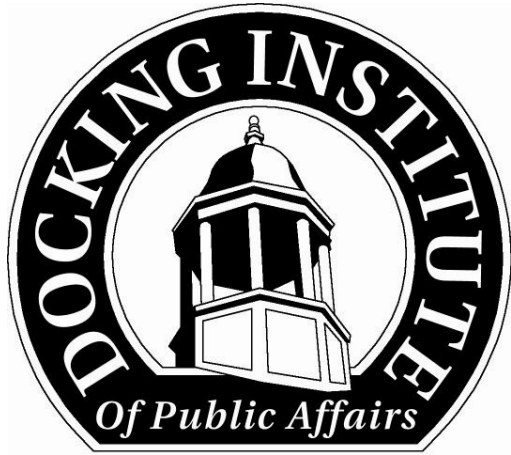


Phillips County Senior Issues Survey



Prepared For
Phillips County Economic Development
Prepared By
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Mission:

To Facilitate Effective Public Policy Decision-Making.

The staff of the Docking Institute of Public Affairs and its University Center for Survey Research are dedicated to serving the people of Kansas and surrounding states.

Phillips County Senior Issues Survey

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Phillips County Senior Issues Survey

Executive Summary

Phillips County Economic Development contracted the Docking Institute of Public Affairs to conduct a telephone survey of Phillips County residents 55 years old and older. This study finds that:

- Slightly more than 60% of the respondents rate Phillips County as an “excellent” or “good” place to find affordable housing, while about 48% find Phillips County an “excellent” or “good” place to find affordable health care. About 15% rate the county as providing an “excellent” or “good” variety of shopping.
- Ninety-four percent of the respondents live in their own houses, while 6% have some other arrangement. Of this 6%, most live in a rented apartment, house, or mobile home.
- Almost half (48.6%) of the respondents that receive help with household chores do so because they have difficulty with household chores. Less than 20% have difficulty with and receive help for getting groceries to their car or hair care.
- Few respondents (between 5% and 9%) report needed help with any of these activities: personal hair and nail care, insurance/Medicare/Medicaid paperwork, getting groceries out to their car, and cooking/meal preparation. Fewer respondents (less than 5%) report needing help with household chores and getting to their seat at events.

- Many respondents (41.7%) rate their health to be “about” the same as that of others in their age group, while almost 30% rate their health as “somewhat better” than their age cohort. Slightly more than 20% suggest that they have “much better health” than their peers.
- About 46% of the respondents receive most of their health care within Phillips County, and about 44% receive most care outside of the county.
- When respondents were asked to name a medical specialist that was needed but not available in Phillips County, respondents named cardiologists, dermatologists, oncologists, orthopedic specialists, rheumatologists, diabetes specialists, gastroenterologists, allergists, and neurologists.
- Twenty-six (or 9%) of the respondents eat meals regularly at Westview or the Senior Citizen's center. Among these respondents, nineteen individuals report eating at Westview, five eat at the Senior Center, and two eat at both. Seventeen prefer buffet style eating, four prefer home-style eating, two prefer the meals-on-wheels type of meals, and one is interested in a meal prepared especially to meet specific dietary needs.
- When these 26 people were asked if a collaboration of food operations at Westview and the Senior Center be considered, the largest group (11 respondents) answered “no” to this question, while eight said “yes” and seven said they “don’t know.”
- When asked about transportation to run errands, 92.5% of the respondents drive themselves. More than three-quarters (76%) of all

- respondents report awareness of public transportation. Of the 20 individuals that have friends or family drive them when running errands, seven suggest that they are not aware of public transportation.
- Most of the respondents are either “very interested” (43.4%) or “somewhat interested” (37.5%) in living in an independent living facility in the future. Slightly less than 20% indicate that they are not interested.
 - Respondents at least somewhat interested in an independent living facility were asked “in about how many years from now do you think you might want to move into an independent living facility?” The average number of years is about 12 and the median in 10.
 - About 64% of the respondents at least somewhat interested in an independent living facility indicate that having a storm shelter as “very important” in their decision to live in an independent living facility. About 29% rate this amenity as “somewhat important” and only 7% indicate that this was “not at all important.”
 - Slightly more than half (53%) rate “shuttle service around the community” as “very important,” 40% rate shuttle service as “somewhat important,” and 8% rate this option as “not at all important.”
 - At least a third of the respondents rate all of the amenities or services listed as “very important,” and at least 80% of the respondents rate all of the amenities and services listed as at least “somewhat important.”

- Most respondents (85%) desire to live on the first floor of a facility. Eleven percent indicate that the floor level “does not matter” to them, while 3% and 1% would prefer to live on the second and third floor, respectively.
- Nearly three-quarters (74%) of the respondents indicate that they would prefer a two bedroom apartment, while about a quarter (26%) would prefer a single bedroom unit.
- When asked about preferred locations of an independent living facility, most (61%) of the respondents indicate that it “does not matter.” Thirty-three percent would prefer that a facility be located near downtown, while smaller percentages would prefer to live “near the hospital” (2%) and “near the airport” (1%).
- When asked about monthly rent, nearly half (49%) suggest that they are willing to pay \$900 to \$1,200 per month for an apartment in an independent living facility that provides cable TV and utilities. Seventeen percent suggest they are willing to pay \$700 to \$900, while another 17% are willing to pay \$500 to \$700 per month.
- When asked if they would be interested in “heated indoor parking with security” for an additional \$150 to \$200 per month, most respondents (72%) are not interested. However, 20% are interested.

Introduction and Methods

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University surveyed adults age 55 and older to assess attitudes and opinions regarding various issues of interest to senior adult residents. Surveying took place from June 7 to June 14, 2007, and 343 households were contacted via telephone. In 287 households, a respondent completed the interview. This results in a cooperation rate of 84%. This sample has a margin of error of +/-5.8% at a 95% confidence level (that is, in 95 of 100 samples of the same size results would vary only +/- 5.8% from those reported here), assuming no response bias.

This report contains four sections:

- 1) **Rating Various Aspects of Phillips County.** This section shows results to questions addressing various aspects of Phillips County. The purpose of this section is to provide general information with regard to the perceptions of respondents about the county.
- 2) **Needing Assistance.** A key component of this study is to assess the amount of assistance needed for various activities for people aged 55 and older in Phillips County. The purpose of this component is to provide information that may assist with future community planning.
- 3) **Health, Meals, and Transportation.** This section addressed a variety of issues important to seniors in Phillips County. The purpose of this section is to provide perceptual and behavioral information that may assist with future community planning.

- 4) **Independent Living.** A key component of this study is to assess the level or interest in an independent living facility among seniors, preferred location of a facility, and monthly rent potential residents are willing to pay to live in a facility.

Section 1: Rating Various Aspects of Phillips County

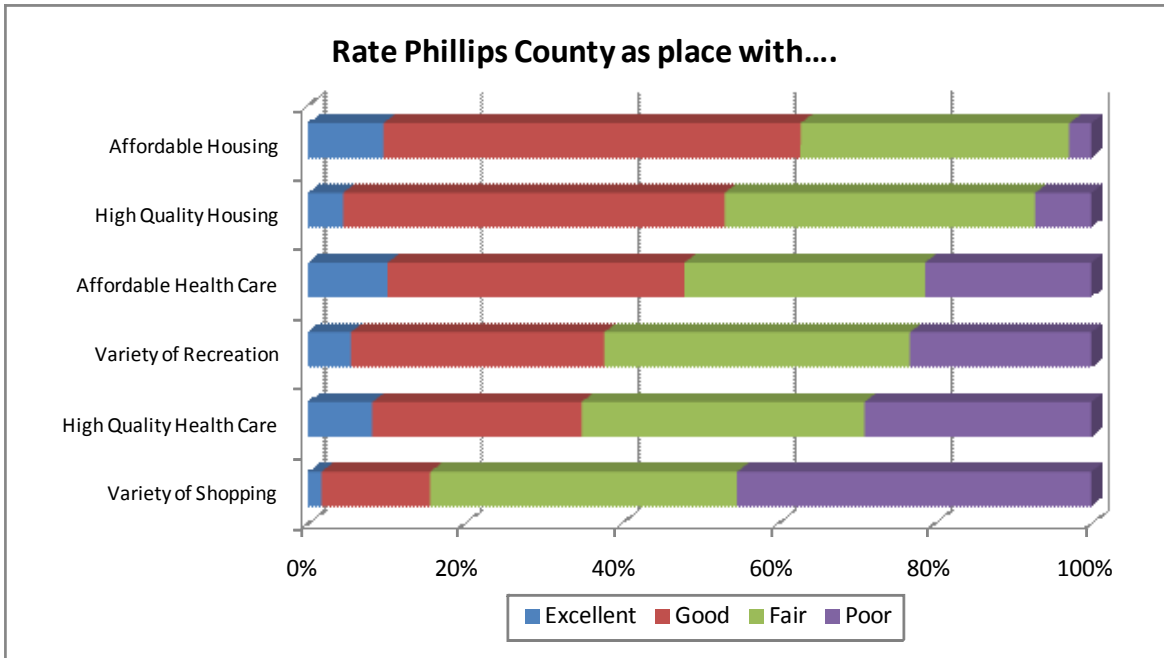
All respondents to the survey were presented with this statement and others addressing other issues:

