



# NEBRASKA RURAL POLL

## A Research Report

### **Community Well-Being and Leadership in Nonmetropolitan Nebraska**

#### *2022 Nebraska Rural Poll Results*

Rebecca Vogt  
Heather Akin  
Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel  
Bradley Lubben  
L.J. McElravy  
Timothy Meyer  
Steve Schulz  
Amanda Tupper

Nebraska Rural Poll Research Report 22-4, January 2023.

© graphic used with permission of the designer, Richard Hawkins, Design & Illustration, P.O. Box 21181, Des Moines, IA 50321-0101 Phone: 515.288.4431, FAX: 515.243.1979

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

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

---

# Table of Contents

---

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	<b>i</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Trends in Community Ratings (1996 - 2022)</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<i>Figure 1. Community Change, 1996 – 2022</i> .....	3
<i>Figure 2. Expected Community Change Ten Years from Now: 2011 – 2022</i> .....	4
<i>Figure 3. Feelings of Community Powerlessness: 2011-2022</i> .....	4
<i>Figure 4. Expected Destination of Those Planning to Move: 1998 - 2022</i> .....	5
<i>Table 1. Proportions of Respondents Very or Somewhat Satisfied with Each Service, 2003 - 2022</i> .....	6
<b>The Community and Its Attributes in 2022</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<i>Figure 5. Perceptions of Community Change by Region</i> .....	7
<i>Figure 6. Expected Community Change in Ten Years by Community Size</i> .....	8
<i>Figure 7. Feelings of Community Powerlessness by Community Size</i> .....	10
<i>Figure 8. Satisfaction with Cost of Housing by Community Size</i> .....	11
<i>Figure 9. Dissatisfaction with Local Government by Occupation</i> .....	12
<i>Table 2. Opinions about Community</i> .....	13
<i>Figure 10. I Have a Say about What Goes On in this Community by Age</i> .....	14
<i>Figure 11. Difficulty or Ease of Leaving Community by Region</i> .....	15
<b>Plans to Leave the Community</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<i>Figure 12. Size of Community Planning to Move to</i> .....	17
<b>Social Interactions</b> .....	<b>17</b>
<i>Table 3. Frequency of Social Interactions During a Typical Month During the Last 12 Months</i> ....	18
<i>Figure 13. Frequency of Spending Time with People of Different Backgrounds During a Typical Month by Region</i> .....	19
<i>Figure 14. Items Done During the Past 12 Months</i> .....	20
<b>Community Leadership and Volunteering</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<i>Figure 15. Opinions about Community Leadership in 2022, 2019 and 2015</i> .....	21
<i>Table 4. Opinions about Community Leadership and Volunteering</i> .....	22
<i>Figure 16. Belief that Getting More Residents to Volunteer is Critical to the Community’s Future by Community Size</i> .....	24

*Figure 17. Community Leaders Should Use Technology to Better Engage with Residents by Age 25*

**Individual and Community Political Views .....26**

*Figure 18. Individual and Community Political Views ..... 26*

**Conclusion .....27**

---

# *List of Appendix Tables and Figures*

---

Appendix Figure 1. Regions of Nebraska .....	29
Appendix Table 1. Demographic Profile of Rural Poll Respondents Compared to 2015 - 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Average for Nebraska .....	30
Appendix Table 2. Perceptions of Community Change by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	31
Appendix Table 3. Expectations of Future Community Change by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	32
Appendix Table 4. Measures of Community Attributes in Relation to Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	33
Appendix Table 5. Feelings of Community Powerlessness by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	35
Appendix Table 6. Level of Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities .....	36
Appendix Table 7. Measures of Satisfaction with Ten Services and Amenities in Relation to Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	37
Appendix Table 8. Feelings about Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	40
Appendix Table 9. Opinions about Leaving Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	44
Appendix Table 10. Plans to Leave Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	45
Appendix Table 11. Size of Community Planning to Move to by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	46
Appendix Table 12. Frequency of Social Interactions During a Typical Month in Last Year by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	47
Appendix Table 13. Opinions about Community Leadership and Volunteering by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	52
Appendix Table 14. Individual and Community Political Views by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes .....	59

---

# Executive Summary

---

The past year continued to be challenging for rural Nebraskans. High inflation rates are impacting household budgets and profit margins of businesses. Given these challenges and opportunities, how do rural Nebraskans feel about their community? Are they satisfied with the services provided by their community? Have these views changed over the past 27 years? Community leadership is an important part of community development. Rural communities rely on volunteers for many local leadership positions. In smaller communities in particular, community members often take on multiple roles. Given these challenges, how do they feel about the leadership in their community? How often do they have social interactions with others during a typical month? This paper provides a detailed analysis of these questions.

This report details 1,105 responses to the 2022 Nebraska Rural Poll, the 27<sup>th</sup> annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions about their community. Trends for some of the questions are examined by comparing data from the 26 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 (75%), trusting (64%) and supportive (65%).
  - ✓ *Most rural Nebraskans say it would be difficult to leave their community.* Over one-half of rural Nebraskans (54%) say it would be difficult to leave their community. Just under three in ten (28%) 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 feel like a member of their community (60%), they have a good bond with others in their community (59%), they belong in their community (58%), they feel connected to their community (53%), and they can get what they need in their community (52%).
  - ✓ *Most rural Nebraskans disagree that their community is powerless to control its future.* Just over six in ten rural Nebraskans (61%) strongly disagree or disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future.
- ***Rural Nebraskans are less positive about the current change and expected future change in their communities this year.*** The proportion believing their community has changed for the better has typically been greater than the proportion believing it has changed for the worse. However, starting last year the proportion believing their community changed for the worse was more than the proportion believing it had changed for the better (similar to what occurred in 2003 and 2009). This year, that gap widened a bit. The proportion saying their community has changed for the worse had remained fairly steady across all 27 years, averaging 21 percent. However, in the past five years it has steadily increased to 31 percent this year (the highest proportion across all 27 years of the

study). Similarly, the proportion believing their community will be a worse place ten years from now increased to 27 percent this year (the highest proportion across all 27 years).

- ***Persons living in the Panhandle are the regional group least likely to say their community has changed for the better during the past year.*** Only 14 percent of persons living in the Panhandle say their community changed for the better during the past year, compared to just under three in ten persons living in the North Central, South Central, and Northeast regions. Furthermore, almost one-half of residents of the Panhandle region (49%) say their community has changed for the worse during the past year.
- ***Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to get what they need 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 (84%), parks and recreation (70%), library services (68%), law enforcement (65%), education (K – 12) (62%), religious organizations (61%) and medical care services (61%). At least four in ten respondents are either very dissatisfied or somewhat dissatisfied with retail shopping (54%), entertainment (51%), cost of housing (51%), streets and roads (50%), restaurants (50%), and quality of housing (44%).
  - ✓ *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.
- ***Rural Nebraskans frequently interact with their family or friends as well as neighbors.*** Most rural Nebraskans talk to or spend time with family or friends at least a few times a week. Most rural Nebraskans also discuss political, societal, or local issues with their friends and family as well as have a conversation or spend time with neighbors at least a few times per month. Many rural Nebraskans say they and their neighbors do favors for each other and they spend time volunteering for organizations or associations in their community at least a few times a month.
- ***Opinions about some community leadership items have remained fairly stable over time, particularly those asking about the importance of leadership to their community. Others have seen some changes.***
  - ✓ *Fewer rural Nebraskans agree with the power of ordinary citizens in helping their community leadership be more effective as well as feeling a personal responsibility to participate to make it more effective than they did in 2015.* While two-thirds agreed in 2015 that ordinary citizens have a great deal of power to help make their community's leadership more effective, that has since declined to 53 percent this year.
  - ✓ *Fewer rural Nebraskans agree that they are preparing youth to be effective leaders in the community.* While at least four in ten agreed with that statement in both 2015 and 2019, that proportion declined to 33 percent this year.

- ✓ *Fewer rural Nebraskans agree this year that their community leaders do a good job overall.* Just over one-half (55%) agreed with that statement in 2015, but less than one-half (48%) agree this year.
- ***Most rural Nebraskans agree that strong and effective community leadership can prevent their community's decline and can solve the problems their community faces today.*** Just under three-quarters of rural Nebraskans agree or strongly agree that strong effective leadership will prevent their community's decline. And, just under two-thirds agree that the problems their community faces today can be solved through effective leadership.
- ***Opinions are mixed on whether or not the youth are being prepared to be both effective leaders and volunteers in their community.*** Equal proportions both agree and disagree with the statement that we are preparing our youth to be effective leaders in our community. And, just over one-third (34%) agree with we are preparing youth to be volunteers in the community, while three in ten disagree.
- ***Many rural Nebraskans see technology as a tool that can be used by community leaders to engage more residents.*** Just over one-half of rural Nebraskans (53%) agree or strongly agree that community leaders should use technology such as mobile apps or social media to better engage with residents. Seventeen percent disagree and three in ten neither agree nor disagree.
  - ✓ *Younger persons are more likely than older persons to agree that community leaders should use technology to better engage with residents.* Just over six in ten (63%) persons age 19 to 39 agree with this statement, compared to just over four in ten person age 50 and older.
- ***Most rural Nebraskans believe getting more residents to get involved in leadership in their community is critical to its future.*** Just over seven in ten (71%) agree or strongly agree that getting more residents to take leadership roles in our community is critical to our community's future. Only three percent disagree.
- ***Rural Nebraskans believe volunteering is important to their community. However, despite this belief in the importance of volunteering, many rural Nebraskans agree that they are volunteering less than before.*** Over one-half (56%) disagree that volunteers and volunteering are not valued in their community. And over seven in ten agree that getting more residents to volunteer is critical to their community's future and that getting young people to volunteer is critical to the community's future. Just over four in ten agree that they are volunteering less than they used to, while three in ten disagree with the statement.



## Introduction

---

The past year continued to be challenging for rural Nebraskans. High inflation rates are impacting household budgets and profit margins of businesses. Given these challenges and opportunities, how do rural Nebraskans feel about their community? Are they satisfied with the services provided by their community? Have these views changed over the past 27 years? Community leadership is an important part of community development. Rural communities rely on volunteers for many local leadership positions. In smaller communities in particular, community members often take on multiple roles. Given these challenges, how do they feel about the leadership in their community? How often do they have social interactions with others during a typical month? This paper provides a detailed analysis of these questions.

This report details 1,105 responses to the 2022 Nebraska Rural Poll, the 27<sup>th</sup> annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions about their community.

### *Methodology and Respondent Profile*

This study is based on 1,105 responses from Nebraskans living in 86 counties in the state.<sup>1</sup> A self-administered questionnaire was mailed in May and June to 6,102 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, natural

---

<sup>1</sup> 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

resources, and the economy and employment. This paper reports only results from the community section.

An 18% 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 two weeks later.
3. A reminder postcard was sent to those who had not yet responded approximately two weeks after the questionnaire had been sent.
4. Those who had not yet responded within approximately 30 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

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.

three percent.

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-six percent are married (Appendix Table 1) and 71 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 25 years. Fifty-six percent are living in or near towns or villages with populations less than 5,000. Ninety-eight percent have attained at least a high school diploma.

Twenty-one percent of the respondents report their 2021 approximate household income from all sources, before taxes, as below \$40,000. Sixty-three percent report incomes over \$60,000. Seventy-seven percent were employed in 2021 on a full-time, part-time, or seasonal basis.

Nineteen percent are retired. Thirty-eight percent of those employed reported working in a management, professional, or education occupation. Twelve percent indicated they were employed in agriculture.

### **Trends in Community Ratings (1996 - 2022)**

---

Comparisons are made between the community data collected this year to the 26 previous studies. These were independent samples (the same people were not surveyed each year).

### **Community Change – 27 Year Trend**

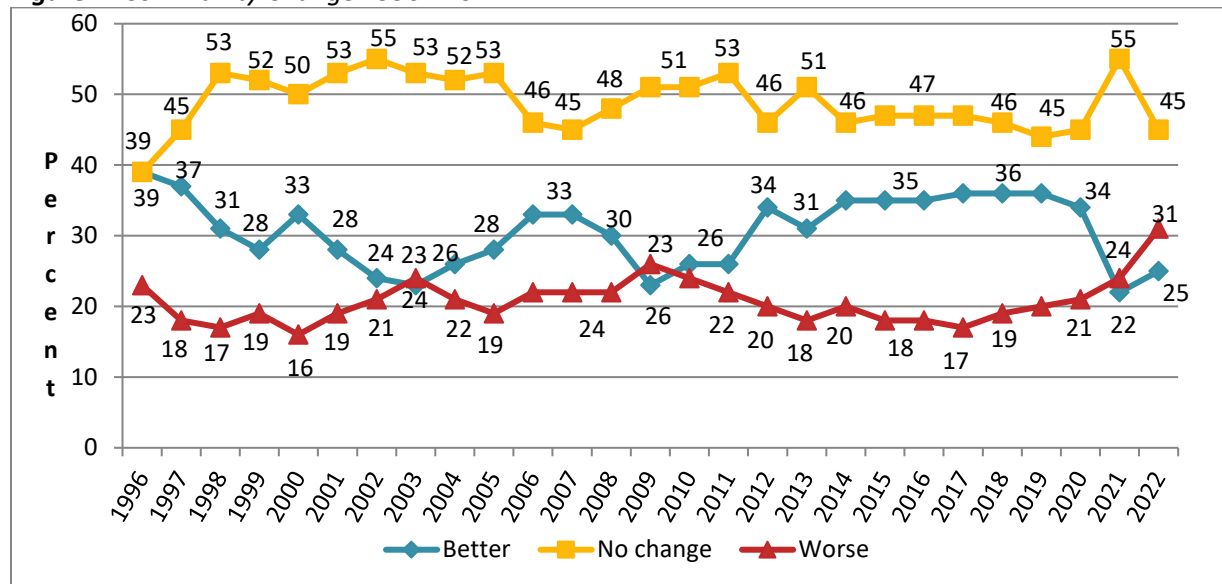
To examine respondents' perceptions of how their community has changed, they were asked the question, "Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say...My community has changed for the..." Answer categories were better, no change or worse.

One difference in the wording of this question has occurred over the past 27 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 between 2012 and 2020 when the gap between the two widened (Figure 1). However, starting last year the proportion believing their community changed for the worse was more than the proportion believing it had changed for the better (similar to what occurred in 2003 and 2009). This year, that gap widened a bit.

The proportion saying their community has changed for the better has averaged approximately 31 percent. Following a seven-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. However, the proportion viewing positive change in their community then generally increased to 34 percent in 2012 and stayed fairly stable before sharply declining to 25 percent this year.

**Figure 1. Community Change 1996 - 2022**



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 then generally declined to 45 percent in 2020. Last year it increased sharply to 55 percent before declining again to 45 percent this year.

The proportion saying their community has changed for the worse had remained fairly steady across all 27 years, averaging 21 percent. It increased from 22 percent in 2008 to 26 percent in 2009. Since then, it generally decreased to 17 percent in 2017 before steadily increasing to 31 percent this year (the highest proportion across all 27 years of the study).

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?”

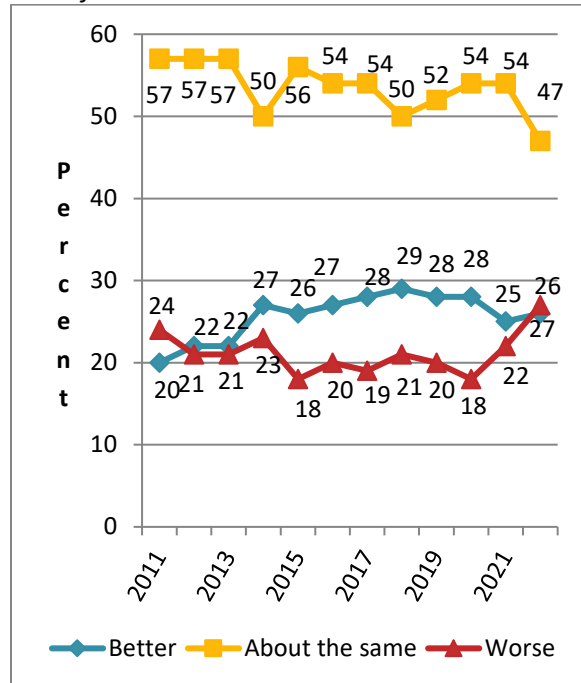
The proportion believing their community will be a better place to live ten years from now has generally increased, from 20 percent in 2011 to 26 percent this year (Figure 2). The proportion believing their community will be a worse place to live generally declined from 24 percent in 2011 to 18 percent in 2020, before increasing to 27 percent this year (the highest proportion across all 27 years).

The proportion thinking their community will be about the same ten years from now had remained relatively stable until it declined sharply to 47 percent this year.

**Community Social Dimensions and Powerlessness – 27 Year Trend**

Respondents were also asked each year if they

**Figure 2. Expected Community Change Ten Years from Now: 2011 - 2022**



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 27-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 27-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.

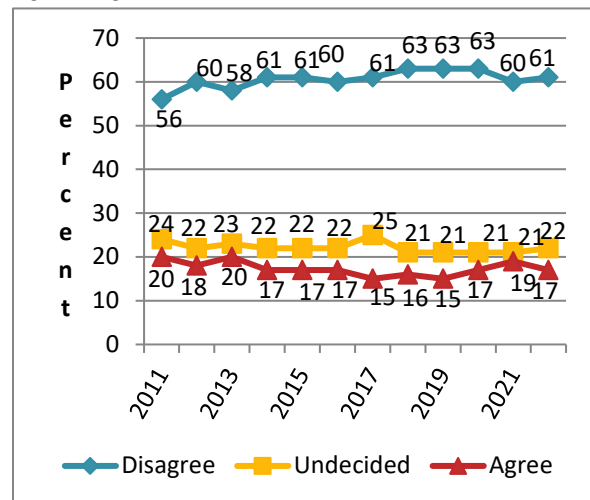
In general, rural Nebraskans’ perceptions of the powerlessness of their community has remained fairly stable (Figure 3). The proportion disagreeing with the statement generally increased from 56 percent in 2011 to 61 percent this year. However, the proportion has been relatively stable the past nine years.

**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 25 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 64 percent to 49 percent this year. The proportion expecting to leave the state has averaged approximately 46 percent over the 25-year period.

**Figure 3. Feelings of Community Powerlessness: 2011 - 2022**



The proportion of expected movers planning to move to either the Omaha or Lincoln area generally declined between 2006 and 2012, from 21 percent to 11 percent. However, it was fairly inconsistent through 2018 – showing alternate patterns of increases and declines. It has since steadily declined from 19 percent in 2019 to 10 percent this year. The proportion of expected movers planning to move to the Omaha or Lincoln area has averaged approximately 15 percent.

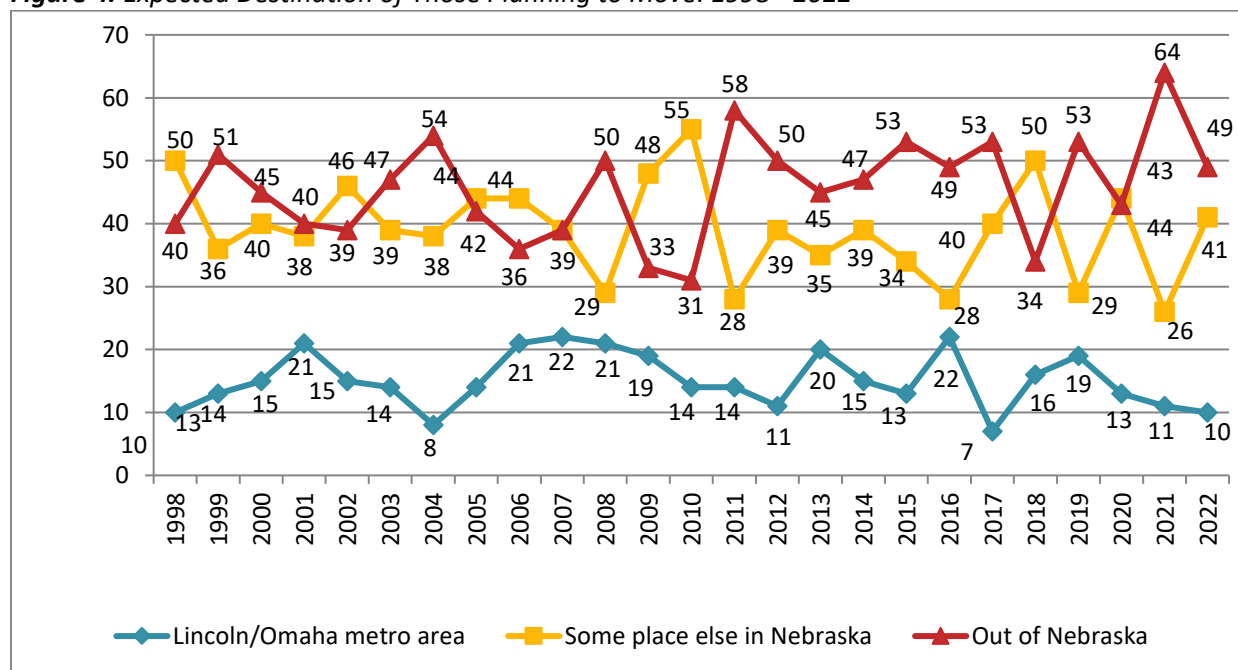
The proportion of expected movers planning to move to other areas of rural Nebraska generally increased from 28 percent in 2011 to 39 in 2014, but then declined to 28 percent in 2016. Since then, it has seen alternate patterns of sharp increases and decreases. It increased to 50 percent in 2018, dropped sharply to 29 percent in 2020, increased to 44 percent in 2020, declining again to 26 percent last year before increasing sharply again to 41 percent this year. The average proportion expecting to move to other areas of rural Nebraska has been 39 percent.

### Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities – 27 Year Trend

Respondents were also asked how satisfied they are with various community services and amenities each year. They were asked this in all 27 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 57 percent in 2003 to 30 percent this year. Similar declines occur with medical care services,

**Figure 4. Expected Destination of Those Planning to Move: 1998 - 2022**



**Table 1. Proportion of Respondents Very or Somewhat Satisfied with Each Service, 2003 - 2022**

Service/Amenity	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Fire protection	*	*	*	86	85	86	87	85	86	85	86	86	87	87	85	89	89	87	86	84
Parks/recreation	76	75	74	75	74	75	74	74	75	76	76	71	76	78	75	74	79	77	73	70
Library services	74	74	72	73	74	75	74	73	73	72	73	72	73	71	73	74	73	72	68	68
Law enforcement	65	63	63	64	63	62	64	65	63	65	64	62	64	69	67	66	69	68	67	65
Education (K-12)	69	68	68	68	68	70	68	68	68	68	68	68	69	68	70	69	70	70	63	62
Religious org.	*	*	*	72	72	73	71	71	70	72	71	70	72	69	68	67	69	70	65	61
Medical care svcs	71	71	71	71	63	66	67	67	67	68	66	62	62	64	63	59	64	66	62	61
Sewage/waste disposal*	*	*	*	66	66	67	66	65	65	64	67	64	65	64	66	67	65	63	61	60
Sewage disposal	64	67	63	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Water disposal	62	65	62	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Solid waste disp.	63	65	63	64	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cell phone services	*	*	*	49	54	58	61	60	64	63	65	60	64	63	61	59	66	64	64	59
Access to higher ed	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	63	62	59	58	63	63	61	57
Internet service	*	*	*	50	51	57	58	56	60	59	59	56	58	56	54	53	57	54	53	54
Civic/nonprofit organizations	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	45	47	48	49	47	46	41
Restaurants	54	56	54	54	50	45	47	47	48	48	46	40	46	43	43	45	43	52	43	40
Streets and roads*	*	*	*	*	55	49	51	47	48	49	53	44	47	43	44	45	42	41	37	40
Streets	62	59	60	60	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Highway/bridges	70	69	70	69	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Comm recycling	*	*	*	*	50	48	52	54	54	54	58	53	55	52	50	51	46	44	39	38
Head start progms	40	41	39	37	29	26	28	29	27	27	27	39	39	39	40	37	44	42	34	37
Quality of housing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	44	45	45	44	47	46	48	43	36
Senior centers	61	58	59	55	48	47	47	47	48	47	48	47	49	47	47	45	43	45	40	35
Local government*	*	*	*	41	40	38	41	40	41	42	40	37	40	37	42	39	43	42	40	35
County govt.	51	48	47	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
City/village govt.	48	45	46	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cost of housing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	50	45	45	45	46	43	43	38	33
Housing	60	61	60	61	59	59	61	59	59	57	52	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Retail shopping	45	49	47	45	41	39	40	41	37	39	38	33	38	34	32	35	28	33	29	31
Nursing home care	57	55	55	53	46	47	45	46	46	45	43	47	47	43	44	38	40	42	36	30
Entertainment	33	36	32	34	30	26	29	32	30	30	31	26	29	26	28	29	29	31	23	25
Mental health svcs	30	31	30	27	23	23	24	23	24	25	23	21	23	22	21	19	23	25	24	24
Child day care svcs	*	*	*	*	*	*	32	34	35	35	32	34	34	33	31	30	34	34	27	23
Day care services	45	47	45	42	31	28	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Arts/cultural activities	*	*	*	*	26	25	24	27	27	27	26	24	26	22	24	26	27	24	20	23
Pub transp svcs*	*	*	*	*	17	17	19	18	19	19	20	17	19	18	17	21	20	21	17	20
Airline service	17	18	15	15	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Taxi service	11	12	12	11	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Rail service	11	13	11	9	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bus service	10	11	7	7	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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

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 declined from 45 percent in 2003 to 31 percent this year.

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



the survey) to 59 percent this year. However, it saw a decrease in satisfaction compared to last year. Last year, 64 percent expressed satisfaction with their cellular phone services, compared to 59 percent this year.

Other services seeing decreases from last year include: civic/nonprofit organizations (from 46 percent to 41 percent), quality of housing (from 43 percent to 36 percent), senior centers (from 40 percent to 35 percent), local government (from 40 percent to 35 percent), cost of housing (from 38 percent to 33 percent), and nursing home care (from 36 percent to 30 percent).

## The Community and Its Attributes in 2022

In this section, the 2022 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 – 2022 Data

The perceptions of the change occurring in their community by various demographic subgroups are examined (Appendix Table 2). Residents living in or near mid-sized communities are more likely than persons living in or near both larger and smaller communities to say that their community has changed for the better during the past year. One-third of persons living in or near communities with populations between 1,000 and 4,999 believe their community has changed for the better, compared to 14 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people.

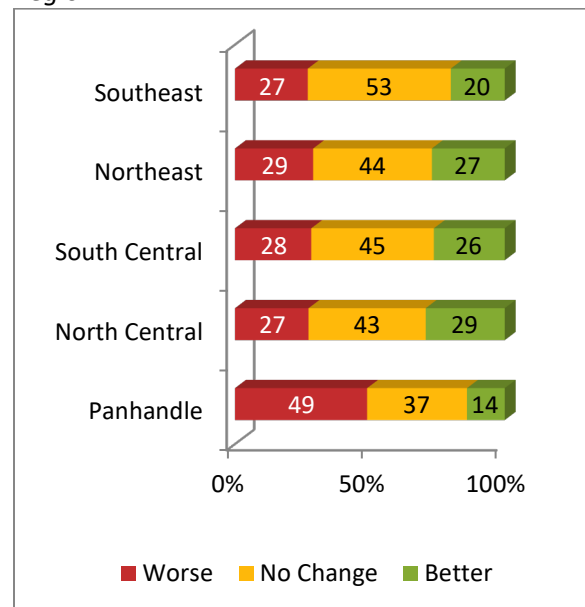
Persons living in the Panhandle are the regional

group *least* likely to say their community has changed for the better during the past year (see Appendix Figure 1 for the counties included in each region). Only 14 percent of persons living in the Panhandle say their community changed for the better during the past year, compared to just under three in ten persons living in the North Central, South Central, and Northeast regions (Figure 5). Furthermore, almost one-half of residents of the Panhandle region (49%) say their community has changed for the worse during the past year.

The demographic groups most likely to say their community has changed for the better during the past year include: persons with the highest household incomes; persons age 50 and older; married persons; widowed persons; persons with at least four-year degrees; and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

In addition, respondents were asked to predict the expected change in their community ten

**Figure 5. Perceptions of Community Change by Region**



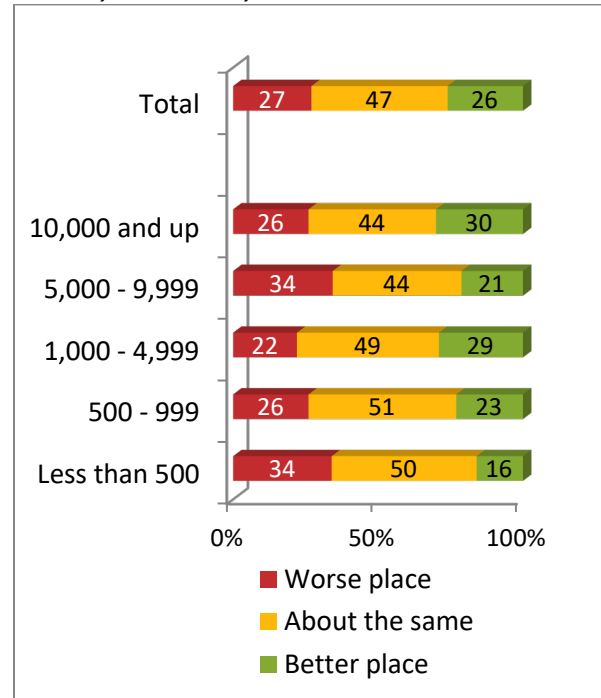
years from now. The exact question wording was, “Based on what you see of the situation today, do you think that, ten years from now, your community will be a worse place to live, a better place or about the same?” Just over one-quarter of rural Nebraskans (26%) expect their community will be a better place to live ten years from now. Just under one-half (47%) expect it to be about the same and just over one-quarter (27%) 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. Three in ten 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, 16 percent of persons living in or near the smallest communities think their community will improve in ten years.

Persons living in both the Panhandle and Southeast regions are *less* 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. Less than two in ten residents of these two regions believe their community will be a better place to live ten years from now, compared to approximately three in ten residents of the other three regions of the state.

The demographic groups most likely to have an optimistic view about their community’s future include: persons with the highest household incomes, persons under the age of 65, married persons, persons with the highest education levels, and new residents of the community

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



(those who have lived there five years or less).

**Community Social Attributes and Powerlessness – 2022 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 (75%), trusting (64%) and supportive (65%).

Respondents’ ratings of their community on these dimensions differ by some of the characteristics examined (Appendix Table 4). Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to rate their community as friendly. But persons living in or near mid-sized



communities are the persons most likely to rate their communities as both trusting and supportive. As an example, just over seven in ten persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 1,000 to 4,999 rate their community as trusting, compared to less than six in ten persons living in or near the largest communities (populations of 10,000 or more).

Residents of both the North Central and South Central regions are more likely than residents of other regions to rate their community as friendly. Residents of the North Central region are the regional group most likely to say their community is supportive.

Persons with the highest household incomes are more likely than persons with lower household incomes to rate their communities as friendly, trusting, and supportive. The youngest persons are the age group most likely to rate their community as friendly.

When comparing responses by marital status, both married and widowed persons are the groups most likely to rate their community as friendly, trusting and supportive. Persons with the highest education levels are more likely than persons with less education to rate their community as friendly, trusting, and supportive. Newcomers to the community are more likely than long-term residents to rate their community as both friendly and trusting.

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 (61%) 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 (22%) are undecided.

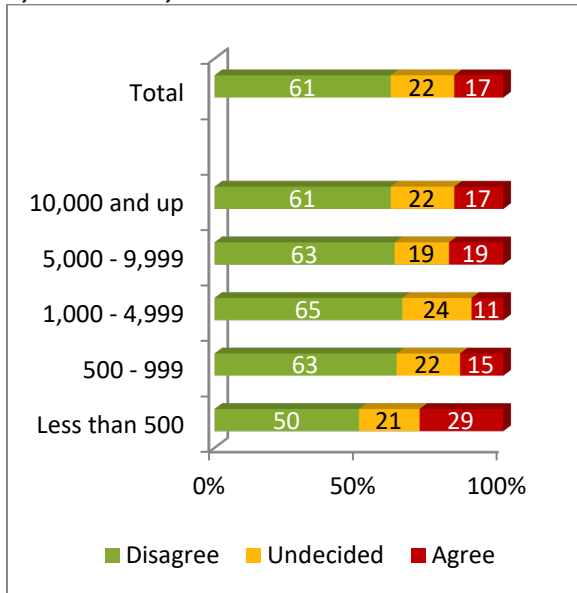
The feelings of community powerlessness are examined by community size, region and individual attributes (Appendix Table 5). Many differences emerge.

Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near the smallest communities to disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future. Over six in ten persons living in or near communities with populations of 500 or more disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future (Figure 7). In comparison, one-half of persons living in or near communities with populations under 500 share this opinion. Almost three in ten persons living in or near the smallest communities agree with the statement.

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 (78%) disagree with this statement, compared to 47 percent of persons with a high school diploma or less education.

Other groups most likely to disagree their community is powerless to control its own future include: persons with higher household incomes, older persons, married persons, widowed persons, and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

**Figure 7. Feelings of Community Powerlessness by Community Size**



**Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities – 2022 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 eleven 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 (84%), parks and recreation (70%), library services (68%), law enforcement (65%), education (K – 12) (62%), religious organizations (61%) and medical care services (61%) (Appendix Table 6). At least four in ten respondents are either very dissatisfied or

somewhat dissatisfied with retail shopping (54%), entertainment (51%), cost of housing (51%), streets and roads (50%), restaurants (50%), and quality of housing (44%).

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.

Residents of the Panhandle region are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to express dissatisfaction with retail shopping in their community.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their retail shopping include: persons with lower household incomes, older persons, persons with lower education levels, and persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations.

Persons with lower household incomes, persons under the age of 40, and persons with some college education (but less than a four-year degree) are the groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with the entertainment in their community.

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 seven in ten persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more (73%) are dissatisfied with the cost of housing in their community, compared to 31

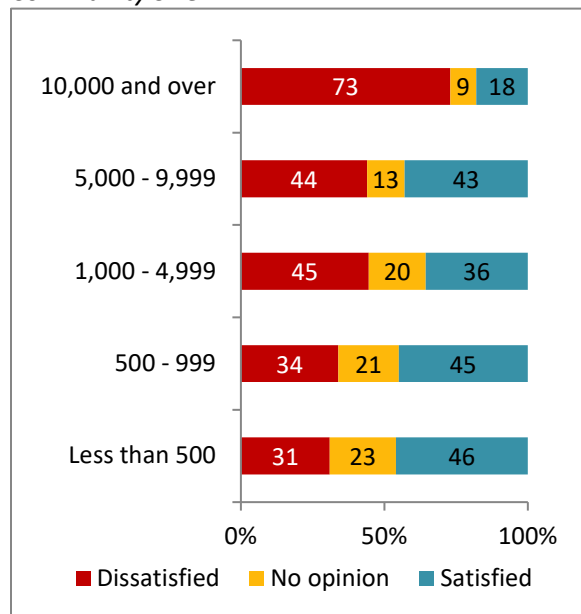
percent of persons living in or near communities with populations less than 500 (Figure 8).

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their community’s cost of housing include residents of the South Central region and younger persons.

Persons living in or near the smallest communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to be dissatisfied with the streets and roads in their community. Just under six in ten persons living in or near the smallest communities (populations under 1,000) are dissatisfied with the streets and roads, compared to just under one-half of persons living in or near larger communities.

Residents of the Panhandle region are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with their streets and roads. Just over six in ten residents of the Panhandle express dissatisfaction with their

**Figure 8. Satisfaction with Cost of Housing by Community Size**



streets and roads, compared to just under four in ten residents of the South Central region.

Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their streets and roads include persons age 30 to 39, persons with some college education (but not a four-year degree), and persons with production, transportation, and warehousing occupations.

Persons with lower education levels are the group most likely to be dissatisfied with the restaurants in their community.

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 one-half (52%) of the residents of this region are dissatisfied with the quality of housing, compared to three in ten persons living in the Panhandle.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with the quality of housing in their community include: persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 1,000 to 4,999; the youngest persons; and persons with management, professional, and education occupations.

Persons age 30 to 39 are the age group most likely to express dissatisfaction with arts/cultural activities in their community.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their arts/cultural activities include: persons living in or near smaller communities (populations under 10,000), residents of the North Central region, residents of the Southeast region, and persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations.

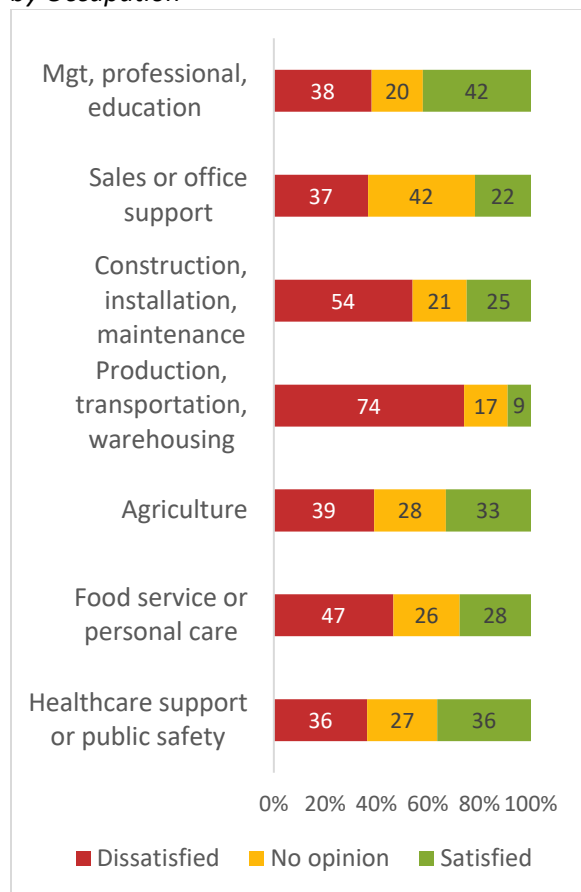
Persons with production, transportation or

warehousing occupations are the occupation group most likely to express dissatisfaction with their local government. Just under three-quarters (74%) of persons with these types of occupations are dissatisfied with their local government (Figure 9).

Younger persons are more likely than older persons to be dissatisfied with their local government. Approximately one-half of persons age 19 to 39 express dissatisfaction with their local government, compared to just over one-quarter of persons age 65 and older.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their local government include: persons living in or near communities with populations between

**Figure 9. Dissatisfaction with Local Government by Occupation**



500 and 999, persons with the lowest household incomes, and persons with some college education (but less than a four-year degree).

Residents of both the Northeast and Southeast regions 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 these regions are dissatisfied with their community recycling, compared to just over one-third of the residents of the other regions of the state.

Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their community recycling include: persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 500 to 999, persons age 30 to 49, persons with at least some college education, and persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations.

Persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to express dissatisfaction with their Internet service. Just over six in ten persons with these types of occupations are dissatisfied with the Internet service in their community, compared to 28 percent of persons with sales or office support occupations.

The other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with the Internet service in their community include: persons living in or near smaller communities, persons under the age of 30, and persons with at least some college education (but less than a four-year degree).

### 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 feel like a member of their community (60%), they have a good bond with others in their community (59%), they belong in their community (58%), they feel connected to their community (53%), and they can get what they need in their community (52%) (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 agree that they can get what they need in their community. Just over six in ten persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more (61%) 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 (39%).

However, persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to have an 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 feel connected to the community. At least six in ten persons living in or near communities with populations under 10,000 agree that they feel like a member of their community, compared to 53 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations over 10,000.

Persons living in or near mid-sized communities are most likely to agree that they have a say about what goes on in their community, that people in the community are good at influencing each other, and they have a good bond with others in the community

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. Residents of the Southeast region are the group most likely to agree that they feel connected to their community and that they have a good bond with others in their

**Table 2. Opinions about Community**

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree
I can get what I need in this community.	8%	26%	14%	46%	6%
This community helps me fulfill my needs.	7	19	25	43	6
I feel like a member of this community.	5	12	24	43	17
I belong in this community.	4	12	26	42	16
I have a say about what goes on in my community.	13	22	32	27	6
People in this community are good at influencing each other.	5	12	39	37	7
I feel connected to this community.	5	16	26	42	11
I have a good bond with others in this community.	3	12	26	45	14

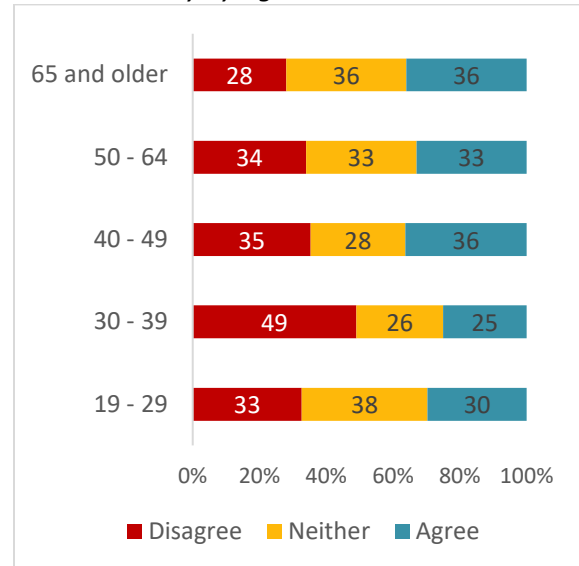
community. Just over six in ten persons living in the Southeast region agree that they feel connected to their community, compared to just over four in ten residents of the Panhandle.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to agree with all of the statements listed. Two-thirds of persons with the highest household incomes (67%) agree that they have a good bond with others in their community, compared to just under one-half of persons with the lowest household incomes (46%).

