

2004 PRC Quality of Life Assessment

Broward County, Florida

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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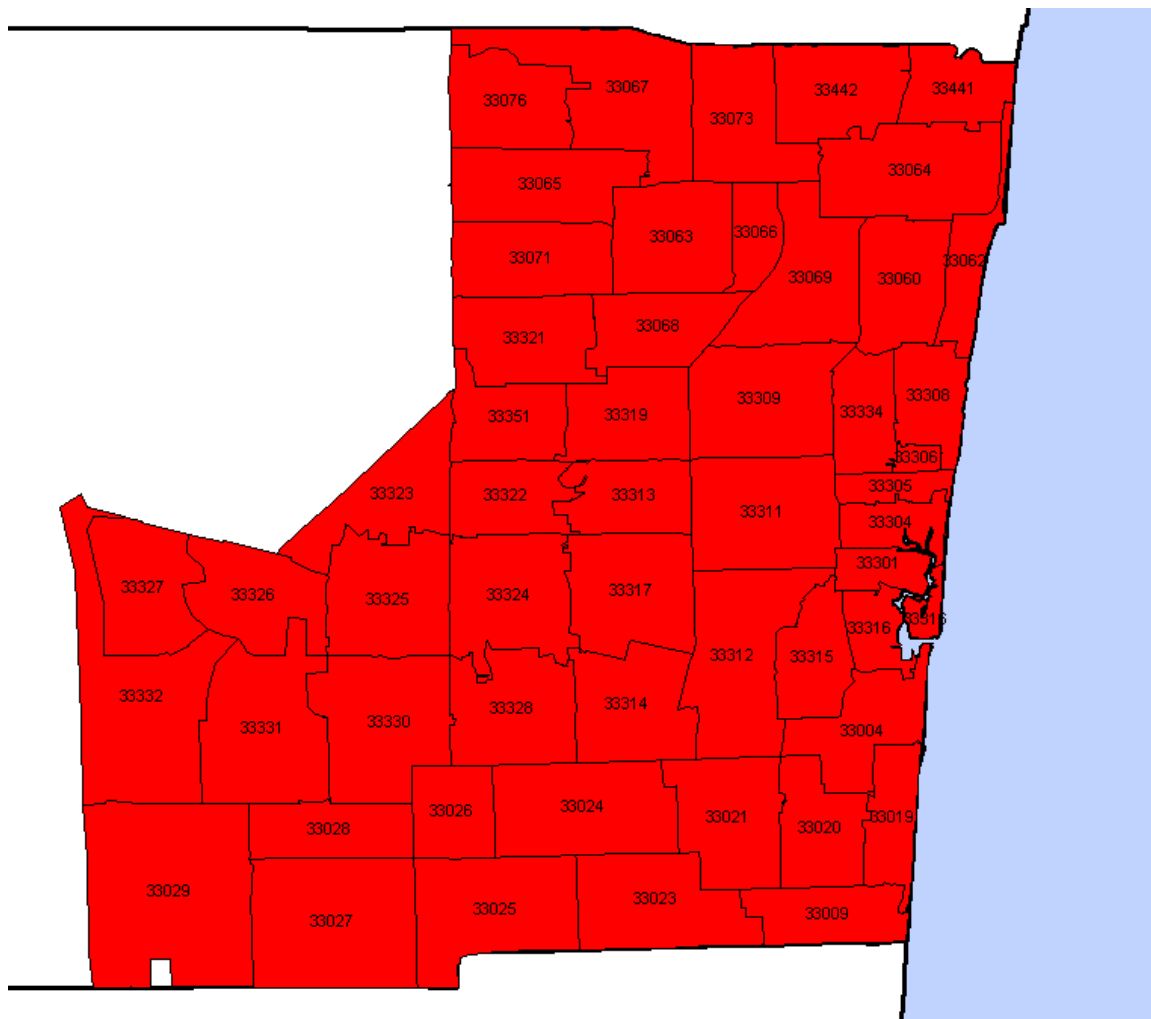
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INTRODUCTION

Methodology

Community Defined for This Assessment

The “community” defined for this assessment includes each of the ZIP Codes comprising Broward County. 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 2004 *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 2,400 individuals aged 18 and older in the defined community. Once these data were collected, the sample was weighted in proportion to the actual population distribution at the ZIP Code level. Population estimates were based on the latest census projections of adults aged 18 and over provided in the *2001 CACI Census Update*.

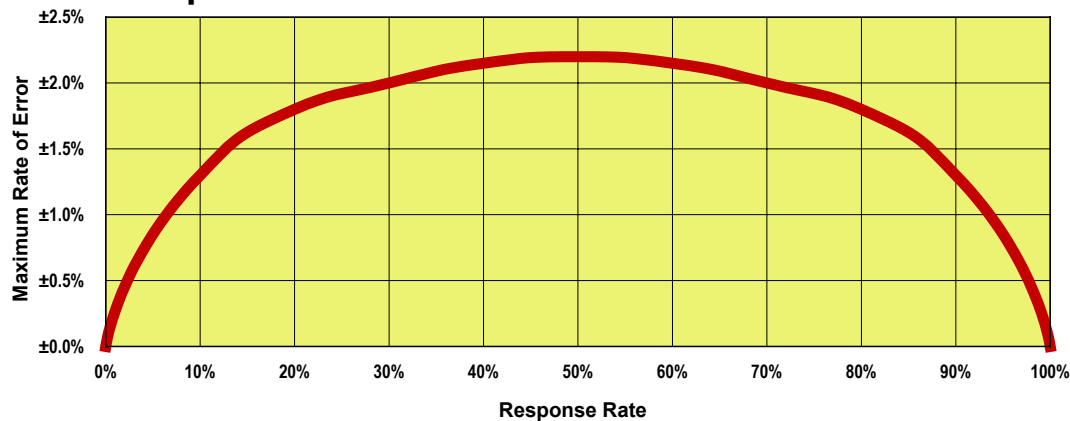
All administration of the surveys, data collection and data analysis was conducted by Professional Research Consultants, Inc. (PRC).



Sampling Error

For statistical purposes, the maximum rate of error associated with a sample size of 2,400 respondents is $\pm 2.2\%$ at the 95 percent level of confidence. A visual description can be found in the following chart.

Expected Error Ranges for a Sample of 2,400 Respondents at the 95 Percent Level of Confidence



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 2,400 respondents answered a certain question with a "yes," it can be asserted that between 8.7% and 11.3% ($10\% \pm 1.3\%$) 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 47.8% and 52.2% ($50\% \pm 2.2\%$) 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 13,325 residents aged 18 and older in Broward County (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 45,305 people and therefore must not be dismissed as too small to be significant.

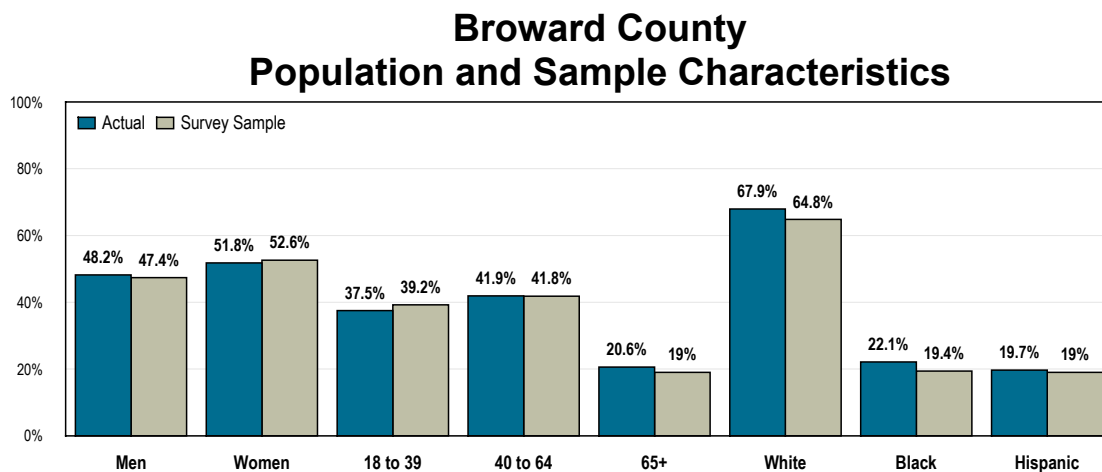
Also, for purposes of this study, comparisons are made to the 1994, 1997, 1999 and 2002 survey findings [conducted in Broward County by PRC] where possible and applicable throughout the report.

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, ethnicity, income and ZIP Code)

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.]



Sources: 1. 2003 ESRI Census Update, Population 18 and Older.
2. 2004 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 2003 guidelines place the poverty threshold for a family of four at \$18,850 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 Broward County 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 latest *BRFSS (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System) Summary Prevalence Report* 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 2003 *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



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 2010 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

Health Status

This section describes various assessments of the general physical health of community residents in Broward County, including such elements as perceived health status, including physical, mental, and emotional health.

Self-Reported Health Status

Overall Health Status

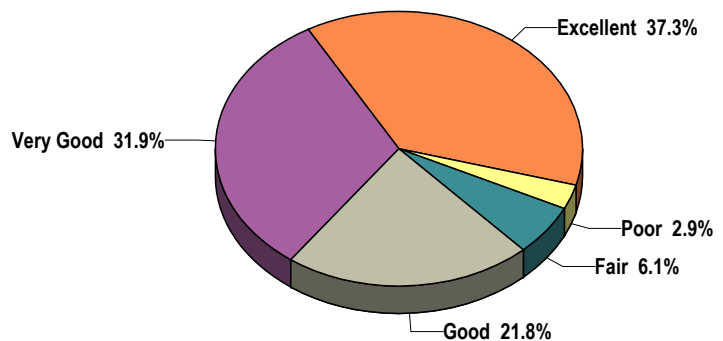
In Broward County, 69.2% of adults view their collective physical, mental, and emotional health as “excellent” or “very good.” On the other hand, 9.0% say that their general physical health is overall “fair” or “poor.” This is further outlined in the adjacent chart.

The following chart provides an illustration of self-reported physical, mental, and emotional health status, segmented by various demographic characteristics. As might be

expected, indications of “fair” or “poor” health increase with age, ranging from 7.2% among adults under 40 to 13.5% among adults aged 65 and older. Perhaps more surprising is that there is also a strong correlation with education, with 12.9% of community residents with no postsecondary education reporting their physical/mental/emotional health as “fair” or “poor,” compared to 7.4% of those with education beyond high school.

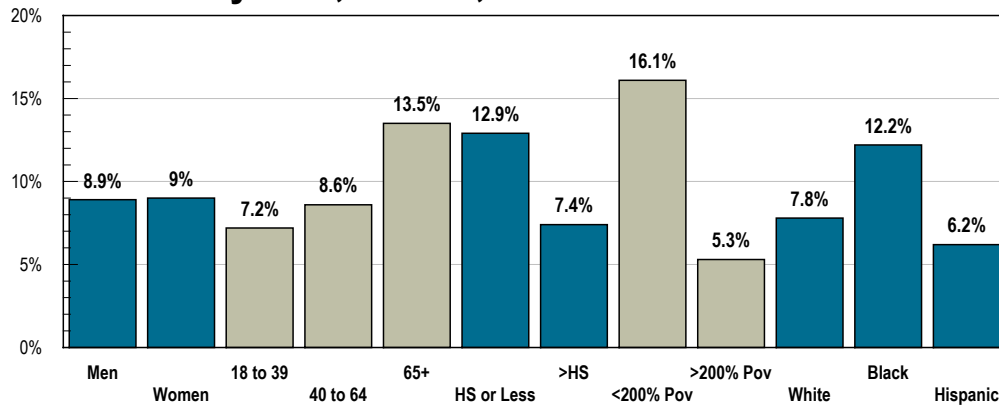
Furthermore, “fair” or “poor” physical, mental, and emotional health is reported much more among adults living at or near the poverty level, and is more likely to be reported among Blacks than among Whites or Hispanics in Broward County.

Self-Reported Health Status
(Including Physical, Mental, and Emotional Health)
(Broward County 2004)



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 5]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Experience "Fair" or "Poor" Physical, Mental, and Emotional Health



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 5]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
2. Asked of all respondents.

Hypertension

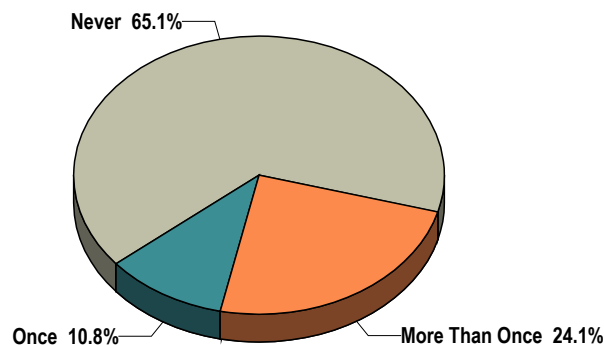
Hypertension, or high blood pressure, is a condition wherein one's systolic blood pressure is equal to or greater than 140 mm Hg and/or his or her diastolic blood pressure is equal to or greater than 90 mm Hg. Hypertension prevalence increases with age, and women and Blacks are generally at higher risk.

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

Just over one-third of community members have been told at some point that their blood pressure was high. Specifically, 24.1% of adults in Broward County have been told more than once that their blood pressure was high, while 10.8% have been told this only once.

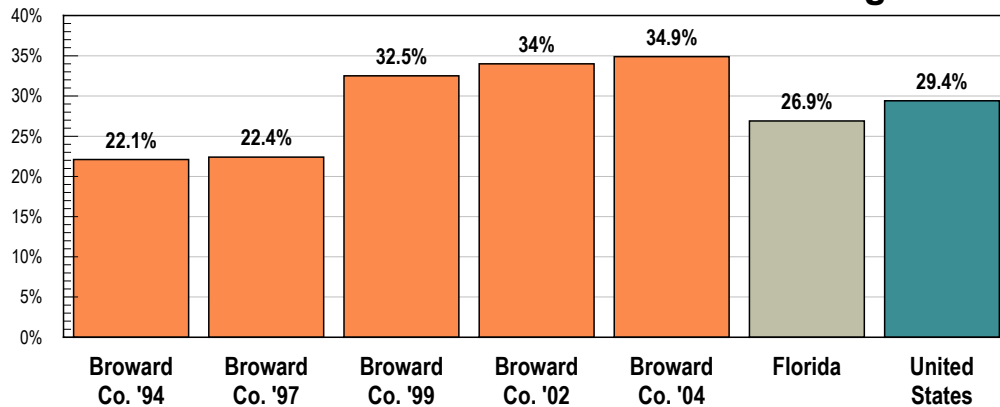
**Have Been Told
Blood Pressure Was High**
(Broward County 2004)



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 11]
Note: Reflects the total sample of respondents.

The prevalence of adults in Broward County who have been told they have high blood pressure is significantly higher than the 29.4% recorded nationwide but is statistically similar to the 34.0% reported locally in 2002. Note, however, an increasing trend over the past decade.

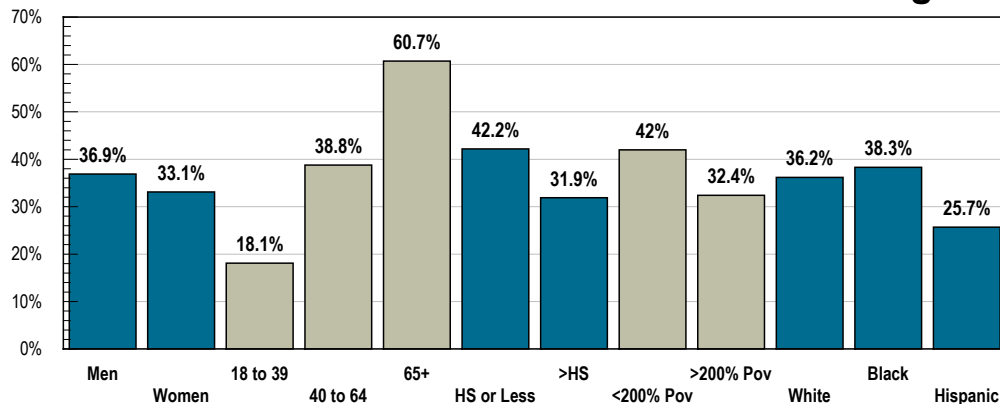
Have Been Told Blood Pressure Was High



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 11]
 2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2001 Florida Data
 3. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Also, in looking at age cohorts, hypertension rates vary from 18.1% among adults under 40 to 60.7% among those 65 and older. Blacks experience a high prevalence (38.3%), as do adults in the lower income (42.0%) and educational (42.2%) categories.

Have Been Told That Blood Pressure Was High



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 11]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Reflects the total sample of respondents.

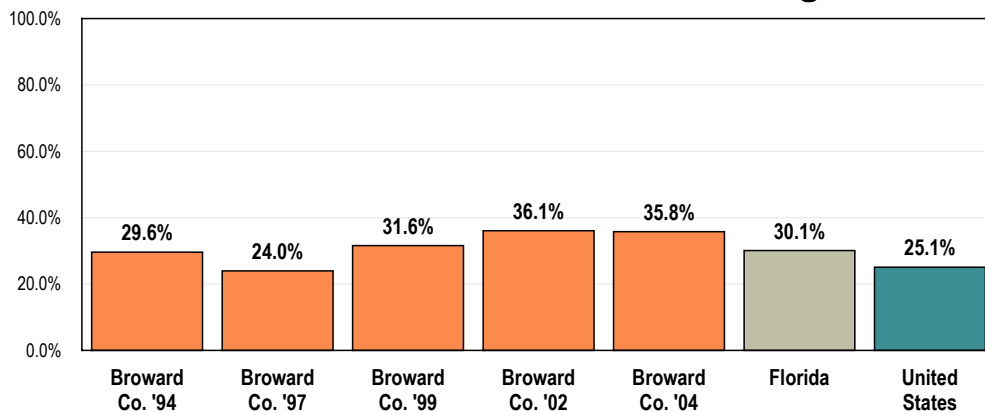
Cholesterol

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 35.8% of adults in Broward County have been told by a health professional that their cholesterol level was high; this level is less favorable than the 25.1% recorded nationwide but is similar to the 36.1% reported across the county in 2002. Statewide, 30.1% of adults have been diagnosed with high blood cholesterol levels, as shown below.

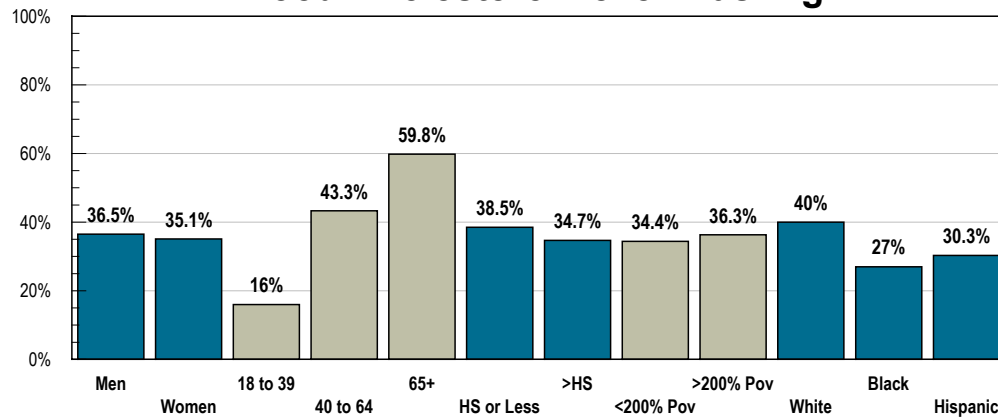
**Have Been Told That
Blood Cholesterol Level Was High**



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 12]
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2001 Florida Data
3. 2003 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 characteristic. Note that high blood cholesterol prevalence exhibits a positive correlation with age, varying from 16.0% among adults under 40 to 59.8% among those 65 and older. Note that high cholesterol is much higher among Whites than Hispanics and Blacks.

Have Been Told That Blood Cholesterol Level Was High



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 12]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

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 Broward County.

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.

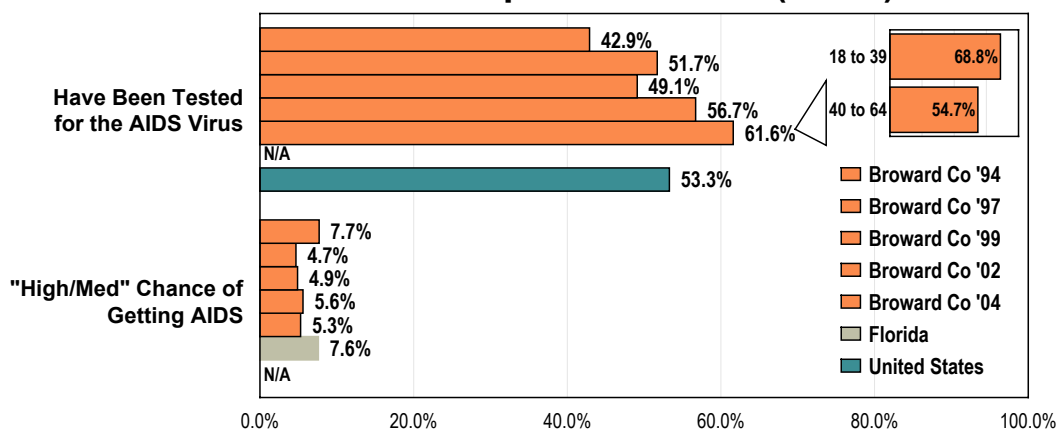
Although there is no vaccine or cure, recent advances in human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) treatment can slow or halt the progression from HIV infection to AIDS. Because HIV is not a reportable disease, the only method of monitoring HIV transmission is to monitor trends in AIDS cases. Longer periods 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 Broward County believe that their chances of contracting the HIV virus are “high” or “medium,” similar to local findings over the past several years.

Note in the following chart that testing levels in Broward County have increased to more than six in 10 (61.6%) adults under 65, and increases further among adults under 40.

Perceptions of AIDS (18-64)

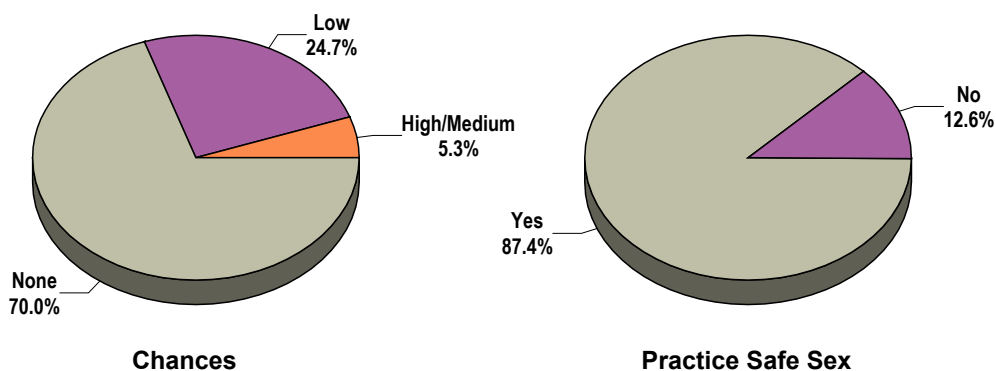


Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Items 71,73]
 2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2000 Florida Data
 3. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Note: Reflects total sample of respondents under 65.

Seven in 10 (70.0%) local adults feel they have no chance of acquiring the AIDS virus. Another 24.7% reported a "low" risk and 5.3% reported "high" or "medium" risk for the virus.

When prompted, 87.4% of survey respondents indicated that they practice "safe sex."

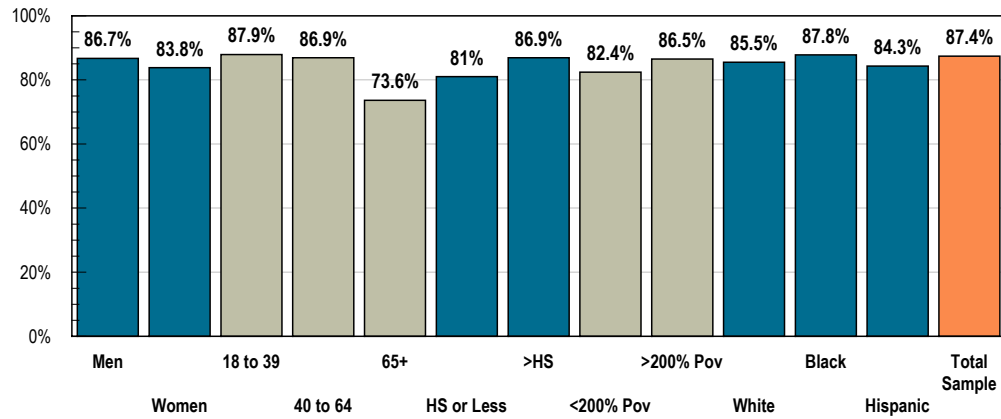
Perceived Chances of Getting the AIDS Virus



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Items 71,72]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

While the majority of adults answered affirmatively, local adults *least* likely to indicate that they practice safe sex include adults over 64, those without education beyond high school, and those in the lower income bracket.

Practice Safe Sex



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 72]

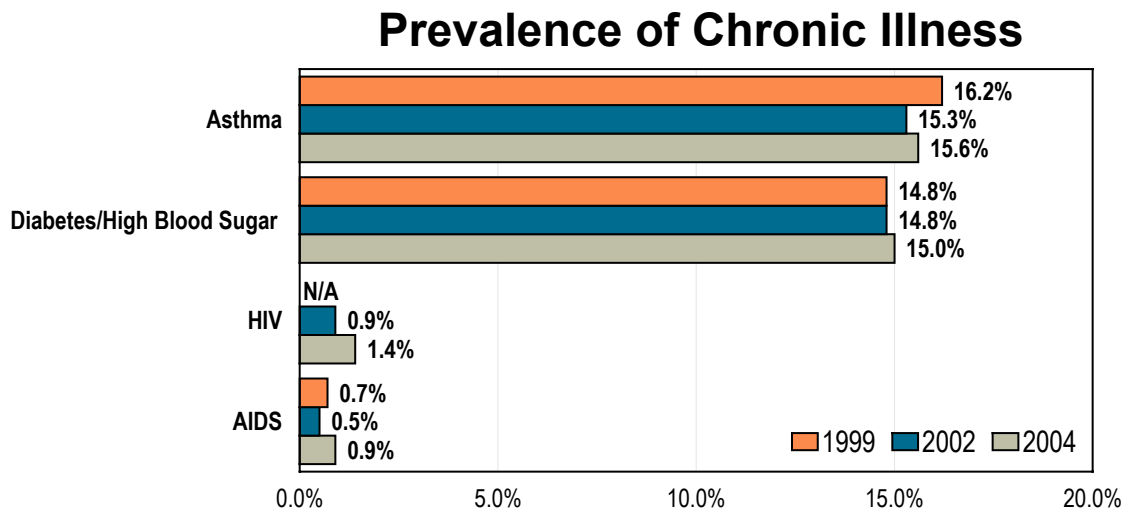
- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Reflects the total sample of respondents.

Prevalence of Chronic Illness

As part of the 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, area residents were asked to report the prevalence of any of four various chronic conditions among them or other members of their households. As shown below, 15.6% of survey respondents reported that they or a member of their household suffer from **asthma**, similar to the 15.3% prevalence reported in 2002.

Another 15.0% of local adults report that they or a member of their household currently suffer from **diabetes**, comparable to the 2002 prevalence. Just 1.4% currently suffer from HIV and less than one percent (0.9%) of local adults currently suffer from **AIDS**.

Keep in mind that each percentage point below represents approximately 13,325 adults in Broward County.

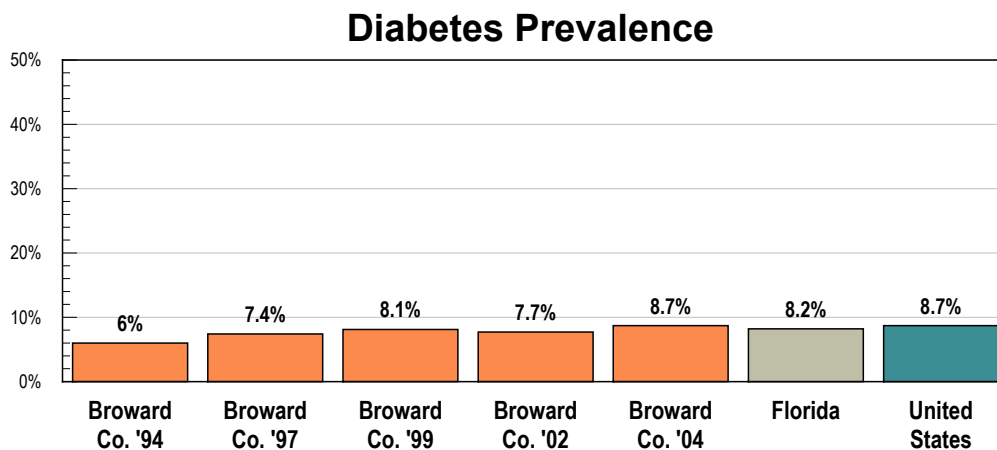


Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Items 14-17]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

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, 8.7% of the community members surveyed indicate having diabetes, compared to 8.2% statewide and an identical 8.7% nationwide. The diabetes prevalence in Broward County has remained statistically stable since 1997, as shown below.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 13]
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2001 Florida Data
3. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Reflects the total sample of respondents.

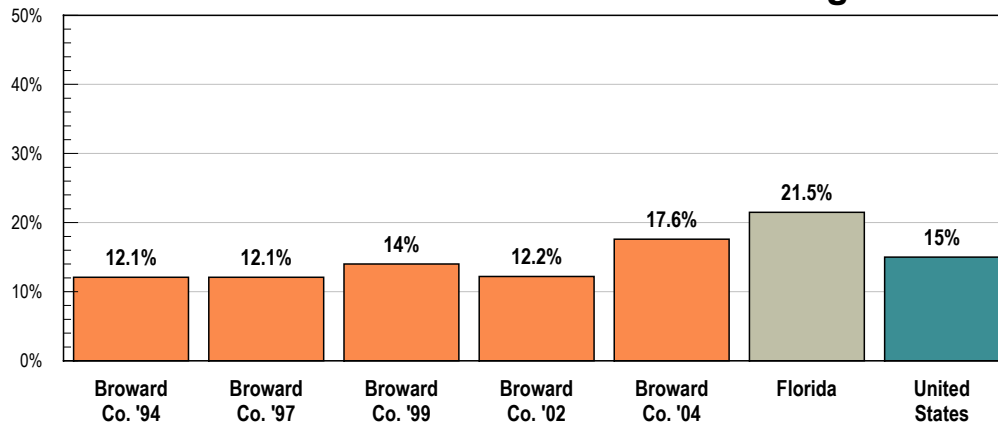
Health Insurance Coverage

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 17.6% of adults in Broward County have no insurance coverage to pay for health care expenses, comparable to the national level of 15.0%. Lack of coverage is higher across the state, as shown below. This year's local prevalence marks a *statistically significant increase* in lack of coverage among community residents. [Note that Broward County adults under age 65 are more likely (21.0%) than those across the nation (15.3%) to indicate a lack of health care insurance coverage.]

