

**Vital Communities' 2005 Quality-of-Life Survey**

**Q. #35: Of the ideal community components in our list, please choose three that should be the three most critically important for this region to focus on?**

Ideal Community Component:	Most important focus						Second most important						Third most important					
	North	South	East	West	Central	Total	North	South	East	West	Central	Total	North	South	East	West	Central	Total
Good schools	32 29%	22 31%	25 30%	17 17%	109 19%	205 22%	14 13%	9 13%	7 9%	8 8%	53 9%	91 10%	10 9%	4 6%	2 2%	3 3%	42 8%	61 7%
Enough affordable housing	6 5%	4 6%	6 7%	12 12%	87 16%	115 12%	8 7%	4 6%	9 11%	12 12%	74 13%	107 12%	10 9%	3 5%	5 6%	21 21%	57 10%	96 10%
A clean, healthy environment	11 10%	8 11%	7 9%	12 12%	56 10%	94 10%	4 4%	2 3%	5 6%	5 5%	42 8%	58 6%	11 10%	8 12%	8 10%	4 4%	41 7%	72 8%
Liveable wages	16 15%	5 7%	7 9%	15 15%	52 9%	95 10%	16 15%	11 16%	11 13%	14 14%	48 9%	100 11%	4 4%	5 8%	5 6%	8 8%	32 6%	54 6%
Well-planned development	7 6%	2 3%	8 10%	5 5%	50 9%	72 8%	8 7%	3 4%	7 9%	3 3%	48 9%	69 8%	10 9%	6 9%	6 7%	5 5%	51 9%	78 9%
Enough job and income opportunities	8 7%	10 14%	4 5%	10 10%	41 7%	73 8%	6 5%	6 9%	5 6%	9 9%	53 9%	79 9%	12 11%	7 11%	4 5%	4 4%	37 7%	64 7%
A strong feeling of community	4 4%	0 0%	3 4%	2 2%	33 6%	42 5%	4 4%	3 4%	3 4%	4 4%	28 5%	42 5%	6 5%	3 5%	5 6%	6 6%	32 6%	52 6%
A well-diversified economy	9 8%	4 6%	4 5%	4 4%	23 4%	44 5%	9 8%	3 4%	5 6%	6 6%	33 6%	56 6%	4 4%	1 2%	6 7%	4 4%	21 4%	36 4%
Friendly people	1 1%	1 1%	2 2%	0 0%	14 3%	18 2%	3 3%	1 1%	1 1%	3 3%	7 1%	15 2%	1 1%	0 0%	1 1%	1 1%	8 1%	11 1%
Enough open space conserved for the public	2 2%	1 1%	2 2%	1 1%	12 2%	18 2%	3 3%	2 3%	3 4%	2 2%	15 3%	25 3%	2 2%	1 2%	3 4%	1 1%	17 3%	24 3%
Vital town centers	2 2%	0 0%	0 0%	3 3%	12 2%	17 2%	5 5%	0 0%	1 1%	2 2%	17 3%	25 3%	8 7%	4 6%	6 7%	3 3%	21 4%	42 5%
Accessible health care	2 2%	1 1%	2 2%	3 3%	10 2%	18 2%	2 2%	0 0%	3 4%	6 6%	17 3%	28 3%	2 2%	6 9%	3 4%	5 5%	21 4%	37 4%
Appropriate zoning	1 1%	4 6%	3 4%	1 1%	8 1%	17 2%	1 1%	1 1%	3 4%	5 5%	10 2%	20 2%	2 2%	1 2%	2 2%	3 3%	12 2%	20 2%
A sense of personal safety	0 0%	1 1%	4 5%	4 4%	7 1%	16 2%	4 4%	2 3%	2 2%	0 0%	9 2%	17 2%	1 1%	1 2%	4 5%	3 3%	10 2%	19 2%
Adequate sidewalks and bike paths	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	7 1%	7 1%	1 1%	0 0%	2 2%	1 1%	5 1%	9 1%	3 3%	1 2%	0 0%	2 2%	5 1%	11 1%
Racial and ethnic diversity	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	7 1%	8 1%	3 3%	1 1%	0 0%	2 2%	10 2%	16 2%	1 1%	1 2%	2 2%	2 2%	21 4%	27 3%
A convenient public transit system	1 1%	1 1%	1 1%	2 2%	6 1%	11 1%	3 3%	4 6%	3 4%	2 2%	18 3%	30 3%	4 4%	1 2%	3 4%	9 9%	29 5%	46 5%
A strong farming economy	4 4%	1 1%	0 0%	3 3%	6 1%	14 2%	5 5%	3 4%	1 1%	3 3%	9 2%	21 2%	2 2%	1 2%	2 2%	2 2%	21 4%	28 3%
A stimulating cultural scene	1 1%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	5 1%	7 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	8 1%	9 1%	2 2%	1 2%	3 4%	1 1%	13 2%	20 2%
A well-functioning safety net for the needy	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	5 1%	6 1%	3 3%	1 1%	2 2%	0 0%	8 1%	14 2%	1 1%	1 2%	2 2%	2 2%	22 4%	28 3%
Adequate stores and services	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	2 0%	2 0%	0 0%	3 4%	2 2%	0 0%	7 1%	12 1%	2 2%	2 3%	2 2%	0 0%	6 1%	12 1%
An effective court system (criminal and civil)	0 0%	2 3%	0 0%	0 0%	2 0%	4 0%	0 0%	2 3%	1 1%	0 0%	1 0%	4 0%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	2 0%	4 0%
Reasonable traffic conditions	1 1%	0 0%	2 2%	0 0%	2 0%	5 1%	2 2%	0 0%	2 2%	1 1%	12 2%	17 2%	4 4%	2 3%	3 4%	1 1%	8 1%	18 2%
A low poverty rate	1 1%	0 0%	1 1%	1 1%	8 1%	11 1%	1 1%	2 3%	1 1%	1 1%	10	15 2%	0 0%	3 5%	1 1%	1 1%	10 2%	15 2%
All public service positions filled (e.g., Select Boards)	0 0%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%	2 0%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	2 2%	0 0%	3 0%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%	2 0%
An enjoyable entertainment scene	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%	1 0%	1 1%	0 0%	1 1%	0 0%	5 1%	7 1%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	0 0%	7 1%	8 1%
Appropriate building regulations	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%	2 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	0 0%	1 0%	1 1%	2 3%	2 2%	3 3%	5 1%	13 1%
Religious and spiritual diversity	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	1 0%	2 0%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	2 0%	3 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	2 2%	4 1%	6 1%
Ample, varied recreational facilities	0 0%	0 0%	2 2%	0 0%	0 0%	2 0%	1 1%	2 3%	0 0%	1 1%	2 0%	6 1%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%
Available child care	0 0%	1 1%	0 0%	2 2%	0 0%	3 0%	1 1%	3 4%	1 1%	3 3%	11 2%	19 2%	1 1%	2 3%	1 1%	1 1%	3 1%	8 1%
Available senior care	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	2 3%	1 1%	2 2%	4 1%	10 1%	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	5 1%	6 1%
Support for charities (volunteers and donors)	1 1%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 0%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	1 1%	2 0%	4 0%	2 2%	1 2%	0 0%	1 1%	3 1%	7 1%
<b>Total # of Respondents:</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>917</b>