CASOA™

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT SURVEY FOR OLDER ADULTS™

Denver County, CO

Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults

September 2022

Polco NRC

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Section 1: Introduction

About the Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults®

The Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA)® provides a statistically valid survey of the strengths and needs of older adults as reported by older adults themselves. This report is intended to enable local governments, community-based organizations, the private sector and other community members to understand more thoroughly and predict more accurately the services and resources required to serve an aging population. With this data, community stakeholders can shape public policy, educate the public and assist communities and organizations in their efforts to sustain a high quality of life for older adults.

Objectives

- Identify community strengths to support successful aging
- Articulate the specific needs of older adults in the community
- Estimate contributions made by older adults to the community
- Develop estimates and projections of resident need in the future

Methods

- Random sample of older adult households
- Multi-contact method mailed and online survey
- Data statistically weighted to reflect older adult population

Goals

Immediate

Make more informed decisions in:

- Planning
- Resource allocation and development
- Advocacy
- Engagement

Intermediate

Create and offer:

- Programs to meet community needs
- Better-quality programs
- More effective policies

Long-term

Support a community of older adults that is:

- Healthier
- More engaged
- More empowered
- More independent
- More productive
- More vibrant

The results of this exploration will provide useful information for planning and resource development as well as strengths advocacy efforts and stakeholder engagement. The ultimate goal of the assessment is to create empowered communities that support vibrant older adult populations.

This report summarizes how older residents view their community and its success in creating a thriving environment for older adults. Aspects of livability are explored within six community dimensions: Community Design, Employment and Finances, Equity and Inclusivity, Health and Wellness, Information and Assistance, and Productive Activities. Overall community quality also is assessed.

Domain of Community Livability	Description	Community Livability Topics
Overall Community Quality	Measuring community livability starts with assessing the quality of life of those who live there, and ensuring that the community is attractive, accessible, and welcoming to residents of all ages.	• Place to Live and Retire • Recommend and Remain in Community
Community Design	A well-designed community enhances the quality of life for its residents by encouraging smart land use and zoning, ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to all, and providing mobility options to support residents aging in place.	• Housing • Mobility • Land Use
Employment and Finances	Communities that work to foster sustainable growth, create jobs and workforce training for persons of all ages, and promote equitable economies ensure older adults are able to sustain their financial well-being through retirement and not outlive their life investments.	• Employment • Finances
Equity and Inclusivity	A community is often greater than the sum of its parts. Having a sense of community entails not only a sense of membership and belonging, but also feelings of safety and trust in the other members of the community.	• Equity • Community Inclusivity
Health and Wellness	The amenities available in the communities have a direct impact on the health and wellness of residents, and thus, on their quality of life overall.	• Safety • Physical Health • Mental Health • Health Care • Independent Living
Information and Assistance	Government programs, policies and information assistance can support successful aging initiatives allowing older residents to remain independent contributors to community quality.	• Quality of Older Adult Services • Information on Available Older Adult Services
Productive Activities	Productivity is the touchstone of a thriving old age. Older adults' engagement and contribution to the community can be determined by their time spent in civic meetings and social activities or providing help to others.	• Civic Engagement • Social Engagement • Caregiving

Survey Methods

The CASOA survey instrument and its administration are standardized to assure high-quality survey methods and comparable results across communities. Households with an adult member 60 years or older were selected at random. Multiple mailed contacts gave each household more than one prompt to participate. A total of 8,000 older adult households were randomly selected to receive the survey. These households first received a half-page postcard inviting them to complete the survey online, followed by a mailed hard copy survey packet which included a cover letter, a copy of the questionnaire and a postage-paid return envelope. A total of 945 completed surveys was obtained, providing an overall response rate of 12.66% and a margin of error plus or minus 3.19% around any given percent and one point around any given average rating for the entire sample (e.g., average number of caregiving hours). Results were statistically weighted to reflect the proper demographic composition of older adults in the entire community.

In addition to the random sample "probability" survey, an open participation survey was conducted, in which all older adults 60 years or older were invited to participate. The open participation survey instrument was identical to the probability sample survey. This survey was conducted entirely online. A total of 0 surveys were completed by open participation survey respondents. The open participation survey results were combined with responses from the probability sample survey, for a total of 945 completed surveys. With the inclusion of the open participation survey participants, it is likely that the precision of the responses would be even greater (and thus the margin of error smaller).

Results were statistically weighted to reflect the proper demographic composition of older adults in the entire community.

Since this was the fourth implementation of CASOA in Denver County, the current results are presented along with the prior results when available. Differences in responses between the survey administrations were tested for statistical significance, and statistically significant differences are noted in the charts. Trend data represent important comparisons and should be examined for improvements or declines.

For additional details on the survey methodology, see the Methods section.

How the Results Are Reported

Don't Know Responses and Rounding

On many of the questions in the survey, respondents could provide an answer of don't know. The proportion of residents giving this reply can be seen in Responses. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the body of the report, unless otherwise indicated. In other words, the majority of the tables and graphs in the body of the report display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

For some questions, respondents were permitted to select multiple responses. When the total exceeds 100% in a table for a multiple response question, it is because some respondents are counted in multiple categories. When a table for a question that only permitted a single response does not total to exactly 100%, it is due to the customary practice of rounding percentages to the nearest whole number.

Benchmark Comparison Data

National Research Center at Polco has developed a database that collates responses to CASOA and related surveys administered in other communities, which allows the results from Denver County to be compared against a set of national benchmarks. This benchmarking database includes responses from more than 35,000 older adults (age 55 and over) in over 327 communities across the nation.

Ratings are compared when similar questions are included in Polco's database and when there are at least five other communities in which the question was asked. Where comparisons for ratings are available, Denver County's results are shown as more favorable than the benchmark, less favorable than the benchmark or similar to the benchmark. In instances where ratings are considerably more or less

favorable than the benchmark, these ratings have been further demarcated by the attribute of "much" (for example, much more favorable or much less favorable).

Section 2: Key Findings

Background

Most older adults desire to age in place. Communities that assist older adults in remaining or becoming active community participants must provide the requisite opportunities for recreation, transportation, culture, education, communication, social connection, spiritual enrichment and health care.

To better understand the strengths and challenges of Colorado communities aging in place, the Colorado Association of Area Agencies on Aging partnered with Polco to administer The Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA®) across all Area Agencies on Aging across the state. Data in this report focus specifically on older residents in Denver County.

Survey participants rated the overall quality of life in their community. They also evaluated their communities as livable communities for older adults within six domains:

- Community Design
- Employment and Finances
- Equity and Inclusivity
- Health and Wellness
- Information and Assistance
- Productive Activities.

The extent to which older adults experience challenges within these domains is also described.

Overall Community Quality

Measuring community livability for older adults starts with assessing the quality of life of those who live there, and ensuring that the community is attractive, accessible, and welcoming to all. Exploring how older residents view their community overall and how likely they are to recommend and remain in their communities can provide a high-level overview of the quality and livability of the community.

- About 73% of older residents living in the county rated their overall quality of life as excellent or good. Most of the older respondents scored their communities positively as a place to live and would recommend their communities to others. About 73% residents planned to stay in their community throughout their retirement.
- Positive scores were given to their communities as places to retire by 61% of older residents.

Overall Scores of Community Livability

The Community Assessment Survey of Older Adults (CASOA) is designed to examine the status of older adults and the community around many (17) topics of livability within six domains: Community Design, Employment and Finances, Equity and Inclusivity, Health and Wellness, Information and Assistance, and Productive Activities. Summary scores of community livability were created through the aggregation of a series of resident ratings within each of these different livability aspects and domains. Of the 17 aspects of livability examined, the aspects found to be strongest in the county related to areas of Mobility (average positive score of 68%), Social Engagement (65%), and Physical Health (62%). The areas showing the greatest need for improvement related to Housing (23%), Employment (26%) and Information on Available Older Adult Services (29%). More detailed information about each livability domain follows.

Community Design

Livable communities (which include those with mixed-use neighborhoods, higher-density development, increased connections, shared community spaces and more human-scale design) will become a necessity for communities to age successfully. Communities that have planned and been designed for older adults tend to emphasize access, helping to facilitate movement and participation.

- About 62% of respondents rated the overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in their community as excellent or good. In many communities, ease of travel by walking or bicycling is given lower ratings than travel by

car. Here, ease of travel by car was considered excellent or good by 78% of respondents, while ease of travel by walking and bicycling was considered excellent or good by 73% and 68% of respondents, respectively.

- When considering aspects of housing (affordability and variety) and community features of new urbanism (where people can live close to places where they can eat, shop, work, and receive services), relatively lower scores were given by older adults compared to many other items on the survey. Only 17% of respondents gave a positive score to the availability of affordable quality housing in their communities, and only about 49% older adults gave excellent or good ratings to the availability of mixed-use neighborhoods.
- About 41% of older residents in the county reported experiencing housing needs and 25% reported mobility needs.

Employment and Finances

The life expectancy for those born between 1940 and 1960 has increased dramatically due to advances in health care and lifestyle changes. While this is a very positive trend overall, it also highlights both the importance of communities providing employment opportunities for older adults and the need for older adults to plan well for their retirement years.

- About 71% of older residents rated the overall economic health of their communities positively, although the cost of living was rated as excellent or good by only 20%.
- Employment opportunities for older adults (quality and variety) received low ratings (22% and 20% positive, respectively), and the opportunity to build work skills also was found to be lacking (20% excellent or good).
- About 29% older adults reported financial challenges and 19% reported employment needs.

Equity and Inclusion

A community is often greater than the sum of its parts. Having a sense of community entails not only a sense of membership and belonging, but also feelings of equity and trust in the other members of the community.

- About 52% of older residents rated the sense of community in their towns as excellent or good, and neighborliness was rated positively by 52% of residents.
- About 55% of the respondents positively rated their community's openness and acceptance toward older residents of diverse backgrounds, and 45% indicated that their community valued older residents.
- Inclusion challenges were reported by about 25% of older residents and equity challenges by 12%.

Health and Wellness

Of all the attributes of aging, health poses the greatest risk and the biggest opportunity for communities to ensure the independence and contributions of their aging populations. Health and wellness, for the purposes of this study, included not only physical and mental health, but issues of safety, independent living and health care.

- About 78% older residents in the county rated their overall physical health as excellent or good and 87% rated their mental health as excellent or good.
- In most places, opportunities for health and wellness receive higher ratings from older adults than do health care ratings. Here, community opportunities for health and wellness were scored positively by 70% residents, while the percent giving ratings of excellent or good to the availability of physical health care was 48%, to mental health care 32%, and to long term care options 34%.
- Health-related problems were some of the most common challenges listed by older adults in the survey, with 35% reporting physical health challenges and 30% reporting mental health challenges. Health care was also a challenge for about 34% of older residents.

Information and Assistance

The older adult service network, while strong, is under-resourced and unable to single-handedly meet the needs of the continuously growing population of older adults. Providing useful and well-designed programs, as well as informing residents about other assistance resources, is an important way that government agencies can help residents age in place.

- The overall services provided to older adults in the county were rated as excellent or good by 52% of survey respondents.
- About 60% of survey respondents reported being somewhat informed or very informed about services and activities available to older adults. The availability of information about resources for older adults was rated positively by 28% of older residents and the availability of financial or legal planning services was rated positively by 30% of older residents.
- About 42% of older adults were found to have information access challenges in the county.

Productive Activities

Productive activities outside of work (such as volunteerism and social activity) promote quality of life and contribute to active aging. This domain examines the extent of older adults' participation in social and leisure programs and their time spent attending or viewing civic meetings, volunteering or providing help to others.

- About 64% of older adults surveyed felt they had excellent or good opportunities to volunteer, and 48% participated in some kind of volunteer work.
- The caregiving contribution of older adults was substantial in the county. About 29% of older residents reported providing care to individuals 55 and older, 15% to individuals 18-54 and 18% to individuals under 18.
- Older adults in the county reported challenges with being civically engaged 26%, being socially engaged 20% and caregiving 12%.

The Economic Contribution of Older Adults

The contribution older adults make through employment, volunteerism and caregiving was calculated for all older adults living in the county. It is estimated that older residents contribute $2,734,888,899 annually to their community through paid and unpaid work.

Older Resident Needs

Through the survey, more than 40 challenges commonly facing older adults were assessed by respondents. These challenges were grouped into 15 larger categories of needs. In the county, the largest challenges were in the areas of information about older adult services, housing, and physical health. At least 42% of older residents reported at least one item in these categories was a major or moderate problem in the 12 months prior to taking the survey.

Comparison to National Benchmarks

Community Characteristics Benchmarks

To better provide context to the survey data, resident responses for the county were compared to Polco's national benchmark database or older adult opinion. Of the 52 assessments of community livability that were compared to the benchmark database, 46 were similar, 3 above, and 3 below the benchmark comparisons.

The areas in which the county ratings were lower than benchmark comparisons were:

- Overall feeling of safety in your community
- Overall quality of natural environment in your community
- Cost of living in your community

The areas in which the county rating was higher than benchmark comparisons were:

- Ease of travel by public transportation in your community
- Availability of mixed-use neighborhoods where people live close to places where they can eat, shop, work, and receive services

- Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes

Older Adult Challenges Benchmarks

Comparisons to the benchmark database can also be made for the proportion of residents experiencing a variety of challenges. In the county, there was a lower proportion of older adults experiencing challenges for 1 item(s), a greater proportion of older adults experiencing challenges for 2 item(s), and a similar proportion experiencing challenges for 39 item(s).

The challenges for which a **greater** proportion of residents reported a problem compared to benchmarks were:

- Being a victim of crime
- Being treated unfairly or discriminated against because of your age

The challenges for which a **lower** proportion of residents reported a problem compared to benchmarks were:

- Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend

Comparison of Ratings Over Time

Community Characteristics Trends

The COVID-19 pandemic was disruptive to many areas of community livability and resulted in profound impacts on many older adults lives around the world, nation and in communities throughout Colorado. It is important to keep these disruptions in mind while comparing results from 2018 with the present results.

Of the 33 assessments of community livability that could be compared over time (questions that were asked on both the 2018 and current survey instruments), the ratings were similar for 24 items.

The 4 areas where ratings improved since 2018 were:

- Your overall physical health
- Ease of travel by car in your community

- Availability of affordable quality mental health care
- Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds

The 5 areas of community livability that showed a decline in quality ratings from 2018 (most relating to activities and opportunities that were impacted by the pandemic) were:

- Quality of employment opportunities for older adults
- Availability of affordable quality food
- Availability of financial or legal planning services
- Opportunities to participate in community matters
- Opportunities to attend social events or activities

Resident Challenges Trends

Of the 35 potential challenges facing older adults assessed through the survey that were asked in both 2018 and 2022, there were 27 potential challenges for which a similar proportion of residents reported each were a problem in both survey time periods.

