Community Confidence Survey McPherson County, State of Kansas

July 2023

Innovation Economy Partners
OUR FOCUS: IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

Why we conducted this effort.

To help understand the following:

- How is our community unique? What are our strengths and our most pressing challenges?
- How can we create consensus on local priorities?
- How can we rally our local focus on our most pressing needs and then mobilize actions?
- How can we better collaborate across the County!

City	Number of Responses
Canton	19
Galva	21
Inman	53
Lindsborg	119
Marquette	27
McPherson	312
Moundridge	80
Roxbury	2
Windom	27
Grand Total	**660**

THE EQUATION THAT DRIVES COMMUNAL PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

1 Collaborative Leadership + 2 Committed Citizenship + 3 Community Vision & Action = Economic & Community Sustainability

Page 1 | Introduction

Reflections & Questions:
- What are the major themes in the community?
- What makes our community unique?
- Who are our most notable local leaders?

Also:
- (1) Why do we ask the local-residents to share name of who they perceive as local leaders?
- (2) What % of people in a community need to get engaged to make a lasting change?

Why we love our community.

Homey and easy to live in. – McPherson

Small town, great schools, welcoming culture – Inman

Inman offers a lot of amenities many small towns of similar size can't offer – Inman

Canton is a small community which means people are willing to help each other out. – Canton

How nice everyone is, helpful, willing to go the extra mile, and ultra support for the school – Windom

Swedish cultural identity, healthy downtown, quality schools, college connection, hospital – Lindsborg

Live in McPherson & work in Galva. As a whole, the communities are highly supportive of each other and taking care of one another. – McPherson

Having attended HS, taught, coached & established a business in Moundridge, I have felt very much supported by the community. – Moundridge

A good place to live. Community Pride. Vibrant Business District. Plenty of community activities. – Marquette

Smaller community is always quiet and feels safer while being close enough to different cities – Canton

It's where I grew up and I take pride in knowing we are a growing and thriving community. – Galva

When there are community activities, many people get involved – Canton

Lindsborg works together to help each other. – Lindsborg

Moundridge has Community Pride. – Moundridge

Sense of family. – Galva

Our Local Leaders

| City	Number of people that would like to help and provided their contact information:
Canton	5
Galva	3
Inman	14
Lindsborg	24
Marquette	5
McPherson	89
Moundridge	23
Windom	9
Grand Total	172

Speed Networking – connect with others

Introduce yourself

- Name
- What community you're from
- What role(s) you play in your community

What are you excited about in your community right now?
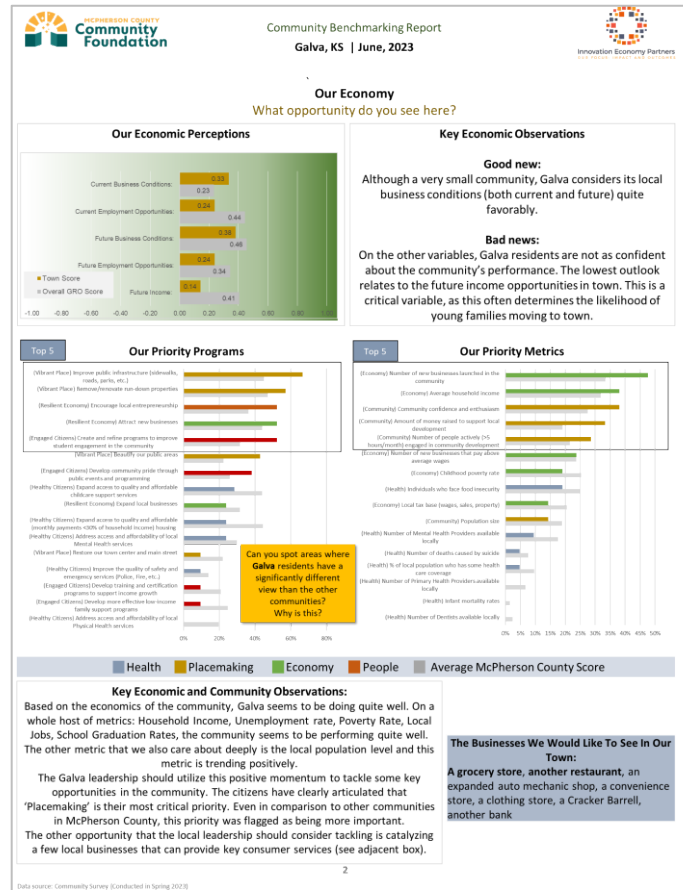
Reflections & Questions:
- How do our residents perceive local economic confidence?
- What priorities and metrics do our residents want us to focus on?
- What type of businesses do our residents want in our community?
- How can you use the insights on local priorities to mobilize actions?

