

# BASTROP COUNTY, TEXAS

Library and Community Organization Survey Results

# Library and Community Organization Survey Results



Libraries and other community organizations serve a vital role in providing access to information and technology for the entire community. Libraries often host public computers with internet access for those without a device or connection at home and provide technology training to develop a more digitally literate community.

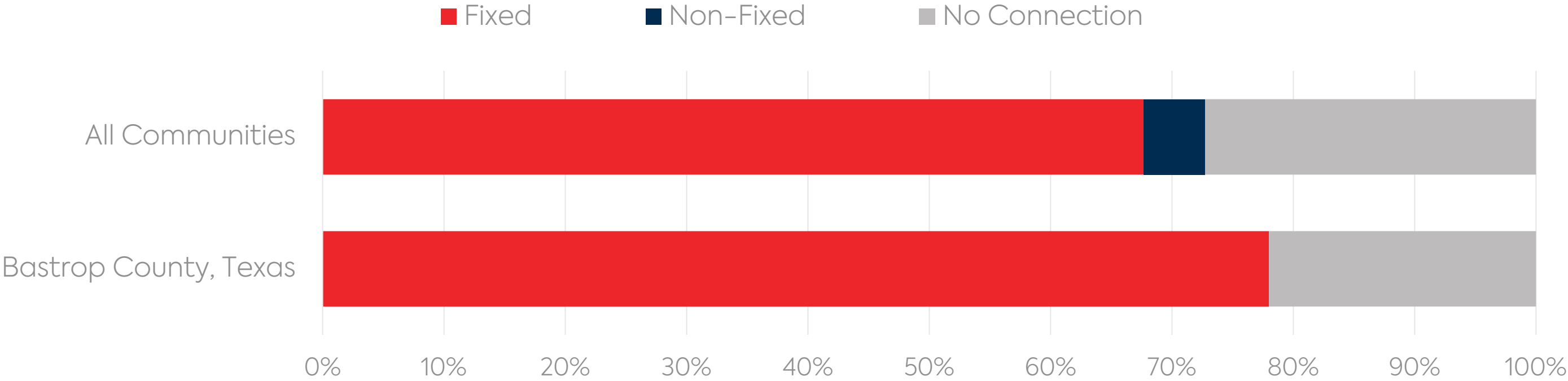
The following data show the connectivity and use of technology among libraries and community organizations in the community compared to those in other communities participating in Connected Nation's Connected program. These data should be used to make informed decisions and implement solutions for improving connectivity in the community.

The Library Sector includes public and private libraries, as well as other non-governmental organizations that serve the local community. Data from Bastrop County represent survey responses collected between July 6, 2020, and November 16, 2020. Altogether, 12 libraries and organizations in the community completed these surveys. Data from all Connected communities represent survey responses collected between January 1, 2017, and January 29, 2021. As more communities participate in the Connected program, these figures are likely to change.

