



NEBRASKA RURAL POLL

A Research Report

Well-Being in Nonmetropolitan Nebraska: 25 Years of Trends

2020 Nebraska Rural Poll Results

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Nebraska Rural Poll Research Report 20-3, August 2020.

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Funding for this project was provided by Nebraska Extension of the Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources, the University of Nebraska Rural Futures Institute, and the Department of Agricultural Economics.

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Executive Summary

The past year has been a challenging one for Nebraska. Ongoing impacts from last winter's bomb cyclone, coupled with low commodity prices and the impacts of the COVID-19 epidemic, has increased stress and uncertainty throughout the state. Given these challenges, how do rural Nebraskans feel about their community? Are they satisfied with the services provided by their community? How do rural Nebraskans believe they are doing and how do they view their future? How satisfied are they with various items that influence their well-being? Have these views changed over the past 25 years? This paper provides a detailed analysis of these questions.

This report details 1,979 responses to the 2020 Nebraska Rural Poll, the 25th annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions about their community and well-being. Trends for some of the questions are examined by comparing data from the 24 previous polls to this year's results. In addition, comparisons are made among different respondent subgroups, that is, comparisons by age, occupation, region, etc. Based on these analyses, some key findings emerged:

- ***By many different measures, rural Nebraskans are positive about their community.***
 - ✓ *Most rural Nebraskans rate their community favorably on its social dimensions.* Overall, respondents rate their communities as friendly (79%), trusting (66%) and supportive (71%).
 - ✓ *Most rural Nebraskans say it would be difficult to leave their community.* Almost six in ten rural Nebraskans (58%) say it would be difficult to leave their community. Just under three in ten (27%) indicate it would be easy for their household to leave their community.
 - ✓ *Most rural Nebraskans have a positive attachment to their community.* Most rural Nebraskans agree that they have a good bond with others in their community (65%), they feel like a member of their community (63%), they belong in their community (62%), they feel connected to their community (58%), people in the community are good at influencing each other (56%), the community helps them fulfill their needs (55%), and they can get what they need in their community (55%).
 - ✓ *Most rural Nebraskans disagree that their community is powerless to control its future.* Just over six in ten rural Nebraskans (63%) strongly disagree or disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future.
 - ✓ *Rural Nebraskans' views about the change in their community have generally been positive.* The proportion believing their community has changed for the better during the past year has usually been greater than the proportion believing it has changed for the worse, especially during the past nine years when the gap between the two has widened.
 - ✓ *Rural Nebraskans' optimism about the expected change in their community ten years from now has increased during the past ten years.* The proportion believing their community will be a better place to live ten years from now has steadily increased during the past ten years, from 20 percent in 2011 to 28 percent this year.

- ***Residents of larger communities are more likely than residents of smaller communities to say their community has changed for the better during the past year and will be a better place to live ten years from now.***
 - ✓ *Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to say their community has changed for the better during the past year.* Almost four in ten persons (38%) living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more believe their community has changed for the better, compared to 24 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people.
 - ✓ *Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to say their community will be a better place to live ten years from now.* Just over one-third of persons living in or near communities with populations greater than 10,000 believe their community will be a better place to live ten years from now. In comparison, 15 percent of persons living in or near the smallest communities think their community will improve in ten years.
- ***Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to have their needs met in their community. However, persons living in or near the smallest communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to have an attachment to their community.***
- ***Except for some services that are largely unavailable in rural communities, rural Nebraskans are generally satisfied with basic community services and amenities.*** The services or amenities respondents are most satisfied with include: fire protection (87%), parks and recreation (77%), library services (72%), education (K-12) (70%), religious organizations (70%) and law enforcement (68%). Over one-third of the respondents are either very dissatisfied or somewhat dissatisfied with retail shopping (54%), streets and roads (53%), entertainment (47%), restaurants (38%), cost of housing (37%), arts/cultural activities (37%), and Internet service (34%).
 - ✓ *The proportion of rural Nebraskans satisfied with many social services and entertainment services has decreased during the past 20 years.* Declines in satisfaction levels across the past 20 years occur with nursing home care, medical care services, senior centers, mental health services and retail shopping.
- ***This year, rural Nebraskans are slightly less positive about their current situation than they were last year but still report high levels of optimism.*** The proportion believing they are better off than they were five years ago decreased slightly from 56 percent last year (the highest proportion across all 25 years of the study) to 53 percent. However, this is still one of the highest proportions saying they are better off than they were five years ago throughout all 25 years.
- ***Rural Nebraskans remain optimistic about their future.*** This year, rural Nebraskans' optimism about their future is about the same as last year. One-half of rural Nebraskans (50%) believe they will be better off ten years from now. This is similar to 52 percent last year (the highest proportion across all years of this study). The proportion saying they will be better off ten years from now has always been greater than the proportion saying they will be worse off ten years from now. In fact, the gap between the two has gradually widened since 2013.

- ***In many measures, Panhandle residents are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to report dissatisfaction or pessimism.***
 - ✓ Less than two in ten Panhandle residents (17%) say their community has changed for the better during the past year. And, over one-third (34%) say their community has changed for the worse during the past year. Similarly, three in ten (30%) think their community will be a worse place to live ten years from now.
 - ✓ Just under three in ten Panhandle residents (29%) agree that their community is powerless to control its own future.
 - ✓ Panhandle residents are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with the following community services/amenities: retail shopping, streets and roads and their local government. They are also the regional group most likely to be dissatisfied with their financial security during retirement, their current income level, their ability to build assets/wealth and their health.
 - ✓ Over one-third of Panhandle residents (34%) say it would be easy to leave their community.
 - ✓ Just under four in ten Panhandle residents (37%) believe they are better off compared to five years ago, compared to almost six in ten residents of both the South Central and Northeast regions.
 - ✓ Just under four in ten Panhandle residents (39%) think they will be better off ten years from now, compared to almost six in ten residents of the Southeast region (56%). And, one-quarter (25%) expect to be worse off ten years from now.

Introduction

The past year has been a challenging one for Nebraska. Ongoing impacts from last winter's bomb cyclone, coupled with low commodity prices and the impacts of the COVID-19 epidemic, has increased stress and uncertainty throughout the state. Given these challenges, how do rural Nebraskans feel about their community? Are they satisfied with the services provided by their community? How do rural Nebraskans believe they are doing and how do they view their future? How satisfied are they with various items that influence their well-being? Have these views changed over the past 25 years? This paper provides a detailed analysis of these questions.

This report details 1,979 responses to the 2020 Nebraska Rural Poll, the 25th annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions about their community and well-being.

Methodology and Respondent Profile

This study is based on 1,979 responses from Nebraskans living in 86 counties in the state.¹ A self-administered questionnaire was mailed in March and April to 6,033 randomly selected households. Metropolitan counties not included in the sample were Cass, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, Saunders, Seward and Washington. The 14-page questionnaire included questions pertaining to well-being, community, weather events, resilience, and agriculture. This paper reports only results from the community and well-being sections.

¹ In the spring of 2013, the Grand Island area (Hall, Hamilton, Howard and Merrick Counties) was designated a metropolitan area. To facilitate comparisons from previous years, these four counties are still included in our sample. In addition, the Sioux City area metropolitan counties of Dixon and Dakota were added in 2014 because of a joint

A 33% response rate was achieved using the total design method (Dillman, 1978). The sequence of steps used follow:

1. A pre-notification letter was sent requesting participation in the study.
2. The questionnaire was mailed with an informal letter signed by the project manager approximately ten days later.
3. A reminder postcard was sent to those who had not yet responded approximately ten days after the questionnaire had been sent.
4. Those who had not yet responded within approximately 20 days of the original mailing were sent a replacement questionnaire.

Appendix Table 1 shows demographic data from this year's study and previous rural polls, as well as similar data based on the entire nonmetropolitan population of Nebraska (using the latest available data from the 2014 - 2018 American Community Survey). As can be seen from the table, there are some marked differences between some of the demographic variables in our sample compared to the Census data. Thus, we suggest the reader use caution in generalizing our data to all rural Nebraska. However, given the random sampling frame used for this survey, the acceptable percentage of responses, and the large number of respondents, we feel the data provide useful insights into opinions of rural Nebraskans on the various issues presented in this report. The margin of error for this study is plus or minus two percent.

Since younger residents have typically been under-represented by survey respondents and

Metro Poll being conducted by the University of Nebraska at Omaha to ensure all counties in the state were sampled. Although classified as metro, Dixon County is rural in nature. Dakota County is similar in many respects to other "micropolitan" counties the Rural Poll surveys.

older residents have been over-represented, weights were used to adjust the sample to match the age distribution in the nonmetropolitan counties in Nebraska (using U.S. Census figures from 2010).

The average age of respondents is 50 years. Sixty-nine percent are married (Appendix Table 1) and 69 percent live within the city limits of a town or village. On average, respondents have lived in Nebraska 42 years and have lived in their current community 27 years. Fifty-eight percent are living in or near towns or villages with populations less than 5,000. Ninety-seven percent have attained at least a high school diploma.

Twenty-two percent of the respondents report their 2019 approximate household income from all sources, before taxes, as below \$40,000. Sixty percent report incomes over \$60,000. Seventy-eight percent were employed in 2019 on a full-time, part-time, or seasonal basis. Eighteen percent are retired. Thirty-three percent of those employed reported working in a management, professional, or education occupation. Fifteen percent indicated they were employed in agriculture.

Trends in Community Ratings (1996 - 2020)

Comparisons are made between the community data collected this year to the 24 previous studies. These were independent samples (the same people were not surveyed each year).

Community Change – 25 Year Trend

To examine respondents' perceptions of how their community has changed, they were asked the question, "Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say...My community

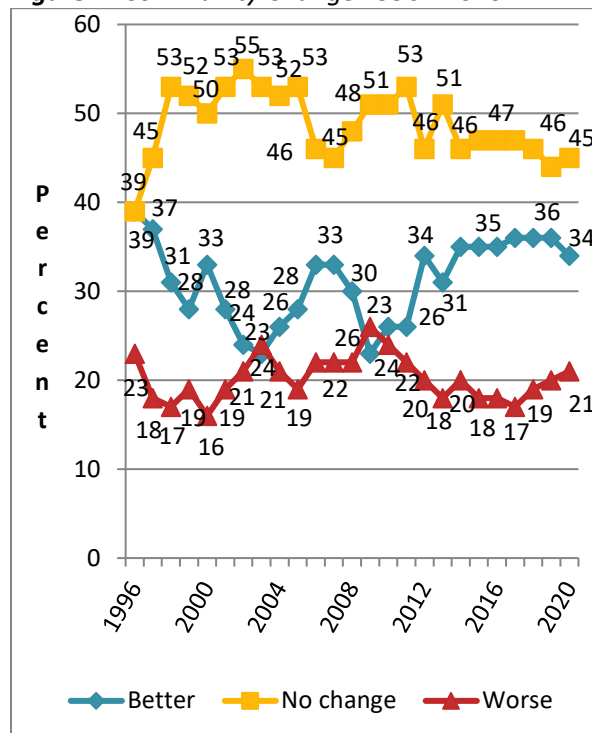
has changed for the..." Answer categories were better, no change or worse.

One difference in the wording of this question has occurred over the past 25 years. Starting in 1998, the phrase "this past year" was added to the question; no time frame was given to the respondents in the first two studies. Also, in 2007 the middle response "same" was replaced with "no change."

Rural Nebraskans' views about the change in their community have generally been positive. The proportion believing their community has changed for the better has typically been greater than the proportion believing it has changed for the worse, especially during the past nine years when the gap between the two has widened (Figure 1).

The proportion saying their community has changed for the better has averaged approximately 31 percent. Following a seven-

Figure 1. Community Change 1996 - 2020



year period of general decline, the proportion saying their community has changed for the better increased from 23 percent in 2003 to 33 percent in 2007. It then declined to 23 percent in 2009 (the lowest proportion of all 25 years, also occurring in 2003). However, the proportion viewing positive change in their community has since generally increased to 34 percent this year.

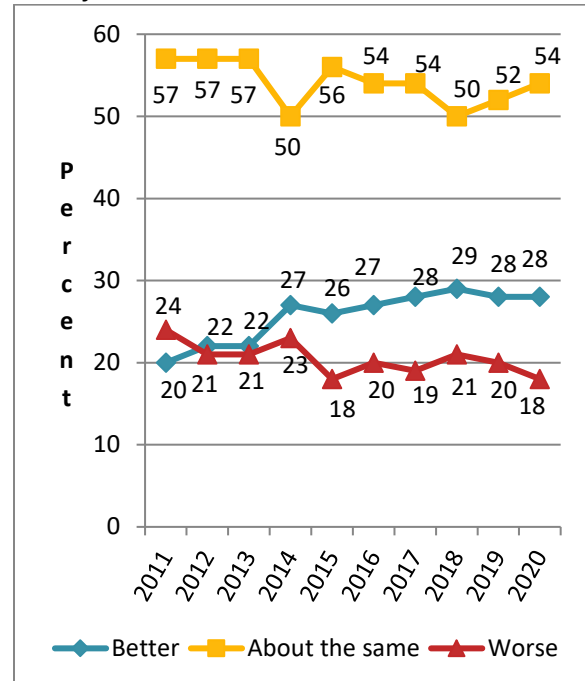
The proportion saying their community has stayed the same first increased from 1996 to 1998. It then remained fairly steady during the following eight years but declined in both 2006 and 2007. Then it steadily increased to 53 percent in 2011. However, the proportion believing their community has stayed the same has since generally declined to 45 percent this year.

The proportion saying their community has changed for the worse has remained fairly steady across all 25 years, averaging 20 percent. It increased from 22 percent in 2008 to 26 percent in 2009 (the highest proportion in all years of this study). Since then, however, it has generally decreased to 21 percent this year.

Starting in 2011, respondents were also asked to predict the expected change in their community ten years from now. The exact question wording was, “Based on what you see of the situation today, do you think that, ten years from now, your community will be a worse place to live, a better place or about the same?”

The proportion believing their community will be a better place to live ten years from now has steadily increased during the past ten years, from 20 percent in 2011 to 28 percent this year (Figure 2). The proportion believing their community will be a worse place to live has generally declined from 24 percent in 2011 to 18 percent this year.

Figure 2. Expected Community Change Ten Years from Now: 2011 - 2020



The proportion thinking their community will be about the same ten years from now has remained relatively stable, with the exceptions of 2014 and 2018 when it declined to 50 percent.

Community Social Dimensions and Powerlessness – 25 Year Trend

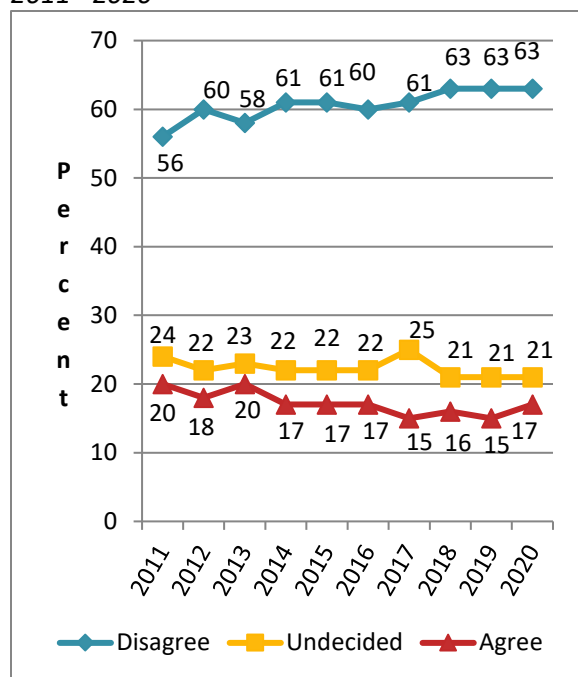
Respondents were also asked each year if they would describe their communities as friendly or unfriendly, trusting or distrusting, and supportive or hostile. For each of these three dimensions, respondents were asked to rate their community using a seven-point scale between each pair of contrasting views. The proportion of respondents who view their community as friendly has remained fairly steady over the 25-year period, ranging from 69 to 79 percent. The proportion of respondents who view their community as trusting has also remained fairly steady, ranging from 59 to 66 percent.

A similar pattern emerged when examining the proportion of respondents who rated their community as supportive. The proportions rating their community as supportive have ranged from 60 percent to 71 percent over the 25-year period.

Starting in 2001, respondents were also asked a question to determine if they view their community as powerless. They were asked, “Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My community is powerless to control its own future.” They were given a five-point scale that ranged from strongly disagree to strongly agree.

In general, rural Nebraskans’ perceptions of the powerlessness of their community has remained fairly stable (Figure 3). The proportion disagreeing with the statement has generally increased from 56 percent in 2011 to 63 percent this year. However, the proportion has been relatively stable the past six years.

Figure 3. Feelings of Community Powerlessness: 2011 - 2020

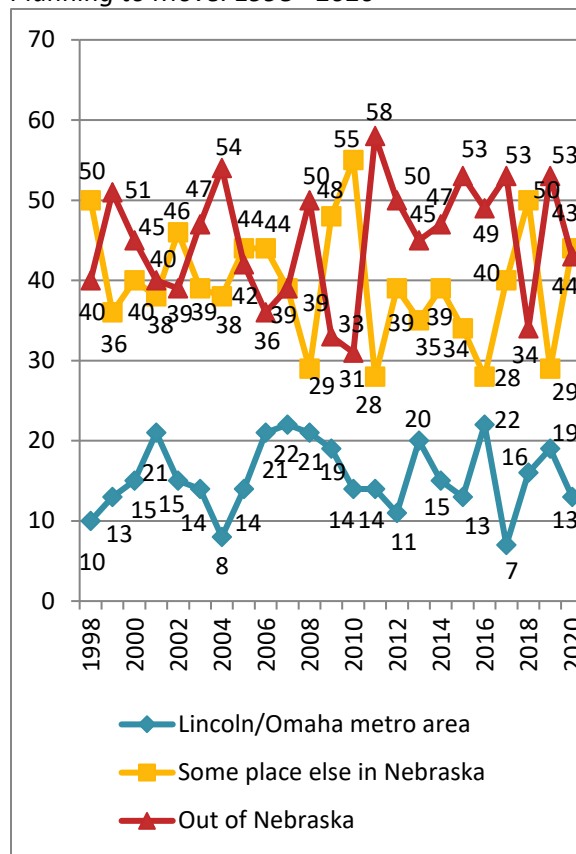


Plans to Leave the Community – 25 Year Trend

Starting in 1998, respondents were asked, “Do you plan to move from your community in the next year?” The proportion planning to leave their community has remained relatively stable during the past 23 years, ranging from 3 percent to 8 percent.

The expected destination for the persons planning to move has changed over time (Figure 4). Following a brief increase last year, the proportion of expected movers planning to leave the state sharply decreased from 53 percent to 43 percent this year. The proportion expecting to leave the state has averaged approximately 45 percent over the 23-year period.

Figure 4. Expected Destination of Those Planning to Move: 1998 - 2020



The proportion of expected movers planning to move to either the Omaha or Lincoln area had generally declined between 2006 and 2012, from 21 percent to 11 percent. However, it has been fairly inconsistent year to year since then – showing alternate patterns of increases and declines. The proportion of expected movers planning to move to the Omaha or Lincoln area has averaged approximately 16 percent.

And, the proportion of expected movers planning to move to other areas of rural Nebraska had generally increased from 28 percent in 2011 to 39 in 2014, but then declined to 28 percent in 2016. Since then, it increased to 50 percent in 2018, dropped sharply to 29 percent last year and then increased to 44 percent this year. The average proportion expecting to move to other areas of rural Nebraska has been almost 40 percent.

Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities – 25 Year Trend

Respondents were also asked how satisfied they are with various community services and amenities each year. They were asked this in all 25 studies; however, in 1996 they were also asked about the availability of these services. Comparisons will only be made between the last 20 studies. The respondents were asked how satisfied they were with a list of 27 services and amenities, taking into consideration availability, cost, and quality.

Table 1 shows the proportions very or somewhat satisfied with the service each year. The rank ordering of these items has remained relatively stable over the 20 years. However, the proportion of rural Nebraskans satisfied with many social services has generally declined across all 20 years. As an example, the proportion of rural Nebraskans satisfied with nursing home care has dropped from 55

percent in 2001 to 42 percent this year. Similar declines occur with medical care services, senior centers, and mental health services. In addition, satisfaction with retail shopping has also generally declined over the past 20 years. Satisfaction with retail shopping has typically declined from 47 percent in 2001 to 33 percent this year (though it did increase during the past year).

On the other hand, satisfaction with cellular phone service has generally increased over time. The proportion satisfied with cellular phone services has increased from 49 percent in 2006 (the first year it was included in the survey) to 64 percent this year.

A couple items saw an increase in satisfaction levels compared to last year. Just over four in ten rural Nebraskans (43%) were satisfied with the restaurants in their community last year. That proportion sharply increased to 52 percent this year. Similarly, satisfaction with retail shopping in the community increased from 28 to 33 percent.

The Community and Its Attributes in 2020

In this section, the 2020 data on respondents' evaluations of their communities and its attributes are examined in terms of any significant differences that may exist depending upon the size of the respondent's community, the region in which they live, or various individual attributes such as household income or age.

