Data in the North Central Region: The Nebraska Rural Poll, the Ohio Farm Poll, and the NCR-Stat

28 Years of the Nebraska Rural Poll - The Nebraska Rural Poll has been amplifying the voices of rural Nebraskans for 28 years. The Rural Poll is an annual effort that focuses on such issues as community, government policy, well-being, and work.

The Ohio Farm Poll – Unpacking the Diversity of Trends and Perspectives in a Heterogenous Agricultural Landscape - This presentation will share highlights and lessons learned from the 2020 and 2023 Ohio Farm Polls (a statewide representative panel survey of Ohio farmers). A focus will be on characterizing and explaining variability in farm and farm household well-being and viability.

The NCR-Stat: Featuring the NCR-Stat: Baseline Survey 2022 developed by NCRCRD, this presentation will explore the use of the dataset with specific focus on the relationship between the subjective well-being of rural households and their place of living, health status, and migration intention.

WEBINAR ▪ JANUARY 24, 2024 ▪ 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

ncrcrd

NORTH CENTRAL
REGIONAL CENTER
FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Caregiving Across the Life Course in Rural and Urban Households in the North Central Region

This webinar introduces **NCR-Stat: Caregiving Across the Life Course Survey,** which is the second dataset of the North Central Region dataset program (NCR-Stat). The survey was developed by researchers from NCRCRD, The Ohio State University, National Farm Medicine Center, Penn State University, AARP, University of Minnesota, Purdue University, University of Rhode Island, and South Dakota State University.

The dataset focuses on child, adult, and elder caregiving as an integral part of household and community well-being. The survey aims to learn more about the individuals and families that provide care and how caregiving affects community and economic development in rural and urban communities across the North Central Region.

WEBINAR • FEBUARY 27, 2024 • 2:00 PM (ET)

ncrcrd

NORTH CENTRAL
REGIONAL CENTER
FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Nebraska Rural Poll

Rural Poll Team

Rebecca Vogt, Heather Akin, Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel, Bradley Lubben, L.J. McElravy, Timothy Meyer

X: @NERuralPoll

The goal of the Nebraska Rural Poll is to give local and state leaders a better understanding of the issues, challenges and concerns of Nebraska's rural citizens.

Funding for the annual poll is currently provided by Nebraska Extension and Rural Prosperity Nebraska (RPN)

X: @NERuralPoll

Core Topics

Community

- Perceptions of community change
- Satisfaction with community services
- Attachment to community

Well-being

- Better or worse off compared to 5 years ago
- Will be better or worse off 10 years from now
- Feelings of powerlessness
- Satisfaction with job, religion, family, community, clean water, etc.

Individual, household, and work demographics

Rotating Topics

2020

- Animal agriculture
- Community resilience
- Severe weather events

2021

- Trust and confidence in institutions
- Impacts of the pandemic

2022

- Natural resource management (e.g., water)
- Leadership and volunteering in communities
- Workplace and economy

