

## A Short Report about the 2002 Making Connections Survey

The 2002 Making Connections survey compared people living in the West Side Communities of San Antonio to those who make up the general population of Bexar County. On the West Side, 821 households were selected at random and residents were interviewed in person, whereas 690 residents of Bexar County households were interviewed by phone. To ensure that the data were representative of the West Side and Bexar County populations, the data for each individual were weighted (i.e., counted as one interview, a fraction of an interview, or as more than one interview) to create samples that matched the 2000 Census data for the West Side and Bexar County areas with respect to gender, age, and ethnicity.

### Weighted Demographic Comparison Data from Survey

Residents were asked a number of questions about their neighborhoods. Here a few of our findings:

- 46% of residents on West Side said that their neighborhood's would be better in the future; whereas only 12.3% thought that their neighborhoods would be worse.
- For Persons on West Side (Bexar County, BC, Comparison figures are in parentheses):
  - 55% agreed that people in the neighborhood can be trusted (69%, BC).
  - 68% said that people are willing to help other neighbors (79%, BC).
  - 61% describe their neighborhood as "close-knit" (66%, BC).
- On the issue of safety, West Side residents reported as follows:
  - 86%--feel safe alone during the day.
  - 75%--feel safe at night.
  - 64%--feel neighborhood is a safe place for children.
- With respect to use of services in one year time span, West Side residents reported as follows:
  - 26% have used community college/adult education (compared to 39%, BC).
  - 16% use day care/preschool services (compared to 16%, BC).
  - 31% have used a recreation/community service (compared to 38%, BC).
  - 10% have used family counseling (10%, BC)
- 26% of West Side residents reported doing volunteer work in the neighborhood over the span of 1 year (compared to 40%, BC).

	Bexar County	West Side
<b>Sample Size</b>	690	821
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	51.4%	52.2%
Male	48.6%	47.8%
<b>Age of Adult Respondent (Mean)</b>	42.9	44.3
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
Hispanic	50.9%	92.0%
White, not of Hispanic origin	39.5%	3.6%
Black or African American	7.0%	2.9%
Other	2.6%	1.5%
<b>Foreign born persons</b>	15.6%	17.7%
<b>Education</b>		
High School Graduates, Ages 25+	86.6%	46.7%
Bachelor's degree or Higher, Ages 25+	39.7%	4.0%
<b>Mean travel time to work</b>	20.25	25.07
<b>Homeownership rate</b>	60.3%	54.2%
<b>Median value of owner-occupied homes</b>	\$85,000	\$40,000
<b>Estimate of Persons per household</b>	(2.58)	(2.71)
<b>Median household money income</b>	Over \$30,000	\$17,500
<b>Persons below poverty</b>	19.2%	34.9%

- 27% of West Side residents reported that a child in the household (where present) was engaged in extracurricular activities more than once a week, compared to 33% of Bexar County residents.
- Finally, 64% of households on the West side were occupied by an adult who was employed. In contrast, 66.4% of Bexar County respondents were employed, and 37.6% of respondents had a working spouse, making 76.5% of households with a working adult.