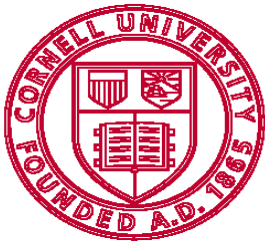


Residential Expectations of Young Adults in New York's Southern Tier



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Purpose of the Research



- To examine where well prepared young adults expect to live at age 30
 - After completing school
 - As they start families
 - As they become professionally established
- To understand the factors that affect their residential expectations
 - Economic, community, environmental
 - Other regional and/or community attributes
- Upstate New York, like many rural areas, has problem retaining and attracting young adults

Research Strategy: Multiple Methods



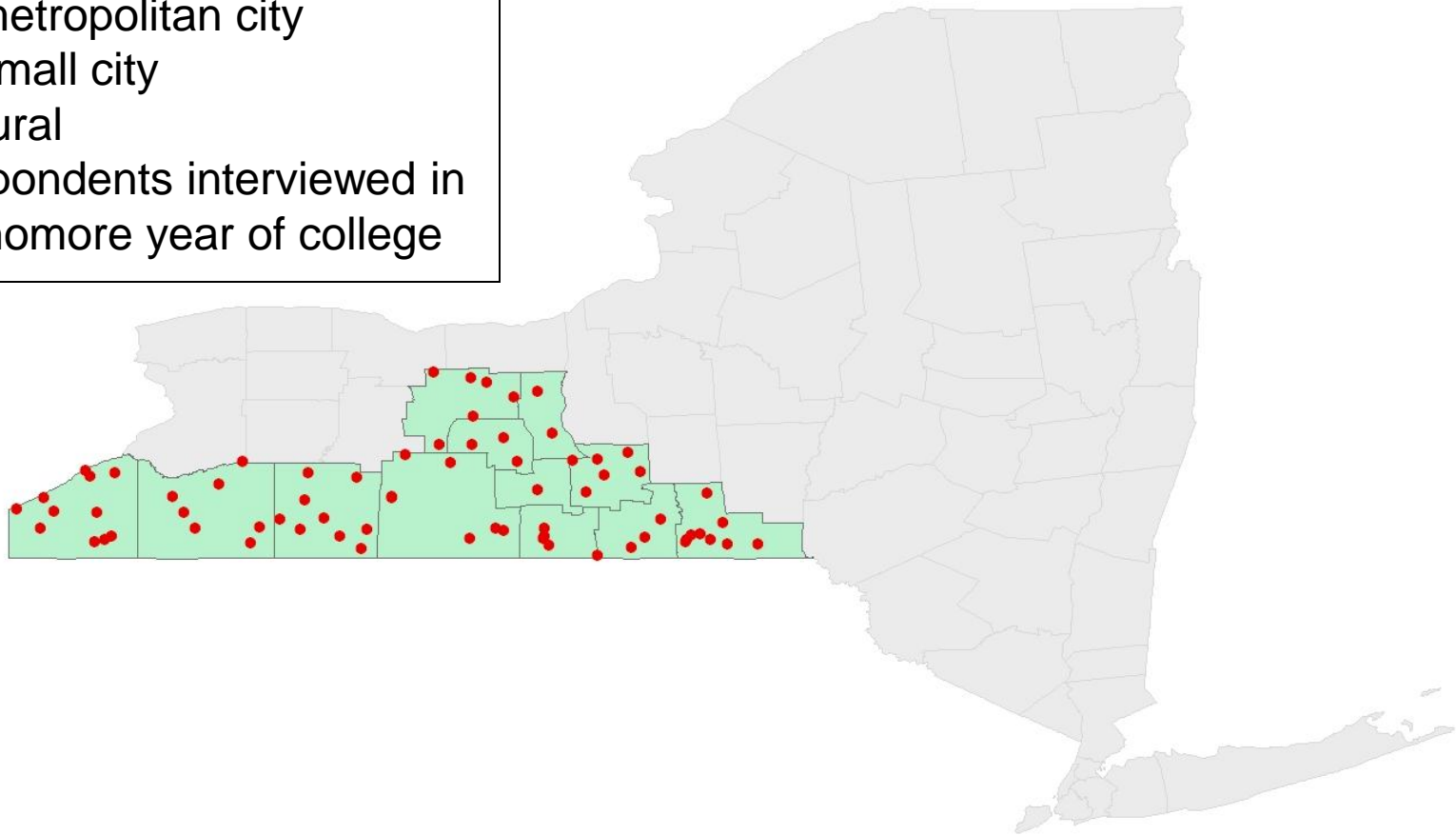
- Study reflects diversity in school/community size
- First stage
 - Key informant interviews
 - 3 focus groups with high school seniors
 - 1 college bound
 - 1 not college bound
 - 1 mixed
- Survey of 2008 graduating class of the 4 high schools
 - Contact via Facebook/Myspace and mail.

High Schools in the P4P Region

We are collecting data in
4 high schools:

