



APPENDIX C1: QUALITY OF LIFE

Cultivate Hopkins Comprehensive Plan

APPROVED 11/17/20



Existing Conditions

This section describes existing conditions related to quality of life in Hopkins.

Public Services and Facilities

Police

The Hopkins Police Department consists of 30 licensed, full-time Peace Officers, and 14 dedicated support staff who are committed to working with residents and the business community to improve the quality of life in the community.

The Police Department is responsible for patrol, investigations, outreach and crime prevention in Hopkins. The department provides one investigator to the SW Hennepin Drug Task Force, a multi-jurisdictional unit that conducts investigations of illegal drug activity, and takes part in the SWAT (Special Weapons And Tactics) team, a five-city consortium that trains and responds to high-risk events. It is also part of the Joint Community Police Partnership.

The Hopkins Police Station is located in City Hall at 1010 1st Street South.

Looking at crime statistics over a recent five-year period, the total number of offenses for both violent and non-violent crime have trended downwards – with some exceptions in specific categories.

Hopkins Crime Statistics

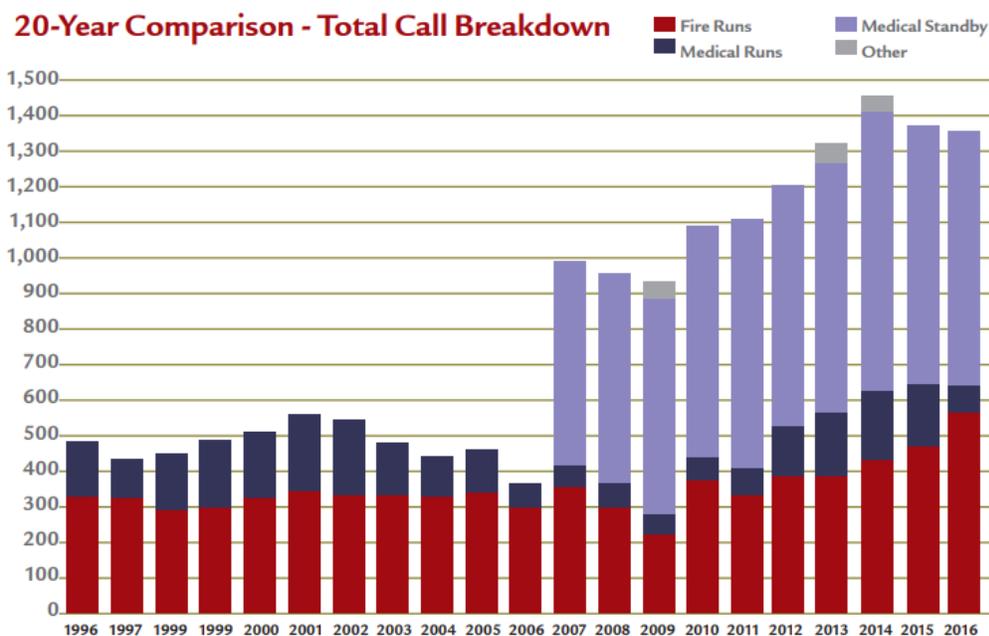
Crime	Major Crimes				
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Part 1 Offenses					
Homicide	0	0	1	0	0
Rape	12	12	8	5	10
Robbery	15	10	12	10	14
Aggravated Assault	24	27	20	20	20
Burglary	65	65	95	75	87
Larceny-Theft	336	291	358	376	334
Auto Theft	18	32	33	38	44
Arson	6	6	2	0	0
Part 1 Total	476	443	526	524	509
Part 2 Offenses					
Assault	125	141	130	116	128
Forgery / Counterfeiting	12	23	22	25	22
Fraud	91	91	80	70	56
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0
Stolen Property	7	8	12	8	14
Vandalism	139	154	183	179	176
Weapons	10	6	9	5	6
Prostitution	0	0	2	2	2
Criminal Sexual Conduct	15	4	11	11	8
Narcotics	102	96	97	111	158
Gambling	0	0	0	0	1
Family/Children	7	4	6	5	7
DUI (all codes)	103	113	98	66	122
Liquor Violations	11	21	20	49	56
Disorderly Conduct	61	33	40	56	63
Other Offenses (except traffic)	132	174	131	127	195
Part 2 Total	815	868	841	830	1,014
Total Crimes	1,291	1,311	1,370	1,354	1,523

Source: City of Hopkins website

Fire

The Hopkins Fire Department provides fire and emergency response services citywide. They respond to fires and fire threats, medical calls and crashes, and assistance with police calls when additional equipment is needed. In addition to fire and medical calls, the Hopkins Fire Department provides weather stand-by at the fire station and responds to incidents resulting from severe weather. It also responds to missing persons and hazmat incidents, including gas spills, leaks and carbon monoxide alarms. It also provides education and prevention services, including a wide range of community events, and participates in emergency management preparation initiatives.