McPherson County Prioritized Metrics

Reflections & Questions:
- Which community is perceived as having the highest current employment opportunities?
- Which community is perceived as having the most consistent positive outlook across all the dimensions?
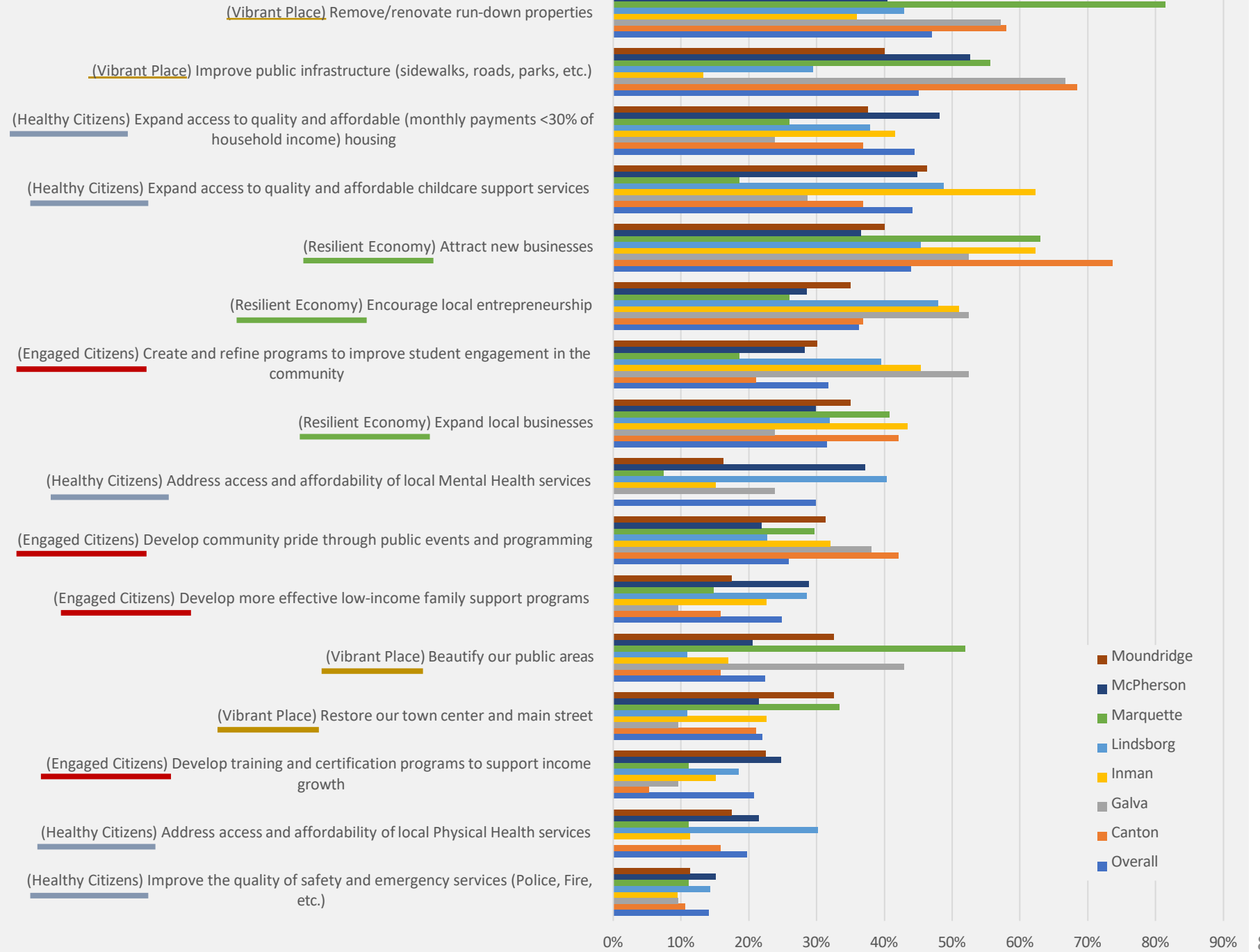- How can you use this information to catalyze local economic development?
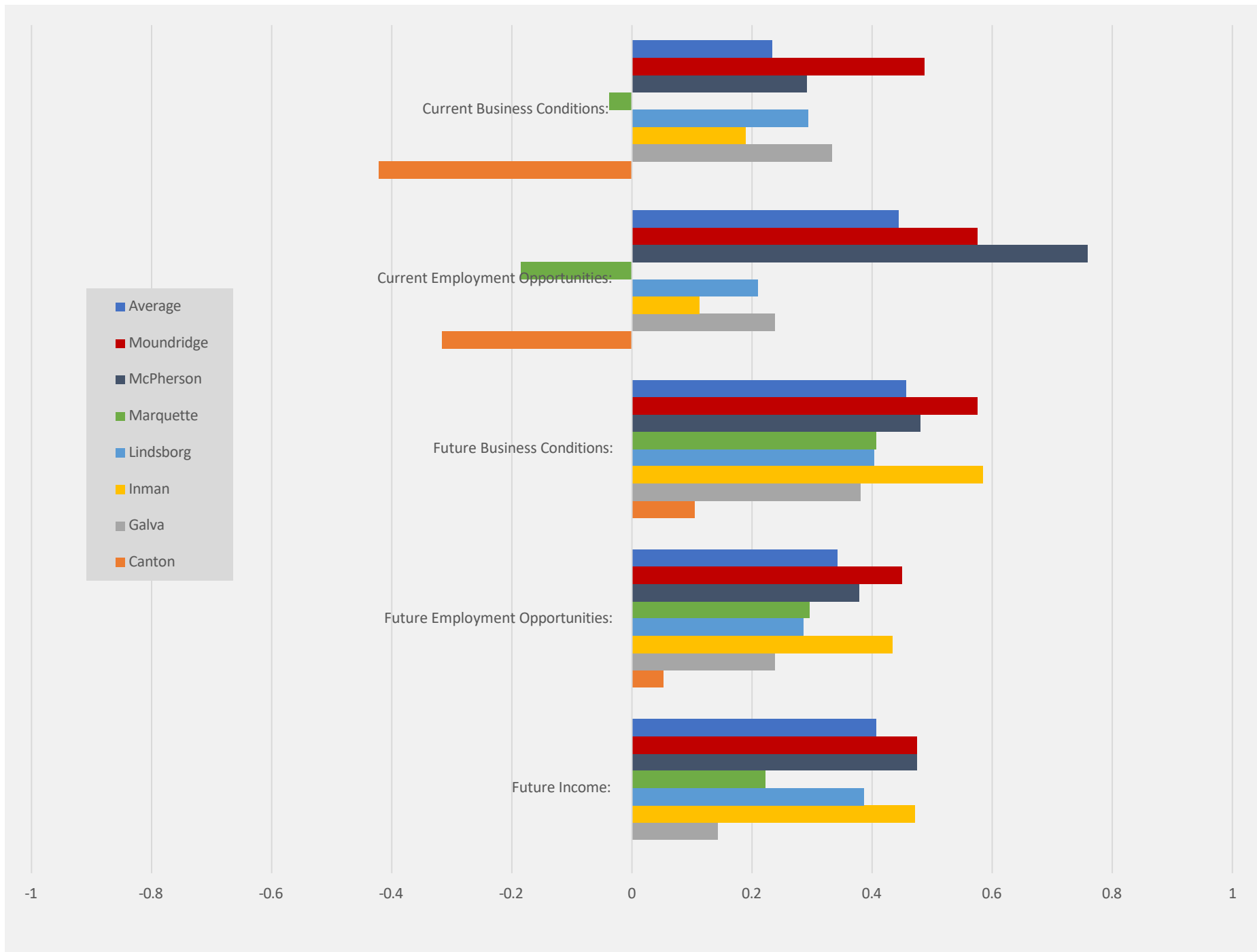
McPherson County Priorities