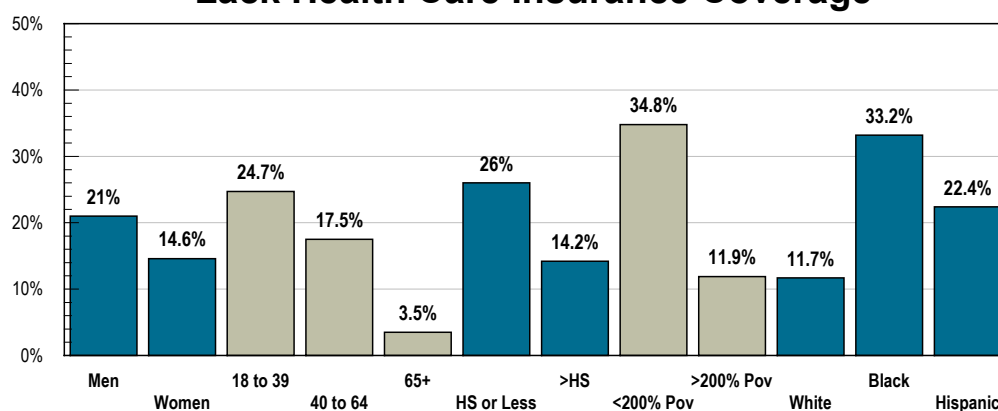
Lack Health Care Insurance Coverage



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 7]
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2001 Florida Data
3. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
Note: Reflects total sample of respondents.

Not surprisingly, current coverage is directly related to income, and, in fact, lack of insurance decreases sharply among individuals living on over 200% of the national poverty level. Note also that lack of insurance coverage is almost non-existent among adults aged 65 and older. On the other hand, lack of coverage is relatively high among men, young adults, those without postsecondary education, Blacks and Hispanics.

Lack Health Care Insurance Coverage



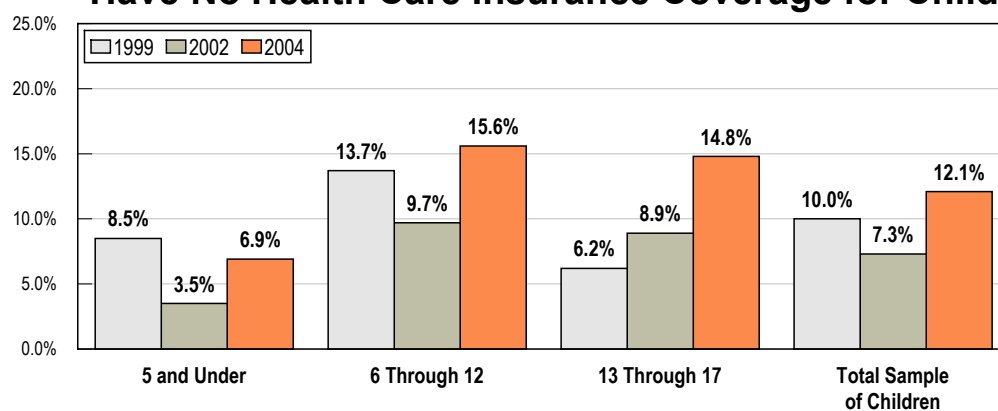
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 7]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County 2004.
 2. Reflects total sample of respondents.

Coverage for Children

Among local adults with children under 18 at home, 12.1% have no health care insurance coverage for their children. This prevalence marks a *statistically significant increase* since 2002, as shown in the following chart. Parents of children over the age of six were more likely to note the lack of coverage for their children.

Have No Health Care Insurance Coverage for Child



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 130]

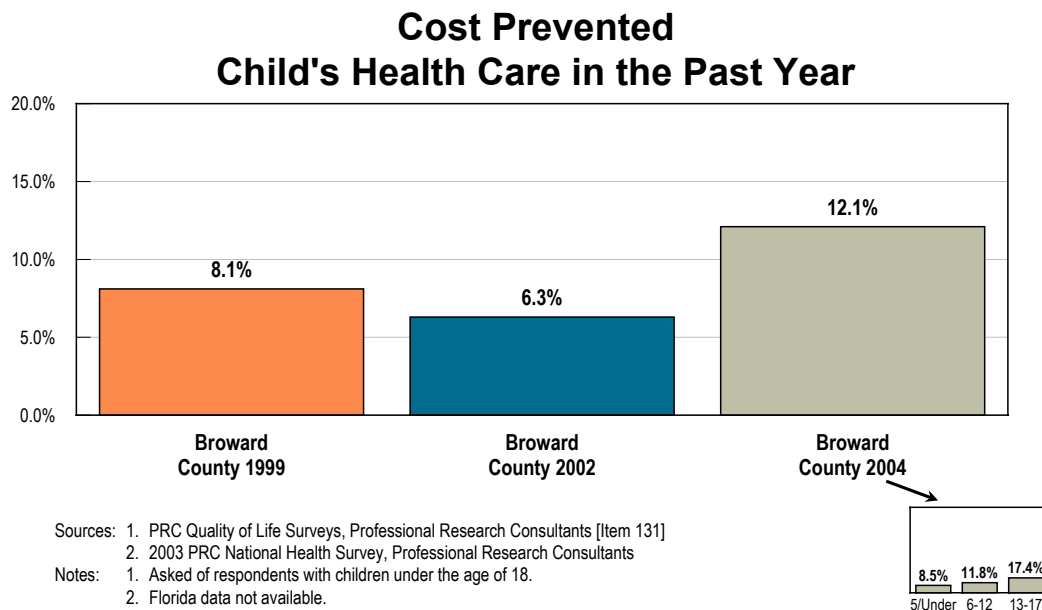
Note: Asked of respondents with children under the age of 18.

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.

Cost of Health Services

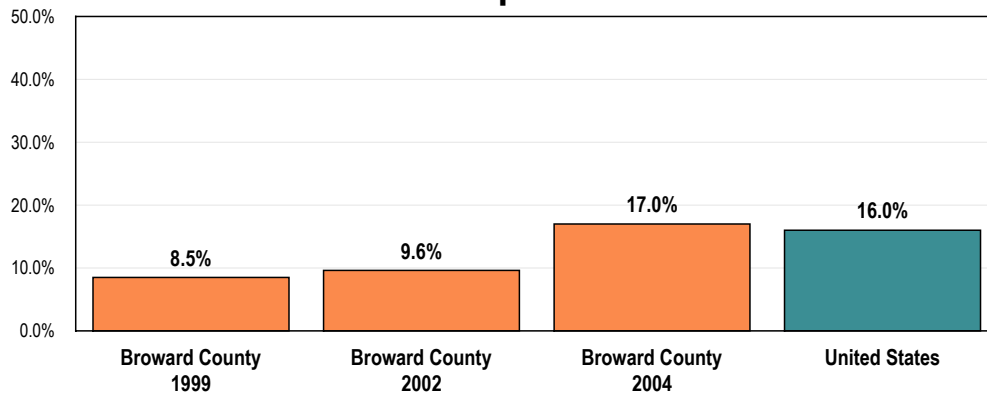
Children. Among residents in Broward County with children under the age of 18, 12.1% indicate that cost or a lack of insurance prevented their child from receiving health care at some point in the past. The local prevalence marks a *statistically significant increase* since 2002, when 6.3% of parents across the county reported that cost prevented their child from receiving health care. Note that cost as a prohibitor is highest for parents of local teens.



Prescription Medicine

Adults. Another important issue in regard to medical care access is prescription medicine. A total of 17.0% of community members noted that cost prevented them from obtaining a needed prescription medicine in the past year, comparable to the 16.0% of American adults reporting the same but marking a *statistically significant increase* from the 9.6% reported in 2002.

Cost Prevented Prescription Medicine in Past Year

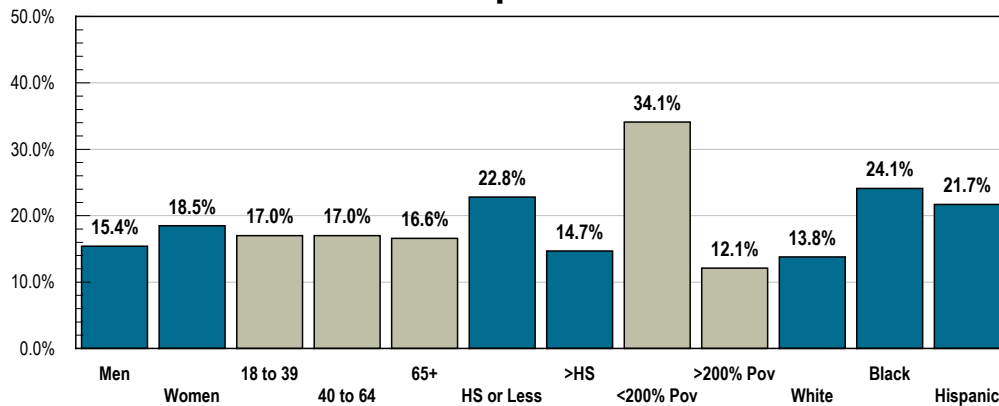


Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 10]
 2. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants

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

When viewed demographically, Blacks, Hispanics, and people living in poverty were most likely to note that cost prevented them from receiving a prescription medicine in the past year. Note also that adults without education beyond high school are much more likely than those with postsecondary education to note that cost prevented them from purchasing medicine last year.

Cost Prevented Prescription Medicine in Past Year



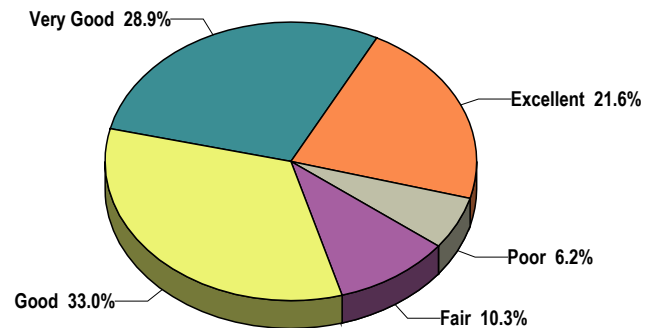
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 10]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Quality of Local Health Care

Overall, local adults give high ratings of the local health care that they currently receive. One-half (50.5%) give “excellent” or “very good” appraisals, *down significantly* from the 2002 survey (56.5%). On the other hand, 16.5% of adults consider their local health care to be “fair” or “poor,” as shown in the adjacent chart.

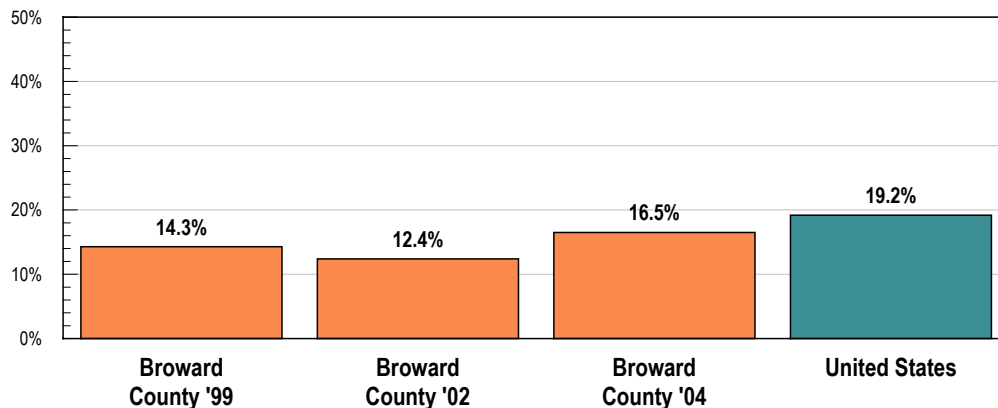
Rating of Local Health Care



Since 2002, “fair/poor” ratings of local health care have undergone a *statistically significant increase* but are comparable to national findings (19.2%), as shown below.

Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 6]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

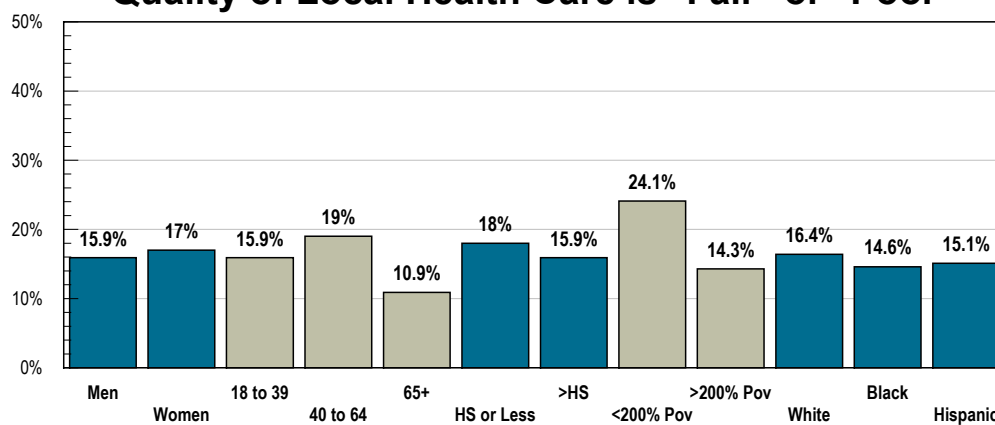
Perceive Local Health Care to be "Fair/Poor"



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants[Item 6]
2. 2003 PRC National Community Health 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 nearly one-fourth of persons living below 200% of the poverty level consider the quality of local health care to be “fair” or “poor.” Also, adults under 65 are more likely to consider their health care to be “fair” or “poor” when compared with those aged 65 and older.

Quality of Local Health Care is "Fair" or "Poor"



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 6]

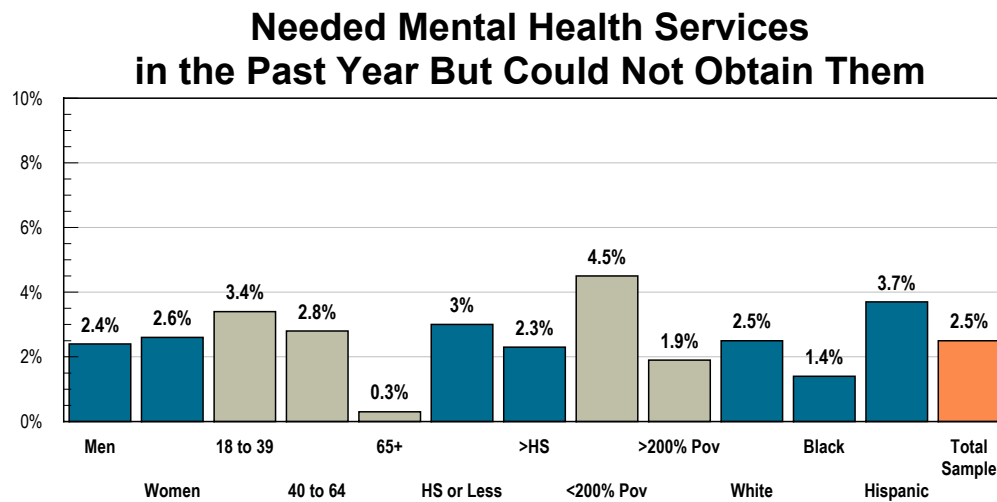
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
2. Asked of all respondents.

Mental Health Status

The following section outlines general assessments of the community's perceptions about mental health and access to mental health services.

Accessing Mental Health Services

Just 2.5% of local adults report that they needed mental health services in the past year but were unable to obtain them. This percentage increases to 4.5% among adults living in the lower income bracket, to 3.7% among Hispanics, and to 3.4% of young adults.

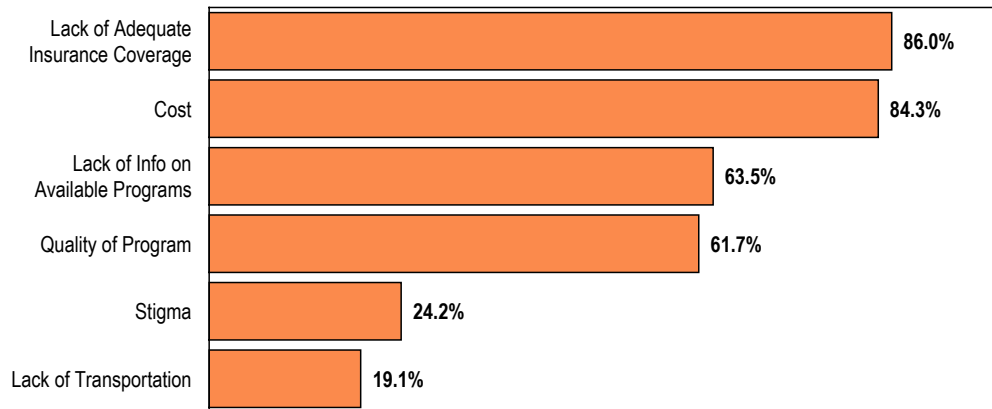


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 55]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

When these adults were given a series of reasons for the inability to obtain mental health services in the past year (respondents were allowed more than one reason), the largest response (86.0%) was for **lack of adequate insurance coverage**, followed closely by **cost** (mentioned by 84.3%).

Other reasons included **lack of information about available programs** (63.5%), **quality of programs** (61.7%), the **social stigma** attached to mental health treatment (24.2%), and **lack of transportation** (19.1%).

Reason for Lack of Ability to Obtain Needed Mental Health Services



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Items 56-61]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

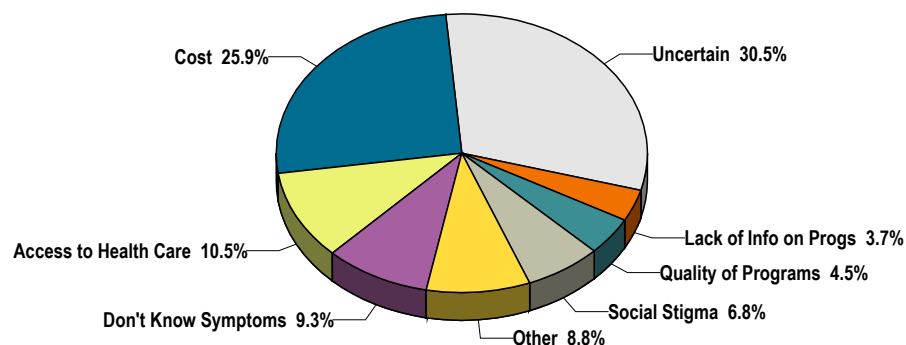
2. Asked of those respondents who noted a lack of ability to obtain necessary mental health services. Multiple responses allowed.

Barriers to Mental Health Care Access

The total sample of respondents was next asked to indicate what they perceive to be the number-one barrier facing people with mental illness who need treatment. As seen in the following chart, many were uncertain (30.5%), but one-fourth (25.9%) mentioned **cost** and 10.5% mentioned **poor access** to health care.

Other barrier perceived by county residents include, “No knowledge of the symptoms of poor mental health” (9.3%), the social stigma (6.8%), quality of programs available (4.5%), and lack of information on programs (3.7%).

Perceived Number-One Barrier Facing People With Mental Illness Who Need Treatment



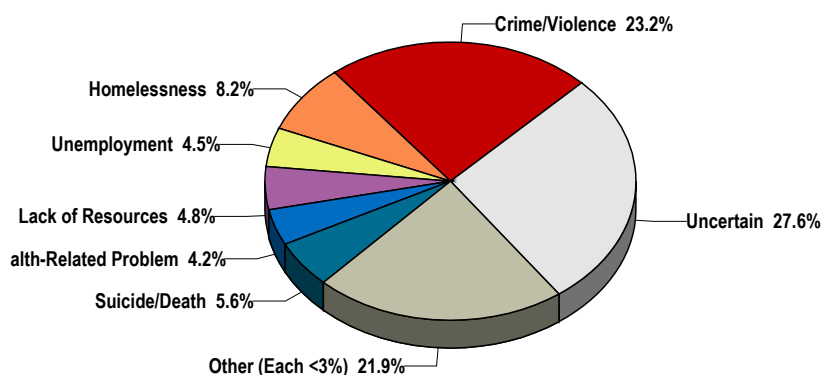
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item88]

Note: Asked of all respondents.

Perceived Societal Consequences of Untreated Mental Illness

In a related inquiry, survey respondents were “What do you think is the biggest consequence of untreated mental illness in our society?” While many (27.6%) were uncertain, nearly one out of four (23.2%) mentioned **crime or violence**. This is followed by **homelessness** (8.2%), **suicide/death** (5.6%), **lack of resources** (4.8%), **unemployment or loss of income** (4.5%), and **health-related problems** (4.2%). [Note that several comments suggested that some respondents interpreted the phrase “consequence of untreated mental illness” as “cause of untreated mental illness” (e.g., responses such as “social stigma,” “cost of services,” etc.).]

Perceived Biggest Consequence of Untreated Mental Illness in Our Society

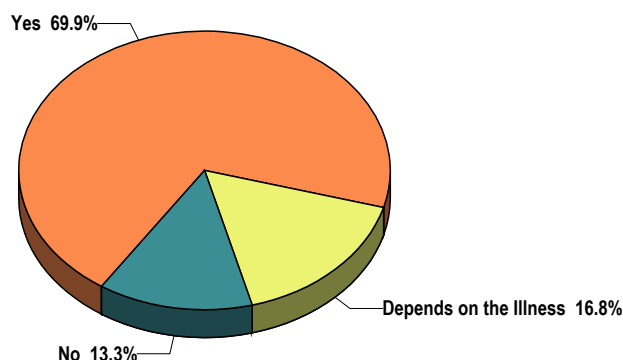


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item89]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Perceptions About Employment and Mental Health

When asked, 69.9% of survey respondents indicated that they would employ or recommend someone for a job who has been treated for mental illness. In contrast, 13.3% would not employ or recommend such a person, and 16.8% of respondents said that it would depend on the nature of the mental illness.

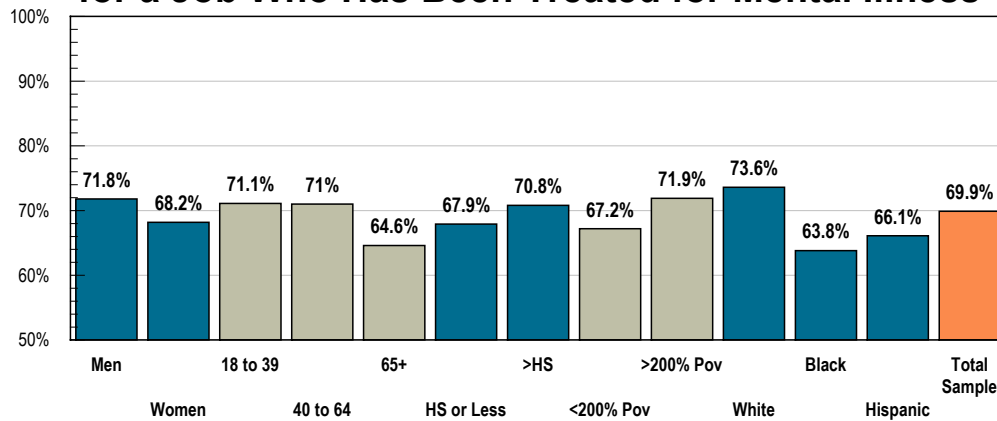
Would Employ or Recommend Someone for a Job Who Has Been Treated for Mental Illness



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 90]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Viewed demographically, Broward County adults least likely to report that they would employ or recommend a person who has been treated for mental illness include Black respondents and adults aged 65 and older.

Would Employ or Recommend Someone for a Job Who Has Been Treated for Mental Illness



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 90]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "yes" responses.

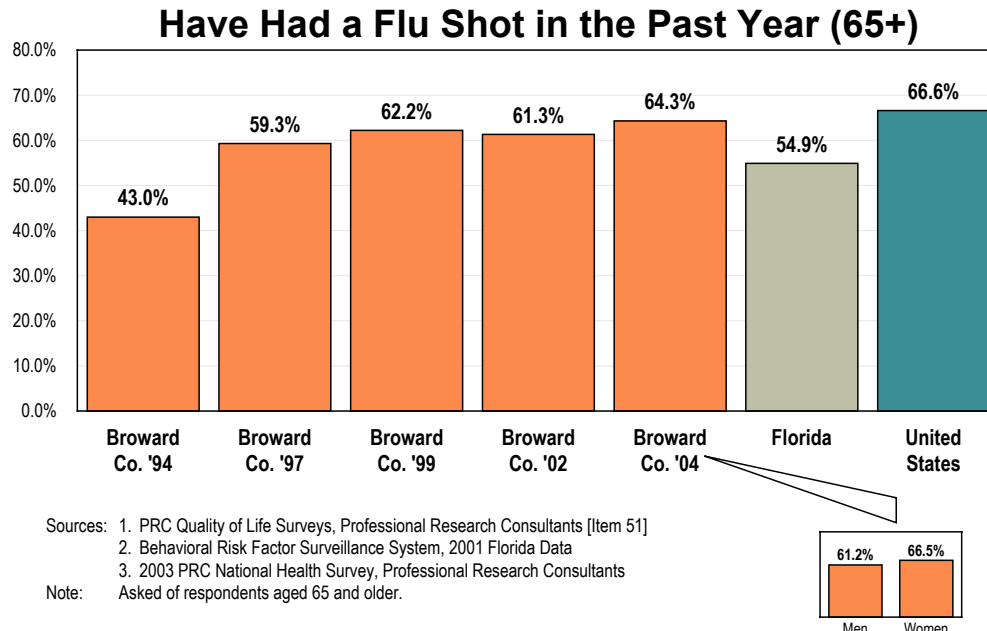
Immunization

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

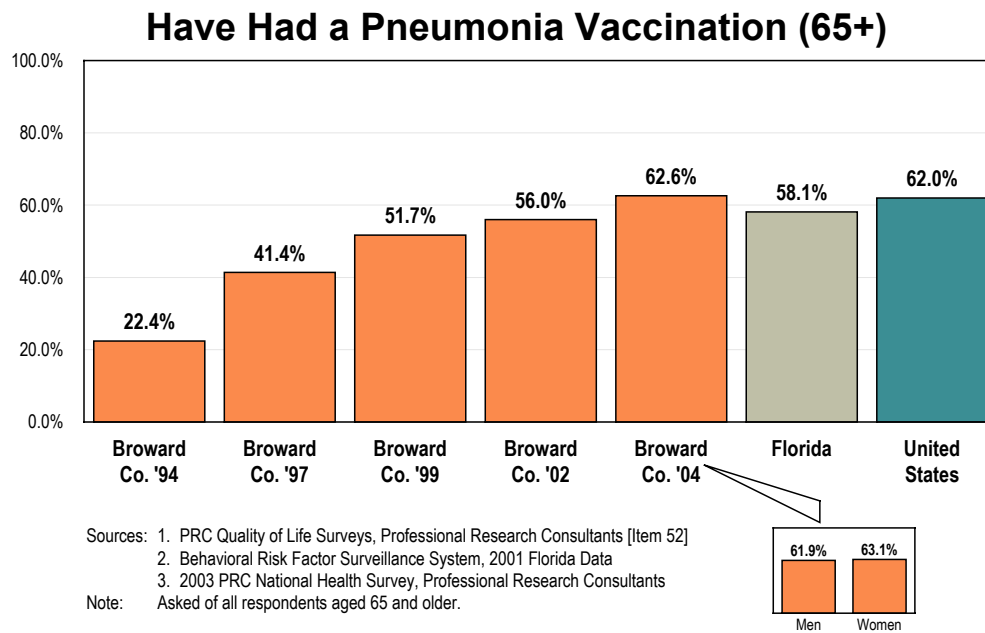
Influenza

Nearly two-thirds (64.3%) of Broward County seniors (aged 65 and older) have had an influenza shot within the past year, similar to the national average. Statewide prevalence of flu immunization among those aged 65 and older is lower (54.9%). This year's prevalence is statistically unchanged from the 61.3% reported in 2002. When viewed by gender, local men and women aged 65+ appear to be similarly inclined to have had the shot in the past year.



Pneumonia

More than six in 10 (62.6%) adults aged 65 and older have ever had a pneumonia vaccination, marking a *statistically significant increase* from the 56.0% prevalence in 2002 and continuing an apparent increasing trend in local pneumonia vaccinations among those aged 65 and older. Across Florida, 58.1% of adults in this age category have had a pneumonia vaccination; the national prevalence (62.0%) is similar as well. Viewed by gender, local men and women gave similar indications of having had a pneumonia vaccination, as shown below.



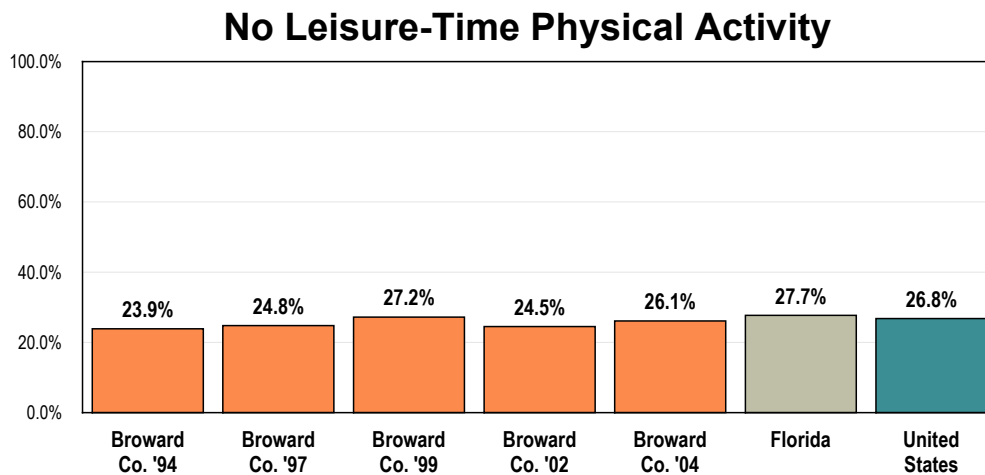
Physical Fitness

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

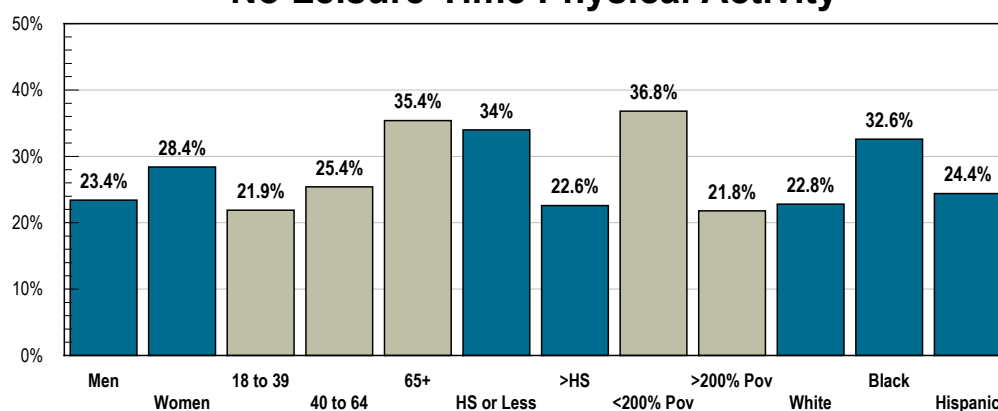
However, 26.1% of residents in Broward County have *not* participated in any type of physical activity outside work during the past month. This percentage is similar to the 26.8% recorded nationwide, and statistically comparable to the 24.5% reported locally in 2002, as shown below.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 29]
2. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
3. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2001 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 women, older adults, people in the lower income and educational brackets, and Blacks.

