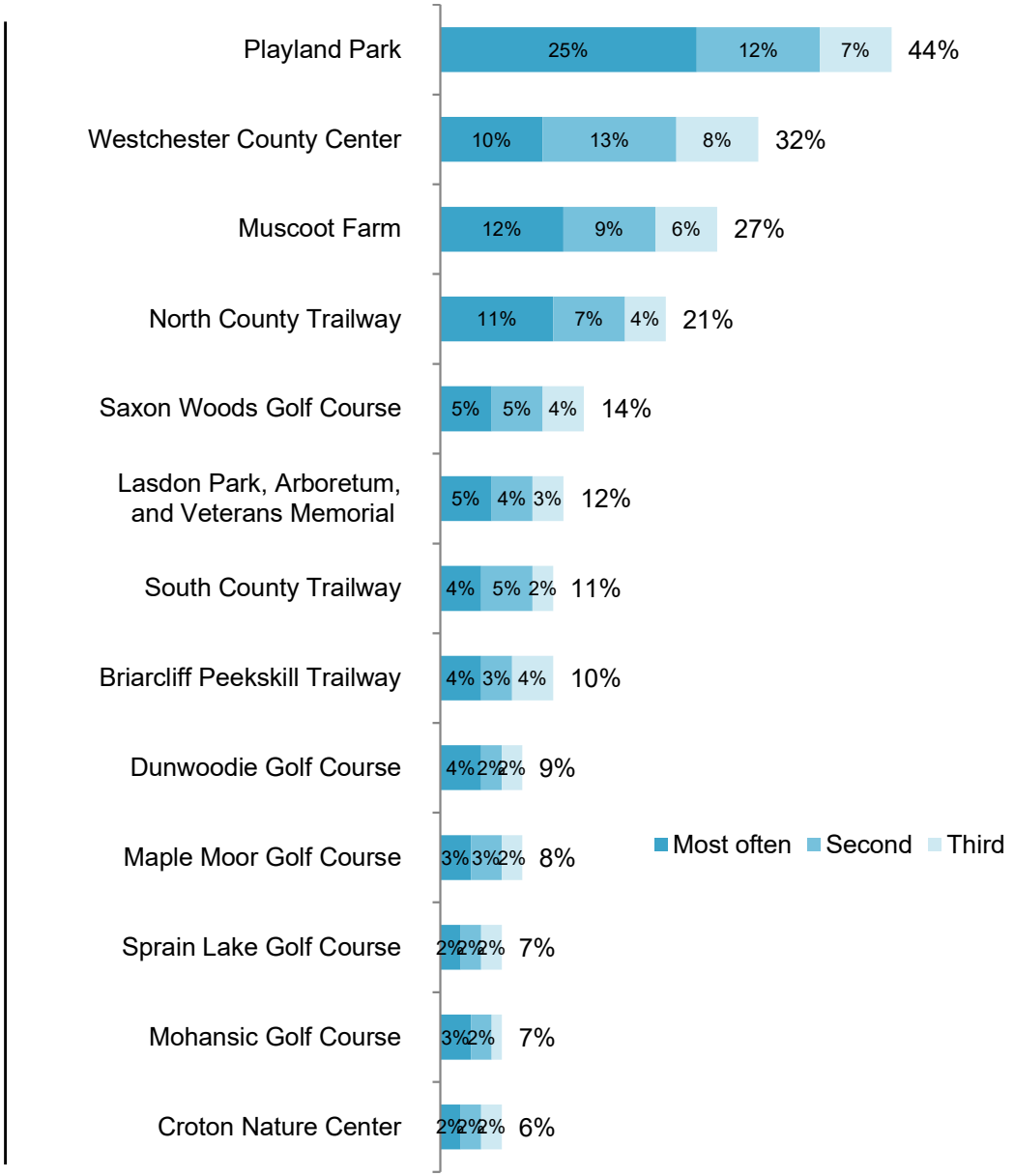


Base=Those Answering (2022 n=792, 2008 n=823)
Multiple Responses Accepted
n/a = Not asked in 2008
2022 Q3. Please tell us which of the following Westchester County recreation facilities you or a member of your household have visited in the past 12 months.
2008 Q3. From the following list, please check ALL the Westchester County Recreation Facilities you or members of your household have visited over the past 12 months.

Westchester County Recreation Facilities Visit Most Often

Those who have visited at least one Westchester County recreation facility in the past 12 months were asked which one they visit most often, second most often, and third most often.

The County residents surveyed in 2022 reported most often visiting Playland Park (44%), followed by Westchester County Center (32%), Muscoot Farm (27%), and North County Trailway (21%).



Base=Those who visited at least one Westchester County recreation facility in the past 12 months (n=669)
Top Mentions
Q4A,B,C. Which one of these recreation facilities do you and members of your household visit most often/second most often/third most often?
Note: Percentages not shown equal 1% or less.

Westchester County Recreation Facilities Visit Most Often (continued)

Residents of Northern Westchester County were most likely to say they visit the following recreation centers most often: Muscoot Farm (47%) and/or North County Trailway (41%), followed by Lasdon Park, Arboretum, and Veterans Memorial (26%), Briarcliff Peekskill Trailway (24%), and Playland Park (20%).

Those in Central Westchester County were most likely to say they visit Playland Park most often (54%), followed by Westchester County Center (37%).

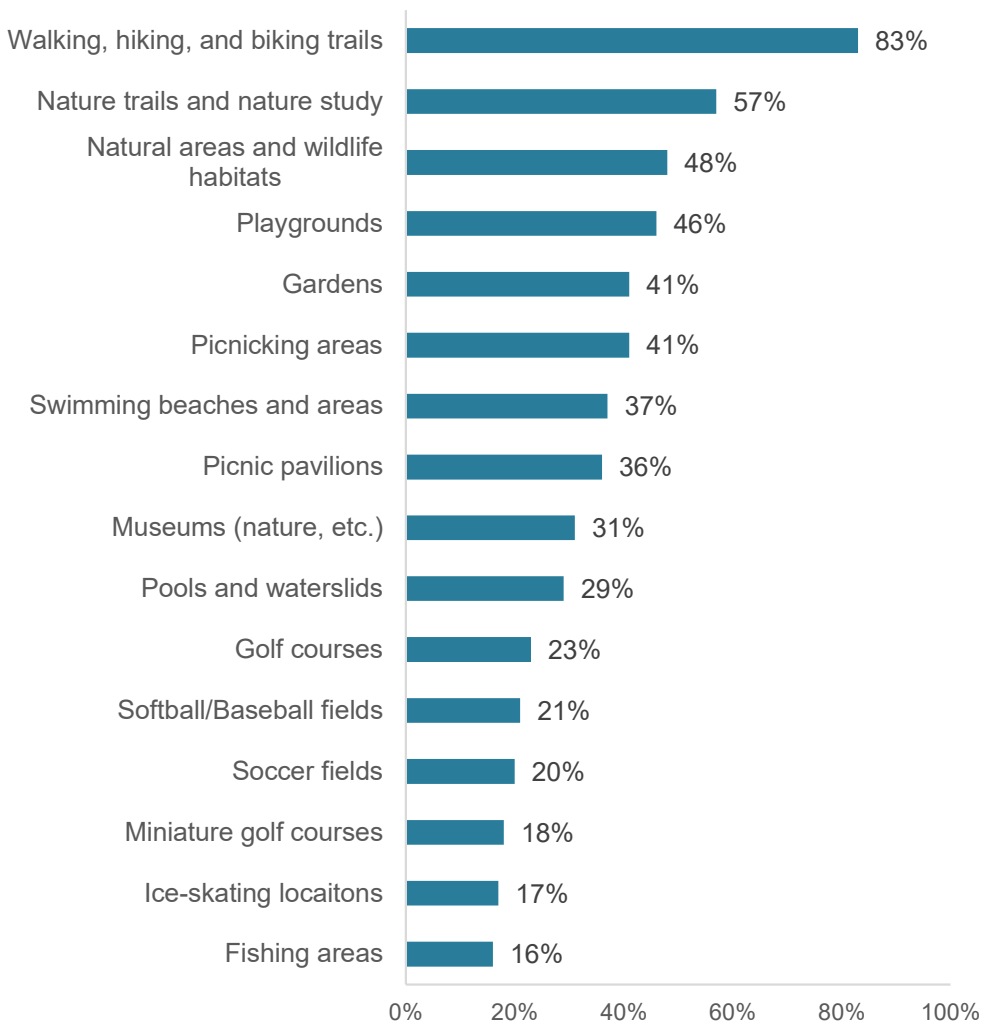
South County residents were also most likely to say they visit Playland Park most often (59%), followed by Westchester County Center (41%).

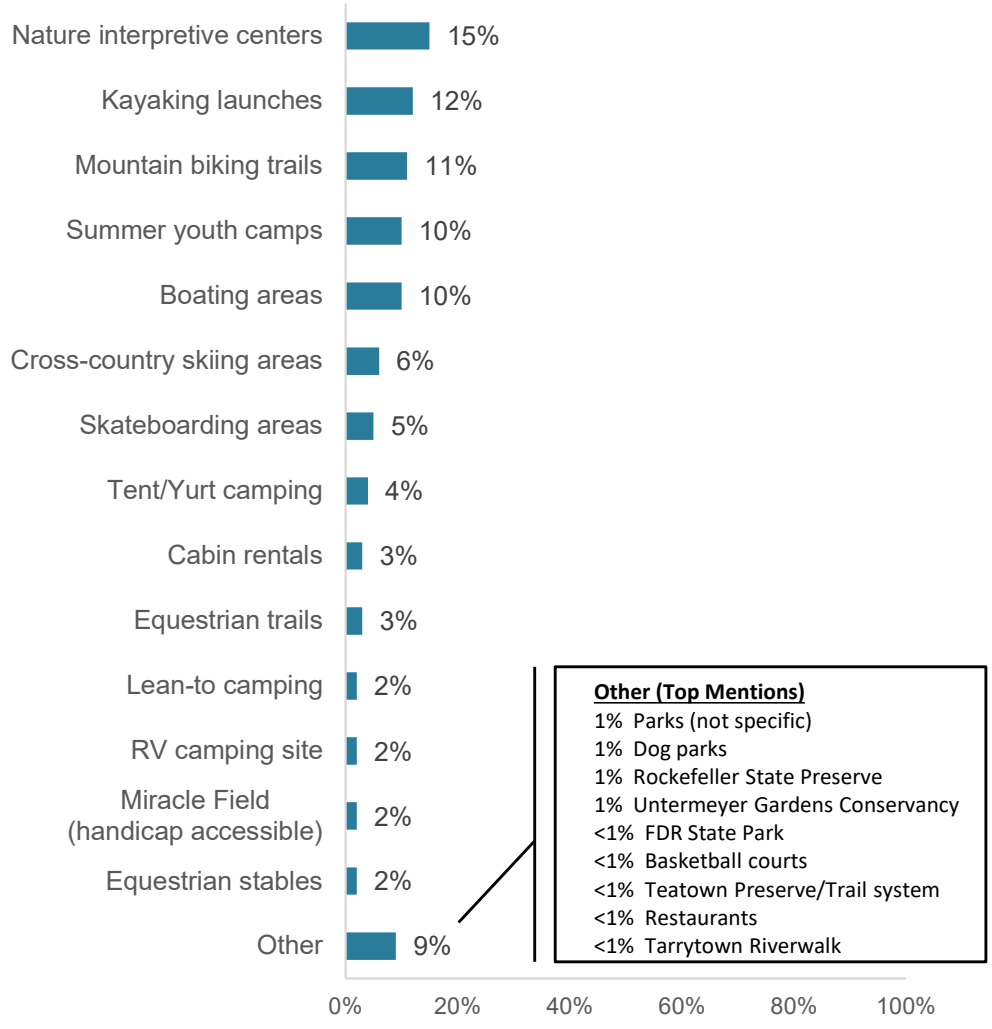
Three Recreation Facilities Visit Most Often	North *n=227*	Central *n=243*	South *n=199*
	B	*C*	*D*
Northern County Recreation Facilities	95%^{CD}	49%	40%
Muscoot Farm	47^{CD}	18	16
North County Trailway	41^{CD}	17^{D}	8
Lasdon Park, Arboretum, and Veterans Memorial	26^{CD}	6	4
Briarcliff Peekskill Trailway	24^{CD}	4	3
Mohansic Golf Course	15^{CD}	2	3
Croton Nature Center	10^{C}	3	5
Hudson Hills Golf Course	7^{D}	4	1
Wampus Pond	5^{D}	3	1
Graham Hills	5^{D}	3^{D}	-
Sportsman Center	4	1	1
Merestead	4^{CD}	<1	-
Trailside Nature Museum	4^{CD}	-	1
Central County Recreation Facilities	**39%**	**83%^{B}**	**85%^{B}**
Playland Park	20	54^{B}	59^{B}
Westchester County Center	16	37^{B}	41^{B}
Saxon Woods Golf Course	3	19^{B}	18^{B}
Maple Moor Golf Course	5	13^{B}	7
Jay Property	3	5	5
Southern County Recreation Facilities	**13%**	**30%^{B}**	**40%^{BC}**
Dunwoodie Golf Course	1	6^{B}	17^{BC}
South County Trailway	8	16^{B}	11
Twin Lakes/Nature Study Woods	<1	2	8^{BC}
Scout Field	-	1	8^{BC}
Sprain Lake Golf Course	4	9^{B}	7

Base=Those who visited at least one Westchester County recreation facilities in the past 12 months
Q4A,B,C. Which one of these recreation facilities do you and members of your household visit most often/second most often/third most often?
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Types of Westchester County Facilities Visited/Used, Past 12 Months

The residents surveyed in 2022 were presented a list of 30 types of Westchester County parks and recreation facilities and were asked to indicate all those they have visited or used over the past 12 months. More than eight in ten County residents have used walking, hiking and biking trails in Westchester County over the past 12 months (83%). Other parks and facilities selected most often included nature trails and nature study (57%), natural areas and wildlife habitats (48%), playgrounds (46%), gardens (41%), picnicking areas (41%), swimming beaches and areas (37%), and/or picnic pavilions (36%).





Base=Those Answering (n=789-792)
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q5. Please tell us which of these you or members of your household have used or visited in Westchester County parks over the past 12 months.

Types of Westchester County Facilities Visited/Used, Past 12 Months (continued)

While residents across all three regions of the County were most likely to have visited or used walking, hiking and biking trails, those in the Southern region were the least likely of the three regions to have done so (78% vs. 85%-89%).

Some of the biggest differences by County region are found when comparing residents of the Southern region to the rest of the County. These residents tended to be the most likely to have used playgrounds (54%), swimming beaches and areas (47%), picnicking areas (46%), pools and waterslides (39%), softball/baseball fields (27%), soccer fields (23%), ice-skating locations (21%), and/or lean-to camping (4%).

On the other hand, residents of the Northern region of the County tended to be the most likely to have used nature trails and nature study (65%), natural areas and wildlife habitats (54%), and/or fishing areas (20%).

