

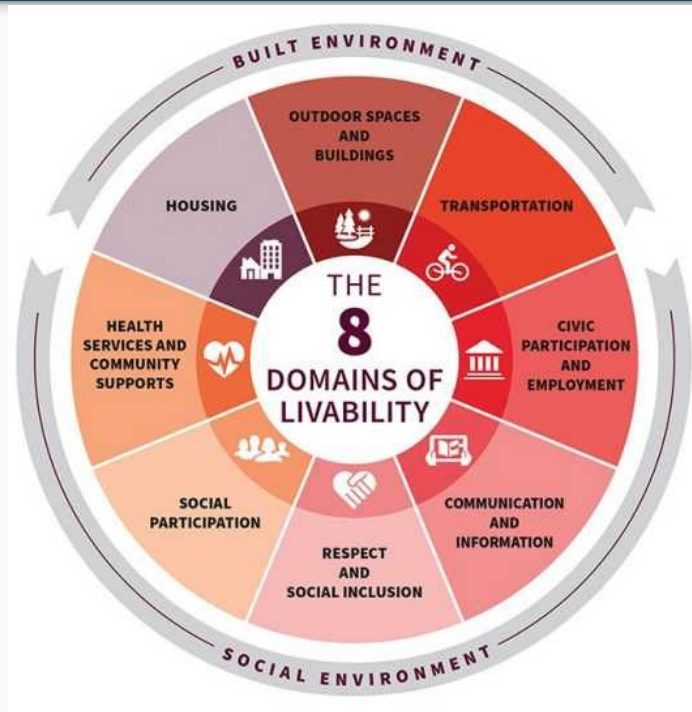
Age Friendly Survey Results

Shannon Byrne

West Allis Senior Center - Southwest Suburban Health Department



What are Age Friendly Communities?



The places aiming to be more livable, and better able to support people of all ages, when local leaders commit to improving the quality of life for the very young, the very old, and everyone in between

Survey Implementation

Through city marketing channels,
paper surveys across the
community

November 1 – mid-December, 2024

Required to live in West Allis and be
45 or older

Compiled by AARP's National team



Who Responded?

345 Total Respondents

Respondents were 77% women

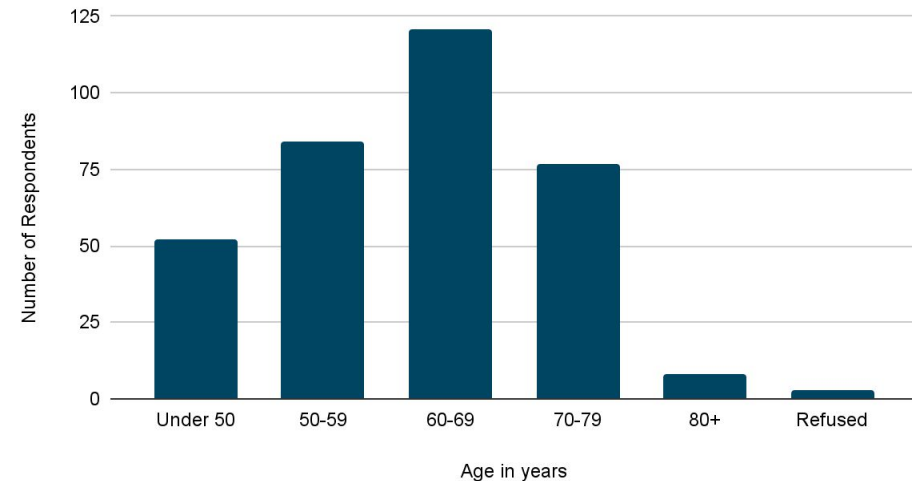
95% White, 96% non-Hispanic

92% identified as straight/heterosexual

32% had a disability

18% were caregivers

What is your age as of your last birthday?



