

Report on the 2023 Douglas County Community Survey



Justin Nix, PhD
Preston Bussey, MS

VIPR Lab
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
University of Nebraska Omaha

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Executive Summary

In the fall of 2023, we surveyed (via mail + web) a random sample of residents of unincorporated Douglas County about their perceptions of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, their neighborhoods, and crime and disorder problems, among other topics. The report that follows provides detailed results of the survey. The key findings were as follows:

1. For questions that had been previously asked in the 2021 survey, residents' perceptions were statistically indistinguishable. That is, respondents viewed DCSO no better, no worse than they did two years ago.
2. By and large, respondents indicated that DCSO is doing a good job fighting crime, apprehending dangerous high-risk/repeat offenders, dealing with problems that occur in neighborhoods, and being available when needed. However, there was slightly less agreement that DCSO was doing a good job being visible on the streets: about 17% of the sample said DCSO was doing bad or very bad on this.
3. The majority of the sample expressed willingness to cooperate with DCSO in the form of reporting crimes, suspicious activities, or accidents, and working with DCSO to identify criminal suspects. However, the sample was less in agreement about their willingness to attend a neighborhood crime prevention meeting. About 1 in 3 respondents said it would be unlikely or very unlikely for them to do so.
4. For the most part, the sample perceived DCSO deputies as having the necessary skills to do their jobs, involved in positive community engagement activities, respectful, and willing to listen to people. However, as we observed in the 2021 survey, the sample was much more split in terms of perceived distributive fairness of deputies (i.e., that a citizen's demographic characteristics influences how deputies decide to resolve matters). About 45% of the sample agreed or strongly agreed that *deputies deliver different outcomes based on a person's demographic background*. Such perceptions can undermine police legitimacy and make residents less willing to cooperate with the police.¹

¹ Wolfe, S. E., Nix, J., Kaminski, R., & Rojek, J. (2016). Is the effect of procedural justice on police legitimacy invariant? Testing the generality of procedural justice and competing antecedents of legitimacy. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, 32, 253-282.

5. Respondents expressed positive beliefs about the level of social cohesion and informal social control in their neighborhoods.
6. In terms of crime and disorder problems in their neighborhoods:
 - a. About 1 in 5 respondents said litter and drunk driving were at least somewhat of a problem.
 - b. About 1 in 4 respondents said vandalism was at least somewhat of a problem.
 - c. 1 in 10 respondents said people selling/using illegal drugs was at least somewhat of a problem.
 - d. 1 in 4 respondents said residential burglaries were at least somewhat of a problem.
 - e. Half of the sample said traffic issues such as speeding and reckless driving were somewhat of a problem; 15% said these were serious problems.
7. Residents largely reported feeling safe living in their neighborhoods.
8. Regarding the mental health resources provided by DCSO, 3 in 4 respondents fell in the neutral category, with the remainder of the sample split between satisfied and unsatisfied.
9. Sixty-six respondents provided additional comments and suggestions for DCSO in the space provided at the end of the survey. We have included them, unedited, at the end of the report.

Methods

We received from DCSO a list of 39,824 addresses from which to sample. From that list, we first removed 1,337 non-residential addresses (e.g., Commercial/Retail, Education, Religious). Then, we removed 3,314 addresses in Bennington, Boys Town, Valley, and Waterloo. Finally, we removed 915 addresses that did not have a valid address number. Thus, our sampling frame – households in unincorporated Douglas County – was $N = 34,258$. From this, we drew a random sample of 3,500 addresses to receive the survey.

Around mid-September 2023, we sent a postcard to the entire sample letting them know they could expect to receive a survey in the mail the following week. Recipients were also informed they could go ahead and complete the survey online if they preferred. Approximately two weeks later, we mailed out the surveys along with a cover letter explaining the purpose of the survey and postage-paid return envelopes. In the cover letter (see Appendix A), we asked that the adult from each household with the most recent birthday complete the survey. Finally, around mid-October, in an effort to boost response rates, we again mailed surveys (along with cover letters and postage-paid return envelopes) to the entire sample.² Data collection stopped on November 9th.

Five hundred and thirty-six residents participated in the survey (329 by mail, 207 by web). This represents 15.3% of the 3,500 randomly sampled addresses to which we sent the surveys.³

² This or some similar procedure is standard practice in the social sciences. See, e.g., Dillman, D. A., Smyth, J. D., & Christian, L. M. (2014). *Internet, phone, mail, and mixed-mode surveys: the tailored design method*. John Wiley & Sons.

³ Though this is lower than we would have liked, it is consistent with the response rate we achieved for the 2021 community survey. It must be noted that if prospective respondents' impressions of DCSO influenced their decision to take (or not take) the survey, the results presented herein could be skewed by nonresponse bias. See Pickett, J., Cullen, F., Bushway, S. D., Chiricos, T., & Alpert, G. (2018). The response rate test: Nonresponse bias and the future of survey research in criminology and criminal justice. Available at SSRN 3103018.

Results

Characteristics of the Sample

We asked respondents to self-report their age, gender, race, ethnicity, and educational attainment. In the analysis that follows, where possible, we assess whether resident perceptions varied significantly along these demographic characteristics (e.g., whether men view DCSO more favorably than women).⁴ In the event we did find significant differences (using alpha = .05 as the threshold), we show and describe them in additional visualizations.

But first, it is useful to simply document the demographic characteristics of the sample. The sample skewed older, with the average respondent being roughly 58 years old (range: 21 – 92, standard deviation: 16). Meanwhile, the modal respondent was in their 70s. That said, there was a good deal of variation (see Figure 1). For example, 16% of the sample was comprised of residents under 40, and 4% under 30.

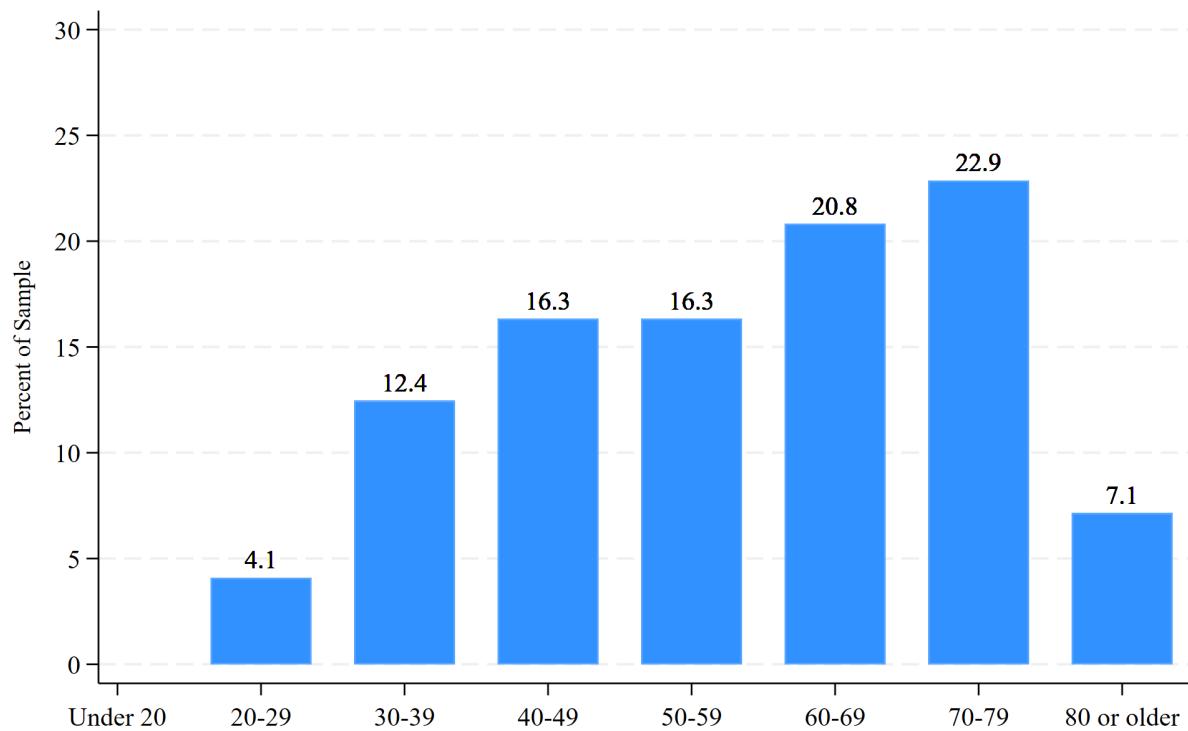


Figure 1. Age breakdown of the sample.

⁴ Due to the small number of nonwhite respondents, we could not reliably assess whether there were significant differences in perceptions across racial groups.

In terms of gender, approximately 47% of the sample identified as men and 50% as women. Three respondents identified as non-binary, 2 as *other*, and 12 opted not to respond. See Figure 2.

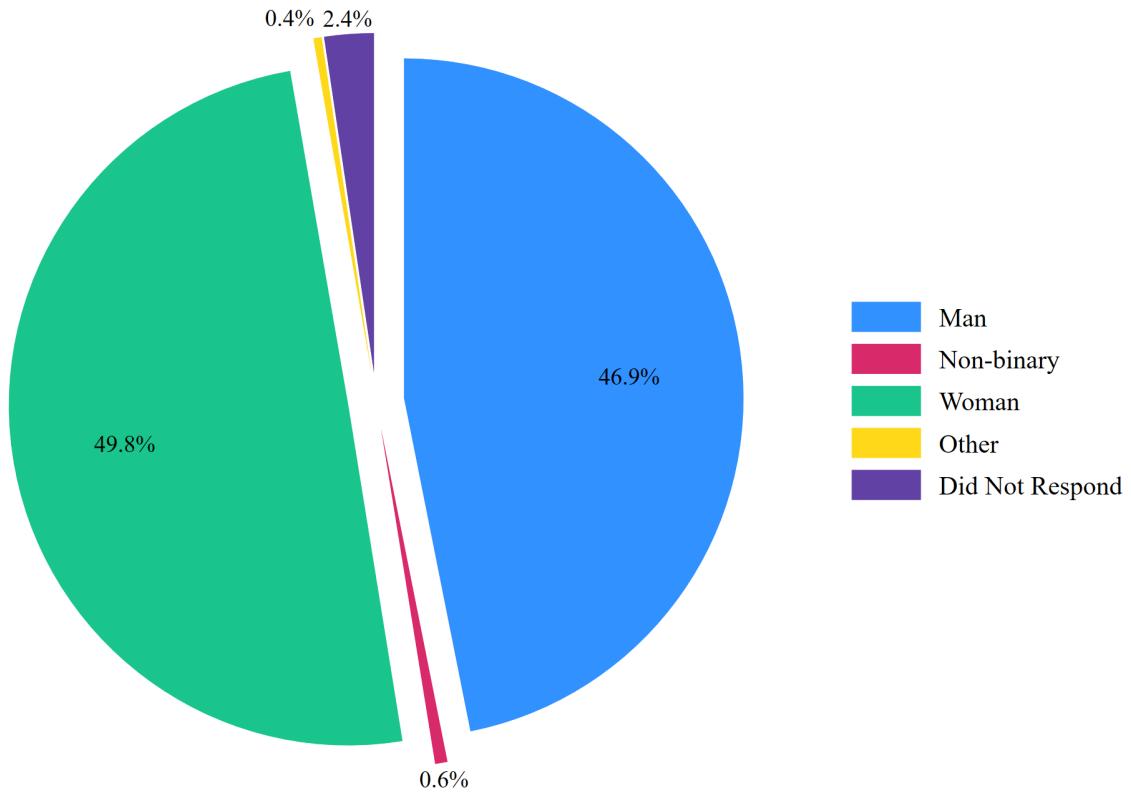


Figure 2. Gender breakdown of the sample.

Like the population of unincorporated Douglas County, the sample was primarily comprised of White residents (91%). See Figure 3. Also included in the sample were 12 Asian residents, 4 Black residents, 3 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander residents, 1 American Indian/Alaska Native resident, and 6 residents who identified with some other group. Nineteen respondents (about 4% of the sample) opted not to provide information about their race. Note that we also asked respondents if they were Hispanic or Latino origin or descent. Ten respondents (2% of the sample) indicated they *were*, 95% indicated they *were not*, and 3% of the sample did not respond to the question.

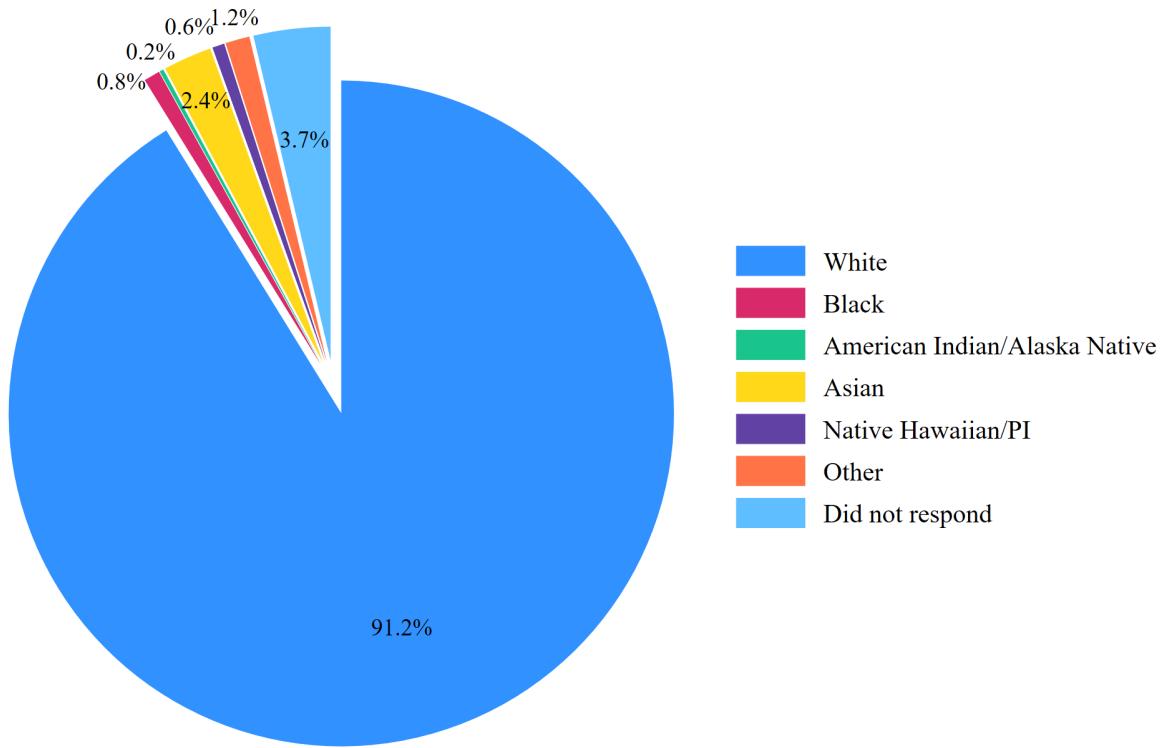


Figure 3. Race breakdown of the sample.

Rounding out the demographic characteristics of the sample, we asked respondents to self-report their highest level of completed education. Figure 4 shows that everyone in the sample had at least a high school diploma or equivalent. Fourteen percent had at least some college and another 13 percent had a technical or associate's degree. The modal respondent – 35% of the sample – had a bachelor's degree. Finally, 30% of the sample had a graduate degree of some sort.

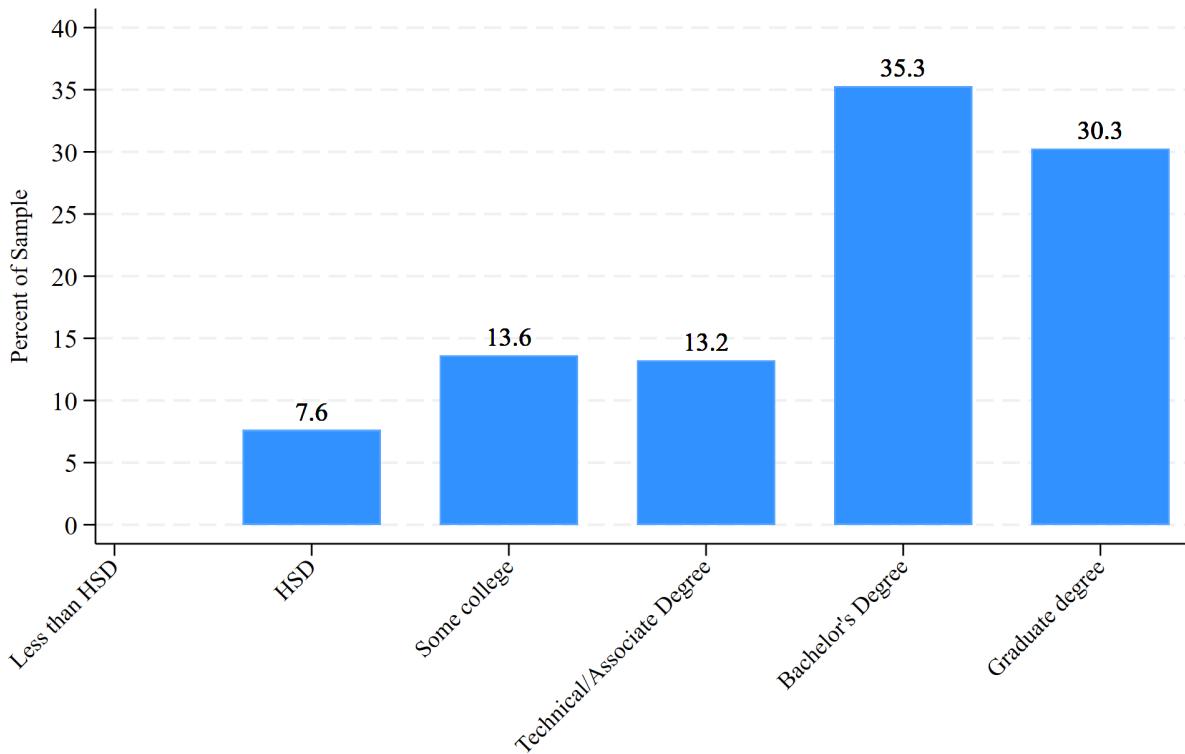


Figure 4. Educational attainment of the sample.

Perceptions of DCSO Organizational Performance

Our first set of questions asked respondents to consider how good or bad DCSO was doing on a series of standard organizational metrics. Response options ranged from 1 (very bad) to 4 (very good). Note there was no neutral or undecided category provided, but respondents were free to leave questions blank if they preferred. Thus, the number of valid responses to each question varied a bit – we note the exact number in the upper right hand corner of each figure below.

In terms of *fighting crime*, 70% of the sample indicated that DCSO is doing a “good” job. Another 24% felt DCSO is doing a “very good” job. Meanwhile, about 6% of the sample reported that DCSO is doing a “bad” or “very bad” job. See Figure 5.

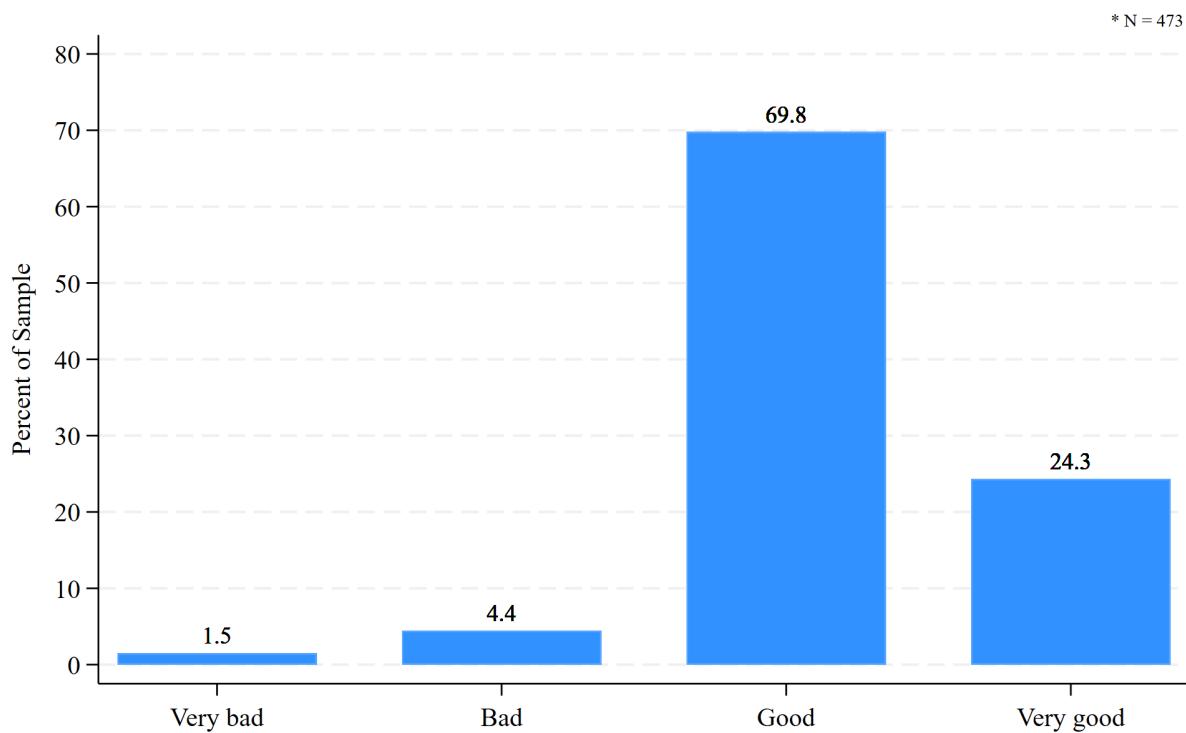


Fig 5. How good or bad is DCSO doing at fighting crime?