Audience Questions:
- What are the most important priorities for the residents of your community?
- In what aspects is your community unique?
- What are the potential strengths of your community?
- How can you use this information to create alignment across local leadership and activate initiatives?


Chart legend: Moundridge, McPherson, Marquette, Lindsborg, Inman, Galva, Canton, Overall

Categories:
- (Vibrant Place) Remove/renovate run-down properties
- (Vibrant Place) Improve public infrastructure (sidewalks, roads, parks, etc.)
- (Healthy Citizens) Expand access to quality and affordable (monthly payments <30% of household income) housing
- (Healthy Citizens) Expand access to quality and affordable childcare support services
- (Resilient Economy) Attract new businesses
- (Resilient Economy) Encourage local entrepreneurship
- (Engaged Citizens) Create and refine programs to improve student engagement in the community
- (Resilient Economy) Expand local businesses
- (Healthy Citizens) Address access and affordability of local Mental Health services
- (Engaged Citizens) Develop community pride through public events and programming
- (Engaged Citizens) Develop more effective low-income family support programs
- (Vibrant Place) Beautify our public areas
- (Vibrant Place) Restore our town center and main street
- (Engaged Citizens) Develop training and certification programs to support income growth
- (Healthy Citizens) Address access and affordability of local Physical Health services
- (Healthy Citizens) Improve the quality of safety and emergency services (Police, Fire, etc.)

