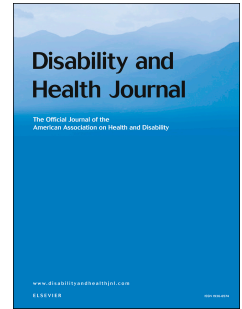


Journal Pre-proof



Disability, equity, and measurements of livability: a scoping review

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PII: S1936-6574(23)00093-6

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dhjo.2023.101521>

Reference: DHJO 101521

To appear in: *Disability and Health Journal*

Received Date: 19 January 2023

Revised Date: 22 August 2023

Accepted Date: 23 August 2023

Please cite this article as: Bohorquez NG, Stafford DL, Malatzky DC, McPhail PSM, Selim SM, Kularatna S, Disability, equity, and measurements of livability: a scoping review, *Disability and Health Journal*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dhjo.2023.101521>.

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Title page**Disability, equity, and measurements of livability: a scoping review****Corresponding author:**

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Keywords: Livability; measurements; disabilities; impairments; non-metropolitan; rural; regional; equity; social justice.

Funding: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Conflict of interest: All authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

Word count: Abstract: 249. Complete manuscript: 5,046. Number of references: 35. Number of figures: 1 and tables: 4.

1 **Disability, equity, and measurements of livability: A scoping review**

2 **ABSTRACT**

3 **Background:** Livability is a concept commonly featured in health research to help shape public
4 policy decisions and improve local place settings. Although widely used, it is a contested
5 concept known for its ambiguity and inconsistency of measurements. Other criticisms include
6 the lack of equity perspectives and the underrepresentation of people with disabilities and
7 inhabitants of non-metropolitan places.

8 **Objectives:** This review sought to identify the extent to which people with disabilities and non-
9 metropolitan places are included in measurements of livability and to critically review and
10 summarize i) livability definitions and uses, ii) livability places and populations, and iii)
11 livability measurements.

12 **Methods:** The scoping review followed Arksey and O'Malley's methodological framework
13 and the PRISMA extension for scoping reviews. The data extraction used meta-aggregation
14 techniques to evaluate findings. A standardized mixed methods appraisal tool was used, and a
15 novel classification of measurements was created.

16 **Results:** Seventy-seven articles were included, and 1955 measurements were extracted. The
17 overarching findings were: i) livability is inconsistently defined and assessed by measuring the
18 performance of related and independent domains, ii) the population sample or the studies'
19 participants are often not disclosed, non-metropolitan settings are overlooked, and equity is not
20 generally applied or operationalized in measurements, and iii) there is an extensive lack of
21 measurements considering people with disabilities and diversity within disabilities.

22 **Conclusions:** The assumptions of homogeneity in study populations in livability measurement
23 literature overlook inequities experienced by people with disabilities and inhabitants of non-
24 metropolitan settings. This review suggests recommendations for future research to assess
25 livability from perspectives inclusive of human diversity.

26 **KEYWORDS:** Livability; disabilities, non-metropolitan; measurements; health equity.

27 **INTRODUCTION**

28 Livability is a concept used to shape public policy decisions toward improving places where
29 humans live and interact. Although widely used internationally, it is a concept known for its
30 ambiguity and the inconsistency of its measurements. The assessment of the concept is not the
31 same across research, but overall it addresses specific aspects of a local place that affect
32 individuals' quality of life and communities' wellbeing,^[1] including housing, employment,
33 education, services, transport, health, built environment, social cohesion, and security.^[2] Given
34 its holistic orientation, livability has become an important concept applied in decision-making
35 for local planning^[3] to evaluate the living arrangements necessary to address the *needs* and
36 achieve the *wants* of local populations.^[4] However, most approaches to operationalizing
37 livability have failed to address inequities within diverse populations and locations.^[5]
38 Specifically, the concept has not been well theorized, measured, and applied to people with
39 disabilities^[5-7] and non-metropolitan settings.^[8-11]

40 To assess livability, evaluation models and techniques often use quantitative methodologies
41 such as analytical hierarchy process and entropy, fuzzy comprehensive evaluation, factor
42 analysis and principal component analysis, spatial modeling, and, less frequently, a qualitative
43 Delphi method.^[12] These approaches encompass individual measurements to evaluate
44 livability. As there is no consensus on how to measure the construct of livability, the selection
45 and development of indicators are generally based on the personal or professional experience
46 of scholars, policymakers, and planners rather than the adaptation of standardized
47 measurements^[13]. Despite the context-specific nature of livability, previous scoping reviews
48 on livability measurements^[12,13] have found that livability domains overlap internationally,
49 highlighting their relevance and similarities across different contexts. Content validity is often
50 assessed by expert validity and is highly reported, whereas reliability is less examined^[13].

51 The results of livability measures are often presented in international rankings to compare cities
52 worldwide, scoring factors based on peoples' perceptions and regional statistics. Recent
53 criticisms highlight that these indices used to rank cities across livability factors are designed
54 from a business perspective for promotional purposes and do not consider factors such as
55 affordability, accessibility, sustainability, and opportunities.^[14] Likewise, there are concerns
56 about widening inequities within city populations,^[2] a dependency on economic indicators and
57 individualistic approaches,^[13] gaps in information regarding social and spatial measures of
58 housing affordability, local employment, and healthy food choices, as well as a disparity
59 between public policies and the actual instruments used to measure advances.^[15]

60 One of the most significant gaps in livability literature is the need for more clarity about the
61 populations included in the construction of its measurements. Livability lenses have largely
62 been built on the assumption that populations are primarily homogeneous and normative ideas
63 pertaining to locations, ages, and abilities are routinely applied uncritically.^[16] For instance,
64 although livability is a concept that was first used in a social context to evaluate the viability
65 of rural areas affected by migration to cities,^[17] it was rapidly adopted to address the population
66 pressures within cities that were struggling with planning urban scenarios for their increasing
67 overcrowding dynamics.^[17] Since then, livability has predominantly been applied to and within
68 metropolitan settings, and recent literature gives insufficient attention to places other than
69 capital cities.^[10,11] Further, for whom livability is being assessed, or from whose perspectives,
70 is also narrowly defined within livability research.

71 A point increasingly recognized within contemporary literature is that people with disabilities
72 are often overlooked and underrepresented in livability studies, despite their rights to place and
73 full participation protected in nations adhering to the United Nations Convention on the Rights
74 of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), and that they are a key population group representing
75 15% of the global population.^[18] A systematic review of instruments of walkability and
76 recreation^[6] recognizes the gap in information relevant to people with mobility disabilities and
77 the limited use of universal design. Similar conclusions were reached in a study^[5] regarding
78 the measurements used in studies of walkability that do not include people across the age and
79 abilities spectrum, especially children and elderly with impairments. This was also consistent
80 with findings from a qualitative study^[16] that highlighted the lack of universal design in urban
81 planning in non-metropolitan areas and the role of socially valued infrastructure, accessibility,
82 and connectivity to achieve inclusive communities where ableist conceptions favoring the
83 mobility of some bodies over others were questioned.

84 This scoping review seeks to identify the extent to which people with disabilities and non-
85 metropolitan places are included and considered in measurements of livability and where gaps
86 exist. The findings highlight the relevance of considering place and disabilities perspectives
87 within public policies and regional planning initiatives for the construction of livability
88 measurements that address rather than perpetuate inequities between people with disabilities
89 and inhabitants of non-metropolitan places and their urban-located counterparts.

90 **METHODS**

91 Livability is not a consistently defined and measured concept, and its application to people with
92 disabilities and non-metropolitan places is underdeveloped. A scoping review was considered
93 the best approach to determine the extent of this broad topic, summarize the currently available
94 research evidence, and identify gaps in the existing literature. The scoping review was
95 conducted following Arksey and O'Malley's methodological framework^[19]. The PRISMA
96 extension for scoping reviews guideline was used to ensure that a comprehensive and inclusive
97 approach was taken in the reporting of findings.^[20] Protocol registration was done in Open
98 Science Framework (https://osf.io/fths8/?view_only=dc13056a35e3462791f063f2a84480e2).

