



2017 Community Assessment Hall, Howard, Hamilton & Merrick County

Heartland United Way

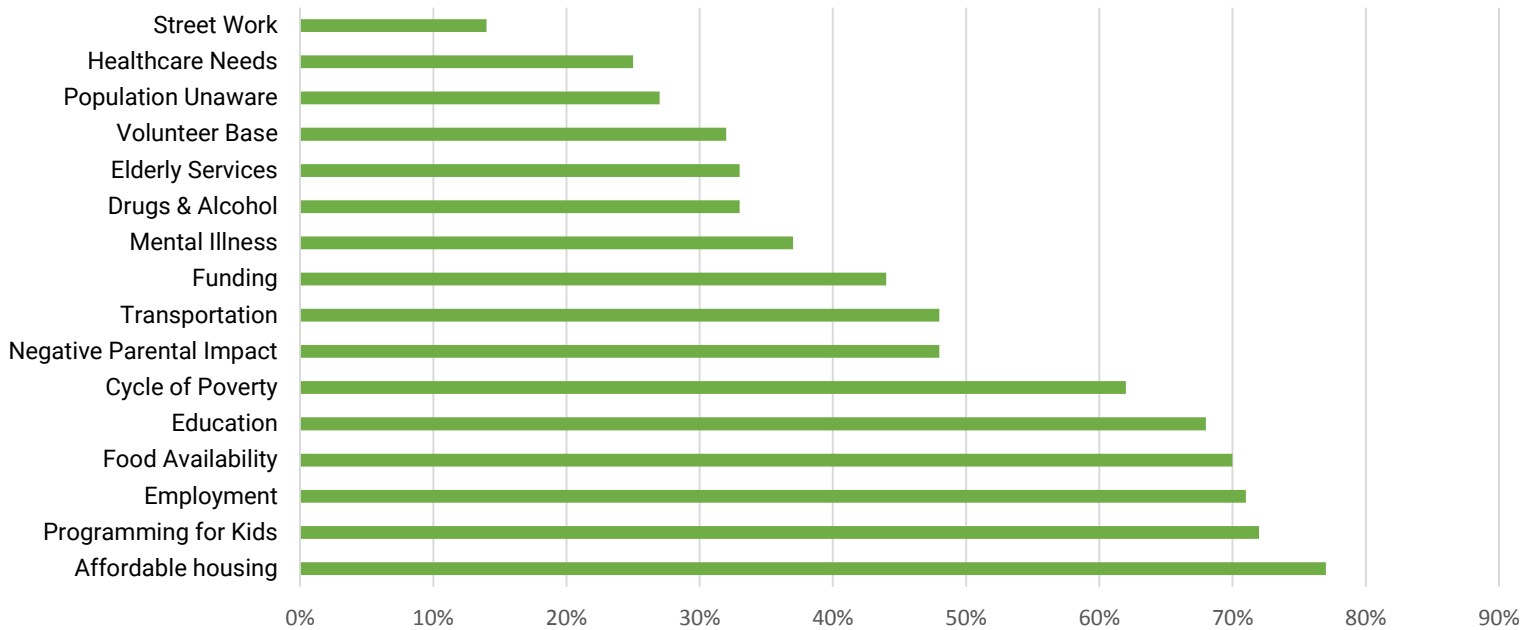
QUICK FACTS¹

- High School Graduation: **90%**
- Bachelors Degree or higher: **20%**
- Median Rent: **\$621**
- People in poverty: **10.4%**
- People without Health Insurance: **11%**
- Median drive to work: **19 minutes**

NEBRASKA QUICK FACTS

- **16.8%** of children live in poverty.²
- **18.5%** of Nebraskans are one emergency away from financial crisis.³
- **2 out of 5** don't know where their next meal will come from.⁴
- **91,000** children are low-income with a high housing cost burden.³
- **16th out of 51*** for homeless youth with an identified disability⁵

Area Concerns



Community Ideas:

- Community Garden
- Community Social Worker
- Rehab old houses
- Summer food program
- Daycare or before/after school program
- Affordable housing for families & the elderly
- Additional Events for towns
- Community English Classes
- Two Generation Learning Center
- School laundry program
- Internship Programs
- Parenting Classes/Adult Education
- More Community Involvement

Holding youth back from being successful:

- Lack of mental health resources
- Single Parents struggle
- Negative Parental Impact
- Limited job shadows/internships
- Don't know basic life skills
- Lack of mentors
- They learn to live off the system
- Broken Families
- No quality daycare openings
- Some aren't able to participate in activities

| High School Community Survey | Hall | Howard | Hamilton | Merrick | Average |
|--|------|--------|----------|---------|---------|
| Biggest challenges I face: | | | | | |
| Self-image/Self-esteem | 70% | 62% | 81% | 70% | 71% |
| Alcohol Use | 46% | 41% | 31% | 38% | 39% |
| Depression | 42% | 35% | 50% | 48% | 44% |
| Smoking/Tobacco use | 39% | 32% | 20% | 32% | 31% |
| Diet/Fitness Exercise | 31% | 24% | 29% | 23% | 27% |
| Learning/Education issues | 31% | 17% | 25% | 41% | 29% |
| Childhood obesity | 12% | 6% | 7% | 13% | 10% |
| Eating Disorder | 19% | 7% | 9% | 10% | 11% |
| Biggest challenge for teens: | | | | | |
| Bullying | 63% | 54% | 66% | 56% | 60% |
| Abusive Relationships | 21% | 11% | 8% | 14% | 14% |
| Sexual activity | 36% | 23% | 29% | 30% | 30% |
| Teen pregnancy | 15% | 13% | 8% | 9% | 11% |
| Gangs | 19% | 15% | 3% | 10% | 12% |
| School Violence | 37% | 28% | 43% | 32% | 35% |
| Cliques | 17% | 14% | 8% | 11% | 13% |
| Biggest challenge involving adults: | | | | | |
| Poor communication between adults and teens | 61% | 47% | 60% | 59% | 57% |
| Teen rebellion against adults | 31% | 30% | 25% | 33% | 30% |
| Physical abuse | 20% | 13% | 9% | 14% | 14% |
| Verbal abuse | 33% | 24% | 28% | 31% | 29% |
| Effects on teens in single parent households | 22% | 11% | 22% | 24% | 20% |
| Effects on teens of divorce parents | 42% | 25% | 40% | 44% | 38% |
| Independence of teens from parents | 34% | 18% | 24% | 23% | 25% |
| Challenges with society & laws: | | | | | |
| Texting while driving | 72% | 63% | 78% | 81% | 74% |
| Drinking and driving | 35% | 30% | 23% | 29% | 29% |
| Alcohol use | 40% | 30% | 35% | 29% | 34% |
| Drug use | 37% | 20% | 18% | 22% | 24% |
| Seat belt laws | 38% | 39% | 50% | 54% | 45% |
| Discrimination | 25% | 9% | 15% | 10% | 15% |
| Censorship | 15% | 8% | 12% | 12% | 12% |
| Poverty | 19% | 11% | 8% | 10% | 12% |
| Challenges with media: | | | | | |
| Online predators | 66% | 65% | 43% | 49% | 56% |
| Online availability/exposure to mature material | 44% | 35% | 36% | 30% | 36% |
| Influence of TV and movies on youth | 25% | 16% | 25% | 25% | 23% |
| Influence of video games on youth | 27% | 20% | 22% | 27% | 24% |
| Influence of music with explicit/suggestive lyrics | 24% | 13% | 28% | 32% | 24% |
| Cyber bullying | 42% | 32% | 28% | 28% | 33% |
| Dreams & Goals for the future: | | | | | |
| Family (Marriage/Children) | 80% | 69% | 74% | 84% | 77% |
| Buy a home | 83% | 71% | 76% | 82% | 78% |
| Go to college/technical school | 74% | 64% | 81% | 78% | 74% |
| Own your own business | 24% | 25% | 20% | 26% | 24% |
| Have a career | 77% | 67% | 81% | 79% | 76% |
| Run for public office | 5% | 2% | 1% | 4% | 3% |
| Join the service | 7% | 11% | 9% | 13% | 10% |
| Unsure | 9% | 9% | 7% | 9% | 9% |

*Ranking is out of 51 as the District of Columbia was included.

¹ U.S. Census Bureau. (2015). *QuickFacts*.

² U.S. Census Bureau. (2015). *American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*.

³ Voices for Children. (2016). *Kids Count in Nebraska Report*.

⁴ U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Research & Action Center. (2017).

⁵ Institute for Children, Poverty & Homelessness. (2017).

Note: Hall County Participants: Centura, Wood River, Grand Island Central Catholic, Northwest.