Community Change – 2020 Data

The perceptions of the change occurring in their community by various demographic subgroups are examined (Appendix Table 2). Residents

Table 1. Proportion of Respondents Very or Somewhat Satisfied with Each Service, 2001 - 2020

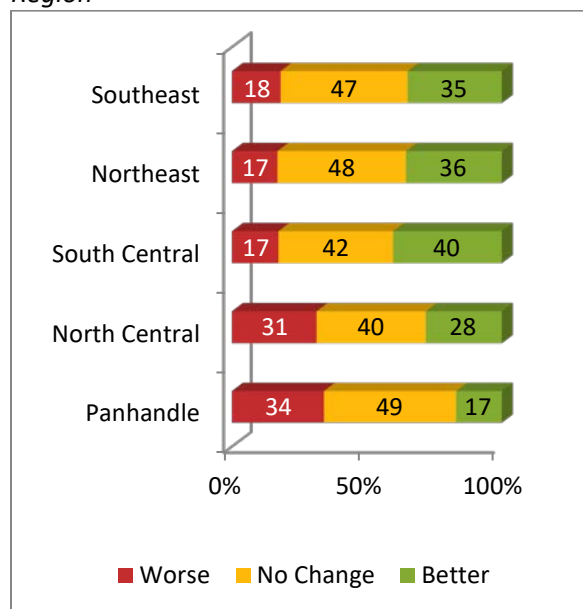
Service/Amenity	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Fire protection	*	*	*	*	*	86	85	86	87	85	86	85	86	86	87	87	85	89	89	87
Parks/recreation	73	74	76	75	74	75	74	75	74	74	75	76	76	71	76	78	75	74	79	77
Library services	71	74	74	74	72	73	74	75	74	73	73	72	73	72	73	71	73	74	73	72
Education (K-12)	69	69	69	68	68	68	68	70	68	68	68	68	68	68	69	68	70	69	70	70
Religious org.	*	*	*	*	*	72	72	73	71	71	70	72	71	70	72	69	68	67	69	70
Law enforcement	61	63	65	63	63	64	63	62	64	65	63	65	64	62	64	69	67	66	69	68
Medical care svcs	71	69	71	71	71	71	63	66	67	67	67	68	66	62	62	64	63	59	64	66
Cell phone services	*	*	*	*	*	49	54	58	61	60	64	63	65	60	64	63	61	59	66	64
Sewage/waste disposal*	*	*	*	*	*	66	66	67	66	65	65	64	67	64	65	64	66	67	65	63
Sewage disposal	61	66	64	67	63	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Water disposal	60	64	62	65	62	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Solid waste disp.	60	64	63	65	63	64	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Access to higher ed	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	63	62	59	58	63	63
Internet service	*	*	*	*	*	50	51	57	58	56	60	59	59	56	58	56	54	53	57	54
Restaurants	53	51	54	56	54	54	50	45	47	47	48	48	46	40	46	43	43	45	43	52
Quality of housing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	44	45	45	44	47	46	48
Cost of housing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	50	45	45	45	46	43	43
Housing	57	62	60	61	60	61	59	59	61	59	59	57	52	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Civic/nonprofit organizations	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	45	47	48	49	47
Senior centers	58	62	61	58	59	55	48	47	47	47	48	47	48	47	49	47	47	45	43	45
Comm recycling	*	*	*	*	*	*	50	48	52	54	54	54	58	53	55	52	50	51	46	44
Head start progs	39	38	40	41	39	37	29	26	28	29	27	27	27	39	39	39	40	37	44	42
Nursing home care	55	57	57	55	55	53	46	47	45	46	46	45	43	47	47	43	44	38	40	42
Local government*	*	*	*	*	*	41	40	38	41	40	41	42	40	37	40	37	42	39	43	42
County govt.	49	47	51	48	47	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
City/village govt.	46	45	48	45	46	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Streets and roads*	*	*	*	*	*	*	55	49	51	47	48	49	53	44	47	43	44	45	42	41
Streets	51	61	62	59	60	60	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Highway/bridges	65	69	70	69	70	69	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Child day care svcs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	32	34	35	35	32	34	34	33	31	30	34	34
Day care services	43	44	45	47	45	42	31	28	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Retail shopping	47	45	45	49	47	45	41	39	40	41	37	39	38	33	38	34	32	35	28	33
Entertainment	33	32	33	36	32	34	30	26	29	32	30	30	31	26	29	26	28	29	29	31
Mental health svcs	29	30	30	31	30	27	23	23	24	23	24	25	23	21	23	22	21	19	23	25
Arts/cultural activities	*	*	*	*	*	*	26	25	24	27	27	27	26	24	26	22	24	26	27	24
Pub transp svcs*	*	*	*	*	*	*	17	17	19	18	19	19	20	17	19	18	17	21	20	21
Airline service	15	16	17	18	15	15	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Taxi service	10	10	11	12	12	11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Rail service	10	11	11	13	11	9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bus service	10	9	10	11	7	7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

* = Not asked that particular year; * New items added in 2007 that combine previous items (indented below each).

living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to say that their community has changed for the better during the past year. Almost four in ten persons (38%) living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more believe their community has changed for the better, compared to 24 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people.

Persons living in the South Central region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to say their community has changed for the better during the past year (see Appendix Figure 1 for the counties included in each region). Four in ten residents of this region (40%) say their community changed for the better during the past year, compared to 17 percent of persons living in the Panhandle (Figure 5). Over three in ten residents of both the Panhandle and North Central regions say their community has changed for the worse during the past year.

Figure 5. Perceptions of Community Change by Region



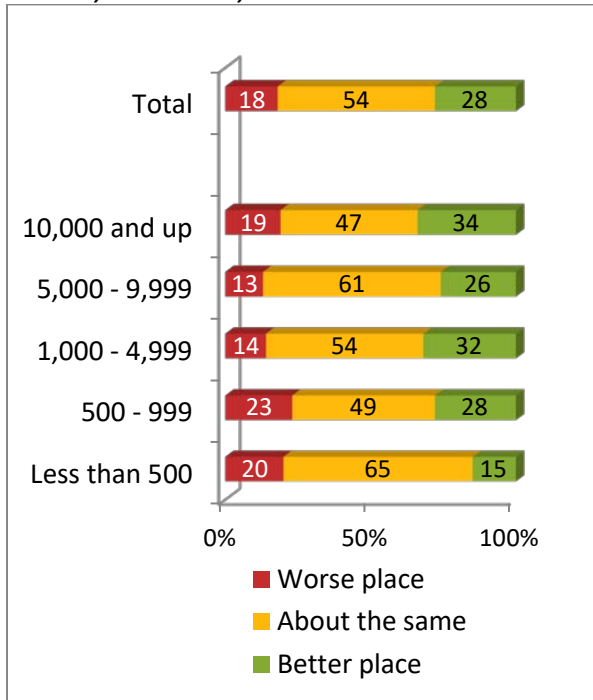
Other groups most likely to say their community has changed for the better during the past year include: persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, persons with higher education levels and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

In addition, respondents were asked to predict the expected change in their community ten years from now. The exact question wording was, “Based on what you see of the situation today, do you think that, ten years from now, your community will be a worse place to live, a better place or about the same?” Almost three in ten rural Nebraskans (28%) expect their community will be a better place to live ten years from now. Just over one-half (54%) expect it to be about the same and just under two in ten (18%) think their community will be a worse place to live ten years from now.

Respondents’ perceptions differ by the size of their community, the region in which they live and some individual attributes (Appendix Table 3). Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near the smallest communities to say their community will be a better place to live ten years from now. Just over one-third of persons living in or near communities with populations greater than 10,000 believe their community will be a better place to live ten years from now (Figure 6). In comparison, 15 percent of persons living in or near the smallest communities think their community will improve in ten years.

Persons living in both the South Central and Northeast regions are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to say their community will be a better place to live ten years from now. Approximately one-third of residents of these two regions believe their community will be a better place to live ten

Figure 6. Expected Community Change in Ten Years by Community Size



years from now, compared to 16 percent of Panhandle residents. Three in ten Panhandle residents (30%) think their community will be a worse place to live ten years from now.

Other groups most likely to have an optimistic view about their community's future include: persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, persons who have never married and persons with higher education levels.

Community Social Attributes and Powerlessness – 2020 Data

In addition to asking respondents about their perceptions of the change occurring in their community, they were also asked to rate its social dimensions. They were asked if they would describe their communities as friendly or unfriendly, trusting or distrusting, and supportive or hostile. Overall, respondents rate

their communities as friendly (79%), trusting (66%) and supportive (71%).

Respondents' ratings of their community on these dimensions differ by some of the characteristics examined (Appendix Table 4). Persons living in or near mid-sized communities are more likely than persons living in or near both the smallest and largest communities to rate their community as supportive. Residents of the South Central region are more likely than residents of other regions to rate their community as both friendly and trusting.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to rate their community as friendly, trusting and supportive. As an example, 74 percent of persons with household incomes of \$100,000 or more view their community as trusting, compared to 59 percent of persons with incomes under \$40,000.

The youngest respondents are the age group most likely to rate their community as friendly. Almost nine in ten persons age 19 to 29 (86%) view their community as friendly, compared to 71 percent of persons age 40 to 49. Both the youngest and oldest respondents are more likely than persons of different ages to say their community is supportive.

When comparing responses by marital status, persons who have never married are the group most likely to rate their community as friendly and trusting. Persons with the highest education levels are more likely than persons with less education to rate their community as friendly, trusting and supportive.

Persons with management, professional or education occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to rate their community as friendly. Persons with

construction, installation or maintenance occupations join this group as most likely to rate the community as trusting and are the group most likely to say their community is supportive.

Newcomers to the community (persons who have lived in their community for five years or less) are more likely than long-term residents to rate their community as both trusting and supportive. As an example, over seven in ten newcomers (72%) rate their community as trusting, compared to 65 percent of long-term residents.

Respondents were next asked if they view their community as powerless. They were asked, “Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My community is powerless to control its own future.” They were given a five-point scale that ranged from strongly disagree to strongly agree.

Most rural Nebraskans disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future. Just over six in ten rural Nebraskans (63%) strongly disagree or disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future. Less than two in ten rural Nebraskans (17%) believe their community is powerless to control its future and just over two in ten (21%) are undecided.

The feelings of community powerlessness are examined by community size, region and individual attributes (Appendix Table 5). Many differences emerge.

Persons living in or near the largest communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future. Almost seven in ten persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or

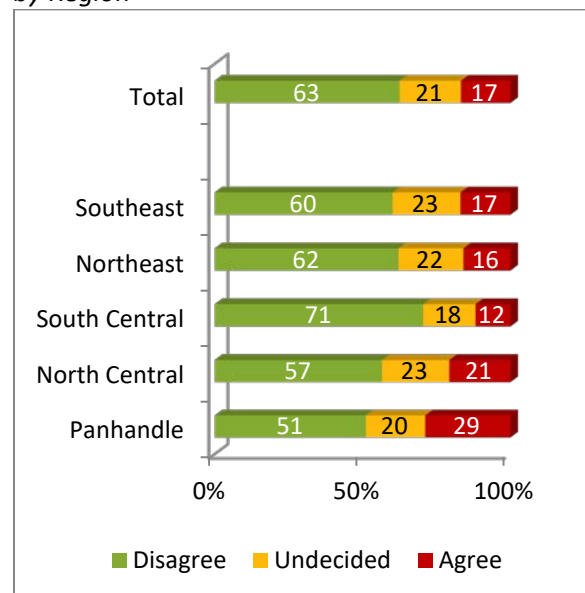
more disagree with that statement, compared to just under six in ten persons living in or near communities with populations under 1,000.

Residents of the South Central region are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future. Just over seven in ten residents of the South Central region (71%) disagree with this statement, compared to 51 percent of Panhandle residents (Figure 7). Almost three in ten Panhandle residents (29%) agree that their community is powerless to control its own future.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future. Just over three-quarters of persons with at least a four-year college degree (76%) disagree with this statement, compared to 51 percent of persons with a high school diploma or less education.

Other groups most likely to disagree that their

Figure 7. Feelings of Community Powerlessness by Region



community is powerless to control its own future include: persons with higher household incomes, persons under the age of 65, persons who have never married and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities – 2020 Data

Next, rural Nebraskans were asked to rate how satisfied they are with 27 different services and amenities, taking into consideration cost, availability, and quality. Residents report high levels of satisfaction with some services, but other services and amenities have higher levels of dissatisfaction. Only five services listed have a higher proportion of dissatisfied responses than satisfied responses and those services are largely unavailable in rural communities.

The services or amenities respondents are most satisfied with (based on the combined percentage of “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” responses) include: fire protection (87%), parks and recreation (77%), library services (72%), education (K-12) (70%), religious organizations (70%) and law enforcement (68%) (Appendix Table 6). Over one-third of the respondents are either very dissatisfied or somewhat dissatisfied with retail shopping (54%), streets and roads (53%), entertainment (47%), restaurants (38%), cost of housing (37%), arts/cultural activities (37%), and Internet service (34%).

The ten services and amenities with the greatest dissatisfaction ratings were analyzed by community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 7). Many differences emerge.

Persons living in or near mid-sized communities (populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999) are

more likely than persons living in or near both smaller and larger communities to express dissatisfaction with their retail shopping. Persons living in or near larger communities, though, are more likely than persons living in or near the smallest communities to be dissatisfied with the entertainment in their community. The opposite trend appears when examining dissatisfaction with their community’s restaurants. Just over four in ten persons living in or near communities with populations less than 1,000 express dissatisfaction with the restaurants in their community, compared to just over one-third of persons living in or near communities with populations greater than 1,000.

Residents of the Panhandle are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to express dissatisfaction with the retail shopping in their community. Just under two-thirds of Panhandle residents (64%) are dissatisfied with the retail shopping in their community, compared to just under one-half of residents of the South Central region. Residents of the South Central region are the regional group *least* likely to be dissatisfied with the entertainment in their community. Residents of the Southeast region join them as the groups *least* likely to express dissatisfaction with their community’s restaurants.

Persons age 30 to 64 are more likely than both younger and older persons to express dissatisfaction with both the retail shopping and restaurants in their community. Persons age 30 to 39 are the age group most likely to say they are dissatisfied with the entertainment in their community. Almost six in ten persons in this age group (57%) are dissatisfied with their community’s entertainment, compared to 38 percent of persons age 65 and older.

Persons with higher household incomes are

more likely than persons with the lowest incomes to be dissatisfied with the retail shopping in their community.

Persons with some college education (but not a four year degree) are the education group most likely to be dissatisfied with the retail shopping in their community. Persons with at least some college education are more likely than persons with no college education to express dissatisfaction with entertainment.

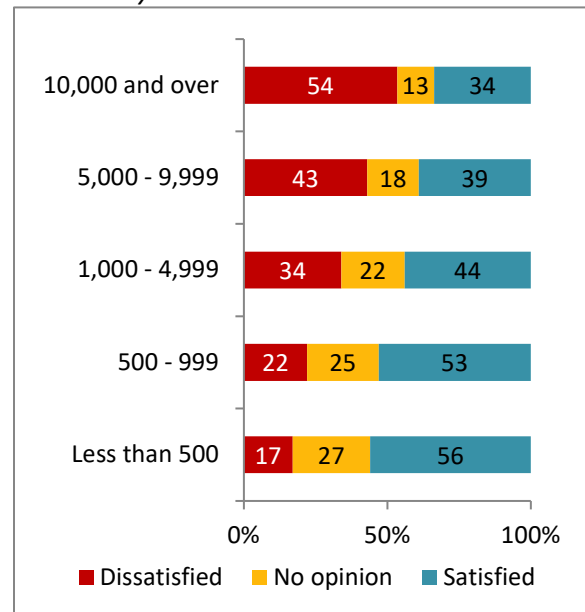
Residents of both the Panhandle and North Central regions are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with their streets and roads. Approximately two-thirds of the residents of these two regions express dissatisfaction with their streets and roads, compared to approximately one-half of the residents of the other three regions.

Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their streets and roads include persons with lower education levels and persons with food service or personal care occupations.

Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to express dissatisfaction with the cost of housing in their community. Just over one-half of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more (54%) are dissatisfied with the cost of housing in their community, compared to 17 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations less than 500 (Figure 8).

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their community's cost of housing include persons age 30 to 49 and persons with higher education levels.

Figure 8. Satisfaction with Cost of Housing by Community Size



Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to express dissatisfaction with the arts/cultural activities in their community. Just under four in ten persons with at least a four year college degree (39%) are dissatisfied with the arts/cultural activities, compared to 33 percent of persons with less education.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their arts/cultural activities include: persons living in or near smaller communities (populations under 5,000), persons age 30 to 64, persons with occupations in agriculture and persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations.

Persons living in or near the smallest communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to be dissatisfied with the Internet service in their community. Almost one-half (46%) of persons living in or near communities with populations under 500 are dissatisfied with the Internet service,

compared to 29 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more.

Persons with occupations in agriculture are more likely than persons with different occupations to express dissatisfaction with their Internet service. One-half of persons with occupations in agriculture are dissatisfied with the Internet service in their community, compared to one-quarter of persons with food service or personal care occupations (Figure 9).

The other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with the Internet service in their community include: residents of the Northeast region, persons with higher household incomes, persons age 40 to 49 and persons with at least some college education.

Residents of the North Central region are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to express dissatisfaction with the quality of housing in their community. Just over four in ten residents of this region (44%) are dissatisfied with the quality of housing,

compared to 28 percent of persons living in the South Central region.

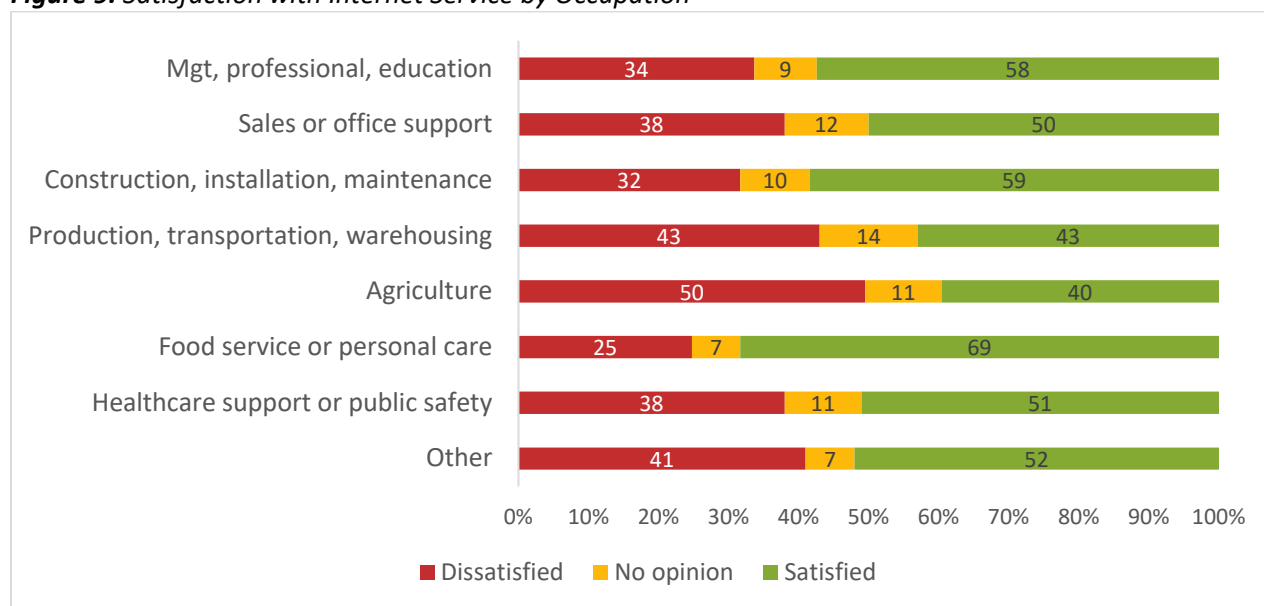
Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with the quality of housing in their community include persons living in or near the smallest communities and persons age 30 to 49.

Residents of the Northeast region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with their community recycling. Just over four in ten residents of this region are dissatisfied with their community recycling, compared to 26 percent of persons living in the North Central region.

Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their community recycling include persons with the highest household incomes and persons under the age of 40.

Both residents of the Panhandle and the North Central regions are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with their local government. Just over four in ten residents of these two regions are dissatisfied

Figure 9. Satisfaction with Internet Service by Occupation



with their local government, compared to approximately three in ten residents of the other three regions.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their local government include: persons living in or near smaller communities, persons with the lowest household incomes, persons under the age of 65, persons with some college education (but less than a four year degree) and persons with construction, installation or maintenance occupations.

Opinions about the Community

Next, respondents were asked the extent to which they agree or disagree with various statements about their community. Most rural Nebraskans have a positive attachment to their community. Most rural Nebraskans agree that they have a good bond with others in their community (65%), they feel like a member of their community (63%), they belong in their community (62%), they feel connected to their community (58%), people in the community are good at influencing each other (56%), the community helps them fulfill their needs (55%), and they can get what they need in their community (55%) (Table 2). Feelings are mixed

on whether or not they believe they have a say about what goes on in their community. Almost equal proportions both agree and disagree with that statement.

Respondents' level of attachment to their community is examined by community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 8). Many differences emerge.

Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to have their needs met in their community. People living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to agree that they can get what they need in their community and that the community helps them fulfill their needs. Approximately two-thirds of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more (66%) agree that they can get what they need in their community, compared to just under four in ten persons living in or near communities with populations under 500 (37%).

However, persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to have an

Table 2. Opinions about Community

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree
I can get what I need in this community.	9%	23%	13%	46%	9%
This community helps me fulfill my needs.	7	16	23	46	9
I feel like a member of this community.	5	11	21	47	16
I belong in this community.	4	9	25	46	16
I have a say about what goes on in my community.	13	21	33	27	6
People in this community are good at influencing each other.	4	10	31	47	9
I feel connected to this community.	6	13	24	45	13
I have a good bond with others in this community.	5	9	21	50	15

attachment to their community. Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to agree that they feel like a member of their community and that they have a say about what goes on in their community. Approximately two-thirds of persons living in or near communities with populations under 10,000 agree that they feel like a member of their community, compared to 59 percent of persons living in or near larger communities.