- 1 metropolitan city
- 1 small city
- 2 rural

Respondents interviewed in
sophomore year of college



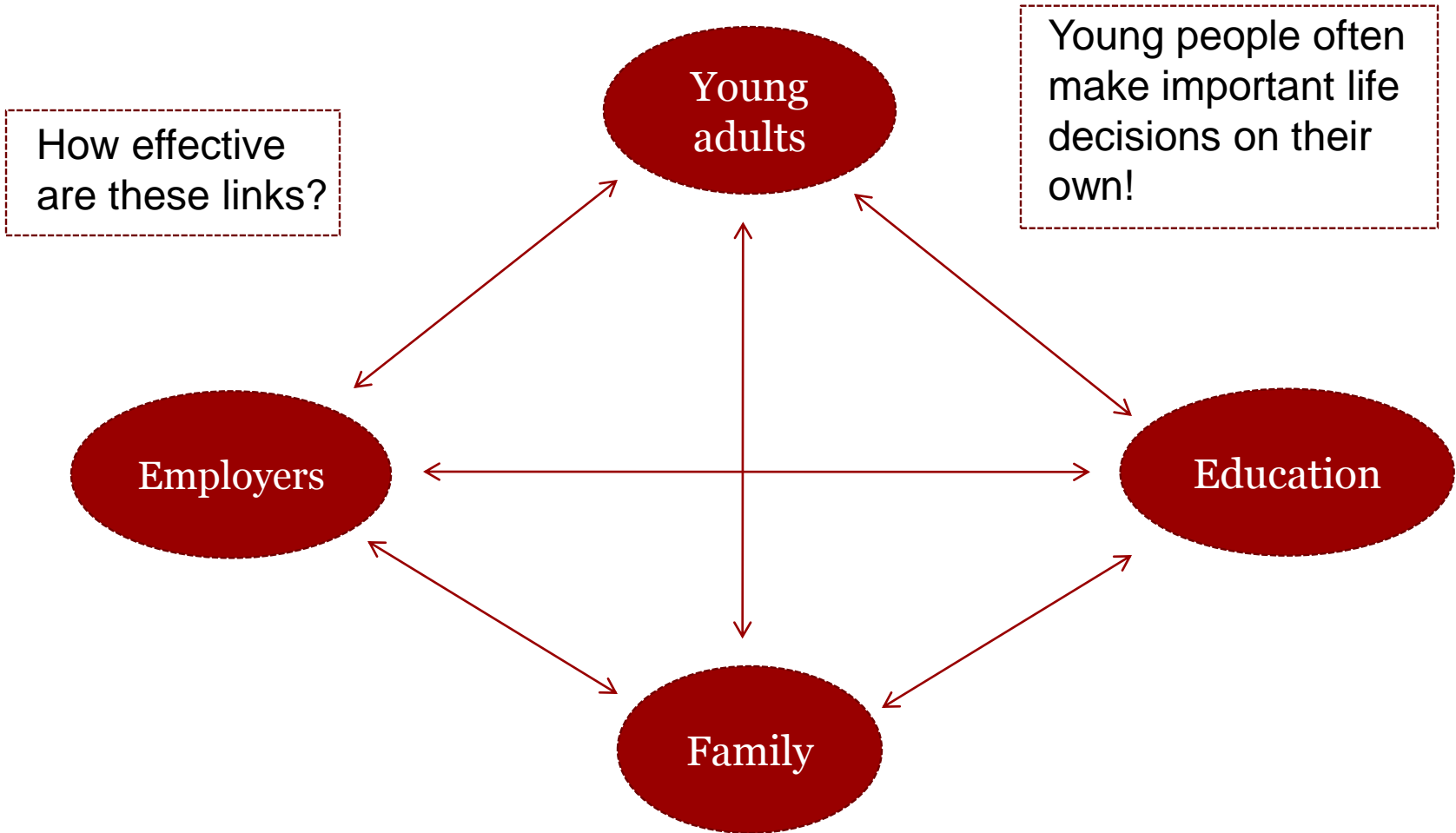
Data source: New York State Office of Real Property Services.

Some Observations from Key Informant Interviews



- **Who was interviewed?**
 - 4 school district superintendents, 2 BOCES supervisors, 2 local employer's HR managers, 2 h. s. guidance counselors, staff of Rural Schools Research Institute
- **Jobs, Jobs, Jobs, but also:**
 - Inadequate Infrastructure affects worker's location decisions
 - Housing
 - Transportation
 - Community resources
- **Role models who have returned to region are lacking**
- **Educational and residential decisions should involve cooperation between education, employers and students and their families, and these links should be developed early in a student's life**
 - Counselors often lack training and time to do much
 - Employers are insufficiently linked with education
- Some exceptions: Corning Inc, Lockheed Martin, and Wegmans
 - Internships can be an effective method for linking students and careers

Decision Making “Infrastructure”

