



Guelph Wellbeing Survey: Preliminary Results and Selected Comparisons

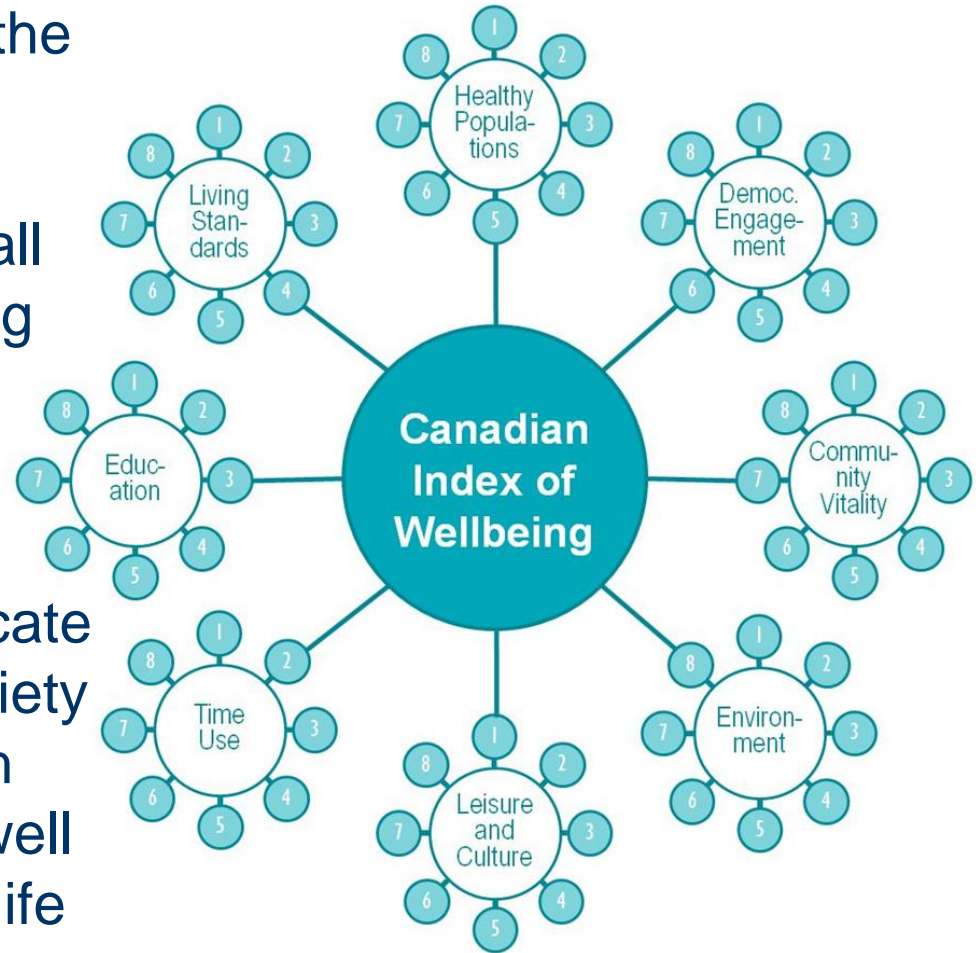
Bryan Smale, Ph.D.
Canadian Index of Wellbeing
University of Waterloo

November 20, 2012
Guelph, Ontario

The CIW Subjective Wellbeing Survey

✓ Builds on the success of the CIW *national* indicators approach by designing a survey that incorporates all eight domains of wellbeing

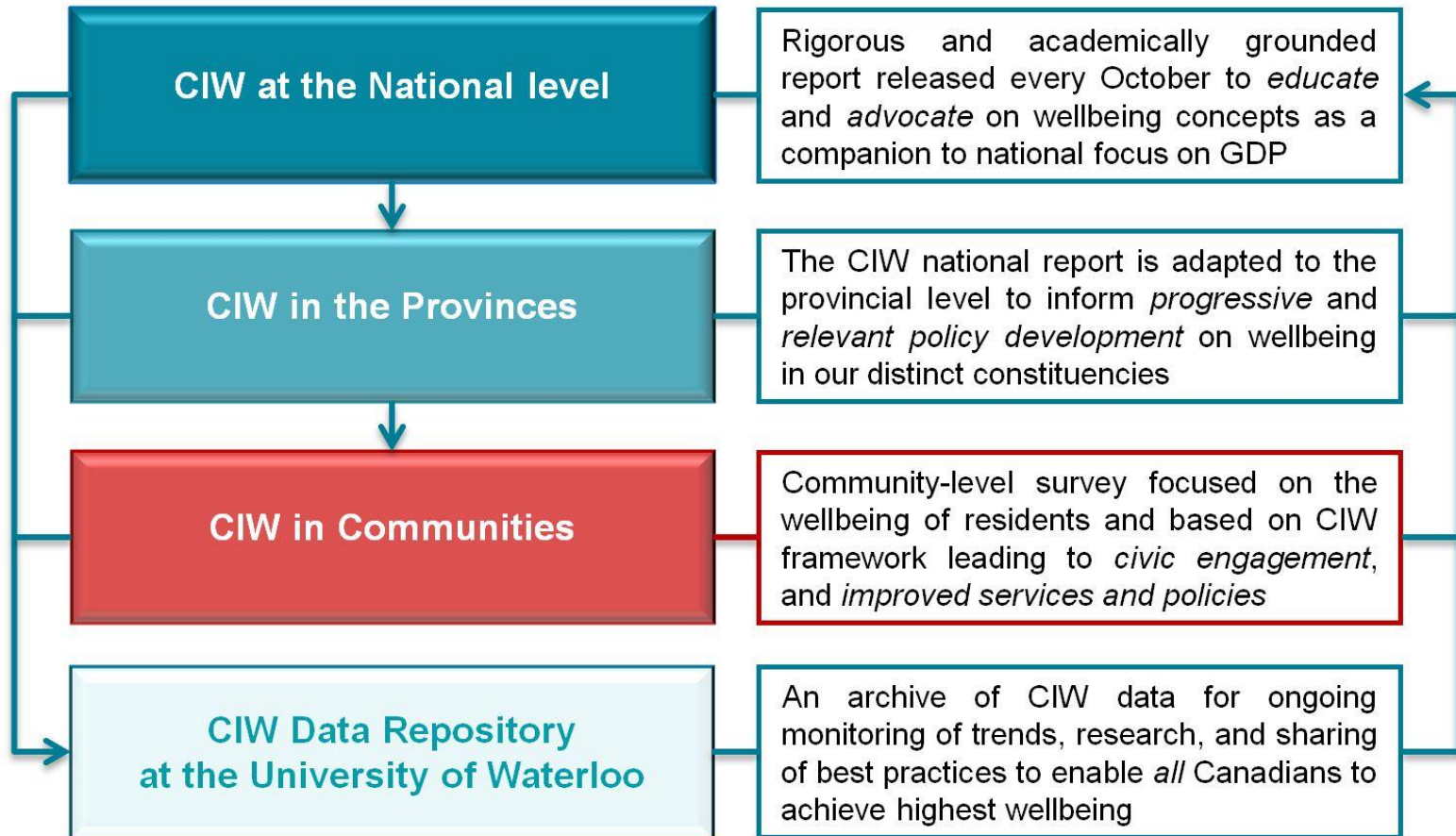
✓ Residents of Guelph indicate how they feel about a variety of aspects related to each domain of wellbeing, as well as their overall quality of life



The CIW Subjective Wellbeing Survey

CIW Across the Country

WHAT IT IS and WHO BENEFITS



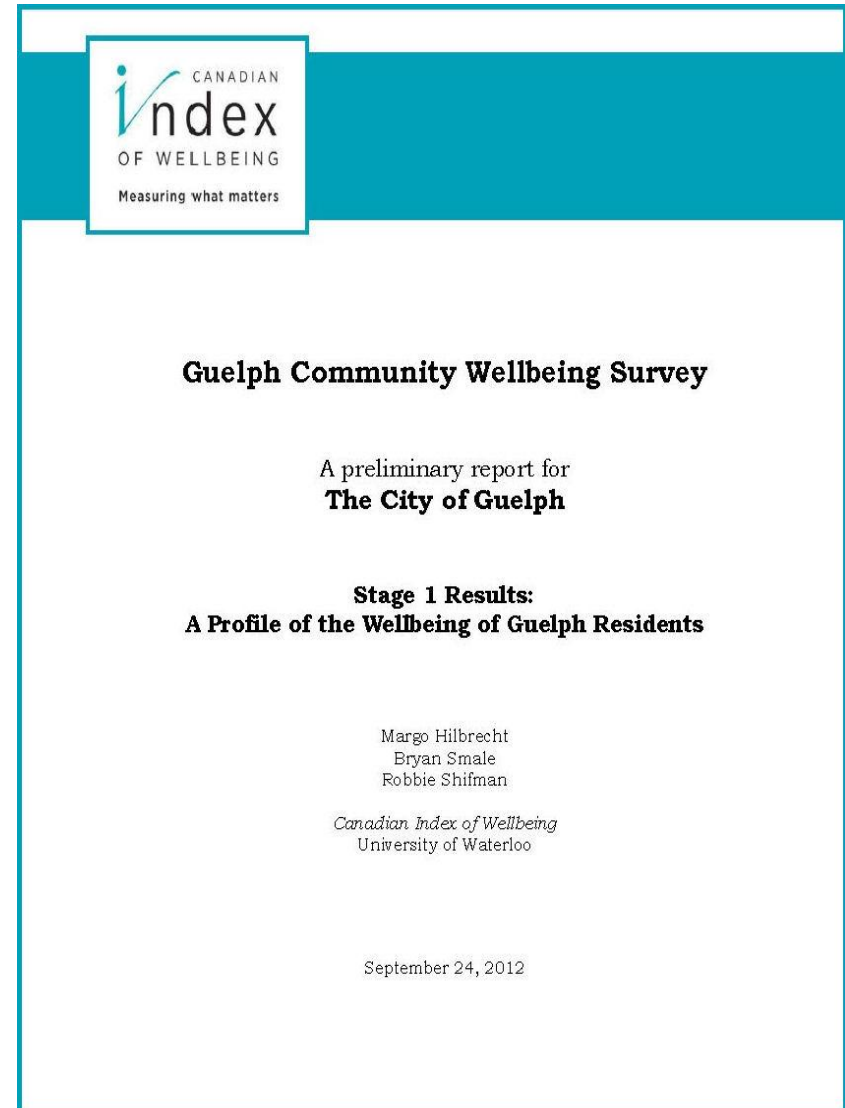
Designing the survey

- ✓ the CIW framework was used as a guide with two principal criteria for selecting questions:
 1. have counterparts to the CIW indicators gathered from national surveys, and
 2. include valid measures from previous research linking aspects of each domain to wellbeing
- ✓ several original questions were developed to focus on community-based issues related to wellbeing
- ✓ draft survey was shared with City of Guelph and community partners for their input and feedback
- ✓ survey was pilot tested to assess ease of completion and understanding of question intent