# Broadband Adoption in the Library Sector

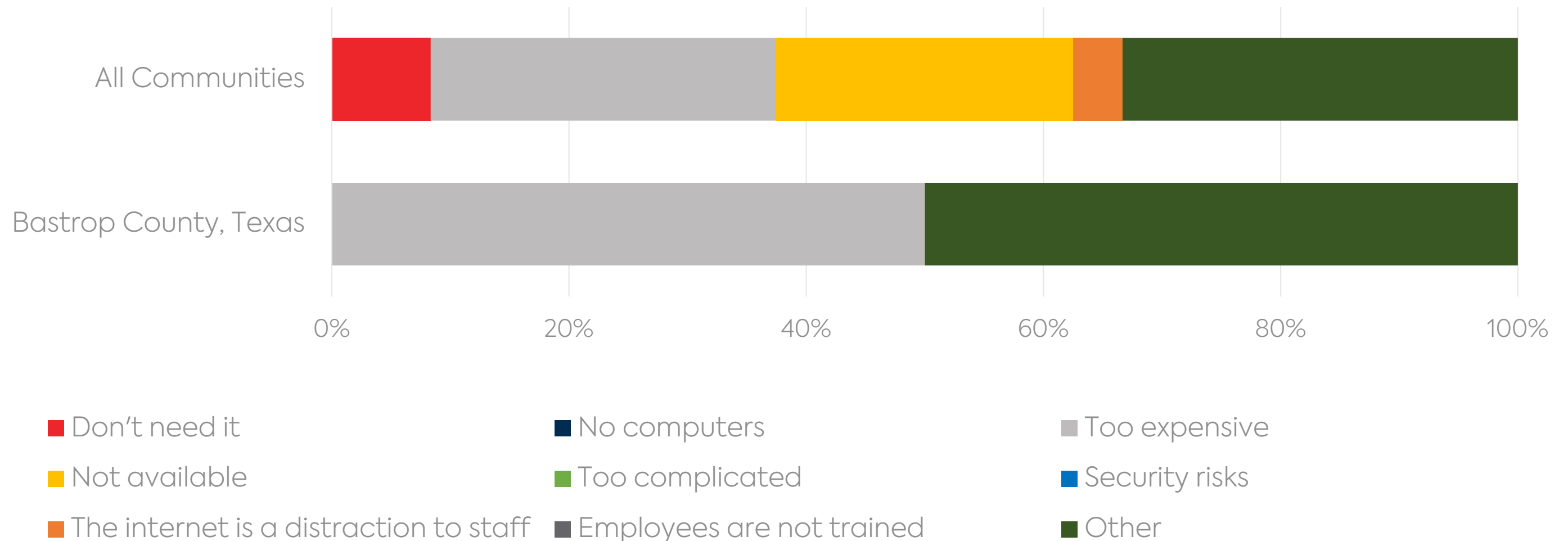


This chart shows the percent of libraries and community organizations that subscribe to various types of broadband services or that are without a connection. Fixed connections are those provided by cable, DSL, fiber, or fixed wireless technology while non-fixed connections include dial-up, satellite, and mobile-only services. These non-fixed internet services, while providing basic access, can often be plagued by connection latency, have costly monthly data plans, or can be impacted by weather, terrain, large expanses of open water, and other environmental factors.



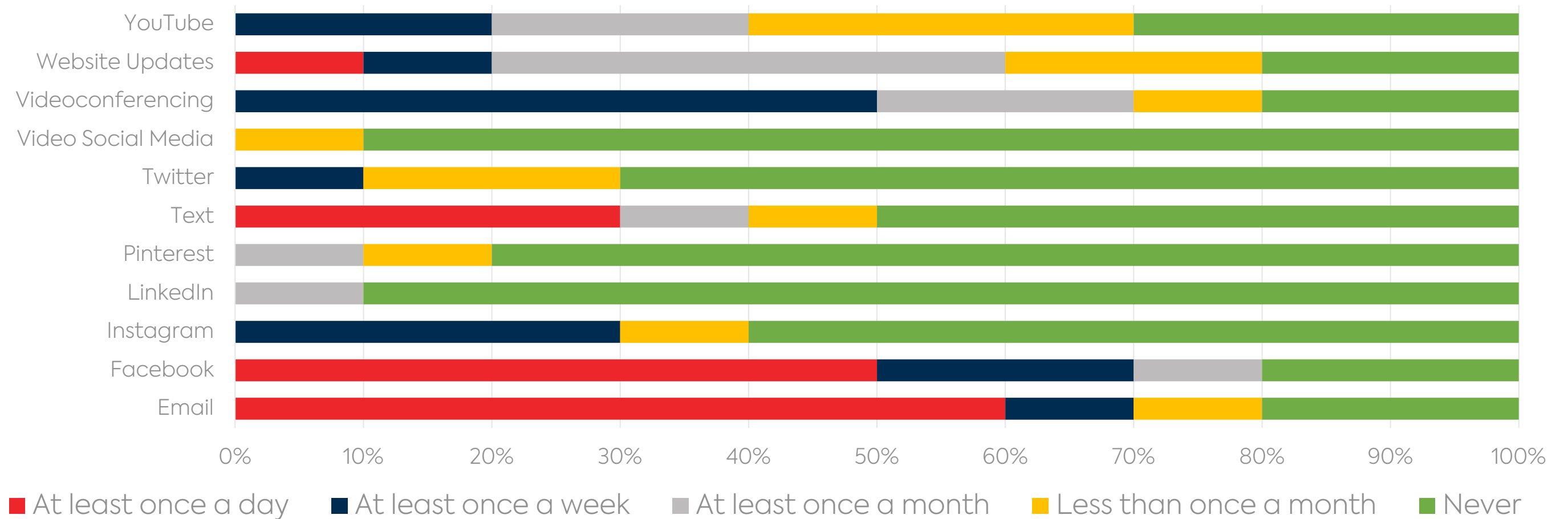
# Barriers to Library Broadband Adoption

This chart shows the primary reason libraries do not or cannot subscribe to broadband. The chart compares libraries and organizations in the community to those in other participating communities.