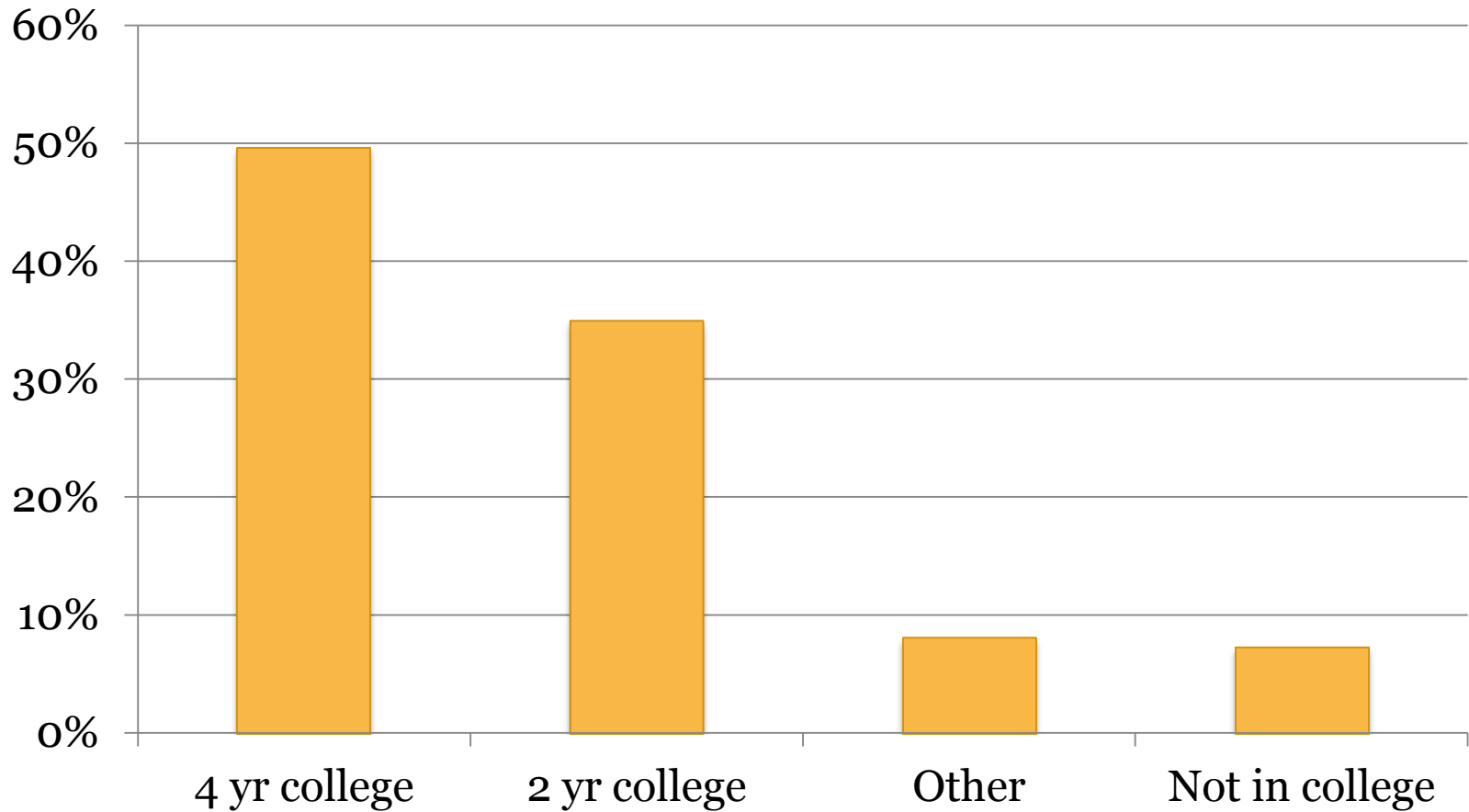


Who Responded to the Survey?



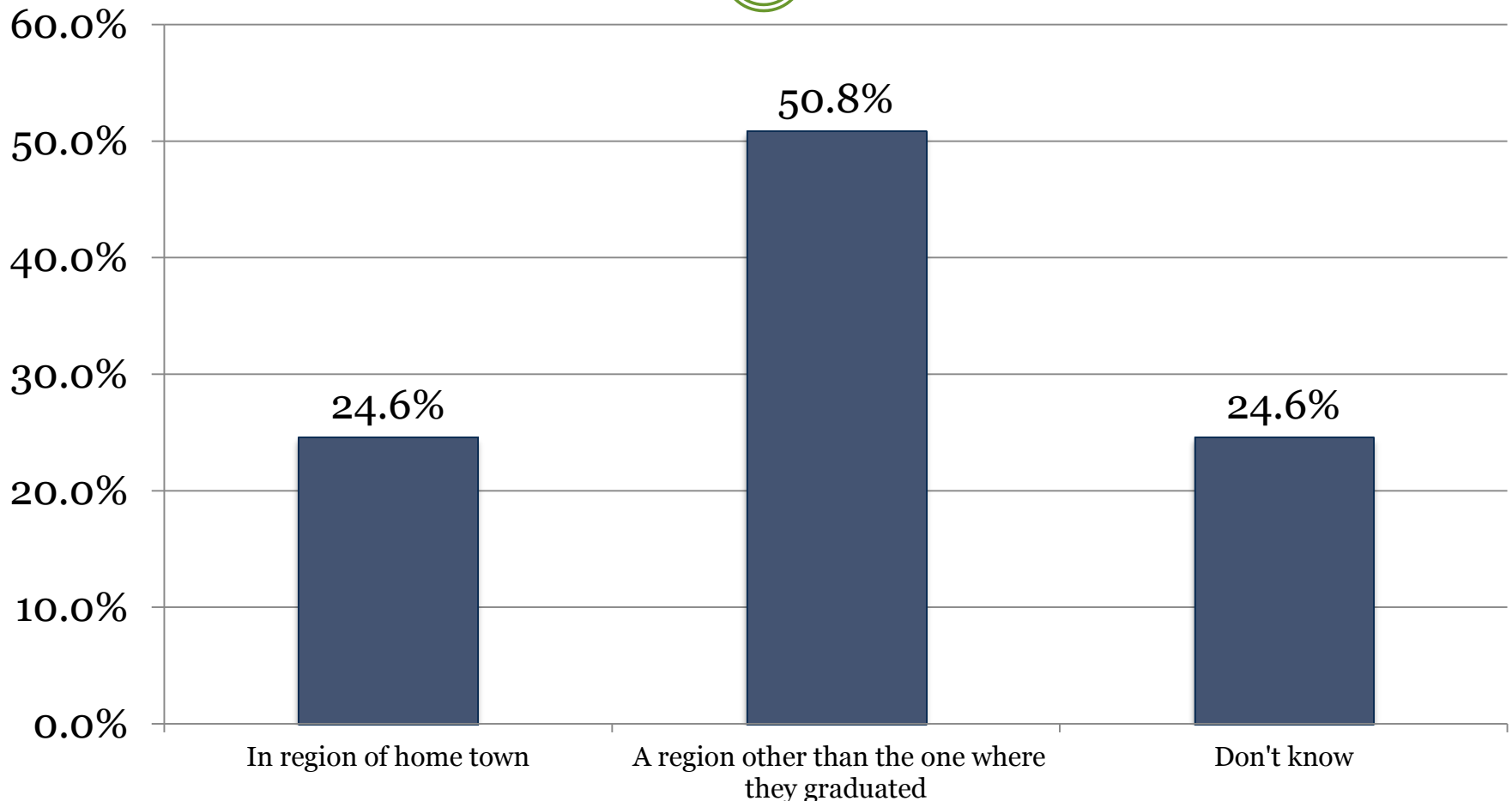
- Response rate was 38%
 - No evidence of bias in response
- Characteristics of respondents
 - Size of high school attended
 - 38% went to metropolitan high school;
 - 32% small city high school;
 - 30% rural high school
 - Grades in High school
 - 61% mostly A's, or As and B's
 - 18% Mix of Bs and Cs, or lower
 - 85% of high school graduates attend 2 or 4 year college in 2009

