



Community Assessment Survey
for Older Adults™

Carbon Valley Report for Weld County, CO 2010

Brief Report



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Introduction

Like waves of marathon runners, increasing numbers of adults are racing off the half-century starting line. More than one-half of the Baby Boom generation now is age 50 and older and one-third of all Americans will reach age 50 by 2010. To prepare better for this aging population, the Weld County Department of Human Services and the Weld County Area Agency on Aging contracted with National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) to conduct an assessment of the strengths and needs of its older residents. Based upon the perspectives of older residents themselves, the Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA™) provides a statistically valid survey of older adults in communities across America. The study findings will be used by staff, elected officials and other stakeholders to plan for older adult services, programs and facilities. The objectives of the CASOA™ are to:

- Identify community strengths in serving older adults
- Articulate the specific needs of older adults in the community
- Estimate contributions made by older adults to the community
- Determine the connection of older adults to the community

The assessment focused on a series of needs among older adult residents age 60 or older and the community supports that foster successful aging. Forty common needs affecting older adult well being were assessed. These 40 issues fell into the larger categories of health and wellness, community design and land use, participation in productive activities and community resources for information and planning. Older adults' opinions about current community amenities and opportunities also were measured in the survey.

The results of this exploration will provide useful information for planning and resource development as well as strengthen advocacy efforts and stakeholder engagement. The ultimate goal of the assessment is to create an empowered community that supports a vibrant older adult population in Weld County.

Using This Brief Report

Communities conducting the CASOA™ can choose from a number of optional services to customize the report of survey results. Carbon Valley's Brief Report is part of a larger project for Weld County. Weld County augmented the sample of older adults to provide stand-alone brief reports for a geographic area in the county (Carbon Valley, which includes Dacono, Erie, Firestone, Frederick and Mead). Both the Weld County and Carbon Valley reports are available under separate cover. This Brief Report is intended to provide a high-level summary of findings in succinct form with relevant appendices.

It should be noted that when a table for a question that only permitted a single response does not total to exactly 100%, it is due to the common practice of percentages being rounded to the nearest whole number.

CASOA™ Methods

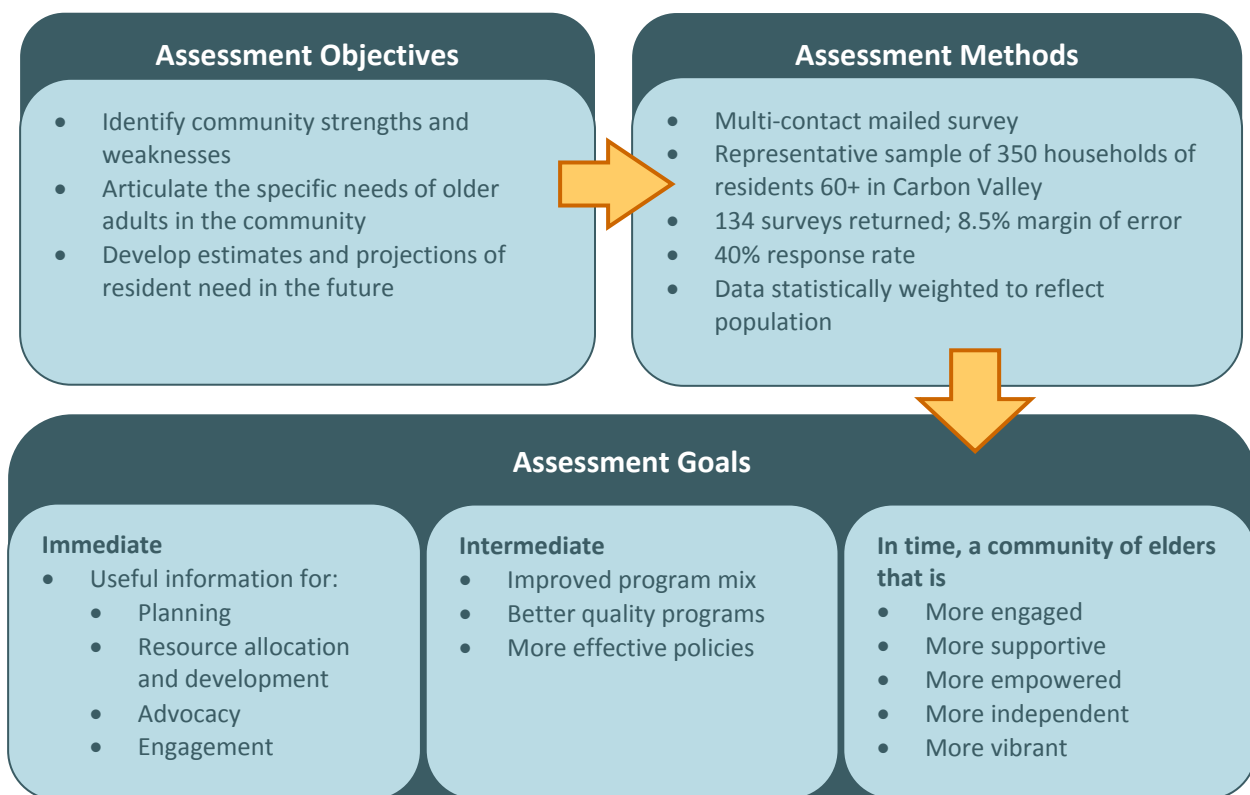
The survey and its administration are standardized to assure high quality survey methods and comparable results across CASOA™ jurisdictions. Participating households with residents 60 years or older were selected at random and the household member who responded was selected without

bias. Multiple mailings gave each household more than one prompt to participate with a self-addressed and postage-paid envelope to return the survey. Results were statistically weighted to reflect the proper demographic composition of older adults in the entire community.

The survey was mailed in July 2010 to a random selection of 1,500 older adult households in Weld County. Older adult households were contacted three times about participation in the survey. A total of 555 completed surveys were obtained for the entire county, providing an overall response rate of 38% and a margin of error of plus or minus 4% around any given percent and 2.5 points around any given average rating for the entire sample.

This report contains the results for Carbon Valley, located in Weld County. The 1,500 surveys sent to Weld County included 350 in Carbon Valley. A total of 134 completed surveys were obtained for Carbon Valley, providing a margin of error of 8.5% around any given percent and five points around any given average rating for the entire sample. The response rate for Carbon Valley was 40%.

Figure 1: CASOA™ Methods and Goals



Carbon Valley as a Community for Older Adults

Overall perceived quality of community life may be the single best indicator of success in providing the natural ambience, services and amenities that make for an attractive community to older residents. The CASOA™ contained many questions related to quality of community life in Carbon Valley – not only direct questions about quality of life overall and in neighborhoods, but questions to measure residents’ commitment to the community. Residents were asked whether they planned to move soon or if they would recommend Carbon Valley to others. Intentions to stay and willingness to make recommendations provide evidence that Carbon Valley offers services and amenities that work.

Many of Carbon Valley’s older residents gave high ratings to the community as a place to live and as a place to retire. Services offered to older adults were considered “excellent” or “good” by 34% older residents in Carbon Valley. Further, a majority reported they would recommend the community to others and plan to stay for retirement.

Figure 2: Carbon Valley as a Place for Older Residents

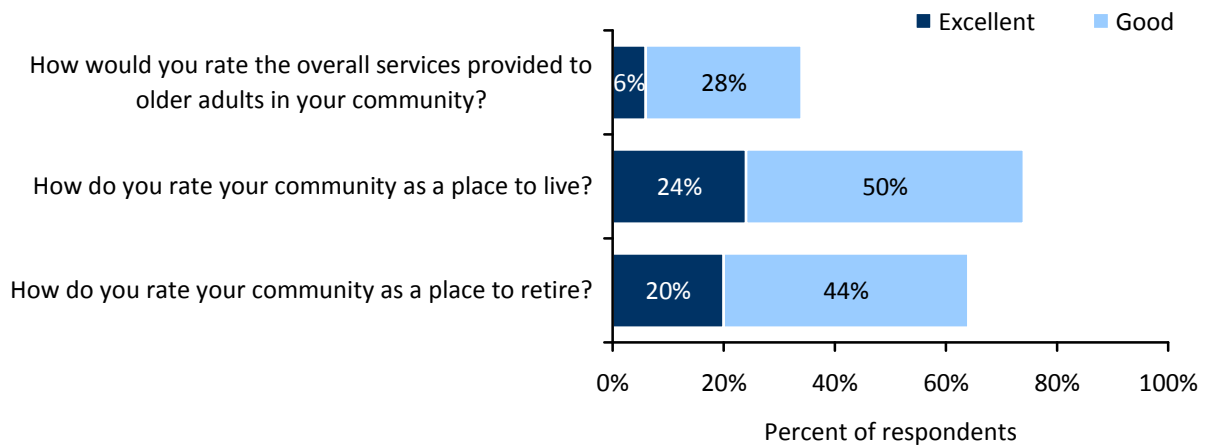
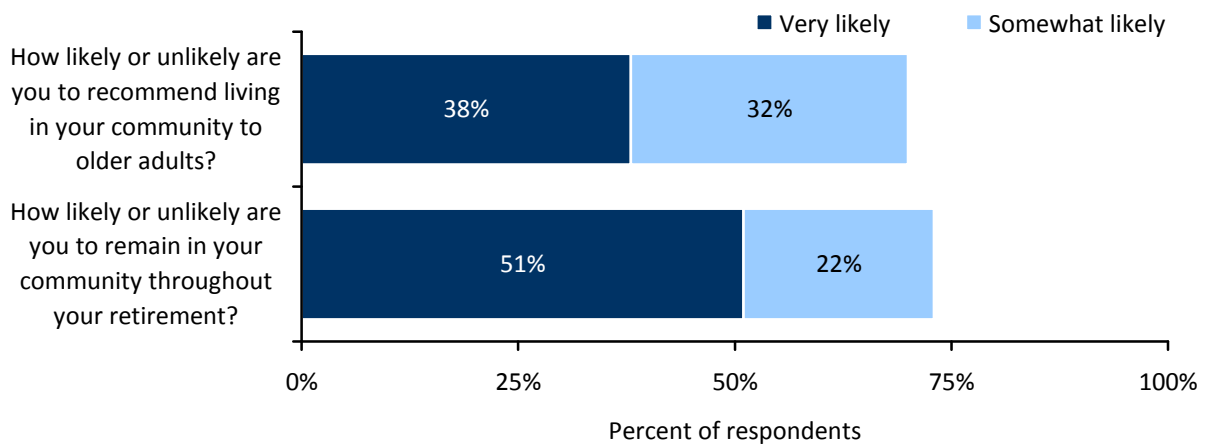


