

Hurricane Wellbeing Survey Findings May 2020

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Hurricane is one of 25 cities participating in the Utah Wellbeing Project. This project is designed to assess the wellbeing and local perspectives of city residents and to provide information to city leaders to inform their general planning process.

Eighteen cities participated in an online survey effort in February and March 2020. Hurricane City advertised the survey via social media. All city residents age 18 and over were encouraged to take the online Qualtrics survey, available from February 3, 2020 to March 3, 2020.

A total of **254 completed surveys** were recorded during this effort. This report contains descriptive information based on Hurricane resident responses and comparisons with other cities from this most recent survey effort.

Public intercept surveys with iPads were conducted in May 2019. A report based on those findings is available at <https://extension.usu.edu/business-and-community/utah-wellbeing-project/index>.

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Respondent Characteristics

The vast majority of Hurricane survey respondents (94.5%) were full-time residents. Length of residency ranged from 0 to 60 years with an average of 12 years. The majority of respondents (59%) had been living in Hurricane more than 5 years. Residents reported living in various neighborhoods: Dixie Springs (26.9% of respondents), Sky Mountain (20.6%), North Area (15.8%), Hurricane Old Town (13.0%), Hurricane Fields (11.5%), Hurricane South Town (8.7%), or another neighborhood not listed (3.6%).

Table 1 details the demographic characteristics of the respondents and allows for comparison with U.S. Census information from the 2014-2018 American Community Survey. The resulting survey sample overrepresents females, those with a college degree, and those with children in the household. The survey underrepresents individuals age 60 or over, those with incomes under \$50,000, and those who are nonwhite or Latino. There is no census comparison for religion. These characteristics should be taken into consideration when interpreting the findings from the survey, as respondents are not fully representative of Hurricane residents.

Table 1

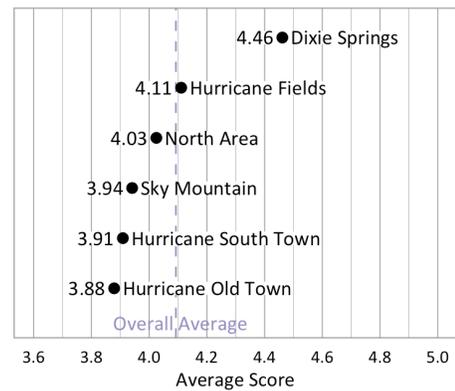
Demographic Characteristics of Survey Respondents and U.S. Census Data for Hurricane

Demographic Characteristics	Hurricane iPad Survey 2020 (55 Respondents)	Hurricane Online Survey 2020 (254 Respondents)	American Community Survey 2014-2018 Estimates
Age 18-39	32.7%	35.2%	34.5%
Age 40-59	23.7%	38.9%	29.3%
Age 60 or over	43.6%	25.9%	36.2%
Female	67.3%	71.8%	48.0%
Male, other	32.7%	28.2%	52.0% (Male only)
No college degree	69.1%	69.0%	80.9%
College degree (4-year)	30.9%	31.0%	19.1%
Median household income	NA	NA	\$61,802
Income under \$50,000	39.2%	30.4%	48.0%
Income \$50,000 to \$74,999	23.5%	25.1%	19.4%
Income \$75,000 to \$99,999	13.7%	18.4%	16.4%
Income \$100,000 to \$149,999	13.7%	17.4%	12.4%
Income \$150,000 or over	9.8%	8.7%	3.8%
Religion: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	61.5%	47.4%	NA
Other religion	13.5%	24.2%	NA
No religious preference	25.0%	28.4%	NA
White (non-Latino)	89.1%	94.9%	84.5%
Nonwhite or Latino	10.9%	5.1%	15.5%
Children under 18 in household	NA	49.3%	32.4%
Employed (combined)	NA	58.8%	50.5%
Out of work and looking for work	NA	0%	3.5% (unemployed)
Other	NA	41.2%	46.0%

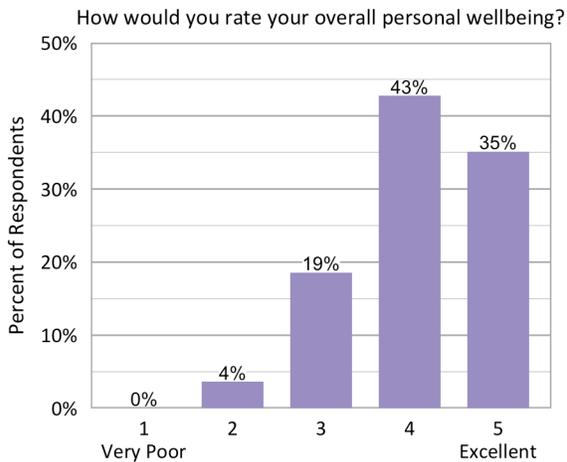
Overall Personal Wellbeing and Overall Wellbeing in Hurricane