Persons living in or near mid-sized communities are more likely than persons living in or near both smaller and larger communities to agree that they feel connected to their community. Just over two-thirds of persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999 agree with this statement, compared to 54 percent of persons living in or near larger communities.

Residents of the South Central region are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to agree that they can get what they need in their community, that their community helps them fulfill their needs and that they feel connected to their community. Residents of the Southeast region join the residents of the South Central region as those most likely to agree that they belong in their community. The Southeast region residents are also most likely to agree that they feel like a member of their community.

Residents of the Panhandle are *less* likely than residents of other regions of the state to believe they have a say about what goes on in their community and that people in the community are good at influencing each other.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to agree with all of the statements listed, with the

exception of “I belong in this community” where there were no statistically significant differences by income. Almost three-quarters of persons with the highest household incomes (72%) agree that they have a good bond with others in their community, compared to just under six in ten persons with the lowest household incomes (59%).

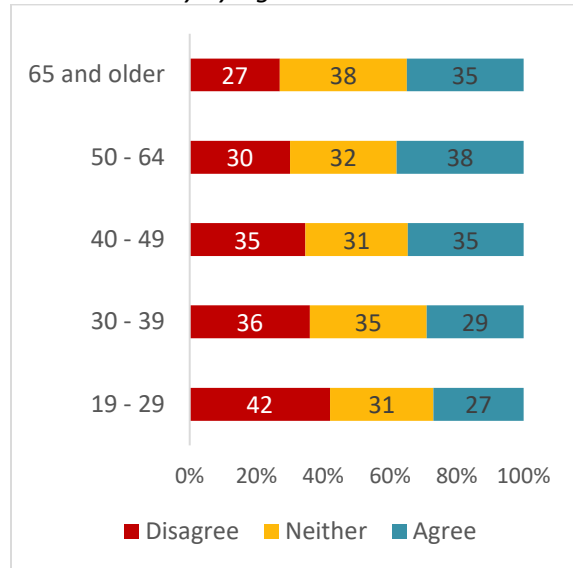
Younger persons are more likely than older persons to say they can get what they need in their community, their community helps them fulfill their needs, they belong in the community and people in their community are good at influencing each other. Just over seven in ten persons age 19 to 29 (71%) agree that they belong in their community, compared to 55 percent of persons age 40 to 49.

Older persons are more likely than younger persons to agree that they feel like a member of their community and that they have a say about what goes on in their community. Over one-third of persons age 40 and older agree that they have a say about what goes on in their community, compared to 27 percent of persons age 19 to 29 (Figure 10). Just over four in ten of the youngest persons (42%) *disagree* that they have a say about what goes on in their community.

Males are more likely than females to agree that they belong in their community. Females are more likely than males to agree that people in their community are good at influencing each other.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to agree with all of the statements listed. As an example, just under three-quarters of persons with at least a four year degree (72%) agree that they have a good bond with others in their community, compared to just over six in ten

Figure 10. *I Have a Say about What Goes On in this Community by Age*



persons with less education.

Persons who have never married are the marital group most likely to agree that they can get what they need in their community and that the community helps them fulfill their needs. Persons who are divorced or separated are the marital group *least* likely to agree that they feel like a member of their community, that they belong in their community, that they have a say about what goes on in the community, that they feel connected to the community and that they have a good bond with others in their community.

Persons with management, professional or education occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to agree that the community helps them fulfill their needs, that they feel like a member of their community, that they belong in their community, that they have a say about what goes on in their community and that they feel connected to their community. Persons with construction, installation or maintenance occupations join this group as most likely to

agree that they have a good bond with others in the community. Persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations are the group most likely to agree that people in the community are good at influencing each other.

Long-term residents have more attachment to their community than do newcomers. Long-term residents are more likely than newcomers to a community to agree that they feel like a member of their community, that they belong in their community, that they have a say about what goes on in their community, that they feel connected to the community and that they have a good bond with others in their community. As an example, two-thirds of long-term residents (66%) agree that they feel like a member of their community, compared to one-half (50%) of newcomers.

Plans to Leave the Community

Next, respondents were asked a question about how easy or difficult it would be to leave their community. The exact question wording was “Assume you were to have a discussion in your household about leaving your community for a reasonably good opportunity elsewhere. Some people might be happy to live in a new place and meet new people. Others might be very sorry to leave. How easy or difficult would it be for your household to leave your community?” They were given a seven point scale where 1 indicated very easy and 7 denoted very difficult. Almost six in ten rural Nebraskans (58%) say it would be difficult to leave their community (Figure 11). Just under three in ten (27%) indicate it would be easy for their household to leave their community.

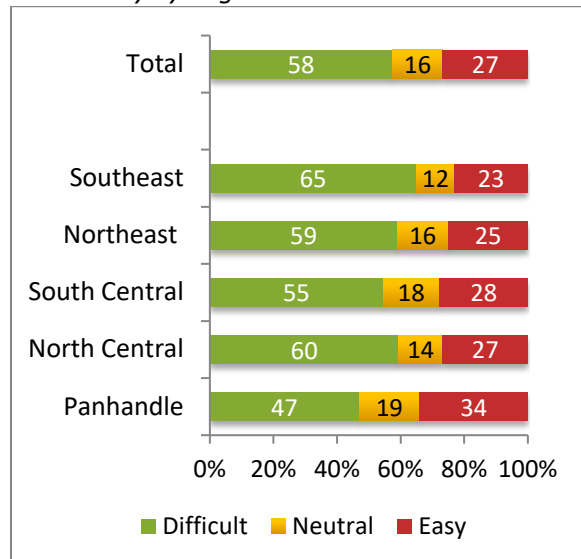
Responses to this question are examined by region, community size and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 9). Many differences emerge.

Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Approximately six in ten persons living in or near communities with populations under 10,000 believe it would be difficult to leave their community, compared to 53 percent of persons living in or near larger communities.

Residents of the Southeast region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Almost two-thirds of residents of the Southeast region say it would be difficult to leave their community, compared to 47 percent of Panhandle residents (Figure 11). Just over one-third of Panhandle residents say it would be easy to leave their community.

Other groups most likely to say it would be difficult to leave their community include: the youngest respondents, widowed persons, persons with occupations in agriculture and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

Figure 11. Difficulty or Ease of Leaving Community by Region



To determine rural Nebraskans' migration intentions, respondents were asked, "Do you plan to move from your community in the next year?" Response options included: yes, to the Lincoln/Omaha metro areas; yes, to someplace in Nebraska outside the Lincoln/Omaha metro areas; yes, to some place other than Nebraska; no; and uncertain.

Only five percent of rural Nebraskans indicate they are planning to move from their community in the next year, 12 percent are uncertain and 84 percent have no plans to move. Of those who are planning to move, just over four in ten (43%) plan to leave Nebraska. Almost six in ten (57%) plan to remain in the state, with 13 percent planning to move to either the Lincoln or Omaha area and 44 percent plan to move to another part of the state.

Intentions to move from their community differ by many of the characteristics examined (Appendix Table 10). Residents of the North Central region are more likely than residents of other regions to be uncertain of their plans to move from their community in the next year.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher incomes to be planning to move from their community. Persons with lower incomes are also more likely to be uncertain of their plans.

Other groups most likely to be planning to move from their community in the next year include: persons who are divorced or separated, persons who have some college education (but less than a four year degree) and persons with food service or personal care occupations.

A follow-up question (asked only of those who indicated they were planning to move) asked to what size of community they were planning to

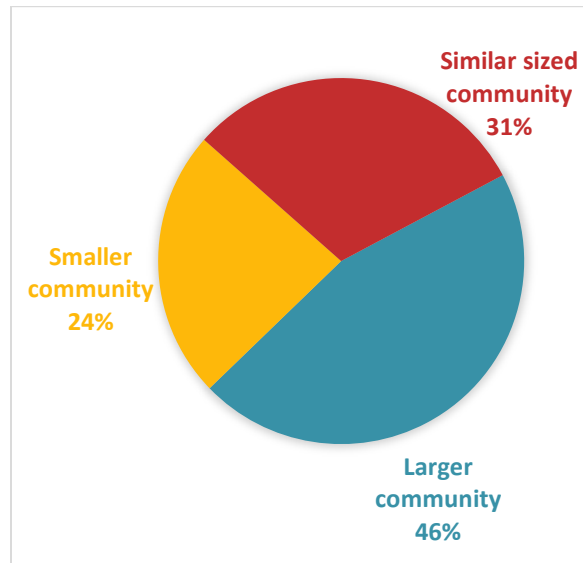
move. The answer categories for this question were: in or near a community larger than your current one, in or near a community smaller than your current one, and in or near a community of the same size as your current one.

Many expected movers are planning to move to a larger community. Just under one-half of expected movers (46%) are planning to move to a community larger than their current one (Figure 12). Just over two in ten (24%) are planning to move to a community smaller than their current one and 31 percent are planning to move to a community of similar size to their current one.

The expected destinations of those planning to move are examined by community size, region and individual attributes (Appendix Table 11). Potential movers living in or near smaller communities are more likely than potential movers living in or near larger communities to be planning to move to a larger community.

Potential movers with lower household incomes

Figure 12. *Size of Community Planning to Move to*



are more likely than those with higher incomes to be planning to move to a larger community. Almost three-quarters (73%) of potential movers with the lowest incomes plan to move to a larger community.

Just under four in ten of the potential movers who are planning to leave the state (39%) expect to move to a larger community. Just over one-third of the potential movers planning to move to nonmetropolitan Nebraska (34%) expect to move to a larger community.

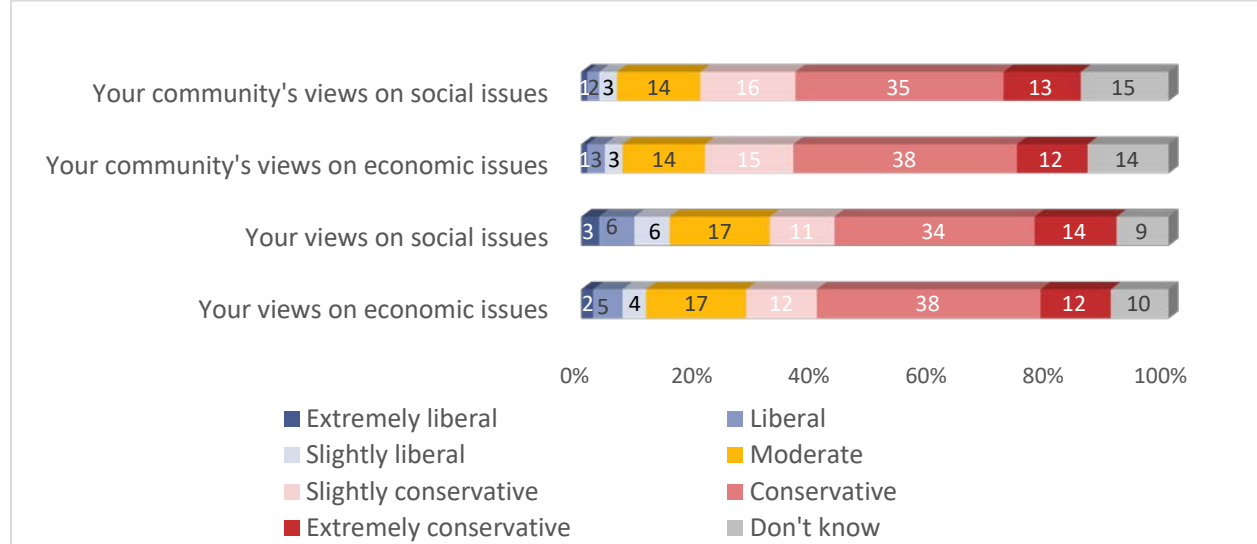
Individual and Community Political Views

Respondents were also asked to rate the political views they hold as well as the views of their community on social and economic issues. The specific question wording was, “Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?” They were given an eight-point scale ranging from extremely liberal to extremely conservative along with a don’t know option.

Most rural Nebraskans rate themselves as conservative on both economic and social issues. They also rate their community’s political views on both economic and social views as conservative. In fact, they view their community’s political views on social issues as more conservative than their own. Fifty-nine percent of rural Nebraskans have conservative views on social issues and 64 percent rate their community’s political views on social issues as conservative (Figure 13).

The respondents’ political views and their perceptions of the political views of their community are examined by community size, region and individual attributes (Appendix Table

Figure 13. Individual and Community Political Views



12). Persons living in or near the largest communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to have liberal views on economic issues. Sixteen percent of persons living in or near the largest communities have liberal views on economic issues, compared to approximately seven percent of persons living in or near smaller communities.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to say they have conservative political views on economic issues. Just over two-thirds of persons with at least a four-year degree (67%) have conservative views on economic issues, compared to 53 percent of persons with a high school diploma or less education.

Persons with occupations in agriculture are more likely than persons with different occupations to have conservative political views on economic issues. Just over eight in ten persons with occupations in agriculture say they have conservative views on economic issues, compared to 55 percent of persons with food service or personal care occupations.

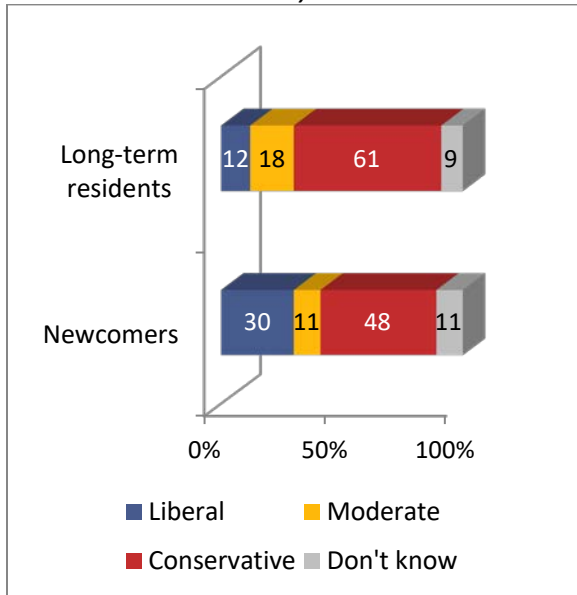
Other groups most likely to rate their views on economic issues as conservative include: residents of the North Central region, residents of the South Central region, persons with higher household incomes, persons age 30 to 49, males, married persons and long-term residents.

Males are more likely than females to say they have conservative political views on social issues. Just over two-thirds of males (67%) have conservative views on social issues, compared to 52 percent of females.

Long-term residents are more likely than newcomers to report having conservative political views on social issues. Just over six in ten (61%) of long-term residents have conservative views on social issues, compared to just under one-half (48%) of newcomers (Figure 14).

Other groups most likely to have conservative views on social issues include: persons living in or near smaller communities, persons with higher household incomes, married persons,

Figure 14. Political Views on Social Issues by Years Lived in Community



persons with higher education levels, and persons with occupations in agriculture.

Residents of both the North Central and South Central regions are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to say their community has conservative political views on economic issues.

The groups most likely to rate their community's political views on both economic and social issues as conservative include: persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, males, married persons, persons with the highest education levels and persons with occupations in agriculture.

Trends in Well-Being (1996 - 2020)

Comparisons are made between the well-being data collected this year to the 24 previous studies. These comparisons show a clearer picture of the trends in the well-being of rural Nebraskans.

General Well-Being

To examine perceptions of general well-being, respondents were asked four questions.

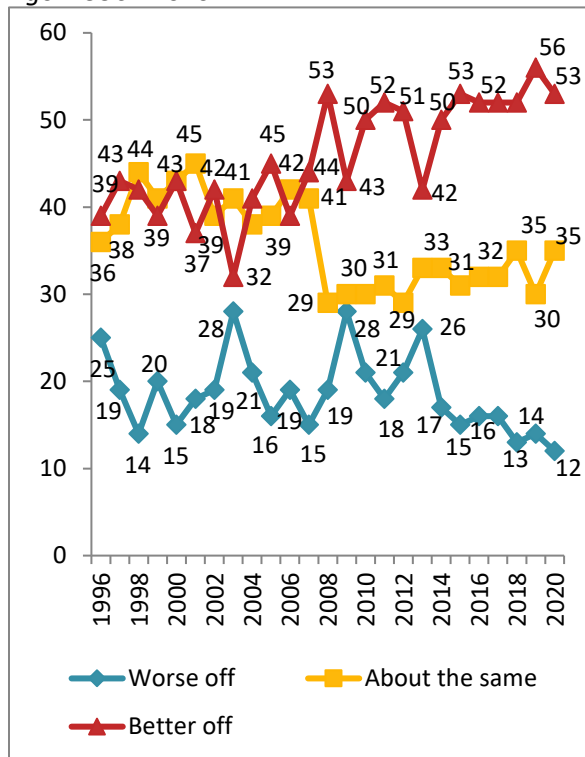
1. "All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than you were five years ago?" (Answer categories were worse off, about the same, or better off).
2. "All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than your parents when they were your age?"
3. "All things considered, do you think you will be better or worse off ten years from now than you are today?"
4. "Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Life has changed so much in our modern world that most people are powerless to control their own lives."

The responses to the first three questions were expanded in 2009 to a five-point scale, where responses included much worse off, worse off, about the same, better off, and much better off. To compare the data to prior years, the much worse off and worse off categories are combined as well as the better off and much better off categories.

When examining the trends over the past 25 years, rural Nebraskans have generally given positive reviews about their current situation (Figure 15). Each year the proportion of rural Nebraskans that say they are better off than they were five years ago has been greater than the proportion saying they are worse off than they were five years ago, especially during the past seven years when the gap between the two has widened. The average proportion saying they are better off than they were five years ago has been approximately 46 percent. The average proportion believing they are worse off has been approximately 19 percent.

This year, rural Nebraskans are slightly less

Figure 15. Well-Being Compared to Five Years Ago: 1996 - 2020



positive about their current situation. The proportion believing they are better off than they were five years ago decreased slightly from 56 percent last year (the highest proportion across all 25 years of the study) to 53 percent. However, this is still one of the highest proportions saying they are better off than they were five years ago throughout all 25 years.

The proportion of rural Nebraskans who believe they are worse off than they were five years ago stayed about the same as last year (12 percent compared to 14 percent last year). Rural Nebraskans are more likely to say they are about the same than they were five years ago. The proportion saying they are about the same increased from 30 percent last year to 35 percent.

When asked to compare themselves to their parents when they were their age, the responses have been generally very stable over time (Figure 16). The proportion stating they are better off has averaged approximately 58 percent over the 25 year period. The proportion feeling they are worse off than their parents has remained steady at approximately 17 percent during this period.

When looking to the future, respondents' views have also been generally positive (Figure 17). The proportion saying they will be better off ten years from now has always been greater than the proportion saying they will be worse off ten years from now. In fact, the gap between the two has gradually widened since 2013.

This year, rural Nebraskans' optimism about their future is about the same as last year. One-

Figure 16. Well-Being Compared to Parents: 1996 - 2020

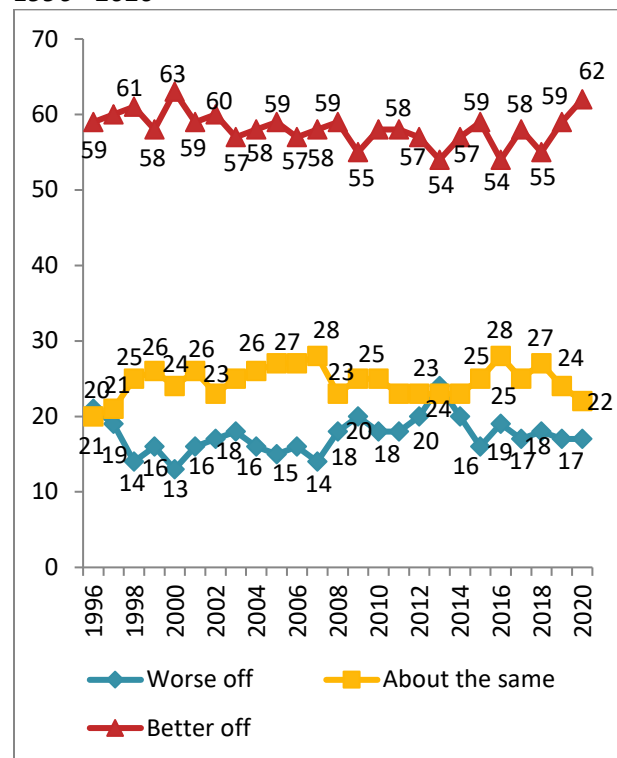
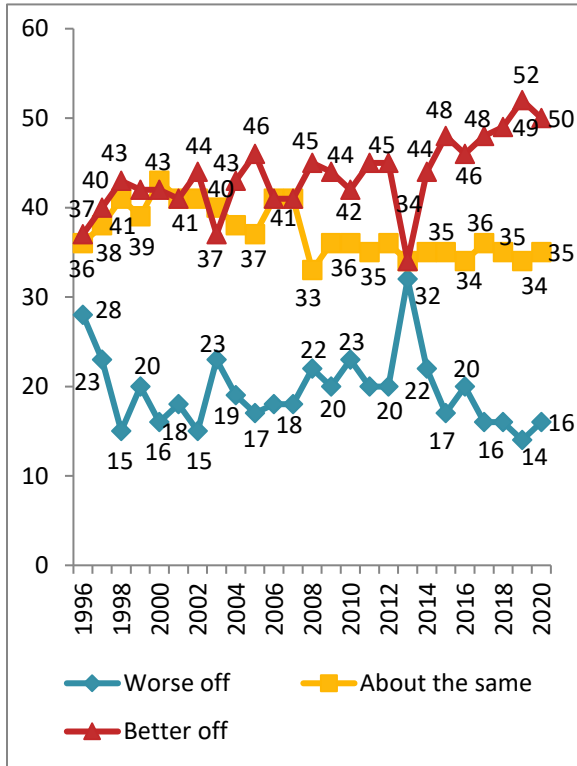


Figure 17. Well-Being Ten Years from Now: 1996 - 2020



half of rural Nebraskans (50%) believe they will be better off ten years from now. This is similar to 52 percent last year (the highest proportion across all years of this study). The proportion believing they will be better off has averaged approximately 44 percent across all 25 years.

