

Livingstone Shire Council: Community Views 2025

KEY INSIGHTS

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01

Introduction





About .id

Spatial intelligence that turns data into confident decisions

For over 25 years, .id has supported all levels of government, utility providers, emergency services, and private sector organisations in understanding their local areas to inform decisions that build better communities from the ground up.

Digital solutions for informed decision making



National datasets to monitor and benchmark local area progress.



Consulting services informed by your needs



How Livingstone accesses the solutions toolkit

Unlock the complete picture of your LGA



About Community Views

Launched in 2021 to better represent residents' values, experiences and future needs in planning and advocacy decisions.

Community Views complements our understanding of local area demographics, population futures and economics to provide clients with a truly integrated understanding of their place and community.

- We ask questions that help decision makers measure policy impacts on society beyond economics.
- We collect large, representative samples to reflect local area needs and demographic differences.
- We analyse and report insights on our leading online platform, [views.id](#), which also hosts reports, presentations, videos and ongoing support.

QUESTIONNAIRE TOPICS

Values and Experiences

Liveability and Future Needs

Health and Wellbeing

Financial Circumstances

Climate Change and Sustainability

Concerns and Ideas

Custom Questions

Demography and Life Stages



How do we understand liveability?

A resident-centric approach informed by 16 critical attributes



**A lack of road
congestion**



**A prosperous
economy**



**High quality
education
opportunities**



**High quality
health
services**



**A strong sense
of community**



**Access to the
natural
environment**



**Making your way
to/from services
with ease**



**Opportunity
for all**



**Affordable
decent housing**



**Cultural facilities
such as museums,
galleries, festivals**



**Reliable and
efficient public
transport**



**Shopping, leisure
and dining
experiences**



Feeling safe



**Good job
prospects**



**Social
cohesion**



**Sports and
recreation**

How do we understand liveability?

A resident-centric approach informed by 16 critical attributes



Understand Values

The top 5 items residents believe contribute most towards making somewhere a good place to live



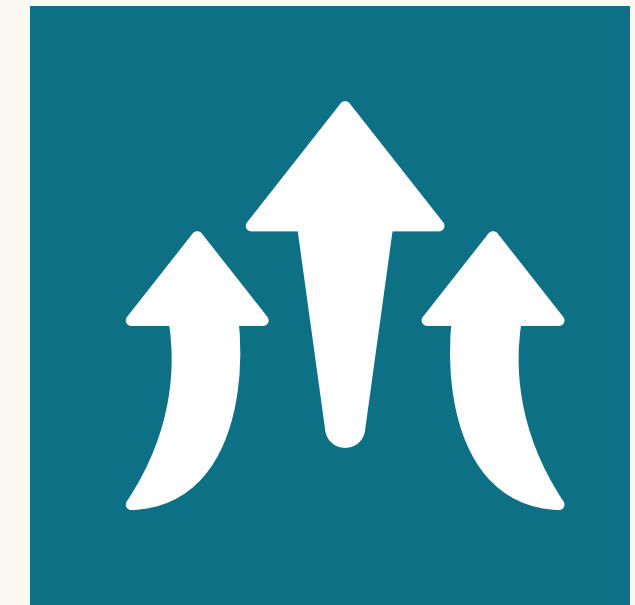
Measure Experiences

How residents experience all 16 items where they live on a scale between 0 & 10



Calculate Liveability

One number between 0 & 100 to monitor collective quality of life



Community Priorities

Attributes related to advancing quality of life to inform planning and advocacy

About the Study



Online survey conducted via social media advertising (n=646) and promoted via Council channels (n=162)



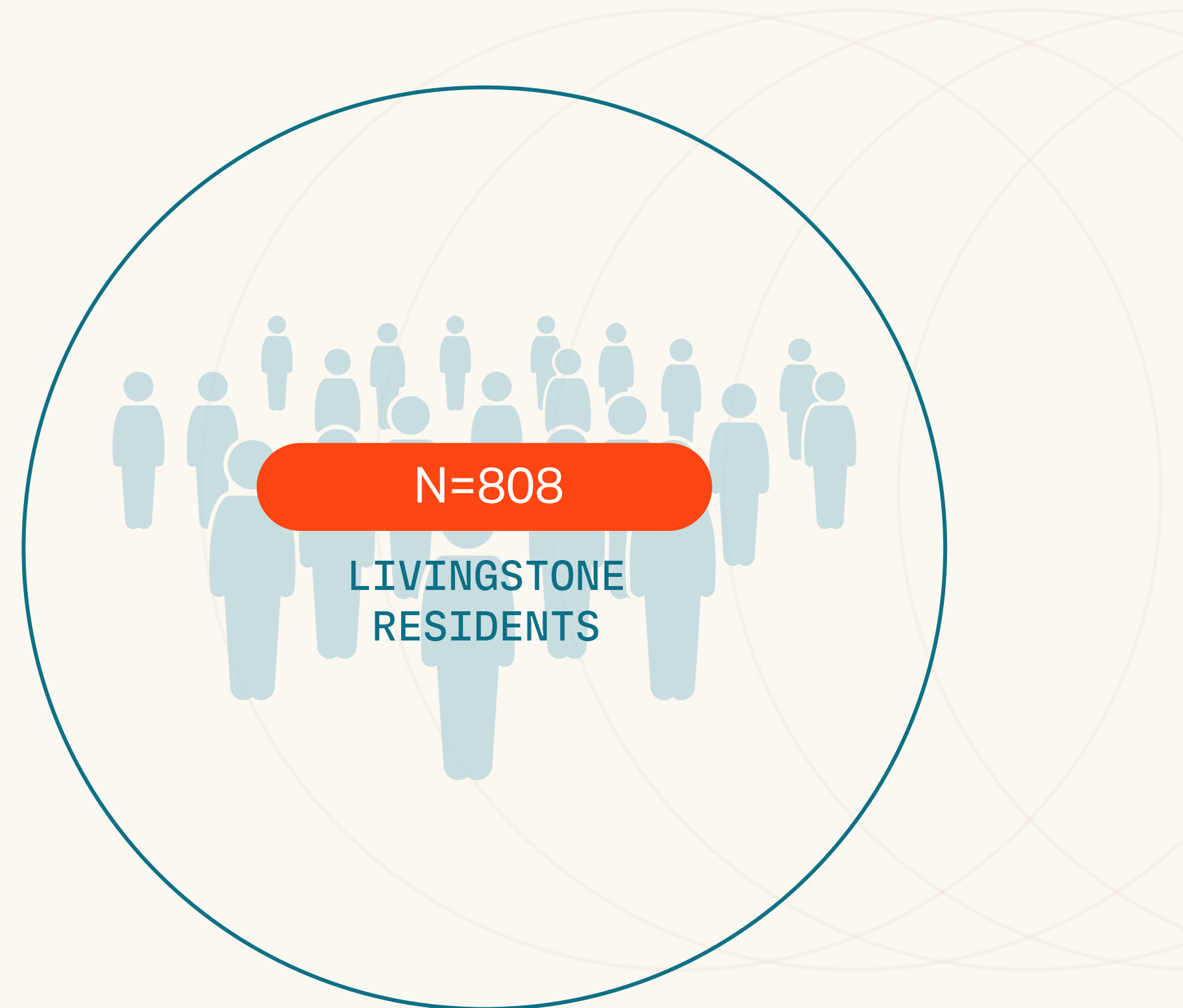
Total sample size of n=808, data weighted by age and local area



Data available spatially across local areas

views.id

Insights and data available on the views.id platform



Detailed Methodology

The survey was conducted between 12th September to 12th October, returning a sample of n=808 completed surveys. This is the first wave of the study.

Respondents were sourced via .id's proven social media advertising approach (n=646) and via promoting the survey through Council channels (n=162).

Upon completion, the survey sample was compared with the population of interest to identify if any responses to the demographic and life-stage questions were skewed relative to their share of the actual population. Taking into consideration the impact of these skews, .id elected to normalise the survey data using age and local area. Data-weighting is a common practice in social research. It aims to improve the representativeness of survey results.

The maximum margin of error is +/-3.4% at the 95% confidence interval. In simple terms, this means that if 50% of survey respondents placed importance on 'high quality health services', we can be 95% confident that between 46.6% and 53.4% of the total local adult population place importance on 'high quality health services'.



02

Key Insights



Overall Liveability in Livingstone

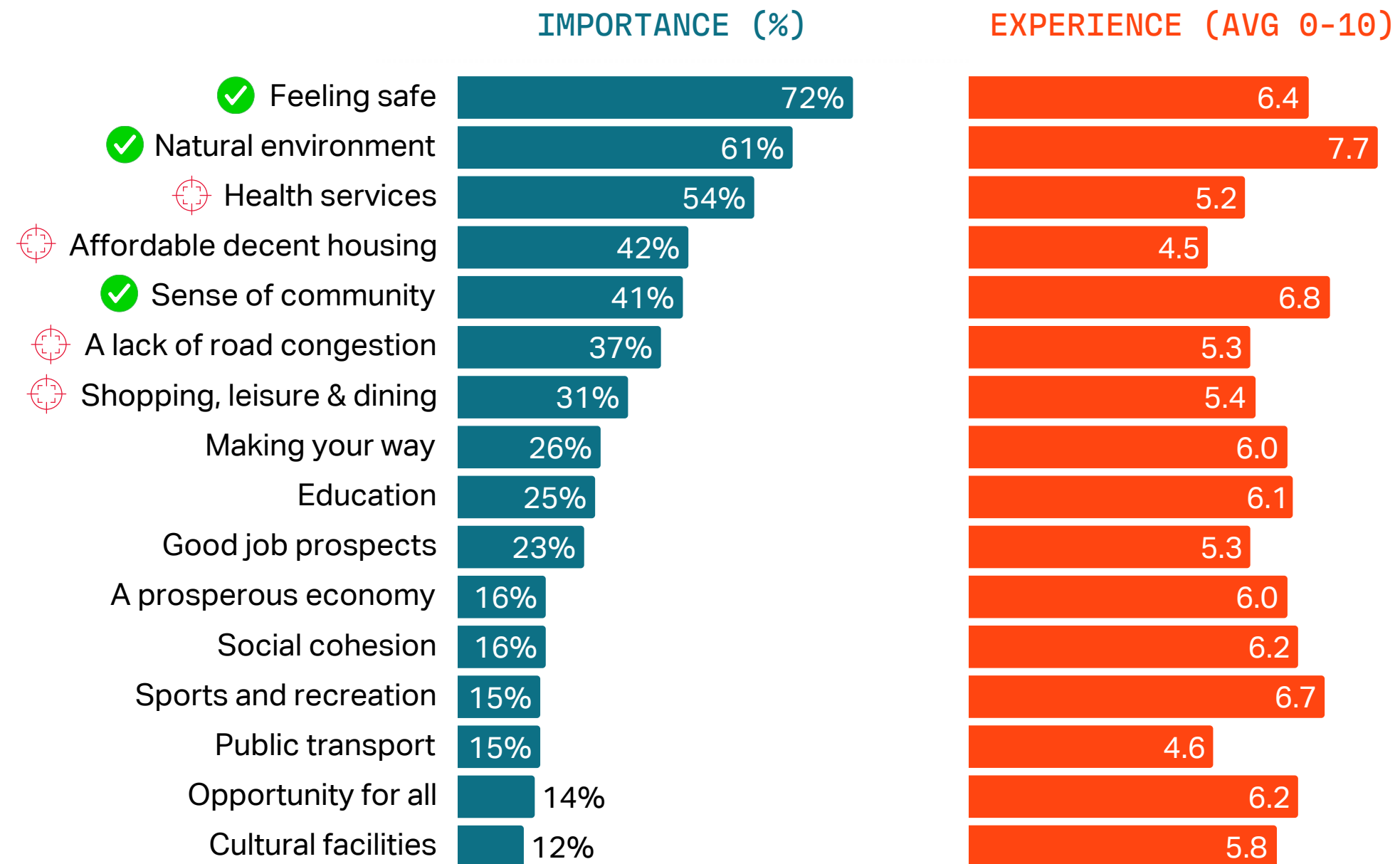
Livingstone residents rated their overall liveability at 60.0 — slightly above the Central Queensland average of 57.2.

This suggests that liveability in the local area is positive and residents broadly see Livingstone as a great place to live. As we’ll see, the score reflects the balance between high-performing lifestyle factors — particularly safety, natural environment, and community cohesion — and more moderate satisfaction in service-related areas such as health access, housing, roads, and leisure.



What do residents value in terms of a place to live, and how do they experience those things?

