

QUALITY OF LIFE #3

BROOKS-NEWELL REGION 2022

For a copy of the Quality of Life #3 Full Reports and Snapshots for communities within the Brooks-Newell Region visit:

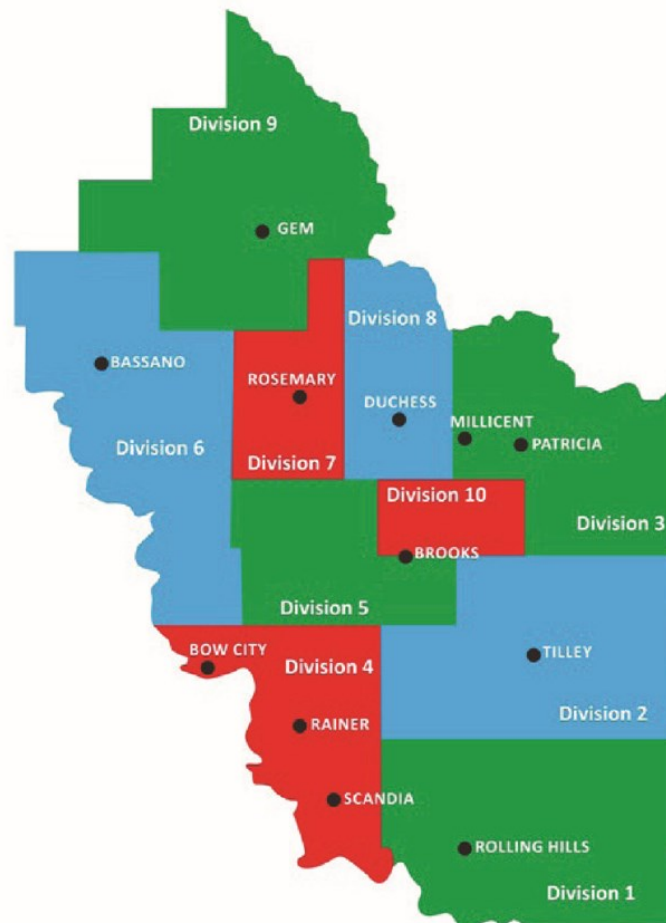
www.grasslandsregionalfcss.com

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403-362-4549



**Grasslands Regional FCSS
Board of Directors, 2022**



Top Left to Right: County of Newell; Councillor Holly Johnson; Clarence Amulung (Chair); Village of Rosemary; Mayor Yoko Fujimoto, Danealle Reinke
Bottom Left to Right: Village of Duchess; Councillor Tina Preston (Vice Chair); Vienna Dahle; City of Brooks; Councillor Marissa Wardrop; Cindy Wolfer

Message from the Chair

On behalf of the Grasslands Regional FCSS Board of Directors and Staff, I am pleased to release the *Brooks-Newell Region Quality of Life #3 Snapshot* in 2023. It is our hope that the information will help further understand our communities and also prove useful for planning, funding and working together.

FCSS will also be releasing full reports for the City of Brooks and the Brooks-Newell Region and Community Snapshots for the County of Newell, Village of Rosemary, the City of Brooks, the Town of Bassano and the Village of Duchess.

Clarence Amulung, Chair, Grasslands Regional FCSS

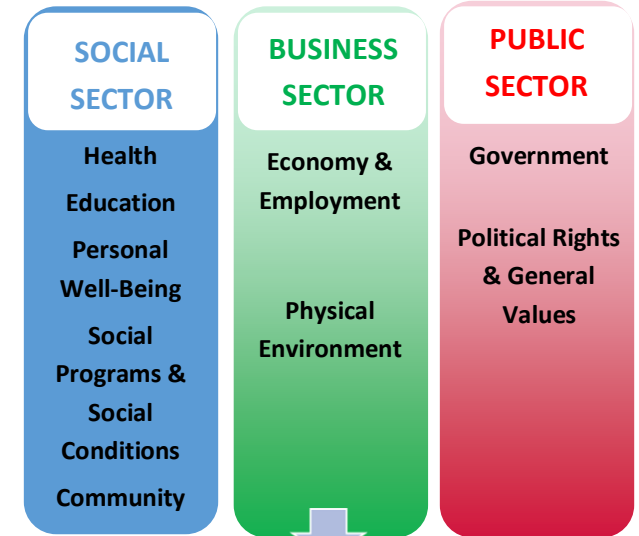
Copies available for download or viewing on www.grasslandsregionalfcss.com

THE QUALITY OF LIFE

- **Background:** The Grasslands Regional FCSS Community Mapping Project (2007) showed the unique characteristics of our Region.
- Prior to the Quality of Life Survey there was no established means to collect and analyze cross-sector (**Business; Public and Social**) data in our Region.
- The Quality of Life Survey and analysis provides the ability to complete a **Gap Analysis** which compares Ranking of Importance to Ranking of Satisfaction.
- The survey measures levels of importance within the nine factors variables to measure what residents think are important to their quality of life.
- The analysis also includes residents' feedback on Levels of Satisfaction with services and programs and Overall Satisfaction with the Quality of Life in individual communities, the municipalities and the Brooks-Newell Region as a whole.
- Comparisons to 2013 and 2017 results are included where relevant

NINE QUALITY OF LIFE FACTORS

The survey uses the Nine Quality of Life Factors (Categories) established by the Canadian Policy Research Network. These nine categories provide the foundation for all questions and analysis within the sectors.



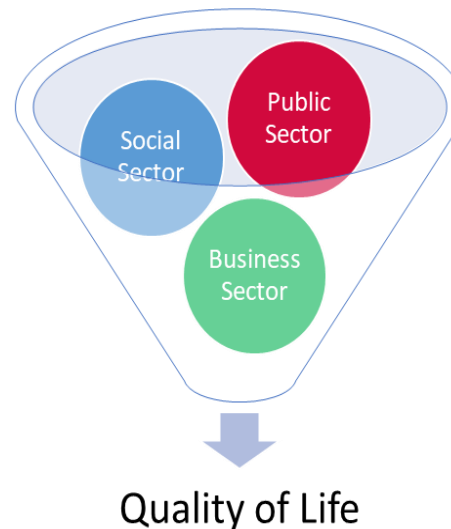
QUALITY OF LIFE VARIABLES

- Within each of the Nine Factors are Variables of Importance and Variables of Satisfaction with services.

QUALITY OF LIFE SNAPSHOT

- The Brooks-Newell Region Quality of Life #3 Snapshot: 2023 is a summary of the Gap Analysis completed to compare the Rank of Importance and the Rank of Satisfaction within each of the nine Quality of Life factors.
- The Brooks-Newell Region #3 Snapshot 2023 is an addendum to the Brooks-Newell Region Quality of Life Report. The snapshot is a summary of the Quality of Life results for Brooks-Newell Region.

For more information refer to the Brooks-Newell Region Quality of Life Report at www.grasslandsregionalfcss.com



Community Profile

SAMPLE SIZE

We are confident that 1,531 respondents from the Brooks-Newell Region (6.1% of total population ages 15 years and older) represents a Confidence Level of 95% with a margin of error of 5%, which is within the requirements of the Quality of Life research.



There are 8 Hutterian Brethren Colonies in rural areas of the County of Newell.

DATA SOURCE

- Statistics Canada. 2022. (table). *Census Profile*. 2021 Census of Population. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 98-316-X2021001. Ottawa. Released November 30, 2022.

Statistics Canada does not publish data which can identify individuals so some of the data may have been rounded.

REGIONAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA

- In 2021, the population of the Region was 25,028 compared to 24,662 in 2016. This is a 1.5% growth in population compared to a 5% increase between 2011 and 2016.
- The Brooks-Newell Region has a land area of 5836.11 km² and a population density of 4.29/km² within the Region as a whole. There are 8,635 private dwellings.
- 2,365 households were living within low income-based after tax incomes (LIM-AT), a slight increase from 2016.
- The median Household income was \$85,600 (2016: \$82,002) and \$75,800 after tax median income (2016: \$71,271).
- Total Labour Force aged 25+ was 12.675. The Top Occupational Category regionally is Sales and Service.
- Top two Industries: Manufacturing Industry and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting. Industry.
- 55% of working population were working full-time.

NEWELL REGION POPULATION

Area	Population	Population
Brooks	14,924	14,451
Bassano	1,216	1,206
Duchess	1,053	1,085
Rosemary	370	396
County of Newell	7,465	7,524
Newell Region	25,028	24,662

Statistics Canada 2021

Age Demographics

Age Range	#	%
0 to 4 years	1675	6.69%
5 to 9 years	1890	7.55%
10 to 14 years	2035	8.13%
15 to 19 years	1825	7.29%
20 to 24 years	1460	5.83%
25 to 29 years	1370	5.47%
30 to 34 years	1500	5.99%
35 to 39 years	1860	7.43%
40 to 44 years	1965	7.85%
45 to 49 years	1715	6.85%
50 to 54 years	1555	6.21%
55 to 59 years	1445	5.77%
60 to 64 years	1405	5.61%
65 to 69 years	1140	4.55%
70 to 74 years	850	3.39%
75 to 79 years	600	2.4%
80 to 84 years	350	1.4%
85 years and over	400	1.6%

AGE RANGE 2021

- ◆ The median age in the Region was 39.5 years in 2021 (2016: 38.3 years; 2013:).
- ◆ Bassano had the highest median age at 50 years and Scandia the lowest at 27.6 years.
- ◆ There were 5,585 residents 0-14 years(22.3%)

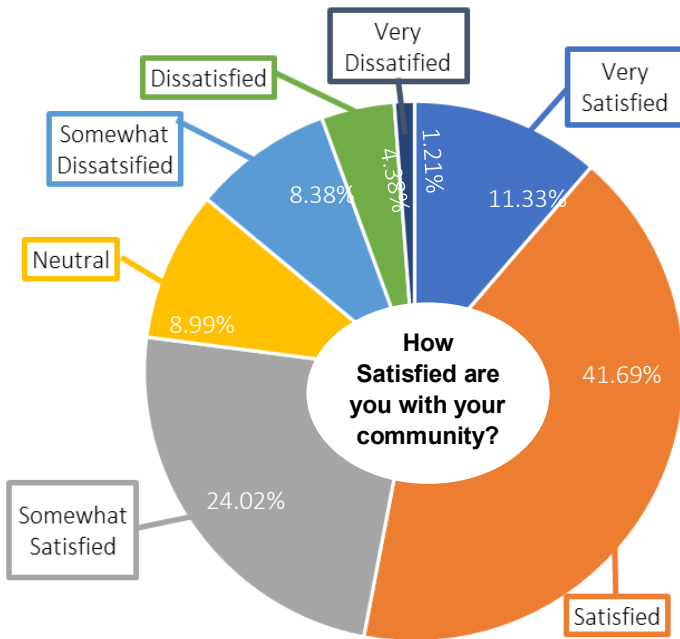
Community Profile

COMMUNITY SATISFACTION CHART

★ 1,324 people answered the question:
“Overall how satisfied are you with your Community?”

