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Investing in the Future of Nebraska's Rural Communities

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CENTER FOR APPLIED RURAL INNOVATION

A Research Report*

**Investing in the Future of Nebraska's Rural
Communities**

2002 Nebraska Rural Poll Results

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Nebraska
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
& NATURAL RESOURCES

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Executive Summary

Many rural communities have experienced population and economic declines during the past decade. In addition, many have an aging population that leaves them struggling to remain viable. However, new technological improvements offer the potential for business growth in these areas. Given these changes, how do rural Nebraskans feel about their community? Are they planning to move from their community in the next year? Are they investing their time and money in their community?

This report details 2,841 responses to the 2002 Nebraska Rural Poll, the seventh annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions regarding their community and their plans to move or stay in their community. Trends for the community questions are examined by comparing data from the six previous polls to this year's results. For all questions, comparisons are made among different respondent subgroups, i.e., comparisons by age, occupation, region, etc. Based on these analyses, some key findings emerged:

- ***Rural Nebraskans are more negative about the change in their communities this year.*** This year, 24 percent believe their community has changed for the better, a decline from 28 percent last year. And, in 2002, 22 percent think their community has changed for the worse, compared to only 19 percent last year.
- ***More rural Nebraskans view their community as friendly, trusting and supportive this year as compared to last year.*** This year, 75 percent rate their community as friendly, compared to 72 percent last year and 68 percent in 2000. The proportion rating their community as trusting increased from 62 percent last year to 65 percent this year. Similarly, the proportion who view their community as being supportive increased from 62 percent in 2001 to 68 percent this year.
- ***Fewer younger people are planning to move from their community than last year.*** Last year, 18 percent of the 19 to 29 year olds planned to move from their community in the next year. This year, that proportion declined to 10 percent.
- ***Rural Nebraskans living in or near larger communities are more likely than those living in or near smaller communities to say their community has changed for the better.*** Twenty-nine percent of the persons living in or near communities with populations of 10,000 or more say their community has changed for the better during the past year; yet, only 16 percent of the persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people share this opinion.
- ***The services and amenities that residents are most dissatisfied with include: entertainment, retail shopping, restaurants and city/village government.*** The services rural Nebraskans are most satisfied with include: parks and recreation, library services, basic medical care services, education (K - 12), and highways and bridges.

- ***Laborers are more likely than persons with different occupations to be dissatisfied with their city/village government.*** Forty-three percent of the laborers express dissatisfaction with the government in their city or village. However, only 26 percent of the farmers or ranchers share this opinion.
- ***Smaller community residents are more likely than residents of larger communities to be dissatisfied with their community's law enforcement.*** Thirty-four percent of the persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people express dissatisfaction with their law enforcement, compared to 21 percent of the persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more.
- ***Panhandle residents are more likely than persons living elsewhere to express dissatisfaction with their transportation services.*** As an example, 35 percent of the persons living in the Panhandle are dissatisfied with their airline service, compared to only 13 percent of the residents of the Southeast region.
- ***Over one-half of rural Nebraskans believe residents volunteering their time to community activities and getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community are very important for their community's future.*** Fifty-seven percent say getting more residents in leadership roles is very important for their community's future. Fifty-four percent believe residents volunteering their time to community activities is very important.
- ***Smaller community residents are more likely than larger community residents to view residents volunteering their time to community activities as very important to their community's future.*** Sixty-three percent of the persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 500 to 999 believe this is very important, compared to 48 percent of the persons living in or near communities with populations over 10,000.
- ***The majority of rural Nebraskans have participated in community involvement activities during the past year.*** Eighty-seven percent have donated money to a local community organization, charity or cause in their community during the past year, 84 percent have belonged to a group or organization in their community and 74 percent have volunteered their time for a group or organization.
- ***Very few rural Nebraskans have either formally included a community organization or cause in their will or estate plan or intend to do so.*** Only four percent have already included an organization or cause in their will or estate plan. Eight percent intend to do so, but have not yet formally included the request in their will or estate plan. Forty-eight percent are not sure.
- ***At least two-thirds of rural Nebraskans would encourage the following groups to move to or remain in their community: elderly persons (77%), their close friends (75%), Nebraskans from other areas of the state (75%), young adults/young families (74%),***

out of state residents (69%), other relatives and in-laws (68%) and their children (66%). Sixty-three percent would encourage their grandchildren to live in their community, 59 percent would encourage single parent households to move to or remain in their community and 54 percent would encourage members of ethnic minorities to live there.

- ***Most rural Nebraskans expect to be living in their current community five years from now.*** Thirty-four percent say they definitely will be living in their community five years from now and an additional 40 percent say they probably will be.

Introduction

Many communities in rural Nebraska are undergoing demographic and economic decline. In the last decade, 53 of Nebraska's 93 counties experienced population declines. The population declines leave behind an aging population and small towns that are struggling to remain viable. In most communities with less than 2,500 people, the largest population cohort consists of women over the age of 80.

However, small communities also have potential for growth. Improvements in technology allow local businesses to tap global markets. In addition, these technological improvements allow businesses and employees to be located in places previously thought unfeasible.

Given the above, how do rural Nebraskans feel about their community? Do they think their community has changed for the better or worse during the past year? Are rural Nebraskans satisfied with the services and amenities their community provides? Are they planning to move from their community in the next year? How have rural Nebraskans invested in their communities?

This paper provides a detailed analysis of these questions. It also examines changes over time in rural Nebraskans' perceptions of their community.

The 2002 Nebraska Rural Poll is the seventh annual effort to understand rural Nebraskans' perceptions. Respondents were asked a series of questions about their community and their satisfaction with services and amenities in their community. Trends will be examined by comparing the

data from the six previous polls to this year's results. In addition to these items, respondents were asked whether they plan to stay or move from their community in the next year and how they have invested in their community.

Methodology and Respondent Profile

This study is based on 2,841 responses from Nebraskans living in the 87 non-metropolitan counties in the state. A self-administered questionnaire was mailed in February and March to approximately 6,400 randomly selected households. Metropolitan counties not included in the sample were Cass, Dakota, Douglas, Lancaster, Sarpy and Washington. The 14-page questionnaire included questions pertaining to well-being, community, work, successful rural communities, and technology use. This paper reports only results from the community portion of the survey.

A 44% response rate was achieved using the total design method (Dillman, 1978). The sequence of steps used follow:

1. A pre-notification letter was sent requesting participation in the study.
2. The questionnaire was mailed with an informal letter signed by the project director approximately seven days later.
3. A reminder postcard was sent to the entire sample approximately seven days after the questionnaire had been sent.
4. Those who had not yet responded within approximately 14 days of the original mailing were sent a replacement questionnaire.

The average respondent is 55 years of age. Seventy-three percent are married

(Appendix Table 1¹) and sixty-eight percent live within the city limits of a town or village. On average, respondents have lived in Nebraska 48 years and have lived in their current community 42 years. Fifty-seven percent are living in or near towns or villages with populations less than 5,000.

Fifty-six percent of the respondents reported their approximate household income from all sources, before taxes, for 2001 was below \$40,000. Thirty percent reported incomes over \$50,000. Ninety-three percent have attained at least a high school diploma.

Seventy-two percent were employed in 2001 on a full-time, part-time, or seasonal basis. Twenty-four percent are retired. Thirty-four percent of those employed reported working in a professional, technical or administrative occupation. Seventeen percent indicated they were farmers or ranchers. The employed respondents reported having to drive an average of eight miles, one way, to their primary job.

Trends in Community Ratings, 1996 - 2002

As mentioned earlier, this is the seventh annual Nebraska Rural Poll, and therefore comparisons are made between the data collected this year to the six previous studies. It is important to keep in mind when viewing these comparisons that these were independent samples (the same people were not surveyed each year).

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

Community Change

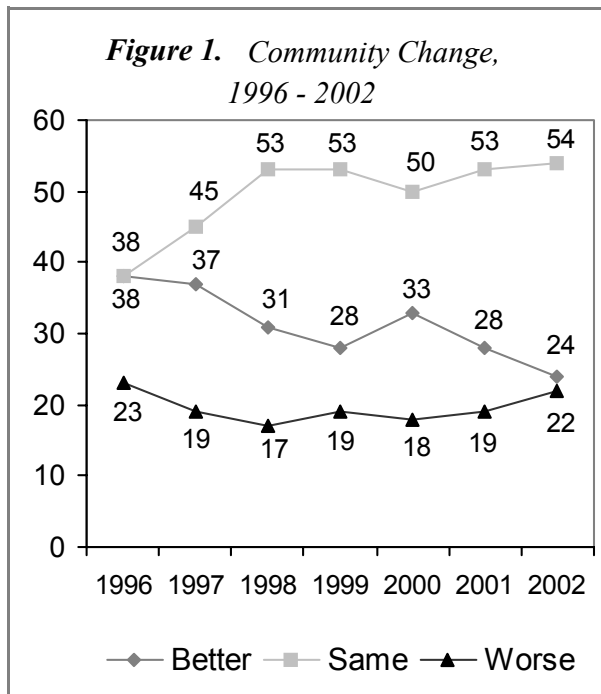
To examine respondents' perceptions of how their community has changed, they were asked the question, "Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say...My community has changed for the..." Answer categories were better, same or worse.

One difference in the wording of this question has occurred over the past seven years. Starting in 1998, the phrase "this past year" was added to the question; no time frame was given to the respondents in the first two studies.

Rural Nebraskans felt more negative about their communities this year than they did last year. This year, only 24 percent believe their community has changed for the better, compared to 28 percent last year (Figure 1). And, in 2002, 22 percent think their community has changed for the worse, compared to only 19 percent last year.

During the seven-year period, there has been a general upward trend in the proportion of respondents indicating their community has remained the same. Thirty-eight percent of the 1996 respondents stated their community had stayed the same. The proportion increased to 54 percent this year.

Conversely, the proportion saying their community has changed for the better has declined over all the study periods (from 38 percent in 1996 to 24 percent this year). The proportion saying their community has changed for the worse has remained fairly steady across all seven years.



Community Social Dimensions

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

The proportion of respondents who view their community as friendly increased when compared to last year. This year, 75 percent rate their community as friendly, compared to 72 percent last year and 68 percent in 2000.² In the first four studies,

² The responses on the 7-point scale are converted to percentages as follows: values of 1, 2, and 3 are categorized as friendly, trusting, and supportive; values of 5, 6, and 7 are categorized as unfriendly, distrusting, and hostile; and a value of 4 is categorized as no opinion.

approximately 73 percent felt their community was friendly.

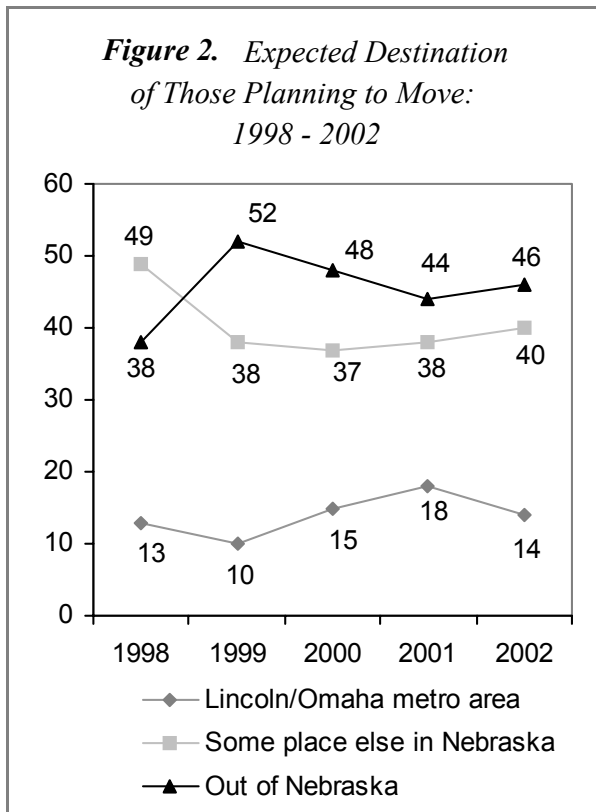
The proportion of respondents who viewed their community as trusting increased from 62 percent in 1996 to 66 percent in 1999. It then decreased to 59 percent in 2000, rose to 62 percent in 2001 and rose again to 65 percent this year. A similar pattern emerged when examining the proportion of respondents who rated their community as supportive. The proportion stating their community was supportive first increased from 62 percent in 1996 to 65 percent in 1999, then it dropped to 60 percent in 2000. It then increased slightly to 62 percent in 2001 and rose to 68 percent this year.

Plans to Leave the Community

To determine whether or not respondents planned to leave their community, they were asked, “Do you plan to move from your community in the next year?” This question was only included in the studies starting in 1998. The proportion planning to leave their community has remained relatively stable during the past five years. Approximately three percent of the respondents each year indicated they were planning to leave their community in the next year. This year, that proportion was four percent.

The proportion of younger people (age 19 to 29) planning to move from their community in the next year declined this year as compared to last year. Last year, 18 percent of the 19 to 29 year olds planned to move from their community in the next year. This year, the proportion declined to 10 percent.

The expected destination for the persons planning to move has changed over time



(Figure 2). The proportion planning to move to either the Lincoln or Omaha metropolitan areas steadily increased between 1999 and 2001 (from 10 to 18 percent). However, the proportion planning to move to one of those cities declined this year to 14 percent.