No Leisure-Time Physical Activity



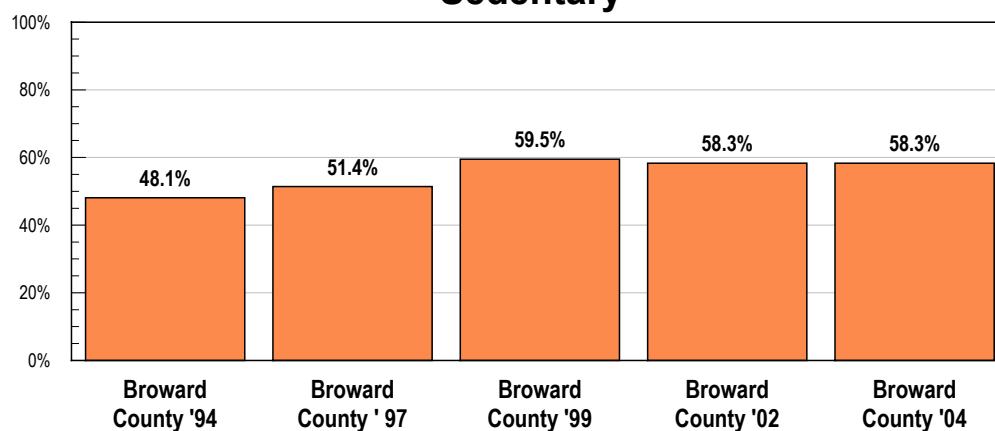
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 29]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 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 Broward County, 58.3% of adults fall into this “sedentary” category. This figure is unchanged from the percentage reported countywide in 2002, as shown below.

Sedentary

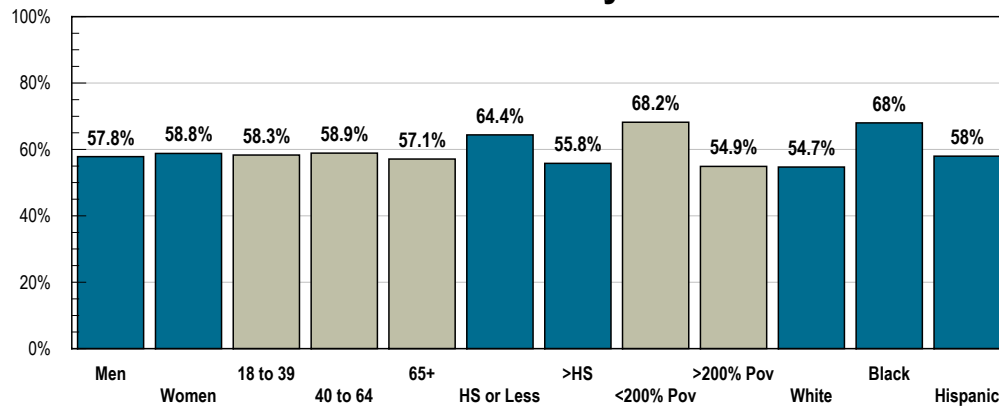


Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 171]

- 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 and national data not available.

Further note that adults without education beyond high school, persons living at or near the poverty level, and Blacks more often lead sedentary lifestyles.

Sedentary



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 171]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Sedentary is defined as exercising less than three times a week for 20 minutes at a time.

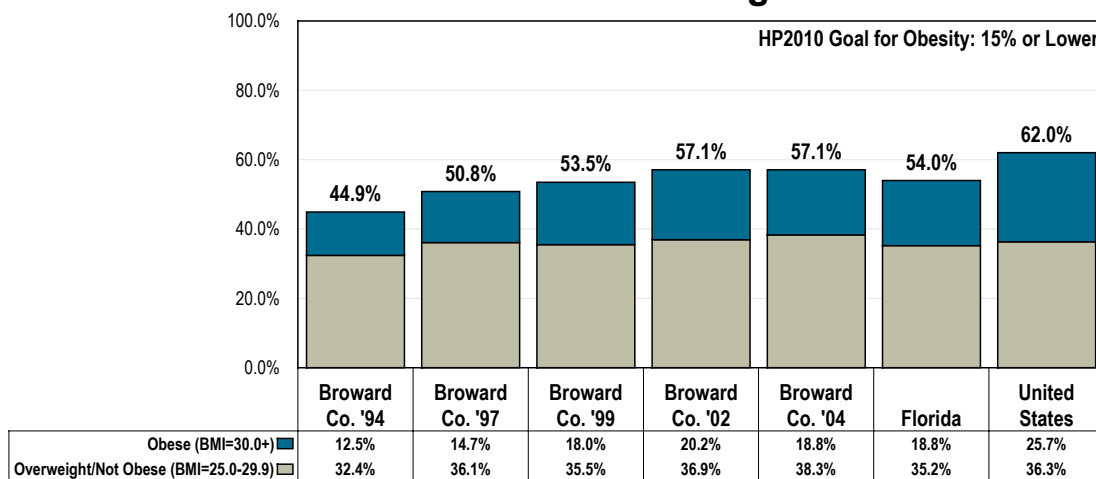
Overweight Prevalence

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/m^2). With this measure, “overweight” includes all those with a BMI greater than or equal to 25.0; the definition for obesity is a BMI greater than or equal to 30.0. The rationale for these thresholds is that studies now show that these are the cutpoints 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, a majority (57.1%) of local adults are overweight, identical to the percentage recorded in 2002, but more favorable than the 62.0% found nationwide in the 2003 PRC National Health Survey. The obesity level in Broward County (18.8%) is statistically lower than that found nationally (25.7%), but fails to satisfy the *Healthy People 2010* goal of 15% or lower.

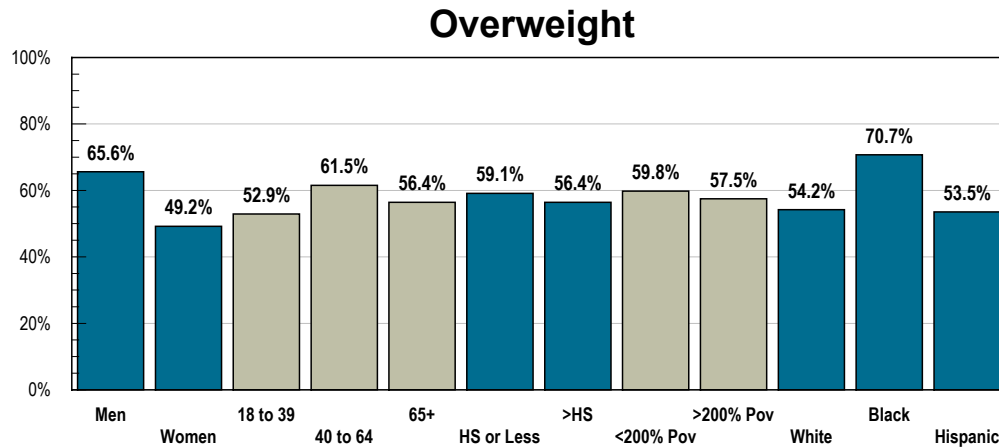
Overweight



Sources: 1. PRC Community Health Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 175]
 2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2001 State Data
 3. 2003 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, men and Black respondents in Broward County show the greatest level of overweight prevalence; these findings are consistent with those reported across the county in 2002. Women, young adults, White respondents, and Hispanic respondents exhibit lower overweight prevalence levels.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 175]

- 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 Broward County 2004.

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.

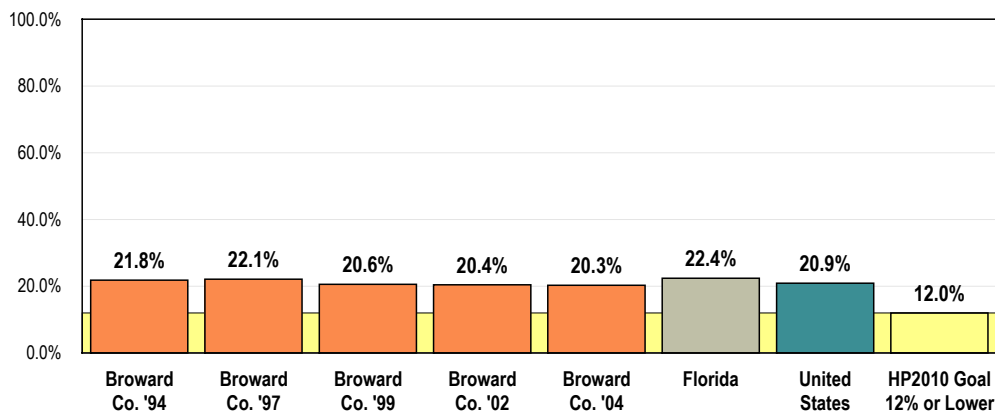
Cigarette smoking is responsible for more than one in six deaths in the United States. It accounts for 21% of coronary heart disease deaths, 87% of lung cancer deaths, and 30% of all cancer deaths. Cigarette smoking is also a substantial contributor to chronic morbidity and disability in the U.S.

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 20.3% prevalence of current smokers recorded in Broward County is comparable to the 20.9% prevalence recorded nationwide, but fails to satisfy the Year 2010 goal to reduce smoking prevalence to 12% or less of adults aged 18 and over. The local smoking level is unchanged since the 2002 assessment was conducted (20.4%), as shown below.

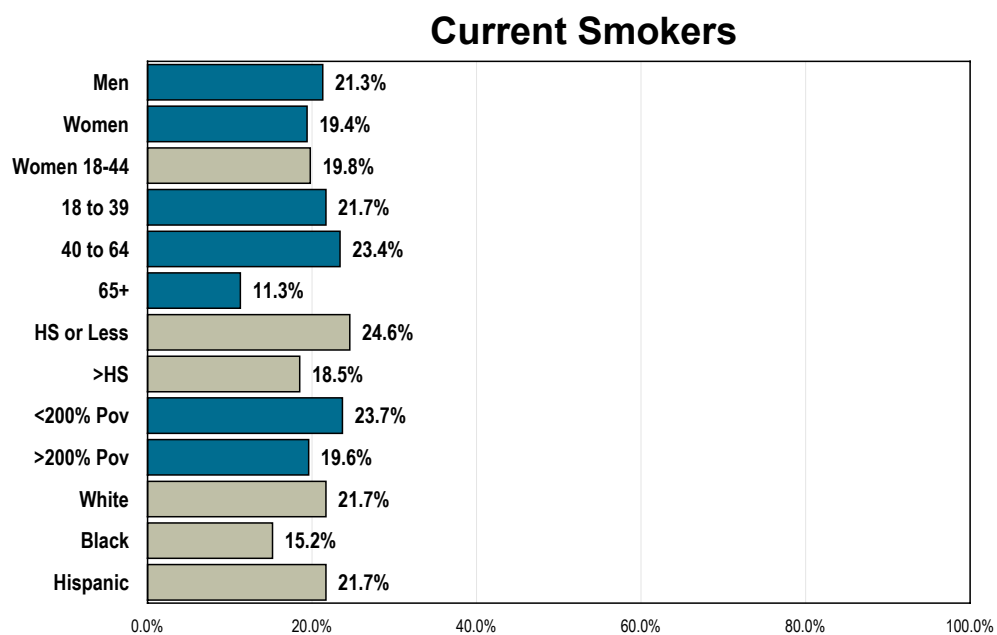
Current Smokers



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 170]
 2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2001 Florida Data
 3. 2003 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 Broward County, segmented by various demographic characteristics. As shown, 19.4% of women and 21.3% of men currently smoke. By analysis, it can be seen that a 19.8% 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.

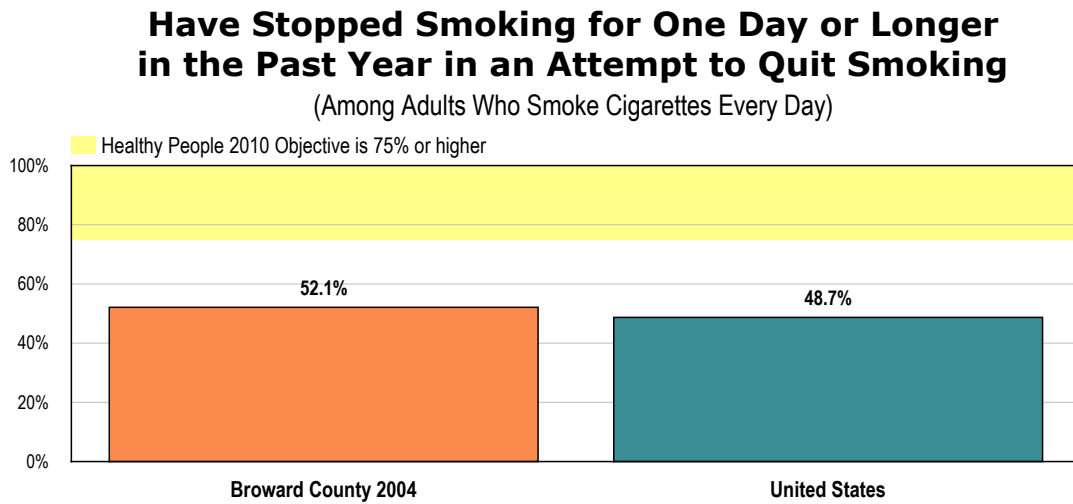
In examining cigarette smoking by education levels, a negative correlation is evident; smoking prevalence levels are lowest among the group of community residents with the highest education classification. Note also that local Blacks are much less likely than Hispanics or Whites to be current smokers (15.2%, as shown).



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 170]
 Note: Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

Smoking Cessation

More than one-half (52.1%) of current Broward County smokers have stopped smoking for one day or longer in the past year in an effort to quit smoking. This prevalence is similar to the 48.7% found nationwide but is far from meeting the Healthy People 2010 goal of 75% or higher.



- Sources: 1. 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants. [Item 34]
2. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants.
3. Healthy People 2010, 2nd Edition. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, November 2000. [Objective 27-5]
- Notes: 1. Asked of regular (everyday) smokers.
2. Florida data not available.

Substance Abuse

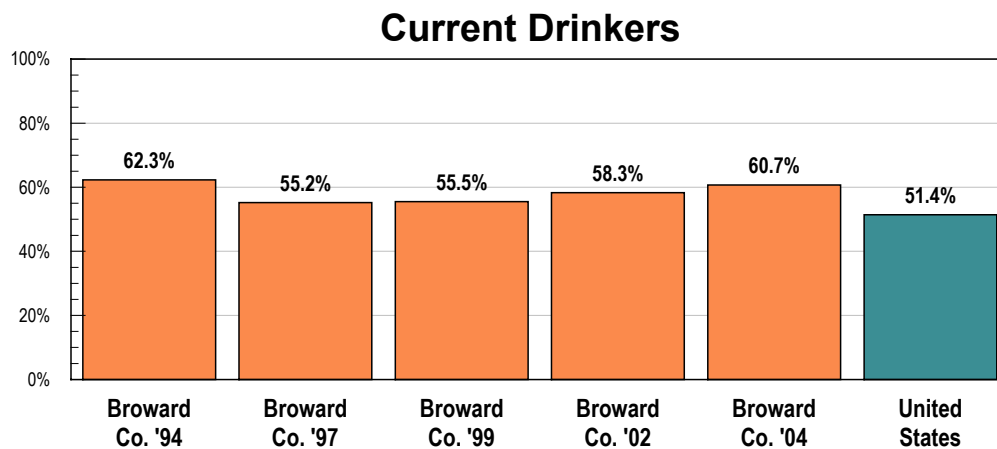
The misuse of alcohol and other drugs is associated with several health risks (including HIV transmission) and has tremendous societal and economic costs, as well. Alcohol/drug use is implicated in nearly one-half of all deaths from motor vehicle accidents and intentional injuries (including homicides 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 60.7% of adults in Broward County fall into this category, less favorable than the nationwide level but statistically unchanged since the 2002 survey was conducted.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 172]

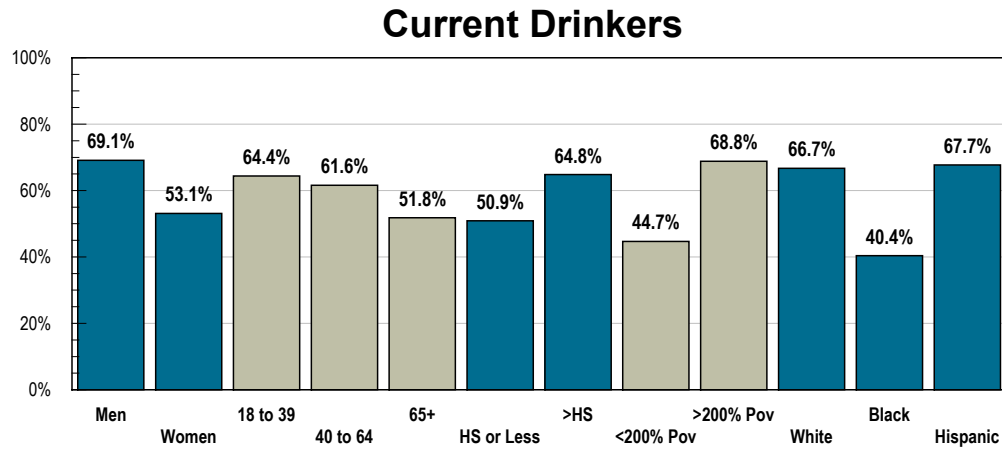
2. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants

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.

3. State data not available.

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 both income and education, but a negative correlation with age. When viewed by race and ethnicity, drinking is much more prevalent among Whites and Hispanics than among Blacks, as shown below.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 172]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

2. Reflects the total sample of respondents.

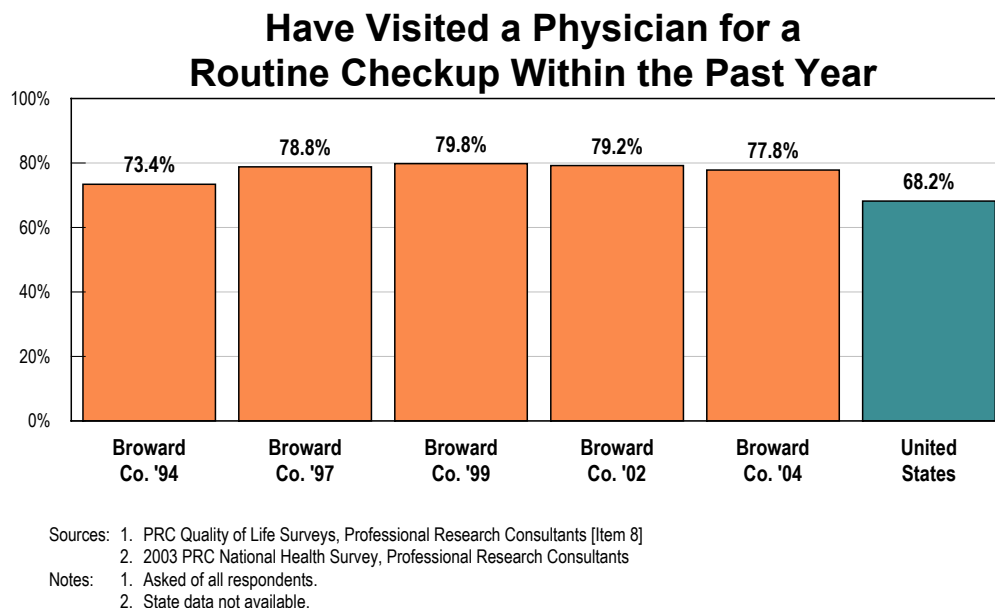
3. Current drinkers are defined as those who have had any alcoholic beverages during the past month.

Preventive Care

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

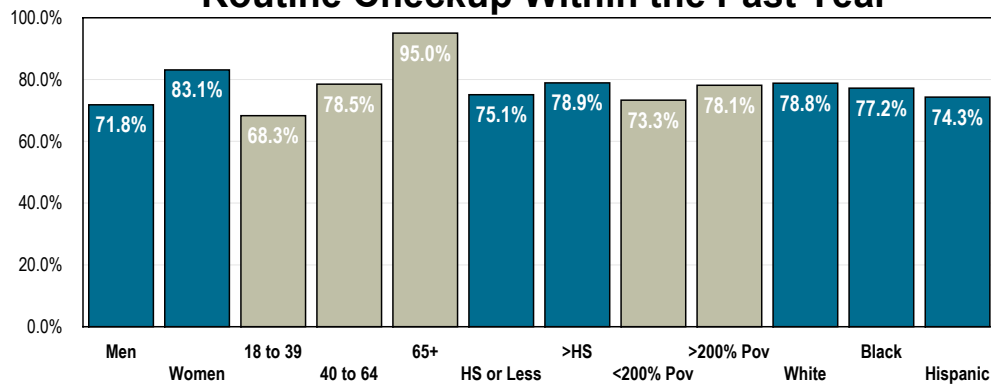
Routine Physician Care

A total of 77.8% of adults in Broward County have visited a physician for a routine checkup within the past year. Nationwide, a lower 68.2% of adults have done the same. The local prevalence has not changed significantly since 1997, as shown below.



Note in the following chart that women are more likely than men to have been to a doctor in the past year. In addition, visits to physicians in Broward County increase with age, as they should. When viewed by race, local Hispanics are least likely to have been to see a physician in the past year.

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



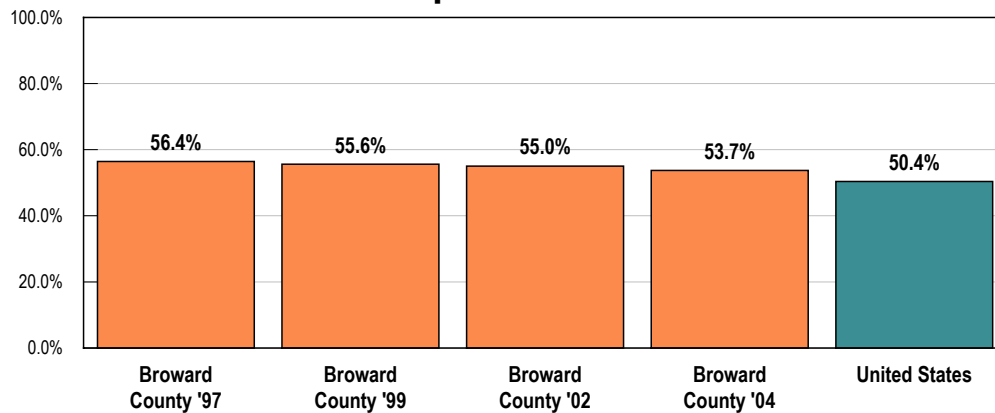
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 8]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Dental Care

Adults. Furthermore, 53.7% of adults in Broward County acknowledge having been to the dentist for a routine checkup within the past six months. This is comparable to the percentage of adults nationwide who report having had routine dental care in the past six months and has not changed statistically since 1997. *Note, however, that the percentage of local adults who have visited a dentist for a routine checkup in the past year (69.0%) is significantly higher than that reported nationwide (64.3%).*

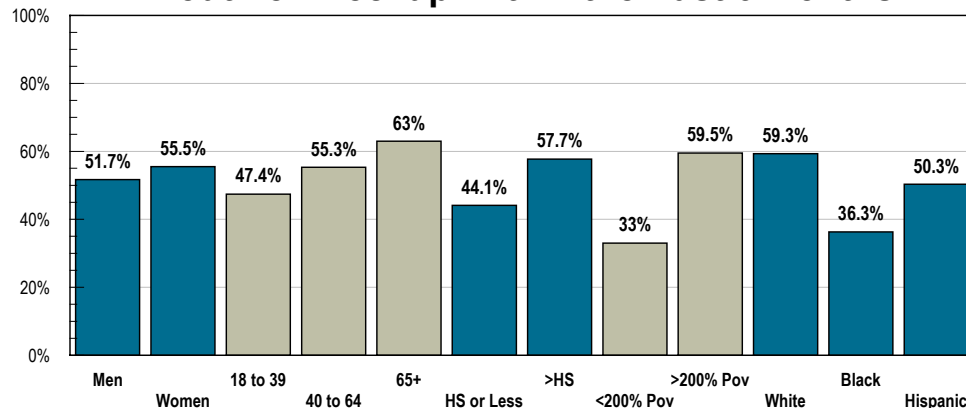
Have Visited a Dentist for a Routine Checkup Within the Past 6 Months



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 9]
 2. 2003 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 young adults, those in the lower income and educational categories, and Black respondents.

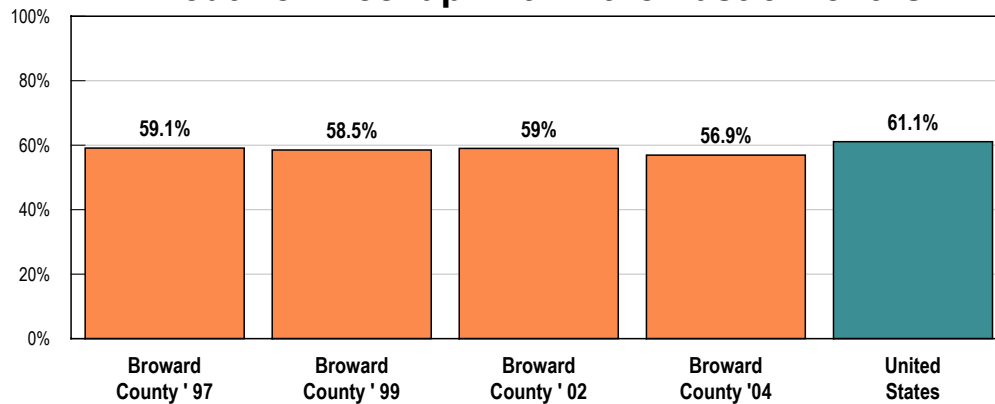
Have Visited a Dentist for a Routine Checkup Within the Past 6 Months



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 9]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Children. Among adults in Broward County with children under 18 years old, 56.9% report that their child has visited a dentist for routine care in the past six months, comparable to 61.1% nationwide and unchanged locally since 1997.

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

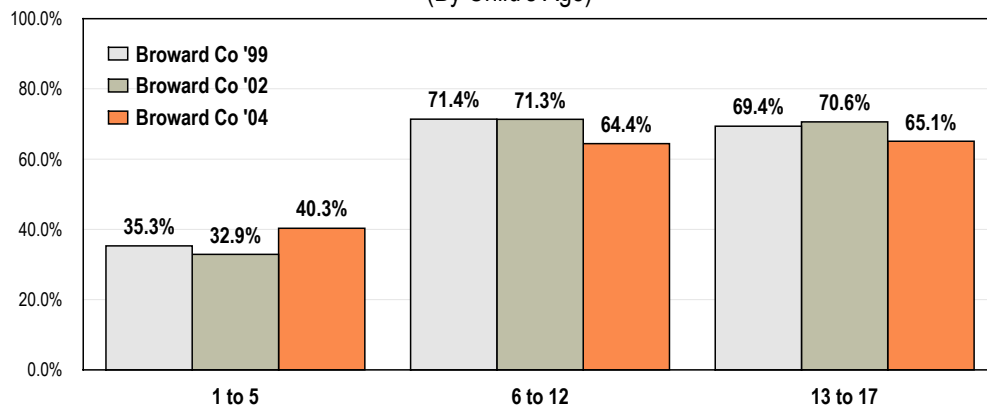


Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 132]
 2. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
 Notes: 1. Asked of respondents with children aged 1 through 17.
 2. Florida data not available.

When segmented by the child's age, area children *over* the age of 5 more often have received dental care in the past six months.

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

(By Child's Age)

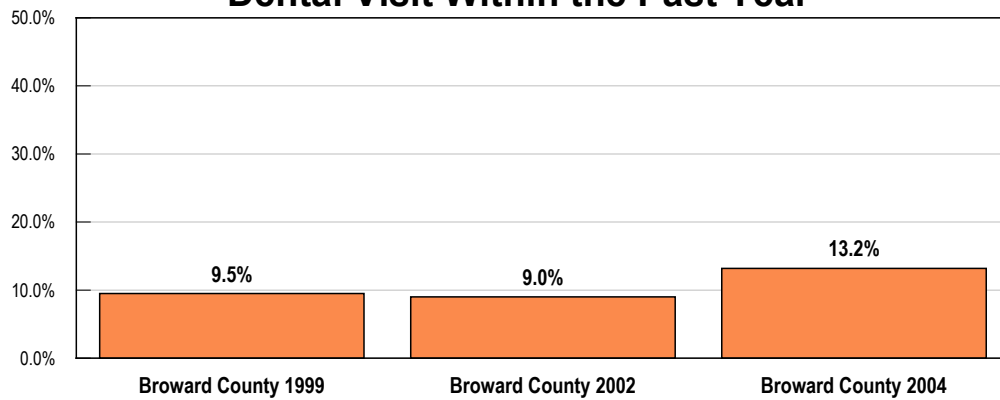


Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 132]
 Note: Asked of respondents with children aged 1 through 17.

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, 13.2% of local parents noted that cost prevented their child's dental care in the past year, *statistically less favorable* than the percentages recorded locally in both 1999 and 2002, as shown below.

**Cost Prevented Child's
Dental Visit Within the Past Year**



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 133]

Note: Asked of those respondents with children under 18 at home.

Cancer Screenings

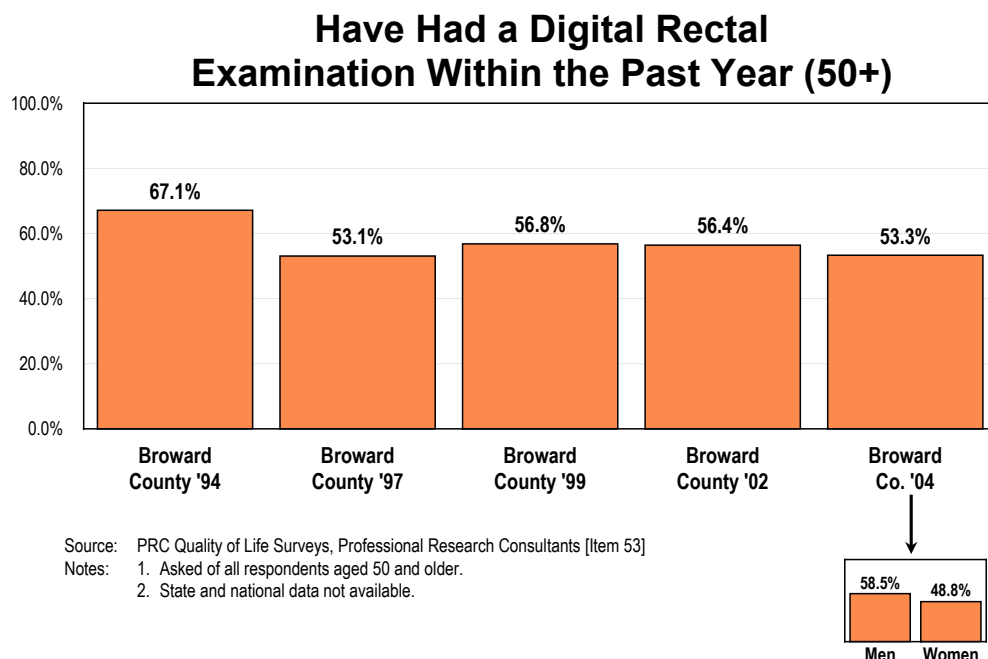
Cancer, the second leading cause of death in America, refers to a family of more than 100 different diseases characterized by the uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells throughout the body. Together, these diseases account for 1 of every 5 deaths in the United States. Many forms of cancer are 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. It is recommended that, by the year 2000, at least 40% of men and women over the age of 50 have a digital rectal exam annually.

