

City of Kennedale Community Survey Results



City of
KENNEDALE.
Texas

Report Completed February 2026 By:



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Introduction

The City of Kennedale Community Survey was conducted to gather community input on quality of life, City services, infrastructure priorities, and a collective vision for the future. The survey provided an opportunity for the community to share their experiences, identify what is working well, and highlight areas where improvement or investment is needed. In addition to structured questions on satisfaction and priorities, the survey included open-ended prompts to capture context, explain ratings, and surface emerging themes that may not be fully reflected in quantitative results alone.

The results will support informed planning and decision-making by providing a clear, community-based understanding of priorities and expectations. Findings will be used to help the City:

- Identify strengths to maintain and build upon, particularly in core services and community assets that contribute to trust and quality of life.
- Clarify where needs are most urgent, especially where infrastructure and affordability concerns affect daily experiences.
- Inform future planning efforts, including budget considerations, capital improvement discussions, and program or facility planning.
- Strengthen communication and engagement by highlighting where respondents want greater clarity, consistency, and follow-through.

This report summarizes the survey findings and organizes results into major topic areas to provide a practical foundation for moving forward.



Methodology

The City of Kennedale Community Survey was conducted by Pavlik and Associates, a third-party community engagement and public involvement consulting firm, to establish an objective and unbiased survey process. The survey was open from December 9, 2025, through January 6, 2026.

The survey was administered online in both English and Spanish, with printed versions available in both languages upon request. Outreach efforts included City social media platforms, City communication channels, and flyers posted in public spaces throughout the community. This multi-channel outreach approach was intended to encourage participation from residents and anyone who lives, works, or interacts with the City.

Participation in the survey was voluntary and self-selected. Throughout the survey period, responses were reviewed for participation patterns and consistency to help ensure balanced input and to prevent disproportionate participation by any single individual or stakeholder group.

All survey responses were anonymous, and results are reported in aggregate. Selected open-ended comments are included where they help illustrate key themes or provide additional context. When used, comments were reviewed to remove identifying information and lightly edited for clarity and readability, without altering their original meaning.



Analytical Framework

Survey results were analyzed to identify overall trends, relative priorities, and recurring themes rather than to evaluate individual responses. Closed-ended questions were summarized using descriptive statistics to illustrate levels of satisfaction and to compare responses across service areas. Questions that asked respondents to rank priorities were analyzed by aggregating rankings to identify the issues and investments most important to participants.

Open-ended responses were reviewed and thematically grouped to identify common ideas, concerns, and aspirations expressed across the community. Selected comments are included in the report where they provide useful context or help explain quantitative findings.

Because participation in the survey was voluntary and self-selected, results are intended to reflect community perspectives and priorities, not to serve as a statistically representative sample. Both completed and partial surveys were included in the analysis to ensure that all feedback provided was considered. Findings are presented to inform planning, policy discussions, and future decision-making by highlighting areas of alignment, emerging needs, and opportunities for continued community engagement.

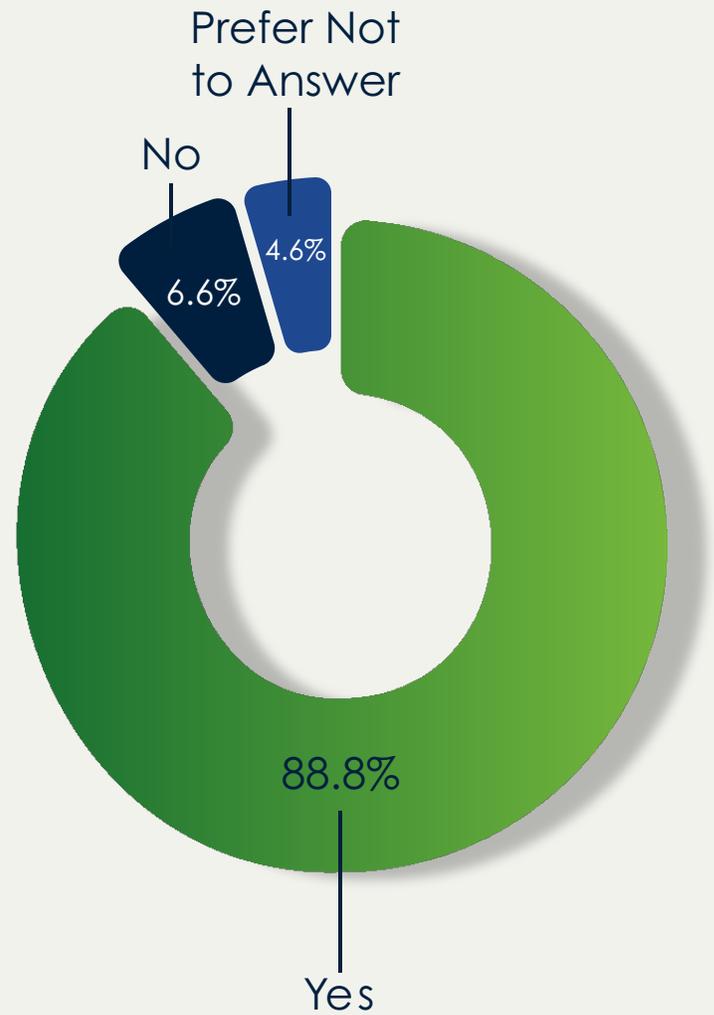


Who Participated in the Survey

The survey captured strong participation from Kennedale stakeholders, generating a robust dataset to inform City decision-making. In total, 491 responses were received, with 287 completed surveys, reflecting meaningful engagement across the community and providing sufficient depth for reliable analysis.

Among respondents who answered the residency question, 88.8% indicated they live within the City, while 6.62% reported living outside Kennedale and 4.57% preferred not to answer. This high level of resident participation provides confidence that the results reflect the perspectives of individuals most directly affected by City services and long-term planning decisions.

Do you live in the City of Kennedale?



