

Pickens County, South Carolina



Presentation of 2003 Citizen Survey Results

Survey Method and Purpose

In line with Pickens County Council's initiative to strengthen communication and information sharing with the citizenry, Council recently completed the inaugural Pickens County Citizen Survey. The county randomly selected 20% of the registered voting population in each council district to generate the survey recipient pool (approximately 10% of the county's total population). The county received completed responses from approximately 20% of those surveyed (2,200 respondents). All responses were kept anonymous.


The survey response data provides each council member with a better understanding of the interests and priorities of the citizens in his/her district, as well as countywide. Pickens County Council will use the survey results presented herein to develop county goals and objectives, to establish funding priorities for the annual budget, and to guide future policy decisions for Pickens County. The data illustrates some countywide consensus regarding quality of life, quality of county services, and principal county issues; however, it also sheds light on the different interests and priorities of the individual council districts.

Interpreting the Results

The following summary sheets present the compiled results of the Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey. The information is organized according to the five sections of the survey, including:

1. Quality of life
2. Information sources
3. Quality of county services
4. Importance of community issues
5. Selection of the principal county issues

Staff compiled the survey response data from all districts to determine the countywide citizen perspective; Part I below, titled "Countywide Results," presents these figures. Parts II through VII delineate the survey results by council district. The population information presented for each district includes the total population for that district, the number of registered voters, the number of registered voters selected to receive the survey, the number of survey respondents, and the response rate for the district. District response rates ranged from 19.1% to 23.7%.


Part I provides a more detailed explanation of the questions and ranking system for each section of the survey. Explanations are marked with a  symbol. Unless otherwise indicated, all values are presented as percentages.

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

I. COUNTYWIDE RESULTS


Total Population ¹	110,824	% Population Registered to Vote	46.6%
Registered Voters ²	51,667	% Voting Population Surveyed	20.0%
Survey Recipients	10,333	Survey Response Rate	21.4%
Survey Respondents	2,209	Respondents as % of Total Population	2.0%

COUNTYWIDE – SECTION ONE

 The first section of the survey asked respondents to use a five-point system to rate their quality of life in Pickens County. Respondents circled numerical values ranging from five to one to rate their response as *excellent* (5), *good* (4), *neutral* (3), *fair* (2) or *poor* (1). The results are presented below as a percentage of the total responses; for example, the table indicates that 51.6% of the respondents rated Pickens County as a *good* place to live.

Question	Excellent	Good	Neutral	Fair	Poor
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to live?	38.3	51.6	4.2	4.2	0.9
How do you rate the county as a place to raise children?	31.0	49.8	11.0	4.9	1.1
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to retire?	33.8	43.9	12.1	6.5	2.3
How do you rate the overall quality of life in the county?	28.1	56.3	7.0	6.5	1.1

COUNTYWIDE – SECTION TWO

 The second section of the survey asked respondents to indicate from what news sources they receive information about Pickens County and its activities. Respondents circled either *yes* or *no* to indicate their use of a specific news source. The results are presented as the percentage of citizens responding *yes* for each news source; for example, 34.9% of the respondents receive county-related news from the Pickens Sentinel.


News Source	Users	News Source	Users
The Greenville News	77.8	Radio	50.0
The Anderson Independent	8.5	Television	82.2
The Easley Progress	48.6	Internet	25.5
The Pickens Sentinel	34.9	Conversations with family, friends, colleagues	84.0
The Daily Journal/Messenger	5.5	Attendance at County Council meetings	4.5

¹ Population data obtained from the United States 2000 Census <www.census.gov>.

² Voter registration data obtained from the South Carolina State Election Commission.


Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey Summary of Survey Results

COUNTYWIDE – SECTION THREE

 The third section of the survey asked respondents to use a five-point system to rate the quality of services provided by Pickens County Government. Respondents circled numerical values ranging from five to one to rate their response as *strongly agree* (5), *agree* (4), *no opinion* (3), *disagree* (2) or *strongly disagree* (1). The results are presented below as a percentage of the total responses; for example, the table indicates that 42.4% of the respondents *agree* that they trust the county to do what is right for the citizen.