Survey participants were asked about their overall personal wellbeing and overall community wellbeing in Hurricane. These wellbeing indicators are both measured on a 5-point scale from *very poor* (1) to *excellent* (5). The average personal wellbeing score in Hurricane was **4.09**, with **78%** indicating of respondents indicating 4 or 5 on the 5-point scale. The average score for community wellbeing in Hurricane was **3.74**. Comparing neighborhoods, Dixie Springs had the highest average wellbeing score while Hurricane Old Town had the lowest.

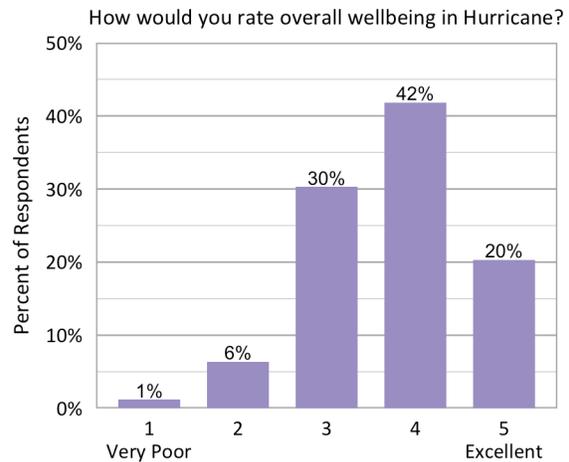
Average Personal Wellbeing Scores in Hurricane Neighborhoods
(On a scale from 1=Very Poor to 5=Excellent)



Personal Wellbeing in Hurricane



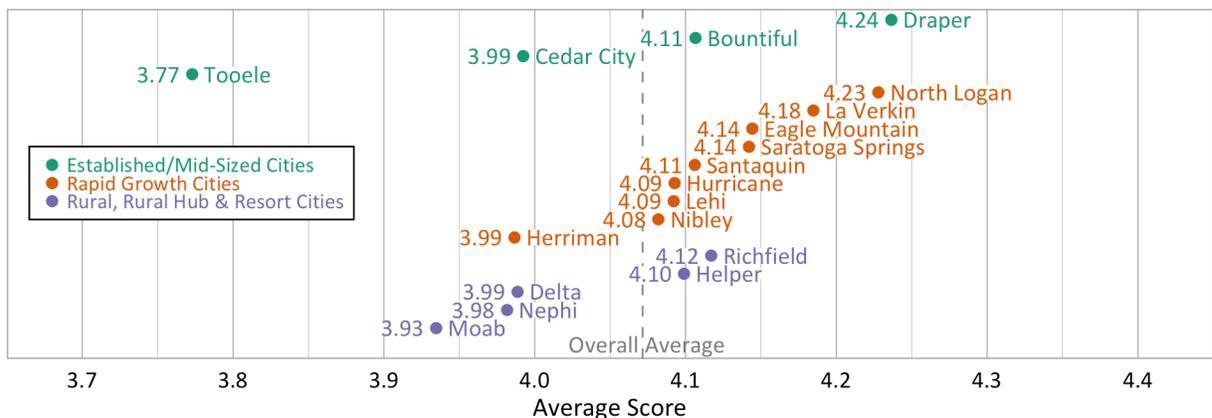
Community Wellbeing in Hurricane



The average personal wellbeing score in Hurricane falls just above the average of all cities surveyed in early 2020. The Utah League of Cities and Towns classifies Hurricane in the “Rapid Growth Cities” group, along with eight other cities in this study as indicated in the graph below. Hurricane is above average on personal wellbeing scores within this group, but there is no statistically significant difference in the average wellbeing score among these cities.

