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# ALBION'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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## Public Survey Results

April 2018

PREPARED FOR THE BOROUGH OF ALBION BY  
THE ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

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## **Albion's Plan Public Survey**

In January of 2018, the Borough of Albion initiated a process to update its comprehensive plan. The primary purpose of this planning effort will be to identify Albion's top 2 or 3 priority issues, to develop action plans to address those issues, and to achieve the desired results. The action plans will be incorporated into the comprehensive plan, and will be the primary focus of the plan.

The success of this planning effort will require the input, support, and active participation of the entire community. Although public meetings will be held as part of this process, it is not always convenient or even possible for all residents to attend these meetings.

In order to give all residents an opportunity to participate and provide input, a public survey was taken from March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 16<sup>th</sup> of 2018. Paper copies of the survey were included in the Borough's newsletter to all Albion households. The survey was also made available online. The Borough received 176 responses to the survey. Of these, 73 responses were submitted online, and 103 responses were submitted on paper forms.

Respondent's to the survey were asked to rate Albion in several different areas. They were also asked to provide their opinions about priorities for several potential priority areas.

The following report presents the results of the survey. For each survey question, the result of all responses is presented in addition to a breakdown of results by age group of the respondents. It is noted that only 2 responses were received from the 20 to 24 age group. Due to this low number of responses, the results specific to that age group are not presented. However, they are included in the overall result totals. The overall results also include the responses of 9 people who chose not to identify their age group.

The survey provided respondents with an opportunity to share any additional comments regarding priority issues, improvements needed, or concerns that they may have. Numerous comments were received, and all are being considered. However, due to the large number of comments received, this report includes only the comments received online. These comments are generally consistent with, and representative of the comments received from the paper submittals.

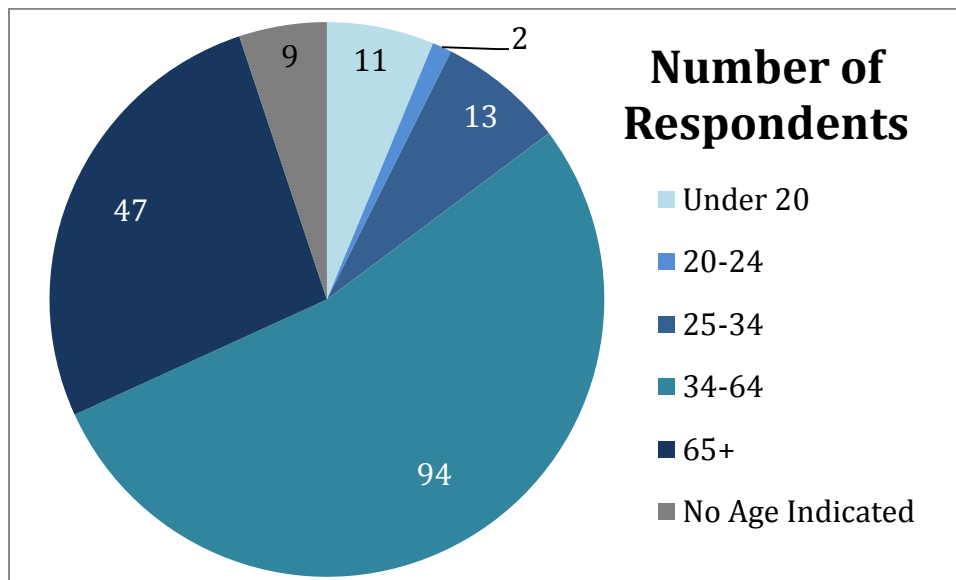
## **Table of Contents**

Number of Survey Responses .....	1
Respondents' Affiliation with Albion .....	2
Question 3: "How do you rate Albion in the following areas?" .....	3
Summary of Results: Areas of Greatest Satisfaction & Dissatisfaction .....	30
Question 4: "Overall, how do you rate Albion as a place to live?" .....	32
Question 5: "What priority should be given to each of the following issues?" .....	33
Summary of Results: High Priority Ratings .....	40
Additional Comments Received From Online Survey .....	41
Survey Form.....	43

## Number of Survey Responses

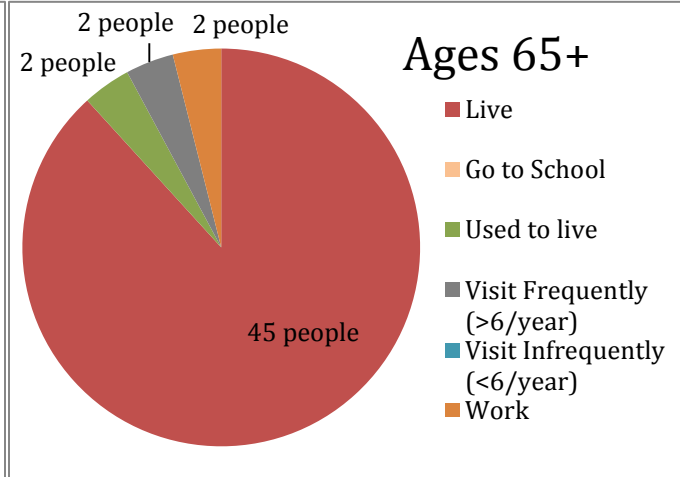
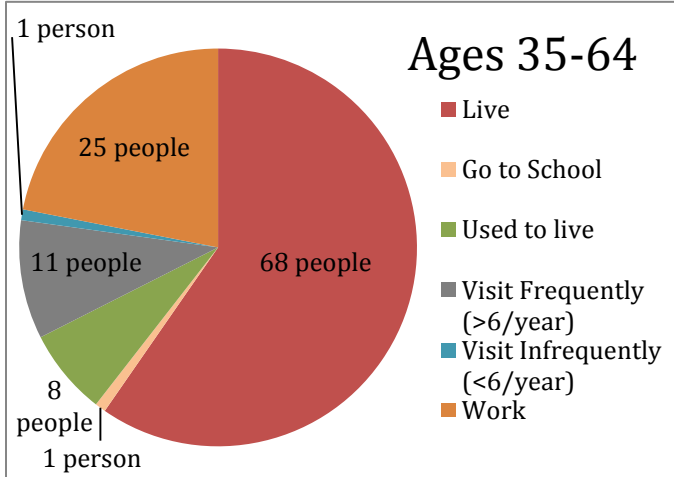
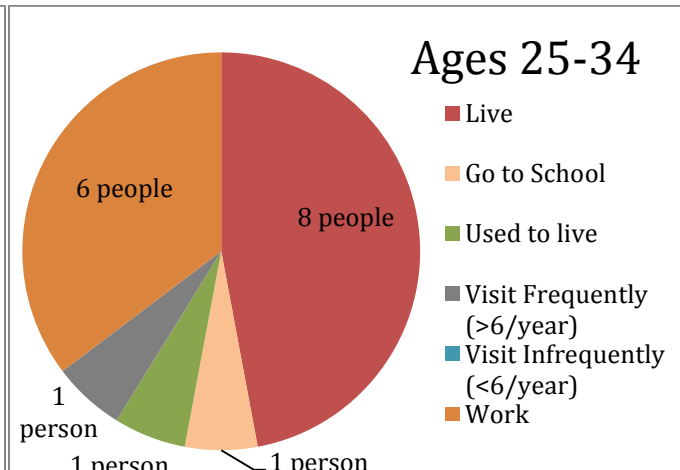
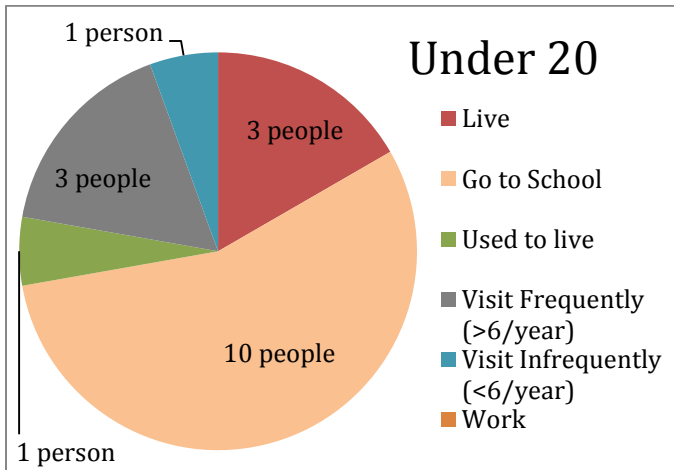
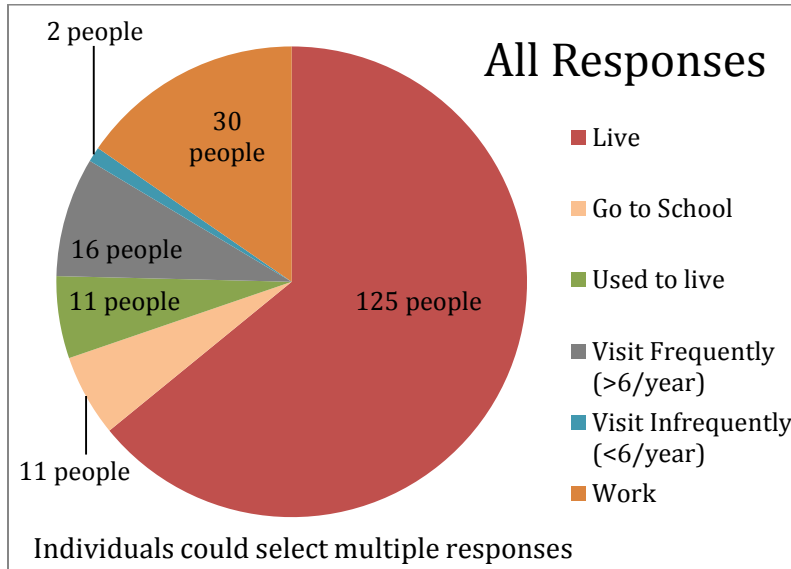
Responses to Online Survey	73
Responses by Paper Form	103
Total Responses	176

## Number of Responses by Age Group



Note: Since only 2 responses were received from the 20-24 age group, this report does not document results specific to this age group. However, they are included in the overall response totals.

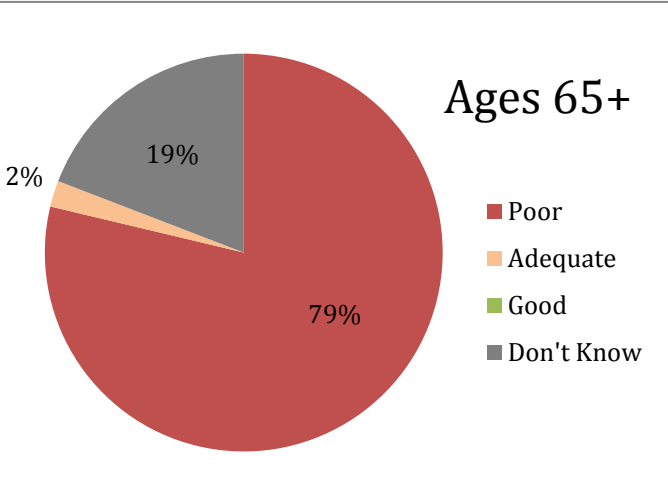
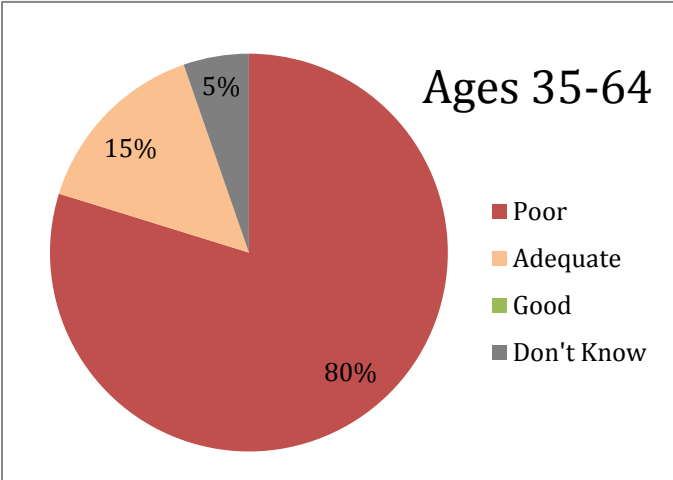
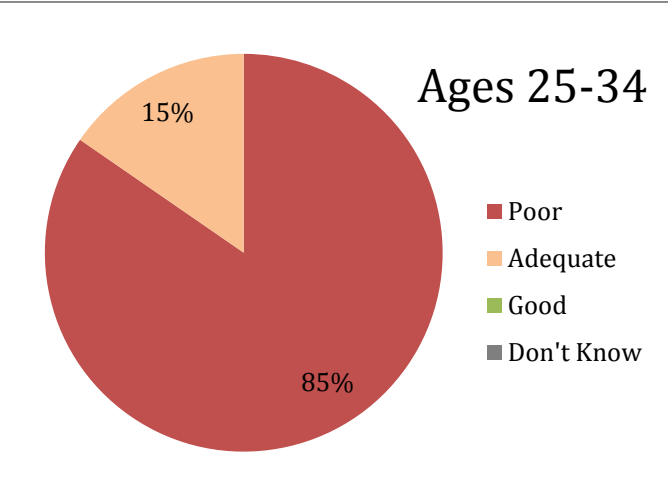
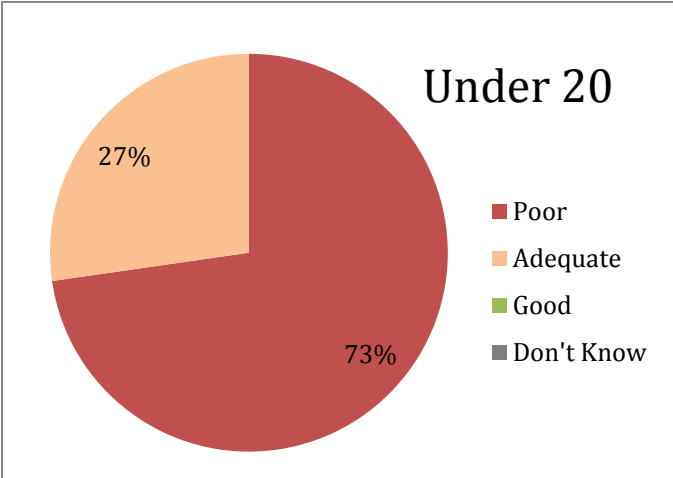
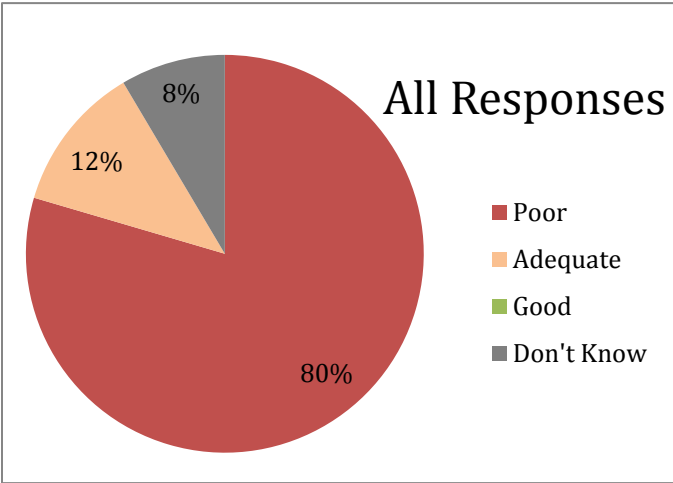
# Affiliation with Albion



Individuals could select multiple responses

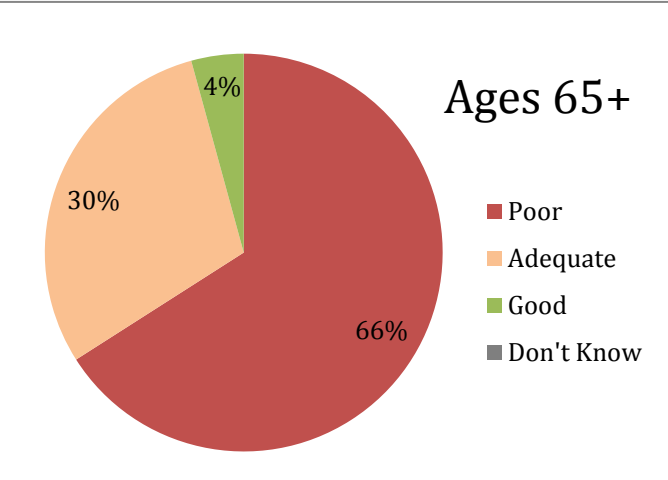
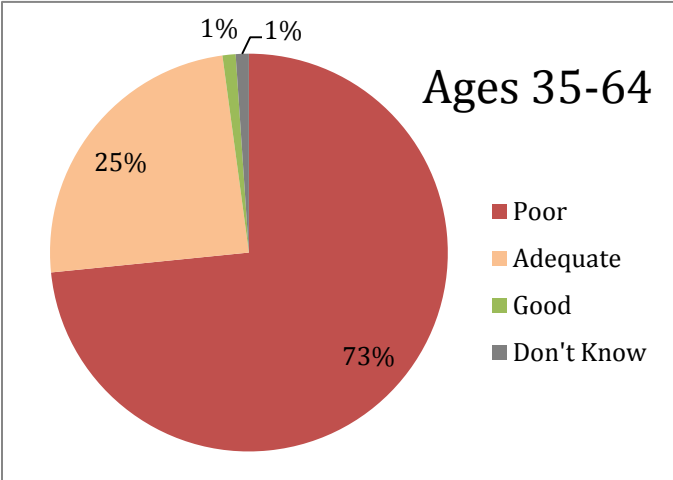
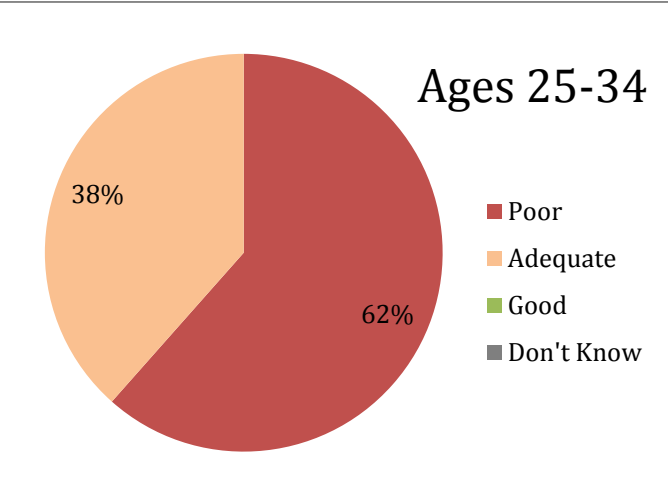
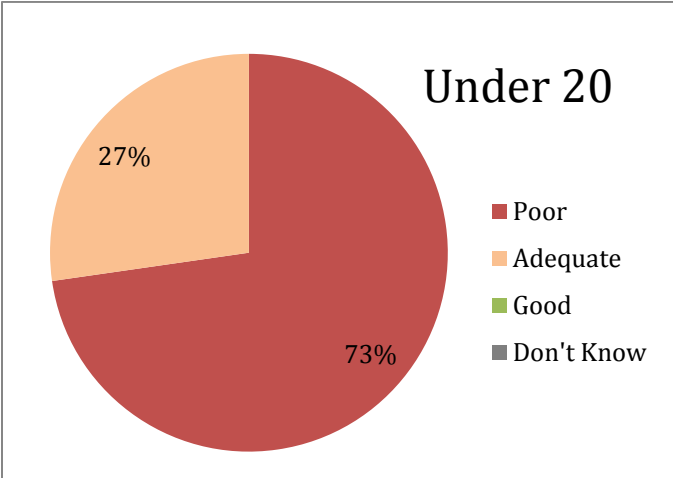
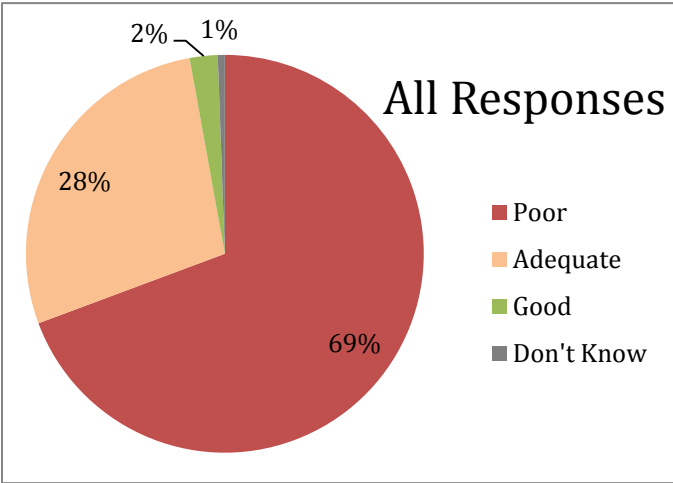
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Employment Opportunities**



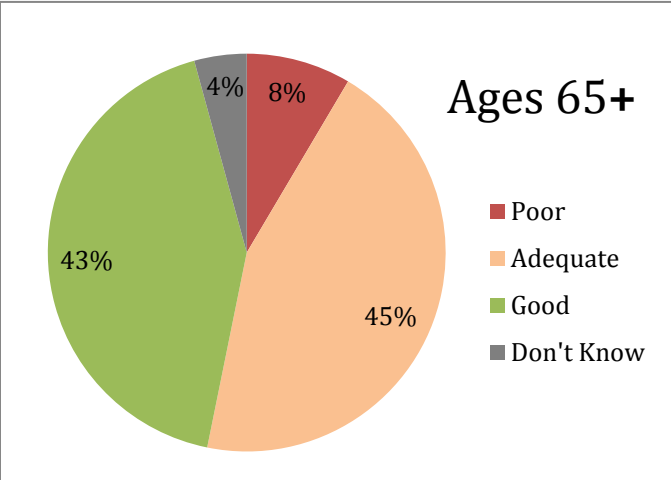
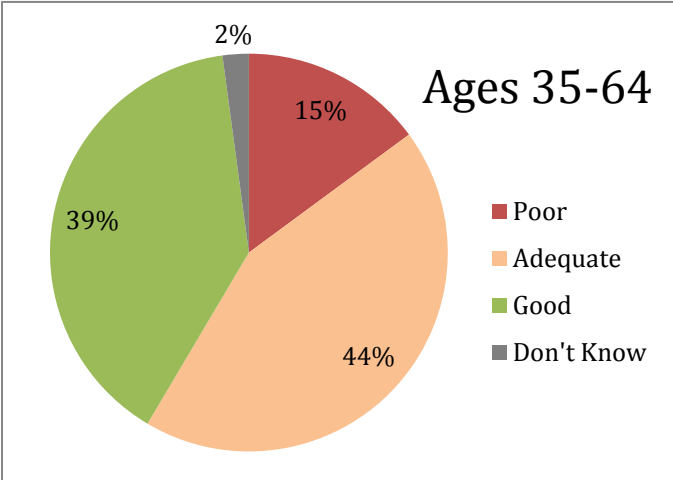
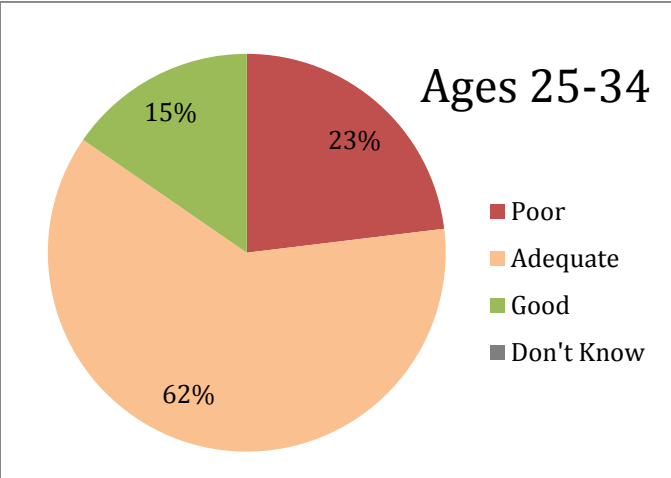
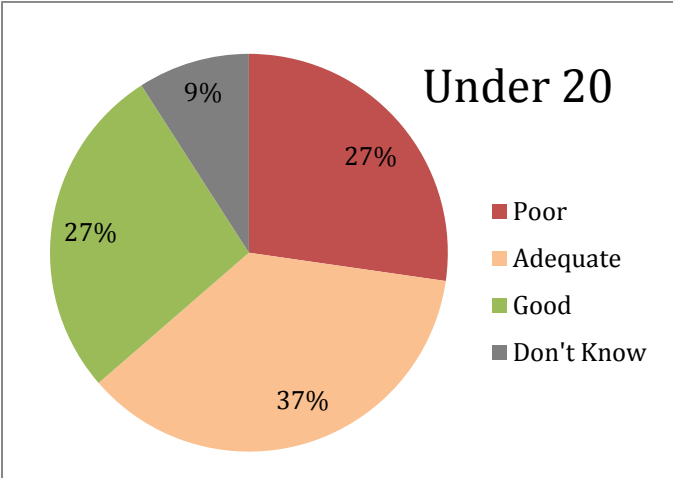
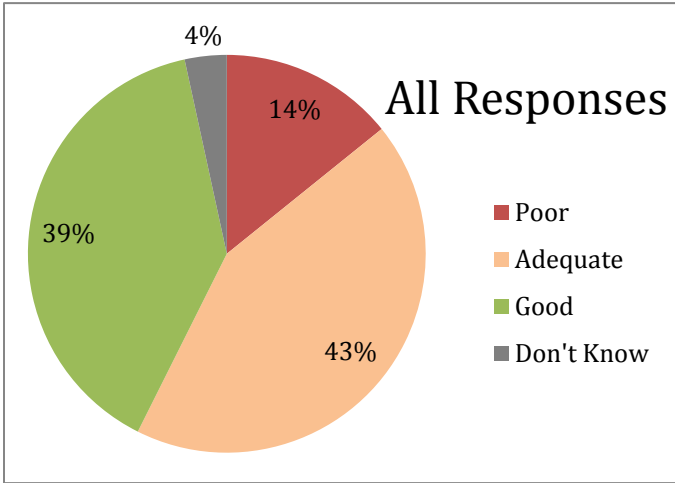
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Shopping Opportunities**