In 2022, 77.04% (1,020 people) expressed Overall Satisfaction with the Community.

- 75.9% (982 people) in 2018
- 77% (808 people) in 2013 ★



ETHNO-CULTURAL DIVERSITY

MOTHER TONGUE
 English 16,885
 French 250
 Non-official Languages 6,825
 The top 5 non-official languages spoken are German (1,485), Tagalog (930), Spanish (740), Somali (670), and Oromo (415)

REGIONAL HOUSING FACTS

- The average assessment value for homes within the Brooks-Newell Region was \$258,880
- 15% of housing was built prior to 2000.
- 6% of housing requires major repairs
- 6% of the housing is not considered suitable to be occupied
- 14% of individuals spend more than 30% of their household income on housing costs.
- The average monthly housing cost, including municipal property tax and utilities, for an own residence is \$1,186 and is \$1,029 for rented residences.

IMMIGRATION STATUS

STATUS	NUMBER	%
Immigrants	6,355	26.7%
Non-Immigrants	16,970	71.4%
Non-Permanent	410	1.7%

FAMILY STRUCTURES

- There are 6395 Census families. There are 3,655 persons not in census families (live alone, with relative or non-relative).
- 61.1% of persons 15 years and older are married or living common-law.
- There are 1,645 children in one-parent families and 6,625 children living in two-parent families.
- The average size of census families in the Region is 3.0. The average number of individuals per household is 2.7

DWELLING TYPE *

*Statistics Canada 2021

Total number occupied dwellings 8,600

Single-detached houses 5,705

Semi-detached house 410

Row house 635

Apartment in a duplex style building 195

Apartment in a building under 5 storeys 810

Other single attached house 15

Movable dwelling 830

Findings from the QUALITY OF LIFE SURVEY

GAP ANALYSIS

The Gap Analysis reviews the alignment between individuals Rank of Satisfaction with Services and the Rank of Importance of community variables. Ideally individuals would feel the same level of satisfaction as well as rank of importance for any given factor creating a match and resulting in no gap. When the Rank or Satisfaction and Rank or Importance vary it results in a gap; if the Rank of Satisfaction is higher than the Rank of Importance it results in a Positive Gap, alternatively if the Rank of Satisfaction is lower than the Rank of Importance it results in a Negative Gap.

If individuals rate a factor with a more satisfied ranking than ranking of importance the resulting positive gap demonstrates that the community is satisfied with the factor, but it creates inequality within the other factors as it is impossible for all nine factors to present with a positive gap.

BROOKS-NEWELL REGION GAP ANALYSIS

<i>Factor</i>	<i>Rank of Importance</i>	<i>Rank of Satisfaction</i>	<i>Gap Analysis Result</i>
Health	1	5	Negative
Personal Well-Being	2	2	Match
Education System	3	3	Match
Economy and Employment	4	8	Negative
Sense of Community	5	4	Positive
Physical Environment	6	1	Positive
Political Rights and General Values	7	9	Negative
Social Programs/Social Conditions	8	7	Positive
Government	9	6	Positive

COMPARATIVE GAP ANALYSIS

	Region	Bassano	Brooks	County	Duchess	Rosemary
<i>Economy and Employment</i>	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative	Match	Negative
<i>Education System</i>	Match	Match	Positive	Negative	Negative	Negative
<i>Government</i>	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive
<i>Health Services</i>	Negative	Match	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
<i>Personal Well-Being Needs</i>	Match	Negative	Match	Match	Negative	Negative
<i>Physical Environment</i>	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive
<i>Political Rights and General Values</i>	Negative	Positive	Negative	Negative	Negative	Negative
<i>Sense of Community</i>	Positive	Positive	Match	Positive	Positive	Positive
<i>Social Programs/Social Conditions</i>	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Negative	Negative



PERSONAL WELL-BEING

MATCH GAP

SOCIAL SECTOR



Personal Well-Being
Ranks #2 for Level of Importance

Each Factor is measured using variables. Variables measure either the importance of a topic or the satisfaction with access to a service. The variables reviewed to determine the Personal Well-Being Factor are below.

QUALITY OF LIFE	QUALITY OF PLACE
<i>Importance variables</i>	<i>Satisfaction variables</i>
Personal Health	Free Time Activities
Personal Safety	Personal Development
Spiritual & Religious Acceptance	Community Gathering Places
Family	
Friends	



Since 1989 Alberta has celebrated **Family Day** in February as many believe it is important to recognize the need for families to spend more time together.



Overall Satisfaction with Personal Well-Being was 75.7%
(80% in 2018; 80.9% in 2013)



IMPORTANCE: Personal Well-Being

	Not At All Important	Not Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Family	0.42%	0.35%	2.96%	10.51%	85.75%
Friends	0.35%	0.92%	10.42%	40.89%	47.41%
Personal Health	0.35%	0%	1.42%	21.74%	76.49%
Personal Safety	0.14%	0.28%	3.89%	28.87%	66.81%
Spiritual and Religious Acceptance	4.82%	6.95%	25.67%	32.62%	29.93%



SATISFACTION: Personal Well-Being

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Community Gathering Places	3.39%	6.86%	12.82%	21.27%	22.17%	27.53%	5.96%
Free Time Activities	5.42%	6.18%	14.19%	27.61%	19.45%	22.2%	4.96%
Personal Development	2.14%	3.29%	9.11%	41.27%	19.6%	21.36%	3.22%

PERSONAL WELL-BEING

MATCH GAP

SOCIAL SECTOR

KEY FINDINGS & COMPARISONS

*The Personal Well-Being Factor in the Region is a **Negative Gap**:
This Factor Ranks #2 for Importance and #2 for Satisfaction*

IMPORTANCE

- Overall Importance responses were similar to 2017 and 2013 within a 4% range.
- **Personal Health** continued to have the highest Overall Importance in the Personal Well-Being Factor. 98.2% of respondents rate it with some level of importance.
- 95.7% responded that **Personal Safety** maintained a high level of Importance, with no change from 2017 and a 1% decrease from 2013.
- 96.3% thought **Family** had some level of importance, no change from 2017 and a decrease from 97.7% in 2013.
- 88.3% of respondents thought **Friends** were important, a decrease from 2017 (89.5%) and 2013 (91.1%)
- The Overall Importance of **Religious and Spiritual Acceptance** was 62.6% and has been decreasing since 2017 (64.7%) and 2013 (66.7%).

Individuals in the Alberta Health Services South Zone
have a average life expectancy of 80.9 years old. ¹

¹ <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?>

SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

- **Community Gathering Places** continued to have the highest Overall Satisfaction with 55.7% of individuals expressing some level of satisfaction, compared to 61.3% in 2017 and 59.2% in 2013.
- **Community Gathering Places** had an Overall Dissatisfaction of 23.1% compared to 2017:(18.9%) and 2013 (21.9%).
- **Free Time Activities** had an Overall Satisfaction rate of 46.6% compared to 2017 (51.7%) and 2013 (50.8%).
- **Personal Development** services had the highest Neutral response at 41.3%.
- **Personal Development** services had an Overall Satisfaction of 44.2%. The Overall Satisfaction in this category has decreased since 2017 (54.5%) and 2013 (51.8%).



EDUCATION

MATCH GAP

SOCIAL SECTOR

Each Factor is measured using variables. Variables measure either the Importance of a topic or the Satisfaction with access to a service. The variables reviewed to determine the Education Factor are below.

★
Education Ranks #3 for Level of Importance
★

QUALITY OF LIFE QUALITY OF PLACE



Brooks Campus, Medicine Hat College

IMPORTANCE: Education

	Not At All Important	Not Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Adult Literacy	1.35%	2.2%	18.65%	46.95%	30.85%
Community High School Dropout Rates	2.78%	4.42%	27.99%	40.74%	24.07%
Community Literacy Rates	2.07%	3.92%	26.23%	45.76%	22.02%
Education	1%	1.07%	8.81%	34.74%	54.37%
Personal Educational Achievements	1.92%	4.33%	21.52%	44.74%	27.49%

EDUCATION LEVEL OF POPULATION

Education Level	Total	Percentage
<i>Total Population aged 15 years and over</i>	20,440	100%
<i>No Certificate</i>	5,065	27.2%
<i>High School diploma or equivalent</i>	6,465	33.5%
<i>Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree</i>	6,900	39.2%
<i>Bachelors Degree or higher</i>	2,010	0.7%

SATISFACTION: Education Services

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Adult/Continuing Education	3.05%	4.8%	9.14%	39.07%	20.18%	20.03%	3.73%
Job Training Programs	2.67%	4.58%	9.01%	51.41%	14.97%	14.06%	3.28%
Post-Secondary Education	3.59%	7.09%	13.12%	32.49%	19.37%	20.82%	3.51%

EDUCATION

MATCH GAP

SOCIAL SECTOR

KEY FINDINGS & COMPARISONS

*The Education Factor in the Region is a **Match**:*

This Factor Ranks #3 for Importance and #3 for Satisfaction with services

IMPORTANCE

- Within the Education Factor/Category, the **Education** variable had the highest Overall Importance at 89.1% , a decrease from 2017 (92.5%) and 93% in 2013 (93%). No Level of Importance rating continued to be low at 2.1% in 2021.
- **Adult Literacy** Rates had an Overall Importance rating of 77.8% (2017: 78.2%; 2013: 80.4%). Neutral response was 18.7% and No Level of Importance responses remained under 4%, consistent the prior years.
- The Overall Importance of **Personal Educational Achievements** was 72.2% (2017: 82.6%; 2013: 80.5%).
- **Community Literacy Rates** Overall Importance was 67.8% in 2022, a decrease from 2017 (70.1%) and **2013 (62%)**.
- **High-School Drop Out Rates** have consistently decreased in importance since 2013, with an Overall Importance of 64.8%(2017:



The Region has a highly educated population

- 43% of Residents have a Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree
- 29.4% of residents have a Postsecondary certificate or diploma below the bachelor level.

SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

- Overall Satisfaction in 2021 with Education was consistent with 2013 and 2017, but variables satisfaction has generally decreased compared to 2021.
- Neutral responses were high within variables of satisfaction in Education services.
- **Adult Education** had the highest Overall Satisfaction at 43.9% (2017: 51.7%; 2013: 52.4%). Neutral response was 39.1%. Dissatisfaction was 17% (2017:51.7% ; 2013:61.5%)
- **Job Training Programs** had a Neutral response of 51.4% , lowest Overall Satisfaction at 32.3% (2017: 39.4%; 2013: 39.2%) and Dissatisfaction of 16.3% (2017: 16%).
- **Post Secondary Education** had an Overall Satisfaction rate of 43.7% (2017: 51.3%; 2013: 53.2%), a Neutral rate of 32.5% and Overall Dissatisfaction of 23.8% (2017: 19.5%).