Post-High School Education of Respondents*



* All respondents, N = 123

Residential Expectations at Age 30*



All respondents, N =123

*Out of region is anywhere outside of the P4P Region

Who Is Most Likely to Expect to Live Elsewhere at Age 30?



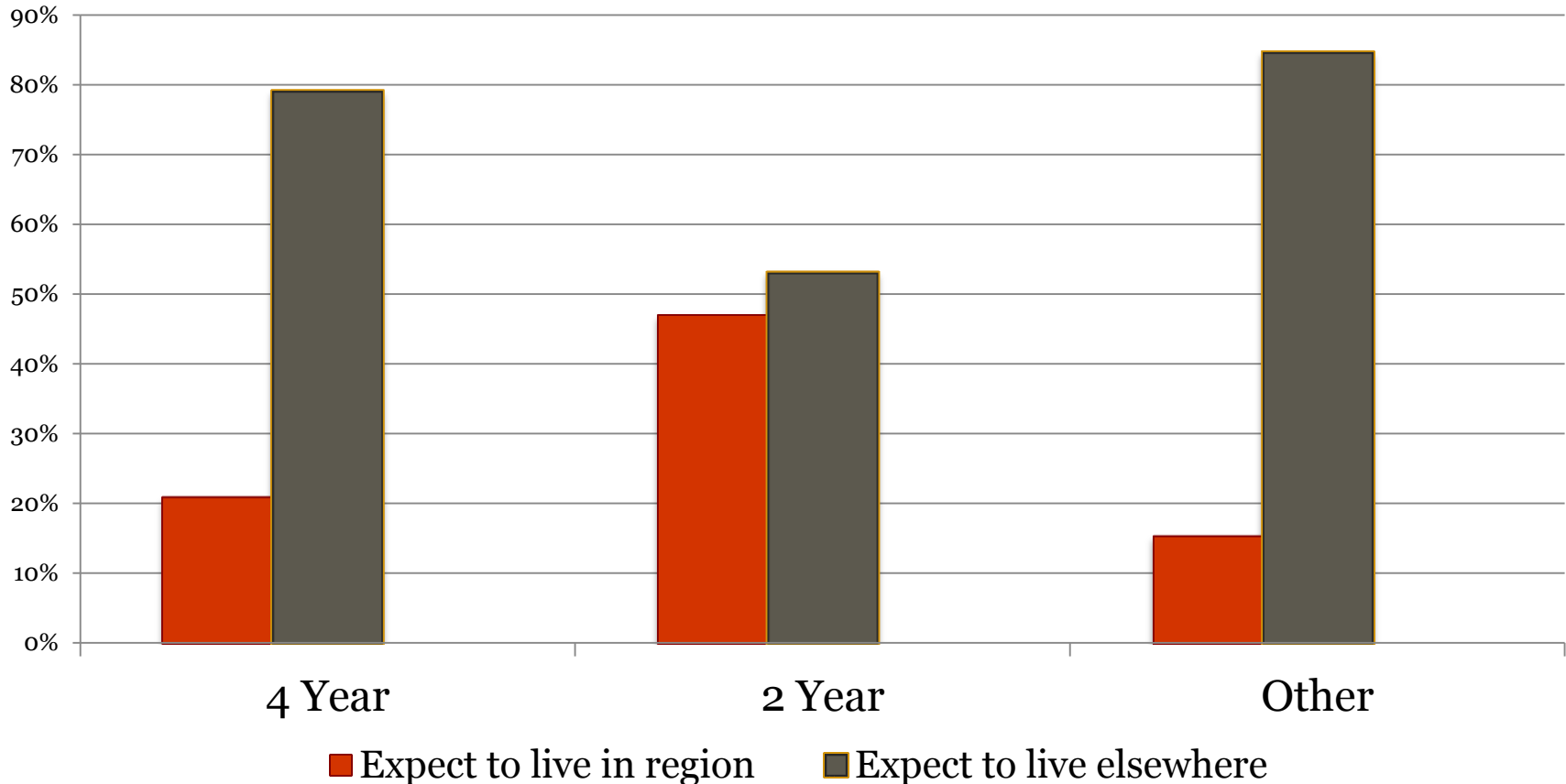
- Type of community where high school is located
- Type of college attending
- Perception of regional economy and job prospects
- Perception of efforts to improve region
- Perception of and satisfaction with regional characteristics