Administering the survey in Guelph

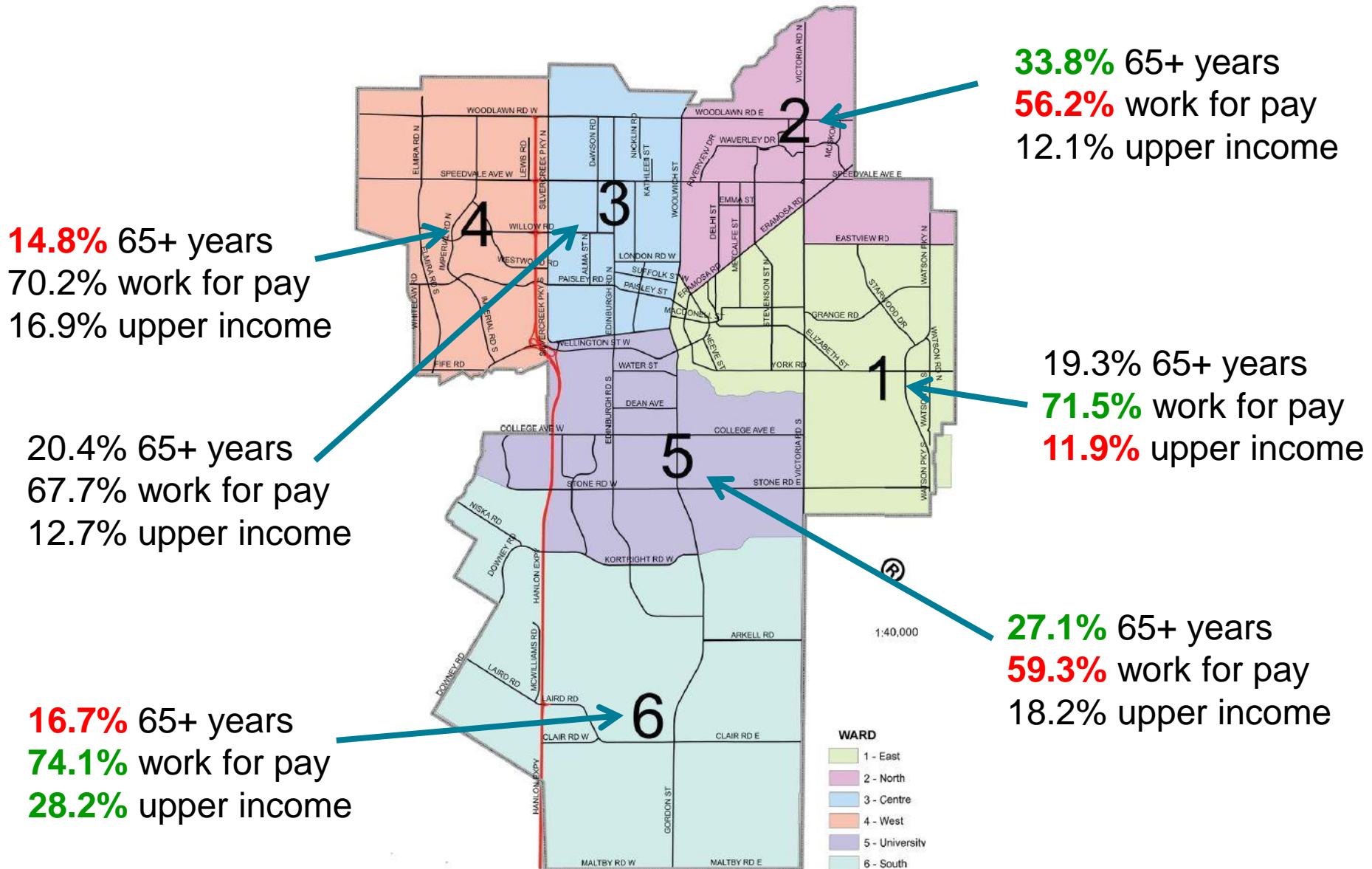
- ✓ approximately 9,000 randomly selected households
- ✓ personal invitation from Mayor to participate in survey by visiting online site
- ✓ option to request paper version of the survey
- ✓ 1,401 usable surveys returned (1,290 online, 111 paper)
- ✓ response rate ~ 15%



The Results...

- ✓ the survey respondents shared a very similar demographic profile to that reported in the most recent Census
- ✓ the exceptions (but controlled for by weighting results):
 1. somewhat more affluent
 2. somewhat older on average
 3. more women than men
- ✓ when certain results were compared to national surveys by Statistics Canada, there were very similar patterns for Guelph
- ✓ **Conclusion:** the Guelph survey results are highly representative of all residents