99 **Search strategy and information sources**

100 After testing appropriate terminology for inclusive results, the following nested search
101 statement was used to construct the specific searches: Livability AND ((socioeconomic OR
102 income OR employment OR housing OR education OR habitat) OR (equity OR equality) OR
103 (wellbeing) OR (disability OR impairment)). The search statement was adapted to each
104 database and synonyms previously tested for the relevance of the results used (see Appendix
105 A). As limiters, academic peer-reviewed journals written in English were used. There was no
106 time of publication limit, and all geographical scales were considered. A list of databases was
107 created to determine potential information sources with a multidisciplinary approach (e.g.,
108 health, social science, urbanism, and design topics). After comparing relevant results, four
109 databases were selected to conduct the study: Scopus, Web of Science, ProQuest, and
110 EBSCOhost. The databases were first consulted on 4 March 2021, and a second search was
111 done on 25 May 2023 to update the results. Alert notifications were activated for the posterior
112 year to update relevant sources to include in the discussion section.

113 **Eligibility criteria**

114 The articles were screened by title and abstract using inclusion and exclusion criteria (see the
115 complete list in Appendix B). The exclusion criteria were applied first to reject articles without
116 measurements or focused only on elements from the natural environment or place setting
117 without human populations. Articles that were only theoretical or those without sufficient
118 relevant information were excluded at this stage. The remaining articles were included for a
119 posterior quality check.

120 **Study selection process**

121 The articles identified with the search strategy were downloaded into Endnote software, a
122 reference management tool, and duplicates were deleted. The remaining sources were then
123 uploaded into Rayyan QCRI software, an online research tool for scoping and systematic
124 reviews. Articles were then screened by title and abstract in Rayyan, and undetected duplicates
125 were deleted. Two researchers screened the articles using the exclusion/inclusion criteria using
126 the interactive tools to accept/maybe/reject articles in Rayyan. These researchers did not meet
127 or see each other's results until all decisions about the articles were made independently. Once
128 this process was finalized, the two researchers met to resolve discrepancies between
129 include/exclude decisions. The joint decision was based on a full-text screening when
130 agreement could not be reached based on title/abstract information alone. Two additional
131 researchers met to decide on the conflicts that could not be solved in the previous step. Finally,
132 the lead researcher retrieved the full-text PDFs of the screened sources and, based on the
133 abstract, methodology, and results, decided on the final included articles. At this stage, those
134 articles without an explicit reference to the concept of livability were excluded.

135 **Quality check**

136 The articles were evaluated at the end of the study selection process to determine their scientific
137 underpinning, quality, and coherence with the current study field. First, there was a peer-review
138 second check of all the journals to exclude those not detected by the filters in the search
139 strategy. Second, the reviewers considered whether the studies provided enough information
140 regarding the theoretical or conceptual frameworks and whether they were internationally
141 recognized or piloted in previous studies. Third, when the review was completed, McGill
142 University's mixed method appraisal tool (MMAT)^[21] was used to critically appraise the
143 methodological quality of the papers. This tool has had validity^[22] and reliability^[23] checks and
144 was used for its ability to assess qualitative, quantitative, and mixed method research. The
145 papers were first assessed using the screening questions and later classified depending on the
146 type of design. The corresponding criteria were used to evaluate the study quality. Results were
147 discussed and rated (see Appendix C).

148 **Data collection**

149 The final included articles were tabulated in an Excel spreadsheet. Information regarding the
150 literal definition of livability used in the text, the conceptual or theoretical framework, the scale
151 of the study (i.e., neighborhood, city, regional, state, national), and the population and place
152 that the study was based on was extracted verbatim from each source. The presence or absence
153 of discussion about inequity/inequality was recorded, as well as whether people with

154 disabilities and non-metropolitan areas were mentioned. A further distinction was made
155 between papers that mentioned disabilities or equity and those that implemented measurements
156 to address both aspects (see Table 1). The categories/domains/principal factors used to assess
157 livability and all the measurements/indicators/attributes to measure these across the articles
158 were recorded in a separate sheet (see example of the measurements in Table 3 and Appendix
159 D).

160 When the manuscript of the paper was completed, a second reviewer conducted a rigorous
161 check of the data collection in three steps (see Appendix E). First, using a meta-aggregation
162 technique,²⁴ the second reviewer read the verbatim extraction of data and determined whether
163 the quotes were plausible to answer the inquiry. The review had three possible outcomes: the
164 findings could be unequivocal – beyond a reasonable doubt, equivocal – open to challenge, or
165 unsupported – findings not supported by the data. In the second part, the reviewer checked if
166 the extractions of dichotomous variables measuring the presence or absence of people with
167 disabilities, non-metropolitan areas, and equity were extracted correctly using a word search in
168 each article, including relevant synonyms of the terms. In the third section, the second reviewer
169 counted the number of domains and indicators in each article and corroborated the number
170 reported by the first reviewer. Discrepancies between the authors and the external reviewer that
171 led to unsupported results on the verbatim extractions (first step) or different answers in
172 dichotomous variables (second step) are addressed in the limitation section. The numerical
173 results in the measurements count (third step) did not have discrepancies once the
174 measurements were corroborated.

175 **Data analysis**

176 Analysis occurred in three stages. To begin, three key questions guided the process: i) how
177 livability was defined and in what context, ii) what places and populations were used in the
178 studies and why, and iii) what measurements were taken to evaluate livability. Literal
179 definitions and theoretical frameworks were extracted, as was how place was defined and the
180 study's population identified; the concepts of (in)equity and justice were summarized, and
181 disability was defined and described in each source. Relevant information was extracted
182 verbatim and tabulated. These data were then analyzed to identify patterns of similarity or
183 difference across each key question.

184 In the second stage, the measurements of livability used in each source were extracted,
185 compared, and grouped into a novel classification of livability measurements with 15 domains

186 (Table 2) that articulated what aspects of livability were measured in each study. Domains were
187 formed by aggregating similar terms and later were reviewed with other livability
188 classifications. All the indicators of livability used within each source and in what context were
189 cross-referenced with these domains. Indicators created specifically in or for non-metropolitan
190 places and studies that considered people with disabilities were coded in this process.
191 Similarities between indicators were then identified, and through this process, sub-domains
192 were created to articulate the attributes of livability that sit within each domain.

193 Lastly, the measures of livability coded as specific to non-metropolitan places and people with
194 disability were analyzed. These measures were compared to identify the attributes of livability
195 most considered in non-metropolitan places and in reference to people with disabilities.
196 Through this process, attention was given to what aspects of livability are and are not currently
197 measured in studies conducted within non-metropolitan places and with people with
198 disabilities.

199 **RESULTS**

200 A total of 9,947 articles were downloaded to Endnote from four different databases. After
201 deleting duplicates, 4,746 articles remained to be screened by title and abstract in Rayyan
202 QCRI. The title and abstract screening resulted in the selection of 266 papers. Finally, 77
203 articles (see Appendix F) were included after the full-text screening (see Figure 1). Table 1
204 presents a general summary of the data extraction. Extra information on livability definitions,
205 participants of the studies, and disability assessment can be found in Appendix G.

206 *How is livability defined?*

207 The definitions of livability used in the included articles had four elements in common. First,
208 a consensual acknowledgment that the definitions and measurements of livability are multiple,
209 relative, and change over time, purpose, and place. Second, livability is a desirable concept that
210 places should strive to achieve. Third, livability is considered in its relationship with the
211 environment (natural and built), meaning with the surroundings where humans live and
212 interact. Fourth, livability does not have a specific measurement itself, even when using
213 composite indices. It is assessed by measuring the performance of related and independent
214 factors (i.e., transportation, infrastructure, housing, security, and health). Furthermore, as
215 established in the first element, the presence or absence of these factors in the studies depended
216 on their alignment with current and relevant public policy, local planning, and related

217 conceptual frameworks. Over 40 conceptual frameworks related to livability were identified
218 and grouped in Appendix H.