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I receive good value for the Pickens County taxes I pay.	9.9	48.2	16.2	17.6	6.6
I have a positive view of Pickens County.	6.6	41.2	27.7	15.7	7.0
I trust the county to do what is right for the citizens.	7.8	42.4	21.3	17.8	8.5
I feel comfortable voicing my opinions to county officials.	13.6	38.5	31.9	9.7	4.6
Pickens County Government works efficiently.	5.0	32.4	36.7	17.3	6.8
Pickens County Government listens to citizens.	4.2	28.4	38.4	17.6	9.9


COUNTYWIDE – SECTION FOUR

 The fourth section of the survey asked respondents to use a three-point system to rate the importance of various community issues and services. Respondents circled numerical values ranging from three to one to rate their response as *very important* (3), *important* (2) or *not so important* (1). The results are presented below as a percentage of the total responses.

Issue	Very Important	Important	Not So Important
1. Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	54.4	41.1	3.4
2. Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	63.8	31.4	3.4
3. Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	35.1	45.8	17.5
4. Developing and improving county parks and recreational facilities.	26.6	50.0	22.0
5. Providing recycling centers and landfills.	43.5	48.2	7.3
6. Improving public water and public sewer service.	46.6	42.8	9.5
7. Providing land use planning, building codes, and building inspections.	30.5	47.2	21.0
8. Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	56.6	38.5	3.9
9. Maintaining and expanding the county airport.	7.1	35.7	55.4
10. Providing public transportation (public buses, light rail, etc).	15.6	29.8	52.9
11. Providing animal control services.	24.8	52.8	21.0
12. Providing and expanding library services.	30.3	50.1	17.9
13. Providing internet access to government services.	20.5	45.2	32.5
14. Preserving historic buildings and places.	26.0	50.4	22.6
15. Promoting tourism.	23.7	42.4	32.1
16. Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	57.7	36.8	4.2
17. Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	61.6	33.9	3.3
18. Preserving natural resources and open space.	43.3	43.4	12.1
19. Managing population growth.	35.9	42.9	19.3
20. Promoting economic development in the area.	50.8	38.3	9.6
21. Providing storm water drainage and flood control.	34.0	48.4	16.1
22. Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	37.8	40.5	20.2
23. Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	67.7	30.1	1.2
24. Providing community health services and healthy living programs.	39.8	45.8	12.8

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

COUNTYWIDE – SECTION FIVE

 The final section of the survey asked respondents to list the five community issues and services (as presented in Section Four of the survey) that are most important to them. Respondents listed their selected issues using the numbers found to the left of each line item in Section Four. The list below presents a ranking of issues and services, from the most important issue to the least important issue (based on the total number of votes received). Issue 23 and issues 26-30 were not presented in Section Four; rather, respondents identified these issues by using the “Other” category. The column titled *Importance* provides the percentage of respondents identifying that issue as one of the five most important to them.

Rank	Issue	Importance
1	Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	47.4
2	Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	39.2
3	Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	34.7
4	Promoting economic development in the area.	34.3
5	Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	32.9
6	Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	30.1
7	Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	30.0
8	Preserving natural resources and open space.	23.1
8	Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	23.1
10	Improving public water and public sewer service.	22.3
11	Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	20.3
12	Managing population growth.	18.7
13	Providing community health services and healthy living programs.	16.1
14	Providing recycling centers and landfills.	15.9
15	Providing land use planning, building codes, and building inspections.	14.8
16	Providing and expanding library services.	12.0
17	Developing and improving county parks and recreational facilities.	11.1
18	Preserving historic buildings and places.	9.9
19	Providing animal control services.	8.4
20	Providing storm water drainage and flood control.	7.8
21	Promoting tourism.	7.0
22	Providing public transportation (public buses, light rail, etc).	5.9
23	Schools and education (<i>other category</i>).	5.0
24	Providing internet access to government services.	3.7
25	Maintaining and expanding the county airport.	1.8
26	Minimize growth of or reduce property taxes (<i>other category</i>).	1.6
27	Job development (<i>other category</i>).	1.0
28	Pollution prevention and environmental protection (<i>other category</i>).	1.0
29	Abolish property taxes (<i>other category</i>).	0.8
30	Protect citizens' property rights (<i>other category</i>).	0.7