DID YOU KNOW?

- There are four school districts within the Region: Grasslands Public, Christ the Redeemer, Koinonia Christian, and Conseil Scolaire FrancoSud.
- Students within the Grasslands School Division have a 56.7% rate of enrollment in post secondary within 6 years of graduation. ²
- There are 7 colony schools operated through the Grasslands Public School Division.
- Brooks is home to the Brooks Campus of Medicine Hat College.
- There are 3 Adult Learning Programs within the Region: Newell Adult Education Council, Brooks Adult Basic Literacy Education (ABLE) and Brooks Community Adult Learning Council (BCALC).

² Grasslands Public Schools, Combined 3 Year Education Plan 2019-2022

HEALTH

NEGATIVE GAP

SOCIAL SECTOR

SATISFACTION: Health

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Access to Physicians (Doctors)	9.35%	10.33%	14.1%	10.03%	18.17%	28.43%	9.58%
Addiction	5.19%	10.38%	13.21%	44.66%	14.12%	10.38%	2.06%
Persons with Disabilities	3.04%	5.77%	12.15%	43.36%	18.07%	15.11%	2.51%

Each Factor is measured using variables. Variables measure either the Importance of a topic or the Satisfaction with access to a service. The variables reviewed to determine the Health Factor are below.

QUALITY OF LIFE	QUALITY OF PLACE
<i>Importance variables</i>	<i>Satisfaction variables</i>
Community Suicide Rates	Addiction
Mental Health	Persons with Disabilities
Rates of Disease	Access to Physicians
Lifestyle	
Physical Activity	



★ Overall Satisfaction with Health Services was **72.3%**
 (77.5% in 2017, 75.7% in 2013)

Health Ranks #1 for ★ Level of Importance

IMPORTANCE: Health

	Not At All Important	Not Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Community Suicide Rates	1.64%	2.86%	19.29%	38.71%	37.5%
Lifestyle	0.57%	1%	15.08%	46.23%	37.13%
Mental Health	0.28%	0.78%	4.94%	35.07%	58.93%
Physical Activity	0.35%	1.13%	8.93%	49.68%	39.9%
Rates of Disease	1.42%	2.56%	16.69%	40.2%	39.13%



EMS Non Emergency Transfer Vehicle



KEY FINDINGS & COMPARISONS

The Health Factor is a **Negative Gap**: This Factor Ranks #1 for Importance and #5 for Satisfaction with Services

IMPORTANCE

- **Mental Health** had the highest Overall Importance in the Health Factor at 94%, an increase in importance from 2017 (88.4%). 1.1% of respondents rated Mental Health as Not Important.
- 90% responded that **Physical Activity** had some level of Importance (2017: 88.7%; 2013: 90%).
- **Lifestyle** had an Overall Importance of 83.3%, a slight decrease from 2017 (85.1%) and 2013 (85.7%). 15.1% were Neutral, an increase from 12.5% in 2013 and 2017.
- **Rates of Disease** Overall Importance was 79.3% compared to 83.8% in 2017. 16.7% of respondents were Neutral and 4% rated Rates of Disease as Not Important.
- **Community Suicide Rates** saw an increase in Overall Importance in 2022 (76.2%), compared to 2017 (73.6%) and 2013 (70.3%). Neutral response was 16.7%, a decrease from 2017 (20.3%) and 2013 (22%).

SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

- **Access to Physicians** had the highest Overall Satisfaction at 56.2% was the highest decline in the Health Factor since 2017 (74.6%) but was similar to 2013 (57.9%).
- **Access to Physicians** also had the highest Overall Dissatisfaction with an increase to 33.8% in 2022, similar to 2013 (31.1%) but an increase from 13.3% in 2017.
- **Addiction Services** had an Overall Satisfaction rate of 26.6% compared to 2017 (37.1%) and 2013 (35.9%). Overall Dissatisfaction was 28.8% in 2022, as increase from 20.4% in 2017 and 24.7% in 2013.
- **Persons with Disabilities** services had an Overall Satisfaction of 35.9% , a decrease from 2017 (45.4%) and 2013 (42.2%). Overall Dissatisfaction also increased to 22% from 2017 (14.9%) and 2013 (17.3%).

Respondents were asked: “Do any of the following conditions negatively affect you or anyone in your household?”

512 people respondents 488 respondents

	Individuals negatively affected by condition	Households negatively affected by condition
Physical Conditions	163	148
Mental Conditions	158	185
Health Problems	238	246
Limited Mobility	99	112
Hearing Problems	114	118
Vision Problems	100	80
Communication Problems	38	44

ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT

NEGATIVE GAP

BUSINESS SECTOR

Economy & Employment Ranks
#5 for Level of Importance

Each Factor is measured using variables. Variables measure either the importance of a topic or the satisfaction with access to a service. The variables reviewed to determine the Economy & Employment Factor are below.

QUALITY OF LIFE	QUALITY OF PLACE
<i>Importance variables</i>	<i>Satisfaction variables</i>
Unemployment Rate	Poverty
Employment Rate	Affordable Housing
Level of Income	Employment
Financial Effect of Crime	
Community Rate of Bankruptcies	

SATISFACTION: Economy & Employment Services

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Affordable Housing	6.45%	7.13%	11.84%	35.81%	18.29%	16.92%	3.57%
Employment	3.74%	4.58%	10.23%	35.11%	21.07%	21.45%	3.82%
Poverty	2.11%	6.57%	8.23%	48.26%	17.07%	15.63%	2.11%

DID YOU KNOW? The Brooks & District Feeders Co-Operative Ltd. is a co-operative organization that helps young and established Ranchers and Feeder Operators purchase cattle at a lending rate they can afford, with little security. For more information: brksfds@telus.net or 403-362-4955

In May, 2023, the Lethbridge-Medicine Hat Region and Alberta *Unemployment Rate* was 5.7%².

Overall Satisfaction with Economy & Employment was 66.1% (58.5% in 2017; 71.8% in 2013)

IMPORTANCE: Economy & Employment

	Not At All Important	Not Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Community Employment Rates	1.07%	1.79%	19.86%	50.21%	27.07%
Community Rate of Bankruptcies	2.14%	6.64%	37.21%	38%	16%
Community Unemployment Rates	1.5%	3.28%	22.93%	49.07%	23.22%
Financial Effects of Crime	1.07%	2.14%	15.69%	47.22%	33.88%
Level of Income	0.64%	2.4%	18.59%	48.13%	30.25%



¹ <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/2d875f91-c500-4779-b772-756819fccc92/>

ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT

NEGATIVE GAP

BUSINESS SECTOR

KEY FINDINGS & COMPARISONS

*The Economy & Employment Factor is a **Negative Gap**:
This Factor Ranks #4 for Importance and #8 for Satisfaction*

IMPORTANCE

- **Financial Effects of Crime** had the highest Overall Importance in the Economy & Employment Factor. 81.1% of respondents rate it with some level of importance, an increase from 2017 (77%) and similar to 2013. (80.1%). Neutral response was 15.7%.
- 78.4% responded that **Level of Income** had an Overall Importance compared to 81.5% in 2017 (81.5%) and 2013 (82.4%). Neutral response was 18.6%.
- **Employment Rates** Overall Importance was 77.3% compared to 2017 (78.5%) and 2013 (74.9%). Neutral response was 20%, similar to 2017 (18.1%) and 2013 (21%).
- **Community Unemployment Rates** Overall Importance was 72.3% compared to 75.4% in (2017: 75.4%; 2013: 70.3%). Neutral response was 22.9%.
- Overall Importance for **Community Bankruptcies** was 54%, similar to 2017 (58%) and 2013 (53.4%). Neutral response was 37.2%.
- No Level of Importance response has remained under 10% in each of the Quality of Life surveys.

SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

- Levels of satisfactions with **Economy & Employment** variables have decreased since 2013 and Neutral responses have remained high.
- **Affordable Housing** had the highest Overall Dissatisfaction at 25.4% compared to 2017 (17.8%) and 2013 (21.6%). Overall Satisfaction was 38.8% compared to 2017 (44.6%) and 2013 (44.2%). Neutral response was 35.8%.
- **Employment** had the highest Overall Satisfaction at 46.3% (2017: 44.8%) and 2013 (54.3%). Overall Dissatisfaction was 18.6%, a decrease from 2017 (24.8%) but an increase from 2013 (13.9%). Neutral response was 35.1%.
- **Poverty** services had continued to have the highest Neutral responses at 48.3%. **Poverty** had the lowest Overall Dissatisfaction at 16.9% (2017: 15.5%; 2013: 14.6%) and an Overall Satisfaction of 34.8%, a decrease from 40.3% in 2017 (40.3%) and 42.3% 2013 (42.3%).



POLITICAL RIGHTS & GENERAL VALUES

NEGATIVE GAP

PUBLIC SECTOR

Each Factor is measured using variables. Variables measure either the importance of a topic or the satisfaction with access to a service. The variables reviewed to determine the Political Rights & General Values Factor are below.



QUALITY OF LIFE	QUALITY OF PLACE
<i>Importance variables</i>	<i>Satisfaction variables</i>
Honesty	Discrimination
Respect	Immigration
Integrity	English as a Second Language
Freedom of Speech	
Sharing	

Political Rights & General Values Ranks
★ #7 for Level of Importance ★

IMPORTANCE: Political Rights & General Values

	Not At All Important	Not Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Freedom of Speech	0.49%	1.27%	10.24%	34.89%	53.11%
Honesty	0.35%	0%	2.06%	20.58%	77%
Integrity	0.14%	0.21%	6.25%	34.26%	59.13%
Respect	0.35%	0.21%	2.33%	28.71%	68.39%
Sharing	1.13%	3.12%	25.96%	43.19%	26.6%

VOTING 2021 Municipal Election

- **Bassano:** 420 valid ballots cast for 5 councillors
- **Duchess:** 4 incumbent and 1 new councillors acclaimed
- **Rosemary:** 3 incumbent councillors were acclaimed
- **Brooks:** 2,742 valid ballots cast for 6 councillors and 1 mayor.
- **County of Newell:** 983 valid ballots cast for 6 councillors of the 10 divisions, four councillors were acclaimed

★ Overall Satisfaction with Political Rights & General Values was 58.2%

(67.3% in 2017
67.4% in 2013)



SATISFACTION: Political Rights & General Values

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Discrimination	5.64%	7.24%	13.1%	38.69%	14.93%	15.61%	4.8%
English as a Second Language	4.34%	4.12%	5.64%	49.7%	14.1%	17.38%	4.73%
Immigration	3.04%	3.95%	6.54%	53.31%	11.03%	16.65%	5.48%



Intercultural Education Workshop: Global Village Society

POLITICAL RIGHTS & GENERAL VALUES

NEGATIVE GAP

PUBLIC SECTOR

KEY FINDINGS & COMPARISONS

*The Political Rights & General Values Factor is a **Negative Gap**:
This Factor Ranks #7 for Importance and #9 for Satisfaction*

IMPORTANCE

- Political Rights & General Values variables remain important to respondents and responses to the importance of variables remained fairly consistent with the 2013 and 2017 surveys.
- **Honesty** remained the variable of highest importance at 97.6% . Neutral response was 2% of and Not Important was .4% .
- **Respect** remained as the second highest Overall Importance in 2022 at 97.1%. Neutral response was 2.3%..
- **Integrity** had an Overall Importance of 93.4% (2017: 88.9%; 2013: 91.6%).
- **Freedom of Speech** Overall Importance was 88%, a decrease from 2017 (90.2%) and 2013 (91.1%). The Neutral response was 10.2% compared to 2017 (8.2%) and 2013 (7.5%).
- **Sharing** continued to have the lowest rating of Overall Importance responses at 69.8% ; this was a decrease from 2017 (72.2%) and 2013 (76%).

SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

- Neutral responses to levels of Satisfaction of services within the Political Rights & General Values factor remained high in 2022.
- Overall Satisfaction within the Political Rights and General Values variables have decreased since 2013 and 2017.
- **English as a Second Language** had the highest Overall Satisfaction at 36.2% (2017: 41.6%, 2013: 40.3%). Neutral response was 49.7% (2017: 42.2%) and 2013 (39.5%). Overall Dissatisfaction decreased in 2022(14.1%) compared to 2017 (16.3%) and 2013 (20.3%).
- **Discrimination** had an Overall Satisfaction rate of 35.3% (2017: 41.4%; 2013: 40%). Neutral response was 38.7%. Overall Dissatisfaction rate was 26% compared to 23.2% in 2017 and 26.1% in 2013.
- **Immigration** services had an Overall Satisfaction at 33.2% (2017: 38.2%; 2013: 32.6%). Neutral responses increased to 53.3% (2017: 46.3%; 2013: 47.6%). Overall Dissatisfaction of 13.5% was similar to 2017 (15.5%) and a decrease from 2013 (19.8%).



SENSE OF COMMUNITY

POSITIVE GAP

SOCIAL SECTOR

★ Sense of Community Ranks #5 for Level of Importance

Each Factor is measured using variables. Variables measure either the importance of a topic or the satisfaction with access to a service. The variables reviewed to determine the Sense of Community Factor are below.

QUALITY OF LIFE	QUALITY OF PLACE
<i>Importance variables</i>	<i>Satisfaction variables</i>
Knowing Neighbors	Domestic Violence
Working Together	Community Safety
Helping Others	Social Inclusion
Community Safety	
Sense of Belonging	

★ Overall Satisfaction with Sense of Community was **72.3%** (72.7% in 2017; 75.3% in 2013)

IMPORTANCE: Sense of Community

	Not At All Important	Not Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Community Safety	0.14%	0.43%	4.33%	36.81%	58.3%
Helping Others	0.21%	0.28%	8.42%	48.73%	42.36%
Knowing Neighbors	1.42%	4.46%	24.13%	49.61%	20.38%
Sense of Belonging	0.92%	2.27%	16.7%	44.99%	35.11%
Working Together	0.71%	0.64%	13.75%	46.07%	38.84%



Expo Honouring a Community Dinner 2022: Cassils Honors the Region

Newell Regional expo
diversity • pride • partnership

Vision: To develop strategies to encourage welcoming and inclusive communities within healthy economic and social systems by promoting, honouring and increasing community involvement and awareness in all sectors in all our communities.

SATISFACTION: Sense of Community

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Community Safety	1.44%	3.18%	7.28%	18.65%	26.46%	35.56%	7.43%
Domestic Violence	3.83%	8.42%	10.56%	47.13%	15.23%	12.32%	2.52%
Social Inclusion	2.52%	3.66%	8.7%	43.97%	17.71%	19.08%	4.35%



FCSS Summer Youth Volunteer Program 2022

SENSE OF COMMUNITY

POSITIVE GAP

SOCIAL SECTOR

KEY FINDINGS & COMPARISONS

*The Sense of Community Factor is a **Positive Gap**:
This Factor Ranks #5 for Importance and #4 for Satisfaction*

IMPORTANCE OF SERVICES

- Generally, respondents felt that all of the Sense of Community variables held some level of Importance.
- **Community Safety** responses were similar to 2017 and 2013 and continued to have the highest Overall Importance within the Sense of Community Factor at 95.1% (2017: 93.7%; 2013: 94.6%). Neutral response was 4.3% and .6% considered it Not Important.
- **Helping Others** responses were similar to 2017 and 2013. 91.1% responded that **Helping Others** had some level of importance and 0.5% of respondents felt this was without importance. Neutral response was 8.4%.
- **Working Together** responses were similar to 2017 and 2013. 84.9% thought **Working Together** had some level of importance, 13.8% were Neutral and 1.4% considered it Not Important.
- **Sense of Belonging** responses were similar to 2017 and 2013. 80.1% of respondents thought **Sense of Belonging** carried some level of Importance, 16.7% were Neutral and 3.2% considered it not important.
- 70% responded that **Knowing your Neighbours** was of some level of Importance, an increase since 2017 (64.7%) and a decrease since 2013 (74.8%). Neutral response was 24.1%.

SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

- Overall Satisfaction with variables within the Sense of Community Factor has declined since 2013.
- **Community Safety** had the highest and most consistent rates of Overall Satisfaction at 69.5% , a slight decrease from 2017 (72.2%) and similar to 69.9% in 2013.
- Neutral responses were high with **Domestic Violence** (47.1%) and **Social Inclusion** (44%) Programs and Services.
- **Domestic Violence** had the lowest Overall Satisfaction at 30.1%. This variable had the largest change in Overall Satisfaction with a decrease of over 12% since 2017 (42%) and 2013 (43.5%). Overall Dissatisfaction was 22.8%.
- **Social Inclusion** had an Overall Satisfaction of 41.1%, compared to the Overall Satisfaction in 2017 (46.5%) and in 2013 (45.8%). Overall Dissatisfaction was 14.9%.

FOSTERING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Community Halls are primary gathering places for many residents throughout the Brooks-Newell Region



PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

POSITIVE GAP

BUSINESS SECTOR

Each Factor is measured using variables. Variables measure either the importance of a topic or the satisfaction with access to a service. The variables reviewed to determine the Physical Environment Factor are below.

QUALITY OF LIFE	QUALITY OF PLACE
<i>Importance variables</i>	<i>Satisfaction variables</i>
Quality of Water	Recycling
Air Quality	Waste Management
Noise Pollution	Environmental Awareness
Greenhouse Gas	
Land Pollution	

Overall Satisfaction with Physical Environment was **76.2%** (77.9% in 2017; 77.3% in 2013)

IMPORTANCE: Physical Environment

	Not At All Important	Not Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Air Quality	0.57%	0.78%	4.32%	25.05%	69.29%
Greenhouse Gas Emissions	7.54%	8.89%	32.57%	32.29%	18.71%
Land Pollution	1.07%	2.2%	13.66%	47.44%	35.63%
Noise Pollution	1.49%	5.32%	21.93%	45.56%	25.69%
Quality of Water	0.35%	0%	1.55%	15.8%	82.3%

SATISFACTION: Physical Environment

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Environmental Awareness	3.34%	4.17%	8.8%	36.42%	23.22%	20.71%	3.34%
Recycling	6.42%	6.27%	13.67%	10.57%	21.68%	33.46%	7.93%
Waste Management	2.13%	3.72%	6.61%	25.21%	20.58%	32.12%	9.64%

Regional Water

The Newell Regional Service Corporation (NRSC) was formed by partnership of all Urban Municipalities in the Newell Region to manage the installation of water pipelines throughout the Region. Potable water through the pipelines is now available to all rural and urban residents in the Region.

For more information : www.nrsc.ca/ and www.countyofnewell.ab.ca/p/Regional-water

Physical Environment Ranks #6 for Level of Importance

Newell Solid Regional Solid Waste Management Authority⁸ operates the Transfer Stations throughout the Newell Region and the Newell Regional Landfill outside of Brooks at the junction of Highway#1 and #36. Efforts are made to inform and encourage residents to recycle and divert waste from the landfill.



Newell Recycling Association⁹ supports recycling throughout the Region.

www.newellrecycling.ca

<http://www.newellwastemanagement.com/>
<http://newellrecycling.ca/>
 communities-we-serve/alternate-recycling-locations
 City of Brooks <http://www.brooks.ca>

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

POSITIVE GAP

BUSINESS SECTOR

KEY FINDINGS & COMPARISONS

*The Physical Environment Factor is a **Positive Gap**:
This Factor Ranks #6 for Importance and #1 for Satisfaction*

IMPORTANCE

- Region Residents' responses continued to indicate that **Quality of Water** and **Air Quality** are very important.
- **Quality of Water** had the highest Overall Importance in the Physical Environment Factor at 98.1%, consistent with both 2017 and 2013 at 97.3%.
- **Air Quality** had a high level of importance at 94.3%, consistent with 2017 (95.9%) and 2013 (95.6%).
- Overall Importance of **Land Pollution** was 83.1%, similar to 2017 (82.3%) and 2013 (86.1%). Neutral Response was 13.7%.
- **Noise Pollution** Overall Importance was 71.3% , an increase from 2017 (68.8%) and a slight decrease since 2013 (73.7%). Neutral response rate was 21.9%. No level of importance remained low at 6.8%.
- 51% responded that **Greenhouse Gas Emissions** had an Overall Importance (2017: 60.8%; 2013: 66.9%). Neutral response rate increased to 32.6% in 2022 from 2017 (27.1%) and 2013 (16.4%). No Level of Importance also increased to 16.4% (2017: 12.1%; 2013: 9.7%).

SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

- **Waste Management** had an Overall Satisfaction of 62.3%, similar to 2017 (63.7%) and an increase from 2013 (55.5%). Neutral response rate was 25.2%, similar to prior surveys. The Overall Dissatisfaction rate (12.5%) was similar to 2017 and a marked decrease from 2013 (21.1%).
- **Recycling** had an Overall Satisfaction rate of 63.1%, a decrease from 2017 (67.6%) but an increase from 2013 (59.1%). Neutral responses remain consistent at 10.6%. Overall Dissatisfaction was 26.4%
- **Environmental Awareness** Overall Satisfaction was 47.3% compared to the 53.1% in 2017 and 52.1% in 2013. Overall Dissatisfaction with Environmental Awareness was 16.3%.