McPherson County Prioritized Metrics

Reflections & Questions:
- What are the unique areas where your community wants prioritize it metrics?
- Why do you think that this uniqueness lies in your community?
- What efforts are currently being taken to address this priority?
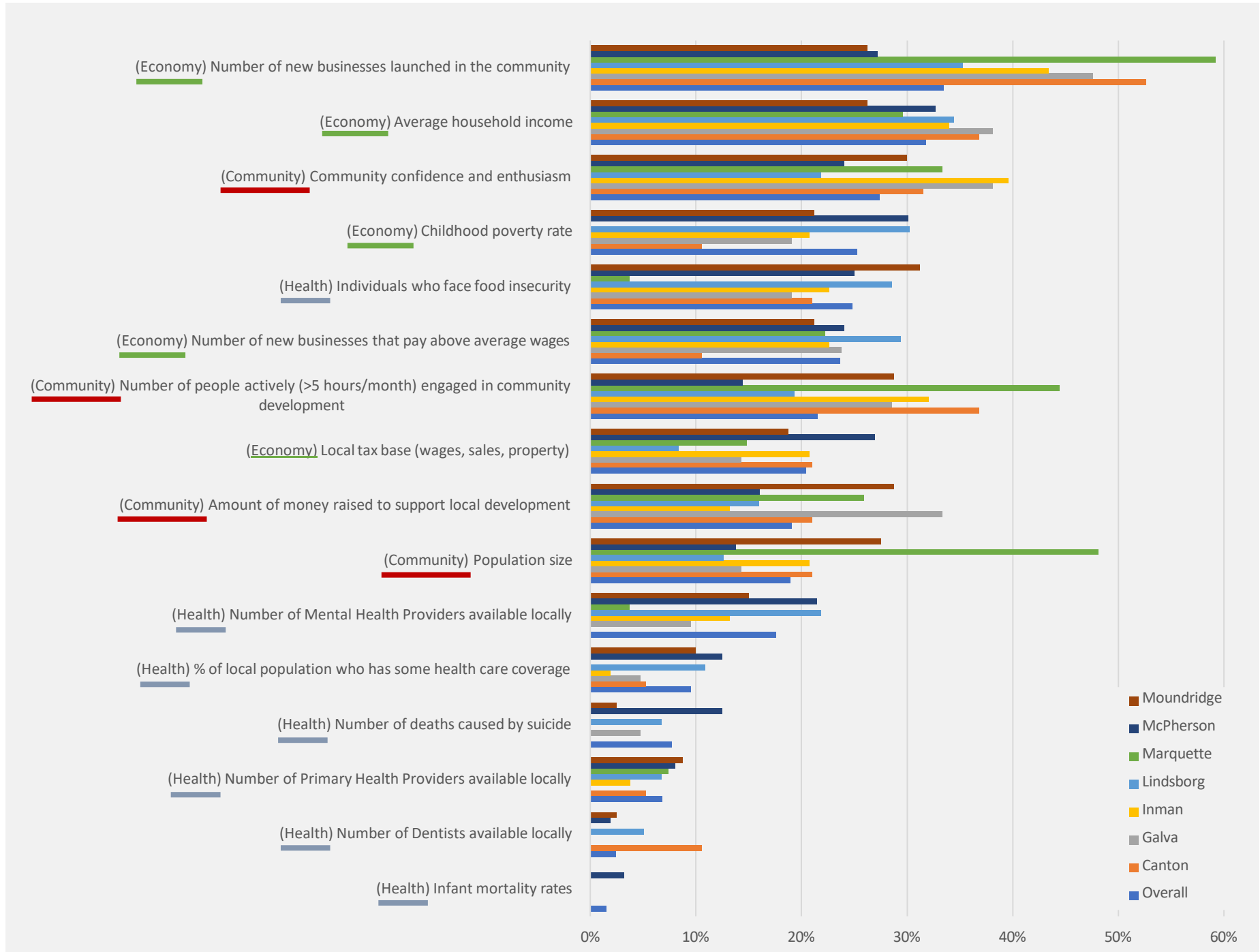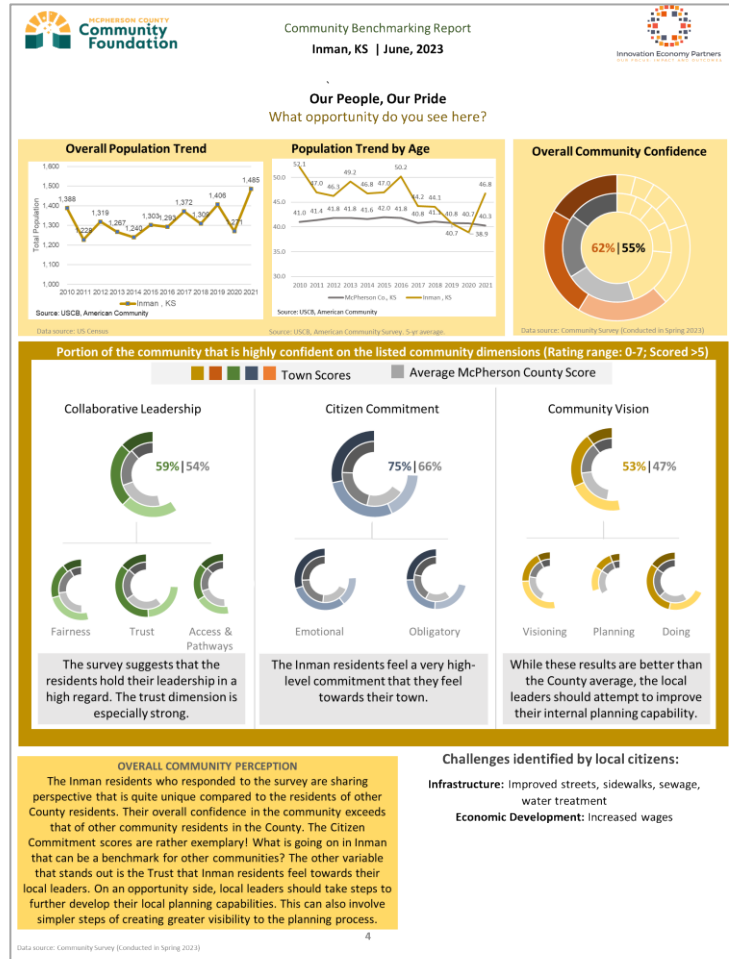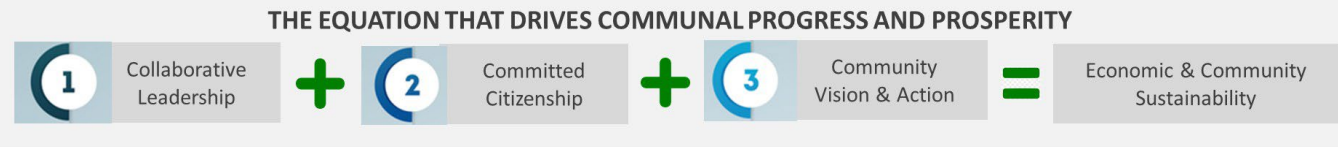
Page 3 | Economic Metrics
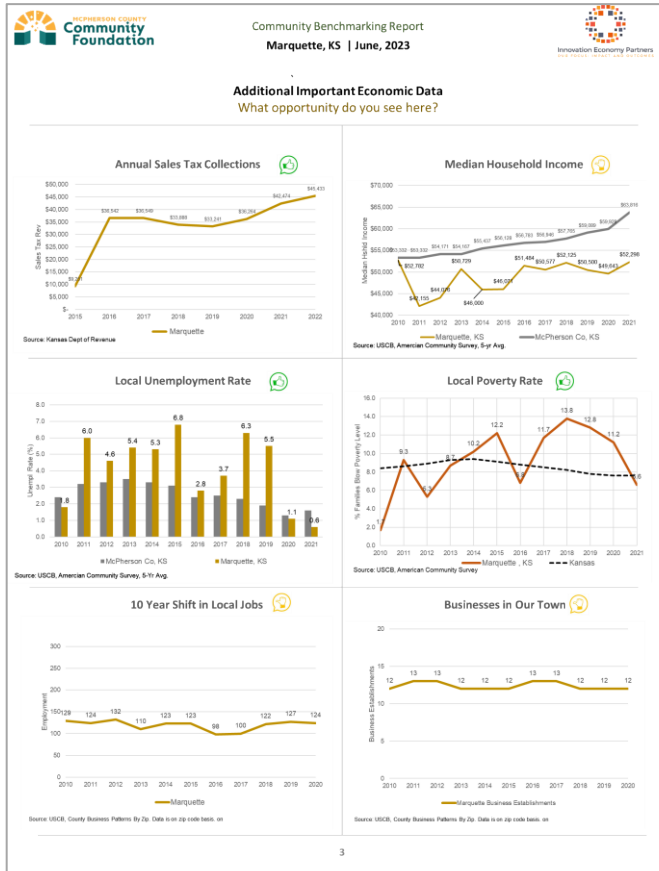
Reflections & Questions:
- How does the economic picture look in your community?
- What are some positive signs?
- What are some challenges?
- What is the most pressing need in the community, based just on the information on this page?
- Were there any eye-opening insights here?