Fire calls have fluctuated over the past 20 years – with some recent increases in total number of fire related calls. In 2007, the overall call number increased substantially when the Fire Department took on an expanded role in assisting with medical calls.



Source: City of Hopkins website

Emergency Management

The Fire Department works with the Police Department, Hennepin County Emergency Management, and others public safety agencies in the region and state to prepare for and respond to emergencies. The City maintains an Emergency Operations Plan that meets state and federal requirements. Potential threats that are addressed may include dam breakage, extreme heat, fires, flooding, hazardous materials spills, infectious disease outbreaks, thunderstorms, tornadoes and winter storms, acts of terrorism or other human-made disasters. Residents of Hopkins are notified of a crisis through the City's Code Red Emergency Notification System.

In Hopkins, they are assisted by the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The CERT Program consists of a group of volunteers who have been trained to assist with basic disaster response such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. Participation requires 24 hours of instruction and basic eligibility requirements, including Hopkins residency.

Social Services

Hennepin County’s Human Services and Public Health Department’s (HSPHD) West Suburban regional human services center is located at 1011 1st Street South in Hopkins. Like all the other regional human service centers, this center provides access to the full range of financial, social, and public health services Hennepin County offers, including medical, emergency, child care and food assistance, child support, and homeless services. It is open during business hours on weekdays, and attracts people from throughout the western suburbs. Ways in which these centers assist people include:

- Apply for food support
- Apply for Medical Assistance
- Address homelessness
- Deal with utility shut-offs, evictions and other emergencies
- Get support for seniors in their homes
- Learn about early childhood programs
- Support people with disabilities
- Improve mental health or chemical health

The West Suburban center has an onsite partnership with ResourceWest. ResourceWest is a nonprofit agency that serves low-income families and individuals living in the west metro. Their mission is to provide services that help stabilize families and ultimately help build healthier communities. Services include:

- Information and Referral Service
- Social Services Program (Licensed Social Worker) – Spanish and Somali speaking to provide more in-depth support.
- Assistance with Resumes and Online Job Applications
- Back-to-School (School Supply Drive)
- Winter Warm Wear (Winter Outer Wear Clothing Drive)
- Toy Chest (Holiday Gift Drive)
- Free Fax, Copier, and Phone Use (With some guidelines)



ResourceWest also provides referrals and connections through a variety of partners. Partners include the City of Hopkins, Hopkins Public Schools, Hennepin County, Intercongregation Communities Association, HousingLink, Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin, Reach and Restore, and various other local and statewide organizations. ResourceWest notes that Hopkins city staff, police, and fire departments all regularly refer residents to them.

Furthermore, ResourceWest hosts a couple additional organizations:

- Prepare+Prosper – provides assistance with tax preparation and other financial services

- Portico Navigator – provides assistance with eligibility and enrollment in affordable health care coverage

Property Standards

Property standards in Hopkins are enforced through the Inspections Department, a division of the Community Services Department. Responsibilities include:

- **Building Inspections.** The Building Code Inspection program inspects all new or remodeled buildings to ensure they meet state building code. This includes plan review, permit issuance, inspection of construction phases and issuance of certificate of occupancy.
- **Fire Inspections.** The Fire Code Inspection program inspects existing buildings periodically to ensure they are maintained in accordance with the safety standards of the state fire code. A percentage of commercial and large multiple residential buildings are inspected yearly.
- **Mechanical and Plumbing Inspections.** The Heating and Plumbing Code Inspection program inspects new and remodeled buildings for heating and plumbing compliance.
- **Property Maintenance Inspections.** Inspects all existing buildings periodically to ensure they are maintained within the city housing code. Rental properties are inspected a minimum of once every three years and homes being sold are inspected as part of the truth-in-housing program.
- **Environmental Health Inspections.** Inspections are contracted out to a health inspector to make regular inspections of restaurants, food establishments and public pools.

Facilities and Infrastructure

The Public Works Department in Hopkins is responsible for maintaining the City's infrastructure, buildings, equipment and open space, and for providing services to meet other essential needs of the City. This is managed through six divisions:

- **Building & Equipment Services.** Maintains and repairs all City buildings, City vehicles, and equipment.
- **Engineering.** The division is responsible for assuring the City's infrastructure development and construction projects exceed the highest standards and meet all regulations. It also acts as the primary liaison to consultants involved with construction projects.
- **Parks & Forestry.** Maintains all areas of developed parks and grounds adjacent to public buildings and right-of-ways, including seeding, fertilizing and mowing of grass. Other areas of responsibilities include maintenance of all athletic fields, playgrounds, Shady Oak Beach, trails, open skating and hockey rinks, and trash removal from all parks.
- **Refuse & Recycling.** Provides weekly automated refuse collection for residents, as well as recycling coordination for contract collection and recycling awareness campaigns. It also provides bulk item pickup for larger items on a call-in basis (plus two drop off events per year), yard waste and leaf collection weekly mid-April through November, and brush pick up on a call-in basis throughout the year (plus free events).
- **Streets & Traffic.** Provides maintenance and snow and ice removal for 55 miles of streets, 30

miles of alleys and 10 parking lots (including the parking ramp). Maintenance includes activities such as sweeping, patching, seal coating and curb repair. The division also repairs street lighting, City traffic signs and signals, and sidewalks.