Overall Personal Wellbeing Scores from Sampled Utah Cities (2020)

(On a scale from 1=Very Poor to 5=Excellent)

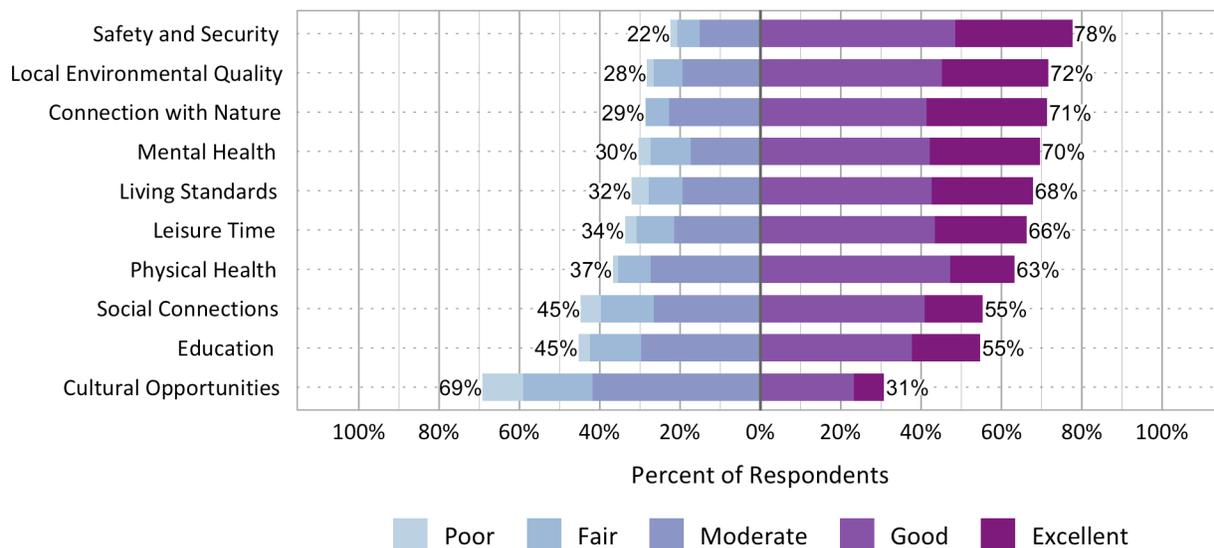


Wellbeing Domains in Hurricane

According to national and international entities tracking wellbeing, a number of common domains make up wellbeing. In this survey, respondents rated ten domains on a 5-point scale from *poor* to *excellent*, and indicated their importance to their overall personal wellbeing on a 5-point scale from *not at all important* to *very important*. Based on percentage with a *good* or *excellent* rating, the top three highest rated wellbeing domains for respondents were **safety and security, local environmental quality, and connection with nature**. The importance of domains was indicated on a 5-point scale from not at all important to very important. The most important wellbeing domains were **safety and security, living standards, and physical health**.

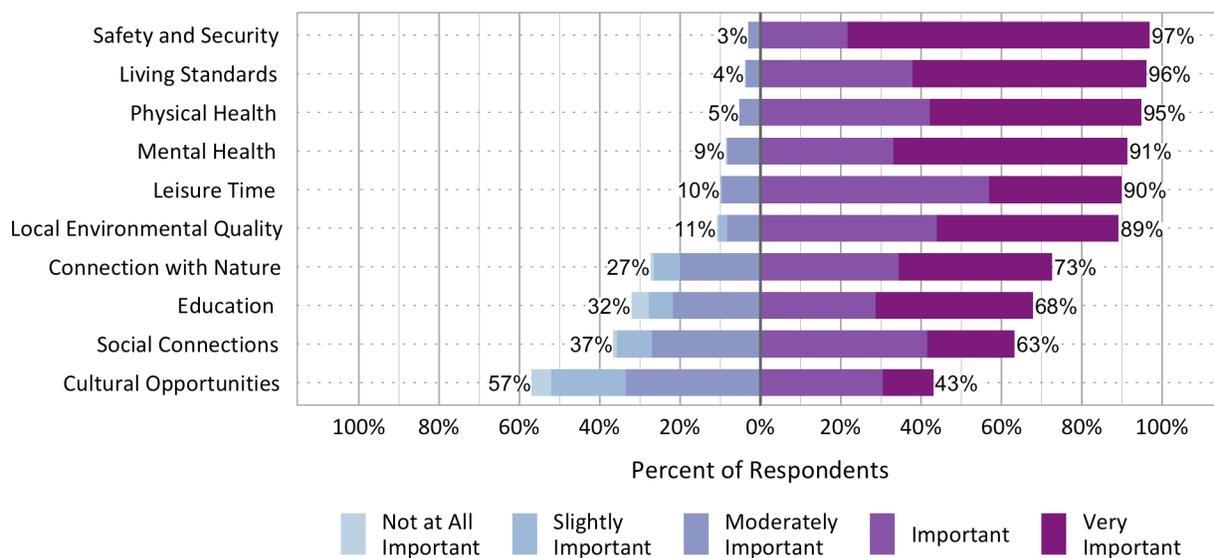
Wellbeing Domain Ratings in Hurricane

How would you rate your level of personal wellbeing in each of the following categories?



