

Seniors' Perception Study 1991 - 2012

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Seniors Advisory Panel
May 6, 2013

CGS Seniors Advisory Panel

Mandate:

- To promote, maintain and enhance seniors' quality of life in the City of Greater Sudbury through consultation, education, advice and advocacy;
- To advise and respond to requests by the Mayor and Council on seniors' issues, and to promote the development of a continuum of services for seniors.

CGS Seniors Advisory Panel

Primary Objectives:

- To address the needs of an aging population through research, consultation and providing advise on policy development;
- To ensure that seniors are actively involved in planning for seniors;
- To respond to requests from the Mayor and Council on matters relating to seniors;
- To enhance the sense of self-worth of seniors in order to maximize their contribution to society.

Seniors' Perception Study

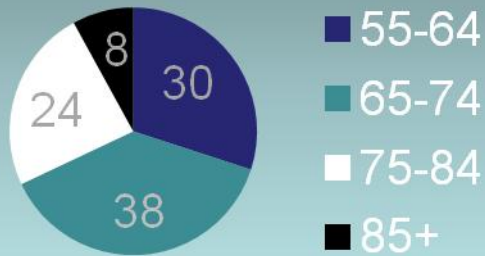
- In 1991, the Regional Municipality of Sudbury conducted a Seniors' Perception Study to determine the degree of awareness about community services and the level of satisfaction with seniors' services in the community.
- A 20 year follow-up survey was commissioned with the same questions and new questions were included to help form a work plan.

Methodology

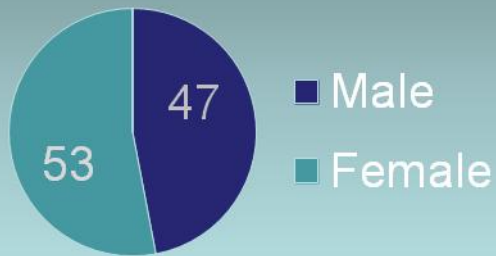
- 600 residents were interviewed with a total of 50 respondents being interviewed in each of the City's 12 Wards.
- Respondents refusing the telephone option were provided the option of completing the questionnaire online.
- Interviews were conducted between December 12th and December 19th, 2012.