Figure 3: Likelihood of Remaining in Community and Recommending Community

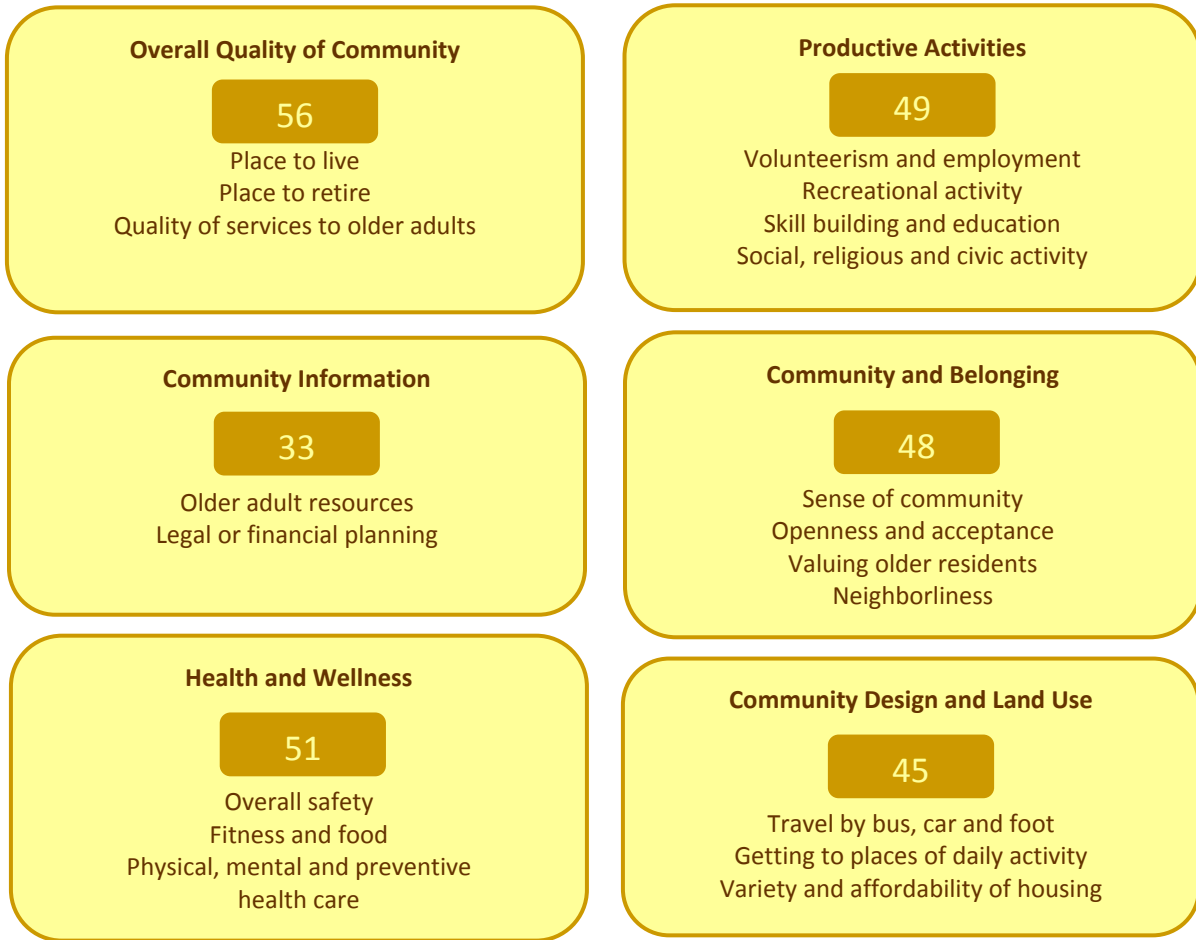


The “Readiness” of Carbon Valley for the Aging Population

Older adults may not complain, but not every community leaves older adults raving about the quality of community life or the services available for active living and aging in place. Communities that assist older adults to remain or become active community participants provide the requisite opportunities for recreation, transportation, culture, education, communication, social connection, spiritual enrichment and health care. It is not a package mix, so each community must identify what its older adults seek and what the community provides. The judgments of the residents for whom community planning takes place provide the elements of an equation that describes overall community quality in Carbon Valley.

Survey respondents were asked to rate 29 aspects of the community related to six community dimensions. Ratings for individual questions were converted to an average scale of 0 (the lowest rating, e.g., “poor”) to 100 (the highest rating, e.g., “excellent”) and then combined to provide one overall rating (index) for each of the six areas. Carbon Valley received its highest ratings in the area of Overall Community Quality and received the lowest ratings in the area of Community Information.

Figure 4: Carbon Valley Community Readiness Chart



Scale: 0=Lowest/most negative, 100=Highest/most positive

Ratings for the individual community characteristics are presented in the following six tables.

Figure 5: Overall Quality of Community Index

	Carbon Valley average rating
Quality of Community Index	56
How do you rate your community as a place to live?	65
How do you rate your community as a place to retire?	57
How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?	41
Scale: 0=Lowest/most negative, 100=Highest/most positive	

Figure 6: Community Information Index

	Carbon Valley average rating
Community Information Index	33
Availability of information about resources for older adults	37
Availability of financial and legal planning services	29
Scale: 0=Lowest/most negative, 100=Highest/most positive	

Figure 7: Health and Wellness Index

	Carbon Valley average rating
Health and Wellness Index	51
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	60
Availability of affordable quality physical health care	42
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	33
Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops)	42
Availability of affordable quality food	54
Overall feeling of safety in your community	62
Scale: 0=Lowest/most negative, 100=Highest/most positive	

Figure 8: Productive Activities Index

	Carbon Valley average rating
Productive Activities Index	49
Opportunities to volunteer	55
Employment opportunities	14
Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes	36
Recreation opportunities (including games, arts and library services, etc.)	59
Opportunities to attend social events or activities	50
Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities	62
Opportunities to attend or participate in meetings about local government or community matters	53
Scale: 0=Lowest/most negative, 100=Highest/most positive	

Figure 9: Community and Belonging Index

	Carbon Valley average rating
Community and Belonging Index	48
Sense of community	45
Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds	48
Valuing older residents in your community	48
Neighborliness of your community	55
Scale: 0=Lowest/most negative, 100=Highest/most positive	

Figure 10: Community Design and Land Use Index

	Carbon Valley average rating
Community Design and Land Use Index	45
Availability of affordable quality housing	40
Variety of housing options	38
Ease of bus travel in your community	5
Ease of car travel in your community	60
Ease of walking in your community	56
Ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	56
Scale: 0=Lowest/most negative, 100=Highest/most positive	

Older Adult Participation in Community Life in Carbon Valley

Activity builds strength and helps to keep a person from falling victim to illness. Older adults who participate in community life not only benefit directly from the activities but by linking with others who also are engaged, they build a network of support that can be instrumental in keeping them independent. Shown below are rates of participation in community activities.

Figure 11: Community Participation

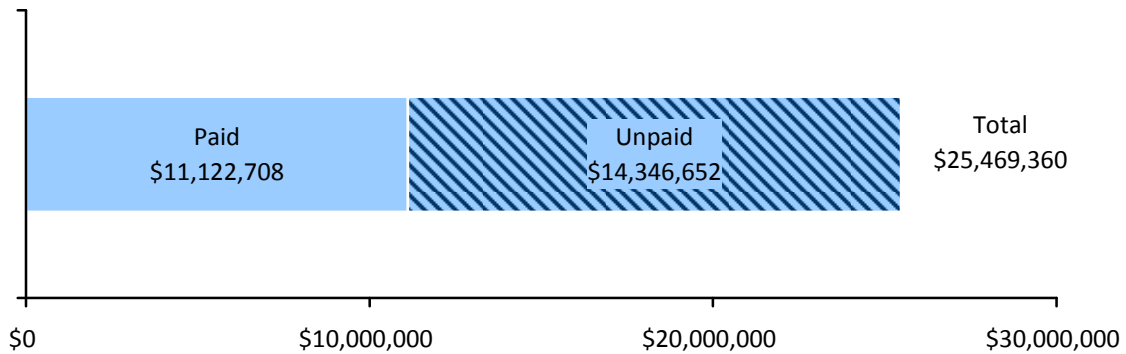
	Percent of respondents who have ever participated in activity
Communicating/visiting with friends and/or family	92%
Visited a neighborhood park	80%
Providing help to friends or relatives	76%
Used a public library in your community	56%
Participating in religious or spiritual activities with others	52%
Used a recreation center in your community	49%
Participating in a recreation program or group activity	40%
Volunteering your time to some group/activity in your community	33%
Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting in your community	32%
Participating in a club (including book, dance, game and other social)	29%
Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other public meeting on cable television, the Internet or other media	26%
Used a senior center in your community	25%
Participating in a civic group (including Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.)	12%
Used public transit (e.g., bus, subway, light rail, etc.) within your community	6%

Note: This table combines the results of questions 11 and 12, which have different response categories. Complete response frequencies for these questions can be found in Appendix A.

Contributions of Older Adults to Carbon Valley

Advantages of a community with a significant number of older adults can be read in lower crime statistics and smaller costs for infrastructure that requires fewer schools, less road maintenance, less crime fighting and smaller landfills. But the advantages that older adults provide to Carbon Valley extend beyond the passive benefits of lower cost. Many older residents have time and inclination to offer productive work whether paid or not. In Carbon Valley, older adults provide significant paid and unpaid contributions. In addition to their paid work, older adults contributed to Carbon Valley through volunteering, providing informal help to family and friends, and offering more extensive caregiving. The value of these unpaid contributions by older adults in Carbon Valley was estimated to be more than \$14 million in a 12-month period. Adding the value of their paid work, the total value of their contribution was nearly \$25.5 million in a 12-month period. For more information for how these estimates are calculated, see *Appendix B: Survey Methodology*.

Figure 12: Estimated Annual Economic Contributions of Older Adults in Carbon Valley



Carbon Valley Opportunities and Challenges

Older adults, more than others, face difficulties with aspects of everyday life. For many older adults these difficulties vastly exceed the minor physical pains or small losses of function that characterize almost everyone's circumstances after a certain age. When individual problems are added together, a group picture emerges that provides a useful description of the entire community of Carbon Valley. Nationally, areas where older adults face the largest share of life's challenges include caregiving, health and mental health, in-home support, nutrition and food security and transportation. This study explored specific problems or stressors encountered by older adults in Carbon Valley, such as physical and emotional difficulties and injuries that have compromised their independence. Presented are the current individual areas of need and from those, the magnitude of broader categories of need.

Typically, it is understood that the self-reported needs of older adults represent a minimum level, a conservative estimate attenuated by respondents' strong desire to feel and appear self-reliant and further reduced by the silent whisper of some older adults who, no matter how sensitive the attempt, are too frail to participate in any survey enterprise.

Nonetheless, clear patterns of needs and strengths emerged from this assessment. About 6 in 10 older adults in Carbon Valley reported problems with not knowing what services are available to older adults in the community. Between 7% and 9% reported experiencing problems with being a victim of crime and being physically or emotionally abused. However, even the least frequently encountered issues affected dozens of residents.

It should be understood that the percent of the population that experiences a problem is not a measure of how difficult a problem is to endure for the people who share it. Some needs, though rare as a percent of residents, have particularly devastating impacts on residents' quality of life – for example, needing help transferring from bed to wheelchair or having a problem with safety – so it is important to consider both the prevalence of the need and its centrality to residents' sustained independence.

