

2002 PRC Quality of Life Assessment

Washington Park — Broward County, FL

Community Report

*Prepared for
The Coordinating Council of Broward County*

*... Never doubt that a small group of
thoughtful, committed citizens can change the
world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.*

— Margaret Mead

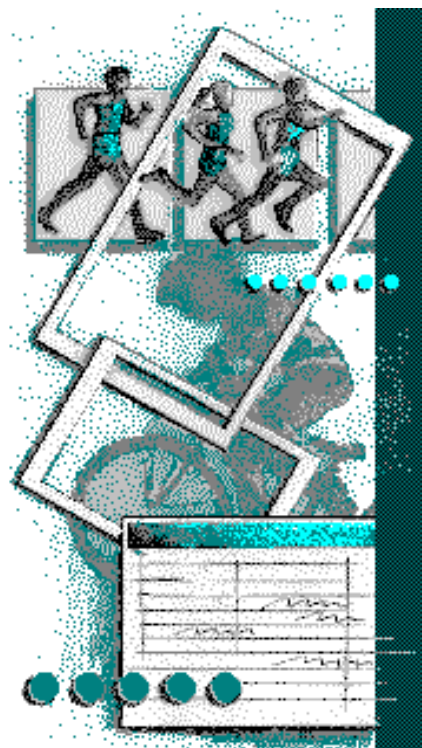


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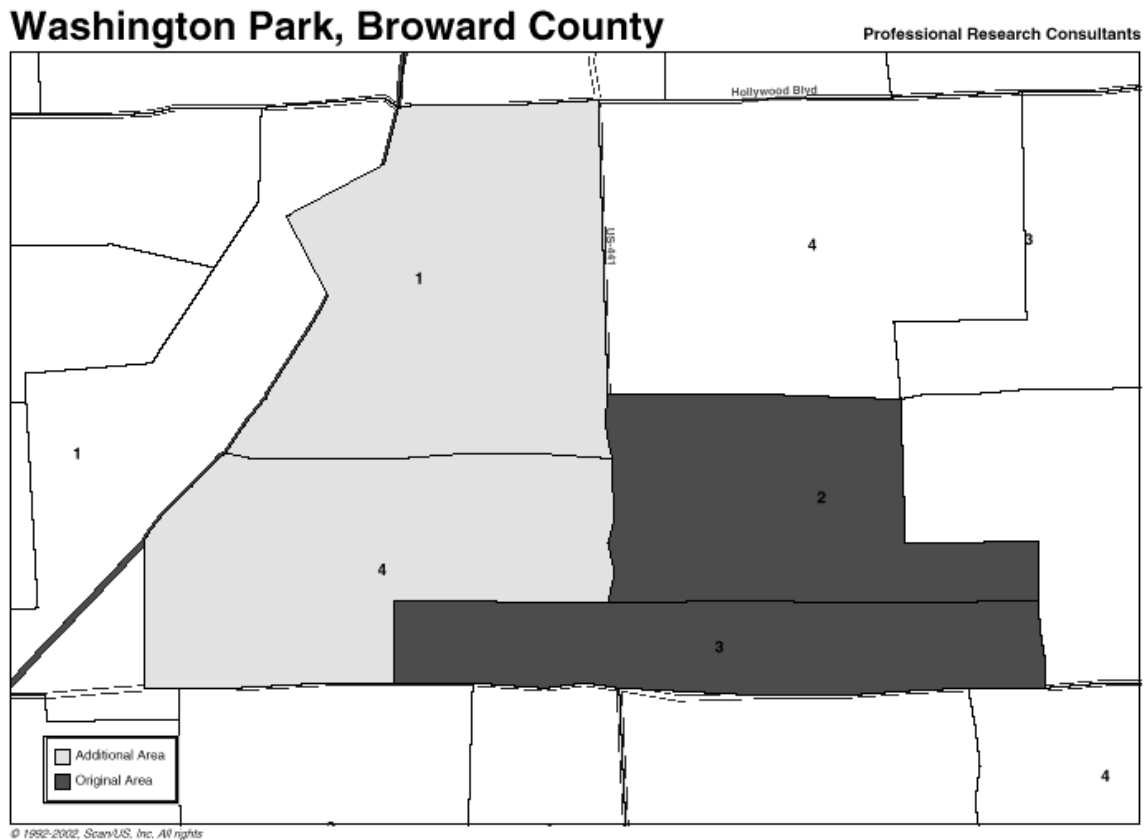
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INTRODUCTION

Methodology

Community Defined for This Assessment

The “community” defined for this assessment includes Census Tract 914.00 in Broward County, comprising the Washington Park neighborhood. Originally, Block Groups 2 and 3 of Census Tract 914.00 were targeted for inclusion, but these yielded too few interviews to provide meaningful analysis. Thus, the target area was expanded to include Census Tract 914.00, Block Groups 1 through 4. The following map describes this geographical definition.



Quality of Life Survey

A precise and carefully executed methodology is critical in asserting the validity of the results gathered in the 2002 **PRC Quality of Life Survey**. Thus, to ensure the best representation of the population surveyed, a telephone interview methodology was employed. The primary advantages of telephone interviewing are timeliness, efficiency and random selection capabilities.

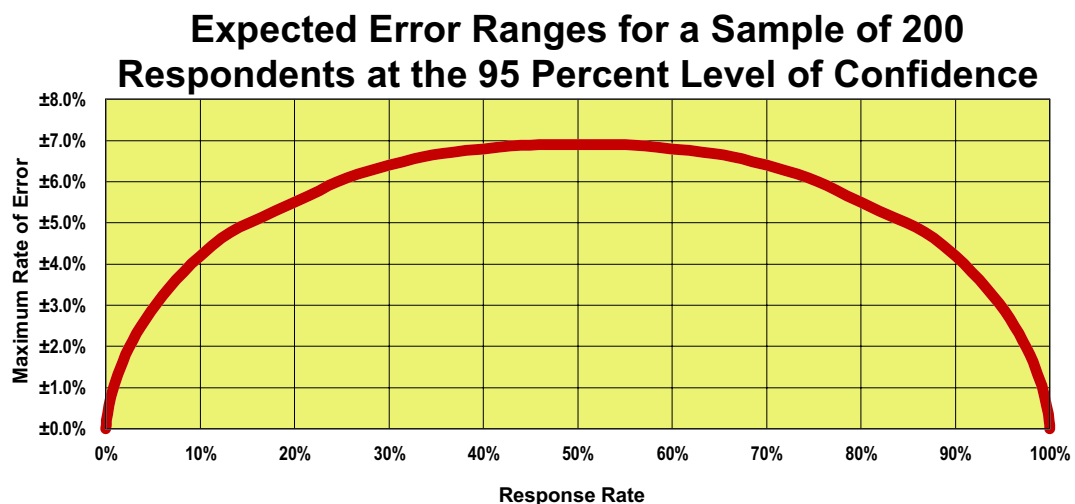
Sample Design

The sample design utilized for this effort consists of a random sample of 200 individuals aged 18 and older residing in the Washington Park neighborhood. All administration of the surveys, data collection and data analysis was conducted by Professional Research Consultants, Inc. (PRC).



Sampling Error

For statistical purposes, the maximum rate of error associated with a sample size of 200 respondents is $\pm 6.9\%$ at the 95 percent level of confidence. A visual description can be found in the following chart.



Note: The "response rate" (the percentage of a population giving a particular response) determines the error rate associated with that response. A "95 percent level of confidence" indicates that responses would fall within the expected error range on 95 out of 100 trials.

Example 1: For example, if 10% of the sample of 200 respondents answered a certain question with a "yes," it can be asserted that between 3.1% and 16.9% ($10\% \pm 6.9\%$) of the total population would offer this response.

Example 2: If 50% of respondents said "yes," one could be certain with a 95 percent level of confidence that between 43.1% and 56.9% ($50\% \pm 6.9\%$) of the total population would respond "yes" if asked this question.

In addition, for further analysis, keep in mind that each percentage point recorded among the total sample of survey respondents is representative of approximately 38 residents aged 18 and older in Washington Park (based on current population estimates). Thus, in a case where 3.4% of the total population responds to a survey question, this is representative of approximately 129 people.

Also, for purposes of this study, comparisons are made to the 2002 Broward County survey findings [conducted by PRC] where possible and applicable throughout the report.

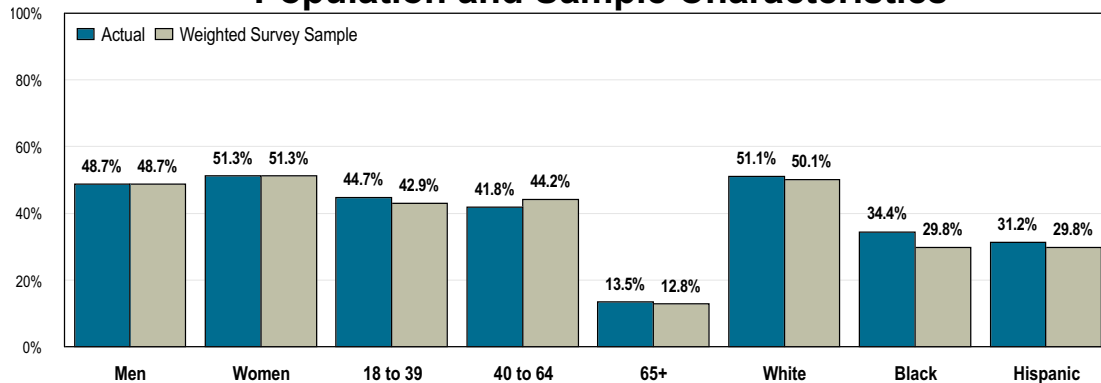
Sample Characteristics

To accurately represent the population studied, it was necessary to constantly monitor the demographic composition (e.g., age, gender, household location) of the community sample throughout the data collection process. PRC strives to minimize bias through application of a proven telephone methodology and random-selection techniques. And, while this random sampling of the population produces a highly representative sample, it is a common and preferred practice to “weight” the raw data to improve this representativeness even further. This is accomplished by adjusting the results of a random sample to match the demographic characteristics of the population surveyed, so as to eliminate any naturally occurring bias.

Specifically, once the raw data are gathered, respondents are examined by key demographic characteristics (namely gender, age, race and ethnicity) and a statistical application package applies weighting variables which produce a sample which more closely matches the population for these characteristics. Thus, while the integrity of each individual’s responses is maintained, one respondent’s responses may contribute to the whole the same weight as 1.1 respondents. Another respondent, whose demographic characteristics may have been slightly oversampled, may contribute the same weight as 0.9 respondents.

The following chart outlines the characteristics of the sample for key demographic variables, compared to actual population characteristics revealed in census data. [Note that the sample consisted solely of area residents aged 18 and older; data on children were given by proxy by the person most responsible for that child’s health care needs, and these children are not represented demographically in this chart.]

Washington Park Population and Sample Characteristics



Sources: 1. CACI 2000 Census Update.
2. 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Further note that the poverty descriptions and segmentation used in this report are based on administrative poverty thresholds determined by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. These guidelines define poverty status by household income level and number of persons in the household (e.g., the 2002 guidelines place the poverty threshold for a family of four at \$18,100 annual household income or lower). In sample segmentation: “<200% Poverty” refers to community members living in a household with defined poverty status combined with households living just above the poverty level, earning up to twice the poverty threshold; and “>200% Poverty” refers to households with incomes more than twice the poverty threshold defined for their household size.

The sample design and the quality control procedures used in the data collection ensure that the sample is representative. Thus, the findings may be generalized to the total population of community members in the Washington Park neighborhood with a high degree of confidence.

Existing Data

Statewide Risk Factor Data

Statewide risk factor data are provided where available as an additional benchmark against which to compare local findings. These data are reported in the most recent *BRFSS (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System) Summary Prevalence Reports* published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. It should be noted, however, that individual state health departments are responsible for the administration and oversight of the BRFSS project; PRC can vouch for neither their methodological correctness nor the validity of state findings.

Nationwide Risk Factor Data

Nationwide risk factor data, which are also provided in comparison charts, are taken from the *2000 PRC National Health Survey*. The methodological approach for the national study is identical to that employed in this assessment. Therefore, PRC assures that these data may be generalized to the U.S. population with a high degree of confidence.

Healthy People 2010 Goals



**Understanding and
Improving Health**

Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health is part of the Healthy People 2010 initiative that is sponsored by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy People 2010 outlines a comprehensive, nationwide health promotion and disease prevention agenda. It is designed to serve as a roadmap for improving the health of all people in the United States during the first decade of the 21st century.

With [specific] health objectives in 28 focus areas, Healthy People 2010 will be a tremendously valuable asset to health planners, medical practitioners, educators, elected officials, and all of us who work to improve health. Healthy People 2010 reflects the very best in public health planning—it is comprehensive, it was created by a broad coalition of experts from many sectors, it has been designed to measure progress over time, and, most important, it clearly lays out a series of objectives to bring better health to all people in this country. — Donna E. Shalala, Secretary of Health & Human Services

Like the preceding Healthy People 2000 initiative—which was driven by an ambitious, yet achievable, 10-year strategy for improving the Nation's health by the end of the 20th century—Healthy People 2010 is committed to a single, overarching purpose: promoting health and preventing illness, disability, and premature death.

HEALTH

Physical Health Status

This section describes various assessments of the general physical health of community residents in the Washington Park neighborhood, including such elements as perceived health status and average days of poor physical health.

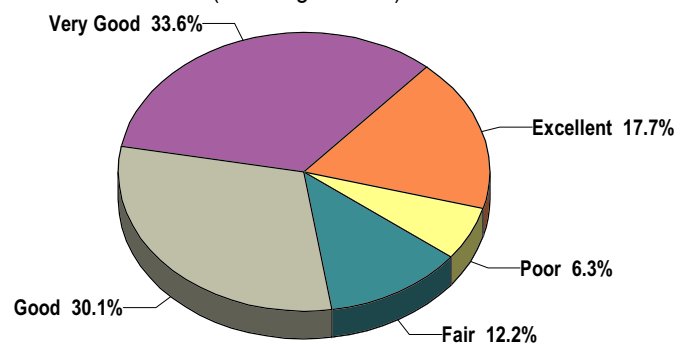
Self-Reported Physical Health

Overall Health Status

In Washington Park, 51.3% of adults view their individual physical health as “excellent” or “very good.” On the other hand, 18.5% say that their general physical health is overall “fair” or “poor.” This is further outlined in the adjacent chart.

Self-Reported Health Status

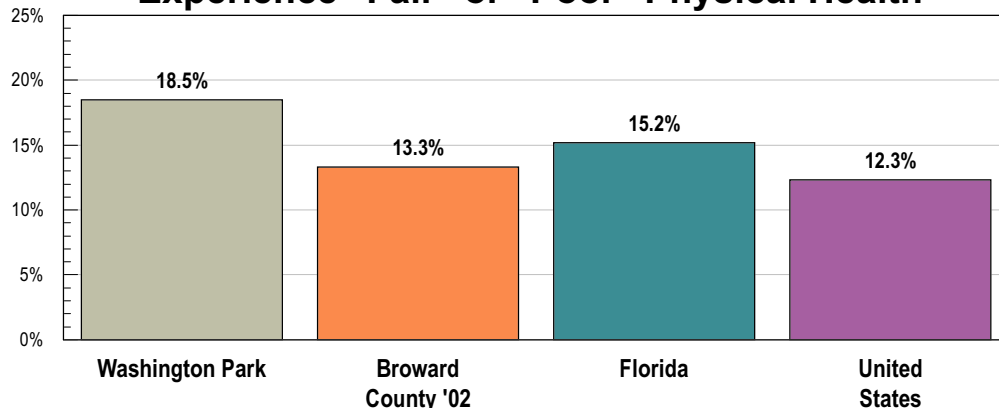
(Washington Park)



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

The percentage of area residents reporting “fair” or “poor” physical health is *significantly worse than* the percentage found across the United States (12.3%) but statistically similar to Broward County. The statewide finding is 15.2%.

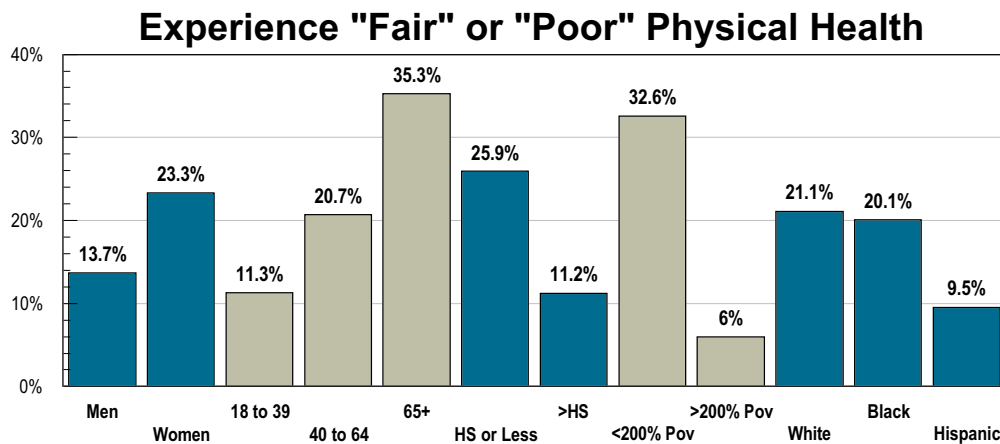
Experience "Fair" or "Poor" Physical Health



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

The following chart provides an illustration of self-reported health status, segmented by various demographic characteristics. As might be expected, indications of “fair” or “poor” health increase with age, ranging from 11.3% among adults under 40 to 35.3% among adults aged 65 and older. Perhaps more surprising is that there is also a strong correlation with education, with 25.9% of community residents with no postsecondary education reporting their physical health as “fair” or “poor,” compared to 11.2% of those with education beyond high school.

Furthermore, “fair” or “poor” health is reported much more among adults living at or near the poverty level. White and Black respondents also are more likely to report “fair” or “poor” health than Hispanic respondents, and women are more likely than men to report “fair” or “poor” health.

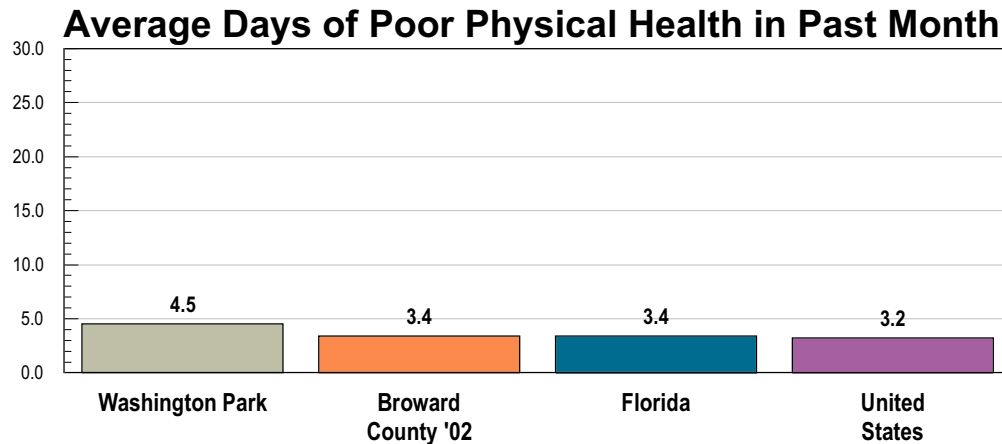


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Days of Poor Physical Health

In the *PRC Quality of Life Survey*, area residents reported an average of 4.5 days in the last month on which their physical health was *not* good. This figure compares to an average 3.2 days reported nationwide.

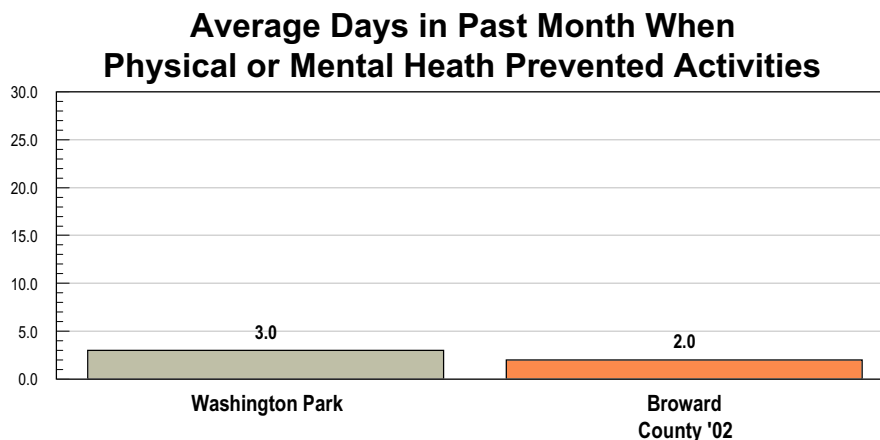
In Broward County and across Florida, adults average 3.4 days of poor physical health.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Days When Poor Physical or Mental Health Prevented Activities

Survey respondents reported an average of 3.0 days in the last month on which their physical or mental health prevented any activities, which is higher than the 2.0 days reported among Broward County adults.



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

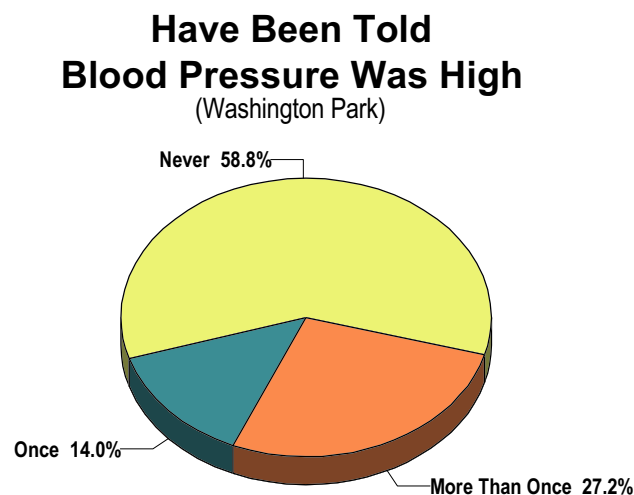
Hypertension

Hypertension, or high blood pressure, is a condition wherein one's systolic blood pressure is equal to or greater than 140 mm Hg and/or his or her diastolic blood pressure is equal to or greater than 90 mm Hg. Hypertension prevalence increases with age, and women and Black respondents are generally at higher risk.

The implications of hypertension are great, placing an individual at increased risk for a variety of health problems, including coronary heart disease, stroke, congestive heart failure, kidney failure, and peripheral vascular disease. However, high blood pressure can often be controlled through medication and/or behavior modification. The health risks associated with high blood pressure can be greatly reduced through weight reduction, increased physical activity, reduced sodium intake, and reduced alcohol consumption. It is also recommended that hypertensive patients eliminate tobacco use and reduce intake of saturated fat and cholesterol since these compound the risk for coronary heart disease and stroke.

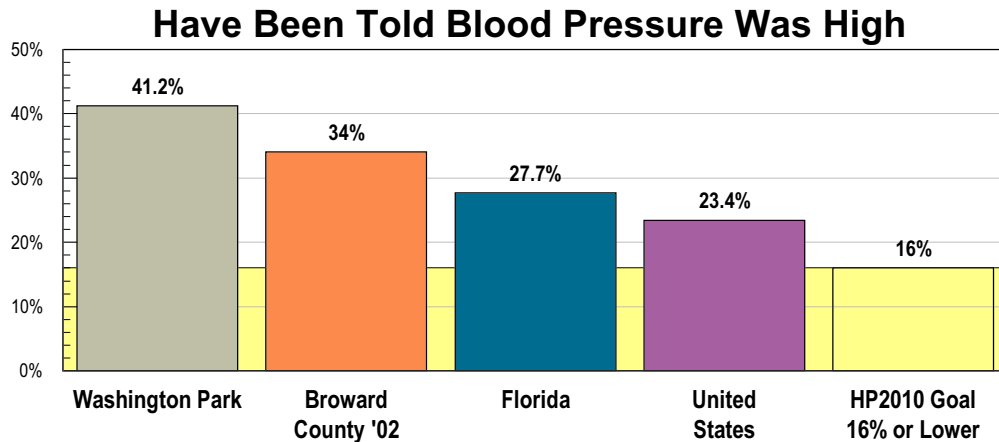
High Blood Pressure Prevalence

More than four in 10 community members have been told at some point that their blood pressure was high. Specifically, 27.2% of adults living in Washington Park have been told more than once that their blood pressure was high, while 14.0% have been told this only once.



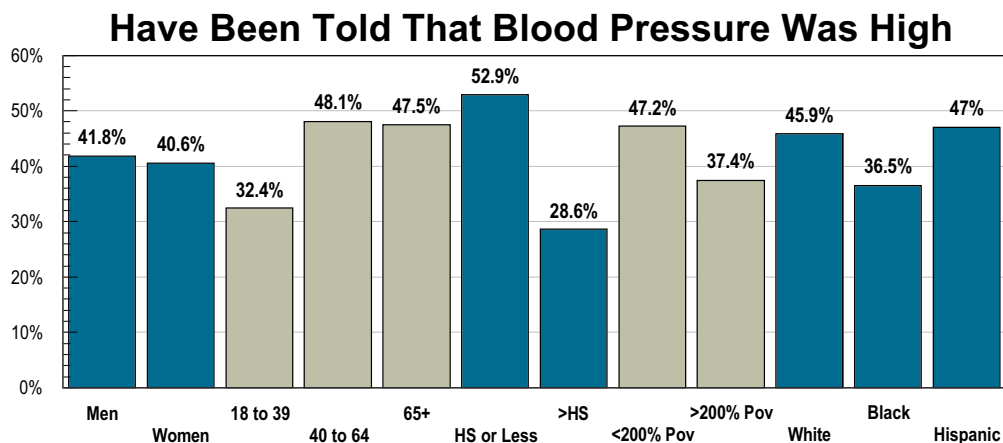
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Reflects the total sample of respondents.

The prevalence of adults in Washington Park who have been told they have high blood pressure is *significantly higher than* the percentages found across the county, state and nation. Note that hypertension levels are far from satisfying the *Healthy People 2010* target of 16% or lower.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
 3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Also, in looking at age cohorts, hypertension rates are higher among adults ages 40 to 64 (48.1%) and age 65 and older (47.5%). Hispanics (47.0%) and Whites (45.9%) experience a high prevalence, as do adults in the lower educational (52.9%) and income (47.2%) brackets. Viewed by gender, hypertension among area men and women does not appear to vary, as shown below.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Reflects the total sample of respondents.

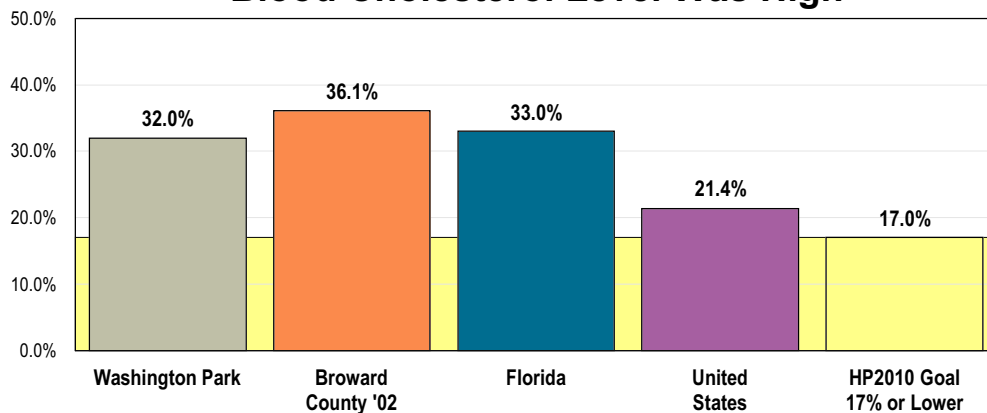
Cholesterol

High blood cholesterol is one of the major risk factors for coronary heart disease (along with cigarette smoking, high blood pressure and physical inactivity). High cholesterol is defined as having a serum total cholesterol level of 240 mg/dL or greater.

High Blood Cholesterol Prevalence

A total of 32.0% of adults in Washington Park have been told by a health professional that their cholesterol level was high; this level is *significantly worse than* the 21.4% recorded nationwide but is similar to the 36.1% recorded in Broward County. Statewide, 33.0% of adults have been diagnosed with high blood cholesterol levels. As shown below, local adults' cholesterol levels fail to satisfy the *Healthy People 2010* goal of 17% or lower.

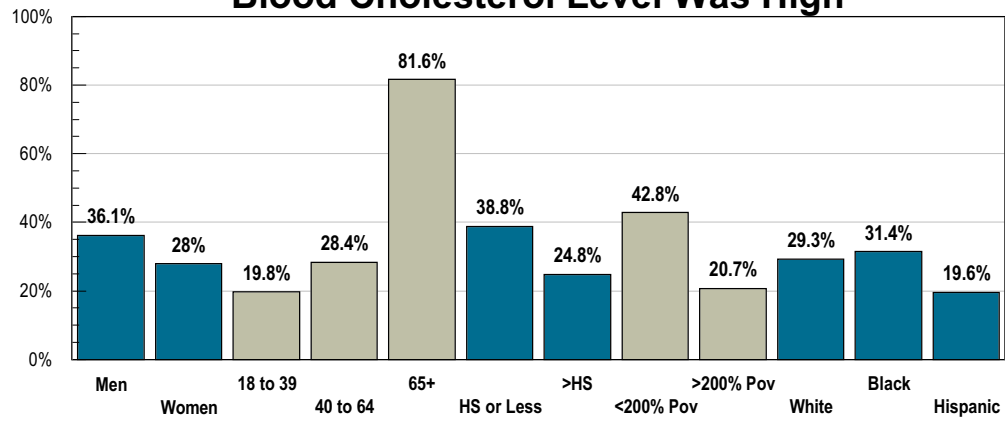
Have Been Told That Blood Cholesterol Level Was High



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Reflects the total sample of respondents.

The following chart provides an illustration of local high cholesterol levels, segmented by specific demographic characteristics. Note that high blood cholesterol prevalence exhibits a positive correlation with age, varying from 19.8% among adults under 40 to 81.6% among those 65 and older. Note that high cholesterol is higher among adults in the lower income bracket (42.8%), the lower educational bracket (38.8%), men (36.1%) and Black respondents (31.4%).

Have Been Told That Blood Cholesterol Level Was High



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Morbidity

“Morbidity” is defined as the rate of disease or the proportion of diseased persons in a given locality. The following section outlines data relating to the prevalence of various conditions in Washington Park.

AIDS

The AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome) epidemic is a problem of national and international importance, a disease for which there is as of yet no cure. It is estimated that one-half of persons infected with HIV (human immunodeficiency virus), the virus which causes AIDS, will develop the disease within 10 years if not treated. Nearly as many will develop any of a host of other HIV-related illnesses. HIV-infected persons are also prone to severe opportunistic infections, Kaposi's sarcoma, and medical complications associated with the virus.

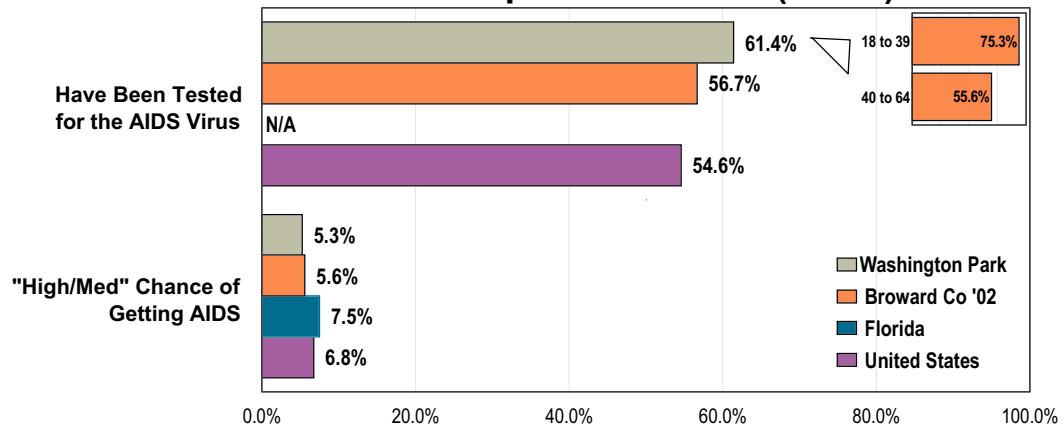
Although there is no vaccine or cure, recent advances in human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) treatment can slow or halt the progression from HIV infection to AIDS. Because HIV is not a reportable disease, the only method of monitoring HIV transmission is to monitor trends in AIDS cases. Longer periods between HIV infection and progression to AIDS have made it very difficult to monitor trends in HIV infection. Prevention of HIV infection is complex, requiring targeted behavioral-based, culture- and age-specific risk reduction programs.