Younger persons are more likely than older persons to say they can get what they need in their community and that the community helps them fulfill their needs. Persons age 40 and over are most likely to agree that they feel like a member of their community, that they belong in the community, and that they have a say about what goes on in the community. At least six in ten persons age 40 and over agree that they belong in their community, compared to just under one-half of persons age 19 to 39. And, over one-third of persons age 40 and over agree that they have a say about what goes on in their community, compared to 25 percent of persons age 30 to 39 (Figure 10). Just under one-half of the persons age 30 to 39 (49%) disagree that they have a say about what goes on in their community.

Persons age 50 and over are the group most likely to agree that people in their community are good at influencing each other. Persons age 65 and older are most likely to agree that they feel connected in the community and have a good bond with others in the community. Two thirds of persons age 65 and older agree that they have a good bond with others in the community, compared to 45 percent of persons age 19 to 29.

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



Males are more likely than females to agree that they can get what they need in the community.

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 one-half of persons with at least a four-year degree (47%) agree that they have a say about what goes on in their community, compared to just two in ten persons (20%) with a high school diploma or less education.

Married persons are the marital group most likely to agree that the community helps them fulfill their needs, that they have a say about what goes on in their community, and people in the community are good at influencing each other. Persons who have never married join the married persons as most likely to agree that they can get what they need in the community. Widowed persons are the group most likely to agree that they feel like a member of their community, that they belong in the community,

that they feel connected to the community, and have a good bond with others in the community.

Persons with food service or personal care occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to agree that they can get what they need in the community. Persons with management, professional or education occupations are the group most likely to agree that the community helps them fulfill their needs, that they have a say about what goes on in the community, and that people in the community are good at influencing each other. Persons with occupations in agriculture are most likely to agree that they belong in the community, that they feel connected to the community, and that they have a good bond with others in the community.

Long-term residents have more attachment to their community than do newcomers. Long-term residents are more likely than newcomers to agree that people in the community are good at influencing each other, that they feel connected to the community, and that they have a good bond with others in their community. As an example, just over one-half of long-term residents (56%) agree that they feel connected to their community, compared to just over four in ten newcomers (42%).

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.

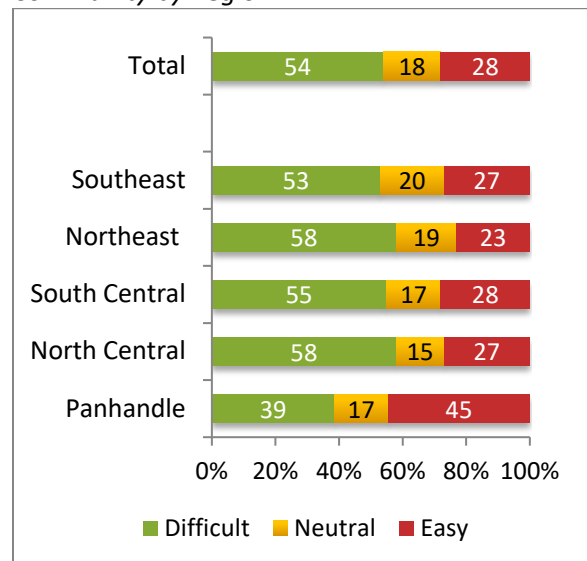
Over one-half of rural Nebraskans (54%) say it would be difficult to leave their community (Figure 11). Just under three in ten (28%) indicate it would be easy for their household to leave their community.

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

Residents of the Panhandle region are less likely than persons living in other regions of the state to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Just under four in ten residents of the Panhandle say it would be difficult to leave their community, compared to over one-half of residents of the other four regions (Figure 11). Over four in ten Panhandle residents say it would be easy to leave their community.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Six in ten persons with at least a four-year college degree say it would be difficult to leave their

**Figure 11. Difficulty or Ease of Leaving Community by Region**





community, compared to approximately one-half of persons with less education.

Other groups most likely to say it would be difficult to leave their community include: persons with higher household incomes, widowed persons, and persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations.

## Plans to Leave the Community

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 six percent of rural Nebraskans indicate they are planning to move from their community in the next year, 14 percent are uncertain and 81 percent have no plans to move. Of those who are planning to move, just under one-half (49%) plan to leave Nebraska. Just over one-half (51%) plan to remain in the state, with 10 percent planning to move to either the Lincoln or Omaha area and 41 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). Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to be uncertain if they are planning to move from their community in the next year. At least two in ten persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more are uncertain if they are planning to move, compared to six percent of persons living in or near communities with populations under 500.

Residents of the Panhandle are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to be uncertain if they are planning to move. Just over two in ten Panhandle residents are uncertain if they are planning to move, compared to less than one in ten residents of the North Central region.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with the highest incomes to be uncertain if they are planning to move from their community.

Newcomers to the community are more likely to be uncertain if they are planning to move. Just over two in ten newcomers are uncertain if they are planning to move, compared to 12 percent of long-term residents.

Persons age 30 to 39 are the age group most likely to be planning to move from their community in the next year. Thirteen percent of persons in this age group are planning to move from their community in the next year.

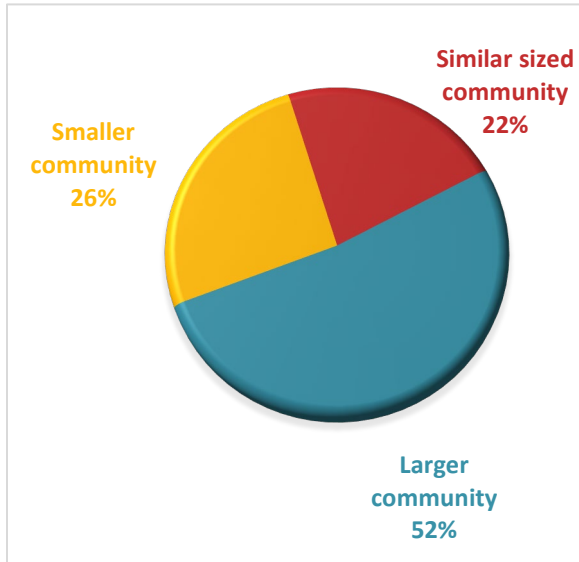
Other groups most likely to be planning to move from their community in the next year include persons who have divorced or separated and persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations.

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.

Most expected movers are planning to move to a larger community. Just over one-half expected movers (52%) are planning to move to a



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



community larger than their current one (Figure 12). Just over one-quarter (26%) are planning to move to a community smaller than their current one and 22 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).

Older potential movers are more likely than younger ones to be planning to move to a larger community. Over one-half potential movers age 30 and over plan to move to a larger community.

Female potential movers are more likely than male potential movers to be planning to move to a larger community.

## Social Interactions

Next, respondents were asked about the frequency of various social interactions they have with others. Specifically, they were asked

how often during a typical month they did various items in the last year.

Rural Nebraskans frequently interact with their family or friends as well as neighbors. Most rural Nebraskans talk to or spend time with family or friends at least a few times a week. Most rural Nebraskans also discuss political, societal, or local issues with their friends and family as well as have a conversation or spend time with neighbors at least a few times per month (Table 3). Many rural Nebraskans say they and their neighbors do favors for each other and they spend time volunteering for organizations or associations in their community at least a few times a month.

The frequency of these social interactions are examined by community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 12). Many differences exist.

Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to discuss political, societal, or local issues with their neighbors at least a few times per month as well as exchange favors with their neighbors. Over one-third of persons living in or near the smallest communities discuss these issues with their neighbors at least a few times per month, compared to just under one-quarter (24%) of persons living in or near the largest communities. Just over four in ten persons living in or near the smallest communities exchange favors with their neighbors at least a few times per month, compared to approximately three in ten persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more.

Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to spend time with people

**Table 3. Frequency of Social Interactions During a Typical Month During the Last 12 Months**

	<i>Every day</i>	<i>Few times/ week</i>	<i>Few times/ month</i>	<i>Once a month</i>	<i>Less often</i>	<i>Not at all</i>
Talk to or spend time with friends and family	35%	39%	18%	4%	3%	1%
Discuss political, societal, or local issues with your friends/family	11	32	28	8	15	7
Have a conversation or spend time with your neighbors	5	24	29	12	17	14
Discuss political, societal, or local issues with your neighbors	2	9	16	10	25	38
Spend time with people of different backgrounds	6	14	21	13	31	15
You and your neighbors do favors for each other	5	9	22	18	23	23
Work together with someone or some group to solve a problem in your community	2	6	14	14	32	32
Spend time volunteering for any organization or association	3	13	21	12	21	30

of different backgrounds. Almost one-half of persons living in or near the largest communities spend time with people of different backgrounds at least a few times per month, compared to just over one-third of persons living in or near communities with populations under 1,000.

Persons living in or near mid-sized communities are the group most likely to spend time volunteering for an organization or association. Over four in ten persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 1,000 to 4,999 spend time volunteering at least a few times per month, compared to just over three in ten persons living in or near the largest communities.

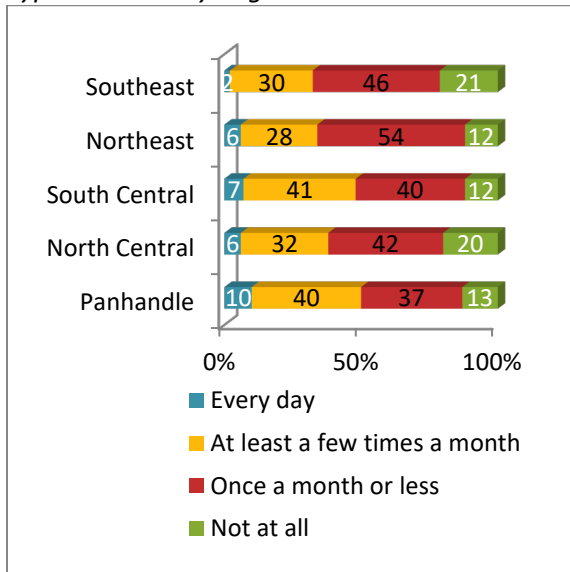
Residents of the North Central region are the regional group most likely to discuss issues with their friends and family daily. Panhandle residents are the group most likely to have a conversation or spend time with neighbors

daily. Both residents of the Panhandle and the South Central regions are the groups most likely to spend time with people of different backgrounds at least a few times per month. Approximately one-half of persons living in these two regions spend time with people of different backgrounds at least a few times per month, compared to just over three in ten persons living in both the Southeast and Northeast regions (Figure 13).

Residents of the Southeast region are the regional group most likely to spend time volunteering for an organization or association at least a few times per month.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to have done the following items at least a few times per month: discuss issues with their friends and family, have a conversation or spend time with neighbors, discuss issues with their neighbors, spend time with people of

**Figure 13. Frequency of Spending Time with People of Different Backgrounds During a Typical Month by Region**



different backgrounds, exchange favors with their neighbors, work together with someone to solve a problem in the community, and spend time volunteering for an organization or association.

Older persons are more likely than younger persons to have a conversation or spend time with neighbors, discuss issues with their neighbors, and exchange favors with their neighbors at least a few times per month. Just over two-thirds of persons age 65 and older have a conversation or spend time with their neighbors at least a few times per month, compared to just over four in ten persons age 19 to 29.

Younger persons are more likely than older persons to spend time with people of different backgrounds. At least four in ten persons under the age of 65 spend time with people of different backgrounds at least a few times per month, compared to just over one-third of persons age 65 and older. Persons age 30 to 39 are the age group most likely to spend time

volunteering for any organization or association at least a few times per month.

Males are more likely than females to discuss issues with both their friends and family as well as their neighbors at least a few times per month.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to do all of the listed items at least a few months per month. As an example, just over one-half of persons with at least a four-year college degree spend time volunteering at least a few times per month, compared to just under one-quarter of persons with a high school diploma or less.

Persons with management, professional or education occupations are the occupation group most likely to talk to or spend time with their friends and family more frequently. Persons with occupations in agriculture join this group as most likely to discuss issues with their friends and family. Persons with occupations in agriculture are the group most likely to do the following at least a few times per month: have conversations or spend time with neighbors, discuss issues with their neighbors, exchange favors with their neighbors, work together to solve a problem in their community, and spend time volunteering.

Long-term residents are more likely than newcomers to the community to do the following items at least a few times per month: have a conversation or spend time with neighbors, discuss issues with their neighbors, exchange favors with their neighbors, and spend time volunteering. Newcomers are more likely than long-term residents to spend time with people of different backgrounds. Almost one-half of newcomers spend time with people of different backgrounds at least a few times per month, compared to just under four in ten

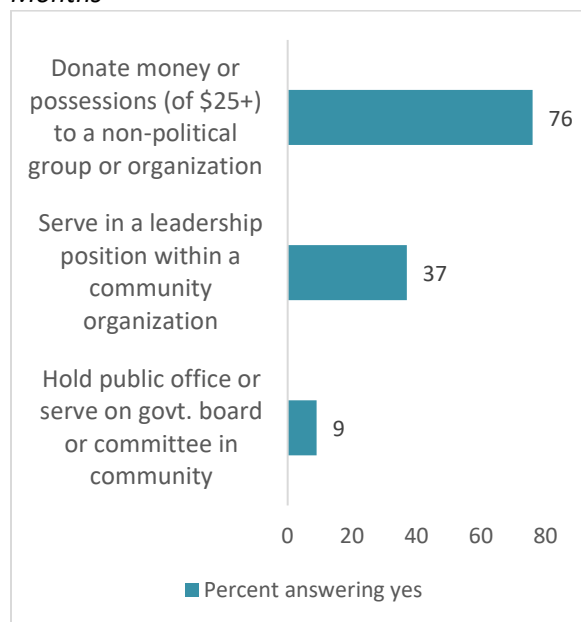
long-term residents.

Respondents were also asked if they had done various items during the past twelve months. Most rural Nebraskans have donated money or possessions to a non-profit group or organization (Figure 14). Many rural Nebraskans have served in a leadership position within a community organization in an unpaid role. Less than one in ten have held public office or served on a government board or committee in their local community.

The proportions doing these items are examined by community size, region, and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 12). Many differences are detected.

Persons living in or near mid-sized communities are more likely than persons living in or near both smaller and larger communities to have donated money or possessions to a non-political group or organization. Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely

**Figure 14. Items Done During the Past 12 Months**



than persons living in or near larger communities to have served in a leadership position within a community organization or held public office or served on a government board or committee in their community. At least four in ten persons living in or near communities with populations less than 5,000 have served in a leadership position within an organization, compared to less than three in ten persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to have done each of the items listed. Older persons are more likely than younger persons to have donated money or possessions as well as held public office or served on a government board or committee. Persons age 40 to 49 are the age group most likely to have served in a leadership position within a community organization.

Females are more likely than males to have donated money or possessions as well as served in a leadership position within an organization. Just over four in ten females have served in a leadership position within an organization, compared to just over three in ten males. Males are more likely than females to have held public office or served on a government board or committee.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to have donated money or possessions as well as served in a leadership position within an organization.

Persons with occupations in agriculture are more likely than persons with different occupations to have held public office or served on a government board or committee. Long-term residents are more likely than newcomers to have done each of the items listed.

## Community Leadership and Volunteering

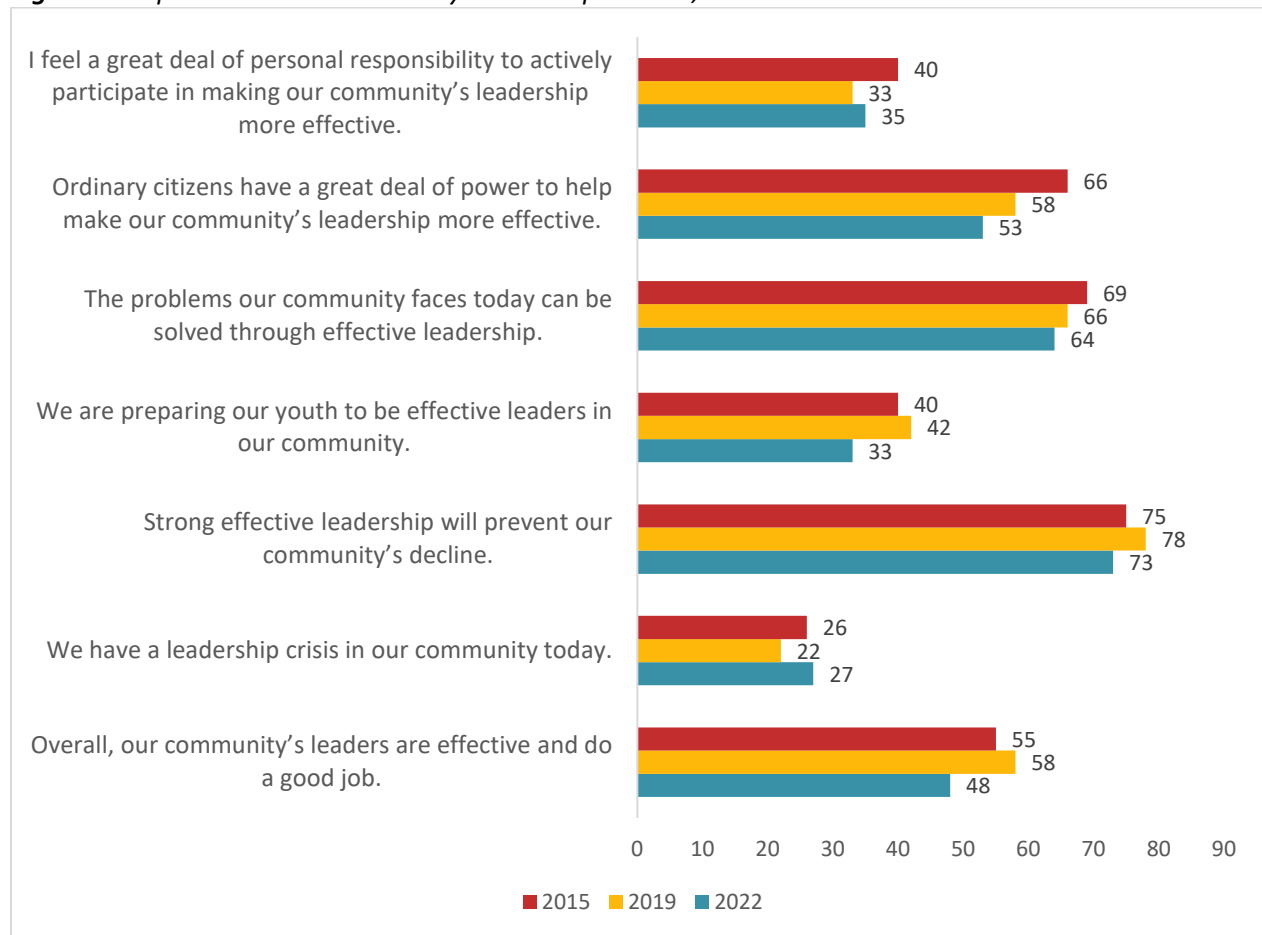
Next, respondents were given a list of statements about the leadership in their community. They were asked to indicate their level of agreement or disagreement with each. They were also asked a number of these statements in both 2019 and 2015.

Opinions about some community leadership items have remained fairly stable over time, particularly those asking about the importance of leadership to their community (Figure 15).

Others have seen some changes. Fewer rural Nebraskans agree with the power of ordinary citizens in helping their community leadership be more effective as well as feeling a personal responsibility to participate to make it more effective than they did in 2015. While two-thirds agreed in 2015 that ordinary citizens have a great deal of power to help make their community's leadership more effective, that has since declined to 53 percent this year.

Fewer rural Nebraskans agree that they are preparing youth to be effective leaders in the community. While at least four in ten agreed with that statement in both 2015 and 2019,

**Figure 15. Opinions about Community Leadership in 2022, 2019 and 2015**



that proportion declined to 33 percent this year.

Fewer rural Nebraskans agree this year that their community leaders do a good job overall. Just over one-half (55%) agreed with that statement in 2015, but less than one-half (48%) agree this year.

Overall, many rural Nebraskans have positive feelings about their community leadership. Almost one-half of rural Nebraskans (48%) agree or strongly agree that their community's leaders are effective and do a good job (Table 4). And, although opinions are somewhat mixed on whether or not they have a leadership crisis in their community today, more disagree with that statement than agree with it. However,

**Table 4. Opinions about Community Leadership and Volunteering**

	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>
Overall, our community's leaders are effective and do a good job.	8%	18%	27%	44%	4%
We have a leadership crisis in our community today.	6	34	34	19	8
Strong effective leadership will prevent our community's decline.	1	6	19	53	21
We are preparing our youth to be effective leaders in our community.	8	25	33	30	3
The problems our community faces today can be solved through effective leadership.	1	9	26	53	11
Ordinary citizens have a great deal of power to help make our community's leadership more effective.	6	16	25	46	7
I feel a great deal of personal responsibility to actively participate in making our community's leadership more effective.	5	17	43	30	5
Community leaders should use technology (such as mobile apps or social media) to better engage with residents.	4	13	30	43	10
Getting more residents to take leadership roles in our community is critical to our community's future.	0.4	3	26	57	14
We are preparing our youth to be volunteers in the community.	7	23	36	30	4
I am volunteering less than I used to.	7	23	29	32	9
Volunteers and volunteering are not valued in my community.	14	42	29	12	3
Getting more residents to volunteer is critical to our community's future.	1	4	23	59	13
Getting young people to volunteer is critical to our community's future.	1	4	16	59	21

approximately one-third neither agree nor disagree with that statement.