EcoBrooks www.brooks.ca

The **EcoBrooks Committee** was created in Spring of 2009 as Citizen's Advisory Group steering the City of Brooks Municipal Sustainability Planning project.

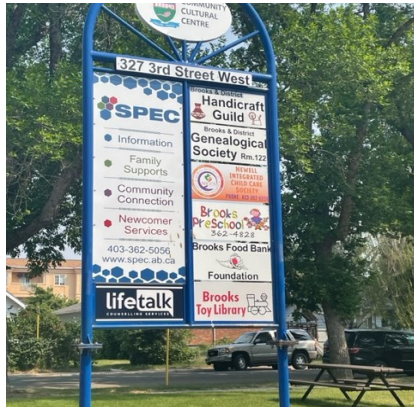
The mandate of the Environmental Advisory Committee is to explore policies, programs and procedures which would lead to the long and short term enhancement, preservation and protection of the environment in both local and global contexts. Focus areas of the Committee are to include: (i) Water (conservation, efficiency, protection); (ii) Energy (conservation, carbon footprint, renewable sources); (iii) Waste Management (policies and procedures to improve waste management systems); (iv) Waste Reduction (increase diversion through composting and recycling programs); (v) Municipal Sustainability (develop and implement Brooks' Municipal Sustainability Plan); (vi) Built Environment and Material Usage (procurement, environmentally friendly designs).

SOCIAL PROGRAMS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS

POSITIVE GAP

SOCIAL SECTOR

Each Factor is measured using variables. Variables measure either the importance of a topic or the satisfaction with access to a service. The variables reviewed to determine the Social Programs & Conditions Factor are below.



IMPORTANCE: Social Programs & Social Conditions

	Not At All Important	Not Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Accessing Transportation	3.56%	8.75%	26.88%	37.62%	23.19%
Availability of Public Housing	3.98%	6.39%	27.56%	37.43%	24.64%
Availability of Social Assistance and Programs	2.62%	4.39%	19.83%	41.64%	31.52%
Community Centers for Arts and Cultural Events	3.84%	6.47%	30.58%	40.04%	19.06%
Community Homelessness	1.77%	2.62%	21.05%	46.7%	27.85%

QUALITY OF LIFE	QUALITY OF PLACE
<i>Importance variables</i>	<i>Satisfaction variables</i>
Accessing Transportation	Public Transportation
Availability of Public Housing	Homelessness
Availability of Social Assistance	Access to Childcare
Homelessness	
Community Centres for Arts & Culture	

Social Programs & Conditions
Ranks #8 for Level of Importance



DID YOU KNOW?

The County of Newell offers Mini Bus services transportation into and around Brooks to shop, visit, and attend appointments.

The City of Brooks operates the Access Transit Bus for residents disabilities and Seniors with mobility issues.



SATISFACTION: Social Programs & Social Conditions Services

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Access to Childcare	2.52%	4.81%	7.63%	57.74%	10.45%	13.42%	3.43%
Homelessness	2.9%	4.58%	8.4%	55.42%	11.3%	14.05%	3.36%
Public Transportation	10.7%	12.52%	15.63%	37.18%	10.02%	11.31%	2.66%



Social Programs & Conditions Overall Satisfaction was 61.2%

67.3% in 2017 and 68.9% in 2013

SOCIAL PROGRAMS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS

POSITIVE GAP

SOCIAL SECTOR

KEY FINDINGS & COMPARISONS

*The Social Programs & Social Conditions Factor is a **Positive Gap**:
This Factor Ranks #8 for Importance and #7 for Satisfaction in Bassano*

IMPORTANCE

- **Availability of Social assistance and Programs** had an Overall Importance of 73.2% (2017: 72.5%; 2013: 70.9%). No Level of Importance at 7% was similar to prior years.
- 74.6% responded that **Community Homelessness** had some level of importance compared to 2017 (73.5%) and 2013 (71.8%). Neutral response was 21.1% and No Level of Importance was low at 4.4%.
- Availability of **Public Housing** had an Overall Importance of 62.1%, the same as 2017 and similar to 2013 (63.5%). Neutral response was 27.6%, similar to 2017 (28.1%) and 2013 (26.2%).
- The importance of **Accessing Transportation** decreased to 60.8% (2017: 67.3%; 2013: 63.1%). Neutral response was 26.9% (2017: 24.3%; 2013: 27.9%).
- The Overall Importance of **Community Centres for Arts and Cultural Events** was 59.1%, a decrease from 2017 (62.4%) and 2013 (62.1%). No Level of Importance was 10.3% compared to 9.8% in 2017 and 9.4% in 2013.

SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

- **Access to Childcare** services had an Overall Satisfaction of 27.3%, a decrease from 2017 (33.5%) and similar to 2013 (28.9%). Neutral responses continued to be high at 57.7%. Overall Dissatisfaction was 15%.
- **Public Transportation** had the lowest Overall Satisfaction at 24% (2017: 30%; 2013: 25.8%). Neutral response rate was 37.1%, similar to prior years. **Public Transportation** had the highest Overall Dissatisfaction of 38.9%, an increase from 34% in 2017 and 37.1% in 2013.
- **Homelessness services** had an Overall Satisfaction rate of 28.7% (2017: 35.6%; 2013: 31.6%). Neutral response continued to be high at 55.4%. Overall Dissatisfaction was 15.8%, an increase from 13.2% in 2017 and 14.7% in 2013.



There are many Service and Community Clubs which work diligently to organize events, beautify the Brooks-Newell Region and increase the overall Quality of Life.

AGING IN PLACE SUPPORTS

Grasslands FCSS, Seniors Outreach, Newell Foundation and Volunteer Drivers partner to offer the Meals on Wheels Program in Brooks and the County, Bassano FCSS offers Meals on Wheels to Bassano and area residents.

In January 2022 Alberta entered in the Federal-Provincial Child Care Agreement, this agreement works to expand childcare services and lower costs for Albertans.¹

¹<https://www.alberta.ca/federal-provincial-child-care-agreement.aspx>

GOVERNMENT

POSITIVE GAP

PUBLIC SECTOR

Each Factor is measured using variables. Variables measure either the importance of a topic or the satisfaction with access to a service. The variables reviewed for the Government Factor are below.

QUALITY OF LIFE	QUALITY OF PLACE
<i>Importance variables</i>	<i>Satisfaction variables</i>
Level of Trust in Government	Local Population Growth
Maintained Roads	Emergency Services
Government Water Policies	Utilities
Community Taxes	
Barriers to Entrepreneurship	

Government Ranks #9 for
★ Level of Importance ★

Overall Satisfaction with
Government was 63.9%

★ 69% in 2017 ★
★ 58.3% in 2013 ★



IMPORTANCE: Government

	Not At All Important	Not Important	Neutral	Important	Very Important
Barriers to Entrepreneurship	1.58%	3.44%	35.89%	38.04%	21.06%
Community Taxes	0.36%	0.64%	12.3%	42.93%	43.78%
Government Water Policies	0.85%	2.06%	16.39%	40.88%	39.82%
Level of Trust in Government	1.2%	1.2%	6.85%	31.69%	59.07%
Maintained Roads	0.28%	0.78%	6.59%	49.08%	43.27%

Fire Department	Volunteer Firefighters
Bassano	17
Bow City	8
Brooks	32
Duchess	21
Gem	9
Patricia	22
Rolling Hills	11
Rosemary	20
Scandia	16
Tilley	16
Total	172

SATISFACTION: Government

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Emergency	4.39%	4.92%	8.48%	14.55%	21.67%	34.55%	11.44%
Local Population	2.8%	5.07%	10.29%	41.75%	18.31%	18.76%	3.03%
Utilities	8.7%	8.77%	15.28%	22.09%	18.91%	22.09%	4.16%

67.7% of individuals expressed some level of satisfaction with emergency services.

GOVERNMENT

POSITIVE GAP

PUBLIC SECTOR

KEY FINDINGS & COMPARISONS

*The Government Factor is a **Positive Gap**:
This Factor Ranks #9 for Importance and #6 for Satisfaction*

IMPORTANCE

- Overall Importance of the variables within the Government Factor remain high with the exception of **Barriers to Entrepreneurship**.
- **Maintained Roads** had the highest Overall Importance in the Government Factor at 92.4% (2017: 88.6%; 2013: 93.3%). Neutral response was 6.6%. No Level of Importance remained low at 1.1%.
- **Level of Trust in Government** had an Overall Importance of 90.8%, an increase from 2017 (87.9%) and 2013 (85.9%). No Level of Importance remained low at 2.4% (2017; 2.2%; 2013: 2.7%).
- **Community Taxes** Overall Importance was 86.7% , an increase from 2017 (81.2%) and 2013 (84%). Neutral response was 12.3%. No Level of Importance remained low at 1% , similar to prior surveys.
- Overall Importance of **Government Water Policies** was 80.7% (2017:81.1%; 2013: 80.2%). Neutral response was 16.4%, similar to prior years. No Level of Importance remained low at 2.9%.
- **Barriers to Entrepreneurship** had the lowest Overall Importance at 59.1%, similar to prior years. Neutral response remained high at 35.9%. No Level of Importance rate was 5%, a decrease from 6.5% in 2017 and 2013.

SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

- **Emergency Services** continued to have the highest Overall Satisfaction rate at 67.7% (2017: 77.7%; 2013: 78%). Neutral response was 14.6%, similar to prior years.
- **Utilities** had the highest Overall Dissatisfaction at 32.8% (2017:22.6%; 2013:23.6%). Overall Satisfaction rate was 46.6%, a decrease from 2017 (54.6%) and 2013 (53.4%). The Neutral response was 22.2%, similar to prior years.
- Similar to prior years, **Local population Growth** services had the highest Neutral response at 41.8% and the lowest Overall Satisfaction rating at 40.1%. **Local Population Growth** Overall Dissatisfaction was 18.2%, similar to 2017 and 2013.

COMPARISON OF POPULATION GROWTH IN THE NEWELL REGION (2016-2021)

Newell Region	1.5%
City of Brooks	3.3%
County of Newell	-0.8%
Town of Bassano	0.8%
Village of Duchess	-2.9%
Village of Rosemary	-6.6%

Working Together

Regional Initiatives:

- Newell Regional Solid Waste Authority
- Newell Regional Services Corporation
- Eastern Irrigation District
- Newell Recycling
- Duchess supplying Garbage Pick up in Rosemary and Bassano
- Corporate Services/Joint Services: All Newell Region Municipalities
- Shared Fire and Safety Training



Newell Recycling serves the Region

QUALITY OF PLACE

QUALITY OF PLACE

May be defined as “the physical characteristics of a community—the way it is planned, designed, developed and maintained—that affect the quality of life of people living and working in it, and those visiting it, both now and into the future”¹

Do any of the following social conditions negatively affect your household?