The 2 challenges where the proportion of older adults reporting a problem decreased in 2022 compared to 2018 were:

- Your physical health
- Feeling like your voice is heard in the community

The 6 challenges where the proportion of older adults reporting a problem increased in 2022 were:

- Having enough money to pay your property taxes
- Having housing to suit your needs
- Maintaining your home
- Finding work in retirement
- Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community
- Being a victim of fraud or a scam

Section 3: Understanding the Report

Throughout this report, iconography is used to denote trends and benchmarks. While some pages will show the legend, others won't for the sake of space. Keep this page handy for reference.

Trends

Favorably
At least 7 percentage points more favorable than last measure

Similar
No statistically significant difference

Unfavorably
At least 7 percentage points less favorable than last measure

Benchmarks

Much more favorable
At least 20 points more favorable than benchmark

More favorable
10-20 points more favorable than benchmark

Similar
No statistically significant difference

Less favorable
10-20 points less favorable than benchmark

Much less favorable
At least 20 points less favorable than benchmark

Section 4: Community Readiness

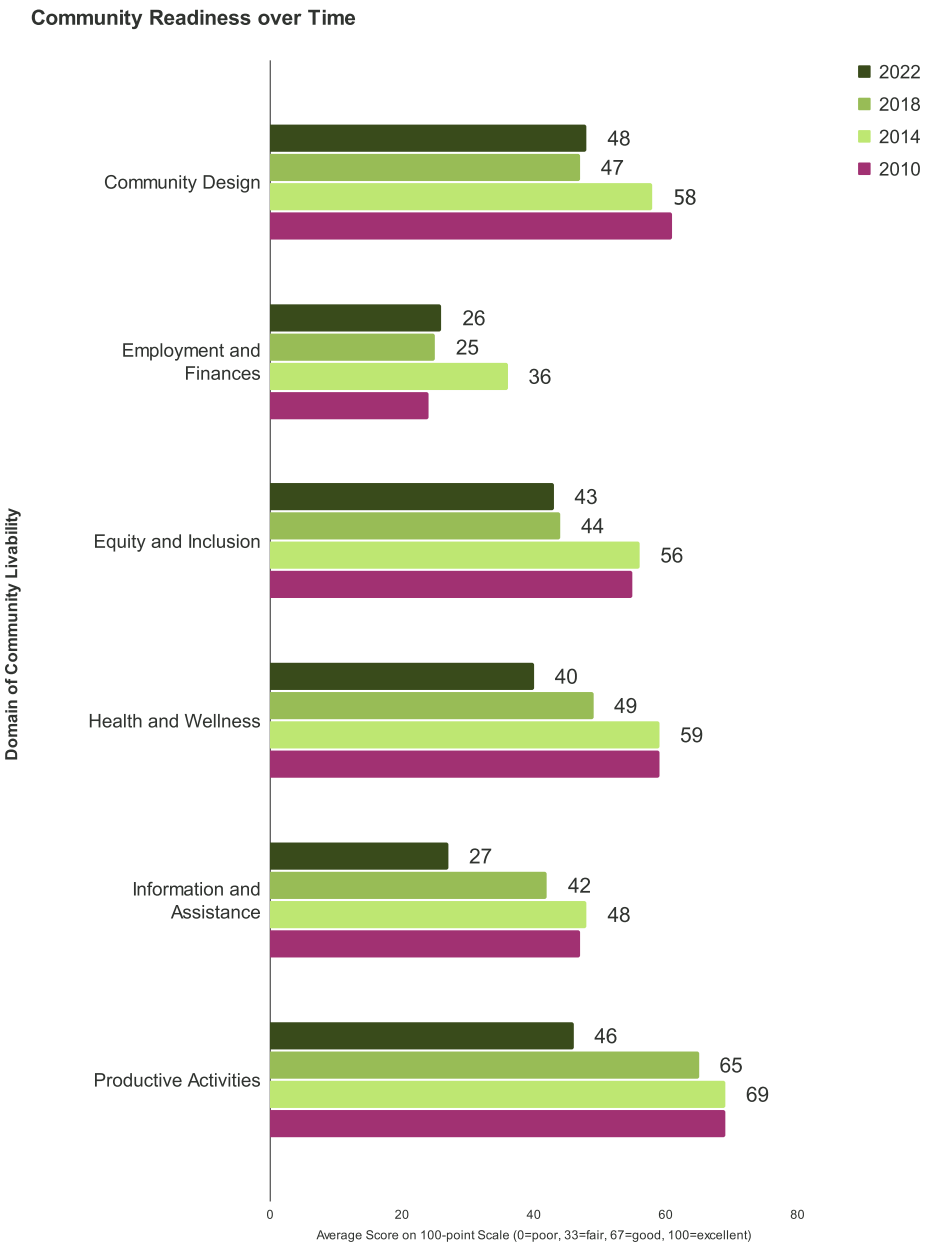
Communities that assist older adults to remain or become active community participants must provide the requisite opportunities for recreation, transportation, culture, education, communication, social connection, spiritual enrichment and health care. Because every community is different, each must identify what its older adults value most and what the community offers its older residents. The judgments of these residents provide the elements used to calculate the overall community quality in Denver County.

Survey respondents were asked to rate a number of aspects of the community. These ratings were converted to an average scale of 0 (the lowest rating, such as poor) to 100 (the highest rating, such as excellent) and then combined to provide one overall rating (index[1]) for each of the six dimensions of Community Readiness, as well as an overall rating of the Quality of the Community. If trend data prior to 2022 are shown, it should be noted that community readiness scores have been updated from previous reports to improve these metrics. Readiness scores for past surveys were recalculated using the new dimensions to make them comparable to the current structure.

Community Readiness Chart

Dimension	Community Livability Topics	Score (out of 100)
Overall Community Quality	• Place to Live and Retire • Recommend and Remain in Community	63
Community Design	• Housing • Mobility • Land Use	48
Employment and Finances	• Employment • Finances	26
Equity and Inclusivity	• Equity • Community Inclusivity	43

Dimension	Community Livability Topics	**Score** (out of 100)
Health and Wellness	• Safety • Physical Health • Mental Health • Health Care • Independent Living	40
Information and Assistance	• Quality of Older Adult Services • Information on Available Older Adult Services	27
Productive Activities	• Civic Engagement • Social Engagement • Caregiving	46



[1]These ratings are not to be understood like ratings from school tests, because they are summaries of several questions that range from 0 as poor, 33 as fair, 67 as good and 100 as excellent. For example, a score of 58 should be interpreted as closer to good than to fair (with the midpoint of the scale, 50, representing equidistance between good and fair).

Section 5: Community livability topics

The Community Assessment Survey of Older Adults (CASOA) is designed to examine the status of older adults and the community around many (17) aspects of livability within six domains: Community Design, Employment and Finances, Equity and Inclusivity, Health and Wellness, Information and Assistance, and Productive Activities. Overall community quality also is assessed with two topics. (See **Introduction** section *About the Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults* for an overview of all the community livability topics within these domains.) For each of these 19 community livability topic areas, survey questions evaluated the community's ability to accommodate the needs of older residents, as well as the actual experiences and challenges of older adults.

To summarize the data, an index score was calculated for each aspect of livability by averaging the ratings given to the questions related to the specific community livability topic. (This index includes only the ratings of community amenities, not those items related to the respondents' own status or the challenges faced by the respondent.)

Certain trends unavailable

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have prior measurements for certain topics, those topics don't have trend values. All topics will have trends after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Overall Community Quality

Place to Live and Retire
74 / 100

Recommend and Remain in Community
70 / 100 →

Community Design

Housing
23 / 100

Land Use
61 / 100

Mobility
68 / 100

Employment and Finances

Employment
26 / 100

Finances
45 / 100

Equity and Inclusivity

Community Inclusivity
52 / 100

Equity
50 / 100 →

Health and Wellness

Health Care
55 / 100 →

Independent Living
31 / 100 →

Mental Health
32 / 100 ↗

Physical Health
62 / 100

Safety
53 / 100 →

Information and Assistance

Information on Available Older Adult Services
29 / 100 ↘

Quality of Older Adult Services
52 / 100 →

Productive Activities

Caregiving

Scoring not applicable

Civic Engagement

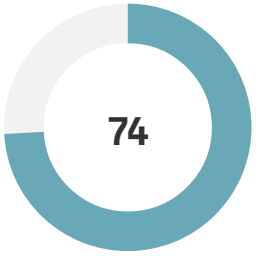
55 / 100

Social Engagement

65 / 100

Section 6A: Place to Live and Retire

Successful aging communities are attractive and welcoming to older adults and provide the support necessary for residents to age in place.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

Livability score trend unavailable.

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have a prior livability score, trends for livability aren't available. Trends will be available after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Related survey results

Items on the survey related to this topic are shown below. These tables display the ratings given by respondents, as well as a comparison to the national benchmark (average ratings from communities across the nation) and, if available, comparisons to ratings from the most recently implemented survey.

Certain trends unavailable

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have any prior measurements for certain characteristics, those characteristics don't have trend values. All characteristics will have trends after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Your community as a place to live	81%	→	–
Your neighborhood as a place to live	79%	N/A	–
The overall quality of life in your community	73%	N/A	–
Your community as a place to retire	61%	→	–

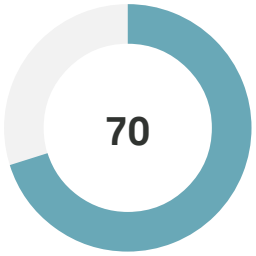
Status Indicators - Personal Quality of Life

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Your overall quality of life	86%	→	–

Section 6B: Recommend and Remain in Community

A strong testament to the quality of a community is the likelihood of residents recommending and remaining in the community. Generally, residents will not recommend a community to friends unless they believe that community is offering the right amenities and services. Furthermore, communities that do a good job supporting seniors allow their residents to remain throughout their retirement years.



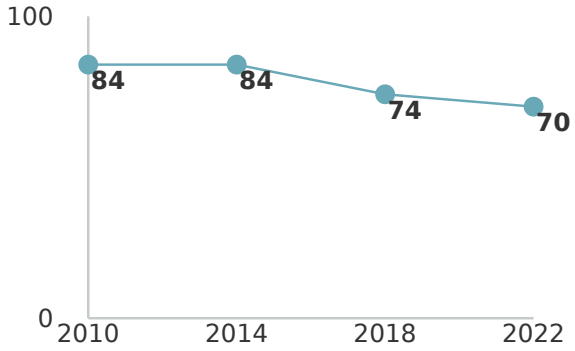
Livability score

Average of community quality items

→ Trending similar*

* Only applies to last two measurements

Livability score over time



Related survey results

Items on the survey related to this topic are shown below. These tables display the ratings given by respondents, as well as a comparison to the national benchmark (average ratings from communities across the nation) and, if available, comparisons to ratings from the most recently implemented survey.

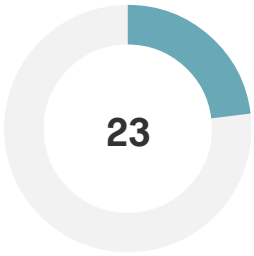
Quality of Community

Percent reporting *very likely* or *somewhat likely*.

Characteristic	% likely	Trend	National Benchmark
Remain in your community throughout your retirement	73%	→	–
Recommend living in your community to older adults	67%	→	⌄

Section 7A: Housing

Most older adults want to age in place; however, many do not have homes that feature universal design allowing access for walkers and wheelchairs and providing safety for those who are frail or experiencing mobility impairments. Ensuring the availability of housing stock that is both affordable and suitable for seniors is necessary as a community's population ages.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

Livability score trend unavailable.

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have a prior livability score, trends for livability aren't available. Trends will be available after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Related survey results

Items on the survey related to this topic are shown below. These tables display the ratings given by respondents, as well as a comparison to the national benchmark (average ratings from communities across the nation) and, if available, comparisons to ratings from the most recently implemented survey.

Certain trends unavailable

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have any prior measurements for certain characteristics, those characteristics don't have trend values. All characteristics will have trends after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Maintaining your home	56%	↘	–
Doing heavy or intense housework	56%	→	–
Maintaining your yard	46%	→	–
Having housing to suit your needs	32%	↘	–

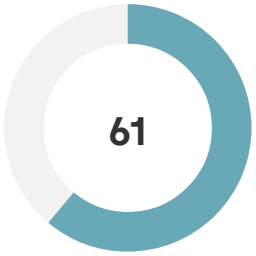
Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Availability of accessible housing (e.g., homes with a no step entry, single-floor living, wide hallways and doorways)	29%	N/A	–
Variety of housing options	26%	→	–
Availability of affordable quality housing	17%	→	–

Section 7B: Land Use

The movement in America towards designing more livable communities (which include mixed-use neighborhoods, higher-density development, increased connections, shared community spaces and more human-scale design) will become a necessity for communities to age successfully. Communities that have planned and been designed for older adults tend to emphasize access, helping to facilitate movement and participation.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

Livability score trend unavailable.

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have a prior livability score, trends for livability aren't available. Trends will be available after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Related survey results

Items on the survey related to this topic are shown below. These tables display the ratings given by respondents, as well as a comparison to the national benchmark (average ratings from communities across the nation) and, if available, comparisons to ratings from the most recently implemented survey.

Trends unavailable

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have any prior measurements, these trends aren't available. Trends will be available after this survey has been conducted a second time.

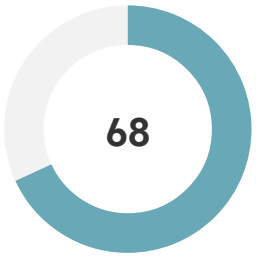
Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	National Benchmark
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in your community (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	73%	–
Overall design or layout of your community's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	70%	–
Public places where people want to spend time	52%	–
Availability of mixed-use neighborhoods where people live close to places where they can eat, shop, work, and receive services	49%	^

Section 7C: Mobility

The ease with which older residents can move about their communities, whether for commuting, leisure, or recreation, plays a major role in the quality of life for all who live, work, and play in the community. Those who reside in livable communities where they can reach their destinations easily and comfortably by auto, on foot or in public transportation are more likely to remain engaged in their communities and to demonstrate signs of successful aging. Residents that must give up driving are more likely to be able to age in place if other modes of transportation are easily accessed in their neighborhood and community.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

Livability score trend unavailable.

