

Jefferson County, Kansas Quality of Life Survey
Spring 2008

The Jefferson County Alliance of Service Councils, Inc. is updating the Community Health Assessment of 2002 in order to determine community related issues in the county. This survey will help guide service organizations of the county in determining the concerns of priority within Jefferson County.

Instructions for Completing the Quality of Life Survey

Please check only one answer to each question unless otherwise noted. Please make additional comments where indicated to provide more information to the coalition. Surveys may be returned to drop boxes at the following locations: any Jefferson County public library, school or grocery store. Surveys may also be mailed to the health department at 1212 Walnut Street, Oskaloosa, KS 66006 or hand delivered.

Please call the Jefferson County Health Department at (785) 863-2447 if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation in this survey!

DEMOGRAPHICS

- 1) In which school district is your place of residence?

29	USD 338 Valley Falls	32	USD 339 Jefferson County North	33	USD 340 Jefferson West
51	USD 341 Oskaloosa	26	USD 342 McLouth	13	USD 343 Perry Lecompton
- 2) What is your gender? 37 Male 155 Female
- 3) What is your race?

184	Caucasian	0	African American	1	Hispanic	4	Native American
0	Asian	0	Other	5	Prefer Not to Answer		
- 4) What is your age?

4 - Under 18	13 - 18-24	36 - 25-34	51 - 35-44	42 - 45-54	29 - 55-64	18 - 65+
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- 5) What is your education level?

67 - High School	19 - Vocational Degree	21 - Associates Degree	44 - Bachelors Degree	33 - Masters Degree
2 - Doctoral Degree	0 - Post-Doctoral Studies	0 - Professional Certification	2 - Prefer Not to Answer	
- 6) What is your annual take home pay?

53 - less than \$25,000	78 - \$25,000-\$49,999	28 - \$50,000-\$74,999	3 - \$75,000-\$99,999	3 - Over \$100,000
24 - Prefer Not to Answer				
- 7) Do you own or rent your home? 155 - Own 31 -Rent
- 8) How many adults are living in your home? 20 - 1 138 - 2 23 - 3 11 - 4 1 - 5 1 - 6+
- 9) How many children (under 18) are living in your home?

92 - 0	37 - 1	40 - 2	18 - 3	3 - 4	2 - 5	2 - 6+
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COMMUNITY

- 1) In which county do you work?

2 - Atchison	0 - Brown	1 - Doniphan	15 - Douglas	2 - Jackson	3 - Leavenworth
131 - Jefferson	0 - Johnson	17 - Shawnee	12 - Other (please specify) _____		
- 2) I usually leave the county in order to (check all that apply):

58 - Entertainment	71 - Purchase Clothing	61 - Purchase a Vehicle	18 - Purchase Gasoline
35 - Banking	61 - Dine Out	33 - Vehicle Maintenance	46 - Dental Care
36 - Medical Care	6 - Counseling Services	52 - Purchase Prescription Drugs	
- 3) I do the following things within the county (check all that apply):

6 - Entertainment	2 - Purchase Clothing	6 - Purchase a Vehicle	56 - Purchase Gasoline
42 - Banking	30 - Dine Out	27 - Vehicle Maintenance	20 - Dental Care
38 - Medical Care	5 - Counseling Services	24 - Purchase Prescription Drugs	
- 4) What television stations do you get your news from?

105 - WIBW-13 (CBS)	13 - KCTV-5 (CBS)	80 - KSNT-27 (NBC)	7 - KSHB-41 (NBC)
28 - KTKA-49 (ABC)	14 - KMBC-9 (ABC)	22 - WDAF-4 (FOX)	7 - Other
- 5) What newspaper(s) do you read to keep up on current events?

88 - The Oskaloosa Independent	62 - The Valley Falls Vindicator	2 - The Leavenworth Times
8 - The Atchison Globe	26 - The Lawrence Journal World (print)	36 - The Lawrence Journal World (online)
73 - The Topeka Capitol Journal (print)	34 - The Topeka Capitol Journal (online)	15 - Other

- 6) Please rank the following things you like about Jefferson County on a scale from 1-8, with one (1) being the most important.
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 86 - Living in a Smaller Community | 3 - Friendliness of People | 15 - Quality of Schools |
| 13 - Proximity to Lawrence/Topeka | 5 - Lake Perry | 14 - Safety |
| 7 - Beauty of the County | 4 - Other (please specify) | **These were the #1 rankings** |
- 7) Which of the following topics do you think are concerns that need to be addressed in Jefferson County? Please rank the categories on a scale from 1-10, with one (1) being the most important.
- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 42 - Alcohol/Drug abuse | 1 - Domestic Violence | 4 - Child Abuse | 7 - Traffic Safety |
| 55 - Local Economy | 6 - Access to Health Care | 10 - Affordable Housing | 2 - Transportation |
| 9 - Affordable Childcare/Pre-School | 3 - Access to Safe, Clean Drinking Water | **These were the #1 rankings** | |
- 8) What are some things you like to do with your free time? (check all that apply)
- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 37 - Boating | 45 - Camping | 24 - Hiking | 25 - Bicycle Riding | 15 - Horse Back Riding |
| 66 - Shopping | 25 - Bowling | 42 - Crafts | 75 - Dining Out | 69 - Gardening |
| 57 - Going to the Movies | 18 - Playing Video Games | 17 - Other (please specify) | _____ | |