2023

- Civil discourse
- Childcare
- Farm Bill

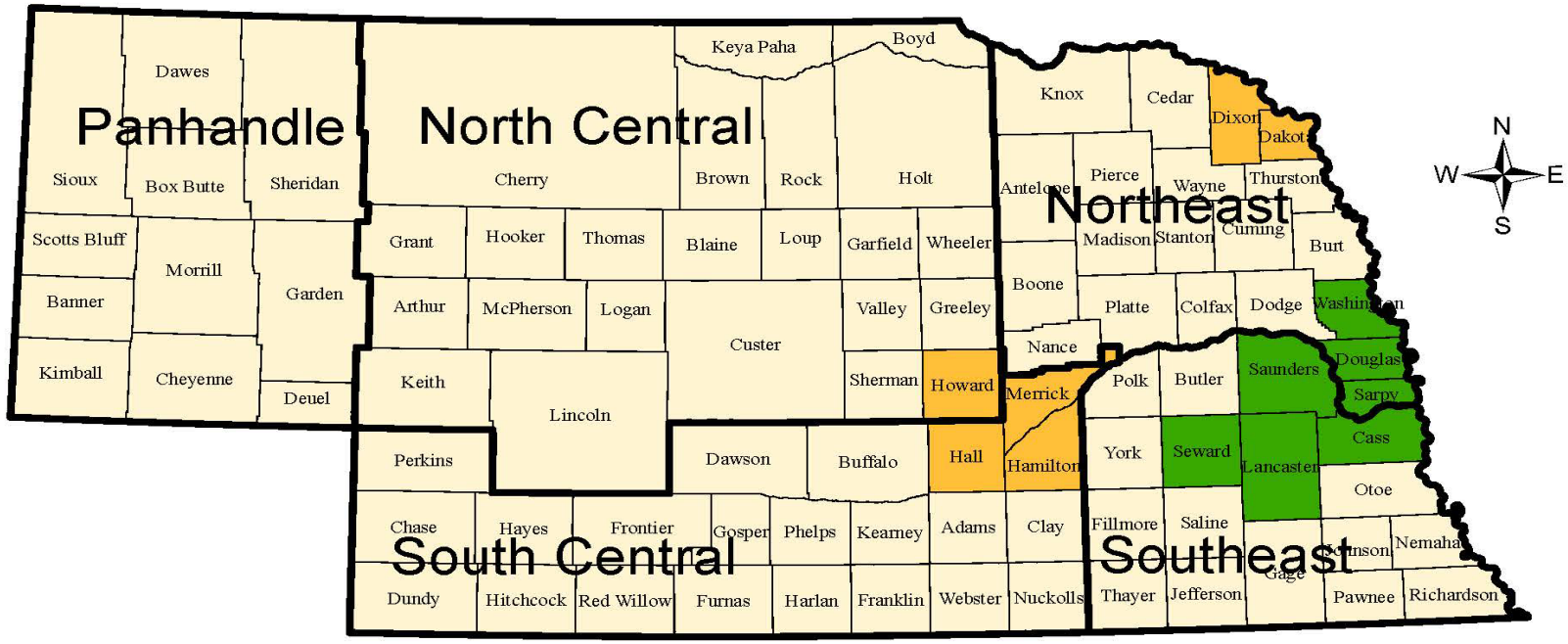
X: @NERuralPoll

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

- Mailed self-administered questionnaires in spring (March/April) to …
  - Sample includes 7,000 randomly selected rural households in 86 counties
    - **18%** Response rate in 2023 (1,100 responses)
    - Margin of error **±3%**

- Procedure (Total Design Method)
  1. A pre-notification letter was sent requesting participation in the study and gives link to online survey.
  2. The questionnaire was mailed with an informal letter signed by the project manager approximately ten days later.
  3. A reminder postcard was sent to those who had not yet responded approximately ten days after the questionnaire had been sent.
  4. Those who had not yet responded within approximately 20 days of the original mailing were sent a replacement questionnaire.

Nebraska Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties (2013 Definitions)



Metropolitan/Nonmetropolitan and Survey Status

- Nonmetropolitan County Surveyed in Rural Poll
- County Classified as Metroplitan but Surveyed in Rural Poll
- Metropolitan County not Surveyed in Rural Poll

Note: There are 5 metro counties for Omaha (Cass, Douglas, Sarpy, Saunders, Washington), 2 for Lincoln (Lancaster, Seward), 2 for Sioux City, Iowa (Dakota, Dixon) and 4 in the newly established Grand Island metro (Hall, Hamilton, Howard, Merrick).