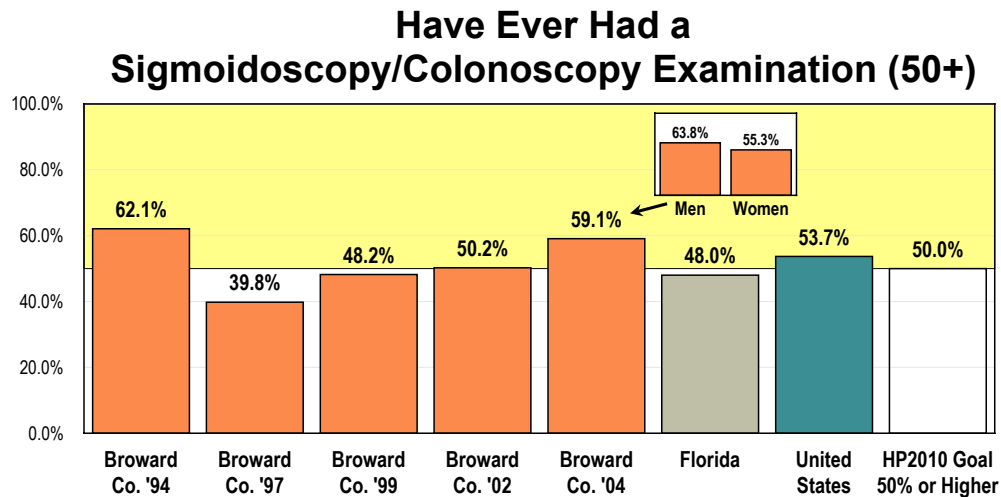
In Broward County, 53.3% of men and women aged 50 and older have had such an examination within the past year, similar to the 56.4% found in the 2002 survey results. Note in the following chart that men exhibit higher testing rates than women.



Sigmoidoscopy/Colonoscopy

Another method of screening for colorectal cancer is the **sigmoidoscopy/colonoscopy examination**, in which a tube is inserted in the rectum. Nearly six in 10 (59.1%) area residents over the age of 50 have ever had this type of exam. Note below that the Broward County rate is comparable to the U.S. rate, and satisfies the *Healthy People 2010* goal. In this case, men again show a higher testing rate than women, as shown below.

In 2002, a *less-favorable* 50.2% of adults aged 50 and older reported that they have had a sigmoidoscopy/colonoscopy examination, as shown below.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 54]
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2001 Florida Data
3. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
4. Healthy People 2010, National Center for Health Statistics/CDC/Public Health Service

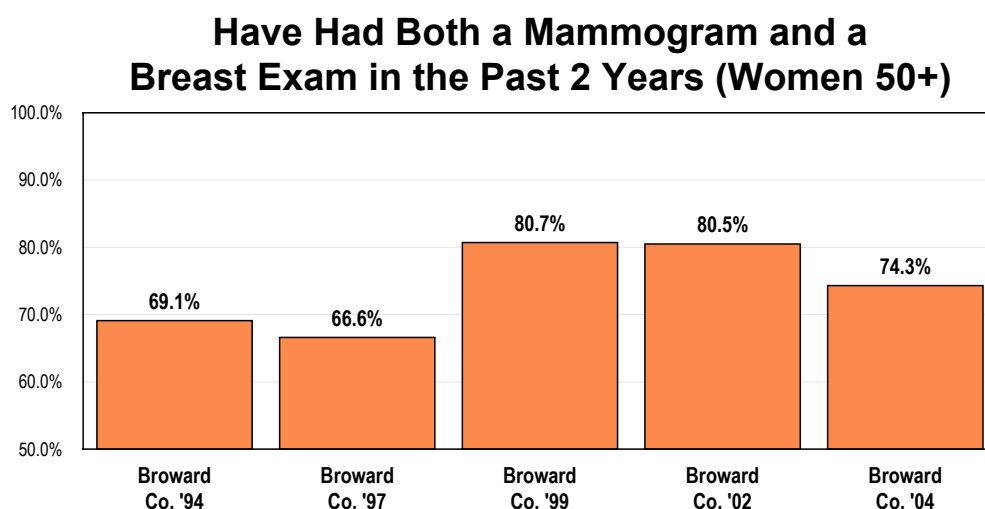
Note: Asked of all respondents aged 50 or over.

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 Broward County, a 74.3% of women aged 50 and older have had *both* of these types of exams within the past 2 years, statistically comparable to the 2002 percentage. *[It is important to keep in mind sample size when making comparisons between two years' survey findings.]*



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 166]

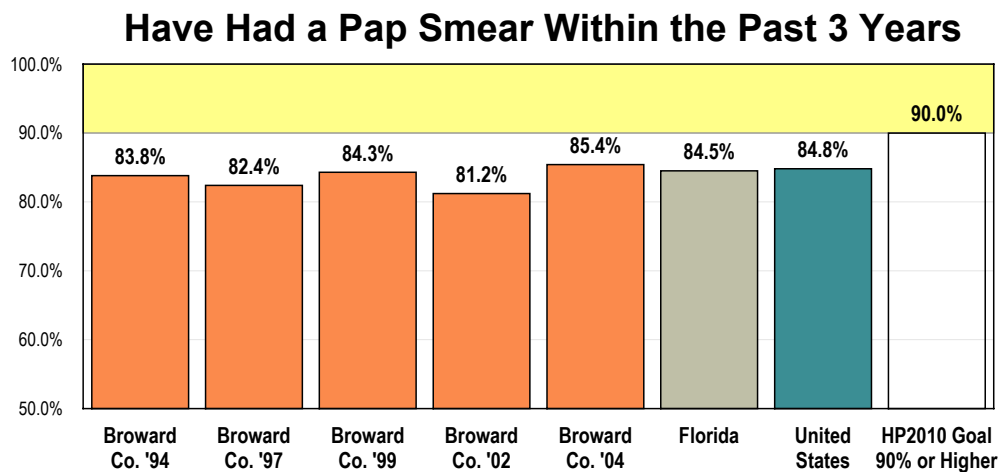
Notes: 1. Reflects women aged 50 and over.
2. State and national data not available.

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 test every year. Early detection of cervical cancer through a Pap smear can dramatically increase a woman's probability of long-term survival.

The majority of women in Broward County (85.4%) have had a Pap smear within the past 3 years. This is comparable to the 84.8% recorded nationwide, but fails to satisfy the 90% goal for the year 2010. Testing in Broward County has not changed significantly since 1994.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 50]
2. Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Centers for Disease Control, 2001 Florida Data
3. 2003 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

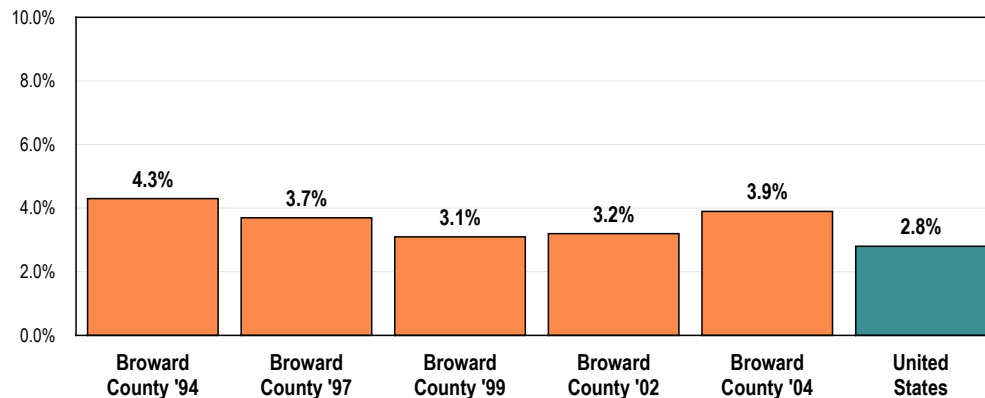
Crime

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

Victimization

Just 3.9% of adults in Broward County report having been the victim of a violent crime within the past 5 years (this translates to nearly 52,000 adults in the area). This is statistically similar to the national average and unchanged since the 2002 study.

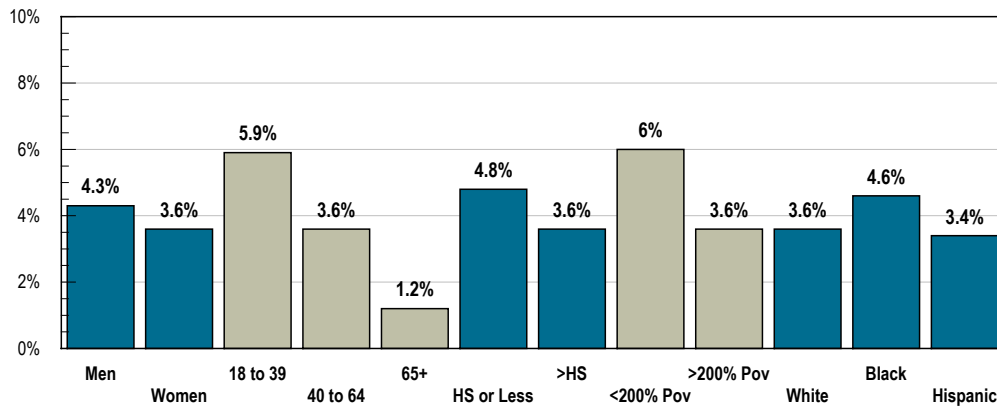
Victim of a Violent Crime in the Past 5 Years



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 27]
2. 2003 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 adults under 40, those in the lower income and educational brackets, and Blacks, as illustrated in the following chart.

Victim of a Violent Crime in the Past 5 Years



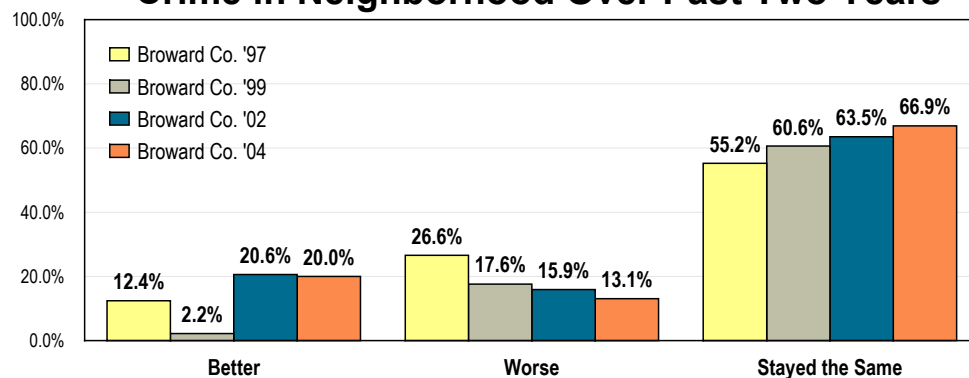
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 27]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
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 (66.9%) Broward County residents report that it has “stayed the same” (marking a *statistically significant increase* from the 63.5% in 2002). A total of 13.1% of local adults feel that the crime situation in their neighborhood has “worsened” in the past two years (*down significantly* from the 15.9% reported in 2002) while 20.0% report that local crime is “better” than it was (similar to the percentage in 2002).

Crime in Neighborhood Over Past Two Years

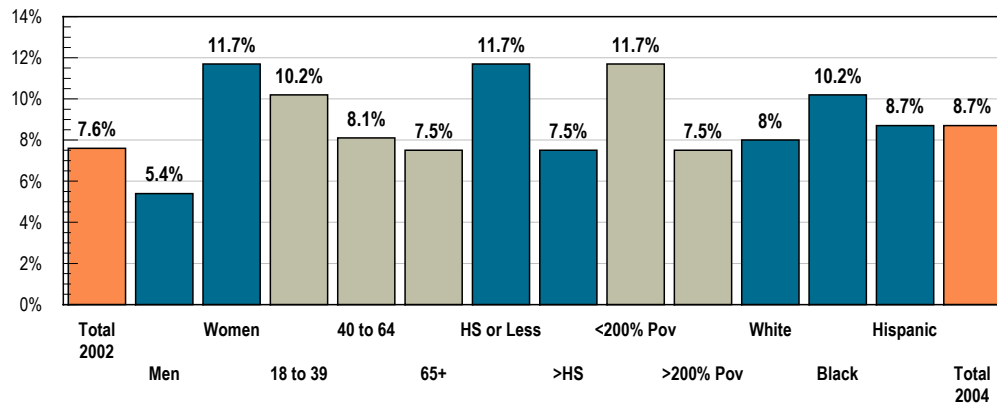


Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 114]

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

Overall, 8.7% of area adults do not feel safe and secure in their neighborhoods, compared to 7.6% in 2002. Note that this prevalence increases dramatically among women, adults living in the lower income and educational brackets, adults under 40, and Blacks.

Do Not Feel Safe and Secure Overall



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 115]

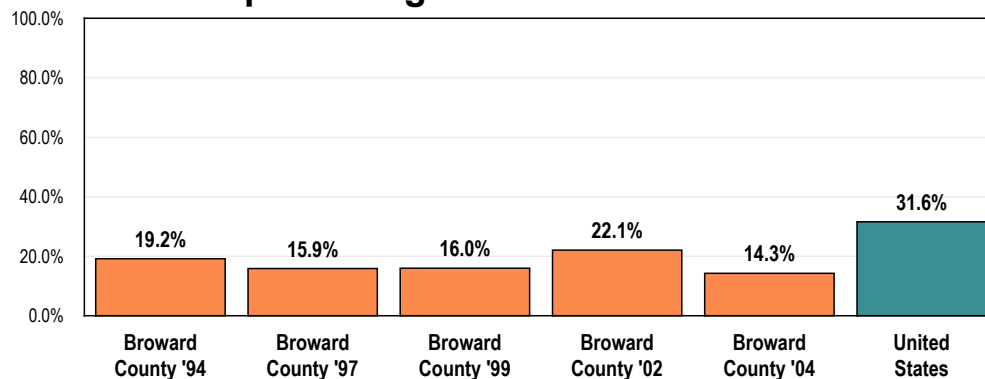
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
2. Asked of all respondents.

Handguns

Presence of Handguns in the Home

In Broward County, 14.3% of adults report keeping a handgun in their homes. This is more favorable than the 36.1% of American homes with handguns and has undergone a *statistically significant decrease* from the 22.1% reported locally in 2002.

Keep a Handgun in or Around the Home

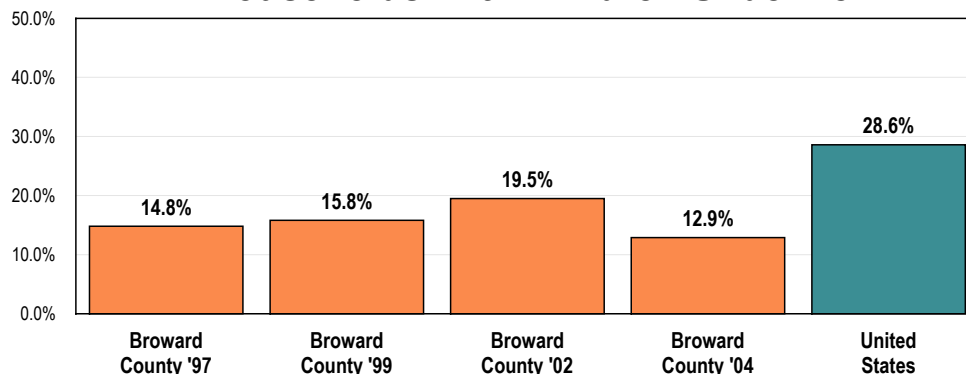


Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 28]
2. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.
2. Florida data not available.
3. The national inquiry includes pistols, shotguns, rifles and other types of guns, but does not include starter pistols, BB guns or guns that cannot fire.

Among households in Broward County with children under 18, 12.9% report that they keep a handgun in the home, marking a *statistically significant decrease* since 2002 and dramatically lower than the 28.6% reported among households with children nationwide.

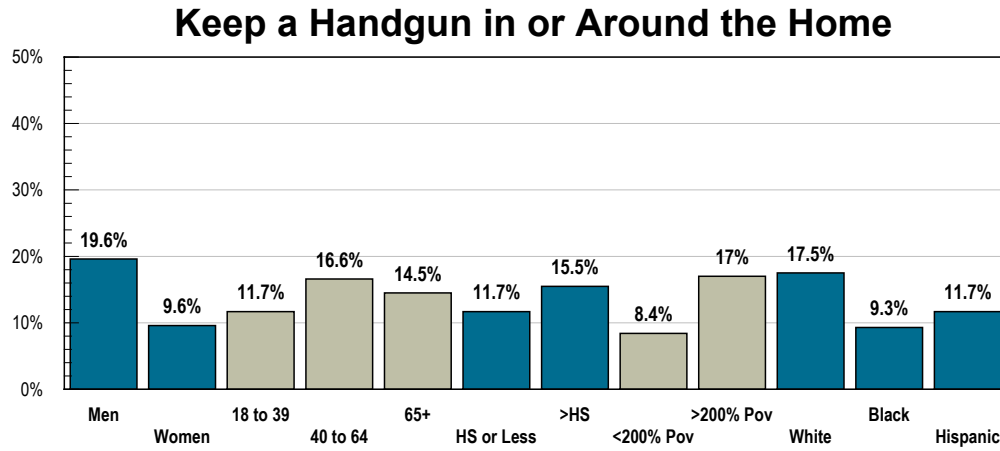
Presence of Handguns in Households With Children Under 18



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 28,128]
2. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants

Notes: 1. Percentage of households with children under the age of 18.
2. State data not available.

Viewed demographically, handgun ownership is highest among men, middle-aged adults, people in the higher income and educational brackets, and Whites.



Sources: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 28]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

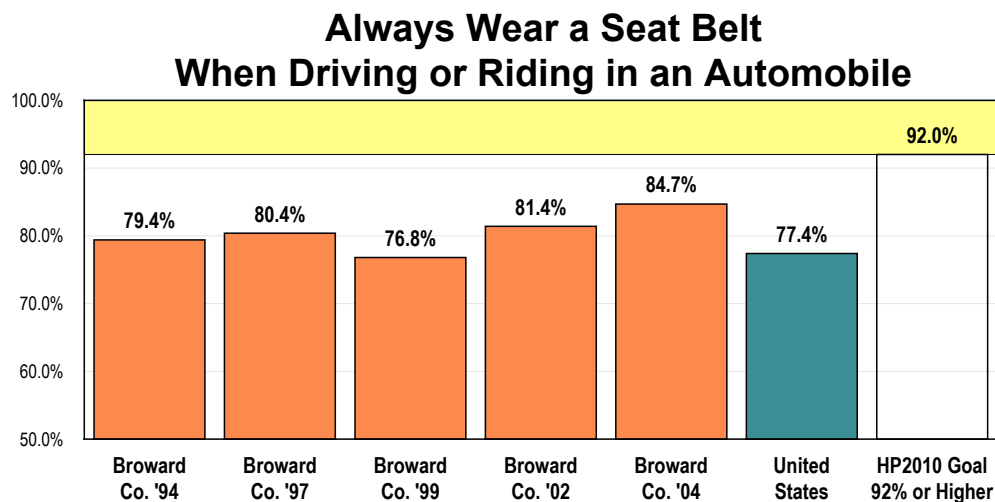
Injury Control

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

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.

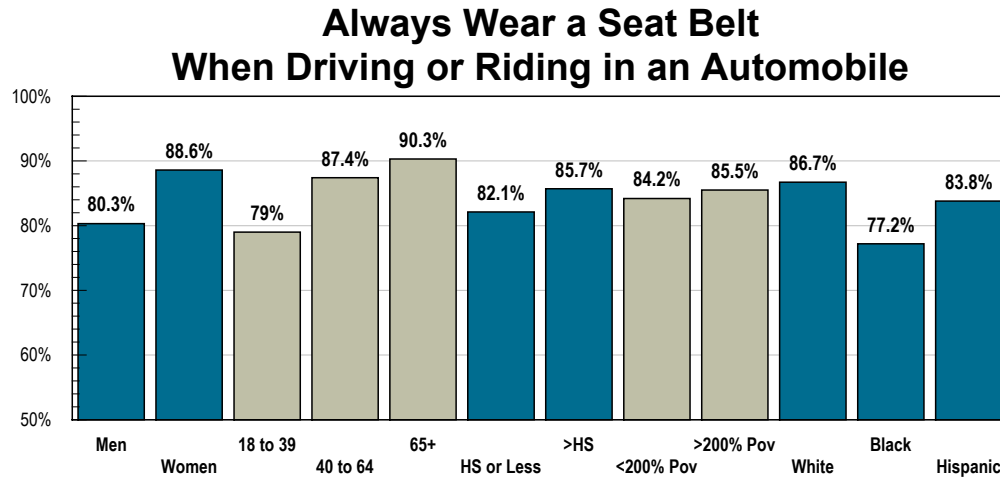
Currently, 84.7% of area adults report “always” wearing a seat belt when driving or riding in an automobile. This is more favorable than the nationwide finding (77.4%), but fails to satisfy the *Healthy People 2010* goal of 92%. Usage has *increased significantly* since 2002.



Sources: 1. PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 26]
2. 2003 PRC National Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants
3. Healthy People 2010, National Center for Health Statistics/CDC/Public Health Service

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

Further note in the following chart that there appears to be a strong, positive correlation between seat belt usage and age. Regular usage is much higher among women than men, and usage increases with education as well. Note that local men, young adults, and Blacks report the lowest indication of regular seat belt usage in Broward County.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 26]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

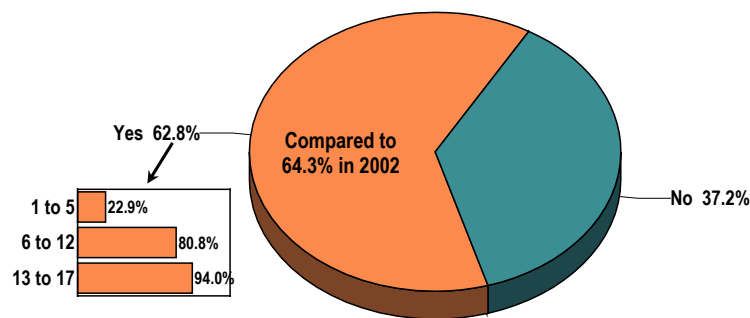
Water Safety

Children's Swimming Skills

Additionally, 62.8% of parents with children under the age of 18 report that their child can swim or tread in deep water for five minutes, similar to the 64.3% reported in 2002. Such swimming skills increase dramatically among children over the age of five, as shown below.

Child Can Swim or Tread Water for Five Minutes

(Broward County 2004)



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 142]
Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged 1 to 17.

FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

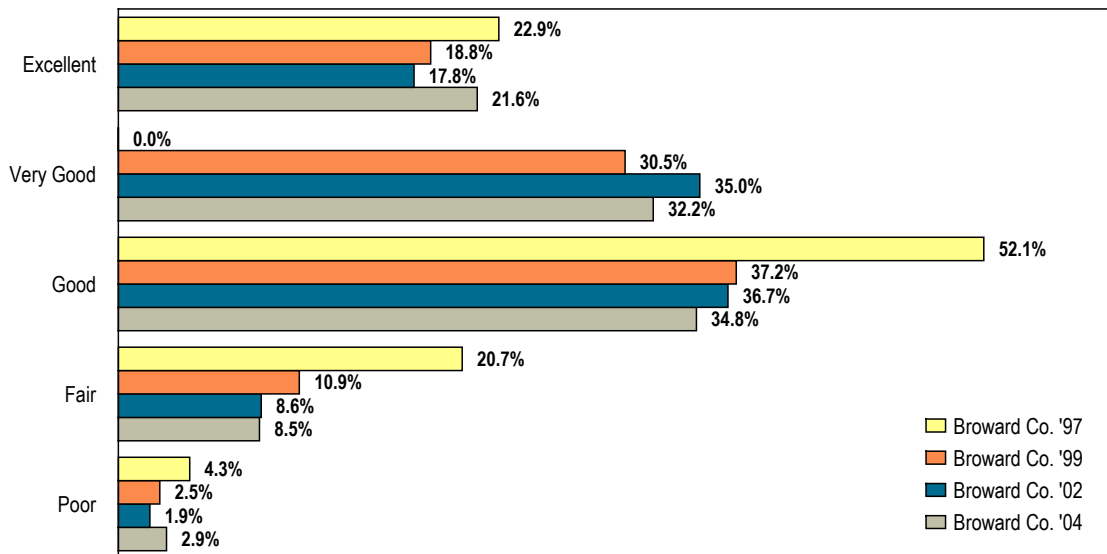
Living in Broward County

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, "excellent" ratings of Broward County as a place to live have *increased significantly* since 2002. "Fair" or "poor" ratings remained stable (11.4% this year). (Note below that the "very good" response option was not given in the 1997 survey.)

Ratings of Broward County as a Place to Live

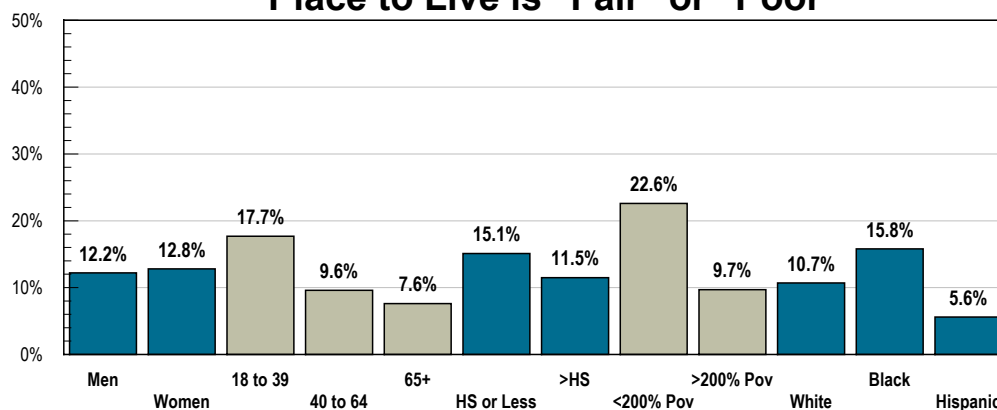


Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 94]

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 young adults and those in the lower income bracket. Hispanics and older adults were less likely to give poor ratings, as shown in the following chart.

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

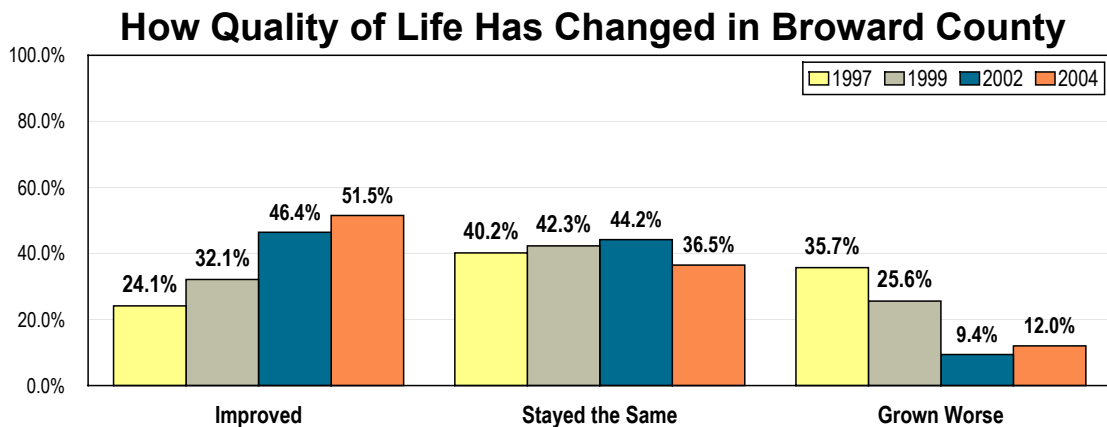


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 94]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 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 (51.5%) was for “improved,” marking a *statistically significant increase* since 2002. Another 36.5% of local adults feel that life in Broward County has “stayed the same” while they have lived there (denoting a *statistically significant decrease* in responses) while 12.0% feel that it has “grown worse,” marking a *statistically significant increase* in “grown worse” comments.

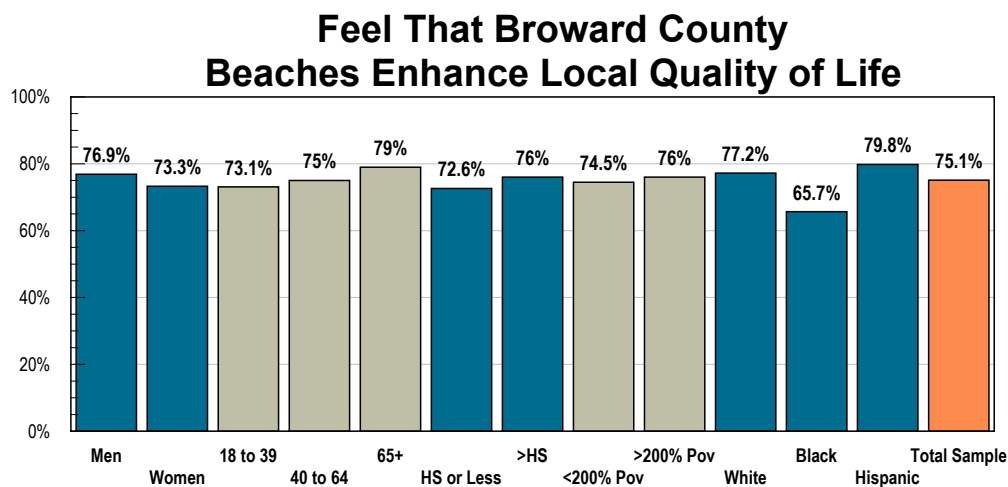


Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 95]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Broward County Amenities

Beaches

In the next inquiry, local adults were asked to indicate whether the beaches of Broward County enhance their local quality of life. Overall, three-fourths (75.1%) of survey respondents answered affirmatively, as shown below. Note the lower percentage of responses among Black respondents (65.7%).



