

A photograph of a ferry boat on the water with the Istanbul skyline in the background. The ferry is white with a yellow stripe and is moving towards the right. The water is blue and the sky is overcast. The Istanbul skyline is visible in the distance, including the Hagia Sophia and other domed buildings.

# **Correlates of Walking Behavior in Istanbul: Individual Attributes, Neighborhood Context and Perceived Safety**

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# Overview

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1. Background
2. Study Objectives and Conceptual Framework
3. Methodology
4. Results





# 1. Background

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The **Measuring of the Quality of Urban Life in Istanbul** study  
2005-2006

**Funded by**

- The Strategic Planning Unit at the Greater Istanbul Municipality
- Istanbul Technical University Research Foundation

**Istanbul population: 11,372,613 (2007)**



# Measuring of the Quality of Urban Life in Istanbul

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## Residents' Perceptions of and Attitudes towards various Dimensions of Urban Life

Quality of life

**Quality of neighborhood**

Public services and facilities

Commercial facilities

Environment and conservation of open land

Residential history, mobility and preferences

Travel behavior

Community involvement and participation

**Neighboring**

**Perceived safety**

Parks and recreation services

Family health status

Physical activity

**Walking behavior**

**Health**

Population in Turkey:

56% overweight

16% obese

(Işeri & Arslan, 2008)

## 2. Study Objectives & Conceptual Framework

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### Contextual- level Variables

#### Neighborhood

- Perceived neighborhood safety
- Neighborhood social interaction

#### Micro-environment

- View: Physical Disorder
- View: Social Disorder
- View: Busy Place

### Control Variables

- Residential density
- Land value
- Availability of public transport.
- Number of cars in household
- Satisfaction with parks/playgr.
- Satisfaction with living here
- Not a good place to walk

### Individual-level Variables

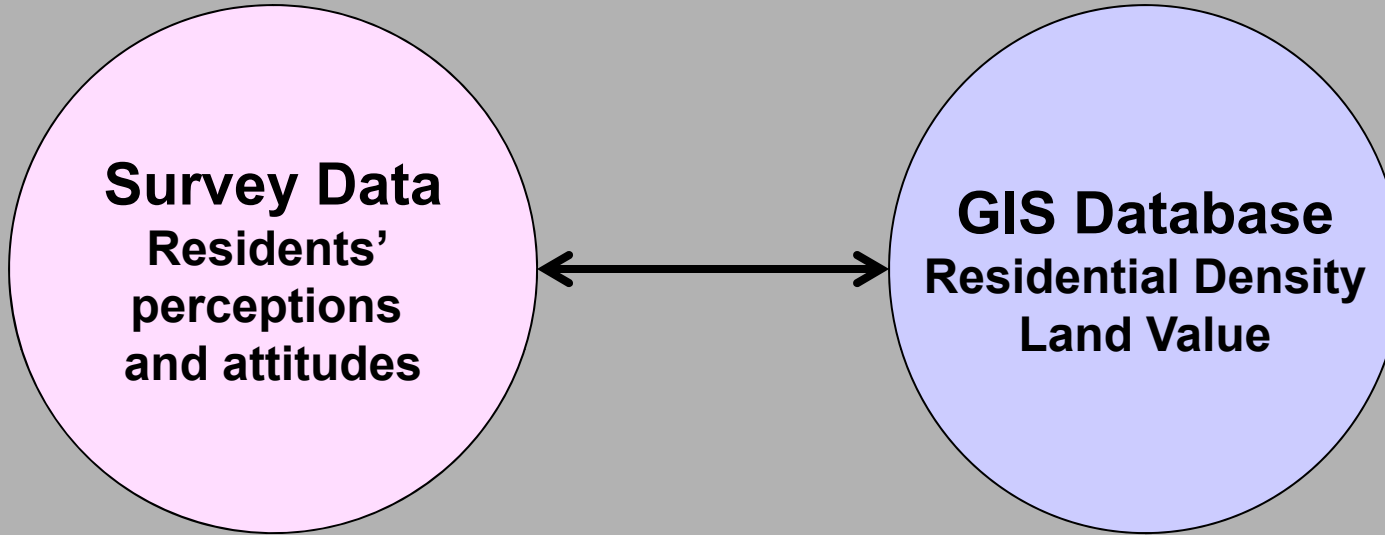
- Age
- Gender
- Education
- Being retired
- Household Income
- Body Mass Index

### Walking Behavior

- Utilitarian Walking
- Recreational Walking



### 3. Methodology



**Face-to-Face Interviews** with Residents, November 2005 – February 2006  
Sample size: 2,484; Administered questionnaires: 1,635 (RR 66%)

