PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACES AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Meeting Agenda
May 8, 2024
6:00 PM
Location: Leeper Center Community Room
Join Zoom Webinar Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83317874726?pwd=QktQMkFaMWUzeHNObWpvRVY0UVNoQT09

Or One tap mobile:

+17193594580,83317874726

+17207072699,83317874726 US (Denver)

Webinar ID: 833 1787 4726

Passcode: 586406

A. Roll Call
B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (time limit 3 minutes per person).
C. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES
    a. March 20, 2024
    b. April 10, 2024
D. BOARD REVIEW AND DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS
    a. OLOF – Final Project
    b. WCP Memorial Update
        i. Fundraising Opportunities
    c. Fishing is Fun Grant Update
    d. Prost Priority List for Parks and Recreation
    e. PROST Presentation – Update to Board of Trustees
        i. Comprehensive Plan Alignment
    f. Future Calendar

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS (Parks, Recreation, Open Spaces and Trails)

a. Town Staff

i. Parks

ii. Recreation

iii. Open Spaces

iv. Trails

b. Board of Trustee Liaison

c. PROST Board Members

ADJOURNMENT

PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACES AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2024
6:00 PM
Location: Leeper Center Community Room

A. Roll Call
    a. Aaron McConnell, Jon Evans, Lorilyn Bockelman, Robert Sausaman, Teresa Wakefield
        i. Absent: Jessi Roper, Jordan Jones
B. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (time limit 3 minutes per person)
    a. None
C. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES
    a. February 29th, 2024
    b. With Edits – changing language to “plans” and incorporate language to add Aaron McConnell to aid with the Viewpointe Multi-use court assessment.
D. BOARD REVIEW AND DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS
    a. Guest Speakers – Kyle, John and Disc Golf Club
        i. Griffin Greens Update
            - East side of I-25 Disc Golf course is no longer viable
        ii. Proposal
            - Multi-use course for 9 holes is proposed for the re-construction of the west side – to incorporate family, friend, short and easy disc golf as well as foot golf and park-golf to the usage options
            - Discmania would design the course, be present for installation, and keep the current footprint east of I-25, per specs on the proposal sheet
            - This proposal would not incorporate Boxelder Creek crossings, though the potential re-design could lead to cooperative efforts to attain ADA goals for more safe crossings at critical points for the betterment of the community and the flow/use of the proposed course
            - Course could be installed within a 4-5 day period

- Potential to reuse other baskets in unutilized/passive areas in parkland across the Town
- Timeline for design would be this year if deemed a project to push through
    a. Board discussion:
        i. Aaron – thoughts about need vs. cost as it aligns with the strategic plan
            1. Safety is accomplished by removing hazards around Wellville Park parking lot and the ponds
            2. This project would promote equitable use of the current disc golf course and increase users due to more options outside of only disc golf
            3. A part of the current disc golf course in Wellville Park could be safely re-purposed as a dog park to align with PROST goals of putting a dog park on the east side of I-25
        ii. Lorilyn – question about ADA accessibility of the course
            1. Some of the course could be designed to flow as fully accessible
            2. Other courses have been designed to have 1/3 of the holes as fully accessible and target ages are 7+ for usage, but are able for all ages to learn and play
        iii. Teresa – excited to see the option for easier play. What could we do to reduce cost as Town. Question was proposed about grants and in-kind
        iv. Lorilyn – Maintenance questions and how it would work
            1. Land Maintenance is under the TOW jurisdiction but there are warranties and upkeep of the tee boxes and baskets would be assisted by the disc golf club
        v. Aaron – Sponsorships and longevity
            1. 7 years longevity for the proposed signs
            2. Spec'd baskets held up well over the years as examples across the disc golf community in northern Colorado
        vi. Jon – possibility of 3 pin locations for each hole

1. It is an option and something to possibly use the extra baskets from removal out of Wellville for

vii. Lorilyn – what are the options if it is supported? Question to PROST members and how it will look as a project to consider

1. What are funding options, budget amendments, pushing the sponsorships, teaching and learning clinics potential
2. Design for the course is the next step, then PROST can deliberate on timing and funding

b. WCP Memorial – Updates

i. Billy will be meeting with TOW engineer staff to look at the site for the WCP Memorial to help generate cost

- PROST to help generate cost for amenities within design standards
  a. Billy will look at benches within design standards
- Teresa to investigate other municipalities and their memorial sites and compile a list of areas and contacts
- Aaron has reached out to the CSU landscape design team to generate landscape design plans – will move forward with cost around $350

c. PROST Wish List – Project Voting

i. East Side Dog Park – Pilot Park

- Robert – pricing for workout stations starts at around $4,000 per piece for nice ones

ii. Updates

- Lorilyn will work on updating the list and overall list and make it more usable, presentable and short vs long-term project goals to extend the knowledge and tie-ins for importance on Master Plan to all the other projects
- Park Maps will be discussed internally to TOW staff and potentially done in-house both physically and digitally
- Multi-use course resurfacing needs one more estimate and will be presented when it is received
- Teresa – idea of reaching out to the community for funding. A lot of the ideas on the “Wish List” have come from past community engagement through multiple avenues (Budget Boonanza, Park N Plays, community members at PROST meetings and more)

- PROST master plan is a huge push for the PROST board to help keep momentum for large projects like the Rec Center/feasibility
- East side dog park and multi-use court are “larger” priorities for this year
- Billy will reach out to the disc golf club to inquire about removing a basket to allow the dog park to be installed in Wellville

d. Arbor Day
    i. Presentation on flyers and plan for the event
    ii. Upgrades ongoing at Park Meadows for horticulture and ADA accessibility

e. Parks and Trails Master Plan
    i. Discussion involving the importance of how a Master Plan will drive the long-term and short-term goals of PROST. The idea is to back a Master Plan to be able to see out the mission/vision of PROST to align with the TOW Strategic Plan

f. Guest Speaker – Kristen Hammill
    i. Wellington Main Streets
        - Continued partnership with collaboration with volunteers for events
    ii. Event Partners – 10 Year Anniversary w/ Park N’ Play
        - Collaboration with Parks and Recreation Department, Main Street businesses, Wellington Public Library, Ska8Well, American Legion
        - Preview to Main Street Markets and a Park N Play

g. PROST Parade Floats
    i. Aim for the 4th of July for a PROST float. PROST members will try and secure a vehicle and trailer to make a float as PROST with the goal of highlighting work and Parks/Rec

h. Future Calendar
    i. Potentially getting Cody at the next meeting – looking for questions we can supply and ask him to round out the conversation with him in a productive way
    ii. Continue PROST walk-arounds and site visits
        - Meet for drive/bike around on the first Wednesday of the month to drive conversations and understanding of our parks. Allows for knowledge about park history and past projects can be shared
        - First one tentatively scheduled for April on the 3rd on the East side

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS (Parks, Recreation, Open Spaces and Trails)

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ADJOURNMENT 8:09pm

RRC

2023

OUR LANDS, OUR FUTURE
REGIONAL SURVEY UPDATE

LARIMER COUNTY

MUNICIPAL PARTNERS:

TOWN of BERTHOUD Est. 1888

City of Fort Collins

TOWN of WELLINGTON

City of Loveland

Town of TIMNATH

TOWN OF ESTES PARK COLORADO

TOWN OF JOHNSTOWN COLORADO

OPEN LANDS REGIONAL SURVEY UPDATE

2023 FINAL REPORT

OUR LANDS
OUR FUTURE

Recreation & Conservation
Choices for Northern Colorado

Survey Conducted & Reported by
RRC Associates

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OUR LANDS
OUR FUTURE
Recreation & Conservation
Choices for Northern Colorado

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2023 OUR LANDS, OUR FUTURE Regional Survey Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This summary provides an overview of the results from the 2023 Open Lands Regional Survey Update. The 2023 survey is the third of its kind with previous surveys successfully completed in 2001 and 2012. The results of this survey provide a refreshed understanding of community preferences related to land conservation and outdoor recreation in relation to the allowable uses of the voter-approved "1/4-cent Help Preserve Open Space" sales tax that was passed in 1995 and extended in 1999 and 2014 until 2043.

The statistically valid random survey received over 1,000 returned surveys with a margin of error of 3.01% or less. Overall, the survey results show that Larimer County residents are highly supportive of open spaces and trails, particularly for trail-based activities, protecting ecologically sensitive lands, and are supportive of renewal of the current sales tax and existing user fees.

HIGH LEVELS OF FAMILIARITY

Respondents are highly familiar with open space and trails in Larimer County with 68% of indicating they are either “familiar” or “very familiar.” Familiarity among residents has sharply increased by 22% since 2012 where only 46% of respondents within the same categories. The county-wide sales tax has been implemented for nearly 30 years and land managers across the county work diligently to inform the public about available outdoor recreation, conservation, and preservation activities, which appears to be having an impact on general familiarity. The high level of familiarity is also associated with frequent visitation; respondents report visiting Larimer County open space and trails 37 times in the past twelve months on average compared to the average of 20 visits in 2012.

HIGH LEVELS OF SATISFACTION FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Overall, there are high levels of satisfaction with outdoor recreational activities. The three most important activities identified by respondents were walking/hiking/running on natural surfaces, then on pavement, followed by biking on pavement. All three categories also rated highest in terms of satisfaction at 4.1 out of 5 or higher. Respondents’ most popular activities align with almost all other western outdoor recreation-based destinations including communities like Bend, OR, Boulder, CO, among others. For almost all recreation activities, the level of satisfaction among respondents is higher than the current level of importance. For county land managers, this finding should be positive and signal that most residents see activity management on the right track.

CROWDING, PARKING, AND DOG WASTE ARE SITE-SPECIFIC ISSUES TO MONITOR AND IMPROVE

Higher visitation presents additional challenges to managing public land and its various uses. Respondents were asked to rate their concerns about various site-specific issues. Crowding, dog waste, and parking were among the three issues of most concern on a site-specific scale. Many communities along Colorado’s Front Range are dealing with similar challenges and Larimer County is no exception. However, despite some concerns of site-specific issues, the magnitude of residents’ issues at individual sites were rated mostly as “minor” to “moderate” issues. Continuing to manage and mitigate crowding along with educating visitors about best outdoor practices is still important as the demand for outdoor recreational opportunities increases.

OPEN SPACE SALES TAX & FEE SUPPORT

Respondents are supportive of the current open space sales tax and are likely to support it well into the future. Respondents also showed strong support for renewal of the current sales tax (81%) and existing user fees (70%). New taxes and new user fees have less support at 54% and 40% respectively. The need for new fees and taxes will need to be effectively communicated and include the ways in which they will be used and overall costs to users. Overall, familiarity has a significant correlation with all types of support for public land management, but the overall size of the relationship is only moderate. There are multiple factors that influence support for public lands.

CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

Like previous studies conducted in Larimer County, respondents are split with their preference between managing land for conservation compared to outdoor recreation, with the largest share of respondents (41%) responding that they equally value both approaches. As shown in similar studies, Colorado is comprised of both those who prefer conservation and those who prefer more active outdoor recreation. Previous studies conducted in Colorado found 66% of respondents consider themselves to be conservationists (Colorado College's State of the Rockies Project) and that outdoor recreation accounts for 130,000 jobs in Colorado (Outdoor Recreation Roundtable's 2023 report). This sentiment of equal values towards recreation and conservation is also seen in Figure 20, when respondents are asked to allocate $100 for a variety of purposes; respondents placed the highest monetary priority on protecting lakes, rivers, streams and preserving water quality ($14.69) followed by funding outdoor recreation opportunities (hiking, walking, biking, etc.) at $12.97.

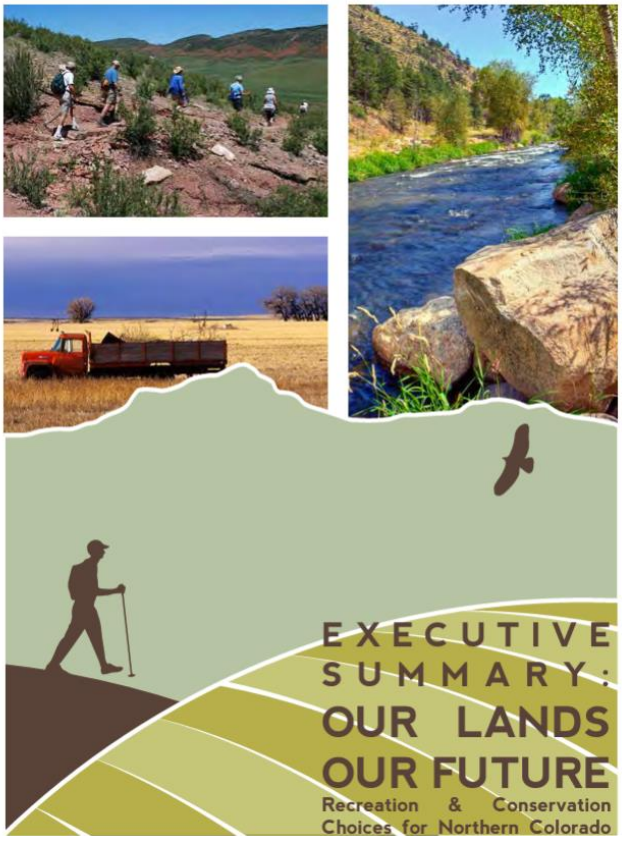
ACCESSIBLITY & INCLUSITIVY

Throughout the study, residents identified the need for better accessibility across trails and parks, ensuring spaces are welcoming for people of all ages and abilities, particularly for individuals with disabilities, such as handicap-accessible fishing docks/piers, accessible trails for motorized wheelchairs, and improved access to public lands and facilities for disabled persons. The most common spot for residents to share opinions on accessibility and inclusivity were in the open-ended comments. A limited set of respondents (3%) indicated accessibility and inclusivity as a barrier in Figure 14.

REGIONAL PLANNING ISSUES IMPORTANT TO RESIDENTS

Long-term planning is an increasingly important element of public land management today. Larimer County residents are keenly aware of the regional issues the county is facing and gave certain topics high priority for planners to consider in the future. Land for additional trails/open space, wildfire risks/mitigation, and drought are three of the highest priority regional planning issues in the study that residents have identified moving into the future. These issues are larger in nature than site-specific challenges and will require more effort across the county to support long-term planning.

INTRODUCTION



Larimer County's 2023 Our Lands, Our Future Regional Survey Update represents the third iteration of a longstanding, county-wide survey focused on better understanding residents' perceptions on open space, trails, and public land recreation. Context for the study is guided by the allowable uses of funds generated from the open space sales tax in Larimer County.

The 2023 survey update represents a significant partnership between Larimer County, the City of Fort Collins, the City of Loveland, and the towns of Berthoud, Estes Park, Johnstown, Timnath, and Wellington. Together, this partnership hired RRC Associates to conduct a statistically valid county-wide survey in 2023 to determine community values with respect to land conservation and nature-based recreational opportunities. One purpose of this update is to gather the public's feedback about how agencies should obtain and spend open space sales tax revenue moving forward. This revenue comes from the "Help Preserve Open Spaces" Initiative that began in 1995 (with extensions in 1999 and 2014) and ends in 2043, for the purpose of conserving and maintaining open spaces, natural areas, rivers, wildlife habitat, parks, and trails within Larimer County. The ¼-cent county-wide sales tax revenue is shared between Larimer County (50%) and Partner Agencies (50%). The 2023 survey provides the county and municipal partner agencies an update to the data from 2012 survey to track trends over time, and includes additional questions related to public access, equity, and perceptions of crowding.

As the population of Northern Colorado continues to expand and increased outdoor recreation demand spurred by the 2020 pandemic, the need for additional conservation and recreation has also increased. Ensuring Larimer County and Partner Agencies have an up to date understanding of this demand and their constituencies is critical to guiding their collective work moving forward.

This year's study produced a larger sample size of 1,060 statistically valid surveys compared to 922 in 2012. The study kicked off in late summer 2023 with data collection taking place between October 20th, 2023, and January 2nd, 2024. Many of the questions from prior studies were retained to understand trends over time. However, improvements and adjustments were added throughout to improve the quality of data collected and consistency of the survey. Additionally, some questions were reworded slightly where clarifications were needed throughout the survey (e.g., language was clarified to use "open space and trails" instead of facilities/natural areas for consistency). RRC Associate's research team includes comparisons where appropriate and possible throughout the report, but some of the 2023's study's survey questions were deemed to have changed too much in scope from their previous survey iterations to show comparisons. A separate appendix document shows results by the various partner agencies who participated in the study.

This report is organized around topics that generally follows those explored by the survey instrument, which includes:

- Living in Larimer County
- Use and Familiarity of Larimer County's open space and trails
- Importance and Satisfaction of Activities in Larimer County
- Recreation and Conservation Challenges and Long-Term Planning in Larimer County
- E-bike Usage
- Financial Priorities and Sales Tax
- Larimer County open space & trails values
- Demographics

RESEARCH METHODS

The 2023 survey followed a similar structure and study design as the previous iterations with several modifications for improved efficiencies and ease. The survey was available in both English and Spanish consisting of two primary samples:

1) **The Statistically Valid "Invite" sample**
    a. This sample randomly selected residents of Larimer County to receive a mailed survey. This sample provides the statistically valid results of the study with a **margin of error of +/- 3.01%.**

2) **The "Open Link" sample**
    a. After the Invite survey concluded, a public survey link was shared to all partner agencies to share widely through their networks via social media, email, and other news outlets. The purpose of this sample was to provide an opportunity for interested residents to participate for those residents who did not receive an "invite" sample. **The Open Link sample is not a statistically valid survey.** The results from the Open Link sample are included in the Appendix.

7,936

The total of randomly sampled residents across Larimer County

1,060

The total number of respondents for the Invite" (randomly sampled) surveys for the 2023 study.

2,762

The total number of respondents for the Open Link" version of the survey. This version was available to anyone

From the sampling of residents, a total of 7,936 surveys were mailed to respondents throughout the county for the Invite sample survey. Respondents were given two options of participating in the Invite sample, either: 1) to fill out the paper version and mail it back via a postage-paid envelope, or 2) complete it online using a password protected link tied to their mailed survey. Either option was accepted as part of the statistically valid results. Those who completed the statistically valid survey were able to enter a drawing to win one of multiple Visa Gift Cards as an incentive for participating. In total, 1,060 Invite surveys (13.4%) were returned, a strong total for the County. Approximately 60% of respondents (639 respondents) completed the survey by paper and 40% (421 respondents) completed it online. The sampling plan for mailed surveys to Larimer County communities is provided in Table 1 below:

Table 1: 2023 Larimer County OLOF Sampling Plan

CITY	TARGET PERCENT OF MAILING
City of Fort Collins	46.34%
City of Loveland	21.52%
Town of Berthoud	3.23%
Town of Estes Park	1.63%
Town of Johnstown*	5.05%
Town of Timnath*	2.18%
Town of Wellington	3.26%
Town of Windsor*	9.93%
Unincorporated areas	6.87%

**Note: Only households with Larimer County Zip Codes were mailed as part of this study.*

After the Invite sample closed in late November 2023, the Open Link survey was launched and kept open until January 2nd, 2024. In total, the Open Link survey had a strong response rate with 2,762 respondents participating in the study. Again, the Open Link sample is not considered statistically valid as participants are not randomly selected as with the Invite sample.

DATA TREATMENT & ANALYSIS

The data included in this study underwent a series of quality assurance and quality control procedures prior to analysis. All paper data received by RRC Associates was entered by hand and aided by computer-assisted scanning. All surveys were manually checked for errors and inconsistencies during the data entry process. Each comment was also hand-entered and written as closely to verbatim as possible. Where needed, adjustments were made (e.g., recoding values) based on the team's collective experience in survey research and professional judgement.

To ensure that the results are as representative as possible at the county level, responses are compared to various demographics collected by the U.S. Census. If needed, the data is weighted to better represent the key variables found to be different from the Census. Weighting was only applied using two variables: 1) respondent age, and 2) respondent gender. Race was considered for weighting, but the question varied enough from the U.S. Census format to not be included in the weighting schema. Race has historically been asked as a multiple response variable with Hispanic/Spanish/Latino origin included as a combined race/ethnicity category. U.S. Census treats ethnicity separate from race, which makes comparisons difficult. Because of this variation in question format, the weighting was limited to just age and gender. Common with survey research, the age profile of the Invite sample skewed slightly older than results presented by the Census. Additionally, a higher proportion of males participated in the study than compared to U.S. Census distributions. Therefore, the data was weighted to better represent the age and gender profile according to the Census for Larimer County.

Table 2: Age Distribution of 2022 U.S. Census American Community Survey of Larimer County vs. Larimer County OLOF Respondents, Weighted and Unweighted Data

Category	U.S. Census	Unweighted OLOF Data	Weighted OLOF Data
Under 35			34.5%
35 44	15.9%	15.0%	16.2%
45 54	13.5%	16.3%	13.5%
55 64	14.8%	19.1%	14.0%
65 74	12.8%	26.0%	13.4%
75 and older	7.7%	12.1%	8.3%

Table 3: Gender Distribution of 2022 U.S. Census American Community Survey of Larimer County vs. Larimer County OLOF Respondents, Weighted and Unweighted Data

Category	U.S. Census	Unweighted OLOF Data	Weighted OLOF Data
Male	50.1%	55.9%	50.4%
Female	49.9%	44.1%	49.6%

As shown in Tables 2 and 3, RRC weighted the adjusted the data from the survey sample according to the county-wide distribution. The weighting applied gets as close as possible to distributions from the U.S. Census, but there are always minor variations among even variables that were used in weighting. Furthermore, other variables were considered for weighting, but created adverse effects such as unbalanced regional representation across the county. Therefore, a more simplified, but stronger correction was made using these two variables.

TERMINOLOGY

The term “open space and trails” is used throughout the study and included as part of the interpretation of the results. Since traditional community and municipal recreational facilities were not part of this study, this definition was provided to respondents at the top of the survey as follows:

“The term “Open space & trails” refers to natural spaces, water bodies (streams, lakes, reservoirs), agriculture, regional trail corridors, and outdoor recreation services and amenities provided on conserved land owned and managed by either municipal or county open space departments.

This term DOES NOT include city parks, ballfields, recreational complexes, state, or federal lands.”

LARIMER COUNTY OPEN SPACE & TRAILS SURVEY RESULTS

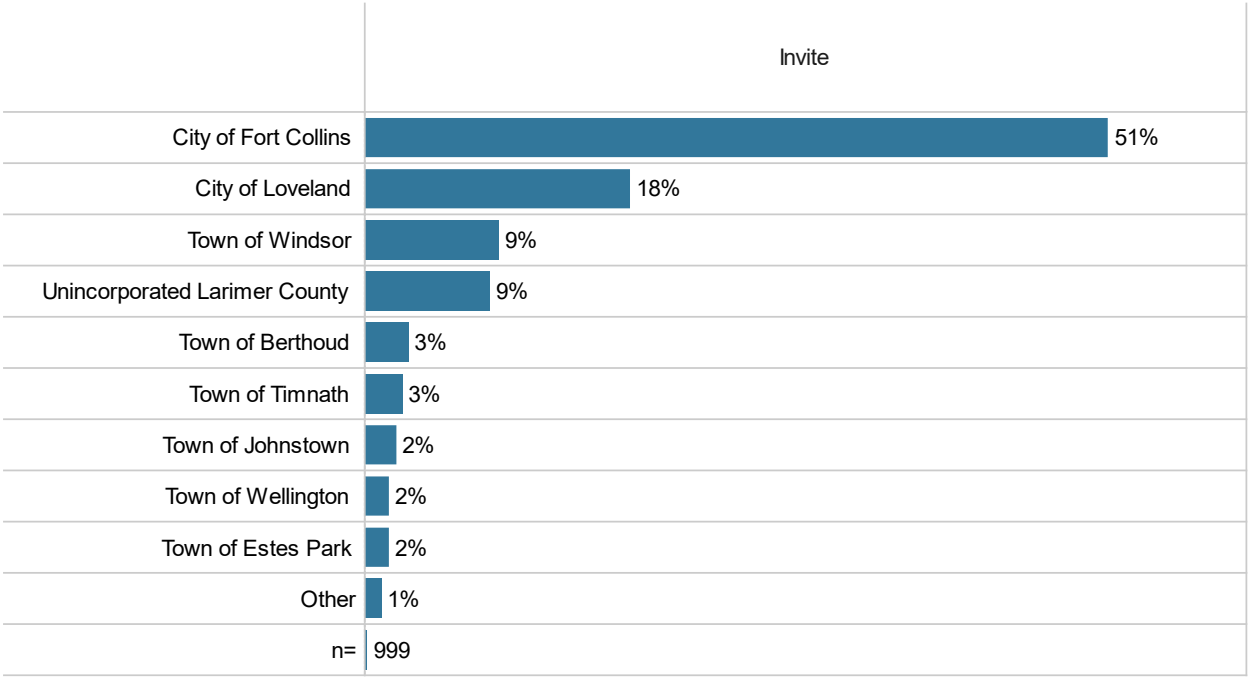
This chapter covers the results from the 2023 survey. The graphs represent the statistically valid survey results (named the "Invite" sample). For results from the Open Link survey, please refer to the Appendix.

RESULTS

LIVING IN LARIMER COUNTY

Figure 1
Location in Larimer County

Which of the following areas best describes the location of your home in the County?



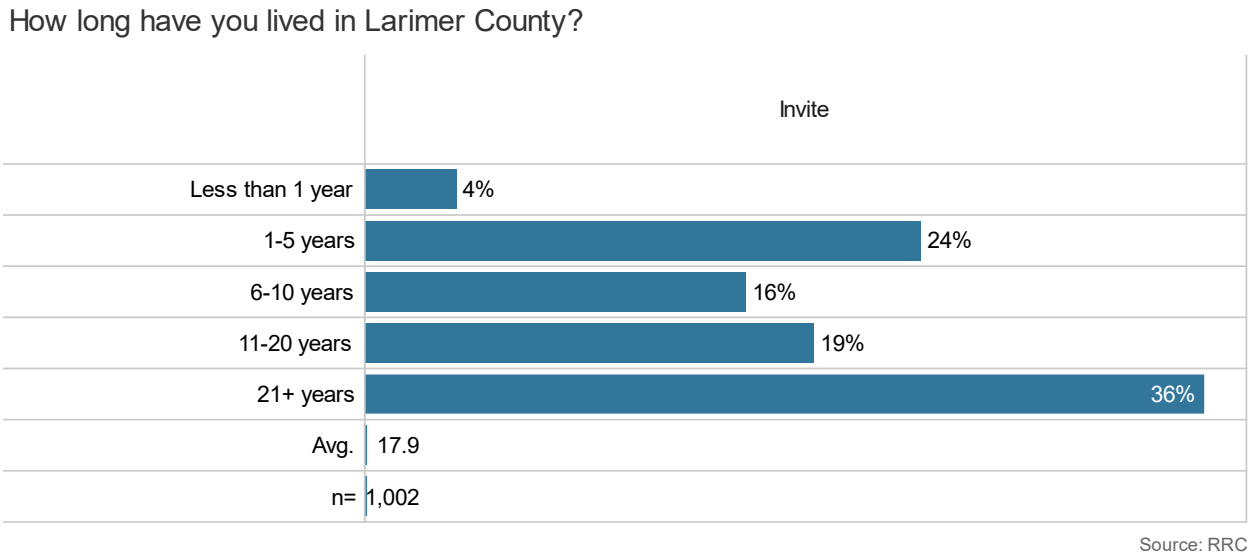
Source: RRC

About half (51%) of the survey respondents live in the City of Fort Collins and an additional 18% in the City of Loveland. These figures are very close to the sampling plan for the study. Fort Collins (51% of respondents, 46% in sampling plan) and unincorporated areas (9% of respondents, 6% in sampling plan) were slightly more represented in the survey responses than in the original sampling plan. Loveland (18% of respondents, 22% of sampling plan) was slightly underrepresented in the data. Overall, the sample representation was proportional to the population shares of each community (Table 4).

Table 4: Larimer County Population Shares by Community vs. OLOF Data of Respondent Location

CITY	County	OLOF Data
City of Fort Collins		51%
City of Loveland	22%	18%
Town of Berthoud	3%	3%
Town of Estes Park	2%	2%
Town of Johnstown	5%	2%
Town of Timnath	2%	3%
Town of Wellington	3%	2%
Town of Windsor	10%	9%
Unincorporated areas	7%	9%

Figure 2
Years in Larimer County



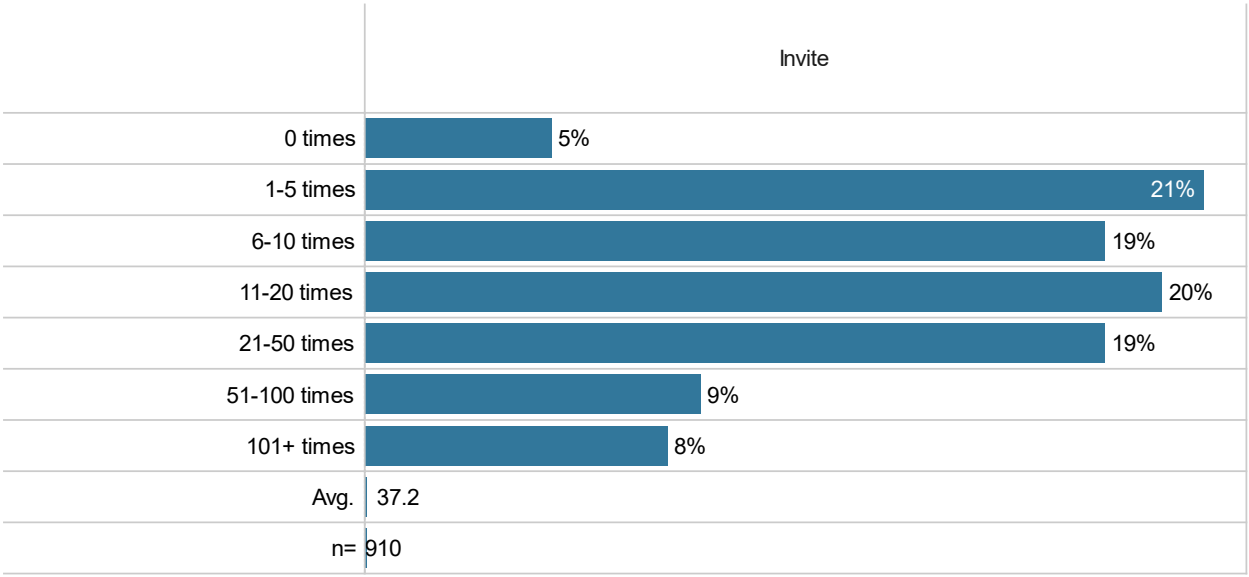
Source: RRC

Approximately, 28% of respondents have lived in the County for less than five years, and 36% of the sample have lived in the County for over twenty-one years. This bimodal distribution has been commonly seen in other studies within university communities and in areas that have experienced growth in their population in recent times. With Colorado State University located within the county and the county's population increasing over time, a larger share of new residents responded along with those who have lived in the region for decades. The average length of time in the County is approximately 18 years.

USE & FAMILIARITY OF LARIMER COUNTY OPEN SPACE

Figure 3
Number of Visits to Larimer County Open Space & Trails

About how many times in the last 12 months have you and/or members of your household visited city, town, or county managed "Open space & trails" throughout Larimer County?

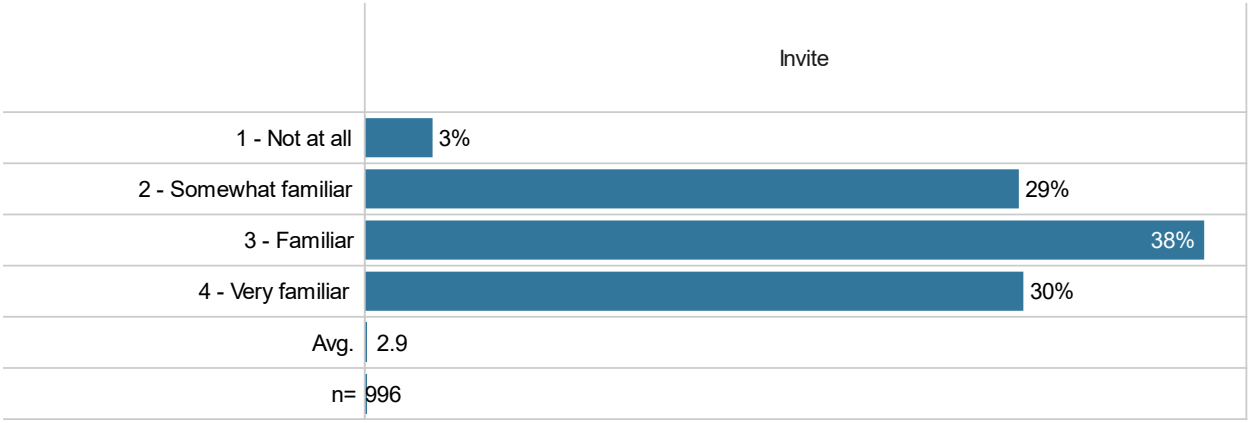


Source: RRC

Use of open space and trails across the county is high. Only 5% of respondents had not used an open space or trail in the past 12 months with 40% of respondents having visited between one and ten times. Additionally, 56% of respondents visited over 11 times in the past 12 months. On average, respondents visited open space and trails within Larimer County 37 times per year. For some, visiting open space and trails multiple times a week is common. The average use has increased substantially since 2012 from 20 visits to 37 visits in 2023. Further detail on visiting open spaces in Larimer County is explored in a later section.

Figure 4
Familiarity with Larimer County Open Space & Trails

How familiar are you with "Open space & trails" within Larimer County, either municipal or county?



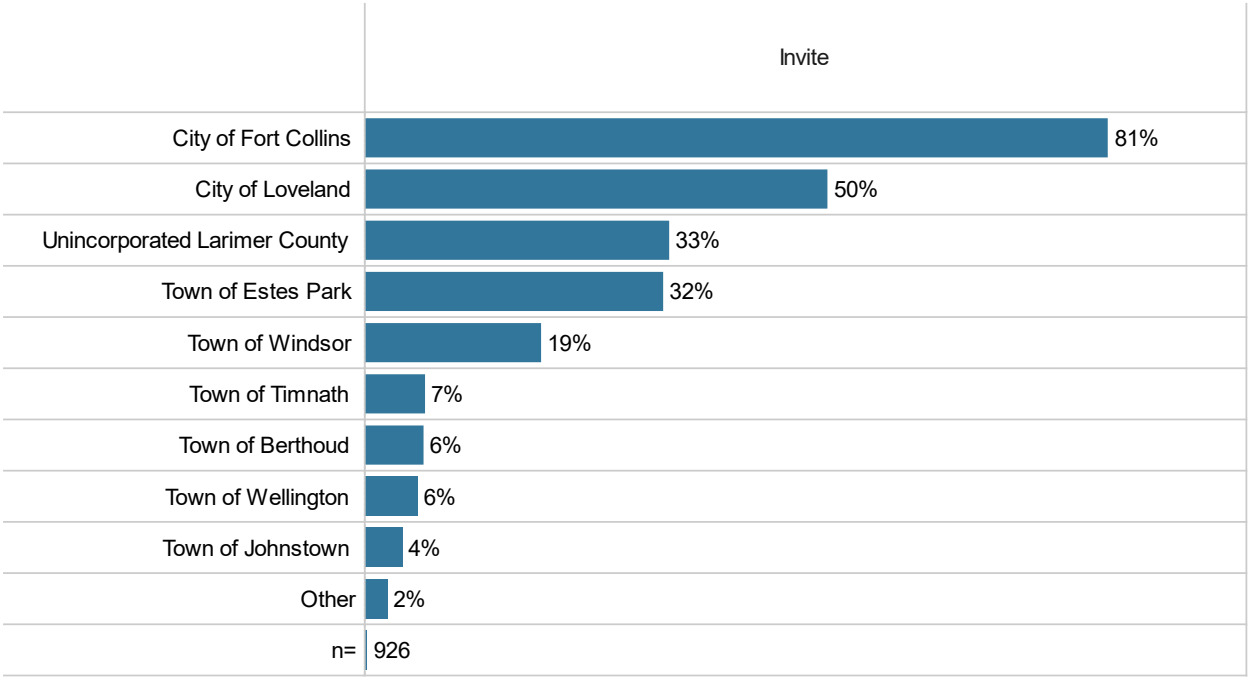
Source: RRC

Familiarity with Larimer County open space & trails is a question that has been asked on both previous versions of the survey. In 2001, only 13% of respondents indicated they were "familiar" or "very familiar" with the natural areas of Larimer County. In 2012, 46% of respondents noted they were "familiar" or "very familiar".

In 2023, 68% of residents responded that they are "familiar" or "very familiar" with open space and trails throughout the county. Overall, only 3% of respondents reported "not at all familiar" with open space and trails within Larimer County. These findings show a significant increase in familiarity over the past 28 years since the Help Preserve Open Space sales tax passed back in 1995.

Figure 5
Locations of Use of Larimer County Open Space & Trails

Where have you visited "Open space & trails" in the last 12 months? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)



Source: RRC

Unsurprisingly, as the largest municipal area of the County, 81% of respondents report visiting open space and trails in the City of Fort Collins in the past twelve months. Half of the sample reported visiting areas in the City of Loveland and approximately one-third have also visited open space and trails in unincorporated Larimer County and the Town of Estes Park in the past twelve months. Despite large shares of visitation in the major population areas, all communities within the county had some level of visitation and consistent in proportion to the community's size over the past twelve months by respondents.

IMPORTANCE & SATISFACTION OF ACTIVITIES IN LARIMER COUNTY

Figure 6
Importance of Activities in Larimer County

Please rate how important the following activities are to your household in Larimer County.

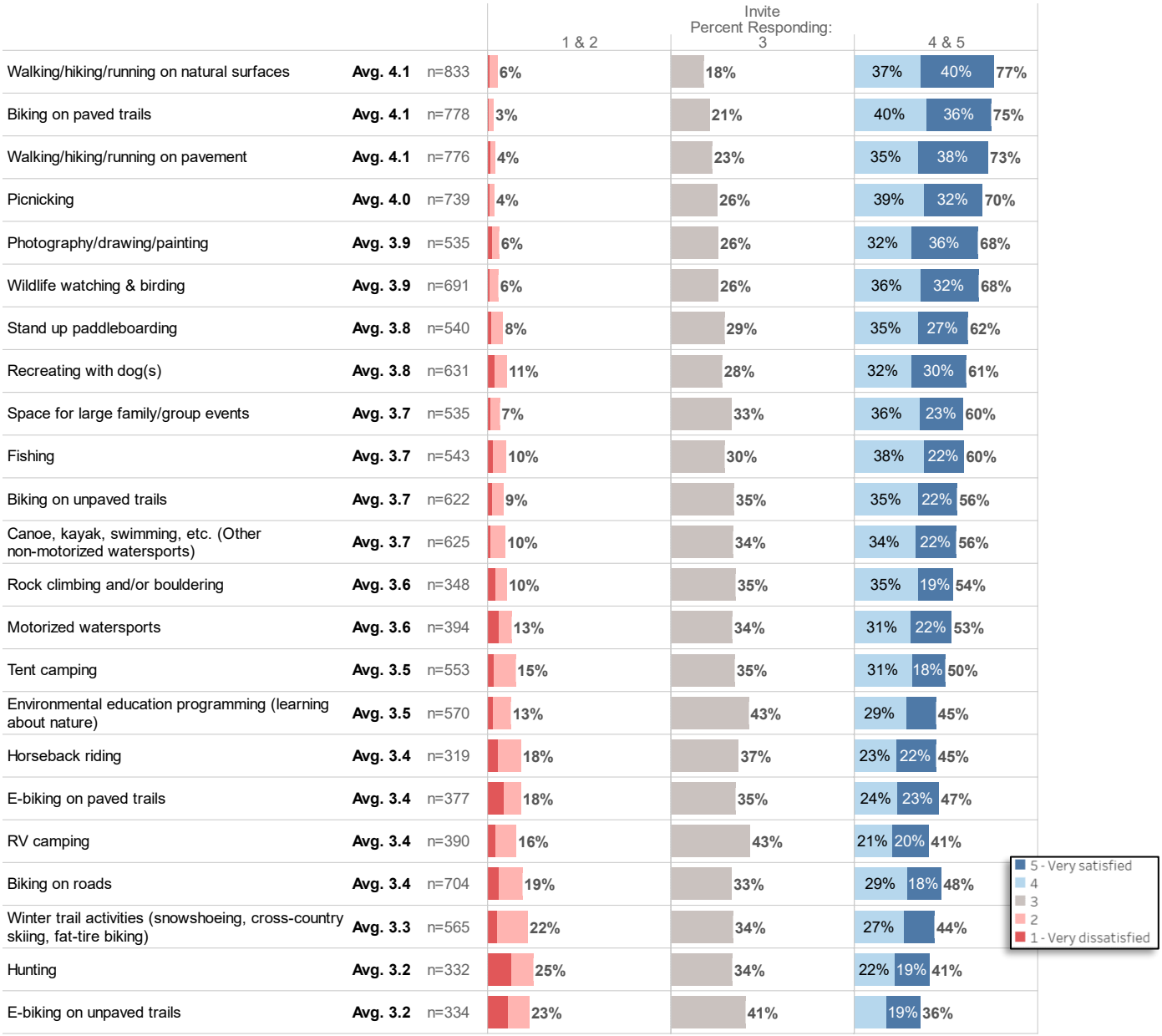
			1 & 2	3	4 & 5
Walking/hiking/running on natural surfaces	**Avg. 4.5**	n=953	6%	7%	67% 87%
Walking/hiking/running on pavement	**Avg. 3.8**	n=931	18%	17%	43% 65%
Biking on paved trails	**Avg. 3.8**	n=953	21%	14%	46% 65%
Wildlife watching & birding	**Avg. 3.5**	n=923	22%	22%	28% 28% 56%
Picnicking	**Avg. 3.5**	n=938	21%	26%	28% 25% 53%
Recreating with dog(s)	**Avg. 3.4**	n=903	27% 31%	12%	40% 56%
Canoe, kayak, swimming, etc. (Other non-motorized watersports)	**Avg. 3.3**	n=906	31%	18%	27% 50%
Tent camping	**Avg. 3.2**	n=876	32%	17%	27% 50%
Winter trail activities (snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, fat-tire biking)	**Avg. 3.2**	n=893	32%	22%	29% 45%
Environmental education programming (learning about nature)	**Avg. 3.1**	n=905	34%	28%	38%
Stand up paddleboarding	**Avg. 3.0**	n=874	29% 39%	18%	25% 43%
Photography/drawing/painting	**Avg. 3.0**	n=883	37%	26%	36%
Biking on roads	**Avg. 2.9**	n=930	25% 41%	21%	38%
Fishing	**Avg. 2.9**	n=900	30% 42%	18%	40%
Biking on unpaved trails	**Avg. 2.9**	n=913	25% 42%	24%	35%
Space for large family/group events	**Avg. 2.7**	n=881	30% 46%	25%	29%
Rock climbing and/or bouldering	**Avg. 2.2**	n=845	45% 63%	17%	20%
RV camping	**Avg. 2.2**	n=860	51% 66%	14%	20%
Hunting	**Avg. 2.0**	n=856	63% 71%	9%	20%
E-biking on paved trails	**Avg. 2.0**	n=878	58% 71%	11%	18%
Motorized watersports	**Avg. 2.0**	n=847	55% 71%	15%	14%
Horseback riding	**Avg. 1.9**	n=860	58% 73%	13%	14%
E-biking on unpaved trails	**Avg. 1.7**	n=860	64% 79%	10%	10%

Source: RRC

Walking/hiking/running on natural surfaces is the most important activity with 67% of respondents rating its importance a 4.5 out of 5, with 5 in being “very important” to the respondent’s household. Walking/hiking/running on pavement was also rated as highly important (3.8 average) to survey respondents. Biking on paved trails was rated as much more important than biking on unpaved trails at 66% importance and 35%, respectively. Within the activities in the middle, wildlife watching, picnicking, recreation with dog(s), and canoe, kayak, swimming all had over 50% of survey respondents rating them as either 4 or 5 in importance. Horseback riding, motorized watersports, and e-biking on unpaved trails ranked the lowest in terms of importance by survey respondents.

Figure 7
Satisfaction of Activities in Larimer County

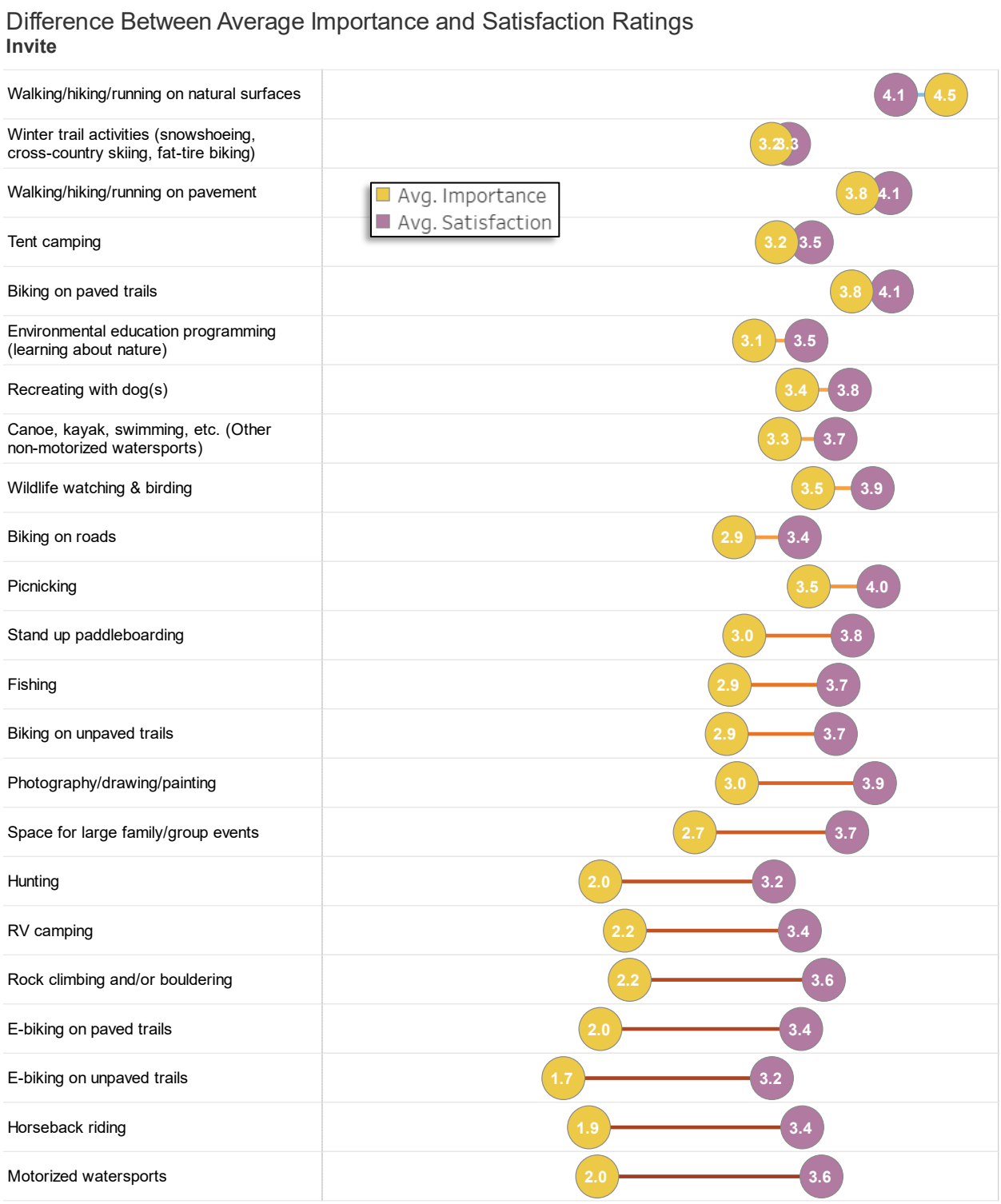
Please rate how satisfied you are with the availability and quality of these activities.



