

# SUMMARY OF INDICATORS

## Overall Quality of Life

**As a Place to Live.** Quad Cities Area residents generally view their community as a very good place to live, particularly on the Illinois side of the river. The people, the size/convenience, and amenities are what they enjoy most about living in the Quad Cities Area. Most are also optimistic that quality of life will get better, or at least not deteriorate, in the next several years.

**Community Concerns.** Residents are concerned about several issues, particularly crime, the economy, and drug/alcohol use (among both teens and adults).

**As a Place to Raise a Family.** Quad Cities Area residents also share positive views of their community as a place to raise a family. Their concerns for families, however, center around income/employment, crime, education and health insurance.

		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
QUALITY OF LIFE		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
As a Place to Live	% "Fair/Poor" - Community as a Place to Live	11.8	6.2	9.0	11.4	16.2	
	% Quality of Life Has "Grown Worse"	16.2	16.1	16.1		15.9	
	% Quality of Life Will "Grow Worse"	14.3	11.3	12.9		18.0	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Community Pride	22.2	16.3	19.3		20.8	
Community Concerns	% "Major Problem" - Teen Alcohol/Tobacco/Drug Abuse	44.3	33.8	38.8		35.1	
	% "Major Problem" - Crime	29.5	29.4	29.5		18.4	
	% "Major Problem" - Gang Violence	30.2	27.8	28.9		15.3	
	% "Major Problem" - Adult Drug Abuse	32.9	20.9	26.6		29.1	
	% "Major Problem" - Child Abuse	25.7	24.1	24.8		14.7	
	% "Major Problem" - Teen Pregnancy	28.5	20.2	24.2		25.4	
	% "Major Problem" - Adult Alcohol Abuse	26.7	20.4	23.5		25.7	
	% "Major Problem" - Domestic Violence	22.2	18.0	20.0		16.7	
	% "Major Problem" - Poverty	19.9	15.6	17.7		24.0	
	% "Major Problem" - Growth/Urban Sprawl	12.4	17.8	15.4		18.6	
	% "Major Problem" - AIDS/STDs	17.7	11.9	14.6		17.1	
	% "Major Problem" - Homelessness	14.6	13.0	13.8		15.4	
	% "Major Problem" - Racial Tension	12.0	13.2	12.6		11.3	
	% "Major Problem" - Illiteracy	14.6	7.8	11.0		15.5	
	As a Place to Raise a Family	% "Fair/Poor" - Community as a Place to Raise a Family	16.4	12.5	14.5		19.5

Note: Each county is compared against the other.

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## Economy & Employment

**Employment.** The Quad Cities Area unemployment rate is close to the national average. Still, one finding of the household survey found that 30.2% of adults perceive themselves as underemployed, feeling that they are overqualified for their current job.

**Income.** Median household incomes are higher in Scott County than nationally, but below the national median in Rock Island County. A total of 16.0% of Quad Cities Area children live below the federal poverty level.

Residents' perceptions of their financial situations are generally better than the national average, and most feel they are doing at least as well financially as a year ago. However, those at the lower end of the income spectrum less often feel this way.

ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Employment	Unemployment Rate (%)	4.8	5.1	5.0		5.1	
	% Feel Overqualified for Current Job (Underemployed)	30.9	29.3	30.2			
Income	Median Household Income	\$45,751	\$38,734			\$43,318	
	Persons Living in Poverty (%)	10.4	11.6	11.0		12.5	
	Children Living in Poverty (%)	14.8	17.3	16.0		17.6	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Personal Financial Situation	19.7	16.8	18.3		27.0	
	% Financial Situation "Worse" Than a Year Ago	11.1	12.0	11.5		15.3	
	% Payday Loan, Pawn Shop, Family Loan in Past Year	10.1	13.8	11.9			
	% "Fair/Poor" - Availability of Grocery/Retail Shopping	6.7	12.8	9.6		22.8	
		Note: Each county is compared against the other.					

## Health & Society

**Health Status.** Most Quad Cities Area adults enjoy a healthy life. Overall ratings are generally similar to or better than found among all Americans. Still, it is important to recognize that certain segments of the population – such as lower-income residents, seniors, non-white residents – generally experience poorer health status.

**Death & Disability.** For most leading causes of death, the area age-adjusted death rates compare favorably to national rates, the exceptions being somewhat higher death rates for stroke and for chronic lower respiratory disease (particularly in Scott County).

