

CSA #18 – Galena Park/Jacinto City Executive Summary

Demographics:

The Galena Park/Jacinto City CSA is a predominantly Hispanic area located east of downtown Houston. Hispanics make up about 60% of the population, African-Americans make up 24%, and Anglos make up about 13%. Both the median household income and median home value are roughly half that of Greater Houston. The area is also much less educated than Houston as a whole. About 45% of adults do not have a high school diploma, and less than 10% have a college degree. Most households consist of married couples with children; however, about 16% of families with children are headed by single mothers.

Satisfaction levels:

Compared to the rest of the Greater Houston area, the residents of the Galena Park/Jacinto City area reported levels of satisfaction far lower than the rest of the city. 33% of residents reported a great deal of satisfaction with their neighborhoods, 73% reported high levels of satisfaction with their families, and 39% reported high levels of satisfaction with their friends. 28% of adults successfully manage the demands of their careers and families, and 42% of residents reported being happy with their lives as a whole.

Spiritual Condition:

However, residents of the Galena Park/Jacinto City area are much more spiritually aware than other CSAs in the survey. 39% of residents attend church weekly, and 15% of residents never attend church. When having problems, 41% would be likely to see a religious counselor, and 33% would seek help in a place of worship. However, the community is more spiritually aware than these statistics might indicate. 80% of residents are likely to read the Bible or other inspired literature when they have problems. Likewise, 92% of residents pray when they have problems, and 82% of residents have no doubts about the existence of God.

Interviews with Key Leaders in the Galena Park/Jacinto City CSA:

Key leaders pointed to the family atmosphere, growth potential, diversity, and good schools as the best attributes of the community. Most of the problems that interviewees spoke of were related to the lack of a city government: a disjointed community and various infrastructure needs. Fortunately, the Church and other community organizations seem to be filling this void. Leaders lauded the Church for being active within the community at both a grassroots and a civic level. Interviewees had no major criticisms of the Church as a whole. One interviewee, however, suggested that the Church hold an annual “faith summit,” in which community members could sit down and hold open discussion.

