

Older Adults Committee Meeting

2026 Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA)

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FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES

CASOA Survey Response

Polco



Category	2019	2022	2026
Mailed Survey Sample	22,000	22,000	22,000
Mailed Survey Responses	4,777	2,919	1,784
Open Survey Responses	n/a	n/a	1,260
TOTAL	**4,777**	**2,919**	**3,044**

The CASOA survey is the first step of the community engagement process for the development of the next SHAPE the Future of Aging Strategic Plan. Multiple public input sessions will follow to review and explore the results.

The 2022 and 2019 CASOA results can be found here:
https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/topics/older-adult-survey

Survey Representation Trends

Category	Difference from Population %			Trend
	2019	2022	2026	
Renters	-12%	-9%	-7%	↑
Non-White	-18%	-19%	-12%	↑
Hispanic	-4%	-3%	-5%	→
Male	-0%	-4%	-7%	↓
Ages 50-64	-15%	-25%	-33%	↓

The community engagement process will intentionally address information gathering with groups who have been underrepresented.

Populations With More Challenges

Population	Categories With More Challenges		Trend
	2022	2026	
Renters	11	14	↑
Non-White	7	6	↓
Hispanic	6	14	↑
Female	0	1	↑
Ages 75+	4	5	↑

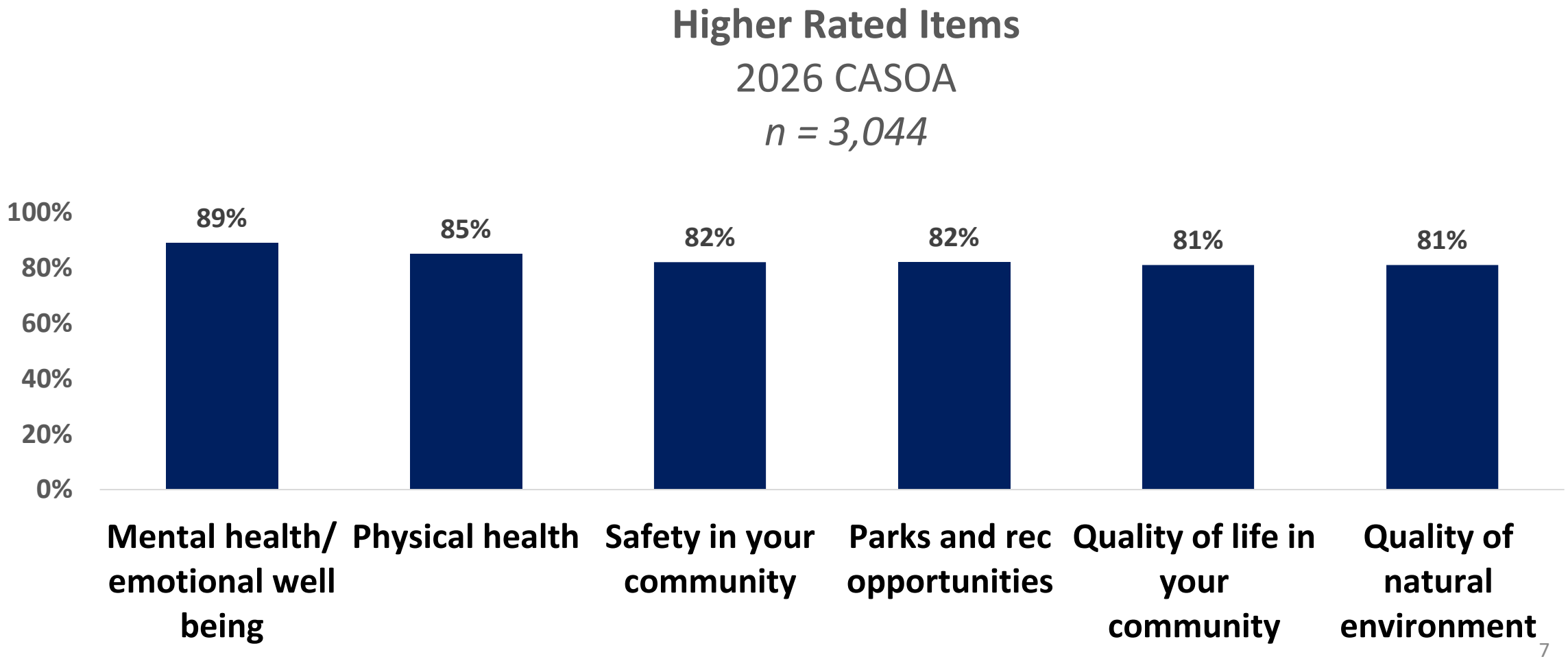
CASOA Domains	Community Livability Topics	SHAPE	Fairfax County Strategic Plan Outcome Areas
Community Design	• Housing • Land Use • Mobility	• **H**ousing and Neighborhood Supports • **A**ccess to Mobility Options	• Housing and Neighborhood Livability • Mobility and Transportation
Employment and Finances	• Employment, • Finances	• **E**conomic Stability and Planning	• Economic Opportunity • Empowerment and Support for Residents with Vulnerabilities
Equity and Inclusivity	• Equity • Community Exclusivity	• All IDCs	• One Fairfax
Health and Wellness	• Safety • Physical Health • Mental Health • Health Care • Independent Living	• **S**ervices for Older Adults/Family Caregivers • **P**ersonal Well-Being	• Health • Safety and Security
Information and Assistance	• Qual of Older Adult Svcs. • Information on Older Adult Services	• **S**ervices for Older Adults/Family Caregivers	• Efficient and Effective Government, • Empowerment and Support for Residents with Vulnerabilities
Productive Activities	• Civic Engagement, • Social Engagement • Caregiving	• **S**ervices for Older Adults/Family Caregivers • **P**ersonal Well-Being	• Cultural and Recreational Opportunities • Efficient and Effective Government • Lifelong Education and Learning