- **Water & Utilities.** Maintains the City's water system. Provides maintenance and repairs to the City's sanitary sewer lift station system, sewers, and manholes. Maintains all storm sewer lines and storm inlets to assure adequate run-off, and monitors creeks and ditches to control storm water, weeds, and pollution.

Education

Library

According to the Hennepin County Library website, library service in Hopkins community was first established in 1912 by the Women's Improvement League, in space set aside in City Hall. The library was moved first to the historic Dow House in 1948 and then to a vacant restaurant in 1963. The library opened in its current location on 11th Avenue North in 1968. It has since been renovated in 2002 and 2015. Currently, the library features art at the library, computers and technology, homework help tutoring for K-12 students, collections of books in different languages, and meeting rooms.



Schools

The City of Hopkins is served by the Hopkins School District. With an enrollment of around 7,200 students, it serves the entirety of the city. In addition, it serves students in portions of Minnetonka, Golden Valley, Eden Prairie, Edina, Plymouth, and St. Louis Park.

The district includes six elementary schools, one magnet Chinese immersion school, two junior high schools and one high school. All but three of these schools are located outside of Hopkins.

- Alice Smith Elementary, 801 Minnetonka Mills Road, Hopkins
- Eisenhower Elementary, 1001 Highway 7, Hopkins
- Gatewood Elementary, 14900 Gatewood Drive, Minnetonka
- Glen Lake Elementary, 4801 Woodridge Road, Minnetonka
- L.H. Tanglen Elementary, 10901 Hillside Lane, Minnetonka
- Meadowbrook Elementary, 5430 Glenwood Avenue, Golden Valley

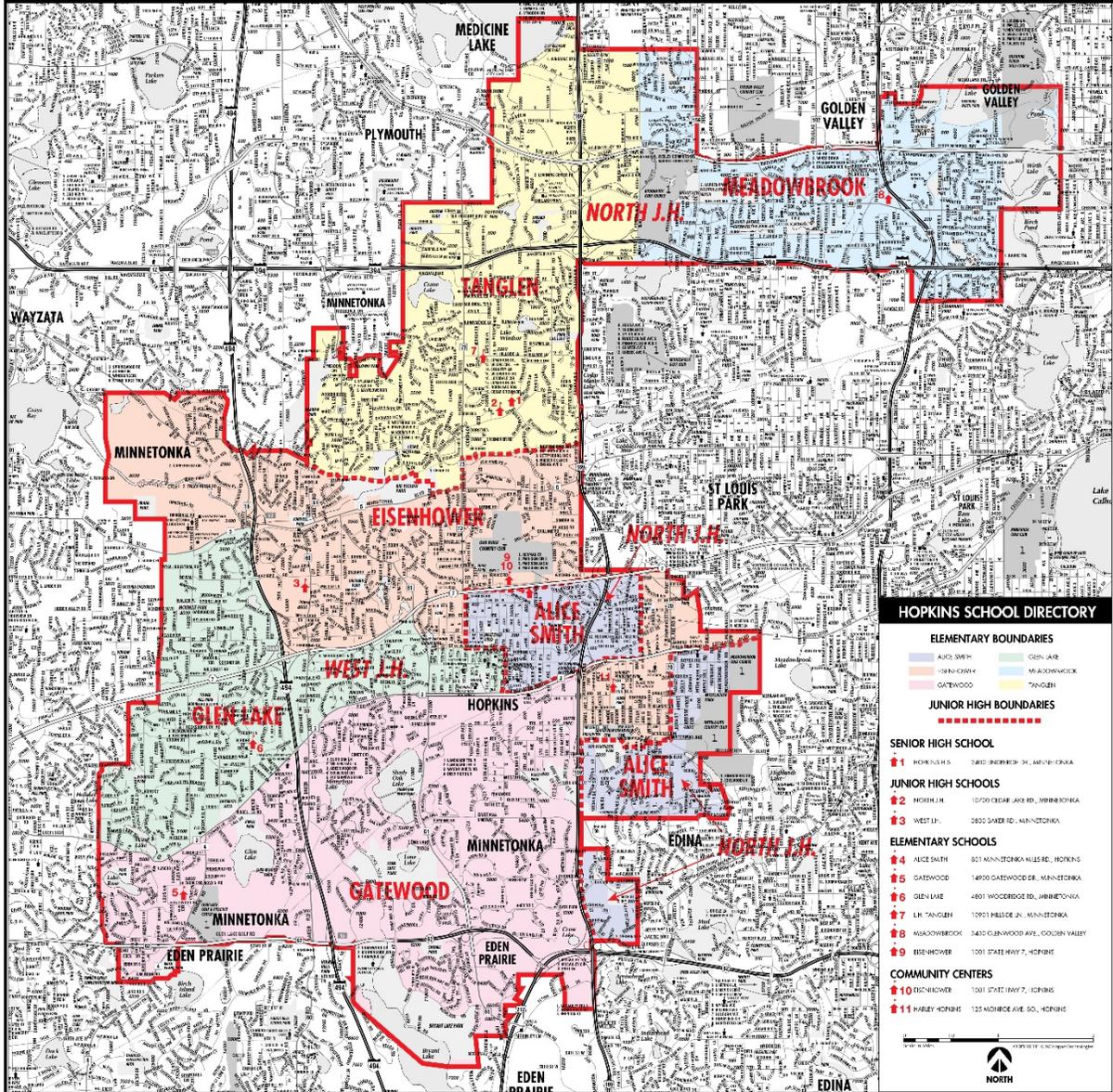
- XinXing Academy, 1001 Highway 7, Hopkins
- Hopkins North Junior High, 10700 Cedar Lake Road, Minnetonka
- Hopkins West Junior High, 3830 Baker Road, Minnetonka
- Hopkins High School, 2400 Lindbergh Drive, Minnetonka

