

# THE NCS

THE NATIONAL COMMUNITY SURVEY™

## Dover, NH

The National Community Survey™ 2025 Results





# Civic Communication & Analytics Platform

Smarter, better-connected communities. A civic surveying, policy polling, and constituent communication tech platform.

Visit us online at

polco.us



## National Research Center

# **Advanced Survey Science**& Performance Analytics

Data insights to help communities move forward. The premiere provider of professional civic surveys and performance benchmarking analyses.

## **Partners with:**







## **Resident Surveys in Local Governance**



Monitor trends in resident opinion



Measure government performance



Inform budget,
land use,
strategic
planning
decisions



Benchmark against other communities

## The NCS™ Facets of Community Livability





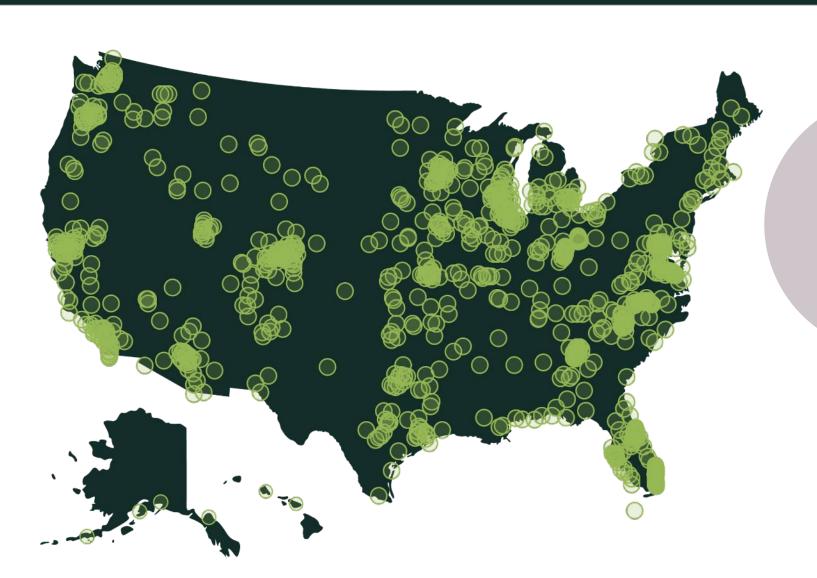
## The National Community Survey™ in Dover

### The NCS™ for Dover, NH

- 10th time conducting The NCS (2004, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023)
- Survey conducted from May 19 July 6, 2025
- Mailing approach employed:
  - Probability-based sample of 3,000 randomly selected households
  - 467 total responses received
  - 16% overall response rate
  - Non-probability, open-participation survey: 346 responses
- Results statistically weighted to reflect Dover overall
- 95% confidence interval with a +/- 4.5 % margin of error

## **Polco's Benchmarking Database**





More than 500 comparison communities across the nation.

Representing the opinions of more than **50 million** residents.



# Overview of Survey Results



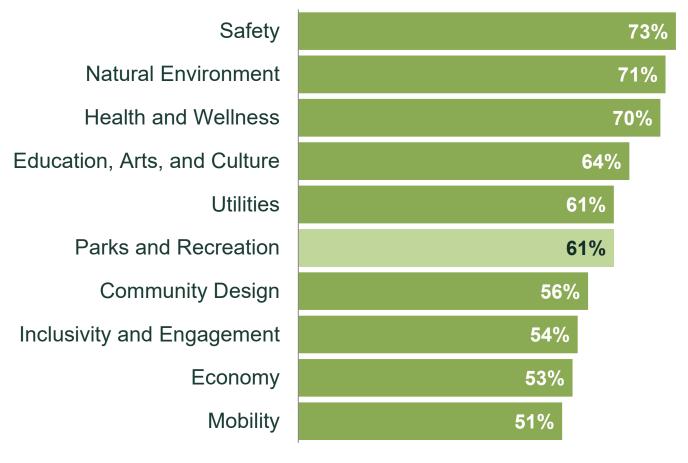
## Facets of Community Livability: Quality