Prevalence levels for tested chronic conditions, such as asthma and diabetes, are generally similar to national prevalence levels. Note, however, that the area – and especially Scott County – has had rather high rates of sexually transmitted diseases reported (gonorrhea and chlamydia).

**Births.** Women's use of prenatal care is similar to the national average, although 16.7% of Quad Cities Area births still do not receive adequate prenatal care. Low-weight births and infant deaths compare favorably to national indicators. However, the local percentage of births to teen

mothers (although declining) remains higher than the national average, particularly in Rock Island County.

**Modifiable Health Risks.** Although most residents say that they lead a fairly healthy lifestyle, two-thirds are overweight (similar to the national average). And, more than one-third say that they have engaged in no physical activity outside of work in the past month, something that has increased significantly since the 2002 survey.

On the other hand, reduced smoking levels are a positive finding for the Quad Cities Area.

**Access to Healthcare Services.** Overall indicators of access to healthcare services generally compare quite positively to national indicators. However, keep in mind that 11.6% of all adults reported some type of trouble getting medical care in the past year. Further, lower-income residents, as well as minority populations, report much greater difficulty accessing care.

HEALTH & SOCIETY		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Health Status	% "Fair/Poor" Physical/Mental/Emotional Health	8.4	9.9	9.1		13.8	
	% "Fair/Poor" Mental Health	8.4	9.5	8.9		11.7	
	% Chronic Depression (2+ Years)	24.9	23.1	24.0	25.2	24.9	
	Suicide (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	10.9	11.8	11.3		10.8	5.0
	% Depressed Persons Seeking Help	61.4	50.1	56.1		47.2	50.0
Death & Disability	Diseases of the Heart (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	204.8	249.0	229.1		240.3	213.7
	% Chronic Heart Disease	8.1	9.6	8.8	7.1	8.2	
	Stroke (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	70.9	59.5	64.4		55.9	48.0
	% Stroke	2.8	4.6	3.7	2.3	2.4	
	% Told Have High Blood Pressure	25.0	33.2	29.0	27.3	34.2	16.0
	% Told Have High Cholesterol	26.9	36.8	31.7	28.7	32.9	17.0
	Cancer (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	211.6	182.2	195.5		193.2	159.9
	CLRD (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	59.9	45.7	52.4		43.5	
	Pneumonia/Influenza (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	21.4	22.4	21.9		22.2	
	% Chronic Lung Disease	7.1	13.0	10.0	11.8	8.6	
	% Asthma	8.8	14.7	11.7	12.8	10.4	
	% Breathing Problems Related to the Environment	9.1	16.7	12.8	15.0		
	Diabetes Mellitus (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	19.2	24.7	21.9		25.3	15.1
	% Diabetes/High Blood Sugar	6.3	9.4	7.8	7.0	10.2	

HEALTH & SOCIETY (continued)		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Death & Disability (cont.)	% Activity Limitations	16.4	16.8	16.6	19.0	19.8	
	% Older Dependents Living in the Household	3.9	2.4	3.2		4.4	
	% Living in Home of an Adult Child/Grandchild	2.3	1.1	1.7		3.8	
	% Flu Shot in Past Yr (Aged 65+)	67.8	71.6	69.8	67.3	71.5	90.0
	% Flu Shot in Past Yr (High-Risk Aged 18-64)	41.2	28.3	34.4		22.4	60.0
	Tuberculosis Incidence/100,000	0.8	1.4	1.1		5.1	
	HIV (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	0.8	0.5	0.6		4.7	0.7
	Primary & Secondary Syphilis Incidence/100,000	0.0	0.0	0.0		2.5	0.2
	Gonorrhea Incidence/100,000	192.6	178.9	186.0		117.2	19.0
	Chlamydia Incidence/100,000	477.3	440.5	459.7		304.4	
	Births	% Less Than Adequate Prenatal Care	15.6	18.0	16.7		16.7
% of Low Birthweight Births		7.7	7.0	7.4		8.1	
Infant Death Rate		5.3	6.2	5.7		6.9	4.5
% Births to Teenagers		10.7	14.0	12.2		10.4	
Households Headed by a Single Mother (%)		7.7	7.7	7.7		7.6	
Modifiable Health Risks	% "Somewhat/Very Unhealthy" Lifestyle	8.1	14.2	11.0			
	% 4+ Meals/Week Eaten Away From Home	42.5	38.6	40.5			
	% Child Eats 5+ Servings of Fruits/Vegs per Day	17.4	19.5	18.6			
	% Overweight	64.2	69.5	66.8	64.1	66.1	
	% Obese	24.8	28.7	26.7	24.1	27.3	15.0
	% Unhealthy Weight (BMI <18.5 or 25+)	65.3	69.8	67.5	65.7	67.9	40.0
	% Children (Aged 6-17) Overweight	19.5	11.3	15.6		14.1	
	% No Leisure-Time Physical Activity	33.3	35.5	34.4	18.6	25.5	20.0
	% Vigorous Physical Activity	41.0	36.1	38.6	37.1	33.9	30.0
	% Child Moderate Physical Activity (5+ Days/Wk)	47.7	53.9	51.1			
	% Child Vigorous Physical Activity (3+ Days/Wk)	83.6	83.1	83.3			
	Cirrhosis/Liver Disease (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	7.4	8.1	7.7		9.4	3.0
	% Current Drinker	62.5	55.9	59.3	57.9	58.0	
	% Chronic Drinker	5.2	4.4	4.8	6.1	5.3	
	% Binge Drinker	24.2	16.4	20.4	18.8	16.3	6.0
	DUI/DWI Arrest Rate (per 100,000 Population)	375	595	479		463	