The proportion of expected movers planning to leave the state has decreased since 1999. That year, 52 percent planned to leave the state. However, only 46 percent of this year's respondents that are planning to move expect to leave Nebraska.

Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities

Respondents were also asked how satisfied they are with various community services

and amenities each year. They were asked this in all seven studies; however, in 1996 they were also asked about the availability of these services. Therefore, comparisons will only be made between the last six studies, when the question wording was identical. The respondents were asked how satisfied they were with a list of 26 services and amenities, taking into consideration availability, cost, and quality.

Table 1 shows the proportions very satisfied with the service each year. The rank ordering of these items has remained relatively stable over the six years. In addition, many of the proportions remained fairly consistent between the years.

The Community and Its Attributes in 2002

In this section, the 2002 data on respondents' evaluations of their communities and its attributes are first summarized and then examined in terms of any differences that may exist depending upon the size of the respondent's community, the region in which they live, or various individual attributes such as household income or age.

Community Change

Over one-half (54%) of the respondents state their community has stayed the same during the past year, 24 percent say their community has changed for the better, and 22 percent believe it has changed for the worse (see Figure 1).

When examining the responses by various demographic subgroups, some differences are detected in respondents' perceptions of the change occurring in their community

Table 1. Proportions of Respondents “Very Satisfied” with Each Service, 1997 - 2002

Service/Amenity	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Library services	41	40	43	40	41	44
Education (K - 12)	32	31	32	36	33	35
Basic medical care services	30	27	26	27	27	31
Parks and recreation	29	29	31	30	29	34
Sewage disposal	28	24	26	28	23	31
Senior centers	27	25	25	27	25	31
Water disposal	26	22	24	26	21	29
Solid waste disposal	24	22	22	24	19	25
Nursing home care	23	21	20	25	24	27
Law enforcement	21	19	19	19	17	22
Highways and bridges	20	16	16	18	15	NA
Housing	17	16	16	19	14	17
Restaurants	15	15	14	17	16	19
Streets	14	11	12	16	12	NA
Day care services	13	13	13	16	15	17
Head start programs	13	13	12	13	12	16
Airport	12	11	11	NA	NA	NA
Retail shopping	11	11	11	12	10	14
Mental health services	9	10	9	9	8	11
City/village government	9	10	8	11	7	10
County government	8	9	7	10	6	9
Entertainment	7	7	5	6	6	8
Airline service	5	4	4	NA	NA	NA
Rail service	3	3	3	3	3	5
Taxi service	3	3	3	2	2	3
Bus service	3	3	2	3	2	4
Air service	NA	NA	NA	5	5	6
Streets and highways	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1

NA = Not asked that particular year

(Appendix Table 2). Differences occur by community size, age and marital status.

Respondents living in or near the largest communities are more likely than respondents living in or near the smallest communities to contend that their community has changed for the better. Twenty-nine percent of the persons living in or near communities with populations of

10,000 or more say their community has changed for the better; yet, only 16 percent of the persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people share this opinion.

The other groups most likely to say their community has changed for the better include older persons and the widowed respondents.

Community Social Dimensions

In addition to asking respondents about their perceptions of the change occurring in their community, they were also asked to rate its social dimensions. They were asked if they would describe their communities as friendly or unfriendly, trusting or distrusting, and supportive or hostile. Overall, respondents rate their communities as friendly (75%), trusting (65%) and supportive (68%).

Respondents' ratings of their community on these dimensions differ by some of the demographic and community characteristics (Appendix Table 3). Persons living in or near the smaller communities are more likely than those living in or near larger communities to rate their community as trusting. Approximately 66 percent of the persons living in or near communities with less than 5,000 people view their community as trusting, compared to 60 percent of the persons living in or near the communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999.

Regional differences also occur. Persons living in the North Central region are more likely than persons living in other regions of the state to say their community is supportive (see Appendix Figure 1 for the counties included in each region). Seventy-two percent of the North Central respondents rate their community as being supportive, compared to 65 percent of the persons living in the Panhandle.

The older respondents are more likely than the younger respondents to state their community is both trusting and supportive. Seventy-three percent of the persons age 65

and older view their community as trusting, yet only 56 percent of the persons between the ages of 19 and 29 feel the same way.

The widowed respondents are more likely than the other marital groups to rate their community as friendly, trusting, and supportive. Seventy percent of the widowed respondents rate their community as trusting, compared to only 55 percent of the respondents who have never married.

Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities

To gauge rural residents' satisfaction with their communities' services and amenities, they were asked to rate how satisfied they were with a list of 26 services and amenities, taking into consideration cost, availability, and quality. Residents report high levels of satisfaction with some services, but other services and amenities have higher levels of dissatisfaction.

At least one-third of the respondents are either "very dissatisfied" or "somewhat dissatisfied" with the following: entertainment (44%), retail shopping (42%), restaurants (38%) and city/village government (33%)(Appendix Table 4). The five services or amenities respondents are the most satisfied with (based on the combined percentage of "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" responses) include: parks and recreation (76%), library services (76%), basic medical care services (71%), education (K - 12) (70%) and highways and bridges (70%).

The ten services and amenities with the greatest dissatisfaction ratings were analyzed by community size, region and

various individual attributes (Appendix Table 5). Many differences emerge.

Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to be dissatisfied with the entertainment, retail shopping and restaurants in their community. As an example, 64 percent of the persons between the ages of 19 and 39 are dissatisfied with entertainment, compared to only 26 percent of the persons age 65 and older.

Other groups more likely to express dissatisfaction with the entertainment, retail shopping and restaurants in their community include: persons living in or near the larger communities, persons with higher household incomes, and persons with higher educational levels.

The laborers are more likely than the respondents with different occupations to express dissatisfaction with entertainment. Fifty-five percent of the laborers are dissatisfied with entertainment, compared to 39 percent of the farmers or ranchers. However, the respondents with professional occupations are more likely than the others to be dissatisfied with the restaurants in their community.

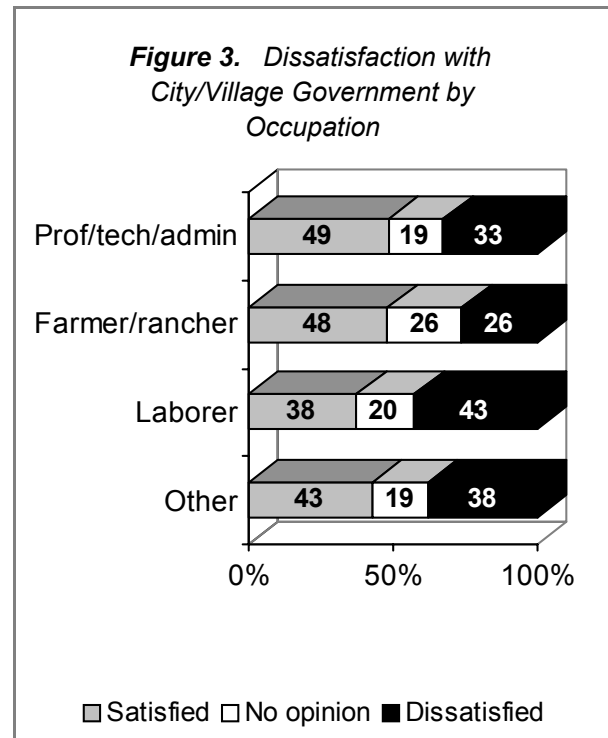
The other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with the retail shopping in their community include: persons living in both the North Central and Northeast regions of the state, females, and both the married and divorced respondents. The marital group most likely to be dissatisfied with restaurants are the divorced and separated respondents.

The laborers are more likely than persons with different occupations to be dissatisfied

with their city/village government (Figure 3). Forty-three percent of the laborers express dissatisfaction with the government in their city/village, compared to only 26 percent of the farmers or ranchers.

Persons living in or near the largest communities are more likely than those living in or near the smaller communities to be dissatisfied with their city/village government. Thirty-six percent of the persons living in or near communities with more than 5,000 people are dissatisfied with their city/village government. Only twenty-five percent of the persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people share this opinion.

The other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their city/village government include: persons living in the North Central region of the state, persons with household incomes ranging from



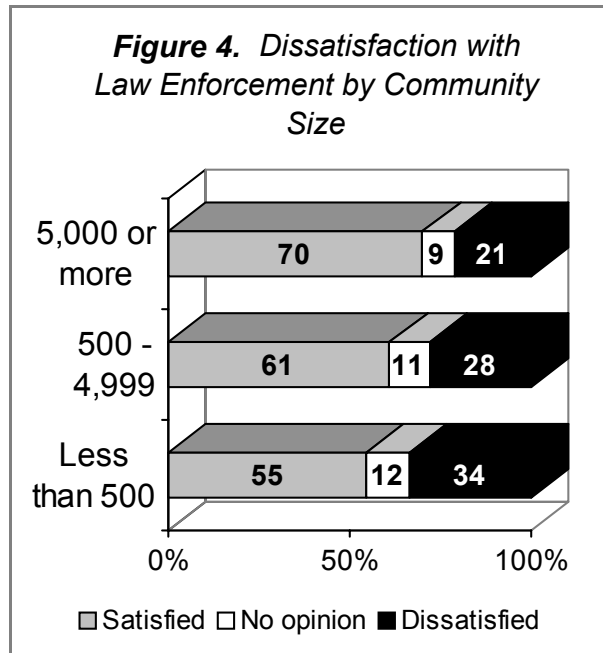
\$20,000 to \$59,999, younger persons, males, the divorced/separated respondents, and persons with some college education.

Many of these same groups are also the ones most likely to be dissatisfied with their county government. Persons living in the North Central region, respondents between the ages of 40 and 64, males, persons who are married, those with some college education and the laborers are the groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with their county government.

Persons living in the Panhandle are more likely than those living elsewhere to express dissatisfaction with the streets in their community. Thirty-four percent of the persons living in this region are dissatisfied with their community's streets, compared to 24 percent of the persons living in the Southeast region of the state.

Other groups most likely to be dissatisfied with the streets include: persons living in or near the largest communities, the younger respondents, the persons who have never married, persons with lower educational levels and the laborers.

Persons living in or near the smallest communities are more likely than those living in or near larger communities to be dissatisfied with the law enforcement in their community (Figure 4). Thirty-four percent of the residents living in or near communities with less than 500 people express dissatisfaction with their community's law enforcement. Only 21 percent of the persons living in or near communities with populations of 5,000 or more are dissatisfied with their law enforcement.



Other groups most likely to express dissatisfaction with law enforcement include: younger respondents, the persons who are divorced/separated, and the laborers.

Persons living in the Panhandle are more likely than people living in other regions of the state to express dissatisfaction with their community's airline service, bus service and rail service. Thirty-five percent of the Panhandle residents are dissatisfied with their airline service, compared to only 13 percent of the Southeast residents.

Persons living in or near the largest communities of the state and the older respondents tend to be more dissatisfied with all of these transportation services, as compared to persons living in smaller communities and younger respondents. Persons with higher income levels, those with higher educational levels, and the respondents with professional occupations

are the groups most likely to be dissatisfied with both their airline service and their bus service.

When comparing the marital groups, the married respondents are the group most likely to be dissatisfied with their community’s airline service. However, the widowed respondents are the group most likely to express dissatisfaction with both the bus and rail services.

Plans to Leave the Community

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

Only four percent indicate they are planning to move from their community in the next year, eight percent are uncertain, and 88 percent have no plans to move. Of those who are planning to move, 54 percent plan to remain in the state, with 14 percent planning to move to either Lincoln or Omaha and 40 percent plan to move to another part of the state. Forty-six percent are planning to leave the state.

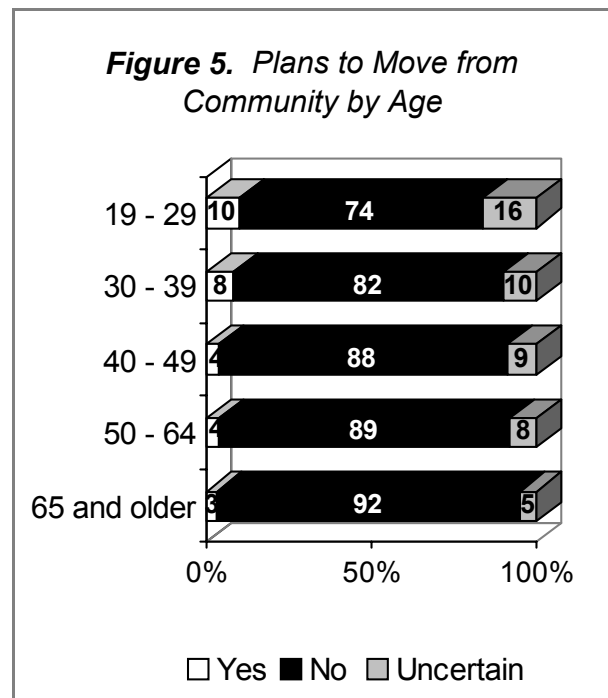
Intentions to move from their community differed only by age, marital status, and occupation (Appendix Table 6). Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to be planning to move from

their community in the next year (Figure 5). Ten percent of the persons between the ages of 19 and 29 are planning to move next year, compared to only three percent of the persons age 65 and older. An additional 16 percent of the younger respondents indicate they are uncertain if they plan to move.