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 96]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

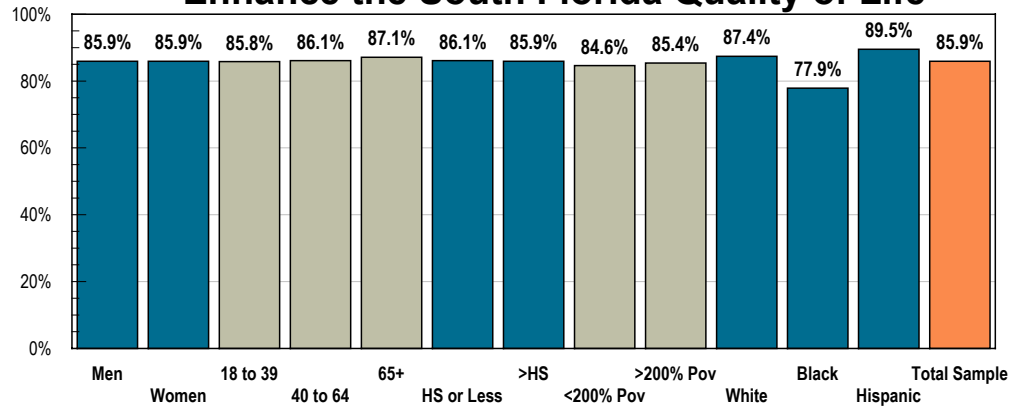
2. Asked of all respondents.

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

The Everglades

In a related inquiry, survey respondents were asked whether they consider the Everglades to enhance their local quality of life. A larger percentage (85.9%) answered affirmatively to this inquiry; again, the percentage dipped significantly among the Black population (77.9%), as shown in the following chart.

Believe That the Everglades Enhance the South Florida Quality of Life



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 97]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

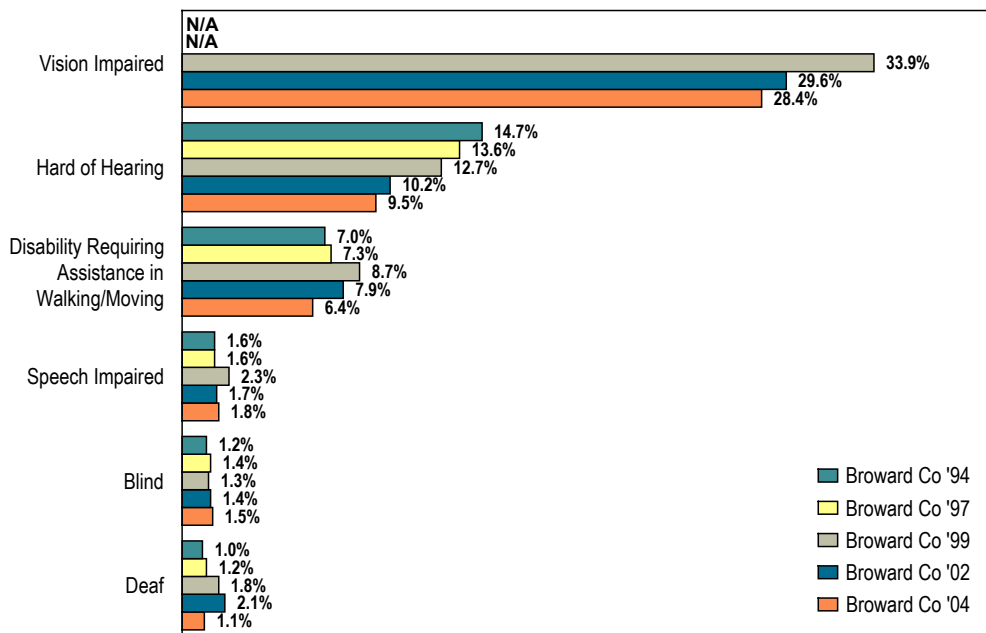
2. Asked of all respondents.

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

Disabilities

Local adults were next asked a series of questions about specific disabilities. As can be seen below, nearly three in 10 (28.4%) Broward County residents report that they are vision-impaired (compared to 29.6% in 2002). Another 9.5% are hard of hearing (decreasing steadily since 1994), and 6.4% report that they suffer from a disability which requires them to have assistance while moving or walking. A total of 1.8% are speech-impaired and 1.5% are blind. A total of 1.1% of local adults are deaf, as shown below.

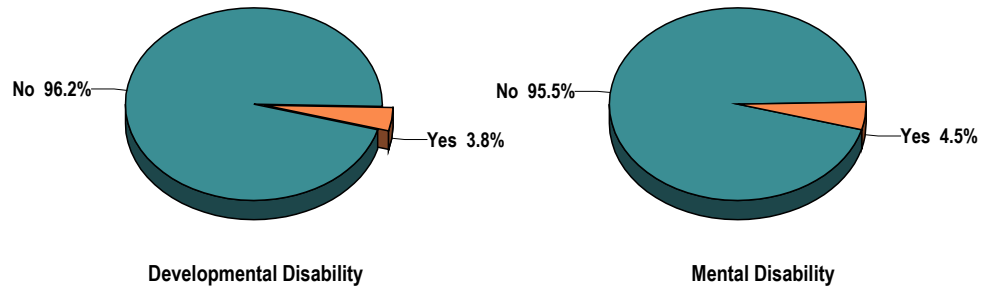
Disabilities Among Household Members



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Items 18-25]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

In a related inquiry, local adults were asked to report on the prevalence of a developmental or mental disability in their households. As shown in the following chart, 3.8% of survey respondents answered affirmatively. In comparison, 4.5% of local adults are afflicted by a mental disability. Keep in mind that each percentage point represents approximately 13,325 local community residents.

A Household Member Experiences a Developmental or Mental Disability



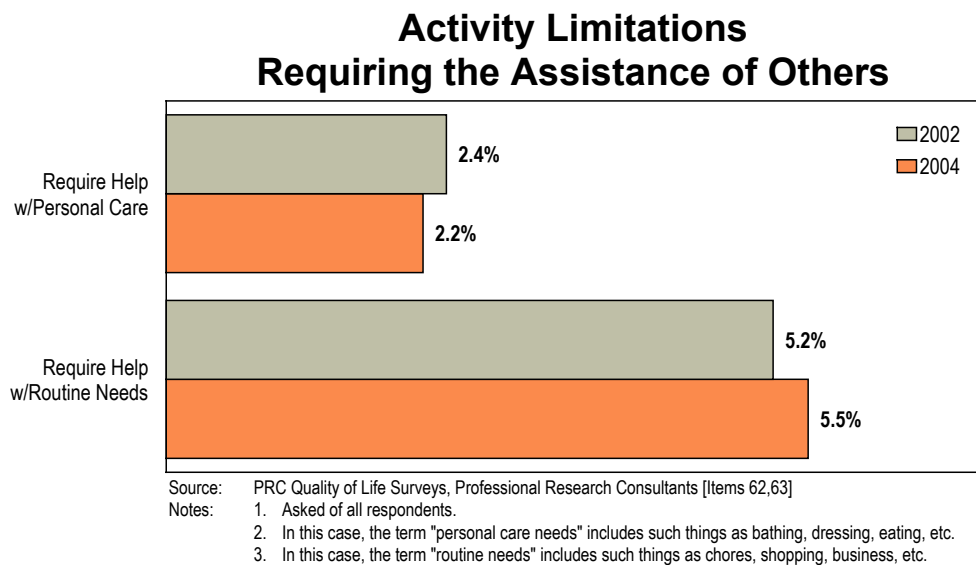
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Items 24,25]

Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.

2. This inquiry was not addressed in the previous studies.

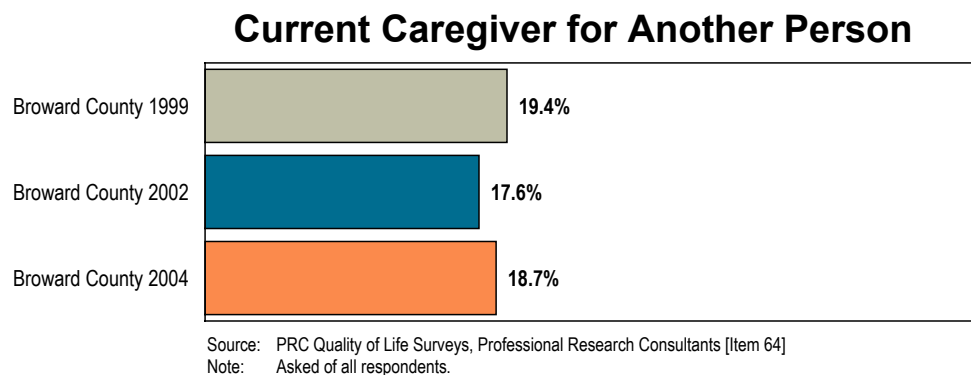
Activity Limitations

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, just 2.2% of these people do currently require help with their personal care (comparable to the 2.4% reported locally in 2002); a larger number (5.5%) currently need help with routine needs like chores or shopping (similar to the 5.2% reported previously).



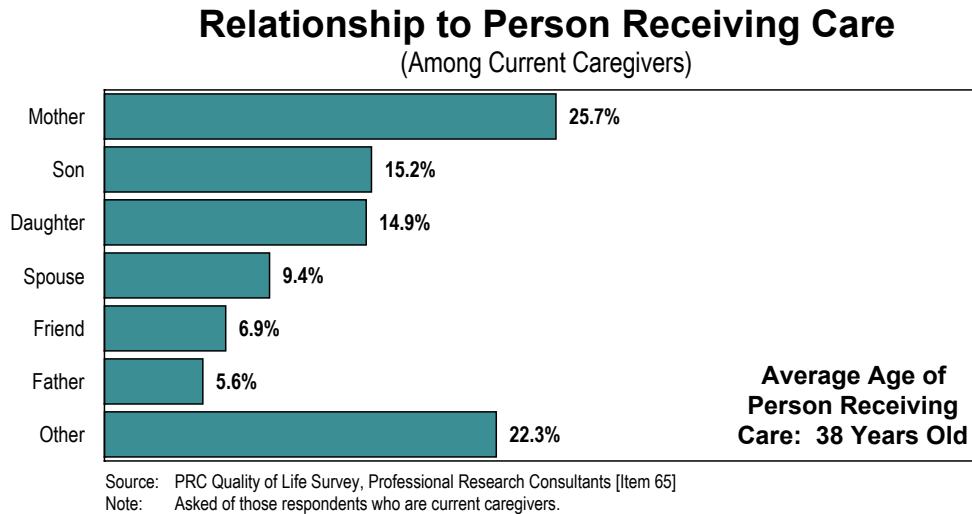
Caregivers

A total of 18.7% of community members are currently the caregiver for another person (compared to 17.6% reported in 2002).

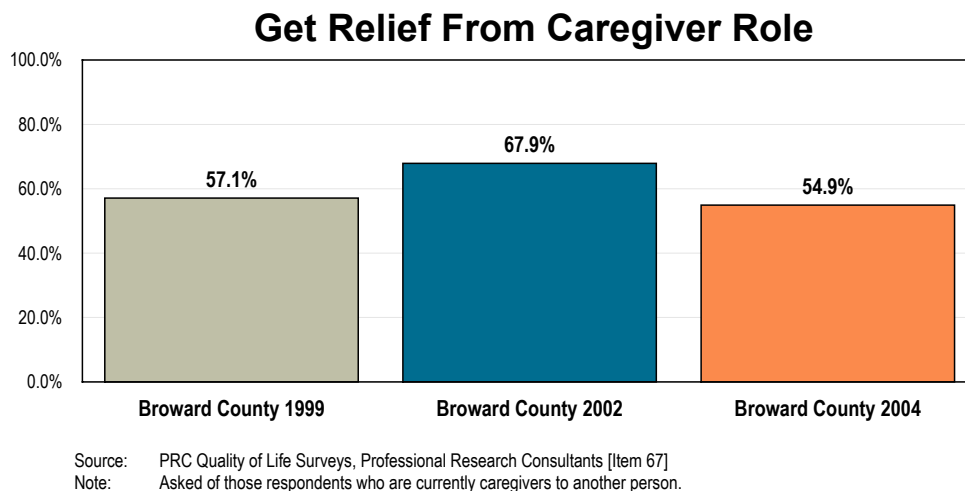


When asked to indicate the relation that these caregivers are to the recipients of the care, 25.7% reported that they are the **mothers**, while 15.2% of these caregivers are **sons** of the

people receiving the care. Another 14.9% of caregivers are **daughters** of the people requiring care, while 9.4% are **spouses** and 6.9% are **friends**. A total of 5.6% of the caregivers are **fathers** of the person receiving the care. The age of the person receiving care ranged from one to 97, with 38 being the average age, as shown below.



Finally, the local adults who currently act as caregivers to another were asked whether they get any relief from their caregiver role. As shown in the following chart, more than one-half (54.9%) of these caregivers report that they do get relief from their roles as caregivers, marking a *statistically significant decrease* in response since 2002 (67.9%).



Child Care

Many of today's families include dual-income parents, often presenting the problem of locating quality child care on a regular basis. The following sections explore Broward County parents' inabilities to obtain child care in the past year.

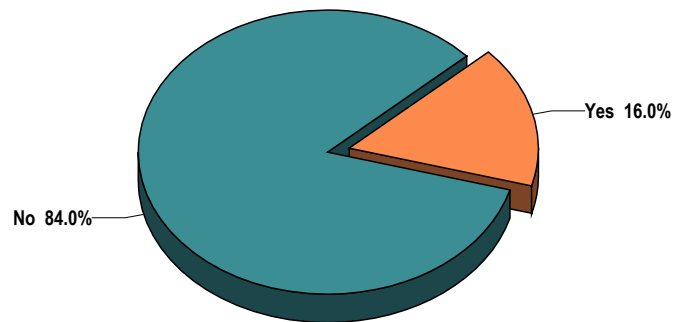
General Child Care

A total of 16.0% of local parents with children aged 5 and under have needed child care at some point in the past year and could not get it, as shown in the adjacent chart.

Reasons for the inability to obtain child care in the past year included cost, quality of local child care, lack of evening care, etc. (*note that multiple responses were permitted*). As shown below, **cost** of available care received the largest share of responses (mentioned by 92.2% of parents), followed by the **quality of available care** (55.4%) and a **lack of evening care** (54.4%).

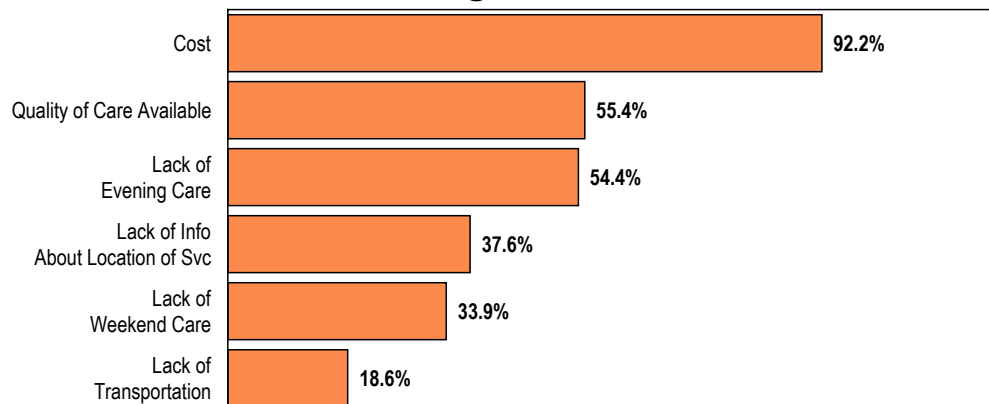
Fewer local parents reported that **lack of information about the location of child care services** prevented them from obtaining child care last year (37.6%), followed by a **lack of weekend care** (33.9%) and **lack of transportation** (18.6%).

Could Not Get Child Care When Needed in the Past Year



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 135]
Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged one through five at home.

Reasons for Not Obtaining Child Care in Past Year

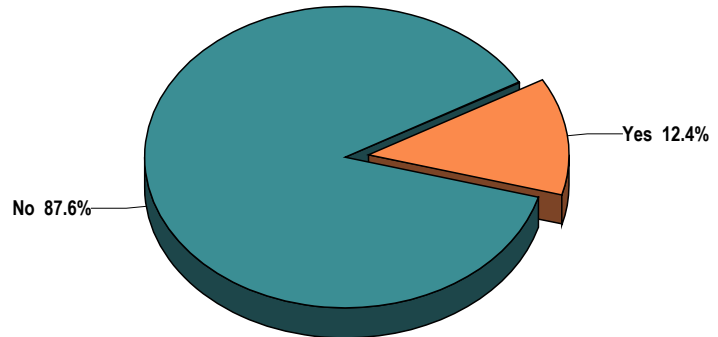


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Items 136-141]
Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged one through five at home who needed child care last year.

After-School Care

Among local parents of children aged 6 and older, 12.4% needed after-school care for their child at some point in the past year and could not obtain it.

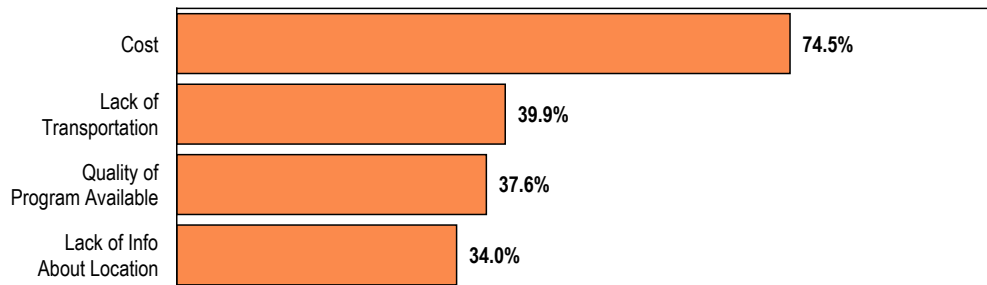
Could Not Get After-School Care When Needed in the Past Year



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 143]
Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged one through five at home.

When asked for the specific reason(s) for their inability to obtain after-school child care (*multiple responses were accepted*), 74.5% of Broward County parents mentioned **cost**. Fewer (39.9%) parents indicated that **lack of transportation** was the reason they could not obtain after-school care for their children, followed by the **quality of available programs** (mentioned by 37.6%) and lack of **information about location** (34.0%).

Reasons for Not Obtaining After-School Care in Past Year

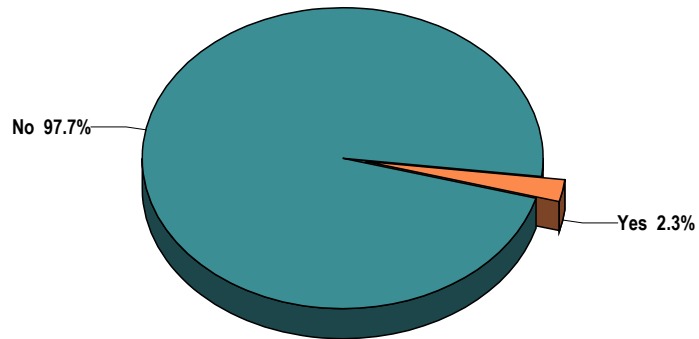


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Items 144-147]
Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged one through five at home who needed child care last year.

Mental Health Care

Among parents of all children aged 18 and under who are living at home, a total of 2.3% report that they needed mental health care for their child in the past year and could not get it.

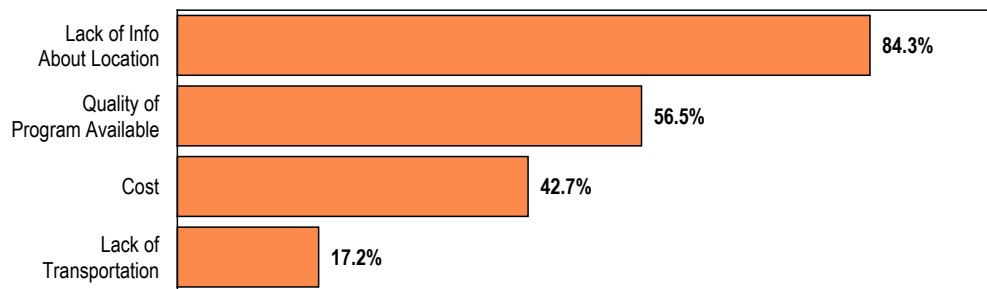
Could Not Get Mental Health Care for Child When Needed in the Past Year



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 148]
Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged one through five at home.

Reasons for the reported difficulty in obtaining a child's mental health care (*again, multiple responses were accepted*) included **lack of information about the location of services** (84.3%), followed by the **quality of available programming** (56.5%). **Cost** was mentioned by 42.7% of these parents, while only 17.2% indicated that a **lack of transportation** prevented them from obtaining mental health care for their children last year.

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

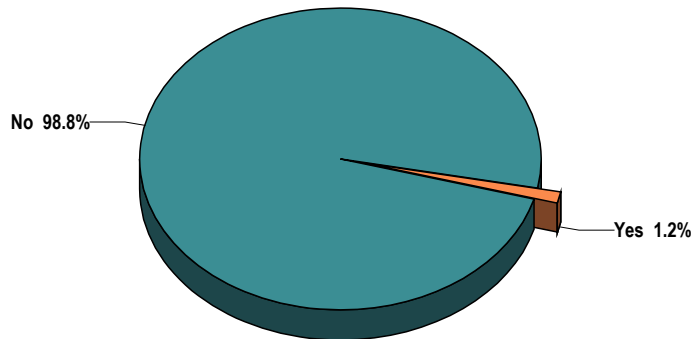


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Items 149-152]
Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents with children aged one through five at home who needed child care last year.
2. Keep in mind the small sample size (19 local parents) when considering percentage responses.

Drug Treatment

Just 1.2% of Broward County parents report that their child under 18 needed alcohol or drug treatment for their child in the past year but could not obtain it.

Could Not Get Alcohol/Drug Treatment for Child When Needed in the Past Year

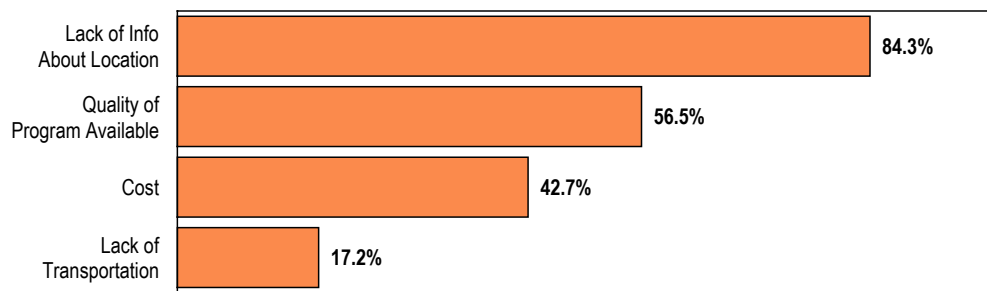


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 153]
Note: Asked of all respondents with children aged one through five at home.

Parents of children who needed alcohol or drug treatment last year were next asked to report on the reason for their lack of ability to obtain mental health services for their child. The largest share of responses (84.3%) was for **lack of information about the location** (84.3%), followed by the **quality of available programming** (56.5%), **cost** (42.7%), and **lack of transportation** (17.2%).

When viewing the following results, it is important to keep in mind the small sample size which the percentages represent.

Reasons for Not Obtaining Drug or Alcohol Treatment When Needed for Child in Past Year



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Items 154-157]
Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents with children aged one through five at home who needed child care last year.
2. Keep in mind the small sample size (10 local parents) when considering percentage responses.

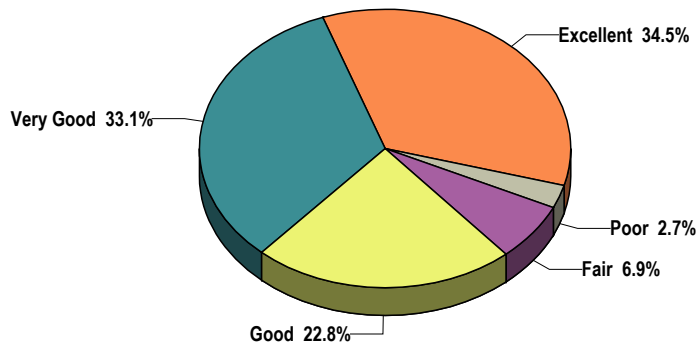
Improving Our Communities

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

Neighborhoods

Local neighborhoods received high reviews from survey respondents in Broward County. Two-thirds (67.6%) gave "excellent" or "very good" reports, while another 22.8% gave "good" ratings. On the other hand, 9.6% of local adults consider their neighborhood as a place to live to be "fair" or "poor."

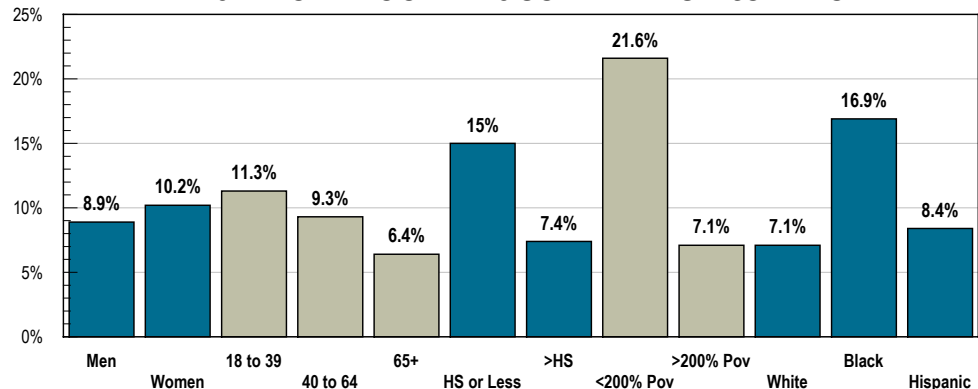
Rating of Neighborhood as a Place to Live



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 105]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Viewed demographically, survey respondents more likely to give "fair" or "poor" evaluations of their neighborhoods as places in which to live include Blacks, those in the lower income and educational brackets, and young adults.

Perceive Neighborhood to be a "Fair" or "Poor" Place in Which to Live



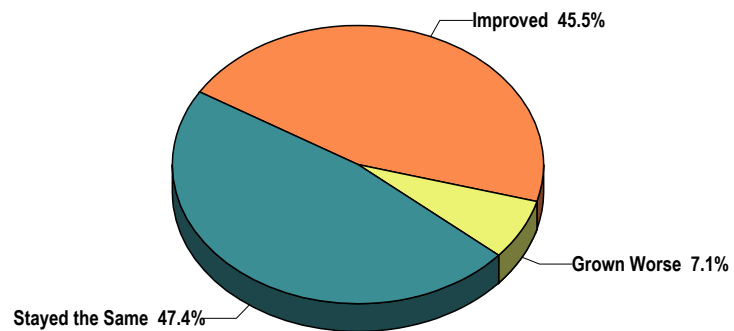
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 105]
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
2. Asked of all respondents.
3. Percentages represent combined "fair" and "poor" responses to the inquiry.

Quality of Life in Current Neighborhood

Survey respondents were next asked to evaluate their quality of life while living in the neighborhood and to indicate whether that quality has improved, stayed the same, or grown worse.

As seen in the adjacent chart, a large number of residents (45.5%) feel that their quality of life in the neighborhood has **improved**, while 47.4% feel that it has stayed the **same** and 7.1% indicate that the quality of life has grown **worse**.

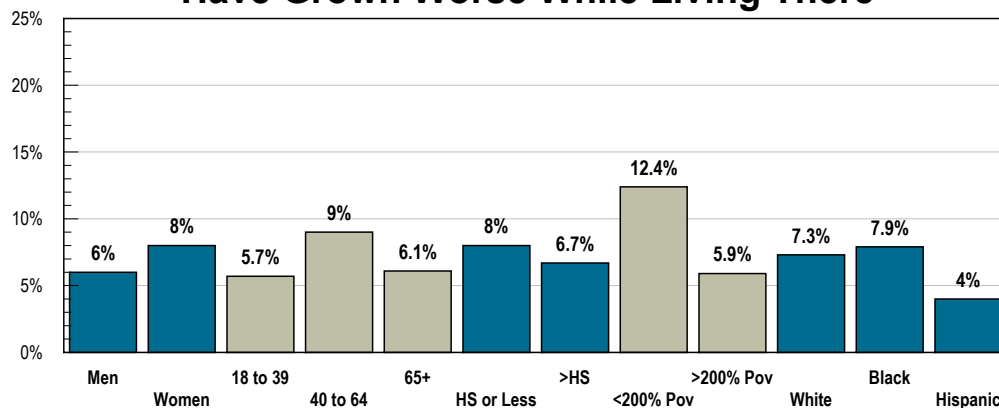
Quality of Life While Living in Current Neighborhood



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 106]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Viewed by demographic characteristics, local adults more likely to perceive their neighborhoods to have grown worse include middle-aged adults and adults living at or near poverty. When illustrated by race, Hispanics appear least likely to indicate that their neighborhoods have grown worse, as shown below.

Perceive Neighborhood to Have Grown Worse While Living There



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 106]

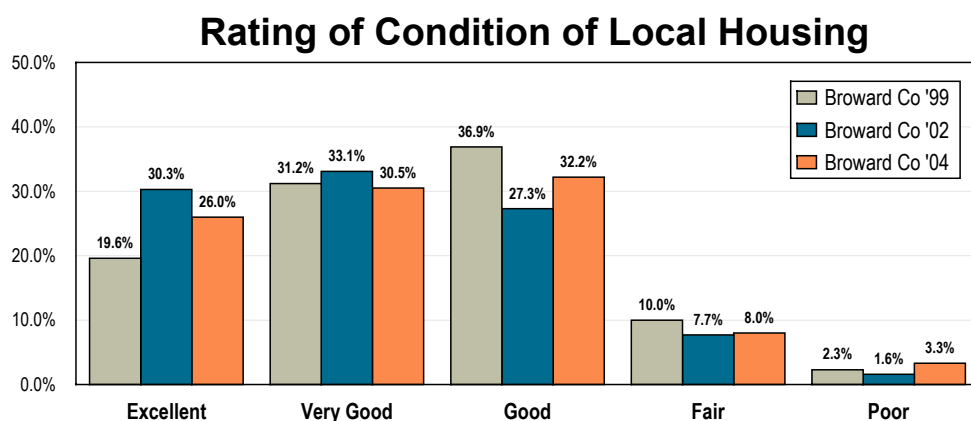
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

2. Asked of all respondents.

3. Percentages represent "grown worse" responses to the inquiry.

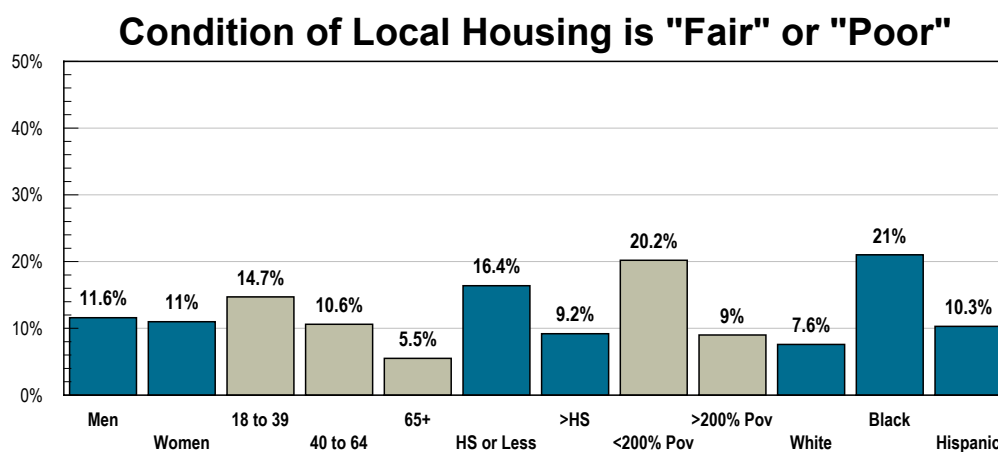
Local Housing

Local housing conditions received relatively high reviews from survey respondents in Broward County. A total of 56.5% gave “excellent” or “very good” reports (marking a *statistically significant decrease* over the 63.4% reported in 2002 but much higher than that reported in 1999), while another 32.2% gave “good” ratings (marking a *statistically significant increase*). On the other hand, 11.3% of local adults consider the condition of local housing to be “fair” or “poor.”



