

Livable Communities: Are Our Communities “Liveable” for Older Residents

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Livable Communities for Older Residents

- Affordable, appropriate and safe housing
- Expanded mobility options
- Increased density and connectivity
- Attractive built environment
- Multi-use, mixed development
- Supportive community services



- Social interaction connections fostered
- Activities of daily living facilitated
- “Productive activities” promoted
- Enhanced mobility
- Improved fitness
- Increased independence

Goals of this study

Utilize a large dataset of resident opinions related to community livability:

- Assess the quality of 20+ community amenities
- Identify characteristics of individuals and communities associated with higher levels of satisfaction with communities
- Identify the key drivers of older adult community satisfaction



- ICMA/NRC initiative
- Primary purposes of the survey
 - Track resident perspectives about quality of community characteristics and amenities
 - Evaluate local government and resident participation in local activities
- Normative Database: Surveys from 150,000 residents from more than 200 communities across the nation
 - 26K are 65 years+; 17.5K are 55-64 years old

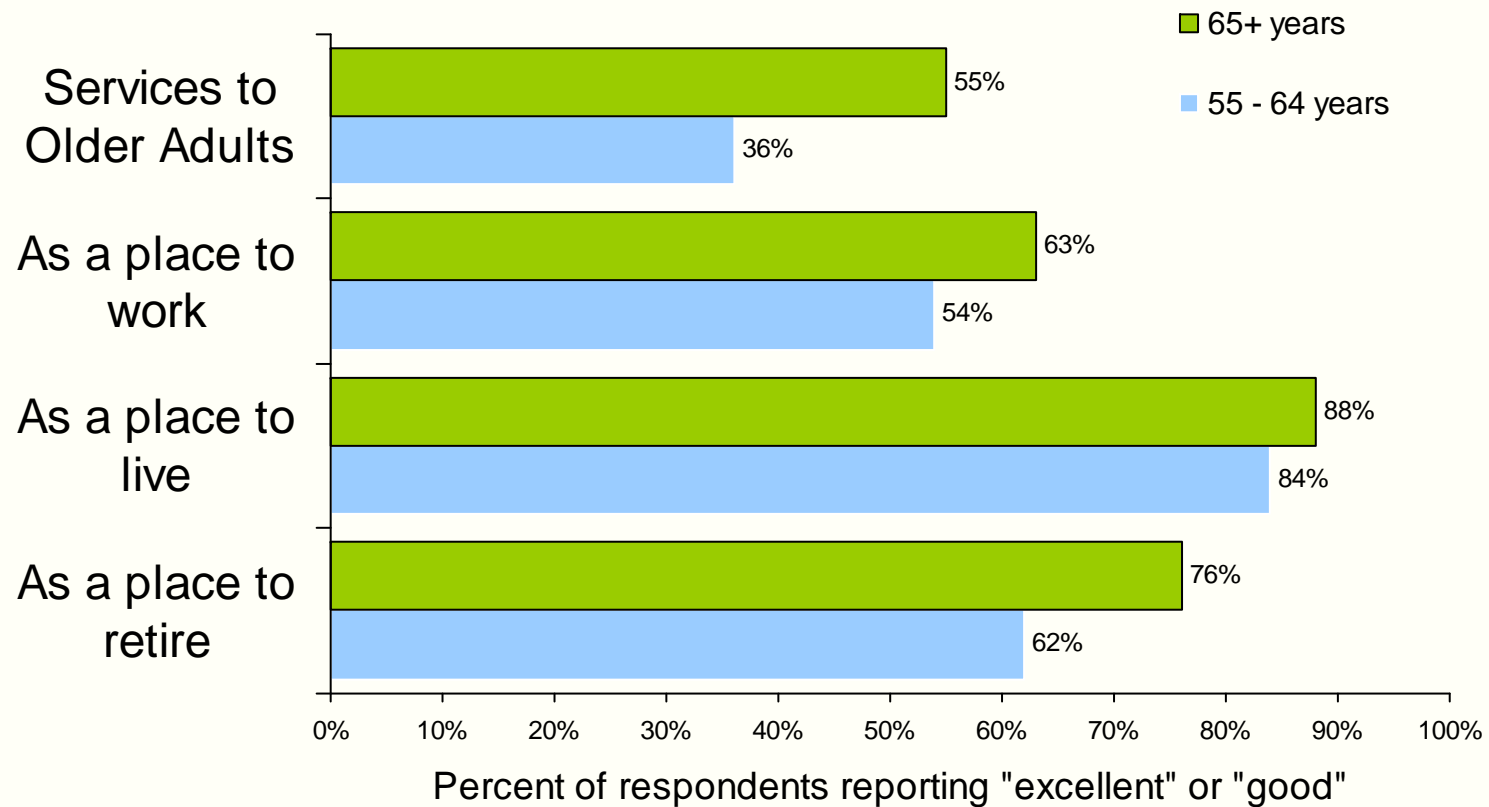


Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults™

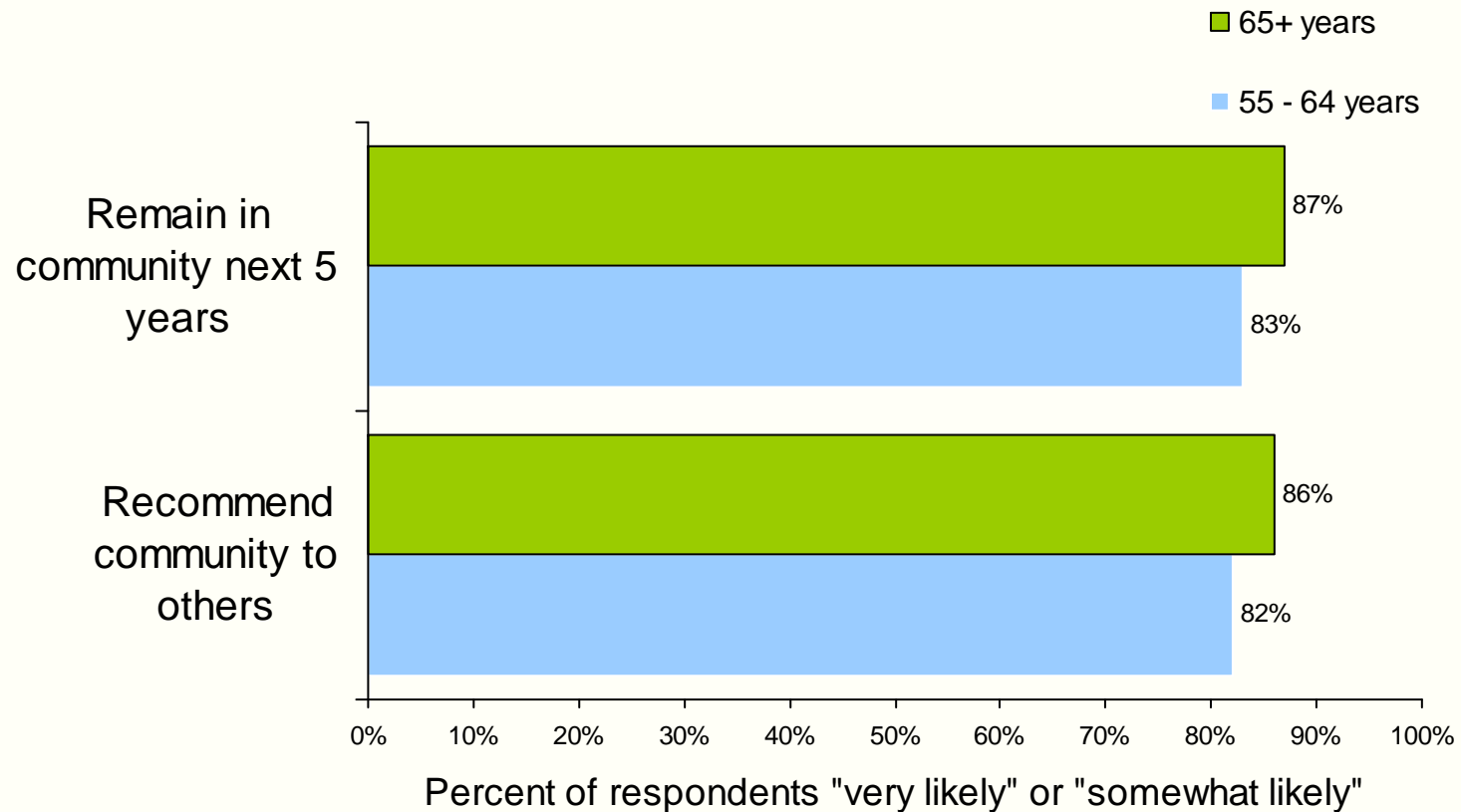
- Low-cost turnkey older adult household survey
- Primary purposes of the survey
 - Gauge community strengths and needs
 - Identify older adult needs
 - Measure older resident participation in local activities
- Normative database has opinions of 38,900 older residents (65 years +)

Overall Community Ratings

Overall Community Ratings



Overall Community Quality: Community Recommendation and Longevity



Community Amenity Ratings

Community Amenities

Community Design

- Overall appearance
- Quality of new development
- Quality of businesses
- Shopping
- Employment opportunities
- Variety of housing
- Affordable, quality housing

Physical Environment

- Air quality
- Natural Environment
- Cleanliness

Recreation, Education, Culture

- Cultural activities
- Educational opportunities
- Social opportunities
- Recreational opportunities
- Religious opportunities

Transportation

- Ease of car travel
- Ease of bicycle travel
- Paths and walking trails
- Traffic flow on major streets
- Ease of bus travel
- Public parking

