



NEBRASKA RURAL POLL

A Research Report

Well-Being in Nonmetropolitan Nebraska: 25 Years of Trends

2020 Nebraska Rural Poll Results

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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 resident 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

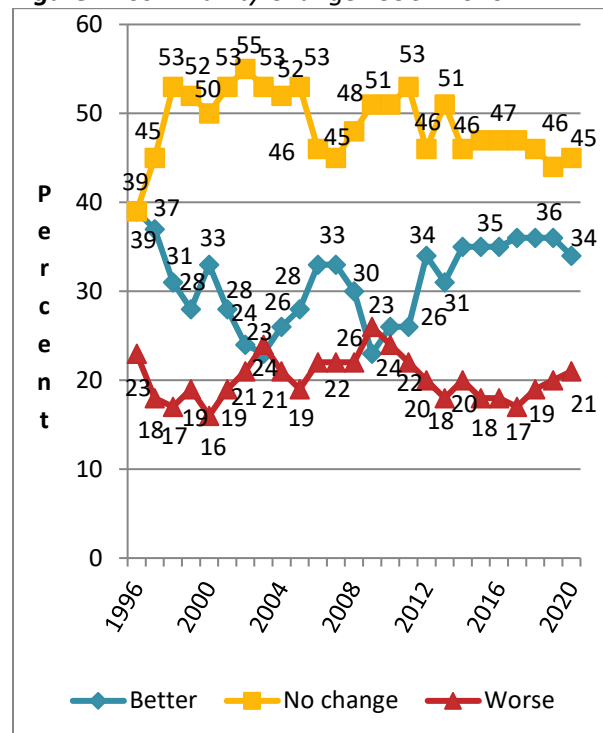
has changed for the...” Answer categories were better, no change or worse.

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.

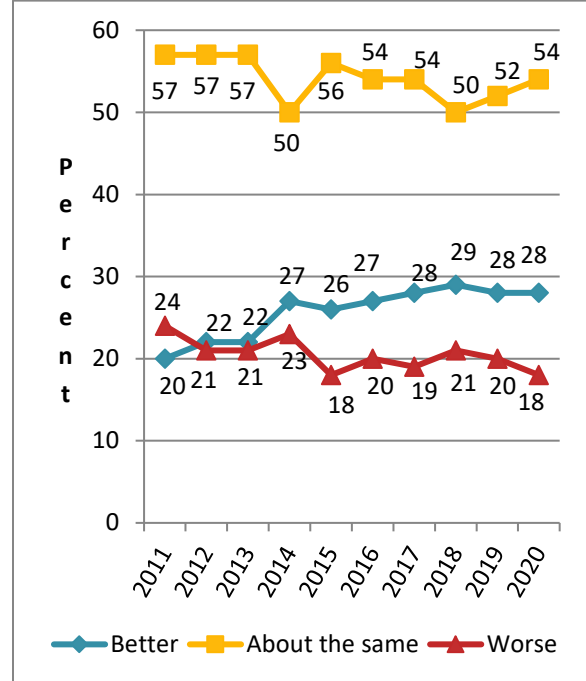
The proportion saying their community has stayed the same first increased from 1996 to 1998. It then remained fairly steady during the following eight years but declined in both 2006 and 2007. Then it steadily increased to 53 percent in 2011. However, the proportion believing their community has stayed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

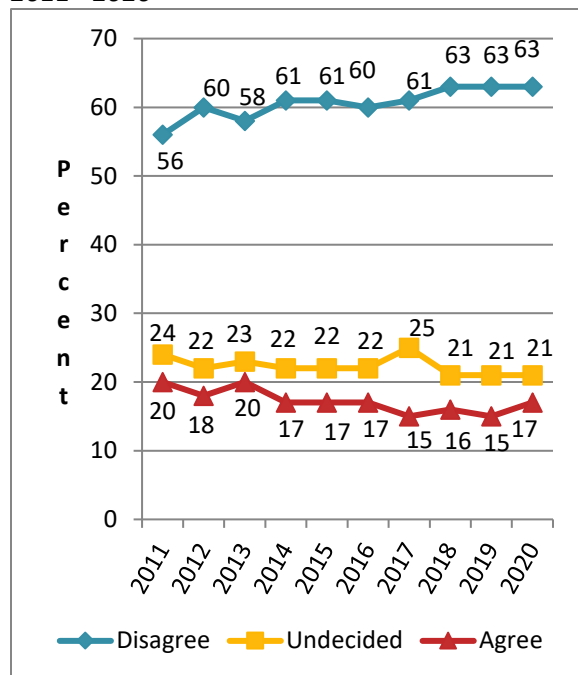
Respondents were also asked each year if they would describe their communities as friendly or unfriendly, trusting or distrusting, and supportive or hostile. For each of these three dimensions, respondents were asked to rate their community using a seven-point scale between each pair of contrasting views. 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

