

# A Community Scan

1. What is the population of the community? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the population ten years ago? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the projected population in the next ten years? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Of the people living in your community, what percent are:

Under 5 years old	
Between 5 and 14 years	
Between 15 and 19	
Between 20 and 34	
Between 35 and 54	
Between 55 and 74	
Between 75 and 84	
Age 85 and older	



3. How many single-parent households are there? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What languages are spoken in the homes of the people in your community?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What ethnic groups are represented in your community? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. What are your community's three largest employers? What do they do? How many people do they employ?

How is it likely to be different in five years?

**First** Largest \_\_\_\_\_ Employs: \_\_\_\_\_

Makes/ Does \_\_\_\_\_

In Five Years \_\_\_\_\_

**Second** Largest \_\_\_\_\_ Employs: \_\_\_\_\_

Makes/Does \_\_\_\_\_

In Five Years \_\_\_\_\_

**Third** Largest: \_\_\_\_\_

Employs: \_\_\_\_\_

Makes/Does \_\_\_\_\_

In Five Years \_\_\_\_\_

7. What are the major industries in your community? What do they do? How many people do they employ?

How is this likely to be different in 5 years?



**First Largest** \_\_\_\_\_ Employs: \_\_\_\_\_

Makes/ Does \_\_\_\_\_

In Five Years \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Largest** \_\_\_\_\_ Employs: \_\_\_\_\_

Makes/Does \_\_\_\_\_

In Five Years \_\_\_\_\_

**Third Largest:** \_\_\_\_\_ Employs: \_\_\_\_\_

Makes/Does \_\_\_\_\_

In Five Years \_\_\_\_\_

8. Are there any other significant employers in your area? What do they do? How are they likely to be different in five years?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. What percentage of your community is unemployed? \_\_\_\_\_ %

10. What is the median family income in your community? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

11. What percent of the families in your community are below the poverty line? \_\_\_\_\_ %

12. Does your community's population change widely during different seasons? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, which seasons? \_\_\_\_\_

+ /- How many people? \_\_\_\_\_

Source: \_\_\_\_\_



13. Where do people in your community get their information? How many are there of each of the following? Which provide information in languages other than English?

Services?	How many?	In languages other than English?
local newspapers		
local radio stations		
local television stations		
bookstores		
video stores		
music stores		
local community-access cable		
Internet/electronic services		
Other (community organizations, etc.)		

Source: \_\_\_\_\_



14. What libraries are there in your community?

Libraries?	How many?
Community	
School	
Academic (College and University)	
Hospital/Medical	
Legal	
Special/Other	



15. List the number of schools in your community. Are they public or private?

Schools		How many?
Pre-schools		
Elementary		
Middle or Junior High		
High Schools		
Vocational/Technical		
Community Colleges		
Colleges/Universities		

What is enrollment in your school district in K-12 now? \_\_\_\_\_

What is projected in five years? \_\_\_\_\_



16. What percent of the people aged 25 and older have at least a high school diploma or a GED? (This includes all technical school and college grads as well.) \_\_\_\_\_ %

What percent of people 25 and older have at least some college? \_\_\_\_\_ %

What percent of people aged 25 and older have at least four years of college? \_\_\_\_\_ %

17. List the number of medical care organizations in your community.

Medical Care Organizations	How many?
Hospitals	
Clinics	
Long-term and rehabilitation	
Hospices	



18. How many social service providers are located in your community?

Social Service Providers	How many?
Nursing Homes (Extended Care)	
Day Care Centers	
Shelters/Halfway Houses/Drug Treatment Centers	
Youth and Recreation Centers	
Others (List)	

Do these facilities draw local/regional people to your community? \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

Do the people who work in these organizations live in your community? \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

19. List (small communities) or estimate the number (large communities) and types of organizations in your community (service groups, clubs, churches).

---

20. Are there any state or county offices in your community? \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

What services do these offices provide? \_\_\_\_\_

---



21. List the five most important issues facing your community in the next five years:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Questions adapted from Workform G of:  
*Planning for Results; a Public Library Transformation Process.*  
ALA, 1998.