The chart to the right shows the liveability attributes of most importance to residents, and how they experience those same attributes on average (using a scale of 0-10).



The values of Livingstone residents were anchored in safety, access to nature and wellbeing

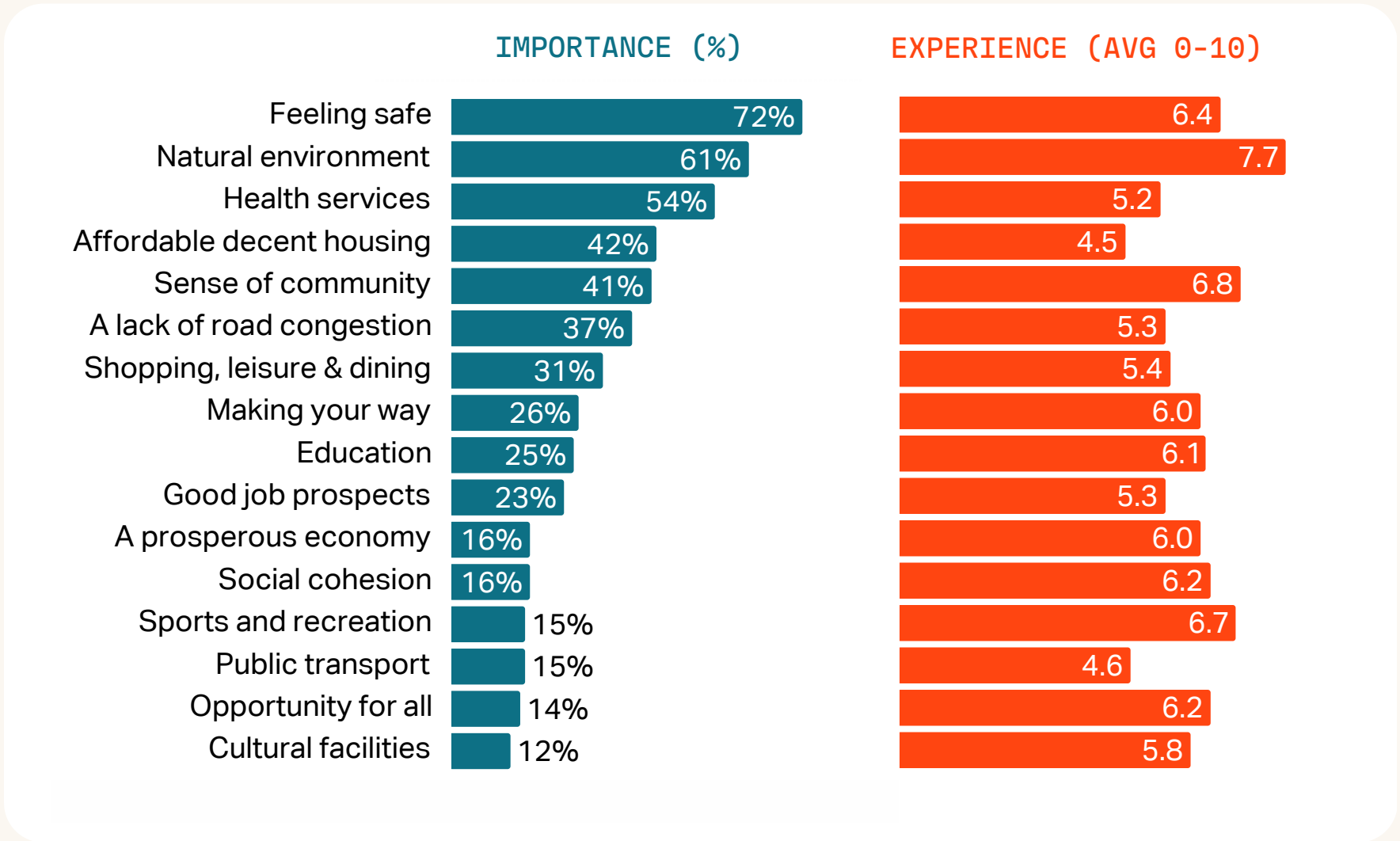
Livingstone residents were most concerned with safety above all else, with 72% identifying it as their top priority. Safety was also an area where residents reported strong lived experience, and slightly above other regions. This alignment between importance and experience makes safety one of Livingstone’s strengths.

The natural environment was the next most highly valued aspect of life in the Shire (61%). Residents deeply valued access to coastline, open space and natural amenity, and their experience of this is very positive.

Access to high-quality health services sat third at 54%, signalling how strongly residents expect essential care to be available locally. Here, the experience rating is more moderate — not negative, but clearly weaker relative to the importance placed on it. This suggests the community sees healthcare access as a pressure point rather than a settled strength.

Affordable decent housing followed at 42% importance. Residents hold affordable housing as central to liveability — and while the experience is not severely negative, it is notably not as strong as safety or environment, indicating it could become a growing liveability concern over time if not actively managed.

Rounding out the top five, a strong sense of community was important to 41% of residents — and this is again an area where Livingstone performs well, reinforcing the Shire’s identity as a cohesive and socially grounded place to live.



Livingstone’s weaker-performing areas were largely service- and access-related

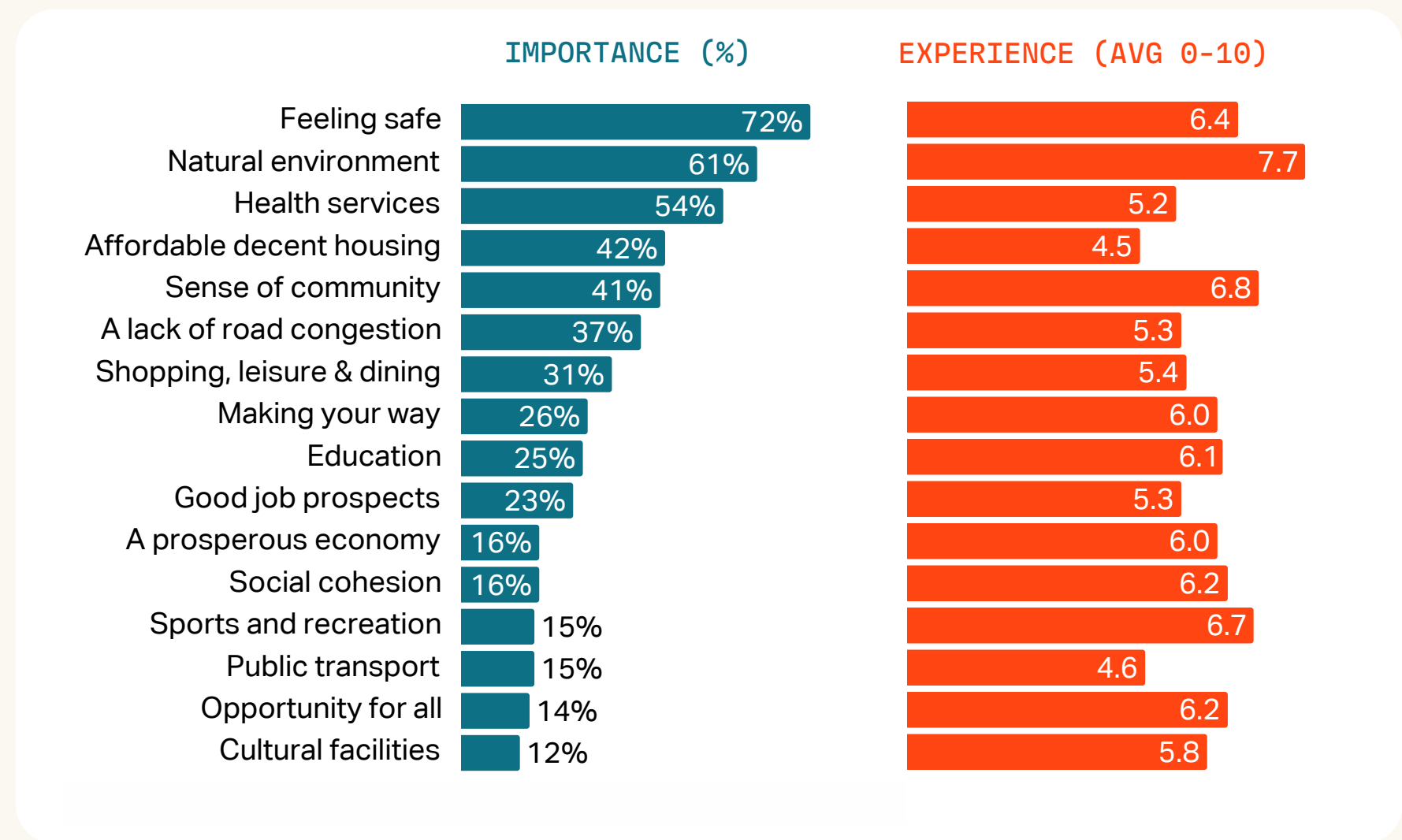
While Livingstone performs strongly overall, several factors show the widest gaps between importance and experience, revealing where residents’ expectations are not being fully met.

The most significant gap relates to access to high quality health services. More than half of residents (54%) identified this as a core liveability driver, yet their experience sat noticeably below both state and national levels. This indicates that while residents value the Shire’s lifestyle and natural advantages, they also want reliable access to healthcare locally—a concern common to regional areas but clearly felt here.

Affordable and decent housing was the next key gap. With affordability pressures increasing across Queensland, residents’ lived experience was lagging behind the importance placed on this issue. Affordability and supply constraints are shaping local perceptions and may influence future retention and attraction of residents.

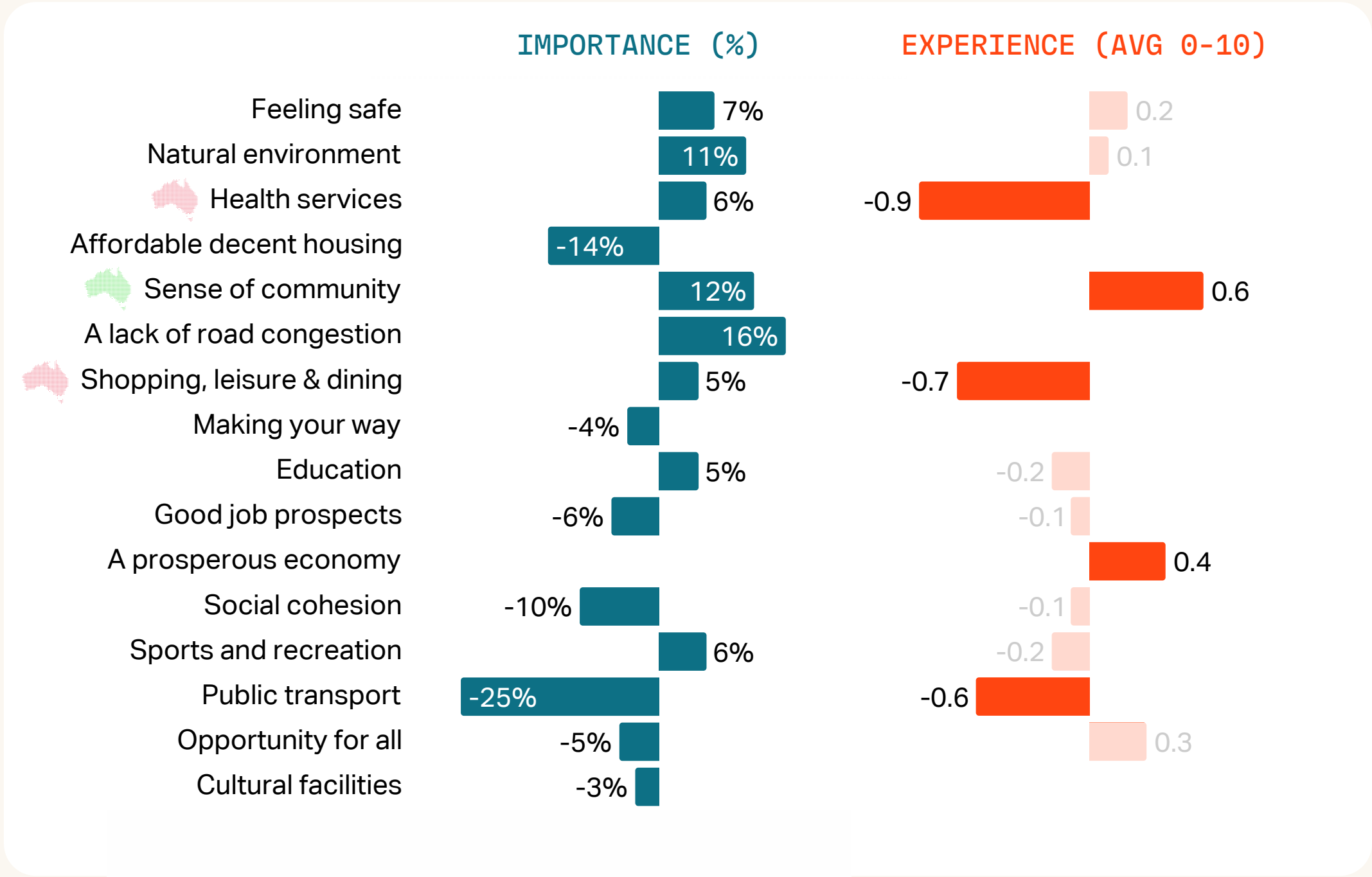
A smaller but meaningful gap emerged around a lack of road congestion. Residents valued the ease of movement that characterises regional life, yet their experiences were slightly lower than expected. This may reflect growing traffic in key centres or concern about future congestion as the Shire continues to grow.