**ÖN BİLGİ FORMU**

<b>FORM ID NO</b>	_____	<i>İlk 5 hane → nokta ID no olmalıdır son hane → o noktada yapılan kaçınıcı anket olduğunu göstermelidir.</i>
<b>ANKET NO</b>	_____	<b>OFİSTE DOLDURULACAK</b> <i>1-1800 arasında numara verilecektir</i>
<b>AÇIK ADRES</b>	Sokak/ cadde: Apartman no ve ismi: Daire no: İLÇE :	

- o İyi günler, ismim .....
- o İstanbul Teknik Üniversitesi, Mimarlık Fakültesi, Şehir ve Bölge Planlaması Bölümü ve İstanbul Büyükşehir Belediyesi **İstanbul'da Yaşam Kalitesinin Ölçülmesi konusunda bir araştırma gerçekleştirmektedir.**
- o Bu evde oturan ve biraz sonra görüşme olarak belirleyeceğim bir kişi bilimsel yollarla ...

**KİŞİYE PROJE BROŞÜRÜNÜ VERİN ve SİZE 5 DAKİKA VAKİT AYIRMASINI RİCA EDİN**

<b>İlk ziyaret sonucu</b>		
Evde kimse yok .....	1	→ Proje Mektubunu kapıya bırakın ve tekrar ziyaret etmek üzere noktadan ayrılın
Ön görüşme red edildi .....	2	→ teşekkür ederek ayrılın
Başka bir gün için randevu alındı .....	3	→ sadece ön görüşme formunu doldurmak için izin isteyin. Kabul edilmezse, Proje Mektubunu bırakın, randevu günü/saatini belirleyin; teşekkür edin ve ayrılın
Ön bilgi formu dolduruldu .....	4	→ devam edin



# Sampling Strategy

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## A three-stage Stratified Cluster Sampling

a. Grouping of mahalles (wards) (737 mahalles)

b. Identify **cluster** beginning points (423)

Reference: building entrances

Systematic random selection proportional to housing units in the residential building entrance

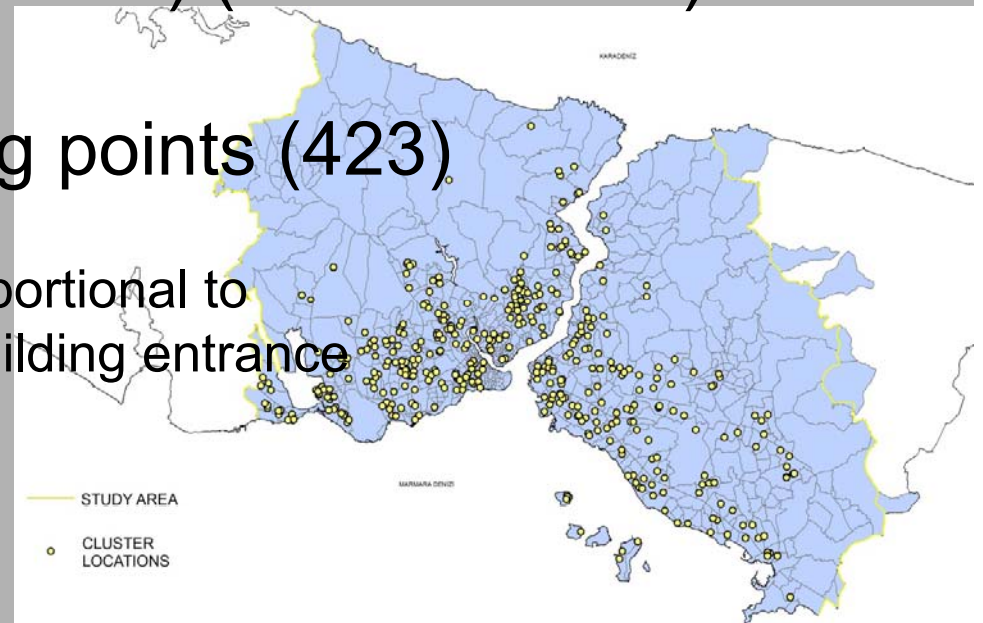
47 clusters per mahalle group

c. Identify **residential units**

Systematic random selection: 6 housing units per cluster

d. Identify **respondents**

Random selection (Kish, 1949)