The proportion of respondents stating they will be worse off ten years from now remained about the same as the past four years. This proportion has averaged around 20 percent each year.

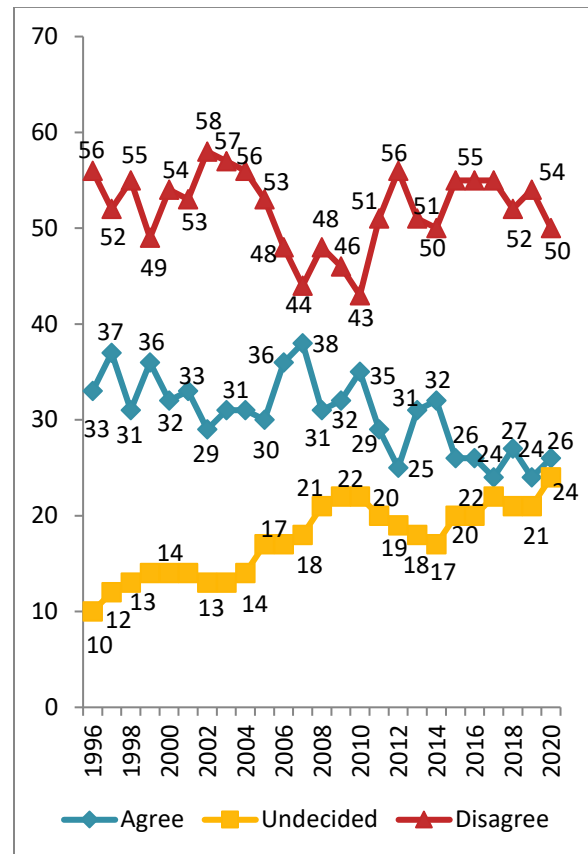
The proportion stating they will be about the same ten years from now had remained fairly steady around 40 percent over the first 12 years of the study, declined to 33 percent in 2008, and has remained around 35 percent the past twelve years.

In addition to asking about general well-being, rural Nebraskans were asked about the amount of control they feel they have over their lives. To measure this, respondents were asked the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with the following statement:

"Life has changed so much in our modern world that most people are powerless to control their own lives."

Each year, more rural Nebraskans disagree that people are powerless to control their own lives than agree with that statement (Figure 18). The proportion that either strongly disagree or disagree with the statement generally declined between 2002 and 2010, from 58 percent to 43 percent (the lowest in the 25 year period).

Figure 18. "...People are Powerless to Control Their Own Lives": 1996 - 2020



However, the proportion then increased to 56 percent in 2012 before generally declining to 50 percent this year. The average proportion across all 25 years is 52 percent.

The proportion of rural Nebraskans that either strongly agree or agree with the statement has generally declined across all 25 years of the study. Starting at 33 percent in 1996, the proportion agreeing with the statement has declined to 26 percent this year. The average proportion has been approximately 31 percent.

The proportion of those who were undecided each year first increased over time, from 10 percent in 1996 to 22 percent in 2010. It then declined to 17 percent in 2014 before increasing to 24 percent this year.

Satisfaction with Specific Aspects of Life

Each year, respondents were also given a list of items that can affect their well-being and were asked to indicate how satisfied they were with each using a five-point scale (1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied). They were also given the option of checking a box to denote “does not apply.”

The rank ordering of the items has remained relatively stable over the years (Table 3). In addition, the proportion of respondents stating they were very or somewhat satisfied with each item also has been fairly consistent over the years.

Items generally fall into three levels of satisfaction ratings. Family, friends, the outdoors, their safety, and their general quality of life continue to be items given high satisfaction ratings by respondents. Items in the middle category include job satisfaction, their education, spirituality, job security, their health, their spare time and their community. On the

other hand, respondents continue to be less satisfied with job opportunities, their current income level, their ability to build assets/wealth and financial security during retirement.

Many items saw decreases in the level of satisfaction this year as compared to last year: your day to day personal safety, clean air, your education, clean water, your job satisfaction, your health, your job security, your job opportunities and your financial security during retirement. Satisfaction with their health decreased from 75 percent last year to 67 percent this year. As another example, satisfaction with their financial security during retirement decreased from 48 to 41 percent.

General Well-Being by Subgroups

In this section, the 2020 data on the four general measures of well-being are analyzed and reported for the region in which the respondent lives, by the size of their community, and for various individual characteristics (Appendix Table 13).

Persons living in or near the largest communities are more likely than persons living in or near the smallest communities to believe they are better off compared to five years ago. Just under six in ten persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more (59%) believe they are better off compared to five years ago, compared to 48 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations less than 500.

Residents of both the South Central and Northeast regions are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to believe they are better off compared to five years ago. Almost six in ten residents of these two regions (57%) say they are better off compared to five years ago, compared to just over one-third (37%) of

Table 3. Proportions of Respondents Very or Somewhat Satisfied with Each Factor, 2000 - 2020.*

Item	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Your marriage	93	92	93	92	94	92	94	90	92	92	90	90	90	91	91	93	91	91	91	93	92
Your transptn.	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	82	85	87	84	83	88	87
Your day to day personal safety	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	87	88	87	87	84	89	85
Your family	93	89	90	90	90	89	91	88	91	85	89	89	87	86	87	87	89	87	87	87	84
Your general quality of life	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	82	84	86	81	83	83	83	84	82	82	85	84
Your general std of living	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	77	79	83	79	79	80	80	80	80	78	83	82
Greenery and open space	86	86	87	82	80	83	85	80	82	80	81	82	84	74	82	82	83	83	81	84	81
Your friends	87	86	85	85	86	83	84	82	85	82	84	84	81	80	79	80	81	80	78	82	79
Clean air	80	81	82	79	78	79	80	74	80	75	79	82	79	76	85	80	81	80	80	83	76
Your housing	80	78	78	79	77	78	76	73	77	73	76	77	74	74	76	77	75	72	73	77	76
Your education	76	72	74	74	72	71	74	74	77	67	74	77	74	73	77	77	75	77	71	80	76
Your religion/spirituality	83	79	79	78	78	75	75	78	79	75	77	76	78	76	75	77	74	72	73	76	76
Clean water	73	75	76	75	73	73	74	68	76	72	77	78	76	77	80	76	75	76	76	80	75
Your job satisfaction	70	69	70	68	72	72	69	68	76	71	70	72	71	72	73	74	75	71	70	77	73
Your job security	68	66	65	62	66	65	66	64	73	59	66	67	67	65	73	72	71	70	68	75	71
Your spare time	71	66	67	67	66	65	68	68	71	66	67	72	70	66	66	70	68	66	67	71	71
Your ability to afford residence	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	65	70	68	69	67	71	69
Your health	77	74	74	75	73	71	73	74	77	66	73	75	70	71	72	73	72	69	71	75	67
Your community	70	67	63	62	64	66	62	62	66	63	64	65	59	58	64	64	63	60	58	61	61
Your current income level	51	48	48	47	49	48	50	50	53	47	50	55	53	53	55	56	54	53	52	57	56
Your ability to bld assts/wealth	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	51	51	50	51	50	56	54
Job opportunities	36	38	37	35	34	39	43	40	48	32	42	38	46	44	44	46	43	43	41	49	45
Fin. security in retirement	43	37	38	30	34	38	39	39	38	24	32	38	35	35	39	41	40	42	42	48	41

Note: The list of items was not identical in each study. "NA" means that item was not asked that particular year.

* The proportions were calculated out of those answering the question. The respondents checking "does not apply" were not included in the calculations.

Panhandle residents. When asked how they are doing compared to their parents when they were their age, Panhandle residents are *less* likely than residents of other regions to say they are better off. Residents of the Southeast region are the group most likely to believe they will be better off ten years from now. Over one-half of the residents of the Southeast region (56%) believe they will be better off ten years from now, compared to 39 percent of the Panhandle residents (Figure 19). One-quarter of Panhandle residents (25%) believe they will be worse off ten years from now.

Younger persons are more likely than older persons to believe they are better off compared to five years ago, are better off compared to their parents when they were their age and will be better off ten years from now. Almost eight in ten persons age 19 to 29 (77%) believe they are much better off or better off than they were five years ago. However, just under one-third of persons age 65 and older (32%) share this opinion. Similarly, just over three-quarters of the youngest persons (76%) believe they will be much better off or better off ten years from

now, compared to only 16 percent of persons age 65 and older.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to think they are better off compared to five years ago, are better off compared to their parents when they were their age and will be better off ten years from now. Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to believe they are better off compared to five years ago and think they will be better off ten years from now.

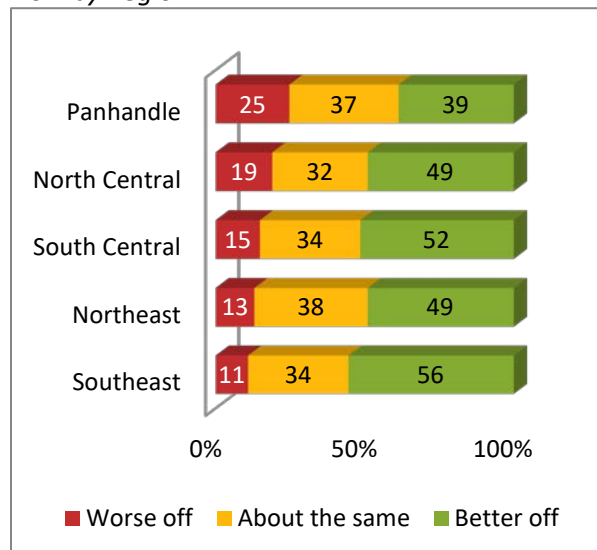
When comparing the marital groups, persons who have never married are the group most likely to believe they are better off than they were five years ago. Widowed persons are the group most likely to believe they are better off compared to their parents when they were their age. Both persons who have never married and married persons are the groups most likely to think they will be better off ten years from now.

Persons with management, professional or education occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to believe they are better off compared to five years ago and are better off compared to their parents when they were their age. Persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations are the occupation group most likely to think they will be better off ten years from now.

The respondents were also asked if they believe people are powerless to control their own lives. When analyzing the responses by region, community size, and various individual attributes, many differences emerge (Appendix Table 14).

Persons with lower education levels are more likely than persons with more education to

Figure 19. *Expected Well-Being Ten Years from Now by Region*



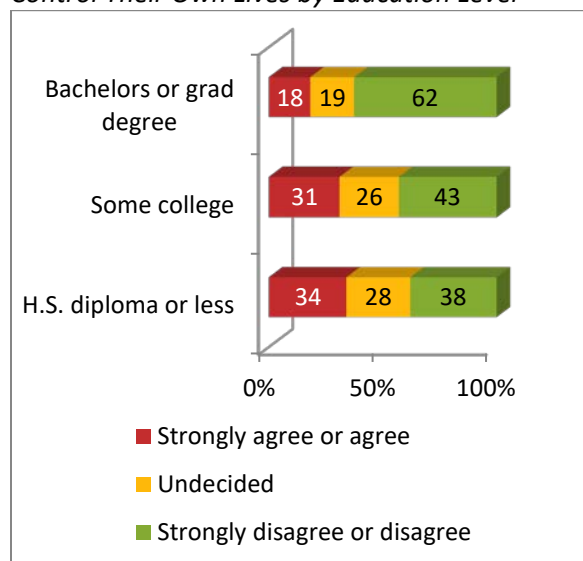
believe that people are powerless to control their own lives. Just over one-third of persons with a high school diploma or less education (34%) agree that people are powerless to control their own lives (Figure 20). However, less than one in five persons with at least a four-year college degree (18%) share this opinion.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher incomes to believe that people are powerless to control their own lives. Almost four in ten persons with the lowest household incomes (37%) agree that people are powerless to control their own lives, compared to just under one in five persons with the highest household incomes (19%).

Panhandle residents are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to agree that people are powerless to control their own lives. Just over one-third of Panhandle residents (35%) agree with that statement, compared to 23 percent of residents of the Southeast region.

The other groups most likely to believe people

Figure 20. *Belief that People are Powerless to Control Their Own Lives by Education Level*



are powerless to control their own lives include: older persons, males, widowed persons and persons with food service or personal care occupations.

Specific Aspects of Well-Being by Subgroups

The respondents were given a list of items that may influence their well-being and were asked to rate their satisfaction with each. The complete ratings for each item are listed in Appendix Table 15. At least one-third of respondents are very satisfied with their family (43%), their marriage (43%), greenery and open space (39%), their day-to-day personal safety (36%), their transportation (36%), their religion/spirituality (36%), clean air (34%), clean water (34%) and their friends (34%). Items receiving the highest proportion of very dissatisfied responses include: financial security during retirement (18%), current income level (11%) and their job opportunities (9%).

The top five items people are dissatisfied with (determined by the largest proportions of “very dissatisfied” and “dissatisfied” responses) are examined in more detail by looking at how the different demographic subgroups view each item. These comparisons are shown in Appendix Table 16.

Respondents’ satisfaction level with their financial security during retirement differs by all of the characteristics examined, with the exception of gender. Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to be dissatisfied with their financial security during retirement.

Residents of the Panhandle are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with their financial security during

retirement. Over one-half of the Panhandle residents (52%) are dissatisfied with their financial security during retirement, compared to just over four in ten residents of the South Central region.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher incomes to be dissatisfied with their financial security during retirement. Just under six in ten persons with household incomes under \$40,000 (56%) report being dissatisfied with their financial security during retirement, compared to 29 percent of persons with household incomes of \$100,000 or more.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their financial security during retirement include: persons age 30 to 64, persons with some college education (but less than a four year degree), persons who are divorced or separated, persons with sales or office support occupations and persons with occupations in agriculture.

Residents of the North Central region are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to express dissatisfaction with their job opportunities. Just under four in ten residents of the North Central region (39%) report dissatisfaction with their job opportunities, compared to 25 percent of residents of the Southeast region.

Persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to be dissatisfied with their job opportunities. Almost one-half persons with these types of occupations (47%) are dissatisfied with their job opportunities, compared to approximately one-quarter of persons with many other types of occupations.

Other groups most likely to say they are dissatisfied with their job opportunities include: persons living in or near both the smallest and largest communities, persons with lower household incomes, persons under the age of 50 and persons who are divorced or separated.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher household incomes to be dissatisfied with their current income level. One-half of persons with household incomes under \$40,000 report being dissatisfied with their current income level, compared to 11 percent of persons with household incomes of \$100,000 or more.

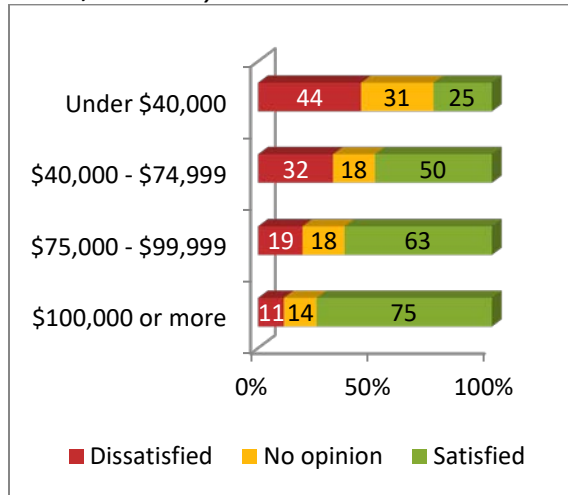
Other groups most likely to report being dissatisfied with their current income level include: residents of the Panhandle, residents of the North Central region, persons age 40 to 49, persons without a four year college degree and persons who are divorced or separated.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher household incomes to express dissatisfaction with their ability to build assets/wealth. Just over four in ten persons with household incomes under \$40,000 (44%) are dissatisfied with their ability to build assets/wealth. In comparison, only 11 percent of persons with household incomes of \$100,000 or more share this dissatisfaction (Figure 21).

Panhandle residents are the regional group most likely to be dissatisfied with their ability to build assets/wealth. One-third of Panhandle residents (33%) are dissatisfied with their ability to build assets/wealth, compared to two in ten residents of the Southeast region.

Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their ability to build assets/wealth include: persons age 40 to 64,

Figure 21. Satisfaction with Ability to Build Assets/Wealth by Household Income



persons with some college education (but not a four year degree), divorced or separated respondents and persons with food service or personal care occupations.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher incomes to be dissatisfied with their health. Three in ten persons with household incomes under \$40,000 (30%) are dissatisfied with their health, compared to eight percent of persons with household incomes of \$100,000 or more.

Panhandle residents are more likely than residents of other regions to express dissatisfaction with their health. Just over one-quarter of Panhandle residents (27%) are dissatisfied with their health, compared to 15 percent of residents of both the Northeast and Southeast regions.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their health include: persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999; older persons; persons with less than a college education; divorced or separated respondents; and persons with food service or personal care occupations.

The top five items people are satisfied with (determined by the largest proportions of “very satisfied” and “satisfied” responses) are also examined (Appendix Table 17). Persons with higher household incomes and younger persons are the groups most likely to be satisfied with their marriage.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to report satisfaction with their transportation. Over nine in ten persons with the highest household incomes (96%) are satisfied with their transportation, compared to 75 percent of persons with the lowest household incomes.

Other groups most likely to be satisfied with their transportation include: younger persons, females, persons with higher education levels, married persons and persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to report satisfaction with their day-to-day personal safety. Over nine in ten persons with household incomes of \$100,000 or more (94%) are satisfied with their day-to-day personal safety, compared to 79 percent of persons with household incomes under \$40,000.

Other groups most likely to express satisfaction with their day-to-day personal safety include: persons with higher education levels, married persons and persons with management, professional or education occupations. When comparing response by region, residents of the Southeast region are the group *least* likely to say they are satisfied with their day-to-day personal safety.

Married persons are more likely than other marital groups to express satisfaction with their family. Almost nine in ten married persons

(88%) are satisfied with their family, compared to just over seven in ten persons who are divorced/separated or widowed.

Other groups most likely to be satisfied with their family include: persons living in or near mid-sized communities, persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, persons with the highest education levels and persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations. Panhandle residents are the regional group *least* likely to express satisfaction with their family.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to be satisfied with their general quality of life. Over nine in ten persons with the highest household incomes (95%) report being satisfied with their general quality of life, compared to just under seven in ten persons with the lowest household incomes (69%).

Other groups most likely to report satisfaction with their general quality of life include persons with higher education levels and married persons.

Conclusion

By many different measures, rural Nebraskans are positive about their community. Many rural Nebraskans rate their community favorably on its social dimensions. Most rural Nebraskans say it would be difficult to leave their community and have a positive attachment to their community. Most rural Nebraskans disagree that their community is powerless to control its future.

Rural Nebraskans' views about the change in their community have generally been positive. The proportion believing their community has changed for the better during the past year has

usually been greater than the proportion believing it has changed for the worse, especially during the past nine years when the gap between the two has widened. And, rural Nebraskans' optimism about the expected change in their community ten years from now has increased during the past ten years.

Many differences by community size are detected. Residents of larger communities are more likely than residents of smaller communities to say their community has changed for the better during the past year and will be a better place to live ten years from now. And, persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to have their needs met in their community. However, persons living in or near the smallest communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to have an attachment to their community.

Except for some services that are largely unavailable in rural communities, rural Nebraskans are generally satisfied with basic community services and amenities. Rural Nebraskans are most satisfied with: fire protection, parks and recreation, library services, education (K-12), religious organizations, and law enforcement. On the other hand, at least one-third of rural Nebraskans are dissatisfied with the retail shopping, streets and roads, entertainment, restaurants, cost of housing, arts/cultural activities, and Internet service in their community. The proportion of rural Nebraskans satisfied with many social services and some entertainment services has decreased across the past 20 years. Declines in satisfaction levels during the past 20 years are seen with nursing home care, medical care services, senior centers, mental health services and retail shopping.