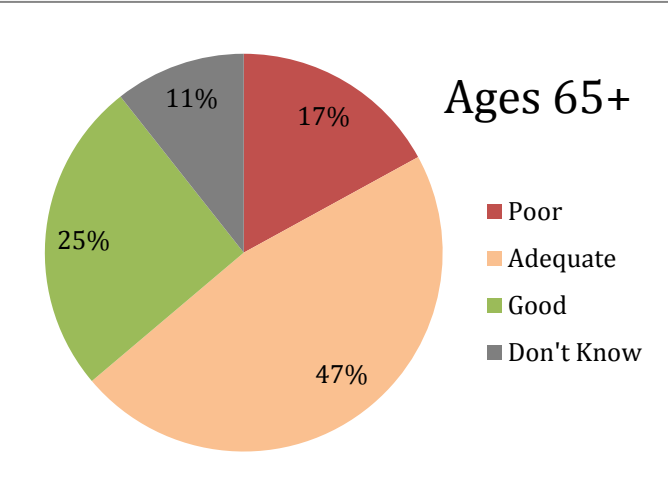
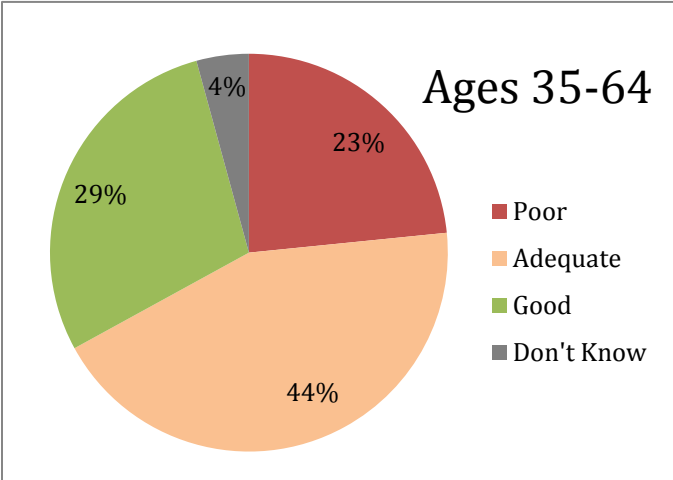
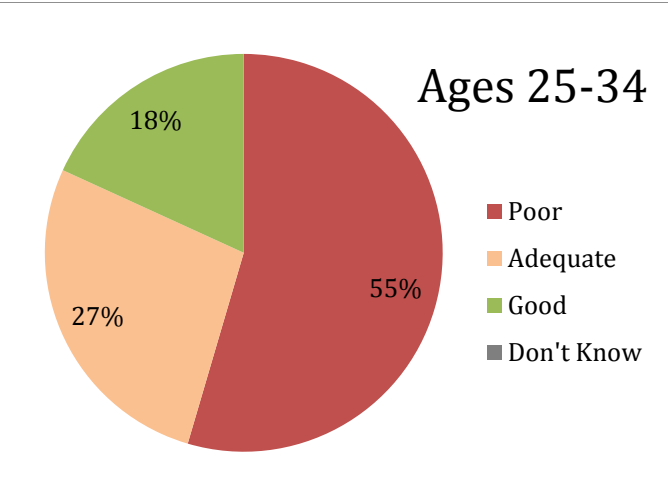
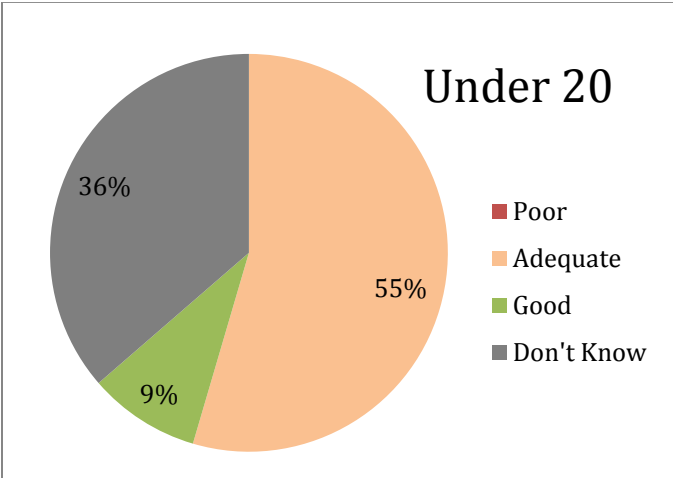
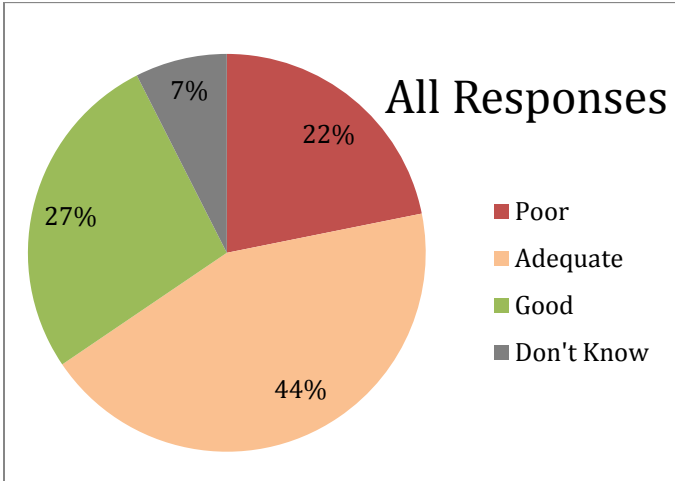
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Place to Raise Children**



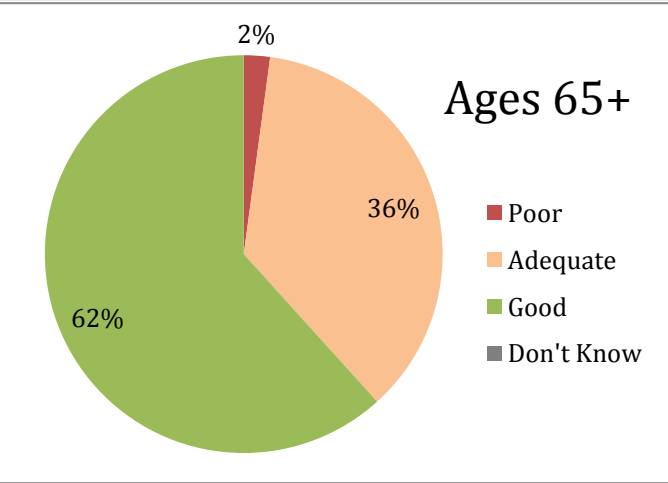
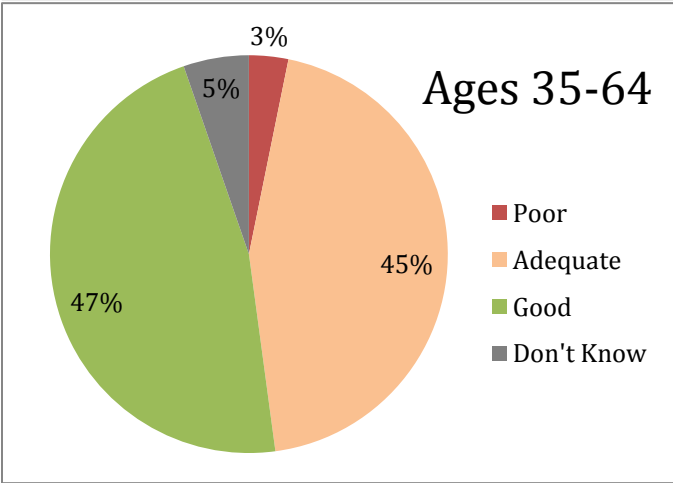
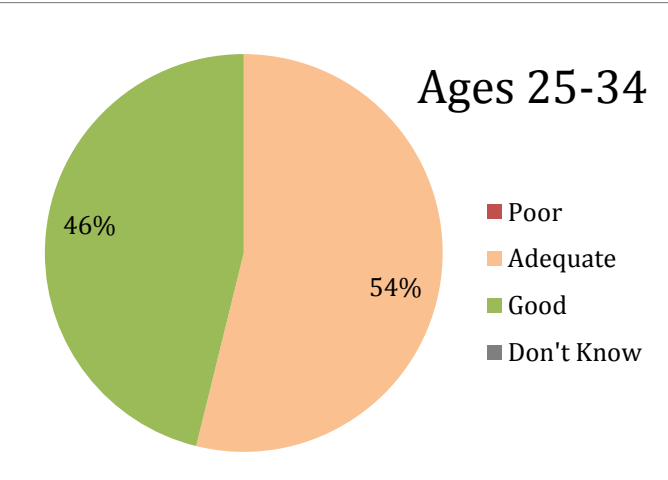
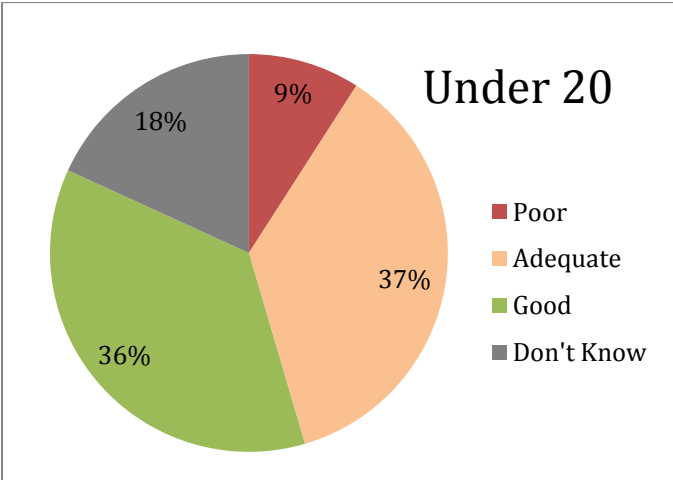
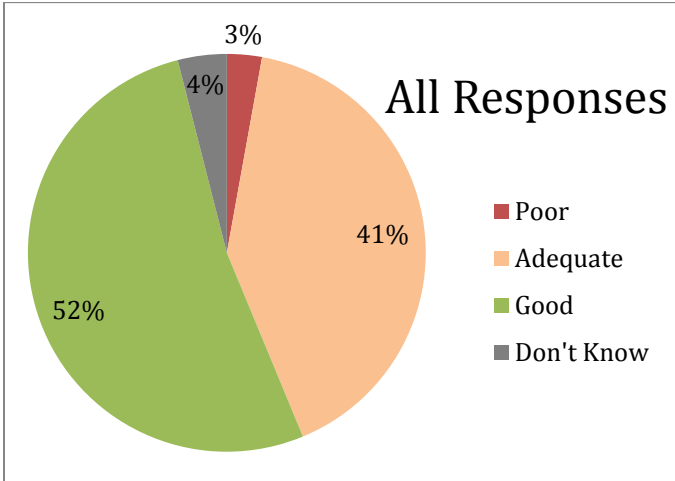
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Police Protection**



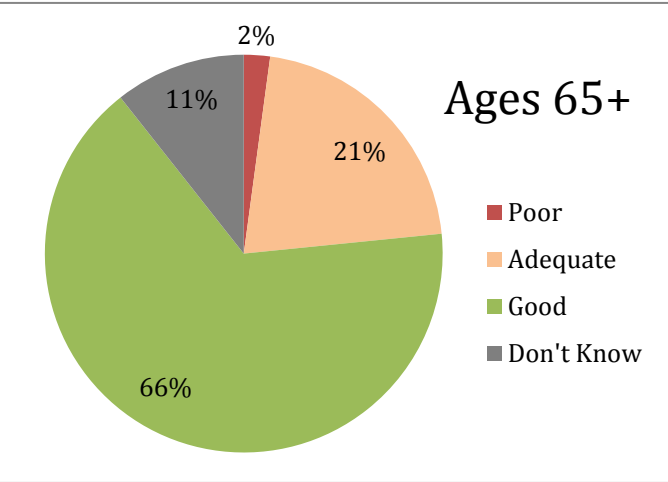
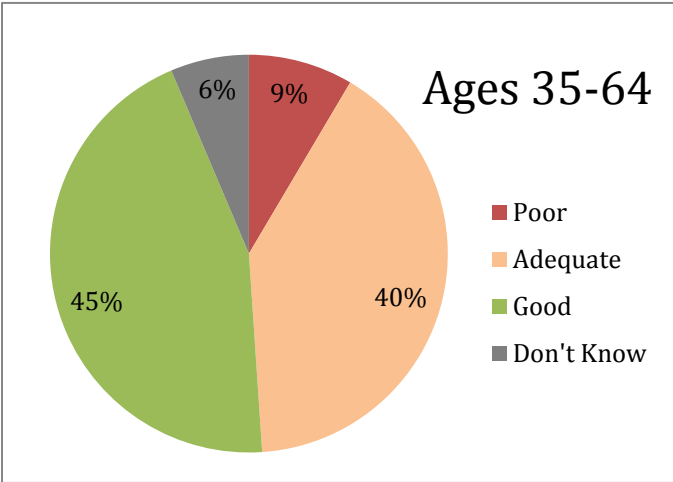
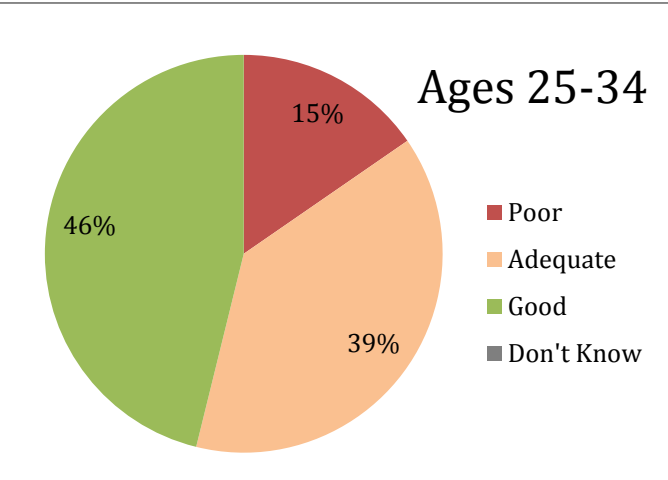
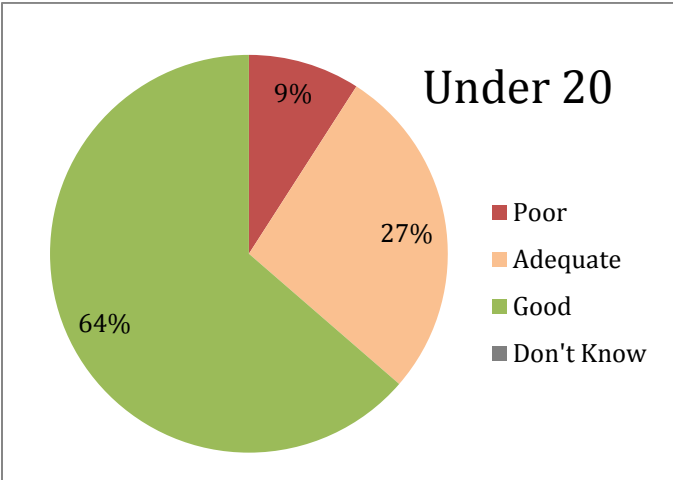
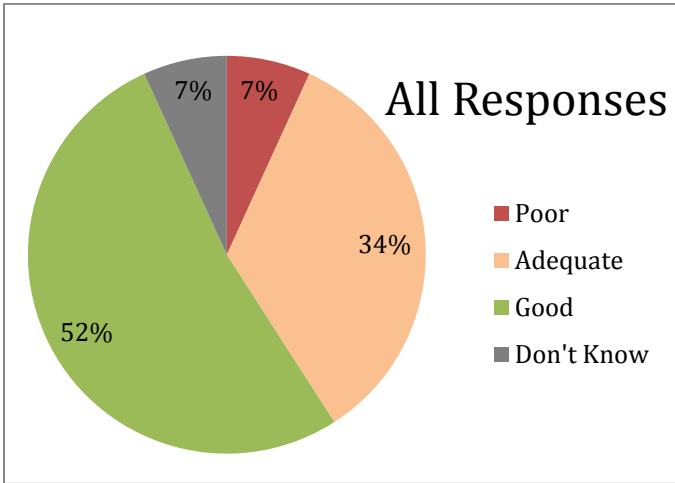
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Fire and Ambulance Services**



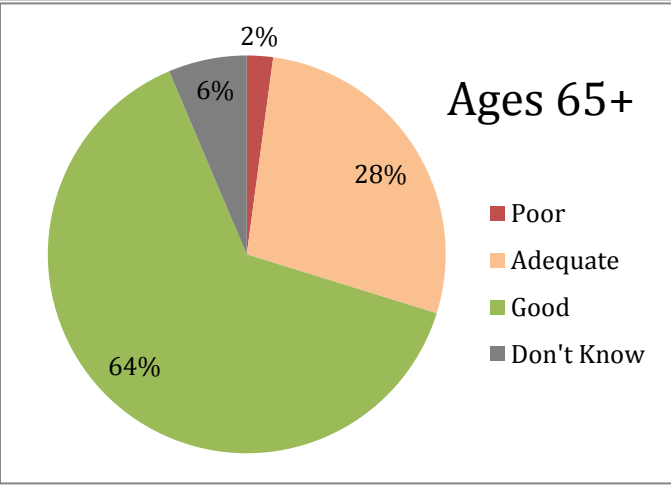
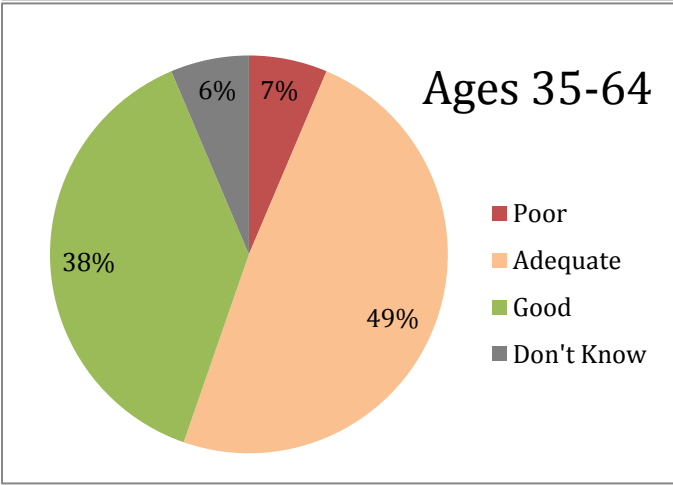
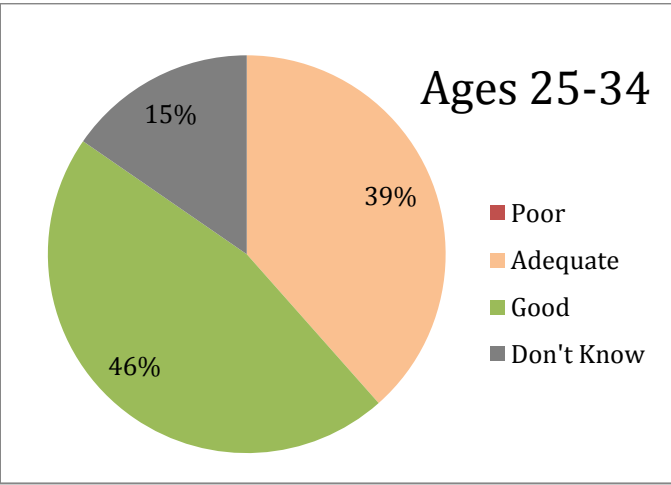
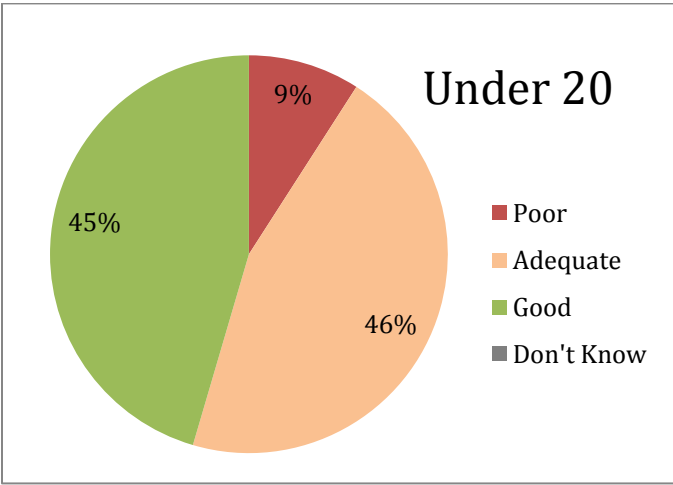
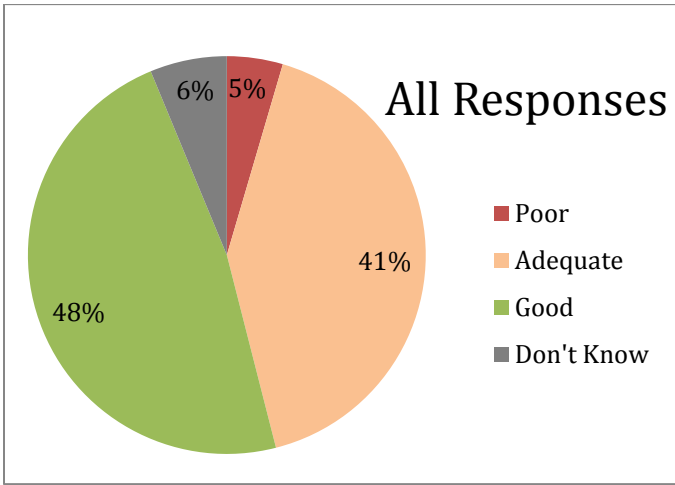
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**School System**



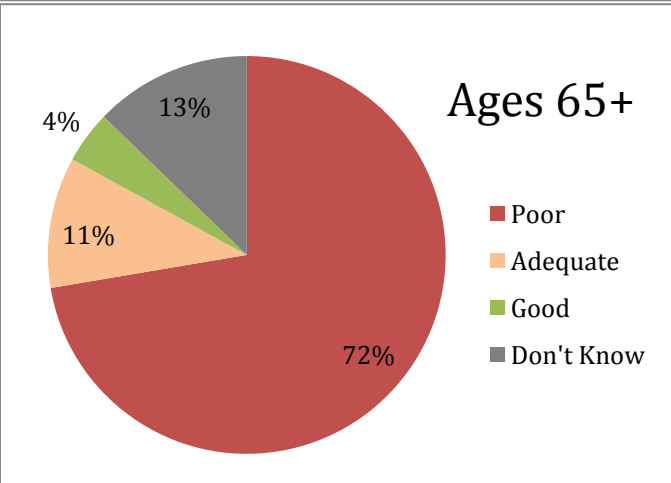
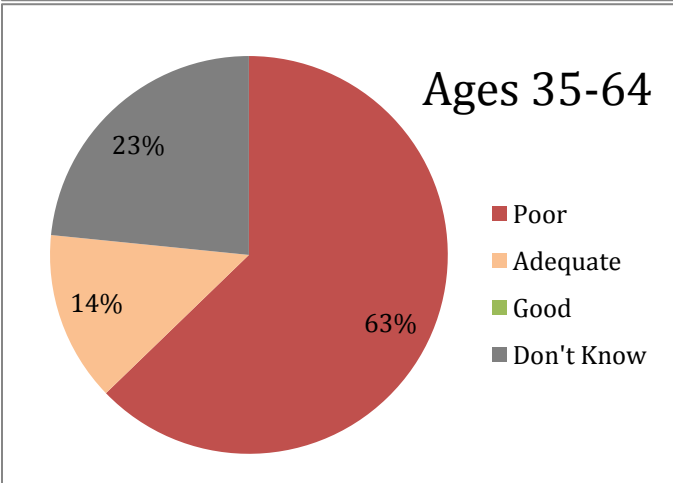
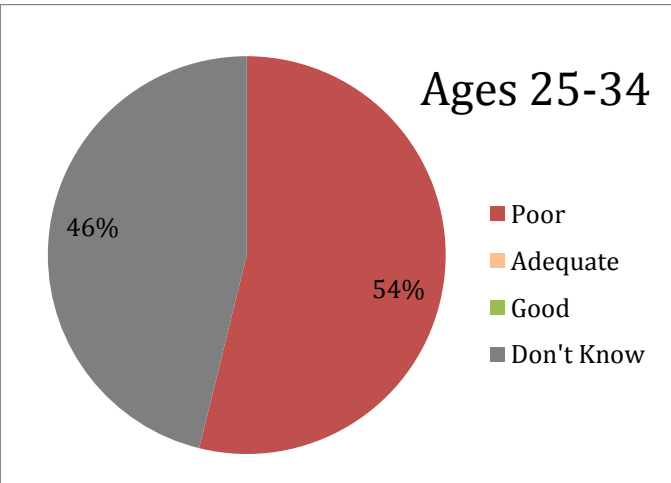
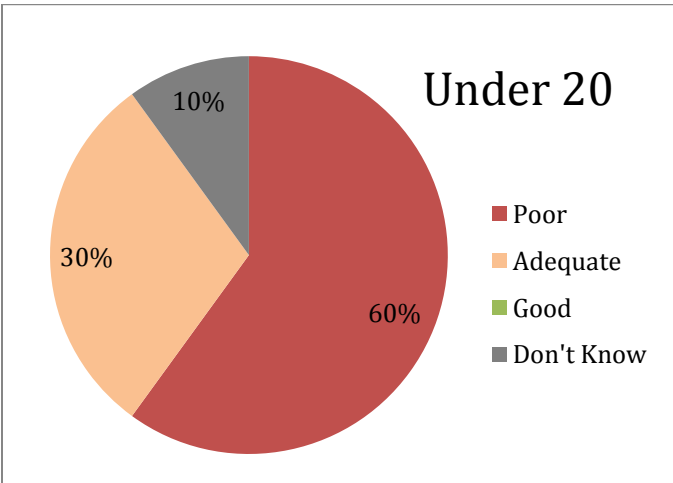
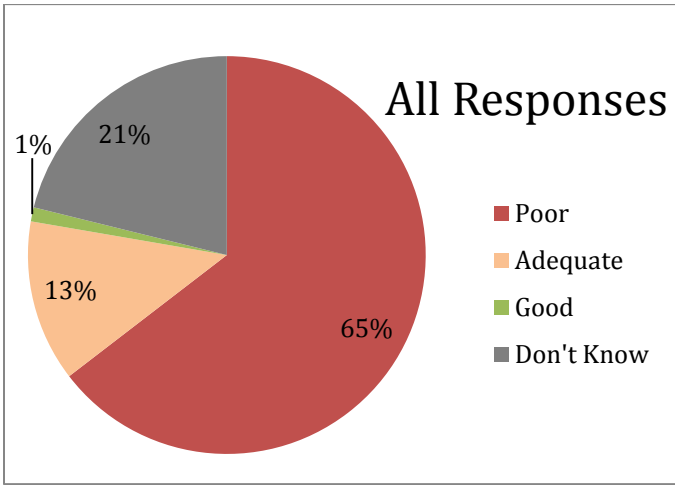
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**School Buildings and Facilities**