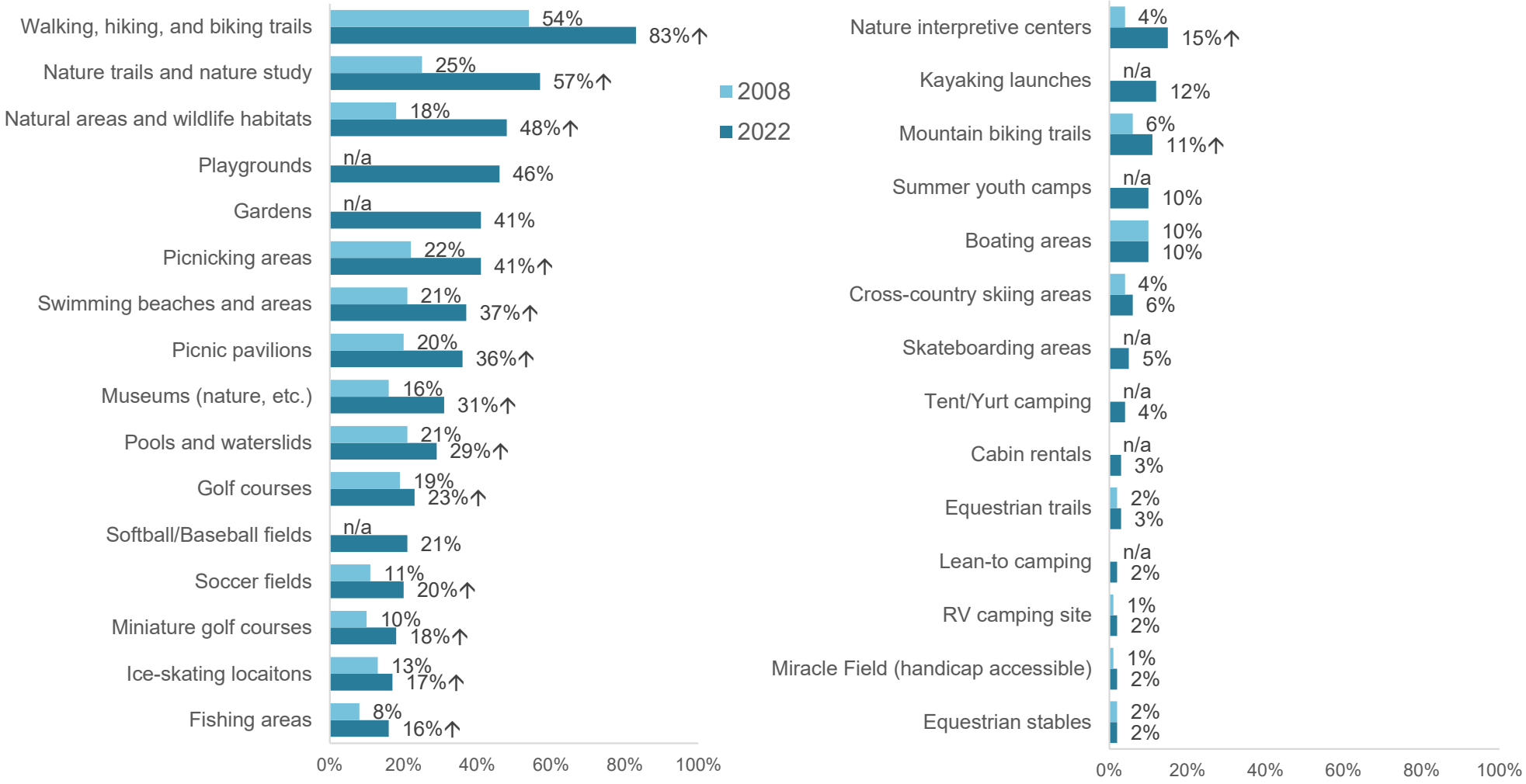
	North *n=255-256*	Central *n=284-285*	South *n=249-251*
	B	*C*	*D*
Walking, hiking, and biking trails	89%	85%[D]	78%
Nature trails and nature study	65[D]	60[D]	48
Natural areas and wildlife habitats	54[D]	50	43
Playgrounds	34	47[B]	54[B]
Gardens	43	38	42
Picnicking areas	36	38	46[B]
Swimming beaches and areas	26	36[B]	47[BC]
Picnic pavilions	32	34	40
Museums (nature, etc.)	31	30	32
Pools and waterslides	17	26[B]	39[BC]
Golf courses	26	23	21
Softball/Baseball fields	15	19	27[BC]
Soccer fields	16	19	23[B]
Miniature golf courses	14	19	19
Ice-skating locations	11	18[B]	21[B]
Fishing areas	20[C]	11	16

	North *n=255-256*	Central *n=284-285*	South *n=249-251*
	B	*C*	*D*
Nature interpretive centers	16%	14%	15%
Kayaking launches	14	11	12
Mountain biking trails	12	9	11
Summer youth camps	8	11	11
Boating areas	13	8	10
Cross-country skiing areas	8	5	5
Skateboarding areas	5	5	5
Tent/Yurt camping	3	4	4
Cabin rentals	3	3	4
Equestrian trails	4	3	2
Lean-to camping	2	1	4[C]
RV camping site	1	1	2
Miracle Field (handicap accessible)	2	1	4
Equestrian stables	3	2	2
Other	13[CD]	7	6

Base=Those Answering
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q5. Please tell us which of the following Westchester County recreation facilities you or a member of your household have visited in the past 12 months.
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Types of Westchester County Facilities Visited/Used, Past 12 Months (continued)

Compared to 2008, the residents surveyed in 2022 were more likely to indicate having used most of the different types of Westchester County parks and recreational facilities in the past 12 months.

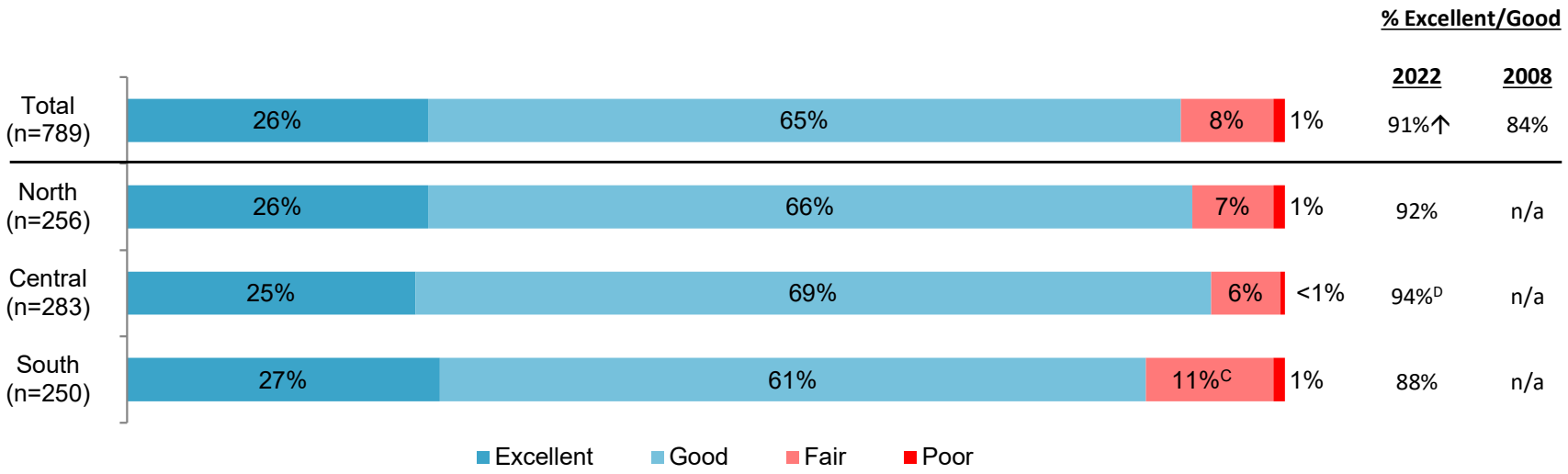


Base=Those Answering (2022 n=789-792, 2008 n=823)
Multiple Responses Accepted
n/a = Not asked in 2008
2022 Q5. Please tell us which of these you or members of your household have used or visited in Westchester County parks over the past 12 months.
2008 Q5. From the following list, please check ALL the types of trails, recreation, sports, aquatic and cultural facilities you or members of your household have used or visited in Westchester County Parks over the past 12 months.

Physical Condition of Westchester County Parks and Recreation Sites

When asked to rate the physical condition of all the parks and recreation sites in the Westchester County parks and recreation areas they have visited, more than nine in ten residents surveyed in 2022 (91%) gave a rating of excellent or good (up from 84% in 2008). Most of these positive ratings, however, are in the "good" category (65%), with about one-fourth (26%) giving a rating of excellent.

By region, residents of Central Westchester County tended to be the most likely to give positive ratings of excellent or good (94%), while those in the Southern area were least likely (88%).

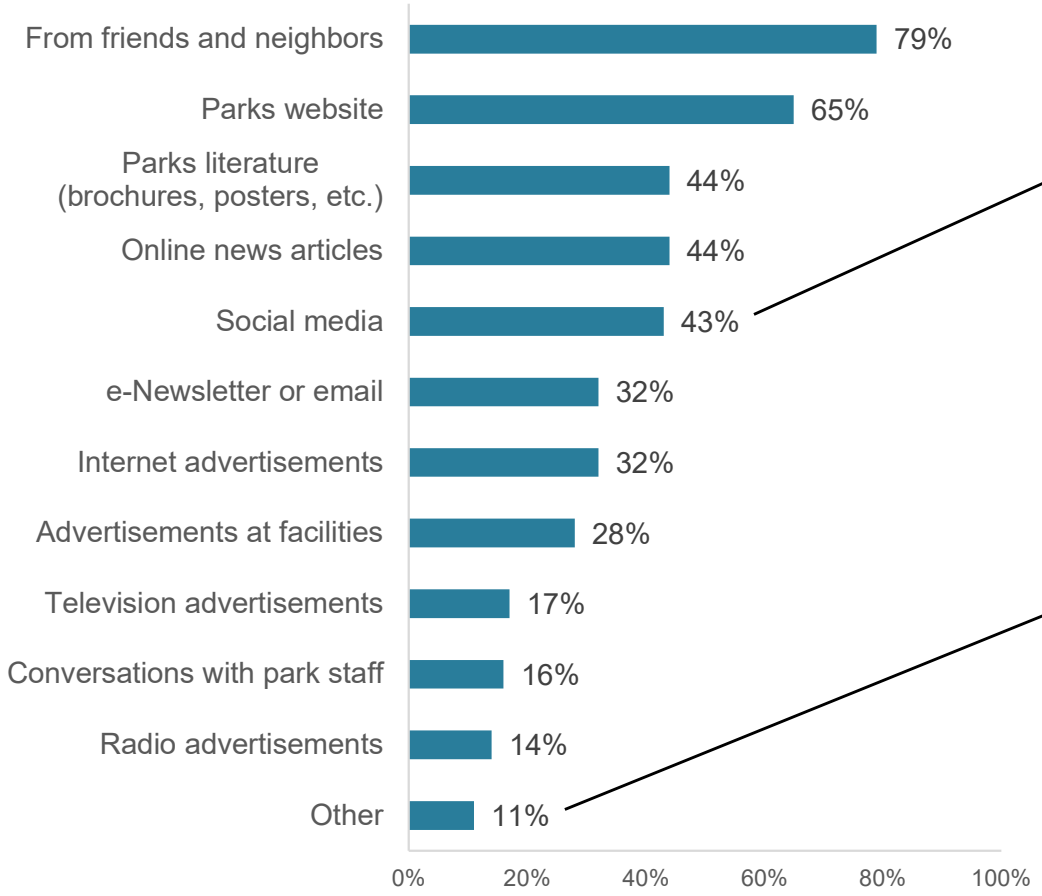


Base=Those Answering (2008 n=703)
n/a = 2008 data not available
Q6. Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of all the parks and recreation sites in the Westchester County parks and recreation areas you have visited?
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Sources of Information about Westchester County PRC Programs and Activities

From a list of 11 options, the residents surveyed most often indicated that they learn about Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Programs and Activities from friends and neighbors (79%) and/or the Parks website (65%).

More than four in ten cited Parks literature (44%), online news articles (44%), and or social media (43%) as sources of information. The most frequently cited social media platforms included Facebook (33%) and Instagram (21%).



Social Media Sources of Information (Top Mentions):

- Facebook (33%)
- Instagram (21%)
- YouTube (6%)
- Twitter (4%)
- TikTok (3%)

Other Sources of Information (Top Mentions):

- Live in the area/Passing by (2%)
- Local newspapers (1%)
- Direct mail (1%)
- Road signs (1%)
- Internet (not specific) (1%)

Base=Those Answering (n=791-792)
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q7. In which of the following ways do you learn about Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Programs and Activities?
Q7A. Which specific social media sites?

Sources of Information about Westchester County PRC Programs and Activities (continued)

Across the three regions of Westchester County, those residing in the Southern area were more likely than their counterparts to say they learned about Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Programs and Activities from social media (49% vs. 37%-42%) and/or television advertisements (24% vs. 11%-12%). At the same time, those in the Central region were the least likely to note having heard radio ads (8% vs. 14%-18%).