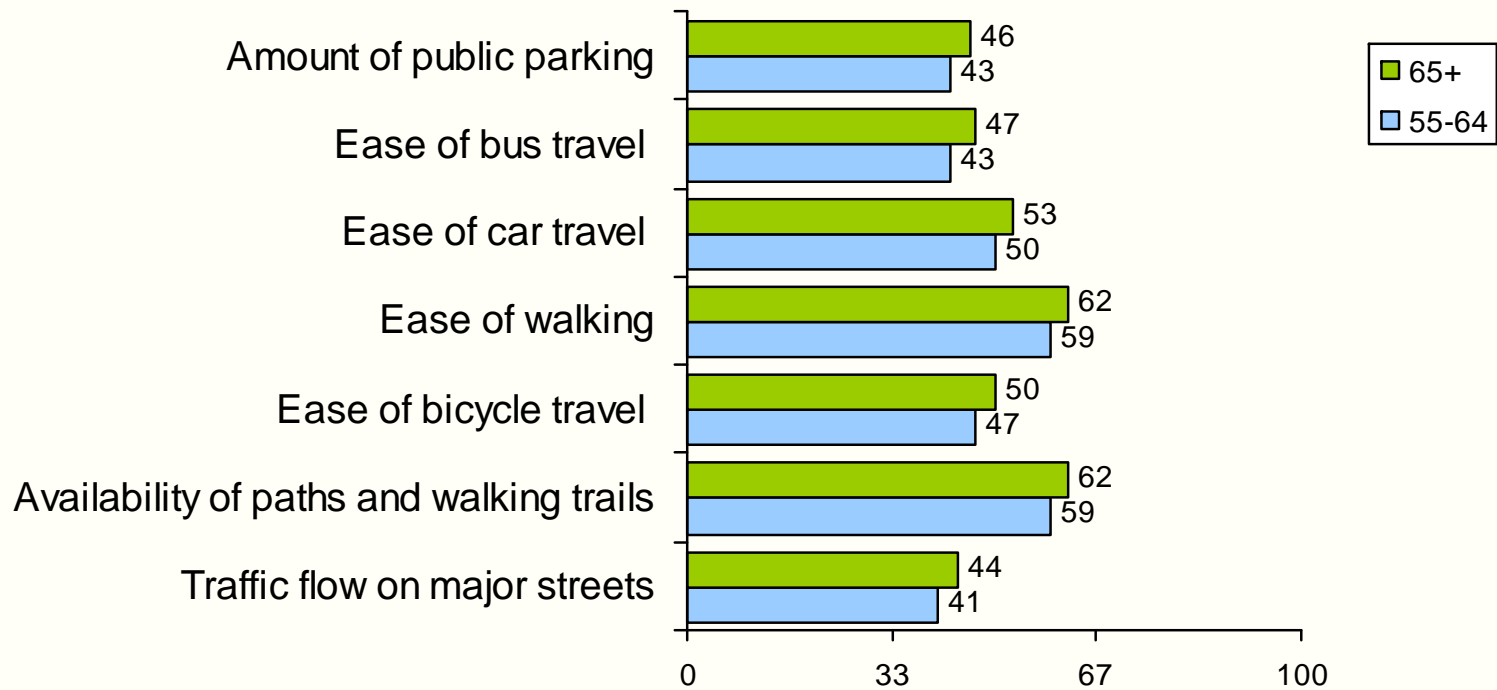
Community Inclusiveness

- Sense of community
- Community openness
- Volunteer opportunities
- Community matters

Health and Wellness

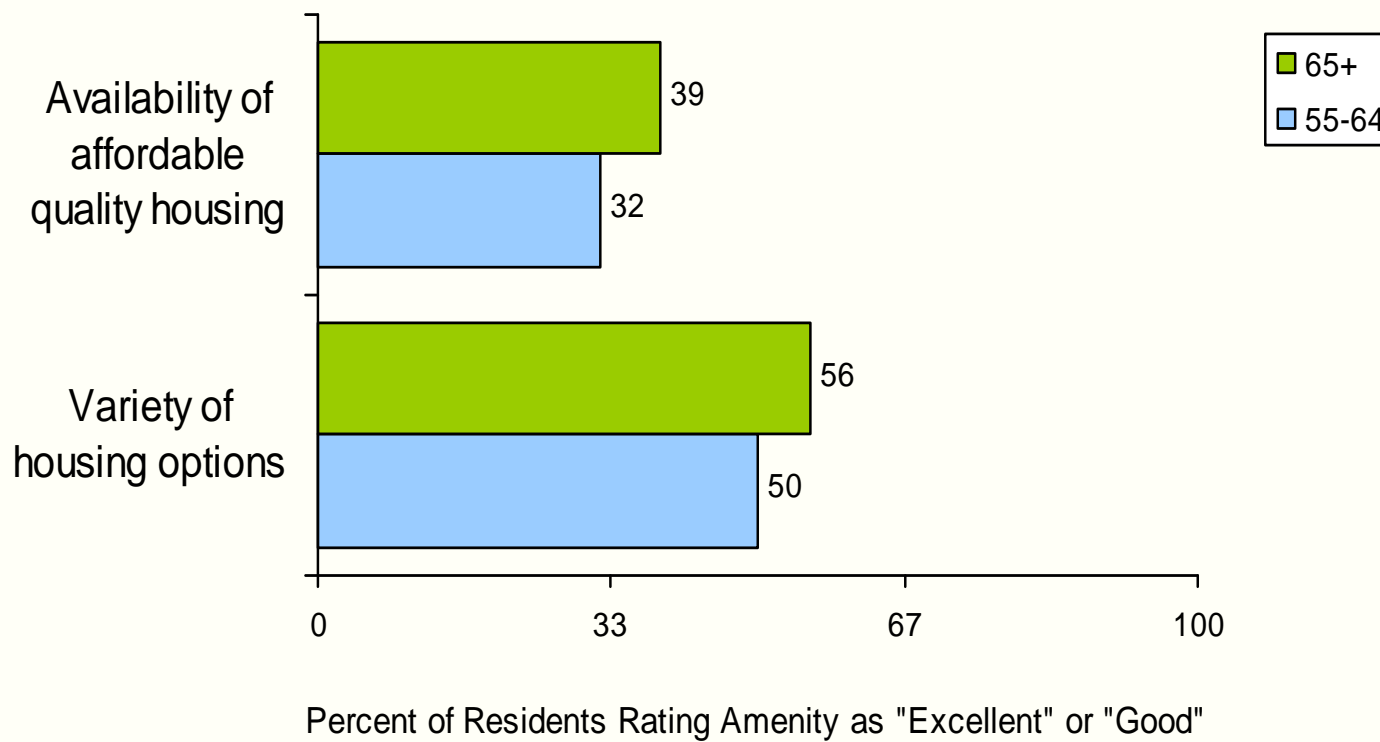
- Safety
- Affordable, quality food
- Fitness opportunities
- Affordable, quality health care
- Preventive health services
- Mental health care