The respondents who have never married and the persons who are divorced or separated are more likely than the married or widowed persons to be planning to move. When comparing the responses by occupation, persons with professional occupations are the group most likely to be planning to move in the next year.

Investment in the Community

This year, some new questions were asked of rural Nebraskans to try to determine how they are investing in their communities. They were asked if they are investing their time and money in their community as well



as how they promote their community to others.

First, respondents were asked how important this type of investment is to the future of their community. The specific question asked, “How important do you think the following items are for the future of your community?” Three of the items listed include: residents volunteering their time to community activities; getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community; and financial contributions by community residents, especially larger donations given in trusts, wills, estates, etc.

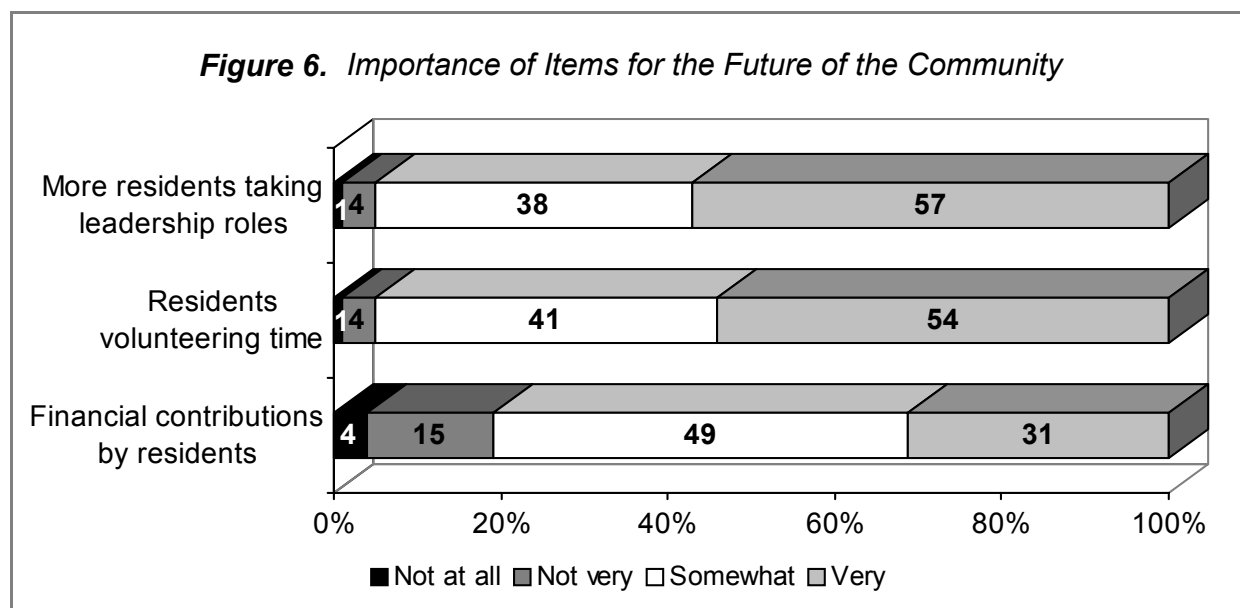
Over one-half of the respondents view residents volunteering their time to community activities and getting more people to take leadership roles as very important for the future of their community (Figure 6). Thirty-one percent view financial contributions by community residents as very important.

The perceived importance of these items are

analyzed by community size, region and various individual attributes (Appendix Table 7). Some differences of opinion emerge.

Persons living in or near smaller communities are more likely than those living in or near larger communities to believe that residents volunteering their time to community activities is very important for the future of their community. Sixty-three percent of the persons living in or near communities with populations ranging from 500 to 999 believe this is very important, compared to only 48 percent of the persons living in or near communities with populations over 10,000.

Regional differences occur when analyzing the perceived importance of financial contributions by community residents. Eighty-five percent of the Southeast residents view this as either very or somewhat important for the future of their community. However, only 74 percent of the Panhandle residents share this view.



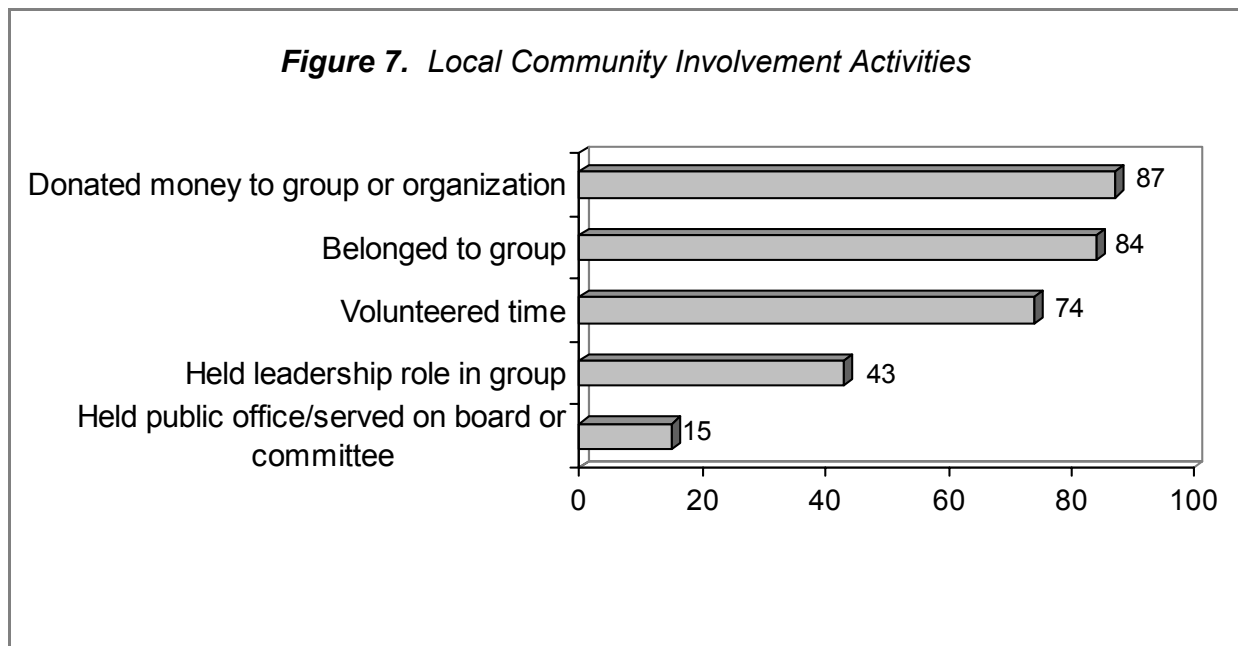
Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to believe that getting more residents to take leadership roles and financial contributions by community residents are important for the future of their community. Females and persons with higher educational levels are more likely than males and persons with less education to believe that all three items are important for the future of their community.

Older respondents are more likely than younger respondents to view getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community as being important for its future. Fifty-nine percent of the persons age 65 and older think this is very important for their community's future. Only 48 percent of the persons age 19 to 29 agree.

When comparing occupational groups, persons with service occupations are more likely than persons with different occupations to view financial contributions

by community residents as being important to their community.

Respondents were next asked if they have done any of these investment activities in their community during the past year. They were asked, "During the past year, have you done any of the following?" Over one-half had done each of the following: donated money to local community organizations, charities, or causes in their local community (87%); belonged to a community, church, school, civic, or any other type of group or organization in their local community (84%); and volunteered their time for a community, church, school, civic or any other type of group or organization in their local community (74%) (Figure 7). Forty-three percent had held a leadership role in a community, church, school, civic, or any other type of group or organization in their local community and 15 percent held public office or served on a government board or committee in their local community.



The involvement in these activities are analyzed by community size, region, and individual attributes (Appendix Table 8). Many differences emerge.

Persons living in communities with populations ranging from 500 to 4,999 are more likely than persons living in communities of different sizes to have belonged to a group, to have volunteered their time, to have held a leadership role in the group, and to have donated money to local organizations or causes. Persons living in communities with less than 500 people are more likely than those living in larger communities to have held public office or served on a government board or committee in their community. Twenty-six percent of the persons living in or near communities with less than 500 people have held office, compared to only eight percent of the people living in communities with populations of 10,000 or more.

Some regional differences also occur. Persons living in the Southeast region are the most likely to have belonged to a group or organization in their community. Persons living in the North Central region are the group most likely to have volunteered their time for a group or organization in their community and to have held public office.

The oldest respondents (those age 65 and older) are more likely than the younger respondents to have belonged to a group or organization and to have donated money to a local organization, charity or cause. The persons between the ages of 40 and 49 are the age group most likely to have volunteered their time, held a leadership role in a group or organization and to have held public office or served on a government

board or committee in their community.

Persons with higher incomes, married persons, and persons with higher educational levels were the other groups most likely to have been involved in each of the activities listed. Males are more likely than females to have held a leadership role in a group or organization and to have held public office. Persons with administrative support positions are more likely than persons with different occupations to have belonged to a group, to have volunteered their time to a group or organization, and to have donated money to a local group. Farmers and ranchers are the occupation group most likely to have held a leadership role in a group or organization in their community and to have held public office or served on a government board or committee in their community.

Respondents were also asked about their intentions to leave any of their assets to their community. The specific question asked, "Some people leave some of their assets to local community organizations or causes upon their death. Do you intend to leave any of your assets to organizations or causes in your community?" The answer categories include: Yes, I've already included a community organization or cause in my will or estate plan; Yes, I intend to do so, but I have not yet formally included this request in my will or estate plan; I do not have a will or estate plan, but if I did I would consider including a community organization or cause; I do not have a will or estate plan, but if I did I would not include a community organization or cause; and I'm not sure. The answer category for people that have a will or estate plan but do not intend to include a community organization

or cause was accidentally omitted from this question. However, some respondents indicated this response on their questionnaire and so this category was created for the analysis. Since it was not included in the question, though, the respondents fitting into this category are most likely understated in the analysis.

Very few respondents have either formally included a community organization or cause in their will or estate plan or intend to do so (Figure 8). However, almost one-half (48%) are not sure if they will leave any of their assets to their community.

These plans differ by household income, age, marital status, education and occupation (Appendix Table 9). Persons with higher household incomes, older respondents, the widowed persons and those with higher educational levels are the groups most likely to have either already included a community organization or cause in their will or estate plan or intend to do so. Persons with administrative support positions are the occupation group most likely to have

already included an organization or cause in their will or estate plan.

Residents can also invest in their community by encouraging others to either remain in their community or move to it. To determine how rural Nebraskans feel about various groups staying in or moving to their community, they were asked, “How strongly would you encourage or discourage the following groups of people to move to or remain in your current community?” The answer categories included: strongly discourage, somewhat discourage, somewhat encourage, and strongly encourage.

Over one-half of rural Nebraskans would encourage each of the groups listed to either move to or remain in their community (Figure 9). One-quarter (25%) would strongly encourage young adults/young families and elderly persons to move to or remain in their community.