Source: RRC

Overall, there are relatively moderate to high levels of satisfaction with the most listed activities, all scoring at least a 3.2 out of 5 being "satisfied" to "very satisfied." As the top three most important activities, walking/hiking/running on pavement and natural surfaces, and biking on pavement also rated highest in terms of satisfaction. Lower on the list for ratings of satisfaction are winter trail activities (3.3 average), hunting (3.2 average) and e-biking on unpaved trails (3.2 average). These categories also rated lower in importance, and their satisfaction rating is generally split almost evenly between those who are satisfied and those who are not.

Figure 8
Difference Between Importance and Satisfaction Average Ratings

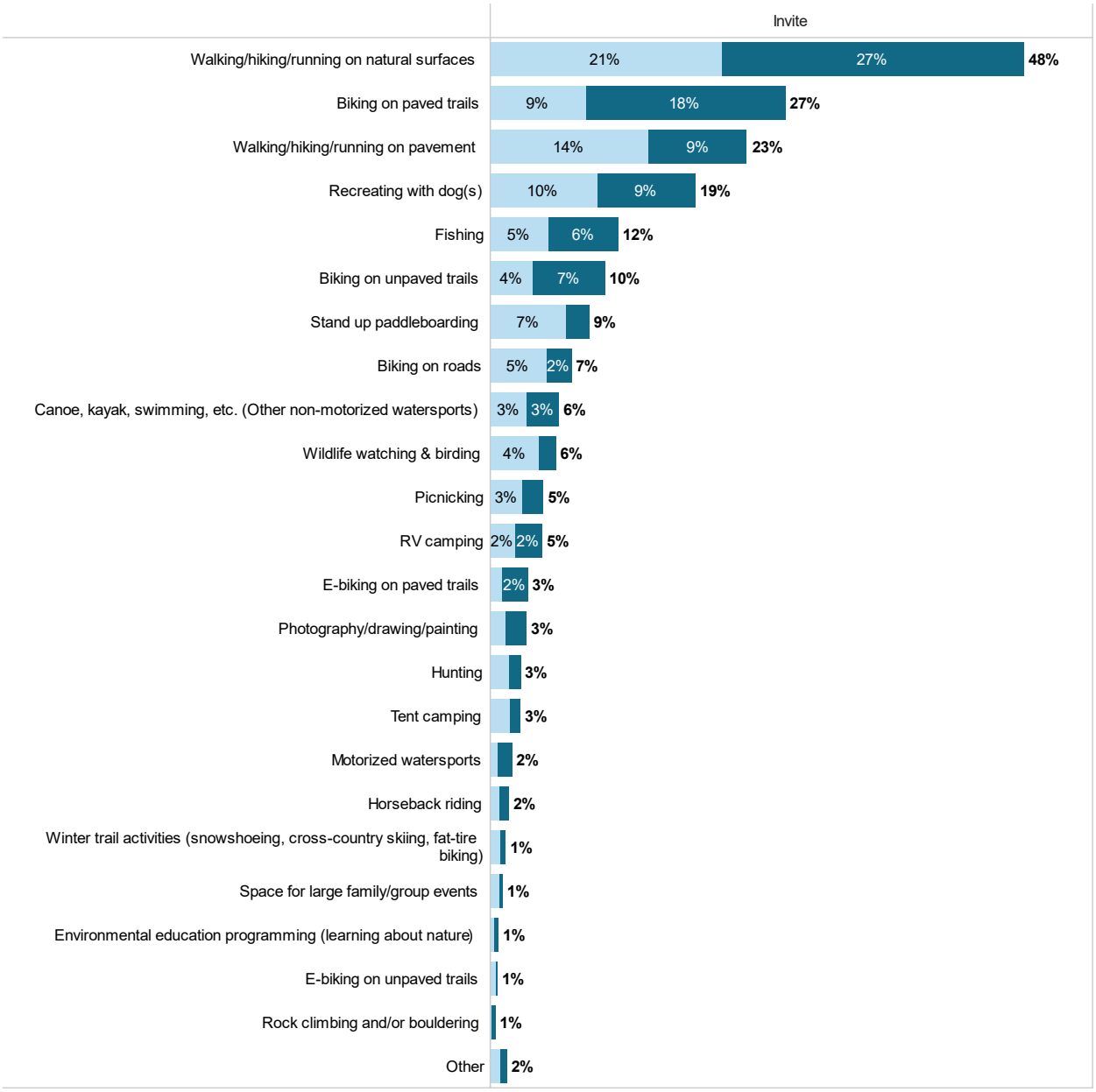


**Note: Scale: 1="Not at all important" to 5="Very important" for average importance and 1="Very dissatisfied" to 5="Very satisfied" for average satisfaction.*

Figure 8 highlights the difference between the average importance rating (yellow) of the various activities compared to the average satisfaction ratings (purple). Only one activity's average importance rating exceeds the average satisfaction rating, waking/hiking/running on natural surface trails, which may indicate this to be an area of improvement despite being the top rate activity overall. In general, having higher satisfaction ratings than importance is a positive indication for the performance of open space and trails, suggesting that the provided outdoor activities by Larimer County and Partners are largely meeting the needs of the community.

Figure 9
Top 2 Most Important Activities*

Which TWO activities are your household's most frequent activities?

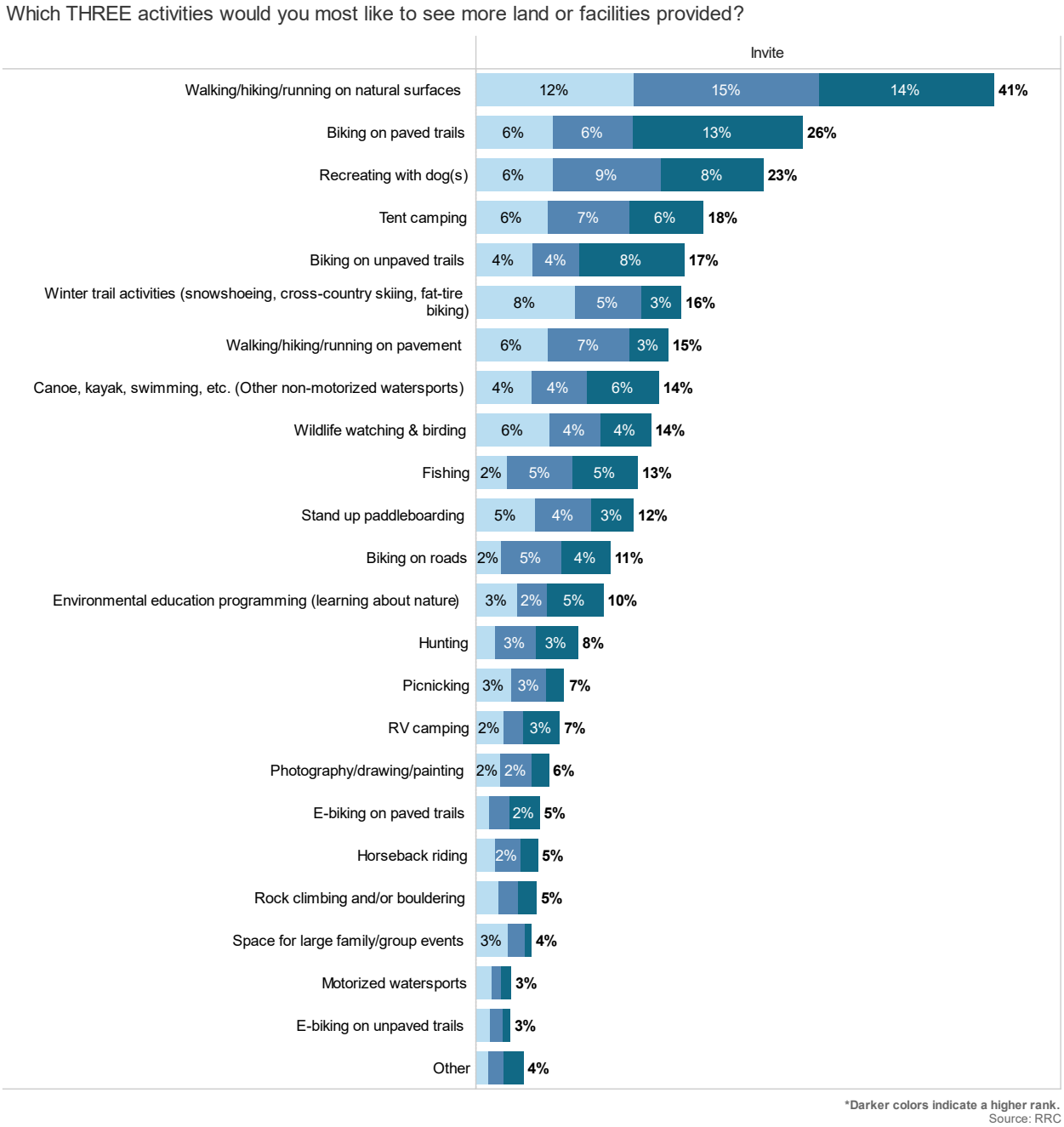


*Darker colors indicate a higher rank.
Source: RRC

**Darker colors indicate a higher rank*

Survey respondents identified the top activities their household most frequently participates, walking/hiking/running on natural surface trails was the most frequent activity (48% indicated a top two rank). Biking on paved trails (27%), walking/hiking/running on pavement (23%) and recreating with dogs (19%) are also frequent activities indicated by respondents.

Figure 10
Top 3 Activities Where More Land or Facilities Should Be Provided*



**Darker colors indicate a higher rank.*

Source: RRC

**Darker colors indicate a higher rank*

Respondents were then asked to select which three activities for which they would like to see more land or facilities provided. The most common response, again, was walking/hiking/running on natural surface trails at 41%. A total of 26% of respondents selected biking on paved trails as their first, second or third choice, ranking as the second selected activity overall. Winter activities are a growing sport, and this is supported by 16% of respondents selecting it as their first, second or third choice. The Outdoor Industry Association's 2023 Participation Report indicates that there is a

21% annual growth in snowshoeing and an 8.5% annual growth in cross-country skiing. Of lower importance is space for large family/group events, motorized watersports, and e-biking on paved trails.

Respondents were given the opportunity to provide suggestions for additional activities / services / amenities that they would like either Larimer County or Partners to provide. A total of 251 comments were received, representing approximately 24% of respondents who provided an answer to this question. Common themes include:

- **Accessibility and Inclusivity**: A notable number of responses express improving accessibility, particularly for individuals with disabilities. This includes requests for handicap-accessible fishing docks/piers, accessible trails for motorized wheelchairs, and improved access to public lands and facilities for disabled persons.

- **Outdoor and Recreational Facilities**: Respondents express a desire for a variety of outdoor facilities. This includes groomed cross-country ski areas, swimming beaches, community gardens, dog parks (including off-leash areas), and camping sites with better amenities and options for camping that are further away from other groups to provide more of a sense of solitude.

- **Water-Related Amenities**: There is interest to improve amenities related to water activities, such as improved boat ramps, more paddleboard rentals, and increased opportunities for fishing, including better-stocked rivers and lakes (although this is managed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife).

- **Public Transit and Infrastructure Improvements**: Respondents desire to see improved public transit to access public lands and improved infrastructure, such as safer road crossings for trails, more parking at popular sites, and better maintained restrooms are frequently mentioned.

- **Bike Trails:** There is an interest for more bike trails among open-ended responses. A combined 26% of open-ended comments for this question discussed bikes or bike trails. Many responses emphasize the need for safe, interconnected bike paths for both recreational and commuting purposes, including specific requests for mountain bike trails, bike lanes on roads, and paths connecting neighborhoods to larger trail systems.

- **Educational and Community Programs**: Respondents are interested in more educational opportunities related to the environment, wildlife, and outdoor skills. This includes outdoor education for kids, community clean-up days, and environmental conservation education.

- **Diverse Recreational Opportunities**: There are requests for a wide range of specific recreational facilities and activities, such as disc golf courses, archery ranges, indoor sports facilities, amusement parks, and areas for winter sports like sledding and snowboarding.

- **Safety and Enforcement**: Some responses highlight the need for better safety measures and enforcement in outdoor areas, including concerns about interactions between different

types of trail users (e.g., hikers, bikers, e-bike riders) and the need for more rangers or policing.

- **Inclusivity in Language and Programs**: A few responses indicate a desire for bilingual access to outdoor recreation and programs that cater to diverse communities, including non-English speakers.

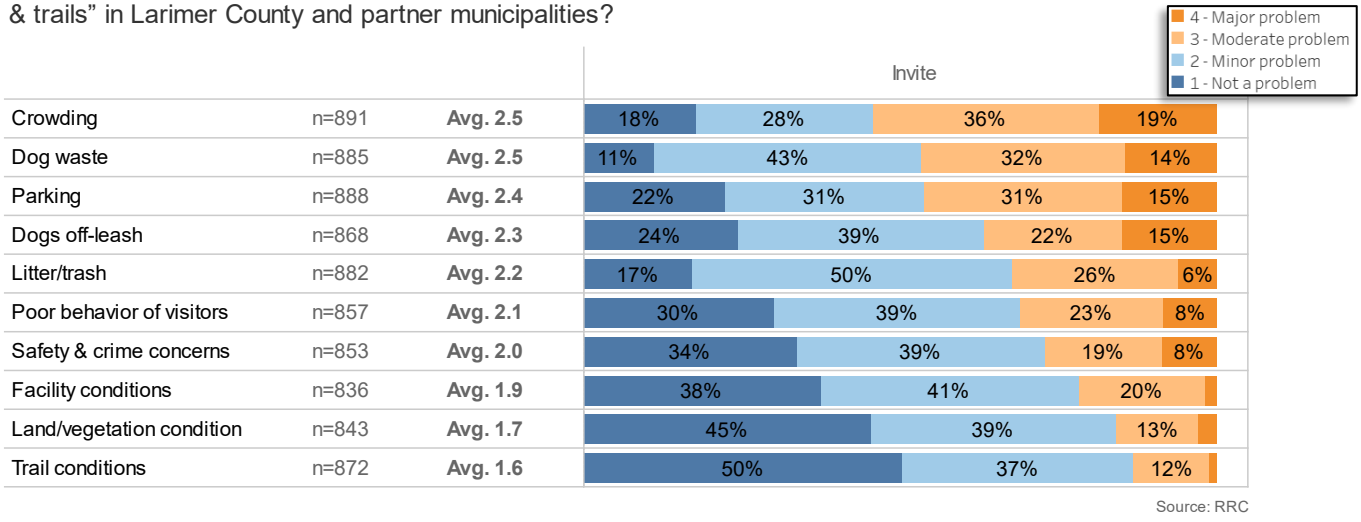
- **Conservation and Environmental Stewardship**: There is a clear interest in conservation efforts, including preserving sensitive ecosystems, providing more natural areas with minimal human impact, and programs that involve residents in land improvement.

- **Affordability and Access**: Some responses call for more affordable options or free access to county residents for various services and amenities, such as reduced fees for seniors and free or reduced-price permits/passes.

RECREATION & CONSERVATION CHALLENGES & LONG-TERM PLANNING IN LARIMER COUNTY

Figure 11
Site-Specific Issues at Open Space and Trails

How much of a problem do you think each of the following site-specific issues are currently at "Open space & trails" in Larimer County and partner municipalities?



Source: RRC

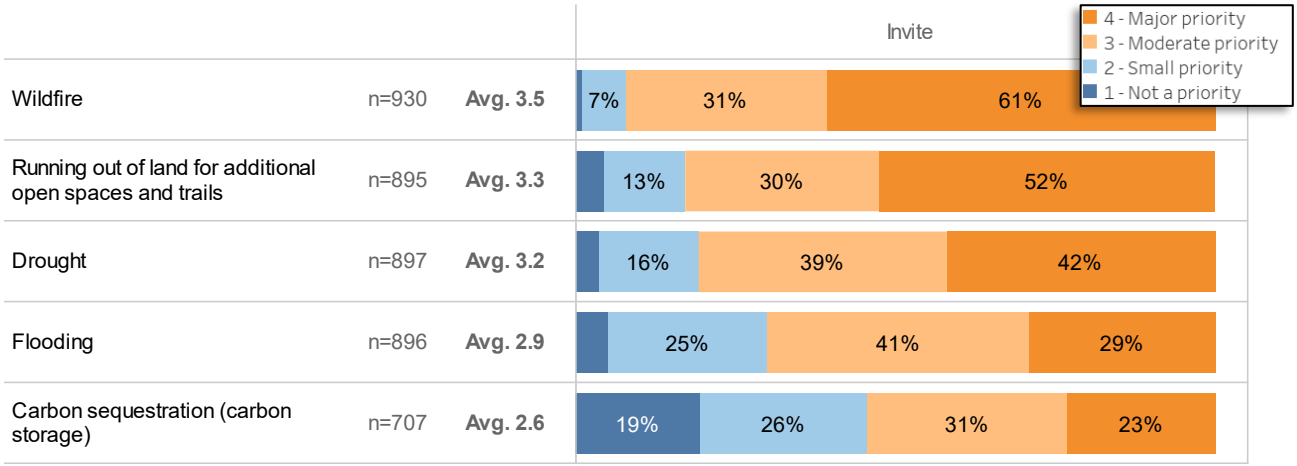
Crowding was rated as the most impactful site-specific issue to residents on open space and trails in Larimer County. Almost half (45%) of respondents rated crowding as a "moderate" or "major problem." However, although crowding ranked the highest, "poor behavior of visitors "was rated as a "moderate" or "major problem" by 31% of respondents. Even then, all issues had an average of less than or equal to 2.5 out of 4.0 with none of the issues having a large percentage of those signaling a "major" problem. While there are possible areas to focus on, there is not a cause for major concern based on overall averages at this time.

Dog waste and parking were rated just below crowding with approximately 46% of respondents rating each as either a "moderate" or "major problem." Respondents are less concerned with trail conditions as half of the sample indicated that trail conditions are "not a problem".

Respondents were given an opportunity to provide an example of "other" site-specific issues at open space and trails in Larimer County and partner municipalities. A total of 62 other write-in examples were collected. Of those comments, common themes include issues such as off-leash dogs, e-bike regulations, and the persons experiencing homelessness. Environmental stewardship issues were noted (including waste disposal and trail conditions) along with improved accessibility for all users, and concerns over rising costs, reflect a collective call for sustainable and inclusive outdoor spaces. This feedback captures a community deeply invested in preserving the quality and accessibility of their natural landscapes, advocating for equally valued conservation and recreation strategies that cater to diverse needs and environmental stewardship.

Figure 12
Long-Term Planning Priorities

How much of a priority should be given to the following long-term planning issues at "Open space & trails" in Larimer County and partner municipalities?



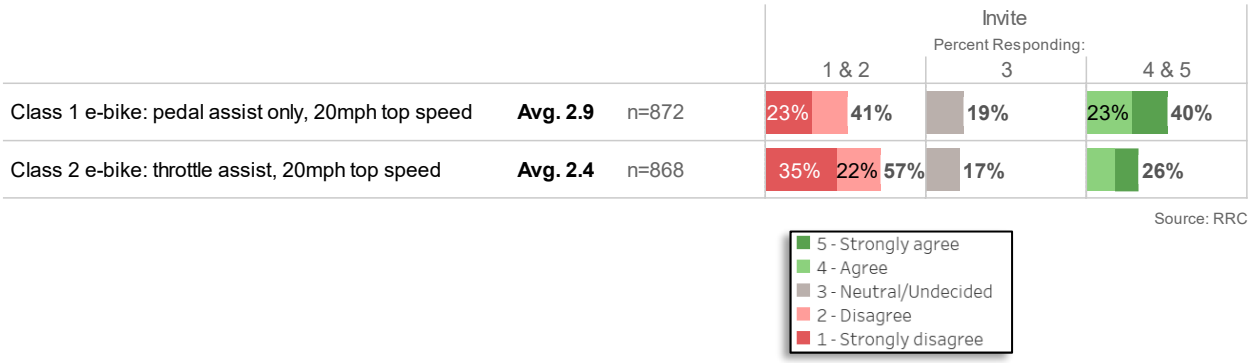
Source: RRC

Overall, respondents are more concerned about long-term planning issues than the site-specific issues listed in Figure 12. 92% of respondents stated wildfires as a "major priority" or "moderate priority" for the area to focus on long-term. 82% of respondents indicated that running out of land for additional open spaces and trails is a "major priority" or "moderate priority". Sentiments are mixed for the level of priority in which carbon sequestration should have in long-range planning; however, over 50% still rate it as a "moderate" to "major priority".

Only 2% of the sample included "other" long-term planning priorities. Responses were collected and emphasize conservation, sustainability, infrastructure, education, and community safety. Respondents voice strong support for protecting natural landscapes and agricultural land, reducing environmental pollution, and enhancing the ecological balance through wildlife corridors and dark skies preservation. Clear demand exists for better accessibility across trails and parks, ensuring spaces are welcoming for people with disabilities and well-connected. Additionally, addressing safety and providing solutions for the unhoused population are highlighted as priorities. Overall, the comments reflect a vision focused on sustainable growth, environmental stewardship, and accessibility.

Figure 13
E-bikes on Trails

Considering the increasing popularity of e-bikes, and our goal to better manage their use, please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: “E-bikes should be allowed on natural surface trails, alongside traditional bicycles"

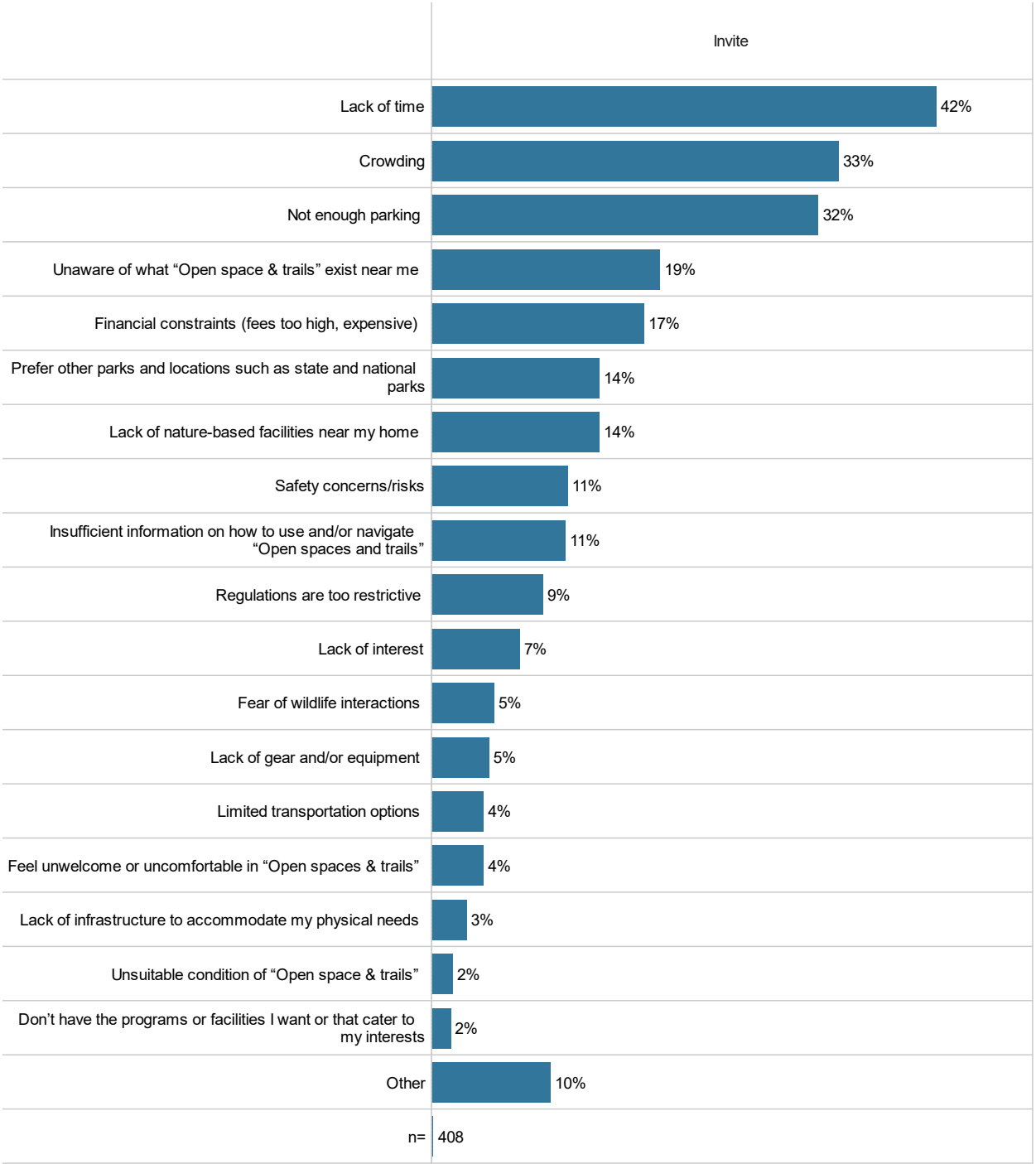


In Figure 13, there is greater support for Class 1 e-bikes on natural surface trails (48%) compared to Class 2 e-bikes (26%). However, respondents are split with their level of support for Class 1 e-bikes on natural surface trails with 41% saying they “disagree” or “strongly disagree” and 40% indicating that they “agree” or “strongly agree” that Class 1 e-bikes should be allowed on nature surface trails. Class 2 e-bikes had much less support with 57% of respondents disagreeing with their use on natural surface trails. Class 3 e-bikes were not included in the question because they're currently prohibited on all Larimer County and Partner's natural surface trails.

BARRIERS TO USE

Figure 14
Barriers to Use of Open Space & Trails in Larimer County

If you don't use "Open space & trails" in Larimer County, what are the reasons? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)



Source: RRC

Lack of time (42%), crowding (33%), and not enough parking (32%) are identified as the primary reasons respondents indicated as to why they don't use open space and trails in Larimer County. Compared to 2012, crowding and parking have become much more prominent issues at site specific locations. In 2012, crowding was only listed by 17% of respondents and lack of parking by only 3% compared to the 2023 survey at 33% and 32% respectively.

Most respondents who didn't visit open space and trails indicated it was not due to a lack of interest, as just 7% of respondents chose this for the reason they didn't visit. The lowest selected reason for non-visitation is that Larimer County in 2023 is that open space and trails "does not have the programs or facilities that I want or cater to my interest" (2%), indicating that the land managers are doing an excellent job at providing a variety of experiences for all user types for the 98% of respondents who forwent selecting this response. Furthermore, respondents are highly satisfied with the condition of open space and trails with only 2% of both samples responding they do not visit due to "unsuitable conditions of open space and trails".

Even with growing familiarity, some respondents still have a slight lack of knowledge regarding Larimer County open space and trails. A total of 19% responded that they are unaware of what open space and trails exist near them and 11% reported there being insufficient information on how to use and/or navigate open space and trails. While familiarity with these areas has grown substantially, the survey data suggests there is still room for some residents to be better informed about what is available.

Following the multiple-choice question above, respondents were given an opportunity to provide any additional details for why they do not use Larimer County open space and trails. A total of 96 comments were collected from respondents with the following themes occurring:

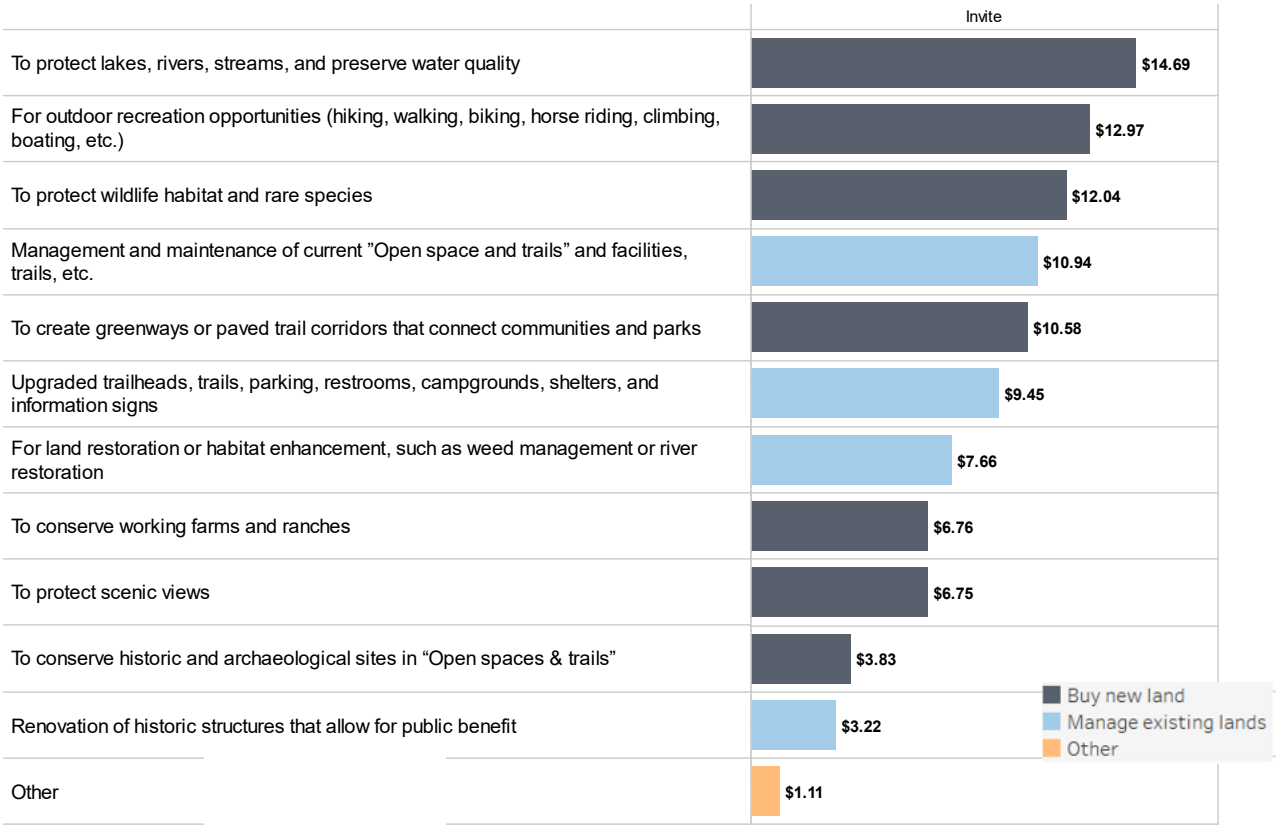
- **Accessibility and Physical Limitations**: Many respondents mention age, health conditions, and physical limitations as factors restricting their use of open spaces and trails. This includes concerns about the ability to navigate trails due to mobility issues, the need for frequent rest stops, and the challenges faced by disabled individuals.
- **Safety and Comfort Concerns**: Safety is a recurring theme, with concerns ranging from the behavior of other trail users (such as fast-moving cyclists) to the presence of persons experiencing homelessness and the potential for crime. There are also mentions of discomfort due to encounters with unleashed dogs and wildlife such as rattlesnakes.
- **Crowding and Overuse**: Many respondents express frustration with overcrowding in popular areas, leading to a diminished experience. This includes issues with parking availability, crowded trails, and the number of visitors coming from outside the county. Crowding makes these spaces less appealing, especially on weekends.
- **Cost and Economic Barriers**: The cost of accessing certain open spaces and trails, including entrance fees and vehicle permits, is mentioned as a barrier. This is particularly noted as a concern for lower-income individuals and seniors, suggesting a need for more affordable access and/or awareness about the discounts that are currently offered.
- **Lack of Awareness or Information**: There are indications that a lack of awareness or information about available open spaces, trails, and related amenities limits usage. This includes not knowing where these spaces are, a need for more information on new projects and trails, and a desire for better publicity about what is currently available.

These themes highlight the importance of accessibility, safety, managing overcrowding, affordability, and providing effective communication about available recreational opportunities to encourage broader and more inclusive use of Larimer County open spaces and trails.

FINANCIAL PRIORITIES & TAXES

Figure 15
Allocation of Funds

If you had $100 in public funds to spend on open space, trails, agricultural land, and/or construction of nature-based recreation amenities in Larimer County, how would you allocate those funds in $5 minimum increments?

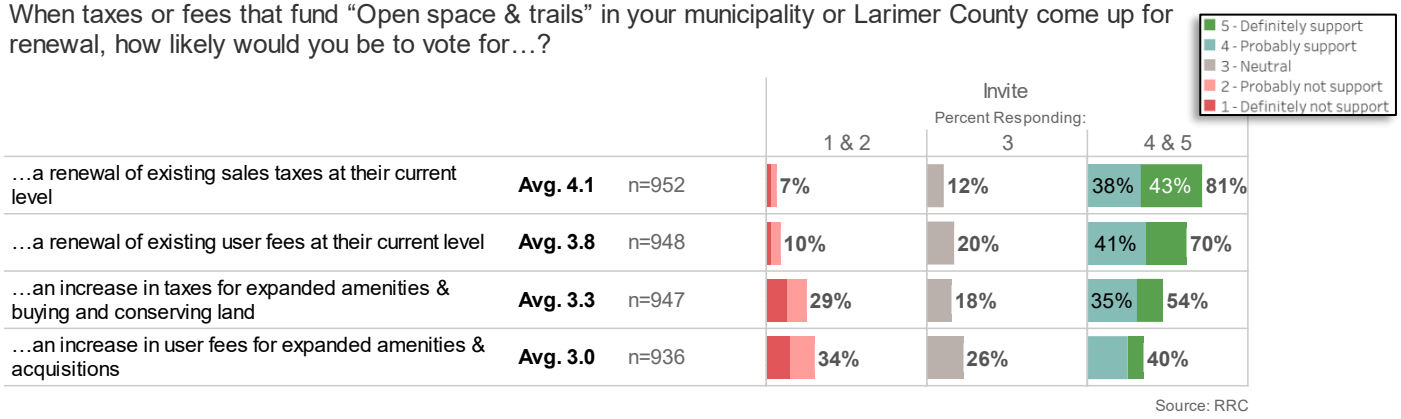


Financial priorities are a strong driver to determine what residents would like to spend their tax dollars on in the future. Asked in all previous iterations, the survey asked respondents to allocate a hypothetical $100 across a variety of categories in $5 increments. Respondents are asked to prioritize which actions are most preferred with a fixed budget.

Respondents placed the highest monetary priority on protecting lakes, rivers, streams, and preserving water quality ($14.69) with funding outdoor recreation opportunities (hiking, walking, biking, etc.) ($12.97) second. Protecting wildlife habitat and rare species ($12.04), management of maintenance of current open space and trails facilities/trails ($10.94) and creating greenways or paved trail corridors that connect communities and parks ($10.58) were close to the top as well.

Figure 16
Tax and Fee Support

When taxes or fees that fund "Open space & trails" in your municipality or Larimer County come up for renewal, how likely would you be to vote for…?



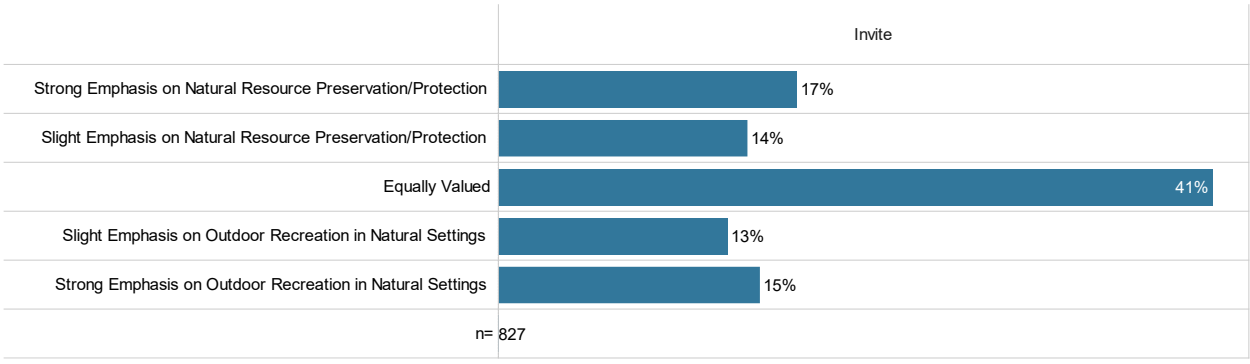
Source: RRC

Overall, a renewal of existing sales taxes at their current level is highly supported at 81% of respondents saying that they either "definitely support" or "will probably support" renewal of sales taxes. This is followed by 70% of respondents supporting renewal of existing user fees at their current level in terms of level of support. The least supported option is an increase in user fees for expanded amenities and acquisitions; however, 40% of respondents felt that they would "probably support" or "definitely support" this option.

LARIMER COUNTY OPEN SPACE & TRAILS VALUES

Figure 17
Recreation and Conservation

Using the scale below, please select the word choice that indicates what emphasis you would like to see Larimer County and our cities and towns pursue.

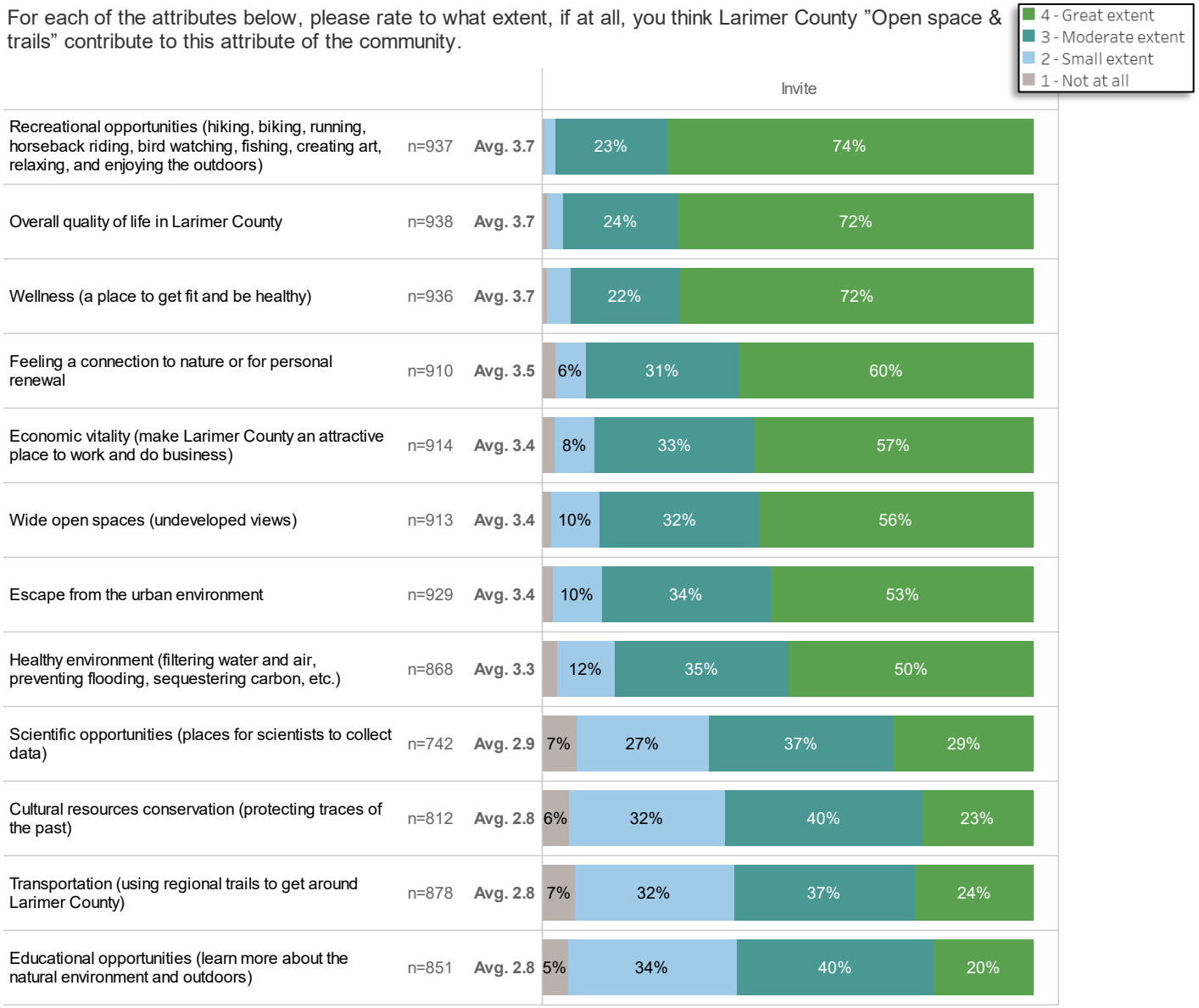


Source: RRC

When selecting a choice between valuing conservation and outdoor recreation in natural settings, most respondents feel that they should be equally valued (41%). The remaining respondents are generally split between conservation (31% combined) and outdoor recreation in natural settings (28% combined). This question has served in the past as a baseline for overall priorities for agencies within the county. Comparisons to the 2012 study continue to show a consistent theme of equally valuing conservation and outdoor recreation as well at 45%.

Figure 18
Contributions to Community

For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think Larimer County "Open space & trails" contribute to this attribute of the community.

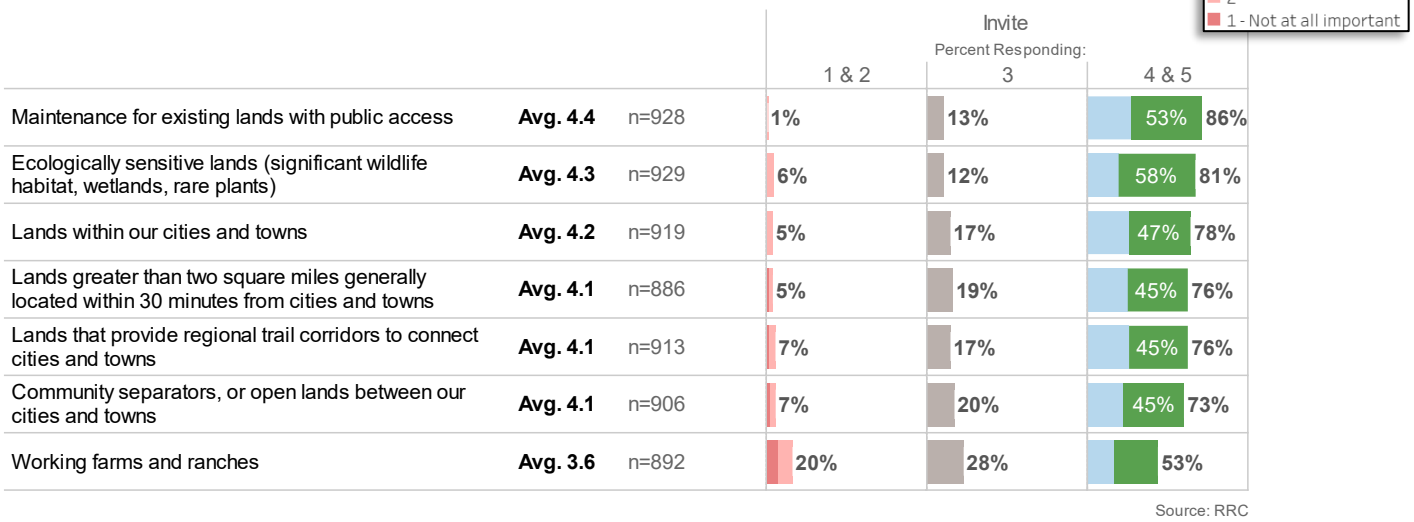


Source: RRC

Respondents were asked to rate which reasons Larimer County open space and trails contribute the greatest to the community. The top three reasons included recreational opportunities, overall quality of life in Larimer County, and wellness, all rating an average of 3.7 out of 4. Topics such as the level of impact scientific opportunities, transportation, cultural resource conservation, and educational opportunities saw averages under an average of 3.0 out of 4.

Figure 19
Funding Considerations

How important are each of the following items for public agencies to consider when prioritizing funds to purchase or conserve land throughout Larimer County.