Wellbeing Domain Importance in Hurricane

How important are the following categories to your overall personal wellbeing?



The demographic variables for age, gender, college degree, religion, and income were significantly related to various wellbeing perspectives among Hurricane respondents. These relationships are shown in Table 2 and are based on a multivariate generalized linear model using the categories from Table 1, excluding children in household and employment.

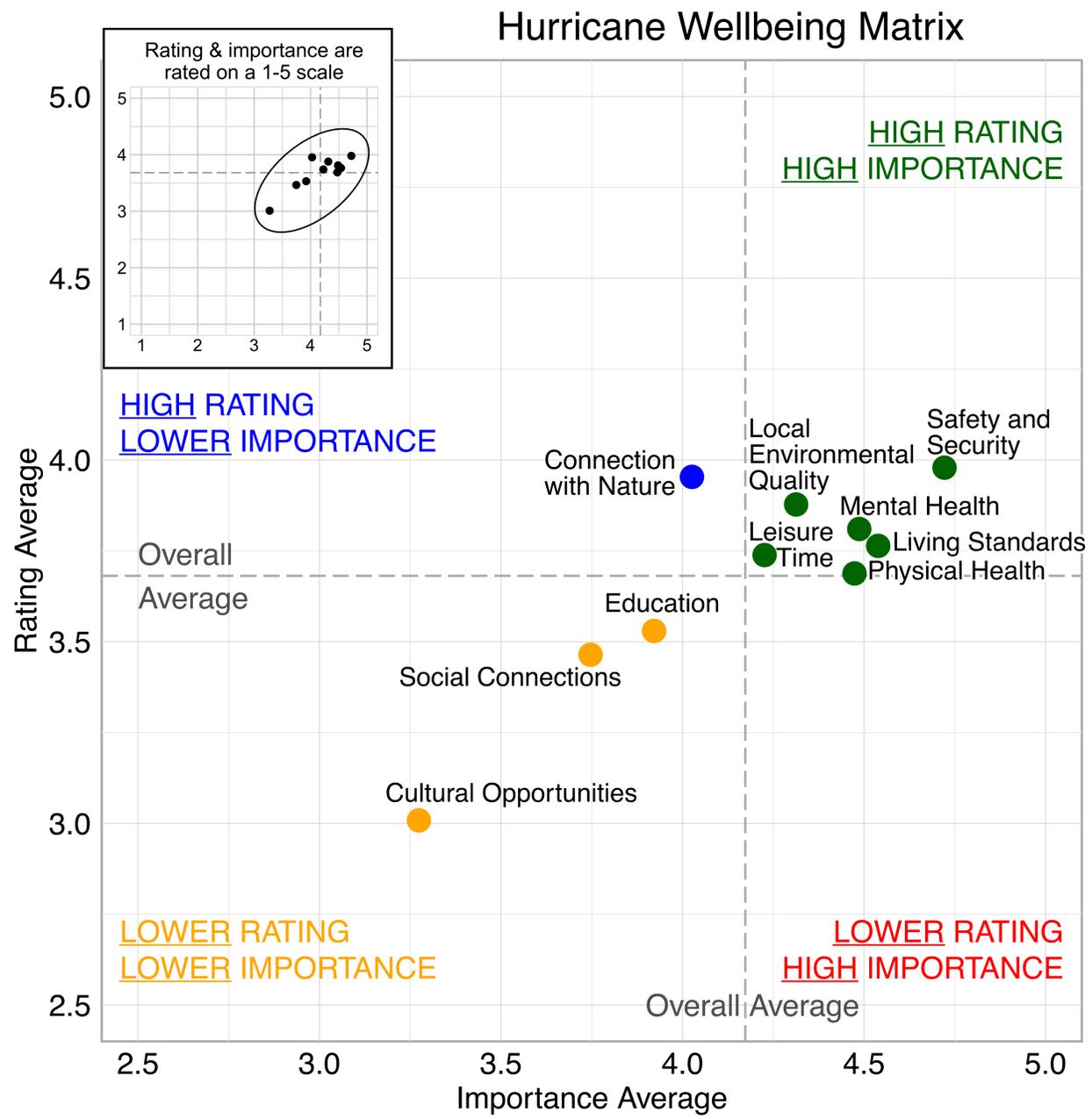
Table 2

Relationships Between Demographic Characteristics and Wellbeing Domains

Domains Rated	Demographic Variables					
	Age 60+	Female	College Degree	Latter-day Saint	Higher Income	Nonwhite or Latino
	Wellbeing Ratings					
Overall Personal Wellbeing						
Wellbeing in Hurricane					- \$150,000+ < \$75,000-\$99,999	
Connection to Nature	+ vs 18-39					
Cultural Opportunities				+ vs no religious preference		
Education				+ vs no religious preference		
Leisure Time	+ vs 18-39					
Living Standards					+ \$150,000+ > Under \$50,000	
Local Environmental Quality						
Mental Health						
Physical Health						
Safety and Security			+			
Social Connections				+ vs no religious preference		
	Domain Importance					
Connection to Nature						
Cultural Opportunities			+			
Education	-					
Leisure Time						
Living Standards						
Local Environmental Quality				- vs no religious preference and other religion		