Figure 13: Older Adult Needs in Carbon Valley

Thinking back over the past 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, has each of the following been for you?	Percent at least a "minor" problem	Number affected in 2000 (N=1,206) ¹
Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community	60%	728
Feeling like your voice is heard in the community	56%	678
Your physical health	55%	669
Doing heavy or intense housework	55%	664
Finding work in retirement	55%	659
Staying physically fit	53%	645
Having tooth or mouth problems	49%	585
Having interesting social events or activities to attend	45%	546
Maintaining your yard	43%	513
Maintaining a healthy diet	41%	499
Feeling bored	41%	494

Thinking back over the past 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, has each of the following been for you?	Percent at least a "minor" problem	Number affected in 2000 (N=1,206) ¹
Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend	39%	470
Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid	39%	475
Building skills for paid or unpaid work	37%	450
Dealing with financial planning issues	37%	448
Finding productive or meaningful activities to do	36%	435
Having enough money to pay your property taxes	36%	429
Maintaining your home	35%	420
Finding meaningful volunteer work	35%	417
Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness	34%	411
Having enough money to meet daily expenses	34%	410
Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals	33%	403
Finding affordable health insurance	32%	384
Dealing with legal issues	32%	384
Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend	32%	386
Feeling depressed	31%	372
Having safe and affordable transportation available	30%	363
Getting the oral health care you need	30%	363
Affording the medications you need	26%	319
Feeling lonely or isolated	25%	304
Getting the health care you need	21%	250
Providing care for another person	21%	249
Having friends or family you can rely on	19%	229
Falling or injuring yourself in your home	18%	212
Having housing to suit your needs	15%	180
Having enough food to eat	13%	156
Being a victim of fraud or a scam	13%	157
No longer being able to drive	12%	140
Being a victim of crime	9%	109
Being physically or emotionally abused	7%	88

¹Source: U.S. Census Bureau - Census 2000

Displayed earlier in the report were the dimensions of community readiness, which combined survey questions into six categories. In addition to understanding how well the community operates to provide appropriate services for its older adults, it is important to understand what problems older adults face in their daily lives so that specific services can be considered where needs are great. Forty individual survey questions about specific problems faced by older community members, as well as respondent sociodemographics, participation levels and community engagement were grouped into 16 larger areas to provide a broad picture of older residents in the Carbon Valley Region. These 16 areas were split into Core Life Needs (12 areas) and Social and Engagement Opportunities (four areas). The overall summary score for each of the 16 categories is provided in the following two charts. (See *Appendix B: Survey Methodology* for more information on the computation of these summary scores.)

The greatest Core Life Needs were in the areas of information and planning and physical health. Among Social and Engagement Opportunities, civic engagement rose to the top. Across all 16 needs areas, older residents reported the lowest prevalence of need in the areas of social support and safety, although these needs can be quite serious for the 8% of seniors affected.

Figure 14: Older Adult Core Life Needs in the Carbon Valley Region

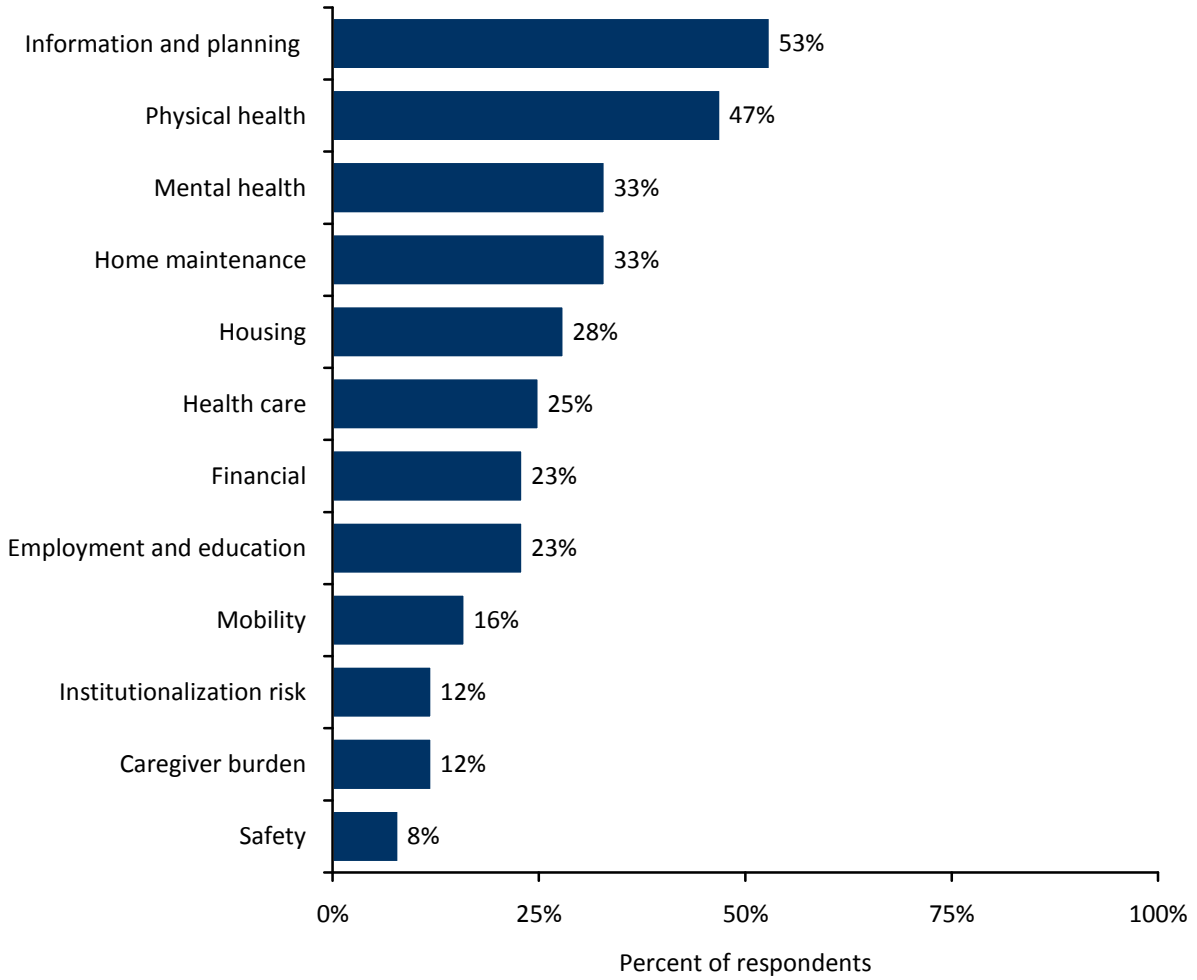
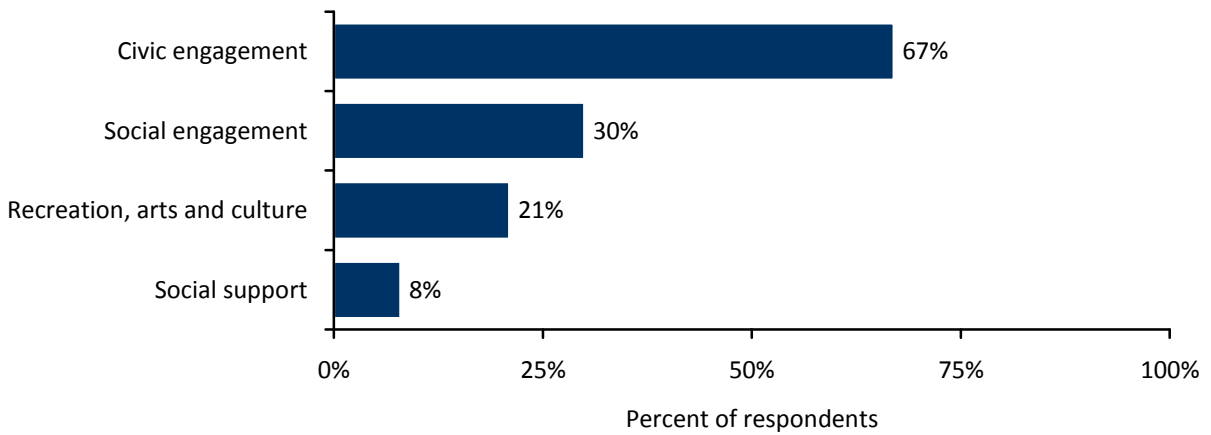


Figure 15: Older Adult Social and Engagement Opportunities in the Carbon Valley Region



Appendix A: Complete Set of Survey Frequencies

Frequencies Excluding Don't Know Responses

This appendix displays all response categories for all questions. The first set of frequencies excludes the “don’t know” option and the second set includes “don’t know” responses.

Question 1: Quality of Community					
Please circle the number that comes closest to your opinion for each of the following questions.	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
How do you rate your community as a place to live?	24%	50%	22%	4%	100%
How do you rate your community as a place to retire?	20%	44%	25%	11%	100%

Question 2: Community Characteristics					
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Carbon Valley adults age 60 or over:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
Opportunities to volunteer	15%	48%	27%	11%	100%
Employment opportunities	1%	7%	25%	67%	100%
Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes	3%	34%	28%	34%	100%
Recreation opportunities (including games, arts and library services, etc.)	20%	47%	24%	9%	100%
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	25%	42%	18%	14%	100%
Opportunities to attend social events or activities	10%	41%	34%	14%	100%
Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities	22%	49%	23%	6%	100%
Opportunities to attend or participate in meetings about local government or community matters	10%	49%	33%	9%	100%
Availability of affordable quality housing	2%	40%	32%	26%	100%
Variety of housing options	4%	32%	36%	27%	100%
Availability of information about resources for older adults	3%	29%	44%	24%	100%
Availability of financial and legal planning services	3%	19%	38%	40%	100%
Availability of affordable quality physical health care	10%	34%	30%	27%	100%
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	9%	15%	41%	35%	100%
Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops)	11%	30%	35%	24%	100%
Availability of affordable quality food	18%	40%	29%	13%	100%
Sense of community	11%	33%	37%	20%	100%
Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds	11%	39%	33%	17%	100%
Ease of bus travel in your community	1%	3%	6%	90%	100%
Ease of car travel in your community	21%	45%	26%	8%	100%
Ease of walking in your community	14%	52%	21%	12%	100%

Question 3: Overall Services to Older Adults					
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?	6%	28%	48%	18%	100%

Question 4: Level of Informedness about Services and Activities for Older Adults	
In general, how informed or uninformed do you feel about services and activities available to older adults in your community?	Percent of respondents
Very informed	12%
Somewhat informed	49%
Somewhat uninformed	29%
Very uninformed	10%
Total	100%

Question 5: Quality of Life and Health					
Please circle the number that comes closest to your opinion for each of the following questions.	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
How do you rate your overall physical health?	15%	60%	23%	1%	100%
How do you rate your overall mental health/emotional well being?	33%	59%	5%	2%	100%
How do you rate your overall quality of life?	18%	59%	19%	4%	100%

