2014

# Nebraska Metro Poll, A Research Report: Perceptions of Community, Personal Well-Being, and Outlook on the Future

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# NEBRASKA METRO POLL

# A Research Report

**Perceptions of Community, Personal Well-Being, and Outlook on the Future**

*2014 Nebraska Metro Poll Results*

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# Executive Summary

The 2014 Nebraska Metro Poll continues an on-going effort to understand the perceptions and concerns of urban residents. The Metro Poll expands upon the efforts of the Omaha Conditions Survey conducted by the Center for Public Affairs Research (CPAR) periodically since 1990 to now include survey responses from the seven counties that comprise both the Omaha and Lincoln metro areas. With the knowledge and insights gained from surveying local residents, leaders and decision-makers can be better informed on the views and priorities that the public shares.

This report details responses to questions that pertained to aspects of community, well-being, and future outlook. The Metro Poll's counterpart, the Nebraska Rural Poll conducted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, tends to ask these questions on an annual basis. The two polls utilized the same set of questions and methodology, so that results are directly comparable and provide statewide coverage of all 93 Nebraska counties. 2014 was the first year for the two polls to be coordinated and conducted in a similar manner, providing a way to evaluate differences in the views of urban and rural residents.

This report focuses on the responses of nearly 1,150 participants in the 2014 Metro Poll. Several key findings emerged when analyzing the results of specific questions by socio-economic and demographic characteristics. A summary of some of the key elements and patterns in the data follows:

➢ Respondents were generally positive on recent and expected future changes in the community in which they lived. Nearly three times as many people thought that their community had changed for the better in the past year (44%) versus becoming worse (15%). About twice as many thought their community would become a better place to live in ten years (35%) compared to becoming a worse place to live (18%).

➢ The vast majority of respondents rated specific attributes of their community highly, with 82% saying their community was "friendly", 67% stating it was "trusting", and 68% believing it was "supportive".

➢ Strong majorities disagreed with the view that they were "powerless" to control their own life (61%) or the future of their community (70%). Thus, most people thought there were some things they can do to make improvements to their personal life or community.

➢ Age and stage of life (married/unmarried; homeowner/renter; with/without children living in the home; etc.) had large influences on views relating to connection to their community and the perceived difficulty to move or leave the community. For example, 57% of those currently married indicated it would be difficult to leave their current community, compared to 37% of those never married. Additionally, age and stage of life impacted views on personal change in the last five years and expected changes in the future – only 20% of seniors aged 65 and older expected to be better off in 10 years versus 74% of those under age 40.

➢ The amount of education and income level of respondents strongly influenced their views, with statistically significant differences existing on all 11 items summarized in this report for both of

these demographic factors (p < .05). For example, 62% of those with a Bachelor's degree or more education stated they were better off today versus five years ago compared to only 33% of those with a high school diploma or less education. In addition, 73% of those with annual household incomes of $100,000 or more said they were better off than their parents at their age, as opposed to only 44% of those with an income under $40,000 stating likewise.

➢ Most questions also had statistically significant response differences by geography as well. Comparing among Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, and the four remaining outlying counties of Cass, Saunders, Seward, and Washington combined showed significant differences on 8 of the 11 question items. Lancaster County residents tended to be the most positive, stating most often that their community had changed for the better in the last year (56%), expecting the community to change for the better in 10 years (42%), being better off versus five years ago (63%), and disagreeing that their community was powerless to control its future (76%).

➢ Within the specific counties, residents of eastern Douglas County (east of 45th Street) tended to be more pessimistic on the current situation or recent changes. For example, 32% of eastern Douglas County residents stated their community had changed for the worse in the past year, more than double the percentage saying so (15%) in western Douglas County (west of 108th Street). Douglas County residents in the southeast quadrant (southeast of 72nd and Pacific Streets) tended to be most pessimistic, stating more often that their community was unfriendly, distrusting and hostile, being less likely to disagree that they and their community were powerless to control their own future, and stating more often that they were worse off than their parents at their age (38%) compared with other parts of Douglas County (19%). The 38% in southeast Douglas County reporting being worse off than their parents was actually higher than the 35% who said they were better off than their parents, and was the only location where this was the case, as other areas stated they were better off than their parents by a wide margin.

➢ Residents of northeast Douglas County were fairly optimistic on the future. They reported the highest level of expected change for the better in ten years in their community (43%) and were also the most likely location in Douglas County to say that they would be better off personally 10 years from now (62%). Moreover, northeast Douglas County residents reported being better off than five years ago 55% of the time, more than in other quadrants of the county.

These findings show that significant predictors exist for understanding the differences in attitudes and perceptions of metropolitan residents of Nebraska. Whether by location, socio-economic, or demographic and life stage characteristic, significant differences emerged in response patterns relating to questions on their community, recent and expected future changes, and overall well-being. Community leaders and decision makers would be wise to note and understand such differences, as they are important factors in implementing and evaluating effective policies and programs aimed to address the challenges faced by metro-area households.

# Background

Researchers and policymakers across the state of Nebraska have often discussed the need for a statewide poll to understand Nebraskan's perceptions of their communities, well-being and issues like personal safety. Separate initiatives have periodically surveyed metropolitan and rural Nebraskans on these issues. However, to date, no single effort has independently obtained statewide coverage at the level necessary to report attitudinal differences across metropolitan and rural Nebraska. The Nebraska Metro and Rural Polls represent a unique effort in the state of Nebraska to obtain directly comparable data on statewide residents. This report provides a detailed analysis of responses to the 2014 Nebraska Metro Poll.

## History of the Nebraska Metro and Rural Polls

Since 1990, the Center for Public Affairs Research (CPAR) at the University of Nebraska at Omaha has periodically conducted the Omaha Conditions Survey, designed to measure public satisfaction with services and poll respondents on policy-related topics. The Omaha Conditions Survey, conducted most recently in 2004, included the metropolitan Nebraska counties of Douglas, Sarpy, Washington, Cass (added in 1993) and Saunders (added in 2004). Efforts to measures perceptions of life in rural Nebraska have been ongoing since 1996, when the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UN-L) Department of Agricultural Economics began conducting the Nebraska Rural Poll. The Rural Poll is an annual mail survey which draws its sample from non-metropolitan Nebraska counties. The Rural Poll uses a set of core questions, complemented by timely or relevant policy questions that change yearly. The core question set represents an important source of data about long-term changes in rural Nebraskans' perceptions.

In 2014, CPAR and UN-L partnered to conduct polls of metropolitan and nonmetropolitan residents that provided statewide coverage of all 93 Nebraska counties. The polls used a common methodology and shared question set, so results from the Metro and Rural Polls are directly comparable. This report details metro Nebraskans' perceptions of their communities, well-being and outlook on the future. More detailed results from the Rural Poll, including comparable tables, appendixes, and data about trends in rural Nebraskans' perceptions are available in the report *Life in Nonmetropolitan Nebraska: Perceptions of Well-Being* at http://ruralpoll.unl.edu/pdf/14communityandwellbeing.pdf .

## Methodology

The 2014 Nebraska Metro Poll used an initial sample size of 7,500 households in the Omaha and Lincoln metro areas of Cass, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties. Six other Nebraska counties (Dakota, Dixon, Hall, Hamilton, Howard and Merrick) that are technically designated as metropolitan were included in the Rural Poll sample, since they are more similar in nature and economic structure to other micropolitan and rural counties that have been historically sampled by the Rural Poll.

The initial sample of 7,500 metro households was provided by Experian. The contact frame included 5,500 randomly selected metro households, an oversample of 500 randomly selected Hispanic households, an oversample of 500 randomly selected Black households and an oversample of 1,000

households headed by a person under age 40. The overall response rate to the random sample was 18.3%. Including the oversamples the response rate was 16.6% with 1,149 total households responding to the survey. A summary of the samples and their response rates can be seen in Table 1.

The Metro and Rural Polls used a 14-page questionnaire which included questions pertaining to well-being, community satisfaction, personal safety and employment. The survey was distributed to respondents using a modified version of the Tailored Design Method (Dillman, 2009). The data were collected in one wave during the spring and summer of 2014. The mail sequence is presented below.

➢ A pre-notification letter was sent to each address to inform residents that their household had been randomly selected and requested their participation in the survey. The letter emphasized the importance of responding and told residents that the survey would be arriving in the mail within the next 7 to 10 days.
➢ Approximately one week later, the respondents were mailed a copy of the Metro Poll questionnaire with an informative letter signed by the project director.
➢ Approximately 14 days after the initial questionnaire arrived, respondents received a thank you/reminder postcard. This mailing contained messaging that thanked respondents if they had already participated and emphasized the need for all households to participate.
➢ People who had not responded within 30 days of the initial mailing received a replacement questionnaire and letter urging them to respond.

A website with a user ID and password were provided on each mailing for those wishing to respond online. All materials were translated into Spanish and those records with a Hispanic identifier were sent both the English and Spanish versions of the letter and questionnaire. The efforts to translate all materials and send bilingual forms are believed to have helped the response rate among minorities.

*Table 1:* Sample Description and Response Rates to 2014 Nebraska Metro Poll

| Metro Poll Sample Description | Size | Undeliverable | Undeliverable % | Relevant Size | Responses | Response Rate |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Metro random sample | 5,500 | 392 | 7.1% | 5,108 | 937 | 18.3% |
| Metro Hispanic oversample | 500 | 42 | 8.4% | 458 | 45 | 9.8% |
| Metro Black oversample | 500 | 56 | 11.2% | 444 | 50 | 11.3% |
| Metro under age 40 oversample | 1,000 | 86 | 8.6% | 914 | 113 | 12.4% |
| Unidentified returns | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | 4 | n/a |
| Overall | 7,500 | 576 | 7.7% | 6,924 | 1,149 | 16.6% |

## Weighting Procedures

Minorities and younger residents are often underrepresented in survey samples, with greater representation seen from Whites and older individuals. To account for this, weights have been assigned to adjust the sample estimates so that they represent the age distribution and minority status of the adult population in the seven Nebraska metropolitan counties surveyed (using 2010 Census data). The figures presented in this report are also based upon weights applied to the gender of the respondent.

## Geographic Analyses

The appendices present data for the entire Metro Poll sample, with breakdowns by demographic characteristics such as educational attainment, political views, years lived in their community, and home ownership, among others. Geographic analyses of responses are provided as well. Estimates are presented based on county of residence (Douglas, Sarpy, and Lancaster listed separately as well as the four other outlying counties of Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington grouped together).

Within Douglas and Sarpy Counties data are presented for western, central, and eastern portions of the counties. These categories were based on geocodes of the zip code of the respondent's mailing address. Eastern Douglas and Sarpy counties were defined as zip codes east of 45th Street, the central areas were zip codes between 45th and 108th Streets, and zip codes west of 108th Street were classified as western.

Separate statistical analyses were also performed on sections of Douglas County. The county was divided into quadrants based upon the respondent's zip code. Pacific Street defined the north/south boundary and 72nd Street defined the east/west boundary. With this approach the characteristics of those living northeast of 72nd and Pacific could be isolated to approximate the views of those living in "North Omaha." Likewise, those southeast of 72nd and Pacific were a proxy for "South Omaha". Maps 1 and 2 toward the end of this report show the spatial layout of Douglas and Sarpy Counties as subdivided.

Within Lancaster County data are presented separately for northern and southern parts of the county. The geographic assignments were based on geocodes generated from the respondent's mailing address. Highway 34 (O Street) in Lincoln defined the north/south boundary for Lancaster County.

# Results

## Perceptions of Community Change in the Past Year

The 2014 Metro Poll measured respondents' perceptions of recent change in their community with 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 response categories were better, no change and worse.

A plurality of respondents (43.5%) indicated that their community had changed for the better, 41.4% said their community had not changed, and 15.0% said their community had changed for the worse. Comparing Douglas, Sarpy, Lancaster and other outlying counties reveals significant differences at the county level. Respondents in Douglas County were most likely to think their community had changed for the worse (20.2%) and least likely to think their community had changed for the better (36.3%). Residents in Lancaster County were least likely to think their community had changed for the worse (7.6%) and most likely to think their community had changed for the better (56.0%). See Appendix 1.

Respondents in eastern Douglas County were most likely to think that their community had changed for the worse (32.1%). Respondents in western Douglas County were least likely to think that their community had changed for the worse (14.9%) while also being most likely to think their community

had changed for the better (38.4%) and those in central Douglas County were least likely to think their community had changed for the better (33.3%).

Respondents in southwest Douglas County were least likely to say that their community had changed for the worse in the past year (15.2%), while those in northeast Douglas County were most likely to say their community had changed for the worse (27.1%). Those in northeast Douglas County also represented through group most likely to say things had changed for the better (39.4%) and those in southwest and northwest Douglas County were least likely to think things had changed for the better (both with 34.9%).

Residents of southern Lancaster County were more likely than those in northern Lancaster County to say that their community had changed for the better (64.4% versus 41.9%).

There was a significant relationship between respondents' self-reported income and educational attainment and their perceptions of their community over the past year. As education and incomes increased community change was viewed more positively (Figure 1). Those who owned or were buying a home were also less likely to believe their community had changed for the worse in the last year (13.7% compared to 20.4% for renters). Those who have lived in their community longer were more likely to believe their community had changed for the better in the past year, and White non-Hispanic residents were more positive about their community change than minority respondents (46.5% stating change for the better versus 31.2% of minorities stating likewise).



Figure 1: Perceptions of Positive Community Change in the Past Year by Education and Income
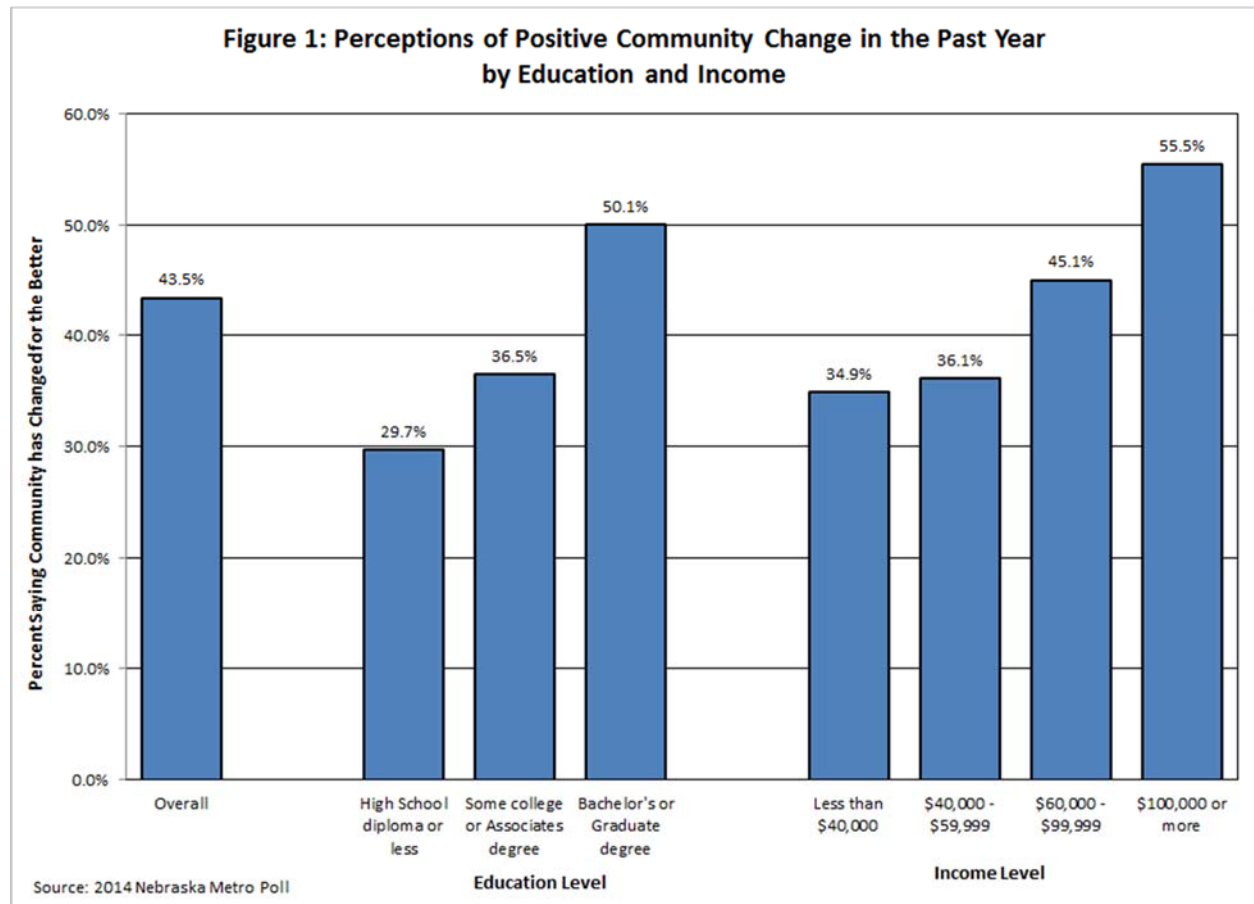
## Perceptions of the Community's Future In the Next 10 Years

The Metro Poll also measured respondents' expectations for their community over the next 10 years. The question asked, *"Based on what you see of the situation today, do you think that in ten years from now your community will be a worse place to live, a better place or about the same?"*.