Also, while new developments in treatment in recent years have greatly expanded the life expectancy and quality of life of AIDS patients, the treatments are extremely costly and they bring rise to new issues for a growing population of persons living with AIDS.

AIDS Testing & Perceived Risk. In the survey findings, 5.3% of adults in Washington Park believe that their chances of contracting the HIV virus is “high” or “medium,” lower than that found nationally.

As shown in the following chart, more than seven in 10 adults ages 18 to 39 in Washington Park (75.3%) have been tested for AIDS, while more than five in 10 (55.6%) adults age 40 and older have been tested.

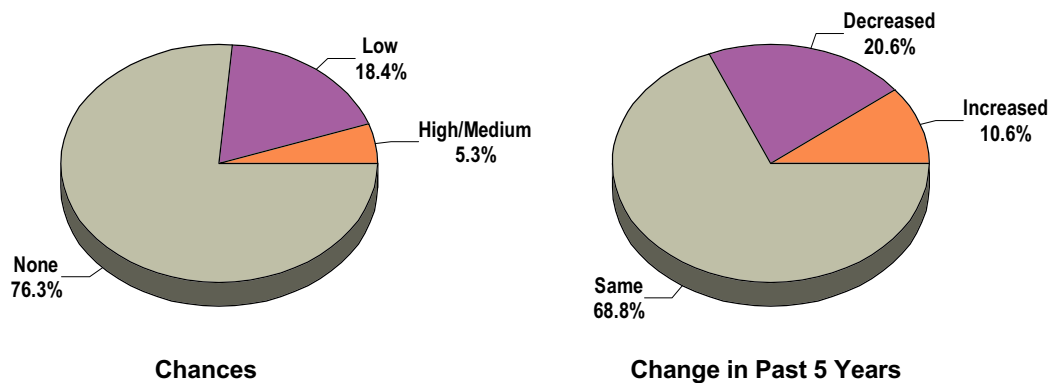
Perceptions of AIDS (18-64)



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
 3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Reflects total sample of respondents under 65.

A total of 76.3% of local adults feel they have no chance of acquiring the AIDS virus. Another 18.4% reported a “low” risk, and 5.3% reported “high” or “medium” risk for the virus. Nearly seven in 10 local adults (68.8%) report that their chances of getting AIDS has remained the same over the past five years; 10.6% feel their chances have increased.

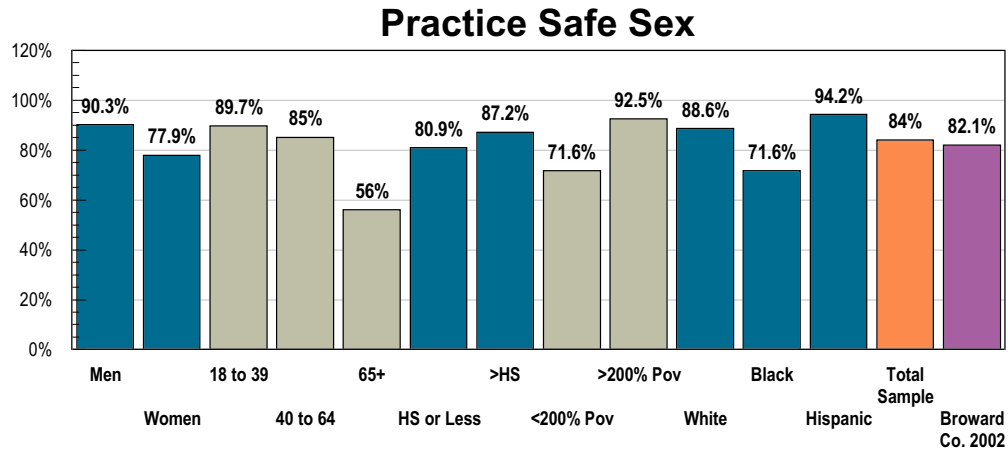
Perceived Chances of Getting the AIDS Virus



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Practice Safe Sex

In a follow-up inquiry, those living in Washington Park were asked to indicate whether they practice safe sex. As shown in the following chart, 84.0% responded affirmatively; note that this prevalence decreases dramatically to 56.0% among adults ages 65 and older.

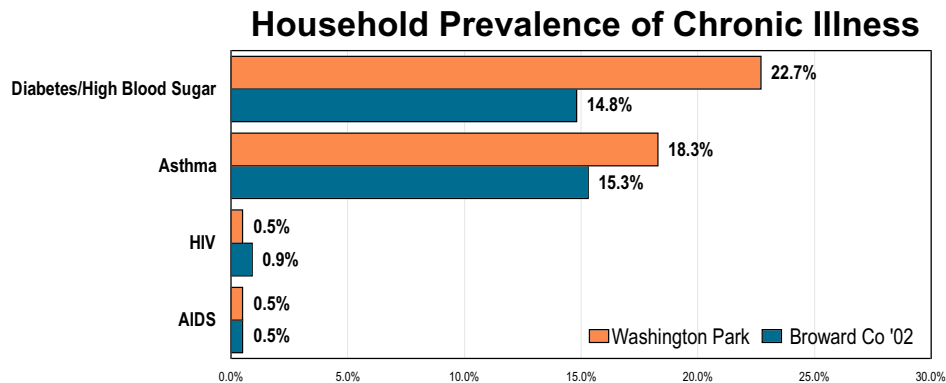


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Household Prevalence of Chronic Illness

As part of the *2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey*, area residents were asked to report the prevalence of any of various chronic conditions among them or other members of their households. As shown below, 22.7% of survey respondents reported that they or a member of their household suffers from **diabetes**, much higher than the prevalence reported across the county. Another 18.3% of local adults report that they or a member of their household suffers from **asthma**. A total of 0.5% report a household member with **HIV**, and 0.5% report a household member with **AIDS**.

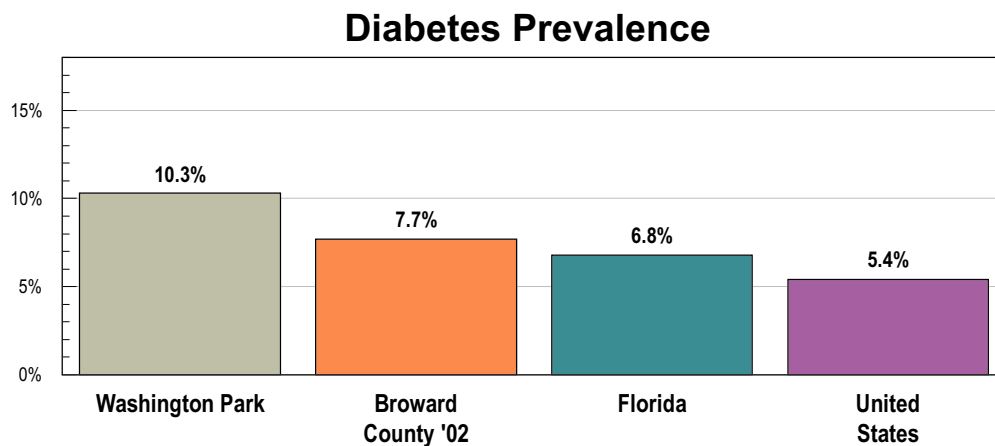


Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Diabetes Prevalence

Diabetics are at risk for a host of related ailments, including a number of eye diseases, disease of small blood vessels, as well as premature arteriosclerosis, kidney disease and neuritis (any disorder of the peripheral nervous system which interferes with sensation, the nerve control of muscle, or both). Many of these are preventable or controllable if detected early and properly treated.

As shown in the following graph, 10.3% of the community members surveyed indicate having diabetes themselves, which is *significantly higher than* the prevalence found across the nation (5.4%) but statistically similar to that found countywide. The statewide adult prevalence of diabetes is 6.8%.



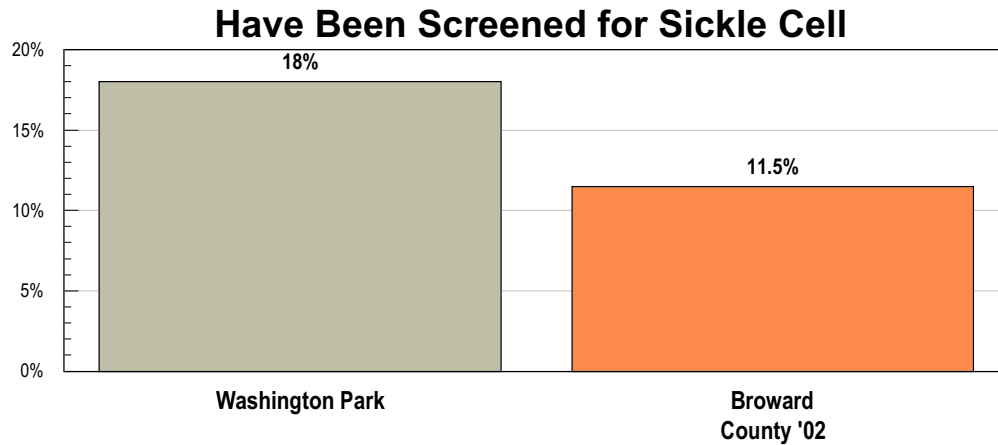
Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Vision Among Diabetics

Local diabetics were next asked to rate their vision. A total of 45.7% rated their vision as “excellent” or “very good,” 10.6% characterized it as “good,” and 43.8% rated their vision as “fair” or “poor.”

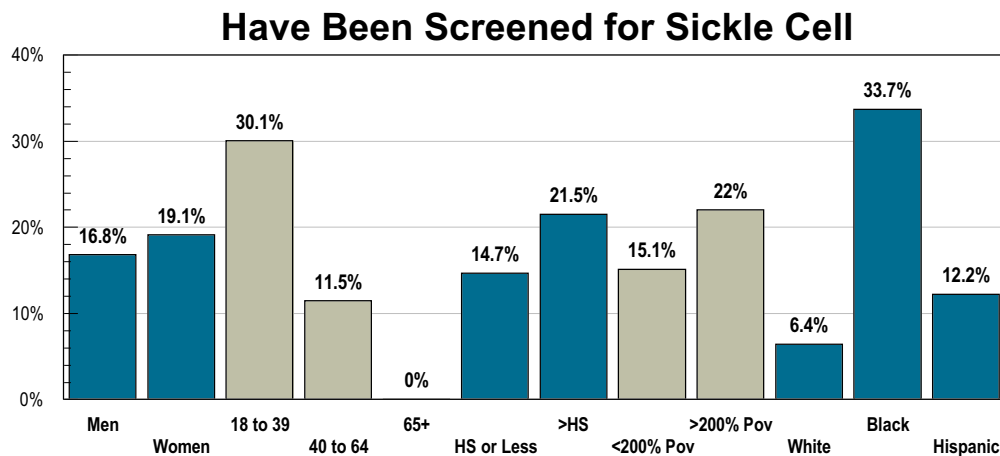
Sickle Cell Anemia

As shown below, 18.0% of adults in the Washington Park neighborhood have been screened for sickle cell anemia, *significantly higher than* the percentage recorded in Broward County (11.5%).



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Viewed demographically, screenings are highest among Black respondents, young adults, adults with higher incomes, and adults with postsecondary education.



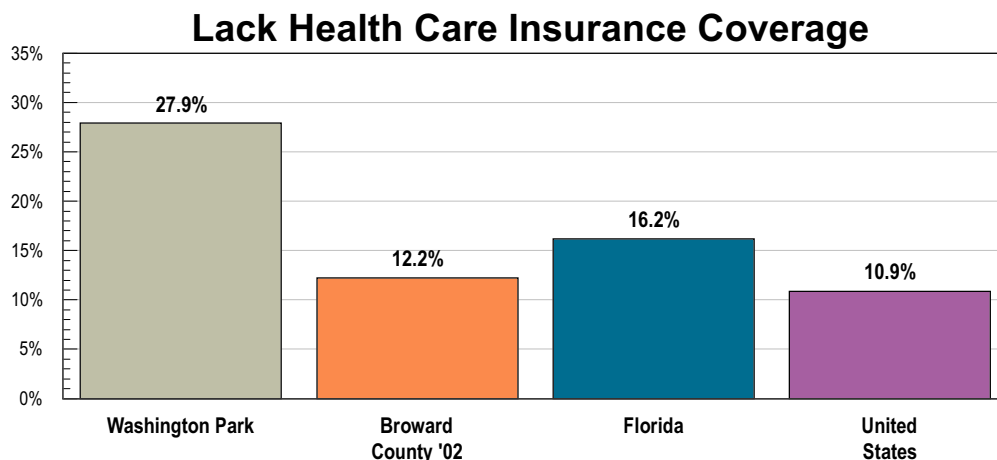
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Health Insurance Coverage

Along with enhancing quality and moderating costs, improving the accessibility of health care services is one of the principal hopes for the American health care system and a key element in any preventive approach to community health. Certainly one of the various barriers to access is a lack of insurance coverage for many Americans.

Lack of Health Insurance Coverage

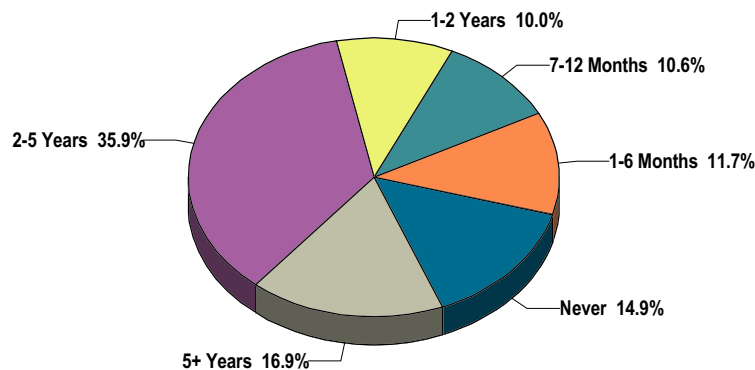
A total of 27.9% of Washington Park adults have no insurance coverage to pay for health care expenses, *significantly higher than* the prevalence found across the county (12.2%), state (16.2%) and nation (10.9%).



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Reflects total sample of respondents.

Residents without current coverage were asked to indicate how long they have been without insurance. As shown in the following chart, 11.7% of these adults have been without coverage for six months or less, while 10.6% have been without coverage for seven to 12 months. Another 10.0% have been without insurance for one to two years, and 35.9% have been without coverage for two to five years. A total of 16.9% of these adults have not had health care insurance coverage for five or more years, and 14.9% have never had health care insurance coverage.

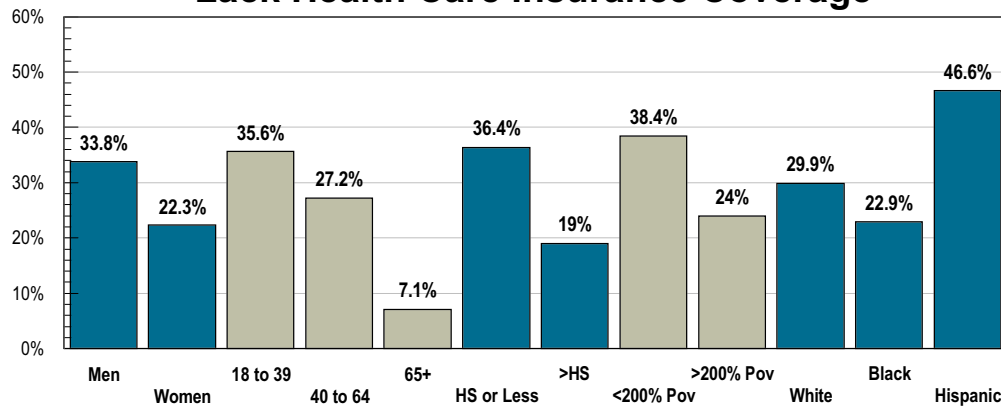
Length of Time Since Coverage (Washington Park)



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Reflects those respondents without current coverage.

Not surprisingly, current coverage is directly related to income, and, in fact, lack of insurance decreases sharply among individuals living over 200% of the national poverty level. Lack of coverage is relatively high among lower-income adults, Hispanics, those without postsecondary education, young adults and men.

Lack Health Care Insurance Coverage

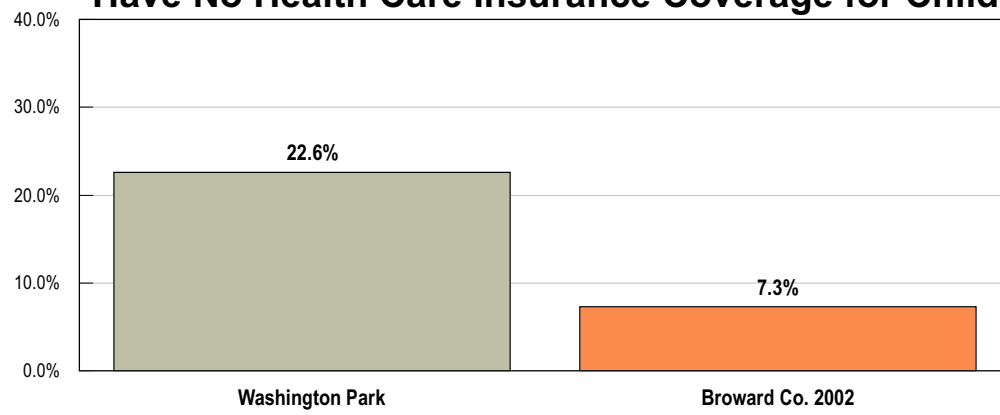


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
2. Reflects total sample of respondents.

Coverage for Children

Among local adults with children under 18 at home, 22.6% have no health care insurance coverage for their children. This is more than three times the prevalence found across Broward County (7.3%).

Have No Health Care Insurance Coverage for Child



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Note: Asked of respondents with children under the age of 18.

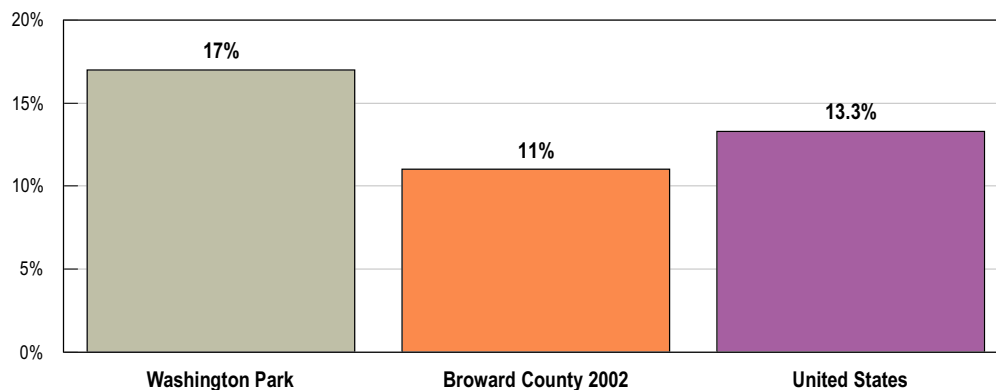
Barriers to Primary Care

This section examines access to preventive care services, including community members' experience with the availability of physician services, and cost as an inhibitor to receiving care.

Appointment Availability

Adults. A total of 17.0% of adults in Washington Park had difficulty getting in to see a physician during the past year, which is *significantly higher than* that found across Broward County (11.0%) but statistically similar to that found across the nation.

**Have Had Trouble Getting Appointment
to See Primary Care Physician in the Past Year**
(Among Adults With Health Care Coverage)



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants

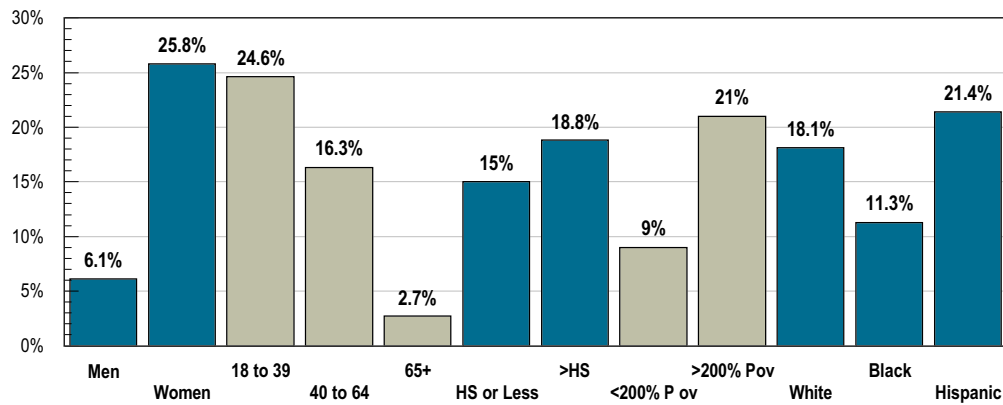
Notes: 1. Asked of those respondents who are currently covered by health care insurance.

2. State data not available.

As shown in the next graph, area women are most likely to report difficulty getting an appointment to see a physician. Note that young adults, Hispanic residents and adults in the higher income bracket also mention that they had trouble getting a medical appointment at some point in the past year.

Have Had Trouble Getting Appointment to See Primary Care Physician in the Past Year

(Among Adults With Health Care Coverage)



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

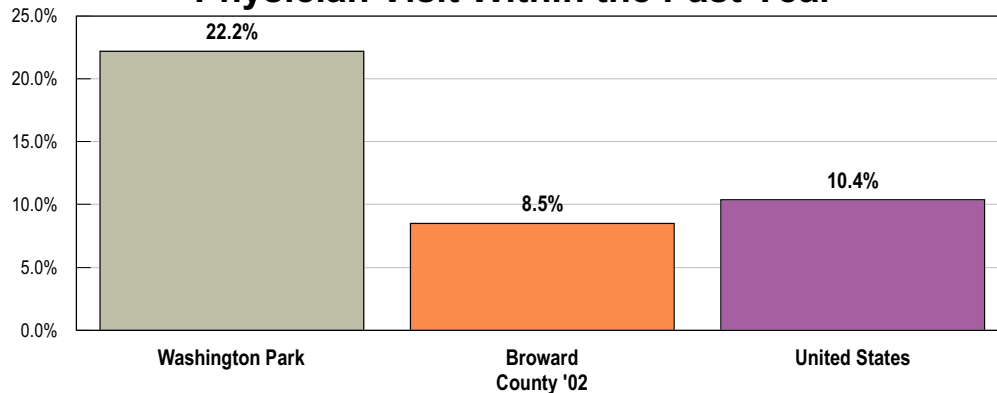
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.

2. Asked of those respondents who are currently covered by some type of health care insurance.

Cost of Health Services

Adults. Cost is an important factor in the access equation. In the past year, cost has prevented 22.2% of community members from visiting a physician. This figure is *significantly worse than* the figure found across the county (8.5%) and the nation (10.4%).

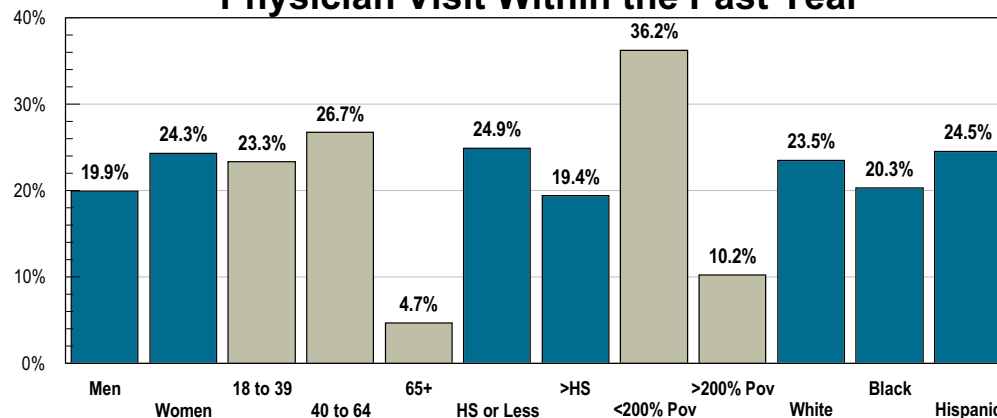
Cost Prevented a Physician Visit Within the Past Year



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.
 2. State data not available.

Note in the following table that 36.2% of persons living at or near the poverty level have found cost a prohibitive factor when seeking primary medical care in the past year. Also, middle-aged adults more often face prohibitive costs, as do adults with less education, Hispanics, Whites and women.

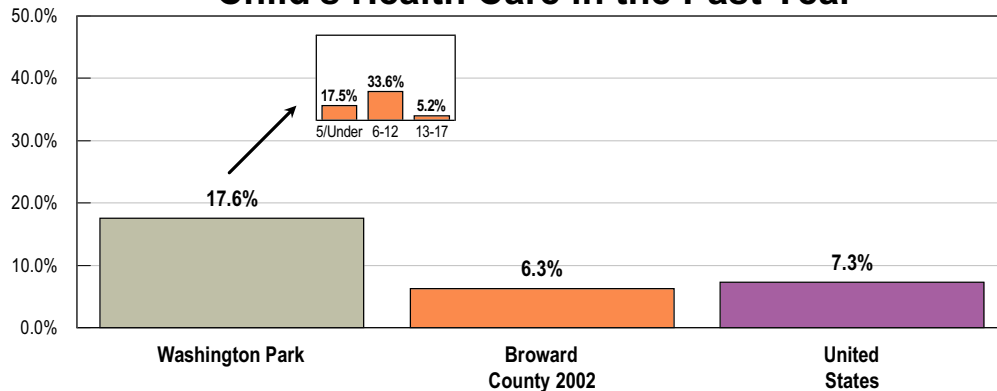
Cost Prevented a Physician Visit Within the Past Year



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Children. Among residents in Washington Park with children under the age of 18, 17.6% indicate that cost or a lack of insurance prevented their child from receiving health care at some point in the past. In comparison, a *significantly lower* 7.3% of parents nationwide could not afford health care for a child in the past year. In Broward County, 6.3% of local parents indicated that cost prevented their child's health care in the past year. Note that locally, cost as a prohibitor is highest for children ages 6 through 12.

Cost Prevented Child's Health Care in the Past Year

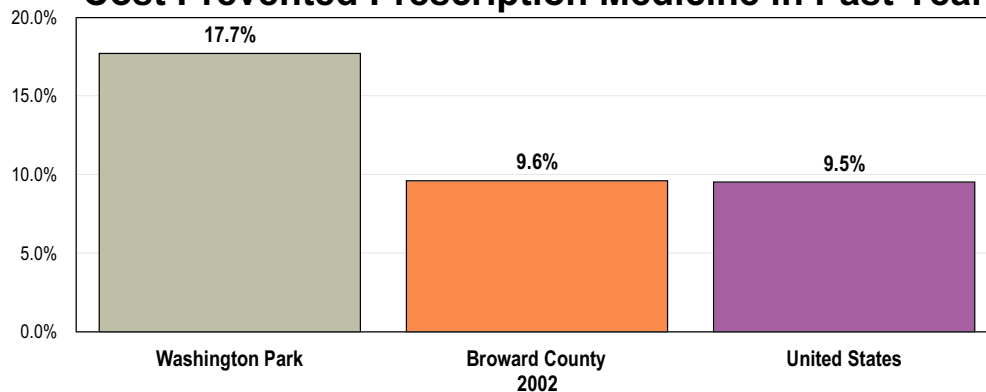


Sources: 1. 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Asked of respondents with children under the age of 18.
 2. Florida data not available.

Prescription Medicine

Adults. Another important issue in regard to medical care access is prescription medicine. A total of 17.7% of community members noted that cost prevented them from obtaining a needed prescription medicine in the past year, *significantly higher than* the 9.5% of American adults and the 9.6% of Broward County adults reporting the same.

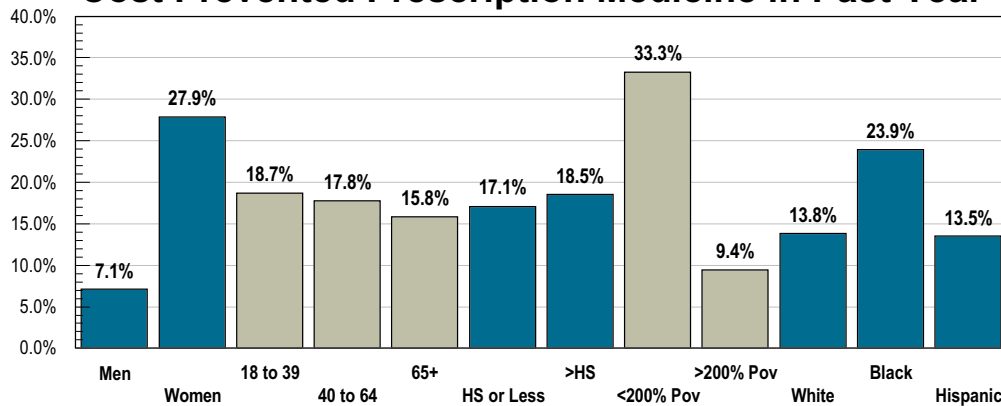
Cost Prevented Prescription Medicine in Past Year



Sources: 1. 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.
 2. State data not available.

When viewed demographically, people living at lower incomes were most likely to note that cost prevented them from receiving a prescription medicine in the past year. Note also that women and Blacks are more likely to note that cost prevented them from purchasing medicine last year.

Cost Prevented Prescription Medicine in Past Year



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

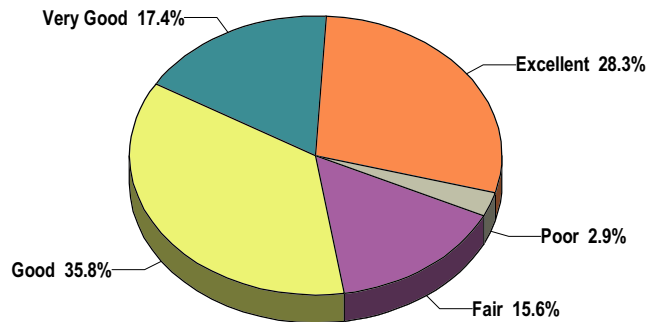
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
2. Asked of all respondents.

Quality of Local Health Care

More than four in 10 local adults (45.7%) give “excellent” or “very good” ratings of the local health care that they currently receive. On the other hand, 18.5% of adults consider their local health care to be “fair” or “poor,” as shown in the adjacent chart.

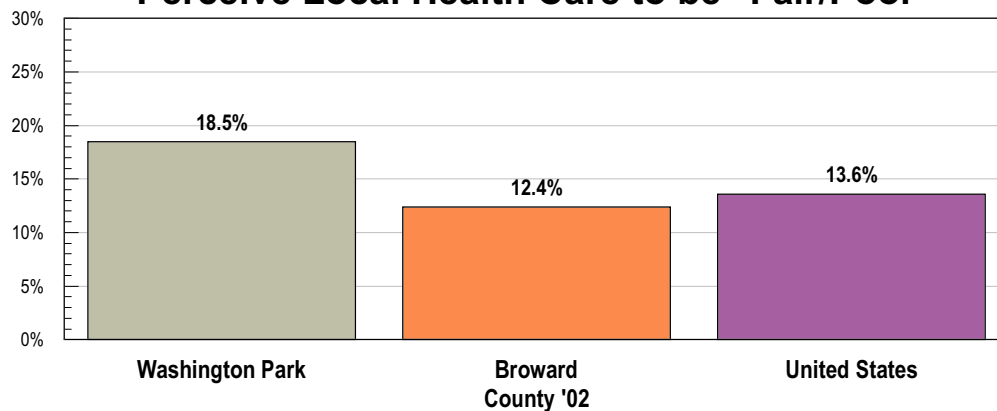
As shown below, “fair/poor” ratings of local health care are *significantly higher* than county (12.4%) and national (13.6%) findings.