# Grouping of mahalles (wards)

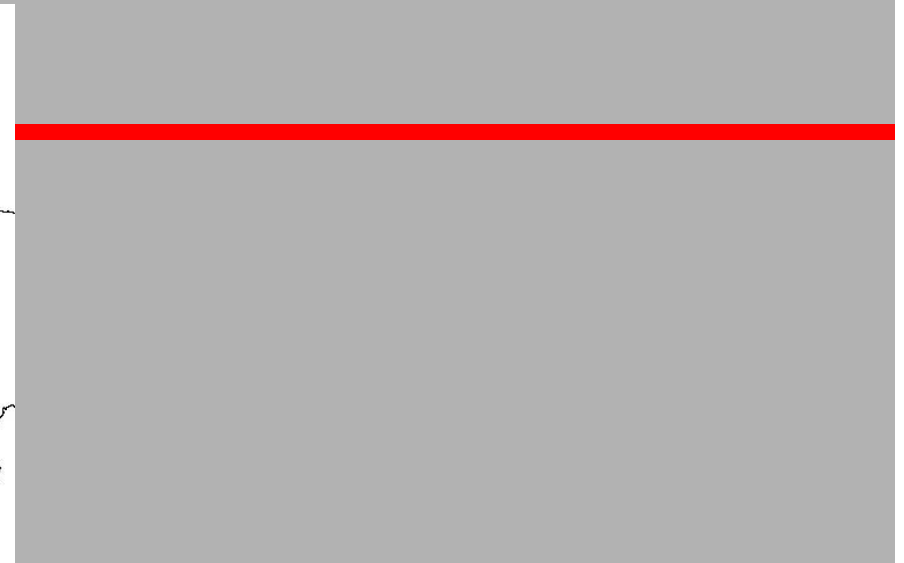
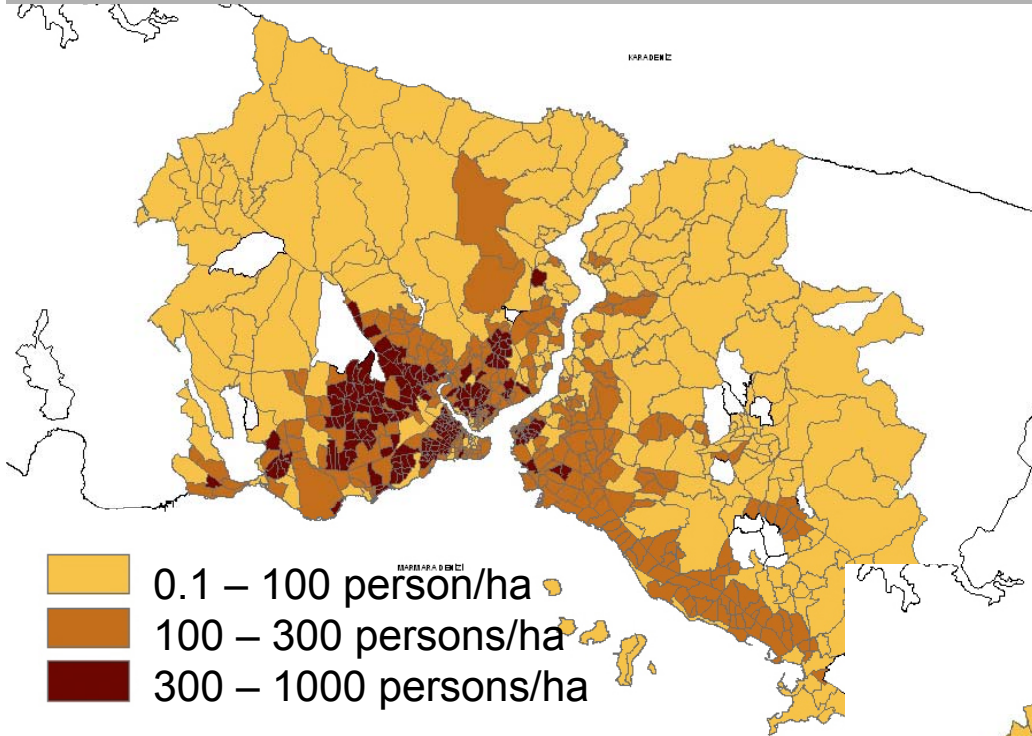
Net residential densities – 2000 Census data

	Low Density	Medium Density	High Density
Low Land Value			
Medium Land Value			
High Land Value			