2012 Survey Demographics

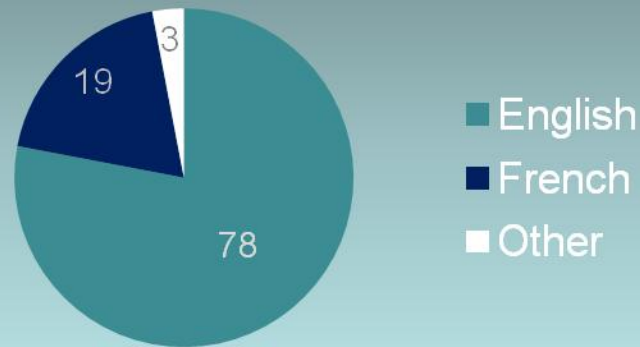
Age



Gender

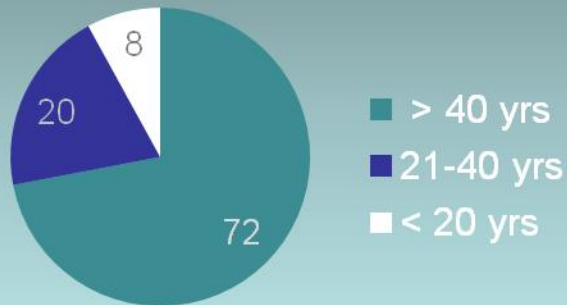


Language

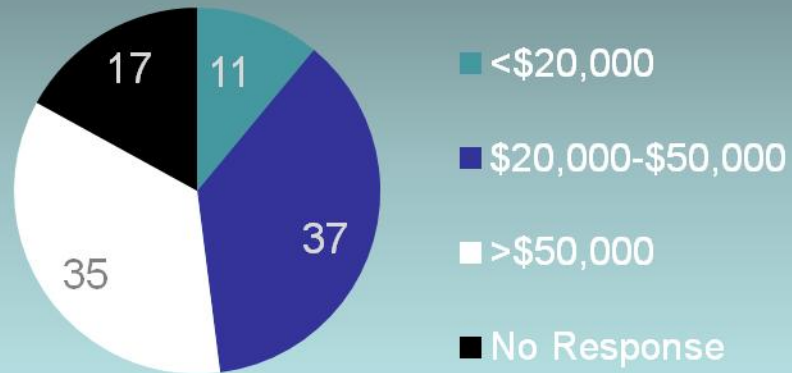


2012 Survey Demographics

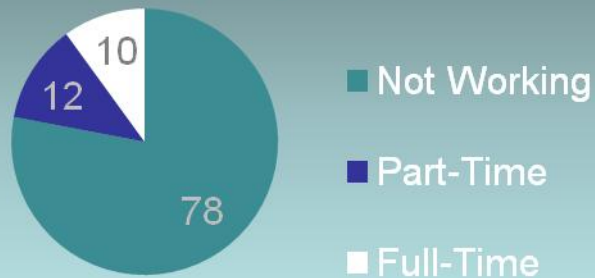
Residency in Greater Sudbury



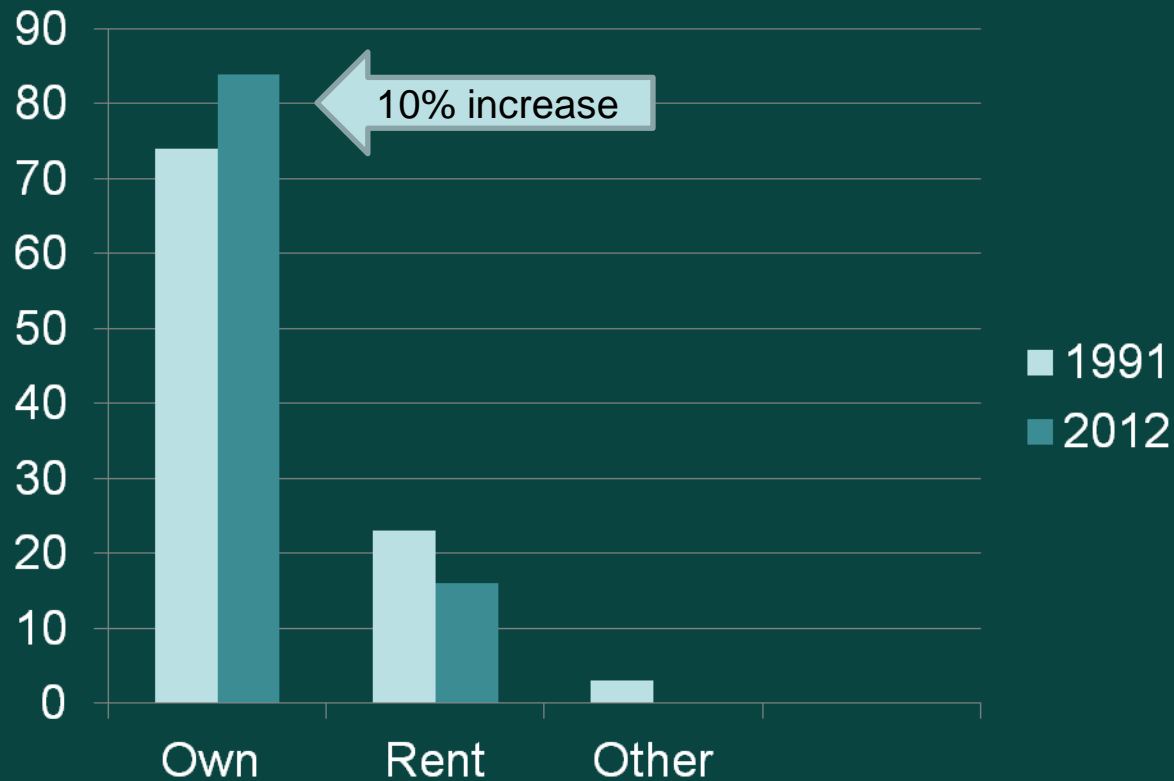
Household Income



Employment



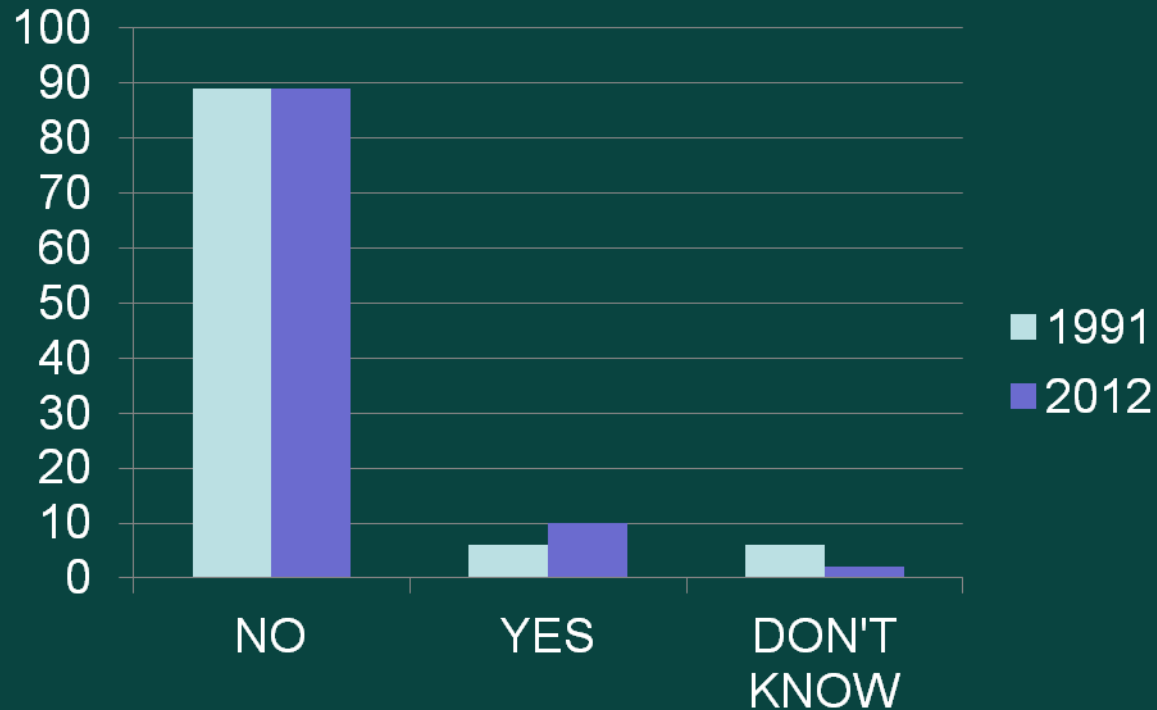