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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Having safe and affordable transportation available	36%	→	–
No longer being able to drive	20%	→	–

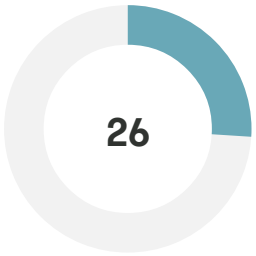
Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Ease of travel by car in your community	78%	↗	–
Ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	77%	N/A	–
Ease of walking in your community	73%	→	–
Ease of bicycling in your community	68%	N/A	–
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in your community	62%	N/A	–
Ease of travel by public transportation in your community	49%	→	^

Section 8A: Employment

People in the U.S. are working longer and retiring at an older age than they have in the past. Older adults are postponing retirement for a variety of reasons: improved health, the desire to accumulate additional wealth and/or benefit from delayed pension plans, and because the information age–based economy is less physically demanding than jobs from the industrial age. Older workers are an untapped resource for many communities seeking economic stability and growth.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

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Certain benchmarks unavailable

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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Building skills for paid or unpaid work	39%	→	–
Finding work in retirement	37%	↘	–

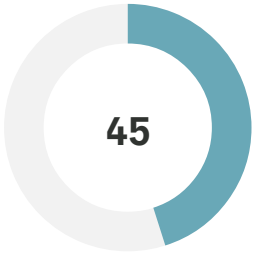
Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Opportunities to build work skills	37%	N/A	–
Quality of employment opportunities for older adults	22%	↘	–
Variety of employment opportunities for older adults	20%	N/A	–

Section 8B: Finances

With longer life spans, the importance of financial well-being in old age has increased dramatically. Financial independence and the ability to economically contribute to a community have become critical factors in enhancing the quality of life of older adults.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Having enough money to meet daily expenses	41%	→	–
Having enough money to pay your property taxes	33%	↘	–

Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Overall economic health of your community	71%	N/A	–
Cost of living in your community	20%	→	⌄

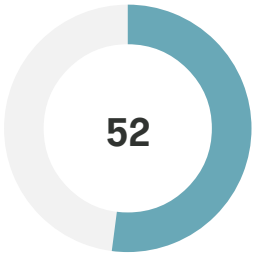
Status Indicators - Household Financial Status

Percent reporting *very positive* or *somewhat positive*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	17%	N/A	–

Section 9A: Community Inclusivity

Inclusivity refers to a cultural and environmental feeling of belonging. Creating places in which any individual or group can be and feel welcomed, respected, supported, and valued increases the overall livability of communities.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

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Certain benchmarks unavailable

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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Feeling lonely or isolated	39%	→	–
Feeling like you don't fit in or belong	33%	N/A	–
Having friends or family you can rely on	33%	→	–

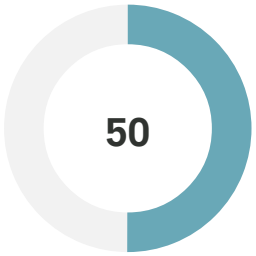
Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Neighborliness of your community	52%	→	–
Sense of community in your community	52%	→	–
Making all residents feel welcome	50%	N/A	–

Section 9B: Equity

Opportunities for health, income, housing and other life circumstances are often disproportionate. Strong communities work to decrease inequalities so that all residents can successfully age in place.



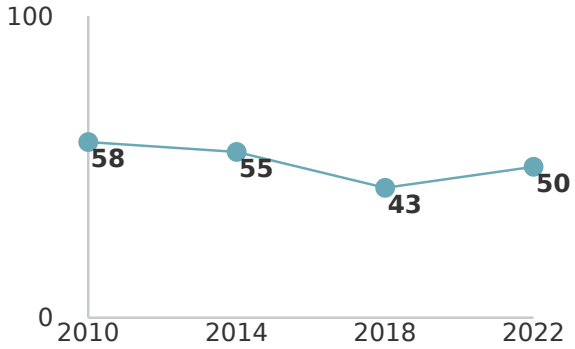
Livability score

Average of community quality items

→ Trending similar*

* Only applies to last two measurements

Livability score over time



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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Being treated unfairly or discriminated against because of your age	31%	N/A	⌄

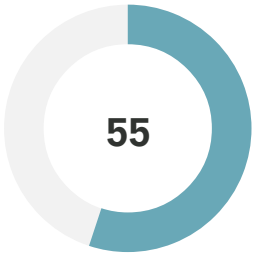
Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds	55%	↗	–
Valuing older residents in your community	45%	→	–

Section 10A: Health Care

Poor health does not need to be an inevitable consequence of aging. Adoptions of healthy lifestyles and the use of preventive services will reduce the risk of morbidity and increase healthy longevity of older residents.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

→ Trending similar*

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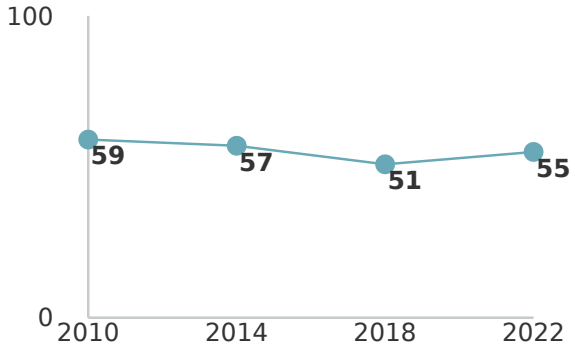
Livability score over time



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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Getting the oral health care you need	35%	→	–
Finding affordable health insurance	35%	→	–
Getting the health care you need	33%	→	–
Getting the vision care you need	31%	→	–
Affording the medications you need	30%	→	–

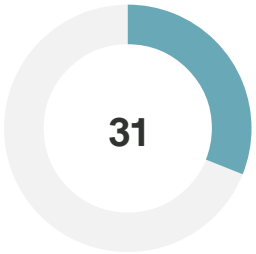
Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops)	61%	→	–
Availability of affordable quality physical health care	48%	→	–

Section 10B: Independent Living

If the community cannot help maintain the independence of residents who experience the decline in health that often accompanies aging, the potential contribution of older residents will be lost to hospitals and nursing homes.



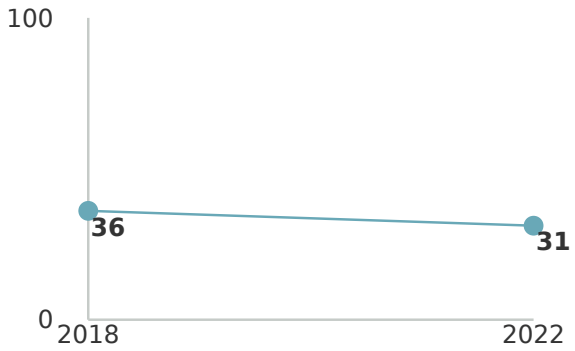
Livability score

Average of community quality items

→ Trending similar*

* Only applies to last two measurements

Livability score over time



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Certain trends unavailable

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Average Number of Hours Providing Care

Average number of hours spent per respondent in a typical week

Characteristic	Average # of Hours	National Benchmark
Receiving assistance, paid or unpaid (e.g., with shopping, cooking, etc.)	0.8	–

Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals	26%	N/A	–

Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Availability of long-term care options	34%	→	–
Availability of daytime care options for older adults	26%	→	–

Status Indicators - Activities

Percent reporting *1 to 3 hours*, *4 to 5 hours*, *6 to 10 hours*, *11 to 19 hours* or *20 or more hours*.

Characteristic	% of respondents	Trend	National Benchmark
Receiving assistance, paid or unpaid (e.g., with shopping, cooking, etc.)	13%	N/A	–

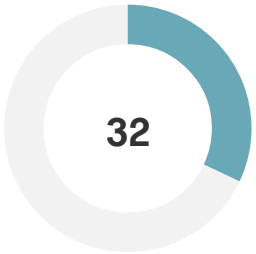
Status Indicators - Long-term Care Admissions

Percent reporting *1-2 days*, *3-5 days* or *6 or more days*.

Characteristic	% of respondents	Trend	National Benchmark
In a long-term care facility (including nursing home or in-patient rehabilitation facility)	3%	→	–

Section 10C: Mental Health

Mental health plays a vital role in the well-being of residents. Depression, isolation, anxiety and memory loss can have a direct and profound effect on older adults' quality of life.



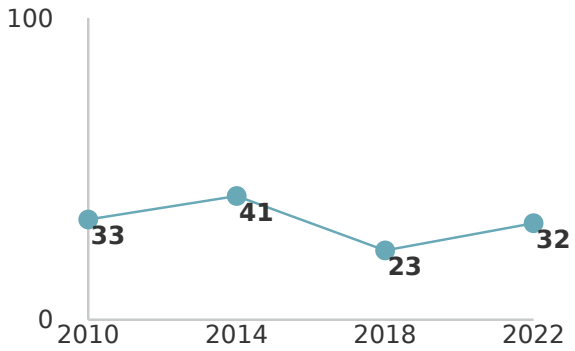
Livability score

Average of community quality items

↗ Trending favorably*

* Only applies to last two measurements

Livability score over time



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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend	43%	→	–
Feeling depressed	42%	→	–
Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness	33%	→	–

Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	32%	↗	–

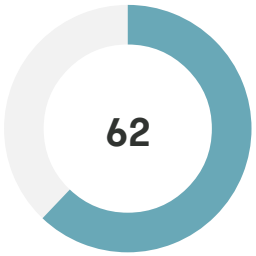
Status Indicators - Personal Health Status

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Your overall mental health/emotional wellbeing	87%	→	–

Section 10D: Physical Health

Of all the attributes of aging, health poses the greatest risk and the biggest opportunity. When good health can be sustained, the individuals benefit by living a life of better quality, friends and family benefit from reduced caregiving burdens, and the community benefits by harnessing the power of older adults' contributions.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Your physical health	50%	↗	–
Staying physically fit	49%	→	–
Maintaining a healthy diet	40%	→	–
Falling or injuring yourself in your home	31%	→	–
Having enough food to eat	17%	→	–

Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Overall health and wellness opportunities in your community	70%	N/A	–
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	68%	→	–
Overall quality of natural environment in your community	63%	N/A	˅
Availability of affordable quality food	49%	↘	–

Status Indicators - Falls

Percent reporting *1 to 2 times*, *3 to 5 times* or *more than 5 times*.

Characteristic	% of respondents	Trend	National Benchmark
Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many times have you fallen and injured yourself?	35%	↘	–

Status Indicators - Hospitalizations

Percent reporting *1-2 days*, *3-5 days* or *6 or more days*.

Characteristic	% of respondents	Trend	National Benchmark
As a patient in a hospital	21%	→	–

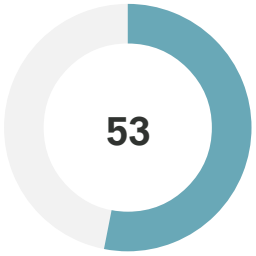
Status Indicators - Personal Health Status

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Your overall physical health	78%	↗	–

Section 10E: Safety

Safety is one of the most essential components of community livability. The extent to which older residents feel safe from crime and other adverse events can strengthen their feelings of comfort and trust and impact their ability to live independently.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

→ Trending similar*

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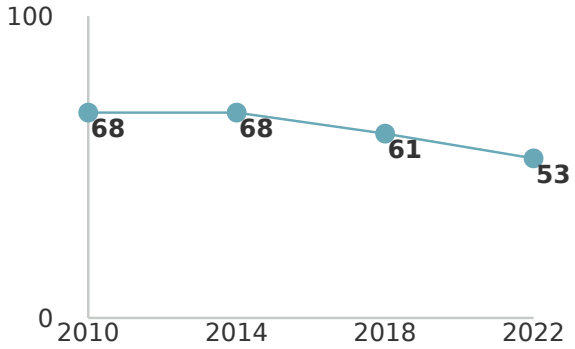
Livability score over time



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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Being a victim of fraud or a scam	28%	↘	–
Being a victim of crime	26%	→	⌄
Being physically or emotionally abused	7%	→	–

Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Overall feeling of safety in your community	53%	→	⌄

Section 11A: Information on Available Older Adult Services

Sometimes residents of any age fail to take advantage of services offered by a community solely because they are not aware of the opportunities that exist. Educating a large community of older adults is not simple, but raising awareness about attractive, useful and well-designed programs will lead more residents to benefit from becoming participants.

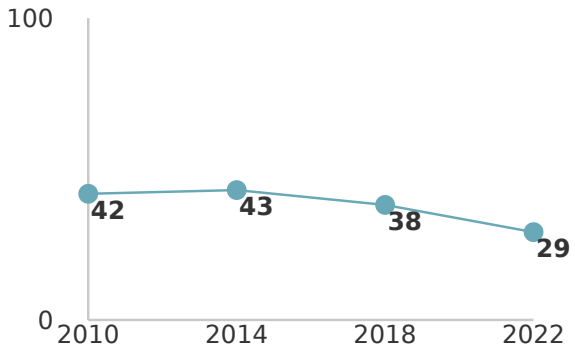
Livability score

Average of community quality items

↘ Trending unfavorably*

* Only applies to last two measurements

Livability score over time



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Certain benchmarks unavailable

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Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community	71%	↘	–
Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid	52%	→	–

Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Availability of financial or legal planning services	30%	↘	–
Availability of information about resources for older adults	28%	→	–

Status Indicators - Informed about Services

Percent reporting *very informed* or *somewhat informed*.

Characteristic	% informed	Trend	National Benchmark
In general, how informed or uninformed do you feel about services and activities available to older adults in your community?	60%	↗	N/A

Status Indicators - Use of Technology

Percent reporting *several times a day*, *once a day* or *a few times a week*.

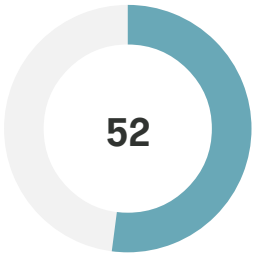
Characteristic	% of respondents	Trend	National Benchmark
Use or check email	93%	N/A	–
Access the internet from your home using a computer, laptop, or tablet computer	88%	N/A	–
Access the internet from your cell phone	82%	N/A	–
Visit social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc.	58%	N/A	–
Shop online	34%	N/A	–
Share your opinions online	23%	N/A	–

Percent reporting *yes*.

Characteristic	% yes	Trend	National Benchmark
I have high-speed internet/broadband at home	90%	N/A	–

Section 11B: Quality of Older Adult Services

Strong local governments play a major role in producing communities that meet the needs of older residents while making the best use of available resources. Providing services that are responsive to the present and future needs of the older community is an important responsibility and a vital component of livable communities.



