

## **Compass 3.0 Executive Summary Trempealeau County**

A household survey was conducted in the spring of 2007 to gather input from community members from the five counties in the United Way service area on their perceived needs for their community across several dimensions. The dimensions assessed included: health, public safety, lifelong learning and enrichment, quality of life and living, care for families across the generations, self-sufficiency, community traits, and overall issues. Overall, 56 households in Trempealeau County completed the survey. Strengths, weaknesses, and important issues or concerns were identified based on their average response compared to other items within the same general categories.

### Community Strengths: (on a scale from 1 to 4, 1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=excellent)

Quality of emergency services (3.07)

Safety of neighborhoods (3.03)

K-12 schools (3.1)

### Community Weaknesses: (on a scale from 1 to 4, 1=poor, 2=fair, 3=good, 4=excellent)

Access to mental healthcare (2.36)

Available preventive services (2.29)

Emphasis on prevention (2.1)

Affordable mental care (2.02)

Affordable health care (2.00)

Affordable dental care (1.97)

Community preparedness (2.34)

Higher education (2.19)

Community resources to learn new skills or hobbies (1.98)

Available jobs that offer enrichment and advancement (1.95)

Leisure time opportunities (2.4)

Opportunities for youth (2.28)

Fine arts and cultural opportunities (1.91)

Efforts to prevent abuse of vulnerable people (2.37)

Meeting the needs of the elderly (2.34)

Inclusion of diverse populations in decisions (2.22)

Meeting the needs of persons with disabilities (2.07)

Efforts to reduce hunger (2.35)

Available services for people who need help (2.2)

Meeting basic needs for low income (2.07)

Affordable education (2.0)

Ensuring a strong economic future (2.0)

Jobs that offer health insurance (1.98)

Jobs that offer a good standard of living (1.97)

Efforts in the community to reduce poverty (1.95)

Affordable personal transportation (1.89)

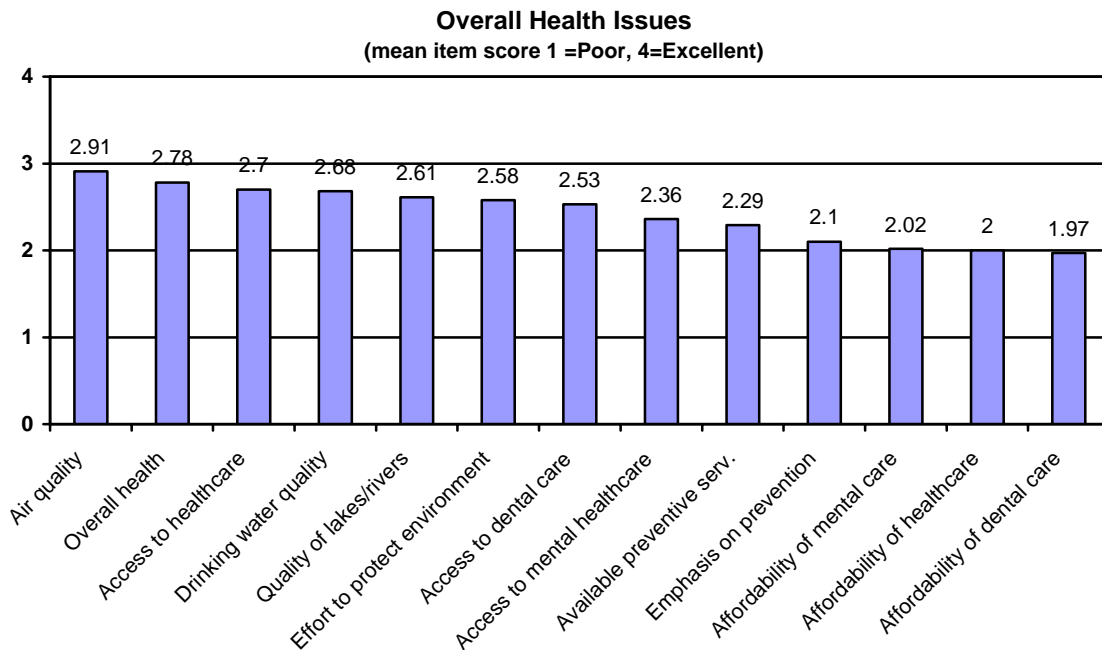
Affordable and accessible public transportation (1.62)