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

**II. DISTRICT ONE
Councilman Jim London**

Total Population ³	18,687	% Population Registered to Vote	33.6%
Registered Voters	6,275	% Voting Population Surveyed	20.0%
Survey Recipients	1,225	Survey Response Rate	19.8%
Survey Respondents	243	Respondents as % of Total Population	1.3%

D1 – SECTION ONE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Excellent	Good	Neutral	Fair	Poor
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to live?	37.0	53.9	4.9	4.1	0.0
How do you rate the county as a place to raise children?	31.7	47.3	12.4	5.8	0.8
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to retire?	34.6	46.5	11.1	5.4	1.2
How do you rate the overall quality of life in the county?	26.8	59.3	9.1	4.5	0.0

D1 – SECTION TWO

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of citizens responding “yes” for each news source)

News Source	Users	News Source	Users
The Greenville News	77.3	Radio	48.6
The Anderson Independent	25.1	Television	80.3
The Easley Progress	4.9	Internet	23.5
The Pickens Sentinel	3.3	Conversations with family, friends, colleagues	82.7
The Daily Journal/Messenger	23.9	Attendance at County Council meetings	4.1

D1 – SECTION THREE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I receive good value for the Pickens County taxes I pay.	11.9	56.8	18.1	9.9	1.7
I have a positive view of Pickens County.	7.0	44.4	32.5	11.5	2.5
I trust the county to do what is right for the citizens.	7.4	45.3	25.1	18.1	2.1
I feel comfortable voicing my opinions to county officials.	11.1	44.0	35.0	6.2	0.8
Pickens County Government works efficiently.	5.8	30.0	49.0	11.5	1.2
Pickens County Government listens to citizens.	2.9	30.5	47.3	16.1	1.7

³ Council district population data obtained from the Appalachian Council of Governments, based on 2000 Census data.

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

D1 – SECTION FOUR

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Issue	Very Important	Important	Not So Important
1. Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	48.6	47.3	2.9
2. Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	54.3	39.9	4.9
3. Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	29.6	47.3	20.6
4. Developing and improving county parks and recreational facilities.	28.8	52.7	17.3
5. Providing recycling centers and landfills.	42.4	48.6	7.8
6. Improving public water and public sewer service.	41.6	49.0	7.8
7. Providing land use planning, building codes, and building inspections.	52.3	40.3	6.6
8. Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	48.1	44.9	4.9
9. Maintaining and expanding the county airport.	3.3	34.6	60.5
10. Providing public transportation (public buses, light rail, etc).	18.5	40.7	39.1
11. Providing animal control services.	22.2	53.9	22.2
12. Providing and expanding library services.	35.1	51.2	12.4
13. Providing internet access to government services.	20.6	49.0	28.8
14. Preserving historic buildings and places.	27.6	49.4	21.8
15. Promoting tourism.	18.1	47.7	32.5
16. Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	48.1	46.1	4.1
17. Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	54.3	41.6	2.5
18. Preserving natural resources and open space.	46.9	42.8	9.5
19. Managing population growth.	45.3	37.9	16.0
20. Promoting economic development in the area.	40.7	43.6	14.0
21. Providing storm water drainage and flood control.	35.4	56.8	6.2
22. Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	32.5	44.4	20.2
23. Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	68.3	28.4	1.6
24. Providing community health services and healthy living programs.	37.4	48.6	11.5

D1 – SECTION FIVE

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of respondents identifying that issue as one of the five most important.)