Question 6: Problems Faced by Older Adults					
The following questions list a number of problems that older adults may or may not face. Thinking back over the last 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, has each of the following been for you?	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Major problem	Total
Having housing to suit your needs	85%	7%	6%	2%	100%
Your physical health	45%	33%	16%	6%	100%
Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals	67%	21%	11%	1%	100%
Having enough food to eat	87%	11%	0%	2%	100%
Doing heavy or intense housework	45%	28%	17%	10%	100%
Having safe and affordable transportation available	70%	10%	5%	15%	100%
No longer being able to drive	88%	5%	3%	4%	100%
Feeling depressed	69%	24%	6%	2%	100%
Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness	66%	26%	8%	0%	100%
Maintaining your home	65%	23%	6%	6%	100%
Maintaining your yard	57%	24%	10%	9%	100%
Finding productive or meaningful activities to do	64%	23%	6%	7%	100%
Having friends or family you can rely on	81%	14%	4%	2%	100%
Falling or injuring yourself in your home	82%	13%	3%	2%	100%

Question 6: Problems Faced by Older Adults					
The following questions list a number of problems that older adults may or may not face. Thinking back over the last 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, has each of the following been for you?	Not a problem	Minor problem	Moderate problem	Major problem	Total
Finding affordable health insurance	68%	18%	7%	7%	100%
Getting the health care you need	79%	11%	6%	4%	100%
Affording the medications you need	74%	13%	6%	8%	100%
Getting the oral health care you need	70%	10%	11%	9%	100%
Having tooth or mouth problems	51%	34%	6%	8%	100%
Having enough money to meet daily expenses	66%	18%	10%	6%	100%
Having enough money to pay your property taxes	64%	18%	10%	8%	100%
Staying physically fit	47%	33%	15%	5%	100%
Maintaining a healthy diet	59%	29%	8%	5%	100%
Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend	61%	20%	16%	3%	100%
Having interesting social events or activities to attend	55%	19%	17%	9%	100%
Feeling bored	59%	23%	7%	11%	100%
Feeling like your voice is heard in the community	44%	13%	24%	20%	100%
Finding meaningful volunteer work	65%	13%	14%	8%	100%
Providing care for another person	79%	9%	4%	8%	100%
Dealing with legal issues	68%	15%	7%	10%	100%
Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid	61%	16%	12%	12%	100%
Finding work in retirement	45%	15%	16%	24%	100%
Building skills for paid or unpaid work	63%	16%	10%	11%	100%
Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community	40%	29%	18%	13%	100%
Feeling lonely or isolated	75%	18%	4%	4%	100%
Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend	68%	18%	9%	5%	100%
Being a victim of crime	91%	5%	3%	1%	100%
Being a victim of fraud or a scam	87%	7%	2%	3%	100%
Being physically or emotionally abused	93%	2%	3%	3%	100%
Dealing with financial planning issues	63%	23%	7%	7%	100%

Question 7: Days Spent in Facilities					
Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many days did you spend in...	No days (zero)	One to two days	Three to five days	Six or more days	Total
As a patient in a hospital	74%	6%	8%	12%	100%
In a nursing home or in-patient rehabilitation facility	95%	0%	3%	2%	100%

Question 8: Falls in Last 12 Months	
Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many times have you fallen and injured yourself? Was it...	Percent of respondents
Never	77%
Once or twice	19%
3-5 times	4%
More than 5 times	0%
Total	100%

Question 9: Recommend Living in Community	
How likely or unlikely are you to recommend living in your community to older adults?	Percent of respondents
Very likely	38%
Somewhat likely	32%
Somewhat unlikely	16%
Very unlikely	14%
Total	100%

Question 10: Likelihood of Remaining in Community Throughout Retirement	
How likely or unlikely are you to remain in your community throughout your retirement?	Percent of respondents
Very likely	51%
Somewhat likely	22%
Somewhat unlikely	10%
Very unlikely	17%
Total	100%

Question 11: Participation in Activities					
In the last 12 month, about how many times, if ever, have you participated in or done each of the following?	Never	Once or twice	3 to 12 times	13 to 26 times	Total
Used a senior center in your community	77%	15%	6%	2%	100%
Used a recreation center in your community	59%	24%	11%	7%	100%
Used a public library in your community	51%	18%	23%	7%	100%
Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting in your community	70%	18%	12%	1%	100%
Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other public meeting on cable television, the Internet or other media	76%	16%	7%	1%	100%
Used public transit (e.g., bus, subway, light rail, etc.) within your community	96%	3%	1%	0%	100%
Visited a neighborhood park	23%	33%	29%	15%	100%

Question 12: Hours Spent Doing Activities						
During a typical week, how many hours, if any, do you spend doing the following?	Never (no hours)	1 to 3 hours	4 to 5 hours	6 to 10 hours	11 or more hours	Total
Participating in a club (including book, dance, game and other social)	71%	21%	1%	3%	4%	100%
Participating in a civic group (including Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.)	88%	8%	1%	2%	0%	100%
Communicating/visiting with friends and/or family	8%	22%	32%	11%	26%	100%
Participating in religious or spiritual activities with others	48%	29%	12%	3%	8%	100%
Participating in a recreation program or group activity	60%	21%	8%	2%	9%	100%
Providing help to friends or relatives	24%	33%	17%	8%	19%	100%
Volunteering your time to some group/activity in your community	67%	20%	5%	2%	6%	100%

Question 13: Hours Spent Providing Care							
During a typical week, how many hours do you spend providing care for one or more individuals with whom you have a significant relationship (such as spouse, other relative, partner, friend, neighbor or child), whether or not they live with you?	Never (no hours)	1 to 3 hours	4 to 5 hours	6 to 10 hours	11 to 20 hours	20 or more hours	Total
One or more individuals age 60 or older	57%	14%	5%	6%	1%	18%	100%
One or more individuals age 18 to 59	69%	14%	5%	3%	0%	8%	100%
One or more individuals under age 18	57%	12%	9%	2%	2%	17%	100%

Question 14: Receives Care	
Whether or not they live with you, does someone provide assistance to you almost every day?	Percent of respondents
Yes	23%
No	77%
Total	100%

Question D1: Length of Residency	
How many years have you lived in your community?	Percent of respondents
Less than 1 year	1%
1-5 years	27%
6-10 years	29%
11-20 years	24%
More than 20 years	18%
Total	100%

Question D2: Housing Unit Type	
Which best describes the building you live in?	Percent of respondents
Single family home	77%
Townhouse, condominium, duplex or apartment	4%
Mobile home	19%
Assisted living residence	0%
Nursing home	0%
Other	0%
Total	100%

Question D3: Tenure (Rent or Own)	
Do you currently rent or own your home?	Percent of respondents
Rent	10%
Own (with a mortgage payment)	59%
Own (free and clear; no mortgage)	31%
Total	100%

Question D4: Monthly Housing Costs	
About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	Percent of respondents
Less than \$300 per month	13%
\$300 to \$599 per month	22%
\$600 to \$999 per month	16%
\$1,000 to \$1,499 per month	22%
\$1,500 to \$2,499 per month	22%
\$2,500 or more per month	5%
Total	100%

Question D5: Total Number of Household Members	
How many people, including yourself, live in your household?	Percent of respondents
1 person (live alone)	21%
2 people	58%
3 people	9%
4 or more people	11%
Total	100%

Question D6: Number of Older Adult Household Members	
How many of these people, including yourself, are 60 or older?	Percent of respondents
1 person	48%
2 people	49%
3 people	1%
4 or more people	2%
Total	100%

Question D7: Retirement Status	
What is your employment status?	Percent of respondents
Fully retired	62%
Working full time for pay	25%
Working part time for pay	10%
Unemployed, looking for paid work	3%
Total	100%

Question D8: Expected Age of Retirement	
[If not yet fully retired] At what age do you expect to retire completely and not work for pay at all?	Percent of respondents
60 to 64	20%
65 to 69	41%
70 to 74	18%
75 or older	22%
Never	0%
Don't know	0%
Total	100%

Question D9: Household Income	
How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Percent of respondents
Less than \$15,000	18%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	16%
\$25,000 to \$49,999	25%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	13%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	15%
\$100,000 or more	12%
Total	100%

Question D10: Respondent Ethnicity/Origin	
Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?	Percent of respondents
Yes	14%
No	86%
Total	100%

Question D11: Respondent Race	
What is your race?	Percent of respondents
American Indian or Alaskan native	2%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0%
Black, African American	2%
White/Caucasian	93%
Other	7%
Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.	

Question D12: Respondent Age	
In which category is your age?	Percent of respondents
60-64 years	40%
65-69 years	14%
70-74 years	20%
75-79 years	12%
80-84 years	6%
85-89 years	5%
90-94 years	2%
95 years or older	1%
Total	100%

Question D13: Respondent Gender	
What is your sex?	Percent of respondents
Female	53%
Male	47%
Total	100%

Question D14: Respondent Sexual Orientation	
What is your sexual orientation?	Percent of respondents
Heterosexual	98%
Lesbian	0%
Gay	2%
Bisexual	1%
Total	100%

Question D15: Voter Registration Status	
Are you registered to vote in your jurisdiction?	Percent of respondents
Yes	93%
No	6%
Ineligible to vote	1%
Total	100%

Question D16: Voted in Last General Election	
Many people don't have time to vote in elections. Did you vote in the last general election?	Percent of respondents
Yes	90%
No	10%
Ineligible to vote	1%
Total	100%

Frequencies Including Don't Know Responses

These tables contain the percentage of respondents for each response category as well as the N or total number of respondents for each category, next to the percentage. When the total N for a question does not equal the total number of all respondents, it is due to some respondents skipping the question.