219 Half of the articles (52%) discussed in(equity) or justice issues. Some drew on related concepts,
220 including health inequities, spatial justice, income equality, and disability-related inequalities.
221 Although these concepts were frequently cited in the introduction and discussion sections, no
222 context, measure, or explanation was provided in the studies' methodologies or findings. In
223 some articles, equity, inequity or justice was described as an unfair distribution of resources in
224 the space for disadvantaged groups. However, no detail was included on the populations that
225 researchers identified as facing disadvantages. In addition, there were no explanations for how
226 issues like spatial justice were considered in measurements. The studies established the place
227 context in which the research was undertaken but rarely clarified the population/s from whom
228 data pertaining to measurement was collected. More than half of the articles did not provide
229 any information regarding the participants in their studies beyond the population size.

230 *How is livability measured?*

231 Livability is a concept assessed by measuring independent elements or domains, specifically
232 in the articles reviewed here, 14 domains (see Table 2). Across these domains, the following
233 standard evaluation criteria were used: availability, affordability, accessibility, connectivity,
234 attractiveness, diversity, satisfaction, productivity, vitality, and enhancement (see Table 3 and
235 Appendix D for examples of livability measurements). As indicated in the ranking column of
236 Table 2, some domains drew more attention than others by having a larger proportion of
237 measurements. The rationales used by the authors to choose one domain over another were not
238 provided or explained. However, there were two broad approaches to their use: i) assessments
239 of performance to improve local spaces to attract people, and ii) a planning inquiry to adapt
240 local places to the needs of their populations.

241 Although the rationales behind choosing domains and measurements were not explicitly
242 clarified in the reviewed articles, there was often an implicit prioritization exercise to select the
243 domains that were considered in the study based on the perceived local circumstances. For
244 instance, some studies prioritized transportation, while others public space. This decision is
245 rarely explicitly justified but is generally attributed to the physical characteristics of a place
246 and its needs (e.g., transportation if a village needs accessible roads or green public space if a
247 city seeks to increase its low green area density). When the final domains are established, there
248 is a second latent decision: how many measurements or indicators will be used to evaluate each

249 domain and how elaborate their content will be. If public records or government statistics were
250 used, this number was given by the availability of data; if the study was empirical, it depended
251 on the implicit priority of the domain (e.g., if transportation is considered more important to
252 evaluate, it will have most of the measurements, or specific measurements created and adapted
253 to assess the local circumstances).

254 *How are non-metropolitan places assessed?*

255 The selected articles mostly used metropolitan cities as a scale and unit of analysis. The city
256 was the epicenter of livability assessments, and the reasons the researchers gave for choosing
257 that scale were in terms of population magnitude and economic importance within the region.
258 However, the most recent publications reflect a shift in interest towards a smaller scale within
259 cities, such as neighborhoods, touristic centers, and local spaces. The national scale was often
260 used for macroeconomic analysis but was less considered. The choice of location for each of
261 the 25 articles that focused on non-metropolitan settings was based on the touristic value of the
262 place, the importance allocated by local public policies, their strategic environmental role, or
263 their significance for agricultural analysis. Overall, of the 1,955 measurements of livability,
264 474 (24.24%) were applied to non-metropolitan settings (see examples in Table 4). Table 2
265 lists the domains that received the most attention by the number of livability measurements.

266 According to the measurement ranking based on quantity, the top two domains were public
267 space and neighborhood amenities, which were shared with non-metropolitan areas. However,
268 health was ranked as the third most important factor, followed by economic development and
269 cost of living. Some indicators sought to measure specific conditions in regional areas, such as
270 farmers' income, shelter at bus stops, rural public transit, financial stress due to loans, and rural
271 medical facilities. The importance of sub-domains did not change based on place. However,
272 some attributes were not considered when measuring non-metropolitan areas, such as land use
273 in transportation, private transportation, environmental impacts of transportation, housing
274 connectivity, housing tenure, noise pollution, economic burden, and life expectancy and
275 mortality.

276 *How are people with disabilities considered through livability lenses?*

277 From 1,955 measurements, 97 (4.96%) considered people with disabilities when constructing
278 or applying livability measurements (see examples in Table 4). In these cases, public space and
279 infrastructure, neighborhood amenities, transportation, and health and healthcare had the most

280 measures. These measurements focus on accessibility to facilities across the domains and
281 distance from services.

282 Highlighted elements relevant to people with disabilities were walkability, availability of
283 public toilets, shelter and seating, access to community centers, public transportation, distance
284 to healthcare services, welfare, housing design, disability employment services, access to
285 communication, and social inclusion and education for older people. The ecological (natural)
286 environment, sanitation and public services, and safety and security domains were not included.
287 Governance was only considered for the proportion of dwellings owned by the government,
288 not in terms of participation. Although most indicators specific to people with disabilities
289 considered facilities and services adapted to the needs of people with disabilities, there was no
290 detail on what elements are considered when applying these measurements or how these are
291 defined.

292 The presence or absence of footpaths/sidewalks/pavement was registered, although their
293 quality or connectivity was less explored. Walkability was a concept often used, but its
294 measurement was never explained or described. Another essential component was evaluating
295 open spaces, including green spaces and parks. These measurements considered the spatial
296 distribution of places and, in most cases, were used to compare differences in accessibility for
297 local populations but were not specific to disability. Public space was measured by considering
298 the accessibility and availability of facilities and core infrastructure. In contrast, housing was
299 addressed from the perspective of houses that were accessible by roads or modes of
300 transportation and only on one occasion about how accessible the housing was inside, given its
301 design.

302 **DISCUSSION**

303 This review presents an extensive and systematically organized summary and novel
304 classification of the current ways in which the concept of livability is understood and applied
305 in international research across a range of place settings. There are common approaches to
306 using livability to improve local places where humans live and interact. However, the
307 measurements used to assess livability need to be better defined. They largely fail to consider
308 the heterogeneous nature of human populations, including the specific needs and perspectives
309 of people with disabilities^[5,16,25] and the complexities and distinctions between different kinds
310 of places.^[26] Although livability is extensively assessed from a place perspective, the
311 participants in studies or the human population sample used to evaluate livability domains are

312 underreported or missing.^[27] From an inclusive livability perspective, the participation of
313 people with disabilities in the literature was limited to access to and availability of public places
314 and facilities. In non-metropolitan settings, the focus was confined to environmental impacts
315 and agriculture.

316 Through a critical review of the literature, this evidence synthesis indicates that livability
317 measurements are distributed across independent domains with an implicit priority sensitive to
318 change when considering specific human populations. In our review, the sum of all included
319 papers revealed the implicit priority or the areas where livability is focused on (Table 2).
320 However, when analyzing only articles where the population was people with disabilities and
321 inhabitants of non-metropolitan areas, the ranking changed, and health and healthcare became
322 more relevant, whereas sanitation and public services, and safety and security fell to the bottom.
323 It seems that when selecting the domains and number of measurements to assess livability, it
324 does not solely rely on the physical characteristics of the place or availability of data but on the
325 human population considered in the research. This could suggest that the ambiguity of livability
326 measurements and embedded equity issues lie, to some extent, in the assumption that livability
327 studies evaluate the performance of physical spaces regardless of their population.
328 Nevertheless, the perceptions of the population considered are the ones shaping the decisions
329 on what livability domains are worth being assessed and what measurements should be used.
330 In addition, livability measurements contain benchmarks likely created based on a homogenous
331 perception of the population and often targeted to metropolitan areas and an adult working
332 population without impairments.

