A Community Snapshot:

Robertson County

Community Description

Robertson County residents describe their community as having a rural, small-town atmosphere as well as access to the amenities of bigger cities nearby. Many Robertson County residents live in the county, but work and participate in activities elsewhere. The community is seeing an influx of retirees from larger cities, but is not equally contributing to economic growth. The county was described as being close knit with strong bonds shared between community members and very conservative with a strong religious influence. Residents highlighted the distinct communities within the county and pointed to a divide among them.

Obesity & Chronic Disease

An ongoing concern in Robertson County is the growing number of people struggling with overweight and obesity and the chronic diseases often linked to these conditions. In addition to overweight/obesity, local residents most frequently reported being diagnosed with hypertension, high cholesterol, arthritis/rheumatism, anxiety, depression, and Type 2 diabetes.

Of the seven counties in the Brazos Valley region, Robertson County reported the highest rates of a number of chronic diseases common among older adults, including *high cholesterol*, *hypertension*, and *diabetes*.

Robertson County reported the highest rate of type 2 diabetes across the Brazos Valley region.

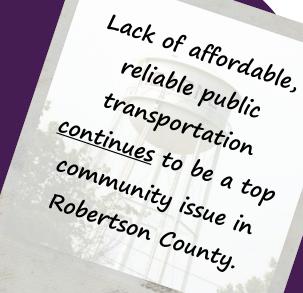| Disease/Condition	Robertson County
Overweight/Obesity	72.6%
Hypertension	50.5%
High Cholesterol	45.9%
Arthritis/Rheumatism	35.5%
Anxiety	24.7%
Depression	24.2%
Diabetes (Type 2)	16.7%

Top Community Issues

The community survey asked residents about what they perceived to be serious community issues. In Robertson County, the top 5 issues that emerged were:

1. Poor or inconvenient public transportation (54.3%)

2. Lack of jobs for unskilled workers (54.1%)

3. Abuse of drugs, including prescription drugs (53.8%)

4. Risky youth behavior (such as alcohol use, drug use, truancy, etc.; 52.2%)

5. Unemployment (49.8%)

Community discussion group participants also identified several community issues including:

⇒ Lack of affordable, reliable public transportation
⇒ Population growth that does not support infrastructure development
⇒ Lack of local job opportunities
⇒ Lack of retail business, especially grocery stores
⇒ Need for educational opportunities, including vocational training options
⇒ Poor access to health care services

Lack of affordable, reliable public transportation continues to be a top community issue in Robertson County.

Everyone who reported needing literacy training, GED, or ESL services reported not receiving them.

Top 5 Unmet Needs

1. Literacy training, GED, or English as a second language (100.0%)

2. Financial assistance with auto, appliance, or home repair; or weatherization (66.7%)

3. Information and referral services (50.0%)

4. Utility assistance (46.2%)

5. Respite care (break from caring for child or adult dependent; 44.4%)