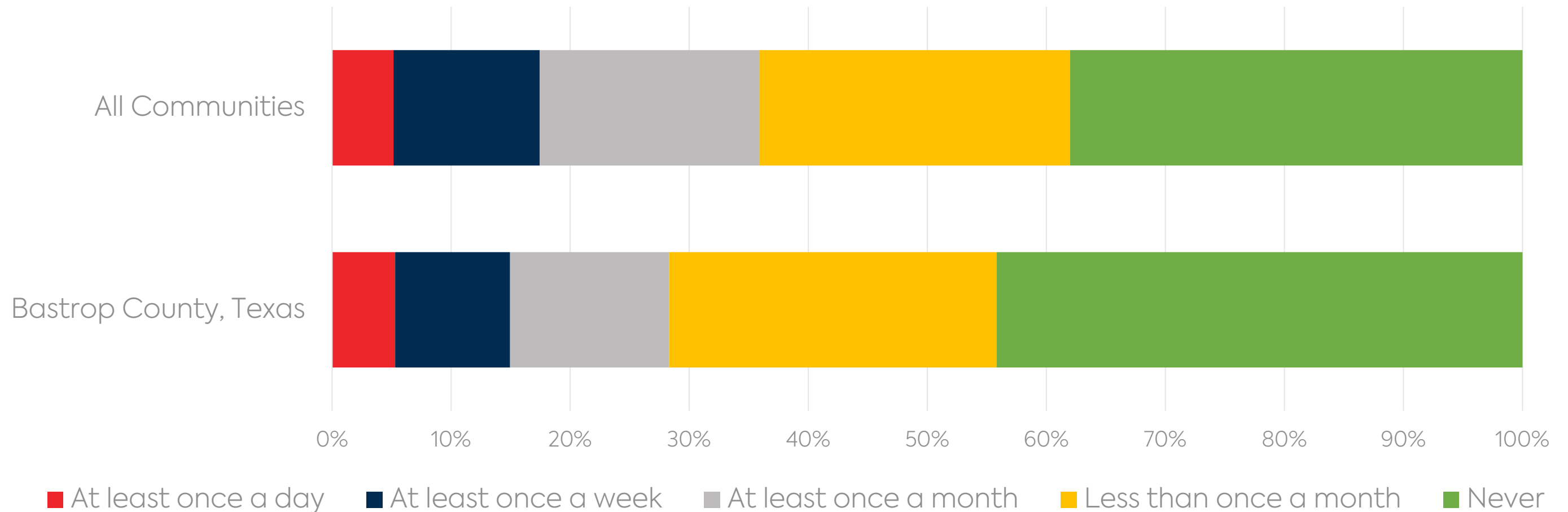
# Digital Communications

Examining the digital interaction of residents and the digital communications tools used by libraries and organizations can help identify ways to increase the online presence of these critical institutions. This chart provides the frequency with which libraries and organizations in the community use various digital tools to communicate with the public.