Page 4 | Community Confidence

Reflections & Questions:
- What is the area where your community has the highest confidence? Where is the lowest confidence?
- What are the relative strengths and weaknesses of your community?
- Was there any information that surprised you? Do you agree or disagree with this information? Why?
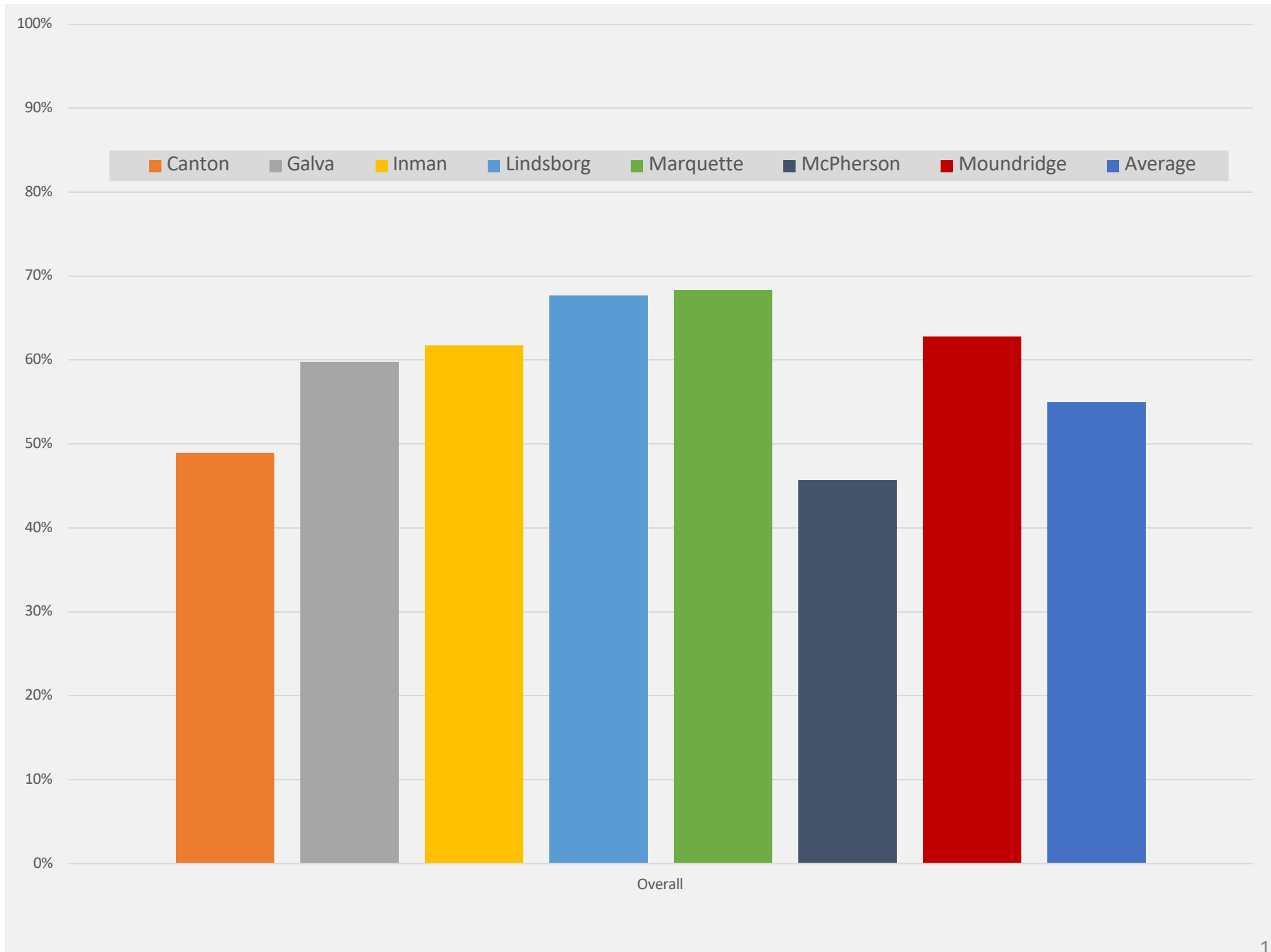
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Overall Community Confidence Ratings across the County

