

2018 REGIONAL QoL SURVEY QUESTIONS

SECTION: OVERALL

OVRALL1. How many years have you lived where you currently live?

1. Less than one year
2. 1-3 years
3. 3-5 years
4. 5-10 years
5. 10-20 years
6. More than 20 years

OVRALL2. How many years have you lived in the southwestern Pennsylvania region? This includes Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Washington and Westmoreland counties.

1. Less than one year (go to Q4)
2. 1-3 years (go to Q4)
3. 3-5 years (go to Q4)
4. 5-10 years (skip to Q5)
5. 10-20 years (skip to Q5)
6. More than 20 years (skip to Q5)
7. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER (skip to Q5)

OVRALL4. What is the primary reason you moved into the Pittsburgh region?

1. Family-related reasons
2. Job-related reasons
3. Housing-related reasons
4. Education related reasons (for example you moved to attend or leave college)
5. Retirement
6. Other reasons (SPECIFY) (e.g., change of climate, health reasons, natural disaster, other)

OVRALL5. Thinking about the overall quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania region, how would you rate the region as a place to live? Would you say it is....

1. Excellent
2. Very Good
3. Good
4. Fair
5. Poor
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

OVRALL6. Would you say that the overall quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania region has improved, declined, or stayed about the same during the past few years?

1. Improved
2. Declined
3. Stayed about the same
4. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

OVRALL7. How would you rate your neighborhood or local community as a place to live? Would you say it is....

1. Excellent
2. Very Good
3. Good
4. Fair
5. Poor
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: NEIGHBORHOOD

NEIGH1. About how often do you talk to or visit with your immediate neighbors? Would you say...

1. Just about everyday
2. Several times a month
3. Once a month
4. Several times a year
5. Never
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

NEIGH2. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: "The people in my neighborhood are willing to help their neighbors." Do you...

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

NEIGH3. When thinking about the racial diversity in your own neighborhood or local community, would you say that it is...

1. Very diverse
2. Somewhat diverse
3. Not at all diverse
4. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

NEIGH4. How much of a problem, if any, do you think race relations are in your own neighborhood or local community? Would you say that they are...

1. A severe problem
2. A moderate problem
3. A minor problem
4. Not a problem at all
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

NEIGH6. Do you expect to be living in the Southwestern Pennsylvania region five years from now?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: ENVIRONMENT

ENVIR1. Would you say that air quality in your community is a...

1. Severe problem
2. Moderate problem

3. A Minor problem
4. Not a problem at all
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR2. How about the quality of your drinking water? Would you say it is a...

1. Severe problem
2. Moderate problem
3. A Minor problem
4. Not a problem at all
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR3. How about pollution in streams and rivers? Would you say it is...

1. Severe problem
2. Moderate problem
3. A Minor problem
4. Not a problem at all
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR4. Would you say that overall environmental quality in our region is...

1. Improving significantly
2. Improving somewhat
3. Remaining the same
4. Getting somewhat worse
5. Getting significantly worse
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR5. Do you feel that state government oversight of the environment should...

1. Increase significantly
2. Increase somewhat
3. Remain the same
4. Decrease somewhat
5. Decrease significantly
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR6. To what extent do you think natural gas drilling represents an economic opportunity for this region?
Do you think it represents...

1. A significant economic opportunity for the region
2. A moderate economic opportunity for the region
3. Only a slight economic opportunity for the region
4. Very little or no economic opportunity for the region
5. NO OPINION / HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT IT

ENVIR7. To what extent do you think natural gas drilling represents a threat to the environment and public health of the region? Do you think it represents...