Mental Health						
Physical Health						
Safety and Security		+				
Social Connections						

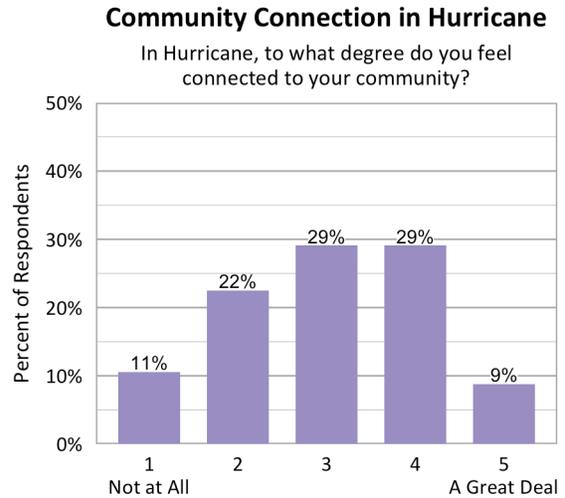
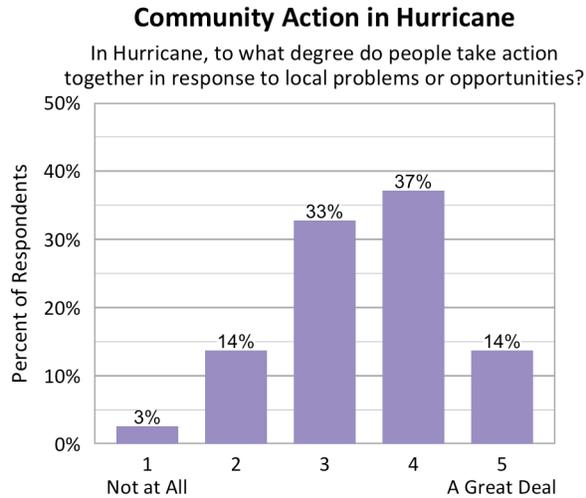
Wellbeing Matrix for Hurricane

The graph below illustrates the relationship between the average rating and the average importance of wellbeing domains for survey respondents from Hurricane. None of the domains fall into the red quadrant. However, Physical Health approaches this quadrant, as its average importance is greater than the overall average importance of the domains while its average rating is only slightly higher than the overall average rating of the domains. It is important to note that all domains have an average rating above 3.0 (moderate) and the importance score for all domains is higher than 3.0 (moderately important).



Community Action and Connections in Hurricane

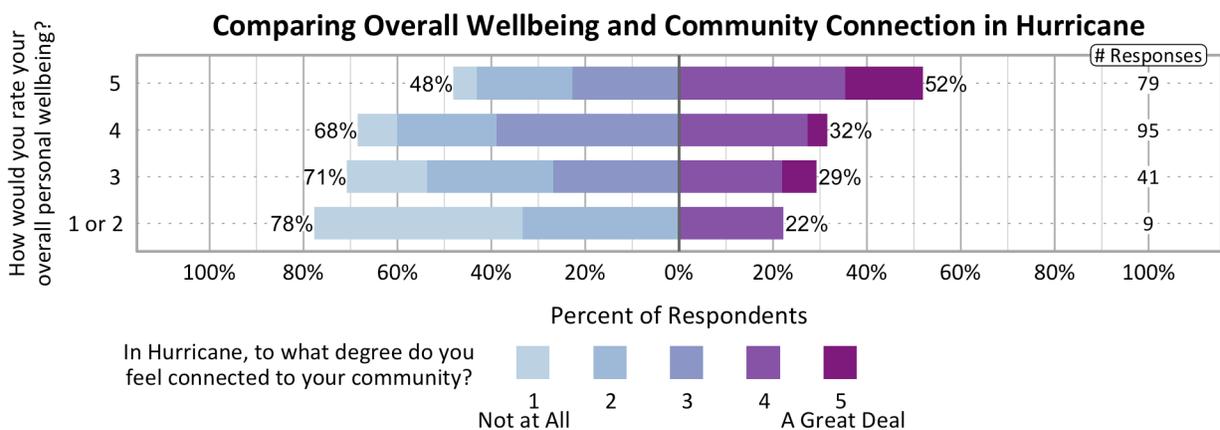
Survey participants were asked about community actions and connectedness to community in Hurricane. Both questions were scored on a 5-point scale from *not at all* (1) to *a great deal* (5). When asked about the degree to which people take action together in response to local problems or opportunities in Hurricane, the average score was **3.46**. When asked about the degree they feel connected to their community, the average score was **3.03**.



