

**Government of Saskatchewan**

**Management Survey  
Series #3  
Report**

**March 2006**

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## Background

This report is part of the Management series of provincial surveys. The fieldwork was done in late February to early March 2006.

## Methodology

Interviews were conducted with a randomly selected sample of Saskatchewan residents aged 18 or over. The sample was stratified geographically and weighted by gender to provide representative coverage of the province.

A total of 813 interviews were completed. This sample size yields a precision level for estimates of population proportions of plus or minus 3.5% at the 95% confidence level. Data were analyzed using SPSS and Excel software applications.

Where reported, the percentage of “don’t know” responses is a proportion of all respondents.

# Survey Results

## SECTION A: Saskatchewan Learning

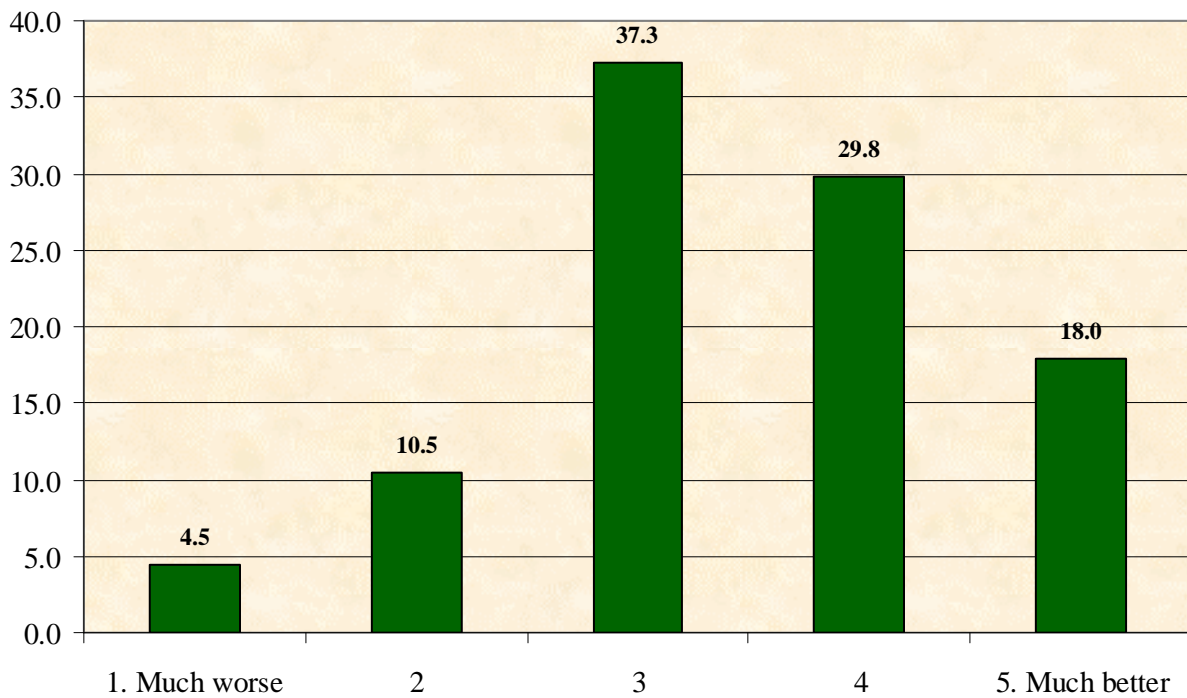
**A1. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is “Much worse” and 5 is “Much better”, do you think the education students receive today is better or worse than the education you received?**

Generally, Saskatchewan residents have a positive view of today’s education system compared to their own education.

- Nearly half (48%) of the respondents are on the positive side of the scale, over three times more than are on the negative side (15%)
- The mean response level of 3.46 is well above the neutral midpoint.

A1. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is Much worse and 5 is Much better, do you think the education students receive today is better or worse than the education you received?

Mean response level = 3.46



Don't know = 5.5%

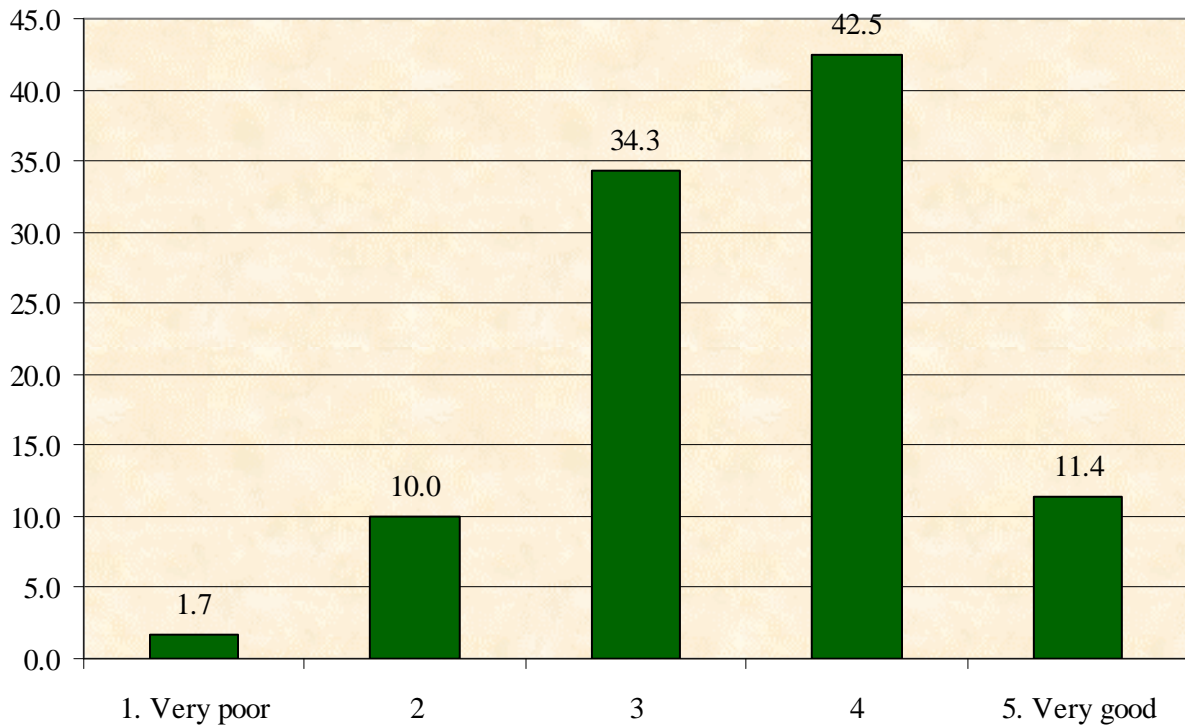
**A2. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is “Very poor” and 5 is “Very good”, please rate the quality of the KINDERGARTEN to GRADE 12 education system in Saskatchewan.**

Saskatchewan residents have a positive view of the K-to-12 education system in the province.

- Those on the positive side of the scale (54%) far outnumber those on the negative side (12%).
- The mean response level of 3.52 is quite high.

A2. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is Very poor and 5 is Very good, please rate the quality of the KINDERGARTEN to GRADE 12 education system in Saskatchewan.

Mean response level = 3.52



Don't know = 13.2%

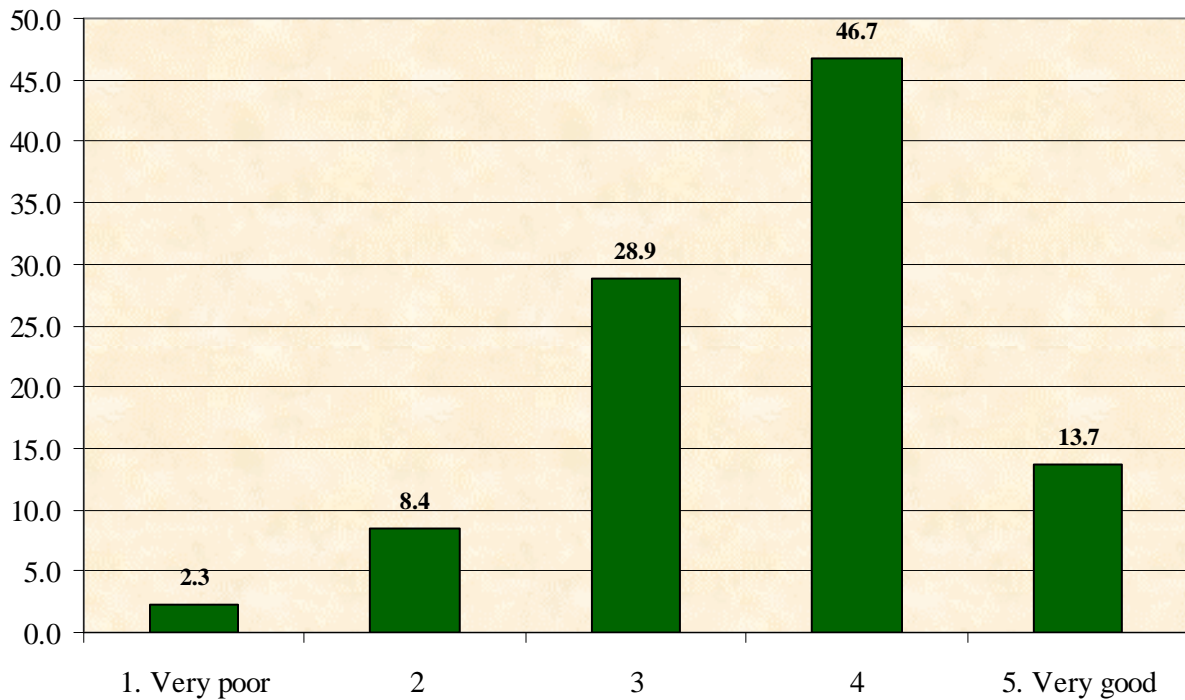
**A3. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is “Very poor” and 5 is “Very good”, please rate the quality of the POST-SECONDARY education system in Saskatchewan.**

Saskatchewan residents have a very positive view of post-secondary education and training in Saskatchewan.

- A substantial majority (60%) of respondents are on the positive side of the scale, compared to relatively few (11%) on the negative side.
- The mean response level of 3.61 is high.

A3. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is Very poor and 5 is Very good, please rate the quality of the POST-SECONDARY education system in Saskatchewan.

Mean response level = 3.61



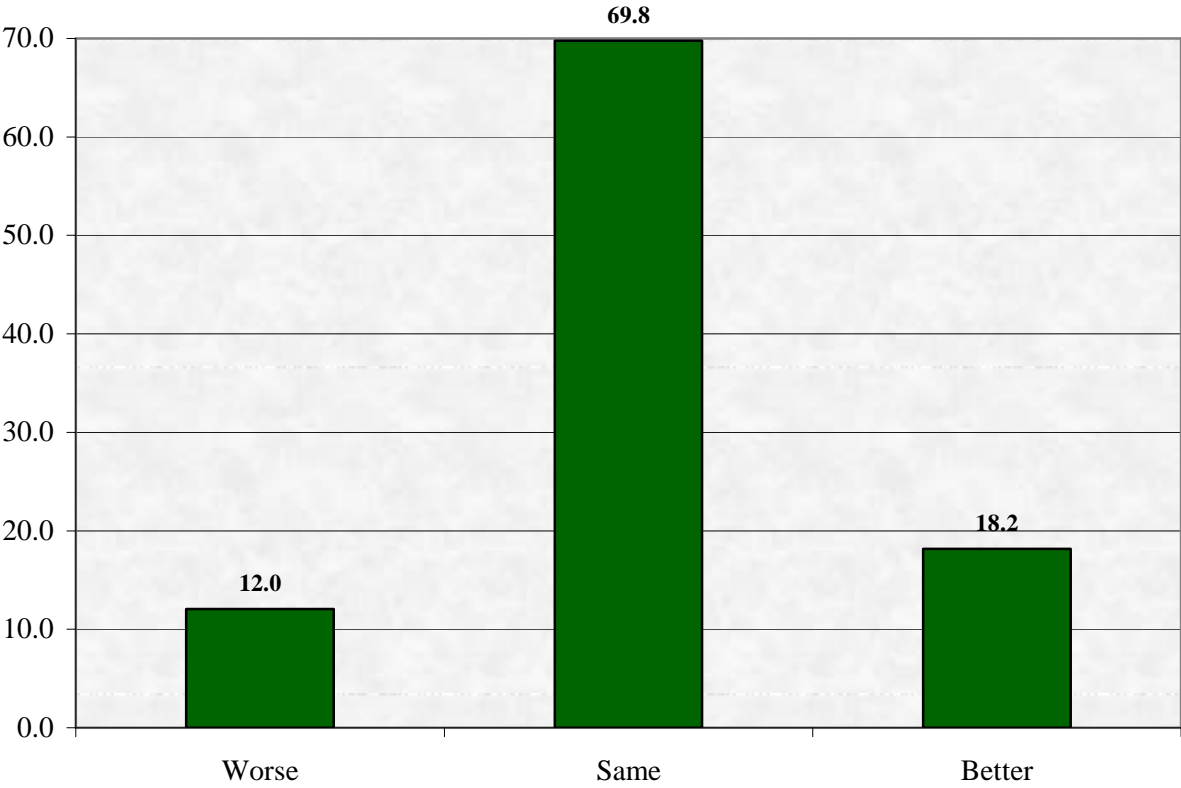
Don't know = 16.9%

**A4. Compared to the rest of Canada, do you think the quality of the KINDERGARTEN to GRADE 12 education system in Saskatchewan is better, worse, or about the same?**

Saskatchewan people see K-to-12 education in the province as comparable or slightly better than other systems in Canada.

- Seven in ten residents (70%) say it is about the same quality as other jurisdictions.
- Those who feel the Saskatchewan system is better (18%) outnumber those who feel it is worse (12%).

A4. Compared to the rest of Canada, do you think the quality of the KINDERGARTEN to GRADE 12 education system in Saskatchewan is better, worse, or about the same?  
Mean response level = 2.06  
1 = Worse, 2 = Same, 3 = Better



Don't know = 18.4%

**A5. Compared to the rest of Canada, is POST-SECONDARY education and training in Saskatchewan better, worse, or about the same?**

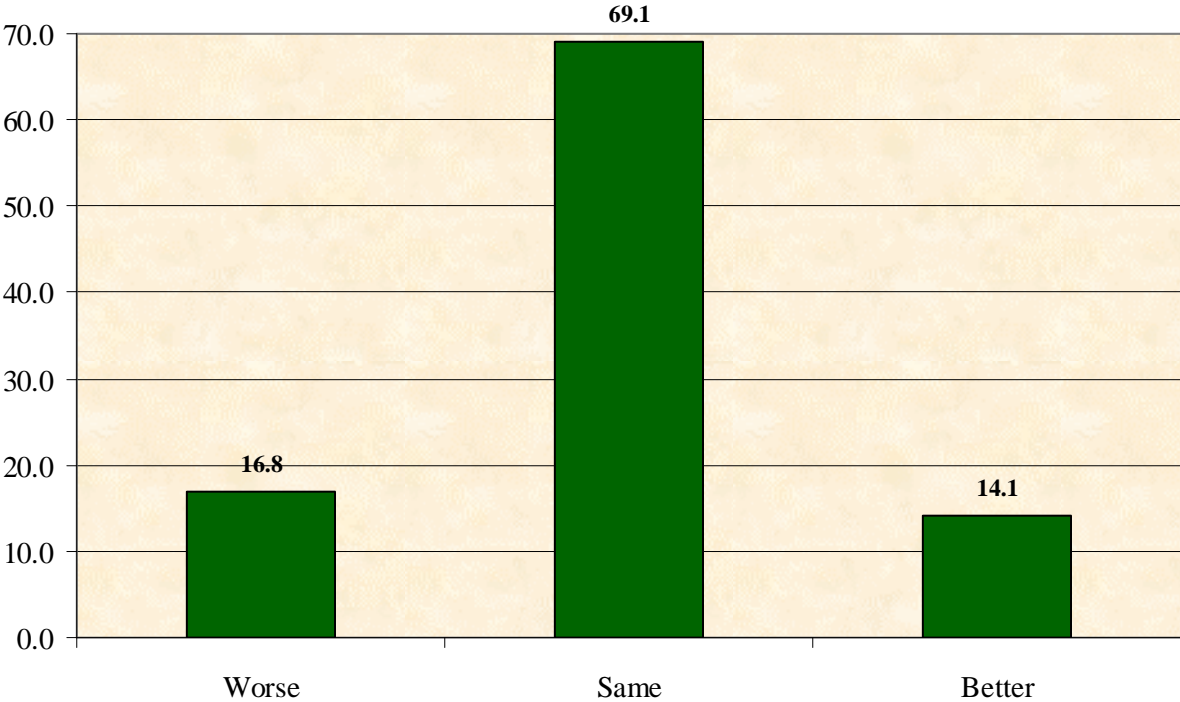
Saskatchewan people see post-secondary education and training in the province as comparable to the rest of Canada.

- Over two-thirds (69%) of respondents consider the post-secondary system to be about the same.
- Those (17%) who consider it worse slightly outnumber those (14%) who see it as better.

A5. Compared to the rest of Canada, is POST-SECONDARY education and training in Saskatchewan better, worse, or about the same?