Overall Community Quality

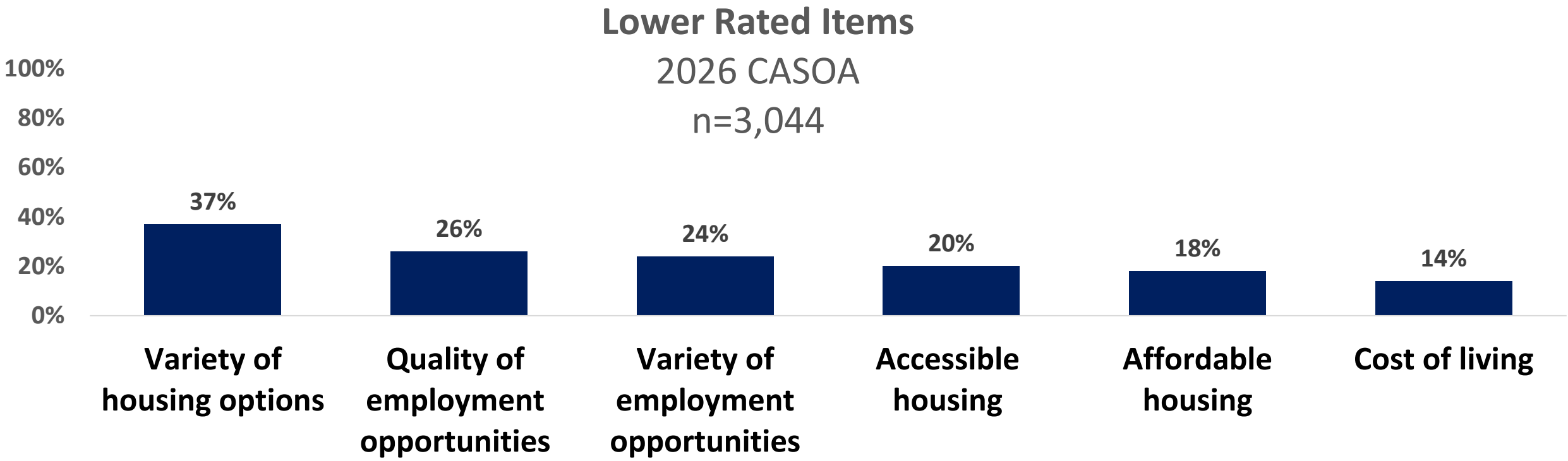
Older adults are very positive about this community.
An increasing number think it is a good place to retire.