In addition, the school district offers early childhood and preschool programs, adult and child community education programs, and various programs for people with disabilities.

The city also has several private schools, including:

- St. John's Catholic School, 1503 Boyce Street, Hopkins
- The Blake School, 110 Blake Road South, Hopkins

HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

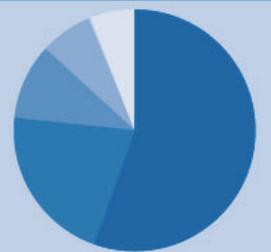


DEMOGRAPHICS

- 9% of students speak a language other than English as their first language
- 14% of students qualify for special education services
- 37% of students qualify for Free and Reduced Price Lunch

OUR STUDENT POPULATION

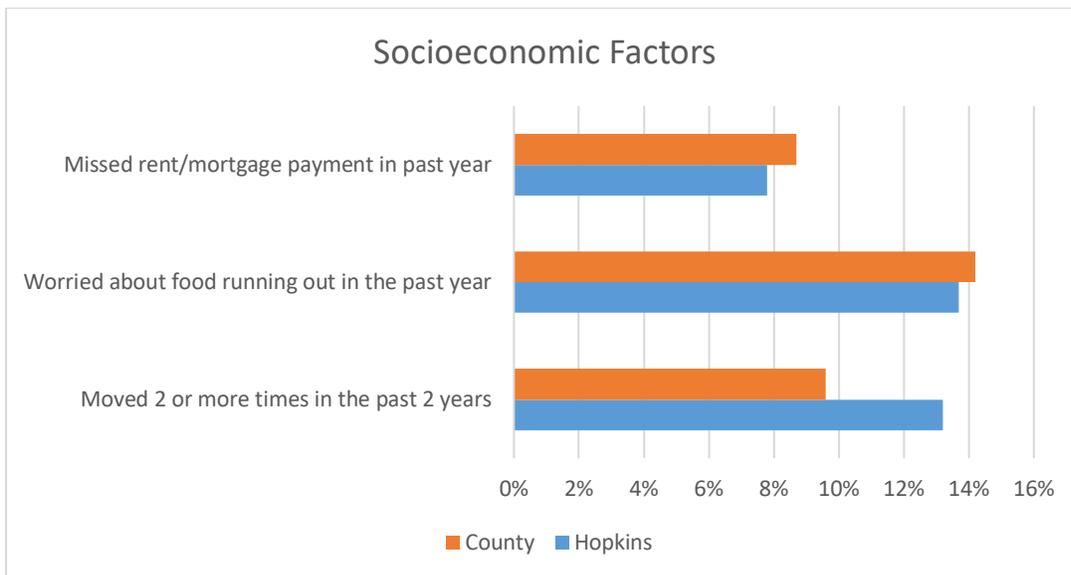
- 55% White
- 21% Black
- 10% Hispanic
- 7% Asian/Pacific Islander
- 6% Two Or More Races
- 1% American Indian



Economic Opportunity

Socioeconomic factors are stresses on a number of area residents. According to the SHAPE survey, over 12% worried about running out of money for food sometime in the previous year. A similar percentage dealt with either frequent moves or missing rent/mortgage payments.