Who Participated in the Survey

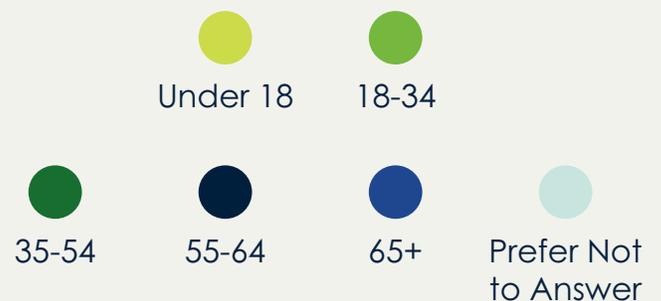
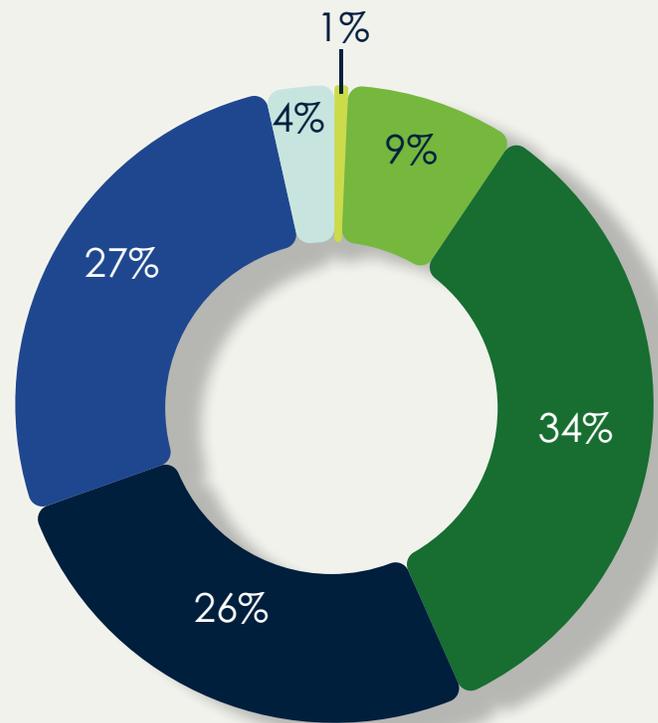
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Survey respondents primarily represented adult and older households, with participation concentrated among individuals in their prime working years and retirement age. The largest share of respondents fell within the 35–54 age group (33.92%), followed closely by those 65 and older (26.92%) and 55–64 (26.22%). Together, these age groups accounted for more than 87% of respondents who reported their age. **This pattern suggests the survey reflects especially strong engagement from mid-career and older individuals, who may have longer-standing experience with City services and neighborhood conditions.**

Younger adults were less represented in the survey. Respondents ages 18–34 comprised 8.74%, while participation from those under 18 was minimal (0.70%). A small share of respondents (3.50%) preferred not to disclose their age.

Overall, the respondent profile suggests that the survey findings are especially reflective of perspectives related to neighborhood quality, infrastructure maintenance, community amenities, and services supporting families and people who are above the age of 62. This context should be considered when interpreting priorities for recreation, facilities, and future City investments.

What is your age group?



Overall Community Perception and Quality of Life

Survey responses indicate that perceptions of Kennedale are most positive when respondents evaluate the City as a place to live, raise a family, and retire, with more mixed views emerging when respondents consider Kennedale as a place to work or visit. This pattern is consistent across both satisfaction percentages and satisfaction scores, with higher scores indicating higher overall satisfaction.

How satisfied are you with each of the following in Kennedale?



Overall Community Perception and Quality of Life

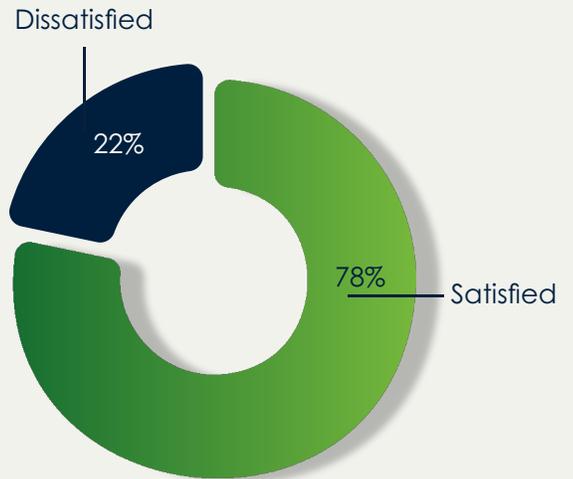
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Kennedale received its strongest ratings as a place to live and a place to raise a family, each with a satisfaction score of 4.13, the highest among all quality-of-life measures. Satisfaction scores were calculated by assigning a value of 5 to responses indicating satisfaction and a value of 1 to responses indicating dissatisfaction. Responses marked “no opinion” were excluded from the calculation. In both categories, approximately 78% of respondents who expressed an opinion reported satisfaction, while just over 21% reported dissatisfaction. These results indicate strong alignment among respondents regarding Kennedale’s appeal in its core residential roles.

Perceptions of overall quality of life in Kennedale were also positive. This measure received a satisfaction score of 3.83, with approximately 71% of respondents who expressed an opinion indicating satisfaction. While slightly lower than ratings for living and raising a family, **this finding reinforces generally favorable views of Kennedale’s overall quality of life.**

As a Place to Live

Score: 4.13 (out of 5)



As a Place to Raise a Family

Score: 4.13 (out of 5)



Overall Community Perception and Quality of Life

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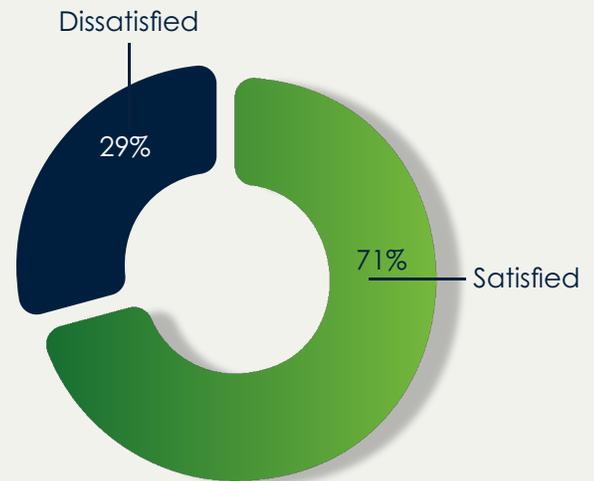
Responses related to Kennedale as a place to retire were moderately positive but more mixed compared with other residential measures. The satisfaction score of 3.56 reflects that 64% of respondents who expressed an opinion reported satisfaction, while 36% reported dissatisfaction. This distribution suggests greater variation in expectations or experiences related to retirement than for living or raising a family.

While citywide perceptions of Kennedale as a place to retire are moderately positive, age-based results reveal a clear pattern. Satisfaction increases steadily with age, with residents age 65 and older reporting the highest ratings by a wide margin. A detailed age-based satisfaction breakdown is presented in the Appendix. This suggests that individuals who are already living the retirement experience in Kennedale view the City more favorably than younger respondents who are evaluating retirement in a more hypothetical context. In other words, lived experience appears to reinforce Kennedale's strengths as a place to age in place.

More research would be necessary to understand younger respondents' priorities when evaluating a potential retirement community, and how those priorities differ from the factors that shape satisfaction among residents who are already retired today. Such analysis could support more refined conclusions about the age-based differences in satisfaction with Kennedale as a place to retire observed in this survey.