Mean response level = 1.97

1 = Worse, 2 = Same, 3 = Better



Don't know = 17.4%

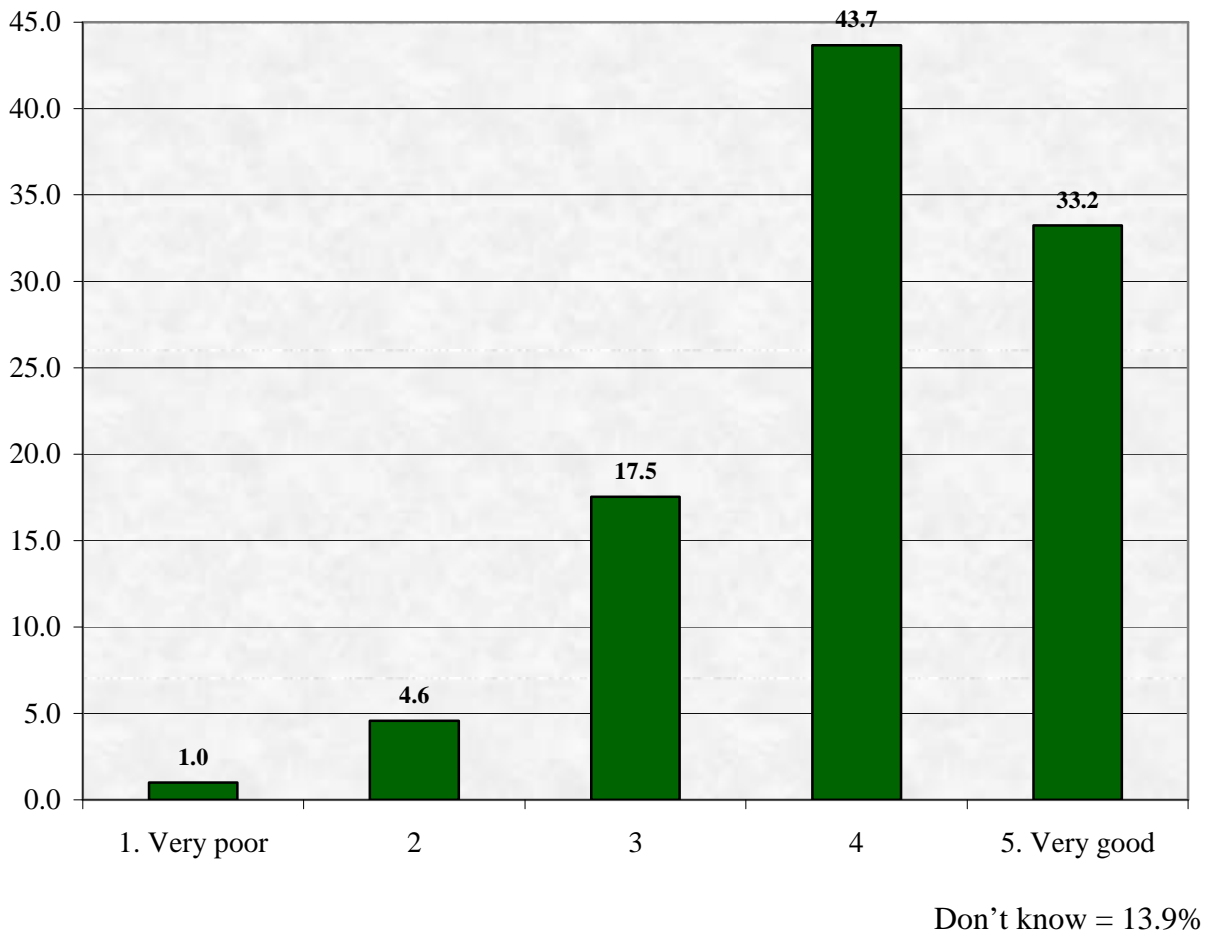


**A6. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is “Very poor” and 5 is “Very good, how would you rate the quality of service from the PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM in Saskatchewan?**

The public library system receives an extraordinarily strong endorsement from library users in the province.

- More than three-quarters (77%) of respondents are on the positive side of the scale, while very few respondents (6%) are on the negative side.
- The mean response level of 4.04 is exceptionally high.

A6. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is Very poor and 5 is Very good, how would you rate the quality of service from the public library system in Saskatchewan?  
Mean response level = 4.04



## A7. Do you use the Internet?

Two-thirds (68.2%) of residents indicate they use the Internet.

## A8. In the past 12 months have you used the Internet to access LIBRARY SERVICES?

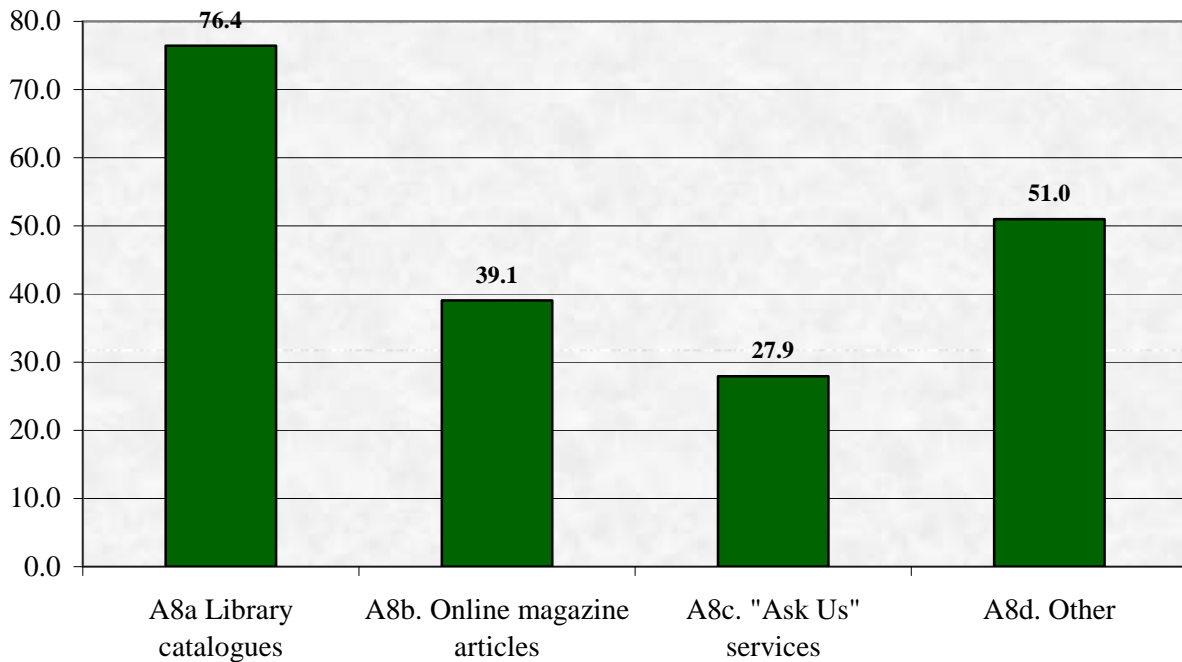
Nearly three in ten respondents (29.0%) stated they have used the Internet to access library services in the last year.

### A8a. Have you used the following LIBRARY SERVICES over the Internet?

Of those who have used library services over the Internet, three-quarters (76%) have used library catalogues.

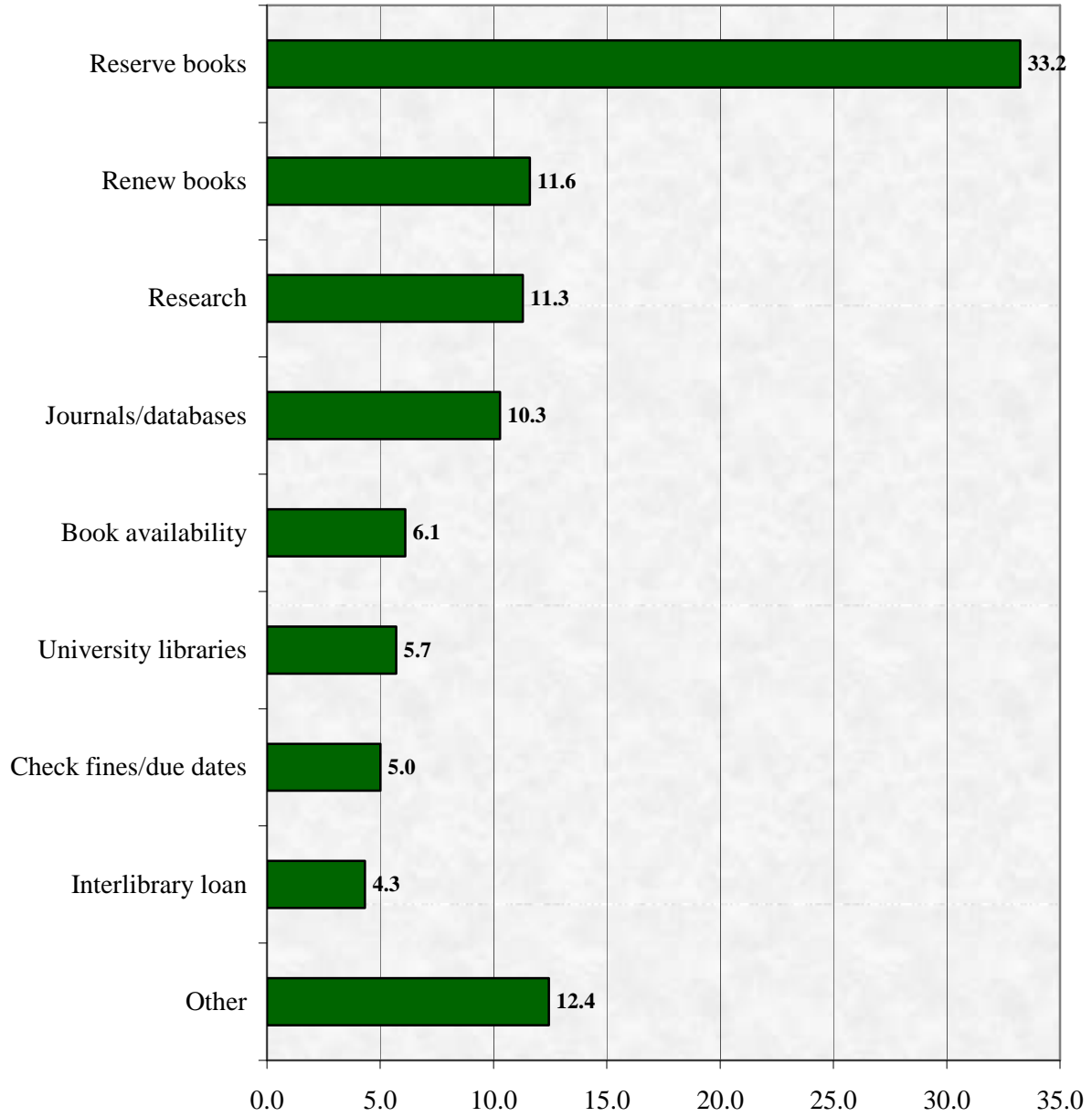
- 39% have used online magazine articles, while only 28% have used “Ask Us” services.
- Over half (51%) of those who use library services over the internet indicated they used some other service not listed here, outlined in the chart on the next page.

Have you used the following Library Services over the Internet?  
% saying 'Yes'



### A8d. Are there any other library services you accessed over the Internet?

Are there any other library services you accessed over the Internet?



**A9. In the past 12 months have you borrowed library materials from your LOCAL library?**

Over half (51.9%) of all respondents have borrowed library materials from a local library in the last year.

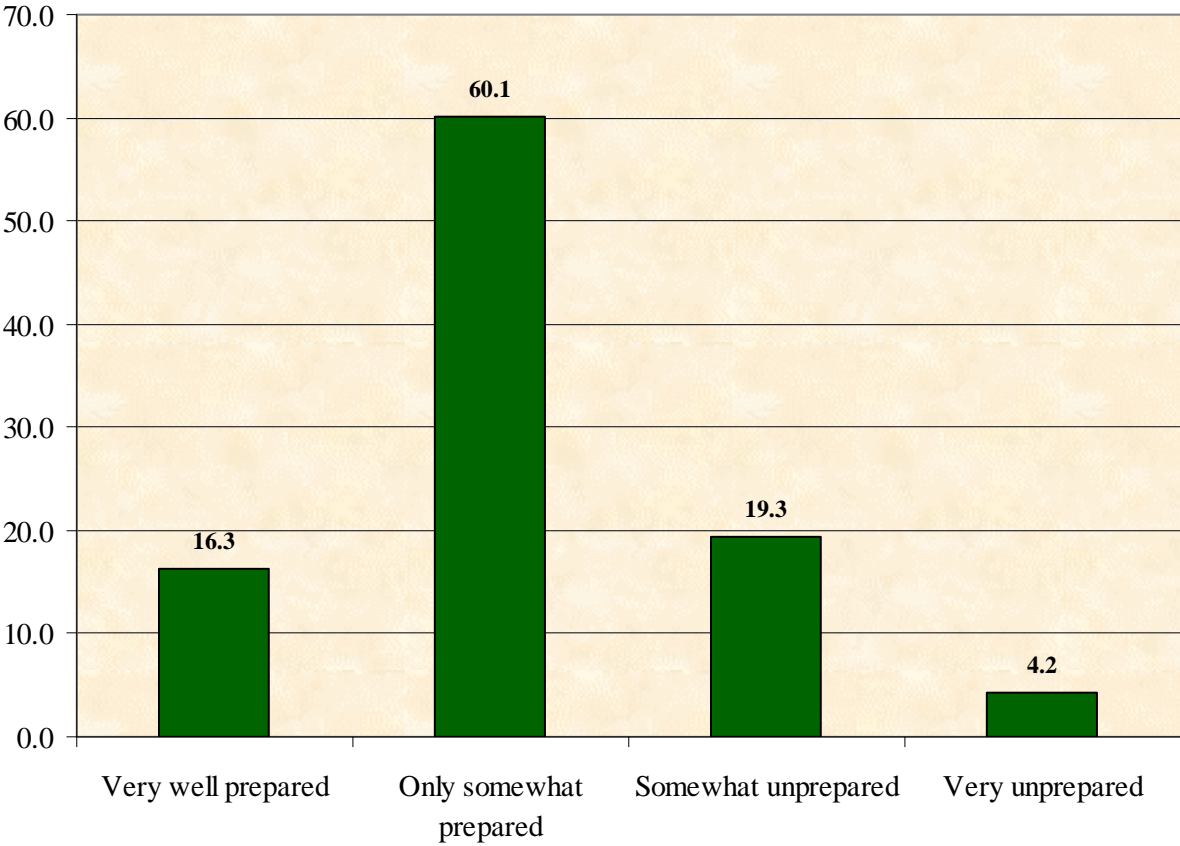
**A10. In the past 12 months have you borrowed library materials from a library OUTSIDE YOUR COMMUNITY?**

A significant proportion (16.9%) of all respondents have borrowed library materials from a library outside their local community.

**A11. Which best describes how well prepared you think Saskatchewan high school students are for entering post-secondary institutions such as universities, technical institutes, and colleges?**

Three-quarters of respondents feel that high school students are prepared for entering post-secondary institutions, although only 16% feel they are very well prepared.

A11. Which best describes how well prepared you think Saskatchewan high school students are for entering post-secondary institutions like universities, technical institutes, and colleges? Do you think they are ...

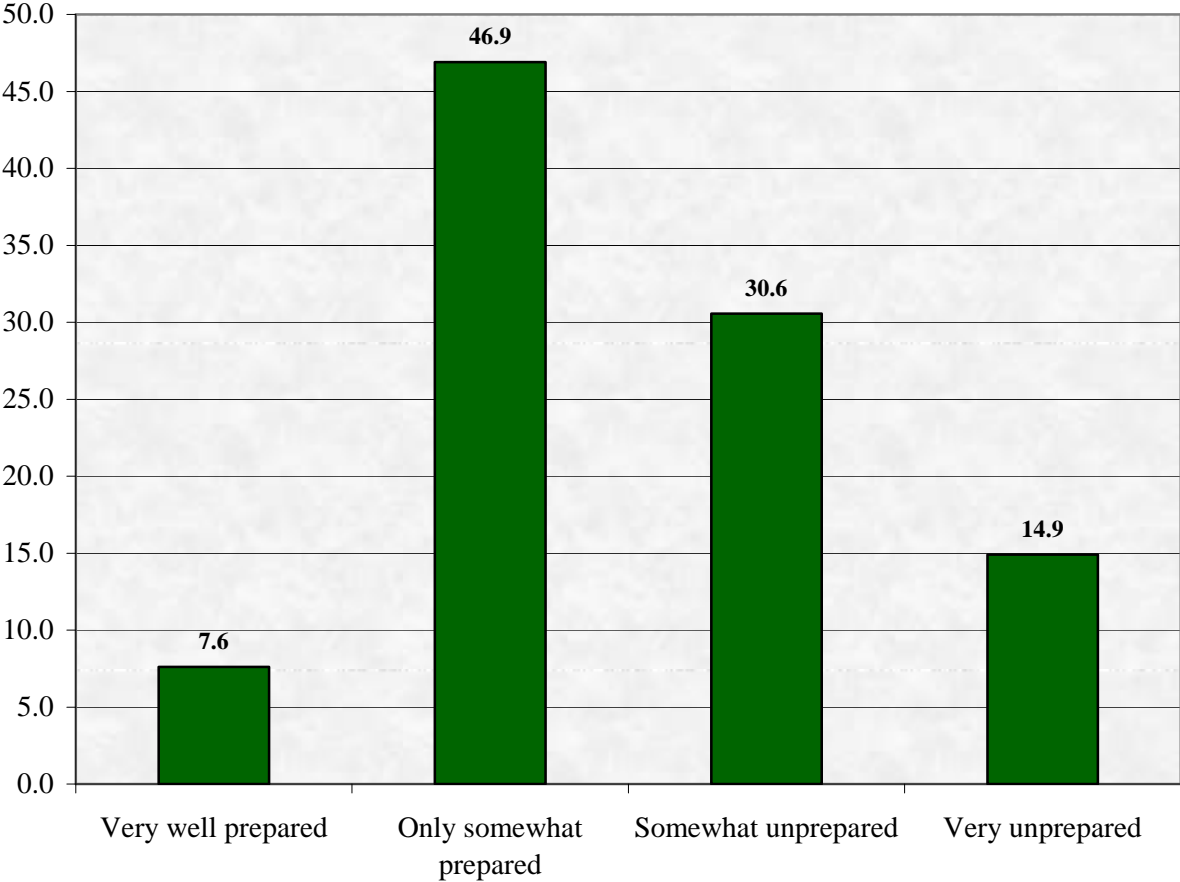


Don't know = 6.8%

**A12. How well prepared do you think high school students are for entering the workforce?**

A small majority (55%) feels that high school students are prepared for entering the workforce, although only 8% feel they are very well prepared.