Some differences do emerge based on community size, region, and various

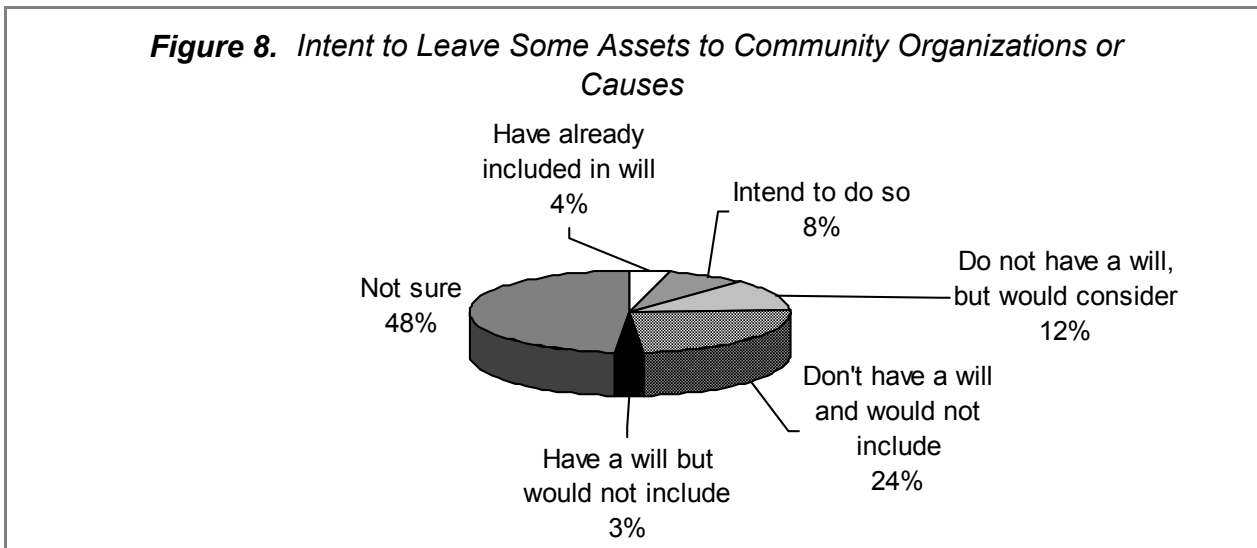
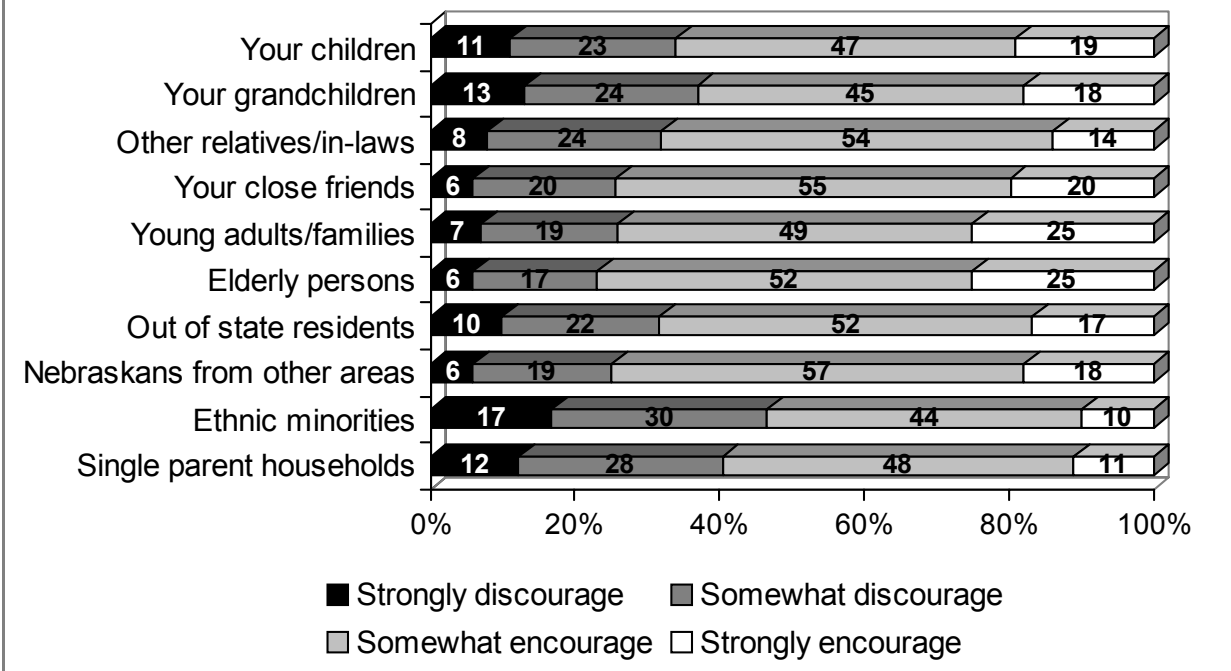


Figure 9. How Strongly Would Encourage Groups to Move to or Remain in Community



individual attributes (Appendix Table 10). Persons living in the Southeast region of the state are more likely than those living elsewhere to encourage their children to either move to or remain in their community. Seventy percent of the Southeast residents would either strongly or somewhat encourage their children to live in their community, compared to 60 percent of the North Central residents.

Younger persons are more likely than older persons to encourage their children to move to or remain in their community. Seventy-eight percent of the persons age 19 to 29 would either strongly or somewhat encourage their children to live in their community. Only 63 percent of the persons age 50 to 64 share this opinion.

Other groups most likely to encourage their children to remain in or move to their community include persons with lower household incomes and respondents with lower educational levels.

Groups most to encourage their other relatives and in-laws to move to or remain in their community include persons in the Northeast region and females. The Northeast residents are also the regional group most likely to encourage their close, personal friends to live in their community.

The groups most likely to encourage young adults or young families to move to or remain in their community include persons living in both the Northeast and Southeast regions of the state and persons with higher household incomes. The groups most likely

to encourage elderly people to live in their community include: persons living in or near the larger communities, persons with higher household incomes, younger respondents, females and persons with higher educational levels.

Persons living in the Northeast region of the state, persons with higher household incomes, and younger respondents were the groups most likely to encourage both out of state residents and Nebraskans from other areas of the state to either move to or remain in their community. Persons living in larger communities are more likely than those living in smaller communities to encourage out of state residents to live in their community. Persons with higher educational levels are more likely than those with less education to encourage Nebraskans from other areas of the state to live in their community. When comparing occupation groups, persons with administrative support positions are the group most likely to encourage out of state residents to live in their community. However, persons with professional or service positions are the groups most likely to encourage Nebraskans from other areas of the state to move to or remain in their community.

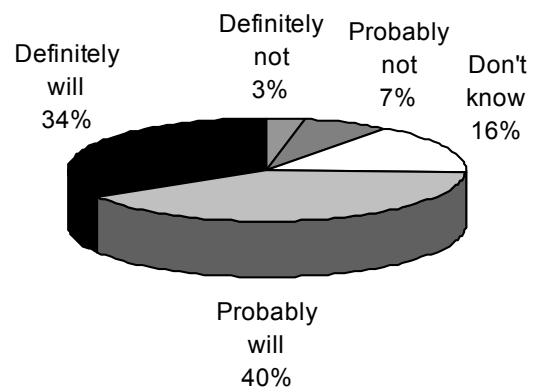
The groups most likely to encourage members of ethnic minorities to remain in or move to their community include: persons with higher household incomes, younger respondents, persons with higher educational levels and persons with professional occupations. The groups most likely to encourage single parent households to live in their community are: persons living in communities with populations ranging from 5,000 to 9,999; persons living in the Northeast region of the state; and the

persons who have either never married or who are divorced or separated.

In addition to finding out what groups rural Nebraskans would encourage to live in their community, they were also asked how likely it is that they will be living in their current community five years from now. Most (74%) expect to be living in their current community in five years (Figure 10).

Plans to stay in their community differ by income, age, education, marital status and occupation (Appendix Table 11). Persons with higher household incomes are more likely than persons with lower incomes to believe they will be living in their current community five years from now. Seventy-eight percent of the persons with household incomes of \$40,000 or more say they probably will or definitely will be living in their current community five years from

Figure 10. Likelihood of Living in Current Community Five Years from Now



now. Only 63 percent of the persons with incomes ranging from \$20,000 to \$39,999 share this opinion.

Persons between the ages of 40 and 49 are the age group most likely to think they will be living in their current community five years from now (Figure 11). Seventy-nine percent of the persons in this age group think they will be living in their current community five years from now, compared to 61 percent of the persons age 19 to 29.

The other groups most likely to believe they will be living in their current community five years from now include: males, persons with higher educational levels, married respondents and farmers or ranchers.

Conclusion

Overall, rural Nebraskans have favorable views of their communities. The majority of

the respondents either believe their community has stayed the same or changed for the better during the past year. In addition, most also characterize their communities as friendly, trusting, and supportive.

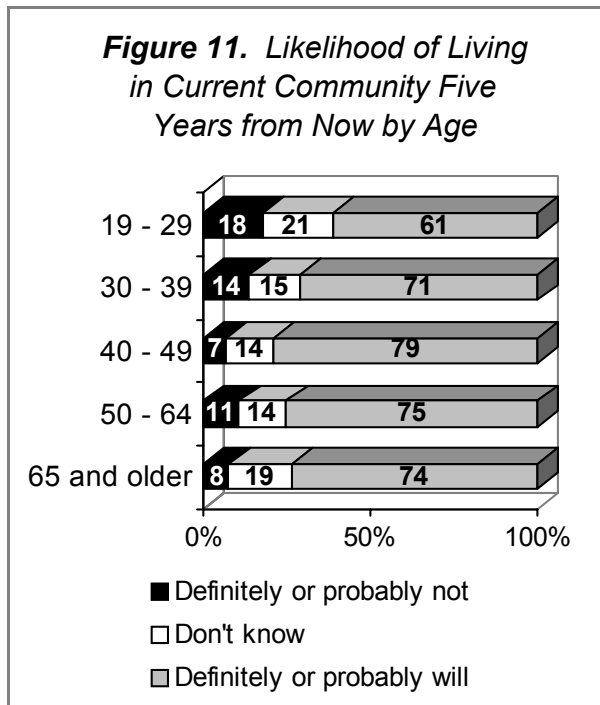
The services and amenities in the communities that residents are most dissatisfied with include: entertainment, retail shopping, restaurants and city/village government. The services and amenities drawing the highest satisfaction ratings include: parks and recreation, library services, basic medical care services, education (K - 12) and highways and bridges.

Most rural Nebraskans are planning to stay in their community next year. Only four percent report planning to move and eight percent are uncertain. Forty-six percent of the persons planning to move say they will move out of Nebraska.

Most rural Nebraskans believe community investment activities such as residents volunteering their time to community activities and getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community are important for their community's future. Their actions emphasize this importance as most have participated in these types of community activities during the past year.

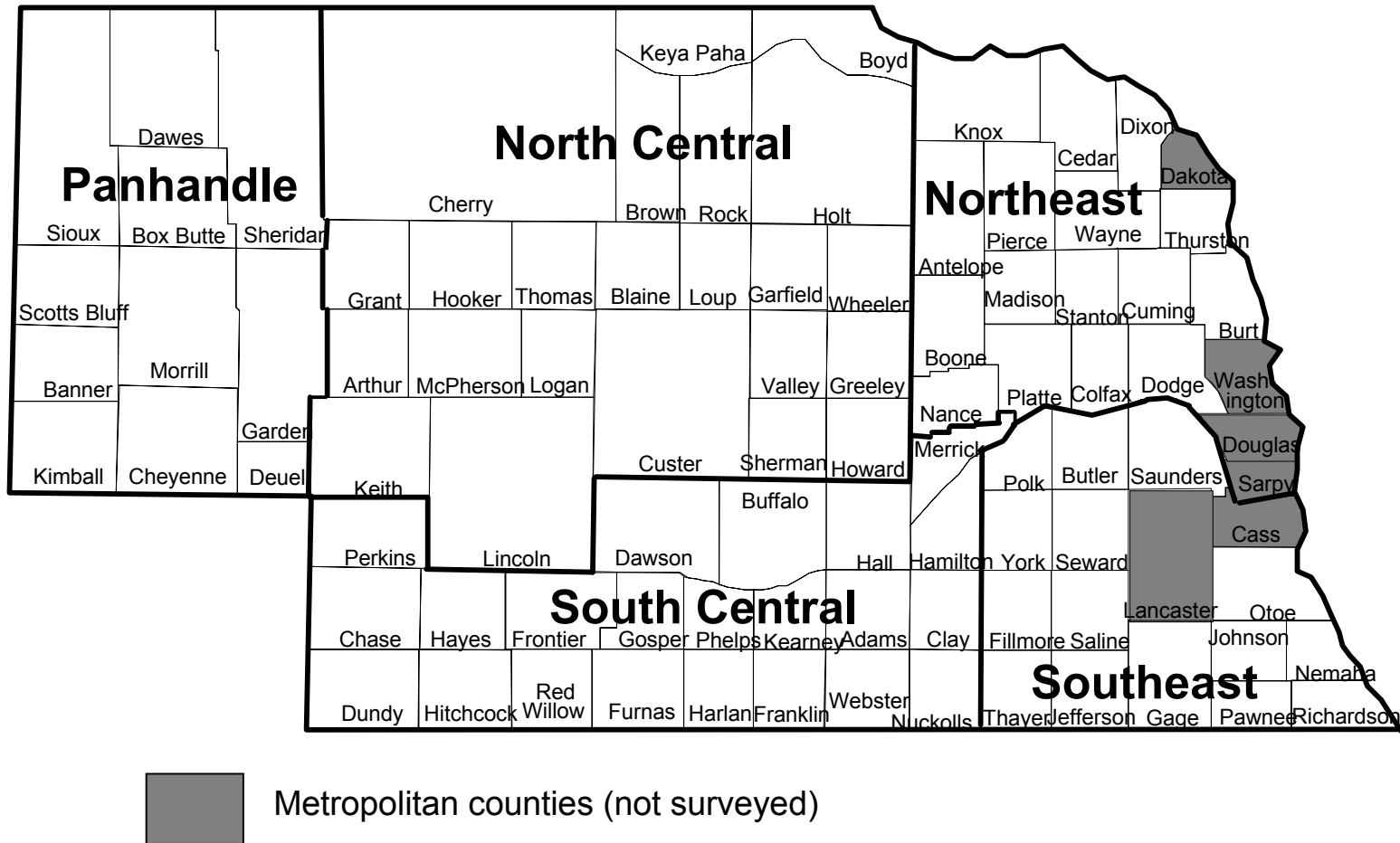
Very few rural Nebraskans currently intend to leave any of their assets to community organizations or causes. However, a large percentage (48%) said they weren't sure. Perhaps some have not yet thought about this type of planned giving.

Residents' positive views of their community are also highlighted by the large



percentages that would encourage various groups to move to or remain in their community. And, most rural Nebraskans think they will be living in their current community five years from now.

Appendix Figure 1. Regions of Nebraska



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

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

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

² 1990 Census universe is total non-metro population.

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

⁴ 1990 Census universe is all non-metro households.

