

Gunnison County, CO

The National Community Survey

Report of Results
2025

Report by:



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About The NCS™

The National Community Survey™ (The NCS™) report is about the “livability” of Gunnison County. A livable community is a place that is not simply habitable, but that is desirable. It is not only where people do live, but where they want to live. The survey was developed by the experts from National Research Center at Polco.

Great communities are partnerships of the government, private sector, community-based organizations and residents, all geographically connected. The NCS captures residents’ opinions considering ten central facets of a community:

- Economy
- Mobility
- Community Design
- Utilities
- Safety
- Natural Environment
- Parks and Recreation
- Health and Wellness
- Education, Arts, and Culture
- Inclusivity and Engagement



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The report provides the opinions of a representative sample of 407 residents of the County of Gunnison County collected from September 8th, 2025 to October 20th, 2025. The margin of error around any reported percentage is 4.9% for all respondents and the response rate for the 2025 survey was 15%. Survey results were weighted so that the demographic profile of respondents was representative of the demographic profile of adults in Gunnison County.



How the results are reported

For the most part, the percentages presented in the following tabs represent the “percent positive.” Most commonly, the percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, etc.). On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the tab “Complete data.” However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in most of the tabs. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Comparisons to benchmarks

NRC's database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in surveys from over 500 communities whose residents evaluated the same kinds of topics on The National Community Survey. The comparison evaluations are from the most recent survey completed in each community in the last five years. NRC adds the latest results quickly upon survey completion, keeping the benchmark data fresh and relevant. The communities in the database represent a wide geographic and population range. In each tab, Gunnison County's results are noted as being "higher" than the benchmark, "lower" than the benchmark, or "similar" to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by Gunnison County residents is statistically similar to or different (greater or lesser) than the benchmark. Being rated as "higher" or "lower" than the benchmark means that Gunnison County's average rating for a particular item was more than 10 points different than the benchmark. If a rating was "much higher" or "much lower," then Gunnison County's average rating was more than 20 points different when compared to the benchmark.

In addition to these national benchmarks, comparisons were also made to a smaller cohort of communities that aligned more closely to the demographics in Gunnison County. This cohort included those from other communities in Western states (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, UT, WY, AK, CA, OR, WA). Comparisons to these communities can be found throughout the report and in a separate table in the Custom Benchmarks tab.

Trends over time

Trend data for Gunnison County represent important comparison data and should be examined for improvements or declines.¹ Deviations from stable trends over time represent opportunities for understanding how local policies, programs, or public information may have affected residents' opinions. Changes between survey years have been noted with an arrow and the percent difference. If the difference is greater than 7 percentage points between the 2023 and 2025 surveys, the change is statistically significant.

1. In 2020, The NCS survey was updated to include new and refreshed items. Consequently, some of the trends may be impacted due to wording modifications that could have potentially altered the meaning of the item for the respondent.

Methods

Selecting survey recipients

All households within Gunnison County were eligible to participate in the survey. A list of all households within the zip codes serving Gunnison County was purchased from Polco's mailing vendor, Go-Dog Direct, based on updated listings from the United States Postal Service. Since some of the zip codes that serve the County of Gunnison County households may also serve addresses that lie outside of the community, the exact geographic location of each housing unit was compared to community boundaries using the most current municipal boundary file. Addresses located outside of Gunnison County boundaries were removed from the list of potential households to survey. Each address identified as being within county boundaries was further identified as being within one of the four areas. From that list, addresses were randomly selected as survey recipients, with multi-family housing units (defined as those with a unit number) sampled at a rate of 5:3 compared to single family housing units.

Conducting the survey

The 3,000 randomly selected households received mailings beginning on September 8th, 2025 and data collection for the survey remained open for 6 weeks. The first mailing was a postcard inviting the household to participate in the survey. The next mailing contained a cover letter with instructions, the survey questionnaire, and a postage-paid return envelope. All mailings included a web link to give residents the opportunity to respond to the survey online, as well as QR codes to further encourage participation. All follow-up mailings asked those who had not completed the survey to do so, and those who had already done so to refrain from completing the survey again.

About 9% of the 3,000 mailed invitations or surveys were returned because the household address was vacant or the postal service was unable to deliver the survey as addressed. Of the remaining 2,738 households that received the invitations to participate, 407 completed the survey, providing an overall response rate of 15%. The response rate was calculated using AAPOR's response rate #2 for mailed surveys of unnamed persons.²

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. The margin of error for the Gunnison County survey is no greater than plus or minus 4.9 percentage points around any given percent reported for all respondents (407 completed surveys).

Analyzing the data

Responses from mailed surveys were entered into an electronic dataset using a "key and verify" method, where all responses are entered twice and compared to each other. Any discrepancies were resolved in comparison to the original survey form. Range checks as well as other forms of quality control were also performed. Responses from surveys completed on Polco were downloaded and merged with the mailed survey responses.

The demographics of the survey respondents were compared to those found in the 2020 Census and 2023 American Community Survey estimates for adults in Gunnison County. The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey respondents reflective of the larger population of the community. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, housing tenure, and area. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.³ The results of the weighting scheme for the probability sample are presented in the following table.

NRC aligns demographic labels with those used by the U.S. Census for reporting purposes, when possible. Some categories (e.g., age, race/Hispanic origin, housing type, and length of residency) are combined into smaller subgroups.

		Unweighted	Weighted	Target ⁴
Age	18-34	12%	38%	38%
	35-54	26%	32%	32%
	55+	63%	31%	31%
Area	81220	2%	4%	4%
	81224	8%	11%	11%
	81230	84%	77%	77%
	Other (81210, 81237, 81239, 81243, 81434, 81623)	5%	8%	8%
Hispanic origin	No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	96%	92%	92%
	Yes, I consider myself to be of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin	4%	8%	8%
Housing tenure	Own	80%	67%	67%
	Rent	20%	33%	33%
Housing type	Attached	27%	38%	38%
	Detached	73%	62%	62%
Race & Hispanic origin	Not white alone	10%	14%	14%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	90%	86%	86%
Sex	Man	48%	54%	54%
	Woman	52%	46%	46%
Sex/age	Man 18-34	6%	21%	21%
	Man 35-54	10%	17%	17%
	Man 55+	32%	16%	16%
	Woman 18-34	6%	16%	16%

Woman 35-54	15%	15%	15%
Woman 55+	31%	15%	15%

The survey datasets were analyzed using all or some of a combination of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), R, Python and Tableau. For the most part, the percentages presented in the reports represent the “percent positive.” The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, essential/very important, etc.), or, in the case of resident behaviors/participation, the percent positive represents the proportion of respondents indicating “yes” or participating in an activity at least once a month.

On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the tab “Complete data”. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the reports. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Contact

Gunnison County funded this research. Please contact Katherine Haase of Gunnison County at KHaase@gunnisoncounty.org if you have any questions about the survey.

Study Limitations

All public opinion research is subject to unmeasured error. While the methodologies employed for this survey were designed to minimize this error as much as possible, these other sources of potential error should be acknowledged. **Non-response error** arises when those who were selected to participate in the survey did not do so, and may have different opinions or experiences than those who did respond. **Coverage error** refers to the possibility that some respondents that should have been included in the surveyed population were not (e.g., for a general resident survey, USPS mailing lists may exclude certain types of housing units, such as multi-family buildings where mail is delivered to a common area rather than to a specific unit (though this is rare), or where mail is received at a PO box instead of the at household's physical location. Finally, **recall bias** occurs when respondents may not perfectly remember their experiences in the past year (such as participation in social or civic events), and **social desirability bias** may cause respondents to answer in ways they think cast their responses in a more favorable light.

Survey Validity

See the Polco Knowledge Base article on survey validity at <https://blog.polco.us/polco-knowledgebase/margin-of-error-and-confidence-level-in-survey-results>

2. See AAPOR's Standard Definitions for more information at <https://aapor.org/standards-and-ethics/standard-definitions/>

3. Pasek, J. (2014). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from <https://surveyinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Full-anesrake-paper.pdf>

4. Targets come from the 2020 Census and 2023 American Community Survey..

Key Findings

Community Strengths

Mobility services continue to improve

- Ease of travel by public transportation increased from 74% to 81%, and ease of travel by bicycle also rose from 70% to 78%, both outperforming national and custom benchmarks.
- Ease of travel by car (83%) and ease of walking (80%) scored above the national average, with walking also surpassing the custom benchmarks.
- Street cleaning (75%) and street lighting (69%) showed notable upward trends since 2023.
- Bus or transit services (91%) received excellent reviews, standing well above national and custom comparison communities.

A strong sense of safety characterizes the community

- Nearly all respondents reported feeling safe in their neighborhoods and in the County's downtown/commercial area during the day.
- About 9 in 10 residents also felt well-protected from both violent and property crime, with perceived safety from property crime improving compared to the 2023 survey.
- Fire prevention and education saw a substantial gain, rising from 73% to 84%, while crime prevention also trended upward from 62% to 77%.

The County's natural environment and recreation opportunities stand out as major assets

- Several environmental features continued to receive exceptional ratings, including the overall quality of the natural environment (95%), air quality (96%), water resources (88%), and open space (82%)—all above national and custom benchmarks.
- Outdoor amenities were also highly rated, with recreational opportunities (90%) among the highest-scoring items in this facet and performing much higher than benchmark comparisons.
- Fitness opportunities (79%) and the overall quality of parks and recreation (88%) earned positive reviews, with the latter exceeding both national and custom benchmarks.
- Environmental services such as recycling (51% to 60%) and yard waste pick-up (36% to 53%) saw notable gains from the previous survey.

Focus Areas

Governance shows declining perceptions

- About 4 in 10 residents gave positive ratings to the value of services for taxes paid, the County's efforts to welcome resident involvement, and acting in the best interest of the community.
- Confidence in County government (37%) and the overall direction of the County (38%) were viewed less favorably by residents, with overall direction falling below the national average.
- These items, including treating residents with respect (56%), experienced statistically significant declines from 2023.

Economic perceptions remain a challenge

- Roughly 4 in 10 community members gave positive marks to economic development and employment opportunities, both declining from prior results and falling below benchmark comparisons.
- Variety of business and service establishments (25%) and cost of living (7%) performed far below national and custom benchmarks.
- The overall quality of business and service establishments (47%), the vibrancy of the downtown/commercial area (37%), and shopping opportunities (22%) also received fewer positive reviews and fell below averages.

Affordability concerns persist across multiple services

- Only about 3 in 10 residents gave favorable ratings to the availability of affordable quality food (30%) and health care (28%).
- Ratings were even lower for affordable quality mental health care (23%), childcare/preschool (20%), and housing (6%).
- All affordability-related items fell below the national average, and both childcare/preschool and housing also fell below the custom benchmark.

Other Notable Results

- About 4 in 10 residents strongly or somewhat supported a minimal County tax dedicated to road and bridge maintenance and improvements, while 40% said they needed more information before deciding.
- Residents most commonly relied on word of mouth (64%) and print or online newspapers (55%) for County news and information.

Areas of Greatest Change Since 2023

Of the 123 evaluative questions included on both the 2023 and current survey iterations, 100 were statistically similar to previous results. Upward trends were seen in 11 items, while 12 ratings decreased since 2023. Changes are considered statistically significant if the 2025 rating was +/- 7% from the previous survey effort. The most significant of those trends are listed below.

Increase

- Yard waste pick-up (+17%)
- Crime prevention (+15%)
- Fire prevention and education (+10%)
- Overall appearance of Gunnison County (+9%)

Decrease

- The job Gunnison County government does at welcoming resident involvement (-14%)
- Employment opportunities (-11%)
- Overall confidence in Gunnison County government (-10%)
- Generally acting in the best interest of the community (-9%)

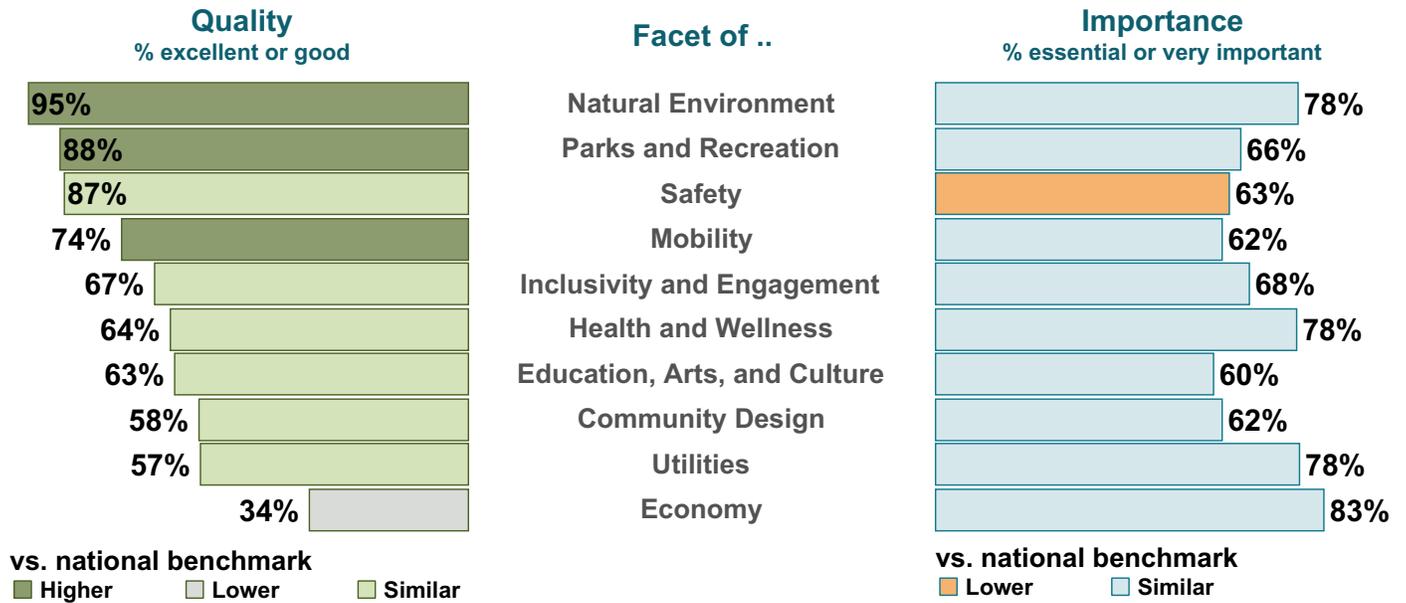
Facets of livability



Every jurisdiction must balance limited resources while meeting resident needs and striving to optimize community livability. To this end, it is helpful to know what aspects of the community are most important to residents and which they perceive as being of higher or lower quality. It is especially helpful to know when a facet of livability is considered of high importance but rated as lower quality, as this should be a top priority to address.