### Community Concerns/Issues: (on a scale from 1 to 4, where 4 is a high/serious concern)

Illegal drug use (2.76)  
Alcohol use (2.7)

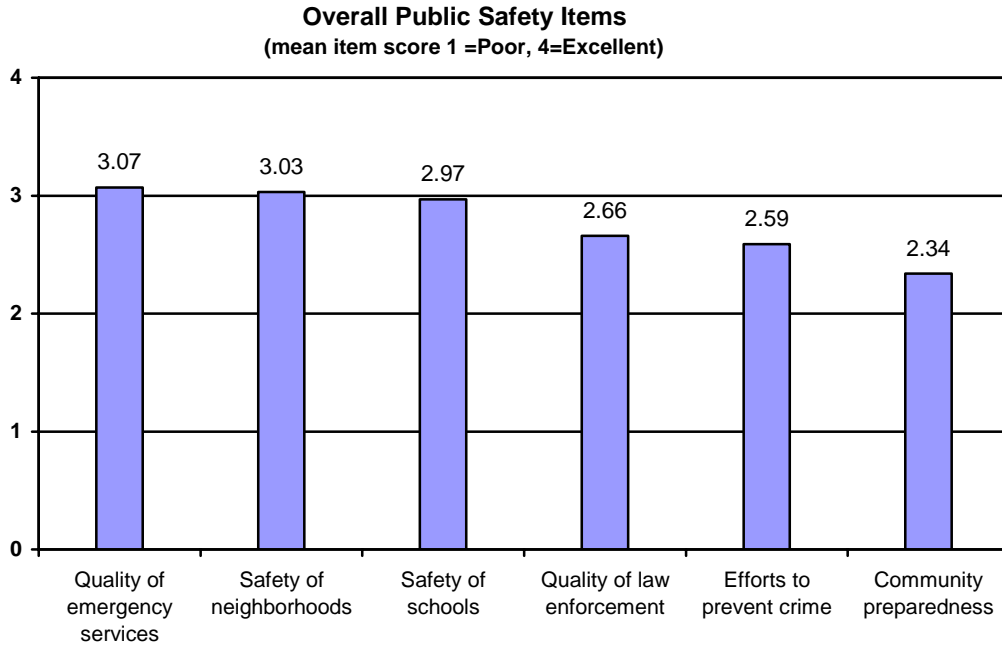
### **Health Items results**

Trempealeau County residents rated the quality of air as the highest of all the health items asked. 78% rated the air quality as good or excellent. Overall, 71% rated the health of people in the community as good or excellent. Access to quality healthcare was rated third highest of the items with 60% indicating access to healthcare was good or excellent. 78% of respondents indicated affordability of health care was fair or poor. A majority of Trempealeau County residents indicated affordability of dental care (76%) and mental health care (72%) was fair or poor. Residents also rated the availability of preventive services (smoking cessation, mammography, etc) lower than the region overall and near the bottom of the health items.