1. A significant threat to the environment and public health of the region
2. A moderate threat to the environment and public health of the region
3. Only a slight threat to the environment and public health of the region
4. Very little or no threat to the environment and public health of the region
5. NO OPINION / HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT IT

ENVIR8. While our region has a rich legacy of producing fossil fuels, community stakeholders have recently demonstrated increased interest in diversifying our energy sources. What factors matter most to you in the sources of energy our community uses? (Please rank the top 2)

1. Cost
2. Public health
3. Environment
4. Effect on jobs
5. Investing in the future of energy
6. National and regional energy independence
7. My own personal energy independence
8. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR9. Solar power is becoming increasingly cost competitive with conventional energy sources. How much money would you need to be paid to install solar panels on your home?

1. I would never install solar panels on my home.
2. I would completely pay for their installation if it reduced my energy bills by less than \$1,000
3. \$1,000 - \$5,000
4. \$5,000 - \$10,000
5. Greater than \$10,000
6. I already have solar panels installed
7. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR10. Do you regularly recycle newspaper, glass, or plastic?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR11. Are you a member of or do you volunteer with a group which aims to preserve or protect the environment?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR12. How frequently do you or members of your family go to outdoor public recreation facilities, such as parks, trails and playgrounds? Would you say...

1. Almost never
2. One to three times a year
3. Four to ten times a year
4. Ten to 20 times a year
5. More than 20 times a year
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ENVIR13. How would you rate the overall quality of public recreational areas in the region, such as parks, trails and playgrounds? Would you say they are...

1. Excellent
2. Very Good
3. Good
4. Fair
5. Poor
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: GOVERNMENT

GOV1. Redistricting is the process of redrawing the districts of elected representatives, such as members of congress and the state legislature. Gerrymandering is manipulating that process to favor one political party over another. To what extent, if any, do you feel gerrymandering is a problem today in Pennsylvania? Do you believe gerrymandering is:

1. A serious problem.
2. Moderate problem.
3. A minor problem.
4. Not a problem at all.
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

GOV2. Should the redrawing of political districts in Pennsylvania be done by an independent, non-partisan commission?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

GOV3. Do you support abandoning Pennsylvania's "state store" system in favor of allowing wine and liquor to be sold in privately owned retail stores?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW

GOV4. Pennsylvania allows marijuana to be legally sold for medical purposes by licensed retail outlets. Several other states also allow marijuana to be legally sold for recreational use. Do you support legalizing the sale of marijuana for recreational use in Pennsylvania?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

GOV5. As you may know, Pittsburgh is one of the finalists to be selected for a new Amazon, Inc. headquarters location (sometimes called "Amazon HQ2"). This would bring many high paying jobs and increase the region's profile. There could be some negative impacts, such as increased housing costs. In general, which of the following best represents your feelings about this possibility?

1. Strongly favor – the benefits would far outweigh the costs
2. Moderately favor – Some concern about the costs, but they are outweighed by the benefits
3. Not sure
4. Moderately oppose – See some benefits, but they are outweighed by the costs
5. Strongly oppose – the costs would far outweigh the benefits
6. NO OPINION – HAVE NOT BEEN FOLLOWING

GOV6. Where do you get your information about local government? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

1. Newspapers/magazine (print or online)
2. Television/radio.
3. Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
4. Government web sites
5. Other internet sources

6. Community meetings
7. Other (SPECIFY)
8. NOT INTERESTED / DON'T GET LOCAL GOV'T INFORMATION
9. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

GOV7a. Are you registered to vote?

1. Yes
2. No (skip to Q8)
9. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER (skip to Q8)

GOV7b. How often do you vote?

1. In every election
2. In every general election
3. In every Presidential election.
4. Rarely
5. You don't vote
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

GOV8. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?

1. Democrat
2. Republican
3. Independent
4. Something else / Other (SPECIFY)
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

GOV9. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself to be a liberal, a conservative, or a moderate?

1. Liberal
2. Conservative
3. Moderate
8. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER
9. REFUSE TO ANSWER

SECTION: ARTS

ARTS1. During the past year, about how many times have you visited a local museum or gallery or attended an art or cultural event, such as a play, concert, festival, reading or film?