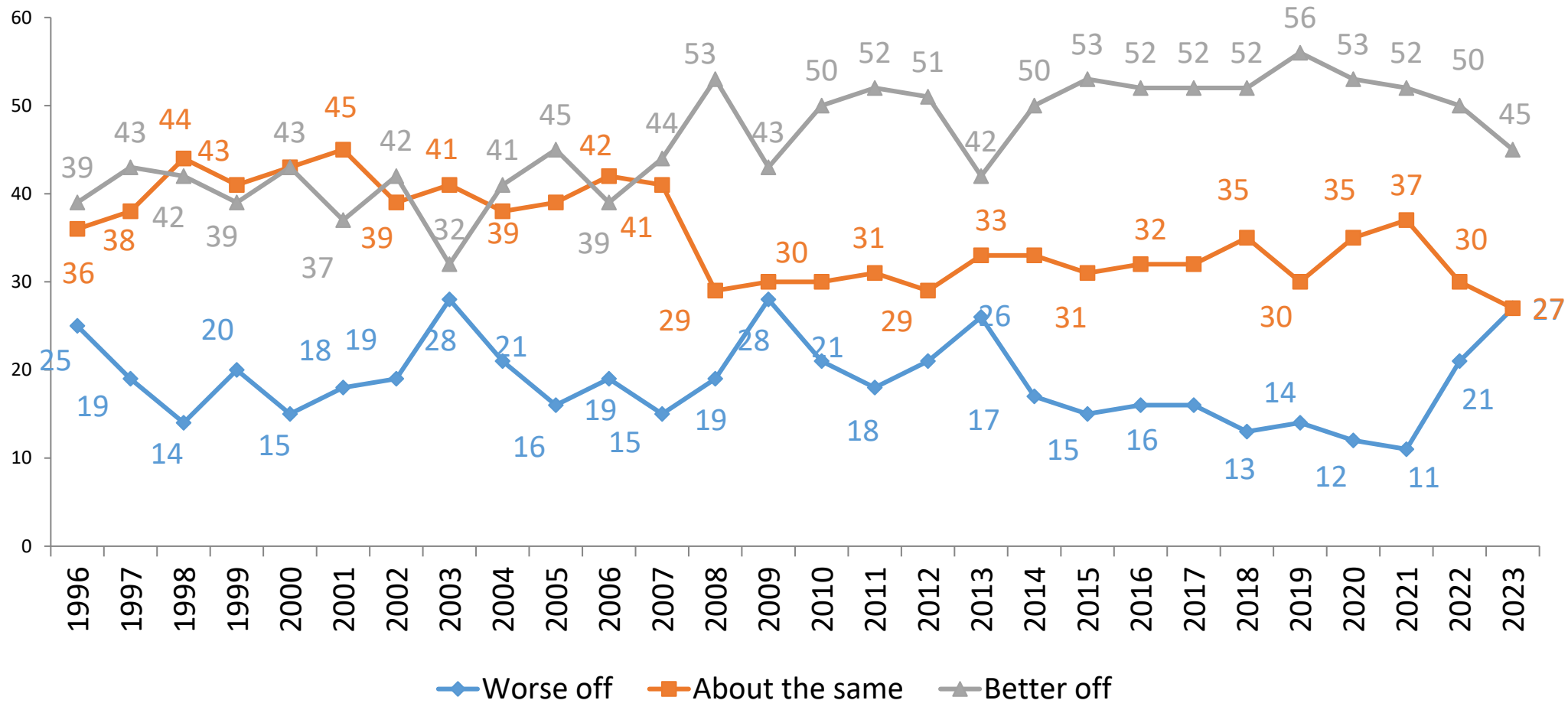
Source: 2013 Metropolitan and Micropolitan Definitions, Office of Management and Budget, released 2-28-13