A12. How well prepared do you think high school students are for entering the workforce? Do you think they are ...

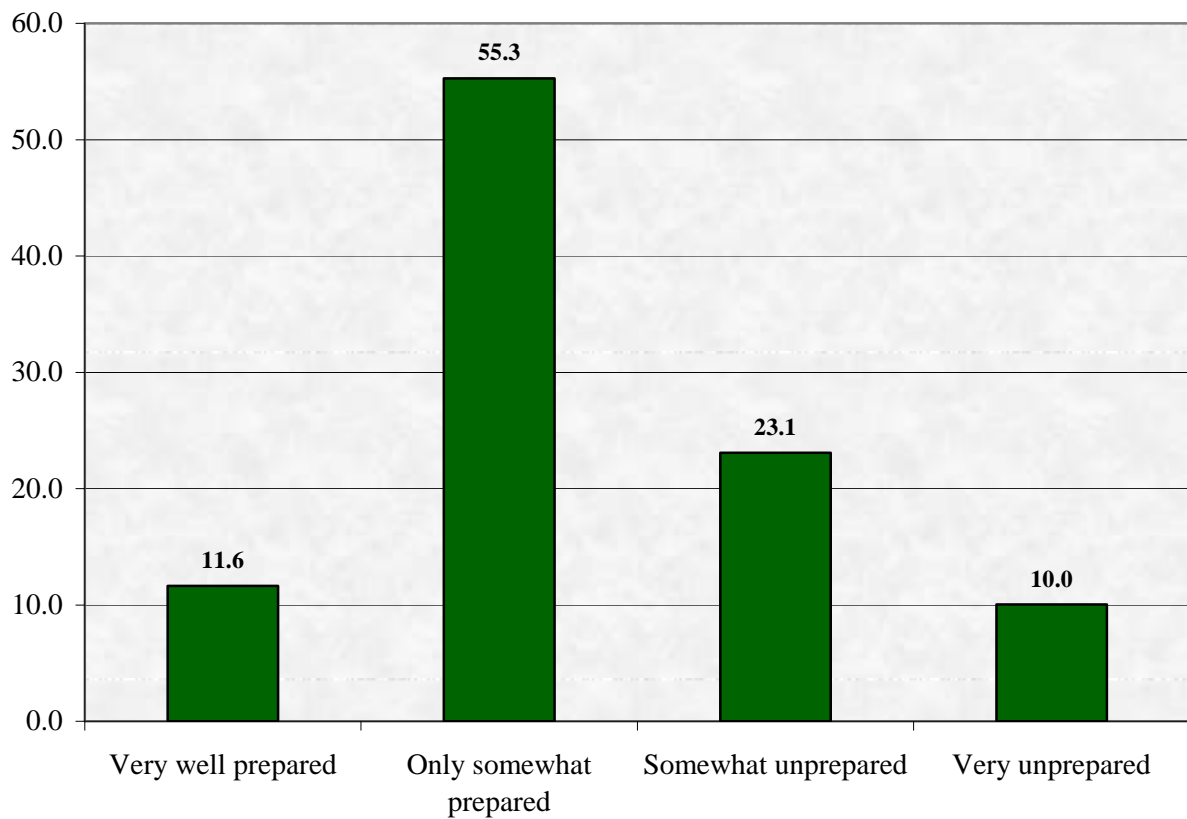


Don't know = 4.2%

### A13. How well prepared do you think high school students are for participating in family and community life?

A majority (55%) indicated they think high school students are only somewhat prepared for participating in family and community life. One-third (33%) feels high school students are unprepared.

A13. How well prepared do you think high school students are for participating in family and community life? Do you think they are . . .



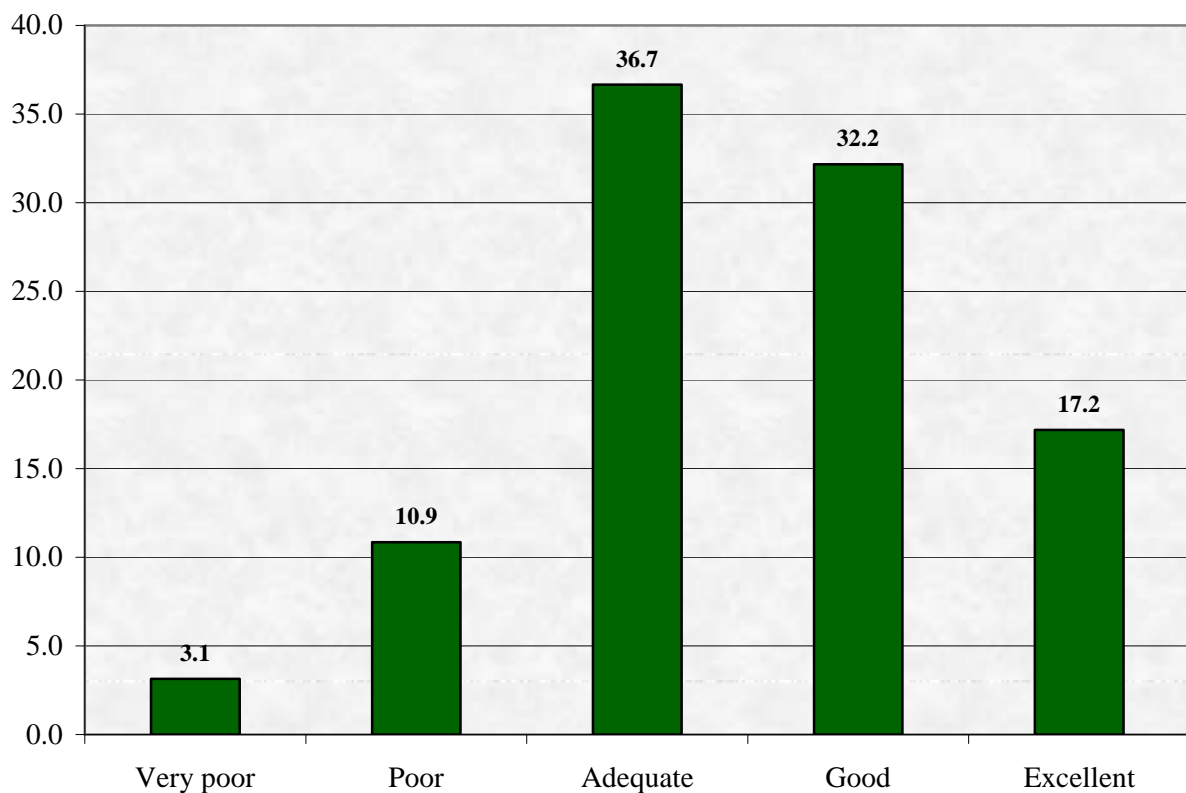
Don't know = 8.0%

## A14. How would you rate your level of awareness of what students learn in school?

Most respondents (86%) feel they have at least an adequate awareness of what students learn in school.

- Nearly half (47%) say they have a good or excellent awareness.

A14. How would you rate your level of awareness of what students learn in school?



Don't know = 6.0%

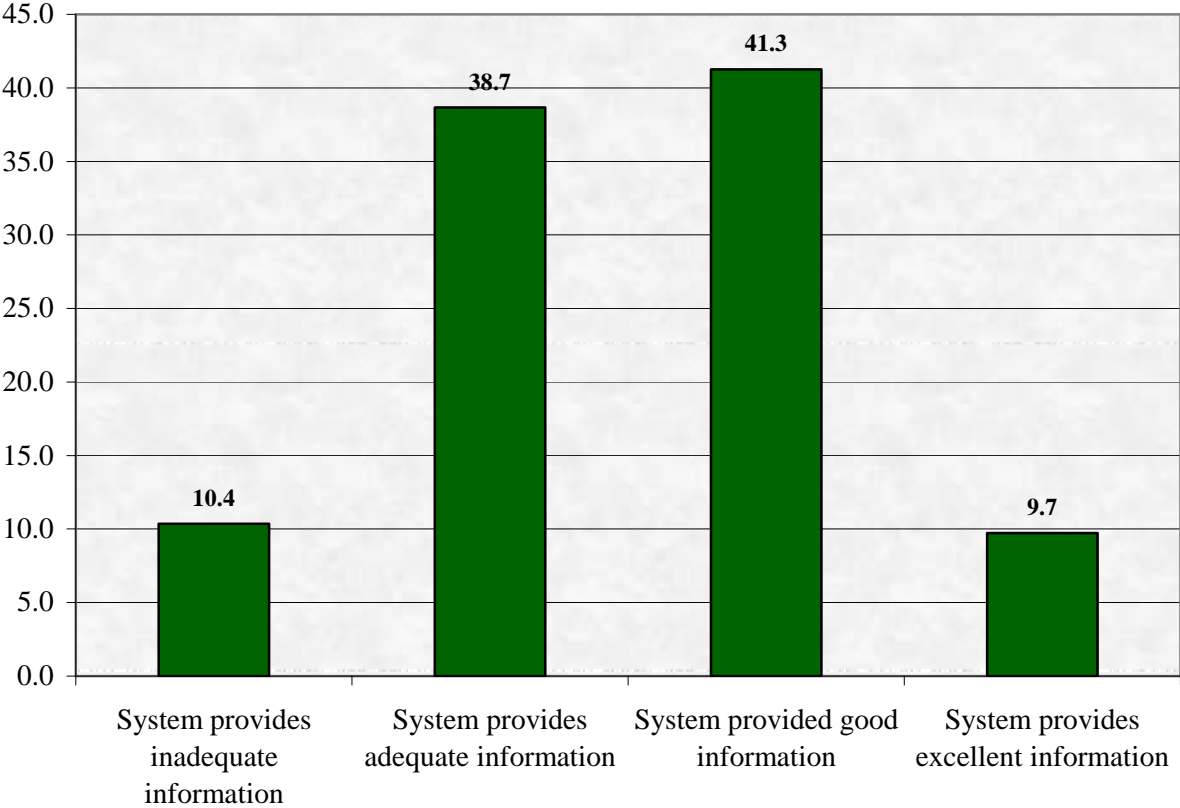


### A15. How well does the education system in Saskatchewan meet your needs for information about its programs and services?

Generally, residents of Saskatchewan feel they are given at least adequate information about programs and services in the education system.

- Over half (51%) stated they receive good or excellent information
- Roughly the same number of respondents (10%) feels that the system provides inadequate information as respondents that feel they receive excellent information.

A15. How well does the education system in Saskatchewan meet your needs for information about its programs and services?



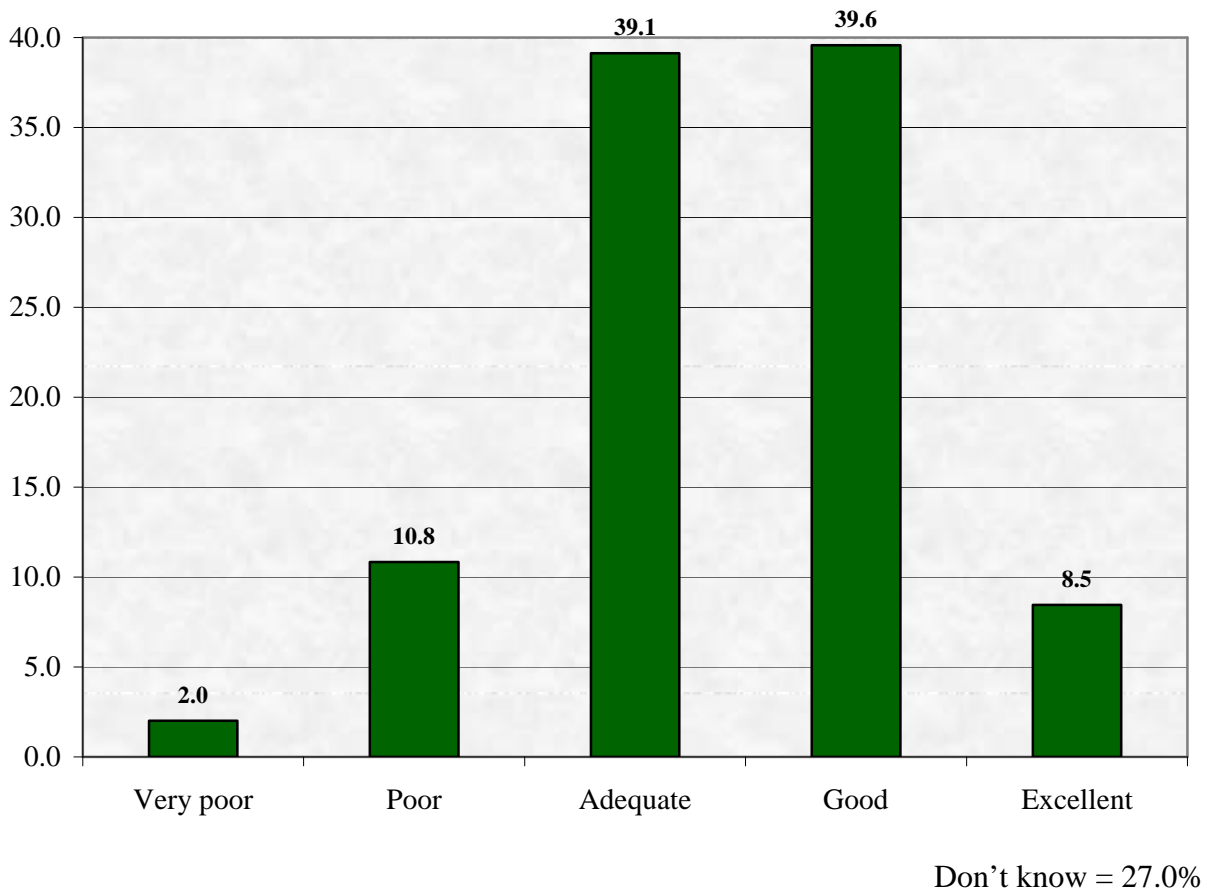
Don't know = 12.6%

## A16. How well do you believe Saskatchewan's education system is doing in supporting school library programs?

Saskatchewan residents give the education system a positive rating when it comes to supporting school library programs.

- Nearly half (48%) of respondents are on the positive side, over three times as many as are on the negative side (13%).

A16. How well do you believe Saskatchewan's education system is doing in supporting school library programs?

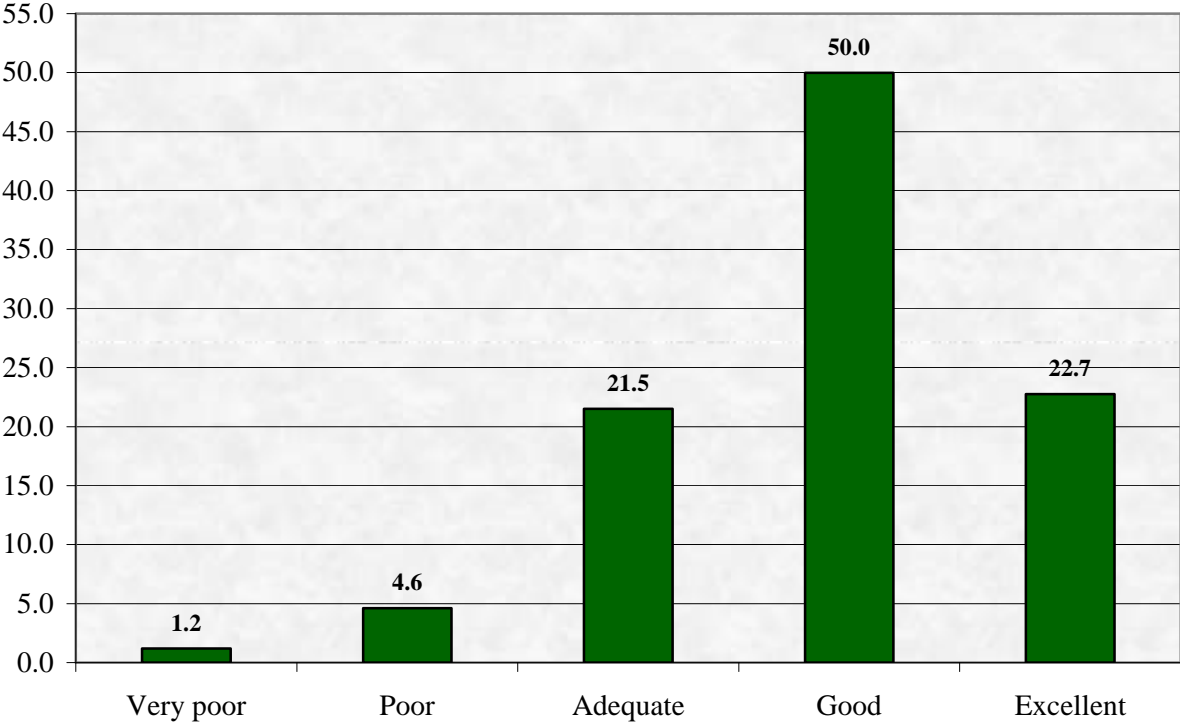


**A17. How well do you believe Saskatchewan’s education system is doing in using new technology like computers and the Internet to enhance learning opportunities for students?**

Saskatchewan residents believe the education system is doing a good job in using new technology to enhance learning for students.