Question 1: Quality of Community												
Please circle the number that comes closest to your opinion for each of the following questions.	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		Total	
	How do you rate your community as a place to live?	24%	30	50%	63	22%	27	4%	5	1%	1	100%
How do you rate your community as a place to retire?	19%	24	42%	52	25%	31	11%	13	4%	5	100%	125

Question 2: Community Characteristics												
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Carbon Valley adults age 60 or over:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		Total	
	Opportunities to volunteer	11%	14	36%	46	20%	26	8%	11	24%	30	100%
Employment opportunities	0%	1	5%	6	19%	23	50%	62	25%	32	100%	124
Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes	2%	3	24%	31	20%	25	24%	31	29%	37	100%	127
Recreation opportunities (including games, arts and library services, etc.)	19%	24	44%	56	22%	28	9%	11	7%	9	100%	129
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	24%	30	39%	50	17%	22	13%	17	7%	8	100%	126
Opportunities to attend social events or activities	9%	12	36%	46	29%	38	12%	15	14%	18	100%	128
Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities	20%	25	43%	54	20%	25	6%	7	12%	15	100%	126
Opportunities to attend or participate in meetings about local government or community matters	8%	11	42%	53	28%	35	7%	9	14%	18	100%	127
Availability of affordable quality housing	2%	3	33%	42	27%	34	21%	27	17%	21	100%	126
Variety of housing options	4%	5	27%	33	31%	37	23%	28	16%	19	100%	122
Availability of information about resources for older adults	2%	3	21%	27	33%	41	18%	23	26%	33	100%	126
Availability of financial and legal planning services	2%	3	13%	16	26%	31	27%	33	32%	38	100%	120
Availability of affordable quality physical health care	8%	10	29%	36	26%	32	23%	29	13%	16	100%	124
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	5%	7	9%	11	24%	30	21%	26	40%	49	100%	123
Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots,	9%	11	25%	32	29%	37	20%	26	17%	22	100%	129

Question 2: Community Characteristics												
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Carbon Valley adults age 60 or over:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		Total	
	educational workshops)											
Availability of affordable quality food	17%	22	38%	50	28%	36	13%	16	5%	6	100%	130
Sense of community	10%	12	30%	38	33%	42	18%	22	9%	11	100%	125
Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds	9%	11	30%	37	26%	32	13%	17	23%	28	100%	125
Ease of bus travel in your community	1%	1	3%	3	5%	6	75%	96	17%	21	100%	128
Ease of car travel in your community	20%	24	44%	54	25%	31	8%	10	4%	5	100%	124
Ease of walking in your community	14%	17	49%	63	20%	26	12%	15	6%	7	100%	129

Question 3: Overall Services to Older Adults		
How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?	Percent of respondents	Count
Excellent	5%	6
Good	21%	27
Fair	36%	46
Poor	13%	17
Don't know	26%	34
Total	100%	130

Question 4: Level of Informedness about Services and Activities for Older Adults		
In general, how informed or uninformed do you feel about services and activities available to older adults in your community?	Percent of respondents	Count
Very informed	12%	15
Somewhat informed	49%	63
Somewhat uninformed	29%	38
Very uninformed	10%	13
Total	100%	129

Question 5: Quality of Life and Health												
Please circle the number that comes closest to your opinion for each of the following questions.	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		Total	
	How do you rate your overall physical health?	15%	20	60%	79	23%	30	1%	2	0%	0	100%
How do you rate your overall mental health/emotional well being?	33%	43	59%	77	5%	7	2%	3	0%	1	100%	130
How do you rate your overall quality of life?	18%	23	59%	78	19%	25	4%	5	0%	0	100%	131

Question 6: Problems Faced by Older Adults												
The following questions list a number of problems that older adults may or may not face. Thinking back over the last 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, has each of the following been for you?	Not a problem		Minor problem		Moderate problem		Major problem		Don't know		Total	
	Having housing to suit your needs	82%	107	7%	9	6%	7	2%	2	3%	4	100%
Your physical health	44%	56	32%	42	16%	21	6%	8	2%	2	100%	129
Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals	66%	86	21%	28	11%	15	1%	1	1%	1	100%	130
Having enough food to eat	86%	111	10%	13	0%	0	2%	3	1%	1	100%	129
Doing heavy or intense housework	45%	57	28%	36	17%	22	10%	13	1%	1	100%	128
Having safe and affordable transportation available	65%	84	9%	12	5%	6	14%	18	7%	9	100%	129
No longer being able to drive	77%	98	4%	6	3%	3	3%	4	13%	16	100%	127
Feeling depressed	68%	82	23%	28	5%	7	2%	2	1%	2	100%	121
Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness	65%	83	26%	33	8%	10	0%	0	1%	2	100%	127
Maintaining your home	64%	83	22%	29	6%	8	6%	8	1%	1	100%	130
Maintaining your yard	55%	71	23%	30	10%	12	8%	11	4%	5	100%	129
Finding productive or meaningful activities to do	62%	82	22%	29	6%	8	7%	9	3%	4	100%	131
Having friends or family you can rely on	81%	105	14%	18	4%	5	2%	2	1%	1	100%	130
Falling or injuring yourself in your home	80%	103	13%	17	2%	3	2%	2	3%	4	100%	128
Finding affordable health insurance	65%	84	17%	22	6%	8	7%	9	4%	5	100%	128
Getting the health care you need	77%	100	11%	14	5%	7	4%	5	2%	3	100%	129
Affording the medications you need	72%	90	13%	16	6%	7	7%	9	1%	2	100%	124
Getting the oral health care you need	68%	87	9%	12	11%	14	9%	11	3%	4	100%	129

Question 6: Problems Faced by Older Adults

The following questions list a number of problems that older adults may or may not face. Thinking back over the last 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, has each of the following been for you?	Not a problem		Minor problem		Moderate problem		Major problem		Don't know		Total	
	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count
Having tooth or mouth problems	50%	65	34%	44	6%	8	7%	10	2%	3	100%	129
Having enough money to meet daily expenses	66%	85	18%	24	10%	13	6%	8	1%	1	100%	129
Having enough money to pay your property taxes	61%	79	17%	22	9%	12	8%	10	6%	7	100%	130
Staying physically fit	47%	61	33%	44	15%	19	5%	7	0%	0	100%	131
Maintaining a healthy diet	59%	76	29%	38	8%	10	5%	6	0%	0	100%	130
Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend	58%	70	19%	23	15%	18	3%	4	6%	7	100%	122
Having interesting social events or activities to attend	51%	66	18%	23	16%	21	8%	11	6%	8	100%	129
Feeling bored	59%	77	23%	30	7%	9	11%	14	0%	0	100%	131
Feeling like your voice is heard in the community	33%	42	10%	12	18%	23	15%	19	24%	31	100%	127
Finding meaningful volunteer work	51%	62	10%	12	11%	13	6%	7	23%	28	100%	122
Providing care for another person	60%	78	7%	9	3%	4	6%	8	24%	31	100%	129
Dealing with legal issues	63%	79	13%	17	7%	8	9%	11	8%	10	100%	125
Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid	58%	73	15%	19	11%	14	11%	14	5%	6	100%	126
Finding work in retirement	32%	40	11%	13	11%	14	17%	21	29%	35	100%	123
Building skills for paid or unpaid work	47%	57	12%	15	7%	9	8%	10	26%	32	100%	123
Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community	35%	45	25%	32	16%	21	12%	15	12%	16	100%	129
Feeling lonely or isolated	73%	95	17%	22	4%	5	3%	5	2%	3	100%	130
Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend	64%	83	16%	21	9%	11	5%	6	7%	9	100%	130
Being a victim of crime	82%	107	5%	6	3%	4	1%	1	9%	12	100%	130
Being a victim of fraud or a scam	78%	102	7%	9	2%	2	3%	4	10%	13	100%	130
Being physically or emotionally abused	85%	111	2%	2	2%	3	2%	3	8%	11	100%	130
Dealing with financial planning issues	60%	77	22%	28	6%	8	7%	9	5%	7	100%	129

Question 7: Days Spent in Facilities												
Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many days did you spend in...	No days (zero)		One to two days		Three to five days		Six or more days		Don't know		Total	
As a patient in a hospital	74%	85	6%	7	8%	10	12%	14	0%	0	100%	116
In a nursing home or in-patient rehabilitation facility	95%	105	0%	0	3%	3	2%	3	0%	0	100%	111

Question 8: Falls in Last 12 Months		
Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many times have you fallen and injured yourself? Was it...	Percent of respondents	Count
Never	77%	100
Once or twice	19%	25
3-5 times	4%	5
More than 5 times	0%	1
Don't know	0%	0
Total	100%	131

Question 9: Recommend Living in Community		
How likely or unlikely are you to recommend living in your community to older adults?	Percent of respondents	Count
Very likely	36%	45
Somewhat likely	31%	39
Somewhat unlikely	15%	19
Very unlikely	14%	17
Don't know	5%	6
Total	100%	126

Question 10: Likelihood of Remaining in Community Throughout Retirement		
How likely or unlikely are you to remain in your community throughout your retirement?	Percent of respondents	Count
Very likely	47%	59
Somewhat likely	20%	25
Somewhat unlikely	9%	12
Very unlikely	16%	20
Don't know	9%	11
Total	100%	127

Question 11: Participation in Activities												
In the last 12 month, about how many times, if ever, have you participated in or done each of the following?	Never		Once or twice		3 to 12 times		13 to 26 times		More than 26 times		Total	
Used a senior center in your community	75%	96	14%	18	6%	8	2%	3	3%	4	100%	129
Used a recreation center in your community	51%	65	21%	26	9%	12	6%	8	12%	16	100%	128
Used a public library in your community	44%	53	16%	19	19%	24	6%	8	15%	18	100%	122
Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting in your community	68%	87	17%	22	11%	15	1%	1	2%	3	100%	128
Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other public meeting on cable television, the Internet or other media	74%	93	16%	20	7%	8	1%	2	2%	2	100%	125
Used public transit (e.g., bus, subway, light rail, etc.) within your community	94%	119	3%	4	1%	2	0%	0	1%	1	100%	126
Visited a neighborhood park	20%	26	30%	37	25%	32	13%	17	11%	15	100%	127

Question 12: Hours Spent Doing Activities														
During a typical week, how many hours, if any, do you spend doing the following?	Never (no hours)		1 to 3 hours		4 to 5 hours		6 to 10 hours		11 or more hours		Don't know		Total	
	Participating in a club (including book, dance, game and other social)	70%	91	21%	26	1%	2	3%	4	4%	5	1%	1	100%
Participating in a civic group (including Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.)	88%	113	8%	11	1%	1	2%	3	0%	1	0%	0	100%	128
Communicating/visiting with friends and/or family	8%	10	22%	27	31%	39	11%	13	26%	32	2%	3	100%	123
Participating in religious or spiritual activities with others	48%	59	28%	35	12%	15	3%	4	8%	10	1%	2	100%	125
Participating in a recreation program or group activity	59%	72	20%	25	8%	10	2%	3	9%	11	2%	3	100%	123
Providing help to friends or relatives	23%	27	32%	38	16%	19	8%	9	18%	22	3%	4	100%	120
Volunteering your time to some group/activity in your community	66%	85	20%	26	5%	7	2%	2	6%	7	0%	1	100%	129

Question 13: Hours Spent Providing Care																
During a typical week, how many hours do you spend providing care for one or more individuals with whom you have a significant relationship (such as spouse, other relative, partner, friend, neighbor or child), whether or not they live with you?	Never (no hours)		1 to 3 hours		4 to 5 hours		6 to 10 hours		11 to 20 hours		20 or more hours		Don't know		Total	
	One or more individuals age 60 or older	56%	70	14%	17	5%	6	6%	7	1%	1	18%	22	1%	1	100%
One or more individuals age 18 to 59	68%	74	13%	14	5%	5	3%	4	0%	0	8%	9	2%	2	100%	109
One or more individuals under age 18	56%	67	12%	14	9%	11	2%	2	2%	2	17%	20	2%	2	100%	119

Question 14: Receives Care		
Whether or not they live with you, does someone provide assistance to you almost every day?	Percent of respondents	Count
Yes	23%	31
No	77%	101
Total	100%	131

Question D1: Length of Residency		
How many years have you lived in your community?	Percent of respondents	Count
Less than 1 year	1%	2
1-5 years	27%	36
6-10 years	29%	39
11-20 years	24%	32
More than 20 years	18%	23
Total	100%	131

Question D2: Housing Unit Type		
Which best describes the building you live in?	Percent of respondents	Count
Single family home	77%	101
Townhouse, condominium, duplex or apartment	4%	5
Mobile home	19%	25
Assisted living residence	0%	1
Nursing home	0%	0
Other	0%	0
Total	100%	131