Transportation

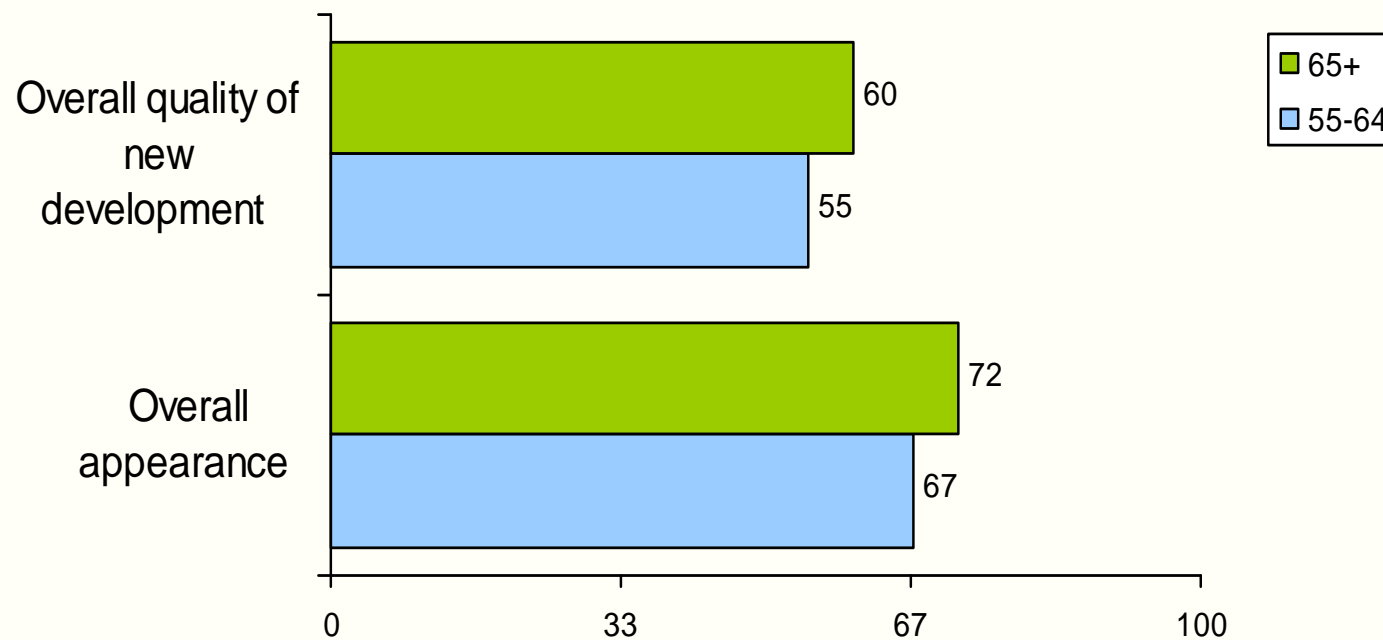


Percent of Residents Rating Amenity as "Excellent" or "Good"

