

Riley County Community Needs Assessment

EDUCATION FINDINGS

The top needs related to education are:



GETTING AND KEEPING GOOD TEACHERS



INCREASED PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT



INCREASED EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



EQUALITY IN FUNDING AMONG SCHOOL DISTRICTS



MORE ARTISTIC AND MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

How would you rate K-12 education in your community in the following areas?

Statement	N	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Mean (1-5)
The quality of the schools your child attends	490	1.0%	2.0%	10.0%	45.3%	41.6%	4.24
The quality of teachers	702	0.1%	1.4%	10.5%	52.0%	35.9%	4.22
The overall quality of schools.	689	0.6%	1.7%	10.2%	53.4%	34.1%	4.19
The quality of school buildings.	709	1.1%	3.2%	18.2%	47.0%	30.5%	4.02
The availability for up-to-date technology for students to use.	618	0.8%	4.2%	15.7%	52.4%	26.9%	4
The availability of extracurricular programs, clubs, or sports.	659	1.1%	5.5%	17.6%	44.6%	31.3%	4
The quality of curriculum.	622	1.6%	4.2%	17.4%	52.3%	24.6%	3.94
The availability of support resources at the school (counselors, tutors, etc.).	606	1.5%	6.1%	25.7%	41.7%	24.9%	3.83
The amount of parental involvement in the child's education.	602	1.3%	7.5%	25.1%	46.5%	19.6%	3.76
Availability of afterschool programs.	579	3.8%	11.2%	26.6%	39.9%	18.5%	3.58
The amount of money a school spends per student.	558	5.7%	14.9%	31.0%	35.5%	12.9%	3.35

Riley County Community Needs Assessment

EDUCATION FINDINGS

The 2014 Riley County Community Needs Assessment, conducted by Wichita State University Center for Community Support and Research, included the compilation of selected secondary data, administration of a community survey (N=1,126), key informant interviews, and focus groups with persons who were underrepresented in the survey. The following key findings related to physical health were drawn from the methods noted above.

The population of Riley County has more high school graduates and persons with a bachelor's degree or above than the state average; however, Riley County is somewhat lower than the state average in terms of those who were enrolled in 9th grade in 2007-2008 and graduated in 2011-2012. Other data indicates that Riley fares better than average related to early childhood education opportunities and school achievement. The exception is early childhood education for low-income families. In general, participants in the surveys, interviews and focus groups expressed overall satisfaction with education in Riley County, particularly with Kansas State University as a great resource, with some concerns regarding ways to maintain quality.

Selected data from secondary sources

Education	Riley County	Kansas	Source
Number of Early Head Start slots per 100 children (0-3 years of age) below 100% of poverty, 2012	1.48	6.32	Kansas Kids Count
Number of Head Start slots available per 100 children (3-4 years of age) below 100% of poverty, 2012	48.46	43.09	Kansas Kids Count
Percent of elementary schools that offer pre-K or four-year-old at-risk program, 2012-2013	54.55%	49.55%	Kansas Kids Count
Percent of 5th graders meeting standards, exceeding standards or scoring exemplary on reading assessments, 2011-12	92.12%	87.09%	Kansas Kids Count
Percent of 9th grade students enrolled in 2007 - 2008 who graduated in 2011 - 2012	76.12%	84.92%	Kansas Kids Count
Percent of persons 25+ who graduated high school or higher, 2008 - 2012	95.4%	89.7%	US Census Bureau State and County QuickFacts
Percent of persons 25+ with bachelor's degree or higher, 2008-2012	45.4%	30.0%	US Census Bureau State and County QuickFacts

For the full report, go to: www.rileycountycommunityneedsassessment.org