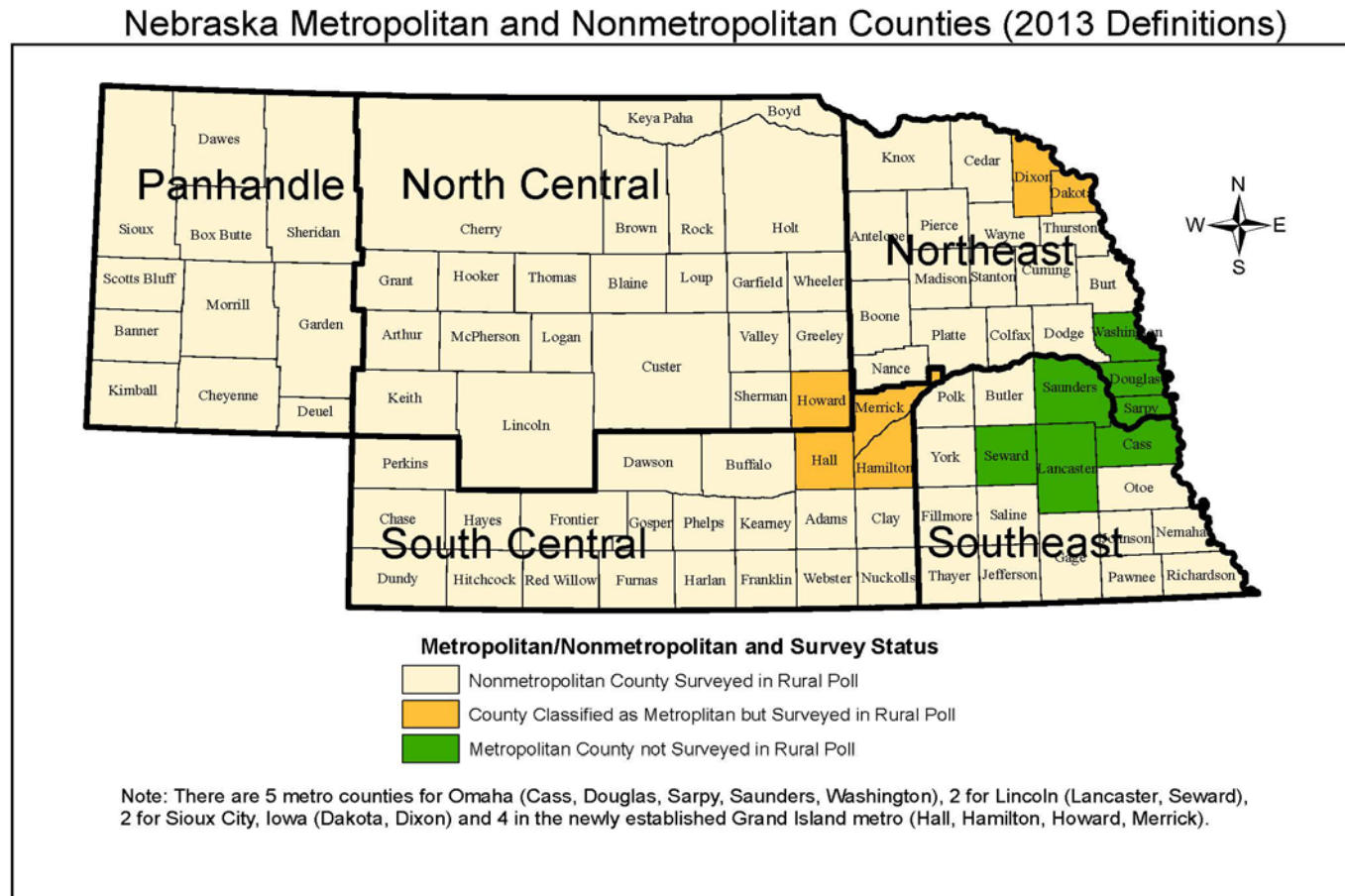
This year, rural Nebraskans are slightly less positive about their current situation than they were last year but still report high levels of optimism. The proportion believing they are better off than they were five years ago decreased slightly from 56 percent last year (the highest proportion across all 25 years of the study) to 53 percent. However, this is still one of the highest proportions saying they are better off than they were five years ago throughout all 25 years.

Similarly, rural Nebraskans remain optimistic about their future. This year, rural Nebraskans' optimism about their future is about the same as last year. One-half of rural Nebraskans believe they will be better off ten years from now. This is similar to 52 percent last year (the highest proportion across all years of this study). The proportion saying they will be better off ten years from now has always been greater than the proportion saying they will be worse off ten years from now. In fact, the gap between the two has gradually widened since 2013.

Following trends in previous years, rural Nebraskans are most satisfied with their marriage, family, friends, the outdoors, their safety and their general quality of life. They continue to be less satisfied with job opportunities, current income level, their ability to build assets/wealth and financial security during retirement.

In many measures, Panhandle residents are more likely than resident of other regions of the state to report dissatisfaction or pessimism.

Appendix Figure 1. Regions of Nebraska



Source: 2013 Metropolitan and Micropolitan Definitions, Office of Management and Budget, released 2-28-13

Prepared by: David Drozd, Center for Public Affairs Research, University of Nebraska at Omaha - August 11, 2014

Appendix Table 1. Demographic Profile of Rural Poll Respondents¹ Compared to 2014 – 2018 American Community Survey 5 Year Average for Nebraska*

	2020 Poll	2019 Poll	2018 Poll	2017 Poll	2016 Poll	2015 Poll	2014 - 2018 ACS
Age : ²							
20 - 39	32%	32%	32%	32%	31%	31%	32%
40 - 64	44%	44%	44%	44%	45%	45%	43%
65 and over	24%	24%	24%	24%	24%	24%	25%
Gender: ³							
Female	55%	55%	55%	56%	59%	58%	51%
Male	46%	45%	46%	44%	41%	42%	49%
Education: ⁴							
Less than 9 th grade	1%	0.3%	1%	1%	1%	1%	4%
9 th to 12 th grade (no diploma)	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	6%
High school diploma (or equiv.)	16%	15%	18%	18%	21%	22%	32%
Some college, no degree	18%	18%	23%	22%	21%	23%	26%
Associate degree	24%	24%	17%	16%	19%	15%	11%
Bachelors degree	26%	29%	25%	25%	23%	24%	14%
Graduate or professional degree	14%	13%	13%	16%	14%	13%	6%
Household Income: ⁵							
Less than \$20,000	7%	7%	9%	10%	11%	12%	16%
\$20,000 - \$39,999	14%	15%	18%	18%	22%	18%	22%
\$40,000 - \$59,999	19%	18%	22%	26%	22%	23%	18%
\$60,000 - \$74,999	16%	16%	17%	12%	14%	15%	12%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	21%	19%	33%	34%	32%	32%	14%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	15%	16%	**** ⁶	***	***	***	13%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	5%	5%	***	***	***	***	3%
\$200,000 or more	4%	3%	***	***	***	***	3%
Marital Status: ⁷							
Married	69%	70%	71%	68%	69%	68%	61%
Never married	12%	12%	10%	13%	11%	13%	18%
Divorced/separated	10%	9%	11%	11%	10%	10%	12%
Widowed/widower	8%	8%	8%	8%	9%	8%	8%

¹ Data from the Rural Polls have been weighted by age.

² 2014-2018 American Community Survey universe is non-metro population 20 years of age and over.

³ 2014-2018 American Community Survey universe is non-metro population 20 years of age and over.

⁴ 2014-2018 American Community Survey universe is non-metro population 18 years of age and over.

⁵ 2014-2018 American Community Survey universe is all non-metro households.

⁶ Income categories for the Rural Polls were expanded in 2019. \$75,000 or more was the largest category before then.

⁷ 2014-2018 American Community Survey universe is non-metro population 20 years of age and over.

*Comparison numbers are estimates taken from the American Community Survey five-year sample and may reflect significant margins of error for areas with relatively small populations.

Appendix Table 2. Perceptions of Community Change by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

<p>Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say...</p> <p>My community has changed for the</p>				
	<u>Worse</u>	<u>No Change</u>	<u>Better</u>	<u>Significance</u>
Total	21	45	34	
<i>Percentages</i>				
Community Size		(n = 1791)		
Less than 500	23	53	24	
500 - 999	20	44	36	
1,000 - 4,999	20	44	36	$\chi^2 = 26.95^*$ (.001)
5,000 - 9,999	14	51	35	
10,000 and up	22	39	38	
Region		(n = 1856)		
Panhandle	34	49	17	
North Central	31	40	28	
South Central	17	42	40	$\chi^2 = 65.59^*$ (.000)
Northeast	17	48	36	
Southeast	18	47	35	
Income Level		(n = 1713)		
Under \$40,000	27	45	28	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	19	48	34	$\chi^2 = 27.84^*$ (.000)
\$75,000 - \$99,999	18	45	37	
\$100,000 and over	20	38	42	
Age		(n = 1858)		
19 - 29	16	39	45	
30 - 39	20	44	36	
40 - 49	21	49	31	$\chi^2 = 23.03^*$ (.003)
50 - 64	24	44	32	
65 and older	22	48	31	
Gender		(n = 1841)		
Male	21	47	32	$\chi^2 = 4.21$ (.122)
Female	21	43	37	
Marital Status		(n = 1819)		
Married	20	44	36	
Never married	19	49	33	
Divorced/separated	24	45	31	$\chi^2 = 9.39$ (.153)
Widowed	21	53	26	
Education		(n = 1801)		
H.S. diploma or less	21	52	27	
Some college	24	50	27	$\chi^2 = 75.22^*$ (.000)
Bachelors or grad degree	17	37	47	
Occupation		(n = 1365)		
Mgt, prof or education	20	34	46	
Sales or office support	14	49	38	
Constrn, inst or maint	17	56	27	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	27	46	27	
Agriculture	23	47	31	
Food serv/pers. care	18	68	14	
Hlthcare supp/safety	17	46	37	$\chi^2 = 67.06^*$ (.000)
Other	25	54	21	
Yrs Lived in Community		(n = 1724)		
Five years or less	20	48	32	$\chi^2 = 2.20$ (.334)
More than five years	21	44	35	

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 3. Expectations of Future Community Change by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

<i>Based on what you see of the situation today, do you think that, ten years from now, your community will be a worse place to live, a better place or about the same?</i>				
	<u>Worse Place</u>	<u>About the same</u>	<u>Better Place</u>	<u>Significance</u>
<i>Percentages</i>				
<u>Total</u>	18	54	28	
<u>Community Size</u>		(n = 1793)		
Less than 500	20	65	15	
500 - 999	23	49	28	
1,000 - 4,999	14	54	32	$\chi^2 = 54.39^*$ (.000)
5,000 - 9,999	13	61	26	
10,000 and up	19	47	34	
<u>Region</u>		(n = 1858)		
Panhandle	30	54	16	
North Central	24	56	20	
South Central	15	51	34	$\chi^2 = 74.92^*$ (.000)
Northeast	18	48	33	
Southeast	11	66	23	
<u>Income Level</u>		(n = 1714)		
Under \$40,000	26	52	22	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	18	55	27	$\chi^2 = 42.21^*$ (.000)
\$75,000 - \$99,999	15	57	28	
\$100,000 and over	14	48	39	
<u>Age</u>		(n = 1864)		
19 - 29	16	47	37	
30 - 39	16	52	31	
40 - 49	22	51	27	$\chi^2 = 22.91^*$ (.003)
50 - 64	17	57	25	
65 and older	17	58	25	
<u>Gender</u>		(n = 1845)		
Male	19	55	26	$\chi^2 = 3.67$ (.160)
Female	17	52	30	
<u>Marital Status</u>		(n = 1822)		
Married	17	56	27	
Never married	18	44	38	
Divorced/separated	21	50	29	$\chi^2 = 16.01^*$ (.014)
Widowed	17	58	25	
<u>Education</u>		(n = 1801)		
H.S. diploma or less	16	59	25	
Some college	20	55	25	$\chi^2 = 26.53^*$ (.000)
Bachelors or grad degree	16	49	35	
<u>Occupation</u>		(n = 1364)		
Mgt, prof or education	16	50	35	
Sales or office support	16	56	28	
Constrn, inst or maint	14	49	37	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	19	59	22	
Agriculture	25	56	19	
Food serv/pers. care	31	53	16	
Hlthcare supp/safety	16	51	33	$\chi^2 = 46.54^*$ (.000)
Other	11	46	43	
<u>Yrs Lived in Community</u>		(n = 1728)		
Five years or less	19	49	32	$\chi^2 = 2.72$ (.257)
More than five years	17	54	29	

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 4. Measures of Community Attributes in Relation to Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

	My community is...				My community is...				My community is...			
	<i>Unfriendly</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Friendly</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Distrusting</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Trusting</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Hostile</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Supportive</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
	Percentages											
Total	9	12	79		16	18	66		13	16	71	
Community Size	(n = 1775)				(n = 1759)				(n = 1762)			
Less than 500	11	14	75		17	16	66		13	18	69	
500 - 999	5	11	84		11	18	71		11	16	73	
1,000 - 4,999	9	13	78	$\chi^2 =$	13	19	68	$\chi^2 =$	11	13	76	$\chi^2 =$
5,000 - 9,999	6	10	84	13.13	17	17	66	10.73	19	17	64	16.35*
10,000 and up	10	11	79	(.107)	18	18	64	(.218)	15	17	68	(.038)
Region	(n = 1840)				(n = 1824)				(n = 1822)			
Panhandle	12	14	74		19	21	60		17	17	66	
North Central	12	9	79		15	19	67		10	18	72	
South Central	7	11	82	$\chi^2 =$	12	19	70	$\chi^2 =$	13	16	72	$\chi^2 =$
Northeast	10	13	77	17.59*	17	17	67	22.14*	14	13	73	14.00
Southeast	7	16	77	(.025)	22	19	59	(.005)	14	20	66	(.082)
Individual Attributes	(n = 1700)				(n = 1688)				(n = 1689)			
<i>Income Level</i>	(n = 1700)				(n = 1688)				(n = 1689)			
Under \$40,000	13	17	70		22	19	59		17	19	63	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	8	12	81	$\chi^2 =$	15	18	67	$\chi^2 =$	12	16	73	$\chi^2 =$
\$75,000 - \$99,999	9	10	82	24.56*	14	23	63	28.82*	12	16	72	16.02*
\$100,000 and over	7	10	83	(.000)	12	14	74	(.000)	14	12	73	(.014)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1843)				(n = 1830)				(n = 1828)			
19 - 29	10	4	86		14	14	71		12	12	75	
30 - 39	5	13	82		15	18	67		10	21	69	
40 - 49	13	16	71	$\chi^2 =$	20	21	59	$\chi^2 =$	16	15	69	$\chi^2 =$
50 - 64	11	11	78	47.70*	17	18	65	18.09*	15	17	68	17.32*
65 and older	6	15	80	(.000)	12	19	69	(.021)	12	15	73	(.027)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1826)				(n = 1811)				(n = 1811)			
Male	7	12	81	$\chi^2 =$	13	19	68	$\chi^2 =$	13	16	72	$\chi^2 =$
Female	11	12	77	8.36*	18	18	64	8.53*	14	16	70	1.00
				(.015)				(.014)				(.605)

Appendix Table 4 continued.

	<i>My community is...</i>				<i>My community is...</i>				<i>My community is...</i>			
	<i>Unfriendly</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Friendly</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Distrusting</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Trusting</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Hostile</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Supportive</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1804)				(n = 1789)				(n = 1788)			
Married	10	12	79		15	19	66		13	15	72	
Never married	4	10	86	$\chi^2 =$	13	13	75	$\chi^2 =$	9	20	71	$\chi^2 =$
Divorced/separated	10	19	71	17.94*	18	26	57	15.91*	17	17	66	10.41
Widowed	8	14	78	(.006)	15	18	66	(.014)	14	16	70	(.108)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1784)				(n = 1771)				(n = 1770)			
H.S. diploma or less	8	15	78	$\chi^2 =$	14	20	67	$\chi^2 =$	12	18	70	$\chi^2 =$
Some college	13	13	74	30.53*	19	20	61	20.89*	17	19	65	30.56*
Bachelors degree	6	10	85	(.000)	13	16	72	(.000)	10	12	78	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1358)				(n = 1354)				(n = 1352)			
Mgt, prof or education	8	6	86		14	14	71		11	12	77	
Sales or office support	13	13	74		17	18	65		17	18	66	
Constrn, inst or maint	5	13	82		9	20	71		4	12	84	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	9	9	82		13	26	62		20	15	66	
Agriculture	13	14	73	$\chi^2 =$	19	17	64	$\chi^2 =$	14	17	69	$\chi^2 =$
Food serv/pers. care	19	9	72	39.10*	24	18	58	26.31*	17	15	68	33.25*
Hlthcare supp/safety	7	15	78	(.000)	18	21	61	(.024)	16	21	63	(.003)
Other	11	4	85		4	26	70		7	19	74	
<i>Yrs Lived in Comm.</i>	(n = 1709)				(n = 1698)				(n = 1698)			
Five years or less	9	10	81	$\chi^2 =$	11	17	72	$\chi^2 =$	9	15	76	$\chi^2 =$
More than five years	9	12	79	1.19	16	18	65	6.07*	14	16	70	6.40*
				(.553)				(.048)				(.041)

*

Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 5. Feelings of Community Powerlessness by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

<i>Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My community is powerless to control its own future.</i>				
	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Undecided</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<u>Total</u>	63	21	17	
<u>Community Size</u>		<i>Percentages</i>		
		(n = 1799)		
Less than 500	57	25	18	
500 - 999	58	23	19	
1,000 - 4,999	62	20	18	
5,000 - 9,999	69	16	14	$\chi^2 = 20.35^*$
10,000 and up	69	17	14	(.009)
<u>Region</u>		(n = 1863)		
Panhandle	51	20	29	
North Central	57	23	21	
South Central	71	18	12	
Northeast	62	22	16	$\chi^2 = 44.23^*$
Southeast	60	23	17	(.000)
<u>Income Level</u>		(n = 1720)		
Under \$40,000	52	26	23	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	64	19	17	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	66	20	15	$\chi^2 = 53.81^*$
\$100,000 and over	76	14	10	(.000)
<u>Age</u>		(n = 1866)		
19 - 29	66	16	18	
30 - 39	66	23	11	
40 - 49	66	17	17	
50 - 64	63	22	15	$\chi^2 = 25.03^*$
65 and older	55	24	20	(.002)
<u>Gender</u>		(n = 1848)		
Male	62	19	18	$\chi^2 = 4.24$
Female	63	22	15	(.120)
<u>Marital Status</u>		(n = 1824)		
Married	64	20	16	
Never married	68	18	14	
Divorced/separated	58	27	15	$\chi^2 = 19.02^*$
Widowed	50	27	23	(.004)
<u>Education</u>		(n = 1806)		
H.S. diploma or less	51	32	18	
Some college	57	21	22	$\chi^2 = 93.41^*$
Bachelors degree	76	14	11	(.000)
<u>Occupation</u>		(n = 1368)		
Mgt, prof, education	73	15	12	
Sales/office support	66	22	12	
Const, inst or maint	70	13	17	
Prodn/trans/warehs	63	20	17	
Agriculture	61	20	19	
Food serv/pers. care	45	33	22	
Hlthcare supp/safety	69	18	14	$\chi^2 = 40.38^*$
Other	68	25	7	(.000)
<u>Yrs Lived in Comm.</u>		(n = 1731)		
Five years or less	64	16	21	$\chi^2 = 7.25^*$
More than five years	65	20	15	(.027)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level

Appendix Table 6. Level of Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities

<i>Service/Amenity</i>	<i>Dissatisfied*</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied*</i>
		<i>Percentages</i>	
Retail shopping	54	13	33
Streets and roads	53	6	41
Entertainment	47	22	31
Restaurants	38	10	52
Cost of housing	37	20	43
Arts/cultural activities	37	39	24
Internet service	34	13	54
Quality of housing	33	19	48
Community recycling	33	23	44
Local government	33	25	42
Cellular phone service	27	10	64
Public transportation services	27	52	21
Mental health services	25	50	25
Medical care services	20	14	66
Nursing home care	19	39	42
Child day care services	18	48	34
Law enforcement	18	14	68
Sewage/waste disposal	14	24	63
Senior centers	12	43	45
Access to higher education (college, technical, etc.)	12	25	63
Education (K - 12)	12	18	70
Parks and recreation	12	12	77
Head Start or early childhood education programs	11	47	42
Civic/nonprofit organizations	9	44	47
Library services	8	21	72
Religious organizations	5	25	70
Fire protection	2	11	87

* Dissatisfied represents the combined percentage of “very dissatisfied” and “somewhat dissatisfied” responses. Similarly, satisfied is the combination of “very satisfied” and “somewhat satisfied” responses.