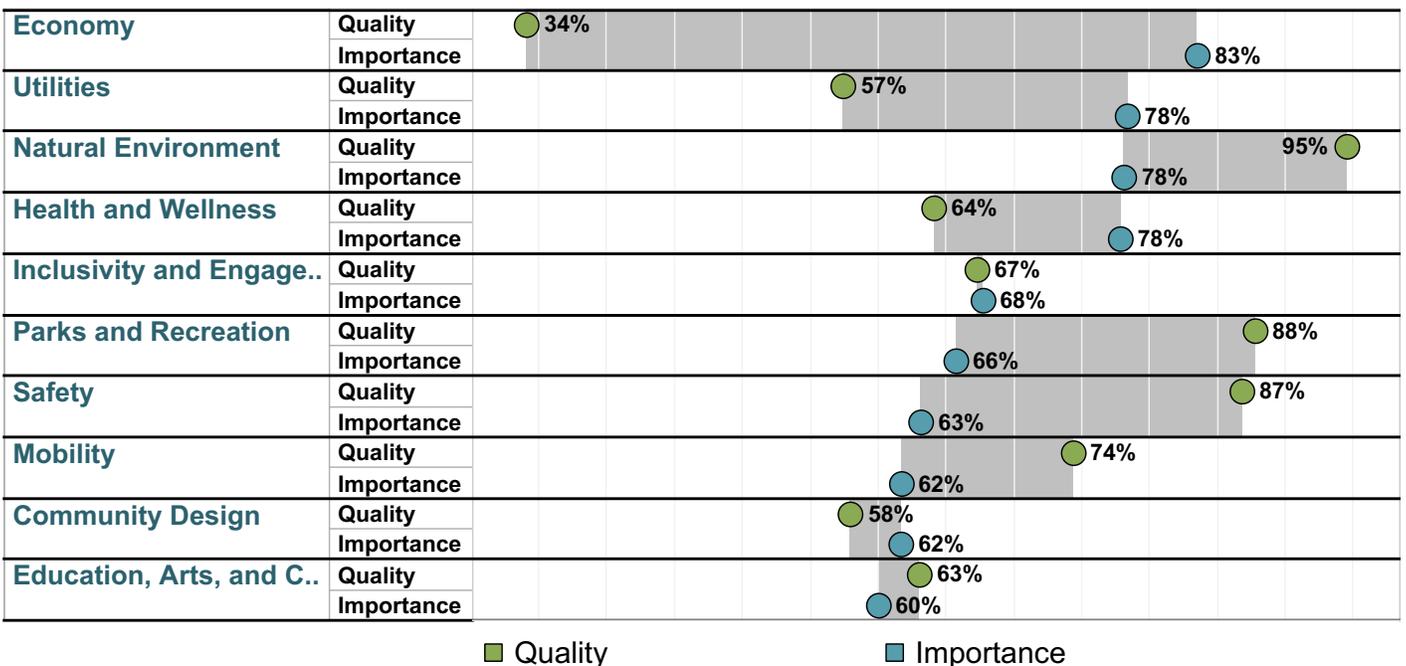
Quality and Importance by the Numbers

The table below shows the proportion of residents who rated the community facets positively for quality and the priority (importance) placed on each. Also displayed is whether local quality ratings were lower, similar, or higher t..



Quality/Importance Gap Analysis

The gap analysis chart below shows the same data as above; however, this chart more clearly illustrates the comparative differences in quality and importance ratings for each facet, as well as the absolute ratings for each.

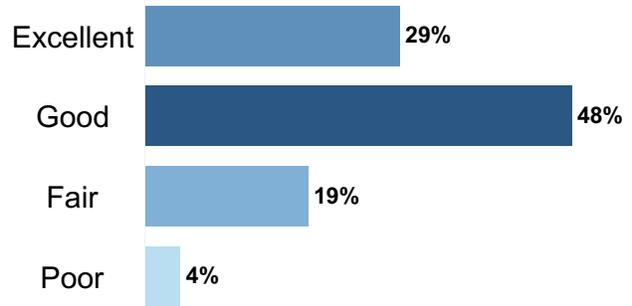




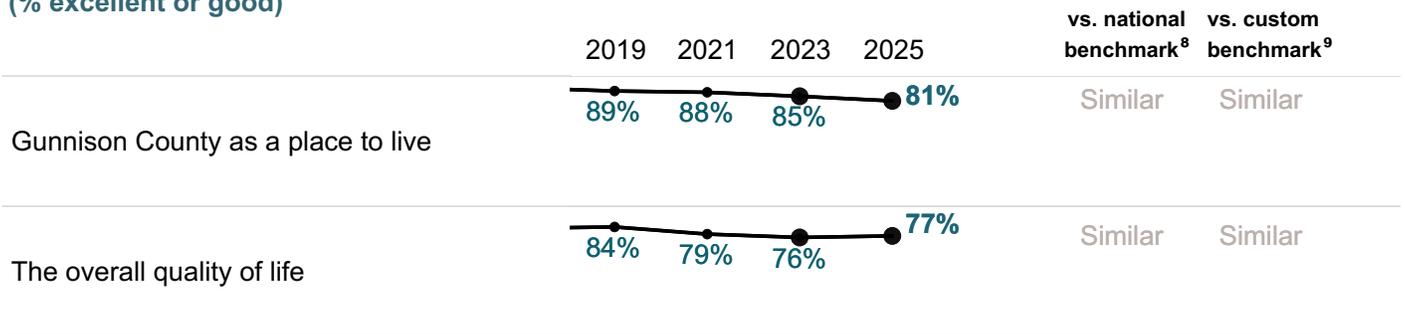
Quality of Life

Measuring community livability starts with assessing the quality of life of those who live there, and ensuring that the community is attractive, accessible, and welcoming to all.

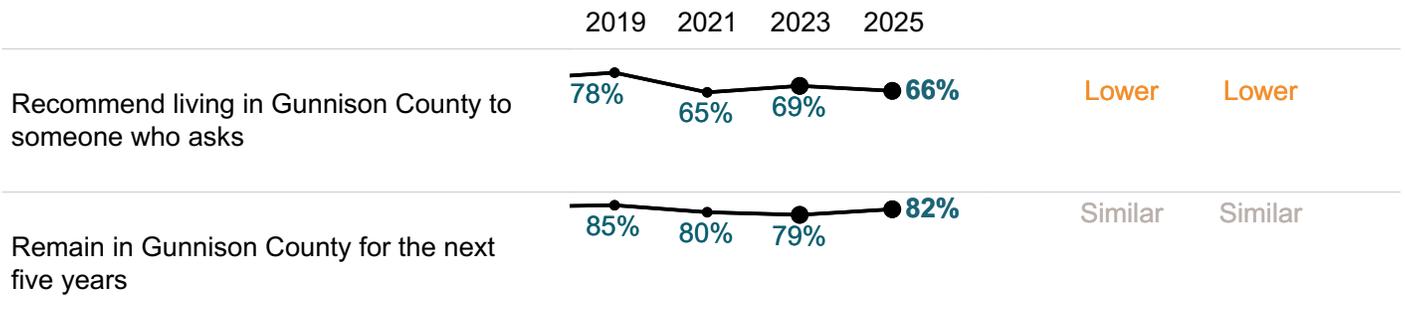
The overall quality of life in Gunnison County, 2025



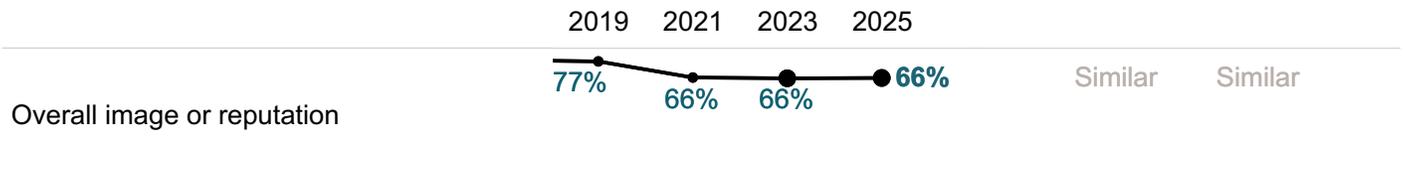
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Gunnison County. (% excellent or good)



Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following. (% very or somewhat likely)



Please rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community. (% excellent or good)



8. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

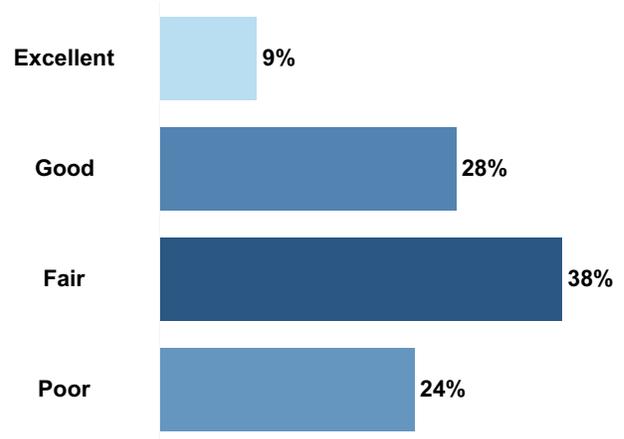
9. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can be found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.



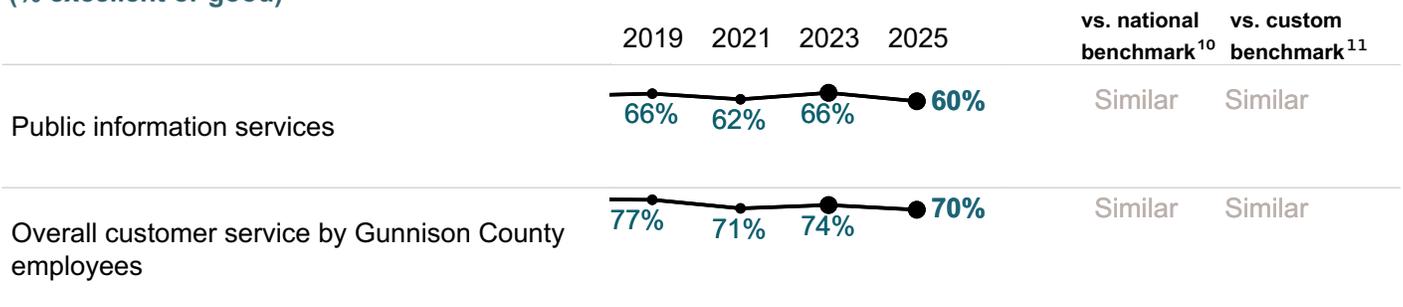
Governance

Strong local governments produce results that meet the needs of residents while making the best use of available resources, and are responsive to the present and future needs of the community as a whole.

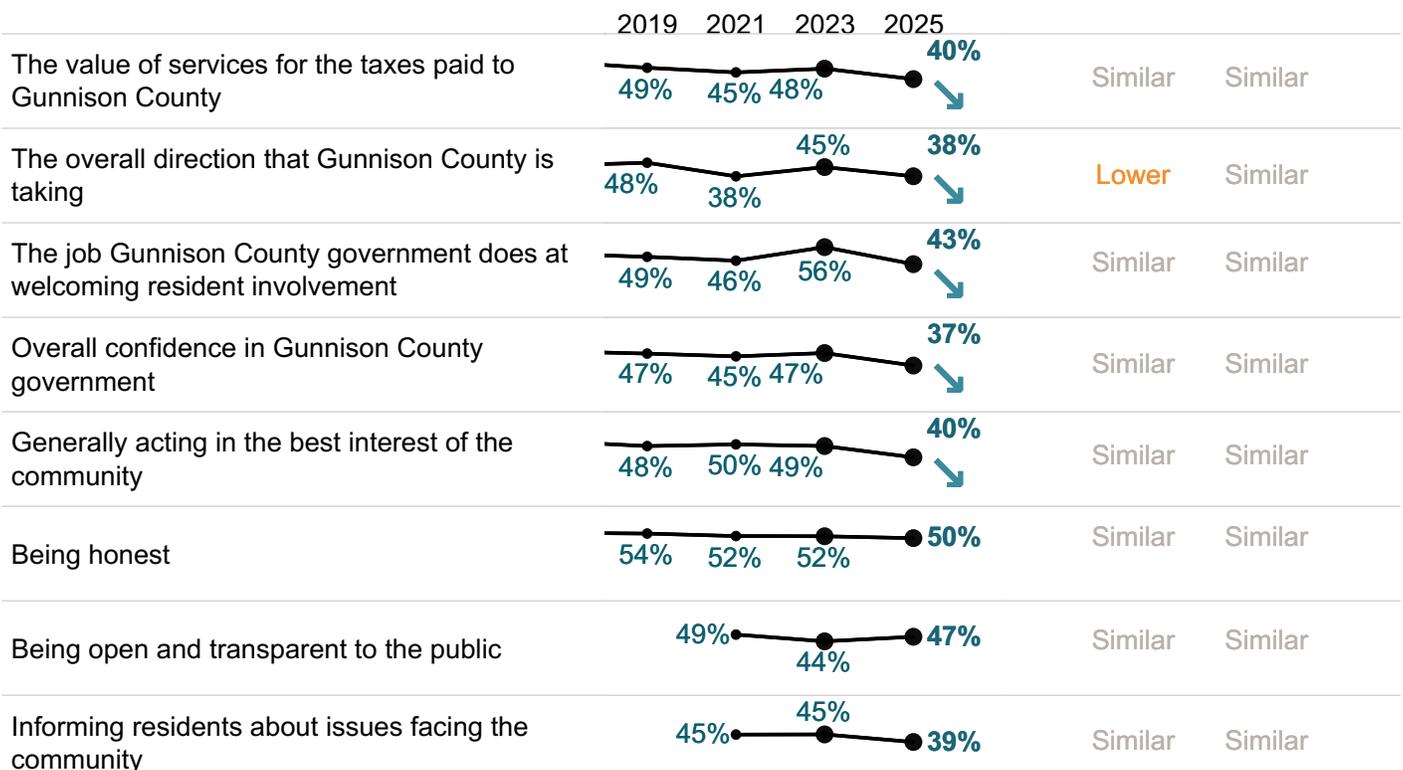
Overall confidence in Gunnison County government, 2025

