

Parks & Recreation and Cultural Programs

A series of eight questions in the survey specifically examined Parks & Recreation and Cultural programs. Initially, the respondents were asked if they had participated in the Parks & Recreation programs. They were also asked to name which program(s) they were involved with the location and to rate various aspects of the program including *program quality, facility quality, cost or fee, overall experience, ease of registration, and instructor quality*. The same 9-point grading scale was utilized.

The results showed that 36.4% or 146 of the respondents (32.8% in 2008) indicated someone in their household had participated in a Parks & Recreation or Cultural Program in the past two years. The programs they participated in and locations are illustrated in Appendix G. The most commonly mentioned were sports/athletics, art/art classes, baseball, basketball, tennis, concerts, senior citizen activities, and summer camps. Tables 25-30 (placed in descending order of rating) specifically examined the service dimensions related to the Parks & Recreation and Cultural programs. This year, the dimensions received continued high ratings with a level of improvement from 2008. The means increased on five dimensions (*facility quality, overall experience, ease of registration, program quality, and cost or fee*) while the other dimension (*instructor quality*) remained virtually unchanged. The mean increases were relatively large and this resulted in two of the grades improving for *facility quality* (A- to A) and *overall experience* (A- to A). Overall, Parks & Recreation earned very high marks with four A- and two A grades. These two grades represent the highest overall marks that Parks & Recreation have earned to date for these dimensions.

Table 25. Parks & Recreation: Facility Quality.

Year	Mean	Very Poor 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Excellent 9	Grade
10	8.44	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	1.4	2.1	8.3	22.2	65.3	A
08	8.11	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.8	3.8	0.8	15.4	27.7	50.0	A-
06	8.18	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	1.9	4.7	13.1	29.0	50.5	A-
04	8.30	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	3.5	4.9	7.7	20.4	62.7	A-
02	8.06	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	4.6	3.3	17.1	28.3	46.1	A-
00	7.59	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	5.3	9.7	24.8	28.3	30.1	B
98	7.72	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.7	2.2	7.4	27.2	28.7	32.4	B

Table 26. Parks & Recreation: Overall Experience.

Year	Mean	Very Poor 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Excellent 9	Grade
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10	8.43	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.7	2.1	0.7	8.3	21.5	66.0	A
08	8.21	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	1.6	3.2	13.5	31.0	50.0	A-
06	8.14	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	6.6	14.2	34.0	44.3	A-
04	8.30	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	2.8	12.5	29.2	54.2	A-
02	8.11	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	3.9	1.3	13.7	32.7	46.4	A-
00	8.11	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.3	2.6	13.2	33.3	45.6	A-
98	7.88	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	5.8	22.6	37.2	32.1	B+

Table 27. Parks & Recreation: Ease of Registration.

Year	Mean	Very Poor 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Excellent 9	Grade
10	8.36	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.8	2.3	2.3	8.3	22.6	63.2	A-
08	8.26	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	1.8	2.7	11.8	19.1	61.8	A-
06	8.20	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.0	5.1	10.2	30.6	51.0	A-
04	8.32	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.0	2.5	3.3	7.5	21.7	63.3	A-

Table 28. Parks & Recreation: Program Quality.

Year	Mean	Very Poor 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Excellent 9	Grade
10	8.35	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	2.1	2.1	11.9	21.7	61.5	A-
08	8.23	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	2.4	1.6	15.2	27.2	52.8	A-
06	8.03	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	3.8	3.8	17.1	31.4	42.9	B+
04	8.36	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	2.9	10.7	27.9	57.1	A-
02	8.01	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	4.5	3.9	15.6	31.2	43.5	B+
00	7.97	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.4	6.2	15.9	35.4	38.1	B+
98	7.85	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	5.8	22.6	37.2	32.1	B+

Table 29. Parks & Recreation: Instructor Quality.

Year	Mean	Very Poor 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Excellent 9	Grade
10	8.30	0.9	0.9	0.0	1.7	1.7	0.9	10.4	18.3	65.2	A-
08	8.31	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.9	0.9	15.0	21.5	59.8	A-
06	8.22	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	2.1	12.8	28.7	53.2	A-
04	8.21	0.9	0.0	0.9	0.0	2.7	1.8	14.3	22.3	57.1	A-

Table 30. Parks & Recreation: Cost or Amount of Fee.

Year	Mean	Very Poor 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Excellent 9	Grade
10	8.25	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.7	3.3	10.8	21.7	60.0	A-
08	8.09	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	4.2	5.1	16.1	21.2	52.5	A-
06	8.12	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	5.1	15.3	26.5	50.0	A-
04	8.10	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8	4.0	8.0	10.4	19.2	56.8	A-
02	7.99	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.7	2.1	17.9	20.7	49.7	B+
00	8.01	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	4.7	6.6	10.4	33.0	44.3	B+
98	7.67	4.4	1.5	2.2	0.7	2.2	3.7	14.8	20.7	49.6	B

Parks & Recreation Crosstabulations

The crosstabulations (age, education, gender, housing type, income, race, years in Cary) for participation in Parks & Recreation programs are shown in Tables B169-B175 in Appendix B. The highest levels of participation (in order) were for those with a PhD/JD/MD degree (51.9%), 6-10 year residents (45.7%), over \$100,000 income level (41.7%), 18-25 age group (41.4%), females (41.3%), those with a college degree (40.7%), and \$70,001-\$100,000 income level (40.3%). The lowest levels of participation were by other races (12.5%), apartment dwellers (19.4%), 0-1 year residents (20.8%), Hispanics (25.0%), and those with high school/some college (25.4%). The crosstabulations for the service dimensions of *facility quality* (B176-B182), *overall experience* (B183-B189), *ease of registration* (B190-B196), *program quality* (B197-B203), *instructor quality* (B204-B210), and *cost or fee* (B211-B217) were generally high and consistent throughout the subgroupings. There were no grades falling beyond the B level outside of small sample size groups (n<10).