Overall, 46.5% predicted no change in their community's future while 18.1% said their community would get worse in the next 10 years and 35.3% predicted that things would get better. See Appendix 2.

Residents of Lancaster County were most optimistic about the future with 42.2% predicting things would be better. Sarpy and Douglas Counties had the highest percentage of residents who believed things would get worse in the next 10 years, and residents of Douglas and outlying counties were least likely to think things would get better.

Residents of northeast Douglas County were most likely to predict that things would get better in their community (43.0%). Those in southwest Douglas County were least likely to predict that things would be worse in 10 years (16.8%) while southeast Douglas County residents were most likely to predict becoming worse (27.2%).

Those in central and western Sarpy County (49.2% and 49.8%) were more likely to predict that things would be better in 10 years than those in eastern Sarpy County (17.3%). Conversely, those in eastern Sarpy County were most likely to state that their community would get worse in the future (32.8%).

There was an association between rising annual household incomes and respondent's positive predictions for their community's future. See Appendix 2.1. Those who had never been married were more likely to predict a positive future (42.0%) than those who were currently married (34.8%) and those who were divorced, separated or widowed (30.0%). Higher educational attainment was also correlated with having a positive outlook on the future. Those who owned or were buying their home were more likely than those who rented their home to have a positive future outlook. Those who reported having more liberal political views were also more likely to predict that their community would change for the better in the next 10 years (45.2%) than moderate or conservative respondents. White non-Hispanic respondents were more likely than minority respondents to have a positive future outlook.

## Perceptions of Community Attributes

### Community Friendliness

Respondents were asked to rate their community attributes on a 7-point scale, with a rating of 4 being neutral. The question read, *"Listed below are several pairs of contrasting views regarding your community. For each pair please indicate which one of the two views you most agree with."* The contrasting pairs were unfriendly/friendly, distrusting/trusting and hostile/supportive.

Of the overall sample, 82.2% rated their community as friendly, 10.7% stated they were neutral, and 7.0% of respondents reported that their community was unfriendly (Appendix 3). Respondents in Sarpy and Lancaster Counties were more likely to rate their communities as friendly (88.2%) than those in Douglas (77.4%) and outlying (82.1%) counties.

Respondents in western Douglas County were more likely to rate their community as friendly (84.9%) than those in central (76.4%) and eastern (59.8%) areas. Residents in eastern Douglas County were most likely to rate their communities as being unfriendly (19.1%) compared to other parts of the county.

Residents of northwest Douglas County were more likely than other residents of Douglas County to rate their community as friendly (85.4%), with a smaller portion rating it unfriendly than other parts of the county. Residents of southeast Douglas county were least likely to rate their community as friendly (64.0%) and most likely to rate their community as unfriendly (19.9%).

Those with annual household income under $40,000 were least likely to rate their community as being friendly (71.3%) and most likely to report that their community was unfriendly (11.6%). Younger people (less than 40 years old) were the age group most likely to rate their community as being friendly (86.5%). Respondents with a Bachelor's or graduate degree were more likely to report that their community was friendly than respondents with lower educational attainment. Respondents who lived in larger households (3 or more people) were more likely to report that their community was friendly than those who lived alone or with one other person (Figure 2). Having children in the home and owning your own home were associated with higher ratings of community friendliness. White, non-Hispanic residents were also more likely than minority respondents to report that the community they lived in was friendly.



Figure 2: Perceptions of Community Friendliness by Age and Number of People in the Household

Source: 2014 Nebraska Metro Poll
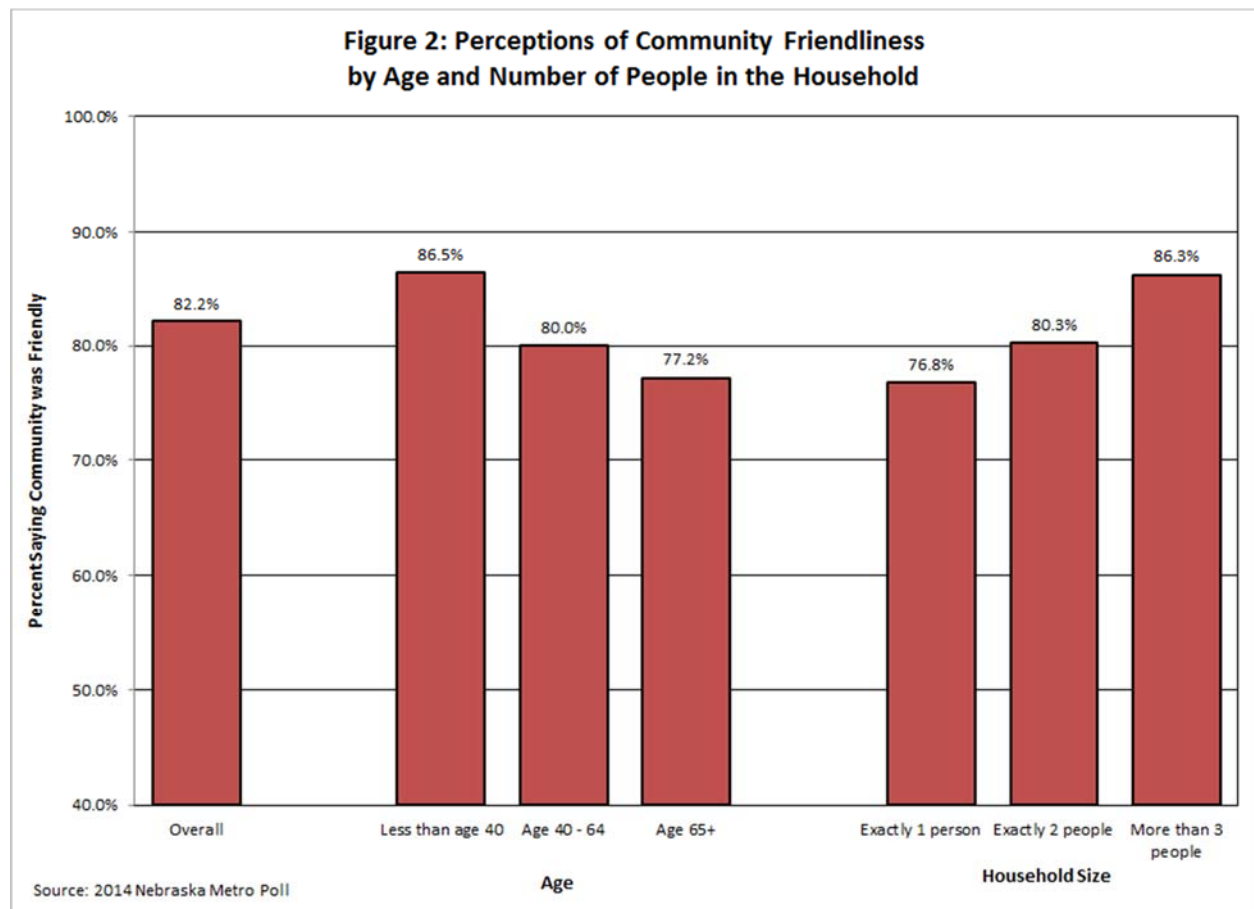
## Community Trust

Respondents were asked to rate their community attributes on a 7-point scale. The question wording was identical to the wording listed under "Community Friendliness" described earlier, but the scale ranged from "Distrusting" to "Trusting".

Overall, 66.6% of people rated their community as trusting, 19.9% rated themselves as neutral and 13.5% rated their community as distrusting (Appendix 4). Respondents in Lancaster county were most likely to rate their communities as being trusting (77.5%) and had the smallest percentage saying distrusting. Douglas county residents had a less trusting community (58.3%) and were more likely to say distrusting (17.3%) than other counties.

Respondents in western Douglas County were most likely to say that their community was trusting (70.1%), while those in eastern Douglas County were least likely to call their community trusting (34.0%). Compared to other parts of the county, those in eastern Douglas County were also most likely to say that their community was distrusting (25.7%). Conversely, respondents from western Douglas County were least likely to rate their community as distrusting (11.3%).

Residents of southwest Douglas County were the most likely to rate their community as trusting (70.8%). Residents of southeast Douglas County were the least likely to say that their community was trusting (34.4%). Those in southeast Douglas County were also most likely to say that their community was distrusting (26.3%), while those in northwest Douglas County were least likely to rate their community as distrusting (10.4%).

Residents of central Sarpy County were more likely than other residents of Sarpy County to rate their community as trusting (85.7%) and least likely to see it as untrusting (1.4%). Those in western Sarpy County were least likely to consider their community to be trusting (61.9%) and most likely to see their community as distrusting (25.3%).

Rising household incomes were associated with increased views of community trust, with those making $100,000 a year or more being most likely to see their community as being trusting (74.3%). See Appendix 4.1. Men were also more likely to view their community as trusting. Those who had obtained a Bachelor's or graduate degree were much more likely than those who had not to view their community as trusting (76.1%) and those with a high school diploma or less were most likely to view their community as distrusting (22.5%). Those who lived in households with more than 3 people were more likely than those who lived alone or with 1 other person to see their community as trusting. Perceptions of community trust were higher among home owners, conservatives, and White non-Hispanics.

## Community Supportiveness

Respondents were also asked to rate community support on a 7-point scale. The question wording was identical to the wording described under "Community Friendliness" with the scale ranging from "Hostile" to "Supportive".

Across the entire sample, 68.3% of respondents rated their community as supportive, while only 13.4% of respondents rated their community as hostile (Appendix 5). Respondents in outlying counties were

the group most likely to see their community as supportive (78.6%) and least likely to see it as hostile (8.0%). Those in Douglas County were least likely to see their community as supportive (61.3%) and most likely to see their community as hostile (16.7%).

Respondents who lived in eastern Douglas County were less likely (43.4%) than those in central or western Douglas County to view their community as supportive. They were also the group most likely to view their community as hostile by a narrow margin. Those in western Douglas County were least likely to see their community as hostile (11.9%) and most likely to say supportive (69.3%).

Examining the quadrants of Douglas County, southwest Douglas county residents were most likely to view their community as supportive (69.8%) and least likely to see it as hostile (9.9%). Those in southeastern Douglas County were most likely to call their community hostile (24.1%) and least likely to see it as supportive (47.8%).

Respondents in western Sarpy County were most likely to rate their community as being supportive (82.4%), but were also most likely to rate their community as hostile (17.6%). Those in central Sarpy County were least likely to call their communities hostile (4.2%) and those in eastern Sarpy County were least likely to call their communities supportive (70.5%).

Certain individual attributes were associated with how respondents viewed their community's supportiveness. Respondents who owned their home, households with children, and those with higher incomes and more education were more likely to view their community as supportive. Conservatives were most likely to see their community as supportive. Those attending church more often stated higher levels of community support. White, non-Hispanic residents were more likely to view their community as supportive (70.6%) than were minority respondents (55.5%).

## Community's Future
### *Perceptions of the community's power to control its future*
In order to assess respondent's views on the future of their community, they were asked a variety of questions. The first question asked respondents *"Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My community is powerless to control its own future."* Respondents rated their agreement on a labeled 5 point scale from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree".

Across all counties, those who agreed or strongly agreed comprised 12.2%, and those who disagreed or strongly disagreed accounted for 70.4% of the sample (Appendix 6). Respondents who lived in outlying counties were most likely to think that communities were powerless (21.5%). Those in Lancaster county had the most positive responses, as they were least likely to agree with the statement (9.3%) and most likely to disagree (76.0%).

Within Douglas County, those in eastern Douglas County were most likely to think that communities were powerless to control their future (17.7%) and least likely to disagree (50.2%). Those in western Douglas County were most positive, being most likely to disagree that communities were powerless (74.1%) and least likely to agree (10.8%). Across Douglas County quadrants, those in southeast Douglas

County were least likely to disagree that communities were powerless (54.5%), while those living west of 72nd Street more often disagreed that they were powerless (73%).

Within eastern Sarpy County, about 20.3% agree that communities were powerless, compared to 5.5% within central Sarpy County. Those who lived in western Sarpy county were most likely to disagree that communities were powerless (82.0%) compared with 55.0% of those in eastern Sarpy County. Within Lancaster County, those who lived in northern Lancaster County were more likely than those who lived in southern Lancaster County to agree that communities were powerless to control their future.

Those with less education or lower incomes, those aged 65 or older, and men were more pessimistic, being significantly less likely to disagree that communities were powerless to control their future (Figure 3). Those who had lived in their community for five or fewer years were also less positive, disagreeing with being powerless more often (62.6%) compared to residents who had been in the community more than 5 years (73.1%). White non-Hispanic respondents were more positive, being more likely than minority respondents to disagree that communities were powerless to control their future (71.9 versus 63.2%). Figure 3 shows extreme values in variables that has statistically significant differences.



Figure 3: Percentage of Respondents Disagreeing with the Statement "My community is powerless to control its own future" by Demographic Characteristics with Statistically Significant Differences

| Characteristic | Percent |
|---|---|
| Income of $100,000+ | 81.0 |
| Bachelor's or Graduate degree | 77.3 |
| More than 5 years in community | 73.1 |
| Under age 40 | 72.6 |
| Female | 72.1 |
| White non-Hispanics | 71.9 |
| Exactly 2 people in household | 71.9 |
| Currently married | 71.7 |
| Male | 68.1 |
| Minorities | 63.2 |
| Age 65+ | 62.7 |
| Five or fewer years in community | 62.6 |
| Divorced, separated, widowed | 62.1 |
| Exactly 1 person in household | 61.4 |
| Income of Under $40,000 | 54.2 |
| High school diploma or less | 47.1 |
| Overall | 70.4 |

Source: 2014 Nebraska Metro Poll

### *Willingness of households to leave the community*

Respondent's attachment to their community was measured using the following question, *"Assume you were to have a discussion in your household about leaving your community for a reasonably good opportunity in a different, separate community. 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?"* Response selections ranged from 1 to 7 with 4 being neutral.