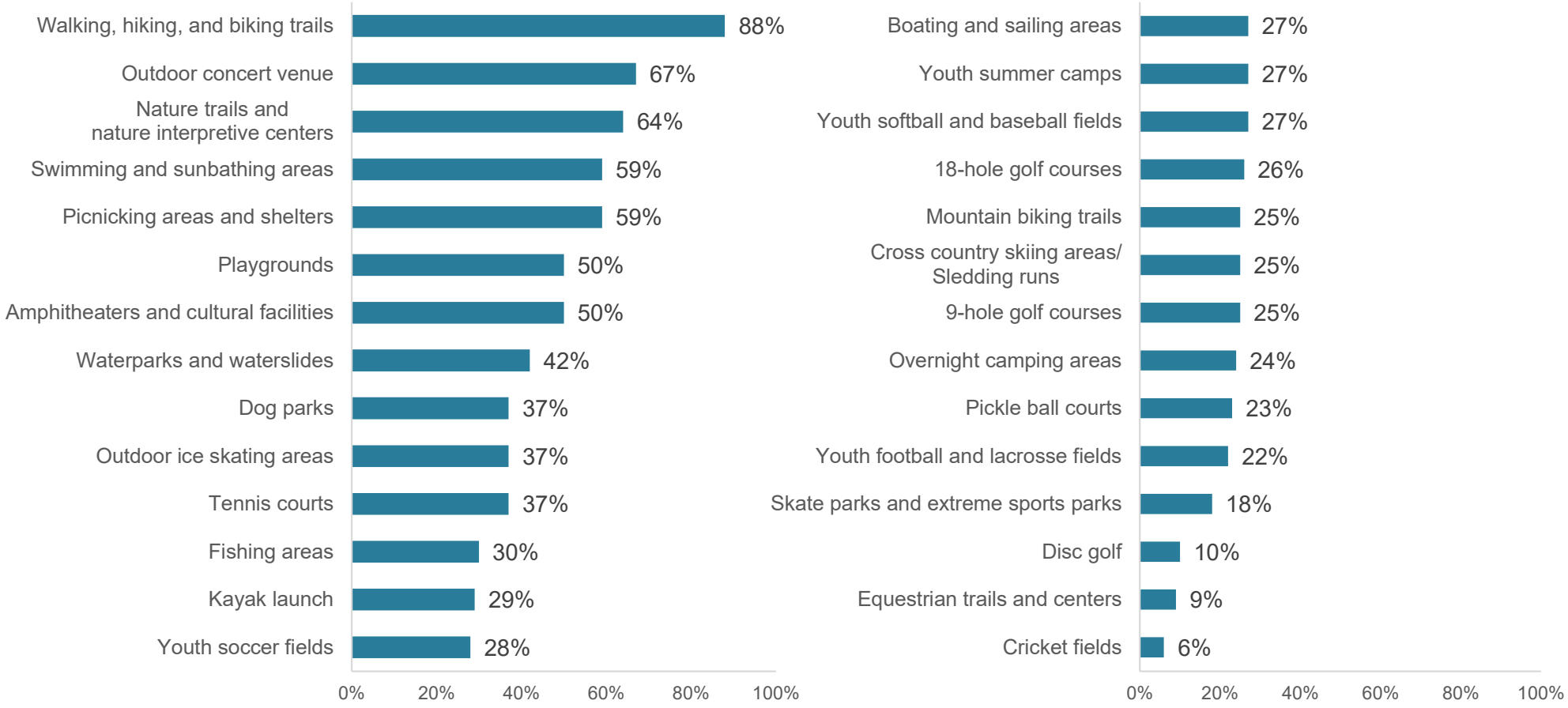
	North *n=256*	Central *n=285*	South *n=250-251*
	B	*C*	*D*
From friends and neighbors	80%	79%	79%
Parks website	60	65	67
Parks literature (brochures, posters, etc.)	48	41	42
Online news articles	46	43	44
Social media	37	42	49[B]
e-Newsletter or email	31	31	34
Internet advertisements	29	28	36
Advertisements at facilities	29	26	30
Television advertisements	12	11	24[BC]
Conversations with park staff	18	16	15
Radio advertisements	14[C]	8	18[C]
Other	9	11	12

Base=Those Answering
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q7. In which of the following ways do you learn about Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Programs and Activities?
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Types of Parks/Recreation Facilities Needed

From a list of 28 types of parks and recreation facilities, the vast majority of residents surveyed indicated that they or members of their household have a need for walking, hiking, and biking trails (88%). In addition, at least one-half indicated a need for an outdoor concert venue (67%), nature trails and nature interpretive centers (64%), swimming and sunbathing areas (59%), picnicking areas and shelters (59%), playgrounds (50%), and/or amphitheaters and cultural facilities (50%).

When asked if there are any other types of parks or recreational facilities that they or a member of their household has a need for very few cited any one specific thing, but the most frequent response was ADA accessible parks and facilities (1%).

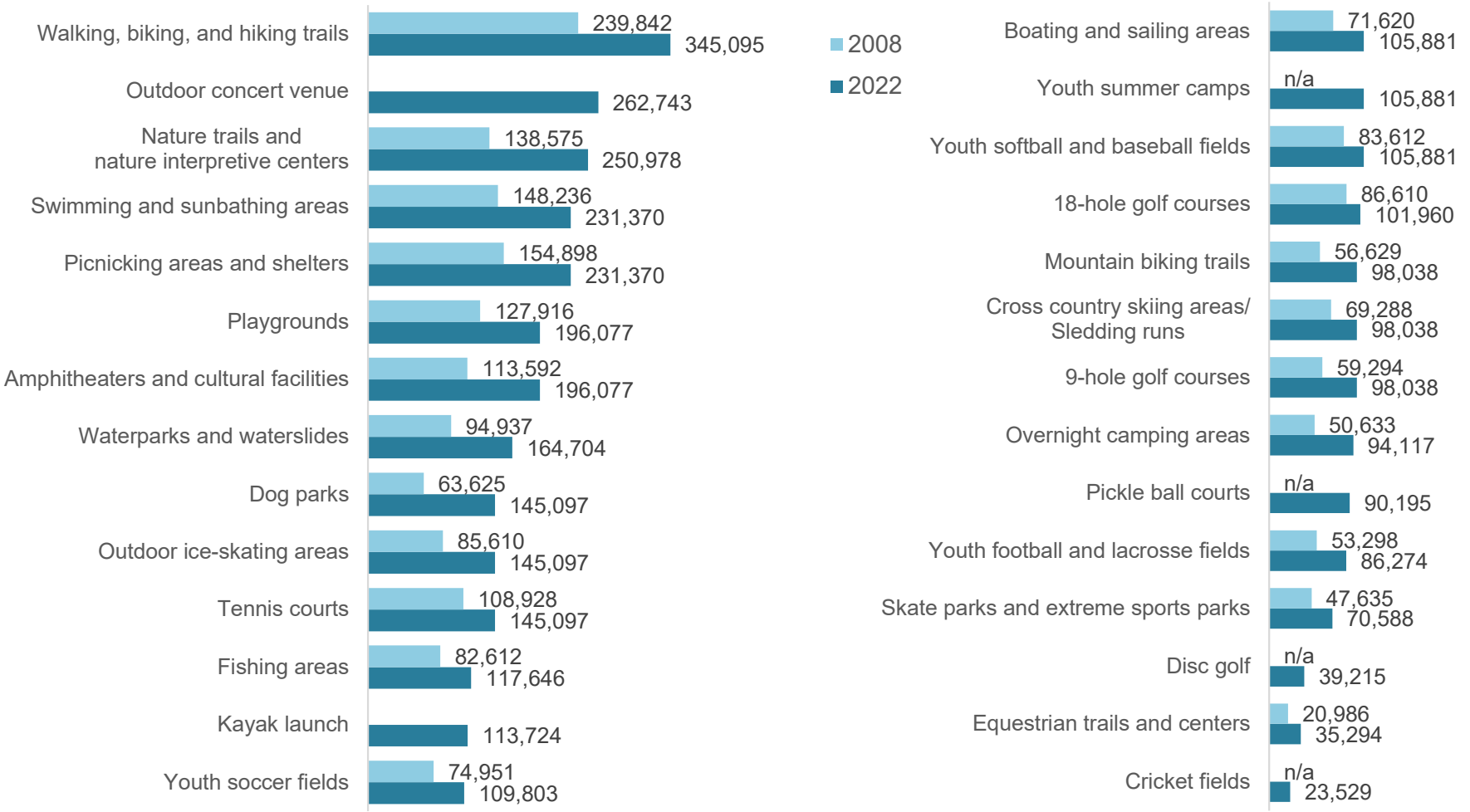


Base=Those Answering (n=787-792)
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q8. Please tell us if you or any member of your household has a need for each of the following types of parks and recreational facilities.

Types of Parks/Recreation Facilities Needed (continued)

The graphs below use the proportion of respondents who said they have a need for each type of park or recreation facility to project the number of households in Westchester County represented by this need. In 2022, these projections are based on 392,153 total households in Westchester County *(source: 2021 release of the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey data)*.

Compared to the 2008 survey findings, the projected number of households in need of each type of park and facility has increased significantly.



2022 Q8. Please tell us if you or any member of your household has a need for each of the following types of parks and recreational facilities.
2008 Q10. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each of the parks and recreational facilities listed below by circling the YES or NO next to the park/facility.
n/a=Not asked in 2008.

Types of Parks/Recreation Facilities Needed (continued)

Residents of the Southern region of the County were more likely than those in both the North and Central regions to indicate they need several types of parks and facilities, including waterparks and waterslides (50% vs. 35%-37%), youth summer camps (34% vs. 21%-23%), mountain biking trails (31% vs. 19%-22%), and skate parks and extreme sports parks (24% vs. 12%-15%).

	North *n=255-256*	Central *n=284-285*	South *n=247-251*
	B	*C*	*D*
Walking, hiking, and biking trails	90%	87%	86%
Outdoor concert venue	65	67	68
Nature trails and nature interpretive centers	68	63	62
Swimming and sunbathing areas	52	60	64[B]
Picnicking areas and shelters	54	60	62
Playgrounds	43	43	61[BC]
Amphitheaters and cultural facilities	49	54	48
Waterparks and waterslides	35	37	50[BC]
Dog parks	41	35	35
Outdoor ice-skating areas	34	33	42[C]
Tennis courts	32	38	41[B]
Fishing areas	34[C]	26	30
Kayak launch	33	28	26
Youth soccer fields	23	25	33[B]

	North *n=255-256*	Central *n=284-285*	South *n=247-251*
	B	*C*	*D*
Boating and sailing areas	32%[C]	24%	27%
Youth summer camps	21	23	34[BC]
Youth softball and baseball fields	19	25	34[BC]
18-hole golf courses	26	27	24
Mountain biking trails	22	19	31[BC]
Cross country skiing areas/Sledding runs	27	25	24
9-hole golf courses	27	27	22
Overnight camping areas	27[C]	17	26[C]
Pickle ball courts	28	23	21
Youth football and lacrosse fields	17	20	26[B]
Skate parks and extreme sports parks	15	12	24[BC]
Disc golf	14[CD]	8	8
Equestrian trails and centers	6	7	12[B]
Cricket fields	4	4	9[C]

Base=Those Answering
Multiple Responses Accepted
Q8. Please tell us if you or any member of your household has a need for each of the following types of parks and recreational facilities.
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

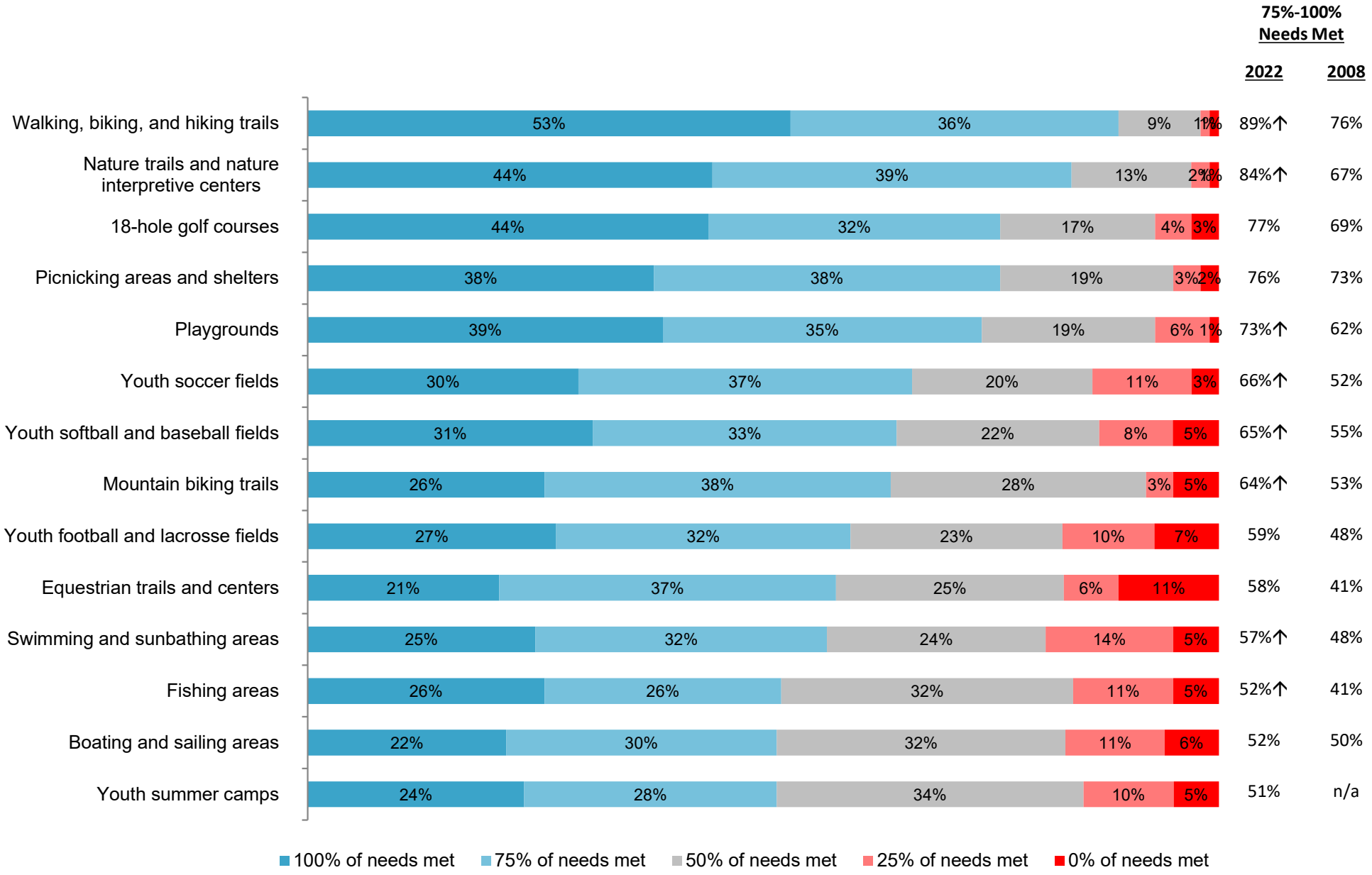
How Well Parks and Recreation Facilities Meet Needs

Residents who indicated a need for each of the 28 types of parks and recreation facilities were then asked to rate how well these types of parks and recreation facilities in Westchester County are meeting their needs.

The highest rated parks and recreation facilities with residents indicating between 75% and 100% of their needs are being met by Westchester County include: walking, hiking and biking trails (89%, up from 76% in 2008), nature trails and nature interpretive centers (84%, up from 67%), 18-hole golf courses (77%), picnicking areas and shelters (76%), and playgrounds (73%, up from 62%).

