Target the Right Places and Policies to Make Your Community More Livable: AARP Livability Index

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THE LIVABILITY INDEX: GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS FOR ALL AGES
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 Public Policy Institute
HOW DO PEOPLE CHOOSE NEIGHBORHOODS

- Preferences
- Limitations
  - Family Budget
  - Availability
- Where People Live
Why Did AARP Create The Livability Index?
AMERICA IS AGING

Percent of Population Age 65+ 2010

America is Aging

Percent of Population Age 65+ 2020

Portland Metro Region

• Between 2010 and 2030, while our region’s population will grow by 35% overall, the number of people 65+ will grow by 106% (Metro, 2009)

• We ALL are aging, but little planning has occurred

• Our window of opportunity for preparing is shrinking rapidly
What Is The Livability Index: Great Neighborhoods for All Ages

Livability Index | Great Neighborhoods for All Ages

How livable is your community?

enter your address, city, state or zip code

The Livability Index scores cities and communities across the U.S. for the services and amenities that impact your life the most. Search for your city or learn more about how we define livability.
What’s Unique about AARP’s Livability Index: Great Neighborhoods for All Ages
How can the Index be used?

- Catalyze community conversations for lasting change
- Benchmarking and baseline assessment
- Guidance for policy making
- Measuring progress
It’s not a one-generation issue!
Overlap in community livability features that benefit both older adults & families with children

Older Adults
- Smaller homes requiring less maintenance
- Supportive services

Families with Children
- Good schools
- Convenient child care

- Affordable homes
- Accessible, visitable homes
- Transportation options
- Safe, walkable streets
- Open space & parks
- Convenient shopping and services
- Nearby, high-quality health services
- Good jobs
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www.aarp.org/livabilityindex
FOR MORE INFORMATION

AARP Public Policy Institute
www.aarp.org/livabilityindex

AARP Livable Communities Resources
www.aarp.org/livablepolicy
www.aarp.org/livable

AARP Oregon
www.aarp.org/or

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@AARPlivable
@AARPOR
Visit www.aarp.org/livabilityindex

Questions to consider:

• How did your community perform overall? In what domains and metrics does your community perform well? Are there policies or other factors that contribute to its success?

• Where is there room for your community to improve its livability? Are there specific policies that your community could adopt to address these issues?

• Are there areas of your community that are more livable than others?

• Are there specific groups within your community that are concentrated in less livable areas?

• What are the steps that your community could take to improve its livability? These can include not only state or local policies, but also infrastructure projects, community outreach, programs and services, or efforts to benefit specific neighborhoods or population groups.