Results: Type of Residence



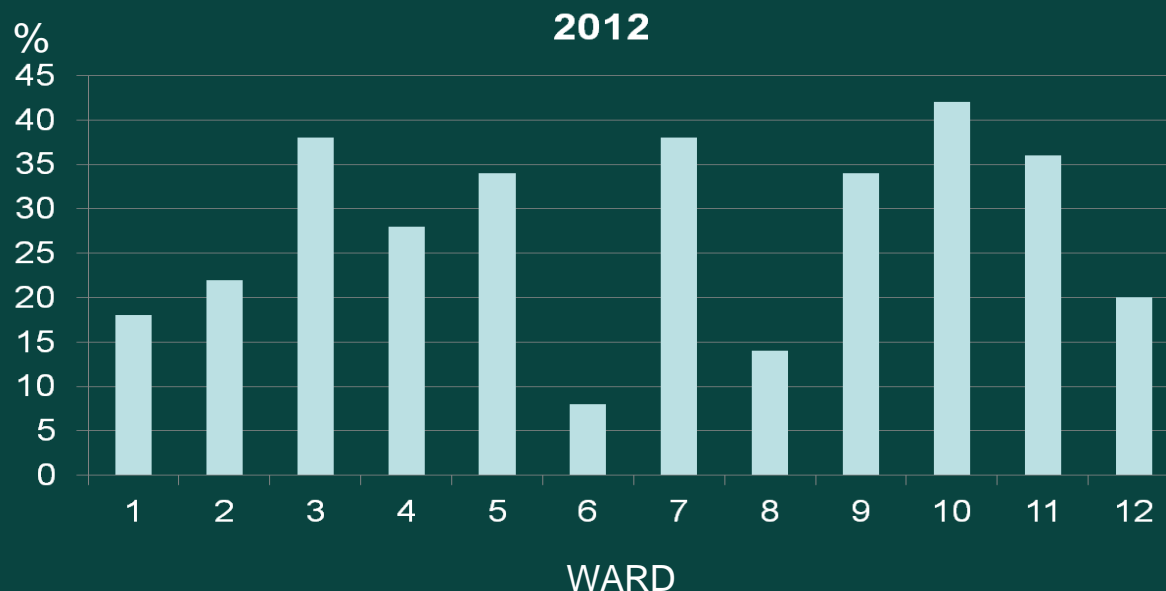
Satisfaction with Current Living Arrangements

- 94% of seniors surveyed in 1991 were satisfied with their living arrangements compared to 84% in 2012.
- Of the 16% who reported being dissatisfied, reasons included: too expensive, too large, traffic concerns, maintenance and distance from services.