First I am going to ask you to rate certain aspects of Phillips County. As a place to find affordable housing do you rate Phillips County as...

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Fair
- 4 Poor

Figure 1 (next page) shows the results of this and five other similar statements. The figure shows that slightly more than 60% of the respondents rate Phillips County as an “excellent” or “good” place to find affordable housing. About 53% and 48% find Phillips County an “excellent” or “good” place to find high quality housing and affordable health care, respectively.

Figure 1: Rating Phillips County



More than 30% of the respondents suggest that Phillips County is a place with “excellent” or “good” recreational opportunities and high quality health care. About 15% of the respondents indicate that Phillips County provides an “excellent” or “good” variety of shopping.

Section 2: Needing Assistance

Table 1 shows the responses to two questions inquiring about current housing. The table shows that most of the respondents live in their own house, while 6% have some other arrangement. Of this 6%, most live in a rented apartment, house, or mobile home.

Table 1: Current Housing Situation

Do you live in your own house? (N=282)			What best describes your living situation? (N=17)		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>		<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Yes	265	94.0	In a seniors only apartment complex	4	23.5
No	17	6.0	In a rented apt., house, or mobile home	8	47.1
			In an assisted living facility	2	11.8
			In a nursing home or skilled care facility	1	5.9
			In some other type of housing	2	11.8

A key issue of this study is whether or not elderly residents of Phillips County are receiving necessary assistance with day-to-day activities. It was assumed that respondents living in assisted living facilities or nursing homes were, by definition, receiving some help with daily activities. As such, they were *not* asked the following questions. All other respondents (home owners and people living in senior apartment complexes/independent living facilities, rented houses, or some other type of housing) were asked if they receive help in one or more of these areas: household chores, cooking or preparing meals, getting groceries from the store to his/her car, hair or nail care, with insurance and/or Medicaid/Medicare matters, and getting into a building and to his/her seat in a place like the Huck Boyd Center.

Those respondents indicating that they *did receive* help (answered “yes”) were asked whether they had difficulty performing the task or if they simply preferred to have someone else do the task for them. Respondents indicating that they *did not receive* help (answered “no”) were asked if they do not receive help because they “do not need help” or because they “could not afford help,” “could not find help,” or if there was “some other reason” that they did not get help from someone else.

Figure 2 (next page) shows the percentages of respondents indicating that they receive assistance with a task because they have difficulty with that task, while Figure 3 (next page) shows the percentages of respondents that they do not receive help but need help with a task. (Figure 2 does not include getting into a building and seat at events because it was assumed that if a person receives such help, he or she needs that help because of difficulty rather than preference).

Figure 2 shows that almost half (48.6%) of the respondents that receive help with household chores do so because they have difficulty with household tasks. Less than 20% receive help with getting groceries to their car or with hair care because they have difficulty with these tasks.

On the other hand, Figure 3 shows that 8.6% of the respondents indicating that they do not have help with services like hair and nail care are not able to find such help. Between 5.5% and 5.9% indicate that they need help with insurance, Medicare, or Medicaid paperwork, getting groceries out to their car, and cooking/meal preparation. Help with household chores and help getting to their seat at events received between 3.3% and 4.1% support.

Figure 2: Currently Receiving Assistance for Difficult Task

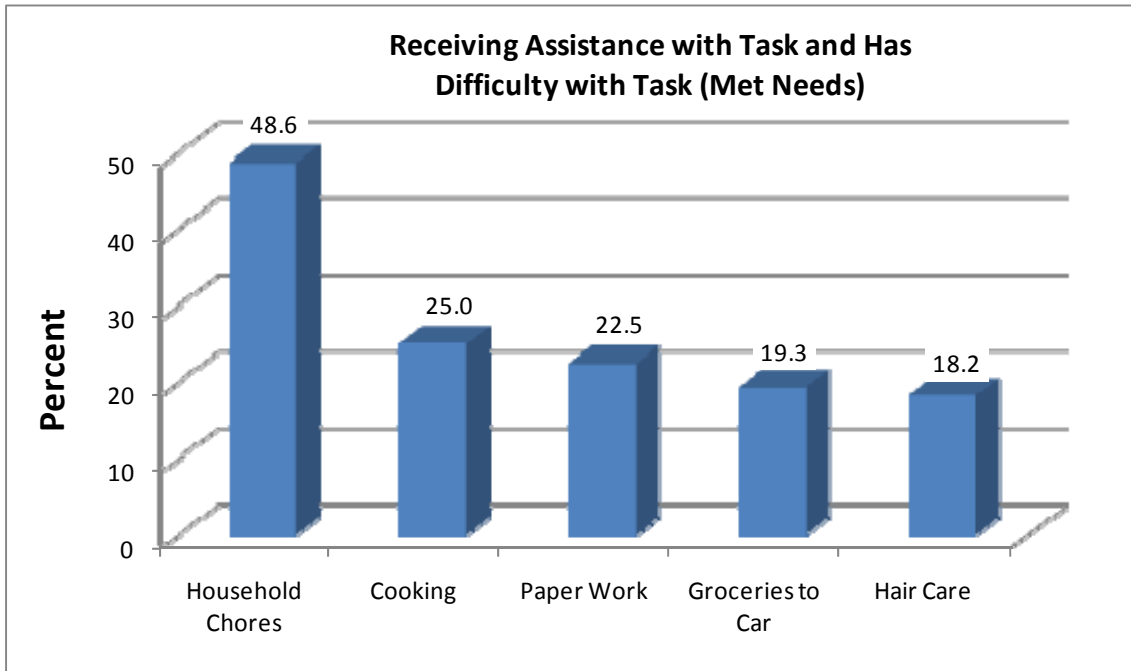
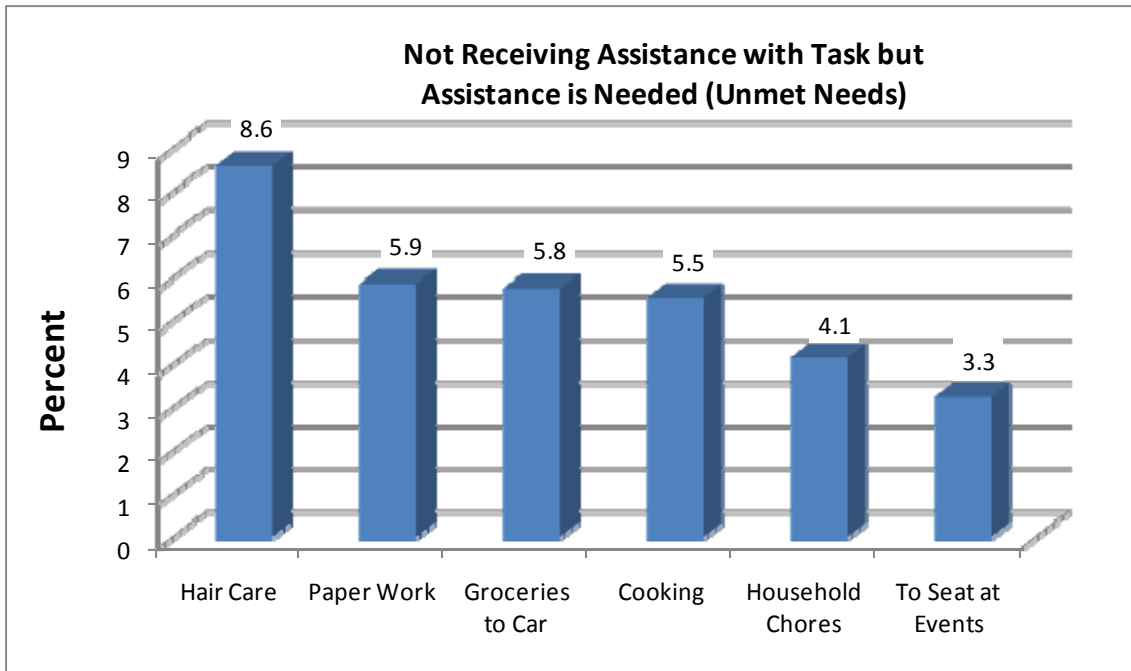