Housing

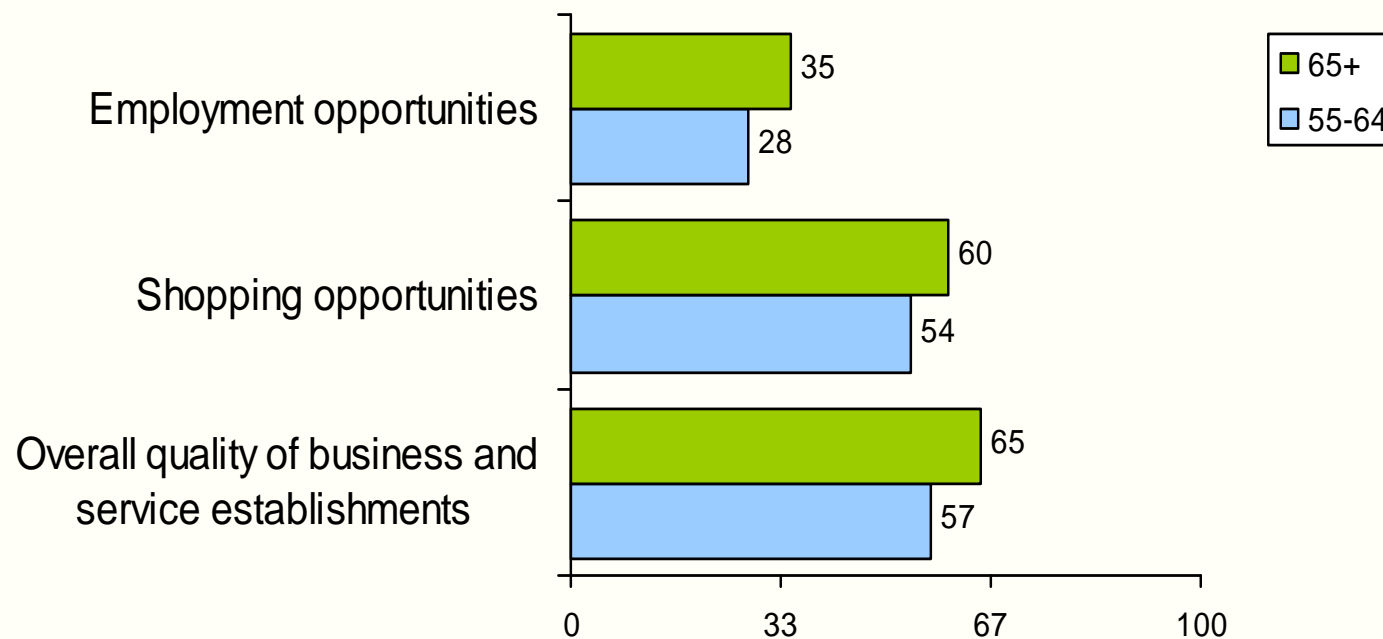


Land Use and Zoning



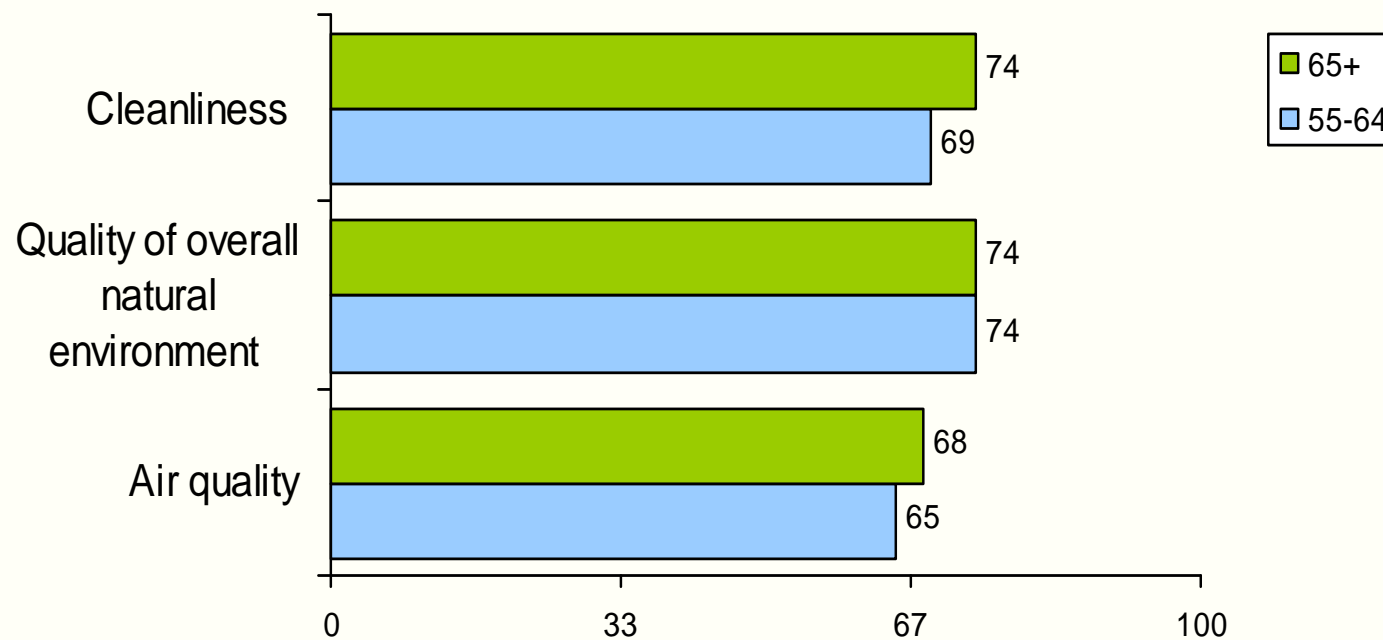
Percent of Residents Rating Amenity as "Excellent" or "Good"

Economic Development



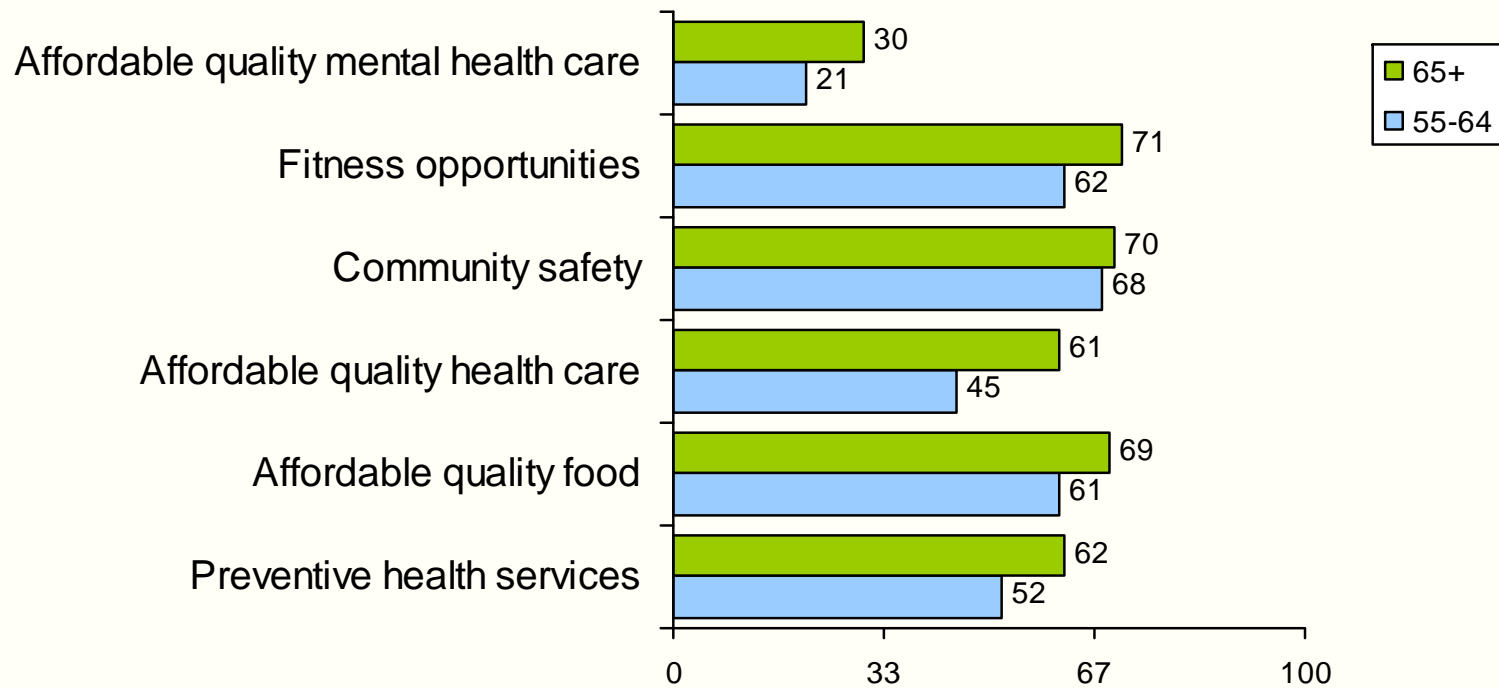
Percent of Residents Rating Amenity as "Excellent" or "Good"