Rating of Local Health Care



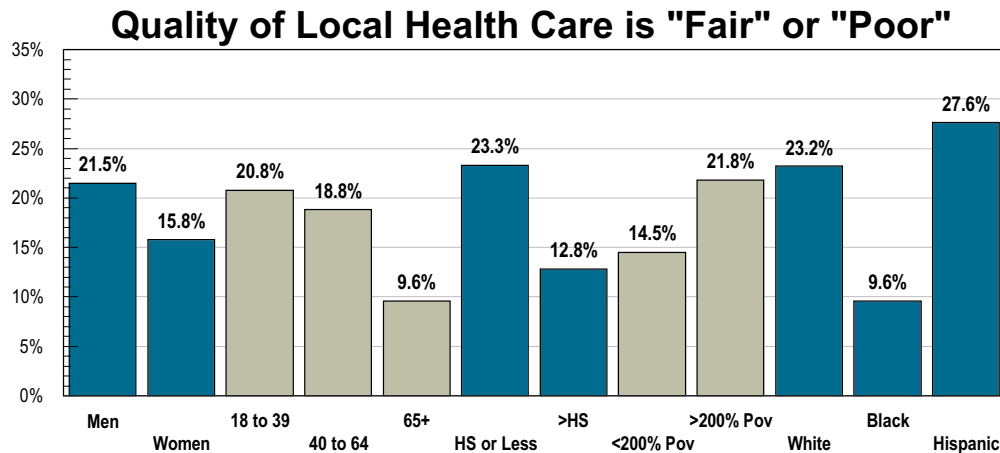
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Perceive Local Health Care to be "Fair/Poor"



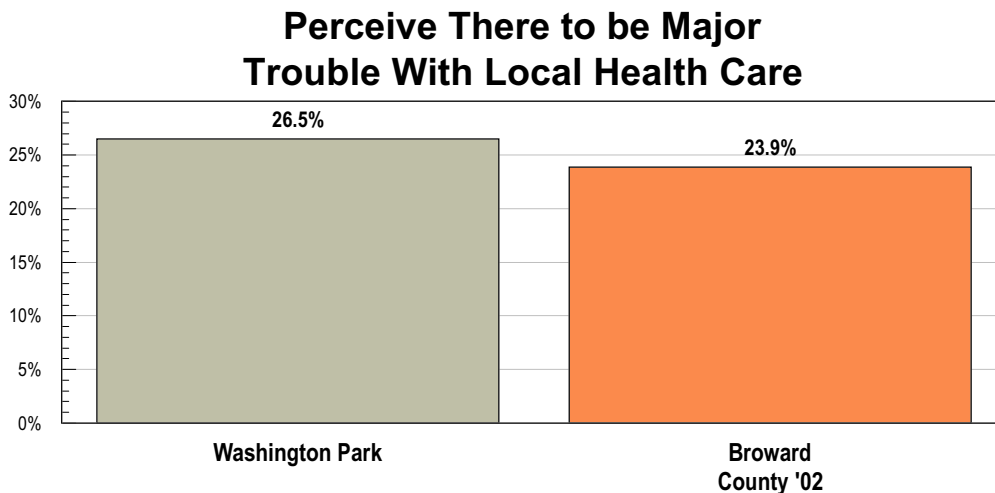
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Notes: 1. Reflects the total sample of respondents.
2. Percentages represent combined "fair" and "poor" responses.

Note in the following table that 27.6% of Hispanic respondents consider the quality of local health care to be “fair” or “poor.” Other demographic groups who more often consider their health care to be “fair” or “poor” include adults without postsecondary education, Whites, adults with higher incomes, men and young adults.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

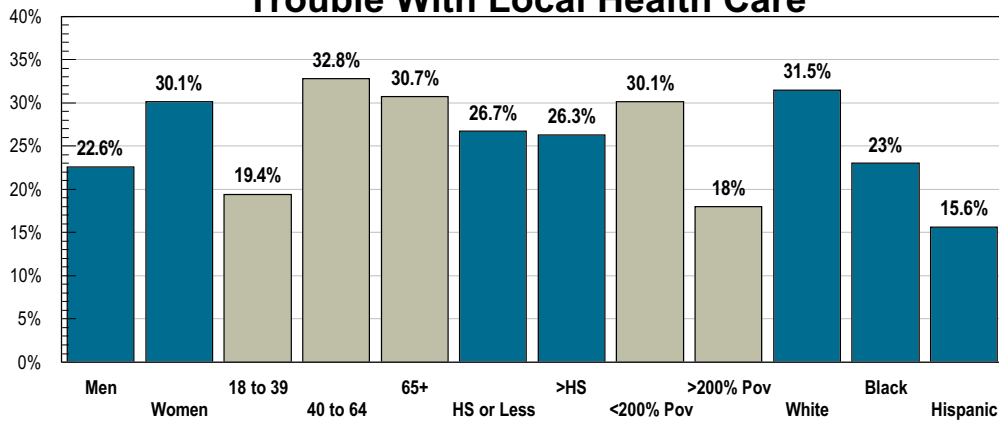
In a follow-up inquiry, community members were asked to indicate whether they feel the local health care system has major problems. As shown in the following graph, just 26.5% responded affirmatively, similar to the 23.9% found in Broward County.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Local residents most likely to give “major trouble” assessments of local health care include adults age 40 and older, Whites, women and adults with lower incomes, as shown in the following chart. Little difference is seen by educational level.

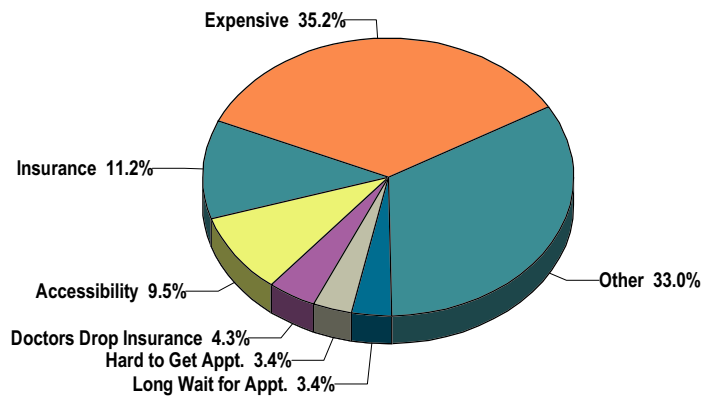
Perceive There to be Major Trouble With Local Health Care



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

When asked to specify what types of problems they are thinking of when citing “major trouble” in local health care, more than three in 10 of these residents mentioned cost or said it was too **expensive**. Another 11.2% specified **insurance** as the major trouble, while 9.5% cited trouble with **accessibility**. Another 4.3% mentioned that **doctors drop their insurance plans**, while 3.4% said it is **difficult to get an appointment** and 3.4% mentioned a **long wait for appointments**.

Perceived Problems With Local Health Care



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Reflects those respondents who perceive there to be “major trouble” with local health care.

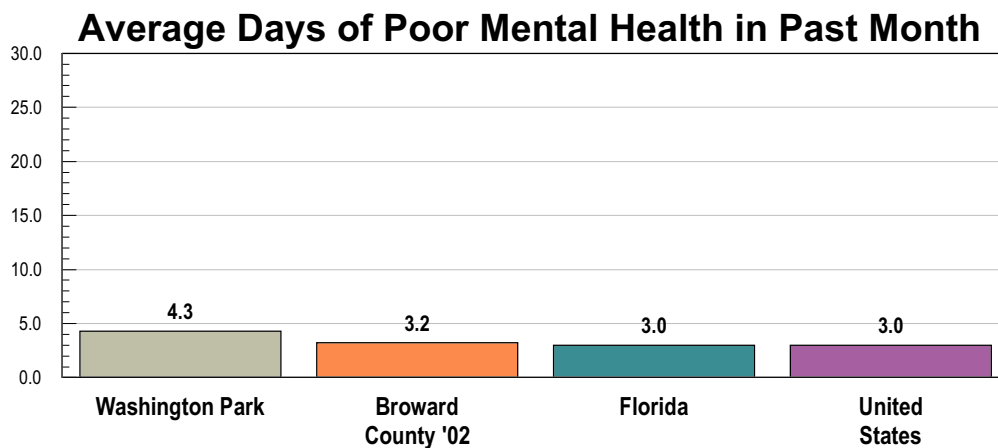
Mental Health Status

The following section outlines general assessments of the mental health status among area residents, including average days of poor health monthly and usage of professional mental health services.

Self-Reported Mental Health Status

Days of Poor Mental Health

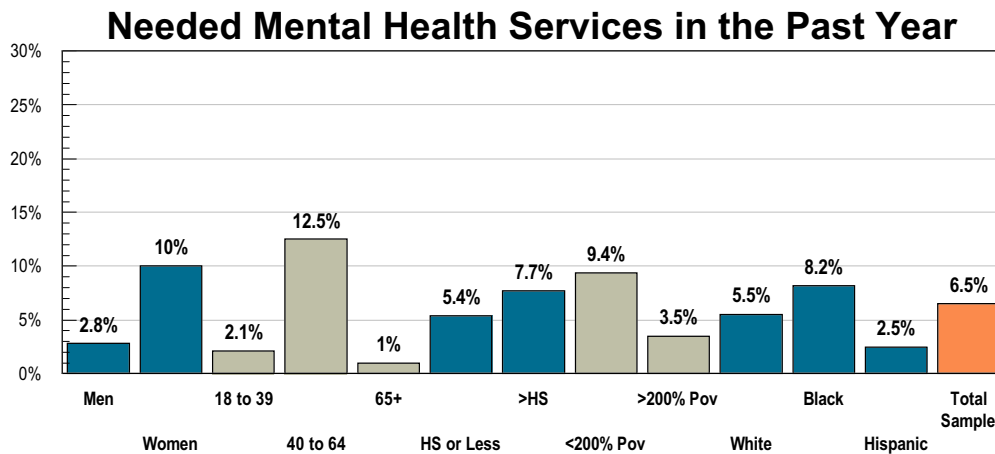
In the *PRC Quality of Life Survey*, adults in Washington Park reported an average of 4.3 days in the last month on which their mental health was *not* good. This compares to an average 3.0 days reported statewide and nationwide, as shown below. In Broward County, adults reported an average of 3.2 days of poor mental health.



Sources: 1. 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1998 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Use of Mental Health Services

A total of 6.5% of local adults indicate that at some point in the past year, they needed mental health services. Although this prevalence appears dramatically higher among middle-aged adults, *keep in mind the small sample size which the percentages represent.*



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Adults who sought professional mental help in the past year were next asked to rate the accessibility of local services and then to rate the effectiveness of the service they received. Eight out these 11 adults said the services were “easily accessible.” On the other hand, three said they were “difficult to access” or “not available.”

In regard to the effectiveness of the mental health services used, 5 out of 8 responding adults gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings, while two said “good” and two said the services they used were “fair” or “poor.”

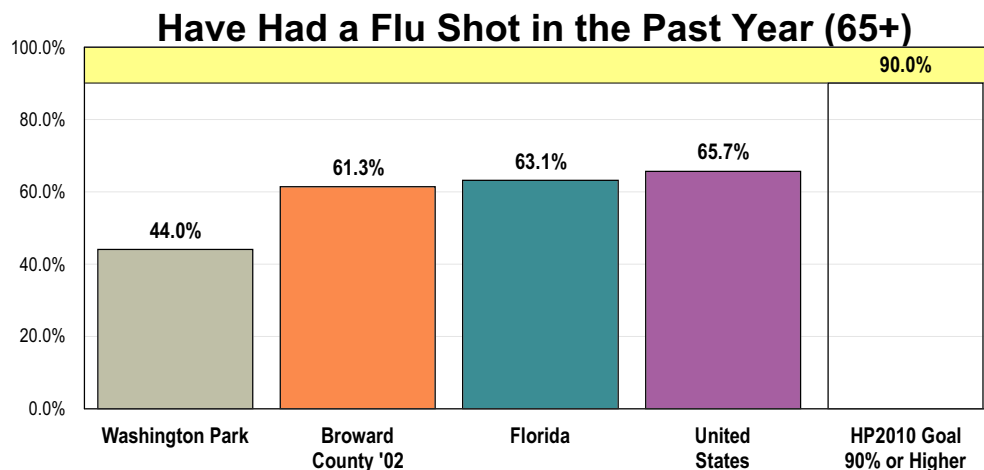
Immunization

Immunization is the best line of defense against many infectious diseases. For example, vaccination can significantly limit pneumonia and influenza outbreaks, which hit older Americans particularly hard. Immunization may even lead to the complete eradication of such diseases as tetanus and diphtheria.

Vaccinations for Seniors

Influenza

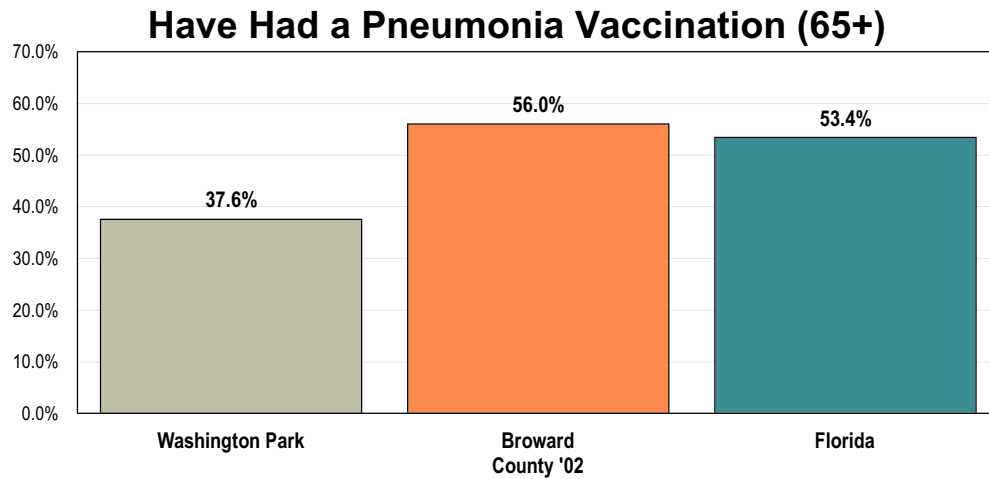
Only 11 out of 25 participating Washington Park seniors (44.0%) have had an influenza shot within the past year. However, because of the very small sample size of seniors in this study, this proportion is statistically similar to county (61.3%) and national (65.7%) findings. Statewide prevalence of flu immunization among those age 65 and older is 63.1%. Note that the *Healthy People 2010* goal is 90% or higher.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 1999 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of respondents aged 65 and older.

Pneumonia

Over one-third (37.6%) of Washington Park seniors participating in the survey have ever had a pneumonia vaccination. Again, because of the small sample size, this is statistically similar to county and state findings. Across Florida, 53.4% of adults in this age category have had a pneumonia vaccination.



Sources: 1. 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 1999 Florida Data
Note: Asked of all respondents aged 65 and older.

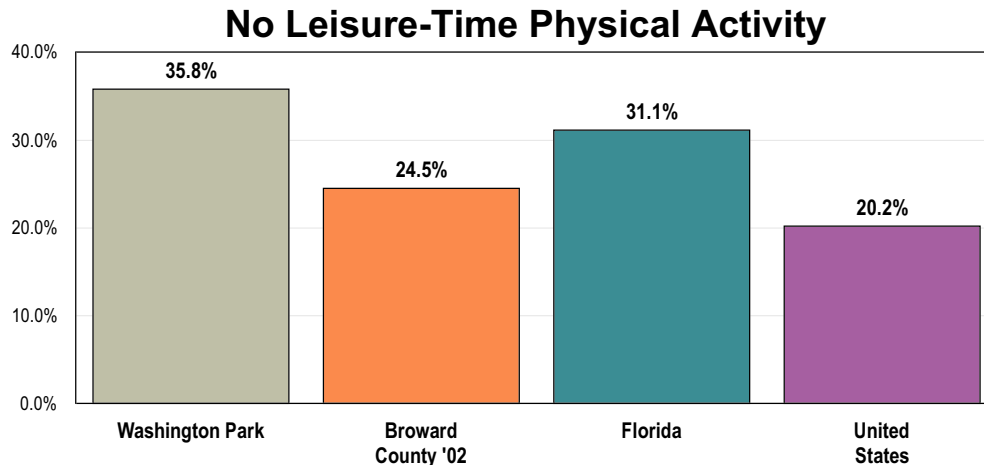
Physical Fitness

Regular physical activity contributes to a longer and healthier life. The health benefits of exercise are irrefutable; it has been asserted that employing regular physical activity toward cardiorespiratory fitness can prevent or limit one's risk for such afflictions as coronary heart disease, hypertension, noninsulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, osteoporosis, obesity, depression, colon cancer, stroke and back injury.

Leisure-Time Physical Activity

No Leisure-Time Physical Activity

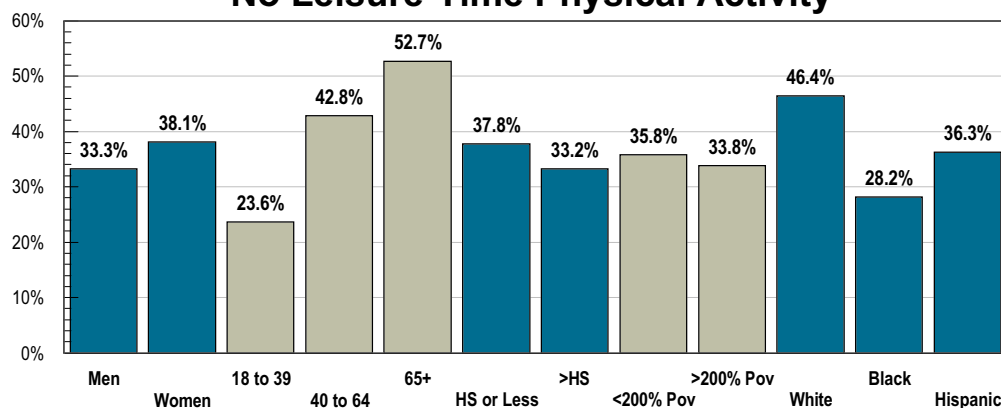
A total of 35.8% of residents in Washington Park have *not* participated in any type of physical activity outside work during the past month. This percentage is *significantly higher than* the prevalence found across Broward County (24.5%) and the nation (20.2%). The statewide average is 31.1%.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
3. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1998 Florida Data
Note: Asked of all respondents.

The following chart segments levels of inactivity by various demographic characteristics. As shown, the lack of leisure-time activity is highest among older adults, Whites, women and people in the lower educational bracket.

No Leisure-Time Physical Activity

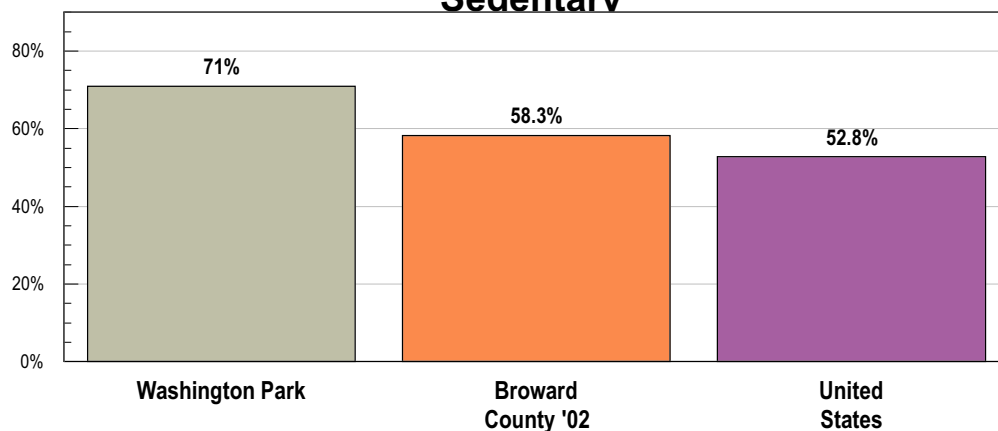


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Sedentary Lifestyles

Another measure of proper health and physical fitness is the “sedentary” definition, which applies to those who do not exercise at least three times per week for at least 20 minutes per occasion. In Washington Park, 71.0% of adults fall into this “sedentary” category. This figure is *significantly higher than* that recorded across the county (58.3%) and the nation (52.8%).

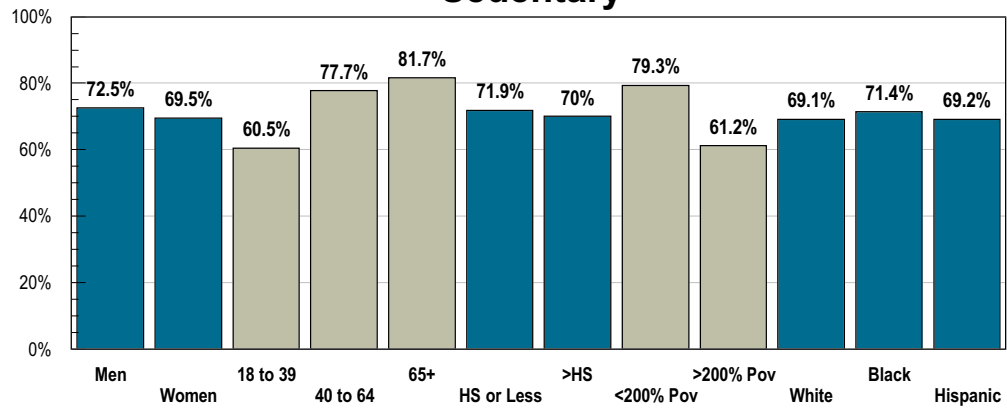
Sedentary



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Sedentary is defined as exercising less than three times a week for 20 minutes at a time.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. State data not available.

Further note that older adults and adults living at or near the poverty level most often lead sedentary lifestyles.

Sedentary



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.

2. Asked of all respondents.

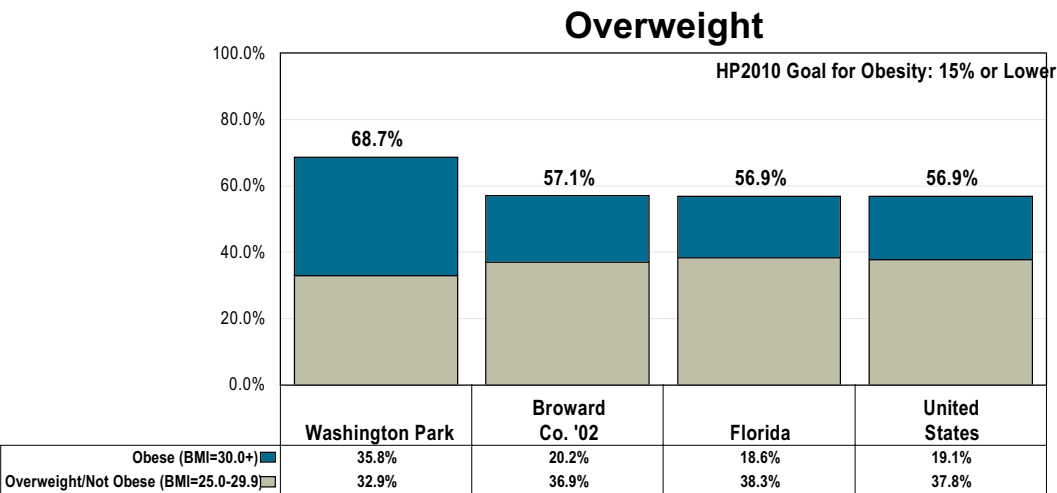
3. Sedentary is defined as exercising less than three times a week for 20 minutes at a time.

Overweight Prevalence

Being overweight afflicts a considerable portion of the U.S. population and carries significant health risks. Individuals who are overweight are at increased risk for high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, coronary heart disease, stroke, diabetes, atherosclerosis, gall bladder disease, some types of cancer, and osteoarthritis. To maintain a proper body weight, experts recommend a well-balanced diet which is low in fat and high in fiber, accompanied by regular exercise.

One of the more precise measurements of being overweight is body mass index (BMI), a ratio of weight to height (kg/m²). A person is considered to be overweight if his or her body mass index is greater than or equal to 25.0, regardless of gender; the definition for obesity is a BMI greater than or equal to 30.0. The rationale for this definition is that studies show that this is the threshold where actual increased risk for overweight co-morbidities (such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease, etc.) occurs.

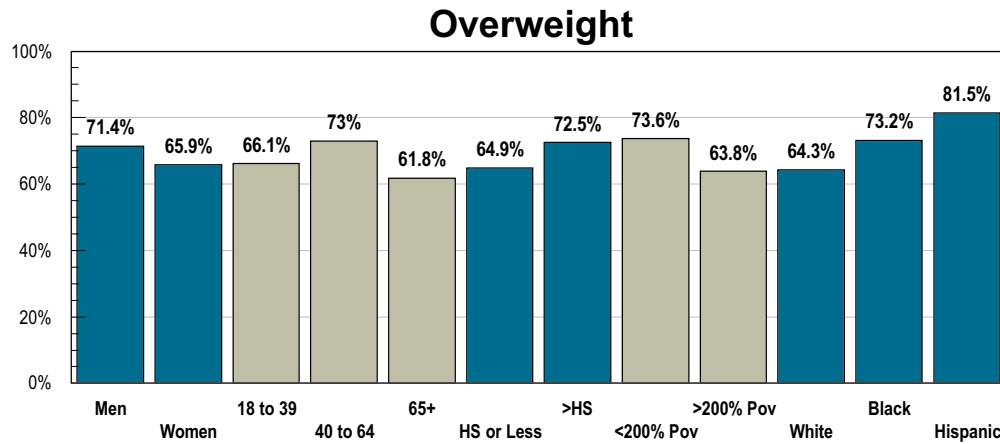
Under this definition for overweight prevalence, 68.7% of local adults are overweight, *significantly higher than* the 56.9% found nationwide in the *2000 PRC National Health Survey* and the 57.1% found in Broward County. The obesity level in Washington Park (35.8%) is higher than that found countywide, statewide and nationwide, and is more than twice the *Healthy People 2010* goal of 15% or lower.



Sources: 1. PRC Community Health Surveys, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 State Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
4. *Healthy People 2010*, National Center for Health Statistics/CDC/Public Health Service

Notes: 1. The definition of overweight is having a body mass index (BMI), a ratio of weight to height (kilograms divided by meters squared), greater than or equal to 25.0, regardless of gender. The definition for obesity is a BMI greater than or equal to 30.0.
2. Asked of all respondents.

As shown in the following chart, Hispanics, adults with lower incomes, middle-aged adults and adults with postsecondary education and men show the greatest level of overweight prevalence. Older adults, those with higher incomes, Whites, adults without postsecondary education and women exhibit the lowest overweight prevalence levels.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

- Notes:
1. The definition of overweight is having a body mass index (BMI), a ratio of weight to height (kilograms divided by meters squared), greater than or equal to 25.0, regardless of gender. The definition for obesity is a BMI greater than or equal to 30.0.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.

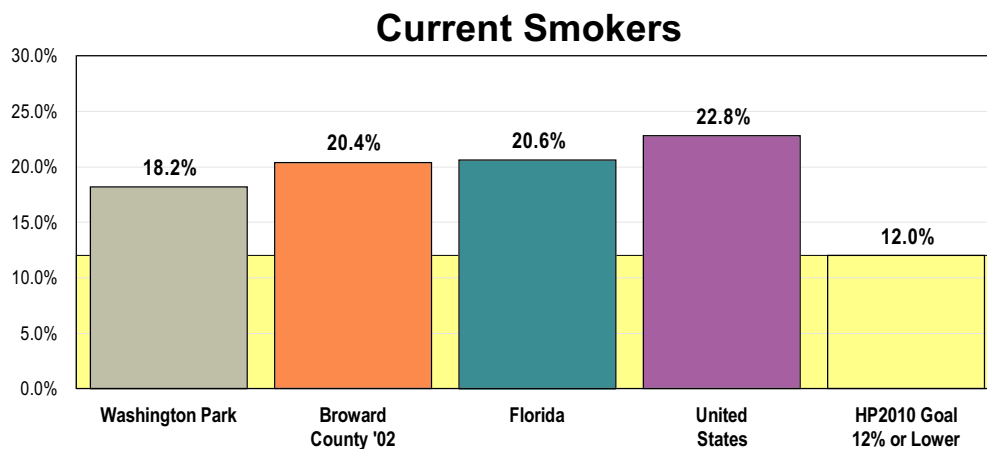
Tobacco Use

Tobacco use remains the single-most avoidable cause of death in our society. The predominant form of tobacco use is cigarette smoking, which has been associated with coronary heart disease, cancer (of the lung, larynx, pharynx, oral cavity, esophagus, pancreas and bladder), stroke, emphysema and other health problems such as respiratory infections and stomach ulcers.

Furthermore, the dangers of smoking are not limited to the smoker alone. Cigarette smoking during pregnancy contributes to low birthweight, preterm delivery and infant death. Passive or second-hand smoke can cause disease (including lung cancer) in nonsmokers and severe respiratory and other problems in young children and infants.

Cigarette Smoking

The 18.2% prevalence of current smokers recorded in Washington Park is comparable to county, state and national findings but fails to satisfy the *Year 2010* goal to reduce smoking prevalence to 12% or less of adults age 18 and over.

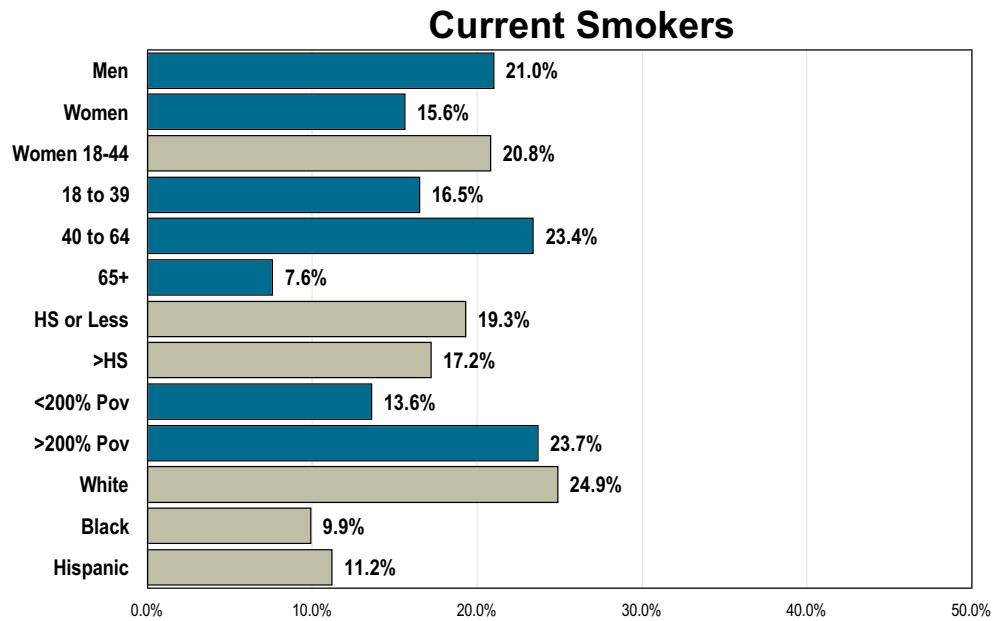


Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
4. Healthy People 2010, National Center for Health Statistics/CDC/Public Health Service
Note: Asked of all respondents.

The following chart outlines smoking prevalence in Washington Park, segmented by various demographic characteristics. As shown, 21.0% of men and 15.6% of women currently smoke. By analysis, it can be seen that a 20.8% prevalence of cigarette smoking is

noted among women in their child-bearing years (ages 18 to 44). This is notable, given that tobacco use increases the risk of infertility, as well as the risks for miscarriage, stillbirth and low birthweight for women who smoke during pregnancy.

In addition, adults aged 40 to 64, those with higher incomes, and Whites are more likely to be current smokers.

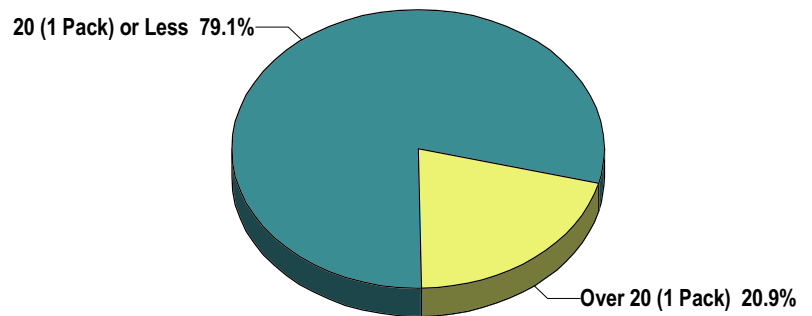


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.

Number of Cigarettes Smoked per Day

Among current smokers in Washington Park, 20.9% report smoking more than one pack (20 cigarettes) a day on the days that they smoked, while 79.1% report smoking one pack (20 cigarettes) or less, as shown in the adjacent chart. Note that the prevalence of area adults who smoke more than one pack a day is statistically similar to the national average (13.8%).

Average Number of Cigarettes Smoked Per Day
(Washington Park)



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all smokers.

Substance Abuse

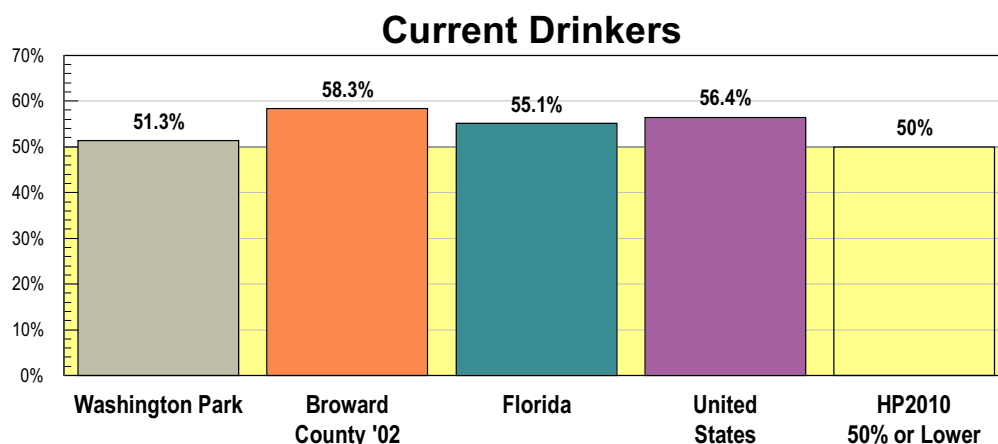
The misuse of alcohol and other drugs is associated with several health risks (including HIV transmission) and has tremendous societal and economic costs, as well. Alcohol/drug use is implicated in nearly one-half of all deaths from motor vehicle accidents and intentional injuries (including homicides and suicides), and drinking during pregnancy is the leading preventable cause of birth defects.

