



# Goal 3: Inclusion & Equity, Not Isolation

## OC Items Related to CA Strategies

### CA Strategy

#### Opportunities to Volunteer & Engage Across Generations

Opportunities for connecting older adults to other people of all ages is important as older adults can greatly contribute to society. Community ratings were gathered to assess participant perspectives on opportunities for community involvement. Responses for good and excellent ratings ranged from 41% to 88% depending on city of residence, as shown in the map on the top right.

Public places where people want to spend time was also rated. "Good" and "excellent" ratings by city ranged from 20% to 82% and shown in the map on the bottom right.

The survey also asked participants whether they had participated in various activities in the past 12 months, and two items were related to this strategy. Most participants (86%) reported having "talked or visited with friends or family" and 32% reported having "participated in volunteer activities."

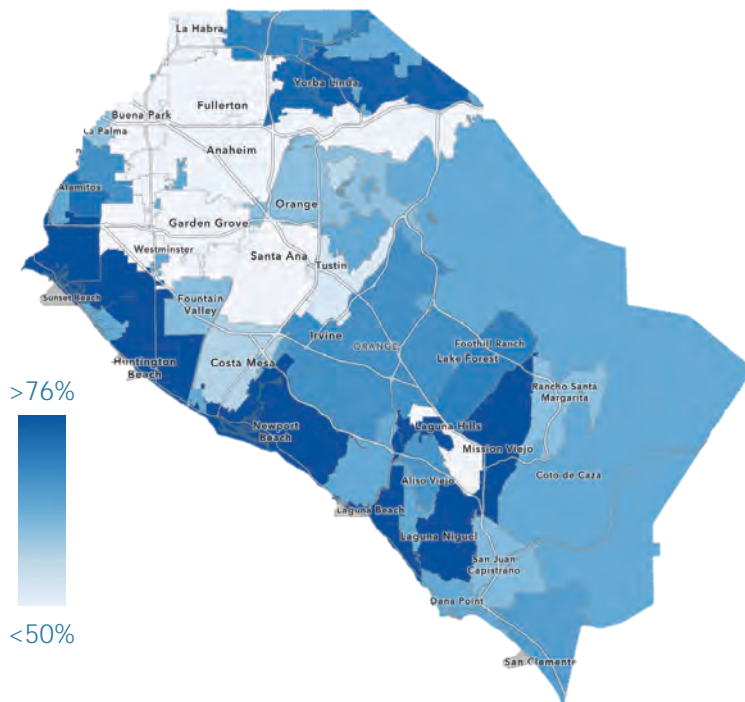
In addition, 31% selected "socialization groups" as among their top three most important services for older adults from a list of nine choices.

### CA Strategy

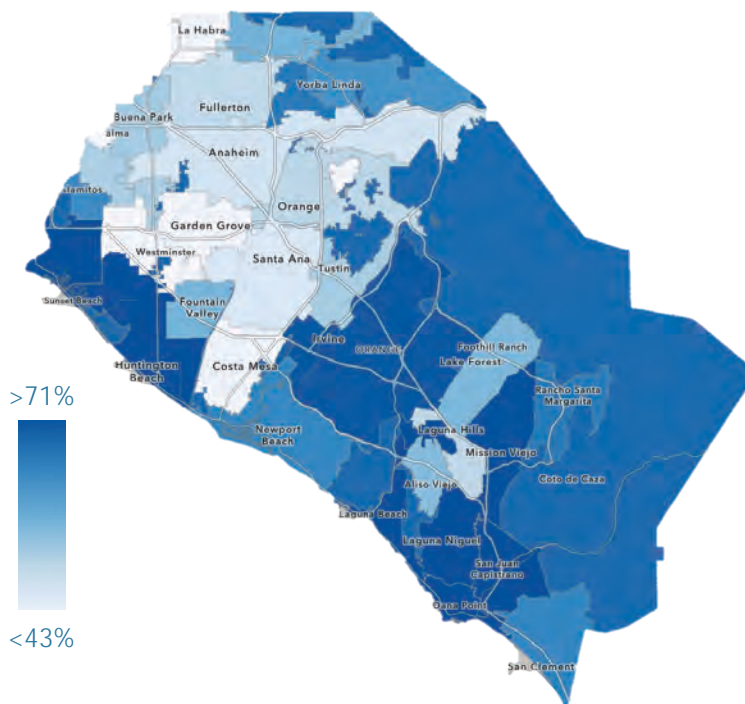
#### Leadership in Aging

Leadership roles and opportunities are important to provide as individuals age. With regard to this strategy, 35.3% indicated that they had participated in a civic activity (e.g., attended city council meetings, voted, offered a public comment) within the past 12 months.