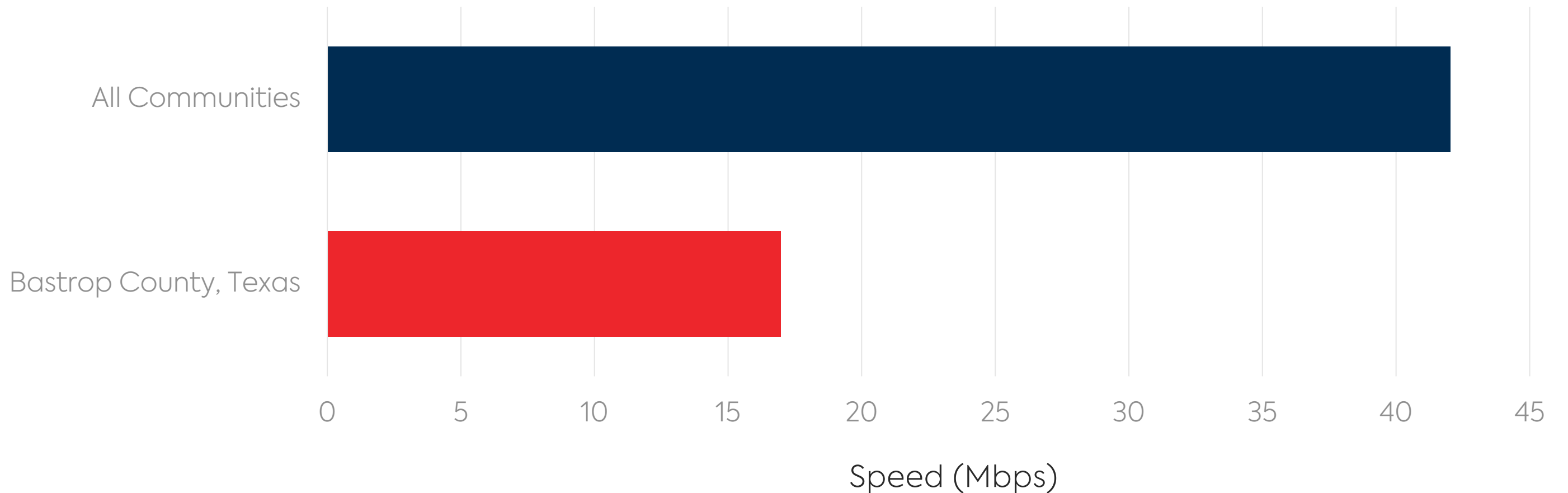
# Digital Interaction

This chart shows the frequency with which residents in the community report that they digitally interact with organizations and libraries. Examining the digital interaction of residents and the digital communications tools used by local institutions can help identify ways to increase the online presence of the sector.



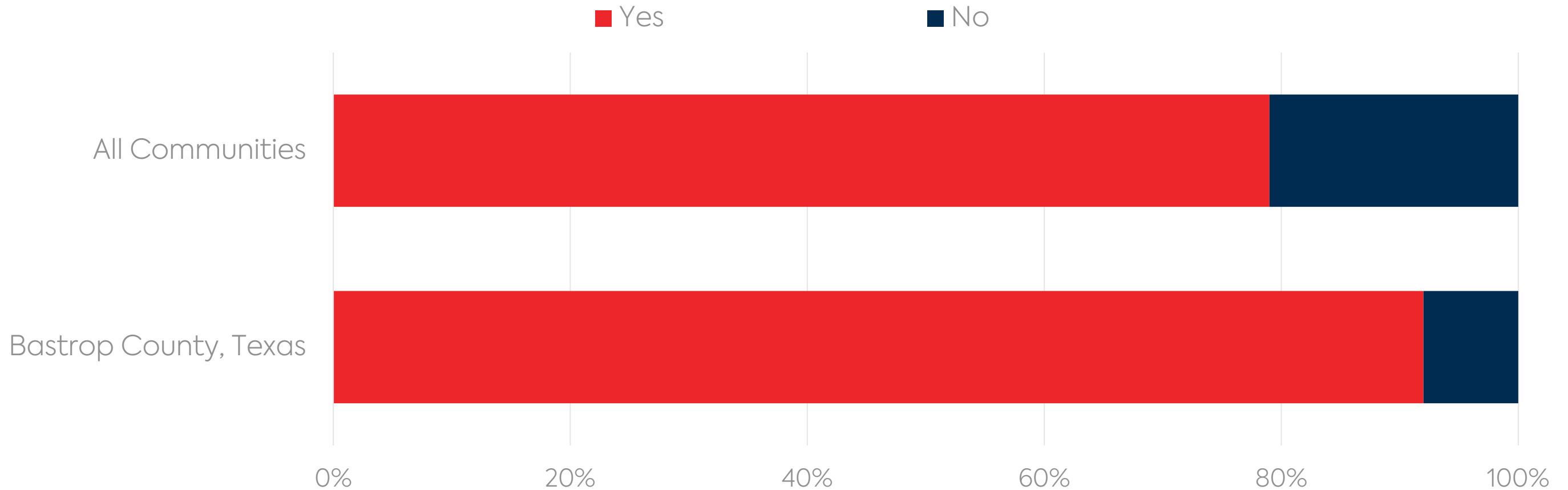
# Library Sector Download Speeds

Connection speeds can have a major impact on how the internet is used. This chart shows the average reported download speed among libraries and organizations in the community compared to those in other Connected communities.