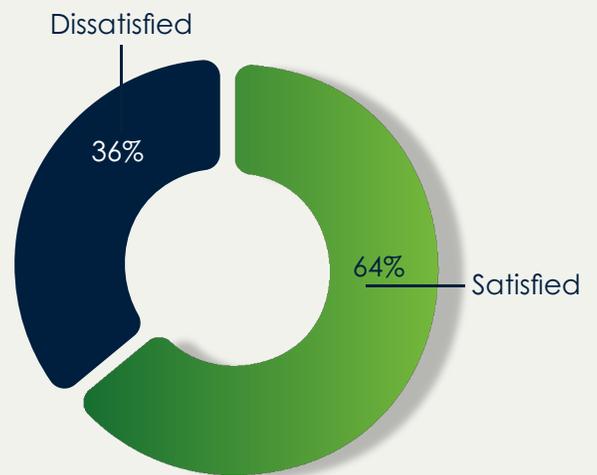
Overall Quality of Life in Kennedale

Score: 3.83 (out of 5)



As a Place to Retire

Score: 3.56 (out of 5)



Overall Community Perception and Quality of Life

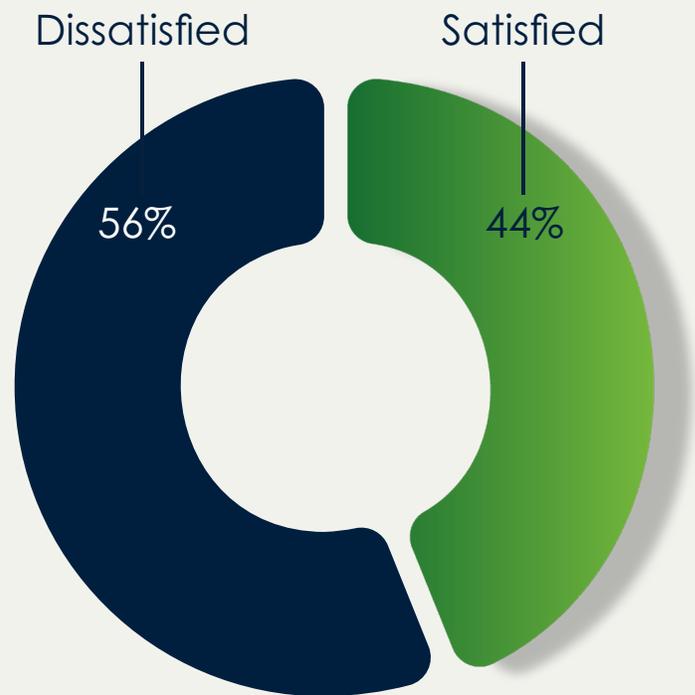
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In contrast, perceptions of Kennedale as a place to work were notably less favorable. This measure received a satisfaction score of 2.76, with fewer than half of respondents who expressed an opinion (44%) indicating satisfaction and a majority (56%) reporting dissatisfaction. These results suggest that employment-related considerations contribute less positively to overall perceptions of the City for many respondents.

Open-ended comments do not point to an issue with low individual wages in Kennedale. Instead, responses suggest dissatisfaction with Kennedale as a place to work stems from broader conditions that shape job opportunity, including limited business and retail variety, a “pass-through” community pattern where residents commute elsewhere for work, and concerns about infrastructure and amenities that may influence the City’s ability to attract and retain desirable employers.

Similarly, Kennedale’s ratings as a place to visit were among the lowest of the quality-of-life measures. The satisfaction score of 2.68 reflects that only 42% of respondents who expressed an opinion reported satisfaction, while 58% reported dissatisfaction. Compared with residential measures, this finding indicates weaker perceptions related to visitor appeal.

As a Place to Work Score: 2.76 (out of 5)



Overall Community Perception and Quality of Life

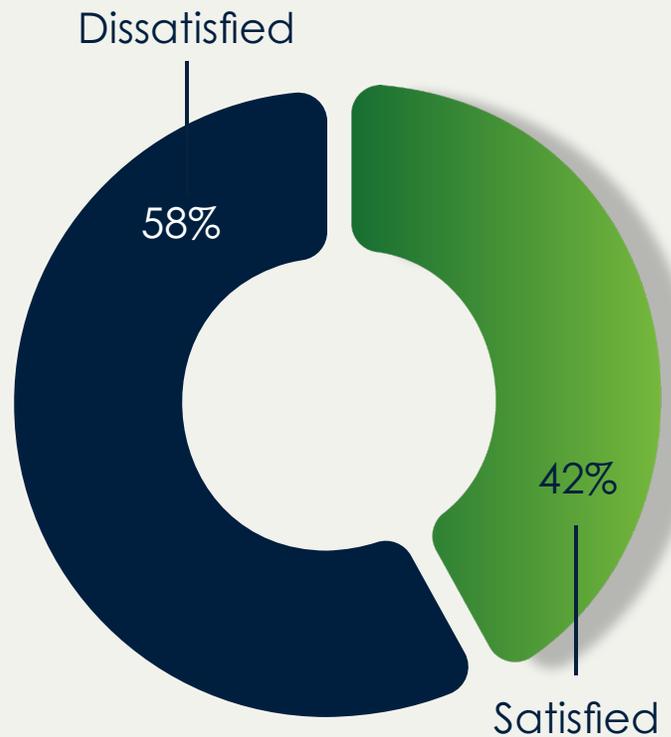
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The relatively low rating for Kennedale as a place to visit appears consistent with broader themes throughout the survey. Respondents overwhelmingly describe Kennedale as a strong residential community rather than a destination-oriented city. Open-ended feedback frequently characterizes the City as a “pass-through” community, with limited retail, dining, entertainment, and gathering spaces that would attract non-residents. Concerns related to corridor appearance, lack of a defined town center, and limited visitor-oriented amenities further reinforce this perception. Taken together, these findings suggest that the low visitor score reflects structural conditions and community form, not dissatisfaction with Kennedale’s quality of life for residents.

Key Takeaways: 

These findings demonstrate a clear and consistent pattern. Respondents who expressed an opinion rate Kennedale most favorably in its residential roles, particularly as a place to live and raise a family, while perceptions are more mixed when considering the City’s role as an employment center or visitor destination. However, perceptions of overall quality of life in Kennedale were noticeably positive, with a satisfaction score of 3.83. This context is important for interpreting subsequent survey findings related to City services, infrastructure priorities, and future investments.

As a Place to Visit
Score: 2.68 (out of 5)



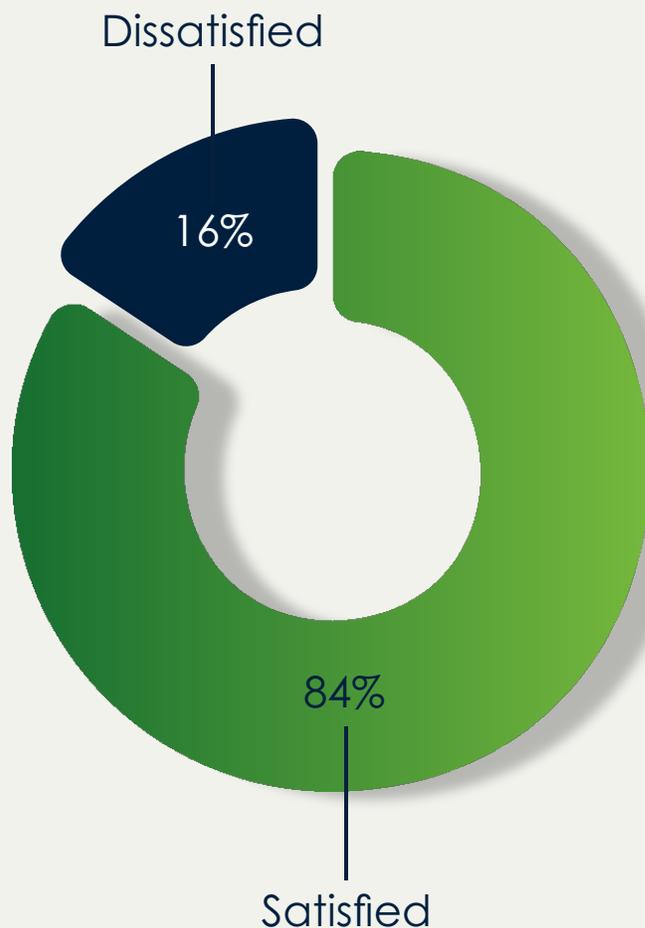
Satisfaction with City Services and Amenities