Alcohol abuse has also been linked to heart disease and stroke, and is the primary contributor to cirrhosis of the liver. Current drinking levels and the local drinking and driving prevalence are addressed in the following section of this report.

Alcohol Abuse

Current Drinkers

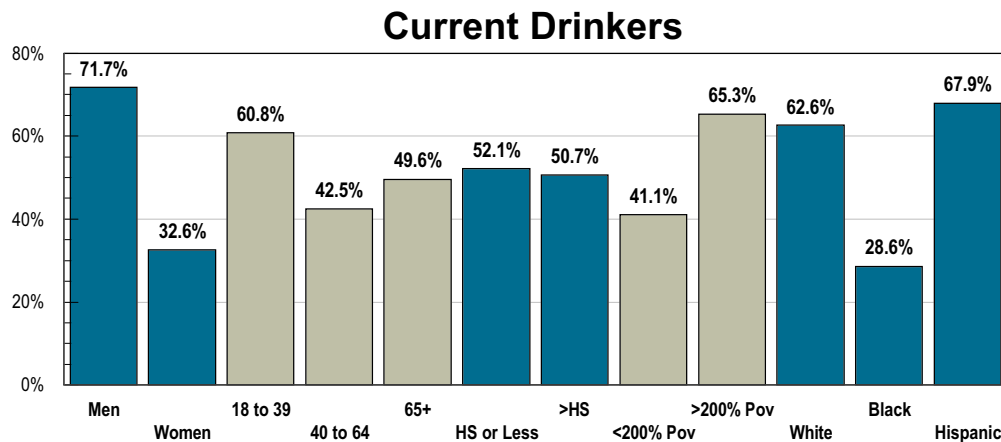
“Current” drinkers are those who have had one or more drinks within the past month (for the purpose of this study, a “drink” is defined as one can or bottle of beer, one glass of wine, one can or bottle of wine cooler, one cocktail or one shot of liquor). A total of 51.3% of adults in Washington Park fall into this category, statistically similar to the nationwide level and the county level. The statewide prevalence of current drinkers is 55.1%. As shown below, the local prevalence fails to satisfy the *Healthy People 2010* goal of 50% or lower.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Florida Survey Data, 1999
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Current drinkers are defined as those who have had any alcoholic beverages during the past month.
2. Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Note in the following table that men are much more likely than women to drink. Furthermore, there appears to be a strong positive correlation of drinking with income. When viewed by race, local drinking is much more likely to occur among Hispanics and Whites. Drinking also is more prevalent among young adults than older adults, as shown below.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

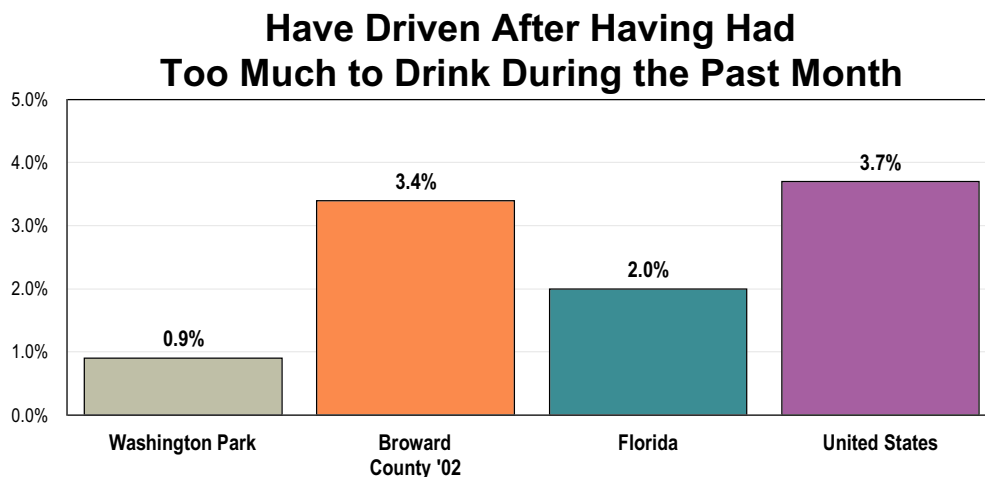
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.

2. Reflects the total sample of respondents.

3. Current drinkers are defined as those who have had any alcoholic beverages during the past month.

Drinking & Driving

A total of 0.9% of area residents admit to driving during the past month after they had perhaps too much to drink, *significantly better than* the county, state and national averages.



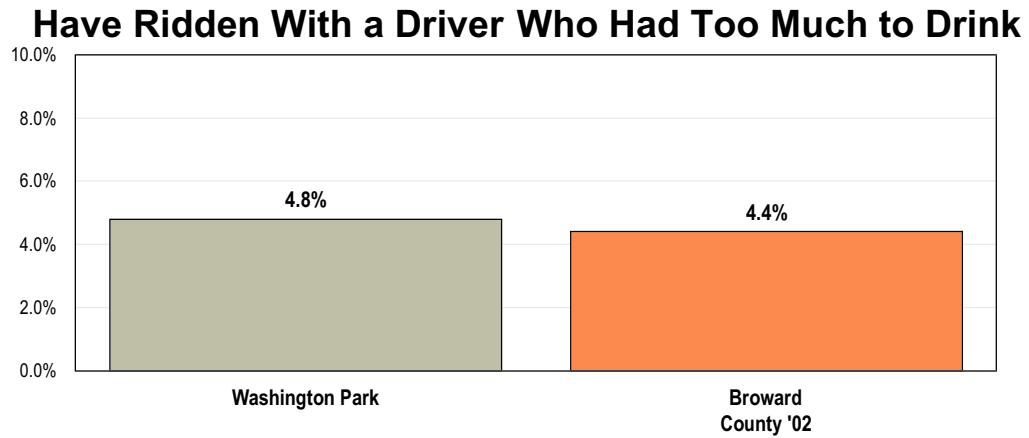
Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data

3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Note: Asked of all respondents.

In a related inquiry, local community members were asked to indicate if they have ever ridden with someone who had had too much to drink before getting into the car. As shown below, 4.8% of local adults acknowledge having ridden with a potentially drunk driver, statistically similar to that found throughout Broward County.



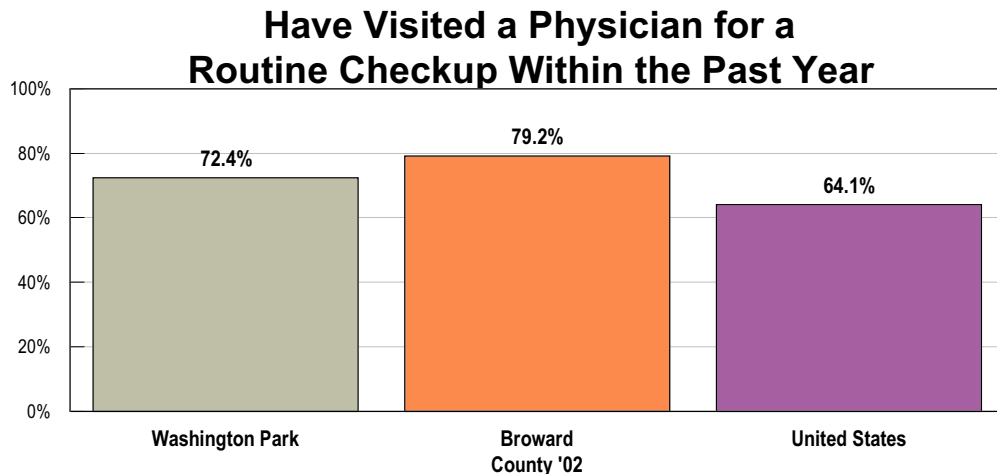
Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Preventive Care

Preventive care in Washington Park, including regular medical and dental checkups, children's checkups, and cancer screenings, is examined in the following section.

Routine Physician Care

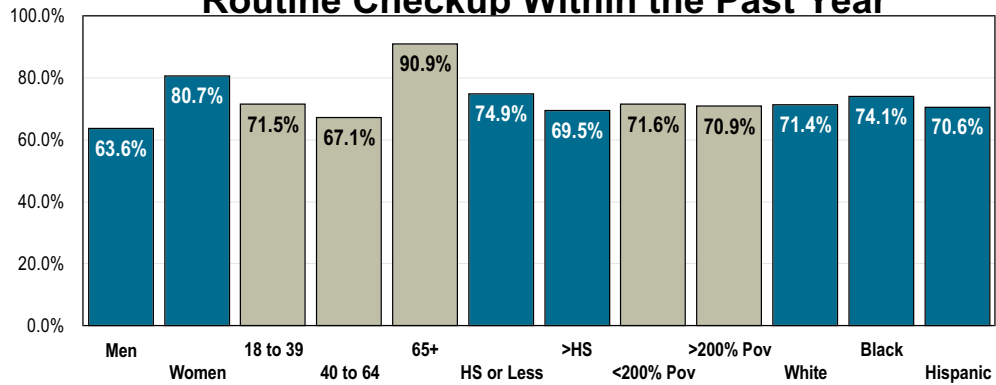
A total of 72.4% of adults in Washington Park have visited a physician for a routine checkup within the past year. This is *significantly higher than* the national average (64.1%) but *significantly lower than* the county prevalence (79.2%).



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.
2. State data not available.

Note in the following chart that adults age 65 and older are most likely to have been to a doctor in the past year. In addition, visits to area physicians are more prevalent among women, adults without postsecondary education and Blacks. Physician utilization does not appear to vary by income level, as shown below.

Have Visited a Physician for a Routine Checkup Within the Past Year



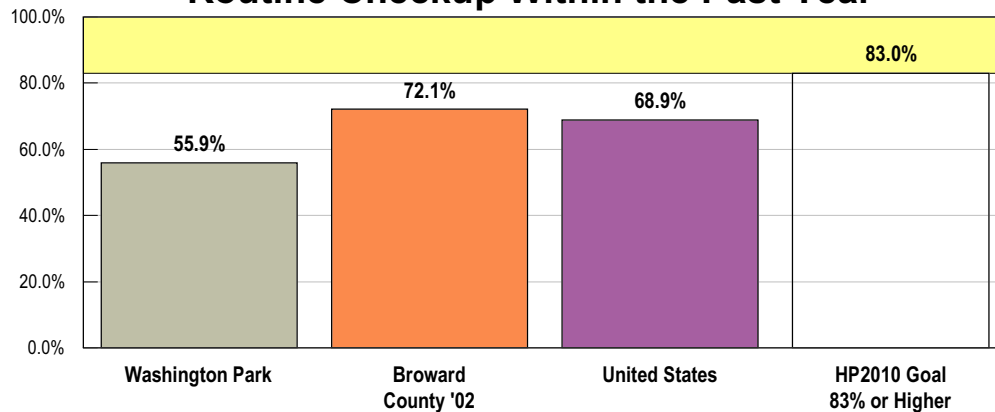
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Dental Care

Adults. Furthermore, 55.9% of adults in Washington Park acknowledge having been to the dentist for a routine checkup within the past year. This is *significantly lower than* the percentage of adults across the county (72.1%) and the nation (68.9%) who report having had routine dental care in the past year.

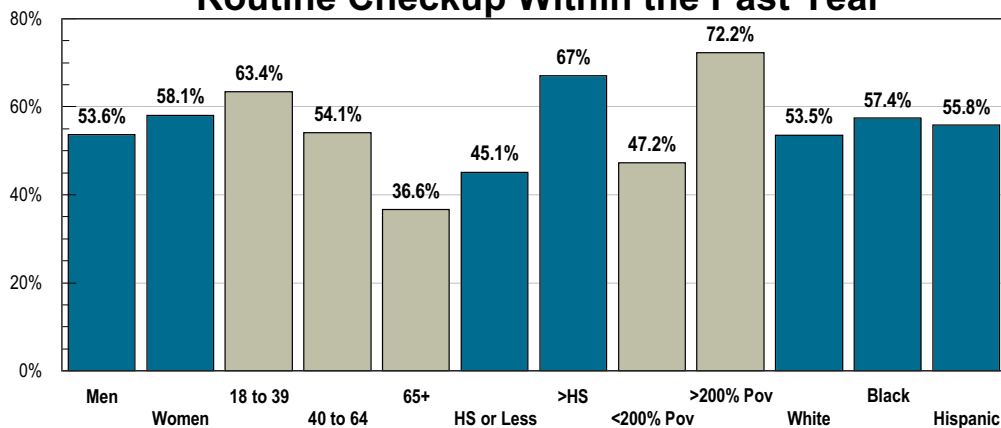
Have Visited a Dentist for a Routine Checkup Within the Past Year



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.
 2. Florida data not available.

Note below that residents least likely to have had recent dental care include older adults, adults in the lower income and educational brackets, men and White respondents.

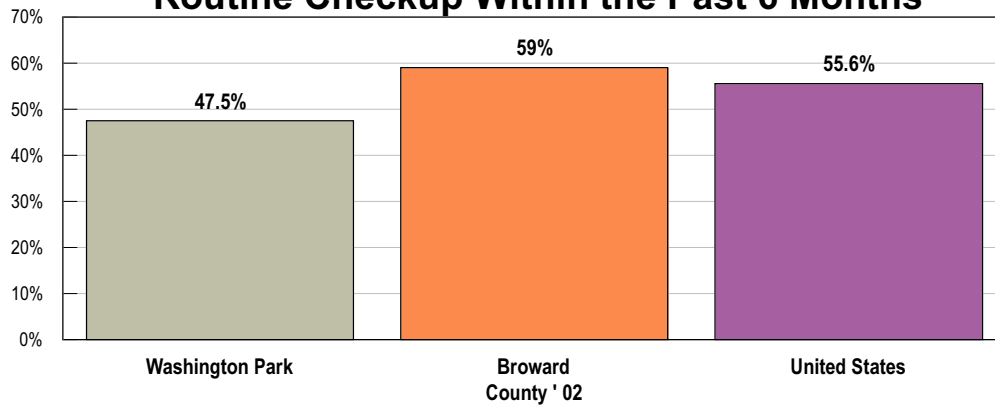
Have Visited a Dentist for a Routine Checkup Within the Past Year



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Children. Among adults in Washington Park with children under 18 years old, 47.5% report that their child has visited a dentist for routine care in the past six months, compared to that found across the county (59.0%) and the nation (55.6%).

Child Has Visited a Dentist for a Routine Checkup Within the Past 6 Months

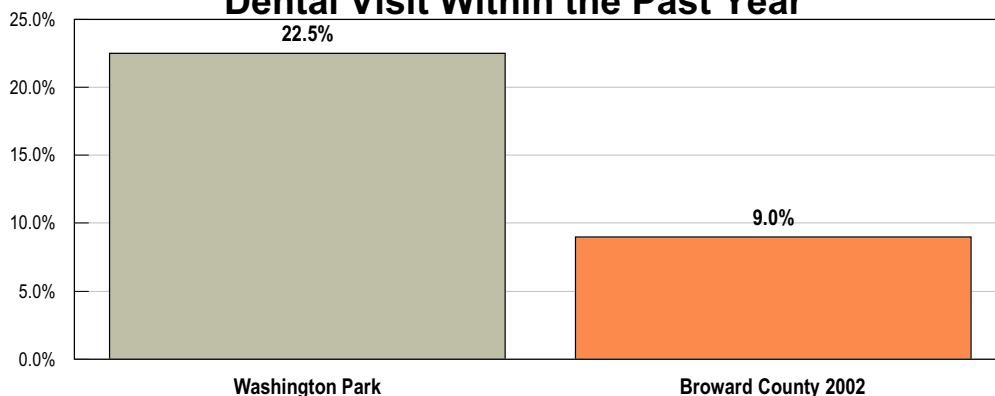


Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Asked of respondents with children aged 1 through 17.
 2. Florida data not available.

Cost Prevented Child's Dental Care Last Year

In a follow-up inquiry, local parents were asked to indicate whether cost was a factor in not obtaining dental care for their child in the past year. As shown below, 22.5% of local parents noted that cost prevented their child's dental care in the past year, *significantly worse than* found in Broward County (9.0%).

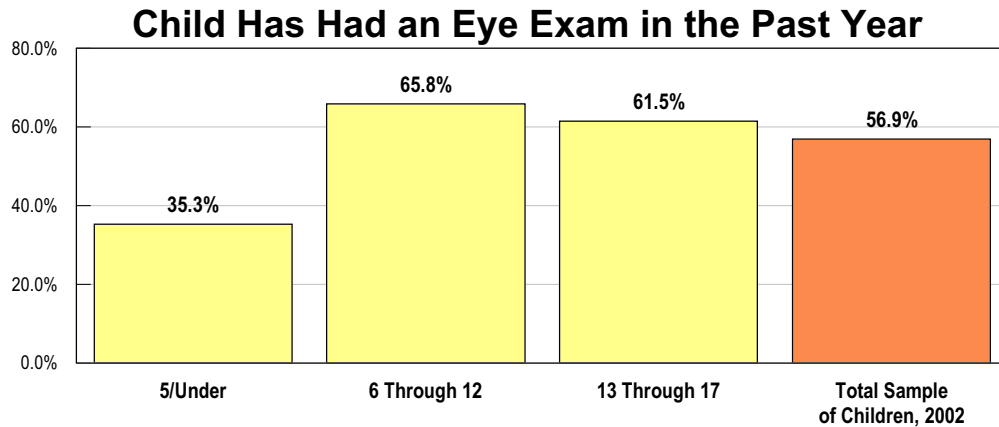
Cost Prevented Child's Dental Visit Within the Past Year



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of those respondents with children under 18 at home.

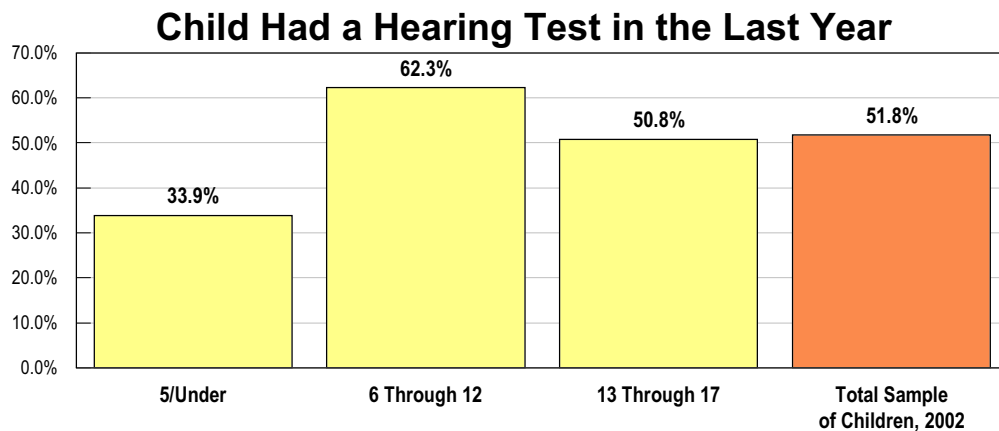
Vision and Hearing Care Among Children

More than one-half (56.9%) of local parents indicate that their child has had an eye exam at some point in the past year; the local prevalence increases to more than 60% among children above the age of 5, as shown below.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of those respondents with children under 18 at home.

Five in 10 local children (51.8%) had a hearing test in the past year.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of those respondents with children under 18 at home.

Cancer Screenings

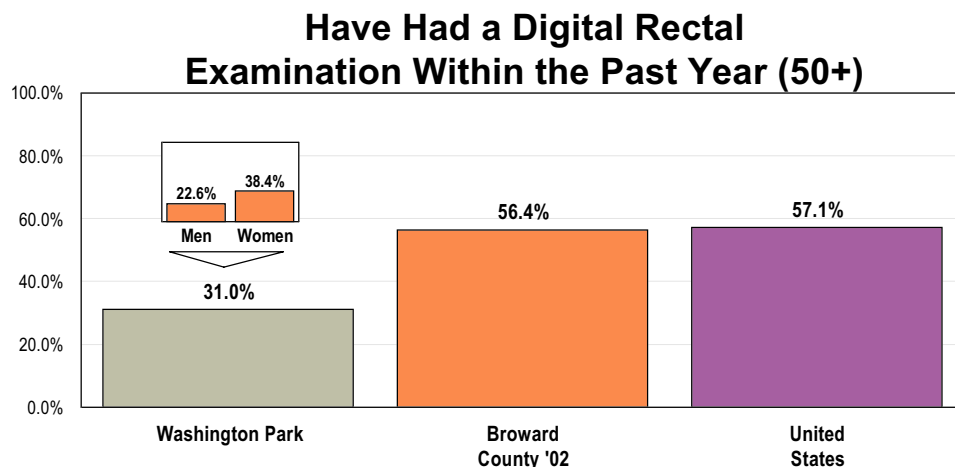
Cancer, the second leading cause of death in America, refers to a family of more than 100 different diseases characterized by the uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells throughout the body. Together, these diseases account for 1 of every 5 deaths in the United States. Many forms of cancer are preventable, and some, if detected and treated early, are curable. Thus, the greatest potential for reducing cancer prevalence in years to come lies in stronger prevention strategies, improved means of early detection and wider use of screening techniques.

Colorectal Cancer

Digital Rectal Examination

A **digital rectal exam** is a screening procedure in which a physician or other health professional inserts a finger into the rectum to check for colorectal cancer and other health problems.

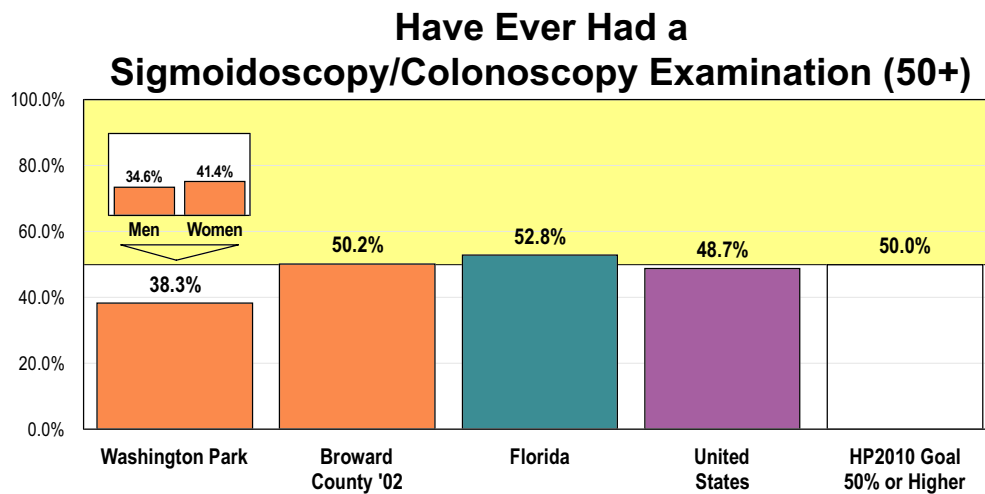
In Washington Park, 31.0% of men and women age 50 and older have had such an examination within the past year, *significantly lower than* Broward County (56.4%) and national (57.1%) findings. Note in the following chart that women exhibit higher testing rates than men.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents aged 50 and older.

Sigmoidoscopy/Colonoscopy

Another method of screening for colorectal cancer is the **sigmoidoscopy/colonoscopy examination**, in which a tube is inserted in the rectum. A total of 38.3% of area residents over the age of 50 has ever had this type of exam. Note below that the local rate is *significantly lower than* the county rate (50.2%) but is statistically similar to the national rate. The statewide prevalence is 52.8%. The local average fails to satisfy the *Healthy People 2010* goal (50% or higher). In this case, women exhibit a higher testing rate than men, as shown below.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
 3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 4. Healthy People 2010, National Center for Health Statistics/CDC/Public Health Service

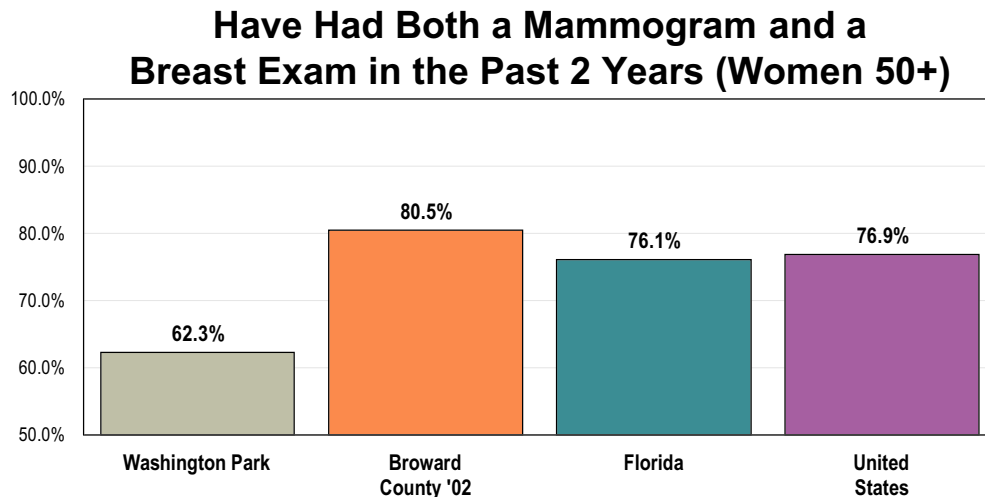
Note: Asked of all respondents aged 50 or over.

Female Breast Cancer

Mammography & Breast Examination

One of the most effective screening tools for breast cancer is the **mammogram**, an x-ray of the breast; women over the age of 50 should have a mammogram annually. Another method is the **clinical breast exam**; this is when a physician, nurse or other health professional feels the breast for lumps. Used in conjunction with one another, these two screening procedures are a woman's best defense against breast cancer, given that early detection and treatment bring the best chances for survival.

In Washington Park, 62.3% of women age 50 and older have had *both* of these types of exams within the past 2 years, *significantly lower than* Broward County (80.5%) and national (76.9%) findings. Across Florida, 76.1% of women age 50 and older had both types of screenings within the past two years, as shown.



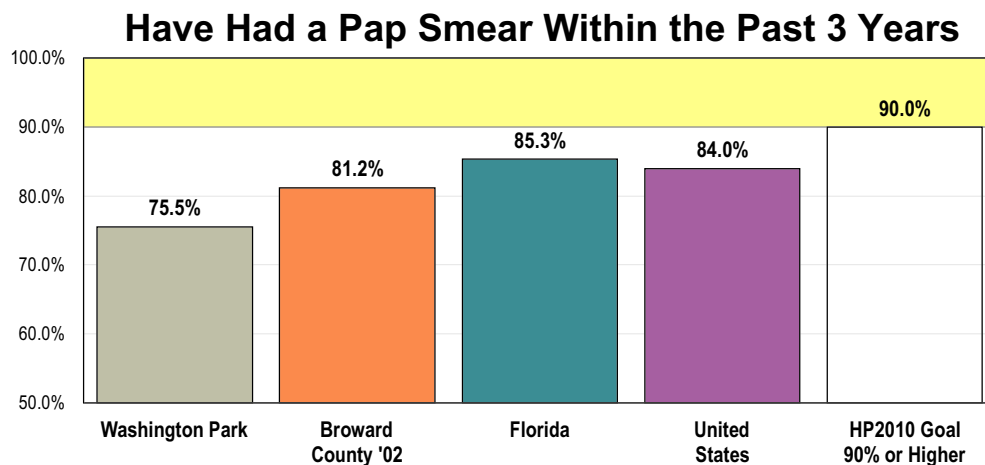
Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Reflects women aged 50 and over.

Cervical Cancer

Pap Smear Testing

The most effective means of detecting cervical cancer in women is through a **Pap smear** test. Women over the age of 18 should undergo a Pap smear regularly. Early detection of cervical cancer through a Pap smear can dramatically increase a woman's probability of long-term survival.

Nearly seven out of 10 area women in Washington Park (68.8%) have had a Pap smear within the past 3 years. This is *significantly worse than* county (81.2%), state (85.3%) and national (84.0%) findings and fails to satisfy the 90% goal for the year 2010.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1999 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
4. Healthy People 2010, National Center for Health Statistics/CDC/Public Health Service
Note: Asked of all female respondents.

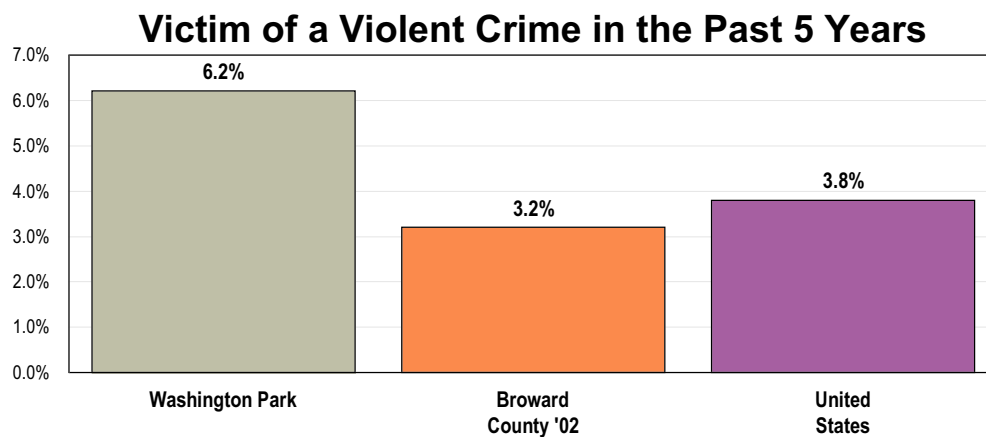
SAFETY

Crime

The safety of a community plays an integral part of the overall quality of life. The following section examines various facets of crime in Washington Park as perceived by community members.

Victimization

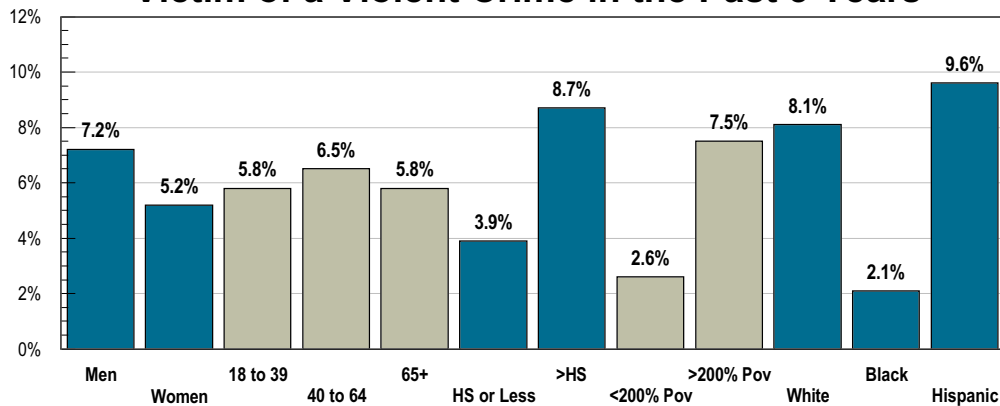
A total of 6.2% of adults in Washington Park report having been the victim of a violent crime within the past 5 years (translating to more than 200 adults in the area). This proportion is statistically similar to the county and national averages.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.
2. State data not available.

When viewed demographically, adults most likely to have been victimized by crime in the past five years include Hispanics, adults in the higher income and educational brackets, and men, as shown in the following chart.

Victim of a Violent Crime in the Past 5 Years



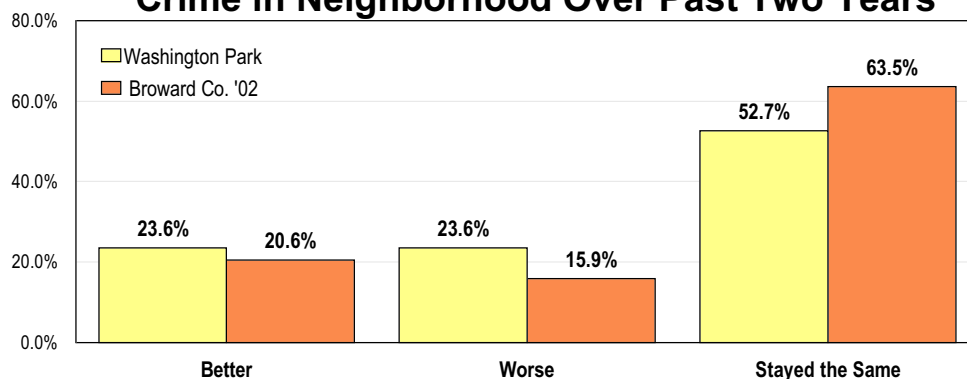
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Safety in the Neighborhoods

When asked to indicate how crime has changed in their neighborhood over the past two years, most area residents (52.7%) report that it has “stayed the same” (compared to 63.5% in Broward County). A total of 23.6% of local adults feel that the crime situation in their neighborhood has “worsened” in the past two years (compared to 15.9% across the county), while 23.6% report that the local crime problem has gotten “better” (compared to 20.6% across the county).

