



Unincorporated Jefferson County, CO

Dashboard Summary of Findings

2015



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Summary

The National Citizen Survey™ (The NCS™) is a collaborative effort between National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). The survey and its administration are standardized to assure high quality research methods and directly comparable results across The NCS communities. The NCS captures residents’ opinions within the three pillars of a community (Community Characteristics, Governance and Participation) across eight central facets of community (Safety, Mobility, Natural Environment, Built Environment, Economy, Recreation and Wellness, Education and Enrichment and Community Engagement). This report summarizes Jefferson County’s performance in the eight facets of community livability with the “General” rating as a summary of results from the overarching questions not shown within any of the eight facets. The “Overall” represents the community pillar in its entirety (the eight facets and general).

By summarizing resident ratings across the eight facets and three pillars of a livable community, a picture of Jefferson County’s community livability emerges. Below, the color of each community facet summarizes how residents rated each of the pillars that support it – Community Characteristics, Governance and Participation. When most ratings were higher than the benchmark, the color is the darkest shade; when most ratings were lower than the benchmark, the color is the lightest shade. A mix of ratings (higher and lower than the benchmark) results in a color between the extremes.

Unincorporated Jefferson County residents gave favorable ratings to all facets within the pillars of Community Characteristics, Governance and Participation, and nearly all facets received ratings similar to ratings given in other communities across the nation. Within the pillar of Governance, Natural Environment received ratings that were especially strong and higher than the benchmark. This information can be helpful in identifying the areas that merit more attention.

Figure 1: Dashboard Summary

	Community Characteristics			Governance			Participation		
	Higher	Similar	Lower	Higher	Similar	Lower	Higher	Similar	Lower
Overall	4	42	1	3	30	1	5	29	0
General	0	7	0	0	3	0	0	3	0
Safety	0	3	0	0	7	0	0	3	0
Mobility	0	6	0	0	5	1	1	2	0
Natural Environment	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	3	0
Built Environment	0	4	1	0	3	0	0	2	0
Economy	2	6	0	0	1	0	0	3	0
Recreation and Wellness	1	6	0	1	3	0	2	3	0
Education and Enrichment	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Community Engagement	0	5	0	0	7	0	2	9	0

Legend	
	Higher
	Similar
	Lower

The National Citizen Survey™

Figure 2: Detailed Dashboard

	Community Characteristics	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive	Governance	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive	Participation	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive
General	Overall appearance	*	↔	86%	Customer service	↔	↔	77%	Recommend Jefferson County	↔	↔	93%
	Overall quality of life	↔	↔	92%	Services provided by Jefferson County	↔	↔	77%	Remain in Jefferson County	↔	↔	90%
	Place to retire	↔	↔	71%	Services provided by the Federal Government	↔	↔	33%	Contacted Jefferson County employees	↓	↔	47%
	Place to raise children	↓	↔	88%								
	Place to live	↔	↔	94%								
	Neighborhood	↔	↔	92%								
Safety	Overall image	↓	↔	76%								
	Overall feeling of safety	*	↔	87%	Sheriff	↔	↔	83%	Was NOT the victim of a crime	↔	↔	93%
	Safe in neighborhood	↔	↔	96%	Crime prevention	↓	↔	71%	Did NOT report a crime	*	↔	84%
	Safe downtown/commercial areas	↔	↔	90%	Fire	*	↔	91%	Stocked supplies for an emergency	*	↔	36%
					Fire prevention	↓	↔	79%				
					Ambulance/EMS	*	↔	89%				
Mobility					Emergency preparedness	↔	↔	60%				
					Animal control	↓	↔	64%				
	Traffic flow	↔	↔	51%	Traffic enforcement	↓	↔	58%	Carpooled instead of driving alone	*	↔	43%
	Travel by car	↓	↔	64%	Street and road repair	↓	↓	24%	Walked or biked instead of driving	*	↔	54%
	Travel by bicycle	↔	↔	52%	Street cleaning	↓	↔	47%	Used public transportation instead of driving	*	↑↑	50%
	Ease of walking	↔	↔	59%	Snow removal	↓	↔	62%				
Natural Environment	Overall ease travel	*	↔	77%	Sidewalk maintenance	↓	↔	51%				
	Paths and walking trails	*	↔	70%	Traffic signal timing	*	↔	46%				
	Overall natural environment	↑	↑	91%	Open space	↓	↑	81%	Recycled at home	↔	↔	82%
	Air quality	↑	↔	79%	Natural areas preservation	*	↑	74%	Conserved water	*	↔	92%
	Cleanliness	*	↔	81%					Made home more energy efficient	*	↔	82%
	Built Environment	New development in Jefferson County	*	↔	49%	Storm drainage	↔	↔	65%	NOT experiencing housing cost stress	↑	↔
Affordable quality housing		↓	↓	28%	Land use, planning and zoning	↔	↔	54%	Did NOT observe a code violation	*	↔	56%
Housing options		*	↔	50%	Code enforcement	↔	↔	49%				
Overall built environment		*	↔	69%								
Public places		*	↔	75%								