Figure 3: Unmet Need for Assistance



Tables 2 through 7 show detailed responses for each item. The tables are presented in the same order as presented in Figure 3 (i.e., in order of the greatest unmet need). Table 2 shows, for example, that 8.6% (1.5% plus 7.1%) of the respondents indicating that they do not receive help with hair or nail care suggest that “no help is available,” “they cannot afford the help,” or they don’t receive help with hair or nails for “some other reason”.

Table 2: Personal Care: Hair and Nails

Usually get help with hair care or nail care at home? (N=279)			
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Yes	11	3.9	"Yes." - Have difficulty OR prefer someone else do it?
No	268	96.1	
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Have Difficulty 2 18.2
			Prefer Someone Else 8 72.7
			Other Reason 1 9.1
			<hr/> Total 11 100.0
			"No." - Do not need help or some other reason?
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Don't Need Help 245 91.4
			No Help Available 4 1.5
			Cannot Afford Help 0 0.0
			Other Reason 19 7.1
			<hr/> Total 268 100.0

Table 3 shows that most of the respondents do not receive help and do not need help with paperwork relating to insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid.

Table 3: Help with Insurance or Medicaid/Medicare Paperwork

Help with Medicare/Medicaid/Insurance paperwork/phone calls? (N=279)				
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>		
Yes	40	14.3	"Yes." - Have difficulty OR prefer someone else do it?	
No	239	85.7		
			<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
			Have Difficulty	9 22.5
			Prefer Someone Else	24 60.0
			Other Reason	7 17.5
			Total	40 100.0
			"No." - Do not need help or some other reason?	
			<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
			Don't Need Help	225 94.1
			No Help Available	3 1.3
			Cannot Afford Help	1 0.4
			Other Reason	10 4.2
			Total	239 100.0

Table 4 (next page) shows that about half (50.2%) of the respondents usually have someone help them get their groceries to their car. Most of those respondents that do not receive help (49.8%) do not need help (94.2%). Not surprisingly, respondents receiving help with this activity are older, on average, than those not receiving help. The median age for respondents receiving help (answered "yes") is 72 years old and the median age of those not receiving help (answered "no") is 68 years old. However, those that *do not receive help but need help* are older on average than others. The median age for this group is 73.5 years old.

Table 4: Help with Getting Groceries to Car

Usually get help taking groceries out to your car? (N=279)			
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Yes	140	50.2	"Yes." - Have difficulty OR prefer someone else do it?
No	139	49.8	
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Have Difficulty 27 19.3
			Prefer Someone Else 78 55.7
			Other Reason 35 25.0
			<hr/> Total 140 100.0
			"No." - Do not need help or some other reason?
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Don't Need Help 131 94.2
			No Help Available 1 0.7
			Cannot Afford Help 0 0.0
			Other Reason 7 5.0
			<hr/> Total 139 100.0

Table 5 shows that most respondents do not receive help with cooking or preparing meals (97.1% answered “no”) and that most of these respondents (94.5%) to not need help with such activities.

Table 5: Help with Cooking or Preparing Meals

Usually get help with cooking or preparing meals? (N=279)			
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Yes	8	2.9	"Yes." - Have difficulty OR prefer someone else do it?
No	271	97.1	
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Have Difficulty 2 25.0
			Prefer Someone Else 5 62.5
			Other Reason 1 12.5
			<hr/> Total 8 100.0
			"No." - Do not need help or some other reason?
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Don't Need Help 256 94.5
			No Help Available 7 2.6
			Cannot Afford Help 1 0.4
			Other Reason 7 2.6
			<hr/> Total 271 100.0

Table 6 shows that most respondents do not receive help with household chores (86.4% answered “no”), but that some (13.6%) do receive help. Of the 86.4% that do not receive help, 4.1% (or 10 individuals) indicate that they cannot afford help, find help, or do not receive help for some other reason. As with getting groceries to the car, respondents receiving help with cooking are older, on average, than those not receiving help. The median age for respondents receiving help (answered “yes”) is 80 years old and the median age of those not receiving help (answered “no”) is 70 years old. The median age for those that *do not receive help but need help* is 76 years old.

Table 6: Help with Household Chores

Usually get help with household chores? (N=279)			
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Yes	38	13.6	"Yes." - Have difficulty OR prefer someone else do it?
No	241	86.4	
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Have Difficulty 18 48.6
			Prefer Someone Else 16 43.2
			Other Reason 3 8.1
			<hr/> Total 37 100.0
			"No." - Do not need help or some other reason?
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Don't Need Help 231 95.9
			No Help Available 4 1.7
			Cannot Afford Help 2 0.8
			Other Reason 4 1.7
			<hr/> Total 241 100.0

One of the specific issues to be addressed in this study is whether or not older residents of Phillips County need assistance when attending events at places like the Huck Boyd Center. Table 7 (next page) shows that of the 278 people responding to this question, only 11 (or 4%) answered “yes” to a question asking if they “have someone that helps you get into the building to your seat

when attending events at places like the Huck Boyd Center or the local High School.”

Table 7 is slightly different than the previous five tables. Respondents indicating that they have someone help them get to their seat in places like the Huck Boyd Center were *not* asked the follow-up “is this because you have difficulty or simply want someone to do this for you.” It was assumed that respondents receiving help with walking need that assistance and do not simply prefer help of that nature. Additionally, after the first day of surveying, a number of respondents indicated that they “never go out” or “I don’t go out.” As such, this answer option was added to this question.

Table 7: Help with Getting into Building and to Seat

Have someone that helps you get into the building and to your seat? (Total=278)				
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>		
Yes	11	4.0		
No	246	88.5	"No." - Do not need help or some other reason?	
I Don't Go Out	21	7.6		
			<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
			Don't Need Help	238 96.7
			No Help Available	3 1.2
			Cannot Afford Help	0 0.0
			Other Reason	5 2.0
				<hr/>
				246 100.0

Section 3: Health, Meals, and Transportation

The survey also included questions regarding health care and meals. Table 8 shows responses to a number of health related questions. The first question asked the respondent to provide a self-assessment of their health status. Many (41.7%) rate their health to be “about” the same as others their age. Almost 30% rate their health as “somewhat better” than their age cohort, while 20.5% suggest that they have “much better health” than their age cohort.

Table 8: Health, Health Care, and Specialist Care

How does your health compare with others' your age? (N=278)		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Much better health	57	20.5
Somewhat better health	83	29.9
About the same	116	41.7
In poorer health	22	7.9
Total	278	100.0
Get health care needs within Phillips County or outside the county? (N=281)		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Inside Phillips County	128	45.6
Outside of Phillips Co.	124	44.1
Both	29	10.3
Total	281	100.0
Are you currently seeing a specialist for any medical conditions? (N=281)		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Yes	125	44.5
No	156	55.5
Total	281	100.0
"Yes." - Do you see your specialist in Phillips County or outside the county? (N=125)		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Inside Phillips County	24	19.2
Outside of Phillips Co.	87	69.6
Both	14	11.2
Total	125	100.0

Table 8 also shows that about the same percentage of respondents (45.6% and 44.1%) receive most of their health care within Phillips County and outside of the county, respectively. The median age of respondents receiving most of their general health care inside the county is 74 years old, while the median age for respondents receiving most of their general care outside of Phillips County 66 years old.