Crime in Neighborhood Over Past Two Years

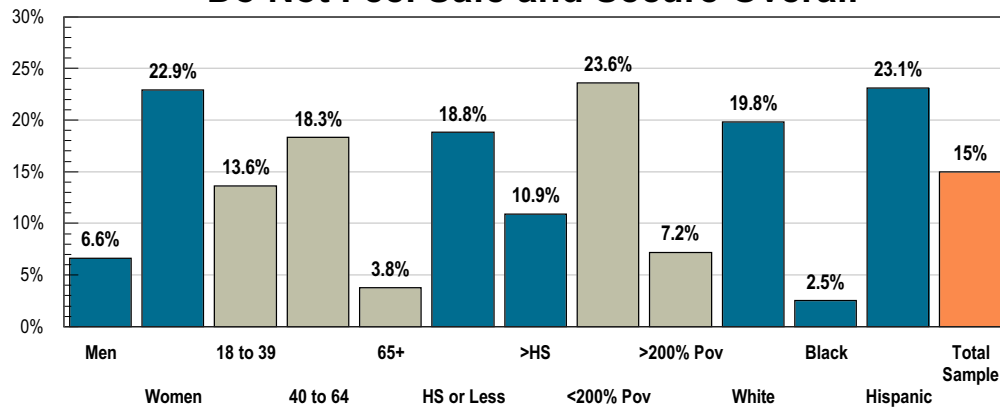


Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

- Notes:
1. Asked of all respondents.
 2. State data not available.

Overall, 15.0% of area adults do not feel safe and secure in their neighborhood. Note that this prevalence increases among adults living in the lower income and educational brackets, Hispanics, women, Whites and middle-aged adults.

Do Not Feel Safe and Secure Overall



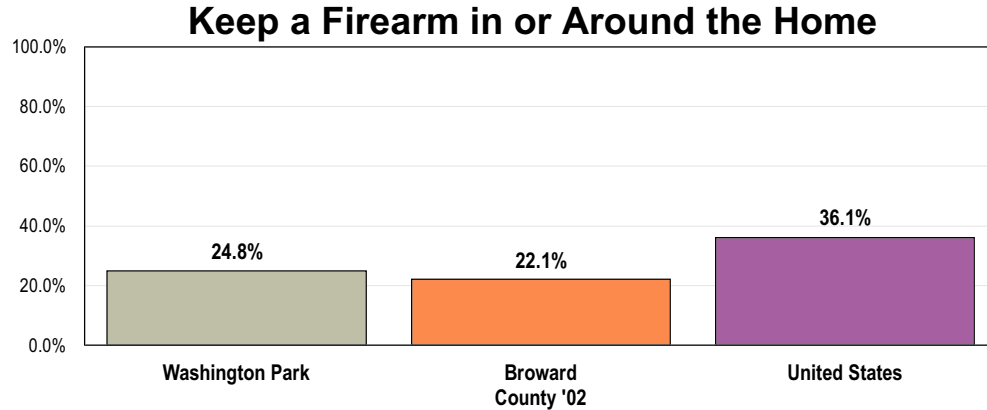
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
2. Asked of all respondents.

Firearms

Presence of Firearms in the Home

In Washington Park, 24.8% of adults report keeping a firearm in their homes. This is *significantly lower than* national findings (36.1%) but similar to county findings.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

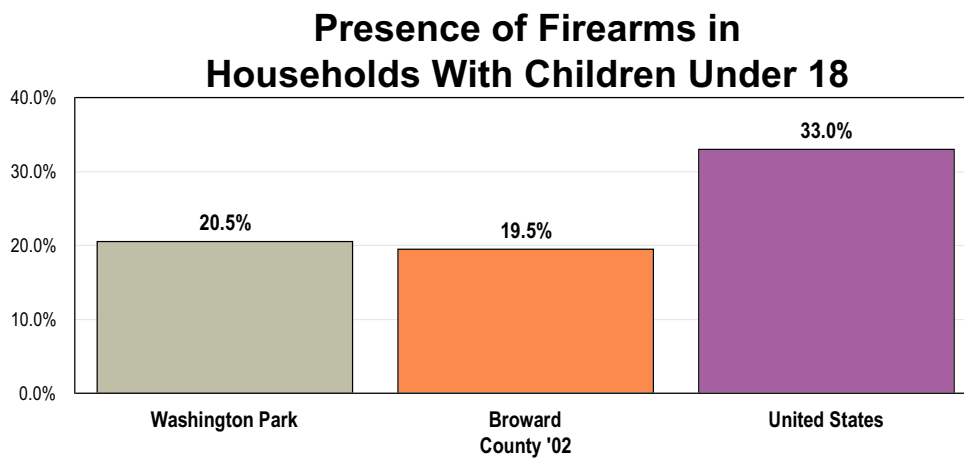
2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.

2. Florida data not available.

3. Includes pistols, shotguns, rifles and other types of guns, but does not include starter pistols, BB guns or guns that cannot fire.

Among area households with children under 18, 20.5% report that they keep a firearm in the home, *significantly lower than* that found across the nation (33.0%) but similar to that found across Broward County (19.5%).

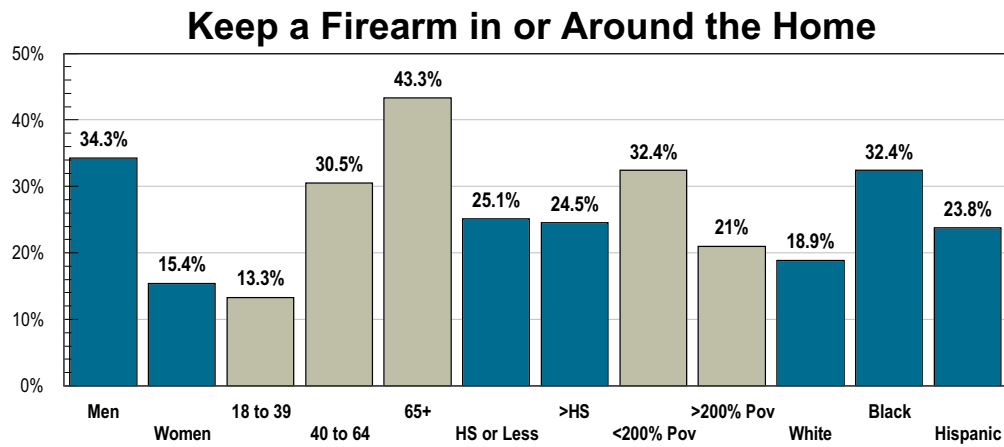


Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

2. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Percentage of households with children under the age of 18.

Viewed demographically, firearm ownership is highest among older adults, men, Blacks and adults in the lower income bracket.



Sources: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
2. Asked of all respondents.

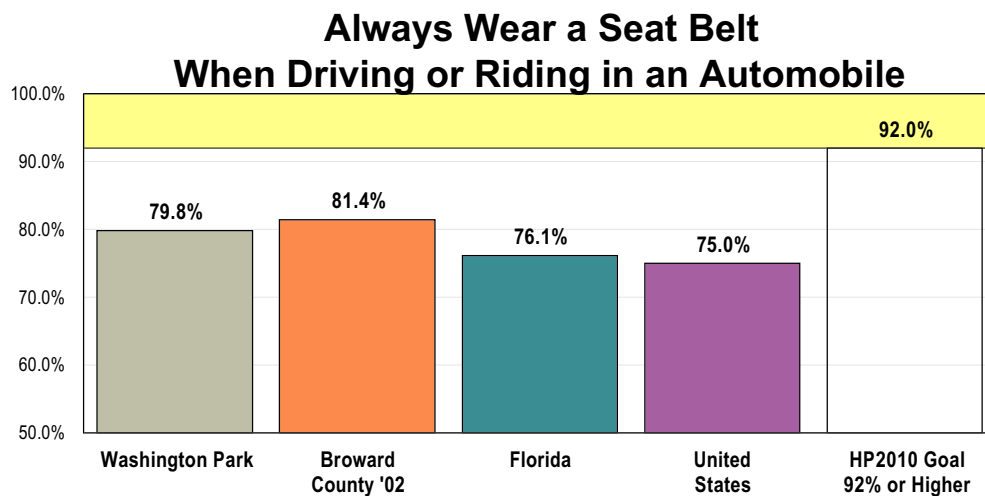
Injury Control

The following section examines various aspects of injury control, including motor vehicle safety, water safety, and local emergency preparedness.

Seat Belt Usage

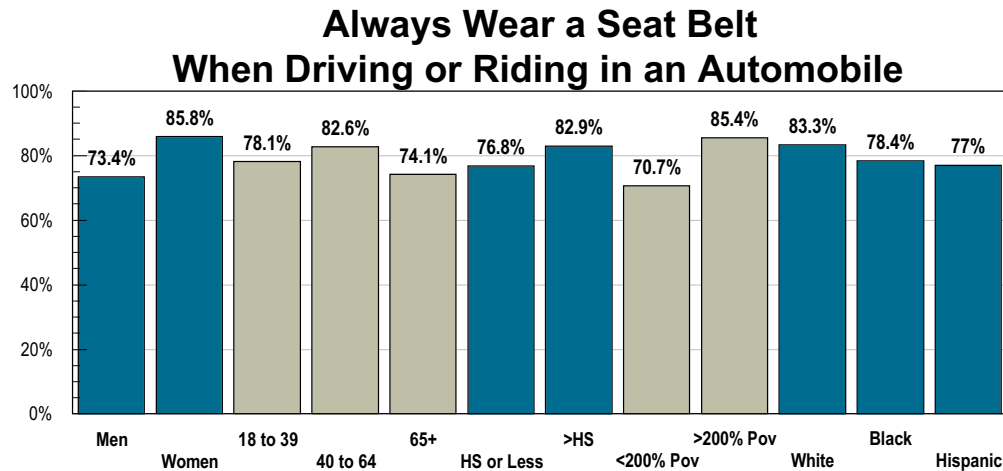
In recent years, mandatory safety belt use laws in many states and the design of occupant protection systems by auto manufacturers have greatly increased seat belt usage and consequently saved lives. For adults and for children over 4 years of age, seat belts are the greatest means of protection against bodily injury in the event of a crash. For children under 5 years of age, a child safety seat is indicated, and it is vital that this seat not only be used, but that it be installed and used correctly.

Currently, 79.8% of area adults report “always” wearing a seat belt when driving or riding in an automobile. This is statistically similar to the county and nationwide findings but fails to satisfy the *Healthy People 2010* goal of 92% or higher. The statewide prevalence is 76.1%.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 1997 Florida Data
3. 2000 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
4. Healthy People 2010, National Center for Health Statistics/CDC/Public Health Service
Note: Asked of all respondents.

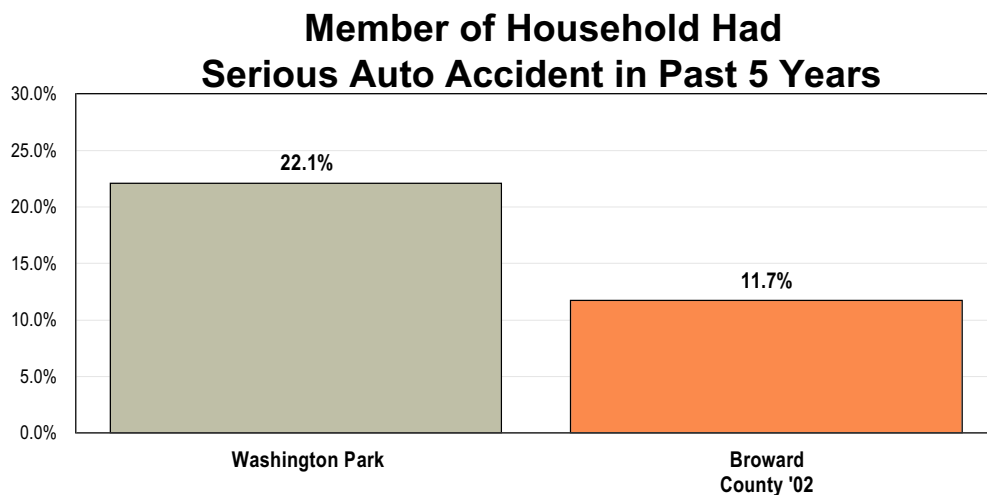
Regular seat belt usage is much higher among women than men, and usage increases with income and education as well. Among age cohorts, middle-aged adults use seat belts more often than younger and older adults. Note that adults living in or near poverty report the lowest indication of regular seat belt usage in Washington Park.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

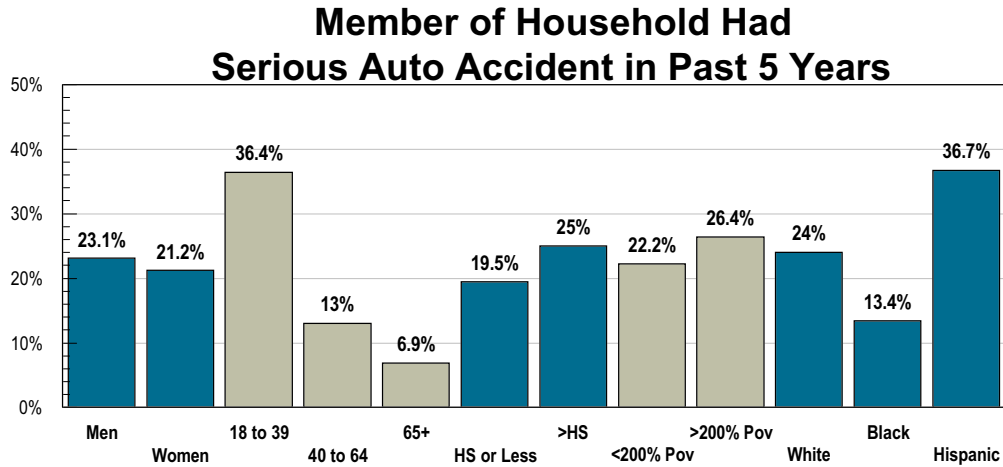
Recent Automobile Accidents

In a related inquiry, local adults were next asked to indicate whether they or a member of their household has been in a serious automobile accident in the past five years. As shown below, 22.1% (representing nearly 840 people) responded affirmatively, *significantly higher than* the Broward County average (11.7%).



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Viewed demographically, Hispanics and young adults appear to be most likely to report that they or a member of their household had a serious automobile accident in the past five years, as shown below.

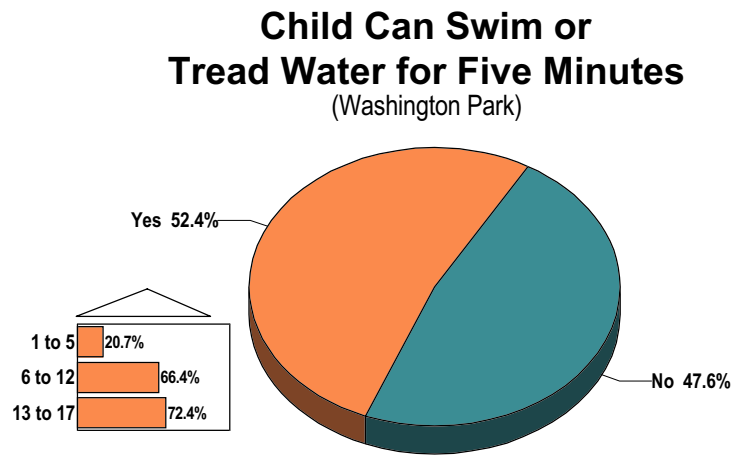


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Water Safety

Children's Swimming Skills

One-half (52.4%) of parents with children under the age of 18 report that their child can swim or tread in deep water for five minutes. Such swimming skills increase dramatically among children over the age of 5, as shown below.



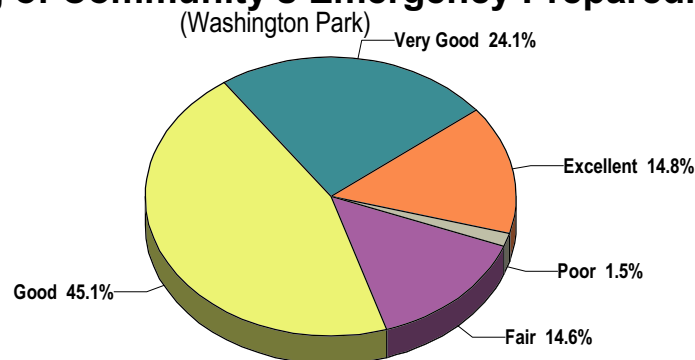
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged 1 to 17.

Emergency Preparedness

Rating of Local Preparedness

During certain months of the year, life in Florida involves the risk of major storms and even hurricanes. When asked to rate their community for its emergency preparedness for such disasters, a total of 38.9% of local residents gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings. Four out of 10 community members (45.1%) gave “good” responses, while the remaining 16.1% gave “fair” or “poor” ratings of local emergency preparedness.

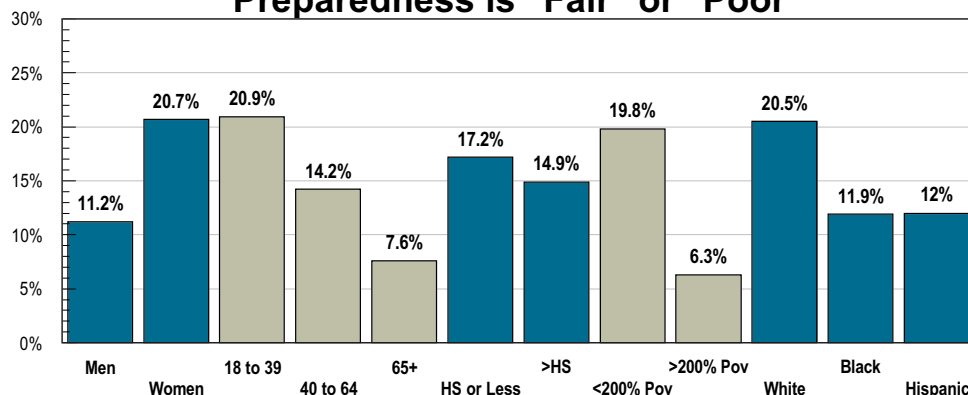
Rating of Community's Emergency Preparedness



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

When segmented by demographics, adults most likely to give “fair” or “poor” ratings of the community’s emergency preparedness include young adults, women, Whites, those in the lower income bracket and those without postsecondary education, as shown below.

Community's Emergency Preparedness is "Fair" or "Poor"



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

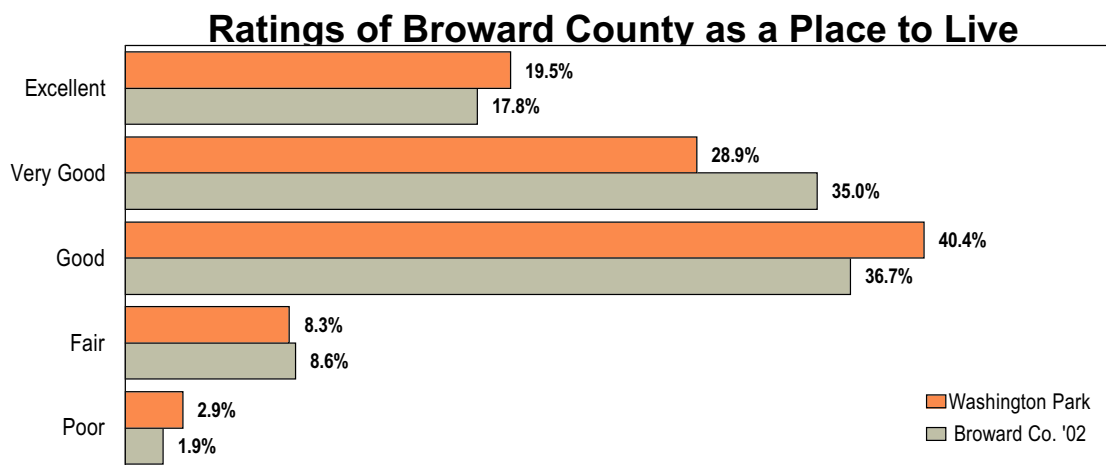
FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

Living in Broward County

This section of the assessment includes residents' views on general life in Broward County, including opinions on such things as housing, public transportation, equal opportunities and child care.

Broward County as a Place to Live

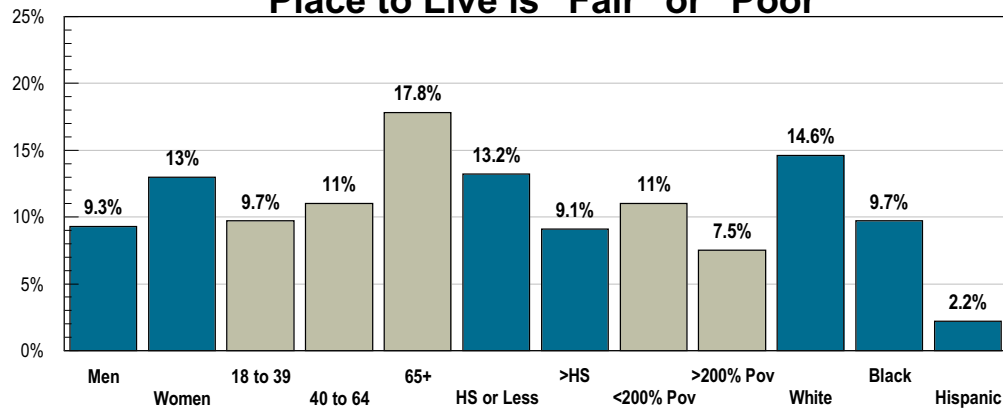
As shown below, nearly half of local residents (48.4%) gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings of Broward County as a place to live, compared to 52.8% across the county. “Fair” or “poor” ratings were generally similar between Washington Park (11.2%) and the county at large (10.5%).



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Viewed demographically, local adults most likely to give “fair” or “poor” ratings of Broward County as a place to live include older adults, Whites, women and those in the higher income and educational brackets. Hispanic residents were least likely to give poor ratings, as shown in the following chart.

Broward County as a Place to Live is "Fair" or "Poor"

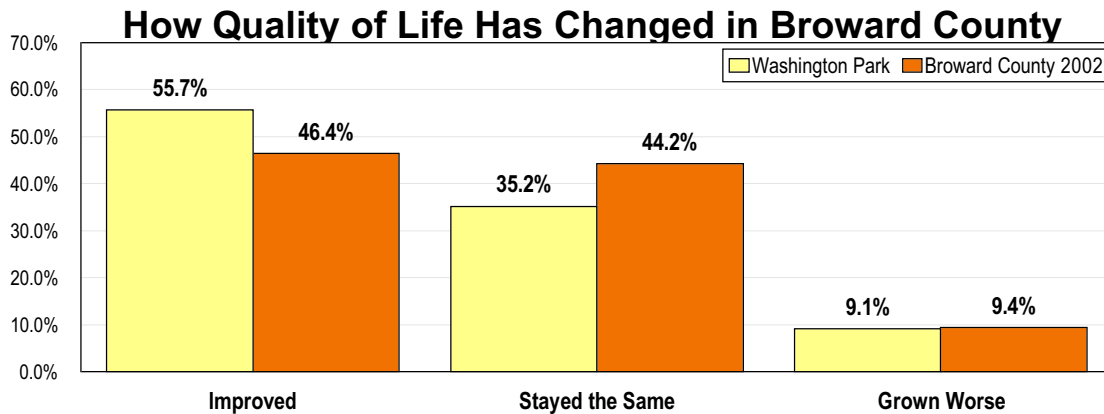


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

How Life Has Changed in Broward County

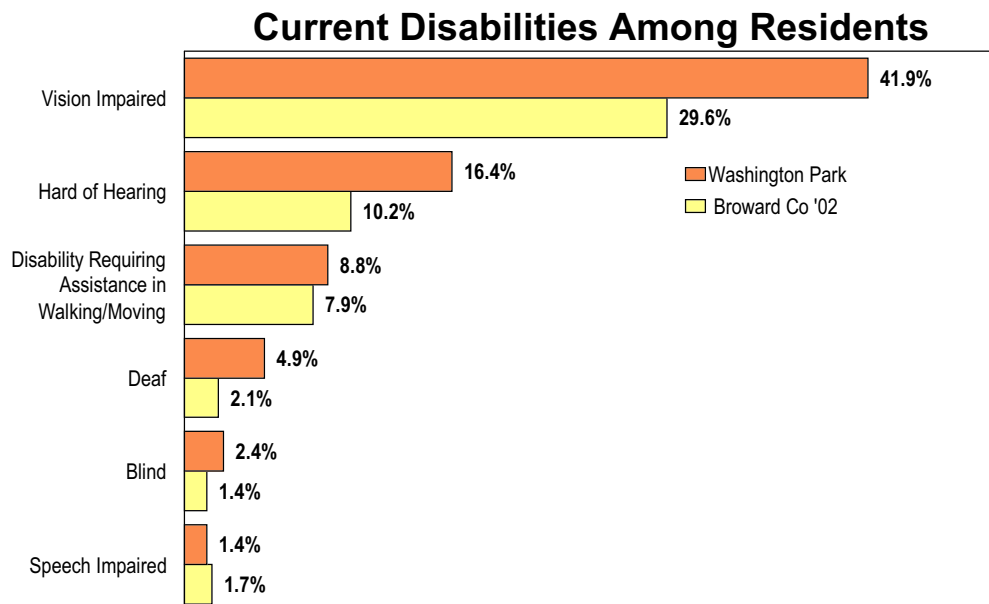
In the next inquiry, local adults were asked to indicate how life has changed in Broward County during the time they have lived there. The largest share of responses this year (55.7%) was for “improved,” compared to 46.4% found among respondents across Broward County. Another 35.2% of local adults feel that life in Broward County has “stayed the same” while they have lived there, while 9.1% feel that it has “grown worse.”



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Disabilities

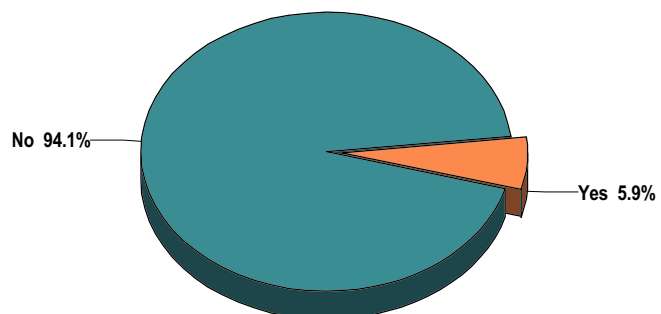
Local adults were next asked a series of questions about their prevalence of specific disabilities. As can be seen below, 41.9% of local residents report that they are vision-impaired. Another 16.4% report that they are hard of hearing, and 8.8% report that they suffer from a disability which requires them to have assistance while moving or walking. A total of 4.9% are deaf, and 2.4% are blind. Just 1.4% of local adults are speech impaired, as shown below.



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

In a related inquiry, local adults were asked to report on the prevalence of a developmental or mental disability. As shown in the adjacent chart, 5.9% of survey respondents answered affirmatively.

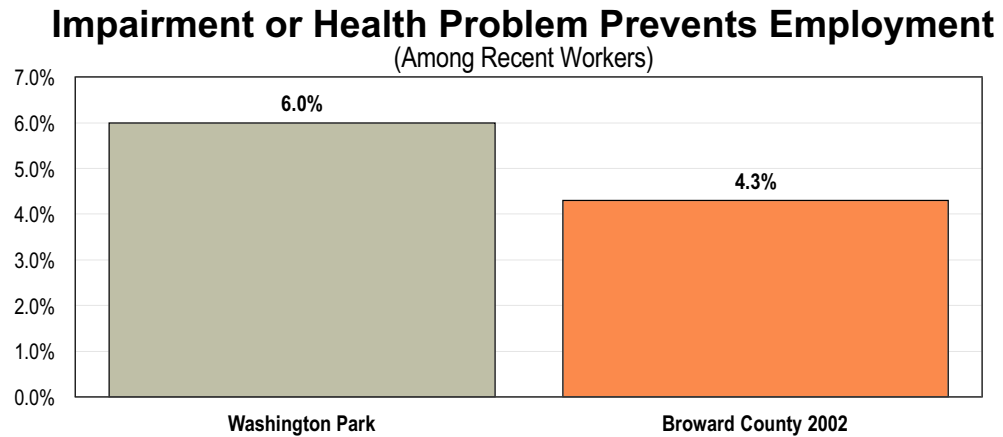
Prevalence of Developmental or Mental Disability



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Physical Impairments and Employment

Community members who have been employed at some point in the past year were asked to indicate whether an impairment or health problem prevents their current employment. As shown below, 6.0% of local adults responded affirmatively, which is statistically similar to the 4.3% reported in Broward County.

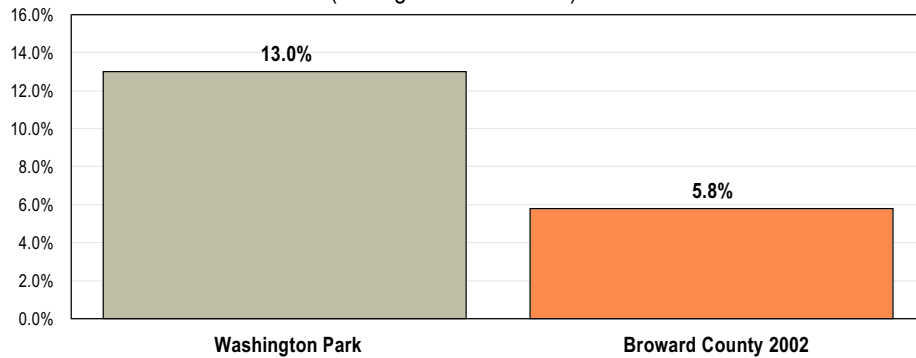


Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of those respondents who were employed in the past 12 months.

Activity Limitations

Survey respondents were next asked to indicate whether they are currently limited in the kind or amount of work they can do because of an impairment or health problem. As shown below, 13.0% responded affirmatively, *significantly higher than* found across the county (5.8%).

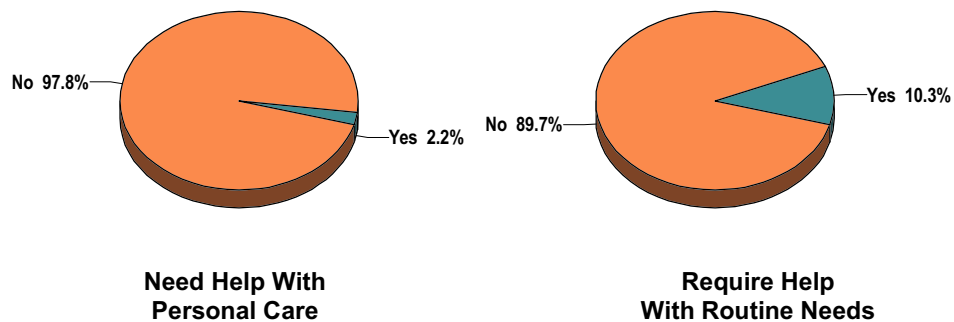
Limited in Kind or Amount of Work Because of Impairment or Health Problem (Among Recent Workers)



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of those respondents who were employed in the past 12 months and currently do not experience a limitation or impairment which prevents them from working at a place of employment.

Survey respondents were next asked to indicate whether they currently require the assistance of others for personal care (including bathing, dressing, eating) or routine needs (such as household chores or shopping). As shown in the following chart, 2.2% currently require help with their personal care; a larger share (10.3%) currently need help with routine needs like chores or shopping.