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 109]
 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 Blacks, individuals under 40, and those living in the lower income and educational brackets, as shown in the following chart.

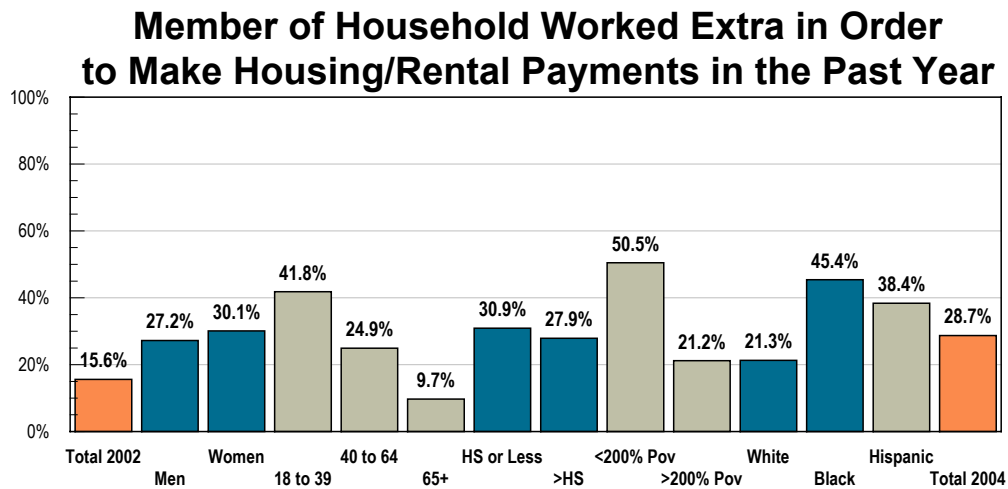


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 109]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

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, 28.7% of residents responded affirmatively, marking a *statistically significant increase* in affirmative responses since 2002 (15.6%).

This prevalence ranges dramatically when viewed by specific demographic characteristic, increasing to 50.5% among adults living in the lower income bracket and decreasing to 9.7% among adults aged 65 and older.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 110]

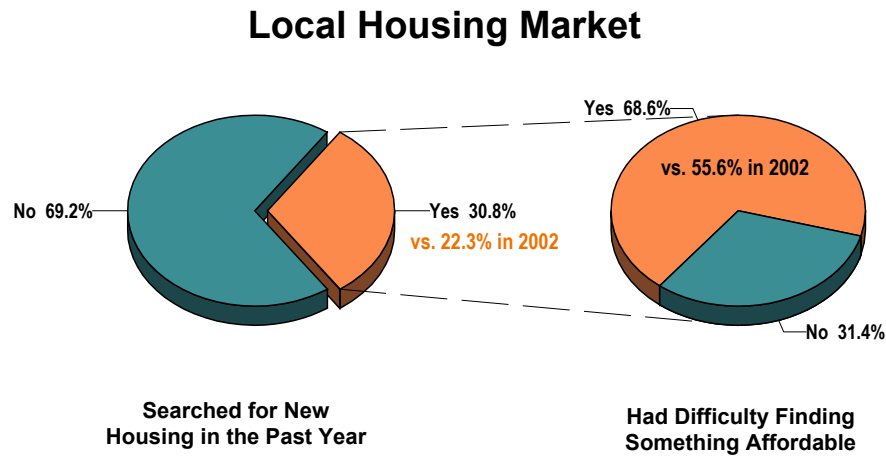
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

2. Asked of all respondents.

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

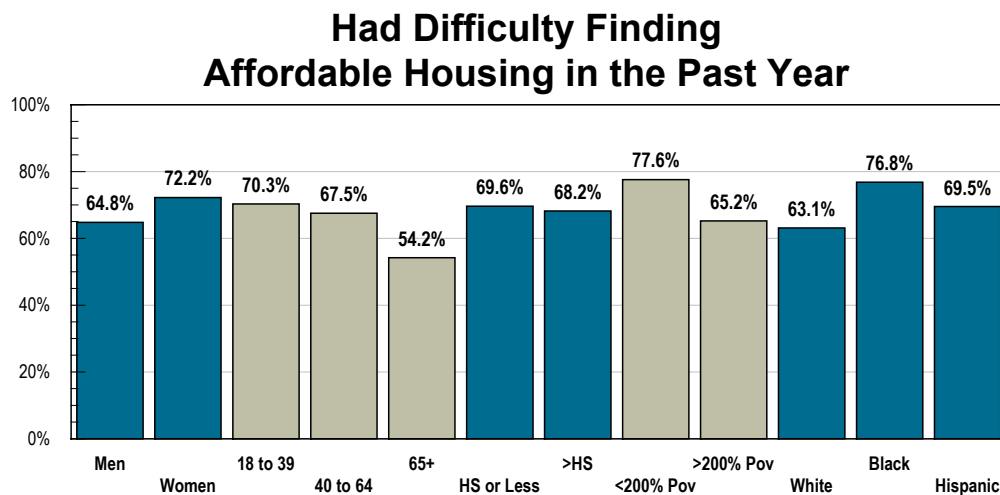
Local Housing Market

Three in 10 (30.8%) Broward County residents searched for new housing in the past year; this prevalence marks a *statistically significant increase* since 2002. Of these people, 68.6% had difficulty finding affordable housing (*significantly higher* than the 55.6% reported in 2002), as shown below.



Source: 2002/2004 PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Items 111,112]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

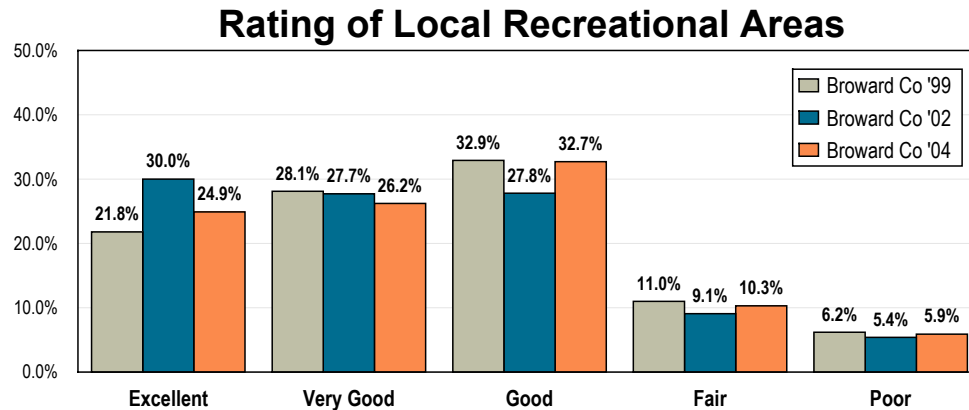
While the local prevalence of homeownership does not appear to vary by education, it does appear to decrease with age and income, and is higher among Blacks and women, as shown below.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 112]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "yes" responses among respondents who sought new housing in the past year.

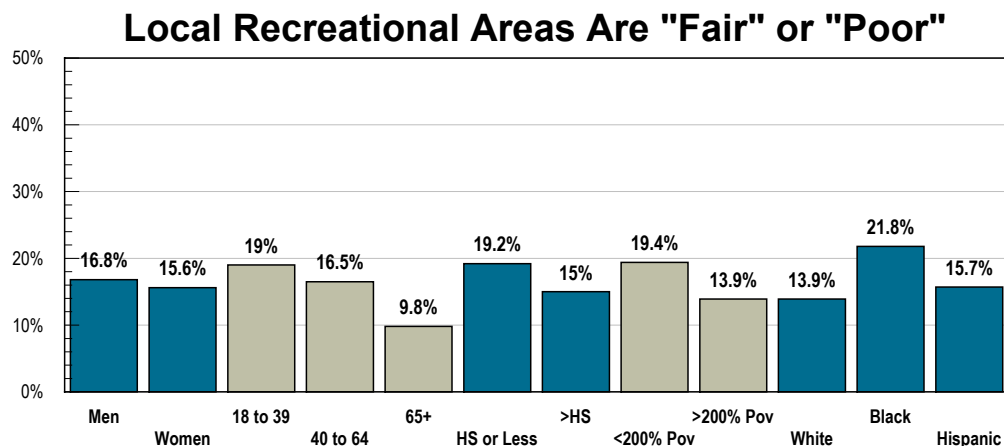
Local Recreational Areas

Just over one-half (51.1%) of area residents feel that local recreational areas in Broward County (including public parks and other open areas) are “excellent” or “very good” (*significantly lower than the 57.7% in 2002*). Another 32.7% rate them as “good” while 16.2% of local adults perceive the county’s recreational areas to be “fair” or “poor.”



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Items 113]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

When segmented by demographics, community residents more likely to view local recreational areas as “fair” or “poor” include young adults, people living at or near the national poverty level, those without postsecondary education, and Blacks.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 113]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

[These demographic findings remain unchanged from the Broward County 2002 results.]

Public Transportation

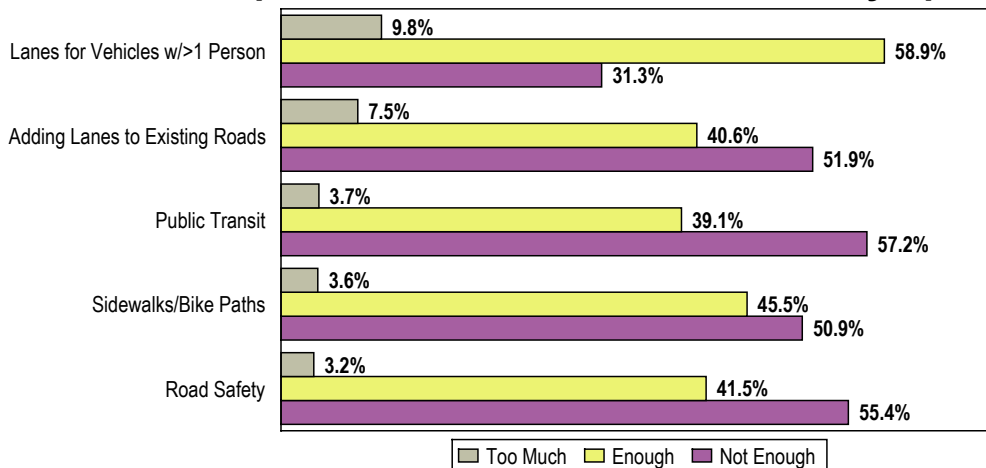
Improving Public Transportation

Community members in Broward County were next asked for their opinions on the current ways in which Broward County spends money on certain aspects of transportation. Respondents were given five transportation issues and asked whether Broward County currently spends “too much,” “enough,” or “not enough” money on each specific issue.

As shown below, the largest “too much” response was for spending on **lanes for vehicles with more than one person** (9.8%), followed by **adding lanes to existing roads** (7.5%), **public transit** (3.7%), **sidewalks and bike paths** (3.6%), and **road safety** (3.2%).

In contrast, local adults do not feel that the county is spending enough on public transit (57.2% “not enough” responses), as well as road safety (55.4%) and adding lanes to existing roads (51.9%), as shown below.

Opinions of Current Broward County Spending



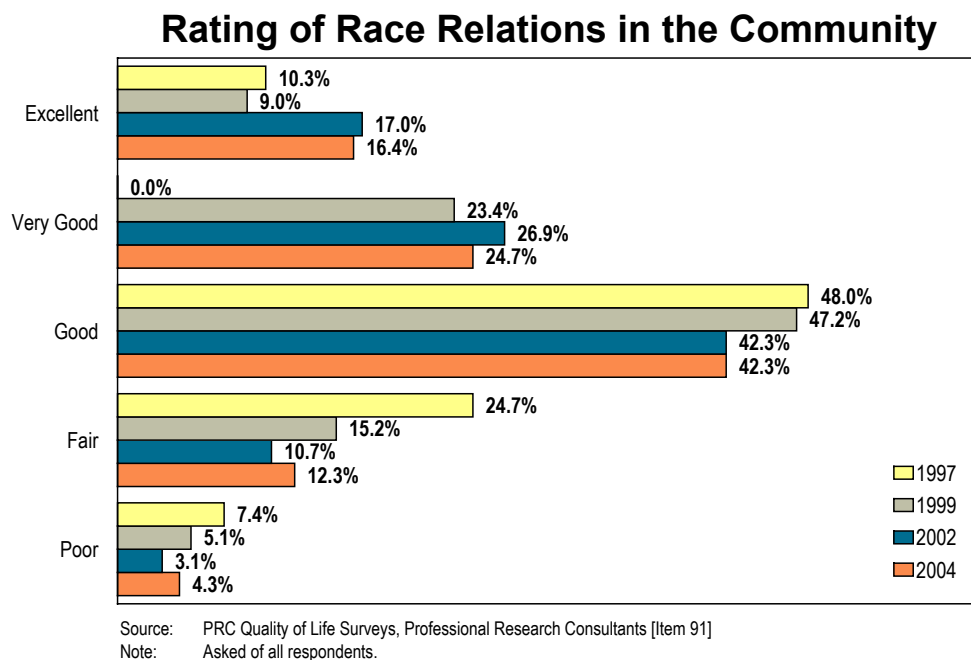
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Items 100-104]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Social Harmony

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

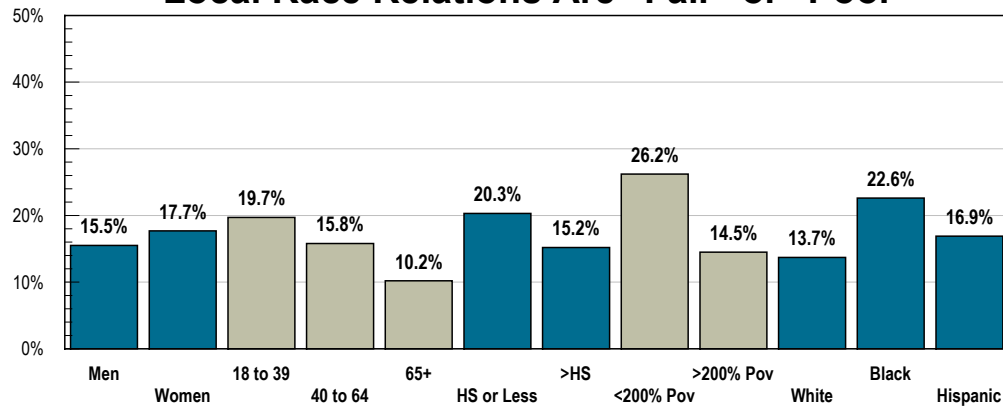
Race Relations

Local adults gave fairly good ratings of race relations in the Broward County community this year. Overall, 41.1% of adults feel that race relations in the community are “excellent” or “very good,” marking a *statistically significant decrease* in high ratings since 2002; more than four in 10 (42.3%) gave “good” reviews, identical to the 2002 figure. In contrast, 16.6% of local adults feel that race relations are “fair” to “poor” (marking a *statistically significant increase* from the 13.8% reported in 2002).



When segmented by demographics, community residents most likely to give “fair” or “poor” ratings of local race relations include Blacks, adults under 65, and residents living in the lower income and educational brackets.

Local Race Relations Are "Fair" or "Poor"

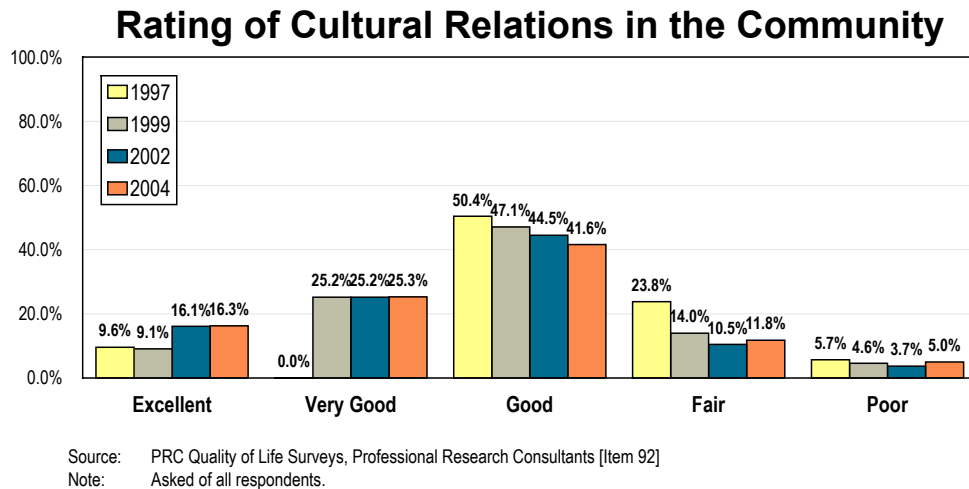


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 91]

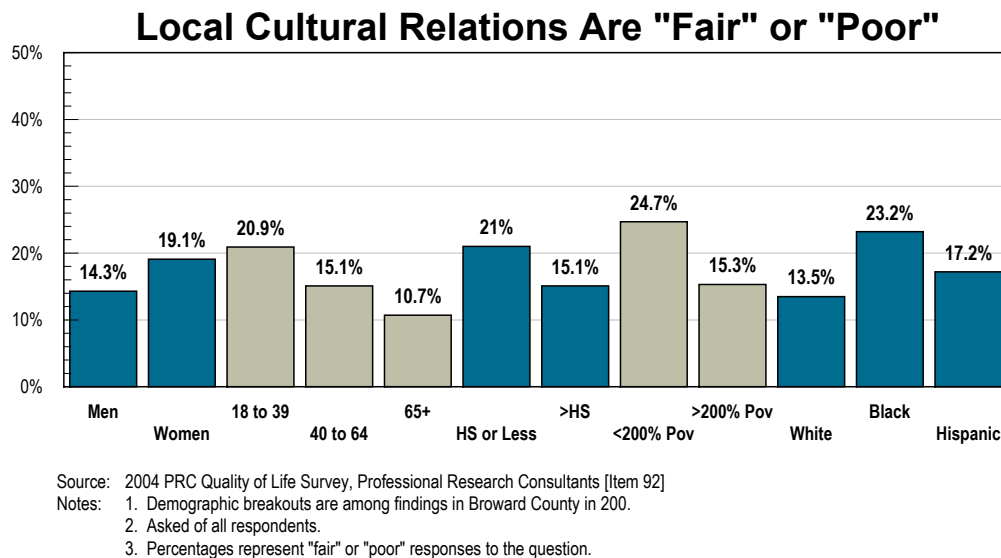
- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

Cultural Relations

In regard to local cultural relations, findings are largely unchanged from the 2002 survey findings: 41.6% of adults gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings, while another 41.6% feel that cultural relations are “good” in Broward County and the remaining 16.8% gave “fair” or “poor” indications.

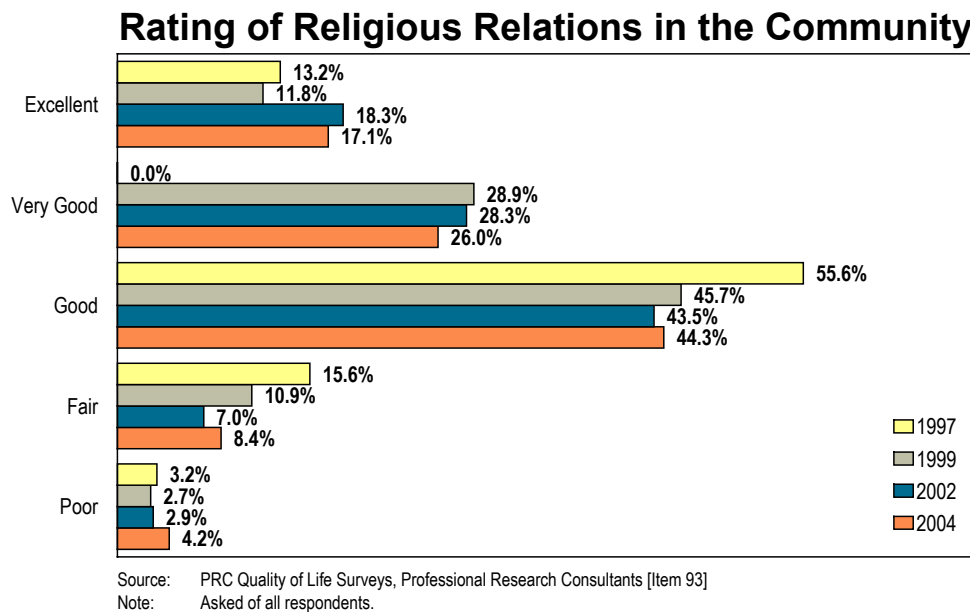


When segmented by demographics, community residents most likely to view local cultural relations as “fair” or “poor” are again Blacks, adults under 65, and those in the lower income and educational brackets, as shown below. In this case, women were more likely than men to give “fair/poor” indications.

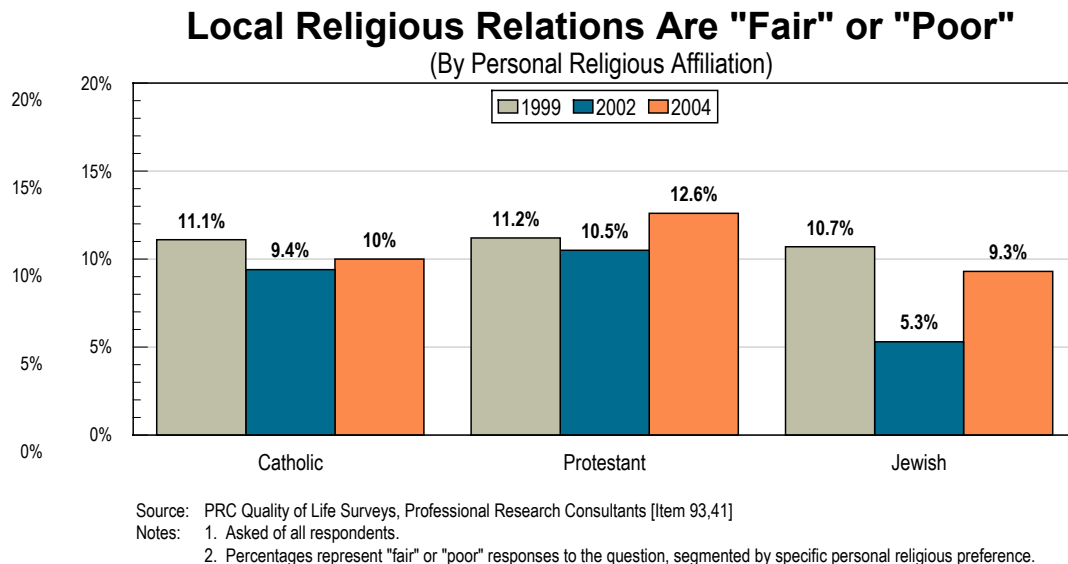


Religious Relations

Finally, Broward County residents were asked to rate local religious relations. As shown below, “excellent” ratings are similar to those in 2002 (17.1% in 2004 vs. 18.3% in 2002), while “fair” to “poor” ratings have *increased significantly* (from 9.9% in 2002 to 12.6% this year).



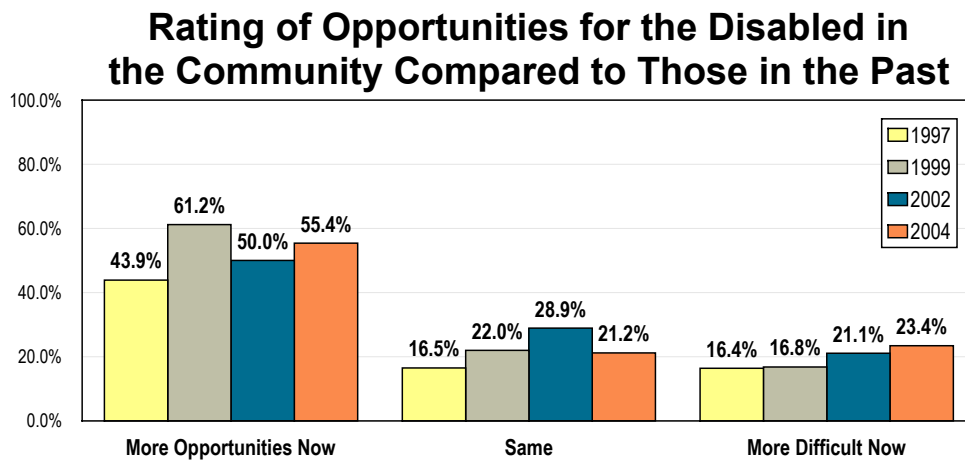
Viewed by personal religious affiliation, local Protestants gave the highest “fair/poor” evaluations this year with regard to local religious relations (12.6%). Note the *statistically significant increase* in low ratings among Jewish respondents, as shown below.



Equal Opportunity

Opportunities for the Disabled

Regarding people with disabilities in the community, more than one-half (55.4%) of local adults perceive there to be **more opportunities** now for the disabled (up *significantly* from the 50.0% in 2002), while 21.2% feel there are the **same amount** of opportunities (versus a *significantly higher* 28.9% in 2002) and 23.4% of local adults think that it is **more difficult now** for people with disabilities (compared to 21.1% in 2002).



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 87]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

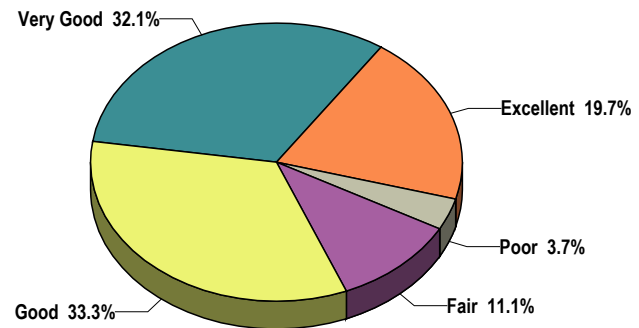
Arts & Entertainment

Rating of Local Arts and Entertainment

When asked to rate the arts and entertainment opportunities available in Broward County, 51.8% of community residents gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings. Another one-third (33.3%) have “good” opinions of local arts and entertainment opportunities.

In contrast, 14.8% of survey respondents gave “fair” or “poor” evaluations of the county’s arts and entertainment opportunities, as shown in the adjacent chart.

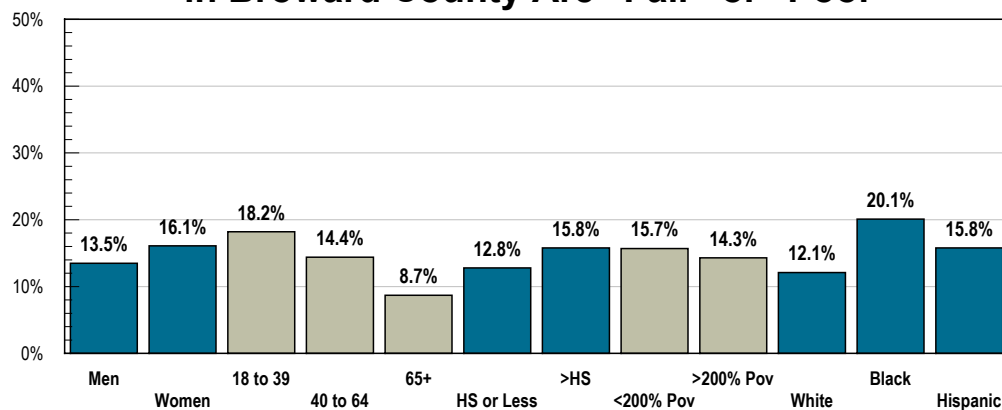
Rating of Arts and Entertainment Opportunities in Broward County



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item98]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Viewed demographically, residents more likely to give “fair” or “poor” ratings of the local arts and entertainment opportunities include Blacks, young adults, women, and people with postsecondary education.

Arts and Entertainment Opportunities in Broward County Are "Fair" or "Poor"

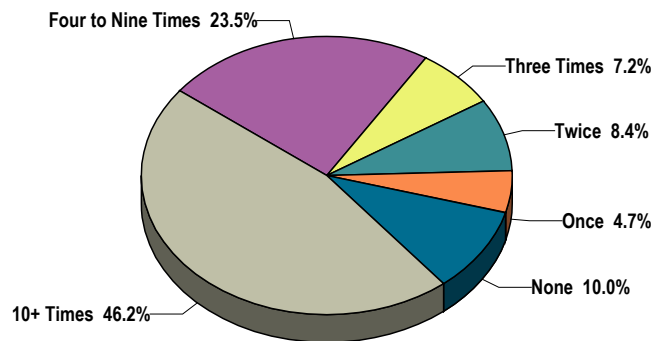


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 98]
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
2. Asked of all respondents.
3. Percentages represent “fair” or “poor” responses to the question.

In a related inquiry, survey respondents were asked to indicate whether they have attended a cultural event in Broward County in the past year, and if so, the approximate number of events. [In this case, the term “cultural event” includes such things as movies, art festivals, concerts, historical sites, museums, art galleries, or theater performances.]

As shown below, a large share of responses (46.2%) was among county residents who attended some type of cultural event 10 or more times in the past year. Another 23.5% of Broward County residents attended such an event between four and nine times. In contrast, one in 10 local adults did not attend any type of cultural event in the past year.

Frequency of Attending a Cultural Event in Broward County in the Past Year

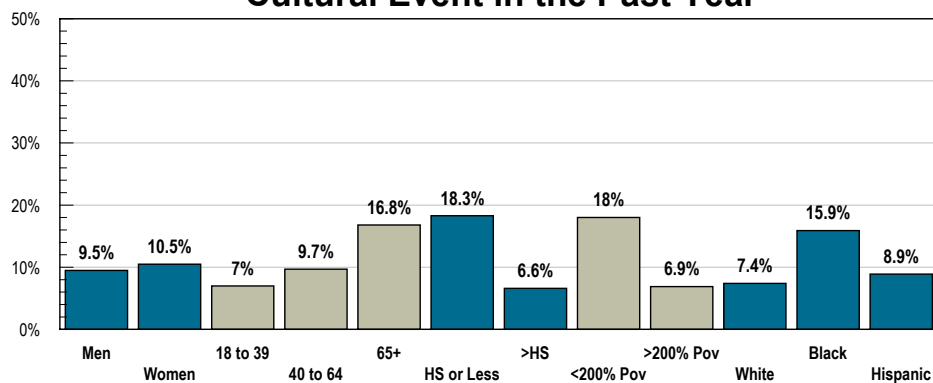


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item99]

- Notes:
1. Asked of all respondents.
 2. In this case, the term "cultural event" includes such things as a movie, art festival, concert, historical site, museum, art gallery, or theater performance.