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - August 11, 2014

X: @NERuralPoll

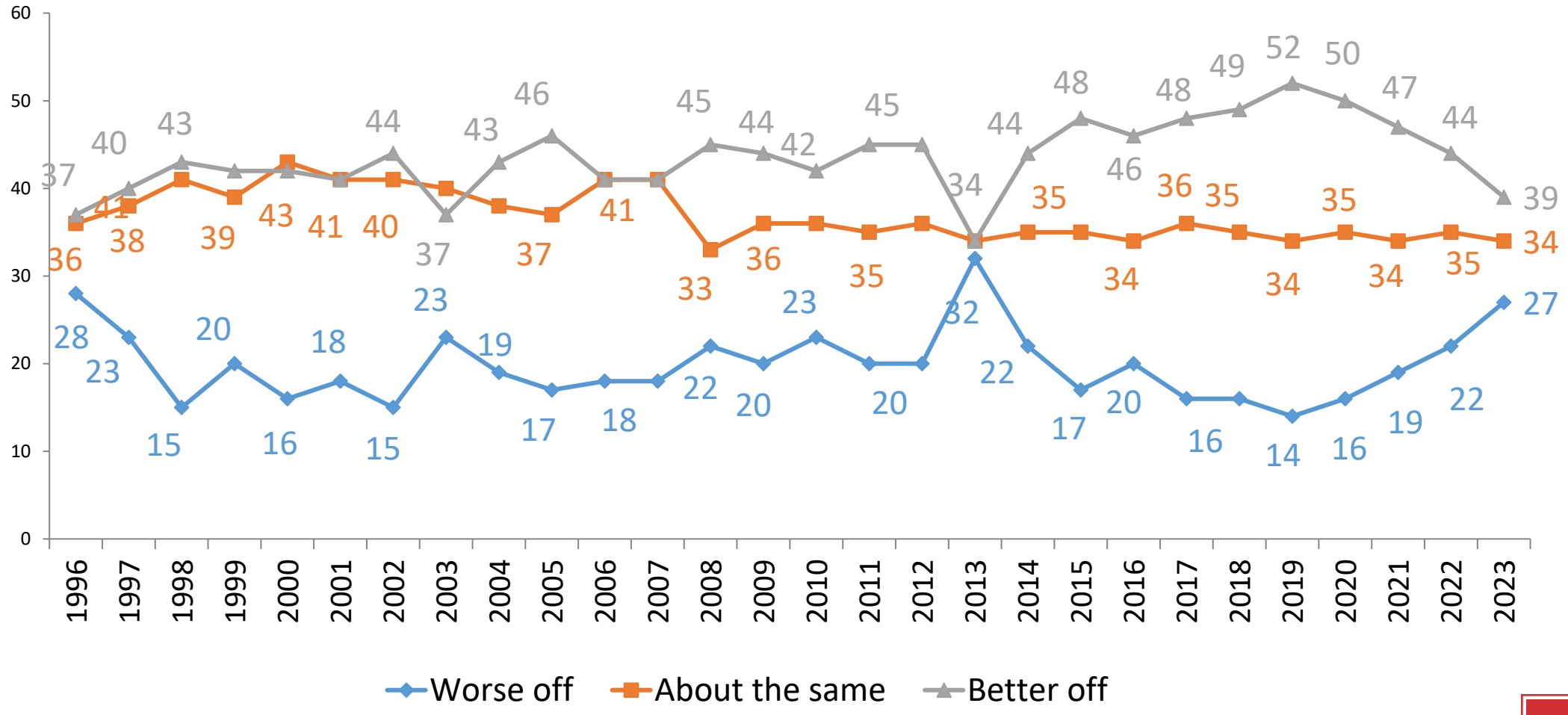
Trend Analysis

Well-Being Compared to Five Years Ago: 1996 - 2023



X: @NERuralPoll

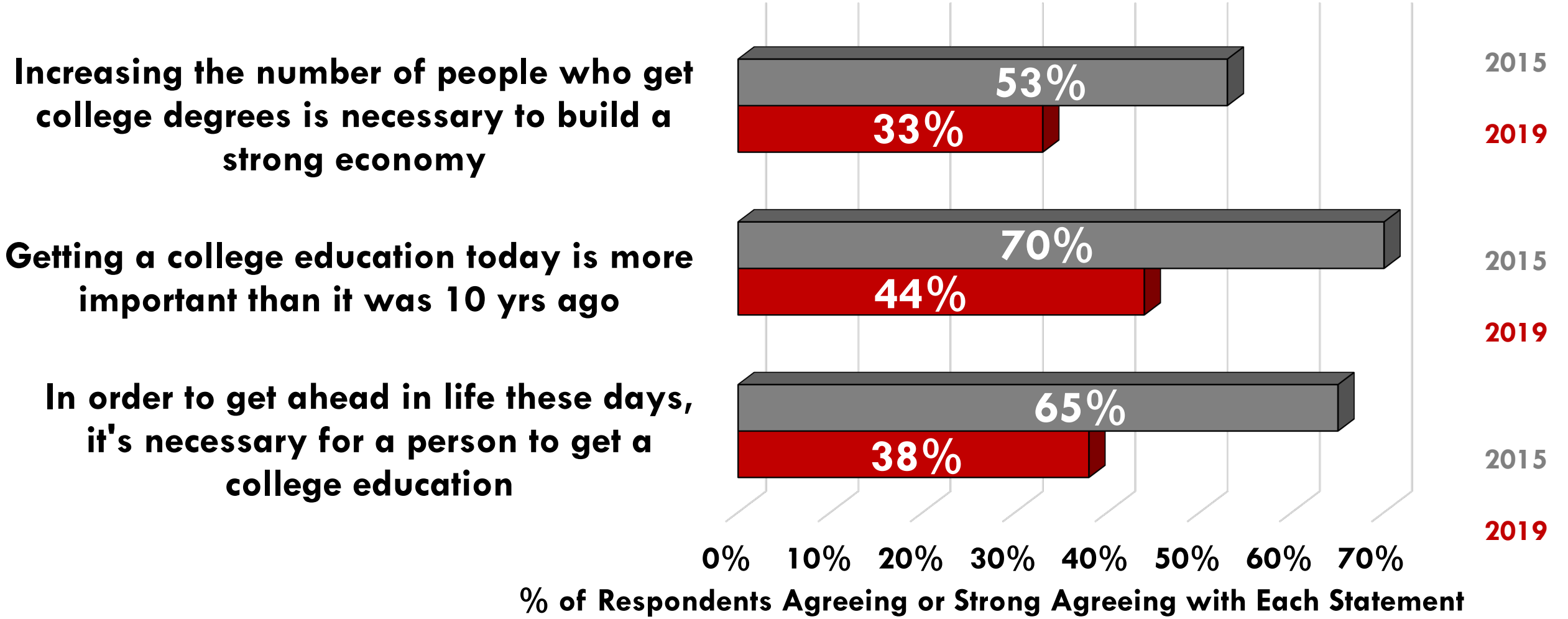
Well-Being Ten Years from Now: 1996 - 2023