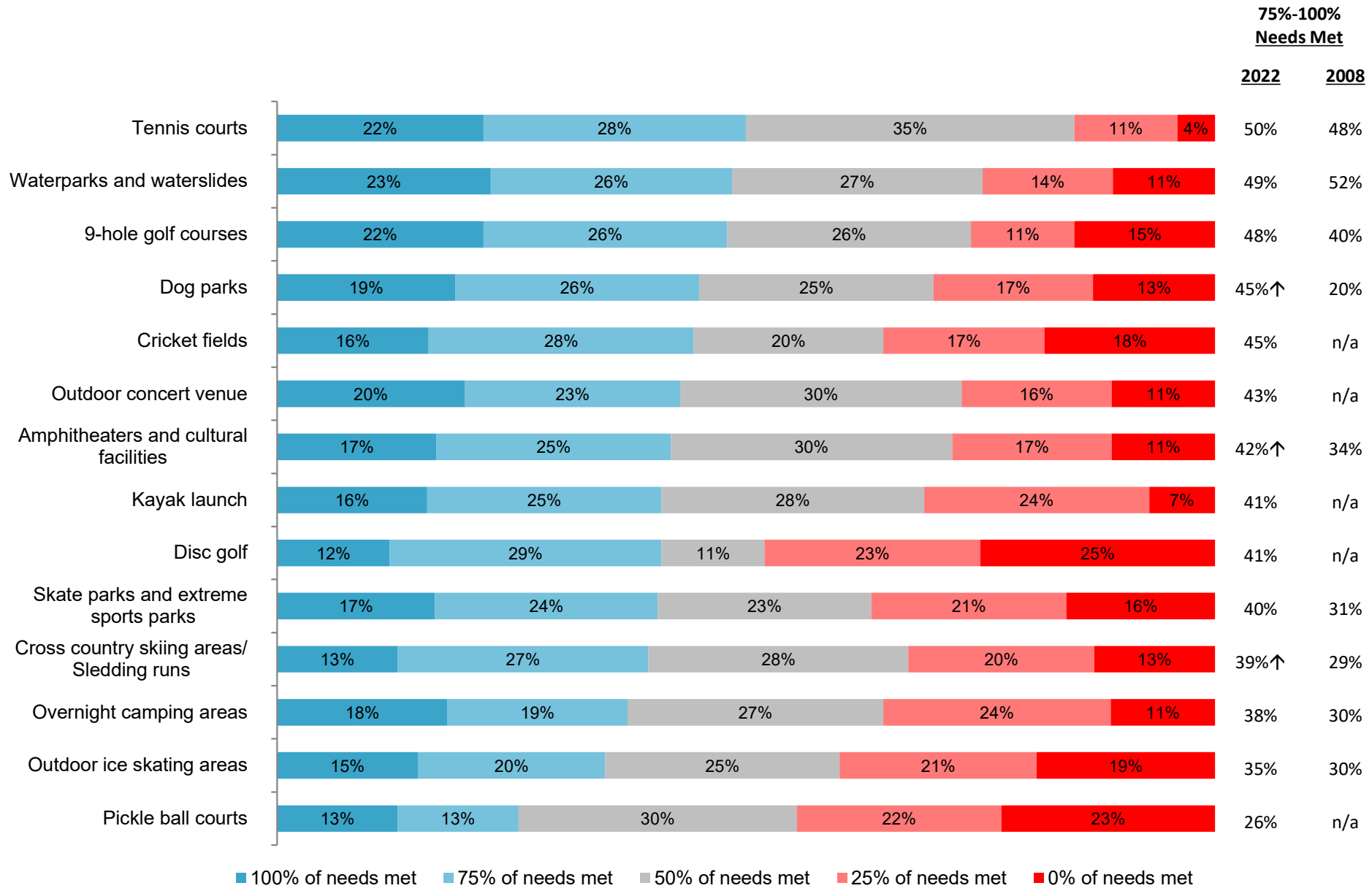
Even the parks and facilities with the lowest ratings for meeting residents' needs in 2022 showed improvements if they had been rated in 2008, including skate parks and extreme sports parks (up from 31% to 40%), cross-country skiing areas/sledding runs (up from 29% to 39%), overnight camping areas (up from 30% to 38%), and outdoor ice-skating areas (up from 30% to 35%). The lowest rated facilities in terms of meeting residents' needs in 2022 are pickle ball courts (26%).

How Well Parks and Recreation Facilities Meet Needs (continued)



Base=Those answering who have a need for each facility (2022 n=67-695, 2008 n=52-593)
n/a=Not asked in 2008.
Q8A. Please rate all of the parks and recreation facilities of each type in Westchester County on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means they "100% meets the needs of your household" and 1 means they "do not meet the needs of your household".

How Well Parks and Recreation Facilities Meet Needs (continued)



Base=Those answering who have a need for each facility (2022 n=43-528, 2008 n=118-281)
n/a=Not asked in 2008.
Q8A. Please rate all of the parks and recreation facilities of each type in Westchester County on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means they "100% meets the needs of your household" and 1 means they "do not meet the needs of your household".

How Well Parks and Recreation Facilities Meet Needs (continued)

The results of this measure indicate that some residents' needs are being met more than others, depending on where in the County they reside.

In the chart below, parks and recreation facilities for which at least 70% of the region's residents indicated their needs are being mostly or fully (75%-100%) met by Westchester County parks and recreational facilities are highlighted in green. Those for which 40% or less of the region's residents' needs are being mostly or fully met are highlighted in red.

75%-100% Needs Met	North n=11-229	Central n=11-249	South n=21-217
	B	C	D
Walking, hiking, and biking trails	92%[D]	89%	86%
Nature trails and nature interpretive centers	87	85	79
18-hole golf courses	72	80	78
Picnicking areas and shelters	72	78	77
Playgrounds	66	78[B]	75
Youth soccer fields	60	76	65
Youth softball and baseball fields	57	76[B]	62
Mountain biking trails	68	67	60
Youth football and lacrosse fields	50	76[BD]	55
Equestrian trails and centers	62*	60*	55
Swimming and sunbathing areas	50	57	61
Fishing areas	56	44	54
Boating and sailing areas	48	61	49
Youth summer camps	46	72[BD]	45

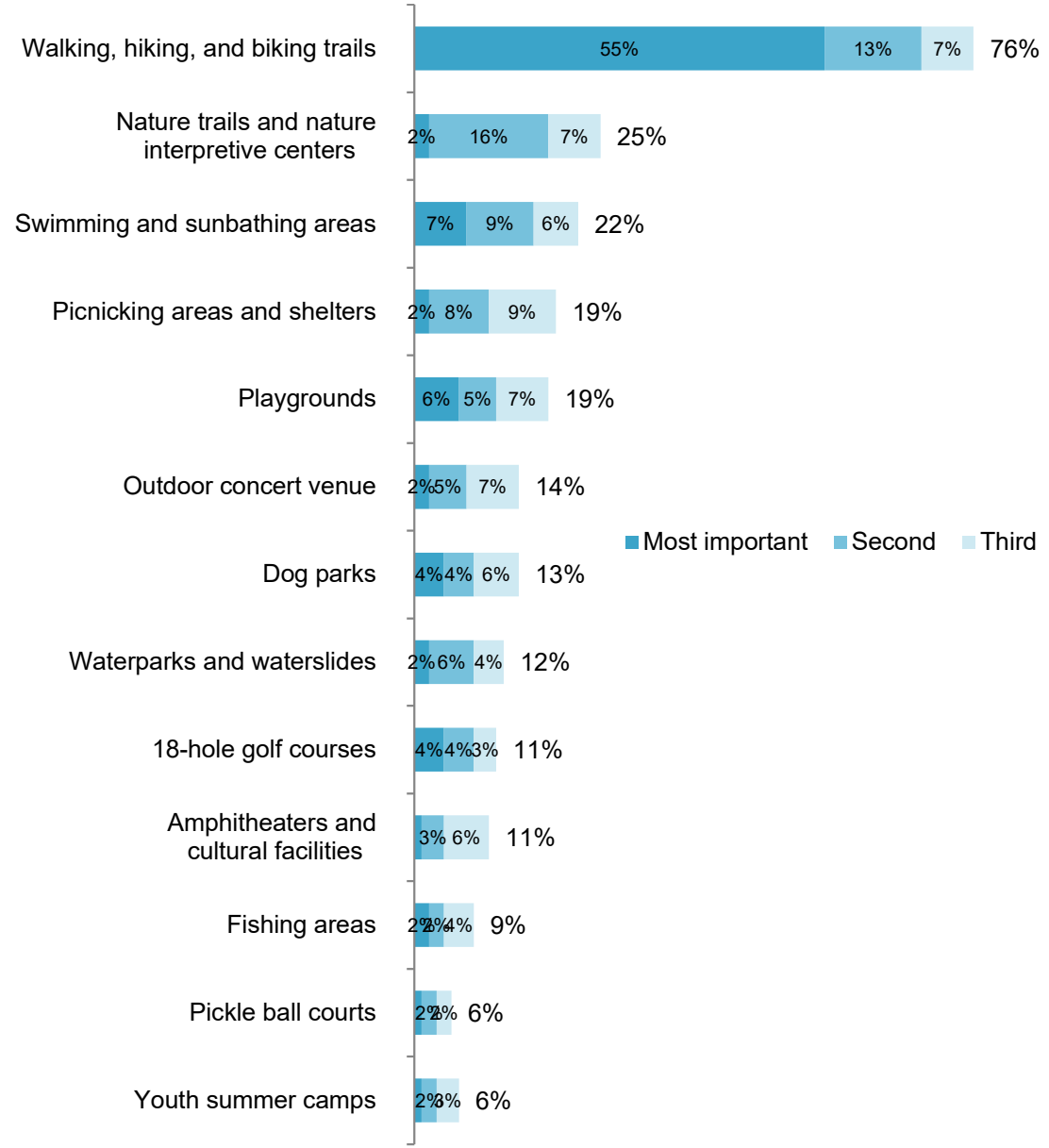
	North n=11-229	Central n=11-249	South n=21-217
	B	C	D
Tennis courts	47%	51%	51%
Waterparks and waterslides	34	53[B]	55[B]
9-hole golf courses	43	49	52
Dog parks	41	50	45
Cricket fields	16*	65[B]*	50[B]*
Outdoor concert venue	42	44	42
Amphitheaters and cultural facilities	39	48	39
Kayak launch	41	44	39
Disc golf	40*	34*	47*
Skate parks and extreme sports parks	31	33*	47
Cross country skiing areas/Sledding runs	41	41	36
Overnight camping areas	34	43	39
Outdoor ice-skating areas	32	37	35
Pickle ball courts	23	29	26

Base=Those answering who have used each facility
*Caution: Small Base
Q8A. Please rate all of the parks and recreation facilities of each type in Westchester County on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means they "100% meets the needs of your household" and 1 means they "do not meet the needs of your household".
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Most Important Types of Recreation Facilities for Westchester County to Provide

From the list of 28 parks and recreation facilities, the residents surveyed were asked to select the three that are most important for Westchester County to provide for their household in County Parks.

Based on the sum of their top three choices, the most important parks and recreation facilities to provide are walking, hiking and biking trails (76%). In fact, more than one-half (55%) selected this as their first choice.



Base=Total Sample (n=792)
Top Mentions
Q9A-C. Which three do you feel are most important for Westchester County to provide for your household in County parks?
Note: Percentages not shown equal 1% or less.

Most Important Types of Recreation Facilities for Westchester County to Provide (continued)

While walking, hiking, and biking trails tops the list of important parks and recreation facilities across all three regions of the County, this proportion was somewhat lower in the South (69%) as compared to the North (84%) and Central (78%) regions.

Instead, those in the Southern region were more likely than those in the North to chose the following as important: swimming and sunbathing areas (27% vs. 16%), playgrounds (23% vs. 14%), and waterparks and waterslides (16% vs. 7%).

Three Most Important	North n=256	Central n=285	South n=251
	B	C	D
Walking, biking, and hiking trails	84%[D]	78%[D]	69%
Nature trails and nature interpretive centers	29[D]	25	21
Swimming and sunbathing areas	16	21	27[B]
Picnicking areas and shelters	19	19	19
Playgrounds	14	18	23[B]
Outdoor concert venue	14	17	13
Dog parks	13	17	12
Waterparks and waterslides	7	11	16[B]
18-hole golf courses	13	10	10
Amphitheaters and cultural facilities	11	13	10
Fishing areas	9	6	10
Pickle ball courts	8	6	4
Youth summer camps	6	5	6
Mountain biking trails	7[C]	2	6

	North n=256	Central n=285	South n=251
	B	C	D
Tennis courts	5%	7%	3%
Kayak launch	7[D]	4	3
Youth soccer fields	4	3	5
Boating and sailing areas	4	3	5
Equestrian trails and centers	2	3	6[B]
Overnight camping areas	3	5	4
9-hole golf courses	4	4	3
Youth softball and baseball fields	2	2	4
Outdoor ice skating areas	2	4	2
Cross country skiing areas/Sledding runs	4	2	1
Skate parks and extreme sports parks	1	1	2
Youth football and lacrosse fields	1	1	2
Disc golf	<1	2	1
Cricket fields	-	-	<1

Base=Total Sample
Q9A-C. Which three do you feel are most important for Westchester County to provide for your household in County parks?
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Benefits of Park and Recreation Facilities

The County residents surveyed were asked to rate their agreement with 10 different benefits being provided by parks, trails, recreation facilities, and services in Westchester County. Overall, there are four benefits that almost all residents agree are provided:

- Improves physical health and fitness (97%),
- Preserves open space and the environment (96%),
- Makes Westchester County a more desirable place to live (95%), and
- Improves mental health and reduces stress (95%).

In fact, about seven in ten or more strongly agree that each of these are benefits of Westchester County parks, trails, recreations facilities and services (69%-78%).