Most rural Nebraskans agree that strong and effective community leadership can prevent their community's decline and can solve the problems their community faces today. Just under three-quarters of rural Nebraskans agree or strongly agree that strong effective leadership will prevent their community's decline. And, just under two-thirds agree that the problems their community faces today can be solved through effective leadership.

Opinions are mixed on whether or not the youth are being prepared to be effective leaders in their community. Equal proportions both agree and disagree with the statement that we are preparing our youth to be effective leaders in our community. And, one-third neither agree nor disagree with the statement.

Most rural Nebraskans agree that ordinary citizens have a great deal of power to help make their community's leadership more effective. However, when asked about their personal responsibility to actively participate in making their community's leadership more effective, opinions are mixed. Just over one-half of rural Nebraskans agree or strongly agree that ordinary citizens have a great deal of power to help make their community's leadership more effective. Just over one-third (35%) agree that they feel a great deal of personal responsibility to actively participate in making their community's leadership more effective. Just over two in ten disagree with that statement and over four in ten (43%) neither agree nor disagree.

Many rural Nebraskans see technology as a tool that can be used by community leaders to engage more residents. Just over one-half of rural Nebraskans (53%) agree or strongly agree

that community leaders should use technology such as mobile apps or social media to better engage with residents. Seventeen percent disagree and three in ten neither agree nor disagree.

Most rural Nebraskans believe getting more residents to get involved in leadership in their community is critical to its future. Just over seven in ten (71%) agree or strongly agree that getting more residents to take leadership roles in our community is critical to our community's future. Only three percent disagree.

Similar to the earlier item on leadership, opinions are mixed on whether or not youth are being prepared to be volunteers in the community. Just over one-third (34%) agree with that statement, while three in ten disagree.

Rural Nebraskans believe volunteering is important to their community. Over one-half (56%) *disagree* that volunteers and volunteering are not valued in their community. And over seven in ten agree that getting more residents to volunteer is critical to their community's future and that getting young people to volunteer is critical to the community's future.

However, despite this belief in the importance of volunteering, many rural Nebraskans agree that they are volunteering less than before. Just over four in ten agree that they are volunteering less than they used to, while three in ten disagree with the statement.

Opinions about leadership and volunteering in their community differ by community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 13).

Persons living in or near mid-sized communities (populations from 1,000 to 4,999) are more



likely than persons living in or near both smaller and larger communities to agree that their community's leaders are effective and do a good job, that they are preparing their youth to be effective leaders in their community, that community leaders should use technology to better engage with residents, and they are preparing their youth to be volunteers in the community.

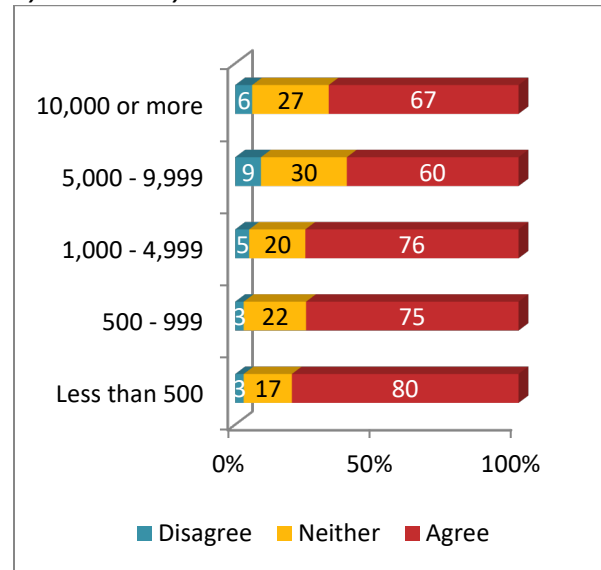
Persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 500 to 999 are the community size group most likely to agree that they have a leadership crisis in their community today. Just under four in ten persons living in or near this size of community agree with that statement.

Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near the smallest communities to believe that strong effective leadership will prevent their community's decline.

Persons living in or near the smallest communities are the group most likely to agree that volunteers and volunteering are not valued in their community. Just over two in ten persons living in or near the smallest communities agree with that statement. However, they are also the group most likely to agree that both getting more residents to volunteer and getting young people to volunteer are critical to their community's future. Eight in ten persons living in or near the smallest communities agree that getting more residents to volunteer is critical to their community's future (Figure 16). Six in ten persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999 share this opinion.

Residents of the Southeast region are more likely than residents of the other regions to

**Figure 16. Belief that Getting More Residents to Volunteer is Critical to the Community's Future by Community Size**



agree with the following: their community's leaders are effective and do a good job, we have a leadership crisis in our community today, and getting young people to volunteer is critical to their community's future.

Residents of the Panhandle are the regional *least* likely to agree that they are preparing their youth to be both effective leaders and volunteers in their community. Less than two in ten Panhandle residents agree that they are preparing their youth to be effective leaders, compared to approximately one-third of the residents of the other regions of the state. This group was most likely to agree that problems their community faces today can be solved through effective leadership.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to agree with most of the listed statements. As an example, 45 percent of persons with the highest household incomes agree that they feel a great deal of personal responsibility to actively participate in making their community's



leadership more effective, compared to 26 percent of persons with the lowest incomes.

Persons with lower household incomes are more likely than persons with higher incomes to agree that they have a leadership crisis in their community today.

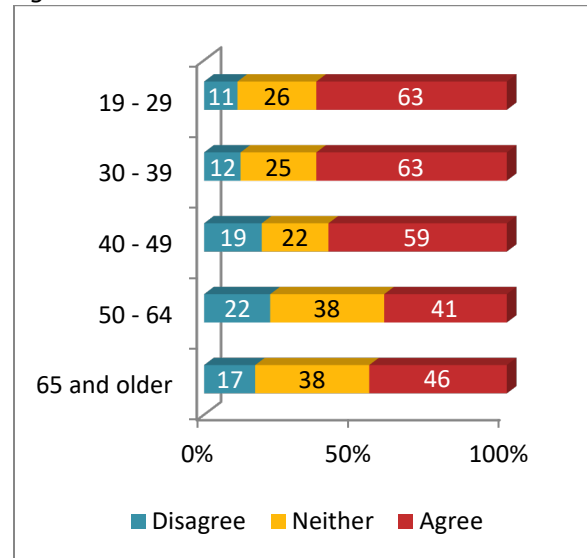
Older persons are more likely than younger persons to agree with the following: our community’s leaders are effective and do a good job, we are preparing our youth to be effective leaders in our community, ordinary citizens have a great deal of power to help make our community’s leadership more effective, getting more residents to take leadership roles in our community is critical to our community’s future, I am volunteering less than I used to, getting more residents to volunteer is critical to our community’s future, and getting young people to volunteer is critical to our community’s future.

Persons age 30 to 39 are the age group most likely to agree that they have a leadership crisis in their community today and that they feel a great deal of personal responsibility to actively participate in making their community’s leadership more effective.

Younger persons are more likely than older persons to agree that community leaders should use technology to better engage with residents. Just over six in ten (63%) persons age 19 to 39 agree with this statement, compared to just over four in ten person age 50 and older (Figure 17).

Males are more likely than females to agree that the problems their community faces today can be solved through effective leadership. Seven in ten males agree with that statement, compared to 58 percent of females. Females are more likely than males to agree that they

**Figure 17. Community Leaders Should Use Technology to Better Engage with Residents by Age**



are preparing their youth to be volunteers in the community.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to agree with most of the statements listed. However, persons with some college education (but less than a four-year college degree) are the education group most likely to agree that they have a leadership crisis in their community today and that volunteers and volunteering are not valued in their community.

Persons with food service or personal care occupations are the occupation group most likely to agree that they have a leadership crisis in their community today.

Persons with management, professional or education occupations are the group most likely to agree with the following: strong effective leadership will prevent their community’s decline, that ordinary citizens have a great deal of power to help make their community’s leadership more effective, community leaders

should use technology to better engage with residents, and getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community is critical to the community's future.

Persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations and persons with sales or office support occupations are the groups most likely to agree that the problems their community faces today can be solved through effective leadership. Persons with occupations in agriculture are the group most likely to agree that both getting more residents to volunteer as well as getting young people to volunteer is critical to their community's future.

Long-term residents are more likely than newcomers to agree with the following statements: our community's leaders are effective and do a good job, getting more residents to take leadership roles is critical to the community's future, getting more residents to volunteer is critical to the community's future, and getting young people to volunteer is critical to the future of the community. Fifty-two percent of long-term residents agree that

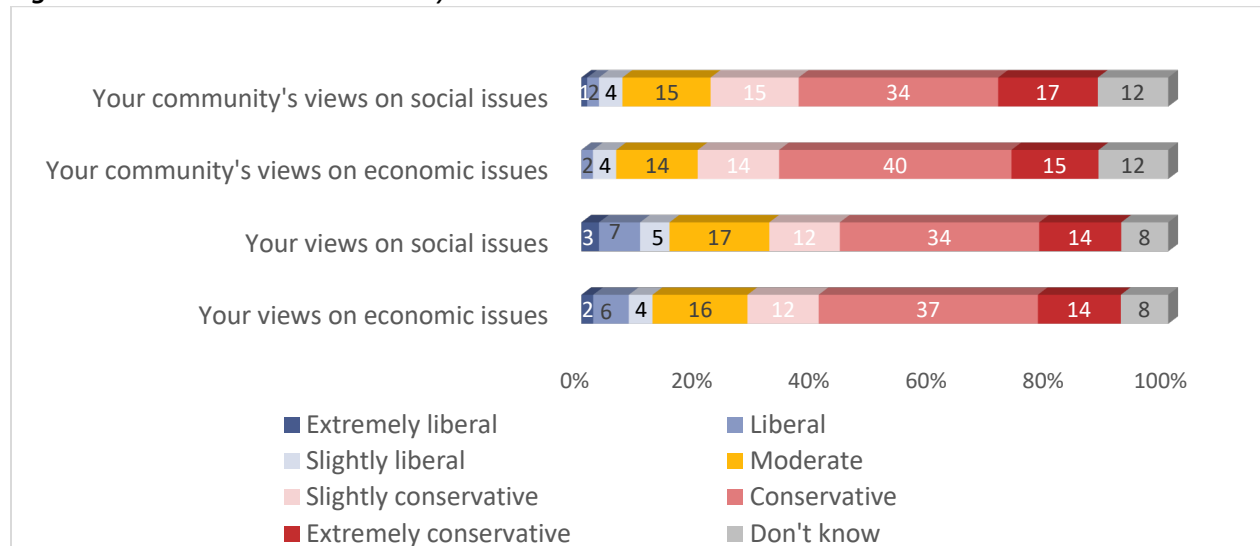
their community leaders are effective and do a good job. Only 37 percent of newcomers agree. However, over four in ten newcomers neither agree nor disagree with that statement.

## Individual and Community Political Views

Finally, 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

**Figure 18. Individual and Community Political Views**



more conservative than their own. Six in ten rural Nebraskans have conservative views on social issues and 67 percent rate their community's political views on social issues as conservative (Figure 18).

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 14). Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to have liberal views on both economic and social issues.

Panhandle residents and residents of the North Central region are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to have conservative views on social issues. Just over two-thirds of residents of these two regions have conservative views on social issues, compared to just over one-half of the residents of the South Central region.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to have conservative views on both economic and social issues.

Males are more likely than females to have conservative issues on both economic and social issues. Married persons are the marital group most likely to have conservative views on both economic and social issues.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to have both conservative and liberal political views on economic and social issues. Persons with lower education levels are more likely than persons with more education to say they don't know their political views.

Persons with occupations in agriculture are the

group most likely to say they have conservative views on political and social issues.

Panhandle residents are most likely to rate their community's political views on both economic and social issues as conservative.

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

## Conclusion

---

Rural Nebraskans are less positive about the current change and expected future change in their communities this year. The proportion believing their community has changed for the better has typically been greater than the proportion believing it has changed for the worse. However, last year the proportion believing their community changed for the worse was slightly more than the proportion believing it had changed for the better (similar to what occurred in 2003 and 2009). This year, that gap widened a bit.

Despite that, rural Nebraskans are positive about their community by many different measures. Most rural Nebraskans rate their community favorably on its social dimensions, as friendly, trusting and supportive. Most rural Nebraskans also say it would be difficult to leave their community and have a positive attachment to their community. Finally, most rural Nebraskans disagree that their community is powerless to control its future.

Differences in perceptions of their community are evident by community size. Persons living in

or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to get what they need 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. However, 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.

Rural Nebraskans frequently interact with their family or friends as well as neighbors. Most rural Nebraskans talk to or spend time with family or friends at least a few times a week. Most rural Nebraskans also discuss political, societal, or local issues with their friends and family as well as have a conversation or spend time with neighbors at least a few times per month. Many rural Nebraskans say they and their neighbors do favors for each other and they spend time volunteering for organizations or associations in their community at least a few times a month.

When asked about community leadership, rural Nebraskans' opinions have remained fairly stable over time, particularly when asked about the importance of leadership to their community. However, their opinions about other aspects of leadership have changed over time. Fewer rural Nebraskans agree with the power of ordinary citizens in helping their community leadership be more effective as well as feeling a personal responsibility to

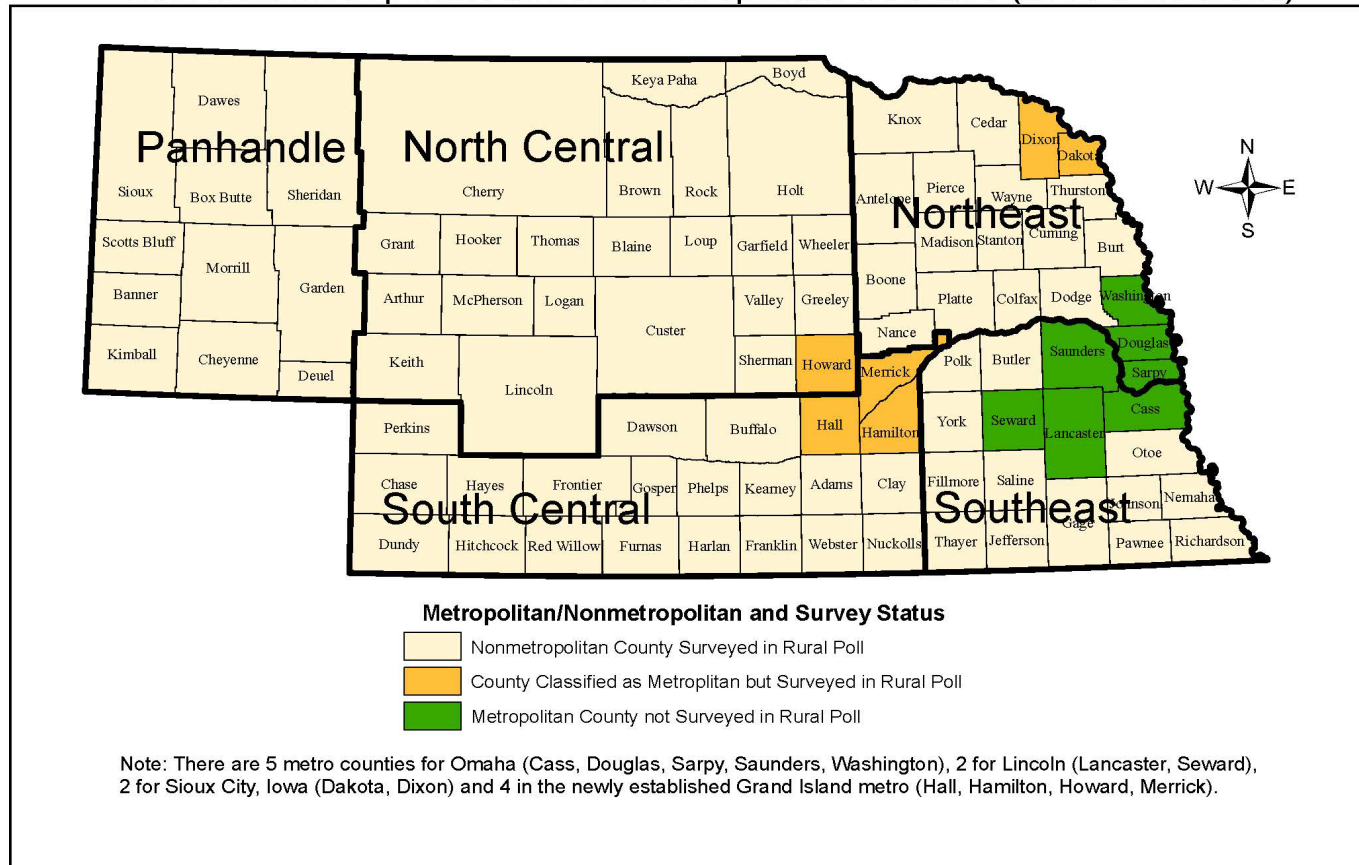
participate to make it more effective than they did in 2015. Similarly, fewer rural Nebraskans agree that they are preparing youth to be effective leaders in the community. Finally, fewer rural Nebraskans agree this year that their community leaders do a good job overall.

Most rural Nebraskans agree that strong and effective community leadership can prevent their community's decline and can solve the problems their community faces today. However, opinions are mixed on whether or not the youth are being prepared to be both effective leaders and volunteers in their community. Many rural Nebraskans see technology as a tool that can be used by community leaders to engage more residents, particularly younger persons.

Most rural Nebraskans believe getting more residents to get involved in leadership in their community is critical to its future. And, rural Nebraskans believe volunteering is important to their community. However, despite this belief in the importance of volunteering, many rural Nebraskans agree that they are volunteering less than before.

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 Respondents<sup>1</sup> Compared to 2015 – 2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Average for Nebraska\***

	<b>2022 Poll</b>	<b>2021 Poll</b>	<b>2020 Poll</b>	<b>2019 Poll</b>	<b>2018 Poll</b>	<b>2015 - 2019 ACS</b>
<b>Age : <sup>2</sup></b>						
20 - 39	32%	32%	32%	32%	32%	32%
40 - 64	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%	42%
65 and over	24%	24%	24%	24%	24%	26%
<b>Gender: <sup>3</sup></b>						
Female	49%	55%	55%	55%	55%	51%
Male	51%	45%	46%	45%	46%	49%
<b>Education: <sup>4</sup></b>						
Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	1%	1%	1%	0.3%	1%	4%
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> grade (no diploma)	1%	2%	2%	1%	2%	6%
High school diploma (or equiv.)	16%	16%	16%	15%	18%	32%
Some college, no degree	26%	26%	18%	18%	23%	26%
Associate degree	16%	15%	24%	24%	17%	12%
Bachelors degree	25%	28%	26%	29%	25%	15%
Graduate or professional degree	16%	13%	14%	13%	13%	6%
<b>Household Income: <sup>5</sup></b>						
Less than \$20,000	6%	8%	7%	7%	9%	15%
\$20,000 - \$39,999	15%	17%	14%	15%	18%	21%
\$40,000 - \$59,999	17%	16%	19%	18%	22%	18%
\$60,000 - \$74,999	17%	14%	16%	16%	17%	11%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	16%	17%	21%	19%	33%	14%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	17%	19%	15%	16%	*** <sup>6</sup>	13%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	6%	5%	5%	5%	***	4%
\$200,000 or more	6%	4%	4%	3%	***	3%
<b>Marital Status: <sup>7</sup></b>						
Married	66%	69%	69%	70%	71%	61%
Never married	17%	13%	12%	12%	10%	19%
Divorced/separated	10%	11%	10%	9%	11%	12%
Widowed/widower	7%	7%	8%	8%	8%	8%

<sup>1</sup> Data from the Rural Polls have been weighted by age.

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

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

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

<sup>5</sup> 2015-2019 American Community Survey universe is all non-metro households.

