



NEBRASKA RURAL POLL

A Research Report

Well-Being in Nonmetropolitan Nebraska

2021 Nebraska Rural Poll Results

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All of the research reports detailing Nebraska Rural Poll results are located on its webpage at <http://ruralpoll.unl.edu>

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Executive Summary

The past year continued to be challenging for Nebraska. Ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 epidemic have caused stress and uncertainty throughout the state. However, the state has been recovering economically from the pandemic and the agricultural outlook has improved. Given these challenges and opportunities, 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 26 years? This paper provides a detailed analysis of these questions.

This report details 1,568 responses to the 2021 Nebraska Rural Poll, the 26th annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions about their well-being. Trends for some of the questions are examined by comparing data from the 25 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:

- ***This year, rural Nebraskans gave similar assessments of their current situation as they did last year.*** The proportion believing they are better off than they were five years ago was 52 percent, similar to the 53 percent reported last year. The past two years have shown slight declines from 2019 when 56 percent said they were better off compared to five years ago (the highest proportion across all 26 years of the study). However, this year is still one of the highest proportions saying they are better off than they were five years ago throughout all 26 years.
- ***Rural Nebraskans' optimism about their future is slightly lower than last year.*** Just under one-half (47%) of rural Nebraskans believe they will be better off ten years from now. This is a slight decline from 50 percent last year. The past two years have shown a steady decline from 52 percent in 2019 (the highest proportion across all years of this study). The proportion believing they will be better off has averaged approximately 44 percent across all 26 years. The proportion of respondents stating they will be worse off ten years from now increased slightly compared to last year (from 16 percent last year to 19 percent this year). This proportion has averaged around 20 percent each year.
- ***This year, more rural Nebraskans agree that people are powerless to control their own lives as compared to last year.*** The proportion of rural Nebraskans that either strongly agree or agree with the statement has been somewhat stable across all 26 years of the study. However, the proportion that agree with the statement increased from 26 percent last year to 32 percent this year.
- ***Residents of the North Central region are the regional group most likely to believe they will be better off ten years from now.*** Almost six in ten residents of this region believe they will be better off ten years from now, compared to just over four in ten residents of the other four regions of the state.

- ***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 four in ten persons with a high school diploma or less education (44%) agree that people are powerless to control their own lives. However, only two in ten persons with at least a four-year college degree (20%) share this opinion.
- ***Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher household incomes to express dissatisfaction with their ability to build assets/wealth.*** Almost four in ten persons with household incomes under \$40,000 (37%) are dissatisfied with their ability to build assets/wealth. In comparison, only six percent of persons with household incomes of \$100,000 or more share this dissatisfaction.
- ***Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to express satisfaction with their general quality of life.*** Almost nine in ten persons living in or near communities with populations under 1,000 are satisfied with their general quality of life, compared to approximately three-quarters of persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more.

Introduction

The past year continued to be challenging for Nebraska. Ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 epidemic have caused stress and uncertainty throughout the state. However, the state has been recovering economically from the pandemic and the agricultural outlook has improved. Given these challenges and opportunities, 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 26 years? This paper provides a detailed analysis of these questions.

This report details 1,568 responses to the 2021 Nebraska Rural Poll, the 26th annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions about their well-being.

Methodology and Respondent Profile

This study is based on 1,568 responses from Nebraskans living in 86 counties in the state.¹ A self-administered questionnaire was mailed in April and May to 6,040 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, pandemic impacts, and trust in media, institutions and health information. This paper reports only results from the well-being section.

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 26% 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 2015 - 2019 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.

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.

Since younger residents have typically been under-represented by survey respondents and 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 67 percent live within the city limits of a town or village. On average, respondents have lived in Nebraska 41 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-five percent of the respondents report their 2020 approximate household income from all sources, before taxes, as below \$40,000. Fifty-nine percent report incomes over \$60,000. Seventy-eight percent were employed in 2020 on a full-time, part-time, or seasonal basis. Seventeen 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 Well-Being (1996 - 2021)

Comparisons are made between the well-being data collected this year to the 25 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.

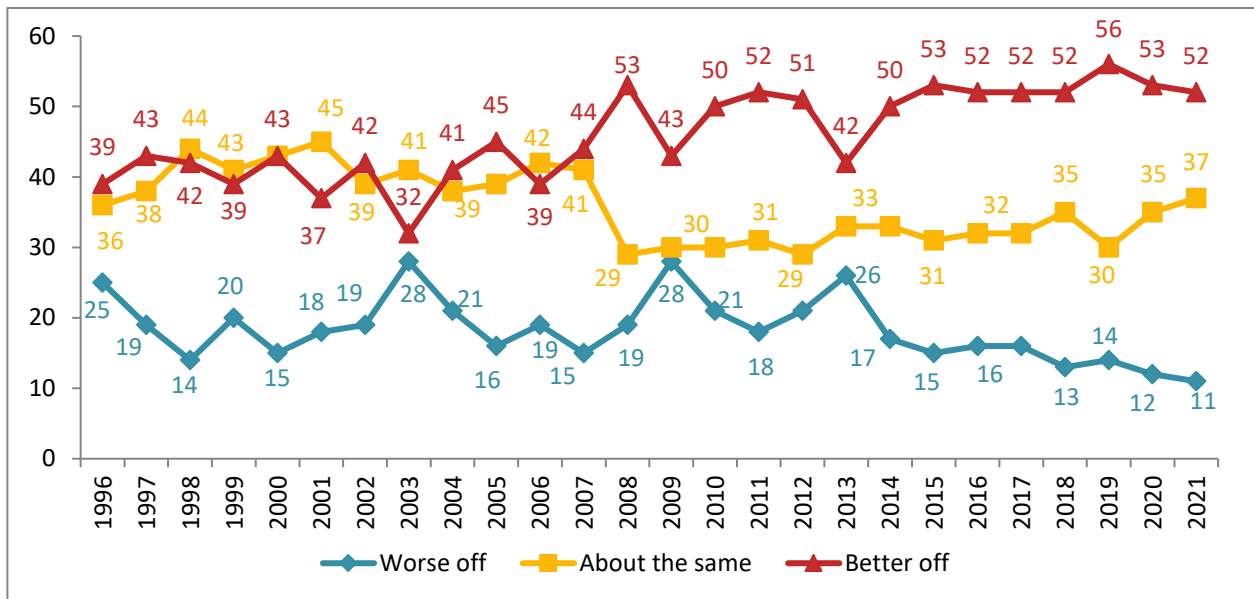
1. "All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than you were five years ago?" (Answer categories were worse off, about the same, or better off).
2. "All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than your parents when they were your age?"
3. "All things considered, 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 26 years, rural Nebraskans have generally given positive reviews about their current situation (Figure 1). 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 eight 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 18 percent.

This year, rural Nebraskans gave similar assessments of their current situation as they did last year. The proportion believing they are better off than they were five years ago was 52 percent, similar to the 53 percent reported last

Figure 1. Well-Being Compared to Five Years Ago: 1996 - 2021



year. The past two years have shown slight declines from 2019 when 56 percent said they were better off compared to five years ago (the highest proportion across all 26 years of the study). However, this year is still one of the highest proportions saying they are better off than they were five years ago throughout all 26 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 (11 percent compared to 12 percent last year). Similarly, about the same proportion of rural Nebraskans say they are about the same than they were five years ago (37 percent this year compared to 35 percent last year).