333 The findings of this review are consistent with other studies that highlight the lack of equity
334 and justice perspectives within livability lenses.^[2,14,15] Although mentioned in almost half of
335 the articles, the concept of equity often needs to be operationalized and used when selecting
336 study participants to ensure that diverse perspectives are included and reflected in research
337 outcomes. For example, how the inclusion of indicators related to progressing a spatial justice
338 agenda in health care for rural residents^[28] could be achieved is currently missing from
339 contemporary livability scholarship. This review also aligns with the conclusions of other
340 studies that have found a consistent failure to include people with disabilities within livability
341 studies.^[16,27,29] This was especially evident in how some studies focused on the availability of
342 services for people with disabilities without addressing, describing, or measuring the actual

343 properties of those services and how they can be adapted to the diversity within the disability
344 spectrum.^[25]

345 In future research, more precision is needed in defining and explaining the measurements used
346 to assess livability. The lack of precision in reporting measurements is likely masking
347 inequities experienced within diverse populations and geographies. For instance, an overlooked
348 component of livability measurements is travel time in transportation, a measure helpful for
349 assessing the equity conditions for people living in remote locations.^[30] In non-metropolitan
350 settings, the scores for green coverage could be high, but this does not mean that the areas are
351 walkable for everyone.^[31] People with disabilities were not considered in natural disaster
352 metrics, although evidence indicates it is the population that could be the most affected in a
353 natural emergency^[32] as well as in other public health-related emergencies.^[33] Furthermore,
354 affordability and tenure were discussed in housing, but no clarity was given regarding how it
355 was measured or if elements beyond availability, such as universal design and accessibility,
356 were considered.^[34]

357 The inequities experienced by people with disabilities within livability lenses should be made
358 visible and explicitly addressed in future research. The importance of addressing these gaps
359 lies in the potential of using livability as a social change tool regulated through public policy,
360 which can transform metro and non-metropolitan place contexts. Accessibility in livability
361 assessments could go beyond ramps to buildings and public transport, parking space, and public
362 toilets to considering different elements within the diversity of abilities, ages, and
363 geographies.^[5] The assessment of footpaths/sidewalks/pavement could be constructed in terms
364 of connectivity or suitability and measures of governance directed to social participation and
365 the construction of inclusive communities for all.

366 **LIMITATIONS**

367 This scoping review excluded quality of life and wellbeing measurements that were not used in the
368 context of livability, reducing the number of articles included and the depth of the analysis. Only articles
369 with an explicit reference to the concept of livability were included. In addition, non-peer-reviewed
370 literature and government publications were not included, which limited the scope of the review,
371 especially in public policy applications. Furthermore, the total number of measurements of livability
372 provided in a domain's classification could vary depending on their allocation. Although the
373 information was grouped considering common factors and based on how the article classified the
374 measurement, we recognize the interconnectivity of the measurements and how they might be related

375 to more than one domain. For instance, the domain “Neighborhood Amenities” could have been
376 included as part of “Public Spaces and Infrastructure.” However, we decided to separate these domains
377 and include the subcategories of neighborhood amenities to highlight the difference in scales
378 (neighborhood vs cities or districts). This aligns with the need for further research on the interaction
379 between livability domains.

380 The independent review on data extraction highlighted some differences between authors in the
381 analytical interpretation of the verbatim extractions. Some fragments of text were arguably considered
382 conceptual frameworks or definitions of livability inferred by context more than a rigorous criterion to
383 consider them as such. After the second data extraction review, eight articles suggested the presence of
384 people with disabilities, non-metropolitan areas, or equity; however, they were not included in those
385 specific sections when the mention did not have any implications in the methodology, measurements,
386 or results, often consigned only in the background of the articles as an isolated term.

387 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

388 Based on the gaps identified through this scoping review, we suggest action be taken in three
389 areas. First, livability measurements should be created and adapted to non-metropolitan areas.
390 The livability factors considered should expand and cover all relevant dimensions beyond
391 industry, forestation, and agriculture. Although it is important to evaluate the strategic role that
392 non-metropolitan places play in the overall economy, it is equally important to evaluate the
393 living condition of its habitants. For instance, although communications and technology is a
394 neglected area in livability, this domain appears to be crucial for assessing the isolation in non-
395 metropolitan contexts with indicators like “rural medical technology level” or “internet
396 penetration rate.” Consideration of travel time to main services as well as governance,
397 inclusiveness, and diversity indicators, could also assist in assessing isolation. Further, research
398 focused exclusively on non-metropolitan livability would be highly beneficial, as well as novel
399 studies exploring factors based on the priorities of the local population.

400 Second, livability studies should be conducted from an equity perspective, and the human
401 populations used to capture measurements reported. For instance, if street walkability and
402 accessibility are assessed, the study should report if the measurement was calculated by
403 tracking the pace of adult pedestrians without impairments or if a different sample or
404 measurement not including human populations was used. Also, if there is any other
405 sociodemographic characteristic that is relevant to the study and to the local equity context,
406 these should be reported (e.g., gender, age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, migration status).
407 Livability studies focused on geographies of wealth or used exclusively for economic gain or

408 attraction of tourism could lead to the displacement of minorities and vulnerable populations.
409 The distribution of resources across spaces and the assessment of small scales such as
410 communities or neighborhoods could help to report the rationale behind studies.

411 Third, to capture the complexity of the lived experience of people with disabilities and their
412 interactions with their surroundings, dynamic and interdependent livability indicators should
413 be created and assessed across all livability domains. This includes assessing how individuals
414 with various disabilities interact with public space and social infrastructure, identifying equity
415 gaps in safety during natural disasters or access to communication and technology, and
416 addressing housing quality and tenure, livability affordability, and geographies of opportunity
417 for people with disabilities. To accurately evaluate the availability, affordability, accessibility,
418 connectivity, attractiveness, diversity, satisfaction, vitality, and enhancement of livability
419 factors, people with disabilities should be included as participants in all aspects of the study.
420 We suggest that the first step in this direction is to improve the content validity of livability
421 measurements by including people with disabilities and other marginalized groups as experts
422 and co-designers of livability studies.

423 **CONCLUSIONS**

424 Livability is a key concept used in urban and health policy to guide decisions to enhance
425 people's lives internationally. However, how it is defined, measured, and applied is highly
426 varied. This review has highlighted the extent to which livability measurements overlook
427 people with disabilities and non-metropolitan place settings. The review also highlights
428 underreporting of study populations used to construct livability measurements, the lack of
429 precision in defining the instruments used to measure the concept, and a lack of consideration
430 given to place-specific dynamics. The assumptions of homogeneity in study populations in
431 livability studies obscure and overlook inequities experienced by people with disabilities and
432 inhabitants of non-metropolitan settings and could affect their quality of life, as previous
433 research has shown.^[35] Although there is recognition that equity is an important issue to
434 consider when using livability lenses, there is limited application, operationalization, or
435 interrogation within existing livability literature. The construction of livability measurements
436 and deciding the use of one measurement over others affects populations. Future research
437 should report precisely what population is included, which might be excluded, and the
438 implications for populations that experience greater vulnerability. This review calls for
439 livability research to be more inclusive of human diversity and coherent with equity claims.