Question	2019 %	2022 %	2026 %	Trend	Bench Mark
Those who rated their community as an excellent or good **place to live**	91%	92%	87%	→	↑
Those who rated community excellent or good as a **place to retire**	49%	53%	56%	↑	↓
Those who **plan to stay in the community** throughout retirement	62%	59%	61%	→	↓

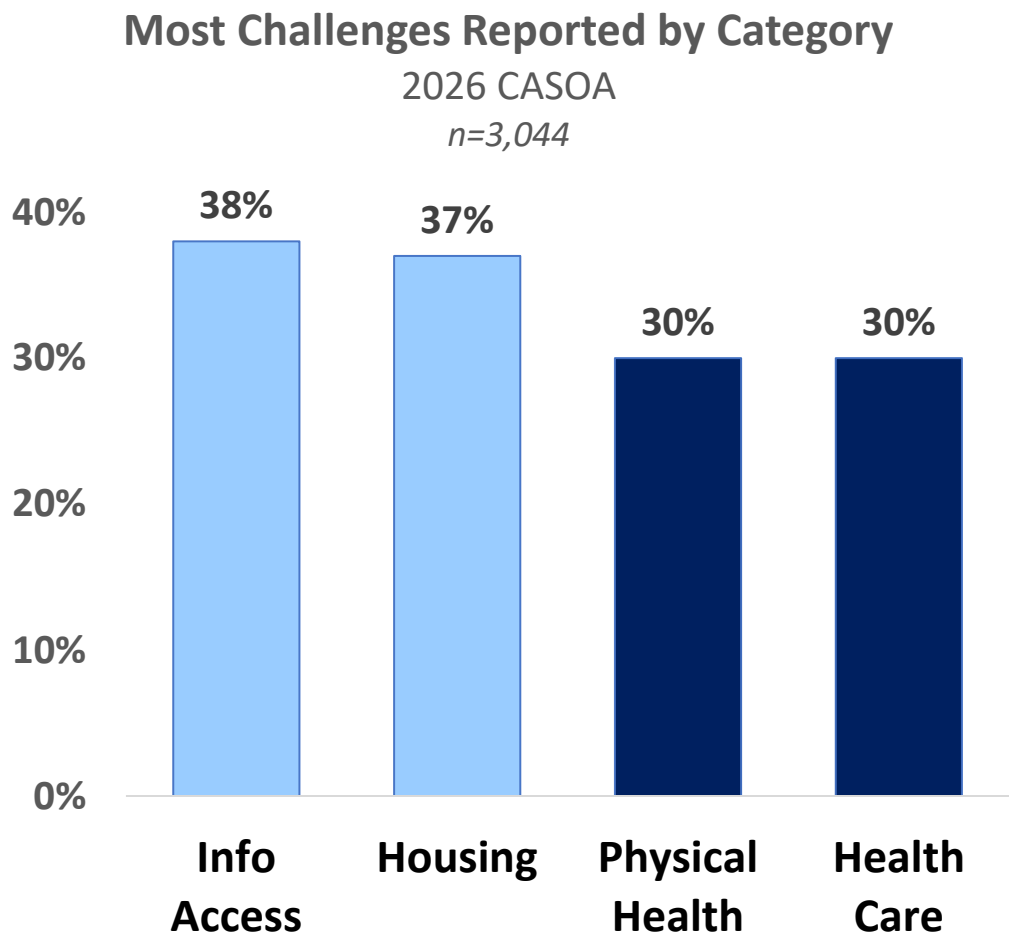
Physical and Mental Health and Recreation Items Were Among the Most Highly Rated on the CASOA