Adults least likely to have attended a cultural event last year include Blacks, adults aged 65 and older, and people in the lower income and educational breakouts.

Did Not Attend a Single Cultural Event in the Past Year



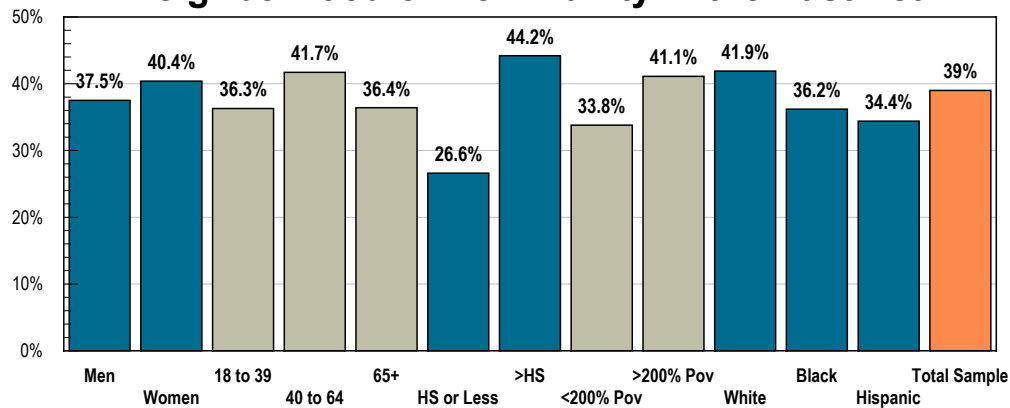
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 99]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "none" responses to the question.

Volunteering

A total of 39.0% of county residents have volunteered in the neighborhood or community at least once in the past year. Local adults more likely to have volunteered include women, middle-aged adults, those in the higher income and educational breakouts, and Whites.

Volunteered in the Neighborhood or Community in the Past Year



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 107]

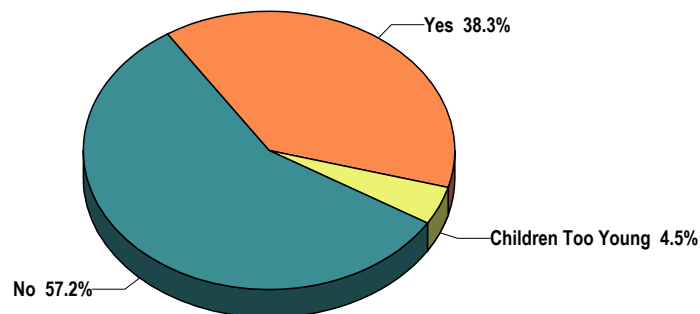
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

2. Asked of all respondents.

3. Percentages represent "yes" answers to the inquiry.

Among survey respondents with children at home, 38.3% note that a child in the household volunteered in the neighborhood or community in the past year.

Children in the Household Have Volunteered in the Neighborhood/Community in the Past Year



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 108]

Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.

2. Calculated to represent households with children under 18 at home.

Education

Rating of Local Public Schools

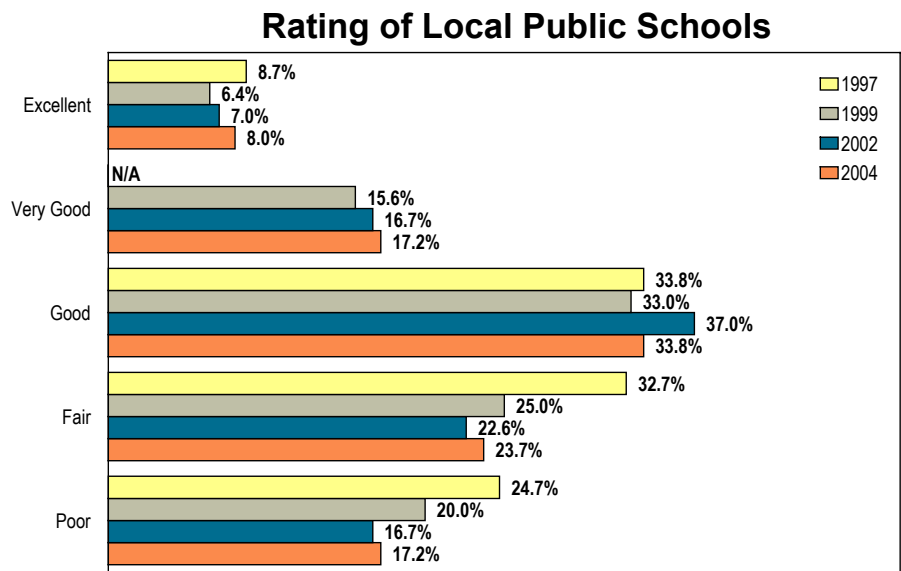
Residents of Broward County were then asked to rate local public schools. While “good” responses have undergone a *statistically significant decrease*, the other findings remain stable when compared with

2002 figures, as shown in the adjacent chart.

Local adults most likely to consider local public schools to be “fair” or “poor” include Whites and adults in the higher income and educational brackets.

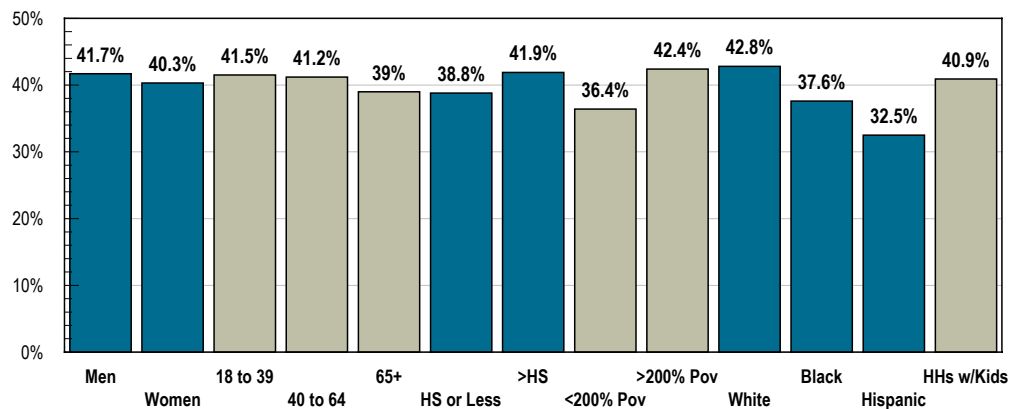
Among local households with

children under 18, 40.9% feel that the public schools are “fair” or “poor,” as shown below.



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 116]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Local Public Schools Are "Fair" or "Poor"



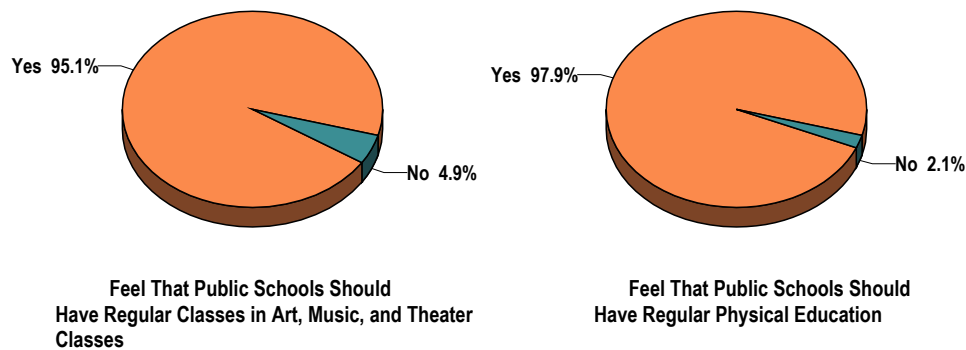
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 116]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "fair" or "poor" responses to the question.

Perceptions About Extra Classes in the Public Schools

Survey respondents were next asked to give their opinions about extra classes offered in the public schools, specifically physical education and classes in art, music, and theater. As shown below, the majority (95.1%) of Broward County residents feel that public schools should offer regular classes in art, music, and theater. An even larger percentage (97.9%) feel that public schools should offer regular physical education classes.

Perceptions About Extra Classes in the Schools

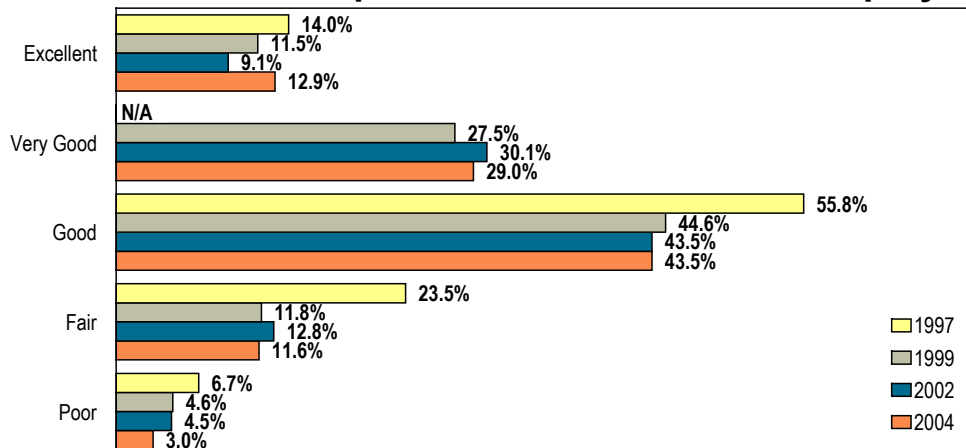


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Items 117,118]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Rating of Local Colleges in Preparing Students for Employment

Residents of Broward County were then asked to give their opinions on how well local colleges and universities are doing in preparing students for future employment. In a positive note, “fair/poor” ratings have decreased *significantly* since 2002; in contrast, other responses have remained stable since the previous study was conducted, as shown below.

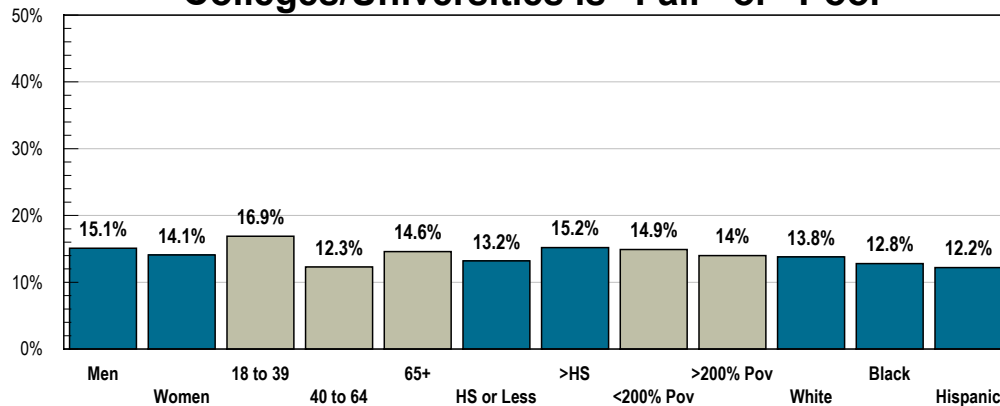
Rating of Preparation by Local Colleges and Universities to Prepare Students for Future Employment



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 119]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

While “fair” or “poor” indications do not vary significantly when viewed by demographic characteristic, local adults more likely to feel that local colleges and universities are doing a “fair” or “poor” job in preparing students for future employment include adults under 40, Whites, and adults with postsecondary education.

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



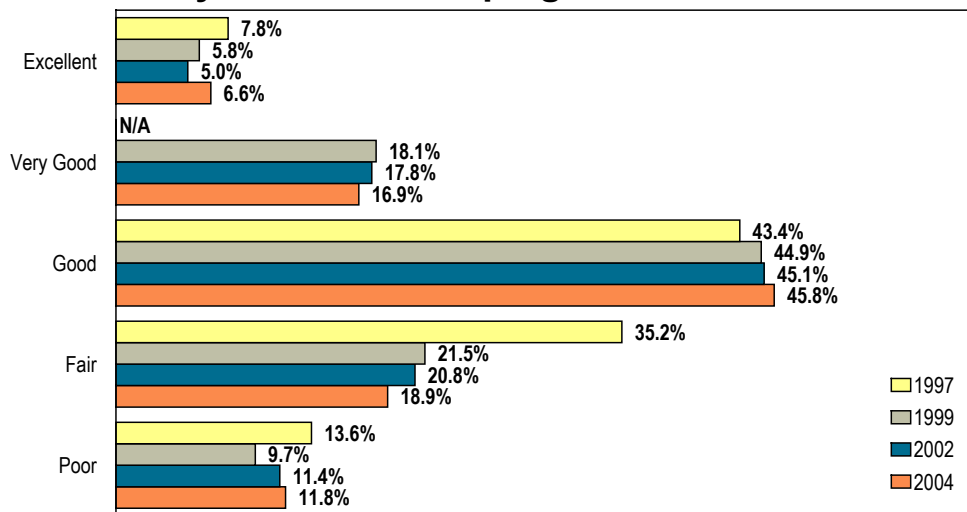
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 119]

- Notes:
1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 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

Survey respondents were next asked to give their opinions on how well the state is doing in developing a future work force. As shown below, ratings have remained statistically unchanged since the 2002 survey, with the largest share of responses (45.8%) giving “good” ratings. A total of 23.5% of local adults feel that the state is doing an “excellent” or “very good” job in developing a future workforce, while 30.7% gave “fair” or “poor” ratings.

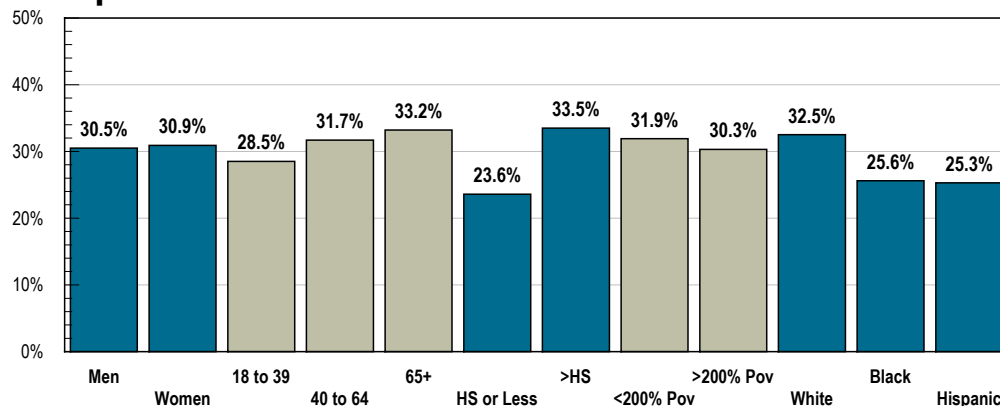
Rating of Florida's Educational System in Developing Future Work Force



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 120]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Local adults most likely to consider the state's preparations for a future work force as “fair” or “poor” include adults aged 65 and older, those with postsecondary education, and Whites.

Preparations for Future Work Force Are "Fair" or "Poor"

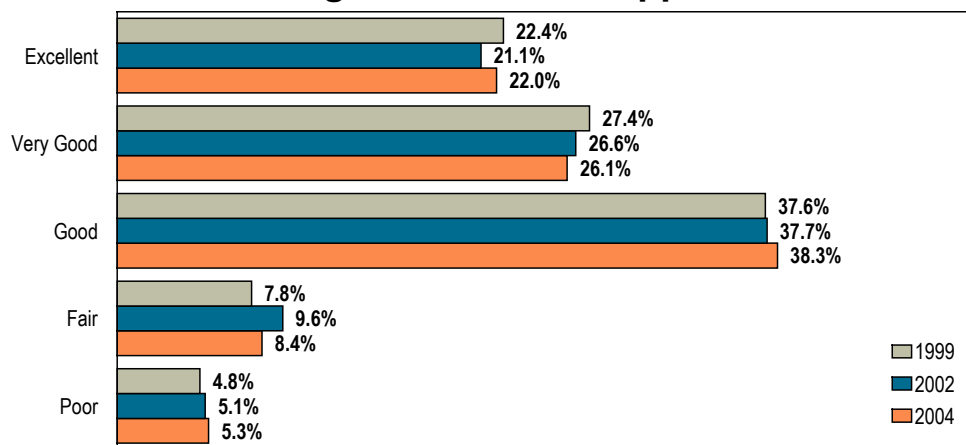


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 120]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent “fair” or “poor” responses to the question.

Personal Access to Higher Education

When asked to rate their personal access to higher education opportunities, nearly one-half (48.1%) of local adults gave “excellent” or “very good” ratings (comparable to the 47.7% reported in 2002), while 38.3% said they have “good” access to higher education opportunities (statistically unchanged since 2002). This year, 13.7% of local adults reported that their access to higher education is “fair” or “poor,” similar to the 14.7% reported in 2002.

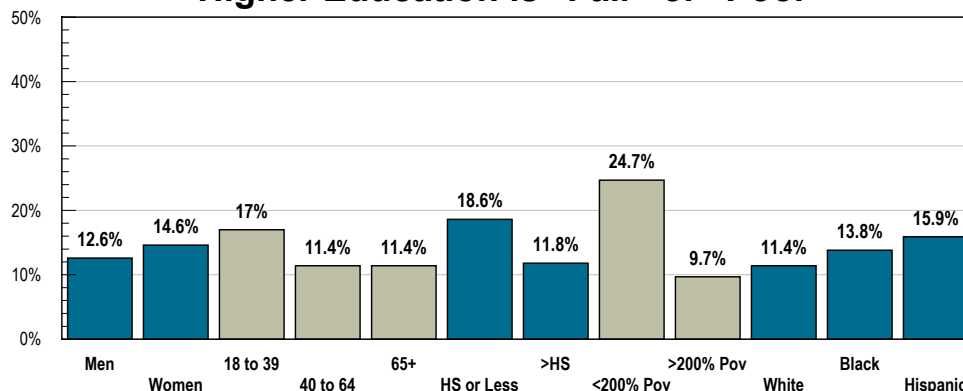
Rating of Personal Access to Higher Education Opportunities



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 121]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Local adults most likely to give “fair” or “poor” ratings of their personal access to higher education opportunities include those living at or near the national poverty level, Hispanics, people without postsecondary education, and adults under 40, as shown below.

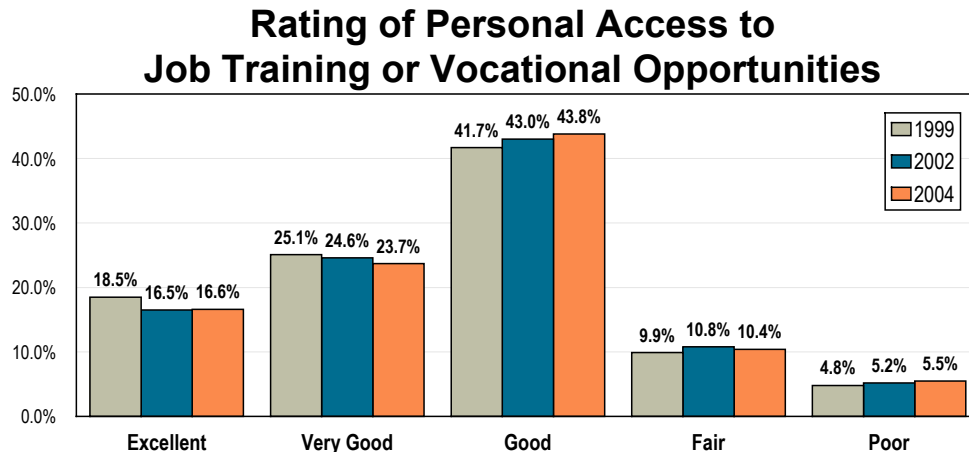
Personal Access to Higher Education is "Fair" or "Poor"



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 121]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent “fair” or “poor” responses to the question.

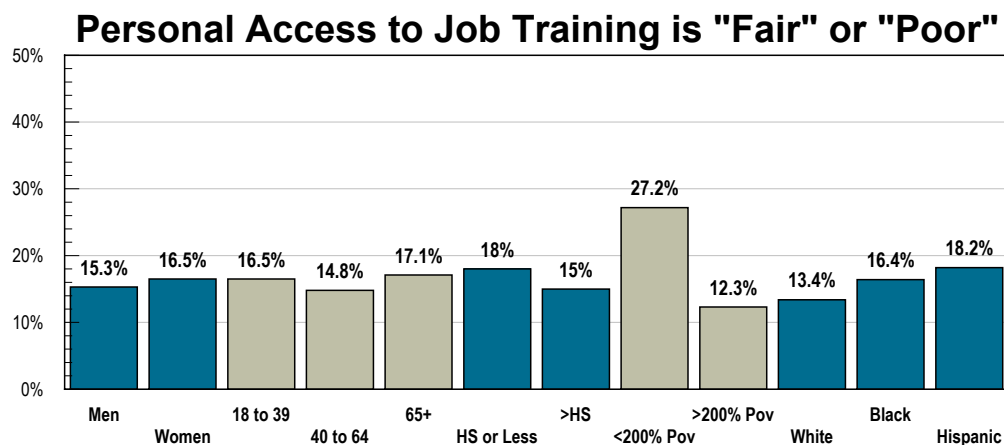
Job Training and Vocational Opportunities

In regard to their personal access to job training or vocational opportunities, survey respondents gave 40.3% “excellent” or “very good” ratings (comparable to the 41.1% found in 2002), while another 43.8% feel they have “good” access to job training or other vocational opportunities (versus 43.0% in 2002). In contrast, 15.9% of adults feel they have “fair” to “poor” access to job training or other vocational opportunities, similar to the 16.0% reported in 2002.



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 122]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Adults living at or near the national poverty level are much more likely than other residents to feel that their personal access to job training or other vocational opportunities is “fair” or “poor,” with a full 27.2% “fair/poor” responses, as shown below.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 122]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent “fair” or “poor” responses to the question.

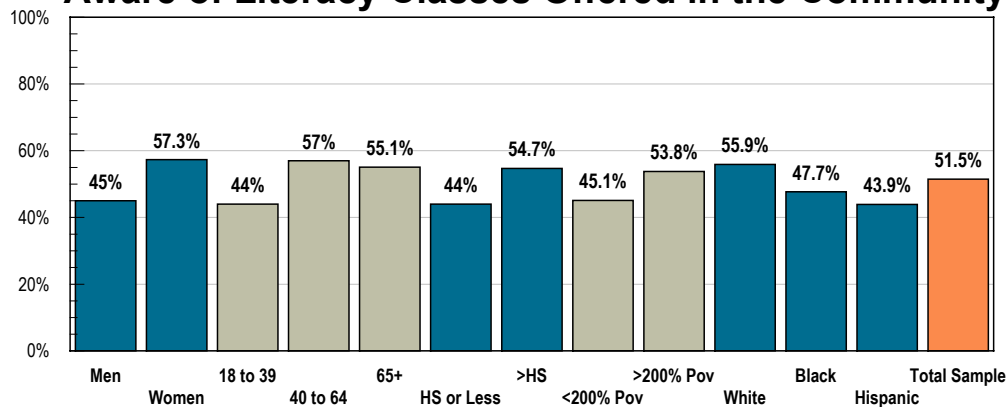
Literacy and Employment

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

Awareness of Local Literacy Classes

Just over one-half (51.5%) of Broward County residents are aware of literacy classes offered in the community. Adults least likely to be aware of local literacy programs include males, adults under 40, those in the lower income and educational classifications, and Hispanics.

Aware of Literacy Classes Offered in the Community

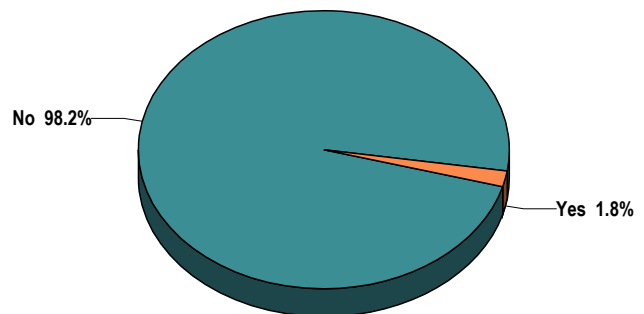


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 68]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "yes" responses to the question.

Need Help With Reading

In a related inquiry, survey respondents were asked whether or not they currently need help learning to read. As can be seen in the adjacent chart, 1.8% (nearly 24,000 people) answered affirmatively.

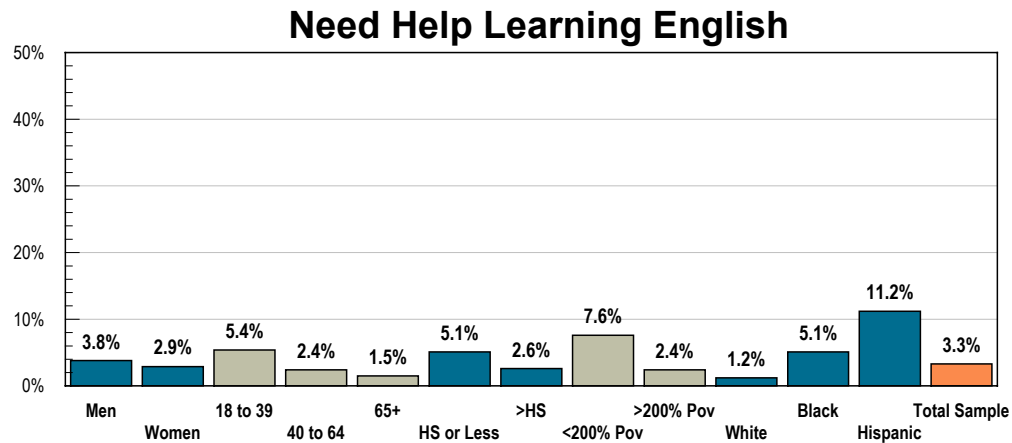
Need Help Learning to Read



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 69]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Need Help Learning English

A larger percentage (3.3%) of local adults indicated that they currently need help learning the English language. Most notably, these adults included Hispanics (11.2%), adults in the lower income bracket (7.6%), adults under 40 (5.4%), and those without postsecondary education (5.1%), as shown below.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 70]

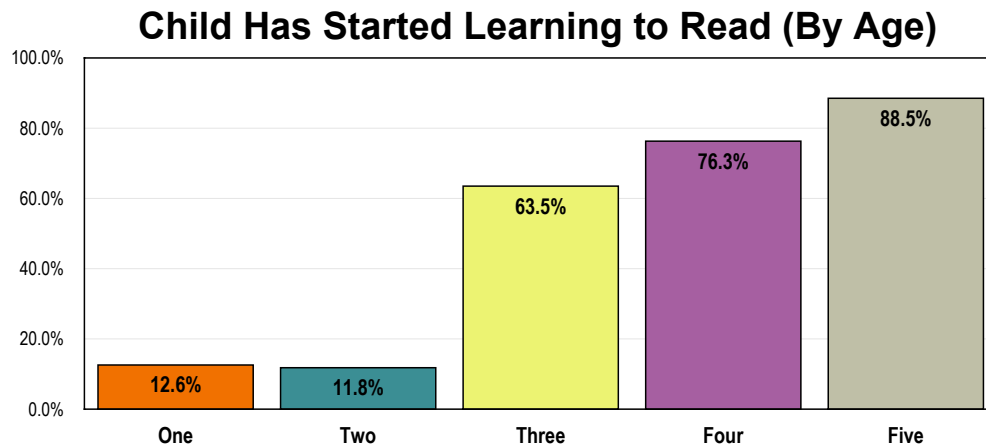
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

2. Asked of all respondents.

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

Children Learning to Read

As may be expected, the majority of local children under the age of three have not begun to read; however, this prevalence increases dramatically among children aged three and older, and increases to 88.5% among five-year-olds, according to local parents.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 134]

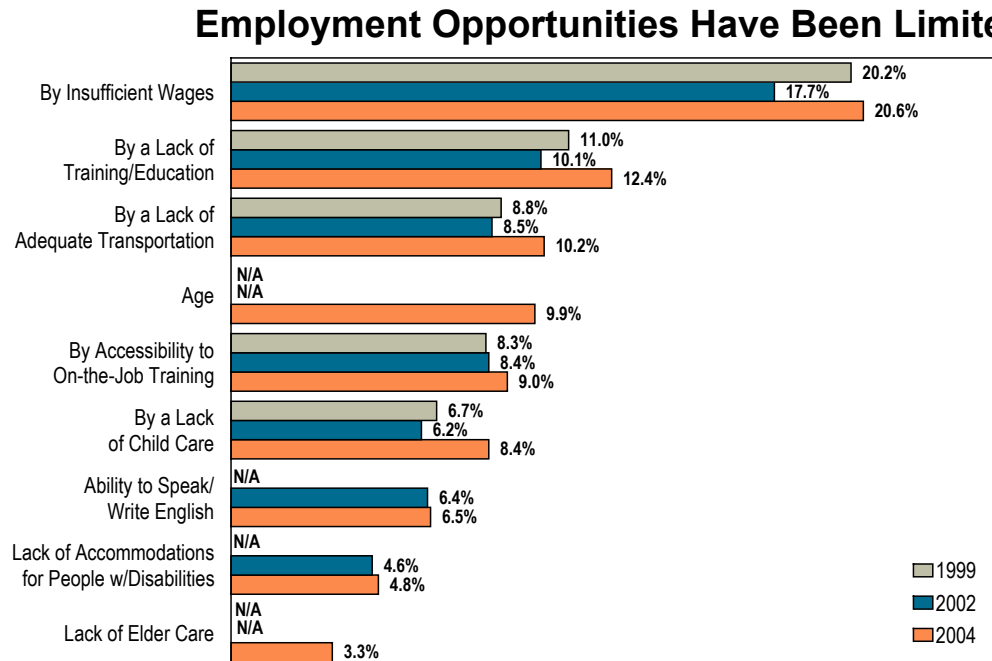
Note: Asked of all respondents with children under 6 at home.

Employment Opportunities

Community members were next asked a series of questions regarding employment opportunities. As can be seen in the following chart, 20.6% of local adults (*significantly* higher than the 17.7% in 2002) indicate that their employment opportunities have been limited by **insufficient wages**. Another 12.4% report that their employment opportunities have been limited by a **lack of training or education**, marking another *statistically significant increase* since 2002.

A total of 10.2% responded “yes” when asked if their opportunities had been limited by a lack of **adequate transportation** (up *significantly* since 2002), while 9.9% have been limited by **age** and 9.0% have been limited by **accessibility to on-the-job training**. A total of 8.4% of local adults were limited by a lack of **day care** for their children (up *significantly* since 2002).

The ability to **speak and write English** affected 6.5% of survey respondents, as did a lack of **accommodations for people with disabilities** (4.8% responded affirmatively), as shown below. Finally, 3.3% of local adults indicate that a lack of local **elder care** limited their own employment opportunities.



