

2022 Brown County Survey & Assessment

We invite the community to use this survey and assessment to inform future plans, communicate needs, celebrate accomplishments, and help with decision-making. Our hope is that the results of this work will help guide planning and development activities to contribute to Brown County's bright future.

Brown County at a Glance

2021 Population



6,421

with prison population

4,969

without prison pop.

38.1

Median Age

\$ 59,346

Median Household Income

26.3% Renter



73.7% Owner

9.7%

Poverty Rate

\$ 106,200

Median Home Value

Unemployment Rate 2.5%

3,012

Labor Force



2022 Survey Results at a Glance

We heard you, Brown County!

504 Residents

167 Work-Only

55 BCHS Students

726 Total Survey Respondents

- 45% of respondents live in Mt. Sterling, 23% in rural Brown County, and 8% in Versailles
- 57% of respondents have lived in Brown County for more than 20 years
- 68% of respondents are female

Respondents are MOST satisfied with...

1. Fire protection
2. Ambulance services
3. Overall level of safety
4. Law enforcement
5. Public library

Respondents are LEAST satisfied with...

1. Dining options
2. Shopping opportunities
3. Streets, water, sewer, and infrastructure
4. Childcare options
5. Well-paying, diverse job opportunities

94%



of the respondents who live in Brown County categorize the **quality of life as positive** (generally good, one of the best in western Illinois, or the best in western Illinois), compared to 82% in 2018.

71%



of the respondents who live in Brown County believe that the **quality of life has improved** over the past five years – a dramatic increase over the 49% of 2018 respondents who felt this way.

70%



of the respondents would like to see **more homes under \$150,000** and 66% of respondents consider the 'selection of housing' very important to Brown County's quality of life.

86%



of the respondents consider the '**quality of schools**' very important to Brown County's quality of life; '**Safe place to live**' (94%) and '**Public services**' (75%) also appeared among the top choices.

When it comes to business types, respondents want more...

1. Casual restaurant or pub
2. Family entertainment
3. Grocery
4. Brewery, winery, or distillery
5. Fast food restaurant