■ Similar

Lower



Percent excellent or good

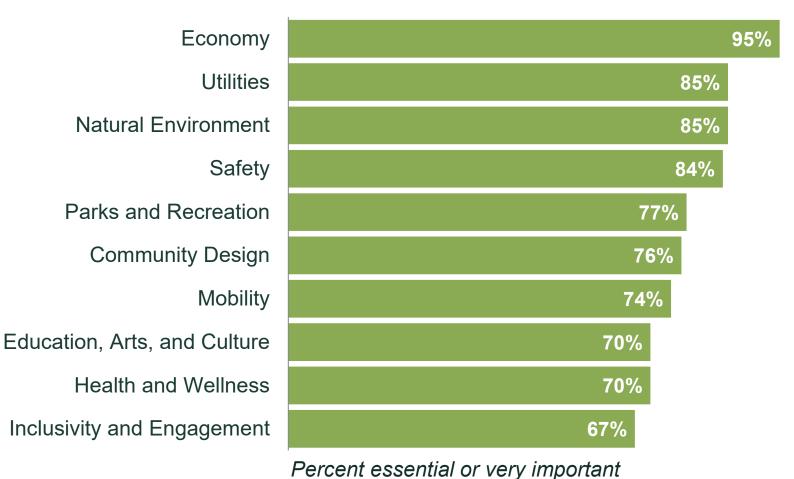


## Facets of Community Livability: Importance





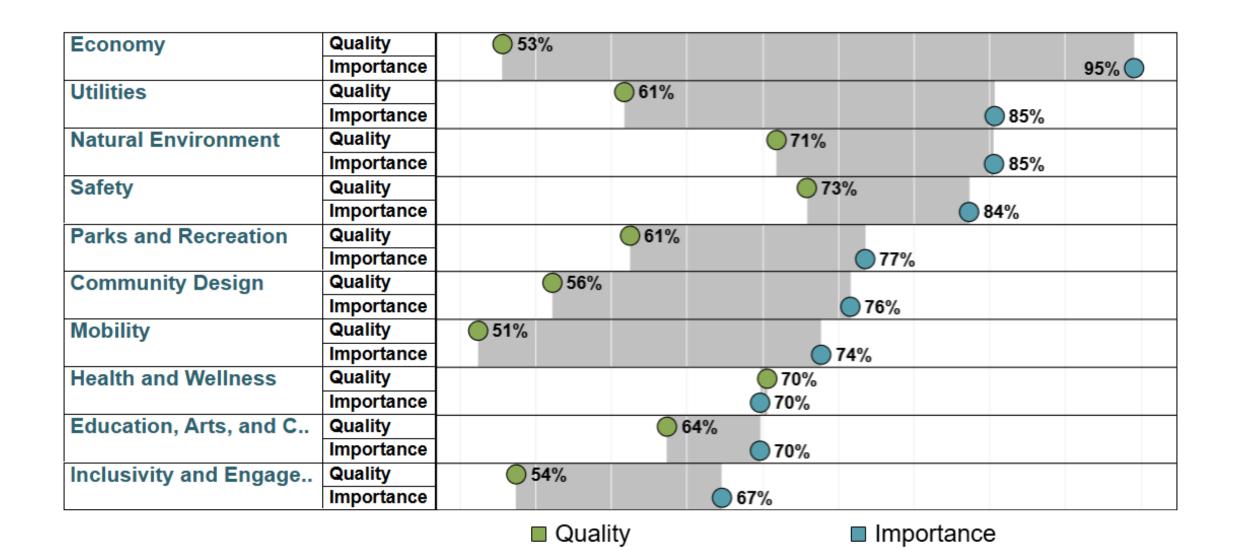
Similar





## **Balancing Quality and Importance**







# Comparisons to National Benchmarks

116 received similar ratings

7 received lower ratings



# Comparisons to Previous Survey (2023)

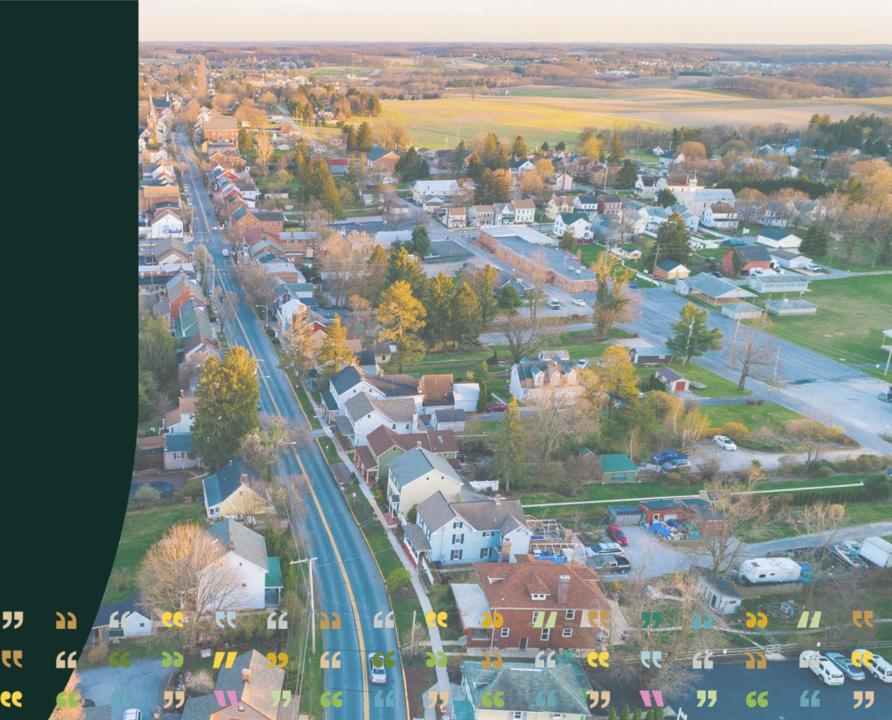
3 received higher ratings

102 received similar ratings

18 received lower ratings



## **Key Findings**



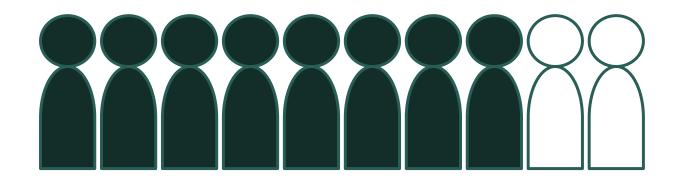


Most residents experience a high quality of life in Dover.



## **Overall Community Quality**





**About** 

8 in 10

residents gave **excellent** or **good** ratings to:

- Dover as a place to live
- The overall quality of life in Dover

### 8 in 10 residents

- Plan to remain in Dover for the next five years
- Would recommend living in Dover to someone who asked



Dover residents continue to feel safe in their community.



## Safety in Dover



#### Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:

National Benchmark Comparison

Similar

2025 vs 2023:



M

Increasing/Decreasing

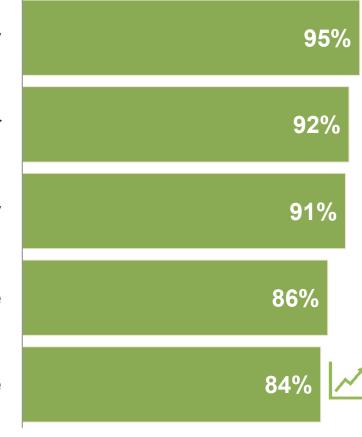
In your neighborhood during the day

From fire, flood, or natural disaster

In the downtown/commercial area during the day

From violent crime

From property crime



Percent very or somewhat safe

## **Safety Services in Dover**







Similar

#### 2025 vs 2023:





Increasing/Decreasing









92% Fire

services

91%

Ambulance/ Emergency medical services

80%

Animal Control



78%

Fire prevention/ education

Percent excellent or good



Affordability challenges persist in Dover's local economy.