Overall, 52.4% of respondents indicated that it would be difficult for them to leave their community, while 13.9% were neutral and 33.7% of respondents indicated that it would be easy for them to leave (Appendix 7). County of residence was significantly associated with the difficulty of leaving decision. Those from outlying counties were most likely to report that it would be difficult to leave (60.2%), while those from Douglas County were least likely to report that it would be difficult to leave (47.5%).

Those who lived in Western Douglas County report the strongest attachment to place, with 52.6% reporting that it would be difficult to leave. Those in eastern Douglas County reported the least difficulty with leaving (36.8%). Those who lived in southern Lancaster County were more likely to report that it would be difficult for them to move (62.5%) than those who lived in northern Lancaster County (50.2%).

Respondents who owned their home reported more difficulty leaving their community than respondents who rented their home. Regular church attendance was also associated with more difficulty with moving from their community. Those who have lived in their community 20 years or more were the group most likely to report difficultly with moving from their community (62.4%). White, non-Hispanic residents were also more likely than minority respondents to report difficulty with moving (54.2% versus 41.9%). Seniors, females, those either currently married or divorced, separated or widowed, and those with higher incomes and more education felt it would be more difficult to leave.

## Personal Well-Being
### *Perceptions of personal change over the last 5 years*

Respondents were asked, *"All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than you were five years ago?"* Response options were on a 5 point scale from "Much worse off" to "Much better off."

Of the overall sample, 54.5% considered themselves to be better or much better off, 18.5% considered themselves to be worse or much worse off and 27.0% considered themselves about the same (Appendix 8). The distribution varied significantly across counties, with respondents in Lancaster County being the most likely to consider themselves better off (62.6%), and those in outlying counties being least likely to consider themselves better off (46.4%).

Within Douglas County, those in western Douglas County were most likely to consider themselves better off (54.0%). In eastern Douglas County, respondents tended towards the extreme ends of the scale, with 39.8% reporting they were better off and 38.4% reporting that they were worse off. Across Douglas County quadrants, those in northeast Douglas County were most likely to report that they were better off (55.3%). Those in southeast Douglas County were least likely to report that they were better off than 5 years ago (37.7%).

Within Sarpy County, there were significant differences across the county. Those in western Sarpy County were most likely to report that they were better off, by a wide margin (77.8%). In eastern and central Sarpy County just 49.7% and 53.7% reported being better off, respectively. Figure 4 graphs the percentages of respondents stating better and worse off versus five years ago and lists the difference or gap between those saying better and worse off. Differences by geography tended to be small in eastern parts of Douglas and Sarpy Counties while being larger in western locations. For example, in eastern Douglas County 39.8% of respondents were better off compared to 38.4% being worse off, a small 1.4 percentage point gap in comparison to the 38 percentage point gap in western Douglas County where 54% said better off and 16% stated being worse off.



Figure 4: Perceptions of Current Well-Being versus 5 Years Ago by Location
"Do you think you are better or worse off than you were 5 years ago?"

Source: 2014 Nebraska Metro Poll
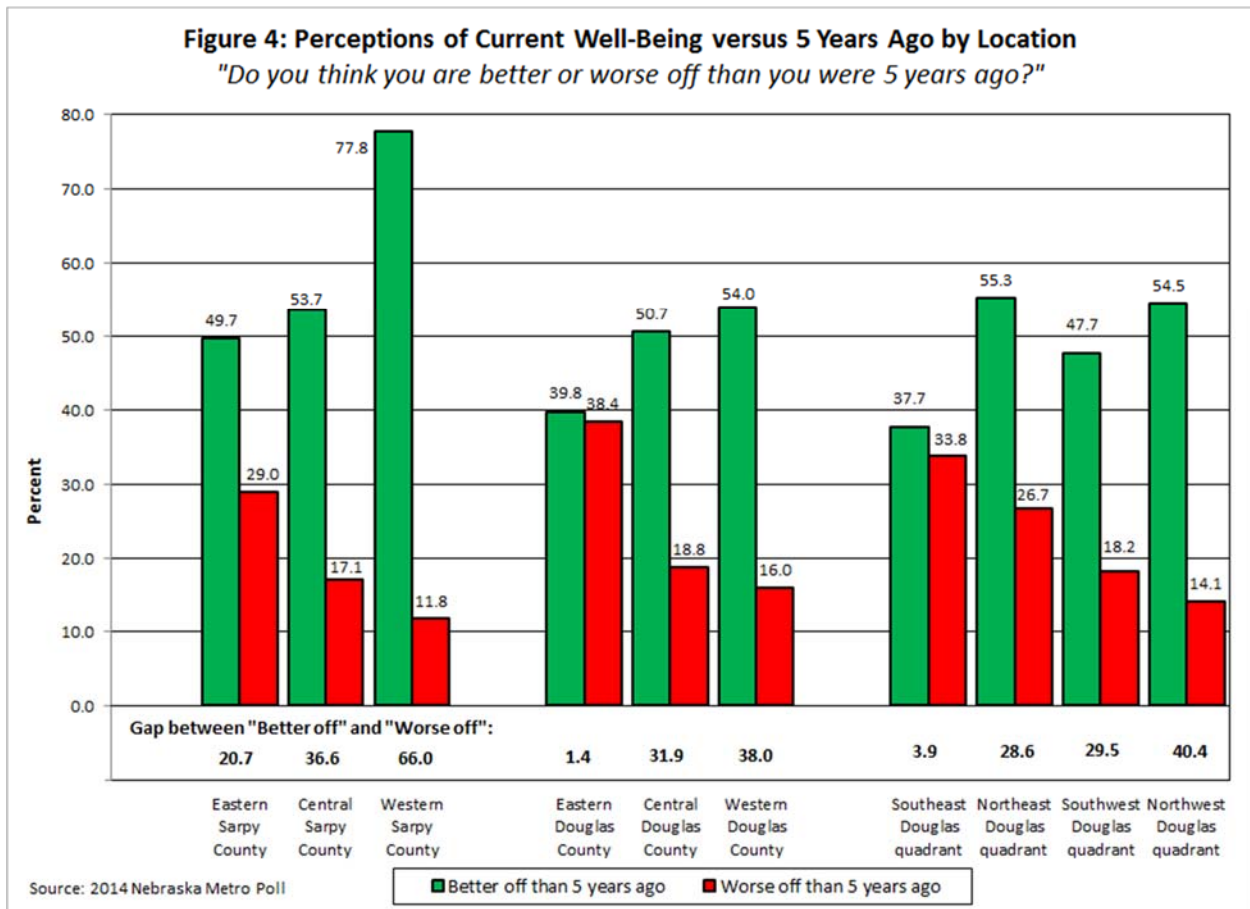
Perceptions of change over the last 5 years also significantly differed across income classes, with the percentage stating "better off" increasing and those saying "worse off" decreasing as income levels rose. Those under 40 years of age were most likely to report being better off (66.3%), and those 65 and older were least likely to report being better off than 5 years ago (36.1%). Those who had never married were the martial class most likely to report being better off now than 5 years ago, and those who were divorced, separated or widowed were the martial class most likely to report being worse off.

Those who had obtained a Bachelor's or graduate degree were most likely to report being better off, and those who had a high school diploma or less were most likely to report being worse off. More than

55% of those who lived with at least one other person reported being better off versus only 42.8% of those who lived alone. The groups most likely to report being better off across home ownership, political affiliation, years in the community and race were owners (55.0%), liberals (61.2%), those in the community for 5 years or less (68.2%) and White non-Hispanics (57.2%). See Appendix 8.1.

### *Perceptions of being better off than parents*
A separate question asked, *"All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than your parents when they were your age?"* Response options were on a 5 point scale and ranged from "Much worse off" to "Much better off".

In the full sample, 57.0% of respondents said they were better or much better off than their parents, while 21.5% said that they were worse or much worse off with 21.6% reporting that they were "about the same". (Appendix 9) Only responses within Douglas County showed statistically significant differences. Those in the western Douglas County were most likely to report that they were better off than their parents (57.8%) and least often reported being worse off (15.8%). Those in the eastern part of Douglas County were most likely to report that they were worse off (29.2%). Across Douglas County quadrants, those in northeast Douglas County were most likely to report that they were better off (60.5%). Only 35.2% of those in southeast Douglas County said they were better off than their parents, while a greater percentage reported that they were actually worse off than their parents (38.0%).

As incomes rose so did the percentage saying they were better off than their parents. Only 43.6% with incomes under $40,000 stated they were better off than their parents, compared to about 56% for both those having incomes of either $40,000-$59,999 or $60,000-$99,999. Those who reported having a household income of $100,000 or more were most likely to report being better off than their parents, by a wide margin (73.3%). Those age 65 or older were most likely to report being better off than their parents at their age (68.5%), and those 40-64 years old were the group most like to report being worse off. Those who were currently married, had a Bachelor's or graduate degree, and owned their home were more likely than their counterparts to report being better off than their parents.

### *Perceptions of future well-being*
Respondents were asked to consider their well-being in the next ten years with the question *"All things considered, do you think you will be better or worse off ten years from now than you are today?"* Response options ranged from "Much worse off" to "Much better off" on a 5-point scale.

Overall, 52.6% of respondents thought that they would be better or much better off, while 16.6% predicted that they would be worse or much worse off (Appendix 10). There were no significant differences between responses at the county level. However, there were significant differences in respondent's predictions within Douglas and Sarpy County.

Within Douglas County quadrants, respondents in northeast Douglas County were the most optimistic about the future, with 62.0% predicting that they would be better off in 10 years. Northeast Douglas County residents also had the smallest proportion saying they'd be worse off in 10 years, with only 14.4% saying so. Those in southeast Douglas County were most likely to predict that they would be worse off in 10 years (21.7%). Within Sarpy County, those in western Sarpy County were least pessimistic about the

future (only 2.7% predicting they would be worse off) and those in central Sarpy County were most likely to predict that they would be worse off in the future (24.8%).

The respondent's stage of life had a large influence on how they viewed the future. Nearly 75% of those under age 40 thought they would be better or much better off in ten years, compared to less than 20% of those aged 65 or older (Figure 5). Younger people are more likely to have children in the home, and 66.4% of those with children under age 18 in the household were optimistic compared to only 43.7% of those without children in the home. Likewise, more than 60% of households with 3+ residents were positive in their outlook. Younger people are also more likely to never have been married as well as rent their residence, and their outlook was positive more than 60% of the time, versus only 34.0% for those divorced, separated, or widowed and 50.6% of homeowners having a positive outlook.



Figure 5: Future Outlook for Items Relating to Age and Life Situation
"Do you think you will be better or worse off ten years from now?"

Source: 2014 Nebraska Metro Poll
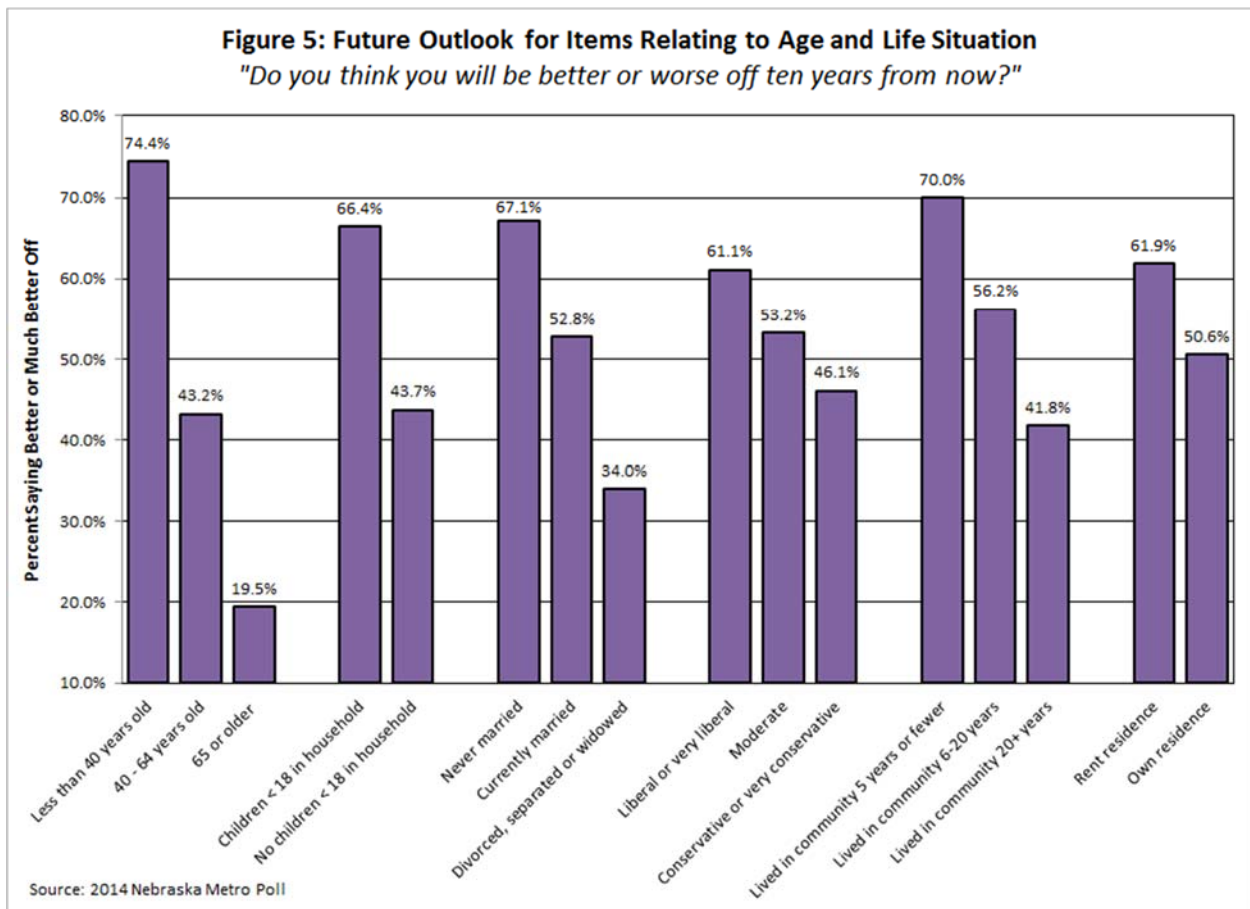
Also tied to age, those who had lived in their community for five or fewer years were significantly more likely to be positive on their future outlook, with 70.0% saying so versus only 48.8% of those who had been in their community more than five years. Political views are also somewhat correlated with age, and those liberal or very liberal who tend to be younger had a positive outlook 61.1% of the time compared to 46.1% of conservatives who tend to be older.

Like most other questions examined in this report, those with more education or higher incomes had more positive responses. Those who had obtained a Bachelor's degree or higher were the most

optimistic about their future, with 58.5% reporting that they expected to be better off, while only 32.7% of those with a high school diploma or less predicted that they would be better off in ten years. Those making $100,000/year or more were the income group most likely to predict that they would be better off in the future (60.2%), while those making less than $40,000/year were the income group least likely to be better off (46.3%) and most likely to predict that they would be worse off (23.8%).

### *Perceptions of an individual's power to control their own life*
A final question related to social aspects asked respondents to what extent they agreed or disagreed with the following statement: *"Life has changed so much in our modern world that most people are powerless to control their own lives."* The response options ranged from "Strongly disagree" to "Strongly agree" on a 5-point scale.