- Nearly three-quarters (73%) stated “Good” or “Very good”.
- Only 6% stated “Poor” or “Very poor”.

A17. How well do you believe Saskatchewan's education system is doing in using new technology like computers and the Internet to enhance learning opportunities for students?



Don't know = 9.3%

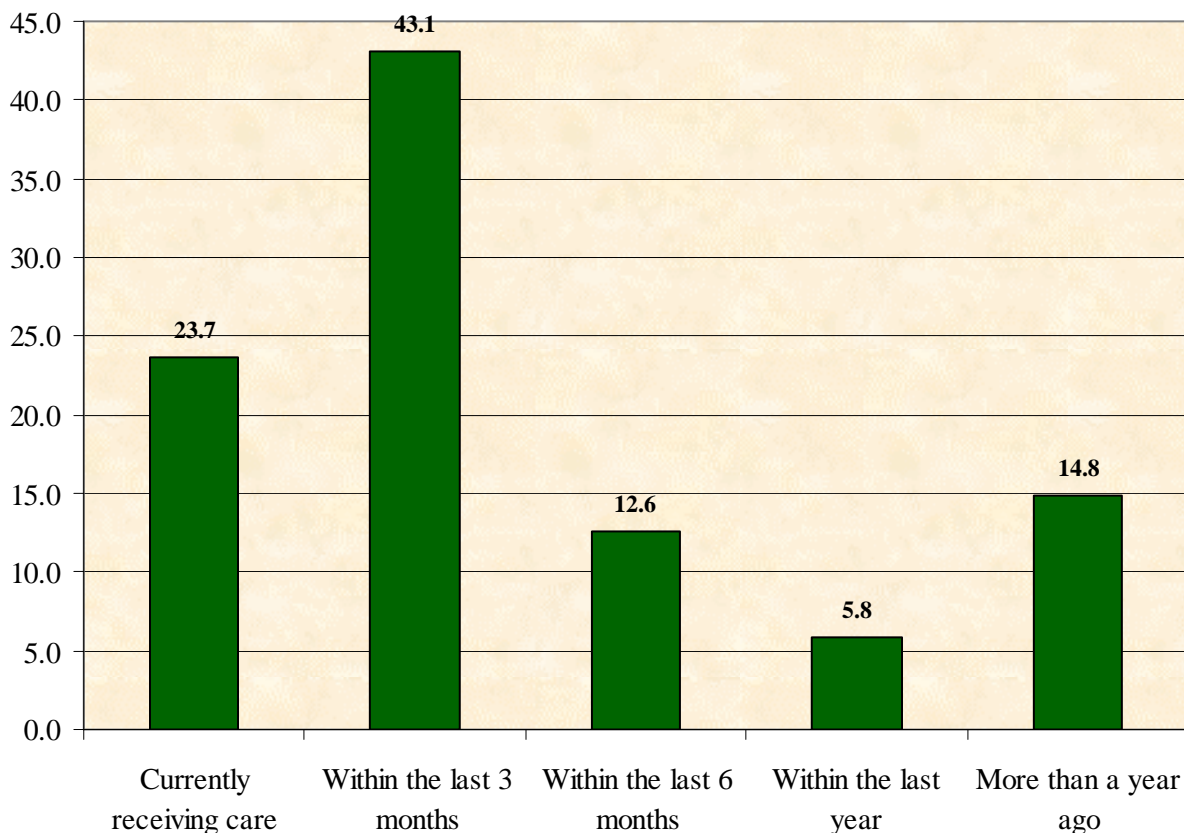
## SECTION B: Saskatchewan Health

### B1. How recently have you or someone in your household received health care services?

Many respondents have recent experience with the health care system in Saskatchewan.

- Two-thirds of respondents (67%) say they have someone in the household who is either currently receiving care or has within the last 3 months.
- Only 15% of respondents said it has been more than a year ago since someone in their household received health care services.

B1. How recently have you or someone in your household received health care services? Is that ...

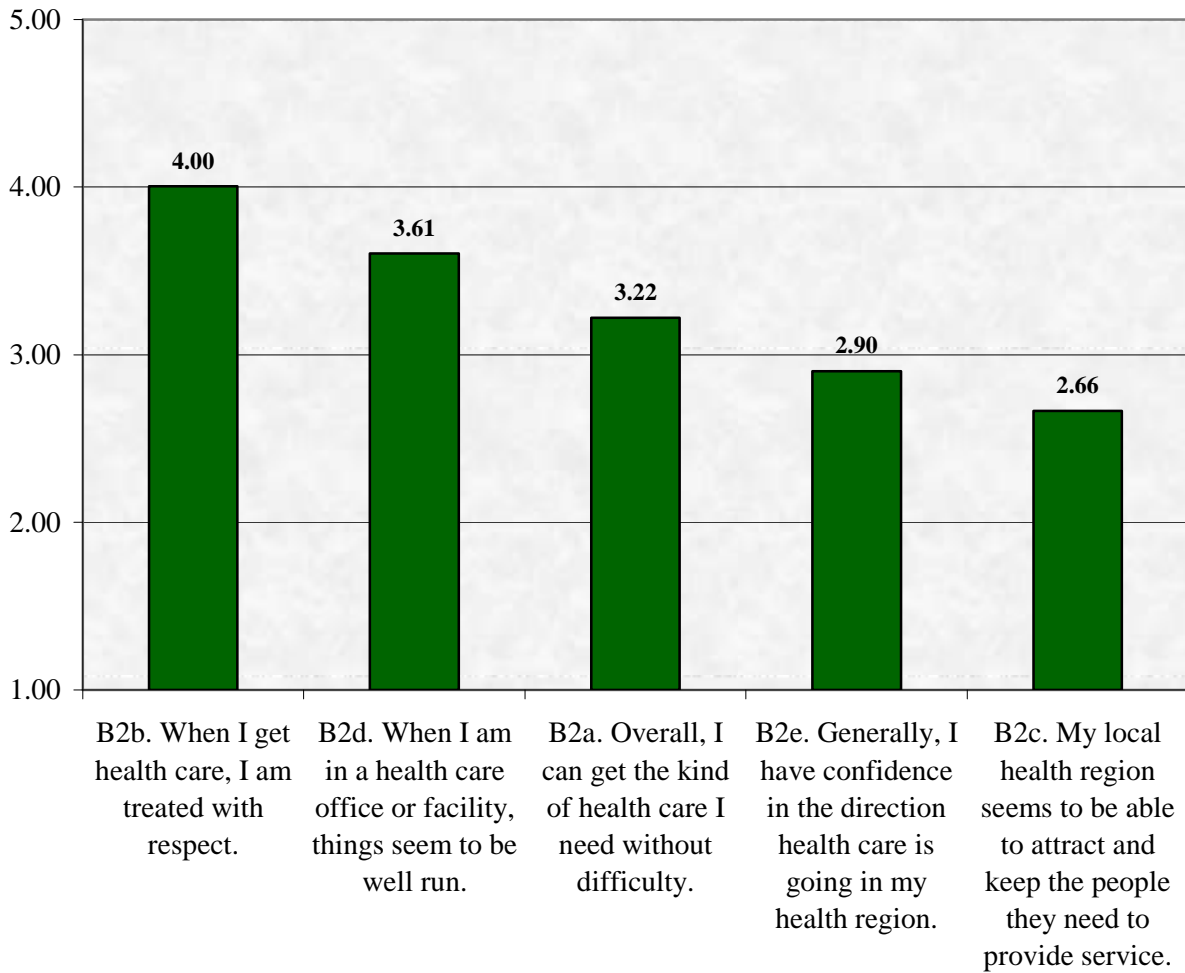


**B2. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is “Strongly disagree” and 5 is “Strongly agree”, do you agree or disagree with the following statements about health care?**

Health care in Saskatchewan receives good grades in some areas, and lesser grades in others.

- Most respondents feel they are treated with respect when receiving health care. The average rating of 4.00 is very high.
- Nearly half (47%) of respondents disagree that their local health region is attracting and keeping personnel. This statement was given the lowest average rating (2.66).

On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is "Strongly disagree" and 5 is "Strongly agree", do you agree or disagree with the following statements about health care?



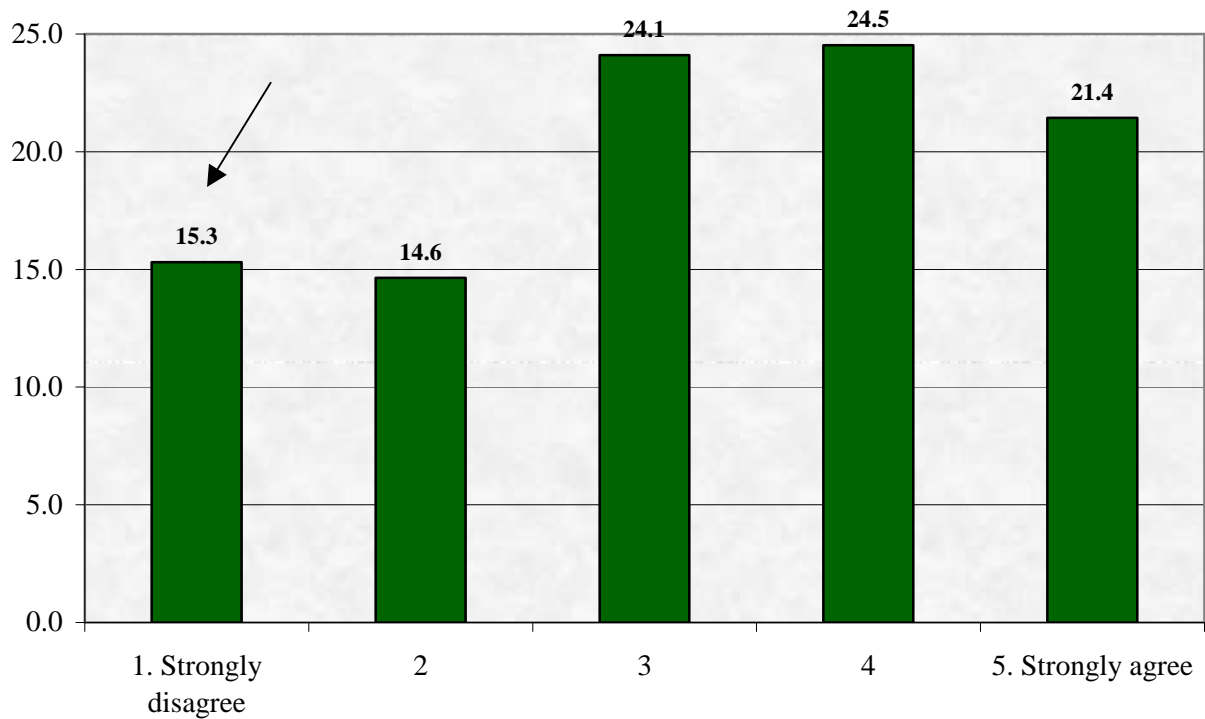
## B2a. Overall, I can get the kind of health care I need without difficulty.

The general response to getting health care without difficulty is positive.

- However, there is a significant proportion (15%) of residents who strongly disagree.

B2a. Overall, I can get the kind of health care I need without difficulty.

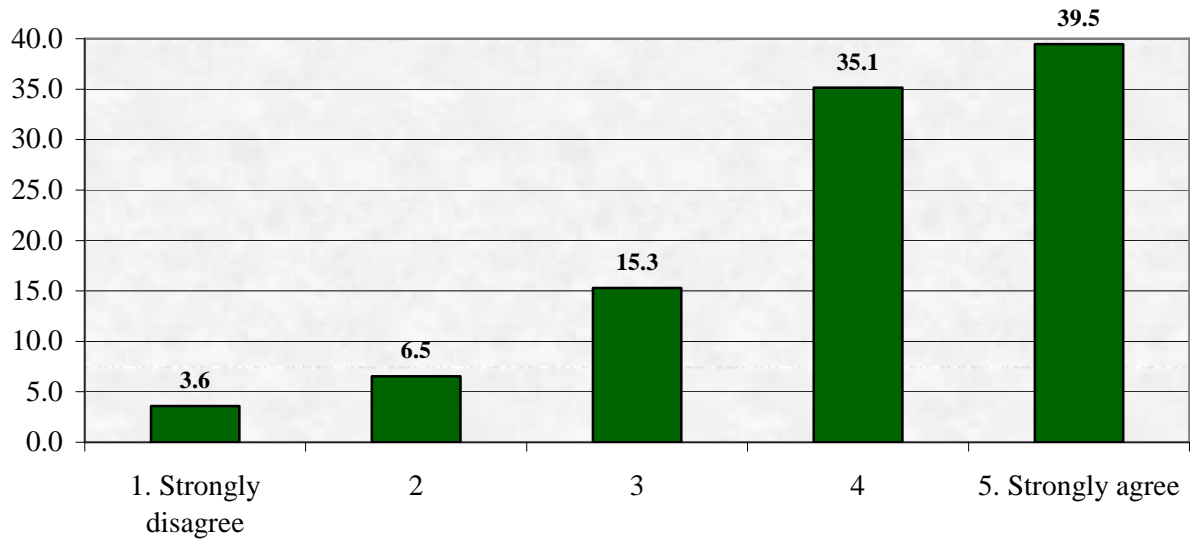
Mean response level = 3.22



## B2b. When I get health care, I am treated with respect.

The Saskatchewan health care system clearly provides respectful care to residents.

B2b. When I get health care, I am treated with respect.  
Mean response level = 4.00

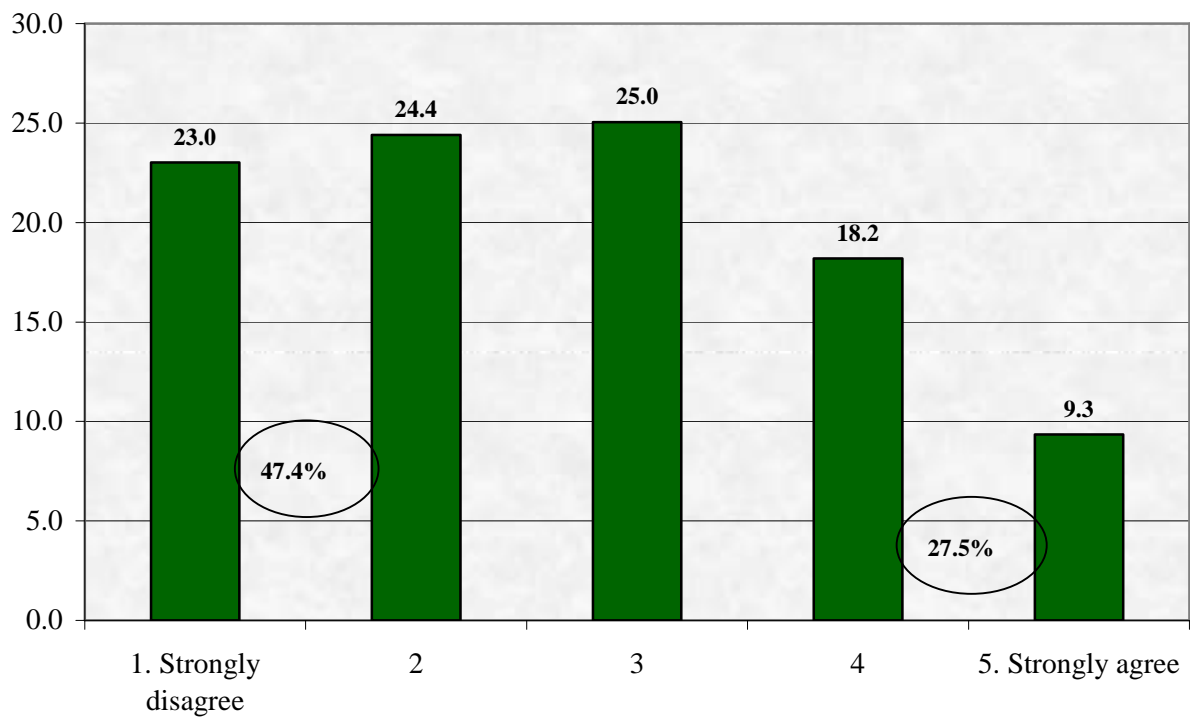


**B2c. My local health region seems to be able to attract and keep the people they need to provide service.**

Saskatchewan people generally do not agree that their health regions are able to attract and keep service providers. Those on the negative side of the scale (47%) outnumber those on the positive side (28%).

- The mean response level of 2.66 is low.