Rank	Issue	Importance
1	Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	40.3
2	Providing land use planning, building codes, and building inspections.	36.2
3	Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	33.7
3	Preserving natural resources and open space.	33.7
5	Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	32.1
5	Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	32.1
7	Promoting economic development in the area.	28.8
8	Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	26.7
9	Managing population growth.	25.1
10	Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	23.0

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

**III. DISTRICT TWO⁴
Councilman Roy Collins**

Total Population	17,607	% Population Registered to Vote	45.7%
Registered Voters	8,045	% Voting Population Surveyed	20.0%
Survey Recipients	1,609	Survey Response Rate	19.1%
Survey Respondents	306	Respondents as % of Total Population	1.7%

D2 – SECTION ONE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Excellent	Good	Neutral	Fair	Poor
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to live?	40.2	49.4	2.9	4.9	1.0
How do you rate the county as a place to raise children?	33.7	47.7	8.2	7.2	0.3
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to retire?	38.6	40.9	10.5	4.9	2.9
How do you rate the overall quality of life in the county?	32.7	52.6	5.2	5.9	2.0

D2 – SECTION TWO

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of citizens responding “yes” for each news source)

News Source	Users	News Source	Users
The Greenville News	73.5	Radio	49.0
The Anderson Independent	21.2	Television	82.7
The Easley Progress	22.5	Internet	27.8
The Pickens Sentinel	44.1	Conversations with family, friends, colleagues	85.6
The Daily Journal/Messenger	15.0	Attendance at County Council meetings	6.5

D2 – SECTION THREE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I receive good value for the Pickens County taxes I pay.	11.1	39.2	22.9	15.0	10.8
I have a positive view of Pickens County.	8.2	39.5	28.8	13.7	8.8
I trust the county to do what is right for the citizens.	9.2	40.5	21.6	16.7	9.8
I feel comfortable voicing my opinions to county officials.	17.3	37.3	28.4	10.8	4.9
Pickens County Government works efficiently.	6.5	28.8	37.6	17.3	8.8
Pickens County Government listens to citizens.	6.9	25.5	36.3	18.6	11.8

⁴ Staff elected to exclude eleven of the surveys received from District Two from the final tabulation due to an intentional duplication of responses. Staff consulted with the National Research Center, Inc. regarding the situation, and they advised the county to exclude these surveys from the final analysis in order to preserve the statistical significance of the survey results.

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

D2 – SECTION FOUR

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Issue	Very Important	Important	Not So Important
1. Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	58.4	40.0	1.0
2. Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	64.3	32.5	2.3
3. Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	32.8	46.2	20.3
4. Developing and improving county parks and recreational facilities.	27.2	48.9	22.6
5. Providing recycling centers and landfills.	49.8	45.9	3.3
6. Improving public water and public sewer service.	47.2	43.9	7.5
7. Providing land use planning, building codes, and building inspections.	26.9	45.6	26.2
8. Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	55.4	41.3	3.0
9. Maintaining and expanding the county airport.	7.5	32.1	58.4
10. Providing public transportation (public buses, light rail, etc).	17.7	32.5	48.5
11. Providing animal control services.	24.3	50.5	24.3
12. Providing and expanding library services.	28.9	48.5	20.7
13. Providing internet access to government services.	22.5	46.4	29.7
14. Preserving historic buildings and places.	23.9	54.6	20.9
15. Promoting tourism.	23.0	40.7	34.4
16. Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	58.5	35.6	4.2
17. Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	60.8	33.3	4.2
18. Preserving natural resources and open space.	45.1	40.2	13.4
19. Managing population growth.	34.0	40.8	22.9
20. Promoting economic development in the area.	48.4	40.8	9.2
21. Providing storm water drainage and flood control.	26.5	52.6	19.0
22. Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	43.1	36.6	18.0
23. Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	70.6	28.4	0.3
24. Providing community health services and healthy living programs.	43.1	43.1	11.8

D2 – SECTION FIVE

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of respondents identifying that issue as one of the five most important.)