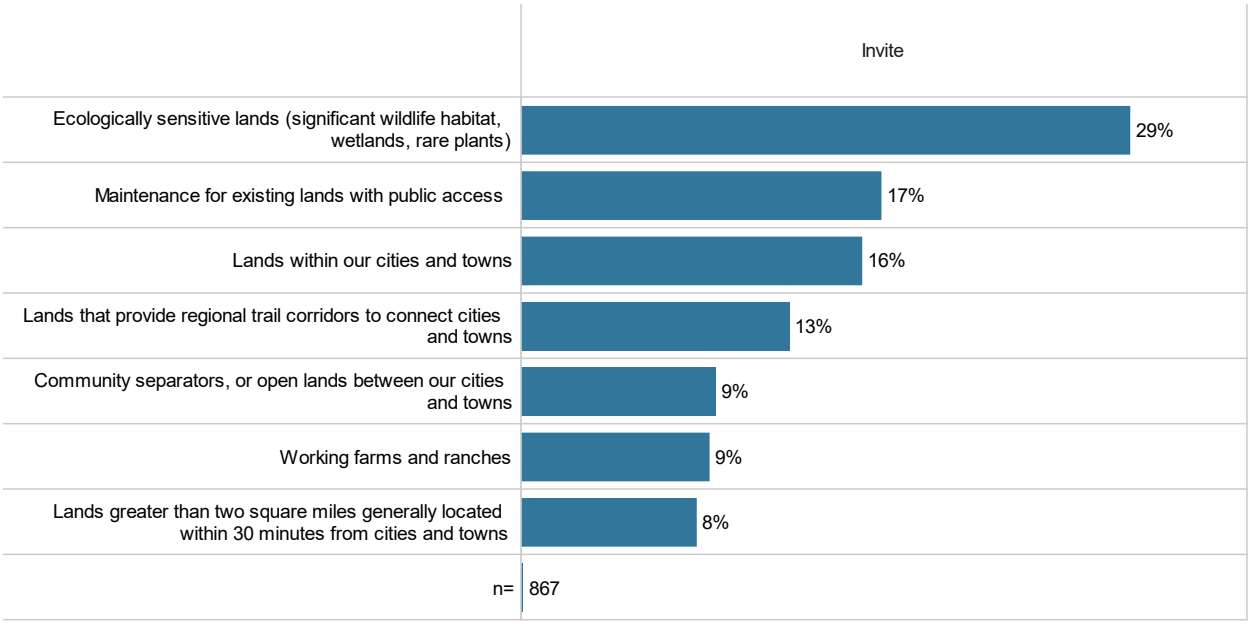


Source: RRC

Respondents indicated that maintenance for existing lands with public access (86% rated either 4 or 5 on importance) should be the top priority to consider for funding or purchasing or conserving land throughout Larimer County. 81% of respondents indicated that ecologically sensitive lands are "important" or "very important" when prioritizing funding. However, all categories showed relatively high importance with an average rating of 4.1 or higher out of 5. Working farms and ranches were rated as the least important to consider when prioritizing funds to purchase or conserve land throughout Larimer County. A notable exception was respondents from the Town of Berthoud in which 71% indicated that working farms and ranches are "important" or "very important" when compared to other communities.

Figure 20
Top Funding Priority

From the question above, which one of these items do you consider to be the single most important priority?



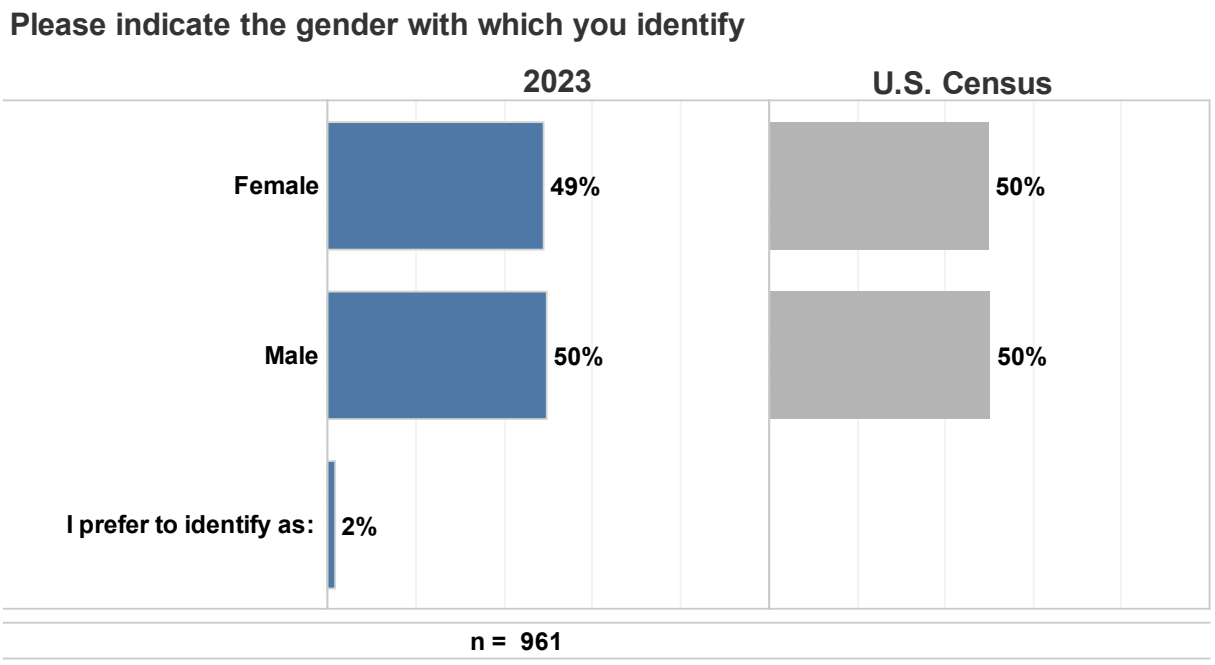
Source: RRC

When asked to select their top priority from the options above, respondents feel that ecologically sensitive lands are the most important priority when asked about prioritizing funding. In fact, 29% of respondents prioritize this single item over all other options presented. The next highest priorities are maintenance for existing lands with public access (17%) and lands within our cities and towns at 16% of respondents selecting it as the top priority.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographic questions were asked at the end of the survey and while some demographics are weighted to match U.S. Census data, it's important to compare the general makeup of respondents to understand how it fits within the general profile of the county. Throughout the section, demographics from the 2023 survey are compared against the 2022 U.S. Census American Community Survey (ACS) where possible. Graphs without a comparison either differed from the ACS or are not asked.

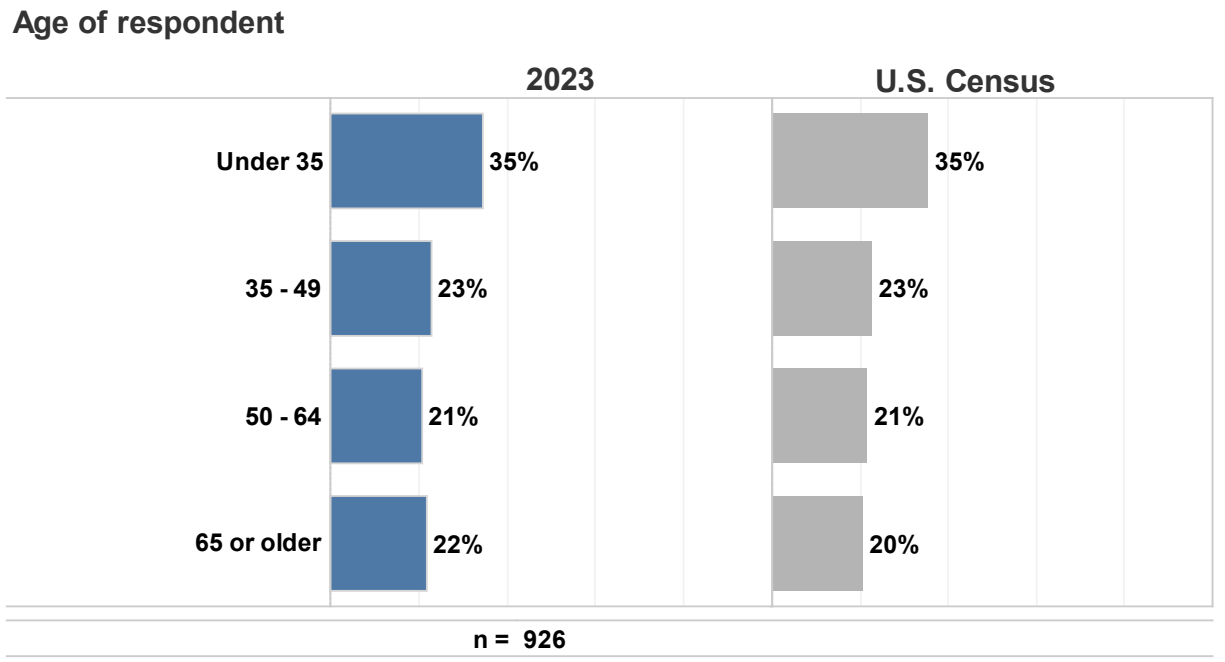
Figure 21
Gender



Note: U.S. Census data reflects the 2022 U.S. Census American Community Survey

The statistically valid results were weighted by gender using US Census data to better reflect the demographic makeup of Larimer County. Overall, the gender distribution is close with 50% of respondents identifying as male and 49% as female. A small portion identify as another gender or preferred not to answer the question.

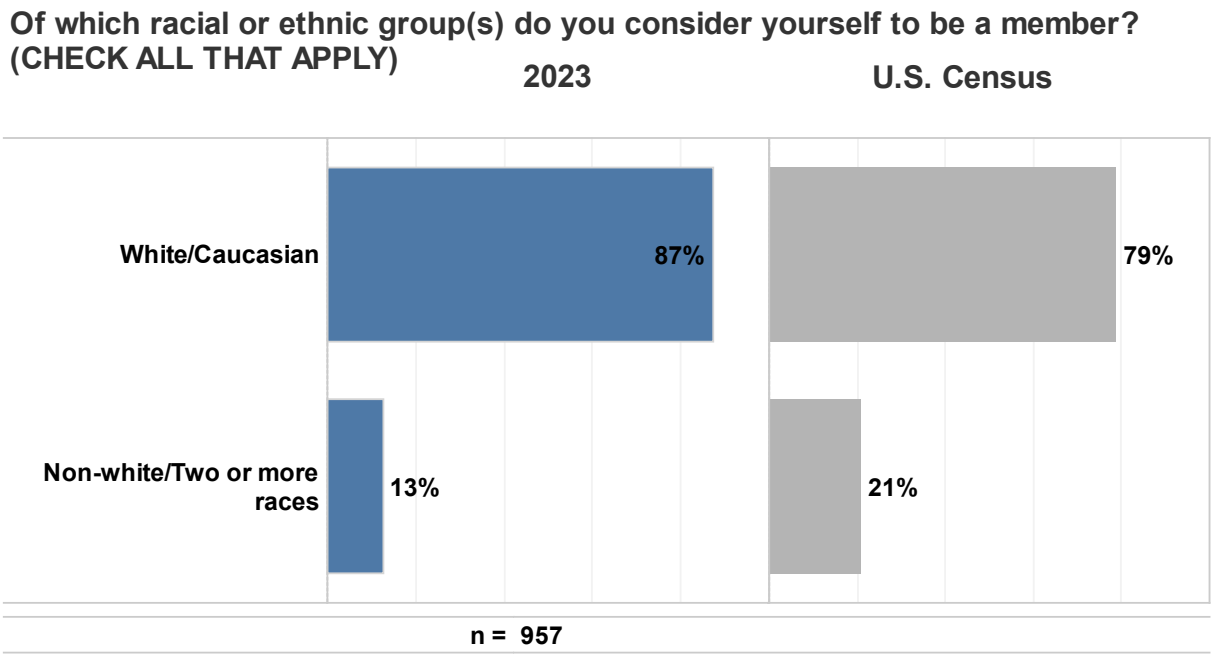
Figure 22
Age



Note: U.S. Census data reflects the 2022 U.S. Census American Community Survey

As shown in Figure 22, the overall sample was weighted by age using US Census data to better reflect the demographic makeup of Larimer County. Because of weighting, the sample's age distribution is almost identical to the 2022 ACS results. Note: the 18-24 and 25–34-year-old respondents were combined and displayed as "Under 35" to weight the data more accurately. All respondents over 18 were included within the analysis.

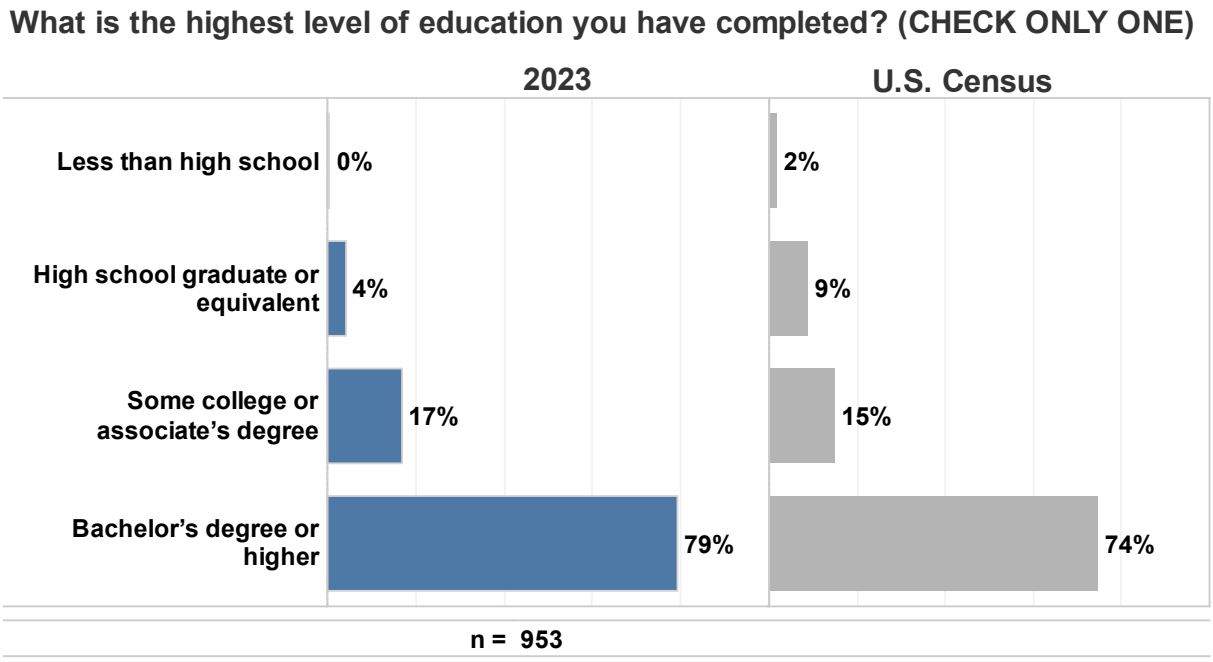
Figure 23
Race and Ethnicity



Note: U.S. Census data reflects the 2022 U.S. Census American Community Survey

Most respondents consider themselves White/Caucasian (82%) with smaller percentages of respondents who identify as either non-white or two or more races (12%). An additional 6% of respondents preferred not to answer the question. Responses differ somewhat from the 2022 ACS results where non-white or two or more races make up approximately 8 percentage points more of the total population.

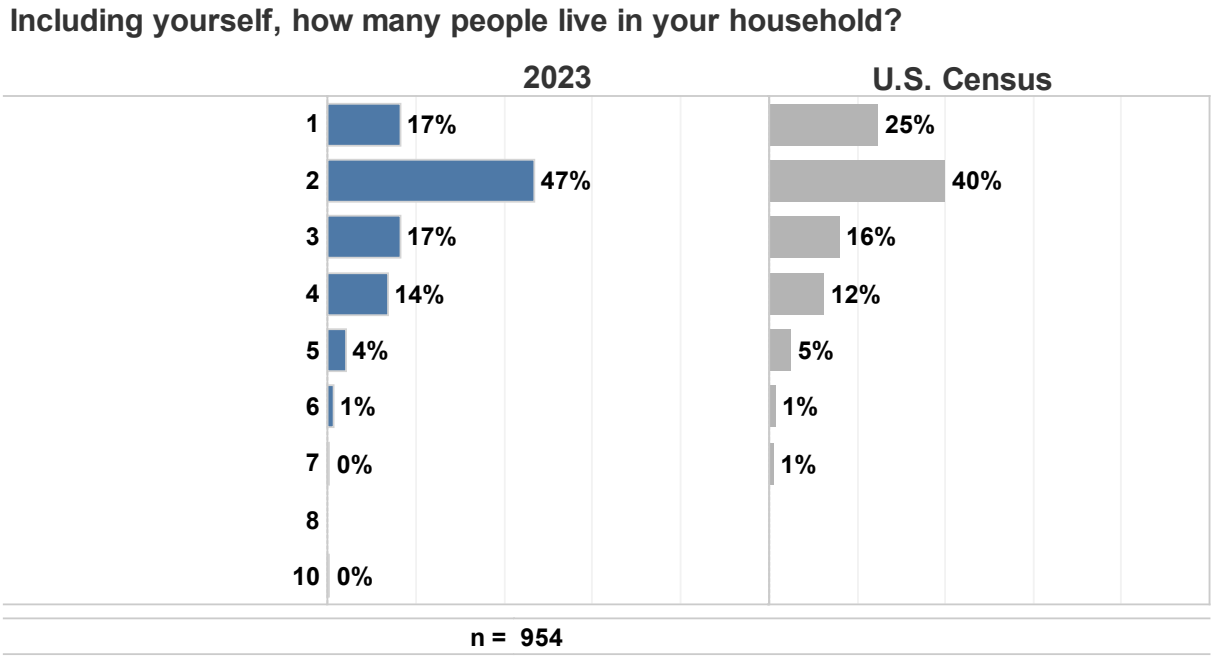
Figure 24
Education



Note: U.S. Census data reflects the 2022 U.S. Census American Community Survey

The majority of respondents (78%) have earned a Bachelor's degree or higher. About 17% have earned some college or an Associate's degree with 4% high school graduate or equivalent. Results are like the 2022 ACS with the exception of a slightly higher percentage of those with a Bachelor's degree or higher.

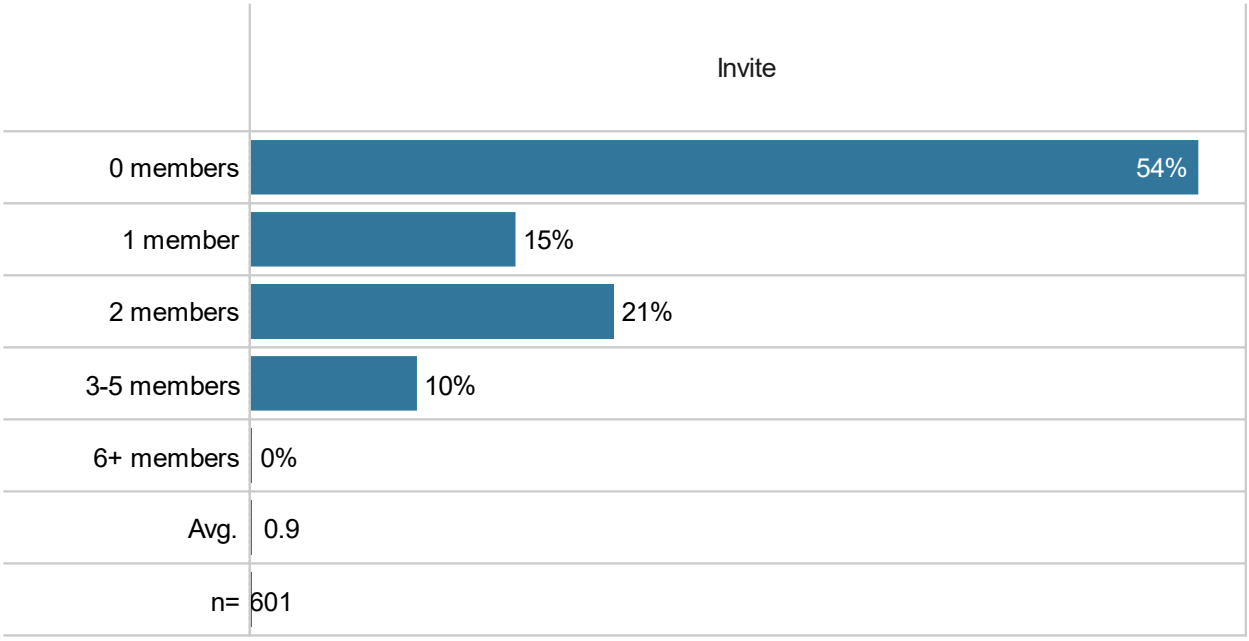
Figure 25
Household Makeup



Note: U.S. Census data reflects the 5-year 2020 American Community Survey.

Figure 26
Children in Household

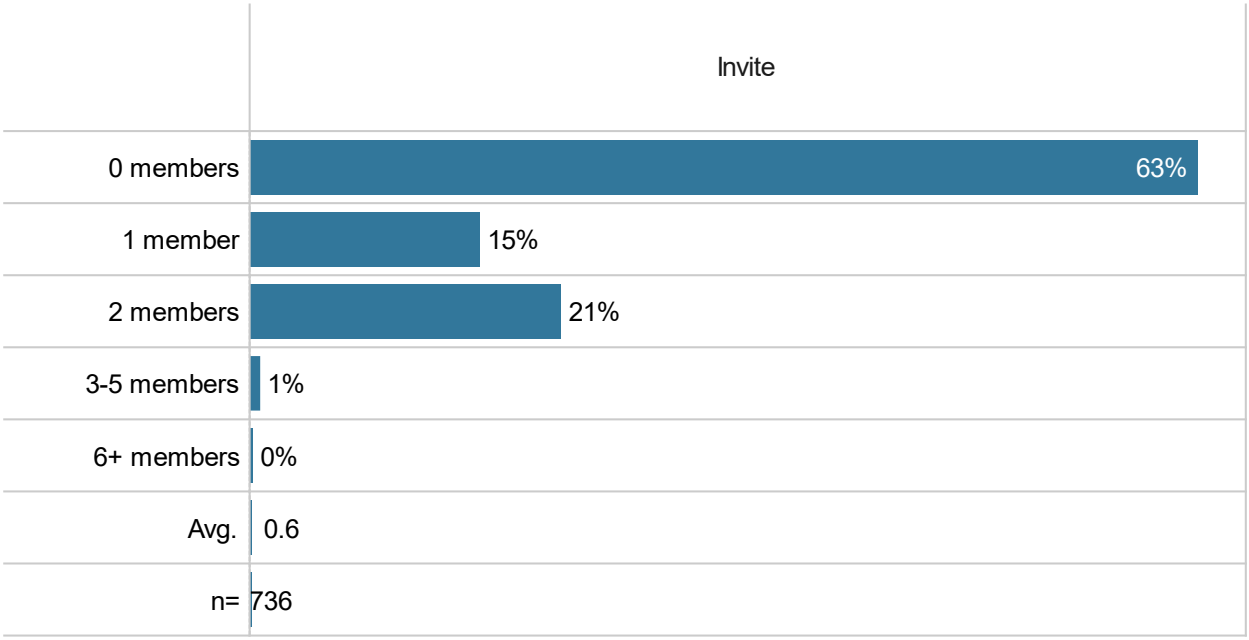
How many members of your household are under the age of 18?



Source: RRC

Figure 27
Seniors in Household

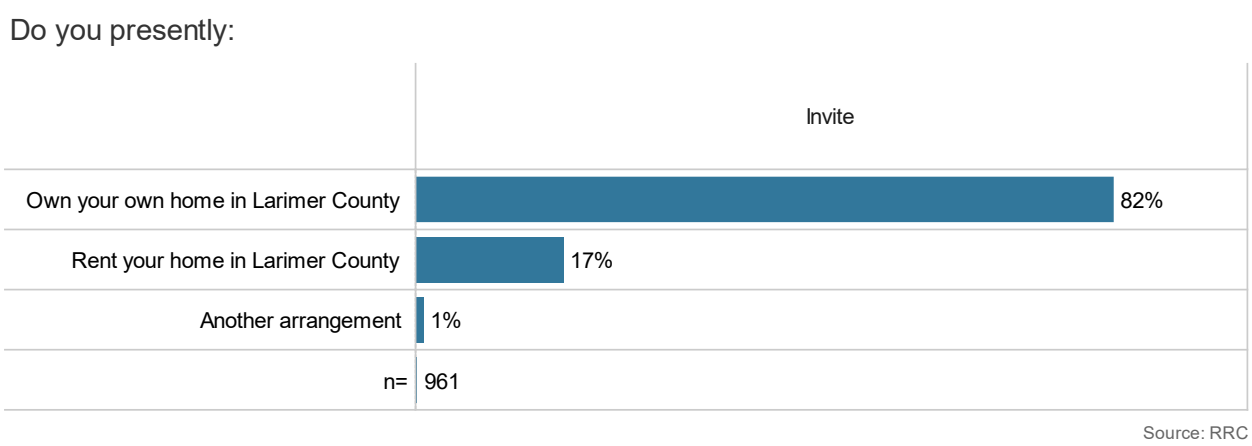
How many members of your household are over the age of 65?



Source: RRC

The questionnaire contained three questions designed to determine "household status" or the makeup of the family unit. Respondents indicated how many people live in the household, how many members are under age 18, and how many members are over age 65. Nearly half of the respondents live in two-person households (47%), and 17% live by themselves. About 2% of respondents live in households of six or more people. Almost half of all households include a family member under age 18 (46%), and approximately 36% of respondents indicated one or two members of the household are over age 65.

Figure 28
Home Ownership

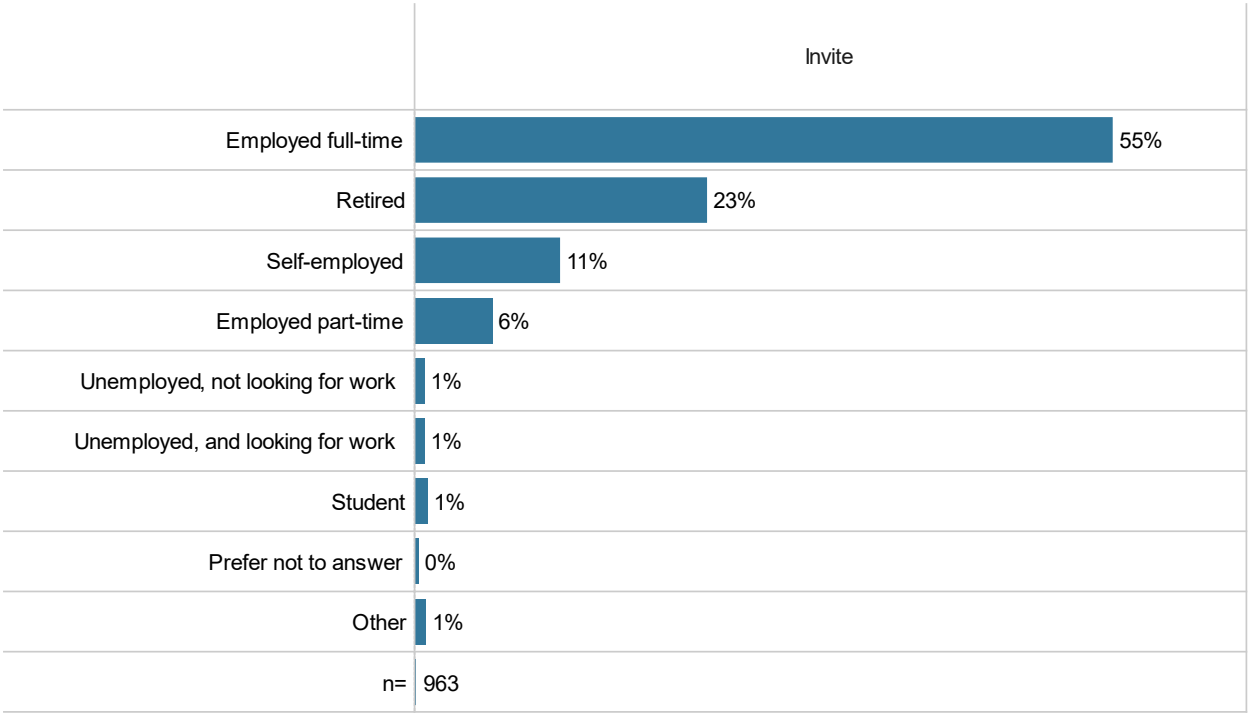


Source: RRC

Most respondents own their home in Larimer County (82%) with approximately 17% renting and 1% with another type of housing arrangement.

Figure 29
Employment

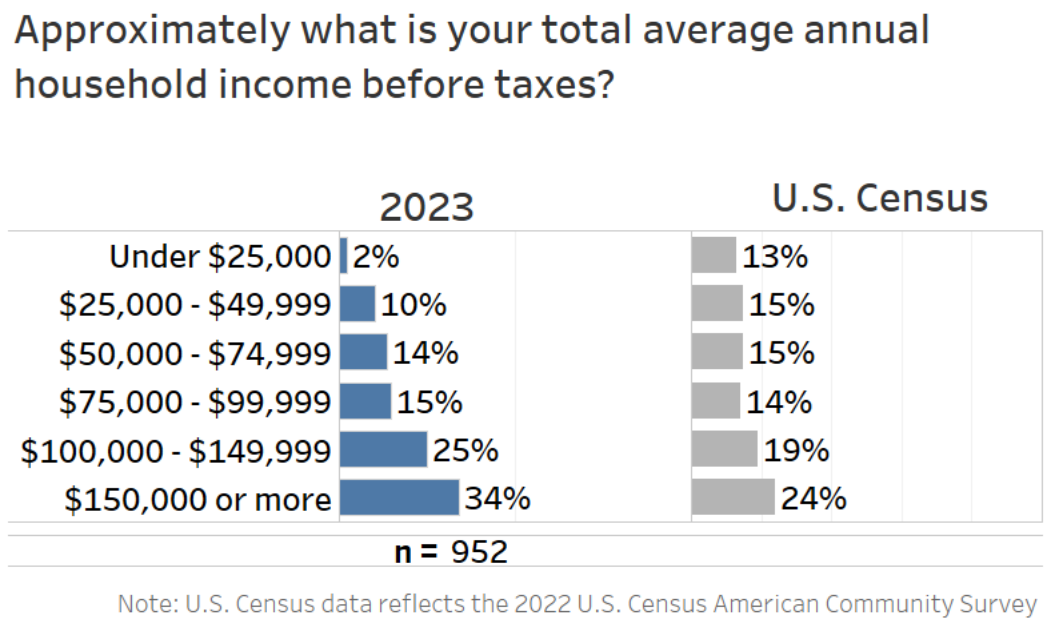
Which category best describes your current employment?



Source: RRC

Over half of all respondents are employed full-time (55%) with just under a quarter (23%) are retired. Self-employment (11%) and employed part-time (6%) are the next most common responses from residents.

Figure 30
Income



Survey respondents are fairly affluent compared to the median household of the state overall. Half of all respondents indicated earning over $100,000 (50%) compared to Larimer County's overall median household income of $87,199 (U.S. Census, July 2023). A somewhat large percentage of respondents preferred to not answer the question (15%), which is typical in survey research on household income.

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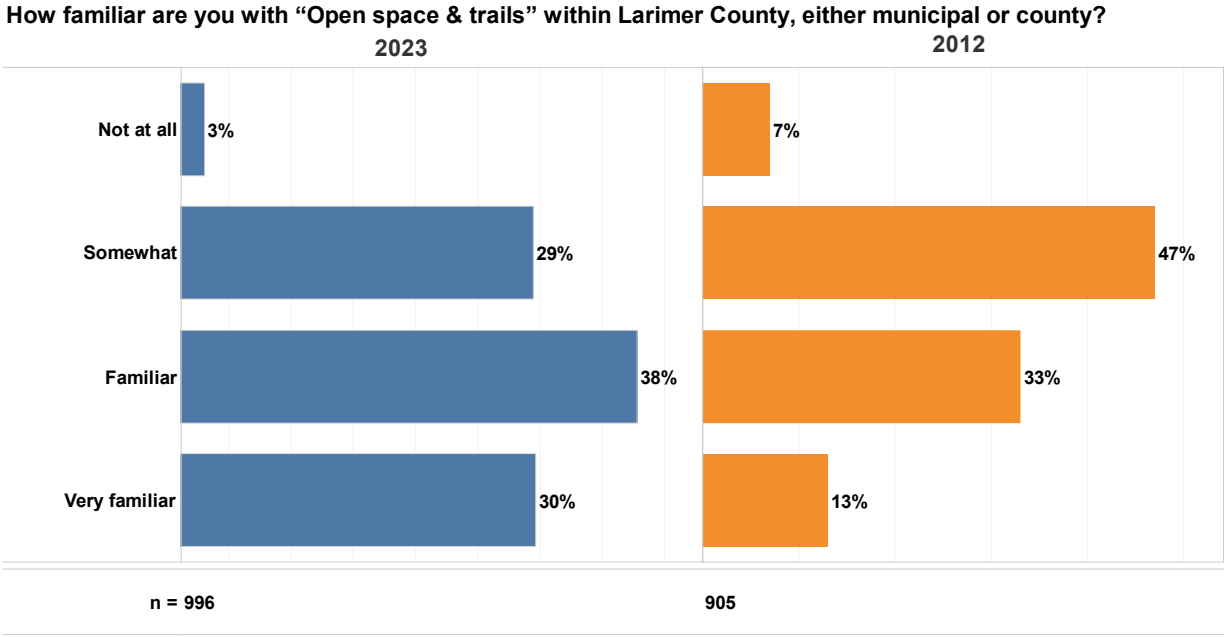
HISTORIC DATA FINDINGS

HISTORIC DATA FINDINGS

The 2023 Larimer County Our Lands, Our Future survey questions followed a similar format as the 2012 survey. Some questions were kept intact as appropriate for comparisons and analysis, where feasible. In this section, the similar questions from the 2012 and 2023 survey are compared and visualized. These historic comparisons are important for long-term planning and measuring change over time.

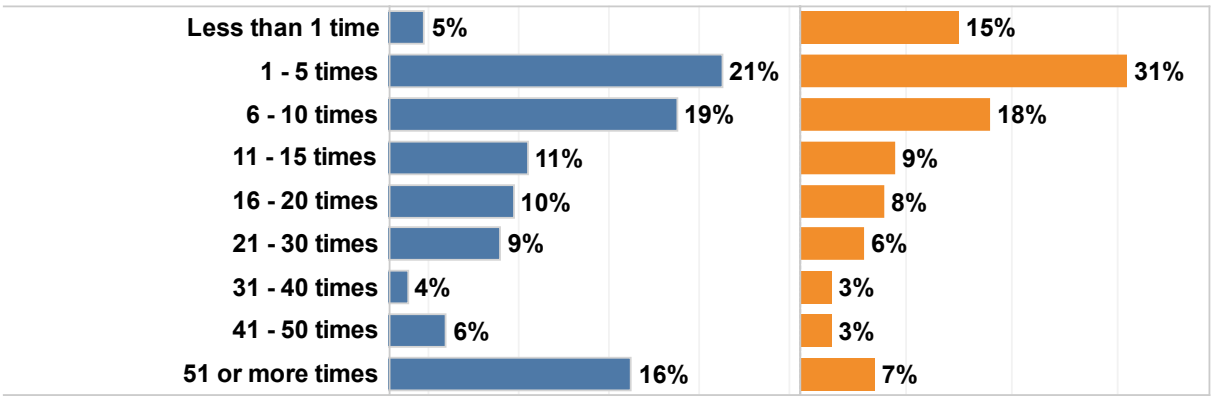
Figure 31
2012 vs. 2023 Level of Familiarity



The level of familiarity with natural areas and nature-based recreation areas by residents of Larimer County has increased over the past 10 years from the 2012 survey. In 2023, over 65% of respondents are either "familiar" or "very familiar" with locations across the county and only 3% were "not at all" familiar. Familiarity can be one of the top barriers for residents to use facilities. This increase in familiarity is a positive sign that information about these areas is reaching most county residents.

Figure 32
2012 vs. 2023 Visits to Natural Areas or Nature-based Facilities

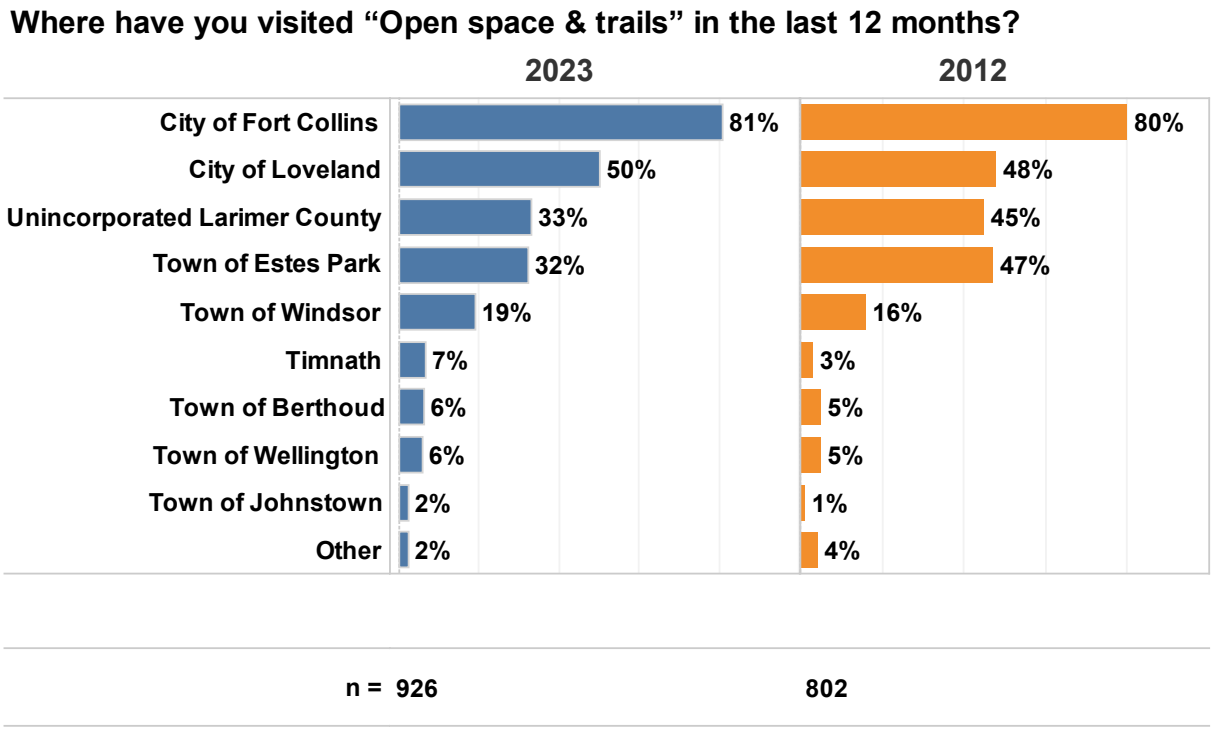
About how many times in the last 12 months have you and/or members of your household visited city, town, or county managed "Open space & trails" throughout Larimer County?



	2023	2012
Average	37.2	20.1
Median	12	6
n =	910	889

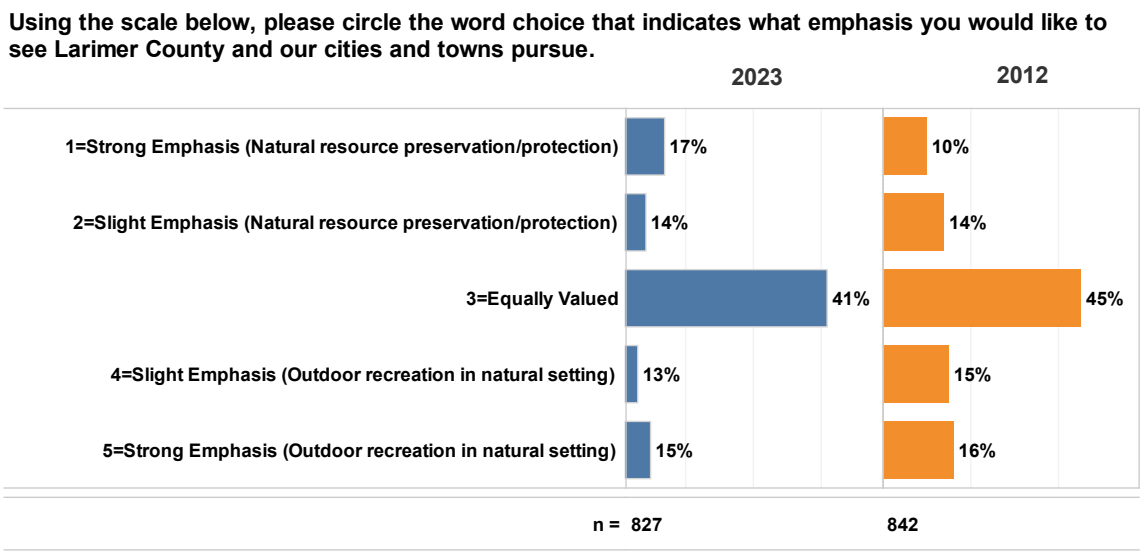
The average number of annual visits to Larimer County open space and trails in 2023 nearly doubled compared to a decade ago. Respondents visited an average of 37 times compared to 20 in 2012. Frequent visitation is a positive way for residents to "get to know" and support open space and trails, but it does come with its own set of challenges in managing the subsidiary impacts to more use.

Figure 33
2012 vs. 2023 Where Respondents Have Visited



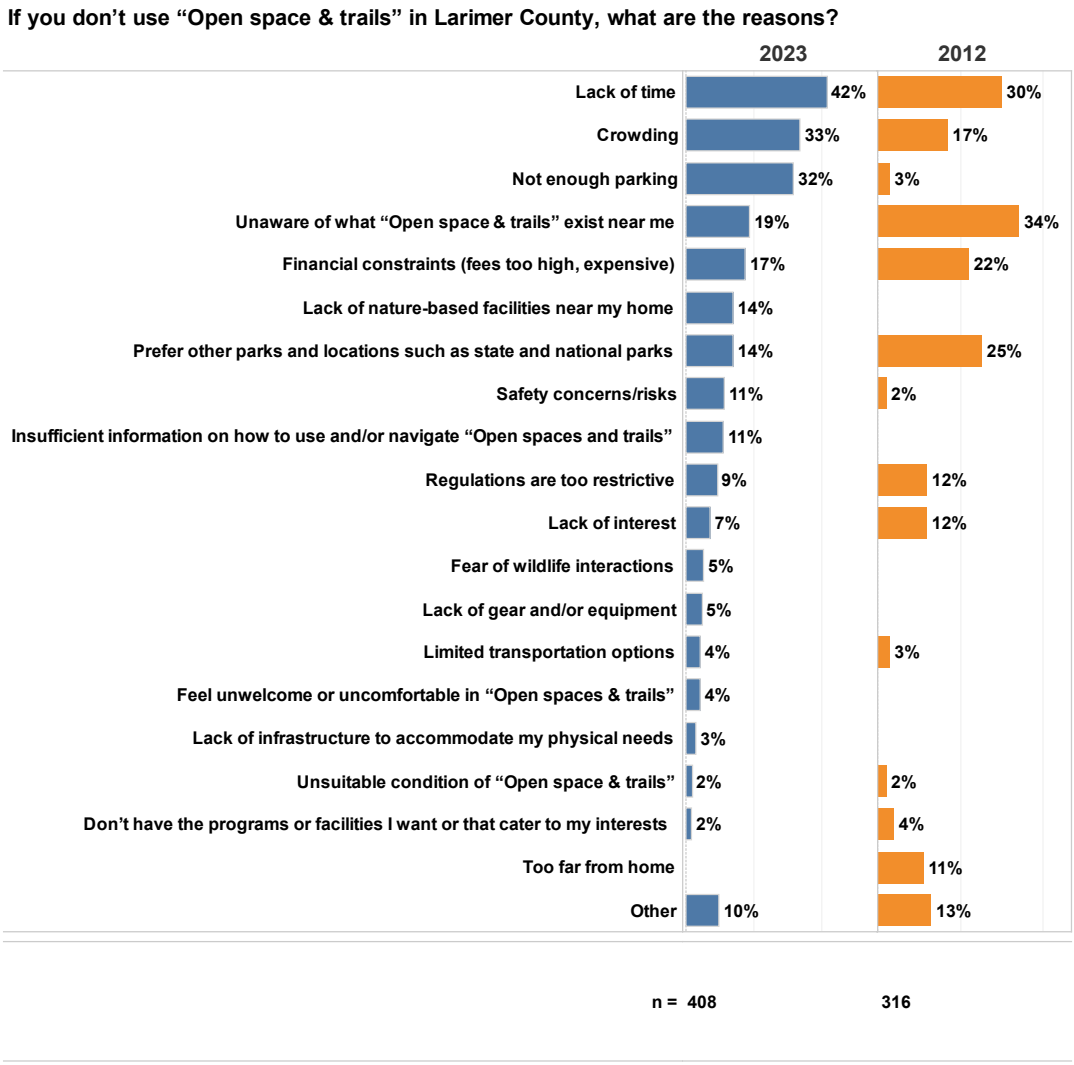
The locations where respondents visited in 2023 remained relatively consistent with 2012. The city of Fort Collins has the highest percentage of use at 81% and the City of Loveland comes in second at 50% of respondents visiting. Unincorporated Larimer County and Estes Park saw slightly lower totals in 2023 compared to 2012. All other communities remained very similar in their 2023 to 2012 proportions of visitation.

Figure 34
2012 vs. 2023 Emphasis on Conservation and Recreation



As in the previous study, respondents still equally value conservation and outdoor recreation in natural settings. There was a slight increase in those who preferred conservation (31% in 2023, vs. 24% in 2012), but the difference was not statistically significant to change the overall findings. Having both conservation and recreation equally valued remains the most supported course of action among residents.