In terms of *apprehending dangerous, high-risk/repeat offenders*, two-thirds of the sample believed DCSO is doing a good job, and another one-fourth believed DCSO is doing a very good job. On the other hand, roughly 1 in 10 respondents felt that DCSO is doing a bad/very bad job. See Figure 6.

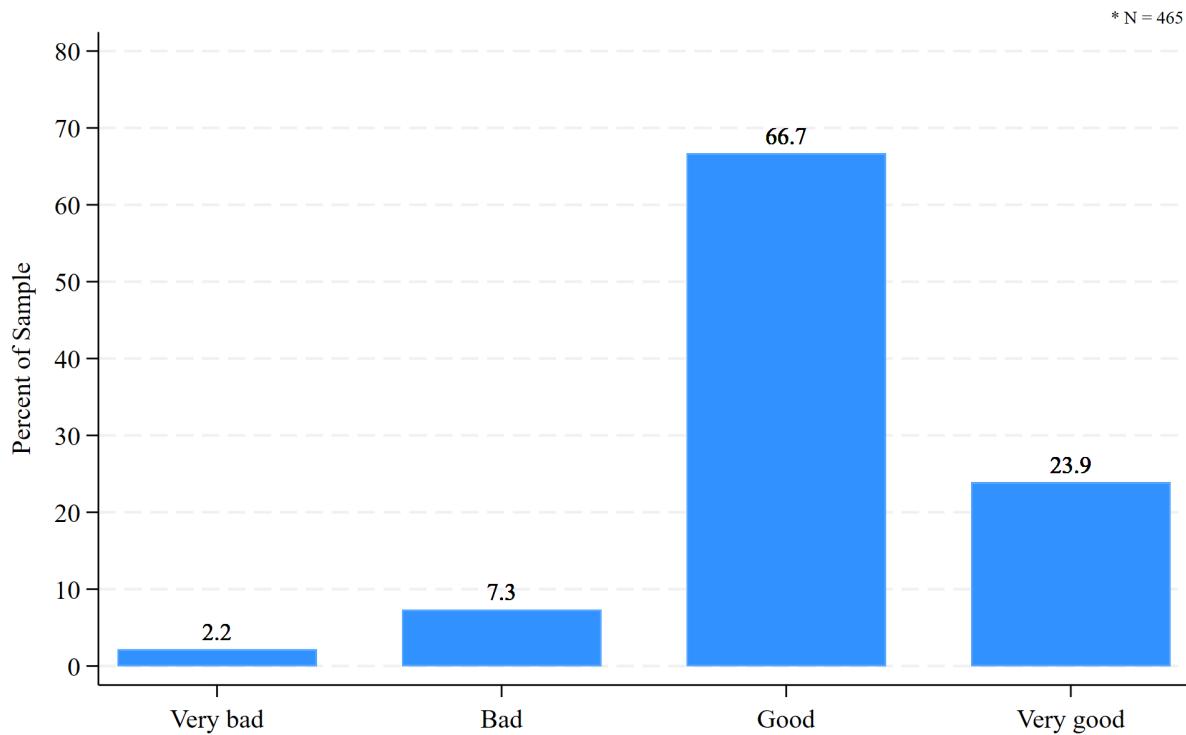


Fig 6. How good or bad is DCSO doing at apprehending dangerous high-risk/repeat offenders?

When asked how DCSO was doing at *dealing with problems that occur in your neighborhood*, 58% of respondents answered DCSO was doing a good job and 34% a very good job.

Meanwhile, about 6% said DCSO was doing a bad job and nearly 3% said DCSO was doing a very bad job. See Figure 7.

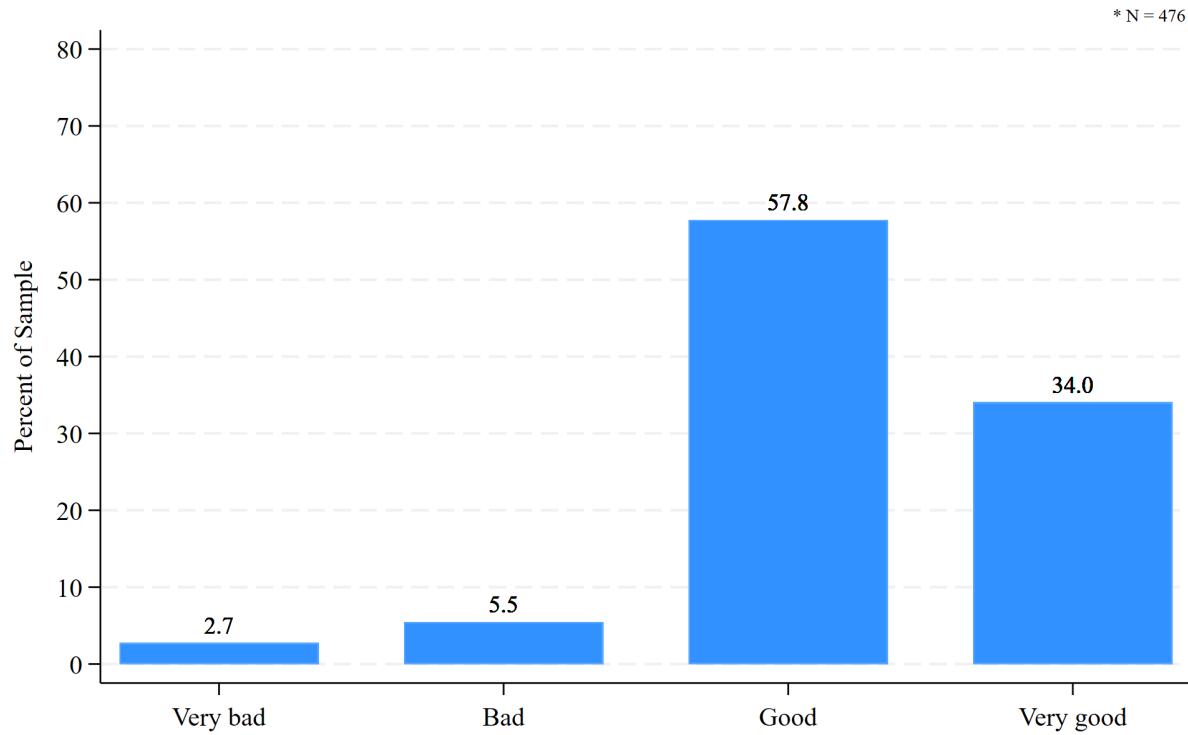


Fig 7. How good or bad is DCSO doing at dealing with problems that occur in your neighborhood?

We also asked respondents how DCSO was doing at *being visible on the streets*. Here we observed slightly more variation in resident perceptions. Fifty-seven percent said DCSO was doing a good job and 26% a very good job. However, nearly 17% – about 1 in every 6 respondents – said DCSO was doing a bad or a very bad job. See Figure 8.

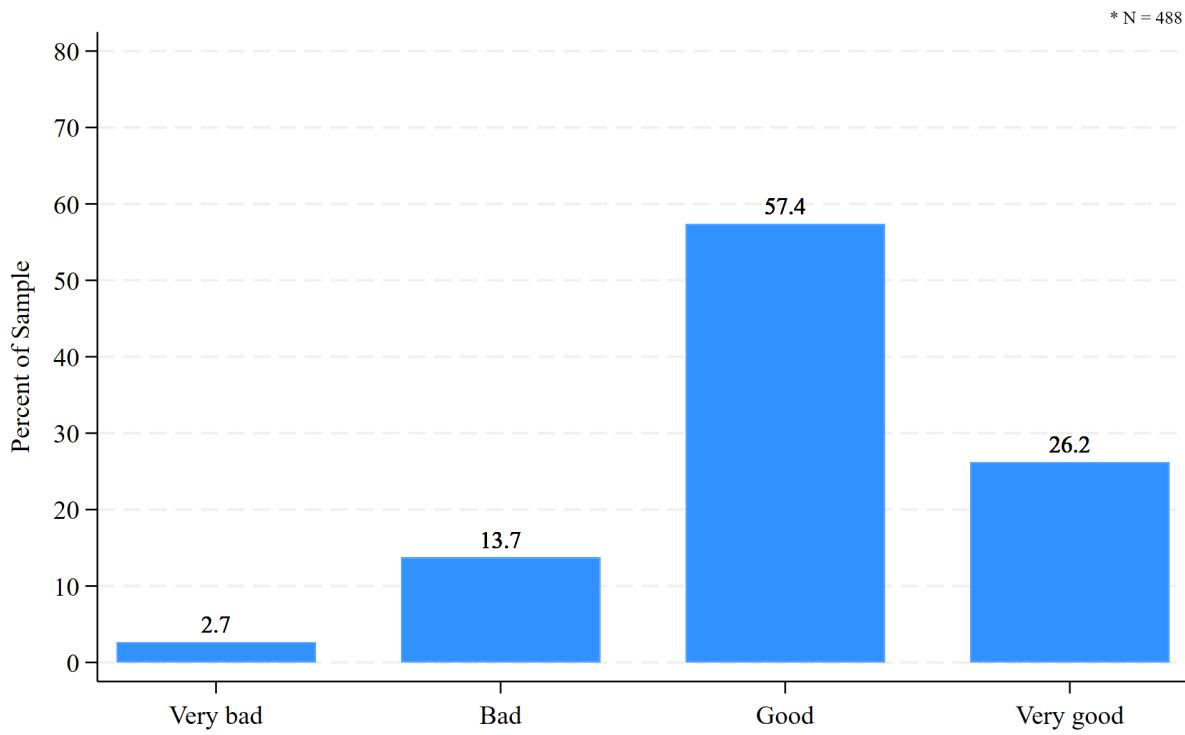


Fig 8. How good or bad is DCSO doing at being visible on the streets?

Our last “organizational performance” indicator was availability – that is, we asked respondents how DCSO was doing in terms of *being available when you need them*. Fifty-seven percent of the sample felt DCSO is doing a good job and another 35% felt DCSO is doing a very good job. Meanwhile, 5% felt DCSO is doing a bad job, and roughly 3% felt DCSO is doing a very bad job. See Figure 9.

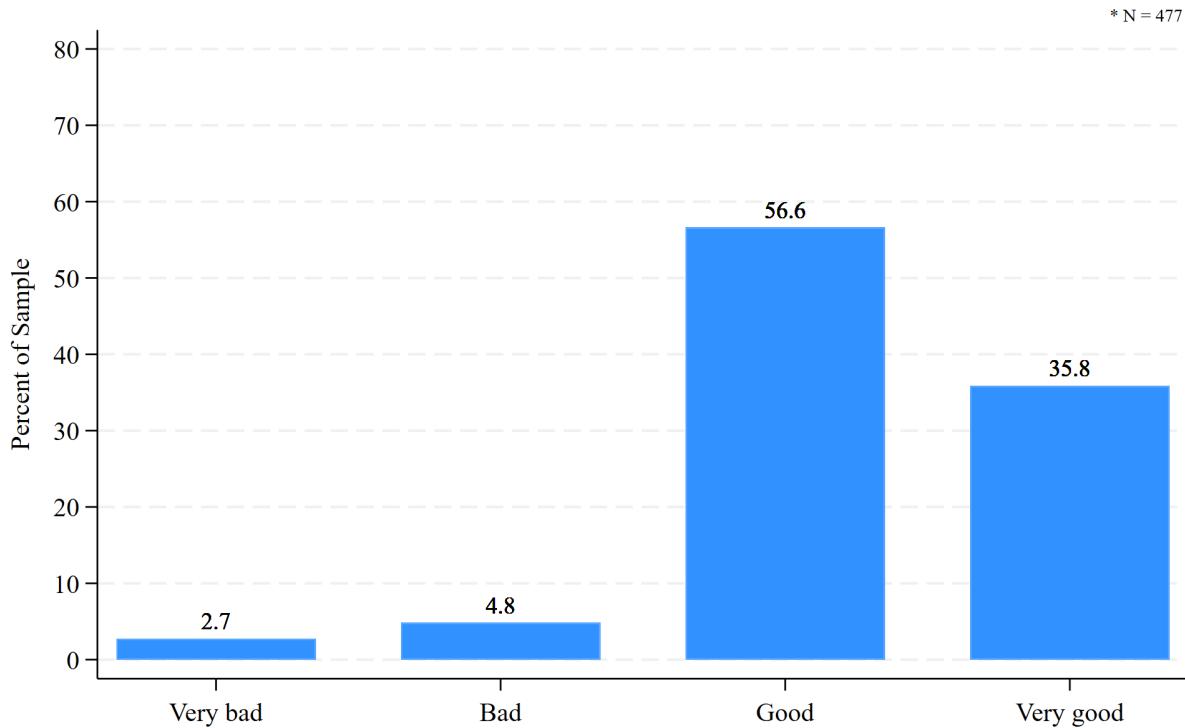
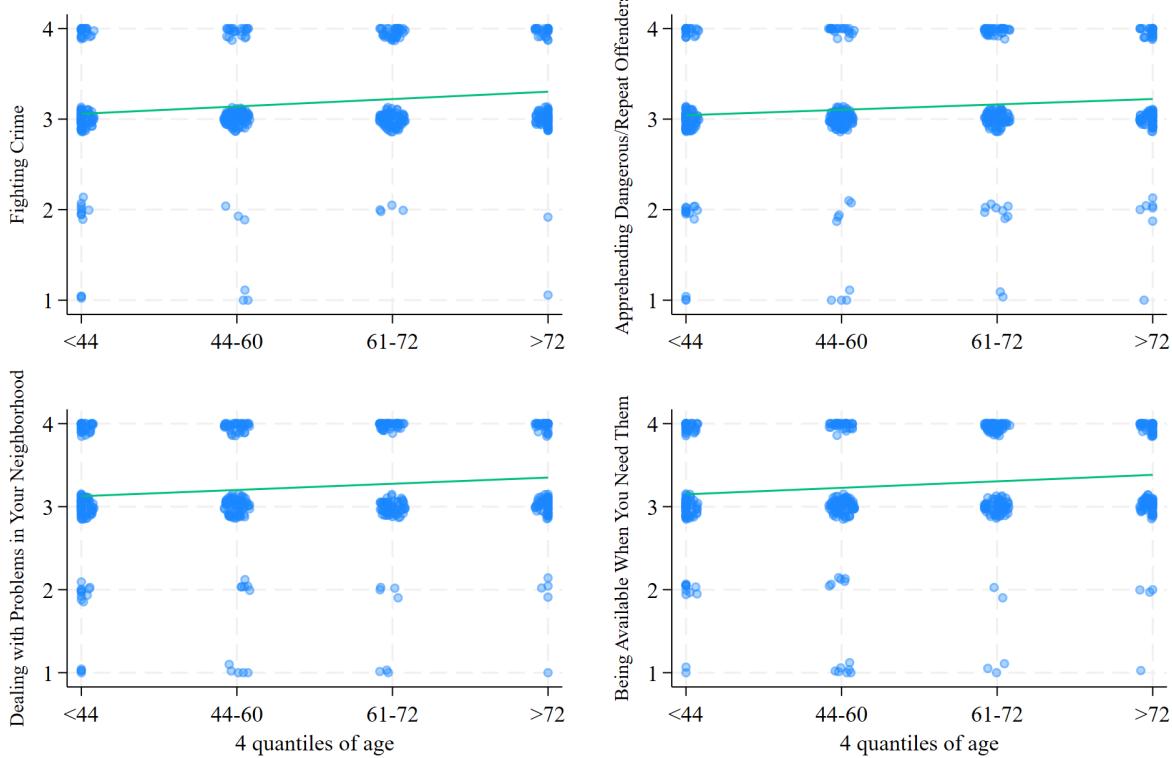


Fig 9. How good or bad is DCSO doing at being available when you need them?

For four of the organizational performance questions, we noted significant variation in perceptions across resident *age*, such that older respondents tended to hold more favorable perceptions of DCSO's performance. See Figure 9b, where to help visualize this finding, we split the sample into four quantiles of *age*. That is, 25% of the sample was under the age of 44, 25% was 44-60, 25% was 61-72, and 25% was 73 or older. These *age* quantiles are on the (horizontal) x-axis and response options for each question (1=very bad, 2=bad, 3=good, 4=very good) are on the (vertical) y-axis. Each blue dot represents a respondent; thus, larger and darker blue clusters indicate the presence of more respondents at the intersection of a given age quantile and response option. The green line is a line of best linear fit, which reminds us that across every age quantile, most respondents felt DCSO was doing good or very good on the respective performance indicator. The line also has a positive slope, such that older residents believe DCSO is doing even better than younger residents.

Fig 9b. Age Differences in Perceptions of DCSO Performance



Willingness to Cooperate with DCSO

The next set of questions measured respondents' willingness to cooperate with DCSO in its efforts to deter criminal behavior, hold lawbreakers accountable, and otherwise maintain public safety. First, respondents were asked how likely or unlikely it would be for them to call DCSO to report a crime or suspicious activity. Response options included 1 (very unlikely), 2 (unlikely), 3 (likely), or 4 (very likely). See Figure 10. Six in ten respondents indicated they would be very likely to do so. Another three in ten said they would be likely to do so. About 8% of the sample – fewer than 1 in 10 respondents – indicated they would be unlikely or very unlikely to call DCSO to report a crime or suspicious activity.

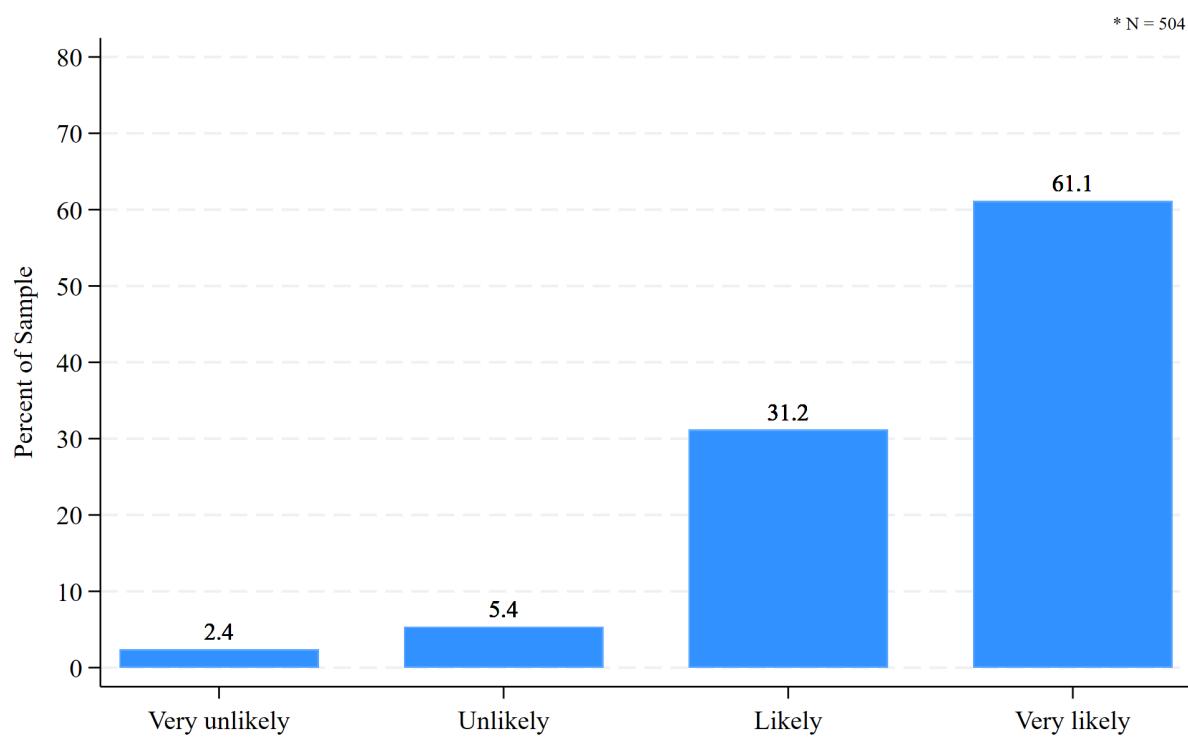


Fig 10. Would call DCSO to report a crime/suspicious activity

Respondents were then asked how likely they would be to call DCSO to report an accident. A similar pattern emerged – see Figure 11. Roughly 64% of respondents said they would be very likely to report an accident to DCSO. Another 28% said they would be likely to do so. Finally, about 8.5% of respondents indicated they would be unlikely or very unlikely to report an accident to DCSO.