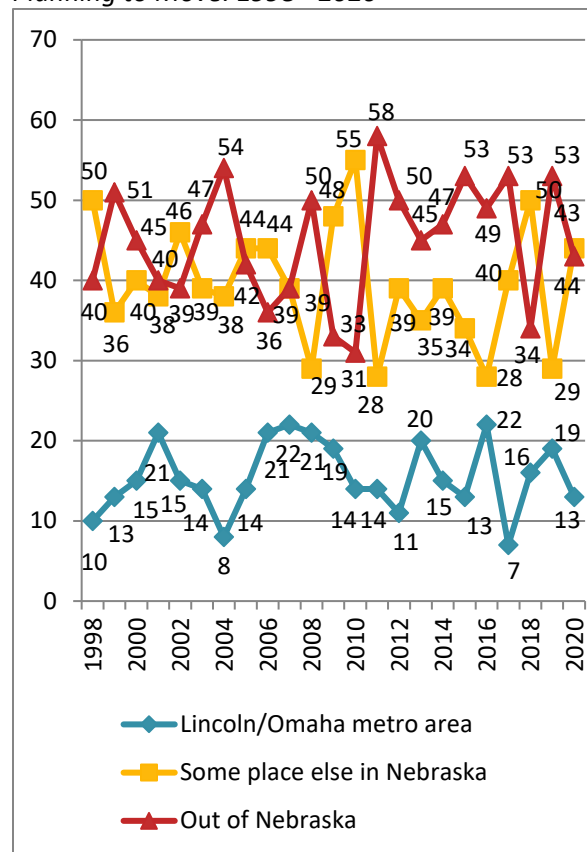


Plans to Leave the Community – 25 Year Trend

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

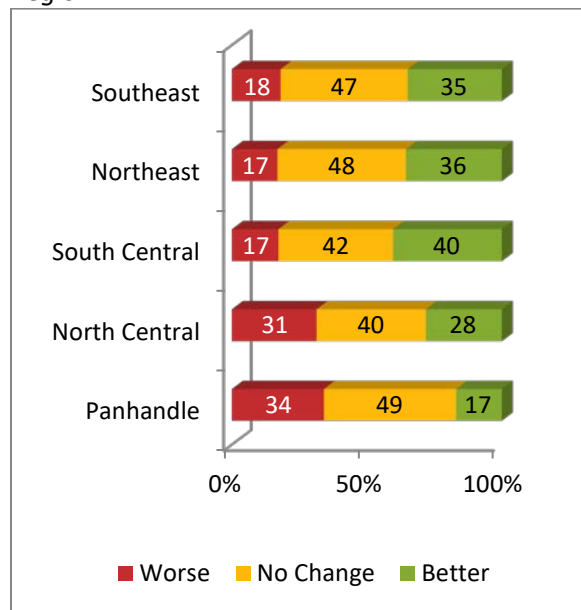
| Service/Amenity | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 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 progrms | 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



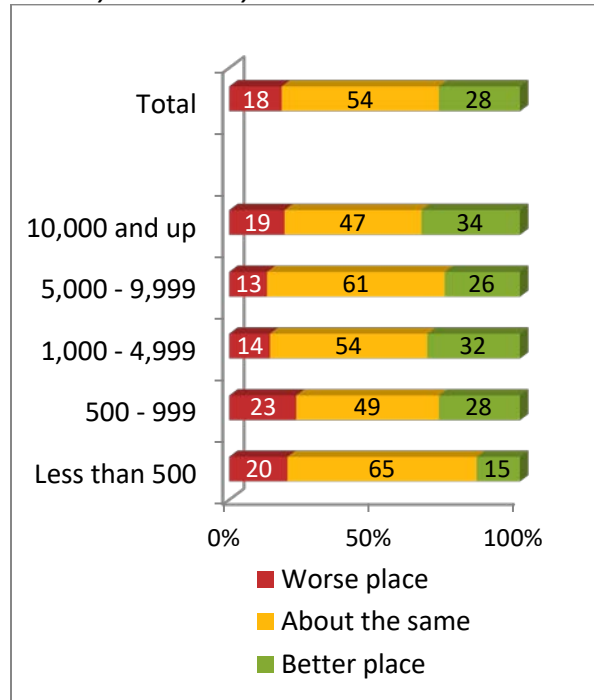
Other groups most likely to say their community has changed for the better during the past year include: persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, persons with higher education levels and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

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

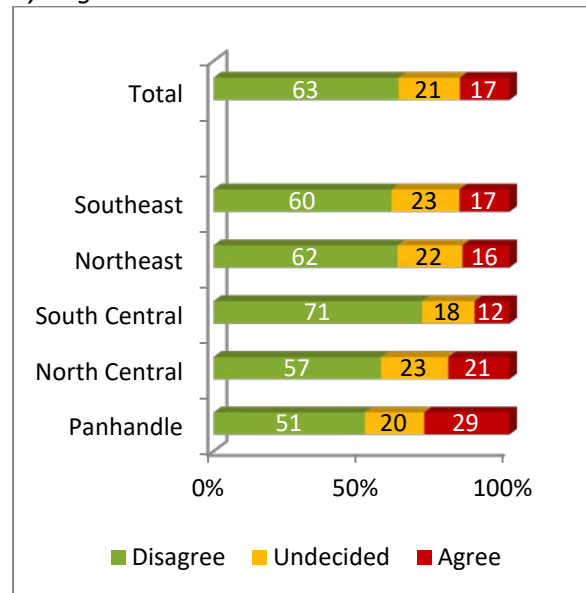
more disagree with that statement, compared to just under six in ten persons living in or near communities with populations under 1,000.

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.

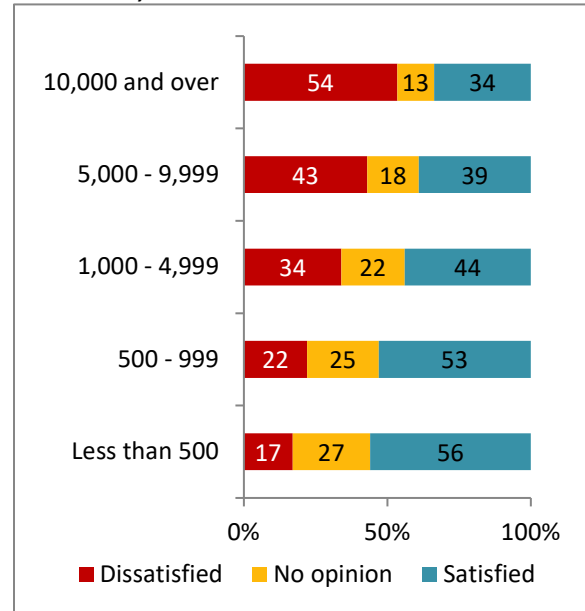
Residents of both the Panhandle and North Central regions are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with their streets and roads. Approximately two-thirds of the residents of these two regions express dissatisfaction with their streets and roads, compared to approximately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