Residential Expectations at 30 of College Bound Graduates by Type of Hometown



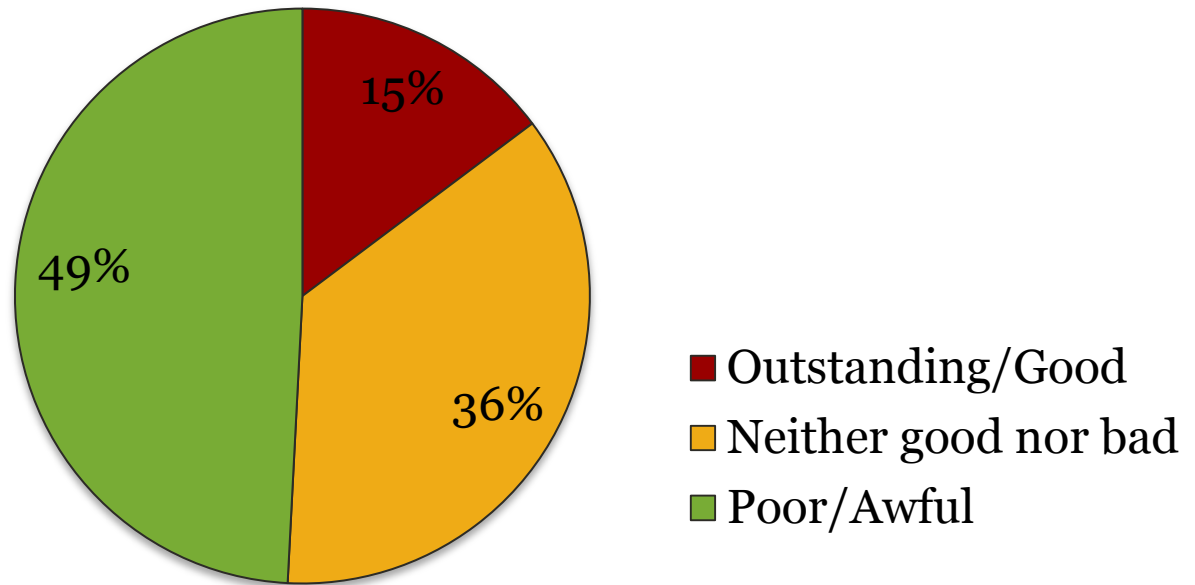
* College bound only, N = 104

Residential Expectations at 30 by Post-High School Education*



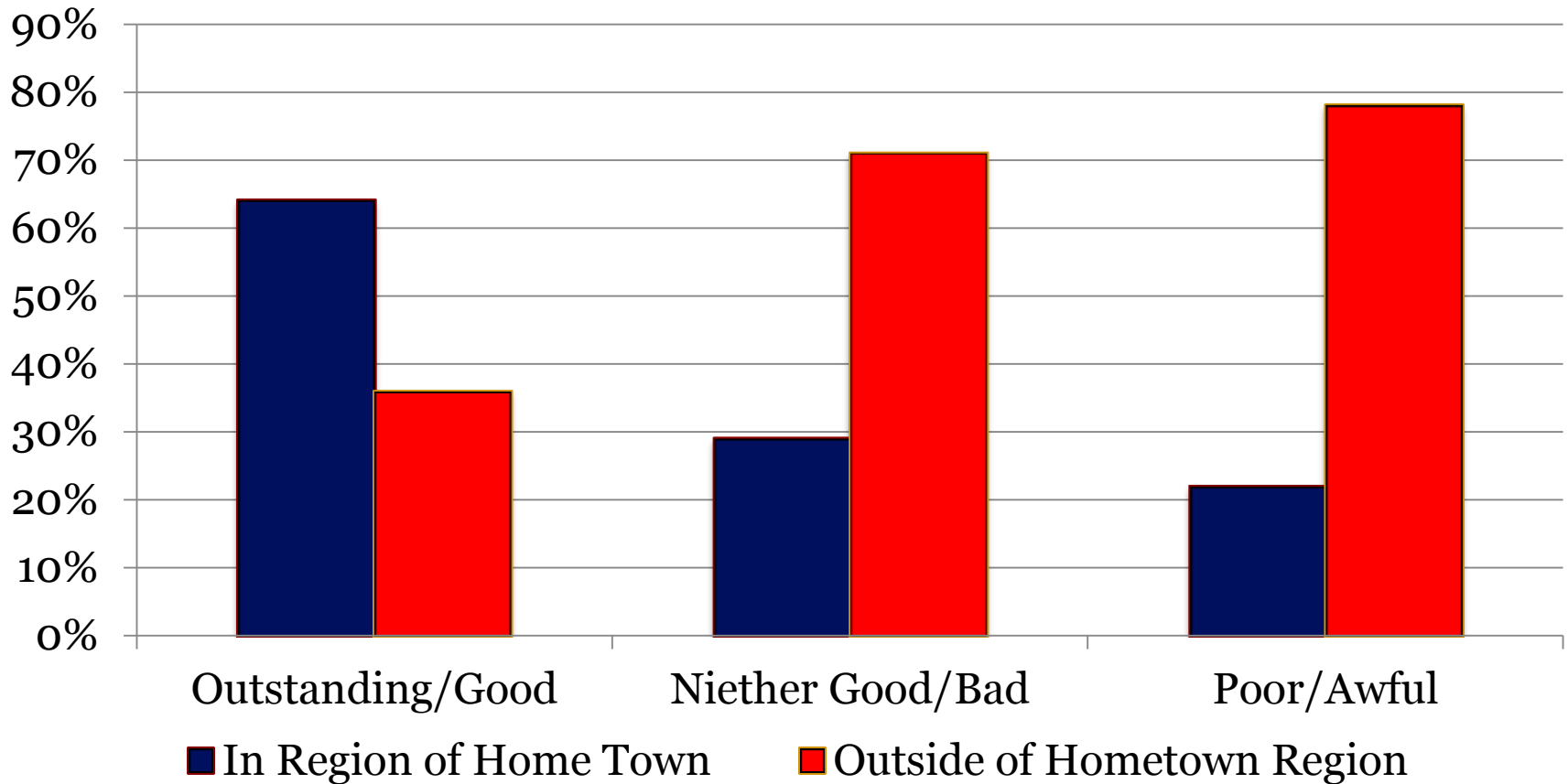
*Respondents *who have an opinion* on where they expect to live at 30 by post high school education. N = 88