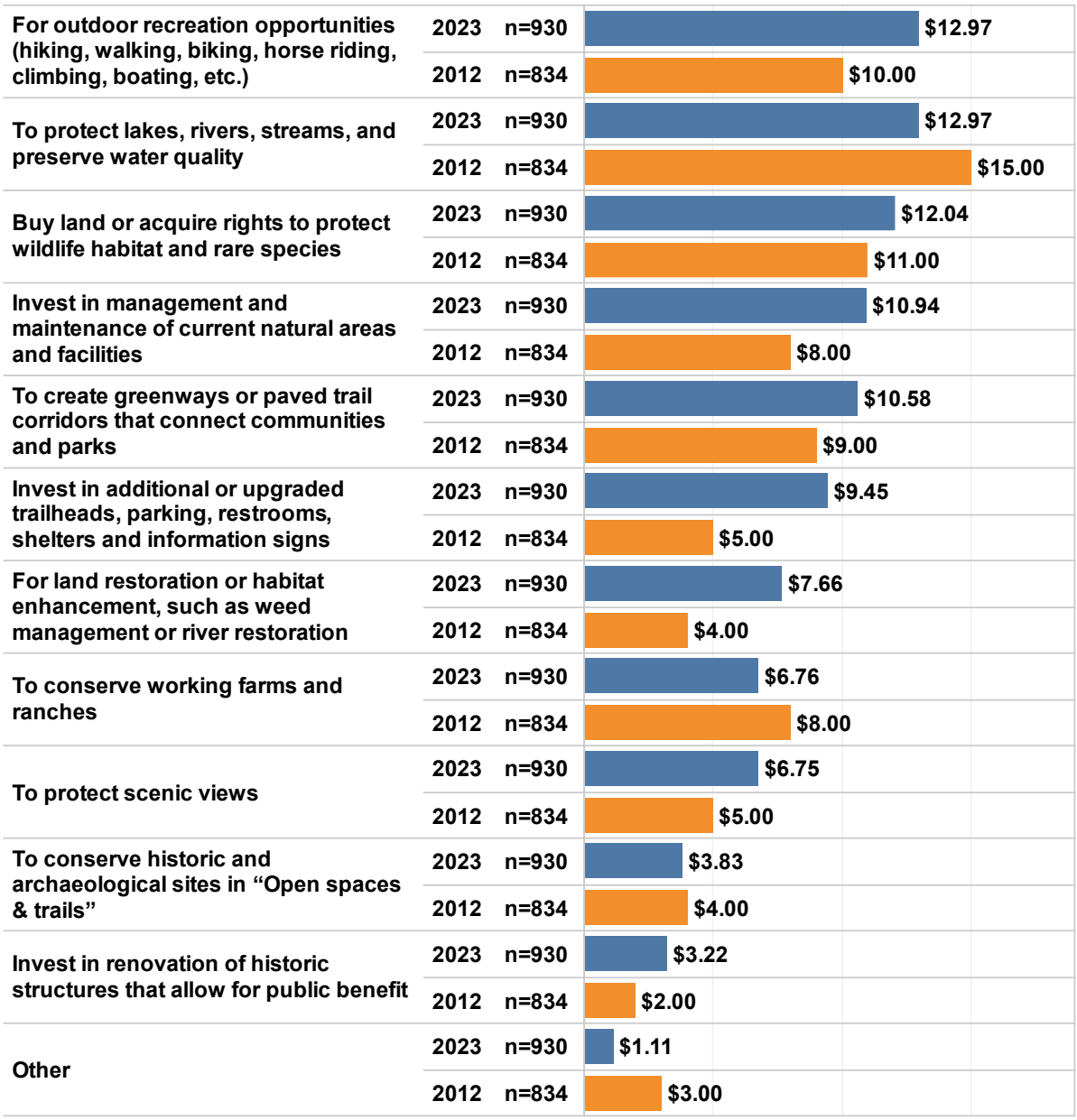
Figure 35
2012 vs. 2023 Reasons for Not Visiting Natural Areas



"Lack of time" remains the top reason for why respondents did not visit open space and trails in 2023, up slightly from 2012. Crowding, however, saw a much more substantial increase from 2012's 17%, almost doubling in share to 33% in 2023. "Not enough parking" also saw a substantial increase, growing by 29 percentage points from 2012's three points. "Being unaware of what is offered" dropped by 15% from the top reason in 2012 down to the fourth in 2023. This result is consistent with Figure 35 as respondents are more familiar with open spaces and trails in Larimer County.

Figure 36
2012 vs. 2023 Funding Allocations

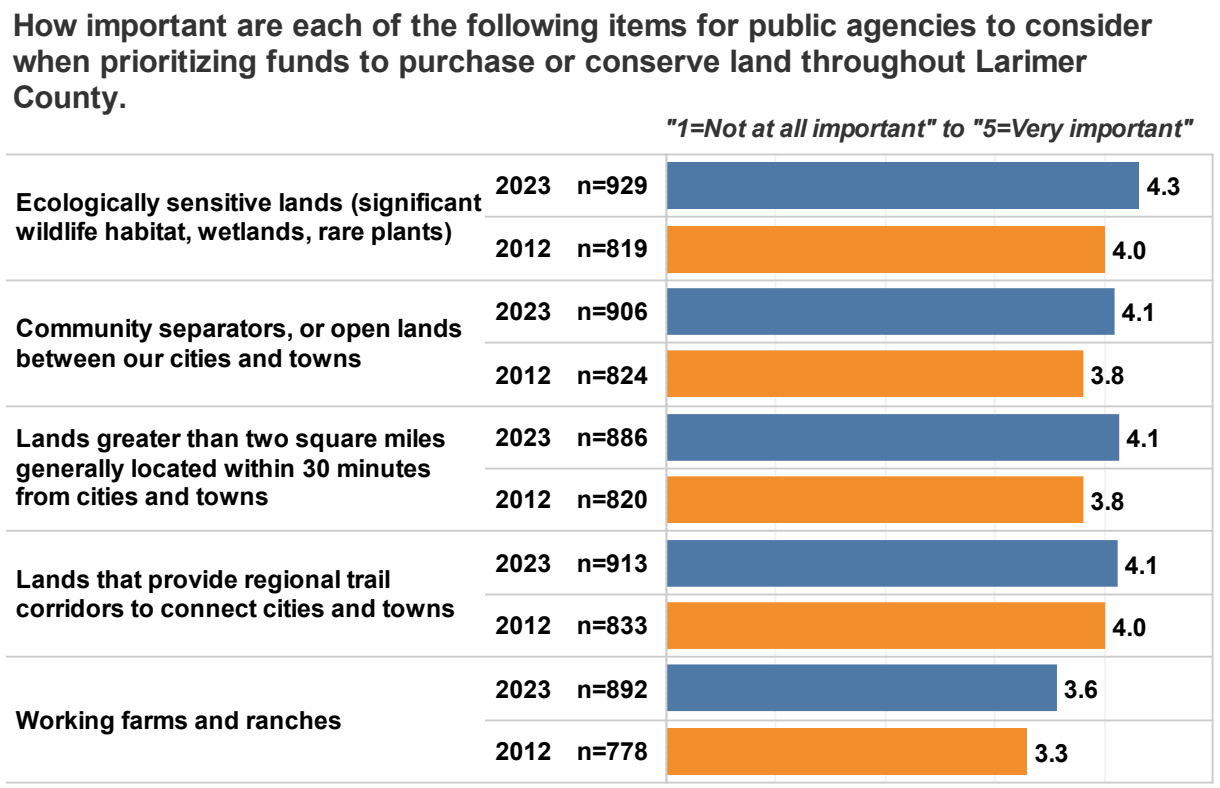
If you had $100 in public funds to spend on open space, trails, agricultural land, and/or construction of nature-based recreation amenities in Larimer County, how would you allocate those funds in $5 minimum increments?



Funding allocations in 2023 showed several significant differences compared to the previous study. In 2023, “outdoor recreation opportunities,” “invest in management and maintenance of current natural areas and facilities,” “to create greenways or paved trail corridors that connect communities and parks,” and “land resortation or habitat enhancement” all received higher ratings in 2023 compared

to 2012. The financial value placed on "protecting lakes, rivers, streams, and perserve water quality" and "conserve working farms and ranches" went down from 2012 but still rank relatively high overall.

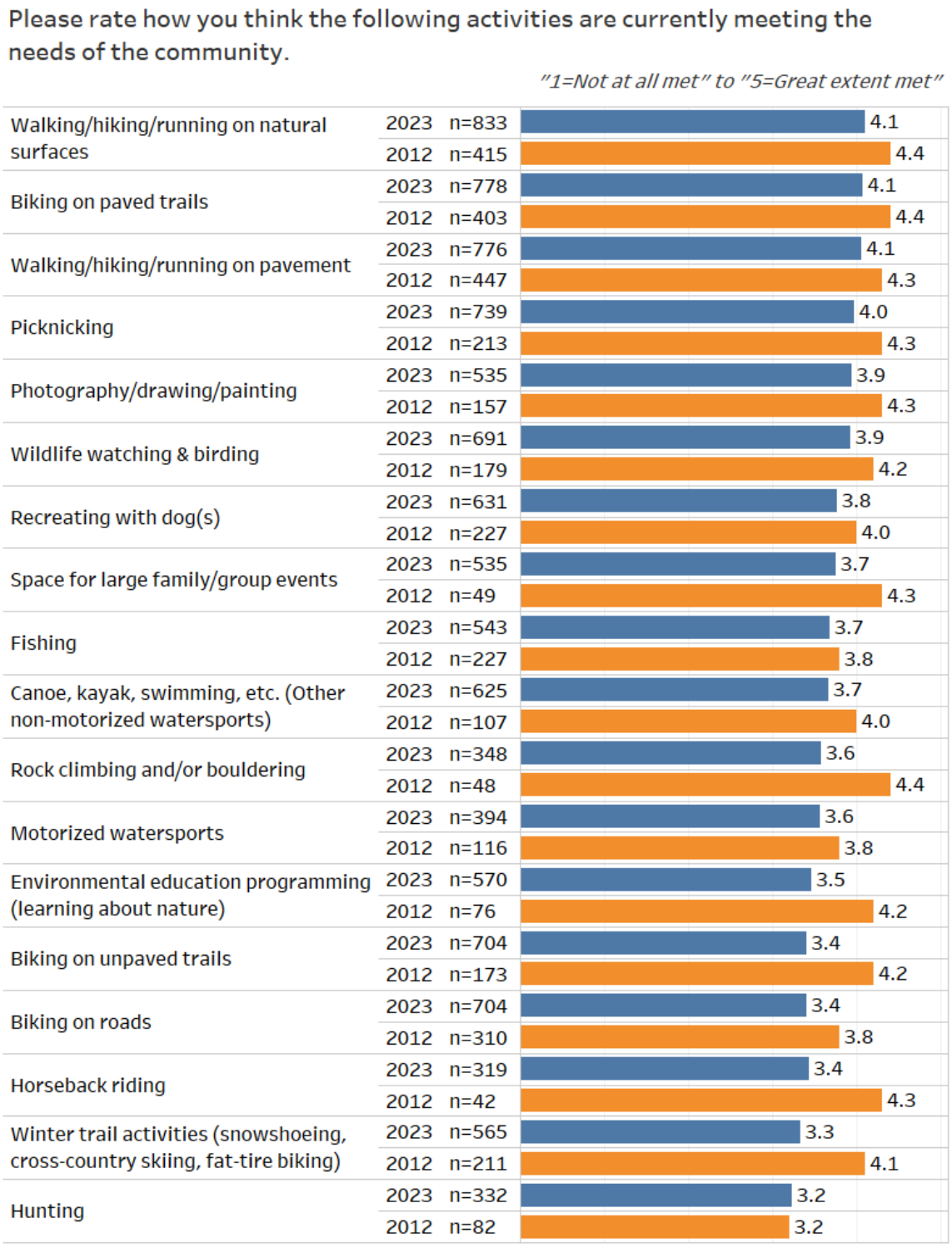
Figure 37
2012 vs. 2023 Reasons for Not Visiting Natural Areas



*Note: "Maintenance of existing lands" was added in the 2023 survey but not included as part of this comparison.

Respondents in 2023 rated all the listed priorities slightly higher than in 2012. The order of priorities remains the same, but both "community separators, or open lands between our cities and towns" and "lands greater than two square miles" saw an increase in importance from 3.8 in 2012 up to 4.1 in 2023. The increase across all priorities may signal a heightened feeling that these priorities have become more critical as Larimer County's population has increased and available resources are decreasing.

Figure 38
2012 vs. 2023 Needs Met of the Community



Compared to 2012 averages, respondents this year are slightly less satisfied overall for almost every single category. Because every category dropped, this may mean general satisfaction has come

down more than it was in 2012. Due to the systematic nature of the decline, it seems to indicate more of a methodological difference than a real-world satisfaction change.

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CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

The third iteration of the Our Lands, Our Future survey found that residents deeply care about public land, conservation, and nature-based recreational opportunities in Larimer County. The survey results provide valuable information of how perspectives and opinions on important issues changed or remained the same. Residents' feedback indicated high satisfaction with open space and trails, a strong desire for continued trail-based activities, protecting ecologically sensitive lands, an equally valued approach for conservation and recreation, and are supportive of current sales tax renewals.

When comparing the 2023 survey results to the historic data, many similarities exist in addition to interesting differences as described below.

SIMILARITIES TO 2012 RESULTS

Residents continue to desire an equally valued approach of conservation and recreation.

When respondents are asked to select whether they prioritize conservation, outdoor recreation, or whether they equally value both, they continue to prefer a mix of both approaches. This finding has remained constant from 2012 with just some slight shifts toward resource protection (17% strongly emphasize in 2023 vs. 10% in 2012). However, residents strongly prefer land managers to equally value the approaches for the future of their public lands.

Furthermore, residents renewed their support for prioritizing funds to conserve or purchase ecologically sensitive lands and maintenance for existing lands with public access. Both outcomes along with lands within cities and towns are seen as important for the future. Additionally, respondents allocated the highest monetary funding to protecting lakes, rivers, streams, and preserve water quality and for outdoor recreation opportunities. This further reinforces residents' desire for balancing both approaches into the future.

Sales tax and existing user fee renewals are strongly supported.

Like in 2012, respondents plan to continue to support the ongoing open space sales tax and existing user fees well into the future. While the questions changed slightly from the 2012 study, residents have not waned in their support for approval of the open space sales tax throughout the County. In general, sales taxes can be polarizing as residents may not want to add additional costs to everyday items. However, the purpose of Larimer County's tax makes the difference as it supports a topic many residents care deeply about. Strong support from residents should make land managers confident in their current directions for public lands.

Natural surface trail activities along with biking on paved trails are among the most important to residents.

Trail-based recreation such as hiking, walking, and running on both natural surface and paved trails, is still the most popular activity among residents. Biking on paved trails was rated as the second most important activity, similarly to 2012. Satisfaction is high for most activities, especially for trail-based recreation. Residents across the county have placed high priority on trails and continue to look for additional options where possible. Trail connectivity and development have become a major focus of other communities across the state and beyond.

DIFFERENCES TO 2012 RESULTS

Not all results were similar in the 2023 results when compared to the 2012 survey. Below are some of the major differences observed in results from the past iteration.

Familiarity with open space and trails has dramatically improved.

Back in 2012, only 46% of respondents were either "familiar" or "very familiar" with local open space and trail options. As of 2023, that number has jumped to 68%, signaling a major improvement in familiarity. For land managers, this positive increase is a testament to the work put in over time to raise awareness of public lands and recreational opportunities in the county. If results are compared back to 2001, the increase is even more dramatic at +55% (although the two questions differ in scaling; 5-point scale in 2001 and 4-point scale in 2012 and 2023) and shows a consistent increase over the past 20 years across the county.

New activities have emerged as popular for residents, and accessibility has become more important.

Several activities have increased in importance to Larimer residents since the 2012 survey. Most notably, tent camping and non-motorized watersports (e.g., canoeing, kayaking, swimming, paddleboarding, etc.) have become important to a larger segment of residents compared to a decade ago. Over 50% see both activities as either a 4 or 5 out of 5 in importance. That said, not all activities receive the same level of participation despite being important to many. Anecdotally, many responses to open-ended questions stressed the need for more accessible options in open spaces and trails. It is important for land managers to consider how to best make their recreation areas accessible while offering alternative options where possible.

Demographics of the county are changing due to population growth.

Finally, the last set of differences in 2012 to 2023 relate to the demographics of the population of the county. Notably, the sample in 2023 is more affluent with 50% of respondents earning more than $100k compared to 26% in 2012. Furthermore, the sample is slightly more diverse in 2023 with approximately 82% of respondents identifying as White/Caucasian compared to 95% in 2012. Since 2012, Larimer County has gained an extra 50,000 residents living in the area. With this influx of growth comes a larger set of varying opinions, backgrounds, and needs for outdoor recreation

and public land management. Continuing to understand how these opinions change over time as the demographics evolve will be important to monitor.

FINDINGS FROM NEW SURVEY QUESTIONS FOR THE 2023 STUDY

In the 2023 survey, new questions were added regarding the levels of concern related to site-specific issues as well as long-term planning issues in Larimer County. The top site-specific concerns identified by respondents included crowding, dog waste, and parking. That said, the site-specific issues still are not a major source of concern yet. Respondents see each issue at most as a mostly “moderate” issue. However, monitoring will still be important to understand changes over time. On a larger regional level, respondents view reduced land for new open space and trails, wildfires, and droughts as high priorities. The Western United States has seen a sharp increase and frequency in the intensity of wildfires which Larimer County has experienced firsthand in recent years with the Cameron Peak, East Troublesome, and High Park wildfires. Placing such a high priority on these large-scale changes in public land management suggests a forward-looking emphasis for agencies within the County.

Additionally, a new question was added regarding the support of e-bike usage on natural surface trails. Overall, the topic is strongly divided. Support for Class 1 e-bike usage is split almost directly down the middle; nearly half support it and half don’t. When considering Class 2, most respondents do not support Class 2 e-bikes on natural surface trails. E-bikes are still relatively new to public land management, but continued attention should be paid to consider how e-bike use plays a role on natural surface trails into the future. Additional education and awareness of how e-bikes are similar to and different from traditional bicycles may be necessary.

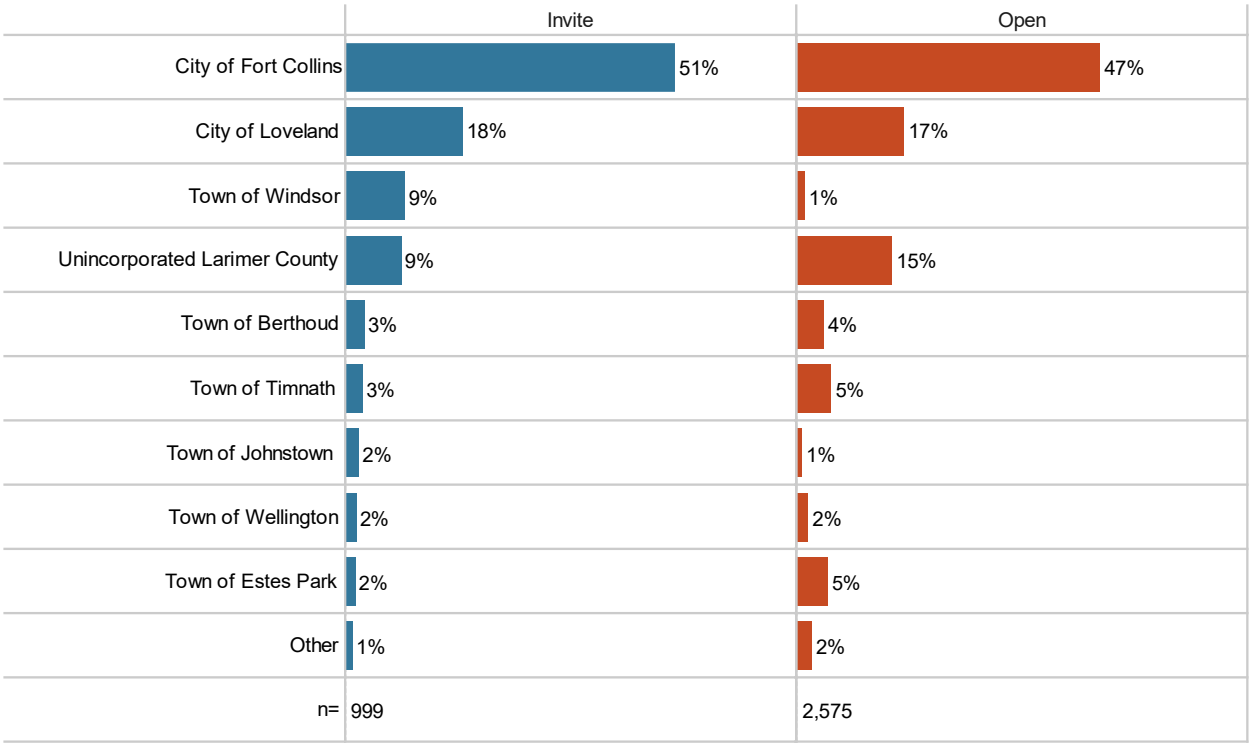
CLOSING REMARKS

The results from the 2023 Larimer County Open Lands Survey underscore residents' commitment to preserving the quality of their natural landscapes for the present and future generations. Larimer County is a collection of communities deeply invested in the stewardship of its natural resources with land management partners all contributing to this goal. This includes not only ongoing work to preserve public lands into the future but also to allow and create public access for responsible recreation. The 2023 survey results highlight a collective, ongoing desire for public lands to be managed for multiple types of activities while continually monitoring and addressing environmental and site-specific challenges. This adaptive approach allows land managers to make decisions based on the best available data and to modify as needed in an everchanging environment.

APPENDIX

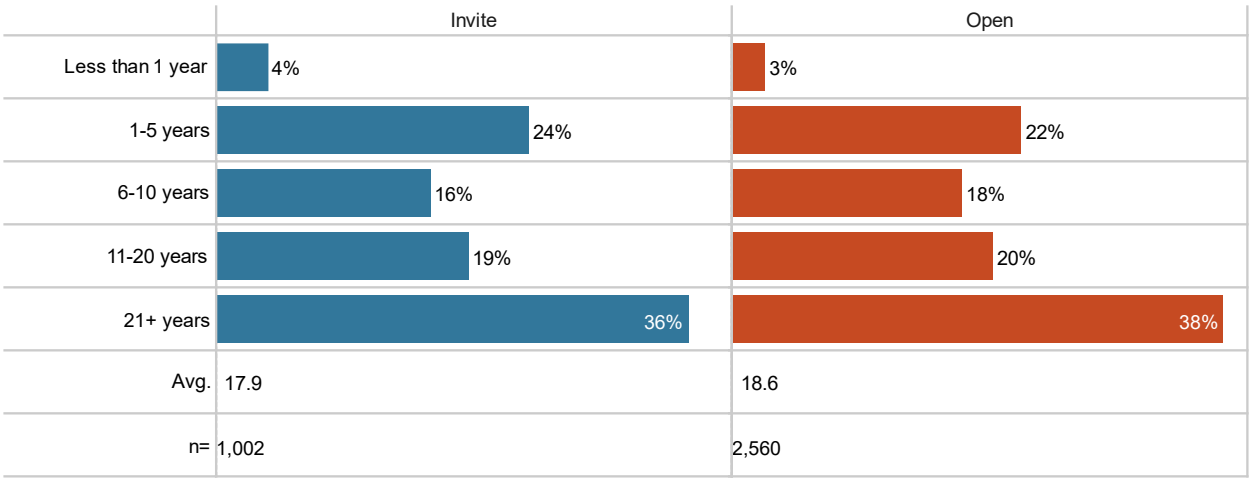
APPENDIX A: INVITE VERSUS OPEN SURVEY RESPONSES

Which of the following areas best describes the location of your home in the County ?



Source: RRC

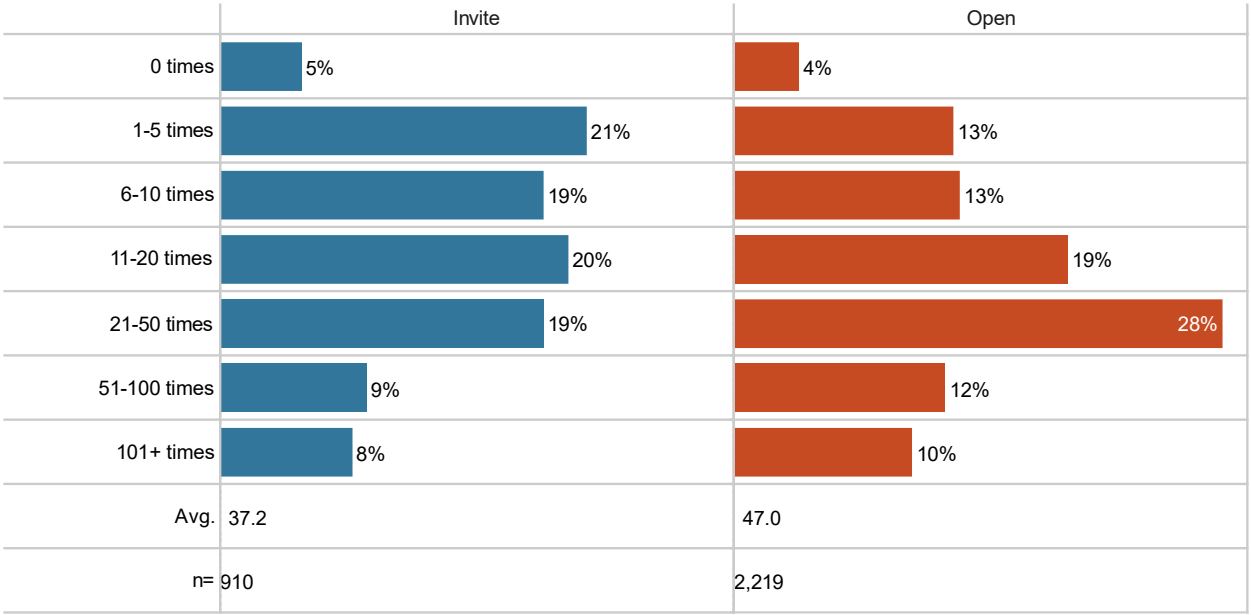
How long have you lived in Larimer County ?



Source: RRC

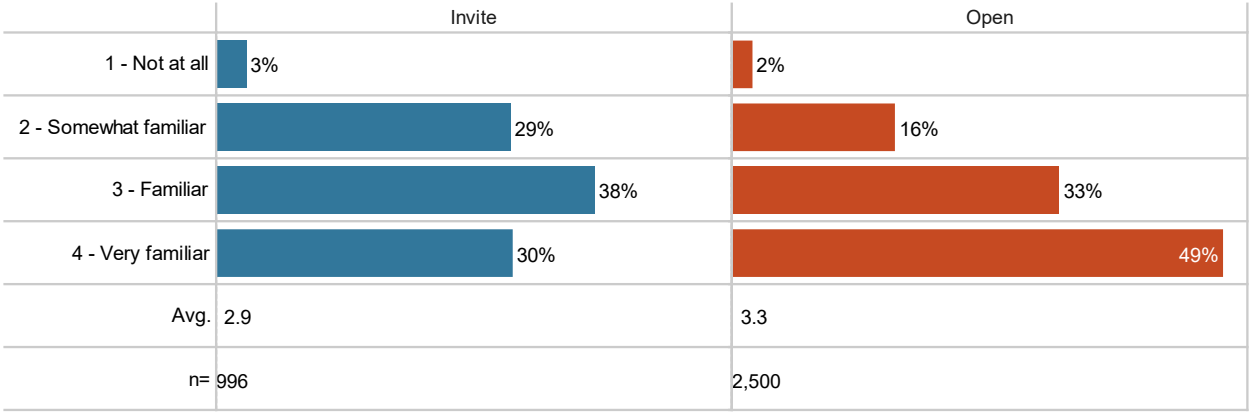
RRC

About how many times in the last 12 months have you and/or members of your household visited city, town, or county managed "Open space & trails" throughout Larimer County?



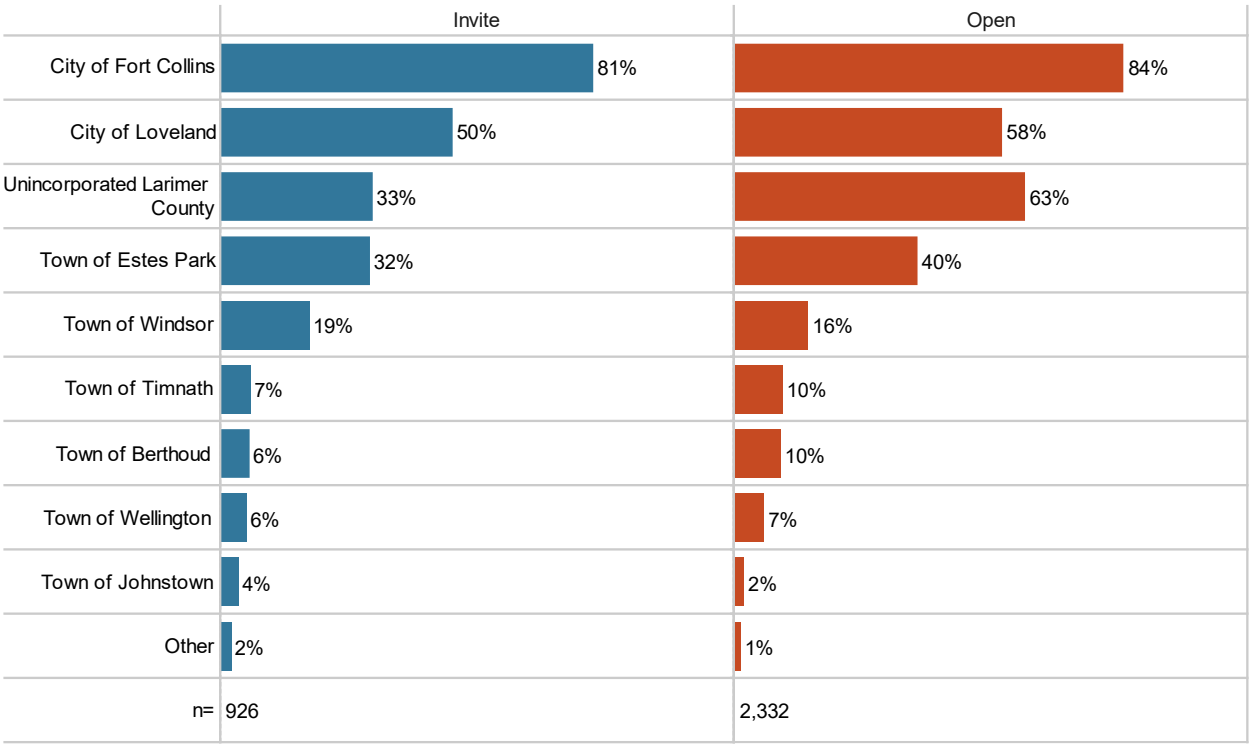
Source: RRC

How familiar are you with "Open space & trails" within Larimer County, either municipal or county?



Source: RRC

Where have you visited “Open space & trails” in the last 12 months? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)



Source: RRC

Please rate how important the following activities are to your household in Larimer County

			Percent Responding 1 & 2	3	4 & 5
Walking/hiking/running on natural surfaces	Invite	**Avg. 4.5** n=953	6%	7%	67% 87%
	Open	**Avg. 4.5** n=2,304	5%	7%	72% 88%
Biking on paved trails	Invite	**Avg. 3.8** n=953	21%	14%	46% 65%
	Open	**Avg. 3.7** n=2,304	24%	14%	44% 62%
Walking/hiking/running on pavement	Invite	**Avg. 3.8** n=931	18%	17%	23% 43% 65%
	Open	**Avg. 3.6** n=2,279	24%	21%	35% 55%
Wildlife watching & birding	Invite	**Avg. 3.5** n=923	22%	22%	28% 28% 56%
	Open	**Avg. 3.7** n=2,277	19%	20%	21% 40% 60%
Picnicking	Invite	**Avg. 3.5** n=938	21%	26%	28% 25% 53%
	Open	**Avg. 3.3** n=2,280	27%	29%	26% 44%
Winter trail activities(snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, fat-tire biking)	Invite	**Avg. 3.2** n=893	21% 32%	22%	29% 45%
	Open	**Avg. 3.5** n=2,294	25%	21%	21% 33% 54%
Recreating with dog(s)	Invite	**Avg. 3.4** n=903	27% 31%	12%	40% 56%
	Open	**Avg. 3.2** n=2,280	27% 36%	15%	34% 49%
Canoe, kayak, swimming, etc. (Other non-motorized watersports)	Invite	**Avg. 3.3** n=906	31%	18%	24% 27% 50%
	Open	**Avg. 3.1** n=2,275	35%	22%	25% 44%
Tent camping	Invite	**Avg. 3.2** n=876	21% 32%	17%	23% 27% 50%
	Open	**Avg. 3.0** n=2,264	24% 37%	21%	21% 21% 42%
Environmental education programming (learning about nature)	Invite	**Avg. 3.1** n=905	34%	28%	38%
	Open	**Avg. 3.0** n=2,274	22% 34%	30%	21% 36%
Biking on unpaved trails	Invite	**Avg. 2.9** n=913	25% 42%	24%	21% 35%
	Open	**Avg. 3.2** n=2,259	23% 37%	16%	36% 47%
Biking on roads	Invite	**Avg. 2.9** n=930	25% 41%	21%	21% 38%
	Open	**Avg. 3.1** n=2,251	24% 39%	18%	27% 43%
Photography/drawing/painting	Invite	**Avg. 3.0** n=883	23% 37%	26%	20% 36%
	Open	**Avg. 2.9** n=2,277	24% 42%	22%	36%
Stand up paddleboarding	Invite	**Avg. 3.0** n=874	29% 39%	18%	25% 43%
	Open	**Avg. 2.8** n=2,271	31% 45%	17%	21% 38%
Fishing	Invite	**Avg. 2.9** n=900	30% 42%	18%	23% 40%
	Open	**Avg. 2.6** n=2,281	37% 53%	16%	31%
Space for large family/group events	Invite	**Avg. 2.7** n=881	30% 46%	25%	29%
	Open	**Avg. 2.4** n=2,262	32% 24% 56%	25%	19%
Rock climbing and/or bouldering	Invite	**Avg. 2.2** n=845	45% 63%	17%	20%
	Open	**Avg. 2.1** n=2,270	47% 65%	18%	17%
RV camping	Invite	**Avg. 2.2** n=860	51% 66%	14%	20%
	Open	**Avg. 2.0** n=2,269	56% 68%	13%	18%
E-biking on paved trails	Invite	**Avg. 2.0** n=878	58% 71%	11%	18%
	Open	**Avg. 2.1** n=2,263	57% 68%	12%	20%
Hunting	Invite	**Avg. 2.0** n=856	63% 71%	9%	20%
	Open	**Avg. 1.8** n=2,266	70% 79%	7%	14%
Horseback riding	Invite	**Avg. 1.9** n=860	58% 73%	13%	14%
	Open	**Avg. 1.8** n=2,266	62% 76%	12%	13%
Motorized watersports	Invite	**Avg. 2.0** n=847	55% 71%	15%	14%
	Open	**Avg. 1.7** n=2,265	67% 80%	11%	9%
E-biking on unpaved trails	Invite	**Avg. 1.7** n=860	64% 79%	10%	10%
	Open	**Avg. 1.8** n=2,259	64% 76%	10%	14%

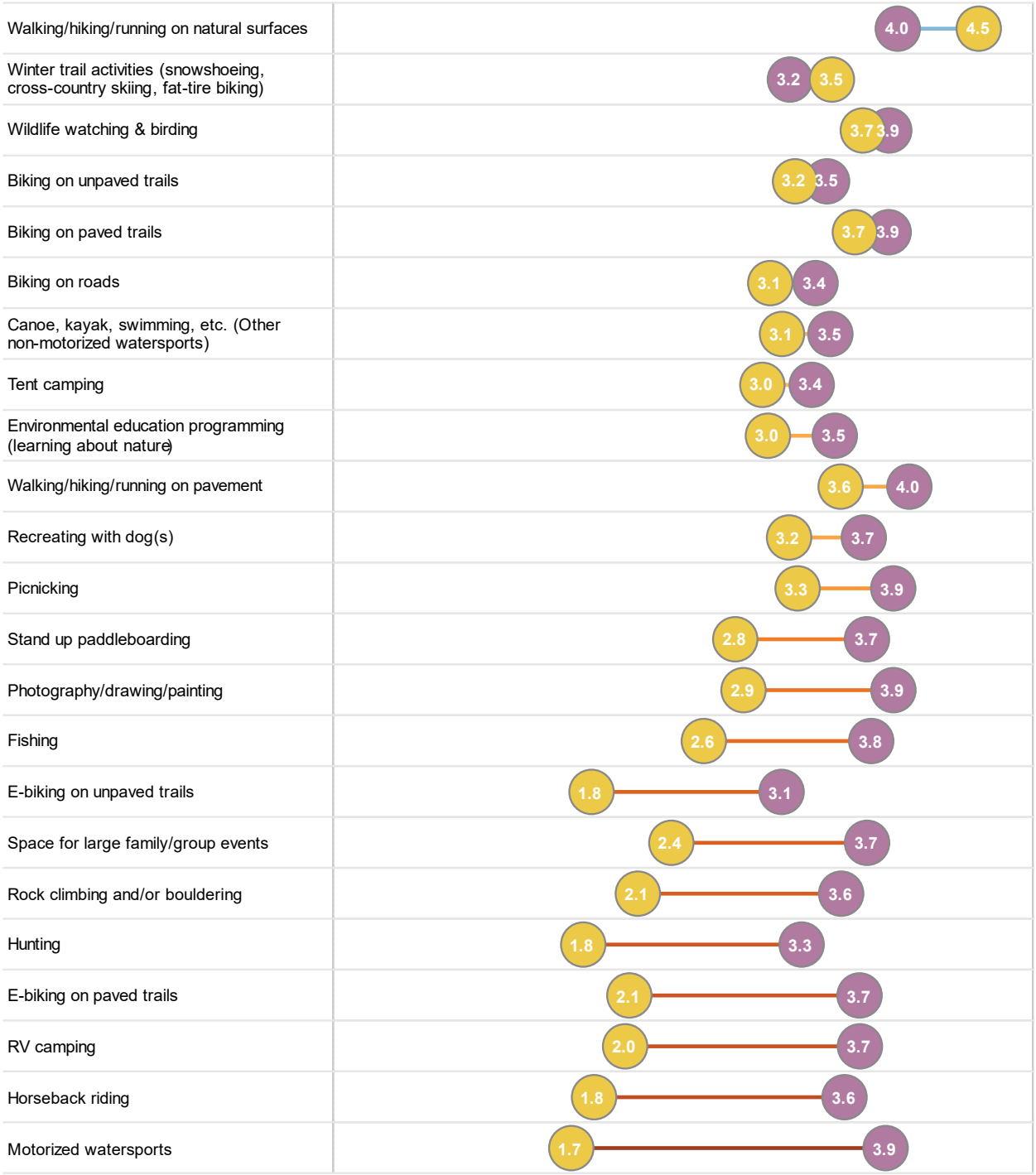
Source: RRC

Please rate how you think the following activities are currently meeting the needs of the community .

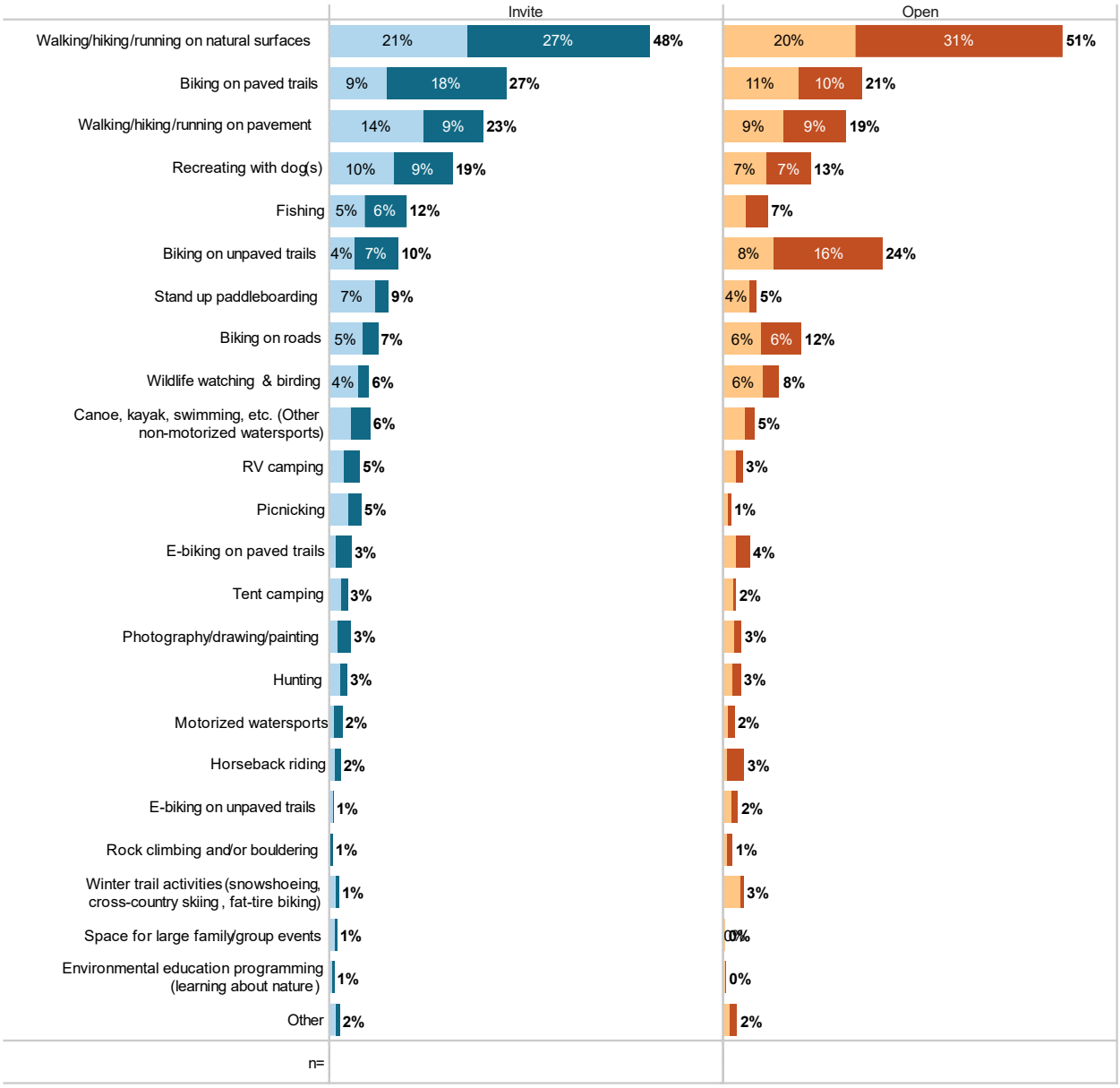
		Percent Responding : 1 & 2	3	4 & 5
Walking/hiking/running on pavement	Invite **Avg. 4.1** n=776	4%	23%	35% 38% 73%
	Open **Avg. 4.0** n=1,865	6%	18%	41% 35% 76%
Walking/hiking/running on natural surfaces	Invite **Avg. 4.1** n=833	6%	18%	37% 40% 77%
	Open **Avg. 4.0** n=1,995	6%	19%	45% 29% 74%
Biking on paved trails	Invite **Avg. 4.1** n=778	3%	21%	40% 36% 75%
	Open **Avg. 3.9** n=1,901	6%	20%	50% 24% 74%
Picnicking	Invite **Avg. 4.0** n=739	4%	26%	39% 32% 70%
	Open **Avg. 3.9** n=1,734	5%	24%	43% 28% 71%
Photography/drawing/painting	Invite **Avg. 3.9** n=535	6%	26%	32% 36% 68%
	Open **Avg. 3.9** n=1,259	7%	24%	36% 33% 69%
Wildlife watching & birding	Invite **Avg. 3.9** n=691	6%	26%	36% 32% 68%
	Open **Avg. 3.9** n=1,637	6%	25%	40% 28% 69%
Stand up paddleboarding	Invite **Avg. 3.8** n=540	8%	29%	35% 27% 62%
	Open **Avg. 3.7** n=1,452	10%	27%	40% 23% 63%
Space for large family/group events	Invite **Avg. 3.7** n=535	7%	33%	36% 23% 60%
	Open **Avg. 3.7** n=1,307	8%	31%	39% 23% 61%
Recreating with dog(s)	Invite **Avg. 3.8** n=631	11%	28%	32% 30% 61%
	Open **Avg. 3.7** n=1,667	14%	24%	36% 27% 62%
Fishing	Invite **Avg. 3.7** n=543	10%	30%	38% 22% 60%
	Open **Avg. 3.8** n=1,267	9%	28%	38% 25% 63%
Motorized watersports	Invite **Avg. 3.6** n=394	13%	34%	31% 22% 53%
	Open **Avg. 3.9** n=1,009	10%	24%	30% 36% 66%
Canoe, kayak, swimming, etc. (Other non-motorized watersports)	Invite **Avg. 3.7** n=625	10%	34%	34% 22% 56%
	Open **Avg. 3.5** n=1,575	14%	35%	35% 50%
Rock climbing and/or bouldering	Invite **Avg. 3.6** n=348	10%	35%	35% 19% 54%
	Open **Avg. 3.6** n=977	14%	33%	32% 20% 53%
Biking on unpaved trails	Invite **Avg. 3.7** n=622	9%	35%	35% 22% 56%
	Open **Avg. 3.5** n=1,690	16%	33%	36% 51%
E-biking on paved trails	Invite **Avg. 3.4** n=377	18%	35%	24% 23% 47%
	Open **Avg. 3.7** n=1,095	15%	26%	28% 31% 59%
RV camping	Invite **Avg. 3.4** n=390	16%	43%	21% 20% 41%
	Open **Avg. 3.7** n=1,065	14%	27%	29% 30% 58%
Horseback riding	Invite **Avg. 3.4** n=319	18%	37%	23% 22% 45%
	Open **Avg. 3.6** n=875	17%	28%	30% 25% 55%
Environmental education programming (learning about nature)	Invite **Avg. 3.5** n=570	13%	43%	29% 45%
	Open **Avg. 3.5** n=1,367	12%	37%	37% 51%
Tent camping	Invite **Avg. 3.5** n=553	15%	35%	31% 18% 50%
	Open **Avg. 3.4** n=1,416	20%	36%	30% 44%
Biking on roads	Invite **Avg. 3.4** n=704	19%	33%	29% 18% 48%
	Open **Avg. 3.4** n=1,804	19%	34%	32% 47%
Winter trail activities (snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, fat-tire biking)	Invite **Avg. 3.3** n=565	22%	34%	27% 44%
	Open **Avg. 3.2** n=1,490	18% 24%	38%	27% 38%
Hunting	Invite **Avg. 3.2** n=332	25%	34%	22% 19% 41%
	Open **Avg. 3.3** n=733	29%	27%	19% 25% 44%
E-biking on unpaved trails	Invite **Avg. 3.2** n=334	23%	41%	19% 36%
	Open **Avg. 3.1** n=960	34%	26%	25% 41%

Source: RRC

Difference Between Average Importance and Satisfaction Ratings
Open



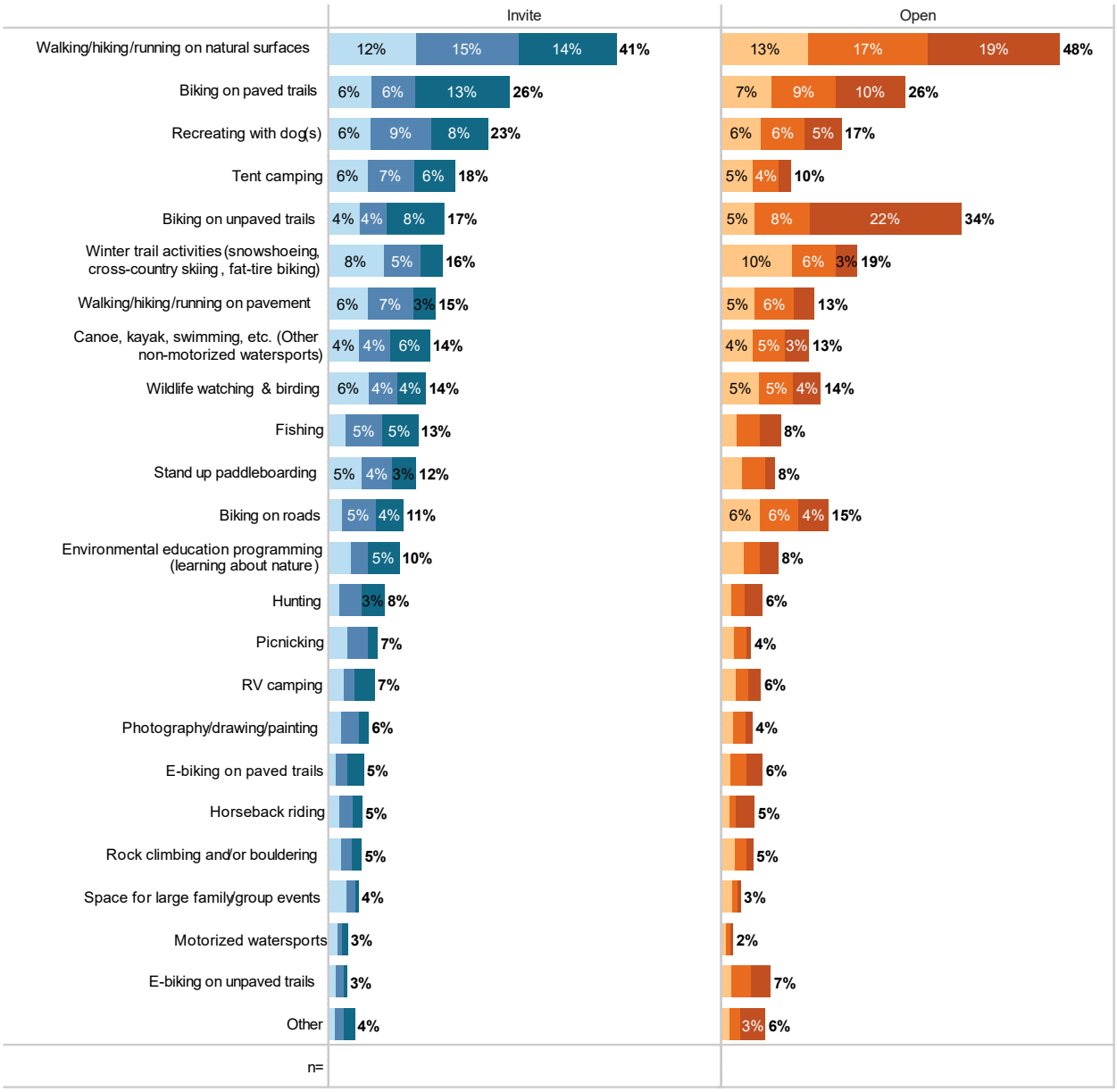
Which TWO activities are your households most frequent activities?