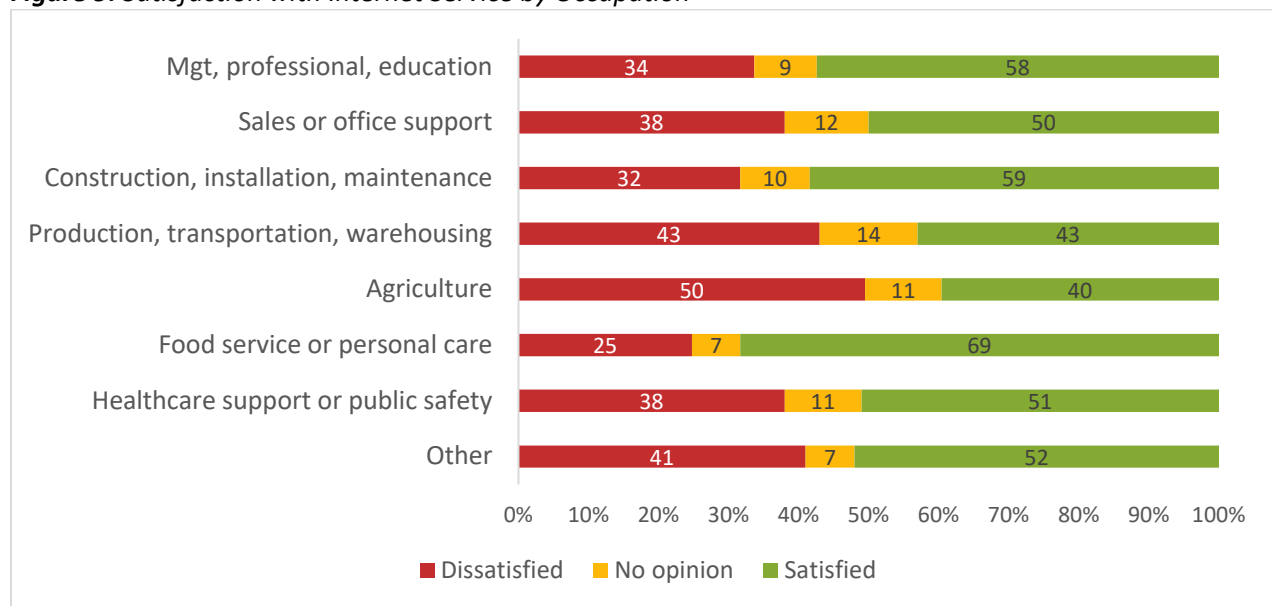
Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with the quality of housing in their community include persons living in or near the smallest communities and persons age 30 to 49.

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%).

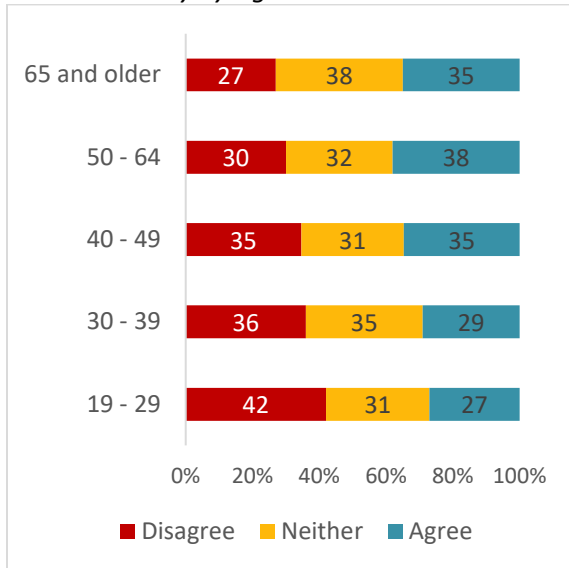
Younger persons are more likely than older persons to say they can get what they need in their community, their community helps them fulfill their needs, they belong in the community and people in their community are good at influencing each other. Just over seven in ten persons age 19 to 29 (71%) agree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

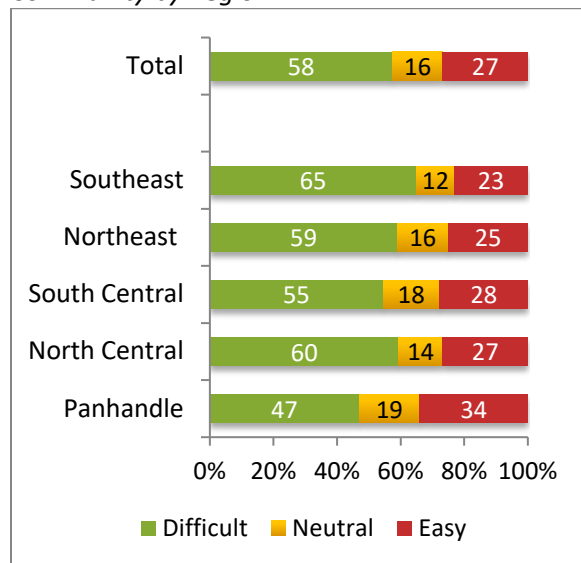
Responses to this question are examined by region, community size and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 9). Many differences emerge.

