

CSA #9 – Crosby/Huffman Executive Summary

Demographics:

The Crosby/Huffman CSA is a predominantly Anglo area located on Houston's northeast side. Over 75% of the population is Anglo, 10% is African-American, and about 9% of the population is Hispanic. Both the median household income and the median home value are relatively lower than that of Greater Houston. The area is also considerably less educated than Houston as a whole. More than half of adults have only a high school diploma, and less than 15% of the adult population has a college degree. However, there is a lower percentage of high school dropouts here than in Greater Houston as a whole. Most households consist of married couples with children; however, about 9% of families with children are headed by single mothers.

Satisfaction levels:

Compared to the rest of Houston, the residents of the Crosby/Huffman area reported levels of satisfaction with their lives consistent with the rest of the city. 45% of residents reported a great deal of satisfaction with their neighborhoods, 77% reported high levels of satisfaction with their families, and 48% reported high levels of satisfaction with their friends. Only 28% of adults successfully manage the demands of their careers and families; however, 45% of residents reported being happy with their lives as a whole.

Spiritual Condition:

Relative to the rest of Greater Houston, residents of Crosby/Huffman do not frequently attend church, but are much more spiritually inclined than the rest of the city. 27% of residents attend church weekly, and 13% of residents never attend church. When having problems, 41% would be likely to see a religious counselor, and 36% would seek help in a place of worship. However, the community is much more spiritually aware than these statistics would indicate. 72% of residents are likely to read the Bible or other inspired literature when they have problems. Likewise, 88% of residents are likely to pray when they have problems, and 85% of residents (5th highest in the city) have no doubts about the existence of God.

Interviews with Key Leaders in the Crosby/Huffman CSA:

Key leaders praised the area for its family oriented community, good school system, and recent economic growth. Most of the problems facing the community are related to family issues such as broken families and inadequate supervision of youth. Leaders lauded the Church for its "Churches United in Caring" initiative, and for providing family oriented programming. However, a major criticism of the Church was congregations segregated by race, and a lack of Christians reaching out to those in need. Leaders commented that congregations could help to solve problems within the community by collaborating together, and by offering after-school programs that are oriented for children too old for daycare, but too young to be home alone.