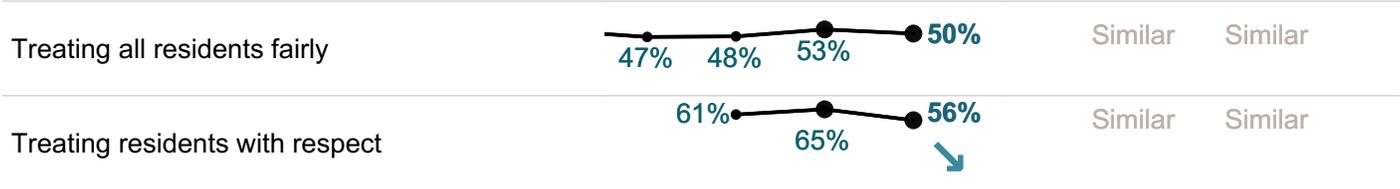


Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County. (% excellent or good)

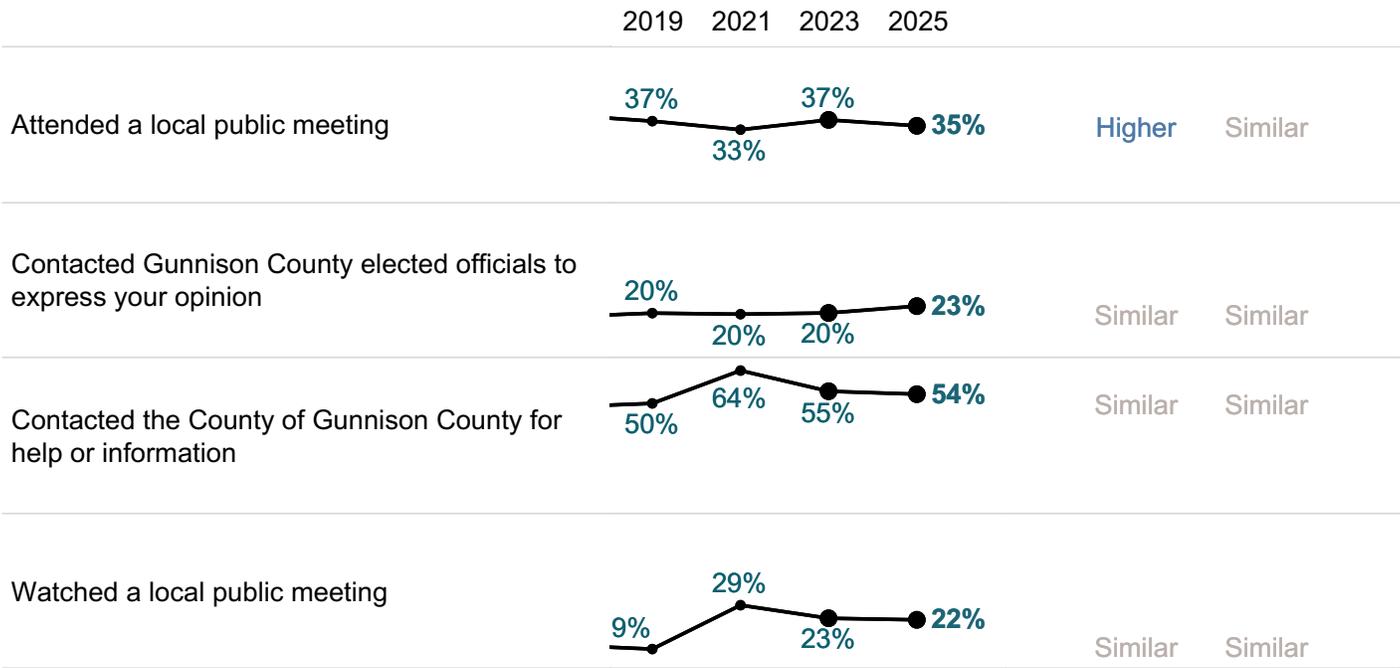


Please rate the following categories of Gunnison County government performance. (% excellent or good)

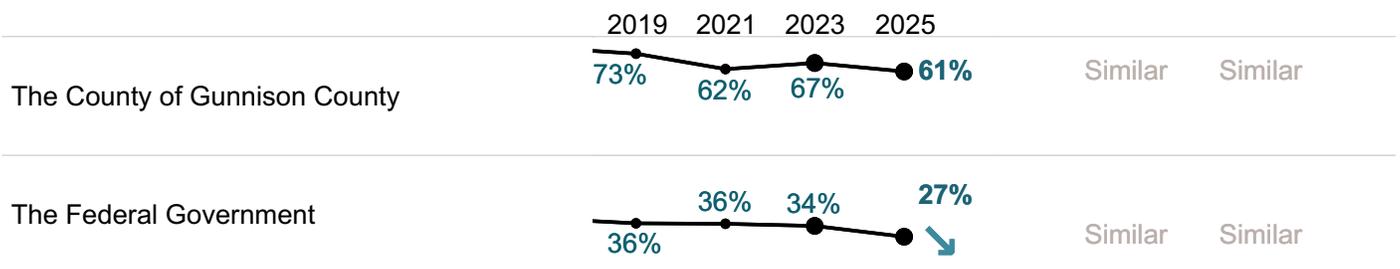




Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.
 (% yes)



Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?
 (% excellent or good)



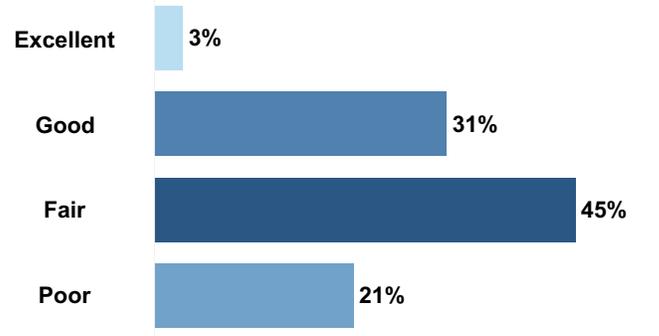
10. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

11. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

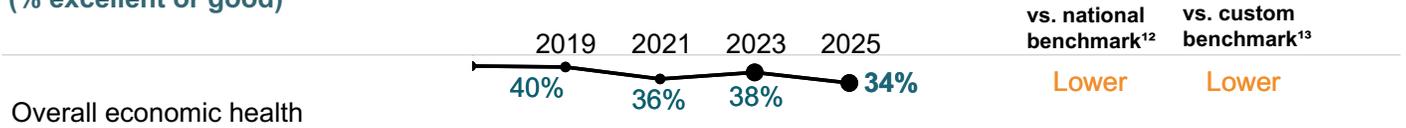
Overall economic health of Gunnison County, 2025

Economy

Local governments work together with private and nonprofit businesses, and with the community at large, to foster sustainable growth, create jobs, and promote a thriving local economy.



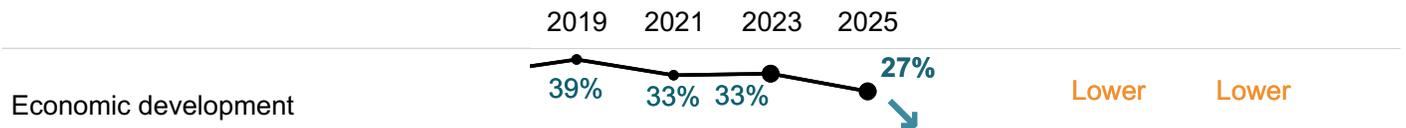
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Gunnison County. (% excellent or good)

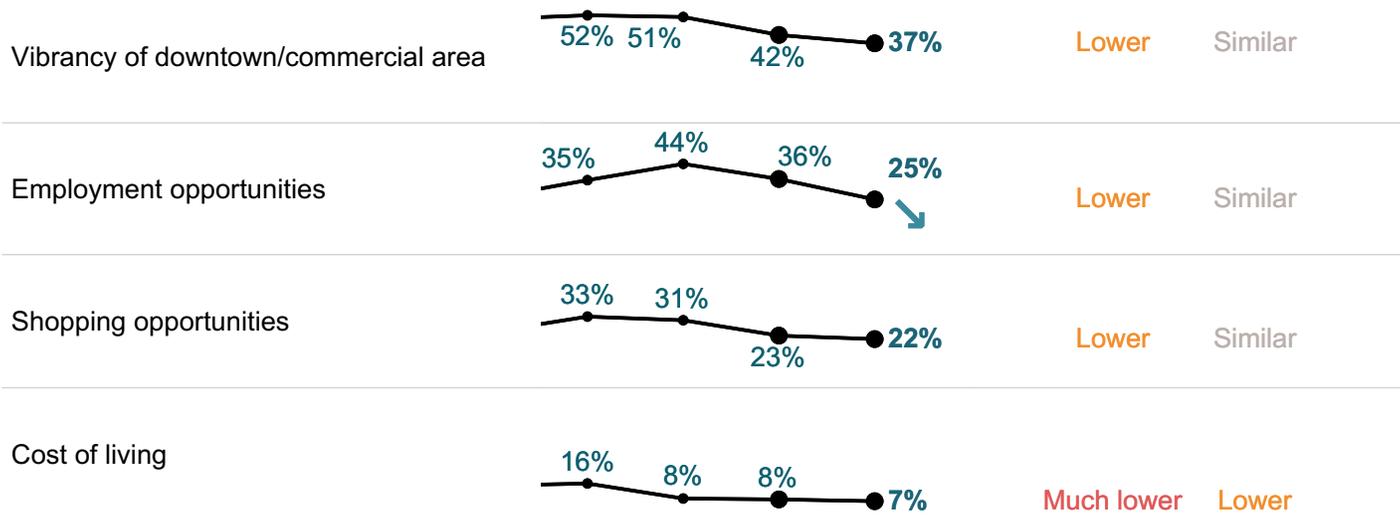


Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County. (% excellent or good)

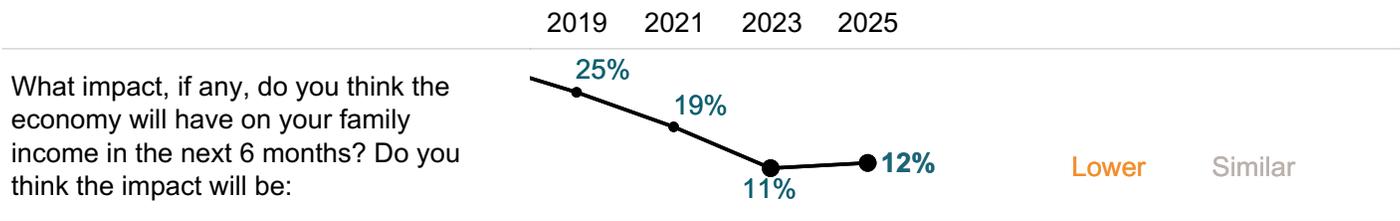


Please rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community. (% excellent or good)





What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:
 (% very or somewhat positive)

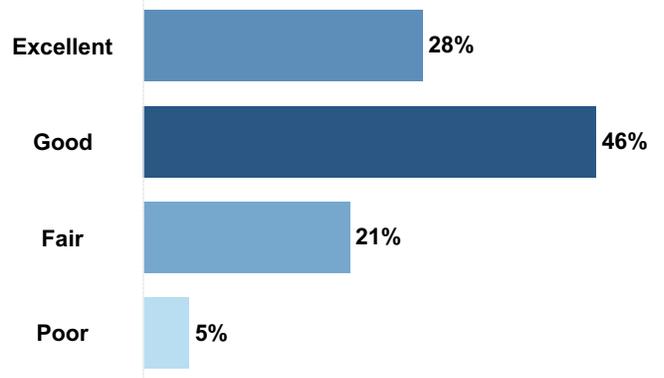


12. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.
 13. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can be found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

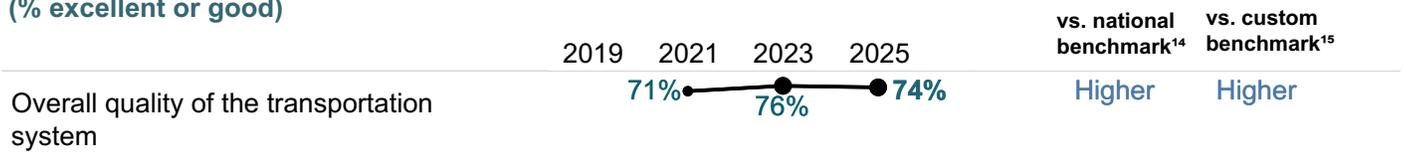
Overall quality of the transportation system in Gunnison County, 2025