About 45% indicated that they are currently seeing a specialist for a medical condition. Of this group, most 69.6% are traveling outside the county to see their specialist.

Respondents were also asked if there is "...a type of medical specialist that you WISH was available in Phillips County but that is NOT currently available...?" Slightly more than 40% of the respondents said "yes" to this question. These respondents were asked to provide the type of medical specialist they desire. Table 9 (next page) shows the responses to that "open-ended" question.

Nearly half of the respondents indicate that they would like to have "more" doctors or "good" doctors in the area. One respondent explained that she would like for her "doctor to be able to spend more time with [her] and not be sent to a specialist for every little thing. It is often hard to get to all the different appointments." This comment was echoed by other respondents.

Twelve respondents suggested that a cardiologist or heart specialist is needed in Phillips County, and seven mentioned that “any specialist” is needed. Seven respondents also expressed the need for a surgeon.

The table shows that respondents also perceive a need for dermatologist, oncologists, orthopedic specialists, rheumatologists, diabetes specialists, gastroenterologists, allergists, and neurologists. Nine respondents suggested a need for equipment or technical experts. These included dialysis, wheelchair, pacemaker, and prosthetics specialists.

Table 9: Specialized Health Care

Response to "Type of Specialist"	Number of Respondents Providing this Answer:
"More" MDs or "Good" MDs	48
Cardiologist or Heart Related	12
Surgeon	7
"Any Specialist"	7
Dermatologist	5
Oncologist or Cancer Related	3
Orthopedic	3
Rheumatologist	3
Endocrinologist or Diabetics Specialist	2
Gastroenterologist	2
Allergist	1
Neurologist	1
Equipment Specialists or Technicians	
Dialysis Services	6
Wheelchair	1
Pacemaker	1
Prosthetics	1
Total Number of Comments	103

Another specific issue to be addressed in this study is potential collaboration between Westview and the Senior Center when it comes to food preparation and meal services. Table 10 shows responses to three questions regarding meals. The first is whether or not the respondent eats regularly at either Westview or the Senior Center. Slightly more than 90% of the respondents do not eat regularly at either place. Of those that do, 19 eat at Westview, five eat at the Senior Center, and two said that they eat at both.

Of those that eat at either place on a regular basis, 17 prefer or would prefer buffet style eating, while four prefer home-style eating, two prefer the meals-on-wheels type of meals, and one is interested in a meal prepared especially to meet specific dietary needs.

Table 10: Westview, Senior Center, Meal Type Preferences, Collaboration

Regularly eat meals at either Westview or the Senior Citizens center? (N=281)			
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
Yes	26	9.3	"Yes." - Which one do you regularly eat at? (N=26)
No	255	90.7	
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Westview 19 73.1
			Senior citizen's center 5 19.2
			Both 2 7.7
			<hr/> Total 26 100.0
 "Yes." - How would you most prefer to have the food served?			
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Buffet Style 17 70.8
			Homestyle 4 16.7
			Meals-on-Wheels Style 2 8.3
			Individual/Dietary Needs 1 4.2
			<hr/> Total 24 100.0
 "Yes." - Should a collaboration of food operations be considered? (N=26)			
			<i>Number</i> <i>Percent</i>
			Yes 8 30.8
			No 11 42.3
			Don't Know 7 26.9
			<hr/> Total 26 100.0

Finally, the respondents that eat at either Westview or the Senior Center (or both) were asked if “a collaboration of food operations at Westview, the Senior Center, or other facilities be considered?” The single largest group (11 respondents) answered “no” to this question, while eight said “yes” and seven said they “don’t know.”

Another issue addressed in this study is transportation. Specifically, how respondents get around to run errands and if they are aware of public transportation. Table 11 shows that 92.5% of the respondents drive themselves and that 76% are of all respondents are aware of public transportation. Of the 20 respondents that indicate that they have friends or family drive them when running errands, seven suggest that they are *not aware* of public transportation.

Table 11: Transportation for Errands and Awareness of Public Transportation

How do you generally get around to do errands? (N=279)		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Drive yourself	258	92.5
Have friends or family drive you	20	7.2
Never or rarely leave	1	0.4
Total	279	100.0
Are you aware of any public transportation? (N=275)		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Yes	209	76.0
No	66	24.0
	275	100

Section 4: Independent Living

Table 12 shows responses to questions addressing the desire of the respondent to live in an independent living facility¹. A short description of an independent living facility was offered to respondents, followed by three answer options (shown in the table):

Now I have a few more questions about housing. An INDEPENDENT living facility (also called a senior apartment) is for people that do not require much support or personal care - UNLIKE an ASSISTED living facility.

Residents have their own apartments and each has a kitchen, bathroom, 1 or 2 bedrooms, and a living room. Residents do their own cooking, cleaning and laundry, but there is an on-site manager and a common food court available.

If in the future, you had to change or wanted to change your current living situation, would you be very interested, somewhat interested or not at all interested in an independent living facility?

Table 12: Interest in an Independent Living Facility

Interest in an Independent Living Facility? (N=267)		
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Very Interested	116	43.4
Somewhat Interested	100	37.5
Not at all Interested	51	19.1
Total	267	100.0

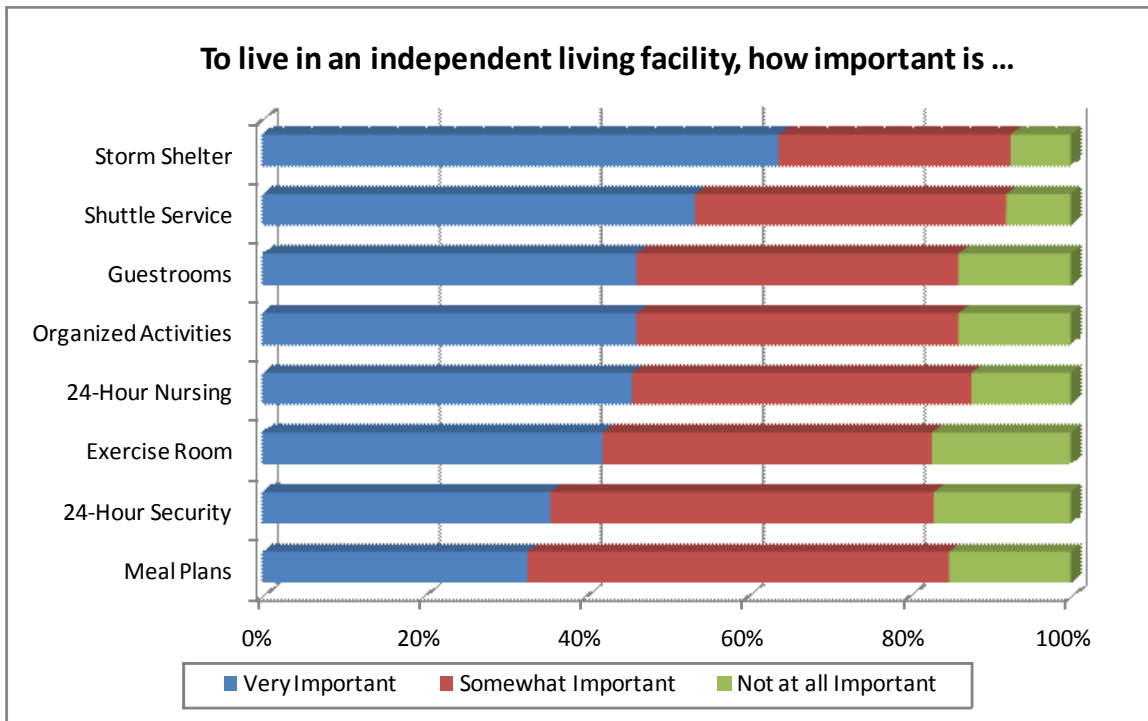
The table shows that most of the respondents are either “very interested” (43.4%) or “somewhat interested” (37.5%) in living in an independent living facility in the future. Slightly less than 20% indicate that they are not interested. Those “not interested at all” were excluded from further analysis.

