



# CENTER FOR APPLIED RURAL INNOVATION

A Research Report\*

**Charitable Contributions in Rural Nebraska:  
A Culture of Giving**

*2001 Nebraska Rural Poll Results*

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## *Executive Summary*

Nebraskans have a history of being charitable. This is important for the future of rural communities since many of them rely on local donations for their civic improvement projects and expansion of capital for new business development. Given that, do rural Nebraskans contribute annually to charitable causes? How much of their contributions go to their local community?

This report details 3,199 responses to the 2001 Nebraska Rural Poll, the sixth annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions regarding their charitable giving. For all questions, comparisons are made among different respondent subgroups, e.g., comparisons by age, occupation, region, etc. Based on these analyses, some key findings emerged:

- ***Most rural Nebraskans (80%) contribute money annually to charitable causes.*** Persons most likely to contribute annually to charitable causes include: persons living in the Southeast region of the state, individuals with the highest household incomes, persons age 65 and older, males, married and widowed respondents, persons with the highest educational levels, and individuals with professional occupations.
- ***One-half of the persons who contribute annually to charitable causes give at least \$500.*** Thirteen percent contribute \$2,500 or more. Groups that tend to contribute more money to charitable causes include: persons with higher household incomes, individuals between the ages of 50 and 64, males, married respondents, persons with higher educational levels, and individuals with professional occupations.
- ***The majority of rural Nebraskans who have experienced many economic hardships during the past year continue to contribute annually to charitable causes.*** The persons experiencing the most economic hardships are less likely than the persons experiencing fewer hardships to contribute to charitable causes; however, two-thirds of the persons experiencing six or more hardships contribute to charitable causes.
- ***Over 60 percent of the persons who contribute annually to charitable causes say that at least 50% of their total giving goes to support organizations, causes or charity in their local community.*** Twenty-two percent state that 50% - 75% of their giving goes to their local community, and 40 percent say that more than 75% of their gifts goes to their community.
- ***Certain groups are more likely than others to state that the majority of their giving goes to their local community.*** Persons with higher household incomes, younger respondents, married persons, and individuals with higher educational levels are the groups most likely to say that more than 75% of their giving goes to their local community.

- ***When asked which local organizations, causes or charity they have donated money to in the last three years, more than one-half of the contributors have donated money to a local church or religious group (89%), a local youth group (64%), and a local food bank (51%).*** Other groups people have donated money to include: local schools (K-12) (50%), local community/civic improvement organization or project (49%), local veterans group (30%), local health care institution (28%), and a local service or fraternal organization (23%).
- ***Forty-one percent of rural Nebraskans believe their community would benefit from a perpetual community endowment fund.*** Forty-one percent are not sure their community would benefit, 10 percent think their community would not benefit from a perpetual endowment fund, and 8 percent say their community already has one.
- ***Groups most likely to believe their community would benefit from a perpetual community endowment fund include: persons with higher household incomes, individuals under the age of 50, males, the divorced or separated respondents, persons with higher educational levels, and individuals with professional occupations.***
- ***The most common reason given for not contributing to charitable causes is “I don’t have the money.”*** Eighty-one percent of the persons who do not contribute annually to charitable causes say this is a reason why they do not. Other reasons include: I would rather donate my time than my money (15%), there have not been causes that deserve my support (8%), no one has asked me to donate (4%), and I don’t really know how to go about it (2%).
- ***Some of the reasons for not contributing annually to charitable causes differ by income, age, and gender.*** Respondents with higher household incomes are more likely than the persons with lower incomes to say there have not been causes that deserve their support and they would rather donate their time than their money. The persons with lower incomes are more likely than the persons with higher incomes to say they don’t have the money to contribute. Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to say they don’t really know how to go about contributing. Males are more likely than females to say there have not been causes that deserve their support.

## *Introduction*

Nebraskans have a history of being charitable, by making monetary donations to organizations or charities as well as volunteering their time for these causes. This is important to the future of rural communities because many communities rely on local donations for civic improvement projects and expansion of capital for new business development.

Given that, do rural Nebraskans contribute annually to charitable causes? If not, what are some of their reasons for not doing so? How much do they contribute and how much goes to their local community? Which organizations, causes or charities do they support? Does their giving differ by their age, income, or size of their community? This report provides a detailed analysis of these questions.

The 2001 Nebraska Rural Poll is the sixth annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions about their charitable giving.

### *Methodology and Respondent Profile*

This study is based on 3,199 responses from Nebraskans living in the 87 non-metropolitan counties in the state. A self-administered questionnaire was mailed in February and March to approximately 6,400 randomly selected households.

Metropolitan counties not included in the sample were Cass, Dakota, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy and Washington. The 14-page questionnaire included questions pertaining to well-being, community, work, federal farm policy, charitable giving, and

cost of living. This paper reports only results from the charitable giving portion of the survey.

A 50% 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 director approximately seven days later.
3. A reminder postcard was sent to the entire sample approximately seven days after the questionnaire had been sent.
4. Those who had not yet responded within approximately 14 days of the original mailing were sent a replacement questionnaire.

The average respondent is 56 years of age. Seventy percent are married (Appendix Table 1<sup>1</sup>) and sixty-nine percent live within the city limits of a town or village. On average, respondents have lived in Nebraska 48 years and have lived in their current community 33 years. Fifty-nine percent are living in or near towns or villages with populations less than 5,000.

Sixty-one percent of the respondents report their approximate household income from all sources, before taxes, for 2000 is below \$40,000. Twenty-five percent report incomes over \$50,000. Ninety-one percent have attained at least a high school diploma.

