

## Transportation

Transportation is key to our daily activities, including access to work, food, health care, and connections to family, friends, and faith communities. Transportation connects the people, natural resources and businesses within the county to each other, and to services and resources. Transportation also improves education and

Many people, especially those with limited income and medical and mobility conditions, lack transportation options.



Focus group participant

job security, strengthens social connections, supports mental health, and provides access to recreation. Reliable and affordable transportation are important to achieve equity in health. Equitable transportation supports the health of

communities by ensuring that everyone can get where they need to go.

Interest in a wider range of transportation modes, including public transit, is growing as needs for transportation options in the county increase. Rural populations, especially communities located outside a five-mile radius of a city or town, have very limited transportation options.

The key demographic trends that are shaping transportation needs across the county include an increasing population

especially among older adults; an increase in the number of individuals with limited English proficiency; a growing population of people with disabilities; and increasing

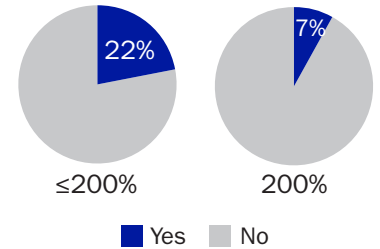


interest among people of all ages to drive less and live in walkable communities.

Opportunities for safe, reliable and efficient transportation options that meet a variety of needs is lacking for a significant number of Carver County residents. This is more common for adults who do not or cannot drive a vehicle, so they require some type of ride share or mass transit service to get their transportation needs met. These types of services are very limited in many communities, especially in Western Carver County.

- Poverty: Residents living under 200% of the federal poverty level were three times more likely to report facing transportation barriers.
- Rural Carver County: Residents aged 75+ in Western Carver County are three times more likely to report facing transportation barriers than those in Eastern Carver County.
- Aging: Carver County residents aged 75+ are twice as likely to report transportation problems than those aged 18 to 34 years.

### Lack of Transportation Kept You From Where You Needed to Go by Federal Poverty Level Percentage



Source: Carver County Adult Health Survey, 2018

## References

Minnesota Department of Health (2017). 2017 Minnesota Statewide Health Assessment. Produced in collaboration with the Healthy Minnesota Partnership. St. Paul, MN. <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/practice/healthymnpartnership/docs/2017MNStatewideHealthAssessment.pdf>