HEALTH & SOCIETY (continued)		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Modifiable Health Risks (cont.)	% Taken an Illegal Drug in the Past Month	3.1	1.3	2.2	2.5		
	% Taken Rx w/o Dr's Orders in the Past Month	2.0	0.3	1.2	1.4		
	% Current Smoker	23.0	19.5	21.4	25.9	22.2	12.0
	% Member of HH Smokes at Home 3x/Week	19.9	14.6	17.3	26.7		
	% HHs w/Children Where Someone Smokes 3x/Week	14.9	11.6	13.4	29.0		
Access to Health Services	% Lack Health Insurance (Aged 18-64)	13.9	11.7	12.9	10.6	20.0	0.0
	% Lack Healthcare Coverage for Child	6.6	7.2	6.9	5.3		
	% Difficulty Accessing Healthcare in Past Year	12.1	11.0	11.6	9.4		7.0
	% Difficulty Getting Child's Healthcare in Past Year	0.9	3.3	2.0		6.1	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Ease of Obtaining Healthcare Svcs.	11.3	8.7	10.1	10.6	14.5	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Ease of Obtaining Mental Health Svcs.	14.3	12.7	13.5	12.6	17.1	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Ease of Obtaining Substance Abuse Svcs.	14.5	12.7	13.7	13.7	17.9	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Ease of Obtaining Dental Care	13.2	14.1	13.7	10.4	19.3	
	% Have a Regular Physician, Clinic or Health Center	87.8	88.3	88.1	83.9		96.0
	% Have Had Routine Checkup in Past Year	65.8	78.3	71.8	66.7	65.6	
	% Child Has Had Checkup in Past Year	81.7	92.5	86.6	81.3	76.6	
	% Used ER for Non-Emergency Care in Past Year	10.1	10.7	10.4			
	% Had Routine Dental Care in the Past Year	78.2	74.6	76.4	68.1		56.0
	% Child 1-17 Had Dental Checkup/Past Year	76.5	88.6	82.4	78.2		
			Note: Each county is compared against the other.				

## Environment & Resources

**Environment.** Quad Cities Area residents express favorable ratings of their communities' physical environment (in terms to being free of pollution, having clean streets and yards, and attractive neighborhoods and buildings).

Overall, less than one-half (39.0%) of residents say they are "very concerned" about environmental issues, while 46.8% are "somewhat concerned." The biggest problem they see is pollution (including air and water pollution), followed distantly by global warming.

**Resources.** The vast majority (96.6%) of adults say they regularly engage in recycling or energy conservation practices. Just over one-half of adults feel they could rely on public transportation if needed (particularly in Rock Island County), although only 4.9% have used public transportation in the past month.

ENVIRONMENT & RESOURCES		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Environment	% "Fair/Poor" - Physical Environment	14.7	13.8	14.2		21.6	
	% "Very Concerned" About Environmental Issues	39.6	38.9	39.3			
Resources	% Regularly Recycle/Conserve Energy at Home	98.1	95.0	96.6			
	% Alternative Fuels Are "Very Important"	43.2	52.3	47.9			
	% Could Rely on Public Transportation if Needed	43.7	61.2	52.2		41.3	
	% Used Public Transportation in the Past Month	3.3	6.6	4.9			
		Note: Each county is compared against the other.					