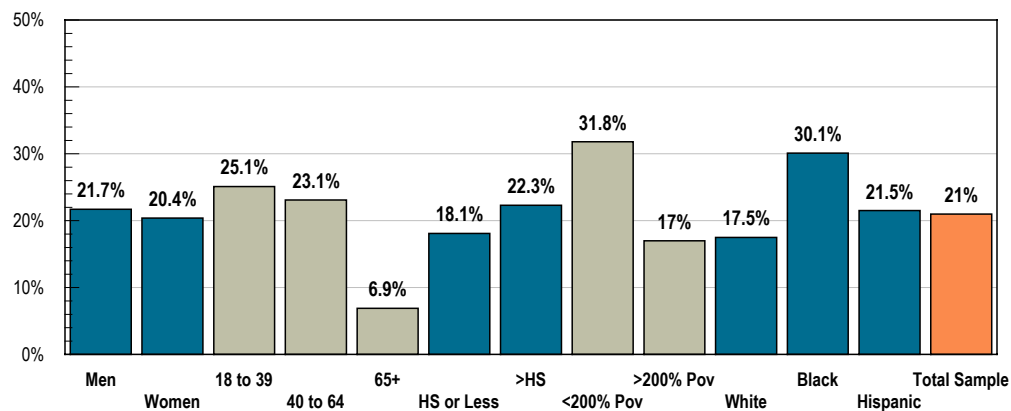
Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Items 74-82]

Notes: 1. Asked of all respondents.
2. Percentages represent "yes" responses to the question.

Among survey respondents, 21.0% indicate that they or a member of their household has been unable to find suitable employment in Broward County in the field in which they were trained (representing approximately 280,000 local adults).

Viewed demographically, adults more likely to mention such employment problems include those under 65, adults living at or near poverty, Blacks, and, perhaps surprisingly, adults with education beyond high school. The following chart provides this breakout in survey findings.

Member of Household Has Been Unable to Find Suitable Employment in Broward County in the Field in Which They Were Trained



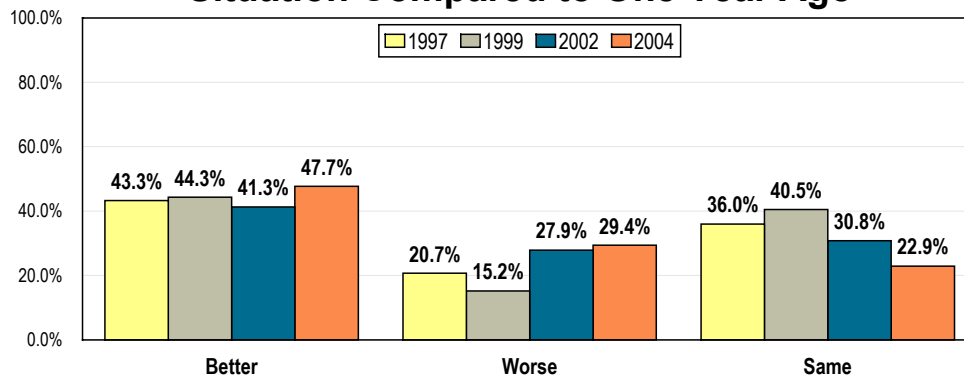
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 83]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent "yes" responses to the question.

ECONOMY

Personal Finances

Community leaders are interested in how residents are getting along financially today in comparison with one year ago. As shown below, 47.7% of local adults feel they are doing “better” financially than they were one year ago (a *statistically significant increase* since 2002); another 22.9% are doing the “same” (versus a *statistically higher* 30.8% in 2002). A full 29.4% of Broward County residents report that they are doing “worse” financially than one year ago, remaining unchanged significantly from the 27.9% reported in 2002.

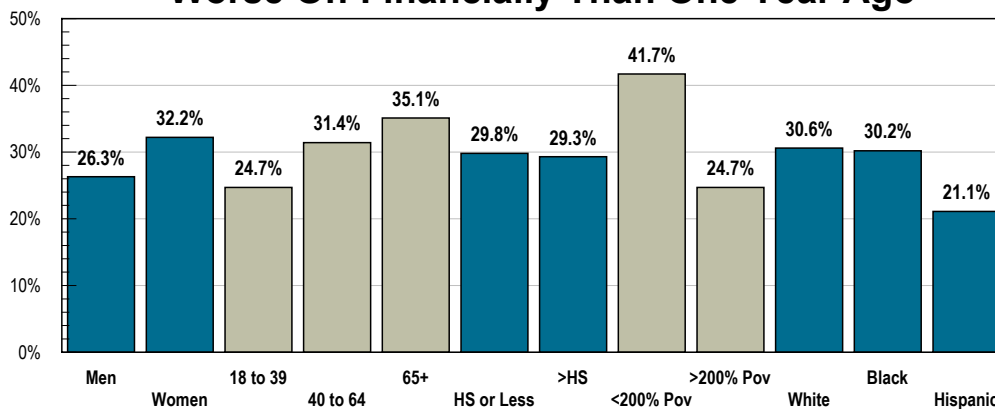
Personal Financial Situation Compared to One Year Ago



Source: PRC Quality of Life Surveys, Professional Research Consultants [Item 123]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

As can be seen in the following demographic breakout, adults living at or near the national poverty level are most likely to indicate being worse off financially than they were one year ago, with a full 41.7% responding.

Worse Off Financially Than One Year Ago

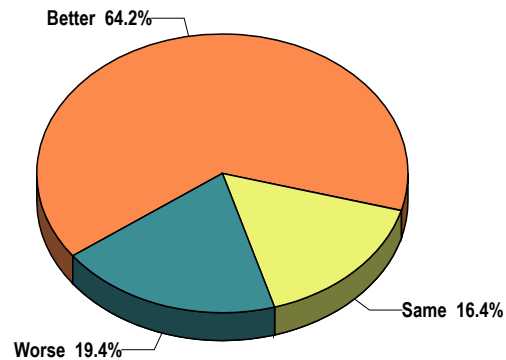


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 123]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

Perceptions About Economic Future

When asked about their economic future in Broward County, 64.2% of survey respondents feel it will be “better”, while 16.4% indicate that their economic future will remain the same and 19.4% feel that it will worsen, as illustrated in the adjacent chart.

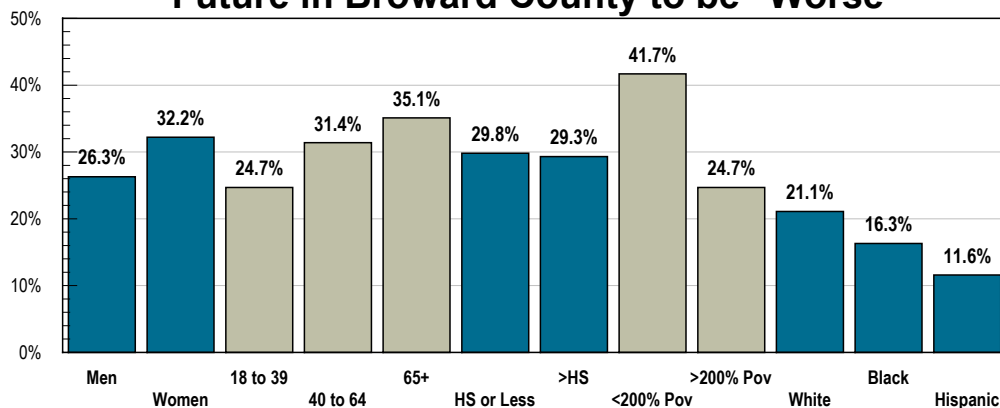
Perceptions About Personal Economic Future in Broward County



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 124]
 Note: Asked of all respondents.

Residents more likely to perceive their personal economic future in Broward County to be “worse” include women, Whites, Blacks, and adults living at or near poverty. Note also that the local prevalence increases with age, ranging from 24.7% among young adults to 35.1% among those aged 65 and older.

Perceive Personal Economic Future in Broward County to be "Worse"



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 124]
 Notes:
 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.
 3. Percentages represent “worse” responses to the inquiry.

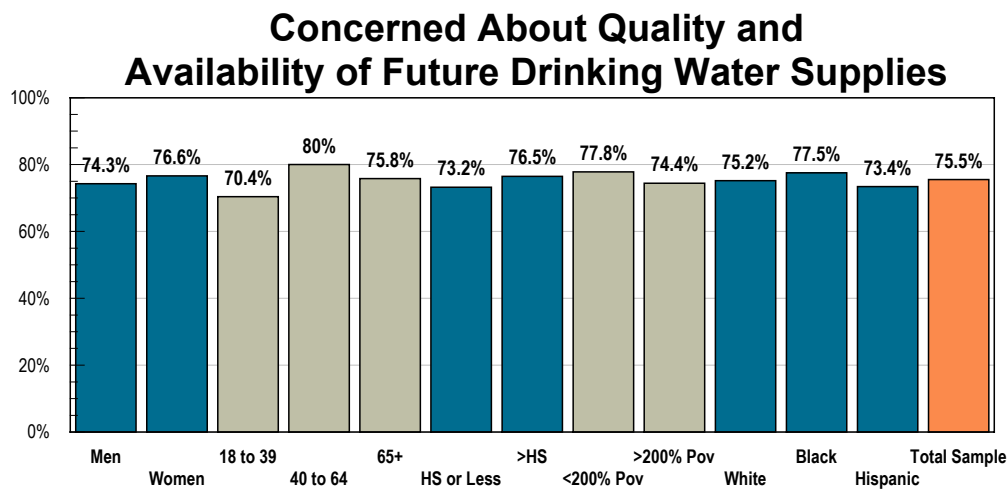
ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Issues

The following section describes such environmental issues as the quality and availability of future drinking water supplies, water conservation in the home, and recycling of such materials as cans, glass, and paper.

Quality and Availability of Future Drinking Water Supplies

Residents were asked to indicate whether they are concerned about the quality and availability of future drinking water supplies. Three-fourths (75.5%) answered affirmatively; this percentage ranges from a low 70.4% among young adults to 80.0% among middle-aged adults, as shown below.



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 84]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

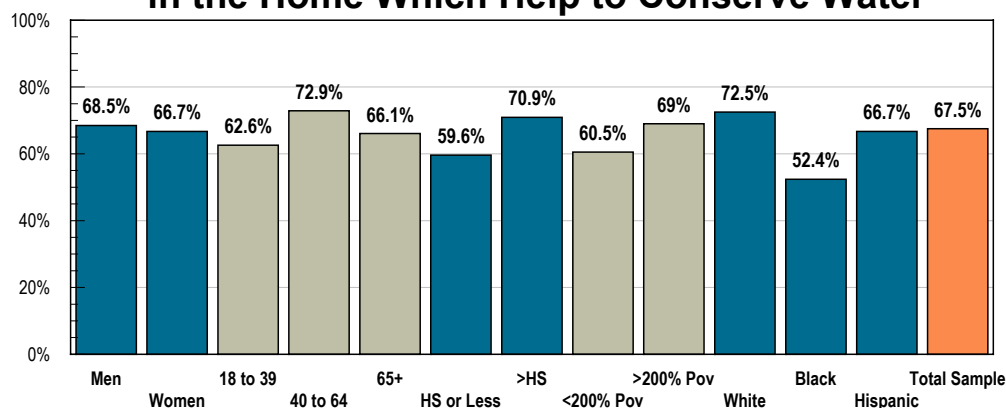
2. Asked of all respondents.

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

Water Conservation in the Home

A total of 67.5% of Broward County residents have devices, equipment, or practices in the home which help to conserve water. Viewed by demographic characteristic, adults more likely to indicate such conservation practices include middle-aged adults, those in the higher income and education classifications, Whites, and Hispanics, as illustrated in the following chart.

Have Devices, Equipment, or Practices in the Home Which Help to Conserve Water



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 85]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

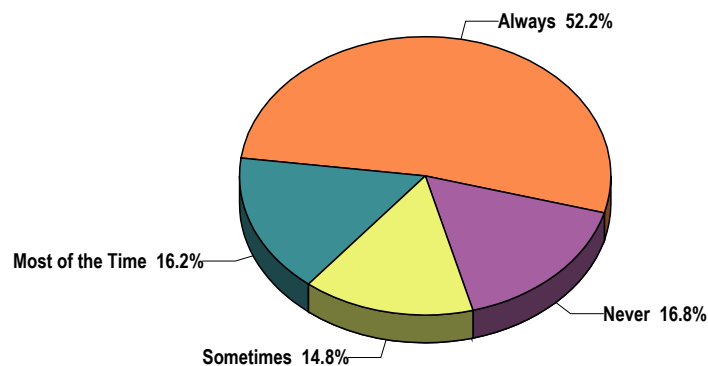
2. Asked of all respondents.

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

Recycling

More than one-half (52.2%) of community residents report "always" recycling such materials as cans, glass, or paper. Another 16.2% do so "most of the time." In contrast, 14.8% of survey respondents "sometimes" recycle, while 16.8% claim that they "never" do so.

Frequency of Recycling Cans, Glass, or Paper

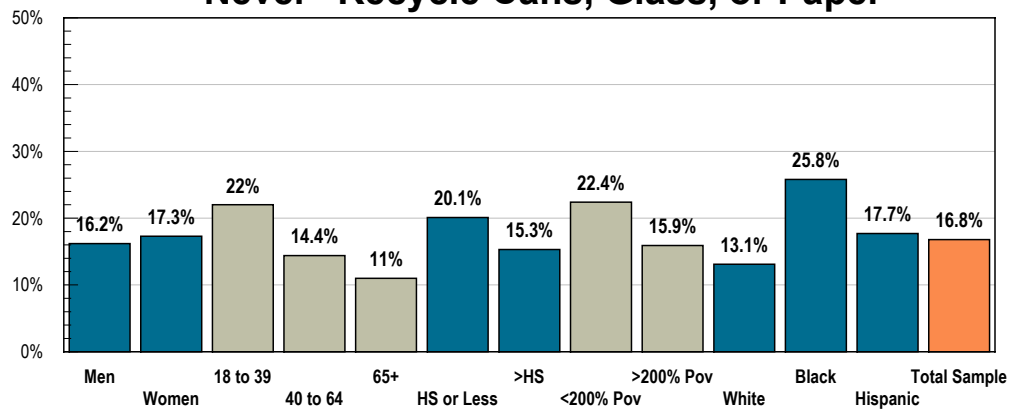


Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 86]

Note: Asked of all respondents.

As can be seen in the following demographic breakout, Blacks are most likely to indicate that they "never" recycle (25.8%), followed by adults living at or near poverty (22.4%), young adults (22.0%), and adults without education beyond high school (20.1%).

"Never" Recycle Cans, Glass, or Paper



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 86]

Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.

2. Asked of all respondents.

3. Percentages represent "never" responses to the inquiry.

GOVERNMENT

Local Government

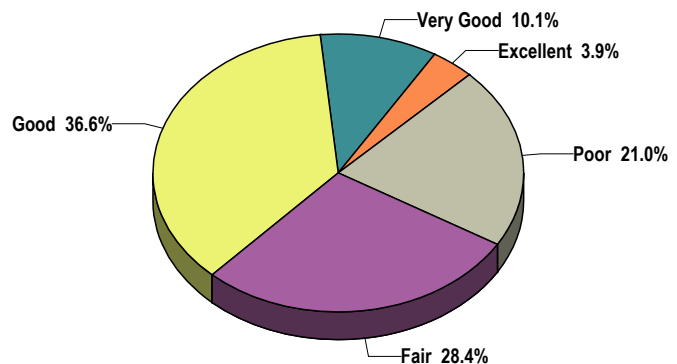
This section of the report outlines residents' views on state and local government.

State Government

When asked to rate the State of Florida's government, 14.0% of survey respondents gave "excellent" or "very good" indications; another 36.6% gave "good" ratings of the job that the state government is doing.

In contrast, nearly one-half (49.4%) of community members gave "fair" or "poor" evaluations of the state government, as shown in the adjacent chart.

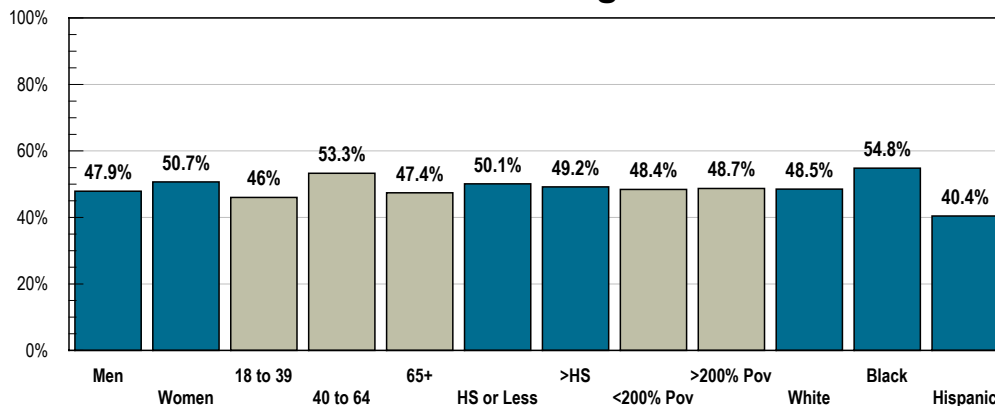
Rating of State Government



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 125]
Note: Asked of all respondents.

Adults least likely to indicate that the state government is doing a "fair" or "poor" job include Hispanics and adults under 40 and over 64, as shown below.

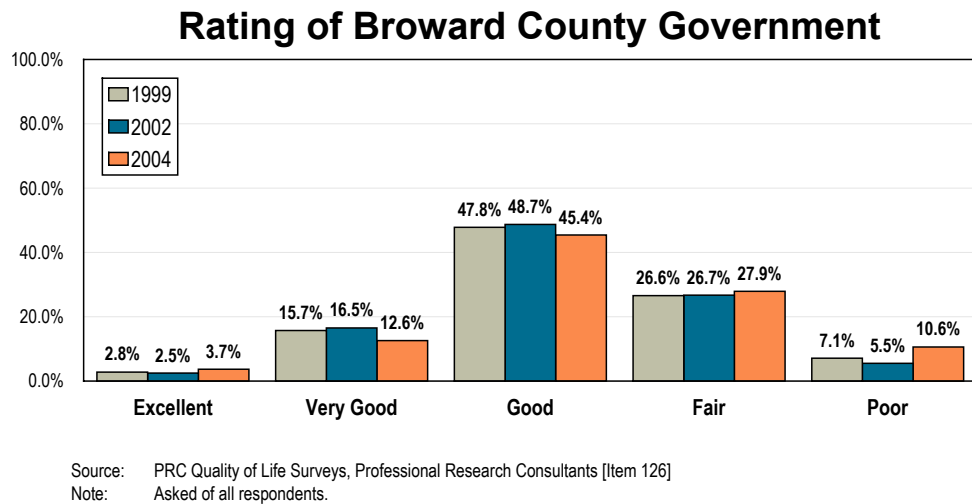
State Government is Doing a "Fair/Poor" Job



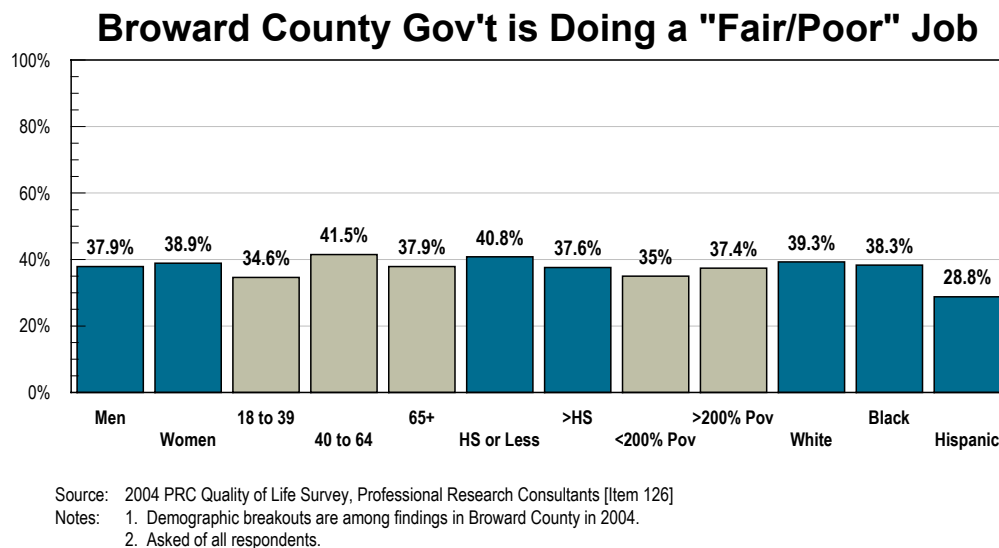
Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 125]
Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
2. Asked of all respondents.

Ratings of County Government

When asked to give an overall rating of the local Broward County government, 16.3% of local adults gave “excellent” or “very good” responses, while 45.4% said “good.” In contrast, nearly four in 10 (38.5%) local adults gave “fair” or “poor” ratings. These ratings have undergone *statistically significant* changes since the 2002 survey, as shown below.



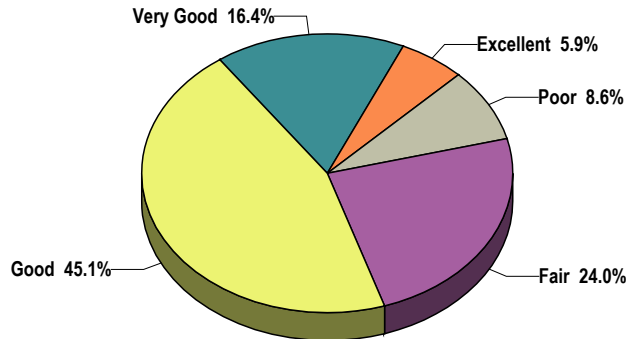
The following chart provides a breakout in “fair/poor” responses by demographic characteristic. Note that the largest variances in percentage responses occur by age and by race, with Hispanics giving the lowest “fair/poor” indication (28.8%).



Ratings of Local Government

When asked to give an overall rating of residents' local government, 22.3% of local adults gave "excellent" or "very good" responses, while 45.1% said "good." In contrast, approximately one-third (32.6%) of local adults gave "fair" or "poor" ratings.

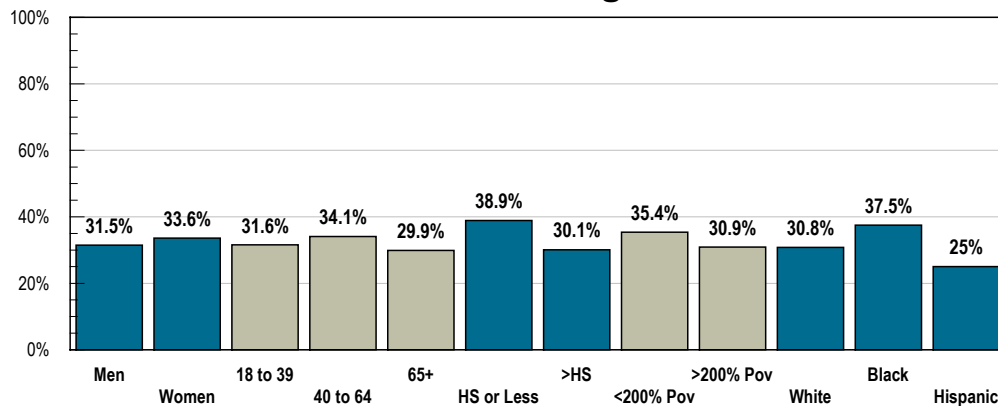
Rating of Local Government



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 127]
 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 adults in the lowest educational and income levels, and Blacks, as can be seen in the following chart.

Local Government is Doing a "Fair/Poor" Job



Source: 2004 PRC Quality of Life Survey, Professional Research Consultants [Item 127]
 Notes: 1. Demographic breakouts are among findings in Broward County in 2004.
 2. Asked of all respondents.

APPENDICES

Summary Tables of Quantitative Findings

Comparison Tables

The following two tables illustrate major findings from the five assessments conducted by Professional Research Consultants, Inc. in Broward County (1994, 1997, 1999, 2002, and 2004).

Summary of Major Findings, Table I of II

	1994	1997	1999	2002	2004
HEALTH					
Self-Reported "Fair/Poor" Health	14.5%	12.9%	12.2%	12.4%	9.0 *
Have High Blood Pressure	22.1%	22.4%	32.5%	34.0%	34.9%
Have High Blood Cholesterol	29.6%	24.0%	31.6%	36.1%	35.8%
Have Been Tested for AIDS	42.9%	51.7%	49.1%	56.7%	61.6%
High/Medium Chance for AIDS	7.7%	4.7%	4.9%	5.6%	5.3%
Diabetes	6.0%	7.4%	8.1%	7.7%	8.7%
Lack Health Care Insurance (18+)	12.1%	12.1%	14.0%	12.2%	17.6%
Cost Prevented Prescription Meds	N/A	N/A	8.5%	9.6%	17.0%
Rate Local Health Care as "Fair/Poor"	N/A	N/A	14.3%	12.4%	16.5%
Had a Flu Shot in the Past Year (65+)	43.0%	59.3%	62.2%	61.3%	64.3%
Have Had a Pneumonia Vaccination (65+)	22.4%	41.4%	51.7%	56.0%	62.6%
No Leisure-Time Physical Activity	23.9%	24.8%	27.2%	24.5%	26.1%
Sedentary	48.1%	51.4%	59.5%	58.3%	58.3%
Overweight	44.9%	50.8%	53.5%	57.1%	57.1%
Current Smoker	21.8%	22.1%	20.6%	20.4%	20.3%
Current Drinker	62.3%	55.2%	55.5%	58.3%	60.7%
Routine Checkup Last Year	73.4%	78.8%	79.8%	79.2%	77.8%
Dental Visit in Past 6 Months	N/A	56.4%	55.6%	55.0%	53.7%
Child Had Dental Visit/Past 6 Months	N/A	59.1%	58.5%	59.0%	56.9%
Digital/Rectal Exam in Past Year (50+)	67.1%	53.1%	56.8%	56.4%	53.3%
Ever Had Sigmoidoscopy	62.1%	39.8%	48.2%	50.2%	59.1%
Mammogram/Breast Exam in Past 2 Yrs (50+)	69.1%	66.6%	80.7%	80.5%	74.3%
Pap Smear in Past 3 Years	83.8%	82.4%	84.3%	81.2%	85.4%

**Note that question wording was changed in 2004 from "Would you say that in general your health is:" to "Would you say that in general your physical, mental, and emotional health is:"*

Summary of Major Findings, Table II of II

	1994	1997	1999	2002	2004
SAFETY					
Victim of Violent Crime/Past 5 Years	4.3%	3.7%	3.1%	3.2%	3.9%
Have a Handgun in the Home	19.2%	15.9%	16.0%	22.1%	14.3%
Handguns in Homes w/Children	N/A	14.8%	15.8%	19.5%	12.9%
Always Use Seatbelt	79.4%	80.4%	76.8%	81.4%	84.7%
FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES					
Broward Co. "Excellent" Place to Live	N/A	22.9%	18.8%	17.8%	21.6%
Life Has Improved in Broward County	N/A	24.1%	32.1%	46.4%	51.5%
Member of HH is Hard of Hearing	14.7%	13.6%	12.7%	10.2%	9.5%
Member of Household is Deaf	1.0%	1.2%	1.8%	2.1%	1.1%
Member of Household is Speech Impaired	1.6%	1.6%	2.3%	1.7%	1.8%
Member of Household is Blind	1.2%	1.4%	1.3%	1.4%	1.5%
Member of Household is Disabled and Need Assistance	7.0%	7.3%	8.7%	7.9%	6.4%
Local Race Relations Are "Excellent"	N/A	11.4%	9.0%	17.0%	16.4%
Local Cultural Relations Are "Excellent"	N/A	10.7%	9.1%	16.1%	16.3%
Local Religious Relations Are "Excellent"	N/A	15.1%	11.8%	18.3%	17.1%
More Opportunities for the Disabled Now	N/A	57.2%	61.2%	50.0%	55.4%
Public School System is "Excellent"	N/A	8.7%	6.4%	7.0%	8.0%
Preparation by Local Colleges/Univ's is "Excellent"	N/A	14.0%	11.5%	9.1%	12.9%
ECONOMY					
Financially Better Off Than One Year Ago	N/A	43.3%	44.3%	41.3%	47.7%
ENVIRONMENT					
Conserve Water in the Home	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	67.5%
"Never" Recycle Cans, Glass, or Paper	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	16.8%
GOVERNMENT					
Broward County Gov't is "Excellent"	N/A	5.4%	2.8%	2.5%	3.7%
Local Government is "Excellent"	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.9%

Health Findings Versus National Benchmarks

Modifiable Health Risks		Broward 2004	US	HP2010	vs. US	vs. US
Nutrition and Overweight	% Overweight	57.1	62		BETTER	
	% Obese	18.8	25.7	15	BETTER	Does NOT Meet
	% Unhealthy Weight (BMI <18.5 or 25+)	58.8	63.3	40	BETTER	Does NOT Meet
Physical Activity and Fitness	% No Leisure-Time Physical Activity	26.1	26.8		similar	
Substance Abuse	% Current Drinker	60.7	51.4		WORSE	
Tobacco Use	% Current Smoker	20.3	20.9	12	similar	Does NOT Meet
	% Have Quit 1+ Days in Past Yr	52.1	48.7	75	similar	Does NOT Meet
Infectious and Chronic Disease		Broward 2004	US	HP2010	vs. US	vs. US
Immunization/Infectious Dis	% Flu Shot in Past Yr (65+)	64.3	66.6	90	similar	Does NOT Meet
	% Pneumonia Vaccine Ever (65+)	62.6	62	90	similar	Does NOT Meet
Death and Disability		Broward 2004	US	HP2010	vs. US	vs. US
Cancer	% Pap Smear in Past 3 Yrs (W)	85.4	84.8	90	similar	Does NOT Meet
	% Sigmoid/Colonoscopy Ever (50+)	59.1	53.7	50	similar	Meets Goal
	% Mammogram in Past 2 Yrs (W40+)	78.5	79.6	70	similar	Meets Goal
Cardiovascular Disease	% Told Have High Blood Pressure	34.9	29.4	16	WORSE	Does NOT Meet
	% 1+ Cardiovascular Risk Factor	88.8	90		similar	
	% Told Have High Cholesterol	35.8	25.1	17	WORSE	Does NOT Meet
Diabetes	% Diabetes/High Blood Sugar	8.7	8.7		similar	
Injury and Violence	% Firearm in Home	14.3	31.6		BETTER	
	% "Always" Wear Seat Belt	84.7	77.4	92	BETTER	Does NOT Meet
	% Victim of Violent Crime in Past 5 Yrs	3.9	2.8		similar	
	% Homes With Children With a Firearm	12.9	28.6		BETTER	
Access to Healthcare Services		Broward 2004	US	HP2010	vs. US	vs. US
Barriers to Access	% Cost Prevented Getting Rx in Past Yr	17	16		similar	
Health Insurance	% Lack Health Insurance (18-64)	21	15.3	0	WORSE	Does NOT Meet
Oral Health Services	% Child (2-17) Has Visited Dentist in Past Yr	72.8	75.9	56	similar	Meets Goal
	% Have Visited Dentist in Past Yr (18+)	69	64.3	56	BETTER	Meets Goal
Primary Care Services	% Have Had Routine Checkup in Past Yr	77.8	68.2		BETTER	
Rating of Local Health Care	% Rate Local Health Care "Excellent/Very Good"	50.5	49.8		similar	