



THE NCSTM

THE NATIONAL COMMUNITY SURVEYTM

Richmond, VA

The National Community SurveyTM

2026 Results



Civic Communication & Analytics Platform

Polco unites people, data, and government to help communities thrive through informed decisions.



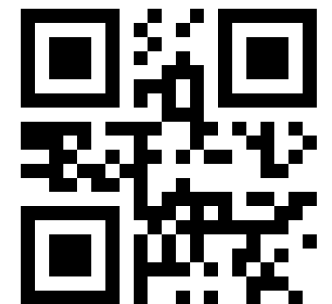
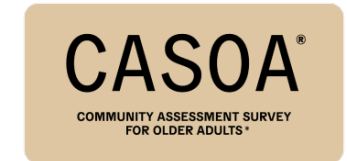
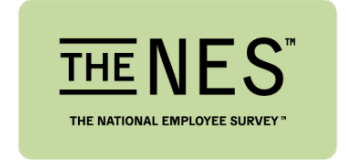
Advanced Survey Science and Performance Analytics

Polco's internal think tank, backed by 30 years of benchmark survey expertise, delivering trusted insights.



Trusted Budget Tools

Provides budget insights through interactive simulations and transparent insights.



Facets of Community Livability



Economy



Mobility



Community Design & Housing



Utilities



Safety



Natural Environment



Parks & Recreation



Health & Wellness

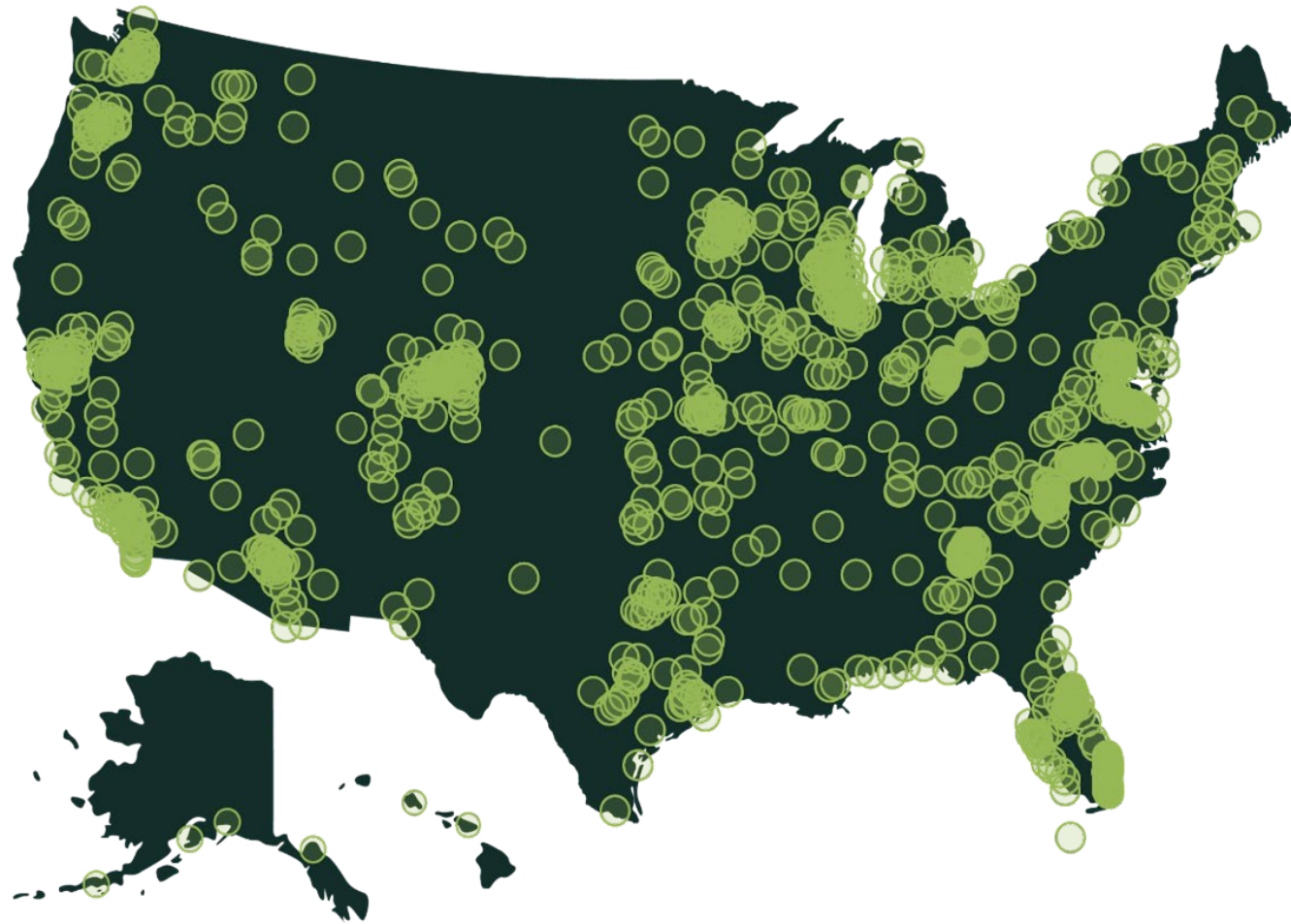


Education, Arts, & Culture



Community Connection

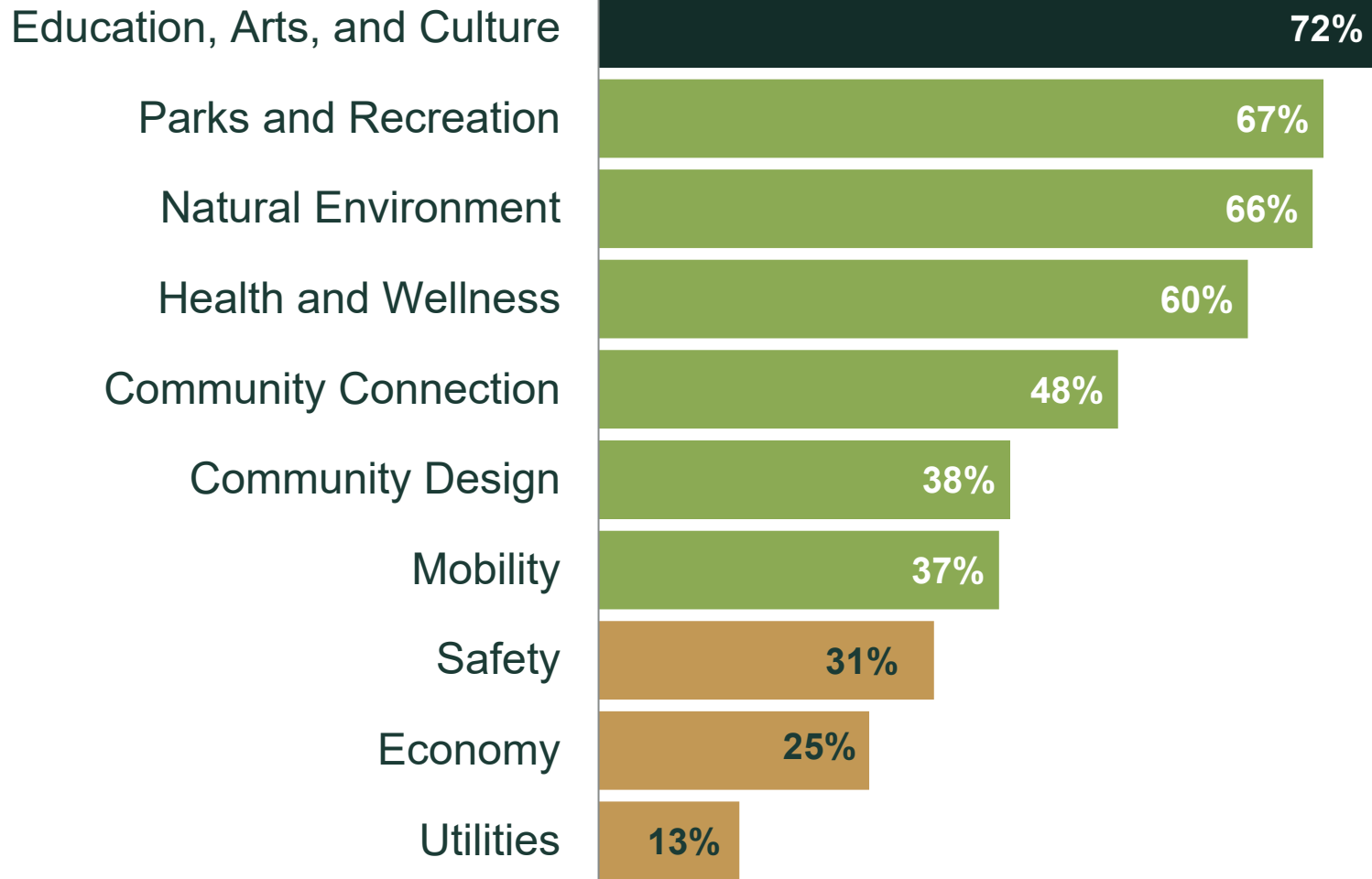
Polco's Benchmarking Database



About
400
comparison
communities
across the
nation.