¹ Respondents indicating current residence in a nursing home or assisted living facility were not asked questions regarding an independent living facility. It was assumed that respondents living in these types of facilities would be unable to live in an independent living facility.

A follow-up question asked “In about how many years from now do you think you might want to move into an independent living facility?” Answers ranged from “right now” to 50. The median number of years is 10. The average number of years was about 12.

Respondents were presented with various amenities and services that could be offered at an independent living facility. After each one, the respondent was asked to rate the amenity or service with regard to how important it would be in making the decision to move into a facility. Answer options included “Very Important,” “Somewhat Important,” and “Not at All Important.” Figure 4 shows the results of these questions².

Figure 4: Important Aspects of Independent Living Facility



² The Appendix shows the wording of each question.

The results show that about 64% of the respondents rated a storm shelter as “very important,” while about 29% rated this amenity as “somewhat important.” Only 7% indicated that this was “not at all important.”

Slightly more than half (53%) rated “shuttle service around the community” as “very important” in their decision to live in an independent living facility. Almost 40% rated shuttle service as “somewhat important,” while 8% rated this option as “not at all important.”

At least a third of the respondents rated all of the amenities or services as “very important,” and at least 80% of the respondents rated all of the amenities and services as at least “somewhat important.”

Respondents were given an opportunity to offer other amenities or services that they find important or desirable in an independent living facility. Table 13 (next page) shows some of the comments provided by respondents.

Table 13: Other Amenities and Services

Other Important Amenities or Services
"Wheelchair accessible ramps for buildings and apartments designed at the appropriate height for wheelchairs."
"We also need more assisted living here."
"Someone to check medications.... to make sure the proper medications are taken."
"A washer and dryer in each unit, or at least close by without stairs."
"Access to an indoor swimming pool."
"I toured one in Norton and it seemed like a good facility."
"The facility in Norton is on the outer edge of town. It is hard to get anywhere from there."
"One building with three wings - one for independent living, one for assisted living, and that is a skilled nursing facility. That way people could move from one to another without losing their friends or moving to a new place."
"A security guard would not be need as long as the front door was locked at night. Emergency nursing would not be needed if the facility was near the hospital."
"If I had a two-bedroom apartment, I could use one room for family when they visit and a guest room in the facility would not necessary. If I had a one-bedroom apartment, then a guest room would be a good idea."

In addition to amenities and services, respondents were asked questions regarding floor level, number of bedrooms, and location of a facility. Figures 5 through 8 (starting on next page) show the responses to these questions.

Most respondents (85%) desire to live on the first floor of a facility. Eleven percent indicated that the floor level did not matter to them, while 3% and 1% would prefer to live on the second and third floor, respectively.

Nearly three-quarters (74%) of the respondents indicate that they would prefer a two bedroom apartment, while about a quarter (26%) would prefer a single bedroom unit.

Figure 5: Floor Preference

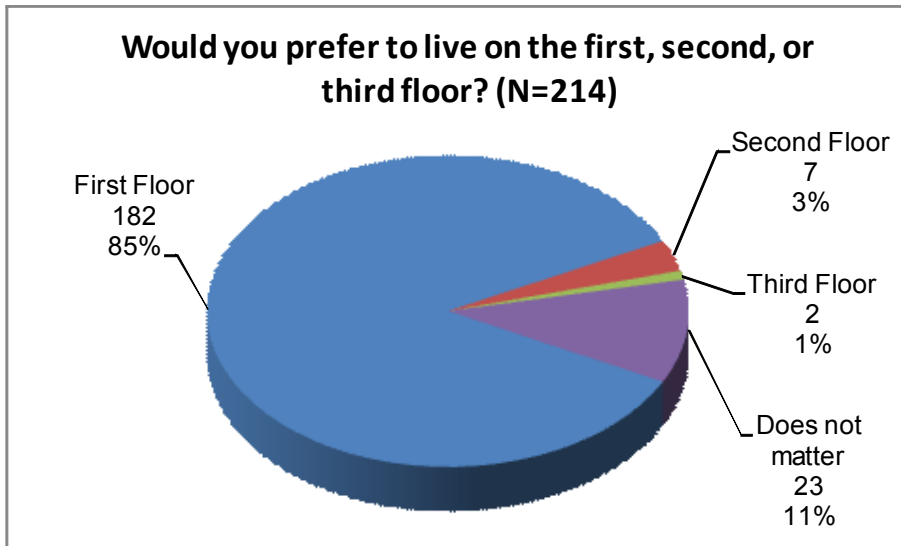


Figure 6: Preference for One or Two Bedroom Apartment

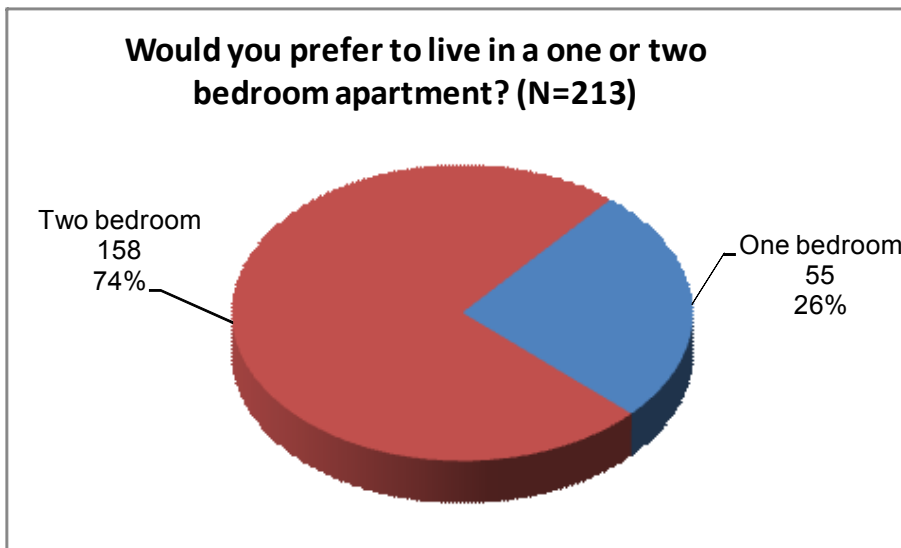


Figure 7 shows responses to a question regarding the location of an independent living facility. Respondents were read the following statement and asked to choose one of the answer options:

Regarding the location of the facility, would you most prefer to live within walking distance of the shops in downtown Phillipsburg, near the airport, near the hospital, some other location, or does it matter to you?

The figure shows that most (61%) of the respondents are not concerned about the location of a facility. Thirty-three percent would prefer that a facility be located near down-town, while smaller percentages prefer to live “near the hospital” (2%) or “near the airport” (1%). Six respondents offered “some other location” not previously asked. These included: “in an area with a nice setting,” “a place that is centrally located,” “near my church,” “in Logan,” “someplace with nice grass and trees,” “a place outside of Phillipsburg.”

