CENTER FOR APPLIED RURAL INNOVATION

A Research Report

Community Well-Being in Nonmetropolitan Nebraska

2012 Nebraska Rural Poll Results

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Executive Summary

Recent community level Census data show that most small communities in Nebraska experienced population decline since 2000. However, most of the larger communities experienced population growth during this same time period. Given these conditions, how do rural Nebraskans feel about their community? Are they satisfied with the services provided by their community? Are they planning to move from their community in the next year? Have these views changed over the past seventeen years? How involved are residents in their community? What strategies are important to the future of their community? This paper provides a detailed analysis of these questions.

This report details 2,323 responses to the 2012 Nebraska Rural Poll, the seventeenth annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions about their community. Trends for some of these questions are examined by comparing data from the sixteen 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:

- ***Rural Nebraskans are much more positive about the change in their community during the past year.*** Approximately one-third (34%) of rural Nebraskans say their community has changed for the better during the past year, up sharply from 26 percent last year. This is the highest percentage since 1997.

- ***By many different measures, rural Nebraskans are positive about their community.***
  - ✓ *Many rural Nebraskans rate their community favorably on its social dimensions.* Many rural Nebraskans rate their communities as friendly (73%), trusting (64%) and supportive (65%).
  - ✓ *Over one-half of rural Nebraskans say it would be difficult to leave their community.* Fifty-five percent say it would be difficult for their household to leave their community. Less than one in three (29%) indicate it would be easy for their household to leave their community and 16 percent gave a neutral response.
  - ✓ *Most rural Nebraskans disagree that their community is powerless to control its future.* Over one-half (60%) of rural Nebraskans strongly disagree or disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future.
  - ✓ *Most rural Nebraskans would encourage various groups to move to or remain in their community.*

- ***Residents of smaller communities are more likely than residents of larger communities to rate their community favorably on its social dimensions and to have positive sentiments about their community.***
  - ✓ *Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to rate their community as trusting and supportive.* Seventy percent of persons living in or near communities with populations less than 500 say their community is trusting, compared to 58 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more.

- ✓ *Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to say it would be difficult to leave their community.*

- ***Residents of larger communities are more likely than residents of smaller communities to say their community has changed for the better during the past year and will be a better place to live ten years from now.***
  - ✓ *Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to say their community has changed for the better during the past year.* Approximately 35 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 1,000 or more say their community has changed for the better during the past year, compared to 22 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people.
  - ✓ *Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to say their community will be a better place to live ten years from now.* Just over one-quarter (26%) of persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more believe their community will be a better place to live ten years from now, compared to 10 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people.

- ***Except for a few services that are largely unavailable in rural communities, rural Nebraskans are generally satisfied with basic community services and amenities.*** At least two-thirds of rural Nebraskans are satisfied with the following services or amenities: fire protection (85%), parks and recreation (76%), library services (72%), religious organizations (72%), education (K-12) (68%) and medical care services (68%). On the other hand, at least one-third of rural Nebraskans are dissatisfied with the retail shopping, entertainment, streets and roads, restaurants, arts/cultural activities, and local government in their community.

- ***Most rural Nebraskans have participated in community involvement activities during the past year.*** Most rural Nebraskans have belonged to a group or organization in their local community (79%), donated money to a local organization, charity or cause other than a church (77%), donated money to a local church (74%), and volunteered time for a group or organization in their local community during the past year (71%). Just over one-third (35%) of rural Nebraskans have held a leadership role in a local group or organization during the past year and just over one in ten (11%) have held a public office or served on a government board or committee in the past year.

- ***Most rural Nebraskans have access to various goods and services within a 15 mile drive.*** At least three-quarters of rural Nebraskans have the following goods and services within 15 miles of them: post office (94%), gas station (89%), bank (82%), church (81%), grocery store (78%), auto repair (78%), and restaurant/café/bar (77%). Less than one-half of rural Nebraskans have access to clothing/apparel (40%) or critical medical care (43%) within 15 miles.
  - ✓ *Persons living in or near the smallest communities are less likely than persons living in or near larger communities to have the various goods and services within a 15 mile drive.* Less than one-half of persons living in or near communities with populations less than 500 have the following goods and services within 15 miles: grocery store (41%), hardware store (36%), primary/family practice medical care (29%), durable household goods (17%), critical medical care (13%), and clothing/apparel (11%).

- ***Most rural Nebraskans view encouraging community involvement activities as very important to the future of their community.*** Most rural Nebraskans view training young residents in the

community for leadership roles (61%), assisting people to take over local farms as the current owners retire (61%), assisting people to take over local businesses as current owners retire (57%), residents volunteering their time to community activities (54%), and getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community (53%) as very important for the future of their community. Thirty-seven percent view financial contributions by community residents, especially larger donations given in trusts, wills, estates, etc. as very important.

- ***Few rural Nebraskans are planning to move from their community in the next year, but one-half of those who do plan to move expect to leave the state.*** Only five percent of rural Nebraskans plan to move from their community in the next year. But, one-half (50%) of those planning to move expect to leave the state.

Introduction

Recent community level Census data show most small communities in Nebraska experienced population decline the past ten years. However, most of the larger communities experienced population growth during this same time period. Given these conditions, how do rural Nebraskans feel about their community? Are they satisfied with the services provided by their community? Are they planning to move from their community in the next year? Have these views changed over the past seventeen years? How involved are residents in their community? What strategies are important to the future of their community? This paper provides a detailed analysis of these questions.

Methodology and Respondent Profile

This study is based on 2,323 responses from Nebraskans living in the 84 non-metropolitan counties in the state. A self-administered questionnaire was mailed in March and April to approximately 6,350 randomly selected households. Metropolitan counties not included in the sample were Cass, Dakota, Dixon, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, Saunders, Seward and Washington. The 14-page questionnaire included questions pertaining to well-being, community, church, resources, and businesses in the community. This paper reports only results from the community section of the survey.

A 37% 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.

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 2010 U.S. Census and the 2009 American Community Survey). As can be seen from the table, there are some marked differences between some of the demographic variables in our sample compared to the Census data. Thus, we suggest the reader use caution in generalizing our data to all rural Nebraska. However, given the random sampling frame used for this survey, the acceptable percentage of responses, and the large number of respondents, we feel the data provide useful insights into opinions of rural Nebraskans on the various issues presented in this report. The margin of error for this study is plus or minus two percent.

Since younger residents have typically been under-represented by survey respondents and 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 51 years. Seventy percent are married (Appendix Table 1) and 68 percent live within the city limits of a town or village. On average, respondents have lived in Nebraska 44 years and have lived in their current community 27 years. Fifty-four percent are living in or near towns or villages with populations less than 5,000. Ninety-six

percent have attained at least a high school diploma.

Thirty-six percent of the respondents report their 2011 approximate household income from all sources, before taxes, as below $40,000. Fifty-two percent report incomes over $50,000.

Seventy-three percent were employed in 2011 on a full-time, part-time, or seasonal basis. Nineteen percent are retired. Thirty-two percent of those employed reported working in a management, professional, or education occupation. Fourteen percent indicated they were employed in agriculture.

Trends in Community Ratings (1996 - 2012)

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

Community Change

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.

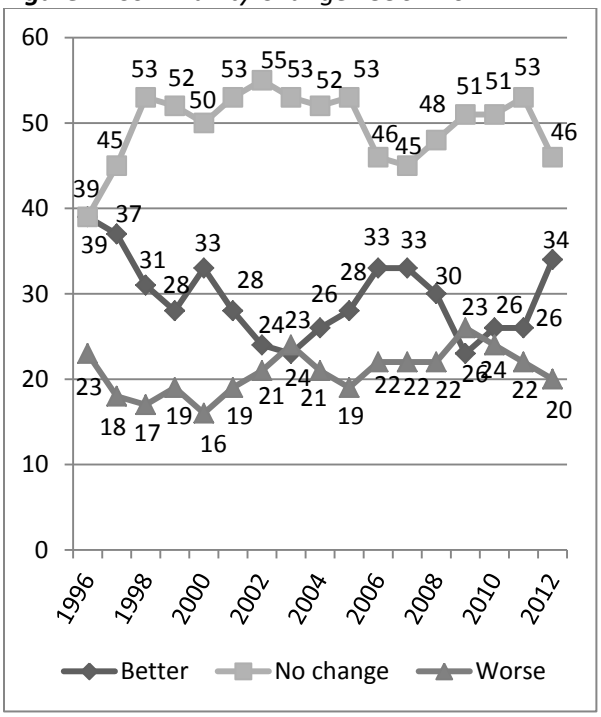
One difference in the wording of this question has occurred over the past seventeen years. Starting in 1998, the phrase "this past year" was added to the question; no time frame was given to the respondents in the first two studies. Also, in 2007 the middle response "same" was replaced with "no change."

Rural Nebraskans' views about the change in their community are more positive than last year. The proportion of rural Nebraskans that viewed positive change in their communities increased sharply from last year (Figure 1). 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 both 2006 and 2007. It then declined to 23 percent in 2009 (the lowest proportion of all seventeen years, also occurring in 2003). However, the proportion viewing positive change in their community increased slightly to 26 percent last year and then increased sharply to 34 percent this year.

The proportion saying their community has stayed the same first increased from 1996 to 1998. It then remained fairly steady during the following eight years but declined in both 2006 and 2007. Then it steadily increased to 53 percent last year. However, this year the proportion dropped to 46 percent.

The proportion saying their community has changed for the worse has remained fairly

Figure 1. *Community Change 1996 - 2012*



steady across all seventeen years, but increased from 22 percent in 2008 to 26 percent in 2009 (the highest proportion in all years of this study). Since then, however, it has steadily decreased to 20 percent this year.

Community Social Dimensions

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

The proportion of respondents who view their community as friendly has remained fairly steady over the seventeen year period, ranging from 69 to 75 percent. The proportion of respondents who view their community as trusting has also remained fairly steady, ranging from 59 to 66 percent.

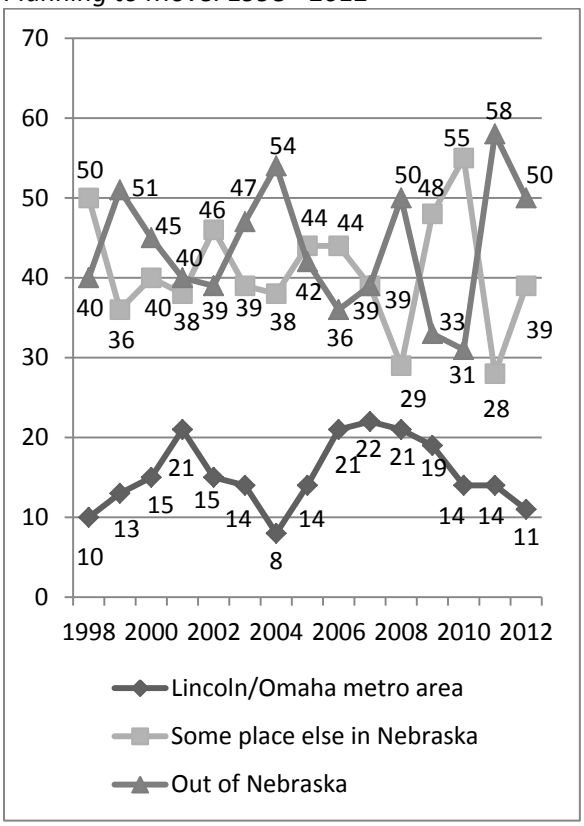
A similar pattern emerged when examining the proportion of respondents who rated their community as supportive. The proportions rating their community as supportive have ranged from 60 percent to 67 percent over the seventeen year period.

Plans to Leave the Community

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 fifteen years, ranging from 3 percent to 6 percent.

The expected destination for the persons planning to move has changed over time (Figure 2). This year, the proportion of expected movers planning to leave the state declined from 58 percent last year (an all-time high) to

Figure 2. *Expected Destination of Those Planning to Move: 1998 - 2012*



50 percent. In 2004, it had reached 54 percent and then generally decreased to 39 percent in 2007. However, it spiked upward in 2008 before declining sharply to 33 percent in 2009. It then declined slightly to 31 percent in 2010 before spiking upward to 58 percent last year.

The proportion of expected movers planning to move to either the Omaha or Lincoln area increased from 8 percent in 2004 to 21 percent in 2006. That proportion then held fairly steady during the next three years before declining to 11 percent this year. After the proportion of expected movers planning to move to other areas of rural Nebraska declined from 44 percent in 2006 to 29 percent in 2008, it increased sharply to 55 percent in 2010. It then plummeted to 28 percent last year (the lowest proportion of all 15 years) before increasing again this year to 39 percent.

Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities

Respondents were also asked how satisfied they are with various community services and amenities each year. They were asked this in all seventeen studies; however, in 1996 they were also asked about the availability of these services. Therefore, comparisons will only be made between the last sixteen studies, when the question wording was identical. The respondents were asked how satisfied they were with a list of 25 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 sixteen years. However, the proportion of rural Nebraskans satisfied with many social services has declined across all sixteen years of the study. As an example, the proportion of rural Nebraskans satisfied with nursing home care has dropped from 63 percent in 1997 to 45 percent this year. In addition, satisfaction with entertainment services (entertainment, retail shopping and restaurants) have also generally declined over the past sixteen years. Satisfaction with retail shopping has declined from 53 percent in 1997 to 39 percent this year.

Two services added to the survey in 2006 have shown steady increases in their satisfaction levels during the past six years - cellular phone service and Internet service. In 2006, 49 percent of rural Nebraskans were satisfied with their cellular phone service. That proportion increased to 63 percent this year. Satisfaction with Internet service has increased from 50 percent in 2006 to 59 percent this year.

The Community and Its Attributes in 2012

In this section, the 2012 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

The perceptions of the change occurring in their community by various demographic subgroups are examined (Appendix Table 2). Residents living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to say that their community has changed for the better. Approximately 35 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 1,000 or more believe their community has changed for the better, compared to 22 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people (Figure 3). Persons living in or near the smallest communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to say their community has changed for the worse during the past year. Almost one in three (29%) of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 persons say their community has changed for the worse during the past year.

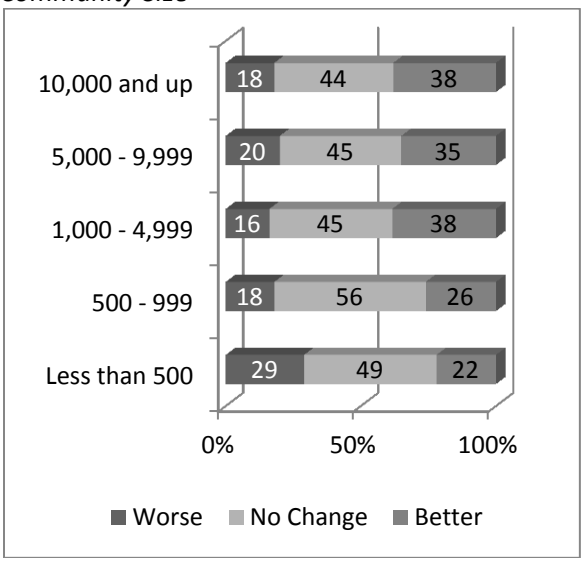
Persons living in the South Central region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to say their community has changed for the better during the past year (see Appendix Figure 1 for the counties included in each region). Forty percent of the South

Table 1. *Proportion of Respondents Very or Somewhat Satisfied with Each Service, 1997 - 2012*

Service/Amenity	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Fire protection	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	86	85	86	87	85	86	85
Parks/recreation	77	77	75	77	73	74	76	75	74	75	74	75	74	74	75	76
Library services	78	78	72	79	71	74	74	74	72	73	74	75	74	73	73	72
Religious org.	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	72	72	73	71	71	70	72
Education (K-12)	71	74	72	73	69	69	69	68	68	68	68	70	68	68	68	68
Medical care svcs	73	73	70	72	71	69	71	71	71	71	63	66	67	67	67	68
Law enforcement	66	64	63	64	61	63	65	63	63	64	63	62	64	65	63	65
Sewge/waste disp*	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	66	66	67	66	65	65	64
Sewage disposal	68	63	63	63	61	66	64	67	63	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Water disposal	66	61	60	61	60	64	62	65	62	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Solid waste disp.	61	59	60	60	60	64	63	65	63	64	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Cell phone services	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	49	54	58	61	60	64	63
Internet service	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	50	51	57	58	56	60	59
Housing	61	63	62	56	57	62	60	61	60	61	59	59	61	59	59	57
Comm recycling	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	50	48	52	54	54	54
Streets and roads*	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	55	49	51	47	48	49
Streets	✱	59	62	59	51	61	62	59	60	60	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Highway/bridge	✱	66	68	68	65	69	70	69	70	69	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Restaurants	59	57	56	55	53	51	54	56	54	54	50	45	47	47	48	48
Senior centers	66	65	62	59	58	62	61	58	59	55	48	47	47	47	48	47
Nursing home care	63	62	59	56	55	57	57	55	55	53	46	47	45	46	46	45
Local government*	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	41	40	38	41	40	41	42
County govt.	48	53	53	49	49	47	51	48	47	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
City/village govt.	46	50	51	45	46	45	48	45	46	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Retail shopping	53	48	49	47	47	45	45	49	47	45	41	39	40	41	37	39
Day care services	51	50	45	46	43	44	45	47	45	42	31	28	✱	✱	✱	✱
Child day care svcs	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	32	34	35	35
Entertainment	38	35	34	33	33	32	33	36	32	34	30	26	29	32	30	30
Head start prgrms	44	41	37	40	39	38	40	41	39	37	29	26	28	29	27	27
Arts/cult activities	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	26	25	24	27	27	27
Mental health svcs	34	32	29	30	29	30	30	31	30	27	23	23	24	23	24	25
Adult day care svcs	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	22	21	22	21
Airport	✱	✱	✱	30	29	32	32	32	31	26	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Pub transportation svcs*	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	17	17	19	18	19	19
Airline service	✱	✱	✱	15	15	16	17	18	15	15	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Taxi service	11	9	8	9	10	10	11	12	12	11	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Rail service	14	11	11	10	10	11	11	13	11	9	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
Bus service	13	11	10	9	10	9	10	11	7	7	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱

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

Figure 3. *Perceptions of Community Change by Community Size*



Central residents say their community changed for the better during the past year, compared to 27 percent of persons living in the Northeast region of the state.