A Brief Profile of the Guelph Survey Respondents



Overall Wellbeing of Guelph Residents



Community Vitality



Time Use



Democratic Engagement



Living Standards



Education



Canadian Index of Wellbeing

Leisure and Culture



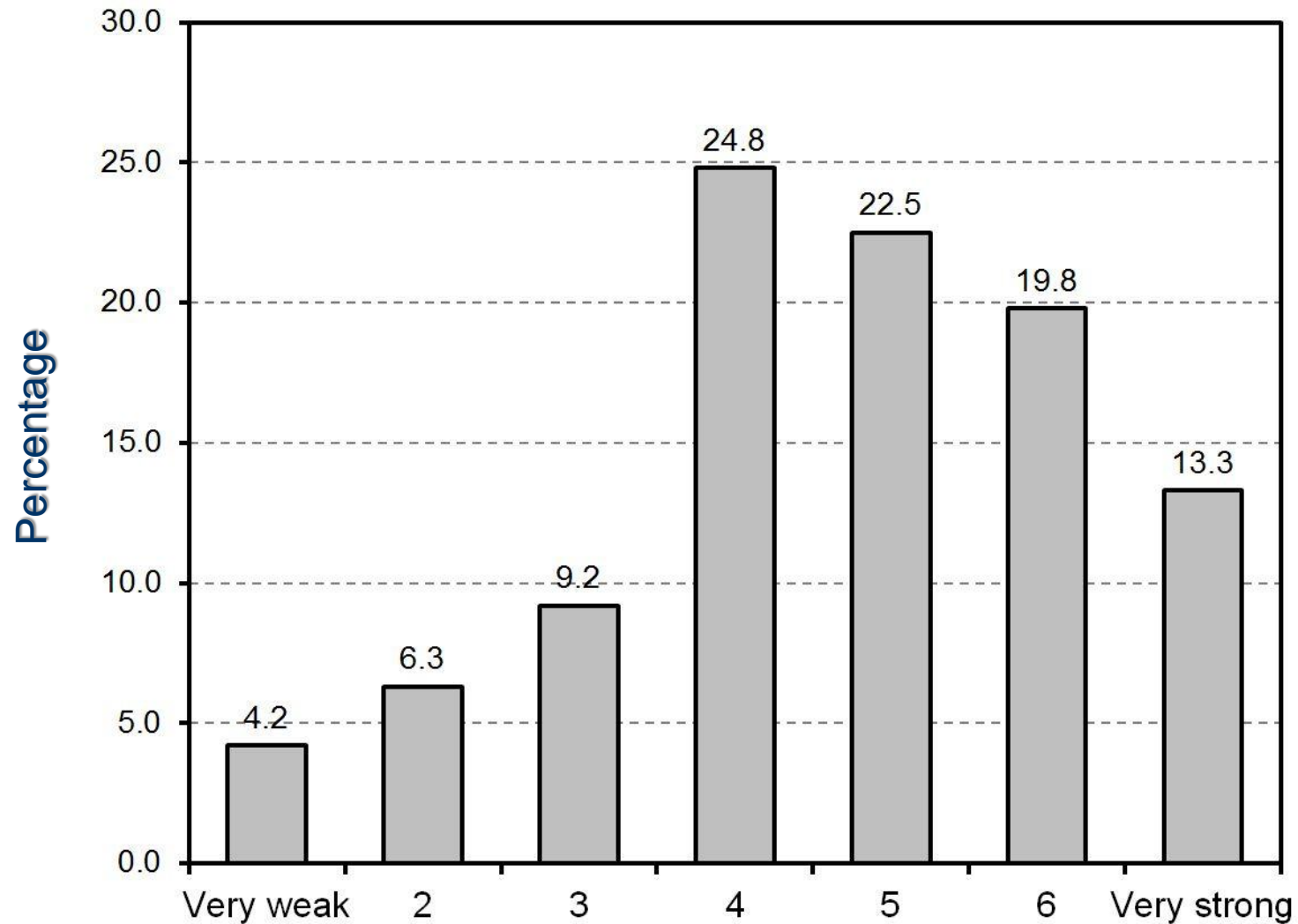
Environment



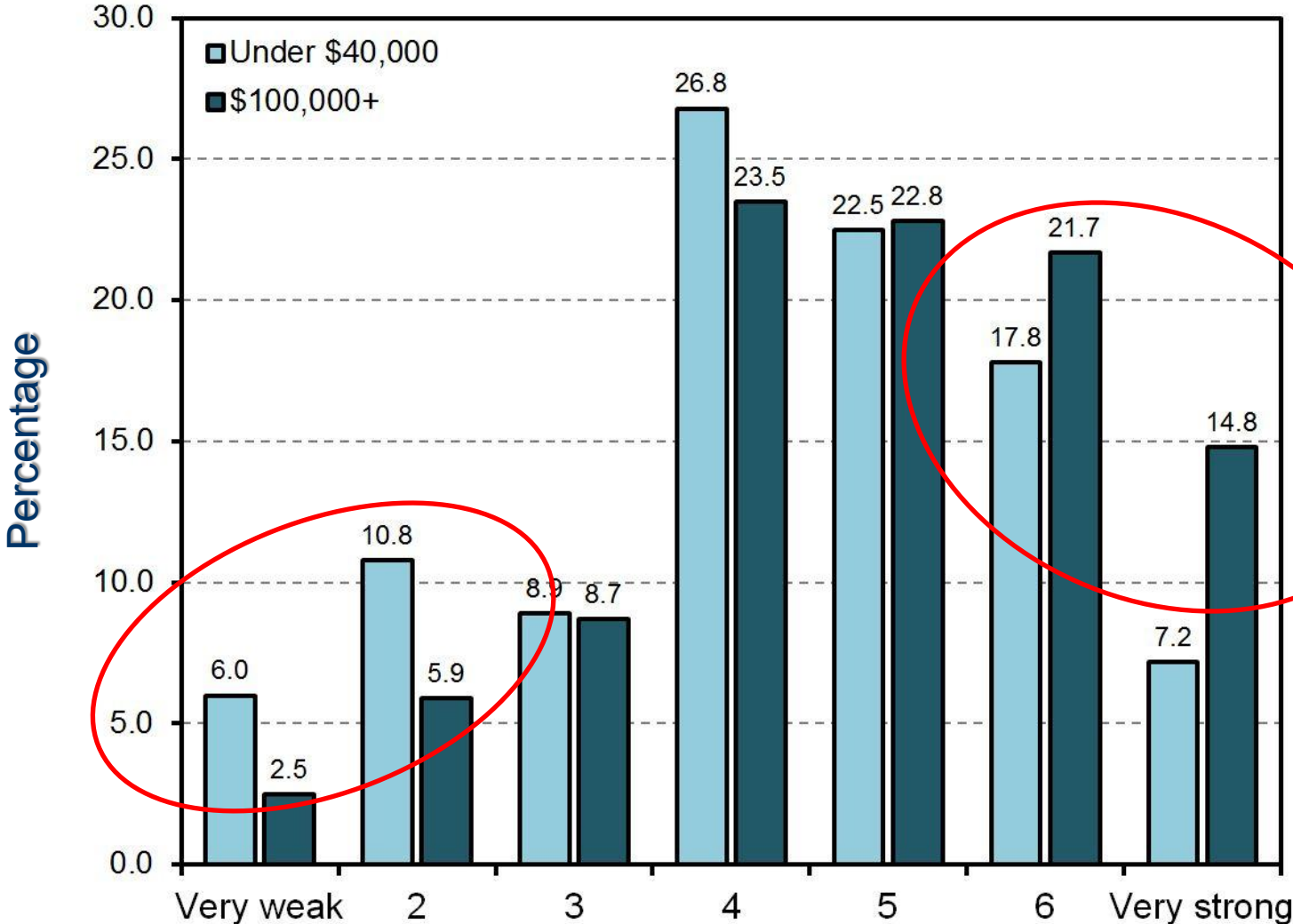
Healthy Populations



Sense of belonging to the community



Sense of belonging to the community by lower and upper household income



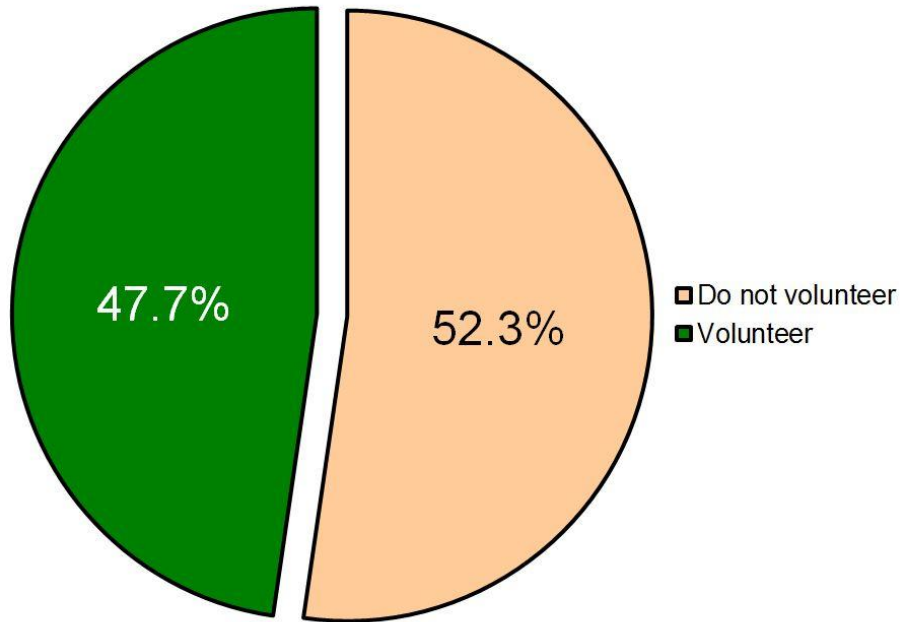
Volunteering in past year



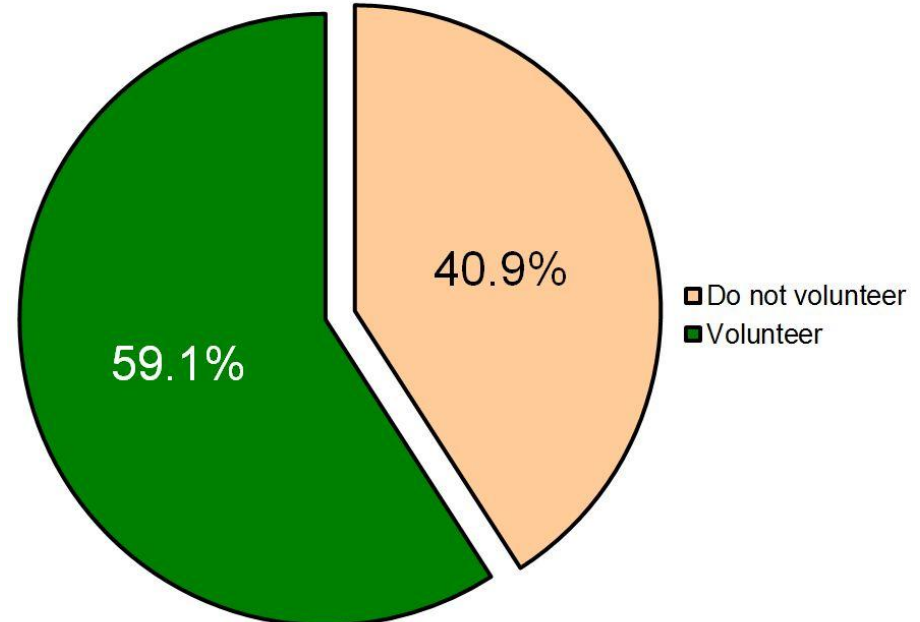
53.4% of Guelph residents indicated they had volunteered in the past year...

Lower and Upper Household Income

Under \$40,000

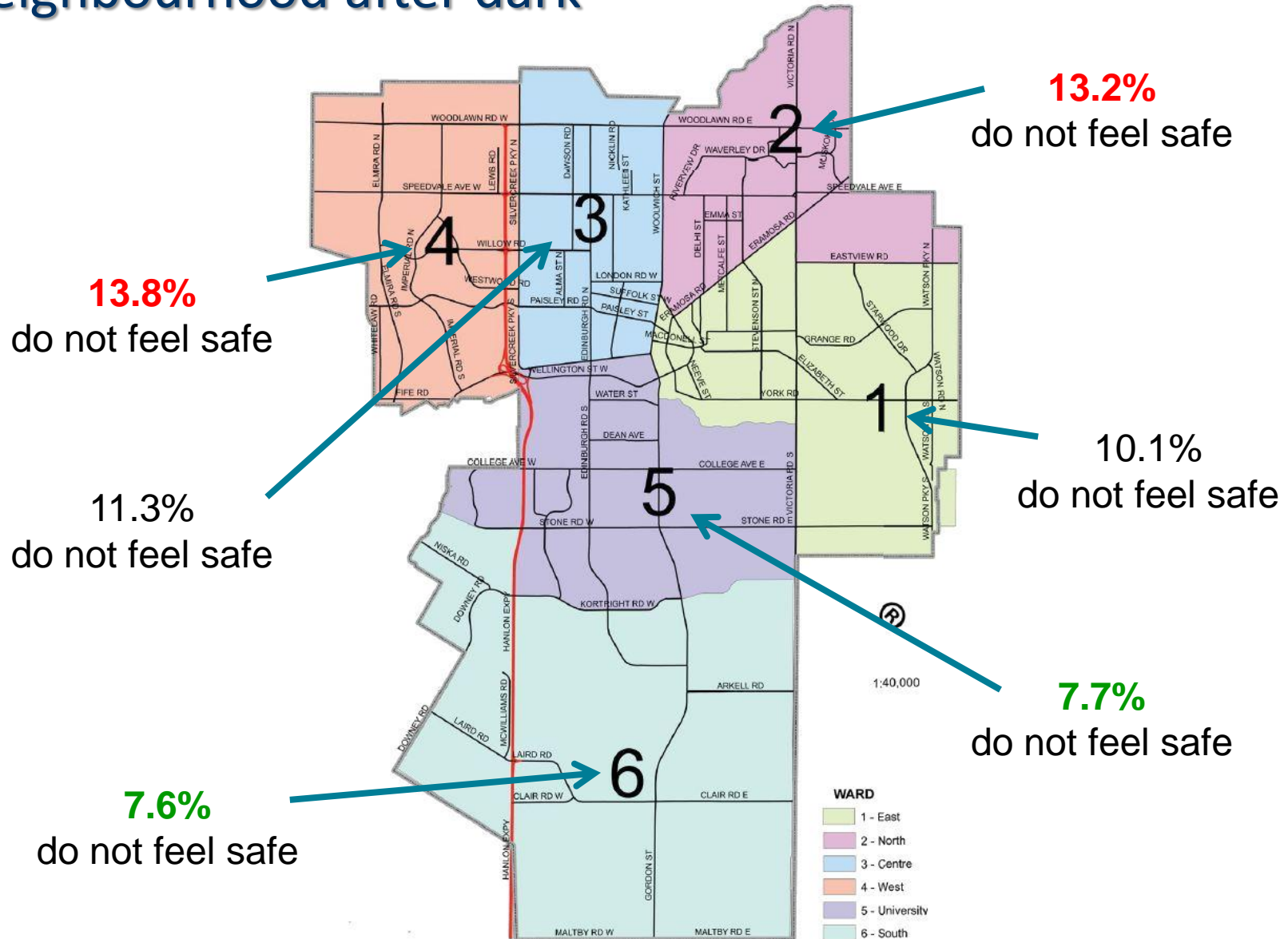


\$100,000+

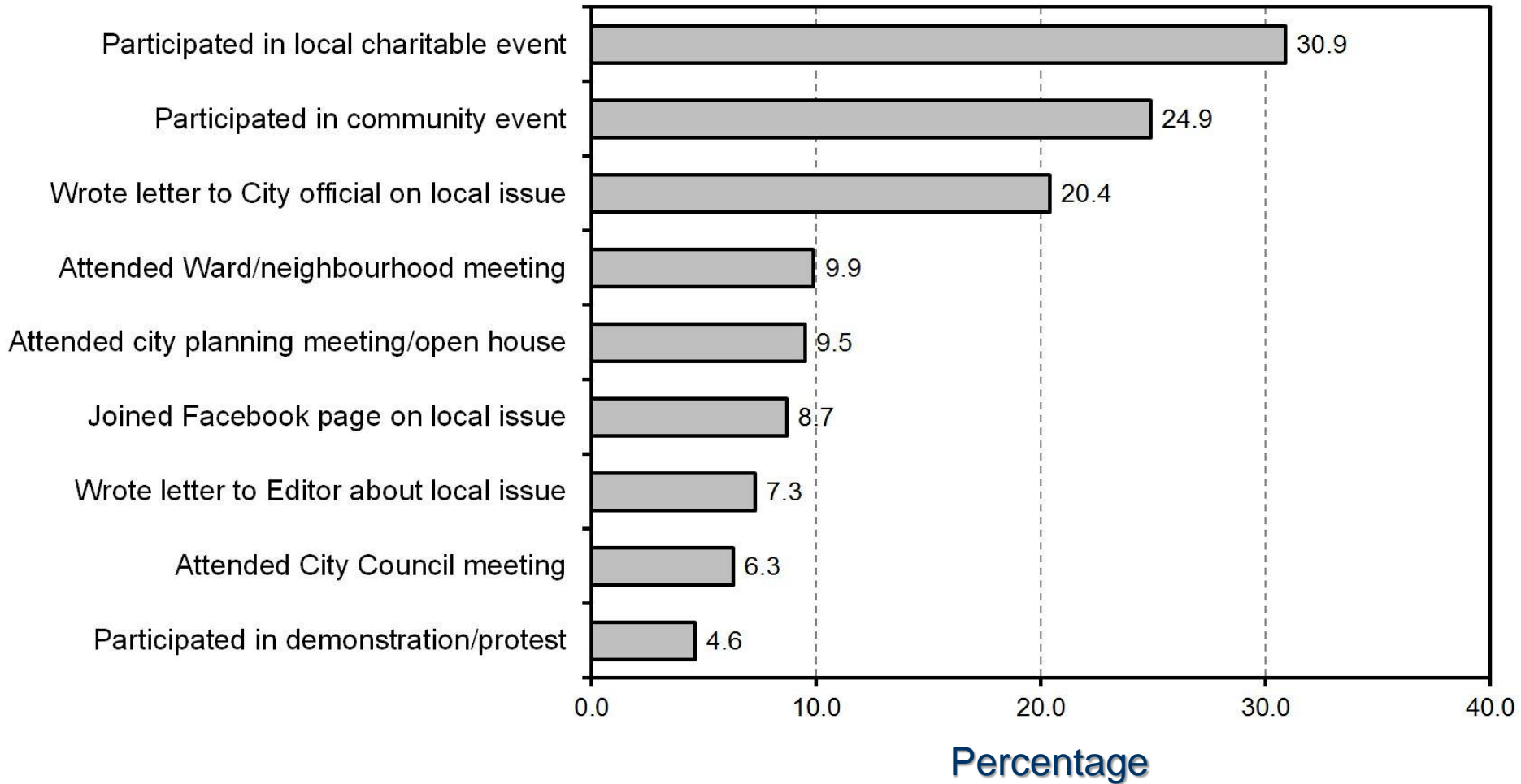


... but almost equal percentages (**76.8%**) provided unpaid help to others

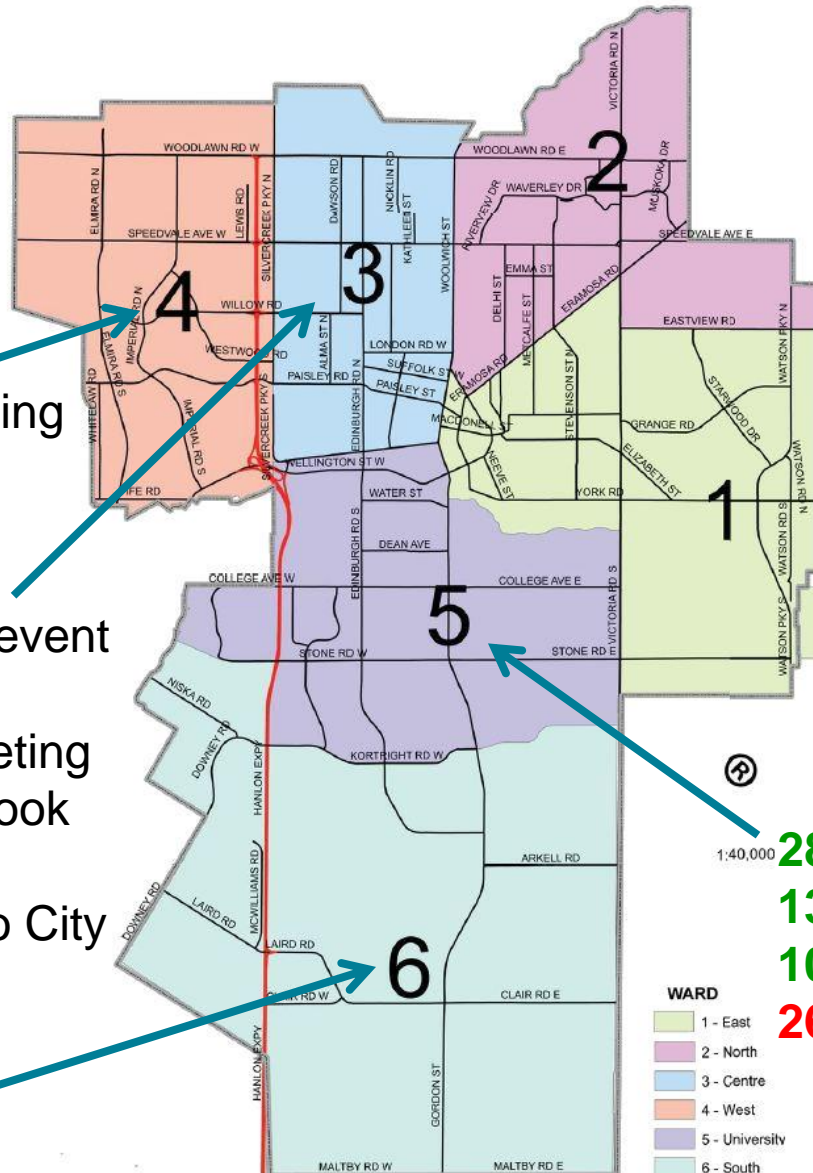
Residents who do *not* feel safe walking in their neighbourhood after dark