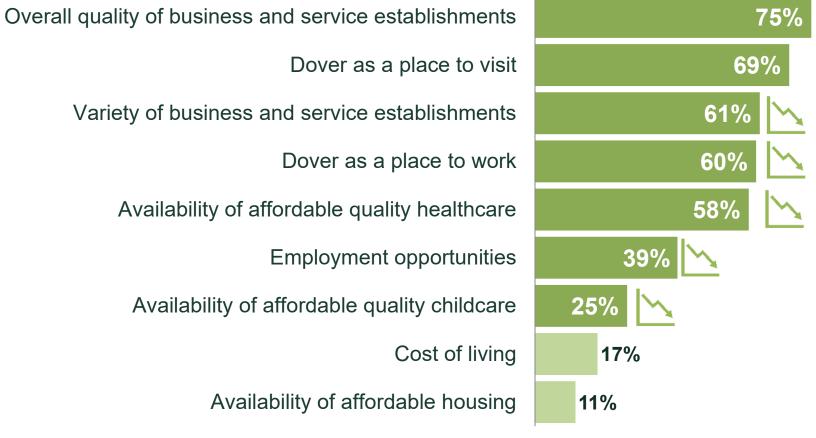
## The Economy in Dover



#### Please rate each of the following in the Dover community:



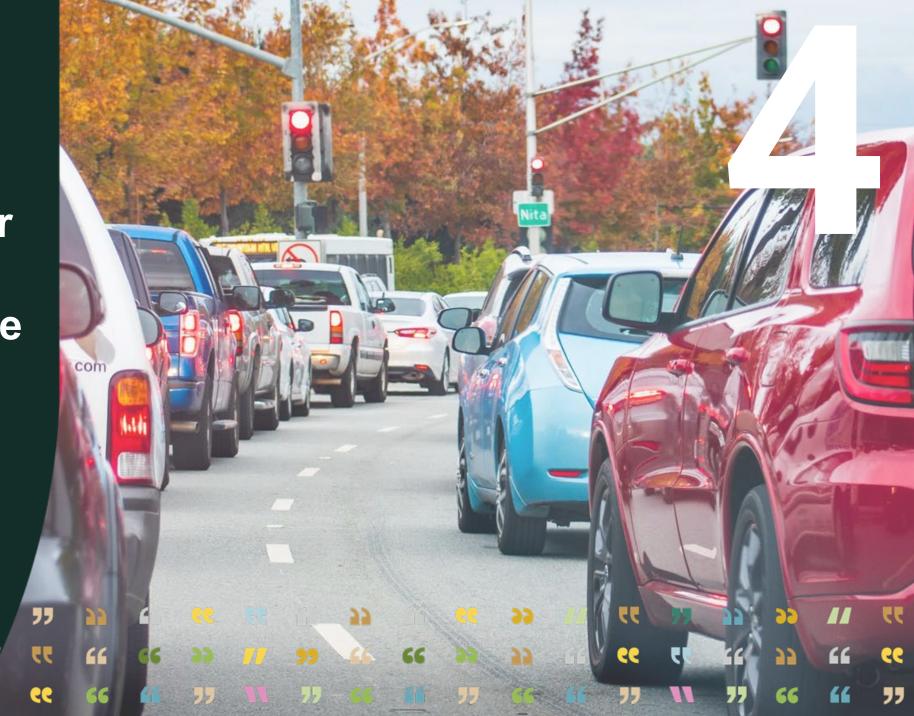




Percent excellent or good



Most ratings for mobility in Dover are in line with national averages.