#### Opportunity for Community Involvement



#### Public Places where People want to Spend Time



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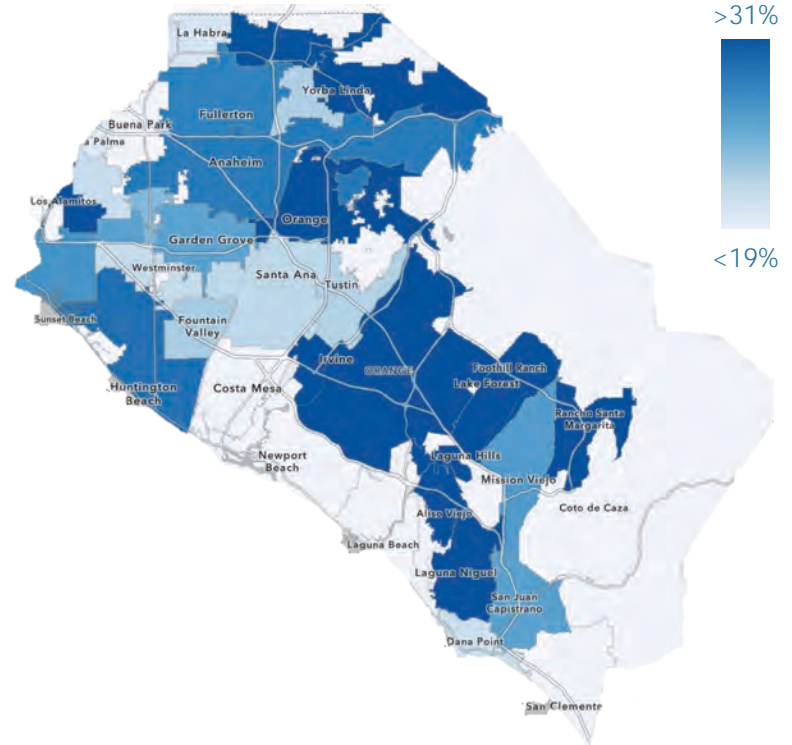
#### Opportunities to Work

As work opportunities become more flexible with virtual options and as efforts continue to prevent work discrimination based on age and disability, there may be more employment options available for older adults. Participants rated the quality and variety of employment opportunities in their communities and ratings of “good” and “excellent” ranged from 12% to 36% depending on city of residence, as shown in the map to the right.

Participants’ use of unemployment insurance (2.7%) or senior employment or training programs (1.3%) within the past 12 months were infrequently selected.

When asked to identify the top three most important services for older adults from a list of options, participants selected “employment/training programs” the least often. In addition, 8.5% of those experiencing a medical issue and 7.7% of those experiencing a behavioral health issue reported that unemployment or lack of job opportunities contributed to their issues.

#### Quality & Variety of Employment Opportunities





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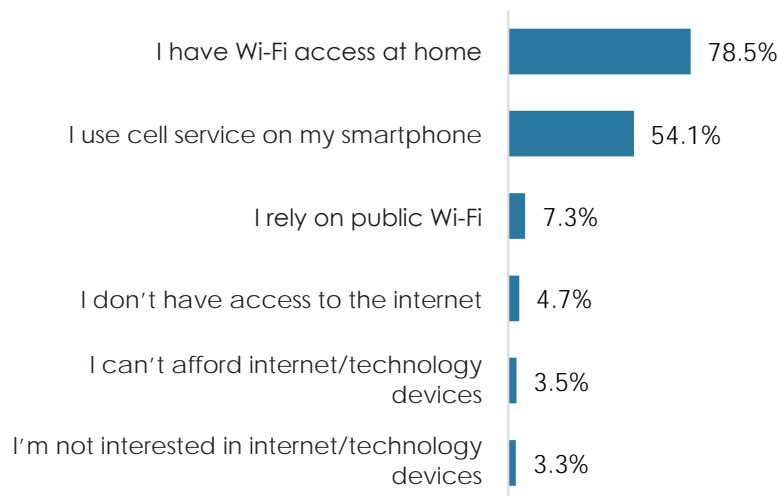
#### Bridging the Digital Divide

As information becomes more accessible through technology, the need to be digitally connected becomes more relevant for people of all ages. Fortunately, Executive Order N-73-20 helps make affordable and reliable internet available throughout CA. In relation to the 31 items of concern on the Orange County Community Survey, 4.4% of participants selected “not being able to use technology” as one of their top three concerns.

The survey also asked how participants accessed the internet (see graph to the right) and most had home Wi-Fi access and/or used the cell service on their smartphone. Lack of interest in internet or technology devices increased with age, with those 80 years old or older reporting the highest rate of no interest (9% versus 3.3% overall).

From the list of items about what prevented participants from seeking services, 10.5% selected “digital divide (lack of access to or familiarity with technology).” The extent to which the digital divide contributed to the participant’s health and behavioral health issues is included on the table on the right.

#### Access to the Internet\*



\*Participants were able to select more than one response.

### CA Strategy

#### Protection from Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

In the CA Master Plan for Aging, this strategy focuses on prevention of abuse and neglect. On the Orange County Community Survey, items related to this strategy were not selected frequently as being among their top three concerns (2.4%). The extent to which abuse or neglect contributed to the participant’s health and behavioral health issues is included on the table on the right.

Medical	Contributor	Behavioral Health
-	Media use <i>(e.g., television, social media)</i>	8%
10%	Digital divide <i>(lack of access to/familiarity with technology)</i>	9%

Medical	Contributor	Behavioral Health
7%	Elder Abuse <i>(e.g., television, social media)</i>	-
-	Bullying	4%
-	Abusive Relationships/ Domestic Violence	5%