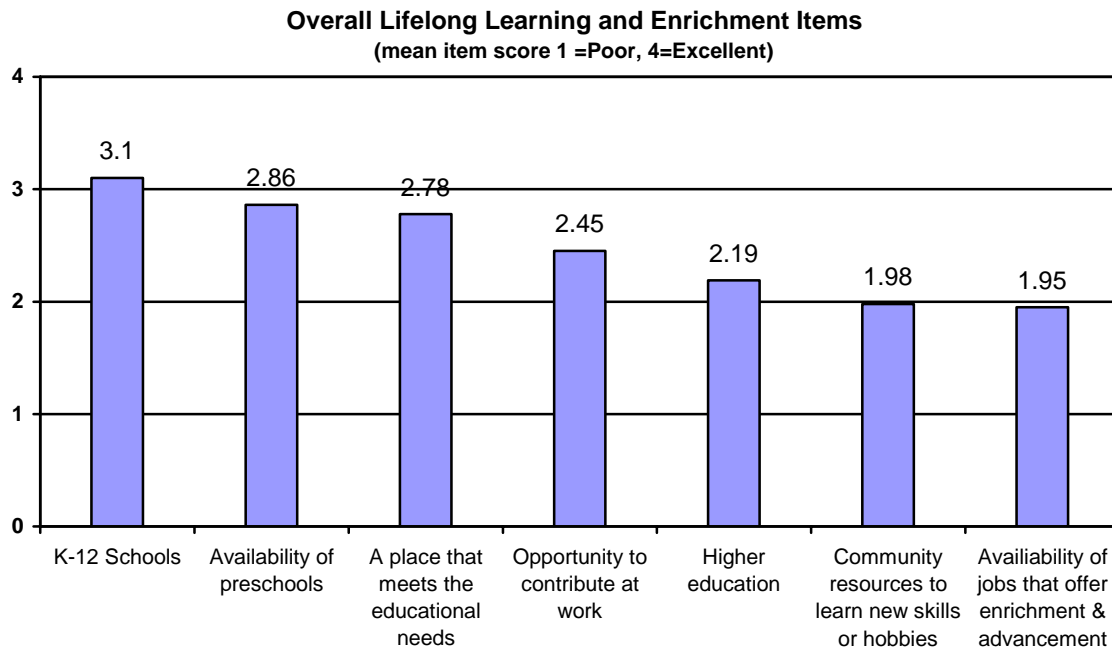
### **Public Safety results:**

Trempealeau County residents rated the overall quality of the community's emergency services as the highest of all the public safety items asked. 25% rated the quality of the community's emergency services as excellent, and 58% rated it as good. The safety of the community's neighborhood was rated the second highest of all the items asked, with 19% of Trempealeau County residents indicating it was excellent and 68% indicated their community has good neighborhood safety. The third highest item was safety of the schools in the community with a total of 83% of Trempealeau County residents report excellent or good ratings on school safety. Of all the items included in the public safety section, Trempealeau County residents gave their community the lowest score in its preparedness for major safety threats. 57% of Trempealeau County residents gave either poor (17%) or fair (40%) ratings to their community according to their perceptions of the community's preparedness for safety threats. Residents in Trempealeau County rated the preparedness of their community for major safety threats the poorest of all five counties, with the regional average being 12%.



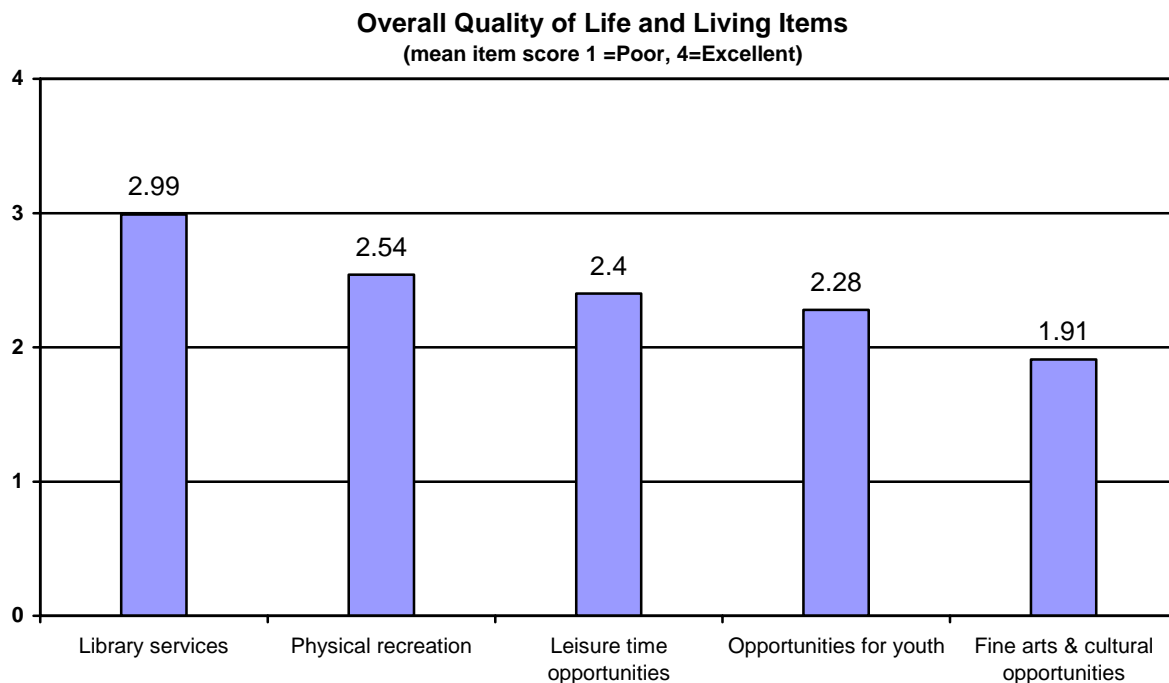
**Lifelong Learning and Enrichment results:**

