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# St. Mary's University and University Neighborhood Park Association

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**Neighborhood Survey  
Fall 2008  
Summary**

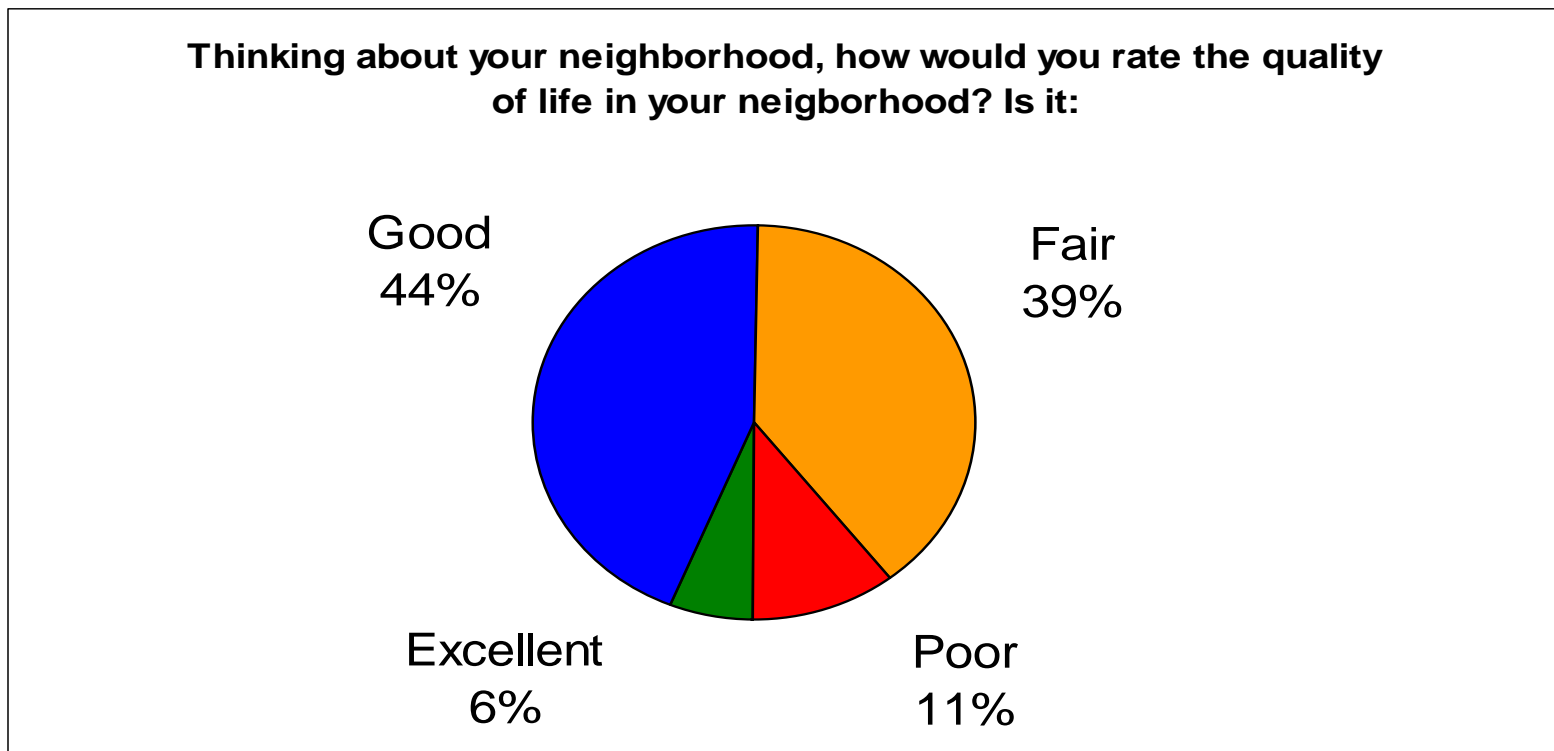
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# A mail-questionnaire Fall 2008