Perceived economic conditions and job prospects in respondent's hometown*



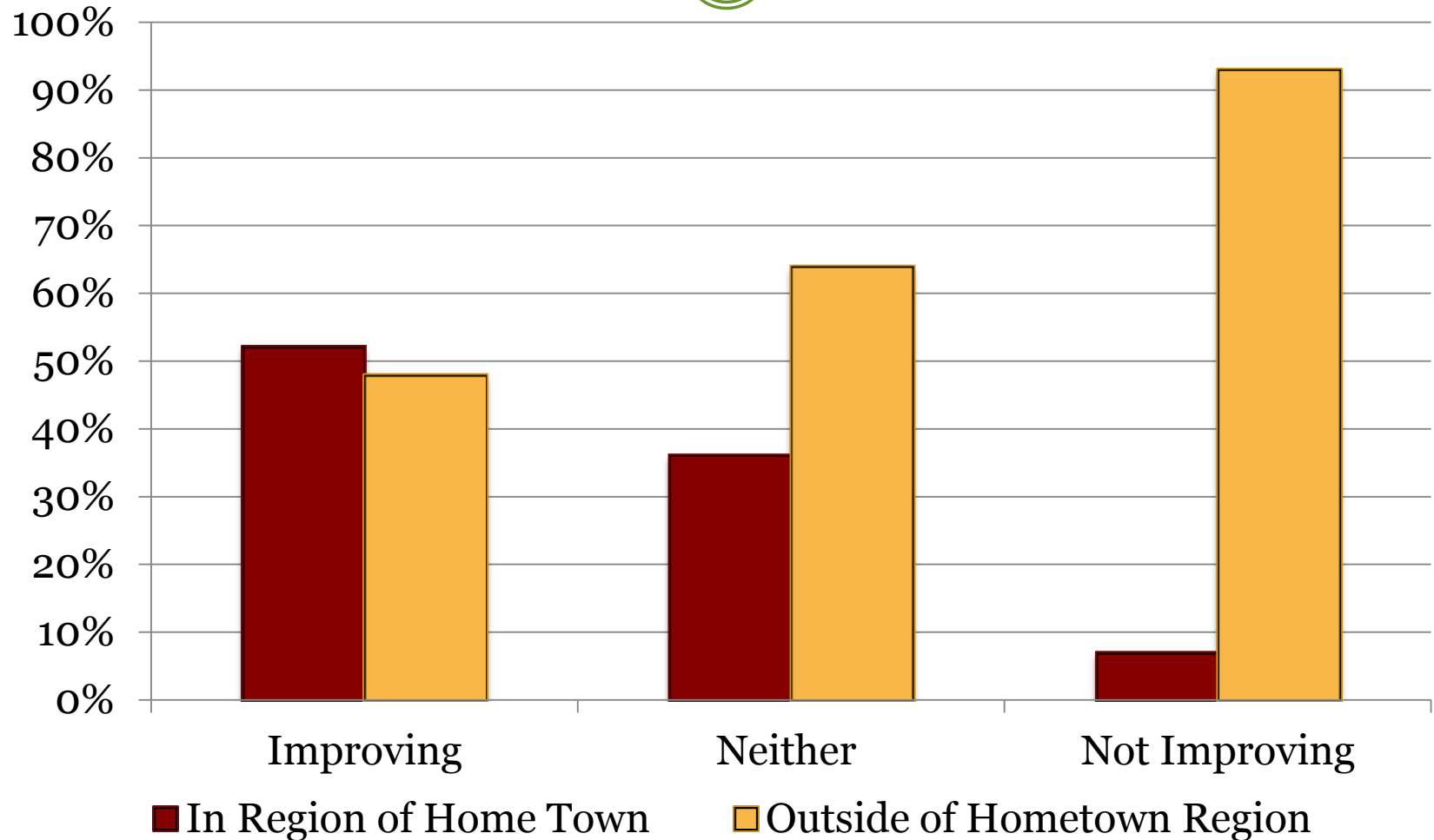
*College bound respondents with residential expectations, N = 74

Association of Perceived Economic Conditions and Residential Expectations at 30*



*College bound respondents with residential expectation, N = 74

Association of Perceived Efforts to Improve Region and Residential Expectations at 30 *