Overall, 61.1% of respondents disagreed with the statement, and only 26.2% agreed with the statement. (Appendix 11) There were no significant differences between respondents living in different counties, but there were significant differences between responses of those who lived within the same county. In Douglas County, those who lived in the eastern third of the county were the group most likely to agree that individuals were powerless to control their future (35.5%) and the least likely to disagree (45.9%). Respondents in central and western Douglas County disagreed at the same rate (65.6%), and those in western Douglas County were the least likely to agree with being powerless, by a narrow margin (23.7% in the west versus 26.1% in the central region). When examining the response distribution by Douglas County quadrants, those in southeast Douglas county stood out as the group most likely to agree they were powerless (41.2%) and least likely to disagree with the statement (43.6%). Responses from other parts of Douglas County were similar.

Across Sarpy County, those in the central region were the most positive group, being most likely to disagree with this statement (72.9%). Those in eastern Sarpy County were the least likely to disagree (49.4%) and the most likely to agree that they were powerless (28.8%).

There were strong associations between personal attributes and one's view of individual power. Perceptions of power went up with higher household incomes. Those making $100,000/year or more were far more likely to disagree (80.8%) and far less likely to agree they were powerless (14.9%) than other income groups. For comparison, perceived powerlessness was twice as high among those with annual household incomes below $60,000 (31%). Similarly, those with at least a Bachelor's degree were far more likely to disagree with the notion of powerlessness than those who had a high school diploma or less (72.8% versus 30.6%).

Those under 40 were the age group most likely to disagree with the statement (65.4%) and least likely to agree (22.9%). Perceived powerlessness increased with age. Those divorced, separated or widowed were most likely to agree they were powerless. Those who owned their home were more likely to disagree with the statement than renters (62.3% versus 54.8%). Politically liberal respondents were less likely to agree they were powerless. Those who have lived in their community a relatively short five or fewer years were less likely to agree they were powerless. Minority respondents were far more likely than White non-Hispanics to agree with the statement on being powerless (44.8% versus 22.2%).

# Conclusion

A variety of measures show that residents of metropolitan areas of Nebraska were positive about their personal well-being. A majority of respondents to the 2014 Metro Poll stated that they were better off versus five years ago, that they were better off than their parents when they were their age, and that they expected to be better off ten years from now. Thus, metro-area Nebraskans were quite positive in their outlook for the future as well as when comparing their present situation to the past.

Residents of the Omaha and Lincoln metro areas showed a general satisfaction with the community in which they lived. More than 65% of respondents stated that each of the terms "friendly", "trusting", and "supportive" described their current community. A majority stated that it would be difficult for their household to move and leave the community. Additionally, three times as many respondents rated their community as having changed for the better in the past year as compared to becoming worse.

Metro-area residents believed they have power to make positive changes in their personal lives and in their community. More than 60% of respondents disagreed with the notion that they were "powerless" to control their future. Moreover, about twice as many survey participants felt their community would change for the better in the next ten years versus changing for the worse.

Many differences emerged in the response patterns of metro-area residents. Those with more education and higher income levels tended to be the most positive in their responses. Statistically significant differences existed on all 11 items for both income and education (Appendix 12). In addition, the respondent's age and stage of life (e.g. being married) often influenced their views, especially on items relating to how they viewed the future. Responses did not differ much by gender (statistically significant on only 3 of 11 measures) but differences by race were common (9 of 11 measures).

Similarly, response patterns often differed by geographic location. Statistically significant differences often occurred when comparing the county of the respondent, and splitting the core urban counties into subareas also revealed differing views by residential location. For example, statistically significant differences existed on 9 of the 11 measures when Douglas County was split into quadrants roughly around 72nd and Pacific Streets as well as when Douglas County was divided into eastern, central, and western portions. Eastern Douglas County tended to be less positive when rating the current situation, but northeast Douglas County residents had the most positive outlook on the future. Southeast Douglas County residents tended to be the most pessimistic, with a higher percentage saying they were worse off as opposed to better off than their parents when they were their age.

The 2014 Metro Poll detailed the views of residents in the counties comprising the Lincoln and Omaha metro areas. Comparisons can be made to the results of the counterpart Nebraska Rural Poll, but this report focused on summarizing responses to the Metro Poll. 2014 was the first year in which the two polls coordinated to ask the same set of questions using similar methods. The findings shown here can be used as another "tool in the toolbox" for understanding and addressing needs in the local area.

**Map 1: Location of Zip Codes Defining Eastern, Central, and Western Douglas and Sarpy Counties**
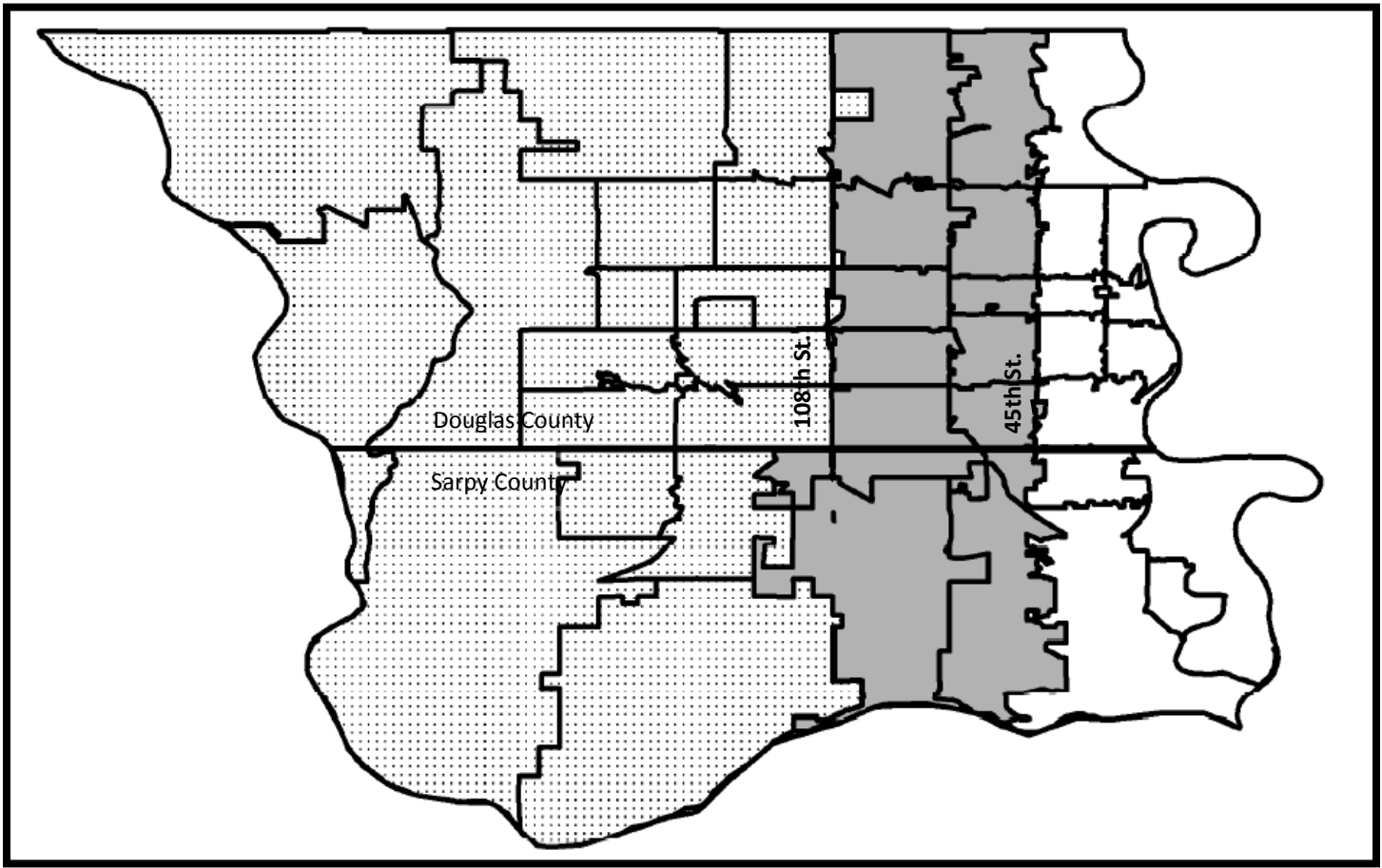


Eastern Douglas/Sarpy Counties

Central Douglas/Sarpy Counties

Western Douglas/Sarpy Counties

Map 2: Location of Douglas County Quadrants as Defined by Residential Zip Codes
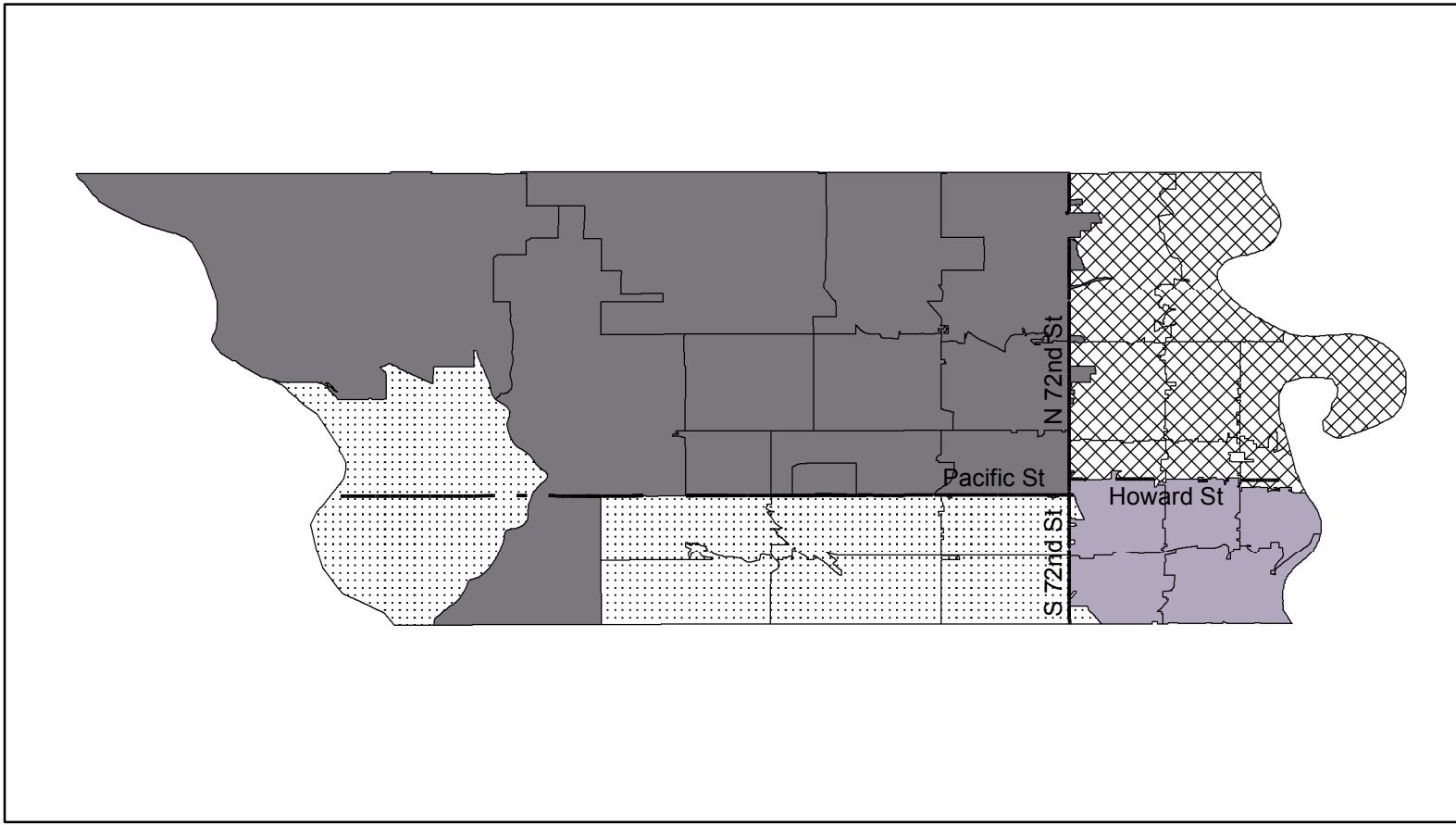


**Douglas County Quadrants**

| | |
|---|---|
| ▓ | Northwest |
| ░ | Southwest |
| ▨ | Northeast |
| ▨ | Southeast |

***Appendix 1:**  Question 1 - Perceptions of community change over the past year, by county and within county*

**Question item:** Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this <u>past year</u>, would you say…
        My community has changed for the…

| | Worse (%) | No change (%) | Better (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1128) | 15.0 | 41.4 | 43.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1125) | 15.1 | 41.3 | 43.7 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 586) | 20.2 | 43.5 | 36.3 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 151) | 9.6 | 40.7 | 49.7 | |
| **Lancaster** (n = 313) | 7.6 | 36.4 | 56.0 | $p$ = 0.000*** |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 75) | 17.3 | 45.1 | 37.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 586) | 20.2 | 43.5 | 36.3 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 110) | 32.1 | 30.9 | 37.0 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 211) | 20.6 | 46.1 | 33.3 | $p$ = 0.002*** |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 265) | 14.9 | 46.7 | 38.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 586) | 20.2 | 43.5 | 36.3 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 208) | 17.5 | 47.5 | 34.9 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 152) | 15.2 | 50.0 | 34.9 | |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 130) | 27.1 | 33.5 | 39.4 | $p$ = 0.044** |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 96) | 24.5 | 38.3 | 37.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 151) | 9.6 | 40.7 | 49.7 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 61) | 14.7 | 48.4 | 36.8 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 51) | 5.4 | 37.7 | 57.0 | $p$ = 0.094* |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 7.1 | 32.7 | 60.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 313) | 7.6 | 36.4 | 56.0 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 117) | 9.6 | 48.5 | 41.9 | |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 196) | 6.4 | 29.2 | 64.4 | $p$ = 0.001*** |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

**Appendix 1.1:** *Question 1 - Perceptions of community change over the past year, by individual attributes*

**Question item:** Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this <u>past year</u>, would you say…
My community has changed for the…

| | Worse (%) | No change (%) | Better (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1043) | 14.7 | 41.5 | 43.8 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 240) | 26.8 | 38.2 | 34.9 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 215) | 14.8 | 49.1 | 36.1 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 299) | 11.8 | 43.1 | 45.1 | |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 288) | 7.5 | 37.0 | 55.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1108) | 14.9 | 41.5 | 43.6 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 463) | 11.5 | 45.5 | 42.9 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 479) | 18.3 | 36.4 | 45.3 | *p* = 0.010*** |
| **65 or older** (n = 166) | 14.3 | 45.2 | 40.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1116) | 14.9 | 41.4 | 43.7 | |
| **Male** (n = 549) | 15.3 | 40.1 | 44.6 | |
| **Female** (n = 568) | 14.4 | 42.7 | 42.9 | *p* = 0.669 |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1107) | 14.6 | 41.5 | 43.9 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 736) | 13.1 | 41.9 | 45.0 | |
| **Never married** (n = 210) | 17.1 | 42.4 | 40.5 | *p* = 0.350 |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 162) | 18.1 | 38.9 | 43.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1098) | 14.9 | 41.4 | 43.7 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 119) | 24.5 | 45.7 | 29.7 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 335) | 18.2 | 45.3 | 36.5 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 644) | 11.4 | 38.5 | 50.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1093) | 14.4 | 42.0 | 43.6 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 166) | 19.8 | 42.0 | 38.2 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 411) | 13.9 | 41.8 | 44.4 | *p* = .249 |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 515) | 13.1 | 42.1 | 44.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1103) | 14.9 | 41.4 | 43.7 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 672) | 15.7 | 40.2 | 44.1 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 431) | 13.7 | 43.3 | 43.1 | p = 0.492 |