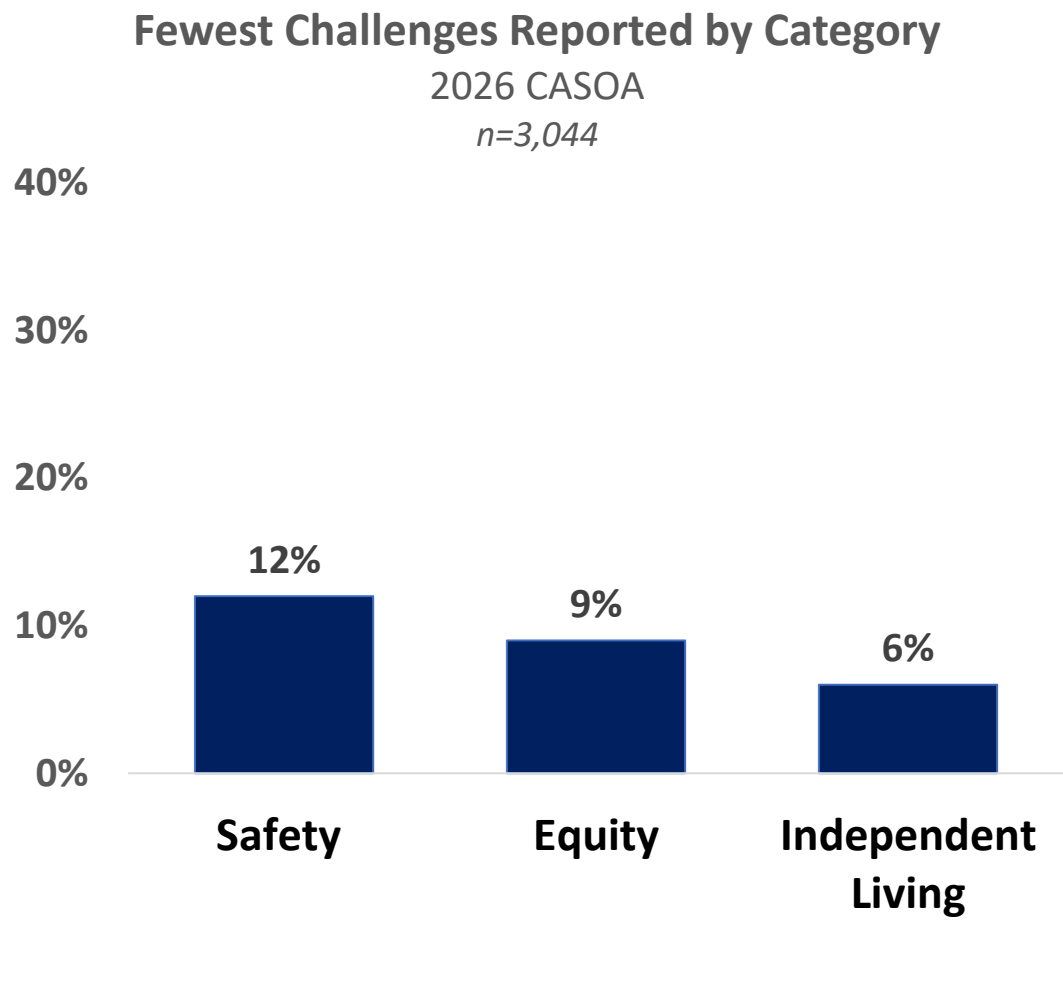


Housing, Employment, and Cost of Living Were Among the Lowest Rated Items

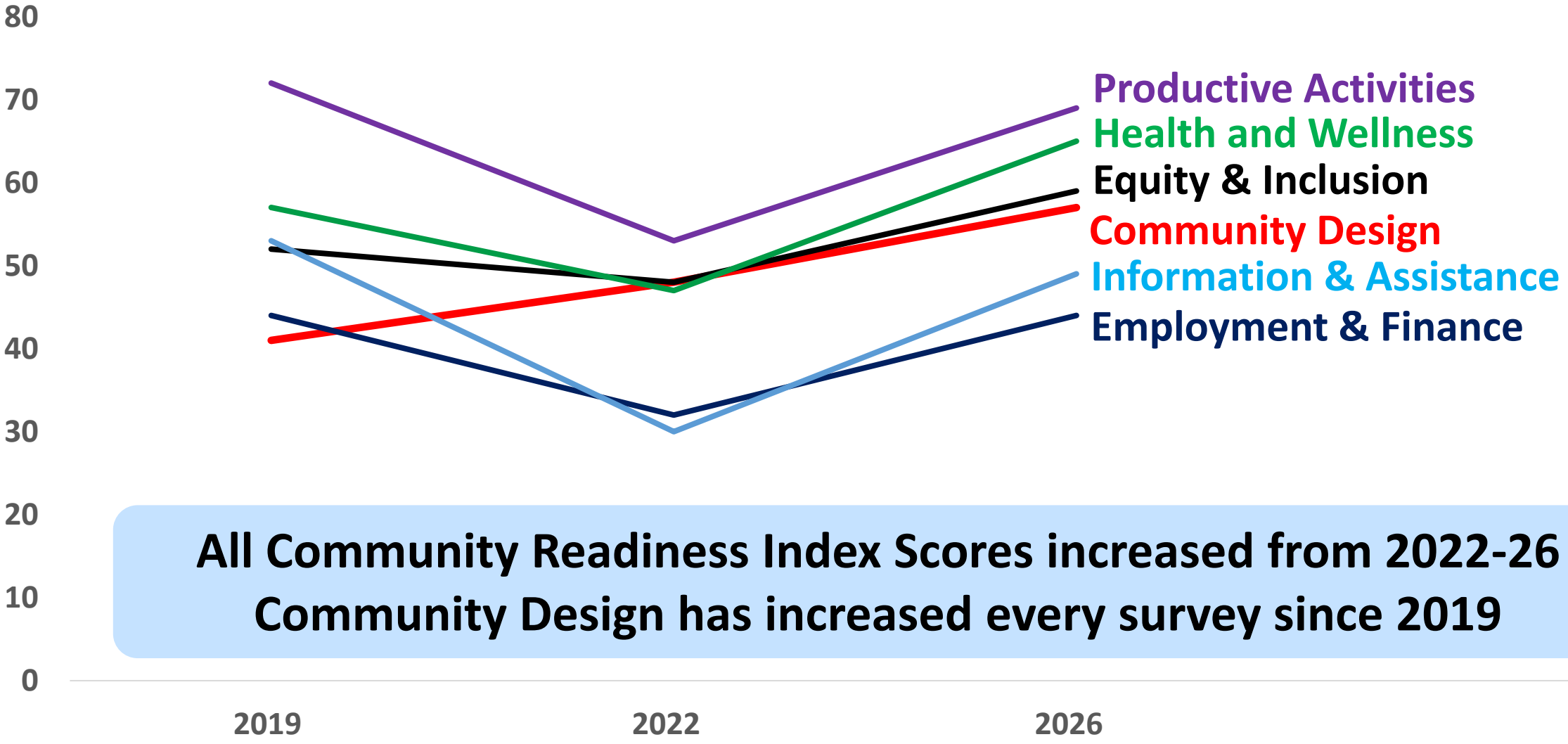


Information Access and Housing Were Among the Most Frequently Reported Challenges





Community Readiness Index Ratings Over Time



All Community Readiness Index Scores increased from 2022-26
Community Design has increased every survey since 2019

Community Livability Rating Trends

(Ratings Should Be High)

Community Livability Rating Question	2019	2022	2026	Trend
STRENGTHS				
Felt very or somewhat informed about available services and activities	49%	52%	57%	↑
Openness and acceptance of community to older residents of diverse backgrounds	58%	64%	65%	↑
OPPORTUNITIES				
Opportunity to enroll in skill building/personal enrichment classes	82%	62%	59%	↓
Availability of Long-Term Care Options	44%	40%	36%	↓

Challenge Trends
(Challenges Should Be Low)

Challenge Question	2019	2022	2026	Trend
STRENGTHS				
Finding meaningful volunteer work	33%	28%	25%	↓
Maintaining a healthy diet	42%	39%	36%	↓
OPPORTUNITIES				
Being a victim of fraud or a scam	18%	20%	23%	↑
Finding work in retirement	31%	35%	41%	↑
Building skills for paid or unpaid work	29%	37%	41%	↑

Comparison to Benchmarks

Fairfax County Rated Higher On These National Benchmarks
• Overall economic health of your community
• Opportunities to build work skills
• Overall quality of the transportation system in your community
• Overall health and wellness opportunities in your community
• Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts
Fairfax County Had Fewer Challenges On These National Benchmarks