Finally, there was a moderate gap in experiences related to shopping, leisure and dining. These lifestyle amenities were not residents’ top priorities, but they played an important supporting role in liveability, pointing to opportunities to strengthen the local experience economy.



How do Livingstone resident values and experiences compare to the rest of Australia?

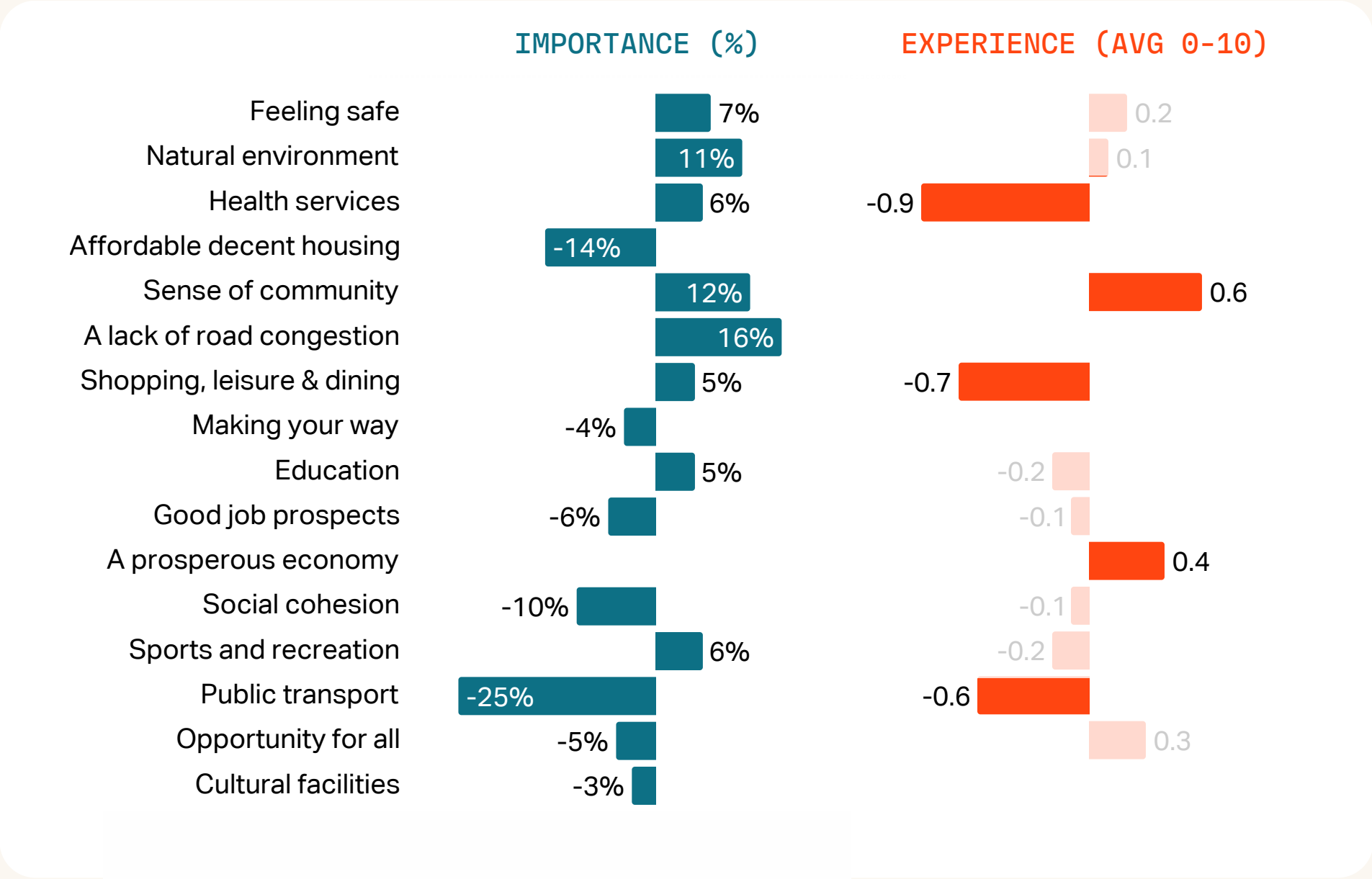
The chart to the right shows the values (importance) and experiences of residents compared to the average across Australia.



How do Livingstone resident values and experiences compare to the rest of Australia?

For Livingstone residents, a lack of road congestion, a strong sense of community, and access to the natural environment stand out as significantly more important than for Australians overall. These priorities reflect the lifestyle and identity of the Shire — residents value ease of movement, social connection, and the ability to enjoy the coastal and natural environment that defines their region. Importantly, their experience of community connection is also well above the national average, confirming this as one of Livingstone’s strongest and most distinctive assets.

By contrast, access to affordable housing and public transport are viewed as less important in Livingstone than elsewhere, consistent with its lower-density, car-reliant settlement pattern and regional housing context. However, the community’s experiences with health services and local shopping, leisure, and dining are rated notably lower than national levels. This suggests that while the fundamentals of lifestyle and belonging are strong, the more service-oriented aspects of liveability — access, choice, and amenity — remain key areas for improvement.



Critical focus areas to improve local area liveability

MAINTAIN
Lower importance, better experiences

- Sports & recreation facilities
- Social cohesion
- Opportunity for all
- Education
- A prosperous economy

- Cultural facilities
- Good job prospects
- Public transport

MONITOR
Lower importance, poorer experiences

SUSTAIN AND CELEBRATE
Greater importance, better experiences

- Access to the natural environment
- A sense of community
- Feeling safe
- The ability to make your way around

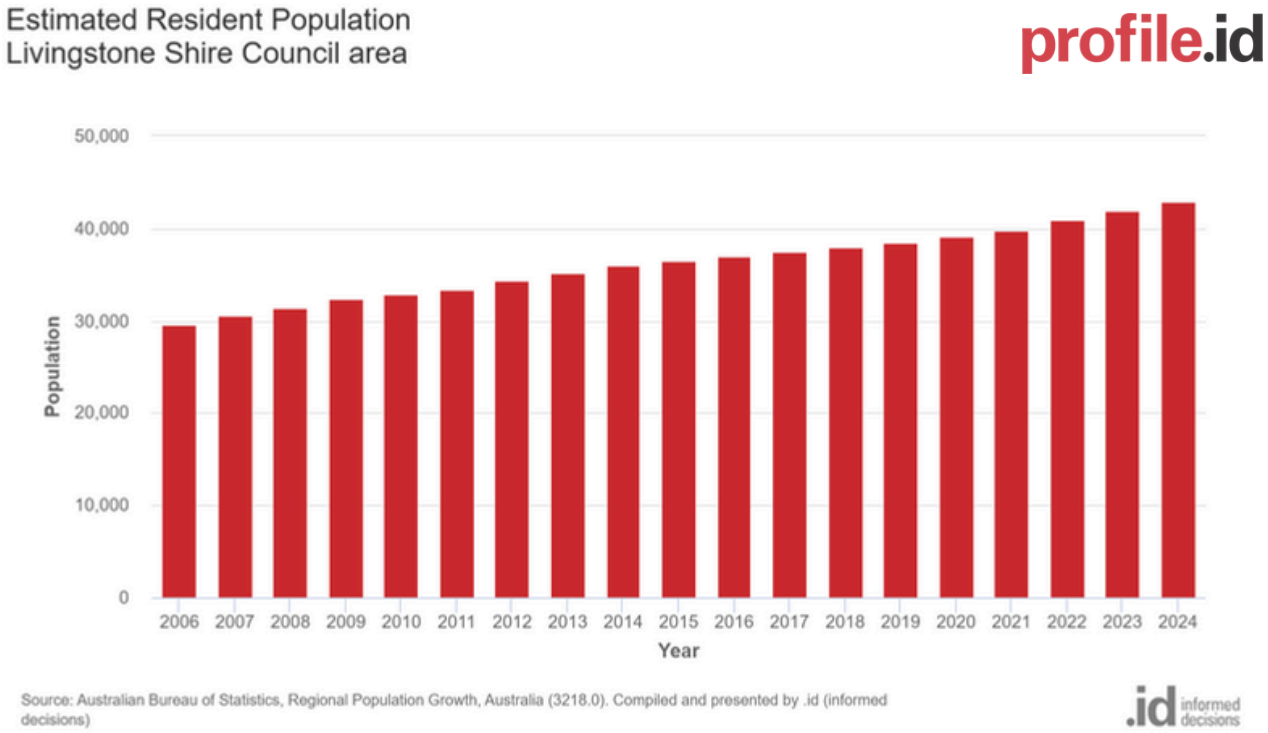
- A lack of road congestion
- Shopping leisure and dining experiences
- Health services
- Affordable decent housing

FOCUS FOR IMPROVEMENT
Greater importance, poorer experiences

What demographic and economic factors influence liveability perceptions in Livingstone?

Several underlying characteristics of Livingstone shaped how residents experienced and rated liveability. These factors provided important context for understanding why the Shire performed strongly overall, while also showing variation in service-related and infrastructure perceptions.

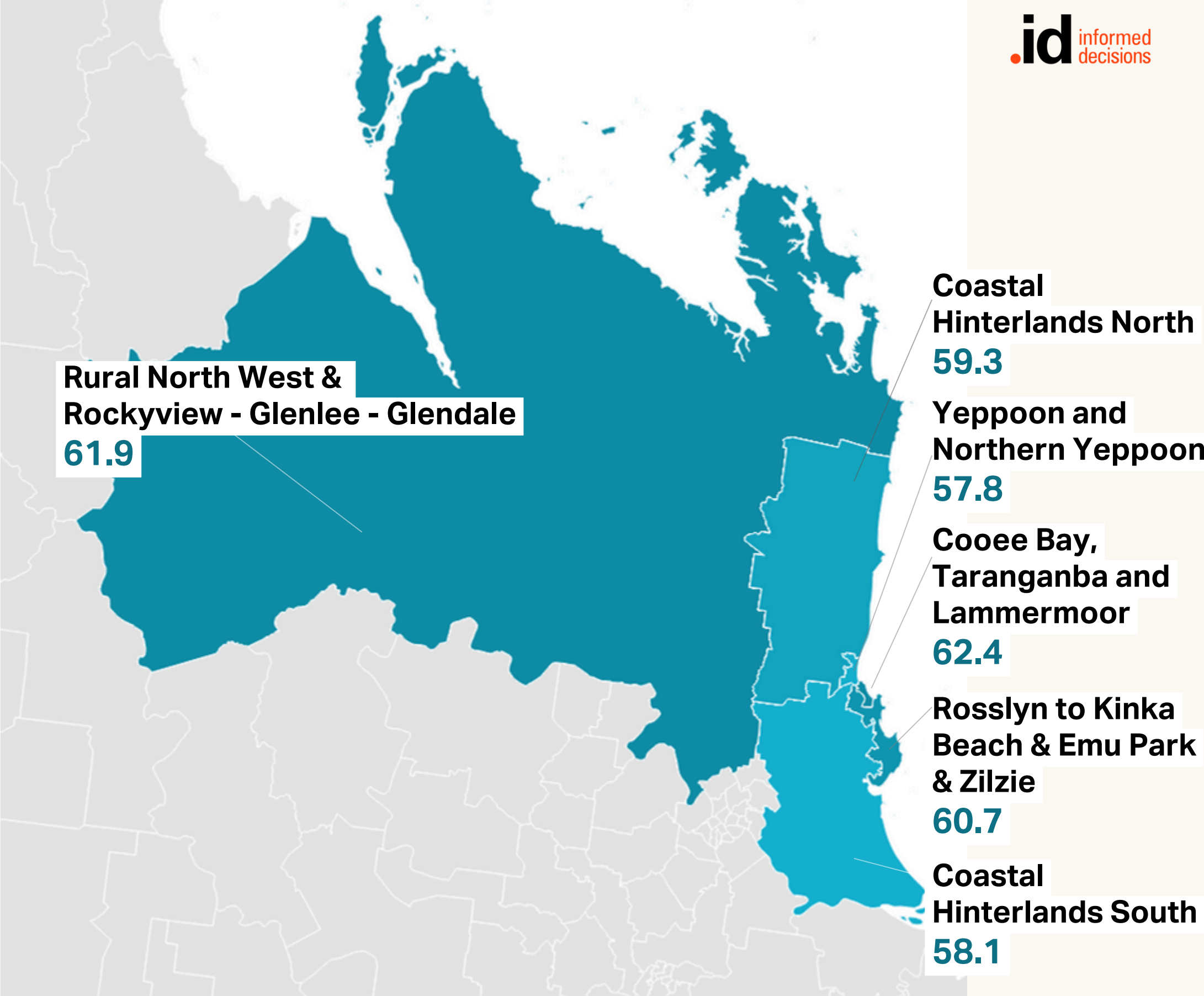
- Population growth and change: Above-average population growth, with more new residents arriving from urban centres seeking lifestyle advantages. This steady inflow places pressure on local services and infrastructure, influencing how people experience health services, housing affordability, and transport.
- Age profile and household structure: Older median age (43 years) and a high share of family households. These demographics support strong values around community, safety, and local cohesion — qualities that performed particularly well.
- Employment base and economic structure: Job base anchored in services, construction, retail, and health care — many locally are employed in retail and health care, and both shopping leisure and dining and health services were key priorities for the community.
- Regional geography: Coastal geography and dispersed settlement pattern underpins lifestyle appeal, but also limits access to some services like hospitals and specialist medical services.