In terms of demographic characteristics, those from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints indicated higher levels of perceived action in Hurricane and they also feel more connected to their community than those from other religions or those with no religious preference (see Table 3). Additionally, there is a significant, positive relationship between individuals' community connectedness and their personal wellbeing.

Table 3
Demographic Characteristics and Community Questions

Community Questions	Age 60+	Female	College Degree	Latter-day Saint	Higher Income	Nonwhite or Latino
Do people in Hurricane take action?				+		
Do you feel connected to your community?				+		

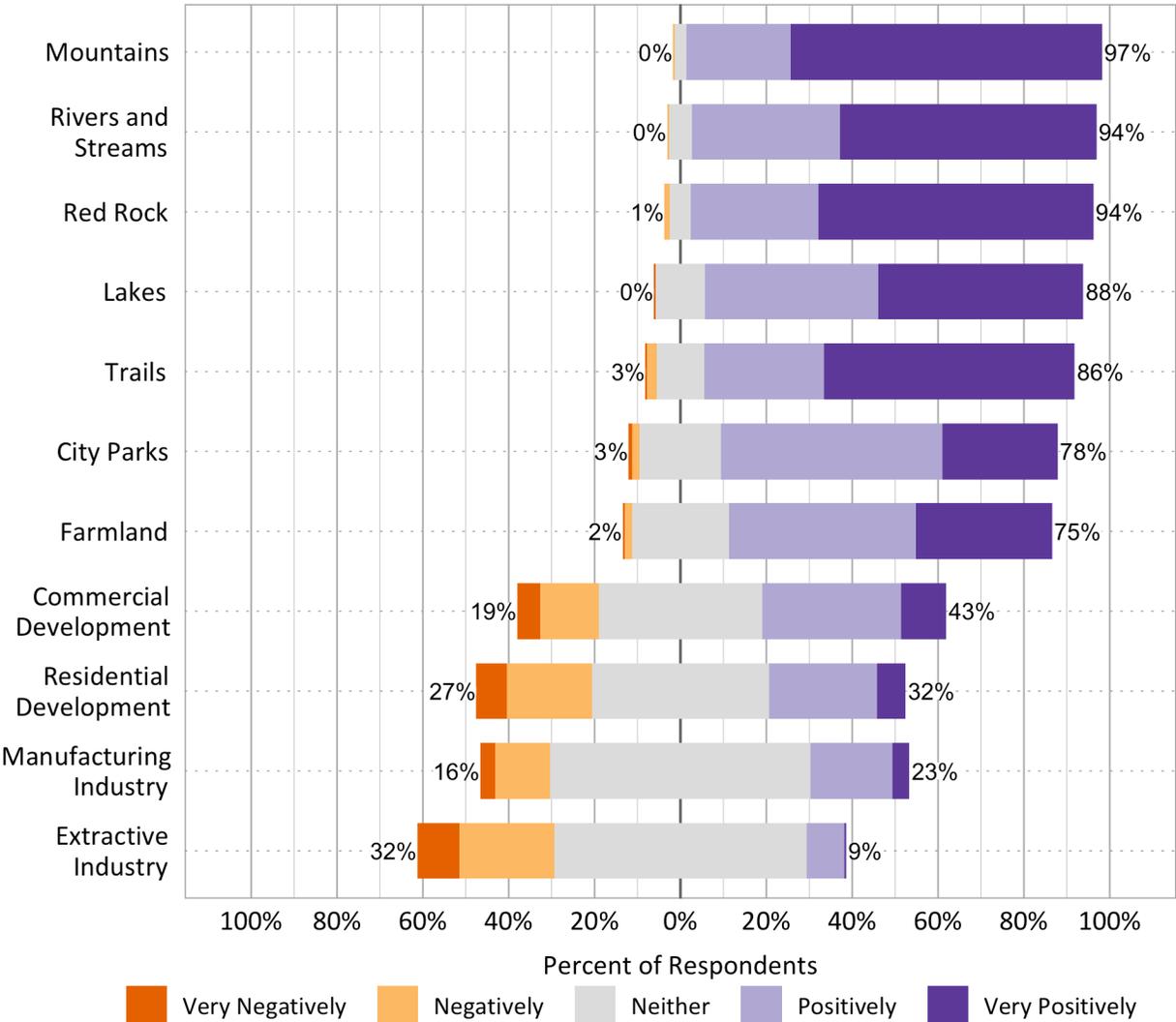


Influence of Landscape Features on Wellbeing