Other 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 30 to 39; persons with higher education levels; and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

In addition, respondents were asked to predict the expected change in their community ten years from now. The exact question wording was, "Based on what you see of the situation today, do you think that, ten years from now, your community will be a worse place to live, a better place or about the same?" Just under one-quarter (22%) of rural Nebraskans expect their community will be a better place to live ten years from now. Over one-half (57%) expect it to be about the same and just over one in five (21%) think their community will be a worse place to live ten years from now.

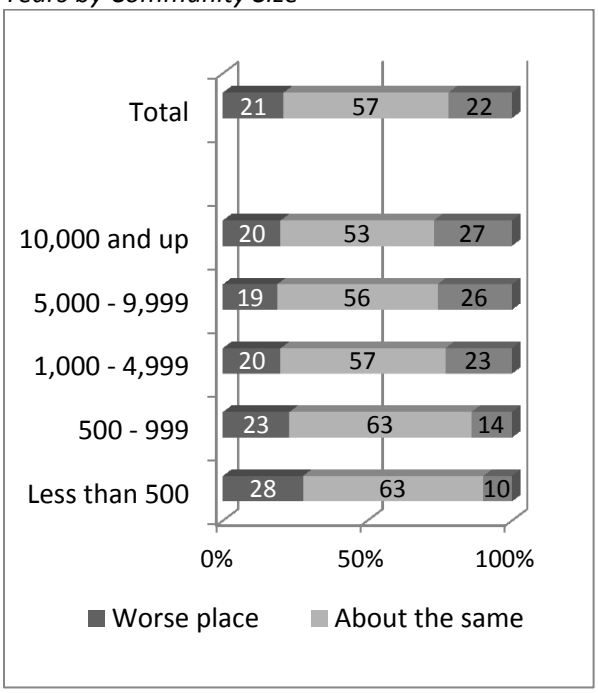
Respondents' perceptions differ by the size of their community, their region and some individual attributes (Appendix Table 3). Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to say their community will be a better place to live ten years from now (Figure 4). Just over one-quarter (26%) of persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more say their community will be a better place to live ten years from now, compared to 10 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people.

Other groups most likely to say their community will be a better place to live ten years from now include: persons with higher household incomes; persons age 30 to 39; persons with higher education levels and persons with management, professional, or education occupations.

Community Social Dimensions

In addition to asking respondents about their perceptions of the change occurring in their

Figure 4. *Expected Community Change in Ten Years by Community Size*



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 (73%), 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 the smallest communities are more likely than persons living in or near the largest communities to rate their community as trusting and supportive. Seventy percent of persons living in or near communities with populations under 500 say their community is trusting, compared to 58 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more.

Persons with higher income levels are more likely than persons with lower incomes to rate their community as friendly, trusting and supportive. Seventy-eight percent of persons with household incomes of $60,000 or more rate their community as friendly, compared to 62 percent of persons with household incomes under $20,000.

Older persons are more likely than younger persons to rate their community as both friendly and supportive. When comparing responses by marital status, the widowed respondents are the marital group most likely to view their community as being supportive. Married persons join the widowed respondents as being the groups most likely to view their community as both friendly and trusting.

Persons with the highest education levels are more likely than persons with less education to rate their community as friendly, trusting and supportive. As an example, 72 percent of persons with at least a four year college degree rate their community as trusting, compared to 58 percent of persons with a high school diploma or less education.

Persons with sales or office support occupations and persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations are the occupation groups most likely to view their community as friendly. The following types of occupations are the groups most likely to rate their community as supportive: management, professional or education; sales or office support; and construction, installation and maintenance occupations.

Newcomers to a community are more likely than long-term residents to view their community as supportive. Sixty-nine percent of persons who have lived in their community for five years or less rate their community as supportive, compared to 64 percent of persons who have lived in their community for more than five years.

Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities

Next, rural residents were asked to rate how satisfied they are with 25 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 four 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 (85%), parks and recreation (76%), library services (72%), religious organizations (72%), education (K-12) (68%) and medical care services (68%) (Appendix Table 5). At least one-third of the respondents are either "very dissatisfied" or "somewhat dissatisfied" with entertainment (50%), retail shopping (48%),

streets and roads (44%), restaurants (43%), arts/cultural activities (38%) and local government (33%).

The ten services and amenities with the greatest dissatisfaction ratings were analyzed by community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 6). Many differences emerge.

Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to be dissatisfied with the entertainment, retail shopping and restaurants in their community. As an example, approximately 57 percent of persons under the age of 50 are dissatisfied with the entertainment in the community, compared to only 33 percent of persons age 65 and older.

Persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999 are more likely than persons living in or near communities of different sizes to express dissatisfaction with entertainment, retail shopping and restaurants. As an example, 58 percent of persons living in or near communities of this population size are dissatisfied with their retail shopping, compared to 45 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to be dissatisfied with their community's entertainment, retail shopping and restaurants.

Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to express dissatisfaction with the retail shopping and restaurants in their community. When examining satisfaction levels with the entertainment in their community, persons with household incomes ranging from $40,000 to $59,999 are the group *least* likely to be dissatisfied.

Persons living in the North Central region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with the entertainment in their community. Fifty-seven percent of North Central residents are dissatisfied with their entertainment, compared to 44 percent of persons living in the South Central region. Residents of the Northeast region join the North Central residents as being the groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their community's retail shopping.

Persons with sales or office support occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to be dissatisfied with the retail shopping in their community.

Panhandle residents are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to express dissatisfaction with the streets and roads in their community. Fifty-five percent of Panhandle residents are dissatisfied with the streets and roads, compared to 41 percent of residents of the Southeast region.

Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their streets and roads include: persons with lower household incomes, persons age 40 to 49, and persons with some college education but not a four year degree.

Persons living in or near communities with populations ranging between 500 and 999 are more likely than persons living in communities of different sizes to say they are dissatisfied with the arts/cultural activities in their community. Forty-seven percent of persons living in or near communities of this size are dissatisfied with the arts/cultural activities, compared to 32 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their arts/cultural activities include: North Central region residents, residents of the Southeast region, persons between the ages of 30 and 39, persons with the highest education

levels and persons with food service or personal care occupations.

Panhandle residents are more likely than residents of other regions to express dissatisfaction with their local government. Forty-four percent of Panhandle residents are dissatisfied with their local government, compared to 29 percent of persons living in the North Central region.

Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their local government include: persons with the lowest household incomes, persons age 50 to 64, persons with lower education levels, and persons with construction, installation or maintenance occupations.

Panhandle residents are more likely than persons from other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with public transportation services in their community. Forty percent of Panhandle residents are dissatisfied with their public transportation services, compared to 23 percent of persons living in the North Central region of the state.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their public transportation services include: persons with some college education but not a four year degree and persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations.

Persons living in the Panhandle are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to be dissatisfied with the housing in their community. Thirty-six percent of persons living in the Panhandle are dissatisfied with the housing in their community, compared to 22 percent of persons living in the South Central region.

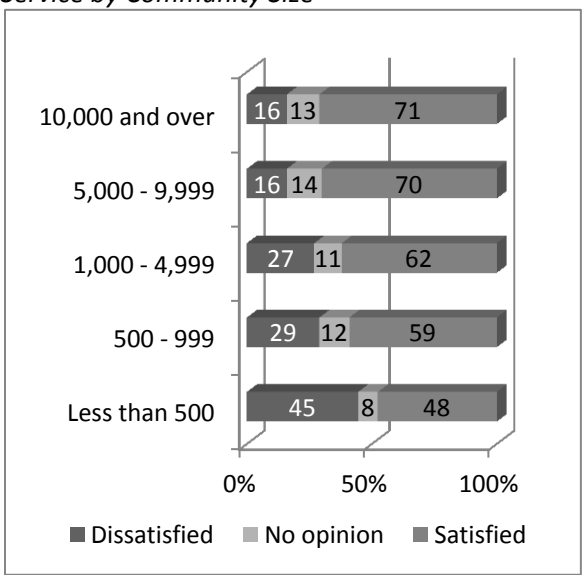
Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with their community's housing include: persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999; persons with middle-level household incomes; younger persons; and persons with occupations classified as other.

Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to express dissatisfaction with the cellular phone service in their community (Figure 5). Forty-five percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people are dissatisfied with their community's cellular phone service, compared to 16 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more.

Persons with occupations in agriculture are more likely than persons with different occupations to be dissatisfied with the cellular phone service in their community. Forty-one percent of persons with agricultural occupations are dissatisfied with the cellular phone service.

Other groups most likely to report being dissatisfied with the cellular phone service in their community include: Panhandle residents, persons with middle-level household incomes, younger persons, and persons with some college education.

Figure 5. *Satisfaction with Cellular Phone Service by Community Size*



Persons living in or near the smallest communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to report being dissatisfied with their community recycling. Thirty-one percent of persons living in or near communities with populations less than 500 are dissatisfied with their community recycling, compared to 21 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more.

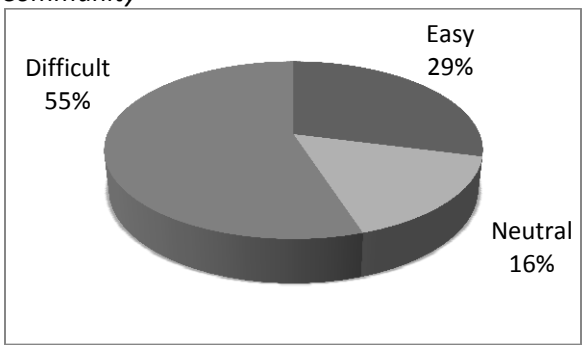
Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their community recycling include: residents of the Northeast region, younger persons, persons with the highest education levels and persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations.

Feelings About Community

Next, respondents were asked a question about how easy or difficult it would be to leave their community. The exact question wording was "Assume you were to have a discussion in your household about leaving your community for a reasonably good opportunity elsewhere. Some people might be happy to live in a new place and meet new people. Others might be very sorry to leave. How easy or difficult would it be for your household to leave your community?" They were given a seven point scale where 1 indicated very easy and 7 denoted very difficult. Just over one-half (55%) of rural Nebraskans say it would be difficult to leave their community[1] (Figure 6). Less than one in three (29%) 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 7). Many differences emerge.

Figure 6. *Difficulty or Ease of Leaving Community*



Older persons are more likely than younger persons to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Sixty-one percent of persons age 65 or older think it would be difficult to leave their community, compared to 48 percent of persons age 30 to 39. Similarly, widowed persons are the marital group most likely to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Sixty-one percent of widowed respondents believe it would be difficult to leave their community, compared to 46 percent of persons who are divorced or separated.

Persons living in or near the smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Sixty-four percent of persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 500 to 999 say it would be difficult to leave their community, compared to 50 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999.

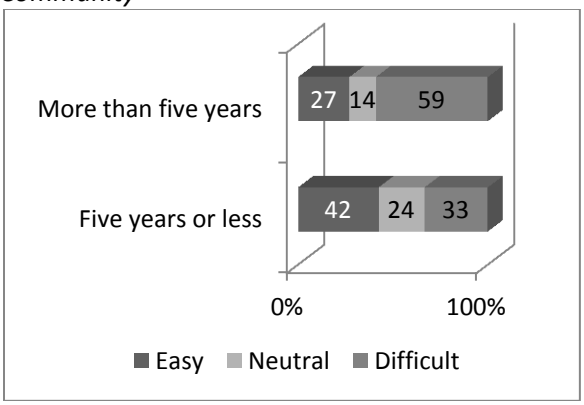
Residents of the North Central region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Sixty-one percent of persons living in the North Central region say it would be difficult to leave their community, compared to 48 percent of persons living in the Panhandle.

[1] The responses on the 7-point scale are converted to percentages as follows: values of 1, 2, and 3 are categorized as easy; values of 5, 6, and 7 are categorized as difficult; and a value of 4 is categorized as neutral.

Persons with occupations in agriculture are more likely than persons with different occupations to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Seventy-two percent of persons with agriculture occupations say it would be difficult to leave their community, compared to 42 percent of persons with occupations classified as other.

Long term residents of the community are more likely than newcomers to say it would be difficult to leave their community. Over one-half (59%) of persons who have lived in their community for more than five years say it would be difficult to leave their community, compared to 33 percent of persons living in the community for five years or less (Figure 7).

Figure 7. *Ease or Difficulty of Leaving Community by Length of Residence in Community*



Community Powerlessness

Respondents were next 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.

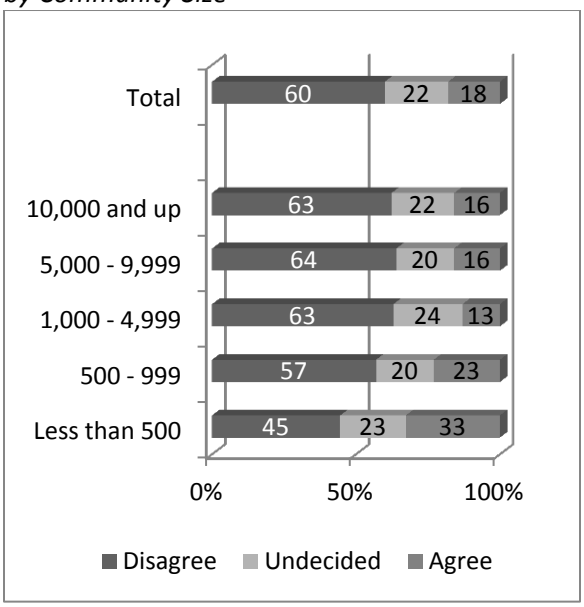
Most rural Nebraskans disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future. Six in ten rural Nebraskans (60%) strongly disagree or disagree that their community is powerless to control its own future. Less than one in five rural Nebraskans (18%) believe their community is powerless to control its future and just under one-quarter (22%) are undecided.

The feelings of community powerlessness are examined by community size, region and individual attributes (Appendix Table 8). 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 (Figure 8). Approximately 63 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 1,000 or more disagree with that statement, compared to 45 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people.

Persons with higher education levels are more likely than persons with less education to disagree that their community is powerless to control its future. Almost three-quarters (73%) of persons with a four year college degree disagree with the statement, compared to 44

Figure 8. *Feelings of Community Powerlessness by Community Size*



percent of persons with a high school diploma or less education.

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

Community Involvement

Respondents were next asked if they have done any community involvement activities in their community during the past year. This question was also asked in 2002. However, a couple modifications were made to the question this year. First, a new item was added: donated money to a local church. Another item (donated money to local community organizations, charities, or causes in your local community) had the wording "other than a church" added to its end.

