

CSA #29 – Pasadena/South Houston Executive Summary

Demographics:

The Pasadena/South Houston CSA is a predominantly Hispanic area located southeast of downtown Houston. Hispanics make up about 54% of the population, Anglos make up 41%, and African-Americans and Asians make up the remaining 5%. The median household income and median home value are substantially less than that of Greater Houston. The area is much less educated than Houston as a whole. Only about 11% of adults have a college degree, while 36% of adults do not have a high school diploma. Most households consist of married couples with children; however, about 13% of families with children are headed by single mothers.

Satisfaction levels:

The residents of the Pasadena/South Houston area reported levels of satisfaction fairly consistent with the rest of the city. 36% of residents reported a great deal of satisfaction with their neighborhoods, 76% reported high levels of satisfaction with their families, and 47% reported high levels of satisfaction with their friends. 34% of adults successfully manage the demands of their careers and families, and 46% of residents reported being happy with their lives as a whole.

Spiritual Condition:

Residents of the Pasadena/South Houston area also show levels of spiritual awareness consistent with the city as a whole. 34% of residents attend church weekly, while 19% of residents never attend church (fourth highest in the city). When having problems, 40% 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. 73% of residents are likely to read the Bible or other inspired literature when they have problems. Likewise, 88% of residents pray when they have problems, and 79% of residents have no doubts about the existence of God.

Interviews with Key Leaders in the Pasadena/South Houston CSA:

According to key leaders, the Pasadena/South Houston area has a diverse population that is rapidly growing. Its industrialization protects it from economic downturns. Many interviewees said problems in the community were a deteriorating neighborhood infrastructure, and high rates of illegal immigration. Interviewees praised the Church for ministering to the immigrant population and providing housing for the homeless. Leaders, however, observed that many congregations have moved from the north side of Pasadena to the south side, leaving a void in the community. Interviewees encouraged congregations to reach back out to the north side of the community through the implementation of branch churches or a bus program to transport residents.