Appendix Table 7. Measures of Satisfaction with Ten Services and Amenities in Relation to Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

	<i>Retail shopping</i>			<i>Streets and roads</i>			<i>Entertainment</i>			<i>Restaurants</i>		
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>											
Community Size	(n = 1811)			(n = 1798)			(n = 1802)			(n = 1814)		
Less than 500	53	26	21	61	4	35	43	31	26	43	13	45
500 - 999	49	20	31	55	6	40	49	26	25	42	11	46
1,000 - 4,999	54	11	36	51	6	44	49	22	29	37	11	52
5,000 - 9,999	59	10	32	48	9	44	48	13	39	36	15	48
10,000 and over	55	6	39	52	6	42	48	17	34	35	6	59
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 98.25^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 12.37 (.135)$			$\chi^2 = 37.36^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 30.58^* (.000)$		
Region	(n = 1876)			(n = 1865)			(n = 1868)			(n = 1880)		
Panhandle	64	15	21	67	6	27	52	22	26	41	13	46
North Central	56	16	28	64	4	32	50	22	28	45	10	46
South Central	45	11	44	48	6	46	42	20	38	34	9	58
Northeast	60	10	30	50	5	45	52	21	27	42	9	49
Southeast	51	21	28	50	9	41	47	26	27	32	14	53
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 72.44^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 42.07^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 26.89^* (.001)$			$\chi^2 = 29.09^* (.000)$		
Income Level	(n = 1733)			(n = 1723)			(n = 1729)			(n = 1739)		
Under \$40,000	50	15	35	57	5	39	45	26	29	38	16	46
\$40,000 - \$74,999	53	11	36	55	5	40	48	20	33	36	8	56
\$75,000 - \$99,999	57	17	26	51	7	42	53	23	24	39	11	50
\$100,000 and over	55	11	34	49	5	46	46	18	36	41	7	52
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 18.05^* (.006)$			$\chi^2 = 8.01 (.237)$			$\chi^2 = 20.79^* (.002)$			$\chi^2 = 27.20^* (.000)$		
Age	(n = 1879)			(n = 1869)			(n = 1871)			(n = 1885)		
19 - 29	46	18	36	53	6	41	46	20	34	26	10	64
30 - 39	58	10	32	59	4	37	57	13	30	44	9	47
40 - 49	54	14	32	51	8	41	48	18	35	42	9	49
50 - 64	58	12	30	54	5	41	50	22	28	42	12	47
65 and over	50	13	38	50	6	44	38	34	28	35	11	54
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 22.69^* (.004)$			$\chi^2 = 10.72 (.218)$			$\chi^2 = 63.24^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 35.05^* (.000)$		
Education	(n = 1819)			(n = 1805)			(n = 1814)			(n = 1823)		
H.S. diploma or less	49	14	37	56	7	38	42	30	28	37	10	54
Some college	58	15	27	59	6	35	49	24	26	40	14	46
College grad	51	11	39	45	5	50	48	16	37	37	6	58
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 29.02^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 35.43^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 40.66^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 36.28^* (.000)$		
Occupation	(n = 1382)			(n = 1373)			(n = 1380)			(n = 1385)		
Mgt, prof, education	53	11	36	47	3	50	47	15	38	39	6	56
Sales/office support	57	12	32	55	12	33	53	18	29	39	12	49
Const, inst or maint	50	31	20	48	11	40	38	37	25	36	22	42
Prodn/trans/warehs	53	9	38	61	1	38	51	20	30	39	6	56
Agriculture	55	13	32	62	6	32	54	17	28	38	12	50
Food serv/pers. care	42	31	27	66	1	33	48	32	20	40	18	42
Hlthcare supp/safety	59	9	33	52	9	39	55	16	30	38	8	54
Other	50	19	31	50	4	46	42	12	46	46	12	42
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 69.97^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 59.61^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 52.56^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 42.17^* (.000)$		

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level. Only the ten services with the highest combined percentage of very or somewhat dissatisfied are included in this table.

Appendix Table 7 continued.

	<i>Cost of housing</i>			<i>Arts/cultural activities</i>			<i>Internet service</i>			<i>Quality of housing</i>		
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>											
Community Size	(n = 1811)			(n = 1803)			(n = 1816)			(n = 1811)		
Less than 500	17	27	56	39	48	14	46	12	43	41	18	41
500 - 999	22	25	53	40	39	22	36	12	52	33	19	49
1,000 - 4,999	34	22	44	39	41	21	32	11	56	32	21	47
5,000 - 9,999	43	18	39	32	37	31	34	12	54	31	22	47
10,000 and over	54	13	34	34	34	32	29	13	58	31	17	53
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 156.85^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 51.30^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 28.28^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 17.49^* (.025)$		
Region	(n = 1875)			(n = 1868)			(n = 1881)			(n = 1877)		
Panhandle	40	24	37	40	32	28	25	16	58	37	28	35
North Central	35	20	46	36	47	17	34	15	51	44	18	38
South Central	42	17	41	36	34	30	30	10	60	28	17	56
Northeast	37	20	43	37	42	21	40	12	48	33	17	50
Southeast	28	23	50	38	42	20	37	15	48	32	22	46
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 22.64^* (.004)$			$\chi^2 = 34.42^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 29.17^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 48.70^* (.000)$		
Income Level	(n = 1736)			(n = 1729)			(n = 1739)			(n = 1737)		
Under \$40,000	40	24	36	32	44	25	28	21	51	34	24	43
\$40,000 - \$74,999	36	18	46	37	40	23	33	12	56	31	17	52
\$75,000 - \$99,999	39	20	41	43	37	21	40	6	54	37	16	47
\$100,000 and over	36	14	51	37	35	28	38	9	53	35	16	50
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 22.91^* (.001)$			$\chi^2 = 15.63^* (.016)$			$\chi^2 = 51.79^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 16.93^* (.010)$		
Age	(n = 1879)			(n = 1872)			(n = 1885)			(n = 1882)		
19 - 29	38	16	46	34	44	22	40	8	52	28	12	60
30 - 39	42	19	39	40	37	23	36	10	55	41	21	39
40 - 49	44	16	40	41	39	20	45	9	46	39	20	41
50 - 64	36	21	44	41	34	25	33	13	54	34	19	48
65 and over	28	26	47	27	43	29	19	21	60	25	23	53
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 33.83^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 32.39^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 86.78^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 53.26^* (.000)$		
Education	(n = 1817)			(n = 1812)			(n = 1824)			(n = 1820)		
H.S. diploma or less	32	26	42	33	48	20	31	16	53	31	24	45
Some college	36	21	43	36	45	20	35	14	51	34	21	45
College grad	40	15	45	39	30	31	34	9	57	33	14	53
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 23.63^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 53.30^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 18.31^* (.001)$			$\chi^2 = 22.65^* (.000)$		
Occupation	(n = 1382)			(n = 1381)			(n = 1387)			(n = 1384)		
Mgt, prof, education	42	14	43	38	32	30	34	9	58	36	16	48
Sales/office support	36	17	47	39	37	23	38	12	50	31	20	49
Const, inst or maint	30	18	53	30	59	11	32	10	59	30	17	53
Prodn/trans/warehs	44	13	43	37	46	17	43	14	43	31	20	49
Agriculture	25	32	43	44	39	17	50	11	40	39	16	45
Food serv/pers. care	46	21	33	31	50	19	25	7	69	37	24	39
Hlthcare supp/safety	48	11	41	42	30	29	38	11	51	39	19	42
Other	22	37	41	35	31	35	41	7	52	33	26	41
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 66.43^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 59.63^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 36.97^* (.001)$			$\chi^2 = 13.75 (.468)$		

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level. Only the ten services with the highest combined percentage of very or somewhat dissatisfied are included in this table.

Appendix Table 7 continued.

	<i>Community recycling</i>			<i>Local government</i>		
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>
<i>Percentages</i>						
Community Size		(n = 1813)			(n = 1811)	
Less than 500	40	30	30	38	23	40
500 - 999	31	20	49	35	19	46
1,000 - 4,999	28	24	48	36	27	37
5,000 - 9,999	42	20	39	26	32	42
10,000 and over	33	18	49	31	24	45
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 49.18^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 19.33^* (.013)$	
Region		(n = 1879)			(n = 1873)	
Panhandle	31	24	45	44	25	31
North Central	26	22	52	42	21	37
South Central	29	21	50	29	25	46
Northeast	41	21	38	31	27	43
Southeast	38	27	35	32	27	42
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 41.83^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 29.09^* (.000)$	
Income Level		(n = 1738)			(n = 1732)	
Under \$40,000	30	25	45	40	23	38
\$40,000 - \$74,999	31	22	47	31	27	43
\$75,000 - \$99,999	36	21	44	31	28	42
\$100,000 and over	40	21	39	34	19	47
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 13.87^* (.031)$			$\chi^2 = 18.90^* (.004)$	
Age		(n = 1883)			(n = 1877)	
19 - 29	38	22	40	36	22	42
30 - 39	39	22	40	38	29	33
40 - 49	31	26	43	34	25	40
50 - 64	33	22	45	33	27	40
65 and over	29	21	50	28	22	51
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 15.99^* (.042)$			$\chi^2 = 27.61^* (.001)$	
Education		(n = 1820)			(n = 1816)	
H.S. diploma or less	32	24	44	33	28	39
Some college	32	25	43	40	23	37
College grad	35	19	46	27	25	48
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 10.79^* (.029)$			$\chi^2 = 33.92^* (.000)$	
Occupation		(n = 1383)			(n = 1380)	
Mgt, prof, education	38	19	43	27	22	51
Sales/office support	38	25	37	29	26	46
Const, inst or maint	34	30	36	47	25	27
Prodn/trans/warehs	28	18	54	34	26	40
Agriculture	33	29	38	43	26	32
Food serv/pers. care	25	33	43	35	28	37
Hlthcare supp/safety	39	22	39	33	32	35
Other	29	25	46	26	37	37
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 28.14^* (.014)$			$\chi^2 = 49.63^* (.000)$	

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Only the ten services with the highest combined percentage of very or somewhat dissatisfied are included in this table.

Appendix Table 8. Feelings about Community By Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes.

	<i>I can get what I need in this community.</i>				<i>This community helps me fulfill my needs.</i>			
	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Total	32	13	55		23	23	55	
Community Size	(n = 1796)				(n = 1792)			
Less than 500	49	14	37		31	22	47	
500 - 999	32	13	56		25	21	54	
1,000 - 4,999	31	15	54		22	24	54	
5,000 - 9,999	35	7	58	$\chi^2 = 77.65^*$	20	29	52	$\chi^2 = 32.75^*$
10,000 and up	24	11	66	(.000)	17	21	62	(.000)
Region	(n = 1859)				(n = 1856)			
Panhandle	57	7	37		38	24	37	
North Central	42	10	48		29	21	50	
South Central	26	13	62		17	22	62	
Northeast	29	15	56	$\chi^2 = 77.33^*$	20	23	57	$\chi^2 = 53.11^*$
Southeast	29	14	57	(.000)	24	25	51	(.000)
Household Income Level	(n = 1720)				(n = 1715)			
Under \$40,000	37	15	48		28	24	49	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	31	12	57		21	26	53	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	31	16	53	$\chi^2 = 25.79^*$	22	21	57	$\chi^2 = 26.63^*$
\$100,000 and over	27	9	64	(.000)	17	19	65	(.000)
Age	(n = 1864)				(n = 1860)			
19 - 29	17	17	67		15	19	67	
30 - 39	28	11	61		22	16	63	
40 - 49	31	11	59		22	25	54	
50 - 64	40	13	48	$\chi^2 = 62.65^*$	27	27	46	$\chi^2 = 43.08^*$
65 and older	40	13	48	(.000)	24	25	51	(.000)
Gender	(n = 1848)				(n = 1845)			
Male	31	12	58	$\chi^2 = 5.17$	21	24	55	$\chi^2 = 3.64$
Female	34	14	53	(.075)	24	21	55	(.162)
Education	(n = 1804)				(n = 1800)			
High school diploma or less	43	13	45		27	25	48	
Some college	36	15	49	$\chi^2 = 72.13^*$	27	27	46	$\chi^2 = 82.96^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	23	10	67	(.000)	15	17	68	(.000)
Marital Status	(n = 1827)				(n = 1822)			
Married	33	11	56		21	23	56	
Never married	22	14	64		19	19	62	
Divorced/separated	34	20	47	$\chi^2 = 26.62^*$	31	22	47	$\chi^2 = 15.17^*$
Widowed	39	12	49	(.000)	27	22	51	(.019)
Occupation	(n = 1367)				(n = 1365)			
Mgt, prof or education	26	13	61		19	15	66	
Sales or office support	28	10	62		19	29	52	
Constrn, inst or maint	23	28	50		12	26	63	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	35	10	56		25	31	45	
Agriculture	39	10	51		26	24	50	
Food serv/pers. care	38	11	51		30	28	42	
Hlthcare supp/safety	23	15	61	$\chi^2 = 45.42^*$	22	21	57	$\chi^2 = 47.88^*$
Other	44	11	44	(.000)	29	21	50	(.000)
Yrs Lived in Comm.	(n = 1728)				(n = 1727)			
Five years or less	28	15	57	$\chi^2 = 2.47$	24	21	55	$\chi^2 = 1.75$
More than five years	33	13	55	(.290)	22	24	55	(.417)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 8 continued.

	<i>I feel like a member of this community.</i>			<i>Significance</i>	<i>I belong in this community.</i>			<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	
	<i>Percentages</i>				<i>Percentages</i>			
Total	16	21	64		13	25	62	
Community Size	(n = 1786)				(n = 1778)			
Less than 500	17	17	67		12	20	68	
500 - 999	15	20	65		14	24	62	
1,000 - 4,999	18	17	65		15	24	62	
5,000 - 9,999	14	17	70	$\chi^2 = 22.29^*$	6	30	64	$\chi^2 = 14.75$
10,000 and up	14	27	59	(.004)	13	27	60	(.064)
Region	(n = 1850)				(n = 1841)			
Panhandle	23	21	56		22	24	54	
North Central	19	17	64		15	26	59	
South Central	14	21	65		13	22	65	
Northeast	17	22	62	$\chi^2 = 16.63^*$	11	28	61	$\chi^2 = 22.27^*$
Southeast	11	21	68	(.034)	10	26	64	(.004)
Household Income Level	(n = 1710)				(n = 1702)			
Under \$40,000	18	24	58		16	27	58	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	16	24	60		13	27	60	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	16	16	68	$\chi^2 = 24.29^*$	13	24	63	$\chi^2 = 11.24$
\$100,000 and over	12	17	71	(.000)	10	23	68	(.081)
Age	(n = 1854)				(n = 1843)			
19 - 29	11	27	63		2	27	71	
30 - 39	22	16	62		19	22	59	
40 - 49	17	21	61		18	27	55	
50 - 64	18	20	62	$\chi^2 = 30.15^*$	15	25	60	$\chi^2 = 57.33^*$
65 and older	11	20	69	(.000)	10	24	67	(.000)
Gender	(n = 1839)				(n = 1829)			
Male	14	20	66	$\chi^2 = 3.64$	11	24	65	$\chi^2 = 7.42^*$
Female	17	21	62	(.162)	15	26	60	(.024)
Education	(n = 1796)				(n = 1786)			
High school diploma or less	13	27	60		14	22	65	
Some college	20	21	59	$\chi^2 = 35.59^*$	15	30	56	$\chi^2 = 27.64^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	12	18	70	(.000)	10	21	68	(.000)
Marital Status	(n = 1818)				(n = 1807)			
Married	16	19	65		13	24	63	
Never married	8	25	68		9	23	68	
Divorced/separated	26	27	47	$\chi^2 = 39.03^*$	20	36	44	$\chi^2 = 33.04^*$
Widowed	12	21	66	(.000)	10	24	66	(.000)
Occupation	(n = 1362)				(n = 1356)			
Mgt, prof or education	12	17	72		11	22	68	
Sales or office support	15	29	56		12	39	49	
Constrn, inst or maint	13	21	67		13	28	60	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	15	38	47		14	28	58	
Agriculture	23	18	59		13	25	62	
Food serv/pers. care	14	26	61		14	25	61	
Hlthcare supp/safety	21	14	64	$\chi^2 = 60.46^*$	17	23	61	$\chi^2 = 26.89^*$
Other	19	22	59	(.000)	15	26	59	(.020)
Yrs Lived in Comm.	(n = 1720)				(n = 1714)			
Five years or less	19	31	50	$\chi^2 = 27.90^*$	11	37	52	$\chi^2 = 24.91^*$
More than five years	15	19	66	(.000)	13	23	64	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 8 continued.

	<i>I have a say about what goes on in my community.</i>				<i>People in this community are good at influencing each other.</i>			
	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Total	33	33	33		14	31	56	
Community Size		(n = 1791)				(n = 1787)		
Less than 500	31	33	36		15	33	52	
500 - 999	37	23	41		14	28	58	
1,000 - 4,999	35	32	34		12	29	59	
5,000 - 9,999	28	50	23	$\chi^2 = 35.87^*$	7	35	58	$\chi^2 = 12.72$
10,000 and up	33	34	33	(.000)	15	31	55	(.122)
Region		(n = 1854)				(n = 1849)		
Panhandle	41	34	26		19	37	44	
North Central	34	31	35		14	31	55	
South Central	32	34	34		12	29	59	
Northeast	36	30	34	$\chi^2 = 17.37^*$	16	27	57	$\chi^2 = 24.23^*$
Southeast	26	40	34	(.027)	10	38	52	(.002)
Household Income Level		(n = 1715)				(n = 1711)		
Under \$40,000	39	35	26		16	32	52	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	34	34	32		14	28	58	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	38	26	36	$\chi^2 = 39.06^*$	9	37	54	$\chi^2 = 18.18^*$
\$100,000 and over	23	35	42	(.000)	11	29	60	(.006)
Age		(n = 1860)				(n = 1853)		
19 - 29	42	31	27		8	25	67	
30 - 39	36	35	29		17	26	57	
40 - 49	35	31	35		13	34	53	
50 - 64	30	32	38	$\chi^2 = 24.77^*$	16	31	53	$\chi^2 = 29.57^*$
65 and older	27	38	35	(.002)	12	36	52	(.000)
Gender		(n = 1843)				(n = 1837)		
Male	33	34	33	$\chi^2 = 0.60$	14	33	52	$\chi^2 = 7.15^*$
Female	34	33	34	(.739)	13	29	59	(.028)
Education		(n = 1800)				(n = 1796)		
High school diploma or less	32	38	30		14	30	57	
Some college	39	35	27	$\chi^2 = 43.63^*$	16	33	51	$\chi^2 = 19.36^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	28	30	42	(.000)	10	28	62	(.001)
Marital Status		(n = 1822)				(n = 1817)		
Married	33	31	35		14	29	57	
Never married	32	35	33		11	34	55	
Divorced/separated	38	37	25	$\chi^2 = 12.75^*$	14	38	48	$\chi^2 = 8.61$
Widowed	28	40	32	(.047)	15	30	55	(.197)
Occupation		(n = 1367)				(n = 1363)		
Mgt, prof or education	29	27	45		13	28	58	
Sales or office support	32	35	33		13	30	57	
Constrn, inst or maint	31	36	33		14	25	61	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	39	37	24		25	32	42	
Agriculture	43	27	31		10	36	54	
Food serv/pers. care	39	43	18		12	44	44	
Hlthcare supp/safety	34	38	28	$\chi^2 = 53.21^*$	12	24	64	$\chi^2 = 41.96^*$
Other	36	32	32	(.000)	29	18	54	(.000)
Yrs Lived in Comm.		(n = 1723)				(n = 1721)		
Five years or less	37	38	25	$\chi^2 = 11.23^*$	9	34	57	$\chi^2 = 6.01$
More than five years	32	33	35	(.004)	14	30	56	(.050)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 8 continued.

	<i>I feel connected to this community.</i>				<i>I have a good bond with others in this community.</i>			
	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Total	19	24	58		14	21	65	
Community Size		(n = 1793)				(n = 1796)		
Less than 500	17	27	56		14	19	67	
500 - 999	18	22	60		15	19	66	
1,000 - 4,999	18	21	61		13	21	66	
5,000 - 9,999	11	22	67	$\chi^2 = 16.75^*$	11	22	67	$\chi^2 = 4.15$
10,000 and up	22	25	54	(.033)	15	21	64	(.843)
Region		(n = 1854)				(n = 1861)		
Panhandle	29	20	50		18	24	58	
North Central	22	24	54		16	18	66	
South Central	16	22	62		13	22	65	
Northeast	21	23	56	$\chi^2 = 35.50^*$	16	19	65	$\chi^2 = 13.94$
Southeast	11	29	59	(.000)	10	21	69	(.083)
Household Income Level		(n = 1716)				(n = 1720)		
Under \$40,000	23	28	49		19	22	59	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	21	23	57		13	22	65	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	15	28	57	$\chi^2 = 38.92^*$	15	18	67	$\chi^2 = 20.57^*$
\$100,000 and over	13	18	69	(.000)	10	18	72	(.002)
Age		(n = 1859)				(n = 1865)		
19 - 29	15	25	60		13	17	71	
30 - 39	21	23	56		14	17	68	
40 - 49	23	23	54		17	23	60	
50 - 64	19	24	56	$\chi^2 = 14.78$	15	23	62	$\chi^2 = 16.39^*$
65 and older	14	24	62	(.064)	11	20	68	(.037)
Gender		(n = 1843)				(n = 1847)		
Male	18	25	57	$\chi^2 = 2.22$	14	19	67	$\chi^2 = 1.96$
Female	19	22	59	(.330)	15	22	64	(.374)
Education		(n = 1799)				(n = 1805)		
High school diploma or less	14	30	56		12	26	63	
Some college	24	27	49	$\chi^2 = 67.59^*$	18	22	61	$\chi^2 = 31.87^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	15	17	68	(.000)	11	16	72	(.000)
Marital Status		(n = 1821)				(n = 1827)		
Married	19	23	59		14	20	66	
Never married	11	27	62		8	22	70	
Divorced/separated	27	29	45	$\chi^2 = 27.42^*$	22	24	54	$\chi^2 = 21.53^*$
Widowed	13	25	62	(.000)	11	22	68	(.001)
Occupation		(n = 1365)				(n = 1371)		
Mgt, prof or education	16	18	66		10	18	72	
Sales or office support	18	29	54		14	31	56	
Constrn, inst or maint	18	31	52		13	16	72	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	19	40	40		14	34	52	
Agriculture	22	19	59		23	15	61	
Food serv/pers. care	21	26	53		19	22	59	
Hlthcare supp/safety	22	18	61	$\chi^2 = 49.93^*$	14	19	67	$\chi^2 = 53.78^*$
Other	19	37	44	(.000)	15	22	63	(.000)
Yrs Lived in Comm.		(n = 1725)				(n = 1730)		
Five years or less	22	29	49	$\chi^2 = 10.21^*$	18	30	53	$\chi^2 = 26.28^*$
More than five years	18	23	59	(.006)	13	19	68	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 9. Opinions about Leaving Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

Assume you were to have a discussion in your household about leaving your community for a reasonably good opportunity elsewhere. How easy or difficult would it be for your household to leave your community?