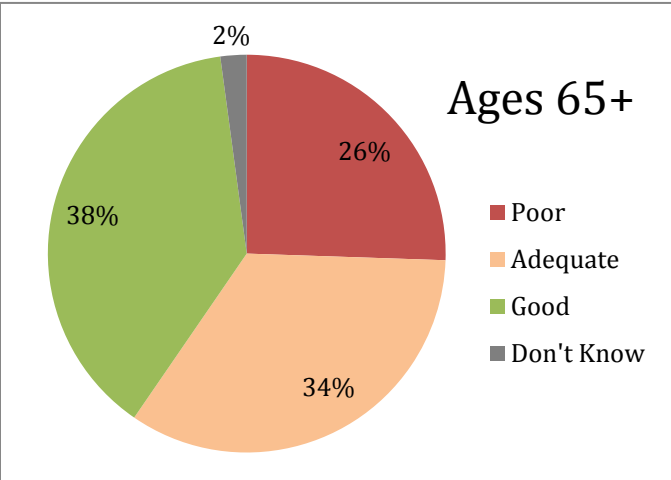
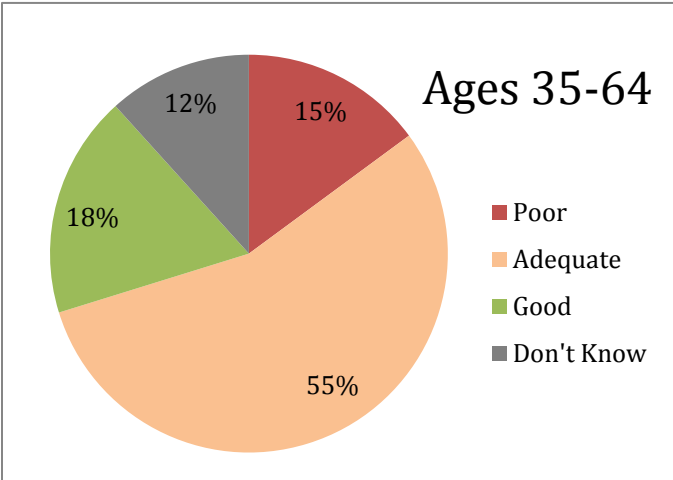
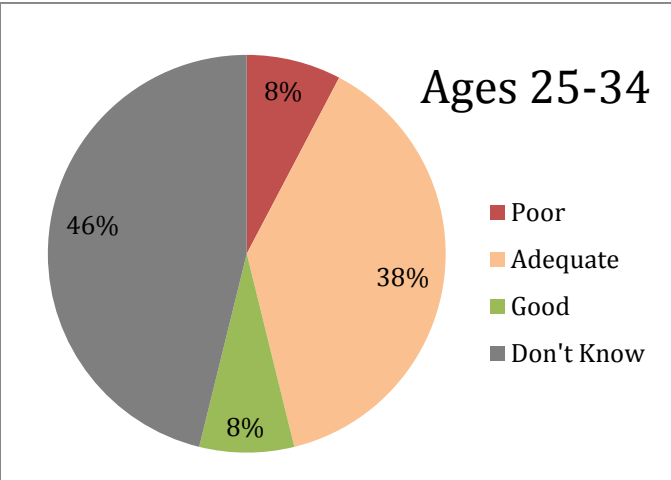
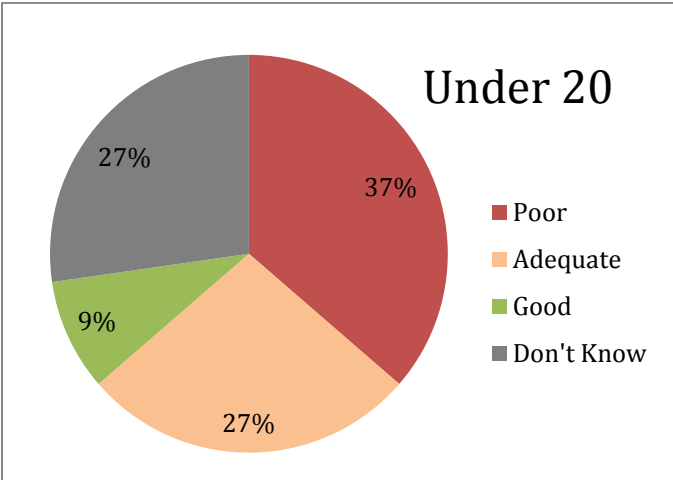
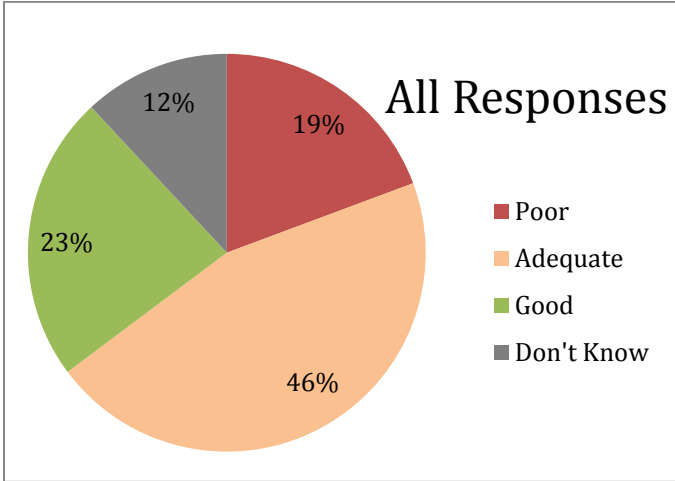
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Public Transportation**



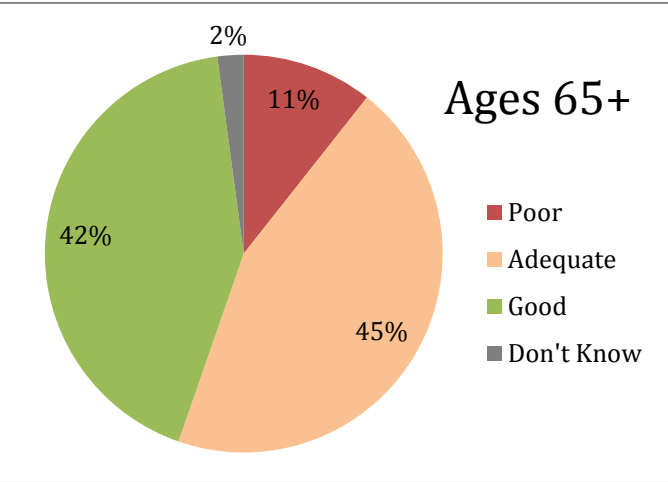
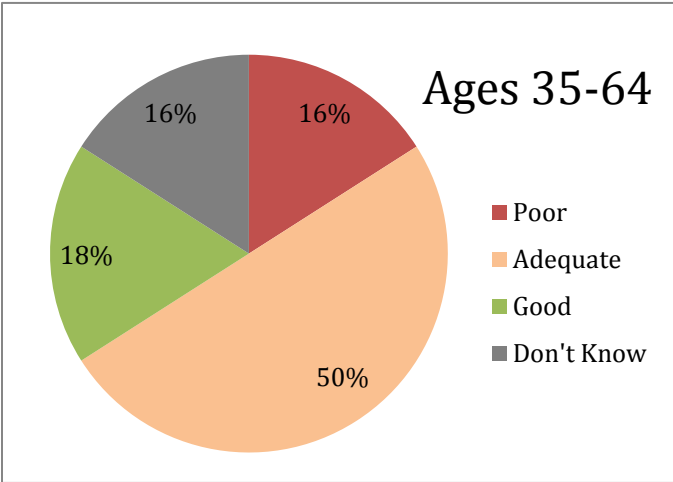
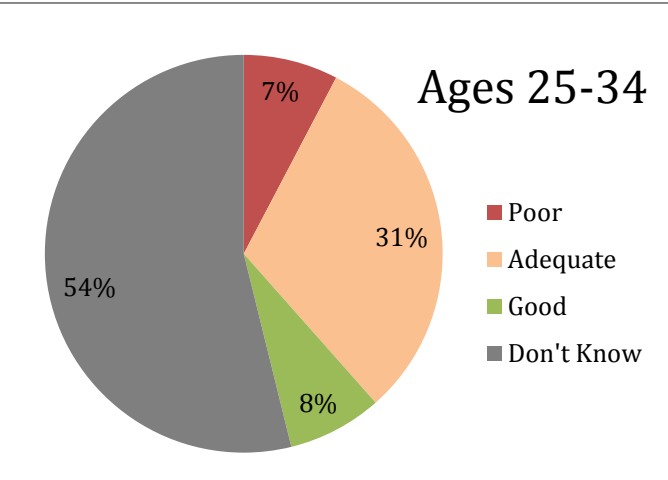
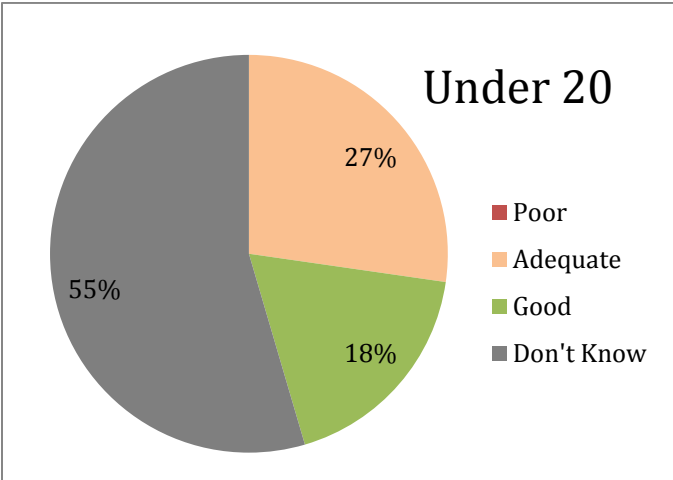
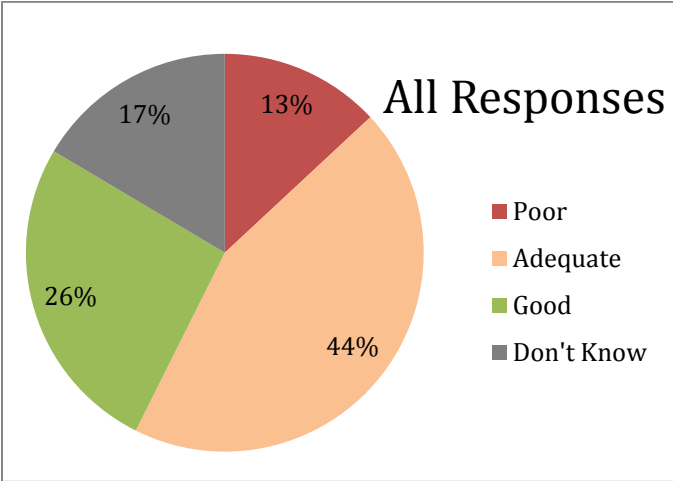
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Public Water Service**



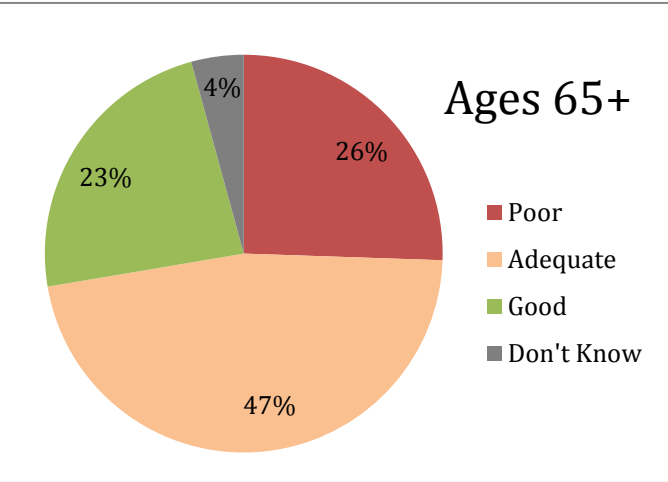
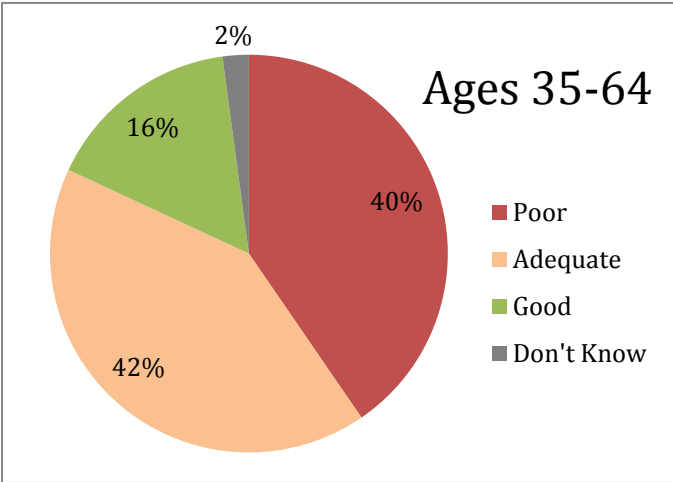
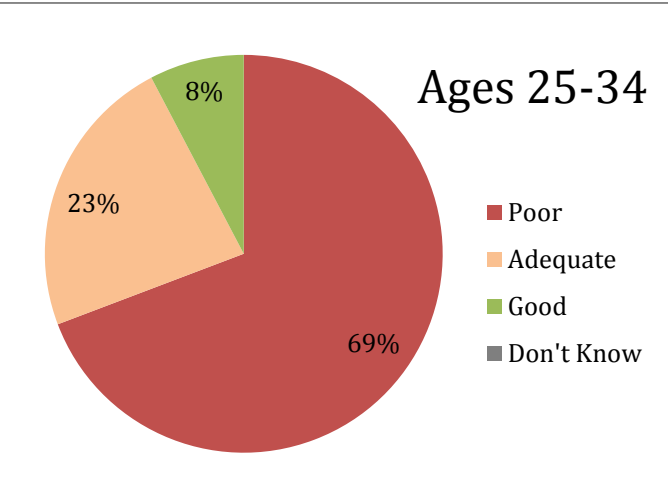
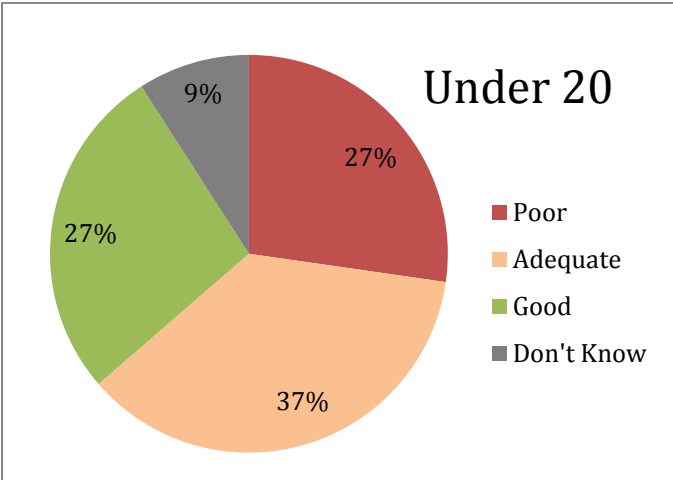
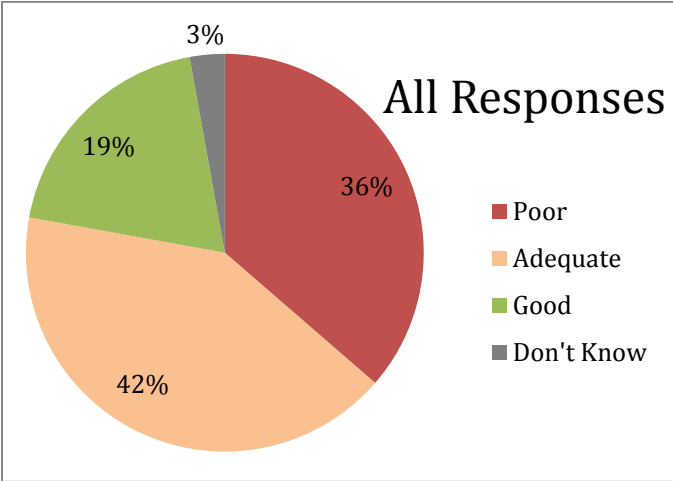
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Public Sewer Service**



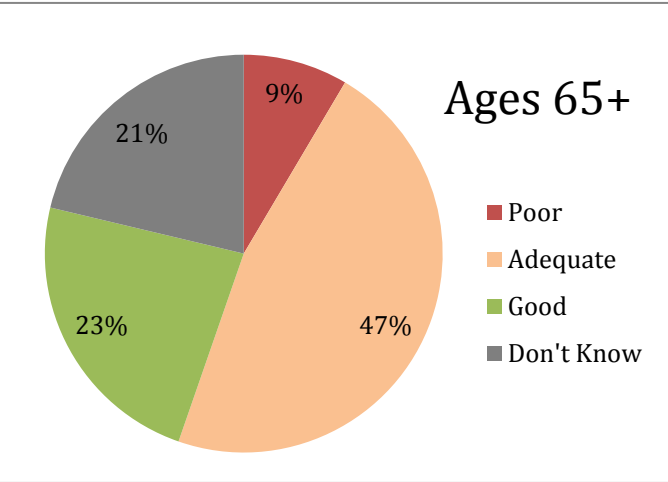
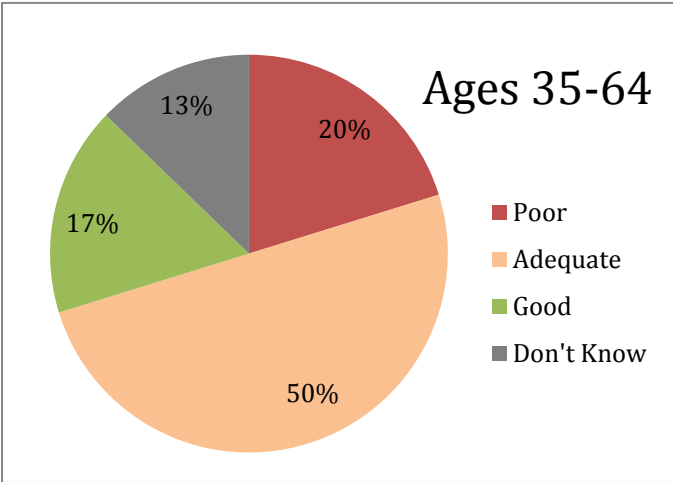
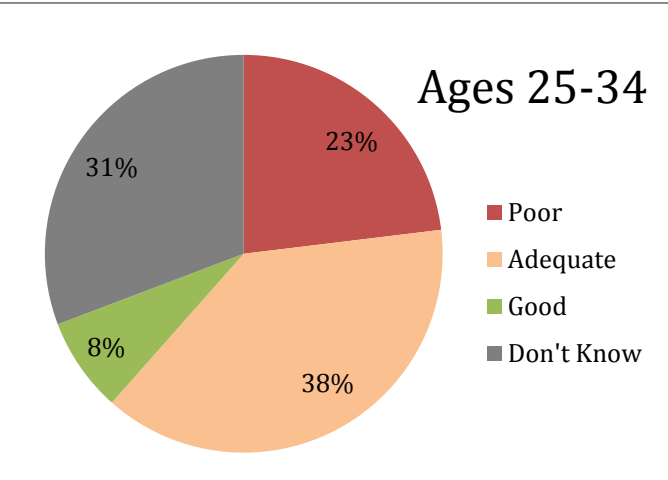
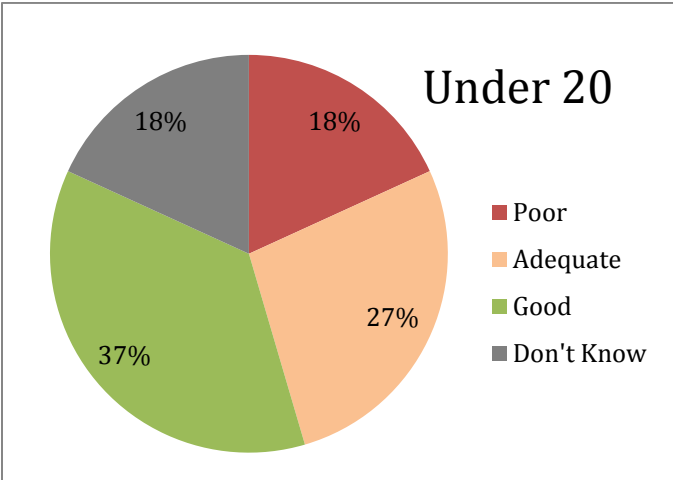
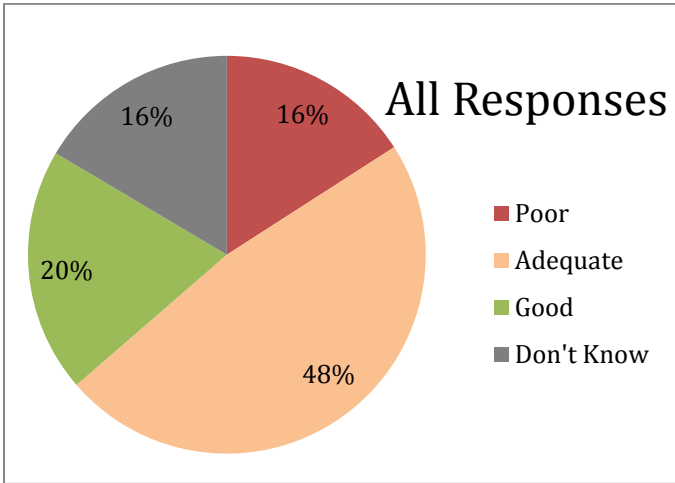
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Availability and Quality of Cell Phone Service**



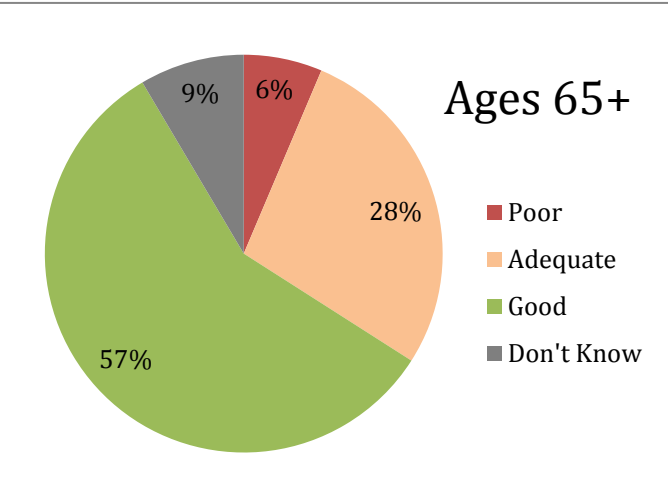
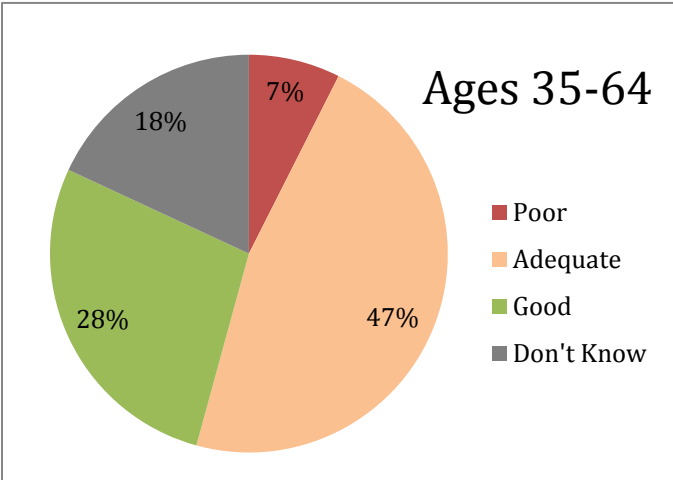
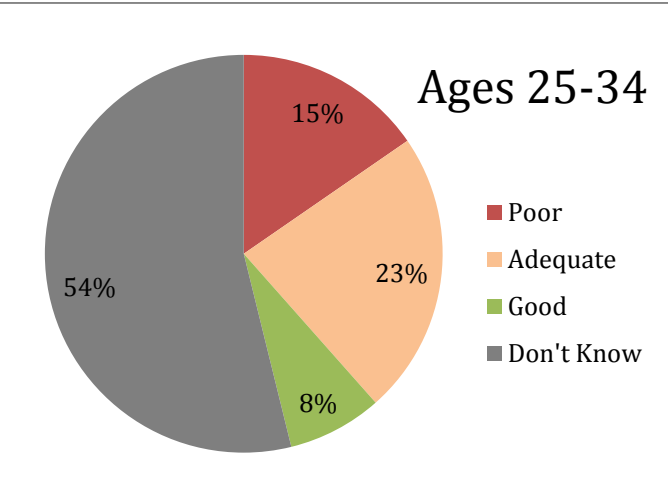
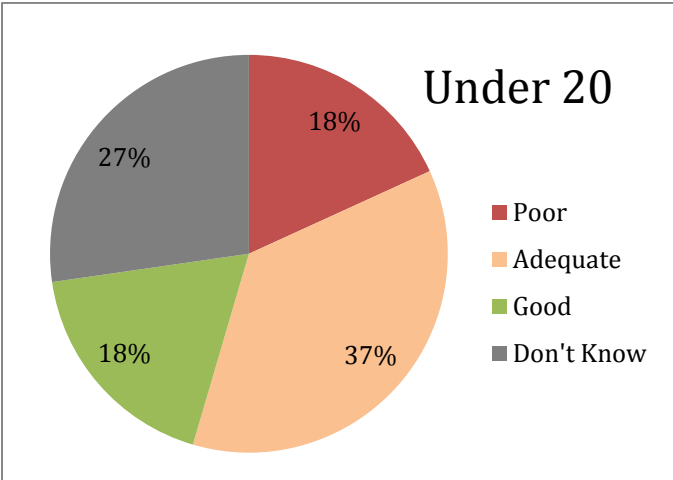
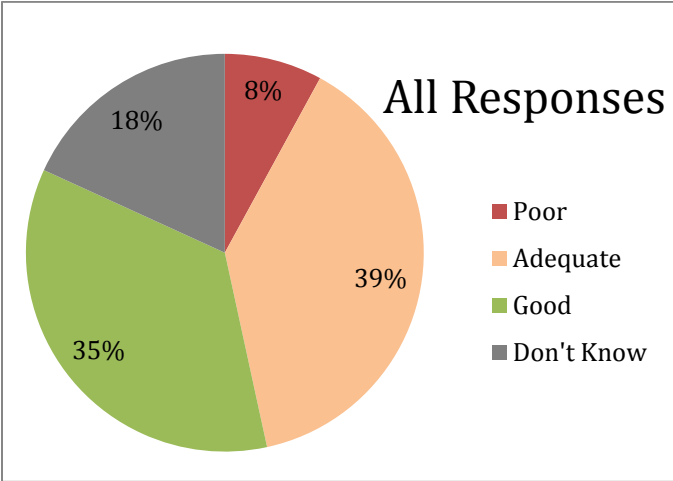
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Access to Broadband Internet**