Rank	Issue	Importance
1	Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	48.7
2	Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	40.8
3	Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	35.0
4	Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	34.0
5	Promoting economic development in the area.	33.0
6	Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	32.4
7	Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	30.7
8	Preserving natural resources and open space.	24.5
9	Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	24.2
10	Improving public water and public sewer service.	22.9

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

**IV. DISTRICT THREE
Councilman Jimmy Patten**

Total Population	18,775	% Population Registered to Vote	50.4%
Registered Voters	9,461	% Voting Population Surveyed	20.0%
Survey Recipients	1,892	Survey Response Rate	21.9%
Survey Respondents	414	Respondents as % of Total Population	2.2%

D3 – SECTION ONE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Excellent	Good	Neutral	Fair	Poor
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to live?	40.6	48.0	5.1	3.8	2.0
How do you rate the county as a place to raise children?	33.3	47.8	11.2	4.5	1.8
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to retire?	38.2	38.9	12.9	6.3	2.9
How do you rate the overall quality of life in the county?	28.6	52.0	8.7	8.3	2.0

D3 – SECTION TWO

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of citizens responding “yes” for each news source)

News Source	Users	News Source	Users
The Greenville News	73.0	Radio	45.3
The Anderson Independent	5.8	Television	77.5
The Easley Progress	38.8	Internet	23.0
The Pickens Sentinel	73.0	Conversations with family, friends, colleagues	85.7
The Daily Journal/Messenger	0.9	Attendance at County Council meetings	4.7

D3 – SECTION THREE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I receive good value for the Pickens County taxes I pay.	9.4	43.1	16.5	20.5	8.9
I have a positive view of Pickens County.	6.5	34.8	23.9	22.3	10.3
I trust the county to do what is right for the citizens.	8.3	32.4	21.7	21.9	13.4
I feel comfortable voicing my opinions to county officials.	13.2	33.9	31.5	12.7	6.7
Pickens County Government works efficiently.	5.1	29.5	29.2	23.2	10.5
Pickens County Government listens to citizens.	3.8	26.3	31.9	22.1	13.6

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

D3 – SECTION FOUR

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Issue	Very Important	Important	Not So Important
1. Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	52.9	40.2	6.1
2. Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	67.6	26.3	5.5
3. Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	37.6	41.3	19.9
4. Developing and improving county parks and recreational facilities.	24.0	50.0	25.1
5. Providing recycling centers and landfills.	42.2	50.6	6.9
6. Improving public water and public sewer service.	45.1	43.9	10.1
7. Providing land use planning, building codes, and building inspections.	24.6	49.7	24.9
8. Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	61.3	35.0	3.2
9. Maintaining and expanding the county airport.	9.8	37.0	52.0
10. Providing public transportation (public buses, light rail, etc).	17.1	26.6	54.9
11. Providing animal control services.	26.9	52.6	19.7
12. Providing and expanding library services.	27.5	48.0	23.7
13. Providing internet access to government services.	19.7	43.6	35.0
14. Preserving historic buildings and places.	22.8	52.6	24.0
15. Promoting tourism.	24.9	40.2	33.2
16. Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	53.8	40.2	5.2
17. Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	58.7	37.3	3.2
18. Preserving natural resources and open space.	38.4	45.4	15.3
19. Managing population growth.	32.7	41.9	24.3
20. Promoting economic development in the area.	47.4	43.9	15.3
21. Providing storm water drainage and flood control.	32.1	48.8	18.5
22. Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	40.2	43.9	15.3
23. Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	66.2	31.8	1.2
24. Providing community health services and healthy living programs.	37.6	48.0	13.3

D3 – SECTION FIVE

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of respondents identifying that issue as one of the five most important.)