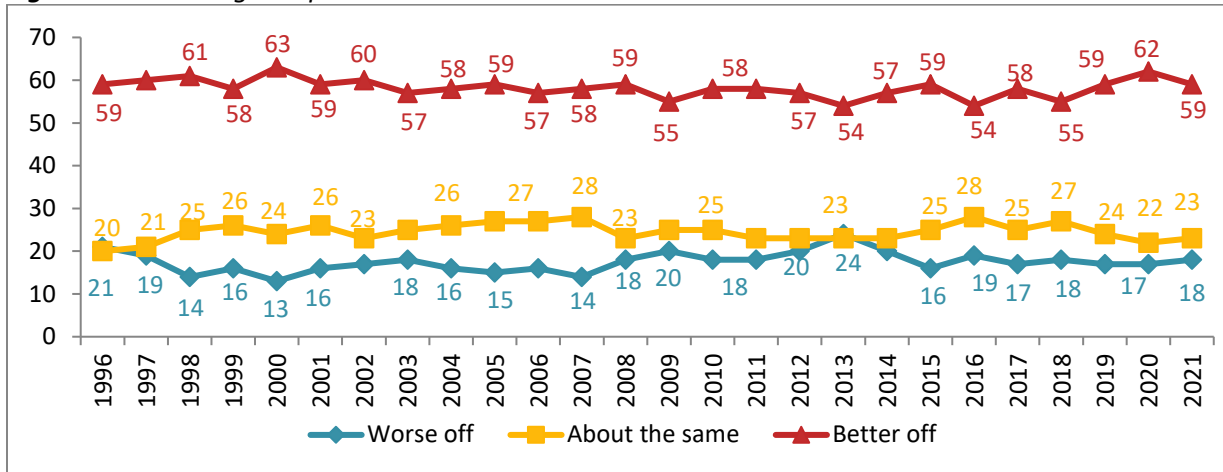
When asked to compare themselves to their parents when they were their age, the responses have been generally very stable over time (Figure 2). The proportion stating they are

better off has averaged approximately 58 percent over the 26 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 3). 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 slightly lower than last year. Just under one-half (47%) of rural Nebraskans believe they will be better off ten years from now. This is a slight decline from 50 percent last year. The past two years have shown a steady decline from 52 percent in 2019 (the highest proportion across all years of this study). The proportion believing they will be better off has

Figure 2. Well-Being Compared to Parents: 1996 - 2021



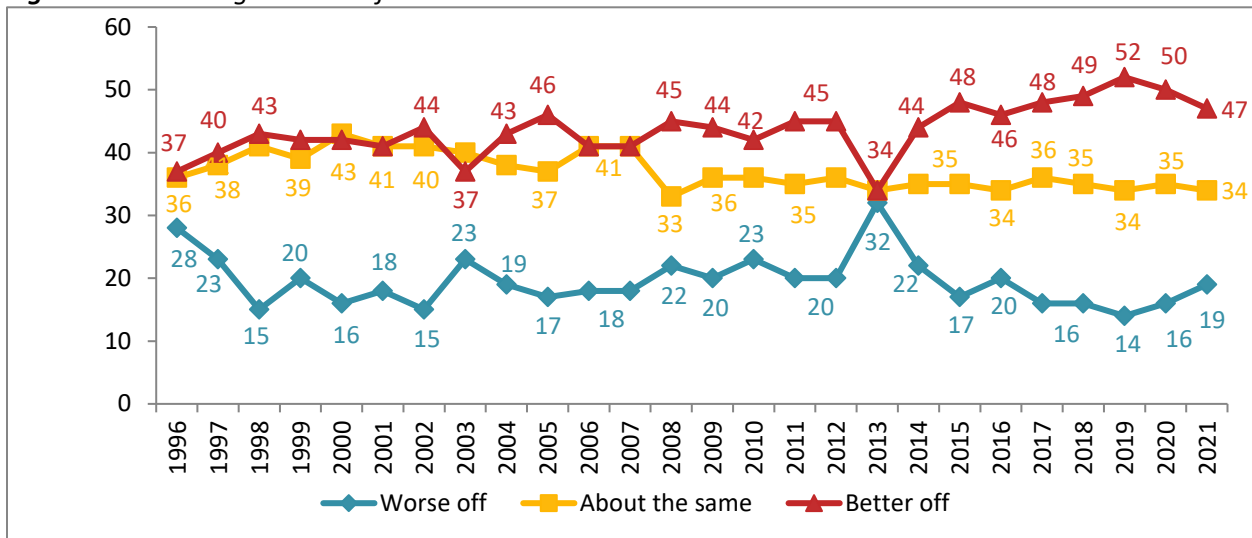
averaged approximately 44 percent across all 26 years.

The proportion of respondents stating they will be worse off ten years from now increased slightly compared to last year (from 16 percent last year to 19 percent this year). 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 thirteen years.

In addition to asking about general well-being,

Figure 3. Well-Being Ten Years from Now: 1996 - 2021



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 4). 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 26 year period). However, the proportion then increased to 56 percent in 2012 before generally declining to 45 percent this year. The average proportion across all 26 years is 52 percent. The past two years have been a period of steady decline from 54 percent to 45 percent.

The proportion of rural Nebraskans that either strongly agree or agree with the statement has

been somewhat stable across all 26 years of the study. The average proportion has been approximately 31 percent. The past two years have seen a steady increase from 24 percent in 2019 to 32 percent this year.

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 23 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 (Figure 5). In addition, the proportion of respondents stating