Food security in Hopkins is an important consideration for Hopkins residents. The ICA Food Shelf is a social services agency serving Hopkins, Minnetonka, Excelsior, Shorewood, Deephaven, Greenwood, and Woodland, Minnesota. The food shelf estimates that 55% of their clients come from Hopkins. Based on that, they estimate that around 18% of Hopkins residents at least occasionally use the food shelf.



Source: 2010 Hennepin County SHAPE Survey

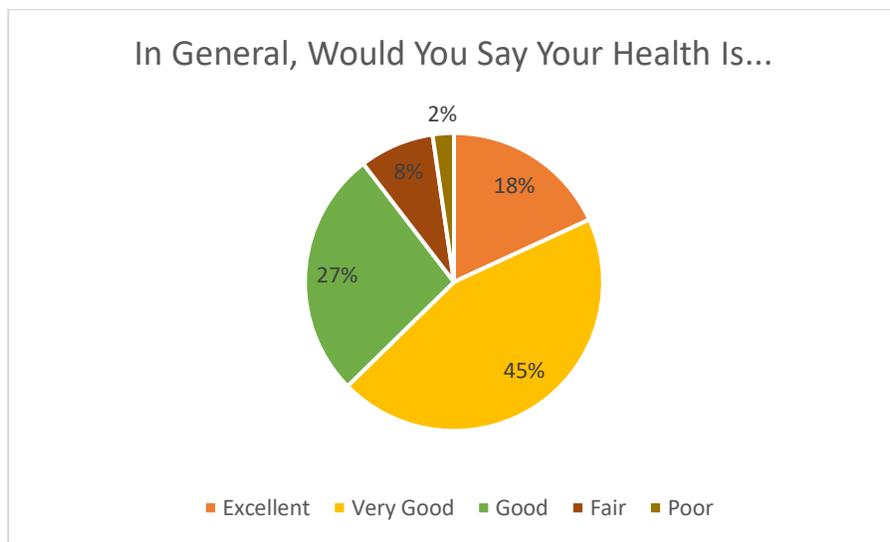
More information on economic impacts and opportunities can be found in **Appendix E1**.

Public Health

Overall Health

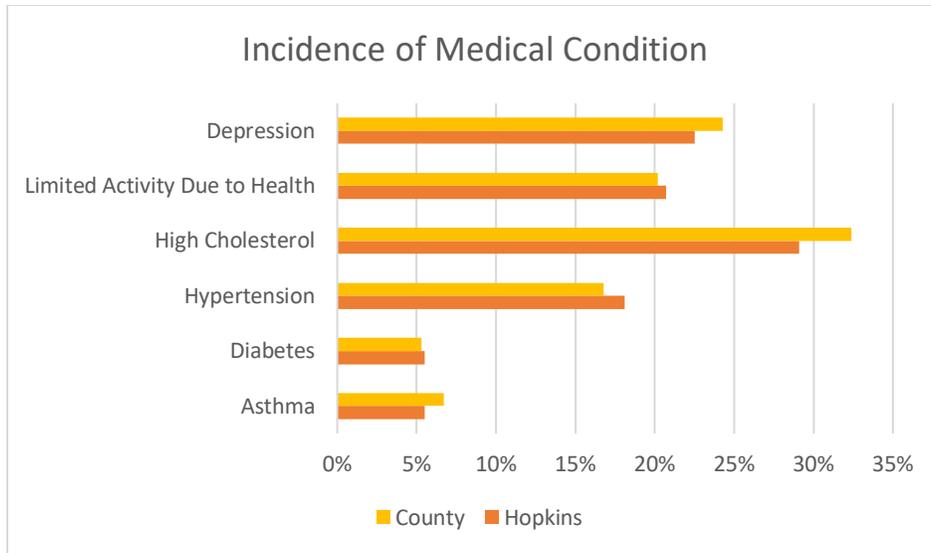
The Adult Survey of the Health of All Populations and the Environment (SHAPE) survey is administered in Minnesota every four years since 1998. This anonymous survey asks questions about health, diet, exercise, lifestyle, and access to health care. The Hennepin County SHAPE study reports Hopkins in a group called Western Suburbs – Inner Ring, which combines results from Hopkins and St. Louis Park. This information is mostly from the 2010 SHAPE, the most recent available with this level of detail.

Most of the adult respondents (90%) classified their health as “good” or better. Only about 2% indicated they were in poor health.