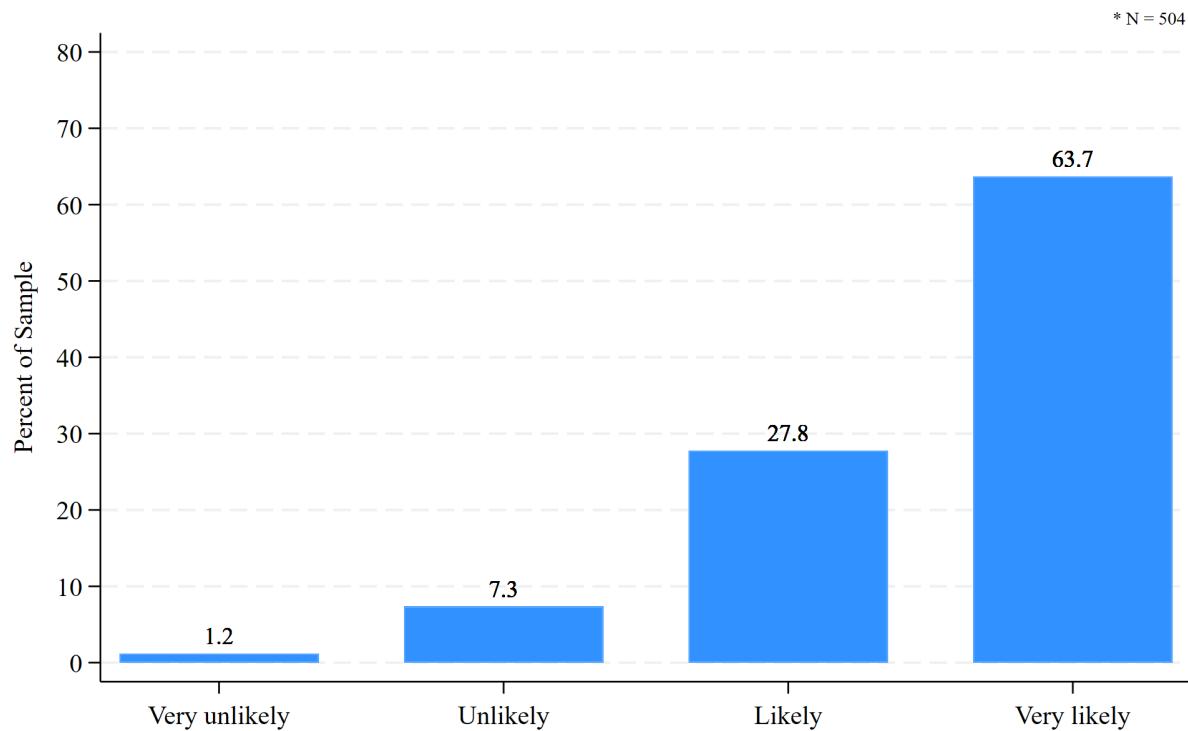


Fig 11. Would call DCSO to report an accident

Another way that citizens cooperate with police is by identifying a suspect as the person who committed a crime in their neighborhood. Asked how likely they would be to work with DCSO in this way, 65% of respondents said “very likely,” 29% said “likely,” and 6.2% said either “unlikely” or “very unlikely.” See Figure 12.

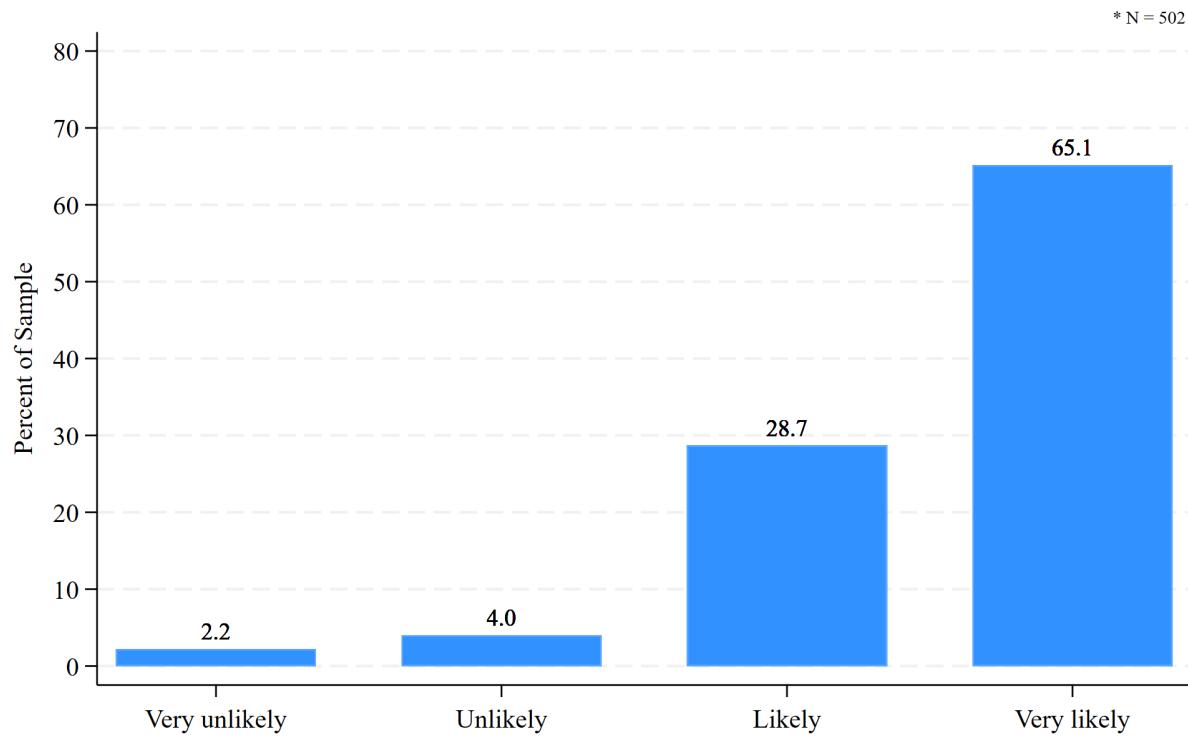


Fig 12. Would work with DCSO to identify a person who has committed a crime in your neighborhood

Still another way that citizens cooperate with the police is by doing their part to contribute to informal social control in their neighborhoods.⁵ We asked respondents how likely or unlikely it would be for them to attend a meeting with other residents of their neighborhood to discuss crime prevention. On this question, we observed much more variation. See Figure 13. Whereas few respondents seemed to be unwilling to call DCSO to report crimes, suspicious behaviors, or accidents, or to identify criminal suspects, nearly one-third of the sample said they would be unlikely or very unlikely to attend a neighborhood crime prevention meeting. Meanwhile, 43% said they would be likely, and 25% said they would be very likely to do so.

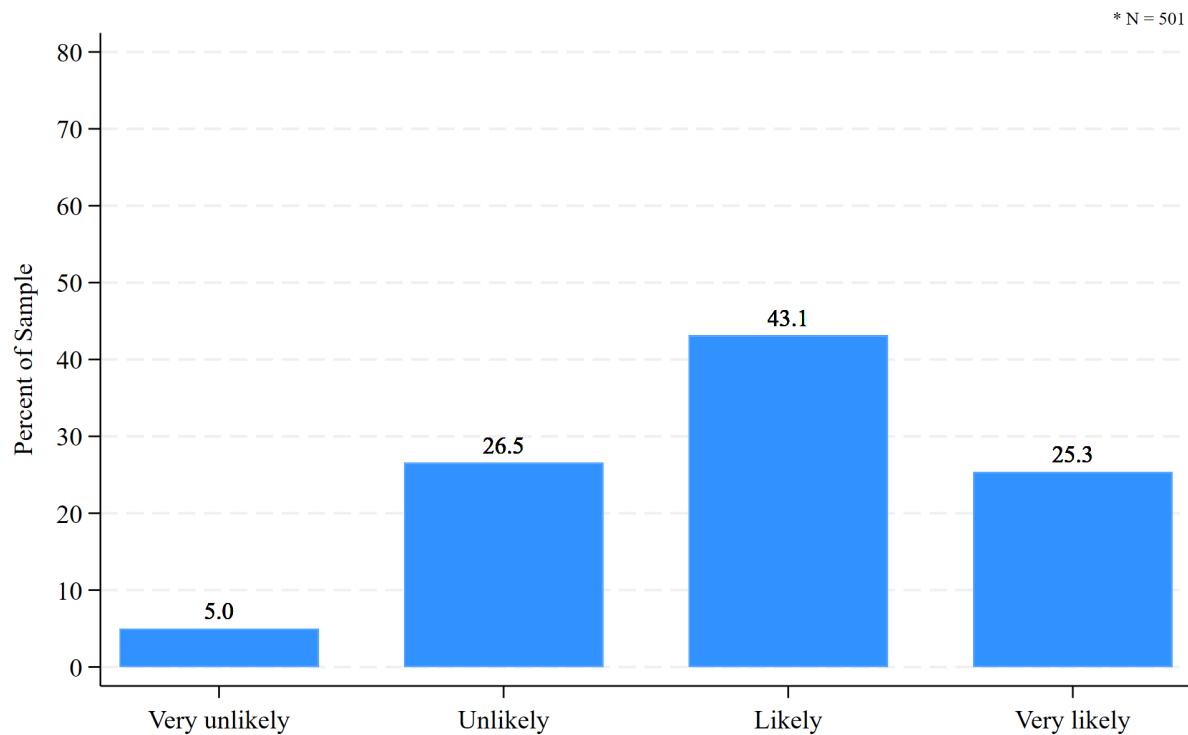
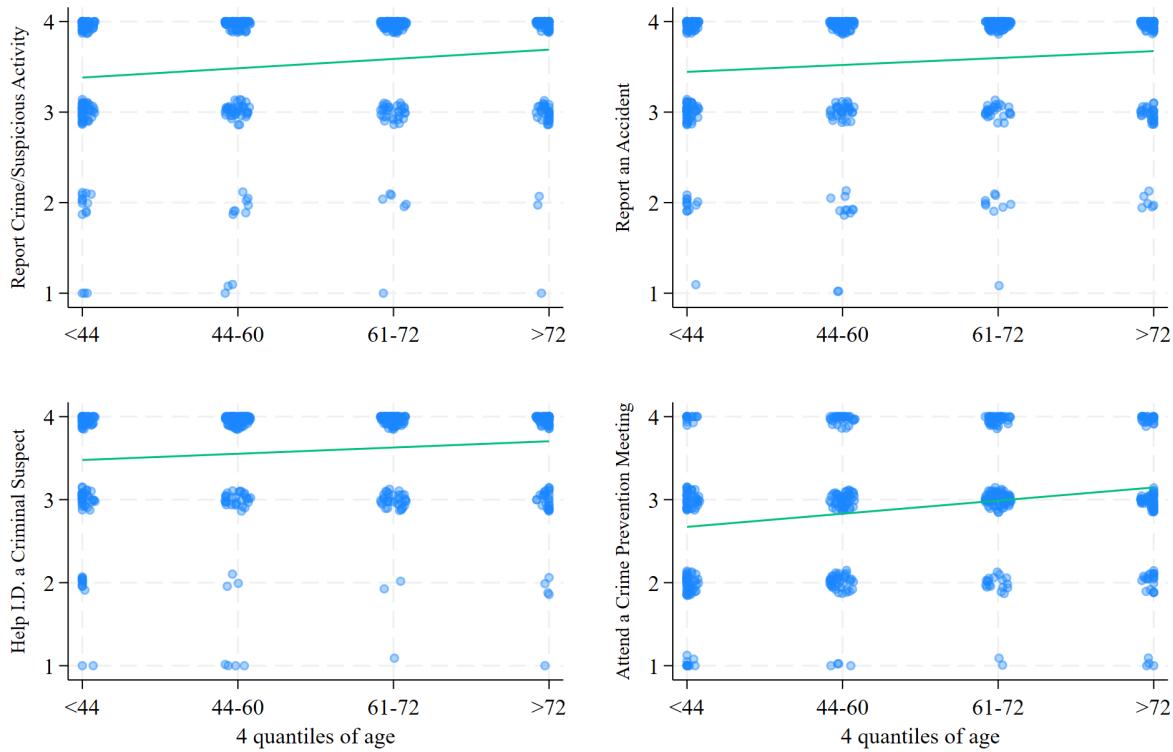


Fig 13. Would attend a neighborhood meeting to discuss crime prevention

⁵ Sampson, R. J. (1986). Crime in cities: The effects of formal and informal social control. *Crime and Justice*, 8, 271-311.

Again, we observed significant variation across respondent age in terms of willingness to cooperate with DCSO. See Figure 13b. Perhaps unsurprisingly, older respondents indicated being more likely to report crimes and suspicious activities, more likely to report accidents, more likely to help identify criminal suspects, and more likely to attend neighborhood crime prevention meetings.

Fig 13b. Age Differences in Willingness to Cooperate with DCSO



Perceptions of how DCSO Deputies Treat People

The next set of questions asked respondents to consider how individual deputies perform on the job (in contrast to earlier questions that asked respondents to evaluate the DCSO as an organization). First, we asked respondents the extent to which they agreed or disagreed (1 = strongly disagree to 4 = strongly agree) that deputies *have the skills necessary to do their job*. The modal respondent – 64% of the sample – agreed with this statement. Thirty percent strongly agreed. On the other hand, 6% of the sample disagreed or strongly agreed with this statement. See Figure 14.

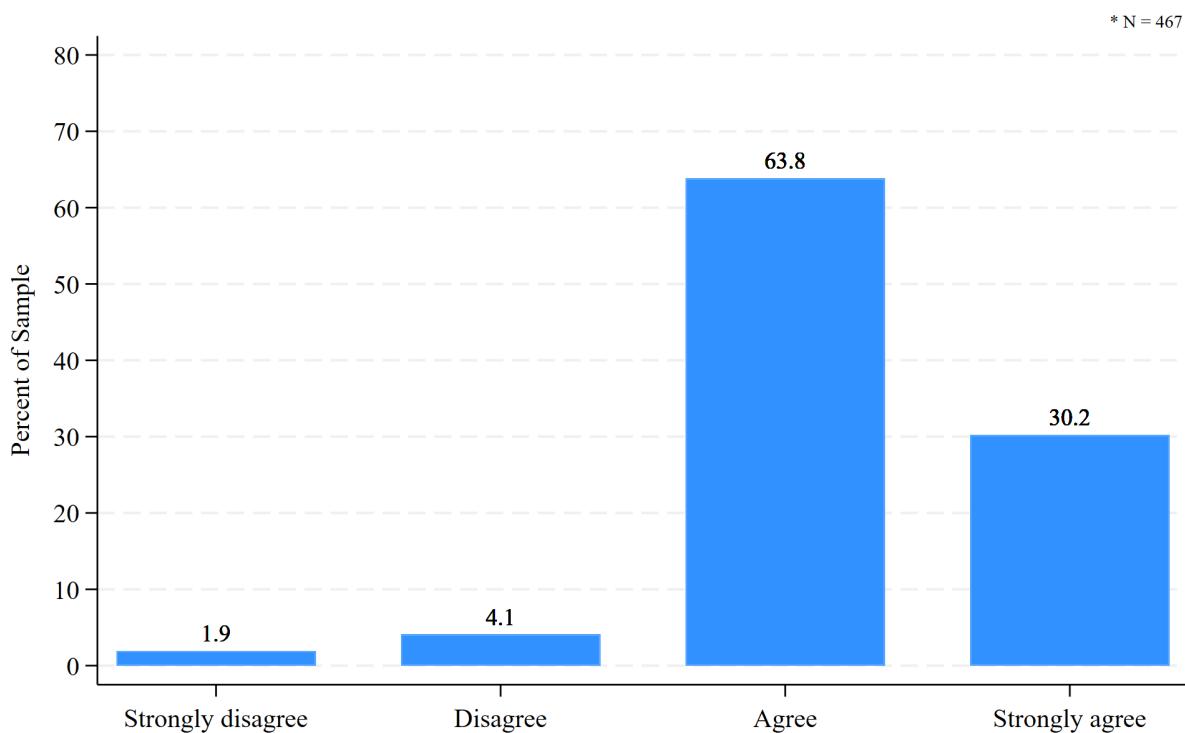


Fig 14. Deputies have the skills necessary to do their job.

Respondents were then asked the extent they agreed/disagreed that deputies *are active in positive community engagement activities*. See Figure 15. Sixty-three percent of the sample agreed, and 26% strongly agreed, with this statement. However, about 1 in 10 respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that deputies are active in positive community engagement activities.

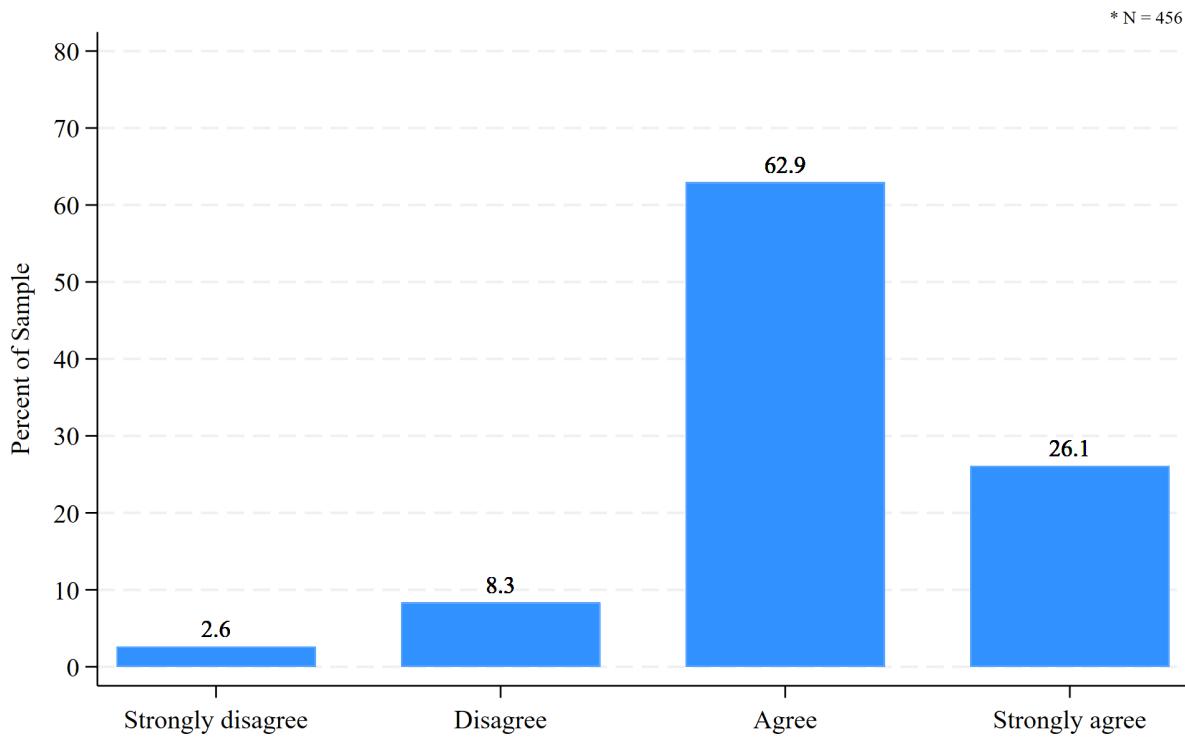


Fig 15. Deputies are active in positive community engagement activities.

We noted that respondents with less than a 4-year college degree were significantly more likely than those with at least a 4-year degree to agree that deputies are active in positive community engagement activities. See Figure 15b. But importantly, the difference between the two groups was small in magnitude: both groups' average response was just above 3, indicating agreement.

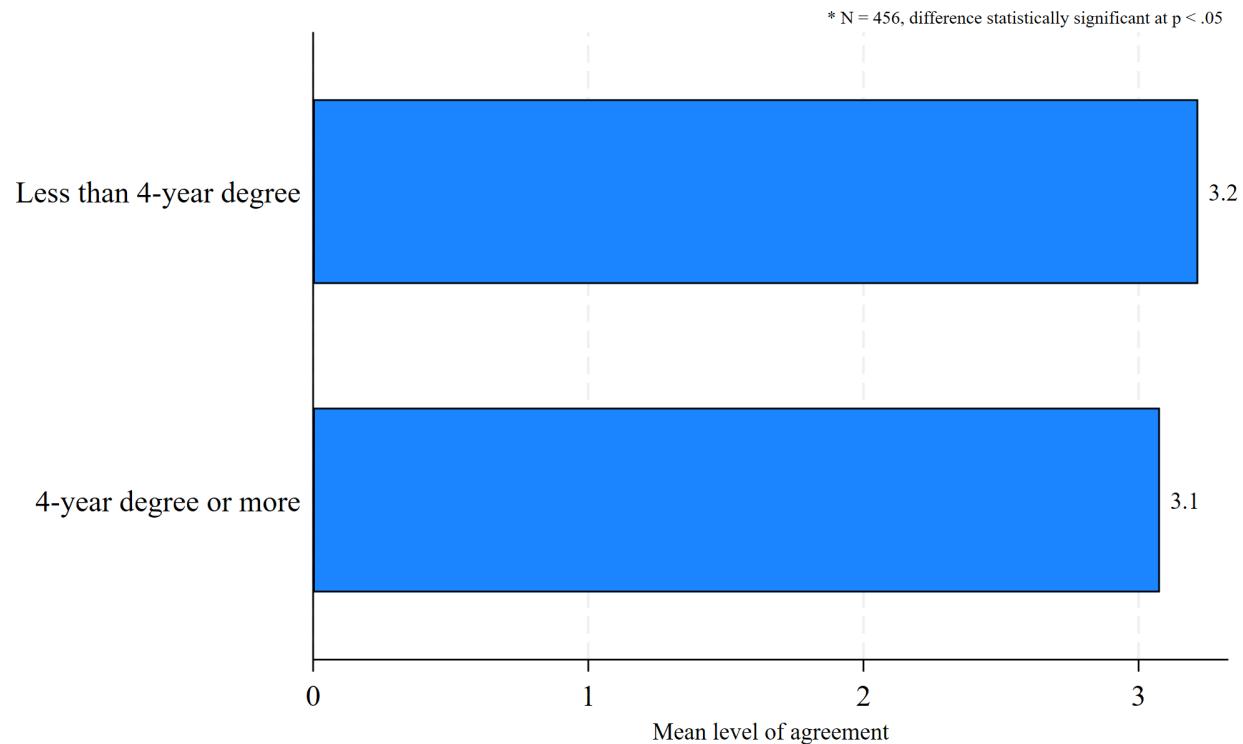


Fig 15b. Educational differences in **belief deputies are active in positive community engagement activities**.

Researchers consistently find that people value being treated fairly by authority figures such as the police – with respect being a key dimension of such procedural justice. This is important because when people believe police treat citizens fairly, they are more likely to view policing as a legitimate institution, and in turn more likely to comply with the law and cooperate with the police.⁶ Thus, we asked respondents how much they agreed/disagreed that DCSO deputies *treat people with respect*. About 54% of the sample agreed with this statement, and another 39% strongly agreed. Meanwhile, roughly 7% of the sample disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement. See Figure 16.