**Appendix 1.1 continued:** *Question 1 - Perceptions of community change over the past year, by individual attributes*

| | Worse (%) | No change (%) | Better (%) | Significance test $\chi^2$-stat, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1085) | 14.8 | 41.9 | 43.3 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 896) | 13.7 | 42.8 | 43.6 | |
| **Rent** (n = 189) | 20.4 | 37.6 | 42.0 | p = 0.055* |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1077) | 14.9 | 40.8 | 44.3 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 392) | 16.5 | 42.8 | 40.7 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 427) | 14.4 | 41.1 | 44.6 | p = 0.286 |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 258) | 13.2 | 37.4 | 49.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1096) | 14.8 | 41.5 | 43.7 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 419) | 12.6 | 39.8 | 47.5 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 261) | 17.4 | 40.1 | 42.5 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 200) | 16.6 | 39.4 | 44.0 | p = 0.146 |
| **Never** (n = 216) | 14.1 | 48.4 | 37.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 992) | 15.2 | 41.1 | 43.7 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 244) | 11.7 | 49.1 | 39.2 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 363) | 15.8 | 39.2 | 45.0 | p = 0.055* |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 384) | 16.8 | 37.9 | 45.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 992) | 15.2 | 41.1 | 43.7 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 244) | 11.7 | 49.1 | 39.2 | p = 0.011** |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 747) | 16.3 | 38.5 | 45.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1099) | 14.7 | 41.4 | 43.9 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 912) | 13.7 | 39.8 | 46.5 | p = 0.001*** |
| **Minority** (n = 187) | 19.6 | 49.3 | 31.2 | |
| **Total** (n = 1128) | 15.0 | 41.4 | 43.5 | |

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* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
*** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

***Appendix 2:*** *Question 2 - Perceptions of future community change, by county and within county*

***Question item:*** Based on what you see of the situation today, do you think that in ten years from now your community will be a worse place to live, a better place or about the same?

| | Worse (%) | No change (%) | Better (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1129) | 18.1 | 46.5 | 35.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1126) | 18.2 | 46.4 | 35.5 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 586) | 21.2 | 46.7 | 32.1 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 151) | 22.0 | 41.5 | 36.5 | |
| **Lancaster** (n = 314) | 12.0 | 45.8 | 42.2 | *p* = 0.002*** |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 75) | 13.0 | 55.4 | 31.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 586) | 21.2 | 46.7 | 32.1 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 110) | 25.4 | 46.0 | 28.6 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 211) | 22.5 | 41.6 | 35.8 | *p = 0.*207 |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 265) | 18.4 | 51.1 | 30.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 586) | 21.2 | 46.7 | 32.1 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 208) | 21.2 | 49.7 | 29.1 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 152) | 16.8 | 54.9 | 28.3 | *p* = 0.014** |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 130) | 21.9 | 35.1 | 43.0 | |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 96) | 27.2 | 43.1 | 29.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 151) | 22.0 | 41.5 | 36.5 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 61) | 32.8 | 49.9 | 17.3 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 51) | 15.0 | 35.8 | 49.2 | *p* = 0.002*** |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 14.4 | 35.7 | 49.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 314) | 12.0 | 45.8 | 42.2 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 118) | 13.3 | 49.7 | 37.0 | *p* = 0.354 |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 196) | 11.2 | 43.6 | 45.3 | |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

**Appendix 2.1:** *Question 2 - Perceptions of future community change, by individual attributes*

**Question item:** Based on what you see of the situation today, do you think that in ten years from now your community will be a worse place to live, a better place or about the same?

| | Worse (%) | No change (%) | Better (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1046) | 18.0 | 46.3 | 35.8 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 242) | 22.4 | 52.8 | 24.8 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 215) | 20.8 | 44.9 | 34.3 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 301) | 18.2 | 48.9 | 32.9 | |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 288) | 12.0 | 39.0 | 49.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1109) | 18.0 | 46.7 | 35.3 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 463) | 17.0 | 46.3 | 36.7 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 480) | 19.8 | 44.8 | 35.4 | *p* = 0.296 |
| **65 or older** (n = 166) | 15.9 | 53.6 | 30.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1118) | 18.0 | 46.6 | 35.4 | |
| **Male** (n = 548) | 18.4 | 43.5 | 38.1 | |
| **Female** (n = 569) | 17.5 | 49.6 | 32.9 | *p* = 0.104 |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1108) | 17.7 | 46.9 | 35.4 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 736) | 17.6 | 47.7 | 34.8 | |
| **Never married** (n = 209) | 19.4 | 38.6 | 42.0 | *p* = 0.050** |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 163) | 16.1 | 54.0 | 30.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1099) | 17.7 | 46.9 | 35.4 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 119) | 25.5 | 56.7 | 17.7 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 336) | 26.0 | 46.6 | 27.3 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 644) | 12.0 | 45.2 | 42.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1094) | 17.7 | 46.7 | 35.6 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 167) | 17.5 | 52.6 | 29.9 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 410) | 17.0 | 45.6 | 37.5 | *p* = .453 |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 516) | 18.3 | 45.8 | 35.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1105) | 17.9 | 46.8 | 35.3 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 673) | 16.9 | 46.7 | 36.4 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 431) | 19.5 | 46.9 | 33.7 | p = 0.466 |

*Appendix 2.1 continued: Question 2 - Perceptions of future community change, by individual attributes*

| | Worse (%) | No change (%) | Better (%) | Significance test $\chi^2$-stat, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1087) | 17.9 | 47.2 | 35.0 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 897) | 18.1 | 45.4 | 36.5 | p = 0.029** |
| **Rent** (n = 190) | 16.5 | 55.6 | 27.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1078) | 17.6 | 46.8 | 35.7 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 394) | 20.2 | 47.7 | 32.1 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 426) | 17.2 | 49.7 | 33.1 | p = 0.005*** |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 259) | 14.1 | 40.7 | 45.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1098) | 17.8 | 46.9 | 35.3 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 419) | 17.1 | 48.0 | 35.0 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 262) | 15.9 | 45.5 | 38.6 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 201) | 19.6 | 43.6 | 36.8 | p = 0.576 |
| **Never** (n = 216) | 19.8 | 49.4 | 30.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 993) | 18.1 | 46.3 | 35.6 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 245) | 17.1 | 45.8 | 37.1 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 363) | 17.5 | 48.5 | 34.0 | p = 0.803 |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 385) | 19.3 | 44.6 | 36.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 993) | 18.1 | 46.3 | 35.6 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 245) | 17.1 | 45.8 | 37.1 | p = 0.808 |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 748) | 18.4 | 46.5 | 35.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1101) | 17.7 | 46.7 | 35.6 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 915) | 17.6 | 44.9 | 37.4 | p = 0.013** |
| **Minority** (n = 187) | 18.0 | 55.3 | 26.7 | |
| **Total** (n = 1129) | 18.1 | 46.5 | 35.3 | |

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* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
*** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

*Appendix 3: Question 3a - Perceptions of community friendliness, by county and within county*

**Question item:** Listed below are several pairs of contrasting views regarding your community. For each pair please indicate which one of the two views you most agree with.

| | Unfriendly (%) | Neutral (%) | Friendly (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1120) | 7.0 | 10.7 | 82.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1116) | 7.0 | 10.8 | 82.2 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 578) | 9.6 | 13.0 | 77.4 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 150) | 5.9 | 5.9 | 88.2 | |
| **Lancaster** (n = 314) | 2.3 | 9.6 | 88.2 | p = 0.000*** |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 75) | 9.7 | 8.2 | 82.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 578) | 9.6 | 13.0 | 77.4 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 103) | 19.1 | 21.1 | 59.8 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 210) | 11.2 | 12.4 | 76.4 | p = 0.000*** |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 265) | 4.7 | 10.4 | 84.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 578) | 9.6 | 13.0 | 77.4 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 207) | 2.8 | 11.8 | 85.4 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 153) | 8.0 | 10.9 | 81.0 | |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 127) | 15.1 | 15.2 | 69.6 | p = 0.000*** |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 92) | 19.9 | 16.1 | 64.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 150) | 5.9 | 5.9 | 88.2 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 60) | 6.2 | 8.2 | 85.6 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 50) | 6.8 | 3.5 | 89.7 | p = 0.847 |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 4.3 | 5.3 | 90.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 314) | 2.3 | 9.6 | 88.2 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 117) | 3.2 | 12.9 | 83.9 | |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 197) | 1.7 | 7.6 | 90.7 | p = 0.195 |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

*Appendix 3.1: Question 3a - Perceptions of community friendliness, by individual attributes*

*Question item:* Listed below are several pairs of contrasting views regarding your community. For each pair please indicate which one of the two views you most agree with.

| | Unfriendly (%) | Neutral (%) | Friendly (%) | Significance test: χ², 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1036) | 6.6 | 10.5 | 82.9 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 236) | 11.6 | 17.1 | 71.3 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 211) | 5.3 | 5.7 | 89.0 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 301) | 4.4 | 10.9 | 84.7 | |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 288) | 6.0 | 8.1 | 85.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1101) | 7.1 | 10.7 | 82.3 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 459) | 5.9 | 7.6 | 86.5 | |
| **40  - 64 years old** (n = 476) | 7.8 | 12.2 | 80.0 | *p* = 0.027** |
| **65 or older** (n = 165) | 8.1 | 14.7 | 77.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1108) | 7.0 | 10.8 | 82.2 | |
| **Male** (n = 548) | 7.5 | 9.7 | 82.8 | |
| **Female** (n = 560) | 6.5 | 11.8 | 81.7 | *p* = 0.477 |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1099) | 7.0 | 10.6 | 82.4 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 732) | 6.5 | 10.0 | 83.5 | |
| **Never married** (n = 208) | 6.3 | 10.5 | 83.3 | *p* = 0.264 |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 159) | 10.3 | 13.5 | 76.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1091) | 6.8 | 10.5 | 82.7 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 111) | 18.1 | 19.9 | 61.9 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 335) | 8.3 | 12.2 | 79.5 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 645) | 4.1 | 8.0 | 87.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1085) | 6.7 | 10.6 | 82.6 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 163) | 7.9 | 15.4 | 76.8 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 413) | 6.5 | 13.2 | 80.3 | *p* = .007*** |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 509) | 6.6 | 7.1 | 86.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1095) | 7.1 | 10.6 | 82.3 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 670) | 6.9 | 14.2 | 78.9 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 425) | 7.4 | 5.0 | 87.7 | p = 0.000*** |

***Appendix 3.1 continued:** Question 3a - Perceptions of community friendliness, by individual attributes*

| | Unfriendly (%) | Neutral (%) | Friendly (%) | Significance test $\chi^2$-stat, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1079) | 6.9 | 10.5 | 82.6 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 891) | 5.9 | 9.8 | 84.3 | *p* = 0.003*** |
| **Rent** (n = 188) | 11.4 | 14.1 | 74.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1071) | 7.0 | 10.2 | 82.7 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 392) | 7.9 | 9.8 | 82.3 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 420) | 8.0 | 11.2 | 80.9 | *p* = 0.291 |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 259) | 4.3 | 9.3 | 86.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1089) | 6.9 | 10.6 | 82.5 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 411) | 5.4 | 10.5 | 84.1 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 260) | 9.1 | 9.2 | 81.7 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 201) | 6.2 | 12.6 | 81.3 | *p* = 0.531 |
| **Never** (n = 217) | 8.0 | 10.4 | 81.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 987) | 7.1 | 11.1 | 81.8 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 244) | 5.5 | 9.1 | 85.4 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 360) | 9.8 | 12.8 | 77.5 | *p* = 0.065* |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 383) | 5.6 | 10.9 | 83.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 987) | 7.1 | 11.1 | 81.8 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 244) | 5.5 | 9.1 | 85.4 | *p* = 0.237 |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 743) | 7.6 | 11.8 | 80.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1091) | 7.0 | 10.7 | 82.3 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 914) | 5.8 | 9.7 | 84.6 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Minority** (n = 177) | 13.4 | 15.8 | 70.8 | |
| **Total** (n = 1120) | 7.0 | 10.7 | 82.2 | |

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* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
*** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

## Appendix 4: *Question 3b - Perceptions of community trust, by county and within county*

**Question item:** Listed below are several pairs of contrasting views regarding your community. For each pair please indicate which one of the two views you most agree with.

| | Distrusting (%) | Neutral (%) | Trusting (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1115) | 13.5 | 19.9 | 66.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1112) | 13.5 | 20.0 | 66.5 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 577) | 17.3 | 24.4 | 58.3 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 148) | 11.1 | 15.7 | 73.2 | |
| **Lancaster** (n = 312) | 8.4 | 14.2 | 77.5 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 75) | 10.7 | 18.7 | 70.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 577) | 17.3 | 24.4 | 58.3 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 102) | 25.7 | 40.3 | 34.0 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 209) | 20.7 | 23.9 | 55.4 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 265) | 11.3 | 18.7 | 70.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 577) | 17.3 | 24.4 | 58.3 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 208) | 10.4 | 24.6 | 65.1 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 152) | 14.4 | 14.8 | 70.8 | |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 127) | 25.6 | 25.1 | 49.4 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 90) | 26.3 | 39.3 | 34.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 148) | 11.1 | 15.7 | 73.2 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 60) | 10.2 | 19.9 | 69.9 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 50) | 1.4 | 12.9 | 85.7 | $p = 0.007$*** |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 38) | 25.3 | 12.8 | 61.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 312) | 8.4 | 14.2 | 77.5 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 115) | 12.6 | 16.8 | 70.6 | $p = 0.053$* |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 196) | 5.9 | 12.7 | 81.5 | |

\* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; \*\* denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; \*\*\* denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

*Appendix 4.1:* *Question 3b - Perceptions of community trust, by individual attributes*

**Question item:** Listed below are several pairs of contrasting views regarding your community. For each pair please indicate which one of the two views you most agree with.

| | Distrusting (%) | Neutral (%) | Trusting (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1032) | 13.2 | 19.8 | 67.1 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 235) | 17.3 | 27.0 | 55.7 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 209) | 8.5 | 27.1 | 64.3 | |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 301) | 14.7 | 14.3 | 70.9 | p = 0.000*** |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 286) | 11.6 | 14.1 | 74.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1095) | 13.6 | 20.0 | 66.3 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 457) | 11.4 | 22.0 | 66.5 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 476) | 15.7 | 18.4 | 65.9 | p = 0.318 |
| **65 or older** (n = 162) | 13.9 | 18.9 | 67.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1104) | 13.6 | 19.9 | 66.4 | |
| **Male** (n = 546) | 13.4 | 16.8 | 69.8 | |
| **Female** (n = 558) | 13.9 | 23.0 | 63.1 | p = 0.027** |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1094) | 13.5 | 19.9 | 66.6 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 727) | 13.1 | 19.1 | 67.8 | |
| **Never married** (n = 208) | 13.0 | 22.8 | 64.2 | |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 158) | 15.7 | 19.8 | 64.5 | p = 0.679 |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1086) | 13.4 | 19.6 | 67.0 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 111) | 22.5 | 31.2 | 46.3 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 335) | 16.7 | 27.0 | 56.3 | p = 0.000*** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 640) | 10.1 | 13.8 | 76.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1080) | 13.3 | 20.2 | 66.6 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 162) | 19.3 | 19.2 | 61.6 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 412) | 12.8 | 22.8 | 64.5 | p = .051* |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 507) | 11.7 | 18.3 | 69.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1091) | 13.7 | 20.0 | 66.3 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 668) | 14.9 | 20.2 | 64.8 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 423) | 11.8 | 19.7 | 68.6 | p = 0.290 |