Figure 4. “...People are Powerless to Control Their Own Lives”: 1996 - 2021

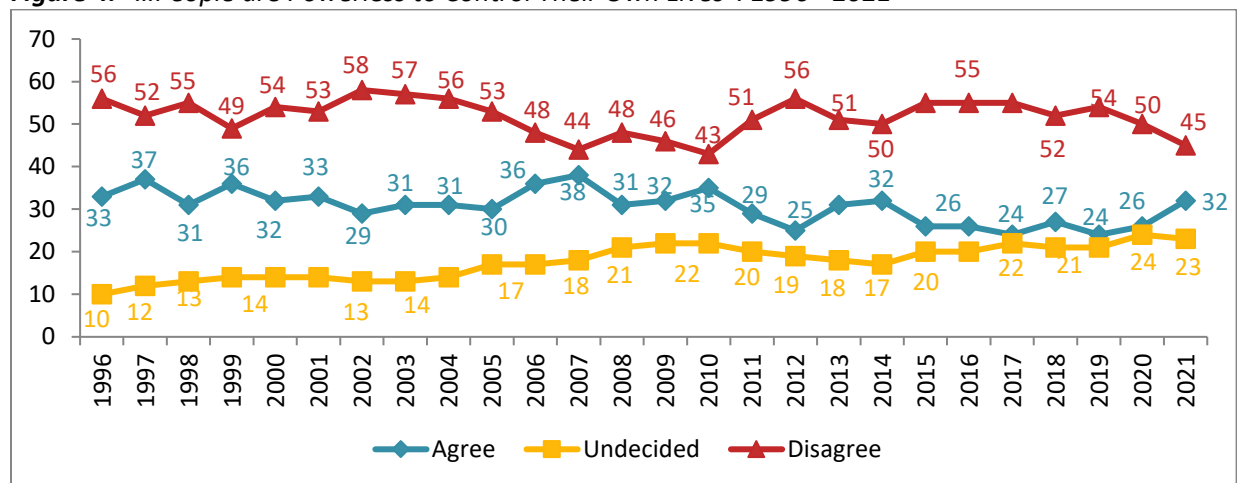
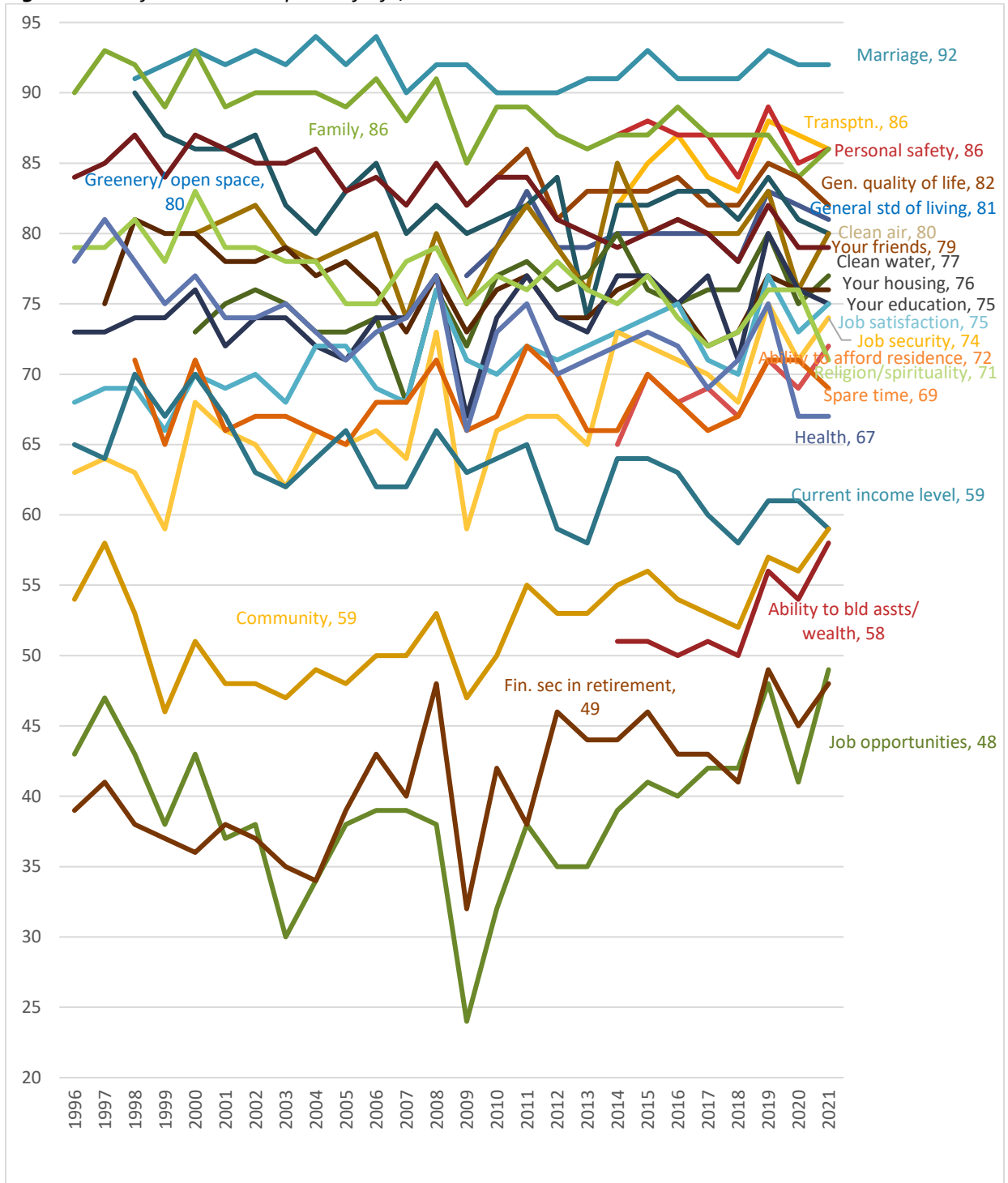


Figure 5. Satisfaction with Aspects of Life, 1996 - 2021



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.

Two items saw increases in the level of satisfaction this year as compared to last year: the ability to build assets/wealth and your financial security during retirement. The satisfaction with the ability to build assets/wealth increased from 54 percent last year to 58 percent this year. And, satisfaction with their financial security during retirement increased from 41 to 48 percent.

General Well-Being by Subgroups

In this section, the 2021 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 2).

Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to believe they are better off compared to five years ago. Just over six in ten persons living in or near communities with

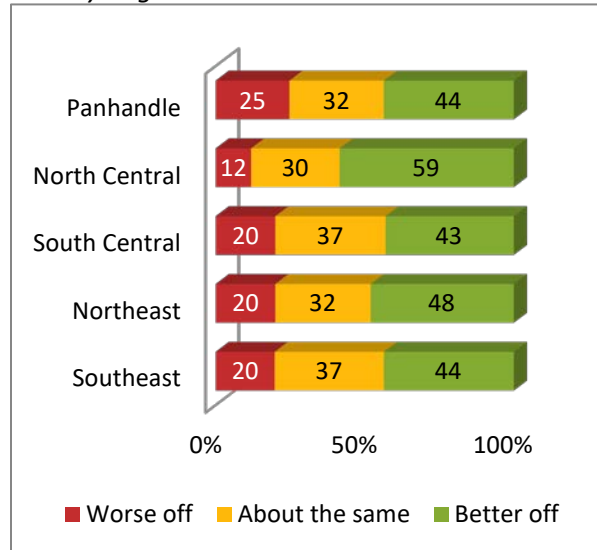
populations ranging from 500 to 999 (61%) believe they are better off compared to five years ago, compared to approximately 45 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more.

However, persons living in or near mid-sized communities are the community size group most likely to believe they will be better off ten years from now. Just over one-half of persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 500 to 9,999 think they will be better off ten years from now. In comparison, just over four in ten persons living in or near both the smallest and largest communities share this opinion.

Residents of both the North Central and Panhandle regions are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to believe they are much better off compared to five years ago. Just under two in ten residents of these two regions (17%) think they are much better off than they were five years ago. Residents of the North Central region are also the regional group most likely to believe they will be better off ten years from now. Almost six in ten residents of this region believe they will be better off ten years from now, compared to just over four in ten residents of the other four regions (Figure 6).

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. Almost three-quarters of persons with the highest household incomes believe they are better off compared to five

Figure 6. Expected Well-Being Ten Years from Now by Region



years ago, compared to three in ten persons with the lowest household incomes.

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. Just over six in ten persons age 19 to 39 believe they are much better off or better off than they were five years ago. However, just over one-third of persons age 65 and older (36%) share this opinion. Similarly, at least six in ten of the persons age 19 to 49 believe they will be much better off or better off ten years from now, compared to only 17 percent of persons age 65 and older.

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

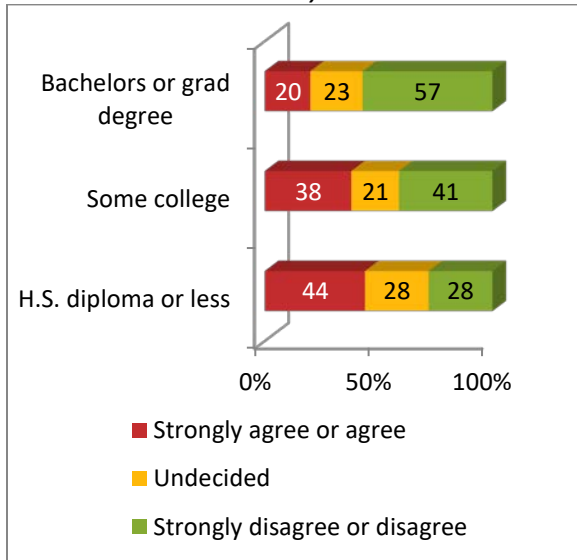
Persons with construction, installation or maintenance occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to believe they are better off compared to five years ago. Persons with food service or personal care occupations are the group most likely to believe they are better off compared to their parents when they were their age and will be better off ten years from now.

The respondents were also asked if they believe people are powerless to control their own lives. Almost one-half (45%) disagree with that statement, compared to almost one-third (32%) who agree. When analyzing the responses by region, community size, and various individual attributes, many differences emerge (Appendix Table 3).

