

# Riley County Community Needs Assessment

## EDUCATION FINDINGS

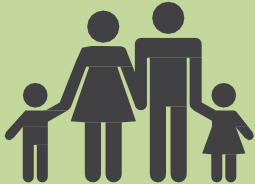
Top needs related to public education:



GETTING AND KEEPING GOOD TEACHERS



ADDRESSING BULLYING



INCREASED PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT



ADDRESSING OVERCROWDING IN SCHOOLS



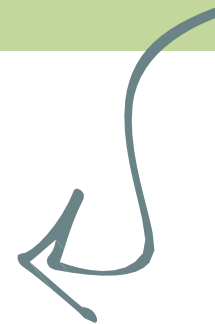
INCREASED EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

**68%** of respondents are **SATISFIED** with the availability of extracurricular programs, clubs, or sports.



**62%** of respondents are **SATISFIED** with the quality of the school their child attends.

**78%** of respondents are **SATISFIED** with the overall quality of schools.



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The 2020 Riley County Community Needs Assessment, conducted by Wichita State University Center for Applied Research and Evaluation, included the compilation of selected secondary data, administration of a community survey (n=1,229), key informant interviews, and focus groups with persons who were underrepresented in the survey.

Riley County is a well-educated community with a higher than average percentage of persons who have at least a high school diploma, as well as those who have Bachelor's and graduate or professional degrees. Additionally, Riley County offers full-day kindergarten and has a higher percentage of 5th graders meeting or exceeding state standards than Kansas overall (83.88% for Riley County, 73.81% for Kansas). Survey respondents report overall satisfaction with public education in Riley County. They were most satisfied with the quality of schools and teachers. The areas rated lowest (i.e., availability of support resources at the school, amount spent per student, and afterschool options) still had a mean of 3.5 (in between "fair" and "good").

### *Selected data from secondary sources*

Education	Riley County	Kansas	Source
Number of Early Head Start slots per 100 children (0-3 years of age) living below U.S. poverty threshold, 2017	3.7	10.2	Kids Count via Kansas State Department of Education
Number of Head Start slots per 100 children (0-3 years of age) living below U.S. poverty threshold, 2017	80.5	46.9	Kids Count via Kansas State Department of Education
Percent of elementary schools that offer pre-K or four-year-old at-risk program, 2018	54.6%	57.2%	Kids Count via Kansas State Department of Education
Percent of elementary schools that offer full-day and every day kindergarten, 2018	100%	91.7%	Kids Count via Kansas State Department of Education
Percent of 5 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting/exceeding standards on reading assessments, 2017	83.9%	73.8%	Kids Count via Kansas State Department of Education
Percent of persons 25+ who graduated high school or higher, 2014-2018	95.8%	90.7%	US Census ACS 5-Year Estimates
Percent of persons 25+ with bachelor's degree or higher, 2014-2018	46.0%	32.9%	US Census ACS 5-Year Estimates

For the full report, go to: [www.rileycountycommunityneedsassessment.org](http://www.rileycountycommunityneedsassessment.org)