

2016 Brazos Valley Health Assessment
Community Discussion Group Findings:

BRAZOS COUNTY

Community Description

Brazos County residents view their community as a good, friendly, and conservative town that is a great place to raise a family. Residents note diversity of younger and older adults, which allows for strong volunteer base for civic activities and philanthropic efforts. The university allows for steady economic growth and sustainability, although residents note that with a rise in population, crime and traffic are increasing and housing is catered mainly to students; which causes housing options to diminish and housing prices to increase. Some residents noted this as gentrification. Although residents state that the university offers a sense of strong tradition related to school activities.



Community Issues

Top concerns expressed in Brazos County Community Discussion Groups were:

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Access medical care and mental health services
- Inadequate local infrastructure to deal with population growth
- Poor communication and lack of information about services among the public
- Racial prejudice
- Lack of grocery stores with high quality, low cost food



According to Community Health Status Indicators, one of the ongoing health concerns in Brazos County is the number of deaths related to complications from diabetes (25 per 100,000), and the number of people living with adult diabetes as well (10.4%). This would also explain the concern of a growing number of people struggling with overweight and obesity, as well as additional chronic diseases linked to these conditions. However, Brazos County also has a lower cancer death rate than it's peer counties (441 per 100,000).