## Education & Learning

**Children.** Residents' ratings of Quad Cities Area schools have improved significantly since 2002, and are much better than the national average – three-fourths currently approve of the job schools are doing in preparing Quad Cities Area children for college or the job market (rating this as “good,” “very good” or “excellent”).

High school graduation and drop-out rates are more favorable than national averages, as are average scores on ACT tests.

**Continued Learning.** For adults, opportunities for further education are generally viewed favorably in the Quad Cities Area. Two-thirds of adults say they have used a library in the past year (although Scott County residents have a greater percentage of adults who hold library cards), and nearly one-half say they have received some type of formal education or training in the past year (e.g., courses, private lessons, correspondence courses, workshops, seminars, craft or recreational courses).

Over 80% of Quad Cities Area households have a computer and personal access to the Internet, although this is much lower among older adults and among persons living at lower incomes.

EDUCATION & LEARNING		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Children	% "Fair/Poor" - Schools' Job Preparing Children	25.4	26.3	25.8	32.6	34.8	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Child's School as a Safe Environment	8.7	10.3	9.6			
	% Child Is Unsupervised After School	14.2	15.3	14.7			
	% "Fair/Poor" - Child Day Care Services	14.5	9.4	12.3		28.8	
	High School Graduates (%)	94.6	87.9	91.4		85.8	
	Dropout Rate (%)	3.3	4.9	4.1		11.0	
	Average ACT Composite Score (Highest Possible Score = 36)	22.5	21.9	22.2		21.0	

EDUCATION & LEARNING (continued)		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Continued Learning	% "Fair/Poor" - Adult Educational Opportunities	12.3	11.5	11.9	14.7	22.0	
	% Used a Library in the Past Year	66.6	64.0	66.4		63.8	
	Library Cardholders (% of Total Population)	62.0	45.1	53.2			
	% Need Help Learning to Read	1.7	1.7	1.7		3.9	
	% Have a Computer in the Household	86.0	75.6	80.9		80.1	
	% Have Access to the Internet for Personal Use	87.9	82.0	85.0		80.3	
	% Received Formal Training/Education in the Past Year	52.4	46.9	49.8			
	% >5 Hours/Week of Informal Learning	38.5	34.5	36.4			
		Note: Each county is compared against the other.					

## Arts, Culture & Recreation

**Local Offerings.** Quad Cities Area residents rate the variety of arts/cultural offerings and the availability of recreational/entertainment offerings in the area quite positively, both in Scott and Rock Island Counties. Most say they have visited a museum, used a local park or recreational facility, and attended a live performance at least once in the past year.

**Youth.** Ratings of the availability of recreational facilities, activities, and programs designed specifically for youth are also more positive than found nationally.

ARTS, CULTURE & RECREATION		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Arts & Culture	% "Fair/Poor" - Variety of Arts & Cultural Offerings	19.3	18.6	19.0	18.2	33.5	
	% Visited a Local Museum in the Past Year	58.2	53.2	55.8		59.2	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Recreation/Entertainment Offerings	13.5	14.5	14.0		30.8	
Recreation	% Visited a Park/Recreational Facility in the Past Year	92.2	88.5	90.4		86.4	
	% Attended a Live Performance in the Area in the Past Year	80.0	76.4	78.3			
	% "Fair/Poor" - Recreation Offerings for Youth	17.0	18.4	17.7		26.2	
		Note: Each county is compared against the other.					

## Neighborhoods, Housing & Safety

**Neighborhood Connections.** Most Quad Cities Area residents say that they know five or more of their neighbors by name. This is lower, however, in Scott County, as well as among young adults and low-income residents throughout the area.

**Housing.** While a significant share of residents are critical of the availability of affordable housing (30.4% rated this as “fair” or “poor”), ratings are overall much better than found nationally. Area residents also generally respond favorably regarding the conditions of homes in their neighborhoods. A positive indicator in comparison with 2002 findings is a lower percentage of Quad Cities Area adults who report being homeless or displaced in the past year.