*Darker colors indicate first rank, lighter colors indicate second rank

Source: RRC

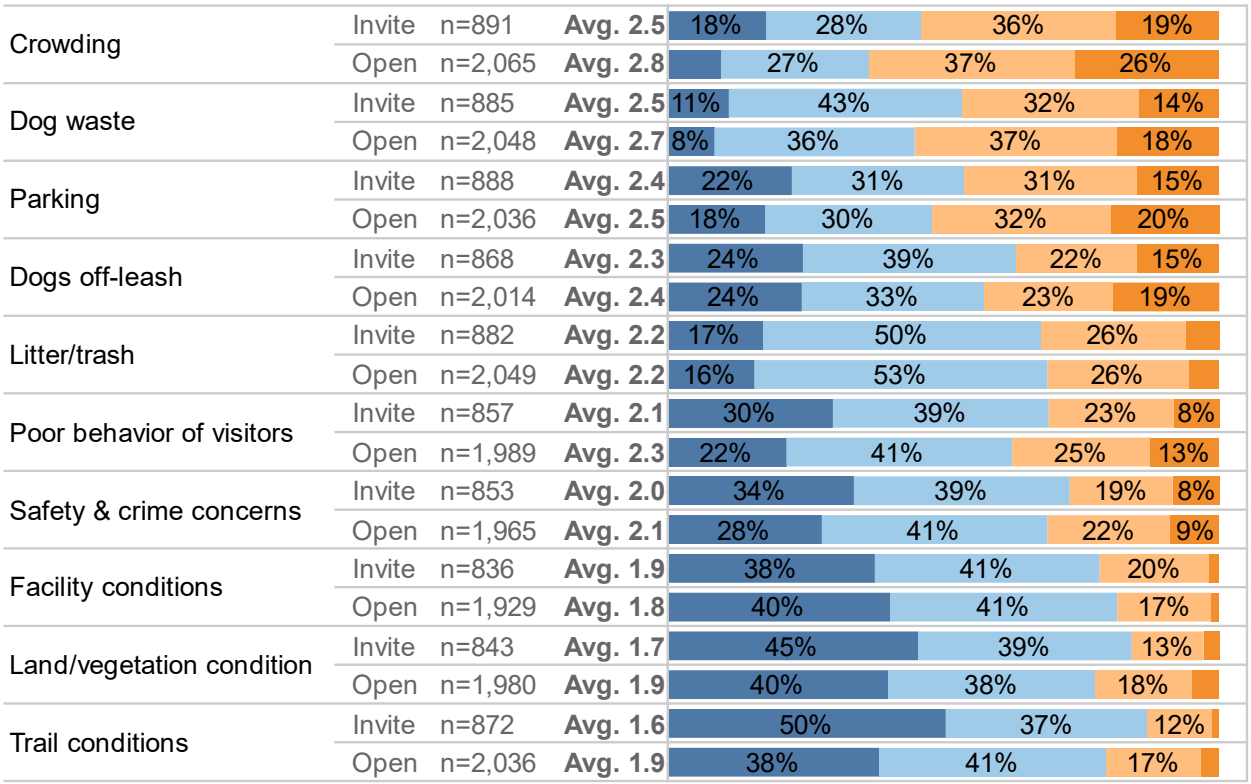
Which THREE activities would you most like to see more land or facilities provided?



*Darker colors indicate a higher rank

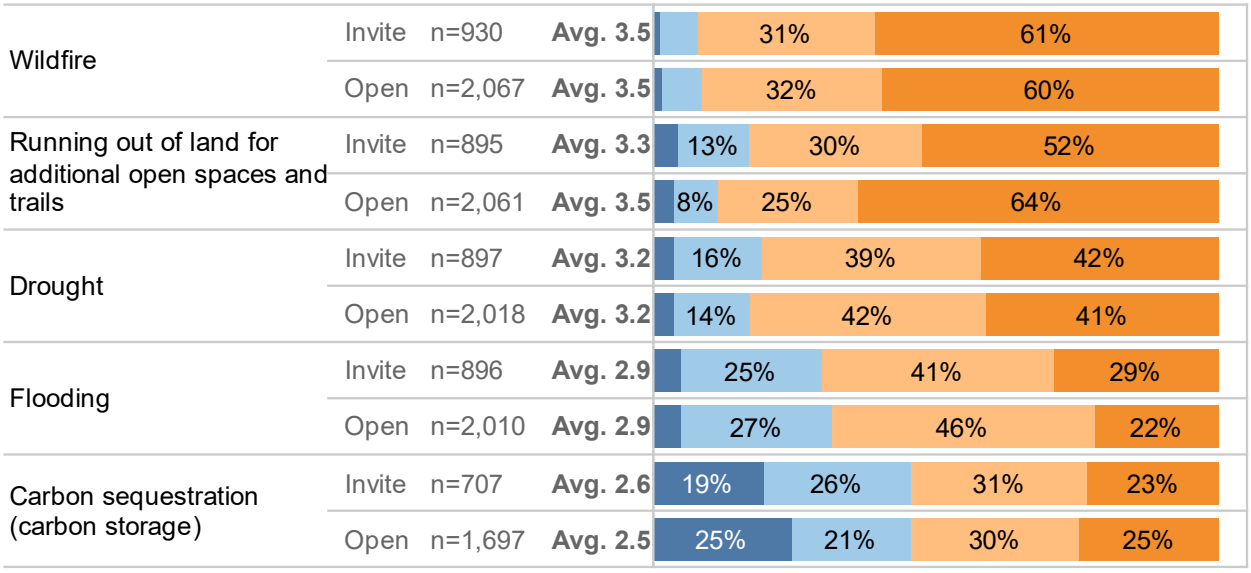
Source: RRC

How much of a problem do you think each of the following site -specific issues are currently at “Open space & trails” in Larimer County and partner municipalities?



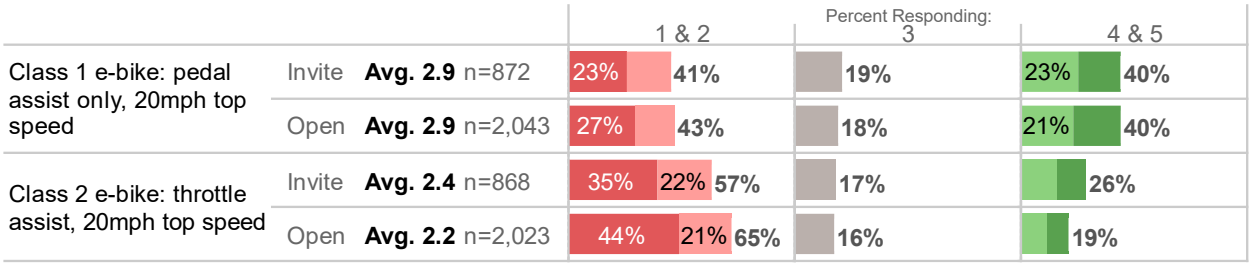
Source: RRC

How much of a priority should be given to the following long-term planning issues at “Open space & trails” in Larimer County and partner municipalities?



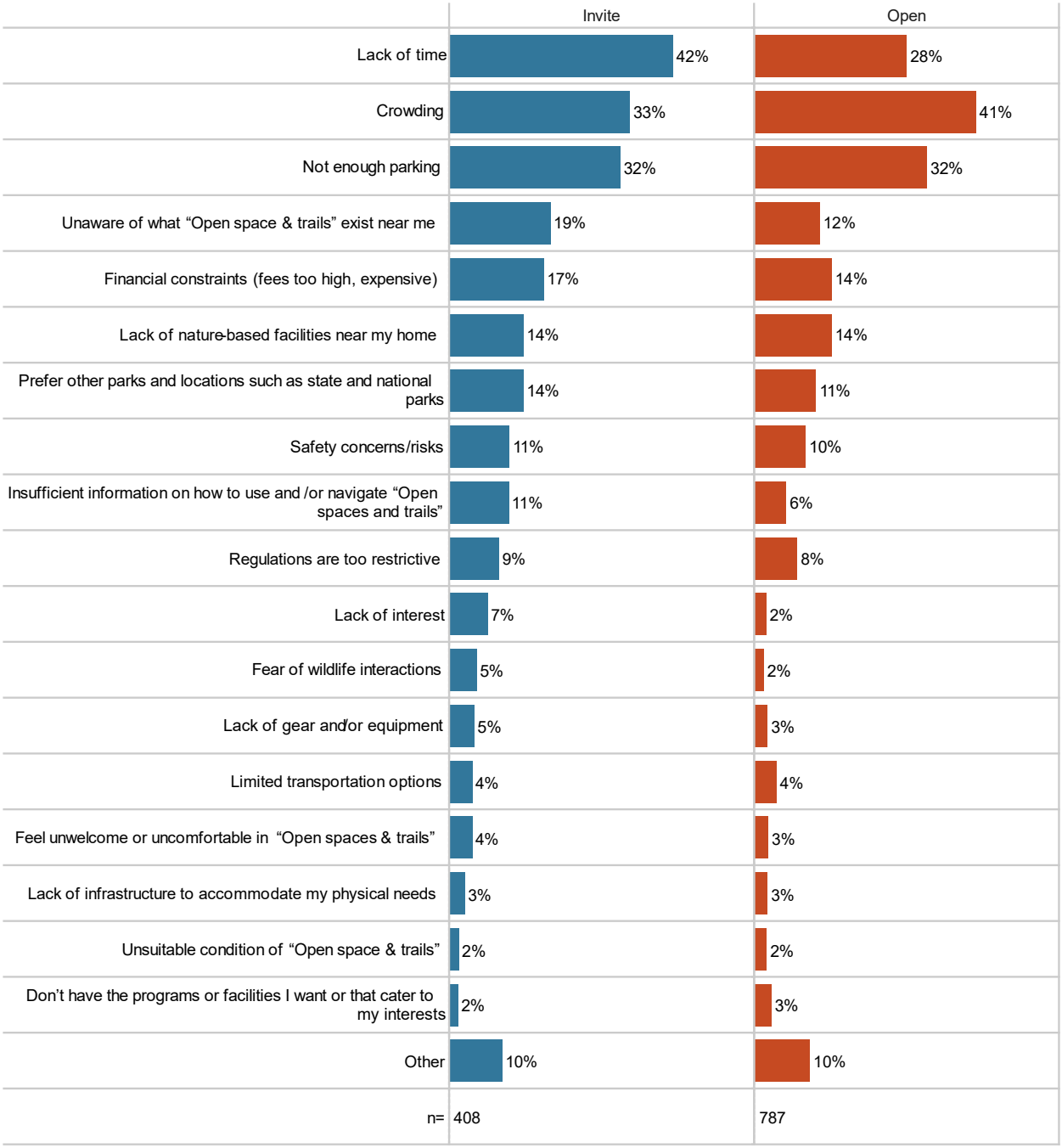
Source: RRC

Considering the increasing popularity of e-bikes, and our goal to better manage their use , please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: "E-bikes should be allowed on natural surface trails, alongside traditional bicycles"



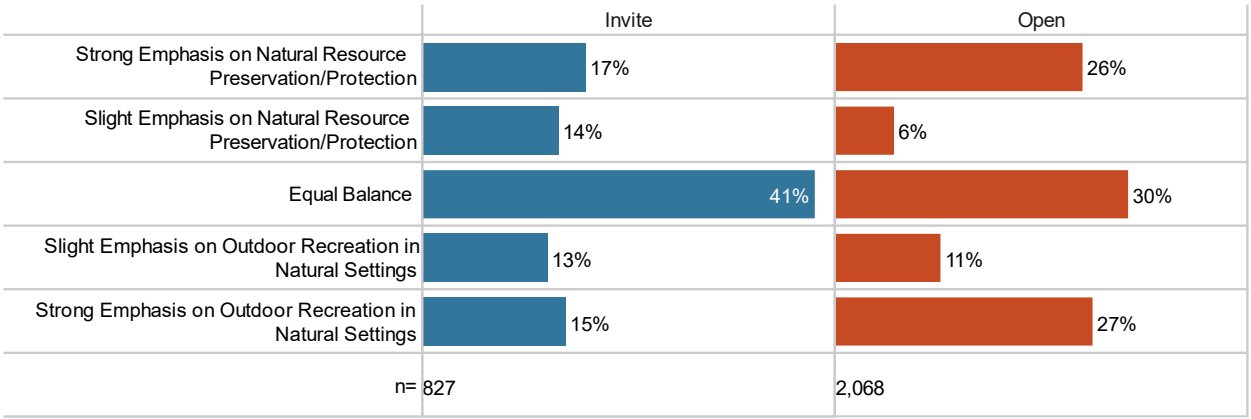
Source: RRC

If you don't use "Open space & trails" in Larimer County, what are the reasons? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)



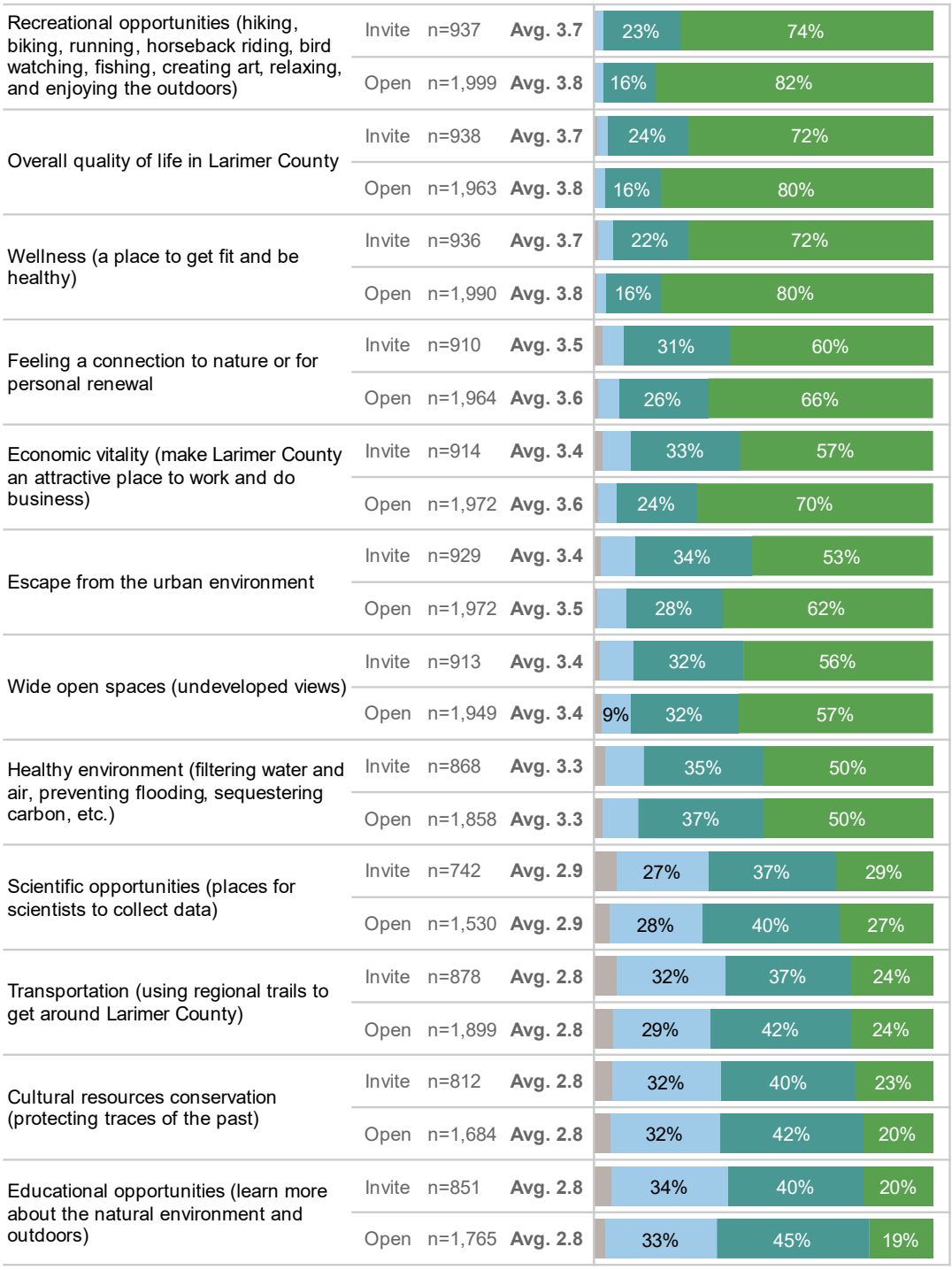
Source: RRC

Using the scale below, please select the word choice that indicates what emphasis you would like to see Larimer County and our cities and towns pursue.



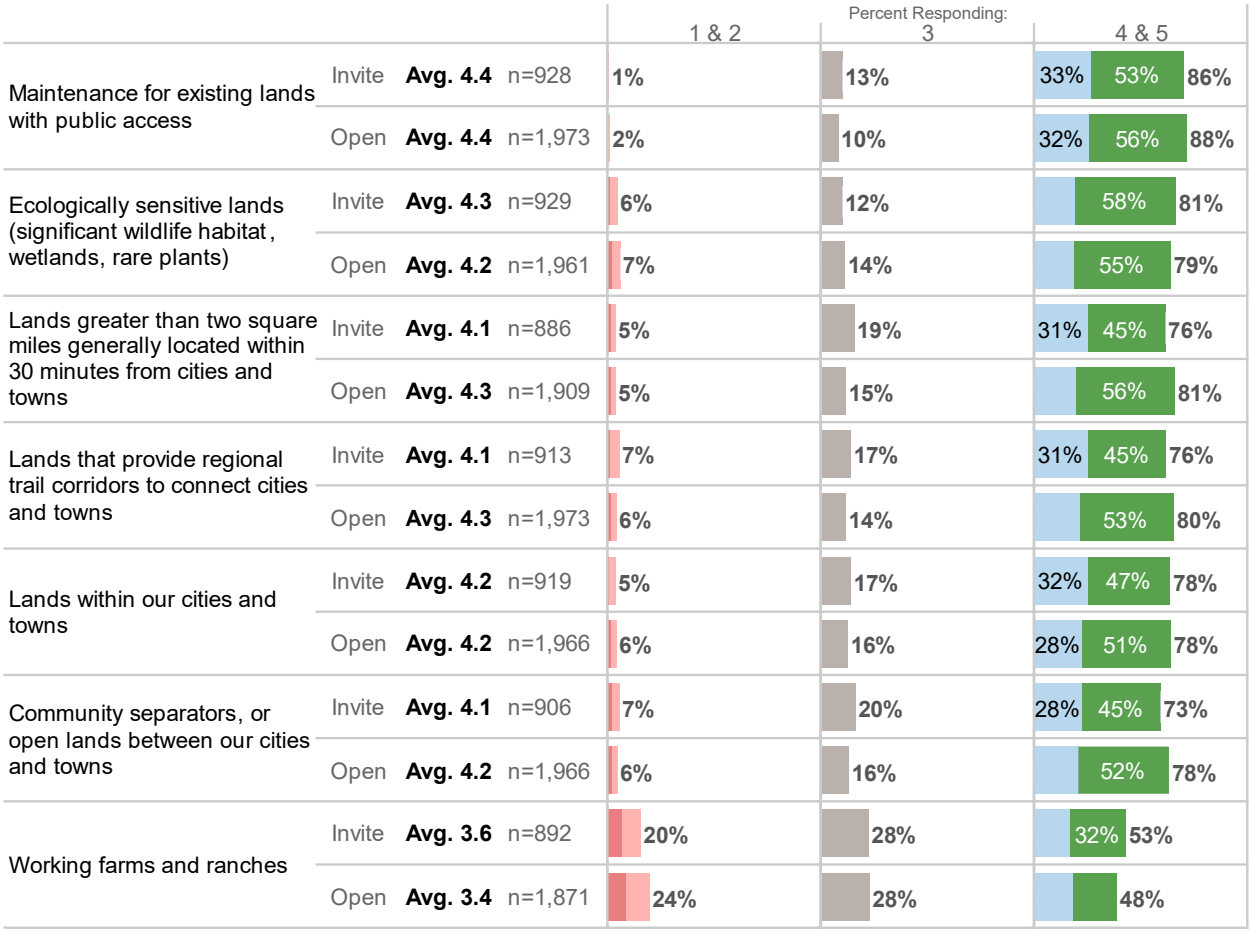
Source: RRC

For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think Larimer County "Open space & trails" contribute to this attribute of the community.



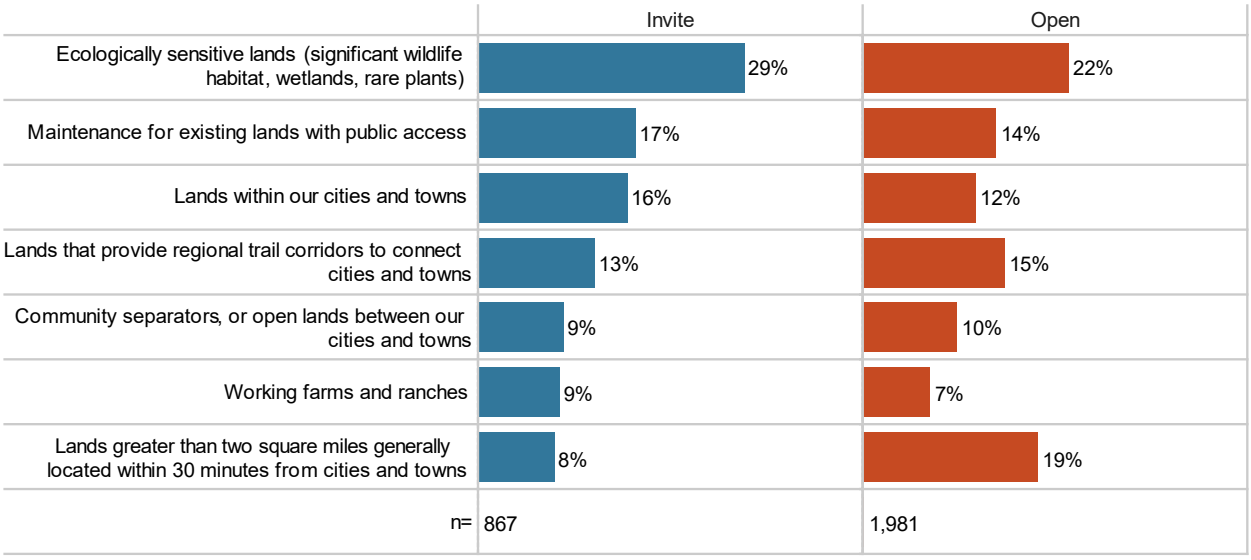
Source: RRC

How important are each of the following items for public agencies to consider when prioritizing funds to purchase or conserve land throughout Larimer County.



Source: RRC

From the question above, which one of these items do you consider to be the single most important priority?



Source: RRC

Please indicate the gender with which you identify

	Invite	Open
Male	48%	50%
Female	47%	44%
Prefer not to answer	3%	4%
I prefer to identify as :	2%	2%
n=	961	1,997

Source: RRC

Age of respondent

	Invite	Open
Under 18	0%	0%
18 - 24	3%	1%
25 - 34	31%	11%
35 - 44	16%	19%
45 - 54	14%	20%
55 - 64	14%	19%
65 - 74	13%	24%
75 or older	8%	6%
Avg.	47.6	53.6
n=	926	1,908

Source: RRC

Of which racial or ethnic group(s) do you consider yourself to be a member? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

	Invite	Open
White/Caucasian	87%	87%
Hispanic/Latino/Spanish Origin	5%	3%
American Indian/Native American	3%	1%
Asian American/Asian	2%	1%
Black/African American	1%	1%
Middle Eastern/North African	0%	0%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%	0%
I prefer to self-identify as:	1%	3%
Prefer not to answer	6%	8%
n=	957	1,999

Source: RRC

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

	Invite	Open
Less than high school		0%
High school graduate or equivalent	4%	2%
Some college or associates degree	17%	11%
Bachelor's degree or higher	78%	84%
Prefer not to answer	1%	2%
n=	964	2,030

Source: RRC

Including yourself, how many people live in your household?

	Invite	Open
1 person	17%	11%
2 people	47%	52%
3-5 people	35%	35%
6+ people	2%	2%
Avg.	2.5	2.6
n=	954	1,998

Source: RRC

How many members of your household are under the age of 18?

	Invite	Open
0 members	54%	70%
1 member	15%	12%
2 members	21%	13%
3-5 members	10%	4%
6+ members	0%	0%
Avg.	0.9	0.6
n=	601	1,952

Source: RRC

How many members of your household are over the age of 65?

	Invite	Open
0 members	63%	65%
1 member	15%	13%
2 members	21%	22%
3-5 members	1%	0%
6+ members	0%	0%
Avg.	0.6	0.6
n=	736	1,970

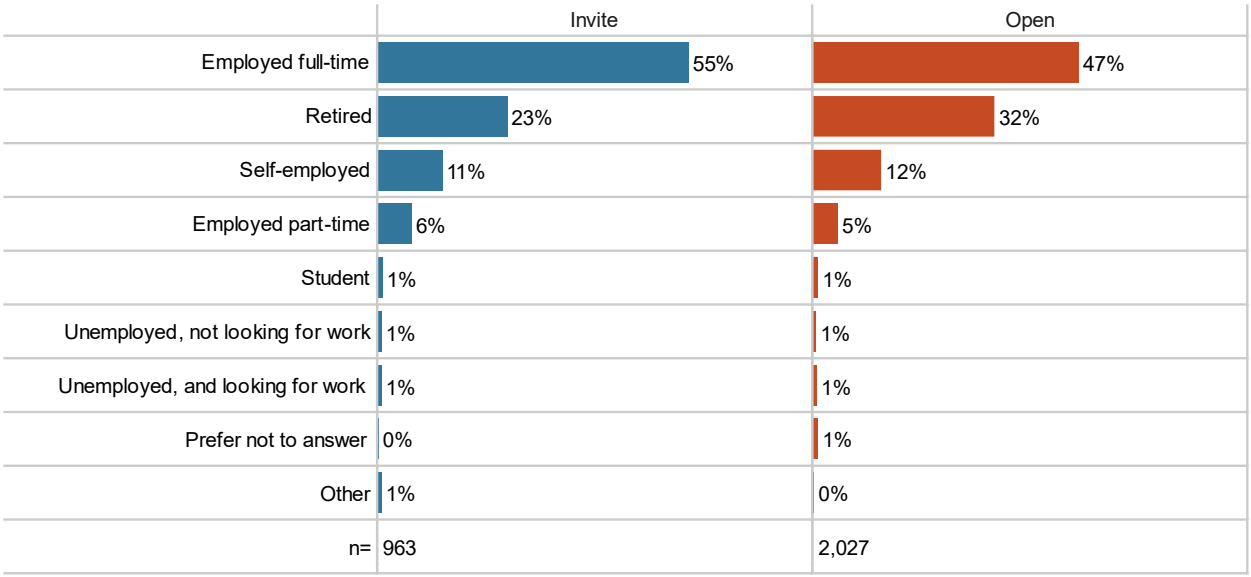
Source: RRC

Do you presently:

	Invite	Open
Own your own home in Larimer County	82%	89%
Rent your home in Larimer County	17%	9%
Another arrangement	1%	2%
n=	961	2,023

Source: RRC

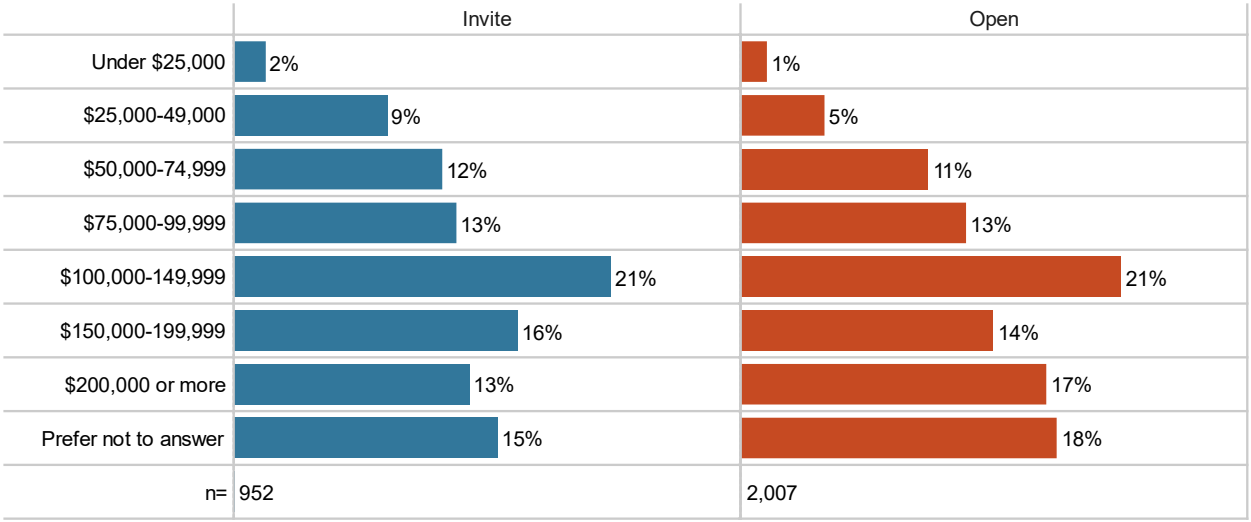
Which category best describes your current employment?



	Invite	Open
Employed full-time	55%	47%
Retired	23%	32%
Self-employed	11%	12%
Employed part-time	6%	5%
Student	1%	1%
Unemployed, not looking for work	1%	1%
Unemployed, and looking for work	1%	1%
Prefer not to answer	0%	1%
Other	1%	0%
n=	963	2,027

Source: RRC

Approximately what is your total average annual household income before taxes?



	Invite	Open
Under $25,000	2%	1%
$25,000-49,000	9%	5%
$50,000-74,999	12%	11%
$75,000-99,999	13%	13%
$100,000-149,999	21%	21%
$150,000-199,999	16%	14%
$200,000 or more	13%	17%
Prefer not to answer	15%	18%
n=	952	2,007

Source: RRC

APPENDIX B: INVITE SURVEY RESPONSES BY MUNICIPALITY

How long have you lived in Larimer County?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Less than 1 year	3%	4%	13%	3%	20%	6%	7%	3%	4%
1-5 years	24%	27%	37%	20%	39%	53%	28%	19%	3%
6-10 years	17%	16%	10%	11%	21%	16%	3%	17%	15%
11-20 years	22%	15%	7%	30%	14%	7%	21%	22%	18%
21+ years	34%	37%	33%	35%	5%	17%	40%	39%	60%
Avg.	17.4	17.6	13.2	19.5	6.9	9.8	19.2	18.6	27.1
n=	458	190	31	22	20	25	19	117	103

Source: RRC

About how many times in the last 12 months have you and/or members of your household visited city, town, or county managed "Open space & trails" throughout Larimer County?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
0 times	4%	3%	2%	7%	9%	5%		2%	14%
1-5 times	17%	26%	37%	9%	29%	33%	42%	27%	17%
6-10 times	19%	19%	25%	46%	31%	6%	18%	15%	17%
11-20 times	22%	19%	21%	5%	6%	32%	25%	17%	16%
21-50 times	20%	17%	7%	22%	13%	15%	15%	22%	21%
51-100 times	12%	5%			12%	6%		7%	4%
101+ times	7%	9%	8%	12%		3%		10%	11%
Avg.	39.3	38.7	28.1	54.3	18.8	20.8	10.6	38.0	35.8
n=	426	174	28	19	16	25	18	102	88

Source: RRC

How familiar are you with “Open space & trails” within Larimer County, either municipal or county?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
1 - Not at all	1%	5%	2%	7%	3%	7%		3%	1%
2 - Somewhat familiar	24%	36%	61%	41%	43%	48%	32%	31%	23%
3 - Familiar	40%	32%	25%	37%	30%	36%	55%	38%	42%
4 - Very familiar	34%	27%	12%	15%	24%	9%	13%	29%	34%
Avg.	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.8	2.9	3.1
n=	454	190	31	22	20	24	18	115	103

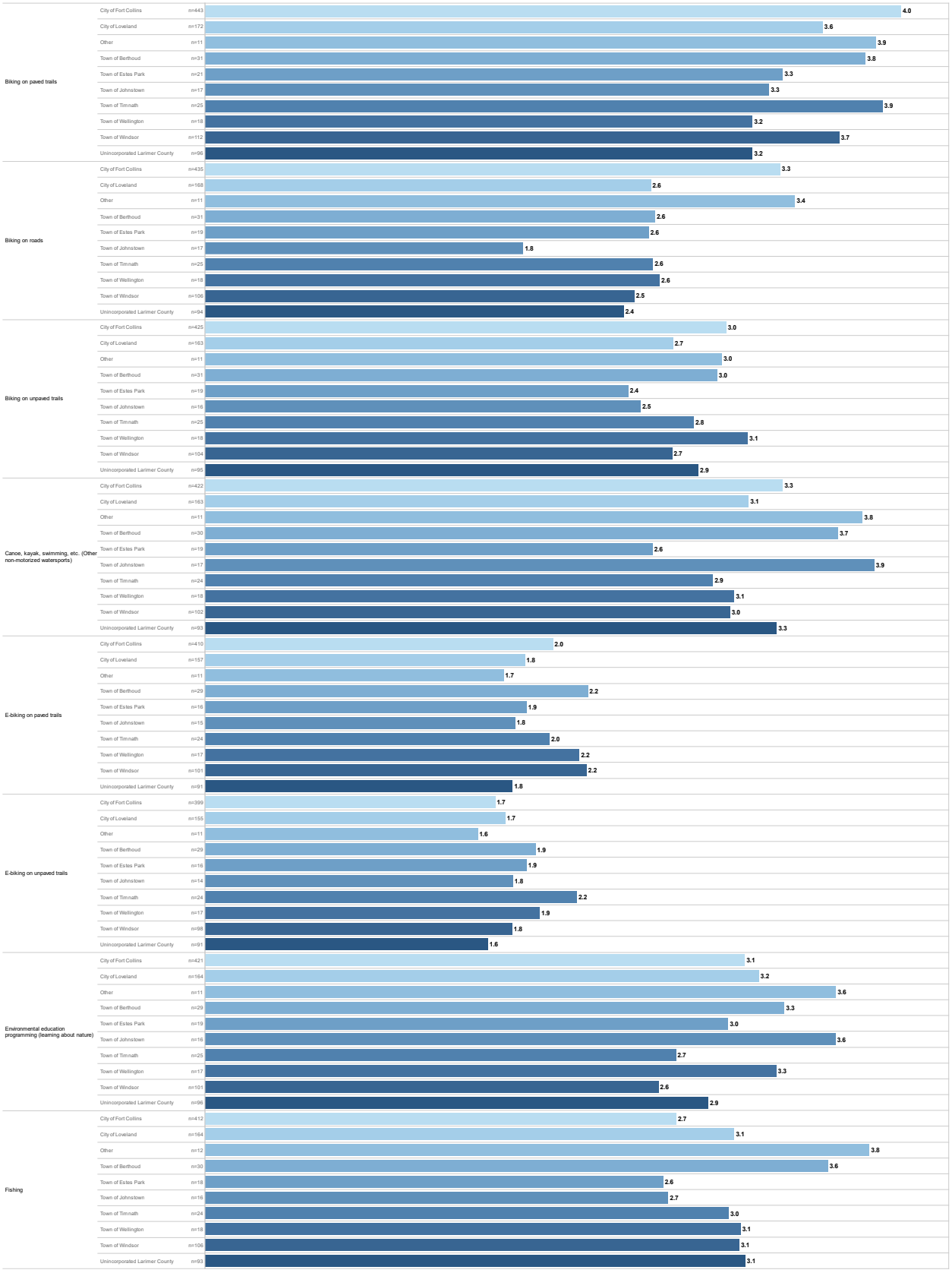
Source: RRC

Where have you visited “Open space & trails” in the last 12 months? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
City of Fort Collins	96%	61%	54%	19%	75%	92%	82%	64%	73%
City of Loveland	41%	96%	56%	23%	66%	43%	29%	36%	35%
Town of Estes Park	30%	41%	58%	95%	27%	24%	40%	23%	20%
Unincorporated Larimer County	31%	26%	26%	30%	6%	31%	37%	27%	81%
Town of Windsor	13%	14%	11%		34%	49%	4%	68%	9%
Town of Berthoud	1%	9%	82%			4%	15%	6%	11%
Town of Timnath	5%	1%				69%	7%	15%	4%
Town of Wellington	7%	0%	3%			6%	76%	3%	3%
Town of Johnstown	2%	6%	7%		29%	3%	11%	7%	4%
Other	1%	1%	6%		5%	3%	4%	5%	4%
n=	429	176	30	20	18	23	18	108	89

Source: RRC

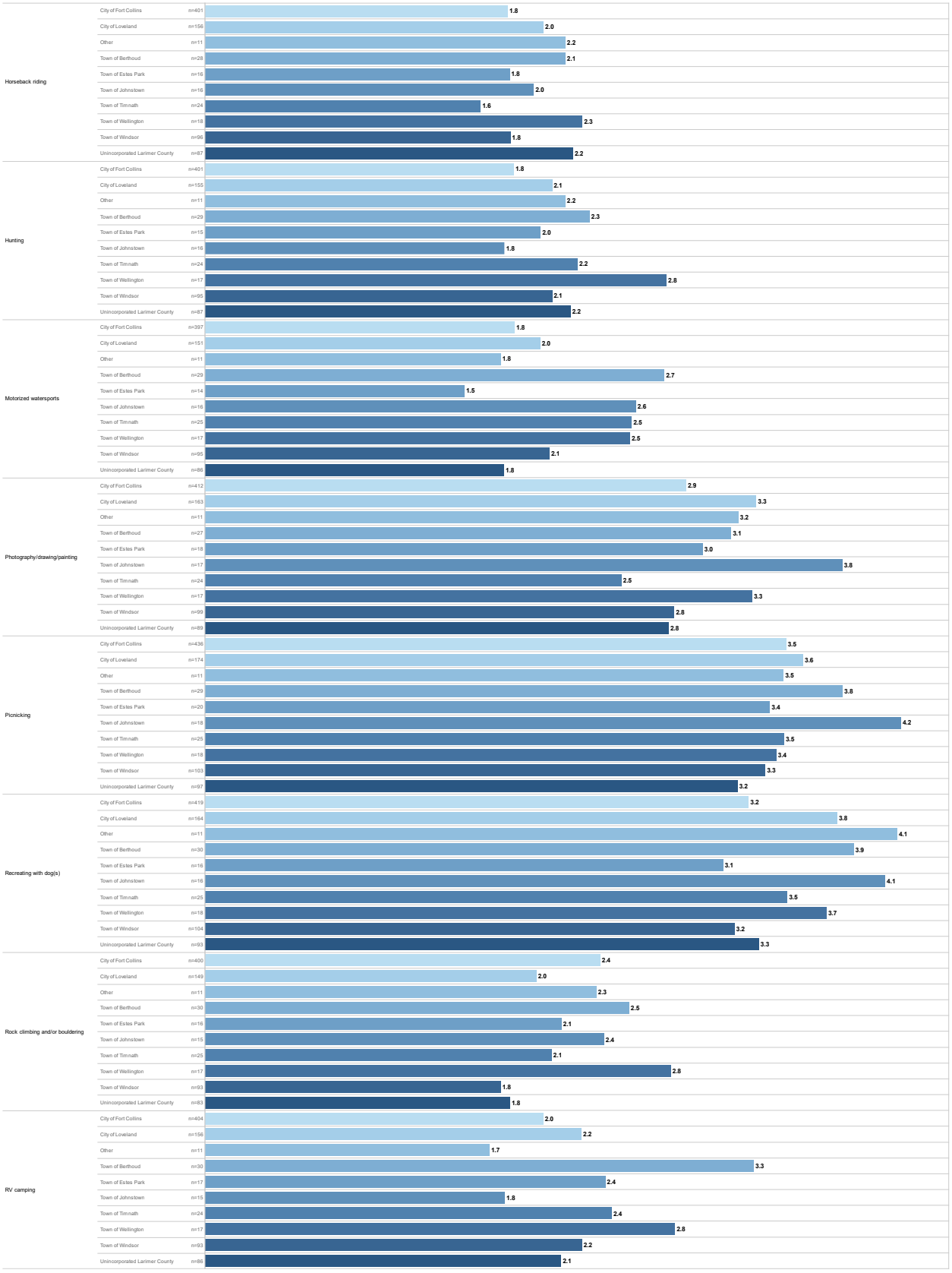
Please rate how important the following activities are to your household in Larimer County. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

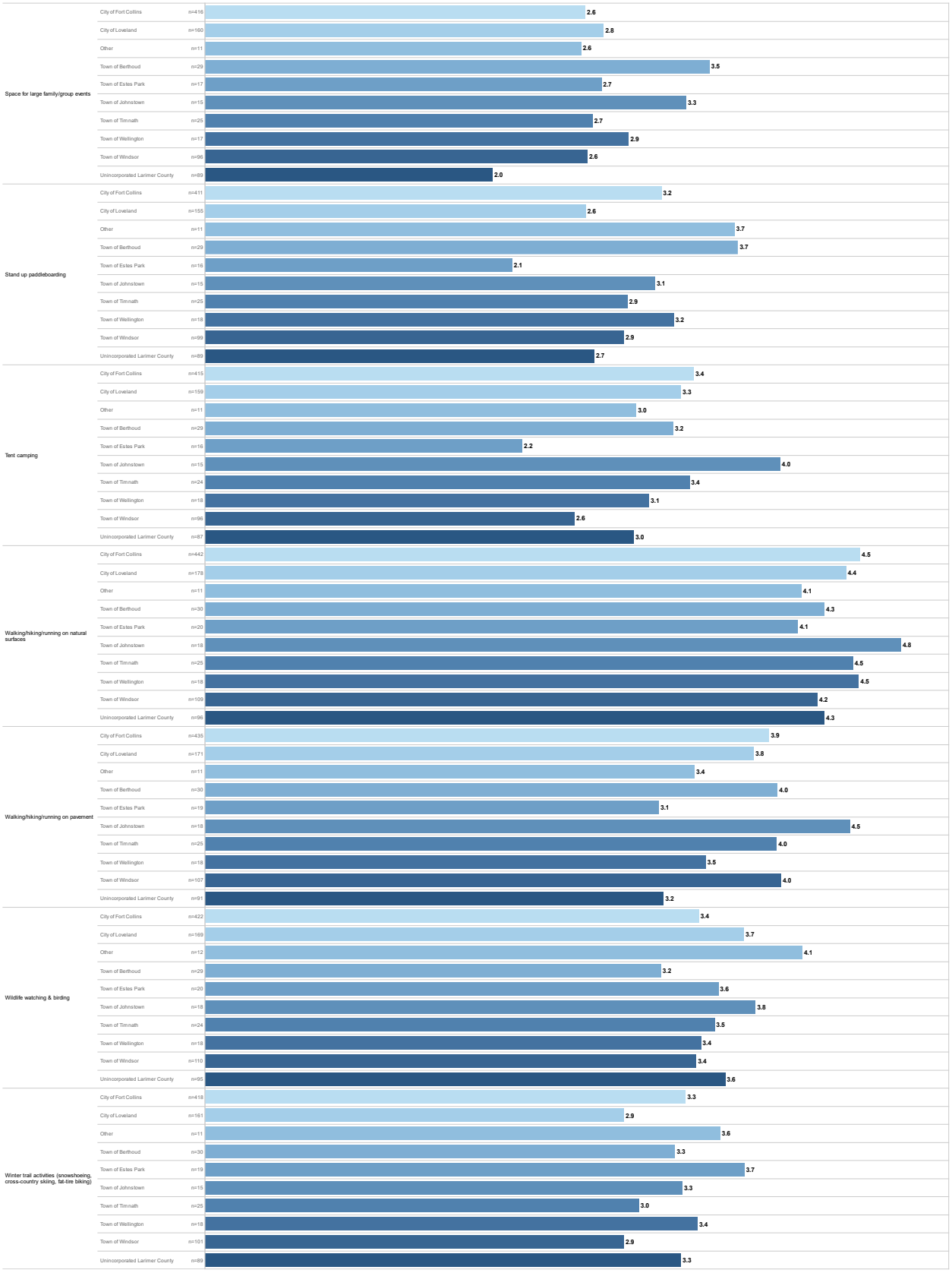
Please rate how important the following activities are to your household in Larimer County. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