Trempealeau County residents were more likely to score all items lower than the other counties in the region, although the pattern of rankings was similar to the region overall. 86% of Trempealeau County residents rate the K-12 schools as good or excellent. 69% rated the availability of preschool opportunities as good or excellent. Overall, 80% rated the availability of jobs that offer enrichment and advancement opportunities as fair or poor, and 72% rated the resources within the community to learn a new skill or hobby as such.



### **Quality of Life and Living results**

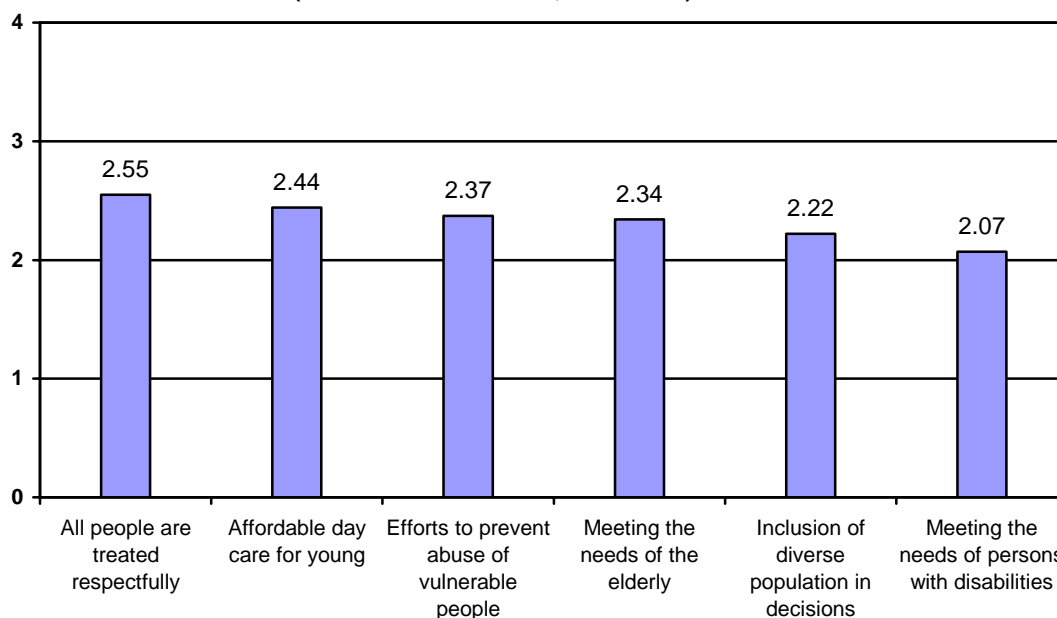
Trempealeau County residents also rated the quality of library services as the highest of all the quality of life items asked. 73% rated the library services as good or excellent. Monroe, Trempealeau, and Vernon Counties ranked the five items in terms of best to worst the same. Physical recreation for young and old was the next ranked issue with 54% rating these opportunities as either good or excellent and 45% rating this area as fair or poor. Nearly 52% felt that the availability of appealing leisure time opportunities that meet the interests of you and/or your family were good or excellent and 48% rating them as fair or poor. 57% felt that opportunities for youth to explore interest and positive activities were fair or poor and 41% felt that these opportunities were good or excellent. The last item in the ranking was arts and culture where 75% of respondents felt that opportunities were fair or poor, 24% felt that they were good and no respondents indicated that they were excellent.