X: @NERuralPoll

Some questions have been repeated at various intervals of time

Opinions about Education

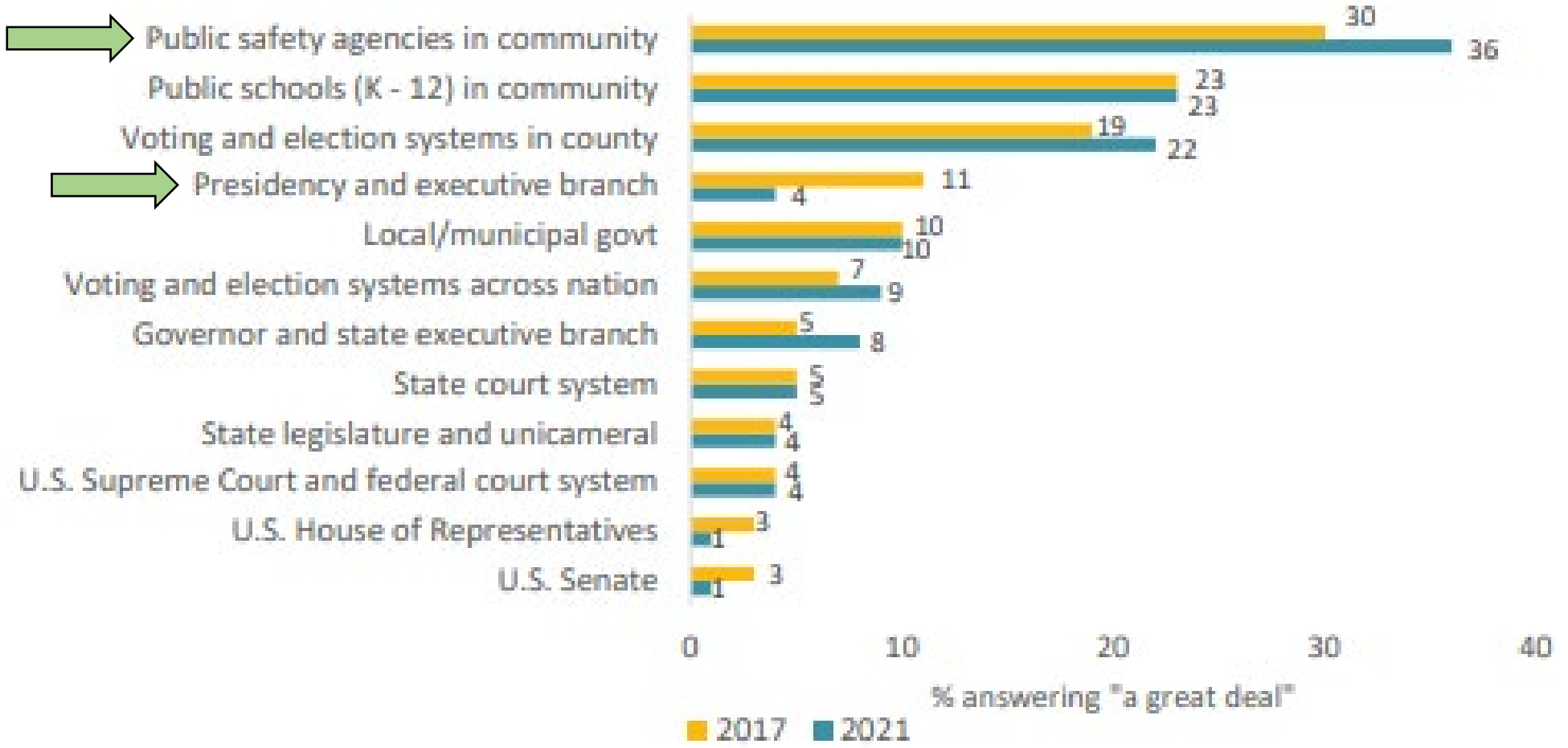


X: @NERuralPoll

Economic Expectations in Next 12 Months, 2023 and 2022

X: @NERuralPoll

Rural Confidence in Institutions 2017 & 2021

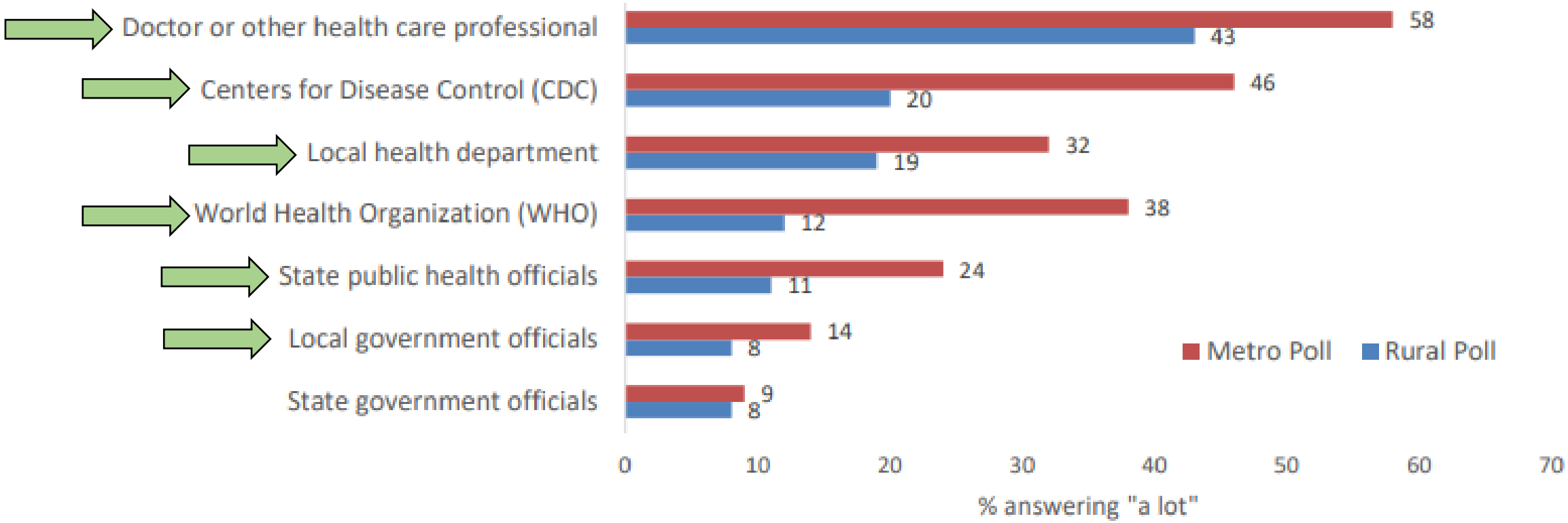


X: @NERuralPoll