Mobility

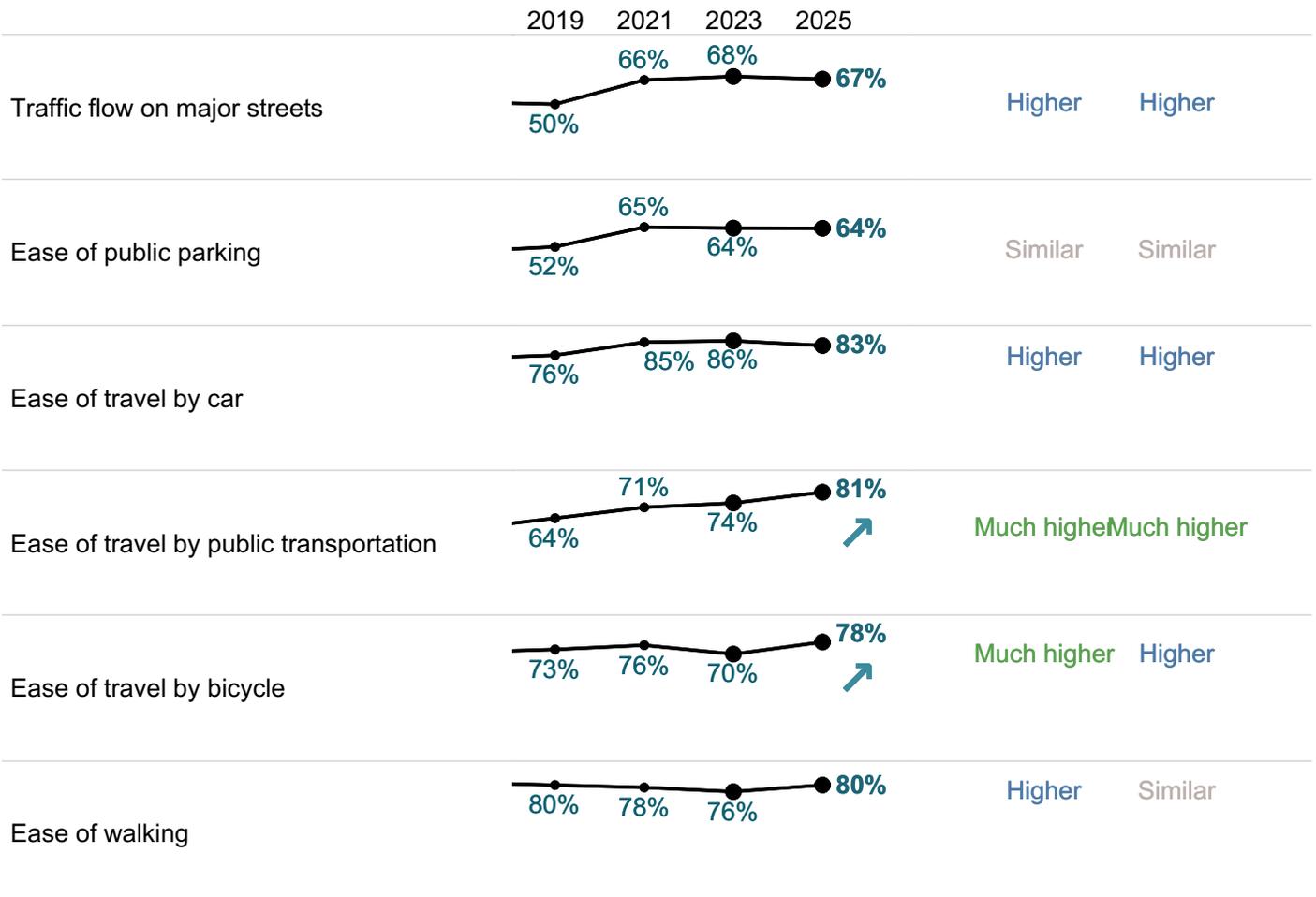
The ease with which residents can move about their communities, whether for commuting, leisure, or recreation, plays a major role in the quality of life for all who live, work, and play in the community.



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole.
(% excellent or good)

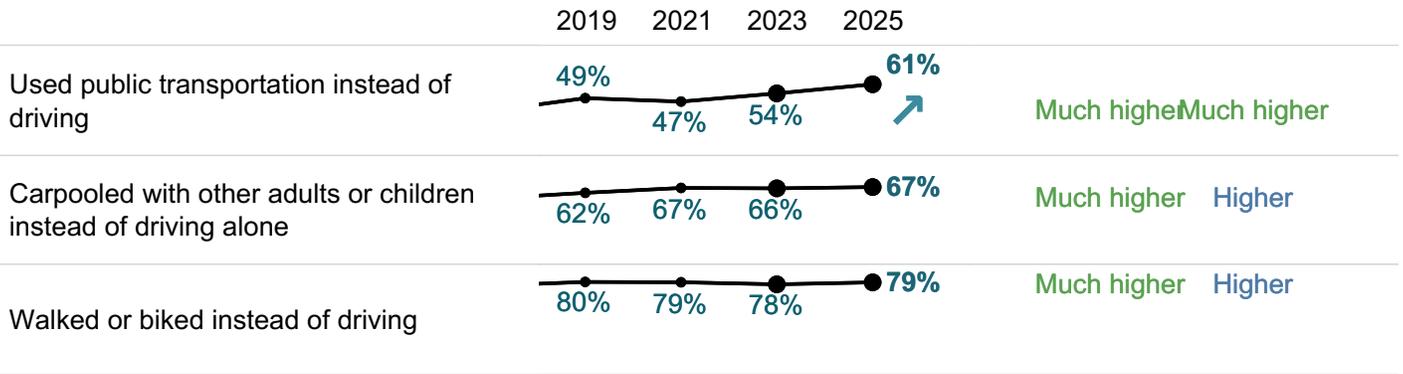


Please also rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community.
(% excellent or good)



Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.

(% yes)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County.

(% excellent or good)



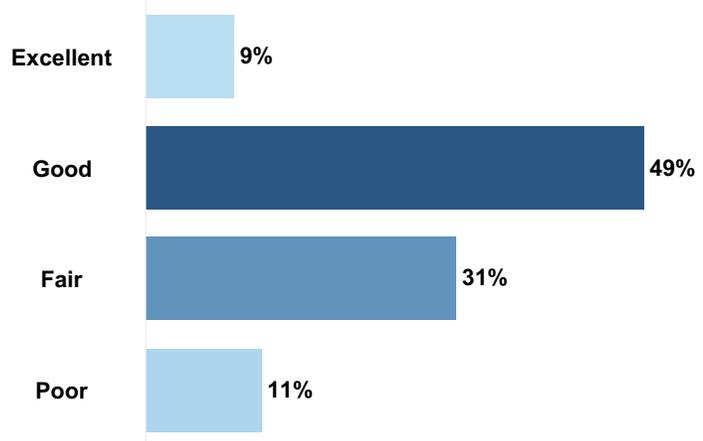
14. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

15. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can be found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

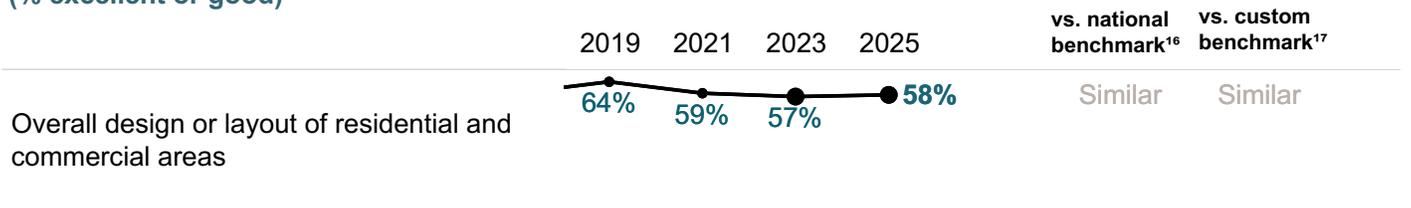
Overall design or layout of Gunnison County's residential and commercial areas, 2025

Community Design

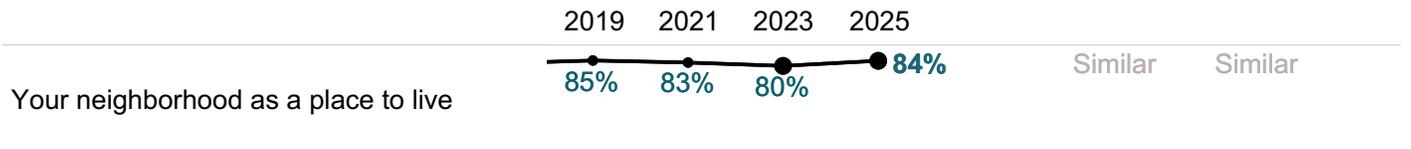
A well-designed community enhances the quality of life for its residents by encouraging smart land use and zoning, ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to all, and providing access to parks and other green spaces.



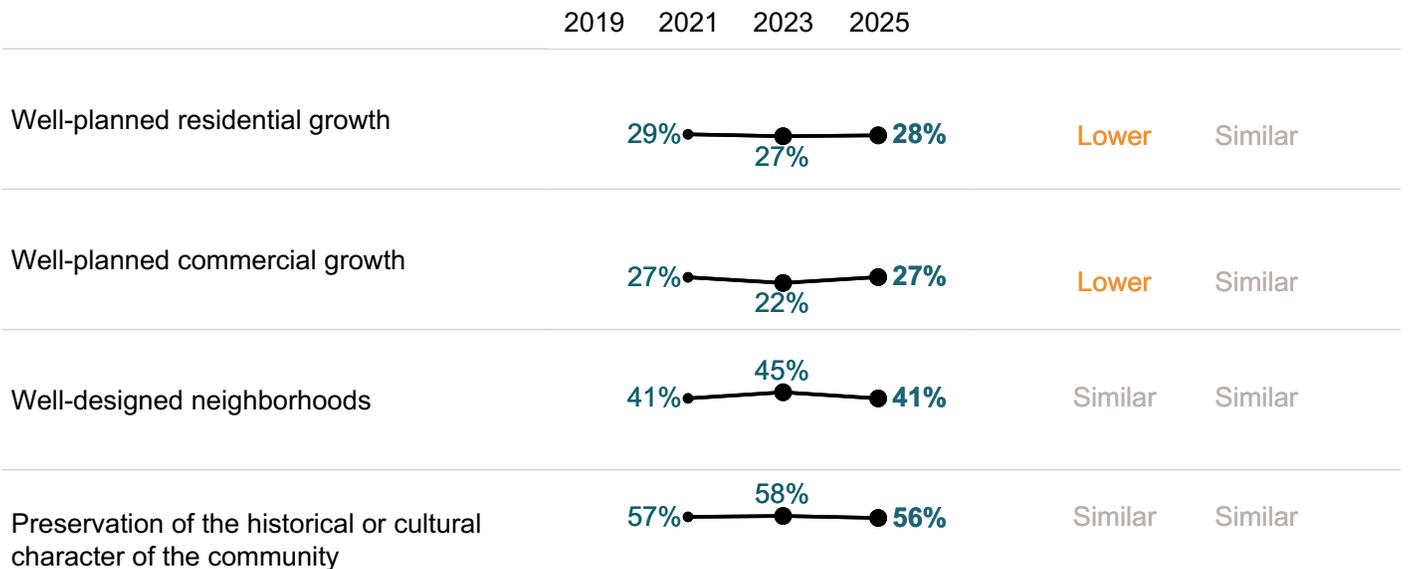
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole.
(% excellent or good)

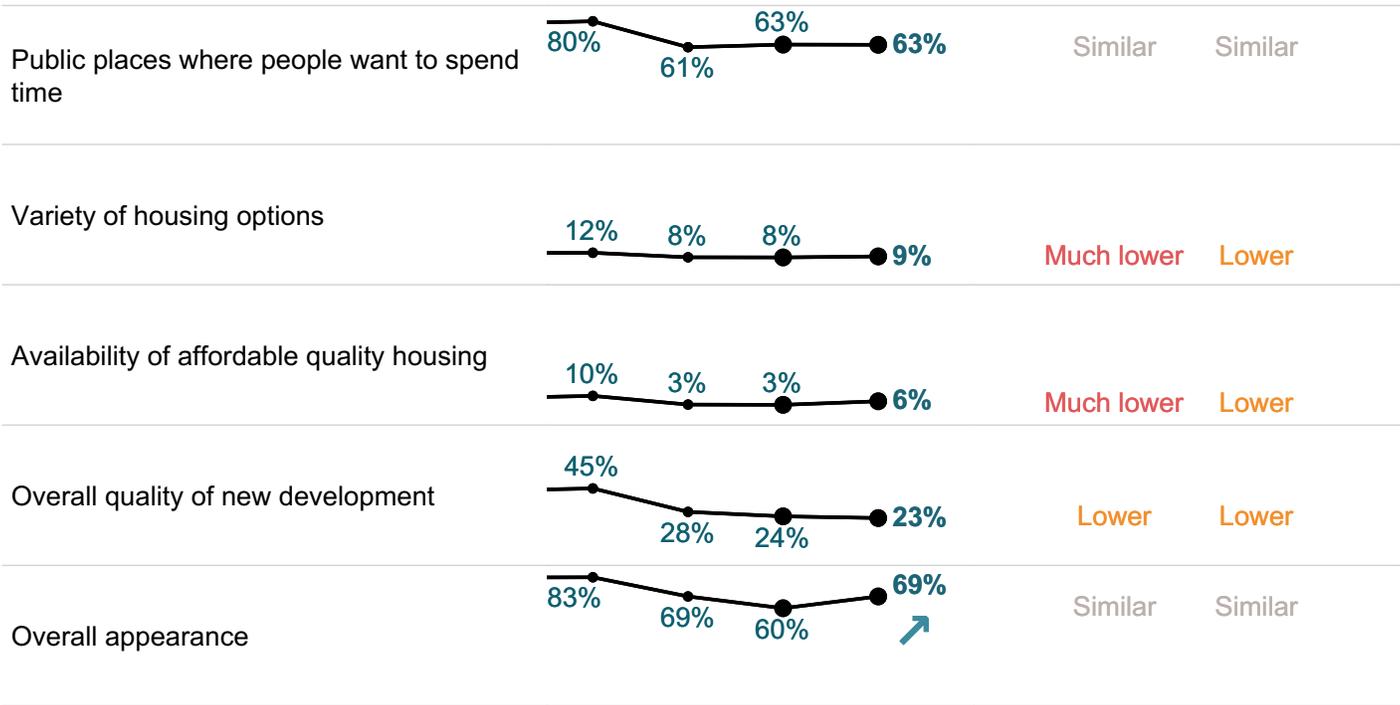


Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Gunnison County.
(% excellent or good)

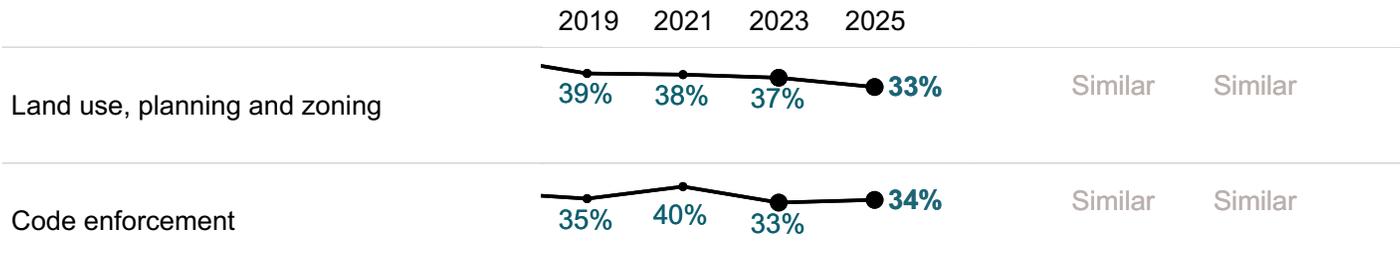


Please also rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community.
(% excellent or good)





Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County. (% excellent or good)



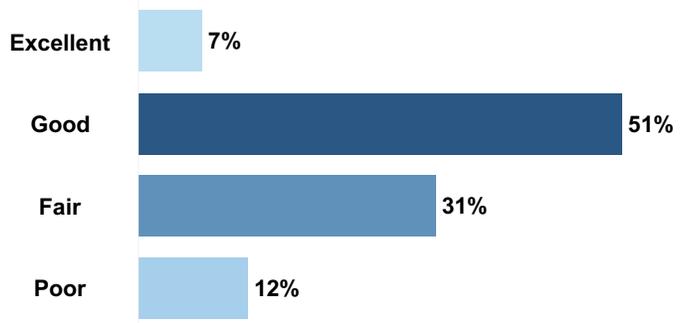
16. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

17. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Gunnison County, 2025

Utilities

Services such as water, gas, electricity, and internet access play a vital role in ensuring the physical and economic health and well-being of the communities they serve.