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

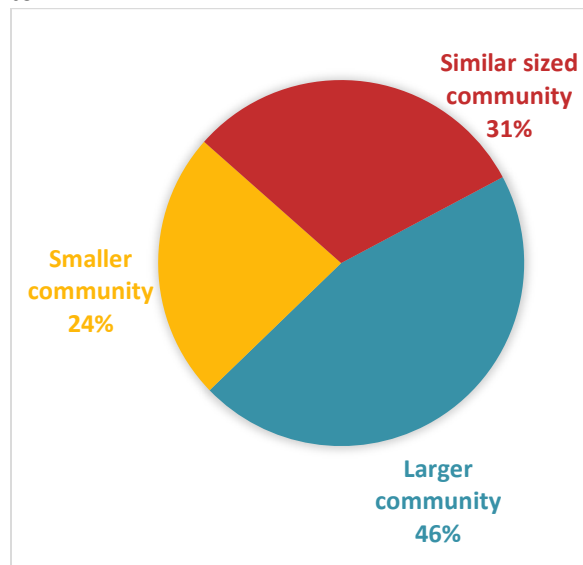
move. The answer categories for this question were: in or near a community larger than your current one, in or near a community smaller than your current one, and in or near a community of the same size as your current one.

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.

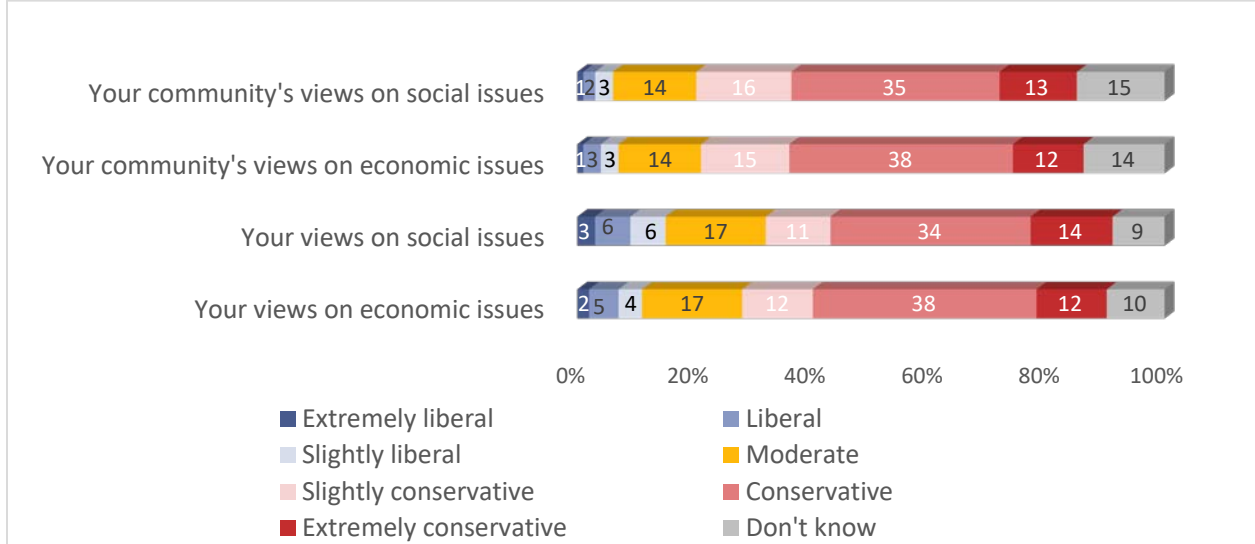
Individual and Community Political Views

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.

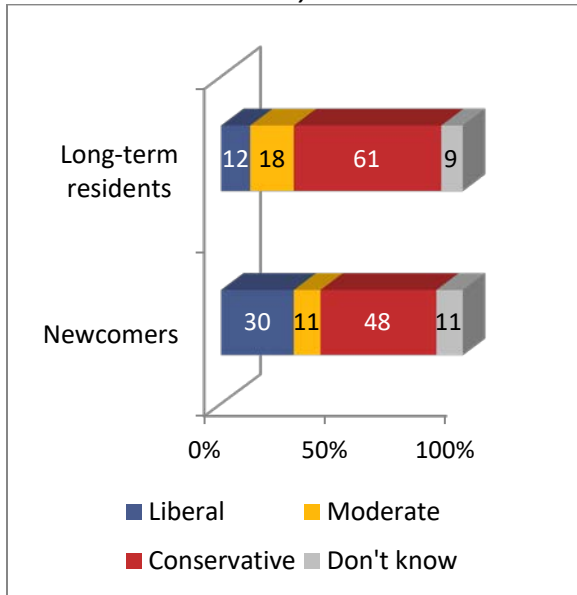
Other groups most likely to rate their views on economic issues as conservative include: residents of the North Central region, residents of the South Central region, persons with higher household incomes, persons age 30 to 49, males, married persons and long-term residents.

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.

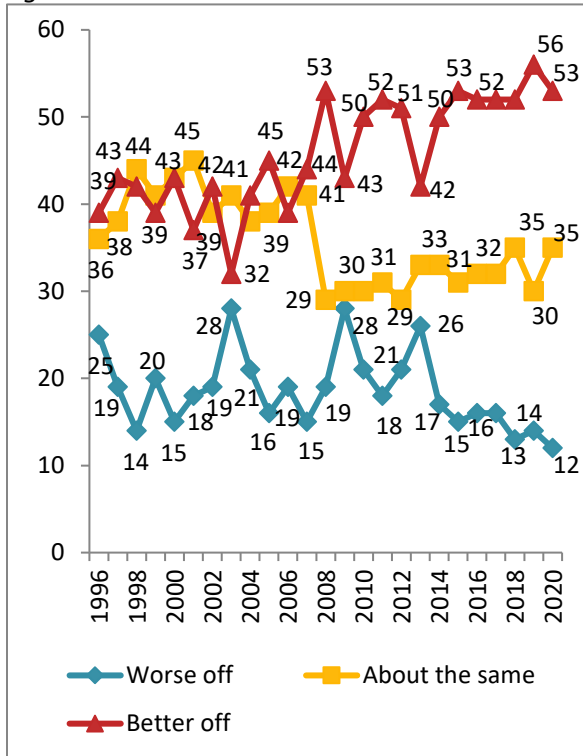
1. “All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than you were five years ago?” (Answer categories were worse off, about the same, or better off).
2. “All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than your parents when they were your age?”
3. “All things considered, 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