# Presence of a Website

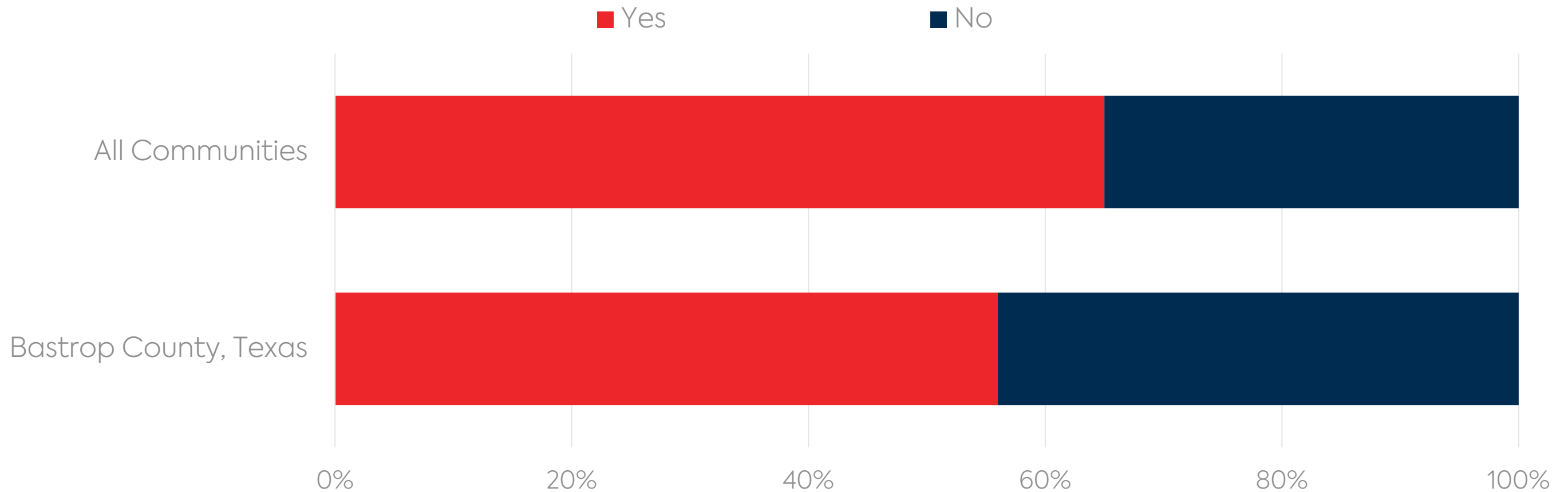
The website of a library or organization may be the first point of contact a resident or business may have when an issue arises or information is required. This chart shows the percent of libraries and organizations with a website in the community compared to those in other Connected communities.





# Public Wi-Fi

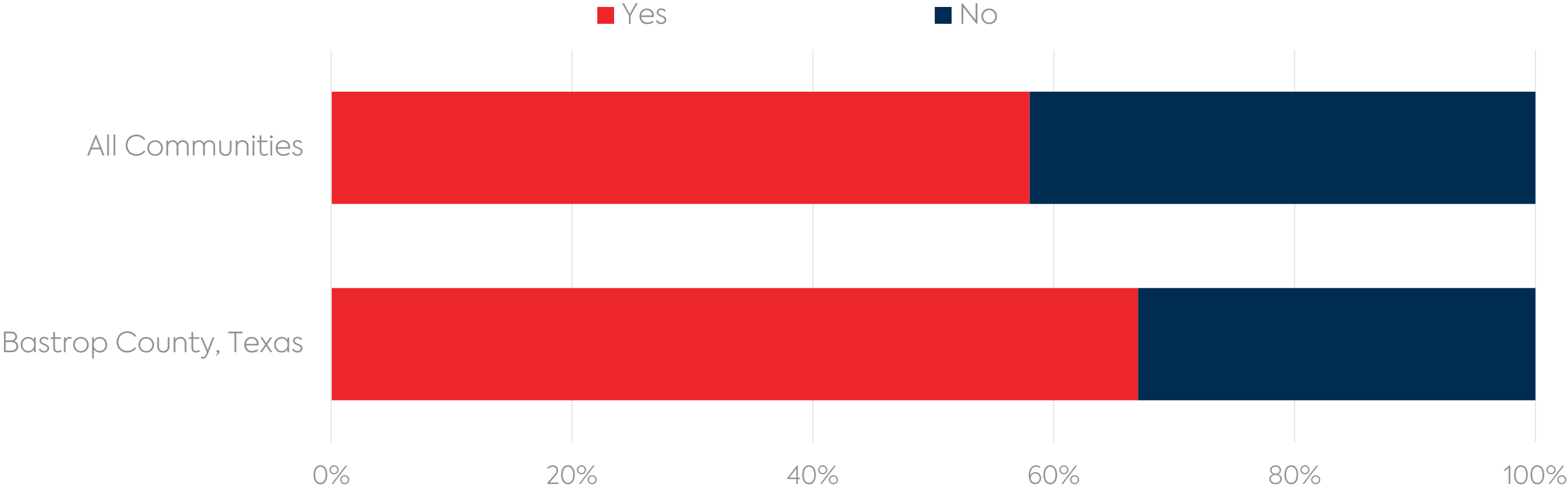
Public Wi-Fi can help create a better-connected community by providing additional access points for those with devices limited by mobile data plans or those without mobile broadband capability. This chart shows the percent of libraries and community organizations that offer free Wi-Fi to the public.