Rank	Issue	Importance
1	Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	46.6
2	Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	43.5
3	Promoting economic development in the area.	39.6
4	Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	36.7
5	Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	36.5
6	Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	33.3
7	Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	30.0
8	Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	27.8
9	Preserving natural resources and open space.	25.6
10	Improving public water and public sewer service.	25.4

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

**V. DISTRICT FOUR⁵
Councilman Norman Langston**

Total Population	17,880	% Population Registered to Vote	49.1%
Registered Voters	8,776	% Voting Population Surveyed	20.0%
Survey Recipients	1,755	Survey Response Rate	19.7%
Survey Respondents	346	Respondents as % of Total Population	1.9%

D4 – SECTION ONE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Excellent	Good	Neutral	Fair	Poor
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to live?	33.2	52.9	5.2	6.7	0.6
How do you rate the county as a place to raise children?	27.2	50.9	12.7	5.5	1.5
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to retire?	25.4	45.7	13.6	11.6	1.5
How do you rate the overall quality of life in the county?	24.3	54.6	9.0	9.5	1.2

D4 – SECTION TWO

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of citizens responding “yes” for each news source)

News Source	Users	News Source	Users
The Greenville News	81.8	Radio	53.2
The Anderson Independent	6.7	Television	84.4
The Easley Progress	64.7	Internet	28.3
The Pickens Sentinel	39.9	Conversations with family, friends, colleagues	80.9
The Daily Journal/Messenger	3.2	Attendance at County Council meetings	6.4

D4 – SECTION THREE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I receive good value for the Pickens County taxes I pay.	5.2	46.0	13.9	22.3	11.0
I have a positive view of Pickens County.	5.2	34.7	27.8	19.7	10.1
I trust the county to do what is right for the citizens.	6.7	38.4	23.4	16.8	12.7
I feel comfortable voicing my opinions to county officials.	12.4	37.0	29.5	11.9	7.8
Pickens County Government works efficiently.	4.3	28.9	37.9	18.2	9.8
Pickens County Government listens to citizens.	4.1	20.8	40.8	17.6	15.9

⁵ Staff elected to exclude forty-nine of the surveys received from District Four from the final tabulation due to an intentional duplication of responses. Staff consulted with the National Research Center, Inc. regarding the situation, and they advised the county to exclude these surveys from the final analysis in order to preserve the statistical significance of the survey results.

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

D4 – SECTION FOUR

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Issue	Very Important	Important	Not So Important
1. Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	52.9	40.2	6.1
2. Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	67.6	26.3	5.5
3. Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	37.6	41.3	19.9
4. Developing and improving county parks and recreational facilities.	24.0	50.0	25.1
5. Providing recycling centers and landfills.	42.2	50.6	6.9
6. Improving public water and public sewer service.	45.1	43.9	10.1
7. Providing land use planning, building codes, and building inspections.	24.6	49.7	24.9
8. Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	61.3	35.0	3.2
9. Maintaining and expanding the county airport.	9.8	37.0	52.0
10. Providing public transportation (public buses, light rail, etc).	17.1	26.6	54.9
11. Providing animal control services.	26.9	52.6	19.7
12. Providing and expanding library services.	27.5	48.0	23.7
13. Providing internet access to government services.	19.7	43.6	35.0
14. Preserving historic buildings and places.	22.8	52.6	24.0
15. Promoting tourism.	24.9	40.2	33.2
16. Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	53.8	40.2	5.2
17. Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	58.7	37.3	3.2
18. Preserving natural resources and open space.	38.4	45.4	15.3
19. Managing population growth.	32.7	41.9	24.3
20. Promoting economic development in the area.	47.4	43.9	8.1
21. Providing storm water drainage and flood control.	32.1	41.9	24.3
22. Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	40.2	43.9	15.3
23. Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	66.2	31.8	1.2
24. Providing community health services and healthy living programs.	37.6	48.0	13.3

D4 – SECTION FIVE

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of respondents identifying that issue as one of the five most important.)