Survey participants were asked to rate their satisfaction with a range of City services and amenities. Results are presented as a satisfaction score for each category, along with the share of respondents who indicated they were satisfied or dissatisfied. Satisfaction scores were calculated by assigning a value of 5 to “Satisfied” responses and 1 to “Dissatisfied” responses, then averaging across responses that selected either option; “No opinion / Prefer not to answer” responses were excluded from score calculations. Overall, ratings suggest strong performance in core public safety and emergency response services, with more mixed results for quality of life amenities. The most consistent opportunity for improvement appears to be street maintenance and road conditions.

Public Safety and Essential Services

Police and public safety received a strong satisfaction score (4.37), with most respondents expressing satisfaction (84%) and a smaller share indicating dissatisfaction (16%). **Comments from satisfied respondents often emphasized a sense of safety, visible patrols, and professional interactions, including examples of timely response and helpful follow-up after incidents.** At the same time, dissatisfied feedback clustered around a few recurring concerns such as traffic enforcement (especially speeding in neighborhoods and school zones), perceptions of uneven patrol presence, and frustrations related to dispatching and response coordination.

Police and Public Safety Score: 4.37 (out of 5)



Satisfaction with City Services and Amenities

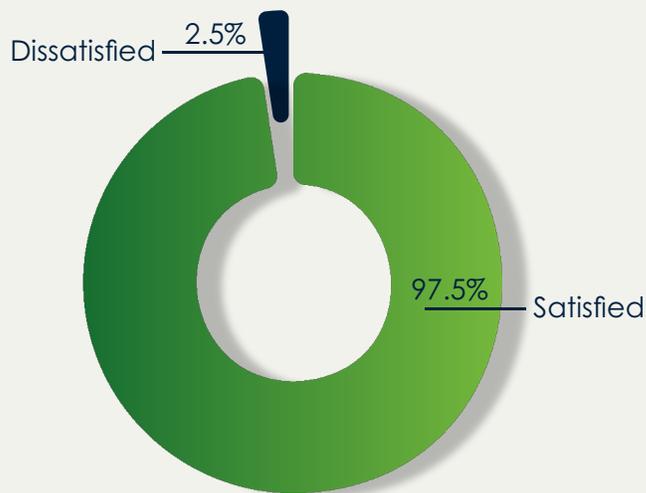
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Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) was among the highest-rated services (4.90), with an overwhelmingly high share of satisfied responses (98%) and very limited dissatisfaction (2%). **Open-ended comments frequently highlighted fast response times and professionalism, including several detailed examples describing emergency medical care and assistance during urgent situations.** A smaller set of dissatisfied comments pointed to concerns about costs (such as ambulance billing) and isolated negative experiences, but these were not common compared to the overall strength of feedback.

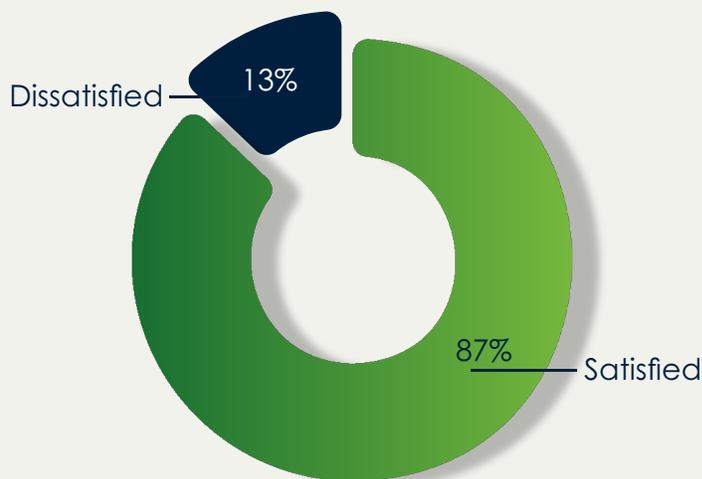
Community Learning, Information, and Engagement

The Library and access to learning or technology resources also performed strongly (4.48), with most respondents satisfied (87%) and a smaller share dissatisfied (13%). **Comments were frequently appreciative of staff, cleanliness, programming, and access to resources (including digital tools and online materials).** Where dissatisfaction was expressed, it most often related to capacity and access issues, including the library's size, hours, limited class slots, and the desire for expanded programming for teens and broader community segments. A small number of comments reflected differing perspectives on the library's role and funding priorities, suggesting that while the library is highly valued by many users, expectations and perceived benefit vary across the community.

Fire and Emergency Medical Services Score: 4.9 (out of 5)



Library and Access to Learning or Technology Resources Score: 4.48 (out of 5)



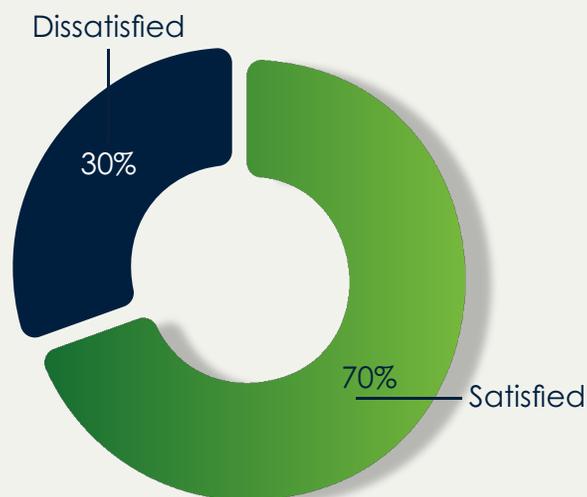
Satisfaction with City Services and Amenities

Continued

City communications and information sharing received a mid-range satisfaction score (3.78). While a majority of respondents expressed satisfaction (70%) and many comments credited City communications for helping the community stay informed through newsletters, email, and online updates, dissatisfied responses emphasized two consistent themes. The first is reliance on a narrow set of channels (especially social media). The second is a desire for more timely, accessible, and substantive information about City decisions, not only events. Several comments noted that residents who do not use social media may miss important updates, and others expressed a preference for more transparent summaries of City actions in formats that are easy to find and review.