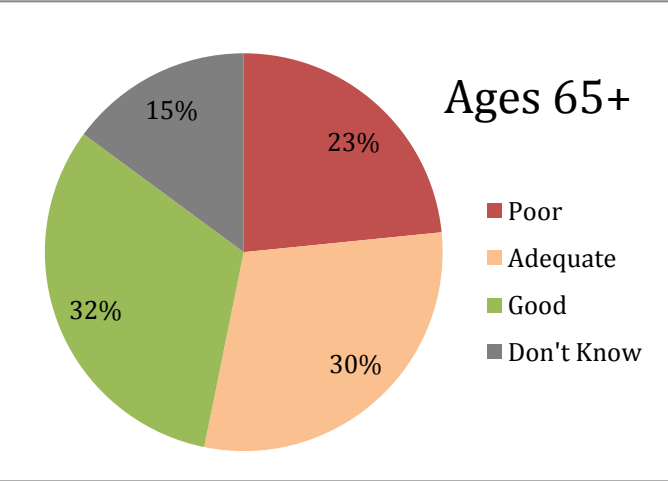
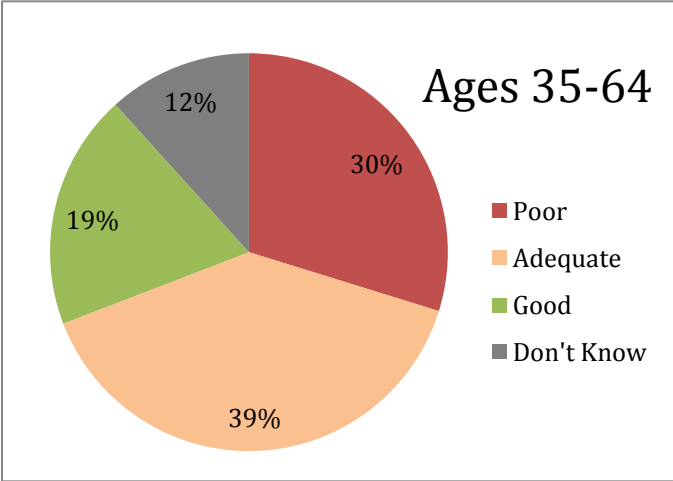
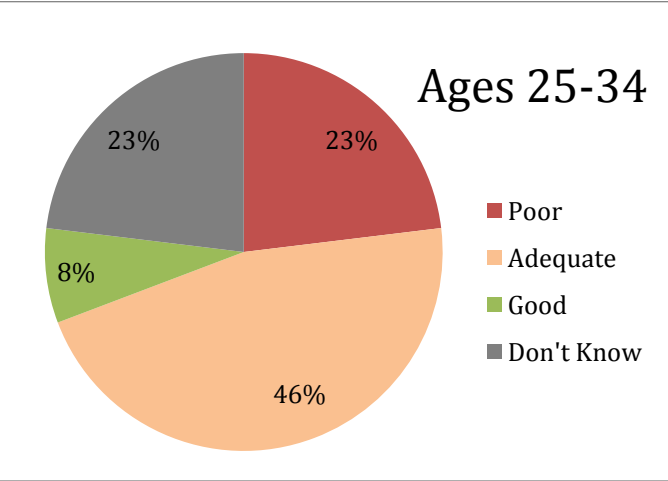
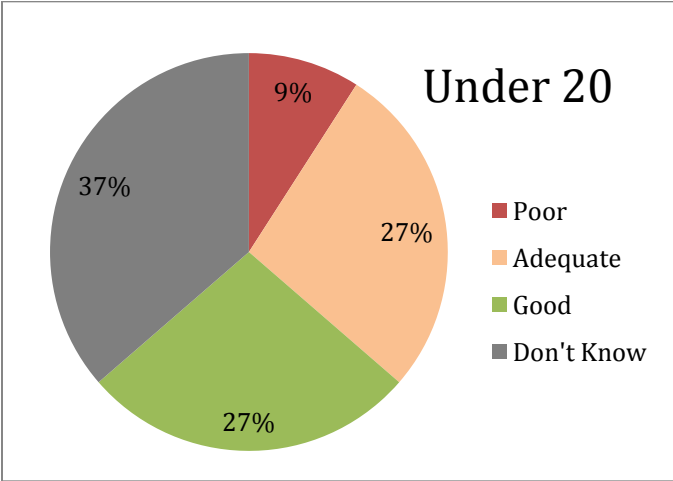
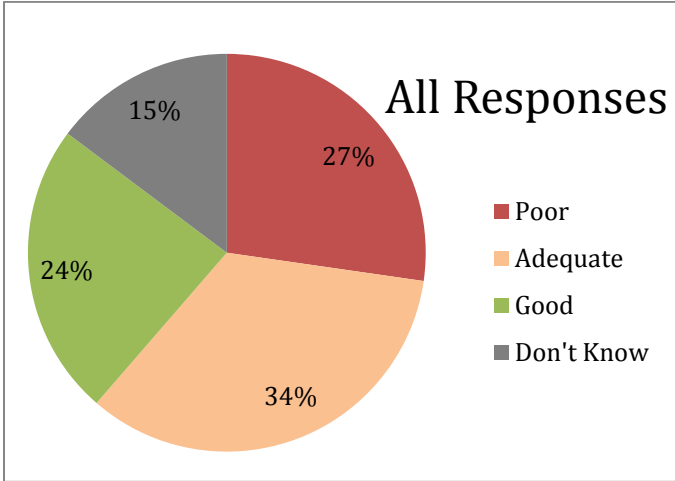
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Residential Garbage Service**



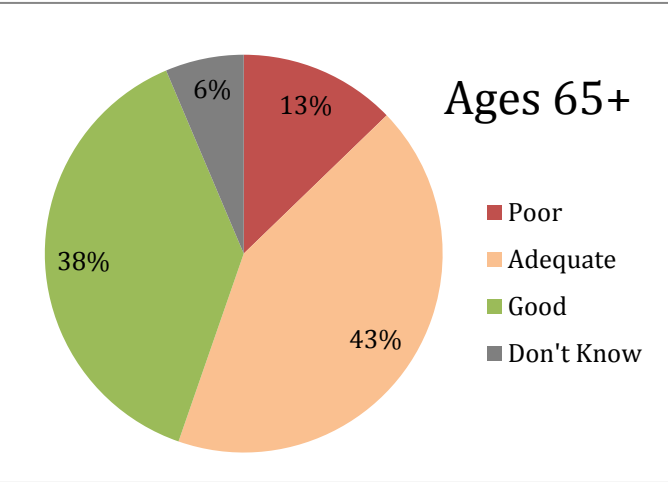
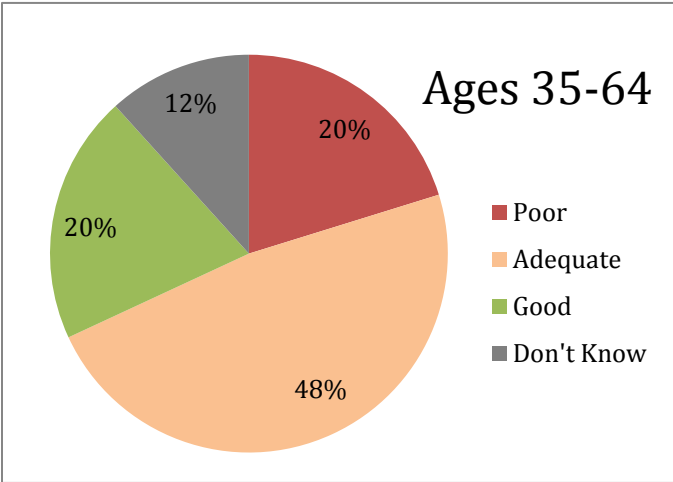
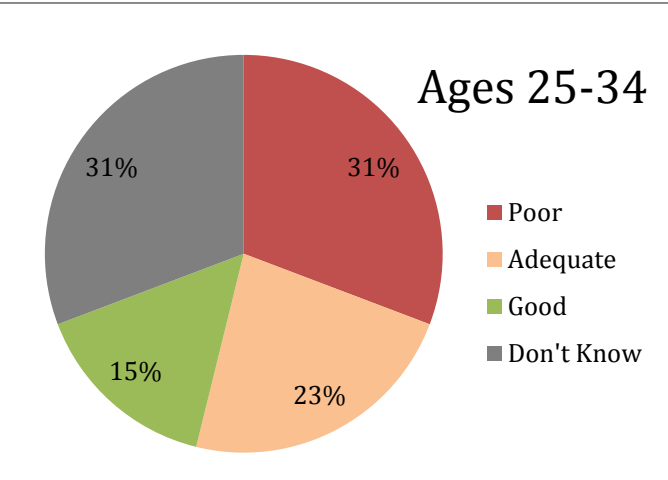
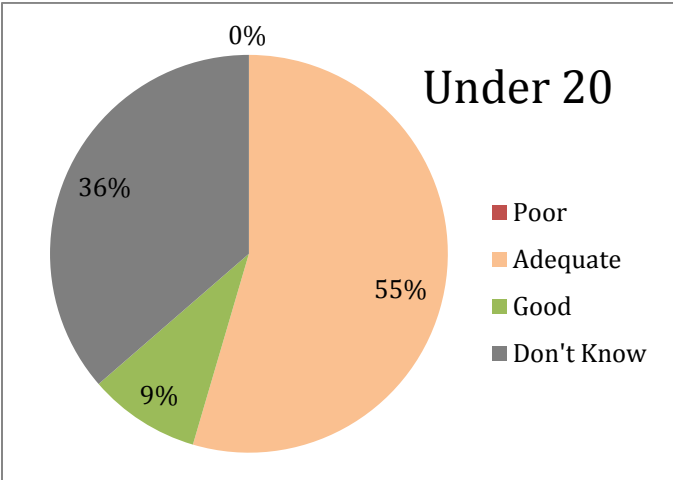
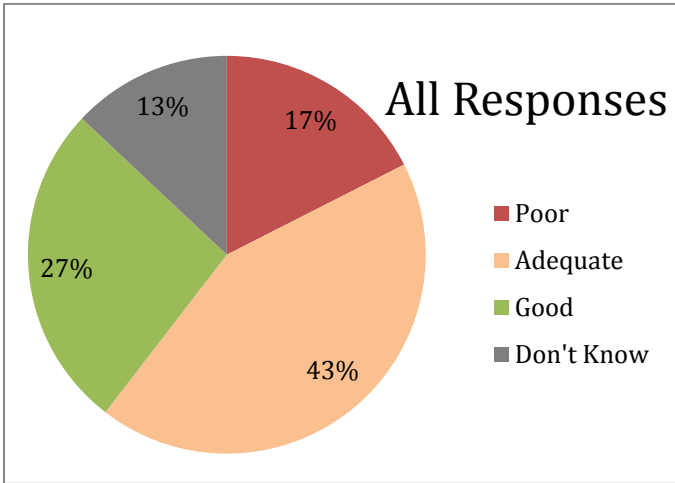
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Recycling Facilities**



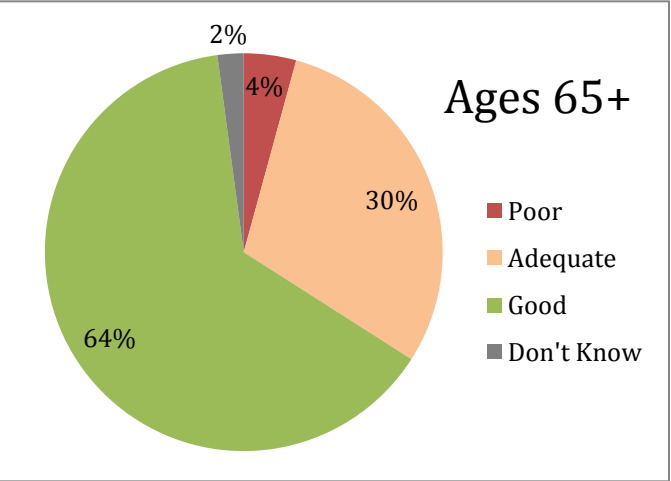
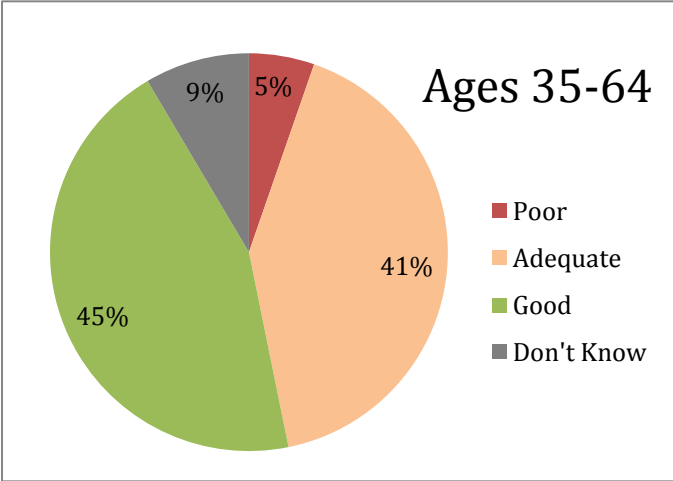
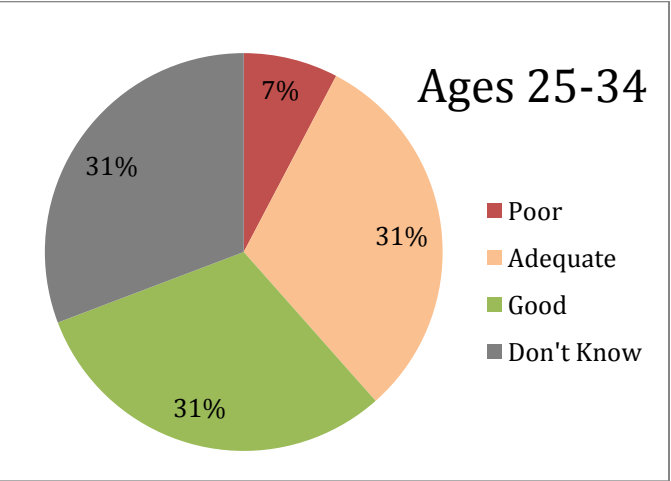
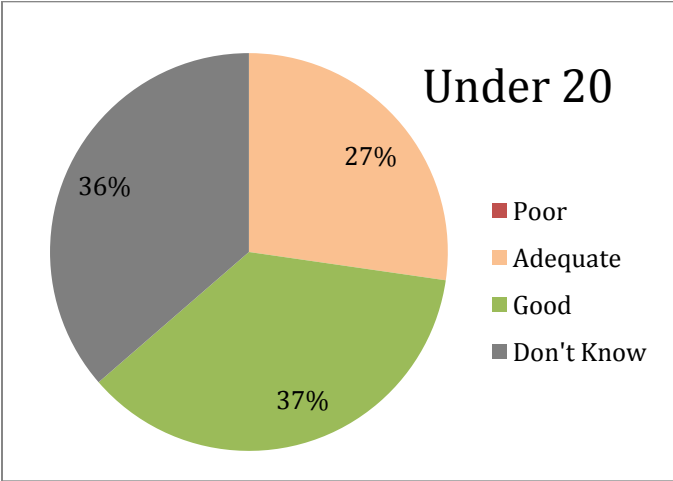
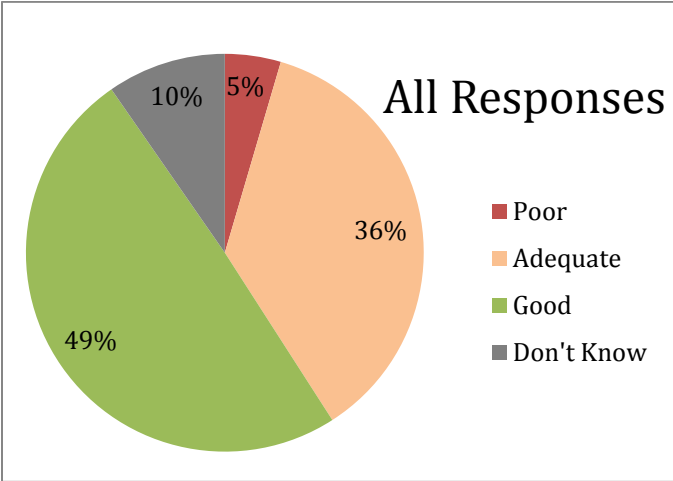
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Borough Office**



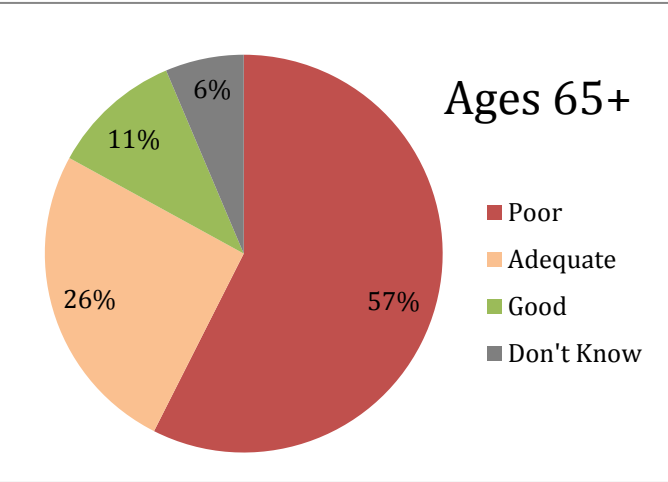
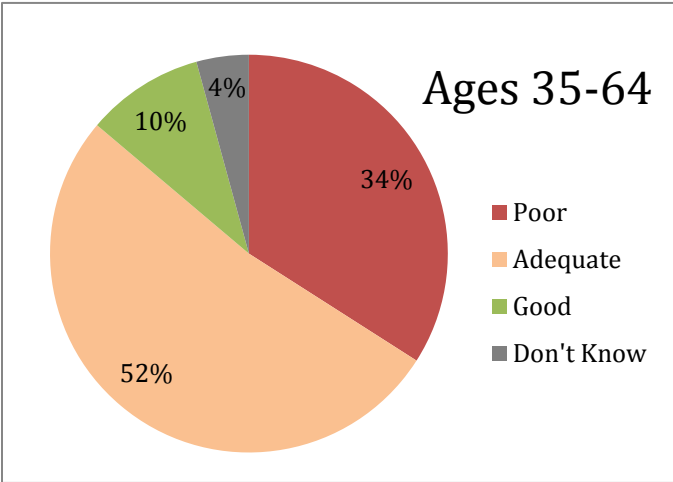
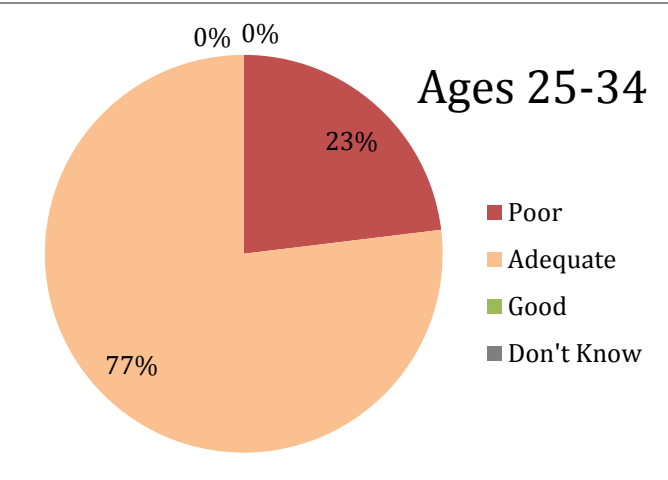
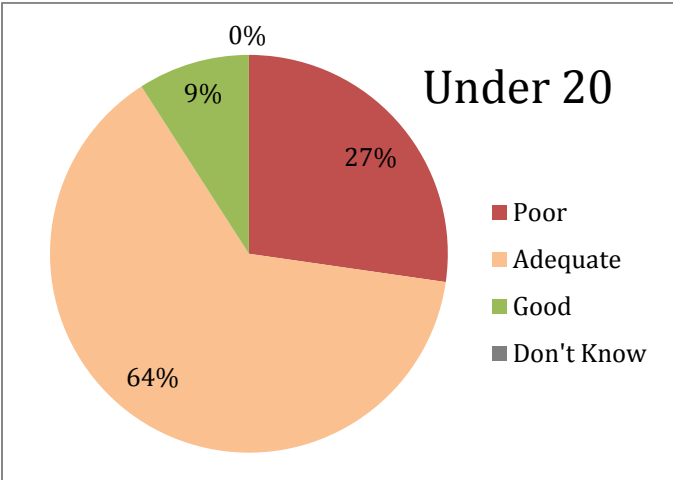
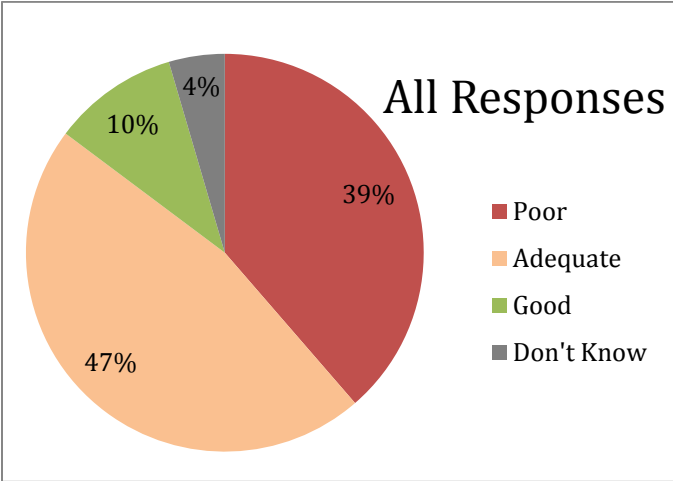
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Public Library**



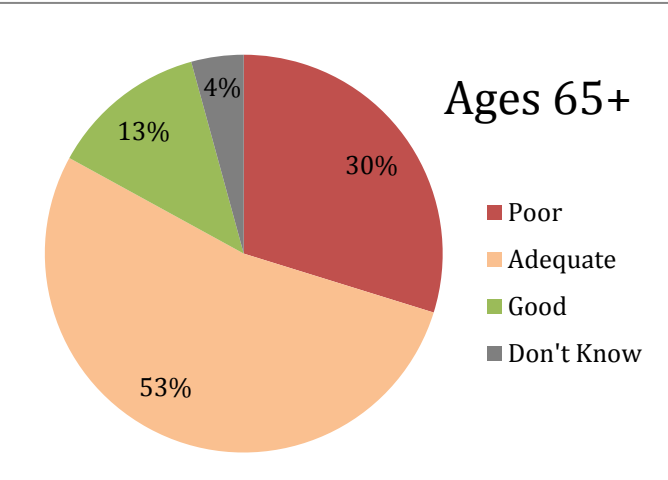
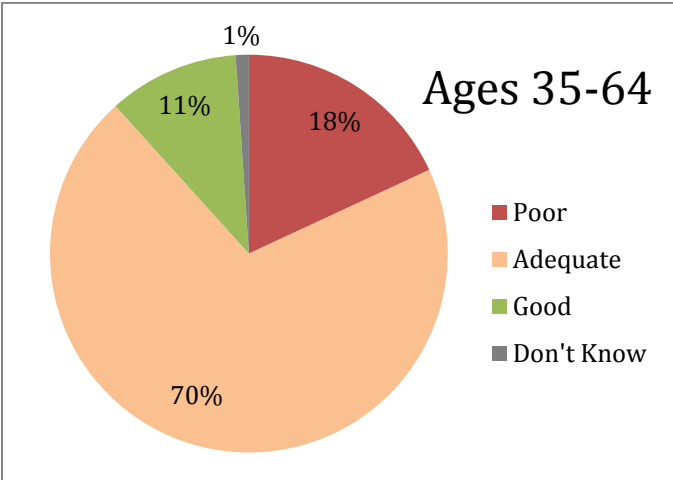
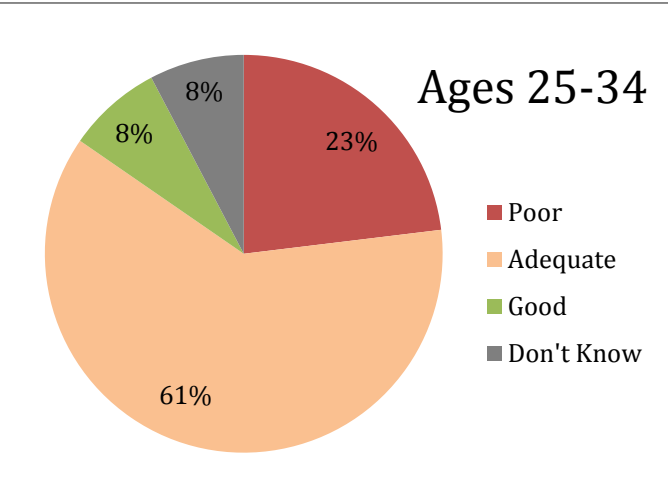
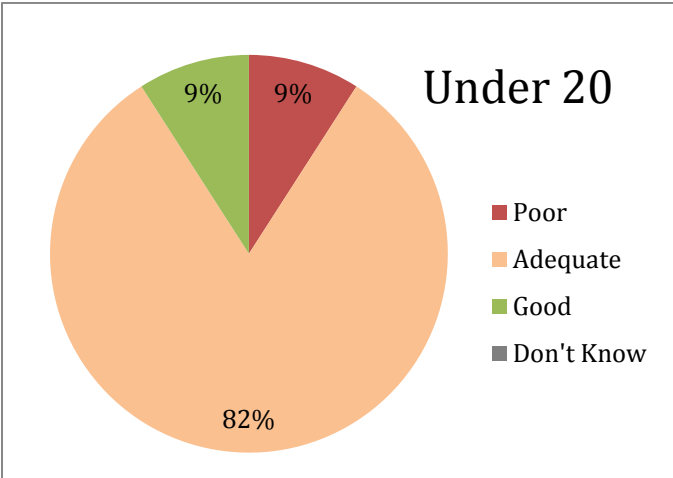
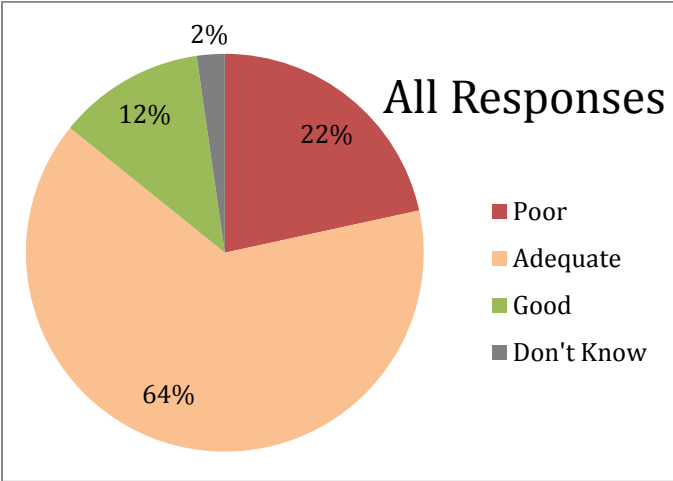
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Quality and Condition of Sidewalks**