“Do you plan to move in the next year?”



Seniors Living Alone by Ward



- There was little change between seniors living alone in 1991 (26%) and 2012 (28%).
- The majority of seniors surveyed in 2012 live with a spouse or partner (58%)

Assistance

“Do family , friends or others provide you with assistance on a weekly basis with each of the following?”	1991	2012
Home maintenance	13%	24%
Transportation	17%	15%
Visiting	59%	15%
Meals	6%	9%

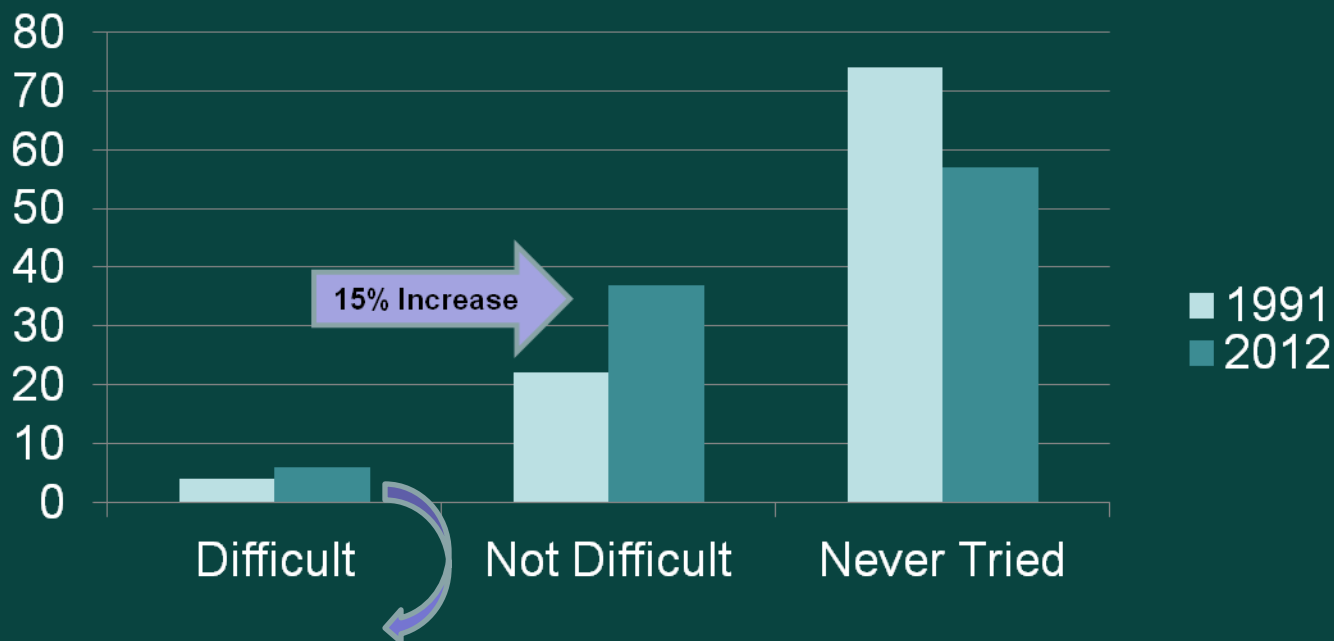
11% increase

44% decrease

Communications

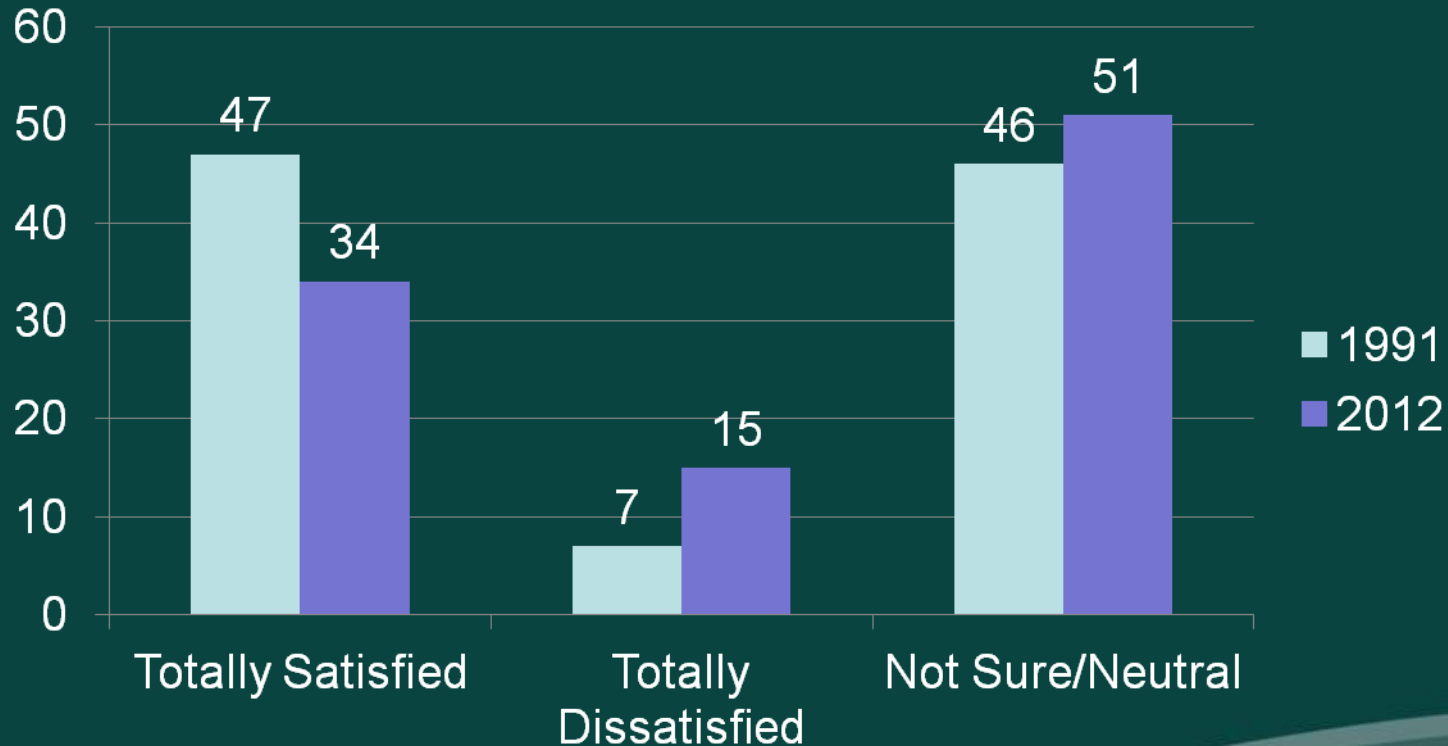
“Which method would you find the MOST effective when trying to communicate with other people over the age of 55?”	1991	2012
Newsletters/ Flyers	25%	6%
Newspaper	19%	5%
TV/ Radio	33%	7%
Seniors Information Session	19%	5%
Personal/ face to face/ groups (new)		54%
Telephone (new)		16%
Email (new)		1%
Social Media (e.g. Facebook) (new)		1%

“Have you ever experienced any difficulties trying to contact a seniors’ service?”



- 38% didn't know who to call
- 26% were unsure of the services available
- 14% couldn't find a number
- 9% cited a language barrier or problem understanding someone