City Communication and Information Sharing

Score: 3.78 (out of 5)

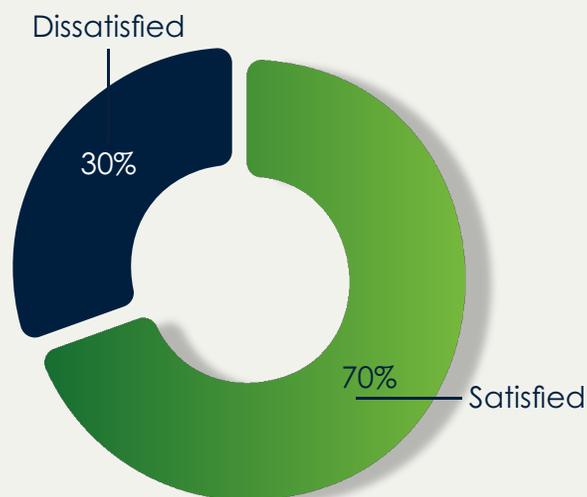


Parks, Trails, and Outdoor Amenities

Parks and playgrounds earned a generally positive satisfaction score (3.78) with most respondents satisfied (70%) and about 30% dissatisfied. **Many comments described parks as attractive, enjoyable, and well-used, with particular appreciation for recent improvements and amenities that support families.** Dissatisfied feedback tended to focus on maintenance and comfort factors (restroom upkeep, lighting, cleanliness, shade, trash management, stickers), as well as safety perceptions in certain locations. Several comments also pointed to uneven experience across parks, with some facilities viewed as priorities while others were seen as needing greater attention or reinvestment.

Parks and Playgrounds

Score: 3.78 (out of 5)



Satisfaction with City Services and Amenities

Continued

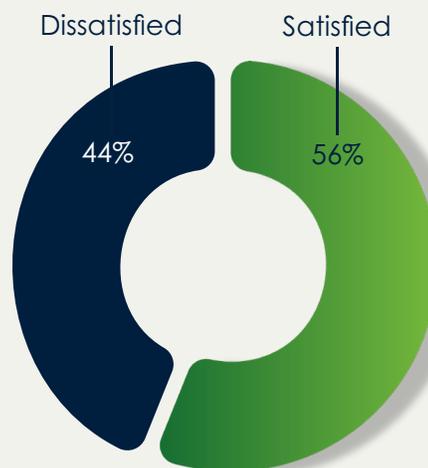
The trail system and walking/biking opportunities scored lower (3.24), reflecting more mixed sentiment (56% satisfied; 44% dissatisfied). Open-ended responses suggest that many respondents value existing walkability features where they exist, but a significant share perceive the network as limited in reach and connectivity. Common themes included the desire for more continuous or connected trails, sidewalks in neighborhoods and along key corridors, safer crossings, improved lighting, and better options for biking outside of park settings. This feedback indicates interest in walkability not only as recreation, but as a practical quality-of-life and safety issue.

Recreation, Programming, and Community Life

Community programs and events rated well (4.18), with most respondents satisfied (78%) and 22% dissatisfied. **Many respondents cited positive experiences with seasonal events and family-oriented programming.** When dissatisfaction appeared, it often reflected awareness and inclusion concerns. Some respondents indicated they were not aware of available programming, felt activities were limited, or wanted broader promotion across multiple channels and community partners. Several comments also pointed to a desire for expanded event variety and stronger organization or outreach to increase participation.

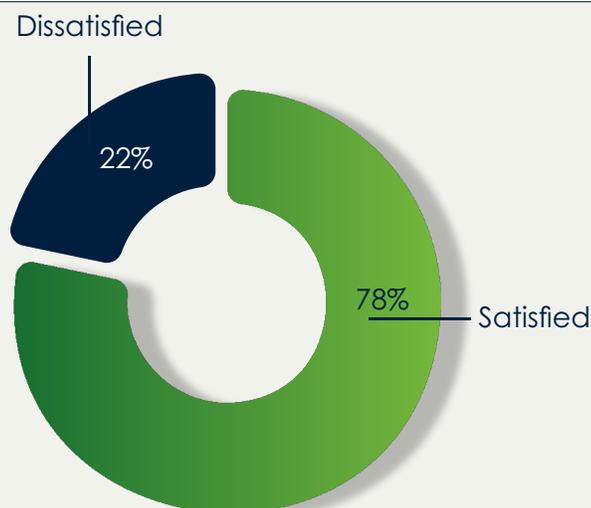
Trail System and Walk/Biking Opportunities

Score: 3.24 (out of 5)



Community Programs and Events

Score: 4.18 (out of 5)



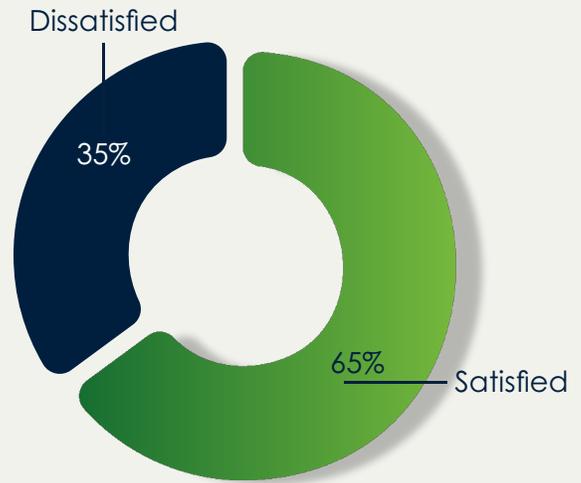
Satisfaction with City Services and Amenities

Continued

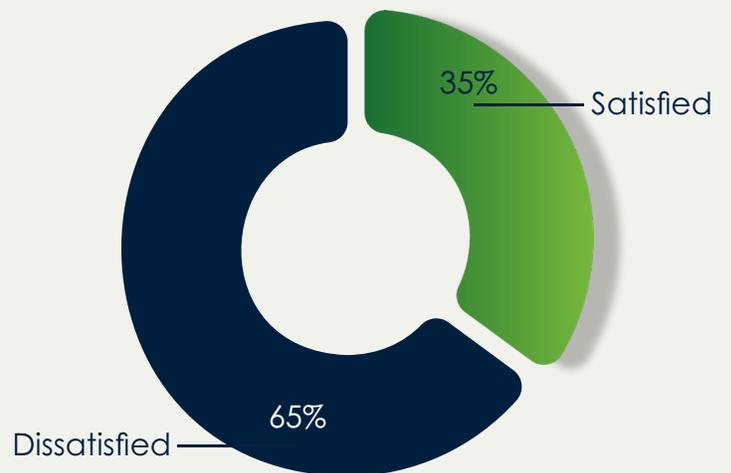
Programs and services for adults 62+ received a moderate satisfaction score (3.60) with 65% satisfied and 35% dissatisfied. **Positive comments highlighted the value of the senior center as a place for connection, activities, and services.** Dissatisfied feedback often focused on the perception of limited options, the need for more diverse programming, and transportation barriers for seniors who do not drive. Overall, comments suggest that while the senior center is meaningful to many who use it, there is demand for expanded outreach and access.

Youth sports programs and recreational opportunities was one of the lowest-rated categories (2.42), with a larger share dissatisfied (65%) than satisfied (35%). Open-ended responses frequently expressed a desire for stronger youth sports offerings within Kennedale, more accessible local leagues, and improved or better-maintained fields and facilities. Several comments referenced nostalgia for earlier programs and frustration with the need to travel to neighboring communities, suggesting that youth sports are closely tied to community identity and perceptions of "small-town" cohesion for many respondents.