At least three-fourths of the residents surveyed agree that each of the following is a benefit provided by Westchester County parks, trails, recreations facilities and services:

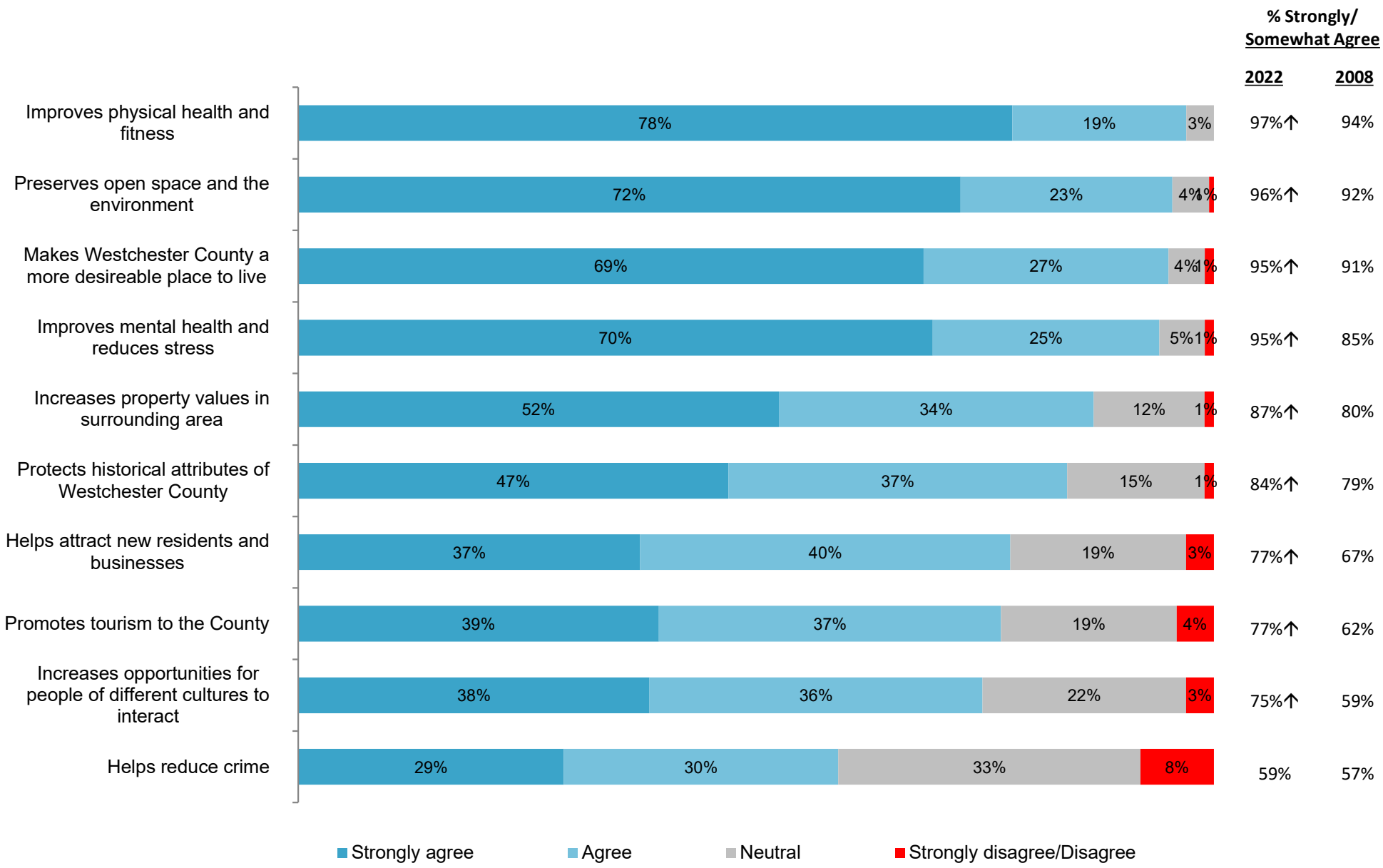
- Increases property values in the surrounding area (87%),
- Protects historical attributes of Westchester County (84%),
- Helps attract new residents and businesses (77%),
- Promotes tourism to the County (77%), and
- Increases opportunities for people of different cultures to interact (75%).

Compared to 2008, agreement with these benefit statements has increased in 2022.

While residents are least likely to agree that the parks and facilities help reduce crime, more than one-half still agreed that this is a benefit (59%).

When asked if there are any other benefits that they receive, about one in ten (9%) said yes, most often citing general positive quality of life (2%), promoting family time (2%), just having something to do (1%), advocating appreciation of the environment and nature (1%), positive health benefits (1%), and opportunities for social interactions (1%).

Benefits of Park and Recreation Facilities (continued)



Base=Those answering (2022 n=789-792, 2008 n=675-731)
Q11. Please indicate your level of agreement with the benefit being provided by parks, trails, and recreation facilities.

Benefits of Park and Recreation Facilities (continued)

Across the three regions of Westchester County, residents' agreement with the benefit statements were relatively consistent, with two exceptions. Residents of the Northern region tended to be the most likely to agree that Westchester County parks, trails, recreation facilities, and services preserve open space and the environment (98% vs. 94%-95%), while those in the Southern region were the most likely to agree that they help reduce crime (65% vs. 53%-57%).

% Strongly/Somewhat Agree	North *n=256*	Central *n=282-285*	South *n=250-251*
Improves physical health and fitness	98%	96%	97%
Preserves open space and the environment	98[C]	94	95
Makes Westchester County a more desirable place to live	97	94	95
Improves mental health and reduces stress	95	96	94
Increases property values in surrounding area	89	85	85
Protects historical attributes of Westchester County	86	83	83
Helps attract new residents and businesses	76	78	78
Promotes tourism to the County	79	73	77
Increases opportunities for people of different cultures to interact	71	78	75
Helps reduce crime	57	53	65[C]

Base=Those answering
Q11. Please indicate your level of agreement with the benefit being provided by parks, trails, and recreation facilities.
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

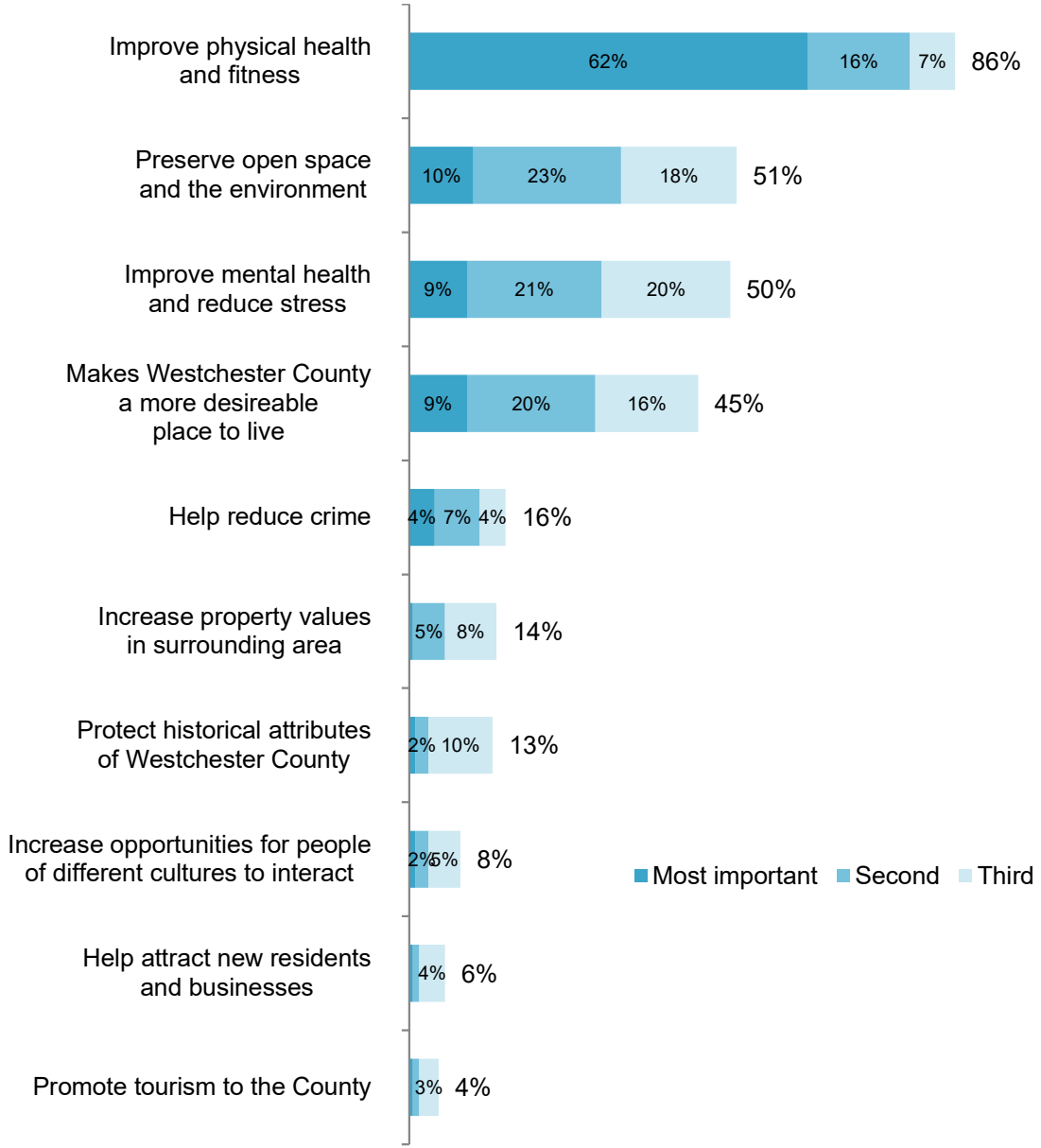
Most Important Benefits of Park and Recreation Facilities

From the list of 10 potential benefits provided by Westchester County parks, trails, recreation facilities and services, the residents surveyed were asked to select the three that are most important to them and members of their household.

Based on the sum of their top three choices, the most important benefit is improving physical health and fitness (86%). In fact, more than six in ten (62%) said this is the most important benefit.

About one-half selected the following as one of their top three choices:

- Preserving open space and the environment (51%),
- Improving mental health and reducing stress (50%), and
- Making Westchester County a more desirable place to live (45%).



Base=Total Sample (n=792)
Q12A-C. Which three do you feel are most important to you and members of your household?
Note: percentages not shown equal 1% or less.

Most Important Benefits of Park and Recreation Facilities (continued)

While residents across all three regions of Westchester County tended to select similar benefits as the three most important, there are a few differences that stood out. Residents of the Southern region were the least likely to select preserving open space and the environment as one of the top three important benefits (43% vs. 53%-59%) but the most likely to select helping reduce crime (26% vs. 8%-10%).

Three Most Important Benefits	North *n=256*	Central *n=285*	South *n=251*
Improves physical health and fitness	89%[D]	88%	82%
Preserves open space and the environment	59[D]	53[D]	43
Improves mental health and reduces stress	54	51	48
Makes Westchester County a more desirable place to live	42	46	46
Helps reduce crime	8	10	26[BC]
Increases property values in surrounding area	11	12	17
Protects historical attributes of Westchester County	14	11	13
Increases opportunities for people of different cultures to interact	5	12[B]	8
Helps attract new residents and businesses	7	6	5
Promotes tourism to the County	5	3	4

Base = Total Sample
Q12A-C. Which three do you feel are most important to you and members of your household?
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Reasons for Not Using Westchester County Parks, Trails, Facilities and Programs More Often

From a list of 21 potential reasons that might prevent them or members of their household from using parks, trails, recreation facilities, or programs of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation more often, the residents surveyed in 2022 most often indicated:

- They don't know what is being offered (45%),
- They use city and town parks and facilities (36%),
- The fees are too high (35%),
- They do not know the locations of parks and facilities (31%),
- Parks and facilities are too crowded (30%),
- Parks are too far from their residence (30%), and/or
- A program or facility is not offered (30%).

Looking at these reasons from a broader perspective, we can see that one-half of the residents surveyed (50%) selected responses related to a lack of knowledge, while four in ten selected reasons related to convenience issues, or lack thereof (41%).

Base=Those answering (n=783-792)
Q14. Please tell us if any of the following are reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from using parks, trails, recreations facilities, or programs of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation more often.

Reasons for Not Using Westchester County Parks, Trails, Facilities and Programs More Often (continued)

While there are general similarities across the three regions of the County in terms of residents' reasons for not using Westchester County parks and facilities more often, a few differences emerged.

Specifically, those in the Central tended to be the most likely to select reasons related to lack of knowledge (56% vs. 44%-50%)

South County residents were more likely than those in the North and Central regions to select several reasons for not using Westchester County parks and facilities more often, including poor maintenance of the facilities (33% vs. 23%) and/or parks (28% vs. 19%), insufficient security (33% vs. 17%-19%), lack of facilities and activities for senior citizens (25% vs 14%), and/or poor customer service by staff (15% vs 8%-9%).

Central and South County residents were more likely than those in the North to say they use city and town parks and facilities (42% and 38% respectively vs. 29%).

When asked if there are any other reasons that prevent them from using the parks and facilities more often, 7% said yes, most often citing things out of the County's control such as a lack of personal time (1%), COVID (1%), and the respondent's personal health (1%), while a few (1%), however cited other park users not cleaning up after their dogs or having their dogs on a leash.

	North *n=255-256*	Central *n=280-285*	South *n=245-251*
Net: Lack of knowledge	44%	56%[B]	50%
I do not know what is being offered	39	52[B]	44
I do not know locations of parks and facilities	27	38[BD]	30
I am not aware which are County parks	27	36[BD]	26
Net: Inconvenience	37	40	45
Lack of parking	17	22	24
Program times are not convenient	17	21	17
Registration for activities is difficult	11	14	17
Park operating hours are not convenient	8	12	14[B]
Lack of handicap accessibility	5	7	11[B]
I use city and town parks and facilities	29	42[B]	38[B]
Fees are too high	36	30	38
Parks and facilities are too crowded	30	28	31
Parks are too far from our residence	30	31	30
Program or facility is not offered	27	28	34
Facilities are not well maintained	23	23	33[BC]
Security is insufficient	19	17	33[BC]
Parks are not well maintained	19	19	28[BC]
Recreation facilities are too far from our residence	17	23	23
Lack of trails	14	19	22[B]
Lack of facilities and activities for senior citizens	14	14	25[BC]
Poor customer service by staff	9	8	15[BC]
Lack of transportation	6	9	12[B]

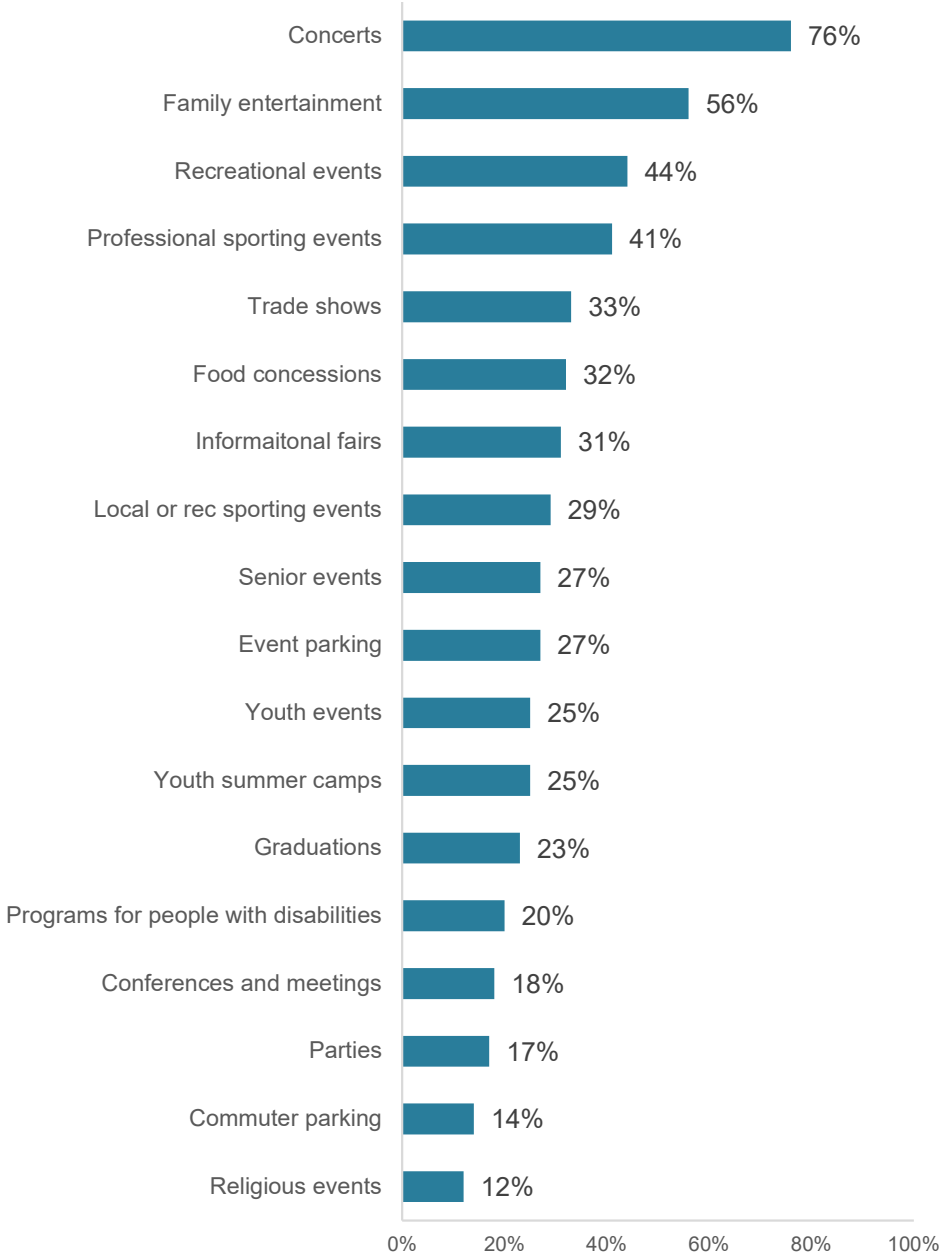
Base=Those answering
Q14. Please tell us if any of the following are reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from using parks, trails, recreations facilities, or programs of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation more often.
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Desired Events/Services at Westchester County Center

For the past few years, Westchester County Parks has worked with local and state officials to transform the Westchester County Center into a field hospital utilized for administering COVID-19 vaccinations. Before the County Center can reopen at a date to be determined, they will begin the process of reimagining the facility for Westchester residents as a civic center for recreation and public interest events and commercial activities.