Perceived Satisfaction with Seniors' Services



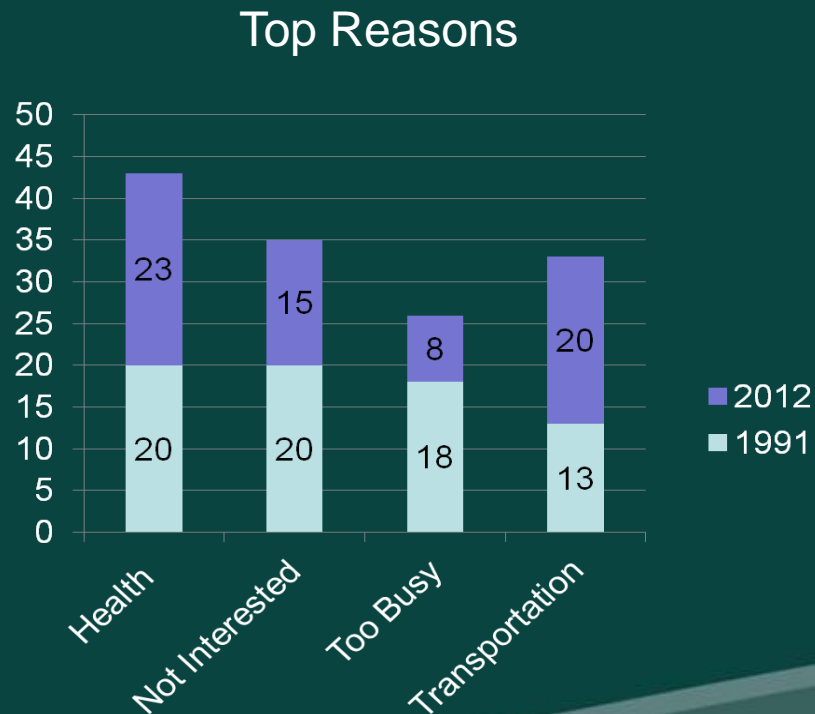
Involvement

Between 1991 and 2012 there was a 9% increase in participation in clubs, committees or organized activities (39% participation in 1991 and 48% participation in 2012)

37% of all those interviewed claimed that they volunteer in the community.

A total of 37% of seniors interviewed have heard of Community Action Networks (CANS) and among those aware of CANS 6% said they are a member of one.

“What are some of the reasons why seniors do not get involved in clubs, committees or organized activities?”



Physical Fitness

“How do you stay physically active or fit?”