Participation in democratic engagement activities



Above and below average democratic activity engagement by Ward



4.1% attended meeting

39.7% in charitable event

31.5% in local event

13.1% attended meeting

11.9% joined Facebook

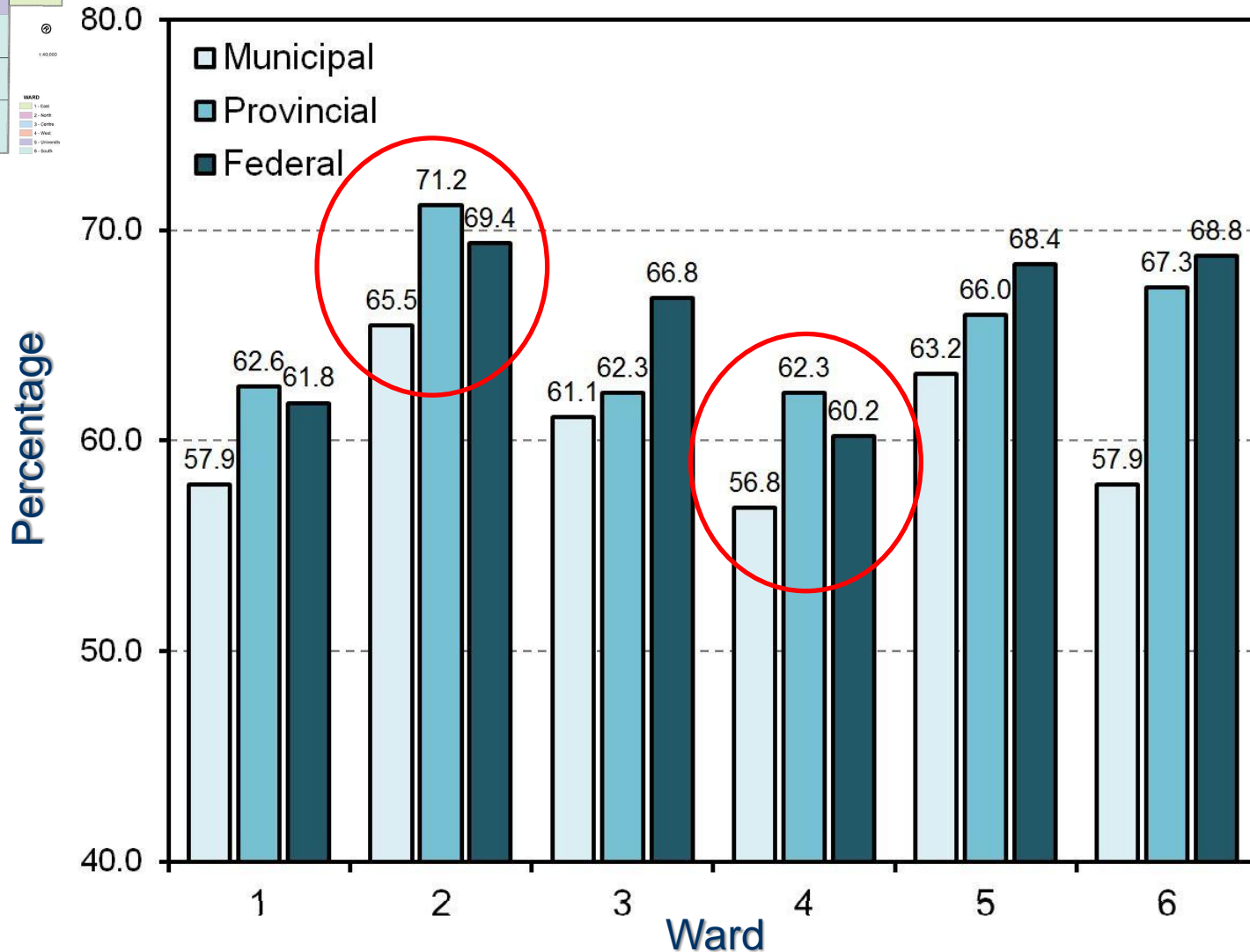
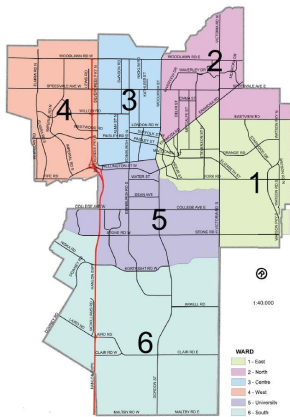
7.5% demonstrated

16.0% wrote letter to City

2.6% demonstrated

28.3% wrote letter to City
13.5% attended meeting
10.1% wrote letter to Editor
26.5% in charitable event

Interest in politics at different levels by Ward

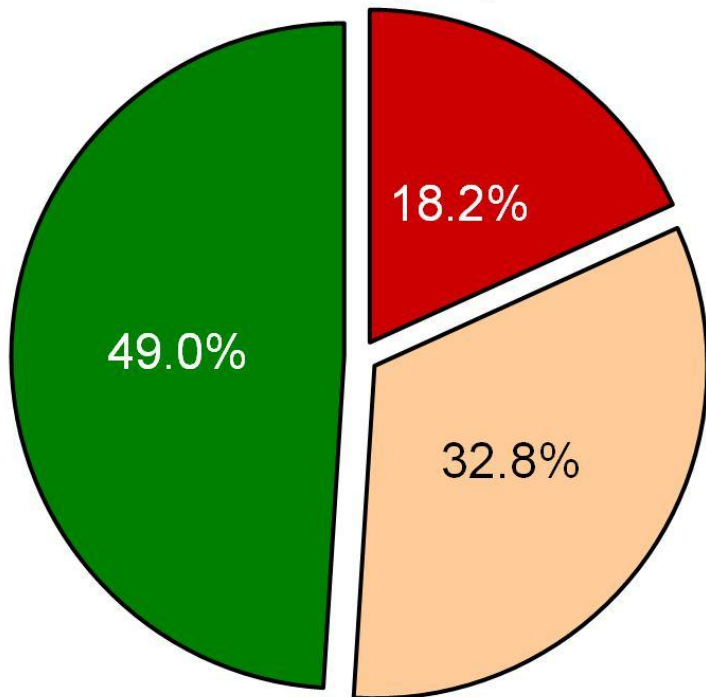


“Would take education courses, but they are too expensive”