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

<sup>7</sup> 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. Perceptions of Community Change by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes**

<b>Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say... My community has changed for the</b>				
	<u>Worse</u>	<u>No Change</u>	<u>Better</u>	<u>Significance</u>
<b>Total</b>	31	45	25	
		<i>Percentages</i>		
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1072)		
Less than 500	33	54	14	
500 - 999	28	51	21	
1,000 - 4,999	21	46	33	$\chi^2 = 42.65^*$ (.000)
5,000 - 9,999	42	37	21	
10,000 and up	35	39	26	
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1081)		
Panhandle	49	37	14	
North Central	27	43	29	
South Central	28	45	26	$\chi^2 = 29.38^*$ (.000)
Northeast	29	44	27	
Southeast	27	53	20	
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1018)		
Under \$40,000	42	46	13	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	30	48	23	$\chi^2 = 35.89^*$ (.000)
\$75,000 - \$99,999	28	47	25	
\$100,000 and over	26	40	34	
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1084)		
19 - 29	30	49	22	
30 - 39	29	52	18	
40 - 49	38	40	21	$\chi^2 = 20.36^*$ (.009)
50 - 64	31	41	29	
65 and older	25	45	30	
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1070)		
Male	33	45	23	$\chi^2 = 3.01$ (.222)
Female	29	45	26	
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1057)		
Married	30	42	28	
Never married	33	54	14	
Divorced/separated	36	45	19	$\chi^2 = 22.11^*$ (.001)
Widowed	22	51	26	
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1065)		
H.S. diploma or less	30	51	19	
Some college	38	43	19	$\chi^2 = 33.46^*$ (.000)
Bachelors or grad degree	24	44	32	
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 786)		
Mgt, prof or education	28	39	33	
Sales or office support	27	64	9	
Constrn, inst or maint	41	42	17	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	52	31	16	
Agriculture	16	68	17	
Food serv/pers. care	34	44	22	
Hlthcare supp/safety	32	40	28	$\chi^2 = 66.03^*$ (.000)
Other	37	53	11	
<b>Yrs Lived in Community</b>		(n = 999)		
Five years or less	31	48	21	$\chi^2 = 1.48$ (.477)
More than five years	30	45	24	

\* 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**

<b>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?</b>				
	<u>Worse Place</u>	<u>About the same</u>	<u>Better Place</u>	<u>Significance</u>
<b>Total</b>	27	47	26	
	<i>Percentages</i>			
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1075)		
Less than 500	34	50	16	
500 - 999	26	51	23	
1,000 - 4,999	22	49	29	$\chi^2 = 22.08^*$ (.005)
5,000 - 9,999	34	44	21	
10,000 and up	26	44	30	
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1082)		
Panhandle	31	51	18	
North Central	28	44	28	
South Central	23	46	31	$\chi^2 = 21.20^*$ (.007)
Northeast	28	45	28	
Southeast	31	54	15	
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1019)		
Under \$40,000	37	50	13	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	24	51	25	$\chi^2 = 39.29^*$ (.000)
\$75,000 - \$99,999	31	42	27	
\$100,000 and over	22	42	36	
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1087)		
19 - 29	22	51	27	
30 - 39	36	38	26	
40 - 49	28	46	27	$\chi^2 = 18.46^*$ (.018)
50 - 64	29	44	27	
65 and older	23	55	21	
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1071)		
Male	28	48	25	$\chi^2 = 0.77$ (.681)
Female	26	47	27	
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1058)		
Married	27	46	28	
Never married	34	46	21	
Divorced/separated	29	50	22	$\chi^2 = 13.24^*$ (.039)
Widowed	17	61	22	
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1065)		
H.S. diploma or less	28	56	16	
Some college	33	47	20	$\chi^2 = 44.52^*$ (.000)
Bachelors or grad degree	21	43	36	
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 787)		
Mgt, prof or education	29	35	36	
Sales or office support	21	61	17	
Constrn, inst or maint	33	54	13	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	40	45	15	
Agriculture	28	50	23	
Food serv/pers. care	12	56	32	
Hlthcare supp/safety	22	40	37	$\chi^2 = 54.16^*$ (.000)
Other	37	58	5	
<b>Yrs Lived in Community</b>		(n = 1001)		
Five years or less	26	42	32	$\chi^2 = 7.78^*$ (.020)
More than five years	28	49	23	

\* 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>	
<b>Total</b>	11	15	75		15	22	64		14	21	65
	<i>Percentages</i>										
<b>Community Size</b>	(n = 1070)				(n = 1063)				(n = 1070)		
Less than 500	8	15	77		11	23	66		13	22	65
500 - 999	11	8	82		20	17	63		16	15	70
1,000 - 4,999	13	10	78	$\chi^2 =$	15	13	71	$\chi^2 =$	14	13	73
5,000 - 9,999	13	14	73	22.14*	13	24	63	26.92*	11	24	65
10,000 and up	10	20	70	(.005)	15	28	57	(.000)	16	27	58
<b>Region</b>	(n = 1082)				(n = 1075)				(n = 1078)		
Panhandle	15	19	66		18	26	57		18	26	56
North Central	9	8	83		16	17	67		9	13	78
South Central	5	13	82	$\chi^2 =$	12	22	67	$\chi^2 =$	14	23	63
Northeast	14	14	72	36.11*	14	21	65	8.39	15	18	67
Southeast	14	21	65	(.000)	17	23	60	(.397)	15	22	63
<b>Individual Attributes</b>											
<i>Income Level</i>	(n = 1018)				(n = 1011)				(n = 1015)		
Under \$40,000	12	18	70		21	23	56		18	26	56
\$40,000 - \$74,999	8	18	73	$\chi^2 =$	14	28	58	$\chi^2 =$	12	27	61
\$75,000 - \$99,999	20	9	71	32.29*	17	20	63	30.31*	18	16	66
\$100,000 and over	9	10	82	(.000)	10	16	74	(.000)	14	12	75
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1084)				(n = 1076)				(n = 1080)		
19 - 29	11	8	81		11	22	67		16	22	62
30 - 39	14	15	71		23	17	61		14	22	64
40 - 49	10	18	71	$\chi^2 =$	15	24	60	$\chi^2 =$	12	22	66
50 - 64	12	12	75	17.25*	14	22	64	15.79*	17	18	65
65 and older	7	18	75	(.028)	12	22	66	(.045)	13	20	67
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1066)				(n = 1061)				(n = 1064)		
Male	10	15	75	$\chi^2 =$	14	22	64	$\chi^2 =$	16	19	65
Female	12	14	74	0.84	15	21	64	0.26	12	22	66
				(.659)				(.877)			(.160)

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 = 1053)				(n = 1050)				(n = 1053)			
Married	11	11	78		15	18	67		15	16	70	
Never married	9	23	68	$\chi^2 =$	15	34	52	$\chi^2 =$	9	39	52	$\chi^2 =$
Divorced/separated	16	23	62	31.41*	18	23	59	23.30*	18	23	59	50.32*
Widowed	7	16	77	(.000)	10	23	67	(.000)	13	20	67	(.000)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1062)				(n = 1057)				(n = 1060)			
H.S. diploma or less	8	24	68	$\chi^2 =$	14	31	56	$\chi^2 =$	11	31	58	$\chi^2 =$
Some college	14	14	72	22.94*	18	23	59	27.35*	17	24	60	35.61*
Bachelors degree	8	12	80	(.000)	11	17	72	(.000)	14	13	73	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 784)				(n = 785)				(n = 785)			
Mgt, prof or education	12	10	78		14	18	69		14	14	72	
Sales or office support	5	33	61		11	25	64		12	27	61	
Constrn, inst or maint	8	15	77		20	25	55		21	20	59	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	22	17	62		30	18	52		28	23	49	
Agriculture	10	10	80	$\chi^2 =$	11	18	71	$\chi^2 =$	9	25	66	$\chi^2 =$
Food serv/pers. care	10	6	84	46.74*	6	38	56	36.23*	16	31	53	35.09*
Hlthcare supp/safety	7	11	82	(.000)	11	21	68	(.000)	10	17	73	(.001)
Other	5	11	84		5	11	84		5	15	80	
<i>Yrs Lived in Comm.</i>	(n = 999)			$\chi^2 =$	(n = 994)			$\chi^2 =$	(n = 997)			$\chi^2 =$
Five years or less	13	7	80	12.94*	14	15	71	8.71*	15	19	66	0.34
More than five years	10	17	73	(.002)	15	23	62	(.013)	14	21	65	(.845)

\*

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>
<b>Total</b>	61	22	17	
	<i>Percentages</i>			
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1071)		
Less than 500	50	21	29	
500 - 999	63	22	15	
1,000 - 4,999	65	24	11	
5,000 - 9,999	63	19	19	$\chi^2 = 25.44^*$
10,000 and up	61	22	17	(.001)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1081)		
Panhandle	55	23	22	
North Central	65	22	13	
South Central	62	24	15	
Northeast	61	21	18	$\chi^2 = 7.25$
Southeast	58	22	20	(.510)
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1022)		
Under \$40,000	43	32	26	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	54	25	21	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	70	18	12	$\chi^2 = 72.34^*$
\$100,000 and over	76	15	9	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1083)		
19 - 29	53	20	28	
30 - 39	55	27	17	
40 - 49	63	25	13	
50 - 64	66	20	15	$\chi^2 = 23.01^*$
65 and older	62	22	16	(.003)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1068)		
Male	59	19	22	$\chi^2 = 17.88^*$
Female	62	25	13	(.000)
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1055)		
Married	65	20	15	
Never married	51	24	25	
Divorced/separated	48	32	20	$\chi^2 = 22.80^*$
Widowed	65	19	15	(.000)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1068)		
H.S. diploma or less	47	32	22	
Some college	50	25	25	$\chi^2 = 98.63^*$
Bachelors degree	78	15	7	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 784)		
Mgt, prof, education	78	13	9	
Sales/office support	64	17	19	
Const, inst or maint	53	14	33	
Prodn/trans/warehs	36	38	26	
Agriculture	53	24	23	
Food serv/pers. care	38	48	14	
Hlthcare supp/safety	63	19	18	$\chi^2 = 98.45^*$
Other	53	40	7	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 997)		
Five years or less	56	22	22	$\chi^2 = 5.80$
More than five years	62	22	16	(.055)

\* 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	15	31
Entertainment	51	24	25
Cost of housing	51	17	33
Streets and roads	50	10	40
Restaurants	50	10	40
Quality of housing	44	20	36
Arts/cultural activities	39	38	23
Local government	39	26	35
Community recycling	38	24	38
Internet service	36	10	54
Public transportation services	33	48	20
Mental health services	33	43	24
Nursing home care	30	40	30
Cellular phone service	30	11	59
Child day care services	29	48	23
Medical care services	25	14	61
Senior centers	18	47	35
Education (K - 12)	17	21	62
Law enforcement	17	18	65
Access to higher education (college, technical, etc.)	16	27	57
Head Start or early childhood education programs	14	49	37
Sewage/waste disposal	14	27	60
Parks and recreation	14	15	70
Civic/nonprofit organizations	11	49	41
Religious organizations	10	30	61
Library services	6	26	68
Fire protection	3	13	84

\* 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>Entertainment</i>			<i>Cost of housing</i>			<i>Streets and roads</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>											
<b>Community Size</b>	(n = 1076)			(n = 1072)			(n = 1071)			(n = 1065)		
Less than 500	55	22	23	49	33	17	31	23	46	57	6	37
500 - 999	59	21	20	61	23	17	34	21	45	57	7	36
1,000 - 4,999	52	15	33	56	23	21	45	20	36	49	9	42
5,000 - 9,999	64	8	29	62	19	20	44	13	43	49	8	43
10,000 and over	52	10	38	43	21	36	73	9	18	46	14	40
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 37.35^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 47.53^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 120.69^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 18.12^* (.020)$		
<b>Region</b>	(n = 1087)			(n = 1083)			(n = 1083)			(n = 1078)		
Panhandle	69	7	25	60	23	17	45	20	35	62	11	28
North Central	63	12	26	54	17	29	46	19	36	52	7	41
South Central	45	14	41	42	25	34	60	13	28	39	14	47
Northeast	55	19	26	52	25	23	56	16	29	58	8	34
Southeast	54	16	30	58	26	16	33	21	46	46	8	47
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 40.36^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 34.77^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 39.98^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 39.60^* (.000)$		
<b>Income Level</b>	(n = 1024)			(n = 1023)			(n = 1017)			(n = 1013)		
Under \$40,000	60	15	25	55	25	21	56	20	24	56	12	32
\$40,000 - \$74,999	56	14	30	51	25	24	51	16	34	51	11	39
\$75,000 - \$99,999	59	17	25	55	26	19	48	13	38	48	10	42
\$100,000 and over	47	13	40	47	20	33	51	13	36	47	8	46
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 19.49^* (.003)$			$\chi^2 = 18.03^* (.006)$			$\chi^2 = 12.45 (.053)$			$\chi^2 = 10.89 (.092)$		
<b>Age</b>	(n = 1088)			(n = 1085)			(n = 1085)			(n = 1079)		
19 - 29	51	11	38	57	16	27	57	14	30	51	19	30
30 - 39	55	14	30	57	17	26	53	15	31	61	5	34
40 - 49	47	20	33	52	24	25	59	14	28	51	12	37
50 - 64	59	15	27	49	25	26	49	16	35	44	8	48
65 and over	58	12	30	44	32	24	39	23	38	46	8	47
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 16.51^* (.036)$			$\chi^2 = 22.23^* (.005)$			$\chi^2 = 24.46^* (.002)$			$\chi^2 = 41.71^* (.000)$		
<b>Education</b>	(n = 1070)			(n = 1063)			(n = 1064)			(n = 1058)		
H.S. diploma or less	58	17	25	49	34	17	45	20	35	48	11	41
Some college	58	15	27	56	24	21	52	17	31	55	11	35
College grad	50	13	38	46	20	34	52	13	35	46	9	45
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 15.47^* (.004)$			$\chi^2 = 36.90^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 7.15 (.128)$			$\chi^2 = 10.21^* (.037)$		
<b>Occupation</b>	(n = 787)			(n = 787)			(n = 786)			(n = 785)		
Mgt, prof, education	56	12	32	54	17	30	60	8	32	52	10	38
Sales/office support	49	16	34	49	20	31	67	11	23	57	9	33
Const, inst or maint	58	17	26	64	23	14	58	20	22	52	9	39
Prodn/trans/warehs	71	23	6	64	24	12	56	20	24	61	13	25
Agriculture	44	21	35	38	36	27	33	27	40	45	10	45
Food serv/pers. care	41	28	31	30	34	36	66	8	26	36	30	34
Hlthcare supp/safety	51	7	43	50	18	32	45	8	48	46	4	50
Other	55	5	40	70	20	10	16	37	47	37	5	58
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 46.63^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 46.54^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 74.17^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 40.30^* (.000)$		

\* 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>Restaurants</i>			<i>Quality of housing</i>			<i>Arts/cultural activities</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>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>											
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1082)			(n = 1077)			(n = 1078)			(n = 1073)	
Less than 500	54	15	31	42	18	41	43	43	14	37	34	29
500 - 999	57	10	33	37	21	42	48	36	17	49	17	34
1,000 - 4,999	51	8	41	52	17	31	42	42	16	38	26	37
5,000 - 9,999	59	10	31	40	19	42	47	24	29	34	22	44
10,000 and over	42	10	48	42	24	34	31	37	32	38	26	35
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 27.14^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 16.19^* (.040)$			$\chi^2 = 49.69^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 15.99^* (.043)$	
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1093)			(n = 1089)			(n = 1089)			(n = 1085)	
Panhandle	56	8	36	30	27	43	39	35	25	48	21	31
North Central	51	10	39	52	15	33	45	30	26	37	24	39
South Central	44	9	48	48	20	31	35	36	29	38	26	36
Northeast	51	13	36	44	21	36	37	48	16	38	31	31
Southeast	53	11	37	38	20	42	46	34	21	35	22	43
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 15.07 (.058)$			$\chi^2 = 21.27^* (.006)$			$\chi^2 = 30.58^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 15.19 (.056)$	
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1028)			(n = 1024)			(n = 1025)			(n = 1019)	
Under \$40,000	51	16	33	46	23	31	45	32	23	42	35	23
\$40,000 - \$74,999	50	9	41	42	19	39	38	41	22	42	28	31
\$75,000 - \$99,999	57	10	33	46	26	29	43	41	17	38	24	38
\$100,000 and over	45	7	48	44	16	40	38	35	28	34	20	46
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 23.49^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 12.62^* (.049)$			$\chi^2 = 12.42 (.053)$			$\chi^2 = 34.62^* (.000)$	
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1093)			(n = 1090)			(n = 1091)			(n = 1089)	
19 - 29	54	5	41	51	24	24	35	35	30	49	33	19
30 - 39	53	8	39	48	19	33	48	33	19	51	24	25
40 - 49	48	10	42	44	20	36	43	39	18	40	30	30
50 - 64	51	13	37	43	20	37	38	39	24	33	23	44
65 and over	45	12	42	37	19	44	34	41	25	27	23	50
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 11.87 (.157)$			$\chi^2 = 18.18^* (.020)$			$\chi^2 = 17.43^* (.026)$			$\chi^2 = 70.10^* (.000)$	
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1072)			(n = 1071)			(n = 1069)			(n = 1063)	
H.S. diploma or less	57	14	28	41	20	39	36	46	18	34	33	33
Some college	52	10	38	41	23	36	41	39	20	45	27	28
College grad	43	9	48	47	18	35	38	32	30	34	22	44
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 23.21^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 6.01 (.199)$			$\chi^2 = 21.54^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 31.19^* (.000)$	
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 793)			(n = 792)			(n = 790)			(n = 790)	
Mgt, prof, education	52	5	43	56	13	30	43	25	33	38	20	42
Sales/office support	48	8	44	53	15	32	35	43	23	37	42	22
Const, inst or maint	56	6	38	40	28	32	37	52	11	54	21	25
Prodn/trans/warehs	55	16	28	42	31	27	56	36	8	74	17	9
Agriculture	44	9	47	39	23	39	19	62	20	39	28	33
Food serv/pers. care	44	16	40	48	22	30	31	43	26	47	26	28
Hlthcare supp/safety	40	17	44	36	17	47	50	22	28	36	27	36
Other	68	5	26	25	45	30	32	63	5	25	55	20
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 31.45^* (.005)$			$\chi^2 = 45.64^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 89.64^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 68.05^* (.000)$	

\* 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>Community recycling</i>			<i>Internet service</i>		
	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>					
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1079)			(n = 1082)	
Less than 500	47	28	26	39	9	52
500 - 999	53	17	30	47	5	48
1,000 - 4,999	28	25	47	41	10	49
5,000 - 9,999	37	20	43	23	14	63
10,000 and over	39	24	38	32	11	57
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 38.85^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 21.36^* (.006)$	
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1088)			(n = 1093)	
Panhandle	36	30	35	39	10	51
North Central	35	20	46	27	12	61
South Central	35	22	44	37	7	56
Northeast	43	23	34	37	12	52
Southeast	43	26	31	39	12	49
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 18.40^* (.018)$			$\chi^2 = 12.88 (.116)$	
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1024)			(n = 1030)	
Under \$40,000	37	29	34	41	17	43
\$40,000 - \$74,999	43	22	35	34	8	59
\$75,000 - \$99,999	36	26	38	43	7	50
\$100,000 and over	38	19	43	33	10	58
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 11.28 (.080)$			$\chi^2 = 26.57^* (.000)$	
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1091)			(n = 1098)	
19 - 29	35	41	24	51	3	46
30 - 39	42	24	35	45	11	44
40 - 49	42	23	35	30	12	59
50 - 64	38	16	46	35	8	57
65 and over	35	21	45	28	15	57
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 49.14^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 46.35^* (.000)$	
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1070)			(n = 1074)	
H.S. diploma or less	32	27	41	32	15	54
Some college	42	27	32	43	10	47
College grad	38	20	43	31	8	61
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 17.79^* (.001)$			$\chi^2 = 24.93^* (.000)$	
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 792)			(n = 793)	
Mgt, prof, education	36	21	43	32	8	60
Sales/office support	44	32	24	28	9	63
Const, inst or maint	48	15	37	38	8	54
Prodn/trans/warehs	57	22	21	61	6	33
Agriculture	32	36	32	44	10	46
Food serv/pers. care	37	31	31	33	10	57
Hlthcare supp/safety	40	23	36	42	6	52
Other	16	16	68	53	0	47
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$\chi^2 = 41.13^* (.000)$			$\chi^2 = 31.01^* (.006)$	