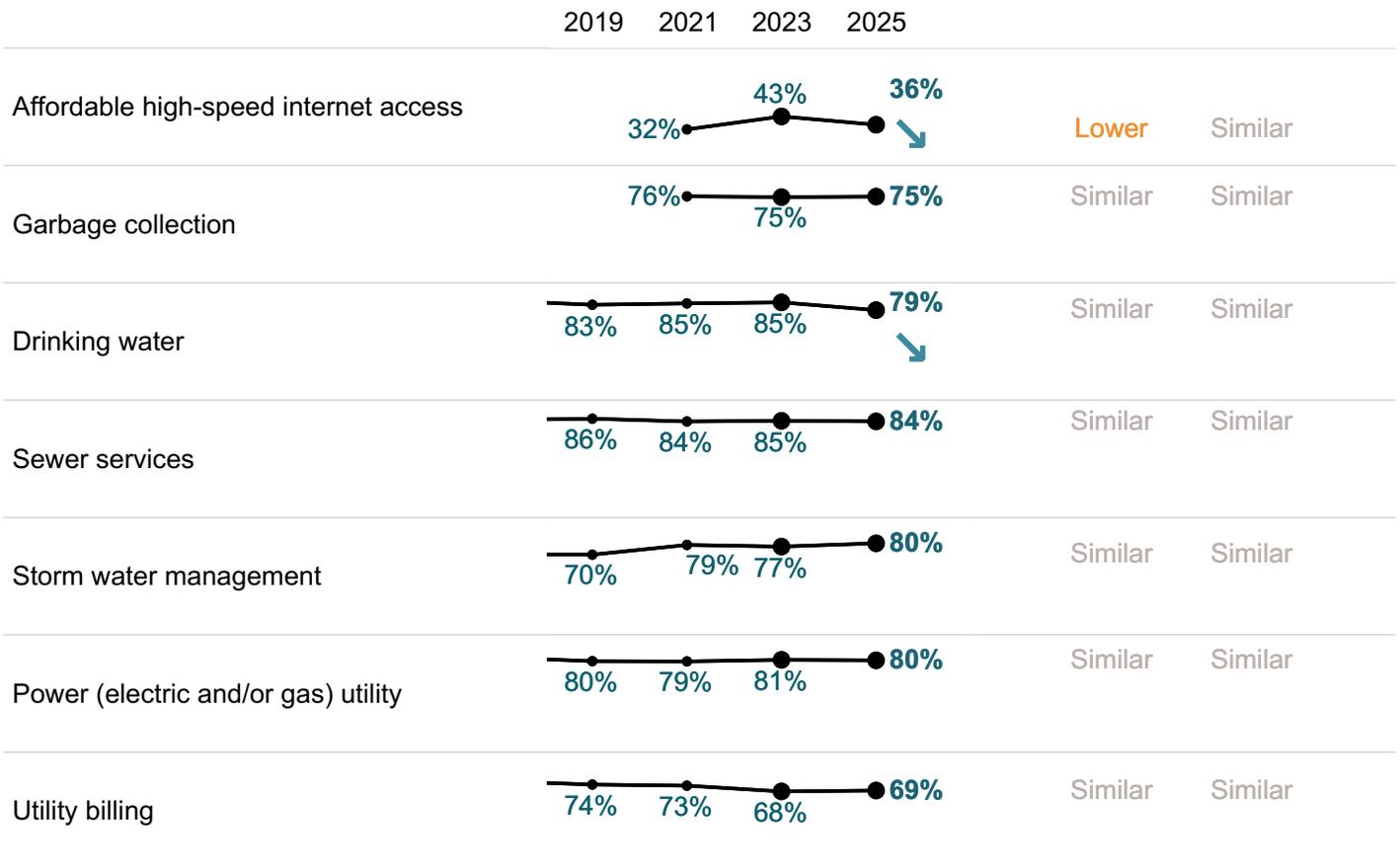
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole.

(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County.

(% excellent or good)



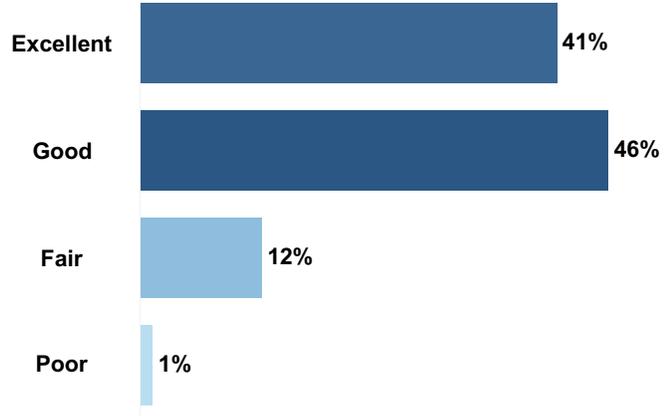
18. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

19. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can be found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

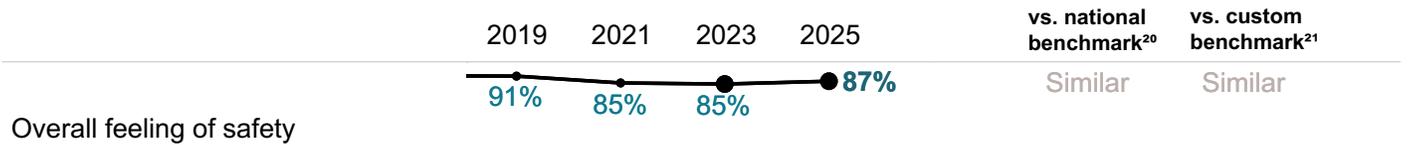
Overall feeling of safety in Gunnison County, 2025

Safety

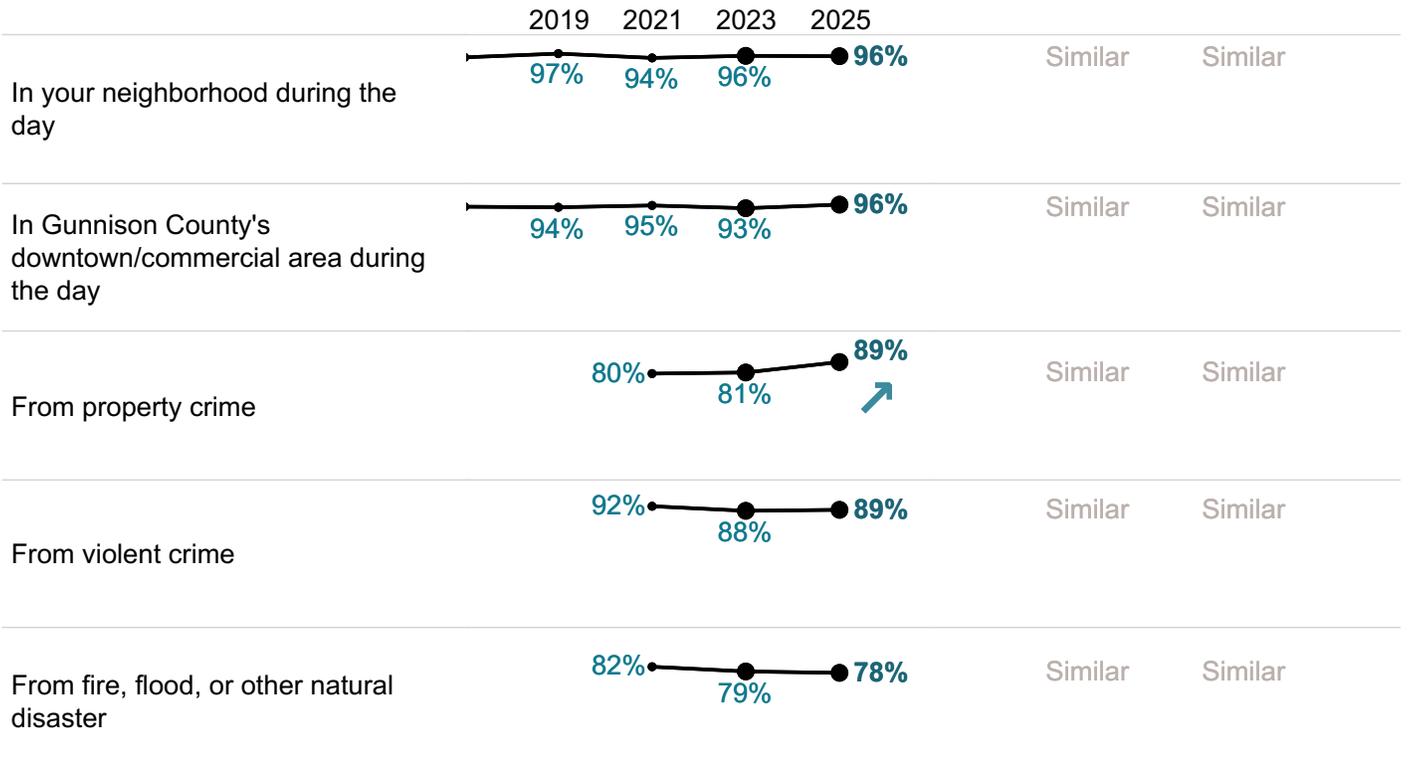
Public safety is often the most important task facing local governments. All residents should feel safe and secure in their neighborhoods and in the greater community, and providing robust safety-related services is essential to residents' quality of life.



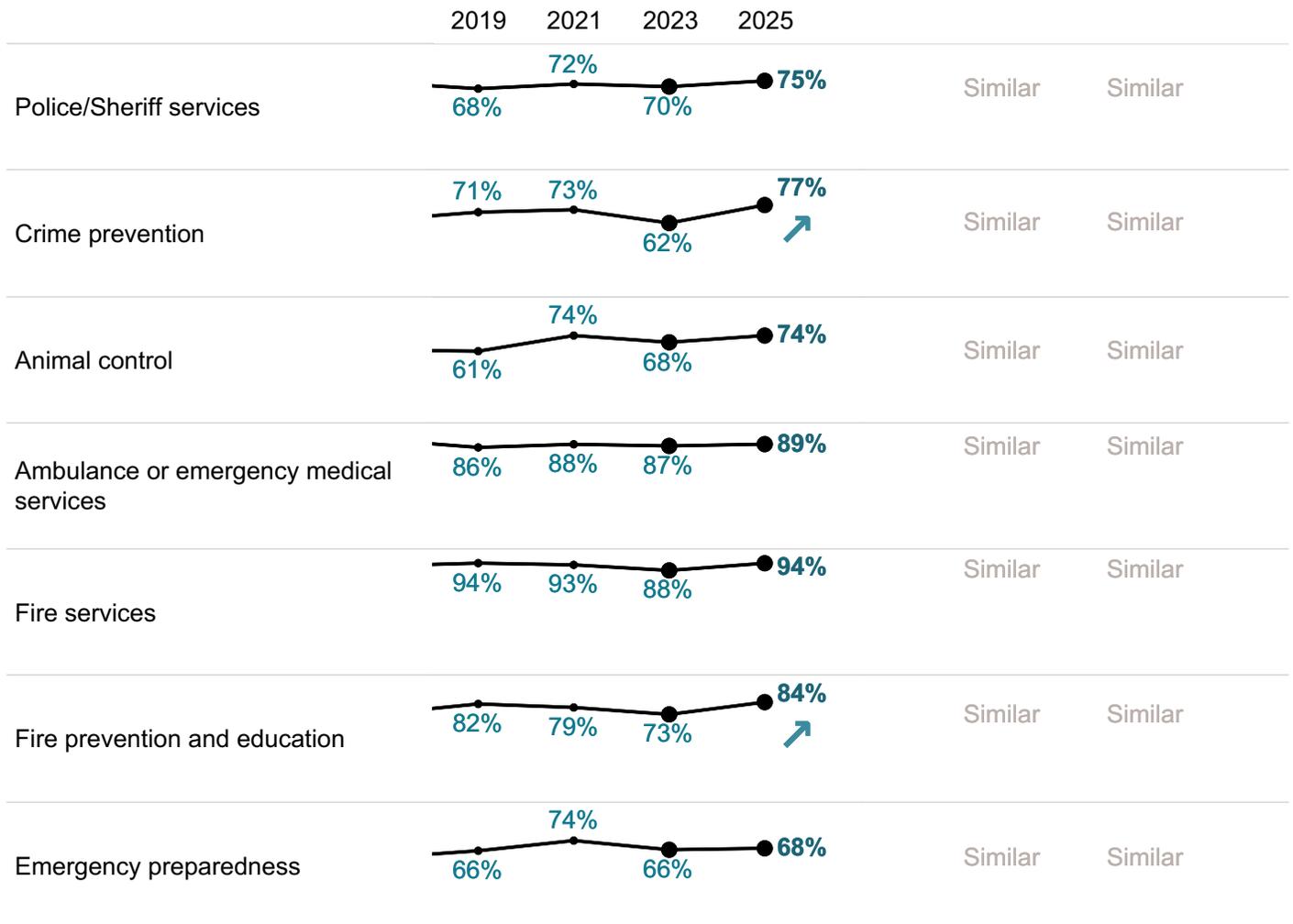
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel: (% very or somewhat safe)



**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County.
(% excellent or good)**



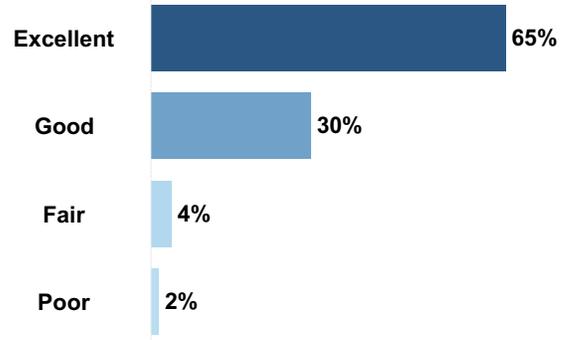
20. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

21. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

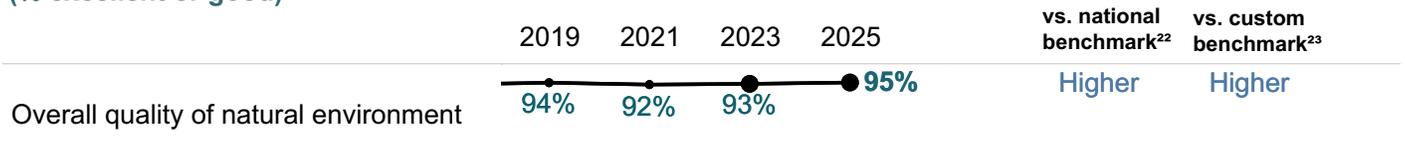
Overall quality of natural environment in Gunnison County, 2025

Natural Environment

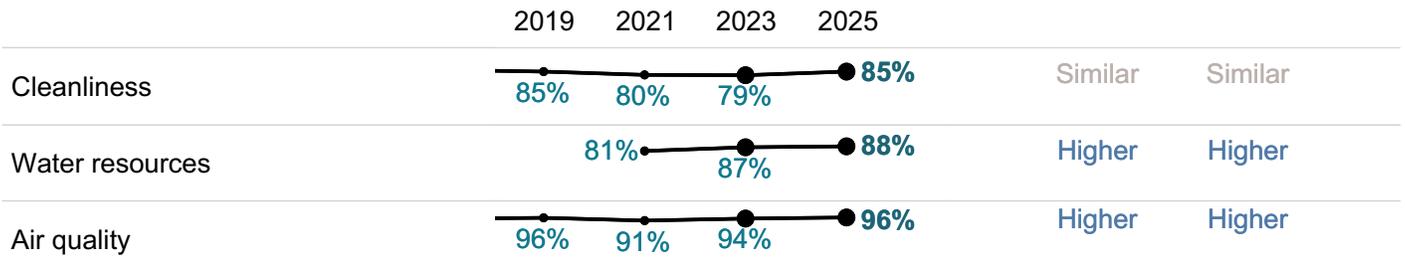
The natural environment plays a vital role in the health and well-being of residents. The natural spaces in which residents live and experience their communities has a direct and profound effect on quality of life.



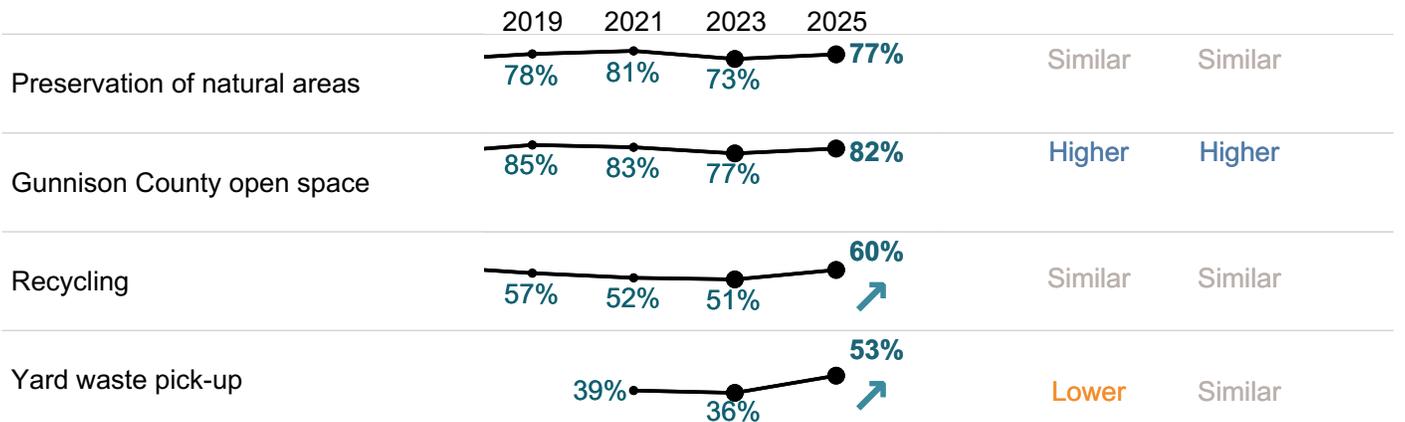
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community. (% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County. (% excellent or good)



22. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

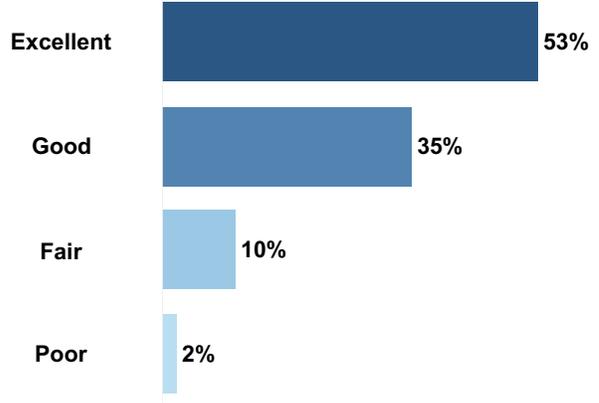
23. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can be found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities, 2025

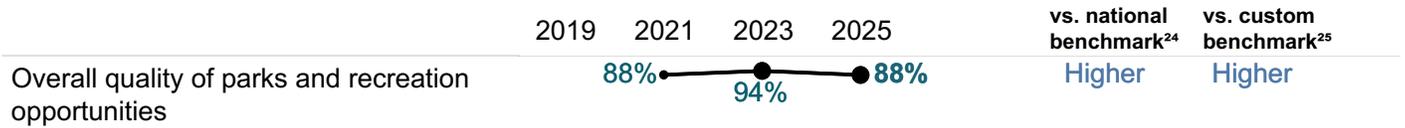
Parks and Recreation

"There are no communities that pride themselves on their quality of life, promote themselves as a desirable location for businesses to relocate, or maintain that they are environmental stewards of their natural resources, without such communities having a robust, active system of parks and recreation programs for public use and enjoyment."

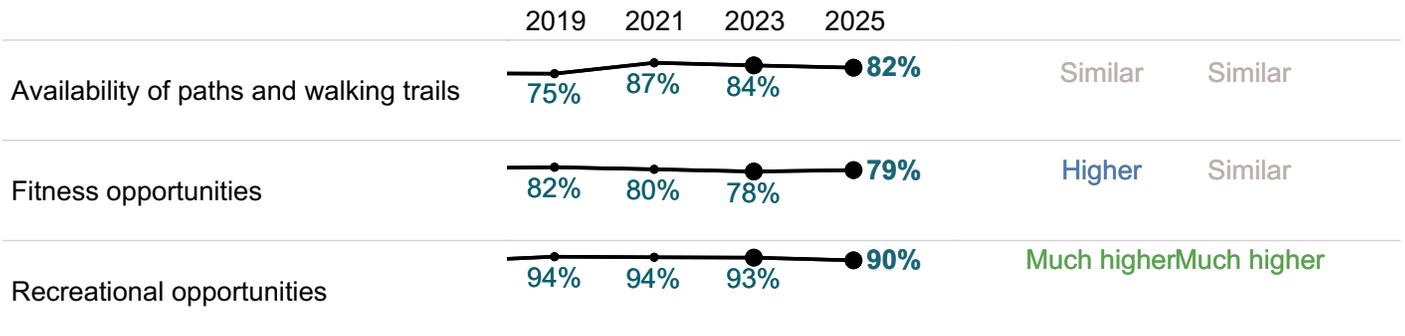
- National Recreation and Park Association



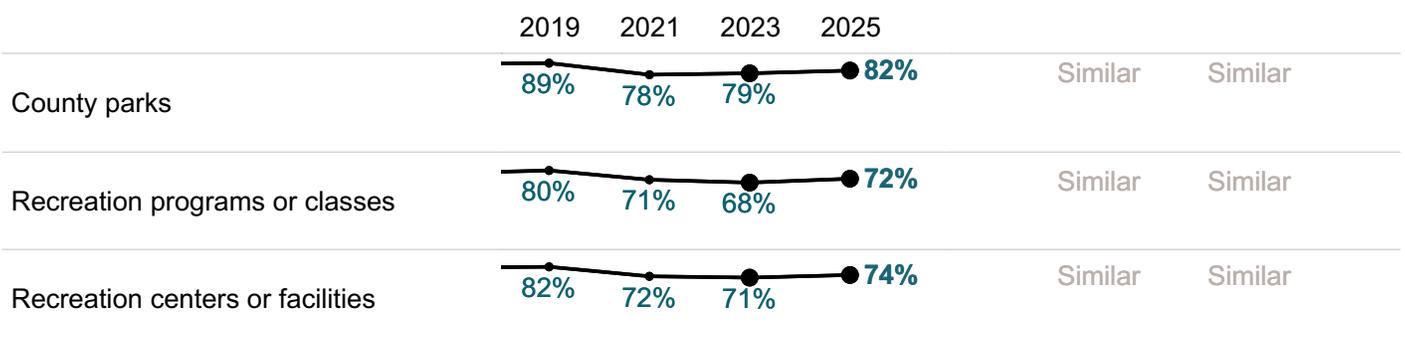
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community. (% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County. (% excellent or good)



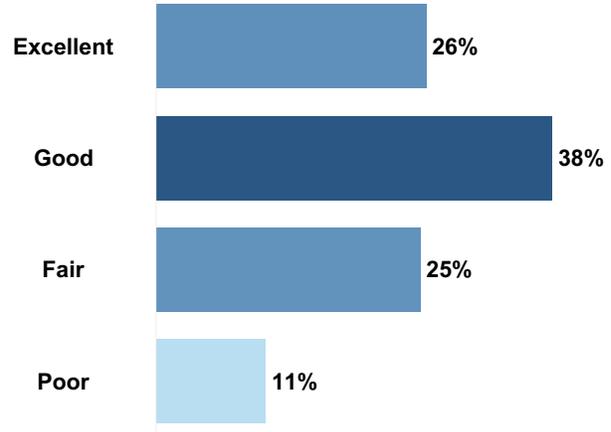
²⁴ Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

²⁵ Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can found in the About section of the report. If..

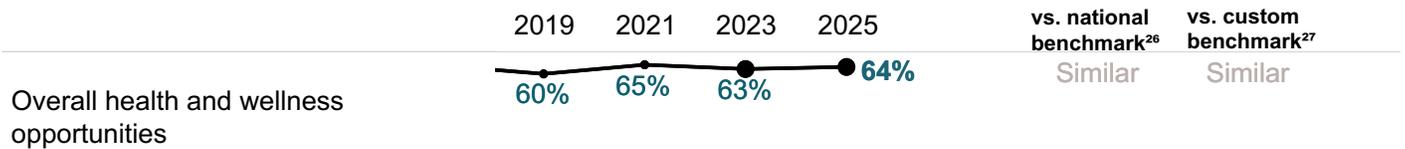
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Gunnison County, 2025

Health and Wellness

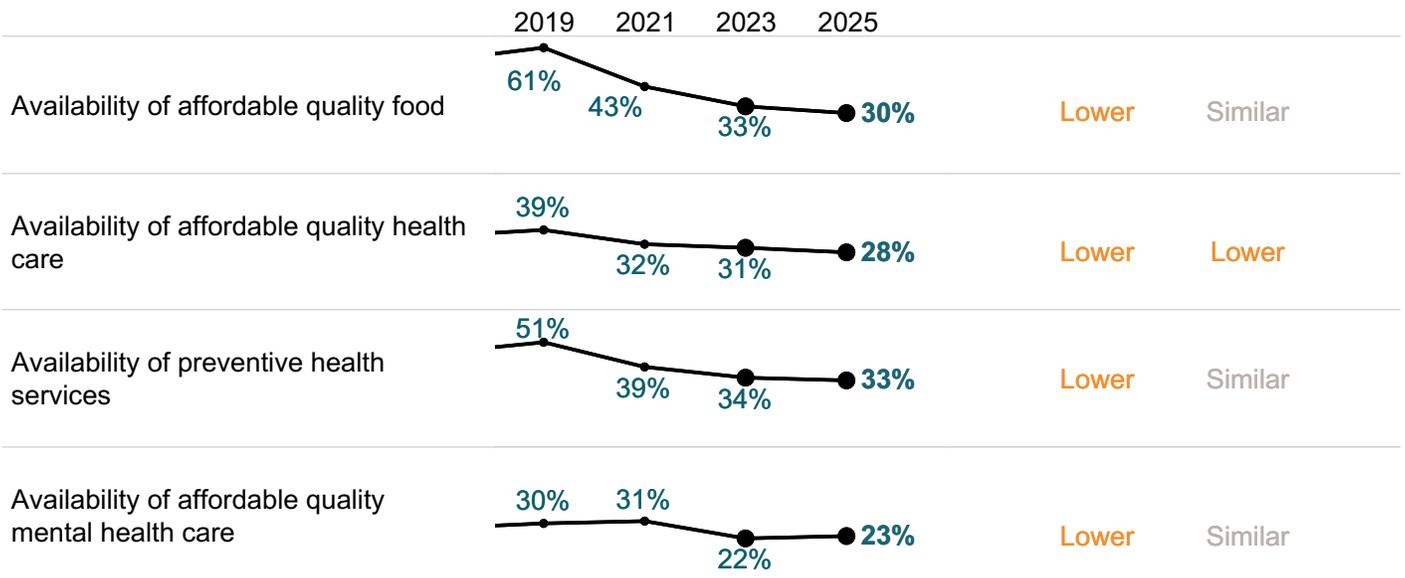
The characteristics of and amenities available in the communities in which people live has a direct impact on the health and wellness of residents, and thus, on their quality of life overall.