Natural Environment



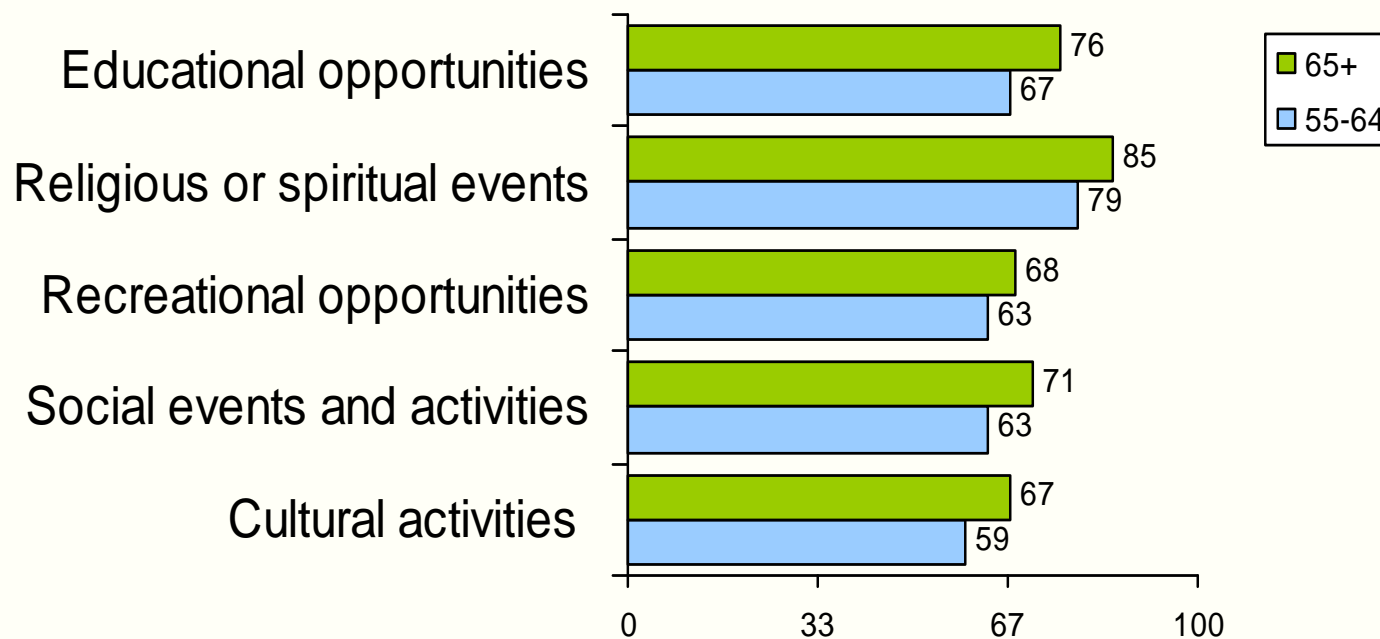
Percent of Residents Rating Amenity as "Excellent" or "Good"

Health and Wellness



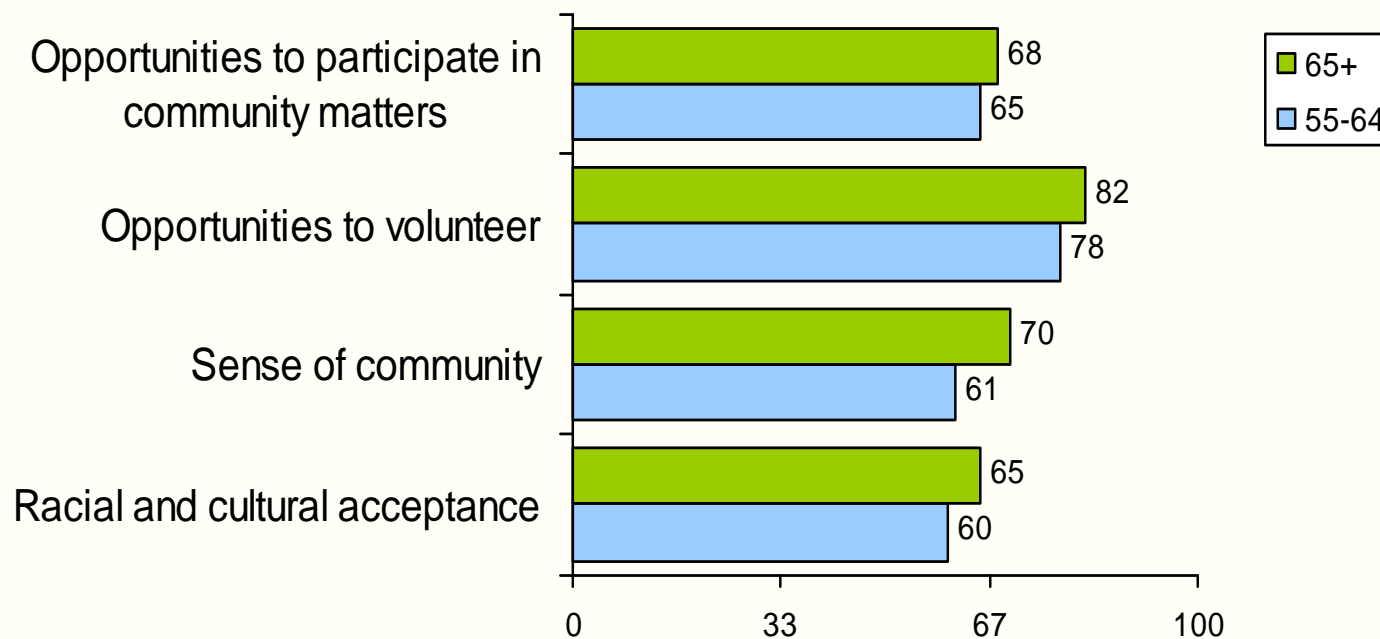
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Recreation, Culture and Education