*Appendix 4.1 continued: Question 3b - Perceptions of community trust, by individual attributes*

| | Distrusting (%) | Neutral (%) | Trusting (%) | Significance test $\chi^2$-stat, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1074) | 13.4 | 19.5 | 67.2 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 887) | 12.7 | 17.3 | 69.9 | |
| **Rent** (n = 187) | 16.4 | 29.5 | 54.0 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1065) | 13.4 | 19.5 | 67.1 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 388) | 13.4 | 14.4 | 72.2 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 420) | 14.9 | 22.2 | 62.9 | *p* = 0.013** |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 257) | 11.0 | 22.8 | 66.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1084) | 13.5 | 19.6 | 67.0 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 409) | 14.1 | 16.9 | 68.9 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 258) | 12.6 | 23.7 | 63.7 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 201) | 11.6 | 20.8 | 67.6 | *p* = 0.461 |
| **Never** (n = 217) | 14.9 | 18.6 | 66.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 983) | 13.7 | 20.0 | 66.3 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 243) | 12.3 | 17.5 | 70.2 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 358) | 17.6 | 21.3 | 61.2 | *p* = 0.045** |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 382) | 11.0 | 20.4 | 68.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 983) | 13.7 | 20.0 | 66.3 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 243) | 12.3 | 17.5 | 70.2 | *p* = 0.336 |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 740) | 14.2 | 20.8 | 65.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1086) | 13.8 | 19.8 | 66.4 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 907) | 12.8 | 17.4 | 69.8 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Minority** (n = 180) | 18.7 | 31.9 | 49.4 | |
| **Total** (n = 1115) | 13.5 | 19.9 | 66.6 | |

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* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
*** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

***Appendix 5:*** *Question 3c - Perceptions of community supportiveness, by county and within county*

***Question item:*** Listed below are several pairs of contrasting views regarding your community. For each pair please indicate which one of the  two views you most agree with.

| | *Hostile (%)* | *Neutral (%)* | *Supportive (%)* | *Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1104) | 13.4 | 18.3 | 68.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1100) | 13.5 | 18.3 | 68.2 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 568) | 16.7 | 22.0 | 61.3 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 146) | 9.4 | 15.1 | 75.5 | |
| **Lancaster** (n = 312) | 10.8 | 14.4 | 74.8 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 74) | 8.0 | 13.4 | 78.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 568) | 16.7 | 22.0 | 61.3 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 97) | 21.9 | 34.7 | 43.4 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 206) | 20.4 | 20.2 | 59.4 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 265) | 11.9 | 18.8 | 69.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 568) | 16.7 | 22.0 | 61.3 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 207) | 15.0 | 18.7 | 66.3 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 152) | 9.9 | 20.3 | 69.8 | |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 127) | 22.8 | 25.4 | 51.8 | *p* = 0.002*** |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 83) | 24.1 | 28.2 | 47.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 146) | 9.4 | 15.1 | 75.5 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 59) | 8.4 | 21.1 | 70.5 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 49) | 4.2 | 19.8 | 76.0 | *p* = 0.013** |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 17.6 | 0.0 | 82.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 312) | 10.8 | 14.4 | 74.8 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 115) | 12.0 | 16.3 | 71.7 | *p* = 0.632 |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 196) | 10.2 | 13.3 | 76.6 | |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

*Appendix 5.1: Question 3c - Perceptions of community supportiveness, by individual attributes*

*Question item:* Listed below are several pairs of contrasting views regarding your community. For each pair please indicate which one of the two views you most agree with.

| | Hostile (%) | Neutral (%) | Supportive (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1027) | 13.6 | 18.1 | 68.3 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 231) | 16.5 | 23.4 | 60.1 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 210) | 11.0 | 20.1 | 68.9 | *p* = 0.019** |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 299) | 15.7 | 15.7 | 68.6 | |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 287) | 11.2 | 14.7 | 74.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1084) | 13.7 | 18.3 | 68.1 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 452) | 11.8 | 19.3 | 68.9 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 472) | 16.1 | 17.8 | 66.0 | *p* = 0.313 |
| **65 or older** (n = 161) | 11.9 | 16.6 | 71.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1093) | 13.6 | 18.3 | 68.1 | |
| **Male** (n = 544) | 13.3 | 16.0 | 70.7 | |
| **Female** (n = 550) | 13.8 | 20.5 | 65.7 | *p* = 0.133 |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1083) | 13.4 | 18.3 | 68.3 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 720) | 12.1 | 17.7 | 70.2 | |
| **Never married** (n = 208) | 15.6 | 19.5 | 64.9 | *p* = 0.369 |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 155) | 16.4 | 19.5 | 64.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1077) | 13.6 | 17.8 | 68.7 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 103) | 21.9 | 27.4 | 50.7 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 333) | 16.7 | 21.9 | 61.4 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 641) | 10.6 | 14.0 | 75.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1069) | 13.2 | 18.3 | 68.5 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 160) | 18.0 | 19.0 | 63.0 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 408) | 14.6 | 17.5 | 67.9 | *p* = .100* |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 500) | 10.4 | 18.8 | 70.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1079) | 13.6 | 18.2 | 68.2 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 661) | 16.2 | 17.6 | 66.2 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 418) | 9.4 | 19.3 | 71.3 | p = 0.006*** |

*Appendix 5.1 continued: Question 3c - Perceptions of community supportiveness, by individual attributes*

| | *Hostile (%)* | *Neutral (%)* | *Supportive (%)* | *Significance test $\chi^2$-stat, 2-sided* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1064) | 13.5 | 18.0 | 68.5 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 883) | 12.1 | 17.2 | 70.7 | *p* = 0.001*** |
| **Rent** (n = 182) | 20.8 | 21.8 | 57.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1059) | 13.6 | 17.7 | 68.7 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 383) | 14.0 | 12.5 | 73.5 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 418) | 16.4 | 21.1 | 62.5 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 258) | 8.7 | 19.8 | 71.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1075) | 13.4 | 18.1 | 68.5 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 403) | 12.4 | 16.8 | 70.8 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 258) | 13.7 | 16.9 | 69.4 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 201) | 18.2 | 15.9 | 65.9 | *p* = 0.090* |
| **Never** (n = 212) | 10.5 | 23.9 | 65.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 973) | 13.6 | 18.4 | 68.0 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 242) | 11.0 | 21.3 | 67.8 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 352) | 16.0 | 19.0 | 65.1 | *p* = 0.195 |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 379) | 13.0 | 16.0 | 71.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 973) | 13.6 | 18.4 | 68.0 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 242) | 11.0 | 21.3 | 67.8 | *p* = 0.213 |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 731) | 14.4 | 17.4 | 68.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1076) | 13.6 | 18.2 | 68.2 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 903) | 12.8 | 16.6 | 70.6 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Minority** (n = 173) | 17.8 | 26.7 | 55.5 | |
| **Total** (n = 1104) | 13.4 | 18.3 | 68.3 | |

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* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
*** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

***Appendix 6:*** *Question 4 - Perceptions of community power to control future, by county and within county*

**Question item:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My community is powerless to control its own future.

| | Disagree/Strongly Disagree (%) | Undecided (%) | Agree/Strongly Agree (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1129) | 70.4 | 17.4 | 12.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1125) | 70.3 | 17.4 | 12.3 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 587) | 68.5 | 19.1 | 12.3 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 150) | 67.7 | 18.7 | 13.6 | $p = 0.042$** |
| **Lancaster** (n = 313) | 76.0 | 14.7 | 9.3 | |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 75) | 65.7 | 12.8 | 21.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 587) | 68.5 | 19.1 | 12.3 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 110) | 50.2 | 32.2 | 17.7 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 212) | 71.2 | 17.3 | 11.5 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 265) | 74.1 | 15.2 | 10.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 587) | 68.5 | 19.1 | 12.3 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 208) | 73.0 | 13.4 | 13.6 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 153) | 72.5 | 17.7 | 9.8 | $p = 0.006$*** |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 129) | 67.2 | 19.9 | 12.9 | |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 97) | 54.5 | 32.8 | 12.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 150) | 67.7 | 18.7 | 13.6 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 61) | 55.0 | 24.7 | 20.3 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 50) | 71.9 | 22.6 | 5.5 | $p = 0.011$** |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 82.0 | 4.4 | 13.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 313) | 76.0 | 14.7 | 9.3 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 116) | 66.0 | 21.5 | 12.6 | $p = 0.006$*** |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 197) | 81.8 | 10.7 | 7.4 | |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

***Appendix 6.1:*** *Question 4 - Perceptions of community power to control future, by individual attributes*

***Question item:*** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? My community is powerless to control its own future.

| | Disagree/ Strongly Disagree (%) | Undecided (%) | Agree/Strongly Agree (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1044) | 70.7 | 17.6 | 11.7 | |
| **Less than \$40,000** (n = 241) | 54.2 | 28.9 | 16.9 | |
| **\$40,000 - \$59,999** (n = 215) | 64.4 | 18.1 | 17.5 | |
| **\$60,000 - \$99,999** (n = 299) | 78.5 | 13.4 | 8.1 | $p$ = 0.000*** |
| **\$100,000 or more** (n = 288) | 81.0 | 12.3 | 6.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1109) | 70.0 | 17.7 | 12.3 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 461) | 72.6 | 18.3 | 9.1 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 480) | 70.0 | 16.4 | 13.5 | $p$ = 0.029** |
| **65 or older** (n = 168) | 62.7 | 19.7 | 17.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1117) | 70.1 | 17.5 | 12.4 | |
| **Male** (n = 549) | 68.1 | 16.2 | 15.7 | |
| **Female** (n = 568) | 72.1 | 18.8 | 9.2 | $p$ = 0.004*** |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1107) | 70.2 | 17.5 | 12.3 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 735) | 71.7 | 15.3 | 13.0 | |
| **Never married** (n = 209) | 71.3 | 18.8 | 9.9 | |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 163) | 62.1 | 25.7 | 12.2 | $p$ = 0.021** |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1099) | 70.2 | 17.6 | 12.2 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 120) | 47.1 | 34.6 | 18.3 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 337) | 64.8 | 20.4 | 14.8 | $p$ = 0.000*** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 642) | 77.3 | 12.9 | 9.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1093) | 69.8 | 17.8 | 12.4 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 167) | 61.4 | 24.2 | 14.5 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 413) | 71.9 | 14.0 | 14.1 | $p$ = .014** |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 513) | 70.8 | 18.7 | 10.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1104) | 70.1 | 17.7 | 12.2 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 675) | 69.3 | 16.8 | 13.9 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 429) | 71.5 | 19.1 | 9.4 | p = 0.065* |

***Appendix 6.1 continued:*** *Question 4 - Perceptions of community power to control future, by individual attributes*

| | Disagree/ Strongly Disagree (%) | Undecided (%) | Agree/Strongly Agree (%) | Significance test $\chi^2$-stat, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1086) | 70.1 | 17.6 | 12.4 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 898) | 71.1 | 16.3 | 12.5 | *p* = 0.065* |
| **Rent** (n = 188) | 65.0 | 23.5 | 11.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1077) | 70.5 | 17.3 | 12.2 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 395) | 69.6 | 15.0 | 15.4 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 423) | 70.4 | 19.3 | 10.3 | *p* = 0.106 |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 260) | 72.1 | 17.4 | 10.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1097) | 70.2 | 17.6 | 12.2 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 420) | 71.2 | 16.3 | 12.4 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 261) | 64.8 | 18.6 | 16.6 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 201) | 74.4 | 18.3 | 7.4 | *p* = 0.098* |
| **Never** (n = 215) | 71.1 | 18.1 | 10.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 993) | 70.5 | 17.2 | 12.3 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 242) | 62.6 | 23.9 | 13.5 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 364) | 76.3 | 15.2 | 8.4 | *p* = 0.001*** |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 387) | 70.0 | 14.8 | 15.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 993) | 70.5 | 17.2 | 12.3 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 242) | 62.6 | 23.9 | 13.5 | *p* = 0.003*** |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 751) | 73.1 | 15.0 | 11.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1100) | 70.4 | 17.4 | 12.2 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 913) | 71.9 | 15.6 | 12.5 | *p* = 0.003*** |
| **Minority** (n = 187) | 63.2 | 26.0 | 10.8 | |
| **Total** (n = 1129) | 70.4 | 17.4 | 12.2 | |

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* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
*** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

**Question item:** Assume you were to have a discussion in your household about leaving your community for a reasonably good opportunity in a different, separate community. 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?

| | *Easy (%)* | *Neutral (%)* | *Difficult (%)* | *Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1129) | 33.7 | 13.9 | 52.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1125) | 33.7 | 14.0 | 52.3 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 587) | 37.8 | 14.7 | 47.5 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 151) | 33.1 | 11.6 | 55.3 | *p* = 0.035** |
| **Lancaster** (n = 312) | 28.2 | 13.8 | 58.0 | |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 75) | 25.9 | 13.9 | 60.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 587) | 37.8 | 14.7 | 47.5 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 111) | 39.5 | 23.8 | 36.8 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 210) | 42.1 | 11.1 | 46.7 | *p = 0.005*** |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 265) | 33.7 | 13.7 | 52.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 587) | 37.8 | 14.7 | 47.5 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 207) | 37.6 | 12.4 | 50.0 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 153) | 37.6 | 14.4 | 48.0 | *p* = 0.902 |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 129) | 38.0 | 16.6 | 45.4 | |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 97) | 38.5 | 17.3 | 44.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 151) | 33.1 | 11.6 | 55.3 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 61) | 39.2 | 16.0 | 44.8 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 51) | 27.5 | 8.0 | 64.5 | *p* = 0.269 |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 30.9 | 9.3 | 59.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 312) | 28.2 | 13.8 | 58.0 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 115) | 30.1 | 19.7 | 50.2 | *p* = 0.035** |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 197) | 27.2 | 10.3 | 62.5 | |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

**Appendix 7.1:** *Question 5 - Willingness of a household to leave the community, by individual attributes*

> **Question item:** Assume you were to have a discussion in your household about leaving your community for a reasonably good opportunity in a different, separate community. 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?

| | Easy (%) | Neutral (%) | Difficult (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1044) | 34.0 | 14.1 | 51.9 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 239) | 35.3 | 19.0 | 45.7 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 216) | 34.9 | 17.5 | 47.6 | |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 301) | 32.8 | 10.6 | 56.6 | $p$ = 0.021** |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 288) | 33.5 | 11.2 | 55.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1109) | 33.6 | 14.0 | 52.4 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 461) | 36.9 | 16.0 | 47.1 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 481) | 33.2 | 12.6 | 54.1 | $p$ = 0.012** |
| **65 or older** (n = 167) | 25.7 | 12.2 | 62.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1117) | 33.6 | 13.9 | 52.5 | |
| **Male** (n = 548) | 37.2 | 14.4 | 48.4 | |
| **Female** (n = 569) | 30.2 | 13.4 | 56.3 | $p$ = 0.024** |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1107) | 33.8 | 13.7 | 52.5 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 738) | 31.6 | 11.6 | 56.8 | |
| **Never married** (n = 207) | 41.2 | 22.3 | 36.5 | $p$ = 0.000*** |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 162) | 34.0 | 12.7 | 53.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1099) | 34.0 | 13.9 | 52.1 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 120) | 39.5 | 11.8 | 48.7 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 337) | 36.8 | 17.1 | 46.1 | $p$ = 0.028** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 642) | 31.5 | 12.6 | 55.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1094) | 33.8 | 14.0 | 52.2 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 166) | 38.3 | 13.8 | 48.0 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 411) | 33.7 | 16.3 | 50.1 | $p$ = .223 |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 517) | 32.5 | 12.3 | 55.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1104) | 33.6 | 14.0 | 52.5 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 672) | 34.9 | 14.9 | 50.1 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 432) | 31.5 | 12.4 | 56.1 | $p$ = 0.139 |