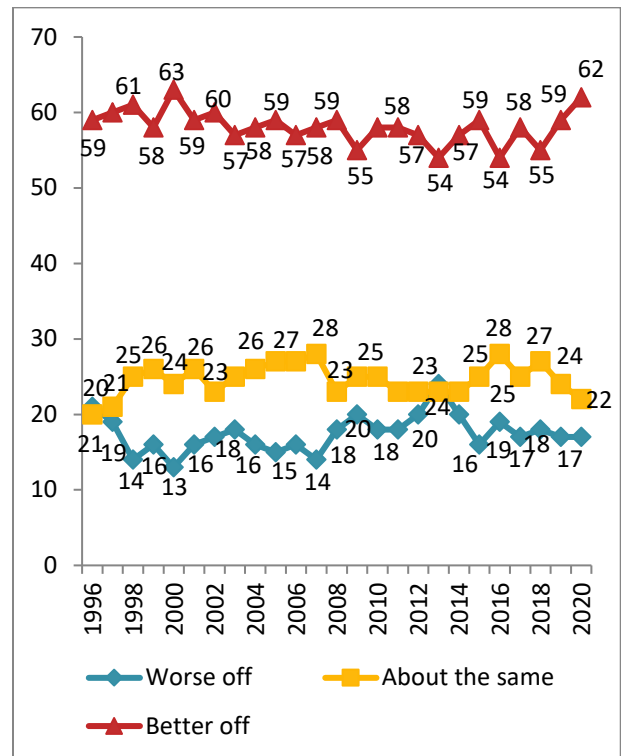
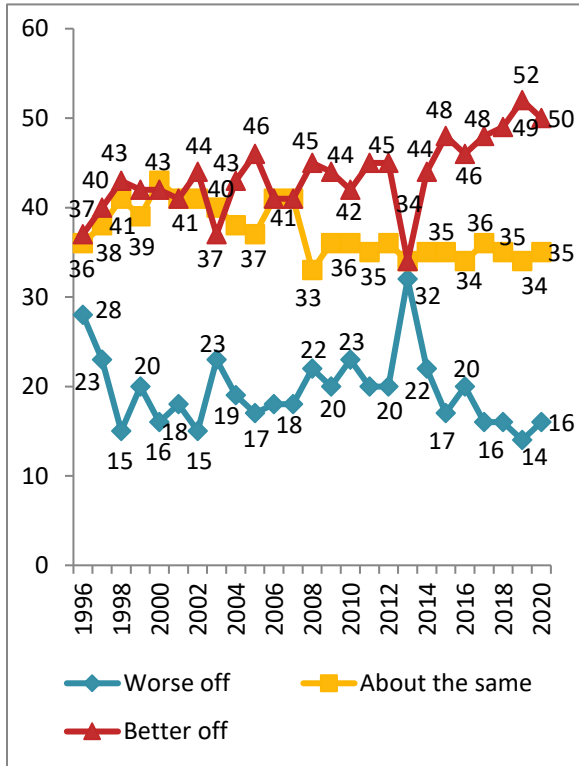


Figure 17. Well-Being Ten Years from Now: 1996 - 2020



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.

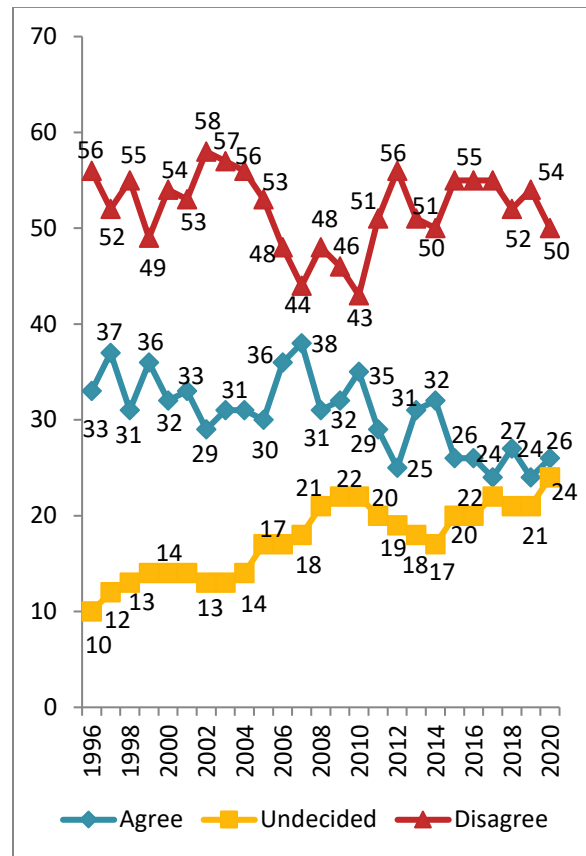
The proportion stating they will be about the same ten years from now had remained fairly steady around 40 percent over the first 12 years of the study, declined to 33 percent in 2008, and has remained around 35 percent the past twelve years.