Figure 7: Preferred Location of Facility

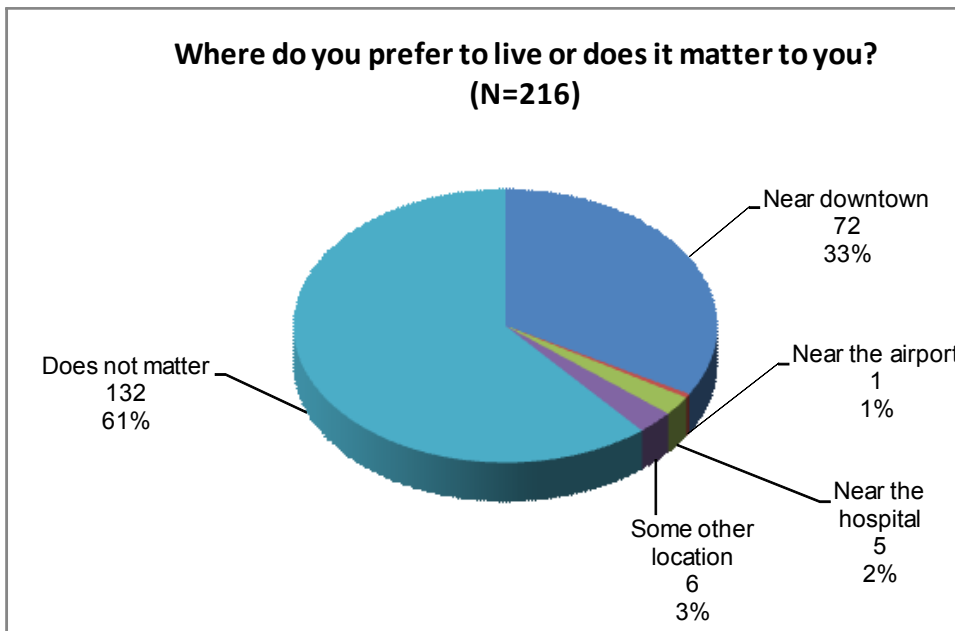
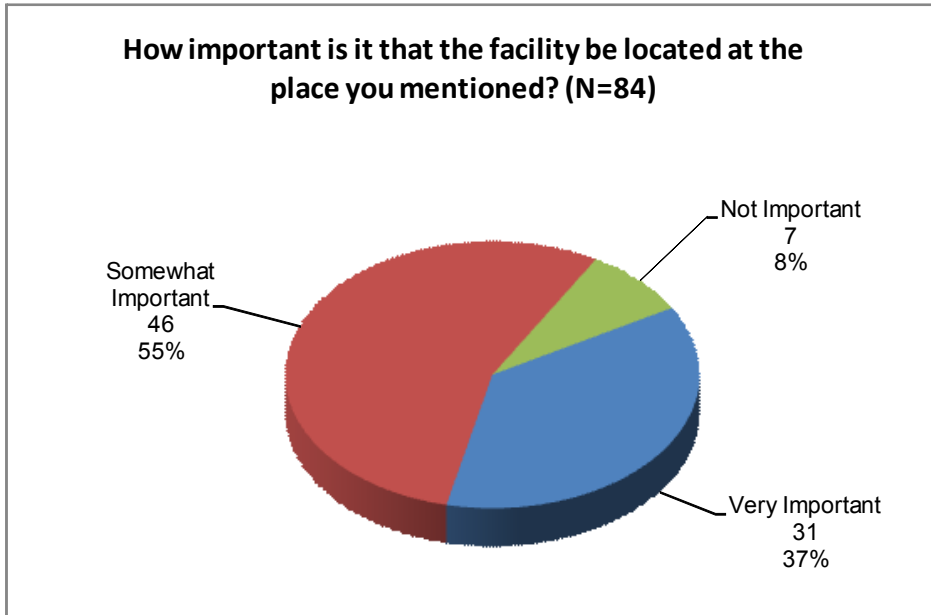


Figure 8 shows responses to a question regarding how important their preferred location is to them³. Most (55%) said that their choice was somewhat important, while 37% said the location was very important.

Figure 8: Importance of Preferred Location



³ Respondents indicating that is “does not matter” where the facility was located, were not asked the question about the importance of the location.

Table 14 is a cross-tabulation of the data shown in the previous two figures. The table shows that 27 of the respondents that would prefer to live in a facility located downtown also suggest that this location is “very important” to them. Another 39 respondents that would prefer to live in a facility located downtown also suggest that this location is “somewhat important” to them. While the data shown in Table 14 is not statistically significant the finding may hint at the level of importance of a facility being located in a downtown area.

Table 14: Preferred Location by Importance of Preferred Location

		How important is it that the facility be located at the place you mentioned?			Total
		<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Somewhat Important</i>	<i>Not at all Important</i>	
Where do you prefer to live or does it matter to you?	<i>Near downtown</i>	27	39	6	72
	<i>Near the airport</i>	0	1	0	1
	<i>Near the hospital</i>	1	4	0	5
	<i>Some other location</i>	3	2	1	6
	Total	31	46	7	84

Figure 9 (next page) shows responses to a question addressing the amount of monthly rent each respondent is willing to pay for an apartment in an independent living facility:

If an independent living facility included ALL of the services I just mentioned and included all utilities and cable TV, would you be willing to pay between \$900 and \$1,200 per month IF THAT was the monthly rent?

How about \$700 to \$900 per month?

How about \$500 to \$700 per month?

How about \$300 to \$500 per month?

How about \$100 to \$300 per month?

The question was structured so that if the respondent was not willing to pay the amount mentioned, the interviewer would ask the next lower amount.

As the figure shows nearly half (49%) of the respondents suggest that they are willing to pay \$900 to \$1,200 per month for an apartment in an independent living facility that provides cable TV and utilities. Seventeen percent suggest they are willing to pay \$700 to \$900, while another 17% are willing to pay \$500 to \$700 per month.