**Safety.** Ratings of neighborhood safety, security and crime control are generally positive in Rock Island County; less so in Scott County. Violent crime and child abuse rates are rather high, particularly in Scott County (recall that “crime” was among the community’s top concerns). Domestic abuse crimes, on the other hand, are higher in Rock Island County.

NEIGHBORHOODS, HOUSING & SAFETY		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Neighborhood	% Do Not Know Any Neighbors by Name	7.0	2.6	4.8			
Housing	Owner-Occupied Units (%)	70.6	69.7	70.1		66.2	
	Apartment Vacancy Rate (%)	7.3	7.4	7.3		6.8	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Availability of Affordable Housing	32.2	28.5	30.4		51.0	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Condition of Neighborhood Homes	9.2	9.0	9.1		14.9	
	Homeless Persons per 100,000 Population	170	153	162		192	
	% Homeless in the Past Two Years	0.7	0.2	0.4	1.4		
	% Had to Live With Someone Else Because of Emergency	4.3	8.7	6.4	9.1	11.2	
	Safety	Unintentional Injury (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)	31.4	28.1	29.5		36.6
Motor Vehicle Crashes (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)		11.3	11.0	11.1		15.4	
% "Fair/Poor" - Neighborhood Safety, Security, Crime Control		19.8	10.9	15.4		20.6	
% Neighborhood Crime Has "Grown Worse" in Recent Years		19.3	10.8	15.2		20.0	
% "Fair/Poor" - Security Walking in Neighborhood in Daytime		6.0	2.5	4.3		5.9	
% "Fair/Poor" - Security at Home at Night		6.2	4.9	5.6		7.3	
Violent Crime Rate (per 100,000 Population)		948.5	546.2	755.3		469.4	
% Victim of Violent Crime in the Area in Past 5 Years		0.6	2.4	1.5	2.6	2.3	
Domestic Crime Rate (per 100,000 Population)		655.0	854.8	751			
% Victim of Domestic Violence in Past 5 Years		1.8	5.1	3.4	2.2	2.0	
Confirmed Child Abuse Cases (per 1,000 Children)		21.1	16.8	19.2		11.9	
Homicide (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)		3.3	1.9	2.7		6.4	
Law Enforcement Officers (per 100,000 Population)		162	211	185		190	

Note: Each county is compared against the other.

-blank- no data    favorable    unfavorable    similar

## Belonging & Leadership

**Empowerment.** By and large, most Quad Cities Area residents feel that they, as individuals, are able to affect quality of life in their community (better than found nationally).

**Social Environment.** Ratings of the community’s social environment (including the friendliness of the people, the way people respect and help one another, and the willingness of people to work for the good of the community) are generally quite positive, and most say they have a strong network of people to turn to if they should need help.

Ratings of tolerance in the community (both racial/cultural tolerance and viewpoint/lifestyle tolerance) are similar to national findings, with just over one-fourth rating these as “fair” or “poor.”

**Volunteerism & Leadership.** Two-thirds of Quad Cities Area adults say they have volunteered for a charitable cause, organization, or event in the past year, with most giving more than one hour per month on average.

A significant share of residents, particularly in Scott County (45.8%), are critical of leadership in their community. Fewer (23.1% overall) say that they themselves have served in some type of leadership position in the past year.

BELONGING & LEADERSHIP		Comparison Between Counties		Quad Cities Area vs. Benchmarks			
		Scott County	Rock Island County	Quad Cities Area	TREND (vs. 2002)	vs. US	vs. HP2010
Empowerment	% Feel Able to Affect Local Quality of Life	71.6	75.2	73.3		67.6	
	Voter Turnout (% of Registered Voters)	49.1	40.1	44.5			
Social Environment	% "Fair/Poor" - Social Environment	17.6	15.4	16.5		20.0	
	% Someone to Turn to "Little/None of the Time" in the Past Year	7.0	7.7	7.3		13.1	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Racial/Cultural Tolerance	26.9	20.6	23.9		23.3	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Viewpoint/Lifestyle Tolerance	31.5	23.8	27.7		28.8	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Ease of Accessing Social Services	25.1	30.3	27.6		30.7	
Volunteerism & Leadership	% Volunteered in the Past Year	64.9	65.7	65.3		65.9	
	% "Fair/Poor" - Quality of Community Leadership	45.8	29.0	37.7			
	% Served in a Leadership Position in the Past Year	22.6	23.7	23.1			
		Note: Each county is compared against the other.					
				-blank- no data      favorable      unfavorable      similar			