

# Riley County Community Needs Assessment

## QUALITY OF LIFE FINDINGS

**85%** Agree or Strongly Agree that Riley County is a beautiful place to live

**86%** Agree or Strongly Agree that Riley County is a good place to raise children

**87%** think that Riley County is a safe place to live

**41%** ARE SATISFIED WITH THEIR GOVERNMENT

**39%** answered that all residents think that they can make the community a better place to live

**88%** feel there are opportunities to volunteer in their community

**70%** ARE SATISFIED WITH THE LOCAL SCHOOLS.

### MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO QUALITY OF LIFE IN RILEY COUNTY:



Good schools



Good place to raise children



Clean environment



Safe neighborhoods



Healthy economy



Low crime

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## QUALITY OF LIFE 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.

Questions regarding quality of life in Riley County focused on features of the community that make it a healthy, appealing place to live. Respondents to survey questions regarding Quality of Life were largely satisfied across all areas except for local government and the belief that all residents think they can make the community a better place to live. But even these factors received neutral ratings on average.

| Statement  | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neither Agree nor Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree | Mean (Range 1-5) |
|--|-------------------|----------|----------------------------|-------|----------------|------------------|
| There are opportunities to volunteer in my community.  | 1.0%              | 2.0%     | 9.0%                       | 53.0% | 35.0%          | 4.19             |
| This is a good place to raise children.  | 1.0%              | 3.0%     | 12.0%                      | 51.0% | 35.0%          | 4.15             |
| This is a beautiful place to live.   | 1.0%              | 3.0%     | 12.0%                      | 50.0% | 35.0%          | 4.14             |
| This is a safe place to live.  | 1.0%              | 2.0%     | 10.0%                      | 59.0% | 28.0%          | 4.11             |
| I am satisfied with the quality of life in this community.   | 1.0%              | 6.0%     | 9.0%                       | 59.0% | 23.0%          | 3.95             |
| This is a good place to retire.  | 2.0%              | 9.0%     | 20.0%                      | 43.0% | 27.0%          | 3.83             |
| I am satisfied with the local schools.   | 1.0%              | 7.0%     | 22.0%                      | 49.0% | 21.0%          | 3.77             |
| The community is strengthened by its diversity.  | 2.0%              | 9.0%     | 21.0%                      | 45.0% | 22.0%          | 3.73             |
| All individuals and groups have the opportunity to contribute to and participate in the community's quality of life. | 3.0%              | 10.0%    | 18.0%                      | 50.0% | 19.0%          | 3.71             |
| There is an active sense of civic responsibility, engagement, and pride in shared accomplishments.                   | 3.0%              | 10.0%    | 21.0%                      | 52.0% | 14.0%          | 3.64             |
| I am satisfied with the health care system in this community.  | 3.0%              | 14.0%    | 17.0%                      | 52.0% | 14.0%          | 3.60             |
| There is economic opportunity in this community.   | 4.0%              | 13.0%    | 19.0%                      | 47.0% | 16.0%          | 3.57             |
| There are networks of support for individuals and families during times of stress and need.                          | 3.0%              | 11.0%    | 25.0%                      | 49.0% | 13.0%          | 3.56             |
| There are plenty of recreational activities for my family and me.  | 5.0%              | 17.0%    | 14.0%                      | 46.0% | 18.0%          | 3.55             |
| All residents think that they can make the community a better place to live.   | 4.0%              | 21.0%    | 36.0%                      | 32.0% | 7.0%           | 3.17             |
| I am satisfied with local government.  | 6.0%              | 18.0%    | 34.0%                      | 36.0% | 5.0%           | 3.14             |

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