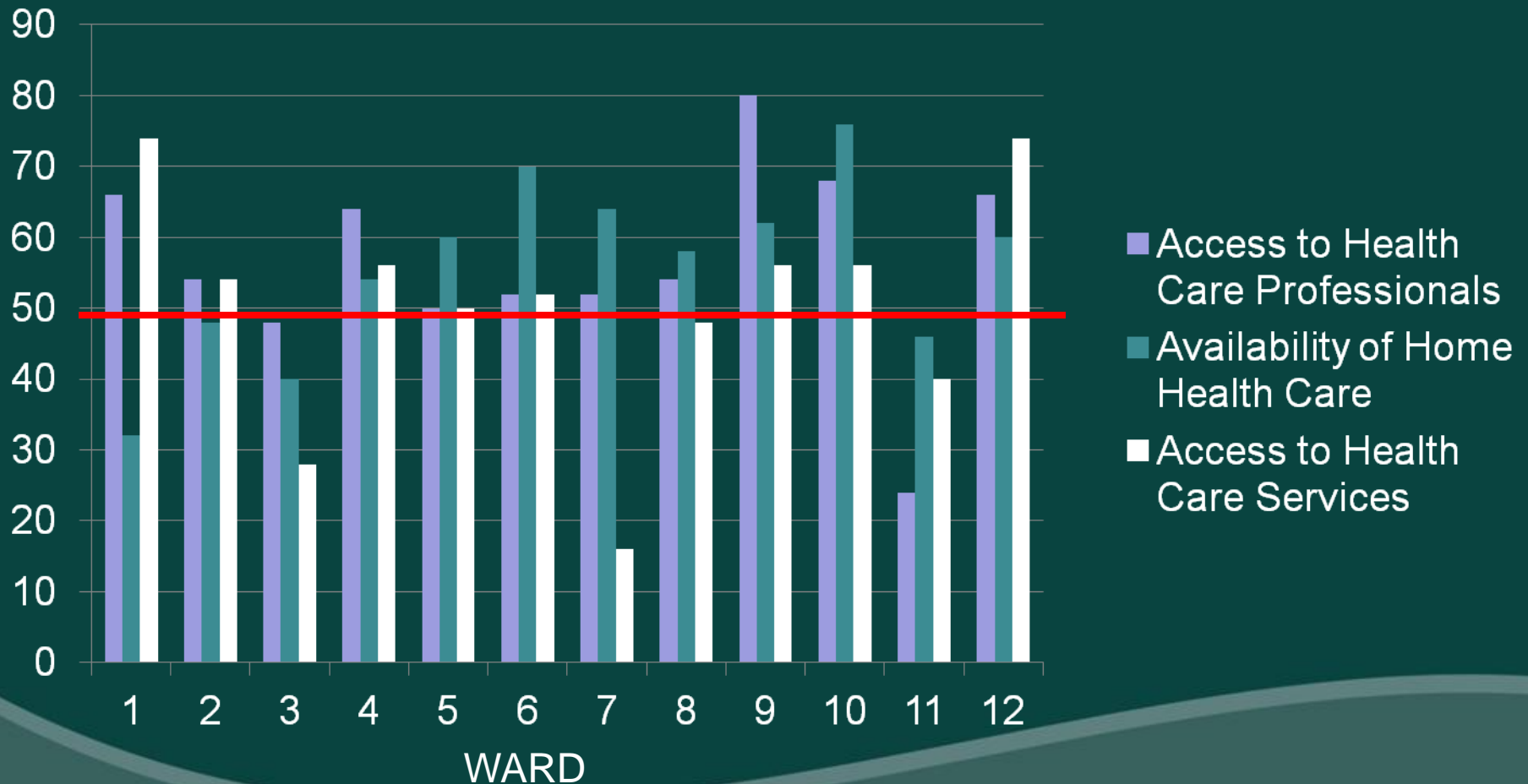


- Walk
- Exercise in General
- Yard Work/ Housework
- Don't Stay Fit
- Gardening
- Don't Know
- Recreational Sports
- Gym
- Everyday Activities

Future Concerns

“Considering your future, do you have any concerns in the following areas?”	1991	2012
Access to health care professionals (new)		57%
Availability of home health care	50%	56%
Access to health care services such as the Hospital (new)		50%
Affordable housing	41%	48%
Income security	47%	42%
Loneliness	29%	33%
Not having enough to do	19%	19%
Access to and availability of food options or meals (new)		19%