Source: 2010 Hennepin County SHAPE Survey

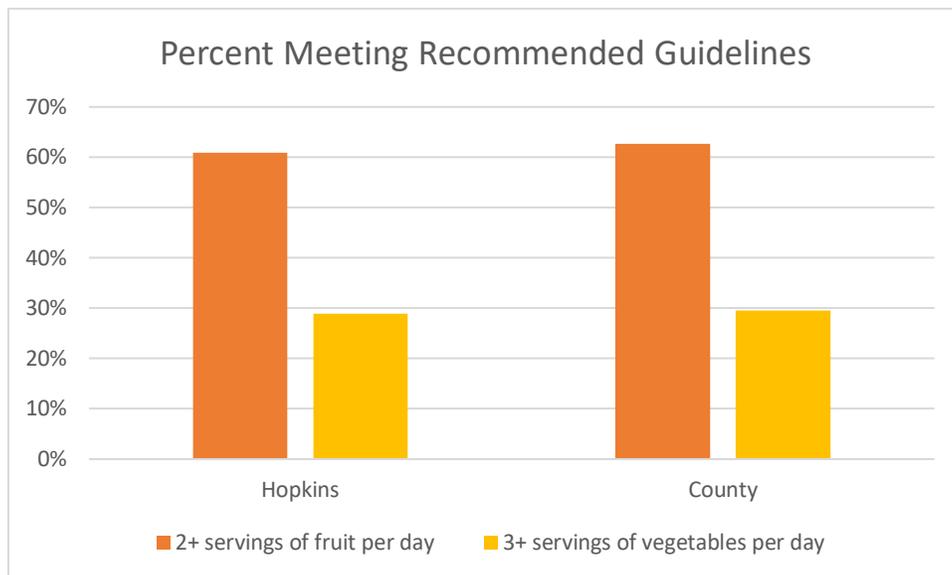
The incidence rates of various common medical conditions in Hopkins adults were similar to countywide averages.



Source: 2010 Hennepin County SHAPE Survey

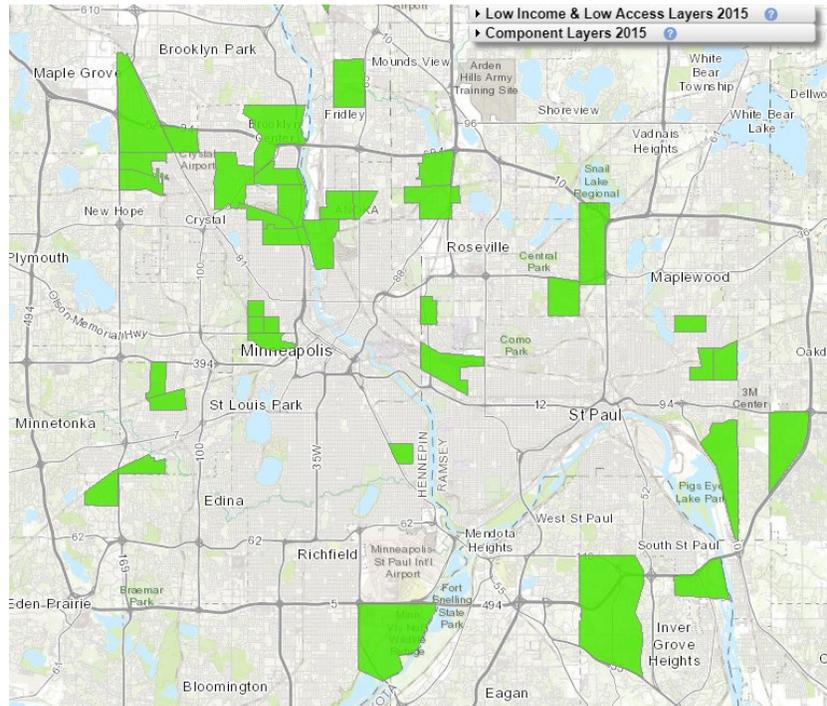
Healthy Food

According to the SHAPE survey, in terms of nutrition guidelines, there is some room for improvement. The majority of adults met the standard for fruit consumption, but not for vegetables. However, it was not significantly worse than the county as a whole.



Source: 2010 Hennepin County SHAPE Survey

In 2015, the United States Department of Agriculture did an analysis to determine location of food deserts – defined as areas where a significant number of low income residents live without proximity to a major grocery store. In urban areas, that is defined as living more than one mile from a major store (10 miles in rural areas). The Census tract south of the railroad tracks in Hopkins was defined as a food desert by these criteria.

