Livability for All in Greater Kanawha Valley, WV

An Age-Friendly Community Survey of Residents Age 50-Plus

AARP

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AARP[®]
Real Possibilities

Livable Community

A livable community is one that is safe and secure, has affordable and appropriate housing and transportation options, and offers supportive community features and services. Once in place, those resources enhance personal independence; allow residents to age in place; and foster residents' engagement in the community's civic, economic, and social life.

– AARP Policy Book, Chapter 9

AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities

- AARP's Age-Friendly Network is an affiliate of the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities Program.
- The program was established to connect cities, communities and organizations worldwide with the common vision of making their community a great place where people can grow up and grow old.
- The program targets the environmental, social, and economic factors that influence the health and well-being of residents of all ages.

The WHO 8 Domains of Livability

Community
& Health
Care

Transportation

Housing

Social
Participation

Outdoor
Spaces &
Buildings

Respect &
Social
Inclusion

Civic
Participation
&
Employment

Communication
& Information

Icons from FlatIcon.com

Top Community Features

(% Excellent/Very Good)

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Bottom Community Features

(% Fair/Poor)

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

The majority of Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ believe their community is a good place to age and want to live there independently for as long as possible.

Rating of Current Community
as a Place for People to Live as They Age

Importance of
Remaining in Current Community

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Most Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ own single family homes.

Type of Home	
A single family house	83%
An apartment	8%
A mobile home	4%
A townhouse/Row house	2%
A two family house that has two separate living units	1%
A condominium/Coop	1%
Senior housing/Assisted living facility	<1%
Other	0%

66% of respondents say remaining in their current home is extremely/very important.

27% of respondents say they need to make major repairs, home modifications, or changes

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ have lived in their home for an average of 22 years and have lived in their community even longer, an average of 32 years.

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

The majority of Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ expect to stay in their home or community as they get older.

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Age-friendly housing, safety, close proximity to family, and affordability are influential factors for Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ considering moving when they get older.

Question: If you were to consider moving out of your residence, would the following be a major factor, a minor factor, or not a factor at all in your decision to move?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ rate their community positively on having well-maintained homes and properties as well as good home modification and repair contractors.

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ rate their community excellent to good at having well-maintained, safe parks and accessible public buildings.

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Most Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ drive themselves to get around their community.

Photo from iStock.com/diego_cervo

83% drive
themselves around

37% have others
drive them

Photo from iStock.com/Satoshi-K

35% walk

17% use
public transportation

11% ride a bike

Photo from iStock.com/kali9

10% take a taxi
7% use a special
transportation
service

<1% get around
some other way

Photo from ScienceWorldReport.com

Question: How do you usually get around your community for things like shopping, visiting the doctor, running errands, or other things?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ rate their community excellent to good on having easy to read traffic signs although a nearly half provide a negative rating for having well-maintained streets.

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

About half of Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ feel their community offers affordable and well-maintained public transportation.

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

The majority of Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ rate their community excellent to good on having a variety of helpful and respectful health care professionals.

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

The majority of Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ rate their community excellent to good on having well-maintained health care facilities in convenient locations.

■ Excellent/Very good ■ Good ■ Fair/Poor ■ Not exist in community ■ Not sure/Refused

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Half of Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ say their community has a variety of affordable social activities at convenient locations.

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ provide mixed ratings in terms of volunteer activities in their community.

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

About half of Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ rate their community fair to poor in terms of having employment opportunities for older residents.

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

The majority of Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ rate their community positively on having free access to computers and the Internet in public places; however, nearly half give more negative ratings to the other community information features.

Question: Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on having the following?

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Respondent Profile: Demographics

Gender	
Male	45%
Female	55%

AARP Membership	
Yes	38%
No	61%

Age	
50-54	17%
55-64	39%
65-74	25%
75-84	14%
85 or older	6%

Race/Ethnicity*	
White or Caucasian	90%
Black	6%
Asian	1%
Native American or Alaskan Native	1%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%
Hispanic	1%
Other	1%

Marital Status	
Single, never married	11%
Married	51%
Not married, living with your partner or significant other	2%
Separated	1%
Divorced	18%
Widowed	16%

Caregiver Status	
Current	21%
Future*	35%

Health Status	
Excellent/Very good	39%
Good	33%
Fair/Poor	28%

Disability Status	
Yes, myself	29%
Yes, my spouse or partner	5%
Yes, both myself and my spouse or partner	7%
No	59%

*Based on total number of survey respondents.

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Respondent Profile: Socioeconomic & Voting

Education	
0 to 12th grade, but with no diploma	6%
High school graduate or equivalent	24%
Post high school education, but with no degree	18%
2 year degree (Associate's Degree)	13%
4 year degree (Bachelor's Degree)	17%
Post graduate study, but with no degree	4%
Graduate or professional degree	18%

Employment Status	
Self-employed full-time	6%
Self-employed part-time	2%
Employed full-time	24%
Employed part-time	6%
Retired and not working at all	47%
Unemployed and looking for work	2%
Not in the labor force for other reasons	12%

Income	
< \$10,000	7%
\$10,000 - \$19,999	15%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	14%
\$30,000 - \$49,999	21%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	15%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	9%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	7%
\$150,000 +	4%

Voting Behavior	
Always	66%
Most of the time	17%
About half of the time	4%
Seldom	7%
Never	5%

Political Party	
Democrat	40%
Republican	30%
Independent	21%
Something else	<1%

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Survey Methodology:

- A telephone survey was commissioned by AARP to assess public opinion among Greater Kanawha Valley residents age 50+ about age-friendly and livable community topics in the Greater Kanawha Valley.
- Telephone interviewing was conducted by Alan Newman Research from August 3rd to August 22nd 2017.
- A total of 505 interviews were conducted. The margin of error for this sample is $\pm 4.4\%$.
- The sample utilized RDD landline and cell phone records.

Source: 2017 AARP Age-Friendly Community Survey of Greater Kanawha Valley, WV Residents Age 50+

Contact Information:

- This deck, the annotated survey, the methodology report, and an infographic can be accessed at:
www.aarp.org/AgeFriendlyCommunities
- For more information about age-friendly work in the Greater Kanawha Valley, please contact Linda Bunn, AARP West Virginia, at lbunn@aarp.org.
- For more information about the survey, please contact Joanne Binette, AARP Research, at jbinette@aarp.org.