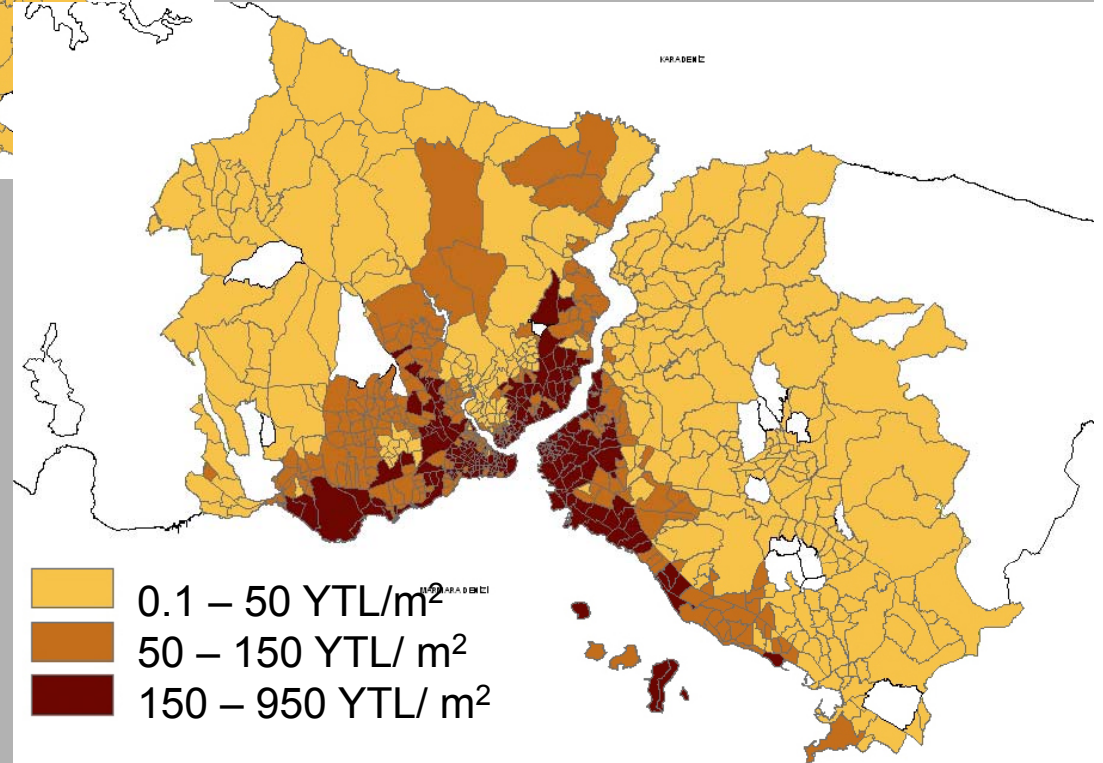
Land value/meter square – 2002 Tax assessment data