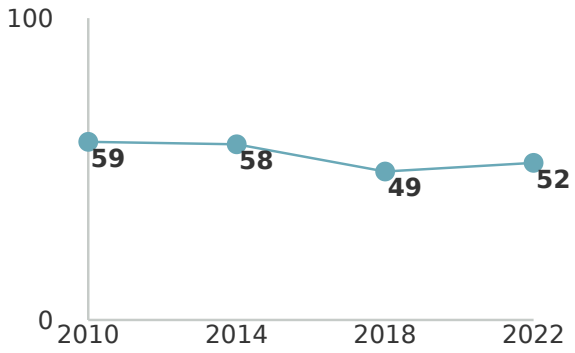
Livability score

Average of community quality items

→ Trending similar*

* Only applies to last two measurements

Livability score over time



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Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?	52%	→	–

Section 12A: Caregiving

According to the Centers for Disease Control, about 2 in 5 adults 65 years and older have a disabling condition that affects their ability to live independently[1]. Those who provide care to a loved one or friend with such a condition often feel a sense of contribution and personal worth despite the physical, emotional and financial burden such care can produce. While such caregiving is most often provided by family members and is unpaid, AARP researchers estimate the value of the care as $470 billion annually. A caregiving crunch is predicted in the future, where the average American will spend more years caring for their parents than for their own children[2].

[1] Prevalence of Disabilities and Health Care Access by Disability Status and Type Among Adults — United States, 2016
[2] AARP Family Caregiver Contribution study

Livability scoring is not applicable.
Because data for this topic are informational and not evaluative, no livability score is calculated.

Related survey results

Items on the survey related to this topic are shown below. These tables display the ratings given by respondents, as well as a comparison to the national benchmark (average ratings from communities across the nation) and, if available, comparisons to ratings from the most recently implemented survey.

Average Number of Hours Providing Care

Average number of hours spent per respondent in a typical week

Characteristic	Average # of Hours	Previous Measurement	National Benchmark
Providing care to someone age 55+	3	2.2	–
Providing care someone under age 18	1.5	2	–
Providing care to someone age 18 to 54	1.1	0.6	–

Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Feeling EMOTIONALLY burdened by providing care for another person	20%	→	–
Feeling FINANCIALLY burdened by providing care for another person	18%	→	–
Feeling PHYSICALLY burdened by providing care for another person	16%	→	–

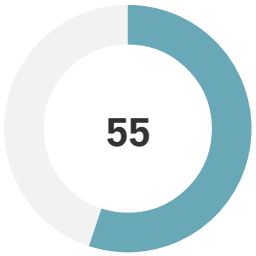
Status Indicators - Activities

Percent reporting *1 to 3 hours*, *4 to 5 hours*, *6 to 10 hours*, *11 to 19 hours* or *20 or more hours*.

Characteristic	% of respondents	Trend	National Benchmark
Providing care to someone age 55+	29%	→	–
Providing care someone under age 18	18%	→	–
Providing care to someone age 18 to 54	15%	→	–

Section 12B: Civic Engagement

In communities where residents care about local politics and social conditions, where they feel engaged and effective, there tends to be greater social, economic and cultural prosperity. Civic activity of any kind, such as volunteering, participating in political groups or being active in community decision-making, benefits both communities and seniors themselves.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

Livability score trend unavailable.

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have a prior livability score, trends for livability aren't available. Trends will be available after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Related survey results

Items on the survey related to this topic are shown below. These tables display the ratings given by respondents, as well as a comparison to the national benchmark (average ratings from communities across the nation) and, if available, comparisons to ratings from the most recently implemented survey.

Certain trends unavailable

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have any prior measurements for certain characteristics, those characteristics don't have trend values. All characteristics will have trends after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Average Number of Hours Providing Care

Average number of hours spent per respondent in a typical week

Characteristic	Average # of Hours	Previous Measurement	National Benchmark
Volunteering your time	2.5	1.3	–

Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Feeling like your voice is heard in the community	45%	↗	–
Finding productive or meaningful activities to do	34%	N/A	–
Finding meaningful volunteer work	25%	N/A	–

Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Opportunities to volunteer	64%	→	–
Opportunities to participate in community matters	53%	↘	–
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	49%	N/A	–

Status Indicators - Activities

Percent reporting *1 to 3 hours*, *4 to 5 hours*, *6 to 10 hours*, *11 to 19 hours* or *20 or more hours*.

Characteristic	% of respondents	Trend	National Benchmark
Volunteering your time	48%	↗	–

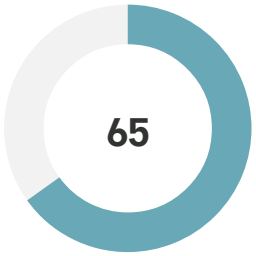
Status Indicators - Participation

Percent reporting *yes*.

Characteristic	% yes	Trend	National Benchmark
Voted in your most recent local election	91%	N/A	–
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting	34%	→	–
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like City Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.)	25%	→	–
Participated in a civic group (including Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.)	12%	→	–

Section 12C: Social Engagement

It is well documented that social support also has many mental and physical health benefits. Extensive opportunities for recreation, the arts and social interaction make a community more attractive, especially to older adults.



Livability score

Average of community quality items

Livability score trend unavailable.

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have a prior livability score, trends for livability aren't available. Trends will be available after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Related survey results

Items on the survey related to this topic are shown below. These tables display the ratings given by respondents, as well as a comparison to the national benchmark (average ratings from communities across the nation) and, if available, comparisons to ratings from the most recently implemented survey.

Certain trends unavailable

Because Denver County, CO doesn't have any prior measurements for certain characteristics, those characteristics don't have trend values. All characteristics will have trends after this survey has been conducted a second time.

Average Number of Hours Providing Care

Average number of hours spent per respondent in a typical week

Characteristic	Average # of Hours	Previous Measurement	National Benchmark
Talking or visiting with friends/family	6.2	5.6	–
Assisting friends, relatives, or neighbors	3.7	2.7	–

Potential Problems

Percent reporting *minor problem*, *moderate problem* or *major problem*.

Characteristic	% problematic	Trend	National Benchmark
Feeling bored	41%	→	–
Having interesting social events or activities to attend	39%	N/A	–
Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend	33%	N/A	^

Quality of Community

Percent reporting *excellent* or *good*.

Characteristic	% positive	Trend	National Benchmark
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	75%	N/A	–
Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities	72%	→	–
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	66%	N/A	–
Recreation opportunities (including games, arts, library services, etc.)	65%	→	–
Opportunities to attend social events or activities	54%	↘	–
Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes	47%	→	^

Status Indicators - Activities

Percent reporting *1 to 3 hours*, *4 to 5 hours*, *6 to 10 hours*, *11 to 19 hours* or *20 or more hours*.

Characteristic	% of respondents	Trend	National Benchmark
Talking or visiting with friends/family	94%	→	–
Assisting friends, relatives, or neighbors	79%	→	–

Status Indicators - Participation

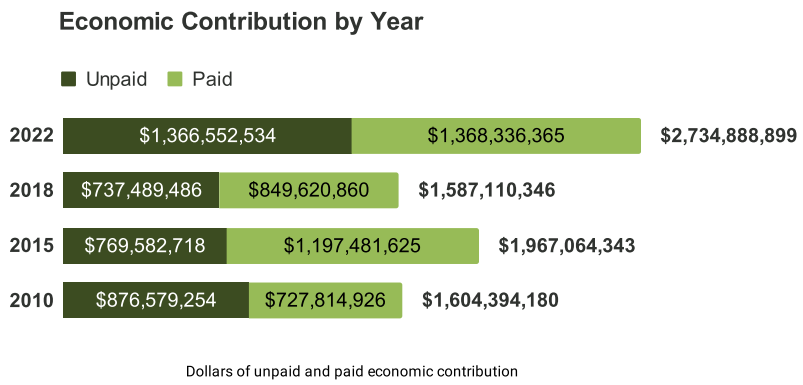
Percent reporting *yes*.

Characteristic	% yes	Trend	National Benchmark
Used a public library in your community	58%	→	–
Participated in religious or spiritual activities with others	39%	→	–
Used a recreation center in your community	37%	→	–
Participated in a club (including book, dance, game, and other social)	34%	→	–
Participated in a recreation program or group activity	33%	↘	–
Used a senior center in your community	16%	→	–

Section 13: Economic Contribution

Productive behavior is “any activity, paid or unpaid, that generates goods or services of economic value.”[1] Productive activities include many types of paid and unpaid work, as well as services provided to friends, family or neighbors. Older adults make significant contributions (paid and unpaid) to the communities in which they live. In addition to their paid work, older adults contribute to the economy through volunteering, providing informal help to family and friends, and caregiving.

Economic Contribution of Older Adults in Denver County



The calculations of the economic contributions of older adults in Denver County were rough estimates using data from the U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics (Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Area Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates).

Economic Contribution of Older Adults

	% of older adults	# of older adults*	Average # of hours**	Average hourly rate***	Annual total
Providing care to older adult(s)	29%	33,962	11.83	$14.62	$305,463,479

Providing care to adult(s)	16%	18,399	8.18	$14.62	$114,386,798
Providing care to child(ren)	18%	20,982	9.62	$15.28	$160,449,616
Providing help to family and friends	79%	92,582	4.99	$17.48	$419,503,867
Volunteering	49%	57,516	5.51	$22.26	$366,748,773
Subtotal unpaid					**$1,366,552,534**
Working part time	14%	16,983	15	$31.19	$413,165,821
Working full time	16%	18,404	32	$31.19	$955,170,545
Subtotal paid					**$1,368,336,365**
Total contribution					**$2,734,888,899**

[1]Rowe JW, Kahn RL. Successful Aging. New York: Pantheon Books; 1998.

* Based on U.S. Census Bureau - 2019 American Community Survey; about 117,282 adults age 60 and over in the state.

** Respondents were asked to select a range of hours. The average number of hours was calculated from the mid-point of the response scale. For example, a response of 1 to 3 hours equated to 2 hours and a response of never was assumed to be zero hours. In cases where the respondent chose a response that indicated 11 or more hours or 20 or more hours, the number of hours was calculated as 125% of 11 and 125% of 20 (i.e., 13.75 and 25 respectively). Working full time was assumed to be 32 hours per week and working part time was assumed to be 15 hours per week.

*** The economic value of an hour worked was assumed to be the same as the average hourly wage as calculated by the Bureau of Labor statistics for similar types of work in undefined. Providing care for older adults and adults was assumed to be the equivalent of “Personal and Home Care Aides.” Providing care for children was assumed to be the equivalent of “Child Care Workers.” Providing help to family and friends was assumed to be the equivalent of “Personal Care and Service Occupations.” Volunteering was assumed to be the equivalent of “Office Clerks, General.” Working full time and part time was assumed to be the equivalent of “All Occupations.”

Section 14: Community Needs

The individual survey questions about specific problems faced by older community members were summarized into the 17 larger categories to provide a broad picture of older resident needs in Denver County. The figure below shows the percent of respondents who reported that one or more items within each of these 17 areas was a major or moderate problem. (See Methods for more information on the items included in each area.)

Typically, it is understood that the self-reported needs of older adults represent a minimum level, a conservative estimate attenuated by respondents' strong desire to feel and appear self-reliant and further reduced by the silent voice of some older adults who, no matter how sensitive the attempt, are too frail to participate in any survey enterprise.

Percent and Estimated Number of Older Adults With a Need

	Percent with need	Number affected (N=117,282)*
Housing	41%	48,571
Mobility	25%	29,155
Employment	19%	22,328
Finances	29%	34,010
Equity	12%	14,501
Community Inclusivity	25%	28,774
Safety	18%	21,194
Physical Health	35%	41,040
Mental Health	30%	35,398
Health Care	34%	39,450
Independent Living	11%	12,611
Information on Available Older Adult Services	42%	48,715

	Percent with need	Number affected (N=117,282)*
Housing	41%	48,571
Mobility	25%	29,155
Civic Engagement	26%	30,518
Social Engagement	20%	23,974
Caregiving	12%	13,805

Populations at Higher Risk

As people age, many learn to take better care of themselves, to plan for retirement and, generally, to move more deliberately. Aging builds wisdom but can sap resources — physical, emotional and financial. Even those blessed by good luck or prescient enough to plan comprehensively for the best future may find themselves with unanticipated needs or with physical, emotional or financial strengths that could endure only with help. Some people age better than others, and aging well requires certain strengths that are inherent and others that can be supported by assistance from the private sector and government.

The tables below show the reported needs within each category of livability of Denver County's older adult population, by demographic subgroup. This information can help identify which groups are at higher risk in the community and account for sociodemographic disparities when addressing these needs.

Percent Needs of Older Population by Sociodemographic Characteristics, (117,282)*

The sociodemographic characteristics examined included Gender, Age, Race, Ethnicity, Annual Household Income, Housing Tenure (Rent or Own), and Household Composition (Lives alone or Lives with others)

	Housing	Mobility	Employment	Finances	Equity
Female	47%	24%	17%	31%	11%
Male	35%	26%	21%	27%	14%

60 to 64 years	54%	31%	28%	43%	20%
65 to 74 years	34%	21%	19%	28%	10%
75 or over	39%	25%	9%	17%	7%
White	37%	24%	14%	24%	11%
Not white	57%	30%	37%	46%	18%
Hispanic	50%	40%	27%	44%	18%
Not Hispanic	40%	22%	17%	26%	11%
Less than $25,000	58%	37%	39%	63%	16%
$25,000 to $74,999	48%	26%	21%	35%	17%
$75,000 or more	39%	25%	9%	17%	7%
Rent	59%	35%	31%	48%	20%
Own	33%	20%	13%	20%	9%
Lives alone	47%	27%	21%	36%	15%
Lives with others	37%	23%	17%	23%	10%
Overall	41%	25%	19%	29%	12%

	Community Inclusivity	Safety	Physical Health	Mental Health	Health Care	Independent Living
Female	25%	20%	35%	33%	34%	10%
Male	24%	16%	34%	27%	33%	11%
60 to 64 years	33%	20%	44%	38%	56%	15%

65 to 74 years	21%	18%	28%	26%	27%	7%
75 or over	21%	17%	37%	29%	21%	12%
White	24%	16%	30%	27%	30%	9%
Not white	28%	24%	52%	42%	46%	16%
Hispanic	29%	27%	43%	40%	45%	19%
Not Hispanic	24%	16%	33%	28%	31%	9%
Less than $25,000	44%	23%	47%	39%	38%	13%
$25,000 to $74,999	27%	21%	42%	36%	41%	14%
$75,000 or more	21%	17%	37%	29%	21%	12%
Rent	36%	23%	51%	41%	45%	17%
Own	19%	16%	28%	25%	29%	8%
Lives alone	35%	18%	38%	36%	33%	12%
Lives with others	16%	18%	32%	25%	35%	10%
Overall	25%	18%	35%	30%	34%	11%

	Information on Available Older Adult Services	**Civic Engagement**	**Social Engagement**	**Caregiving**
Female	42%	25%	21%	13%
Male	41%	27%	19%	10%

	Information on Available Older Adult Services	Civic Engagement	Social Engagement	Caregiving
60 to 64 years	56%	35%	29%	17%
65 to 74 years	38%	22%	18%	11%
75 or over	32%	23%	16%	8%
White	39%	24%	18%	12%
Not white	50%	32%	28%	13%
Hispanic	62%	25%	21%	20%
Not Hispanic	37%	26%	20%	10%
Less than $25,000	46%	37%	35%	6%
$25,000 to $74,999	46%	25%	22%	14%
$75,000 or more	32%	23%	16%	8%
Rent	48%	31%	27%	12%
Own	39%	24%	17%	12%
Lives alone	41%	28%	25%	8%
Lives with others	42%	25%	17%	15%
Overall	42%	26%	20%	12%

* Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Section 15: Full Results (with No Opinion)

These results include all questions. The results include the percentage that responded for each answer choice and the number of responses. If the choices included a choice with no opinion (like don't know or not applicable), they will be shown in this section. The following section shows the results with no opinion choices.