\* 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>	
<b>Total</b>	34	14	52		26	25	49	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1089)				(n = 1086)		
Less than 500	40	21	39		28	25	46	
500 - 999	41	13	47		28	31	41	
1,000 - 4,999	34	14	52		29	19	52	
5,000 - 9,999	39	11	50	$\chi^2 = 32.37^*$	34	19	47	$\chi^2 = 26.34^*$
10,000 and up	27	12	61	(.000)	19	30	51	(.000)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1098)				(n = 1099)		
Panhandle	42	14	45		31	31	38	
North Central	38	13	49		28	22	50	
South Central	29	11	60		21	29	50	
Northeast	32	19	50	$\chi^2 = 18.92^*$	24	24	52	$\chi^2 = 16.45^*$
Southeast	36	12	51	(.015)	31	20	50	(.036)
<b>Household Income Level</b>		(n = 1034)				(n = 1032)		
Under \$40,000	45	13	42		33	33	34	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	32	17	51		28	26	46	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	41	10	49	$\chi^2 = 37.68^*$	31	19	51	$\chi^2 = 45.68^*$
\$100,000 and over	24	11	64	(.000)	17	21	62	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1101)				(n = 1098)		
19 - 29	21	16	63		18	24	58	
30 - 39	30	13	57		35	22	44	
40 - 49	31	13	56		19	30	51	
50 - 64	39	15	46	$\chi^2 = 30.00^*$	31	24	45	$\chi^2 = 23.98^*$
65 and older	43	13	44	(.000)	25	27	48	(.002)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1083)				(n = 1082)		
Male	28	15	58	$\chi^2 = 16.24^*$	24	25	51	$\chi^2 = 0.87$
Female	39	13	48	(.000)	26	25	48	(.646)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1079)				(n = 1078)		
High school diploma or less	38	13	49		35	29	36	
Some college	38	16	46	$\chi^2 = 27.20^*$	28	29	44	$\chi^2 = 41.74^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	27	11	62	(.000)	20	20	61	(.000)
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1071)				(n = 1072)		
Married	34	13	54		25	20	55	
Never married	23	21	56		23	45	32	
Divorced/separated	45	11	45	$\chi^2 = 25.71^*$	33	32	35	$\chi^2 = 64.08^*$
Widowed	47	13	40	(.000)	25	24	51	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 798)				(n = 798)		
Mgt, prof or education	29	12	59		20	20	60	
Sales or office support	21	30	49		24	35	41	
Constrn, inst or maint	32	13	55		30	20	49	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	61	12	27		46	36	18	
Agriculture	22	12	66		28	20	53	
Food serv/pers. care	19	10	71		18	41	41	
Hlthcare supp/safety	29	8	63	$\chi^2 = 72.68^*$	20	22	57	$\chi^2 = 70.63^*$
Other	37	37	26	(.000)	21	58	21	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 1012)				(n = 1012)		
Five years or less	28	15	58	$\chi^2 = 5.40$	19	31	50	$\chi^2 = 9.31^*$
More than five years	36	13	51	(.067)	28	24	49	(.010)

\* 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>I belong 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>							
<b>Total</b>	17	24	60		16	26	58	
<b>Community Size</b>	(n = 1078)				(n = 1078)			
Less than 500	17	21	62		13	28	59	
500 - 999	18	13	68		17	24	60	
1,000 - 4,999	17	22	61		16	22	61	
5,000 - 9,999	20	16	65	$\chi^2 = 24.33^*$	21	25	54	$\chi^2 = 10.11$
10,000 and up	16	31	53	(.002)	16	31	53	(.257)
<b>Region</b>	(n = 1089)				(n = 1088)			
Panhandle	22	26	53		24	28	48	
North Central	14	26	61		14	26	60	
South Central	14	25	61		13	23	64	
Northeast	19	23	58	$\chi^2 = 9.52$	17	26	57	$\chi^2 = 15.35$
Southeast	17	19	64	(.301)	18	30	53	(.053)
<b>Household Income Level</b>	(n = 1026)				(n = 1027)			
Under \$40,000	27	30	43		27	28	45	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	17	25	58		13	31	56	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	16	25	59	$\chi^2 = 38.16^*$	23	21	56	$\chi^2 = 41.77^*$
\$100,000 and over	12	18	70	(.000)	11	24	66	(.000)
<b>Age</b>	(n = 1093)				(n = 1092)			
19 - 29	21	32	47		21	32	47	
30 - 39	24	24	53		22	30	49	
40 - 49	13	22	66		14	26	60	
50 - 64	19	22	60	$\chi^2 = 31.73^*$	16	24	60	$\chi^2 = 25.12^*$
65 and older	11	21	68	(.000)	11	23	66	(.001)
<b>Gender</b>	(n = 1076)				(n = 1073)			
Male	14	24	63	$\chi^2 = 5.23$	14	27	59	$\chi^2 = 4.57$
Female	19	24	57	(.073)	19	25	56	(.102)
<b>Education</b>	(n = 1069)				(n = 1069)			
High school diploma or less	17	27	56		12	35	54	
Some college	20	25	56	$\chi^2 = 10.01^*$	18	28	54	$\chi^2 = 16.42^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	14	21	65	(.040)	16	21	63	(.003)
<b>Marital Status</b>	(n = 1064)				(n = 1060)			
Married	15	19	66		14	23	63	
Never married	18	40	41		24	36	40	
Divorced/separated	28	31	41	$\chi^2 = 65.71^*$	21	29	50	$\chi^2 = 36.25^*$
Widowed	10	17	73	(.000)	9	23	69	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>	(n = 796)				(n = 796)			
Mgt, prof or education	17	24	59		21	19	60	
Sales or office support	14	28	58		10	34	56	
Constrn, inst or maint	17	21	63		13	35	52	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	29	30	41		26	40	34	
Agriculture	12	23	65		11	19	70	
Food serv/pers. care	20	43	37		12	41	47	
Hlthcare supp/safety	19	17	65	$\chi^2 = 31.93^*$	14	30	56	$\chi^2 = 44.72^*$
Other	5	42	53	(.004)	15	30	55	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>	(n = 1005)				(n = 1006)			
Five years or less	20	26	53	$\chi^2 = 4.81$	17	32	51	$\chi^2 = 5.54$
More than five years	16	23	61	(.090)	16	25	59	(.063)

\* 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>							
<b>Total</b>	35	32	33		17	39	44	
<b>Community Size</b>	(n = 1082)				(n = 1086)			
Less than 500	37	29	34		21	43	36	
500 - 999	37	33	30		14	39	47	
1,000 - 4,999	29	28	43		12	33	55	
5,000 - 9,999	40	27	33	$\chi^2 = 30.24^*$	15	39	46	$\chi^2 = 26.85^*$
10,000 and up	37	39	24	(.000)	20	42	38	(.000)
<b>Region</b>	(n = 1093)				(n = 1096)			
Panhandle	38	33	30		22	32	46	
North Central	29	35	36		11	41	48	
South Central	40	34	35		15	43	42	
Northeast	40	30	31	$\chi^2 = 8.92$	19	40	42	$\chi^2 = 14.35$
Southeast	37	31	32	(.349)	18	32	49	(.073)
<b>Household Income Level</b>	(n = 1030)				(n = 1033)			
Under \$40,000	47	39	14		20	44	37	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	41	35	24		16	48	37	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	32	24	44	$\chi^2 = 80.59^*$	17	31	52	$\chi^2 = 39.35^*$
\$100,000 and over	25	29	46	(.000)	17	28	55	(.000)
<b>Age</b>	(n = 1095)				(n = 1096)			
19 - 29	33	38	30		13	53	34	
30 - 39	49	26	25		22	35	43	
40 - 49	35	28	36		25	33	43	
50 - 64	34	33	33	$\chi^2 = 26.43^*$	12	39	49	$\chi^2 = 35.52^*$
65 and older	28	36	36	(.000)	13	39	48	(.000)
<b>Gender</b>	(n = 1078)				(n = 1081)			
Male	36	34	31	$\chi^2 = 1.38$	17	39	43	$\chi^2 = 0.41$
Female	34	31	34	(.503)	17	38	45	(.813)
<b>Education</b>	(n = 1072)				(n = 1077)			
High school diploma or less	34	45	20		14	45	42	
Some college	43	34	24	$\chi^2 = 76.06^*$	20	43	37	$\chi^2 = 26.12^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	27	27	47	(.000)	15	32	53	(.000)
<b>Marital Status</b>	(n = 1066)				(n = 1070)			
Married	34	29	38		17	33	50	
Never married	39	38	23		18	57	25	
Divorced/separated	43	37	20	$\chi^2 = 30.18^*$	17	41	41	$\chi^2 = 44.03^*$
Widowed	25	46	29	(.000)	14	39	47	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>	(n = 795)				(n = 798)			
Mgt, prof or education	29	24	47		17	30	53	
Sales or office support	28	49	24		20	46	34	
Constrn, inst or maint	43	34	23		25	28	47	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	58	30	12		31	39	30	
Agriculture	25	40	35		10	40	50	
Food serv/pers. care	30	50	20		14	51	35	
Hlthcare supp/safety	44	25	32	$\chi^2 = 78.47^*$	13	51	36	$\chi^2 = 50.96^*$
Other	16	47	37	(.000)	5	65	30	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>	(n = 1009)				(n = 1010)			
Five years or less	33	36	31	$\chi^2 = 1.98$	10	53	37	$\chi^2 = 28.72^*$
More than five years	36	31	33	(.372)	19	35	46	(.000)

\* 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>							
<b>Total</b>	21	26	53		16	26	59	
<b>Community Size</b>	(n = 1082)				(n = 1089)			
Less than 500	17	29	55		17	28	55	
500 - 999	20	22	58		11	16	73	
1,000 - 4,999	21	23	56		12	24	64	
5,000 - 9,999	29	20	51	$\chi^2 = 17.06^*$	27	23	51	$\chi^2 = 31.54^*$
10,000 and up	21	31	47	(.029)	16	31	53	(.000)
<b>Region</b>	(n = 1091)				(n = 1099)			
Panhandle	34	23	43		26	17	57	
North Central	19	24	57		16	25	59	
South Central	16	30	54		14	29	58	
Northeast	23	27	50	$\chi^2 = 26.75^*$	15	28	57	$\chi^2 = 18.59^*$
Southeast	20	20	61	(.000)	14	21	65	(.017)
<b>Household Income Level</b>	(n = 1028)				(n = 1034)			
Under \$40,000	28	36	36		21	34	46	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	18	31	51		17	26	57	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	23	24	53	$\chi^2 = 54.37^*$	16	23	61	$\chi^2 = 23.69^*$
\$100,000 and over	19	15	66	(.000)	12	21	67	(.000)
<b>Age</b>	(n = 1095)				(n = 1100)			
19 - 29	18	45	37		18	37	45	
30 - 39	31	19	49		24	14	62	
40 - 49	23	22	55		12	26	62	
50 - 64	20	24	56	$\chi^2 = 59.46^*$	16	28	56	$\chi^2 = 41.80^*$
65 and older	14	23	63	(.000)	11	23	66	(.000)
<b>Gender</b>	(n = 1078)				(n = 1083)			
Male	20	29	51	$\chi^2 = 3.84$	14	27	60	$\chi^2 = 3.38$
Female	21	24	55	(.147)	18	24	58	(.185)
<b>Education</b>	(n = 1072)				(n = 1079)			
High school diploma or less	22	30	48		15	29	56	
Some college	21	34	45	$\chi^2 = 50.60^*$	15	32	53	$\chi^2 = 30.06^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	20	15	65	(.000)	16	17	67	(.000)
<b>Marital Status</b>	(n = 1064)				(n = 1072)			
Married	19	21	60		14	22	64	
Never married	24	47	29		21	42	37	
Divorced/separated	33	25	43	$\chi^2 = 79.51^*$	21	25	55	$\chi^2 = 52.66^*$
Widowed	14	18	68	(.000)	11	18	71	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>	(n = 793)				(n = 795)			
Mgt, prof or education	22	19	59		18	17	65	
Sales or office support	19	29	53		19	17	65	
Constrn, inst or maint	14	40	46		12	32	56	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	37	28	34		24	32	44	
Agriculture	12	24	64		8	20	73	
Food serv/pers. care	18	43	39		18	42	40	
Hlthcare supp/safety	26	19	55	$\chi^2 = 57.25^*$	19	28	54	$\chi^2 = 54.75^*$
Other	5	58	37	(.000)	0	60	40	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>	(n = 1007)				(n = 1013)			
Five years or less	21	37	42	$\chi^2 = 20.10^*$	18	33	50	$\chi^2 = 12.45^*$
More than five years	21	23	56	(.000)	15	23	62	(.002)

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

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

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

	Easy	Neutral	Difficult	Chi-square (sig.)
	<i>Percentages</i>			
<b>Total</b>	28	18	54	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1088)		
Less than 500	23	20	57	
500 - 999	33	15	53	
1,000 - 4,999	22	20	58	
5,000 - 9,999	35	14	51	$\chi^2 = 14.44$
10,000 and up	32	17	52	(.071)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1098)		
Panhandle	45	17	39	
North Central	27	15	58	
South Central	28	17	55	
Northeast	23	19	58	$\chi^2 = 22.86^*$
Southeast	27	20	53	(.004)
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1032)		
Under \$40,000	33	22	45	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	27	20	53	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	30	14	56	$\chi^2 = 12.74^*$
\$100,000 and over	27	14	59	(.047)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1099)		
19 - 29	24	18	58	
30 - 39	36	18	46	
40 - 49	26	19	55	
50 - 64	33	15	52	$\chi^2 = 15.59^*$
65 and older	23	19	59	(.049)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1082)		
Male	31	16	53	$\chi^2 = 4.15$
Female	25	19	56	(.126)
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1070)		
Married	24	17	59	
Never married	35	18	48	
Divorced/separated	46	21	33	$\chi^2 = 38.42^*$
Widowed	18	20	62	(.000)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1078)		
H.S. diploma or less	28	23	49	
Some college	29	19	51	$\chi^2 = 11.95^*$
Bachelors degree	26	14	60	(.018)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 796)		
Mgt, prof, education	27	14	59	
Sales/office support	25	16	59	
Const, inst or maint	30	25	44	
Prodn/trans/warehs	61	18	21	
Agriculture	23	19	59	
Food serv/pers. care	18	47	35	
Hlthcare supp/safety	27	5	68	$\chi^2 = 99.05^*$
Other	21	0	79	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 1013)		
Five years or less	28	21	51	$\chi^2 = 3.53$
More than five years	29	16	55	(.171)

\* 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>
<b>Total</b>	1	2	3	81	14	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1072)				
Less than 500	0	6	1	87	6	
500 - 999	2	1	3	82	12	
1,000 - 4,999	0	1	3	87	9	
5,000 - 9,999	1	1	4	74	20	$\chi^2 = 62.83^*$
10,000 and up	0.3	1	2	75	21	(.000)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1087)				
Panhandle	1	2	5	69	23	
North Central	0	2	2	87	9	
South Central	1	1	2	79	17	
Northeast	0	2	3	84	11	$\chi^2 = 35.98^*$
Southeast	0	5	2	83	11	(.003)
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1019)				
Under \$40,000	2	2	2	74	21	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	0	3	1	83	13	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1	0	4	76	20	$\chi^2 = 40.77^*$
\$100,000 and over	0.3	2	4	86	9	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1087)				
19 - 29	0	0	3	78	19	
30 - 39	1	7	5	77	10	
40 - 49	0	0	0	81	19	
50 - 64	1	2	2	82	14	$\chi^2 = 62.65^*$
65 and older	1	2	4	85	9	(.000)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1071)				
Male	0.2	1	3	80	15	$\chi^2 = 14.91^*$
Female	1	3	1	82	13	(.005)
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1059)				
Married	0.1	1	2	85	11	
Never married	0	1	6	73	21	
Divorced/separated	3	7	2	67	21	$\chi^2 = 65.00^*$
Widowed	1	4	0	81	14	(.000)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1067)				
H.S. diploma or less	0	3	2	81	15	
Some college	1	3	3	79	15	$\chi^2 = 6.20$
Bachelors degree	1	1	2	84	13	(.625)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 794)				
Mgt, prof, education	0.3	5	2	78	15	
Sales/office support	0	1	0	84	15	
Const, inst or maint	0	1	1	77	20	
Prodn/trans/warehs	0	0	12	74	14	
Agriculture	0	0	0	98	2	
Food serv/pers. care	2	0	0	64	34	
Hlthcare supp/safety	0	0	2	82	17	$\chi^2 = 91.62^*$
Other	0	0	11	74	16	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 1001)				
Five years or less	0	3	1	76	21	$\chi^2 = 14.76^*$
More than five years	1	2	3	82	12	(.005)

\* 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**

<b>If yes, to what size of community do you plan to move?</b>				
	<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>
<b>Total</b>	52	26	22	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 52)		
Less than 500	62	0	39	
500 - 999	57**	14**	29**	
1,000 - 4,999	57	36	7	
5,000 - 9,999	75**	25**	0**	$\chi^2 = 12.29$
10,000 and up	29	43	29	(.139)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 52)		
Panhandle	75**	0**	25**	
North Central	33**	50**	17**	
South Central	50	25	25	
Northeast	40	53	7	$\chi^2 = 15.02$
Southeast	64	0	36	(.059)
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 51)		
Under \$40,000	46	36	18	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	69	13	19	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	29**	71**	0**	$\chi^2 = 14.61^*$
\$100,000 and over	47	12	41	(.024)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 53)		
19 - 29	0**	100**	0**	
30 - 39	52	10	38	
40 - 49	**	**	**	
50 - 64	58	33	8	$\chi^2 = 20.37^*$
65 and older	60	20	20	(.002)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 51)		
Male	38	42	21	$\chi^2 = 6.41^*$
Female	63	11	26	(.041)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 50)		
H.S. diploma or less	57**	43**	0**	
Some college	39	31	31	$\chi^2 = 8.12$
Bachelors degree	71	6	24	(.087)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 36)		
Mgt, prof, education	62	14	24	
Sales/office support	100**	0**	0**	
Const, inst or maint	0**	100**	0**	
Prodn/trans/warehs	22**	56**	22**	
Agriculture	**	**	**	
Food serv/pers. care	100**	0**	0**	
Hlthcare supp/safety	0**	0**	100**	$\chi^2 = 19.50$
Other				(.077)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 51)		
Five years or less	100**	0**	0**	$\chi^2 = 10.51^*$
More than five years	41	33	26	(.005)
<b>Where Plan to Move</b>		(n = 51)		
Lincoln/Omaha area	100**	0**	0**	
Someplace else in NE	59	23	18	$\chi^2 = 7.09$
Someplace outside NE	38	33	29	(.131)

\* 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. Frequency of Social Interactions During a Typical Month in Last Year by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes**

	<i>Talk to or spend time with family or friends</i>				Chi-square (sig.)	<i>Discuss political, societal, or local issues with your friends and family</i>				Chi-square (sig.)
	<i>Every day</i>	<i>At least a few times a month</i>	<i>Once a month or less</i>	<i>Not at all</i>		<i>Every day</i>	<i>At least a few times a month</i>	<i>Once a month or less</i>	<i>Not at all</i>	
<b>Total</b>	35	57	8	1		11	60	23	7	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1087)					(n = 1086)			
Less than 500	35	57	7	1		13	59	21	7	
500 - 999	39	54	7	0		12	64	15	10	
1,000 - 4,999	34	58	8	0	$\chi^2 =$	12	58	22	8	$\chi^2 =$
5,000 - 9,999	30	63	7	0	10.43	9	59	26	6	11.42
10,000 and up	36	54	8	1	(.578)	8	61	25	6	(.493)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1098)					(n = 1098)			
Panhandle	39	52	7	2		15	55	23	8	
North Central	37	52	11	0		19	49	25	7	
South Central	37	56	7	0.3	$\chi^2 =$	11	59	22	7	$\chi^2 =$
Northeast	31	62	6	1	14.52	5	66	24	5	34.81*
Southeast	35	55	10	1	(.269)	9	61	19	10	(.000)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>										
<b>Household Income Level</b>		(n = 1034)					(n = 1030)			
Under \$40,000	35	53	10	2		11	50	26	14	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	27	64	9	0.3	$\chi^2 =$	9	61	24	7	$\chi^2 =$
\$75,000 - \$99,999	29	63	8	0	47.08*	8	61	26	5	54.77*
\$100,000 and over	48	46	5	0.3	(.000)	15	67	17	1	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1099)					(n = 1097)			
19 - 29	29	66	5	0		11	58	24	8	
30 - 39	41	52	7	0		12	64	22	2	
40 - 49	40	51	9	0	$\chi^2 =$	10	60	23	7	$\chi^2 =$
50 - 64	32	54	12	2	31.78*	11	60	22	8	10.32
65 and older	34	60	4	1	(.001)	10	57	23	10	(.588)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1085)					(n = 1083)			
Male	32	60	7	1	$\chi^2 =$	13	61	21	6	$\chi^2 =$
Female	39	53	8	0.2	(.017)	8	59	25	8	(.009)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1079)					(n = 1077)			
HS diploma or less	29	60	9	2	$\chi^2 =$	9	47	28	16	$\chi^2 =$
Some college	33	57	9	0.4	15.53*	10	58	25	7	53.78*
Bachelors or grad degree	40	54	5	1	(.017)	12	68	19	2	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 798)					(n = 804)			
Mgt, prof or education	43	53	4	0		14	66	18	2	
Sales or office support	17	75	9	0		5	63	26	6	
Constrn, inst or maint	32	60	9	0		10	56	31	3	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	33	57	9	2		15	48	31	6	
Agriculture	41	48	10	1		16	66	9	9	
Food serv/pers. care	35	57	8	0	$\chi^2 =$	2	47	49	2	$\chi^2 =$
Hlthcare supp/safety	39	49	11	1	37.51*	9	59	28	4	78.60*
Other	47	53	0	0	(.015)	10	45	20	25	(.000)
<b>Years Lived in Community</b>		(n = 1016)					(n = 1011)			
Five years or less	34	57	8	0.4	$\chi^2 =$	9	57	25	10	$\chi^2 =$
More than five years	36	55	8	1	(.884)	11	62	21	6	(.145)

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

Appendix Table 12 continued.