Sixty-nine percent were employed in 2000

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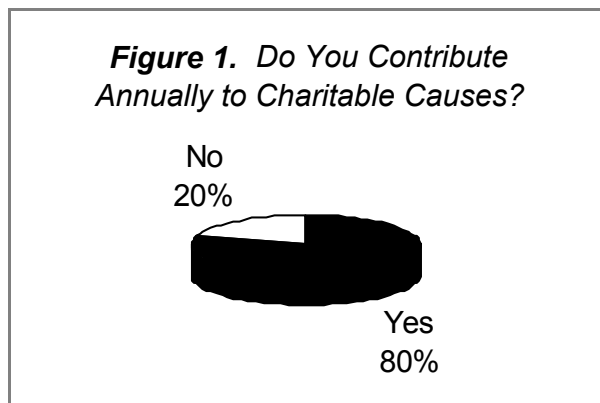
<sup>1</sup> Appendix Table 1 also includes demographic data from previous rural polls, as well as similar data based on the entire non-metropolitan population of Nebraska (using 1990 U.S. Census data).

on a full-time, part-time, or seasonal basis. Twenty-six percent are retired. Thirty-one percent of those employed report working in a professional, technical or administrative occupation. Seventeen percent indicate they are farmers or ranchers. When jointly considering the occupation of the respondent and their spouse/partner, 19 percent of the employed are involved in farming or ranching. The employed respondents report having to drive an average of 11 miles, one way, to their primary job.

### ***Charitable Giving***

Most rural Nebraskans (80%) contribute money annually to charitable causes (Figure 1). This question was analyzed by the size of the respondent's community, the region in which they live, and various individual attributes such as household income and age (Appendix Table 2). Many differences emerge.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than the persons with lower incomes to contribute annually to charitable causes. Ninety-four percent of the persons with household incomes of \$60,000 or more contribute annually, compared to 67 percent of the persons with incomes under \$20,000.



Older persons are more likely than younger persons to contribute to charitable causes. Eighty-four percent of the persons age 65 or older contribute annually, while only 57 percent of the persons age 19 to 29 do so.

The married respondents as well as the widowed respondents are more likely than the persons who are divorced or separated or who have never married to contribute. Approximately 83 percent of the married or widowed respondents contribute annually, compared to 62 percent of the divorced/separated respondents and 65 percent of the persons who have never married.

Other groups most likely to contribute annually to charitable causes include: persons living in the Southeast region (see Appendix Figure 1 for the counties included in each region), males, persons with a college degree, and individuals with professional occupations. There were no statistically significant differences in charitable giving by community size.

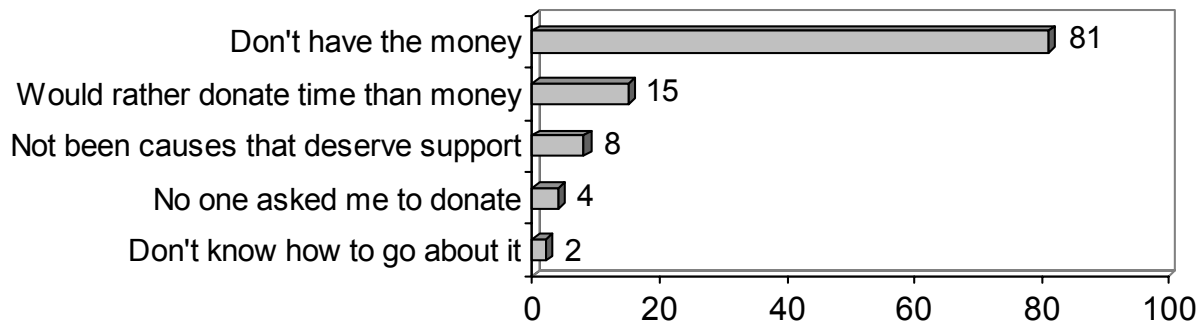
Those respondents who indicated they do not contribute annually to charitable causes were asked the reasons why they have not. They were allowed to circle more than one answer.

The top reason given for not donating was "I don't have the money." Eighty-one percent of the persons who do not contribute gave this reason (Figure 2). Fifteen percent indicate they would rather donate their time than their money and eight percent say there have not been causes that deserve their support.

The reasons given by those who do not



**Figure 2. Reasons For Not Donating**



contribute annually to charitable causes differ by various individual characteristics (Appendix Table 3). Respondents with higher household incomes are more likely than the persons with lower incomes to say there have not been causes that deserve their support and that they would rather donate their time than their money. The persons with lower household incomes are more likely to say they don't have the money to contribute. Ninety-two percent of the persons with household incomes under \$20,000 who do not contribute annually say they don't have the money to contribute. However, only 56 percent of the persons with incomes of \$60,000 or more gave this as a reason for not contributing.

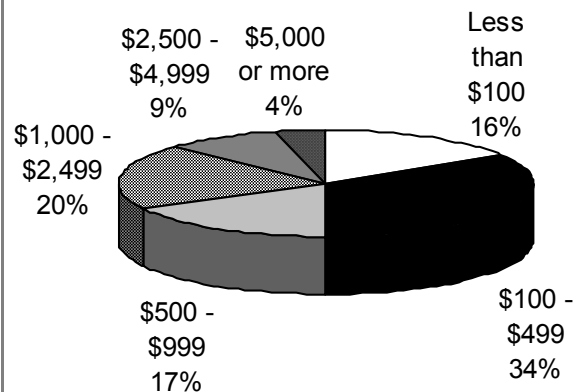
Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to say they don't really know how to go about donating money. And, males are more likely than females to say there have not been causes that deserve their support.

The respondents who indicated they contribute annually to charitable causes were asked how much they contribute. Fifty

percent contribute less than \$500 annually (Figure 3). Thirty-seven percent contribute between \$500 and \$2,499. Thirteen percent contribute \$2,500 or more.

The amount of money contributed annually differs by household income, age, gender, marital status, education and occupation (Appendix Table 4). Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to contribute greater sums of money annually to

**Figure 3. Amount Contribute Annually to Charitable Causes**



charitable causes. Ten percent of the persons with incomes of \$60,000 or more contribute \$5,000 or more annually. None of the respondents with incomes under \$20,000 contribute this much.

Other groups that tend to contribute larger amounts annually include: older respondents, males, married persons, individuals with a college degree, and persons with professional occupations.

Respondents who contribute to charitable causes were also asked what percentage of their total giving goes to support organizations, causes, or charity in their local community. Over one-half of the persons contributing say that at least 50% of their total giving goes to their local community (Figure 4).