How is liveability experienced across Livingstone?

Liveability scores varied across Livingstone Shire, highlighting the subtle but important differences in how residents across communities experienced local life.

- **Coastal Hinterlands North:** Adelaide Park, Bangalee, Bungundarra, Farnborough, Inverness, Barmaryee, Woodbury, Byfield, and Cobraball.
- **Coastal Hinterlands South:** Bondoola, Tanby, Ironpot, Cawarral, Nankin, Hidden Valley, Keppel Sands, Nerimbera, Tungamull, Coorooman, Coowonga, and Mount Chalmers.
- **Cooee Bay, Taranganba and Lammermoor:** Lammermoor, Taranganba, and Cooee Bay.
- **Rosslyn to Kinka Beach & Emu Park & Zilzie:** Taroomball, Zilzie, Emu Park, Rosslyn, Mulambin, Kinka Beach, and Causeway Lake.
- **Rural North West & Rockyview - Glenlee - Glendale:** Rockyview, The Caves, Glenlee, Marlborough, Glendale, Etna Creek, Milman, Barmoya, Canoona, and Stanage.
- **Yeppoon And Northern Yeppoon:** Yeppoon, Meikleville Hill, Barlows Hill, and Pacific Heights.



How is liveability experienced across Livingstone?

Cooee Bay, Taranganba and Lammermoor recorded the highest liveability rating (62.4), reflecting more positive experiences for the top liveability attributes. Residents felt slightly more safe, reported better access to the natural environment, health services, and a better range of shopping, leisure and dining experiences.

Rural North West and the Rockyview - Glenlee - Glendale area followed closely (61.9), with more positive experiences for a lack of road congestion, affordable decent housing and education (6.9 vs 6.1 Livingstone).

Rosslyn to Kinka Beach, Emu Park and Zilzie also performed well (60.7), supported by feeling safe, natural environment and a cohesive community fabric, but is still bit isolated in terms of services.

Coastal Hinterlands North - Barmaryee, Inverness, Farnborough, Adelaide Park (59.3) also sat below the Shire average, showing quite low scores for affordable decent housing (3.7/10). Areas with lower liveability were Yeppoon and Northern Yeppoon (57.8) and Coastal Hinterlands South (58.1) where experiences were slightly poorer on the top aspects of liveability - perhaps reflecting some growth-related pressures.




What do residents think could be done to improve quality of life in the local area?

The comments from residents highlighted several key concerns and suggestions for improvement in their community.

The main themes related to healthcare access, transport improvements, affordable housing, safety and crime prevention and environmental protection.

"Provide better health facilities including upgrading the hospital with operating facilities. This will attract more doctors and specialists."

35-59 YO | FEMALE | COASTAL HINTERLANDS SOUTH

- 
Healthcare access: more medical professionals, better access to specialists, and an expansion of the local hospital in Yeppoon.
- 
Transport improvements: better public transport options, including more frequent bus services and improved road infrastructure to accommodate the growing population.
- 
Affordable housing: housing developments that are more diverse and accessible to first-time buyers and those on single incomes. A reduction in rents to alleviate financial stress on families and elderly.
- 
Safety and crime prevention: greater police presence, more effective measures to address youth crime and antisocial behaviour, more recreational and social activities for teenagers.
- 
Environmental protection and sustainable development: the preservation of green spaces and biodiversity while balancing new housing developments.

What are resident views on safety in the local area?

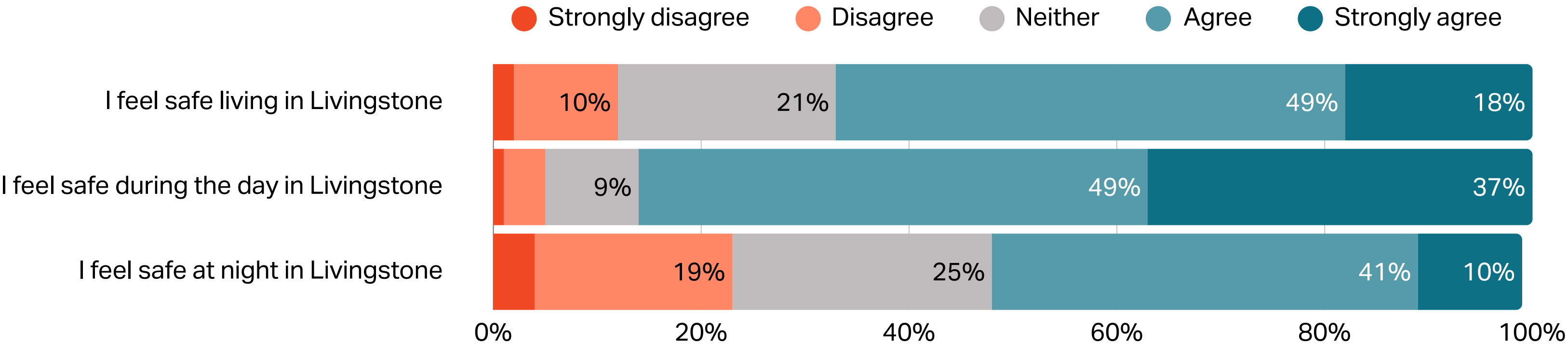
Most residents felt safe living in Livingstone, with two-thirds (67%) agreeing or strongly agreeing that they felt safe overall. However, the results suggested some variation in how safety was experienced across day and night.

Feeling safe

IMPORTANCE
1st

EXPERIENCES
4th

Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following...



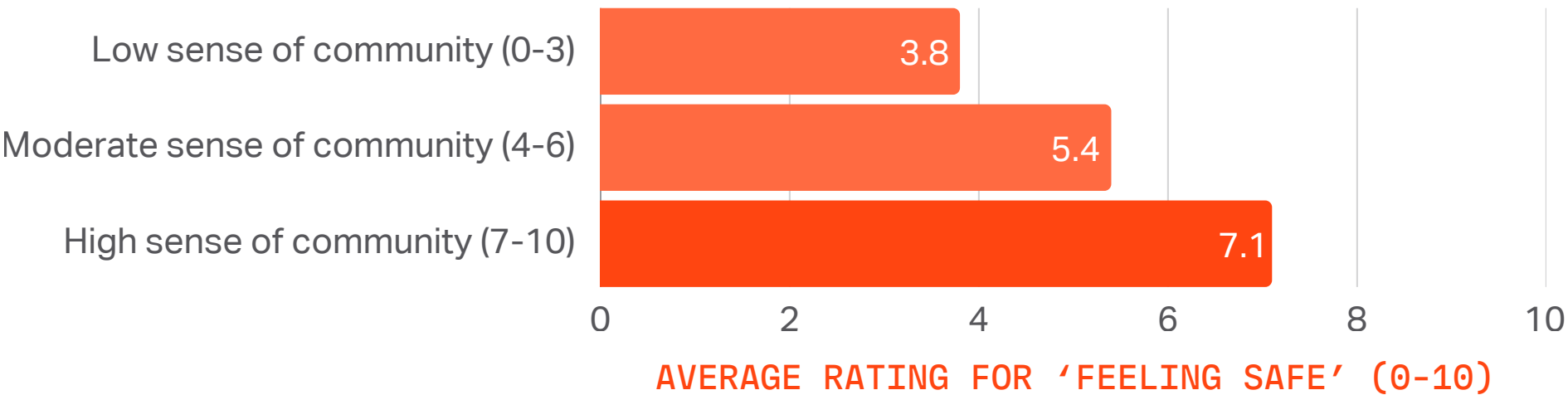
How can a sense of safety be enhanced in Livingstone?

Feeling safe



To build a sense of safety in Livingstone, building a sense of community is key. Residents who feel a stronger sense of community also report feeling safer, while those with fewer social connections are more likely to feel unsafe - a pattern commonly seen across communities. Perceptions of safety are shaped not only by policing or enforcement, but also by trust, familiarity, and belonging within the community - all of which Council can play a role in fostering.

Relationship between feeling safe and a sense of community



The data highlights this relationship clearly. Residents who rated their sense of community between 7 and 10 out of 10 also reported higher feelings of safety, with an average safety score of 7.1/10. In contrast, those with a lower sense of community reported substantially lower safety ratings, averaging 3.8/10 among those with a low sense of community (0–3/10) and 5.4/10 among those with a moderate sense of community (4–6/10). This demonstrates that the more connected residents feel to their neighbours and local area, the safer they feel.

What role does Council play in developing perceptions of safety?

Knowing neighbours, feeling included, and participating in local networks all contribute directly to stronger perceptions of safety. This relationship is particularly important in regional areas like Livingstone, where community ties and participation are often key strengths.

There are several ways Council can continue to influence and strengthen social connection and build a sense of safety through initiatives such as:

- Engagement initiatives catering to different age groups
- Volunteer opportunities to build participation and connection
- Visible safety infrastructure, such as improved residential lighting
- Community events to foster shared public experiences
- Support for local clubs, sporting groups, and cultural participation
- The design and maintenance of safe, welcoming public spaces
- Programs that reduce isolation and strengthen social contact

Feeling safe

IMPORTANCE
1st

EXPERIENCES
4th

"More cultural experiences and include more classes for the community, advertise them better and put the word out when and where, do some online classes. We live in a beautiful part of the world, focus on more community out door activities that bring people together and to help mental, physical and emotional health of our community."

35-59 YO | FEMALE | YEPPON & NORTHERN YEPPON

"Social inclusion, green space, preservation of environment, maintaining casual beach vibe, community connection opportunities, more arts and cultural experiences."

35-59 | FEMALE | COASTAL

HINTERLANDS NORTH

"Social connection opportunities that are not centred around alcohol. Community meet & greets..."