	<i>Have a conversation or spend time with neighbors</i>				<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Discuss political, societal, or local issues with your neighbors</i>				<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
	<i>Every day</i>	<i>At least a few times a month</i>	<i>Once a month or less</i>	<i>Not at all</i>		<i>Every day</i>	<i>At least a few times a month</i>	<i>Once a month or less</i>	<i>Not at all</i>	
<b>Total</b>	5	52	29	14		2	25	35	38	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1084)					(n = 1085)			
Less than 500	4	58	26	11		3	33	34	30	
500 - 999	7	54	27	13		2	29	41	29	
1,000 - 4,999	4	57	29	10	$\chi^2 =$	2	25	37	36	$\chi^2 =$
5,000 - 9,999	5	44	36	15	19.21	3	17	39	41	24.17*
10,000 and up	5	47	30	18	(.084)	2	22	32	45	(.019)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1094)					(n = 1094)			
Panhandle	12	39	32	17		6	22	35	38	
North Central	6	52	30	11		5	27	33	36	
South Central	4	49	32	16	$\chi^2 =$	2	23	33	43	$\chi^2 =$
Northeast	3	59	29	8	42.22*	1	27	37	36	20.97
Southeast	4	55	21	19	(.000)	2	26	39	34	(.051)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>										
<b>Household Income Level</b>		(n = 1029)					(n = 1028)			
Under \$40,000	6	43	30	22		2	19	32	48	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	3	53	31	13	$\chi^2 =$	1	23	35	40	$\chi^2 =$
\$75,000 - \$99,999	2	52	35	10	30.17*	0	17	44	40	50.44*
\$100,000 and over	8	56	26	11	(.000)	5	34	32	29	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1095)					(n = 1096)			
19 - 29	3	39	29	29		3	8	26	63	
30 - 39	1	52	30	17		1	24	37	38	
40 - 49	5	53	32	10	$\chi^2 =$	2	28	35	35	$\chi^2 =$
50 - 64	6	52	32	9	68.94*	3	27	41	29	77.49*
65 and older	7	61	23	9	(.000)	2	32	34	32	(.000)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1079)					(n = 1081)			
Male	5	53	32	11	9.97*	3	29	38	31	$\chi^2 = 27.4^*$
Female	5	52	27	17	(.019)	1	22	32	45	(.000)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1074)					(n = 1076)			
HS diploma or less	4	51	30	15	$\chi^2 =$	2	19	39	40	$\chi^2 =$
Some college	5	50	27	18	21.51*	2	24	33	41	15.22*
Bachelors or grad degree	6	55	32	8	(.001)	3	30	35	32	(.019)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 800)					(n = 800)			
Mgt, prof or education	6	53	29	13		3	28	31	39	
Sales or office support	1	48	35	15		0	14	39	48	
Constrn, inst or maint	1	57	34	8		1	20	46	33	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	2	33	42	24		2	12	40	46	
Agriculture	13	57	22	9		8	42	36	14	
Food serv/pers. care	2	61	24	14	$\chi^2 =$	0	24	39	37	$\chi^2 =$
Hlthcare supp/safety	1	44	39	17	61.26*	2	17	32	49	66.34*
Other	5	37	21	37	(.000)	0	25	25	50	(.000)
<b>Years Lived in Community</b>		(n = 1009)					(n = 1010)			
Five years or less	2	50	26	22	20.73*	2	15	27	56	43.20*
More than five years	5	53	31	11	(.000)	3	27	38	33	(.000)

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

Appendix Table 12 continued.

	<i>Spend time with people of different backgrounds</i>				<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>You and your neighbors do favors for each other</i>				<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
	<i>Every day</i>	<i>At least a few times a month</i>	<i>Once a month or less</i>	<i>Not at all</i>		<i>Every day</i>	<i>At least a few times a month</i>	<i>Once a month or less</i>	<i>Not at all</i>	
<b>Total</b>	6	35	45	15		5	31	41	23	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1061)				(n = 1089)				
Less than 500	2	32	47	19		6	35	42	17	
500 - 999	3	33	50	15		8	29	44	19	
1,000 - 4,999	5	32	49	15	$\chi^2 =$	3	36	43	18	$\chi^2 =$
5,000 - 9,999	11	31	42	16	31.37*	6	21	41	32	33.96*
10,000 and up	9	40	40	11	(.002)	5	28	37	30	(.000)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1071)				(n = 1099)				
Panhandle	10	40	37	13		9	33	29	29	
North Central	6	32	42	20		8	27	45	20	
South Central	7	41	40	12	$\chi^2 =$	4	31	40	25	$\chi^2 =$
Northeast	6	28	54	12	37.50*	4	31	44	22	17.74
Southeast	2	30	46	21	(.000)	5	30	44	22	(.124)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>										
<b>Household Income Level</b>		(n = 1011)				(n = 1033)				
Under \$40,000	10	27	42	22		6	24	34	36	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	5	34	45	16	$\chi^2 =$	5	28	42	26	$\chi^2 =$
\$75,000 - \$99,999	5	35	49	12	26.17*	3	31	42	25	42.08*
\$100,000 and over	5	40	45	10	(.002)	7	36	44	13	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1076)				(n = 1101)				
19 - 29	11	34	50	5		0	24	37	40	
30 - 39	5	35	46	14		6	31	36	27	
40 - 49	9	38	42	11	$\chi^2 =$	7	27	49	18	$\chi^2 =$
50 - 64	5	34	42	18	40.97*	5	32	43	20	57.02*
65 and older	3	31	44	22	(.000)	6	39	38	17	(.000)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1058)				(n = 1082)				
Male	6	36	45	13	$\chi^2 =$	6	32	40	23	$\chi^2 = 1.95$
Female	6	33	44	17	(.339)	4	31	42	24	(.582)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1053)				(n = 1077)				
HS diploma or less	4	32	40	25	$\chi^2 =$	6	21	48	25	$\chi^2 =$
Some college	8	31	48	13	24.12*	5	31	37	28	21.73*
Bachelors or grad degree	6	39	43	13	(.000)	4	35	43	18	(.001)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 787)				(n = 796)				
Mgt, prof or education	5	37	49	9		6	31	43	20	
Sales or office support	16	30	46	9		0	46	27	28	
Constrn, inst or maint	9	33	47	10		10	32	32	27	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	9	27	51	13		6	9	49	36	
Agriculture	0	39	47	14		2	53	31	13	
Food serv/pers. care	6	37	33	25	$\chi^2 =$	6	22	46	26	$\chi^2 =$
Hlthcare supp/safety	7	39	42	12	41.86*	1	19	51	30	77.53*
Other	11	63	16	11	(.004)	0	42	37	21	(.000)
<b>Years Lived in Community</b>		(n = 990)				(n = 1011)				
Five years or less	11	37	44	8	$\chi^2 =$	3	24	44	30	$\chi^2 =$
More than five years	5	34	45	16	(.000)	5	32	41	21	(.005)

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

Appendix Table 12 continued.

	<i>Worth together with someone or some group to solve a problem in your community</i>				<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Spend time volunteering for any organization or association</i>				<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
	<i>Every day</i>	<i>At least a few times a month</i>	<i>Once a month or less</i>	<i>Not at all</i>		<i>Every day</i>	<i>At least a few times a month</i>	<i>Once a month or less</i>	<i>Not at all</i>	
<b>Total</b>	2	20	46	32		3	34	33	30	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1085)				(n = 1090)				
Less than 500	4	23	43	30		4	36	36	25	
500 - 999	3	17	63	16		3	34	32	31	
1,000 - 4,999	1	27	42	31	$\chi^2 =$	2	43	32	23	$\chi^2 =$
5,000 - 9,999	4	16	46	34	44.63*	6	28	33	34	27.45*
10,000 and up	2	14	47	38	(.000)	3	28	34	36	(.007)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1098)				(n = 1100)				
Panhandle	3	21	35	41		7	25	29	39	
North Central	3	19	53	25		3	31	41	25	
South Central	2	19	49	30	$\chi^2 =$	4	36	29	31	$\chi^2 =$
Northeast	1	20	48	31	24.46*	1	33	41	24	40.58*
Southeast	5	23	37	36	(.018)	4	39	24	33	(.000)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>										
<b>Household Income Level</b>		(n = 1035)				(n = 1037)				
Under \$40,000	2	9	46	43		2	23	32	44	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	2	17	44	36	$\chi^2 =$	3	30	31	36	$\chi^2 =$
\$75,000 - \$99,999	3	20	47	30	49.38*	5	29	41	25	68.31*
\$100,000 and over	2	29	47	21	(.000)	4	47	32	17	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1099)				(n = 1103)				
19 - 29	3	16	34	48		0	32	26	42	
30 - 39	1	24	44	31		3	41	26	30	
40 - 49	3	20	51	26	$\chi^2 =$	4	34	40	22	$\chi^2 =$
50 - 64	3	18	51	28	31.94*	3	30	38	29	36.74*
65 and older	2	22	46	30	(.001)	5	34	32	29	(.000)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1083)			$\chi^2 =$	(n = 1087)				
Male	2	22	46	31	3.87	4	31	34	31	$\chi^2 = 3.97$
Female	3	18	47	32	(.276)	3	37	32	29	(.265)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1078)				(n = 1081)				
HS diploma or less	2	15	41	43	$\chi^2 =$	2	22	27	50	$\chi^2 =$
Some college	3	14	46	37	47.51*	4	25	36	35	102.4*
Bachelors or grad degree	2	27	48	22	(.000)	4	47	33	16	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 802)				(n = 797)				
Mgt, prof or education	3	26	48	23		4	40	35	21	
Sales or office support	6	19	43	33		0	34	39	28	
Constrn, inst or maint	0	15	58	28		0	26	42	32	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	0	5	50	46		0	20	27	53	
Agriculture	4	28	50	17		3	44	36	17	
Food serv/pers. care	2	12	43	43	$\chi^2 =$	4	37	20	39	$\chi^2 =$
Hlthcare supp/safety	0	16	37	48	69.99*	3	36	22	39	72.14*
Other	0	30	35	35	(.000)	15	25	20	40	(.000)
<b>Years Lived in Community</b>		(n = 1012)			$\chi^2 =$	(n = 1014)			$\chi^2 =$	
Five years or less	2	18	36	44	22.70*	2	33	24	41	21.39*
More than five years	3	20	49	28	(.000)	4	35	35	27	(.000)

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

*In the past 12 months, did you do the following?*

	<i>Donate money or possessions of more than \$25 to a non-political group or organization</i>	<i>Serve in a leadership position within a community organization in an unpaid role</i>	<i>Hold public office or serve on a government board or committee in your local community</i>
	<i>Percent answering "yes"</i>		
<b>Total</b>	76	37	9
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1085)	
Less than 500	72	41	12
500 - 999	74	42	13
1,000 - 4,999	83	45	11
5,000 - 9,999	71	35	9
10,000 and up	76	29	4
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 10.14^* (.038)$	$\chi^2 = 21.05^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 18.01^* (.001)$
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1097)	
Panhandle	69	39	12
North Central	79	43	10
South Central	74	36	8
Northeast	79	33	6
Southeast	77	41	9
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 6.22 (.183)$	$\chi^2 = 5.31 (.257)$	$\chi^2 = 4.92 (.296)$
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1028)	
Under \$40,000	60	19	5
\$40,000 - \$74,999	72	32	6
\$75,000 - \$99,999	80	41	10
\$100,000 and over	89	54	13
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 60.64^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 73.04^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 13.03^* (.005)$
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1099)	
19 - 29	59	27	0
30 - 39	79	41	9
40 - 49	78	49	8
50 - 64	78	34	12
65 and older	82	35	12
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 32.89^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 23.80^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 23.51^* (.000)$
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1083)	
Male	73	32	11
Female	80	42	6
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 7.36^* (.008)$	$\chi^2 = 11.09^* (.001)$	$\chi^2 = 6.92^* (.009)$
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1077)	
H.S. diploma or less	63	21	10
Some college	69	24	5
Bachelors degree	89	59	12
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 70.63^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 138.13^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 11.74^* (.003)$
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 796)	
Mgt, prof, education	88	52	10
Sales/office support	84	33	4
Const, inst or maint	61	24	4
Prodn/trans/warehs	54	20	6
Agriculture	87	52	17
Food serv/pers. Care	50	29	14
Hlthcare supp/safety	69	35	6
Other	55	25	0
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 87.03^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 49.98^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 19.28^* (.007)$
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 1011)	
Five years or less	63	28	1
More than five years	81	42	10
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$\chi^2 = 33.52^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 14.84^* (.000)$	$\chi^2 = 20.65^* (.000)$

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

*Appendix Table 13. Opinions about Community Leadership and Volunteering by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes.*

	<i>Overall, our community's leaders are effective and do a good job.</i>			<i>Significance</i>	<i>We have a leadership crisis in our community today.</i>			<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	
<b>Total</b>	25	27	48		39	34	27	
<b>Community Size</b>	(n = 1087)				(n = 1087)			
Less than 500	31	20	49		37	33	30	
500 - 999	29	24	47		39	22	39	
1,000 - 4,999	21	26	53		43	35	22	
5,000 - 9,999	27	27	46	$\chi^2 = 17.21^*$	45	34	21	$\chi^2 = 22.03^*$
10,000 and up	25	32	43	(.028)	36	38	26	(.005)
<b>Region</b>	(n = 1097)				(n = 1094)			
Panhandle	32	25	43		37	35	29	
North Central	22	28	50		40	36	24	
South Central	23	32	45		35	40	26	
Northeast	26	27	47	$\chi^2 = 16.93^*$	44	33	23	$\chi^2 = 19.22^*$
Southeast	26	17	56	(.031)	44	23	33	(.014)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>								
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1033)				(n = 1031)			
Under \$40,000	24	36	40		31	38	31	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	30	28	42		35	35	30	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	25	31	44	$\chi^2 = 36.38^*$	39	40	21	$\chi^2 = 27.14^*$
\$100,000 and over	23	17	60	(.000)	50	28	22	(.000)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1099)				(n = 1097)			
19 - 29	26	42	32		32	42	26	
30 - 39	38	23	40		35	27	38	
40 - 49	26	30	45		40	32	28	
50 - 64	23	23	54	$\chi^2 = 65.23^*$	41	37	22	$\chi^2 = 26.20^*$
65 and older	18	20	62	(.000)	46	33	21	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1083)				(n = 1082)			
Male	27	24	49	$\chi^2 = 4.58$	44	29	27	$\chi^2 = 10.68^*$
Female	24	30	47	(.101)	36	38	26	(.005)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1079)				(n = 1077)			
High school diploma or less	27	25	48		34	39	27	
Some college	27	34	39	$\chi^2 = 35.89^*$	33	36	31	$\chi^2 = 25.97^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	23	19	58	(.000)	49	29	23	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 798)				(n = 796)			
Mgt, prof or education	27	20	54		46	26	29	
Sales or office support	30	30	40		46	24	30	
Constrn, inst or maint	32	30	38		37	39	24	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	42	36	21		21	45	34	
Agriculture	21	25	54		42	33	24	
Food serv/pers. care	22	44	34		22	43	35	
Hlthcare supp/safety	20	26	54	$\chi^2 = 57.44^*$	33	43	24	$\chi^2 = 39.72^*$
Other	15	65	20	(.000)	20	60	20	(.000)
<i>Years Lived in Community</i>	(n = 1012)				(n = 1011)			
Five years or less	22	41	37	$\chi^2 = 34.38^*$	33	39	28	$\chi^2 = 5.60$
More than five years	26	22	52	(.000)	41	32	27	(.061)

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



Appendix Table 13 continued.

	<i>Strong effective leadership will prevent our community's decline.</i>				<i>We are preparing our youth to be effective leaders in our 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>
<b>Total</b>	8	19	73		34	33	33	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1084)				(n = 1085)		
Less than 500	11	25	65		35	34	31	
500 - 999	3	21	76		40	24	36	
1,000 - 4,999	5	18	77		28	33	39	
5,000 - 9,999	8	13	79	$\chi^2 = 17.65^*$	43	31	26	$\chi^2 = 16.86^*$
10,000 and up	9	19	72	(.024)	34	36	31	(.032)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1094)				(n = 1094)		
Panhandle	11	15	74		48	33	18	
North Central	6	18	76		34	32	34	
South Central	7	21	72		26	39	35	
Northeast	8	21	71	$\chi^2 = 6.82$	37	29	34	$\chi^2 = 30.60^*$
Southeast	6	17	77	(.557)	31	31	38	(.000)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>								
<i>Household Income Level</i>		(n = 1028)				(n = 1027)		
Under \$40,000	9	30	61		33	44	23	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	8	21	71		32	33	35	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	7	20	73	$\chi^2 = 39.41^*$	37	31	31	$\chi^2 = 19.56^*$
\$100,000 and over	6	10	85	(.000)	35	28	37	(.003)
<i>Age</i>		(n = 1094)				(n = 1095)		
19 - 29	11	21	68		34	40	26	
30 - 39	6	18	76		42	33	25	
40 - 49	7	24	70		42	27	32	
50 - 64	7	16	76	$\chi^2 = 9.60$	32	34	34	$\chi^2 = 42.22^*$
65 and older	8	18	75	(.295)	21	35	44	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 1080)				(n = 1078)		
Male	10	16	73	$\chi^2 = 16.83^*$	36	34	30	$\chi^2 = 4.80$
Female	5	22	74	(.000)	31	33	36	(.091)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 1076)				(n = 1074)		
High school diploma or less	9	25	67		25	39	36	
Some college	9	23	68	$\chi^2 = 24.32^*$	36	34	30	$\chi^2 = 13.16^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	6	13	81	(.000)	35	28	36	(.011)
<i>Occupation</i>		(n = 797)				(n = 796)		
Mgt, prof or education	5	14	81		42	22	36	
Sales or office support	4	21	75		24	48	29	
Constrn, inst or maint	16	21	63		51	30	19	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	19	15	66		44	38	18	
Agriculture	4	23	72		33	32	35	
Food serv/pers. care	8	28	64		16	56	28	
Hlthcare supp/safety	5	24	71	$\chi^2 = 41.72^*$	26	42	32	$\chi^2 = 64.07^*$
Other	0	21	79	(.000)	16	58	26	(.000)
<i>Years Lived in Community</i>		(n = 1009)				(n = 1010)		
Five years or less	8	21	72	$\chi^2 = 1.03$	34	37	29	$\chi^2 = 3.22$
More than five years	8	18	75	(.598)	35	31	34	(.200)

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

Appendix Table 13 continued.

	<i>The problems our community faces today can be solved through effective leadership.</i>				<i>Ordinary citizens have a great deal of power to help make our community's leadership more effective.</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>
<b>Total</b>	11	26	64		22	25	53	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1086)				(n = 1087)		
Less than 500	13	29	58		20	25	55	
500 - 999	10	25	66		23	24	53	
1,000 - 4,999	11	27	62		17	25	57	
5,000 - 9,999	6	23	71	$\chi^2 = 7.78$	20	35	46	$\chi^2 = 14.06$
10,000 and up	11	24	65	(.455)	27	23	50	(.080)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1094)				(n = 1098)		
Panhandle	10	17	74		25	26	49	
North Central	12	24	64		21	21	58	
South Central	7	35	58		17	31	52	
Northeast	16	21	64	$\chi^2 = 32.31^*$	25	24	51	$\chi^2 = 17.46^*$
Southeast	9	25	66	(.000)	24	20	57	(.026)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>								
<i>Household Income Level</i>		(n = 1030)				(n = 1033)		
Under \$40,000	11	33	57		26	33	42	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	12	25	62		23	24	52	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	12	29	59	$\chi^2 = 17.92^*$	19	24	57	$\chi^2 = 17.15^*$
\$100,000 and over	9	19	72	(.006)	19	22	59	(.009)
<i>Age</i>		(n = 1095)				(n = 1101)		
19 - 29	16	24	61		18	37	45	
30 - 39	10	28	63		31	20	49	
40 - 49	10	30	60		21	22	57	
50 - 64	10	24	66	$\chi^2 = 9.44$	21	28	51	$\chi^2 = 29.93^*$
65 and older	9	24	67	(.307)	19	22	60	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 1080)				(n = 1085)		
Male	9	21	70	$\chi^2 = 17.25^*$	23	28	49	$\chi^2 = 5.94$
Female	12	30	58	(.000)	20	23	57	(.051)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 1075)				(n = 1079)		
High school diploma or less	9	29	62		22	23	55	
Some college	11	26	63	$\chi^2 = 4.22$	26	30	44	$\chi^2 = 30.35^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	12	22	66	(.377)	17	21	62	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>		(n = 797)				(n = 798)		
Mgt, prof or education	13	23	65		15	22	63	
Sales or office support	11	18	71		13	29	59	
Constrn, inst or maint	14	24	62		32	22	47	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	17	30	53		42	27	31	
Agriculture	7	26	67		14	30	56	
Food serv/pers. care	8	48	44		26	38	36	
Hlthcare supp/safety	5	25	70	$\chi^2 = 41.53^*$	27	21	52	$\chi^2 = 61.61^*$
Other	0	60	40	(.000)	5	53	42	(.000)
<i>Years Lived in Community</i>		(n = 1008)				(n = 1013)		
Five years or less	11	28	61	$\chi^2 = 1.20$	15	32	53	$\chi^2 = 13.14^*$
More than five years	11	25	64	(.548)	24	23	53	(.001)

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

Appendix Table 13 continued.