The proportion of people’s giving going to their local community differs by household income, age, marital status, and education (Appendix Table 5). Persons with higher educational levels are more likely than the persons with less education to say that the majority of their charitable giving goes to

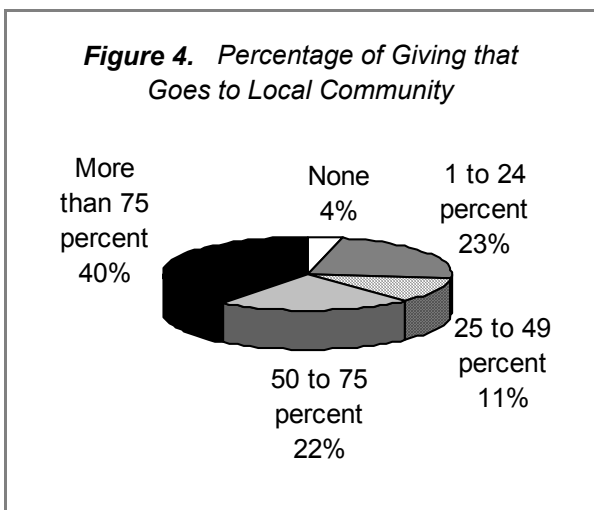
support their local community. Forty-six percent of the persons with a four-year college degree say that more than 75% of their annual gifts go to support organizations, causes, or charity in their local community. Only 22 percent of the persons without a high school diploma give this percentage of their donations to their community.

Younger persons are more likely than older persons to give the majority of their annual gifts to their local community. Fifty-four percent of the persons age 19 to 29 give more than 75% of their giving to their community, compared to only 32 percent of the persons age 65 and older.

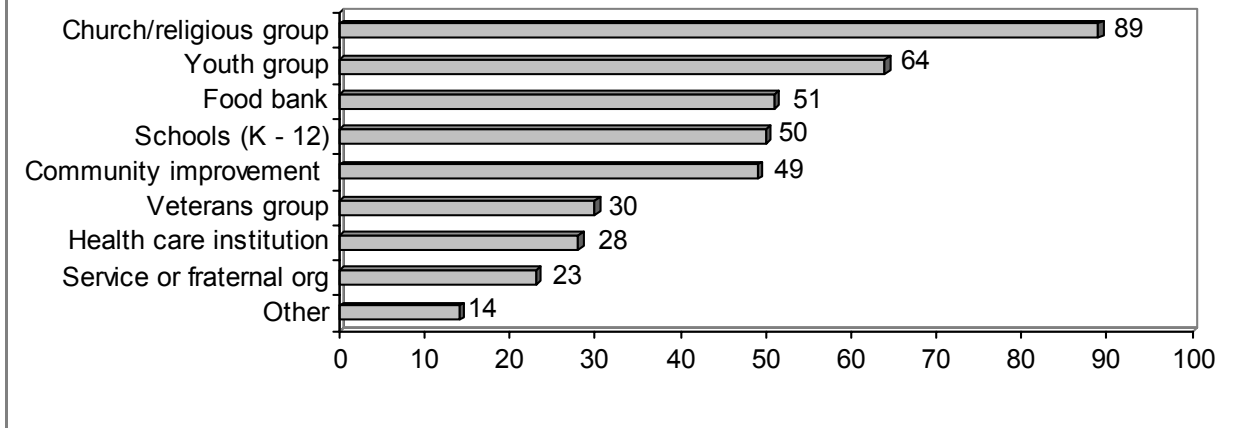
Other groups most likely to give the majority of their annual gifts to their community include persons with higher household incomes and the married respondents.

The persons giving some of their annual gifts to their local community were then asked which community organizations, causes, or charity they have donated money to in the last three years. The majority of the persons (89%) have given money to a local church or religious group in the last three years (Figure 5). Almost two-thirds (64%) have contributed money to a local youth group.

The types of local organizations or causes people donated money to varies by community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 6). Persons living in smaller communities are more likely than persons living in larger communities to have donated money to community/civic improvement organizations or projects, health care institutions, and



**Figure 5. Local Organizations, Causes, or Charity Have Donated Money to in Last Three Years**



youth groups. As an example, 60 percent of the persons living in communities with populations ranging from 500 to 999 who contribute annually to charitable causes had donated money to a local community/civic improvement organization or project in the last three years. In comparison, approximately 41 percent of the persons living in communities with more than 5,000 people had donated money to this type of organization or project. Persons living in larger communities are more likely to have donated money to service or fraternal organizations and food banks.

When comparing differences by region, persons living in the Northeast region of the state are more likely than the persons living elsewhere to have donated money to their local schools. Fifty-six percent of the residents in this region who contribute annually to charitable causes had donated money to their local schools, compared to 46 percent of the persons living in the South Central region of the state. Persons living in the South Central region, however, are the group most likely to have donated money to

a local food bank in the last three years.

Persons with higher income levels are more likely than persons with lower incomes to have donated money to the following: community/civic improvement organizations or projects, schools (K-12), service or fraternal organizations, and youth groups. Persons with lower incomes are more likely to have donated to veterans groups.

Older respondents are generally more likely than younger respondents to have donated money to all the various groups, with the exception of schools and youth groups. In those cases, persons between the ages of 30 and 49 are the group most likely to have donated money to these groups.

When examining differences by gender, males are more likely than females to have donated money to veterans groups and service or fraternal organizations. Females are more likely to have donated to a church or religious group, schools (K-12), and food banks.

Married persons are more likely than those who are not married to have donated to the following: community/civic improvement organizations or projects, schools (K-12), service or fraternal organizations, and youth groups. The widowed respondents are more likely to have donated to health care institutions, veterans groups, and food banks. Both the married and the widowed respondents are the groups most likely to have donated money to a church or religious group.

Persons with higher educational levels are more likely than the persons with less education to have donated money to the following: a church or religious group, community/civic improvement organization or project, schools, service or fraternal organization, and youth group. Persons with less education are more likely to have donated to a veterans group.