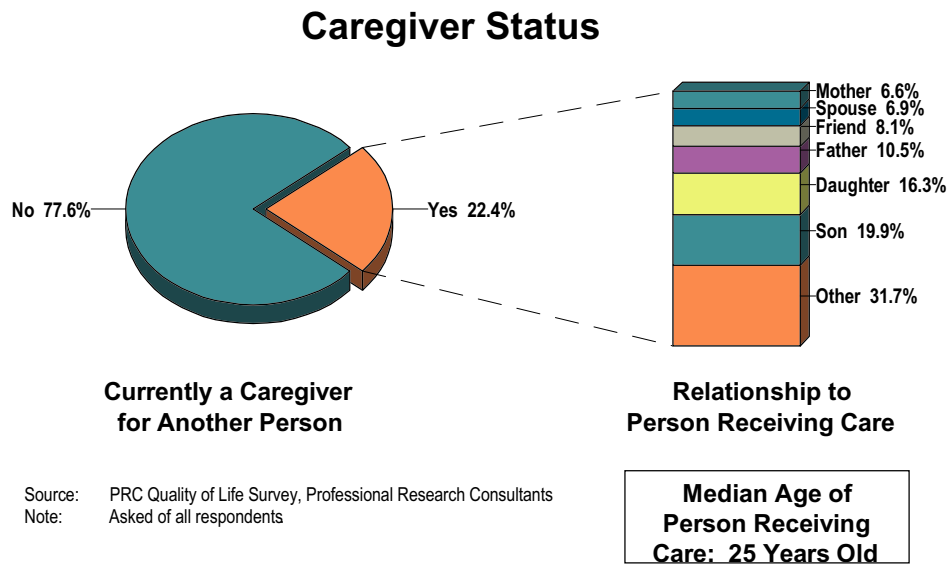
Activity Limitations Requiring the Assistance of Others



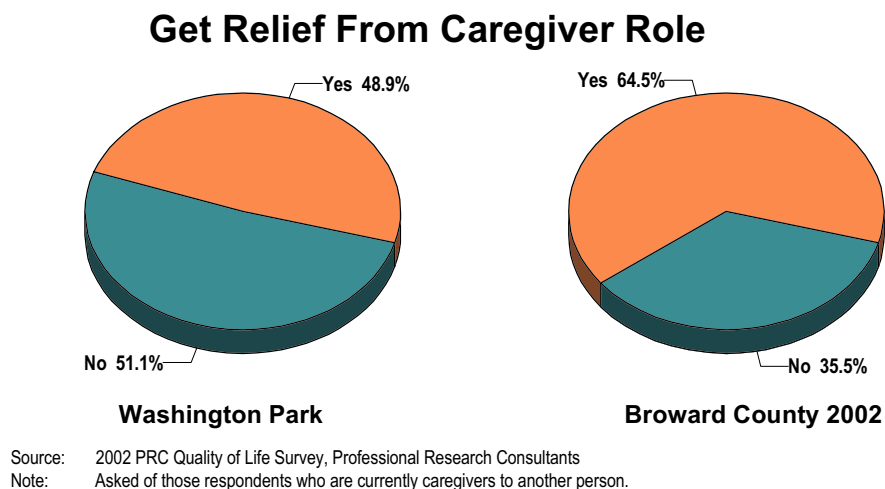
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes:
 1. Asked of all respondents .
 2. In this case, the term "personal care needs" includes such things as bathing, dressing, eating, etc.
 3. In this case, the term "routine needs" includes such things as chores, shopping, business, etc.

Caregivers

A total of 22.4% of community members are currently the caregiver for another person. When asked to indicate the relation that these caregivers are to the recipients of the care, 19.9% reported that they are the **sons**, while 16.3% of these caregivers are **daughters** of the people receiving the care. Another 10.5% of caregivers are **fathers** of the people requiring care, while 8.1% are **friends** and 6.9% are **spouses**. A total of 6.6% of the caregivers are **mothers** of the person receiving the care. The age of the person receiving care ranged from 1 to 95, with 25 being the median age, as shown below.



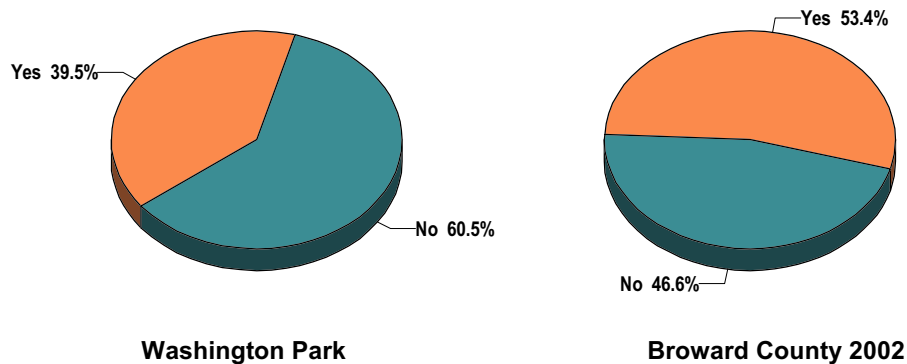
Finally, the local adults who currently act as caregiver to another were asked whether they get any relief from their caregiver role. As shown in the following chart, one-half (51.1%) of these caregivers report that they do not get any relief from their roles as caregivers, *significantly less favorable than* that found across Broward County (35.5%).



Child Care

A total of 39.5% of local parents with children age 5 and under have needed child care at some point in the past year, compared to 53.4% of Broward County parents.

Needed Care for Child in the Past Year

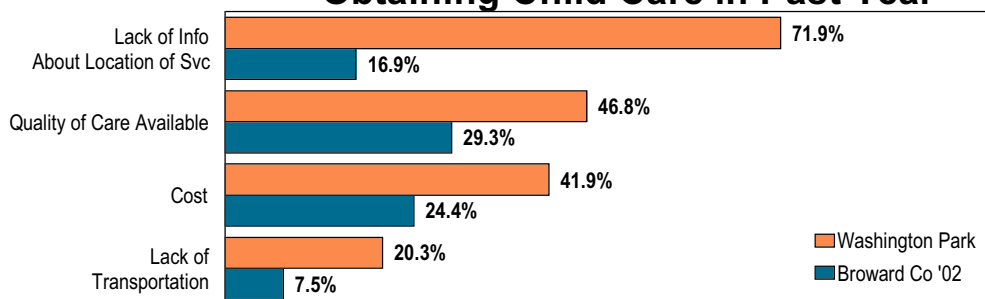


Source: /2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged 1 through 5 at home.

Parents of young children who needed child care last year were next asked to report whether there has been a time in the past year when cost, quality of local child care, lack of information about the location of local child care or lack of transportation prevented them from obtaining child care. As shown below, a **lack of information** about the location of local child care received the largest share of responses (71.9%), followed by the **quality of care available** (46.8%), the **cost of care** (41.9%) and **lack of transportation** (20.3%).

As shown below, local respondents are much more likely than are Broward County respondents to cite lack of information, quality care, cost and transportation as barriers to obtaining child care in the past year.

Reasons for Not Obtaining Child Care in Past Year

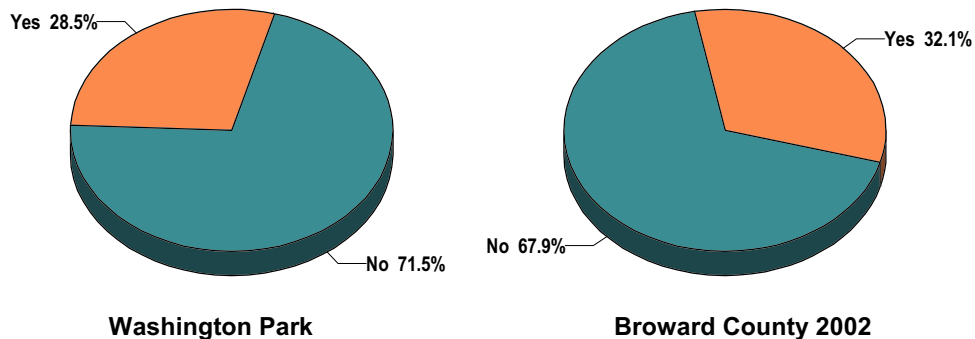


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents with children aged 1 through 5 at home who needed child care last year.

After-School Care

Among local parents of children age 6 and older, 28.5% needed after-school care for their child at some point in the past year, compared to 32.1% across Broward County.

Needed After-School Care for Child in the Past Year

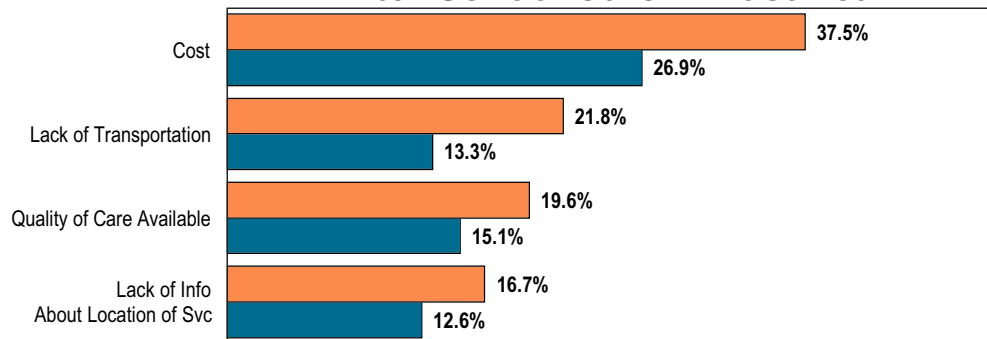


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged 6 and older.

Parents of children age 6 and older who needed after-school care last year were next asked whether things such as quality of available care, cost, lack of information or lack of transportation prevented them from obtaining after-school care for their child in the past year. As shown in the following chart, nearly four in 10 (37.5%) mentioned the **cost**, while another 21.8% reported that **lack of transportation** was a reason for not obtaining the care last year. A total of 19.6% of respondents mentioned the **quality of care** available as the reason, and 16.7% indicated that a **lack of information** about the service offered prevented them from obtaining after-school care for their child last year.

Note the difference in responses among local and county respondents.

Reasons for Not Obtaining After-School Care in Past Year

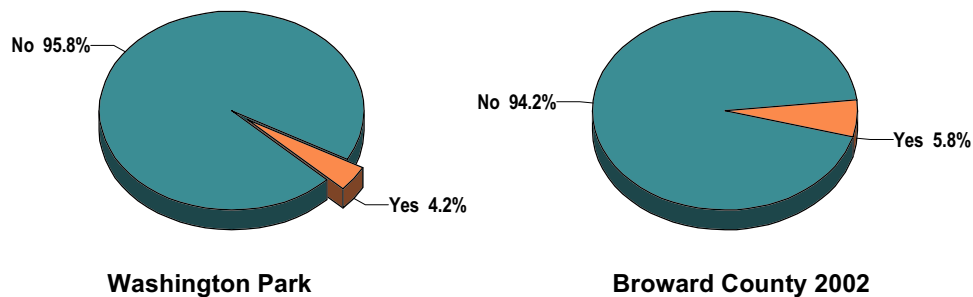


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents with children aged 6 and older who needed after-school care last year.

Mental Health Care

Among parents of all children age 18 and under who are living at home, 4.2% report that they needed mental health care for their child in the past year, compared to 5.8% across Broward County.

Needed Mental Health Care for Child in the Past Year

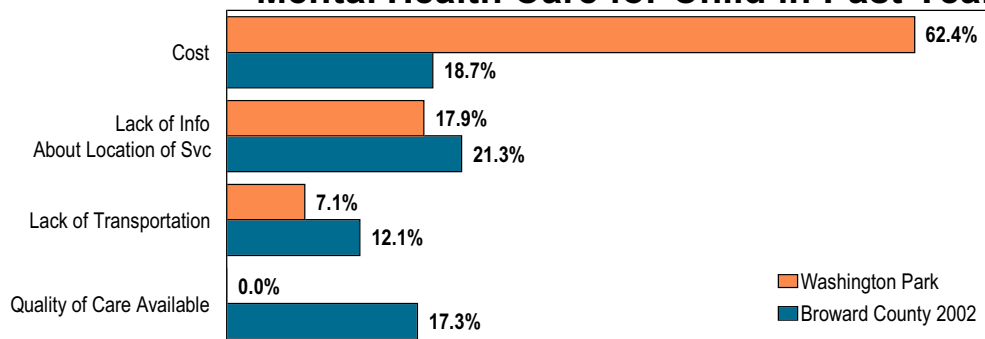


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents with children under 18 at home.

Parents of children who needed mental health care last year were next asked to report whether there was a time in the past year when cost, quality of local child care, lack of information about local mental health care or lack of transportation prevented them from obtaining such care. As shown below, the largest share of responses were recorded for **cost** (62.4%), **lack of information** (17.9%) and **lack of transportation** (7.1%). The **quality of care** available received no responses (0.0%). *Keep in mind the small sample size which the percentages represent.*

The graph below compares local responses with those from Broward County.

Reasons for Not Obtaining Mental Health Care for Child in Past Year



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents with children under 18 at home who needed mental health care last year.

Drug Treatment

No Washington Park parents participating in the survey reported that their child under 18 needed alcohol or drug treatment in the past year.

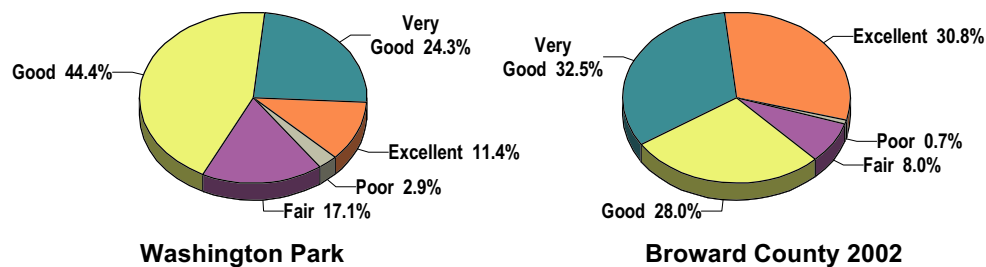
Improving Our Communities

The following section examines community members' ratings of various aspects of community life such as housing, road conditions and public transportation.

Local Housing

In Washington Park, 35.7% of adults rate local housing conditions as “excellent” or “very good,” while 44.4% gave “good” ratings. However, 20.0% of local adults consider the condition of local housing to be “fair” or “poor” (higher than countywide). These findings are compared with those found across Broward County in the graph below.

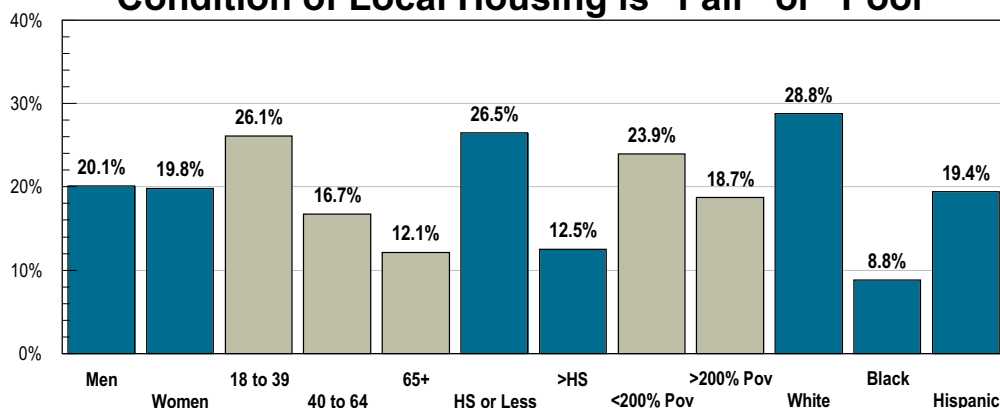
Rating of Condition of Local Housing



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

When segmented by demographics, community residents most likely to rate the condition of local housing as “fair” or “poor” include Whites, adults without postsecondary education, young adults and those living in or near poverty, as shown in the following chart.

Condition of Local Housing is "Fair" or "Poor"



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.

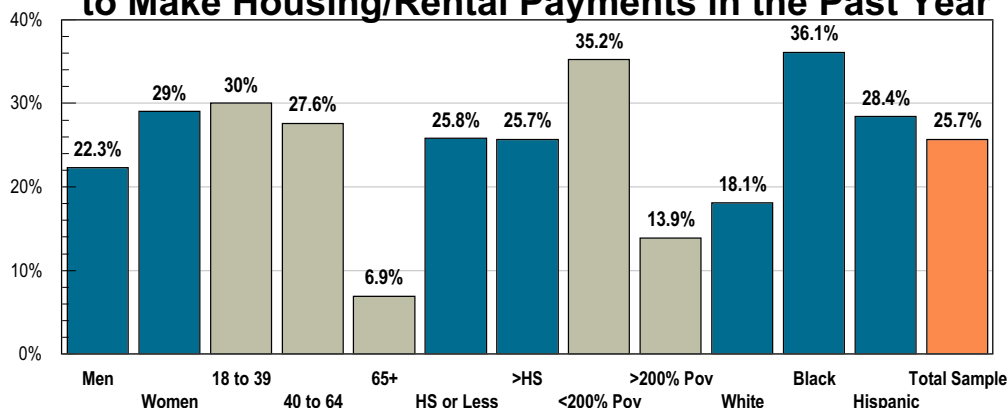
2. Asked of all respondents.

3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

Extra Income Required to Meet House Payments

In a related inquiry, survey respondents were asked to indicate whether a member of their household had to work extra hours in the past year in order to make housing or rental payments. As shown below, 25.7% of residents responded affirmatively; this prevalence ranges dramatically when viewed by specific demographic characteristics.

Member of Household Worked Extra in Order to Make Housing/Rental Payments in the Past Year



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.

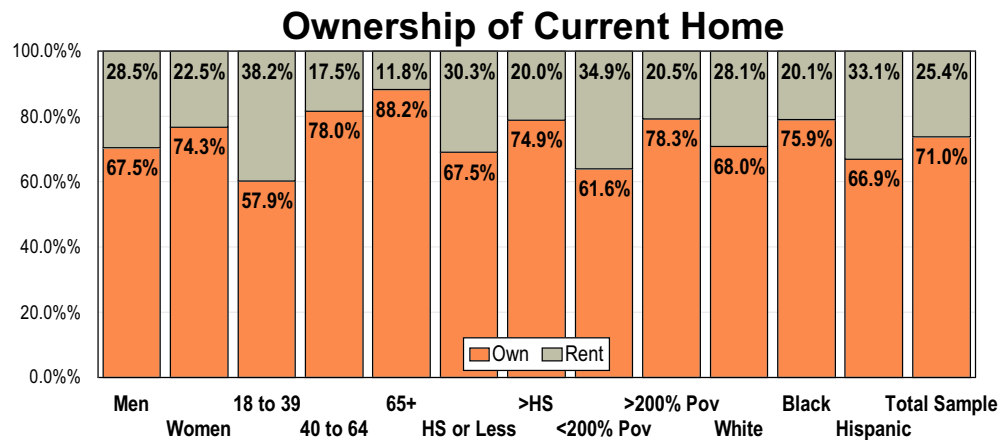
2. Asked of all respondents.

3. Percentages represent "yes" responses to the question.

Home Ownership

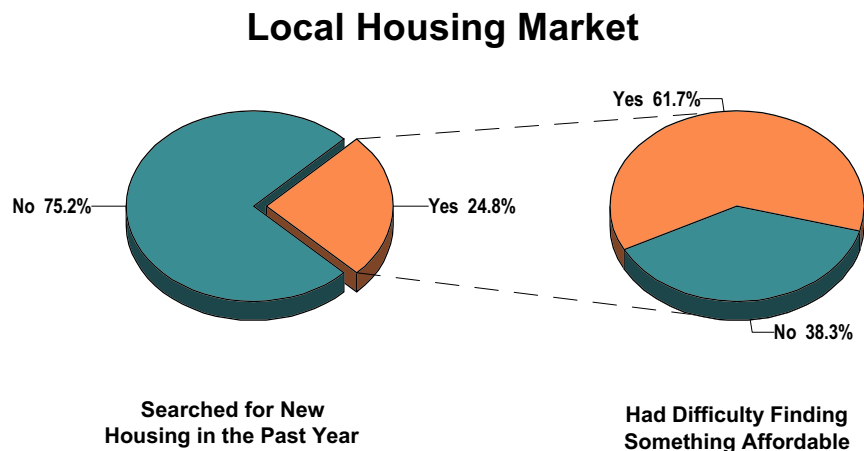
Most survey respondents (71.0%) report that they currently own their home, while 25.4% rent the dwelling in which they live. Homeownership varies from a low 57.9% among adults ages 18 to 39 to a high 88.2% among adults age 65 and older in Washington Park.

The local prevalence of homeownership appears to increase with age, education and income. Homeownership also appears to be greater among women and Blacks, as shown below.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

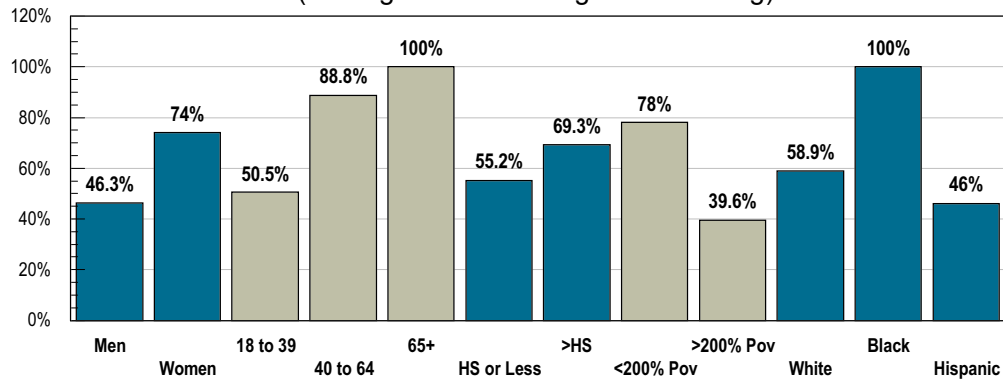
In the past year, 24.8% of local residents searched for new housing. Of these adults, 61.7% had some type of difficulty in finding something affordable, as shown below.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Viewed by specific demographic characteristics, local adults most likely to have had difficulty finding affordable housing in the past year include older adults, Blacks, those in the lower income bracket, women and those in the higher educational bracket.

Had Difficulty Finding Affordable Housing in the Past Year (Among Those Seeking New Housing)



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.

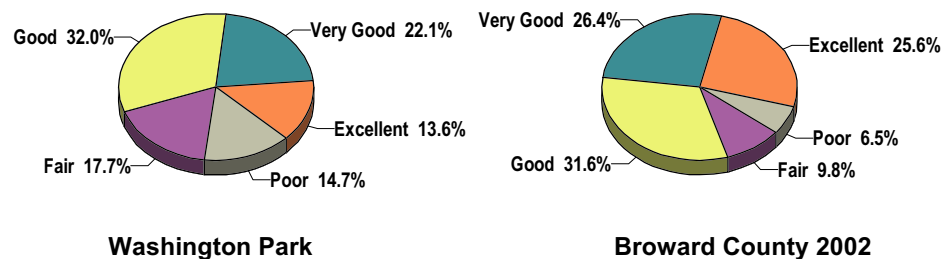
2. Asked of all respondents.

3. Percentages represent "yes" responses among respondents who sought new housing in the past year.

Local Recreational Areas

More than one-third (35.7%) of area residents feel that local recreational areas in their neighborhood (including public parks and other open areas) are “excellent” or “very good.” Another 32.0% rate them as “good,” while 32.4% of local adults perceive the area’s recreational areas to be “fair” or “poor.” These findings are less favorable than those reported across Broward County, as shown in the graph below.

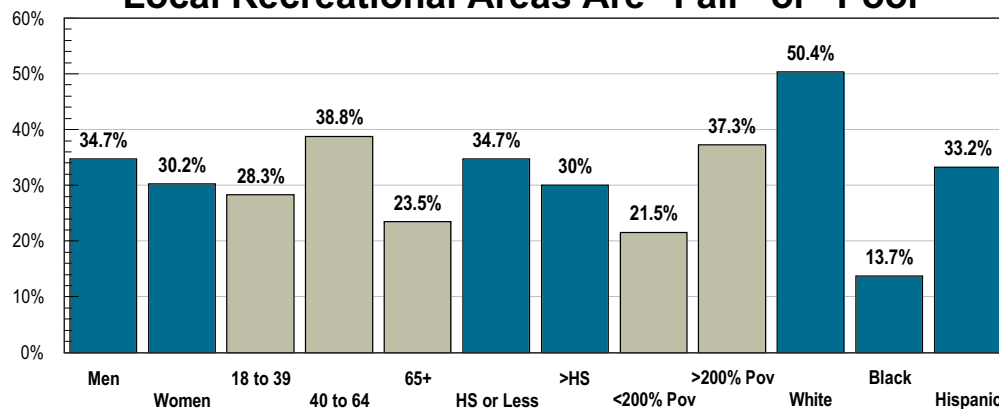
Rating of Local Recreational Areas



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

When segmented by demographics, community residents most likely to view local recreational areas as “fair” or “poor” include Whites, middle-aged adults, those in the higher income bracket, men, and adults without postsecondary education.

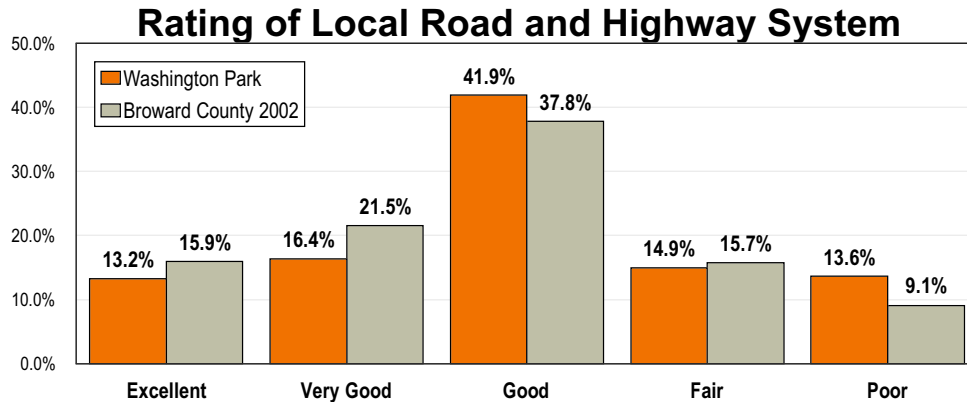
Local Recreational Areas Are "Fair" or "Poor"



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

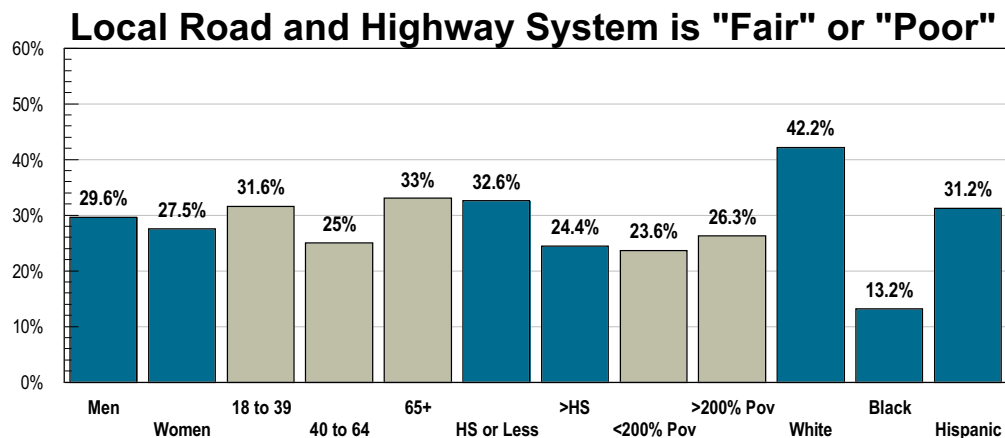
Local Highway and Road Systems

The local road and highway system received 29.6% “excellent” or “very good” ratings, while 41.9% of adults gave “good” ratings. On the other hand, 28.5% of county residents gave “fair” or “poor” responses in regard to the local road and highway system. As shown below, Broward County residents gave higher “excellent” or “very good” ratings (37.4%) and lower “fair” or “poor” ratings (24.8%).



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Viewed by demographic characteristics, community residents most likely to consider the local road and highway system to be “fair” or “poor” are White respondents (42.2%), while those least likely to give low ratings are Black respondents (13.2%), as shown below.

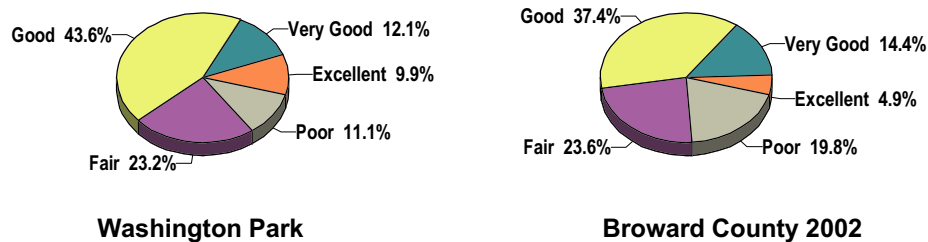


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes:
 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent “fair” or “poor” responses to the question.

Public Transportation

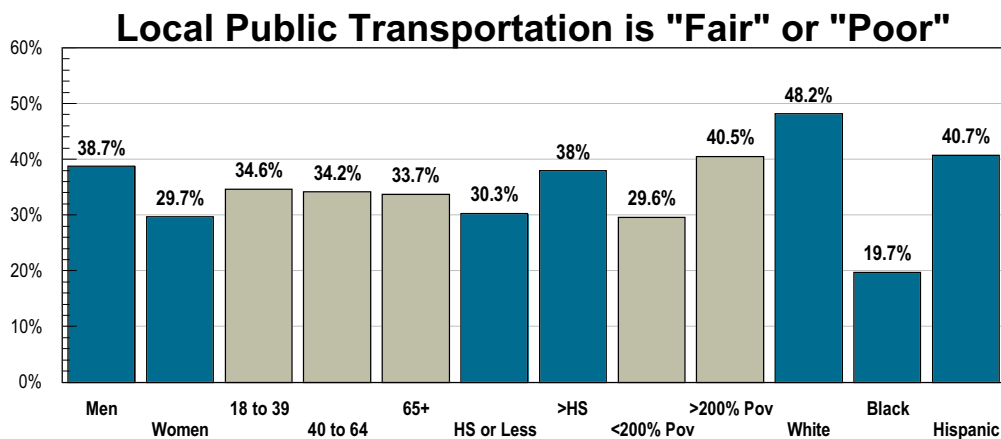
A total of 22.0% of local adults gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings when asked to consider their local public transportation system. A total of 43.6% of residents gave “good” ratings, while 34.3% gave “fair” or “poor” evaluations. This “fair/poor” response is *significantly better than* those found across Broward County, as shown in the following chart.

Rating of Local Public Transportation



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

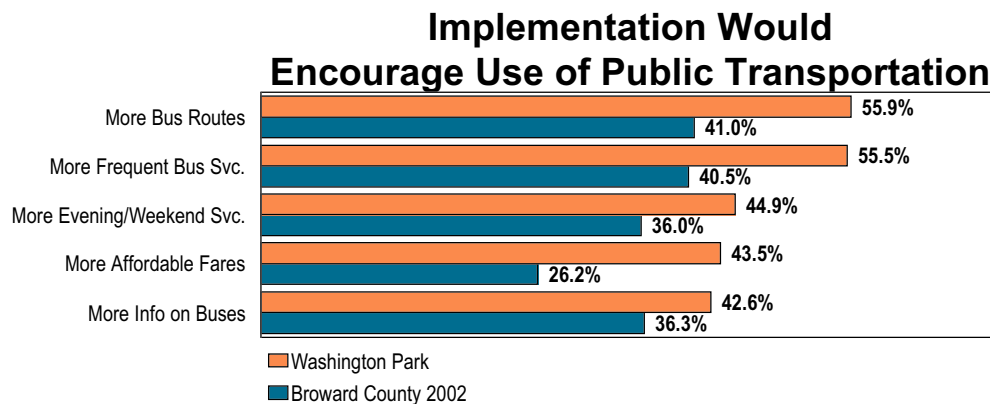
Area residents most likely to feel that public transportation is “fair” or “poor” are White respondents (48.2%), while those least likely to feel that public transportation is “fair” or “poor” are Black respondents (19.7%).



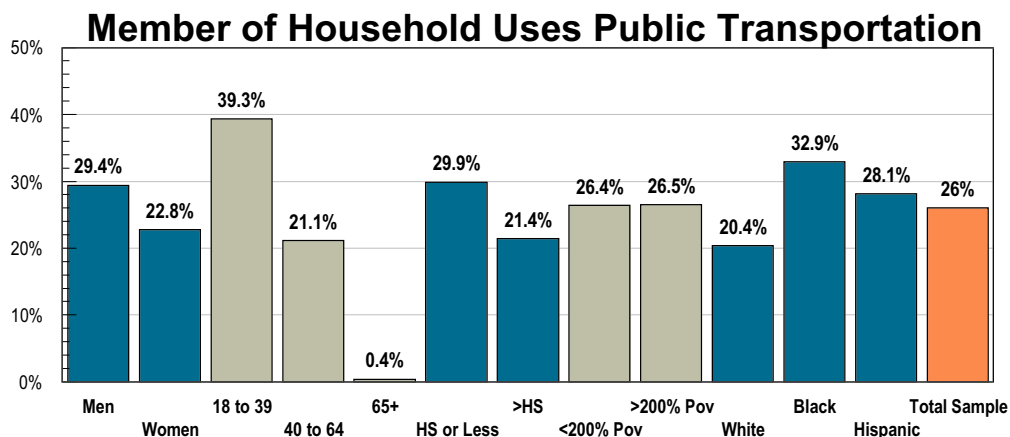
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent “fair” or “poor” responses to the question.