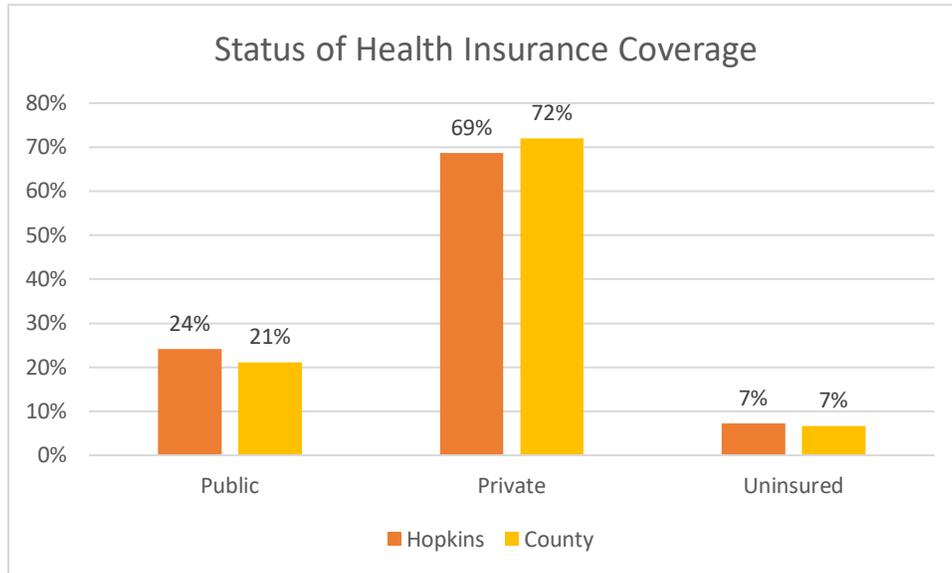


Source: United States Department of Agriculture

In terms of access to clean water, the City's public water supply system has always remained in full compliance with all state and federal drinking water regulations. Water samples are routinely collected and analyzed by City staff for chemical composition and bacterial contamination by the Minnesota Department of Health as required under the Minnesota Public Water Supply Program and the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Act.

Access to Healthcare

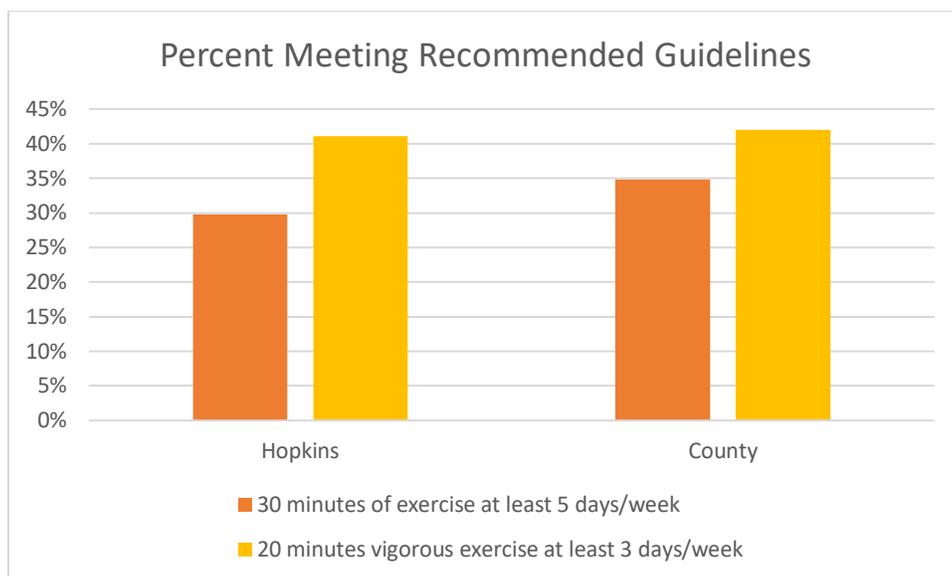
According to the SHAPE survey, around 7% of adults indicated that they did not have health insurance. This has declined in recent years due to presence of national affordable health care coverage programs.