Figure 9: Willingness to Pay per Month

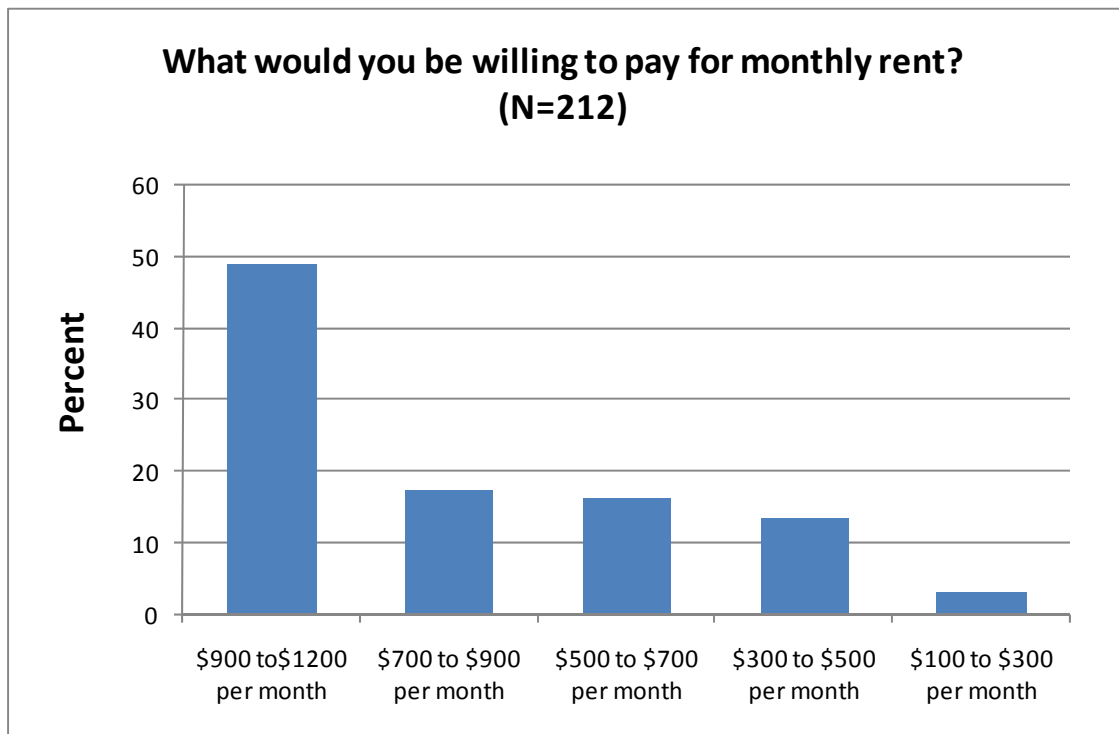


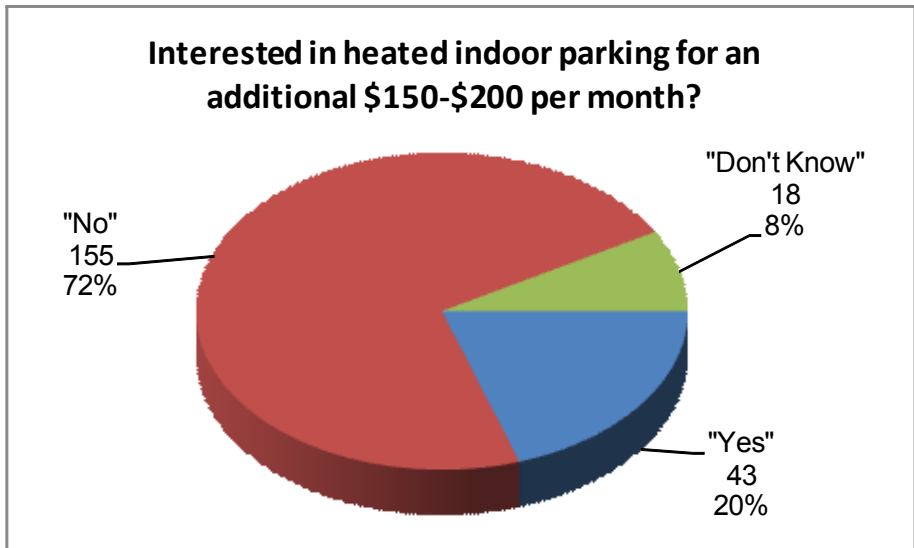
Table 15 (next page) shows that 51% of the respondents that prefer a two bedroom apartment are willing to spend \$900 to \$1,200 per month for rent. This compares to 43% of the respondents preferring a one bedroom apartment that are willing to spend \$900 to \$1,200 per month for rent. However, a statistically significant relationship does not exist between the two variables.

Table 15: Willing to Pay by Number of Bedrooms

		Would you prefer to live in a one or two bedroom apartment?			
		One Bedroom Apartment		Two Bedroom Apartment	
What would you be willing to pay for monthly rent?	\$900 to \$1200 per month	23	43%	79	51%
	\$700 to \$900 per month	12	23%	25	16%
	\$500 to \$700 per month	12	23%	22	14%
	\$300 to \$500 per month	5	9%	24	15%
	\$100 to \$300 per month	1	2%	6	4%
	Total	53	100%	156	100%

Following the question regarding monthly rent, respondents were asked if they would be interested in “heated indoor parking with security” for an additional \$150 to \$200 per month. Figure 10 shows that most (72%) respondents are not interested, while 20% are interested.

Figure 10: Interest in Heated/Secure Parking



Appendix 1: Census Data and Sample Comparison

Table 16 shows a comparison of the data gathered from the US Census Bureau for Phillips County and from the telephone survey. The table shows that none of the percentages vary by more than the margin of error of 5.8%. For example, the US Census shows that 43% of the population of people 55 years old and older is male, and 57% is female. From the telephone survey, almost 42% is male, while 58% is female. Thus, the sample is about one percentage point different from the Census. This is less than the margin of error (of 5.8%).

Regarding age groups, the Census shows that about 33% of the people in the county that are 55 years old or older belong to the 55-64 age group. Almost 32% of survey respondents belong to this age group. Similarly, almost 29% of the people in Phillips County that are 55 years old or older belong to the 65-74 age group, and about 32% of the survey respondents belong to this age group. Findings from the other two age groups show similar results – varying from Census data by about three to five percentage points.

Table 16: Gender and Age Groups

GENDER of 55 and Older			MoE	AGE GROUPS		
	<i>Census</i>	<i>Survey</i>			<i>Census</i>	<i>Survey</i>
Male	43.0%	41.8%	5.8%	55-64	32.8%	31.7%
Female	57.0%	58.2%		65-74	28.8%	31.7%
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>		75-84	23.6%	26.3%
				84 <	14.8%	10.3%
					<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

The US Census Bureau does not provide data regarding household size for people 55 years old and older. However, the Bureau does provide data for those 60 and older. Table 17 shows the percentage of households consisting of one person and of two or more people. The table suggests that Census and survey data are similar, although about 2% points outside of the margin of error.

Table 17: Household Size for 60 and Over

	For 60 and Over	
	<i>Census</i>	<i>Survey</i>
One Person Household	42.0%	34.0%
Two or More People in Household	58.0%	66.0%
	100%	100%

Taken together, the findings shown in Table 16 and Table 17 suggest that the responses from the survey sample may be used to represent the larger population of people 55 years of age and older in Phillips County, Kansas.

Appendix 2: Survey Instrument

Hi, my name is _____ and I'm calling from Fort Hays State University. We are calling residents of Phillips County on behalf of Phillips County Economic Development. You may have heard about this survey on the radio or read about it in your newspaper. We are not selling anything.

The survey is for people that are 55 years old or older. Is there someone in your household that is at least 55 years old?

NO. Okay. Thank you for your time.

YES. Great. If there is more than one person that is at least 55 years old, I need to speak with the person that had the most recent birthday to make sure we have a random sample. Is that person available?

Thank you. Your answers will remain completely confidential. May I begin?

First I am going to ask you to rate certain aspects of Phillips County.

As a place to find AFFORDABLE housing, do you rate Phillips County as...

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Fair
- 4 Poor

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

As a place to find HIGH QUALITY housing, do you rate Phillips County as...

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Fair
- 4 Poor

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

As a place to find AFFORDABLE health care services, do you rate Phillips County as...

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Good
- 3 Fair

4 Poor

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

How about as a place to find HIGH QUALITY health care services?

1 Excellent

2 Good

3 Fair

4 Poor

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

How about as a place to find a VARIETY of recreational activities?

[PARKS, BOWLING, CONCERTS, OR MOVIES]

1 Excellent

2 Good

3 Fair

4 Poor

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

How about as a place that offers a VARIETY of shopping?

[ANY TYPE IN GENERAL]

1 Excellent

2 Good

3 Fair

4 Poor

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

OK.. Thinking about your living situation, do you live in your own house?

1 Yes

2 No

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Which of the following options best describes your living situation?
Do you live ...

- 1 in a house with grown children or other people
- 2 in a seniors only apartment complex
- 3 in a rented apartment, house, or mobile home
- 4 in an assisted living facility
- 5 in a nursing home or skilled care facility [RESPITE CARE TOO]
- 6 in some other type of housing

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Some people find that they need help with daily activities as they get older, and others do not.

Do you usually get help with chores like laundry, cleaning, vacuuming, and taking out the garbage?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you just don't need help, or is it because of some other reason?

- 1 Don't need help
- 2 Cannot find help/no help available
- 3 Cannot afford it
- 4 Some other reason or no reason given

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you have difficulty doing it or can't do it on your own anymore.... or is it because you just prefer someone else do it?

- 1 Difficulty doing it or can't do it anymore
- 2 Prefer someone else do it
- 3 Some other reason

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Do you usually get help with cooking or preparing meals?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you just don't need help, or is it because of some other reason?

- 1 Don't need help
- 2 Cannot find help/no help available
- 3 Cannot afford it
- 4 Some other reason or no reason given

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you have difficulty doing it or can't do it on your own anymore.... or is it because you just prefer someone else do it?

- 1 Difficulty doing it or can't do it anymore
- 2 Prefer someone else do it
- 3 Some other reason

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Do you usually get help taking groceries out to your car?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you just don't need help, or is it because of some other reason?

- 1 Don't need help
- 2 Cannot find help/no help available
- 3 Cannot afford it
- 4 Some other reason or no reason given

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you have difficulty doing it or can't do it on your own anymore.... or is it because you just prefer someone else do it?

- 1 Difficulty doing it or can't do it anymore
- 2 Prefer someone else do it
- 3 Some other reason

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Do you usually get help with hair care or nail care at home?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you just don't need help, or is it because of some other reason?

- 1 Don't need help
- 2 Cannot find help/no help available
- 3 Cannot afford it
- 4 Some other reason or no reason given

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you have difficulty doing it or can't do it on your own anymore.... or is it because you just prefer someone else do it?

- 1 Difficulty doing it or can't do it anymore
- 2 Prefer someone else do it
- 3 Some other reason

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Thinking about attending events at places like the Huck Boyd Center, the high school, or other places, do you have someone that helps you get into the building and to your seat?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

7 I DON'T GO OUT/I DON'T GO TO PLACES LIKE THAT AT ALL

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you just don't need help, or is it because of some other reason?