1. In which category is your age?

Answer Choice	Percent
50-54 years	0% (0)
55-59 years	0% (0)
60-64 years	28% (264)
65-69 years	22% (208)
70-74 years	22% (204)
75-79 years	13% (125)
80-84 years	9% (83)
85-89 years	4% (39)
90-94 years	2% (15)
95 years or older	1% (6)

2. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in your community.

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know
Your community as a place to live	26% (248)	54% (505)	16% (152)	3% (27)	0% (5)
Your neighborhood as a place to live	32% (293)	47% (435)	18% (162)	3% (27)	0% (4)
Your community as a place to retire	18% (168)	40% (367)	26% (237)	12% (111)	4% (34)
Sense of community in your community	15% (134)	36% (330)	35% (323)	12% (107)	3% (32)
The overall quality of life in your community	22% (202)	50% (457)	24% (221)	3% (26)	1% (12)

3. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to your community as a whole.

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know
Overall economic health of your community	15% (143)	52% (490)	25% (235)	2% (23)	5% (45)
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in your community	19% (175)	42% (389)	28% (257)	9% (86)	2% (22)
Overall design or layout of your community's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	19% (177)	51% (477)	24% (222)	6% (54)	1% (8)
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in your community (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	21% (199)	49% (461)	21% (197)	6% (53)	3% (25)
Overall feeling of safety in your community	13% (124)	39% (367)	33% (311)	14% (133)	0% (1)
Overall quality of natural environment in your community	18% (168)	44% (407)	28% (261)	8% (73)	2% (17)
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	26% (244)	48% (446)	21% (193)	4% (34)	2% (20)
Overall health and wellness opportunities in your community	17% (156)	48% (446)	24% (226)	4% (33)	7% (65)
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	22% (203)	41% (386)	23% (216)	9% (85)	5% (42)
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	8% (77)	36% (333)	36% (332)	11% (100)	10% (89)

4. How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?

Answer Choice	Percent
Excellent	6% (57)
Good	32% (295)
Fair	26% (244)
Poor	9% (85)
Don't know	27% (252)

5. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.

Characteristic	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	Don't know
Recommend living in your community to older adults	23% (215)	41% (384)	19% (179)	12% (115)	5% (42)
Remain in your community throughout your retirement	40% (372)	31% (282)	14% (129)	12% (108)	3% (32)

6. In general, how informed or uninformed do you feel about services and activities available to older adults in your community?

Answer Choice	Percent
Very informed	14% (128)
Somewhat informed	46% (430)
Somewhat uninformed	25% (230)
Very uninformed	16% (148)

7. Please rate the quality of each of the following.

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know
Your overall physical health	27% (251)	52% (485)	17% (164)	4% (38)	0% (0)
Your overall mental health/emotional wellbeing	33% (311)	53% (502)	10% (97)	3% (28)	0% (1)
Your overall quality of life	31% (287)	56% (522)	12% (112)	2% (17)	0% (0)

8. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:

Answer Choice	Percent
Very positive	4% (37)
Somewhat positive	13% (120)
Neutral	40% (381)
Somewhat negative	35% (330)
Very negative	8% (74)

9. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to older adults in your community.

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know
Ease of travel by public transportation in your community	10% (96)	33% (303)	30% (281)	15% (138)	12% (114)
Ease of travel by car in your community	25% (229)	52% (480)	19% (172)	3% (31)	2% (15)
Ease of walking in your community	28% (259)	44% (410)	20% (187)	6% (58)	2% (18)
Ease of bicycling in your community	19% (180)	37% (340)	22% (202)	5% (46)	17% (157)
Ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	24% (220)	53% (490)	20% (187)	3% (24)	1% (5)
Opportunities to build work skills	4% (33)	13% (123)	19% (177)	10% (94)	53% (485)
Quality of employment opportunities for older adults	3% (26)	7% (66)	18% (165)	18% (164)	54% (494)
Variety of employment opportunities for older adults	2% (20)	7% (62)	18% (162)	19% (173)	54% (499)
Cost of living in your community	2% (14)	17% (157)	40% (366)	38% (341)	3% (30)
Availability of affordable quality food	13% (124)	35% (326)	35% (325)	15% (143)	1% (11)
Availability of affordable quality housing	3% (31)	12% (113)	27% (245)	49% (456)	8% (77)
Variety of housing options	4% (34)	19% (174)	33% (301)	32% (298)	13% (118)
Availability of accessible housing (e.g., homes with a no step entry, single-floor living, wide hallways and doorways)	3% (30)	16% (146)	19% (178)	27% (248)	35% (322)
Availability of mixed-use neighborhoods where people live close to places where they can eat, shop, work, and receive services	8% (79)	36% (337)	33% (305)	14% (134)	8% (77)

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know
Public places where people want to spend time	11% (100)	38% (353)	31% (283)	14% (127)	7% (64)
Availability of information about resources for older adults	3% (32)	17% (157)	32% (292)	22% (199)	26% (242)
Availability of financial or legal planning services	2% (21)	16% (145)	21% (192)	21% (192)	41% (382)
Availability of long-term care options	3% (27)	17% (153)	18% (167)	19% (177)	43% (400)
Availability of daytime care options for older adults	2% (21)	9% (81)	14% (126)	17% (160)	58% (538)
Availability of affordable quality physical health care	6% (58)	30% (280)	23% (212)	16% (152)	24% (218)
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	3% (26)	15% (139)	18% (169)	20% (183)	44% (403)
Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops)	11% (102)	41% (379)	25% (230)	9% (79)	15% (135)
Recreation opportunities (including games, arts, library services, etc.)	17% (155)	42% (385)	22% (207)	9% (86)	10% (94)
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	21% (193)	42% (388)	19% (178)	10% (92)	8% (75)
Opportunities to participate in community matters	9% (85)	33% (311)	27% (249)	11% (103)	20% (182)
Opportunities to volunteer	13% (117)	35% (320)	19% (176)	7% (68)	26% (241)
Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes	6% (54)	20% (184)	17% (158)	12% (111)	45% (416)
Opportunities to attend social events or activities	9% (82)	31% (292)	24% (221)	11% (101)	25% (232)
Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities	16% (152)	38% (351)	16% (149)	5% (44)	25% (228)

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know
Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds	9% (79)	36% (329)	24% (226)	12% (107)	20% (181)
Making all residents feel welcome	9% (87)	34% (316)	30% (281)	13% (117)	14% (127)
Valuing older residents in your community	8% (76)	28% (260)	28% (261)	16% (152)	19% (180)
Neighborliness of your community	12% (110)	38% (349)	33% (301)	13% (117)	5% (46)

10. Older adults may or may not face a number of challenges. Thinking back over the last 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, have each of the following been for you?

Characteristic	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Major problem	Don't know
Having enough money to meet daily expenses	59% (537)	15% (137)	18% (164)	7% (68)	0% (3)
Having enough money to pay your property taxes	60% (526)	11% (93)	11% (97)	7% (64)	11% (92)
Having housing to suit your needs	67% (608)	13% (116)	14% (123)	6% (52)	1% (8)
Doing heavy or intense housework	43% (390)	29% (262)	18% (162)	9% (78)	2% (15)
Maintaining your home	44% (391)	29% (260)	18% (164)	7% (66)	2% (15)
Maintaining your yard	47% (406)	20% (172)	13% (111)	7% (57)	13% (114)
Having safe and affordable transportation available	60% (545)	16% (140)	13% (120)	5% (47)	6% (50)
No longer being able to drive	71% (632)	6% (52)	5% (44)	7% (65)	10% (92)
Finding work in retirement	38% (330)	6% (50)	6% (49)	11% (94)	40% (343)
Building skills for paid or unpaid work	32% (278)	5% (47)	9% (76)	6% (53)	48% (410)
Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid	43% (386)	22% (200)	16% (143)	9% (76)	10% (87)
Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community	25% (226)	24% (219)	22% (195)	16% (142)	14% (125)
Your physical health	50% (447)	28% (255)	17% (150)	5% (47)	0% (4)
Falling or injuring yourself in your home	68% (620)	18% (168)	8% (74)	4% (32)	2% (14)

Characteristic	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Major problem	Don't know
Finding affordable health insurance	63% (569)	13% (117)	11% (98)	11% (98)	2% (21)
Getting the health care you need	67% (612)	18% (162)	10% (91)	5% (41)	1% (7)
Getting the oral health care you need	64% (581)	16% (150)	10% (86)	9% (78)	2% (15)
Getting the vision care you need	68% (621)	15% (139)	9% (86)	5% (48)	2% (16)
Affording the medications you need	68% (619)	16% (142)	8% (76)	6% (53)	2% (17)
Staying physically fit	50% (462)	28% (255)	14% (126)	8% (71)	0% (2)
Maintaining a healthy diet	60% (540)	23% (206)	12% (112)	4% (39)	1% (6)
Having enough food to eat	83% (747)	9% (77)	5% (46)	3% (30)	0% (3)
Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness	66% (596)	23% (204)	8% (68)	3% (25)	1% (9)
Feeling depressed	58% (527)	25% (229)	11% (102)	5% (43)	1% (5)
Feeling bored	58% (524)	28% (251)	9% (79)	4% (34)	2% (16)
Having friends or family you can rely on	67% (608)	18% (167)	9% (77)	6% (54)	0% (2)
Feeling lonely or isolated	61% (551)	23% (206)	10% (90)	6% (54)	0% (3)
Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend	55% (502)	19% (176)	13% (121)	9% (82)	3% (25)
Being a victim of crime	71% (641)	13% (118)	7% (59)	6% (52)	4% (32)
Being a victim of fraud or a scam	70% (630)	15% (137)	8% (76)	4% (33)	3% (29)

Characteristic	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Major problem	Don't know
Being physically or emotionally abused	91% (826)	4% (35)	2% (19)	1% (10)	2% (17)
Being treated unfairly or discriminated against because of your age	67% (607)	18% (164)	8% (71)	5% (42)	3% (25)
Feeling like you don't fit in or belong	66% (596)	20% (182)	8% (73)	4% (38)	1% (11)
Feeling like your voice is heard in the community	47% (420)	19% (168)	11% (102)	7% (67)	16% (144)
Feeling PHYSICALLY burdened by providing care for another person	78% (699)	7% (66)	5% (42)	3% (26)	8% (69)
Feeling EMOTIONALLY burdened by providing care for another person	74% (664)	9% (84)	6% (55)	3% (30)	8% (69)
Feeling FINANCIALLY burdened by providing care for another person	77% (695)	10% (92)	3% (25)	3% (31)	7% (62)
Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals	73% (665)	16% (141)	6% (58)	4% (40)	1% (5)
Finding meaningful volunteer work	54% (484)	10% (91)	5% (48)	2% (22)	28% (255)
Finding productive or meaningful activities to do	63% (569)	20% (182)	9% (80)	3% (28)	5% (46)
Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend	61% (555)	19% (176)	7% (66)	3% (31)	9% (80)
Having interesting social events or activities to attend	56% (508)	21% (192)	9% (85)	5% (46)	9% (78)

11. Thinking back over the past 12 months, how much time did you spend in each of the following?

Characteristic	0 days	1-2 days	3-5 days	6 or more days
As a patient in a hospital	79% (719)	10% (89)	7% (62)	5% (41)
In a long-term care facility (including nursing home or in-patient rehabilitation facility)	97% (850)	0% (1)	0% (4)	3% (25)

12. Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many times have you fallen and injured yourself?

Answer Choice	Percent
Never	65% (608)
1 to 2 times	30% (281)
3 to 5 times	4% (42)
More than 5 times	1% (10)
Don't know	0% (0)

13. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.

Characteristic	No	Yes
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like City Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.)	75% (701)	25% (237)
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting	66% (613)	34% (317)
Voted in your most recent local election	9% (80)	91% (845)
Participated in a civic group (including Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.)	88% (819)	12% (116)
Used a senior center in your community	84% (779)	16% (151)
Used a public library in your community	42% (394)	58% (536)
Used a recreation center in your community	63% (594)	37% (342)
Participated in a recreation program or group activity	67% (629)	33% (305)
Participated in religious or spiritual activities with others	61% (568)	39% (364)
Participated in a club (including book, dance, game, and other social)	66% (613)	34% (319)

14. During a typical week, how many hours do you spend:

Characteristic	Never	1 to 3 hours	4 to 5 hours	6 to 10 hours	11 to 19 hours	20 or more hours	Don't know
Assisting friends, relatives, or neighbors	21% (195)	49% (450)	14% (128)	8% (73)	4% (34)	4% (33)	1% (12)
Volunteering your time	51% (468)	26% (243)	9% (84)	6% (57)	2% (21)	3% (24)	2% (22)
Talking or visiting with friends/family	6% (55)	34% (313)	26% (242)	21% (192)	6% (59)	7% (62)	0% (3)
Providing care to someone age 55+	71% (657)	11% (101)	4% (41)	3% (23)	3% (27)	8% (71)	1% (5)
Providing care to someone age 18 to 54	84% (781)	8% (78)	2% (16)	2% (14)	1% (10)	2% (21)	1% (6)
Providing care someone under age 18	82% (760)	7% (65)	3% (25)	3% (29)	2% (15)	3% (29)	0% (3)
Receiving assistance, paid or unpaid (e.g., with shopping, cooking, etc.)	86% (799)	8% (72)	2% (16)	2% (15)	0% (4)	2% (15)	1% (8)

15. Please answer the following, as they relate to Internet access at your home:

Characteristic	No	Yes
I have high-speed internet/broadband at home	10% (90)	90% (841)
High speed internet is not available	85% (677)	15% (116)
I can't afford high speed internet	86% (695)	14% (114)
I'm not interested in high speed internet	87% (693)	13% (104)
High speed internet is available, but is not reliable	84% (658)	16% (127)

16. In general, how many times do you:

Characteristic	Several times a day	Once a day	A few times a week	Every few weeks	Less often or never	Don't know
Access the internet from your home using a computer, laptop, or tablet computer	68% (635)	9% (88)	10% (93)	2% (20)	10% (89)	1% (6)
Access the internet from your cell phone	68% (624)	7% (64)	6% (57)	1% (12)	17% (157)	1% (10)
Visit social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc.	33% (305)	12% (113)	13% (117)	4% (33)	37% (348)	1% (12)
Use or check email	65% (605)	20% (186)	8% (75)	2% (19)	5% (46)	0% (4)
Share your opinions online	10% (88)	5% (44)	8% (70)	10% (91)	65% (600)	3% (30)
Shop online	8% (72)	4% (41)	21% (199)	35% (325)	30% (283)	1% (10)

17. How many years have you lived in your community?

Answer Choice	Percent
Less than 2 years	7% (68)
2-5 years	13% (123)
6-10 years	13% (122)
11-20 years	15% (145)
More than 20 years	51% (483)

18. Which best describes the building you live in?

Answer Choice	Percent
Single family home	58% (547)
Townhouse, condominium, duplex, or apartment	39% (367)
Mobile home	0% (0)
Assisted living residence	1% (7)
Nursing home	0% (0)
Other	2% (19)

19. Do you rent or own your home?

Answer Choice	Percent
Rent	32% (302)
Own (with a mortgage payment)	33% (305)
Own (free and clear; no mortgage)	35% (327)

20. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?