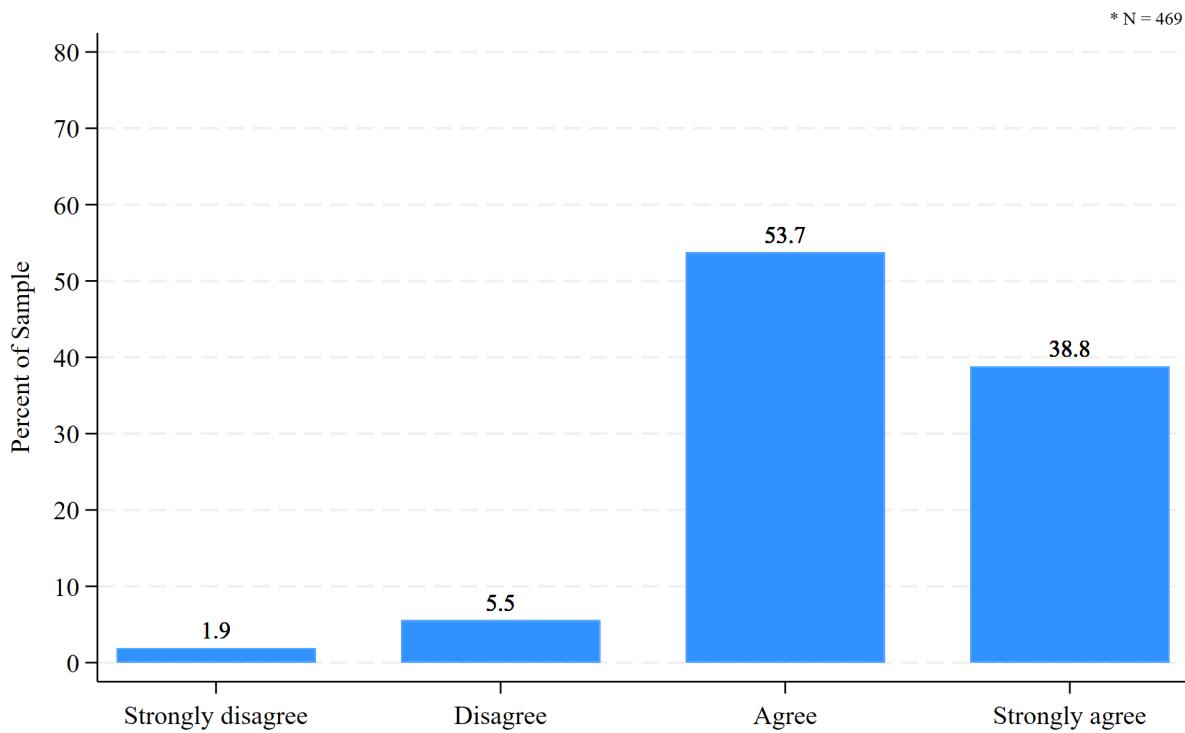


Fig 16. Deputies treat people with respect.

⁶ Tyler, T. R. (2006). *Why people obey the law*. Princeton university press; Tyler, T. R. (2003). Procedural justice, legitimacy, and the effective rule of law. *Crime and justice*, 30, 283-357; Tyler, T. R. (1988). What is procedural justice-criteria used by citizens to assess the fairness of legal procedures. *Law & Soc'y Rev.*, 22, 103.

Here again, we find evidence that agreement with this statement differed significantly by educational attainment. See Figure 16b. Those with a 4-year college degree or graduate degree were less likely to believe deputies treat people with respect than those without a 4-year degree.

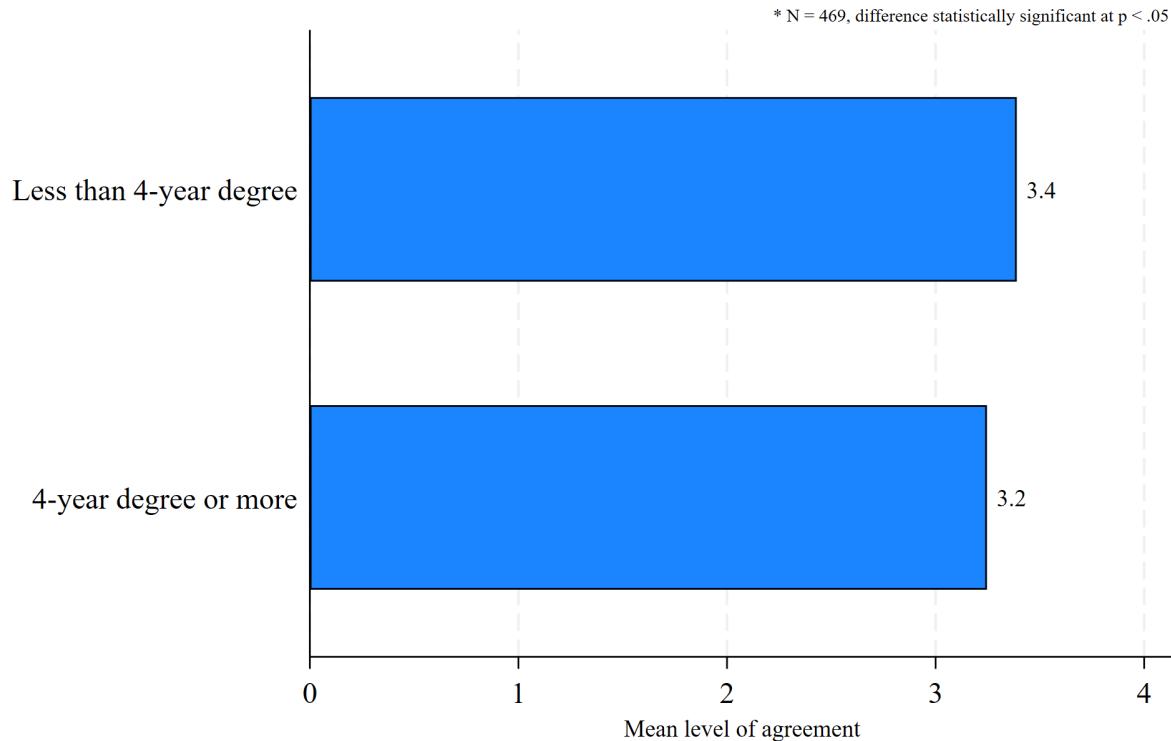


Fig 16b. Educational differences in **belief deputies treat people with respect**.

Another dimension of procedural justice is giving people a voice, or an opportunity to tell their side of a story before making decisions. See Figure 17. In our sample, 63% of respondents agreed that DCSO deputies give people a chance to tell their side of the story, and another 27% strongly agreed. On the other hand, about 1 in 10 respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed this is the case.

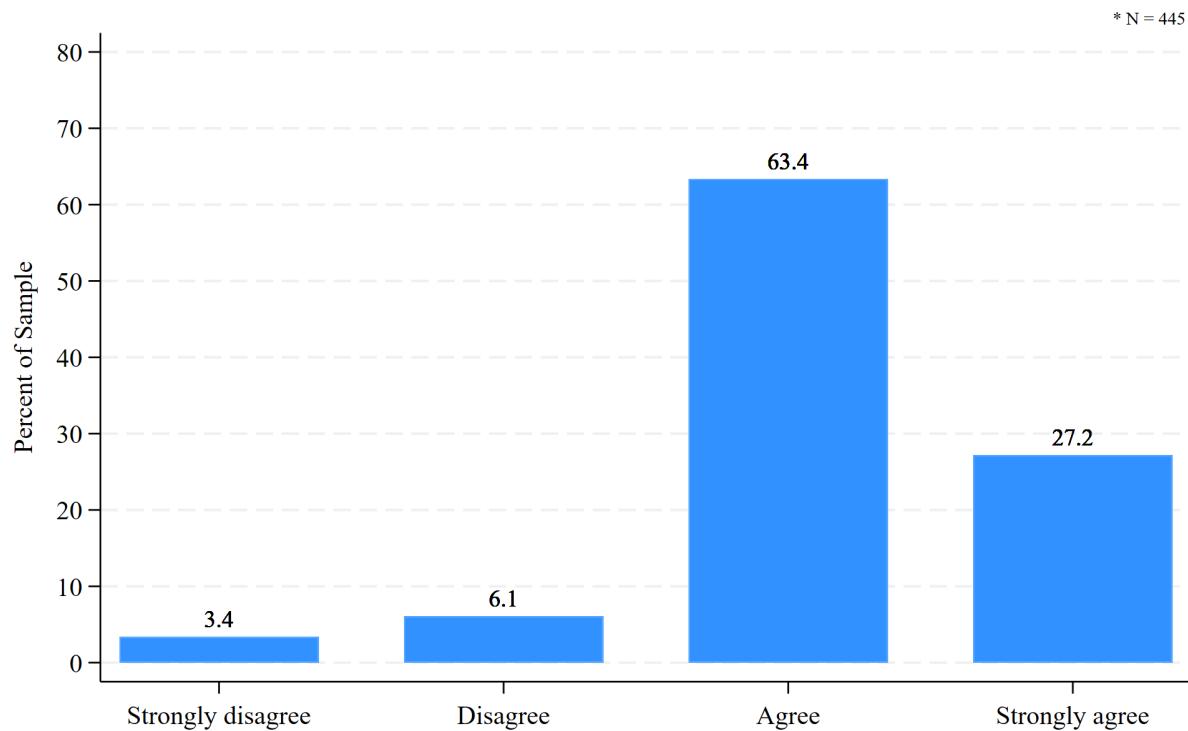


Fig 17. Deputies give people a chance to tell their side of the story.

Again, respondents with more educational attainment were *less* likely to agree that deputies give people a chance to tell their side of the story. See Figure 17b. Note, however, that the difference was small in magnitude: both groups scored on average slightly above 3, indicating agreement.

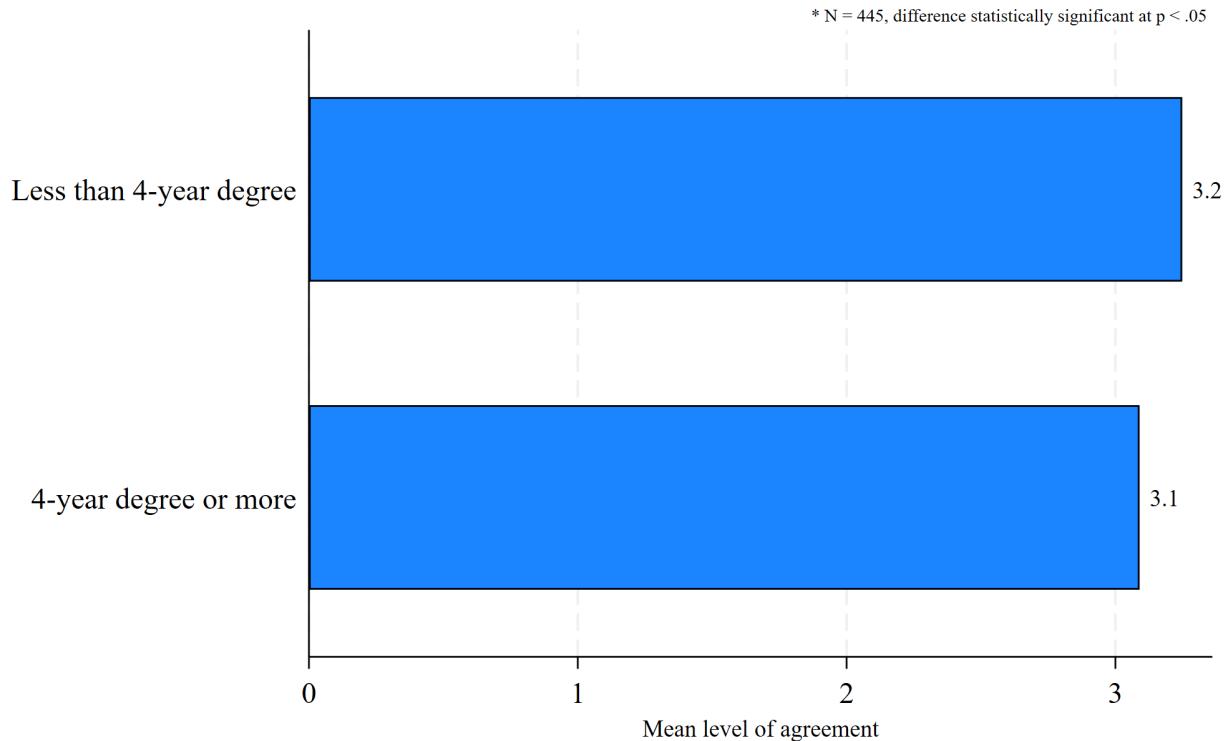


Fig 17b. Educational differences in **belief deputies give people a chance to tell their side of the story**.

Our final question pertaining to how deputies treat people tapped into *distributive justice* – or the belief that police distribute *outcomes* (e.g., warnings v. tickets) equitably.⁷ Specifically, we asked respondents to indicate the extent they agreed or disagreed that deputies *deliver different outcomes based on a person's demographic background* (e.g., race, gender identity, or sexual orientation). Thus, to agree with this statement is to believe that DCSO deputies engage in distributive *injustice*.

Here, the sample was much more split. On the one hand, about 55% of the sample disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement – indicating that deputies engage in distributive *justice*. On the other hand, about 45% agreed or strongly agreed with this statement – indicating that deputies engage in distributive *injustice*.

Notably, these beliefs did not differ significantly across age, gender, or educational attainment of respondents.

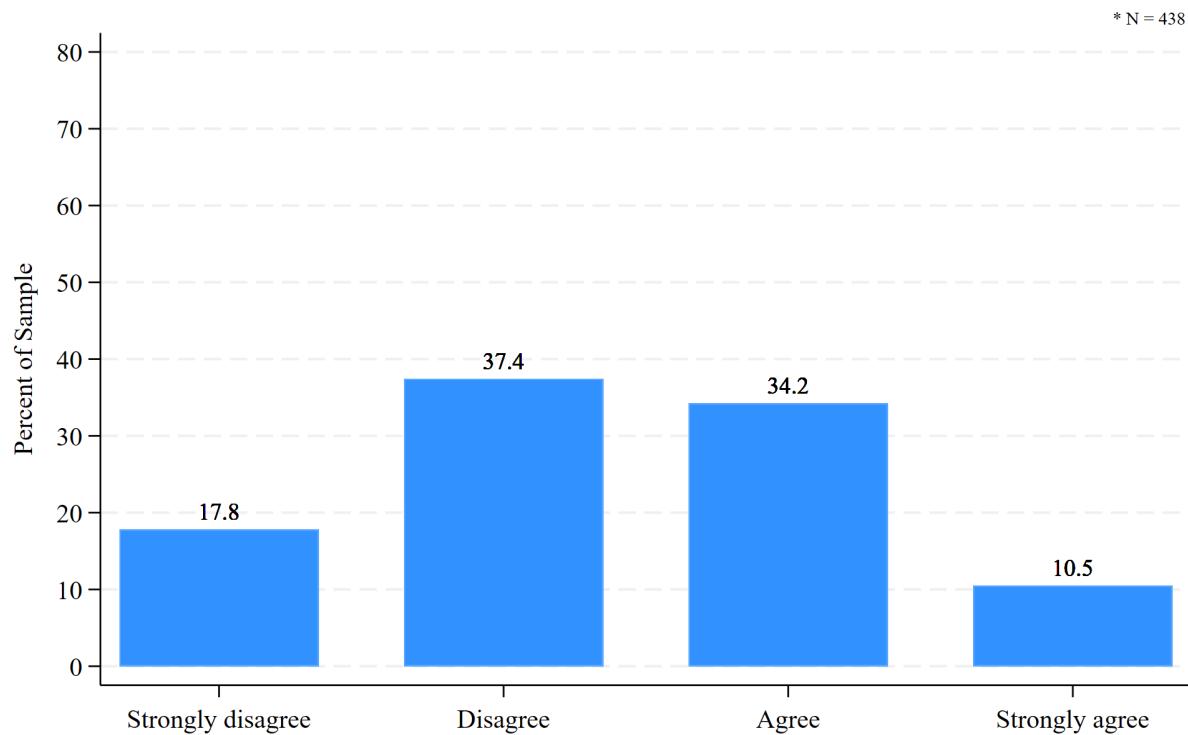
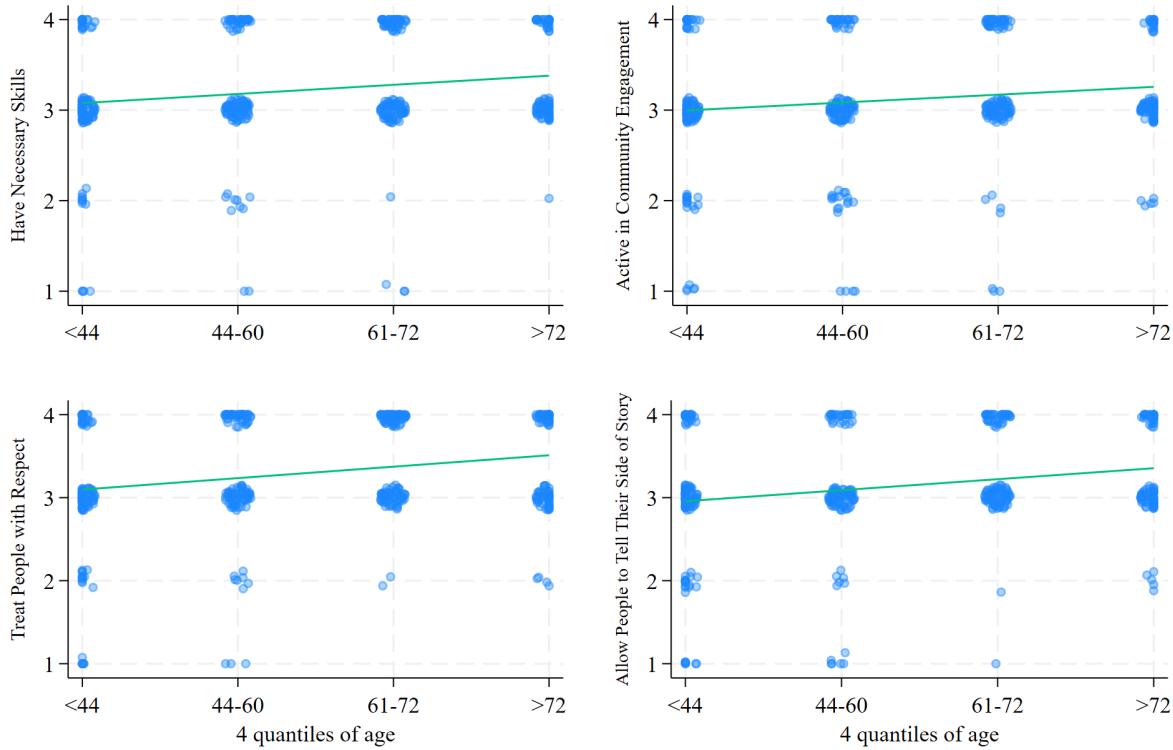


Fig 18. Deputies deliver different outcomes based on a person's demographic background.

⁷ McLean, K. (2020). Revisiting the role of distributive justice in Tyler's legitimacy theory. *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, 16, 335-346.

We did, however, detect significant age differences in several of the aforementioned questions about how deputies treat people. Consistent with earlier results, older respondents tended to view deputies more favorably. They were more likely to agree that deputies have the necessary skills to do their job, are active in positive community engagement activities, treat people with respect, and allow people to tell their side of the story before deciding how to handle situations. See Figure 18b.

Fig 18b. Age Differences in Perceptions of DCSO Deputies



Perceptions of Neighbors/Neighborhoods

We next asked respondents a series of questions about their neighborhoods. Research demonstrates that in communities characterized by higher levels of *collective efficacy* (i.e., social cohesion and informal social control) there tends to be less crime.⁸ Some research has also shown that when residents perceive greater collective efficacy in their neighborhoods, they are in turn more trusting of the police.⁹ The first question asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement (1 = strongly disagree to 4 = strongly agree) with the statement *People in my neighborhood can be trusted*. See Figure 19. Almost everyone – 96% of the sample – agreed or strongly agreed. Fourteen respondents disagreed and six respondents strongly disagreed.

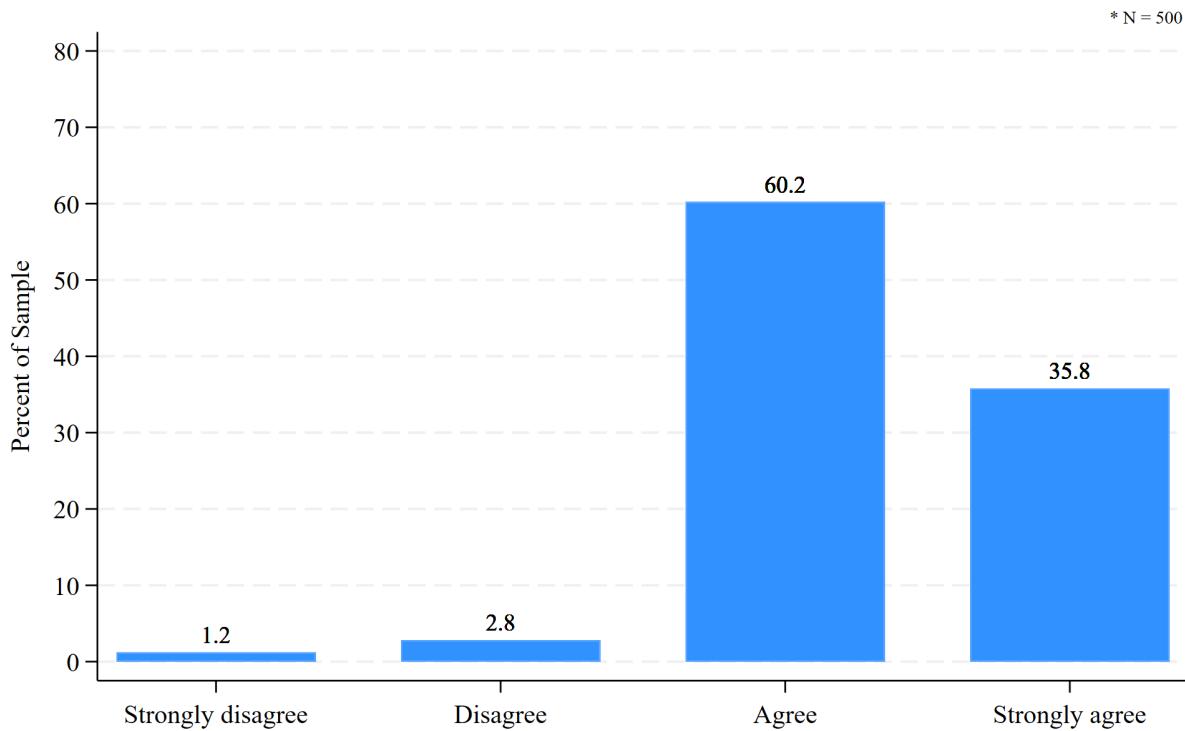


Fig 19. People in my neighborhood can be trusted.