Survey participants were asked about the influence of landscape features on their wellbeing. Natural landscape including mountains, rivers and streams, red rock, and lakes, as well as trails, city parks, and farmland were found to have an overwhelmingly positive influence on wellbeing.

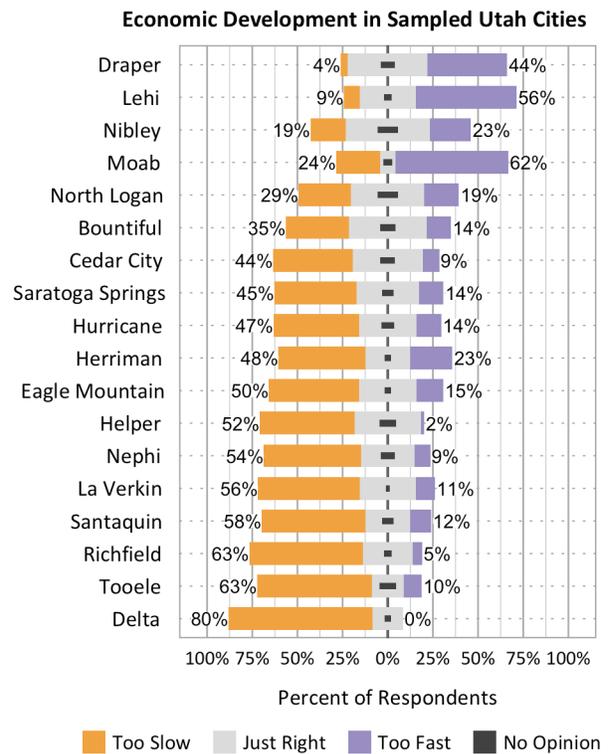
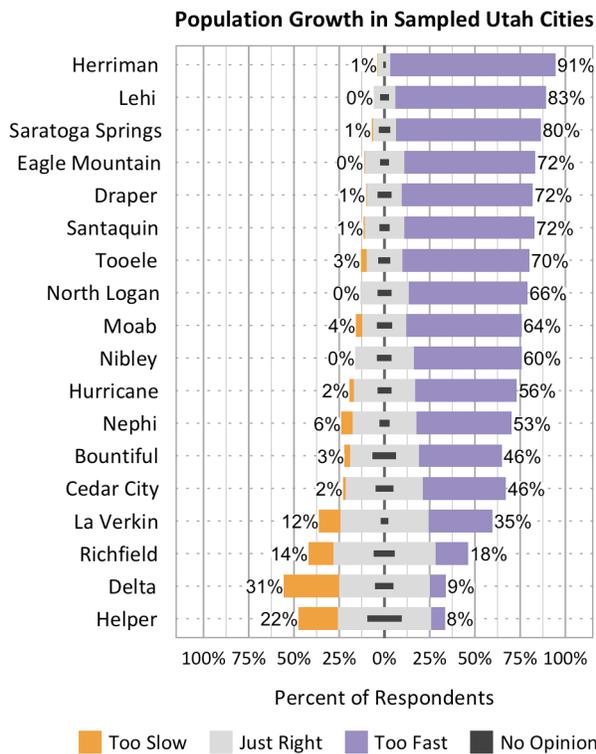
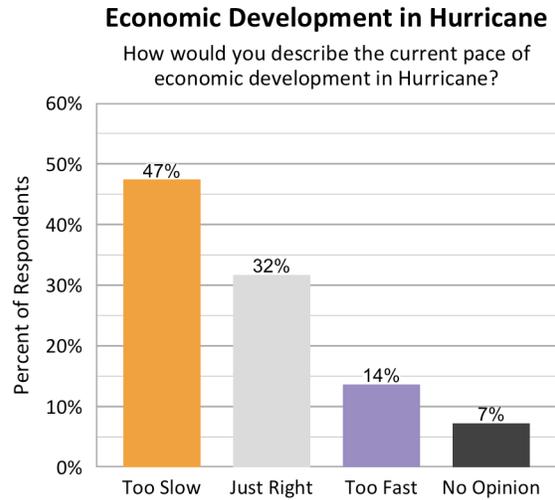
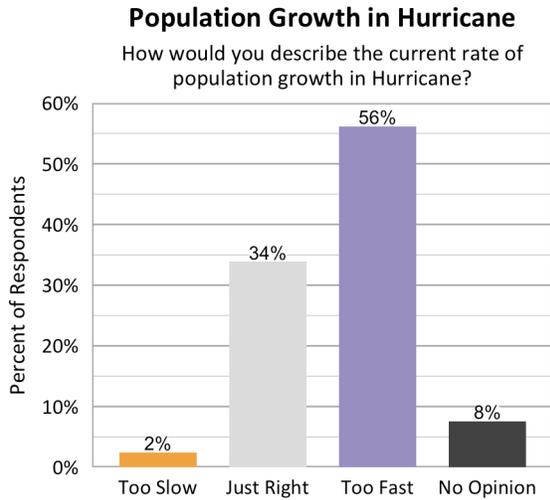
In terms of development and industry in the landscape, just under one-third of survey respondents indicated that extractive industry has a negative influence on their wellbeing, while nearly 60% indicated that it has neither a negative nor a positive influence. On the other hand, more respondents indicated that commercial development, residential development, and manufacturing industry have a positive influence on their wellbeing than a negative influence.