- The mail questionnaire was designed as a needs assessment and consisted of three main areas
    - perceptions of neighborhood issues
    - consumer habits/behaviors
    - use of services that the University or the City of San Antonio offers on campus
      - Also demographic information (marital status, gender, educ).
  - Two hundred and fifty-eight questionnaires were returned for a 38 percent response rate.
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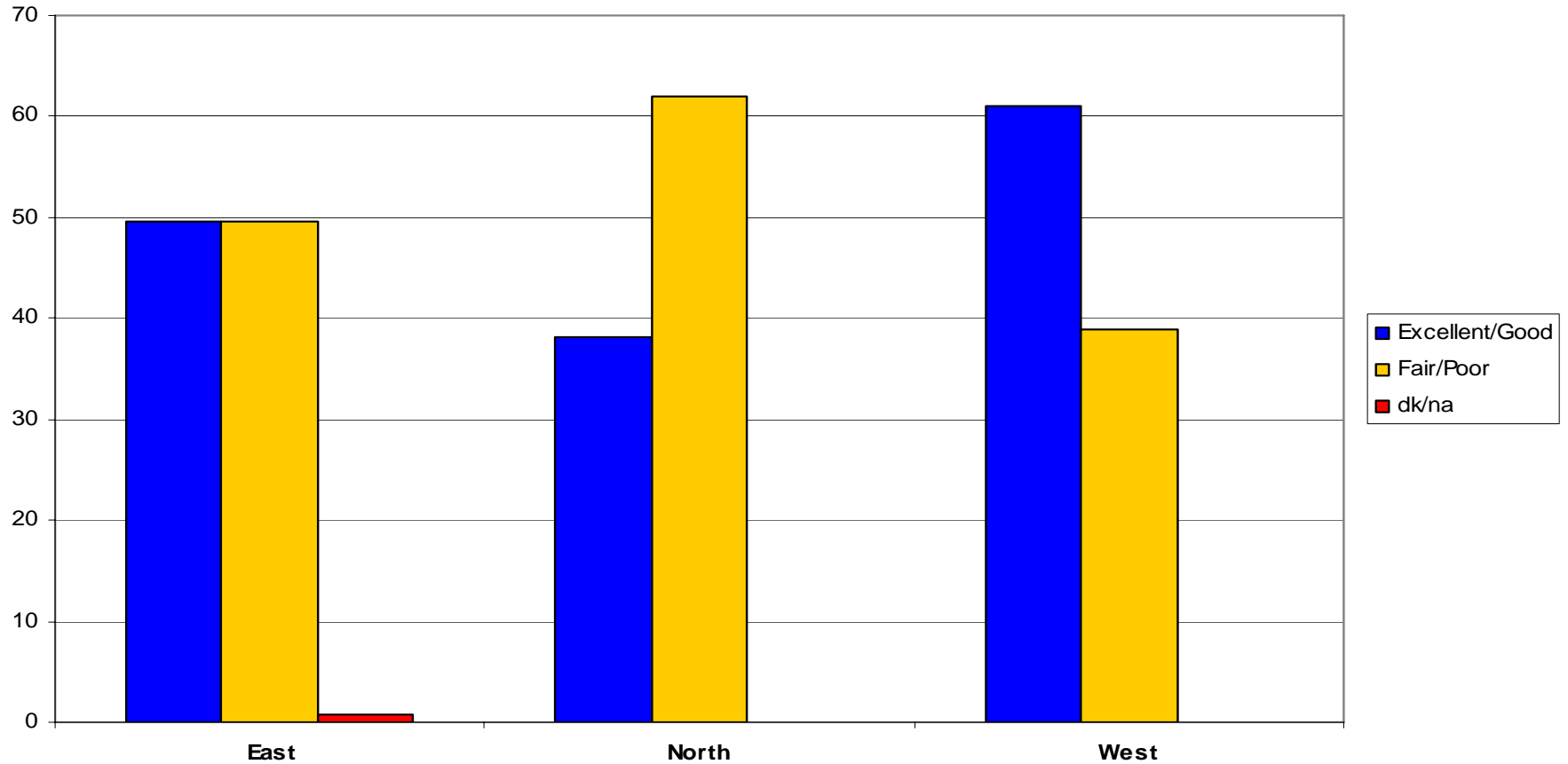
# Overall, survey findings provide a useful view of the neighborhood.