35-59 YO | FEMALE | YEPPON &

NORTHERN YEPPON

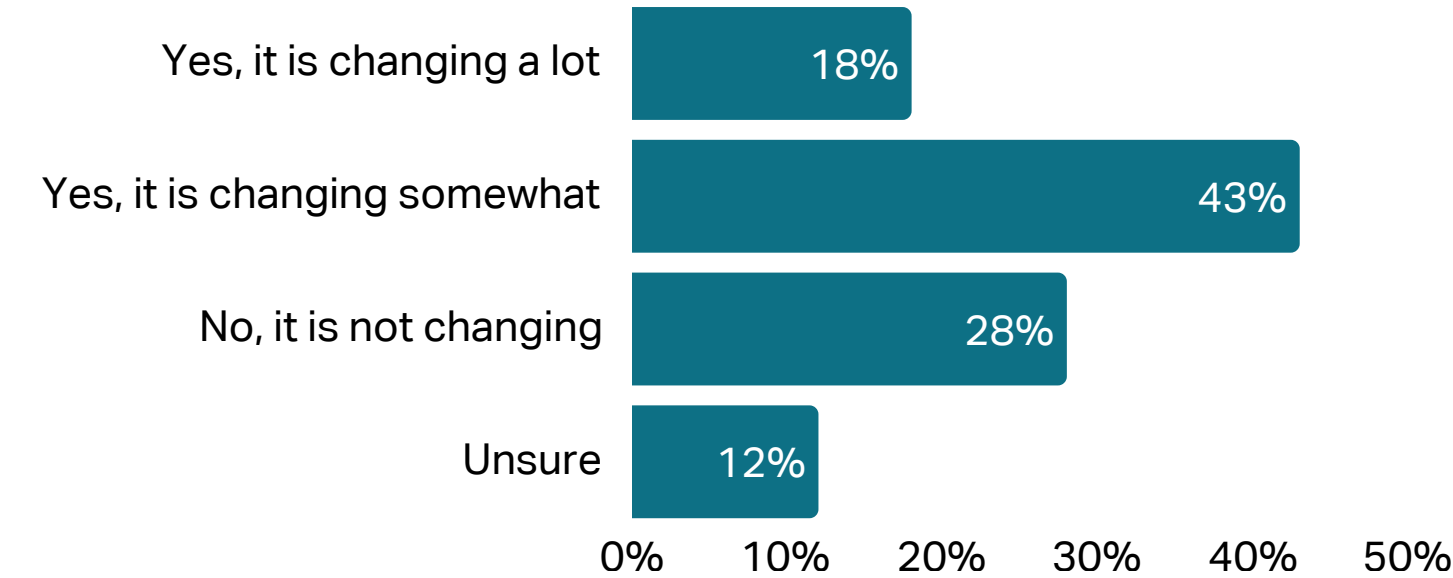
What are resident views on changes to the local environment and the need to plan?

Six in ten residents felt shifts in their local environment and there was strong support for proactive planning for potential environmental impacts.

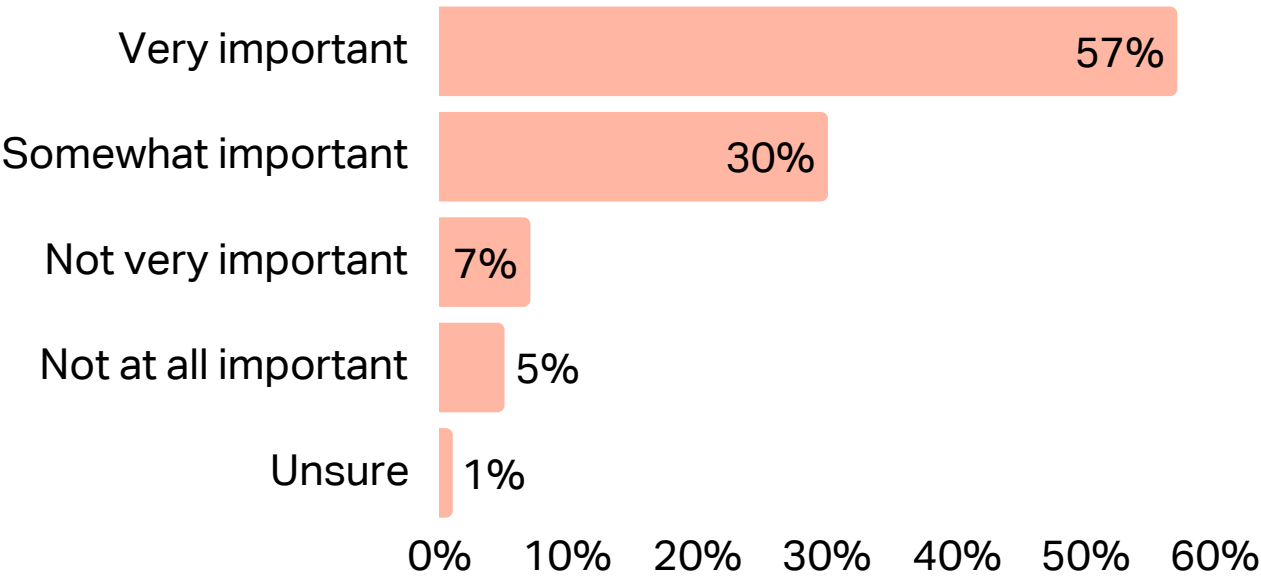
Natural environment



In your view, is the local environment in Livingstone Shire (e.g. weather, seasons, coastal areas, bushland) changing compared with the past?



Regardless of the cause, how important do you think it is for Council and the community to plan for potential future impacts such as heatwaves, storms, sea level rise, or bushfires?



What are the emerging health service needs in Livingstone?

Livingstone’s demographic profile highlights both a growing need for improved health services and a strong local response to meet that need. Census data from Profile.id shows that 33% of Livingstone Shire residents have at least one long-term health condition - consistent with the national average. Rates of arthritis, cancer, heart disease and lung conditions are above the national average.

Livingstone’s older population may also contribute to its higher health service demand. With a median age of 43, compared to 38 for both Queensland and Australia, the Shire has a greater proportion of residents who may require ongoing or specialist care.

When asked which areas residents would most like Council to advocate for on behalf of the community, health services was clearly top at 59%.

In addition, 69% found themselves needing to leave their local area or town to access healthcare/medical services - the highest response across the services.

Health services



Long term health conditions

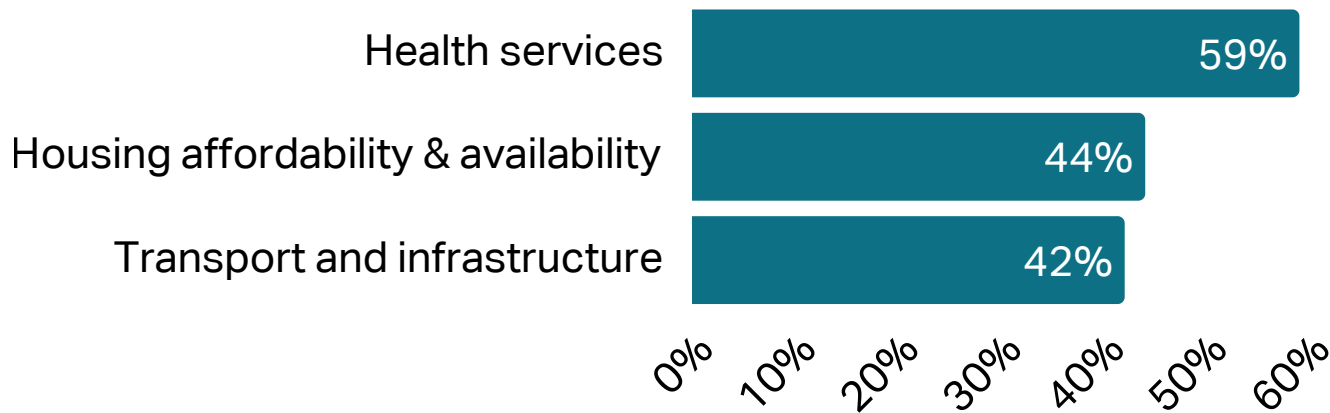
profile.id

	Livingstone Shire	
Population with at least one long term health condition	12,936	32.8%
Total persons	39,393	100.0%

Source: ABS Census 2021

Which of the following areas would you most like Council to advocate for on behalf of the community?

Top 3



What are the emerging health service needs in Livingstone?

Open-text comments further emphasised the need for improvements to health services. Many residents called for more local doctors, specialists, upgraded hospitals with operating facilities and greater access to mental health support. Some also expressed frustration at having to travel to Rockhampton or Brisbane for services unavailable within the Shire.

“Better Healthcare and Hospitals. Hospitals and aftercare, therapies and specialists are terrible.”

60+ YO | FEMALE | COASTAL
HINTERLANDS NORTH

“Improved healthcare options, such as a local hospital with meaningful hospital services [could improve the Shire]...”

60+ YO | MALE | COOEE BAY,
TARANGANBA AND LAMMERMOOR

Health services



Where are housing pressures most felt?

In Livingstone, as with other places, both young people (aged 18-34 years) and renters experience significant barriers to accessing affordable decent housing. For young people, housing was a significantly more important attribute of liveability (58%) and experiences with housing in the local area were poorer (3.9/10).

The same is true for those that rent, at 70% importance and 3.9/10 for experiences.

Fortunately, a higher proportion of residents in Livingstone own their home fully, and a lower proportion rent, buffering the community somewhat from increases in house prices.

Affordable decent housing



Housing tenure

profile.id

	Livingstone Shire	Aus
Fully owned	36.0%	29.9%
Mortgage	33.5%	33.2%
Renting	20.3%	29.5%

Source: ABS Census 2021

Identified 'affordable decent housing' as highly important but poorly experienced

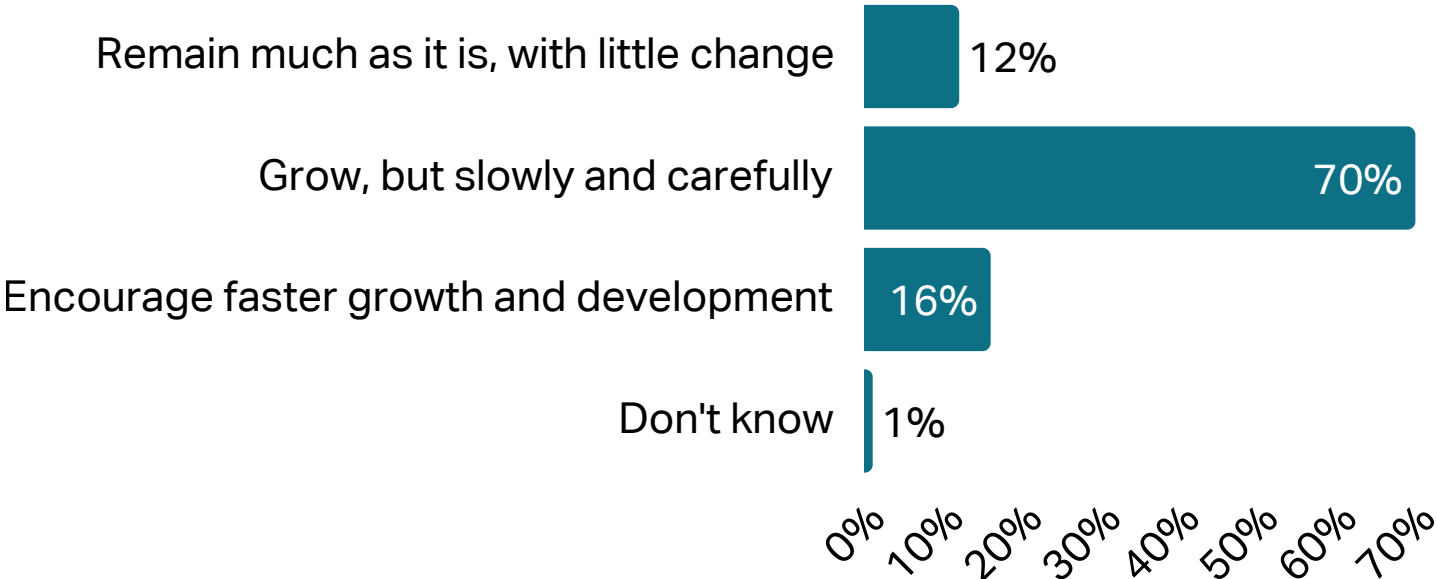
	IMPORTANCE	EXPERIENCES
Livingstone	42%	4.5
Young people (18-34 years)	58% ↑	3.9
Renters	70% ↑	3.9

Significantly higher / lower than Livingstone average ↑↓

What are resident views on growth in Livingstone Shire?

Livingstone is a fast-growing LGA. When asked about future population growth, most Livingstone residents indicated that they supported development, but wanted it to occur slowly and carefully and in consideration of appropriate infrastructure.

Which statement best reflects your view on future growth in Livingstone Shire? The community should...



What do you think are the biggest benefits or drawbacks of growth in Livingstone Shire?

BENEFITS

- More jobs
- Improved services
- Economic vitality

DRAWBACKS

- Inadequate infrastructure
- Road congestion
- Rising house/rent prices
- Lack of housing diversity
- Environmental damage
- Loss of rural feel

Four key takeaways

A high quality of life, with a clear pathway to further improve

Residents have a clear vision for advancing their quality of life, grounded in strong local values. They draw strength from a sense of safety and connection to nature, while recognising the need to improve in areas such as health and housing.