1. None
2. 1-2 times
3. 3-5 times
4. 6-10 times
5. 11-20 times
6. More than 20 times
7. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ARTS2. During the past year, have you made any donations to arts or cultural organizations?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ARTS3. In your opinion, how important is arts education in schools? Would you say it is...

1. Not important
2. Somewhat important
3. Very important
4. Extremely important
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ARTS4. How would you rate the overall quality of the region's arts and cultural opportunities? Would you say...

1. Excellent
2. Very Good
3. Good
4. Fair
5. Poor
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: TRANSPORTATION

TRANS1. How much of a problem, if any, do you think there is with road and bridge quality in the region? Would you say...

1. A severe problem
2. A moderate problem
3. A minor problem
4. Not a problem at all
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

TRANS2. How much of a problem, if any, do you think there is with traffic congestion in the region? Would you say....

1. A severe problem
2. A moderate problem
3. A minor problem
4. Not a problem at all
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

TRANS3. How much of a problem, if any, do you think there is with the availability of public transit in the region? Would you say...

1. A severe problem
2. A moderate problem
3. A minor problem
4. Not a problem at all
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

TRANS4. How much of a problem, if any, do you think there is with the availability of nonstop flight destinations at Greater Pittsburgh International Airport? Would you say...

Would you say it is ...

1. A severe problem
2. A moderate problem
3. A minor problem
4. Not a problem at all

5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

TRANS5. How much of a problem, if any, do you think there is with the availability of safe and dedicated bicycling and pedestrian routes in the region? Would you say...

1. A severe problem
2. A moderate problem
3. A minor problem
4. Not a problem at all
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

TRANS6. How often do you use public transit?

1. 5 days a week or more
2. About once a week
3. About once a month
4. Less than once a month
5. Never
6. Public transit is not available
7. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

TRANS7. Would you support increased funding for the improvement of roads and bridges in the region?

1. YES
2. NO → skip to next section
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER → skip to next section

TRANS8. Which one of the following options would you most strongly support to provide this funding for improvement of roads and bridges?

1. Increased gasoline taxes
2. Increased vehicle registration fees
3. More toll roads
4. Divert from some other source
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: EDUCATION

EDUC1. In your view, how adequate or inadequate are the financial resources available for the public schools in your local community? Would you say the financial resources are...

1. Completely adequate
2. Generally adequate
3. Generally inadequate
4. Completely inadequate
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

EDUC2. How would you rate the safety of the public schools in your local community? Would you say they are...

1. Very safe
2. Somewhat safe
3. Somewhat unsafe
4. Very unsafe
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

EDUC3. Do you have any children aged 3-18?

1. Yes
2. No → skip to EDUC10

EDUC4. Are they enrolled in any type of educational program?

1. Yes
2. No → skip to EDUC10

EDUC5. Does your child/children attend ... (you can select more than one)

1. Public school
2. Private school
3. Home school
4. Charter school

EDUC6. Does your child attend a neighborhood school?

1. Yes
2. No

EDUC7. Which of the following are the most important factors in choosing a school for your child? (pick two)

1. Proximity
2. Safety
3. Religion
4. Specialized instruction
5. Family tradition
6. Academic outcomes
7. Other

EDUC8. How would you rate the overall quality of education that your children are receiving? Would you say it is...

1. Excellent
2. Very Good
3. Good
4. Fair
5. Poor
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

EDUC9. In the past two years, have you been a member of the PTA or similar parent organization?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

EDUC10. In the past two years, have you attended a school board meeting?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: PUBLIC SAFETY

SAFE1. In general, how do you think your neighborhood compares with other neighborhoods in the area with regard to the amount of crime? Do you think it has more crime than other neighborhoods, about the same amount of crime, or less crime?

1. More crime
2. About the same
3. Less crime
4. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SAFE2. Comparing safety in your neighborhood now with safety a year ago, is there now...