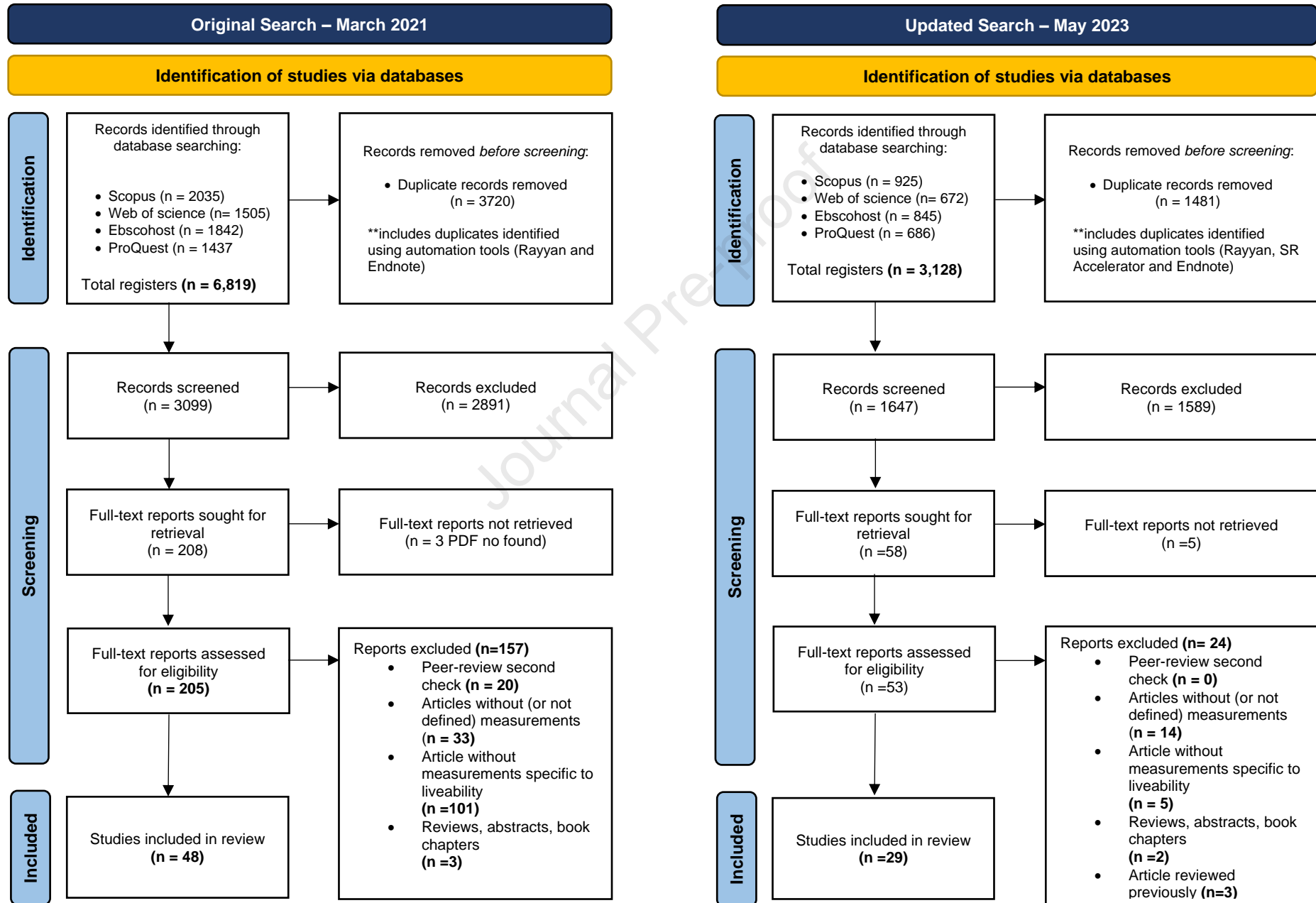
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536 Insert tables 1-4 consecutively, immediately following the in-text reference to Tables 1–4 and
 537 Figure 1, if possible, during the production stages.

MANUSCRIPT FIGURE**Figure 1. PRISMA diagram**

MANUSCRIPT TABLES**Table 1.** General summary

Country	Study places	Scale	Number of articles						
			Metropolitan	Non-metropolitan	People with disabilities		Equity		Total per country
					Mentions	Contains measurements	Mentions	Contains measurements	
China	Changshu 100 cities Greater China Region 24 cities on the Loess Plateau 31 provinces in China 40 major cities 40 major cities in China 42 major cities of China Aksu Anhui province Beijing Chongqing Counties in Henan province Fujian Province Jiangnan Plain Jiangsu Province Jinchang, Oasis Area Li Ming Community Linyi Minjiang River Ningbo City Rural China Shanghai Shanghai Shenzhen Wuhan Xianju County Xianning	Regional / County City City / Region Regional / Provinces Country / City City / Country Community / City Prefecture / Region City / Provincial City City / Communities Regional Regional/Province/ City Region Province / Region Townships / Villages Community/ Neighbourhood City / Community Rural settlements/ Region Provincial/ Community Country City Neighbourhood City City Regional City	14	13	1	1	6	3	27
Australia	Australia's 21 largest cities Australia's 21 largest cities Australia's 21 largest cities Randwick, South-East, Sydney Grater Bendigo City Council	City City City City Regional cities	6	5	5	3	10	10	11

	Launceston, Tasmania and Victoria Melbourne Urban areas in Victoria Urban metropolitan Melbourne Victoria Victorian (Australian) region	Neighbourhood/ Regional cities City State City City / Neighbourhood Regional / City							
Multiple countries	21 cities around the world Eastern China and South Korea European cities Iran and Estonia	City / National Region City Country	4	0	0	0	3	0	4
Nigeria	Iwo Wushishi, Bosso and Tunga Minna Lekki, Lagos Niger State	City Neighbourhood City State / Region	2	2	1	1	1	0	4
United States	El Paso metropolitan area The city of Buffalo, New York United States Valley City and Dickinson, North Dakota	Regional City Metro areas / City Regional city / Rural town	2	2	1	1	2	1	4
India	Bhopal Pune Siliguri town, West Bengal	City City / Neighbourhood City / Town	3	0	1	0	2	2	3
Cyprus	Famagusta Salamis Road in Famagusta	City City / Street	2	0	0	0	2	0	2
Indonesia	Cirebon Metropolitan Region, Java. Kompleks Rumah Susun Somblo, Surabaya	City / Regional City / Neighbourhood	0	2	1	1	1	1	2
Iran	Tehran 31 Iranian cities	City City	2	0	0	0	1	1	2
Malaysia	Joho Titiwangsa Lake Gardens, Kuala Lumpur	City Sector of a city	2	0	2	2	2	1	2
Pakistan	Cities (districts) in Pakistan Eight major cities of Punjab, Pakistan	City / District / Country Region / City	2	0	0	0	1	1	2
Taiwan	Taipei City Taiwan	City City / District / Country	2	0	2	2	2	1	2
Thailand	Bangkok, Bangkok	City City	2	0	1	0	2	1	2
United Kingdom	n/a (university in London) Belfast	n/a City	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Belgium	Ghent (midsized city)	City	1	0	0	0	1	0	1

Canada	Vancouver	City	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hong Kong	Hong Kong	City	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Iraq	Baghdad	Neighbourhood	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Russia	Russia	City / County	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
South Korea	Seoul	City	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Spain	44 Spanish cities	City	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
United Arab Emirates	Sharjah's	City / Local districts	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
Total			52	25	17	13	38	23	77

MANUSCRIPT TABLES**Table 2.** Livability domains, sub-domains per number of measurements.