⁸ Sampson, R. J., Raudenbush, S. W., & Earls, F. (1997). Neighborhoods and violent crime: A multilevel study of collective efficacy. *Science*, 277(5328), 918-924.

⁹ Nix, J., Wolfe, S. E., Rojek, J., & Kaminski, R. J. (2015). Trust in the police: The influence of procedural justice and perceived collective efficacy. *Crime & Delinquency*, 61(4), 610-640.

Respondents were then asked how much they agreed/disagreed that *people around here are willing to help their neighbors*. Here again, most of the sample agreed (53%) or strongly agreed (41%). A small minority – about 30 respondents or 6% of the sample – disagreed or strongly disagreed. See Figure 20.

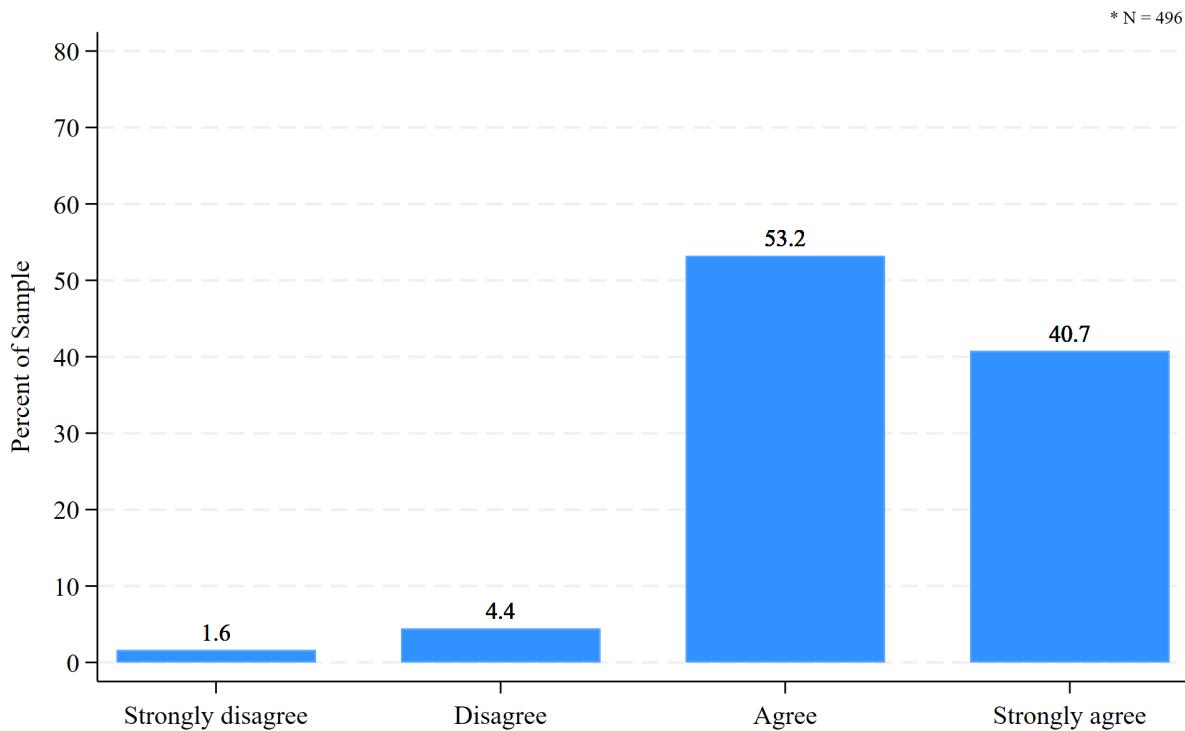


Fig 20. People around here are willing to help their neighbors.

Next, respondents indicated the extent they agreed/disagreed that they *live in a close-knit neighborhood*. On this question, we observed much more variation. See Figure 21. The modal respondent – 54% of the sample – agreed. Another 21% strongly agreed. However, 22% of the sample disagreed and 3% of the sample strongly disagreed.

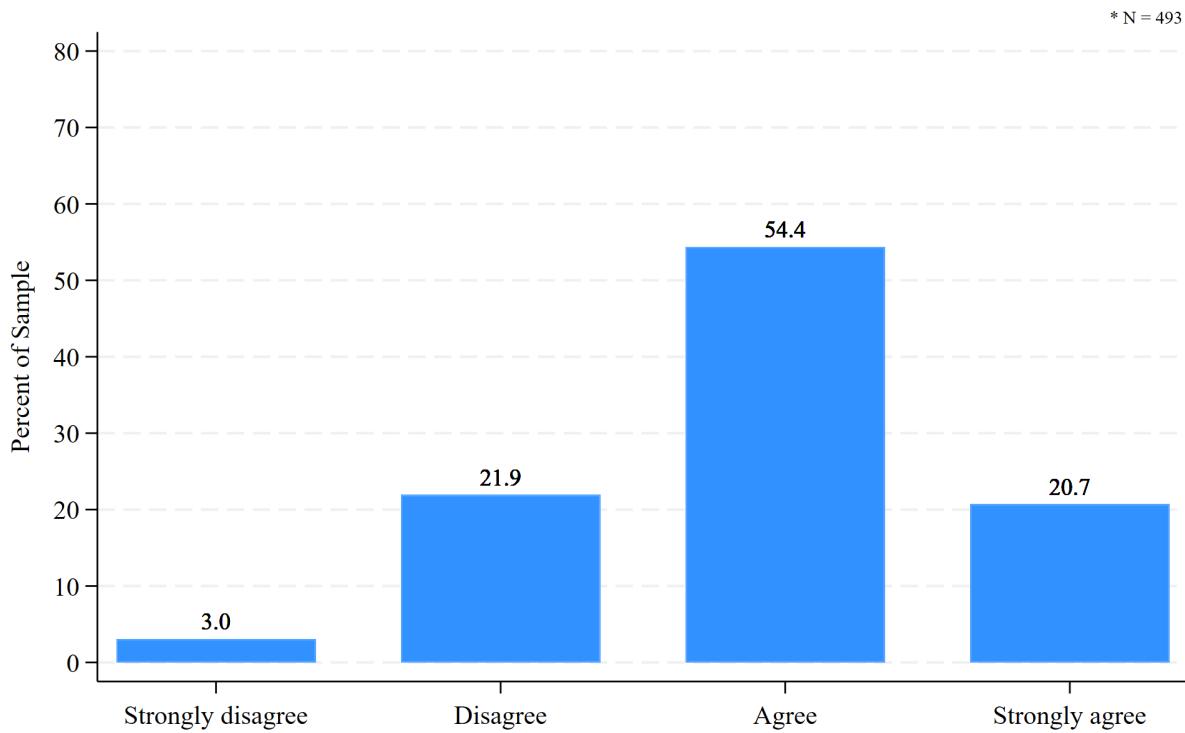


Fig 21. I live in a close-knit neighborhood.

The next question asked respondents the extent they agreed or disagreed that *people in my neighborhood generally do not get along with each other*. Note the valence of this question runs opposite previous questions, such that agreement in this case reflects a *lack* of social cohesion with neighbors.¹⁰ See Figure 22. Roughly 7% of the sample agreed or strongly agreed that people in their neighborhood *do not* get along with each other. Meanwhile, about 54% of the sample disagreed and 40% strongly disagreed.

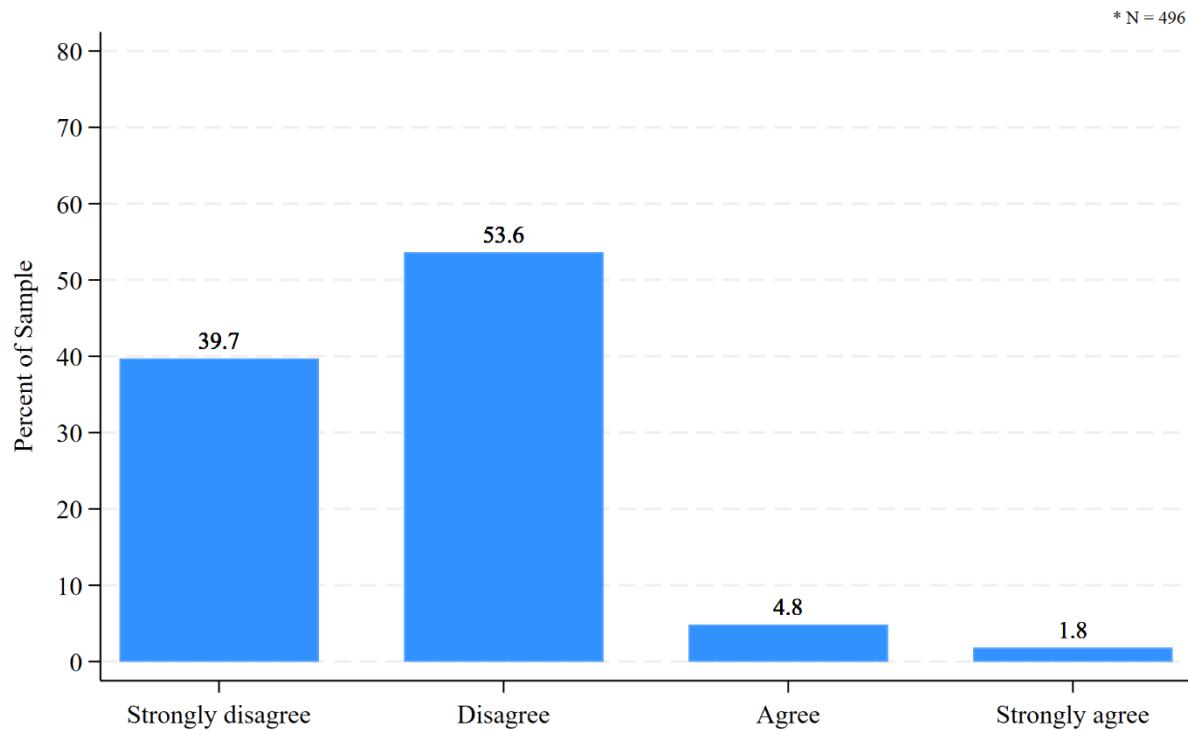


Fig 22. People in my neighborhood generally do not get along with each other.

¹⁰ We word the question this way for two reasons. First, it is consistent with the way it was worded by Sampson et al. (1997), from which the question derives. Second, research shows that the use of unidirectional question batteries can result in acquiescent responding and introduce systematic error in analyses. See, e.g., Pickett, J. T., & Baker, T. (2014). The pragmatic American: Empirical reality or methodological artifact? *Criminology*, 52(2), 195-222.

The final question in this section asked respondents to report the extent they agreed/disagreed that *people in my neighborhood do not share the same values*. See Figure 23. Again, note the valence of this question runs counter to most previous questions. Sixteen percent of the sample agreed or strongly agreed with the statement. Meanwhile, 60% disagreed and 24% strongly disagreed.

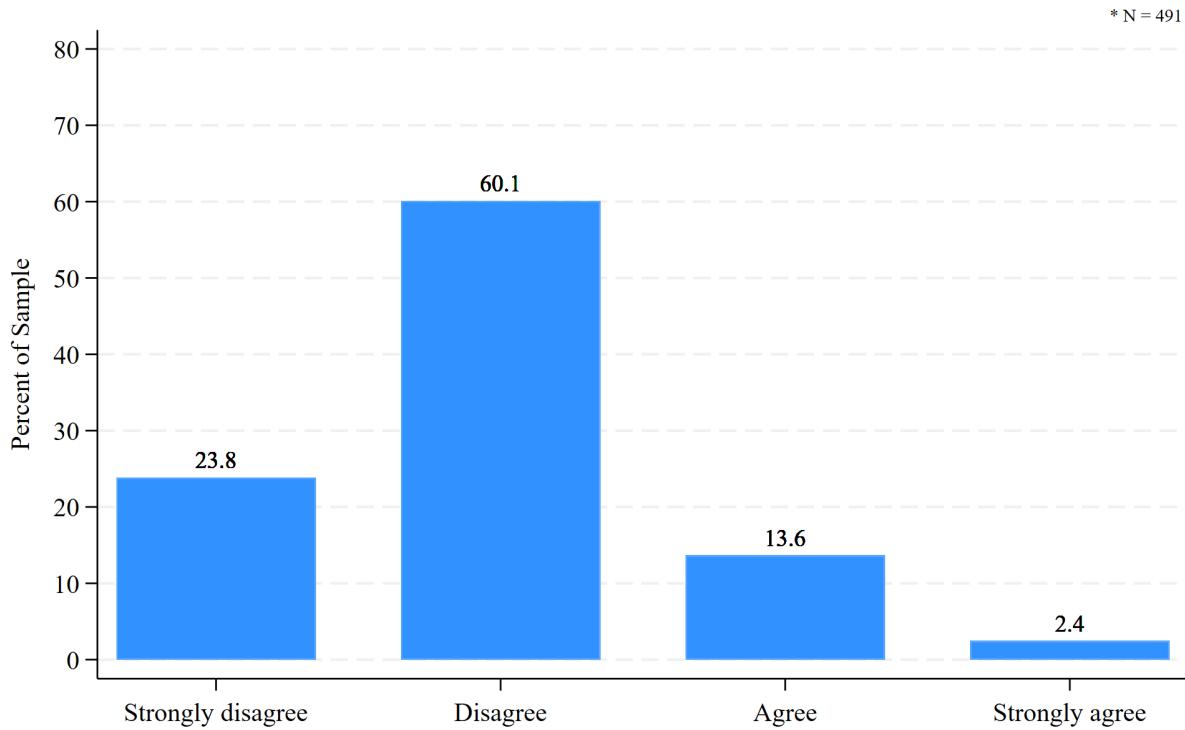


Fig 23. People in my neighborhood do not share the same values.

Perceptions of Crime and Disorder in Neighborhoods

We next presented respondents with a series of criminal and disorderly behaviors/issues and asked them how much of a problem they were in the area (1=not a problem, 2=somewhat of a problem, or 3=serious problem). Prior research has documented a significant relationship between such perceptions and attitudes toward the police.¹¹ First, respondents were asked about *garbage/litter on or along the streets*. See Figure 24. Most – 81% – felt this was not a problem in their neighborhood. However, about 17% felt it was at least somewhat of a problem, and 2.8% felt it was a serious problem.

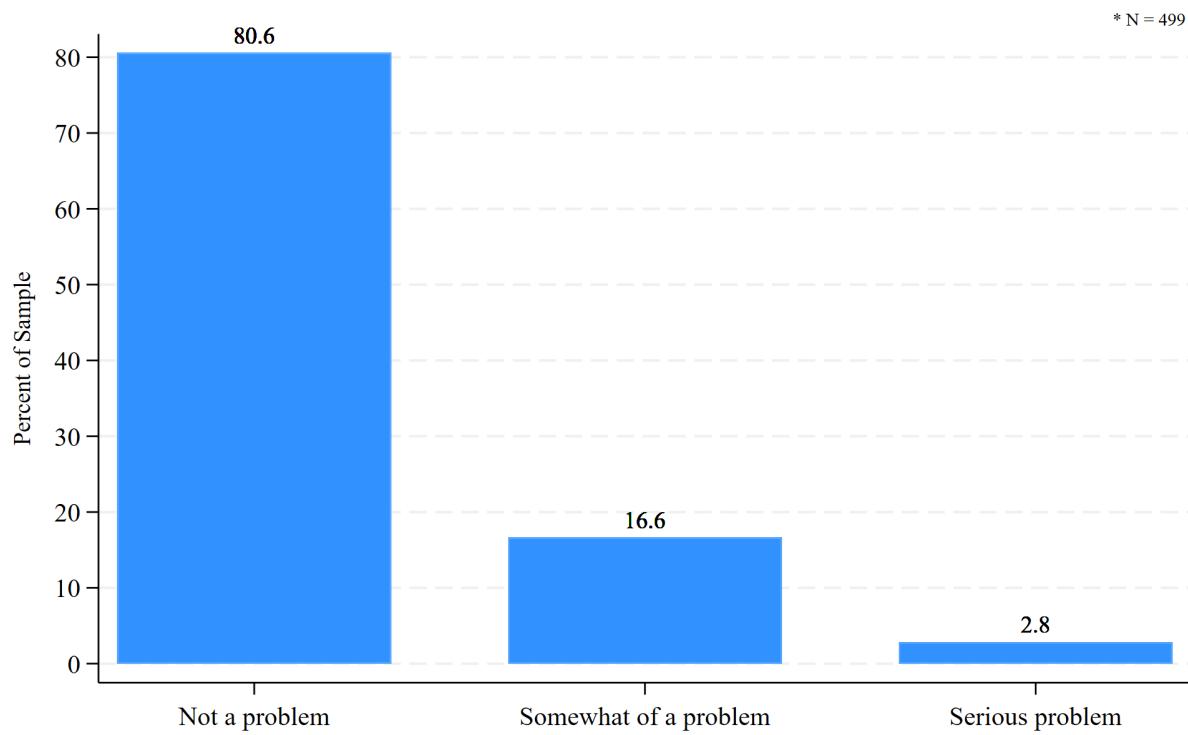


Fig 24. How much of a problem is: garbage/litter on the streets?

¹¹ See, e.g., Sampson, R. J., & Bartusch, D. J. (1998). Legal cynicism and (subcultural?) tolerance of deviance: The neighborhood context of racial differences. *Law and Society Review*, 777-804; Kirk, D. S., & Matsuda, M. (2011). Legal cynicism, collective efficacy, and the ecology of arrest. *Criminology*, 49(2), 443-472; Reisig, M. D., & Parks, R. B. (2000). Experience, quality of life, and neighborhood context: A hierarchical analysis of satisfaction with police. *Justice Quarterly*, 17(3), 607-630.

As shown in Figure 24b, women in our sample tended to view *garbage/litter on the streets* as more of a problem than men. The difference was small (mean 1.3 vs. 1.2), but statistically significant.

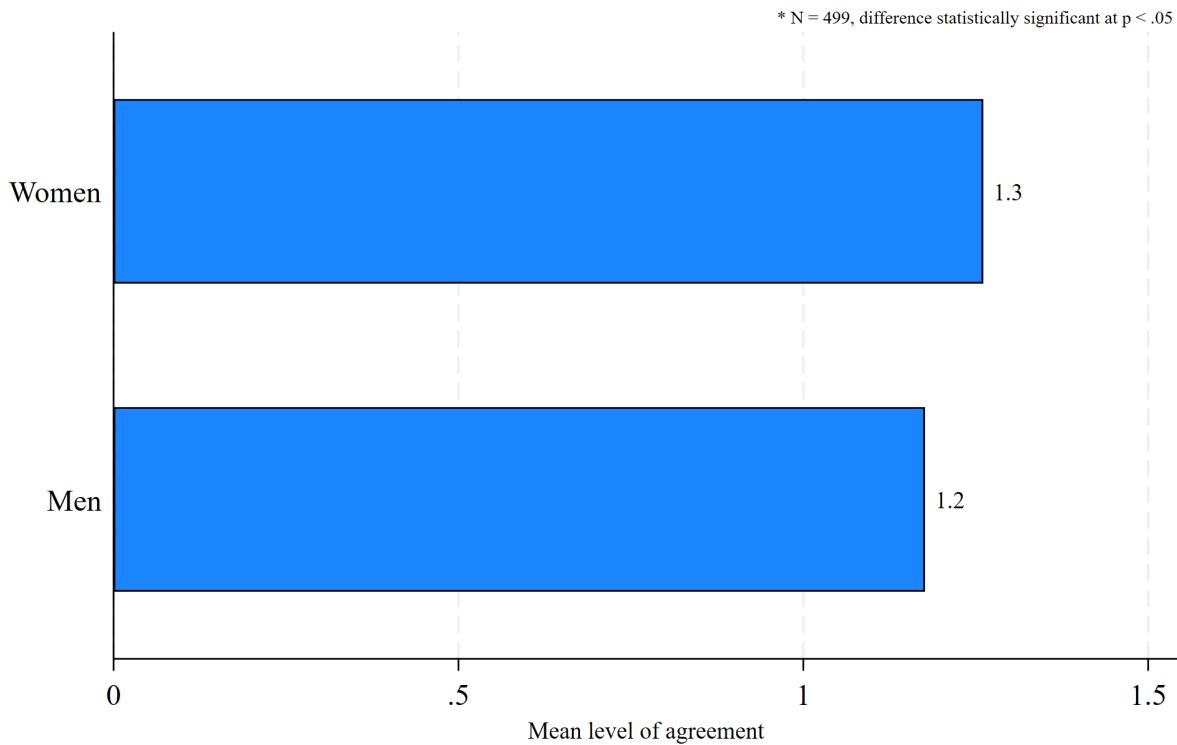


Fig 24b. Gender differences in **belief garbage/litter on the streets is a problem**.