## **Mobility in Dover**

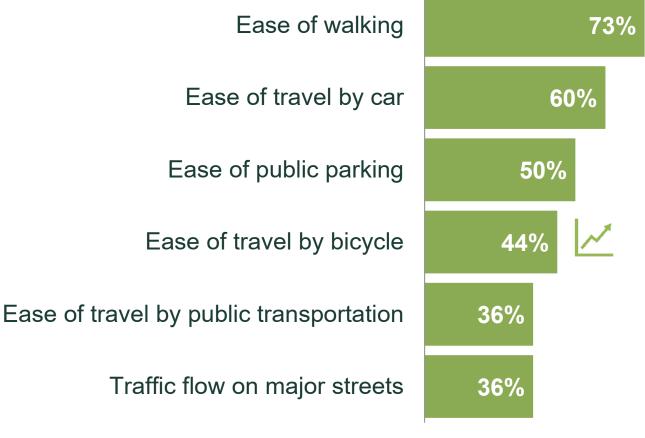


#### Please rate each of the following in the Dover community:









Percent excellent or good

## **Mobility Services in Dover**







#### 2025 vs 2023:



Increasing/Decreasing



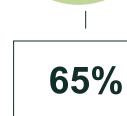
68% Street

cleaning



68% Street

lighting



Snow removal





63%

Traffic enforcement



Bus or transit

54%

services

Percent excellent or good



Educational and cultural opportunities remain valued by residents.



## **Education, Arts, and Culture in Dover**



#### Please rate each of the following in the Dover community:

National Benchmark Comparison



2025 vs 2023:



Increasing/Decreasing

Public library services

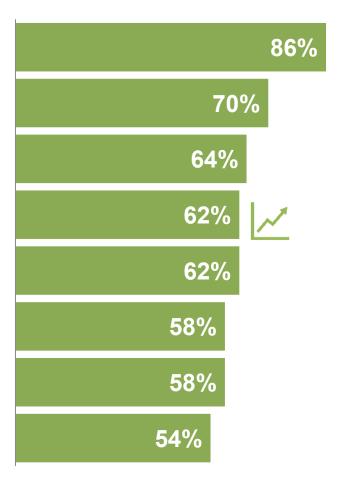
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals Opportunities for education, culture and the arts Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities

Community support for the arts

Opportunities to participate in social events and activities

K-12 education

Adult educational opportunities





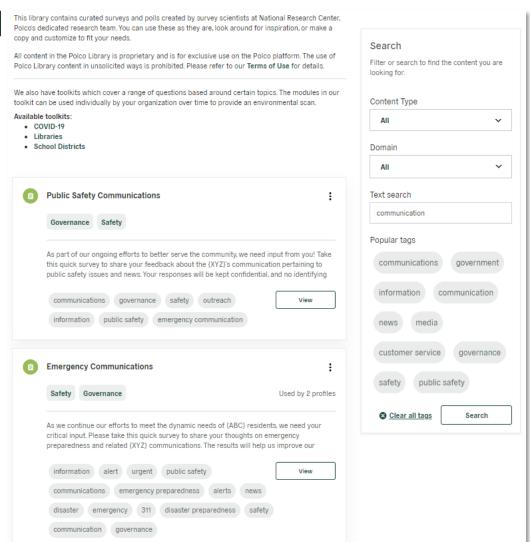
# Summary of Conclusions

- Most residents experience a high quality of life in Dover.
- Dover residents continue to feel safe in their community.
- 3. Affordability challenges persist in Dover's local economy.
- 4. Most ratings for mobility in Dover are in line with national averages.
- 5. Educational and cultural opportunities remain valued by residents.

## Next Steps: **ENGAGE** With Community Members









Text about the new park initiative and a quick summary of what this entails or whatever message the city wants to provide for the residents to read. Text about the new park initiative and a quick summary of what this entails or whatever message the city wants to provide for the residents to read. Text about the new park initiative and a quick summary of what this entails or whatever message the city wants to provide for the residents to read. Text about the new park initiative and a quick summary of what this entails or whatever message the city wants to provide for the residents to read. Text about the new park initiative and a quick summary of what this entails or whatever message the city wants to provide for the residents to read. Text about the new park initiative and a quick summary of what this entalis or whatever message the city wants to provide for the residents to read.