1. More crime
2. About the same amount of crime
3. Less crime
4. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SAFE3. In terms of personal experience with crime, during the past year, have you been the victim of a property crime? That is, have you had money or property stolen, property vandalized, your home broken into, or a car stolen?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SAFE4. How about violent crime? During the past year, have you been the victim of a personal assault, a robbery involving the use of force or a weapon, or some other type of violent crime?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SAFE5. How would you rate the police in your community in terms of giving protection to people in your neighborhood? Would you say they do an...

1. Excellent job
2. Very good job
3. Good job
4. Fair job
5. Poor job
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: HOUSING

HOUSE1. Do you or your family own the place where you currently live, do you rent, or other?

1. Own
2. Rent
3. Other (SPECIFY)
4. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

HOUSE2. Do you spend 30 percent or more of your income for housing?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

HOUSE3. How would you rate the overall physical or structural condition of the house or apartment in which you live? Would you say the condition is...

1. Excellent
2. Very Good
3. Good
4. Fair
5. Poor
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

HOUSE4. What about the condition of the other houses or buildings in your neighborhood? Would you say that, in general, the physical condition of surrounding houses and buildings is...

1. Excellent
2. Very Good
3. Good
4. Fair
5. Poor
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: ECONOMY

ECON1. How often does your household have difficulty paying for basic necessities, such as monthly rent or mortgage, food, and utilities?

1. Never
2. Rarely
3. Sometimes
4. Often
5. Always
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ECON2. In the past 3 years, has your household's financial situation...

1. Gotten significantly better
2. Gotten somewhat better
3. Stayed about the same
4. Gotten somewhat worse
5. Gotten significantly worse
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ECON3. Thinking about the national economy, would you say that over the next year the nation's economy will...

1. Get much better
2. Get somewhat better
3. Stay about the same
4. Get somewhat worse
5. Get much worse
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ECON4. Thinking about the local or regional economy, would you say that over the next year the region's economy will...

1. Get much better

2. Get somewhat better
3. Stay about the same
4. Get somewhat worse
5. Get much worse
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ECON5. Thinking about your own economic situation, would you say that over the next year your economic situation will...

1. Get much better
2. Get somewhat better
3. Stay about the same
4. Get somewhat worse
5. Get much worse
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ECON6. Are you currently employed either full or part time?

1. YES
2. NO → skip to ECON13
3. Retired → skip to ECON15
4. Disabled → skip to ECON15
5. Unable to work → skip to ECON15
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER → skip to ECON15

ECON7. How many hours per week do you USUALLY work at your main job? Would you say...

1. 35 hours or more per week → skip to ECON9
2. Less than 35 hours per week
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER → skip to ECON9

ECON8. What is your main reason for working part-time?

1. Slack work/business conditions
2. Could only find part-time work
3. Seasonal work
4. Child care problems
5. Other family/personal obligations
6. Health/medical limitations
7. School/training
8. Retired/Social Security limit on earnings
9. Full-time workweek is less than 35 hrs
10. Other – specify
11. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ECON9. At your primary job are you

1. Employed in the Private Sector
2. Employed in the Public Sector
3. Employed in the Non-profit Sector
4. Self-Employed
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ECON10. Are you a member of a union?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ECON11. How do you usually get to work?

1. Private car, truck, or van
2. Public transit
3. Motorcycle
4. Bicycle or walking
5. Worked at home
6. Other (SPECIFY)
7. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

ECON12. How easy would it be for you to find a job with another employer in the area that offers the same income and fringe benefits you have now?

1. Very easy → skip to ECON15
2. Fairly easy → skip to ECON15
3. Not too easy → skip to ECON15
4. Not easy at all → skip to ECON15
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER → skip to ECON15

ECON13. Are you looking for full time work at this time?

1. YES → skip ECON15
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER → skip ECON15

ECON14. Reasons you are not looking for a job

1. Child care problems
2. Other family/personal obligations
3. Health/medical limitations
4. School/training
5. Retired/social security limit on earnings
6. Full-time workweek less than 35 hours
7. Other – specify
8. Don't know / no answer

ECON15. Are you currently a full- or part-time student at a community college, a 4-year college/university, or a technical/ trade/professional school?