	Easy	Neutral	Difficult	Chi-square (sig.)
	<i>Percentages</i>			
Total	27	16	58	
Community Size		(n = 1788)		
Less than 500	20	16	64	
500 - 999	26	11	62	
1,000 - 4,999	27	16	57	
5,000 - 9,999	19	20	62	$\chi^2 = 24.06^*$
10,000 and up	31	17	53	(.002)
Region		(n = 1854)		
Panhandle	34	19	47	
North Central	27	14	60	
South Central	28	18	55	
Northeast	25	16	59	$\chi^2 = 19.20^*$
Southeast	23	12	65	(.014)
Income Level		(n = 1714)		
Under \$40,000	25	16	60	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	28	16	56	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	24	14	62	$\chi^2 = 6.17$
\$100,000 and over	29	16	55	(.404)
Age		(n = 1858)		
19 - 29	19	15	67	
30 - 39	31	14	54	
40 - 49	33	18	49	
50 - 64	30	14	56	$\chi^2 = 39.91^*$
65 and older	20	18	63	(.000)
Gender		(n = 1842)		
Male	27	15	58	$\chi^2 = 0.78$
Female	26	16	57	(.677)
Marital Status		(n = 1823)		
Married	26	15	59	
Never married	22	23	55	
Divorced/separated	41	16	43	$\chi^2 = 38.32^*$
Widowed	17	16	66	(.000)
Education		(n = 1800)		
H.S. diploma or less	23	17	60	
Some college	29	18	53	$\chi^2 = 13.90^*$
Bachelors degree	25	14	62	(.008)
Occupation		(n = 1360)		
Mgt, prof, education	27	10	62	
Sales/office support	29	25	46	
Const, inst or maint	24	19	57	
Prodn/trans/warehs	39	15	46	
Agriculture	25	14	62	
Food serv/pers. care	25	21	54	
Hlthcare supp/safety	30	15	55	$\chi^2 = 37.80^*$
Other	19	19	63	(.001)
Yrs Lived in Comm.		(n = 1729)		
Five years or less	32	16	53	$\chi^2 = 5.07$
More than five years	25	16	59	(.079)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 10. Plans to Leave Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

<i>Do you plan to move from your community in the next year?</i>						
	<i>Yes, to the Lincoln/Omaha metro areas</i>	<i>Yes, to someplace in Nebraska outside metro areas</i>	<i>Yes, to someplace other than Nebraska</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Uncertain</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
Total	1	2	2	84	12	
Community Size		(n = 1775)				
Less than 500	0	3	1	86	11	
500 - 999	0	3	2	83	11	
1,000 - 4,999	1	2	3	83	12	
5,000 - 9,999	0	4	1	86	9	$\chi^2 = 25.11$
10,000 and up	1	1	2	83	14	(.068)
Region		(n = 1838)				
Panhandle	0	3	3	82	13	
North Central	0.4	2	2	78	18	
South Central	1	2	2	84	11	
Northeast	0.4	0.4	2	85	12	$\chi^2 = 29.56^*$
Southeast	1	3	0.3	88	8	(.020)
Income Level		(n = 1699)				
Under \$40,000	1	1	3	79	16	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	1	2	2	82	14	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1	4	1	84	10	$\chi^2 = 36.63^*$
\$100,000 and over	0	1	1	89	9	(.000)
Age		(n = 1845)				
19 - 29	0	4	0	81	15	
30 - 39	1	1	1	80	16	
40 - 49	1	2	2	82	13	
50 - 64	1	2	3	84	10	$\chi^2 = 34.85^*$
65 and older	1	1	2	87	9	(.004)
Gender		(n = 1826)				
Male	0.4	3	2	82	12	$\chi^2 = 19.54^*$
Female	1	1	2	85	12	(.001)
Marital Status		(n = 1805)				
Married	0.4	2	2	86	10	
Never married	0	4	1	81	14	
Divorced/separated	2	3	3	73	21	$\chi^2 = 32.69^*$
Widowed	1	1	1	86	12	(.001)
Education		(n = 1786)				
H.S. diploma or less	0.3	1	2	84	14	
Some college	1	4	3	78	15	$\chi^2 = 39.42^*$
Bachelors degree	0.4	1	1	89	9	(.000)
Occupation		(n = 1356)				
Mgt, prof, education	0.2	1	1	89	9	
Sales/office support	1	0	4	88	8	
Const, inst or maint	1	1	1	85	12	
Prodn/trans/warehs	0	3	3	77	17	
Agriculture	1	3	2	82	12	
Food serv/pers. care	1	7	0	69	23	
Hlthcare supp/safety	1	3	2	80	14	$\chi^2 = 54.38^*$
Other	0	4	0	82	14	(.002)
Yrs Lived in Comm.		(n = 1712)				
Five years or less	1	1	2	80	16	$\chi^2 = 6.16$
More than five years	1	2	2	84	12	(.188)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 11. Size of Community Planning to Move to by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

<i>If yes, to what size of community do you plan to move?</i>				
	<i>In or near a community larger than your current one</i>	<i>In or near a community smaller than your current one</i>	<i>In or near a community of the same size as your current one</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
Total	46	24	31	
Community Size		(n = 72)		
Less than 500	50	10	40	
500 - 999	50	0	50	
1,000 - 4,999	57	4	39	
5,000 - 9,999	14**	86**	0**	$\chi^2 = 35.30^*$
10,000 and up	44	50	6	(.000)
Region		(n = 75)		
Panhandle	50**	13**	38**	
North Central	50	30	20	
South Central	41	35	24	
Northeast	50	19	31	$\chi^2 = 9.21$
Southeast	42	0	58	(.325)
Income Level		(n = 72)		
Under \$40,000	73	7	20	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	52	28	20	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	17	26	57	$\chi^2 = 17.02^*$
\$100,000 and over	56**	33**	11**	(.009)
Age		(n = 77)		
19 - 29	0	50	50	
30 - 39	60	20	20	
40 - 49	38	25	38	
50 - 64	57	17	26	$\chi^2 = 15.01$
65 and older	63	13	25	(.059)
Gender		(n = 74)		
Male	34	32	34	$\chi^2 = 5.51$
Female	60	13	27	(.064)
Education		(n = 71)		
H.S. diploma or less	50**	0**	50**	
Some college	40	34	26	$\chi^2 = 6.59$
Bachelors degree	56	13	31	(.159)
Occupation		(n = 55)		
Mgt, prof, education	67**	0**	33**	
Sales/office support	29**	14**	57**	
Const, inst or maint	33**	33**	33**	
Prodn/trans/warehs	14**	43**	43**	
Agriculture	20	70	10	
Food serv/pers. care	14**	0**	86**	
Hlthcare supp/safety	73	18	9	$\chi^2 = 33.26^*$
Other	100**	0**	0**	(.003)
Yrs Lived in Comm.		(n = 71)		
Five years or less	64	9	27	$\chi^2 = 2.38$
More than five years	42	28	30	(.305)
Where Plan to Move		(n = 76)		
Lincoln/Omaha area	100	0	0	
Someplace else in NE	34	26	40	$\chi^2 = 14.69^*$
Someplace outside NE	39	29	32	(.005)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level ** Row percentages are calculated using row total with less than 10 respondents.

Appendix Table 12. Individual and Community Political Views by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?					
Your political views on economic issues					
	Liberal	Moderate, middle of road	Conservative	Don't know	Chi-square (sig.)
Total	11	17	62	10	
Community Size		(n = 1795)			
Less than 500	9	17	65	9	
500 - 999	8	21	62	9	
1,000 - 4,999	7	18	64	11	
5,000 - 9,999	9	19	62	9	$\chi^2 = 27.70^*$
10,000 and up	16	15	60	9	(.006)
Region		(n = 1807)			
Panhandle	10	17	63	11	
North Central	10	14	66	10	
South Central	10	16	67	7	
Northeast	9	20	60	11	$\chi^2 = 22.10^*$
Southeast	15	19	55	11	(.036)
Income Level		(n = 1726)			
Under \$40,000	13	24	48	16	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	11	16	63	10	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	12	17	64	7	$\chi^2 = 69.89^*$
\$100,000 and over	9	13	74	4	(.000)
Age		(n = 1808)			
19 - 29	18	16	59	8	
30 - 39	12	10	67	12	
40 - 49	6	19	65	9	
50 - 64	9	20	62	9	$\chi^2 = 39.40^*$
65 and older	10	19	60	11	(.000)
Gender		(n = 1791)			
Male	9	14	71	7	$\chi^2 = 47.24^*$
Female	12	20	56	12	(.000)
Marital Status		(n = 1773)			
Married	9	17	67	8	
Never married	23	12	57	8	
Divorced/separated	11	24	49	16	$\chi^2 = 77.29^*$
Widowed	11	23	49	17	(.000)
Education		(n = 1804)			
H.S. diploma or less	6	22	53	18	
Some college	9	18	62	11	$\chi^2 = 80.71^*$
Bachelors degree	15	15	67	4	(.000)
Occupation		(n = 1357)			
Mgt, prof, education	17	15	64	4	
Sales/office support	8	27	56	8	
Const, inst or maint	10	15	67	8	
Prodn/trans/warehs	9	19	57	16	
Agriculture	5	7	81	7	
Food serv/pers. care	7	17	55	21	
Hlthcare supp/safety	6	18	62	13	$\chi^2 = 108.63^*$
Other	4	15	54	27	(.000)
Yrs Lived in Comm.		(n = 1727)			
Five years or less	19	14	56	12	$\chi^2 = 30.91^*$
More than five years	9	18	64	9	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

<i>Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?</i>					
<i>Your political views on social issues</i>					
	<i>Liberal</i>	<i>Moderate, middle of road</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<u>Total</u>	15	17	59	9	
<u>Community Size</u>		(n = 1796)			
Less than 500	12	19	60	9	
500 - 999	16	15	61	9	
1,000 - 4,999	10	19	62	9	
5,000 - 9,999	17	15	58	10	$\chi^2 = 26.85^*$
10,000 and up	20	17	55	9	(.008)
<u>Region</u>		(n = 1803)			
Panhandle	14	15	60	12	
North Central	13	18	62	8	
South Central	15	16	62	7	
Northeast	15	18	56	11	$\chi^2 = 14.34$
Southeast	17	19	54	11	(.279)
<u>Income Level</u>		(n = 1725)			
Under \$40,000	15	22	47	16	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	15	16	60	9	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	16	16	61	7	$\chi^2 = 50.43^*$
\$100,000 and over	16	15	65	4	(.000)
<u>Age</u>		(n = 1809)			
19 - 29	25	12	57	6	
30 - 39	16	12	61	12	
40 - 49	11	21	58	10	
50 - 64	12	20	59	9	$\chi^2 = 53.84^*$
65 and older	12	19	58	11	(.000)
<u>Gender</u>		(n = 1790)			
Male	12	16	67	6	$\chi^2 = 47.54^*$
Female	18	18	52	12	(.000)
<u>Marital Status</u>		(n = 1772)			
Married	13	17	62	7	
Never married	26	10	56	8	
Divorced/separated	15	24	46	16	$\chi^2 = 65.14^*$
Widowed	14	22	46	18	(.000)
<u>Education</u>		(n = 1802)			
H.S. diploma or less	8	22	53	17	
Some college	12	19	59	11	$\chi^2 = 90.11^*$
Bachelors degree	21	14	61	4	(.000)
<u>Occupation</u>		(n = 1355)			
Mgt, prof, education	25	14	57	4	
Sales/office support	15	24	53	8	
Const, inst or maint	11	16	64	9	
Prodn/trans/warehs	10	26	54	11	
Agriculture	6	7	79	7	
Food serv/pers. care	12	13	53	22	
Hlthcare supp/safety	8	21	57	13	$\chi^2 = 138.77^*$
Other	4	12	58	27	(.000)
<u>Yrs Lived in Comm.</u>		(n = 1725)			
Five years or less	30	11	48	11	$\chi^2 = 68.61^*$
More than five years	12	18	61	9	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 12 continued.

<i>Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?</i>					
<i>Your community's political views on economic issues</i>					
	<i>Liberal</i>	<i>Moderate, middle of road</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
Total	7	14	66	14	
<u>Community Size</u>		(n = 1794)			
Less than 500	5	12	69	14	
500 - 999	6	10	69	15	
1,000 - 4,999	6	16	65	14	
5,000 - 9,999	8	16	62	16	$\chi^2 = 11.98$
10,000 and up	8	15	66	12	(.447)
<u>Region</u>		(n = 1800)			
Panhandle	5	17	63	16	
North Central	6	12	69	13	
South Central	5	14	70	11	
Northeast	6	16	62	15	$\chi^2 = 27.83^*$
Southeast	11	10	62	17	(.006)
<u>Income Level</u>		(n = 1725)			
Under \$40,000	11	20	46	23	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	8	14	65	14	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	6	11	73	10	$\chi^2 = 131.33^*$
\$100,000 and over	2	10	82	6	(.000)
<u>Age</u>		(n = 1806)			
19 - 29	10	8	74	8	
30 - 39	2	11	73	13	
40 - 49	7	15	65	13	
50 - 64	6	16	64	14	$\chi^2 = 57.88^*$
65 and older	7	18	56	19	(.000)
<u>Gender</u>		(n = 1789)			
Male	5	13	73	10	$\chi^2 = 36.65^*$
Female	8	15	60	17	(.000)
<u>Marital Status</u>		(n = 1768)			
Married	4	13	71	11	
Never married	17	10	62	11	
Divorced/separated	9	21	49	21	$\chi^2 = 120.72^*$
Widowed	7	19	45	30	(.000)
<u>Education</u>		(n = 1799)			
H.S. diploma or less	6	16	53	25	
Some college	7	15	62	17	$\chi^2 = 93.12^*$
Bachelors degree	6	12	76	6	(.000)
<u>Occupation</u>		(n = 1350)			
Mgt, prof, education	8	11	74	7	
Sales/office support	10	15	60	14	
Const, inst or maint	6	9	75	10	
Prodn/trans/warehs	1	21	58	20	
Agriculture	2	9	82	7	
Food serv/pers. care	5	11	63	21	
Hlthcare supp/safety	4	15	66	15	$\chi^2 = 84.25^*$
Other	4	4	56	36	(.000)
<u>Yrs Lived in Comm.</u>		(n = 1724)			
Five years or less	12	9	66	14	$\chi^2 = 21.59^*$
More than five years	5	15	66	14	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

<i>Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?</i>					
<i>Your community's political views on social issues</i>					
	<i>Liberal</i>	<i>Moderate, middle of road</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
Total	7	14	64	15	
<u>Community Size</u>		(n = 1795)			
Less than 500	5	13	65	17	
500 - 999	6	11	68	15	
1,000 - 4,999	6	16	63	14	
5,000 - 9,999	7	15	62	16	$\chi^2 = 12.29$
10,000 and up	9	15	63	13	(.423)
<u>Region</u>		(n = 1800)			
Panhandle	6	16	62	17	
North Central	6	13	68	13	
South Central	6	14	67	13	
Northeast	7	17	61	15	$\chi^2 = 19.49$
Southeast	11	11	60	17	(.077)
<u>Income Level</u>		(n = 1721)			
Under \$40,000	11	18	46	25	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	9	14	64	14	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	6	13	70	10	$\chi^2 = 115.49^*$
\$100,000 and over	3	12	79	6	(.000)
<u>Age</u>		(n = 1803)			
19 - 29	10	8	72	10	
30 - 39	4	11	71	15	
40 - 49	7	15	65	13	
50 - 64	8	18	60	14	$\chi^2 = 52.61^*$
65 and older	8	17	55	20	(.000)
<u>Gender</u>		(n = 1789)			
Male	6	13	70	11	$\chi^2 = 22.31^*$
Female	8	15	60	17	(.000)
<u>Marital Status</u>		(n = 1768)			
Married	6	13	69	12	
Never married	15	11	61	13	
Divorced/separated	11	22	46	21	$\chi^2 = 94.73^*$
Widowed	7	18	44	30	(.000)
<u>Education</u>		(n = 1797)			
H.S. diploma or less	7	17	51	26	
Some college	7	15	60	18	$\chi^2 = 95.68^*$
Bachelors degree	8	13	74	6	(.000)
<u>Occupation</u>		(n = 1351)			
Mgt, prof, education	9	11	73	7	
Sales/office support	11	16	58	15	
Const, inst or maint	7	11	71	11	
Prodn/trans/warehs	4	22	53	21	
Agriculture	2	8	78	12	
Food serv/pers. care	5	12	62	21	
Hlthcare supp/safety	4	18	63	16	$\chi^2 = 87.31^*$
Other	4	8	50	39	(.000)
<u>Yrs Lived in Comm.</u>		(n = 1721)			
Five years or less	12	9	65	13	$\chi^2 = 17.69^*$
More than five years	6	15	64	15	(.001)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 13. Measures of Individual Well-Being in Relation to Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

<i>Compared to Five Years Ago</i>						
	<i>Much Worse Off</i>	<i>Worse Off</i>	<i>About the Same</i>	<i>Better Off</i>	<i>Much Better Off</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<i>Percentages</i>						
Total	2	10	35	41	12	
<u>Community Size</u>			(n = 1799)			
Less than 500	4	11	37	39	9	
500 - 999	2	8	34	41	16	
1,000 - 4,999	1	9	39	40	10	
5,000 - 9,999	2	10	38	37	14	$\chi^2 = 28.89^*$
10,000 and up	2	10	30	47	12	(.025)
<u>Region</u>			(n = 1859)			
Panhandle	3	16	44	30	7	
North Central	4	10	35	41	10	
South Central	1	10	33	45	12	
Northeast	1	9	34	43	14	$\chi^2 = 42.08^*$
Southeast	2	9	39	40	10	(.000)
<u>Income Level</u>			(n = 1718)			
Under \$40,000	4	15	51	26	4	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	2	11	32	43	12	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1	5	32	49	13	$\chi^2 = 150.48^*$
\$100,000 and over	1	7	23	52	17	(.000)
<u>Age</u>			(n = 1862)			
19 - 29	2	4	18	53	24	
30 - 39	1	8	26	48	18	
40 - 49	2	12	33	46	7	
50 - 64	3	12	37	38	10	$\chi^2 = 217.75^*$
65 and older	2	11	55	28	4	(.000)
<u>Gender</u>			(n = 1848)			
Male	2	10	31	44	13	$\chi^2 = 11.29^*$
Female	2	10	39	39	11	(.023)
<u>Marital Status</u>			(n = 1825)			
Married	2	10	32	43	13	
Never married	1	4	35	50	10	
Divorced/separated	1	13	41	35	10	$\chi^2 = 73.34^*$
Widowed	5	12	58	22	3	(.000)
<u>Education</u>			(n = 1806)			
H.S. diploma or less	1	12	50	29	9	
Some college	2	12	38	39	10	$\chi^2 = 93.55^*$
Bachelors degree	2	7	25	51	15	(.000)
<u>Occupation</u>			(n = 1369)			
Mgt, prof or education	1	7	25	56	11	
Sales or office support	1	8	38	35	18	
Constrn, inst or maint	1	14	32	46	8	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	3	7	33	44	13	
Agriculture	3	12	29	43	12	
Food serv/pers. care	2	13	39	39	7	
Hlthcare supp/safety	3	9	28	39	22	$\chi^2 = 70.04^*$
Other	0	15	41	33	11	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

<i>Compared to Parents When They Were Your Age</i>						
	<i>Much Worse Off</i>	<i>Worse Off</i>	<i>About the Same</i>	<i>Better Off</i>	<i>Much Better Off</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<i>Percentages</i>						
Total	3	14	22	44	18	
Community Size			(n = 1792)			
Less than 500	2	13	20	54	12	
500 - 999	6	12	24	37	21	
1,000 - 4,999	2	14	21	44	19	
5,000 - 9,999	0	18	24	40	18	$\chi^2 = 44.12^*$
10,000 and up	4	14	21	42	20	(.000)
Region			(n = 1856)			
Panhandle	4	12	29	34	20	
North Central	2	17	19	42	20	
South Central	4	12	23	42	19	
Northeast	2	15	21	48	15	$\chi^2 = 29.60^*$
Southeast	2	13	21	47	17	(.020)
Income Level			(n = 1714)			
Under \$40,000	5	20	26	39	9	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	4	16	24	44	12	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1	13	18	47	23	$\chi^2 = 114.43^*$
\$100,000 and over	2	7	17	45	29	(.000)
Age			(n = 1861)			
19 - 29	4	18	8	47	24	
30 - 39	4	15	24	36	21	
40 - 49	4	14	25	43	14	
50 - 64	2	15	26	42	15	$\chi^2 = 71.12^*$
65 and older	2	8	24	48	18	(.000)
Gender			(n = 1844)			
Male	3	14	22	43	19	$\chi^2 = 1.81$
Female	3	14	22	44	17	(.771)
Marital Status			(n = 1824)			
Married	3	12	22	44	19	
Never married	1	22	21	44	12	
Divorced/separated	6	18	24	33	19	$\chi^2 = 38.58^*$
Widowed	4	9	22	49	17	(.000)
Education			(n = 1803)			
H.S. diploma or less	2	9	26	45	19	
Some college	4	17	21	43	16	$\chi^2 = 20.32^*$
Bachelors degree	3	13	20	45	20	(.009)
Occupation			(n = 1368)			
Mgt, prof or education	2	7	19	51	21	
Sales or office support	3	25	23	32	17	
Constrn, inst or maint	4	20	19	42	16	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	2	20	22	35	21	
Agriculture	3	15	21	47	15	
Food serv/pers. care	3	17	31	46	3	
Hlthcare supp/safety	3	16	22	37	22	$\chi^2 = 73.66^*$
Other	0	14	29	36	21	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 13 continued

<i>Ten Years From Now</i>						
	<i>Much Worse Off</i>	<i>Worse Off</i>	<i>About the Same</i>	<i>Better Off</i>	<i>Much Better Off</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<i>Percentages</i>						
Total	2	14	35	40	10	
Community Size			(n = 1782)			
Less than 500	1	14	33	42	9	
500 - 999	2	9	35	41	13	
1,000 - 4,999	1	15	39	38	7	
5,000 - 9,999	1	18	33	36	12	$\chi^2 = 24.42$
10,000 and up	2	12	32	43	11	(.081)
Region			(n = 1840)			
Panhandle	5	20	37	32	7	
North Central	1	18	32	40	9	
South Central	1	14	34	41	11	
Northeast	2	11	38	38	11	$\chi^2 = 39.67^*$
Southeast	1	10	34	46	10	(.001)
Income Level			(n = 1704)			
Under \$40,000	3	24	45	23	5	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	2	15	34	38	11	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1	6	29	53	11	$\chi^2 = 156.93^*$
\$100,000 and over	1	6	28	53	13	(.000)
Age			(n = 1846)			
19 - 29	0	14	10	47	29	
30 - 39	1	4	23	57	15	
40 - 49	1	11	28	53	6	
50 - 64	3	16	43	35	4	$\chi^2 = 493.00^*$
65 and older	3	20	60	15	1	(.000)
Gender			(n = 1831)			
Male	2	15	32	40	10	$\chi^2 = 6.04$
Female	1	12	37	40	10	(.196)
Marital Status			(n = 1811)			
Married	2	12	33	44	10	
Never married	0	16	30	37	18	
Divorced/separated	3	12	39	36	11	$\chi^2 = 90.52^*$
Widowed	3	22	59	15	2	(.000)
Education			(n = 1790)			
H.S. diploma or less	2	18	47	29	4	
Some college	2	16	37	36	9	$\chi^2 = 98.71^*$
Bachelors degree	1	8	28	50	14	(.000)
Occupation			(n = 1366)			
Mgt, prof or education	0.2	8	29	51	12	
Sales or office support	1	8	43	36	12	
Constrn, inst or maint	4	18	23	50	6	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	1	17	27	39	16	
Agriculture	2	20	26	40	12	
Food serv/pers. care	4	18	32	36	10	
Hlthcare supp/safety	2	7	20	53	17	$\chi^2 = 90.12^*$
Other	4	11	36	39	11	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 14. Life Has Changed So Much in Our Modern World that Most People Are Powerless to Control Their Own Lives.