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 four in ten persons with a high school diploma or less education (44%) agree that people are powerless to control their own lives (Figure 7). However, only two in ten persons with at least a four-year college degree (20%) 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

Figure 7. Belief that People are Powerless to Control Their Own Lives by Education Level



household incomes under \$75,000 agree that people are powerless to control their own lives, compared to almost one-quarter of persons with household incomes of \$75,000 or more.

The other groups most likely to believe people are powerless to control their own lives include: persons age 65 and older, widowed persons and persons with production, transportation or warehousing 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 4. At least one-third of respondents are very satisfied with their family (47%), greenery and open space (44%), their marriage (43%), their day-to-day personal

safety (42%), clean air (42%), their transportation (41%), clean water (38%), their friends (35%), their religion/spirituality (35%), and general quality of life (33%). Items receiving the highest proportion of very dissatisfied responses include: financial security during retirement (13%), current income level (9%) 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 5.

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

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher incomes to be dissatisfied with their financial security during retirement. Almost one-half of persons with household incomes under \$40,000 (49%) report being dissatisfied with their financial security during retirement, compared to 22 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 40 to 49, persons with some college education (but less than a four-year degree), persons who are divorced or separated, and persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations.

The youngest persons are more likely than older persons to express dissatisfaction with their job opportunities. Just over four in ten persons age 19 to 29 (41%) are dissatisfied with their job opportunities, compared to 21 percent of persons age 65 and older.

Persons with sales or office support occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to be dissatisfied with their job opportunities. Four in ten persons with these types of occupations (40%) are dissatisfied with their job opportunities, compared to 15 percent of persons with construction, installation or maintenance occupations.

Other groups most likely to say they are dissatisfied with their job opportunities include: persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999; persons with lower household incomes; females; persons with at least some college education; 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. Just under one-half of persons with household incomes under \$40,000 (45%) report being dissatisfied with their current income level, compared to 10 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: persons living in or near larger communities, persons age 19 to 29, persons without a four-year college degree and persons with food service or personal care occupations. When comparing responses by marital status,

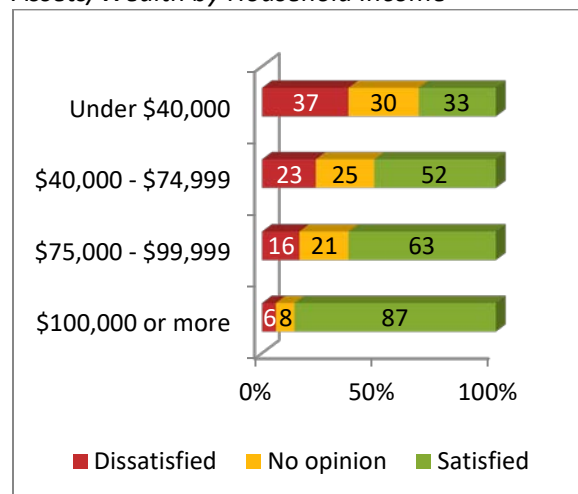
married persons are the group *least* likely to express dissatisfaction with their current income level.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher household incomes to express dissatisfaction with their ability to build assets/wealth. Almost four in ten persons with household incomes under \$40,000 (37%) are dissatisfied with their ability to build assets/wealth. In comparison, only six percent of persons with household incomes of \$100,000 or more share this dissatisfaction (Figure 8).

Persons who are divorced or separated are more likely than different marital groups to say they are dissatisfied with their ability to build assets/wealth. Over one-third (36%) of persons who are divorced or separated are dissatisfied with their ability to build assets or wealth, compared to 15 percent of married persons.

Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their ability to build assets/wealth include: persons living in or near

Figure 8. Satisfaction with Ability to Build Assets/Wealth by Household Income



larger communities, persons age 40 to 49, females, persons with some college education (but not a four-year degree), and persons with sales or office support occupations.

Persons age 40 to 49 are more likely than both younger and older persons to say they are dissatisfied with their health. Almost one-quarter (23%) of persons age 40 to 49 are dissatisfied with their health, compared to nine percent of persons age 19 to 29.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher incomes to be dissatisfied with their health. One-quarter of persons with household incomes under \$40,000 (25%) are dissatisfied with their health, compared to nine percent of persons with household incomes between \$75,000 and \$99,999.

Panhandle residents are more likely than residents of other regions to express dissatisfaction with their health. Just under one-quarter of Panhandle residents (23%) are dissatisfied with their health, compared to approximately 14 percent of residents of both the North Central and South Central 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 and divorced or separated respondents.

The top five items people are satisfied with (determined by the largest proportions of “very satisfied” and “satisfied” responses) are also examined (Appendix Table 6). The youngest persons and persons with a four-year college degree 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 (94%) are satisfied with their transportation, compared to 78 percent of persons with the lowest household incomes.

Other groups most likely to be satisfied with their transportation include persons with higher education levels and married persons.

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 (95%) are satisfied with their day-to-day personal safety, compared to 74 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 age 40 to 49, persons with higher education levels, married persons and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

Married persons are more likely than other marital groups to express satisfaction with their family. Nine in ten married persons (90%) 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 with higher household incomes, younger persons, and persons with the highest education levels.

Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near

larger communities to express satisfaction with their general quality of life. Almost nine in ten persons living in or near communities with populations under 1,000 are satisfied with their general quality of life, compared to approximately three-quarters of persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more (Figure 9).

Residents of the North Central region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to be satisfied with their general quality of life. Almost nine in ten persons living in the North Central region are satisfied with their general quality of life, compared to just under eight in ten persons living in both the Panhandle and South Central regions.

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 (96%) report being satisfied with their general quality of life, compared to just under seven in ten persons with the lowest household incomes (68%).

Other groups most likely to report satisfaction with their general quality of life include: persons age 30 to 39, persons with higher education levels, married persons and persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations.

Conclusion

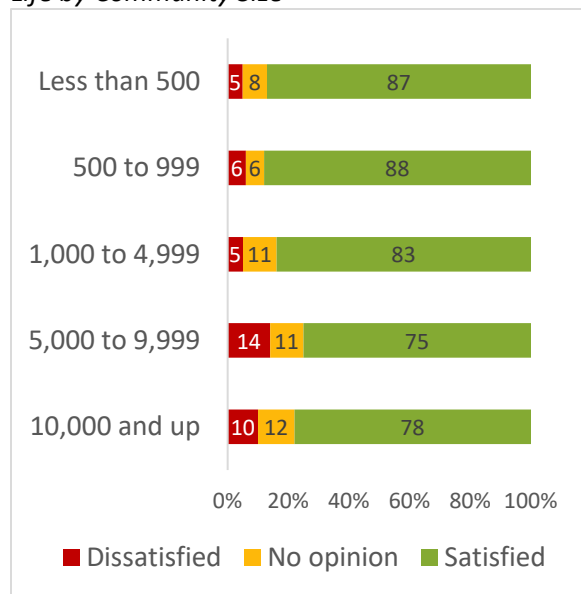
This year, rural Nebraskans gave similar assessments of their current situation as they did last year. However, their optimism about their future is slightly lower than last year. And, this year, more rural Nebraskans agree that people are powerless to control their own lives as compared to last year.

Residents of the North Central region are the regional group most likely to believe they will be better off ten years from now. And, residents of both the North Central and Panhandle regions are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to believe they are much better off compared to five years ago.

Persons with lower education levels are more likely than persons with more education to believe that people are powerless to control their own lives.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher household incomes to express dissatisfaction with their ability to build assets/wealth.