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

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

**Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say...
My community has changed for the**

	<u>Better</u>	<u>Same</u>	<u>Worse</u>	<u>Significance</u>
<i>Percentages</i>				
<u>Community Size</u>		(n = 2638)		
Less than 500	16	61	23	
500 - 999	25	57	18	
1,000 - 4,999	22	55	23	P ² = 32.86
5,000 - 9,999	25	49	26	(.000)
10,000 and up	29	51	20	
<u>Region</u>		(n = 2707)		
Panhandle	25	53	21	
North Central	22	54	24	
South Central	25	52	23	P ² = 4.87
Northeast	23	57	20	(.771)
Southeast	25	54	21	
<u>Individual Attributes:</u>				
<i>Income Level</i>		(n = 2471)		
Under \$20,000	22	55	23	
\$20,000 - \$39,999	24	53	23	P ² = 4.40
\$40,000 - \$59,999	25	54	22	(.623)
\$60,000 and over	27	53	20	
<i>Age</i>		(n = 2727)		
19 - 29	23	63	14	
30 - 39	24	59	18	
40 - 49	22	52	26	P ² = 38.07
50 - 64	23	51	27	(.000)
65 and older	27	55	17	
<i>Gender</i>		(n = 2689)		
Male	24	53	23	P ² = 4.09
Female	24	56	20	(.129)
<i>Marital Status</i>		(n = 2689)		
Married	24	53	23	
Never married	19	63	18	
Divorced/separated	26	53	21	P ² = 13.48
Widowed	28	56	16	(.036)
<i>Education</i>		(n = 2689)		
No H.S. diploma	23	57	20	
H.S. diploma	23	56	21	
Some college	23	54	23	P ² = 9.27
Bachelors or grad degree	28	50	22	(.159)

<i>Communities across the nation are undergoing change. When you think about this past year, would you say... My community has changed for the</i>				
	<i>Better</i>	<i>Same</i>	<i>Worse</i>	<i>Significance</i>
<i>Occupation</i>		(n = 1866)		
Sales	23	52	25	
Manual laborer	21	56	24	
Professional/tech/admin	28	52	20	
Service	23	58	20	
Farming/ranching	21	54	25	
Skilled laborer	18	58	24	P ² = 21.25
Administrative support	21	57	21	(.095)

Appendix Table 3. Measures of Community Attributes in Relation to Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

	<i>My community is...</i>				<i>My community is...</i>				<i>My community is...</i>			
	<i>Friendly</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Unfriendly</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Trusting</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Distrusting</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Supportive</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Hostile</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
Community Size	(n = 2619)				<i>Percentages</i> (n = 2542)				(n = 2535)			
Less than 500	77	15	8		67	22	10		71	19	10	
500 - 999	75	17	8		66	21	13		73	17	10	
1,000 - 4,999	77	14	9	P ² =	68	17	15	P ² =	69	21	11	P ² =
5,000 - 9,999	71	17	13	12.03	60	23	17	16.47	66	22	12	9.42
10,000 and up	74	18	8	(.150)	63	23	14	(.036)	65	23	11	(.308)
Region	(n = 2679)				(n = 2594)				(n = 2589)			
Panhandle	73	16	11		59	25	16		65	24	11	
North Central	77	14	9		69	18	13		72	20	8	
South Central	74	16	10	P ² =	65	20	16	P ² =	66	21	14	P ² =
Northeast	77	17	6	8.97	67	21	12	14.38	69	22	9	16.04
Southeast	75	15	9	(.345)	67	21	12	(.072)	71	19	10	(.042)
Individual Attributes:												
<i>Income Level</i>	(n = 2458)				(n = 2385)				(n = 2382)			
Under \$20,000	72	17	11		61	22	17		67	20	13	
\$20,000 - \$39,999	75	16	9	P ² =	66	22	13	P ² =	66	23	11	P ² =
\$40,000 - \$59,999	77	15	8	7.21	67	20	13	12.36	71	19	10	6.51
\$60,000 and over	77	16	7	(.302)	69	16	14	(.054)	68	20	11	(.369)
<i>Age</i>	(n = 2700)				(n = 2613)				(n = 2608)			
19 - 29	76	16	8		56	30	14		65	26	9	
30 - 39	72	17	11		59	25	16		61	26	13	
40 - 49	73	18	9	P ² =	65	19	16	P ² =	67	20	13	P ² =
50 - 64	73	17	10	13.06	63	21	16	40.37	63	25	12	53.58
65 and older	79	14	7	(.110)	73	18	10	(.000)	78	15	7	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>	(n = 2665)				(n = 2581)				(n = 2573)			
Male	75	16	9	P ² =	66	20	14	P ² =	68	21	11	P ² =
Female	75	15	9	0.86	64	22	14	1.09	68	21	10	0.43
				(.650)				(.581)				(.807)

Appendix Table 3 continued.

	<i>My community is...</i>				<i>My community is...</i>				<i>My community is...</i>			
	<i>Friendly</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Unfriendly</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Trusting</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Distrusting</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Supportive</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Hostile</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<i>Marital Status</i>	(n = 2666)				(n = 2583)				(n = 2575)			
Married	75	17	9		66	20	14		67	22	11	
Never married	76	19	6	P ² =	55	28	17	P ² =	68	18	14	P ² =
Divorced/separated	72	15	13	13.50	61	22	18	13.27	64	23	14	18.72
Widowed	80	12	8	(.036)	70	18	12	(.039)	78	13	9	(.005)
<i>Education</i>	(n = 2669)				(n = 2585)				(n = 2578)			
No H.S. diploma	69	20	11		66	22	12		70	20	10	
H.S. diploma	77	15	8	P ² =	65	22	13	P ² =	68	22	11	P ² =
Some college	74	17	10	7.10	64	20	16	6.40	67	21	12	2.01
Bachelors degree	77	15	8	(.312)	68	19	13	(.380)	69	21	10	(.919)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1862)				(n = 1837)				(n = 1833)			
Sales	76	17	8		62	25	13		62	28	10	
Manual laborer	71	18	12		59	25	17		67	24	9	
Prof/tech/admin	77	14	9		66	20	14		68	21	12	
Service	71	21	8		63	20	17		65	23	12	
Farming/ranching	76	16	8	P ² =	67	19	14		69	20	11	
Skilled laborer	72	21	7	15.87	59	25	16	P ² =	62	24	14	P ² =
Admin support	80	11	10	(.321)	72	15	13	13.53	69	16	14	13.04

Appendix Table 4. Level of Satisfaction with Community Services and Amenities

<i>Service/Amenity</i>	<i>Dissatisfied*</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Satisfied*</i>
		<i>Percentages</i>	
Entertainment	44	21	35
Retail shopping	42	12	47
Restaurants	38	8	53
City/village government	33	20	47
Streets	30	8	63
County government	30	21	49
Law enforcement	26	11	64
Airline service	23	60	17
Bus service	22	68	10
Rail service	21	66	12
Housing	21	17	62
Basic medical care services	18	11	71
Highways and bridges	17	13	70
Taxi service	17	71	12
Education (K - 12)	15	16	70
Airport	15	51	34
Mental health services	14	54	32
Parks and recreation	13	11	76
Solid waste disposal	13	22	65
Nursing home care	12	27	62
Day care services	12	44	45
Sewage disposal	9	24	67
Water disposal	9	26	65
Library services	7	18	76
Senior centers	7	27	66
Head start programs	7	54	39

* Dissatisfied represents the combined percentage of “very dissatisfied” or “somewhat dissatisfied” responses. Similarly, satisfied is the combination of “very satisfied” and “somewhat satisfied” responses.

Appendix Table 5. Measures of Satisfaction with Ten Services and Amenities in Relation to Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

	<i>Entertainment</i>			<i>Retail shopping</i>			<i>Restaurants</i>			<i>City/village government</i>		
	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>											
Community Size	(n = 2653)			(n = 2660)			(n = 2682)			(n = 2702)		
Less than 500	35	29	36	40	22	38	57	13	29	51	24	25
500 - 4,999	32	21	47	42	13	46	49	8	43	47	19	34
5,000 and over	38	17	45	52	7	41	55	7	38	46	19	36
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 34.47 (.000)			P ² = 86.09 (.000)			P ² = 35.42 (.000)			P ² = 17.28 (.002)		
Region	(n = 2721)			(n = 2731)			(n = 2749)			(n = 2774)		
Panhandle	35	20	45	48	10	42	49	8	43	39	24	37
North Central	34	17	49	42	12	46	55	7	38	44	18	38
South Central	39	20	41	51	10	39	56	8	36	47	19	34
Northeast	34	21	45	44	10	46	53	7	40	49	23	28
Southeast	31	25	44	44	16	40	51	11	38	51	18	31
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 19.42 (.013)			P ² = 25.36 (.001)			P ² = 14.55 (.068)			P ² = 25.71 (.001)		
Income Level	(n = 2485)			(n = 2488)			(n = 2506)			(n = 2525)		
Under \$20,000	37	27	35	46	14	40	58	10	32	49	23	28
\$20,000 - \$39,999	35	21	44	48	11	41	55	8	38	46	19	35
\$40,000 - \$59,999	32	17	51	43	10	48	50	7	44	46	17	37
\$60,000 and over	35	14	52	46	8	46	47	7	47	49	19	32
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 49.63 (.000)			P ² = 15.95 (.014)			P ² = 29.25 (.000)			P ² = 17.30 (.008)		
Age	(n = 2741)			(n = 2751)			(n = 2769)			(n = 2794)		
19 - 39	23	14	64	39	12	50	43	7	50	39	27	35
40 - 64	33	19	48	45	10	45	50	8	42	43	20	38
65 and over	46	28	26	53	14	33	64	9	27	59	17	25
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 191.67 (.000)			P ² = 45.76 (.000)			P ² = 83.84 (.000)			P ² = 83.68 (.000)		
Gender	(n = 2703)			(n = 2712)			(n = 2731)			(n = 2755)		
Male	35	20	45	49	11	40	54	8	37	47	18	35
Female	35	22	43	42	13	45	52	8	41	48	23	30
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 0.58 (.748)			P ² = 10.12 (.006)			P ² = 2.98 (.225)			P ² = 13.05 (.001)		
Marital Status	(n = 2704)			(n = 2713)			(n = 2732)			(n = 2756)		
Married	34	20	46	46	11	43	52	8	40	46	19	35
Never married	31	19	50	48	11	41	57	9	34	43	30	27
Divorced/separated	34	21	46	48	8	43	52	7	41	44	19	37
Widowed	43	28	29	46	18	36	61	9	30	58	20	22
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 33.22 (.000)			P ² = 17.01 (.009)			P ² = 14.07 (.029)			P ² = 35.19 (.000)		
Education	(n = 2706)			(n = 2712)			(n = 2730)			(n = 2755)		
High school or less	37	23	40	48	13	39	56	9	35	48	20	32
Some college	30	21	49	46	10	44	51	8	41	43	21	36
College grad	39	17	44	44	11	45	53	7	40	52	17	31
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 26.08 (.000)			P ² = 8.29 (.081)			P ² = 11.12 (.025)			P ² = 15.82 (.003)		
Occupation	(n = 1888)			(n = 1896)			(n = 1893)			(n = 1904)		
Prof/tech/admin.	30	17	53	44	10	46	45	7	48	49	19	33
Farming/ranching	41	21	39	48	13	40	58	11	31	48	26	26
Laborer	28	18	55	45	11	44	51	8	41	38	20	43
Other	33	18	49	46	8	46	53	5	42	43	19	38
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 24.98 (.000)			P ² = 6.79 (.341)			P ² = 32.09 (.000)			P ² = 30.29 (.000)		

Appendix Table 5 continued.

	County government			Streets			Law enforcement			Airline service		
	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>											
Community Size	(n = 2682)			(n = 2686)			(n = 2684)			(n = 2560)		
Less than 500	51	18	31	62	10	28	55	12	34	13	69	18
500 - 4,999	50	20	30	66	7	27	61	11	28	13	70	17
5,000 and over	48	22	30	60	7	33	70	9	21	21	50	29
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 3.31 (.507)			P ² = 16.78 (.002)			P ² = 37.96 (.000)			P ² = 104.99 (.000)		
Region	(n = 2753)			(n = 2756)			(n = 2756)			(n = 2627)		
Panhandle	46	21	33	57	9	34	62	11	28	23	42	35
North Central	47	18	35	65	7	28	61	12	28	15	59	26
South Central	49	21	30	60	8	32	66	11	23	18	55	27
Northeast	52	25	23	62	7	31	66	10	24	15	68	16
Southeast	50	18	32	68	8	24	63	10	27	16	71	13
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 23.85 (.002)			P ² = 17.58 (.025)			P ² = 7.81 (.452)			P ² = 111.18 (.000)		
Income Level	(n = 2505)			(n = 2515)			(n = 2513)			(n = 2403)		
Under \$20,000	51	24	25	61	10	30	63	13	24	19	64	17
\$20,000 - \$39,999	48	20	32	62	7	31	62	10	28	17	63	20
\$40,000 - \$59,999	50	18	32	65	5	30	63	10	27	14	62	24
\$60,000 and over	48	19	33	64	8	28	66	10	23	18	50	33
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 12.10 (.060)			P ² = 10.99 (.089)			P ² = 7.62 (.267)			P ² = 45.21 (.000)		
Age	(n = 2773)			(n = 2775)			(n = 2777)			(n = 2646)		
19 - 39	38	31	31	54	8	38	58	13	29	11	72	17
40 - 64	46	19	36	60	7	32	60	10	29	16	59	25
65 and over	61	18	21	71	8	21	73	10	18	23	56	21
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 108.27 (.000)			P ² = 51.60 (.000)			P ² = 50.40 (.000)			P ² = 53.21 (.000)		
Gender	(n = 2736)			(n = 2738)			(n = 2739)			(n = 2610)		
Male	49	18	33	64	8	29	63	11	26	17	59	24
Female	50	25	26	61	7	32	65	10	25	17	63	20
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 25.98 (.000)			P ² = 3.60 (.165)			P ² = 1.31 (.520)			P ² = 5.85 (.054)		
Marital Status	(n = 2737)			(n = 2738)			(n = 2740)			(n = 2610)		
Married	49	19	33	62	8	30	63	11	27	16	61	24
Never married	41	34	25	58	6	37	60	13	27	14	71	15
Divorced/separated	49	21	30	59	6	35	61	9	30	21	56	23
Widowed	58	24	18	70	8	22	75	10	15	21	57	22
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 49.12 (.000)			P ² = 16.35 (.012)			P ² = 24.10 (.001)			P ² = 15.29 (.018)		
Education	(n = 2735)			(n = 2739)			(n = 2739)			(n = 2610)		
High school or less	51	20	29	62	8	30	62	12	26	20	63	17
Some college	44	22	34	60	8	33	62	11	27	15	60	25
College grad	54	18	27	68	6	26	68	9	23	15	56	29
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 21.40 (.000)			P ² = 12.63 (.013)			P ² = 9.45 (.051)			P ² = 39.35 (.000)		
Occupation	(n = 1899)			(n = 1896)			(n = 1904)			(n = 1835)		
Prof/tech/admin.	49	22	29	62	7	31	64	10	26	13	58	29
Farming/ranching	53	11	36	64	13	23	59	11	30	17	69	14
Laborer	37	23	40	58	7	35	54	14	33	16	63	21
Other	48	22	31	63	4	33	65	7	27	16	60	24
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 38.48 (.000)			P ² = 35.51 (.000)			P ² = 19.18 (.004)			P ² = 26.30 (.000)		

Appendix Table 5 continued.