	<i>I feel a great deal of personal responsibility to actively participate in making our community's leadership more effective.</i>				<i>Community leaders should use technology (such as mobile apps or social media) to better engage with residents.</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>
<b>Total</b>	22	43	35		17	30	53	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1081)				(n = 1087)		
Less than 500	20	38	41		23	26	52	
500 - 999	24	46	30		23	28	49	
1,000 - 4,999	15	44	42		9	32	60	
5,000 - 9,999	23	46	31	$\chi^2 = 23.48^*$	21	33	46	$\chi^2 = 25.41^*$
10,000 and up	27	44	29	(.003)	17	31	52	(.001)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1092)				(n = 1095)		
Panhandle	17	45	38		15	36	49	
North Central	21	42	38		17	32	50	
South Central	22	43	35		15	30	55	
Northeast	20	47	33	$\chi^2 = 8.58$	18	30	52	$\chi^2 = 4.78$
Southeast	28	37	35	(.379)	19	26	55	(.781)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>								
<b>Household Income Level</b>		(n = 1026)				(n = 1033)		
Under \$40,000	27	48	26		14	40	46	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	26	42	32		19	29	53	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	15	48	37	$\chi^2 = 29.75^*$	12	29	59	$\chi^2 = 18.26^*$
\$100,000 and over	19	37	45	(.000)	17	25	58	(.006)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1091)				(n = 1098)		
19 - 29	30	35	35		11	26	63	
30 - 39	24	32	44		12	25	63	
40 - 49	14	50	35		19	22	59	
50 - 64	22	45	33	$\chi^2 = 30.33^*$	22	38	41	$\chi^2 = 46.87^*$
65 and older	21	49	31	(.000)	17	38	46	(.000)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1077)				(n = 1082)		
Male	24	42	34	$\chi^2 = 3.85$	19	30	51	$\chi^2 = 5.42$
Female	19	45	37	(.146)	14	31	56	(.067)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1070)				(n = 1078)		
High school diploma or less	28	46	26		23	36	42	
Some college	24	47	29	$\chi^2 = 30.69^*$	19	31	50	$\chi^2 = 26.85^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	17	39	44	(.000)	11	27	61	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 792)				(n = 800)		
Mgt, prof or education	20	38	42		13	21	66	
Sales or office support	35	35	31		21	31	48	
Constrn, inst or maint	23	38	39		20	36	44	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	28	43	28		25	31	43	
Agriculture	17	47	36		27	32	41	
Food serv/pers. care	24	42	34		6	41	53	
Hlthcare supp/safety	16	51	34	$\chi^2 = 23.54$	14	29	57	$\chi^2 = 46.21^*$
Other	5	53	42	(.052)	5	45	50	(.000)
<b>Years Lived in Community</b>		(n = 1006)				(n = 1011)		
Five years or less	17	48	34	$\chi^2 = 5.43$	14	31	55	$\chi^2 = 1.32$
More than five years	23	41	36	(.066)	17	29	54	(.518)

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

Appendix Table 13 continued.

	<i>Getting more residents to take leadership roles in our community is critical to our community's future.</i>				<i>We are preparing our youth to be volunteers in the 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>
<b>Total</b>	3	26	71		30	36	34	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1087)				(n = 1082)		
Less than 500	3	24	73		27	34	39	
500 - 999	3	28	69		40	32	28	
1,000 - 4,999	2	26	72		27	30	43	
5,000 - 9,999	3	23	74	$\chi^2 = 3.81$	29	44	26	$\chi^2 = 29.84^*$
10,000 and up	4	26	70	(.874)	31	41	28	(.000)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1094)				(n = 1093)		
Panhandle	2	21	78		36	42	23	
North Central	2	26	72		23	37	40	
South Central	4	29	67		25	41	34	
Northeast	3	24	73	$\chi^2 = 7.26$	35	33	33	$\chi^2 = 23.36^*$
Southeast	3	28	70	(.509)	30	29	41	(.003)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>								
<i>Household Income Level</i>		(n = 1031)				(n = 1030)		
Under \$40,000	5	31	63		31	41	28	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	3	30	68		28	37	35	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1	23	76	$\chi^2 = 21.05^*$	32	40	28	$\chi^2 = 12.85^*$
\$100,000 and over	2	20	78	(.002)	29	31	40	(.046)
<i>Age</i>		(n = 1098)				(n = 1093)		
19 - 29	3	45	53		29	34	37	
30 - 39	2	24	74		39	30	31	
40 - 49	3	20	77		28	36	37	
50 - 64	4	23	73	$\chi^2 = 42.13^*$	30	40	29	$\chi^2 = 14.88$
65 and older	4	22	75	(.000)	24	38	38	(.061)
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 1080)				(n = 1077)		
Male	4	24	71	$\chi^2 = 7.45^*$	32	41	27	$\chi^2 = 26.38^*$
Female	2	27	71	(.024)	27	31	42	(.000)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 1077)				(n = 1071)		
High school diploma or less	3	33	63		27	44	29	
Some college	4	26	70	$\chi^2 = 13.68^*$	32	38	31	$\chi^2 = 18.46^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	2	21	77	(.008)	28	30	41	(.001)
<i>Occupation</i>		(n = 798)				(n = 795)		
Mgt, prof or education	1	20	79		36	25	39	
Sales or office support	7	24	69		35	32	33	
Constrn, inst or maint	6	34	60		37	45	18	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	2	35	64		38	44	18	
Agriculture	3	29	67		24	36	40	
Food serv/pers. care	2	40	57		10	52	38	
Hlthcare supp/safety	2	28	70	$\chi^2 = 43.91^*$	23	40	37	$\chi^2 = 58.87^*$
Other	0	63	37	(.000)	15	70	15	(.000)
<i>Years Lived in Community</i>		(n = 1011)				(n = 1008)		
Five years or less	4	40	57	$\chi^2 = 35.96^*$	30	37	33	$\chi^2 = 0.36$
More than five years	3	21	76	(.000)	31	35	35	(.836)

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

Appendix Table 13 continued.

	<i>I am volunteering less than I used to.</i>			<i>Significance</i>	<i>Volunteers and volunteering are not valued in my community.</i>			<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither</i>	<i>Agree</i>	
<b>Total</b>	30	29	41		56	29	15	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1073)				(n = 1087)		
Less than 500	33	27	41		54	25	21	
500 - 999	24	29	48		66	23	10	
1,000 - 4,999	31	28	41		61	23	16	
5,000 - 9,999	28	34	38	$\chi^2 = 5.28$	58	29	14	$\chi^2 = 28.22^*$
10,000 and up	30	30	40	(.727)	49	37	14	(.000)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1081)				(n = 1094)		
Panhandle	29	25	46		48	34	19	
North Central	27	25	48		65	21	14	
South Central	34	31	36		56	33	11	
Northeast	27	32	41	$\chi^2 = 10.54$	49	32	20	$\chi^2 = 28.66^*$
Southeast	29	30	42	(.229)	64	22	15	(.000)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>								
<i>Household Income Level</i>		(n = 1020)				(n = 1031)		
Under \$40,000	18	34	48		46	40	13	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	27	34	39		53	32	15	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	27	24	49	$\chi^2 = 55.65^*$	51	28	22	$\chi^2 = 45.80^*$
\$100,000 and over	45	20	36	(.000)	70	17	13	(.000)
<i>Age</i>		(n = 1082)				(n = 1097)		
19 - 29	34	29	37		45	40	16	
30 - 39	41	28	31		47	37	16	
40 - 49	32	30	38		59	22	19	
50 - 64	24	36	40	$\chi^2 = 37.21^*$	60	26	14	$\chi^2 = 29.56^*$
65 and older	22	24	54	(.000)	62	27	12	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 1067)				(n = 1081)		
Male	30	31	39	$\chi^2 = 3.06$	57	28	14	$\chi^2 = 1.15$
Female	31	27	43	(.217)	54	30	16	(.563)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 1061)				(n = 1077)		
High school diploma or less	16	44	41		53	36	12	
Some college	25	33	43	$\chi^2 = 66.19^*$	49	33	18	$\chi^2 = 26.88^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	42	20	39	(.000)	64	22	14	(.000)
<i>Occupation</i>		(n = 792)				(n = 796)		
Mgt, prof or education	36	22	41		63	21	16	
Sales or office support	32	34	34		46	42	13	
Constrn, inst or maint	27	35	39		56	33	11	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	23	35	42		50	38	12	
Agriculture	32	40	29		62	23	15	
Food serv/pers. care	33	49	18		41	39	20	
Hlthcare supp/safety	37	22	40	$\chi^2 = 36.09^*$	54	26	20	$\chi^2 = 42.11^*$
Other	21	53	26	(.001)	32	68	0	(.000)
<i>Years Lived in Community</i>		(n = 997)				(n = 1011)		
Five years or less	34	29	38	$\chi^2 = 1.21$	49	35	16	$\chi^2 = 8.04^*$
More than five years	31	28	41	(.547)	59	27	15	(.018)

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

Appendix Table 13 continued.

	<i>Getting more residents to volunteer is critical to our community's future.</i>				<i>Getting young people to volunteer is critical to our community's future.</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>				<i>Percentages</i>			
<b>Total</b>	5	23	72		5	16	79	
<b>Community Size</b>	(n = 1087)				(n = 1091)			
Less than 500	3	17	80		1	15	84	
500 - 999	3	22	75		3	15	81	
1,000 - 4,999	5	20	76		6	13	81	
5,000 - 9,999	9	30	60	$\chi^2 = 22.47^*$	6	21	74	$\chi^2 = 15.65^*$
10,000 and up	6	27	67	(.004)	6	17	77	(.048)
<b>Region</b>	(n = 1096)				(n = 1096)			
Panhandle	3	28	68		3	21	77	
North Central	5	21	74		2	15	83	
South Central	5	29	66		6	22	72	
Northeast	5	20	75	$\chi^2 = 13.37$	6	12	81	$\chi^2 = 31.99^*$
Southeast	6	18	77	(.100)	3	7	89	(.000)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>								
<i>Household Income Level</i>	(n = 1034)				(n = 1034)			
Under \$40,000	9	33	58		6	23	72	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	5	21	75		4	15	81	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	2	26	71	$\chi^2 = 34.78^*$	5	14	81	$\chi^2 = 14.35^*$
\$100,000 and over	5	15	79	(.000)	6	11	82	(.026)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 1098)				(n = 1100)			
19 - 29	5	32	63		11	18	71	
30 - 39	2	26	72		2	18	80	
40 - 49	7	16	77		5	13	83	
50 - 64	8	22	70	$\chi^2 = 25.07^*$	6	16	79	$\chi^2 = 24.97^*$
65 and older	3	23	75	(.002)	2	16	82	(.002)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 1083)				(n = 1084)			
Male	6	22	72	$\chi^2 = 4.29$	7	15	78	$\chi^2 = 14.77^*$
Female	4	24	72	(.117)	2	16	81	(.000)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 1079)				(n = 1080)			
High school diploma or less	6	30	65		4	20	77	
Some college	5	23	71	$\chi^2 = 10.47^*$	7	16	77	$\chi^2 = 12.41^*$
Bachelors or grad degree	5	19	77	(.033)	3	13	84	(.015)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 801)				(n = 798)			
Mgt, prof or education	3	18	79		3	12	86	
Sales or office support	14	15	71		11	18	71	
Constrn, inst or maint	8	23	70		8	9	84	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	3	46	52		17	29	55	
Agriculture	1	11	88		1	10	89	
Food serv/pers. care	8	44	48		6	32	62	
Hlthcare supp/safety	3	28	69	$\chi^2 = 83.96^*$	0	15	85	$\chi^2 = 98.77^*$
Other	0	55	45	(.000)	0	58	42	(.000)
<i>Years Lived in Community</i>	(n = 1012)				(n = 1013)			
Five years or less	6	29	65	$\chi^2 = 10.76^*$	7	19	73	$\chi^2 = 9.70^*$
More than five years	5	20	76	(.005)	4	14	82	(.008)

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

*Appendix Table 14. Individual and Community Political Views by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes*

<i>Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?</i>					
<i>Your political views on 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>
<b>Total</b>	12	16	64	8	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1042)			
Less than 500	8	14	67	11	
500 - 999	7	28	59	6	
1,000 - 4,999	12	14	67	7	
5,000 - 9,999	18	14	58	11	$\chi^2 = 24.93^*$
10,000 and up	12	17	64	7	(.015)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1053)			
Panhandle	12	13	68	7	
North Central	8	20	69	3	
South Central	12	17	60	11	
Northeast	14	12	65	10	$\chi^2 = 20.46$
Southeast	11	20	61	8	(.059)
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1010)			
Under \$40,000	11	20	49	20	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	10	17	67	6	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	20	13	65	2	$\chi^2 = 73.55^*$
\$100,000 and over	10	15	71	5	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1053)			
19 - 29	11	8	72	8	
30 - 39	9	14	70	7	
40 - 49	17	20	55	9	
50 - 64	8	16	68	8	$\chi^2 = 31.62^*$
65 and older	12	22	57	9	(.002)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1048)			
Male	9	14	72	5	$\chi^2 = 31.05^*$
Female	14	19	56	12	(.000)
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1037)			
Married	9	16	70	5	
Never married	17	16	56	12	
Divorced/separated	16	18	48	19	$\chi^2 = 48.79^*$
Widowed	14	24	51	10	(.000)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1046)			
H.S. diploma or less	9	23	51	17	
Some college	7	15	67	11	$\chi^2 = 65.39^*$
Bachelors degree	17	15	65	3	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 779)			
Mgt, prof, education	17	15	61	7	
Sales/office support	5	16	73	5	
Const, inst or maint	4	17	78	1	
Prodn/trans/warehs	8	13	64	16	
Agriculture	7	8	81	4	
Food serv/pers. care	14	26	38	22	
Hlthcare supp/safety	17	10	70	3	$\chi^2 = 78.94^*$
Other	0	43	50	7	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 978)			
Five years or less	13	13	65	9	$\chi^2 = 3.15$
More than five years	12	17	64	7	(.368)

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



Appendix Table 14 continued.

<i>Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?</i>					
<i>Your political views on social issues</i>					
	<i>Liberal</i>	<i>Moderate, middle of road</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<b>Total</b>	15	17	60	8	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1039)			
Less than 500	10	13	65	13	
500 - 999	8	28	57	6	
1,000 - 4,999	15	14	64	7	
5,000 - 9,999	23	12	57	9	$\chi^2 = 35.90^*$
10,000 and up	16	21	56	7	(.000)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1048)			
Panhandle	16	9	68	7	
North Central	9	22	68	1	
South Central	16	21	53	10	
Northeast	16	13	62	10	$\chi^2 = 34.71^*$
Southeast	16	21	55	9	(.000)
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1008)			
Under \$40,000	12	22	48	18	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	12	19	63	6	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	23	14	61	2	$\chi^2 = 58.82^*$
\$100,000 and over	16	15	64	5	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1049)			
19 - 29	11	14	67	8	
30 - 39	17	11	64	9	
40 - 49	18	24	50	8	
50 - 64	12	17	64	7	$\chi^2 = 23.26^*$
65 and older	17	19	56	8	(.026)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1045)			
Male	11	14	70	5	$\chi^2 = 46.86^*$
Female	19	20	50	11	(.000)
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1029)			
Married	14	16	64	5	
Never married	14	20	56	10	
Divorced/separated	20	19	43	18	$\chi^2 = 33.10^*$
Widowed	16	23	51	10	(.000)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1042)			
H.S. diploma or less	10	23	51	16	
Some college	8	17	64	10	$\chi^2 = 76.54^*$
Bachelors degree	24	15	58	3	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 776)			
Mgt, prof, education	24	16	53	7	
Sales/office support	5	19	73	3	
Const, inst or maint	3	18	75	4	
Prodn/trans/warehs	11	14	60	15	
Agriculture	4	9	83	3	
Food serv/pers. care	14	26	38	22	
Hlthcare supp/safety	21	20	56	3	$\chi^2 = 103.61^*$
Other	0	43	50	7	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 976)			
Five years or less	16	17	59	9	$\chi^2 = 2.08$
More than five years	15	18	60	7	(.555)

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

Appendix Table 14 continued.

<i>Where would you place yourself and your community on the following scale of political views that people might hold?</i>					
<i>Your community's political views on economic issues</i>					
	<i>Liberal</i>	<i>Moderate, middle of road</i>	<i>Conservative</i>	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<b>Total</b>	6	14	69	12	
<b>Community Size</b>		(n = 1032)			
Less than 500	2	15	67	16	
500 - 999	6	20	63	11	
1,000 - 4,999	4	11	76	9	
5,000 - 9,999	4	11	72	14	$\chi^2 = 31.17^*$
10,000 and up	10	14	65	10	(.002)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1039)			
Panhandle	5	5	83	7	
North Central	6	15	72	6	
South Central	7	14	66	13	
Northeast	7	15	65	13	$\chi^2 = 23.88^*$
Southeast	3	17	67	14	(.021)
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1004)			
Under \$40,000	6	18	51	24	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	5	16	69	11	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	9	9	77	6	$\chi^2 = 68.87^*$
\$100,000 and over	7	11	77	6	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1042)			
19 - 29	8	5	78	8	
30 - 39	2	17	70	11	
40 - 49	5	10	74	11	
50 - 64	7	16	64	14	$\chi^2 = 32.59^*$
65 and older	8	19	61	13	(.001)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1038)			
Male	6	11	75	9	$\chi^2 = 18.38^*$
Female	6	16	63	15	(.000)
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1027)			
Married	6	13	73	8	
Never married	6	12	68	14	
Divorced/separated	8	12	54	27	$\chi^2 = 43.49^*$
Widowed	6	24	56	14	(.000)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1035)			
H.S. diploma or less	6	20	54	20	
Some college	4	14	67	15	$\chi^2 = 53.35^*$
Bachelors degree	8	11	77	5	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 770)			
Mgt, prof, education	8	10	73	8	
Sales/office support	0	12	78	10	
Const, inst or maint	4	12	83	1	
Prodn/trans/warehs	8	8	60	25	
Agriculture	7	8	82	3	
Food serv/pers. care	4	24	42	30	
Hlthcare supp/safety	9	12	72	7	$\chi^2 = 88.08^*$
Other	0	40	40	20	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 972)			
Five years or less	5	10	72	13	$\chi^2 = 5.39$
More than five years	7	15	69	10	(.146)

\* 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>
<b>Total</b>	7	15	67	12	
<b>Community Size</b>		(= 1034)			
Less than 500	2	14	68	16	
500 - 999	6	19	63	12	
1,000 - 4,999	6	12	71	11	
5,000 - 9,999	5	13	73	10	$\chi^2 = 23.02^*$
10,000 and up	10	17	63	11	(.028)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 1046)			
Panhandle	5	7	80	8	
North Central	6	20	69	6	
South Central	8	15	62	15	
Northeast	7	14	66	13	$\chi^2 = 24.90^*$
Southeast	6	15	65	14	(.015)
<b>Income Level</b>		(n = 1007)			
Under \$40,000	6	20	48	27	
\$40,000 - \$74,999	7	14	69	11	
\$75,000 - \$99,999	9	12	74	5	$\chi^2 = 74.26^*$
\$100,000 and over	6	13	75	7	(.000)
<b>Age</b>		(n = 1046)			
19 - 29	5	8	75	11	
30 - 39	5	13	71	11	
40 - 49	7	14	69	10	
50 - 64	8	16	63	14	$\chi^2 = 18.33$
65 and older	8	19	59	14	(.106)
<b>Gender</b>		(n = 1043)			
Male	7	13	71	9	$\chi^2 = 14.95^*$
Female	7	16	62	16	(.002)
<b>Marital Status</b>		(n = 1033)			
Married	7	15	71	8	
Never married	5	14	65	16	
Divorced/separated	8	11	55	26	$\chi^2 = 41.34^*$
Widowed	9	24	50	17	(.000)
<b>Education</b>		(n = 1040)			
H.S. diploma or less	5	20	54	20	
Some college	6	15	64	15	$\chi^2 = 42.12^*$
Bachelors degree	8	11	74	6	(.000)
<b>Occupation</b>		(n = 773)			
Mgt, prof, education	8	11	71	10	
Sales/office support	0	15	78	7	
Const, inst or maint	7	15	76	3	
Prodn/trans/warehs	9	3	63	25	
Agriculture	10	6	81	3	
Food serv/pers. care	6	24	40	30	
Hlthcare supp/safety	11	16	66	7	$\chi^2 = 88.96^*$
Other	0	40	40	20	(.000)
<b>Yrs Lived in Comm.</b>		(n = 975)			
Five years or less	4	13	68	16	$\chi^2 = 9.62^*$
More than five years	8	14	68	10	(.022)

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

Nebraska Rural Poll Research Report 22-4, January 2023

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln not to discriminate on the basis of sex, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.