Improving Public Transportation

Community members were next asked to indicate whether they would be more likely to use the local public transportation system if there were more bus routes, more frequent bus service, more information on the bus services, more evening and weekend service or more affordable fares. As shown in the following chart, the largest share of “yes” responses was for more **bus routes** (55.9%), followed by more **frequent bus service** (55.5%), more **evening and weekend service** (44.9%), more **affordable fares** (43.5%) and more **information** on the buses (42.6%). Note the comparisons below with responses from Broward County overall.



In a follow-up inquiry, community members were asked to indicate whether they or a member of their household uses public transportation. Overall, 26.0% of local adults report that they use public transportation. Usage of public transportation is highest among adults ages 18 to 39, as shown below.

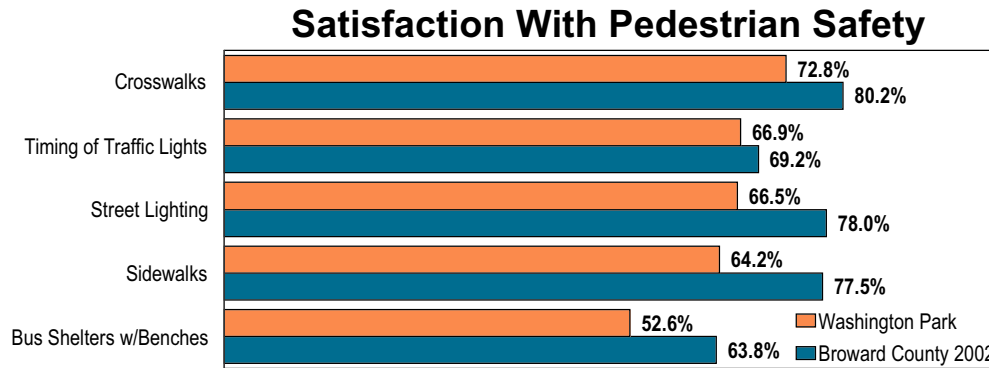


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Pedestrian Safety

Finally, local adults were asked to indicate whether or not they are satisfied with various facets of pedestrian safety in their neighborhood. As shown below, the largest share of expressions of satisfaction was for **crosswalks** (72.8%), followed by **timing of traffic lights** (66.9%), **street lighting** (66.5%) and **sidewalks** (64.2%). Somewhat fewer were satisfied with **bus shelters with benches** (52.6%).

Note again the comparisons with responses from Broward County.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.

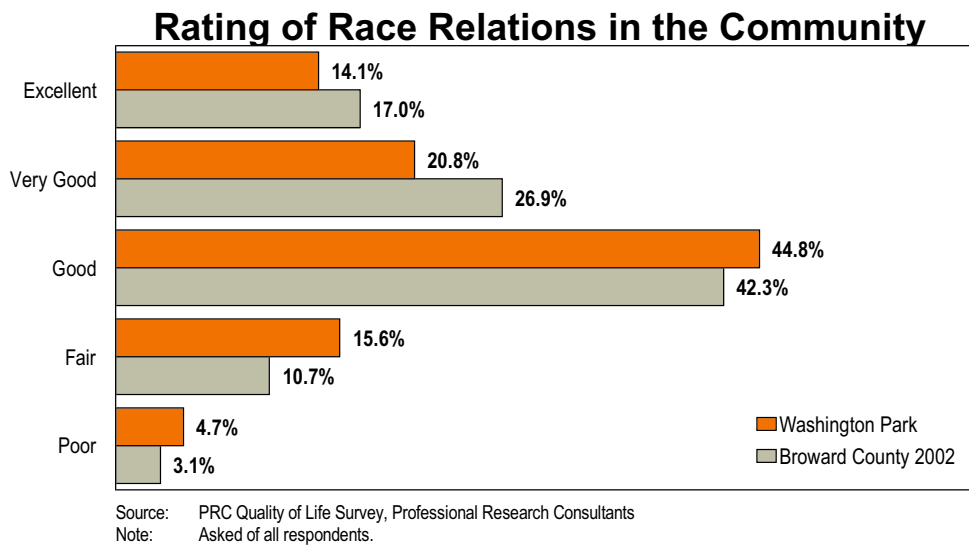
2. Percentages represent "yes" responses to "Are you satisfied with _____?" questions.

Social Harmony

The following section examines residents' feelings on some of the social relations in Washington Park (such as race, cultural and religious relations).

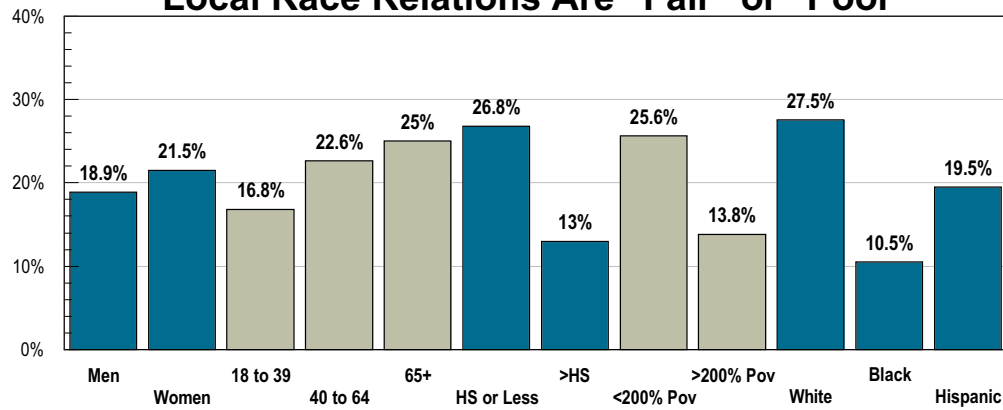
Race Relations

Local adults gave fairly good ratings of race relations in the community this year. Overall, 34.9% of adults feel that race relations in the community are “excellent” or “very good,” and more than four in 10 (44.8%) gave “good” reviews. In contrast, 20.3% of local adults feel that race relations are “fair” to “poor.” As shown below, Broward County residents gave higher “excellent” or “very good” ratings (43.9%) and lower “fair” or “poor” ratings (13.8%).



When segmented by demographics, community residents most likely to give “fair” or “poor” ratings of local race relations include Whites, adults in the lower income and educational brackets, older adults and women.

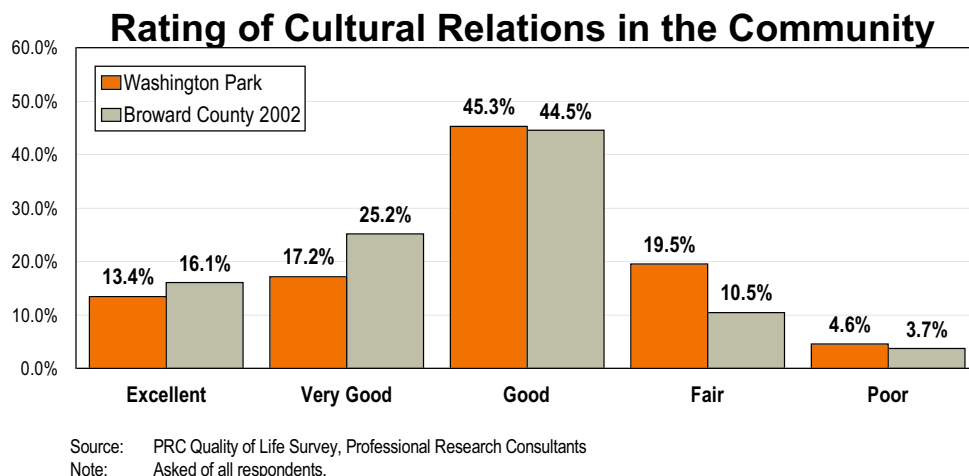
Local Race Relations Are "Fair" or "Poor"



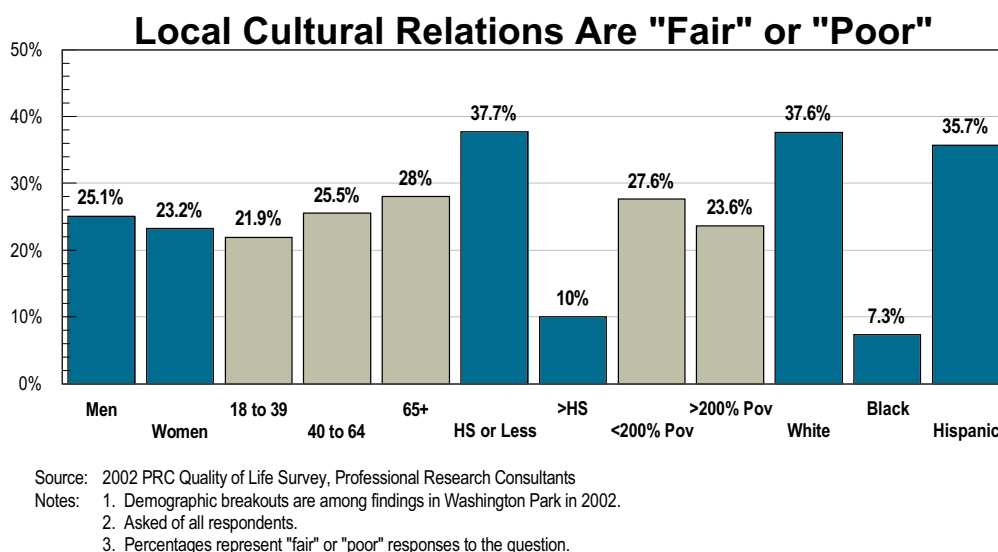
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

Cultural Relations

In regard to local cultural relations, 30.6% of local adults gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings. A large response (45.3%) of “good” ratings were given, while 24.1% of local adults consider local cultural relations to be “fair” or “poor.” As shown below, Broward County residents gave higher “excellent” or “very good” ratings (41.3%) and lower “fair” or “poor” ratings (14.2%).

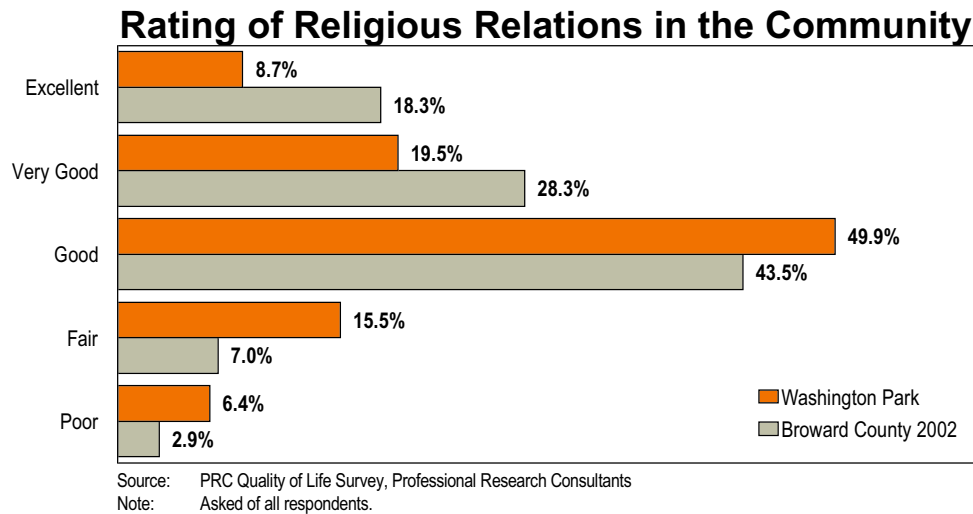


When segmented by demographics, community residents most likely to view local cultural relations as “fair” or “poor” are adults without postsecondary education, Whites, Hispanics, older adults and those with lower incomes, as shown below. Little difference is seen when segmented by gender.



Religious Relations

Finally, area residents were asked to rate local religious relations. Overall, 28.2% of adults feel that religious relations in the community are “excellent” or “very good,” and almost one-half (49.9%) gave “good” reviews. In contrast, 21.9% of local adults feel that religious relations are “fair” to “poor.” As shown below, Broward County residents gave higher “excellent” or “very good” ratings (46.6%) and lower “fair” or “poor” ratings (9.9%).



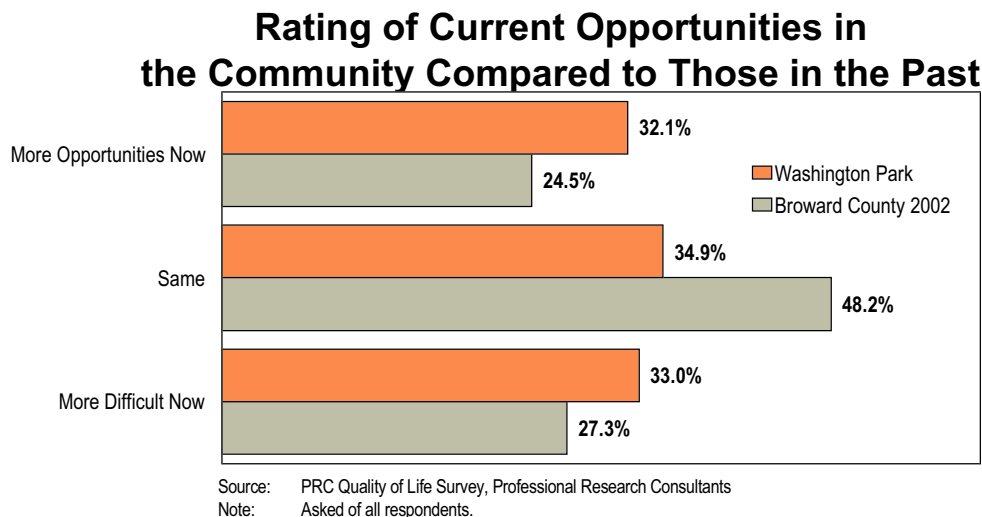
Equal Opportunity

Opportunities for Those With Similar Backgrounds

Next, residents of Washington Park were asked to indicate whether they think that people with similar backgrounds to their own have more opportunities now in the community than they did in the past, whether their opportunities are the same or whether things are more difficult for them now compared with the past.

As shown in the following chart, 32.1% of local adults feel there are **more opportunities** now, while 34.9% perceive there to be **the same amount** of opportunities now and 33.0% of local adults think that it is **more difficult now** for people.

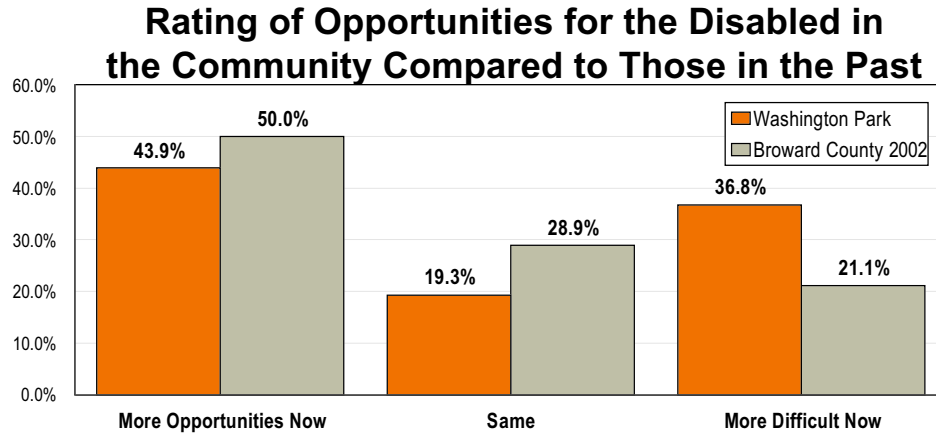
Note the greater response of “same opportunities” among Broward County respondents overall, as shown below.



Opportunities for the Disabled

In regard to people with disabilities in the community, 43.9% of local adults perceive there to be **more opportunities** now for the disabled, while 19.3% feel there are the **same amount** of opportunities and 36.8% of local adults think that it is **more difficult now** for people with disabilities.

The chart below compares these responses with those from Broward County.

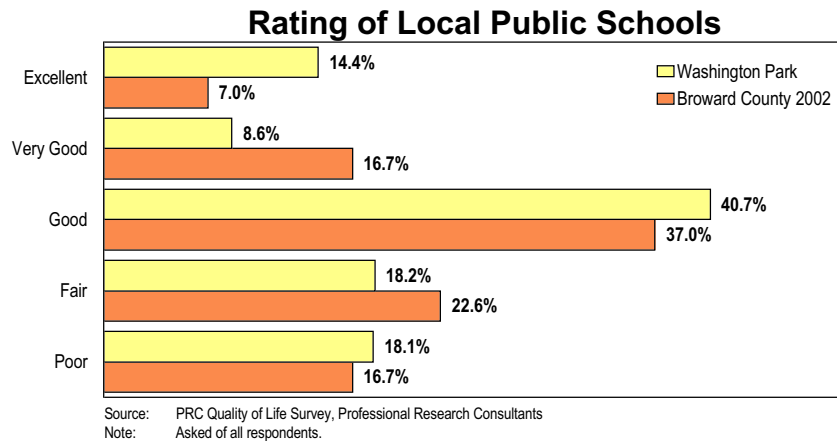


Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

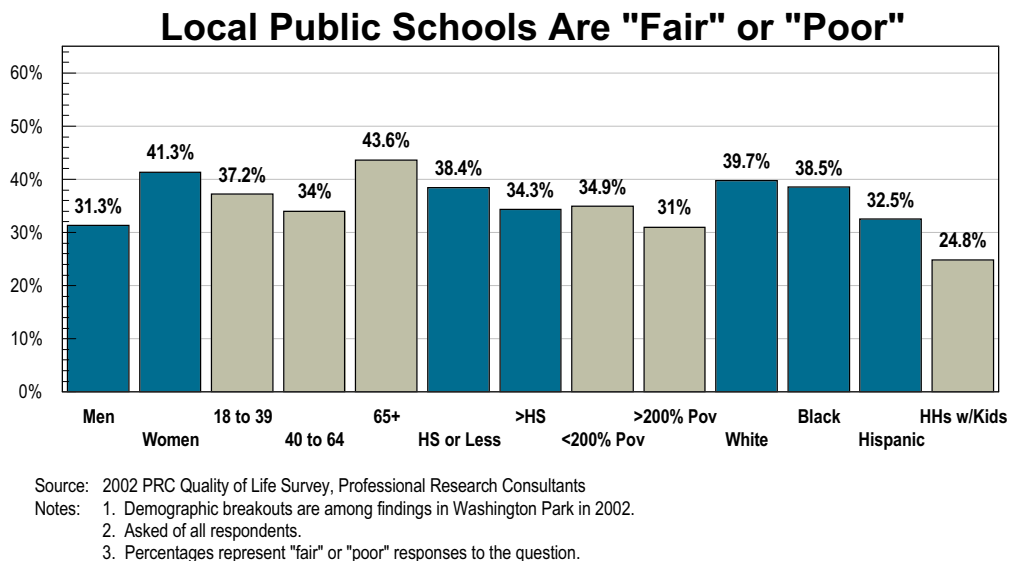
Education

Rating of Local Public Schools

Residents of Washington Park were then asked to rate local public schools. Overall, 22.6% of adults rated local public schools “excellent” or “very good,” and four in 10 (40.7%) gave “good” reviews. In contrast, 36.3% feel that local schools are “fair” to “poor.”



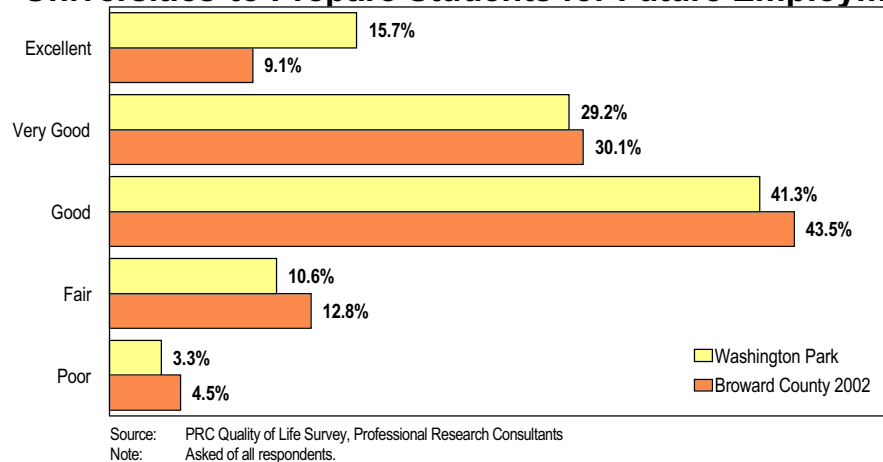
Local adults most likely to consider local public schools to be “fair” or “poor” include older adults, women, and White and Black respondents. These ratings do not vary significantly when viewed by education or income. Among local households with children under 18, 24.8% feel that the public schools are “fair” or “poor.”



Rating of Local Colleges in Preparing Students for Employment

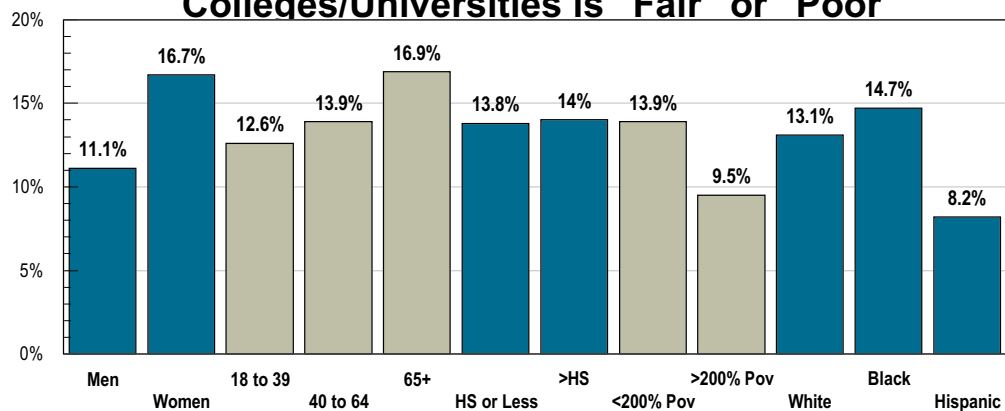
Residents of Washington Park were then asked to give their opinions on how well local colleges and universities are doing in preparing students for future employment. Overall, 44.9% of adults rated these as “excellent” or “very good,” and more than four in 10 (41.3%) gave “good” evaluations. In contrast, 13.9% feel that local colleges and universities are “fair” to “poor.” As shown below, Broward County residents gave lower “excellent” or “very good” ratings (39.2%) and higher “fair” or “poor” ratings (17.3%).

Rating of Preparation by Local Colleges and Universities to Prepare Students for Future Employment



Local adults most likely to feel that local colleges and universities are doing a “fair” or “poor” job in preparing students for future employment are women and adults age 65 and older, while those least likely to rate postsecondary preparation as “fair” or “poor” are Hispanic respondents, as shown below.

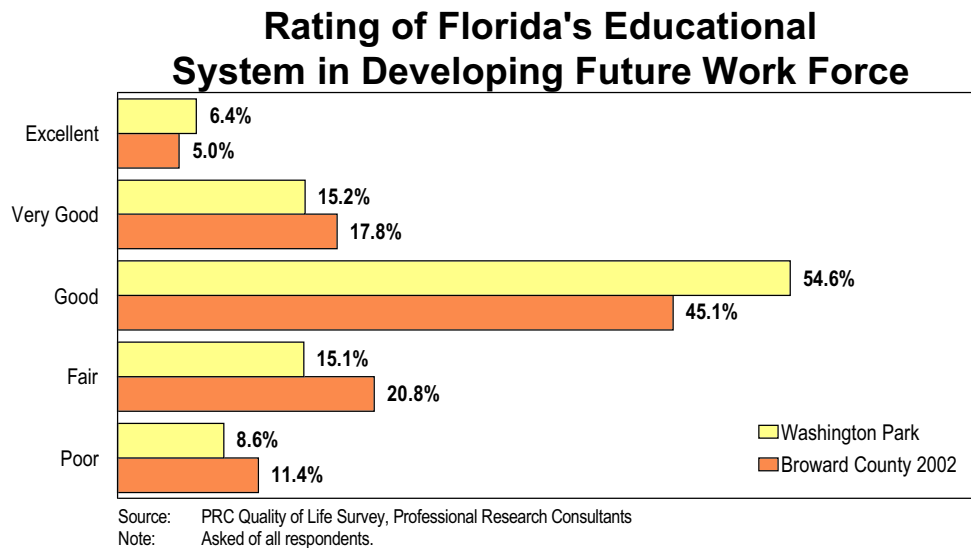
Preparation by Local Colleges/Universities is "Fair" or "Poor"



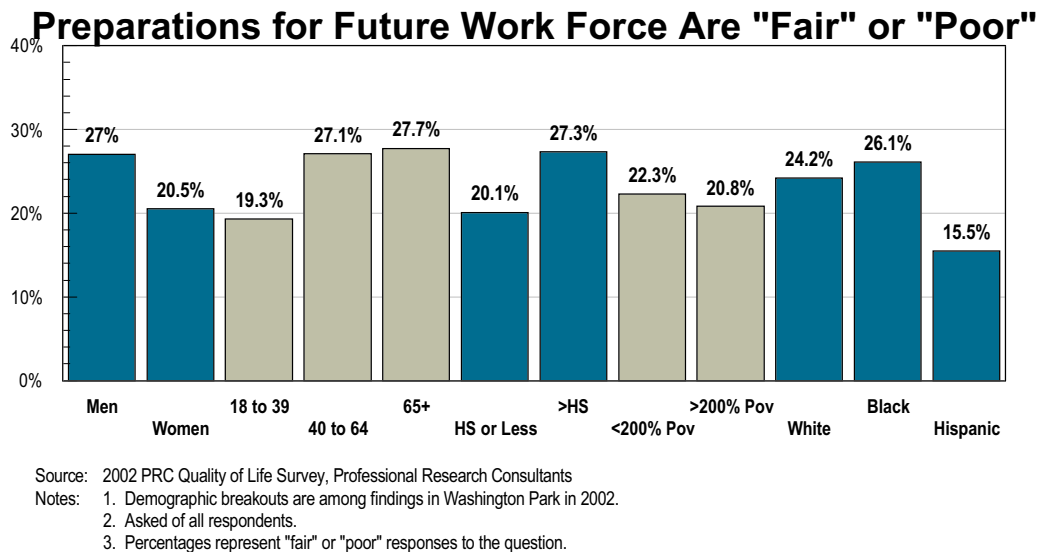
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Parkin 2002.
2. Asked of all respondents.
3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

Rating of the State's Development of a Future Work Force

Local residents were then asked to give their opinions on how well the state is doing in developing a future work force. Overall, 21.6% of adults rated state development as “excellent” or “very good,” and more than one-half (54.6%) gave “good” reviews. In contrast, 23.7% feel that work force development is “fair” or “poor.” As shown below, Broward County residents gave similar “excellent” or “very good” ratings (22.8%) and higher “fair” or “poor” ratings (32.2%).



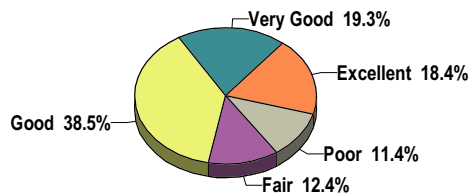
Local adults most likely to consider the state's preparations for a future work force as “fair” or “poor” include older adults, those with postsecondary education, middle-aged adults, men, Blacks and Whites. Little difference is seen when viewed by income.



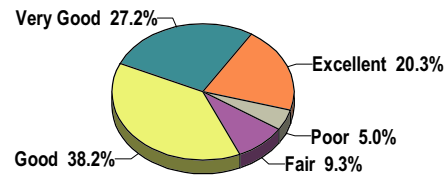
Personal Access to Higher Education

When asked to rate their personal access to higher education opportunities, 37.7% of local adults gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings (compared to 47.5% in Broward County), while 38.5% said they have “good” access to higher education opportunities (compared to 38.2% countywide). A total of 23.8% of local adults reported that their access to higher education is “fair” or “poor,” much higher than found across Broward County (14.3%).

Rating of Personal Access to Higher Education Opportunities



Washington Park

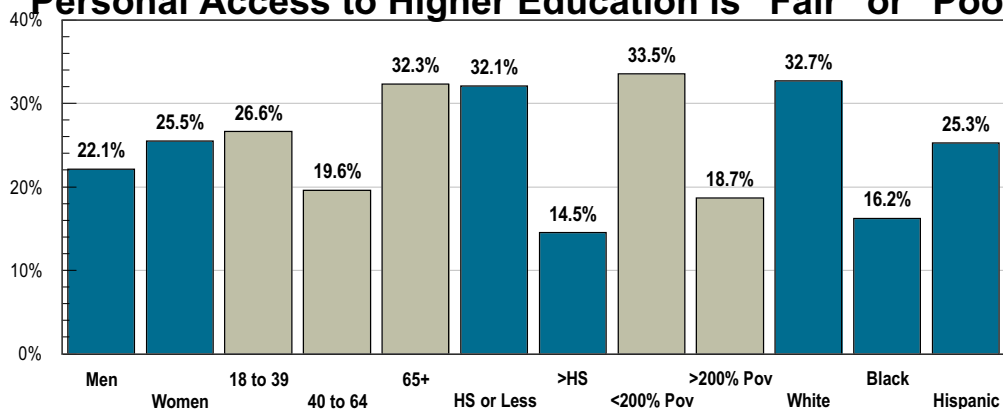


Broward County 2002

Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Local adults most likely to give “fair” or “poor” ratings of their personal access to higher education opportunities include adults in the lower income and educational brackets, Whites, older adults and women, as shown below.

Personal Access to Higher Education is "Fair" or "Poor"

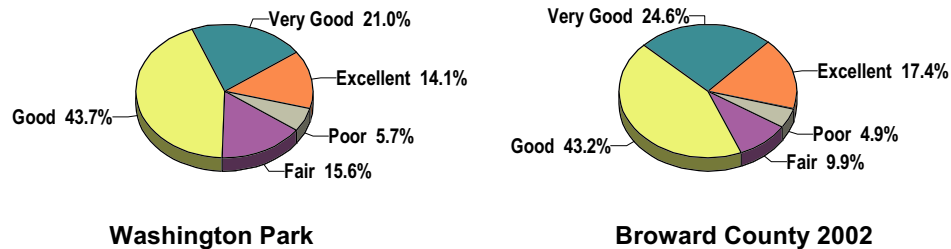


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
2. Asked of all respondents.
3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

Job Training and Vocational Opportunities

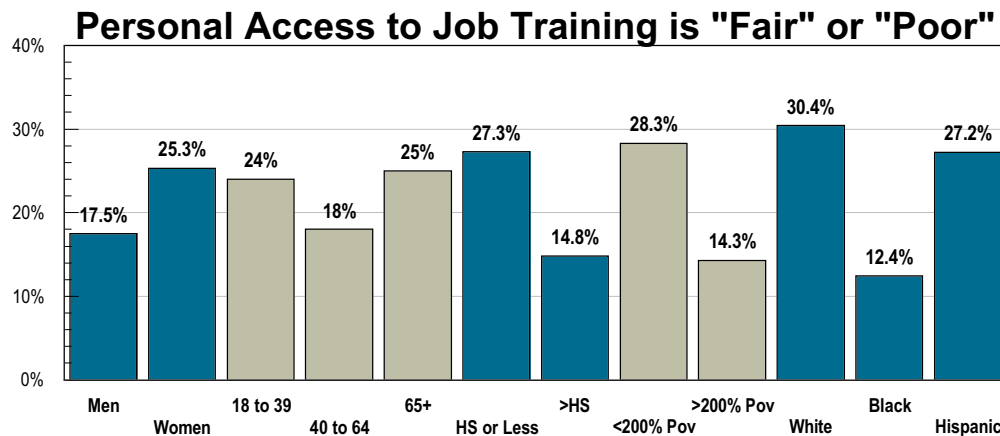
In regard to their personal access to job training or vocational opportunities, local respondents gave 35.1% “excellent” or “very good” ratings (compared to 42.0% across the county), while another 43.7% feel they have “good” access to job training or other vocational opportunities (versus 43.2% in Broward County). In contrast, 21.3% of adults feel they have “fair” to “poor” access to job training or other vocational opportunities, higher than the 14.8% found across the county.

Rating of Personal Access to Job Training or Vocational Opportunities



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Local adults most likely to feel that their personal access to job training or other vocational opportunities is “fair” or “poor” include Whites, Hispanics, adults in the lower income and educational brackets, women, older adults and young adults, as shown below.