2021 provided the opportunity to collect data from both rural and metro respondents

The Nebraska Business Development Center at the University of Nebraska at Omaha provided the necessary funding to expand the survey to the counties in the Omaha and Lincoln metropolitan areas in 2021.

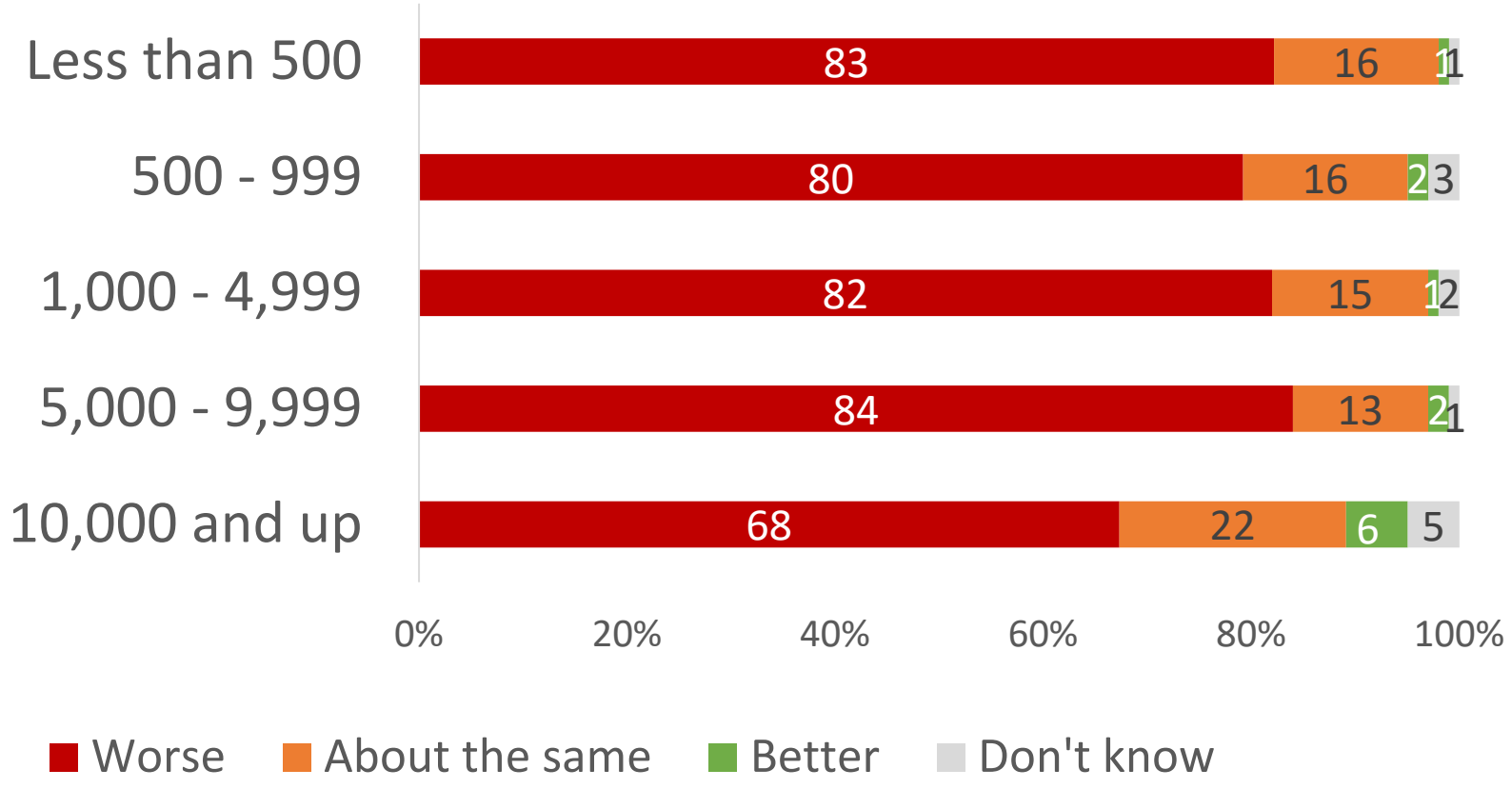
Metro and Rural Trust Health Organizations to Provide Reliable Information on Covid-19