DOMAIN	SUB-DOMAIN	Ranking	All articles		Ranking	Non-metropolitan settings		Ranking	For people with disabilities	
			N	%		N	%		N	%
Public space and infrastructure		1			2			1		
	Pedestrian Infrastructure and walkability		60	23,0%		9	18,4%		10	31,3%
	Open space and green coverage		78	29,9%		23	46,9%		3	9,4%
	Accessibility and availability of public space		23	8,8%		3	6,1%		7	21,9%
	Buildings		29	11,1%		2	4,1%		1	3,1%
	Landscape and aesthetics		23	8,8%		3	6,1%		1	3,1%
	Street furniture		23	8,8%		4	8,2%		4	12,5%
	Urbanisation		15	5,7%		4	8,2%		0	0,0%
	Other		10	3,8%		1	2,0%		6	18,8%
Domain subtotal			261	100,0%		49	100,0%		32	100,0%
Transportation		2			6			3		
	Public transportation		82	33,9%		18	47,4%		7	50,0%
	Traffic		30	12,4%		2	5,3%		0	0,0%
	Road assessment		37	15,3%		11	28,9%		1	7,1%
	Transportation modes		11	4,5%		2	5,3%		1	7,1%
	Accessibility and availability of bicycle paths		19	7,9%		1	2,6%		0	0,0%
	Accessibility and availability of parking		12	5,0%		3	7,9%		3	21,4%
	Land use in transportation		7	2,9%		0	0,0%		0	0,0%
	Private transportation		12	5,0%		1	2,6%		0	0,0%
	Environmental impacts of transportation		4	1,7%		0	0,0%		0	0,0%
	Time travelled		4	1,7%		0	0,0%		1	7,1%
Other		24	9,9%		0	0,0%		1	7,1%	
Domain subtotal			242	100,0%		38	100,0%		14	100,0%
Neighbourhood amenities		3			1			2		
	Stores and commercial services		39	16,1%		11	13,9%		0	0,0%
	Recreation, culture and entertainment venues		57	23,6%		19	24,1%		3	20,0%
	Food environment		44	18,2%		13	16,5%		2	13,3%
	Community centres and services		22	9,1%		8	10,1%		6	40,0%
	Sports facilities		29	12,0%		11	13,9%		1	6,7%
	Libraries		15	6,2%		7	8,9%		2	13,3%
	Worship places		5	2,1%		1	1,3%		1	6,7%
Other		31	12,8%		9	11,4%		0	0,0%	
Domain subtotal:			242	100,0%		79	100,0%		15	100,0%

Ecological (natural) environment	4			5		12	
Air and atmospheric environment		57	38,8%		9	23,1%	0
Climate		25	17,0%		4	10,3%	1
Forestation and agroforestry		18	12,2%		14	35,9%	0
Water		18	12,2%		5	12,8%	0
Noise pollution		11	7,5%		0	0,0%	0
Others		18	12,2%		7	17,9%	0
Domain subtotal		147	100,0%		39	100,0%	1
Economic development and cost of living	5			4		5	
Industry and GDP		36	26,3%		14	31,8%	0
Business and investments		16	11,7%		3	6,8%	0
Living standards and cost of living		16	11,7%		8	18,2%	2
Insurance and welfare		12	8,8%		7	15,9%	3
Tourism		13	9,5%		2	4,5%	0
Revenue		7	5,1%		3	6,8%	0
Economic burden and vulnerability		22	16,1%		2	4,5%	0
Other		15	10,9%		5	11,4%	0
Domain subtotal		137	100,0%		44	100,0%	5
Housing	6			8		8	
Living space and house amenities		49	36,3%		22	62,9%	0
Connectivity (distance to facilities)		15	11,1%		0	0,0%	0
Affordability		26	19,3%		7	20,0%	1
Residential density		17	12,6%		3	8,6%	1
Accessibility		6	4,4%		1	2,9%	1
Housing tenure		7	5,2%		0	0,0%	0
Other		15	11,1%		2	5,7%	0
Domain subtotal		135	100,0%		35	100,0%	3
Sanitation and public services	7			9		14	
Potable drinking water		28	20,9%		7	21,2%	0
Waste		32	23,9%		9	27,3%	0
Drainage and sewage		19	14,2%		6	18,2%	0
Energy and electricity		22	16,4%		3	9,1%	0
Gas		9	6,7%		3	9,1%	0
Environmental hygiene (cleanliness)		15	11,2%		1	3,0%	0
Other		9	6,7%		4	12,1%	0
Domain subtotal		134	100,0%		33	100,0%	0
Safety and security	8			11		11	
Natural disasters and response		36	27,3%		9	47,4%	0
Crime		29	22,0%		2	10,5%	1
Traffic accidents		19	14,4%		1	5,3%	0
Sense of safety		12	9,1%		2	10,5%	0

	Police presence and services		13	9,8%		2	10,5%		0
	Shelters		6	4,5%		1	5,3%		0
	Others		17	12,9%		2	10,5%		0
	Domain subtotal		132	100,0%		19	100,0%		1
Health and healthcare		9			3			4	
	Accessibility to services and facilities		43	35,5%		30	66,7%		11 84,6%
	Availability of services and facilities		23	19,0%		5	11,1%		1 7,7%
	Life expectancy and mortality		10	8,3%		0	0,0%		0 0,0%
	Affordability		7	5,8%		2	4,4%		0 0,0%
	Hospital beds		11	9,1%		2	4,4%		0 0,0%
	Medical staff		8	6,6%		2	4,4%		0 0,0%
	Others		19	15,7%		4	8,9%		1 7,7%
	Domain subtotal		121	100,0%		45	100,0%		13 100,0%
Employment and income		10			7			9	
	Income, salary or wages		35	32,1%		15	40,5%		0
	Employment availability		21	19,3%		4	10,8%		1
	Employment accessibility		17	15,6%		3	8,1%		0
	Unemployment		13	11,9%		3	8,1%		0
	Others		23	21,1%		12	32,4%		2
	Domain subtotal		109	100,0%		37	100,0%		3
Education		11			10			6	
	School attendance		19	19,2%		3	11,1%		0
	Access to educational facilities		26	26,3%		12	44,4%		0
	Availability of educational facilities		24	24,2%		7	25,9%		1
	Teachers' ratio		10	10,1%		3	11,1%		0
	Others		20	20,2%		2	7,4%		3
	Domain subtotal		99	100,0%		27	100,0%		4
Social cohesion		12			12			10	
	Inclusiveness, diversity and identity		30	35,3%		1	9,1%		0
	Social relationships		25	29,4%		3	27,3%		0
	Social and cultural activities		16	18,8%		4	36,4%		0
	Others		14	16,5%		3	27,3%		2
	Domain subtotal		85	100,0%		11	100,0%		2
Governance		13	45		14	6		13	1
Communications and information		14	28		13	7		7	3
Others			38			5			1
TOTAL			1955	100,0%		474	100,0%		98 100,0%

MANUSCRIPT TABLES**Table 3.** Livability measurements examples.

DOMAIN	SUB-DOMAIN	Measurement example
Transportation	Public transportation	Number of public transportation vehicles per 10,000 population
	Traffic	Probability of traffic congestion
	Road assessment	Per capita road length and area
	Transportation modes	Integration of different transportation modes
	Accessibility and availability of bicycle paths	Bike lane completeness index
	Accessibility and availability of parking	Availability of paid parking space
	Land use in transportation	Land Use and Public Transport Accessibility Index (LUPTAI)
	Private transportation	Mean number of cars owned per household
	Environmental impacts of transportation	Energy Use in transportation
	Time travelled	Time taken to travel to work (in minutes)
	Other	Health Impact of transportation
Public space and infrastructure	Pedestrian Infrastructure and walkability	Safe and orderly pedestrian sidewalks and overpasses
	Open space and green coverage	Spatial distribution of parks and green spaces in the districts
	Accessibility and availability of public space	Visibility of public spaces
	Buildings	Proportion of building height to street width
	Landscape and aesthetics	Accessibility of landscape
	Street furniture	Proportion of illuminated parts of streets, driveways and embankments
	Urbanisation	Population urbanization rate
	Other	The sense of hierarchy between public and private spaces
Housing	Living space and house amenities	Satisfaction with housing conditions
	Connectivity (distance to facilities)	Home nearness to commercial/industrial zone
	Affordability	Access to low cost and quality public housing
	Residential density	Per capita usable space of houses in urban areas (m ²)
	Accessibility	Housing Unit Accessible by Road
	Housing tenure	Access to property rights
	Other	Share of dilapidated housing
Neighbourhood amenities	Stores and commercial services	Number of shops within 0.5-km buffer zone
	Recreation, culture and entertainment venues	Spatial distribution of leisure time centres in the districts
	Food environment	Number of Restaurant within 300m walking distance
	Community centres and services	Distribution of community organizations and public utilities
	Sports facilities	Areas for passive recreation and physical activity
	Libraries	Number of libraries per 1,000 residents
	Worship places	Distribution of religious sites and cultural heritage
	Other	Dissatisfaction with the current neighbourhood
Ecological (natural) environment	Air and atmospheric environment	Accumulated ozone concentration exceeding 70 microgram/m ³
	Climate	Duration of thermal comfort