The Role of Landscape Features in Hurricane Residents' Wellbeing
 How does the presence of the following landscape features influence your wellbeing?



Perspectives on Population Growth and Economic Development in Hurricane

Over half (56%) of survey respondents indicated that population growth is too fast, while just over one-third (34%) indicated that it is just right. Comparatively, nearly half of survey respondents (47%) indicated that economic development is too slow, while just under one-third (32%) indicated it is just right. Compared to other cities surveyed in early 2020, Hurricane ranked in the mid-range regarding perspectives on population growth and the pace of economic development.



Risks and Assets for Wellbeing in Hurricane

Survey respondents indicated the degree to which a number of possible local issues were a major or minor risk or asset to wellbeing in Hurricane (see Table 4).

Table 4

Top-rated Assets and Risks by Hurricane Respondents

Highest Rated Assets (indicated by at least 70% of respondents)	Highest Rated Risks (indicated by at least 20% of respondents)
Air Quality	Substance Abuse
Recreation Opportunities	Access to Health Care
Access to Public Land	Affordable Housing
Public Safety	Employment Opportunities
	Shopping Opportunities

Respondents also wrote in other assets and risks as shown in Table 5. It is clear that some people not only listed current assets, but also those they wish Hurricane had.

Table 5

Other Assets and Risks Mentioned by Hurricane Respondents

Other Assets		Other Risks	
Affordable housing	Air quality	All support services especially police should be well staffed and well paid	City cooperating with residential building
Busing	Enforcing laws	Cops	Criminal activity
More shade public facilities	Pet friendly housing	Housing developers in RA locations	Mormon influence
School security		Need another road to I-15	Poor road maintenance
		Shopping	SR9 needs to be fixed immediately with easy access to Quail Lakes Estates and Lava Bluff
		Too many move ins	Vacation rentals

Summary of Open Comments

Respondents were given the opportunity to provide comments at the end of the survey. Comments were made by 69 respondents (27% of those that completed the survey). The two main concerns brought up by Herriman residents were a desire for more economic amenities like restaurants and shopping, and a desire to slow down and control growth. Other concerns included the affordability of living and housing, the lack of recreation facilities, safety and crime, and improvement of Herriman’s city image.

Dominant themes in comments included the following:

- Gap between cost of living and wages
- Lacking restaurant and shopping variety
- Wanting slow and controlled growth
- Wanting maintenance and improvement of city image and infrastructure
- Concerns about safety and crime

A Few Quotes

- *“We need controlled development to ensure the future of this wonderful place.”*
- *“Hurricane needs more affordable family restaurants. Maybe more shopping venues.”*
- *“We need better food, and better shopping, to help the tourists stay in town longer, and spending more money in town. This would give our town more money from taxes to do more things they want to do.”*
- *“Slow the growth. The growth is too rapid for the infrastructure, the emergency services, etc.”*
- *“Wages and housing are not realistic here, I was born and raised here and if housing doesn’t improve I’m worried that myself and family will be forced from our home town to make way for retirees, tourists, and winter birds.”*
- *“Make downtown Hurricane an attractive place for tourists! More eateries and gift shops with a quaint downtown feel.”*