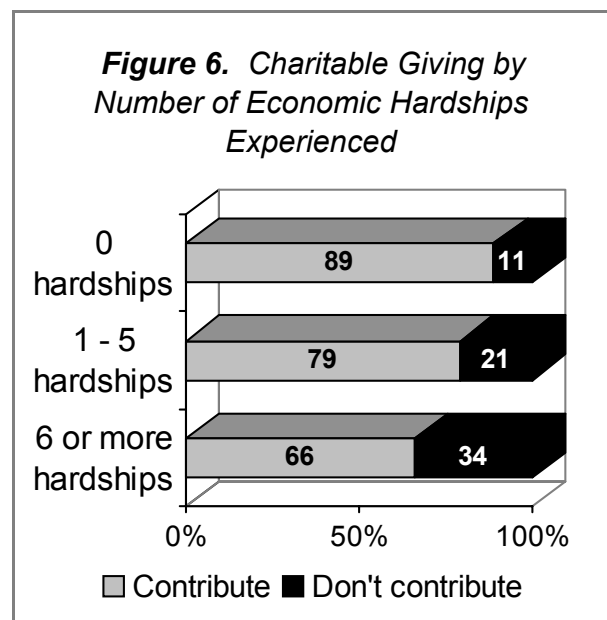
Persons with sales occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to have donated money for the following groups: church or religious group, community/civic improvement organization or project, service or fraternal organization, and youth group. Farmers and ranchers are more likely to have donated money to a church or religious group as well as to a health care institution. Persons with administrative support occupations are more likely to have donated to their local school.

### *Economic Hardships and Charitable Giving*

In a previous report, results from the 2001 Rural Poll indicate many rural Nebraskans are facing various economic hardships. Even though they may have endured some hardships, did rural Nebraskans continue to

give money to charitable causes?

In order to examine this relationship, the number of hardships experienced was summed up for each individual (see CARI Research Report 01-2, 2001). The persons experiencing the most economic hardships are less likely than the persons experiencing fewer hardships to contribute annually to charitable causes. However, two-thirds of the persons experiencing six or more hardships continue to contribute to charitable causes (Figure 6).



### ***Community Endowment Funds***

One of the ways a community can raise money for community betterment projects is by creating a perpetual community endowment fund.<sup>2</sup> This is a fund started

<sup>2</sup> In Nebraska, it is not necessary for each community to create its own charitable organization. An alternative mechanism is the Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF). The NCF serves as an “umbrella” foundation within which each community establishes its own “account.”

from contributions that is invested so that income is available for local community betterment project grants. To find out how rural Nebraskans feel about these funds, they were asked if they believe their community would benefit from one.

Forty-one percent believe their community would benefit from a perpetual community endowment fund (Figure 7). An equal proportion are not sure. Only 10 percent believe their community would not benefit from this type of fund and eight percent indicate their community already has one.

People's perceptions of the benefits these funds may have differ by region, income, age, gender, marital status, education, and occupation (Appendix Table 7). Persons living in the South Central region of the state are more likely than the persons living in other regions to say their community already has such a fund. Twelve percent of the South Central residents report having a perpetual community endowment fund in their community, compared to five percent

of the persons living in the Panhandle. Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to believe this type of fund would benefit their community. Approximately 46 percent of the persons with incomes of \$40,000 or more believe their community would benefit from a perpetual community endowment fund, compared to only 37 percent of the persons with incomes under \$20,000.

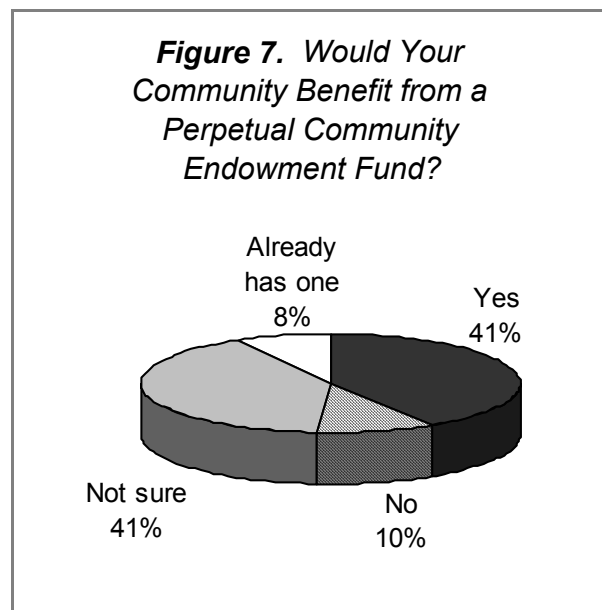
Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to believe a perpetual community endowment fund would benefit their community. At least 48 percent of the persons under the age of 50 believed this type of fund would be beneficial to their community, compared to only 31 percent of the persons age 65 and older.

Males are more likely than females to believe this type of fund would benefit their community, while females are more likely to be unsure.

When comparing responses by marital status, the widowed respondents are less likely to say such a fund would benefit their community and are more likely to be unsure about the benefits of such a fund.

Persons with higher educational levels are more likely than the persons with less education to believe these endowment funds would benefit their community. Fifty-one percent of the respondents with a four-year college degree believe this type of fund would be good for their community, compared to only 30 percent of the persons without a high school diploma.

Respondents with professional occupations are more likely than persons with different



occupations to believe these funds would benefit their community. Fifty-five percent of the persons with a professional occupation say they believe a perpetual community endowment fund would benefit their community. However, only 36 percent of the manual laborers share this opinion.

### ***Conclusion***

Rural Nebraskans are charitable persons. The majority indicate they contribute annually to charitable causes. Most of the persons who do not contribute cite lack of money as a reason for not donating money to these causes.

One-half of the persons who do contribute report giving over \$500 annually. In fact, 13 percent report giving at least \$2,500 each year. Even those facing economic hardships continue to donate to charitable causes.

The majority of these gifts go to organizations, causes, or charity in their local community. Forty percent of the persons who contribute annually say that over 75% of their annual gifts go to their local community. Twenty-two percent say that between 50% and 75% goes to their local community.

When asked which organizations, causes, or charity in their local community they have donated money to in the last three years, at least one-half have donated money to the following: a church or religious group, a youth group, a food bank, and schools (K-12).