Question D3: Tenure (Rent or Own)		
Do you currently rent or own your home?	Percent of respondents	Count
Rent	10%	13
Own (with a mortgage payment)	59%	76
Own (free and clear; no mortgage)	31%	39
Total	100%	127

Question D4: Monthly Housing Costs		
About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	Percent of respondents	Count
Less than \$300 per month	13%	16
\$300 to \$599 per month	22%	28
\$600 to \$999 per month	16%	20
\$1,000 to \$1,499 per month	22%	27
\$1,500 to \$2,499 per month	22%	28
\$2,500 or more per month	5%	7
Total	100%	127

Question D5: Total Number of Household Members		
How many people, including yourself, live in your household?	Percent of respondents	Count
1 person (live alone)	21%	28
2 people	58%	76
3 people	9%	12
4 or more people	11%	15
Don't know	0%	0
Total	100%	131

Question D6: Number of Older Adult Household Members		
How many of these people, including yourself, are 60 or older?	Percent of respondents	Count
1 person	48%	61
2 people	49%	61
3 people	1%	1
4 or more people	2%	3
Don't know	0%	0
Total	100%	125

Question D7: Retirement Status		
What is your employment status?	Percent of respondents	Count
Fully retired	62%	80
Working full time for pay	25%	32
Working part time for pay	10%	13
Unemployed, looking for paid work	3%	4
Total	100%	129

Question D8: Expected Age of Retirement		
[If not yet fully retired] At what age do you expect to retire completely and not work for pay at all?	Percent of respondents	Count
60 to 64	20%	7
65 to 69	41%	15
70 to 74	18%	7
75 or older	22%	8
Total	100%	37

Question D9: Household Income		
How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Percent of respondents	Count
Less than \$15,000	18%	21
\$15,000 to \$24,999	16%	20
\$25,000 to \$49,999	25%	31
\$50,000 to \$74,999	13%	16
\$75,000 to \$99,999	15%	18
\$100,000 or more	12%	15
Total	100%	121

Question D10: Respondent Ethnicity/Origin		
Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?	Percent of respondents	Count
Yes	14%	18
No	86%	107
Total	100%	125

Question D11: Respondent Race		
What is your race?	Percent of respondents	Count
American Indian or Alaskan native	2%	3
Asian or Pacific Islander	0%	0
Black, African American	2%	3
White/Caucasian	93%	119
Other	7%	9
Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.		

Question D12: Respondent Age		
In which category is your age?	Percent of respondents	Count
60-64 years	40%	51
65-69 years	14%	17
70-74 years	20%	25
75-79 years	12%	15
80-84 years	6%	8
85-89 years	5%	7
90-94 years	2%	2
95 years or older	1%	1
Total	100%	127

Question D13: Respondent Gender		
What is your sex?	Percent of respondents	Count
Female	53%	70
Male	47%	61
Total	100%	130

Question D14: Respondent Sexual Orientation		
What is your sexual orientation?	Percent of respondents	Count
Heterosexual	98%	112
Lesbian	0%	0
Gay	2%	2
Bisexual	1%	1
Total	100%	114

Question D15: Voter Registration Status		
Are you registered to vote in your jurisdiction?	Percent of respondents	Count
Yes	90%	118
No	6%	8
Ineligible to vote	1%	1
Don't know	3%	4
Total	100%	131

Question D16: Voted in Last General Election		
Many people don't have time to vote in elections. Did you vote in the last general election?	Percent of respondents	Count
Yes	89%	117
No	10%	13
Ineligible to vote	1%	1
Don't know	0%	1
Total	100%	131

Appendix B: Survey Methodology

Data Collection Methods Used in the CASOA™

The CASOA™ instrument and its administration are standardized to assure high quality survey methods and comparable results across CASOA™ communities. The CASOA™ was customized for Weld County to reflect the correct local age definition of older adults and so that the mailing materials used official Weld County Department of Human Services and Weld County Area Agency on Aging graphics, contact information and signatures.

Survey Development

The CASOA™ questionnaire contains many questions related to the life of older residents in the community. The instrument includes questions related to overall quality of life, characteristics of the community, perceptions of safety in the community and of 40 different needs common to older adults.

The questionnaire grew from a synthesis of a number of data collection processes including a national search of needs assessments conducted by communities across the United States, a review of the literature on aging and the conduct of numerous surveys and large scale needs assessments by NRC. A blue-ribbon panel of national experts contributed to the concept and content of the CASOA™.

The items in the questionnaire were pilot tested on senior residents using a “think-aloud” method in which older adults were asked to complete the survey and describe their thought processes related to specific questions and question sets. The results of the pilot test were used to alter the questionnaire for better understanding by senior participants. The final questionnaire was tested in a set of diverse U.S. communities and modifications again were made as necessary.

Survey Sampling

“Sampling” refers to the method by which survey recipients are chosen. The “sample” refers to all those who were given a chance to participate in the survey. A sample of residents in the area 60 years of age and older was used. Although the purchased list of known senior households contained names of the residents 60 years and older, no name was printed on the survey envelope; instead, the survey was addressed to “Resident.” The list of households was compiled from a variety of public sources.

In order to select a random individual 60 years of age and older within the household, the cover letter requested that the questionnaire be given to the person 60 years of age and older who most recently celebrated their birthday (regardless of year of birth) to complete. This “birthday method” is a respondent selection method which helps to randomly select an individual within a household. It is similar to other more complex methodologies (e.g., “Kisch” or “Trodahl”), but easier to implement.

Survey Administration

Each sampled household received three mailings beginning in late July. Completed surveys were collected over the following five weeks. The first mailing was a prenotification postcard announcing the upcoming survey. A week after the prenotification postcard mailed the first wave

of the survey was sent. The second wave mailed one week after the first. The survey mailings contained a letter from the Division Head of the Weld County Area Agency on Aging inviting the household to participate in the CASOA™, a questionnaire and postage-paid envelope in which to return the questionnaire.

Survey Response Rate and Confidence Intervals

Overall, 41 of the 1,500 postcards sent to Weld County older residents were returned as undeliverable because they either had addresses that were undeliverable as addressed or were received by vacant housing units. Of the 1,459 households receiving the survey mailings, 555 completed the survey, providing a response rate of 38%. This is a good response rate; older adults participate in surveys at a higher rate than younger adults.

The 1,500 surveys sent to Weld County included 350 in Carbon Valley. A total of 134 completed surveys were obtained for Carbon Valley, providing a margin of error of plus or minus 8.5% around any given percent and five points around any given average rating for the entire sample. The response rate for Carbon Valley was 40%.

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates made from surveys by a “level of confidence” and accompanying “confidence interval” (or margin of error). A traditional level of confidence, and the one used here, is 95%. The 95% confidence interval can be any size and quantifies the sampling error or imprecision of the survey results because some residents’ opinions are relied on to estimate all residents’ opinions.

A 95% confidence interval indicates that for every 100 random samples of this many residents, 95 of the confidence intervals created will include the “true” population response. This theory is applied in practice to mean that the “true” perspective of the target population lies within the confidence interval created for a single survey. For example, if 75% of residents rate a service as “excellent” or “good,” then a 4% margin of error (for the 95% confidence interval) indicates that the range of likely responses for the entire community is between 71% and 79%. This source of error is called sampling error. In addition to sampling error, other sources of error may affect any survey, including the non-response of residents with opinions different from survey responders.

For subgroups of responses, the margin of error increases because the sample size for the subgroup is smaller. For subgroups of approximately 100 respondents, the margin of error is plus or minus 10 percentage points.

The practical difficulties of conducting any resident survey may introduce other sources of error in addition to sampling error. Despite best efforts to boost participation and ensure potential inclusion of all older adults, some selected households will decline participation in the survey (potentially introducing non-response error) and some eligible households may be unintentionally excluded from the listed sources for the sample (referred to as coverage error).

Survey Processing (Data Entry)

Completed surveys received were assigned a unique identification number. Additionally, each survey was reviewed and “cleaned” as necessary. For example, a question may have asked a respondent to pick one response, but the respondent checked two; the cleaning process would involve randomly selecting one of the two selected responses to be recorded in the dataset.

Once all surveys were assigned a unique identification number, they were entered into an electronic dataset. This dataset was subject to a data entry protocol of “key and verify,” in which survey data were entered twice into an electronic dataset and then compared. Discrepancies were evaluated against the original survey form and corrected. “Range checks” (examination of the data for invalid values) as well as other forms of quality control also were performed.

Survey Data Weighting

The demographic characteristics of those completing the survey were compared to those found in the 2000 Census estimates and other population norms for residents age 60 and older living in the Weld County AAA region because the more current American Community Survey (ACS) estimates were not available for municipalities within the AAA region and because ACS data for racial/ethnic information is not broken down by age group. Sample results were weighted using the population norms to reflect the appropriate percent of those residents. Other discrepancies between the whole population and the sample also were aided by the weighting due to the intercorrelation of many socioeconomic characteristics.

The variables used for weighting were sex, age, race, ethnicity, housing tenure (rent/own), housing unit type and geographic area. This decision was based on the disparity between the survey respondent characteristics, the population norms for these variables and the saliency of these variables in detecting differences of opinion among subgroups.

The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey sample reflective of the larger older adult population of the community. This is done by: 1) reviewing the sample demographics and comparing them to the population norms from the most recent Census or other sources and 2) comparing the responses to different questions for demographic subgroups. The demographic characteristics that are least similar to the Census and yield the most different results are the best candidates for data weighting.

A special software program using mathematical algorithms is used to calculate the appropriate weights. Data weighting can adjust multiple demographic variables. Several different weighting “schemes” may be tested to ensure the best fit for the data.

The results of the weighting schemes for Weld County overall and Carbon Valley are presented in the following tables.

Figure 16: Weighting Scheme for the 2010 Weld County CASOA™

	U.S. Census Norm	Unweighted data	Weighted data
Sex and Age			
60-74	66%	65%	69%
75-84	25%	25%	24%
85+	9%	9%	7%
Female	55%	56%	58%
Male	45%	44%	42%
Female 60-74	34%	35%	40%
Female 75-84	15%	14%	13%
Female 85+	6%	6%	4%
Male 60-74	32%	30%	29%
Male 75-84	10%	11%	12%
Male 85+	3%	3%	2%
Race and Ethnicity			
White	93%	94%	95%
Non-white	7%	6%	5%
Hispanic	12%	13%	9%
Not Hispanic	88%	87%	91%
Housing			
Rent	21%	19%	16%
Own	79%	81%	84%
Detached	85%	85%	85%
Attached	15%	15%	15%
Area			
1	39%	41%	46%
2	4%	24%	5%
3	6%	24%	7%
4	50%	11%	42%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - Census 2000

Figure 17: Weighting Scheme for the 2010 Carbon Valley CASOA™

	U.S. Census Norm	Unweighted data	Weighted data
Sex and Age			
60-74	75%	76%	74%
75-84	18%	19%	18%
85+	7%	5%	8%
Female	52%	53%	53%
Male	48%	47%	47%
Female 60-74	37%	36%	35%
Female 75-84	10%	11%	12%
Female 85+	4%	5%	5%
Male 60-74	38%	39%	39%
Male 75-84	7%	8%	6%
Male 85+	3%	1%	3%
Race and Ethnicity			
White	92%	95%	93%
Non-white	8%	5%	7%
Hispanic	16%	7%	15%
Not Hispanic	84%	93%	85%
Housing			
Rent	9%	9%	10%
Own	91%	91%	90%
Detached	96%	94%	96%
Attached	4%	6%	4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - Census 2000

Survey Data Analysis and Reporting

The survey dataset was analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). For the most part, frequency distributions and mean ratings are presented in the body of the report. A complete set of frequencies for each survey question is presented in *Appendix A: Complete Set of Survey Frequencies*.