	Forestation and agroforestry	Area of nature reserves as percentage of the region
	Water	Protection of natural waterways
	Noise pollution	Mean value of regional environmental noise
	Others	Satisfaction with quality of natural environment
Sanitation and public services	Potable drinking water	Access to potable drinking water
	Waste	Collected solid waste—tonnes per inhabitant and year
	Drainage and sewage	Industrial sewage treatment rate
	Energy and electricity	Total electricity consumption
	Gas	Evaluation of residents to gas supply
	Environmental hygiene (cleanliness)	Cleanliness of city
	Other	Willingness to pay for equipment to get healthy air
Economic development and cost of living	Industry and GDP	Proportion of tertiary industry in GDP/%
	Business and investments	Business licensing for new enterprise
	Living standards and cost of living	Urban household Engel's coefficient
	Insurance and welfare	Percentage of the population covered by basic pension insurance
	Tourism	Number of foreign tourists arrivals per capita
	Revenue	Tax revenue as a percentage of public budgetary revenue
	Economic burden and vulnerability	Deprivation index
	Other	Satisfaction with economic development
Safety and security	Natural disasters and response	Availability of geo-hazard map to citizens
	Crime	Ratio of crime solution to total crimes committed
	Traffic accidents	Number of fatal accidents involving pedestrians
	Sense of safety	Safe walking at night in your area
	Police presence and services	Satisfaction with police services (survey)
	Shelters	Emergency shelter condition
	Others	Distribution industrial outlets with potential safety problems such as gas stations
Employment and income	Income, salary or wages	Growth rate of per capita income
	Employment availability	Population employment mix index
	Employment accessibility	Mode access to employment (active travel)
	Unemployment	Registered unemployment rate in urban area/%
	Others	Spatial distribution of the employed population
Social cohesion	Inclusiveness, diversity and identity	Respect of traditions among diverse cultures
	Social relationships	Being member of any of the association
	Social and cultural activities	Joint activities opportunities
	Others	Community resilience
Health and healthcare	Accessibility to services and facilities	Driving distance to the nearest hospital
	Availability of services and facilities	Number of urban medical/health centres
	Life expectancy and mortality	Number of deaths from chronic diseases
	Affordability	Average cost of hospital room per day
	Hospital beds	Available hospital beds in cities
	Medical staff	Ratio of medical officer per 1,000 population
	Others	Satisfaction with healthcare facilities

Education	School attendance	Percent of high school dropout
	Access to educational facilities	Spatial distribution of educational centres in the districts
	Availability of educational facilities	Number of primary and secondary schools per 10,000 population
	Teachers' ratio	Teacher student ratio in primary schools
	Others	Quality of education system (index)
Governance		Access to government records
		Citizen participation in government policy making process
		National laws and local ordinances properly implemented
Communications and information		Information Development Index (IDI)
		Access/coverage of internet/broadband
		The negative situation reported by media
Others		High-quality citizens
		Personal space
		Territorial functioning

MANUSCRIPT TABLES**Table 4.** Overlap of measurements for non-metropolitan settings and people with disabilities.

		NM	PWD
1.	Transportation		
1.1	Access to a public transport stop within 400 m with a regular service every 30 min (7 am–7 pm)	✓	✓
1.2	Access to public transport with disability standards for accessible public transport	✓	✓
1.3	Bus stops with seats/shelters	✓	✓
1.4	Community transport measure	✓	✓
1.5	Public transport availability (% dwellings)	✓	✓
1.6	Daily commute (options)	✓	✓
1.7	Disabled car parking access	✓	✓
1.8	Parking (availability)	✓	✓
1.9	Transportation and parking (accessibility)	✓	✓
1.10	Availability of public transportation facilities	✓	
1.11	Daily transport cost	✓	
1.12	Proximity to transit facilities	✓	
1.13	Public transport accessibility	✓	
1.14	Rural public transit	✓	
1.15	Road traffic facilities	✓	
1.16	Highway density (Km)	✓	
1.17	Rural per capita road area	✓	
1.18	Rural road condition	✓	
1.19	City transportation (modes)	✓	
1.20	Index of personal travel impact (IPTI)		✓
1.21	Quality of the transportation for disadvantaged group		✓
2.	Public Space and Infrastructure		
2.1	Intersections serviced with pedestrian crossings	✓	✓
2.2	Pedestrian Infrastructure	✓	✓
2.3	Walkability (index)	✓	✓
2.4	Walkability for transport (with and without footpaths)	✓	✓
2.5	Access to public open space within 400 m	✓	✓
2.6	Public open space (% dwellings)	✓	✓
2.7	Public parks (availability)	✓	✓

2.8	Availability of facilities for disabled people (in public space)	✓	✓
2.9	Shelter (in public sapce)	✓	✓
2.10	Accessible buildings	✓	✓
2.11	Access and use of toilets	✓	✓
2.12	Access to public seating	✓	✓
2.13	Access to public toilets (with and without accessibility features)	✓	✓
2.14	Green coverage rate	✓	
2.15	Green open spaces in the public area	✓	
2.16	Proximity to parks and recreation	✓	
2.17	Existence of public spaces	✓	
2.18	Natural landscape	✓	
2.19	Surrounding landscape	✓	
2.20	Street light condition	✓	
2.21	Percentage of urbanization	✓	
2.22	Proportion of urban population in the region	✓	
2.23	Urbanization rate (%)	✓	
2.24	Accessibility of disabled person to establishments		✓
2.25	Universal design (in public space)		✓
2.26	Presence of ramps & wheelchair friendly facilities		✓
2.27	Stairs with railing support		✓
2.28	Minimal level differences on ground surface		✓
2.29	Absence of loud noises		✓
2.30	Absence of unpleasant smells		✓
2.31	Absence of unpleasant sights		✓
2.32	Absence of unpleasant physical surfaces		✓
2.33	Adequate provision of signage, visual cues and/or within the park location map		✓
2.34	Seamless transition between various parts of the location		✓
2.35	Ease in seeing and discerning all areas surrounding the park		✓
2.36	No structures to obstruct view of surroundings		✓
2.37	Reasonably good elevation with minimal fluctuations (slightly undulating)		✓
3.	Housing		
3.1	Affordable housing	✓	✓
3.2	Housing diversity according to eight different housing types	✓	✓

3.3	Living space (Bedroom size, dining area size, kitchen size, toilet/bath size living area size)	✓	
3.4	Air Circulation	✓	
3.5	Condition In Shelter Units	✓	
3.6	House ventilation	✓	
3.7	Housing quality	✓	
3.8	Housing space	✓	
3.9	Housing style	✓	
3.10	Housing with garden spaces	✓	
3.11	Number of bathrooms	✓	
3.12	Space Adequacy (housing)	✓	
3.13	Affordability (housing)	✓	
3.14	Effects of loan/rent on total income	✓	
3.15	Rating on housing affordability	✓	
3.16	Per capita housing construction area	✓	
3.17	Healthy housing	✓	
3.18	Housing unit suitability for the disable/old person		✓
4.	Neighbourhood Amenities		
4.1	Access to local cafés measured by distance	✓	✓
4.2	Cultural institutions	✓	✓
4.3	Recreational services catered to older people e.g., a YMCA	✓	✓
4.4	Access to neighbourhood houses/community centres	✓	✓
4.5	Access to services for older people	✓	✓
4.6	Access to social clubs/senior citizens clubs	✓	✓
4.7	Activity centre (meters)	✓	✓
4.8	Places of social connection	✓	✓
4.9	Physical activity and recreation (meters)	✓	✓
4.10	Access to libraries	✓	✓
4.11	Library (meters)	✓	✓
4.12	Healthier food proportion (%)	✓	✓
4.13	Number of healthier food options (count)	✓	✓
4.14	Access to places of worship	✓	✓
4.15	Access to trade And service facilities	✓	
4.16	Shopping centres	✓	
4.17	Shopping convenience	✓	