Programs and Services for Adults 62+ Score: 3.6 (out of 5)



Youth Sports Programs and Recreational Opportunities Score: 2.42 (out of 5)



Satisfaction with City Services and Amenities

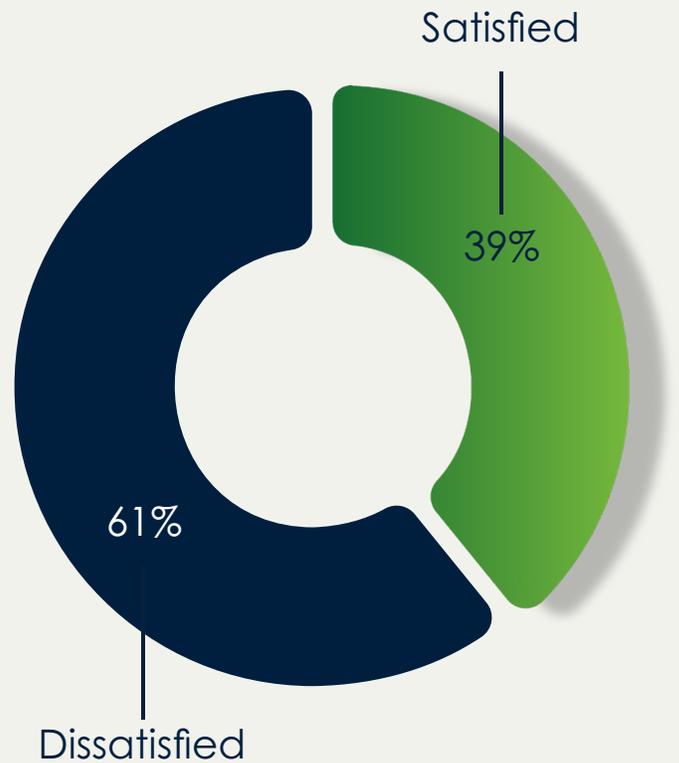
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Core Infrastructure and Daily Conditions

Street maintenance and overall road conditions among the lowest rated categories (2.57), with dissatisfaction (61%) outweighing satisfaction (39%). Open-ended comments were notably consistent and specific, often referencing potholes, uneven or deteriorating pavement, patching that does not hold, neighborhood streets that feel overlooked, and concerns about heavy truck traffic contributing to wear. Some comments acknowledged visible improvements or efforts in certain areas, but the overall tone indicates that road quality is a highly salient issue that shapes daily experience and strongly influences perceptions of City performance.

Street Maintenance and Overall Conditions

Score: 2.57 (out of 5)



Satisfaction with City Services and Amenities

Continued

How satisfied are you with each of the following in Kennedale?



Key Takeaways

These results show a clear distinction between respondents' perceptions of core services and day-to-day infrastructure. Public safety, Fire and EMS, and the Library consistently emerge as strengths, characterized by high satisfaction, strong personal trust, and frequent positive firsthand experiences. In contrast, satisfaction declines for services that directly affect daily mobility and neighborhood conditions, most notably street maintenance, youth sports, and walkability, where respondents report highly visible, cumulative impacts on quality of life. Across nearly all service areas, open-ended responses reinforce the importance of communication, access, and even distribution of investment, suggesting that awareness, consistency, and follow-through are as influential to satisfaction as the services themselves.



Parks, Trails, and Outdoor Recreation Priorities

In addition to evaluating satisfaction with existing parks, trails, and recreational amenities, the survey asked respondents to identify priorities for future park and trail development. This forward-looking question was designed to understand where respondents see the greatest opportunity for improvement and investment, independent of current satisfaction levels.

Priority scores reflect the relative importance respondents assigned to each option, with higher scores indicating higher priority.

Kennedale has invested in park improvements and new land for recreation. Thinking about the next phase of park and trail development, which of the following would you most like to see?

Park and Trail Development	Priority Score
More trails for walking and jogging	4.26
More playground or family recreation areas	3.78
Dog park	2.79
Bike-friendly routes and connections	2.73
Additional parkland or green space	2.66
Other (Please describe)	1.23
Kennedale does not need any additional development of parks and trails	1.14
I don't know / No opinion	1.03
Golf-cart accessible paths	0.70



Parks, Trails, and Outdoor Recreation Priorities

Continued

Results indicate a strong preference for expanded, everyday-use recreational infrastructure, particularly facilities that support routine physical activity and family use. The highest priority identified by respondents was additional walking and jogging trails, which received the strongest priority score among all options. This finding aligns closely with earlier qualitative feedback emphasizing walkability, connectivity between parks, and safe, continuous routes for daily use.

The second highest priority focused on additional playground or family-oriented recreation areas, reinforcing demand for spaces that serve children, families, and multigenerational households. Together, these top-ranked priorities suggest that respondents are less interested in isolated amenities and more focused on facilities that are accessible, frequently used, and integrated into daily life.

Moderate priority scores were assigned to dog parks, bike-friendly routes and connections, and additional parkland or green space. Open-ended responses indicate varied perspectives on these options. Some respondents expressed strong support for expanded biking and pedestrian connections, while others raised concerns about safety, sidewalk gaps, traffic conditions, or potential conflicts with existing road infrastructure.

“Other” Responses: Key Themes

- **Community recreation center / pool**
- **Youth sports fields and courts**
- **Family-friendly gathering spaces**
- **Walkability and trail connections**
- **Accessibility, shade, and bathrooms**
- **Maintain existing parks first**



Parks, Trails, and Outdoor Recreation Priorities

Continued

Notably, options indicating that no additional park or trail development is needed received relatively low priority scores, suggesting that most respondents support continued investment, even among those who are generally satisfied with current amenities.

Open-ended “Other” responses reinforce and expand upon these findings, offering additional clarity on how stakeholders envision future park and recreation investments. Common themes included interest in a community recreation center or pool, expanded youth sports fields and courts, and more family-friendly gathering spaces that support informal use and community interaction. Many respondents also emphasized the importance of walkability and trail connections, echoing the strong priority placed on trail development in the structured response options.

Across these comments, respondents consistently highlighted practical considerations such as accessibility, shade, restroom availability, and maintenance, with several noting that preserving and improving existing parks should take precedence over adding new facilities. This feedback underscores a preference for thoughtful, incremental improvements that enhance usability and comfort rather than large-scale or single-purpose projects.

Key Takeaways

These results suggest that stakeholders are seeking connected, well-maintained, and highly usable recreational spaces that support daily activity, family life, and neighborhood interaction. Priorities consistently point toward trail continuity, improved access between parks, and amenities that enhance comfort and accessibility. These themes indicate that future park and trail investments are likely to be most impactful when they build upon existing assets, address functional gaps, and respond directly to everyday patterns of use identified throughout the survey.



Streets, Infrastructure, and Utility Investment Priorities

Participants were asked to identify their priorities related to streets, utilities, and core infrastructure investment. Responses reflect a strong emphasis on affordability, maintenance, and safety, particularly as growth places additional strain on older systems and neighborhood streets.