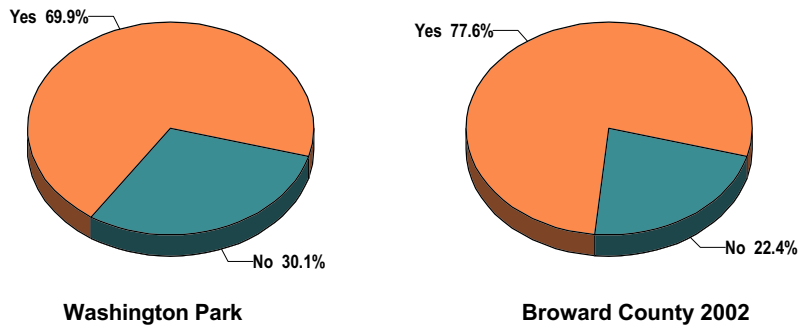


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent “fair” or “poor” responses to the question.

Home Computer Use

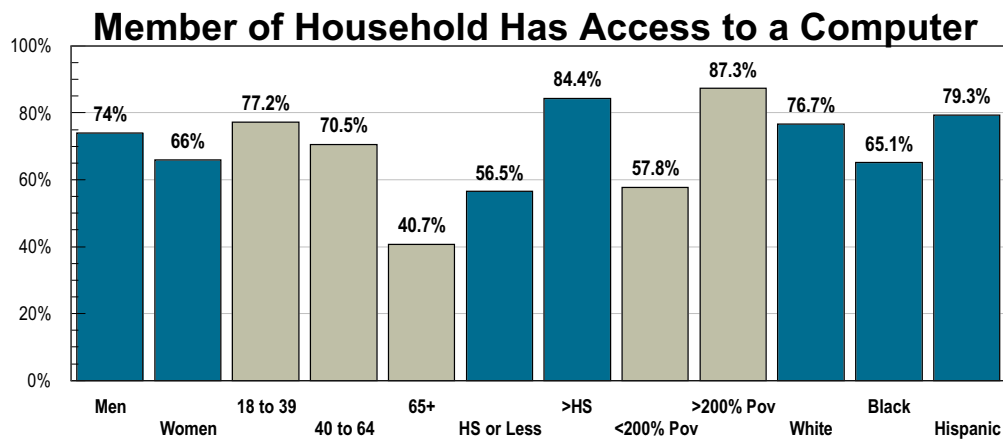
Almost seven out of 10 local adults (69.9%) indicate that they or a member of their household currently have access to a computer, representing approximately 2,656 residents.

Member of Household Has Access to a Computer



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.
 Percentages represent "yes" responses.

Local adults most likely to use a home computer include adults in the higher income and educational brackets, Hispanics, young adults, Whites and men, as shown below.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

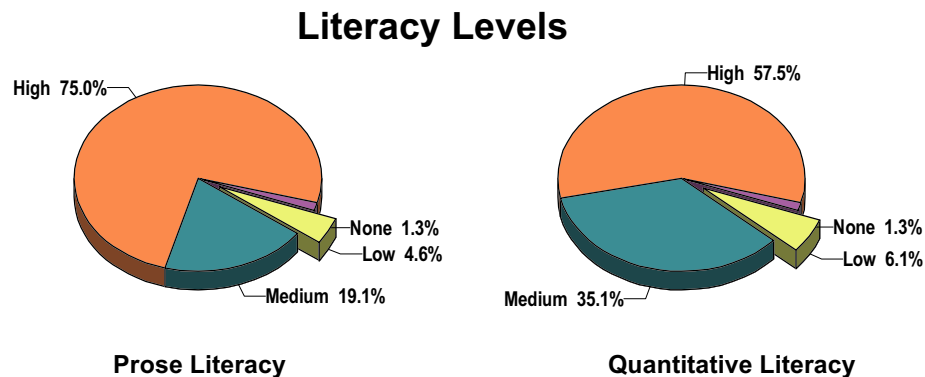
Literacy and Employment

Local literacy levels and their related issue of employment options are examined in the following section.

Literacy Levels

Adult Literacy

“Prose literacy” refers to being able to read printed information and to communicate in writing; “quantitative literacy” refers to being able to apply math to everyday life. Three-fourths (75.0%) of local residents report “high” prose literacy levels, while 57.5% report “high” quantitative literacy levels.



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.

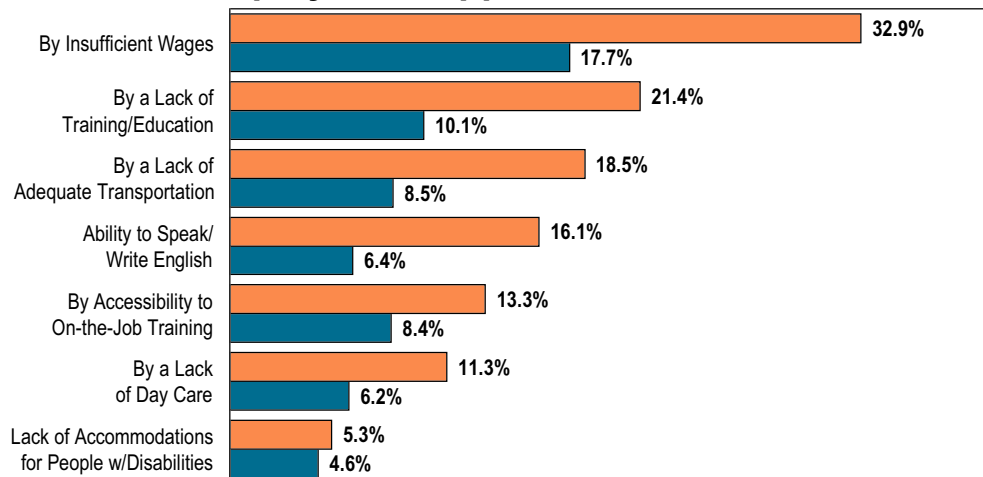
2. In this case, the term "prose literacy" refers to being able to read printed information and to communicate in writing. The term "quantitative literacy" refers to being able to apply math to everyday life.

Employment Options

Community members were next asked a series of questions regarding employment opportunities. As can be seen in the following chart, 32.9% of local adults indicate that their employment opportunities have been limited by **insufficient wages**, much higher than found countywide. Another 21.4% report that their employment opportunities have been limited by a **lack of training or education**, also much higher than found countywide.

Similarly, 18.5% responded “yes” when asked if their opportunities had been limited by a lack of **transportation**, while 16.1% have been limited by their **ability to speak and write English** and 13.3% of local adults were limited by accessibility to **on-the-job training**. Also, 11.3% said they have been limited by a lack of **day care** for their children, and 5.3% said they have been limited by a lack of **accommodations for people with disabilities**. These responses are compared with Broward County findings below.

Employment Opportunities Have Been Limited



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

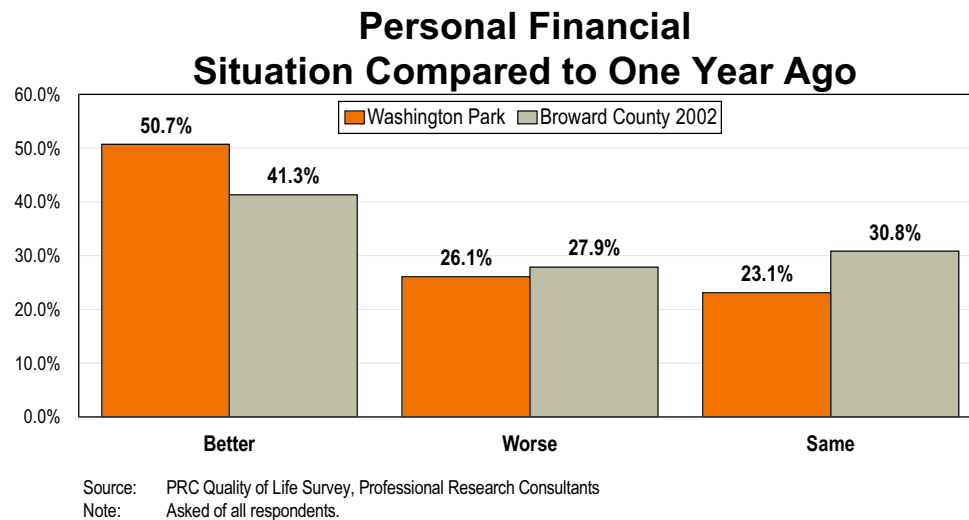
Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.

2. Percentages represent "yes" responses to the question.

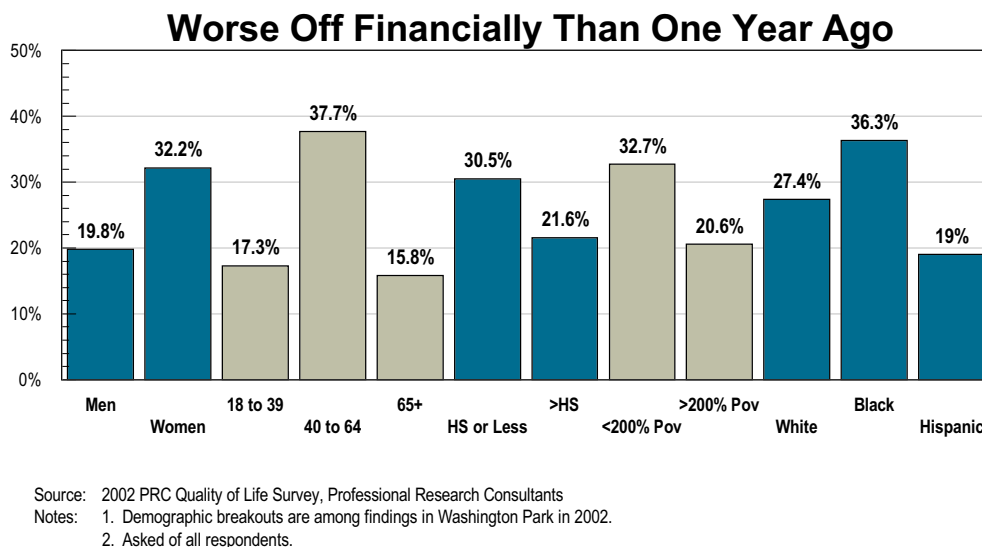
ECONOMY

Personal Finances

Community leaders are interested in how residents are getting along financially today in comparison with one year ago. As shown below, one-half (50.7%) of local adults feel they are doing “better” financially than they were one year ago (versus 41.3% in Broward County); another 26.1% are doing the “same” (versus 27.9% countywide). Another 23.1% of area residents report that they are doing “worse” financially than one year ago, lower than the 30.8% reported across Broward County.



As can be seen in the following demographic breakout, adults ages 40 to 64 are most likely to indicate being worse off financially than they were one year ago, with a full 37.7% responding. Women, Black respondents and those in low income and education categories also more often report being worse off.



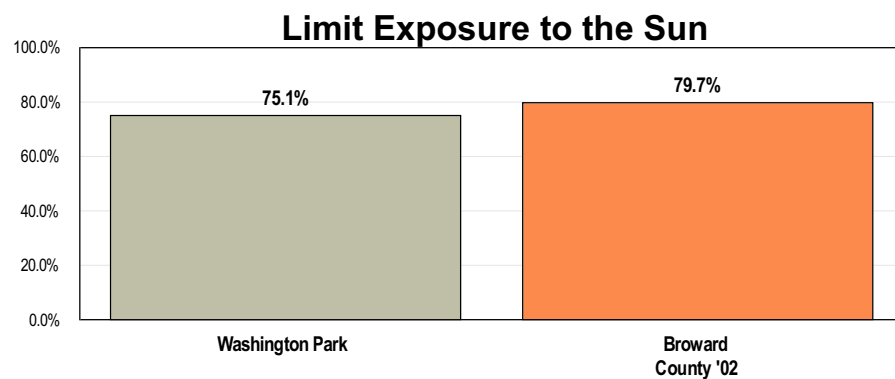
ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Issues

The following section describes such environmental issues as the quality of local drinking water and exposure to the sun.

Sun Exposure

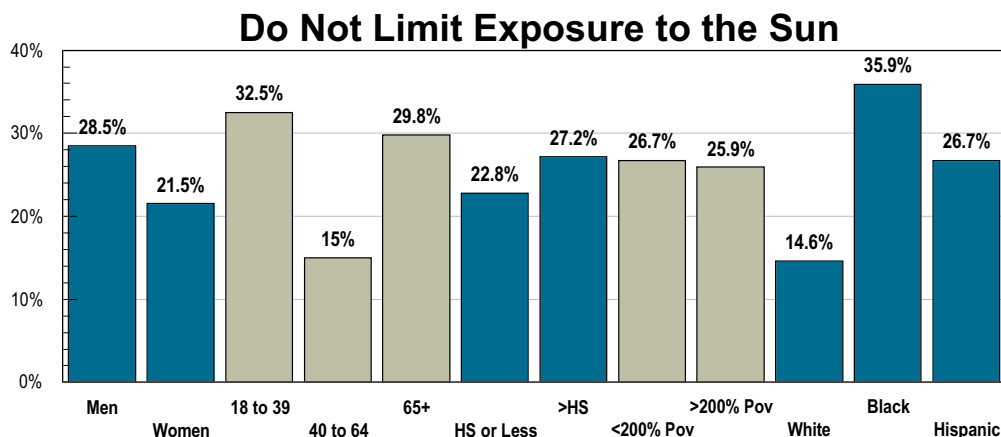
Life in Florida includes the year-round risk of too much sun exposure. Three-fourths (75.1%) of local adults report that they do limit their exposure to the sun (measures can include staying indoors, wearing sunscreen, and/or wearing protective clothing). This prevalence is similar to the Broward County average.



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Asked among all respondents.
2. In this case, limiting exposure to the sun includes such measures as staying indoors, using sunscreen, and/or wearing protective clothing.

Adults most likely to indicate that they do not limit their exposure to the sun include Black respondents, young adults, older adults and men.

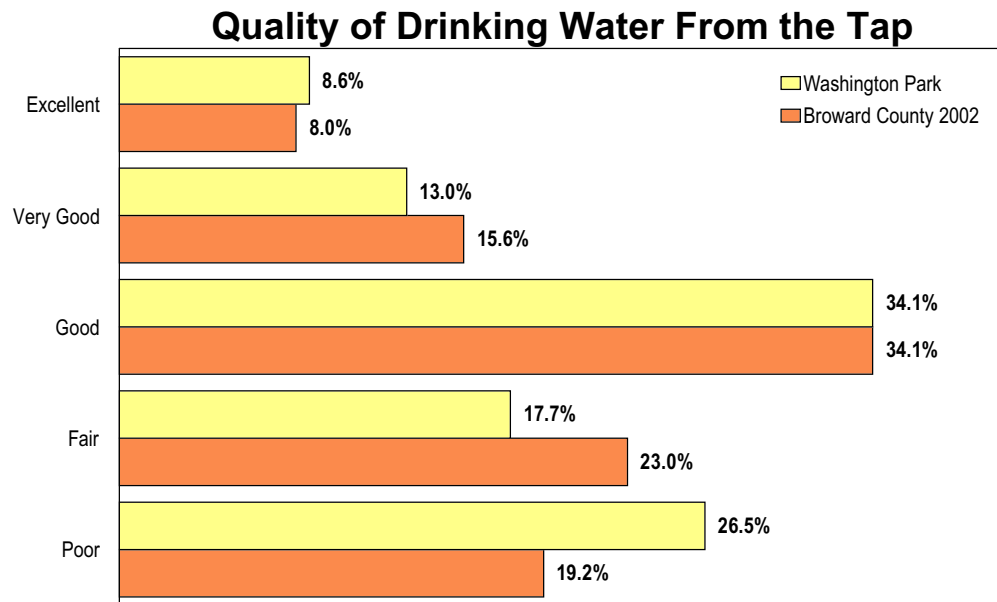


Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
2. Asked of all respondents.

Quality of Drinking Water

Residents were next asked to rate the quality of their local drinking water from the tap. As shown below, 21.6% of local adults feel that the quality of their tap water is “excellent” or “very good,” while 34.1% rated it as “good.” In contrast, 44.2% of local adults still consider their local drinking water to be “fair” or “poor.” These responses are compared below to those found across Broward County.



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Note: Asked among all respondents.

GOVERNMENT

Local Government

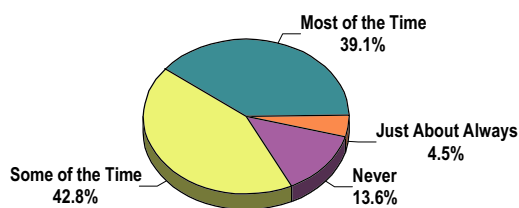
This section of the report outlines residents' views on local government and local city and town services.

Broward County Government

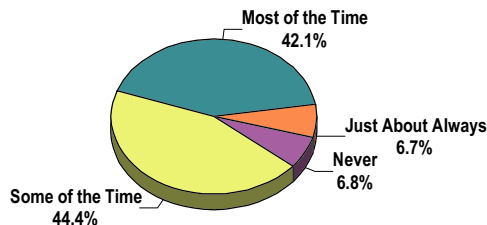
Feelings of Trust

A total of 39.1% of local adults report that they feel they can trust the Broward County government “most of the time,” similar to that found across Broward County. More people (42.8%) were likely to say that they trust the county government “some of the time.” Just 4.5% of community members trust the Broward County government “just about always,” while 13.6% report that they can “never” trust the Broward County government (higher than the Broward County finding of 6.8%).

Can Trust the Broward County Government



Washington Park

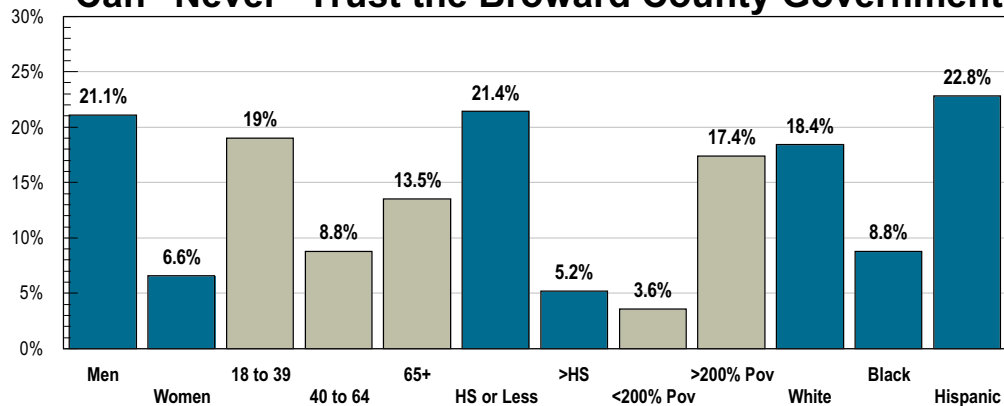


Broward County 2002

Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Asked among all respondents.

Local adults most likely to indicate that they can “never” trust the Broward County government include Hispanics, men, adults without postsecondary education, young adults and those with higher incomes. These breakouts can be found in the following chart.

Can "Never" Trust the Broward County Government



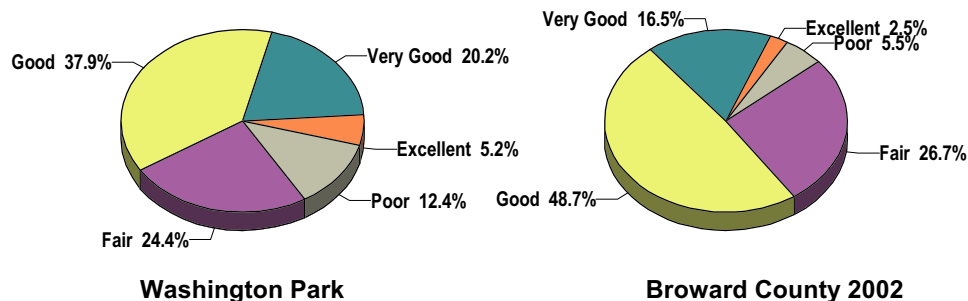
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "never" responses.

Ratings of Local Government

When asked to give an overall rating of the local Broward County government, 25.4% of local adults gave "excellent" or "very good" responses, while 37.9% said "good." In contrast, 36.8% of local adults gave "fair" or "poor" ratings. These ratings are compared to Broward County findings below.

Rating of Broward County Government

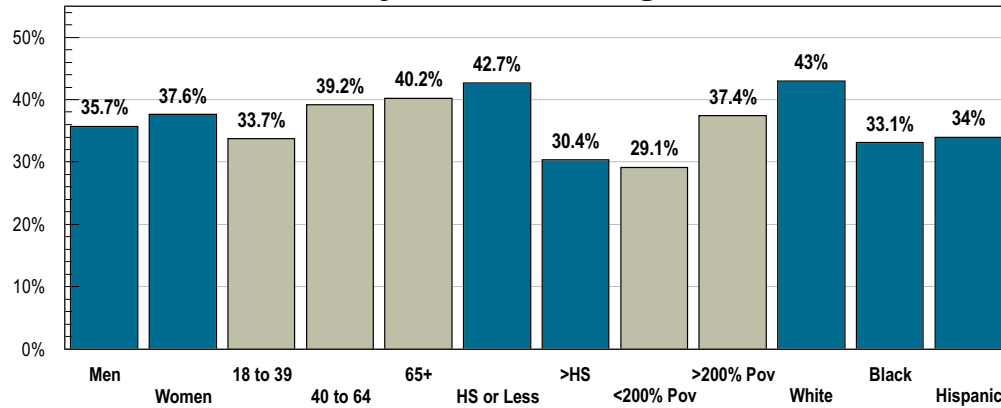


Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Note: Asked of all respondents.

Viewed by demographic characteristic, community members most likely to rate the job done by the local government as "fair" or "poor" include Whites, adults in the lower educational bracket, older and middle-aged adults and those with higher incomes, as can be seen in the following chart. Little difference is seen by gender.

Broward County Gov't is Doing a "Fair/Poor" Job



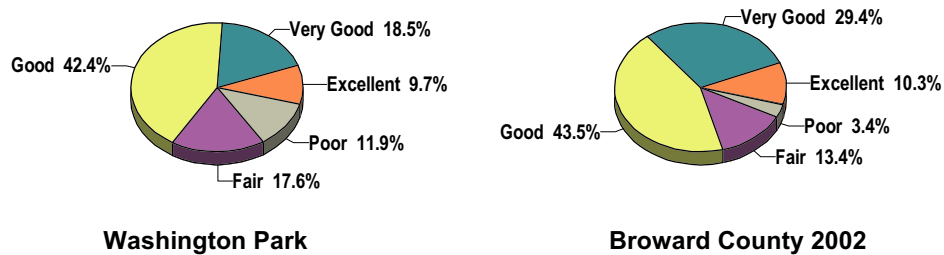
Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
2. Asked of all respondents.

Local City/Town Services

In a related inquiry, survey respondents were asked to rate the services provided by their local city or town. As shown in the following chart, 28.2% of local adults gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings of local services, lower than the 39.7% found across Broward County. A larger share (42.4%) gave “good” ratings. In contrast, 29.5% of residents gave “fair” or “poor” ratings of their local town or city’s services, higher than the 16.8% recorded across the county.

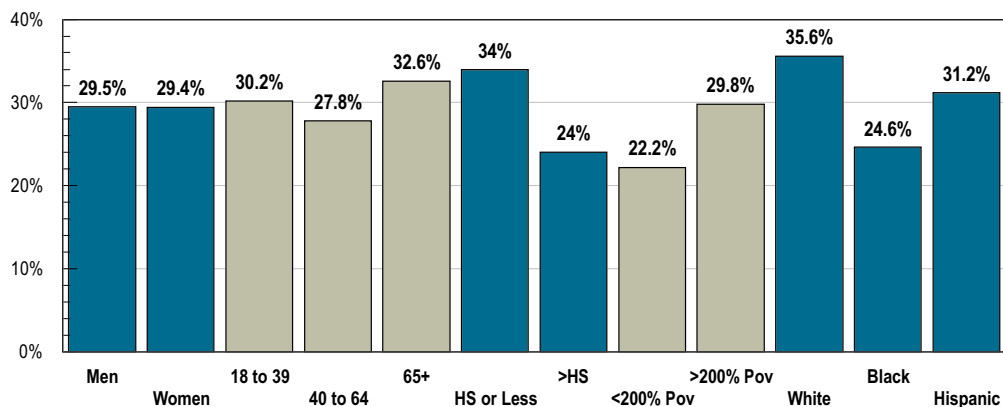
Rating of Local City/Town Services



Source: PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Local adults most likely to give “fair” or “poor” ratings of their town or city’s services include Whites, adults without postsecondary education, older adults and those in the higher income bracket, as shown below. Almost no difference is seen by gender.

Local City/Town Services Are "Fair" or "Poor"



Source: 2002 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Washington Park in 2002.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

APPENDIX

Summary of Findings

Summary of Major Findings (Table 1 of 2)

	Washington Park 2002	Broward County 2002	Florida 1999/2000	United States 2000	Healthy People 2010
HEALTH					
Currently Experience "Fair/Poor" Physical Health	18.5%	13.3 %	15.2%	12.3%	
Avg. Days Poor Physical Health	4.5	3.4	3.4	3.2	
Phys/Mental Health Prevented Activities	27.7%	2.0 %			
Have High Blood Pressure	41.2%	34.0 %	27.7%	23.4%	16%
Have High Blood Cholesterol	32%	36.1 %	33%	21.4%	17%
Have Been Tested for AIDS	61.4%	56.7 %			
High/Medium Chance for AIDS	5.3%	5.6 %	7.5%	6.8%	
Diabetes	10.3%	7.7 %	6.8%	5.4%	
Screened for Sickle Cell	18%	11.5 %			
Lack Health Care Insurance	27.9%	12.2 %	16.2%	15.6%	
Cost Prevented Dr Visit	22.2%	8.5 %	N/A	10.4%	
Perceive Major Trouble w/Local Health Care	26.5%	23.9 %			
Avg. Days of Poor Mental Health	4.3	3.2	3	3	
Had a Flu Shot in the Past Year (65+)	44.0%	61.3 %	63.1%	65.7%	
Have Had a Pneumonia Vaccination (65+)	37.6%	56.0 %	53.4%	N/A	
No Leisure-Time Physical Activity	35.8%	24.5 %	31.1%	20.2%	
Sedentary	71%	58.3 %			
Overweight	52.5%	57.1 %	56.9%	56.9%	
Current Smoker	18.2%	20.4 %	20.6%	22.8%	12%
Current Drinker	51.3%	58.3 %	55.1%	56.4%	50%
Drinking and Driving	0.9%	3.4 %	2%	3.7%	
Have Ridden w/Drunk Driver	4.8%	4.4 %			
Routine Checkup Last Year	72.4%	79.2 %	N/A	64.1%	
Dental Visit in Past 6 Months	39.1%	55.0 %	N/A	54.7%	
Child Had Dental Visit/Past 6 Months	47.5%	59.0 %	N/A	55.6%	
Digital/Rectal Exam in Past Year (50+)	31%	56.4 %	N/A	57.1%	
Ever Had Sigmoidoscopy	38.3%	50.2 %	52.8%	48.7%	50%
Mammogram/Breast Exam in Past 2 Yrs (50+)	62.3%	80.5 %	76.1%	76.9%	
Pap Smear in Past 3 Years	75.5%	81.2 %	85.3%	84%	90%

Summary of Major Findings (Table 2 of 2)

	Washington Park 2002	Broward County 2002	Florida 1999/2000	United States 2000	Healthy People 2010
SAFETY					
Victim of Violent Crime/Past 5 Years	6.2%	3.2 %	N/A	3.8%	
Have a Handgun in the Home	24.8%	22.1 %	N/A	36.1%	
Handguns in Homes w/Children	20.5%	19.5 %	N/A	N/A	
Always Use Seatbelt	79.8%	81.4 %	76.1%	75%	92%
Serious Auto Accident/Past 5 Years	22.1%	11.7 %	N/A	N/A	
FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES					
Broward Co. "Excellent" Place to Live	19.5%	17.8 %	N/A	22.7%	
Life Has Improved in Broward County	55.7%	46.4 %	N/A	41.1%	
Member of HH is Hard of Hearing	16.4%	10.2 %	N/A	N/A	
Member of Household is Deaf	4.9%	2.1 %	N/A	N/A	
Member of Household is Speech Impaired	1.4%	1.7 %	N/A	N/A	
Member of Household is Blind	2.4%	1.4 %	N/A	N/A	
Member of Household is Disabled and Need Assistance	8.8%	7.9 %	N/A	N/A	
Local Road/Highway System is "Excellent"	13.2%	15.9 %	N/A	5.3%	
Local Race Relations Are "Excellent"	14.1%	17.0 %	N/A	12.3%	
Local Cultural Relations Are "Excellent"	13.4%	16.1 %	N/A	N/A	
Local Religious Relations Are "Excellent"	8.7%	18.3 %	N/A	N/A	
More Opportunities Now in Broward Co.	32.1%	24.5 %	N/A	50.6%	
More Opportunities for the Disabled Now	43.9%	50.0 %	N/A	N/A	
Public School System is "Excellent"	14.4%	7.0 %	N/A	12.9%	
Local Literacy Rates Are "High"	74.9%	83.6 %	N/A	N/A	
ECONOMY					
Financially Better Off Than One Year Ago	50.7%	41.0 %	N/A	40.2%	
ENVIRONMENT					
Limit Exposure to Sun	75.1%	79.7 %	N/A	N/A	
Drinking Water From Tap is "Excellent"	8.6%	8.0 %	N/A	14.2%	
GOVERNMENT					
Broward County Gov't is "Excellent"	5.2%	2.5 %	N/A	3.2%	
Local City Services Are "Excellent"	9.7%	10.3 %	N/A	N/A	

Health Findings Versus National Benchmarks

Health Status		Wash Park	US	HP2010	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Physical	% "Fair" or "Poor" Physical Health	18.5	12.3		WORSE	
	% >1 Day/Month Poor Physical Health	30.5	28.5		similar	
	% Overweight	68.7	56.9		WORSE	
	% Unhealthy Weight (BMI <18.5 or 25+)	70.7	58.5	40	WORSE	Does NOT Meet Goal
	% Obese	35.8	19.1	15	WORSE	Does NOT Meet Goal
Mental Health	% >1 Day/Month Poor Mental Health	4.3	31.9		BETTER	
Morbidity	% Deafness/Trouble Hearing	4.9	9.3		BETTER	
	% Diabetes/High Blood Sugar	10.3	5.4		WORSE	
	% Asthma	18.3	9.9		WORSE	
	% Blindness/Trouble Seeing	2.4	9.2		BETTER	
	% "High" Chance of Getting AIDS (18-64)	1.1	2.1		similar	
Crime	% Victim of Violent Crime in Past 5 Yrs	6.2	3.8		similar	
Health Risk		Wash Park	US	HP2010	vs. US	vs. HP2010
CV Risk	% 1+ Cardiovascular Risk Factor	93.7	84.7		WORSE	
Exercise	% No Leisure-Time Physical Activity	35.8	20.2		WORSE	
Tobacco	% Current Smoker	18.2	22.8	12	similar	Does NOT Meet Goal
	% Smoke >1 Pack/Day	20.9	13.8		similar	
Substance	% Current Drinker	51.3	56.4	50	similar	similar to goal
	% Drinking & Driving in Past Month	0.9	3.7		BETTER	
Hypertension	% Told Have High Blood Pressure	41.2	23.4	16	WORSE	Does NOT Meet Goal
Cholesterol	% Told Have High Cholesterol	32	21.4	17	WORSE	Does NOT Meet Goal
Prevention		Wash Park	US	HP2010	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Preventive	% Have Had Routine Checkup in Past Yr	72.4	64.1		BETTER	
	% Have Visited Dentist in Past Yr (18+)	55.9	68.9	83	WORSE	Does NOT Meet Goal
	% Child (1-17) Has Visited Dentist in Past Yr	68.2	69.3	83	similar	Does NOT Meet Goal
Immunization	% Flu Shot in Past Yr (65+)	44	65.7	90	similar	Does NOT Meet Goal
Cancer	% Digital Rectal Exam in Past Yr (50+)	31	57.1		WORSE	
	% Sigmoid/Colonoscopy Ever (50+)	38.3	48.7	50	similar	Does NOT Meet Goal
	% Mammogram in Past 2 Yrs (W40+)	74.1	78.2	70	similar	similar to goal
	% Pap Smear in Past 3 Yrs (W)	75.4	84	90	similar	Does NOT Meet Goal
Injury Control	% "Always" Wear Seat Belt	79.8	75	92	similar	Does NOT Meet Goal
	% Firearm in Home	24.8	36.1		BETTER	
Access		Wash Park	US	HP2010	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Insurance Cvg	% Lack Health Insurance (18-64)	27.9	15.6		WORSE	
Primary Care	% Cost Prevented Physician Visit in Past Yr	22.2	10.4		WORSE	
	% Cost Prevented Child's Care in Past Yr	17.6	7.3		WORSE	
	% Difficulty Getting Appointment in Past Yr	17	13.3	7	similar	Does NOT Meet Goal
	% Cost Prevented Getting Rx in Past Yr	17.7	9.5		WORSE	
Health Care	% Rate Local Health Care "Excellent/Very Good"	45.7	53.1		similar	