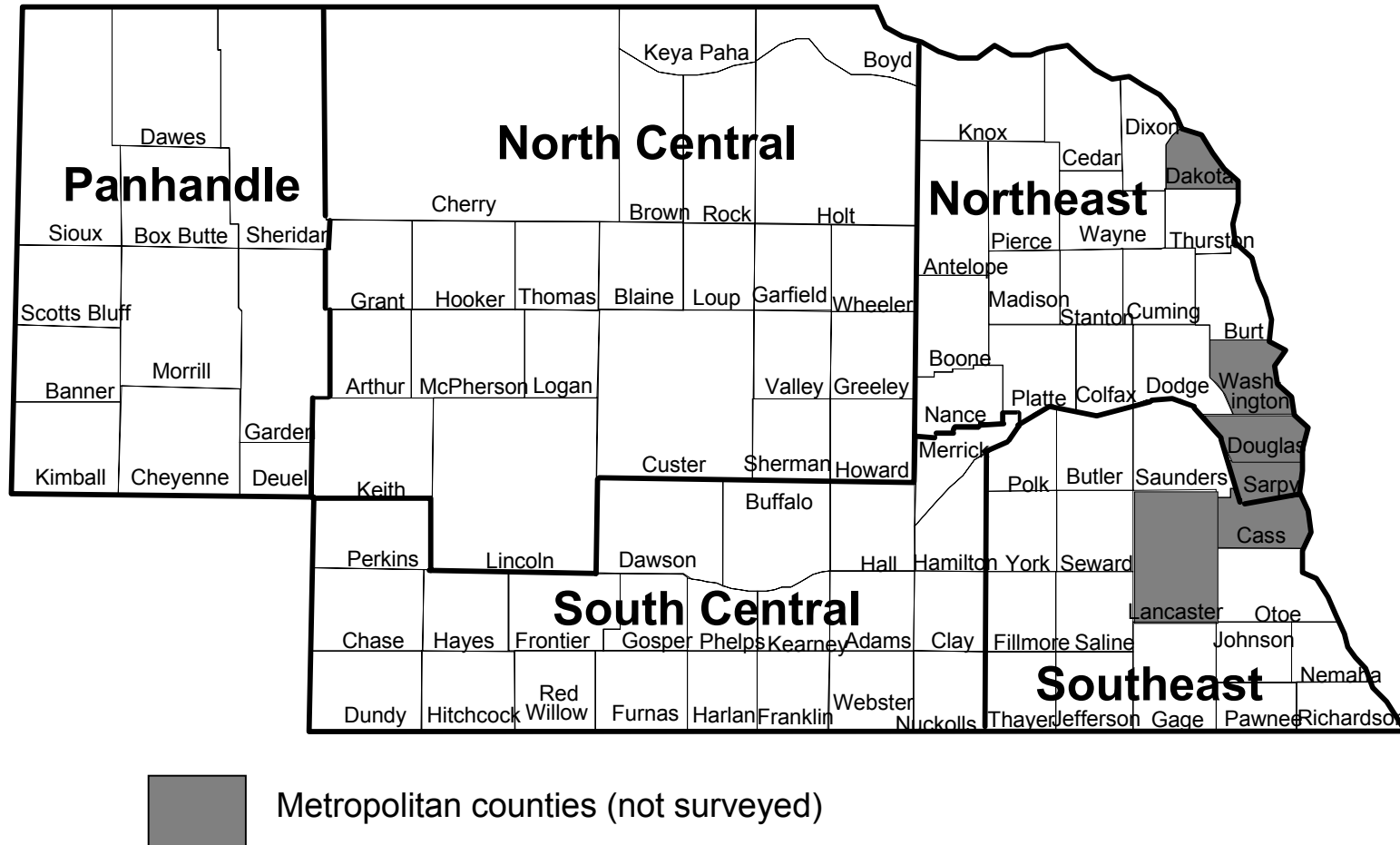
When asked about the potential benefits a perpetual community endowment fund would have for their community, an equal proportion of respondents believe it would

benefit their community as are unsure of the benefits such a fund would have.

As rural communities struggle to maintain various community services and start various improvement projects, charitable giving becomes very important. If community residents are willing to invest in their communities by their monetary donations, the communities can use these donations for self-improvement and attract new residents as well as retain their existing residents.

Rural Nebraskans have shown their willingness to invest in their communities. However, it appears that more education is needed on various community investment strategies, such as perpetual community endowment funds, that can offer a more self-sustaining income stream that can be used for years to come.

# Appendix Figure 1. Regions of Nebraska



*Appendix Table 1. Demographic Profile of Rural Poll Respondents Compared to 1990 Census*

	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1990</b>
	<b>Poll</b>	<b>Poll</b>	<b>Poll</b>	<b>Poll</b>	<b>Poll</b>	<b>Census</b>
<b>Age : <sup>1</sup></b>						
20 - 39	17%	20%	21%	25%	24%	38%
40 - 64	49%	54%	52%	55%	48%	36%
65 and over	33%	26%	28%	20%	28%	26%
<b>Gender: <sup>2</sup></b>						
Female	37%	57%	31%	58%	28%	49%
Male	63%	43%	69%	42%	72%	51%
<b>Education: <sup>3</sup></b>						
Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	4%	2%	3%	2%	5%	10%
9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> grade (no diploma)	5%	4%	5%	3%	5%	12%
High school diploma (or equivalent)	35%	34%	36%	33%	34%	38%
Some college, no degree	26%	28%	25%	27%	25%	21%
Associate degree	8%	9%	9%	10%	8%	7%
Bachelors degree	13%	15%	15%	16%	14%	9%
Graduate or professional degree	8%	9%	8%	9%	9%	3%
<b>Household income: <sup>4</sup></b>						
Less than \$10,000	9%	3%	8%	3%	7%	19%
\$10,000 - \$19,999	16%	10%	15%	10%	16%	25%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	20%	15%	18%	17%	19%	21%
\$30,000 - \$39,999	16%	19%	18%	20%	18%	15%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	14%	17%	15%	18%	14%	9%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	9%	15%	9%	12%	10%	5%
\$60,000 - \$74,999	8%	11%	8%	10%	7%	3%
\$75,000 or more	8%	11%	10%	10%	8%	3%
<b>Marital Status: <sup>5</sup></b>						
Married	70%	95%	76%	95%	73%	64%
Never married	7%	0.2%	7%	0.4%	8%	20%
Divorced/separated	10%	2%	8%	1%	9%	7%
Widowed/widower	14%	4%	10%	3%	10%	10%

<sup>1</sup> 1990 Census universe is non-metro population 20 years of age and over.