Rank	Issue	Importance
1	Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	47.4
2	Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	38.2
3	Promoting economic development in the area.	34.1
4	Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	33.8
5	Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	33.5
6	Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	28.3
7	Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	27.5
8	Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	26.3
9	Improving public water and public sewer service.	24.3
10	Preserving natural resources and open space.	20.5

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

**VI. DISTRICT FIVE
Councilwoman Jennifer Willis**

Total Population	19,246	% Population Registered to Vote	53.7%
Registered Voters	10,337	% Voting Population Surveyed	20.0%
Survey Recipients	2,067	Survey Response Rate	23.7%
Survey Respondents	489	Respondents as % of Total Population	2.5%

D5 – SECTION ONE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Excellent	Good	Neutral	Fair	Poor
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to live?	36.8	52.8	4.1	4.1	0.8
How do you rate the county as a place to raise children?	28.8	50.5	10.6	5.7	1.2
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to retire?	31.9	46.4	11.0	5.3	3.7
How do you rate the overall quality of life in the county?	26.2	60.3	5.1	6.1	0.8

D5 – SECTION TWO

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of citizens responding “yes” for each news source)

News Source	Users	News Source	Users
The Greenville News	81.0	Radio	50.7
The Anderson Independent	2.2	Television	85.7
The Easley Progress	76.3	Internet	22.5
The Pickens Sentinel	12.9	Conversations with family, friends, colleagues	85.3
The Daily Journal/Messenger	0.0	Attendance at County Council meetings	2.9

D5 – SECTION THREE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I receive good value for the Pickens County taxes I pay.	9.8	53.0	14.3	18.0	4.3
I have a positive view of Pickens County.	4.9	48.5	26.4	13.9	5.1
I trust the county to do what is right for the citizens.	5.9	49.9	20.0	16.2	5.9
I feel comfortable voicing my opinions to county officials.	9.8	38.9	37.4	8.6	3.9
Pickens County Government works efficiently.	3.3	36.2	37.0	16.0	5.9
Pickens County Government listens to citizens.	2.7	31.3	42.1	14.5	8.4

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

D5 – SECTION FOUR

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Issue	Very Important	Important	Not So Important
1. Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	53.6	42.1	2.9
2. Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	65.2	30.5	1.8
3. Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	37.6	48.7	11.9
4. Developing and improving county parks and recreational facilities.	23.7	53.6	20.9
5. Providing recycling centers and landfills.	41.9	48.5	8.0
6. Improving public water and public sewer service.	47.2	45.8	5.9
7. Providing land use planning, building codes, and building inspections.	34.6	49.9	13.7
8. Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	58.1	36.2	4.3
9. Maintaining and expanding the county airport.	6.5	36.6	53.8
10. Providing public transportation (public buses, light rail, etc).	15.5	31.7	50.3
11. Providing animal control services.	24.1	56.2	17.4
12. Providing and expanding library services.	37.6	50.1	11.0
13. Providing internet access to government services.	21.1	45.2	30.7
14. Preserving historic buildings and places.	27.0	47.9	23.3
15. Promoting tourism.	23.3	43.6	30.9
16. Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	59.1	36.0	3.1
17. Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	64.4	31.3	2.7
18. Preserving natural resources and open space.	40.7	46.6	10.6
19. Managing population growth.	37.8	43.6	15.3
20. Promoting economic development in the area.	55.8	35.0	7.2
21. Providing storm water drainage and flood control.	38.9	46.2	13.3
22. Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	34.8	39.5	24.1
23. Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	66.7	31.1	0.8
24. Providing community health services and healthy living programs.	41.3	45.2	11.9

D5 – SECTION FIVE

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of respondents identifying that issue as one of the five most important.)