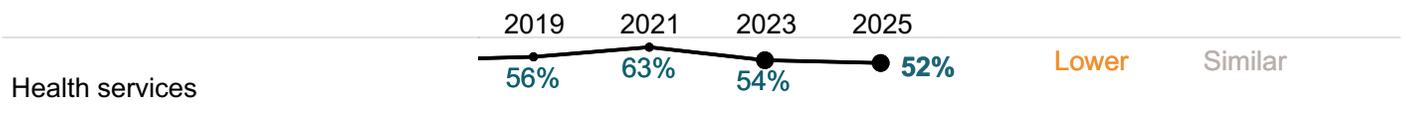
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole. (% excellent or good)



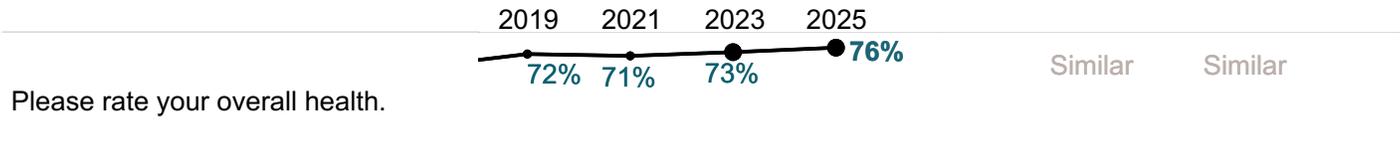
Please also rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community. (% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County. (% excellent or good)



Please rate your overall health.
(% excellent or very good)



Please rate your overall health.

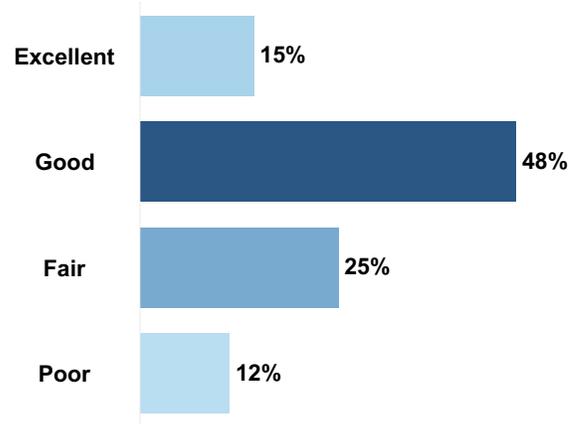
- 26. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.
- 27. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.



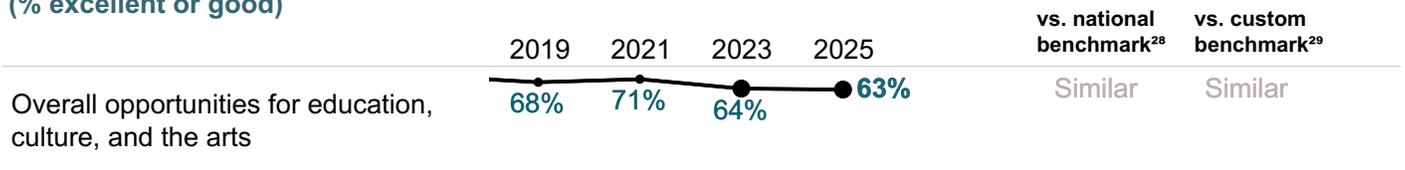
Education, Arts, and Culture

Participation in the arts, in educational opportunities, and in cultural activities is linked to increased civic engagement, greater social tolerance, and enhanced enjoyment of the local community.

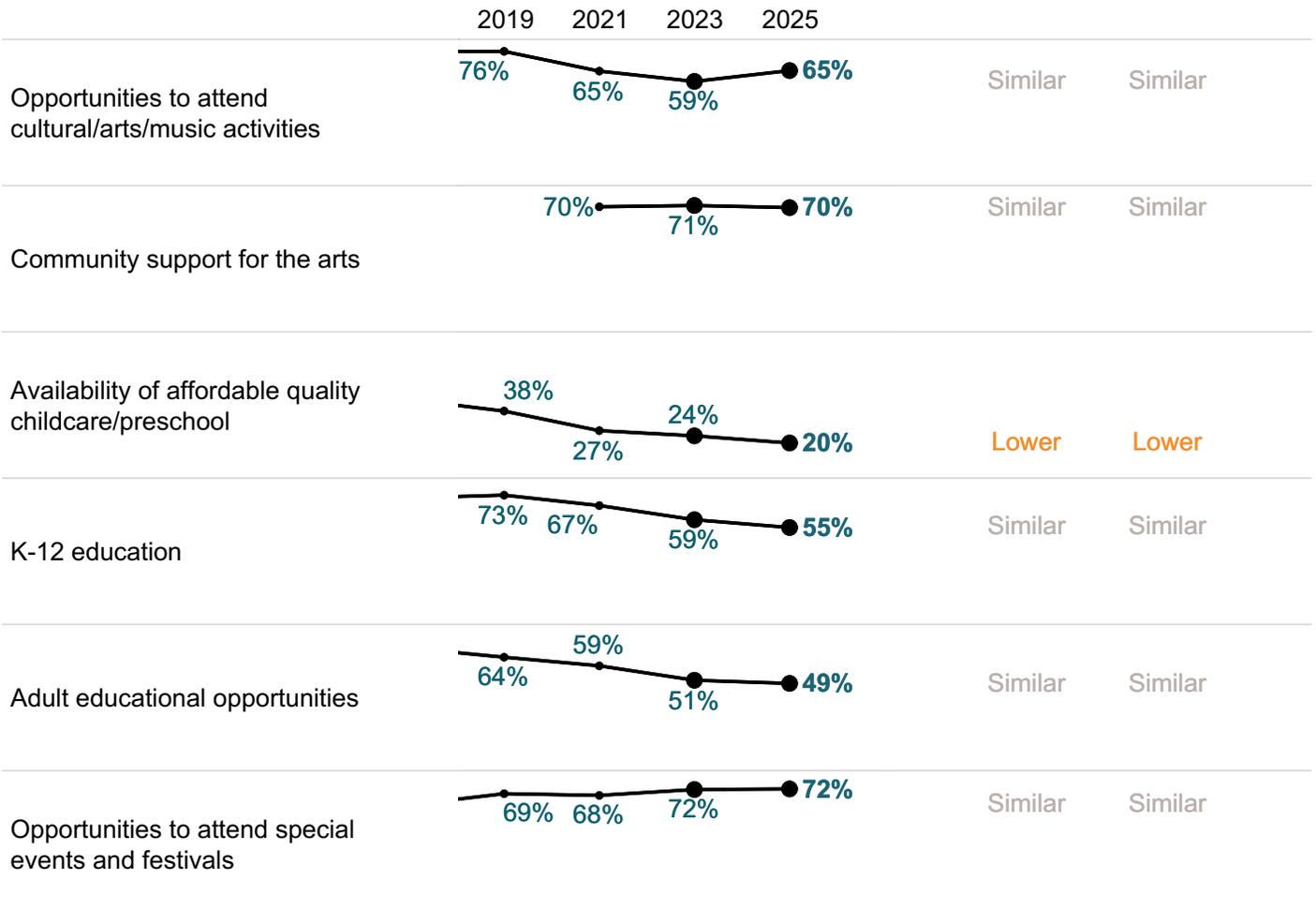
Overall opportunities for education, culture and the arts, 2025



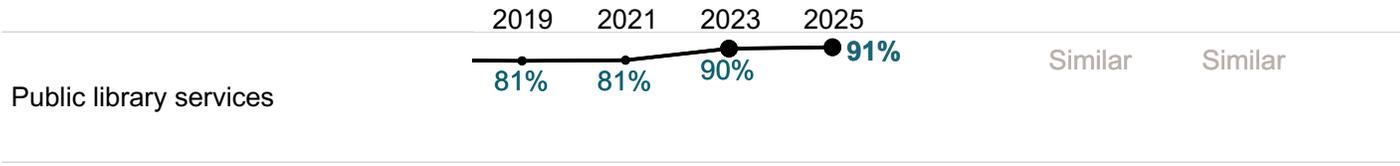
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole.
(% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community.
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County.
(% excellent or good)



28. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

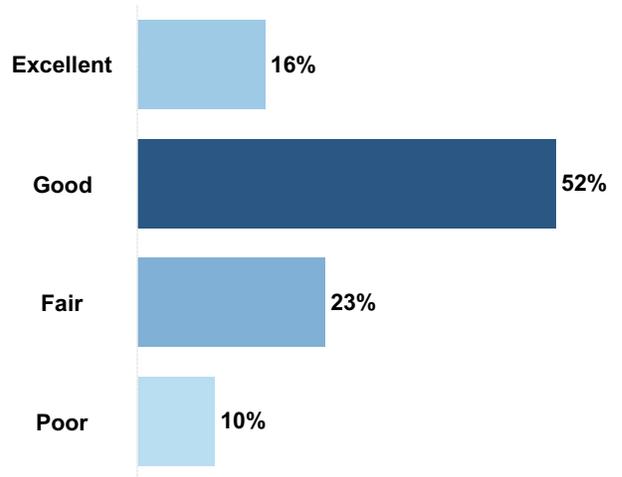
29. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.



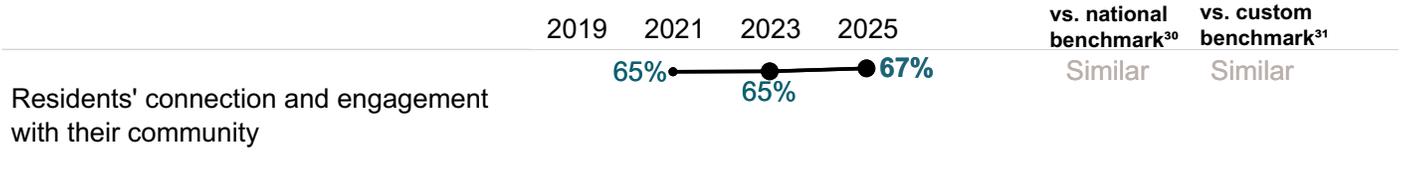
Residents' connection and engagement with their community, 2025

Inclusivity and Engagement

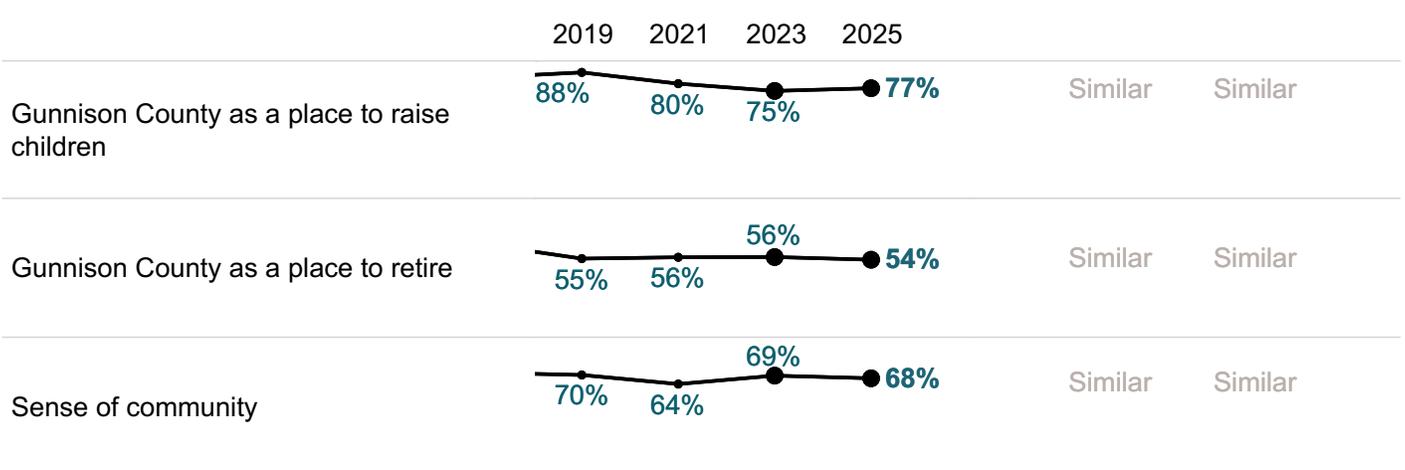
Inclusivity refers to a cultural and environmental feeling of belonging; residents who feel invited to participate within their communities feel more included, involved, and engaged than those who do not.



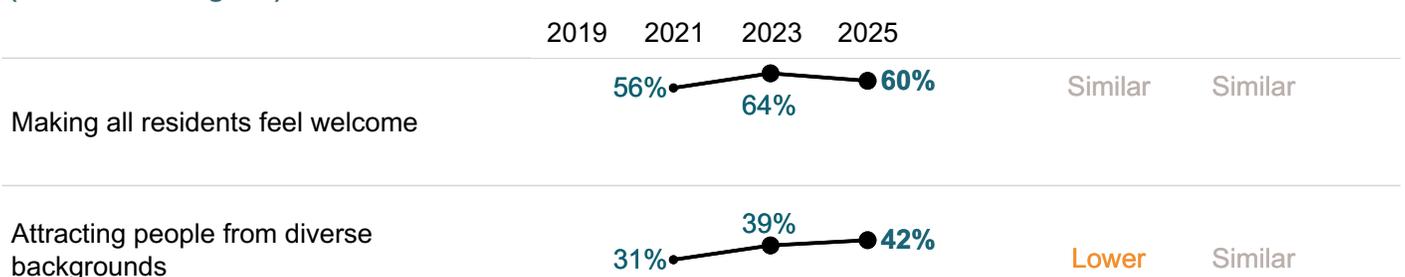
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Gunnison County. (% excellent or good)



Please rate the job you feel the Gunnison County community does at each of the following. (% excellent or good)



Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds



Similar Similar

Taking care of vulnerable residents



Similar Similar

Please also rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community. (% excellent or good)

2019 2021 2023 2025

Sense of civic/community pride



Similar Similar

Neighborhoodliness of residents



Similar Similar

Opportunities to participate in social events and activities



Similar Similar

Opportunities to volunteer



Similar Similar

Opportunities to participate in community matters



Similar Similar

Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds



Similar Similar

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months. (% yes)