The residents surveyed in 2022 were asked which events or services at the Westchester County Center they would most like to see return or improved.

From a list of 18 possibilities, the residents selected concerts most often (76%), followed by family entertainment (56%), recreational events (44%), and professional sporting events (41%).



Base=Total Sample (n=792)
Q16. Which events or services at the Westchester County Center would you most like to see return or improved?
Multiple Responses Accepted

Desired Events/Services at Westchester County Center (continued)

Aside from residents across all three regions most often selecting concerts as the events they would like to see return to the County Center, those in the Southern and Central regions were often more likely than those in the North to express interest in many of the events and services.

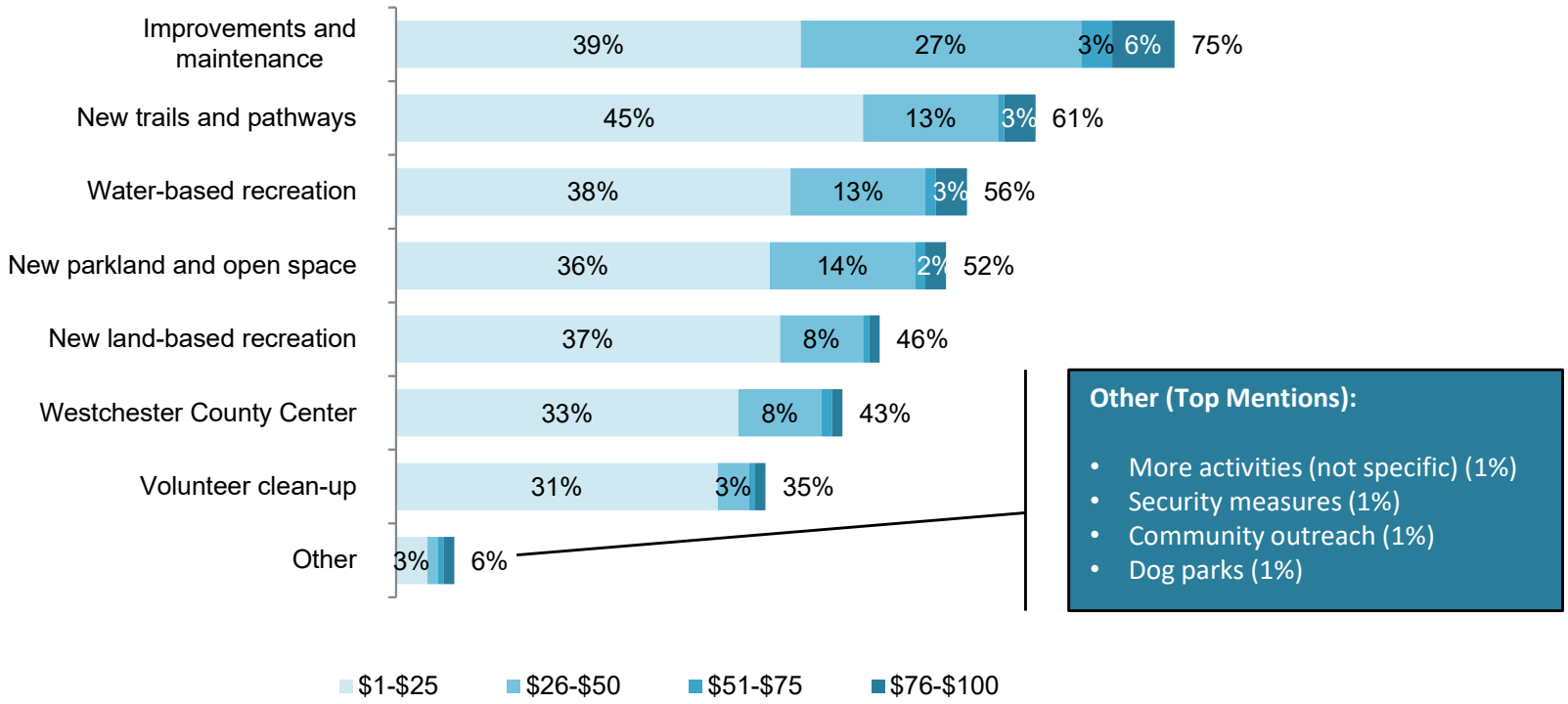
	North *n=256*	Central *n=285*	South *n=251*
Concerts	77%	74%	76%
Family entertainment	49	58[B]	61[B]
Recreational events	31	45[B]	52[B]
Professional sporting events	39	43	42
Trade shows	29	36	35
Food concessions	24	32	37[B]
Informational fairs	25	32[B]	34[B]
Local or rec sporting events	24	30	33[B]
Senior events	20	24	34[BC]
Event parking	22	25	31[B]
Youth events	15	25[B]	33[BC]
Youth summer camps	17	24[B]	31[B]
Graduations	16	22	29[B]
Programs for people with disabilities	16	19	25[B]
Conferences and meetings	12	20[B]	21[B]
Parties	11	14	23[BC]
Commuter parking	8	14[B]	18[B]
Religious events	5	10[B]	20[BC]

Base=Total Sample
Q16. Which events or services at the Westchester County Center would you most like to see return or improved?
Multiple Responses Accepted
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Investing in the Westchester County Park System

The County residents surveyed were asked to imagine they have been given $100 to invest in the Westchester County Park System over seven possible categories, and to determine how much they would allocate to each category.

The residents were most likely to allocate funds to improvements and maintenance of existing Westchester County parks (75%), followed by new trails and pathways (61%), water-based recreation (56%) and/or new parkland and open space (52%).



Other (Top Mentions):

- More activities (not specific) (1%)
- Security measures (1%)
- Community outreach (1%)
- Dog parks (1%)

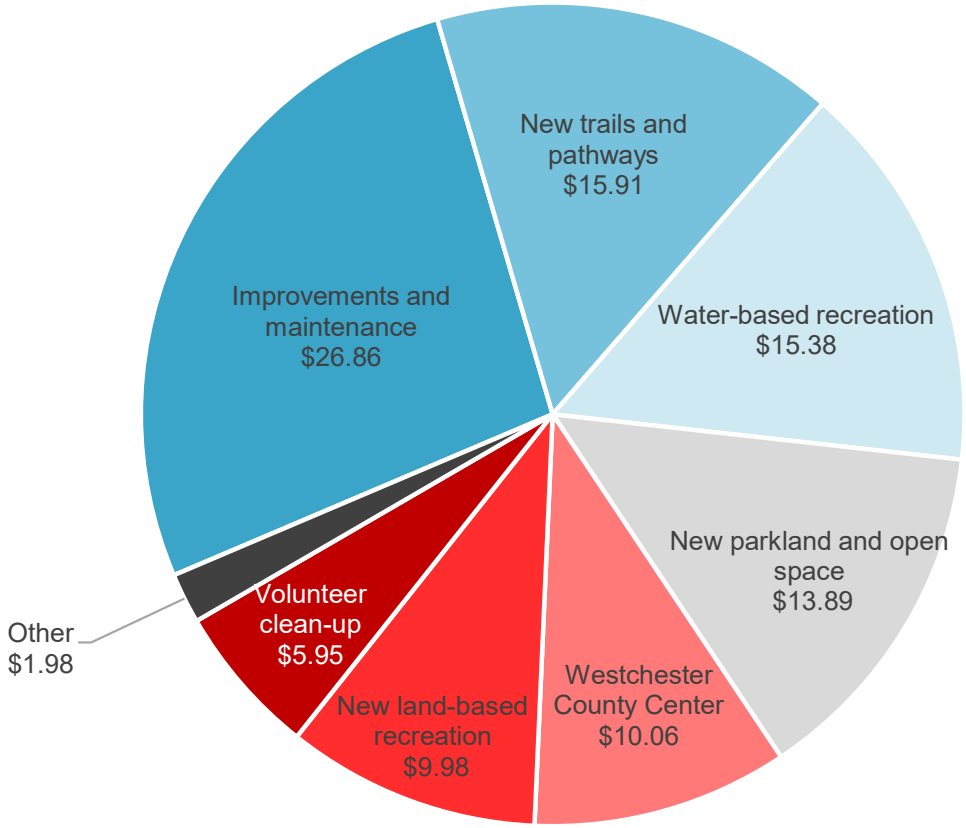
Base=Total Sample (n=792)
Q18. Imagine you have been given $100 to invest in the Westchester County Park System over 7 possible categories. How much of this $100 would you allocate to each category?
Note: Percentages not shown equal 1% or less.

Investing in the Westchester County Park System (continued)

On average, these residents would allocate the largest sums to improvements and maintenance of existing Westchester County parks ($26.86 out of $100), followed by an almost even division of funds among Development of new trails and pathways, i.e., walking, hiking and biking trails, etc. ($15.91), development of water-based recreation, i.e., swimming facilities, boating and fishing areas, beaches, etc. ($15.38), and acquisition of new parkland and open space ($13.89).

These residents would allocate an average of about 10% of the funds to reimagining Westchester County Center ($10.06) and development of new land-based recreation, i.e., campgrounds, picnic areas, golf courses, ball fields, etc. ($9.98).

Residents would invest the smallest level of funds in volunteer clean-up opportunities ($5.95).



Base=Total Sample (n=792)
Q18. Imagine you have been given $100 to invest in the Westchester County Park System over 7 possible categories. How much of this $100 would you allocate to each category?

Investing in the Westchester County Park System (continued)

Compared to those in the Central and South regions, residents in Northern Westchester County tended to allocate the largest average amount to acquisition of new parkland and open space ($16.74), while those in the Southern region tended allocated the largest amounts to development of new land-based recreation ($11.57) and volunteer clean-up opportunities ($7.83).

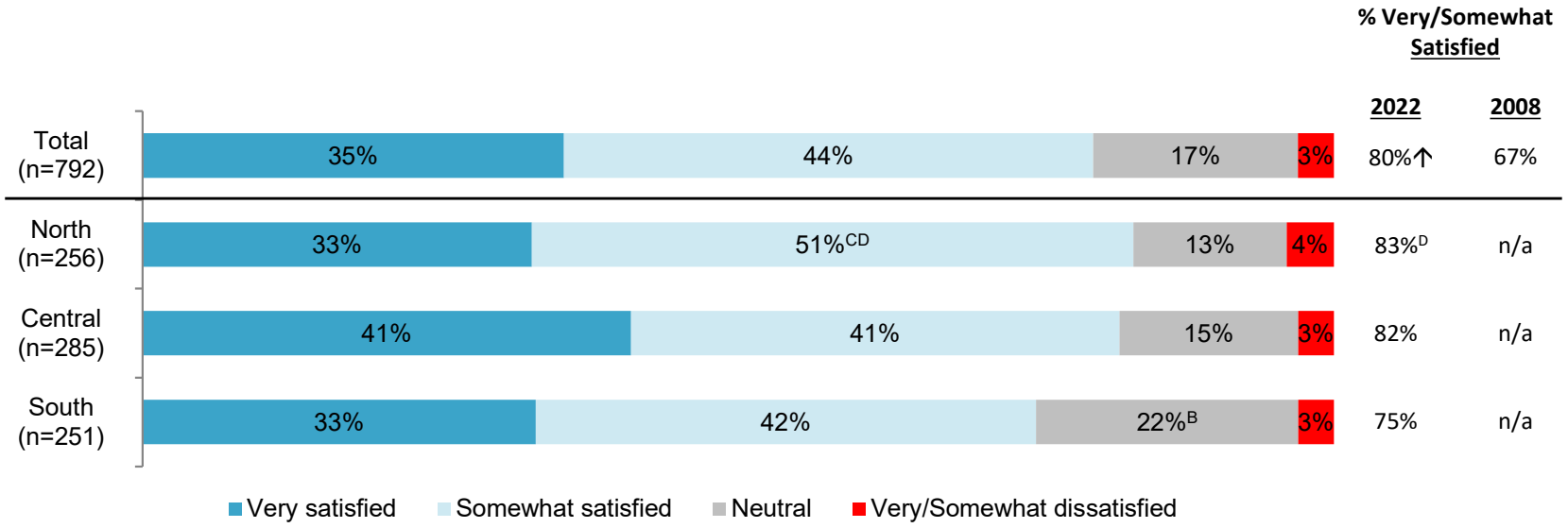
Average Allocation	North *n=256*	Central *n=285*	South *n=251*
Improvements and maintenance of existing Westchester County parks	$27.43	$27.32	$26.10
Development of new trails and pathways, i.e., walking, hiking, and biking trails, etc.	$17.25	$14.96	$15.49
Development of water-based recreation, i.e., swimming facilities, boating and fishing areas, beaches, etc.	$13.64	$15.68	$16.53
Acquisition of new parkland and open space	$16.74[D]	$14.04	$11.59
Reimagining Westchester County Center	$9.27	$12.08	$9.33
Development of new land-based recreation, i.e., campgrounds, picnic areas, golf courses, ball fields, etc.	$7.81	$10.10	$11.57[B]
Volunteer clean-up opportunities	$4.65	$4.63	$7.83[BC]
Other	$3.20	$1.19	$1.55

Base=Total Sample
Q18. Imagine you have been given $100 to invest in the Westchester County Park System over 7 possible categories. How much of this $100 would you allocate to each category?
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Satisfaction with Overall Value Received from Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation

When asked to rate their satisfaction with the overall value their household receives from Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation, eight in ten residents surveyed in 2022 (80%) indicated they are very or somewhat satisfied (up from 67% in 2008). About one-third (35%) specifically said they are very satisfied.