Answer Choice	Percent
Less than $300 per month	7% (64)
$300 to $599 per month	21% (189)
$600 to $999 per month	17% (156)
$1,000 to $1,499 per month	20% (186)
$1,500 to $2,499 per month	21% (195)
$2,500 or more per month	14% (127)

21. How many people, including yourself, live in your household?

Answer Choice	Percent
1 person (live alone)	46% (430)
2 people	43% (406)
3 people	6% (57)
4 or more people	5% (44)

22. How many of these people, including yourself, are 60 or older?

Answer Choice	Percent
1 person	59% (539)
2 people	38% (352)
3 people	1% (13)
4 or more people	2% (17)

23. What is your employment status?

Answer Choice	Percent
Fully retired	66% (614)
Working full time for pay	16% (147)
Working part time for pay	14% (135)
Unemployed, looking for paid work	4% (38)

24. At what age do you expect to retire completely and not work for pay at all?

Answer Choice	Percent
60-64	6% (20)
65-67	17% (51)
68-69	13% (40)
70-72	18% (56)
73 or older	45% (136)

25. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)

Answer Choice	Percent
Less than $25,000	19% (166)
$25,000 to $49,999	22% (193)
$50,000 to $74,999	20% (175)
$75,000 to $99,999	14% (123)
$100,000 to $149,999	13% (120)
$150,000 to $199,999	6% (52)
$200,000 or more.	6% (58)

26. Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?

Answer Choice	Percent
No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	82% (766)
Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	18% (165)

27. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)

Answer Choice	Percent
American Indian or Alaska Native	3% (27)
Asian	3% (27)
Black or African American	9% (89)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0% (5)
White	77% (739)
A race not listed	7% (71)

28. What is your gender?

Answer Choice	Percent
Woman	55% (518)
Man	44% (418)
Identify in another way	1% (6)

29. How do you identify?

Answer Choice	Percent
Transgender man/trans man	0% (0)
Transgender woman/trans woman	0% (0)
Genderqueer/gender nonconforming	0% (0)
Prefer not to answer	100% (6)
Other	0% (0)

30. Please specify how you identify:

31. What is your sexual orientation?

Answer Choice	Percent
Heterosexual	85% (780)
Lesbian	1% (11)
Gay	4% (38)
Bisexual	2% (15)
Identify in another way	7% (68)

32. How do you identify?

Answer Choice	Percent
Queer, pansexual, and/or questioning	1% (1)
Don't know	3% (2)
Prefer not to answer	93% (63)
Other	3% (2)

33. Please specify how you identify:

Answer Choice	
Asexual.	NONE!!.

Section 16: Full Results (excluding No Opinion)

These results include all questions. The results include the percentage that responded for each answer choice and the number of responses. If the choices included a choice with no opinion (like don't know or not applicable), the tables in the prior section show the results with those no opinion choices. This section shows the results without those choices.

1. In which category is your age?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
50-54 years	0% (0)
55-59 years	0% (0)
60-64 years	28% (264)
65-69 years	22% (208)
70-74 years	22% (204)
75-79 years	13% (125)
80-84 years	9% (83)
85-89 years	4% (39)
90-94 years	2% (15)
95 years or older	1% (6)

2. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in your community.

Not including don't know

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Your community as a place to live	27% (248)	54% (505)	16% (152)	3% (27)
Your neighborhood as a place to live	32% (293)	47% (435)	18% (162)	3% (27)
Your community as a place to retire	19% (168)	42% (367)	27% (237)	13% (111)
Sense of community in your community	15% (134)	37% (330)	36% (323)	12% (107)
The overall quality of life in your community	22% (202)	50% (457)	24% (221)	3% (26)

3. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to your community as a whole.

Not including don't know

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Overall economic health of your community	16% (143)	55% (490)	26% (235)	3% (23)
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in your community	19% (175)	43% (389)	28% (257)	10% (86)
Overall design or layout of your community's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	19% (177)	51% (477)	24% (222)	6% (54)
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in your community (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	22% (199)	51% (461)	22% (197)	6% (53)
Overall feeling of safety in your community	13% (124)	39% (367)	33% (311)	14% (133)
Overall quality of natural environment in your community	18% (168)	45% (407)	29% (261)	8% (73)
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	27% (244)	49% (446)	21% (193)	4% (34)
Overall health and wellness opportunities in your community	18% (156)	52% (446)	26% (226)	4% (33)
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	23% (203)	43% (386)	24% (216)	10% (85)
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	9% (77)	40% (333)	39% (332)	12% (100)

4. How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Excellent	8% (57)
Good	43% (295)
Fair	36% (244)
Poor	12% (85)

5. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.

Not including don't know

Characteristic	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely
Recommend living in your community to older adults	24% (215)	43% (384)	20% (179)	13% (115)
Remain in your community throughout your retirement	42% (372)	32% (282)	14% (129)	12% (108)

6. In general, how informed or uninformed do you feel about services and activities available to older adults in your community?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Very informed	14% (128)
Somewhat informed	46% (430)
Somewhat uninformed	25% (230)
Very uninformed	16% (148)

7. Please rate the quality of each of the following.

Not including don't know

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Your overall physical health	27% (251)	52% (485)	17% (164)	4% (38)
Your overall mental health/emotional wellbeing	33% (311)	54% (502)	10% (97)	3% (28)
Your overall quality of life	31% (287)	56% (522)	12% (112)	2% (17)

8. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Very positive	4% (37)
Somewhat positive	13% (120)
Neutral	40% (381)
Somewhat negative	35% (330)
Very negative	8% (74)

9. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to older adults in your community.

Not including don't know

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Ease of travel by public transportation in your community	12% (96)	37% (303)	34% (281)	17% (138)
Ease of travel by car in your community	25% (229)	53% (480)	19% (172)	3% (31)
Ease of walking in your community	28% (259)	45% (410)	20% (187)	6% (58)
Ease of bicycling in your community	23% (180)	44% (340)	26% (202)	6% (46)
Ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	24% (220)	53% (490)	20% (187)	3% (24)
Opportunities to build work skills	8% (33)	29% (123)	42% (177)	22% (94)
Quality of employment opportunities for older adults	6% (26)	16% (66)	39% (165)	39% (164)
Variety of employment opportunities for older adults	5% (20)	15% (62)	39% (162)	41% (173)
Cost of living in your community	2% (14)	18% (157)	42% (366)	39% (341)
Availability of affordable quality food	13% (124)	36% (326)	35% (325)	16% (143)
Availability of affordable quality housing	4% (31)	13% (113)	29% (245)	54% (456)
Variety of housing options	4% (34)	22% (174)	37% (301)	37% (298)
Availability of accessible housing (e.g., homes with a no step entry, single-floor living, wide hallways and doorways)	5% (30)	24% (146)	30% (178)	41% (248)
Availability of mixed-use neighborhoods where people live close to places where they can eat, shop, work, and receive services	9% (79)	39% (337)	36% (305)	16% (134)

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Public places where people want to spend time	12% (100)	41% (353)	33% (283)	15% (127)
Availability of information about resources for older adults	5% (32)	23% (157)	43% (292)	29% (199)
Availability of financial or legal planning services	4% (21)	26% (145)	35% (192)	35% (192)
Availability of long-term care options	5% (27)	29% (153)	32% (167)	34% (177)
Availability of daytime care options for older adults	5% (21)	21% (81)	33% (126)	41% (160)
Availability of affordable quality physical health care	8% (58)	40% (280)	30% (212)	22% (152)
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	5% (26)	27% (139)	33% (169)	35% (183)
Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops)	13% (102)	48% (379)	29% (230)	10% (79)
Recreation opportunities (including games, arts, library services, etc.)	19% (155)	46% (385)	25% (207)	10% (86)
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	23% (193)	46% (388)	21% (178)	11% (92)
Opportunities to participate in community matters	11% (85)	42% (311)	33% (249)	14% (103)
Opportunities to volunteer	17% (117)	47% (320)	26% (176)	10% (68)
Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes	11% (54)	36% (184)	31% (158)	22% (111)
Opportunities to attend social events or activities	12% (82)	42% (292)	32% (221)	15% (101)
Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities	22% (152)	50% (351)	21% (149)	6% (44)
Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds	11% (79)	44% (329)	30% (226)	14% (107)

Characteristic	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Making all residents feel welcome	11% (87)	39% (316)	35% (281)	15% (117)
Valuing older residents in your community	10% (76)	35% (260)	35% (261)	20% (152)
Neighborliness of your community	13% (110)	40% (349)	34% (301)	13% (117)

10. Older adults may or may not face a number of challenges. Thinking back over the last 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, have each of the following been for you?

Not including don't know

Characteristic	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Major problem
Having enough money to meet daily expenses	59% (537)	15% (137)	18% (164)	8% (68)
Having enough money to pay your property taxes	67% (526)	12% (93)	12% (97)	8% (64)
Having housing to suit your needs	68% (608)	13% (116)	14% (123)	6% (52)
Doing heavy or intense housework	44% (390)	29% (262)	18% (162)	9% (78)
Maintaining your home	44% (391)	30% (260)	19% (164)	7% (66)
Maintaining your yard	54% (406)	23% (172)	15% (111)	8% (57)
Having safe and affordable transportation available	64% (545)	16% (140)	14% (120)	6% (47)
No longer being able to drive	80% (632)	7% (52)	6% (44)	8% (65)
Finding work in retirement	63% (330)	10% (50)	9% (49)	18% (94)
Building skills for paid or unpaid work	61% (278)	10% (47)	17% (76)	12% (53)
Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid	48% (386)	25% (200)	18% (143)	9% (76)
Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community	29% (226)	28% (219)	25% (195)	18% (142)
Your physical health	50% (447)	28% (255)	17% (150)	5% (47)
Falling or injuring yourself in your home	69% (620)	19% (168)	8% (74)	4% (32)

Characteristic	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Major problem
Finding affordable health insurance	65% (569)	13% (117)	11% (98)	11% (98)
Getting the health care you need	67% (612)	18% (162)	10% (91)	5% (41)
Getting the oral health care you need	65% (581)	17% (150)	10% (86)	9% (78)
Getting the vision care you need	69% (621)	16% (139)	10% (86)	5% (48)
Affording the medications you need	70% (619)	16% (142)	9% (76)	6% (53)
Staying physically fit	51% (462)	28% (255)	14% (126)	8% (71)
Maintaining a healthy diet	60% (540)	23% (206)	12% (112)	4% (39)
Having enough food to eat	83% (747)	9% (77)	5% (46)	3% (30)
Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness	67% (596)	23% (204)	8% (68)	3% (25)
Feeling depressed	58% (527)	25% (229)	11% (102)	5% (43)
Feeling bored	59% (524)	28% (251)	9% (79)	4% (34)
Having friends or family you can rely on	67% (608)	18% (167)	9% (77)	6% (54)
Feeling lonely or isolated	61% (551)	23% (206)	10% (90)	6% (54)
Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend	57% (502)	20% (176)	14% (121)	9% (82)
Being a victim of crime	74% (641)	14% (118)	7% (59)	6% (52)
Being a victim of fraud or a scam	72% (630)	16% (137)	9% (76)	4% (33)

Characteristic	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Major problem
Being physically or emotionally abused	93% (826)	4% (35)	2% (19)	1% (10)
Being treated unfairly or discriminated against because of your age	69% (607)	19% (164)	8% (71)	5% (42)
Feeling like you don't fit in or belong	67% (596)	20% (182)	8% (73)	4% (38)
Feeling like your voice is heard in the community	55% (420)	22% (168)	13% (102)	9% (67)
Feeling PHYSICALLY burdened by providing care for another person	84% (699)	8% (66)	5% (42)	3% (26)
Feeling EMOTIONALLY burdened by providing care for another person	80% (664)	10% (84)	7% (55)	4% (30)
Feeling FINANCIALLY burdened by providing care for another person	82% (695)	11% (92)	3% (25)	4% (31)
Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals	74% (665)	16% (141)	6% (58)	4% (40)
Finding meaningful volunteer work	75% (484)	14% (91)	7% (48)	3% (22)
Finding productive or meaningful activities to do	66% (569)	21% (182)	9% (80)	3% (28)
Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend	67% (555)	21% (176)	8% (66)	4% (31)
Having interesting social events or activities to attend	61% (508)	23% (192)	10% (85)	5% (46)

11. Thinking back over the past 12 months, how much time did you spend in each of the following?

Not including don't know

Characteristic	0 days	1-2 days	3-5 days	6 or more days
As a patient in a hospital	79% (719)	10% (89)	7% (62)	5% (41)
In a long-term care facility (including nursing home or in-patient rehabilitation facility)	97% (850)	0% (1)	0% (4)	3% (25)

12. Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many times have you fallen and injured yourself?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Never	65% (608)
1 to 2 times	30% (281)
3 to 5 times	4% (42)
More than 5 times	1% (10)

13. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.