	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Significance</u>
	<i>Percentages</i>			
<u>Total</u>	50	24	26	
<u>Community Size</u>		(n = 1784)		
Less than 500	48	22	30	
500 - 999	51	25	25	
1,000 - 4,999	49	27	24	
5,000 - 9,999	47	22	31	$\chi^2 = 11.03$
10,000 and up	53	21	26	(.200)
<u>Region</u>		(n = 1851)		
Panhandle	46	20	35	
North Central	50	23	27	
South Central	52	22	26	
Northeast	46	29	25	$\chi^2 = 15.78^*$
Southeast	53	24	23	(.046)
<u>Household Income</u>		(n = 1707)		
Under \$40,000	35	28	37	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	53	23	25	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	47	28	25	$\chi^2 = 67.25^*$
\$100,000 and over	63	17	19	(.000)
<u>Age</u>		(n = 1853)		
19 - 29	46	27	27	
30 - 39	58	20	22	
40 - 49	52	26	22	
50 - 64	51	21	28	$\chi^2 = 26.26^*$
65 and older	43	27	31	(.001)
<u>Gender</u>		(n = 1837)		
Male	50	21	30	$\chi^2 = 12.19^*$
Female	49	27	24	(.002)
<u>Education</u>		(n = 1794)		
H.S. diploma or less	38	28	34	
Some college	43	26	31	$\chi^2 = 78.24^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	62	19	18	(.000)
<u>Marital Status</u>		(n = 1815)		
Married	54	22	25	
Never married	40	32	28	
Divorced/separated	41	30	29	$\chi^2 = 28.21^*$
Widowed	41	27	32	(.000)
<u>Occupation</u>		(n = 1362)		
Mgt, prof or education	61	21	17	
Sales or office support	57	17	26	
Constrn, inst or maint	37	38	25	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	42	26	32	
Agriculture	54	18	29	
Food serv/pers. care	37	25	37	
Hlthcare supp/safety	53	29	18	$\chi^2 = 63.64^*$
Other	68	18	14	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Appendix Table 15. Satisfaction with Items Affecting Well-Being, 2020

Item	<i>Does Not Apply</i>	<i>Very Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Somewhat Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>	<i>Somewhat Satisfied</i>	<i>Very Satisfied</i>
Your family	2%	1%	4%	11%	40%	43%
Your marriage	32	1	1	3	20	43
Greenery and open space	1	2	5	12	41	39
Your day to day personal safety	1	1	3	10	48	36
Your transportation	2	1	3	9	50	36
Your religion/spirituality	5	1	3	18	36	36
Clean air	1	2	6	15	42	34
Clean water	1	4	7	14	40	34
Your friends	1	2	3	16	44	34
Your general quality of life	1	1	5	10	52	32
Your housing	2	3	7	13	44	30
Your education	5	2	5	17	43	29
Your general standard of living	1	2	5	11	52	29
Your ability to afford your residence	2	5	11	14	41	27
Your spare time	3	4	10	15	44	25
Your job security	23	4	7	11	32	22
Your job satisfaction	22	2	8	11	36	21
Your health	1	5	13	15	48	18
Your ability to build assets/wealth	5	8	16	19	36	15
Your community	1	6	11	21	48	13
Current income level	3	11	17	15	42	12
Your job opportunities	22	9	15	20	24	11
Financial security during retirement	4	18	24	15	31	9

Appendix Table 16. Dissatisfaction with Items By Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes.**

	<i>Financial security during retirement</i>				<i>Your job opportunities</i>			
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Total	44	15	41		31	25	45	
Community Size	(n = 1732)				(n = 1435)			
Less than 500	47	21	32		33	24	43	
500 - 999	45	16	39		26	26	47	
1,000 - 4,999	46	13	41		28	30	42	
5,000 - 9,999	41	17	42	$\chi^2 = 22.08^*$	25	26	49	$\chi^2 = 16.32^*$
10,000 and up	40	14	46	(.005)	35	21	44	(.038)
Region	(n = 1787)				(n = 1464)			
Panhandle	52	15	33		35	25	40	
North Central	47	12	42		39	25	37	
South Central	41	13	46		30	21	49	
Northeast	43	17	40	$\chi^2 = 20.41^*$	28	28	44	$\chi^2 = 21.67^*$
Southeast	45	18	36	(.009)	25	28	47	(.006)
Individual Attributes:								
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1659)				(n = 1400)			
Under \$40,000	56	18	26		39	29	32	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	48	16	36		36	23	41	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	46	13	41	$\chi^2 = 103.56^*$	29	26	45	$\chi^2 = 42.79^*$
\$100,000 and over	29	11	61	(.000)	21	24	55	(.000)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1793)				(n = 1465)			
19 - 29	39	17	44		34	19	48	
30 - 39	49	15	36		32	24	45	
40 - 49	52	15	34		36	21	43	
50 - 64	49	13	38	$\chi^2 = 52.97^*$	26	30	44	$\chi^2 = 36.11^*$
65 and older	31	17	53	(.000)	18	40	43	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1777)				(n = 1461)			
Male	43	15	42	$\chi^2 = 0.94$	27	26	46	$\chi^2 = 5.98$
Female	45	15	40	(.626)	33	24	43	(.050)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1736)				(n = 1437)			
High school diploma or less	43	24	33		30	27	43	
Some college	50	18	31	$\chi^2 = 118.16^*$	32	29	39	$\chi^2 = 19.26^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	37	8	55	(.000)	29	21	50	(.001)
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1758)				(n = 1442)			
Married	45	12	42		31	24	45	
Never married	37	22	42		30	22	48	
Divorced/separated	50	20	30	$\chi^2 = 34.41^*$	34	27	39	$\chi^2 = 12.92^*$
Widowed	31	19	50	(.000)	30	46	24	(.044)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1322)				(n = 1305)			
Mgt, prof or education	41	9	50		28	22	51	
Sales or office support	58	14	28		25	37	38	
Constrn, inst or maint	36	27	37		25	25	50	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	47	19	33		47	22	32	
Agriculture	59	11	30		25	32	43	
Food serv/pers. care	49	34	17		25	27	48	
Hlthcare supp/safety	42	10	49	$\chi^2 = 105.06^*$	35	19	46	$\chi^2 = 50.81^*$
Other	44	16	40	(.000)	50	19	31	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

** Only the five items with the highest combined proportion of very and somewhat dissatisfied responses are included.

	<i>Your current income level</i>				<i>Your ability to build assets/wealth</i>			
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Total	29	16	56		26	20	54	
Community Size	(n = 1750)				(n = 1720)			
Less than 500	29	15	56		26	26	49	
500 - 999	23	16	61		26	15	59	
1,000 - 4,999	29	15	56		25	23	52	
5,000 - 9,999	30	17	53	$\chi^2 = 4.92$	25	20	55	$\chi^2 = 23.90^*$
10,000 and up	29	15	56	(.766)	28	15	58	(.002)
Region	(n = 1805)				(n = 1774)			
Panhandle	34	17	49		33	22	45	
North Central	32	12	56		28	24	48	
South Central	28	12	61		28	16	56	
Northeast	27	21	52	$\chi^2 = 25.64^*$	24	23	54	$\chi^2 = 27.19^*$
Southeast	27	18	56	(.001)	20	19	61	(.001)
Individual Attributes:								
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1679)				(n = 1653)			
Under \$40,000	50	25	25		44	31	25	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	32	16	52		32	18	50	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	22	15	63	$\chi^2 = 262.65^*$	19	18	63	$\chi^2 = 205.00^*$
\$100,000 and over	11	6	83	(.000)	11	14	75	(.000)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1810)				(n = 1777)			
19 - 29	23	15	63		24	14	61	
30 - 39	27	11	62		22	20	58	
40 - 49	35	13	52		31	18	52	
50 - 64	31	16	53	$\chi^2 = 35.22^*$	29	18	53	$\chi^2 = 33.97^*$
65 and older	25	22	53	(.000)	22	28	50	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1795)				(n = 1762)			
Male	29	17	55	$\chi^2 = 2.25$	25	19	56	$\chi^2 = 2.75$
Female	29	14	57	(.325)	27	21	52	(.253)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1756)				(n = 1725)			
High school diploma or less	32	28	40		25	28	47	
Some college	34	17	49	$\chi^2 = 121.62^*$	31	22	47	$\chi^2 = 62.59^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	21	8	70	(.000)	21	14	65	(.000)
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1773)				(n = 1740)			
Married	27	13	60		25	18	57	
Never married	28	21	52		28	17	55	
Divorced/separated	37	18	45	$\chi^2 = 28.10^*$	32	31	38	$\chi^2 = 33.20^*$
Widowed	28	23	49	(.000)	29	28	44	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1358)				(n = 1360)			
Mgt, prof or education	22	9	69		23	17	61	
Sales or office support	31	18	51		30	23	48	
Constrn, inst or maint	27	20	53		26	20	54	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	34	18	48		31	18	51	
Agriculture	36	14	51		22	21	57	
Food serv/pers. care	38	28	34		38	27	35	
Hlthcare supp/safety	23	9	68	$\chi^2 = 88.39^*$	23	13	64	$\chi^2 = 41.15^*$
Other	56	4	41	(.000)	46	14	39	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

** Only the five items with the highest combined proportion of very and somewhat dissatisfied responses are included.

	<i>Your health</i>			<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	
	<i>Percentages</i>			
Total	18	16	67	
Community Size	(n = 1791)			
Less than 500	19	21	61	
500 - 999	14	19	68	
1,000 - 4,999	18	13	70	
5,000 - 9,999	25	11	64	$\chi^2 = 21.30^*$
10,000 and up	17	15	68	(.006)
Region	(n = 1853)			
Panhandle	27	17	56	
North Central	20	14	67	
South Central	17	13	70	
Northeast	15	17	68	$\chi^2 = 22.81^*$
Southeast	15	19	65	(.004)
Individual Attributes:				
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1718)			
Under \$40,000	30	20	51	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	19	14	68	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	14	17	70	$\chi^2 = 85.23^*$
\$100,000 and over	8	12	79	(.000)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1858)			
19 - 29	10	14	75	
30 - 39	17	15	68	
40 - 49	17	17	67	
50 - 64	20	15	65	$\chi^2 = 19.20^*$
65 and older	21	16	63	(.014)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1841)			
Male	19	17	64	$\chi^2 = 5.55$
Female	17	14	69	(.062)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1800)			
High school diploma or less	19	24	57	
Some college	20	18	62	$\chi^2 = 57.19^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	14	10	76	(.000)
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1820)			
Married	17	14	68	
Never married	15	17	69	
Divorced/separated	24	18	59	$\chi^2 = 10.01$
Widowed	18	18	64	(.124)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1372)			
Mgt, prof or education	16	13	71	
Sales or office support	16	14	69	
Constrn, inst or maint	12	12	75	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	8	25	67	
Agriculture	16	17	68	
Food serv/pers. care	26	29	46	
Hlthcare supp/safety	16	10	74	$\chi^2 = 46.77^*$
Other	14	18	68	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

** Only the five items with the highest combined proportion of very and somewhat dissatisfied responses are included

Appendix Table 17. Satisfaction with Items By Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes.**

	<i>Your marriage</i>				<i>Your transportation</i>			
	<i>No</i>				<i>No</i>			
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Total	3	4	92		4	9	87	
Community Size		(n = 1256)				(n = 1770)		
Less than 500	3	6	91		4	11	85	
500 - 999	3	4	93		6	9	86	
1,000 - 4,999	3	4	93		4	9	87	
5,000 - 9,999	3	2	95	$\chi^2 = 5.04$	5	7	88	$\chi^2 = 4.97$
10,000 and up	5	5	91	(.753)	4	8	88	(.761)
Region		(n = 1283)				(n = 1830)		
Panhandle	6	5	89		6	12	82	
North Central	3	6	91		5	10	85	
South Central	4	3	94		5	8	87	
Northeast	4	4	93	$\chi^2 = 9.42$	3	10	88	$\chi^2 = 8.61$
Southeast	3	6	91	(.308)	4	9	88	(.376)
Individual Attributes:								
<i>Household Income Level</i>		(n = 1207)				(n = 1694)		
Under \$40,000	5	8	87		10	15	75	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	4	5	91		4	10	86	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	5	3	93	$\chi^2 = 15.88^*$	4	6	90	$\chi^2 = 76.07^*$
\$100,000 and over	1	3	95	(.014)	1	3	96	(.000)
<i>Age</i>		(n = 1283)				(n = 1833)		
19 - 29	0	0	100		0	7	94	
30 - 39	2	3	95		4	8	88	
40 - 49	7	5	88		6	9	84	
50 - 64	4	5	91	$\chi^2 = 32.99^*$	6	10	85	$\chi^2 = 24.70^*$
65 and older	3	6	91	(.000)	4	11	86	(.002)
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 1276)				(n = 1818)		
Male	2	4	94	$\chi^2 = 4.62$	5	10	85	$\chi^2 = 7.33^*$
Female	4	4	91	(.100)	4	8	89	(.026)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 1256)				(n = 1777)		
High school diploma or less	3	4	93		5	15	80	
Some college	3	6	91	$\chi^2 = 5.69$	5	10	85	$\chi^2 = 31.73^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	4	3	94	(.224)	3	6	92	(.000)
<i>Marital Status</i>		(n = 1280)				(n = 1796)		
Married	3	4	92		4	8	88	
Never married	NA	NA	NA		3	13	84	
Divorced/separated	NA	NA	NA		7	9	84	$\chi^2 = 14.44^*$
Widowed	NA	NA	NA		7	11	82	(.025)
<i>Occupation</i>		(n = 1001)				(n = 1356)		
Mgt, prof or education	3	4	93		2	7	90	
Sales or office support	2	2	96		8	10	82	
Constrn, inst or maint	0	5	96		4	8	88	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	4	4	92		2	14	84	
Agriculture	3	6	91		3	11	86	
Food serv/pers. care	8	8	83		7	12	81	
Hlthcare supp/safety	5	1	94	$\chi^2 = 25.51^*$	4	2	94	$\chi^2 = 43.33^*$
Other	13	9	78	(.030)	11	19	70	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

** Only the five items with the highest combined proportion of very and somewhat satisfied responses are included.

	<i>Your day to day personal safety</i>				<i>Your family</i>			
	<i>No</i>				<i>No</i>			
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Total	5	10	85		5	11	84	
Community Size		(n = 1796)				(n = 1779)		
Less than 500	5	11	84		6	13	82	
500 - 999	3	14	83		4	12	84	
1,000 - 4,999	5	10	85		4	8	89	
5,000 - 9,999	1	12	86	$\chi^2 = 18.22^*$	3	14	83	$\chi^2 = 16.06^*$
10,000 and up	6	7	87	(.020)	7	11	83	(.041)
Region		(n = 1856)				(n = 1838)		
Panhandle	3	13	84		5	22	74	
North Central	7	8	85		7	11	82	
South Central	6	7	87		5	10	85	
Northeast	3	9	88	$\chi^2 = 35.90^*$	6	7	87	$\chi^2 = 29.17^*$
Southeast	5	17	78	(.000)	4	12	84	(.000)
Individual Attributes:								
<i>Household Income Level</i>		(n = 1718)				(n = 1705)		
Under \$40,000	9	13	79		9	22	70	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	5	10	84		5	10	86	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	2	12	86	$\chi^2 = 47.67^*$	5	7	89	$\chi^2 = 87.43^*$
\$100,000 and over	3	4	94	(.000)	2	5	93	(.000)
<i>Age</i>		(n = 1858)				(n = 1839)		
19 - 29	4	10	86		4	6	90	
30 - 39	4	7	89		4	6	90	
40 - 49	5	12	83		5	12	83	
50 - 64	5	11	83	$\chi^2 = 7.13$	5	12	83	$\chi^2 = 31.50^*$
65 and older	5	10	86	(.523)	7	15	78	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 1843)				(n = 1824)		
Male	6	11	83	$\chi^2 = 4.42$	6	12	82	$\chi^2 = 4.36$
Female	4	9	87	(.110)	4	10	86	(.113)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 1804)				(n = 1786)		
High school diploma or less	6	13	81		7	14	80	
Some college	7	13	81	$\chi^2 = 48.03^*$	5	13	82	$\chi^2 = 25.19^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	2	6	92	(.000)	5	7	89	(.000)
<i>Marital Status</i>		(n = 1821)				(n = 1802)		
Married	4	8	88		5	8	88	
Never married	5	13	82		3	18	79	
Divorced/separated	6	15	79	$\chi^2 = 18.64^*$	9	17	74	$\chi^2 = 50.31^*$
Widowed	9	10	82	(.005)	8	19	73	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>		(n = 1371)				(n = 1365)		
Mgt, prof or education	2	5	93		5	6	89	
Sales or office support	5	12	83		4	10	86	
Constrn, inst or maint	4	10	87		8	6	86	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	17	9	74		4	14	83	
Agriculture	5	13	82		5	16	79	
Food serv/pers. care	7	20	73		7	25	68	
Hlthcare supp/safety	4	13	84	$\chi^2 = 88.89^*$	2	6	92	$\chi^2 = 55.87^*$
Other	17	10	72	(.000)	4	11	86	(.000)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

** Only the five items with the highest combined proportion of very and somewhat satisfied responses are included.

<i>Your general quality of life</i>				
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>			
Total	6	10	84	
Community Size	(n = 1790)			
Less than 500	3	12	85	
500 - 999	4	8	88	
1,000 - 4,999	5	10	85	
5,000 - 9,999	5	9	86	$\chi^2 = 21.25^*$ (.007)
10,000 and up	9	8	83	
Region	(n = 1849)			
Panhandle	8	15	77	
North Central	6	9	85	
South Central	6	9	86	
Northeast	7	8	84	$\chi^2 = 13.49$ (.096)
Southeast	4	12	85	
Individual Attributes:				
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1714)			
Under \$40,000	12	20	69	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	6	9	85	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	5	7	89	$\chi^2 = 106.20^*$ (.000)
\$100,000 and over	2	3	95	
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1852)			
19 - 29	4	6	90	
30 - 39	6	9	86	
40 - 49	6	12	82	
50 - 64	7	11	82	$\chi^2 = 11.24$ (.188)
65 and older	6	10	84	
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1839)			
Male	6	10	84	$\chi^2 = 0.46$ (.794)
Female	6	9	85	
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1798)			
High school diploma or less	8	15	77	
Some college	8	10	83	$\chi^2 = 28.98^*$ (.000)
Bachelors or grad degree	4	7	89	
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1818)			
Married	5	9	86	
Never married	8	10	82	
Divorced/separated	13	12	75	$\chi^2 = 24.84^*$ (.000)
Widowed	8	11	81	
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1364)			
Mgt, prof or education	4	8	88	
Sales or office support	6	10	83	
Constrn, inst or maint	5	10	85	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	10	8	83	
Agriculture	4	10	86	
Food serv/pers. care	12	13	76	
Hlthcare supp/safety	4	7	89	$\chi^2 = 21.84$ (.082)
Other	7	19	74	

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.

** Only the five items with the highest combined proportion of very and somewhat satisfied responses are included

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