- For example, when asked to consider the “quality of life in their neighborhood,”



# Perceptions of Quality of Life by Area

Quality of Life by Area

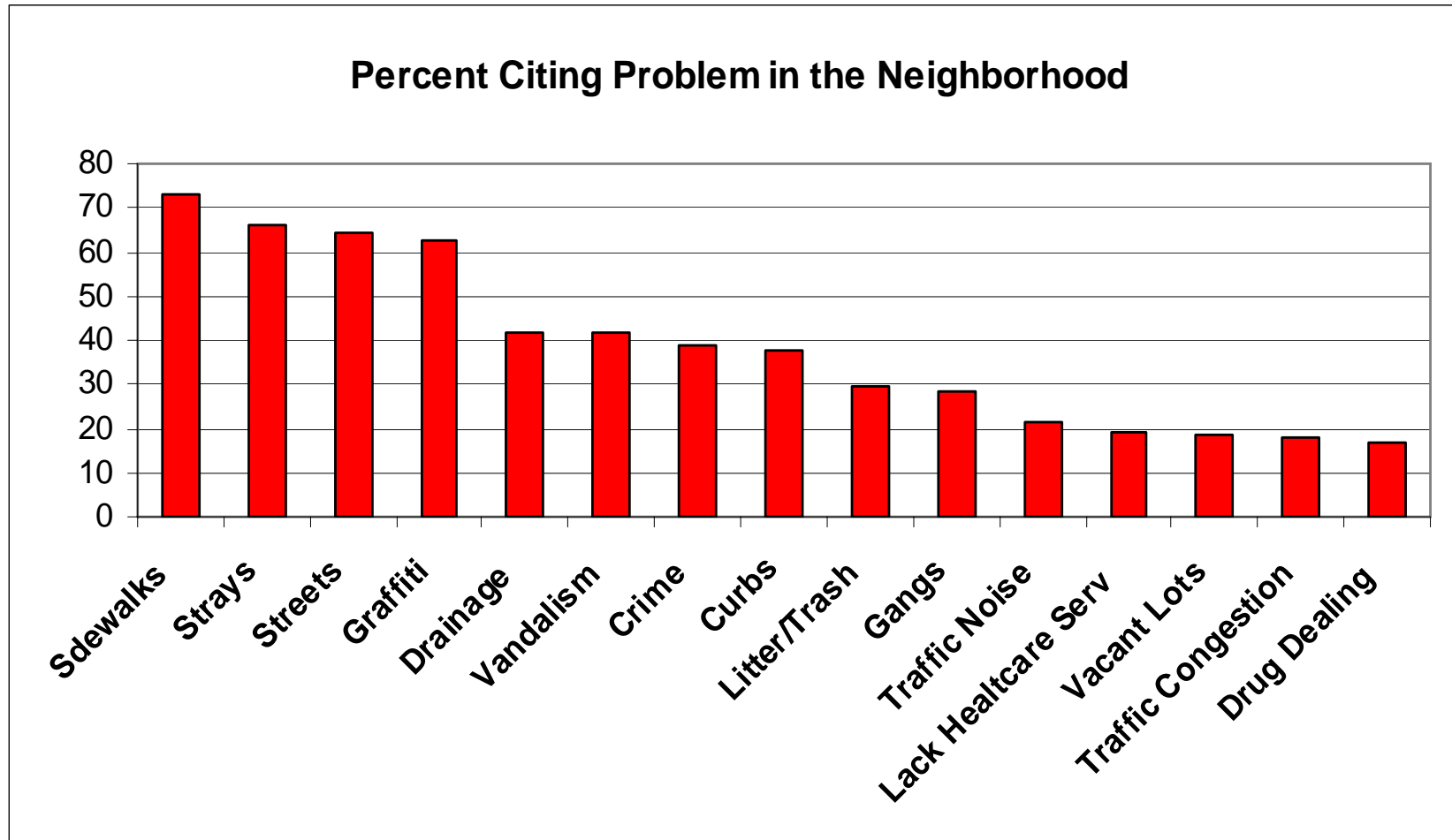


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# When asked about the frequency of “activity-level”