By region, residents of Southern Westchester County tended to be the least likely to indicate they are very or somewhat satisfied (75%).



Base=Total Sample (for comparability, 2008 rebased on Those Answering/excluding Don't know n=700)
2022 Q19/2008 Q22.. Please rate your satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation.
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Effect of COVID-10 Pandemic on Use of Westchester County's Outdoor Parks and Recreation Facilities

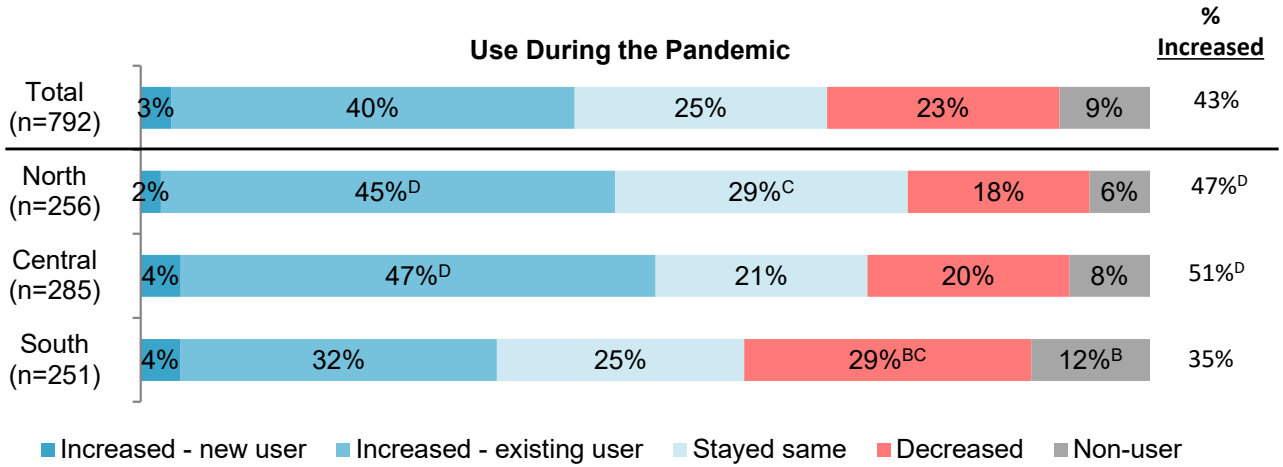
The residents surveyed in 2022 were asked whether their household's use of Westchester County's outdoor parks and recreation facilities increased, stayed the same or decreased in 2020 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and if it increased, whether they had used these parks and recreation facilities prior to the pandemic.

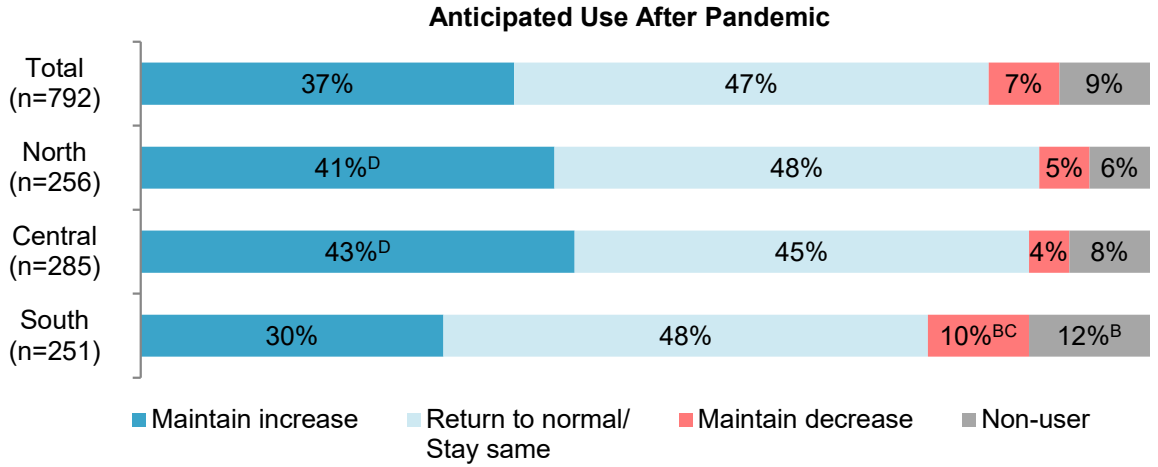
Overall, 43% of County residents indicated their use of County parks and recreation facilities increased during this time, with 3% being new users. Close to one-fourth (23%), however, said their use decreased.

Residents of North and Central Westchester County were more likely than those in the South to have increased their use (47%-51% vs. 35%), while those in the South were more likely to have decreased their use (29% vs. 18%-20%).

More than one-third of the residents (37%) plan to maintain their increased use of Westchester County parks and recreation facilities, compared to only 7% who plan to maintain a decrease, for a net overall post-pandemic increase.

North and Central County residents are most likely to say they will maintain increased use (41%-43% vs. 30% of South County residents).





Base=Total Sample
Q20. In 2020, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, did your household's use of Westchester County's outdoor parks and recreation facilities increase, stay the same or decrease?
Q20A. Did you or anyone in your household use Westchester County's outdoor parks and recreation facilities prior to the pandemic?
Q20B. As the pandemic starts to wind down, does your household plan to maintain this increased/decreased usage of Westchester County's outdoor parks and recreation facilities, or do you anticipate returning to your prior usage levels?
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

		Total	North	Central	South
			B	C	D
Age	*n=*	*(647)*	*(209)*	*(231)*	*(207)*
18-24		2%	1%	1%	3%
25-34		12	8	9	17[BC]
35-44		19	17	23	18
45-54		21	14	26[B]	22[B]
55-64		21	26	19	19
65-74		18	25[CD]	15	15
75+		7	9	8	6
Mean (years)		52.9	56.6[CD]	52.6	50.2
Gender	*n=*	*(745)*	*(248)*	*(264)*	*(233)*
Female		51%	50%	51%	52%
Male		48	49	49	48
Non-binary		<1	1	-	-
Household Income	*n=*	*(538)*	*(175)*	*(183)*	*(180)*
<$25,000		5%	2%	5%	8%[B]
$25,000-$49,999		8	3	5	13[BC]
$50,000-$99,999		24	20	20	28
$100,000-$199,999		29	35[D]	30	24
$200,000-$299,999		17	21	19	13
$300,000+		18	20	21	14
Mean		$164.7K	$184.1K[D]	$179.8K[D]	$142.0K
Hispanic/Latino	*n=*	(698)	(233)	(248)	(217)
Yes		20%	14%	16%	26%[BC]

		Total	North	Central	South
			B	C	D
Number of People in HH	*n=*	*(731)*	*(240)*	*(265)*	*(226)*
One		12%	10%	12%	14%
Two		32	36	30	31
Three		21	24	18	22
Four or more		35	30	40	33
Mean (# of people)		3.0	2.9	3.1	3.0
Ages of People in HH	*n=*	*(721)*	*(232)*	*(264)*	*(225)*
<5 years old		12%	12%	11%	13%
5-9		14	10	16[B]	15
10-14		17	10	21[B]	20[B]
15-19		15	15	19	14
20-24		15	18	14	13
25-34		22	19	16	28[BC]
35-44		23	20	28[B]	23
45-54		29	24	33[B]	29
55-64		31	37[C]	26	31
65+		30	37[D]	29	26
Race/Ethnicity*	*n=*	*(645)*	*(215)*	*(232)*	*(198)*
White/Caucasian		80%	94%[CD]	79%[D]	69%
African-American/Black		12	4	11[B]	20[BC]
Asian-American/Asian		5	2	10[BD]	4
Hispanic/Latino		2	<1	2	4[B]
Other		4	1	5[B]	6[B]

Base=Those Answering
QD1, QD2, QD3, QD4, QD5, QD6, QD6A
*Multiple Responses Accepted
"B" (Northern County residents), "C" (Central County residents), "D" (Southern County residents) next to a percentage indicates a significant difference compared to the corresponding respondent region.

Appendix

WBA Research
22-508
April 2022

Westchester County, New York Community Interest and Opinion Survey
Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation

Quotas: North Region (n=250), Central Region (n=250), South Region (n=250)

SCREENER

S3. Are you at least 18 years of age or older?

01 Under 18 → **THANK AND TERMINATE**
02 18 or older → **CONTINUE**

IF S3(01) THANK AND TERMINATE:

Thank you for your time. Those are all the questions we have for you today.

Otherwise, ASK:

S4. What is your home zip code?
_____ **[FORCE 5 DIGITS]**
99999 Don't know → **THANK AND TERMINATE**

ASK EVERYONE:

Q1. Please tell us which of the following Westchester County **Parks** you or a member of your household have visited in the past 12 months.

		Yes	No
A	Blue Mountain Reservation	01	97
B	Bronx River Parkway Reservation/Pathway	02	97
C	Croton Gorge Park	03	97
D	Croton Point Park/Beach	04	97
E	Cranberry Lake Preserve	05	97
F	Edith G Read Wildlife Sanctuary	06	97
G	Glen Island Park/Beach	07	97
H	George's Island Park	08	97
I	Hilltop Hanover Farm	09	97
J	Kensico Dam Plaza	10	97
K	Kingsland Point Park	11	97
L	Lenoir Preserve	12	97
M	Marshlands Conservancy	13	97
N	Mountain Lakes Park	14	97
O	Pocantico Lake	15	97
P	Ridge Road Park	16	97
Q	Saxon Woods Park/Pool	17	97
R	Silver Lake Preserve	18	97

WBA Research
22-508
April 2022

S	Sprain Ridge Park/Pool	19	97
T	Tibbetts Brook Park/Pool	20	97
U	V.E. Macy Park/Woodlands Lake	21	97
V	Ward Pound Ridge Reservation	22	97
W	Willson's Woods Park/Pool	23	97

IF Q1A-Q1W ALL (97), SKIP TO Q3.
IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE (01-23) IN Q1, FORCE SAME IN Q2A THEN SKIP TO Q3.

THOSE WHO HAVE USED AT LEAST TWO PARKS [SELECTED TWO OR MORE (01-23) FROM Q1], ASK Q2A:

Q2A. Which <u>one</u> of these parks do you and members of your household visit <u>most often</u>? **[SHOW ONLY SELECTED PARKS FROM Q1. READ LIST IF NECESSARY.]**

IF ONLY TWO RESPONSES IN Q1 (01-23), FORCE REMAINING RESPONSE IN Q2B AND SKIP TO Q3.
THOSE WHO HAVE USED AT LEAST THREE PARKS [SELECTED THREE OR MORE (01-23) FROM Q1], ASK Q2B: IF SELECTED 99 IN Q2A, SKIP TO Q3.

Q2B. And, which of these parks do you and members of your household visit the <u>second most often</u>? **[SHOW ONLY SELECTED PARKS FROM Q1, EXCLUDING PARK SELECTED AT Q2A. READ LIST IF NECESSARY.]**

IF ONLY THREE RESPONSES IN Q1 (01-25), FORCE REMAINING RESPONSE IN Q2C AND SKIP TO Q3.
THOSE WHO HAVE USED AT LEAST FOUR PARKS [SELECTED FOUR OR MORE (01-23) FROM Q1], ASKQ2C: IF SELECTED 99 IN Q2B, SKIP TO Q3.

Q2C. And, how about the <u>third most often</u>? **[SHOW ONLY SELECTED PARKS FROM Q1, EXCLUDING PARKS SELECTED AT Q2A AND Q2B. READ LIST IF NECESSARY.]**

WBA Research
22-508
April 2022

ASK EVERYONE:

Q3. Please tell us which of the following Westchester County **recreation facilities** you or a member of your household have visited in the past 12 months.

		Yes	No
A	Briarcliff Peekskill Trailway	01	97
B	Croton Nature Center	02	97
C	Dunwoodie Golf Course	03	97
D	Graham Hills	04	97
E	Hudson Hills Golf Course	05	97
F	Jay Property	06	97
G	Lasdon Park, Arboretum, and Veterans Memorial	07	97
H	Maple Moor Golf Course	08	97
I	Mohansic Golf Course	09	97
J	Muscoot Farm	10	97
K	Merestead	11	97
L	North County Trailway	12	97
M	Playland Park	13	97
N	Saxon Woods Golf Course	14	97
O	Scout Field	15	97
P	Sportsman Center	16	97
Q	Sprain Lake Golf Course	17	97
R	South County Trailway	18	97
S	Trailside Nature Museum	19	97
T	Twin Lakes/Nature Study Woods	20	97
U	Wampus Pond	21	97
V	Westchester County Center	22	97

IF Q3A-Q3V ALL (97), SKIP TO Q5.
IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE (01-22) IN Q3, FORCE SAME IN Q4A THEN SKIP TO Q5.

THOSE WHO HAVE USED AT LEAST TWO RECREATION FACILITIES [SELECTED TWO OR MORE (01-22) FROM Q3], ASK Q4A:

Q4A. Which **one** of these recreation facilities do you and members of your household visit **most often**? **[SHOW ONLY SELECTED RECREATION FACILITIES FROM Q3. READ LIST IF NECESSARY.]**

IF ONLY TWO RESPONSES IN Q3 (01-22), FORCE REMAINING RESPONSE IN Q4B AND SKIP TO Q5. THOSE WHO HAVE USED AT LEAST THREE RECREATION FACILITIES [SELECTED THREE OR MORE (01-22) FROM Q3, ASK Q4B: IF SELECTED 99 IN Q4A, SKIP TO Q5.

Q4B. And, which of these recreation facilities do you and members of your household visit the **second most often**? **[SHOW ONLY SELECTED RECREATION FACILITIES FROM Q3, EXCLUDING RECREATION FACILITY SELECTED AT Q4A. READ LIST IF NECESSARY.]**

WBA Research
22-508
April 2022

IF ONLY THREE RESPONSES IN Q3 (01-22), FORCE REMAINING RESPONSE IN Q4B AND SKIP TO Q5. THOSE WHO HAVE USED AT LEAST FOUR RECREATION FACILITIES [SELECTED FOUR OR MORE (01-22) FROM Q3, ASK Q4C: IF SELECTED 99 IN Q4B, SKIP TO Q5.