Safety creates platform to enhance local experiences

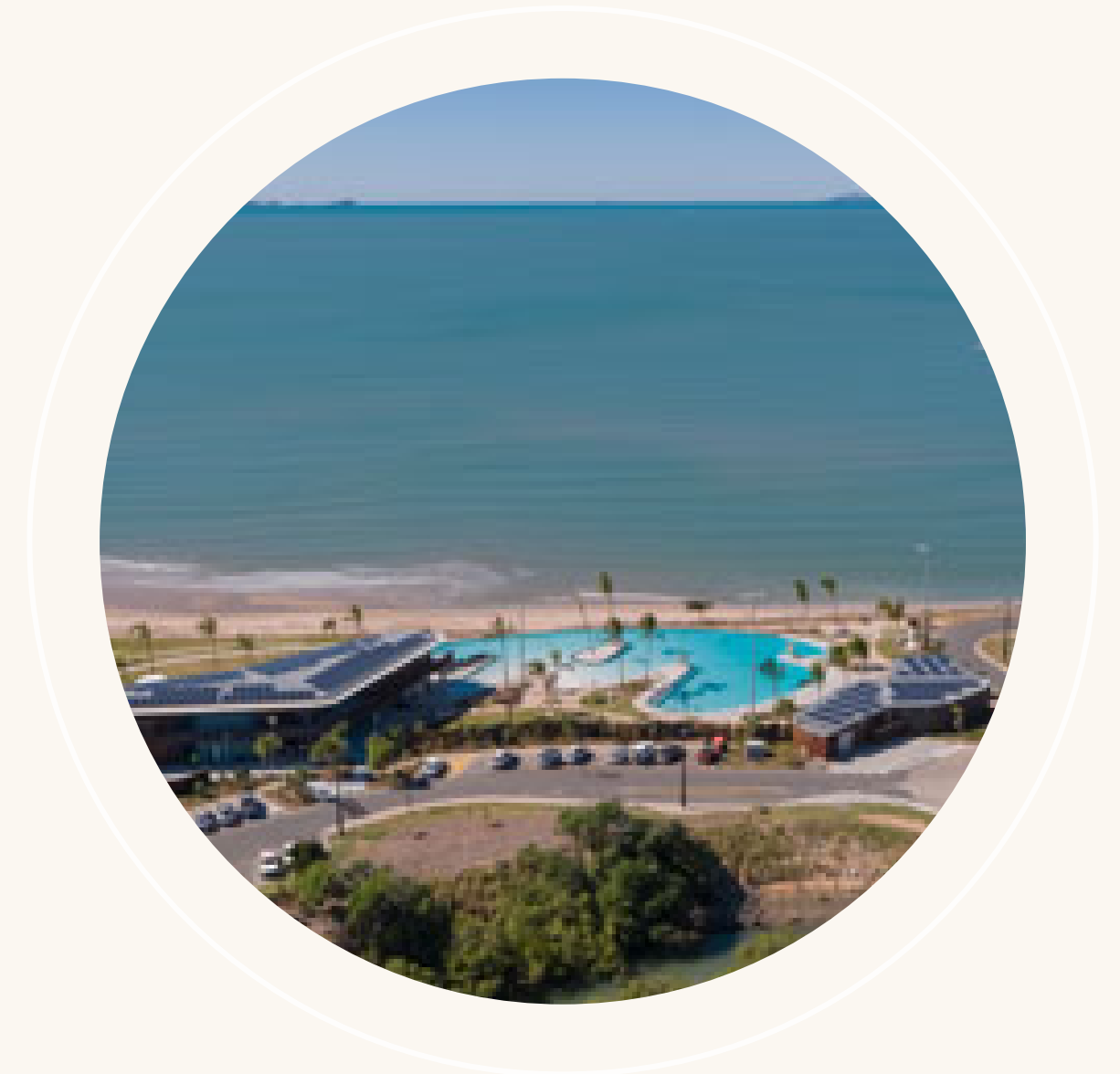
A strong sense of safety—both during the day and at night—creates the conditions to invest in more vibrant shopping, leisure, and dining opportunities. These improvements can enhance local livability while supporting economic diversification across the Shire.

Resident connections + planning = community & place resilience

Livingstone's strong sense of community is a key strength in the face of natural impacts. When combined with Council's proactive planning to mitigate and minimise natural hazards, these become the twin foundations of a resilient community.

Open to change, when growth supports community values

Residents are open to incremental population growth in support of health care, housing, and economic diversity. However, they will resist change that threatens what they value most—safety, access to nature, connection—underscoring the need for deliberate resident-centric planning.



The Community Views results give Livingstone Shire Council:

1

A baseline for resident satisfaction and wellbeing across all Community Plan themes

2

Quantifiable metrics to complement infrastructure, environmental, and economic reporting

3

Community-led evidence to guide advocacy, investment, and communication priorities

By repeating this survey periodically, Council can demonstrate progress toward its vision.



03

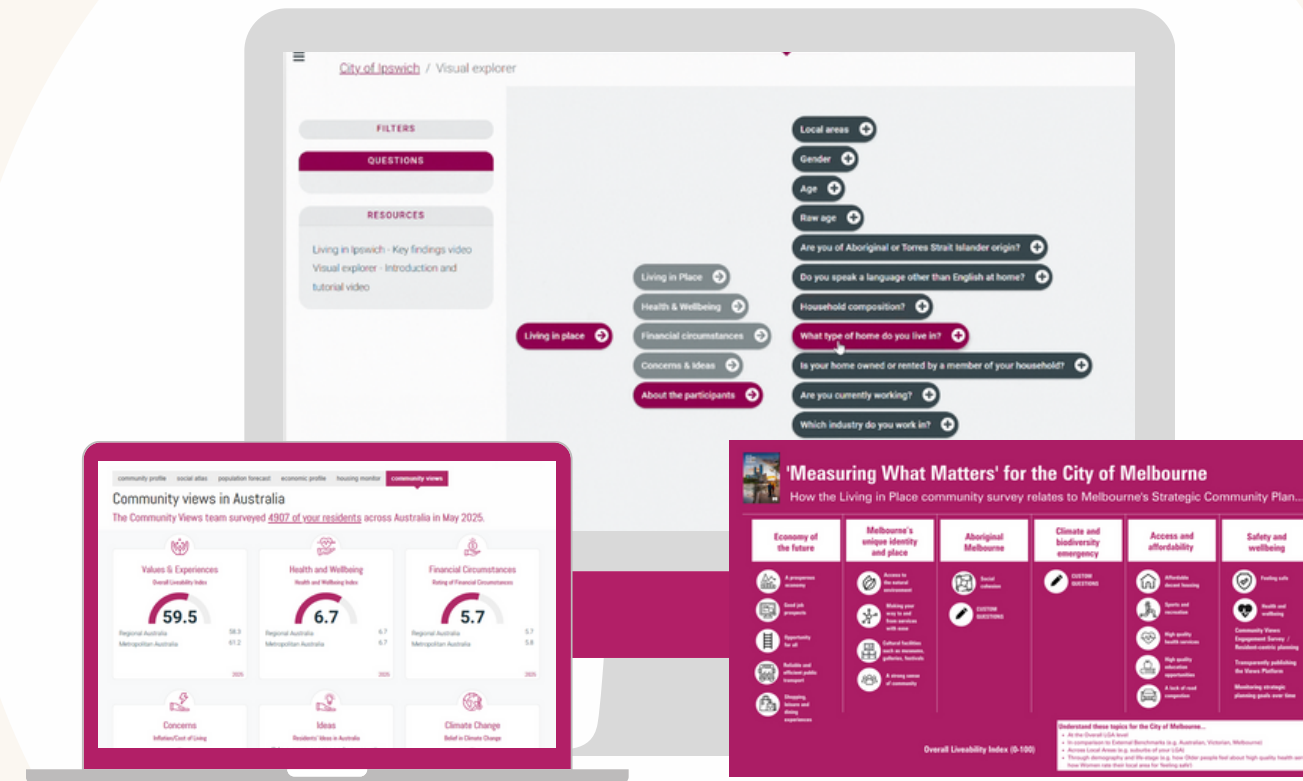
Resources



Further resources



views.id allows you to interact with the data, apply filters and run your own analysis. Unlimited users, public or private.



04

Appendix

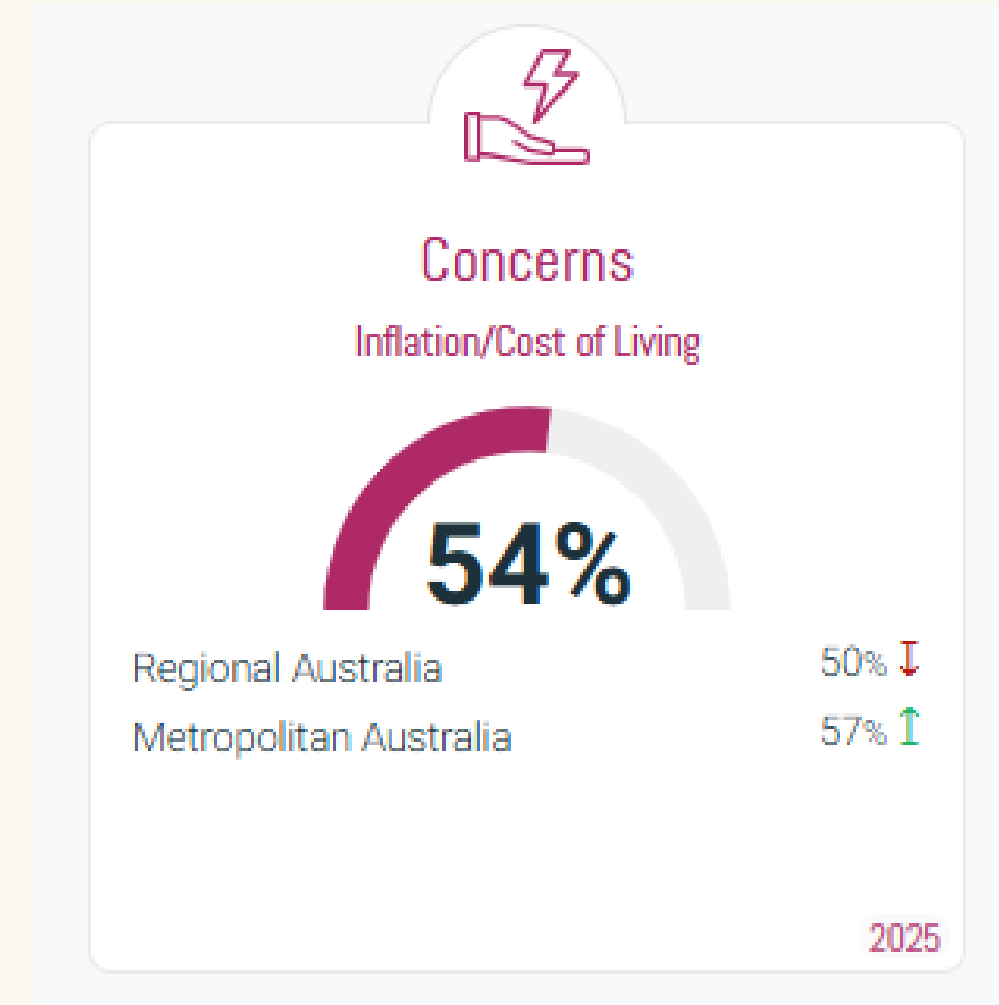


Significance Testing

To understand whether differences in survey results between two cohorts (e.g. 18-34 year olds versus others) or compared to benchmarks (e.g. Gold Coast versus Queensland) are meaningful, statistical tests have been conducted to determine 'significance'. This is illustrated on the Views platform using up (green) and down (red) arrows.

This allows us to judge whether two observed results are statistically different, that is, these differences are likely to be observed for the population as a whole, not just within our sample. If they are not deemed 'significant', they fall within the margin of error and represent a difference that could be attributed to chance alone. Significance testing is conducted at the $p < 0.05$ level.

It is important to remember that statistical significance doesn't necessarily mean that the difference is important or meaningful in real life. It just means that there's a very good chance that the difference isn't just due to random chance. Please use your judgment and knowledge of the subject matter and place to decide if the difference is really that important, or not.