X: @NERuralPoll

Subgroup Comparison Opportunities

Expectations of Healthcare Costs by Community Size

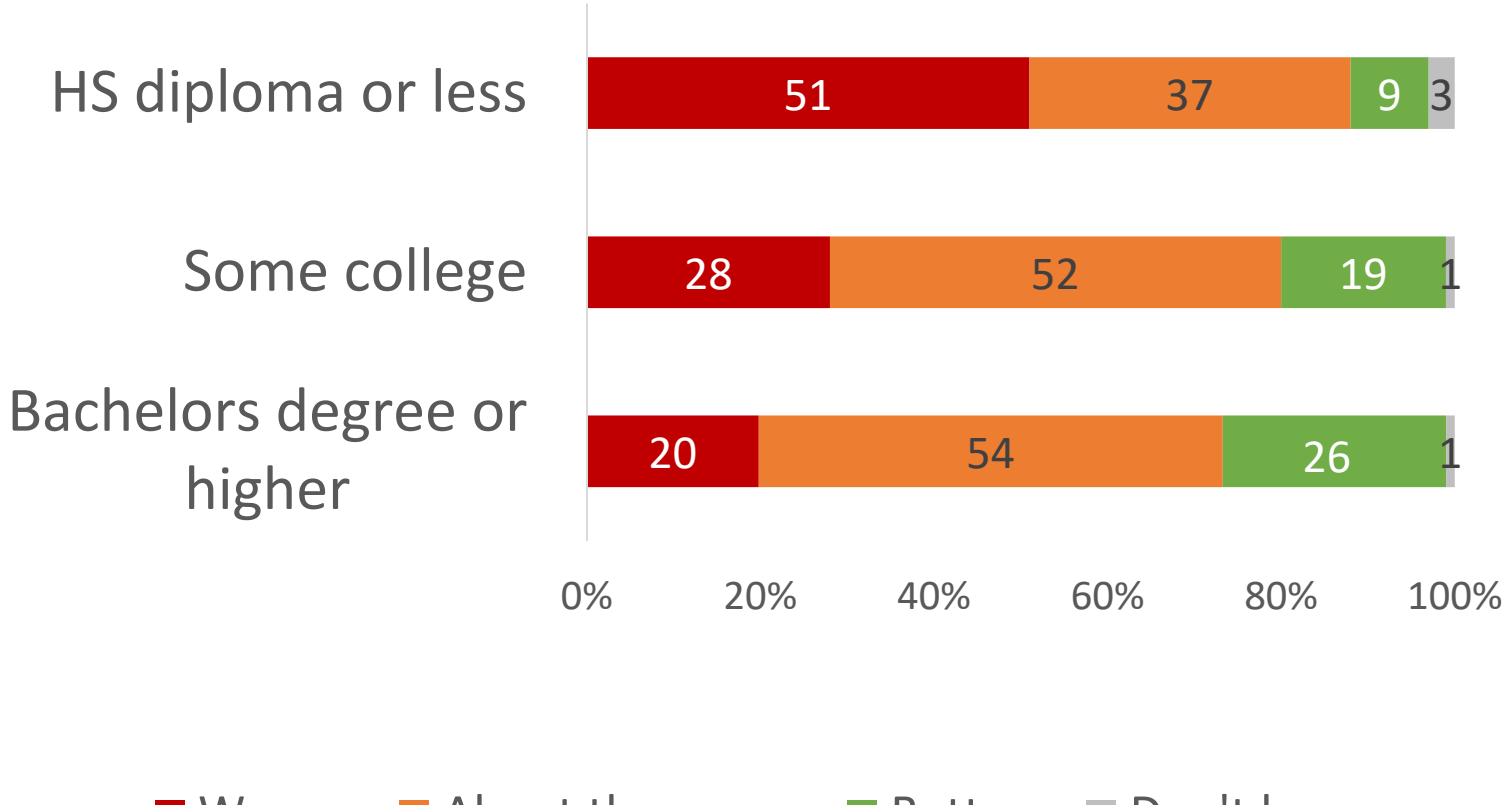


N = 52

2023 Poll

X: @NERuralPoll

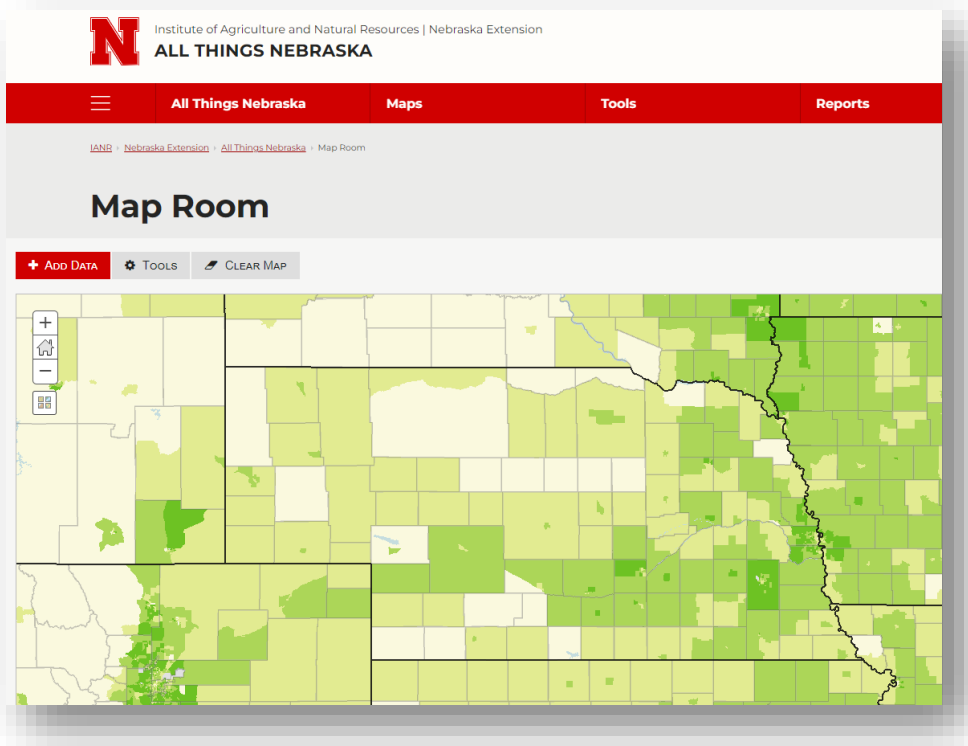
Expectations of Your Personal Financial Situation by Education Level



N = 52

Upcoming Activities for the Nebraska Rural Poll

- Integrating Rural Poll data in “All Things Nebraska”
- Grant funding
- Collaborations for purchasing survey space
- Developing a robust communication plan
- New graduate course focused on applying Rural Poll data to research



X: @NERuralPoll

Questions & Reflections

- Are there any data trends you find intriguing or interesting?
- What topics should be asked in 2024 and beyond?

Contact Information

L.J. McElravy – lj.mcelravy@unl.edu
Becky Vogt, Poll manager – rvogt2@unl.edu

Webpage: http://ruralpoll.unl.edu (all reports are listed by both topics or years)

X (formerly) Twitter: @NERuralPoll