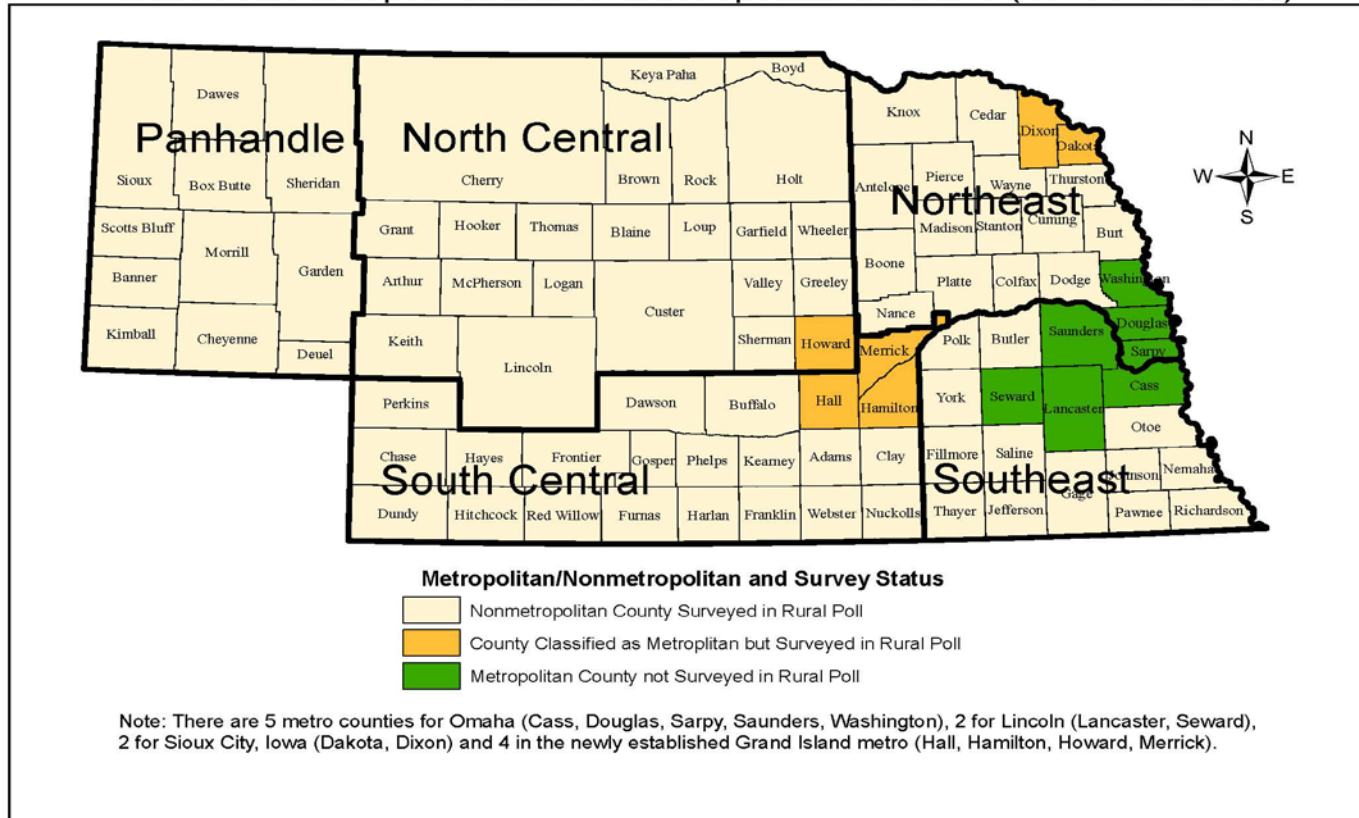
Figure 9. Satisfaction with General Quality of Life by Community Size



Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to believe they are better off compared to five years ago. And, they are more likely to express satisfaction with their general quality of life.

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 2015 – 2019 American Community Survey 5 Year Average for Nebraska*

	2021 Poll	2020 Poll	2019 Poll	2018 Poll	2017 Poll	2016 Poll	2015 - 2019 ACS
Age : ²							
20 - 39	32%	32%	32%	32%	32%	31%	32%
40 - 64	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%	45%	42%
65 and over	24%	24%	24%	24%	24%	24%	26%
Gender: ³							
Female	55%	55%	55%	55%	56%	59%	51%
Male	45%	46%	45%	46%	44%	41%	49%
Education: ⁴							
Less than 9 th grade	1%	1%	0.3%	1%	1%	1%	4%
9 th to 12 th grade (no diploma)	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	2%	6%
High school diploma (or equiv.)	16%	16%	15%	18%	18%	21%	32%
Some college, no degree	26%	18%	18%	23%	22%	21%	26%
Associate degree	15%	24%	24%	17%	16%	19%	12%
Bachelors degree	28%	26%	29%	25%	25%	23%	15%
Graduate or professional degree	13%	14%	13%	13%	16%	14%	6%
Household Income: ⁵							
Less than \$20,000	8%	7%	7%	9%	10%	11%	15%
\$20,000 - \$39,999	17%	14%	15%	18%	18%	22%	21%
\$40,000 - \$59,999	16%	19%	18%	22%	26%	22%	18%
\$60,000 - \$74,999	14%	16%	16%	17%	12%	14%	11%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	17%	21%	19%	33%	34%	32%	14%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	19%	15%	16%	*** ⁶	***	***	13%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	5%	5%	5%	***	***	***	4%
\$200,000 or more	4%	4%	3%	***	***	***	3%
Marital Status: ⁷							
Married	69%	69%	70%	71%	68%	69%	61%
Never married	13%	12%	12%	10%	13%	11%	19%
Divorced/separated	11%	10%	9%	11%	11%	10%	12%
Widowed/widower	7%	8%	8%	8%	8%	9%	8%

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

² 2015-2019 American Community Survey universe is non-metro population 20 years of age and over.

³ 2015-2019 American Community Survey universe is non-metro population 20 years of age and over.

⁴ 2015-2019 American Community Survey universe is non-metro population 18 years of age and over.

⁵ 2015-2019 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 2015-2019 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. 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	9	37	40	12	
Community Size			(n = 1489)			
Less than 500	1	7	37	40	15	
500 - 999	1	9	29	45	16	
1,000 - 4,999	1	10	34	41	14	
5,000 - 9,999	8	12	35	35	10	$\chi^2 = 48.72^*$
10,000 and up	3	9	41	38	10	(.000)
Region			(n = 1534)			
Panhandle	4	15	29	35	17	
North Central	0*	11	38	33	17	
South Central	2	8	40	40	10	
Northeast	4	9	34	43	11	$\chi^2 = 42.49^*$
Southeast	2	7	36	42	13	(.000)
Income Level			(n = 1409)			
Under \$40,000	4	17	49	26	4	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	3	8	43	35	11	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	2	5	31	48	14	$\chi^2 = 181.62^*$
\$100,000 and over	0	5	21	52	22	(.000)
Age			(n = 1542)			
19 - 29	3	3	32	40	23	
30 - 39	0	7	32	41	20	
40 - 49	2	10	36	41	12	
50 - 64	3	11	33	45	8	$\chi^2 = 108.29^*$
65 and older	3	13	48	31	5	(.000)
Gender			(n = 1516)			
Male	3	10	30	42	16	$\chi^2 = 27.77^*$
Female	2	9	42	38	10	(.000)
Marital Status			(n = 1487)			
Married	2	7	32	45	15	
Never married	3	12	43	35	8	
Divorced/separated	4	13	40	30	13	$\chi^2 = 66.99^*$
Widowed	4	16	54	22	5	(.000)
Education			(n = 1492)			
H.S. diploma or less	2	9	52	27	9	
Some college	2	11	36	38	13	$\chi^2 = 54.76^*$
Bachelors degree	3	7	30	47	13	(.000)
Occupation			(n = 1149)			
Mgt, prof or education	1	7	26	50	15	
Sales or office support	6	11	28	35	21	
Constrn, inst or maint	3	7	21	50	18	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	1	11	32	38	18	
Agriculture	1	7	39	44	9	
Food serv/pers. care	1	6	56	23	14	
Hlthcare supp/safety	1	6	37	46	10	$\chi^2 = 83.21^*$
Other	0	5	64	32	0	(.000)

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

0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 2 continued.