HEALTH

- 1) What type of health insurance does your family have?
- | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 26 - Private Insurance | 111 - Employer Issued | 1 - MSA/HAS | 10 - Healthwave | 15 - Medicare |
| 6 - Medicaid | 10 - None | 3 - Other (please specify) _____ | | |
- 2) Does your employer provide insurance that you choose not to utilize? 28 - Yes 152 - No
- 3) If you choose not to participate in your employer provide insurance, why not?
- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| 12 - Too Expensive | 3 - Not Eligible | 1 - My physician is not in the network. |
| 5 - The plan does not fit my needs. | | 15 -Other (please specify) _____ |
- 4) Have you had three or more alcoholic drinks on one occasion during the past month? 44 - Yes 138 - No
- 5) Have you ever wanted help/treatment for a drug and/or alcohol addiction? 1 - Yes 181 - No
- 6) Do you know where services are available in the county for substance abuse treatment? 105 - Yes 76 - No
- 7) Do you think underage drinking is a problem in the county? 155 - Yes 23 - No
- 8) Do you think it is easy for an underage person to get alcohol in the county? 154 - Yes 23 - No
- 9) Do you view tobacco usage to be a problem among youth in the county? 127 - Yes 51 - No
- 10) Would you be supportive of a clean indoor air ordinance in the county? 144 - Yes 34 - No
- 11) Have you ever felt afraid of a current or former partner? 21 - Yes 161 - No
- 12) Have you ever made your current or former partner afraid of you? 1 - Yes 180 - No
- 13) Have you ever been hit by a current or former partner or spouse? 17 - Yes 164 - No
- 14) Do you know how to access domestic violence services in the county? 98 - Yes 82 - No
- 15) Have you ever contacted a hotline or received help from a domestic violence shelter? 5 - Yes 175 - No
- 16) If yes, where?
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 0 - National Hotline | 0 - Women's Transitional Care Services | 2 -DOVES |
| 0 - Battered Women's Task Force | | 3 - Other (please specify) _____ |
- 17) Do you have adequate, supervised after school care available for children in your household?
- | | | |
|----------|--------|----------------------|
| 66 - Yes | 6 - No | 105 - Not Applicable |
|----------|--------|----------------------|
- 18) Do you wear a seat belt when traveling in a vehicle? 168 - Yes 10 - No

Thank you for completing the Quality of Life Survey! If you have additional concerns that you would like the coalition to be aware of please provide additional information below.

- SRS is a criminal rouge abomination that has run amuck and has no oversight.
- SRS does more harm than good.
- I wear a seat belt only because it is the law.
- County government does not support the small businesses in the county. Need a new zoning board and zoning director.

- I walk the local roads for exercise and am always amazed at the numerous beer bottles/cans along the side of the road. It seems that drinking and driving is a fact of life (or should I say death) in our beautiful county. It is indeed sad.
- Underage drinking must be addressed in our county. It has become a high school culture in many area high schools.
- Is there anything we can do about paving more roads in the county?
- Traffic on K-4 highway, meals on wheels availability for the whole county, better publicity services available in the county
- The county roads are in terrible, unsafe condition in our part of the county (NE of Perry)
- The top priority of the county should be "good" affordable housing for young couples/families, economic development (attracting companies to locate in the county in order to provide a living wage for those employed); we need to grow our county population. The current focus on the part of the county commissioners is to preserve a rural economy at the cost of population growth. Time after time housing developments are denied to protect a farm economy. How many families have farming as their main income vs. how many are "hobby farmers or second job farmers"? If we want this county to grow so we can expand our tax revenues without putting an additional burden on the current tax payers we have to be more open to residential growth and we have to attract new business and industry in the county. What about working with the Corps to further develop economic opportunities around the lake? We are viewed by outsiders as a backward county and one that is not progressive. I have lived in the county more than 15 years and I enjoy living and working in the county. I wish leadership at the county level would help the county grow.
- There is just as much if not more drug use/abuse in this county among minors as well as adults. Yes we have an underage drinking problem but the drug problem seems to get over-looked. It is too easy for minors to get alcohol. If they know a young adult in their 20's it gives them easy access to it. It is like a rite of young adult passage to keep the underage drinking tradition going in this county. Authorities think it is the parents supplying the alcohol and I am sure in some cases that is true but not as often as they think. If authorities would go after the minor's sources then the parents would have a better chance of controlling their child's drinking.
- Underage drinking is a huge concern in JF county. This needs to be addressed before we lose another young teen. Also, the clean indoor ordinance would be beneficial to many people.
- families with children prenatal through 5 years getting support, education, care, etc.
- This county has a very serious drug problem. It will eventually cause the rate of other crimes in the county to climb as well, so they can support their habit. We need a county attorney that will be tougher on crime to force those people out of the county, because they will know they are not welcome here. If that were to happen... Jefferson County would be an even better place to live.
- rural road maintenance
- Answered no on the clean indoor air ordinance due to the fact it does not list any details of what it is - if it refers to a smoking ban I am against it.
- The county should be aggressively trying to bring in new businesses to offset the rising real estate taxes and to lower our unemployment rate.
- Domestic violence will always be a problem. Particularly with how those cases are presently handled in the courthouse.
- Alcohol and Drug awareness need to be a major topic at the schools it is getting way out of hand
- Our County roads need better care. There are a lot of potholes on the paved street that I live on. Would like to see cheaper gasoline and food. Cheaper housing.