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***Appendix 7.1 continued:*** *Question 5 - Willingness of a household to leave the community, by individual attributes*

| | *Easy (%)* | *Neutral (%)* | *Difficult (%)* | *Significance test $\chi^2$-stat, 2-sided* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1088) | 34.0 | 13.7 | 52.4 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 898) | 31.8 | 13.8 | 54.5 | *p* = 0.003*** |
| **Rent** (n = 189) | 44.4 | 13.3 | 42.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1078) | 33.9 | 13.2 | 52.8 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 393) | 30.2 | 13.1 | 56.7 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 426) | 36.0 | 13.4 | 50.6 | *p* = 0.368 |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 259) | 36.1 | 13.2 | 50.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1097) | 33.9 | 14.0 | 52.1 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 418) | 29.8 | 10.1 | 60.1 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 261) | 29.6 | 19.8 | 50.6 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 201) | 39.4 | 12.2 | 48.3 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Never** (n = 217) | 41.9 | 16.4 | 41.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 992) | 34.6 | 12.9 | 52.5 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 243) | 49.1 | 13.4 | 37.6 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 364) | 34.7 | 13.2 | 52.1 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 386) | 25.4 | 12.2 | 62.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 992) | 34.6 | 12.9 | 52.5 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 243) | 49.1 | 13.4 | 37.6 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 750) | 29.9 | 12.7 | 57.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1100) | 33.8 | 14.1 | 52.1 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 912) | 32.0 | 13.7 | 54.2 | *p* = 0.007*** |
| **Minority** (n = 188) | 42.3 | 15.8 | 41.9 | |
| **Total** (n = 1129) | 33.7 | 13.9 | 52.4 | |

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\* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
\*\* denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
\*\*\* denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

***Appendix 8:** Question 13 - Perceptions of being better off versus 5 years ago, by county and within county*

*__Question item:__* All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than you were five years ago?

| | Worse/Much worse off (%) | About the same (%) | Better/Much better off (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1099) | 18.5 | 27.0 | 54.5 | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1095) | 18.5 | 27.0 | 54.5 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 574) | 21.2 | 28.7 | 50.2 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 146) | 20.3 | 21.1 | 58.6 | |
| **Lancaster** (n = 302) | 13.0 | 24.4 | 62.6 | *p = 0.003\*\*\** |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 73) | 17.3 | 36.3 | 46.4 | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 574) | 21.2 | 28.7 | 50.2 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 107) | 38.4 | 21.8 | 39.8 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 206) | 18.8 | 30.4 | 50.7 | *p = 0.000\*\*\** |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 262) | 16.0 | 30.0 | 54.0 | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 574) | 21.2 | 28.7 | 50.2 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 206) | 14.1 | 31.4 | 54.5 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 148) | 18.2 | 34.2 | 47.7 | |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 127) | 26.7 | 18.0 | 55.3 | *p = 0.000\*\*\** |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 94) | 33.8 | 28.5 | 37.7 | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 146) | 20.3 | 21.1 | 58.6 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 56) | 29.0 | 21.2 | 49.7 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 51) | 17.1 | 29.2 | 53.7 | *p = 0.028\*\** |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 11.8 | 10.3 | 77.8 | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 302) | 13.0 | 24.4 | 62.6 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 115) | 16.8 | 25.4 | 57.7 | *p = 0.236* |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 186) | 10.6 | 23.7 | 65.6 | |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

*Appendix 8.1:* *Question 13 - Perceptions of being better off versus 5 years ago, by individual attributes*

*Question item:* All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than you were five years ago?

| | Worse/Much worse off (%) | About the same (%) | Better/Much better off (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1021) | 18.4 | 25.9 | 55.7 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 239) | 29.1 | 32.5 | 38.4 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 206) | 23.6 | 24.3 | 52.1 | $p = 0.000***$ |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 295) | 15.6 | 25.4 | 59.0 | |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 281) | 8.5 | 21.8 | 69.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1087) | 18.5 | 27.0 | 54.5 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 454) | 15.5 | 18.2 | 66.3 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 473) | 20.3 | 30.3 | 49.4 | $p = 0.000***$ |
| **65 or older** (n = 159) | 21.5 | 42.3 | 36.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1092) | 18.7 | 27.0 | 54.4 | |
| **Male** (n = 535) | 19.2 | 25.0 | 55.8 | |
| **Female** (n = 558) | 18.1 | 28.9 | 53.0 | $p = 0.350$ |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1084) | 18.7 | 26.8 | 54.4 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 722) | 18.8 | 27.2 | 54.0 | |
| **Never married** (n = 207) | 13.5 | 21.4 | 65.1 | $p = 0.001***$ |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 155) | 25.4 | 32.3 | 42.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1078) | 18.7 | 27.0 | 54.2 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 114) | 30.1 | 37.2 | 32.7 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 333) | 24.7 | 28.7 | 46.7 | $p = 0.000***$ |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 631) | 13.6 | 24.3 | 62.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1073) | 18.5 | 27.0 | 54.5 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 162) | 21.6 | 35.6 | 42.8 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 399) | 16.1 | 26.3 | 57.6 | $p = .013**$ |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 511) | 19.4 | 24.8 | 55.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1082) | 18.4 | 27.1 | 54.5 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 652) | 17.8 | 29.4 | 52.9 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 430) | 19.3 | 23.8 | 57.0 | $p = 0.127$ |

| | Worse/Much worse off (%) | About the same (%) | Better/Much better off (%) | Significance test χ²-stat, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1066) | 18.6 | 26.9 | 54.4 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 880) | 17.0 | 27.9 | 55.0 | *p* = 0.009*** |
| **Rent** (n = 186) | 26.3 | 22.0 | 51.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1059) | 18.8 | 26.8 | 54.4 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 388) | 20.5 | 31.1 | 48.4 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 413) | 18.8 | 25.4 | 55.8 | *p* = 0.026** |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 258) | 16.4 | 22.4 | 61.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1076) | 18.6 | 27.0 | 54.4 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 413) | 14.4 | 27.2 | 58.4 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 250) | 27.9 | 26.0 | 46.1 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 202) | 20.3 | 28.6 | 51.1 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Never** (n = 212) | 14.1 | 26.3 | 59.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 970) | 19.3 | 25.8 | 54.9 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 233) | 15.6 | 16.2 | 68.2 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 358) | 20.8 | 25.6 | 53.6 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 378) | 20.2 | 31.8 | 48.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 970) | 19.3 | 25.8 | 54.9 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 233) | 15.6 | 16.2 | 68.2 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 737) | 20.5 | 28.8 | 50.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1079) | 18.3 | 27.0 | 54.6 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 894) | 16.6 | 26.2 | 57.2 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Minority** (n = 184) | 26.7 | 31.1 | 42.2 | |
| **Total** (n = 1099) | 18.5 | 27.0 | 54.5 | |

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* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
*** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

***Appendix 9:*** *Question 14 - Perceptions of being better off than parents, by county and within county*

***Question item:*** All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than your parents when they were your age?

| | Worse/Much worse off (%) | About the same (%) | Better/Much better off (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1117) | 21.5 | 21.6 | 57.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1113) | 21.4 | 21.6 | 57.0 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 583) | 21.9 | 24.6 | 53.5 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 151) | 21.8 | 15.0 | 63.1 | |
| **Lancaster** (n = 306) | 19.5 | 19.1 | 61.4 | $p$ = 0.102 |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 74) | 24.2 | 21.7 | 54.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 583) | 21.9 | 24.6 | 53.5 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 109) | 29.2 | 21.0 | 49.8 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 209) | 25.9 | 24.2 | 49.9 | $p$ = 0.023** |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 265) | 15.8 | 26.4 | 57.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 583) | 21.9 | 24.6 | 53.5 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 208) | 18.4 | 23.7 | 57.9 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 149) | 18.7 | 28.4 | 52.9 | |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 130) | 19.4 | 20.1 | 60.5 | $p$ = 0.001*** |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 96) | 38.0 | 26.7 | 35.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 151) | 21.8 | 15.0 | 63.1 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 61) | 27.4 | 15.6 | 57.0 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 51) | 19.8 | 16.3 | 63.9 | $p$ = 0.607 |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 15.7 | 12.5 | 71.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 306) | 19.5 | 19.1 | 61.4 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 115) | 24.1 | 14.8 | 61.0 | |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 191) | 16.7 | 21.7 | 61.6 | $p$ = 0.146 |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

*Appendix 9.1: Question 14 - Perceptions of being better off than parents, by individual attributes*

*Question item:* All things considered, do you think you are better or worse off than your parents when they were your age?

| | Worse/Much worse off (%) | About the same (%) | Better/Much better off (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1035) | 21.0 | 21.0 | 58.1 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 241) | 31.3 | 25.1 | 43.6 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 213) | 23.2 | 20.7 | 56.1 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 298) | 22.0 | 21.4 | 56.7 | |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 284) | 9.5 | 17.2 | 73.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1104) | 21.3 | 21.6 | 57.2 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 462) | 18.0 | 23.2 | 58.8 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 479) | 26.6 | 21.7 | 51.8 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **65 or older** (n = 163) | 14.9 | 16.5 | 68.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1110) | 21.6 | 21.5 | 56.9 | |
| **Male** (n = 542) | 20.1 | 21.9 | 58.0 | $p = 0.504$ |
| **Female** (n = 568) | 23.0 | 21.2 | 55.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1102) | 21.5 | 21.6 | 56.9 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 734) | 20.5 | 20.7 | 58.8 | |
| **Never married** (n = 209) | 21.7 | 27.3 | 51.1 | $p = 0.095$* |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 159) | 26.0 | 18.1 | 55.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1095) | 21.6 | 21.2 | 57.2 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 123) | 31.0 | 14.7 | 54.3 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 338) | 29.0 | 23.2 | 47.8 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 634) | 15.9 | 21.3 | 62.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1089) | 21.3 | 21.5 | 57.2 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 166) | 26.4 | 23.1 | 50.5 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 406) | 19.7 | 20.5 | 59.8 | $p = .319$ |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 517) | 21.0 | 21.7 | 57.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1099) | 21.2 | 21.7 | 57.2 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 664) | 21.8 | 22.0 | 56.2 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 435) | 20.3 | 21.1 | 58.6 | $p = 0.735$ |

***Appendix 9.1 continued:*** *Question 14 - Perceptions of being better off than parents, by individual attributes*

| | *Worse/Much worse off (%)* | *About the same (%)* | *Better/Much better off (%)* | *Significance test χ²-stat, 2-sided* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1082) | 21.7 | 21.0 | 57.3 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 893) | 20.6 | 19.6 | 59.8 | *p* = 0.001*** |
| **Rent** (n = 189) | 26.9 | 27.9 | 45.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1074) | 22.0 | 21.4 | 56.7 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 390) | 23.0 | 17.5 | 59.4 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 423) | 23.3 | 23.2 | 53.5 | *p* = 0.092* |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 261) | 18.1 | 24.2 | 57.7 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1093) | 21.7 | 21.3 | 57.1 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 421) | 19.0 | 18.4 | 62.6 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 255) | 23.9 | 22.6 | 53.5 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 203) | 24.6 | 22.6 | 52.8 | *p* = 0.160 |
| **Never** (n = 215) | 21.4 | 24.1 | 54.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 983) | 22.0 | 20.4 | 57.6 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 238) | 21.6 | 21.6 | 56.8 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 362) | 19.7 | 17.6 | 62.8 | *p* = 0.129 |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 384) | 24.4 | 22.3 | 53.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 983) | 22.0 | 20.4 | 57.6 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 238) | 21.6 | 21.6 | 56.8 | *p* = 0.871 |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 745) | 22.1 | 20.0 | 57.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1096) | 21.4 | 21.5 | 57.1 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 902) | 20.9 | 21.7 | 57.4 | *p* = 0.689 |
| **Minority** (n = 194) | 23.7 | 20.7 | 55.6 | |
| **Total** (n = 1117) | 21.5 | 21.6 | 57.0 | |

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* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
*** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

*Appendix 10:* *Question 15 - Perceptions of being better off in ten years, by county and within county*

*Question item:* All things considered, do you think you will be better or worse off ten years from now than you are today?

| | Worse/Much worse off (%) | About the same (%) | Better/Much better off (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1110) | 16.6 | 30.7 | 52.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1106) | 16.5 | 30.7 | 52.8 | |
| **Douglas** (n = 578) | 18.1 | 30.1 | 51.8 | |
| **Sarpy** (n = 151) | 16.6 | 27.1 | 56.3 | |
| **Lancaster** (n = 304) | 13.4 | 32.1 | 54.5 | $p = 0.472$ |
| **Other - outlying**[1] (n = 73) | 16.5 | 30.7 | 52.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county**[2] (n = 578) | 18.1 | 30.1 | 51.8 | |
| **East Douglas county** (n = 105) | 14.5 | 23.1 | 62.4 | |
| **Central Douglas county** (n = 209) | 20.5 | 28.7 | 50.7 | $p = 0.110$ |
| **West Douglas county** (n = 265) | 17.5 | 34.0 | 48.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Douglas county quadrants**[3] (n = 578) | 18.1 | 30.1 | 51.8 | |
| **Northwest Douglas** (n = 207) | 18.1 | 31.4 | 50.5 | |
| **Southwest Douglas** (n = 149) | 19.0 | 37.4 | 43.6 | |
| **Northeast Douglas** (n = 130) | 14.4 | 23.6 | 62.0 | $p = 0.064*$ |
| **Southeast Douglas** (n = 92) | 21.7 | 24.5 | 53.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Sarpy county**[2] (n = 151) | 16.6 | 27.1 | 56.3 | |
| **East Sarpy** (n = 61) | 18.5 | 29.7 | 51.8 | |
| **Central Sarpy county** (n = 51) | 24.8 | 16.0 | 59.2 | $p = 0.025**$ |
| **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 2.7 | 37.5 | 59.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Lancaster county**[4] (n = 304) | 13.4 | 32.1 | 54.5 | |
| **North Lancaster** (n = 115) | 15.7 | 30.2 | 54.2 | |
| **South Lancaster** (n = 189) | 12.0 | 33.2 | 54.8 | $p = 0.624$ |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

*Appendix 10.1: Question 15 - Perceptions of being better off in ten years, by individual attributes*

**Question item:** All things considered, do you think you will be better or worse off ten years from now than you are today?