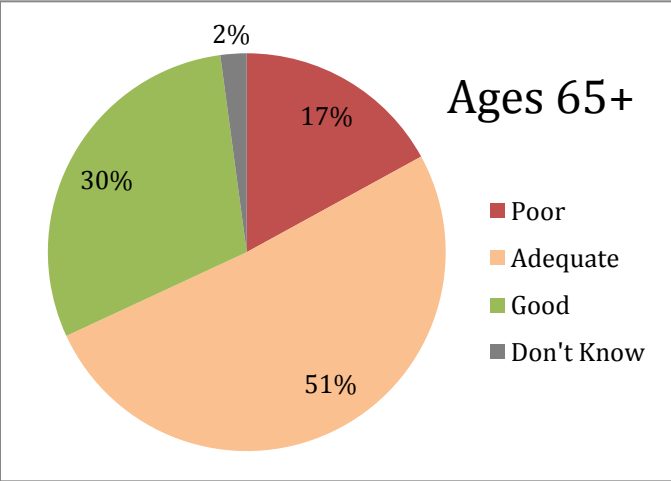
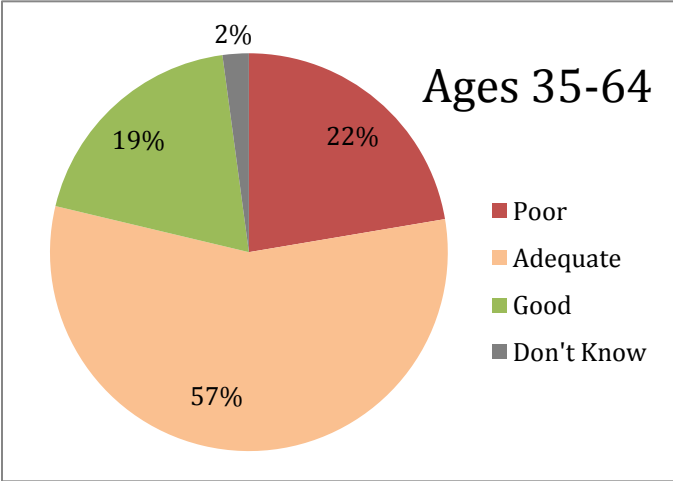
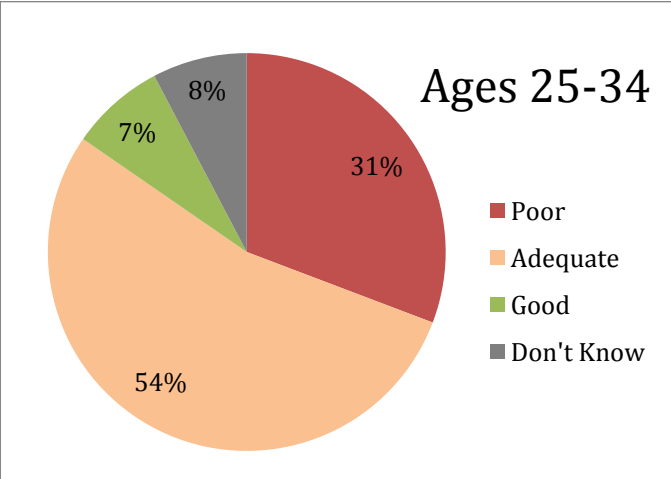
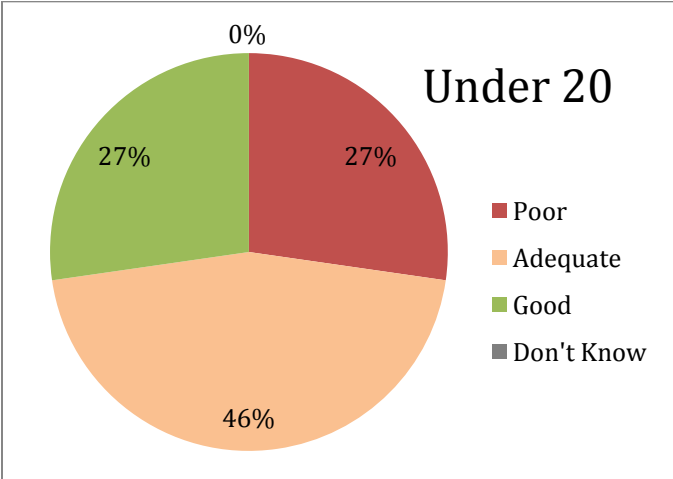
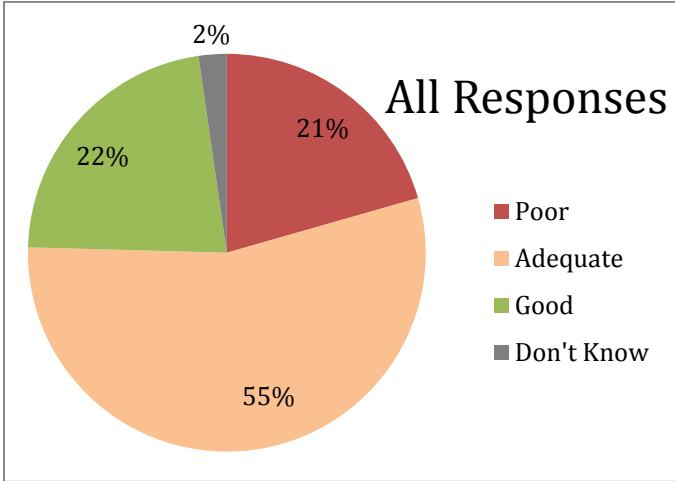
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Quality and Condition of Roads and Streets**



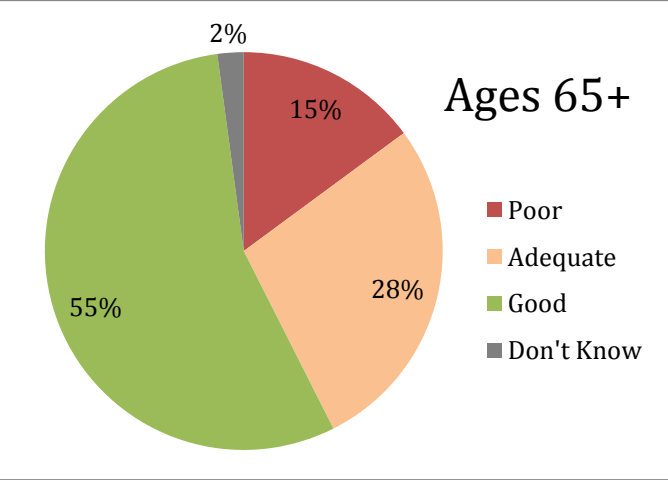
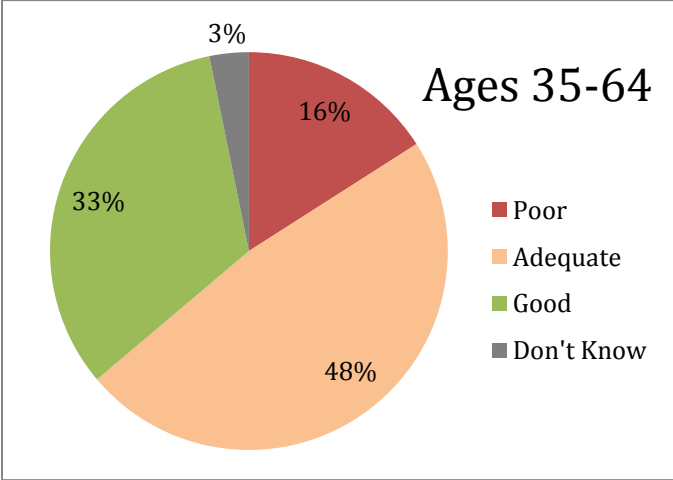
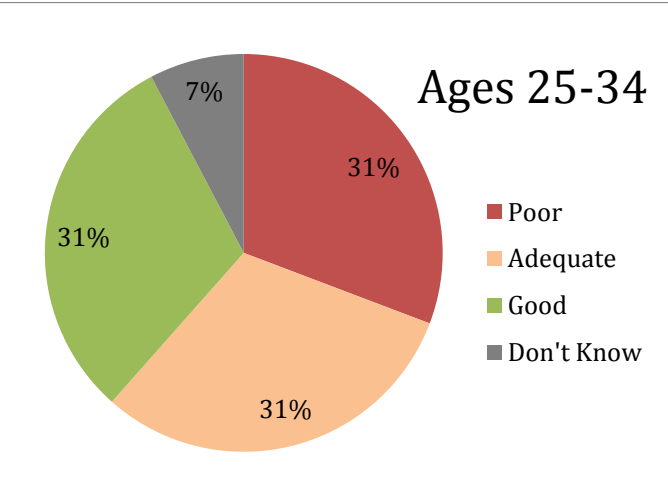
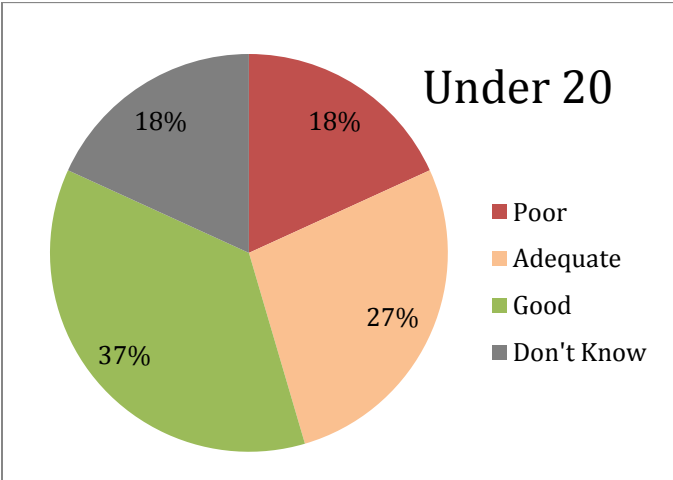
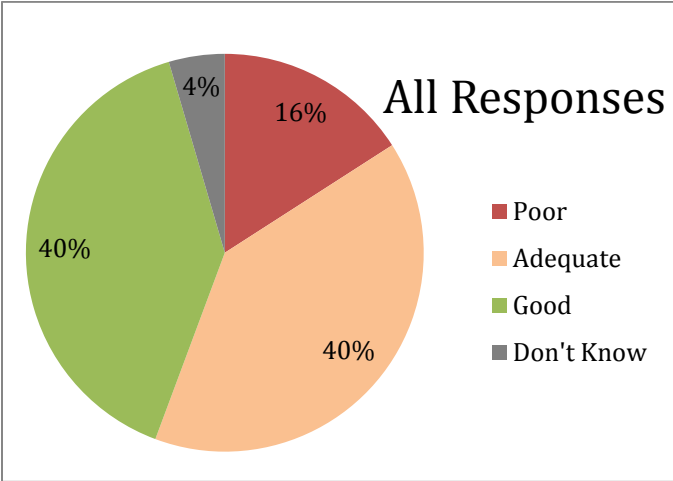
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Winter Road Maintenance**



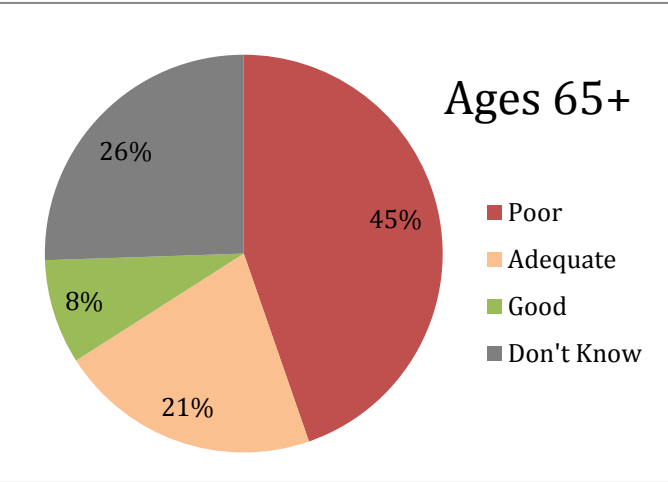
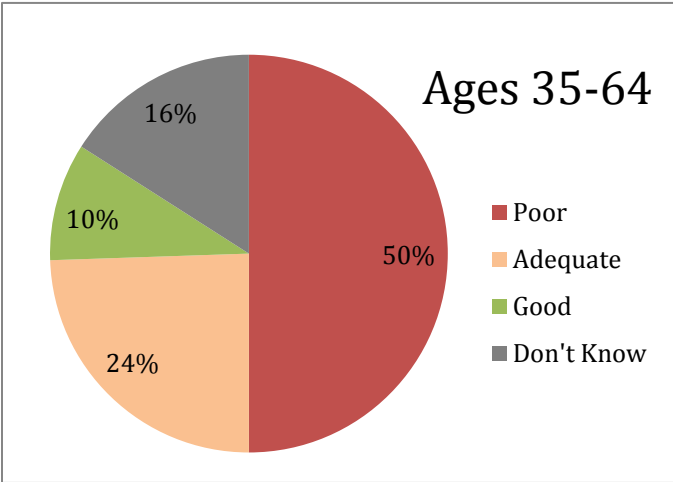
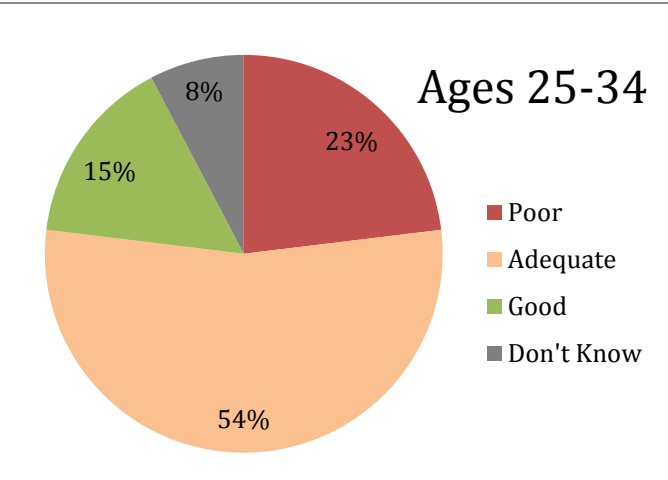
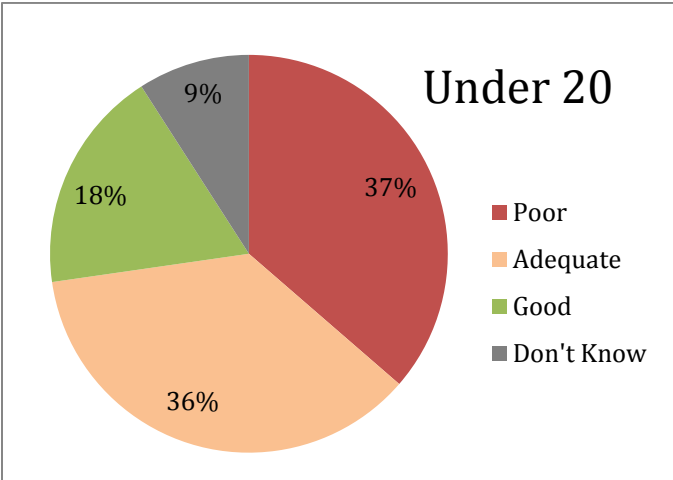
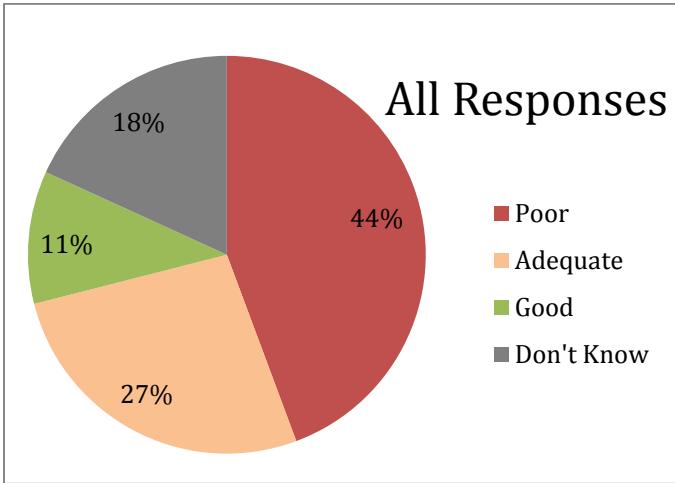
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Parks and Recreational Facilities**



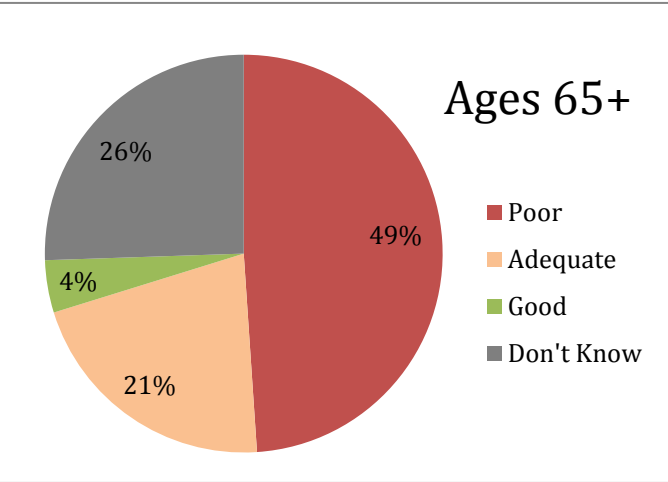
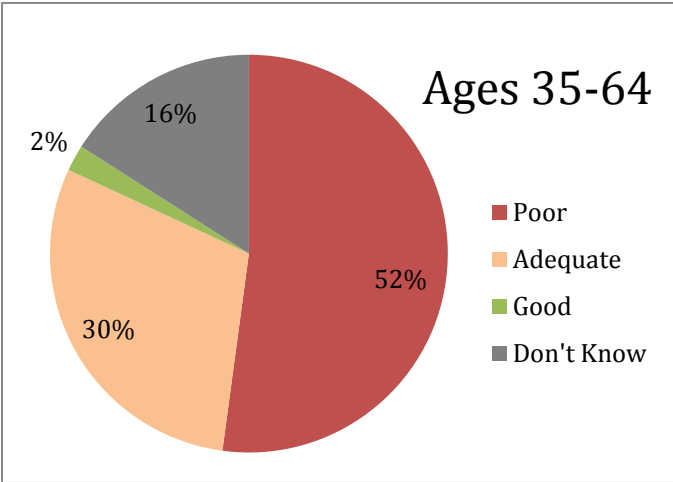
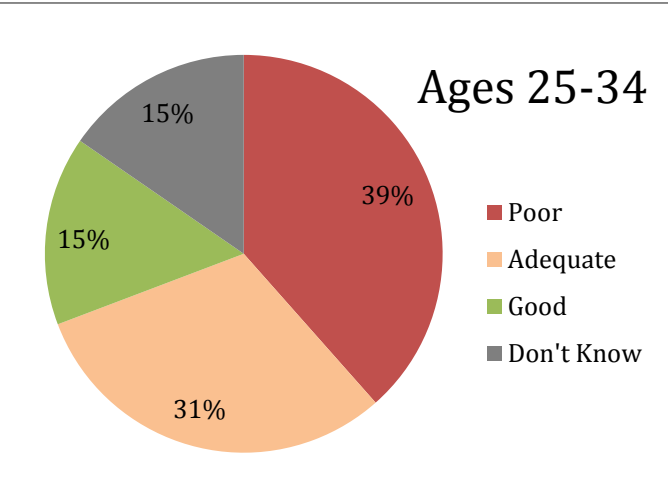
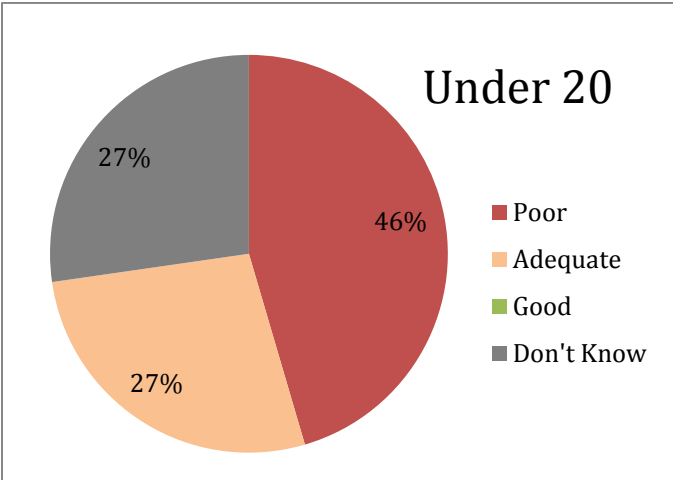
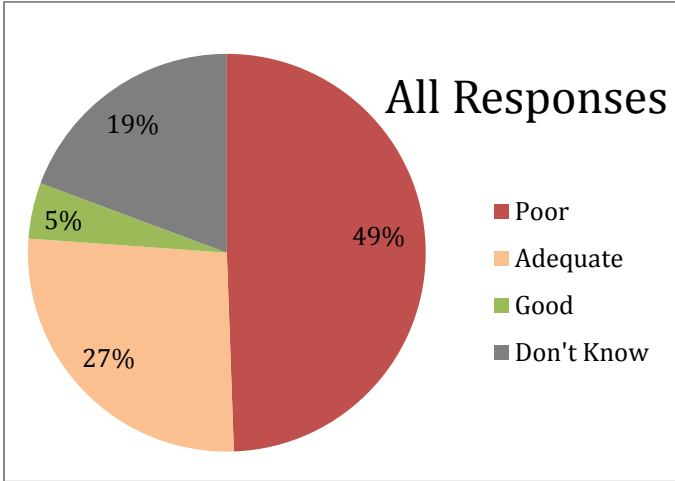
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Recreational Activities for Youth**



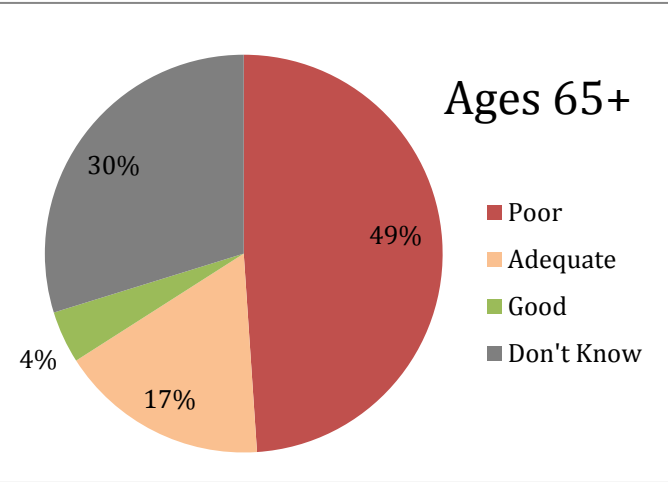
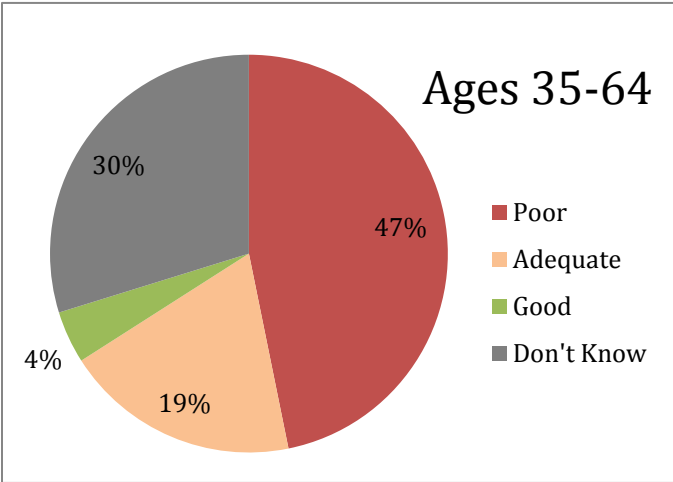
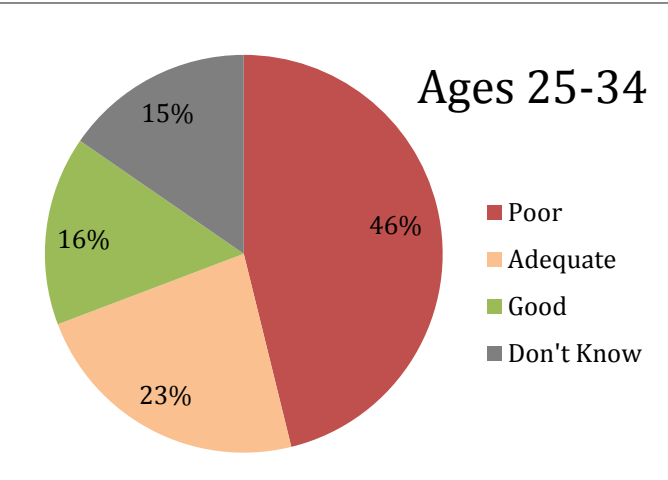
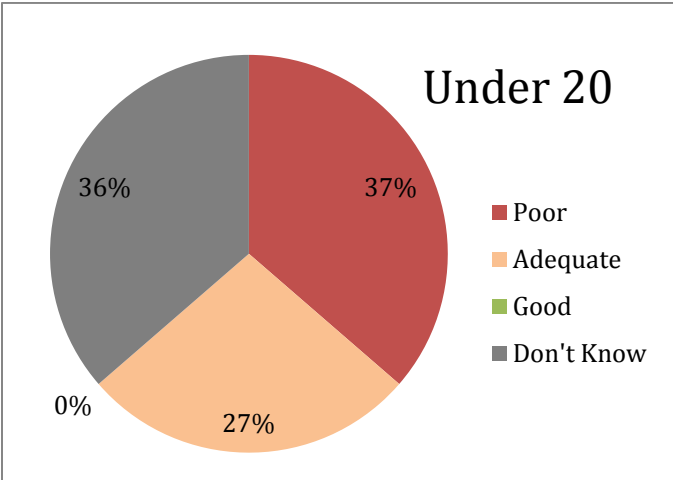
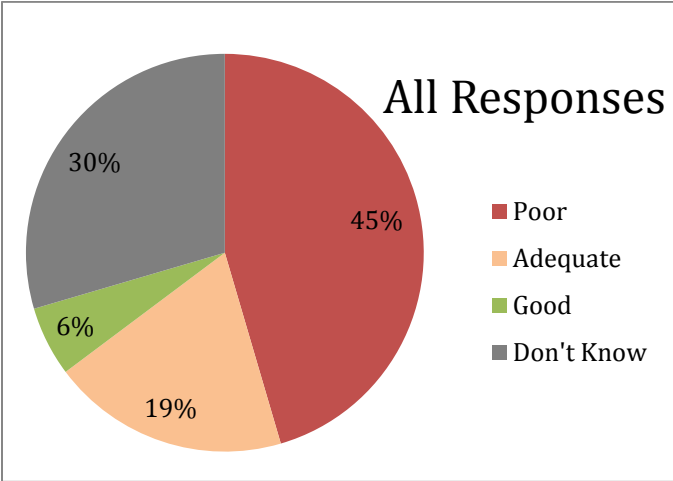
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Recreational Activities for Families**