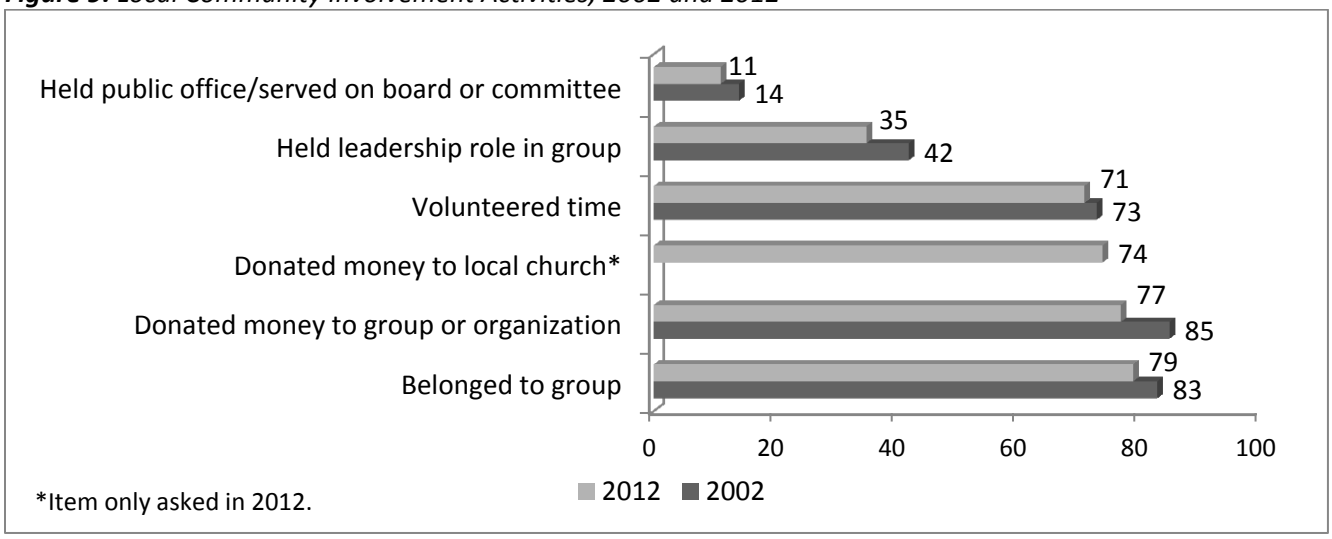
Some levels of community involvement by rural Nebraskans have declined during the past ten years. The proportion of rural Nebraskans that belong to a group or organization has declined from 83 percent in 2002 to 79 percent this year (Figure 9). Also, the proportion that held a leadership role in a group or organization declined from 42 percent in 2002 to 35 percent this year.

Most rural Nebraskans have donated money to a local organization, charity or cause other than a church (77%), donated money to a local church (74%) and volunteered time for a group or organization in their local community during the past year (71%). Just over one in ten rural Nebraskans (11%) have held a public office or served on a government board or committee in the past year.

The levels of community involvement are examined by community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 9). Many differences emerge.

Persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 500 to 999 are more likely than persons living in or near communities of different sizes to have held a leadership role in a group or organization and to have held public office or served on a government board or committee. As an example, 45 percent of persons living in or near communities of this size have held a leadership role in a group or organization in their local community during the past year. In comparison, 32 percent of persons living in or near

Figure 9. *Local Community Involvement Activities, 2002 and 2012*



communities with populations of 10,000 or more have held a leadership role in a group or organization. Persons living in or near the smallest communities are the group *least* likely to have belonged to a group or organization in their local community during the past year.

Residents of the Southeast region are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to have done the following in their local community during the past year: volunteered time for a group or organization, held a leadership role in a group or organization, and held public office or served on a government board or committee. As an example, 78 percent of residents of the Southeast region have volunteered their time for a local group or organization during the past year, compared to 67 percent of the residents in the South Central region of the state.

When examining differences by household income, persons with the highest household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to have done each of the items listed. Almost one-half (48%) of persons with household incomes of $60,000 or more have held a leadership role in a group or organization during the past year, compared to 17 percent of persons with household incomes less than $20,000.

Older persons are more likely than younger persons to have done the following involvement activities in their local community during the past year: held public office or served on a government board or committee; donated money to a local church; and donated money to local organizations, charities or causes other than a church. However, persons between the ages of 30 and 39 are the age group most likely to have volunteered their time for a group or organization during the past year. Persons over the age 30 are the age group most likely to have held a leadership role in a local group or organization.

Females are more likely than males to have belonged to a group or organization during the past year and to have volunteered their time for a group or organization. However, males are more likely than females to have held public office or served on a government board or committee.

When comparing responses by marital status, both married persons and widowed persons are the groups most likely to have belonged to a group or organization during the past year and to have donated money to local organizations, causes or charities during the past year other than a church. Married persons are the marital group most likely to have done the following activities in their local community: volunteered their time for a group or organization, held leadership role in a group or organization, and held public office or served on a government board or committee. Widowed persons are the group most likely to have donated money to a local church during the past year.

Persons with the highest education levels are more likely than persons with less education to have done each of the activities in their local community during the past year. Eighty-two percent of persons with at least a four year college degree have volunteered their time for a local group or organization during the past year, compared to 57 percent of persons with a high school diploma or less education.

Persons with management, professional or education occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to have done the following community involvement activities in the past year: belonged to a group or organization, volunteered time for a group or organization, held a leadership role in a group or organization and donated money to local organizations, causes or charities other than a church. Persons with occupations in agriculture are the occupation group most likely to have held public office or served on a government board or committee and to have donated money to a local church during the past year.

Long-term residents are more likely than newcomers to the community to have done each of the listed activities during the past year. As an example, 38 percent of persons who have lived in the community for more than five years have held a leadership role in a group or organization during the past year, compared to 24 percent of persons who have lived in the community for five years or less.

Distance from Goods and Services

Communities provide various goods and services to their residents. However, some communities cannot provide all of the goods and services a resident may need. To help determine what goods and services are available locally as well as to determine how far residents have to travel for some, they were asked how far they typically travel one way to obtain a list of goods and services. The responses included: don't use, less than 15 miles, 15 – 30 miles, 31 – 60 miles, and more than 60 miles.

At least three-quarters of rural Nebraskans have the following goods and services within 15 miles of them: post office (94%), gas station (89%), bank (82%), church (81%), grocery store (78%), auto repair (78%), and restaurant/café/bar (77%) (Table 2). Less than one-half of rural Nebraskans have access to clothing/apparel (40%) or critical medical care (43%) within 15 miles.

To further examine the distance residents have to travel, these distances are examined by community size and region (Appendix Table 10). Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to have each of the listed goods and services within 15 miles. As an example, 91 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more have primary/family practice medical care within 15 miles, compared to only 29 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 persons (Figure 10).

Less than one-half of persons living in or near communities with populations less than 500 have the following goods and services within 15 miles: grocery store (41%), hardware store (36%), primary/family practice medical care (29%), durable household goods (17%), critical medical care (13%), and clothing/apparel

Table 2. *Distance from Goods and Services*

	Don't use	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*
Post office	1%	94%	5%	0*%	0*%
Gas station	2	89	8	2	0*
Bank	1	82	12	3	1
Church	9	81	8	2	1
Grocery store	0*	78	16	5	1
Auto repair	3	78	13	5	2
Restaurant/café/bar	1	77	16	5	1
Hardware store	2	74	17	6	1
Primary/family practice medical care	1	69	20	8	2
Elementary school	28	65	7	0*	0*
High school	28	63	8	1	1
Durable household goods	2	51	20	20	8
Critical medical care	5	43	18	17	18
Clothing/apparel	1	40	20	25	15

0* = Less than 1 percent.

Figure 10. *Distance from Primary Medical Care Services by Community Size*

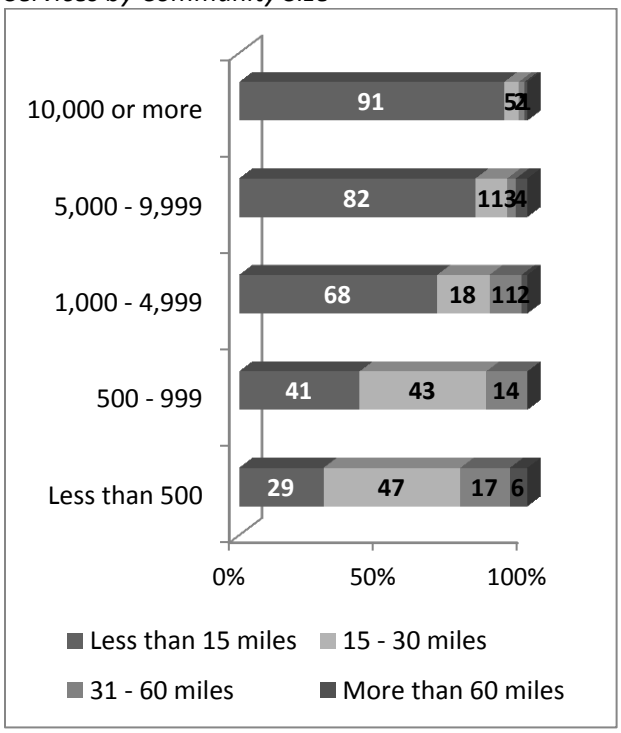
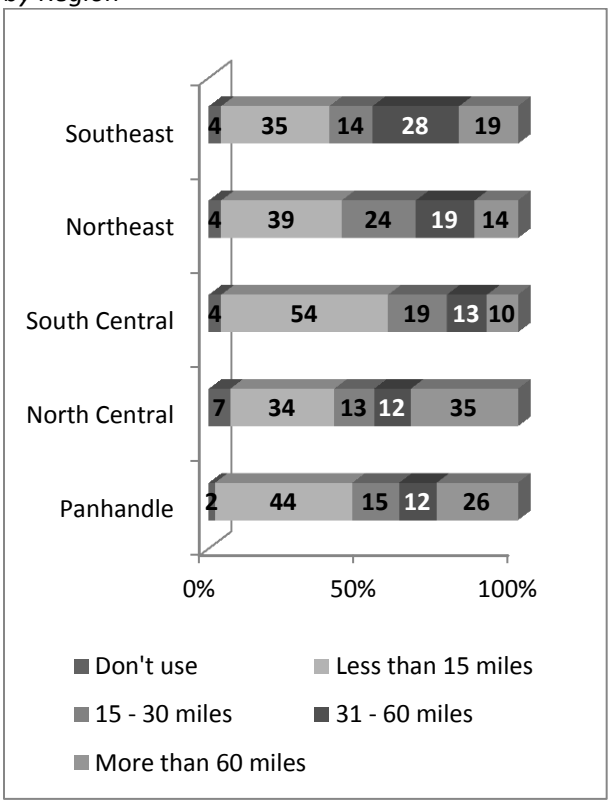


Figure 11. *Distance from Critical Medical Care by Region*



(11%).

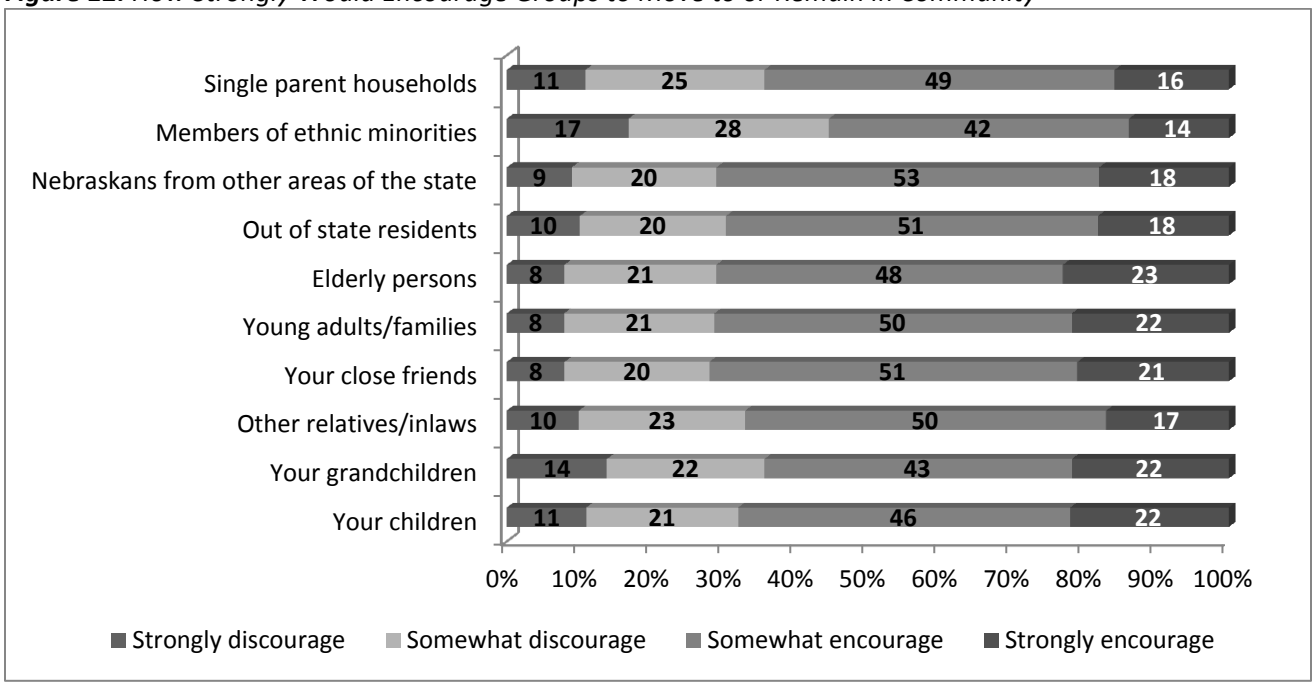
Residents of the South Central region are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to have the following goods and services within 15 miles: gas station, auto repair, clothing/apparel, durable household goods, primary/family practice medical care and critical medical care. More than one-half (54%) of residents of the South Central region have critical medical care within 15 miles, compared to 34 percent of the residents of the North Central region (Figure 11). Residents of both the Northeast and Southeast regions join the residents of the South Central region as the groups most likely to have the following within 15 miles: bank, post office, elementary school and high school. Residents of the Northeast region are the regional group most likely to have a hardware store and church within 15 miles.

Future of Community

Smaller communities need population growth to remain viable. Encouraging people to move to their community or remain in it is one way residents can encourage this growth. To determine how rural Nebraskans feel about various groups staying in or moving to their community, they were asked, "How strongly would you encourage or discourage the following groups of people to move to or remain in your current community? The answer categories included: strongly discourage, somewhat discourage, somewhat encourage, and strongly encourage.

Most rural Nebraskans would encourage each of the groups listed to either move to or remain in their community (Figure 12). Almost one-quarter of rural Nebraskans would strongly encourage the following groups to move to or remain in their community: elderly persons (23%), young adults/young families (22%), their children (22%) and their grandchildren (22%).

Figure 12. *How Strongly Would Encourage Groups to Move to or Remain in Community*



Some differences do emerge based on community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 11). Persons living in or near the largest communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to encourage their children to either move to or remain in their community. Seventy-one percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more would either strongly or somewhat encourage their children to live in their community, compared to 63 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 500 to 999.

Persons living in both the South Central and Northeast regions of the state are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to encourage their children to move to or remain in their community. Approximately 70 percent of persons living in these two regions would encourage their children to live in their community, compared to 61 percent of persons living in the Panhandle.

Other groups most likely to encourage their children to move to or remain in their community include: younger persons, married persons, widowed persons, persons with occupations classified as other and persons with sales or office support occupations.

Persons living in the Northeast region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to encourage their grandchildren to move to or remain in their community. Sixty-nine percent of persons living in the Northeast region could encourage their grandchildren to live in their community, compared to 56 percent of persons living in the Panhandle.

Other groups most likely to encourage their grandchildren to move to or remain in their community include persons with higher household incomes and younger persons. Persons who are divorced or separated are the marital group *least* likely to encourage their grandchildren to live in their community.

Persons living in or near the largest communities are more likely than persons living in or near smaller communities to encourage their other relatives and in-laws to move to or remain in their community. Other groups most likely to encourage their other relatives and in-laws to live in their community include: persons

living in the South Central region, persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, persons who have never married, married persons, persons with higher education levels and persons with occupations classified as other.

The groups most likely to encourage their close, personal friends to move to or remain in their community include: persons living in the South Central region, persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, married persons, persons with higher education levels and persons with occupations classified as other.

Persons living in the South Central region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to encourage young adults or young families to live in their community. Almost three-quarters (74%) of persons living in the South Central region would encourage young families or young adults to move to or remain in their community, compared to 66 percent of persons living in the Panhandle. Other groups most likely to encourage young adults or young families to live in their community include: persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, persons who have never married, married persons, and persons with higher education levels.

Persons living in or near larger communities are more likely than persons living in or near the smallest communities to encourage elderly persons to move to or remain in their community. Just over three-quarters (76%) of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more would encourage elderly persons to live in their community, compared to 57 percent of persons living in or near communities with less than 500 persons.

Other groups most likely to encourage elderly persons to live in their community include: persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, persons who have never married, persons with higher education levels and persons with occupations classified as other.

The groups most likely to encourage out of state residents to move to or remain in their community include: persons living in or near larger communities, persons living in the Northeast region, persons with higher household incomes, younger persons, persons who have never married, persons with higher education levels, and persons with sales or office support occupations.

The groups most likely to encourage Nebraskans from other areas of the state to live in their community include: persons living in or near larger communities, residents of the South Central region, persons with higher household incomes, married persons and persons with higher education levels. Persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations are the occupation group *least* likely to encourage Nebraskans from other areas of the state to move to or remain in their community.

The groups most likely to encourage members of ethnic minorities to move to or remain in their community include: persons living in or near larger communities, persons with higher incomes, younger persons, persons with higher education levels and persons with sales or office support occupations.