Priority scores indicate the relative importance respondents place on each issue, with higher scores reflecting higher perceived urgency.

In recent years, Kennedale has made major progress in street repair and reconstruction. Looking ahead, what is most important to you?

Utilities	Priority Score
Ensuring water and sewer rate affordability	5.10
Resurfacing and repairing neighborhood streets	5.07
Improving major corridors and through-streets	3.66
Addressing stormwater and drainage issues	1.91
Improving water and sewer reliability	1.80
Other (Please describe)	0.43
I don't know / No opinion	0.29
Kennedale does not need any further street repair or reconstruction	0.22



Streets, Infrastructure, and Utility Investment Priorities

Continued

Investment Priorities

Among the options presented, respondents assigned the highest priority to ensuring water and sewer rate affordability and resurfacing and repairing neighborhood streets, both of which received notably higher scores than other infrastructure needs. These results underscore the importance respondents place on day-to-day cost impacts and the condition of local streets they use most frequently.

Improving major corridors and through-streets ranked as a secondary priority, reflecting recognition of traffic and connectivity challenges while still placing greater emphasis on neighborhood-level conditions. Lower but still meaningful priority was assigned to stormwater and drainage improvements and overall system reliability, suggesting these issues are often experienced indirectly but become highly salient when failures occur.

Responses indicating that no further street repair or reconstruction is needed received minimal support, reinforcing the perception that infrastructure investment remains a pressing concern for much of the community.

Traffic safety and visibility issues were commonly raised, including inadequate lighting, speeding, lack of sidewalks, unsafe crossings, and obstructed sightlines at intersections.

“Other” Responses: Key Themes

- **Roads, sidewalks, lighting, and traffic safety**
- **Water quality, costs, and taxes**



Streets, Infrastructure, and Utility Investment Priorities

Continued

Open-Ended Feedback: Location-Specific Concerns

Open-ended responses provided substantial detail about where stakeholders are experiencing infrastructure challenges. While comments span the entire city, several recurring themes emerged:

- Neighborhood streets in older areas, particularly Old Town and long-established subdivisions, were frequently cited as needing full reconstruction rather than continued patching.
- Major corridors and intersections—including Eden Road, Dick Price Road, Sublett Road, Mansfield Cardinal Road, Kennedale Parkway, and New Hope Road—were repeatedly identified for concerns related to pavement condition, congestion, visibility, and turning safety.
- Traffic safety and visibility issues were commonly raised, including inadequate lighting, speeding, lack of sidewalks,
- Drainage and flooding concerns were often tied to new development and loss of natural absorption areas, with stakeholders noting recurring erosion and standing water in specific neighborhoods.
- Several participants expressed concern that older neighborhoods and residential streets feel overlooked compared to newer development areas.

Collectively, these comments illustrate that infrastructure concerns are not abstract. They are highly localized and experienced daily, shaping stakeholders' sense of safety, mobility, and fairness.

Key Takeaways

Taken together, the priority scores and extensive open-ended feedback convey a clear and consistent message—respondents want the City to focus first on maintaining and improving existing infrastructure before pursuing additional expansion. Affordability, street conditions, traffic safety, and utility reliability are viewed as foundational responsibilities that directly affect quality of life.

Respondents are seeking durable, long-term solutions rather than short-term fixes, particularly in older neighborhoods and along heavily traveled corridors. The feedback also highlights a strong expectation for investment across the community and transparent communication about infrastructure decisions, timelines, and constraints.

Overall, this input suggests that infrastructure strategies centered on street reconstruction, utility affordability and reliability, drainage improvements, and pedestrian and traffic safety are most closely aligned with current community priorities.



Community Character and the “Hometown Feel”

Kennedale is often described as having a strong “hometown feel.” In open-ended responses, participants used this phrase to describe a blend of personal relationships, shared traditions, safety, and community identity. For many, it reflects everyday experiences such as recognizing familiar faces at local businesses, seeing neighbors at community events, and feeling part of a place where people look out for one another. Several comments framed hometown feel as a sense of belonging—being able to “call people by name,” feel welcomed at gatherings, and share pride in local traditions and long-standing ties to the community.

At the same time, responses indicate that this experience is not universal. A notable share of respondents described the hometown feel as uneven or diminishing, particularly for newcomers or those outside established social networks. Some characterized Kennedale as divided by geography or social circles, while others emphasized that a hometown feel is not automatic, but something that must be actively sustained through community collaboration, inclusive engagement, and visible, consistent leadership.

Community Character and “Hometown Feel” by Theme and Sentiment



Community Character and the “Hometown Feel”

Continued

What “Hometown Feel” Means

Across open-ended responses, several themes appeared repeatedly. Individual comments often referenced more than one theme, reflecting the layered way stakeholders describe their experience.

- *Sense of belonging and neighbor-to-neighbor connection.*

References to relationships and familiarity appeared in more than 160 comments, making this one of the most common ways respondents described a hometown feel. Many equated it with knowing people by name, feeling welcomed at local businesses, and neighbors supporting one another in daily life or at community events. For multi-generational families, hometown feel was closely tied to identity and personal history, including pride in having deep roots in Kennedale. At the same time, roughly four in ten of these comments included a constructive note, particularly from stakeholders who feel this sense of connection is uneven or harder to access for newcomers.

- *Safety, comfort, and a quieter pace.*

Over 130 comments linked hometown feel to Kennedale being “quiet,” “calm,” or “safe,” often describing it as a comfortable place to raise a family or retire. For many, the smaller scale of the community and lack of congestion compared to neighboring cities was a defining feature of Kennedale’s character. While most of these comments were positive, about one-third raised concerns about traffic, density, or changes that could affect safety over time.

- *Community traditions and shared experiences.*

Approximately 120 comments cited community events, schools, sports, and seasonal gatherings as key ways the hometown feel is created and reinforced. Respondents described these shared experiences as moments when individuals come together and feel connected to the broader community. Others noted that events are not as frequent, visible, or centrally located as they once were, limiting their ability to consistently foster connection.

- *Local identity, small businesses, and “a place to go.”*

More than 150 responses tied hometown feel to the presence of locally owned businesses, walkable gathering places, and a recognizable town center. Many expressed a desire for more local restaurants, a grocery option, and a stronger downtown identity. Several described Kennedale as a place where people live but spend their money elsewhere due to limited shopping and dining options, which they felt weakens the town’s sense of identity.



Community Character and the “Hometown Feel”

Continued

Concerns and Tensions Raised in Comments

In addition to positive descriptions, respondents raised several recurring concerns that shape how the hometown feel is experienced today.

- *Growth and development patterns.*

Concerns about growth were the most frequently raised issue overall, with nearly 200 comments referencing housing, development, or density. While a smaller share supported intentional growth that strengthens the tax base and brings desired amenities, more than three-quarters of these comments were framed constructively or critically, reflecting worries about apartments, traffic, infrastructure strain, and the potential loss of small-town character.

- *Perceived disinvestment and appearance.*

Over 100 comments connected hometown feel to the appearance and upkeep of public spaces, particularly along key corridors. Respondents noted concerns about neglected storefronts, visual clutter, trash, and areas that feel rundown. For these respondents, community character is influenced not only by events and relationships, but also by visible pride of place and basic maintenance.