Source: 2010 Hennepin County SHAPE Survey

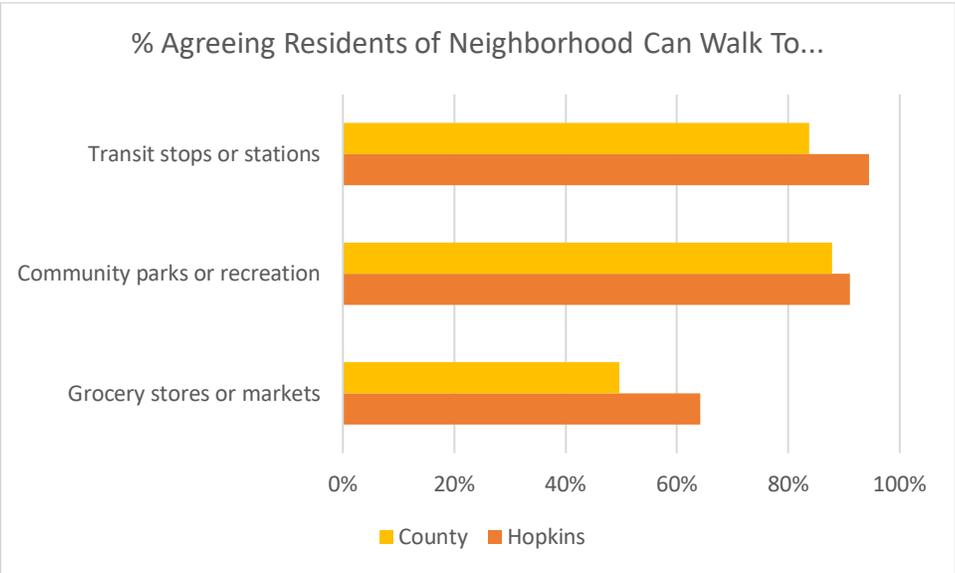
Active Living and Physical Activity

According to the SHAPE survey, the majority of adult respondents did not meet recommended activity guidelines for exercise on a weekly basis. Hopkins responses were slightly worse than countywide.



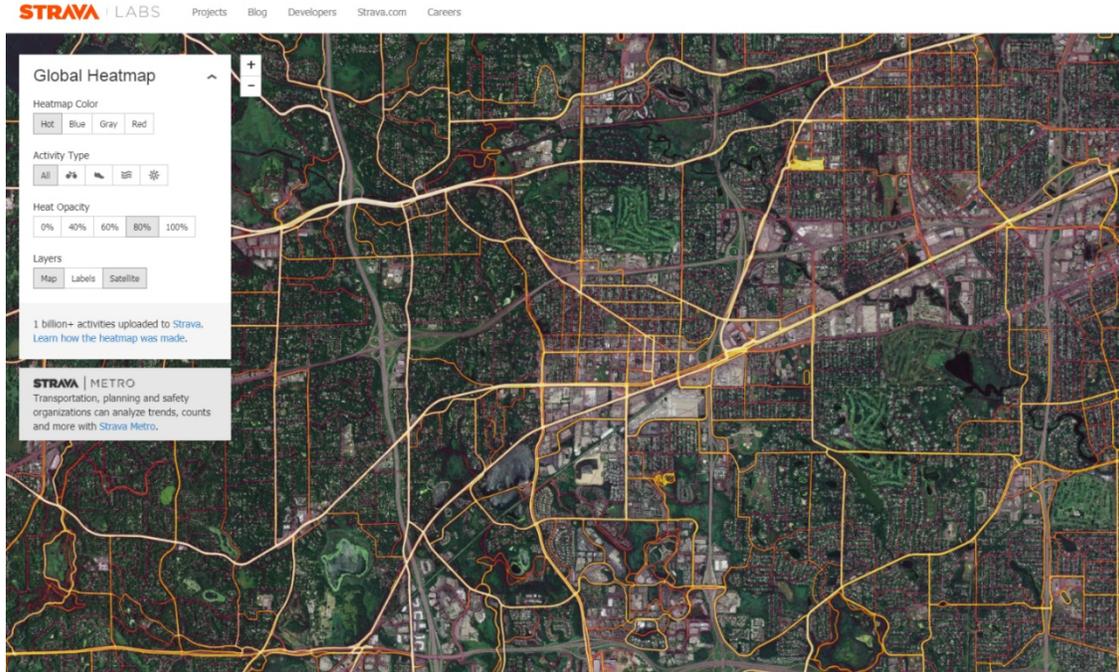
Source: 2010 Hennepin County SHAPE Survey

However, most residents agree that they live in reasonably walkable areas, with a majority indicating walkability to grocery stores, parks, and transit. Rates are higher than Hennepin County as a whole.



Source: 2010 Hennepin County SHAPE Survey

A measure of physical activity levels provided by activity tracker Strava shows that Hopkins is a regional hub for bicycle and pedestrian routes. The heat map below (with white being the “hottest”) shows the pattern of travel, particularly on regional trail connections and Downtown streets.

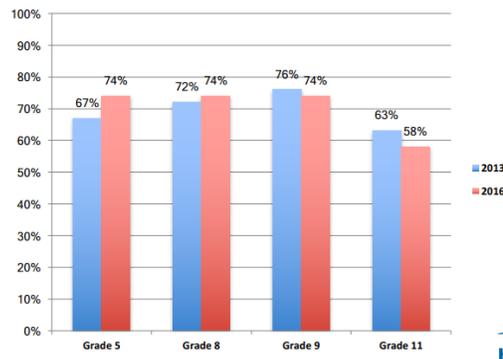


Source: Strava

In contrast with adults, most Hopkins students surveyed in the Minnesota Study Survey (MSS) report being physically active, though the rate declines as students get older, perhaps due to competing demands on their time.

Physical Activity

Hopkins Students Reporting Being Physically Active for AT LEAST 60 MINUTES PER DAY on 3 or More Days in the Past 7 Days, 2013 and 2016



Source: Hopkins Public Schools