<sup>2</sup> 1990 Census universe is total non-metro population.

<sup>3</sup> 1990 Census universe is non-metro population 18 years of age and over.

<sup>4</sup> 1990 Census universe is all non-metro households.

<sup>5</sup> 1990 Census universe is non-metro population 15 years of age and over.



**Appendix Table 2. Make Annual Charitable Contributions by Community Size, Region, and Individual Attributes**

		<i>Do you contribute annually to charitable causes?</i>		
		<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Significance</i>
		<i>Percentages</i>		
		(n = 3064)		
<b><u>Community Size</u></b>				
	Less than 500	80	20	
	500 - 999	82	18	
	1,000 - 4,999	80	20	P <sup>2</sup> = 3.51
	5,000 - 9,999	78	22	(.476)
	10,000 and up	81	19	
<b><u>Region</u></b>		(n = 3132)		
	Panhandle	75	25	
	North Central	78	22	
	South Central	81	19	P <sup>2</sup> = 9.69
	Northeast	81	19	(.046)
	Southeast	82	18	
<b><u>Individual Attributes:</u></b>				
<i>Income Level</i>		(n = 2867)		
	Under \$20,000	67	33	
	\$20,000 - \$39,999	78	22	P <sup>2</sup> = 154.85
	\$40,000 - \$59,999	87	13	(.000)
	\$60,000 and over	94	6	
<i>Age</i>		(n = 3103)		
	19 - 29	57	43	
	30 - 39	75	25	
	40 - 49	81	19	P <sup>2</sup> = 67.09
	50 - 64	82	18	(.000)
	65 and older	84	16	
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 3118)		
	Male	82	18	P <sup>2</sup> = 9.48
	Female	77	23	(.001)
<i>Marital Status</i>		(n = 3120)		
	Married	84	16	
	Never married	65	35	
	Divorced/separated	62	38	P <sup>2</sup> = 109.26
	Widowed	83	17	(.000)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 3104)		
	No H.S. diploma	68	32	
	H.S. diploma	75	25	
	Some college, 2 year degree	82	18	P <sup>2</sup> = 88.83
	Bachelors or graduate degree	90	10	(.000)

Appendix Table 2 Continued.

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Do you contribute annually to charitable causes?</i>		<i>Significance</i>
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	
	(n = 2052)		
Professional/tech/admin.	87	13	
Admin. support	85	15	
Sales	85	15	
Service	77	23	
Farming/ranching	82	18	
Skilled laborer	71	29	
Manual laborer	67	33	P <sup>2</sup> = 64.49
Other	72	28	(.000)

*Appendix Table 3. Reasons for Not Donating Money to Charitable Causes by Community Size, Region, and Individual Attributes*

<i>Which of the following are reasons why you have not donated money to charitable causes?</i>					
	<i>No one has asked me to donate</i>	<i>There have not been causes that deserve my support</i>	<i>I don't have the money</i>	<i>I don't really know how to go about it</i>	<i>I would rather donate my time than my money</i>
<i>Percent circling each item</i>					
<b>Community Size</b> (n = 580)					
Less than 500	6	6	82	1	15
500 - 999	3	7	78	0	17
1,000 - 4,999	3	8	80	2	17
5,000 - 9,999	3	7	87	1	12
10,000 and up	3	13	79	3	14
<b>Region</b> (n = 590)					
Panhandle	3	7	84	1	16
North Central	2	6	80	1	12
South Central	6	7	81	2	10
Northeast	3	7	84	3	21
Southeast	2	15	77	1	17
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>					
<i>Income Level</i> (n = 548)					
Under \$20,000	4	6	92	2	10
\$20,000 - \$39,999	4	8	80	2	17
\$40,000 - \$59,999	5	16	65	0	24
\$60,000 or more	0	15	56	4	19
<i>Age</i> (n = 588)					
19 - 29	7	2	85	7	16
30 - 39	2	6	81	2	18
40 - 49	3	7	84	1	12
50 - 64	4	12	75	1	21
65 and older	3	11	82	1	10
<i>Gender</i> (n = 592)					
Male	4	12	77	1	14
Female	3	4	87	2	16

Appendix Table 3 continued

<i>Which of the following are reasons why you have not donated money to charitable causes?</i>					
	<i>No one has asked me to donate</i>	<i>There have not been causes that deserve my support</i>	<i>I don't have the money</i>	<i>I don't really know how to go about it</i>	<i>I would rather donate my time than my money</i>
<i>Marital Status</i>			(n = 592)		
Married	3	10	79	1	15
Never married	4	6	80	6	14
Divorced/separated	5	7	86	1	14
Widowed	5	6	88	2	15
<i>Education</i>			(n = 589)		
No H.S. diploma	3	6	86	1	5
H.S. diploma	4	11	80	0	14
Some college	4	8	82	4	17
Bachelors or graduate degree	2	5	75	2	25
<i>Occupation</i>			(n = 398)		
Prof/tech/admin	4	4	79	1	26
Administrative support	0	14	64	0	21
Sales	0	7	77	0	19
Service	6	4	86	2	16
Farming/ranching	3	12	79	0	19
Skilled laborer	3	9	75	1	13
Manual laborer	4	6	91	0	9
Other	4	4	78	9	13

**Appendix Table 4. Amount Contribute Annually to Charitable Causes by Community Size, Region, and Individual Attributes**