B2c. My local health region seems to be able to attract and keep the people they need to provide service.  
Mean response level = 2.66





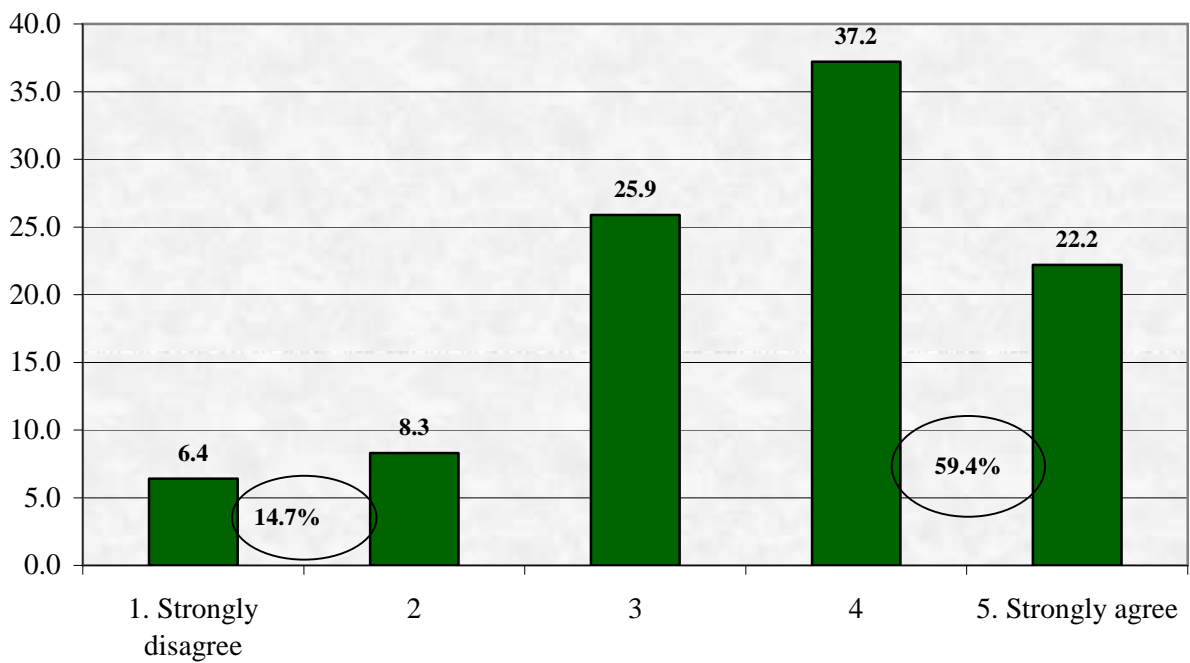
## B2d. When I am in a health care office or facility, things seem to be well run.

Saskatchewan people generally have a positive view of how health care facilities are run.

- Those on the positive side of the scale massively outnumber the negative responses by four to one.
- The mean response level of 3.61 is quite high.

B2d. When I am in a health care office or facility, things seem to be well run.

Mean response level = 3.61

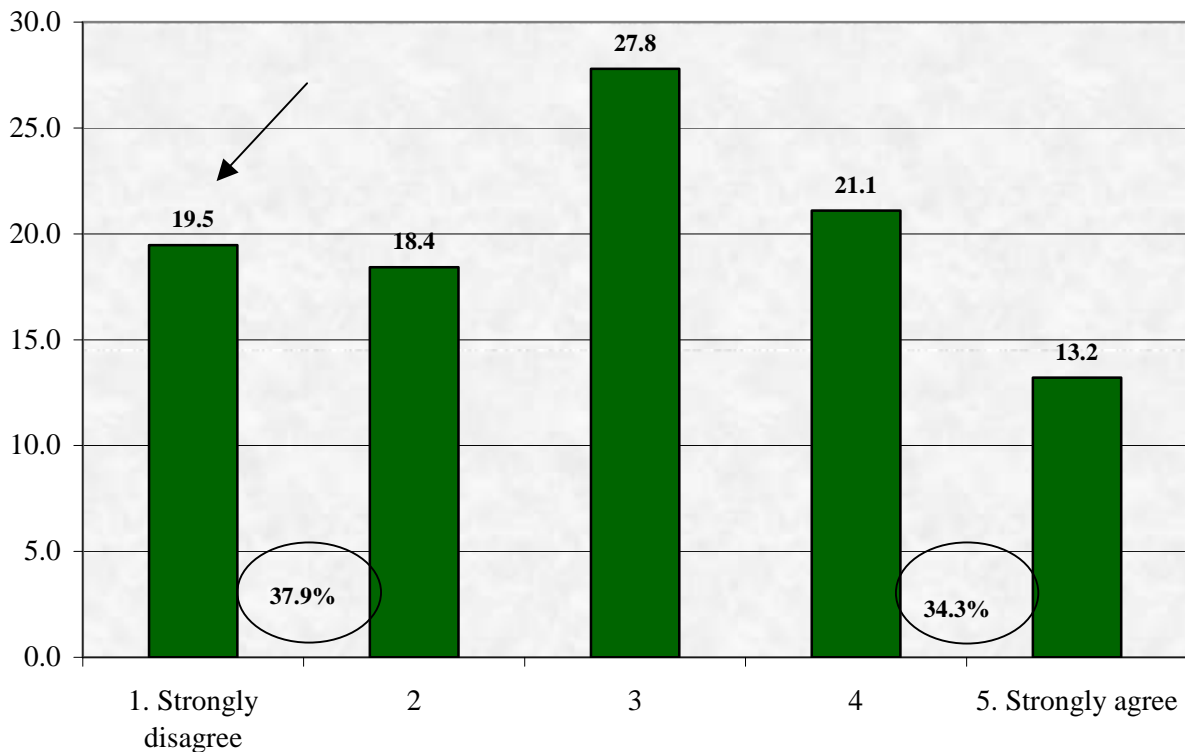


### B2e. Generally, I have confidence in the direction health care is going in my health region.

While opinions on confidence in the direction of health care are divided, the overall response is slightly negative.

- A slightly higher proportion (38%) is on the negative side of the scale compared to 34% on the positive side.
- The mean response level of 2.90 is on the negative side of neutral, primarily because of a significant proportion (20%) of respondents who strongly disagree that they have confidence in the direction of health care in their region.

B2e. Generally, I have confidence in the direction health care is going in my health region.  
Mean response level = 2.90



### B3. Have you or anyone living in your household been diagnosed in the last 12 months as needing surgery?

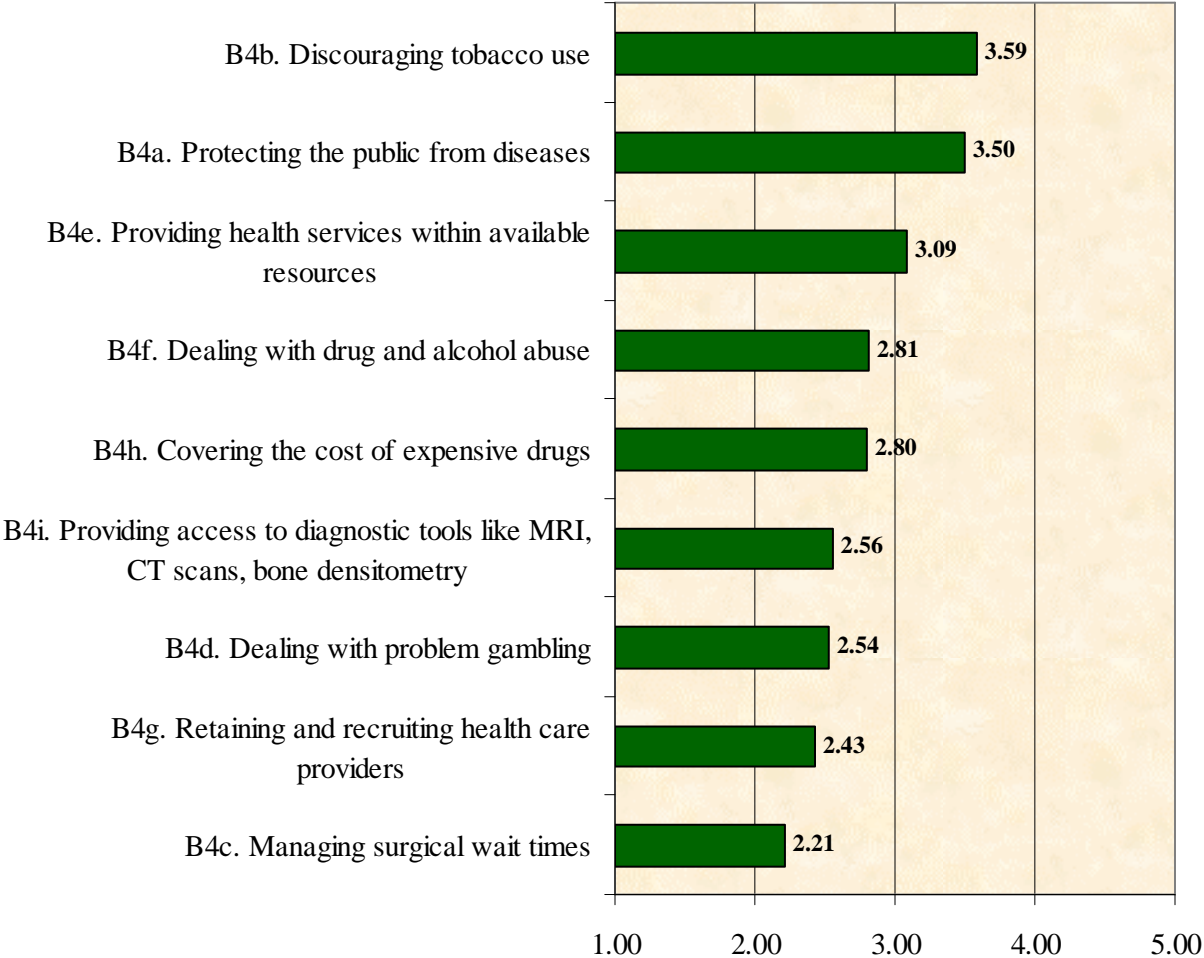
Nearly one-quarter (23.0%) of respondents indicated that someone in their household has been diagnosed in the last year as needing surgery.

**B4. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is “Very poor” and 5 is “Very good”, please rate the job you think the provincial government has been doing in managing the following health care issues.**

Respondents feel the government is doing a good job in some areas and a poor job in others.

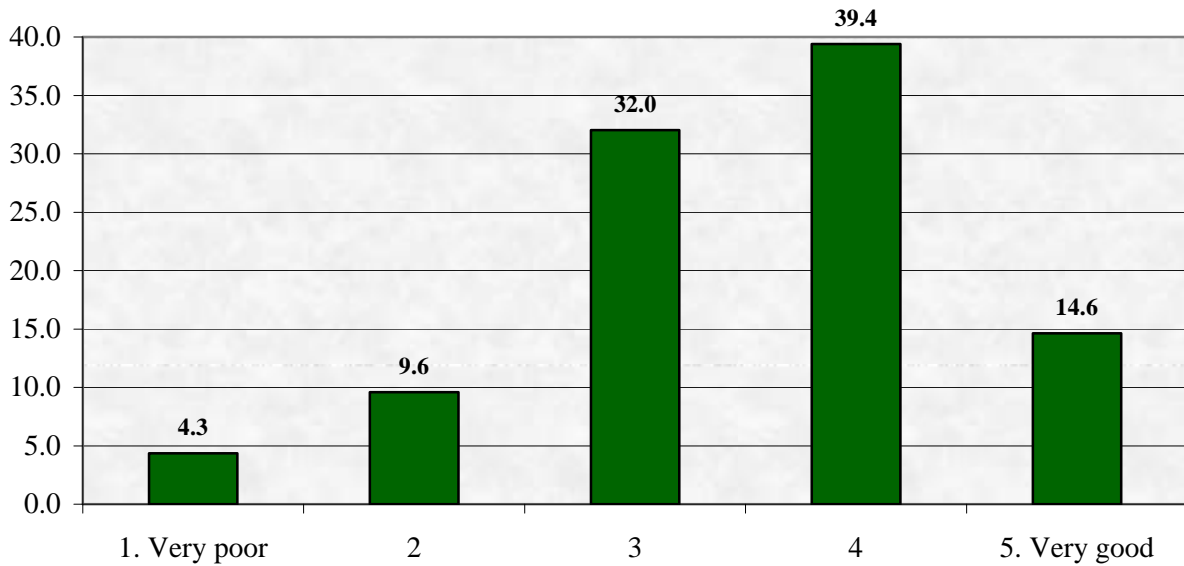
- Only three issues receive an average rating above the 3.00 midpoint.
- Discouraging tobacco use receives the highest rating of 3.59. The lowest rating is for managing surgical wait times.

B4. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is "Very poor" and 5 is "Very good", please rate the job you think the Provincial Government has been doing in managing the following health care issues.



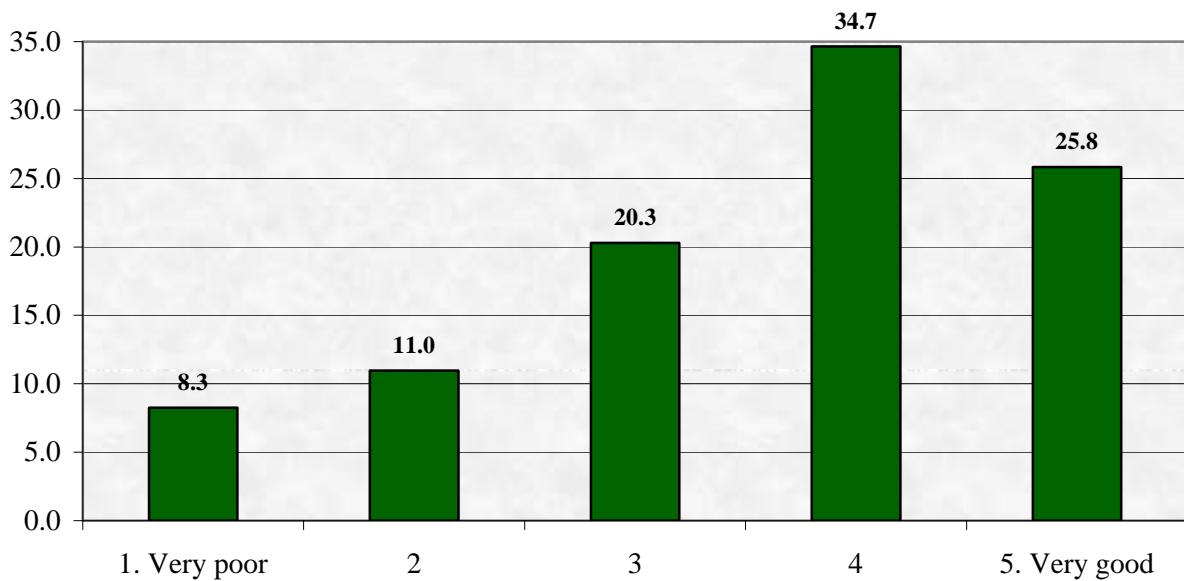
### B4a. Protecting the public from diseases