# Satisfaction in the Library Sector

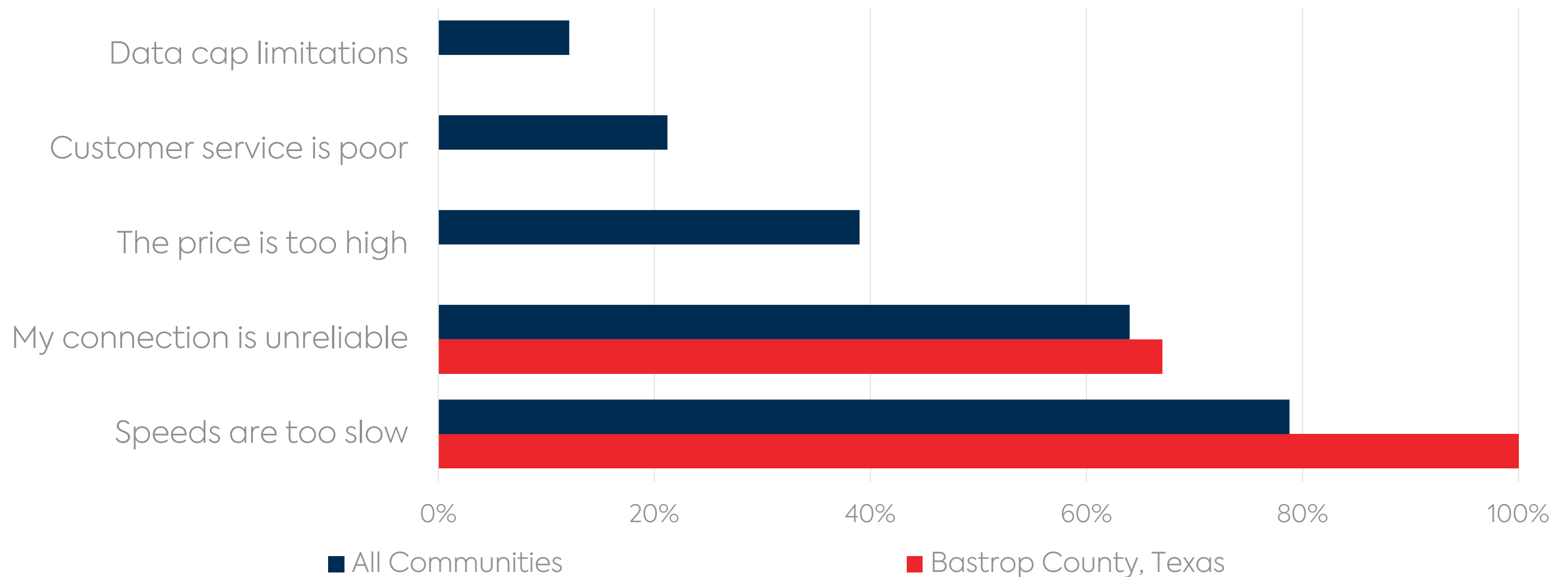


Competition provides communities with choices for service, allowing them the ability to switch providers if their current service does not meet their needs. This chart shows the percent of libraries and community organizations who state that their internet service meets or does not meet their needs.