A variety of analyses were presented in the body of the report. The following sections summarize how these analyses were conducted or scores calculated.

Estimates of the Contribution of Older Adults to the Economy

The calculations of the economic contributions of older adults in Carbon Valley were rough estimates using data from The U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics (Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Area Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates). The source changes from DOLA to Census information when reporting for municipalities; the specific source is noted for each table.

The proportion of older adults who work was estimated by examining the responses to question D7 from the survey (“What is your employment status?”). Those working full-time were assumed to work 32 hours per week and those working part-time were assumed to work 15 hours per week. The proportion of survey respondents was multiplied by the number of adults 60 and over in community to ascertain the number of employed older adults. To determine the average paid wage, information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the Greeley, CO MSA was examined. Working full-time and part-time was assumed to be the equivalent of “All Occupations” (occupation code 00-0000).

The proportion of older adults doing volunteer work and providing help to friends and neighbors was determined by looking at the responses to question 14 (“During a typical week, how many hours, if any, do you spend doing the following?”), items f (“providing help to family and friends”) and g (“volunteering your time to some group/activity”). Those responding “1 to 3 hours” were assumed to spend two hours, “4 to 5 hours” were assumed to spend 4.5 hours, those responding “6 to 10 hours” were assumed to spend eight hours, and those responding “11 or more hours” were assumed to spend 13.75 hours (125% of 11). To determine the average hourly wage, “providing help to family and friends” was assumed to be the equivalent of “Personal Care and Service Workers, All Other” (occupation code 39-9099) and volunteering was assumed to be the equivalent of “Office Clerks, General” (occupation code 43-9061).

The proportion of older adults providing care to family and friends was determined by examining the responses to question 16. Those responding “1 to 3 hours” were assumed to spend two hours, “4 to 5 hours” were assumed to spend 4.5 hours, those responding “6 to 10 hours” were assumed to spend eight hours, and those responding “11 to 19 hours” were assumed to spend 15 hours, and those responding “20 or more hours” were assumed to spend 25 hours (125% of 20). To determine the average hourly wage, “providing care for older adults and adults” (items a and b) were assumed to be the equivalent of “Personal and Home Care Aides” (occupation code 39-9021) and “providing care for children” (item c) was assumed to be the equivalent of “Child Care Workers” (occupation code 39-9011).

Community Summary Scores

The community score presented in the body of the report represents the average of the questions included in the index. Although the evaluative or frequency questions were made on 4- or 5- point scales with 1 representing the best rating, the scales had different labels (e.g., “excellent,” “not a problem,” “very likely”). To calculate these average scores, the questions used in the index were converted to a common scale where 0 is the worst possible rating and 100 is the best possible rating. If everyone reported “excellent,” then the result would be 100 on the 0-100 scale. If the average rating for quality of life was right in the middle of the scale (half way between “good” and “fair”), then the result would be 50. The new scale can be thought of like the thermometer used to represent total giving to United Way. The higher the thermometer reading, the closer to the goal of 100 – in this case, the most positive response possible. The following table shows the individual questions comprising each summary score.

Index	Individual Variables Used in Index
Quality of Community	q1a. How do you rate your community as a place to live?
	q1b. How do you rate your community as a place to retire?
	q3. How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?
Community Information	q2k. Availability of information about resources for older adults
	q2l. Availability of financial and legal planning services
Health and Wellness Opportunities	q2e. Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)
	q2m. Availability of affordable quality physical health care
	q2n. Availability of affordable quality mental health care
	q2o. Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops)
	q2p. Availability of affordable quality food
	q2x. Overall feeling of safety in your community
Opportunities for Productive Activities	q2a. Opportunities to volunteer
	q2b. Employment opportunities
	q2c. Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes
	q2d. Recreation opportunities (including games, arts and library services, etc.)
	q2f. Opportunities to attend social events or activities
	q2g. Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities
	q2h. Opportunities to attend or participate in meetings about local government or community matters
Community Design and Land Use	q2i. Availability of affordable quality housing
	q2j. Variety of housing options
	q2s. Ease of bus travel in your community
	q2u. Ease of car travel in your community
	q2v. Ease of walking in your community
Community and Belonging	q2q. Sense of community
	q2r. Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds
	q2y. Valuing older residents in your community
	q2z. Neighborliness of your community

Needs Summary Scores

The needs summary scores (indices) are based on the response patterns of older adults in the community. The following table contains each question included in the index and the required response to that question. So, for example, if a respondent indicated that her overall physical health (q5a) was “fair,” she would be counted as having a physical health issue along with other respondents who may have noted that they had a moderate or major problem with falling or maintaining a healthy diet, etc. Respondents with many physical health problems are counted only once in this category so that the total percent shown in the report graph represents the percent of older adults with at least one physical problem.

Index	Individual Variables Used in Index	Required Rating
Physical health	Must have at least one of the following:	
	q5a. How do you rate your overall physical health?	Fair or poor
	q7b. In a nursing home or in-patient rehabilitation facility	At least 1 day
	q6(a)b. Your physical health	Moderate or major problem
	q6(a)c. Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals	Moderate or major problem
	q6(a)n. Falling or injuring yourself in your home	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)v. Staying physically fit	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)w. Maintaining a healthy diet	Moderate or major problem
	q6(a)s. Having tooth or mouth problems	Moderate or major problem
Mental health	Must have at least one of the following:	
	q5b. How do you rate your overall mental health/emotional well being?	Fair or poor
	q5c. How do you rate your overall quality of life?	Fair or poor
	q6(a)h. Feeling depressed	Moderate or major problem
	q6(a)i. Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)jj. Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend	Moderate or major problem
Independence/ Institutionalization risk	Must have:	
	q6(a)c. Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals	Moderate or major problem
Safety	Must have at least one of the following:	
	q6(b)kk. Being a victim of crime	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)ll. Being a victim of fraud or a scam	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)mm. Being physically or emotionally abused	Moderate or major problem
Mobility	Must have at least one of the following:	
	q6(a)f. Having safe and affordable transportation available	Moderate or major problem

Index	Individual Variables Used in Index	Required Rating	
	q6(a)g. No longer being able to drive	Moderate or major problem	
Housing	Must have at least one of the following: d4. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?/ d9. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Housing cost >30% of income	
	q6(a)a. Having housing to suit your needs	Moderate or major problem	
	Must have at least one of the following: q6(a)e. Doing heavy or intense housework q6(a)j. Maintaining your home q6(a)k. Maintaining your yard	Moderate or major problem	
Social engagement	Must have: q12c. Communicating/ visiting with friends and/or family	Less than 4 hours	
	Or q6(b)y. Having interesting social events or activities to attend	Moderate or major problem	
	Or all of the following: q12a. Participating in a club (including book, dance, game and other social)	Never	
	q12b. Participating in a civic group (including Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.)	Never	
	q12d. Participating in religious or spiritual activities with others	Never	
	q12e. Participating in a recreation program or group activity	Never	
	Social support	Must have: d5. Household size	1 (live alone)
		And at least one of the following: q6(a)m. Having friends or family you can rely on q6(b)ii. Feeling lonely or isolated	Moderate or major problem
Civic engagement		Must have d14 and d15: d14. Are you registered to vote in your jurisdiction?	No
		d15. Many people don't have time to vote in elections. Did you vote in the last general election?	No
	Or q12b and q12g		

Index	Individual Variables Used in Index	Required Rating
	q12b. Participating in a civic group (including Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.)	Never (no hours)
	q12g. Volunteering your time to some group/activity in your community	Never (no hours)
	Or q11d and q11e	
	q11d. Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting in your community	Never
	q11e. Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other public meeting on cable television, the Internet or other media	Never
Recreation, arts and culture	Must have at least one of the following:	
	q6(b)x. Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)z. Feeling bored	Moderate or major problem
Employment and education	Must have at least one of the following:	
	d7. What is your employment status?	Unemployed, looking for paid work
	q6(b)ff. Finding work in retirement	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)gg. Building skills for paid or unpaid work	Moderate or major problem
Financial	Must have at least one of the following:	
	d9. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)/ d5. How many people, including yourself, live in your household?	Less than 30% median income
	q6(a)t. Having enough money to meet daily expenses	Moderate or major problem
	q6(a)u. Having enough money to pay your property taxes	Moderate or major problem
	Must have:	
Caregiver burden	q6(b)cc. Providing care for another person	Moderate or major problem
	Must have at least one of the following:	
Information and planning	q4. In general, how informed or uninformed do you feel about services and activities available to older adults in your community?	Somewhat or very uninformed
	q6(b)dd. Dealing with legal issues	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)ee. Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)hh. Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community	Moderate or major problem
	q6(b)nn. Dealing with financial planning issues	Moderate or major problem

Index	Individual Variables Used in Index	Required Rating
Health care	Must have at least one of the following:	
	q6(a)o. Finding affordable health insurance	Moderate or major problem
	q6(a)p. Getting the health care you need	Moderate or major problem
	q6(a)q. Affording the medications you need	Moderate or major problem
	q6(a)r. Getting the oral health care you need	Moderate or major problem

Appendix C: Survey Materials

The following pages contain copies of the survey materials sent to randomly selected older adult households within Carbon Valley.

Important Survey on the Way!

Dear Resident,

Your household has been selected at random to participate in an anonymous survey about the needs of older adults residing within Weld County.

You will receive a copy of the survey next week in the mail with instructions for completing and returning it. Thank you in advance for helping us with this important study!

Thank you for your cooperation. It is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,



Eva M. Jewell
Division Head
Weld County Area Agency on Aging

Important Survey on the Way!

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Sincerely,



Eva M. Jewell
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Weld County Area Agency on Aging



AREA AGENCY ON AGING
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
PO BOX 1805
GREELEY, CO 80632-1805

Presorted
First Class Mail
US Postage
PAID
Boulder, CO
Permit NO. 94



AREA AGENCY ON AGING
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
PO BOX 1805
GREELEY, CO 80632-1805

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
AREA AGENCY ON AGING
315 C North 11th Avenue
PO BOX 1805
GREELEY, CO 80632
WEBSITE: www.co.weld.co.us
(970) 346-6950
FAX (970) 346-6951



Assistance. Advocacy. Answers on Aging.
Weld County Area Agency on Aging

July 2010

Dear Resident:

The Weld County Department of Human Services and the Weld County Area Agency on Aging is conducting a Community Assessment Survey of Older Adults in Weld County to learn about their current and future needs. Your household is one of a small number of households in the county that we chose randomly to participate in this survey.