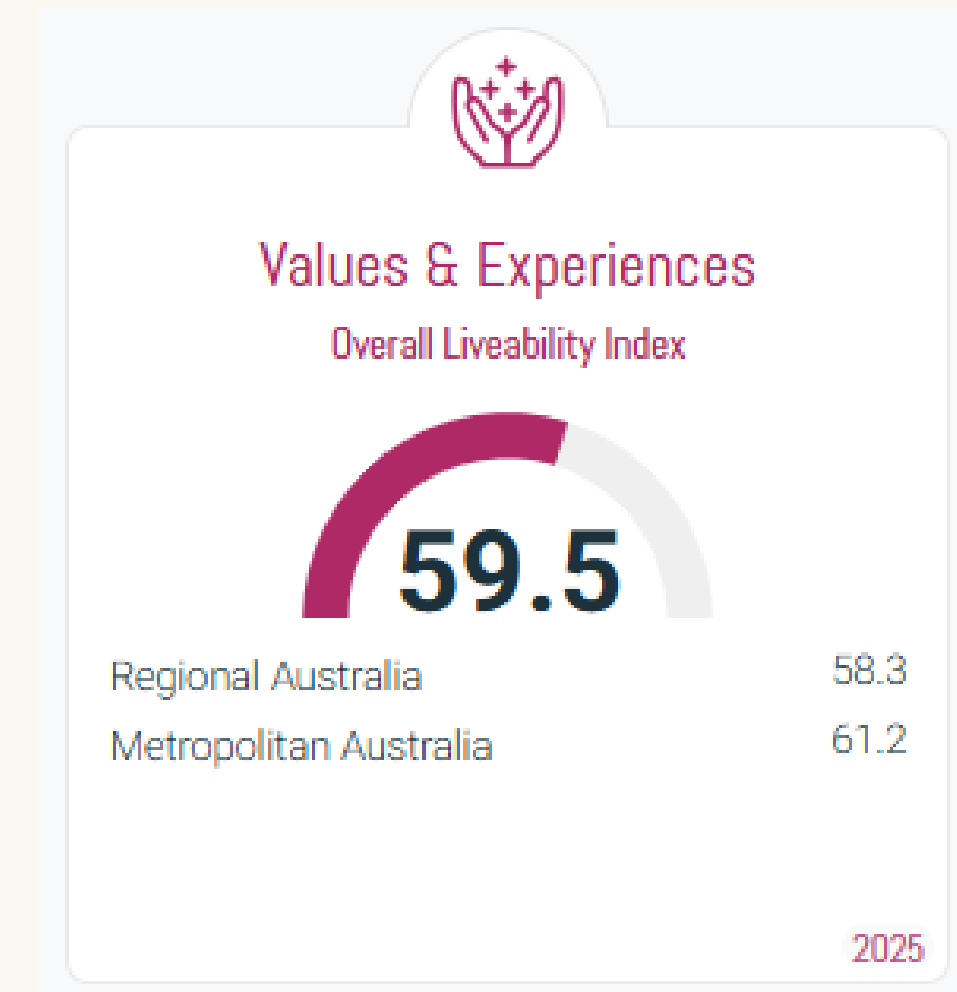


Overall Liveability Index Calculation

The Overall Liveability Index (OLI) is a product of two measures:

- The values residents place on each of the 16 attributes of liveability (% of respondents that nominated each in their top five)
- The local area experiences of residents for each of the 16 attributes (mean score based on ratings from 0-10)

For each attribute, the values % is multiplied by the average experience score, and the total sum is multiplied by two to get a score out of 100 for each local area.



Local area insights

Coastal Hinterlands North: Adelaide Park, Bangalee, Bungundarra, Farnborough, Inverness, Barmaryee, Woodbury, Byfield, and Cobraball.

Coastal Hinterlands South: Bondoola, Tanby, Ironpot, Cawarral, Nankin, Hidden Valley, Keppel Sands, Nerimbera, Tungamull, Coorooman, Coowonga, and Mount Chalmers.

Cooee Bay, Taranganba and Lammermoor: Lammermoor, Taranganba, and Cooee Bay.

Rosslyn to Kinka Beach & Emu Park & Zilzie: Taroomball, Zilzie, Emu Park, Rosslyn, Mulambin, Kinka Beach, and Causeway Lake.

Rural North West & Rockyview - Glenlee - Glendale: Rockyview, The Caves, Glenlee, Marlborough, Glendale, Etna Creek, Milman, Barmoya, Canoona, and Stanage.

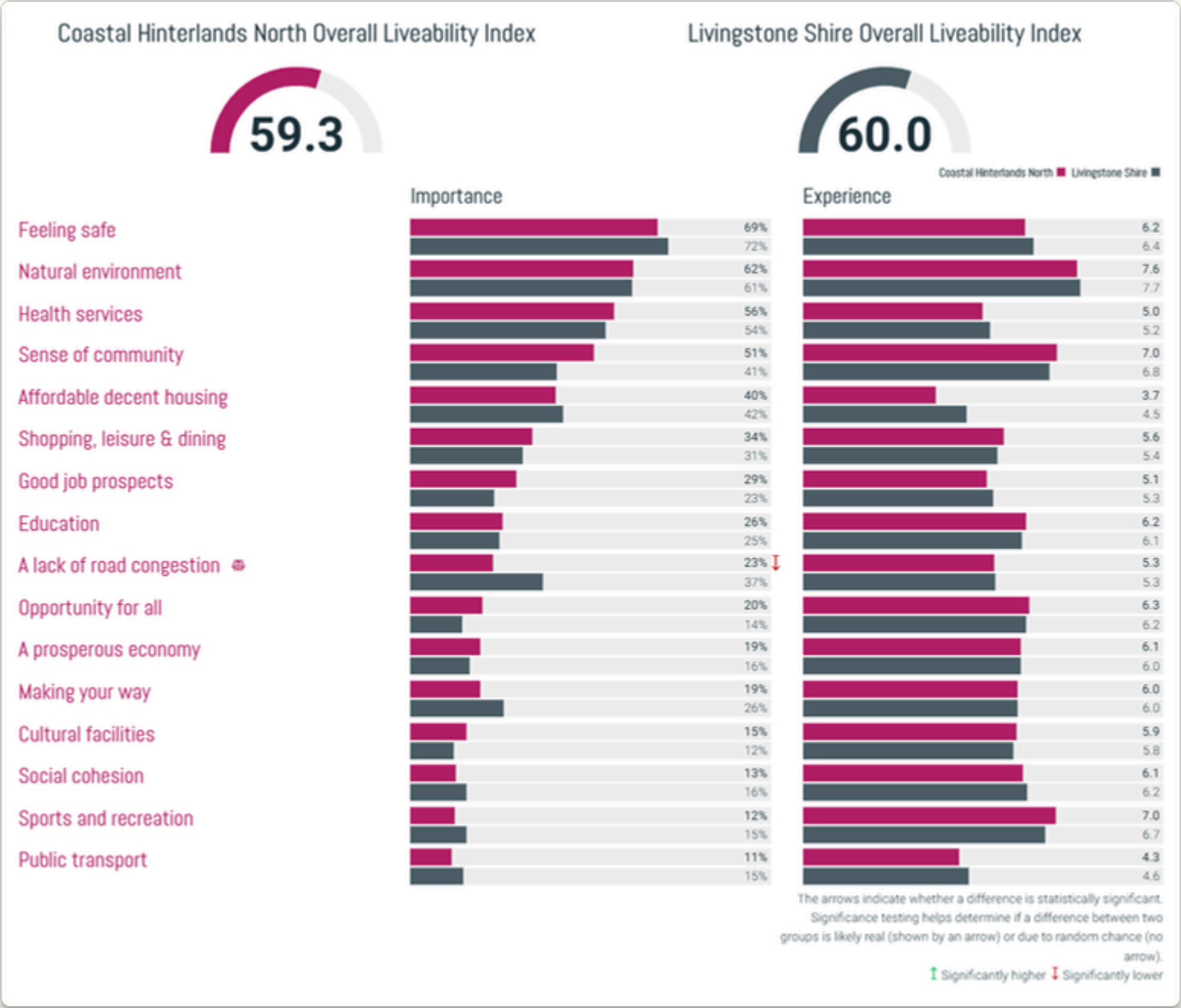
Yeppoon And Northern Yeppoon: Yeppoon, Meikleville Hill, Barlows Hill, and Pacific Heights.



Coastal Hinterlands North

Coastal Hinterlands North is made up of Adelaide Park, Bangalee, Bungundarra, Farnborough, Inverness, Barmaryee, Woodbury, Byfield, and Cobraball.

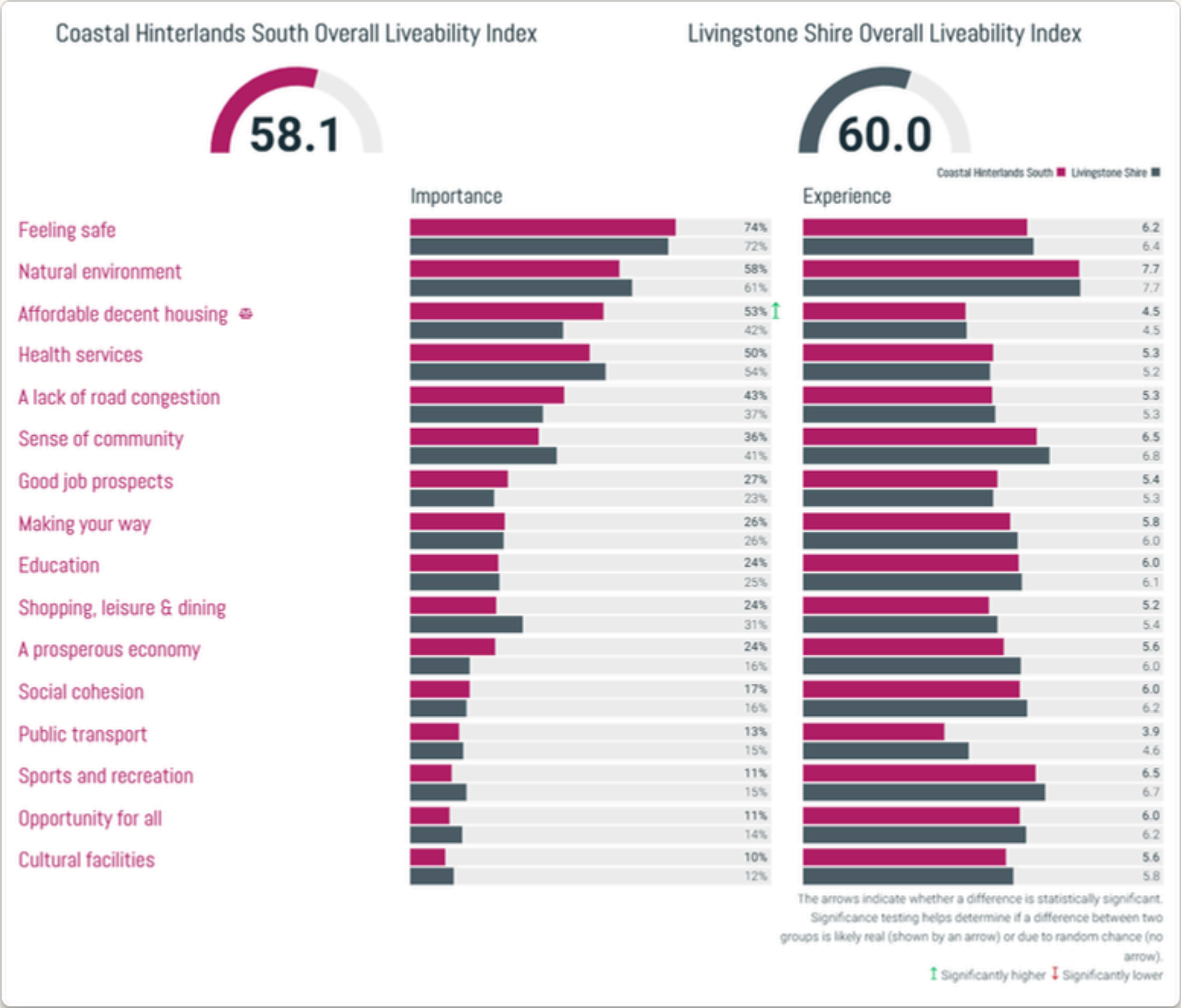
A total of 86 residents from this local area completed the survey, with a margin of error of +/-11%.



Coastal Hinterlands South

Coastal Hinterlands South is made up of Bondoola, Tanby, Ironpot, Cawarral, Nankin, Hidden Valley, Keppel Sands, Nerimbera, Tungamull, Coorooman, Coowonga, and Mount Chalmers.