# Reasons for Dissatisfaction

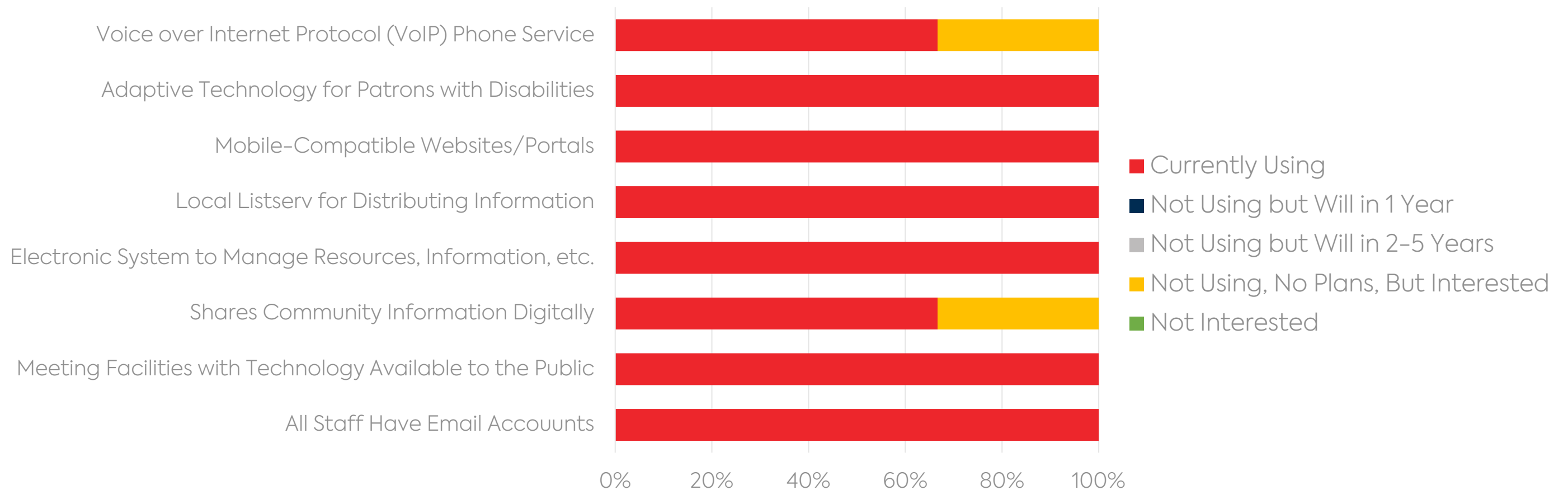
This chart shows the various reasons why libraries and community organizations report being dissatisfied with their current internet service.



# Library Sector Technology Applications



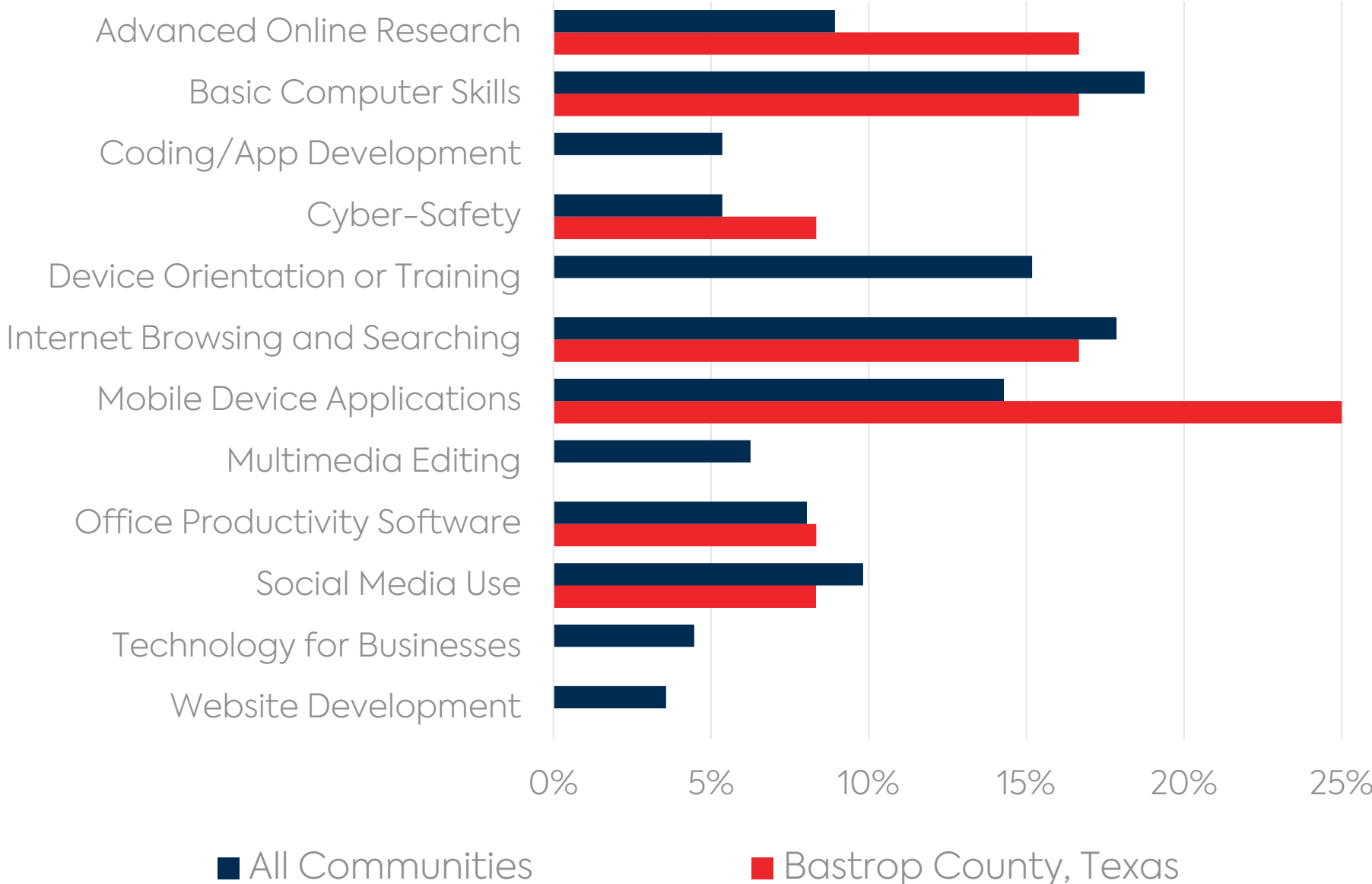
Beyond a website and the many forms of digital communications, there are more advanced ways in which a library and other organization can leverage technology to improve the services they offer to the public and the ways in which patrons access information. This chart shows the use and interest in a variety of technologies among libraries and other organizations in the community.