The groups most likely to encourage single parent households to live in their community include: persons living in or near the largest communities, persons with higher incomes, younger persons, married persons, persons with higher education levels and persons with sales or office support occupations.

Next, respondents were asked how important various items are to the future of their community. The specific question asked, “How important do you think the following items are for the future of your community?”

Most rural Nebraskans view training young residents in the community for leadership roles, assisting people to take over local farms as the current owners retire, assisting people to take over local businesses as current owners retire, residents volunteering their time to community activities, and getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community as very important for the future of their community (Figure 13). Thirty-seven percent view financial contributions by community residents, especially larger donations given in trusts, wills, estates, etc. as very important.

The perceived importance of these items are analyzed by community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 12). Some differences of opinion emerge.

The groups most likely to believe that residents volunteering their time to community activities is very important for the future of their community include: persons with higher household incomes; older persons; females; widowed persons; married persons; persons with higher education levels; and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

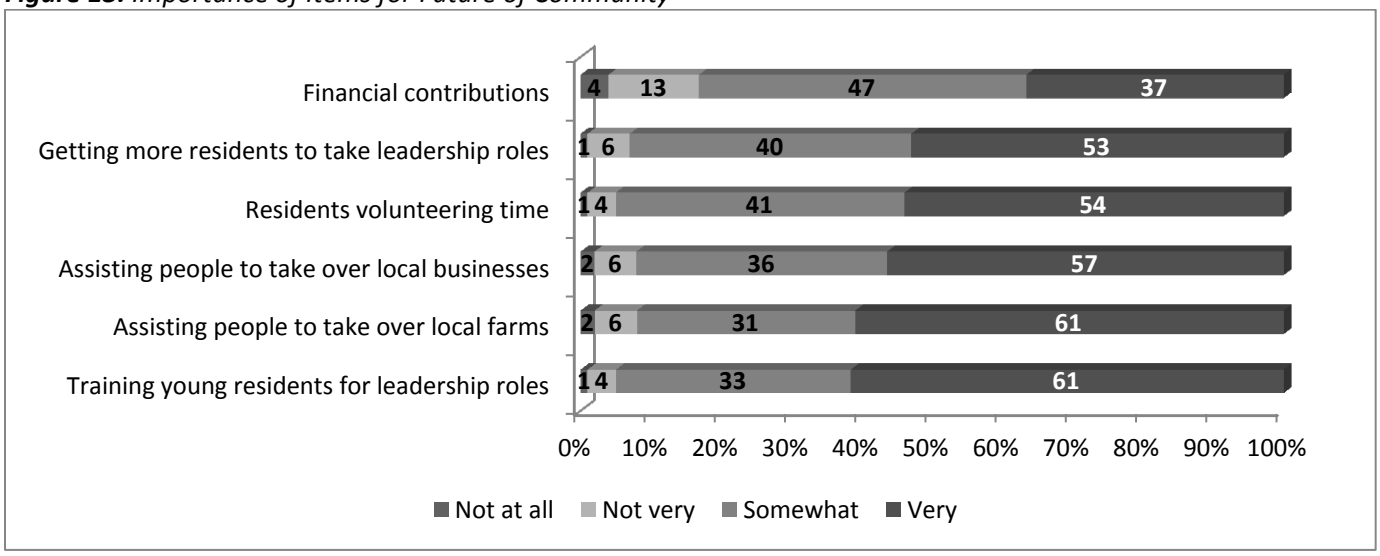
Persons with occupations in agriculture are more likely than persons with different occupations to rate assisting people to take over local businesses as current owners retire as very important for the future of their community. Sixty-four percent of persons with occupations in agriculture rate this as very important, compared to 43 percent of persons with production, transportation or warehousing occupations.

Other groups most likely to rate assisting people to take over local businesses as current owners retire as very important include: persons living in or near smaller communities, persons with higher incomes, persons between the ages of 30 and 39, married persons, and persons with higher education levels.

Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than persons living in or near larger communities to rate assisting people to take over local farms as the current owners retire as very important for the future of their community. Just over two-thirds (68%) of persons living in or near communities with populations less than 500 rate this as very important, compared to 57 percent of persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more.

Other groups most likely to rate assisting people to take over local farms as the current

Figure 13. *Importance of Items for Future of Community*



owners retire as very important to the future of their community include: persons with higher household incomes, females, married persons, widowed persons, and persons with higher education levels. The occupation groups most likely to rate this as very important include: persons with sales or office support occupations, persons with occupations in agriculture, and persons with food service or personal care occupations. The regional group *least* likely to rate this item as very important are persons living in the Southeast region.

The groups most likely to rate getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community as very important to the future include: persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999; residents of the Panhandle; residents of the South Central region; persons with higher incomes; females; widowed persons; persons with higher education levels; and persons with management, professional or education occupations.

The groups most likely to rate training young residents in the community for leadership roles as very important for the future of the community include: persons living in or near larger communities; persons with higher incomes; females; married persons; widowed persons; persons with higher education levels; persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations; and persons with management, professional and education occupations.

The groups most likely to rate financial contributions by community residents, especially larger donations given in trusts, wills, estates, etc. as very important for the future of their community include: persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999; residents of the South Central region; persons with higher incomes; persons age 30 to 39; females; persons who are divorced/separated; persons with higher education levels and persons with healthcare support or public safety occupations.

Plans to Leave the Community

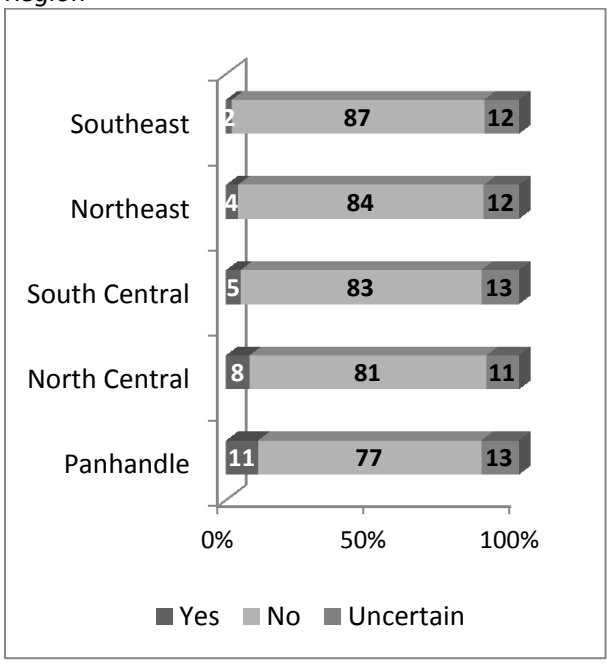
To determine rural Nebraskans' migration intentions, respondents were asked, "Do you plan to move from your community in the next year?" Response options included yes, no or uncertain. A follow-up question (asked only of those who indicated they were planning to move) asked where they planned to move. The answer categories for this question were: Lincoln/Omaha metro areas, some place in Nebraska outside the Lincoln/Omaha metro areas, or some place other than Nebraska.

Only five percent indicate they are planning to move from their community in the next year, 12 percent are uncertain and 83 percent have no plans to move. Of those who are planning to move, one-half (50%) plan to leave Nebraska. Fifty percent plan to remain in the state, with 11 percent planning to move to either the Lincoln or Omaha area and 39 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 13). Residents of the Panhandle are more likely than residents of other regions of the state to be planning to move from their community in the next year. Eleven percent of Panhandle residents are planning to move next year, compared to two percent of residents of the Southeast region (Figure 14).

Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to be planning to move from their community in the next year. Nine percent of persons between the ages of 19 and 29 are planning to move next year, compared to only

Figure 14. *Plans to Move From Community by Region*



two percent of persons age 65 and older. An additional 21 percent of the younger respondents indicate they are uncertain if they plan to move.

Persons who have never married are the marital group most likely to be planning to move from their community. Eleven percent of persons who have never married are planning to move in the next year, compared to two percent of the widowed respondents. An additional 26 percent of the persons who have never married are uncertain if they plan to move.

When comparing responses by occupation, persons with occupations classified as other are more likely than persons with different occupations to be uncertain about their plans to leave the community. Forty percent of persons with occupations classified as other are uncertain if they are planning to move from their community next year.

Newcomers to the community are more likely than long-term residents to be planning to leave their community in the next year. Nine percent of persons who have lived in their community five years or less are planning to move in the next year, compared to five percent of persons who have lived in their community for more than five years. Just over one-quarter (26%) of the newcomers are uncertain if they plan to move.

The female potential movers are more likely than the male potential movers to be planning to leave the state. Just over one-half (54%) of the female potential movers expect to leave the state, compared to 39 percent of the male potential movers. The male potential movers are more likely to expect to move to the Lincoln or Omaha metro areas.

Potential movers who are long-term residents are more likely than potential movers who are newcomers to the community to be planning to leave the state. Sixty percent of potential movers who have lived in their current community for more than five years expect to leave the state, compared to 23 percent of potential movers who have lived in their current community for five years or less.

Conclusion

By many different measures, rural Nebraskans are positive about their community. Many rural Nebraskans rate their community as friendly, trusting and supportive. Most rural Nebraskans also say it would be difficult to leave their community. In addition, most rural Nebraskans disagree that their community is powerless to control its future. And, the majority of rural Nebraskans would encourage various groups to move to or remain in their community.

Differences of opinion exist by the size of their community. Residents of smaller communities are more likely than residents of larger communities to rate their community favorably on its social dimensions and to have positive sentiments about their community. However, residents of larger communities are more likely than residents of smaller communities to say their community has changed for the better during the past year and will be a better place to live ten years from now.

Except for a few services that are largely unavailable in rural communities, rural Nebraskans are generally satisfied with basic community services and amenities. They are most satisfied with: fire protection, parks and recreation, library services, and religious organizations. On the other hand, at least one-third of rural Nebraskans are dissatisfied with the retail shopping, entertainment, streets and roads, restaurants, arts/cultural activities and local government in their community.

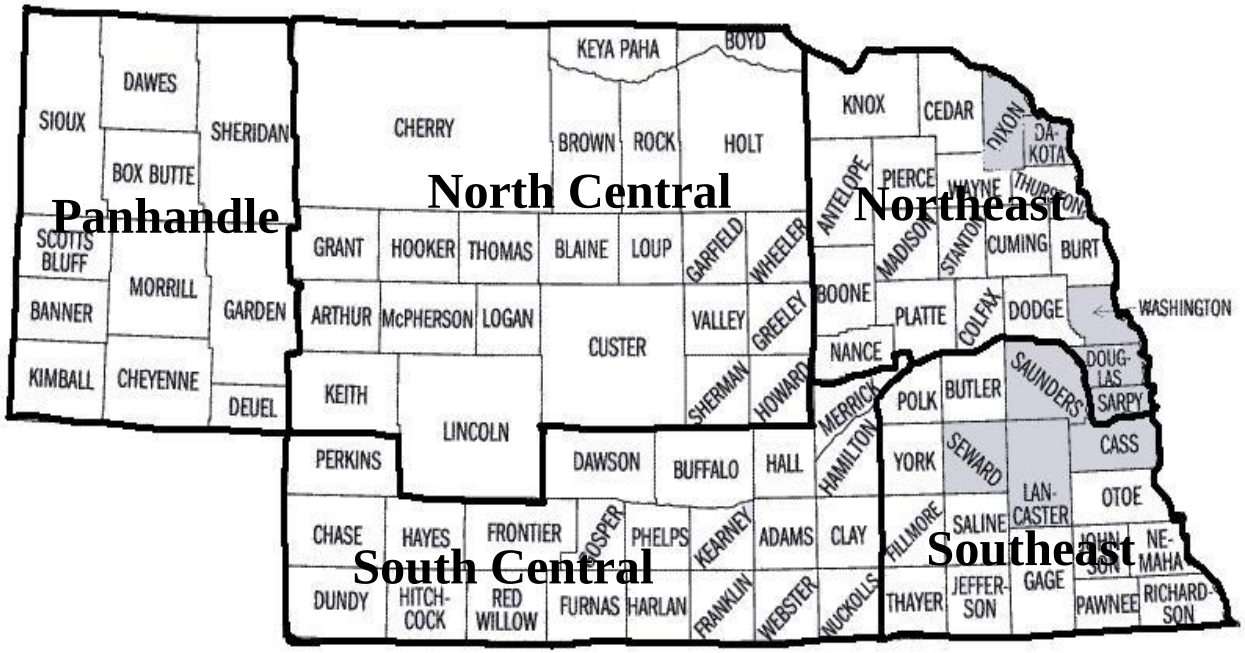
Most residents of the smallest communities in the state don't have access to various goods and services within a 15 mile drive, including a grocery store, clothing/apparel and medical care.

Most rural Nebraskans are involved in their community with the majority belonging to a local group or organization, volunteering their time and donating money to a local church as well as other local organizations, causes or charities. And, even though newcomers were less likely than long-term residents to have done the various activities during the past year, a majority of them had still been involved in many community activities during the past year.

When looking to the future of their community, most rural Nebraskans view encouraging community involvement as very important. The majority rate the following strategies as very important for the future of their community: residents volunteering their time to community activities, assisting people to take over local farms and businesses as the current owners retire, getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community, and training young residents in the community for leadership roles.

Few rural Nebraskans are planning to move from their community in the next year, but one-half of those who do plan to move expect to leave the state.

Appendix Figure 1. Regions of Nebraska



Metropolitan counties (not surveyed)

Appendix Table 1. *Demographic Profile of Rural Poll Respondents*[1] *Compared to 2010 Census and 2009 American Community Survey*

	2012 Poll	***2011 Poll***	***2010 Poll***	***2009 Poll***	***2008 Poll***	***2007 Poll***	***2009 ACS***
Age : [2]							
20 - 39	31%	31%	32%	32%	32%	31%	31%
40 - 64	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%	44%	46%
65 and over	24%	24%	24%	24%	24%	25%	24%
Gender: [3]							
Female	61%	60%	59%	57%	56%	59%	50%
Male	39%	40%	41%	43%	44%	41%	50%
Education: [4]							
Less than 9th grade	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	4%	5%
9th to 12th grade (no diploma)	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	6%	8%
High school diploma (or equiv.)	22%	26%	25%	26%	26%	26%	34%
Some college, no degree	25%	23%	25%	25%	25%	23%	26%
Associate degree	15%	16%	14%	15%	12%	14%	10%
Bachelors degree	24%	19%	20%	20%	21%	18%	13%
Graduate or professional degree	11%	12%	11%	10%	10%	10%	5%
Household Income: [5]							
Less than $10,000	6%	6%	6%	6%	7%	7%	7%
$10,000 - $19,999	10%	10%	10%	9%	10%	13%	14%
$20,000 - $29,999	11%	13%	13%	13%	14%	15%	14%
$30,000 - $39,999	10%	14%	12%	13%	14%	14%	13%
$40,000 - $49,999	12%	11%	13%	12%	13%	13%	11%
$50,000 - $59,999	13%	12%	11%	13%	11%	12%	9%
$60,000 - $74,999	14%	12%	13%	14%	13%	11%	11%
$75,000 or more	25%	22%	23%	21%	18%	16%	21%
Marital Status: [6]							
Married	70%	66%	71%	68%	70%	70%	58%
Never married	10%	14%	9%	10%	10%	10%	24%
Divorced/separated	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	10%	11%
Widowed/widower	10%	9%	11%	9%	10%	10%	8%

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

[2] 2010 Census universe is non-metro population 20 years of age and over.

[3] 2010 Census universe is total non-metro population.

[4] 2009 American Community Survey universe is non-metro population 18 years of age and over.

[5] 2009 American Community Survey universe is all non-metro households.

[6] 2009 American Community Survey universe is non-metro population 15 years of age and over.

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

	Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say... My community has changed for the			
	Worse	*No Change*	*Better*	*Significance*
		Percentages		
Total	20	46	34	
Community Size		(n = 2070)		
Less than 500	29	49	22	
500 - 999	18	56	26	
1,000 - 4,999	16	45	38	χ^2 = 51.77*
5,000 - 9,999	20	45	35	(.000)
10,000 and up	18	44	38	
Region		(n = 2164)		
Panhandle	23	49	29	
North Central	19	46	36	
South Central	21	40	40	χ^2 = 39.27*
Northeast	17	56	27	(.000)
Southeast	20	43	37	
Income Level		(n = 1959)		
Under $20,000	26	52	22	
$20,000 - $39,999	20	49	31	χ^2 = 40.43*
$40,000 - $59,999	20	46	34	(.000)
$60,000 and over	16	43	41	
Age		(n = 2170)		
19 - 29	15	53	32	
30 - 39	20	41	39	
40 - 49	21	45	34	χ^2 = 19.28*
50 - 64	22	43	35	(.013)
65 and older	19	50	31	
Gender		(n = 2126)		
Male	21	47	32	χ^2 = 1.89
Female	19	46	35	(.388)
Marital Status		(n = 2130)		
Married	19	46	35	
Never married	21	51	28	
Divorced/separated	22	48	30	χ^2 = 7.63
Widowed	23	45	33	(.266)
Education		(n = 2114)		
H.S. diploma or less	22	50	27	
Some college	22	48	31	χ^2 = 36.84*
Bachelors or grad degree	15	43	42	(.000)

Appendix Table 2 continued.

	Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say... My community has changed for the			
	Worse	*No Change*	*Better*	*Significance*
Occupation		(n = 1475)		
Mgt, prof or education	17	42	41	
Sales or office support	16	51	33	
Constrn, inst or maint	23	44	33	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	11	64	25	
Agriculture	23	42	35	
Food serv/pers. care	28	39	32	
Hlthcare supp/safety	20	45	35	χ^2 = 36.45*
Other	22	44	34	(.001)
Yrs Lived in Community		(n = 2123)		
Five years or less	16	50	34	χ^2 = 3.98
More than five years	20	46	34	(.136)

* 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*

	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?			
	Worse Place	*About the same*	*Better Place*	*Significance*
		Percentages		
Total	21	57	22	
Community Size		(n = 2067)		
Less than 500	28	63	10	
500 - 999	23	63	14	
1,000 - 4,999	20	57	23	χ^2 = 54.66*
5,000 - 9,999	19	56	26	(.000)
10,000 and up	20	53	27	
Region		(n = 2159)		
Panhandle	24	53	24	
North Central	19	64	17	
South Central	21	56	24	χ^2 = 12.31
Northeast	22	55	22	(.138)
Southeast	20	61	20	
Income Level		(n = 1959)		
Under $20,000	29	57	14	
$20,000 - $39,999	22	61	17	χ^2 = 46.14*
$40,000 - $59,999	19	60	20	(.000)
$60,000 and over	19	52	29	
Age		(n = 2170)		
19 - 29	26	52	22	
30 - 39	18	57	26	
40 - 49	25	54	22	χ^2 = 23.47*
50 - 64	22	57	21	(.003)
65 and older	17	64	19	
Gender		(n = 2124)		
Male	22	57	21	χ^2 = 0.33
Female	21	57	22	(.849)
Marital Status		(n = 2126)		
Married	20	57	22	
Never married	31	49	20	
Divorced/separated	22	59	19	χ^2 = 15.72*
Widowed	19	62	19	(.015)
Education		(n = 2113)		
H.S. diploma or less	24	64	13	
Some college	25	55	20	χ^2 = 68.31*
Bachelors or grad degree	16	54	30	(.000)

Appendix Table 3 continued.

	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?			
	Worse Place	*About the same*	*Better Place*	*Significance*
Occupation		(n = 1475)		
Mgt, prof or education	20	51	29	
Sales or office support	20	53	27	
Constrn, inst or maint	25	55	21	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	25	63	12	
Agriculture	22	59	19	
Food serv/pers. care	31	50	19	
Hlthcare supp/safety	17	63	20	$\chi^2 = 34.17$*
Other	19	64	16	(.002)
Yrs Lived in Community		(n = 2120)		
Five years or less	19	57	25	$\chi^2 = 3.48$
More than five years	22	57	21	(.176)

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

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

	My community is...				***My community is...***				***My community is...***			
	Unfriendly	*No opinion*	*Friendly*	*Chi-square (sig.)*	*Distrusting*	*No opinion*	*Trusting*	*Chi-square (sig.)*	*Hostile*	*No opinion*	*Supportive*	*Chi-square (sig.)*
						Percentages						
Total	11	17	73		15	21	64		15	21	65	
Community Size		(n = 2039)				(n = 2004)				(n = 2008)		
Less than 500	8	16	76		11	19	70		11	19	70	
500 - 999	8	18	74		16	17	67		12	21	67	
1,000 - 4,999	12	13	75	χ^2 =	13	20	67	χ^2 =	15	18	67	χ^2 =
5,000 - 9,999	9	19	73	13.83	13	22	66	25.37*	14	16	69	19.33*
10,000 and up	11	19	70	(.086)	19	24	58	(.001)	15	25	60	(.013)
Region		(n = 2127)				(n = 2088)				(n = 2091)		
Panhandle	14	12	74		14	22	64		18	19	63	
North Central	9	16	74		17	17	66		19	16	65	
South Central	8	19	74	χ^2 =	13	24	64	χ^2 =	14	20	66	χ^2 =
Northeast	12	17	71	14.34	17	19	63	10.77	13	24	63	14.46
Southeast	13	16	72	(.073)	15	22	63	(.215)	15	21	65	(.071)
Individual Attributes												
Income Level		(n = 1933)				(n = 1904)				(n = 1907)		
Under $20,000	13	26	62		22	28	51		20	21	59	
$20,000 - $39,999	12	15	73	χ^2 =	16	21	63	χ^2 =	16	19	65	χ^2 =
$40,000 - $59,999	10	17	73	30.91*	16	22	63	34.50*	17	22	61	21.36*
$60,000 and over	9	14	78	(.000)	13	17	70	(.000)	11	19	70	(.002)
Age		(n = 2136)				(n = 2097)				(n = 2101)		
19 - 29	8	22	70		14	22	64		19	16	64	
30 - 39	12	16	72		19	18	62		16	24	60	
40 - 49	12	16	72	χ^2 =	14	22	64	χ^2 =	12	23	65	χ^2 =
50 - 64	12	14	74	15.97*	17	21	63	8.43	15	20	65	16.09*
65 and older	9	17	74	(.043)	13	21	65	(.393)	13	20	68	(.041)
Gender		(n = 2092)		χ^2 =		(n = 2056)		χ^2 =		(n = 2058)		χ^2 =
Male	11	16	73	0.41	16	20	64	0.45	12	20	67	7.91*
Female	11	17	72	(.816)	15	21	64	(.799)	17	21	63	(.019)

Appendix Table 4 continued.

	My community is...				***My community is...***				***My community is...***			
	Unfriendly	*No opinion*	*Friendly*	*Chi-square (sig.)*	*Distrusting*	*No opinion*	*Trusting*	*Chi-square (sig.)*	*Hostile*	*No opinion*	*Supportive*	*Chi-square (sig.)*
Marital Status		(n = 2095)				(n = 2055)				(n = 2060)		
Married	10	15	75		15	20	65		14	21	65	
Never married	10	28	62	χ^2 =	16	22	62	χ^2 =	22	22	57	χ^2 =
Divorced/separated	16	17	67	32.24*	21	23	57	16.42*	17	17	66	13.49*
Widowed	8	19	74	(.000)	9	27	64	(.012)	11	21	68	(.036)
Education		(n = 2082)				(n = 2045)				(n = 2050)		
H.S. diploma or less	11	22	68	χ^2 =	17	25	58	χ^2 =	17	26	58	χ^2 =
Some college	11	19	71	26.43*	17	23	60	36.73*	17	22	62	34.56*
Bachelors degree	10	12	78	(.000)	12	15	72	(.000)	12	16	73	(.000)
Occupation		(n = 1472)				(n = 1462)				(n = 1460)		
Mgt, prof or education	11	14	75		15	16	69		11	18	72	
Sales or office support	6	15	79		15	19	66		14	15	71	
Constrn, inst or maint	8	17	76		12	26	62		11	17	72	
Prodn/trans/warehsing	12	24	64		17	24	59		17	24	59	
Agriculture	10	14	76	χ^2 =	14	19	68	χ^2 =	12	20	68	χ^2 =
Food serv/pers. care	7	24	70	28.08*	17	27	56	20.30	18	32	51	32.63*
Hlthcare supp/safety	10	11	79	(.014)	17	26	57	(.121)	17	25	58	(.003)
Other	9	27	64		11	21	68		14	19	68	
Yrs Lived in Comm.		(n = 2090)		χ^2 =		(n = 2052)		χ^2 =		(n = 2057)		χ^2 =
Five years or less	11	16	74	0.65	16	21	63	0.08	17	14	69	10.65*
More than five years	11	17	72	(.722)	15	21	64	(.961)	14	22	64	(.005)

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

Appendix Table 5. *Level of Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities*

Service/Amenity	***Dissatisfied****	***No opinion***	***Satisfied****
		Percentages	
Entertainment	50	20	30
Retail shopping	48	13	39
Streets and roads	44	7	49
Restaurants	43	10	48
Arts/cultural activities	38	36	27
Local government	33	26	42
Public transportation services	30	52	19
Housing	26	17	57
Community recycling	25	22	54
Cellular phone service	25	12	63
Law enforcement	22	14	65
Internet service	22	19	59
Medical care services	20	12	68
Mental health services	19	56	25
Nursing home care	16	40	45
Education (K - 12)	13	19	68
Adult day care services	13	66	21
Parks and recreation	11	13	76
Child day care services	10	55	35
Sewage/waste disposal	10	26	64
Senior centers	9	44	47
Library services	9	19	72
Head Start programs	8	65	27
Religious organizations	6	21	72
Fire protection	4	10	85

* 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 6. *Measures of Satisfaction with Ten Services and Amenities in Relation to Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes*

	Entertainment			***Retail shopping***			***Streets and roads***			***Restaurants***		
	Dissatisfied	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*	*Dissatisfied*	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*	*Dissatisfied*	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*	*Dissatisfied*	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*
						Percentages						
Community Size		(n = 2088)			(n = 2087)			(n = 2092)			(n = 2096)	
Less than 500	48	27	25	51	22	28	46	6	48	38	17	45
500 - 999	56	22	22	56	17	28	48	3	49	46	14	41
1,000 - 4,999	50	23	27	47	15	38	44	8	48	45	11	44
5,000 - 9,999	58	15	27	58	9	33	40	6	54	56	5	39
10,000 and over	47	16	37	45	6	49	44	7	49	38	5	57
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 48.76* (.000)			χ^2 = 104.62* (.000)			χ^2 = 11.93 (.155)			χ^2 = 82.64* (.000)	
Region		(n = 2180)			(n = 2181)			(n = 2187)			(n = 2189)	
Panhandle	50	19	31	46	12	43	55	7	38	44	8	48
North Central	57	18	24	52	11	37	47	8	45	42	7	51
South Central	44	18	39	44	12	44	42	8	50	39	10	51
Northeast	49	24	27	52	16	32	42	6	52	46	11	44
Southeast	55	21	24	48	12	40	41	5	54	46	10	44
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 44.88* (.000)			χ^2 = 23.42* (.003)			χ^2 = 23.81* (.002)			χ^2 = 13.93 (.084)	
Income Level		(n = 1981)			(n = 1980)			(n = 1985)			(n = 1988)	
Under $20,000	52	26	23	49	14	37	50	11	39	43	14	43
$20,000 - $39,999	52	20	29	47	12	42	49	6	45	41	12	47
$40,000 - $59,999	46	19	35	42	13	45	47	5	47	38	6	56
$60,000 and over	53	16	31	53	11	36	38	6	56	47	7	46
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 23.31* (.001)			χ^2 = 16.74* (.010)			χ^2 = 36.92* (.000)			χ^2 = 34.11* (.000)	
Age		(n = 2189)			(n = 2190)			(n = 2194)			(n = 2197)	
19 - 29	58	15	28	51	13	36	45	7	48	42	11	47
30 - 39	59	11	30	55	11	34	46	7	47	51	5	44
40 - 49	57	17	26	48	14	38	50	6	44	47	7	46
50 - 64	50	21	30	48	13	39	44	7	48	44	11	45
65 and over	33	31	36	43	12	45	36	7	57	34	12	54
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 107.01* (.000)			χ^2 = 15.97* (.043)			χ^2 = 21.21* (.007)			χ^2 = 36.48* (.000)	
Education		(n = 2132)			(n = 2133)			(n = 2137)			(n = 2142)	
H.S. diploma or less	42	28	30	43	15	43	43	9	48	34	14	52
Some college	57	17	27	51	13	35	50	7	43	48	8	44
College grad	48	18	34	50	10	40	39	5	56	44	8	48
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 43.60* (.000)			χ^2 = 18.34* (.001)			χ^2 = 30.11* (.000)			χ^2 = 39.23* (.000)	
Occupation		(n = 1497)			(n = 1494)			(n = 1496)			(n = 1500)	
Mgt, prof, education	52	18	30	51	12	37	41	6	53	45	9	46
Sales/office support	54	16	30	54	7	39	46	8	46	55	8	37
Const, inst or maint	55	14	32	43	15	43	50	7	44	45	7	48
Prodn/trans/warehs	55	18	26	47	16	38	43	5	53	46	8	46
Agriculture	50	18	32	47	18	35	44	6	49	40	10	50
Food serv/pers. care	60	12	29	47	10	44	55	7	38	43	3	54
Hlthcare supp/safety	56	13	31	51	6	42	44	7	49	44	6	50
Other	61	8	31	51	10	39	52	9	40	41	12	47
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 10.82 (.700)			χ^2 = 25.38* (.031)			χ^2 = 14.40 (.420)			χ^2 = 21.08 (.099)	

* 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 6 continued.

	Arts/cultural activities			***Local government***			***Public transportation***			***Housing***		
	Dissatisfied	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*	*Dissatisfied*	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*	*Dissatisfied*	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*	*Dissatisfied*	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*
						Percentages						
Community Size		(n = 2080)			(n = 2099)			(n = 2077)			(n = 2076)	
Less than 500	41	45	15	32	27	42	29	64	7	29	22	49
500 - 999	47	37	16	33	28	39	30	57	12	20	24	56
1,000 - 4,999	38	36	25	34	24	42	29	53	18	25	15	61
5,000 - 9,999	44	26	30	35	25	40	29	40	31	34	11	55
10,000 and over	32	34	34	33	25	42	32	48	21	24	14	62
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 72.11* (.000)			χ^2 = 2.20 (.974)			χ^2 = 71.82* (.000)			χ^2 = 43.03* (.000)	
Region		(n = 2168)			(n = 2190)			(n = 2167)			(n = 2174)	
Panhandle	38	27	35	44	23	33	40	39	21	36	20	44
North Central	44	37	20	29	30	41	23	56	21	33	18	50
South Central	33	36	31	30	27	44	30	49	21	22	13	66
Northeast	36	40	24	33	26	41	28	56	15	25	18	57
Southeast	43	32	25	33	23	44	30	53	17	23	20	58
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 37.95* (.000)			χ^2 = 21.02* (.007)			χ^2 = 31.24* (.000)			χ^2 = 49.81* (.000)	
Income Level		(n = 1979)			(n = 1989)			(n = 1975)			(n = 1974)	
Under $20,000	40	40	21	37	32	30	31	42	27	26	24	49
$20,000 - $39,999	37	32	31	38	24	38	30	50	20	29	20	51
$40,000 - $59,999	36	35	29	32	27	42	30	56	14	29	13	58
$60,000 and over	40	34	26	29	21	50	28	55	18	23	14	64
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 13.64* (.034)			χ^2 = 42.34* (.000)			χ^2 = 26.67* (.000)			χ^2 = 39.98* (.000)	
Age		(n = 2177)			(n = 2198)			(n = 2176)			(n = 2182)	
19 - 29	43	38	18	26	40	34	28	62	11	30	12	58
30 - 39	48	29	23	31	31	38	29	53	19	31	16	53
40 - 49	42	31	26	35	23	43	32	55	14	27	16	57
50 - 64	38	35	27	39	21	40	32	49	19	25	17	58
65 and over	23	42	35	30	20	50	28	43	29	20	21	60
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 83.06* (.000)			χ^2 = 73.33* (.000)			χ^2 = 64.44* (.000)			χ^2 = 25.52* (.001)	
Education		(n = 2127)			(n = 2141)			(n = 2120)			(n = 2126)	
H.S. diploma or less	32	45	23	36	28	36	25	52	23	24	24	52
Some college	40	35	24	35	26	39	32	48	20	28	18	55
College grad	39	29	32	28	23	48	30	57	13	25	11	64
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 39.04* (.000)			χ^2 = 23.22* (.000)			χ^2 = 29.23* (.000)			χ^2 = 45.65* (.000)	
Occupation		(n = 1492)			(n = 1500)			(n = 1492)			(n = 1491)	
Mgt, prof, education	42	29	29	30	19	51	27	54	18	31	8	61
Sales/office support	34	42	25	26	32	43	26	59	15	30	22	48
Const, inst or maint	43	34	23	46	19	34	33	53	14	24	19	58
Prodn/trans/warehs	36	41	22	41	29	30	29	53	18	20	23	57
Agriculture	39	42	19	30	31	40	25	62	13	19	17	64
Food serv/pers. care	57	23	19	36	35	29	33	42	25	34	11	55
Hlthcare supp/safety	46	29	26	36	25	39	42	42	15	25	19	56
Other	42	37	21	33	24	43	30	57	13	37	18	46
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 38.32* (.000)			χ^2 = 54.71* (.000)			χ^2 = 35.03* (.001)			χ^2 = 56.62* (.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 6 continued.