When asked how much of a problem *drunk drivers on the road* was in their neighborhood, 77% indicated it was not a problem. However, 20% said it was at least somewhat of a problem, and 3.5% said it was a serious problem. See Figure 25.

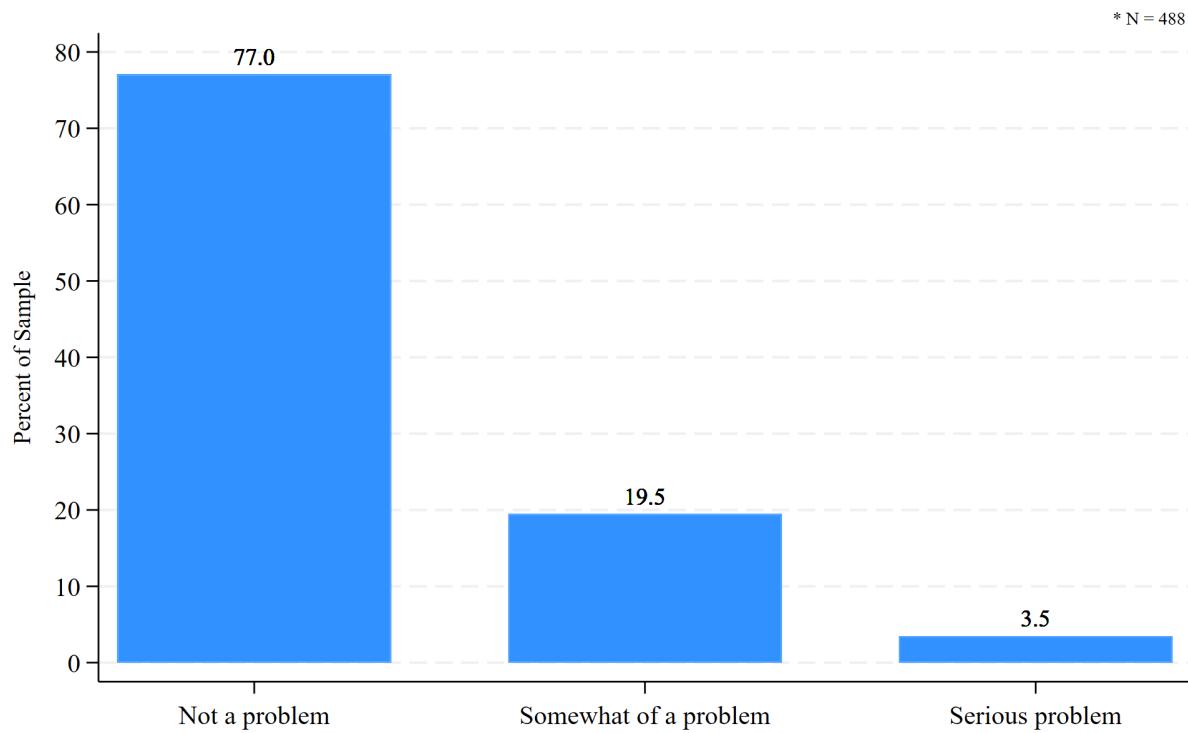


Fig 25. How much of a problem is: drunk drivers on the road?

Figure 25b shows that women perceived *drunk drivers on the road* as being more of a problem in their neighborhoods than men. Again, the difference was small but statistically significant.

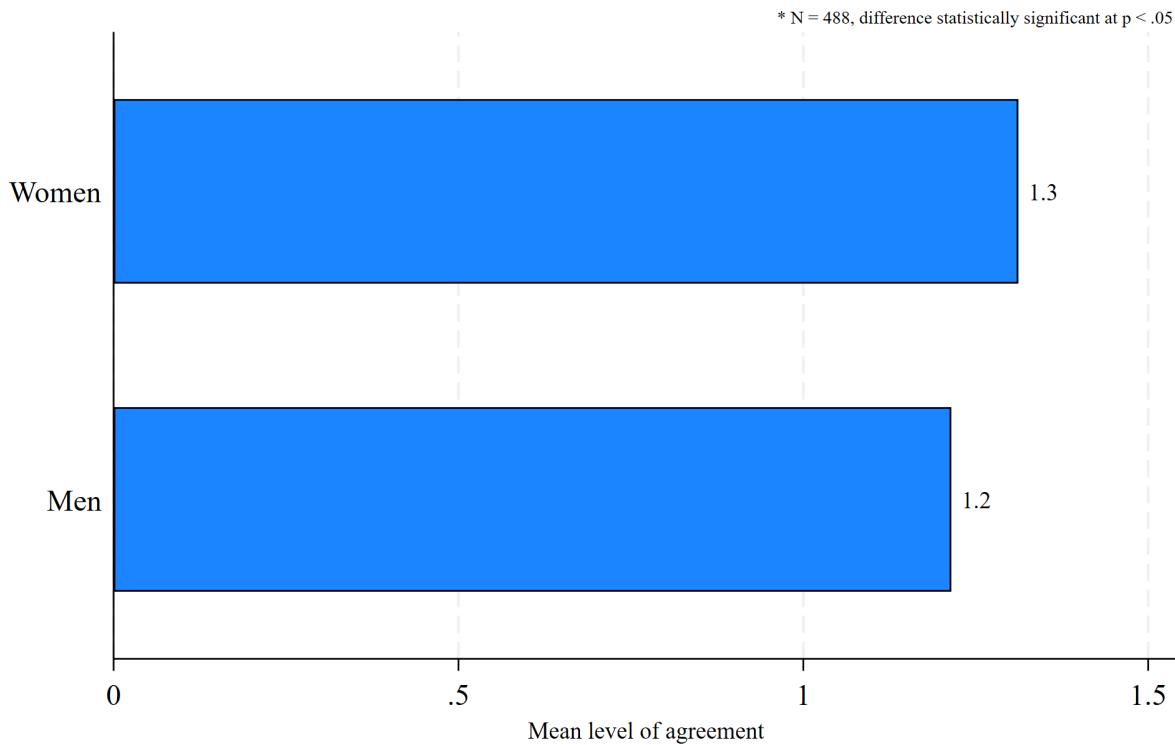


Fig 25b. Gender differences in **belief drunk driving is a problem**.

Respondents were next asked about *traffic problems* (e.g., speeding, reckless driving). Here we observed a lot more variation in perceptions. Most respondents – 47% of the sample – indicated this was somewhat of a problem in their neighborhood. Moreover, 15% said it was a serious problem. Just 38% of the sample responded “not a problem.” See Figure 26.

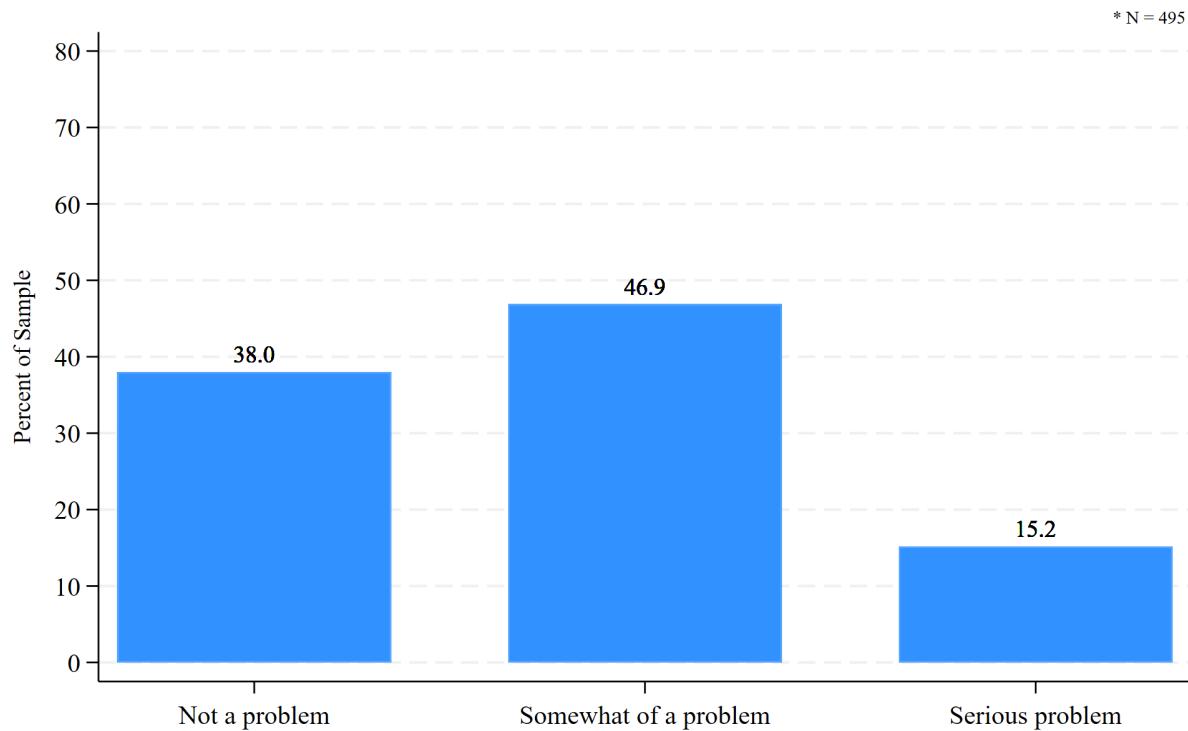


Fig 26. How much of a problem is: traffic problems (e.g., speeding, reckless driving)?

When asked about *vandalism* (e.g., *graffiti, destruction of property, etc.*), 73% of the sample said it was not a problem. Meanwhile, about 23% said it was somewhat of a problem, and roughly 3% said it was a serious problem. See Figure 27.

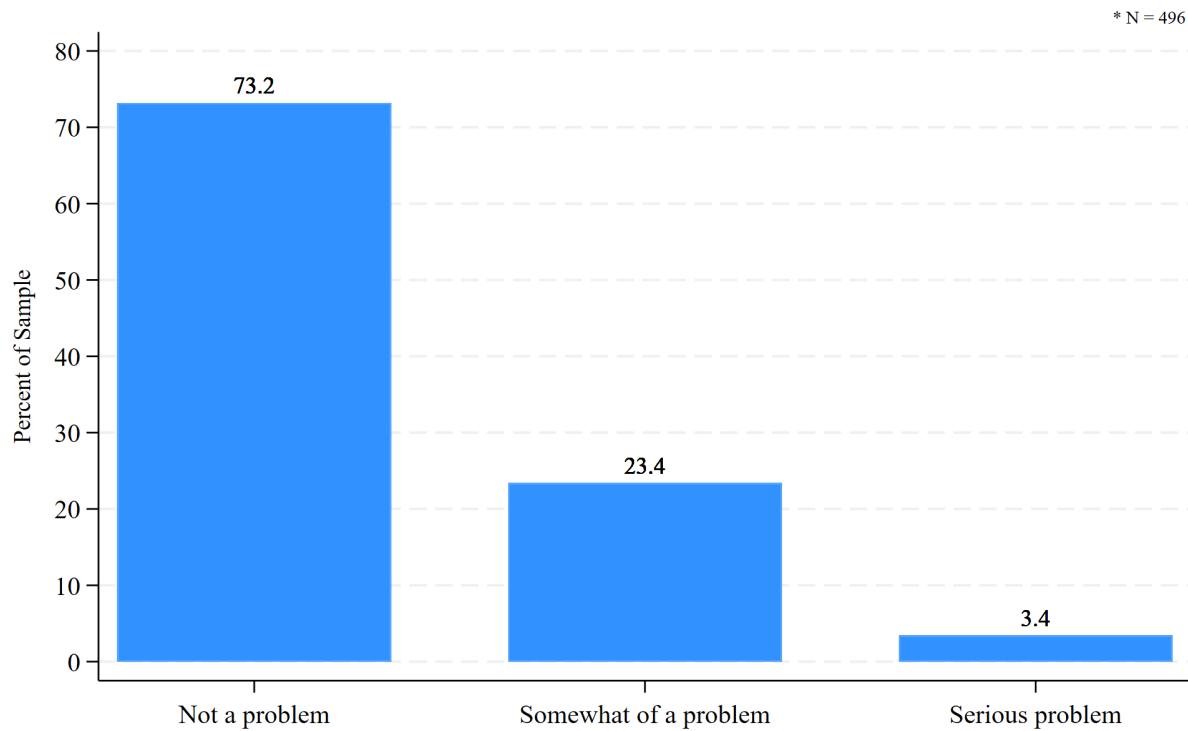


Fig 27. How much of a problem is: vandalism?

With respect to *people using/selling illegal drugs*, 87% of the sample indicated this was not a problem in their neighborhood. Meanwhile, 11% felt it was somewhat of a problem and 2.5% felt it was a serious problem. See Figure 28.

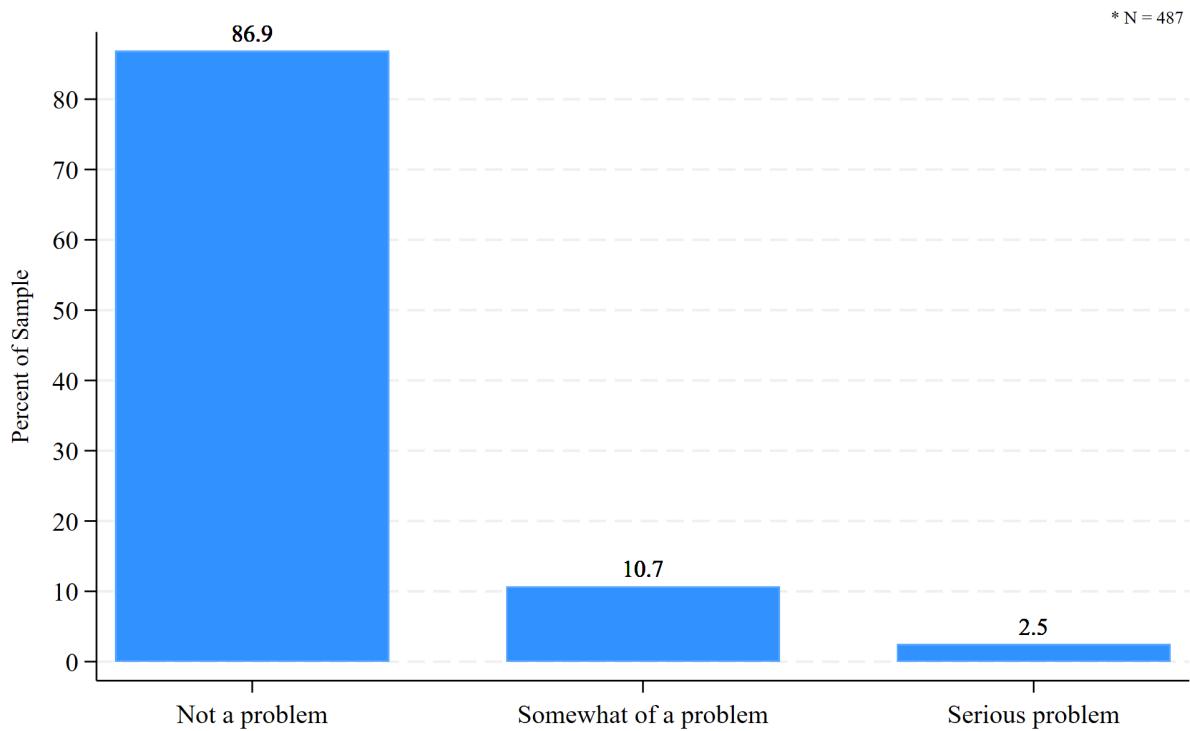


Fig 28. How much of a problem is: people using/selling illegal drugs?

When asked about *people's homes being broken into and things being stolen*, 69% of the sample said it was not a problem in their neighborhood. See Figure 29. However, 26% felt it was somewhat of a problem, and 4% felt it was a serious problem.

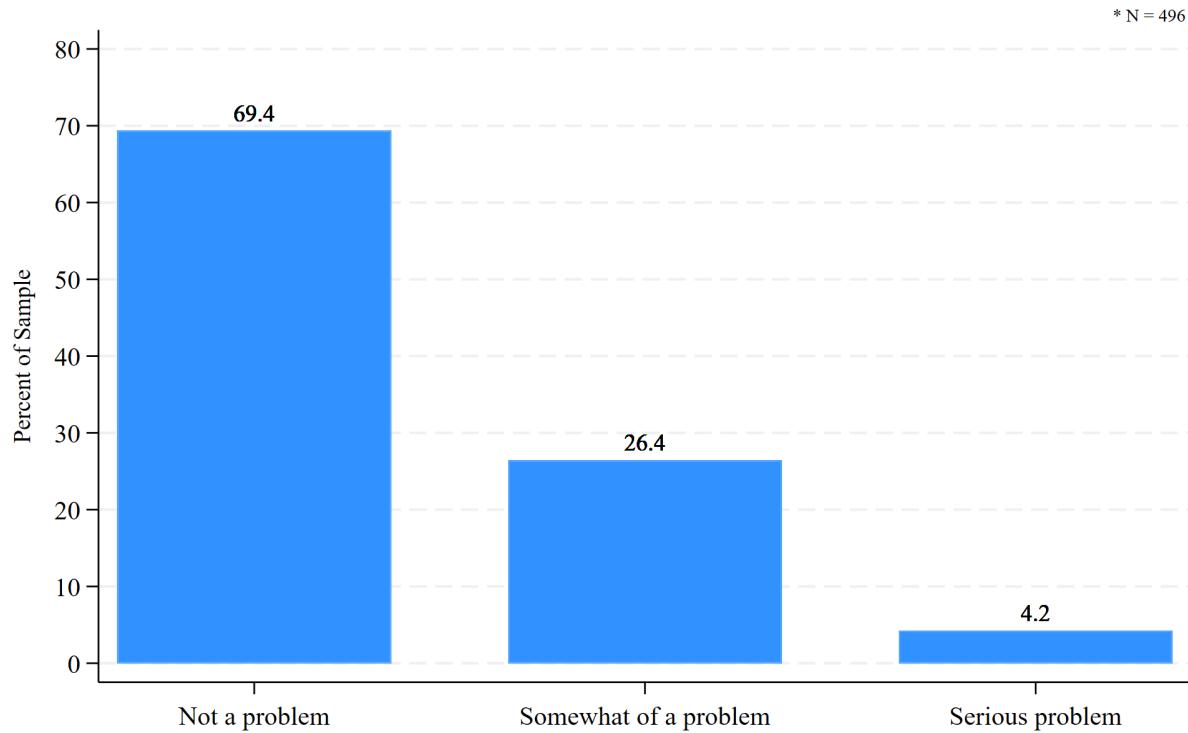


Fig 29. How much of a problem is: peoples homes being broken into and things being stolen?

The final criminal behavior we asked respondents to consider was *violence* (e.g., *homicides, shootings, robberies, assaults*). See Figure 30. Ninety percent of the sample said violence is not a problem in their neighborhood. However, nearly 8% said it was somewhat of a problem, and 2% said it was a serious problem.

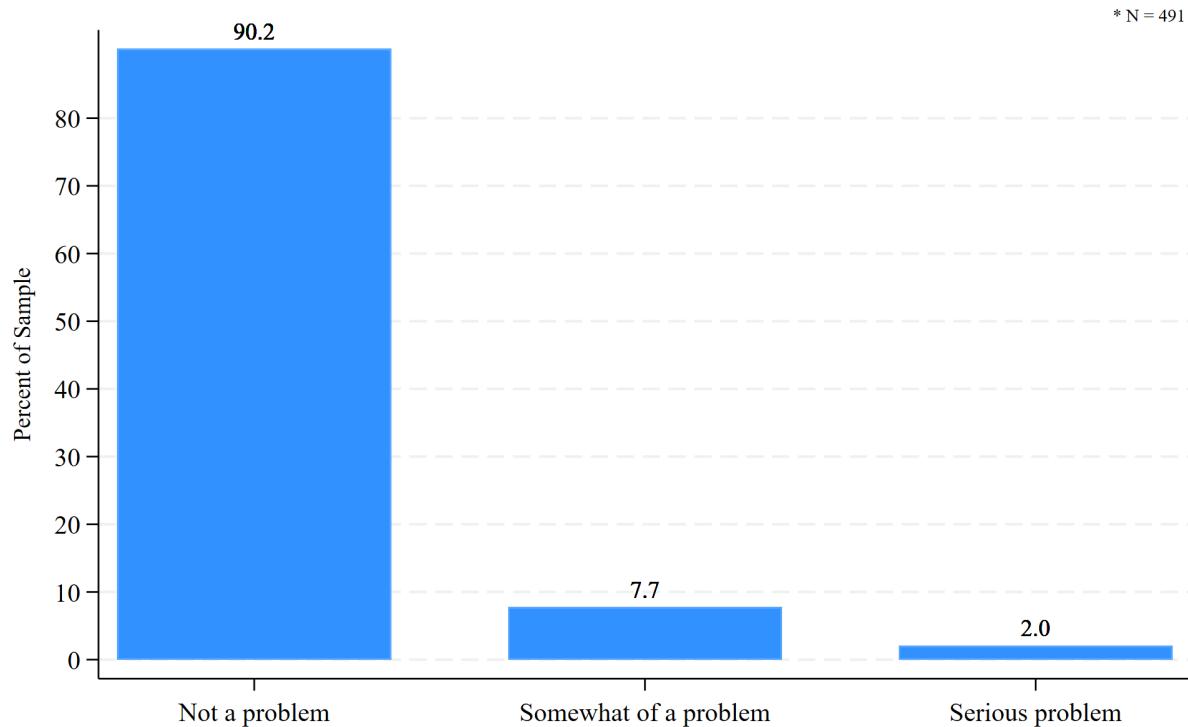
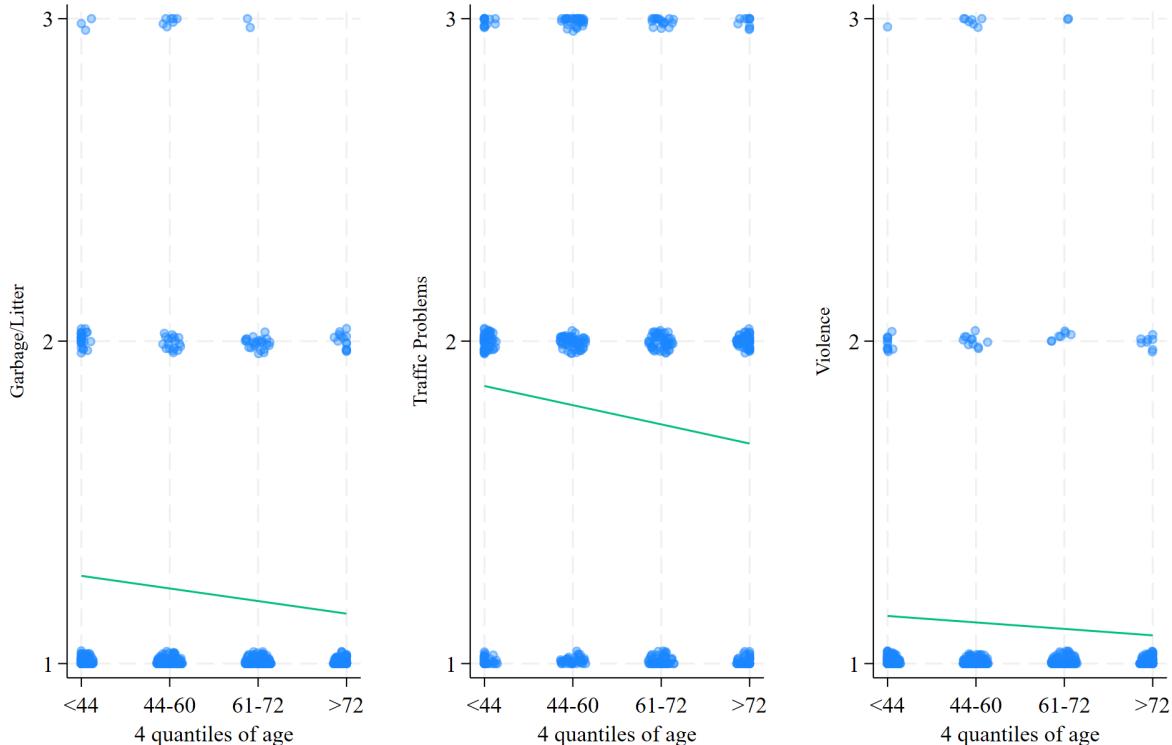


Fig 30. How much of a problem is: violence?