# Technology Training



Libraries provide opportunities for digital literacy training outside of a traditional classroom setting within a facility dedicated to accessing information. This chart shows the percent of libraries and organizations in the community that report offering each of the various types of technology training compared to libraries and organizations in other Connected communities.



# Public Computing Centers



The expense associated with home computer ownership represents a significant barrier to broadband adoption. For low-income residents without the ability to purchase a home computer (or other device), a public computing center may be their only opportunity to access the internet. Further, public access to technology is necessary for community members who have little or no communication technology available in the home, need assistance to effectively use technology, or need to supplement connectivity at home or in schools. A community should have sufficient, free access to computers, internet service, wireless networks, and other communication technologies to support the needs of residents. In addition, public computer centers should be located in safe facilities, with adequate levels of privacy, security, and accessibility for people with disabilities. Information regarding the availability and location of public computer centers should be widely disseminated.

# Public Computing Centers

This shows the number of locations offering public access to computers and the internet, the number of public computers available at libraries and organizations who answered these questions in the survey, and the average number of computers per site at these responding libraries and organizations.



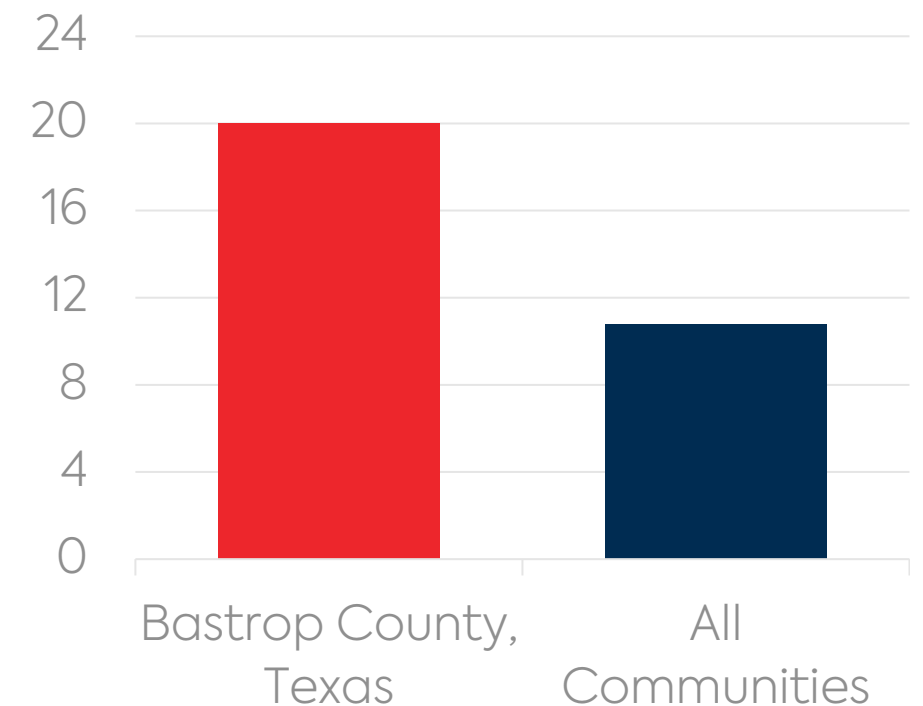
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Locations With  
Public Computer Access



60

Computers Available  
to the Public



Average Number of Computers  
per Computing Site