Overall Community Confidence Ratings across the County

Reflections & Questions:
- What are the unique strengths and challenges that you perceive in your community?
- What broad patterns exist across the county?
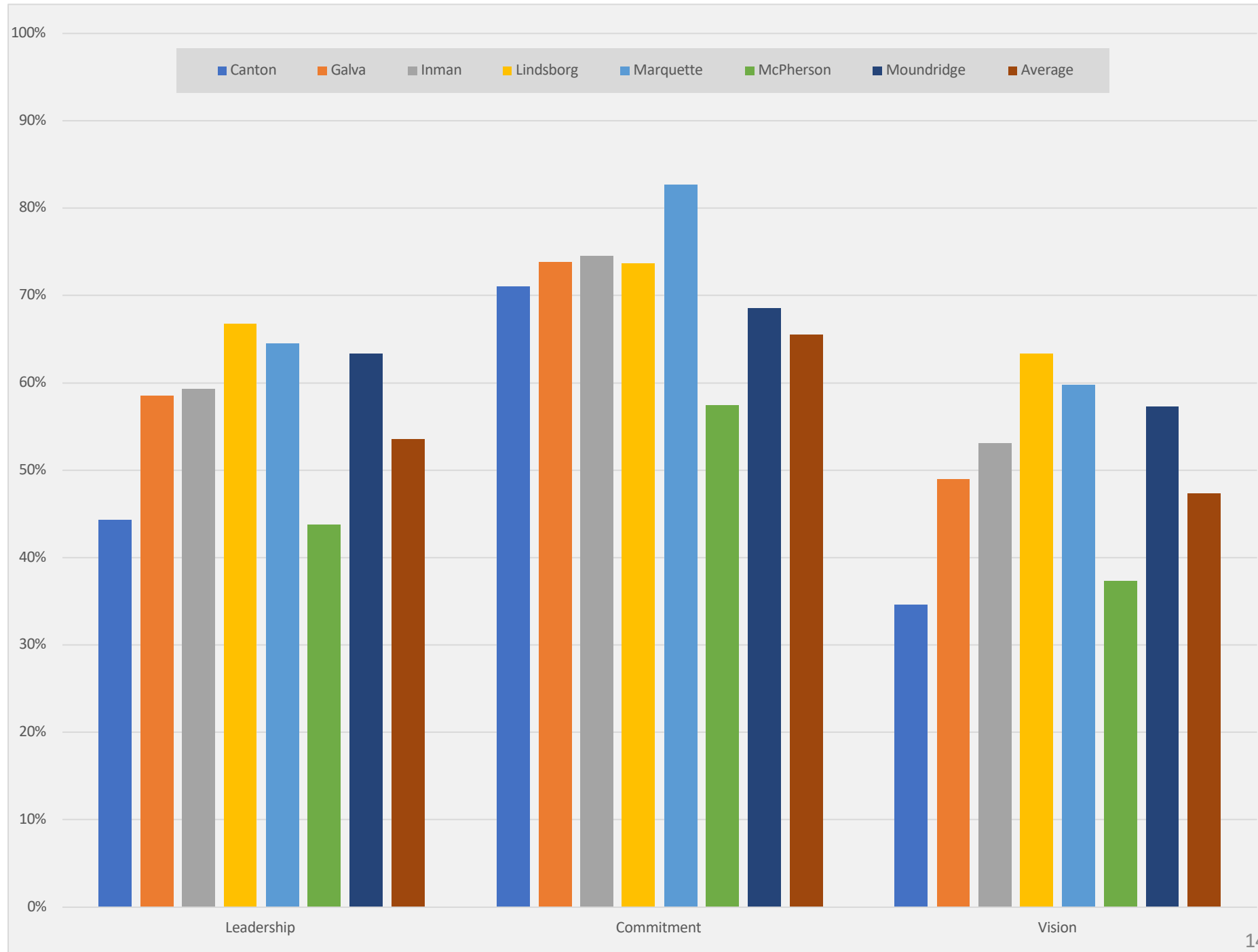
Overall Community Confidence Ratings across the County

Reflections & Questions:

- What are the unique strengths and challenges that you perceive in your community?
- What broad patterns exist across the county?
- What are some areas where communities across the county should be collaborating?
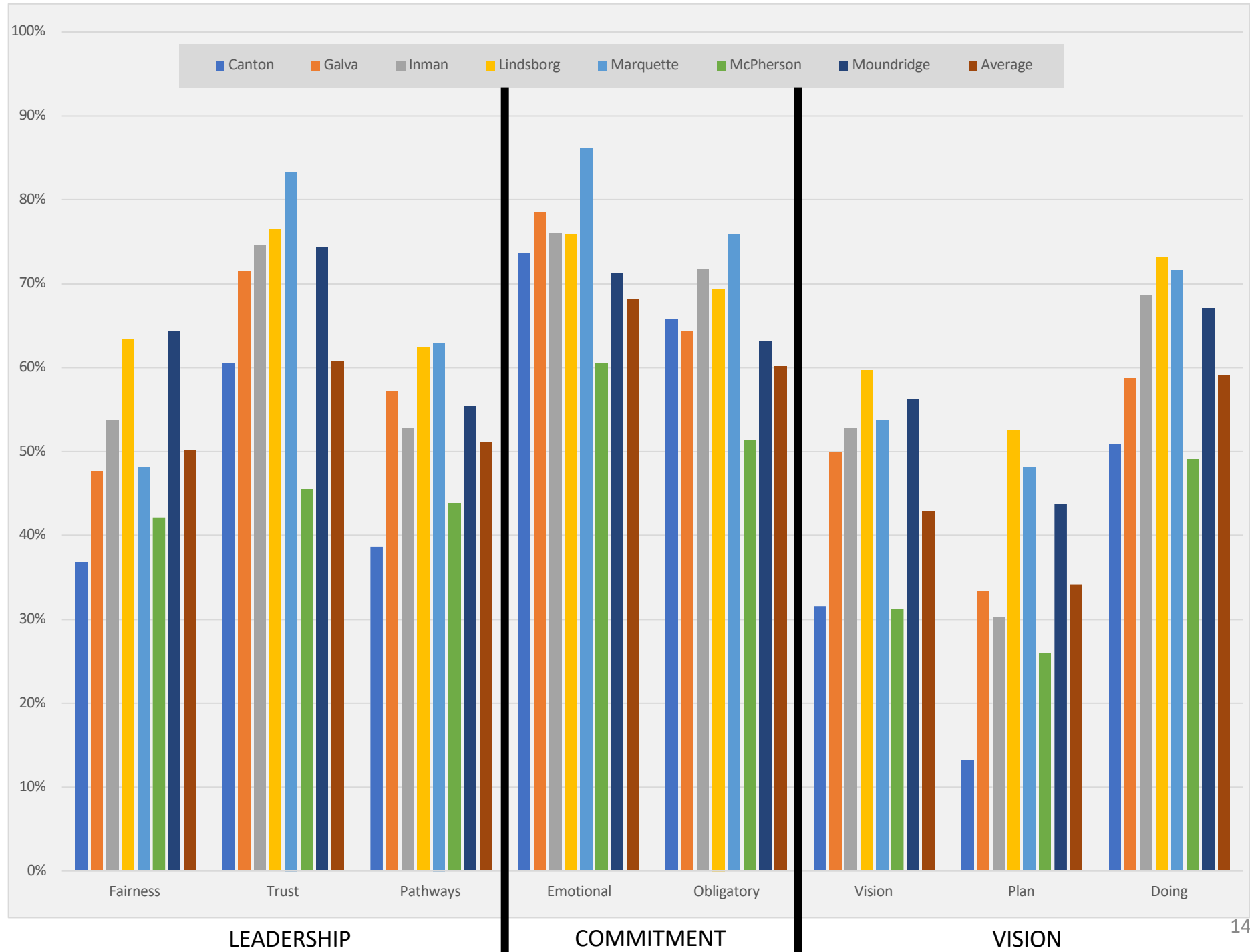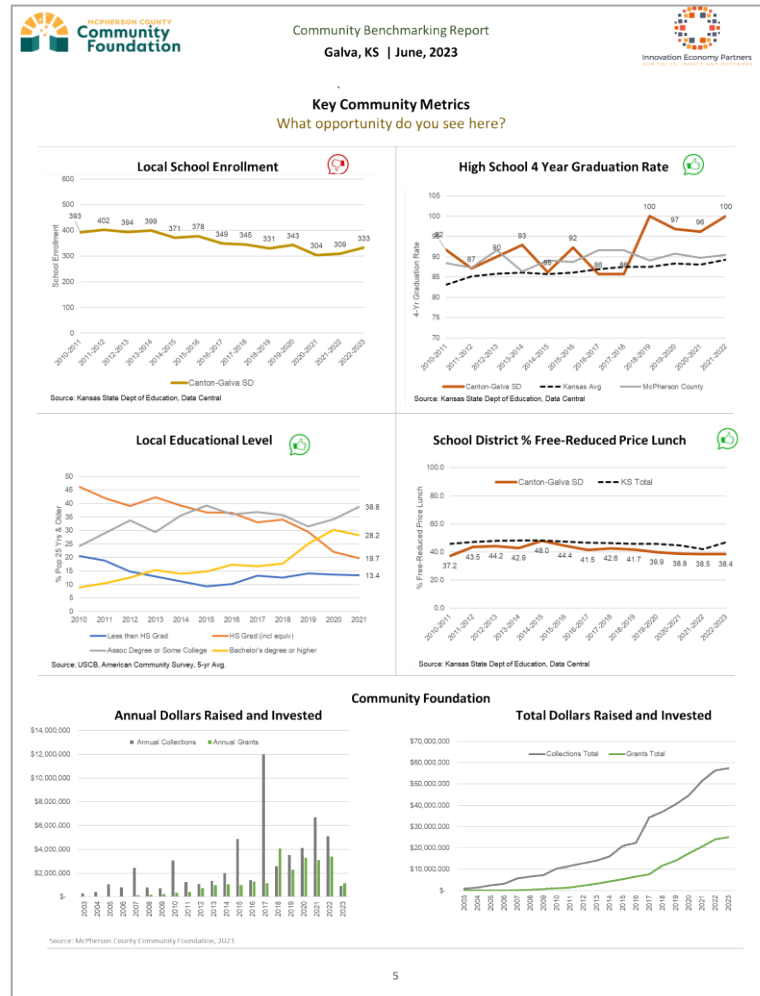
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- How does the community picture look in your community?
- What are some positive signs?
- What are some challenges?
- What is the most pressing need in the community, based just on the information on this page?
- Were there any eye-opening insights here?