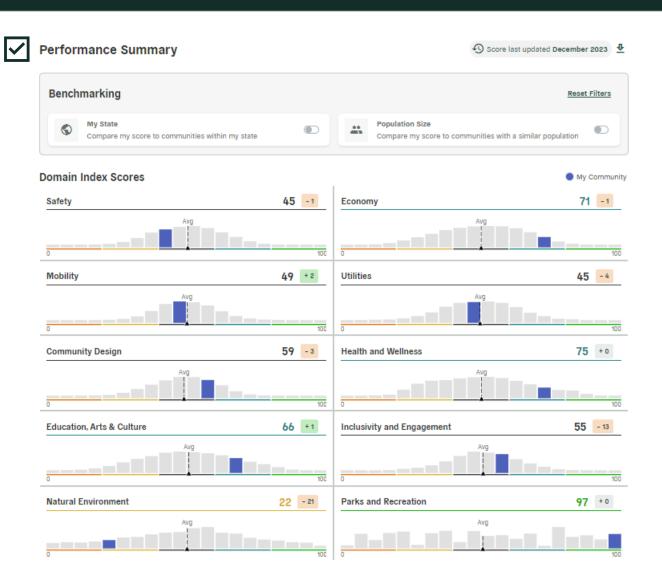
#### Map of projected park



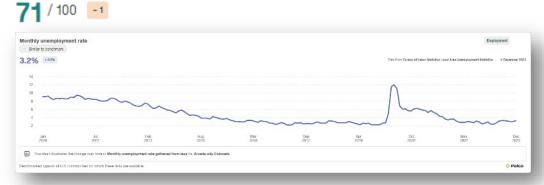


## Next Steps: TRACK Dover's Data





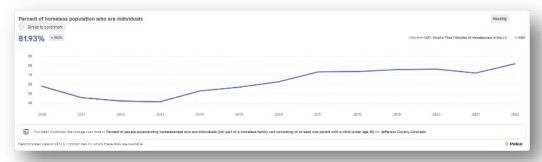




Score last updated December 2023

#### **Community Design**

**59** / 100 -3



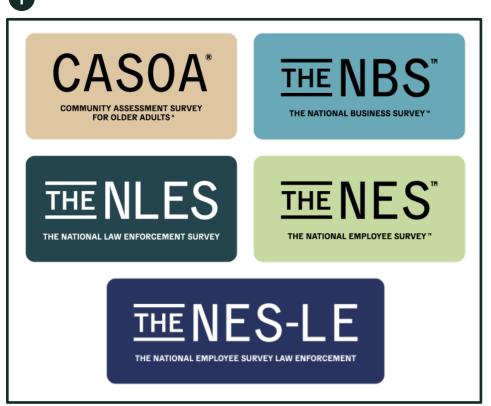




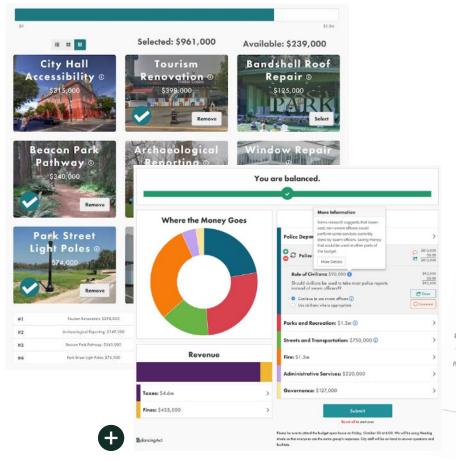
## Additional Offerings: Continue to ASSESS







## **B**alancingAct







# Questions?

## Thank you!

XXpresenter name XXpresenter job title