* College Bound Graduates with a residential expectation, N = 74

Satisfaction and Perceived Importance of Community Characteristics



Economic

Good paying job
Cost of living
Chances to get ahead

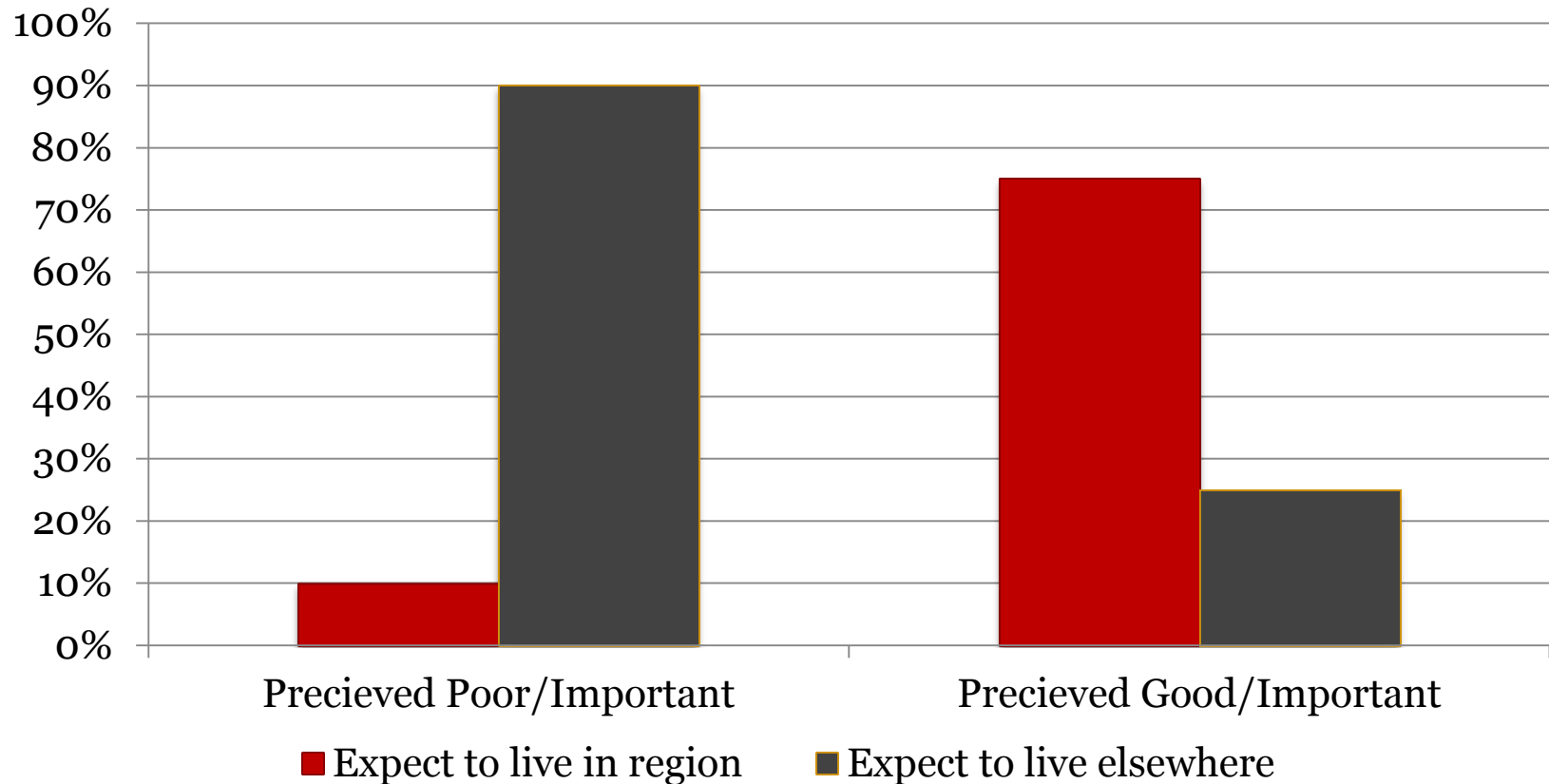
Environment

Clean environment
Outdoor recreation

Community

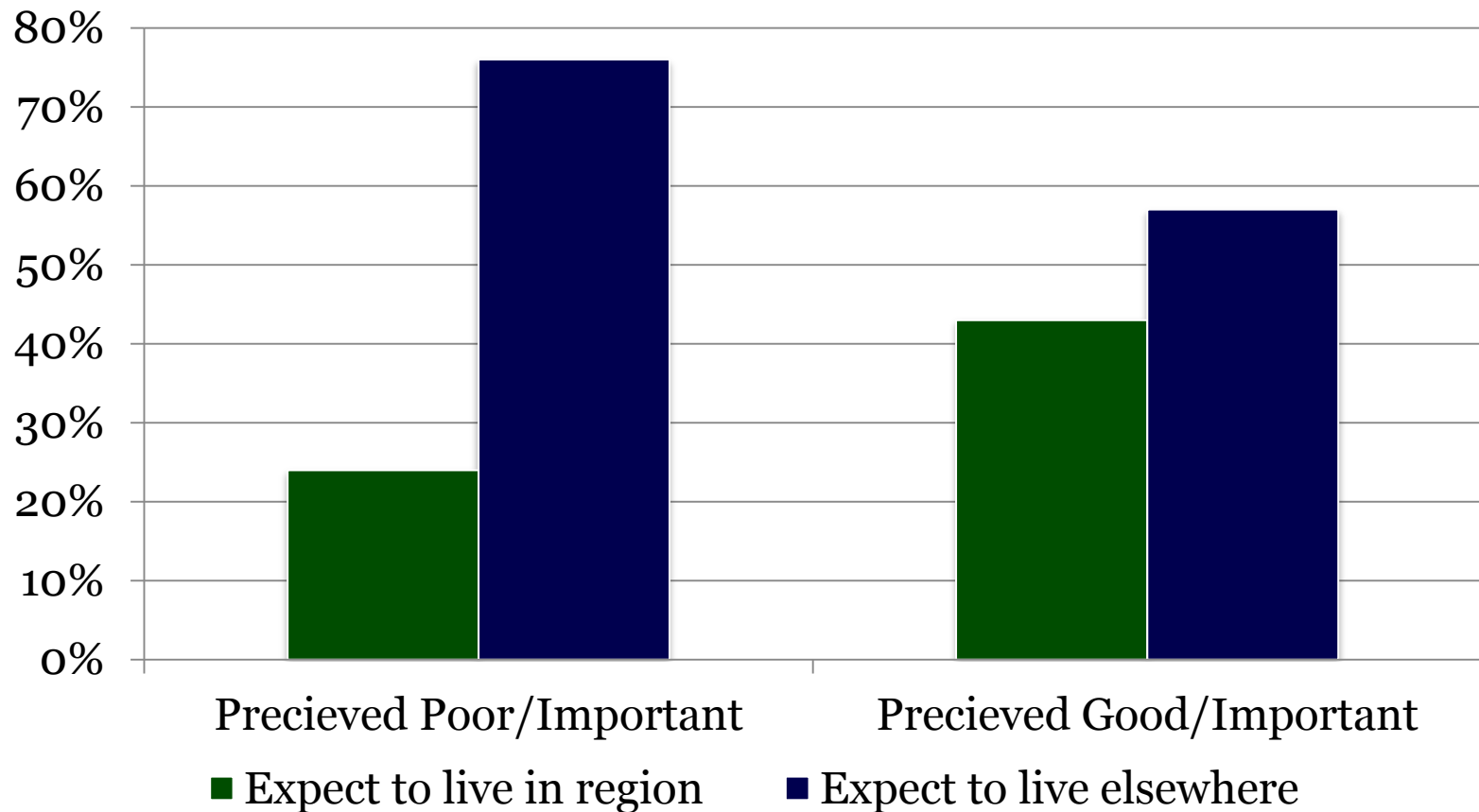
Good quality schools
Proximity to family
Opinions valued