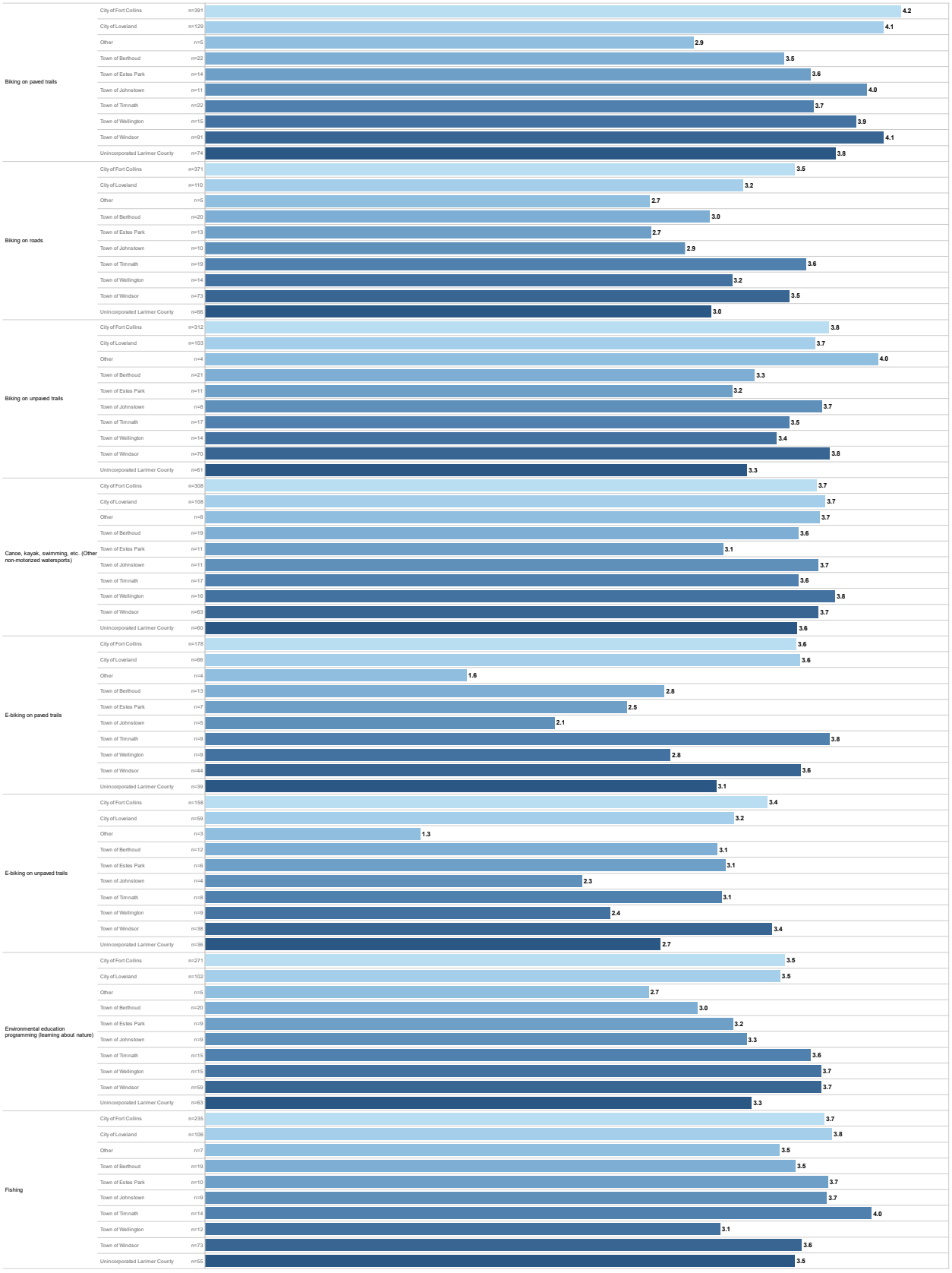
Please rate how important the following activities are to your household in Larimer County. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

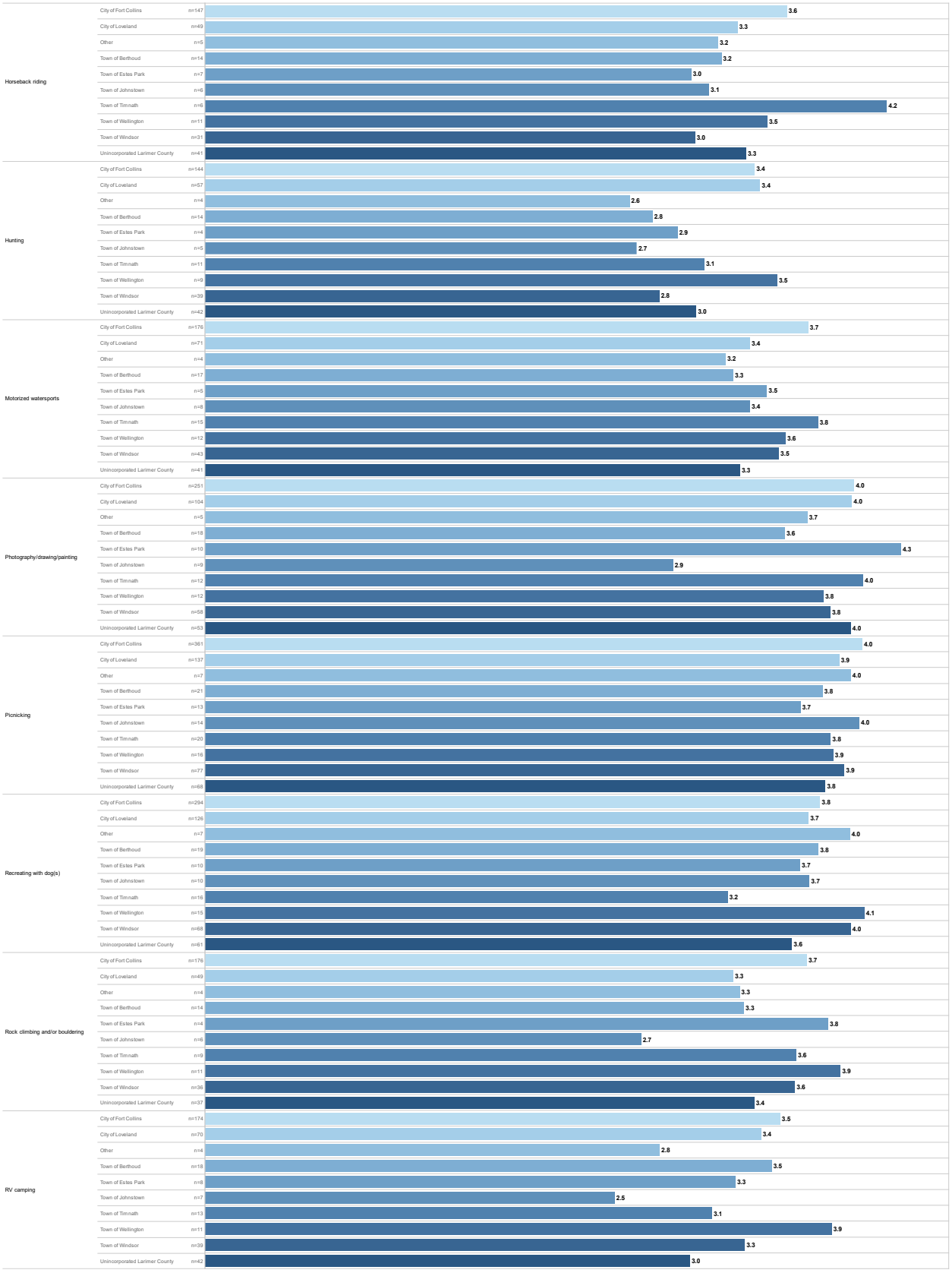
Please rate how you think the following activities are currently meeting the needs of the community. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

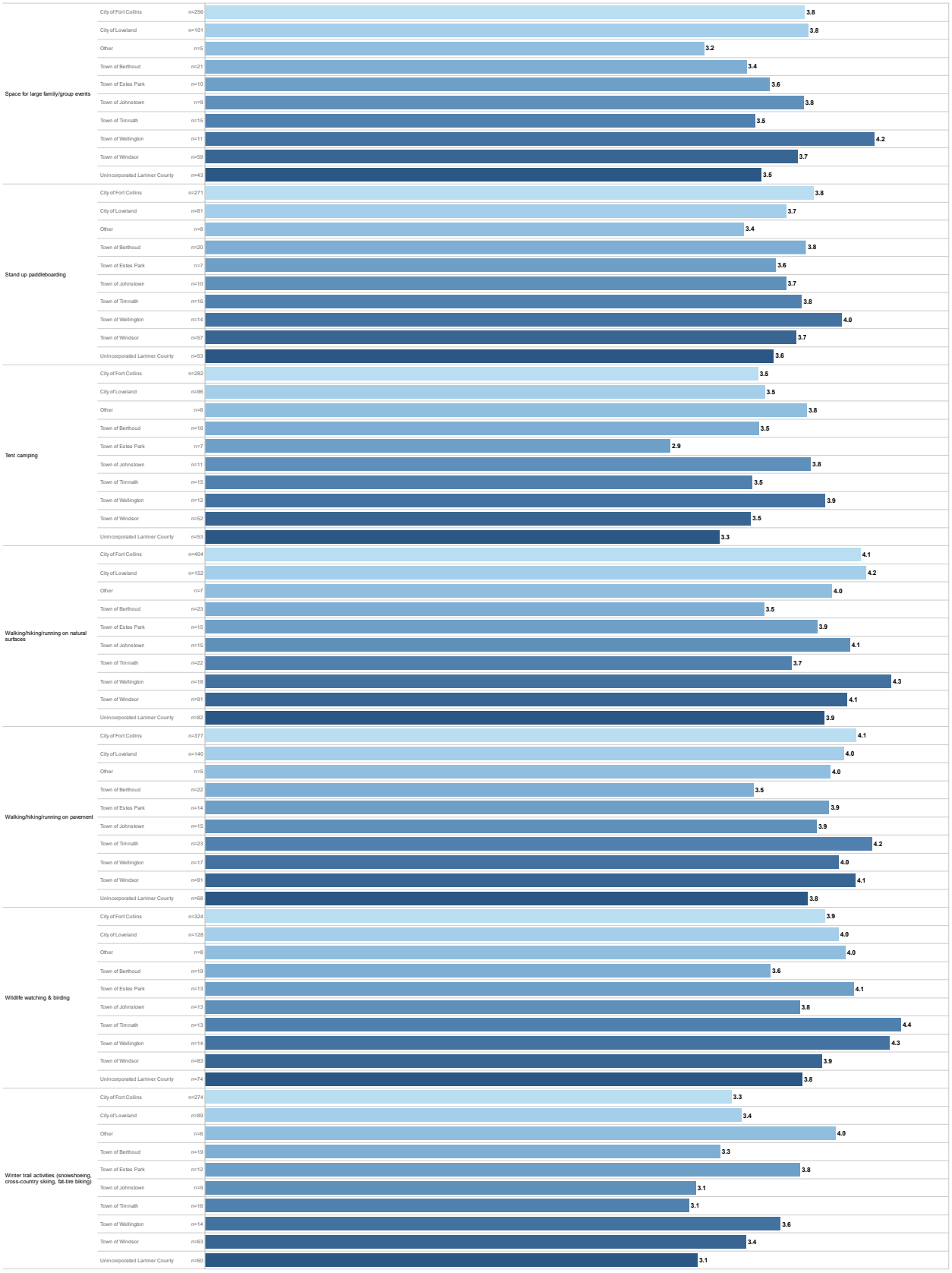
Please rate how you think the following activities are currently meeting the needs of the community. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

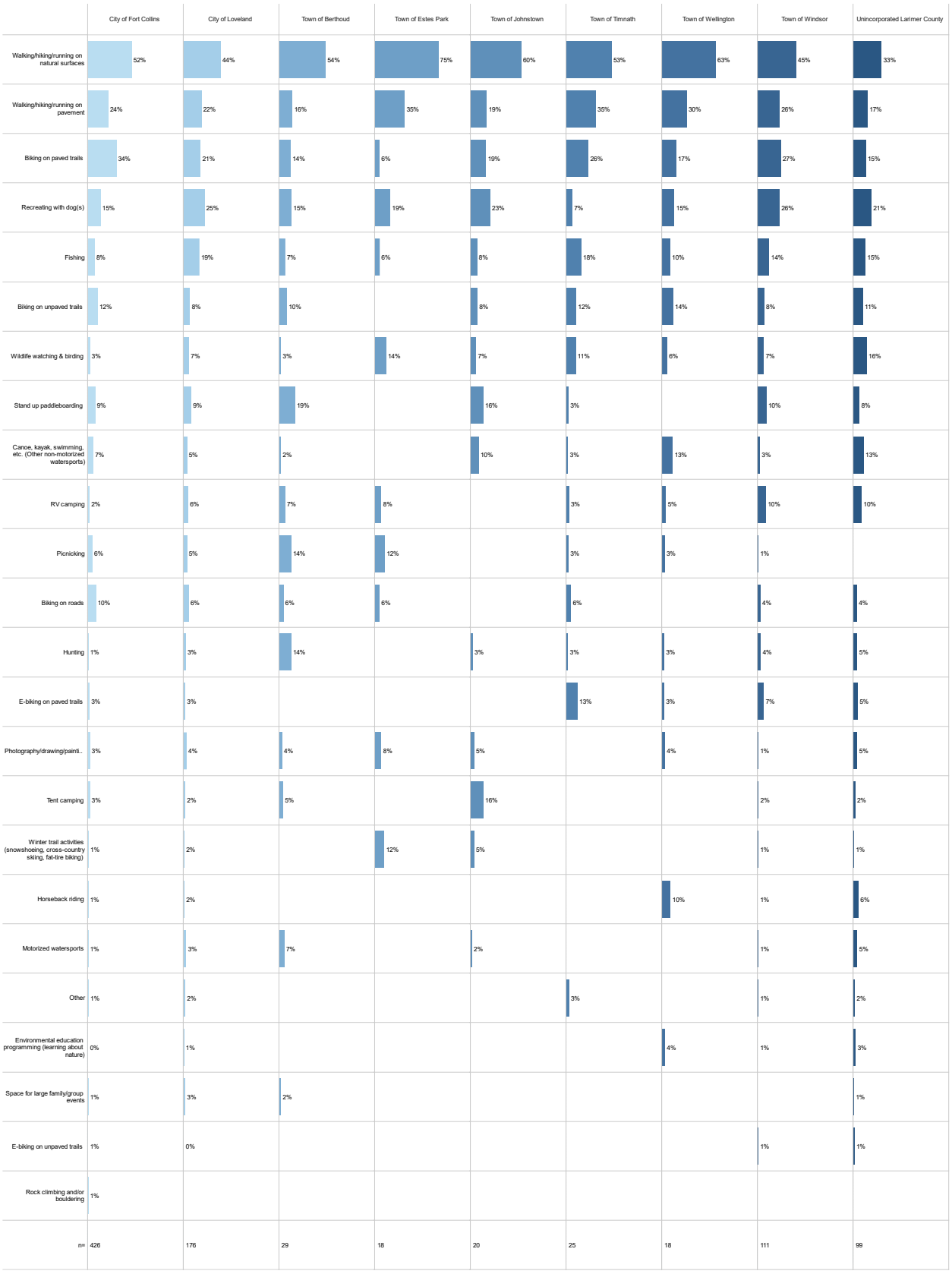
Please rate how you think the following activities are currently meeting the needs of the community. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

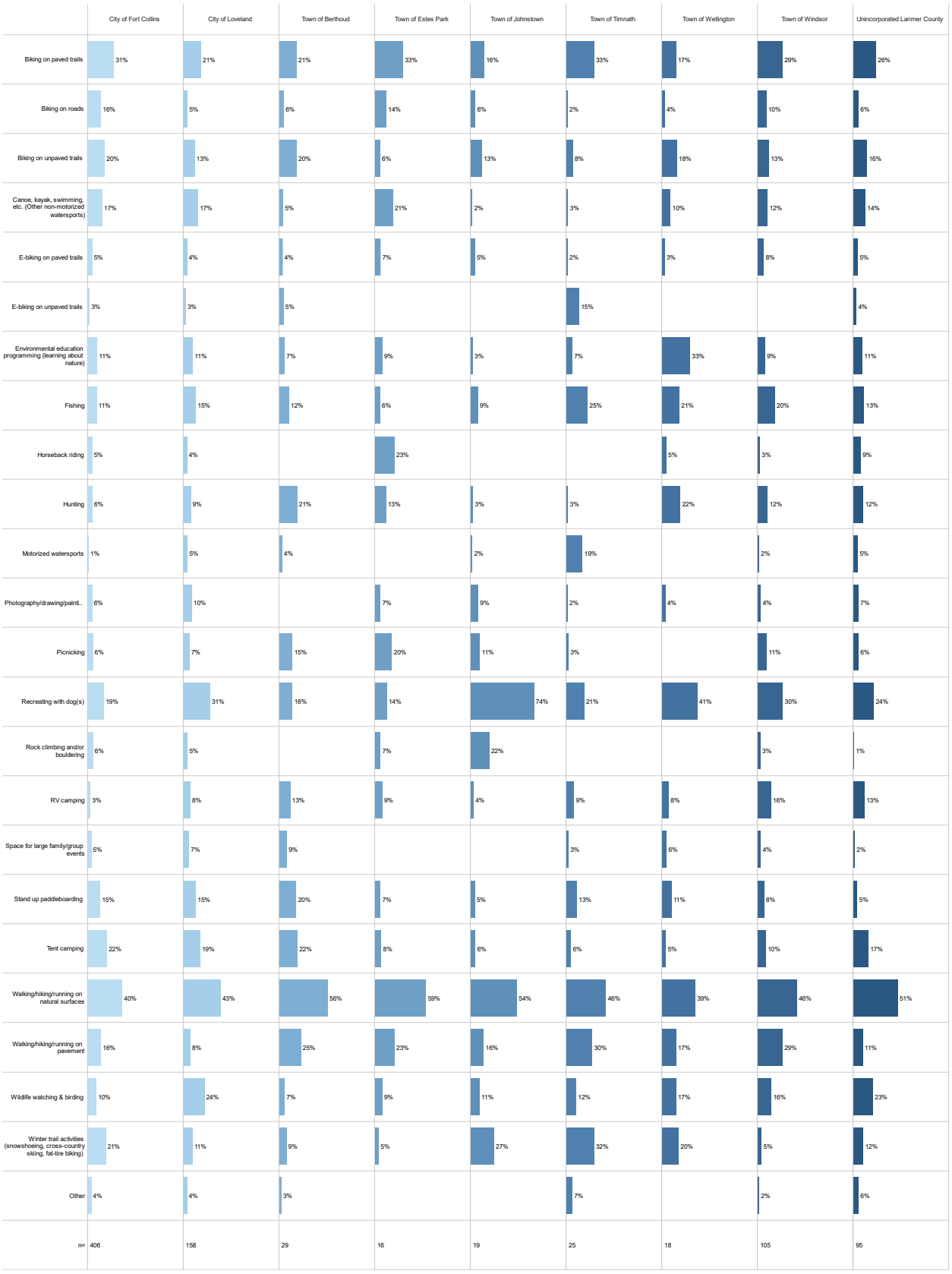
Which TWO activities are your household's most frequent activities?
Invite



Source: RRC

RRC

Which THREE activities would you most like to see more land or facilities provided?
Invite

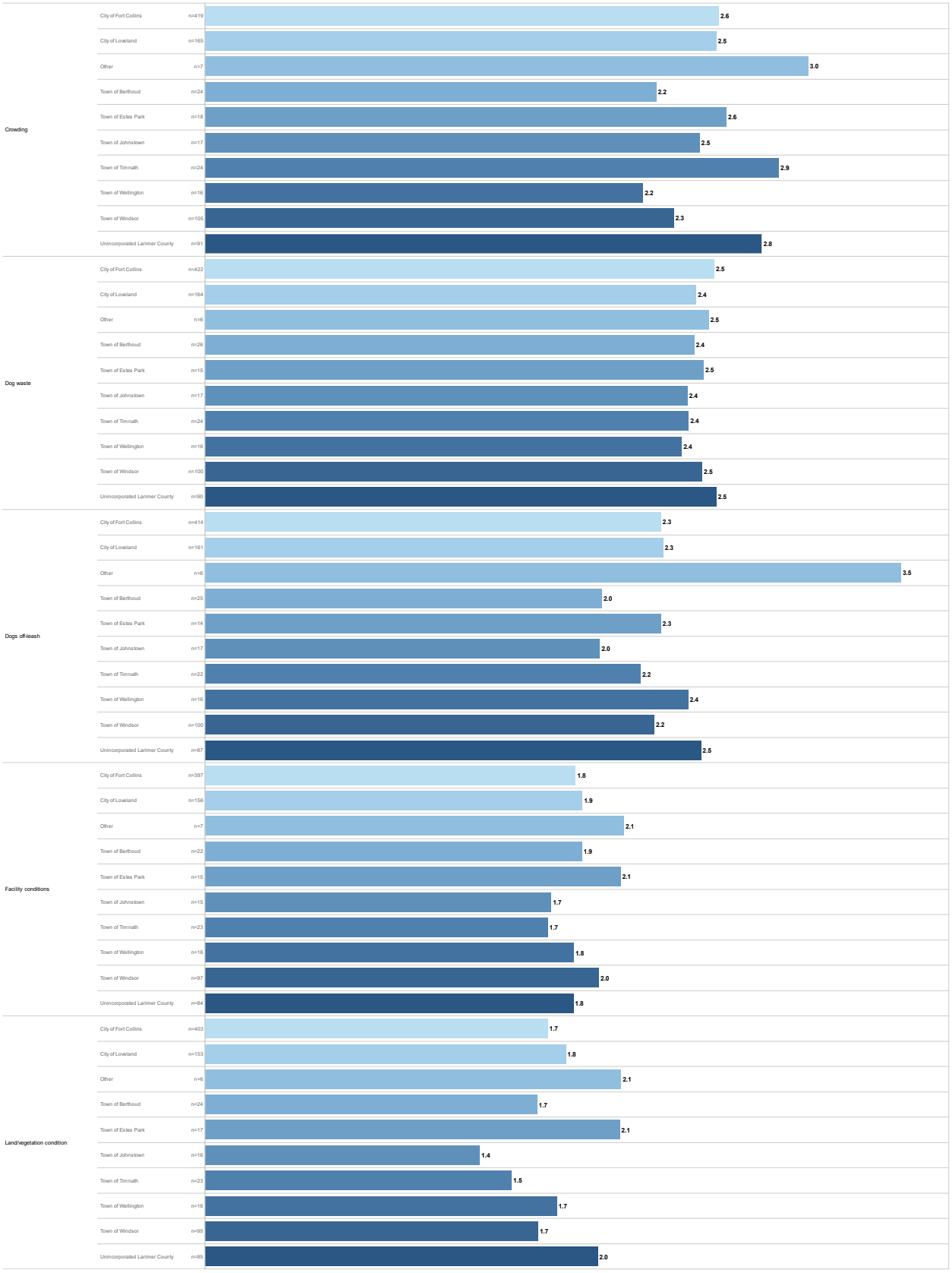


	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Biking on paved trails	31%	21%	21%	33%	16%	33%	17%	29%	26%
Biking on roads	16%	5%	6%	14%	6%	2%	4%	10%	6%
Biking on unpaved trails	20%	13%	20%	6%	13%	8%	18%	13%	16%
Canoe, kayak, swimming, etc. (Other non-motorized watersports)	17%	17%	5%	21%	2%	3%	10%	12%	14%
E-biking on paved trails	5%	4%	4%	7%	5%	2%	3%	8%	5%
E-biking on unpaved trails	3%	3%	5%			15%			4%
Environmental education programming (learning about nature)	11%	11%	7%	9%	3%	7%	33%	9%	11%
Fishing	11%	15%	12%	6%	9%	25%	21%	20%	13%
Horseback riding	5%	4%		23%			5%	3%	9%
Hunting	6%	9%	21%	13%	3%	3%	22%	12%	12%
Motorized watersports	1%	5%	4%		2%	19%		2%	5%
Photography/drawing/painti..	6%	10%		7%	9%	2%	4%	4%	7%
Picnicking	6%	7%	15%	20%	11%	3%		11%	6%
Recreating with dog(s)	19%	31%	16%	14%	74%	21%	41%	30%	24%
Rock climbing and/or bouldering	6%	5%		7%	22%			3%	1%
RV camping	3%	8%	13%	9%	4%	9%	8%	16%	13%
Space for large family/group events	5%	7%	9%			3%	6%	4%	2%
Stand up paddleboarding	15%	15%	20%	7%	5%	13%	11%	8%	5%
Tent camping	22%	19%	22%	8%	6%	6%	5%	10%	17%
Walking/hiking/running on natural surfaces	40%	43%	56%	59%	54%	46%	39%	46%	51%
Walking/hiking/running on pavement	16%	8%	25%	23%	16%	30%	17%	29%	11%
Wildlife watching & birding	10%	24%	7%	9%	11%	12%	17%	16%	23%
Winter trail activities (snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, fat-tire biking)	21%	11%	9%	5%	27%	32%	20%	5%	12%
Other	4%	4%	3%			7%		2%	6%
n=	406	158	29	16	19	25	18	105	95

Source: RRC

RRC

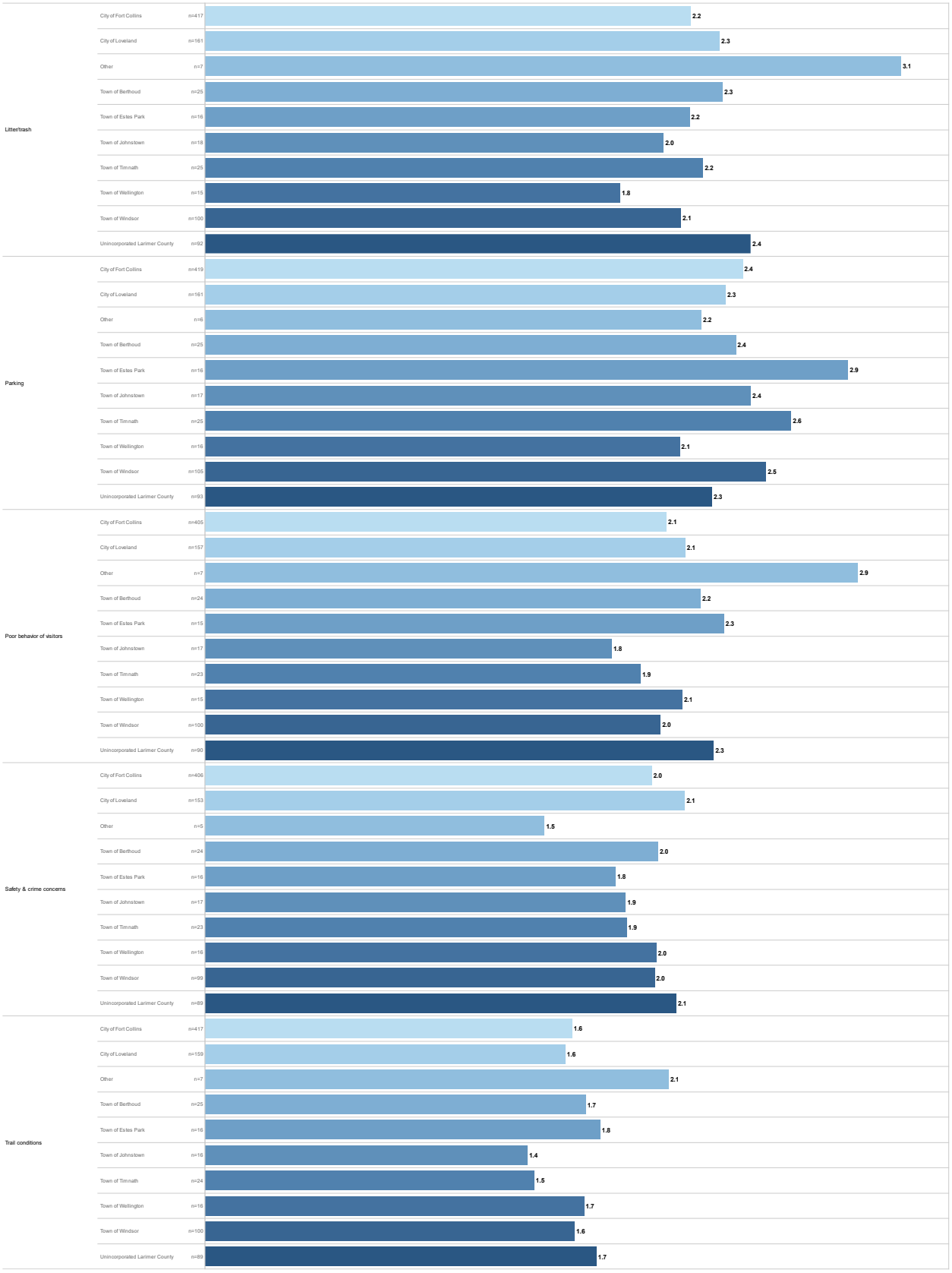
How much of a problem do you think each of the following site-specific issues are currently at "Open space & trails" in Larimer County and partner municipalities?
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

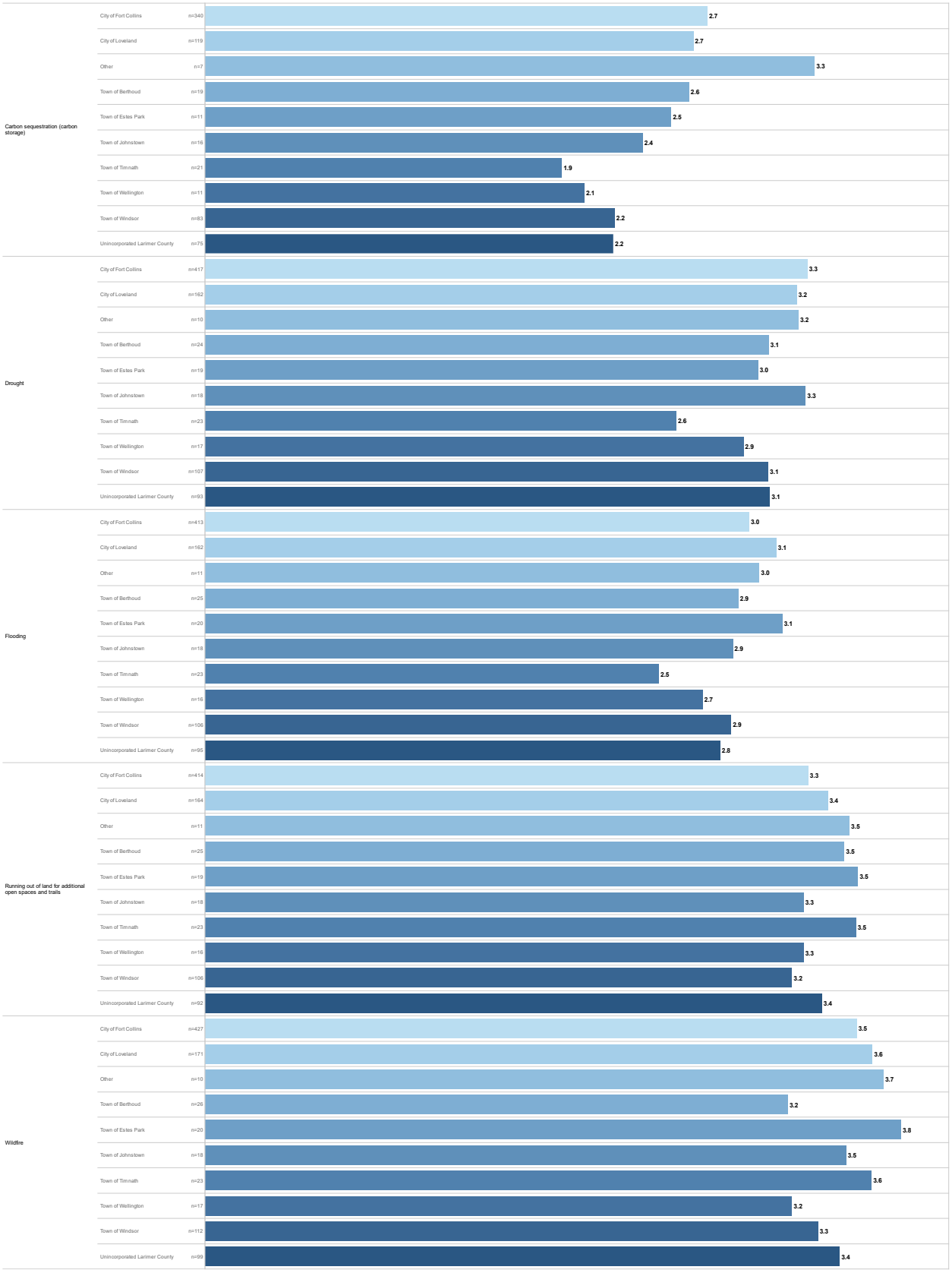
How much of a problem do you think each of the following site-specific issues are currently at "Open space & trails" in Larimer County and partner municipalities?
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

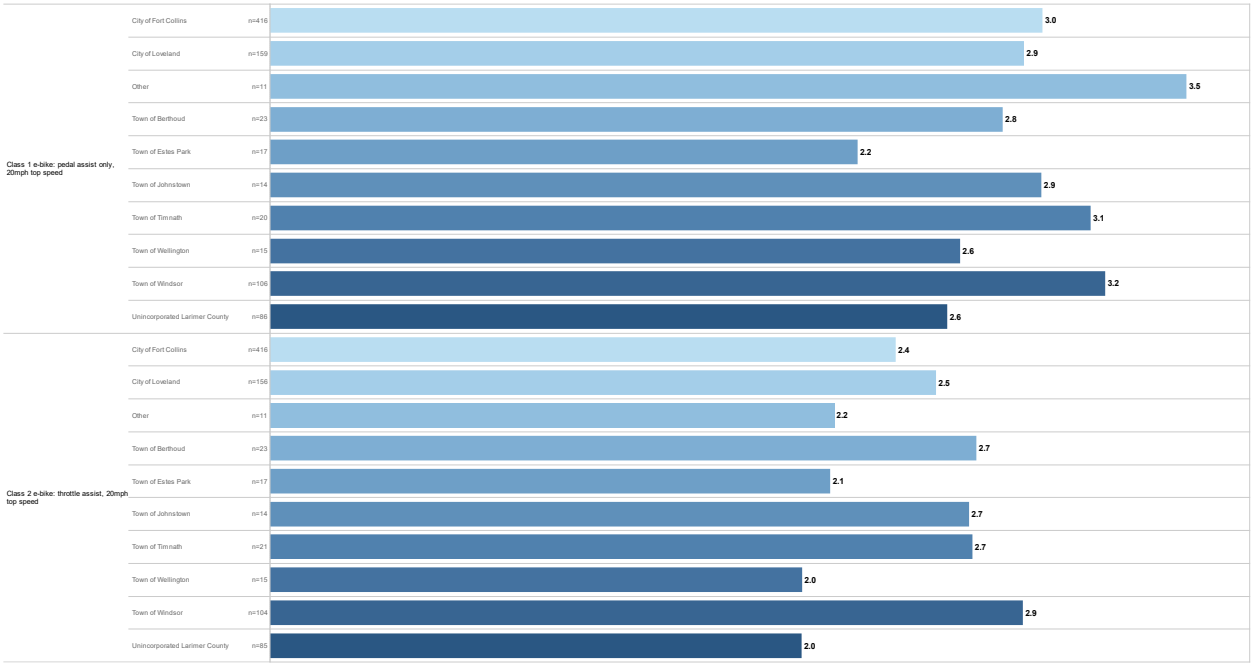
How much of a priority should be given to the following long-term planning issues at "Open space & trails" in Larimer County and partner municipalities?
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

Considering the increasing popularity of e-bikes, and our goal to better manage their use, please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: "E-bikes should be allowed on natural surface trails, alongside traditional bicycles"
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

If you don't use "Open space & trails" in Larimer County, what are the reasons? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Lack of time	41%	43%	41%		52%	43%	23%	48%	32%
Crowding	34%	27%	30%	23%	26%	56%	26%	25%	47%
Not enough parking	37%	22%	30%	38%	28%	48%	47%	25%	30%
Unaware of what "Open space & trails" exist near me	14%	26%	47%	34%	34%	30%		25%	3%
Financial constraints (fees too high, expensive)	16%	28%	4%	14%			30%	13%	26%
Lack of nature-based facilities near my home	11%	6%	39%		59%	63%		9%	16%
Safety concerns/risks	12%	11%	19%	20%				10%	13%
Insufficient information on how to use and/or navigate "Open spaces and trails"	9%	19%		24%	40%	18%		11%	3%
Regulations are too restrictive	8%	17%		11%		7%		10%	8%
Lack of interest	5%	10%			5%	7%		22%	6%
Fear of wildlife interactions	5%	8%	7%			11%		3%	2%
Lack of gear and/or equipment	6%	8%							
Limited transportation options	6%	2%			7%			3%	3%
Feel unwelcome or uncomfortable in "Open spaces & trails"	3%	5%	20%					9%	8%
Lack of infrastructure to accommodate my physical needs	3%	4%	4%	9%				3%	
Unsuitable condition of "Open space & trails"	2%	1%						2%	2%
Don't have the programs or facilities I want or that cater to my interests	3%								3%
Prefer other parks and locations such as state and national parks	11%	14%	5%	11%		41%	30%	26%	19%
Other	8%	11%	10%	19%		11%	21%	15%	14%
n=	181	85	14	9	9	9	4	36	49

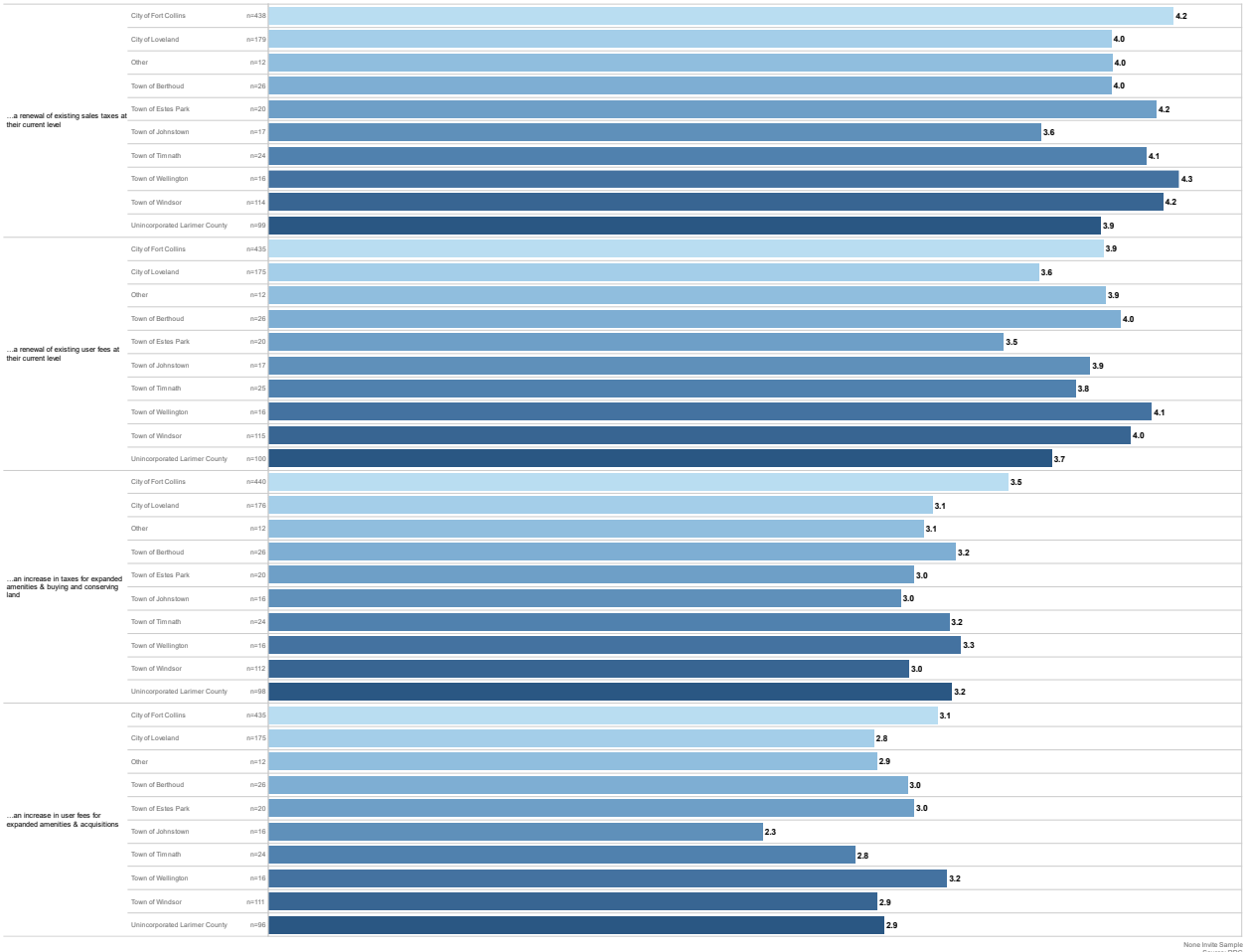
Source: RRC

If you had $100 in public funds to spend on open space, trails, agricultural land, and/or construction of nature-based recreation amenities in Larimer County, how would you allocate those funds in $5 minimum increments?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins n=428	City of Loveland n=170	Town of Berthoud n=26	Town of Estes Park n=20	Town of Johnstown n=17	Town of Timnath n=25	Town of Wellington n=17	Town of Windsor n=110	Unincorporated Larimer County n=99
To protect lakes, rivers, streams, and preserve water quality	$16.77	$13.25	$9.19	$12.62	$14.45	$11.59	$7.92	$12.66	$11.32
For outdoor recreation opportunities (hiking, walking, biking, horse riding, climbing, boating, etc.)	$12.16	$12.74	$13.26	$16.91	$14.44	$19.44	$13.33	$10.95	$17.45
To protect wildlife habitat and rare species	$11.89	$13.16	$7.83	$10.60	$21.26	$8.18	$10.99	$11.57	$12.80
Management and maintenance of current "Open space and trails" and facilities, trails, etc.	$11.13	$10.01	$10.39	$9.86	$10.14	$6.76	$9.58	$13.71	$10.15
To create greenways or paved trail corridors that connect communities and parks	$11.12	$7.38	$17.60	$5.62	$8.99	$21.84	$13.51	$11.55	$8.33
Upgraded trailheads, trails, parking, restrooms, campgrounds, shelters, and information signs	$9.59	$8.42	$10.65	$11.17	$2.78	$9.72	$14.84	$12.25	$8.24
For land restoration or habitat enhancement, such as weed management or river restoration	$8.46	$7.09	$5.45	$10.98	$7.49	$2.09	$9.30	$6.57	$7.12
To conserve working farms and ranches	$5.17	$10.44	$8.80	$4.77	$3.59	$8.80	$3.38	$5.02	$9.71
To protect scenic views	$6.02	$8.17	$8.44	$8.67	$8.51	$7.58	$5.19	$7.22	$6.29
To conserve historic and archaeological sites in "Open spaces & trails"	$3.40	$4.59	$2.18	$5.73	$2.74	$2.40	$6.81	$4.78	$4.02
Renovation of historic structures that allow for public benefit	$3.49	$3.26	$3.48	$3.07	$1.90	$1.60	$4.52	$2.47	$2.89
Other	$0.80	$1.48	$2.73	$0.00	$3.70	$0.00	$0.63	$1.25	$1.67

Source: RRC

When taxes or fees that fund "Open space & trails" in your municipality or Larimer County come up for renewal, how likely would you be to vote for…?
Invite