Percent of Residents Rating Amenity as "Excellent" or "Good"

Civic Engagement and Community Inclusivity



Percent of Residents Rating Amenity as "Excellent" or "Good"

Community amenities receiving the highest ratings by older residents:

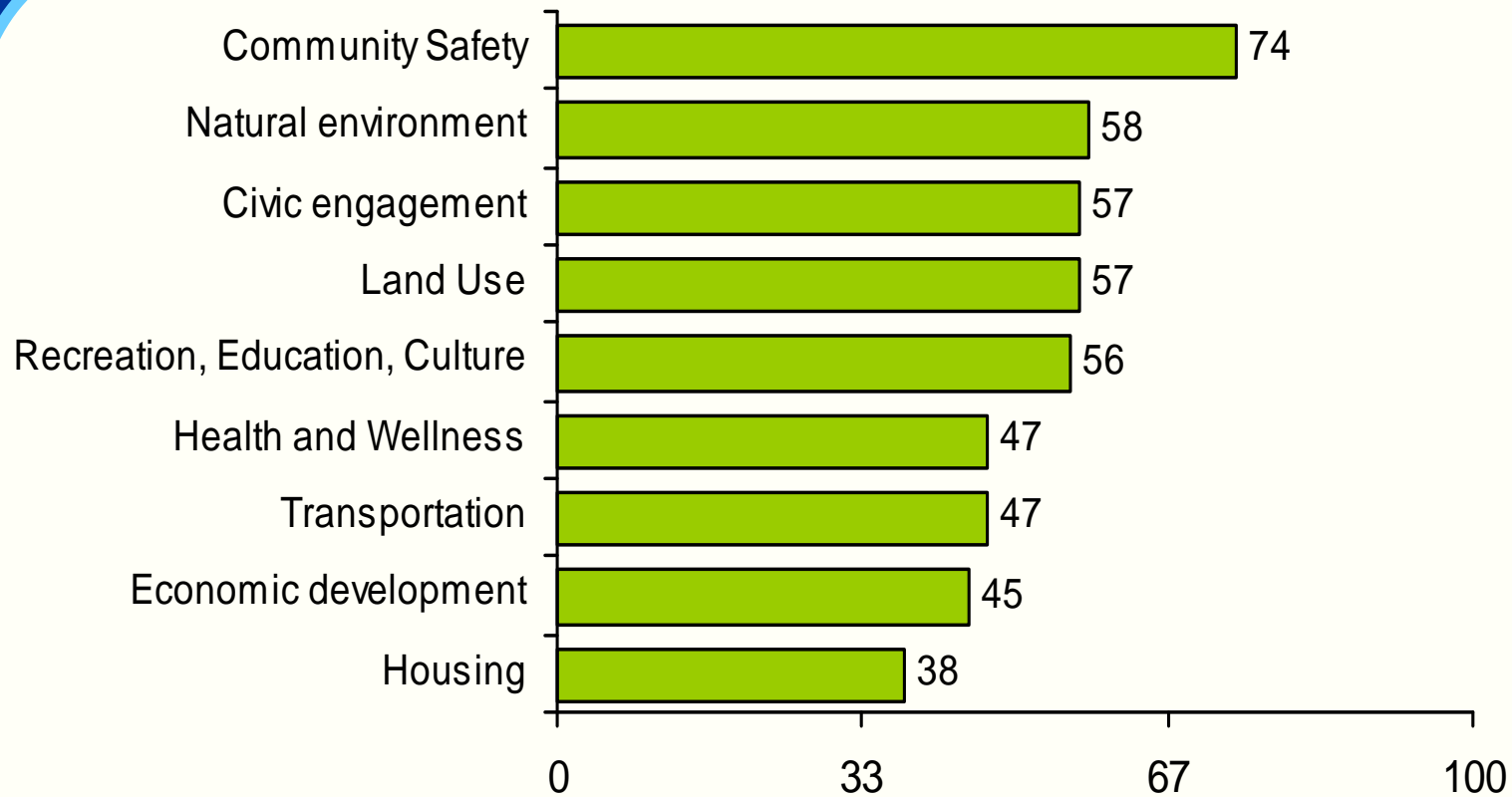
- Religious or spiritual events/activities
- Volunteer opportunities
- Community Safety
- Educational opportunities
- Quality of overall natural environment
- Cleanliness
- Overall appearance of community
- Social events/activities
- Fitness opportunities
- Sense of community

Community amenities receiving the lowest ratings by older residents:

- Availability of affordable, quality mental health services
- Employment opportunities
- Availability of affordable, quality housing
- Ease of bus travel
- Traffic flow on major streets
- Amount of public parking
- Availability affordable quality health care (Boomers)

Predictors of Community Quality

Community Amenity Indices



Quality Scale (0=Poor, 100=Excellent)

Older residents giving higher community ratings tended to be:

- Newer to the community
- Not working for pay
- Non-Hispanic White
- Not Hispanic
- Female
- Live in households with higher incomes
- Older