Please take a few minutes to complete the following survey. Your answers will help the agency to better understand and plan for the needs of older adults in our community. You should find the questions interesting and we will definitely find your answers useful. Please participate!

To get a representative sample of residents living within the region, the **adult 60 years or older** in your household **who most recently had a birthday** (regardless of the year of birth) should complete this survey. Please have the appropriate member of the household spend a few minutes to answer all the questions and return the survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. **Your responses will remain completely anonymous.**

Since only a small number of households are being surveyed, your participation is very important. If you have any questions or need assistance with this survey, please call 970-346-6952.

You can help us shape the future for older adults in our region. Thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely,

Eva M. Jewell
Division Head
Weld County Area Agency on Aging



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(970) 346-6950
FAX (970) 346-6951



Assistance. Advocacy. Answers on Aging.
Weld County Area Agency on Aging

July 2010

Dear Resident:

Dear Resident:

About one week ago we sent you this survey that asks for your opinion about the needs of older adults living Weld County. If you have already completed the survey and returned it, we thank you and ask you to disregard this letter. **Do not complete the survey a second time.** If you haven't had a chance complete and mail the survey, please do so now. We are very interested in obtaining your input.

Your answers will help the agency to better understand and plan for the needs of older adults in our community. You should find the questions interesting and we will definitely find your answers useful. Please participate!

To get a representative sample of residents living within the region, the **adult 60 years or older** in your household **who most recently had a birthday** (regardless of the year of birth) should complete this survey. Please have the appropriate member of the household spend a few minutes to answer all the questions and return the survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. **Your responses will remain completely anonymous.**

Since only a small number of households are being surveyed, your participation is very important. If you have any questions or need assistance with this survey, please call 970-346-6952.

You can help us shape the future for older adults in our region. Thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely,

Eva M. Jewell
Division Head
Weld County Area Agency on Aging

Please complete this questionnaire if you are the resident age 60 or older in the household who most recently had a birthday. The year of birth of the 60+ age resident does not matter. Please circle the response that most closely represents your opinion for each question. Your responses are anonymous and will be reported in group form only.

1. Please circle the number that comes closest to your opinion for each of the following questions:

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
How do you rate your community as a place to live?	1	2	3	4	5
How do you rate your community as a place to retire?	1	2	3	4	5

2. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to adults age 60 or older in your community:

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
Opportunities to volunteer	1	2	3	4	5
Employment opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to enroll in skill-building or personal enrichment classes.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation opportunities (including games, arts, and library services, etc.) ..	1	2	3	4	5
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend social events or activities	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend religious or spiritual activities	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend or participate in meetings about local government or community matters.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality housing	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of housing options.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of information about resources for older adults.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of financial or legal planning services	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality physical health care	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of preventive health services (e.g., health screenings, flu shots, educational workshops)	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality food.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Openness and acceptance of the community towards older residents of diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of bus travel in your community	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of car travel in your community	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of walking in your community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall feeling of safety in your community	1	2	3	4	5
Valuing older residents in your community	1	2	3	4	5
Neighborliness of your community.....	1	2	3	4	5

3. How would you rate the overall services provided to older adults in your community?

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Don't know

4. In general, how informed or uninformed do you feel about services and activities available to older adults in your community?

- Very informed
- Somewhat informed
- Somewhat uninformed
- Very uninformed

5. Please circle the number that comes closest to your opinion for each of the following questions:

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
How do you rate your overall physical health?	1	2	3	4	5
How do you rate your overall mental health/emotional well being?	1	2	3	4	5
How do you rate your overall quality of life?	1	2	3	4	5

6a. The following questions list a number of problems that older adults may or may not face. Thinking back over the last 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, has each of the following been for you?

	<i>Not a problem</i>	<i>Minor problem</i>	<i>Moderate problem</i>	<i>Major problem</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
Having housing to suit your needs	1	2	3	4	5
Your physical health.....	1	2	3	4	5
Performing regular activities, including walking, eating and preparing meals.....	1	2	3	4	5
Having enough food to eat.....	1	2	3	4	5
Doing heavy or intense housework.....	1	2	3	4	5
Having safe and affordable transportation available.....	1	2	3	4	5
No longer being able to drive.....	1	2	3	4	5
Feeling depressed.....	1	2	3	4	5
Experiencing confusion or forgetfulness.....	1	2	3	4	5
Maintaining your home.....	1	2	3	4	5
Maintaining your yard.....	1	2	3	4	5
Finding productive or meaningful activities to do.....	1	2	3	4	5
Having friends or family you can rely on.....	1	2	3	4	5
Falling or injuring yourself in your home.....	1	2	3	4	5
Finding affordable health insurance.....	1	2	3	4	5
Getting the health care you need.....	1	2	3	4	5
Affording the medications you need.....	1	2	3	4	5
Getting the oral health care you need.....	1	2	3	4	5
Having tooth or mouth problems.....	1	2	3	4	5
Having enough money to meet daily expenses.....	1	2	3	4	5
Having enough money to pay your property taxes.....	1	2	3	4	5

6b. The following questions list a number of other problems that older adults may or may not face. Thinking back over the last 12 months, how much of a problem, if at all, has each of the following been for you?

	<i>Not a problem</i>	<i>Minor problem</i>	<i>Moderate problem</i>	<i>Major problem</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
Staying physically fit.....	1	2	3	4	5
Maintaining a healthy diet	1	2	3	4	5
Having interesting recreational or cultural activities to attend	1	2	3	4	5
Having interesting social events or activities to attend.....	1	2	3	4	5
Feeling bored	1	2	3	4	5
Feeling like your voice is heard in the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Finding meaningful volunteer work	1	2	3	4	5
Providing care for another person.....	1	2	3	4	5
Dealing with legal issues.....	1	2	3	4	5
Having adequate information or dealing with public programs such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid	1	2	3	4	5
Finding work in retirement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Building skills for paid or unpaid work.....	1	2	3	4	5
Not knowing what services are available to older adults in your community	1	2	3	4	5
Feeling lonely or isolated	1	2	3	4	5
Dealing with the loss of a close family member or friend	1	2	3	4	5
Being a victim of crime	1	2	3	4	5
Being a victim of fraud or a scam.....	1	2	3	4	5
Being physically or emotionally abused	1	2	3	4	5
Dealing with financial planning issues.....	1	2	3	4	5

7. Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many days did you spend...

As a patient in a hospital? ... _____ number of days

In a nursing home or in-patient
rehabilitation facility? _____ number of days

8. Thinking back over the past 12 months, how many times have you fallen and injured yourself? Was it...

- Never
- Once or twice
- 3-5 times
- More than 5 times
- Don't know

9. How likely or unlikely are you to recommend living in your community to older adults?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely
- Don't know

10. How likely or unlikely are you to remain in your community throughout your retirement?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely
- Don't know

11. In the last 12 months, about how many times, if ever, have you participated in or done each of the following?

	<i>Never</i>	<i>Once or twice</i>	<i>3 to 12 times</i>	<i>13 to 26 times</i>	<i>More than 26 times</i>
Used a senior center in your community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Used a recreation center in your community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Used a public library in your community	1	2	3	4	5
Attended a meeting of your community's local elected officials or other local public meeting	1	2	3	4	5
Watched a meeting of your community's local elected officials or other public meeting on cable television, the Internet or other media.....	1	2	3	4	5
Used public transit (e.g., bus, subway, light rail, etc.) within your community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Visited a neighborhood park	1	2	3	4	5

12. During a typical week, how many hours, if any, do you spend doing the following?

	<i>Never (no hours)</i>	<i>1 to 3 hours</i>	<i>4 to 5 hours</i>	<i>6 to 10 hours</i>	<i>11 or more hours</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
Participating in a club (including book, dance, game and other social).....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Participating in a civic group (including, Elks, Kiwanis, Masons, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Communicating/visiting with friends and/or family	1	2	3	4	5	6
Participating in religious or spiritual activities with others	1	2	3	4	5	6
Participating in a recreation program or group activity.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Providing help to friends or relatives.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Volunteering your time to some group/activity in your community.....	1	2	3	4	5	6

13. During a typical week, how many hours do you spend providing care for one or more individuals with whom you have a significant personal relationship (such as a spouse, other relative, partner, friend, neighbor or child), whether or not they live with you?

	<i>Never (no hours)</i>	<i>1 to 3 hours</i>	<i>4 to 5 hours</i>	<i>6 to 10 hours</i>	<i>11 to 19 hours</i>	<i>20 or more hours</i>	<i>Don't know</i>
One or more individuals age 60 or older.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
One or more individuals age 18 to 59.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
One or more individuals under age 18.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

14. Whether or not they live with you, does someone provide assistance to you almost every day?

- Yes
- No

Our last questions are about you and your household. Again, all of your responses to this survey are completely anonymous and will be reported in group form only.

- D1. How many years have you lived in your community?**
 Less than 1 year 11-20 years
 1-5 years More than 20 years
 6-10 years
- D2. Which best describes the building you live in?**
 Single family home
 Townhouse, condominium, duplex or apartment
 Mobile home
 Assisted living residence
 Nursing home
 Other
- D3. Do you currently rent or own your home?**
 Rent
 Own (with a mortgage payment)
 Own (free and clear; no mortgage)
- D4. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?**
 Less than \$300 per month
 \$300 to \$599 per month
 \$600 to \$999 per month
 \$1,000 to \$1,499 per month
 \$1,500 to \$2,499 per month
 \$2,500 or more per month
- D5. How many people, including yourself, live in your household? _____ members**
- D6. How many of these people, including yourself, are 60 or older? _____ members**
- D7. What is your employment status?**
 Fully retired → *Go to Question D9*
 Working full time for pay
 Working part time for pay
 Unemployed, looking for paid work
- D8. [IF NOT YET FULLY RETIRED] At what age do you expect to retire completely and not work for pay at all? _____ years old**

- D9. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)**
 Less than \$15,000
 \$15,000 to \$24,999
 \$25,000 to \$49,999
 \$50,000 to \$74,999
 \$75,000 to \$99,999
 \$100,000 or more
- D10. Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?**
 Yes No
- D11. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be)**
 American Indian or Alaskan native
 Asian or Pacific Islander
 Black, African American
 White/Caucasian
 Other
- D12. In which category is your age?**
 60-64 years 80-84 years
 65-69 years 85-89 years
 70-74 years 90-94 years
 75-79 years 95 years or older
- D13. What is your sex?**
 Female Male
- D14. What is your sexual orientation?**
 Heterosexual Gay
 Lesbian Bi-sexual
- D15. Are you registered to vote in your jurisdiction?**
 Yes Ineligible to vote
 No Don't know
- D16. Many people don't have time to vote in elections. Did you vote in the last general election?**
 Yes Ineligible to vote
 No Don't know

Thank you for completing this survey. Please return the completed survey in the postage paid envelope to: National Research Center, Inc., P.O. Box 549, Belle Mead NJ 08502-9922