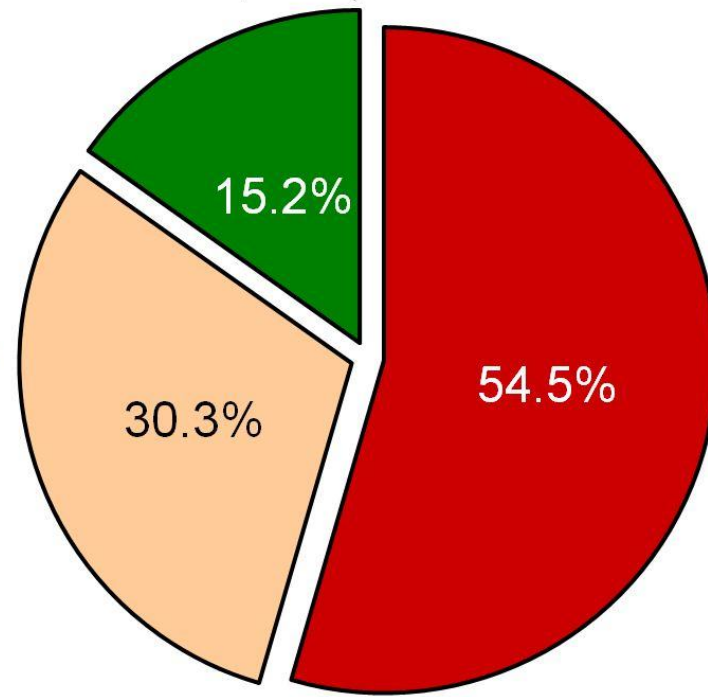
Lower and Upper Household Income

Under \$40,000



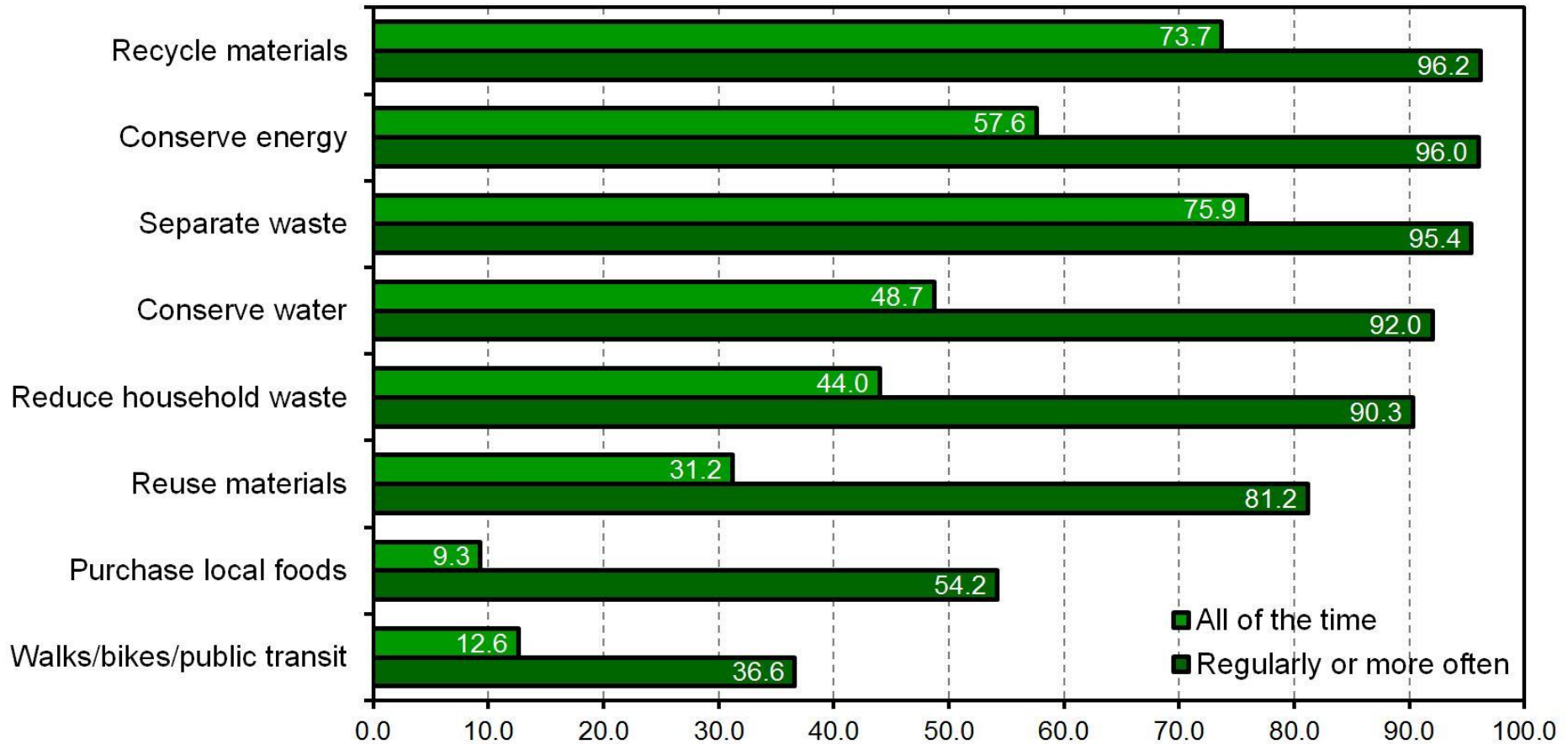
- Disagree
- Undecided
- Agree

\$100,000+

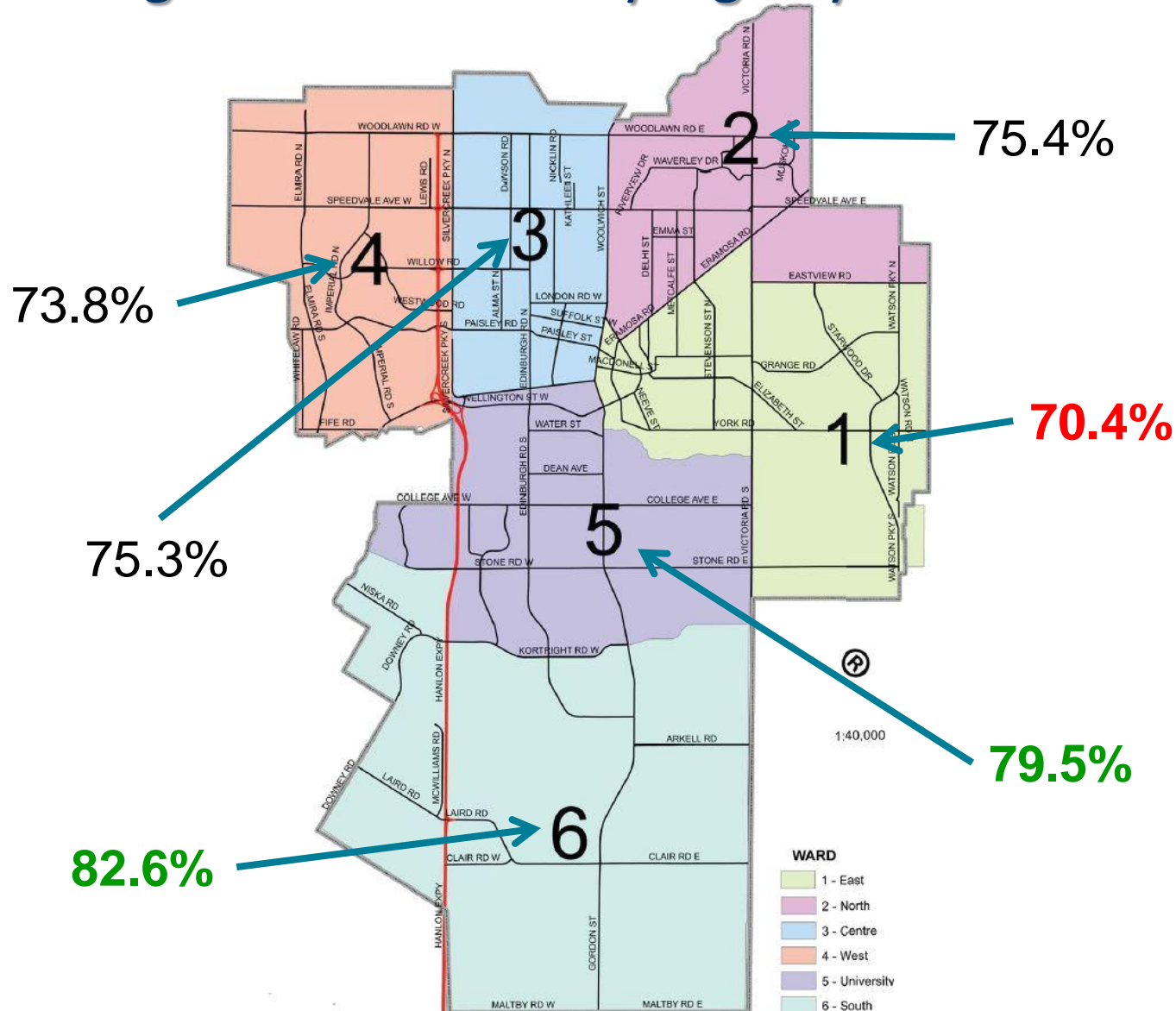


- Disagree
- Undecided
- Agree

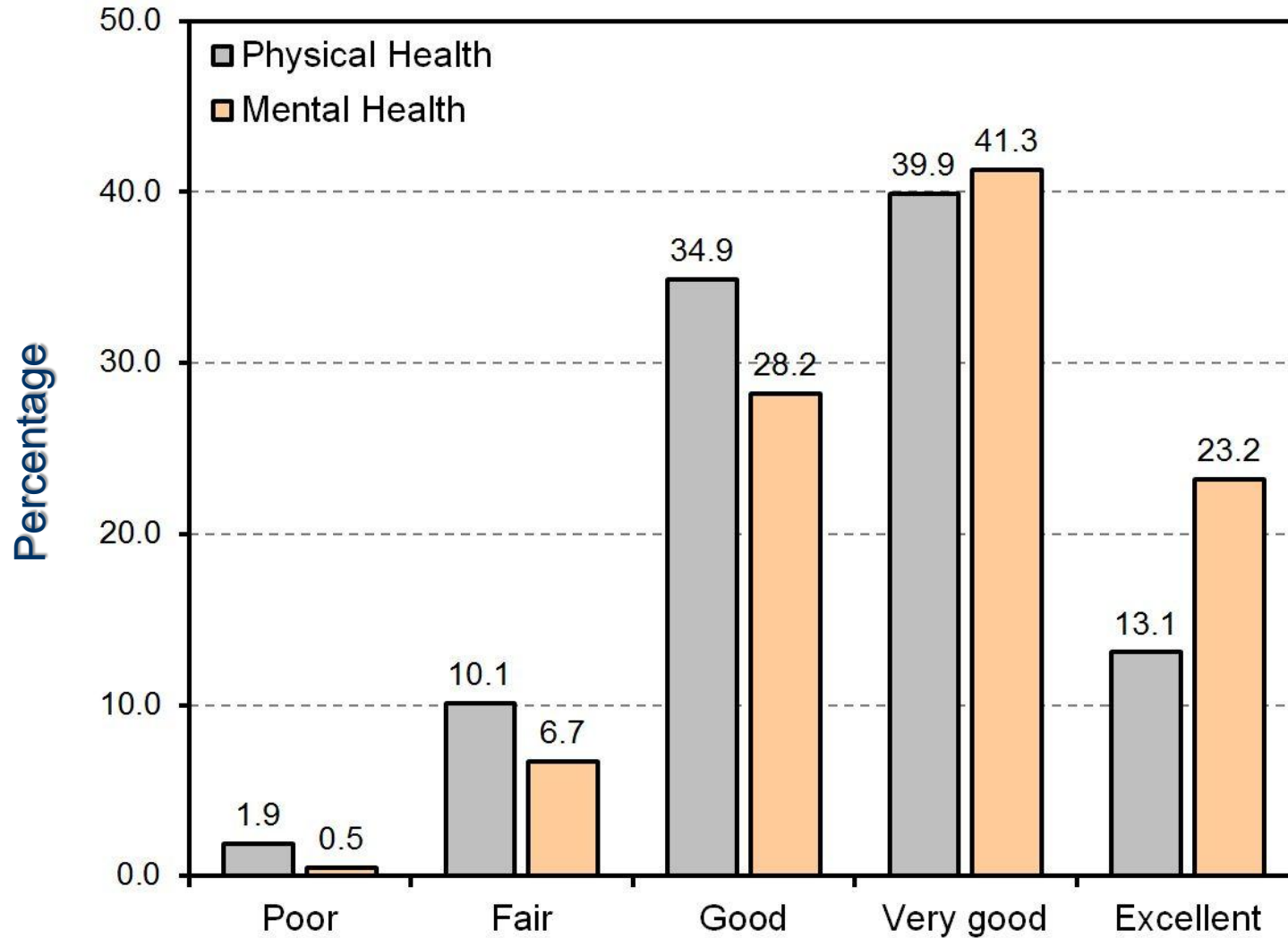
Participation in activities of environmental concern



Percentage agreeing quality of natural environment in neighbourhood is very high by Ward