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 transpntn. | 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 |

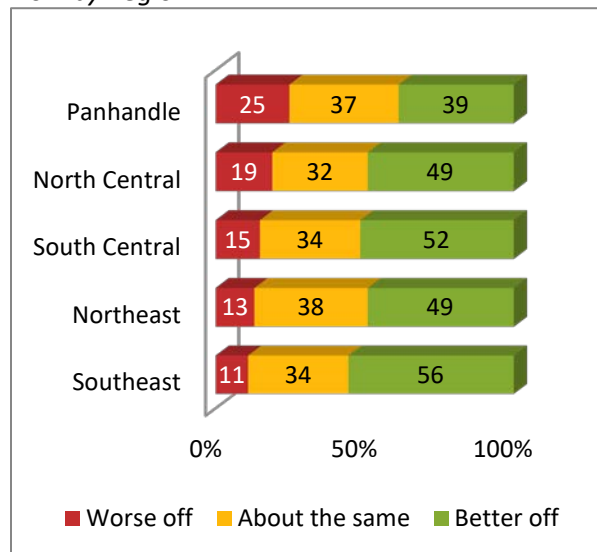
Note: The list of items was not identical in each study. "NA" means that item was not asked that particular year.

* 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

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



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

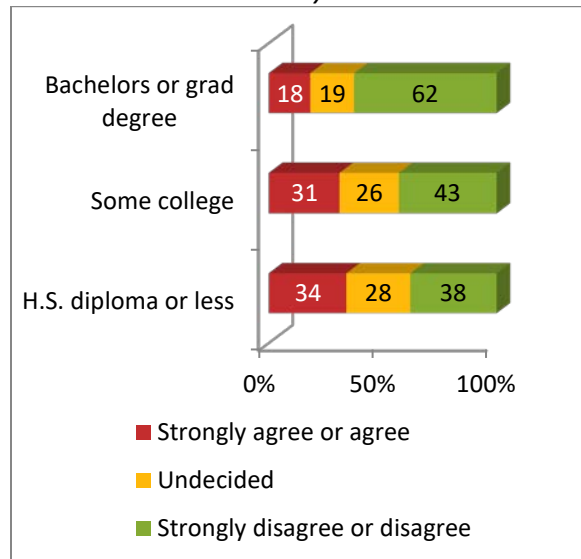
believe that people are powerless to control their own lives. Just over one-third of persons with a high school diploma or less education (34%) agree that people are powerless to control their own lives (Figure 20). However, less than one in five persons with at least a four-year college degree (18%)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

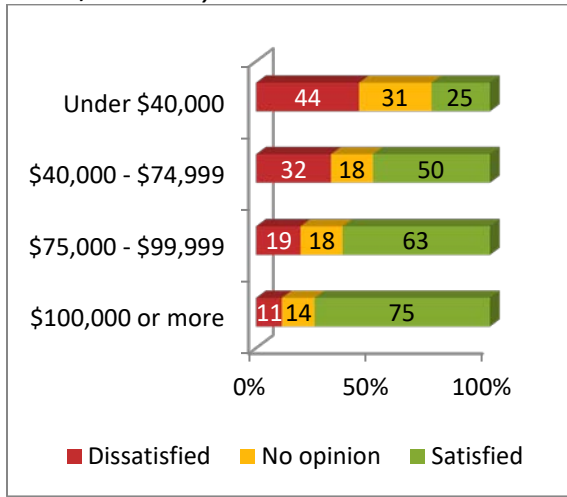
Other groups most likely to report being dissatisfied with their current income level include: residents of the Panhandle, residents of the North Central region, persons age 40 to 49, persons without a four year college degree and persons who are divorced or separated.

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.

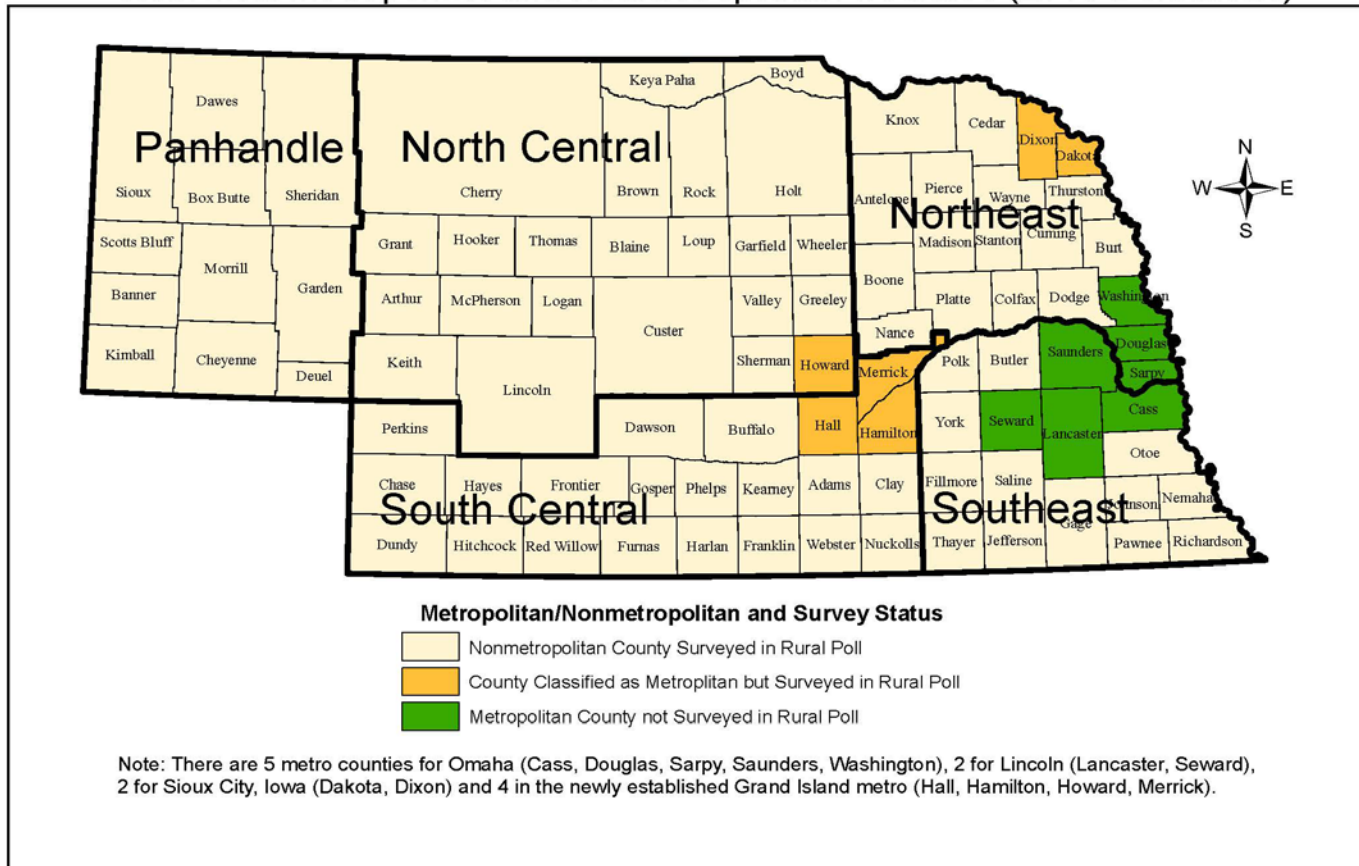
Similarly, rural Nebraskans remain optimistic about their future. This year, rural Nebraskans' optimism about their future is about the same as last year. One-half of rural Nebraskans believe they will be better off ten years from now. This is similar to 52 percent last year (the highest proportion across 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