### **Care for Families Across the Generations results**

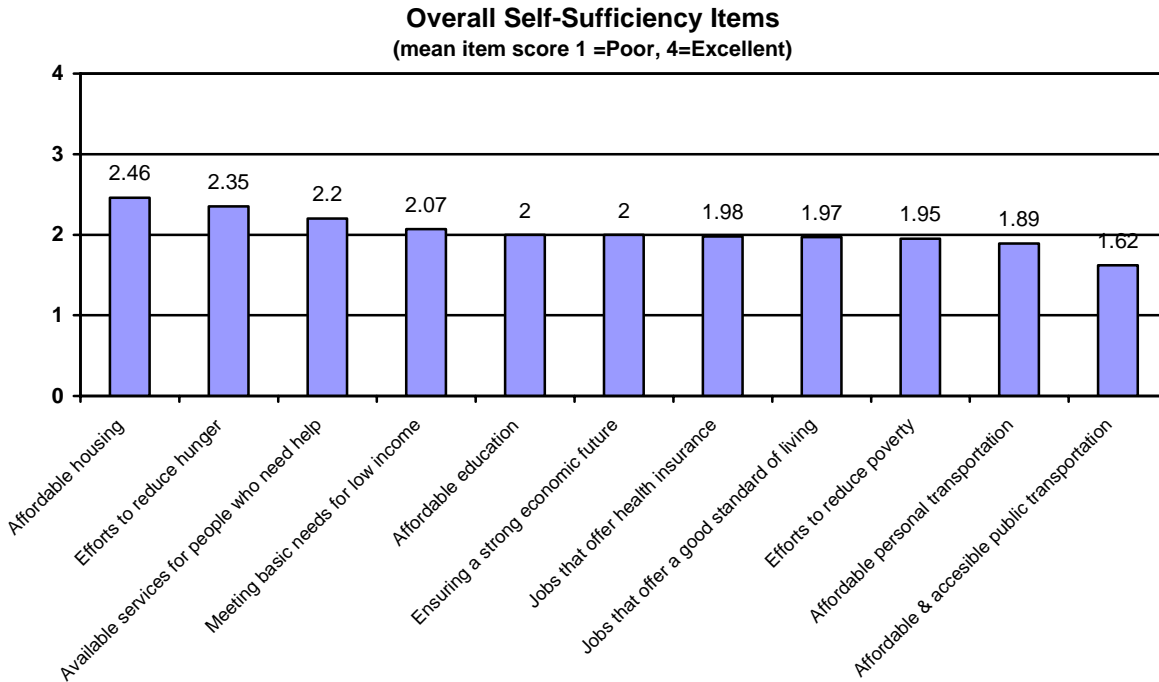
Trempealeau County residents rated a place where all people are treated respectfully as the highest item; 62% responded that respectful treatment was good or excellent. 45% of residents rated the availability of affordable and safe day care as good or excellent, placing it as the second highest item. The lowest rated item, according to residents was meeting the needs of persons with disabilities; 79% of respondents rated meeting the needs of persons with disabilities as fair or poor. 61% rated people of all backgrounds being included in decision making as fair or poor. Trempealeau respondents rated meeting the needs of elderly persons, meeting the needs of persons with disabilities, inclusion of people of all backgrounds in decision making, and preventing abuse lower than the region overall.