313 Answered

Poverty	15.38%
Housing Costs	46.15%
Lack of Transportation	22.76%
Language Barriers	9.62%
Addiction	14.42%
Discrimination	18.59%
Crime	9.62%

How satisfied are you with the following in your Community?

	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Neutral	Somewhat Satisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Building Maintenance	2.81%	4.86%	11.23%	29.51%	19.88%	27.69%	4.02%
Retail and Shopping	10.26%	14.94%	20.75%	10.87%	23.92%	16.45%	2.79%
Accessible Public Services	4.11%	6.24%	11.04%	29.76%	22.15%	23.59%	3.12%
Sport and Leisure Facilities	2.87%	4.15%	7.85%	14.73%	18.66%	36.78%	14.95%
Green Spaces	2.5%	3.56%	7.34%	16.2%	21.2%	35.05%	14.16%
Heritage Structures	2.13%	3.19%	6.54%	39.01%	17.03%	26.08%	6.01%
Maintained Streets	5.66%	6.64%	13.36%	10.79%	26.11%	30.04%	7.4%
Neighbourhood Design	3.2%	5.18%	8.3%	27.7%	20.62%	29.68%	5.33%
Transport Routes	3.82%	3.44%	5.88%	37.89%	15.51%	28.65%	4.81%
Accessible Arts & Cultural Facilities	3.43%	4.12%	8.99%	39.79%	17%	22.26%	4.42%

FINDINGS

- **Green Spaces** had the highest Overall Satisfaction at 70.4% (2017: 71.8%; 2013: 72.6%). Overall Dissatisfaction was 13.4%, a 2% increase from prior years.
- **Sports and Leisure Facilities** had the second highest Overall Satisfaction rate of 70.4% (2017: 76%; 2013: 71%) with a Dissatisfaction rate of 14.8% (2017: 9.9%, 2013: 16.2%) and a Neutral rating of 14.7%.
- **Retail and Shopping** continues to have the highest Overall Dissatisfaction rates at 46% (2017: 53.9%; 2013: 54.7%) and a Neutral rate of 10.9%. Overall Satisfaction was 43.2%, an increase in satisfaction from 2017 (33.2%) and 2013 (35%).
- **Maintained Streets** had a slight increase in Satisfaction to 63.6% (2017: 61%; 2013: 54.7%). Overall Dissatisfaction was 25.7% (2017: 25.1%; 2013: 33.3%). Neutral response was 10.8%, similar to prior years.
- **Transport Routes** had an Overall Satisfaction rate of 49%, (2017: 48.3%; 2013: 49.5%). Neutral response was 37.9%. Overall Dissatisfaction was 13.1% (2017: 15.3%; 2013: 17.4%).
- **Building Maintenance** Overall Satisfaction was 51.6%, (2017: 56.1%; 2013: 55%). The Neutral response remained high at 30%. The Overall Dissatisfaction was 18.9% (2017: 14.8%; 2013: 18.2%).
- **Heritage Structures** responses were similar to prior years with a highest number of Neutral responses at 39%, an Overall Satisfaction of 49.1% (2017: 53.4%, 2013: 52.9%) and an Overall Dissatisfaction rate of 11.9%.
- Neutral responses to **Accessible Public Services** remained similar to prior years at 29.8%. Overall Satisfaction was 48.9% (2017: 52.9%; 2013: 52.4%). Dissatisfaction rate increased to 21.4% (2017: 18.6%; 2013: 20%).
- **Neighbourhood Design** Overall Satisfaction was 55.6%. (2017: 53.4%; 2013: 52.4%). Neutral response was 27.7%, similar to prior years. Overall Dissatisfaction was 16.7% (2017: 17.1%; 2013: 21.6%).
- **Accessible Arts & Cultural Facilities** Neutral rate increased to 40% (2017: 36.1, 2013: 37.2%). Overall Satisfaction rate of 43.7%, compared to 45% in 2017 and 2013. Overall Dissatisfaction decreased from prior years to 16.5% (2017: 18.9%, 2013: 18.3%).

¹UK Government: World class places: The Government's strategy for improving quality of place. <<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/worldclassplaces,2009b> (accessed 5 March 2014).

QUALITY OF PLACE



COVID FINDINGS BROOKS-NEWELL REGION

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Individuals in the Brooks Newell Region										
Factor	No Impact		Somewhat Negative		Very Negative		Somewhat Positive		Very Positive	
Physical Health	47.8%	596	35.1%	438	8.2%	102	6.0%	75	2.9%	36
Mental Health	25.0%	317	46.0%	583	19.3%	245	5.4%	68	4.3%	54
Financial Stability	51.6%	646	25.5%	319	12.7%	159	7.1%	89	3.1%	39
Family Relationships	35.1%	442	39.2%	494	12.2%	154	7.9%	99	5.7%	72
Community Involvement	18.2%	234	42.1%	540	30.0%	385	5.4%	69	4.3%	55
Social Life/Connection with Others	11.3%	146	43.1%	558	34.3%	444	5.7%	74	5.7%	74
Work/Employment	49.4%	619	26.7%	334	13.4%	168	6.6%	83	3.8%	48
Ability to Help Others	30.1%	379	39.1%	492	19.7%	248	7.1%	90	4.1%	51
Education/Schooling	59.7%	742	17.0%	211	15.9%	198	3.9%	48	3.5%	43
Total Number of Respondents										1315

COVID FINDINGS BROOKS-NEWELL REGION

ALL RESPONDENTS:

Physical Health

47.8% of respondents reported No Impact on their lives, while 43.3% reported a Negative range response and 8.9% reported a Positive range response.

Mental Health

25.0% of respondents reported No Impact on their lives, while 65.3% reported a Negative range response and 9.7% reported a Positive range response.

Financial Stability

51.6% of respondents reported No Impact on their lives, while 38.2% reported a Negative range response and 10.2% reported a Positive range response.

Family Relationships

35.1% of respondents reported No Impact on their lives, while 51.4% reported a Negative range response and 13.6% reported a Positive range response.

Community Involvement

18.2% of respondents reported No Impact on their lives, while 72.1% reported a Negative range response and 9.7% reported a Positive range response.

Social Life/Connection with Others

11.3% of respondents reported No Impact on their lives, while 77.4% reported a Negative range response and 11.4% reported a Positive range response.

Work/Employment

49.4% of respondents reported No Impact on their lives, while 40.4% reported a Negative range response and 10.4% reported a Positive range response.

Ability to Help Others

30.1% of respondents reported No Impact on their lives, while 58.8% reported a Negative range response and 11.2% reported a Positive range response.

Education/Schooling

59.7% of respondents reported No Impact on their lives, while 32.9% reported a Negative range response and 7.4% reported a Positive range response.

BY AGE

- Individuals aged 15-19 had the largest positive impact percentages of all age groups, especially under the Family Relationships category with 35.1% reporting a positive experience. They also noted high positive experiences under Mental Health (30.0%), Social Life/Connection to Others (25.4%) and Education/Schooling (27.1%) categories.
- Individuals aged 15-19 experienced the greatest negative impact on Education/Schooling, with 62.7% of the demographic reporting a negative experience during the pandemic.
- Individuals aged 40-59 experienced the greatest negative impact on Physical Health, with 51.3% of the demographic reporting a negative experience in that category. This demographic also had the second highest negative experience in the Mental Health category with 73.4%.
- Individuals aged 20-39 experienced the greatest negative impact on Mental Health, with 74.5% of the demographic reporting a negative experience during the pandemic.
- In regards to Financial Stability, 28% and above of all demographics experienced No Impact during the pandemic, but individuals aged 15-19 reported the worst financial hardship with 47.4%. Individuals aged 70 plus experience the lowest impact, with 71.3% of the demographic identifying No Impact.
- The COVID-19 Pandemic has had a great effect on the social lives of individuals, and all demographics identified low percentages of No Impact. Individuals aged 40-59 experienced the greatest negative experience of all demographics with over 75%.

COVID FINDINGS BROOKS-NEWELL REGION

BY GENDER:

- Females, overall, experienced a greater impact (negatively and mostly positively) with the COVID-19 Pandemic than males, with the male demographic reporting higher experiences of No Impact in each category than their female counterparts.
- Females reported the highest overall positive impact for Family Relationships (14.8%) and Social Life/Connection with Others (11.6%). The male demographic reported positive experience rates of 10.3% and 11.3%, respectively.
- The number of Individuals who do not Identify as Male or Female, or Prefer not to Say was very low (6) for the Brooks Newell Region, so those results cannot be compared statistically to the other two genders.

BY RELATIONSHIP STATUS:

- Widowed individuals experienced the highest No Impact with Financial Stability, Work/Employment and Education/Schooling; with 65.6%, 73.8% and 82.2% of the demographic reporting, respectively, a no impact experience rating.
- Married or Common-Law individuals experienced the highest overall Negative impact with Community Involvement and Social Life/Connection to Others, with the demographic reporting a negative experience rating of 75.3% and 80.7% respectively.
- Never Been Married individuals experienced the highest overall Positive impact with Family Relationships, with 28.0% of the demographic reporting a positive experience rating.

BY INCOME:

The highest Negative impact experiences per category and income earned brackets:

Physical Health – Less than \$10,000 (53.8%)

Mental Health - \$100,000 and Over (74.1%)

Financial Stability – Less than \$10,000 (60.9%)

Family Relationships - \$60,000 - \$79,000 (58.2%)

Community Involvement - \$100,000 and Over (78.6%)

Social Life/Connections with Others - \$100,000 and Over (86.2%)

Work Employment - \$60,000 - \$79,000 (81.3%)

Ability to Help Others – \$80,000 - \$99,000 (64.9%)

Education/Schooling – Less than \$10,000 (55.3%)

- Individuals who earn \$100,000 and Over, and Less Than \$10,000 experienced the highest Negative impact in three of the nine categories (individually). Individuals earning less than \$60,000 - \$79,000 experienced the highest Negative impact in two of the nine categories. **These are perfect examples of why we should not make assumptions on the impacts of the pandemic on individuals by class.**
- Individuals who earn Less than \$100,000 and Over, and who in theory have more access to resources due to higher income, experienced the highest negative experience rating with Mental Health at 74.1%.
- Individuals who earn Less than \$10,000 also experienced the highest positive experience rating with Mental Health (19.0%), Financial Stability (16.3%), Family Relationships (23.7%), Social Life/Connection to Others (18.1%), and Education/Schooling (17.0%). They had higher-than-average positive experience ratings in all categories, which means they experienced more positive impact than the other

COVID FINDINGS BROOKS-NEWELL REGION

SUMMARY

- This section of this report provides a snapshot of the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on individuals in the Brooks Newell Region, examining feedback from All Respondents as well as a breakdown of responses based on age, gender, relationship status and income categories.
- The look at responses from all survey respondents provides a snapshot of the impact overall.
- The breakdown can be useful to explore since responses may be different depending on the demographic you are examining. For example, an individual that earns less than \$10,000 a year may experience a greater negative impact financially due to the COVID-19 pandemic than an individual making \$100,000 and Over.
- It's also important to note the percentages of respondents which indicated no impact in the categories.
- The negative impacts on physical health in the Brooks Newell Region is lower than the national level data provided by Angus Reid (43.3% versus 48%). Approximately 48% of Brooks Newell Region respondents experienced No Impact in regards to physical health during the pandemic, and approximately 9% experienced a positive impact.
- Overall, the impact on mental health by the pandemic in the Brooks Newell Region has been higher than the national average as indicated by the Angus Reid poll. Approximately 65% of Brooks Newell Region respondents indicated that their mental health has worsened, compared to the Angus Reid poll (54%).
- Respondents aged 20-39 experienced the greatest negative impact with 74.5%
- Females also experienced a high negative impact with 68.1%.
- Approximately 9.7% of all respondents experienced a positive impact during the pandemic, which is slightly lower than the national averaged identified by the Angus Reid poll (12%).
- The Angus Reid poll also identified that 33% of Canadians experience no impact on their mental health, while 25% of Brooks Newell Region respondents identified the same.
- Although the pandemic has had a negative impact on the economy at the national level,
- regarding financial stability and work/employment in Alberta, No Impacts is identified at 51.9%. In the Brooks-Newell Region, 49.4% of respondents identified No Impact.
- However, 38.2% of respondents identified experiencing a negative impact regarding financial stability, and 40.1% of respondents enduring a negative experience regarding work/employment.