Nebraska Metropolitan and Nonmetropolitan Counties (2013 Definitions)



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

| Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say... | | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| My community has changed for the | | | | |
| | <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> |
| Total | 18 | 54 | 28 | |
| | | <i>Percentages</i> | | |
| Community Size | | (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 | |
| Region | | (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 | |
| Income Level | | (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 | |
| Age | | (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 | |
| Gender | | (n = 1845) | | |
| Male | 19 | 55 | 26 | $\chi^2 = 3.67$ (.160) |
| Female | 17 | 52 | 30 | |
| Marital Status | | (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 | |
| Education | | (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 | |
| Occupation | | (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 | |
| Yrs Lived in Community | | (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

| | <i>My community is...</i> | | | <i>Chi-square (sig.)</i> | <i>My community is...</i> | | | <i>Chi-square (sig.)</i> | <i>My community is...</i> | | <i>Chi-square (sig.)</i> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| | <i>Unfriendly</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Friendly</i> | | <i>Distrusting</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Trusting</i> | | <i>Hostile</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | |
| Total | 9 | 12 | 79 | | 16 | 18 | 66 | | 13 | 16 | 71 |
| | <i>Percentages</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 |
| 5,000 - 9,999 | 6 | 10 | 84 | 13.13 | 17 | 17 | 66 | 10.73 | 19 | 17 | 64 |
| 10,000 and up | 10 | 11 | 79 | (.107) | 18 | 18 | 64 | (.218) | 15 | 17 | 68 |
| | (n = 1840) | | | | (n = 1824) | | | | (n = 1822) | | |
| 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 |
| Northeast | 10 | 13 | 77 | 17.59* | 17 | 17 | 67 | 22.14* | 14 | 13 | 73 |
| Southeast | 7 | 16 | 77 | (.025) | 22 | 19 | 59 | (.005) | 14 | 20 | 66 |
| | (n = 1700) | | | | (n = 1688) | | | | (n = 1689) | | |
| 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 |
| \$75,000 - \$99,999 | 9 | 10 | 82 | 24.56* | 14 | 23 | 63 | 28.82* | 12 | 16 | 72 |
| \$100,000 and over | 7 | 10 | 83 | (.000) | 12 | 14 | 74 | (.000) | 14 | 12 | 73 |
| | (n = 1843) | | | | (n = 1830) | | | | (n = 1828) | | |
| Age | (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 |
| 50 - 64 | 11 | 11 | 78 | 47.70* | 17 | 18 | 65 | 18.09* | 15 | 17 | 68 |
| 65 and older | 6 | 15 | 80 | (.000) | 12 | 19 | 69 | (.021) | 12 | 15 | 73 |
| | (n = 1826) | | | | (n = 1811) | | | | (n = 1811) | | |
| Gender | (n = 1826) | | | | (n = 1811) | | | | (n = 1811) | | |
| Male | 7 | 12 | 81 | $\chi^2 =$ | 13 | 19 | 68 | $\chi^2 =$ | 13 | 16 | 72 |
| Female | 11 | 12 | 77 | 8.36* | 18 | 18 | 64 | (.014) | 14 | 16 | 70 |

Appendix Table 4 continued.

| | <i>My community is...</i> | | | <i>Chi-square (sig.)</i> | <i>My community is...</i> | | | <i>Chi-square (sig.)</i> | <i>My community is...</i> | | | <i>Chi-square (sig.)</i> |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| | <i>Unfriendly</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Friendly</i> | | <i>Distrusting</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Trusting</i> | | <i>Hostile</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Supportive</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) | | | $\chi^2 =$ | (n = 1698) | | | $\chi^2 =$ | (n = 1698) | | | $\chi^2 =$ |
| Five years or less | 9 | 10 | 81 | 1.19 | 11 | 17 | 72 | 6.07* | 9 | 15 | 76 | 6.40* |
| More than five years | 9 | 12 | 79 | (.553) | 16 | 18 | 65 | (.048) | 14 | 16 | 70 | (.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> |
| Total | 63 | 21 | 17 | |
| | <i>Percentages</i> | | | |
| Community Size | | (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) |
| Region | | (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) |
| Income Level | | (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) |
| Age | | (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) |
| Gender | | (n = 1848) | | |
| Male | 62 | 19 | 18 | $\chi^2 = 4.24$ |
| Female | 63 | 22 | 15 | (.120) |
| Marital Status | | (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) |
| Education | | (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) |
| Occupation | | (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) |
| Yrs Lived in Comm. | | (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> | | | <i>Percentages</i> | | | <i>Percentages</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>Significance</i> | <i>This community helps me fulfill my needs.</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> | | | | | | | |
| 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> | | | | | | | |
| 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.) |
|---------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Percentages | | | |
| 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