Not including don't know

Characteristic	No	Yes
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like City Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.)	75% (701)	25% (237)
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting	66% (613)	34% (317)
Voted in your most recent local election	9% (80)	91% (845)
Participated in a civic group (including Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.)	88% (819)	12% (116)
Used a senior center in your community	84% (779)	16% (151)
Used a public library in your community	42% (394)	58% (536)
Used a recreation center in your community	63% (594)	37% (342)
Participated in a recreation program or group activity	67% (629)	33% (305)
Participated in religious or spiritual activities with others	61% (568)	39% (364)
Participated in a club (including book, dance, game, and other social)	66% (613)	34% (319)

14. During a typical week, how many hours do you spend:

Not including don't know

Characteristic	Never	1 to 3 hours	4 to 5 hours	6 to 10 hours	11 to 19 hours	20 or more hours
Assisting friends, relatives, or neighbors	21% (195)	49% (450)	14% (128)	8% (73)	4% (34)	4% (33)
Volunteering your time	52% (468)	27% (243)	9% (84)	6% (57)	2% (21)	3% (24)
Talking or visiting with friends/family	6% (55)	34% (313)	26% (242)	21% (192)	6% (59)	7% (62)
Providing care to someone age 55+	71% (657)	11% (101)	4% (41)	3% (23)	3% (27)	8% (71)
Providing care to someone age 18 to 54	85% (781)	8% (78)	2% (16)	2% (14)	1% (10)	2% (21)
Providing care someone under age 18	82% (760)	7% (65)	3% (25)	3% (29)	2% (15)	3% (29)
Receiving assistance, paid or unpaid (e.g., with shopping, cooking, etc.)	87% (799)	8% (72)	2% (16)	2% (15)	0% (4)	2% (15)

15. Please answer the following, as they relate to Internet access at your home:

Not including don't know

Characteristic	No	Yes
I have high-speed internet/broadband at home	10% (90)	90% (841)
High speed internet is not available	85% (677)	15% (116)
I can't afford high speed internet	86% (695)	14% (114)
I'm not interested in high speed internet	87% (693)	13% (104)

Characteristic	No	Yes
High speed internet is available, but is not reliable	84% (658)	16% (127)

16. In general, how many times do you:

Not including don't know

Characteristic	Several times a day	Once a day	A few times a week	Every few weeks	Less often or never
Access the internet from your home using a computer, laptop, or tablet computer	69% (635)	9% (88)	10% (93)	2% (20)	10% (89)
Access the internet from your cell phone	68% (624)	7% (64)	6% (57)	1% (12)	17% (157)
Visit social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc.	33% (305)	12% (113)	13% (117)	4% (33)	38% (348)
Use or check email	65% (605)	20% (186)	8% (75)	2% (19)	5% (46)
Share your opinions online	10% (88)	5% (44)	8% (70)	10% (91)	67% (600)
Shop online	8% (72)	4% (41)	22% (199)	35% (325)	31% (283)

17. How many years have you lived in your community?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Less than 2 years	7% (68)
2-5 years	13% (123)
6-10 years	13% (122)
11-20 years	15% (145)
More than 20 years	51% (483)

18. Which best describes the building you live in?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Single family home	58% (547)
Townhouse, condominium, duplex, or apartment	39% (367)
Mobile home	0% (0)
Assisted living residence	1% (7)
Nursing home	0% (0)
Other	2% (19)

19. Do you rent or own your home?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Rent	32% (302)
Own (with a mortgage payment)	33% (305)
Own (free and clear; no mortgage)	35% (327)

20. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Less than $300 per month	7% (64)
$300 to $599 per month	21% (189)
$600 to $999 per month	17% (156)
$1,000 to $1,499 per month	20% (186)
$1,500 to $2,499 per month	21% (195)
$2,500 or more per month	14% (127)

21. How many people, including yourself, live in your household?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
1 person (live alone)	46% (430)
2 people	43% (406)
3 people	6% (57)
4 or more people	5% (44)

22. How many of these people, including yourself, are 60 or older?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
1 person	59% (539)
2 people	38% (352)
3 people	1% (13)
4 or more people	2% (17)

23. What is your employment status?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Fully retired	66% (614)
Working full time for pay	16% (147)
Working part time for pay	14% (135)
Unemployed, looking for paid work	4% (38)

24. At what age do you expect to retire completely and not work for pay at all?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
60-64	6% (20)
65-67	17% (51)
68-69	13% (40)
70-72	18% (56)
73 or older	45% (136)

25. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Less than $25,000	19% (166)
$25,000 to $49,999	22% (193)
$50,000 to $74,999	20% (175)
$75,000 to $99,999	14% (123)
$100,000 to $149,999	13% (120)
$150,000 to $199,999	6% (52)
$200,000 or more.	6% (58)

26. Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	82% (766)
Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	18% (165)

27. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
American Indian or Alaska Native	3% (27)
Asian	3% (27)
Black or African American	9% (89)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0% (5)
White	77% (739)
A race not listed	7% (71)

28. What is your gender?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Woman	55% (518)
Man	44% (418)
Identify in another way	1% (6)

29. How do you identify?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Transgender man/trans man	0% (0)
Transgender woman/trans woman	0% (0)
Genderqueer/gender nonconforming	0% (0)
Prefer not to answer	100% (6)
Other	0% (0)

30. Please specify how you identify:

Not including don't know

31. What is your sexual orientation?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Heterosexual	85% (780)
Lesbian	1% (11)
Gay	4% (38)
Bisexual	2% (15)
Identify in another way	7% (68)

32. How do you identify?

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	Percent
Queer, pansexual, and/or questioning	1% (1)
Don't know	3% (2)
Prefer not to answer	93% (63)
Other	3% (2)

33. Please specify how you identify:

Not including don't know

Answer Choice	
Asexual.	NONE!!.

Section 17: National Benchmark Comparisons

e=>`Rated characteristics are eligible for trend and benchmark comparisons. For trends, the characteristic must have been asked in a prior survey, and to be statistically significant the difference between the last measurement and current measurements must be at least ${Le(e)} percentage points. All characteristics should have benchmarks, and to be statistically significant (more/less favorable), the difference must be at least 10 points. To be much more favorable/unfavorable, difference must be at least 20 points.\n \n Demographic questions aren't eligible for trend and benchmark comparisons. Though all survey questions are listed in this section, demographic questions are noted as not having trends or benchmarks.`

1. In which category is your age?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

2. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in your community.

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Excellent" or "Good"

Characteristic	% positive	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Your community as a place to live	81	–	239	347
Your neighborhood as a place to live	79	–	259	344
Your community as a place to retire	61	–	270	347
Sense of community in your community	52	–	273	347
The overall quality of life in your community	73	–	227	344

3. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to your community as a whole.

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Excellent" or "Good"

Characteristic	% positive	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Overall economic health of your community	71	–	120	344
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in your community	62	–	132	344
Overall design or layout of your community's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	70	–	75	344
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in your community (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	73	–	79	250
Overall feeling of safety in your community	53	⌄	308	347
Overall quality of natural environment in your community	63	⌄	295	344
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	75	–	130	250
Overall health and wellness opportunities in your community	70	–	179	344
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	66	–	133	344
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	49	–	141	250

4. How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Excellent" or "Good"

Characteristic	% positive	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?	52	–	55	149

5. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Very likely" or "Somewhat likely"

Characteristic	% likely	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Recommend living in your community to older adults	67	⌄	266	347
Remain in your community throughout your retirement	73	–	130	149

6. In general, how informed or uninformed do you feel about services and activities available to older adults in your community?

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Very informed" or "Somewhat informed"

Characteristic	% informed	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
In general, how informed or uninformed do you feel about services and activities available to older adults in your community?	60			

7. Please rate the quality of each of the following.

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Excellent" or "Good"

Characteristic	% positive	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Your overall physical health	78	–	147	346
Your overall mental health/emotional wellbeing	87	–	65	149
Your overall quality of life	86	–	53	149

8. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Very positive" or "Somewhat positive"

Characteristic	% positive	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	17	–	218	344

9. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to older adults in your community.

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Excellent" or "Good"

Characteristic	% positive	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Ease of travel by public transportation in your community	49	^	56	330
Ease of travel by car in your community	78	–	124	347
Ease of walking in your community	73	–	99	347
Ease of bicycling in your community	68	–	34	108
Ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	77	–	41	147
Opportunities to build work skills	37	–	44	146
Quality of employment opportunities for older adults	22	–	247	346
Variety of employment opportunities for older adults	20	–	64	146
Cost of living in your community	20	⌄	304	347
Availability of affordable quality food	49	–	202	339
Availability of affordable quality housing	17	–	246	346
Variety of housing options	26	–	233	347
Availability of accessible housing (e.g., homes with a no step entry, single-floor living, wide hallways and doorways)	29	–	28	146

Characteristic	% positive	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Availability of mixed-use neighborhoods where people live close to places where they can eat, shop, work, and receive services	49	^	4	146
Public places where people want to spend time	52	–	184	343
Availability of information about resources for older adults	28	–	57	149
Availability of financial or legal planning services	30	–	74	149
Availability of long-term care options	34	–	69	148
Availability of daytime care options for older adults	26	–	39	149
Availability of affordable quality physical health care	48	–	216	338
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	32	–	199	336
Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops)	61	–	178	336
Recreation opportunities (including games, arts, library services, etc.)	65	–	168	345
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	68	–	167	344
Opportunities to participate in community matters	53	–	237	344
Opportunities to volunteer	64	–	142	253
Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes	47	^	35	149

Characteristic	% positive	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Opportunities to attend social events or activities	54	–	210	344
Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities	72	–	104	149
Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds	55	–	223	347
Making all residents feel welcome	50	–	170	250
Valuing older residents in your community	45	–	83	149
Neighborliness of your community	52	–	165	252

10. Older adults may or may not face a number of challenges. Thinking back over the last 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, have each of the following been for you?

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Minor problem", "Moderate problem", or "Major problem"

Characteristic	% problematic	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Having enough money to meet daily expenses	59	–	49	149
Having enough money to pay your property taxes	67	–	70	149
Having housing to suit your needs	68	–	113	149
Doing heavy or intense housework	44	–	35	149
Maintaining your home	44	–	66	149
Maintaining your yard	54	–	25	149
Having safe and affordable transportation available	64	–	57	149
No longer being able to drive	80	–	119	149
Finding work in retirement	63	–	78	149
Building skills for paid or unpaid work	61	–	47	149
Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid	48	–	41	149
Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community	29	–	60	149

Characteristic	% problematic	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Your physical health	50	–	34	149
Falling or injuring yourself in your home	69	–	62	149
Finding affordable health insurance	65	–	25	149
Getting the health care you need	67	–	34	149
Getting the oral health care you need	65	–	50	149
Getting the vision care you need	69	–	49	149
Affording the medications you need	70	–	38	149
Staying physically fit	51	–	37	149
Maintaining a healthy diet	60	–	42	149
Having enough food to eat	83	–	73	149
Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness	67	–	61	149
Feeling depressed	58	–	91	149
Feeling bored	59	–	74	149
Having friends or family you can rely on	67	–	84	149

Characteristic	% problematic	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Feeling lonely or isolated	61	–	102	149
Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend	57	–	100	149
Being a victim of crime	74	⌄	144	149
Being a victim of fraud or a scam	72	–	112	149
Being physically or emotionally abused	93	–	64	147
Being treated unfairly or discriminated against because of your age	69	⌄	139	146
Feeling like you don't fit in or belong	67	–	90	146
Feeling like your voice is heard in the community	55	–	80	149
Feeling PHYSICALLY burdened by providing care for another person	84	–	30	149
Feeling EMOTIONALLY burdened by providing care for another person	80	–	28	149
Feeling FINANCIALLY burdened by providing care for another person	82	–	73	149
Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals	74	–	55	108
Finding meaningful volunteer work	75	–	56	108

Characteristic	% problematic	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Finding productive or meaningful activities to do	66	–	63	108
Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend	67	^	21	108
Having interesting social events or activities to attend	61	–	28	108

11. Thinking back over the past 12 months, how much time did you spend in each of the following?

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "1-2 days", "3-5 days", or "6 or more days"

Characteristic	% of respondents	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
As a patient in a hospital	21	–	64	149
In a long-term care facility (including nursing home or in-patient rehabilitation facility)	3	–	34	130

12. Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many times have you fallen and injured yourself?

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "1 to 2 times", "3 to 5 times", or "More than 5 times"

Characteristic	% of respondents	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many times have you fallen and injured yourself?	35	–	76	149

13. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Yes"

Characteristic	% yes	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like City Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.)	25	–	134	346
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting	34	–	12	149
Voted in your most recent local election	91	–	56	248
Participated in a civic group (including Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.)	12	–	102	149
Used a senior center in your community	16	–	77	149
Used a public library in your community	58	–	29	149
Used a recreation center in your community	37	–	32	149
Participated in a recreation program or group activity	33	–	41	149
Participated in religious or spiritual activities with others	39	–	124	149
Participated in a club (including book, dance, game, and other social)	34	–	30	149

14. During a typical week, how many hours do you spend:

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "1 to 3 hours", "4 to 5 hours", "6 to 10 hours", "11 to 19 hours", or "20 or more hours"

Characteristic	% of respondents	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Assisting friends, relatives, or neighbors	79	–	90	149
Volunteering your time	48	–	104	149
Talking or visiting with friends/family	94	–	108	149
Providing care to someone age 55+	29	–	115	149
Providing care to someone age 18 to 54	15	–	80	149
Providing care someone under age 18	18	–	79	149
Receiving assistance, paid or unpaid (e.g., with shopping, cooking, etc.)	13	–	32	108

15. Please answer the following, as they relate to Internet access at your home:

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Yes"

Characteristic	% yes	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
I have high-speed internet/broadband at home	90	–	19	88
High speed internet is not available	15			
I can't afford high speed internet	14			
I'm not interested in high speed internet	13			
High speed internet is available, but is not reliable	16			

16. In general, how many times do you:

Percent positive is the percentage of responses that rated the characteristic as: "Several times a day", "Once a day", or "A few times a week"

Characteristic	% of respondents	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Access the internet from your home using a computer, laptop, or tablet computer	88	–	118	249
Access the internet from your cell phone	82	–	92	249
Visit social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc.	58	–	196	248
Use or check email	93	–	87	249
Share your opinions online	23	–	122	249

Characteristic	% of respondents	National Benchmark	Rank	# of Compared Communities
Shop online	34	–	123	249

17. How many years have you lived in your community?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

18. Which best describes the building you live in?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

19. Do you rent or own your home?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

20. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

21. How many people, including yourself, live in your household?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

22. How many of these people, including yourself, are 60 or older?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

23. What is your employment status?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

24. At what age do you expect to retire completely and not work for pay at all?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

25. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

26. Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

27. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

28. What is your gender?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

29. How do you identify?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

31. What is your sexual orientation?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

32. How do you identify?

Percent positive, trends, and benchmarks do not apply to this question

Section 18: Methods

About the Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA)®

The Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA)® was developed by National Research Center at Polco (NRC) to provide an accurate, affordable and easy way to assess and interpret the experience of older adults in the community. The CASOA® survey instrument and its administration are standardized to assure high-quality survey methods and comparable results across CASOA communities. The CASOA was customized for Denver County to reflect the correct local age definition of older adults and to use official Denver County graphics, contact information and signatures on survey invitation mailing materials. The Denver County sponsored and funded this research. Please contact Jayla Sanchez-Warren of the Denver County at jswarren@drcog.org if you have any questions about the survey.