2019 2021 2023 2025

Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate



Higher Higher

30. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

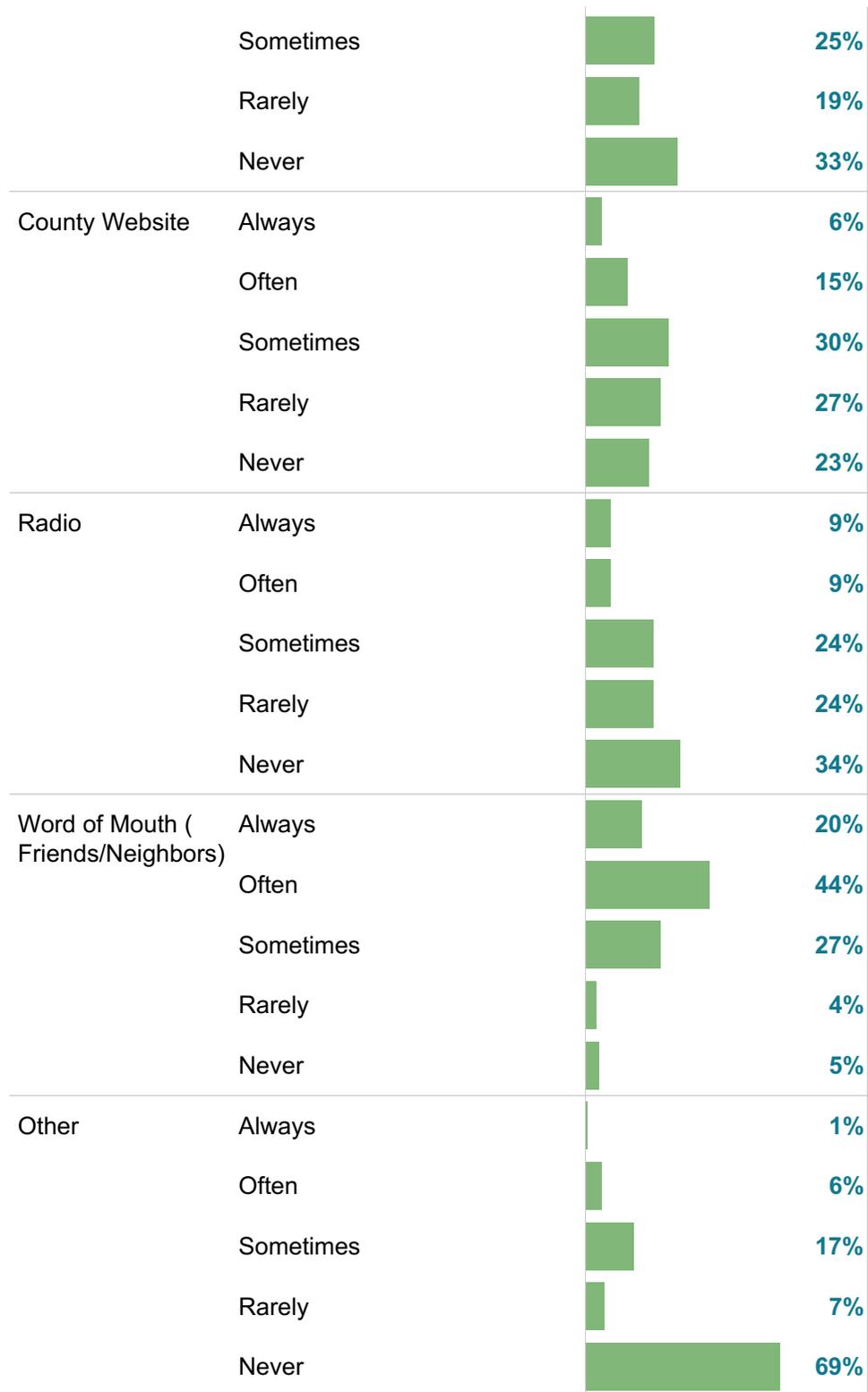
31. Comparison to the custom benchmark is shown. A description of the custom benchmark cohort can found in the About section of the report. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Custom questions

Below are the complete set of responses to each custom question on the survey. By default, “don’t know” responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter below.

			Include "don't know" No	
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County:	Multicultural Resources Office Services	Excellent		17%
		Good		32%
		Fair		31%
		Poor		20%
	Parenting Classes (e.g., Guiding Good Choices)	Excellent		11%
		Good		35%
		Fair		38%
		Poor		17%
	Child Support Services	Excellent		10%
		Good		24%
		Fair		36%
		Poor		30%
	Food Inspection Services	Excellent		6%
		Good		41%
		Fair		23%
		Poor		29%
	Veteran Services	Excellent		9%
		Good		32%
		Fair		33%
		Poor		26%
	Public Health Services (e.g., Immunizations and Flu Clinics, Family Planning, WIC)	Excellent		19%
		Good		53%
		Fair		20%

		Poor		8%
Youth and Family Services (e.g., Family Support, Juvenile Justice)		Excellent		17%
		Good		30%
		Fair		37%
		Poor		16%
Gunnison County has more than \$38 million in much-needed road maintenance work and bridge repairs. Because the County cannot legally use local pr..		Strongly support		16%
		Somewhat support		27%
		Strongly oppose		17%
		Somewhat oppose		7%
		Need more information before deciding		33%
Which of the following best explains your view about the above proposed road and bridge maintenance tax?		I need more information before deciding		42%
		I do not agree with creating a new tax		14%
		I am concerned about accountability or use of funds		9%
		I prefer alternative funding sources		3%
		I am concerned about the tax's financial impact on residents		19%
		Other		14%
How often do you use the following sources to find news and information about what is happening in Gunnison County?	Print or Online Newspaper	Always		25%
		Often		30%
		Sometimes		21%
		Rarely		12%
		Never		12%
Social Media	Always		8%	
	Often		29%	
	Sometimes		28%	
	Rarely		15%	
	Never		20%	
Email Alerts	Always		7%	
	Often		16%	



The Gunnison County 2025 Community Survey

Please complete this survey if you are an adult (age 18 or older). Your responses are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

1. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Gunnison County.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Gunnison County as a place to live.....	1	2	3	4	5
Your neighborhood as a place to live	1	2	3	4	5
Gunnison County as a place to raise children.....	1	2	3	4	5
Gunnison County as a place to work.....	1	2	3	4	5
Gunnison County as a place to visit.....	1	2	3	4	5
Gunnison County as a place to retire.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall quality of life in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of community.....	1	2	3	4	5

2. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Gunnison County as a whole.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall economic health of Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus).....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall design or layout of Gunnison County's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Gunnison County (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	1	2	3	4	5
Overall feeling of safety in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of natural environment in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts.....	1	2	3	4	5
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	1	2	3	4	5

3. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.

	<u>Very likely</u>	<u>Somewhat likely</u>	<u>Somewhat unlikely</u>	<u>Very unlikely</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Recommend living in Gunnison County to someone who asks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Remain in Gunnison County for the next five years.....	1	2	3	4	5

4. Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:

	<u>Very safe</u>	<u>Somewhat safe</u>	<u>Neither safe nor unsafe</u>	<u>Somewhat unsafe</u>	<u>Very unsafe</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
In your neighborhood during the day.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
In Gunnison County's downtown/commercial area during the day	1	2	3	4	5	6
From property crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From violent crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	1	2	3	4	5	6

5. Please rate the job you feel the Gunnison County community does at each of the following.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Making all residents feel welcome	1	2	3	4	5
Attracting people from diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Taking care of vulnerable residents (elderly, disabled, homeless, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5

6. Please rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Gunnison County	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of business and service establishments in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	1	2	3	4	5
Employment opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Shopping opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Cost of living in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall image or reputation of Gunnison County	1	2	3	4	5

7. Please also rate each of the following in the Gunnison County community.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Traffic flow on major streets.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of public parking.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by car in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by public transportation in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by bicycle in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of walking in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned residential growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned commercial growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-designed neighborhoods.....	1	2	3	4	5
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public places where people want to spend time.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of housing options.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality housing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of new development in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall appearance of Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Water resources (beaches, lakes, ponds, riverways, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Air quality.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of paths and walking trails.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)...	1	2	3	4	5
Recreational opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality food.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality health care.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of preventive health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality mental health care.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Community support for the arts.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool.....	1	2	3	4	5
K-12 education.....	1	2	3	4	5
Adult educational opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of civic/community pride.....	1	2	3	4	5
Neighborliness of residents in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to volunteer.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in community matters.....	1	2	3	4	5
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5

8. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.

	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Contacted Gunnison County (in-person, phone, email, or web) for help or information.....	1	2
Contacted Gunnison County elected officials (in-person, phone, email, or web) to express your opinion.....	1	2
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like County Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.).....	1	2
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting.....	1	2
Volunteered your time to some group/activity in Gunnison County.....	1	2
Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate.....	1	2
Voted in your most recent local election.....	1	2
Used bus, rail, subway, or other public transportation instead of driving.....	1	2
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone.....	1	2
Walked or biked instead of driving.....	1	2

The Gunnison County 2025 Community Survey

9. Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Public information services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Economic development.....	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic enforcement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic signal timing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street repair.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street cleaning.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street lighting.....	1	2	3	4	5
Snow removal.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sidewalk maintenance.....	1	2	3	4	5
Bus or transit services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Land use, planning, and zoning.....	1	2	3	4	5
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Affordable high-speed internet access.....	1	2	3	4	5
Garbage collection.....	1	2	3	4	5
Drinking water.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sewer services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Storm water management (storm drainage, dams, levees, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Power (electric and/or gas) utility.....	1	2	3	4	5
Utility billing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sheriff services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Crime prevention.....	1	2	3	4	5
Animal control.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ambulance or emergency medical services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire prevention and education.....	1	2	3	4	5
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations).....	1	2	3	4	5
Preservation of natural areas (open space, farmlands, and greenbelts).....	1	2	3	4	5
Gunnison County open space.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recycling.....	1	2	3	4	5
Yard waste pick-up.....	1	2	3	4	5
County parks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation programs or classes.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation centers or facilities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public library services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall customer service by Gunnison County employees (law enforcement, receptionists, planners, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5

10. Please rate the following categories of Gunnison County government performance.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
The value of services for the taxes paid to Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall direction that Gunnison County is taking.....	1	2	3	4	5
The job the County government does at welcoming resident involvement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall confidence in Gunnison County government.....	1	2	3	4	5
Generally acting in the best interest of the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Being honest.....	1	2	3	4	5
Being open and transparent to the public.....	1	2	3	4	5
Informing residents about issues facing the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Treating all residents fairly.....	1	2	3	4	5
Treating residents with respect.....	1	2	3	4	5

11. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4	5
The Federal Government.....	1	2	3	4	5

12. Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Gunnison County community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.

	<u>Essential</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>
Overall economic health of Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Gunnison County	1	2	3	4
Overall design or layout of Gunnison County’s residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.)	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Gunnison County (water, sewer, storm water, electric/gas, broadband)	1	2	3	4
Overall feeling of safety in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of natural environment in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Gunnison County.....	1	2	3	4
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts.....	1	2	3	4
Residents’ connection and engagement with their community	1	2	3	4

13. Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Gunnison County:

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don’t know</u>
Multicultural Resources Office Services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Parenting Classes (e.g., Guiding Good Choices)	1	2	3	4	5
Child Support Services	1	2	3	4	5
Food Inspection Services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Veteran Services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public Health Services (e.g., Immunizations and Flu Clinics, Family Planning, WIC)	1	2	3	4	5
Youth and Family Services (e.g., Family Support, Juvenile Justice).....	1	2	3	4	5

14. Gunnison County has more than \$38 million in much-needed road maintenance work and bridge repairs. Because the County cannot legally use local property tax dollars for this work, to what extent would you support or oppose a minimal County tax dedicated solely to county road and bridge maintenance and improvements?

- Strongly support Strongly oppose Don’t know
 Somewhat support Somewhat oppose Need more information before deciding

15. Which of the following best explains your view about the above proposed road and bridge maintenance tax?

- I need more information before deciding I prefer alternative funding sources
 I do not agree with creating a new tax I am concerned about the tax’s financial impact on residents
 I am concerned about accountability or use of funds
 Other (please specify): _____

16. How often do you use the following sources to find news and information about what is happening in Gunnison County?

	<u>Always</u>	<u>Often</u>	<u>Sometimes</u>	<u>Rarely</u>	<u>Never</u>
Print or Online Newspaper.....	1	2	3	4	5
Social Media.....	1	2	3	4	5
Email Alerts.....	1	2	3	4	5
County Website.....	1	2	3	4	5
Radio.....	1	2	3	4	5
Word of Mouth (Friends/Neighbors).....	1	2	3	4	5
Other (please specify):.....	1	2	3	4	5

The Gunnison County 2025 Community Survey

Our last questions are about you and your household.

Again, all of your responses to this survey are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

D1. In general, how many times do you:	Several times a day	Once a day	A few times a week	Every few weeks	Less often or never	Don't know
Access the internet from your home using a computer, laptop, or tablet computer.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Access the internet from your cell phone	1	2	3	4	5	6
Visit social media sites such as Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Nextdoor, etc.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Use or check email.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Share your opinions online.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Shop online	1	2	3	4	5	6

D2. Please rate your overall health.

- Excellent
 Very good
 Good
 Fair
 Poor

D3. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months?

Do you think the impact will be:

- Very positive
 Somewhat positive
 Neutral
 Somewhat negative
 Very negative

D4. How many years have you lived in Gunnison County?

- Less than 2 years
 2-5 years
 6-10 years
 11-20 years
 More than 20 years

D5. Which best describes the building you live in?

- Single-family detached home
 Townhouse or duplex (may share walls but no units above or below you)
 Condominium or apartment (have units above or below you)
 Mobile home
 Other

D6. Do you rent or own your home?

- Rent
 Own

D7. 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 \$2,500 to \$3,999
 \$300 to \$599 \$4,000 to \$6,999
 \$600 to \$999 \$7,000 to \$9,999
 \$1,000 to \$1,499 \$10,000 or more
 \$1,500 to \$2,499

D8. Do any children 17 or under live in your household?

- No Yes

D9. Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?

- No Yes

D10. 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 \$25,000 \$100,000 to \$149,999
 \$25,000 to \$49,999 \$150,000 to \$199,999
 \$50,000 to \$74,999 \$200,000 to \$299,999
 \$75,000 to \$99,999 \$300,000 or more

D11. Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin?

- No Yes

D12. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
 Asian
 Black or African American
 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 White
 A race not listed

D13. In which category is your age?

- 18-24 years 55-64 years
 25-34 years 65-74 years
 35-44 years 75 years or older
 45-54 years

D14. What is your gender?

- Woman
 Man
 Identify in another way → go to D14a

D14a. If you identify in another way, how would you describe your gender?

- Agender/I don't identify with any gender
 Genderqueer/gender fluid
 Non-binary
 Transgender man
 Transgender woman
 Two-spirit
 Identify in another way

Thank you!

Please return the completed survey in the postage-paid envelope to:
National Research Center, PO Box 14050, Houston, TX 77221-9904