Legend

↑↑ Much higher ↑ Higher ↔ Similar ↓ Lower ↓↓ Much lower * Not available

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	Community Characteristics	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive	Governance	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive	Participation	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive
Economy	Overall economic health	*	↔	70%	Economic development	↑	↔	56%	Economy will have positive impact on income	↑	↔	23%
	Shopping opportunities	*	↔	68%					Purchased goods or services in Jefferson County	*	↔	99%
	Employment opportunities	↑	↑	51%					Work in Jefferson County	*	↔	43%
	Place to visit	*	↑	82%								
	Cost of living	*	↔	41%								
	Vibrant downtown/commercial area	*	↔	48%								
	Place to work	↑	↔	76%								
Recreation and Wellness	Business and services	*	↔	71%								
	Fitness opportunities	*	↔	83%	County parks	↔	↔	86%	In very good to excellent health	*	↔	71%
	Recreational opportunities	↔	↑	86%	Recreation centers	*	↑	85%	Used recreation centers	↓	↑	69%
	Health care	↑	↔	65%	Recreation programs	*	↔	79%	Visited a neighborhood or County open space park	↔	↑	95%
	Food	*	↔	77%	Health services	↑	↔	64%	Ate 5 portions of fruits and vegetables	*	↔	87%
	Mental health care	*	↔	45%					Participated in moderate or vigorous physical activity	*	↔	91%
	Health and wellness	*	↔	79%								
Education and Enrichment	Preventive health services	↑	↔	69%								
	Cultural/arts/music activities	↑	↔	61%	Public libraries	↔	↔	86%	Used Jefferson County public libraries	↓	↔	73%
	Child care/preschool	↑	↔	48%								
Community Engagement	Overall education and enrichment	*	↔	64%								
	Opportunities to participate in community matters	*	↔	61%	Overall direction	↔	↔	50%	Sense of community	↔	↔	58%
	Opportunities to volunteer	*	↔	73%	Value of services for taxes paid	↔	↔	51%	Voted in local elections	↑	↑	95%
	Openness and acceptance	*	↔	53%	Welcoming citizen involvement	↔	↔	47%	Talked to or visited with neighbors	*	↔	98%
	Social events and activities	*	↔	63%	Confidence in County government	*	↔	44%	Attended a local public meeting	↓	↔	26%
	Neighborliness	*	↔	68%	Acting in the best interest of Jefferson County	*	↔	47%	Watched a local public meeting	↑	↔	29%
					Being honest	*	↔	44%	Volunteered	↓	↔	42%
					Treating all residents fairly	*	↔	51%	Participated in a club	*	↔	30%
									Campaigned for an issue, cause or candidate	*	↔	26%
									Contacted Jefferson County elected officials	*	↔	15%
								Read or watched local news	*	↔	86%	
								Done a favor for a neighbor	*	↑	92%	

Legend

↑↑ Much higher ↑ Higher ↔ Similar ↓ Lower ↓↓ Much lower * Not available