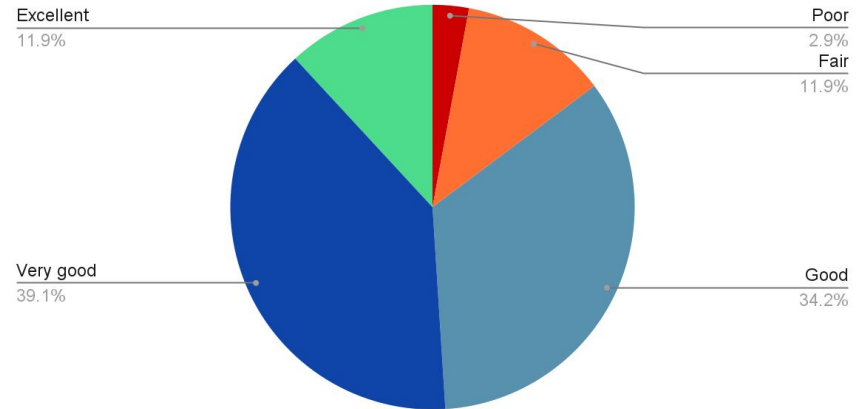
General Sentiment

72% find it extremely important to be able to live independently in their home as they age

47% plan to stay in their current residence and never move

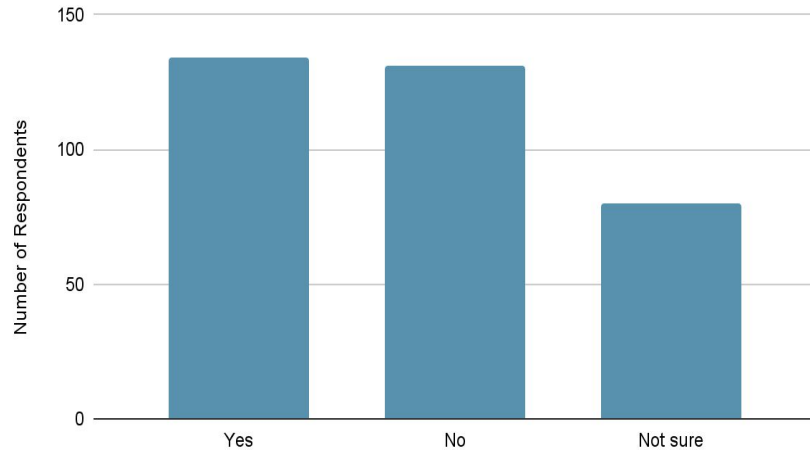
The most important factor in considering a move was **“Wanting a home that will help you live independently as you age”**

How would you rate your current community as a place for people to live as they age?



Theme - Housing Stock is Unprepared

Will your home need modifications to allow you to stay there as you age?



75%* rated “Well-maintained, safe low-income housing” poorly

71%* felt there weren’t enough homes that are built with things like a no-step entrance, wider doorways, and first floor bedrooms and bathrooms

55%* felt there wasn’t enough affordable housing options for older active adult communities, assisted living, and communities with shared facilities and outdoor spaces

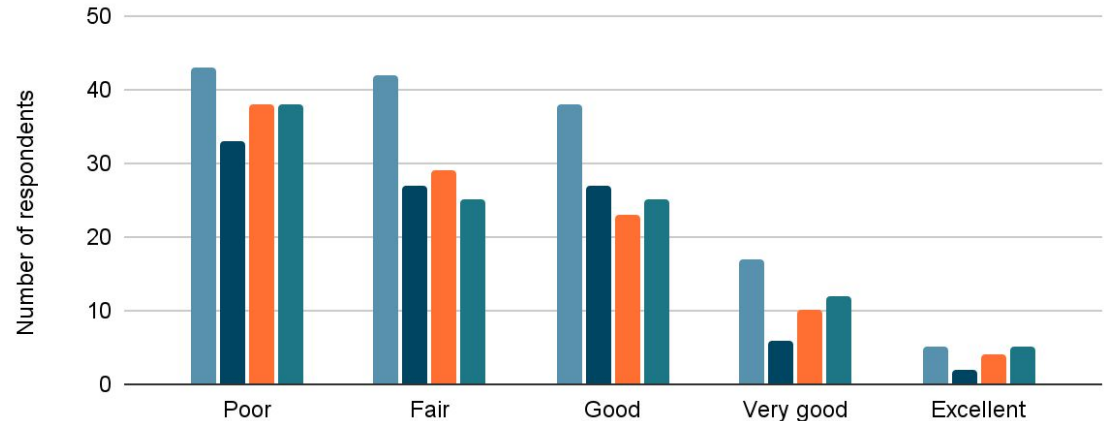
*This percentage was adjusted to exclude respondents who responded “Not Sure”