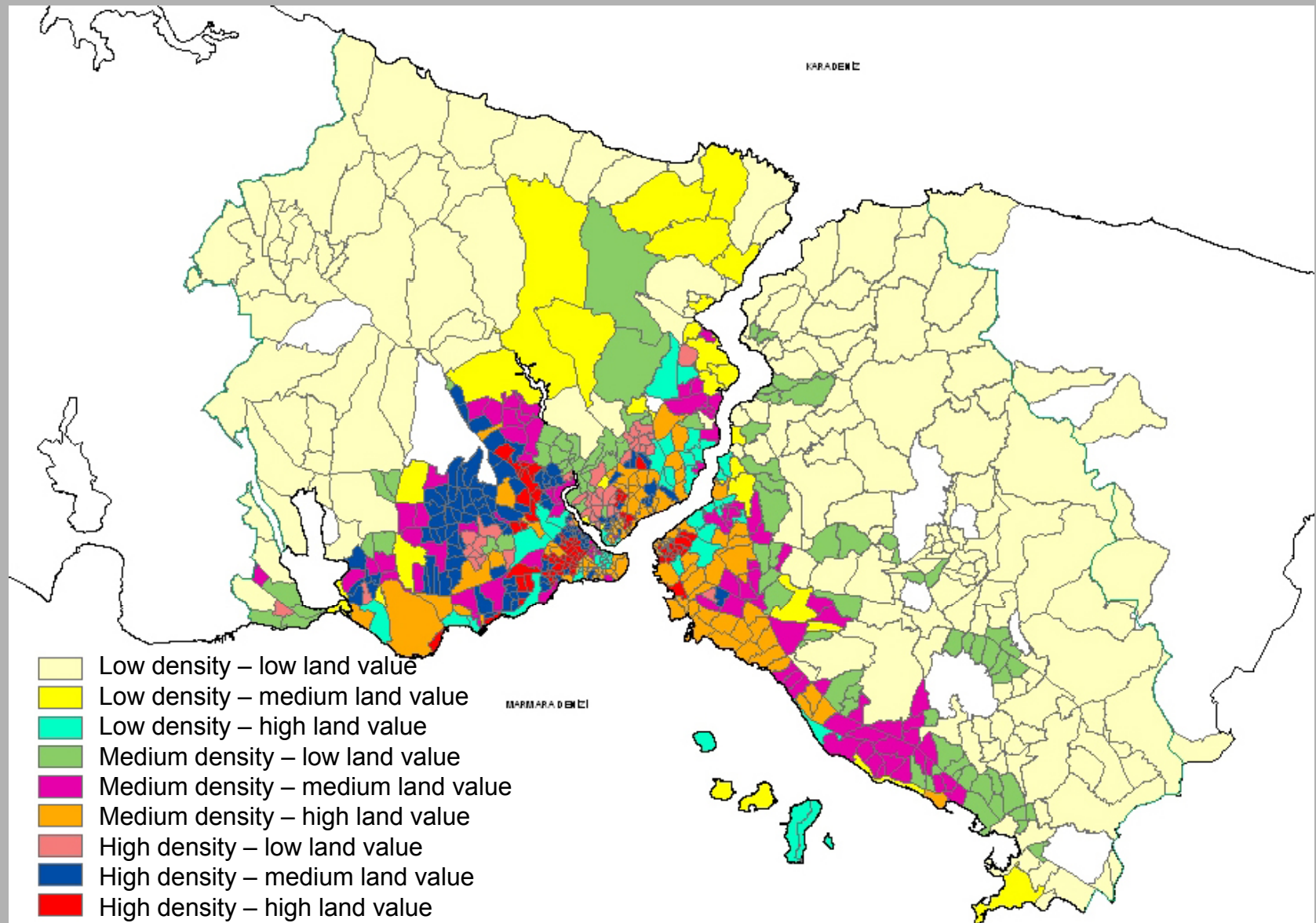
# Residential Density of Mahalles



# Average Land Values of Mahalles



# Mahalle Groupings





# Measurements

## Walking Behavior

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In the past week, have you walked to  
(each of the following):

- a) Visit a friend
- b) Shop
- c) A playground/park
- d) Exercise around here

### Utilitarian Walking

- a) Visit a friend
- b) Shop

No utilitarian walking

**One:** Having walked to a friend or to shop in the past week

**Two:** Having done both, i.e., walked to visit a friend and to shop in the past week

### Recreational Walking

- c) a playground/park
- d) exercise around here

No recreational walking

**One:** Having walked to a park/playground or to exercise in the past week

**Two:** Having done both, i.e., walked to a park/playground and to exercise in the past week





# Measurements

## Contextual-level Variables

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### Neighnorhood

#### **Perceived neighborhood safety index** (Cronbach's alpha .818)

- How much crime there is in your neighborhood?
- How safe it is considered to go outside during day in this neighborhood?
- How safe it is considered to go outside at night in this neighborhood?
- How safe it is for women to go outside at night in this neighborhood?
- How satisfied you are with the safety of this area?

#### **Neighborhood social interaction index** (Cronbach's alpha .728)

- Number of relatives living in the neighborhood
- Number of friends living in the neighborhood
- Number of individuals known by name in the street or nearby area
- Frequency of visiting those known in the neighborhood
- Frequency of doing favor with those known in the neighborhood, such as watching children, lending materials/tools, helping with shopping etc.

# Measurements

## Contextual-level Variables

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### Micro-environment

Rating attributes of the micro environment defined as  
what one sees from one's front door  
7-point semantic differentiation scale

**View: Physical Disorder** (Cronbach's alpha = .791)  
unmaintained houses and unmaintained yards and roads

**View: Social Disorder** (Cronbach's alpha = .731)  
no good neighbors, people not like me, and unfriendly people

**View: Busy Place** (Cronbach's alpha = .774)  
nosy, crowded, no trees/green, and heavy traffic

# Analysis

## Multinomial Logistic Regression Models



**Question:** which variables increase or decrease the odds that someone will engage in utilitarian or recreational walking?

**Dependent variables:**

**Utilitarian walking**

(no, one and two)

**Recreational walking**

(no, one and two)

**Independent variables:**

**Individual-Level variables**

**Contextual-Level variables**

**Control variables**

Administered questionnaires: **1,635**



# 4. Results

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## Utilitarian walking

- a) Walk to visit a friend: 64%  
both 56%
- b) Walk to shop: 78%

## Recreational walking

- c) Walk to a park/playground: 22%  
both 10%
- d) Walk to exercise: 21%

# Utilitarian Walking Multinomial Logistic Regression Models

\*\*\*, \*\*, \* denote significance at the .001, .01 and .05 level of confidence respectively

n=1,635	Model U-I	
	One	Two
<b>Individual-Level Variables</b>		
Age	.989	<b>.984 **</b>
Female	<b>1.680 **</b>	<b>1.488 **</b>
Education	<b>1.189 *</b>	<b>1.194 *</b>
Being retired	1.357	<b>2.884 ***</b>
Household income	<b>.905 *</b>	<b>.909 *</b>
Body Mass Index	1.015	1.033