Residential Expectations by Hometown Characteristics: Economic



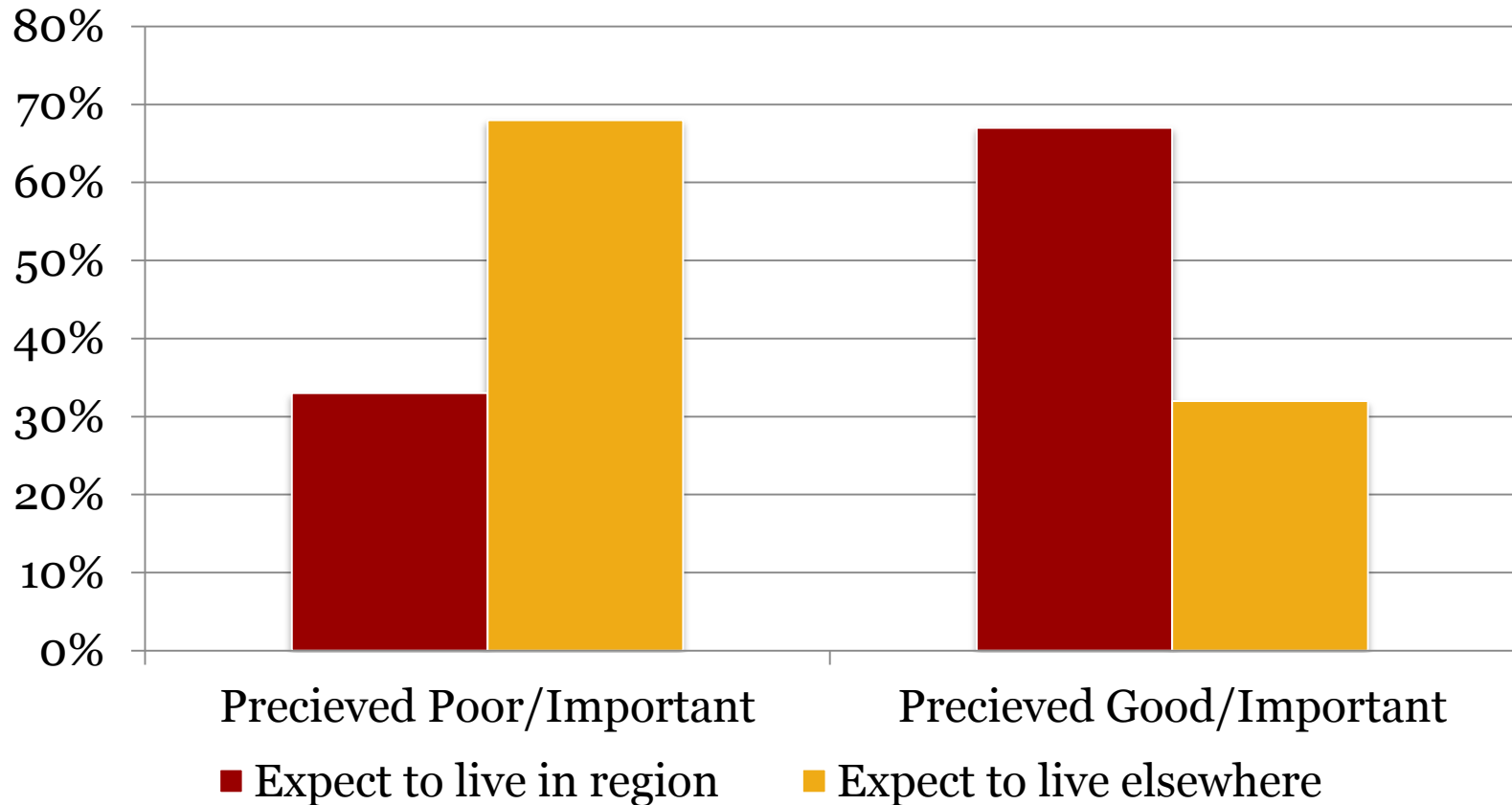
College bound respondents with residential expectation, N=74, Chi² = .04

Residential Expectations by Hometown Characteristics: Environment



College bound respondents with residential expectation, N=65, $\text{Chi}^2 = .02$

Residential Expectations by Hometown Characteristics: Community



College bound respondents with residential expectation, N=68, Chi² = .03

Conclusions



- Young adults have a clear idea of what they want to do, and where they expect to live early in their college careers
 - Local college students expect to be geographically mobile
 - Most expect to live ***outside of this region*** at age 30
- Expectations to live elsewhere at age 30 respond to:
 - Local economic conditions and perceived lack of job prospects
 - Lack of confidence in local leaders efforts to improve conditions
 - Dissatisfaction with community resources
- Not just jobs, jobs, jobs
 - Social factors like proximity to family and friends is an anchor



THANK YOU