On three of the aforementioned questions pertaining to crime and disorder, we observed significant age variation: garbage/litter on the streets, traffic problems, and violence. Interestingly, younger respondents tended to perceive these matters as more of a problem than older respondents. See Figure 30b.

Fig 30b. Age Differences in Perceptions of Neighborhood Problems



Fear of Crime/Victimization

Next on the survey, respondents were presented with three questions meant to measure *fear of being criminally victimized*.¹² The first asked respondents how safe (1 = very safe to 4 = very unsafe) they feel (or would feel) *being alone outside in your neighborhood at night*. See Figure 31. Sixty-three percent of the sample indicated they felt, or would feel, very safe. Another 30% said they felt/would feel somewhat safe. On the other hand, 5% said they felt/would feel somewhat unsafe, and 2% said they felt/would feel very unsafe.

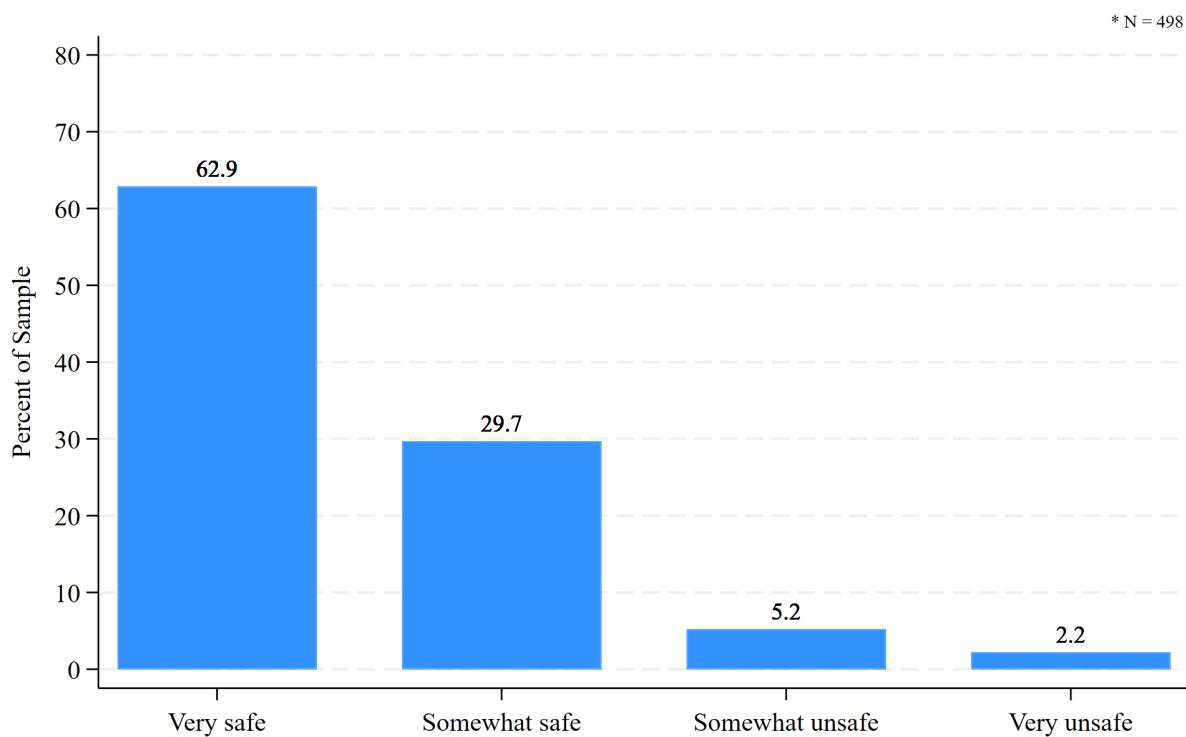


Fig 31. How safe do/would you feel being alone outside in your neighborhood at night?

¹² Ferraro, K. F. (1995). *Fear of crime: Interpreting victimization risk*. SUNY press.

On this question, we observed significant gender variation. Women in the sample were significantly more likely to report feeling unsafe alone outside at night in their neighborhoods than men. See Figure 31b.

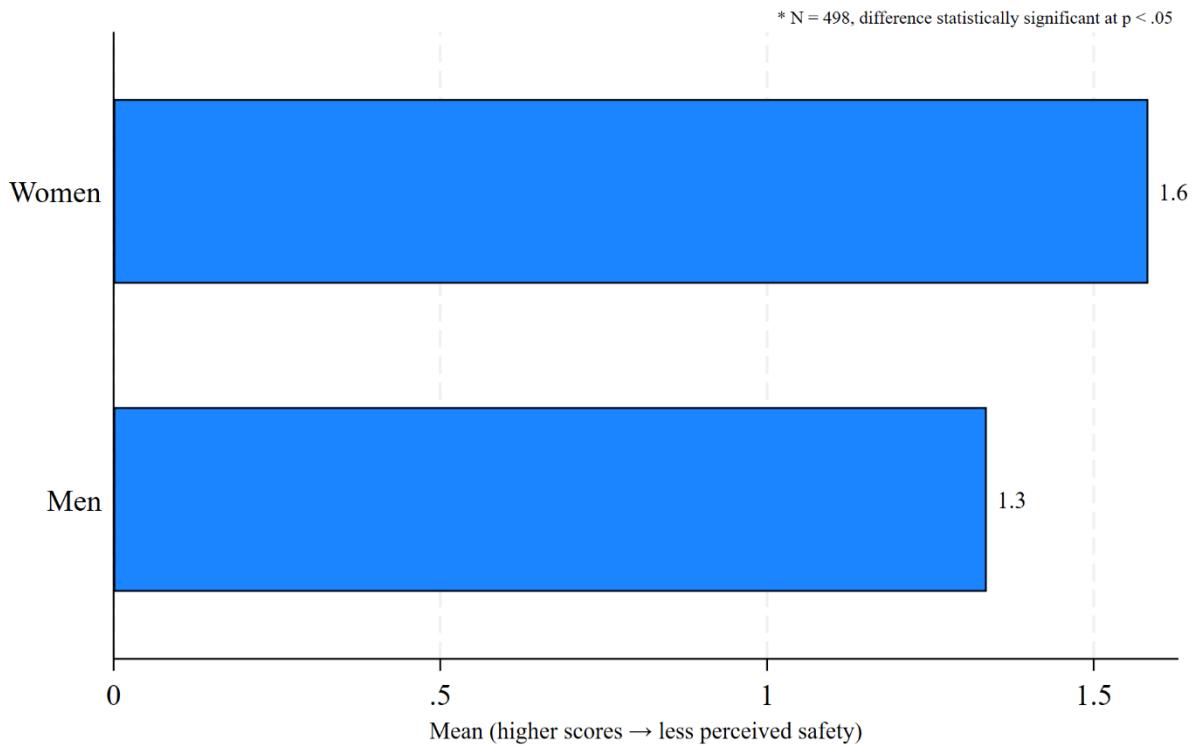


Fig 31b. Gender differences in **feeling unsafe alone outside at night in your neighborhood**.

We next asked respondents how *safe and secure you feel inside your home*. See Figure 32. Most respondents – 88% of the sample – reported feeling very safe. Another 10% reported feeling somewhat safe. Less than 2% of the sample reported feeling somewhat or very unsafe.

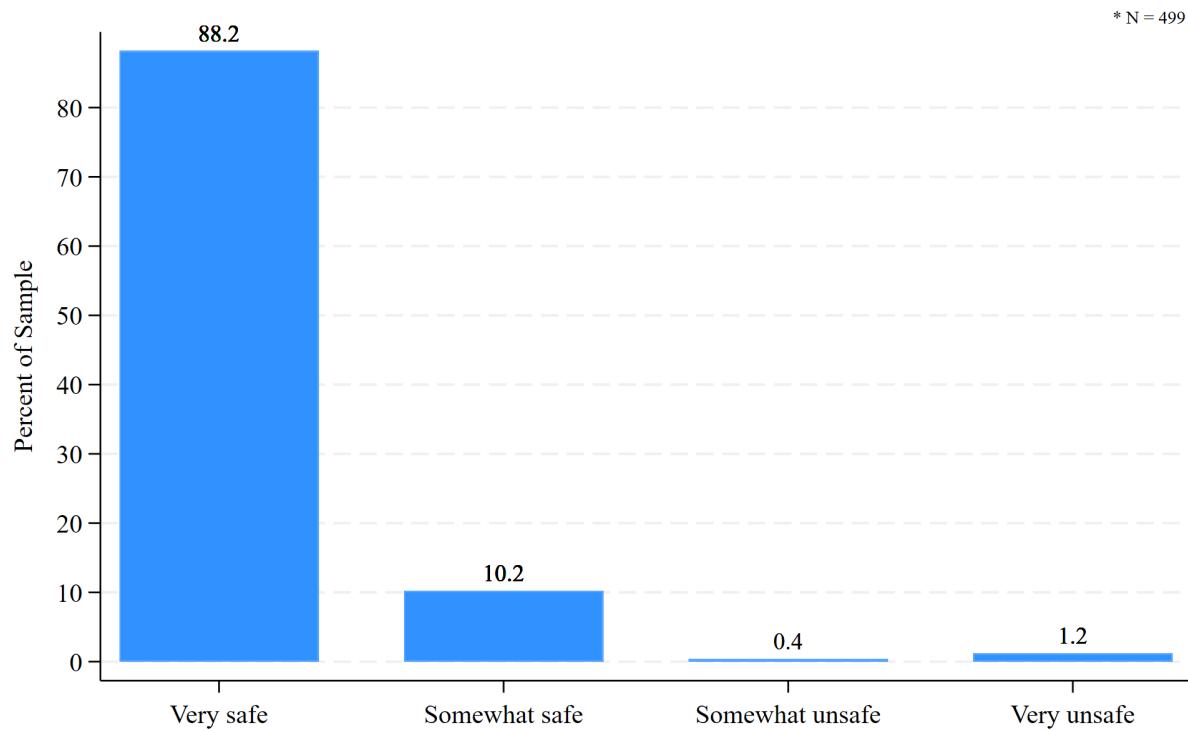


Fig 32. How safe and secure do you feel inside your home?

The final question pertaining to fear of criminal victimization asked respondents how safe they felt *living in unincorporated Douglas County*. See Figure 33. Nearly 70% indicated that they felt very safe; another 26% said they felt somewhat safe. Meanwhile, roughly 4% of the sample indicated they felt somewhat or very unsafe.

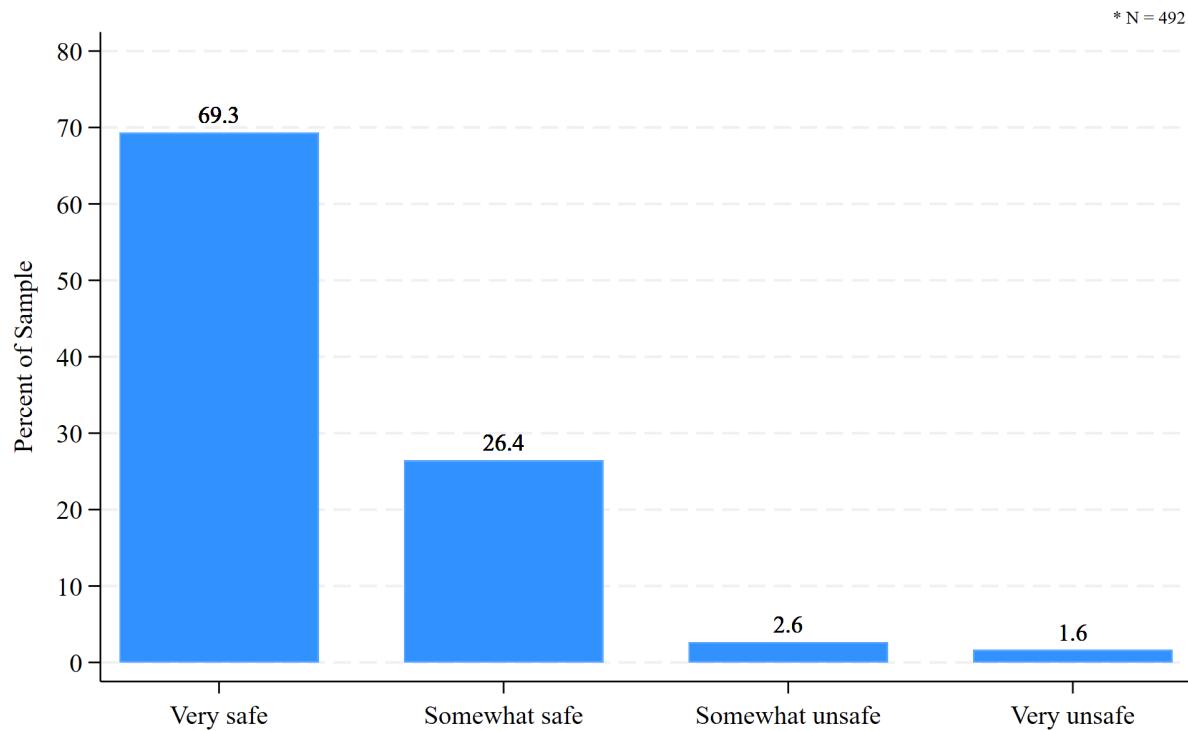


Fig 33. How safe do you feel living in unincorporated Douglas County?

Contact with DCSO in the Past 12 Months

We next asked respondents a series of questions to gauge how often they had been in contact with DCSO in the prior 12 months. When asked if they had been *pulled over by a DCSO deputy*, 97% said they had not and 3% said they had. See Figure 34. The most recent data available from the Bureau of Justice Statistics informs us that nationally, about 7% of U.S. residents age 16 or older were pulled over by police in 2020.¹³

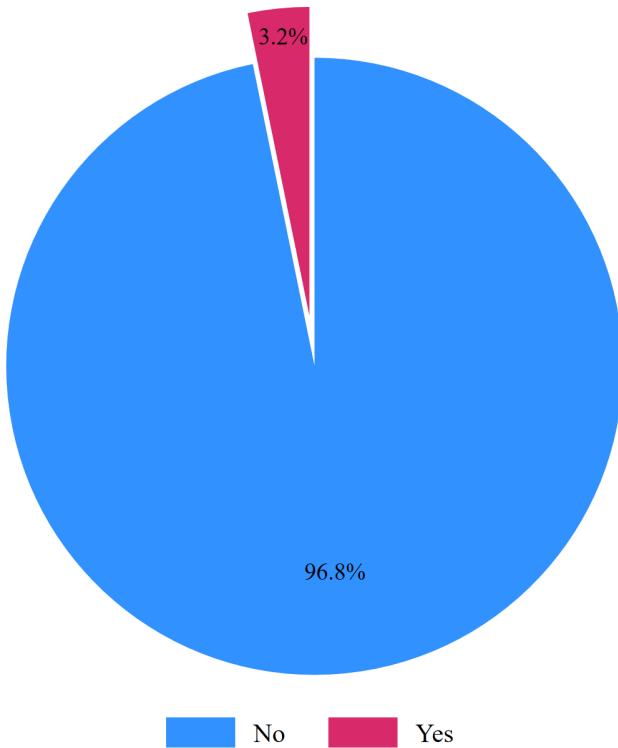


Fig 34. In the past 12 months, have you been pulled over by a DCSO deputy?

¹³ See Susannah Tapp & Elizabeth Davis (2022). *Contacts between police and the public, 2020* (NCJ 304527). Bureau of Justice Statistics. Retrieved from <https://bjs.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh236/files/media/document/cbpp20.pdf>.

When asked if they had *reported a crime, disturbance, or suspicious activity to DCSO* in the past year, 18% of the sample indicated they had and 82% indicated they had not. See Figure 35, keeping in mind that it is unknown how often respondents in the sample observed a crime, disturbance, or suspicious activity that might prompt them to consider reporting to DCSO.

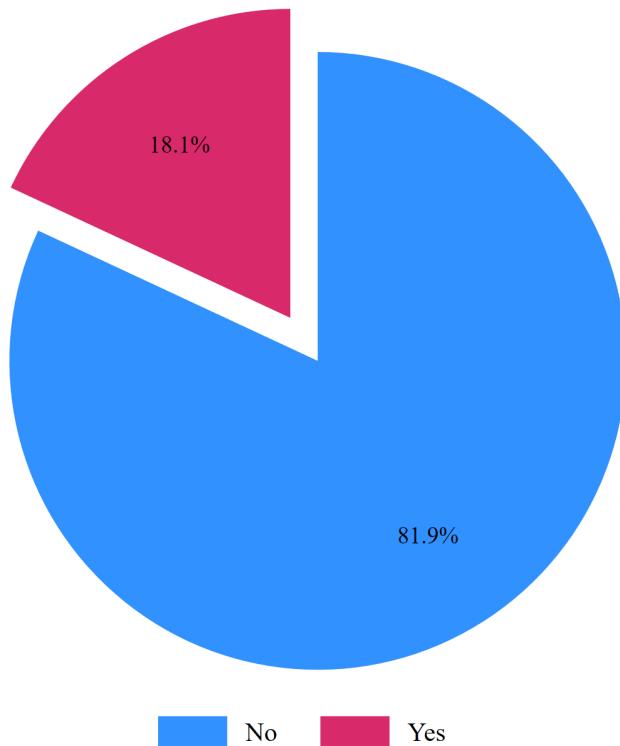


Fig 35. In the past 12 months, have you reported a crime, disturbance, or suspicious activity to DCSO?

We also asked respondents if they had *been to a Douglas County courthouse for any reason* in the prior year. About 14% of the sample said they had and 86% said they had not. See Figure 36.

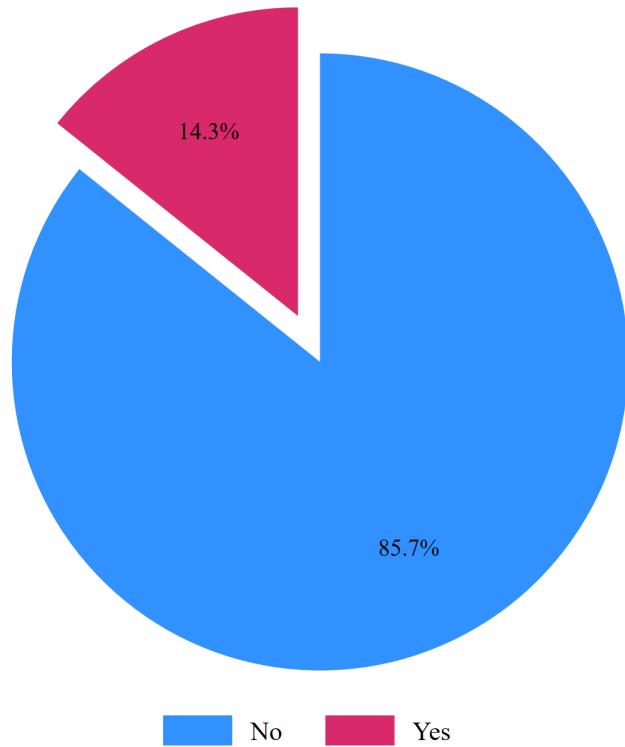


Fig 36. In the past 12 months, have you been to a Douglas County courthouse for any reason?