One: Having walked to a friend or to shop in the past week

Two: Having done both, i.e., walked to visit a friend and to shop in the past week

# Utilitarian Walking Multinomial Logistic Regression Models

\*\*\*, \*\*, \* denote significance at the .001, .01 and .05 level of confidence respectively

n=1,635	Model U-I		Model U-II	
	One	Two	One	Two
<b>Individual-Level Variables</b>				
Age	.989	<b>.984 **</b>	.988	<b>.982 **</b>
Female	<b>1.680 **</b>	<b>1.488 **</b>	<b>1.630 **</b>	<b>1.520 **</b>
Education	<b>1.189 *</b>	<b>1.194 *</b>	1.162	<b>1.289 **</b>
Being retired	1.357	<b>2.884 ***</b>	1.298	<b>2.854 ***</b>
Household income	<b>.905 *</b>	<b>.909 *</b>	<b>.878 **</b>	<b>.855 ***</b>
Body Mass Index	1.015	1.033	1.018	1.033
<b>Contextual-Level Variables</b>				
Neighborhood safety			1.138	<b>1.393 **</b>
Neighborhood social networks			1.099	<b>1.688 **</b>
View: Busy place			1.043	<b>1.131 *</b>
View: Physical disorder			<b>.889 *</b>	<b>.856 **</b>
View: Social disorder			<b>1.166 *</b>	1.012

One: Having walked to a friend or to shop in the past week

Two: Having done both, i.e., walked to visit a friend and to shop in the past week



# Utilitarian Walking Multinomial Logistic Regression Models

\*\*\*, \*\*, \* denote significance at the .001, .01 and .05 level of confidence respectively

n=1,635	Model U-I		Model U-II		Model U-III	
	One	Two	One	Two	One	Two
<b>Individual-Level Variables</b>						
Age	.989	.984 **	.988	.982 **	.985 *	.979 **
Female	1.680 **	1.488 **	1.630 **	1.520 **	1.776 ***	1.722 ***
Education	1.189 *	1.194 *	1.162	1.289 **	1.205	1.326 **
Being retired	1.357	2.884 ***	1.298	2.854 ***	1.360	2.924 ***
Household income	.905 *	.909 *	.878 **	.855 ***	.905	.907 *
Body Mass Index	1.015	1.033	1.018	1.033	1.027	1.040
<b>Contextual-Level Variables</b>						
Neighborhood safety			1.138	1.393 **	1.134	1.346 **
Neighborhood social networks			1.099	1.688 **	1.125	1.744 ***
View: Busy place			1.043	1.131 *	1.079	1.188 **
View: Physical disorder			.889 *	.856 **	.906	.881 *
View: Social disorder			1.166 *	1.012	1.147 *	1.013
<b>Control Variables</b>						
Density					1.010	1.302 *
Land value					1.036	.899
Public transportation available					.608	.722
Number of cars in household					.768	.657
Satisfaction with parks/playground					1.127 **	1.033
Satisfaction with living here					.936	1.002
Not a good place to walk					.927	.796 **

One: Having walked to a friend or to shop in the past week

Two: Having done both, i.e., walked to visit a friend and to shop in the past week

# Utilitarian Walking Multinomial Logistic Regression Models

\*\*\*, \*\*, \* denote significance at the .001, .01 and .05 level of confidence respectively

n=1,635	Model U-I		Model U-II		Model U-III		Model U-III Reduced	
	One	Two	One	Two	One	Two	One	Two
<b>Individual-Level Variables</b>								
Age	.989	.984 **	.988	.982 **	.985 *	.979 **	.987 *	.982 **
Female	1.680 **	1.488 **	1.630 **	1.520 **	1.776 ***	1.722 ***	1.638 **	1.521 **
Education	1.189 *	1.194 *	1.162	1.289 **	1.205	1.326 **	1.155	1.219 *
Being retired	1.357	2.884 ***	1.298	2.854 ***	1.360	2.924 ***	1.296	2.763 ***
Household income	.905 *	.909 *	.878 **	.855 ***	.905	.907 *	.885 **	.862 ***
Body Mass Index	1.015	1.033	1.018	1.033	1.027	1.040	---	---
<b>Contextual-Level Variables</b>								
Neighborhood safety			1.138	1.393 **	1.134	1.346 **	1.110	1.349 **
Neighborhood social networks			1.099	1.688 **	1.125	1.744 ***	1.114	1.743 ***
View: Busy place			1.043	1.131 *	1.079	1.188 **	1.066	1.178 **
View: Physical disorder			.889 *	.856 **	.906	.881 *	.918	.890 *
View: Social disorder			1.166 *	1.012	1.147 *	1.013	---	---
<b>Control Variables</b>								
Density					1.010	1.302 *	1.042	1.356 **
Land value					1.036	.899	---	---
Public transportation available					.608	.722	---	---
Number of cars in household					.768	.657	---	---
Satisfaction with parks/playground					1.127 **	1.033	1.116 *	1.026
Satisfaction with living here					.936	1.002	---	---
Not a good place to walk					.927	.796 **	.943	.798 **