B4a. Protecting the public from diseases  
Mean response level = 3.50



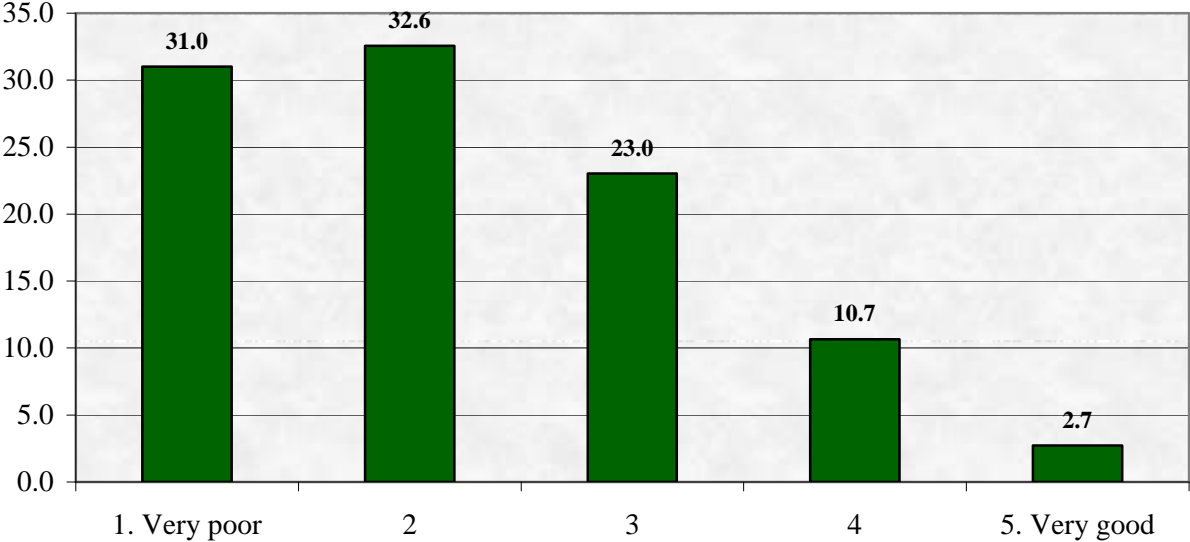
### B4b. Discouraging tobacco use

B4b. Discouraging tobacco use  
Mean response level = 3.59



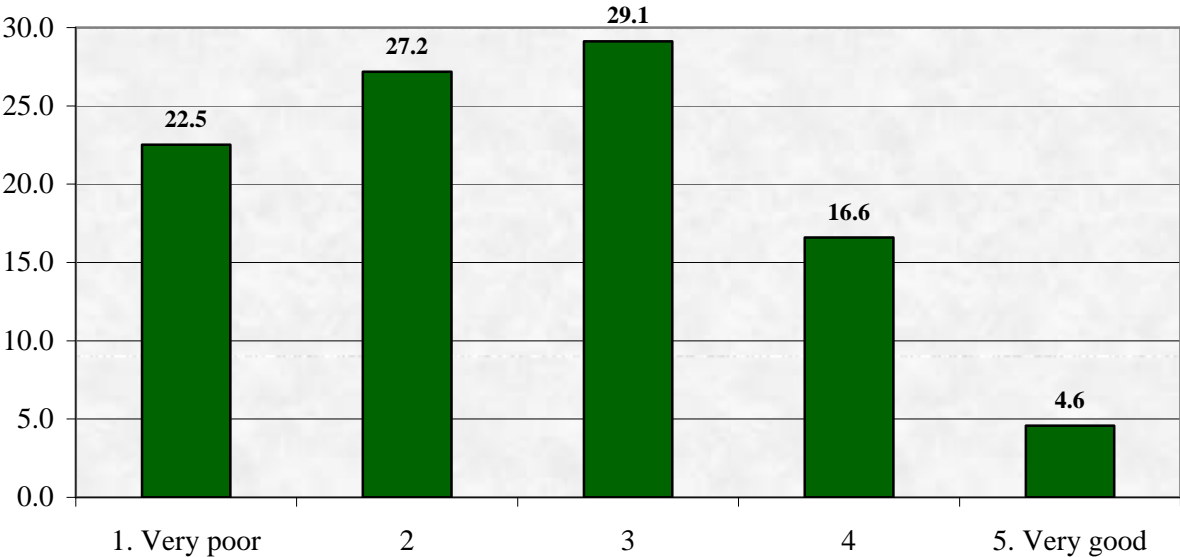
**B4c. Managing surgical wait times**

B4c. Managing surgical wait times  
Mean response level = 2.21



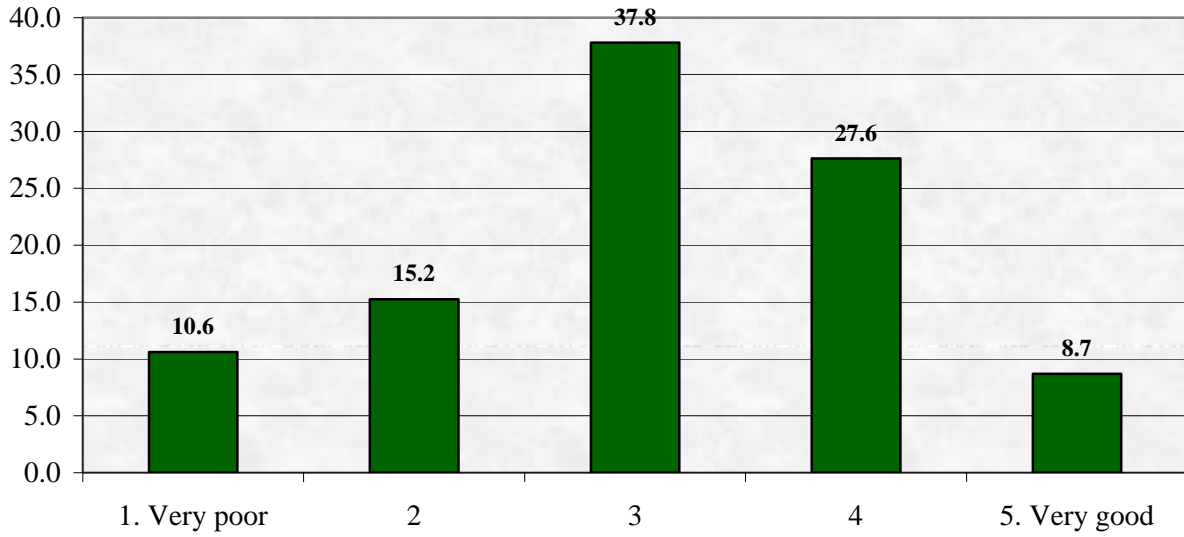
**B4d. Dealing with problem gambling**

B4d. Dealing with problem gambling  
Mean response level = 2.54



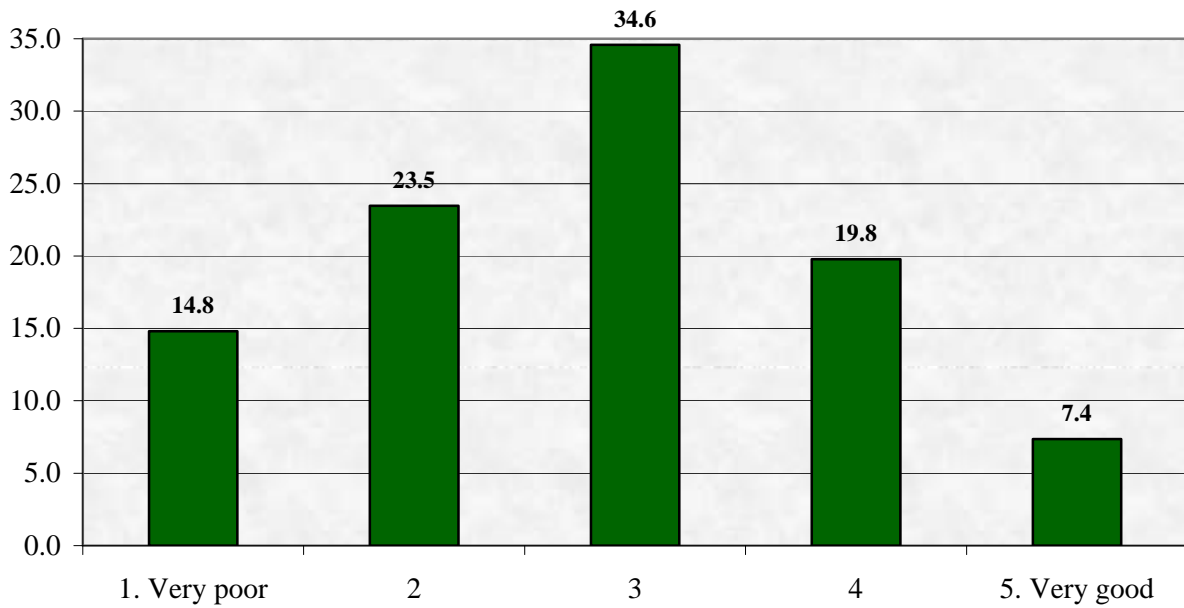
### B4e. Providing health services within available resources

B4e. Providing health services within available resources  
Mean response level = 3.09



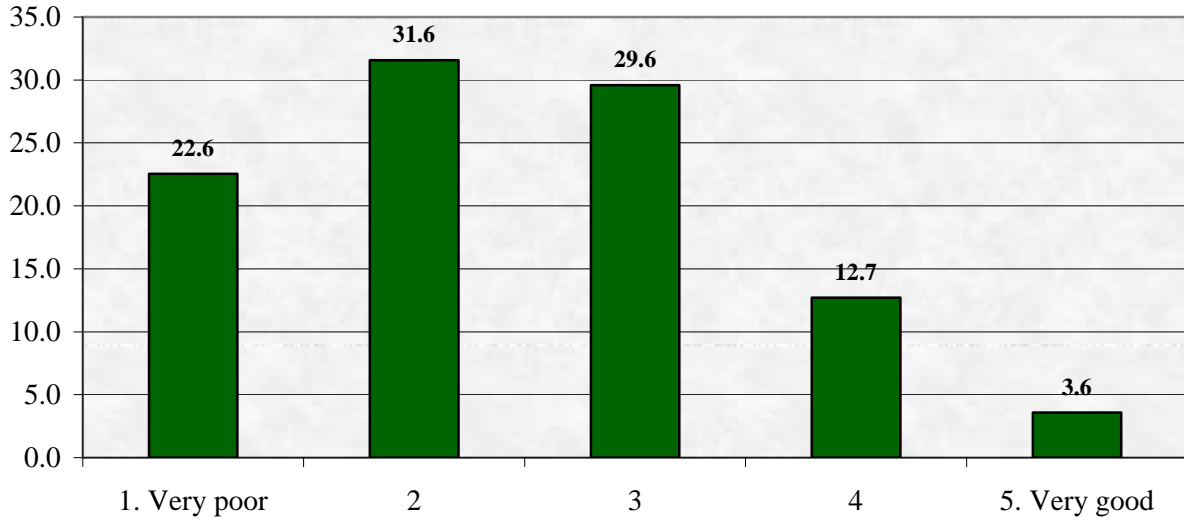
### B4f. Dealing with drug and alcohol abuse

B4f. Dealing with drug and alcohol abuse  
Mean response level = 2.81



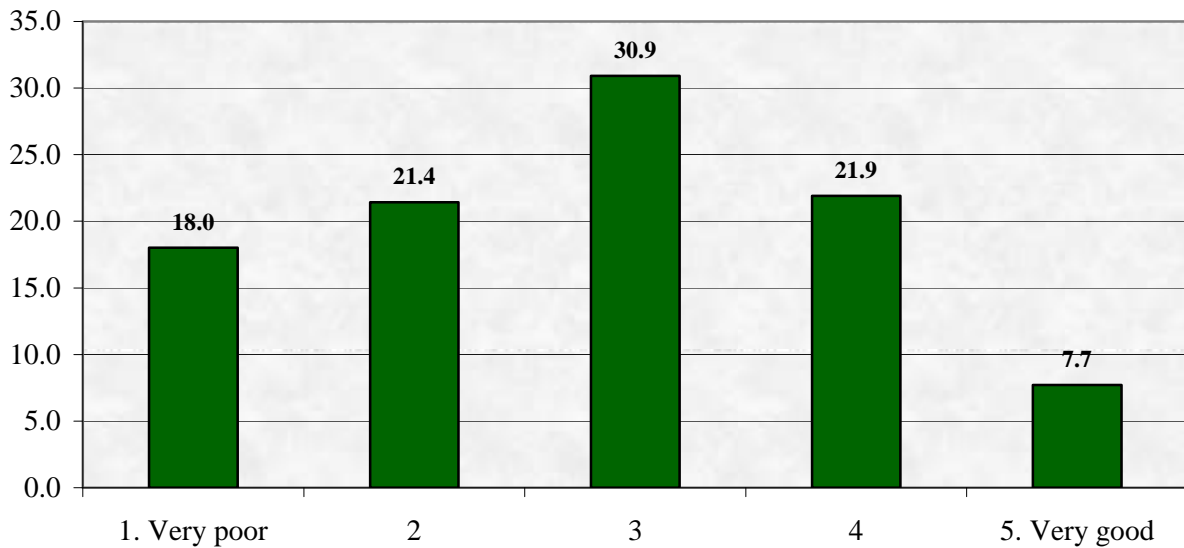
### B4g. Retaining and recruiting health care providers

B4g. Retaining and recruiting health care providers  
Mean response level = 2.43



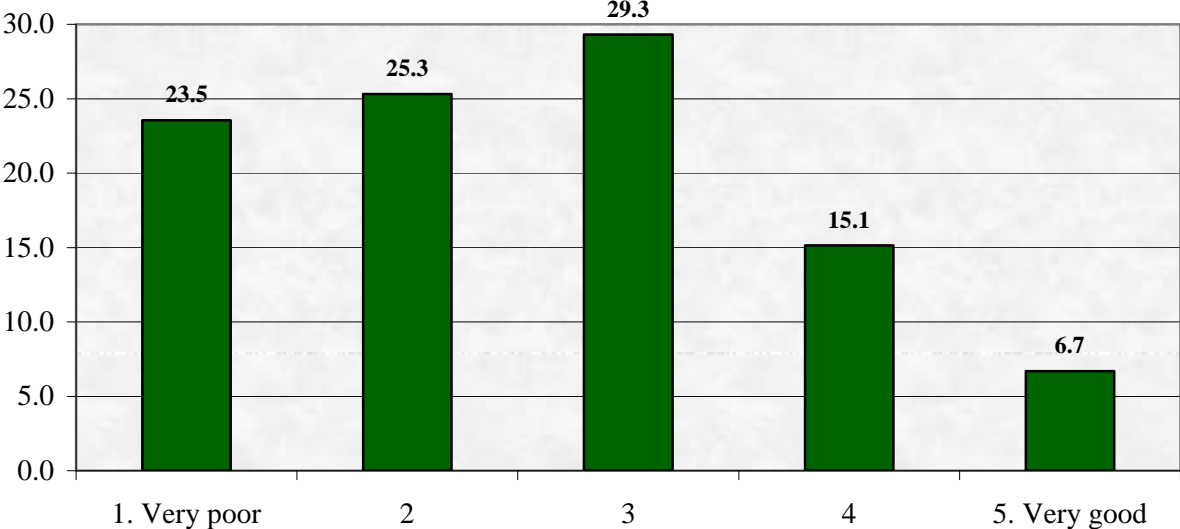
### B4h. Covering the cost of expensive drugs

B4h. Covering the cost of expensive drugs  
Mean response level = 2.80



**B4i. Providing access to diagnostic tools like MRI, CT scans, bone densitometry**

B4i. Providing access to diagnostic tools like MRI, CT scans, bone densitometry  
Mean response level = 2.56

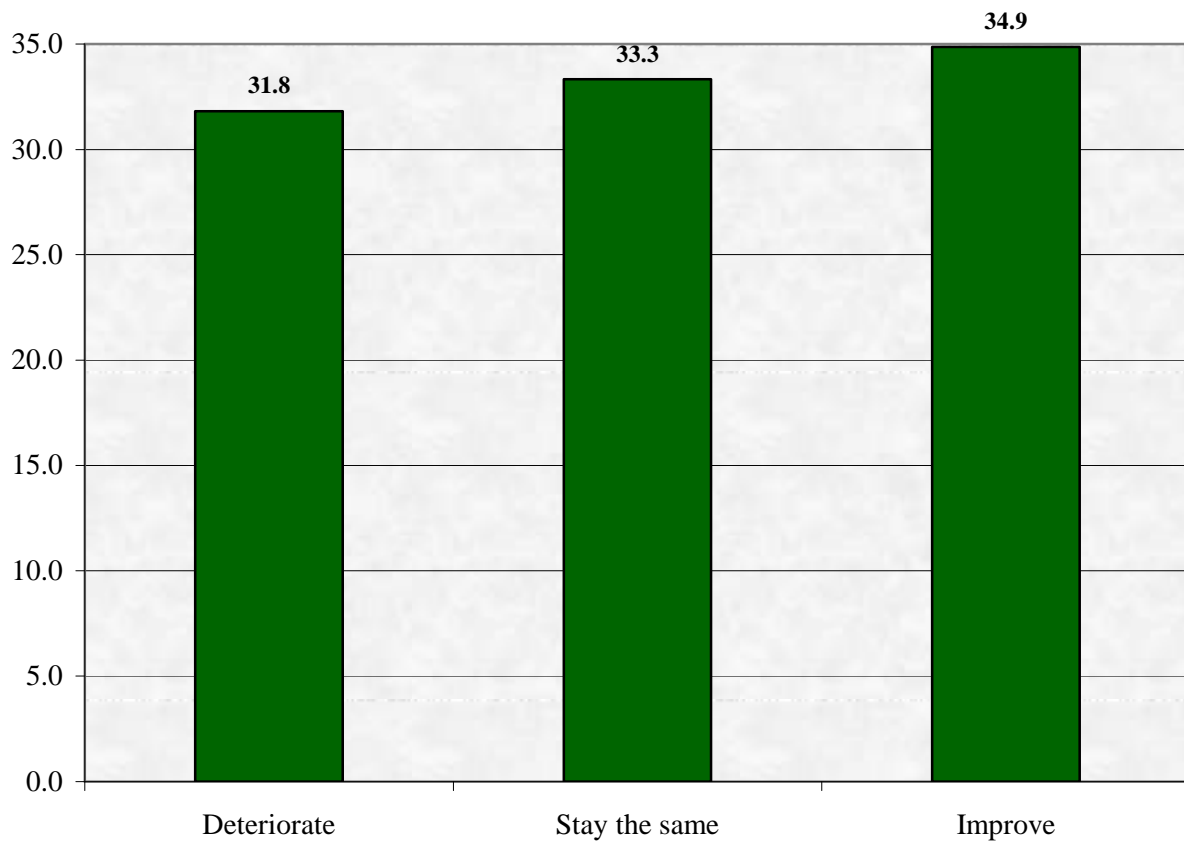




## B5. Over the next 10 years, do you expect health services in Saskatchewan will improve, deteriorate, or stay the same?

Responses are fairly evenly divided, with slightly more people saying health care will improve than those saying it will deteriorate.

B5. Over the next 10 years, do you expect health services in Saskatchewan will improve, deteriorate, or stay the same?