4.18	Cultural and recreational facilities	✓	
4.19	Rural fitness place index	✓	
4.20	Per capita volume of books in libraries	✓	
4.21	Average delivery times per week in rural areas	✓	
4.22	Multi-purpose sport courts		✓
4.23	Spaces and facilities use open for interpretation by users		✓
5.	Ecological (natural) environment		
5.1	Air quality index	✓	
5.2	City air quality	✓	
5.3	Days of air compliance (%)	✓	
5.4	City climate	✓	
5.5	Climate comfort	✓	
5.6	Density of fertilizer application	✓	
5.7	Density of pesticide use	✓	
5.8	Density of plastic film for farm use	✓	
5.9	Forest coverage rate (%)	✓	
5.10	Per capita sown area	✓	
5.11	Percentage of forest cover	✓	
5.12	Proportion of biogas output of agricultural waste to total biogas + output	✓	
5.13	Total area of afforestation (Mu)	✓	
5.14	Total grain output (Tons)	✓	
5.15	Total mechanical power per unit of cultivated land (W/mu)	✓	
5.16	Healthy waterways	✓	
5.17	Water-saving irrigation rate	✓	
5.18	Well maintained river	✓	
5.19	Geological stability	✓	
5.20	Fertilizer application intensity (Tons)	✓	
6.	Sanitation and Public Services		
6.1	Per capita possession of fresh water resources	✓	
6.2	Popularizing rate of water supply	✓	
6.3	Running water supply facilities	✓	
6.4	Safe drinking water	✓	
6.5	Sufficient water availability	✓	
6.6	Water quality	✓	

6.7	Garbage collection	✓	
6.8	Garbage treatment rate	✓	
6.9	Household waste disposal	✓	
6.10	Household sewage disposal	✓	
6.11	River and pond pollution disposal	✓	
6.12	Water and sanitation infrastructure/ waste water treatment	✓	
6.13	Energy supply facilities	✓	
6.14	Gas connection	✓	
6.15	Popularizing rate of gas	✓	
6.16	Environmental Cleanliness	✓	
6.17	Percentage of sanitary	✓	
6.18	Popularization of sanitary toilets	✓	
6.19	Popularizing rate of sanitary toilet	✓	
7.	Economic development and cost of living		
7.1	Overall cost of living	✓	✓
7.2	Proportion of households in the bottom 40% of incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs	✓	✓
7.3	Access to Commonwealth Support Home Packages (funding supporting ageing in the home if available)	✓	✓
7.4	Centrelink (meters)	✓	✓
7.5	Agriculture, forestry and water affairs expenditure	✓	
7.6	Per capita agricultural machinery power	✓	
7.7	Per capita GDP	✓	
7.8	Per capita tertiary industry gross domestic products	✓	
7.9	Proportion of income from special industries (%)	✓	
7.10	The per capita gross output value	✓	
7.11	Third industry accounted for GDP	✓	
7.12	Value-added of secondary industry	✓	
7.13	Completed investment in fixed assets of rural households	✓	
7.14	Per capita investment in fixed assets	✓	
7.15	Per capita savings deposit of rural and urban residents	✓	
7.16	Rate of decline of the number of rural residents with minimum living security (%)	✓	
7.17	Standard of living	✓	
7.18	Number of rural pension institutions per 10,000 households	✓	
7.19	Percentage of persons participated in basic pension insurance	✓	

7.20	Rural endowment insurance	✓	
7.21	Social insurance condition	✓	
7.22	Per capita financial revenue	✓	
7.23	Per capita retail sales of consumer goods	✓	
7.24	Per capita retail sales of social consumer goods	✓	
8.	Safety and Security		
8.1	Low crime	✓	✓
8.2	Drought prevention	✓	
8.3	Fire Protection	✓	
8.4	Flood protection	✓	
8.5	Crime safety	✓	
8.6	Accident safety	✓	
8.7	Property safety	✓	
8.8	Safety of life and property	✓	
8.9	Availability of security services	✓	
8.10	Public security	✓	
8.11	Security	✓	
9.	Employment and Income		
9.1	Available jobs	✓	✓
9.2	Disability employment service (meters)	✓	✓
9.3	Proportion of population working beyond official retirement age	✓	✓
9.4	Annual financial income per capita	✓	
9.5	Monthly income	✓	
9.6	Per capita disposable income of urban residents	✓	
9.7	Per capita net income of urban residents	✓	
9.8	Per-capita net income of farmers	✓	
9.9	Employment (availability)	✓	
9.10	Percentage of employed population	✓	
9.11	Accessibility of the workplace	✓	
9.12	Employment-population ratio	✓	
10	Health and Healthcare		
10.1	Access to General Practitioners	✓	✓
10.1	Access to Geriatricians	✓	✓
10.2	Access to residential aged care accommodation	✓	✓

10.3	Adult mental health (meters)	✓	✓
10.4	Dentist (meters)	✓	✓
10.5	Family counselling (meters)	✓	✓
10.6	General practitioner (meters)	✓	✓
10.7	Generalist counselling (meters)	✓	✓
10.8	Hospital (meters)	✓	✓
10.9	Pharmacy (meters)	✓	✓
10.10	Psychology (meters)	✓	✓
10.11	Quality healthcare	✓	✓
10.12	Access to health service	✓	
10.13	Health care (availability of services and facilities)	✓	
10.14	Public Health (programs)	✓	
10.15	Rural medical facility index	✓	
10.16	Percentage of persons participated in the new rural cooperative medical (insurance)	✓	
10.17	Rural medical insurance	✓	
10.18	Number of beds in medical and health institutions	✓	
10.19	Number of rural medical staff per 1000 inhabitants	✓	
10.20	Medical convenience	✓	
10.21	Healthy human settlement	✓	
10.22	Rural medical technology level	✓	
11.	Education		
11.1	Access to Universities of the 3rd Age	✓	✓
11.2	Quality public schools	✓	✓
11.3	Average number of students per teacher in rural nine-year compulsory education	✓	
11.4	Percentage of junior enrolment consolidated	✓	
11.5	Access To Educational Facilities	✓	
11.6	Education convenience	✓	
11.7	Children education services	✓	
11.8	Number of high school teachers (per 1,000 students)	✓	
12.	Social cohesion		
12.1	Membership of Clubs like Probus and Rotary	✓	✓
12.2	Proportion of population aged 60+ years regularly volunteering	✓	✓
12.3	Percentage of external population		✓
12.4	Interaction / Social Relations		✓

12.5	Mutual Cooperation Between Neighbours		✓
12.6	Neighbourhood relationship		✓
12.7	Amateur cultural organization index		✓
12.8	Interesting Cultural Activities		✓
12.9	Ongoing Social Activities		✓
12.10	Places of historical figures and cultural heritage points		✓
13.	Governance		
13.1	Proportion of government owned dwellings	✓	✓
13.2	Democratic management	✓	
13.3	Village management index	✓	
13.4	The responsibility of the villiage clerk and directo		
14.	Communications and information		
14.1	Access to ABC or national broadcaster radio	✓	✓
14.2	Proportion of households with access to the internet	✓	✓
14.3	Proportion of households with mobile phone reception	✓	✓
14.4	E-commerce service site	✓	
14.5	Postal and communication facilities	✓	
14.6	Rural broadband penetration	✓	