One: Having walked to a friend or to shop in the past week

Two: Having done both, i.e., walked to visit a friend and to shop in the past week

# Recreational Walking Multinomial Logistic Regression Models

\*\*\*, \*\*, \* denote significance at the .001, .01 and .05 level of confidence respectively

n=1,635

Model U-I

	One	Two
<b>Individual-Level Variables</b>		
Age	1.008	1.000
Female	1.244	.771
Education	<b>1.263 ***</b>	<b>1.566 ***</b>
Being retired	1.123	<b>.368 ***</b>
Household income	<b>1.109 **</b>	1.006
Body Mass Index	1.013	1.008

One: Having walked to a park/playground or to exercise in the past week

Two: Having done both, i.e., walked to a park/playground and to exercise in the past week

# Recreational Walking Multinomial Logistic Regression Models

\*\*\*, \*\*, \* denote significance at the .001, .01 and .05 level of confidence respectively

n=1,635	Model U-I		Model U-II	
	One	Two	One	Two
<b>Individual-Level Variables</b>				
Age	1.008	1.000	1.006	.992
Female	1.244	.771	1.245	.747
Education	<b>1.263 ***</b>	<b>1.566 ***</b>	<b>1.267 ***</b>	<b>1.446 ***</b>
Being retired	1.123	<b>.368 ***</b>	1.122	<b>.337 ***</b>
Household income	<b>1.109 **</b>	1.006	<b>1.080 *</b>	.962
Body Mass Index	1.013	1.008	1.013	1.012
<b>Contextual-Level Variables</b>				
Neighborhood safety			<b>1.285 **</b>	1.192
Neighborhood social networks			1.187	.929
View: Busy place			1.041	.987
View: Physical disorder			<b>.909 *</b>	<b>.774 ***</b>
View: Social disorder			1.010	1.067

One: Having walked to a park/playground or to exercise in the past week

Two: Having done both, i.e., walked to a park/playground and to exercise in the past week



# Recreational Walking Multinomial Logistic Regression Models

\*\*\*, \*\*, \* denote significance at the .001, .01 and .05 level of confidence respectively

n=1,635	Model U-I		Model U-II		Model U-III	
	One	Two	One	Two	One	Two
<b>Individual-Level Variables</b>						
Age	1.008	1.000	1.006	.992	1.002	.988
Female	1.244	.771	1.245	.747	1.219	.768
Education	<b>1.263 ***</b>	<b>1.566 ***</b>	<b>1.267 ***</b>	<b>1.446 ***</b>	<b>1.274 ***</b>	<b>1.476 **</b>
Being retired	1.123	<b>.368 ***</b>	1.122	<b>.337 ***</b>	1.127	<b>.321 ***</b>
Household income	<b>1.109 **</b>	1.006	<b>1.080 *</b>	.962	<b>1.099 *</b>	1.001
Body Mass Index	1.013	1.008	1.013	1.012	1.016	1.018
<b>Contextual-Level Variables</b>						
Neighborhood safety			<b>1.285 **</b>	1.192	<b>1.201 *</b>	1.138
Neighborhood social networks			1.187	.929	1.201	1.060
View: Busy place			1.041	.987	<b>1.114 *</b>	1.055
View: Physical disorder			<b>.909 *</b>	<b>.774 ***</b>	.953	<b>.841 **</b>
View: Social disorder			1.010	1.067	1.023	1.059
<b>Control Variables</b>						
Density					.890	1.322
Land value					.892	1.061
Public transportation available					.789	1.533
Number of cars in household					1.025	<b>.679 *</b>
Satisfaction with parks/playground					<b>1.075 *</b>	1.060
Satisfaction with living here					<b>1.104 *</b>	.919
Not a good place to walk					.897	<b>.577 ***</b>

One: Having walked to a park/playground or to exercise in the past week

Two: Having done both, i.e., walked to a park/playground and to exercise in the past week