Do you plan to move from your community in the next year?

| | <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 | |
| | <i>Percentages</i> | | | |
| 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? | | | | | |
|--|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Your 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 | 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.

Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?

Your political views on social issues

| | <i>Liberal</i> | <i>Moderate, middle of road</i> | <i>Conservative</i> | <i>Don't know</i> | <i>Chi-square (sig.)</i> |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Total | 15 | 17 | 59 | 9 | |
| Community Size | | (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) |
| Region | | (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) |
| Income Level | | (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) |
| Age | | (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) |
| Gender | | (n = 1790) | | | |
| Male | 12 | 16 | 67 | 6 | $\chi^2 = 47.54^*$ |
| Female | 18 | 18 | 52 | 12 | (.000) |
| Marital Status | | (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) |
| Education | | (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) |
| Occupation | | (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) |
| Yrs Lived in Comm. | | (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.

*Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views
that people might hold?*

Your community's political views on economic issues

| | <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 | |
| Community Size | | (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) |
| Region | | (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) |
| Income Level | | (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) |
| Age | | (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) |
| Gender | | (n = 1789) | | | |
| Male | 5 | 13 | 73 | 10 | $\chi^2 = 36.65^*$ |
| Female | 8 | 15 | 60 | 17 | (.000) |
| Marital Status | | (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) |
| Education | | (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) |
| Occupation | | (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) |
| Yrs Lived in Comm. | | (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.

Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?

Your community's political views on social issues

| | <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 | |
| Community Size | | (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) |
| Region | | (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) |
| Income Level | | (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) |
| Age | | (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) |
| Gender | | (n = 1789) | | | |
| Male | 6 | 13 | 70 | 11 | $\chi^2 = 22.31^*$ |
| Female | 8 | 15 | 60 | 17 | (.000) |
| Marital Status | | (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) |
| Education | | (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) |
| Occupation | | (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) |
| Yrs Lived in Comm. | | (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 | |
| Constn, 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.

| <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> |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Total | 50 | 24 | 26 | |
| Community Size | | (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) |
| Region | | (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) |
| Household Income | | (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) |
| Age | | (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) |
| Gender | | (n = 1837) | | |
| Male | 50 | 21 | 30 | $\chi^2 = 12.19^*$ |
| Female | 49 | 27 | 24 | (.002) |
| Education | | (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) |
| Marital Status | | (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) |
| Occupation | | (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>Significance</i> | <i>Your job opportunities</i> | | | <i>Significance</i> |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>Dissatisfied</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Satisfied</i> | | <i>Dissatisfied</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Satisfied</i> | |
| | <i>Percentages</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>Significance</i> | <i>Your ability to build assets/wealth</i> | | | <i>Significance</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|--|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>Dissatisfied</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Satisfied</i> | | <i>Dissatisfied</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Satisfied</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: | | | | | | | | |
| Household Income Level | (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) |
| Age | (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) |
| Gender | (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) |
| Education | (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) |
| Marital Status | (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) |
| Occupation | (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.

Appendix Table 16 continued.

| | <i>Your health</i> | | | <i>Significance</i> |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>Dissatisfied</i> | <i>No opinion</i> | <i>Satisfied</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>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 | 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>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> |
| 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: | | | | | | | | |
| Household Income Level | (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) |
| Age | (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) |
| Gender | (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) |
| Education | (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) |
| Marital Status | (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) |
| Occupation | (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>No</i> | | |
| | <i>Dissatisfied</i> | <i>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 | $\chi^2 = 21.25^*$ |
| 10,000 and up | 9 | 8 | 83 | (.007) |
| Region | (n = 1849) | | | |
| Panhandle | 8 | 15 | 77 | |
| North Central | 6 | 9 | 85 | |
| South Central | 6 | 9 | 86 | |
| Northeast | 7 | 8 | 84 | $\chi^2 = 13.49$ |
| Southeast | 4 | 12 | 85 | (.096) |
| 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 | $\chi^2 = 106.20^*$ |
| \$100,000 and over | 2 | 3 | 95 | (.000) |
| <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 | $\chi^2 = 11.24$ |
| 65 and older | 6 | 10 | 84 | (.188) |
| <i>Gender</i> | (n = 1839) | | | |
| Male | 6 | 10 | 84 | $\chi^2 = 0.46$ |
| Female | 6 | 9 | 85 | (.794) |
| <i>Education</i> | (n = 1798) | | | |
| High school diploma or less | 8 | 15 | 77 | |
| Some college | 8 | 10 | 83 | $\chi^2 = 28.98^*$ |
| Bachelors or grad degree | 4 | 7 | 89 | (.000) |
| <i>Marital Status</i> | (n = 1818) | | | |
| Married | 5 | 9 | 86 | |
| Never married | 8 | 10 | 82 | |
| Divorced/separated | 13 | 12 | 75 | $\chi^2 = 24.84^*$ |
| Widowed | 8 | 11 | 81 | (.000) |
| <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 | $\chi^2 = 21.84$ |
| Other | 7 | 19 | 74 | (.082) |

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