<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>
Total	3	16	23	44	15	
Community Size			(n = 1485)			
Less than 500	5	12	30	40	13	
500 - 999	1	13	24	48	14	
1,000 - 4,999	1	15	24	44	16	
5,000 - 9,999	3	19	19	38	21	$\chi^2 = 38.42^*$
10,000 and up	4	18	19	47	12	(.001)
Region			(n = 1531)			
Panhandle	2	20	31	37	9	
North Central	5	11	25	46	14	
South Central	2	18	19	43	18	
Northeast	2	16	22	47	13	$\chi^2 = 37.30^*$
Southeast	3	11	28	43	15	(.002)
Income Level			(n = 1406)			
Under \$40,000	6	23	31	33	7	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	2	18	23	40	16	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	2	13	19	56	10	$\chi^2 = 125.62^*$
\$100,000 and over	0	8	19	49	24	(.000)
Age			(n = 1533)			
19 - 29	3	14	17	46	20	
30 - 39	2	15	25	45	13	
40 - 49	3	19	18	46	14	
50 - 64	4	19	26	40	12	$\chi^2 = 38.06^*$
65 and older	2	10	29	45	14	(.001)
Gender			(n = 1511)			
Male	2	14	19	46	18	$\chi^2 = 23.83^*$
Female	3	17	26	42	12	(.000)
Marital Status			(n = 1481)			
Married	2	13	22	46	17	
Never married	3	18	28	40	11	
Divorced/separated	7	27	23	36	7	$\chi^2 = 53.82^*$
Widowed	2	11	32	44	11	(.000)
Education			(n = 1488)			
H.S. diploma or less	1	14	30	38	18	
Some college	4	18	21	44	14	$\chi^2 = 18.48^*$
Bachelors degree	2	14	22	47	14	(.018)
Occupation			(n = 1143)			
Mgt, prof or education	2	17	21	45	15	
Sales or office support	1	15	18	45	21	
Constrn, inst or maint	0	16	26	44	14	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	4	27	19	37	13	
Agriculture	4	11	27	43	15	
Food serv/pers. care	0	13	16	51	21	
Hlthcare supp/safety	1	16	28	48	7	$\chi^2 = 52.35^*$
Other	0	9	36	55	0	(.003)

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

Appendix Table 2 continued.

	<i>Ten Years From Now</i>					<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
	<i>Much Worse Off</i>	<i>Worse Off</i>	<i>About the Same</i>	<i>Better Off</i>	<i>Much Better Off</i>	
Total	3	17	34	37	10	
Community Size			(n = 1475)			
Less than 500	3	14	39	30	14	
500 - 999	3	18	28	48	4	
1,000 - 4,999	1	13	32	41	13	
5,000 - 9,999	2	17	28	41	13	$\chi^2 = 44.37^*$
10,000 and up	3	19	35	35	8	(.000)
Region			(n = 1521)			
Panhandle	5	20	32	34	10	
North Central	1	11	30	40	19	
South Central	3	17	37	35	8	
Northeast	2	18	32	38	10	$\chi^2 = 41.08^*$
Southeast	3	17	37	38	6	(.001)
Income Level			(n = 1398)			
Under \$40,000	5	20	39	27	10	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	2	19	37	32	10	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	2	11	32	48	7	$\chi^2 = 79.85^*$
\$100,000 and over	1	11	26	49	14	(.000)
Age			(n = 1526)			
19 - 29	0	6	32	46	17	
30 - 39	2	10	14	60	15	
40 - 49	2	14	22	46	16	
50 - 64	3	22	42	29	5	$\chi^2 = 316.14^*$
65 and older	6	26	52	14	3	(.000)
Gender			(n = 1504)			
Male	3	17	32	34	14	$\chi^2 = 21.59^*$
Female	3	16	35	39	7	(.000)
Marital Status			(n = 1475)			
Married	2	15	33	39	11	
Never married	2	13	31	46	8	
Divorced/separated	6	20	32	27	15	$\chi^2 = 69.25^*$
Widowed	6	29	47	15	3	(.000)
Education			(n = 1479)			
H.S. diploma or less	5	23	42	24	6	
Some college	3	17	36	31	13	$\chi^2 = 91.06^*$
Bachelors degree	1	12	28	50	9	(.000)
Occupation			(n = 1140)			
Mgt, prof or education	1	11	24	54	10	
Sales or office support	1	9	34	36	19	
Constn, inst or maint	5	9	30	32	25	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	4	25	33	28	10	
Agriculture	1	19	38	35	7	
Food serv/pers. care	0	6	20	69	5	
Hlthcare supp/safety	0	19	32	43	5	$\chi^2 = 124.23^*$
Other	5	18	23	55	0	(.000)

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

Appendix Table 3. 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	45	23	32	
Community Size		(n = 1482)		
Less than 500	41	27	33	
500 - 999	53	21	27	
1,000 - 4,999	45	23	32	
5,000 - 9,999	44	25	30	$\chi^2 = 8.32$
10,000 and up	46	21	33	(.403)
Region		(n = 1524)		
Panhandle	48	23	29	
North Central	43	23	34	
South Central	49	24	27	
Northeast	40	23	37	$\chi^2 = 14.72$
Southeast	44	21	36	(.065)
Household Income		(n = 1400)		
Under \$40,000	34	28	38	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	40	23	37	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	53	23	24	$\chi^2 = 63.71^*$
\$100,000 and over	60	16	24	(.000)
Age		(n = 1528)		
19 - 29	40	29	32	
30 - 39	50	20	30	
40 - 49	48	24	29	
50 - 64	47	21	32	$\chi^2 = 15.73^*$
65 and older	40	24	37	(.046)
Gender		(n = 1507)		
Male	48	19	33	$\chi^2 = 12.72^*$
Female	42	27	31	(.002)
Education		(n = 1483)		
H.S. diploma or less	28	28	44	
Some college	41	21	38	$\chi^2 = 85.01^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	57	23	20	(.000)
Marital Status		(n = 1477)		
Married	49	22	30	
Never married	40	26	34	
Divorced/separated	42	21	37	$\chi^2 = 17.73^*$
Widowed	31	29	40	(.007)
Occupation		(n = 1139)		
Mgt, prof or education	56	24	20	
Sales or office support	42	16	43	
Constrn, inst or maint	46	18	36	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	34	20	47	
Agriculture	56	21	23	
Food serv/pers. care	45	31	23	
Hlthcare supp/safety	36	30	34	$\chi^2 = 63.25^*$
Other	57	22	22	(.000)

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

Appendix Table 4. Satisfaction with Items Affecting Well-Being, 2021

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	1%	2%	2%	10%	38%	47%
Greenery and open space	1	2	5	14	35	44
Your marriage	34	1	1	4	18	43
Your day-to-day personal safety	0.4	1	3	10	44	42
Clean air	1	3	6	12	37	42
Your transportation	1	1	4	9	45	41
Clean water	1	4	9	10	38	38
Your friends	1	1	5	15	43	35
Your religion/spirituality	6	1	4	22	33	35
Your general quality of life	0.4	2	6	11	48	33
Your general standard of living	0.4	2	6	12	49	32
Your housing	1	5	8	11	44	31
Your education	3	2	5	17	43	30
Your ability to afford your residence	1	5	8	14	42	30
Your spare time	2	4	12	14	40	27
Your job security	21	4	5	12	32	27
Your job satisfaction	20	4	6	10	37	24
Your ability to build assets/wealth	4	6	14	21	37	20
Your health	1	5	12	15	48	19
Your community	1	5	12	24	43	15
Your job opportunities	20	9	15	18	24	15
Current income level	3	9	16	15	44	14
Financial security during retirement	6	13	20	15	33	13