**Overall Care for Families Across the Generations Items**  
(mean item score 1 =Poor, 4=Excellent)



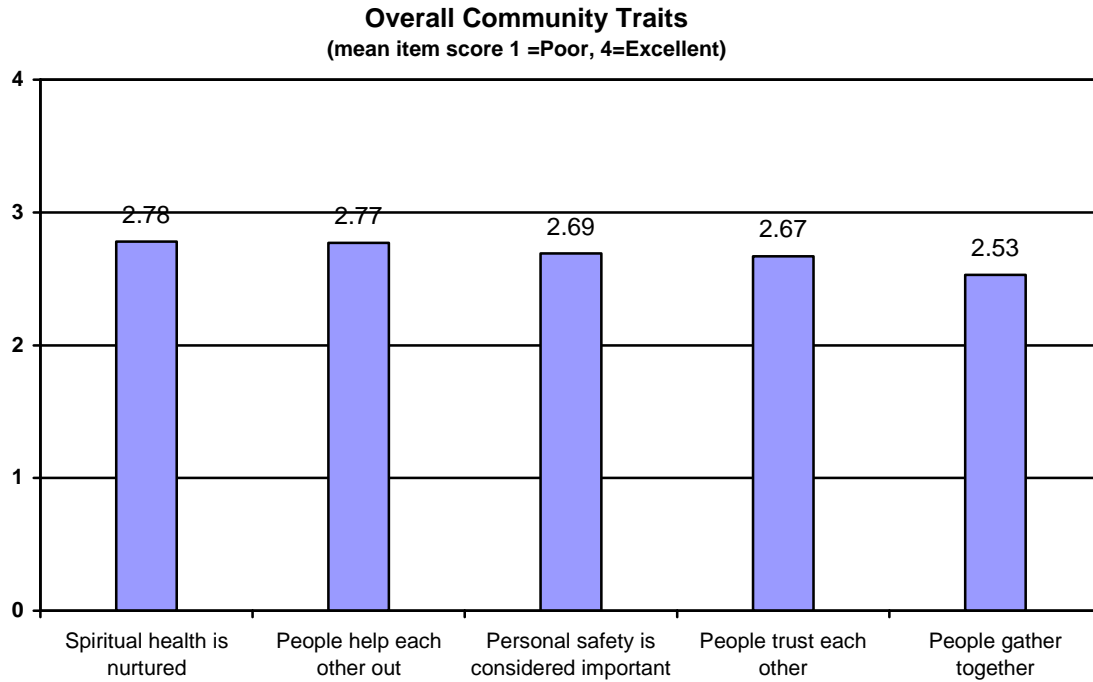
### **Self Sufficiency Summary results**

Trempealeau County residents rated the availability of affordable, quality housing as the highest of all the self-sufficiency items asked. 46% rated the availability of affordable, quality housing as good or excellent. Efforts to reduce hunger was rated the second highest, with 43% indicating this item was good or excellent. The availability of services for people who may need extra help was rated third highest of the items with 34% indicating availability of these services was good or excellent. Of all the items included, affordable and accessible public transportation, affordable personal transportation, and efforts to reduce poverty were rated the lowest. 85% of residents indicated affordable and accessible public transportation was fair or poor, 81% indicated affordable personal transportation was fair or poor, and 81% indicated that efforts to reduce poverty was fair or poor. Trempealeau County residents rated affordable personal transportation (including gasoline, insurance, and maintenance) lower than the region overall and second to the bottom of the self-sufficiency items.



### **Community Traits results**

Trempealeau County residents rated their community as a place where spiritual health of residents is nurtured as the highest of all the community trait items asked. 15% rated the nurturing of their spiritual health as excellent, and 53% rated it as good. A place where people help each other out when they have a problem was rated second highest of all the community trait items with 20% rated their community as excellent and 47% as good in the area of people helping each other out. The third highest item was Trempealeau County being a place where personal safety is considered important with 66% indicating rankings of good or excellent. Of all the items included in the community traits section, Trempealeau County residents gave their community the lowest score in the area of being a place where people gather together as neighbors, friends, and families. 38% of Trempealeau County residents gave either poor (13%) or fair (25%) ratings to their community under of item. Residents in Trempealeau County rated their community as being a place where people gather together the poorest of all five counties, with the regional average being 8%.



**Issues:**

The highest rated item as a concern in the issues category was illegal drug use. Overall, 22% of respondents indicated this was a high concern (score of 4, out of 4). Alcohol use was the second highest rated item as a concern with 21% rating it as a 4 or high concern. Tobacco use and obesity were rated a high concern by over 12% of participants. Prescription drug misuse and gambling were seen as the least significant problems with 4% rating prescription misuse and gambling as a high concern.

### Overall Issues

(mean item score 4=high/serious concern, 1 =low concern)