Rank	Issue	Importance
1	Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	48.5
2	Promoting economic development in the area.	36.4
3	Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	36.2
4	Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	33.5
5	Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	32.7
6	Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	31.1
7	Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	29.7
8	Managing population growth.	22.9
9	Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	20.7
10	Improving public water and public sewer service.	20.4

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

**VII. DISTRICT SIX
Councilman Ron Harrison**

Total Population	18,629	% Population Registered to Vote	47.1%
Registered Voters	8,773	% Voting Population Surveyed	20.0%
Survey Recipients	1,755	Survey Response Rate	23.4%
Survey Respondents	411	Respondents as % of Total Population	2.2%

D6 – SECTION ONE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Excellent	Good	Neutral	Fair	Poor
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to live?	40.9	53.5	2.9	1.9	0.5
How do you rate the county as a place to raise children?	31.9	53.5	10.9	1.5	0.5
How do you rate Pickens County as a place to retire?	34.3	45.5	12.9	5.6	1.0
How do you rate the overall quality of life in the county?	30.4	58.6	6.1	4.1	0.5

D6 – SECTION TWO

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of citizens responding “yes” for each news source)

News Source	Users	News Source	Users
The Greenville News	79.6	Radio	53.0
The Anderson Independent	1.2	Television	82.2
The Easley Progress	58.2	Internet	29.0
The Pickens Sentinel	27.0	Conversations with family, friends, colleagues	83.0
The Daily Journal/Messenger	1.0	Attendance at County Council meetings	3.4

D6 – SECTION THREE

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I receive good value for the Pickens County taxes I pay.	12.2	51.8	14.1	16.6	3.2
I have a positive view of Pickens County.	8.5	44.0	29.9	10.9	4.6
I trust the county to do what is right for the citizens.	9.7	47.5	18.3	17.0	5.6
I feel comfortable voicing my opinions to county officials.	18.3	41.9	28.7	7.1	2.4
Pickens County Government works efficiently.	6.1	38.2	35.3	15.1	3.2
Pickens County Government listens to citizens.	5.6	34.8	35.3	16.3	5.8

**Pickens County 2003 Citizen Survey
Summary of Survey Results**

D6 – SECTION FOUR

(Numbers are presented as a percentage of total responses)

Issue	Very Important	Important	Not So Important
1. Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	58.2	37.7	2.9
2. Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	68.1	28.7	1.5
3. Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	36.3	46.5	15.1
4. Developing and improving county parks and recreational facilities.	25.3	49.1	24.1
5. Providing recycling centers and landfills.	41.4	49.6	8.0
6. Improving public water and public sewer service.	50.6	37.7	10.0
7. Providing land use planning, building codes, and building inspections.	28.5	48.7	21.2
8. Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	54.5	41.1	3.2
9. Maintaining and expanding the county airport.	5.6	33.8	58.4
10. Providing public transportation (public buses, light rail, etc).	12.4	28.5	56.9
11. Providing animal control services.	25.8	53.5	19.2
12. Providing and expanding library services.	29.7	52.1	16.8
13. Providing internet access to government services.	20.2	45.7	32.4
14. Preserving historic buildings and places.	26.3	51.1	21.7
15. Promoting tourism.	24.3	41.1	32.8
16. Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	62.5	33.3	2.7
17. Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	66.9	29.2	2.9
18. Preserving natural resources and open space.	44.0	43.6	11.2
19. Managing population growth.	36.5	46.0	15.8
20. Promoting economic development in the area.	52.1	35.0	11.9
21. Providing storm water drainage and flood control.	39.9	42.8	15.8
22. Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	38.9	40.1	19.5
23. Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	70.1	27.7	1.2
24. Providing community health services and healthy living programs.	40.1	46.0	12.2

D6 – SECTION FIVE

(Numbers are presented as the percentage of respondents identifying that issue as one of the five most important.)

Rank	Issue	Importance
1	Improving crime protection through the Sheriff's Office.	50.1
2	Maintaining and improving the condition of county roads.	41.6
3	Improving and expanding fire protection and rescue services.	37.2
4	Improving and expanding emergency medical services (EMS).	37.0
5	Promoting economic development in the area.	30.9
6	Communicating with residents to keep them informed of county issues.	27.3
7	Maintaining a fair and competent judicial system.	26.5
8	Providing basic health care for the uninsured.	22.6
9	Improving traffic enforcement through the Sheriff's Office.	21.4
9	Preserving natural resources and open space.	21.4