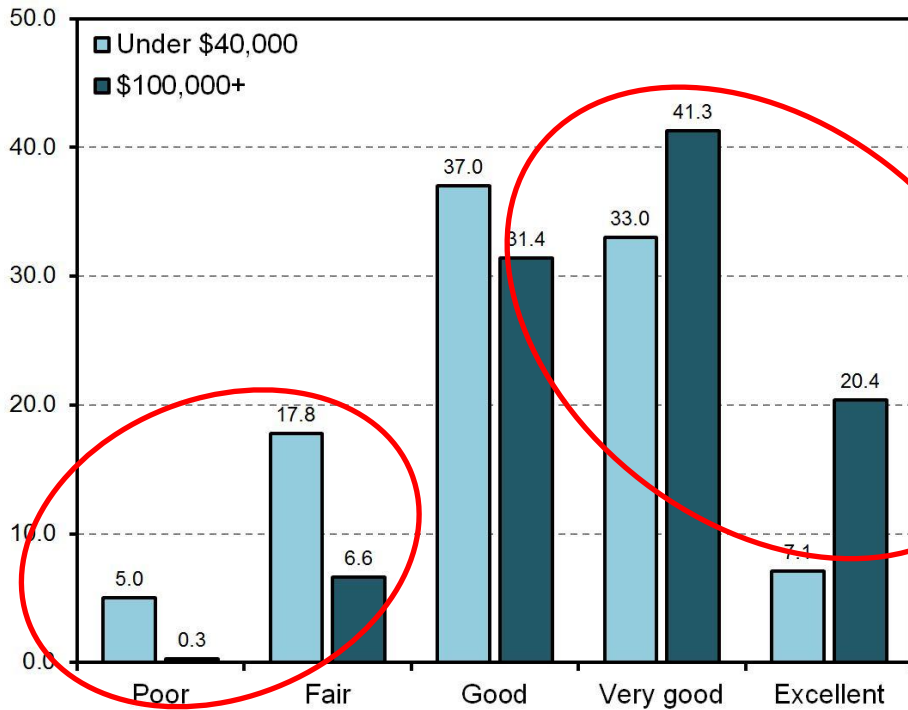


Self-reported physical and mental health

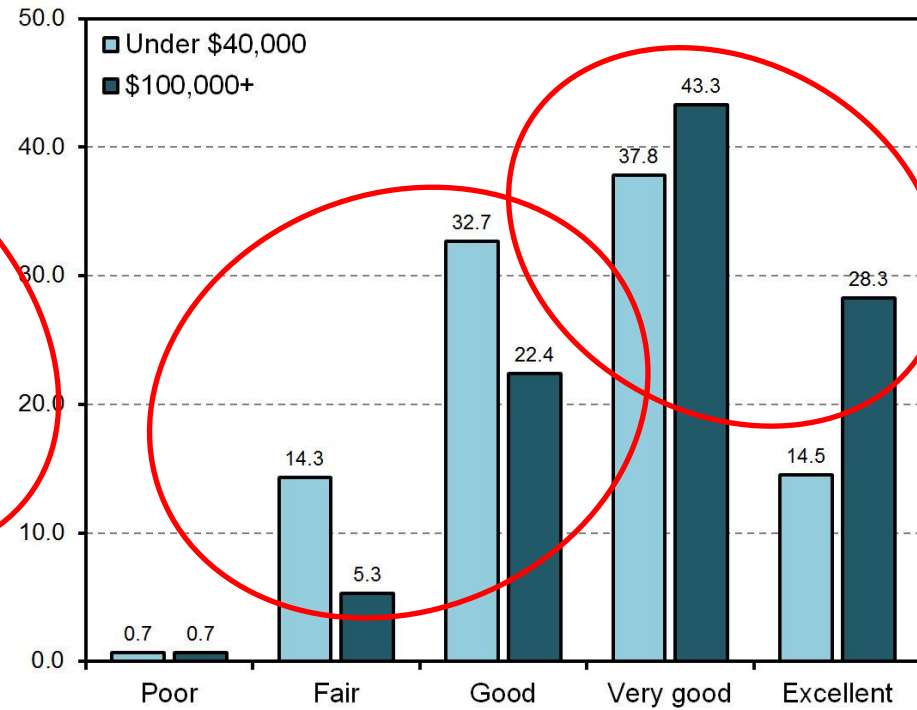


Self-reported physical and mental health by lower and upper household income

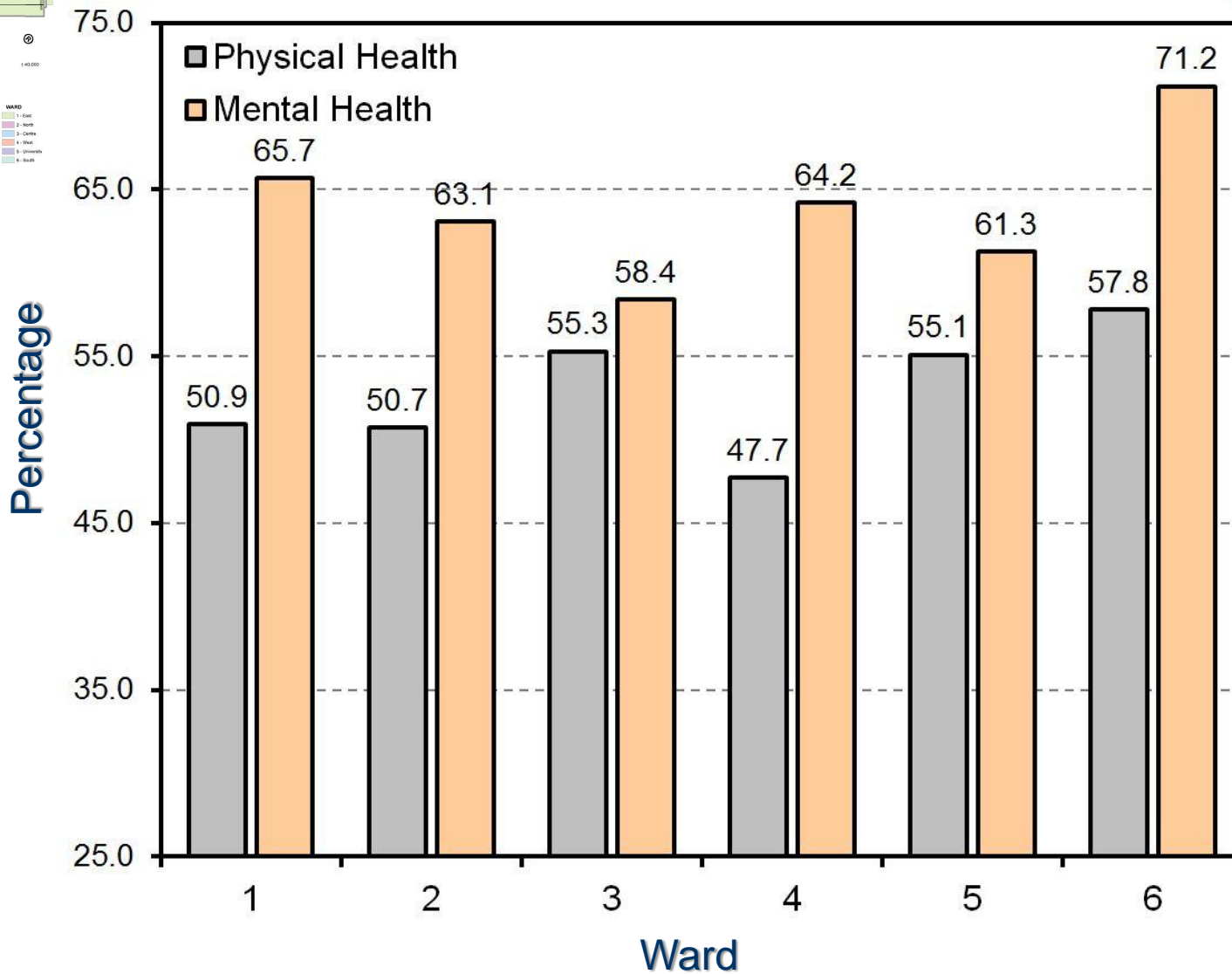
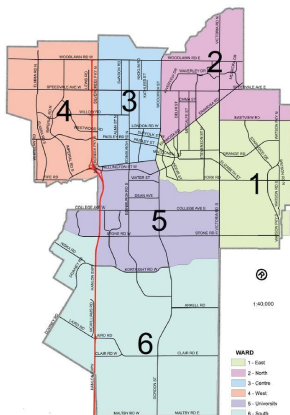
Physical Health



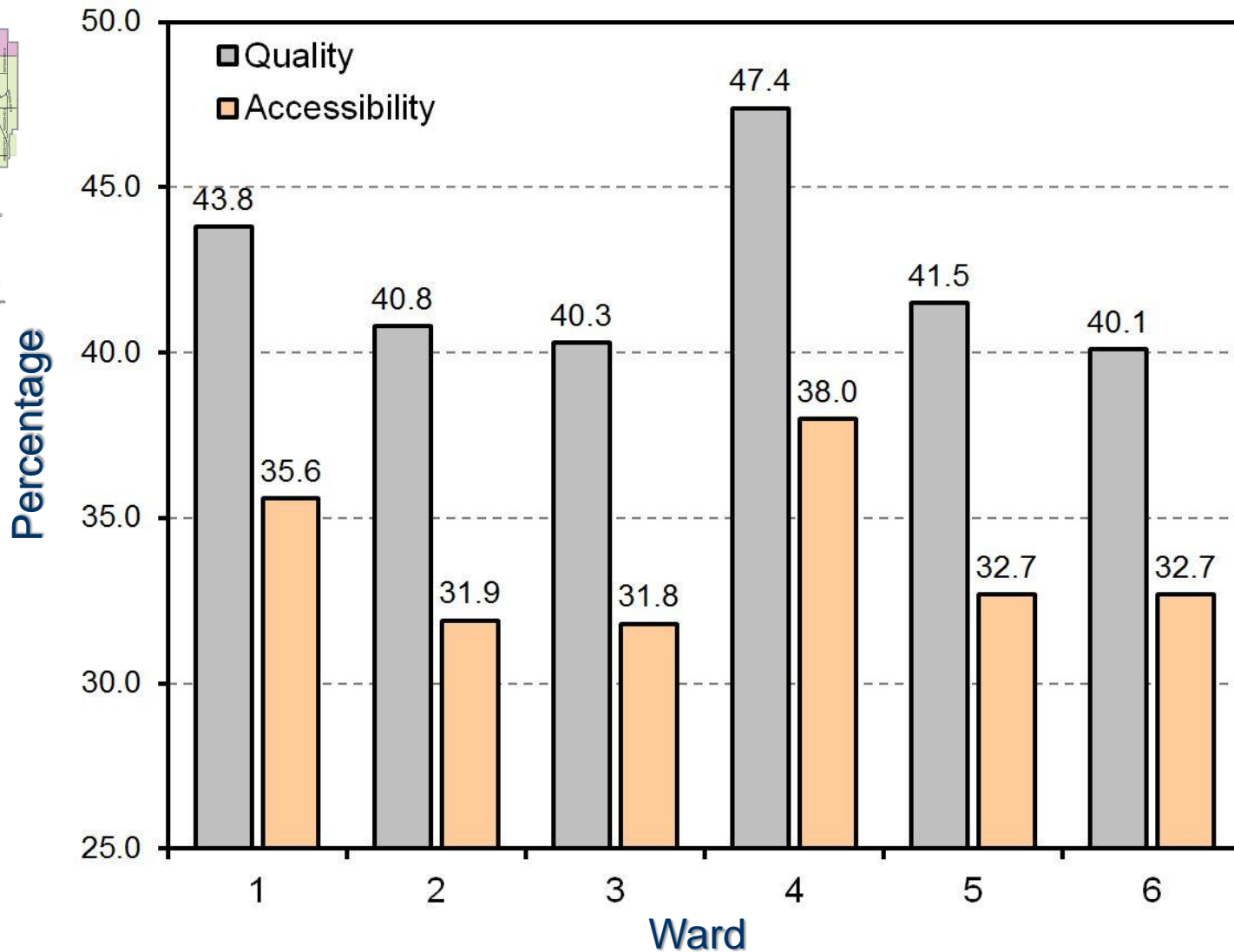
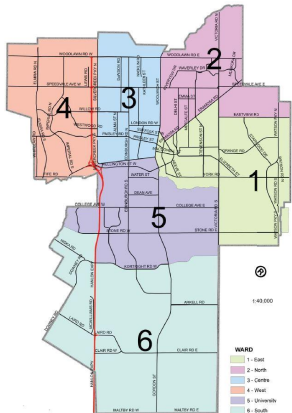
Mental Health



Self-reported physical and mental health as very good or excellent by Ward



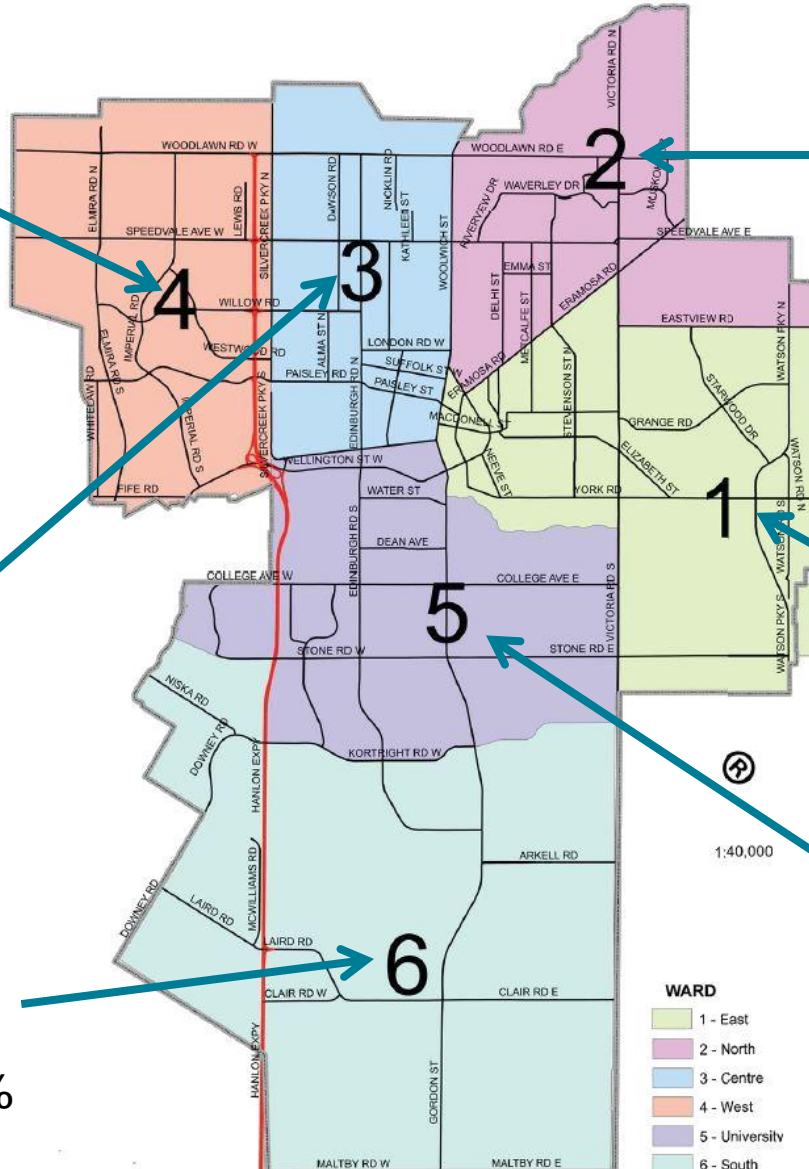
Ratings of quality and accessibility of health care services as very good or excellent by Ward



Physical activity participation in previous month by Ward



Team sports: 18.3%
 Individ. sports: **23.4%**
 Phys. activity: **53.7%**
 Light exercise: 96.4%



Team sports: **16.5%**
 Individ. sports: **33.3%**
 Phys. activity: 58.5%
 Light exercise: 94.9%

Team sports: 21.6%
 Individ. sports: 28.6%
 Phys. activity: **62.4%**
 Light exercise: 92.8%

Team sports: 22.5%
 Individ. sports: 27.8%
 Phys. activity: 57.5%
 Light exercise: 95.6%

Team sports: **23.8%**
 Individ. sports: **35.2%**
 Phys. activity: **61.6%**
 Light exercise: 94.7%