Reflections & Questions:

- This information should help us better understand what patterns of thoughts exist in our community?
- What sub-group thinks what?
- Perhaps reflect on why we think these differences exist across the residents of our community.
- Armed with this insight, what is one additional step that can be taken?

Community Discussions

- What do you see as things to celebrate?

- Do you notice any names missing on the leadership list? Are you surprised by any that are listed?

- What do you notice about the priorities identified?

- How do those align with the priority metrics?

- What disconnects do you see?

- What do you see as the most critical 2-3 issues to address?

- What is currently happening related to solving these issues?

15-minute break

Speed Networking – Round 2

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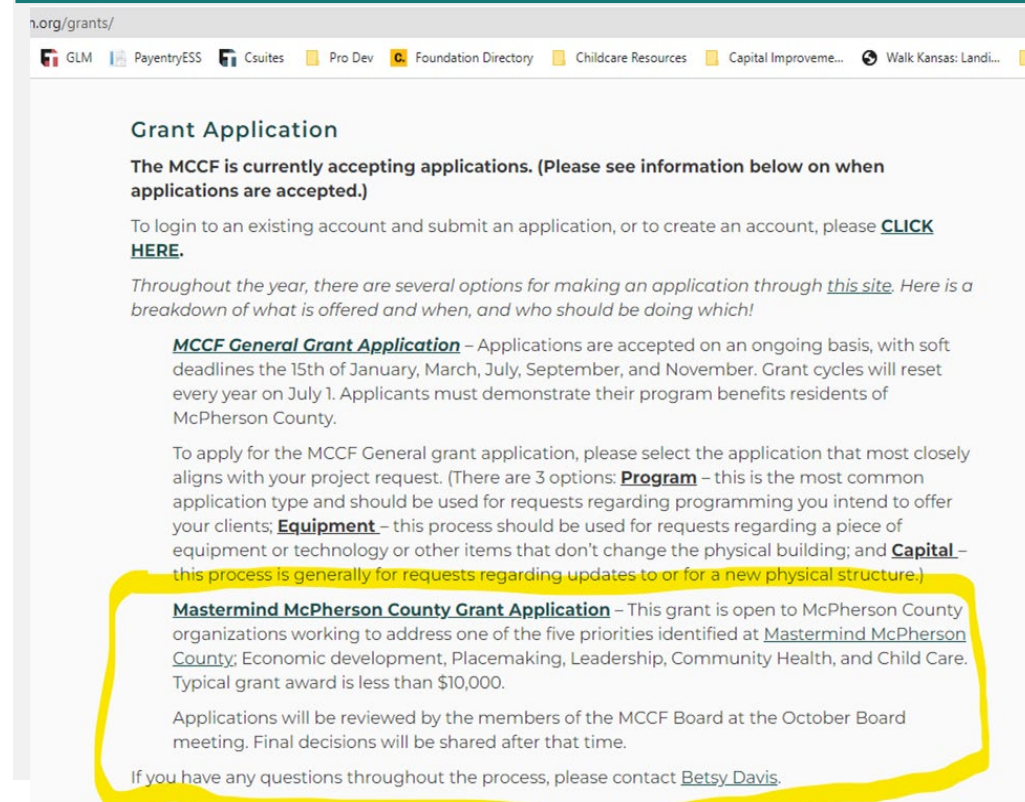
What do you hope to learn or make progress on today?

Mastermind Grant Opportunity

www.mcphersonfoundation.org

Hover over Applications, click grant application, scroll down for instructions

15-minute break

Breakout by County Priorities

Economic Development – e.g. new businesses, expanding existing businesses, entrepreneurship, workforce

Placemaking – e.g. housing, community restoration, streets, roads, sidewalks, parks, libraries, museums, schools

Leadership – e.g. connectedness, leadership development

Community Health – e.g. mental health, hospital, long-term care, lifestyle

Childcare – e.g. affordability, availability, workforce

Report Outs and Next Steps

Please complete your contact card with priorities.

Community Conversations per priority – watch for details with links in our weekly newsletter. Sessions will begin in late August.

Grant Application deadline – Friday, September 15

Award recipients announced – Thursday, October 12

Philanthropist of the Year Event – Tuesday, November 14

Benchmarking Survey # 2: March – April 2024

Thank You.

Knowledge is NOT power.
Knowledge is only POTENTIAL
power. Action is power.

Tony Robbins

What Will You Do?