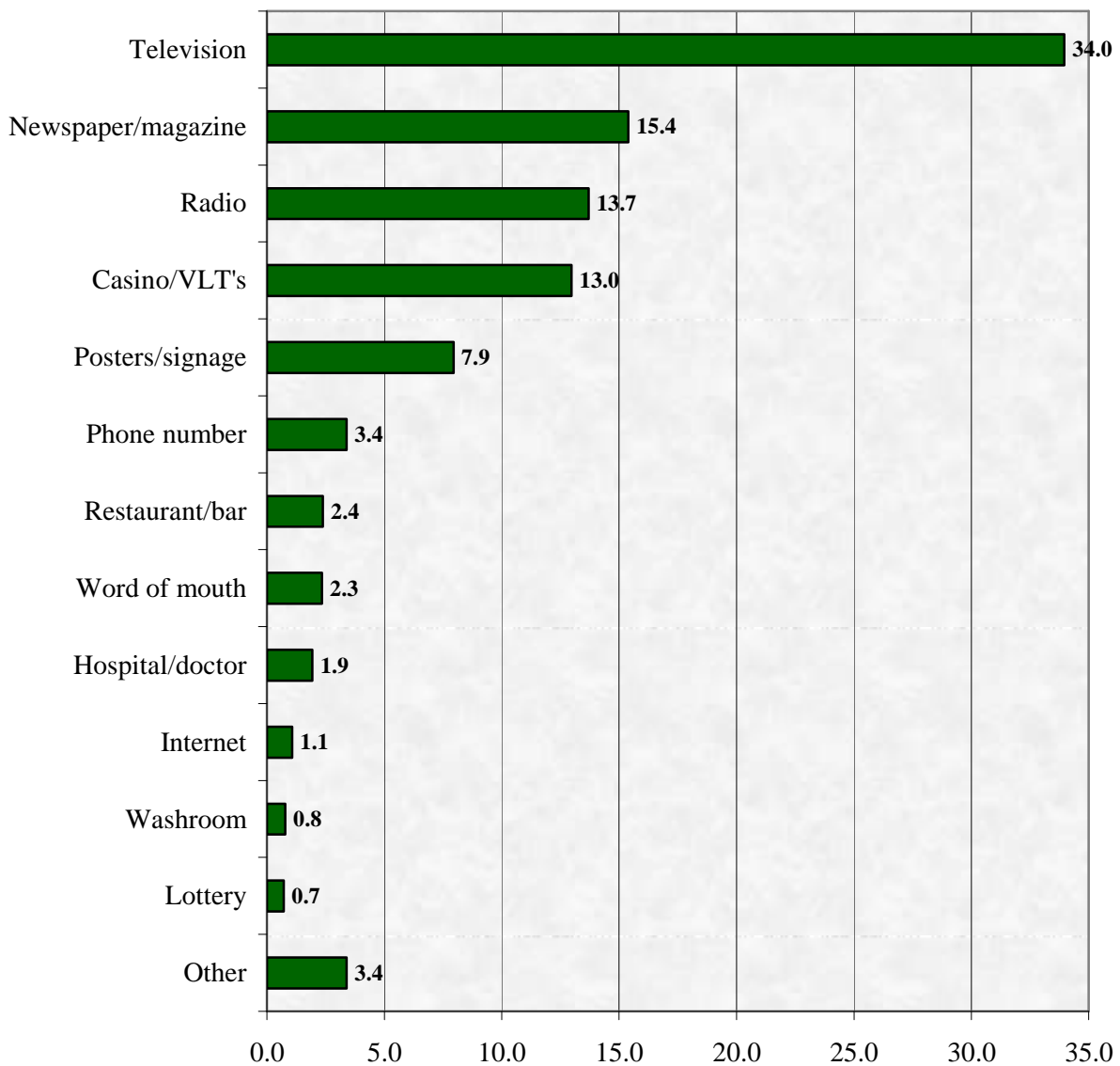


**B6. Have you recently seen, heard, or read any messages that encourage people to seek help or information about problem gambling?**

56.8% of respondents recalled advertising about problem gambling.

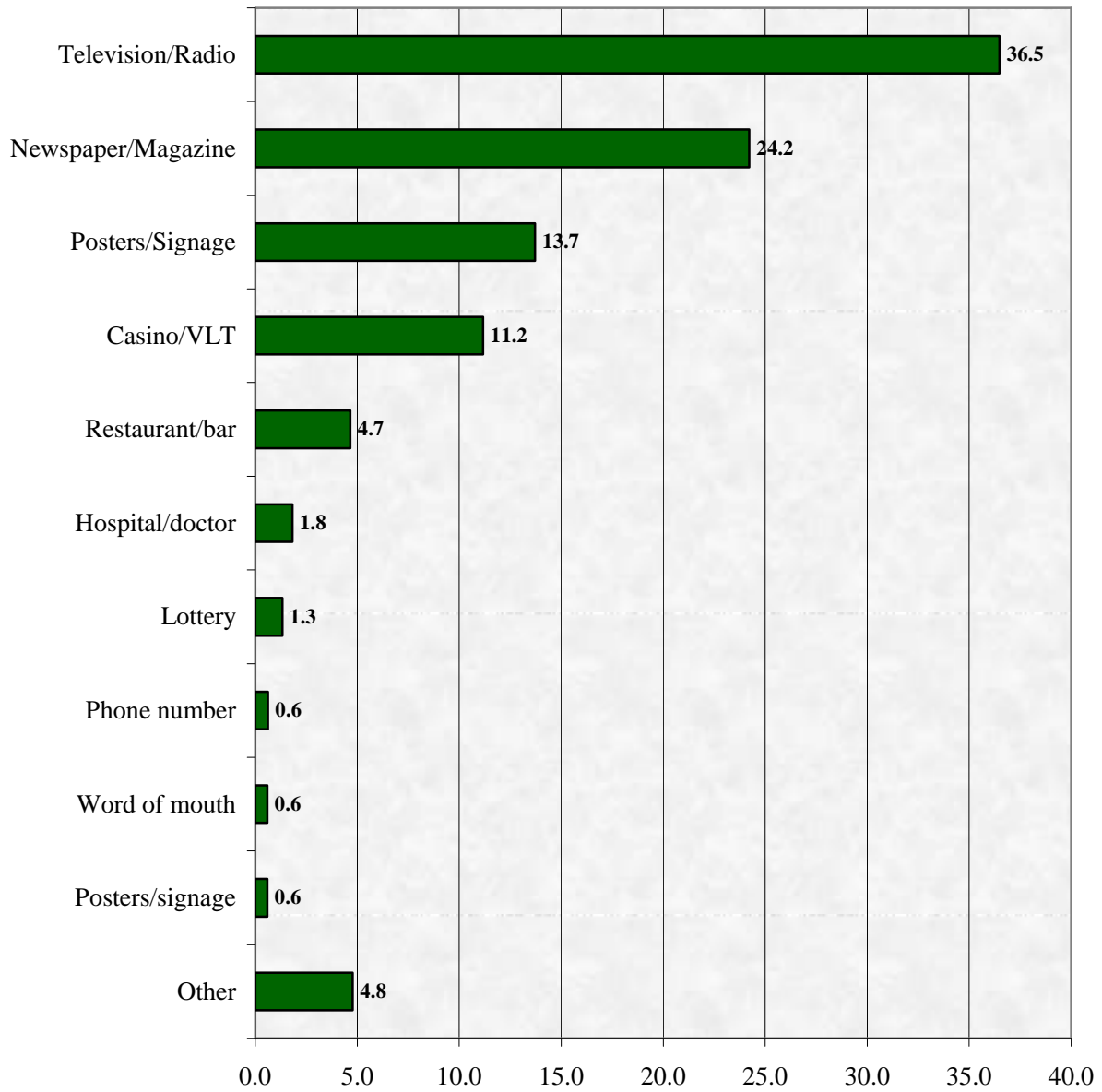
**B6a. When you think of where you saw, heard, or read this information, what is the first source that comes to mind?**

B6a. When you think of where you saw, heard, or read this information, what is the first source that comes to mind?



**B6b. Do you recall any other places where you saw, heard, or read this information?**

B6b. Do you recall any other places where you saw, heard, or read this information?



**B7. Are you aware that Saskatchewan Health offers a problem gambling toll-free help line?**

78.2% of respondents are aware that of the problem gambling telephone line offered by Saskatchewan Health.

## SECTION C: Sask Environment

### C1. Did you visit a provincial park in 2005?

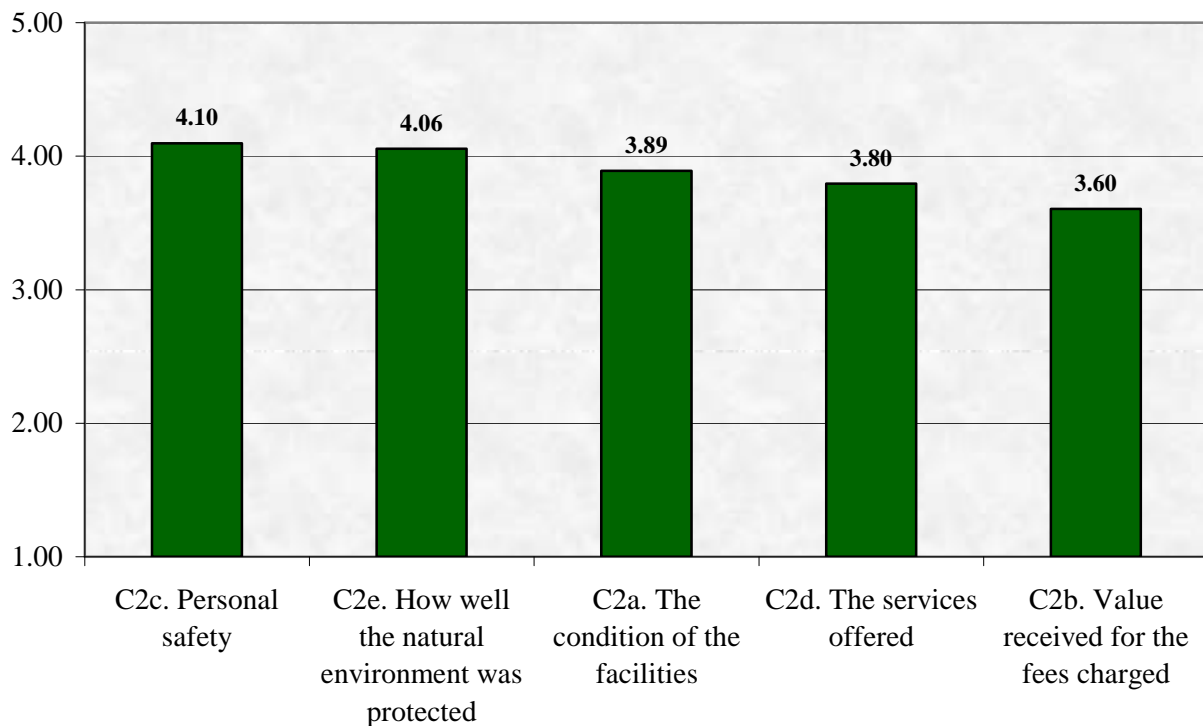
Just over one-half of respondents (52.2%) indicated they had visited a provincial park in Saskatchewan in 2005.

### C2. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is “Very dissatisfied” and 5 is “Very satisfied”, please rate the following aspects of your most recent visit to a provincial park.

Those who visited provincial parks in 2005 generally were very satisfied with the five aspects of experience with provincial parks.

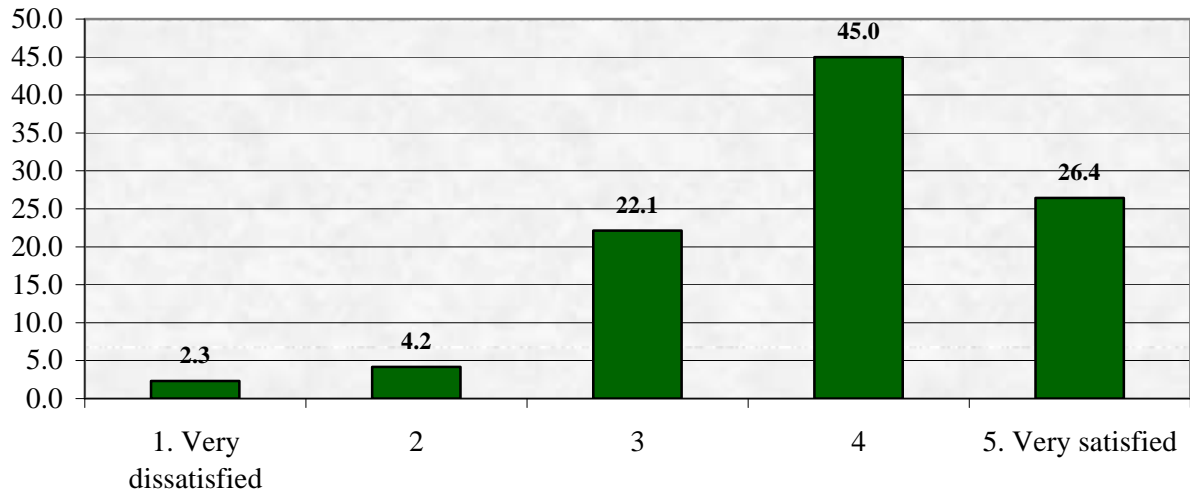
- Personal safety and protecting the environment lead the way with exceptionally high mean response levels.

C2. On a 1 to 5 scale where 1 is "Very dissatisfied" and 5 is "Very satisfied", please rate the following aspects of your most recent visit to a provincial park.



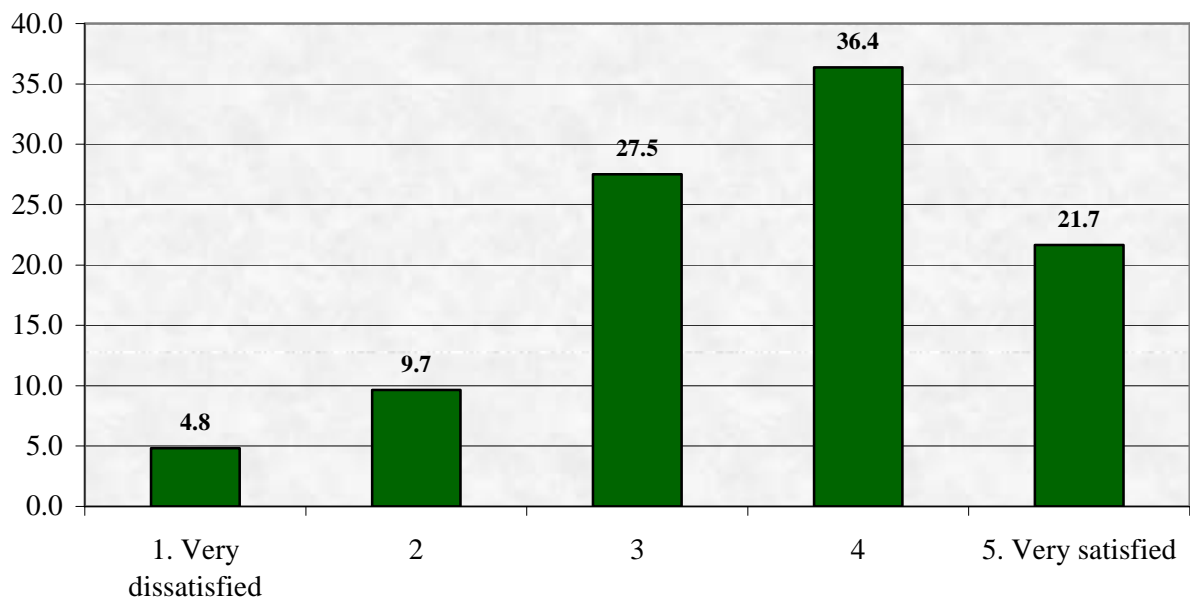
### C2a. The condition of the facilities

C2a. The condition of the facilities  
Mean response level = 3.89



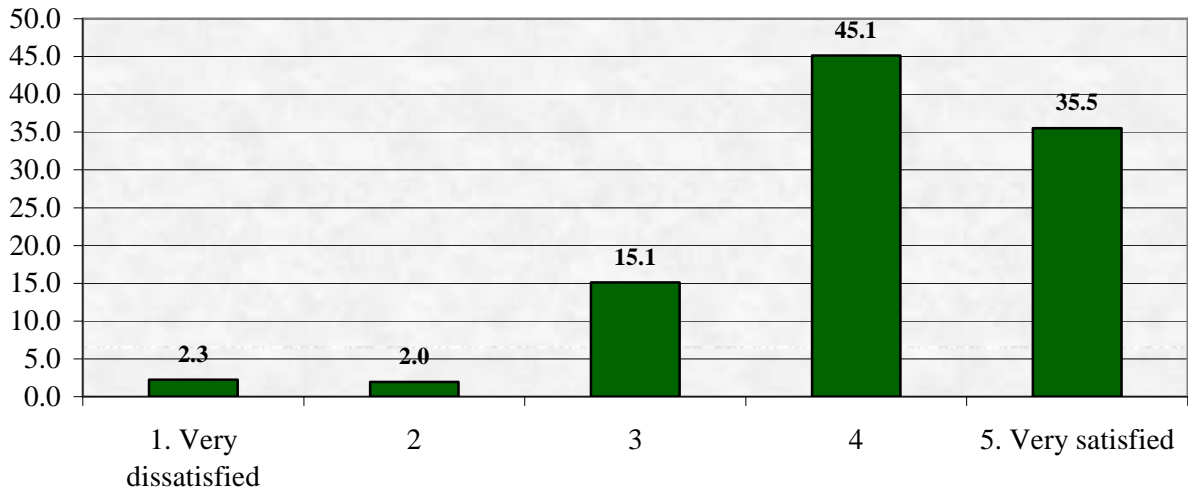
### C2b. Value received for the fees charged