Team sports: 19.6%
 Individ. sports: 25.0%
 Phys. activity: 59.1%
 Light exercise: 94.3%

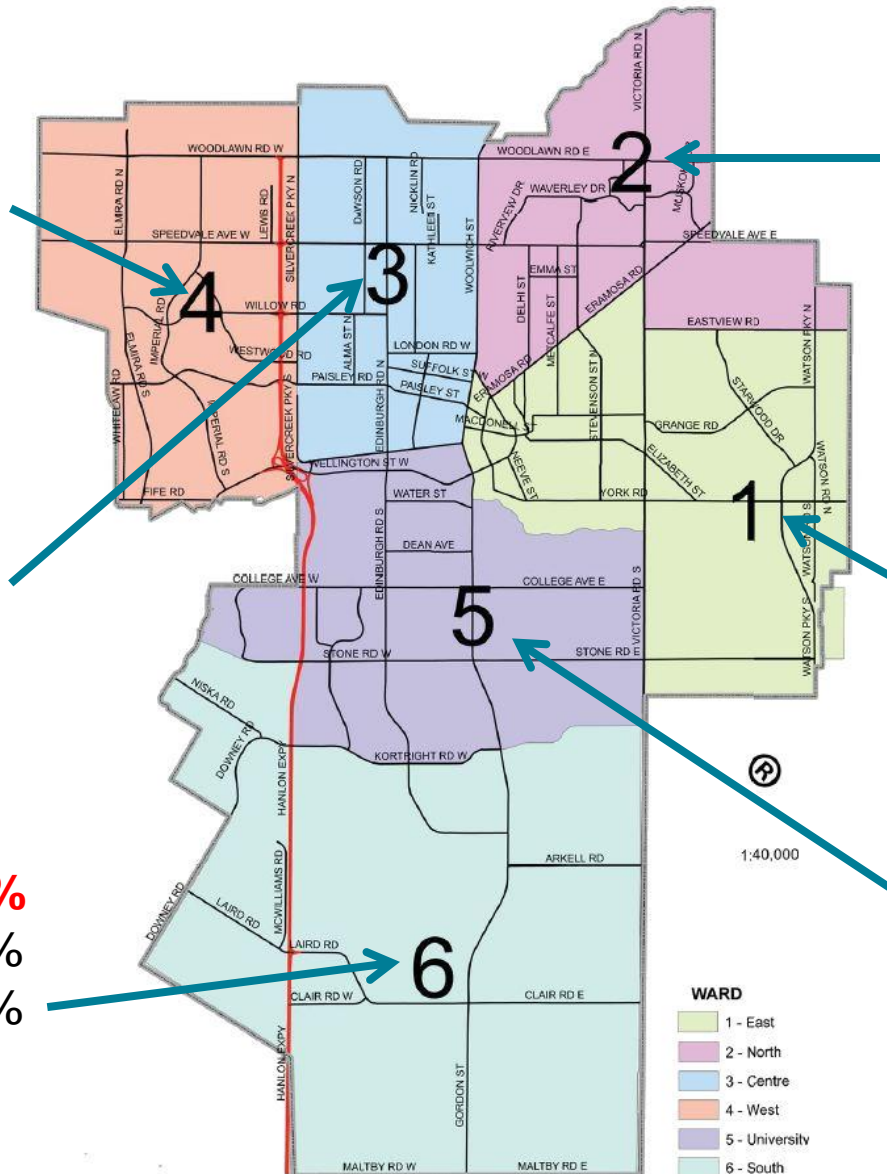


1:40,000

Participation in cultural activities in previous year by Ward



Concerts: **63.7%**
 Galleries: **48.0%**
 Festivals: **62.5%**
 Dance: **21.5%**
 Theatre: 57.3%



Concerts: **75.2%**
 Galleries: **69.1%**
 Festivals: **69.6%**
 Dance: **31.7%**
 Theatre: 58.4%

Concerts: **71.9%**
 Galleries: 62.7%
 Festivals: **69.9%**
 Dance: **30.6%**
 Theatre: **64.3%**

Concerts: 69.7%
 Galleries: **56.1%**
 Festivals: **72.1%**
 Dance: 24.6%
 Theatre: **54.6%**

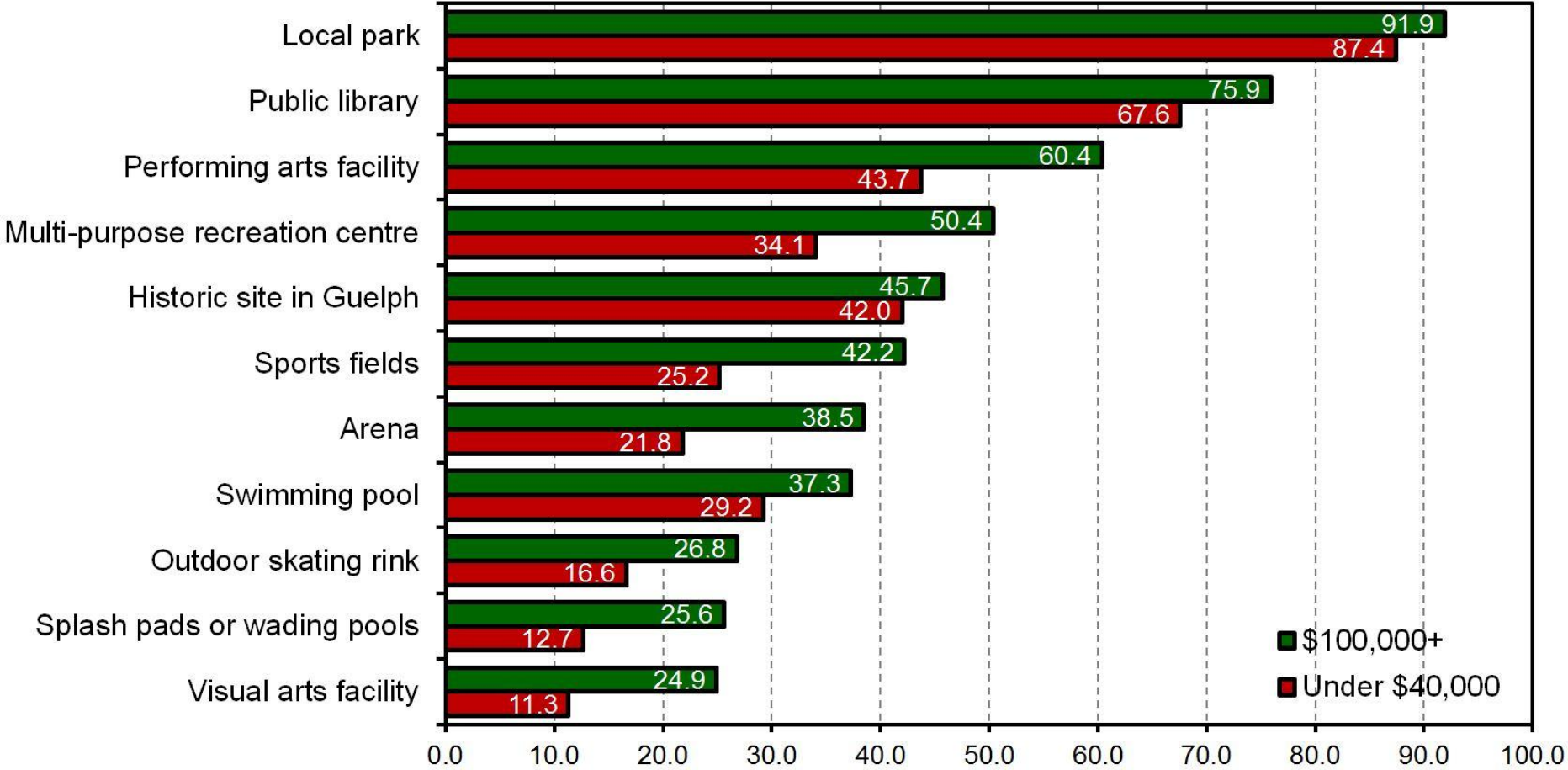
Concerts: **71.1%**
 Galleries: **68.0%**
 Festivals: **63.9%**
 Dance: **28.0%**
 Theatre: 58.4%

Concerts: **63.3%**
 Galleries: 64.6%
 Festivals: 65.3%
 Dance: 24.0%
 Theatre: **62.3%**

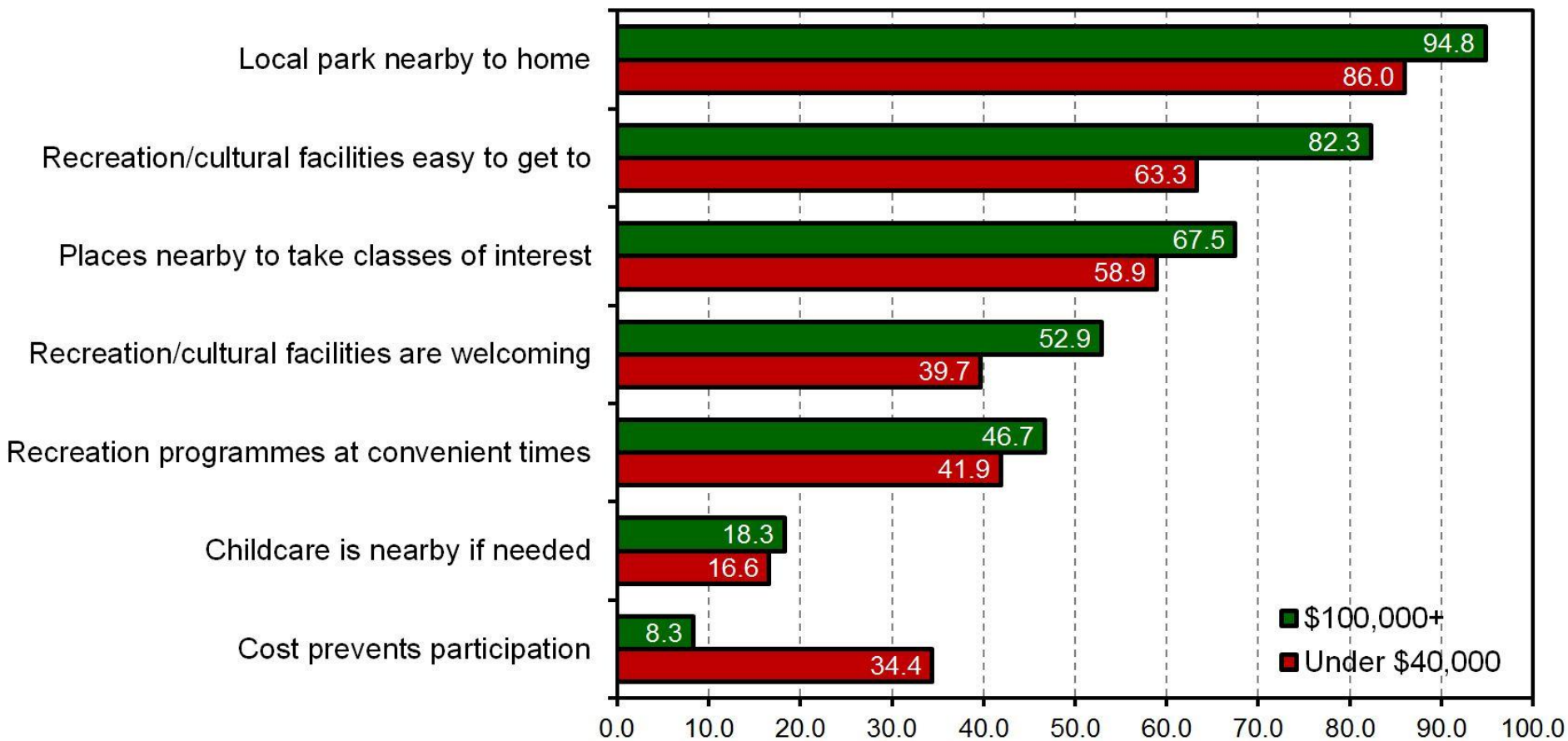


1:40,000

Percentage using recreation and cultural facilities at least sometimes in previous year by income group