	<i>Bus service</i>			<i>Rail service</i>		
	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>No opinion</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>					
Community Size		(n = 2539)			(n = 2535)	
Less than 500	10	72	18	9	72	20
500 - 4,999	7	70	23	10	69	21
5,000 and over	13	65	22	15	63	22
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		P ² = 24.35 (.000)			P ² = 19.02 (.001)	
Region		(n = 2604)			(n = 2598)	
Panhandle	12	55	33	11	58	31
North Central	9	69	23	8	68	24
South Central	12	66	22	18	60	22
Northeast	12	71	17	10	74	17
Southeast	7	73	20	10	72	18
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		P ² = 42.28 (.000)			P ² = 72.94 (.000)	
Income Level		(n = 2386)			(n = 2386)	
Under \$20,000	15	63	22	14	66	20
\$20,000 - \$39,999	9	71	21	12	68	20
\$40,000 - \$59,999	8	70	22	11	67	22
\$60,000 and over	10	68	23	13	64	23
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		P ² = 17.08 (.009)			P ² = 4.54 (.604)	
Age		(n = 2622)			(n = 2617)	
19 - 39	5	81	14	8	80	13
40 - 64	9	69	22	12	66	22
65 and over	15	58	27	16	60	25
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		P ² = 75.12 (.000)			P ² = 52.17 (.000)	
Gender		(n = 2586)			(n = 2581)	
Male	11	68	21	13	64	22
Female	9	67	23	10	70	20
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		P ² = 2.46 (.293)			P ² = 11.54 (.003)	
Marital Status		(n = 2586)			(n = 2581)	
Married	9	69	22	11	67	22
Never married	10	74	16	15	71	14
Divorced/separated	13	67	20	17	64	19
Widowed	13	61	27	14	62	24
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		P ² = 14.16 (.028)			P ² = 14.16 (.028)	
Education		(n = 2586)			(n = 2582)	
High school or less	13	67	21	14	65	21
Some college	9	69	23	11	69	20
College grad	8	69	23	11	66	23
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		P ² = 13.92 (.008)			P ² = 6.70 (.153)	
Occupation		(n = 1819)			(n = 1820)	
Prof/tech/admin.	7	71	22	10	70	20
Farming/ranching	8	73	18	10	71	19
Laborer	10	70	20	14	67	19
Other	10	71	20	12	66	22
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		P ² = 5.84 (.442)			P ² = 7.15 (.307)	

Appendix Table 6. Plans to Leave Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

	<i>Do you plan to leave your community in the next year?</i>			<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>If yes, where do you plan to move?</i>			<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Uncertain</i>		<i>Lincoln/Omaha metro areas</i>	<i>Some other place in NE</i>	<i>Some place other than Nebraska</i>	
Community Size	(n = 2660)				(n = 106)			
Less than 500	3	90	7		9	27	64	
500 - 999	4	90	6		17	75	8	
1,000 - 4,999	4	88	8		16	48	36	
5,000 - 9,999	4	86	10	$P^2 = 7.99$	0	40	60	$P^2 = 14.65$
10,000 and up	5	87	8	(.434)	19	30	51	(.066)
					<i>Percentages</i>			
Region	(n = 2732)				(n = 109)			
Panhandle	6	86	8		11	26	63	
North Central	5	84	11		12	29	59	
South Central	4	89	8		16	48	36	
Northeast	4	89	7	$P^2 = 12.57$	13	42	46	$P^2 = 6.02$
Southeast	3	91	6	(.127)	17	50	33	(.645)
Individual Attributes:								
Income Level	(n = 2491)				(n = 104)			
Under \$20,000	5	85	10		15	48	37	
\$20,000 - \$39,999	4	87	9		11	31	57	
\$40,000 - \$59,999	4	88	8	$P^2 = 11.72$	17	30	52	$P^2 = 4.81$
\$60,000 and over	4	91	5	(.068)	11	53	37	(.568)
Age	(n = 2752)				(n = 109)			
19 - 29	10	74	16		23	62	15	
30 - 39	8	82	10		13	54	33	
40 - 49	4	88	9		5	35	60	
50 - 64	4	89	8	$P^2 = 56.03$	13	30	57	$P^2 = 11.37$
65 and older	3	92	5	(.000)	18	32	50	(.182)
Gender	(n = 2715)				(n = 108)			
Male	4	88	8	$P^2 = 0.55$	11	41	47	$P^2 = 1.03$
Female	4	88	8	(.762)	18	37	45	(.598)
Marital Status	(n = 2714)				(n = 108)			
Married	4	90	7		13	41	46	
Never married	7	76	17		9	73	18	
Divorced/separated	9	79	12	$P^2 = 51.01$	20	15	65	$P^2 = 10.36$
Widowed	3	91	6	(.000)	11	44	44	(.110)

	<i>Do you plan to leave your community in the next year?</i>			<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>If yes, where do you plan to move?</i>			<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Uncertain</i>		<i>Lincoln/Omaha metro areas</i>	<i>Some other place in NE</i>	<i>Some place other than Nebraska</i>	
					<i>Percentages</i>			
<i>Education</i>	(n = 2715)				(n = 108)			
No H.S. diploma	2	90	8		0*	25*	75*	
H.S. diploma	3	90	7		14	39	46	
Some college	4	87	9	P ² = 9.90	13	47	40	P ² = 2.95
Bachelors degree	6	87	8	(.129)	16	34	50	(.816)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1878)				(n = 84)			
Sales	5	90	5		29*	43*	29*	
Manual laborer	4	86	10		0*	83*	17*	
Prof/tech/admin	7	84	9		17	33	50	
Service	4	87	10		0*	38*	63*	
Farming/ranching	2	92	5		29*	43*	29*	
Skilled laborer	4	86	9	P ² = 31.22	0*	50*	50*	P ² = 14.52
Admin support	1	90	9	(.005)	0*	100*	0*	(.412)

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

Appendix Table 7. Perceived Importance of Items for Future of Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

	<i>Residents volunteering their time to community activities</i>				<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community</i>				<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Financial contributions by community residents, especially larger donations given in trusts, wills, estates, etc.</i>				<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
	<i>Not at all</i>	<i>Not very</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Very</i>		<i>Not at all</i>	<i>Not very</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Very</i>		<i>Not at all</i>	<i>Not very</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Very</i>	
<i>Percentages</i>															
Community Size	(n = 2684)					(n = 2658)					(n = 2617)				
Less than 500	1	4	38	58		2	4	39	56		5	16	48	31	
500 - 999	1	3	33	63		0*	3	34	63		5	12	47	35	
1,000 - 4,999	1	4	39	56	P ² =	1	4	36	59	P ² =	3	14	48	35	
5,000 - 9,999	1	5	46	49	31.32	0*	4	41	55	16.65	5	16	49	31	
10,000 and up	1	5	47	48	(.002)	1	5	40	54	(.163)	5	17	52	27	
Region	(n = 2752)					(n = 2726)					(n = 2683)				
Panhandle	1	5	43	51		0*	4	41	55		5	21	48	26	
North Central	1	4	40	55		1	4	37	58		4	15	48	33	
South Central	1	4	44	51	P ² =	2	4	38	56	P ² =	5	15	48	32	
Northeast	1	4	39	57	13.51	1	4	38	57	10.52	4	16	49	31	
Southeast	1	3	38	58	(.333)	1	4	38	57	(.570)	3	12	52	33	
Individual Attributes:															
<i>Income Level</i>	(n = 2511)					(n = 2492)					(n = 2461)				
Under \$20,000	1	5	44	51		2	5	40	54		5	16	48	31	
\$20,000 - \$39,999	1	4	41	54	P ² =	1	5	39	56	P ² =	5	17	48	30	
\$40,000 - \$59,999	1	3	41	55	12.71	0*	3	36	60	22.08	2	14	53	31	
\$60,000 and over	0*	4	38	59	(.176)	0*	2	40	58	(.009)	3	12	49	36	
<i>Age</i>	(n = 2774)					(n = 2747)					(n = 2703)				
19 - 29	1	5	53	41		1	7	44	48		2	18	51	29	
30 - 39	1	3	43	53		0*	4	42	54		4	17	48	31	
40 - 49	1	4	44	52	P ² =	0*	4	42	54	P ² =	4	16	50	30	
50 - 64	1	5	39	56	16.51	1	5	37	58	26.20	5	14	49	32	
65 and older	1	4	39	57	(.169)	2	4	35	59	(.010)	5	15	49	32	

Appendix Table 7 continued.

	<i>Residents volunteering their time to community activities</i>					<i>Getting more residents to take leadership roles in the community</i>					<i>Financial contributions by community residents, especially larger donations given in trusts, wills, estates, etc.</i>				
	<i>Not at all</i>	<i>Not very</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Very</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Not at all</i>	<i>Not very</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Very</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	<i>Not at all</i>	<i>Not very</i>	<i>Somewhat</i>	<i>Very</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<i>Gender</i>					$P^2 =$					$P^2 =$					$P^2 =$
Male	1	5	43	52	14.33	1	4	40	55	8.63	5	16	50	30	10.85
Female	1	3	38	59	(.002)	1	4	35	60	(.035)	3	14	49	35	(.013)
			(n = 2738)						(n = 2711)					(n = 2668)	
<i>Marital Status</i>					$P^2 =$					$P^2 =$					$P^2 =$
Married	1	4	41	54		1	4	39	57		4	15	49	32	
Never married	1	4	47	47	9.92	1	5	44	51	8.42	3	18	52	27	7.88
Divorced/separated	0*	4	43	53	(.357)	1	6	35	57	(.493)	4	14	55	28	(.546)
Widowed	1	4	35	61		2	4	36	59		5	15	46	34	
			(n = 2738)						(n = 2712)					(n = 2668)	
<i>Education</i>					$P^2 =$					$P^2 =$					$P^2 =$
No H.S. diploma	1	7	45	48	23.29	3	6	32	60	18.33	8	18	44	31	31.57
H.S. diploma	1	4	43	52	(.006)	1	4	39	56	(.032)	4	17	49	30	(.000)
Some college	1	4	42	53		1	5	39	55		5	14	51	30	
Bachelors degree	0*	3	36	60		0*	3	38	59		2	14	48	37	
			(n = 2739)						(n = 2713)					(n = 2669)	
<i>Occupation</i>					$P^2 =$					$P^2 =$					$P^2 =$
Sales	1	5	36	58	30.27	1	3	35	61	29.83	4	14	46	36	47.39
Manual laborer	1	8	45	47	(.087)	2	7	41	50	(.095)	4	22	51	23	(.001)
Prof/tech/admin	1	3	42	55		0*	3	40	57		2	15	50	33	
Service	1	5	38	57		1	3	34	62		3	12	53	33	
Farming/ranching	2	4	38	57		1	4	42	53		4	14	50	33	
Skilled laborer	1	4	49	46		1	5	45	49		8	21	44	27	
Admin support	0	3	48	50		0	5	32	63		4	11	54	31	

0* = Less than 1 percent.

Appendix Table 8. Local Community Involvement Activities by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes.