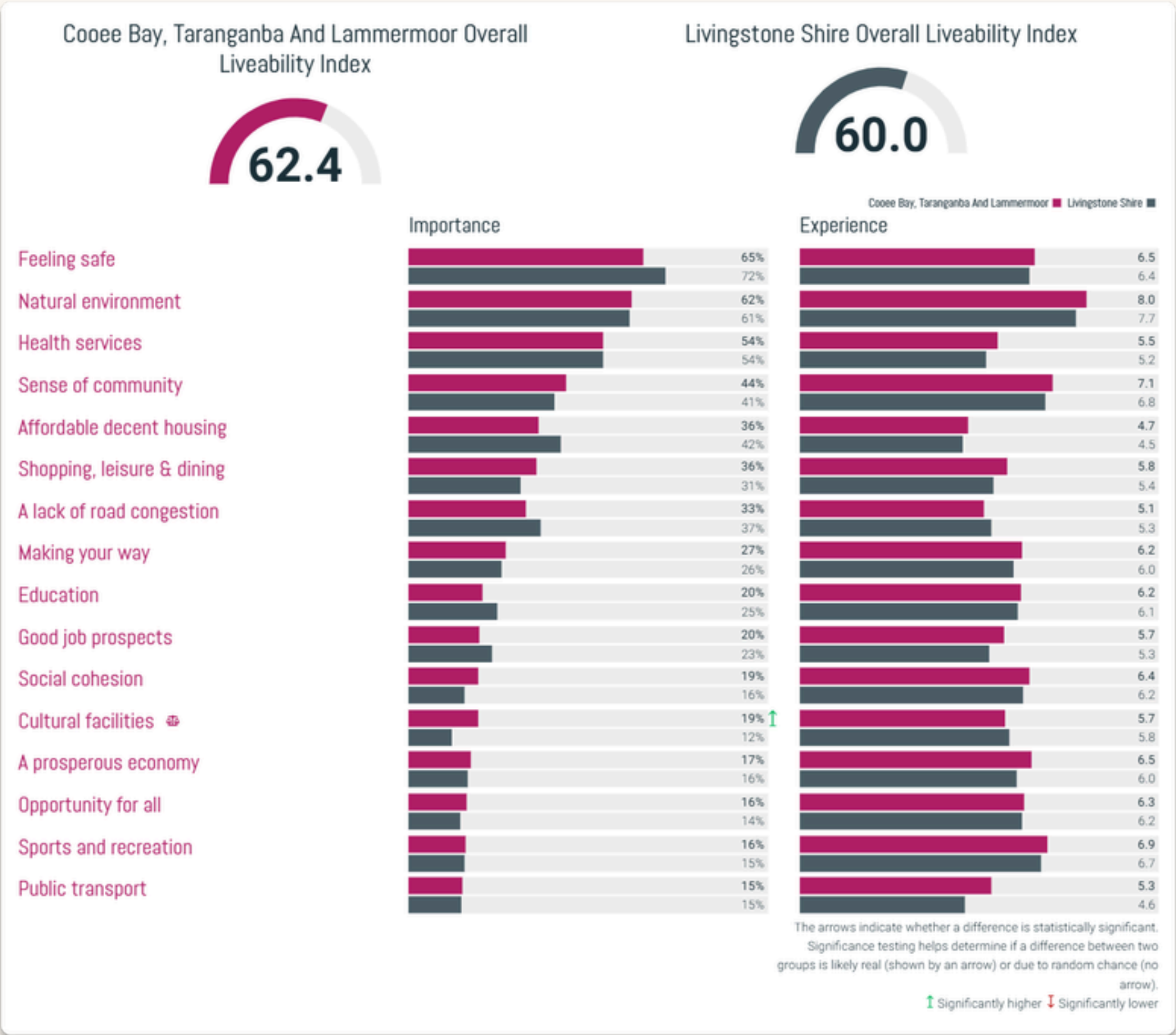
A total of 90 residents from this local area completed the survey, with a margin of error of +/-10%.



Cooee Bay, Taranganba And Lammermoor

Cooee Bay, Taranganba And Lammermoor is made up of Lammermoor, Taranganba, and Cooee Bay.

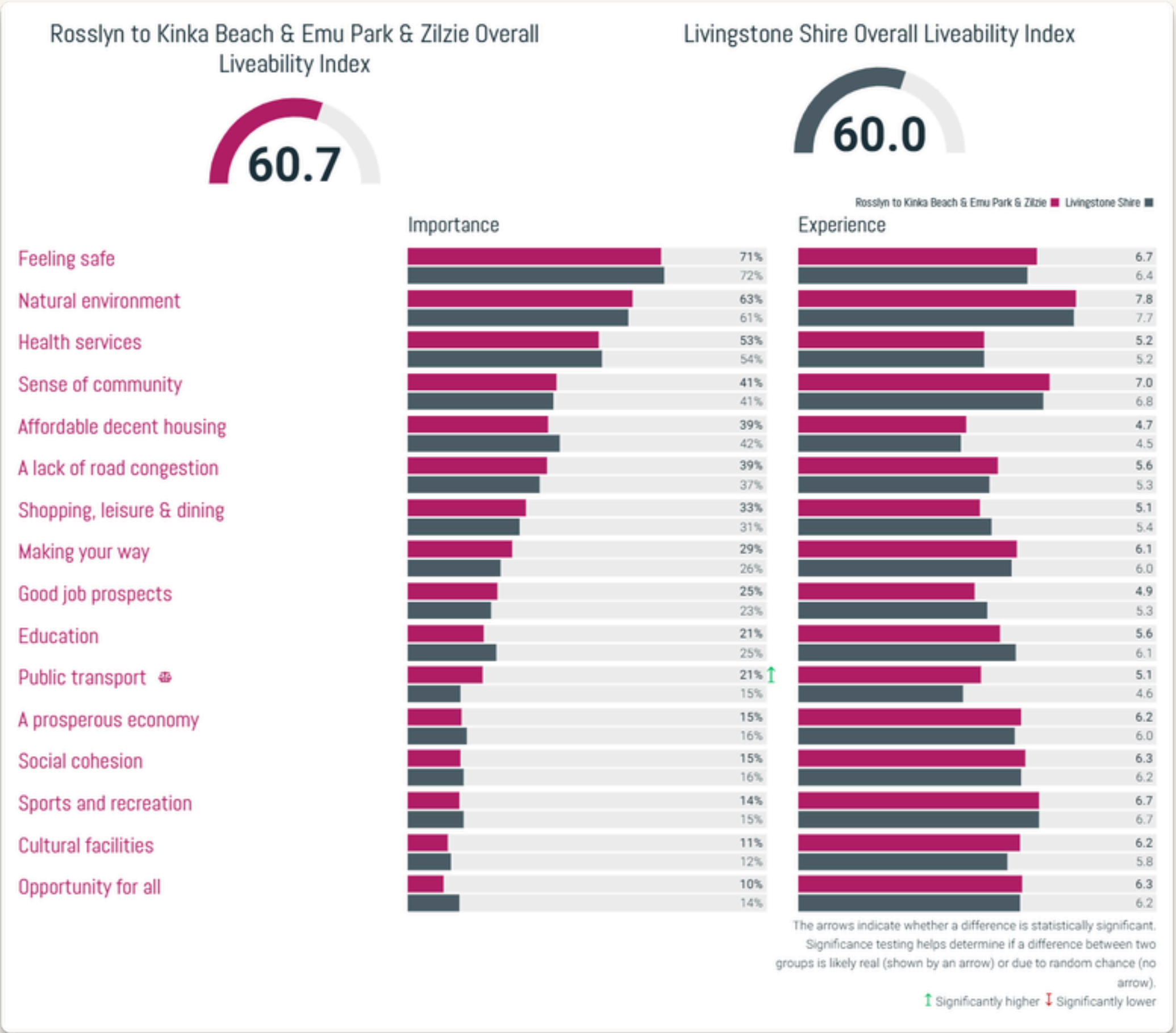
A total of 147 residents from this local area completed the survey, with a margin of error of +/-8%.



Rosslyn to Kinka Beach & Emu Park & Zilzie

Rosslyn to Kinka Beach & Emu Park & Zilzie is made up of Taroomball, Zilzie, Emu Park, Rosslyn, Mulambin, Kinka Beach, and Causeway Lake.

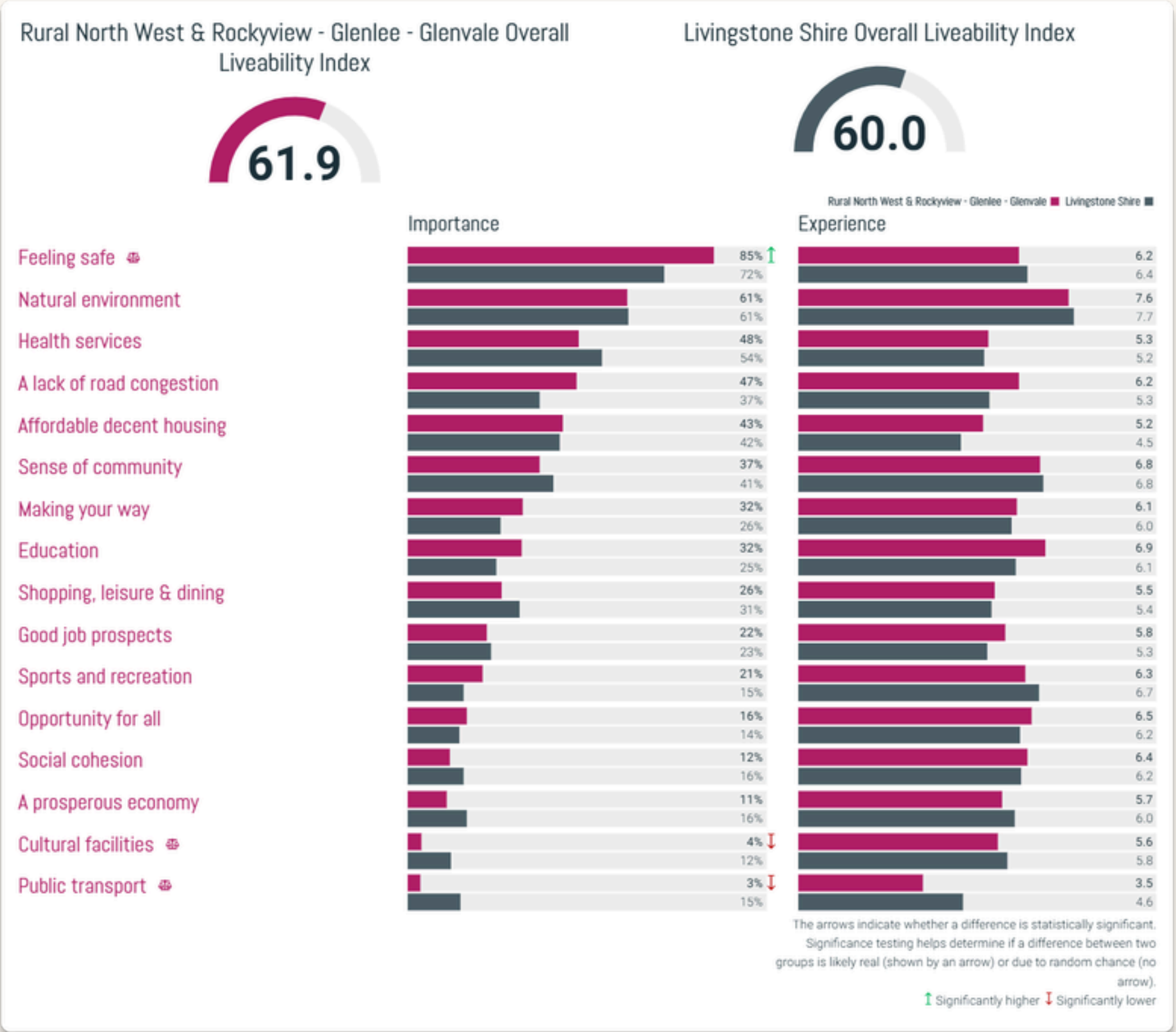
A total of 245 residents from this local area completed the survey, with a margin of error of +/-6%.



Rural North West & Rockyview - Glenlee - Glendale

Rural North West & Rockyview - Glenlee - Glendale is made up of Rockyview, The Caves, Glenlee, Marlborough, Glendale, Etna Creek, Milman, Barmoya, Canoona, and Stanage.

A total of 76 residents from this local area completed the survey, with a margin of error of +/-11%.



Yeppoon And Northern Yeppoon

Yeppoon And Northern Yeppoon is made up of Yeppoon, Meikleville Hill, Barlows Hill, and Pacific Heights.

A total of 164 residents from this local area completed the survey, with a margin of error of +/-8%.