Appendix Table 5. Dissatisfaction with Items By Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes.**

	<i>Financial security during retirement</i>				<i>Your job opportunities</i>			
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Total	35	16	49		29	23	48	
Community Size	(n = 1392)				(n = 1211)			
Less than 500	40	19	40		23	30	47	
500 - 999	36	9	55		28	17	55	
1,000 - 4,999	31	15	54		28	28	45	
5,000 - 9,999	36	24	39	$\chi^2 = 25.22^*$	44	15	42	$\chi^2 = 32.96^*$
10,000 and up	34	17	50	(.001)	31	18	52	(.000)
Region	(n = 1432)				(n = 1235)			
Panhandle	36	15	50		30	26	44	
North Central	42	11	46		35	22	43	
South Central	31	20	49		28	22	51	
Northeast	37	15	49	$\chi^2 = 15.35$	28	22	49	$\chi^2 = 6.25$
Southeast	34	19	48	(.053)	26	25	50	(.620)
Individual Attributes:								
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1317)				(n = 1157)			
Under \$40,000	49	16	35		37	26	37	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	40	18	42		40	22	38	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	31	18	51	$\chi^2 = 99.32^*$	31	21	48	$\chi^2 = 96.35^*$
\$100,000 and over	22	9	69	(.000)	14	17	69	(.000)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1437)				(n = 1234)			
19 - 29	39	16	45		41	12	47	
30 - 39	28	18	54		32	21	47	
40 - 49	47	14	40		25	24	51	
50 - 64	35	17	48	$\chi^2 = 36.23^*$	25	25	51	$\chi^2 = 47.89^*$
65 and older	27	17	56	(.000)	21	38	41	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1416)				(n = 1220)			
Male	33	18	49	$\chi^2 = 3.15$	26	22	52	$\chi^2 = 6.95^*$
Female	37	15	48	(.207)	32	23	45	(.031)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1393)				(n = 1208)			
High school diploma or less	28	30	43		20	33	48	
Some college	43	18	40	$\chi^2 = 82.90^*$	32	23	45	$\chi^2 = 19.84^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	30	10	60	(.000)	30	19	52	(.001)
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1392)				(n = 1201)			
Married	33	15	52		25	22	53	
Never married	34	23	43		33	26	41	
Divorced/separated	49	15	36	$\chi^2 = 24.31^*$	42	23	36	$\chi^2 = 26.14^*$
Widowed	33	18	49	(.000)	24	35	41	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1084)				(n = 1101)			
Mgt, prof or education	30	10	60		30	20	51	
Sales or office support	46	11	43		40	22	38	
Constrn, inst or maint	25	24	52		15	30	55	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	51	20	29		24	17	59	
Agriculture	34	24	42		30	24	46	
Food serv/pers. care	46	14	41		34	25	41	
Hlthcare supp/safety	35	20	45	$\chi^2 = 60.99^*$	28	23	49	$\chi^2 = 27.39^*$
Other	46	15	39	(.000)	19	24	57	(.017)

* 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>	
	<i>Percentages</i>				<i>Percentages</i>			
Total	26	15	59		20	22	58	
Community Size	(n = 1440)				(n = 1432)			
Less than 500	21	19	60		16	27	57	
500 - 999	25	12	64		17	13	70	
1,000 - 4,999	20	17	63		18	23	59	
5,000 - 9,999	33	12	55	$\chi^2 = 27.28^*$	25	28	46	$\chi^2 = 32.53^*$
10,000 and up	31	11	58	(.001)	23	17	59	(.000)
Region	(n = 1479)				(n = 1470)			
Panhandle	29	10	61		27	18	55	
North Central	20	19	61		22	20	58	
South Central	27	16	57		21	21	59	
Northeast	29	13	58	$\chi^2 = 16.21^*$	20	22	59	$\chi^2 = 9.35$
Southeast	20	15	65	(.040)	16	26	58	(.314)
Individual Attributes:								
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1365)				(n = 1355)			
Under \$40,000	45	21	35		37	30	33	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	28	13	59		23	25	52	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	27	11	62	$\chi^2 = 178.08^*$	16	21	63	$\chi^2 = 229.14^*$
\$100,000 and over	10	7	84	(.000)	6	8	87	(.000)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1484)				(n = 1470)			
19 - 29	32	12	57		14	32	54	
30 - 39	23	11	66		20	15	65	
40 - 49	25	13	62		25	15	61	
50 - 64	26	14	60	$\chi^2 = 33.02^*$	21	20	59	$\chi^2 = 43.95^*$
65 and older	24	24	52	(.000)	19	28	52	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1464)				(n = 1452)			
Male	24	14	62	$\chi^2 = 4.43$	16	23	60	$\chi^2 = 11.64^*$
Female	27	16	57	(.109)	23	20	57	(.003)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1440)				(n = 1430)			
High school diploma or less	28	21	51		16	40	44	
Some college	29	18	54	$\chi^2 = 44.71^*$	24	24	52	$\chi^2 = 105.23^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	21	9	69	(.000)	17	12	71	(.000)
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1433)				(n = 1422)			
Married	21	15	65		15	18	66	
Never married	34	11	54		29	27	44	
Divorced/separated	35	17	48	$\chi^2 = 34.79^*$	36	23	42	$\chi^2 = 74.63^*$
Widowed	31	20	49	(.000)	25	31	45	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1132)				(n = 1130)			
Mgt, prof or education	23	9	69		18	15	67	
Sales or office support	36	12	53		33	10	57	
Constrn, inst or maint	18	14	68		13	30	58	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	29	13	58		20	21	59	
Agriculture	24	15	61		16	25	59	
Food serv/pers. care	45	11	44		17	33	50	
Hlthcare supp/safety	21	18	61	$\chi^2 = 45.32^*$	15	22	64	$\chi^2 = 52.61^*$
Other	4	17	78	(.000)	35	26	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 5 continued.

	<i>Your health</i>			<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	
Total	17	15	67	
Community Size	(n = 1463)			
Less than 500	12	11	77	
500 - 999	15	13	72	
1,000 - 4,999	16	18	66	
5,000 - 9,999	31	18	51	$\chi^2 = 38.36^*$
10,000 and up	17	15	68	(.000)
Region	(n = 1506)			
Panhandle	23	17	61	
North Central	14	10	77	
South Central	15	18	67	
Northeast	20	15	65	$\chi^2 = 18.85^*$
Southeast	19	15	66	(.016)
Individual Attributes:				
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1387)			
Under \$40,000	25	18	57	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	19	18	63	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	9	16	75	$\chi^2 = 56.83^*$
\$100,000 and over	13	9	78	(.000)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1509)			
19 - 29	9	17	74	
30 - 39	16	11	72	
40 - 49	23	15	62	
50 - 64	18	17	65	$\chi^2 = 26.28^*$
65 and older	19	15	67	(.001)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1488)			
Male	18	18	65	$\chi^2 = 5.81$
Female	17	13	70	(.055)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1467)			
High school diploma or less	18	25	57	
Some college	18	17	65	$\chi^2 = 35.02^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	15	10	74	(.000)
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1460)			
Married	15	14	71	
Never married	22	15	63	
Divorced/separated	27	12	62	$\chi^2 = 20.65^*$
Widowed	20	19	61	(.002)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1137)			
Mgt, prof or education	19	11	70	
Sales or office support	16	10	74	
Constrn, inst or maint	17	7	76	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	20	19	62	
Agriculture	13	21	66	
Food serv/pers. care	11	24	65	
Hlthcare supp/safety	11	16	74	$\chi^2 = 30.77^*$
Other	9	17	74	(.006)