| | Worse/Much worse off (%) | About the same (%) | Better/Much better off (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1034) | 15.7 | 30.2 | 54.1 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 241) | 23.8 | 29.9 | 46.3 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 213) | 13.8 | 30.6 | 55.6 | $p = 0.002$*** |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 297) | 15.4 | 31.0 | 53.6 | |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 283) | 10.4 | 29.4 | 60.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1097) | 16.7 | 30.5 | 52.7 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 457) | 6.6 | 19.1 | 74.4 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 478) | 19.9 | 36.9 | 43.2 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **65 or older** (n = 161) | 36.0 | 44.5 | 19.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1103) | 16.6 | 30.8 | 52.5 | |
| **Male** (n = 539) | 16.5 | 28.7 | 54.8 | $p = 0.270$ |
| **Female** (n = 564) | 16.7 | 32.9 | 50.4 | |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1094) | 16.7 | 30.5 | 52.8 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 727) | 15.5 | 31.6 | 52.8 | |
| **Never married** (n = 209) | 11.3 | 21.7 | 67.1 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 158) | 29.0 | 37.0 | 34.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1088) | 16.9 | 30.6 | 52.5 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 118) | 28.8 | 38.6 | 32.7 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 338) | 21.6 | 30.1 | 48.3 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 632) | 12.1 | 29.4 | 58.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1082) | 16.5 | 30.9 | 52.7 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 165) | 25.2 | 38.1 | 36.7 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 404) | 18.1 | 33.7 | 48.2 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 513) | 12.3 | 26.3 | 61.3 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1092) | 16.6 | 30.7 | 52.7 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 661) | 20.7 | 35.6 | 43.7 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 431) | 10.4 | 23.2 | 66.4 | $p = 0.000$*** |

***Appendix 10.1 continued:*** *Question 15 - Perceptions of being better off in ten years, by individual attributes*

| | Worse/Much worse off (%) | About the same (%) | Better/Much better off (%) | Significance test $\chi^2$-stat, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1075) | 16.8 | 30.6 | 52.6 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 887) | 17.6 | 31.8 | 50.6 | |
| **Rent** (n = 188) | 13.0 | 25.1 | 61.9 | p = 0.019** |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1067) | 16.5 | 30.9 | 52.6 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 385) | 20.6 | 33.3 | 46.1 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 422) | 16.7 | 30.1 | 53.2 | p = 0.001*** |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 260) | 10.1 | 28.8 | 61.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1087) | 16.7 | 30.6 | 52.7 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 417) | 18.6 | 31.5 | 49.9 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 254) | 18.0 | 27.9 | 54.1 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 203) | 14.4 | 33.9 | 51.7 | p = 0.423 |
| **Never** (n = 213) | 13.8 | 29.1 | 57.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 976) | 16.5 | 29.6 | 53.9 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 237) | 11.1 | 19.0 | 70.0 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 357) | 11.9 | 31.8 | 56.2 | p = 0.000*** |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 382) | 24.1 | 34.1 | 41.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 976) | 16.5 | 29.6 | 53.9 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 237) | 11.1 | 19.0 | 70.0 | p = 0.000*** |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 739) | 18.2 | 33.0 | 48.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1090) | 16.4 | 30.7 | 52.9 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 901) | 16.5 | 31.9 | 51.6 | p = 0.134 |
| **Minority** (n = 188) | 15.6 | 25.3 | 59.2 | |
| **Total** (n = 1110) | 16.6 | 30.7 | 52.6 | |

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* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
*** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

***Appendix 11:*** *Question 17 - Perceptions of individual power to control life, by county and within county*

***Question item:*** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "Life has changed so much in our modern world that most people are powerless to control their own lives."

| | *Disagree/Strongly Disagree (%)* | *Undecided (%)* | *Agree/Strongly Agree (%)* | *Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** (n = 1128) | 61.1 | 12.8 | 26.2 | |
| **County of Residence** (n = 1124) | 60.9 | 12.8 | 26.3 | |
|     **Douglas** (n = 584) | 61.9 | 11.3 | 26.8 | |
|     **Sarpy** (n = 151) | 62.6 | 14.3 | 23.1 | *p* = 0.533 |
|     **Lancaster** (n = 314) | 58.1 | 15.6 | 26.3 | |
|     **Other - outlying[1]** (n = 74) | 61.6 | 9.9 | 28.4 | |
| **Douglas county[2]** (n = 584) | 61.9 | 11.3 | 26.8 | |
|     **East Douglas county** (n = 109) | 45.9 | 18.6 | 35.5 | |
|     **Central Douglas county** (n = 208) | 65.6 | 8.2 | 26.1 | *p = 0.002*** |
|     **West Douglas county** (n = 268) | 65.6 | 10.7 | 23.7 | |
| **Douglas county quadrants[3]** (n = 584) | 61.9 | 11.3 | 26.8 | |
|     **Northwest Douglas** (n = 208) | 66.0 | 11.8 | 22.1 | |
|     **Southwest Douglas** (n = 151) | 68.9 | 7.3 | 23.8 | *p* = 0.003*** |
|     **Northeast Douglas** (n = 130) | 60.8 | 12.1 | 27.1 | |
|     **Southeast Douglas** (n = 95) | 43.6 | 15.3 | 41.2 | |
| **Sarpy county[2]** (n = 151) | 62.6 | 14.3 | 23.1 | |
|     **East Sarpy** (n = 61) | 49.4 | 21.7 | 28.8 | |
|     **Central Sarpy county** (n = 51) | 72.9 | 8.1 | 18.9 | *p* = 0.077* |
|     **West Sarpy county** (n = 39) | 69.6 | 10.6 | 19.7 | |
| **Lancaster county[4]** (n = 314) | 58.1 | 15.6 | 26.3 | |
|     **North Lancaster** (n = 119) | 53.1 | 15.0 | 31.9 | *p* = 0.211 |
|     **South Lancaster** (n = 195) | 61.1 | 16.0 | 22.9 | |

* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level; ** denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level; *** denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

[1] Other - outlying counties include Cass, Saunders, Seward and Washington counties.

[2] For Douglas and Sarpy counties, responses were geocoded using mailing address zip codes. Geocoded data was categorized as follows: East = East of 45th St.; Central = 45th St. to 108th St.; West = 108th St. to the western county line.

[3] Douglas county quadrants are based on mailing address of zip code geocoded as follows: North/South divided at Pacific St., and East/West divided at 72nd St.

[4] North/South Lancaster is based on mailing address zip codes geocoded north/south of O St.

**Appendix 11.1:** *Question 17 - Perceptions of individual power to control life, by individual attributes*

*Question item:* Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "Life has changed so much in our modern world that most people are powerless to control their own lives."

| | Disagree/ Strongly Disagree (%) | Undecided (%) | Agree/Strongly Agree (%) | Significance test: $\chi^2$, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Household Income** (n = 1044) | 62.4 | 12.8 | 24.8 | |
| **Less than $40,000** (n = 240) | 46.6 | 21.9 | 31.4 | |
| **$40,000 - $59,999** (n = 215) | 52.5 | 16.2 | 31.3 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **$60,000 - $99,999** (n = 303) | 64.5 | 11.4 | 24.1 | |
| **$100,000 or more** (n = 286) | 80.8 | 4.2 | 14.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Age** (n = 1114) | 60.9 | 12.7 | 26.4 | |
| **Less than 40 years old** (n = 469) | 65.4 | 11.7 | 22.9 | |
| **40 - 64 years old** (n = 478) | 60.9 | 10.6 | 28.4 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **65 or older** (n = 167) | 48.3 | 21.2 | 30.5 | |
| | | | | |
| **Gender** (n = 1121) | 61.1 | 12.7 | 26.2 | |
| **Male** (n = 554) | 62.7 | 10.8 | 26.5 | *p* = 0.159 |
| **Female** (n = 567) | 59.5 | 14.6 | 26.0 | |
| | | | | |
| **Marital Status** (n = 1112) | 61.1 | 12.8 | 26.1 | |
| **Currently married** (n = 743) | 62.3 | 10.8 | 26.9 | |
| **Never married** (n = 211) | 63.4 | 14.5 | 22.1 | *p* = 0.010** |
| **Divorced, separated or widowed** (n = 157) | 52.3 | 20.1 | 27.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Educational attainment** (n = 1103) | 61.3 | 12.7 | 26.0 | |
| **High school diploma or less** (n = 124) | 30.6 | 25.0 | 44.3 | |
| **Some college or Associates degree** (n = 338) | 50.6 | 15.4 | 34.0 | *p* = 0.000*** |
| **Bachelor or graduate degree** (n = 642) | 72.8 | 9.0 | 18.2 | |
| | | | | |
| **Number of people in household** (n = 1098) | 60.9 | 12.9 | 26.1 | |
| **Exactly 1 person** (n = 167) | 58.4 | 14.3 | 27.3 | |
| **Exactly 2 people** (n = 407) | 61.1 | 15.7 | 23.2 | *p* = 0.100* |
| **3+ people in the household** (n = 523) | 61.6 | 10.3 | 28.1 | |
| | | | | |
| **Children in the household** (n = 1109) | 61.0 | 12.7 | 26.3 | |
| **No children < 18 years** (n = 671) | 59.9 | 13.7 | 26.4 | |
| **One or more children < 18 years** (n = 438) | 62.8 | 11.1 | 26.1 | p = 0.407 |

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*Appendix 11.1 continued: Question 17 - Perceptions of individual power to control life, by individual attributes*

| | Disagree/ Strongly Disagree (%) | Undecided (%) | Agree/Strongly Agree (%) | Significance test $\chi^2$-stat, 2-sided |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Own or rent home** (n = 1090) | 61.0 | 13.0 | 26.1 | |
| **Own/buying** (n = 902) | 62.3 | 11.5 | 26.2 | |
| **Rent** (n = 189) | 54.8 | 19.7 | 25.4 | $p = 0.008$*** |
| | | | | |
| **Political views** (n = 1082) | 61.6 | 12.5 | 25.9 | |
| **Conservative or very conservative** (n = 400) | 61.2 | 11.5 | 27.3 | |
| **Moderate** (n = 421) | 57.3 | 15.0 | 27.7 | $p = 0.027$** |
| **Liberal or very liberal** (n = 261) | 69.2 | 9.9 | 20.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Church attendance** (n = 1101) | 61.4 | 12.8 | 25.8 | |
| **Once a week or more** (n = 425) | 58.7 | 12.5 | 28.8 | |
| **Once/twice a month or several times per year** (n = 260) | 57.5 | 15.0 | 27.4 | |
| **Seldom/only on special religious holidays** (n = 202) | 67.9 | 9.3 | 22.8 | $p = 0.100$* |
| **Never** (n = 214) | 65.0 | 14.1 | 20.9 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 987) | 61.7 | 12.6 | 25.7 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 245) | 67.4 | 13.2 | 19.4 | |
| **Six to Twenty years** (n = 361) | 61.5 | 10.4 | 28.1 | $p = 0.049$** |
| **More than 20 years** (n = 382) | 58.1 | 14.3 | 27.6 | |
| | | | | |
| **Years lived in the community** (n = 987) | 61.7 | 12.6 | 25.7 | |
| **Five or fewer years** (n = 245) | 67.4 | 13.2 | 19.4 | $p = 0.031$** |
| **More than 5 years** (n = 743) | 59.8 | 12.4 | 27.8 | |
| | | | | |
| **Race/Ethnicity** (n = 1103) | 61.1 | 12.8 | 26.1 | |
| **White, non-Hispanic** (n = 912) | 66.1 | 11.7 | 22.2 | $p = 0.000$*** |
| **Minority** (n = 191) | 37.1 | 18.1 | 44.8 | |
| **Total** (n = 1128) | 61.1 | 12.8 | 26.2 | |

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\* denotes items significant at the p < 0.10 level;
\*\* denotes items significant at the p < 0.05 level;
\*\*\* denotes items significant at the p < 0.01 level.

**Appendix 12: Summary of P-values in 2014 Metro Poll to Select Questions by Location and Demographic Characteristic**

| Appen-dix # | Question Description | County | Douglas 3 sections | Douglas Quadrants | Sarpy 3 sections | Lancaster North/South | Income | Age | Gender | Marital Status | Education | # People in household |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Change in past year | 0.000 | 0.002 | 0.044 | 0.094 | 0.001 | 0.000 | 0.010 | 0.669 | 0.350 | 0.000 | 0.249 |
| 2 | Change in 10 years | 0.002 | 0.207 | 0.014 | 0.002 | 0.354 | 0.000 | 0.296 | 0.104 | 0.050 | 0.000 | 0.453 |
| 3 | Friendliness | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.847 | 0.195 | 0.000 | 0.027 | 0.477 | 0.264 | 0.000 | 0.007 |
| 4 | Trust | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.007 | 0.053 | 0.000 | 0.318 | 0.027 | 0.679 | 0.000 | 0.051 |
| 5 | Supportiveness | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.002 | 0.013 | 0.632 | 0.019 | 0.313 | 0.133 | 0.369 | 0.000 | 0.100 |
| 6 | Community "powerlessness" | 0.042 | 0.000 | 0.006 | 0.011 | 0.006 | 0.000 | 0.029 | 0.004 | 0.021 | 0.000 | 0.014 |
| 7 | Leave the community | 0.035 | 0.005 | 0.902 | 0.269 | 0.035 | 0.021 | 0.012 | 0.024 | 0.000 | 0.028 | 0.223 |
| 8 | Better off vs. 5 years ago | 0.003 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.028 | 0.236 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.350 | 0.001 | 0.000 | 0.013 |
| 9 | Better off than parents | 0.102 | 0.023 | 0.001 | 0.607 | 0.146 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.504 | 0.095 | 0.000 | 0.319 |
| 10 | Better off in 10 years | 0.472 | 0.110 | 0.064 | 0.025 | 0.624 | 0.002 | 0.000 | 0.270 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| 11 | Individual "powerlessness" | 0.533 | 0.002 | 0.003 | 0.077 | 0.211 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.159 | 0.010 | 0.000 | 0.100 |
| | Count if = .000 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 1 |
| | Count if < .01 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 10 | 2 |
| | Count if < .05 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 11 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 4 |
| | Count if < .10 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 4 | 11 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 11 | 5 |

**Appendix 12 continued**

| Appen-dix # | Question Description | Child < 18 in household | Tenure | Politics | Church | Years in Community | Years in Community2 | Race | High # | High Variable Name(s) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Change in past year | 0.492 | 0.055 | 0.286 | 0.146 | 0.055 | 0.011 | 0.001 | | |
| 2 | Change in 10 years | 0.466 | 0.029 | 0.005 | 0.576 | 0.803 | 0.808 | 0.013 | | |
| 3 | Friendliness | 0.000 | 0.003 | 0.291 | 0.531 | 0.065 | 0.237 | 0.000 | | |
| 4 | Trust | 0.290 | 0.000 | 0.013 | 0.461 | 0.045 | 0.336 | 0.000 | | |
| 5 | Supportiveness | 0.006 | 0.001 | 0.000 | 0.090 | 0.195 | 0.213 | 0.000 | | |
| 6 | Community "powerlessness" | 0.065 | 0.065 | 0.106 | 0.098 | 0.001 | 0.003 | 0.003 | | |
| 7 | Leave the community | 0.139 | 0.003 | 0.368 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.007 | | |
| 8 | Better off vs. 5 years ago | 0.127 | 0.009 | 0.026 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | | |
| 9 | Better off than parents | 0.735 | 0.001 | 0.092 | 0.160 | 0.129 | 0.871 | 0.689 | | |
| 10 | Better off in 10 years | 0.000 | 0.019 | 0.001 | 0.423 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.134 | | |
| 11 | Individual "powerlessness" | 0.407 | 0.008 | 0.027 | 0.100 | 0.049 | 0.031 | 0.000 | | |
| | Count if = .000 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 10 | Education |
| | Count if < .01 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 10 | Education |
| | Count if < .05 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 11 | Education, Income |
| | Count if < .10 | 4 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 11 | Education, Income, Tenure |