During the past year, have you done any of the following?					
	<i>Belonged to group or organization in local community</i>	<i>Volunteered time for a group or organization in local community</i>	<i>Held leadership role in group or organization in local community</i>	<i>Held public office or served on government board or committee in local community</i>	<i>Donated money to local organizations, charities or causes</i>
	<i>Percent saying "yes"</i>				
Community Size	(n = 2696)	(n = 2689)	(n = 2684)	(n = 2682)	(n = 2687)
Less than 500	81	74	46	26	84
500 - 999	84	80	49	22	91
1,000 - 4,999	87	79	48	16	88
5,000 - 9,999	84	71	41	12	84
10,000 and up	82	67	36	8	87
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 11.75 (.019)	P ² = 37.30 (.000)	P ² = 30.40 (.000)	P ² = 82.71 (.000)	P ² = 12.11 (.017)
Region	(n = 2767)	(n = 2758)	(n = 2752)	(n = 2751)	(n = 2758)
Panhandle	82	71	42	14	83
North Central	81	77	45	20	88
South Central	83	71	41	14	87
Northeast	86	76	41	11	89
Southeast	87	76	47	19	87
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 10.80 (.029)	P ² = 10.03 (.040)	P ² = 8.06 (.090)	P ² = 25.29 (.000)	P ² = 7.51 (.111)
Individual Attributes:					
Income Level	(n = 2523)	(n = 2518)	(n = 2514)	(n = 2514)	(n = 2516)
Under \$20,000	78	65	31	12	81
\$20,000 - \$39,999	83	71	40	14	85
\$40,000 - \$59,999	86	79	50	18	90
\$60,000 and over	89	82	57	20	94
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 23.84 (.000)	P ² = 50.71 (.000)	P ² = 87.50 (.000)	P ² = 16.67 (.001)	P ² = 49.70 (.000)
Age	(n = 2789)	(n = 2780)	(n = 2774)	(n = 2773)	(n = 2780)
19 - 29	70	56	29	7	64
30 - 39	82	75	42	11	80
40 - 49	83	78	48	17	89
50 - 64	83	74	45	17	88
65 and older	89	72	41	15	90
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 37.57 (.000)	P ² = 30.94 (.000)	P ² = 19.35 (.001)	P ² = 14.97 (.005)	P ² = 88.01 (.000)
Gender	(n = 2753)	(n = 2743)	(n = 2737)	(n = 2736)	(n = 2743)
Male	84	73	45	17	87
Female	85	75	40	11	87
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 0.27 (.321)	P ² = 2.45 (.064)	P ² = 6.89 (.005)	P ² = 16.92 (.000)	P ² = 0.16 (.370)
Marital Status	(n = 2752)	(n = 2743)	(n = 2737)	(n = 2736)	(n = 2743)
Married	86	77	47	17	89
Never married	63	47	25	7	71
Divorced/separated	75	66	31	8	79
Widowed	87	73	35	11	90
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 77.58 (.000)	P ² = 76.77 (.000)	P ² = 62.10 (.000)	P ² = 29.97 (.000)	P ² = 62.59 (.000)

During the past year, have you done any of the following?

	<i>Belonged to group or organization in local community</i>	<i>Volunteered time for a group or organization in local community</i>	<i>Held leadership role in group or organization in local community</i>	<i>Held public office or served on government board or committee in local community</i>	<i>Donated money to local organizations, charities or causes</i>
<i>Education</i>	(n = 2753)	(n = 2745)	(n = 2739)	(n = 2738)	(n = 2745)
No H.S. diploma	73	56	22	8	79
H.S. diploma	80	68	32	11	85
Some college	84	75	44	17	87
Bachelors/grad degree	92	85	61	19	92
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 64.90 (.000)	P ² = 94.09 (.000)	P ² = 176.09 (.000)	P ² = 27.76 (.000)	P ² = 31.70 (.000)
<i>Occupation</i>	(n = 1895)	(n = 1890)	(n = 1894)	(n = 1893)	(n = 1894)
Sales	87	79	48	17	88
Manual laborer	71	59	20	7	74
Prof/tech/admin	86	80	54	17	90
Service	84	70	41	11	86
Farming/ranching	91	79	56	29	91
Skilled laborer	74	68	31	8	82
Admin support	92	85	53	20	95
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	P ² = 65.45 (.000)	P ² = 52.94 (.000)	P ² = 107.80 (.000)	P ² = 69.04 (.000)	P ² = 46.95 (.000)

Appendix Table 9. Intent to Leave Assets to Community Organizations or Causes by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes.

Do you intend to leave any of your assets to organizations or causes in your community?

	<i>Yes, I've already included a community organization or cause in my will or estate plan</i>	<i>Yes, I intend to do so but have not yet formally included this request in my will or estate plan</i>	<i>I do not have a will or estate plan, but if I did I would consider including a community organization or cause</i>	<i>I do not have a will or estate plan, but if I did I would not include a community organization or cause</i>	<i>I have a will or estate plan and do not plan on leaving any assets to a community organization or cause*</i>	<i>I'm not sure</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<i>Percentages</i>							
<i>(n = 2566)</i>							
Community Size							
Less than 500	3	9	13	21	4	50	
500 - 999	6	10	11	21	3	49	
1,000 - 4,999	5	8	13	24	3	48	P ² =
5,000 - 9,999	4	7	11	25	5	48	21.09
10,000 and up	4	8	11	28	4	46	(.392)
<i>(n = 2629)</i>							
Region							
Panhandle	3	7	13	24	5	48	
North Central	4	6	16	26	4	44	
South Central	5	9	11	25	3	48	P ² =
Northeast	5	9	12	25	2	48	28.16
Southeast	5	10	10	20	4	52	(.106)
<i>(n = 2426)</i>							
Individual Attributes:							
<i>Income Level</i>							
Under \$20,000	4	6	11	27	4	48	
\$20,000 - \$39,999	4	7	13	25	4	48	P ² =
\$40,000 - \$59,999	4	10	12	23	3	48	34.23
\$60,000 and over	7	12	13	23	3	42	(.003)
<i>(n = 2651)</i>							
<i>Age</i>							
19 - 29	0	4	26	30	0	41	
30 - 39	1	7	19	30	1	41	
40 - 49	3	8	14	27	3	45	P ² =
50 - 64	3	9	12	26	4	47	188.65
65 and older	9	10	5	17	4	56	(.000)
<i>(n = 2620)</i>							
<i>Gender</i>							
Male	4	9	12	25	3	46	P ² =
Female	5	8	11	22	3	52	8.81
							(.117)

Do you intend to leave any of your assets to organizations or causes in your community?

	<i>Yes, I've already included a community organization or cause in my will or estate plan</i>	<i>Yes, I intend to do so but have not yet formally included this request in my will or estate plan</i>	<i>I do not have a will or estate plan, but if I did I would consider including a community organization or cause</i>	<i>I do not have a will or estate plan, but if I did I would not include a community organization or cause</i>	<i>I have a will or estate plan and do not plan on leaving any assets to a community organization or cause*</i>	<i>I'm not sure</i>	<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>
<i>Marital Status</i> (n = 2620)							
Married	4	8	12	24	4	49	P ² = 88.89 (.000)
Never married	6	5	25	30	1	34	
Divorced/separated	3	8	12	31	3	44	
Widowed	9	12	4	18	3	54	
<i>Education</i> (n = 2620)							
No H.S. diploma	7	5	7	23	4	55	P ² = 57.42 (.000)
H.S. diploma	3	7	10	26	2	51	
Some college	4	8	12	27	4	47	
Bachelors/grad degree	6	12	15	19	4	45	
<i>Occupation</i> (n = 1836)							
Sales	3	8	15	24	3	48	P ² = 68.29 (.001)
Manual laborer	1	6	9	38	3	43	
Prof/tech/admin	4	10	14	26	2	45	
Service	2	9	14	28	3	46	
Farming/ranching	5	10	16	17	6	45	
Skilled laborer	2	4	14	31	2	47	
Admin support	7	7	15	17	3	51	

* Note: This response was not included in the question. However, some respondents wrote in this response on the questionnaire and so it is included in the analysis. Since it was not a choice on this question, the number of people fitting in this category is likely understated.

Appendix Table 10. How Strongly Would Encourage Various Groups of People to Move to or Remain in Community by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

	Your Children*			Your Grandchildren*				
	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>
<i>Percentages</i>								
Community Size	(n = 2272)			(n = 1695)				
Less than 500	12	25	46	17	17	28	40	15
500 - 999	13	21	47	19	15	25	42	18
1,000 - 4,999	12	25	46	17	14	24	45	17
5,000 - 9,999	8	21	52	19	10	22	50	18
10,000 and over	9	23	48	19	11	23	47	19
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$P^2 = 12.24 (.427)$			$P^2 = 16.84 (.156)$				
Region	(n = 2331)			(n = 1739)				
Panhandle	15	24	46	16	17	27	43	14
North Central	13	27	41	19	16	26	40	19
South Central	11	23	49	18	13	23	46	18
Northeast	10	22	47	21	12	24	44	20
Southeast	7	23	51	19	11	24	48	18
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$P^2 = 22.82 (.029)$			$P^2 = 12.90 (.376)$				
Income Level	(n = 2140)			(n = 1565)				
Under \$20,000	11	21	45	24	11	27	41	21
\$20,000 - \$39,999	13	24	49	15	16	24	46	14
\$40,000 - \$59,999	9	25	49	17	13	23	47	18
\$60,000 and over	10	23	49	18	12	21	46	22
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$P^2 = 20.92 (.013)$			$P^2 = 16.62 (.055)$				
Age	(n = 2350)			(n = 1753)				
19 - 29	5	18	57	21	8	23	46	23
30 - 39	9	22	52	18	8	19	55	18
40 - 49	9	27	48	16	14	26	42	18
50 - 64	14	23	45	18	15	23	44	19
65 and over	10	22	47	20	12	26	46	16
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$P^2 = 22.74 (.030)$			$P^2 = 11.61 (.478)$				
Gender	(n = 2320)			(n = 1727)				
Male	11	23	49	17	12	24	46	17
Female	11	23	45	20	15	24	43	19
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$P^2 = 4.17 (.244)$			$P^2 = 2.63 (.452)$				
Marital Status	(n = 2320)			(n = 1728)				
Married	11	24	47	18	13	24	44	18
Never married	0	25	47	28	0	19	62	19
Divorced/separated	12	22	46	20	15	23	46	16
Widowed	9	18	52	21	12	24	48	16
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$P^2 = 12.64 (.180)$			$P^2 = 6.51 (.688)$				
Education	(n = 2321)			(n = 1728)				
No H.S. diploma	14	14	48	25	11	21	46	21
H.S. diploma	10	23	48	19	12	25	46	18
Some college	11	23	49	17	14	23	47	16
College grad	12	26	44	18	15	25	41	19
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$P^2 = 17.45 (.042)$			$P^2 = 7.78 (.557)$				
Occupation	(n = 1641)			(n = 1103)				
Sales	11	21	49	19	13	21	44	21
Manual laborer	11	24	49	16	13	25	45	17
Prof/tech/admin	11	23	49	17	12	22	49	17
Service	12	20	51	16	14	22	46	19
Farming/ranching	10	22	47	21	13	23	43	21
Skilled laborer	11	28	48	13	13	29	44	14
Admin support	10	22	48	20	16	19	43	22
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>	$P^2 = 11.73 (.947)$			$P^2 = 10.83 (.966)$				

* The respondents who indicated they had no children or grandchildren were not included in the calculations.

Appendix Table 10 continued.

	<i>Other relatives and in-laws</i>			<i>Your close, personal friends</i>					
	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>	
	<i>Percentages</i>								
Community Size		(n = 2553)				(n = 2574)			
Less than 500	9	30	49	12	6	24	53	17	
500 - 999	8	21	56	14	6	15	58	21	
1,000 - 4,999	7	24	55	14	5	21	54	20	
5,000 - 9,999	9	24	56	12	8	19	54	19	
10,000 and over	8	24	55	14	5	19	55	21	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 13.81 (.313)$				$P^2 = 14.36 (.278)$			
Region		(n = 2616)				(n = 2640)			
Panhandle	11	28	52	9	9	24	51	17	
North Central	10	30	45	15	7	26	48	20	
South Central	8	23	54	14	6	19	53	22	
Northeast	7	20	58	15	5	15	58	22	
Southeast	6	24	57	13	4	18	61	17	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 33.33 (.001)$				$P^2 = 41.74 (.000)$			
Income Level		(n = 2406)				(n = 2428)			
Under \$20,000	9	23	52	16	6	21	49	23	
\$20,000 - \$39,999	9	26	53	12	6	22	54	18	
\$40,000 - \$59,999	7	24	57	12	5	18	58	20	
\$60,000 and over	7	24	54	15	6	17	56	21	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 11.79 (.225)$				$P^2 = 16.81 (.052)$			
Age		(n = 2635)				(n = 2659)			
19 - 29	5	20	58	17	4	20	52	23	
30 - 39	8	23	57	13	6	21	55	19	
40 - 49	7	26	55	12	6	21	58	16	
50 - 64	10	25	50	15	7	20	53	21	
65 and over	7	24	56	14	6	17	55	22	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 16.76 (.159)$				$P^2 = 14.05 (.298)$			
Gender		(n = 2601)				(n = 2625)			
Male	8	25	55	12	6	20	55	19	
Female	8	23	53	16	5	20	54	22	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 9.04 (.029)$				$P^2 = 3.58 (.310)$			
Marital Status		(n = 2601)				(n = 2625)			
Married	8	26	53	13	6	20	55	19	
Never married	8	21	56	16	6	21	52	22	
Divorced/separated	10	21	54	15	7	20	53	20	
Widowed	6	21	58	15	4	15	56	25	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 10.25 (.330)$				$P^2 = 11.73 (.229)$			
Education		(n = 2603)				(n = 2626)			
No H.S. diploma	10	20	55	15	8	16	52	25	
H.S. diploma	8	24	53	15	5	19	57	19	
Some college	8	25	54	13	7	21	54	19	
College grad	7	25	54	14	5	20	53	21	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 4.03 (.909)$				$P^2 = 10.95 (.279)$			
Occupation		(n = 1840)				(n = 1846)			
Sales	8	25	50	17	5	21	53	21	
Manual laborer	10	23	56	11	6	21	57	16	
Prof/tech/admin	8	23	57	13	6	18	57	19	
Service	9	17	61	13	6	15	59	20	
Farming/ranching	7	24	53	16	5	21	51	24	
Skilled laborer	10	29	50	10	8	24	53	15	
Admin support	9	25	49	17	3	22	54	21	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 23.98 (.294)$				$P^2 = 22.61 (.365)$			

Appendix Table 10 continued.