# Recreational Walking Multinomial Logistic Regression Models

\*\*\*, \*\*, \* denote significance at the .001, .01 and .05 level of confidence respectively

n=1,635	Model U-I		Model U-II		Model U-III		Model U-III Reduced	
	One	Two	One	Two	One	Two	One	Two
<b>Individual-Level Variables</b>								
Age	1.008	1.000	1.006	.992	1.002	.988	--	--
Female	1.244	.771	1.245	.747	1.219	.768	--	--
Education	<b>1.263 ***</b>	<b>1.566 ***</b>	<b>1.267 ***</b>	<b>1.446 ***</b>	<b>1.274 ***</b>	<b>1.476 **</b>	<b>1.176 **</b>	<b>1.525 ***</b>
Being retired	1.123	<b>.368 ***</b>	1.122	<b>.337 ***</b>	1.127	<b>.321 ***</b>	1.097	<b>.386 ***</b>
Household income	<b>1.109 **</b>	1.006	<b>1.080 *</b>	.962	<b>1.099 *</b>	1.001	<b>1.088 *</b>	1.040
Body Mass Index	1.013	1.008	1.013	1.012	1.016	1.018	--	--
<b>Contextual-Level Variables</b>								
Neighborhood safety			<b>1.285 **</b>	1.192	<b>1.201 *</b>	1.138	<b>1.221 *</b>	1.121
Neighborhood social networks			1.187	.929	1.201	1.060	--	--
View: Busy place			1.041	.987	<b>1.114 *</b>	1.055	<b>1.089 *</b>	1.118
View: Physical disorder			<b>.909 *</b>	<b>.774 ***</b>	.953	<b>.841 **</b>	.953	<b>.833 **</b>
View: Social disorder			1.010	1.067	1.023	1.059	--	--
<b>Control Variables</b>								
Density					.890	1.322	--	--
Land value					.892	1.061	--	--
Public transportation available					.789	1.533	--	--
Number of cars in household					1.025	<b>.679 *</b>	1.040	<b>.671 *</b>
Satisfaction with parks/playground					<b>1.075 *</b>	1.060	--	--
Satisfaction with living here					<b>1.104 *</b>	.919	<b>1.112 *</b>	.923
Not a good place to walk					.897	<b>.577 ***</b>	<b>.867 **</b>	<b>.591 ***</b>

One: Having walked to a park/playground or to exercise in the past week

Two: Having done both, i.e., walked to a park/playground and to exercise in the past week

# Overall Results



## Utilitarian Walking

One	Two
<b>Individual-Level</b>	<b>Individual-Level</b>
Age (-)	Age (-)
Female (+)	Female (+)
Education	Education (+)
Being retired	Being retired (+)
Household income (-)	Household income (-)
Body Mass Index	Body Mass Index
<b>Contextual Variables</b>	<b>Contextual Variables</b>
Neighborhood safety	Neighborhood safety (+)
Neighborhood social networks	Neighborhood social networks (+)
View: Busy place	View: Busy place (+)
View: Physical disorder	View: Physical disorder (-)
View: Social disorder	View: Social disorder
<b>Control Variables</b>	<b>Control Variables</b>
Density	Density (+)
Land value	Land value
Public transportation available	Public transportation available
Number of cars in household	Number of cars in household
Satisfaction with parks/playgr. (+)	Satisfaction with parks/playgrounds
Satisfaction with living here	Satisfaction with living here
Not a good place to walk	Not a good place to walk (-)

## Recreational Walking

One	Two
<b>Individual-Level</b>	<b>Individual-Level</b>
Age	Age
Female	Female
Education (+)	Education (+)
Being retired	Being retired (-)
Household income (+)	Household income
Body Mass Index	Body Mass Index
<b>Contextual Variables</b>	<b>Contextual Variables</b>
Neighborhood safety (+)	Neighborhood safety
Neighborhood social networks	Neighborhood social networks
View: Busy place (+)	View: Busy place
View: Physical disorder	View: Physical disorder (-)
View: Social disorder	View: Social disorder
<b>Control Variables</b>	<b>Control Variables</b>
Density	Density
Land value	Land value
Public transportation available	Public transportation available
Number of cars in household	Number of cars in household (-)
Satisfaction with parks/playgrounds	Satisfaction with parks/playgrounds
Satisfaction with living here (+)	Satisfaction with living here
Not a good place to walk (-)	Not a good place to walk (-)

Statistically significant positive relationship

Statistically significant negative relationship

# Summary Results

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## Utilitarian walking

### Increase odds:

Female

Education

Being retired

Neighborhood safety

Neighborhood social networks

View: Busy place

Residential density

Satisfaction with parks/playgrounds

### Decrease odds:

Age

Household income

View: Physical disorder

Not a good place to walk

## Recreational walking

### Increase odds:

Education

Household income

Neighborhood safety

View: Busy place

Satisfaction with living here

### Decrease odds:

Being retired

View: Physical disorder

Number of cars in household

Not a good place to walk



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**Thank you!**

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