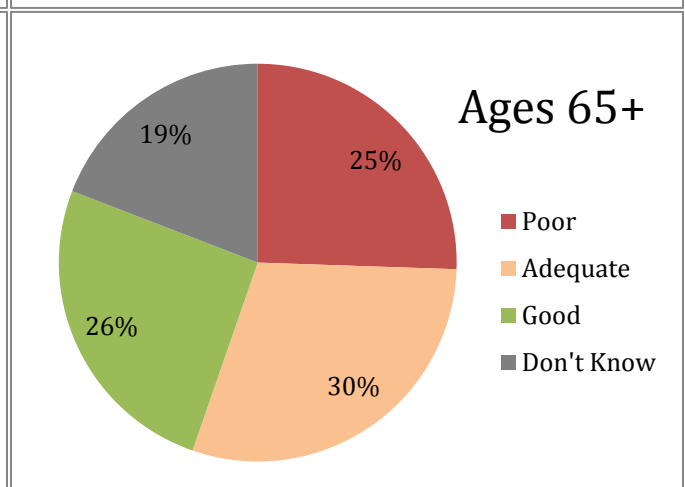
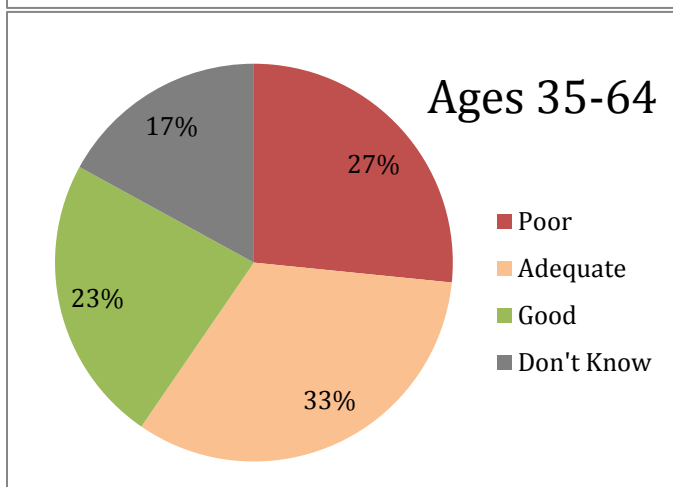
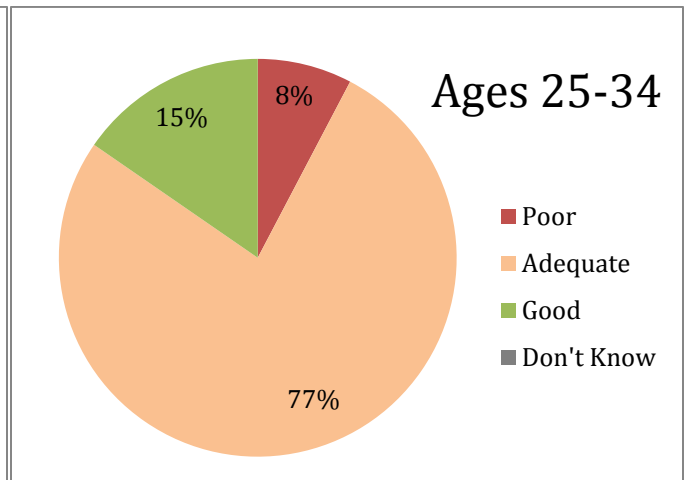
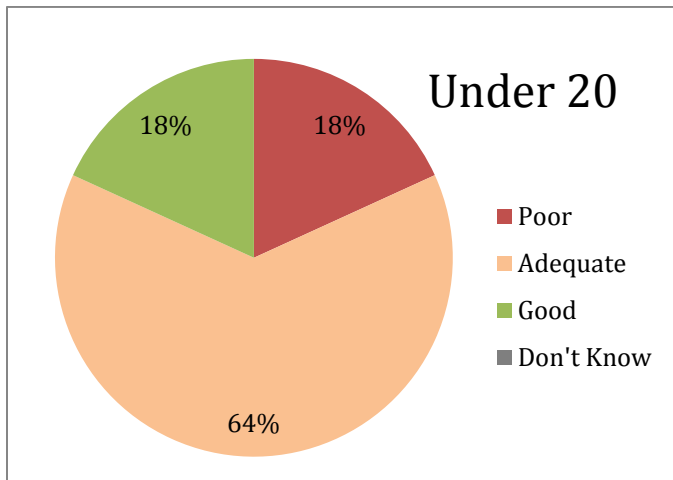
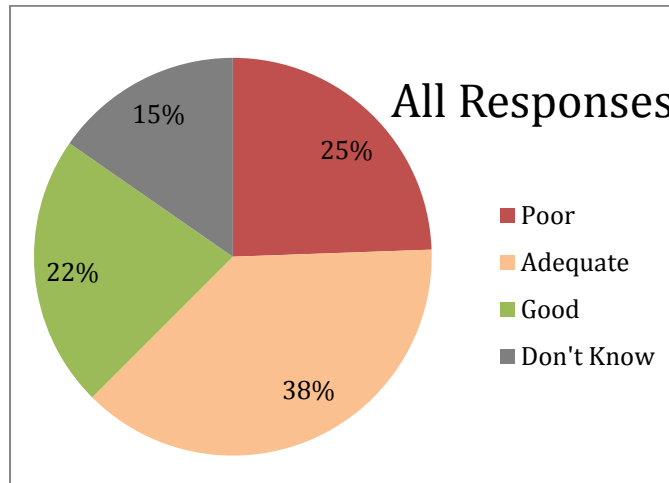
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Recreational Activities for Elderly**



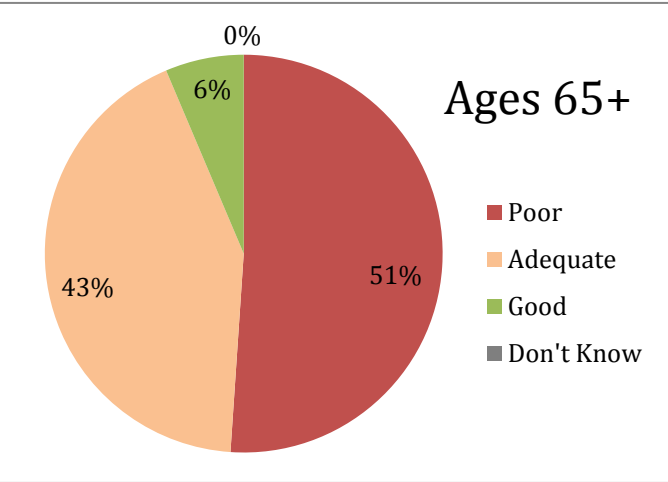
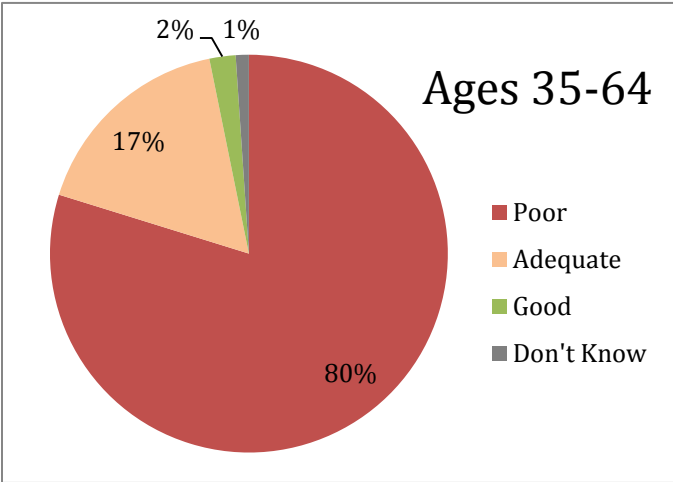
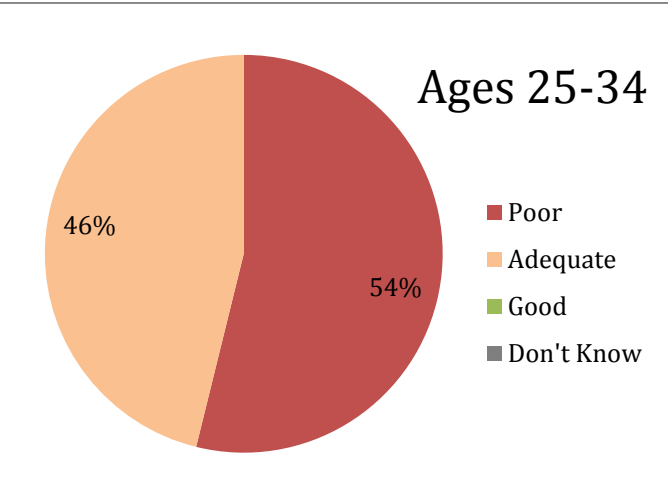
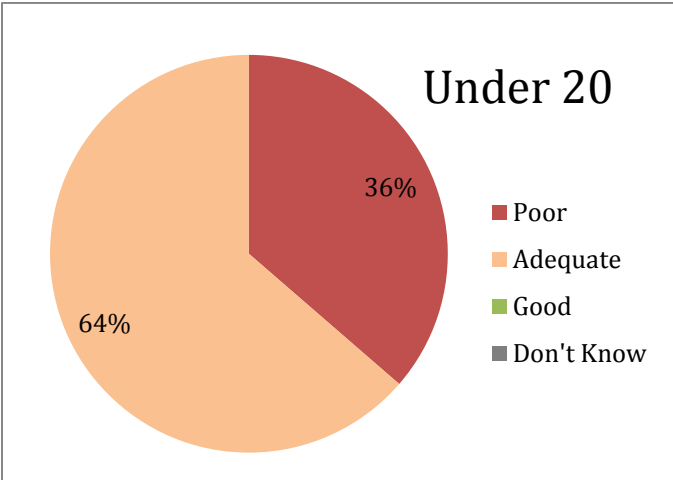
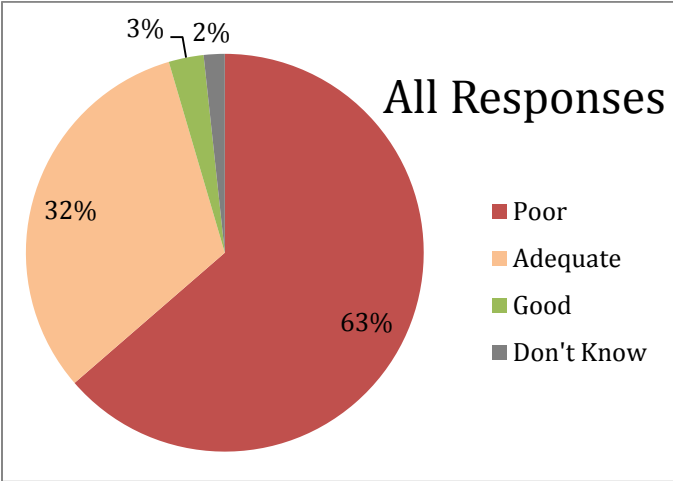
# How do you rate Albion in the following areas?

## Availability of and Access to Greenspace/Natural Areas



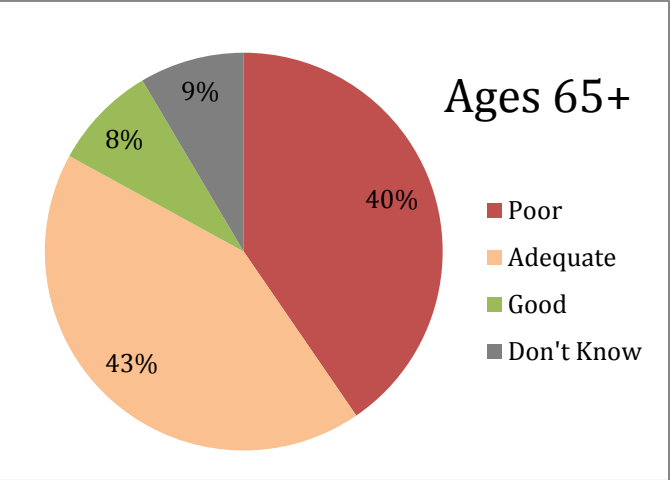
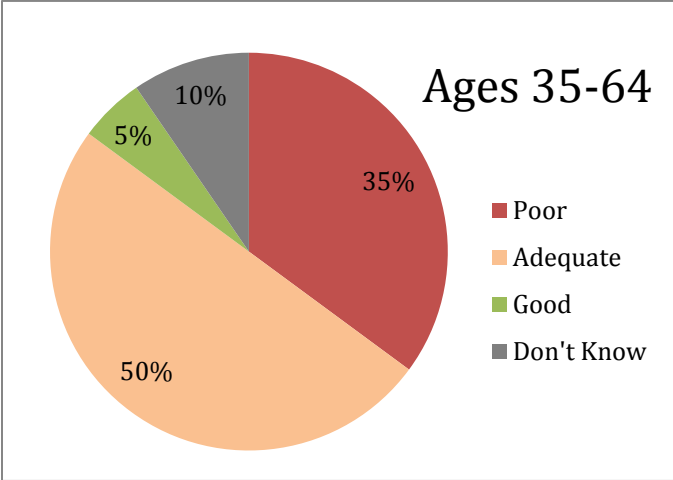
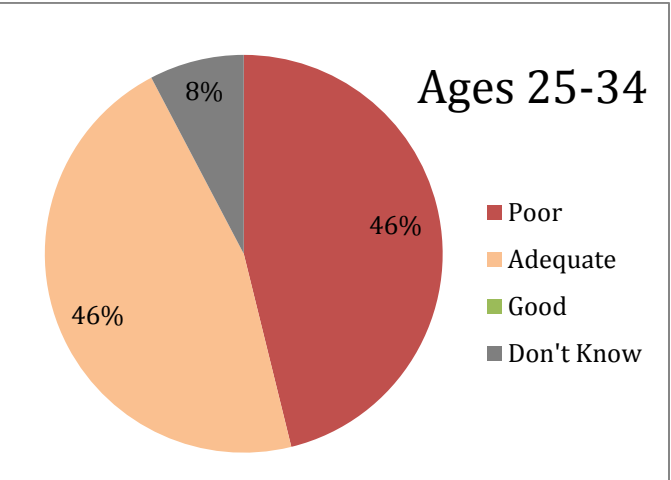
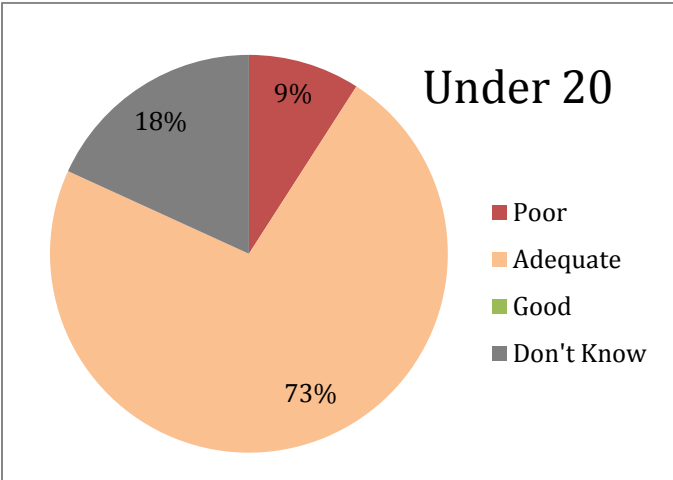
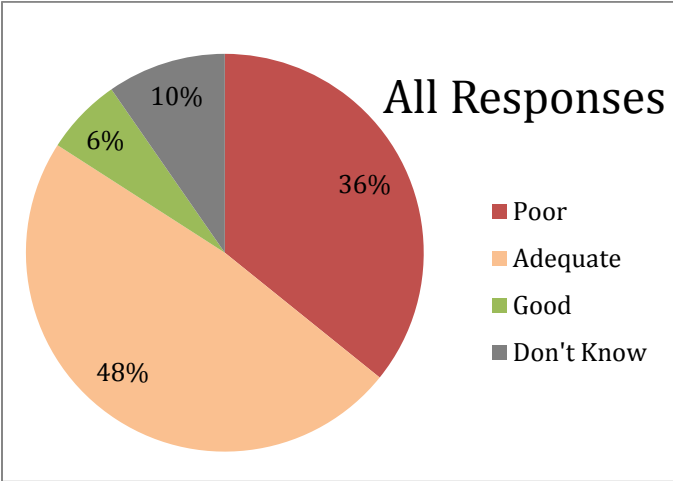
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Attractiveness of Storefronts on Main Street**



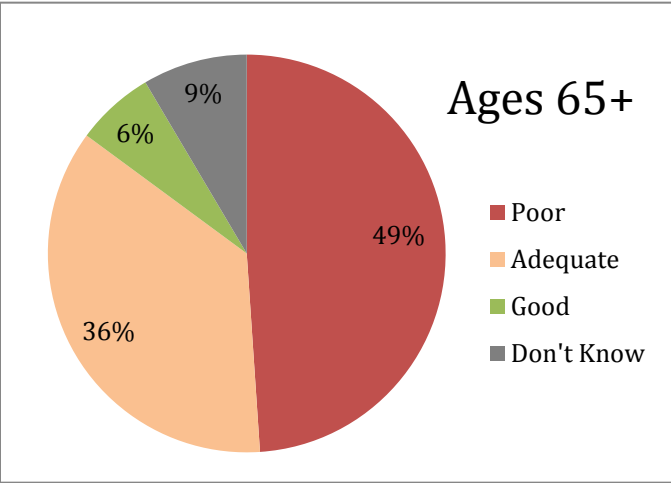
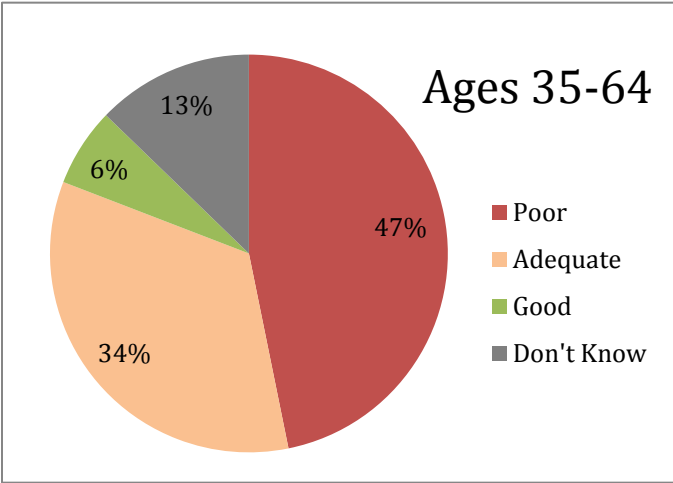
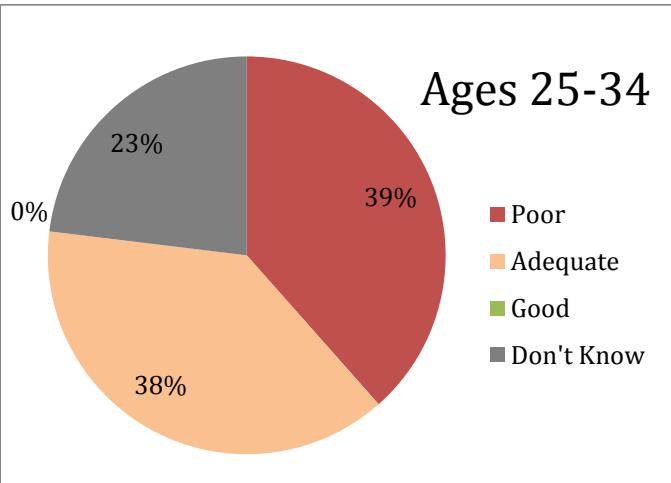
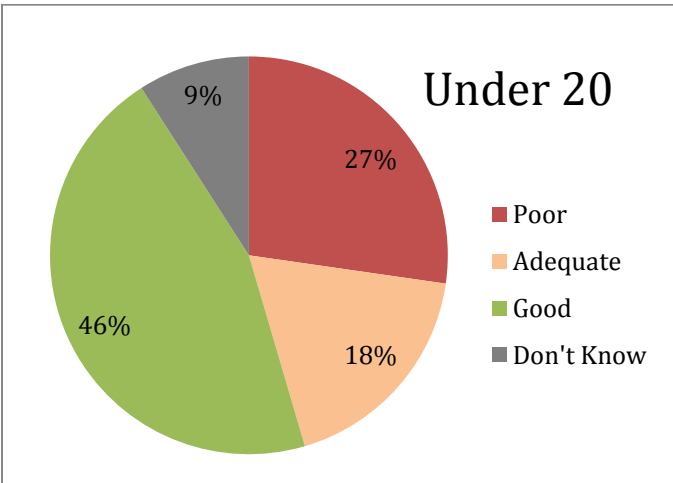
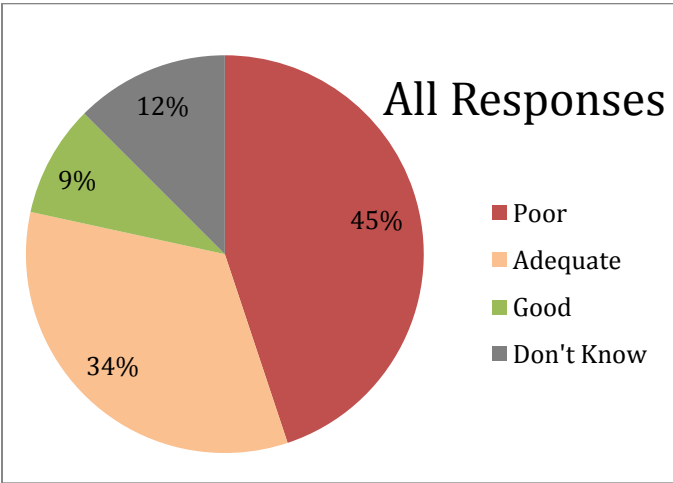
*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

**Quality and Condition of Housing**

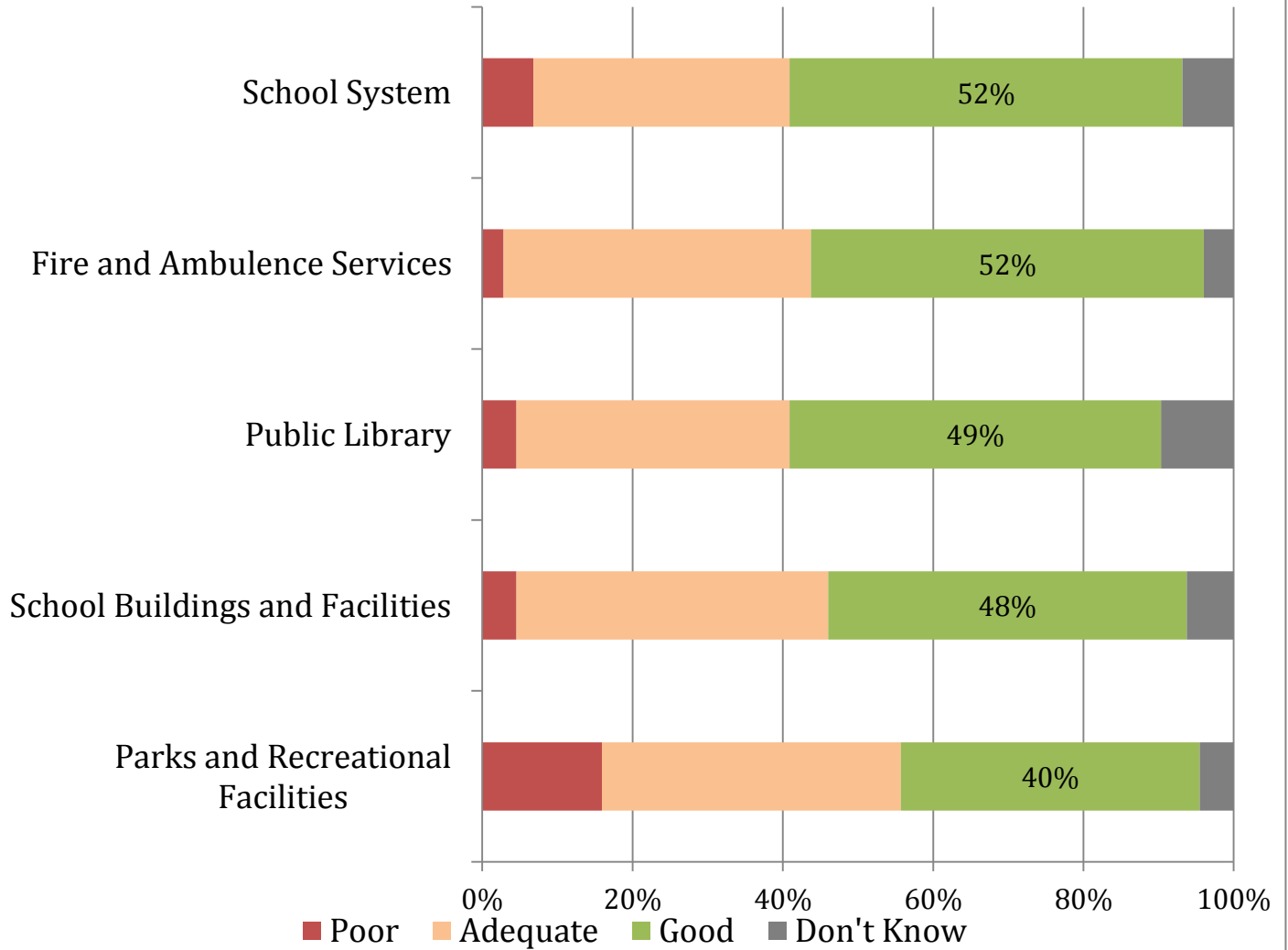


*How do you rate Albion in the following areas?*

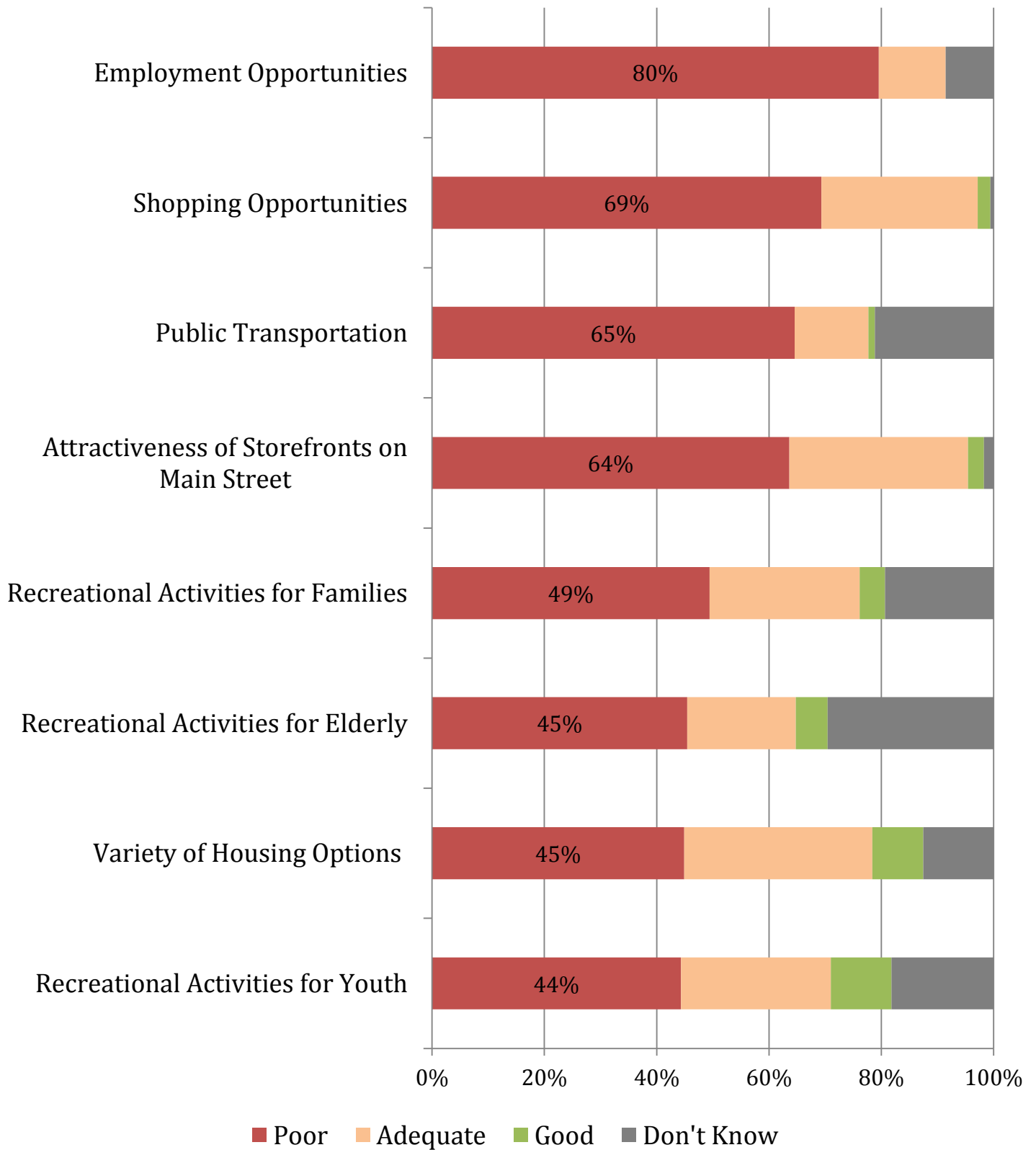
**Variety of Housing Options**  
(houses, apartments, senior living, etc.)