* 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 6. 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	6	92		5	9	86	
Community Size	(n = 998)				(n = 1465)			
Less than 500	1	3	96		4	12	85	
500 - 999	4	5	91		6	7	87	
1,000 - 4,999	3	7	90		5	8	88	
5,000 - 9,999	3	8	89	$\chi^2 = 7.71$	4	13	84	$\chi^2 = 9.04$
10,000 and up	2	5	92	(.462)	5	9	87	(.339)
Region	(n = 1024)				(n = 1508)			
Panhandle	1	9	90		4	12	84	
North Central	2	1	97		6	5	89	
South Central	4	7	89		5	9	85	
Northeast	2	5	93	$\chi^2 = 14.89$	4	10	87	$\chi^2 = 9.81$
Southeast	4	7	90	(.061)	5	11	85	(.278)
Individual Attributes:								
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 932)				(n = 1383)			
Under \$40,000	6	5	89		10	12	78	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	3	6	91		6	11	83	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1	5	93	$\chi^2 = 7.49$	1	9	91	$\chi^2 = 52.47^*$
\$100,000 and over	3	4	93	(.278)	2	4	94	(.000)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1024)				(n = 1511)			
19 - 29	0	0	100		3	6	91	
30 - 39	2	3	94		3	7	89	
40 - 49	7	7	86		6	10	84	
50 - 64	2	8	91	$\chi^2 = 35.21^*$	6	11	83	$\chi^2 = 13.49$
65 and older	2	7	91	(.000)	5	10	85	(.096)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1012)				(n = 1492)			
Male	2	6	92	$\chi^2 = 1.46$	4	11	85	$\chi^2 = 4.59$
Female	3	5	92	(.482)	5	8	87	(.101)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 996)				(n = 1465)			
High school diploma or less	2	8	90		5	12	83	
Some college	3	7	89	$\chi^2 = 12.10^*$	5	12	83	$\chi^2 = 18.96^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	2	3	95	(.017)	4	6	91	(.001)
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1014)				(n = 1461)			
Married	3	5	92		3	7	90	
Never married	NA	NA	NA		4	10	85	
Divorced/separated	NA	NA	NA		15	15	71	$\chi^2 = 64.42^*$
Widowed	NA	NA	NA		11	12	77	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 815)				(n = 1140)			
Mgt, prof or education	2	4	94		4	7	90	
Sales or office support	0	7	93		7	12	81	
Constrn, inst or maint	4	5	91		1	18	81	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	0	17	83		10	12	79	
Agriculture	3	5	92		1	8	91	
Food serv/pers. care	10	13	77		5	8	88	
Hlthcare supp/safety	5	3	92	$\chi^2 = 35.58^*$	2	5	93	$\chi^2 = 40.29^*$
Other	0	10	90	(.001)	0	9	91	(.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.

Appendix Table 6 continued.

	<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	4	10	86		4	10	86	
Community Size		(n = 1475)				(n = 1462)		
Less than 500	3	10	87		3	8	90	
500 - 999	3	5	93		3	10	87	
1,000 - 4,999	4	10	86		3	13	84	
5,000 - 9,999	2	11	87	$\chi^2 = 11.01$	5	13	82	$\chi^2 = 11.53$
10,000 and up	5	12	83	(.201)	5	9	86	(.173)
Region		(n = 1519)				(n = 1501)		
Panhandle	4	16	80		5	10	84	
North Central	4	6	90		3	6	92	
South Central	3	11	86		4	11	84	
Northeast	5	9	86	$\chi^2 = 14.08$	4	12	84	$\chi^2 = 9.02$
Southeast	4	12	83	(.080)	4	11	86	(.341)
Individual Attributes:								
Household Income Level		(n = 1394)				(n = 1381)		
Under \$40,000	10	16	74		6	15	79	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	2	11	86		5	14	81	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	3	9	89	$\chi^2 = 78.40^*$	3	5	92	$\chi^2 = 46.72^*$
\$100,000 and over	1	4	95	(.000)	2	5	93	(.000)
Age		(n = 1523)				(n = 1507)		
19 - 29	3	17	80		0	12	89	
30 - 39	4	9	87		3	7	90	
40 - 49	3	7	90		5	7	88	
50 - 64	5	11	85	$\chi^2 = 18.83^*$	6	12	82	$\chi^2 = 27.41^*$
65 and older	4	9	86	(.016)	5	13	82	(.001)
Gender		(n = 1502)				(n = 1486)		
Male	3	12	85	$\chi^2 = 7.37^*$	4	11	85	$\chi^2 = 1.41$
Female	5	9	87	(.025)	4	10	86	(.493)
Education		(n = 1477)				(n = 1462)		
High school diploma or less	4	17	79		3	23	74	
Some college	5	11	84	$\chi^2 = 32.61^*$	5	10	86	$\chi^2 = 63.80^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	2	6	92	(.000)	3	6	92	(.000)
Marital Status		(n = 1472)				(n = 1456)		
Married	2	7	91		2	8	90	
Never married	3	23	74		3	12	85	
Divorced/separated	9	11	80	$\chi^2 = 75.86^*$	12	15	73	$\chi^2 = 61.13^*$
Widowed	7	15	78	(.000)	8	18	74	(.000)
Occupation		(n = 1143)				(n = 1132)		
Mgt, prof or education	2	7	92		2	9	89	
Sales or office support	1	10	89		1	15	84	
Constrn, inst or maint	0	13	87		2	4	94	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	5	13	82		8	10	82	
Agriculture	1	14	86		4	12	84	
Food serv/pers. care	6	13	81		6	9	84	
Hlthcare supp/safety	5	9	86	$\chi^2 = 31.12^*$	4	8	88	$\chi^2 = 22.70$
Other	4	4	91	(.005)	4	4	92	(.065)

* 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.

Appendix Table 6 continued.

<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	8	11	82	
Community Size	(n = 1473)			
Less than 500	5	8	87	
500 - 999	6	6	88	
1,000 - 4,999	5	11	83	
5,000 - 9,999	14	11	75	$\chi^2 = 26.54^*$
10,000 and up	10	12	78	(.001)
Region	(n = 1518)			
Panhandle	10	12	78	
North Central	10	5	86	
South Central	6	15	79	
Northeast	9	9	82	$\chi^2 = 22.96^*$
Southeast	7	10	83	(.003)
Individual Attributes:				
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1395)			
Under \$40,000	16	16	68	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	9	15	76	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	4	8	89	$\chi^2 = 116.23^*$
\$100,000 and over	2	2	96	(.000)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1521)			
19 - 29	12	14	74	
30 - 39	5	8	87	
40 - 49	8	11	81	
50 - 64	8	9	84	$\chi^2 = 15.78^*$
65 and older	8	11	81	(.046)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1500)			
Male	8	11	82	$\chi^2 = 0.18$
Female	8	11	81	(.915)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1476)			
High school diploma or less	7	19	74	
Some college	8	12	80	$\chi^2 = 37.83^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	7	5	87	(.000)
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 1471)			
Married	5	8	88	
Never married	14	22	64	
Divorced/separated	17	12	71	$\chi^2 = 92.35^*$
Widowed	12	14	75	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1143)			
Mgt, prof or education	9	7	84	
Sales or office support	7	8	85	
Constrn, inst or maint	1	16	83	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	8	4	88	
Agriculture	5	11	83	
Food serv/pers. care	2	17	82	
Hlthcare supp/safety	6	11	84	$\chi^2 = 42.59^*$
Other	4	35	61	(.000)

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

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