Q4C. And, how about the **third most often**? **[SHOW ONLY SELECTED RECREATION FACILITIES FROM Q3, EXCLUDING RECREATION FACILITIES SELECTED AT Q4A AND Q4B. READ LIST IF NECESSARY.]**

ASK EVERYONE:

Q5. Please tell us which of these you or members of your household have used or visited in Westchester County Parks over the past 12 months.

		Yes	No
A	Walking, hiking, and biking trails	01	97
B	Nature trails and nature study	02	97
C	Equestrian trails	03	97
D	Mountain biking trails	04	97
E	Picnic pavilions	05	97
F	Pools and waterslides	06	97
G	Kayaking launches	07	97
H	Boating areas	08	97
I	Swimming beaches and areas	09	97
J	Fishing areas	10	97
K	Equestrian stables	11	97
L	Picnicking areas	12	97
M	Skateboarding areas	13	97
N	Summer youth camps	14	97
O	Miracle Field (Handicap accessible)	15	97
P	Golf courses	16	97
Q	RV Camping site	17	97
R	Tent/Yurt camping	18	97
S	Cabin rentals	19	97
T	Lean-to camping	20	97
U	Soccer fields	21	97
V	Softball/Baseball fields	22	97
W	Playgrounds	23	97
X	Natural areas and wildlife habitats	24	97
Y	Nature interpretive centers	25	97
Z	Cross-country skiing areas	26	97
AA	Ice skating locations	27	97
BB	Museums (nature, etc.)	28	97
CC	Miniature golf courses	29	97
DD	Gardens	30	97

Q5EE. Are there any other types of facilities that you or members of your household have used or visited in Westchester County Parks over the past 12 months?

01 Yes **(specify)**
02 No

Q6. Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of ALL the parks and recreation sites in the Westchester County parks and recreation areas you have visited?

04 Excellent,
03 Good,
02 Fair, or
01 Poor

Q7. In which of the following ways do you learn about Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation programs and activities?

		Yes	No
A	Parks website	01	97
A1.	Internet advertisements	11	97
B	Online news articles	02	97
C	Parks literature, such as brochures, posters, etc.	03	97
D	e-Newsletter or email	04	97
E	Radio advertisements	05	97
F	Television advertisements	06	97
G	Advertisements at facilities	07	97
H	Conversations with park staff	08	97
I	From friends and neighbors	09	97
J	Social media	10	97

Q7K. Are there any other ways in which you learn about Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation programs and activities?

01 Yes **(specify)**
02 No

WBA Research
22-508
April 2022

IF "YES" TO SOCIAL MEDIA [Q7J(10)], ASK:

Q7a. You mentioned you learn about Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation programs and activities from social media. Which specific social media sites? **(RESPONSES ACCEPTED.)**

01 Facebook
02 Instagram
03 Twitter
04 TikTok
05 YouTube
95 Other **(specify)**
99 Don't know

Q8. Please tell us if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each of the following types of parks and recreational facilities.

FOR EACH YES IN Q8 (01-28), ASK Q8A

Q8A. Please rate ALL of the parks and recreation FACILITIES of each type in Westchester County on a scale of 5 to 1, where 5 means they "100% Meets the Needs of Your Household" and 1 means they "Do Not Meet the Needs of Your Household". You may choose any number between 5 and 1.

		Q8. Need		Q8A. Meets Needs				
		Yes	No	100% met	75% met	50% met	25% met	0% met
A	Walking, hiking, and biking trails	01	97	05	04	03	02	01
B	Equestrian trails and centers	02	97	05	04	03	02	01
C	Nature trails and nature interpretive centers	03	97	05	04	03	02	01
D	Mountain biking trails	04	97	05	04	03	02	01
E	Waterparks and waterslides	05	97	05	04	03	02	01
F	Picnicking areas and shelters	06	97	05	04	03	02	01
G	Boating and sailing areas	07	97	05	04	03	02	01
H	Fishing areas	08	97	05	04	03	02	01
I	Swimming and sunbathing areas	09	97	05	04	03	02	01
J	Dog parks	10	97	05	04	03	02	01
K	Skate parks and extreme sports parks	11	97	05	04	03	02	01
L	Amphitheaters and cultural facilities	12	97	05	04	03	02	01
M	Outdoor concert venue	13	97	05	04	03	02	01
N	18-hole golf courses	14	97	05	04	03	02	01
O	9-hole golf courses	15	97	05	04	03	02	01
P	Disc golf	16	97	05	04	03	02	01

Q	Youth soccer fields	17	97		05	04	03	02	01	
R	Youth softball and baseball fields	18	97		05	04	03	02	01	
S	Youth football and lacrosse fields	19	97		05	04	03	02	01	
T	Youth summer camps	20	97		05	04	03	02	01	
U	Tennis courts	21	97		05	04	03	02	01	
V	Cross country skiing areas/Sledding runs	22	97		05	04	03	02	01	
W	Cricket Fields	23	97		05	04	03	02	01	
X	Pickle ball courts	24	97		05	04	03	02	01	
Y	Playgrounds	25	97		05	04	03	02	01	
Z	Kayak launch	26	97		05	04	03	02	01	
AA	Outdoor ice-skating areas	27	97		05	04	03	02	01	
BB	Overnight camping areas	28	97		05	04	03	02	01	

Q8ACC. Are there any other types of parks or recreational facilities that you or a member of your household has a need for?

01 Yes **(specify)**
02 No

Q9. Thinking about all of the types of parks and recreation facilities we just reviewed, which THREE do you feel are most important for Westchester County to provide for your household in COUNTY PARKS?

	Q9A	Q9B	Q9C
	First	Second	Third
Walking, hiking, and biking trails	01	01	01
Equestrian trails and centers	02	02	02
Nature trails and nature interpretive centers	03	03	03
Mountain biking trails	04	04	04
Waterparks and waterslides	05	05	05
Picnicking areas and shelters	06	06	06
Boating and sailing areas	07	07	07
Fishing areas	08	08	08
Swimming and sunbathing areas	09	09	09
Dog parks	10	10	10
Skate parks and extreme sports parks	11	11	11
Amphitheaters and cultural facilities	12	12	12
Outdoor concert venue	13	13	13
18-hole golf courses	14	14	14
9-hole golf courses	15	15	15
Disc golf	16	16	16
Youth soccer fields	17	17	17
Youth softball and baseball fields	18	18	18

Youth football and lacrosse fields	19	19	19
Youth summer camps	20	20	20
Tennis courts	21	21	21
Cross country skiing areas/Sledding runs	22	22	22
Cricket courts	23	23	23
Pickle ball courts	24	24	24
Playgrounds	25	25	25
Kayak launch	26	26	26
Outdoor ice-skating areas	27	27	27
Overnight camping areas	28	28	28
IF Q8ACC[01]: [Q8ACC ANSWER]	29	29	29
None	97	97	97

Q10 OMITTED 5/23/22

Q11. The following are some benefits that you and your household may receive from parks, trails, recreation facilities and services in Westchester County. For each potential benefit, please indicate your level of agreement with the benefit being provided by parks, trails, and recreation facilities as either strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree, or strongly disagree.

		Q11.					
		Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	
A	Improves physical health and fitness	05	04	03	02	01	
B	Helps reduce crime	05	04	03	02	01	
C	Makes Westchester County a more desirable place to live	05	04	03	02	01	
D	Preserves open space and the environment	05	04	03	02	01	
E	Increases property values in surrounding area	05	04	03	02	01	
F	Improves mental health and reduces stress	05	04	03	02	01	
G	Increases opportunities for people of different cultures to interact	05	04	03	02	01	
H	Helps attract new residents and businesses	05	04	03	02	01	
I	Protects historical attributes of Westchester County	05	04	03	02	01	
J	Promotes tourism to the County	05	04	03	02	01	

Q11K. Are there any other benefits that you and your household receive from parks, trails, recreation facilities and services in Westchester County?

01 Yes **(specify)**
02 No

Q12. Thinking about all of the potential benefits of the parks, trails, recreation facilities and services in Westchester County that we just reviewed, which three do you feel are most important to you and members of your household?

	Q12A First	Q12B Second	Q12C Third
Improve physical health and fitness	01	01	01
Help reduce crime	02	02	02
Makes Westchester County a more desirable place to live	03	03	03
Preserve open space and the environment	04	04	04
Increase property values in surrounding area	05	05	05
Improve mental health and reduce stress	06	06	06
Increase opportunities for people of different cultures to interact	07	07	07
Help attract new residents and businesses	08	08	08
Protect historical attributes of Westchester County	09	09	09
Promote tourism to the County	10	10	10
IF Q11K(01): [Q11k ANSWER]	11	11	11
None	97	97	97

Q13 REMOVED 2022

Q14. Please tell us if any of the following are reasons that PREVENT you or other members of your household from using parks, trails, recreation facilities or programs of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation more often.

		Yes	No
A	Parks are not well maintained	01	97
B	Facilities are not well maintained	02	97
C	Program or facility is not offered	03	97
D	Security is insufficient	04	97
E	Lack of trails	05	97
F	Parks are too far from our residence	06	97
G	Parks and facilities are too crowded	07	97
H	Fees are too high	08	97
I	Program times are not convenient	09	97
J	Lack of handicap accessibility	10	97
J1.	I am not aware which are County Parks	22	97
L	Poor customer service by staff	12	97
M	I do not know locations of parks and facilities	13	97
N	I do not know what is being offered	14	97
O	I use city and town parks and facilities	15	97
P	Lack of parking	16	97
Q	Park operating hours are not convenient	17	97
R	Registration for activities is difficult	18	97

S	Recreation facilities are too far from our residence	19	97
T	Lack of transportation	20	97
U.	Lack of facilities and activities for senior citizens	21	97

Q14V. Are there any other reasons that prevent you or other members of your household from using parks, trails, recreation facilities or programs of the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation, and Conservation more often?

01 Yes **(specify)**
02 No

Q15, Q15_A, Q15_AR OMITTED 5/23/22

Q16. For the past few years, Westchester County Parks has worked with local and state officials to transform the Westchester County Center into a field hospital utilized for administering COVID-19 vaccinations. Before the County Center can reopen at a date to be determined, they will begin the process of reimagining the facility for Westchester residents as a civic center for recreation and public interest events and commercial activities.

Which events or services at the Westchester County Center would you most like to see return or improved?

01 Concerts
02 Professional Sporting Events
03 Local or Rec Sporting Events
04 Recreational Events
05 Family Entertainment
06 Trade Shows
07 Programs for People with Disabilities
08 Youth Summer Camps
09 Informational Fairs
10 Commuter Parking
11 Event Parking
12 Food Concessions
13 Graduations
14 Senior Events
15 Conferences and Meetings
16 Youth Events
17 Religious Events
18 Parties
95 Other **(specify)**
97 None
99 Don't know

WBA Research
22-508
April 2022

Q17. As Westchester County Parks re-imagines the County Center, what events or services not already discussed in the previous question would you like to see happen at the County Center? You can give up to three suggestions.

Q18. Now we would like for you to imagine you have been given $100 to invest in the Westchester County Park System over 6 possible categories. How much of this $100 would you allocate to each category? In the end all $100 must be spent. The categories are: **(RANDOMIZE LIST.)**

A	**Improvements and maintenance** of existing Westchester County Parks	$
B	Acquisition of **new parkland and open space**	$
C	Development of **new trails and pathways**, i.e., walking, hiking and biking trails, etc.	$
D	Development of **new land-based recreation**, i.e., campgrounds, picnic areas, golf courses, ball fields, etc.	$
E	Development of **water-based recreation**, i.e., swimming facilities, boating and fishing areas, beaches, etc.	$
F	Reimagining **Westchester County Center**	$
G	Volunteer clean-up opportunities	$
H	Something else (specify)	$
	TOTAL (MUST EQUAL $100)	**$ AUTO TOTAL**

Q19. Please rate your satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from the Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation. Would you say you are:

05 Very satisfied,
04 Somewhat satisfied,
03 Neutral,
02 Somewhat dissatisfied, or
01 Very dissatisfied.

Q20. In 2020, during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, did your household's use of Westchester County's **outdoor** parks and recreation facilities:

01 Increase, → **ASK Q20A**
02 Stay the same, or → **SKIP TO D1**
03 Decrease? → **SKIP TO Q20B**
97 **DO NOT READ:** Do not use outdoor County parks/facilities → **SKIP TO D1**

IF OUTDOOR PARKS/FACILITY USE INCREASED [Q20(01)], ASK Q20A:

Q20A. Did you or anyone in your household use Westchester County's **outdoor** parks and recreation facilities prior to the pandemic?

01 Yes
02 No

WBA Research
22-508
April 2022

IF OUTDOOR FACILITY USE INCREASED OR DECREASED [Q20(01,03)], ASK Q20B:

Q20B. As the pandemic starts to wind down, does your household plan to maintain this **[INCREASED/DECREASED]** usage of Westchester County's outdoor parks and recreation facilities, or do you anticipate returning to your prior usage levels?

01 Maintain new level of use
02 Return to prior level of use

READ: These last few questions are for classification purposes only and will be kept strictly confidential.

D1. Including yourself, how many people live in your household? _____

98 Prefer not to respond

D2. Counting yourself, how many people in your household are...? **(READ LIST)**

		RECORD NUMBER
A	Under 5 years	
B	5-9 years	
C	10-14 years	
D	15-19 years	
E	20-24 years	
F	25-34 years	
C	35-44 years	
H	45-54 years	
I	55-64 years	
J	65+ years	
	TOTAL MUST EQUAL D1	

98 Prefer not to respond

D3. What is your age? _____

98 Prefer not to respond

D4. Which of the following best describes your gender? **(READ LIST)**

01 Male
02 Female
03 Non-binary
95 Other gender identity **(specify)**
98 Prefer not to respond

WBA Research
22-508
April 2022

D5. Which of the following categories includes your total annual household income? **(READ LIST)**

01 Under $25,000
02 $25,000-$49,999
03 $50,000-$99,999
04 $100,000-$199,999
05 $200,000-$299,999
06 $300,000 or more
98 Prefer not to answer

D6. Are you or members of your household of Hispanic or Latino ancestry?

01 Yes
02 No
98 Prefer not to answer

D6A. Which of the following best describes your race or ethnicity? **(READ LIST. MULTIPLE RESPONSES ACCEPTED)**

01 African American or Black
02 American Indian or Alaska Native
03 White or Caucasian
04 Hawaii Native or other Pacific Islander
05 Asian or Asian American
95 Something else ***(specify)*** _____
98 Prefer not to answer

D7. Thank you again for your participation in this survey. As a thank you for your valuable time you will be entered into a drawing for one of ten $100 e-gift cards.

If you are selected in the drawing, **WBA Research** will send you your e-gift card at the completion of the survey period. Please confirm your name and email so that we may send you the e-gift card if you are selected.

A. Name: _____
B. Email: _____ **[FORCE EMAIL FORMAT]**
C. Please confirm your email address:_____ **[FORCE D7B AND D7C TO MATCH]**
99 Not interested in entering drawing

CLOSING.

I'd like to thank you for taking the time to talk to me today. Have a good night/day.