- 1 Don't need help
- 2 Cannot find help/no help available
- 3 Cannot afford it
- 4 Some other reason or no reason given

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Now, thinking about when you need to leave your home to shop, go to appointments, or run errands do you generally...

- 1 Drive yourself
- 2 Have friends or family drive you because you cannot drive
- 3 Use public transportation to get around
- 4 Ride in a bus or van provided by a senior living facility

5 I NEVER/RARELY LEAVE MY HOME - SOMEONE ELSE RUNS ERRANDS FOR ME

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Are you aware of any public transportation that you might be able to use to get around town?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Now, I have some questions about health care. Thinking about other people your same age, do you find that you are in much better health, somewhat better health, about the same, or in poorer health than others.

- 1 Much Better Health
- 2 Somewhat Better Health
- 3 About the Same
- 4 In Poorer Health

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Do you get most of your routine or ongoing health care needs taken care of within Phillips County or outside of the county?

1 Inside Phillips County
2 Outside of Phillips County

3 BOTH IN AND OUT OF PHILLIPS COUNTY
4 NEITHER - I DON'T RECEIVE HEALTH CARE BECAUSE I CAN'T GET THE CARE I NEED
5 NEITHER - I DON'T RECEIVE HEALTH CARE BECAUSE I CAN'T AFFORD CARE
6 NEITHER - I DON'T RECEIVE HEALTH CARE FOR SOME OTHER REASON

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

How about specialized care? Are you currently seeing a specialist for any medical conditions?

1 Yes
2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Do you see your specialist in Phillips County or do you travel outside of the county?

1 Inside Phillips County
2 Outside of Phillips County

3 BOTH IN AND OUT OF PHILLIPS COUNTY

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Thinking about your health needs, is there a type of medical specialist that you WISH was available in Phillips County but that is currently NOT available in the county?

1 Yes
2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

What type of medical specialist is that?

Do you have someone help you fill out paperwork or make phone calls to your insurance company or Medicaid or Medicare?

1 Yes
2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you don't need help, or is it because of some other reason?

1 Don't need help
2 Cannot find help/no help available
3 Cannot afford it
4 Some other reason or no reason given

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Is it because you have difficulty doing it or can't do it on your own anymore.... or is it because you just prefer someone else do it?

1 Difficulty doing it or can't do it anymore
2 Prefer someone else do it
3 Some other reason

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Thinking about meals and food, do you regularly eat meals at either Westview or the Senior Citizen's center?

1 Yes
2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Which one do you regularly eat at, or is it both?

1 Westview

2 Senior Citizen's Center

3 BOTH

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

How would you most prefer to have the food served?

[SELECT ONLY ONE.]

1 As a buffet

2 As a sit down, homestyle meal

3 As a boxed meal like meals-on-wheels provides

4 Individual or specialized meal preparations based on dietary needs

5 Or some other way

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

In what other way would you like the food served?

Should a collaboration of food operations at Westview, the senior center, or other facilities be considered?

1 Yes

2 No

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Now I have a few more questions about housing. An INDEPENDENT living facility (also called a senior apartment) is for people that do not require much support or personal care - UNLIKE an ASSISTED living facility.

Residents have their own apartments and each has a kitchen, bathroom, 1 or 2 bedrooms, and a living room. Residents do their own cooking, cleaning and laundry, but there is an on-site manager and a common food court available.

If in the future, you had to change or wanted to change your current living situation, would you be very interested, somewhat interested or not at all interested in an independent living facility?

1 Very Interested

2 Somewhat Interested

3 Not At All Interested

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

In about how many years from now do you think you might want to move into an independent living facility?

[0 = "Right Now]

[88 = DON'T KNOW]

[99 = REFUSED]

Independent living facilities can offer a number of different services. I'm going to read a list of these services. Please tell me how important each would be in your selection of an independent living facility.

Would a storm shelter be very important, somewhat important, or not at all important in selecting an independent living facility?

1 Very Important

2 Somewhat Important

3 Not at all Important

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Would 24 hour security be very important, somewhat important, or not at all important in selecting a facility?

1 Very Important

2 Somewhat Important

3 Not at all Important

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

How about an exercise room? Is that..

1 Very Important

2 Somewhat Important

3 Not at all Important

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

How about a shuttle to take you around the community?

- 1 Very Important
- 2 Somewhat Important
- 3 Not at all Important

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

Organized activities?

[CRAFTS, ENTERTAINMENT, ETC...]

- 1 Very Important
- 2 Somewhat Important
- 3 Not at all Important

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

Guestrooms for family or friends?

- 1 Very Important
- 2 Somewhat Important
- 3 Not at all Important

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

An emergency nursing staff on call 24 hours a day?

- 1 Very Important
- 2 Somewhat Important
- 3 Not at all Important

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

How about meal plans?

- 1 Very Important
- 2 Somewhat Important
- 3 Not at all Important

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

Finally, would you prefer to live on the first, second, or third floor of the independent living facility?

- 1 First
- 2 Second
- 3 Third

4 DOES NOT MATTER

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

Would you prefer a one or two bedroom independent living apartment?

- 1 One Bedroom [or studio]
- 2 Two Bedroom

3 THREE OR MORE

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

If an independent living facility included ALL of the services I just mentioned and included all utilities and cable TV, would you be willing to pay between \$900 and \$1,200 per month IF THAT was the monthly rent?

[INTERVIEWER - KEEP READING UNTIL THE RESPONDENT ANSWERS YES. ONCE THEY ANSWER YES, ENTER THE NUMBER TO CONTINUE.]

1 \$900 to \$1,200 per month? (if no, continue)

2 \$700 to \$900 per month? (if no, continue)

3 \$500 to \$700 per month? (if no, continue)

4 \$300 to \$500 per month? (if no, continue)

5 \$100 to \$300 per month? (if no, enter 6)

6 SAID NO TO ALL ABOVE

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

If the independent living facility included heated indoor parking with security, would you be interested in this service for an additional \$150 to \$200 per month?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

Regarding the location of the facility, would you most prefer to live within walking distance of the shops in downtown Phillipsburg, near the airport, near the hospital, some other location, or does it matter to you?

- 1 Near downtown
- 2 Near the airport
- 3 Near the hospital
- 4 Some other location
- 5 Does not matter

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

What location do you have in mind?

Is it very important, somewhat important, or not at all important to you that the independent living facility be located at the place you mentioned?

- 1 Very Important
- 2 Somewhat Important
- 3 Not At All Important

- 8 DON'T KNOW
- 9 REFUSED

Is there anything that I have not mentioned that is important to you with regards to living in an independent living facility?

Finally, I would like to ask a few questions about yourself to help us analyze the results of the survey.

What year were you born?

- 8888 IF DON'T KNOW
- 9999 IF REFUSED

Do you have family members living in Phillips County?

- 1 Yes

2 No

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

How many other people do you share your house or apartment with?

1 One other person

2 Two other people

3 Three other people

4 More than three other people

5 I live alone

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

1 LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

2 HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

3 SOME COLLEGE

4 ASSOCIATES OR TECHNICAL DEGREE

5 BACHELORS DEGREE

6 MASTERS OR LAW DEGREE

7 DOCTORAL DEGREE

8 DON'T KNOW

9 REFUSED

Was your total family income for last year above or below \$40,000?

[IF BELOW \$40,000, READ THE FOLLOWING RESPONSES]

1 Less than 10,000

2 At least 10,000 but under 20,000

3 At least 20,000 but under 30,000

4 At least 30,000 but under 40,000

[IF ABOVE \$40,000 READ THE FOLLOWING RESPONSES]

5 At least 40,000 but under 50,000

6 At least 50,000 but under 60,000

7 At least 60,000 but under 70,000

8 At least 70,000 but under 100,000

9 100,000 or more

88 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
99 REFUSED

[IF ANYONE INQUIRES, WE MEAN INCOME BEFORE TAXES]

And finally, is it okay for my supervisor to call and confirm your participation in the study?

1 Yes
2 No

8 DON'T KNOW
9 REFUSED

Thank you very much for your time. [HANG UP]

WAS THE RESPONDENT A:

1 FEMALE
2 MALE