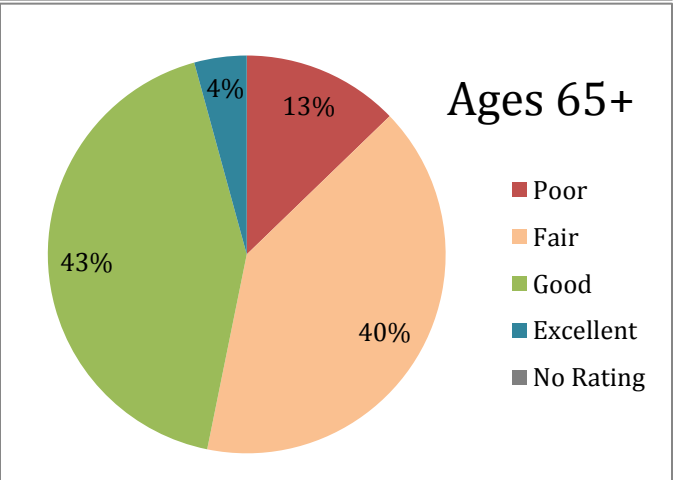
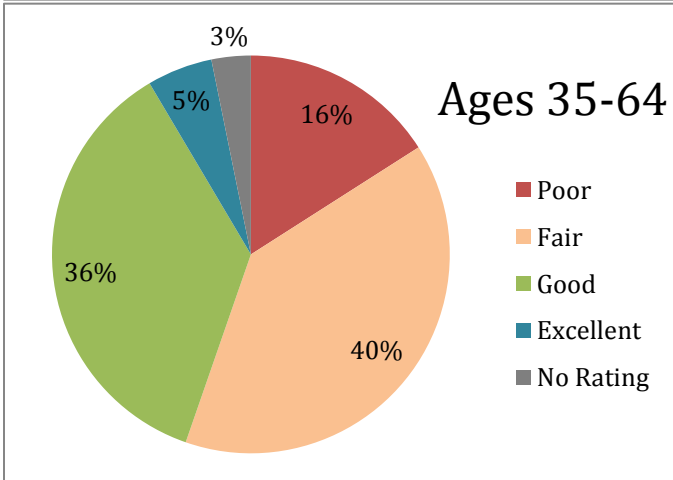
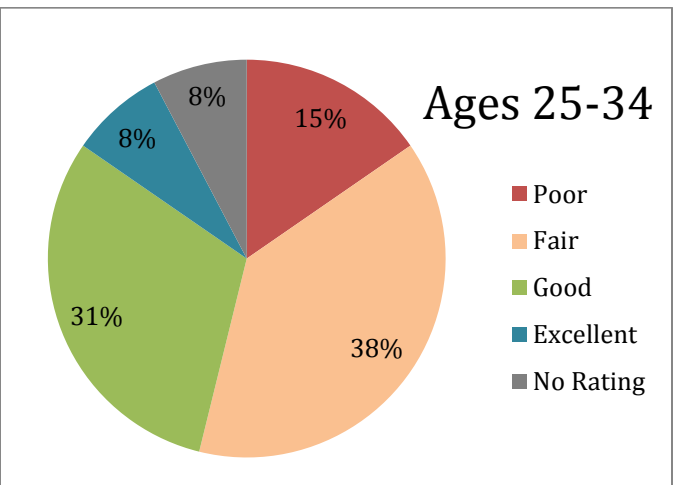
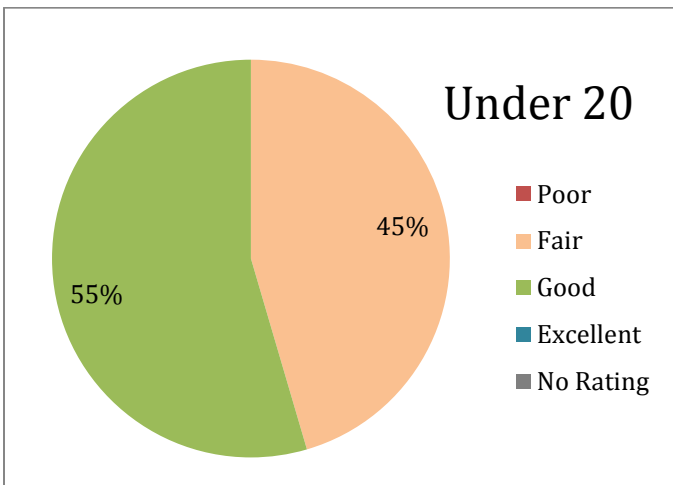
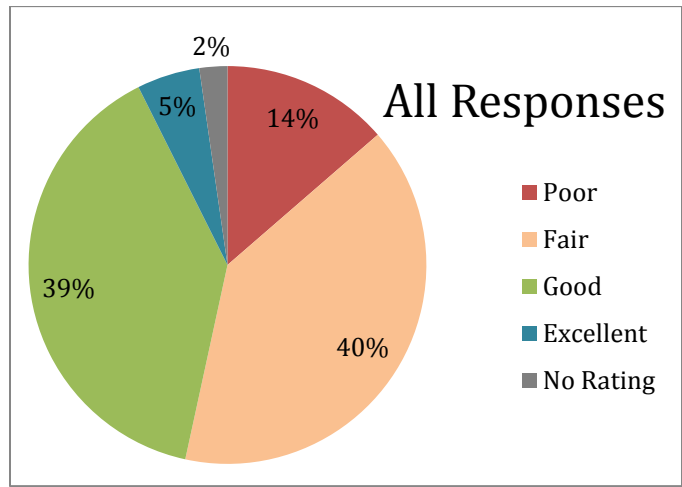
## Areas of Greatest Satisfaction in Albion



## Areas of Greatest Dissatisfaction in Albion



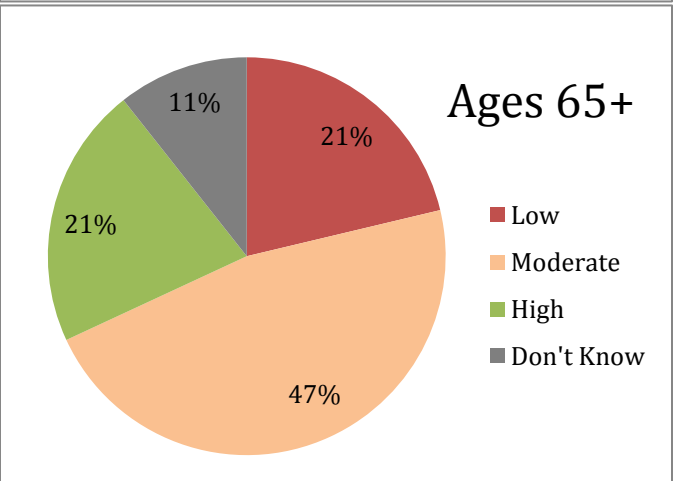
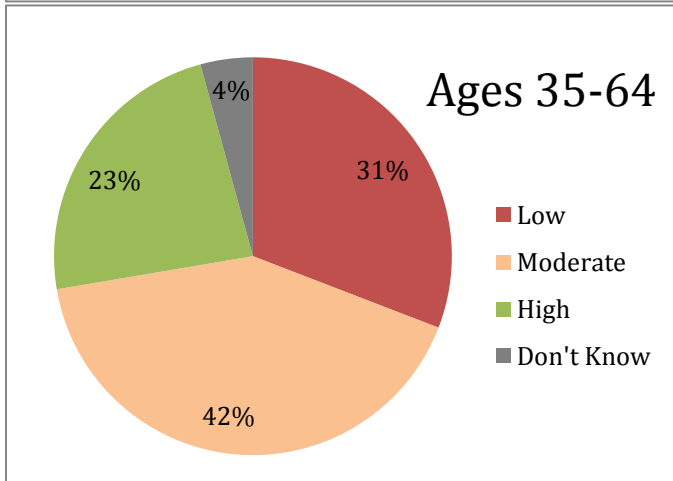
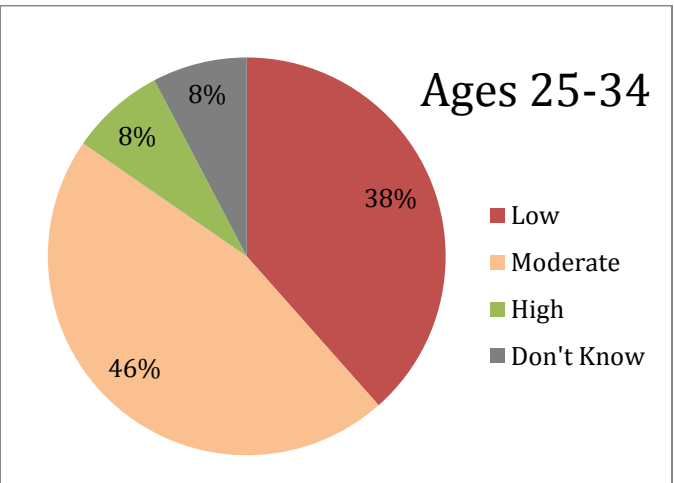
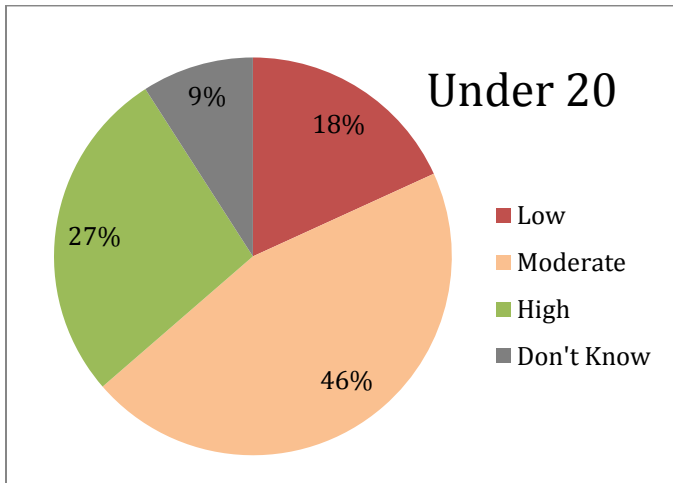
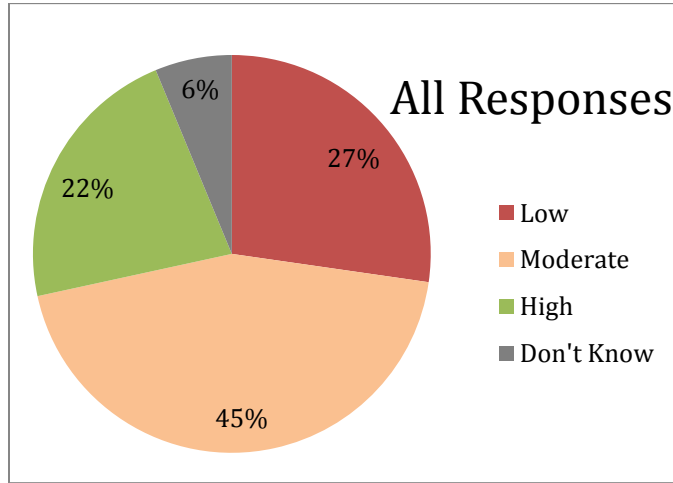
# Overall, how do you rate Albion as a place to live?



*During the next 5 years, what priority should be given to each of the following issues?*

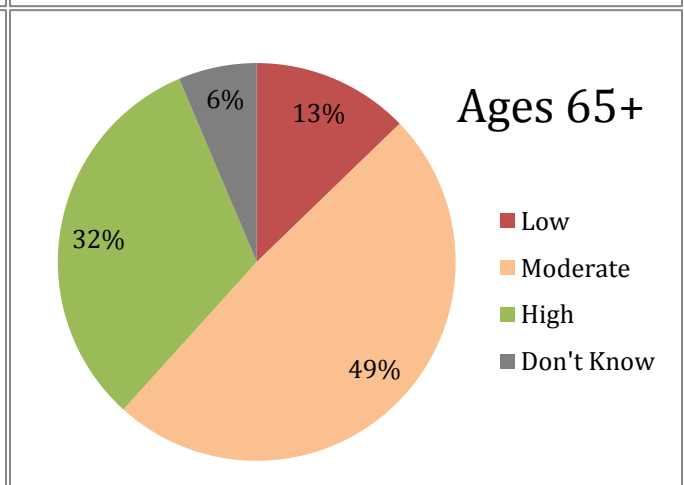
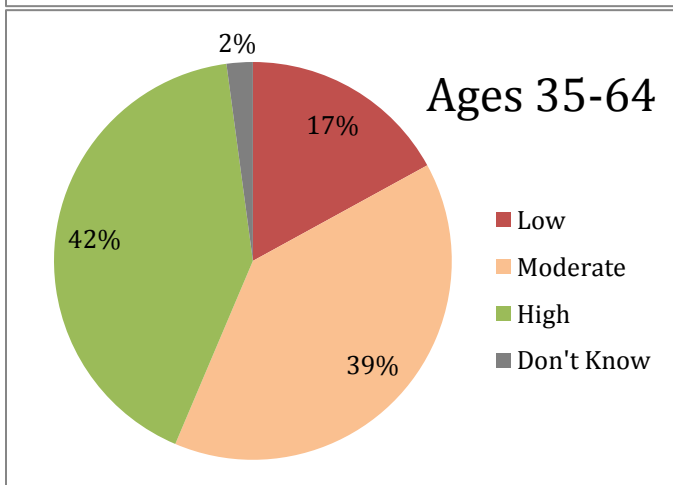
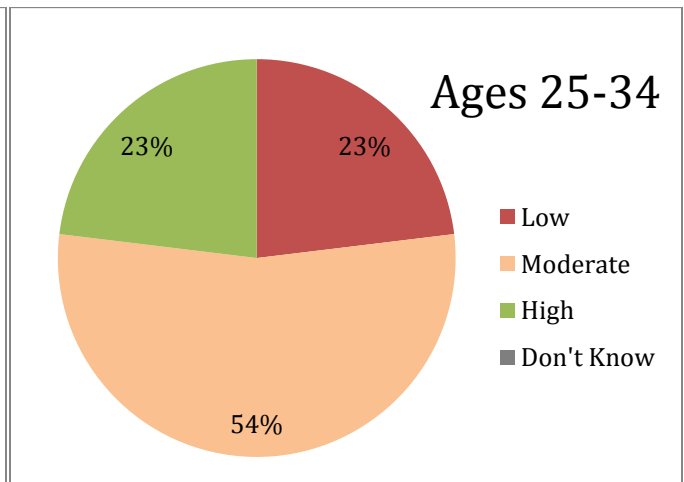
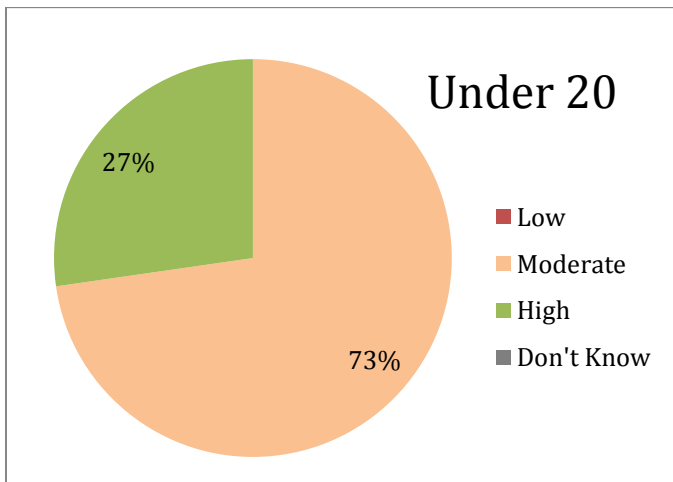
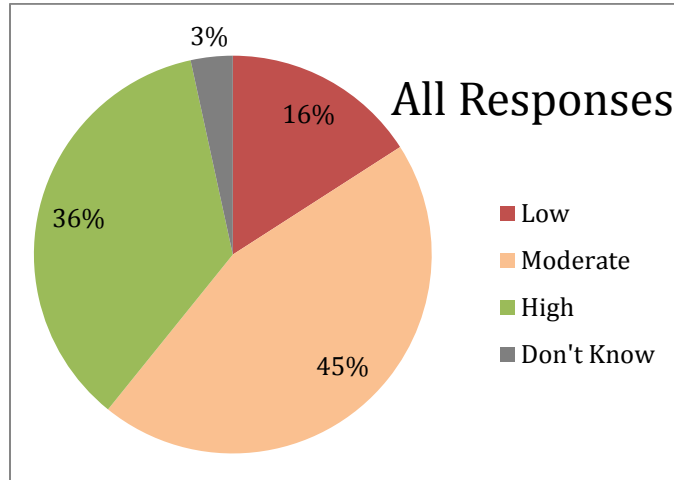
**Promote Albion**

(Community newsletter, Borough website, Social media, etc.)



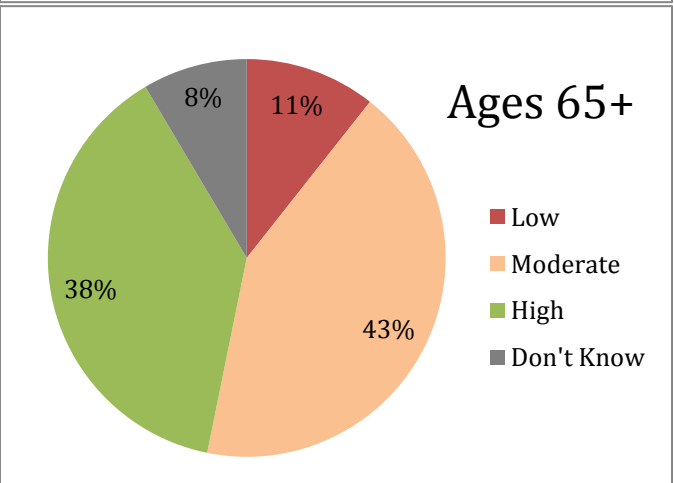
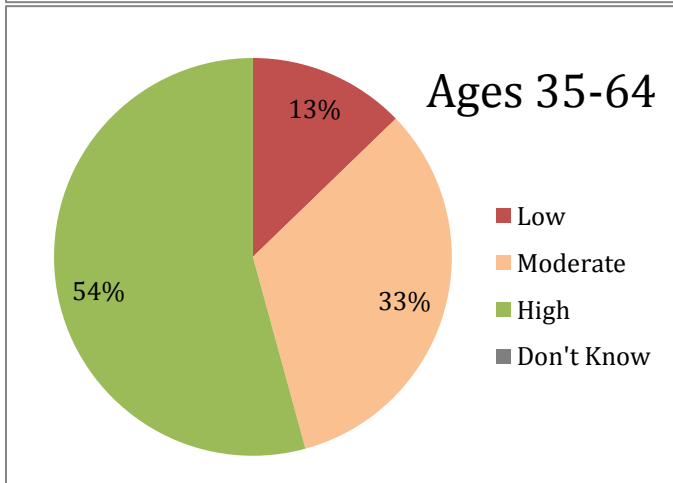
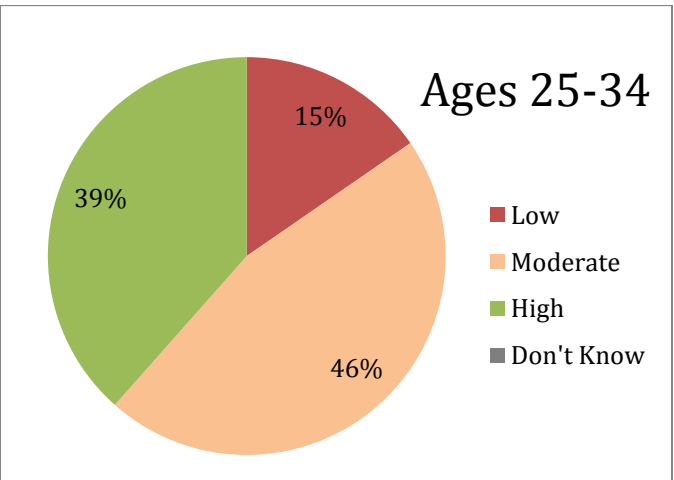
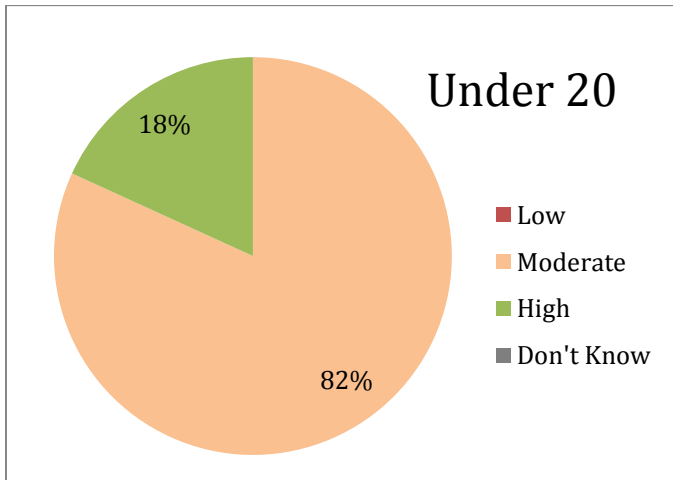
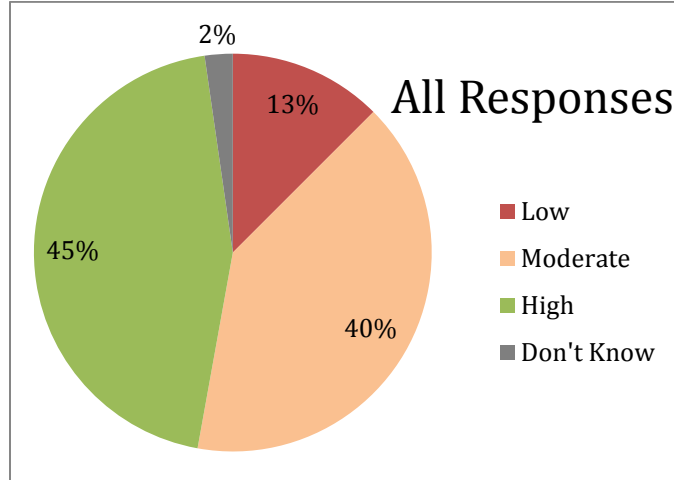
*During the next 5 years, what priority should be given to each of the following issues?*

**Hold more community events and activities**  
 (Festivals, Activities at the park, etc.)



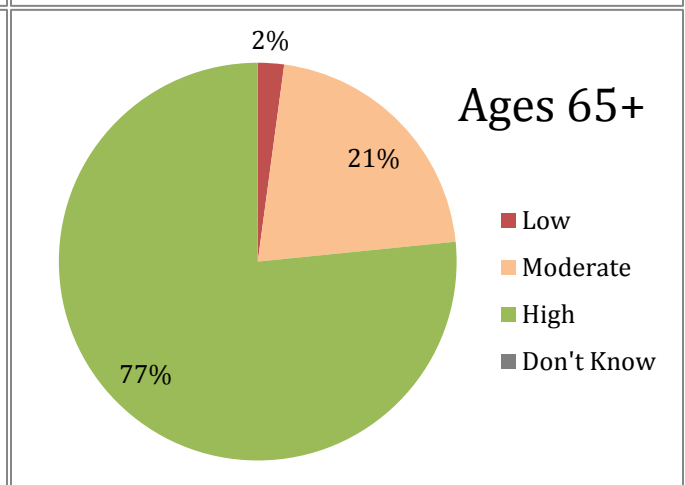
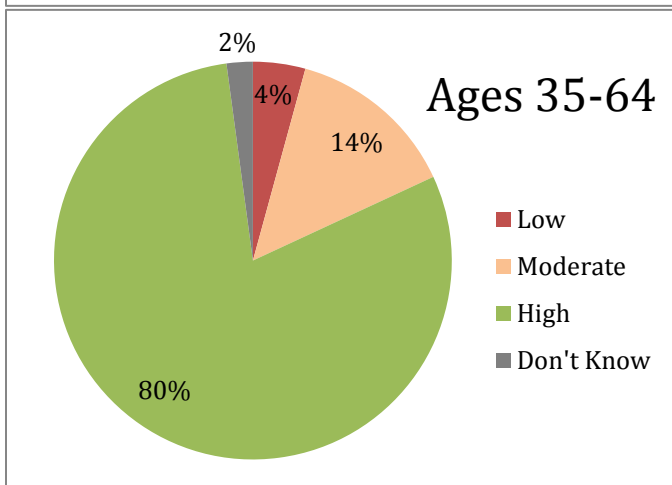
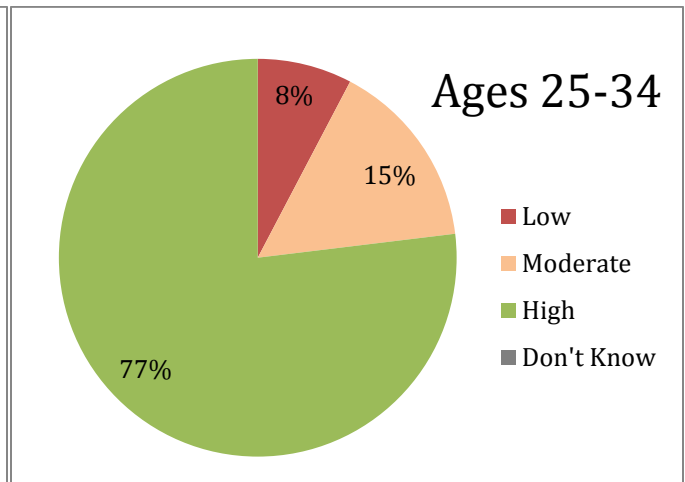
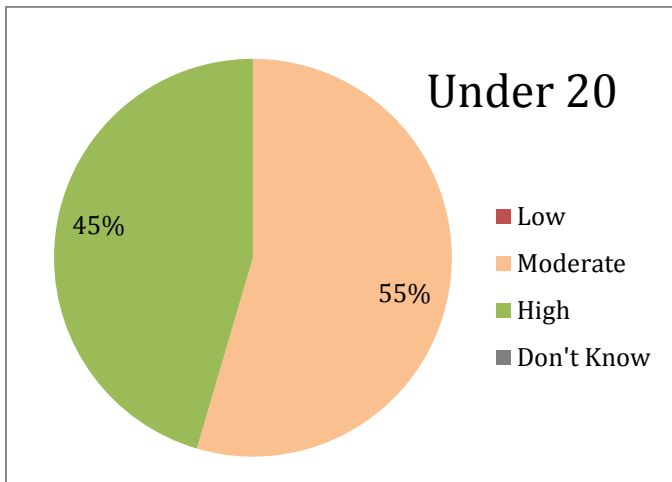
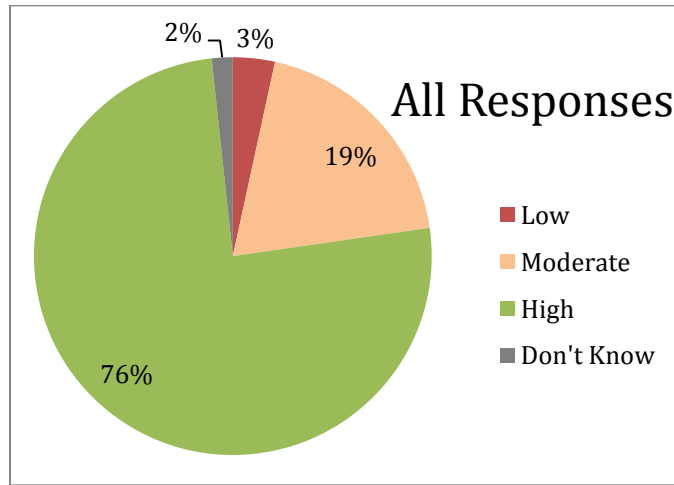
*During the next 5 years, what priority should be given to each of the following issues?*