Representing
the opinions
of more than
50 million
residents.

Facets of Community Livability: Quality



Custom Benchmark

-  Higher
-  Similar
-  Much Lower

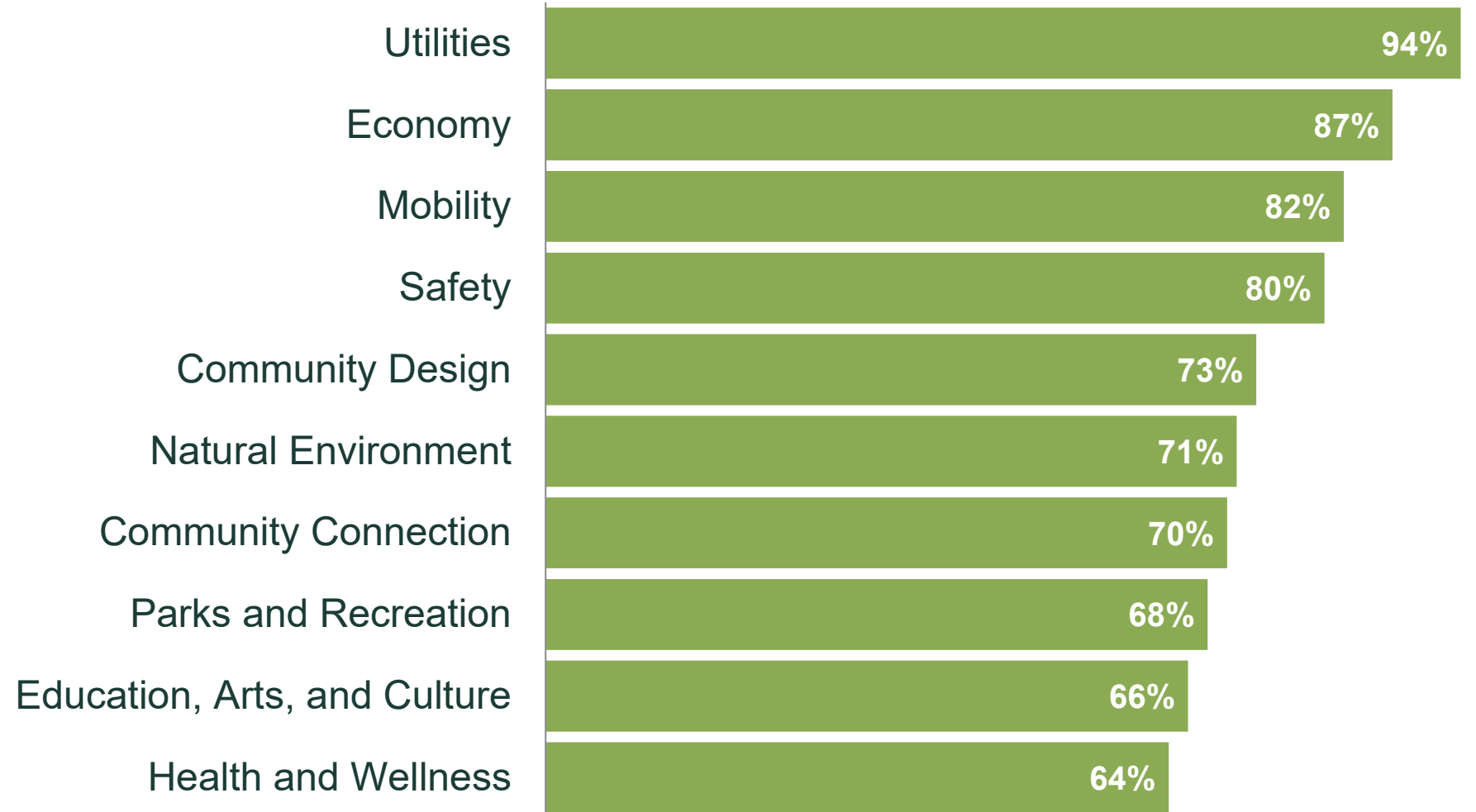
Percent excellent or good

Facets of Community Livability: Importance



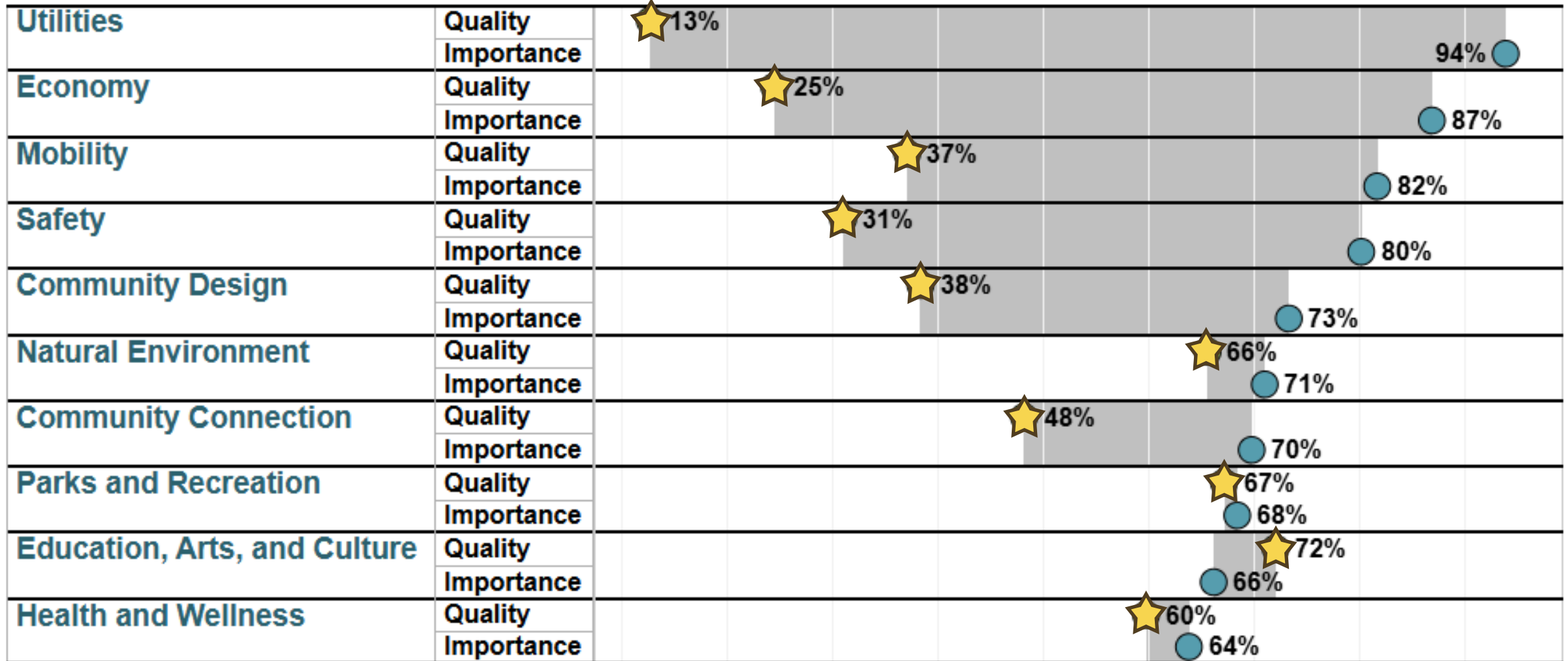
Custom Benchmark

■ **Similar**



Percent essential or very important

Balancing Quality and Importance



★ Quality

■ Importance



Comparisons to Custom Benchmarks

4 received **higher** ratings

68 received **similar** ratings

51 received **lower** ratings



Comparisons to Previous Survey (2021)



6 received **higher** ratings

84 received **similar** ratings

33 received **lower** ratings



Summary of Findings

- **Community members generally viewed Richmond positively as a place to live and stay long term**
- **Ratings for cultural amenities and community events were strong, while perceptions of K-12 education lagged behind benchmarks**
- **Residents report strong perceptions of daytime safety and fire-related services, while crime-related safety and some public safety services present opportunities for improvement**
- **While business and shopping opportunities received moderate ratings, affordability remained a challenge for many residents**
- **Community character and public spaces were rated more favorably than residential and commercial growth**
- **Mobility ratings were strongest for travel by car, while some transportation and mobility services received lower ratings**

Thank you!

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