C2b. Value received for the fees charged  
Mean response level = 3.60



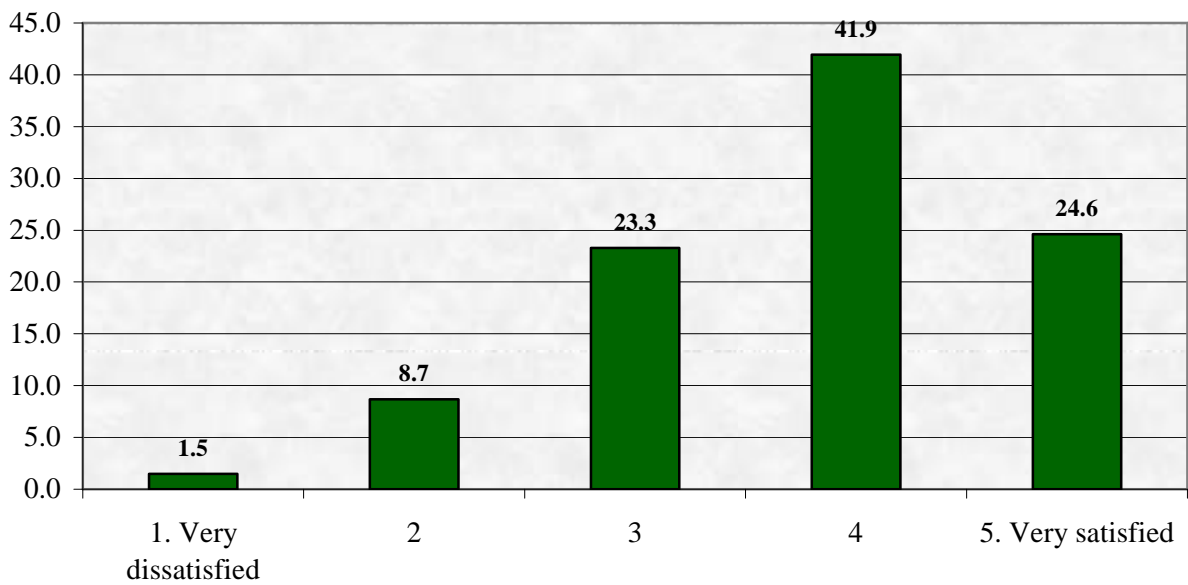
### C2c. Personal safety

C2c. Personal safety  
Mean response level = 4.10



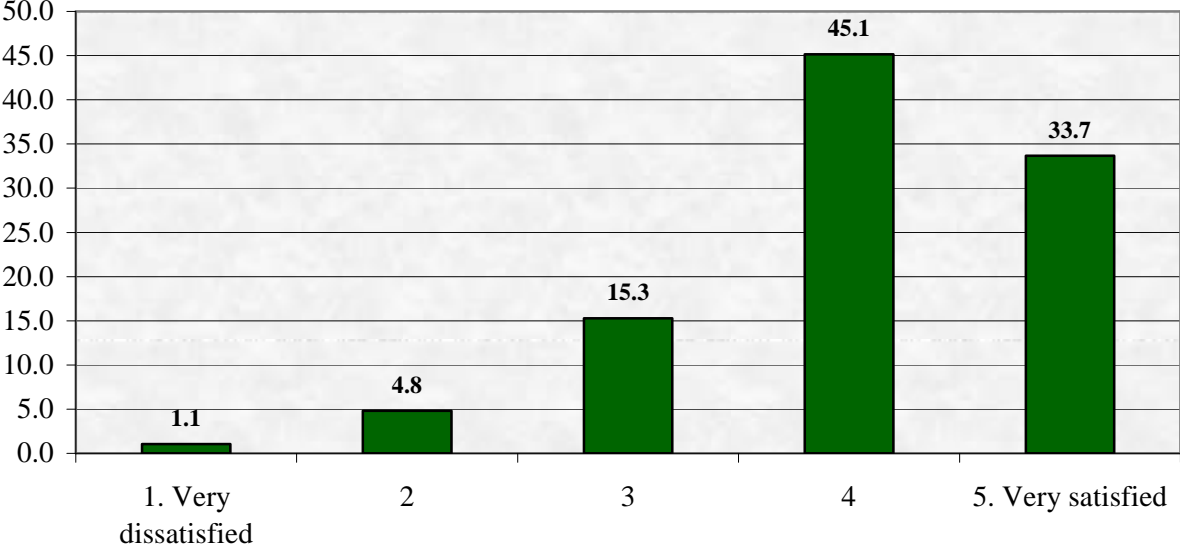
### C2d. The services offered

C2d. The services offered  
Mean response level = 3.80



**C2e. How well the natural environment was protected**

C2e. How well the natural environment was protected  
Mean response level = 4.06



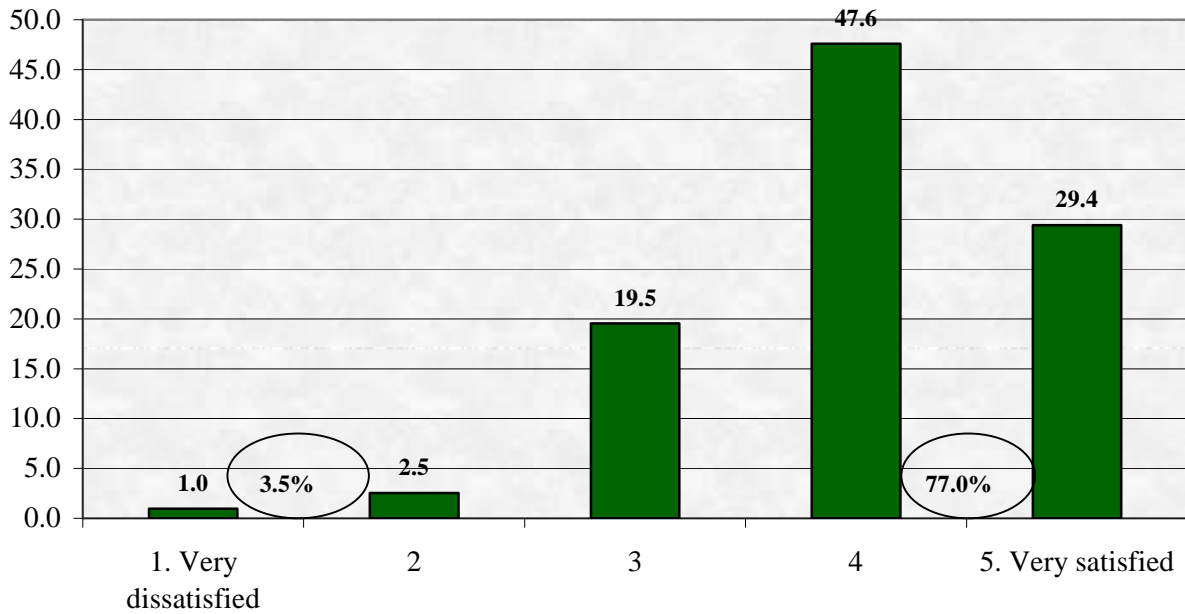


### C3. Overall, how satisfied were you with all your visits to Saskatchewan Parks in 2005, using the same 5-point scale?

Overall, park users were very satisfied with their visits in 2005.

- More than three-quarters (77%) fall on the positive side, compared to less than 4% on the negative side.
- The mean response level of 4.05 is exceptionally high.

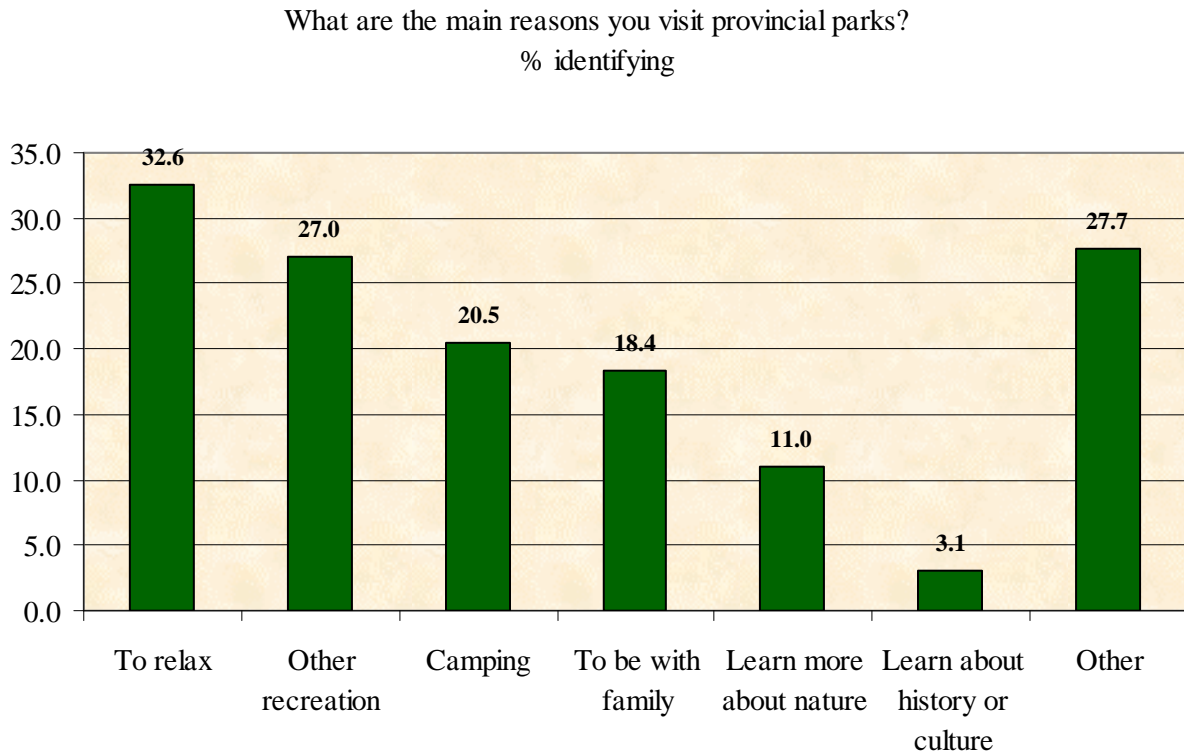
C3. Overall, how satisfied were you with all your visits to Saskatchewan Parks in 2005, using the same 5-point scale?  
Mean response level = 4.02



## C4. What are the main reasons you visit provincial parks?

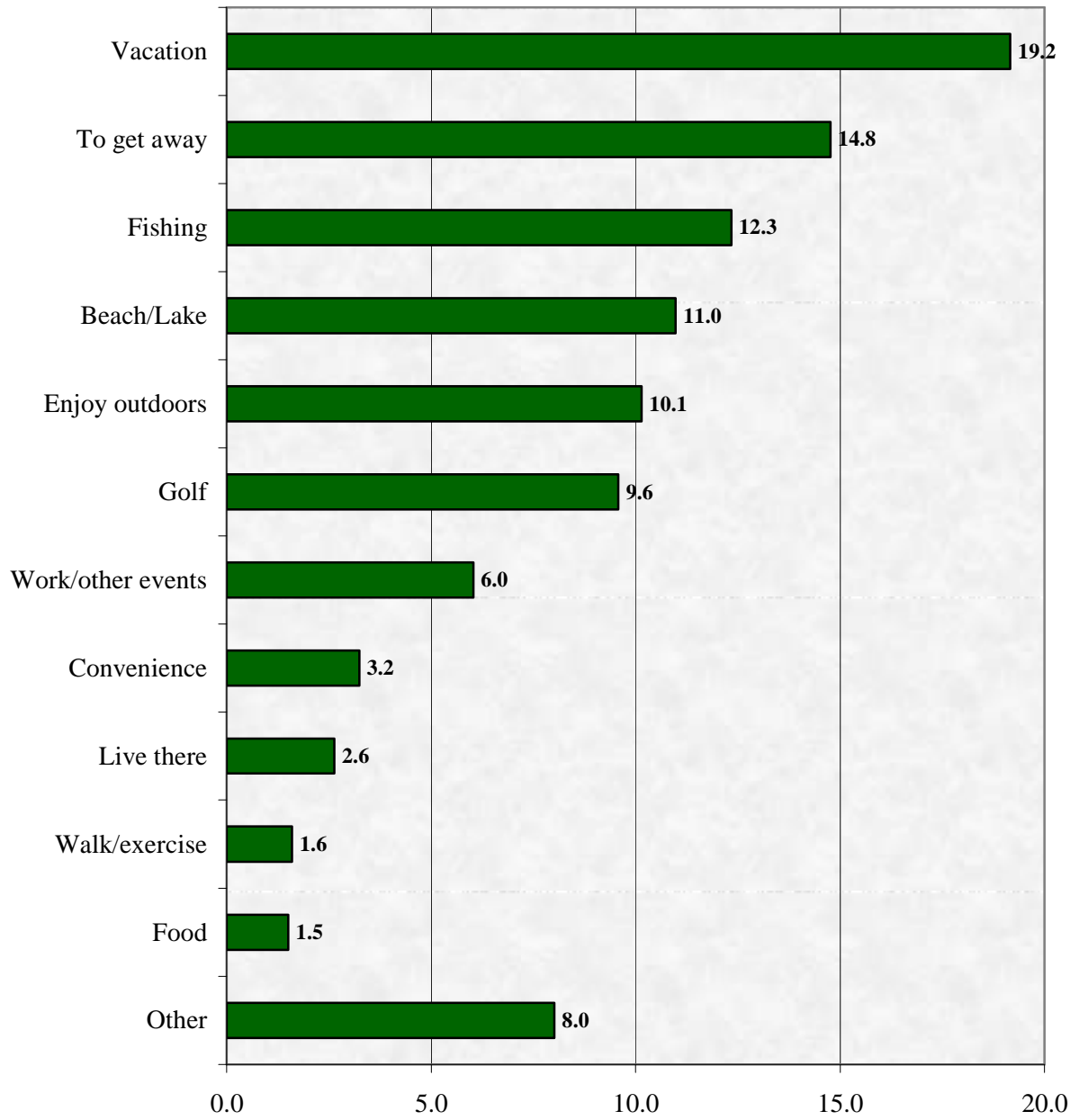
Reasons for visiting provincial parks vary among respondents.

- Relaxation and recreation are the most popular pursuits in provincial parks.



The “other” response category is summarized in the chart to follow.

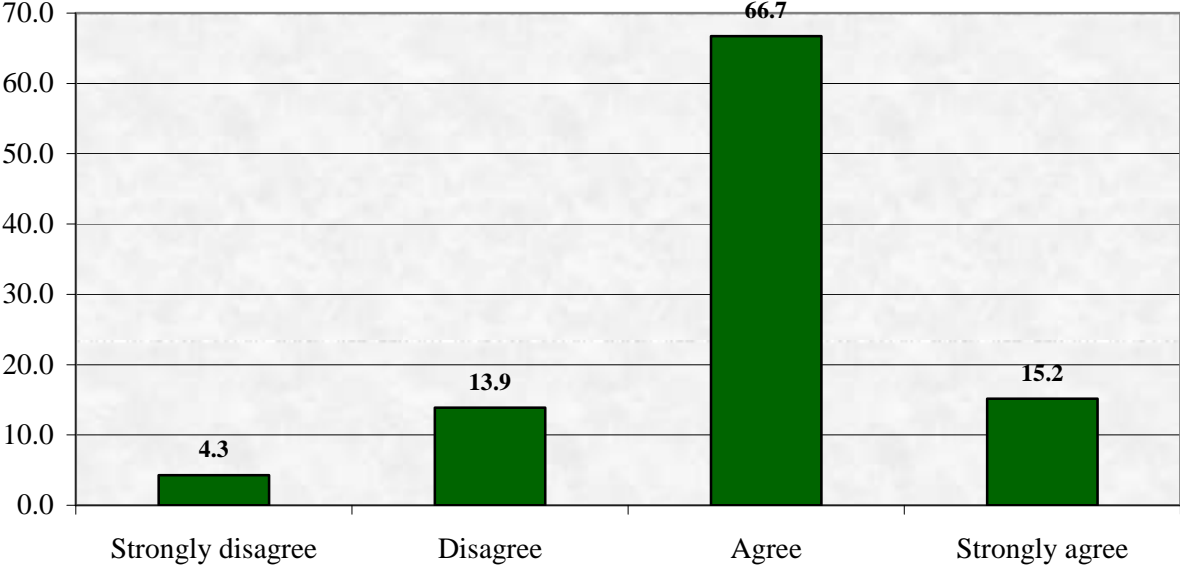
#### C4. Other



**C5. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Do you “strongly disagree”, “disagree”, “agree”, or “strongly agree”?**

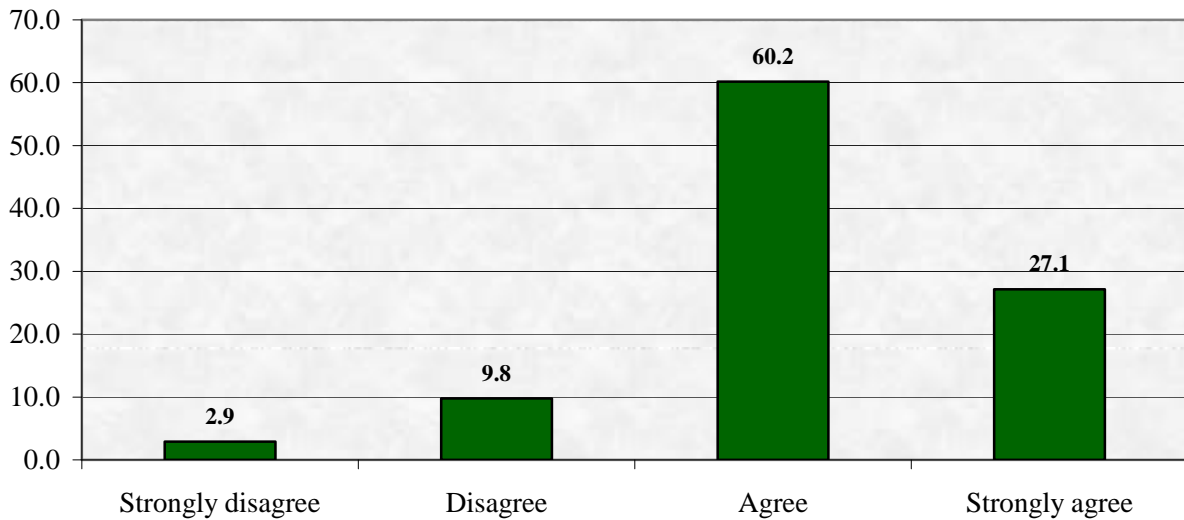
**C5a. Saskatchewan residents have safe drinking water.**

C5a. Saskatchewan residents have safe drinking water.



**C5b. I am confident that my drinking water is safe.**

C5b. I am confident that my drinking water is safe.



**C5c. I am willing to pay more to improve the safety or the quality of my drinking water.**

C5c. I am willing to pay more to improve the safety or the quality of my drinking water.