Theme - Job concerns

Of those still employed or looking for work, 63% expected to **continue to work as long as possible, rather than retire** or no longer work for pay

How would you rate your community in the following?

- A range of flexible job opportunities for older adults
- Job training opportunities for older adults who want to learn new job skills within their job or get
- Job that are adapted to meet the needs of people with disabilities
- Policies that ensure older adults can continue to have equal opportunity to work for as long as they

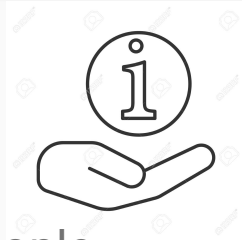


Theme - Information

48%* felt it was hard to find information on available local volunteer opportunities

53%* felt not enough community information is delivered in person to people who have difficulty leaving their home

45%* felt they didn't have access to enough clearly displayed printed community information with large lettering



*This percentage was adjusted to exclude respondents who responded "Not Sure"

Theme - Financial Insecurity

89% were concerned that cost of living increases may reduce their standard of living during their retirement years

39% stated 'Wanting to live in an area that has a lower cost of living' is a major factor in their decision to stay or move out of the community



Theme - Safety Concerns



58% considered personal safety or security concerns to be a major factor in their decision to stay or move out of the community

65% believed speed limits in the community were poorly enforced

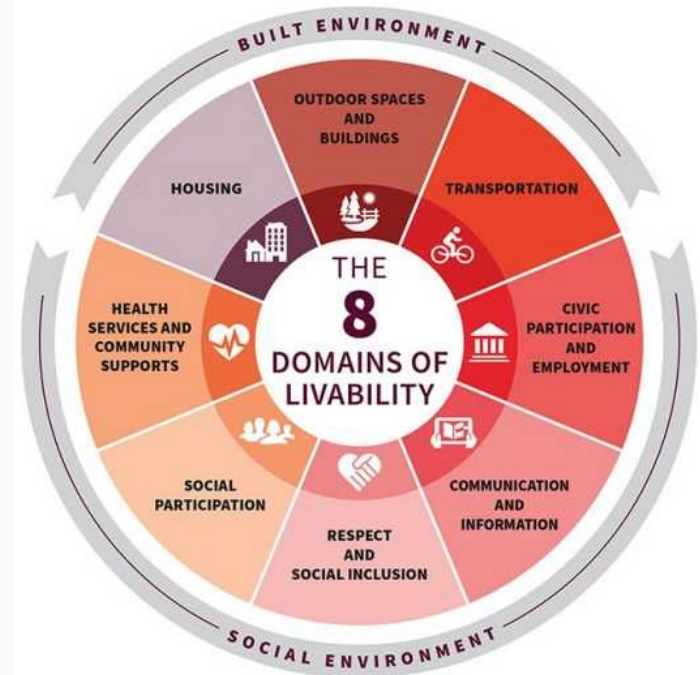
What Comes Next?

The Age Friendly Steering Committee determined its Action Plan priority areas

Housing

Civic Participation & Employment

We will determine strategies to improve those domains, and how we will evaluate our work



Connecting with the Public

Community Conversation

Creating a Community for All Ages



Tuesday, April 8 at 6 p.m.



Aurora West Allis Medical Center

8901 W. Lincoln Ave.



Sharing results in conjunction with:

Community & Neighborhood Services

Aurora Health Care

WAWM RCS

Eras Senior Network

Life Navigators



Getting Involved

Contact Shannon Byrne
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