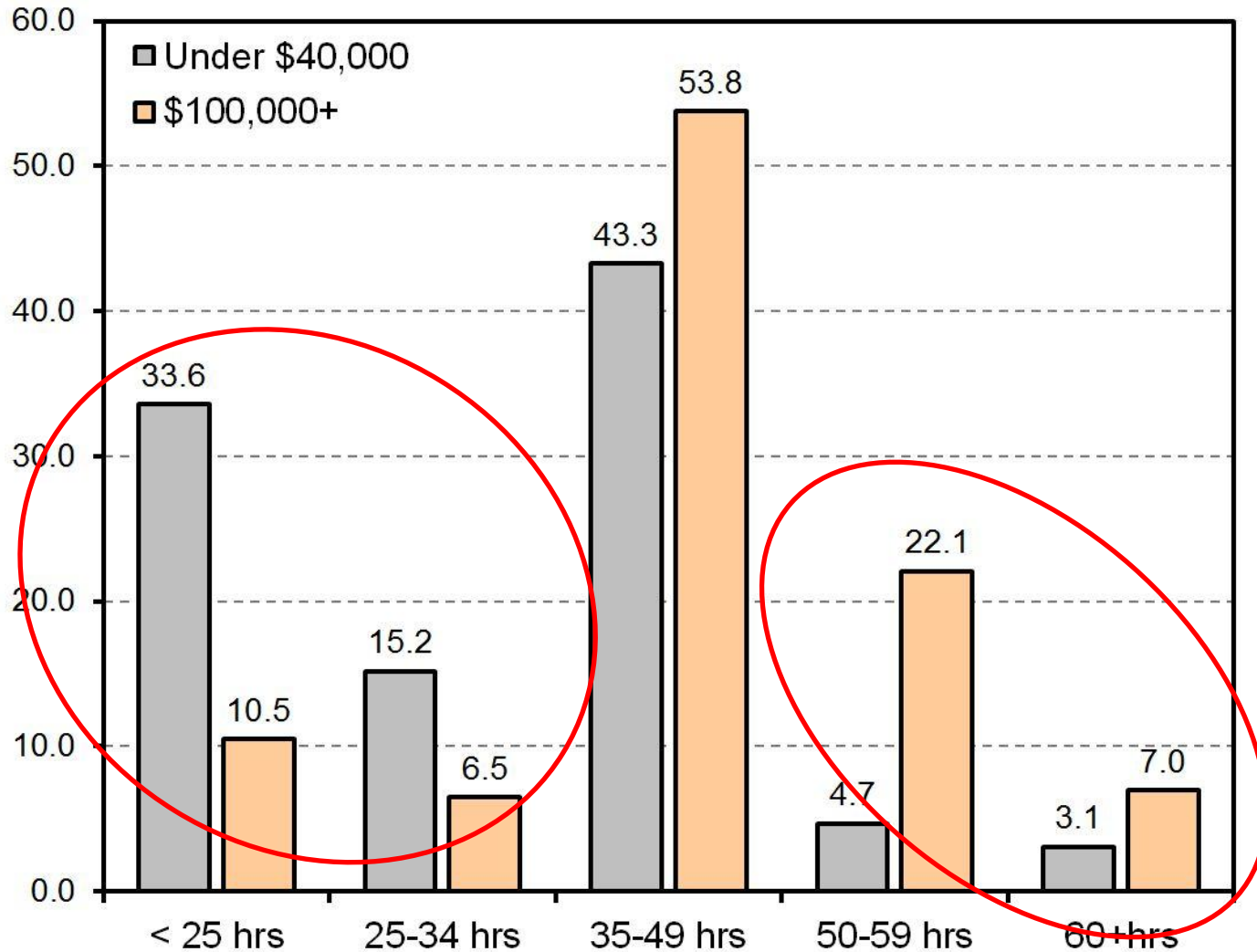


Percentage agreeing on aspects of accessibility* of recreation and cultural facilities by income group

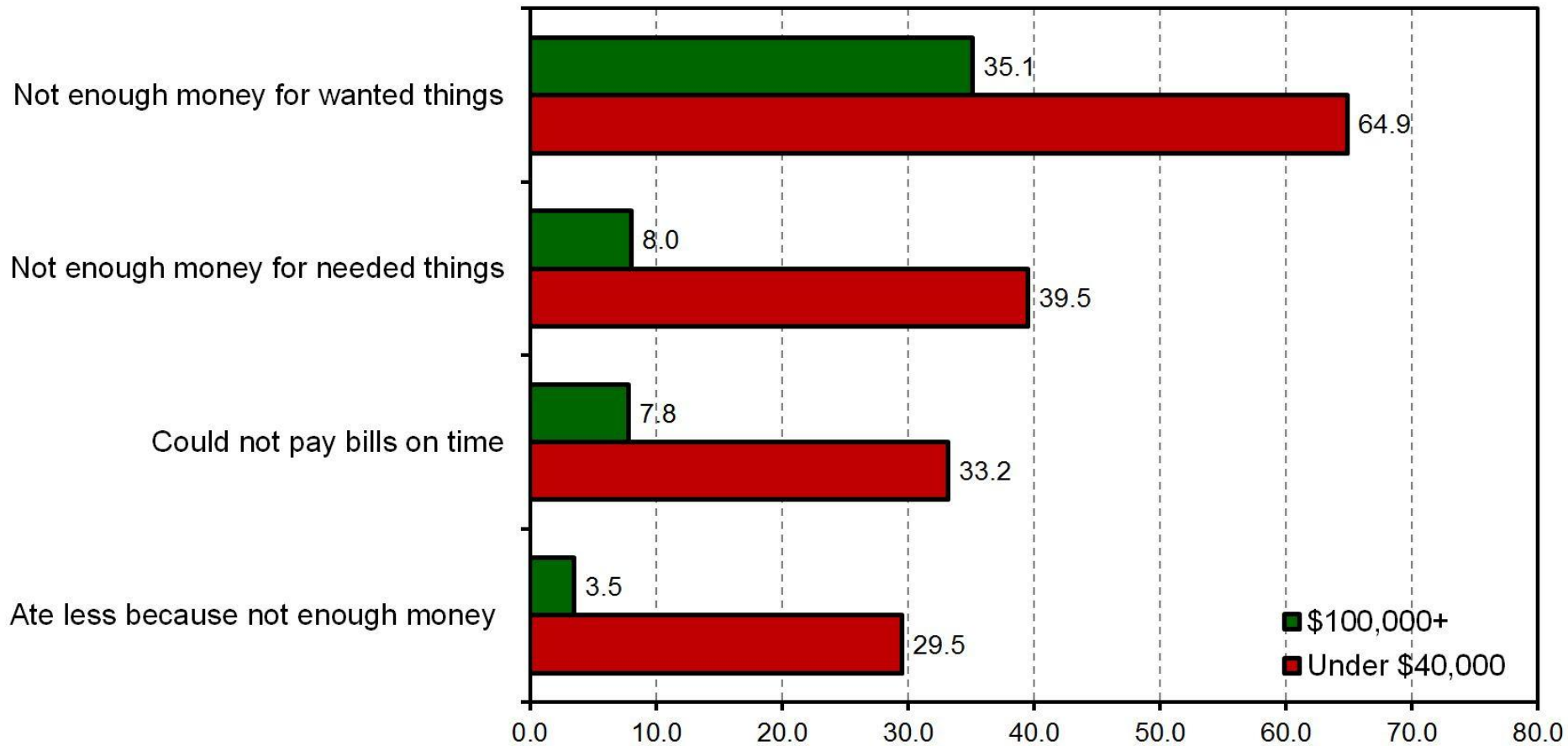


* Percentage of respondents who agreed, strongly agreed, or very strongly agreed

Typical hours worked per week by income group



Inability to pay for things *at least once* in past year by income group



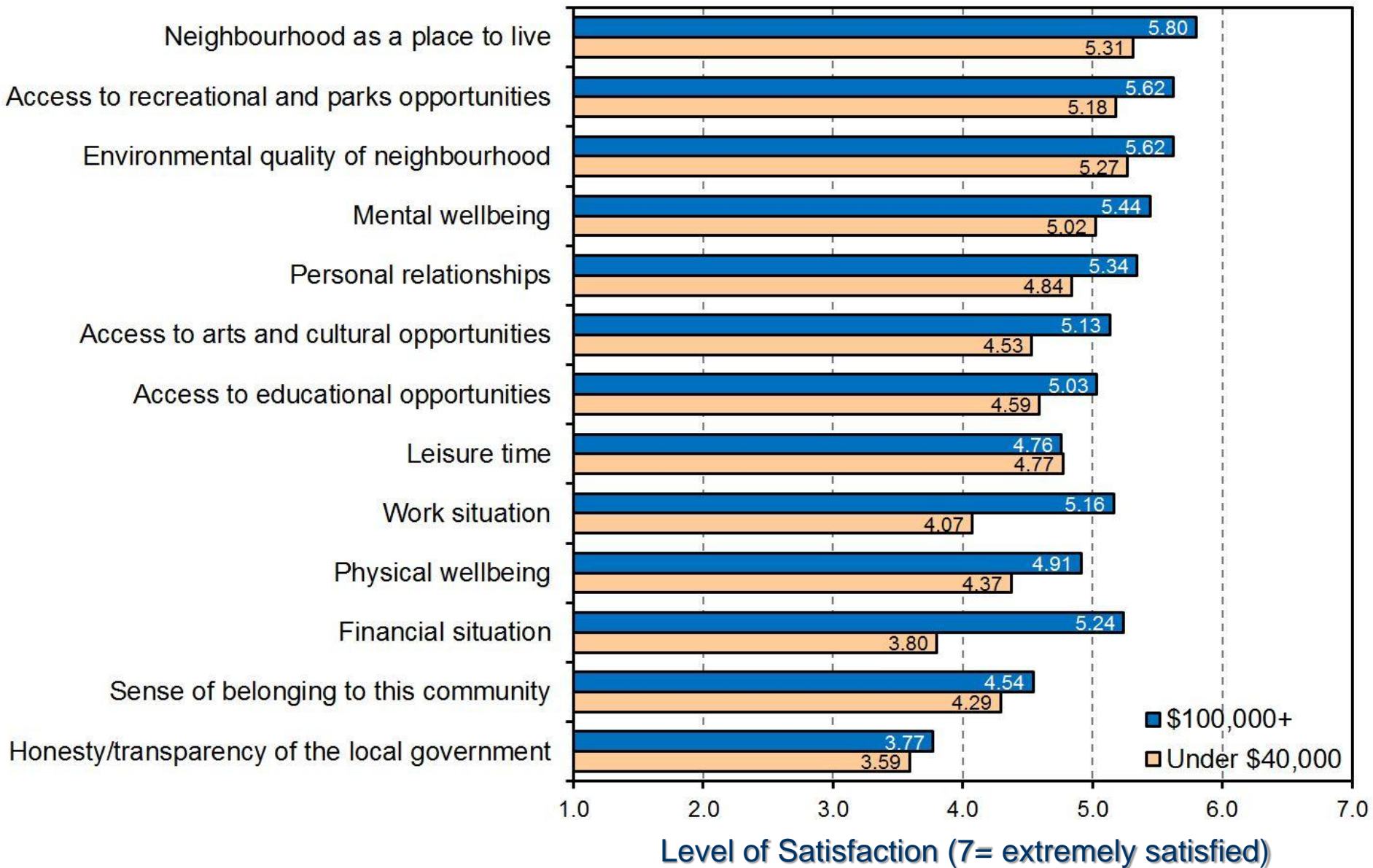
Time Use – where time is being allocated



Average amount of time being spent per week ...

Caring for children in the family –	41.8 hours
Caring for children not in family –	1.7 hours
Caring for older/dependent family member –	11.8 hours
Caring for older/dependent neighbour/friend –	1.1 hours
Hours per week working at main job –	38.0 hours
Hours per week working at other jobs –	2.7 hours
Hours spent sleeping per day –	7.1 hours
Minutes per day spent commuting to work –	21.8 minutes

Overall wellbeing of Guelph residents by income group



Summary...

- ✓ the overall wellbeing of Guelph residents is quite good, comparable to other parts of Canada
- ✓ Guelph residents are most **similar** in their impressions of aspects related to the *Environment, Democratic Engagement, Education, and Time Use*
- ✓ Guelph residents are most **dissimilar** in their impressions of aspects related to the *Living Standards, Healthy Populations, Leisure and Culture, and Community Vitality*
- ✓ These dissimilarities are in part linked to **equality of access**, as reflected in:
 - gaps between lower and upper income households
 - differences in real and perceived access based on location (Ward)



Canadian Index of Wellbeing

Bryan Smale, Ph.D.

Director

smale@uwaterloo.ca

For more information: www.ciw.ca