	<i>Young adults/young families</i>				<i>Elderly persons</i>			
	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Community Size		(n = 2583)				(n = 2583)		
Less than 500	8	20	48	24	10	28	46	17
500 - 999	8	15	47	31	7	18	48	27
1,000 - 4,999	7	19	49	25	5	13	56	27
5,000 - 9,999	7	18	53	22	5	19	54	23
10,000 and over	7	20	48	25	4	15	53	28
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 12.97 (.371)$				$P^2 = 71.32 (.000)$		
Region		(n = 2649)				(n = 2647)		
Panhandle	10	24	45	22	9	20	50	21
North Central	10	21	44	25	8	17	51	23
South Central	7	20	48	25	5	18	52	26
Northeast	6	16	52	26	4	16	52	28
Southeast	5	17	53	25	5	18	53	24
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 30.72 (.002)$				$P^2 = 20.44 (.059)$		
Income Level		(n = 2436)				(n = 2433)		
Under \$20,000	9	21	44	27	7	19	46	28
\$20,000 - \$39,999	8	21	49	23	7	19	52	23
\$40,000 - \$59,999	6	16	52	26	4	14	58	24
\$60,000 and over	6	18	50	27	5	17	52	27
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 18.64 (.028)$				$P^2 = 26.31 (.002)$		
Age		(n = 2668)				(n = 2666)		
19 - 29	3	17	54	27	3	18	58	21
30 - 39	7	19	51	24	3	18	59	21
40 - 49	6	20	51	23	5	17	56	22
50 - 64	9	20	46	26	7	19	51	23
65 and over	7	19	49	25	6	16	46	31
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 13.24 (.352)$				$P^2 = 41.44 (.000)$		
Gender		(n = 2636)				(n = 2633)		
Male	7	19	49	24	6	18	53	23
Female	7	18	49	26	5	17	51	28
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 1.45 (.694)$				$P^2 = 7.88 (.049)$		
Marital Status		(n = 2635)				(n = 2632)		
Married	7	19	50	24	6	18	53	24
Never married	6	20	50	25	7	17	49	27
Divorced/separated	9	19	46	27	5	15	55	25
Widowed	7	20	48	25	3	17	48	33
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 3.08 (.961)$				$P^2 = 14.80 (.097)$		
Education		(n = 2637)				(n = 2633)		
No H.S. diploma	10	17	44	30	10	13	50	27
H.S. diploma	8	19	51	22	5	18	52	25
Some college	7	20	49	24	6	19	52	23
College grad	5	18	49	27	4	15	55	26
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 14.87 (.095)$				$P^2 = 18.06 (.034)$		
Occupation		(n = 1848)				(n = 1852)		
Sales	8	12	54	27	6	20	51	23
Manual laborer	9	27	44	21	7	16	54	22
Prof/tech/admin	6	17	51	26	4	16	55	25
Service	4	16	53	26	4	16	57	23
Farming/ranching	6	17	50	27	6	21	53	19
Skilled laborer	9	25	47	19	7	20	53	20
Admin support	6	15	51	28	3	15	61	22
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 32.29 (.055)$				$P^2 = 20.36 (.498)$		

Appendix Table 10 continued.

	<i>Out of state residents</i>			<i>Nebraskans from other areas of the state</i>					
	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>	
	<i>Percentages</i>								
Community Size		(n = 2558)				(n = 2539)			
Less than 500	13	24	50	12	7	21	58	14	
500 - 999	8	24	49	19	6	20	54	21	
1,000 - 4,999	9	21	52	19	6	20	56	18	
5,000 - 9,999	12	17	55	15	9	17	59	15	
10,000 and over	9	22	53	17	5	18	57	20	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 23.35 (.025)$				$P^2 = 19.20 (.084)$			
Region		(n = 2622)				(n = 2598)			
Panhandle	16	21	47	16	9	18	52	20	
North Central	13	24	46	17	8	24	49	19	
South Central	9	22	53	16	6	19	58	18	
Northeast	7	20	55	19	4	17	62	17	
Southeast	10	21	54	15	6	18	58	17	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 32.62 (.001)$				$P^2 = 26.41 (.009)$			
Income Level		(n = 2418)				(n = 2401)			
Under \$20,000	12	22	49	18	8	22	49	21	
\$20,000 - \$39,999	12	22	51	15	7	20	57	16	
\$40,000 - \$59,999	8	19	58	15	5	15	64	17	
\$60,000 and over	7	23	50	20	5	18	57	21	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 23.63 (.005)$				$P^2 = 35.19 (.000)$			
Age		(n = 2641)				(n = 2617)			
19 - 29	6	21	61	12	3	16	66	15	
30 - 39	10	23	52	15	6	20	59	15	
40 - 49	11	21	56	12	5	20	60	15	
50 - 64	11	23	48	18	8	20	53	20	
65 and over	9	20	52	20	7	18	55	20	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 30.54 (.002)$				$P^2 = 23.72 (.022)$			
Gender		(n = 2608)				(n = 2586)			
Male	11	22	51	16	7	18	58	17	
Female	8	21	53	18	5	21	55	19	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 7.14 (.068)$				$P^2 = 5.70 (.127)$			
Marital Status		(n = 2607)				(n = 2584)			
Married	10	22	52	16	7	19	57	18	
Never married	10	25	50	15	6	20	60	15	
Divorced/separated	12	20	53	15	7	22	55	16	
Widowed	7	20	52	20	5	19	55	22	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 7.33 (.602)$				$P^2 = 7.69 (.566)$			
Education		(n = 2608)				(n = 2586)			
No H.S. diploma	12	20	50	18	11	17	53	20	
H.S. diploma	10	22	52	16	7	21	55	18	
Some college	11	22	52	15	7	20	57	15	
College grad	8	21	52	19	4	16	60	20	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 10.50 (.312)$				$P^2 = 26.62 (.002)$			
Occupation		(n = 1845)				(n = 1839)			
Sales	10	17	51	22	7	18	53	22	
Manual laborer	10	18	58	14	5	20	61	15	
Prof/tech/admin	8	20	55	17	4	17	62	18	
Service	8	18	61	13	5	15	64	16	
Farming/ranching	13	25	50	13	8	21	56	15	
Skilled laborer	13	28	46	13	10	24	53	13	
Admin support	4	20	57	18	5	20	56	19	
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 37.66 (.014)$				$P^2 = 33.94 (.037)$			

Appendix Table 10 continued.

	<i>Members of ethnic minorities</i>				<i>Single parent households</i>			
	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>	<i>Strongly discourage</i>	<i>Somewhat encourage</i>	<i>Somewhat discourage</i>	<i>Strongly encourage</i>
	<i>Percentages</i>							
Community Size		(n = 2518)				(n = 2537)		
Less than 500	18	32	43	7	15	32	42	10
500 - 999	16	31	44	9	13	25	49	13
1,000 - 4,999	17	29	44	9	11	31	49	9
5,000 - 9,999	15	28	48	9	12	24	55	9
10,000 and over	17	28	43	12	11	28	48	13
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 13.52 (.332)$				$P^2 = 29.27 (.004)$		
Region		(n = 2580)				(n = 2598)		
Panhandle	17	31	44	8	16	29	47	9
North Central	18	30	42	10	14	32	44	10
South Central	18	29	43	11	13	29	47	12
Northeast	12	30	47	11	8	25	53	13
Southeast	19	29	44	8	13	28	49	10
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 18.92 (.090)$				$P^2 = 25.75 (.012)$		
Income Level		(n = 2382)				(n = 2396)		
Under \$20,000	18	31	40	11	13	26	47	15
\$20,000 - \$39,999	18	31	45	7	15	29	48	9
\$40,000 - \$59,999	14	30	45	10	9	30	51	10
\$60,000 and over	15	25	49	12	11	27	50	12
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 21.64 (.010)$				$P^2 = 27.00 (.001)$		
Age		(n = 2597)				(n = 2616)		
19 - 29	10	27	51	12	8	24	53	15
30 - 39	14	32	44	11	12	24	53	11
40 - 49	16	29	47	8	12	28	51	9
50 - 64	20	28	42	11	14	28	46	12
65 and over	17	31	43	9	12	32	45	11
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 21.25 (.047)$				$P^2 = 19.48 (.078)$		
Gender		(n = 2566)				(n = 2584)		
Male	18	29	44	9	12	29	49	10
Female	15	30	45	10	12	27	48	13
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 4.75 (.191)$				$P^2 = 7.32 (.062)$		
Marital Status		(n = 2565)				(n = 2583)		
Married	17	29	44	10	13	30	48	10
Never married	11	32	48	9	8	26	54	13
Divorced/separated	18	26	46	10	15	18	50	17
Widowed	13	33	44	10	8	29	51	13
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 9.55 (.388)$				$P^2 = 31.56 (.000)$		
Education		(n = 2567)				(n = 2585)		
No H.S. diploma	22	31	39	8	15	24	50	12
H.S. diploma	18	31	42	9	12	27	49	11
Some college	17	30	44	9	13	29	48	10
College grad	13	26	49	12	10	31	48	12
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 25.57 (.002)$				$P^2 = 9.79 (.368)$		
Occupation		(n = 1820)				(n = 1824)		
Sales	18	24	45	14	13	25	48	15
Manual laborer	20	29	39	12	15	25	47	15
Prof/tech/admin	13	26	52	10	10	28	52	10
Service	14	27	53	6	9	30	51	10
Farming/ranching	18	34	40	8	15	32	45	8
Skilled laborer	21	32	37	10	17	27	44	12
Admin support	10	33	46	11	9	24	52	15
<i>Chi-square (sig.)</i>		$P^2 = 48.47 (.001)$				$P^2 = 31.14 (.071)$		

Appendix Table 11. Likelihood of Living in Current Community Five Years from Now by Community Size, Region and Individual Attributes

	<i>Definitely not</i>	<i>Probably not</i>	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>Probably will</i>	<i>Definitely will</i>	<i>Significance</i>
<i>Percentages</i>						
<i>(n = 2689)</i>						
<u>Community Size</u>						
Less than 500	3	6	16	41	34	
500 - 999	3	6	13	41	38	
1,000 - 4,999	3	8	15	41	34	
5,000 - 9,999	3	9	17	36	35	P ² = 12.16
10,000 and up	3	7	16	42	32	(.733)
<u>Region</u>						
<i>(n = 2760)</i>						
Panhandle	4	8	18	36	34	
North Central	4	10	16	36	35	
South Central	2	6	16	44	32	
Northeast	3	7	15	41	33	P ² = 24.72
Southeast	2	5	15	42	36	(.075)
<u>Individual Attributes:</u>						
<i>Income Level</i>						
<i>(n = 2517)</i>						
Under \$20,000	3	7	22	38	30	
\$20,000 - \$39,999	2	8	17	40	33	
\$40,000 - \$59,999	3	7	12	42	36	P ² = 36.20
\$60,000 and over	3	8	11	43	35	(.000)
<i>Age</i>						
<i>(n = 2782)</i>						
19 - 29	9	9	21	34	27	
30 - 39	5	9	15	42	29	
40 - 49	2	5	14	43	36	
50 - 64	3	8	14	39	36	P ² = 60.63
65 and older	2	6	19	41	33	(.000)
<i>Gender</i>						
<i>(n = 2745)</i>						
Male	3	7	15	42	34	P ² = 8.00
Female	3	6	18	38	34	(.091)
<i>Education</i>						
<i>(n = 2747)</i>						
No H.S. diploma	1	5	30	31	34	
H.S. diploma	2	5	15	42	36	
Some college	3	7	16	41	33	P ² = 56.25
Bachelors/grad degree	4	10	13	42	32	(.000)
<i>Marital Status</i>						
<i>(n = 2746)</i>						
Married	2	6	14	42	36	
Never married	8	13	25	34	21	
Divorced/separated	3	12	19	38	28	P ² = 91.10
Widowed	2	6	24	39	29	(.000)

Appendix Table 11 continued.

	<i>Definitely not</i>	<i>Probably not</i>	<i>Don't know</i>	<i>Probably will</i>	<i>Definitely will</i>	<i>Significance</i>
<i>Occupation</i>			(n = 1893)			
Sales	2	9	19	40	30	
Manual laborer	2	5	18	38	37	
Prof/technical/admin.	6	9	13	44	28	
Service	3	8	13	40	36	
Farming/ranching	2	5	12	36	45	
Skilled laborer	2	4	16	43	34	
Admin. support	1	4	15	39	41	P ² = 60.93
Other	8	8	8	42	33	(.000)

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