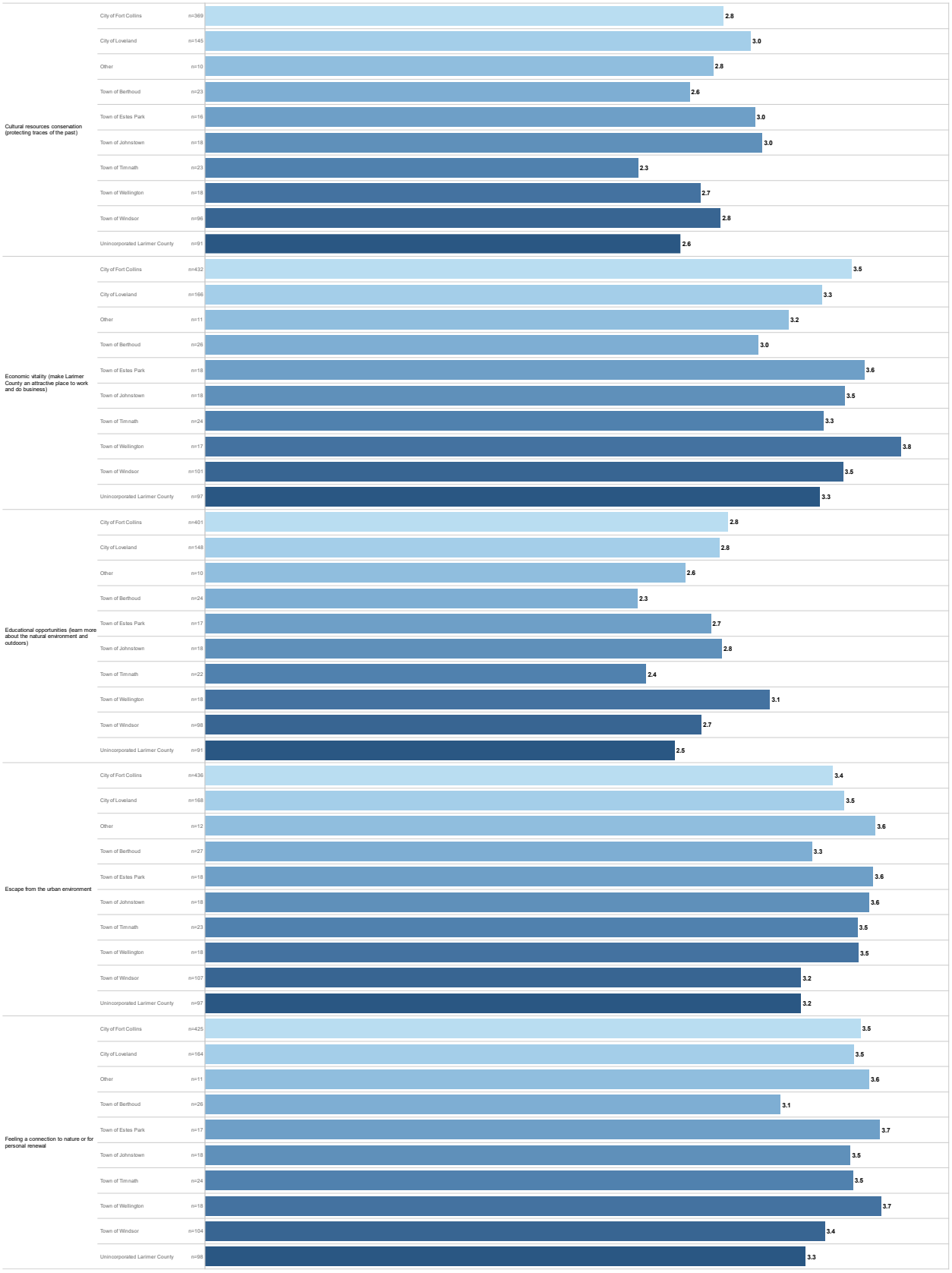


None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

Using the scale below, please select the word choice that indicates what emphasis you would like to see Larimer County and our cities and towns pursue. Invite

Source: RRC

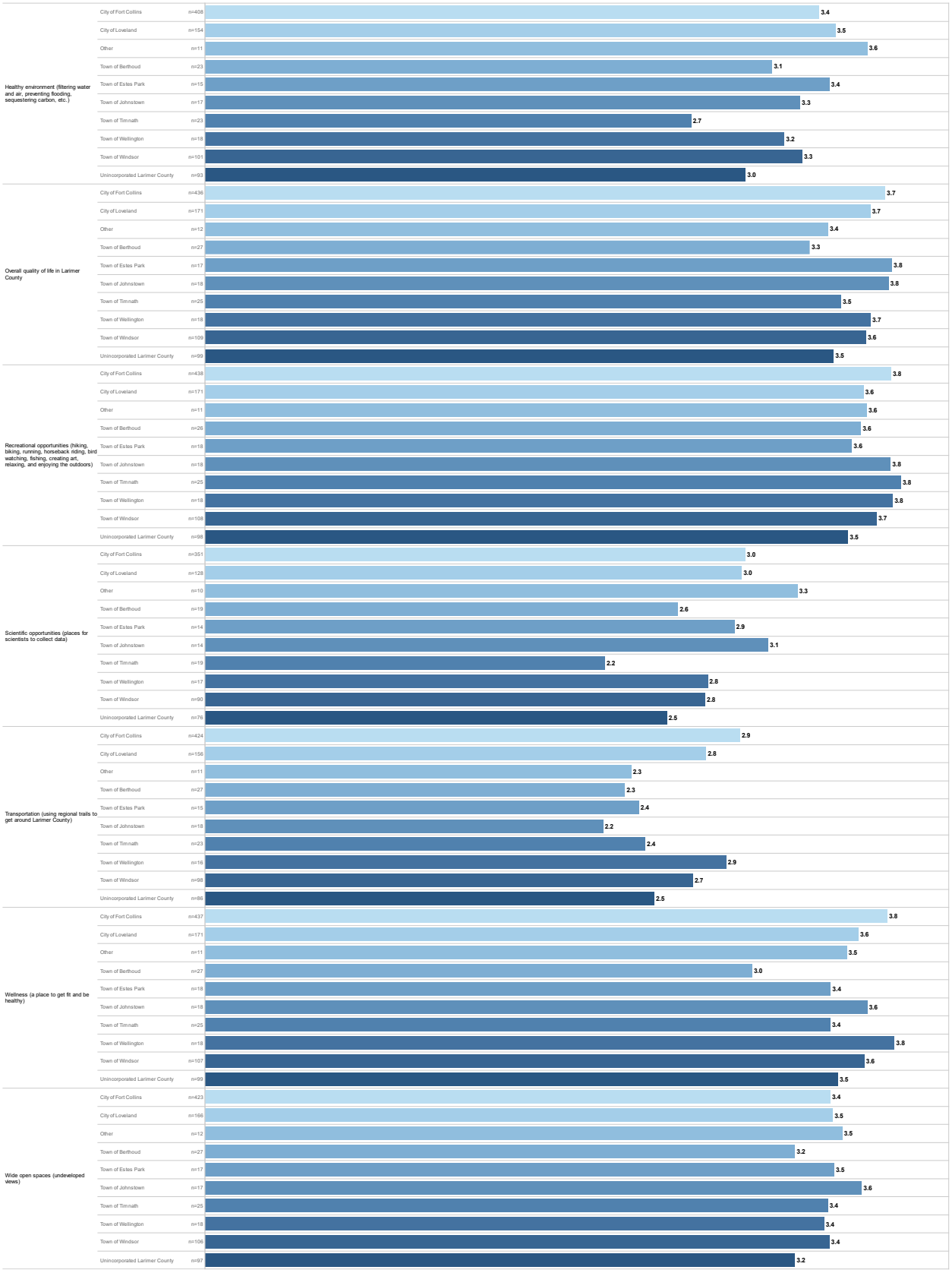
For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think Larimer County "Open space & trails" contribute to this attribute of the community.
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

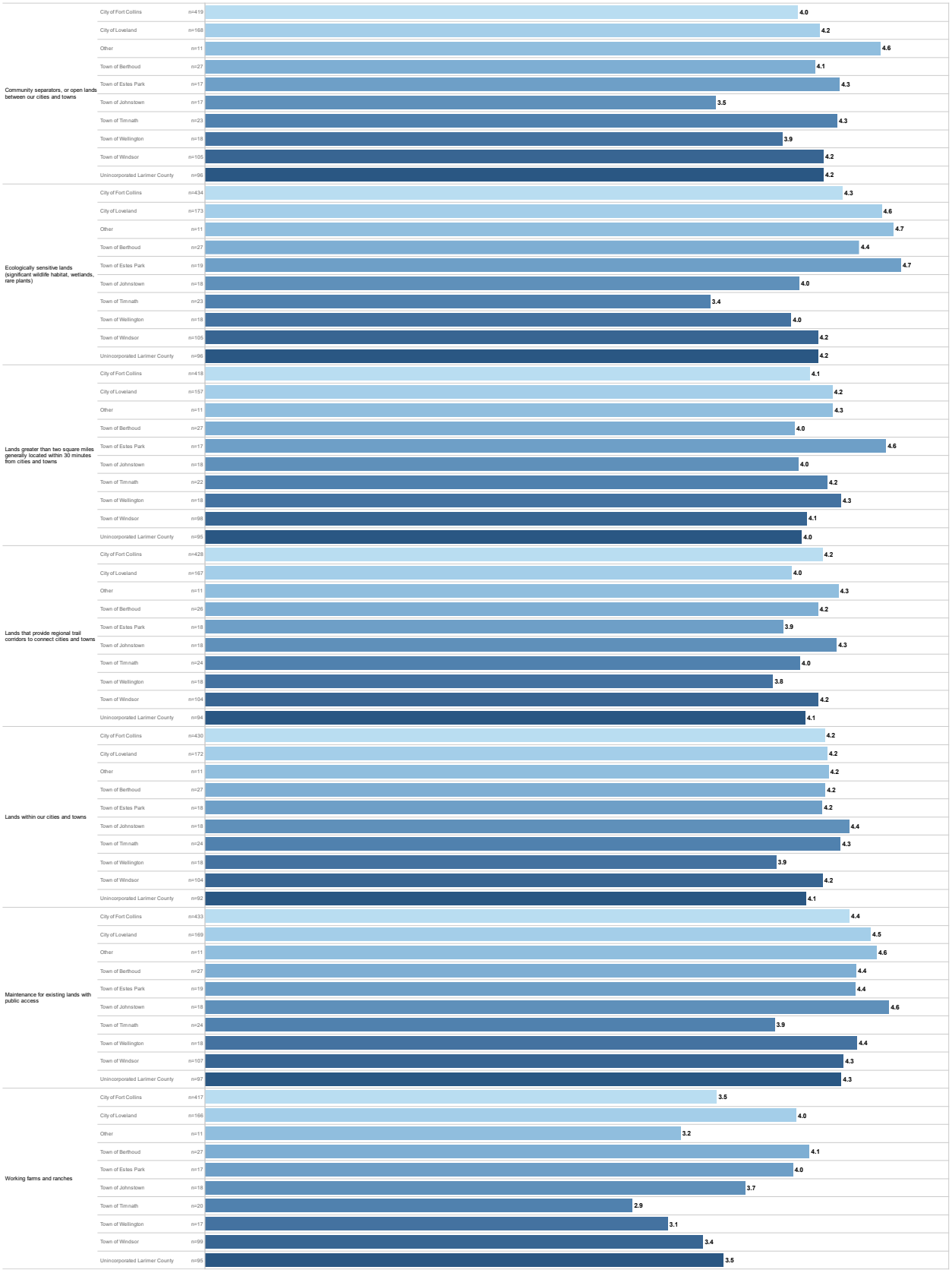
For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think Larimer County "Open space & trails" contribute to this attribute of the community.
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

How important are each of the following items for public agencies to consider when prioritizing funds to purchase or conserve land throughout Larimer County.
Invite



None Invite Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

From the question above, which one of these items do you consider to be the single most important priority?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Community separators, or open lands between our cities and towns	8%	11%	3%	6%	6%	11%	5%	8%	18%
Ecologically sensitive lands (significant wildlife habitat, wetlands, rare plants)	28%	40%	12%	30%	38%	10%	46%	23%	22%
Lands greater than two square miles generally located within 30 minutes from cities and towns	9%	9%	2%	17%			6%	12%	7%
Lands that provide regional trail corridors to connect cities and towns	11%	7%	14%	6%	23%	37%	11%	18%	12%
Lands within our cities and towns	21%	6%	22%	5%		15%	17%	18%	13%
Maintenance for existing lands with public access	17%	13%	26%	36%	33%	12%	15%	13%	19%
Working farms and ranches	7%	14%	22%			15%		9%	9%
n=	397	159	27	19	17	24	18	99	90

Source: RRC

Please indicate the gender with which you identify
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Male	48%	43%	52%	43%	28%	58%	57%	54%	45%
Female	47%	52%	44%	50%	62%	42%	43%	38%	49%
Prefer not to answer	3%	3%	4%	7%	10%			6%	4%
I prefer to identify as:	2%	1%						2%	2%
n=	443	182	29	20	18	25	17	112	97

Source: RRC

Age of respondent
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Under 18		2%							
18 - 24	5%	2%							
25 - 34	40%	28%	24%		34%	36%	20%	8%	17%
35 - 44	16%	16%	26%		27%	22%	15%	17%	13%
45 - 54	12%	13%	9%	25%	13%	16%	17%	20%	16%
55 - 64	11%	10%	24%	41%	8%	11%	25%	22%	26%
65 - 74	11%	18%	8%	19%	8%	10%	14%	18%	15%
75 or older	5%	12%	8%	15%	10%	6%	9%	16%	14%
Avg.	43.8	49.7	47.9	64.4	43.5	45.2	52.6	56.8	55.2
n=	433	174	27	19	18	24	17	106	92

Source: RRC

Of which racial or ethnic group(s) do you consider yourself to be a member? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
White/Caucasian	88%	86%	90%	90%	91%	71%	95%	86%	87%
Hispanic/Latino/Spanish Origin	7%	5%		3%	9%	4%		3%	1%
American Indian/Native American	4%	0%	6%		3%		5%	1%	1%
Black/African American	1%		4%					3%	
Asian American/Asian	4%	1%						1%	
Middle Eastern/North African	0%								1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander		1%						1%	
I prefer to self-identify as:	2%	1%				3%			2%
Prefer not to answer	4%	8%	4%	7%	5%	22%		9%	10%
n=	442	181	29	20	18	25	17	112	96

Source: RRC

What is the highest level of education you have completed?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
High school graduate or equivalent	2%	8%	10%	4%	3%		6%	8%	5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	84%	62%	66%	82%	83%	87%	81%	78%	78%
Some college or associate's degree	14%	28%	24%	14%	14%	13%	13%	10%	15%
Prefer not to answer	1%	1%						4%	2%
n=	445	182	29	20	18	25	17	113	97

Source: RRC

Including yourself, how many people live in your household?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
1 person	17%	19%	2%	23%	35%	2%	27%	7%	19%
2 people	46%	48%	44%	67%	36%	45%	21%	49%	53%
3-5 people	36%	31%	50%	10%	28%	40%	48%	40%	27%
6+ people	1%	2%	4%			13%	4%	4%	1%
Avg.	2.4	2.5	2.7	1.9	2.1	3.2	2.8	2.8	2.3
n=	440	180	29	18	18	25	17	112	97

Source: RRC

How many members of your household are under the age of 18?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
0 members	55%	58%	37%	86%	76%	33%	42%	45%	60%
1 member	13%	10%	44%	14%		22%	18%	25%	13%
2 members	24%	17%	19%		24%	14%	35%	18%	19%
3-5 members	8%	14%				31%	5%	11%	7%
6+ members	0%								
Avg.	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.5	1.6	1.0	1.1	0.8
n=	301	110	22	7	11	16	11	66	46

Source: RRC

How many members of your household are over the age of 65?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
0 members	70%	59%	70%	24%	68%	62%	50%	53%	48%
1 member	12%	20%	7%	30%	9%	9%	16%	16%	28%
2 members	18%	21%	23%	46%	15%	11%	34%	31%	24%
3-5 members	1%					18%			
6+ members		1%			8%				
Avg.	0.5	0.7	0.5	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
n=	332	149	20	15	13	16	12	88	79

Source: RRC

Do you presently:
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Another arrangement	1%	3%							1%
Own your own home in Larimer County	73%	87%	92%	94%	49%	100%	100%	96%	97%
Rent your home in Larimer County	26%	10%	8%	6%	51%			4%	2%
n=	444	181	28	19	18	25	17	113	98

Source: RRC

Which category best describes your current employment?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Employed full-time	61%	52%	63%	30%	74%	48%	48%	41%	40%
Retired	18%	26%	19%	60%	17%	15%	30%	34%	36%
Self-employed	8%	16%	14%	7%	2%	35%	10%	14%	18%
Employed part-time	8%	4%	4%			2%	11%	4%	4%
Unemployed, not looking for work	1%	2%			6%			1%	
Student	2%								1%
Unemployed, and looking for work	1%	0%							1%
Prefer not to answer	0%							2%	
Other	1%			4%				4%	
n=	445	182	29	18	18	25	17	113	98

Source: RRC

Approximately what is your total average annual household income before taxes?
Invite

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Under $25,000	2%	2%	4%				6%		3%
$25,000-49,000	11%	6%		20%	3%		6%		12%
$50,000-74,999	11%	15%	9%	21%	20%	2%	16%	11%	10%
$75,000-99,999	14%	14%	9%	14%	5%		7%	8%	12%
$100,000-149,999	24%	24%	22%		13%	33%	24%	11%	14%
$150,000-199,999	16%	15%	25%	4%	26%	22%	26%	19%	10%
$200,000 or more	11%	6%	19%	12%	21%	23%	10%	29%	14%
Prefer not to answer	11%	18%	11%	30%	12%	19%	3%	22%	25%
n=	441	179	29	19	18	24	16	112	96

Source: RRC

APPENDIX C: OPEN SURVEY RESPONSES BY MUNICIPALITY

How long have you lived in Larimer County?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
1-5 years	22%	23%	46%	17%	20%	43%	20%	31%	10%
6-10 years	19%	20%	11%	24%	10%	19%	20%	9%	14%
11-20 years	21%	19%	13%	27%	30%	15%	20%	31%	18%
21+ years	37%	35%	24%	30%	25%	20%	38%	25%	57%
Avg.	18.3	17.6	11.6	16.6	12.6	12.2	22.1	16.1	25.6
Less than 1 year	2%	3%	6%	2%	15%	2%	2%	3%	1%
n=	1,205	426	108	126	20	139	45	32	381

Source: RRC

About how many times in the last 12 months have you and/or members of your household visited city, town, or county managed “Open space & trails” throughout Larimer County?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
0 times	1%	3%	11%	13%	8%	8%	3%	4%	6%
1-5 times	7%	13%	20%	29%	33%	24%	32%	12%	15%
6-10 times	10%	14%	18%	20%	25%	17%	16%	12%	16%
11-20 times	18%	24%	22%	16%	8%	20%	18%	19%	20%
21-50 times	33%	27%	18%	17%	25%	20%	24%	42%	24%
51-100 times	17%	9%	6%	2%		7%	5%	4%	10%
101+ times	13%	10%	5%	2%		4%	3%	8%	9%
Avg.	58.7	43.8	29.3	15.8	15.3	27.2	25.7	37.7	38.9
n=	1,071	370	83	98	12	115	38	26	337

Source: RRC

How familiar are you with “Open space & trails” within Larimer County, either municipal or county?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
1 - Not at all	1%	1%	7%	6%		6%	2%		3%
2 - Somewhat familiar	9%	20%	33%	40%	42%	26%	24%	26%	18%
3 - Familiar	31%	36%	39%	36%	21%	37%	33%	29%	30%
4 - Very familiar	59%	44%	22%	19%	37%	31%	40%	45%	49%
Avg.	3.5	3.2	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.2
n=	1,188	415	101	121	19	135	42	31	371

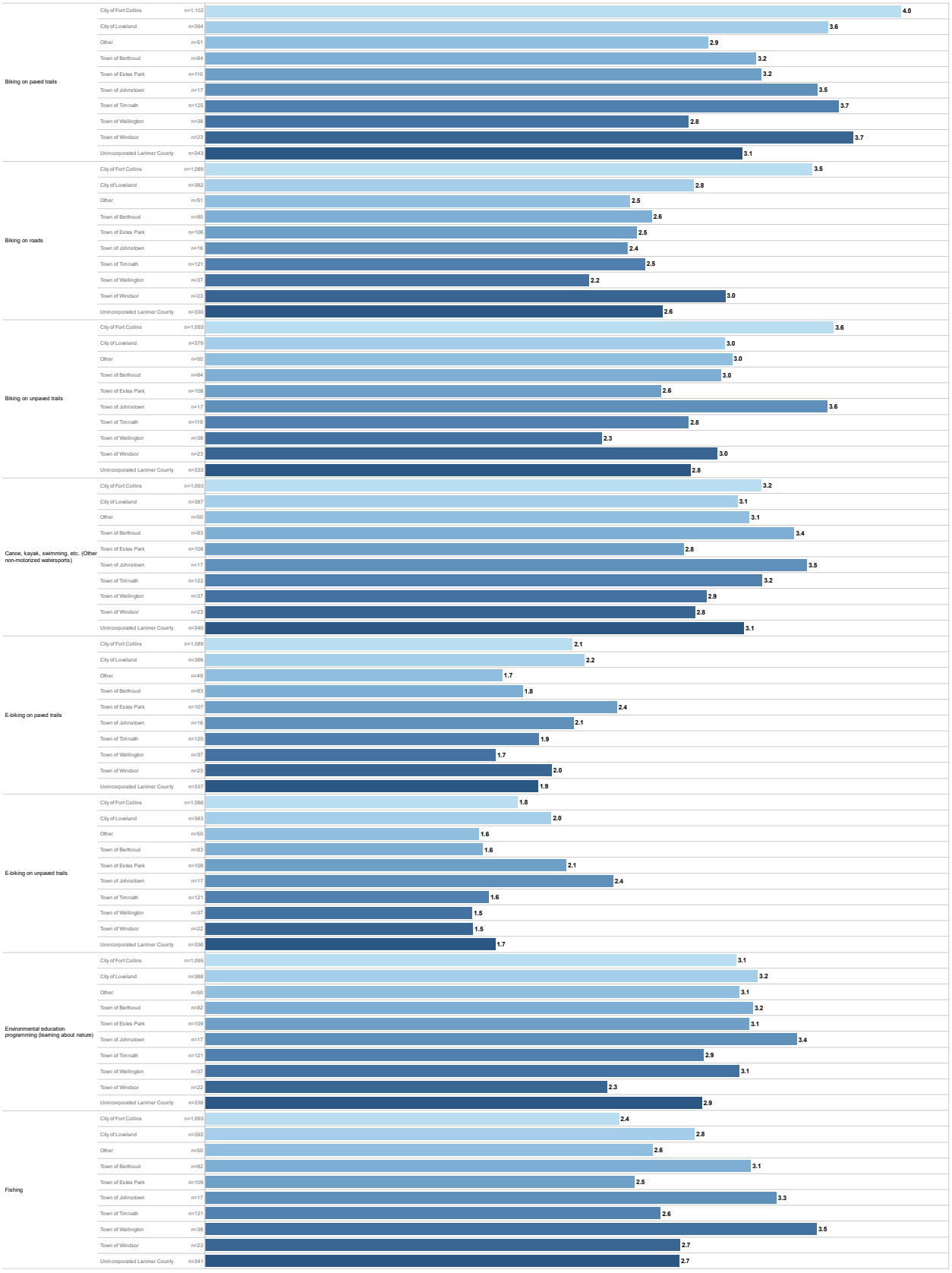
Source: RRC

Where have you visited “Open space & trails” in the last 12 months? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
City of Fort Collins	98%	74%	62%	38%	82%	91%	85%	76%	71%
City of Loveland	53%	97%	76%	30%	94%	47%	35%	72%	41%
Town of Estes Park	38%	42%	47%	88%	41%	45%	30%	28%	27%
Unincorporated Larimer County	63%	55%	51%	45%	29%	45%	65%	52%	90%
Town of Windsor	15%	10%	11%	3%	47%	59%	5%	76%	11%
Town of Berthoud	7%	13%	81%	2%	29%	1%	3%	4%	6%
Town of Timnath	8%	3%	2%	1%	6%	81%	8%	32%	6%
Town of Wellington	7%	2%	4%		6%	7%	60%	4%	6%
Town of Johnstown	2%	2%	5%	1%	59%	3%			0%
Other	1%	1%	2%	4%		1%			2%
n=	1,126	395	85	105	17	123	40	25	346

Source: RRC

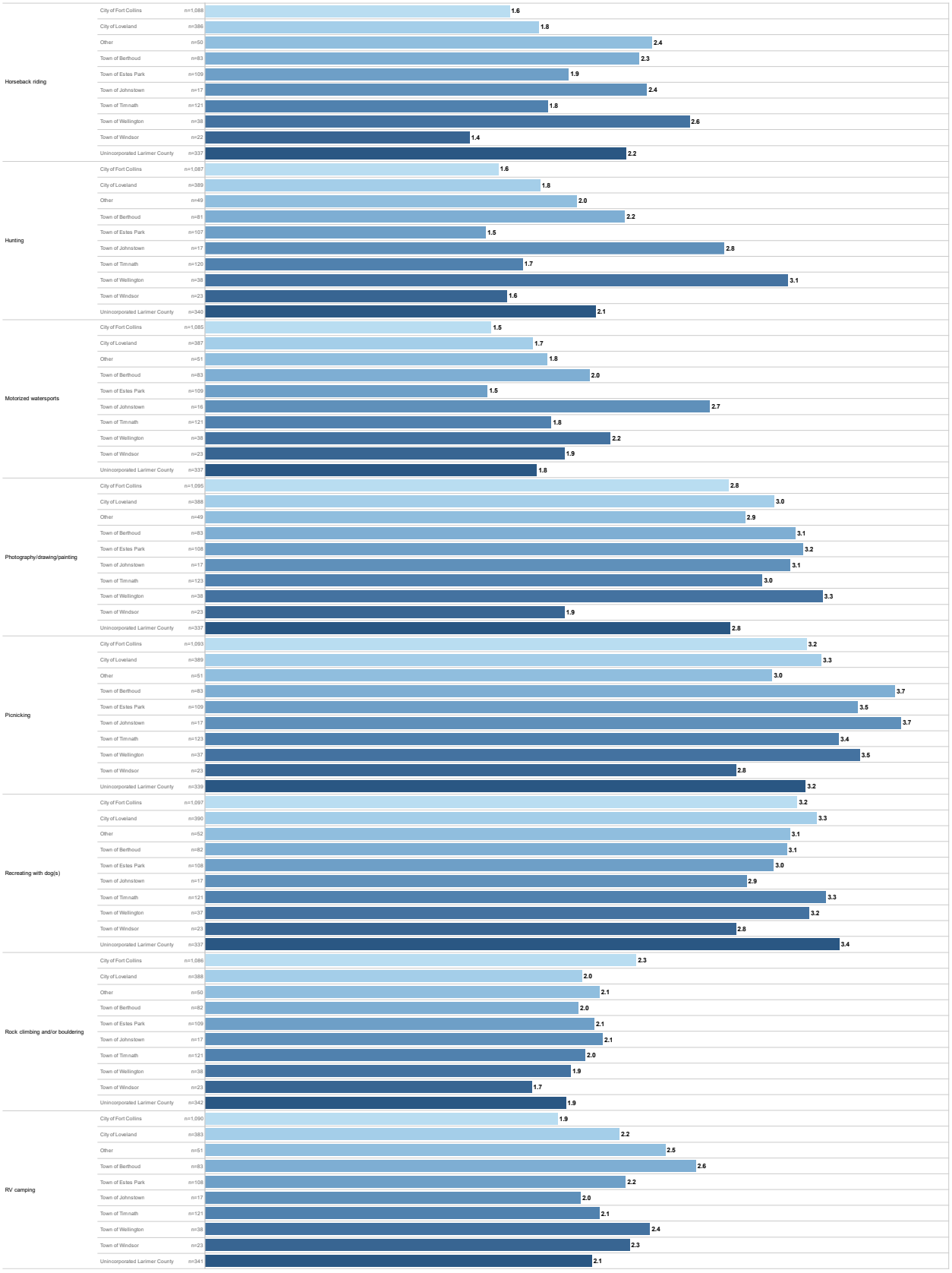
Please rate how important the following activities are to your household in Larimer County. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

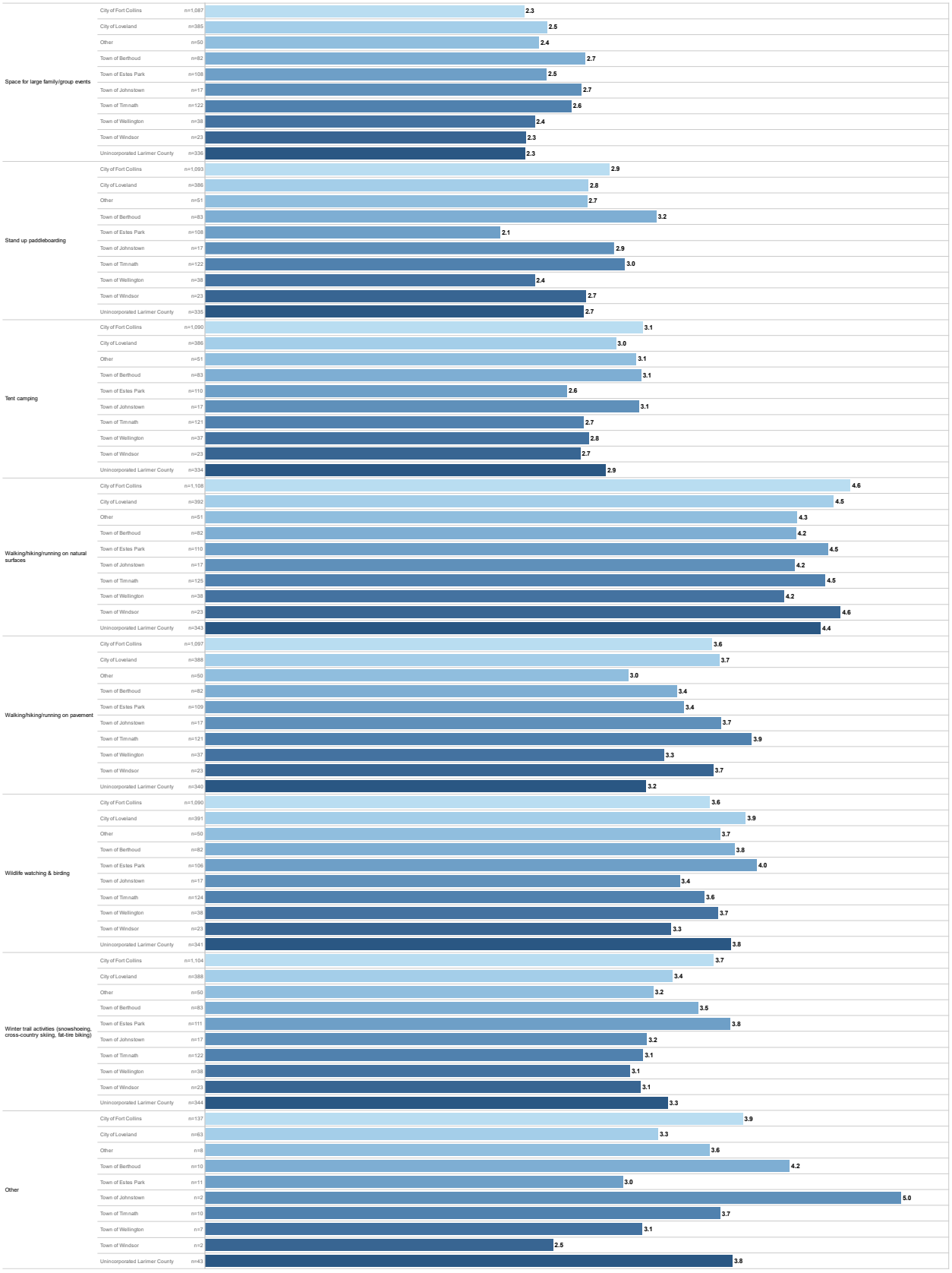
Please rate how important the following activities are to your household in Larimer County. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

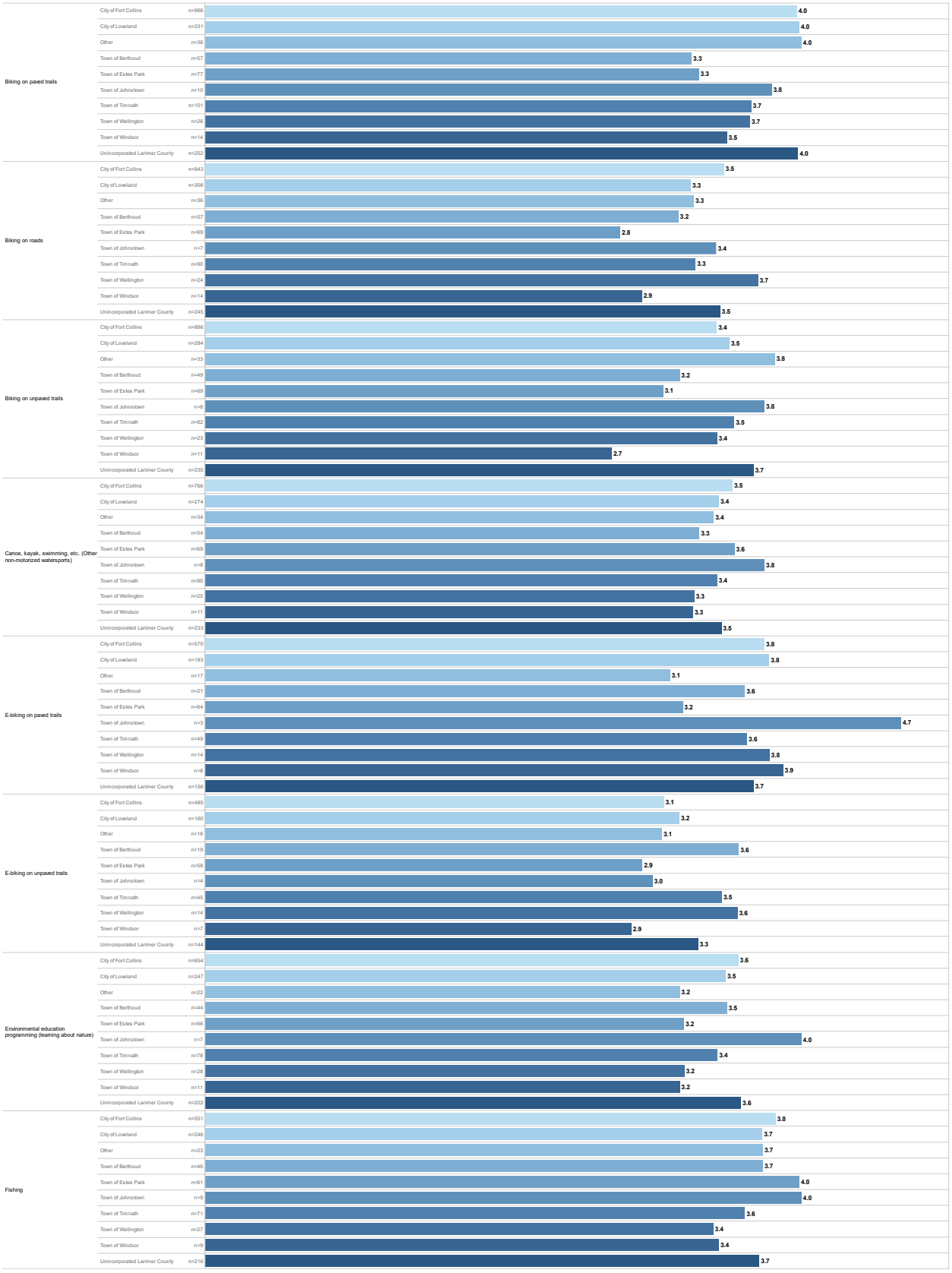
Please rate how important the following activities are to your household in Larimer County. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

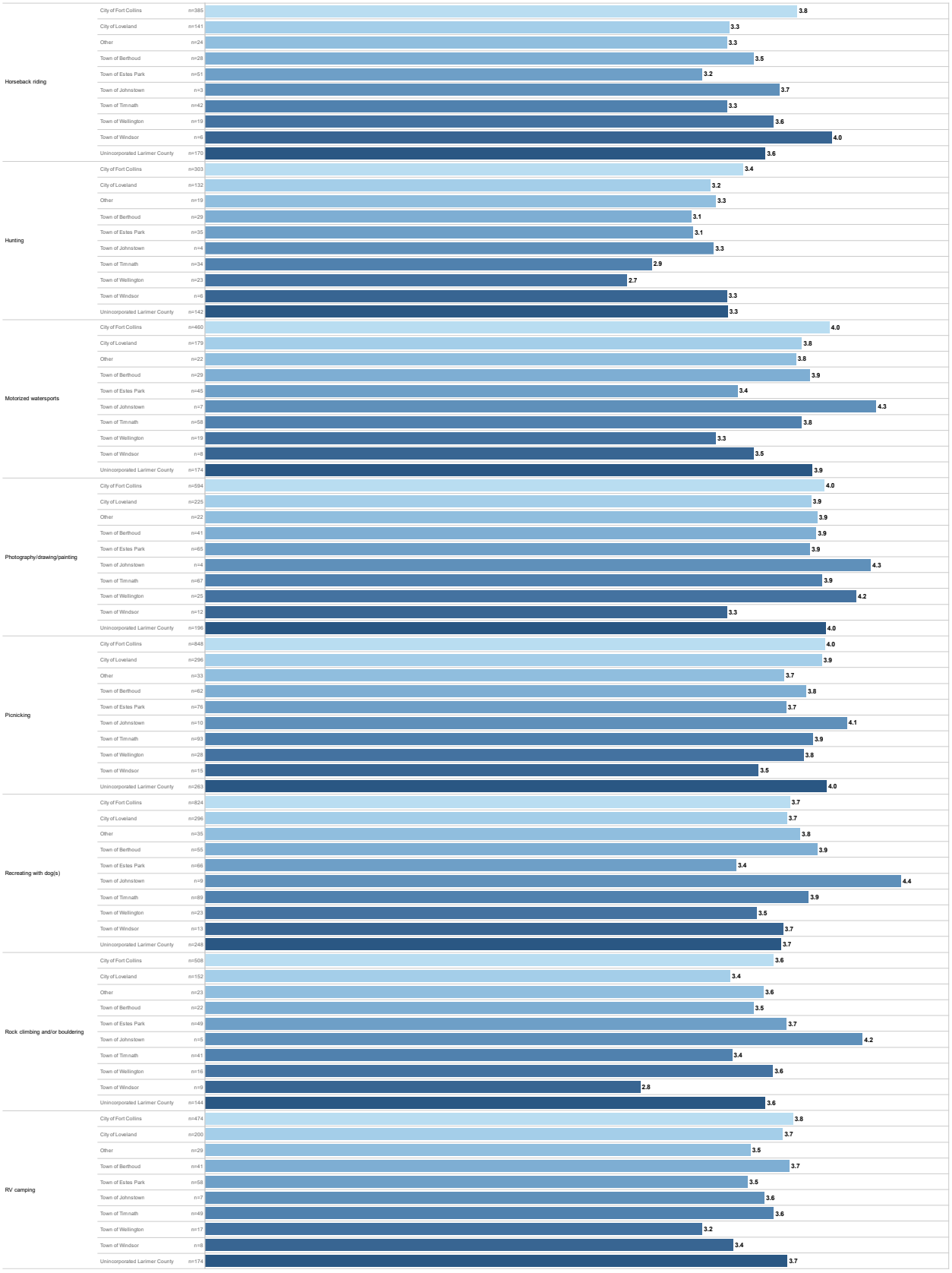
Please rate how you think the following activities are currently meeting the needs of the community. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

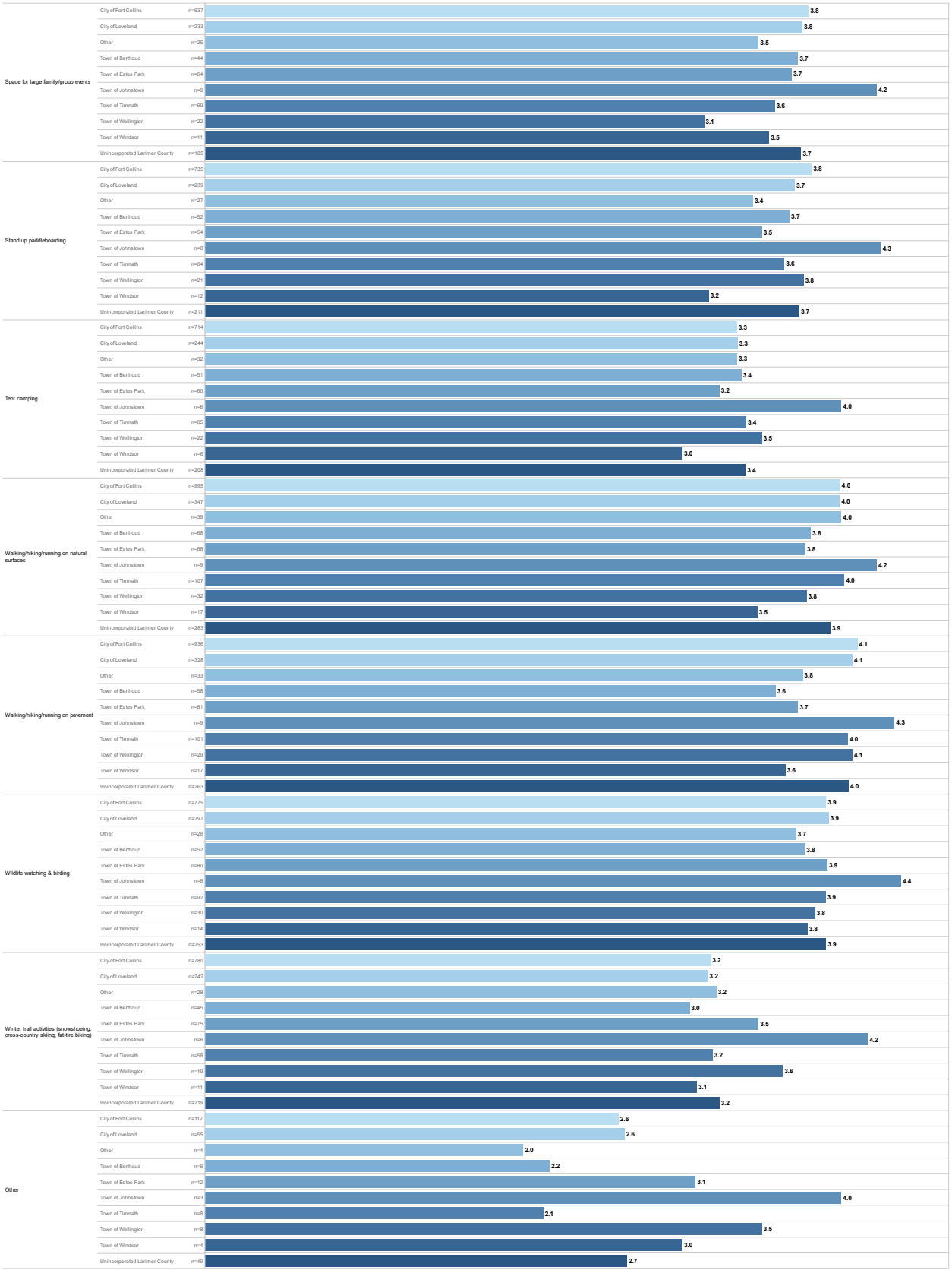
Please rate how you think the following activities are currently meeting the needs of the community. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

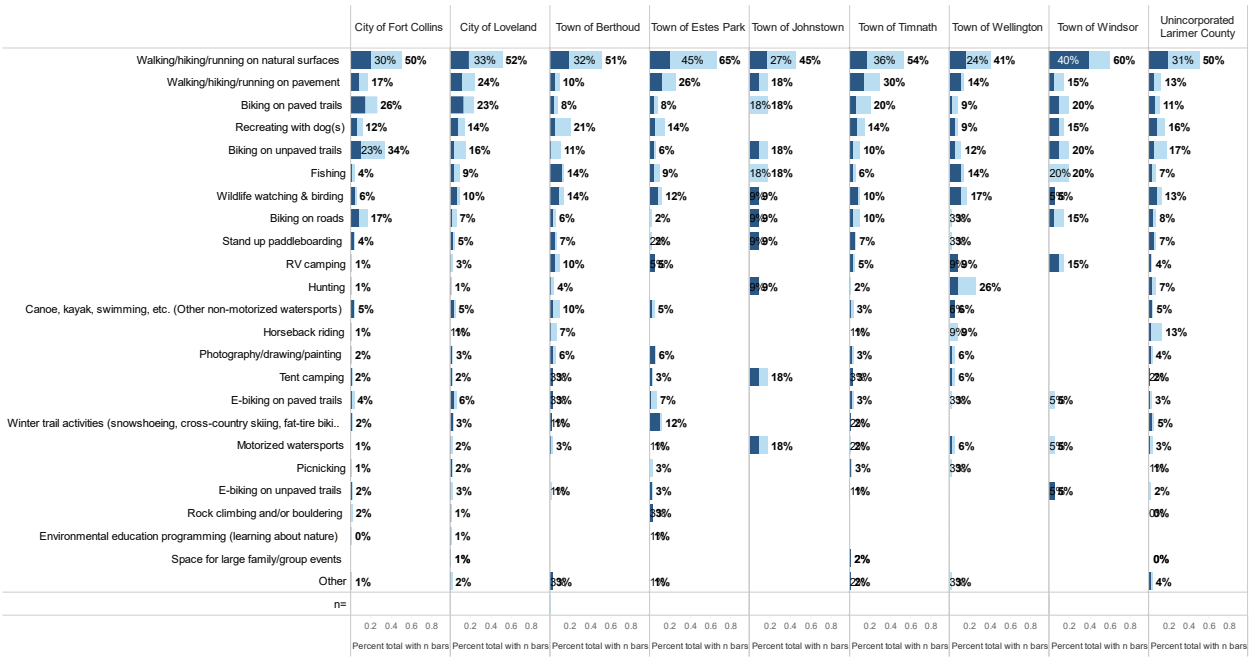
Please rate how you think the following activities are currently meeting the needs of the community. Please provide an answer even if you have not used or participated in the activity.
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