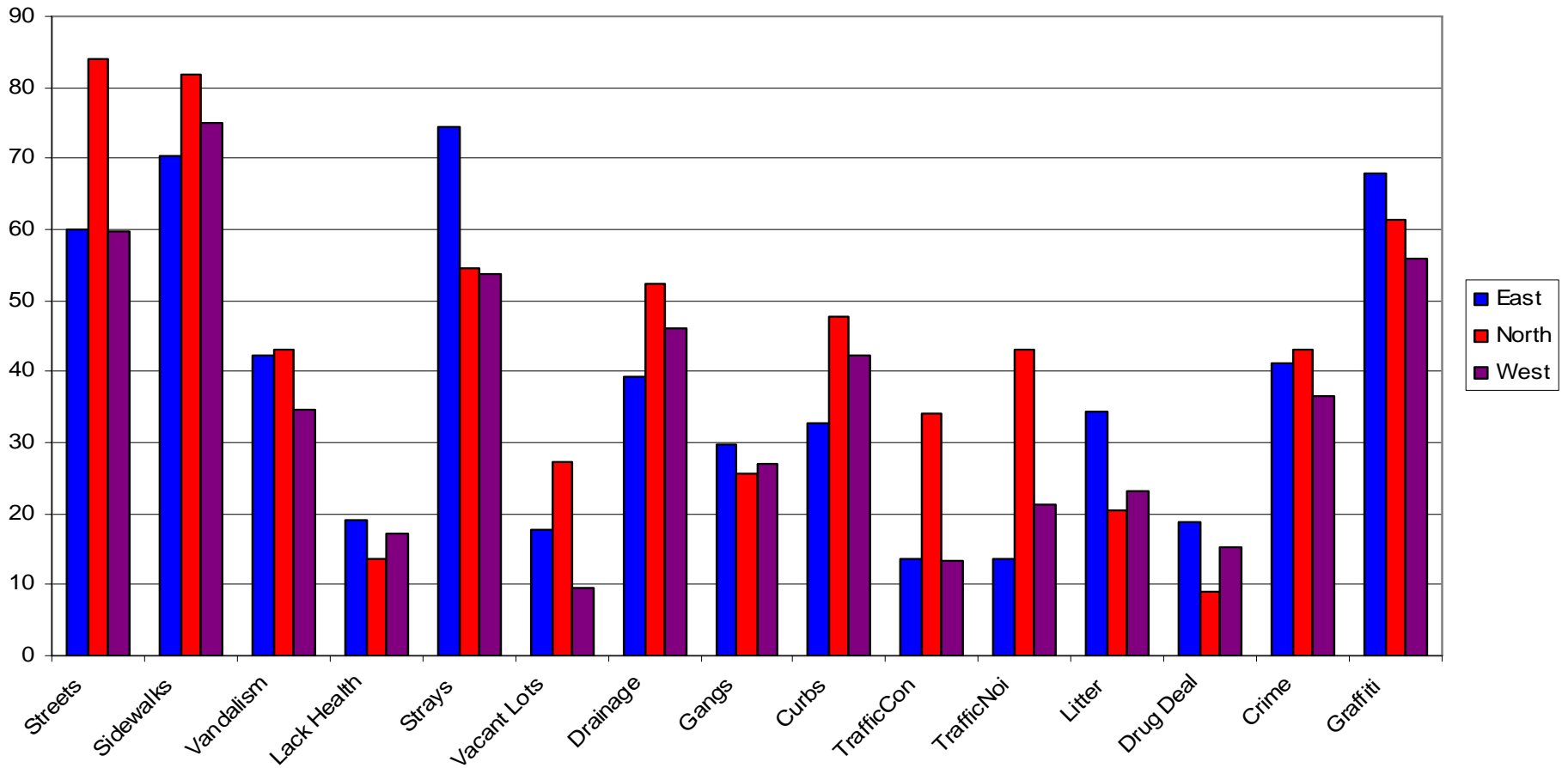
- how often the respondent went “out to a restaurant to eat,” a “movie,” or a “park,” the survey revealed important differences.
    - For example, when asked how often the respondent “eat(s) out at a restaurant,” nearly **six in ten (59.5%)** indicated a high frequency—either weekly (32.9%) or almost every week (26.6%).
    - In contrast, only **3.6%** of respondents indicated the same level of frequency (weekly or almost weekly) when asked about “**going out to a movie,**” and only **11.6%** indicated the same for visiting an area “**park.**”
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# When asked to examine a list of fifteen issues facing their neighborhood clear patterns emerged