<i>About how much money do you contribute annually to charitable causes?</i>							
	<i>Less than \$100</i>	<i>\$100 - \$499</i>	<i>\$500 - \$999</i>	<i>\$1,000 - \$2,499</i>	<i>\$2,500 - \$4,999</i>	<i>\$5,000 or more</i>	<i>Significance</i>
<i>Percentages</i>							
<b>Community Size</b> (n = 2363)							
Less than 500	15	37	16	21	9	3	P <sup>2</sup> = 21.78 (.353)
500 - 999	14	36	18	24	7	1	
1,000 - 4,999	16	34	17	19	10	4	
5,000 - 9,999	16	33	17	17	11	5	
10,000 and up	16	32	18	21	9	5	
<b>Region</b> (n = 2421)							
Panhandle	19	33	15	20	9	5	P <sup>2</sup> = 14.91 (.781)
North Central	15	33	17	20	11	4	
South Central	14	36	16	22	9	4	
Northeast	15	35	19	20	9	3	
Southeast	18	32	17	20	10	4	
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>							
<i>Income Level</i> (n = 2243)							
Under \$20,000	30	38	15	15	2	0	P <sup>2</sup> = 270.28 (.000)
\$20,000 - \$39,999	17	36	16	21	8	3	
\$40,000 - \$59,999	10	37	20	18	11	4	
\$60,000 or more	5	22	17	29	17	10	
<i>Age</i> (n = 2402)							
19 - 29	33	38	17	1	10	1	P <sup>2</sup> = 58.49 (.000)
30 - 39	17	43	16	15	8	2	
40 - 49	15	34	17	20	10	4	
50 - 64	13	31	18	24	10	5	
65 and older	16	33	17	21	9	4	
<i>Gender</i> (n = 2410)							
Male	12	34	17	23	10	5	P <sup>2</sup> = 72.44 (.000)
Female	23	35	16	16	8	2	
<i>Marital Status</i> (n = 2410)							
Married	13	32	17	22	11	5	P <sup>2</sup> = 94.62 (.000)
Never married	24	37	18	12	6	3	
Divorced/separated	29	39	16	12	3	2	
Widowed	19	40	17	18	5	1	
<i>Education</i> (n = 2404)							
No H.S. diploma	24	37	16	18	5	1	P <sup>2</sup> = 140.79 (.000)
H.S. diploma	21	36	16	20	6	2	
Some college	15	36	18	18	10	3	
Bachelors or grad degree	7	28	17	24	15	8	

Appendix Table 4 Continued.

<i>About how much money do you contribute annually to charitable causes?</i>							
	<i>Less than \$100</i>	<i>\$100 - \$499</i>	<i>\$500 - \$999</i>	<i>\$1,000 - \$2,499</i>	<i>\$2,500 - \$4,999</i>	<i>\$5,000 or more</i>	<i>Significance</i>
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1595)						
Professional/tech/admin	10	33	16	21	13	7	
Administrative support	19	35	17	17	12	1	
Sales	13	31	18	22	11	5	
Service	21	34	20	16	8	1	
Farming/ranching	10	28	20	28	11	4	
Skilled laborer	18	41	17	18	5	1	
Manual laborer	30	40	12	13	4	1	P <sup>2</sup> = 108.91
Other	17	38	16	16	12	2	(.000)

**Appendix Table 5. Percentage of Charitable Giving that Goes to Local Organizations in Relation to Community Size, Region, and Individual Attributes**

		<i>What percentage of your total annual gifts goes to support organizations, causes, or charity in your local community?</i>					
		<i>None</i>	<i>1% to 24%</i>	<i>25% to 49%</i>	<i>50% to 75%</i>	<i>More than 75%</i>	<i>Significance</i>
<b>Community Size</b>		Percentages (n = 2259)					
	Less than 500	3	24	11	23	39	
	500 - 999	3	18	12	27	40	
	1,000 - 4,999	4	25	14	20	37	
	5,000 - 9,999	3	23	11	21	42	P <sup>2</sup> = 21.91
	10,000 and up	4	21	9	21	45	(.146)
<b>Region</b>		(n = 2311)					
	Panhandle	4	21	13	22	40	
	North Central	4	22	13	22	39	
	South Central	2	24	11	22	42	
	Northeast	5	21	10	20	44	P <sup>2</sup> = 24.69
	Southeast	5	25	11	24	35	(.076)
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>							
<i>Income Level</i>		(n = 2150)					
	Under \$20,000	8	29	10	21	32	
	\$20,000 - \$39,999	3	22	12	24	38	
	\$40,000 - \$59,999	3	23	12	20	42	P <sup>2</sup> = 57.87
	\$60,000 or more	2	16	9	24	48	(.000)
<i>Age</i>		(n = 2288)					
	19 - 29	5	17	5	19	54	
	30 - 39	2	24	11	21	42	
	40 - 49	3	21	9	23	43	
	50 - 64	3	20	10	22	45	P <sup>2</sup> = 54.83
	65 and older	6	26	14	22	32	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 2298)					
	Male	3	23	11	22	41	P <sup>2</sup> = 5.05
	Female	5	23	11	22	39	(.282)
<i>Marital Status</i>		(n = 2299)					
	Married	3	22	10	22	43	
	Never married	8	27	16	19	31	
	Divorced/separated	7	24	8	22	39	P <sup>2</sup> = 53.92
	Widowed	7	28	15	21	29	(.000)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 2292)					
	No H.S. diploma	7	38	15	18	22	
	H.S. diploma	4	25	11	22	37	
	Some college	4	23	10	21	42	P <sup>2</sup> = 60.90
	Bachelors or graduate degree	3	16	11	25	46	(.000)

<i>What percentage of your total annual gifts goes to support organizations, causes, or charity in your local community?</i>						
	<u>None</u>	<u>1% to 24%</u>	<u>25% to 49%</u>	<u>50% to 75%</u>	<u>More than 75%</u>	<u>Significance</u>
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1576)					
Professional/tech/admin	2	18	9	23	49	
Administrative support	3	19	13	19	46	
Sales	2	21	12	19	47	
Service	3	25	10	21	41	
Farming/ranching	2	20	8	26	45	
Skilled laborer	3	28	7	23	39	
Manual laborer	2	30	12	18	37	P <sup>2</sup> = 31.68
Other	4	18	7	27	45	(.288)



**Appendix Table 6. Local Organizations, Causes or Charity Donated to in Last Three Years by Community Size, Region, and Individual Attributes**

**Which of the following local community organizations, causes or charity have you donated money to in the last three years?**