Perceptions of Mental Health Resources

The last survey question asked respondents: *how satisfied are you with the mental health resources provided by DCSO?* The majority of the sample – about 73% – fell into the neutral category, feeling neither satisfied nor unsatisfied. The remaining 27% of the sample were fairly evenly distributed amongst response options. While 6.5% reported feeling very satisfied, 5.2% reported feeling very unsatisfied. Similarly, though 9.7% reported feeling somewhat satisfied, 6.0% reported feeling somewhat unsatisfied. See Figure 37.

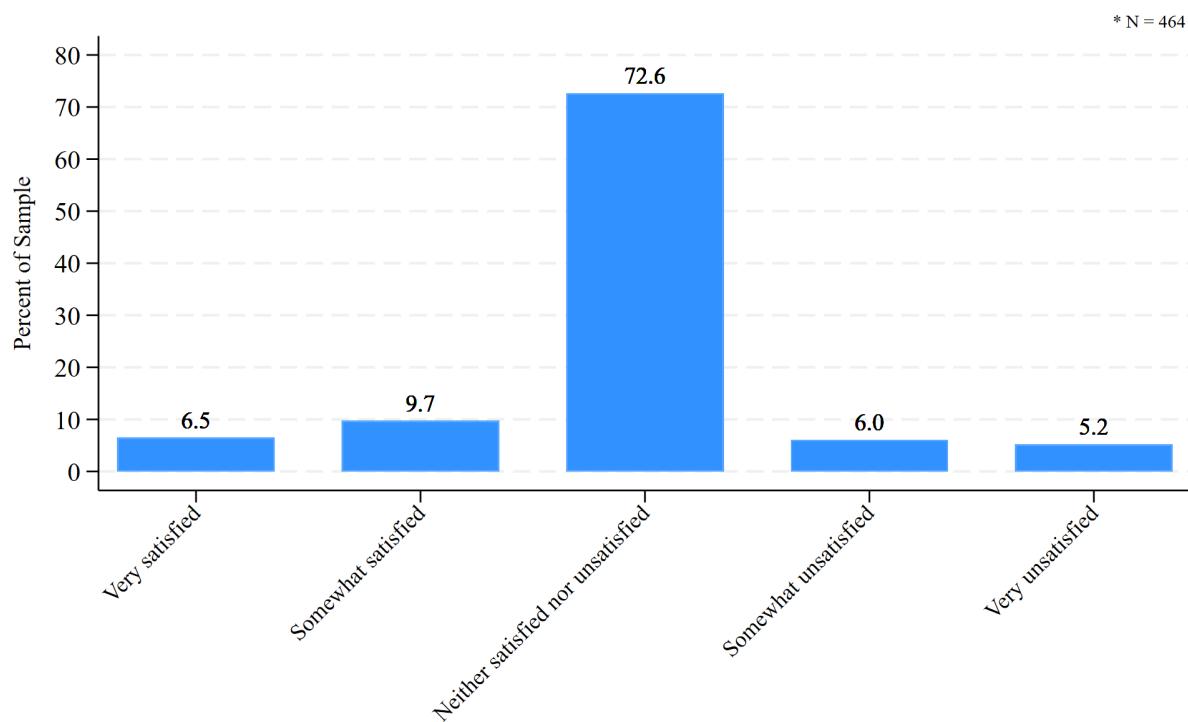


Fig 37. How satisfied are you with the mental health resources provided by DCSO?

Additional Comments

At the end of the survey, respondents were told they could write any questions, comments, or suggestions for how DCSO might improve its services in the space provided. Sixty-six respondents wrote something. We have pasted their comments below, unedited.

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Become less political. Should be a non political position. Communication and skills should be the primary reason a sheriff is elected not political party. Ensure a deep understanding of all Douglas county not just the more affluent areas. Ensure there are mental health para professionals available for those situations that need them. |
| 2 | Better enforcement of traffic laws, i.e. speeding and driving through red lights/stop signs. My observation is that traffic enforcement is pretty much non-existent. |
| 3 | My major concern is the speeding on 680 and highway 75. Would like to see that shutdown. Staffing at the DCSO is also a concern. - finding the right people, incorporating diversity and having the resources for DCSO to deal with the variety of issues they see today. |
| 4 | We have a lot of children on Bridle Path. Cars often exceed the speed limit. We in Bridle path think a speed bump or two would prevent any vehicle vs person accidents. |
| 5 | We support the blue. We are sad about the defunding across the nation. Horrible! |
| 6 | It would be great if we could have DCSO patrol Somerset park more frequently in the evenings and overnight. We have had issues with vandalism, homeless people living in tents in the trees, as well as litter and drugs. It makes me nervous to walk the trail through that park, let alone take my daughter to play at the playground. |
| 7 | Notice a increase in what appears to be drug use, especially Marijuana |
| 8 | Need a better way of finding addresses. |
| 9 | Some questions cannot be answered without previous experience with the police in such a manner, i.e. mental health services or neighborhood meeting. Perhaps a monthly or quarterly news letter/brochure could give us info about happenings and services |
| 10 | Make the intersection of 204 and Q street safer. Not sure if that pertains to policing red light runners or redesign through civil engineering, but dangerous T-bone accidents with cars going very fast occur at least a couple of times per year. |
| 11 | The area has a serious problem with car break-ins and with 4 wheelers and golf carts roaming the streets and sidewalks. |
| 12 | Have a 24 hour phone number to report non-emergencies where timely response is important such as disturbing the peace. |
| 13 | Crack down on kids driving golf carts in the neighborhood. It's only a matter of time that something bad will happen. This should be the responsibility of parents but some don't seem to realize the danger posed by kids driving on public streets. |

| | |
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| 14 | More visibility in the suburbs would be helpful in deterring crime. |
| 15 | Repeat offenders seem to be an issue when pertaining specifically to DUI incidents |
| 16 | I understand the DCSO is running into a short-staffed situation now and many safety issues can't be addressed until we have sufficient number of law enforcement officers. Therefore, it is also challenging to improve DCSO current employees' service quality, safety training, and their understanding of equity and literacy through additional training considering their busy schedule. It is a social issue that needs more than the government and law enforcement agencies' efforts. |
| 17 | This survey has a problematic issue in that only one question has a neutral position. Either very good/ good or bad/very bad are offered as the only choices. There is no choice to indicate that a question does not apply in the experience of the person taking this survey, so it skews the outcome. |
| 18 | -Public engagement is always a way to create positive relationships with the community. Being a positive public presence is important, especially if that interaction could start with kids like as an SRO in schools or booths at farmers markets. -Having a good social media presence is also a necessary evil, but makes a big difference in the digital age. -There is never "too much" when it comes to mental health services in the community. -Transparency is king. |
| 19 | There should have been a "not applicable" answer choice. Unanswered questions fell in to this category - they were not answered due to being uncomfortable giving an answer. |
| 20 | Be transparent about what improvements are being made to break down systemic racism including what deputies have been discharged for racist behavior and speech. Publicly praise deputies who call out racism within their ranks and take a stand against the racism of their coworkers. Have a zero tolerance policy and make sure their constituents see the change. |
| 21 | Your officers select when they want to enforce the laws I was told by a deputy they don't police traffic in neighborhoods because it upsets people Have been lied to by deputy Have tried to complain about students and parent ripping through the neighborhood in the morning but they don't care and don't want to upset people |
| 22 | Thank you for your service! |
| 23 | None - I think they do a good job & appreciate their service. |
| 24 | Survey could use "n/a" options on some questions as I haven't had experiences for some of these |
| 25 | Difficult for me to answer most of these as I have not had to deal with DCSO. Which is a good thing! I'm just unhappy with the shootings on a regular basis. I also believe that texting while driving needs to be a first offense- I see it all the time. |
| 26 | I would like to see more community engagement with teens in the NW Omaha. I feel that may help curb the mischief (especially at Village Point)if they realize that there are |

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| | consequences for poor behavior. I would also suggest going into the schools & connecting with the adults. |
| 27 | I see on Nextdoor that people/kids just work the neighborhoods looking for unlocked cars to steal from. A) Seems like with the amount of territory they have to cover - and the lack of any other activity - can't there be something done to deal with this and B) I guess when they are arrested it's "non-violent / underage / property crime" with little/no penalty? Can something be done - by us - via new laws? (Fly drones over neighborhoods from 0000-0500 looking for cars driving 5mph thru neighborhood??) |
| 28 | I live in a neighborhood with lot of teenagers and hence new drivers. They drive recklessly and have seen them argue impolitely when other neighbors point it out. Social media is full of reports people report and discuss. I believe there is no "legal" option to stop this unsafe behavior. I have little kids 8 and 10 and they won't feel safe walking or biking in the neighborhood. |
| 29 | What is up with the cameras? Who put them in? Is anyone watching? Have they helped? |
| 30 | -Have noticed quick responses with accidents -Patrol the main streets around west O often -were courteous and understanding but strict of rules when I was pulled over. Professional. Let me off with a warning for going a bit too fast but then citing me for not having plates registered (I had known they were due.. just had no money at the time to pay for the registration) |
| | Excuse the bad grammar. Trying to type this with a toddler climbing on me. |
| 31 | Perfect the way it is. |
| 32 | I appreciate Sheriff Hanson's willingness to go on KFAB and be interviewed about all kinds of things that impact public safety in Douglas County. He always sounds knowledgeable of details surrounding the situation(s), seems to take a very measured response that tries to find solutions by working with any agency that can help the community and the offender/homeless to get to a better life. |
| 33 | DCSO are crooks. They false report activity, causing people like myself to spend thousands on legal expenses to prove them wrong. DCSO, OPD, and the county courts are an absolute fucking joke. |
| 34 | People are really driving too fast & recklessly on McKinley which is Highway 36. I feel like the DCSO does a really good job! Thanks for this survey. |
| 35 | Neighborhoods need to be monitored more between 12:00am and 5:00am a lot of car break-ins in the neighborhood and no police monitoring at all....some sort of sting should be set up to catch these thugs nothings been done!! |
| 36 | We have a well-known drug dealer in our neighborhood, and I've heard that the DCSO has been compiling a case against her for quite some time. It's very obvious that she's dealing out of her home. I wish that she would be arrested soon. |
| 37 | Track and ticket speeders! Seems like everyone drives above limit! 😊 |

- 38** Patrolling in the neighborhoods, we rarely see any law enforcement. Vehicles speed on 154th Ave all day, I'm concern a kid will be critically injured or killed. Are speed bumps an option or is there nothing that can be done?
- 39** Seems like they take a long time to respond to non emergency calls
- 40** It would be helpful if they have their lights on when they hide at night if the intention is to make a traffic stop. The park they hide in is a public park and now that it's getting darker earlier it's hard to see them. I'm concerned someone is going to pull into the park and not see them and hit them on accident.
- 41** Car thefts and vandalism are the biggest issue. People frequently walk through the neighborhood check cars to see if they are unlocked and stealing them or out of them. Also there are not enough mental health resources in general in Nebraska especially Omaha.
- 42** Home Alarm Response
- 43** Prosecute trespassing as attempted burglary. Find them and charge them. Use DNA if necessary. DNA is sometimes offered but DCSO doesn't care about it. Let them go until they kill someone or get killed. 40 hours mandatory community service for ding dong ditchers AND their neglectful parents. Crime is out of control and DCSO is doing absolutely nothing to reduce it. They don't take crime seriously until someone dies or gets hurt. It should never get to that point. Speeding and running red lights is out of control as well. Had to sell my motorcycle or I'd be dead.
- 44** Collaborate with Omaha Scanner to show how different scenarios are approached within the community and what the consequences would be (drunk driver pulled over, car burglar apprehended, store robber caught). Something similar to the Sheriff that went to the Millard and encampment and the sensitivity and concern he showed. Much of the community uses social media and representation is big way to exhibit action and protect
- 45** concerned about Trump signs, NRA signs (Q4E), and cars broken into (Q5D)
- 46** concerned about rentals and trailer park (Q4E)
- 47** Suggestions: set up speed traps on busy streets (expressway, pacific st, center st, etc.), patrol areas frequently, get involved in HOA disputes rather than suggesting counseling. I believe the people living at The Villas at The Grove are in serious jeopardy of losing their rights as members of the HOA because: 1) Anyone who opposes what board members are doing are punished (i.e., receive no lawn care, can't serve on committees on the board, hints to move out, treated very badly and don't get their questions answered) 2) People here have no power and are losing our right to vote. The board makes it very difficult for people to view Association books, records, and documents; sometimes having to wait months and years. When we do vote it is done and counted secretly and I believe dishonestly. 3) Board members are vicious, twist the truth, secretive, lack morals, don't obey our covenants and by-laws, make up their own policies, punishments, and plans without the vote of the people. They have plans to keep increasing association fees a lot. Conclusions: There is a conspiracy going on here with gang activity and supporters within this community. It won't stop until it is overthrown. I tried to get help from DCS and was told to seek counseling. I

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| | am now involved at the NEOC on a discrimination charge against them but the problems are much greater than that. I am now considering contacting the FBI unless the DCS will investigate. Note: Many people living here don't have a clue what's happening. 2/3 of the people are very elderly. The rest are either working with families or working singles. The only people who show up for annual meetings are the board members (or the gang) plus their supporters. Most people don't pay attention to what's going on or they have given up because people aren't listened to here. These kind of board members are what gives HOA's a BAD name. |
| 48 | Should have a no opinion or NA for question |
| 49 | 192nd & Harrison - could you please patrol and monitor this area on Fri and Sat nights - speeding and racing serious problem - sounds like the Indy 500 - Thanks for all you do! |
| 50 | More of the questions should have an "in-between" response. Example: #3 I don't know |
| 51 | no problems in neighborhood so difficult to answer questions |
| 52 | Suggestions: New electronic speed sensors expect 15mph about a block and a half from the roundabout. Snow removal is great. Parking on Somerset between 84th and Wenninghoff should be monitored. So many vehicles parked on both sides of street even though driveways are empty, it is disrespectful to neighborhood drivers, emergency vehicles, and snow removal that use route to enter/exit neighborhood. Other comments: Not looking forward to Apt complex without turning lanes or traffic light indicators to turn onto Wenninghoff from Sorenson. Need right turning lane on IDA for turning right onto Blairhigh Road. Somerset park improvements are wonderful. Looking forward to sidewalk completion towards Cunningham Lake / State street. |
| 53 | We moved to Bennington from NE IA Oct 30, 2022. We have had no experience with police or problems. The only complaints: 1) Property tax way too high / we are seniors. 2) All of the dogs and lack of cleaning up after them - no respect in regards to our property from too many dog owners. 3) So many dogs allowed in stores and restaurants - are they service dogs? We don't think so... There should be identifying harness etc. if they are service animals. 4) In the spring some kids damaged a playground in our neighborhood... East of 147th and Mormon. Graffiti - Also very mouthy! I also came upon kids throwing rocks at a house. I told them to quit it! |
| 54 | The biggest problem we have is teenagers from The Preserve at the Farm racing their ATVs through our neighborhood and our forest/private wooded area. We have tried everything to stop it but have been unsuccessful. I believe there should be laws that prevent the children/tweens/etc. from driving these vehicles. It is VERY dangerous for all involved. |
| 55 | The roving bands of young men that prey on our subdivisions EVERY night MUST be dealt with. I will never feel safe until they are stopped. |
| 56 | Be more visible in neighborhood |
| 57 | I called DCSO because I was scammed in January. I called the non-emergency number to report the crime. They were very professional - taking down the phone numbers they used to contact me, as well as an address where they wanted me to send money (I didn't). I |

| | |
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| | would suggest advertising the non-emergency number more (maybe sending out flyers) with examples of when to call this number (and not 911). The only reason I knew of the non-emergency number is because I know OPD has one. |
| 58 | I have only lived in Omaha for a little over a year. Some answers are based on the short time we have lived here. |
| 59 | We need more visual patrols mostly non-existent out here. |
| 60 | Our neighbor, a year or two ago had an exchange student staying with them. One day he was taking pictures in the neighborhood. It is my understanding that someone called the sheriff to come and investigate a suspicious person in the area. My neighbor was upset because her guest was treated with disrespect by the officers who made assumptions about him possibly due to his color and ethnicity. He continued to explain who he was, why he was there and the names of his hosts in the neighborhood. he repeatedly asked the officers to call his host to clear up the misunderstanding. Reluctantly, they finally called, and my neighbor was able to explain who the young man was. I hope since that time, officers now receive thorough training in conducting such investigations that would include assuming the person is telling the truth and following up on their story before jumping to other conclusions. Otherwise the sheriffs are helpful when called with accident or nuisance reports. |
| 61 | Whoever started moving these low income people out west - that's when more crime started happening all over. I see it in the next door apt and talking with other people. Agenda 21 is being implemented out west and that's when all these nice areas/homes started to get more and more crime. Stop paying women to have babies they don't want - all they want is a paycheck. There are no dads, just baby daddies. Its disgusting. They don't work, they collect a check from the government and then we all suffer cause their undisciplined brats steal, vandalize and wreak havoc in our once nice neighborhood. Liberal policies are to blame for the downfall of our societies! |
| 62 | Answered questions not necessarily neighborhood related since people in the country do not have a neighborhood |
| 63 | I don't have much experience with DCSD lately. I did foster care for 25yrs for teenagers. Many officers have been here for runaways. They were professional. I feel I would not know how to contact them easily. |
| 64 | In our residential area the Omaha Police have a stronger profile than DCSD. Not a complaint, just a fact. |
| 65 | I have had no experience with the Douglas County Sheriffs Office |
| 66 | Get rid of city wolf |

Appendix: The Survey

Title of this Research Study

2023 Survey of Douglas County Residents

Dear Resident of Douglas County,

You have been randomly selected to participate in the **2023 Survey of Douglas County Residents** being conducted by researchers at the University of Nebraska Omaha. The survey asks questions about your opinion of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office (DCSO). **We ask that the adult from your household with the most recent birthday complete the survey.** The informed consent form for the survey is below. When you are ready to begin the survey, please turn the page. When you are finished, please return the survey using the enclosed postage-paid envelope. If you prefer, you can complete the survey using the QR code below:



Taking part in this study is completely voluntary. The survey is confidential and does not ask for your name. By completing this survey, you agree to take part in this research study. You do not have to answer any questions that make you uncomfortable. If you decide to be in this study, you may stop taking part at any time. If you have any questions, concerns, or complaints about the research study, please contact the principal investigator at jnix@unomaha.edu.

There are no known risks for your participation in this research study. Although the information collected may not benefit you directly, findings from this study will help the DCSO improve. Your completed survey will be stored in a locked file cabinet that only the researchers will be able to access. The survey should take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

Sincerely,

Justin Nix

Justin Nix, PhD
Associate Professor
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
University of Nebraska at Omaha

| | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. How good or bad is the Douglas County Sheriff's Office at... | Very bad | Bad | Good | Very good |
| Fighting crime? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Apprehending dangerous high-risk/repeat offenders? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Dealing with problems that occur in your neighborhood? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Being visible on the streets? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Being available when you need them? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. How likely would you be to... | Very unlikely | Unlikely | Likely | Very likely |
| Call the DCSO to report a crime or suspicious activity? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Call the DCSO to report an accident? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Work with the DCSO to identify a person who has committed a crime in your neighborhood? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Attend a meeting of residents in your neighborhood to discuss crime prevention? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Generally speaking, DCSO deputies... | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly agree |
| Have the skills necessary to do their job. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Are active in positive community engagement activities. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Treat people with respect. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Give people a chance to tell their side of the story before deciding how to handle a situation. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Deliver different outcomes based on a person's demographic background (e.g., race, gender identity, or sexual orientation). | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Please indicate the extent that you agree or disagree with the following statements. | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly agree |
| People in my neighborhood can be trusted. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| People around here are willing to help their neighbors. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| I live in a close-knit neighborhood. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| People in my neighborhood generally do not get along with each other. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| People in my neighborhood do not share the same values. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| 5. Please indicate how much of a problem the following matters are <u>in your neighborhood</u> : | Not a problem | Somewhat of a problem | Serious problem |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Garbage/litter on or along the streets | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Drunk drivers on the road | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Traffic problems (e.g., speeding, reckless driving) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Vandalism (e.g., graffiti, destruction of property, etc.) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| People using/selling illegal drugs | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| People's homes being broken into and things being stolen | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Violence (e.g., homicides, shootings, robberies, assaults) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

6. How safe do you feel, or would you feel, being alone outside in your neighborhood at night?

- Very safe
- Somewhat safe
- Somewhat unsafe
- Very unsafe

7. How safe and secure do you feel inside your home?

- Very safe
- Somewhat safe
- Somewhat unsafe
- Very unsafe

8. Generally speaking, how safe do you feel living in unincorporated Douglas County (i.e., outside of Omaha city limits)?

- Very safe
- Somewhat safe
- Somewhat unsafe
- Very unsafe

9. In the past 12 months, have you been pulled over by a DCSO deputy while driving a motor vehicle?

- Yes
- No

10. In the past 12 months, have you reported any kind of crime, disturbance, or suspicious activity to DCSO?

- Yes
- No

11. In the past 12 months, have you been to a Douglas County Courthouse for any reason?

- Yes
- No

12. How satisfied are you with the mental health resources provided by DCSO?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied
- Unsatisfied
- Very unsatisfied

The survey is almost complete. This final set of questions is only to ensure that residents from different backgrounds have been included in the survey.

13. How do you identify?

- Man
- Non-binary
- Woman
- Prefer to self-describe: _____

14. In what year were you born?

Please write your 4-digit birth year (YYYY): _____

15. Are you Hispanic or Latino origin or descent?

- Yes, Hispanic or Latino
- No, not Hispanic or Latino

16. What race do you consider yourself?

- White
- Black or African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Other (*please specify*): _____

17. What is the highest level of formal education that you have completed?

- Less than high school degree
- High school degree
- Some college
- Technical degree or associate degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Graduate degree

18. In which neighborhood do you reside? _____

This is the end of the survey. Thank you for participating!

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for how DCSO might improve its services, please write them in the space below/on the back of this page.