**Beautify Main Street**  
 (Streetscape improvements, Lighting, Holiday decorations, etc.)



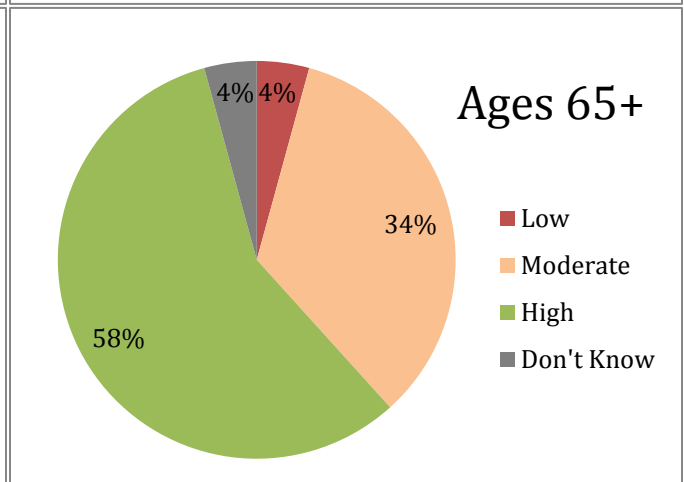
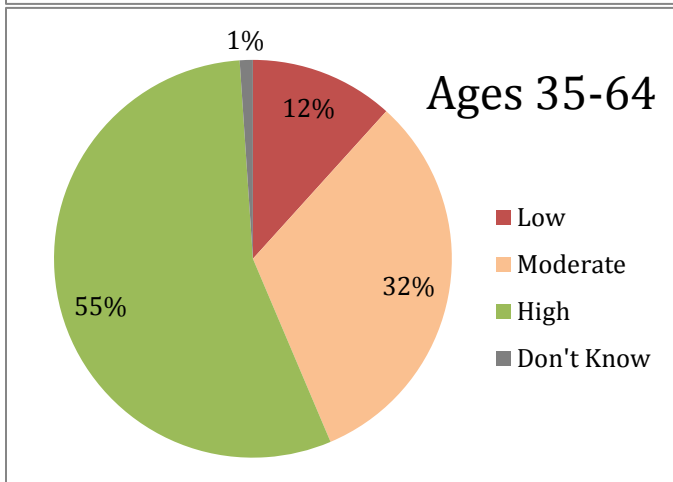
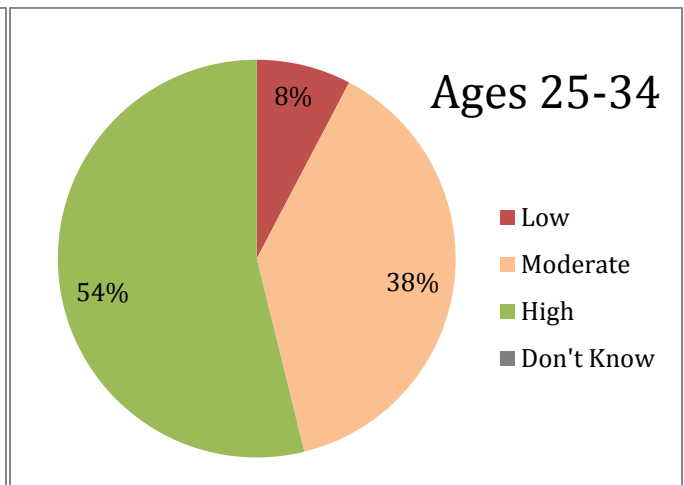
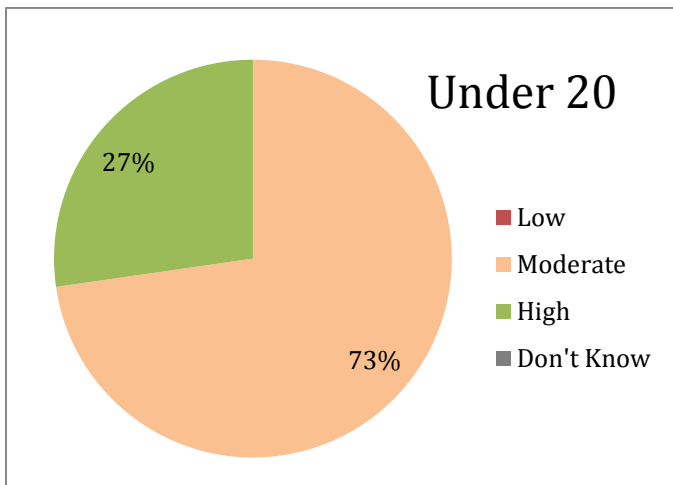
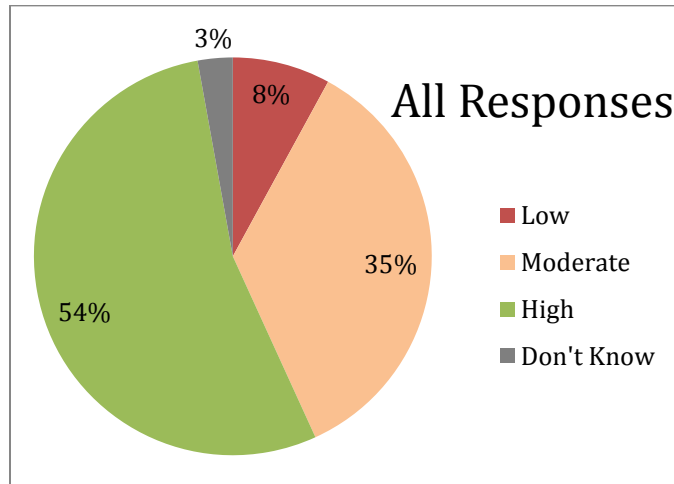
*During the next 5 years, what priority should be given to each of the following issues?*

**Support new and existing businesses**



*During the next 5 years, what priority should be given to each of the following issues?*

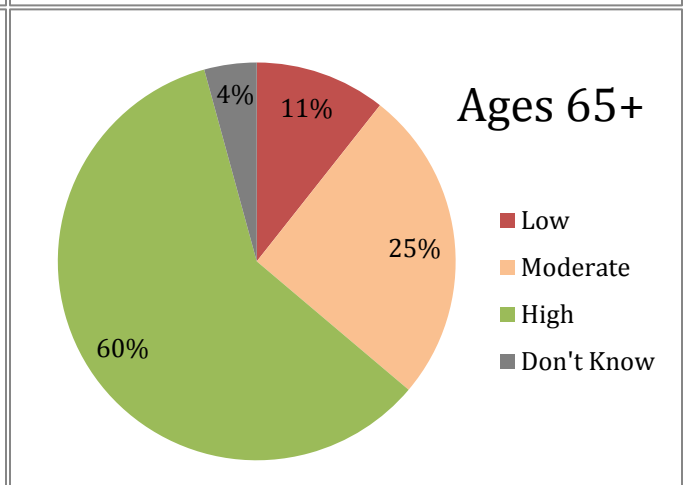
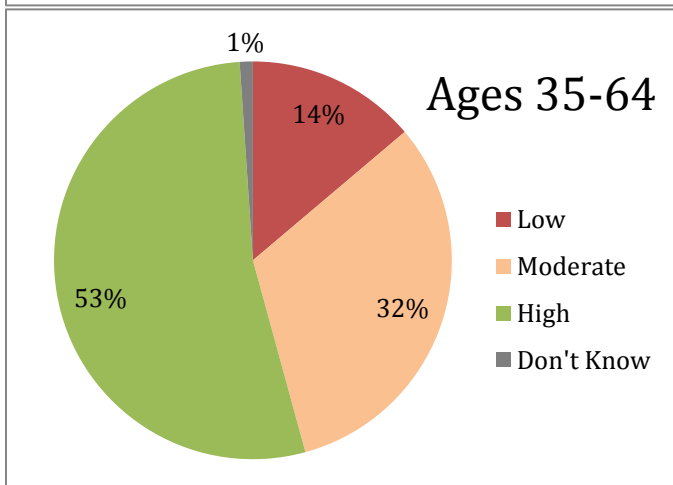
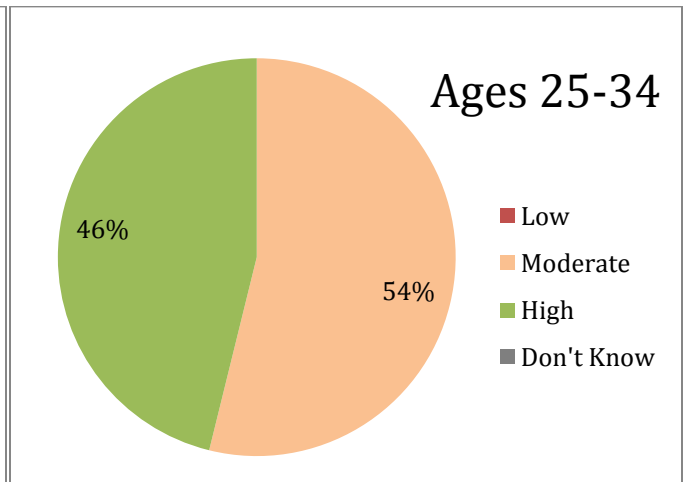
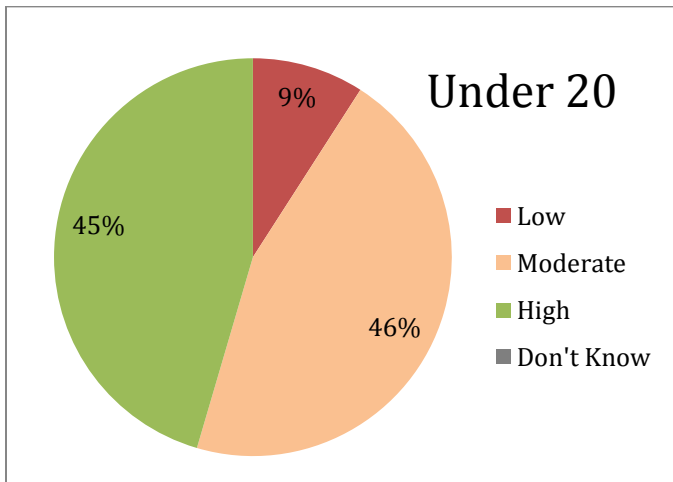
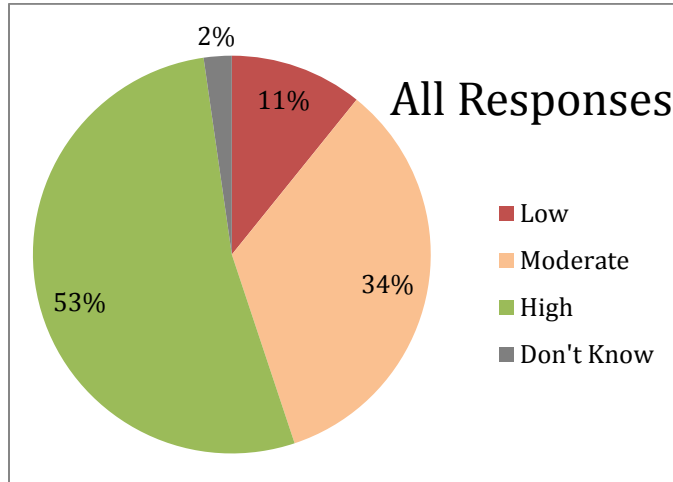
**Develop & implement a strategy to address deteriorated housing**  
 (Rehabilitation programs, Property maintenance codes, Homeowner assistance programs for the elderly, etc.)



*During the next 5 years, what priority should be given to each of the following issues?*

### Beautify Neighborhoods

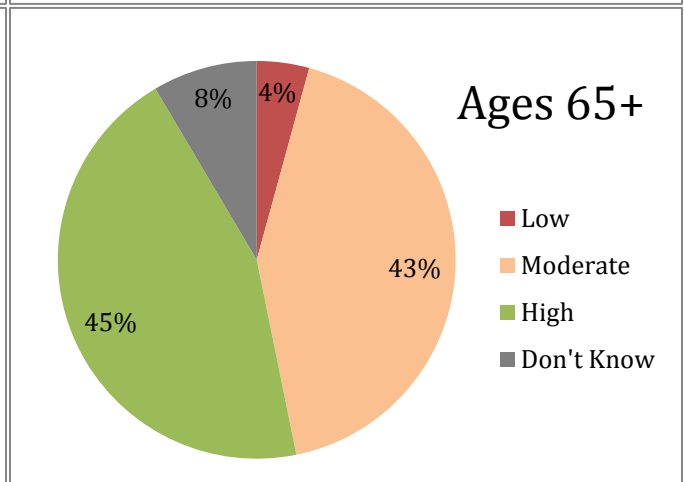
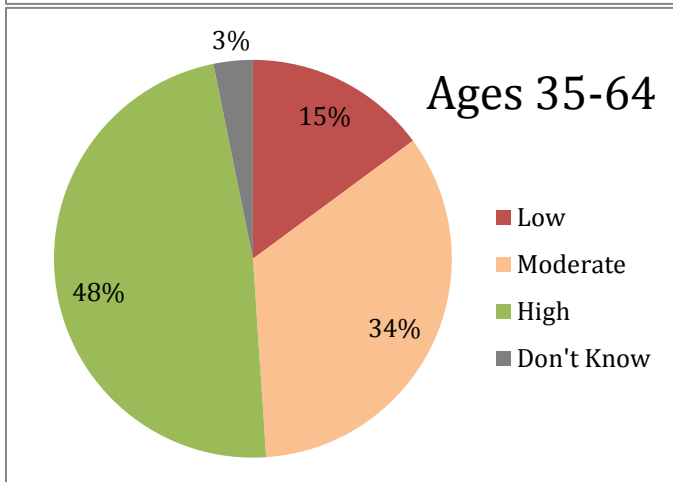
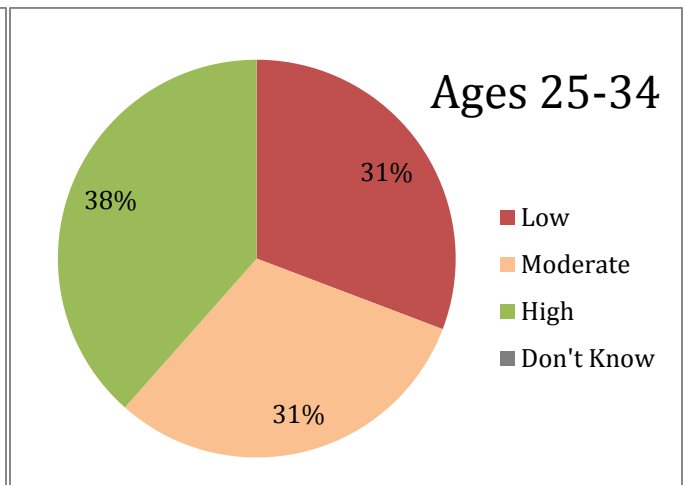
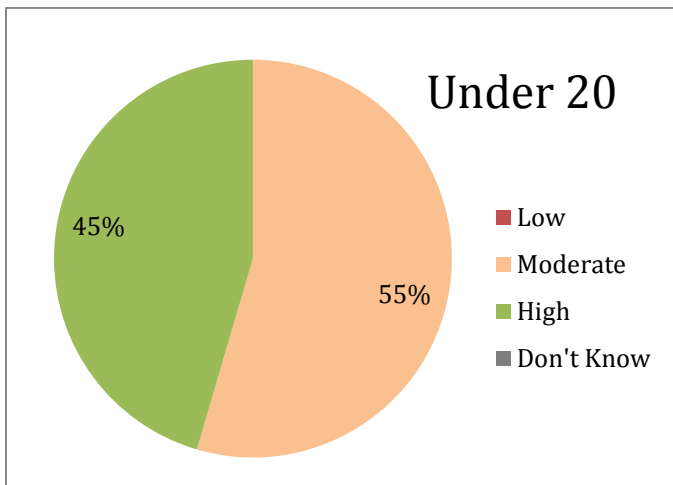
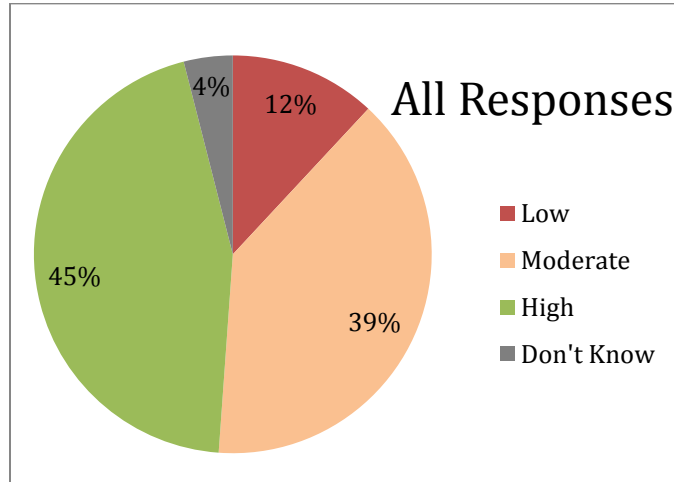
(Street lighting, Sidewalk maintenance, Tree planting program, Community “clean-up days”, etc.)



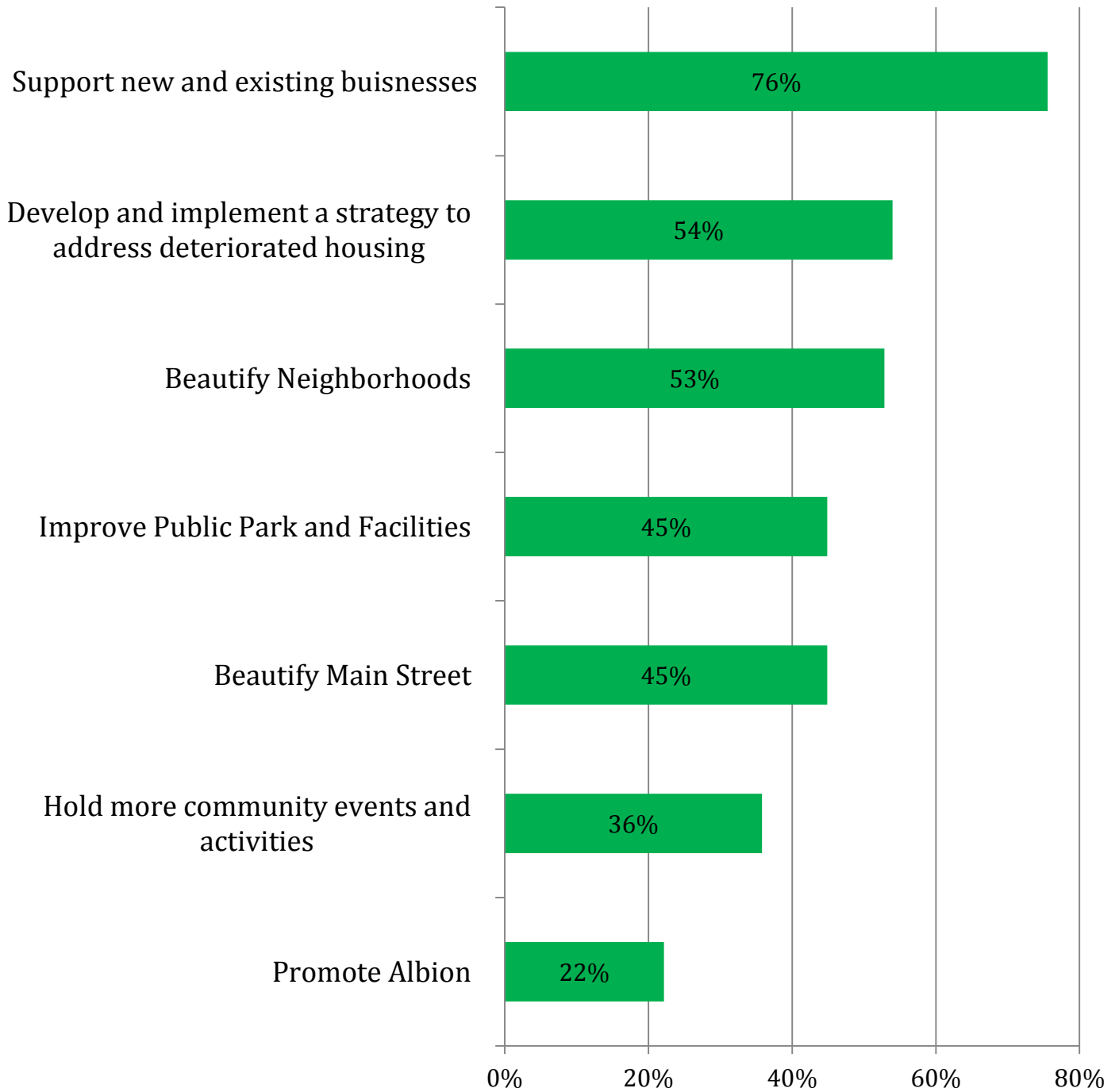
*During the next 5 years, what priority should be given to each of the following issues?*

### **Improve Public Park and Facilities**

**(Playground, Recreation options, All-season facility for public gatherings & activities, Renovations to existing buildings, etc.)**



## Percent of respondents indicating the issue was a high priority



# Additional Comments Received From Online Survey

What are we missing? Please share any comments that you may have regarding priority issues, improvements needed, or any concerns that you may have.

- Under 20
  - **No employment opportunities**
  - **Lack of businesses, attractions, and activities in the community**
    - Ex: Shopping, eating, bowling, movie theater, more gas stations
- 20-24
  - Lack of Section 8 housing/rentals available
  - Need for a regular grocery store or butcher shop, lack of inventory in Shurfine, Family Dollar, and Dollar General
- 25-34
  - More/better cell phone and internet service/towers
  - Transparency and community involvement is key
  - Police Force
- 34-64
  - **Taxes are too high for the low quality of services provided**
    - Establish financial security before initiating beautification projects
    - Sell land that borough owns to bring in more tax income sources and use those funds to promote businesses and fix the downtown
    - Lack of a sufficiently large tax base
  - **Revitalize downtown with artisans, small businesses and large businesses**
    - Currently an eyesore
    - **Need another gas station**
      - Traffic at County Fair is a nightmare
    - Need for a nice subdivision
    - Make office spaces in buildings more professional to attract new companies
  - **Support local businesses; create more of a supportive community.**
    - Allow businesses to support the school district through advertisement
    - Tax incentives for new and existing businesses
    - Decrease commercial rates on water and sewer for small businesses that don't use large quantities
    - Increase opportunities for advertisement
      - Billboards, radio, updated webpage, showcase businesses
  - **Public transportation on a daily basis needs to be a high priority**
  - More funding for fire department and **police department** to increase safety
    - One person would take less police protection if it meant lower taxes

- Improve residential areas
  - Attract young families
  - Seek grant money for curb appeal home improvements to assist residents in cleaning their properties
- Increase options for senior citizens
  - Try to bring in a living assistance facility with Alzheimer's units, wellness units, and housing
- Need to take a regional approach to tackling issues
  - Work with surrounding areas
  - More internal cooperation and eliminate local leaders that stymie growth
  - Engage the faith based community to create change
- Need quality and effective leadership in the Boro
  - Too many people on the council for the size of the area
- Priorities are important but can't rely on the borough to produce all of these things. Instead incentivize action through private citizens and business, not higher taxes.
- 65+
  - Need more public activities to build a sense of community
  - **Spend money wisely**
    - Don't make unnecessary purchases
  - Be more accessible to the public
  - Streets and sidewalks should be a high priority

## Albion’s Plan – Public Input Survey

Responses to the following survey questions will help guide the development of Albion’s Plan for its future. The Borough of Albion recognizes that public input and participation are critical to the success of this planning effort. If you live in, work in, or visit Albion, please share your opinions and views by taking a few minutes to complete this survey. For more information about Albion’s Plan, visit [www.albionborough.org](http://www.albionborough.org)

This survey may also be completed online at <https://goo.gl/forms/nKW55yhrZjDhIAJ02>

1. Check all that apply to your affiliation with Albion. I \_\_\_\_\_ in Albion.
- |                                       |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Live         | <input type="checkbox"/> Work         | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit Frequently (6 or more times per year)     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used to Live | <input type="checkbox"/> Go to School | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit Infrequently (less than 6 times per year) |

2. How old are you?     Under 20     20-24     25-34     35-64     65+

3. How do you rate Albion in the following areas?

	Good	Adequate	Poor	Don’t Know
Employment Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shopping Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Place to Raise Children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire and Ambulance Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School System	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Buildings and Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Water Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Sewer Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability and Quality of Cell Phone Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to Broad Band Internet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Residential Garbage Service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Borough Office	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality and Condition of Sidewalks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality and Condition of Roads and Streets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Winter Road Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks and Recreational Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreational Activities for Youth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreational Activities for Families	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreational Activities for Elderly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Availability of and Access to Greenspace/Natural Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attractiveness of Storefronts on Main Street	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quality and Condition of Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Variety of Housing Options (houses, apartments, senior living, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Overall, how do you rate Albion as a place to live?

- Excellent     Good     Fair     Poor

5. During the next 5 years, what priority should be given to each of the following issues?

	High	Moderate	Low	Don't Know
Promote Albion (Community newsletter, Borough website, social media, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hold more community events and activities (festivals, activities at the park, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beautify Main Street (streetscape improvements, lighting, holiday decorations, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Support new and existing businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop and implement a strategy to address deteriorated housing (rehabilitation programs, property maintenance codes, homeowner assistance programs for the elderly, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beautify Neighborhoods (street lighting, sidewalk maintenance, tree planting program, community "clean-up days", etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improve Public Park and Facilities (playground, recreation options, all-season facility for public gatherings & activities, renovations to existing buildings, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. What are we missing? Please share any comments that you may have regarding priority issues, improvements needed, or any concerns that you may have.

Please return surveys by April 11, 2018 to:

Albion Borough Manager  
26 Smock Avenue  
Albion, PA 16401-1113

Surveys may also be returned by email to:

[borough.manager@albionborough.us](mailto:borough.manager@albionborough.us)