

CSA #45 – Alvin Executive Summary

Demographics:

The Alvin CSA is a predominantly Anglo area located south of downtown Houston. Anglos make up about 68% of the population, Hispanics make up 28%, and African-Americans make up 2%. Median household income and median home values are both substantially lower than those in Greater Houston. The area is less educated than Houston as a whole. About 13% of adults have a college degree, while 23% of the adult population has not completed high school. Most households consist of married couples with children; however, about 11% of families with children are headed by single mothers.

Satisfaction levels:

The residents of the Alvin CSA reported satisfaction levels consistent with Greater Houston as a whole. 40% 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. 31% 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 Alvin CSA also show levels of spiritual awareness fairly consistent with the rest of the Greater Houston area. 30% of residents attend church weekly, and 16% of residents never attend church. When having problems, 39% 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. 74% 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 82% of residents have no doubts about the existence of God.

Interviews with Key Leaders in the Alvin CSA:

According to leaders, the Alvin CSA is a small, diverse, community-oriented area. Interviewees praised the area for its good schools and strong job market. The community has struggled with a strained infrastructure and high crime. The Church is doing its part by contributing to the family atmosphere, and by being involved in the political process. However, interviewees expressed some apprehension with congregations' involvement in politics. Another interviewee commented that the Church is a not a visible presence within the community. One leader expressed the need for an economic development incubator to assess growth, but there were no suggestions on how the local Church could help improve the community.