FUTURE TRENDS

YOUNG ADULTS:

In 2020, the employment rates for young adults between 14 and 24 declined the most out of all age groups, but each age group also saw a decline in employment.

Poverty is a result of under/unemployment due to the changing workforce and rising cost of living

Anxiety and types of mental illness are major concerns

Young adults need access to post-secondary education and employment that offers the possibility of career exploration and job training programs.

Rural communities often find it difficult to retain young people due to the lack of employment and training opportunities.

If the current trend continues, while some Young Adults will remain or return to their home communities to raise their family or be closer to aging parents, the majority will settle in other communities.

Young Families

Young families are attracted to rural communities that provide easy access to schools, a safe environment, affordable housing and a quick commute between work and home.

Survey responses reflected satisfaction with programs and services relevant to young families.

The Future of Work

Work is changing rapidly. Research conducted by Harmonics and the *Future of Work: OIGP Global Research Study* released in 2017 explored the skills employees must have to be competitive today, the most significant people challenges currently facing organizations, the is an increase of around 1.9 million from 2020. Alberta's population in 2046 will be older, with an average age of 41.5 years, and increasingly diverse; arrivals from other countries will account for about 54% of expected growth by 2046. Migration to Alberta is dependent on a number of factors, namely its economic conditions compared to the other provinces. Due to the economic downturn, Alberta saw a net outflow of interprovincial migrants in 2016. Although Alberta was starting to recover, the dual shock of the COVID-19 Pandemic and the collapse in oil prices led an unprecedented contraction, and thus stalling the recovery. Due to this, net migration is expected to be lower than in the past, but is expected to increase over time. The Province's future population will mostly be concentrated in urban areas, specifically the Calgary-Edmonton Corridor (almost 80% are expected to live in this Region).

Alberta's total fertility rate (TFR) has fluctuated over the past two decades. In ¹⁹⁹⁴, the TFR was 1.81 but declined over the following seven years to 1.65 in 2001. It then increased continually over the next seven years to 1.89 in 2008. From 2008 to 2013 it declined to 1.71, but started to increase in 2013 with 1.72. However, in 2021 the total fertility rate in Alberta was 1.55. Natural increase (birth minus deaths) will continue to have a positive impact on Alberta's growth over the projection period; adding approximately 600,000 people by 2046. Natural increase's contribution to Alberta's growth is directly tied to migration, since the majority of migrants set to arrive over the next 26 years will be young adults aged 18-34. However, natural increase's impact on Alberta's growth will diminish overtime due to that advanced aging of the baby boomer generation.

<https://www.harmonics.ie/future-work-global-research-study-2017/>

https://prosource.fi/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Future-of-Work-Report_2019.pdf

FUTURE TRENDS

Childcare and Early Learning

Access to Childcare is compounded by the lack of public transportation, employment that consists of 12 hour shifts, or outside the normal operating hours of childcare facilities of 6:00am to 6:00pm Monday to Friday.

Currently, in the Brooks- Newell Region, there are six licensed daycares and fifteen licensed day homes. Another daycare is scheduled to open in Duchess in May 2023, which will increase the number of licensed daycares to seven.

It is difficult to interpret the 15.3% Overall Dissatisfaction rate (14.8% in 2017 and 19.5% in 2013) of Access to Childcare and 30.2% Overall Satisfaction rate (37.9% in 2017 and 31% in 2013) without an understanding of whether or not the respondents were parents, grandparents, caregivers, employers or had any involvement in childcare. With that being said, overall Satisfaction with Access to Childcare has increased and decreased, and overall Dissatisfaction has decreased and increased in the time between the Quality of Life Studies

Email: Anita Bruce, Teacher/Administrator, Brooks Preschool, and Executive Director, Brooks and County of Newell Early Childhood Development Coalition, March 29, 2023.

Poverty:

According to the 2021 Canadian Census, there were 2,365 households in the Brooks –Newell Region living in low income-based thresholds based on the Low-Income Measure; After Tax (LIM-AT) compared to 2,310 households in 2016, an increase of 55 households. Lack of sufficient income continues to be a concern for seniors, single parents and persons living with disabilities.

- A significant number of residents continue to access food bank services to help meet their basic needs:
- Single parents with children are the primary users of food bank hampers.
- Women comprise about 43% of users.
- 29% of users in 2022 were visible minorities.
- In Alberta about 45% of food bank users are families. In Brooks, 42% of users are either Single parent or two parent families.
- The increase in hampers distributed in Brooks was up 47% in 2022 compared to a year earlier. This is in comparison to a 34% increase for the province.

Email from Aurora Champlone, Manager of Brooks Food Bank Foundation, February 1, 2023

Meals on Wheels

<u>2022</u>	<u>2017</u>
Meals Served: 4053	Meals Served: 5,068
Seniors Served: 280	Seniors Served: 322

Grasslands Regional FCSS partners with the Newell Housing Foundation and Seniors Outreach to provide the Meals on Wheels Program to Seniors in Brooks– and throughout the Region.

Food Bank Usage by Households type 2022

Household Breakdown	
Single Parent w Children	27%
Two-Parent w Children	15%
Couple w No Children	8%
Non-Traditional	5%
Single	45%
Total	100%

Food Bank Groups of concern in 2022 Percentages

Women	43%
Post-Secondary Students	2%
Newcomers	12%
FNs	4%
Visible Minorities	29%
Disabled People	17%
Seniors	7%
Recently Unemployed	8%
Unhoused	11%

Transportation

- Accessing Transportation continued to be important in 2022 at 60.8%. Overall Satisfaction with Public Transportation continued to be low in 2022 (24%) compared to 2017 (30%) and 2013 (25.8%). Overall Dissatisfaction in 2022 was 38.9%.
- Building a transportation network in Brooks and the Region is complex and multi-faceted as transportation needs exist for travel both in and out of the City of Brooks and around the Region. Available resources and needs may differ from one individual and demographic group to another. For the Brooks-Newell Region, the work is ongoing and has involved several years and different ways of identifying transportation needs, how the needs are being met and what more can be done. The pursuit of effective solutions will require an ongoing commitment from all levels of government, to continued collaboration and the provision of resources required to meet current and future transportation needs in Rural Alberta.
- Results of the Quality of Life #3 Survey demonstrate that **Transportation** remains a concern within the Brooks-Newell Region. Travel to health and government related services in Calgary, Medicine Hat and Lethbridge remains an issue for residents who do not have access to a reliable personal vehicle or who are unable to drive themselves to services. Although, the City of Brooks Regional Transportation Service has alleviated some of that concern with travel out of the area, with impending demographic changes in the Region and lack of current ridership, this issue is challenging and will likely become more pressing in the coming years.
- Municipalities continue to work toward increasing transportation capacity for local and out-of-area transportation through the City of Brooks Regional Transportation Service and Access Transit Services, the County of Newell Mini-bus and the Town of Bassano Volunteer Driver Program.
- Expanded and modified transportation services assist to alleviate transportation needs, however, with the anticipated labour needs, population growth and changing demographics, a fully accessible public transportation system could be explored to both attract and retain the labour force and serve families and seniors.
- The Importance of Accessing Transportation and Satisfaction with Public Transportation is longstanding issue that has been identified through community meetings, public forums and previous Quality of Life Surveys.

<https://southernalberta.com/business/documents/TransportationReportFinalOctober2013.pdf>
<https://www.brooks.ca/650/Brooks-Regional-Transportation-Service>

Housing

- Overall Satisfaction with Affordable Housing decreased to 38.8% from 44.6% in 2017 and 44.6% in 2013. Overall Dissatisfaction increased to 25.4% (2017 17.8%) and 2013 (21.6%)
- Affordable and attainable housing in Brooks remains a major concern. According to the 2021 Census, over 50% of all housing in the City of Brooks are single-detached houses, followed by apartments in buildings with less than 5 stories. Of these dwellings 64.8% are owned by the occupants, leaving approximately 1/3 of units being rented within the City of Brooks. This compares to 72% ownership for the Brooks-Newell Region, the County of Newell (84.4%) and the Village of Duchess (86%). In 2023, The City of Brooks has a very low inventory of homes for sale and a rental vacancy rate well below the provincial average at 2% (the lowest in over two decades).
- The Village of Duchess is working on developing a *Housing Plan* in 2023.
- City of Brooks Council has an *Affordable Housing Plan* and is working with potential developers, local property owners and local businesses trying to find solutions for the short, medium and long term affordable and attainable housing shortage. There are a number of housing development applications which have been approved including a 100+ unit townhouse development, a 43-unit apartment building, a 4-plex of rental suites and 20 new single-family detached homes. However, there is a risk that of projects not being completed or delayed.
- Brooks Housing Society is working on a plan to build new affordable, larger housing units. The Newell Housing Foundation is also exploring housing solutions.
- **Affordable housing** is subject to the major industry players within the community as the economics of rental housing often fall into a supply and demand paradox. Rental properties, particularly single-family dwellings, are often priced according to the Oil and Gas industry which has a large disposable income. This is often not the case with other industries such as food processing, hospitality, retail, and agriculture. Most at risk of being precariously housed are newcomers, temporary foreign workers, seniors (especially single seniors), single parents and persons on Alberta Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) or social assistance. The overall social and economic Many residents are impacted by the lack of affordable and attainable housing, impacting the social and economic future in Brooks.