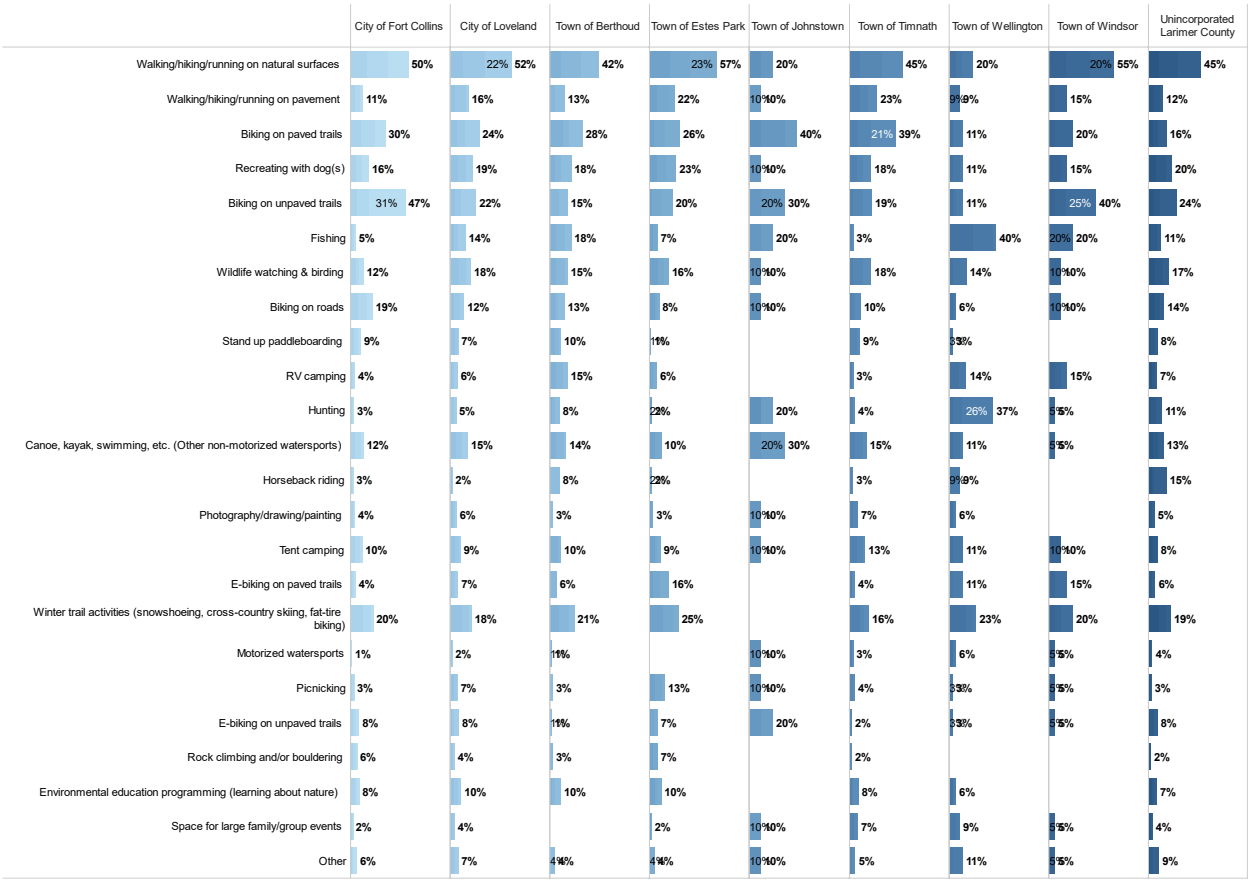
RRC

Which TWO activities are your household's most frequent activities?
Open



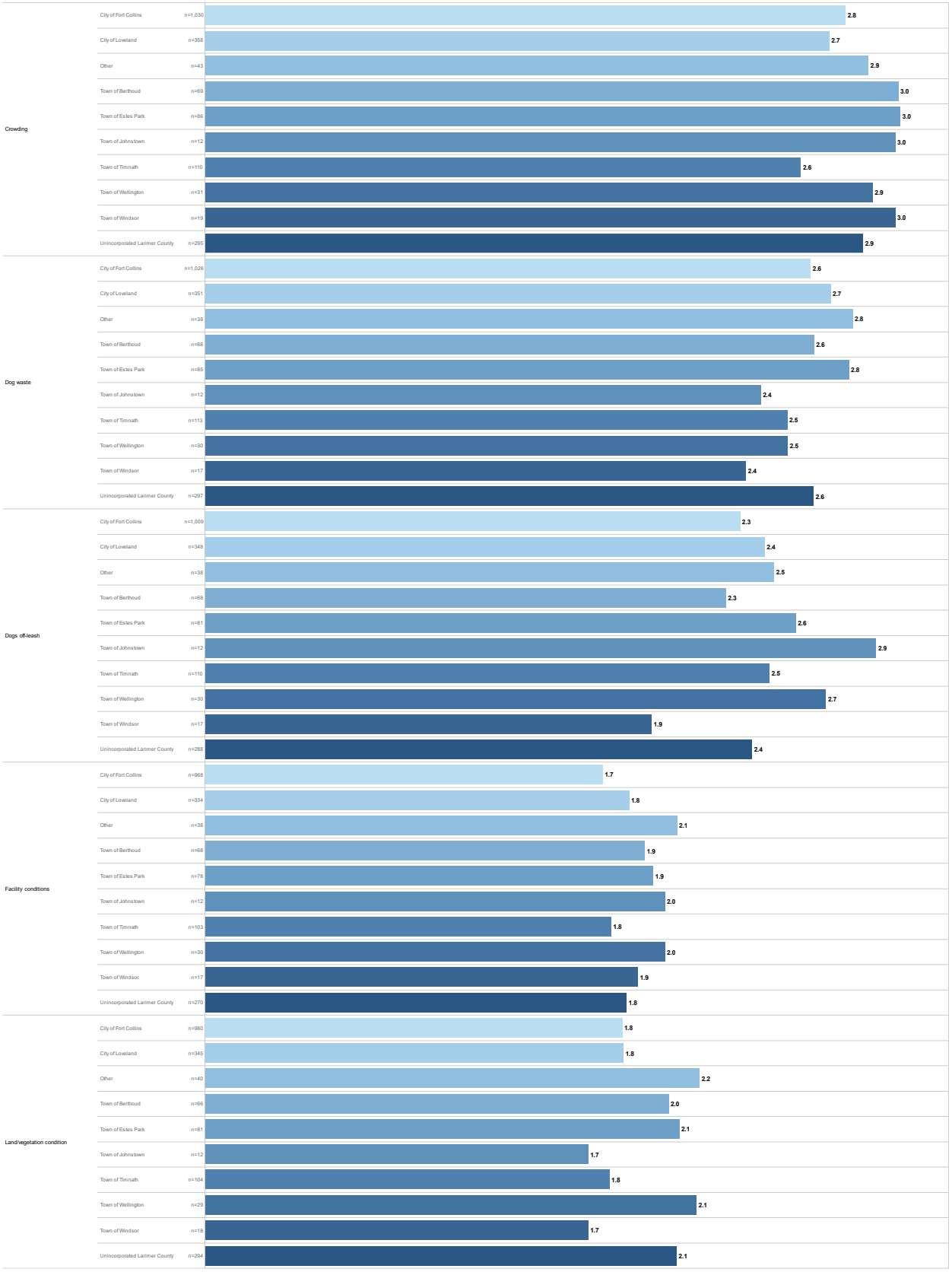
*Darker colors indicate a higher rank.
Source: RRC

Which THREE activities would you most like to see more land or facilities provided?
Open



*Darker colors indicate a higher rank.
Source: RRC

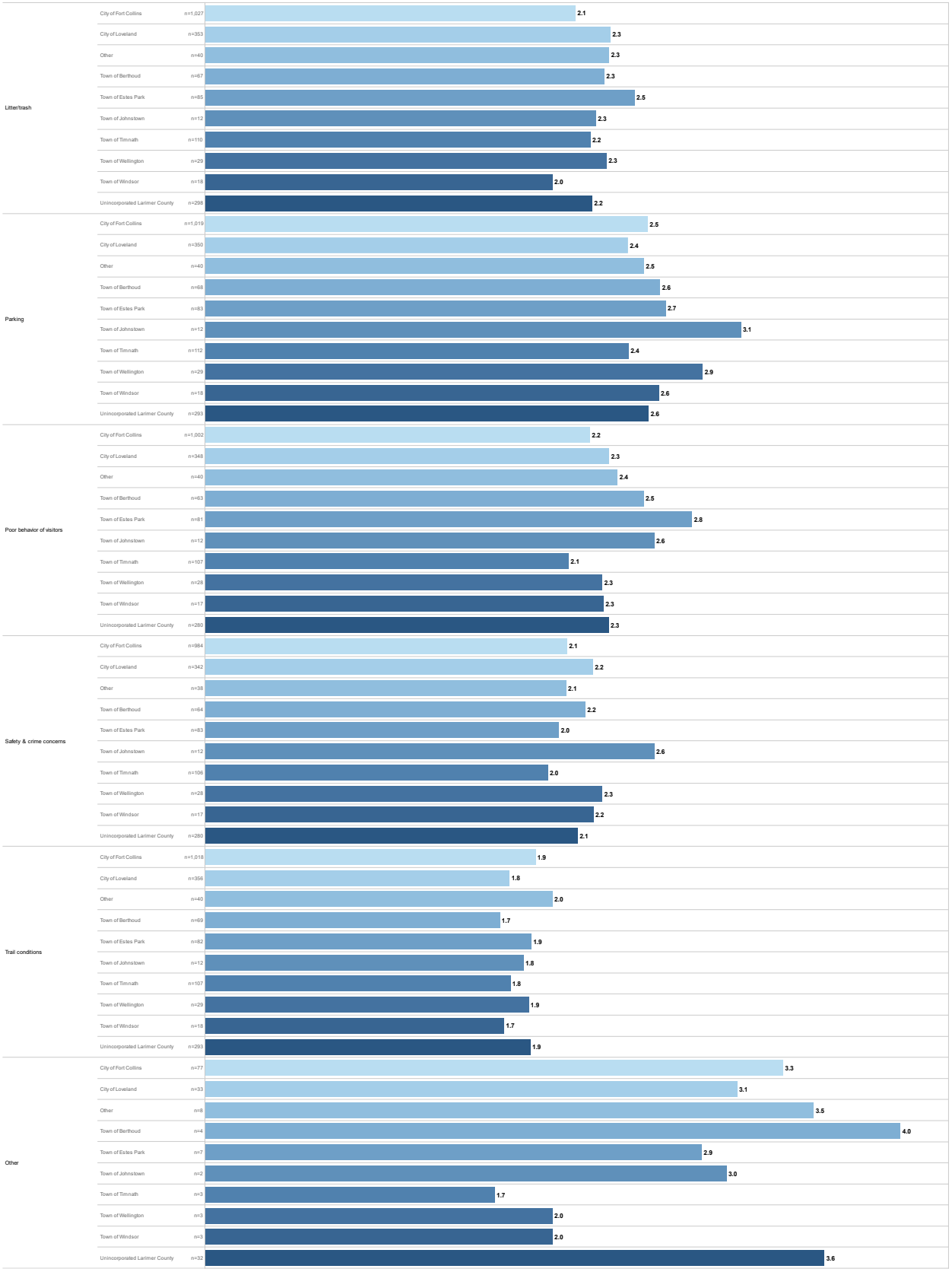
How much of a problem do you think each of the following site-specific issues are currently at "Open space & trails" in Larimer County and partner municipalities?
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

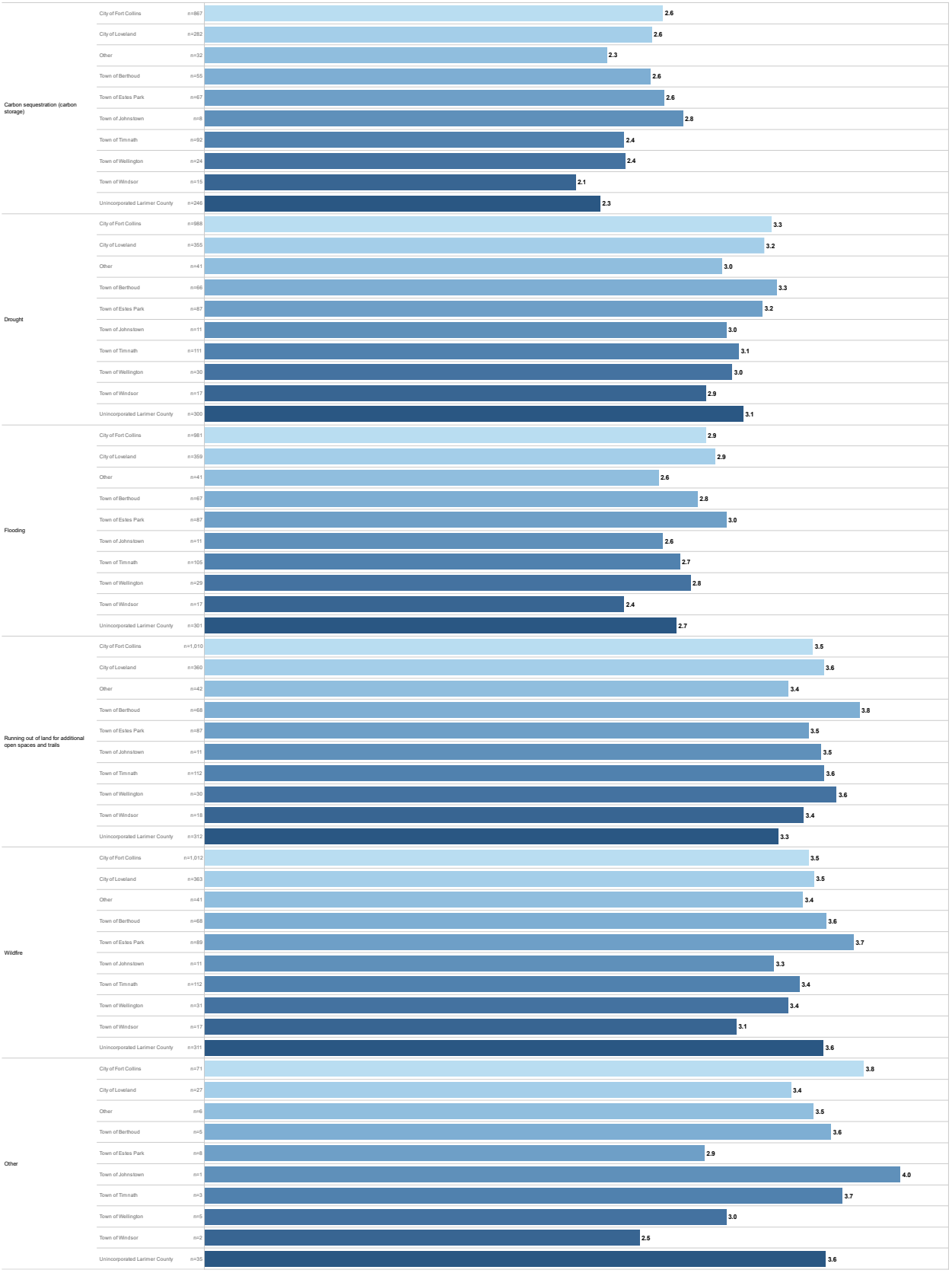
How much of a problem do you think each of the following site-specific issues are currently at "Open space & trails" in Larimer County and partner municipalities?
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

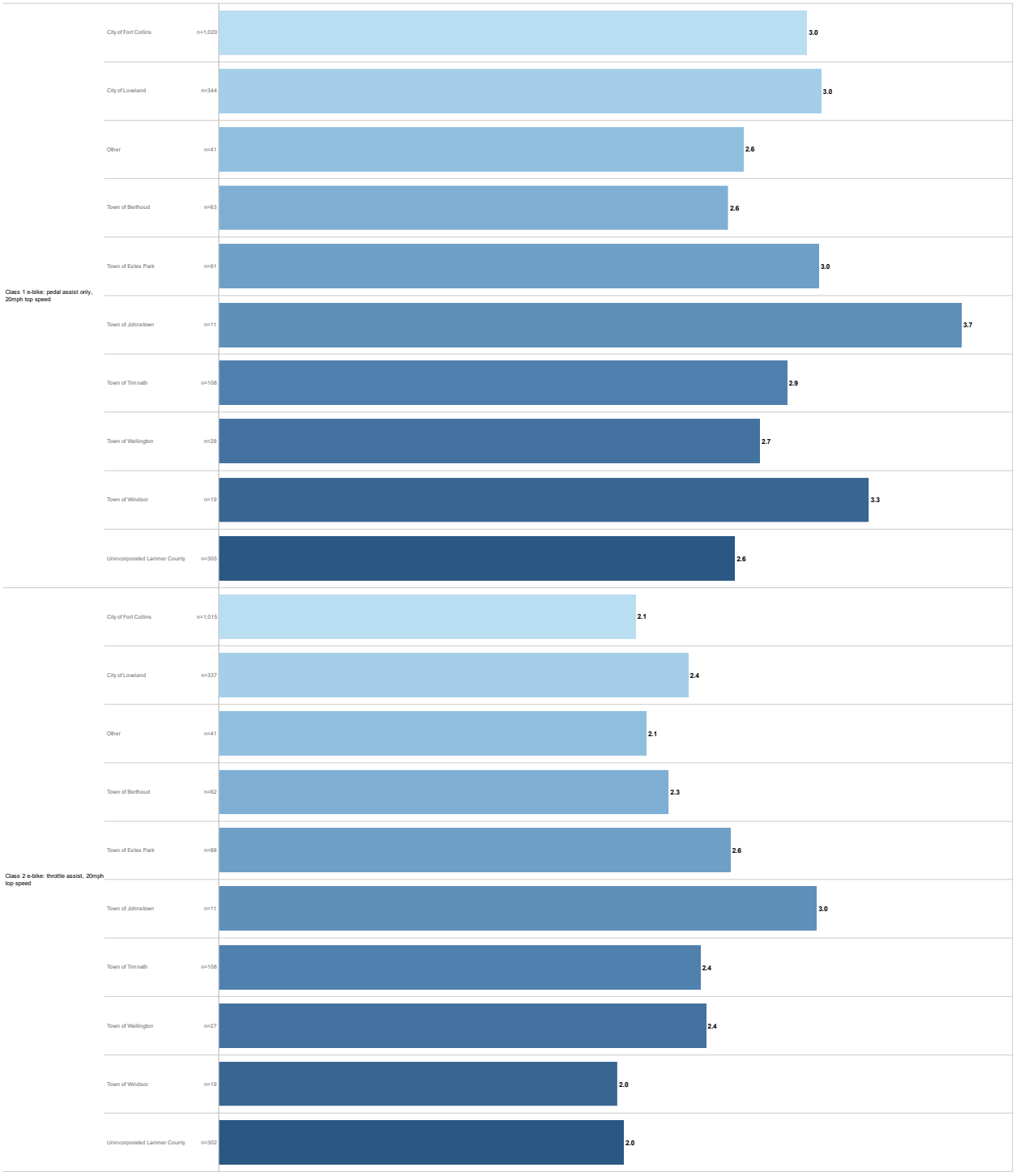
How much of a priority should be given to the following long-term planning issues at "Open space & trails" in Larimer County and partner municipalities?
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

Considering the increasing popularity of e-bikes, and our goal to better manage their use, please indicate your level of agreement with the following statement: "E-bikes should be allowed on natural surface trails, alongside traditional bicycles"
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

If you don't use "Open space & trails" in Larimer County, what are the reasons? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Lack of time	31%	24%	18%	29%	14%	36%	25%	25%	28%
Crowding	43%	40%	41%	31%	57%	28%	50%	75%	38%
Not enough parking	39%	27%	24%	25%	43%	32%	44%	13%	26%
Unaware of what "Open space & trails" exist near me	7%	8%	35%	39%		30%	6%	25%	8%
Financial constraints (fees too high, expensive)	13%	19%	12%	18%	29%	9%	13%	13%	14%
Lack of nature-based facilities near my home	15%	11%	35%	12%	14%	30%	13%		11%
Safety concerns/risks	5%	17%	9%	10%		15%	6%		10%
Insufficient information on how to use and/or navigate "Open spaces and trails"	3%	6%	15%	20%		13%	13%	13%	3%
Regulations are too restrictive	6%	6%	3%	14%	14%			38%	14%
Lack of interest	2%	3%		2%			6%		4%
Fear of wildlife interactions	3%	1%		6%		2%			
Lack of gear and/or equipment	4%	3%	6%				6%		1%
Limited transportation options	6%	4%	6%	2%			13%		2%
Feel unwelcome or uncomfortable in "Open spaces & trails"	2%	3%	3%	4%		4%			3%
Lack of infrastructure to accommodate my physical needs	2%	4%	3%	2%		2%			4%
Unsuitable condition of "Open space & trails"	3%	3%	3%			2%		13%	2%
Don't have the programs or facilities I want or that cater to my interests	4%	3%		4%		4%	6%	13%	2%
Prefer other parks and locations such as state and national parks	11%	8%	6%	29%	29%	11%		13%	11%
Other	9%	12%	15%	10%	29%	4%	6%	13%	12%
n=	313	154	34	51	7	47	16	8	132

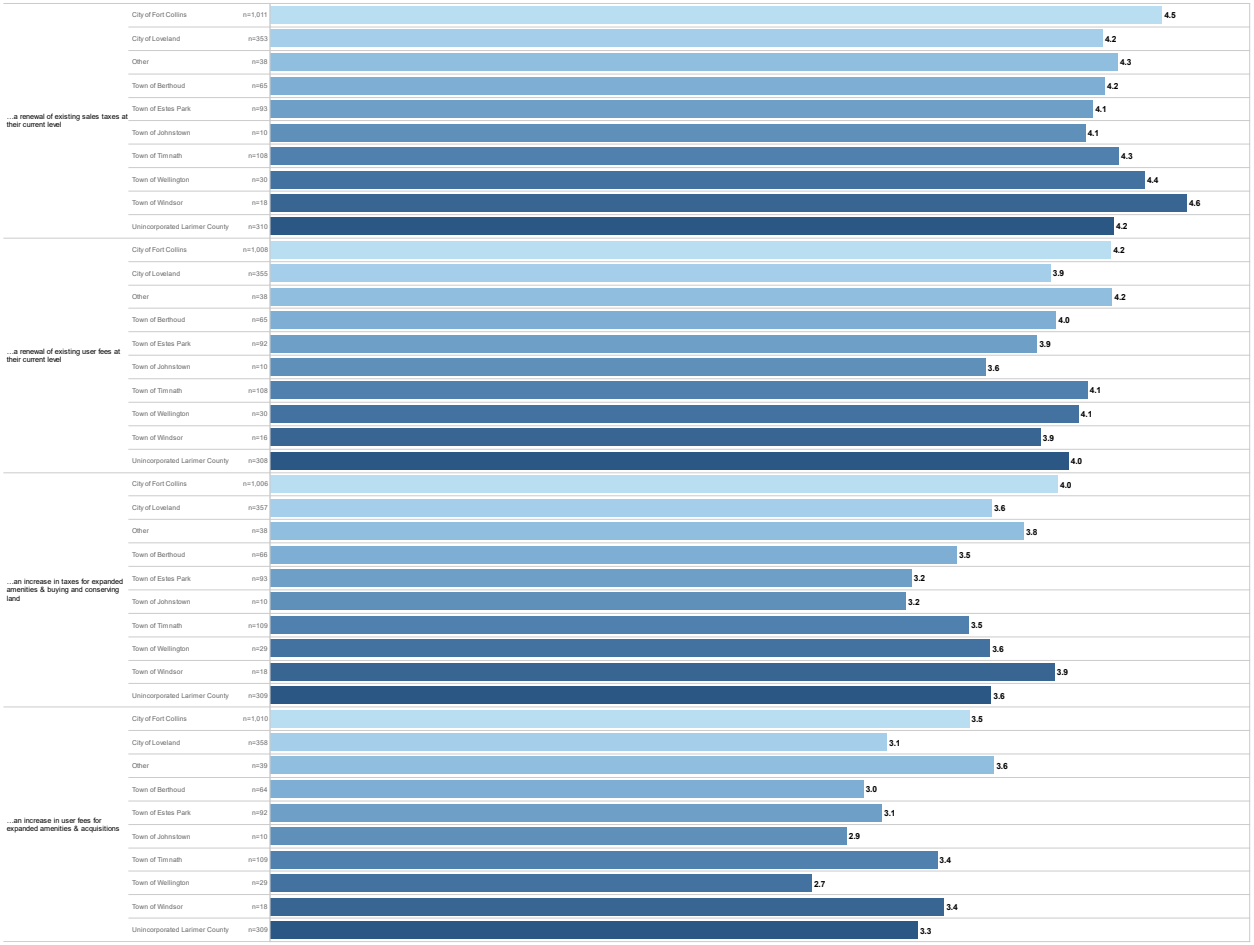
Source: RRC

If you had $100 in public funds to spend on open space, trails, agricultural land, and/or construction of nature-based recreation amenities in Larimer County, how would you allocate those funds in $5 minimum increments?
Open

	City of Fort Collins n=1,000	City of Loveland n=357	Town of Berthoud n=67	Town of Estes Park n=93	Town of Johnstown n=10	Town of Timnath n=106	Town of Wellington n=29	Town of Windsor n=18	Unincorporated Larimer County n=302
To protect lakes, rivers, streams, and preserve water quality	$11.07	$12.68	$12.39	$11.44	$10.50	$12.05	$12.07	$14.18	$10.47
For outdoor recreation opportunities (hiking, walking, biking, horse riding, climbing, boating, etc.)	$21.33	$16.13	$14.40	$16.13	$14.50	$15.86	$10.17	$17.51	$16.00
To protect wildlife habitat and rare species	$12.16	$15.63	$14.84	$12.79	$13.00	$14.06	$10.69	$8.92	$14.03
Management and maintenance of current "Open space and trails" and facilities, trails, etc.	$12.10	$10.12	$9.18	$15.10	$9.00	$10.49	$6.38	$9.25	$11.42
To create greenways or paved trail corridors that connect communities and parks	$11.39	$9.08	$12.39	$10.15	$8.00	$13.74	$9.31	$12.56	$7.91
Upgraded trailheads, trails, parking, restrooms, campgrounds, shelters, and information signs	$9.08	$8.18	$7.54	$9.14	$6.80	$7.78	$6.38	$10.31	$7.70
For land restoration or habitat enhancement, such as weed management or river restoration	$6.72	$7.17	$5.45	$7.20	$8.00	$4.38	$8.62	$8.64	$8.31
To conserve working farms and ranches	$3.73	$5.85	$10.52	$5.05	$3.40	$5.99	$24.48	$3.61	$11.63
To protect scenic views	$5.31	$6.97	$7.64	$6.50	$8.00	$8.78	$4.83	$8.89	$5.72
To conserve historic and archaeological sites in "Open spaces & trails"	$2.99	$3.74	$2.91	$4.02	$8.00	$2.91	$3.62	$2.22	$2.96
Renovation of historic structures that allow for public benefit	$1.82	$2.57	$2.30	$2.31	$5.30	$2.51	$3.45	$1.13	$1.84
Other	$2.30	$1.89	$0.45	$0.16	$5.50	$1.46	$0.00	$2.78	$2.00

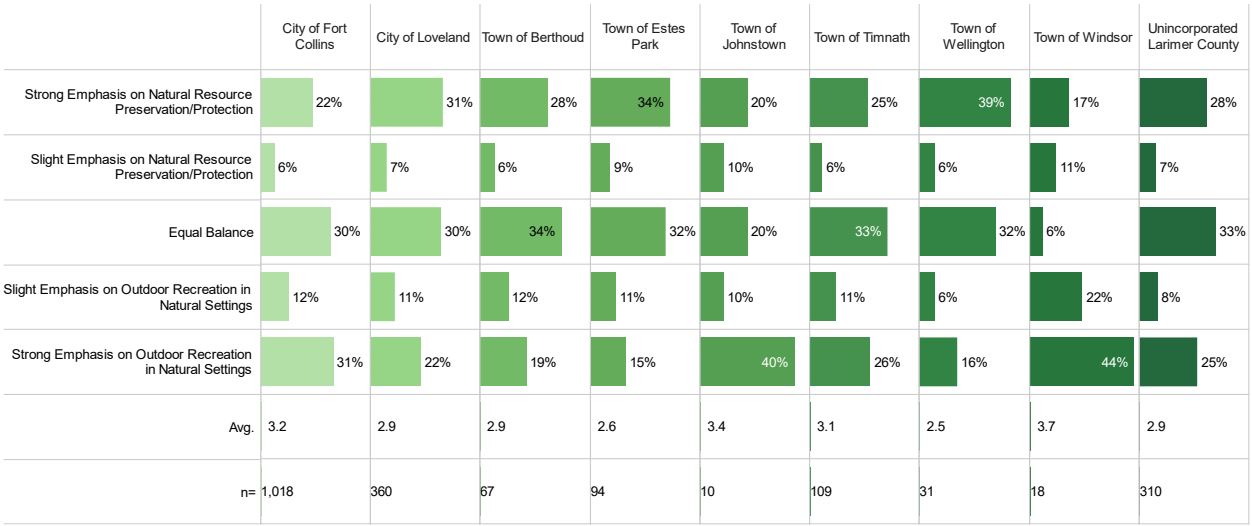
Source: RRC

When taxes or fees that fund "Open space & trails" in your municipality or Larimer County come up for renewal, how likely would you be to vote for…?
Open



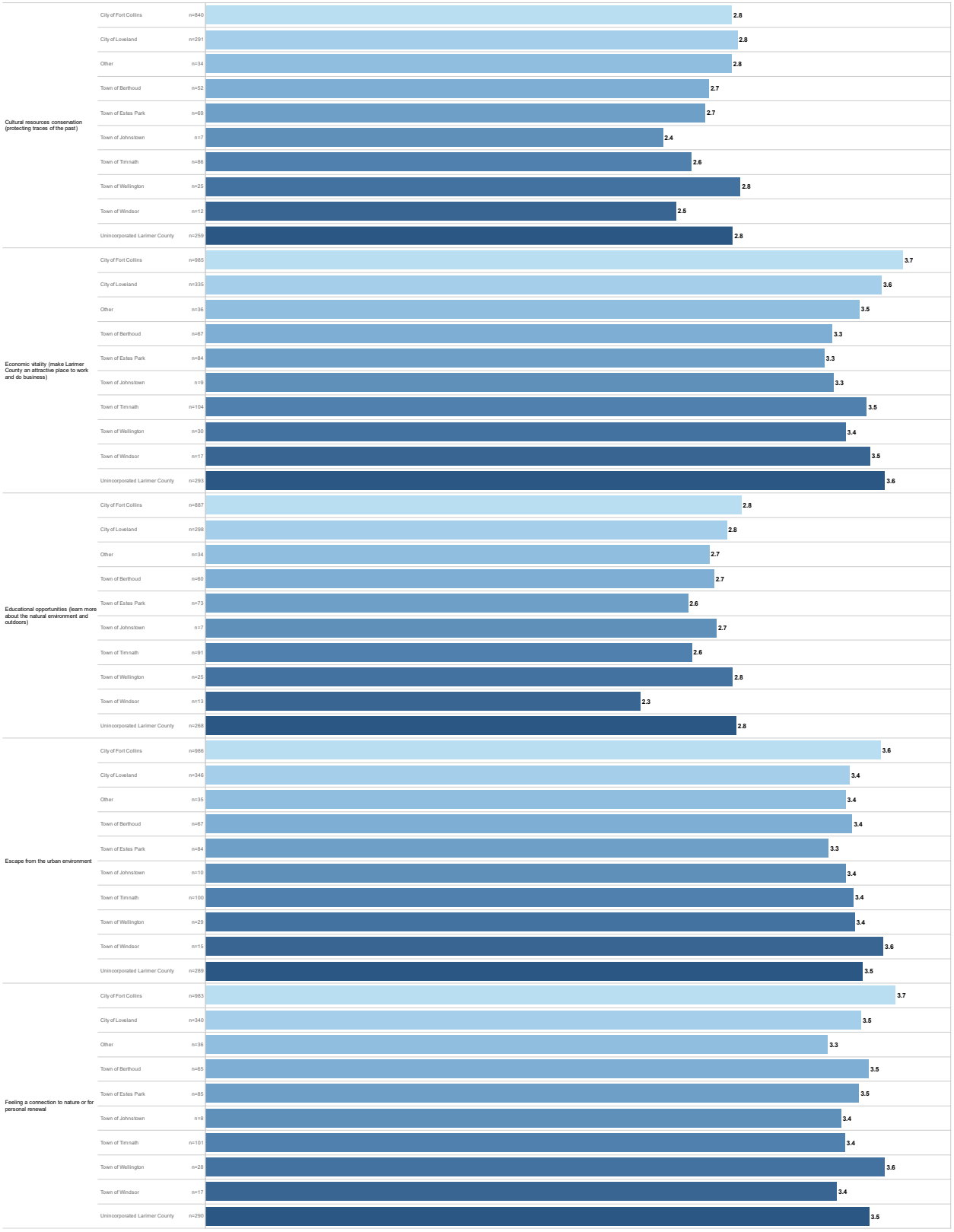
None Open Sample
Source: RRC

Using the scale below, please select the word choice that indicates what emphasis you would like to see Larimer County and our cities and towns pursue.
Open



Source: RRC

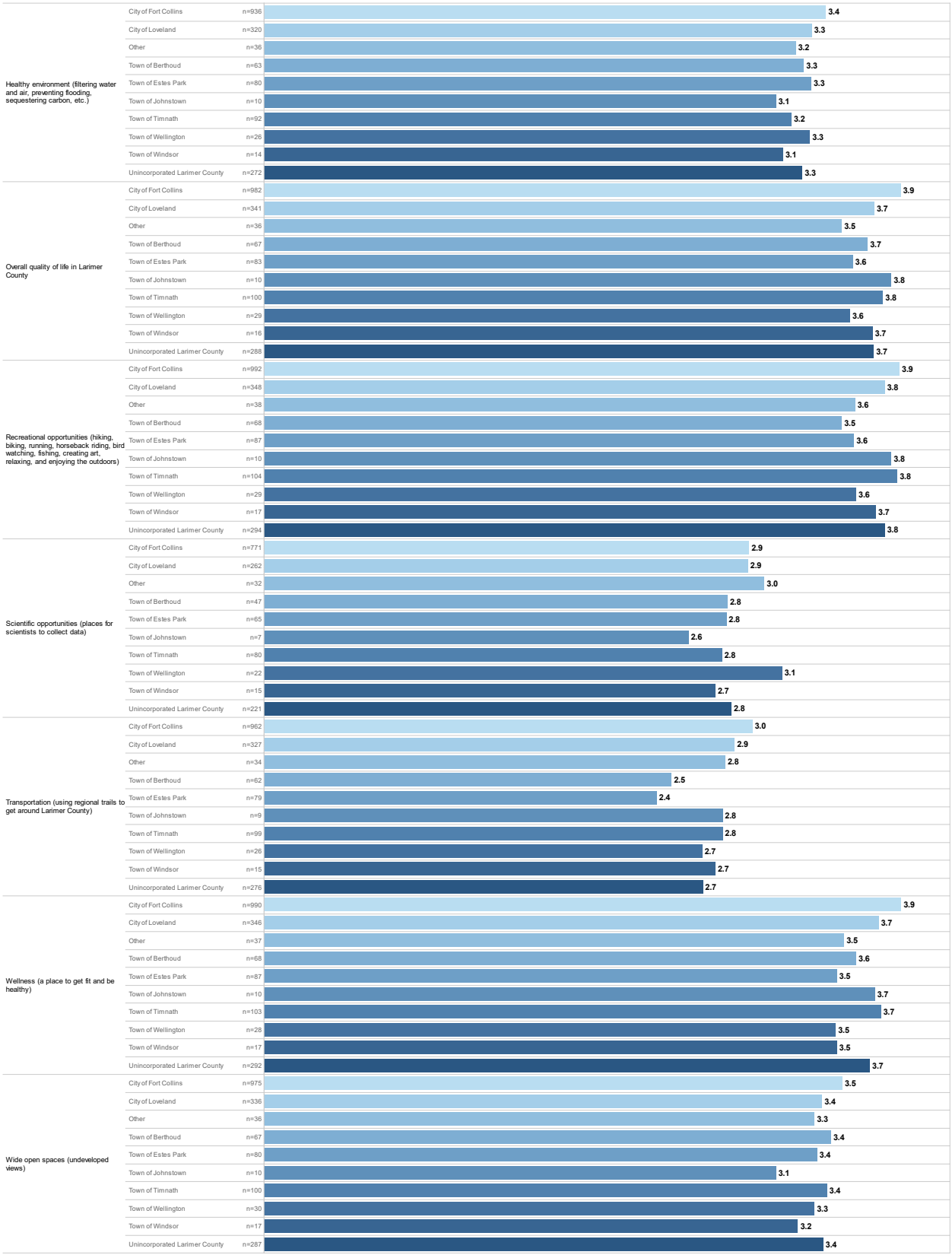
For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think Larimer County "Open space & trails" contribute to this attribute of the community.
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

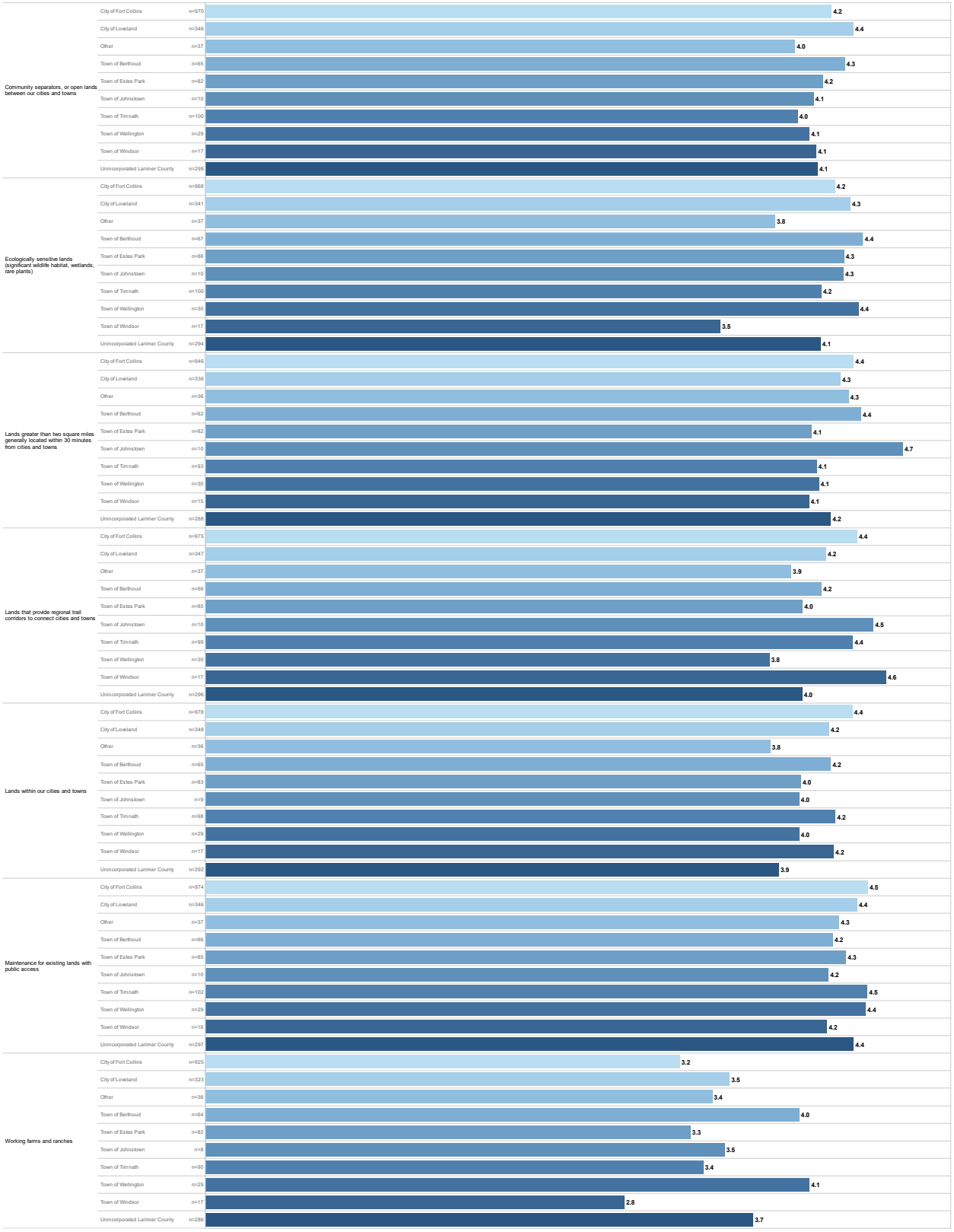
For each of the attributes below, please rate to what extent, if at all, you think Larimer County "Open space & trails" contribute to this attribute of the community.
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

How important are each of the following items for public agencies to consider when prioritizing funds to purchase or conserve land throughout Larimer County.
Open



None Open Sample
Source: RRC

RRC

From the question above, which one of these items do you consider to be the single most important priority?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Community separators, or open lands between our cities and towns	9%	14%	15%	9%		11%	7%	6%	8%
Ecologically sensitive lands (significant wildlife habitat, wetlands, rare plants)	20%	26%	22%	30%	20%	22%	27%	19%	22%
Lands greater than two square miles generally located within 30 minutes from cities and towns	22%	15%	6%	15%	40%	10%	10%	13%	20%
Lands that provide regional trail corridors to connect cities and towns	17%	13%	21%	11%	20%	23%	10%	19%	10%
Lands within our cities and towns	15%	12%	16%	13%	10%	10%	7%	25%	5%
Maintenance for existing lands with public access	14%	14%	6%	17%		17%	10%	19%	16%
Working farms and ranches	3%	6%	13%	5%	10%	9%	30%		19%
n=	979	346	67	87	10	102	30	16	297

Source: RRC

Please indicate the gender with which you identify
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Male	56%	48%	25%	37%	60%	45%	33%	65%	43%
Female	40%	46%	63%	59%	40%	49%	53%	35%	50%
Prefer not to answer	3%	3%	8%	3%		6%	10%		6%
I prefer to identify as:	2%	3%	3%	1%		1%	3%		1%
n=	990	347	60	90	10	105	30	17	298

Source: RRC

Age of respondent
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Under 18	1%		2%						
18 - 24	2%	0%				1%			0%
25 - 34	14%	11%	7%	5%	30%	6%	11%	6%	5%
35 - 44	20%	17%	39%	6%	30%	17%	36%	18%	13%
45 - 54	22%	16%	18%	10%	20%	26%	18%	18%	21%
55 - 64	18%	17%	16%	29%	10%	24%		35%	24%
65 - 74	21%	28%	14%	39%	10%	23%	29%	6%	26%
75 or older	4%	11%	4%	12%		2%	7%	18%	10%
Avg.	50.9	56.3	48.7	61.8	43.9	54.0	50.9	56.7	57.6
n=	956	332	56	83	10	95	28	17	284

Source: RRC

Of which racial or ethnic group(s) do you consider yourself to be a member? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
White/Caucasian	89%	88%	83%	88%	60%	83%	80%	88%	87%
Hispanic/Latino/Spanish Origin	3%	2%	3%	4%	20%	2%			0%
American Indian/Native American	1%	1%	6%	1%			3%		1%
Black/African American	1%	1%				1%			
Asian American/Asian	1%	2%	2%	1%		1%			1%
Middle Eastern/North African	0%	0%							1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	0%								
I prefer to self-identify as:	1%	6%	3%	2%	10%	1%	3%		2%
Prefer not to answer	6%	7%	11%	7%	10%	14%	17%	12%	12%
n=	987	347	64	90	10	103	30	17	301

Source: RRC

What is the highest level of education you have completed?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Less than high school	0%		1%						
High school graduate or equivalent	1%	5%	1%	3%	10%	1%	3%		2%
Bachelor's degree or higher	89%	74%	78%	83%	60%	88%	67%	82%	85%
Some college or associate's degree	8%	20%	15%	10%	30%	8%	17%	18%	9%
Prefer not to answer	1%	1%	4%	3%		4%	13%		4%
n=	1,006	351	67	90	10	104	30	17	305

Source: RRC

Including yourself, how many people live in your household?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
1 person	11%	13%	5%	17%		4%	7%		9%
2 people	48%	59%	44%	67%	60%	49%	48%	31%	57%
3-5 people	39%	26%	48%	15%	40%	43%	41%	63%	31%
6+ people	1%	2%	3%	1%		4%	4%	6%	3%
Avg.	2.6	2.4	3.0	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.8	3.3	2.6
n=	997	345	64	89	10	102	27	16	299

Source: RRC

How many members of your household are under the age of 18?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
0 members	67%	78%	51%	90%	70%	59%	48%	67%	76%
1 member	14%	10%	16%	1%	10%	14%	30%	7%	10%
2 members	15%	10%	22%	6%		19%	19%	7%	10%
3-5 members	4%	1%	11%	2%	20%	8%	4%	20%	4%
6+ members		0%		1%					0%
Avg.	0.6	0.4	1.0	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.4
n=	972	339	63	87	10	99	27	15	292

Source: RRC

How many members of your household are over the age of 65?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
0 members	71%	58%	77%	39%	90%	67%	63%	63%	57%
1 member	12%	13%	6%	20%		17%	11%	13%	18%
2 members	17%	30%	17%	41%	10%	16%	26%	25%	24%
3-5 members	0%								0%
6+ members									
Avg.	0.5	0.7	0.4	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7
n=	980	344	64	88	10	99	27	16	295

Source: RRC

Do you presently:
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Another arrangement	2%	1%	2%	3%	20%	4%		6%	1%
Own your own home in Larimer County	86%	88%	97%	90%	80%	95%	90%	88%	96%
Rent your home in Larimer County	12%	11%	2%	7%		1%	10%	6%	2%
n=	1,007	351	65	89	10	105	29	17	304

Source: RRC

Which category best describes your current employment?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Employed full-time	53%	43%	45%	31%	90%	41%	41%	41%	39%
Retired	28%	39%	22%	56%	10%	34%	24%	41%	35%
Self-employed	11%	9%	23%	8%		12%	31%	12%	17%
Employed part-time	4%	5%	3%	3%		5%		6%	6%
Unemployed, not looking for work	1%	1%	2%			2%			
Student	2%	1%	2%			1%			0%
Unemployed, and looking for work	1%	1%							0%
Prefer not to answer	0%	1%	5%			4%	3%		1%
Other	0%	0%		2%		1%			0%
n=	1,005	352	65	90	10	105	29	17	304

Source: RRC

Approximately what is your total average annual household income before taxes?
Open

	City of Fort Collins	City of Loveland	Town of Berthoud	Town of Estes Park	Town of Johnstown	Town of Timnath	Town of Wellington	Town of Windsor	Unincorporated Larimer County
Under $25,000	2%	2%		2%		1%			1%
$25,000-49,000	4%	7%	3%	8%		2%	7%		5%
$50,000-74,999	10%	14%	6%	14%	20%	4%	10%	6%	10%
$75,000-99,999	13%	16%	6%	13%	30%	6%	10%		11%
$100,000-149,999	22%	22%	20%	21%	20%	18%	24%	38%	19%
$150,000-199,999	16%	9%	20%	6%	10%	21%	7%	13%	13%
$200,000 or more	19%	11%	28%	14%	10%	25%	10%	25%	16%
Prefer not to answer	14%	19%	17%	21%	10%	25%	31%	19%	23%
n=	999	349	65	90	10	102	29	16	298

Source: RRC

May 8, 2024 Regular Meeting	Items	Late May, Special Meeting	Items	June 12, 2024 Regular Meeting	Items	Late June, Special Project	Items	July 12, 2024 Regular Meeting	Items
Item (Discussion)	OLOF - Final Project	Item	BOT PRESENTATION	Speaker	Cody Bird - TOW Planning Director	Item	Creat Prost Float		
Discussion	WCP Memorial Update			Agenda	Park and Trails Master Plan Alignment				
Agenda	PROST Priority Lists for Parks and for Recreation Events			Agenda	Tree City USA				
Agenda	Park and Trails Master Plan Alignment								
Agenda	PROST Update to BOT								
Agenda	Fishing is Fun Grant - Implementation ???								