Communities receiving higher ratings tended to be:

- Wealthier (higher median household incomes)
- More educated
- More centrally located in United States
- Older (older median age)
- More Non-Hispanic White (higher proportion)
- Had fewer senior households (proportion)
- Have more home owners (higher proportion)
- Smaller in population size

Key Drivers of Community Quality

Key Drivers of Older Resident Ratings of Communities

Place to Live

- Sense of community
- Employment opportunities
- Educational opportunities
- Social events and activities
- Safety
- Paths and walking trails

Place to Retire

- Sense of community
- Educational opportunities
- Social events and activities
- Recreational opportunities

Community Readiness Action Chart

Community Design

- Above Benchmark: Overall appearance
- Above Benchmark: Quality of new development
- Similar to Benchmark: Quality of businesses
- Similar to Benchmark: Shopping
- Key Driver: Employment opportunities
- Below Benchmark: Variety of housing
- Below Benchmark: Affordable, quality housing

Physical Environment

- Similar to Benchmark: Air quality
- Above Benchmark: Natural Environment
- Above Benchmark: Cleanliness

Recreation, Education and Culture

- Similar to Benchmark: Cultural activities
- Key Driver: Educational opportunities
- Key Driver: Social opportunities
- Key Driver: Recreational opportunities
- Above Benchmark: Religious opportunities

Transportation

- Below Benchmark: Ease of car travel
- Below Benchmark: Ease of bicycle travel
- Key Driver: Paths and walking trails
- Below Benchmark: Traffic flow on major streets
- Below Benchmark: Ease of bus travel
- Below Benchmark: Public parking
- Similar to Benchmark: Ease of walking

Community Inclusiveness

- Key Driver: Sense of community
- Similar to Benchmark: Community openness
- Above Benchmark: Volunteer opportunities
- Similar to Benchmark: Community matters

Health and Wellness

- Key Driver: Safety
- Similar to Benchmark: Affordable, quality food
- Above Benchmark: Fitness opportunities
- Similar to Benchmark: Affordable, quality health care
- Similar to Benchmark: Preventive health services
- Below Benchmark: Mental health care

Legend

- Above Benchmark
- Similar to Benchmark
- Below Benchmark

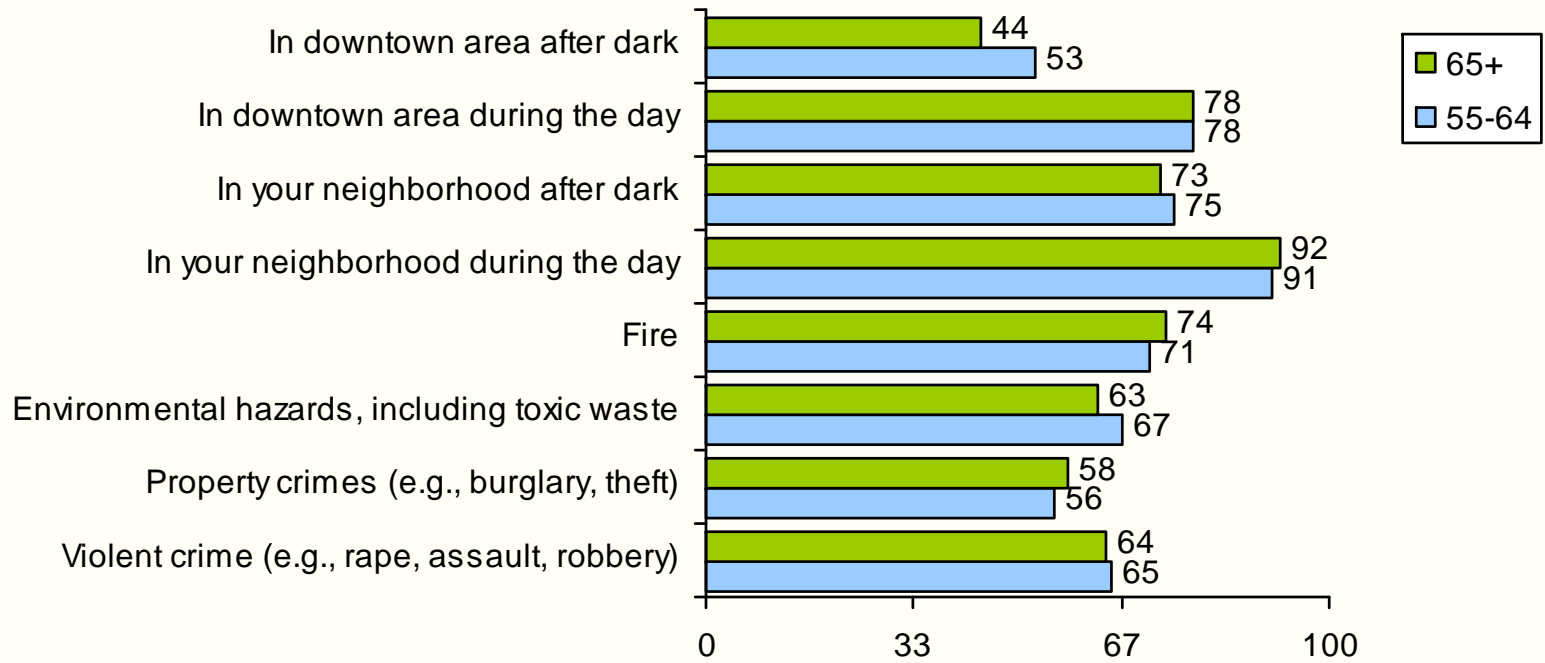
Key Driver

Thank you

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Community Safety



Percent of Residents Rating Amenity as "Excellent" or "Good"