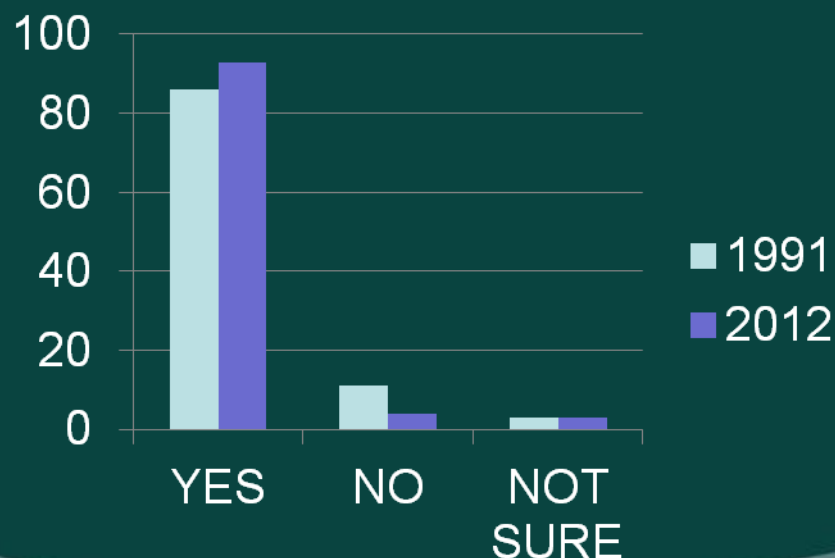
Future Concerns by Ward



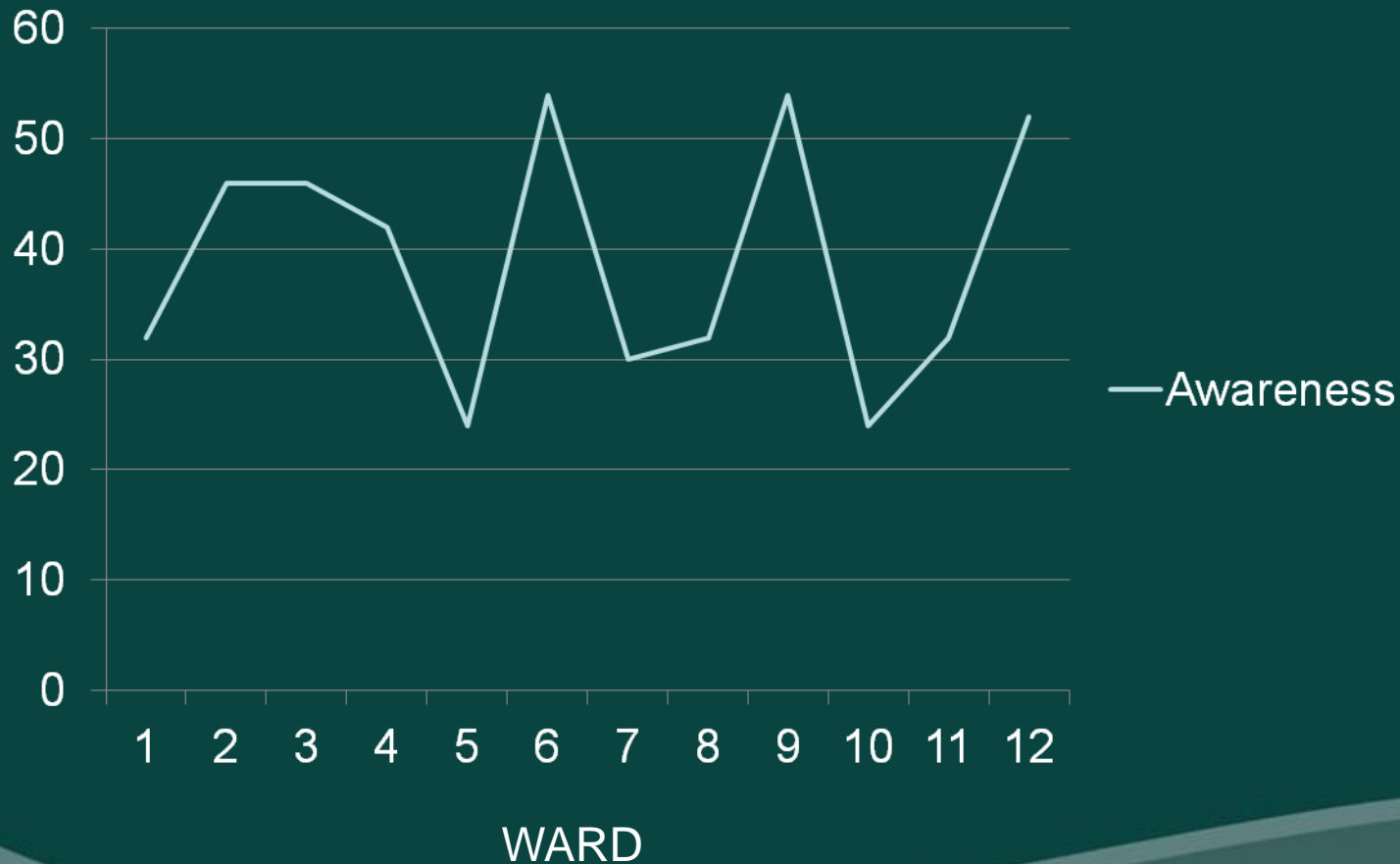
Seniors Advisory Panel

39% of seniors surveyed in December were aware of the Seniors Advisory Panel.

“Is the Seniors Advisory Panel a good idea?”



Awareness of Seniors Advisory Panel by Ward



Additional Results

- A total of 54% of respondents claimed that they are aware of outpatient services offered in the City but are not using them, 13% are aware of them and are using these services, while 33% are not aware of outpatient services.
- A total of 73% of Greater Sudbury seniors surveyed said that they feel a sense of belongingness in the City and 92% said a healthy community is important or very important to them.
- 99% of those interviewed recycle.

Transportation: Sustainable Mobility Advisory Panel

- A total of 88 % of seniors interviewed have a valid drivers licence.
- Respondents were then asked about what method of transportation that they typically use to travel to various locations on a weekly basis. Most or 82% named a personal vehicle, while other responses included being a passenger in another's vehicle (9%), public transportation (4%), taxis (2%), walking (1%) and Handi Transit (1%).
- Those not using public transit were asked about why they do not typically use it of which 45% said that the service is not needed by them, 17% cited an inconvenient service schedule, 8% an inconvenient route, 5% no service in their area, 5% preference and 4% that it is too far to walk to a bus stop.

Conclusion

- The survey results will be posted on the City of Greater Sudbury website.
- Copies of the survey results will be shared with community partners.

Thank You