	Cellular phone service			Community recycling		
	Dissatisfied	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*	*Dissatisfied*	*No opinion*	*Satisfied*
			Percentages			
Community Size		(n = 2090)			(n = 2084)	
Less than 500	45	8	48	31	28	41
500 - 999	29	12	59	24	30	47
1,000 - 4,999	27	11	62	27	23	50
5,000 - 9,999	16	14	70	25	14	61
10,000 and over	16	13	71	21	19	61
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 112.05* (.000)			χ^2 = 54.78* (.000)	
Region		(n = 2183)			(n = 2177)	
Panhandle	31	9	60	25	20	55
North Central	26	11	62	21	28	52
South Central	20	13	67	20	21	60
Northeast	29	11	60	30	23	48
Southeast	26	12	62	28	20	52
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 18.52* (.018)			χ^2 = 30.85* (.000)	
Income Level		(n = 1983)			(n = 1980)	
Under $20,000	23	19	58	27	27	46
$20,000 - $39,999	27	13	60	23	20	57
$40,000 - $59,999	31	10	59	25	23	52
$60,000 and over	22	8	70	24	21	55
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 42.17* (.000)			χ^2 = 10.33 (.112)	
Age		(n = 2189)			(n = 2184)	
19 - 29	33	5	62	32	34	34
30 - 39	27	6	66	29	16	55
40 - 49	27	11	63	24	20	56
50 - 64	26	12	62	23	21	56
65 and over	17	20	63	19	19	62
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 76.14* (.000)			χ^2 = 85.98* (.000)	
Education		(n = 2134)			(n = 2128)	
H.S. diploma or less	23	17	60	18	25	57
Some college	29	12	59	25	23	52
College grad	24	8	68	29	18	53
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 31.52* (.000)			χ^2 = 24.91* (.000)	
Occupation		(n = 1496)			(n = 1493)	
Mgt, prof, education	26	6	67	27	20	53
Sales/office support	24	5	71	26	23	51
Const, inst or maint	20	19	61	19	32	50
Prodn/trans/warehs	20	15	65	24	27	50
Agriculture	41	6	53	19	22	59
Food serv/pers. care	29	12	60	24	28	49
Hlthcare supp/safety	20	9	71	31	13	56
Other	24	14	62	19	34	46
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 59.26* (.000)			χ^2 = 33.08* (.003)	

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

	Assume you were to have a discussion in your household about leaving your community for a reasonably good opportunity elsewhere. How easy or difficult would it be for your household to leave your community?			
	Easy	*Neutral*	*Difficult*	*Chi-square (sig.)*
		Percentages		
Total	29	16	55	
Community Size		(n = 2128)		
Less than 500	26	17	57	
500 - 999	21	15	64	
1,000 - 4,999	29	17	55	
5,000 - 9,999	32	19	50	χ^2 = 16.77*
10,000 and up	32	15	53	(.033)
Region		(n = 2154)		
Panhandle	38	14	48	
North Central	27	13	61	
South Central	25	18	57	
Northeast	30	17	53	χ^2 = 22.00*
Southeast	31	15	54	(.005)
Income Level		(n = 1962)		
Under $20,000	35	15	50	
$20,000 - $39,999	29	17	54	
$40,000 - $59,999	29	19	52	χ^2 = 11.24
$60,000 and over	28	14	58	(.081)
Age		(n = 2162)		
19 - 29	28	16	56	
30 - 39	34	18	48	
40 - 49	35	16	49	
50 - 64	29	15	56	χ^2 = 23.45*
65 and older	23	16	61	(.003)
Gender		(n = 2126)		
Male	29	16	55	χ^2 = 0.04
Female	29	16	55	(.978)
Marital Status		(n = 2128)		
Married	27	17	56	
Never married	40	11	49	
Divorced/separated	42	13	46	χ^2 = 40.12*
Widowed	21	18	61	(.000)
Education		(n = 2111)		
H.S. diploma or less	26	18	56	
Some college	30	16	53	χ^2 = 6.21
Bachelors degree	30	14	56	(.184)
Occupation		(n = 1479)		
Mgt, prof, education	33	13	54	
Sales/office support	30	14	56	
Const, inst or maint	29	22	49	
Prodn/trans/warehs	37	18	45	
Agriculture	16	12	72	
Food serv/pers. care	38	16	46	
Hlthcare supp/safety	33	15	52	χ^2 = 47.46*
Other	33	25	42	(.000)
Yrs Lived in Comm.		(n = 2068)		
Five years or less	42	24	33	χ^2 = 75.52*
More than five years	27	14	59	(.000)

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

Appendix Table 8. *Feelings of Community Powerlessness by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes*

	Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My community is powerless to control its own future.					
	Strongly disagree	*Disagree*	*Undecided*	*Agree*	*Strongly agree*	*Chi-square (sig.)*
			Percentages			
Total	13	47	22	15	3	
Community Size			(n = 2136)			
Less than 500	7	38	23	26	7	
500 - 999	12	45	20	20	3	
1,000 - 4,999	14	49	24	11	2	
5,000 - 9,999	14	50	20	12	4	χ^2 = 76.56*
10,000 and up	15	48	22	14	2	(.000)
Region			(n = 2162)			
Panhandle	13	50	17	19	1	
North Central	15	44	24	12	5	
South Central	13	46	23	15	3	
Northeast	11	49	23	13	3	χ^2 = 19.31
Southeast	13	44	23	18	3	(.253)
Income Level			(n = 1966)			
Under $20,000	9	34	33	19	4	
$20,000 - $39,999	11	44	25	17	3	
$40,000 - $59,999	11	46	22	17	5	χ^2 = 87.81*
$60,000 and over	16	54	15	13	2	(.000)
Age			(n = 2173)			
19 - 29	9	54	21	12	4	
30 - 39	22	41	18	15	4	
40 - 49	13	51	19	15	2	
50 - 64	12	47	20	17	3	χ^2 = 70.77*
65 and older	10	40	31	16	3	(.000)
Gender			(n = 2134)			
Male	13	45	20	19	4	χ^2 = 21.88*
Female	13	48	24	13	3	(.000)
Marital Status			(n = 2137)			
Married	14	49	20	16	3	
Never married	10	50	21	14	4	
Divorced/separated	12	44	27	14	3	χ^2 = 39.82*
Widowed	9	34	36	16	4	(.000)
Education			(n = 2119)			
H.S. diploma or less	9	35	34	19	4	
Some college	11	47	23	15	4	χ^2 = 132.28*
Bachelors degree	17	56	12	13	2	(.000)
Occupation			(n = 1486)			
Mgt, prof, education	17	57	15	10	2	
Sales/office support	13	54	21	11	0*	
Const, inst or maint	17	40	21	20	2	
Prodn/trans/warehs	7	50	21	20	3	
Agriculture	13	39	19	23	7	
Food serv/pers. care	7	41	32	18	2	
Hlthcare supp/safety	16	56	11	13	4	χ^2 = 107.75*
Other	11	37	31	22	0	(.000)
Yrs Lived in Comm.			(n = 2078)			
Five years or less	17	45	23	13	2	χ^2 = 7.25
More than five years	12	48	22	15	3	(.123)

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.
0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 9. *Local Community Involvement by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes*

	During the past year, have you done any of the following?					
	Belonged to group or organization in local community	*Volunteered time for a group or organization in local community*	*Held leadership role in group or organization in local community*	*Held public office or served on government board or committee in local community*	*Donated money to a local church*	*Donated money to local organizations, charities or causes*
	Percent saying "yes"					
Total	79	71	35	11	74	77
Community Size	(n = 2138)	(n = 2138)	(n = 2134)	(n = 2129)	(n = 2127)	(n = 2139)
Less than 500	71	68	33	13	71	73
500 - 999	78	76	45	17	73	78
1,000 - 4,999	82	74	36	12	75	77
5,000 - 9,999	79	70	37	11	75	79
10,000 and up	81	69	32	6	75	79
Chi-square (sig.)	χ^2 = 19.68* (.001)	χ^2 = 9.12 (.058)	χ^2 = 14.50* (.006)	χ^2 = 26.82* (.000)	χ^2 = 1.74 (.784)	χ^2 = 5.88 (.209)
Region	(n = 2168)	(n = 2164)	(n = 2163)	(n = 2160)	(n = 2157)	(n = 2170)
Panhandle	79	68	38	13	68	74
North Central	80	74	35	11	73	80
South Central	79	67	34	8	73	76
Northeast	76	70	30	8	76	77
Southeast	82	78	45	16	76	79
Chi-square (sig.)	χ^2 = 5.15 (.272)	χ^2 = 15.21* (.004)	χ^2 = 23.12* (.000)	χ^2 = 21.26* (.000)	χ^2 = 6.59 (.159)	χ^2 = 4.45 (.348)
Income Level	(n = 1967)	(n = 1969)	(n = 1968)	(n = 1966)	(n = 1960)	(n = 1969)
Under $20,000	62	46	17	4	59	58
$20,000 - $39,999	71	66	26	9	62	69
$40,000 - $59,999	81	72	34	9	76	79
$60,000 and over	87	82	48	15	82	87
Chi-square (sig.)	χ^2 = 98.02* (.000)	χ^2 = 143.19* (.000)	χ^2 = 110.51* (.000)	χ^2 = 31.31* (.000)	χ^2 = 83.47* (.000)	χ^2 = 125.09* (.000)
Age	(n = 2175)	(n = 2174)	(n = 2171)	(n = 2169)	(n = 2166)	(n = 2177)
19 - 29	76	63	22	7	61	63
30 - 39	83	82	40	9	71	77
40 - 49	78	74	40	12	74	79
50 - 64	76	69	37	11	75	80
65 and older	83	69	37	12	84	82
Chi-square (sig.)	χ^2 = 12.11* (.017)	χ^2 = 32.14* (.000)	χ^2 = 36.49* (.000)	χ^2 = 10.00* (.040)	χ^2 = 62.99* (.000)	χ^2 = 51.62* (.000)
Gender	(n = 2136)	(n = 2136)	(n = 2134)	(n = 2131)	(n = 2129)	(n = 2138)
Male	76	68	36	13	72	76
Female	81	73	35	9	75	78
Chi-square (sig.)	χ^2 = 6.45* (.012)	χ^2 = 5.64* (.020)	χ^2 = 0.50 (.488)	χ^2 = 9.32* (.003)	χ^2 = 1.44 (.247)	χ^2 = 1.53 (.227)

Appendix Table 9 continued.

	During the past year, have you done any of the following?					
	Belonged to group or organization in local community	*Volunteered time for a group or organization in local community*	*Held leadership role in group or organization in local community*	*Held public office or served on government board or committee in local community*	*Donated money to a local church*	*Donated money to local organizations, charities or causes*
Marital Status	(n = 2139)	(n = 2140)	(n = 2135)	(n = 2133)	(n = 2130)	(n = 2143)
Married	84	76	42	12	78	81
Never married	59	58	17	7	46	50
Divorced/separated	60	52	15	5	62	71
Widowed	84	65	31	10	84	82
Chi-square (sig.)	χ^2 = 126.52* (.000)	χ^2 = 78.05* (.000)	χ^2 = 97.94* (.000)	χ^2 = 10.83* (.013)	χ^2 = 127.76* (.000)	χ^2 = 108.51* (.000)
Education	(n = 2121)	(n = 2121)	(n = 2119)	(n = 2117)	(n = 2113)	(n = 2124)
H.S. diploma or less	70	57	26	8	67	70
Some college	76	70	32	10	71	79
Bachelors degree	89	82	46	13	82	80
Chi-square (sig.)	χ^2 = 74.71* (.000)	χ^2 = 94.11* (.000)	χ^2 = 60.94* (.000)	χ^2 = 7.71* (.021)	χ^2 = 40.06* (.000)	χ^2 = 21.17* (.000)
Occupation	(n = 1490)	(n = 1489)	(n = 1489)	(n = 1485)	(n = 1483)	(n = 1490)
Mgt, prof, education	90	87	53	16	77	86
Sales/office support	71	71	33	9	76	75
Const, inst or maint	73	61	21	4	71	63
Prodn/trans/warehs	62	47	14	3	54	70
Agriculture	83	77	44	17	79	79
Food serv/pers. care	78	59	16	4	71	80
Hlthcare supp/safety	75	71	24	7	74	74
Other	79	64	39	5	63	75
Chi-square (sig.)	χ^2 = 73.81* (.000)	χ^2 = 110.06* (.000)	χ^2 = 130.87* (.000)	χ^2 = 43.42* (.000)	χ^2 = 35.95* (.000)	χ^2 = 38.20* (.000)
Yrs Lived in Comm.	(n = 2079)	(n = 2077)	(n = 2074)	(n = 2073)	(n = 2070)	(n = 2080)
Five years or less	73	63	24	6	67	63
More than five years	80	72	38	11	75	80
Chi-square (sig.)	χ^2 = 9.66* (.003)	χ^2 = 12.36* (.000)	χ^2 = 24.83* (.000)	χ^2 = 7.82* (.004)	χ^2 = 9.65* (.002)	χ^2 = 47.60* (.000)

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

Appendix Table 10. *Distance from Goods and Services by Community Size and Region*

	Bank					***Gas station***				
	Don't Use	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*	*Don't Use*	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*
					Percentages					
Total	1	82	12	3	1	2	89	8	2	0*
Community Size			(n = 2132)					(n = 2136)		
Less than 500	3	63	27	6	2	0*	73	22	4	0*
500 - 999	1	65	26	8	0*	1	81	16	2	0
1,000 - 4,999	2	79	13	4	3	1	90	8	1	0*
5,000 - 9,999	1	90	6	3	0*	2	90	6	2	0
10,000 and up	1	95	3	1	0*	1	97	2	0*	0*
Significance			χ^2 =263.69 (.000)					χ^2 = 172.10* (.000)		
Region			(n = 2169)					(n = 2169)		
Panhandle	1	79	15	2	3	1	83	13	2	1
North Central	2	71	19	6	4	1	83	13	2	0*
South Central	2	84	11	2	1	1	92	5	1	0*
Northeast	0*	84	10	5	1	1	90	7	2	0*
Southeast	1	85	12	2	0	1	88	10	1	0
Significance			χ^2 = 70.75* (.000)					χ^2 = 37.78* (.002)		

	Grocery store					***Restaurant/café/bar***				
	Don't Use	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*	*Don't Use*	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*
					Percentages					
Total	0*	78	16	5	1	1	77	16	5	1
Community Size			(n = 2125)					(n = 2121)		
Less than 500	1	41	41	15	2	1	58	32	8	1
500 - 999	0*	65	29	4	2	3	56	33	6	0*
1,000 - 4,999	0*	78	16	5	1	1	71	18	8	2
5,000 - 9,999	1	86	10	3	0	2	81	10	8	0
10,000 and up	0	96	3	0*	0*	0*	94	4	1	0*
Significance			χ^2 = 463.22* (.000)					χ^2 = 294.65* (.000)		
Region			(n = 2159)					(n = 2157)		
Panhandle	0*	76	19	3	2	0*	75	17	6	1
North Central	0*	78	17	4	1	1	76	17	6	0*
South Central	0*	80	15	4	1	2	78	15	5	1
Northeast	1	81	14	5	0*	1	77	15	6	1
Southeast	0*	73	19	7	1	1	75	18	6	1
Significance			χ^2 = 18.84 (.277)					χ^2 = 8.60 (.929)		

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.
0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 10 continued.

	Post office					***Auto repair***				
	Don't Use	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*	*Don't Use*	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*
					Percentages					
Total	1	94	5	0*	0*	3	78	13	5	2
Community Size			(n = 2139)					(n = 2129)		
Less than 500	0*	88	11	1	0*	2	51	30	13	5
500 - 999	3	89	7	0*	0	7	61	25	5	3
1,000 - 4,999	1	93	6	1	0	2	78	13	5	1
5,000 - 9,999	1	94	5	0*	0	5	84	8	3	0
10,000 and up	1	97	2	0*	0*	2	93	4	1	1
Significance			χ^2 = 61.49* (.000)					χ^2 = 329.18* (.000)		
Region			(n = 2172)					(n = 2162)		
Panhandle	0*	88	11	0*	0	3	71	20	5	1
North Central	1	91	7	1	0*	1	76	15	4	3
South Central	1	95	4	0*	0*	2	82	12	4	1
Northeast	1	95	4	0	0	5	76	11	5	2
Southeast	1	95	4	1	0	3	78	14	6	1
Significance			χ^2 = 32.61* (.008)					χ^2 = 42.10* (.000)		

	Hardware store					***Clothing/apparel***				
	Don't Use	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*	*Don't Use*	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*
					Percentages					
Total	2	74	17	6	1	1	40	20	25	15
Community Size			(n = 2124)					(n = 2110)		
Less than 500	1	36	43	19	1	1	11	32	37	19
500 - 999	6	54	28	11	2	2	9	32	39	18
1,000 - 4,999	1	74	16	6	3	2	20	29	30	19
5,000 - 9,999	2	83	12	2	0*	1	36	16	34	13
10,000 and up	1	95	4	1	1	1	78	5	7	8
Significance			χ^2 = 538.11* (.000)					χ^2 = 782.81* (.000)		
Region			(n = 2157)					(n = 2144)		
Panhandle	2	73	18	5	1	2	46	16	18	20
North Central	1	73	18	6	3	0*	36	18	18	28
South Central	1	75	17	6	1	1	48	21	21	10
Northeast	3	78	14	5	1	2	39	22	27	10
Southeast	1	68	19	10	3	1	23	22	38	17
Significance			χ^2 = 38.84* (.001)					χ^2 = 154.24* (.000)		

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.
0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 10 continued.