	<i>Local church or religious group</i>	<i>Local community improvement organization or project</i>	<i>Local schools (K - 12)</i>	<i>Local health care institution</i>	<i>Local veterans group</i>	<i>Local service or fraternal organization</i>	<i>Local youth group</i>	<i>Local food bank</i>	<i>Other</i>
<i>Percent donating to each</i>									
<b>Community Size</b>	(n = 2347)								
Less than 500	90	52	53	30	33	17	62	44	12
500 - 999	89	60	54	37	33	19	70	45	9
1,000 - 4,999	90	53	48	37	31	25	68	50	10
5,000 - 9,999	89	41	47	24	26	26	61	56	14
10,000 and up	88	42	50	15	27	27	59	57	21
<b>Region</b>	(n = 2404)								
Panhandle	84	43	51	24	26	26	63	41	13
North Central	91	48	49	30	31	24	65	51	11
South Central	89	48	46	25	28	25	64	54	17
Northeast	92	52	56	29	32	23	62	50	15
Southeast	87	50	49	31	32	20	65	49	10
<b>Individual Attributes:</b>									
<i>Income Level</i>	(n = 2205)								
Under \$20,000	89	36	38	27	34	14	53	50	12
\$20,000 - \$39,999	87	49	50	28	31	20	62	50	14
\$40,000 - \$59,999	90	53	53	25	25	26	69	48	12
\$60,000 or more	91	61	60	29	27	36	73	54	20
<i>Age</i>	(n = 2380)								
19 - 29	74	34	47	17	8	20	61	34	34
30 - 39	87	42	63	18	15	20	71	48	16
40 - 49	88	49	65	22	18	23	70	48	14
50 - 64	88	55	51	31	33	28	68	50	14
65 and older	92	48	35	34	42	21	52	55	11
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 2391)								
Male	88	49	48	27	31	26	63	46	13
Female	91	48	53	29	27	19	64	59	14

Appendix Table 6 Continued.

<i>Which of the following local community organizations, causes or charity have you donated money to in the last three years?</i>										
	<i>Local church or religious group</i>	<i>Local community improvement organization or project</i>	<i>Local schools (K - 12)</i>	<i>Local health care institution</i>	<i>Local veterans group</i>	<i>Local service or fraternal organization</i>	<i>Local youth group</i>	<i>Local food bank</i>	<i>Other</i>	
<i>Marital Status</i>										(n = 2391)
Married	91	51	54	27	29	25	66	50	13	
Never married	76	37	31	25	30	19	45	47	24	
Divorced/separated	76	41	51	24	27	23	64	43	13	
Widowed	92	45	37	35	36	15	54	58	12	
<i>Education</i>										(n = 2383)
No H.S. diploma	83	35	33	29	38	14	49	51	9	
H.S. diploma	88	44	46	31	34	19	60	47	11	
Some college	88	48	53	25	30	23	67	52	13	
Bachelors or graduate degree	92	61	55	28	20	31	67	53	18	
<i>Occupation</i>										(n = 1594)
Prof/tech/admin	90	57	58	27	21	27	68	51	16	
Administrative support	86	44	66	18	20	26	70	50	15	
Sales	92	59	61	26	29	33	79	55	15	
Service	89	45	54	18	27	24	68	49	13	
Farming/ranching	92	51	47	30	30	21	58	37	8	
Skilled laborer	81	36	55	23	25	24	70	41	15	
Manual laborer	80	35	53	19	25	16	66	45	16	
Other	83	44	60	23	26	21	74	61	23	

**Appendix Table 7. Perceptions About a Perpetual Community Endowment Fund by Community Size, Region, and Individual Attributes**

		<i>Do you believe your community would benefit from a perpetual community endowment fund?</i>				
		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not sure</u>	<u>My community already has one</u>	<u>Significance</u>
<b><u>Community Size</u></b>		Percentages (n = 2954)				
	Less than 500	43	9	40	8	
	500 - 999	46	11	36	6	
	1,000 - 4,999	41	10	40	9	P <sup>2</sup> = 11.59
	5,000 - 9,999	40	8	43	9	(.479)
	10,000 and up	40	9	44	8	
<b><u>Region</u></b>		(n = 3018)				
	Panhandle	42	10	43	5	
	North Central	42	8	40	10	
	South Central	40	9	39	12	P <sup>2</sup> = 31.82
	Northeast	41	10	43	6	(.001)
	Southeast	42	11	41	6	
<b><u>Individual Attributes:</u></b>						
<i>Income Level</i>		(n = 2783)				
	Under \$20,000	37	11	46	6	
	\$20,000 - \$39,999	41	9	43	8	P <sup>2</sup> = 47.67
	\$40,000 - \$59,999	47	9	36	8	(.000)
	\$60,000 and over	46	9	32	13	
<i>Age</i>		(n = 2990)				
	19 - 29	48	4	44	4	
	30 - 39	50	6	38	6	
	40 - 49	48	8	36	8	P <sup>2</sup> = 84.59
	50 - 64	42	11	37	9	(.000)
	65 and older	31	11	49	9	
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 3004)				
	Male	43	11	39	8	P <sup>2</sup> = 20.77
	Female	38	8	45	9	(.000)
<i>Marital Status</i>		(n = 3005)				
	Married	43	10	38	9	
	Never married	44	9	38	9	
	Divorced/separated	48	7	42	4	P <sup>2</sup> = 66.32
	Widowed	27	9	57	8	(.000)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 2996)				
	No H.S. diploma	30	14	51	5	
	H.S. diploma	37	10	46	8	
	Some college, 2 year degree	43	9	41	7	P <sup>2</sup> = 83.27
	Bachelors or graduate degree	51	8	30	11	(.000)

Appendix Table 7 Continued.

<i>Do you believe your community would benefit from a perpetual community endowment fund?</i>					
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not sure</u>	<u>My community already has one</u>	<u>Significance</u>
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 2015)				
Professional/tech/admin.	55	8	30	8	
Admin. support	42	5	42	12	
Sales	46	9	36	9	
Service	38	8	48	7	
Farming/ranching	37	15	37	12	
Skilled laborer	47	8	40	6	
Manual laborer	36	5	53	6	P <sup>2</sup> = 88.98
Other	52	7	33	7	(.000)

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