• Having enough money to meet daily expenses
• Getting the health care you need
• Maintaining a healthy diet
• Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend
• Having interesting social events or activities to attend

Other Notable Findings

Civic Engagement

- 91% voted in their last election
- 57% volunteer their time at least 1 hr. per week

Caregiving

- 22% provide care to child under 18
- 37% provide care to someone 55+

Digital Connectivity

- 96% use the internet from a computer
- 95% use the internet from a cell phone
- 98% regularly check email
- 78% use social media
- 52% shop online

The Significant Economic Contribution of Fairfax County Older Adults Continues to Grow

	2022 (in B)	2026 (in B)
Caregiving	$ 3.7	$ 5.6
Volunteering	$ 0.8	$ 1.4
TOTAL UNPAID	**$ 4.5**	**$ 7.0**
Part Time	$ 1.3	$ 1.4
Full Time	$10.7	$10.6
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	**$12.1**	**$12.0**
TOTAL ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION	**$16.6**	**$19.0**

CASOA Next Steps

Review CASOA data with Commission on Aging and SHAPE Initiative Development Committees to identify gaps that will inform community engagement phase.

Community engagement sessions will be held to gather qualitative data to inform the next strategic plan.

Community input will be analyzed and synthesized with CASOA data to inform SHAPE next steps.

Annual SHAPE report at next Older Adults Committee Meeting (June 2027).

Future Topics

Community Engagement and the Development of the Next Strategic Plan for Older Adults (2028-2033)
HR1's Impacts on Caregivers and Older Adults in Long-Term Care
Housing Affordability and Older Adults