	Durable household goods					***Church***				
	Don't Use	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*	*Don't Use*	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*
					Percentages					
Total	2	51	20	20	8	9	81	8	2	1
Community Size			(n = 2115)					(n = 2113)		
Less than 500	1	17	37	35	11	9	67	21	2	1
500 - 999	2	18	32	36	13	12	77	7	3	0
1,000 - 4,999	1	36	27	23	12	8	80	9	3	1
5,000 - 9,999	1	53	16	26	4	8	84	7	1	0*
10,000 and up	1	88	4	3	4	9	88	2	1	0*
Significance			χ^2 = 737.15* (.000)					χ^2 = 128.70* (.000)		
Region			(n = 2146)					(n = 2147)		
Panhandle	1	55	18	17	10	14	74	9	2	0*
North Central	0*	50	19	14	17	10	75	11	3	1
South Central	1	57	19	18	5	8	82	8	2	0*
Northeast	2	51	20	22	5	9	85	5	0*	0
Southeast	1	40	24	25	10	9	80	8	2	1
Significance			χ^2 = 83.82* (.000)					χ^2 = 37.57* (.002)		

	Elementary school					***High school***				
	Don't Use	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*	*Don't Use*	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*
					Percentages					
Total	28	65	7	0*	0*	28	63	8	1	1
Community Size			(n = 2088)					(n = 2085)		
Less than 500	23	53	23	1	0	22	51	26	2	0*
500 - 999	23	65	11	1	0	23	63	12	2	0
1,000 - 4,999	23	73	3	1	1	22	71	5	1	2
5,000 - 9,999	34	61	5	0	0	40	55	4	0*	0
10,000 and up	31	68	1	0*	0	32	67	1	0	0
Significance			χ^2 = 241.99* (.000)					χ^2 = 285.34* (.000)		
Region			(n = 2121)					(n = 2119)		
Panhandle	28	59	9	2	2	29	56	11	2	2
North Central	30	60	8	1	0*	30	58	9	1	2
South Central	26	68	6	0*	0	28	64	8	1	0
Northeast	29	67	4	0	0	30	65	5	0*	0
Southeast	25	66	9	0*	0	24	66	9	1	0
Significance			χ^2 = 73.41* (.000)					χ^2 = 55.75* (.000)		

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.
0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 10 continued.

	Primary/family practice medical care					***Critical medical care***				
	Don't Use	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*	*Don't Use*	*Less than 15 miles*	*15 – 30 miles*	*31 – 60 miles*	*More than 60 miles*
					Percentages					
Total	1	69	20	8	2	5	43	18	17	18
Community Size			(n = 2114)					(n = 2103)		
Less than 500	0*	29	47	17	6	2	13	34	28	23
500 - 999	1	41	43	14	0*	3	15	40	25	18
1,000 - 4,999	1	68	18	11	2	4	30	20	22	24
5,000 - 9,999	1	82	11	3	4	9	37	12	21	21
10,000 and up	1	91	5	2	1	5	77	5	4	9
Significance			χ^2 = 554.65* (.000)					χ^2 = 697.20* (.000)		
Region			(n = 2152)					(n = 2136)		
Panhandle	0*	64	22	9	4	2	44	15	12	26
North Central	1	63	20	11	5	7	34	13	12	35
South Central	1	72	17	8	2	4	54	19	13	10
Northeast	1	70	21	6	2	4	39	24	19	14
Southeast	1	68	23	8	1	4	35	14	28	19
Significance			χ^2 = 29.36* (.022)					χ^2 = 184.90* (.000)		

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level.
0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 11. *How Strongly Would Encourage Various Groups to Move to or Remain in Community by Community Size, Region and Various Individual Attributes*

	Your Children **				***Your Grandchildren*** **			
	Strongly discourage	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*	*Strongly discourage*	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*
				Percentages				
Total	11	21	46	22	14	22	43	22
Community Size		(n = 1794)				(n = 1365)		
Less than 500	14	21	42	24	18	23	38	21
500 - 999	13	24	44	19	15	23	41	21
1,000 - 4,999	12	21	41	26	14	23	41	23
5,000 - 9,999	13	22	51	14	15	25	42	17
10,000 and over	8	20	50	21	11	19	49	22
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 29.22* (.004)				χ^2 = 17.07 (.147)		
Region		(n = 1822)				(n = 1378)		
Panhandle	17	22	40	21	22	23	41	15
North Central	13	21	44	22	17	19	41	23
South Central	10	20	45	25	11	22	40	27
Northeast	8	21	50	21	11	21	49	20
Southeast	12	24	44	19	14	25	41	19
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 22.11* (.036)				χ^2 = 29.65* (.003)		
Income Level		(n = 1656)				(n = 1229)		
Under $20,000	15	19	42	24	19	19	37	25
$20,000 - $39,999	14	24	41	21	16	22	45	18
$40,000 - $59,999	10	22	47	21	13	22	47	18
$60,000 and over	9	22	48	22	10	24	42	24
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 16.42 (.059)				χ^2 = 20.82* (.013)		
Age		(n = 1831)				(n = 1387)		
19 - 29	4	16	48	32	8	15	42	35
30 - 39	12	18	45	25	14	11	44	30
40 - 49	13	26	44	18	14	25	41	20
50 - 64	12	26	44	19	13	27	40	19
65 and over	13	19	48	20	16	21	46	18
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 52.81* (.000)				χ^2 = 42.94* (.000)		
Gender		(n = 1795)				(n = 1351)		
Male	11	21	47	22	13	21	45	22
Female	11	22	45	22	14	23	42	21
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 0.69 (.875)				χ^2 = 1.93 (.587)		
Marital Status		(n = 1796)				(n = 1355)		
Married	9	22	46	23	12	23	43	22
Never married	19	19	40	22	22	15	33	30
Divorced/separated	18	23	48	11	22	24	42	12
Widowed	13	18	46	22	15	18	46	20
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 32.11* (.000)				χ^2 = 26.91* (.001)		
Education		(n = 1788)				(n = 1345)		
H.S. diploma or less	12	22	45	21	15	24	43	18
Some college	11	24	44	21	13	23	41	22
Bachelors degree	9	18	49	24	13	19	45	24
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 10.86 (.093)				χ^2 = 7.77 (.255)		
Occupation		(n = 1261)				(n = 891)		
Mgt, prof, education	10	22	45	23	14	26	39	22
Sales/office support	6	20	58	17	9	21	53	17
Const, inst or maint	13	15	41	31	12	19	41	28
Prodn/trans/warehs	9	27	43	21	9	21	48	22
Agriculture	9	20	49	23	12	19	42	26
Food serv/pers. care	13	32	35	20	13	30	31	26
Hlthcare supp/safety	10	26	41	22	12	24	35	29
Other	12	12	50	26	14	19	50	17
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 34.46* (.032)				χ^2 = 21.19 (.447)		

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

** The respondents who indicated they had none were not included in the calculations.

Appendix Table 11 continued.

	Other relatives and in-laws **				***Your close, personal friends*** **			
	Strongly discourage	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*	*Strongly discourage*	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*
				Percentages				
Total	10	23	50	17	8	20	51	21
Community Size		(n = 1977)				(n = 2026)		
Less than 500	15	20	44	20	12	22	46	21
500 - 999	10	28	46	16	8	19	54	20
1,000 - 4,999	9	23	51	17	9	19	50	22
5,000 - 9,999	14	21	54	11	8	19	56	17
10,000 and over	6	23	51	20	5	21	52	22
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 43.16* (.000)				χ^2 = 19.32 (.081)		
Region		(n = 2004)				(n = 2057)		
Panhandle	13	26	51	10	12	25	52	11
North Central	10	23	51	15	10	18	54	19
South Central	7	20	51	21	6	16	52	26
Northeast	9	22	54	16	7	22	52	19
Southeast	12	26	43	20	8	22	48	22
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 31.51* (.002)				χ^2 = 37.08* (.000)		
Income Level		(n = 1838)				(n = 1885)		
Under $20,000	15	20	51	14	14	21	47	18
$20,000 - $39,999	11	28	47	14	11	22	49	18
$40,000 - $59,999	9	21	52	18	6	18	57	19
$60,000 and over	7	22	51	20	5	19	51	25
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 28.32* (.001)				χ^2 = 42.03* (.000)		
Age		(n = 2013)				(n = 2065)		
19 - 29	6	18	52	24	6	19	47	28
30 - 39	10	18	52	20	8	17	51	24
40 - 49	10	26	48	16	8	21	51	19
50 - 64	9	26	50	15	8	21	52	19
65 and over	13	23	50	14	9	19	55	17
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 35.65* (.000)				χ^2 = 22.94* (.028)		
Gender		(n = 1977)				(n = 2030)		
Male	10	25	48	18	8	21	49	22
Female	9	22	52	17	8	20	53	20
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 4.41 (.221)				χ^2 = 3.28 (.350)		
Marital Status		(n = 1978)				(n = 2033)		
Married	8	23	50	19	6	20	52	22
Never married	11	19	51	19	14	18	45	23
Divorced/separated	15	25	52	8	11	23	55	11
Widowed	13	23	51	13	11	21	52	17
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 25.78* (.002)				χ^2 = 35.95* (.000)		
Education		(n = 1967)				(n = 2019)		
H.S. diploma or less	13	24	48	14	10	21	50	18
Some college	9	25	51	15	8	22	51	19
Bachelors degree	8	19	52	22	6	17	52	25
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 27.67* (.000)				χ^2 = 20.48* (.002)		
Occupation		(n = 1401)				(n = 1436)		
Mgt, prof, education	7	22	52	19	6	16	54	24
Sales/office support	6	22	60	13	3	19	62	15
Const, inst or maint	10	22	55	13	9	22	44	24
Prodn/trans/warehs	12	27	48	14	10	26	47	18
Agriculture	9	22	45	24	6	18	50	26
Food serv/pers. care	15	28	41	16	16	22	45	17
Hlthcare supp/safety	4	24	51	21	4	23	53	20
Other	10	13	42	35	5	12	45	38
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 47.90* (.001)				χ^2 = 55.91* (.000)		

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

** The respondents who indicated they had none were not included in the calculations.

Appendix Table 11 continued.

	Young adults/young families				Elderly persons			
	Strongly discourage	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*	*Strongly discourage*	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*
				Percentages				
Total	8	21	50	22	8	21	48	23
Community Size		(n = 2065)				(n = 2058)		
Less than 500	10	19	47	24	14	29	33	24
500 - 999	7	19	53	21	10	21	52	17
1,000 - 4,999	9	19	49	24	8	18	50	25
5,000 - 9,999	8	21	55	16	6	23	53	18
10,000 and over	7	23	49	21	5	20	52	24
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 16.58 (.166)				χ^2 = 66.65* (.000)		
Region		(n = 2092)				(n = 2083)		
Panhandle	13	21	50	16	10	23	48	19
North Central	9	18	51	22	9	25	47	18
South Central	6	20	49	25	7	20	47	27
Northeast	7	22	51	20	7	21	51	21
Southeast	9	20	49	22	8	18	50	24
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 23.80* (.022)				χ^2 = 19.23 (.083)		
Income Level		(n = 1916)				(n = 1905)		
Under $20,000	10	20	50	20	13	21	41	25
$20,000 - $39,999	12	24	44	20	9	27	46	19
$40,000 - $59,999	6	18	58	18	7	21	51	22
$60,000 and over	6	21	48	26	5	20	49	26
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 41.79* (.000)				χ^2 = 32.60* (.000)		
Age		(n = 2104)				(n = 2093)		
19 - 29	5	23	45	27	1	24	45	29
30 - 39	9	14	51	26	8	18	51	23
40 - 49	7	20	54	19	7	22	51	21
50 - 64	9	22	49	20	9	21	48	21
65 and over	10	21	50	18	12	20	48	21
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 29.83* (.003)				χ^2 = 45.17* (.000)		
Gender		(n = 2066)				(n = 2058)		
Male	8	20	49	23	9	20	48	23
Female	8	21	51	20	7	22	48	23
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 2.57 (.463)				χ^2 = 2.18 (.537)		
Marital Status		(n = 2070)				(n = 2061)		
Married	7	20	50	22	6	21	48	24
Never married	7	20	47	26	7	18	49	27
Divorced/separated	11	24	52	14	11	25	51	14
Widowed	12	21	48	19	16	19	46	19
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 17.79* (.038)				χ^2 = 35.62* (.000)		
Education		(n = 2056)				(n = 2048)		
H.S. diploma or less	11	23	46	20	11	21	45	22
Some college	8	22	50	21	8	24	47	21
Bachelors degree	7	18	52	24	6	17	52	26
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 15.41* (.017)				χ^2 = 29.13* (.000)		
Occupation		(n = 1462)				(n = 1460)		
Mgt, prof, education	6	18	51	25	5	20	53	23
Sales/office support	7	19	58	16	3	23	56	18
Const, inst or maint	7	19	50	23	9	24	51	16
Prodn/trans/warehs	8	25	48	18	9	22	50	19
Agriculture	6	18	52	24	8	23	50	19
Food serv/pers. care	9	28	39	25	6	28	37	29
Hlthcare supp/safety	4	24	52	21	3	20	47	31
Other	5	22	40	33	8	11	41	40
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 29.90 (.094)				χ^2 = 46.95* (001)		

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

Appendix Table 11 continued.

	Out of state residents				Nebraskans from other areas of the state			
	Strongly discourage	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*	*Strongly discourage*	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*
				Percentages				
Total	10	20	51	18	9	20	53	18
Community Size		(n = 2042)				(n = 2040)		
Less than 500	14	23	43	20	11	22	45	22
500 - 999	12	22	53	13	11	22	53	14
1,000 - 4,999	11	19	50	20	8	17	55	20
5,000 - 9,999	7	21	57	15	9	22	57	13
10,000 and over	9	20	52	19	8	20	54	19
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 22.83* (.029)				χ^2 = 22.20* (.035)		
Region		(n = 2069)				(n = 2064)		
Panhandle	16	22	52	10	14	23	54	10
North Central	14	21	48	17	12	17	54	17
South Central	8	18	51	24	7	18	52	23
Northeast	9	21	54	16	6	23	55	16
Southeast	9	23	48	19	9	19	53	20
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 41.60* (.000)				χ^2 = 42.03* (.000)		
Income Level		(n = 1895)				(n = 1902)		
Under $20,000	16	18	50	17	12	22	49	17
$20,000 - $39,999	11	23	51	14	12	23	51	14
$40,000 - $59,999	8	21	54	17	9	18	58	16
$60,000 and over	8	20	49	24	6	17	54	23
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 32.03* (.000)				χ^2 = 39.61* (.000)		
Age		(n = 2079)				(n = 2074)		
19 - 29	5	20	52	23	8	21	51	20
30 - 39	11	16	52	21	11	14	54	21
40 - 49	8	22	54	16	6	20	56	18
50 - 64	12	22	48	18	9	22	51	18
65 and over	13	21	50	16	9	20	55	16
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 30.15* (.003)				χ^2 = 20.52 (.058)		
Gender		(n = 2044)				(n = 2042)		
Male	12	21	48	19	8	21	51	20
Female	9	20	53	18	9	19	55	17
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 6.01 (.111)				χ^2 = 4.26 (.235)		
Marital Status		(n = 2048)				(n = 2047)		
Married	8	22	50	20	7	20	53	20
Never married	15	11	57	18	14	15	52	19
Divorced/separated	14	23	53	10	11	25	53	11
Widowed	14	22	47	17	12	20	55	14
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 37.15* (.000)				χ^2 = 27.99* (.001)		
Education		(n = 2033)				(n = 2033)		
H.S. diploma or less	15	22	46	16	14	22	48	17
Some college	9	24	51	16	8	22	54	16
Bachelors degree	8	16	54	22	6	16	56	22
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 37.44* (.000)				χ^2 = 40.42* (.000)		
Occupation		(n = 1453)				(n = 1448)		
Mgt, prof, education	7	22	49	23	4	19	54	22
Sales/office support	6	15	65	15	7	19	59	15
Const, inst or maint	10	22	52	16	7	20	55	19
Prodn/trans/warehs	13	27	43	18	8	29	44	18
Agriculture	11	16	29	14	11	21	53	16
Food serv/pers. care	12	13	55	20	12	14	57	18
Hlthcare supp/safety	6	27	43	24	8	19	52	22
Other	10	16	46	28	7	17	47	30
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 56.65* (.000)				χ^2 = 32.96* (.047)		

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

Appendix Table 11 continued.