# Issues by Neighborhood Area

Issues by Location



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## When asked to examine a list of fifteen issues facing their neighborhood clear patterns emerged

- ❑ **Collectively, respondents on average cited 5.75 issues**
  - ❑ **with respondents in the oldest age category (71+) on average citing few issues (4.8) than their younger counterparts (5.6 for 20-44 year olds; 6.1 45-56, 6.4 for 57-70).**
  - ❑ **East side Residents averaged 5.7, North 6.4 and West side the least at 5.3**
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# Most “serious” of all previous cited

- Here, “streets in poor condition” was the most frequently cited issue (21.9%),
  - followed by “lack of sidewalks” (18%),
  - “crime” (15%),
  - “stray dogs and cats” (13%) and
  - “graffiti” (11%).
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# Distance travelled for basic services... illuminating

- **Nearly three quarters (72.5%) report travelling three miles or less for groceries;**
    - 82% travelled three miles or less for gasoline; and
    - 79% travelled three miles or less for a drugstore.
  - **In contrast,**
    - Only 41% of the respondents report travelling three miles or less for eating out at a restaurant and
    - nearly a quarter (22.6%) the same distance for a hardware store.
      - Interestingly on this latter item, nearly half (45.2%) of the respondents indicated that they travel five or more miles to go to a hardware store.
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# Services provided by the University or the COSA on the campus

- Respondents were given a list of 25 services and asked to indicate which services they had participated in the last 12 months.
  - Here, the three most frequent responses were
    - Oyster Bake (47.4%; nearly half of the respondents),
    - recreational facilities (outdoor swimming pool, jogging track, basketball courts, 32.8%) and
    - religious services (Liturgy Mass, retreats, 14.4%).
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# What would they use in upcoming 12 months

- **Here, the most frequent responses were**
    - **Oyster Bake (42.6%),**
    - **recreational facilities (42.0%),**
    - **fitness classes (23.9%),**
    - **VITA (17.4%) and**
    - **the University Library (17.3%).**
  
  - **Additional analyses reveal important variations on use of services in the next 12 months by age.**
    - **For example, younger respondents (52.5% of respondents in age category 20-44 and 61.1% of respondents in age category 45-56) indicated a more willingness to use recreational facilities than their older counterparts (only 32% of respondents 56-70 and 23% of 71 and older).**
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# Oyster Bake by Area

- Would you participate in the coming 12 months...

	East	North	West	Total
No	<b>57.5</b>	<b>59.5</b>	42.2	55.6
Yes	42.5	40.5	<b>52.8</b>	44.4

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# What about the “effectiveness” of Neighborhood Association

- Respondents were nearly evenly split in their views of the “effectiveness” of the neighborhood association.
    - Three in ten (30.2%) either “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that the association was effective;
    - a third (33.7%) either “disagreed” or “strongly disagreed” with the view; and,
    - nearly a third (31.9%) gave “don’t know” or “no answers” responses.
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# Demographically

- Respondents were nearly evenly divided on residential access to the internet (49.4% indicating “no”; 50.6% yes).
  - On average, respondents lived in the neighborhood for 25 years, but length in the neighborhood ranged from less than a year to as many as 63 years; the modal value to this question was 40.
  - Rs were homeowners (90%), females (63.2%), married or living with someone (56%; 17% widows), high school graduates and middle-age (average=57.7).
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