1. No, not a student → skip to NEXT Section
2. Student at Community college
3. Student at a 4-year college/university
4. Student at a technical/trade/professional school
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER → skip to NEXT Section

ECON16. Are you enrolled full-time or part time?

1. Full Time
2. Part Time
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: HEALTH

HEALTH1. Overall, how would you rate your health?

1. Excellent
2. Very Good
3. Good
4. Fair
5. Poor
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

HEALTH2. During the past month, how would describe your stress level? Would you say you have had...

1. No stress
2. Mild stress
3. Moderate stress
4. Severe stress
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

HEALTH3 . Was there a time during the last 12 months when you needed to see a doctor but could not because of the cost?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

HEALTH4. Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?

1. Every day
2. Some days
3. Not at all
4. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

HEALTH5. On average, how many days per week do you exercise or do other physical activity like walking for at least 30 minutes?

_____ days per week

SECTION: RELIGION

RELIG1. What is your current religious preference?

1. None
2. Protestant
3. Catholic
4. Jewish
5. Muslim
6. Other (SPECIFY)
7. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

RELIG2. How often do you usually attend religious services, meetings and/or activities?

1. Every day or nearly every day
2. At least once a week
3. At least once a month

4. A few times a year
5. Never
6. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

RELIG3. To what extent do you consider yourself a spiritual person? Would you say you are...

1. Very spiritual
2. Moderately spiritual
3. Slightly spiritual
4. Not spiritual at all
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

SECTION: HAPPINESS

HAPPY1. All things considered, how satisfied would you say you are with life these days? Please rate on a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 means "Very Dissatisfied," and 10 means "Very satisfied." _____ (rating)

HAPPY2. Taking all things together, on a scale of 1 to 10, how happy would you say you are? Here, 1 means "Very Unhappy" and 10 means "Very Happy." _____ (rating)

SECTION: DEMOGRAPHICS

To finish, just a few more questions for statistical purposes.

AGE. What is your age now? (IN YEARS) _____

SEX.

1. MALE
2. FEMALE

MARITAL STATUS. What is your current marital status? Are you...

1. Married/living as married
2. Divorced or separated
3. Widowed
4. Single/never married
5. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

HISPANIC. Are you of Hispanic or Latino descent?

1. YES
2. NO
3. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

RACE. What is your race? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

1. Caucasian/White
2. Asian/Pacific Islander
3. Native American
4. Black or African-American
6. DON'T KNOW
7. REFUSE TO ANSWER

EDUCATION. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

01. Eighth grade or less
02. Some high school
03. High school graduate or GED
04. Some college, no degree
05. Associate's degree, occupational
06. Associate's degree, academic
07. Bachelor's degree
08. Master's degree
09. Professional degree
10. Doctoral degree
11. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

INCOME. Which of the following best describes your household's total yearly income? Please just stop me when I get to the category that applies to you.

1. Under \$25,000
2. \$25,000 to just under \$50,000
3. \$50,000 to just under \$75,000
4. \$75,000 to just under \$100,000
5. \$100,000 to just under \$150,000
6. \$150,000 or More
7. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER

HOUSEHOLD1. Including you, how many people currently live in your household? _____

HOUSEHOLD2. Including you, how many adults, age 18 and older, currently live in your household? _____

VETERAN STATUS. Are you a veteran?

1. YES
2. NO
8. DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER
9. REFUSE TO ANSWER

SECTION: GEOGRAPHY

GEOG1. What is the zipcode at your home address? _____

In order for us to compare your answers to publicly available data about your community, we would also like to ask you for the name of your street and the name of the nearest cross-street, that is, the closest street that intersects with your street. Please provide the correct spelling and include "street" / "avenue" / "road", etc.

GEOG2. What is the name of your street? _____

GEOG3. What is the name of the nearest intersecting street? _____

Thank you so much for your time – your responses will help focus attention on issues of concern to people in your community.