

CSA #36 – Tomball Executive Summary

Demographics:

The Tomball CSA is a predominantly Anglo area located northwest of downtown Houston. Anglos make up about 81% of the population, Hispanics make up 12%, and African-Americans make up 4%. The median household income and the median home value are slightly higher than those corresponding values in Greater Houston. However, the area shows education levels that are roughly consistent with Houston as a whole. About 28% of adults have a college degree, and 16% of the adult population has not completed high school. Most households consist of married couples with children; however, about 9% of families with children are headed by single mothers.

Satisfaction levels:

The residents of the Tomball area reported levels of satisfaction consistent with the rest of the city. 45% of residents reported a great deal of satisfaction with their neighborhoods, 80% reported high levels of satisfaction with their families, and 62% reported high levels of satisfaction with their friends. 27% of adults successfully manage the demands of their careers and families, and 47% of residents reported being happy with their lives as a whole.

Spiritual Condition:

Residents of the Tomball area show levels of spiritual awareness roughly consistent with the rest of the city. 29% of residents attend church weekly, and 10% of residents never attend church. When having problems, 41% would be likely to see a religious counselor, and 34% would seek help in a place of worship. However, the community is more spiritually aware than these statistics might indicate. 74% of residents are likely to read the Bible or other inspired literature when they have problems. Likewise, 91% 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 Tomball CSA:

According to leaders, the Tomball area is a small, safe, community-oriented town. Interviewees praised the area for its community leadership, progressive future, and rich heritage. However, the recent growth has strained infrastructure, and community has struggled with small-town politics. The church is doing its part by contributing to the community atmosphere, working with the Chamber of Commerce, and providing effective ministry to the poor. However, leaders overwhelmingly perceived that churches are inwardly focused on their own congregations, rather than on the community as a whole. By not working to better the community, these congregations are contributing to the problem. Interviewees suggested churches launch a coordinated service that allows congregations to keep abreast of upcoming events and programs in the community. They also suggested that churches provide additional programs that reach out to the poor, especially as the area's population continues to grow.

