

Riley County Community Needs Assessment

QUALITY OF LIFE FINDINGS

81%

of respondents agree that Riley County is a safe place to live.



81%

of respondents agree that Riley County is a good place to raise children.



73%



OF RESPONDENTS AGREE THAT THE COMMUNITY IS STRENGTHENED BY ITS DIVERSITY.



52%

OF RESPONDENTS AGREE THAT THERE ARE NETWORKS OF SUPPORT FOR **INDIVIDUALS** DURING TIMES OF NEED, AND

53% AGREE WITH THE SAME FOR **FAMILIES**.

78%

of respondents feel they can make the community a better place to live.



47%

of respondents agree that there is economic opportunity in the community.

41%

of respondents agree that they are satisfied with the healthcare system in the community.



Most important factors contributing to the quality of life in Riley County:



Affordable housing



Safe neighborhoods



Good schools



Jobs paying a living wage



Low crime



Good place to raise children

Riley County Community Needs Assessment

QUALITY OF LIFE FINDINGS

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.

In general, respondents to the needs assessment survey rated the quality of life in Riley County highest in areas related to being a good place to raise children and a place they intended to stay over the next five years (mean=4.1), and being a safe place to live and having opportunities to contribute (mean=4.0). The lowest rated areas of quality of life, which largely fell into the “neither agree nor disagree” category, were healthcare (mean=3.0), accessibility (mean=3.2), and economic opportunity (mean=3.2).

Quality of Life Questions	% Strongly Disagree	% Disagree	% Neither Agree nor Disagree	% Agree	% Strongly Agree	Mean (Range 1-5)
The community is a good place to raise children.	1.1	2.8	14.9	51.3	29.8	4.1
I intend to stay in the community over the next five years.	3.0	4.3	11.8	38.0	43.0	4.1
This is a safe place to live.	0.8	5.0	13.7	53.0	27.5	4.0
There are volunteer opportunities in the community.	0.7	3.6	13.9	53.5	28.2	4.0
I can make the community a better place to live.	0.8	1.8	19.4	53.3	24.7	4.0
The community is strengthened by its diversity.	2.3	6.8	18.0	43.5	29.4	3.9
I am satisfied with the quality of life in the community.	1.9	8.7	11.9	58.6	18.8	3.8
I am satisfied with the local schools in the community.	1.8	8.4	25.0	47.2	17.6	3.7
My community is a good place to retire.	3.6	11.3	21.7	43.0	20.4	3.7
There are networks of support for individuals during times of need in the community.	5.1	15.3	28.1	42.1	9.4	3.4
There are networks of support for families during times of need in the community.	4.2	12.4	30.6	44.1	8.7	3.4
There are plenty of recreational activities in the community.	6.0	18.5	18.2	41.6	15.7	3.4
I am satisfied with the local government in the community.	6.8	15.6	28.8	41.8	6.9	3.3
There is economic opportunity in the community.	8.1	18.0	27.1	36.8	10.0	3.2
I am satisfied with accessibility in this community for persons with disabilities.	4.9	15.4	43.4	27.7	8.6	3.2
I am satisfied with the health care system in the community.	9.5	28.4	21.0	33.3	7.8	3.0

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