Questionnaire Development

The CASOA questionnaire contains many questions related to the life of older residents in the community. The instrument includes questions related to overall quality of life, characteristics of the community, perceptions of safety, and many different needs common to older adults.

The questionnaire grew from a synthesis of numerous data collection processes, including a national search of needs assessments conducted by communities across the United States, a review of the literature on aging, and numerous surveys and large-scale needs assessments conducted by NRC. A blue-ribbon panel of national experts contributed to the concept and content of CASOA.

The items in the questionnaire were pilot tested on older adult residents using a “think-aloud” method in which older adults were asked to complete the survey and describe their thought processes

related to specific questions and question sets. The results of the pilot test were used to alter the questionnaire for better understanding by senior participants. The final questionnaire was tested in a set of diverse U.S. communities and modifications again were made as necessary.

Random (Probability) Sample Survey

Selecting Survey Recipients

One of the first steps taken to ensure survey results are representative of the target population is to use a source from which survey recipients are selected that provides adequate to good coverage of the target population. This source is referred to as the sampling frame.

The target population for this survey was residents age 60 years or older in households within the Denver County boundaries.

Since it would be cost prohibitive to survey every person age 60 years or older in Denver County, a random selection of records from the sampling frame was made. This process can be illustrated using an example that may be familiar from a math or statistics class of a jar of marbles of various colors. If the jar has two-thirds red marbles and one-third blue marbles, a random selection of marbles from that jar should result in a similar proportion (although perhaps not identical) of red and blue marbles as in the original jar.

The sampling frame used for this survey was a list of households with a high likelihood of having a resident age 60 years or older within the Denver County boundaries from Marketing Systems Group. These lists, compiled by sampling and marketing firms based on data from multiple sources (such as warranty information, voting lists, and more), provide fairly complete coverage of all members of the target population.

Data Collection

Each randomly selected household received two mailings, about one week apart, beginning on August, 5, 2022. The first mailing was a prenotification postcard announcing the upcoming survey. This half-sheet postcard included a URL so that recipients could immediately go online to complete the survey if they wished. The second mailing contained a letter from the Area Agency on Aging Director inviting the household to participate, a printed questionnaire and a postage-paid return envelope. The survey was available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, and Arabic. Completed surveys were collected over the following 7 weeks.

About 533 (7%) of the 8,000 surveys mailed were returned because the housing unit was vacant or the postal service was unable to deliver the survey as addressed. Of the remaining 7,467 households that received the survey, 945 completed the survey, providing an overall response rate of 12.66%. Of the total surveys received, 606 were completed using the hard copy surveys while 339 were submitted online. Response rates are calculated using AAPOR's response rate #2[1] for mailed surveys of unnamed persons.

Open Participation Survey

In addition to the random sample "probability" survey described above, an open participation survey was conducted, in which all older adults age 60 years or older were invited to participate. The open participation survey instrument was identical to the probability sample survey. This survey was conducted entirely online. For the open participation survey a single URL was provided to contacts from each AAA to share with constituents through email lists, social media accounts, service settings and community partners. The URL directed community members to a short survey where they indicated their geographic location and were directed to the survey for their appropriate county and AAA. Each Area Agency on Aging conducted all outreach, after receiving guidance on best practices for conducting such outreach from Polco. This guidance suggested the use of social media, press releases, newsletters and e-newsletters, existing resident email lists, printed materials, and invitations publicized at local and

virtual meetings. This survey became available to all residents on 8/29/2022 and remained open until 9/26/2022. A total of 0 surveys were completed by open participation survey respondents.

Analysis and Reporting

Confidence Intervals

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates made from probability surveys by a “level of confidence” and accompanying “confidence interval” (or margin of error). A traditional level of confidence, and the one used here, is 95%. The 95% confidence interval can be any size and quantifies the sampling error or imprecision of the survey results because some residents’ opinions are relied on to estimate all residents’ opinions.[2]

The margin of error for the Denver County survey is no greater than plus or minus 3.19 percentage points around any given percent reported for all probability survey respondents (945). For subgroups of responses, the margin of error increases because the number of respondents for each subgroup is smaller. For subgroups of approximately 100 respondents, the margin of error is plus or minus 10 percentage points.

The open participation survey results were combined with responses from the probability sample survey, for a total of 945 completed surveys. With the inclusion of the open participation survey participants, it is likely that the precision of the responses would be even greater (and thus the margin of error smaller).

Survey Processing (Data Entry)

Upon receipt, completed hard copy surveys were assigned a unique identification number. Additionally, each survey was reviewed and “cleaned” as necessary. An example of cleaning would be if a question asked a respondent to pick two items out of a list of five, but the respondent checked three; in this case, NRC would use protocols to randomly choose two of the three selected items for inclusion in the dataset.

All surveys then were entered twice into an electronic dataset; any discrepancies were resolved in comparison to the original survey form. Range checks as well as other forms of quality control were also performed.

The online survey data was collected on Polco, an online civic engagement platform. Use of Polco means all collected data are entered into the dataset immediately when the respondents submit the surveys. Skip patterns are programmed into the system so respondents are automatically directed to the appropriate question (skipping irrelevant questions, when applicable) based on the individual responses given.

A series of quality control checks were also performed in order to ensure the integrity of the web data. Steps may include (and are not limited to) reviewing the data for clusters of repeat IP addresses and time stamps (indicating duplicate responses) and removing empty submissions (questionnaires submitted with no questions answered).

Survey Data Weighting

The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey sample reflective of the larger population of Denver County. This is done by reviewing the demographic profile of respondents and comparing it to the demographic profile of older adults based on the most recent Census data. Those respondent subgroups that were less likely to respond are statistically adjusted to be given more weight, while those subgroups that were more likely to respond are given less weight. The characteristics used for weighting were age, gender, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, rent or own home, and area. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm (see https://surveyinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Full-anesrake-paper.pdf for more details). The results of the weighting scheme are presented in the following table.

Weighting Scheme for the 2022 Denver County CASOA

Demographic Group	Unweighted	Weighted	Population Target
Rent or Own Home			
Rent	16.1 %	32.3 %	32.3 %
Own	83.9 %	67.7 %	67.7 %
Housing Type			
Detached	63.6 %	59.4 %	59.4 %
Attached	36.4 %	40.6 %	40.6 %
Race			
White	85.7 %	77.3 %	77.3 %
Not white	14.3 %	22.7 %	22.7 %
Ethnicity			
Hispanic	9.1 %	17.8 %	17.8 %
Not Hispanic	90.9 %	82.2 %	82.2 %
Gender			
Female	60.5 %	55.3 %	55.3 %
Male	39.5 %	44.7 %	44.7 %
Age			
Age 60 to 64	18 %	28.2 %	28.2 %
Age 65 to 74	48.6 %	43.7 %	43.7 %
Age 75 and over	33.4 %	28.1 %	28.1 %
Gender and Age			
Female 60 to 64	10.3 %	15 %	15 %
Female 65 to 74	29.9 %	23.5 %	23.5 %
Female 75 and over	20.3 %	16.8 %	16.8 %
Male 60 to 64	7.3 %	13.2 %	13.2 %
Male 65 to 74	19.1 %	20.2 %	20.2 %
Male 75 and over	13.2 %	11.3 %	11.3 %

Reporting

For the most part, the percentages presented in the reports represent the “percent positive.” The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent and good, very safe and somewhat safe, essential and very important, etc.), or, in the case of resident behaviors/participation, the percent positive represents the proportion of respondents indicating yes or participating in an activity at least once a month.

On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer don’t know. The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the Responses tab. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the main body of the report. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Multiple Response Questions

For some questions, respondents were permitted to select multiple responses. When the total exceeds 100% in a table for a multiple response question, it is because some respondents are counted in multiple categories.

Rounding

Excluding the Participants tab, percentages shown are rounded to the nearest whole number. This can sometimes mean that the percent of responses across all the possible response categories may sum to something other than exactly 100%. It also means that in some instances, the “percent positive,” “percent problem,” or other summaries of data may not equal the rounded percentages of the two categories. For example, if 30.4% of respondents rated quality of life as excellent, and 20.4% of respondents rated it as good, a display of all the responses will show 30% excellent and 20% good. However, a display of the percent rating quality of life as excellent or good will show 51% (as 30.4% + 20.4% equals 50.8%, which rounds to 51%).

Making Comparisons to Benchmarks

National Research Center at Polco has developed a database that collates responses to CASOA and related surveys administered in other communities, which allows the results from Denver County to be compared against a set of national benchmarks. This benchmarking database includes responses from more than 35,000 older adults (age 55 and over) in over 327 communities across the nation.

Ratings are compared when similar questions are included in Polco's database, and there are at least five other communities in which the question was asked. Where comparisons for ratings were available, Denver County's results are shown as being more favorable than the benchmark, less favorable than the benchmark or similar to the benchmark. In instances where ratings are considerably more or less favorable than the benchmark, these ratings have been further demarcated by the attribute of "much," (for example, much more favorable or much less favorable).

Reporting Statistical Significance

For the crosstabs of survey results by selected respondent characteristic, chi-square or ANOVA (Analysis of Variance) tests of significance were applied to these breakdowns of selected survey questions. A p-value of 0.05 or less indicates that there is less than a 5% probability that differences observed between groups are due to chance; or in other words, a greater than 95% probability that the differences observed in the selected categories of the sample represent "real" differences among those populations. However, it should be noted that while these tests of statistical significance were used to help guide readers and policy makers to differences that are likely not due to chance alone, these types of probabilistic inferences were designed for use when results come from random sampling alone (for more information, see Hirschauer, N., Gruner, S., Mußhoff, O., Becker, C., & Jantsch, A. (2020). Can p-values be meaningfully interpreted without random sampling? Statistics Surveys, 14, 71-91).

Community Readiness Scores

The community readiness scores presented in Community Readiness represents the average of the questions included in the index. Although the evaluative or frequency questions were made on 4- or 5-point scales, with 1 representing the best rating, the scales had different labels (e.g., excellent, very likely). To calculate these average scores, the questions used in the index were converted to a common scale where 0 is the worst possible rating and 100 is the best possible rating. If everyone answered excellent, then the result would be 100 on the 0-100 scale. If the average rating for quality of life was right in the middle of the scale (halfway between good and fair), then the result would be 50. This scale can be thought of like the thermometer that is often used to illustrate total donations received by charitable organizations—the higher the thermometer reading, the closer to the goal. In this case, 100 (the top of the thermometer) would represent the most positive response possible. The table below shows the individual questions comprising each summary score for the six dimensions of community readiness, as well as the overall rating for the Quality of the Community.

Dimension of Community Readiness	Items Included in Community Readiness Score
Overall Community Quality	• Your community as a place to live • Your neighborhood as a place to live • Your community as a place to retire • The overall quality of life in your community • Recommend living in your community to older adults • Remain in your community throughout your retirement
Community Design	• Housing • Mobility • Land Use
Employment and Finances	• Employment • Finances

Dimension of Community Readiness	Items Included in Community Readiness Score
Equity and Inclusivity	• Equity • Community Inclusivity
Health and Wellness	• Overall feeling of safety in your community • Overall quality of natural environment in your community • Overall health and wellness opportunities in your community • Availability of affordable quality food • Availability of long-term care options • Availability of daytime care options for older adults • Availability of affordable quality physical health care • Availability of affordable quality mental health care • Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops) • Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)
Information and Assistance	• How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community? • Availability of information about resources for older adults • Availability of financial or legal planning services
Productive Activities	• Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities • Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts • Residents' connection and engagement with their community • Recreation opportunities (including games, arts, library services, etc.) • Opportunities participate in community matters

Needs Summary

Each livability topic covered in the survey includes a summary of needs identified by respondents. For almost all of these needs summaries, a respondent was counted as having a need if they had a major problem or moderate problem with any of the items examined in each score area. The one exception is for the independent living topic; for this needs score, a respondent was counted as having a need if they reported spending any time in a hospital or in a long-term care facility in the last year.

Needs Score	Items Included in the Score
Caregiving	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Feeling PHYSICALLY burdened by providing care for another person • Feeling EMOTIONALLY burdened by providing care for another person • Feeling FINANCIALLY burdened by providing care for another person
Civic Engagement	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Feeling like your voice is heard in the community
Community Inclusivity	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Having friends or family you can rely on • Feeling lonely or isolated • Feeling like you don't fit in or belong
Employment	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Finding work in retirement • Building skills for paid or unpaid work
Equity	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Being treated unfairly or discriminated against because of your age

Needs Score	Items Included in the Score
Finances	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Having enough money to meet daily expenses • Having enough money to pay your property taxes
Health Care	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Finding affordable health insurance • Getting the health care you need • Getting the oral health care you need • Getting the vision care you need • Affording the medications you need
Housing	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Having housing to suit your needs • Doing heavy or intense housework • Maintaining your home • Maintaining your yard
Independent Living	• Spent one or more days: • In a long-term care facility (including nursing home or in-patient rehabilitation facility) • As a patient in a hospital
Information and Assistance	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid • Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community
Mental Health	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness • Feeling depressed • Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend

Needs Score	Items Included in the Score
Mobility	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Having safe and affordable transportation available • No longer being able to drive
Physical Health	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Your physical health • Falling or injuring yourself in your home • Staying physically fit • Maintaining a healthy diet • Having enough food to eat
Safety	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Being a victim of crime • Being a victim of fraud or a scam • Being physically or emotionally abused
Social Engagement	• Any of the following were a major or moderate problem: • Feeling bored

[1]See AAPOR's Standard Definitions here: http://www.aapor.org/Standards-Ethics/Standard-Definitions-(1).aspx for more information

[2]A 95% confidence interval indicates that for every 100 random samples of this many residents, 95 of the confidence intervals created will include the "true" population response. This theory is applied in practice to mean that the "true" perspective of the target population lies within the confidence interval created for a single survey. For example, if 75% of residents rate a service as excellent or good, then a 4% margin of error (for the 95% confidence interval) indicates that the range of likely responses for the entire community is between 71% and 79%. This source of uncertainty is called sampling error. In addition to sampling error, other sources of error may affect any survey, including the non-response of residents with opinions different from survey

responders. Though standardized on CASOA, on other surveys, differences in question wording, order, translation and data entry (as examples) can lead to somewhat varying results.
*Source: U.S. Census Bureau – 2020 American Community Survey 5-year estimates Age, rent or own home, and gender estimates are for those age 60+, while type of housing unit, race and ethnicity are for those age 65+.