	Members of ethnic minorities				***Single parent households***			
	Strongly discourage	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*	*Strongly discourage*	*Somewhat discourage*	*Somewhat encourage*	*Strongly encourage*
				Percentages				
Total	17	28	42	14	11	25	49	16
Community Size		(n = 2017)				(n = 2028)		
Less than 500	23	29	35	14	17	26	41	16
500 - 999	15	33	42	10	15	26	49	10
1,000 - 4,999	18	26	43	13	10	24	50	16
5,000 - 9,999	13	25	53	9	12	26	49	13
10,000 and over	15	28	42	16	8	24	51	18
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 35.39* (.000)				χ^2 = 35.35* (.000)		
Region		(n = 2045)				(n = 2058)		
Panhandle	14	32	44	10	11	26	51	12
North Central	19	26	44	11	15	25	46	14
South Central	17	24	42	17	9	22	49	20
Northeast	16	31	41	12	10	26	50	15
Southeast	15	28	43	14	10	26	49	14
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 20.92 (.052)				χ^2 = 19.84 (.070)		
Income Level		(n = 1883)				(n = 1895)		
Under $20,000	22	25	39	13	18	21	48	14
$20,000 - $39,999	17	32	40	11	12	29	45	14
$40,000 - $59,999	15	26	48	11	10	22	54	14
$60,000 and over	14	26	43	17	9	24	49	19
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 25.45* (.003)				χ^2 = 32.53* (.000)		
Age		(n = 2049)				(n = 2063)		
19 - 29	12	28	41	19	8	21	49	21
30 - 39	17	20	45	17	9	17	54	19
40 - 49	17	28	45	10	10	26	51	13
50 - 64	17	32	39	13	12	29	45	14
65 and over	20	28	43	10	13	27	47	13
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 38.14* (.000)				χ^2 = 37.26* (.000)		
Gender		(n = 2018)				(n = 2031)		
Male	16	31	39	14	12	27	46	16
Female	17	26	44	13	10	23	51	16
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 7.48 (.053)				χ^2 = 6.35 (.096)		
Marital Status		(n = 2021)				(n = 2032)		
Married	15	28	42	15	9	26	49	17
Never married	18	25	42	14	14	21	46	19
Divorced/separated	20	30	42	9	15	24	53	9
Widowed	21	25	45	8	16	23	48	13
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 16.81 (.052)				χ^2 = 24.59* (.003)		
Education		(n = 2010)				(n = 2024)		
H.S. diploma or less	21	31	38	11	16	26	44	15
Some college	16	29	42	13	11	27	48	14
Bachelors degree	14	24	46	16	7	22	53	18
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 27.41* (.000)				χ^2 = 31.17* (.000)		
Occupation		(n = 1437)				(n = 1446)		
Mgt, prof, education	12	26	47	16	6	25	52	17
Sales/office support	9	23	51	16	8	21	60	12
Const, inst or maint	21	28	40	11	11	32	44	13
Prodn/trans/warehs	18	35	33	15	12	29	42	17
Agriculture	18	30	43	9	10	23	53	15
Food serv/pers. care	28	24	34	15	21	24	39	17
Hlthcare supp/safety	11	29	45	15	10	24	47	19
Other	16	26	36	22	20	10	36	34
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 49.09* (.000)				χ^2 = 65.53* (.000)		

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

Appendix Table 12. *Perceived Importance of Items for Future of Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes*

	Residents volunteering their time to community activities				***Assisting people to take over local businesses as current owners retire***			
	Not at all important	*Not very important*	*Somewhat important*	*Very important*	*Not at all important*	*Not very important*	*Somewhat important*	*Very important*
				Percentages				
Total	1	4	41	54	2	6	36	57
Community Size		(n = 2048)				(n = 2036)		
Less than 500	3	3	39	55	4	7	29	59
500 - 999	2	3	37	58	2	4	34	60
1,000 - 4,999	1	5	39	55	1	7	34	58
5,000 - 9,999	0*	5	43	52	0*	4	35	61
10,000 and over	1	3	44	52	2	4	41	53
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 20.85 (.053)				χ^2 = 35.51* (.000)		
Region		(n = 2137)				(n = 2126)		
Panhandle	1	3	47	49	2	3	34	60
North Central	2	4	40	54	3	5	38	54
South Central	1	5	38	56	1	6	36	58
Northeast	2	3	43	53	2	6	36	57
Southeast	1	4	40	55	2	7	38	54
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 16.15 (.184)				χ^2 = 11.37 (.498)		
Income Level		(n = 1950)				(n = 1937)		
Under $20,000	4	7	48	41	4	8	40	48
$20,000 - $39,999	1	5	47	47	1	7	43	49
$40,000 - $59,999	1	5	40	54	1	3	36	60
$60,000 and over	0*	1	36	62	1	5	32	62
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 77.54* (.000)				χ^2 = 51.49* (.000)		
Age		(n = 2145)				(n = 2133)		
19 - 29	3	5	48	44	1	8	37	53
30 - 39	1	2	38	60	3	3	33	62
40 - 49	0*	2	45	52	1	5	37	57
50 - 64	1	5	41	54	2	4	38	56
65 and over	1	4	36	59	2	8	35	55
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 42.43* (.000)				χ^2 = 23.95* (.021)		
Gender		(n = 2106)				(n = 2094)		
Male	1	5	45	49	2	5	39	54
Female	1	3	39	57	2	5	35	58
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 14.00* (.003)				χ^2 = 4.25 (.236)		
Marital Status		(n = 2113)				(n = 2098)		
Married	1	4	39	57	1	5	34	60
Never married	6	5	53	36	5	7	47	41
Divorced/separated	0*	4	48	48	1	7	40	52
Widowed	1	4	37	58	2	7	37	55
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 80.11* (.000)				χ^2 = 40.48* (.000)		
Education		(n = 2099)				(n = 2084)		
H.S. diploma or less	3	6	47	44	3	7	43	47
Some college	0*	4	42	54	1	4	37	58
Bachelors degree	1	2	36	61	2	5	31	62
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 51.85* (.000)				χ^2 = 34.71* (.000)		
Occupation		(n = 1468)				(n = 1464)		
Mgt, prof, education	0*	1	39	59	0	6	33	61
Sales/office support	3	2	42	53	1	4	35	60
Const, inst or maint	0	3	52	46	1	3	47	50
Prodn/trans/warehs	0	8	51	41	2	8	48	43
Agriculture	1	3	42	55	1	4	31	64
Food serv/pers. care	0	2	42	56	1	2	37	61
Hlthcare supp/safety	1	5	40	54	2	4	34	61
Other	0	3	42	55	0	5	40	55
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 56.17* (.000)				χ^2 = 36.58* (.019)		

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

0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 12 continued.

	Assisting people to take over local farms as the current owners retire				***Getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community***			
	Not at all important	*Not very important*	*Somewhat important*	*Very important*	*Not at all important*	*Not very important*	*Somewhat important*	*Very important*
				Percentages				
Total	2	6	31	61	1	6	40	53
Community Size		(n = 2030)				(n = 2036)		
Less than 500	5	6	22	68	3	5	39	53
500 - 999	2	5	27	65	1	7	39	54
1,000 - 4,999	2	8	29	61	1	8	38	54
5,000 - 9,999	1	6	31	61	0*	3	37	60
10,000 and over	2	4	37	57	1	5	44	50
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 42.08* (.000)				χ^2 = 26.28* (.010)		
Region		(n = 2119)				(n = 2122)		
Panhandle	3	6	27	64	1	4	38	56
North Central	4	5	31	60	3	5	40	51
South Central	1	6	31	62	1	5	39	55
Northeast	2	5	31	63	1	7	41	52
Southeast	2	10	31	57	2	6	42	50
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 22.85* (.029)				χ^2 = 22.85* (.029)		
Income Level		(n = 1932)				(n = 1938)		
Under $20,000	4	8	29	59	4	10	41	45
$20,000 - $39,999	2	6	34	58	1	8	42	50
$40,000 - $59,999	2	7	31	60	1	4	41	54
$60,000 and over	2	5	29	65	0*	3	39	57
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 18.04* (.035)				χ^2 = 54.48* (.000)		
Age		(n = 2125)				(n = 2128)		
19 - 29	1	7	32	60	1	8	40	51
30 - 39	1	5	27	67	0	6	40	54
40 - 49	3	7	30	60	1	5	44	50
50 - 64	2	6	32	60	2	5	41	52
65 and over	2	6	30	62	2	4	36	58
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 9.52 (.658)				χ^2 = 17.95 (.117)		
Gender		(n = 2089)				(n = 2091)		
Male	2	9	33	56	1	8	41	51
Female	2	5	29	65	1	4	40	55
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 21.68* (.000)				χ^2 = 12.50* (.006)		
Marital Status		(n = 2091)				(n = 2096)		
Married	2	6	30	63	1	5	39	55
Never married	5	6	34	55	4	10	42	43
Divorced/separated	1	7	33	59	1	5	47	47
Widowed	2	6	29	63	1	3	39	57
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 16.06 (.066)				χ^2 = 42.11* (.000)		
Education		(n = 2078)				(n = 2083)		
H.S. diploma or less	3	7	35	55	2	8	41	48
Some college	1	4	30	64	1	5	41	53
Bachelors degree	2	7	28	63	1	4	39	56
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 23.60* (.001)				χ^2 = 23.63* (.001)		
Occupation		(n = 1463)				(n = 1468)		
Mgt, prof, education	1	8	27	64	0	3	37	60
Sales/office support	1	2	28	69	1	6	41	53
Const, inst or maint	1	7	35	57	2	7	44	48
Prodn/trans/warehs	4	4	43	48	1	12	46	42
Agriculture	2	5	25	68	0	5	43	52
Food serv/pers. care	2	3	28	67	1	9	47	44
Hlthcare supp/safety	0	7	30	64	0	3	43	54
Other	2	2	41	56	2	2	45	52
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 47.48* (.001)				χ^2 = 47.26* (.001)		

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

0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 12 continued.

	Training young residents in the community for leadership roles				***Financial contributions by community residents, especially larger donations given in trusts, wills, estates, etc.***			
	Not at all important	*Not very important*	*Somewhat important*	*Very important*	*Not at all important*	*Not very important*	*Somewhat important*	*Very important*
				Percentages				
Total	1	4	33	61	4	13	47	37
Community Size		(n = 2022)				(n = 1995)		
Less than 500	4	4	33	59	7	11	44	38
500 - 999	1	4	39	56	6	9	50	36
1,000 - 4,999	1	6	33	61	3	15	44	38
5,000 - 9,999	1	2	33	64	2	11	43	44
10,000 and over	1	4	33	62	3	13	49	36
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 23.12* (.027)				χ^2 = 27.95* (.006)		
Region		(n = 2105)				(n = 2077)		
Panhandle	1	3	33	63	3	16	47	35
North Central	4	5	34	59	6	11	45	38
South Central	0*	4	32	63	2	11	45	42
Northeast	1	5	33	61	4	13	49	35
Southeast	2	4	37	57	3	15	48	34
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 19.27 (.082)				χ^2 = 23.36* (.025)		
Income Level		(n = 1924)				(n = 1906)		
Under $20,000	5	7	35	53	9	14	45	32
$20,000 - $39,999	2	7	33	59	5	13	52	30
$40,000 - $59,999	1	3	34	62	2	14	44	41
$60,000 and over	0*	3	33	64	2	10	47	42
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 60.37* (.000)				χ^2 = 61.89* (.000)		
Age		(n = 2112)				(n = 2085)		
19 - 29	1	7	29	63	4	11	49	37
30 - 39	1	2	35	62	3	12	44	41
40 - 49	0	4	35	61	3	13	49	35
50 - 64	2	5	36	58	4	14	44	38
65 and over	2	3	32	63	4	13	48	36
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 25.24* (.014)				χ^2 = 8.32 (.760)		
Gender		(n = 2080)				(n = 2052)		
Male	2	6	36	56	4	16	47	34
Female	1	3	32	64	3	11	46	40
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 20.20* (.000)				χ^2 = 14.60* (.002)		
Marital Status		(n = 2082)				(n = 2056)		
Married	1	4	33	63	2	13	46	39
Never married	5	6	38	50	10	9	61	19
Divorced/separated	2	6	34	58	4	15	39	43
Widowed	1	2	34	63	4	13	47	36
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 38.04* (.000)				χ^2 = 71.25* (.000)		
Education		(n = 2070)				(n = 2043)		
H.S. diploma or less	3	6	40	51	6	16	49	29
Some college	1	4	31	64	4	11	48	37
Bachelors degree	1	4	32	64	2	12	42	44
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 30.68* (.000)				χ^2 = 41.35* (.000)		
Occupation		(n = 1457)				(n = 1442)		
Mgt, prof, education	0	3	30	67	2	8	48	43
Sales/office support	1	3	38	59	4	8	49	39
Const, inst or maint	1	3	40	56	4	14	56	26
Prodn/trans/warehs	2	10	35	53	3	21	53	23
Agriculture	0	4	40	56	3	14	48	36
Food serv/pers. care	0	4	42	54	0	9	60	31
Hlthcare supp/safety	0	3	29	67	1	14	37	48
Other	2	2	34	63	5	16	37	42
Chi-square (sig.)		χ^2 = 44.84* (.002)				χ^2 = 60.68* (.000)		

* Chi-square values are statistically significant at the .05 level. 0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 13. *Plans to Leave Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes*

	Do you plan to leave your community in the next year?				***If yes, where do you plan to move?***			
	Yes	*No*	*Uncertain*	*Chi-square (sig.)*	*Lincoln/Omaha metro areas*	*Some other place in NE*	*Some place other than Nebraska*	*Chi-square (sig.)*
					Percentages			
Total	5	83	12		11	39	50	
Community Size		(n = 2068)				(n = 101)		
Less than 500	4	84	13		0	50	50	
500 - 999	5	83	12		10	60	30	
1,000 - 4,999	5	84	11		14	21	66	
5,000 - 9,999	4	87	9	χ^2 = 9.33	13**	25**	63**	χ^2 = 9.12
10,000 and up	6	80	14	(.315)	17	38	45	(.332)
Region		(n = 2159)				(n = 108)		
Panhandle	11	77	13		8	33	58	
North Central	8	81	11		4	40	56	
South Central	5	83	13		9	33	58	
Northeast	4	84	12	χ^2 = 30.68*	30	55	15	χ^2 = 15.05
Southeast	2	87	12	(.000)	17**	33**	50**	(.058)
Income Level		(n = 1958)				(n = 104)		
Under $20,000	9	76	15		4	50	46	
$20,000 - $39,999	3	83	14		15	8	77	
$40,000 - $59,999	8	79	14	χ^2 = 31.15*	19	32	49	χ^2 = 10.41
$60,000 and over	4	87	9	(.000)	12	46	42	(.108)
Age		(n = 2168)				(n = 107)		
19 - 29	9	70	21		0	57	43	
30 - 39	7	77	17		15	30	55	
40 - 49	7	82	12		19	29	52	
50 - 64	4	87	9	χ^2 = 92.21*	17	26	57	χ^2 = 12.21
65 and older	2	92	6	(.000)	13**	50**	38**	(.142)
Gender		(n = 2127)				(n = 106)		
Male	5	83	12	χ^2 = 0.09	25	36	39	χ^2 = 10.33*
Female	5	82	12	(.956)	4	41	54	(.006)
Marital Status		(n = 2129)				(n = 104)		
Married	4	85	11		11	48	40	
Never married	11	63	26		5	32	64	
Divorced/separated	7	79	14	χ^2 = 70.55*	19	19	63	χ^2 = 8.33
Widowed	2	90	8	(.000)	25**	25**	50**	(.215)
Education		(n = 2114)				(n = 105)		
H.S. diploma or less	3	88	9		19	19	63	
Some college	6	80	14	χ^2 = 17.01*	8	35	57	χ^2 = 7.85
Bachelors degree	6	82	12	(.002)	13	53	35	(.097)
Occupation		(n = 1476)				(n = 67)		
Mgt, prof, education	6	83	12		17	46	38	
Sales/office support	5	83	12		8	62	31	
Const, inst or maint	5	78	18		20**	20**	60**	
Prodn/trans/warehs	3	82	14		33**	67**	0**	
Agriculture	1	89	10		0**	67**	33**	
Food serv/pers. care	6	79	16		0**	83**	17**	
Hlthcare supp/safety	6	83	11	χ^2 = 52.02*	17	25	58	χ^2 = 17.10
Other	2	59	40	(.000)	100**	0**	0**	(.251)
Yrs Lived in Comm.		(n = 2069)				(n = 104)		
Five years or less	9	65	26	χ^2 = 89.52*	10	67	23	χ^2 = 13.71*
More than five years	5	86	9	(.000)	12	28	60	(.001)

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

** Note: Row percentages are calculated using a row total that contains less than 10 respondents.

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