2021 Canadian Census (Statistics Canada)
Email: Lisa Tiffin, Manager, Community Development, City of Brooks, May 31, 2023

FUTURE TRENDS

SENIORS

- In 2021 the senior population (65 years and older) in the Region was 3,340 or 13.34% of the total population compared to 2016 (2,855 or 11.6%) and 2011 (2,320 or 9.9%).
- People 65 years and older are the country’s fastest growing age group, and the trend will continue for decades in the future due to lower fertility rates, increased life expectancy and the aging Baby Boom generation. In 2021, approximately 7 million (19%) Canadians were 65 years and older, and by 2068 the proportion of seniors is expected to grow to between 21.6% (slow-aging scenario) and 29.8% (fast-aging scenario) of the population. The number of older seniors (85 years and older) will continue to increase rapidly, mostly between 2031 and 2050 due to the aging Baby Boomer population. This age group will grow from 871,400 in 2021 to between 2.8 million and 3.6 million Canadians.
- Senior poverty in Canada has increased due to two key shifts: continued decline in workplace pension coverage and demographics.
- Senior poverty in Canada has increased due to two key shifts: continued decline in workplace pension coverage and demographics. Many seniors live on fixed pensions and this may impact the need for more subsidized service in all areas. Access to transportation for all seniors is a consideration as the senior population increases.
- Seniors of all ages will increasingly be looking for Affordable, Attainable Housing options as they age.
- Seniors over 65 are also often very active, still working and looking for education and learning opportunities, sports & leisure activities.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/corporate/publications/chief-public-health-officer-reports-state-public-health-canada/chief-public-health-officer-report-on-state-public-health>

Do you feel that your neighborhood needs more services in any of the following areas?

	Yes	No	Unsure
Pre Schoolers (Age 5 and under)	27.22%	26.91%	45.87%
School-aged children (ages 6-12)	33.77%	26.94%	39.29%
Youth (ages 13-17)	45.39%	20.43%	34.18%
Young Adults (ages 18-24)	44.34%	20.86%	34.80%
Adults (ages 25-64)	42.46%	27.07%	30.47%
Seniors (ages 65 or older)	47.98%	23.87%	28.15%
Families with children	48.55%	28.68%	22.75%

- Yes responses to Need for More Services can often be correlated to the age and life stage of the respondent.
- The highest Age group in favour of more services for **Preschoolers** was 20-39 age group (49.4%). Other age groups *No* responses varied between 20%-30%.
- **School-age children** Need for More Services *Yes* response rate was highest with the 20-39 age group (53%) : 27% of this age group had a *No* response.
- A high number of respondents identified the need for more services for **Youth** (between 52% and 66%). The highest *Unsure* response was among age group 70+ years.
- Over 50% of respondents thought there is a Need for More Services for **Young Adults**, particularly those in the 15-49 age groups.
- Between 52% and 56.2% of respondents ages 15 to 59 years responded *Yes* to the Need for more Services for **Adults**. Under 19 years of age had the highest response rate of *No* (37.5%).
- More than 40% of all ages agreed that there is a Need for More Services for **Seniors**, the highest *Yes* responses : being in age group 15-19 and 70+.
- Between 60% and 64% of respondents aged 15 to 39 years identified a high Need for More Services for **Families with Children**.

FINDINGS SUMMARY

- We are confident that 1,531 respondents from the Brooks-Newell Region (6.1% of total population ages 15 years and older) represents a Confidence Level of 95% with a margin of error of 5%, which is within the requirements of the Quality of Life research. Socio-economic statistics are derived from the Statistics Canada Census data.
- The Region has experienced a population growth of 1.5% from 2016 to 2021, with the population increasing from 24,662 to 25,028. The national population growth for the period of 2016 through 2021 was 5.2%.
- Brooks and Bassano both experienced an increase in population from 2016-2021 while other communities had a decrease in population.
- The Region has had a 1.7% increase in the Seniors population since 2016. There has been no change in residents under 19 years since 2016, and a 1.3% decrease in those aged 20—35 years since 2016.
- Young people are critical to the Quality of Life and sustainability of communities. It is important to continue to identify the means to retain and recruit young people to live, work and stay in the Region.
- The median age in the Region is 39.5 years, with the highest Median Age being found in Bassano at 50.
- 77.7% of the population is over 15 years of age.
- The Region is home to 1,645 children living in one-parent families.

- 26.7% of residents within the Brooks-Newell Region are immigrants and 1.7% are non-permanent residents.

Health

- The top three health conditions that affected individual respondents were **General Health Problems** with 14.9% (228) of respondents being affected, **Physical Conditions** with 10.6% (163) of respondents being affected, and **Mental Conditions** with 10.3% (158) of respondents being affected.
- The top three health conditions that affected households were **General Health Problems** with 16.1% (246) of respondent households being affected, **Mental Conditions** with 12.1% (185) of respondent households being affected, and **Physical Conditions** with 9.7% (148) of respondent households being affected.

Political Rights and General Values

- Municipal Elections were held on October 18, 2021.
- Duchess and Rosemary acclaimed all councillors and elections were held in Brooks, Bassano and the County of Newell.
- In Bassano 427 (44.7%) of the 955 eligible voters in the community participated in the election.
- In Brooks 2,742 (24.6%) of the 11,365 eligible voters in the community participated in the election.
- In the County 983 (16.5%) of the 5,945 eligible voters

in the community participated in the election.

Sense of Community

- There are important variations between communities when asked about overall community satisfaction; as the size of the community increased, survey results indicate that the overall satisfaction with Sense of Community decreased.
- Rosemary had the highest Overall Satisfaction with Sense of Community (88.2%), followed by Duchess (81.3%), Bassano (72.3%) and the County of Newell (71%), and Brooks (67.3%).

Personal Well-Being

- 48.7% of respondents felt the Region needs more services for Families with Children.
- Responses remained in the high 40% range for need of additional community services for Seniors, Adults, Young, Adults and Youth across the Region.

Economy and Employment

- There are variations between communities when asked about overall community satisfaction regarding Economy and Employment.
- Duchess and Rosemary had the highest Overall Satisfaction with Economy and Employment at 76.5%, followed by the County of Newell (71%), Brooks (64.7%); Bassano had the lowest Overall Satisfaction at 47.5%.

FINDINGS SUMMARY

Economy and Employment

- There are variations between communities when asked about overall community satisfaction regarding Economy and Employment.
- Duchess and Rosemary had the highest Overall Satisfaction with Economy and Employment at 76.5%, followed by the County of Newell (71%,) Brooks (64.7%); Bassano had the lowest Overall Satisfaction at 47.5%.

Social Programs and Social Conditions

- 313 (20.4%) of respondents indicated that their households are negatively affected by social conditions, the top three areas of concern were Housing Costs, Lack of Transportation, and Discrimination.
- **Household Housing Costs** negatively affected 9.4% of all survey respondents.
- **Household Lack of Transportation** negatively affected 4.6% of all survey respondents.
- **Discrimination** negatively affected the Households of 3.8% of the Households of all survey respondents.
- The average **Monthly Housing Costs** for someone living in the Newell Region living in owned accommodations is \$1,186 compared to \$1,029 for those living in rental accommodations.
- According to Statics Canada , 12.2% of individuals in

the Region spend over 30% of their income on Housing Costs. (p222 REPORT CHECK CHART)

- According to Statics Canada Housing Suitability in the Region, 5.3% of the Housing is classified as Unsuitable Dwelling and 4.5% of Dwellings Needing Major Repairs.

Physical Environment

- Responses across the Region remained in the 80% range for Overall Satisfaction with Physical Environment Brooks (76%) and Bassano (75.7%).

Education System

- Many young people leave the Region to pursue post secondary educational opportunities in communities like Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Calgary. It is important to offer attractive opportunities which encourage youth to move back to the Region once they have completed their schooling.
- There are four school divisions in the Region providing K-12 education. The Region has been able to retain many rural schools, which is a benefit to hamlets and villages within the Region.
- Rural schools can be found in Alcoma, Bassano, Duchess, Gem, Rolling Hills, Rosemary, Tilley and in 7 colony locations.

Local Government

- The Overall Satisfaction with Municipal Government

in the Region was 63.8% in 2021. There are variations between communities.

- Rosemary rated the highest Overall Satisfaction with Municipal Government at 82.4% followed by the Duchess (72.4%) the County of Newell (65.6%), Brooks (65.1%) and Bassano (47.5%).

Quality of Place

- Overall Dissatisfaction with **Retail and Shopping** continued to have had the highest Overall Dissatisfaction (46%) and the lowest Overall Satisfaction (43.2%).
- **Retail and Shopping** had the highest Overall Satisfaction and lowest Overall Dissatisfaction in Duchess. The highest Overall Dissatisfaction was in Bassano .
- **Green Spaces** had the highest level of Overall Satisfaction within the Quality of Life variables in the Region.(70.4%).
- Overall Satisfaction with **Sports and Leisure** was 70.4% in the Region and varies between municipalities. Duchess (84.1%) had the highest Overall Satisfaction **followed by both Bassano and Brooks** at 73.4%, Rosemary (67.3%) and the County (66.4%).
Brooks is the main Retail, Shopping Service Center (including Provincial and Federal Services) for the Brooks-Newell Region. The next nearest centers are Medicine Hat and Strathmore.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Acknowledgements

Primary and Secondary Research:

- Kyle Peterson, PhD
- Lynn Pye-Matheson, MSW RSW
- Michelle Gietz, MSc.
- Ron Gietz, MSc.

Quality of Life Survey Creation:

- William Slenders, BMgmt.
- Lynn Pye-Matheson, MSW RSW

Analysis:

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- Michelle Gietz, MSc.
- Ron Gietz, MSc.
- Lynn Pye-Matheson, MSW RSW
- William Slenders, BMgmt.

Research Assistant:

Tammy Johnson

Community Snapshots:

- Victoria Muhlbeier, BA
- Lynn Pye-Matheson, MSW RSW
- Michelle Gietz, MSc

Full Reports:

- Kyle Peterson, PhD
- Michelle Gietz, MSc
- Ron Gietz, MSc

See **Brooks -Newell Region Full Report**
www.grasslandsregionalfcss.com

Survey Distribution and/or Collection 2022:

- Municipal Offices: Brooks; County of Newell; Duchess; Rosemary; Bassano
- Alcoma School
- Grasslands Public Schools Office
- Newbrook Lodge
- Newell Housing
- Playfair Lodge
- Tilley School
- L'Ecole Le Ruisseau
- Brooks Composite High School
- St. Josephs Academy
- Patricia Hotel
- Rolling Hills Post Office
- Global Village Centre
- SPEC Association for Children and Families
- Bassano FCSS
- **Seniors Outreach.**
- **Grasslands Regional FCSS**

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