- *Inclusion, division, and tone of civic life.*

Roughly 90 comments touched on leadership, governance, or civic climate. Some expressed appreciation for accessible officials and community services, while others described Kennedale as divided, politically contentious, or difficult for newcomers to break into socially. These responses suggest that hometown feel is closely tied to whether individuals feel welcomed, heard, and represented. (Note: A small number of comments included discriminatory language; these sentiments are not representative of community values and are not repeated here.)



Community Character and the “Hometown Feel”

Continued

Key Takeaways

Overall, respondents define “hometown feel” as a combination of belonging, safety, and shared community life, reinforced by traditions, local relationships, and pride in place. The feedback also indicates that this character is not guaranteed. Many respondents view it as something Kennedale must actively protect and strengthen, particularly amid growth, changing development patterns, and uneven access to community connections.

Notably, the themes most closely associated with hometown feel are also those where respondents express the greatest tension. Inclusive community events, welcoming neighborhood culture, visible upkeep along key corridors, and a stronger local identity supported by small businesses and gathering places emerge as practical factors that can help ensure the hometown feel remains real and accessible to both long-time residents and newcomers.

While respondents often describe “hometown feel” in social and emotional terms, survey feedback shows that this character is reinforced through tangible, visible investments. Community events, youth sports, shared facilities, and well-maintained public spaces function as the settings where relationships form, traditions are sustained, and newcomers are welcomed. In this way, physical amenities and programming are not separate from hometown feel. They are among the primary tools through which it is created and sustained.



Respondents describe “hometown feel” as a lived experience shaped by shared spaces, programs, and visible care for the community. Survey responses suggest that tangible investments create the conditions where connection, belonging, and identity take root.



Desired Programs, Facilities, and Community Services

Survey responses highlight strong interest in community services and amenities that support daily quality of life, social connection, and long-term livability. While respondents value Kennedale's existing offerings, the results suggest clear priorities for expanding recreational opportunities, strengthening community programming, and ensuring services meet the needs of stakeholders across age groups.

Priority scores reflect the relative importance respondents assigned to each option, with higher scores indicating higher priority.

Kennedale is always looking for new ways to serve residents. Which of the following would you or your family be most likely to use or support?

Services	Priority Score
Indoor recreation or fitness facility	5.03
More community events and festivals	3.41
After-school programs and youth activities	2.60
Programs for adults 62+	1.77
Adult learning or technology classes	1.63
Community resource and technology center	1.42
Expanded library services and hours	1.39
I don't know / No opinion	1.36
Other (Please describe)	0.79

Respondents consistently framed potential City facilities as as shared spaces that support Kennedale's home identity by bringing residents together across age groups and neighborhoods.



Desired Programs, Facilities, and Community Services

Continued

Priority Areas for Investment

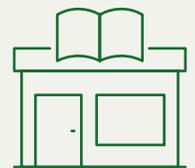
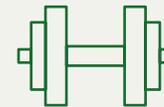
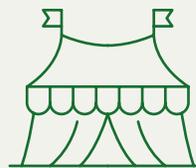
Among the service categories evaluated, respondents placed the greatest emphasis on indoor recreation or fitness facilities, which received the highest priority score (5.03). Comments frequently referenced the desire for year-round recreation options that serve youth, families, and older adults, particularly during extreme weather months. This reflects a broader desire for shared, multi-generational spaces that function as community anchors.

Community events and festivals also ranked highly (3.41), reinforcing the importance of programming that brings stakeholders together and reinforces Kennedale's hometown character. Respondents consistently described events as central to community identity, social cohesion, and civic pride.

Additional priorities included after-school programs and youth activities (2.60), signaling interest in structured opportunities that support families and provide safe, local options for children and teens. Programs for adults age 62+ (1.77), adult learning or technology classes (1.63), and expanded library services and hours (1.39) received moderate priority scores, suggesting that while these services are valued, awareness, access, or capacity may shape perceptions of need.

“Other” Responses: Key Themes

- **Parks, trails, and recreation upgrades**
- **Youth, family, and inclusive programming**
- **Community gathering spaces and amenities**
- **Basic services, infrastructure, and affordability**
- **Local retail, services, and economic activity**



Desired Programs, Facilities, and Community Services

Continued

Lower scores for “Other” responses and “I don’t know / No opinion” indicate that most respondents were able to clearly identify their preferences within the defined categories.

Open-ended responses reinforce and expand upon the quantitative findings, revealing several recurring themes:

- Parks, trails, and recreation upgrades, including indoor and outdoor spaces that support fitness, youth sports, and informal gathering
- Youth, family, and inclusive programming, with particular emphasis on activities for teens and intergenerational participation
- Community gathering spaces and amenities, such as multipurpose facilities, meeting spaces, and places that encourage social interaction
- Basic services, infrastructure, and affordability, reflecting concern that service expansion remains fiscally responsible and aligned with core needs
- Local retail, services, and economic activity, highlighting the role of community services in supporting local spending and reducing reliance on neighboring cities
- Many comments emphasized the importance of balancing new programs with maintenance and enhancement of existing facilities, as well as improving communication so the community is aware of available services and opportunities.

Key Takeaways

Overall, the findings suggest that respondents see community services not as standalone offerings, but as interconnected elements of Kennedale’s identity and quality of life. High priority scores for recreation facilities and events underscore a desire for spaces and programs that bring people together, while qualitative feedback points to opportunities to broaden participation, improve visibility, and ensure services are accessible across age groups. Strategic investment in these areas has the potential to strengthen community connection, reinforce Kennedale’s hometown feel, and support a growing and diverse population.



Recreation and Sports Participation Interests

To better understand community preferences for recreational programming and athletic opportunities, participants were asked to identify the types of sports and recreation activities they would most like to see expanded or supported in Kennedale. Responses reflect both interest in structured athletics and broader recreational opportunities that support health, wellness, and social connection across age groups.

Priority scores indicate the relative level of interest among respondents, with higher scores reflecting stronger overall demand.

Kennedale is considering adding more recreational options. In which sports or activities would you or your family most like to participate?

Sport	Priority Score
Water-based activities (swimming, water aerobics, etc.)	3.50
Pickleball	3.10
I don't know / No opinion	2.67
Baseball or softball	2.51
Basketball	1.81
Soccer	1.57
Football	1.37
Tennis	1.35
Archery	1.34
Other (Please describe)	1.23



Recreation and Sports Participation Interests

Continued

Priority Recreation and Sports Interests

Overall, interest was highest for water-based activities, including swimming and water aerobics, followed by pickleball, which continues to grow in popularity across age groups. Traditional team sports such as baseball/softball and basketball also ranked moderately, reflecting continued interest in both youth and adult league play. Lower scores for sports such as football, tennis, and archery suggest more niche demand or the need for regional partnerships rather than city-led expansion.

Notably, a sizable share of respondents selected “I don’t know / no opinion,” indicating that while participants value recreational options, some may be unfamiliar with existing offerings or uncertain about what is feasible locally. This aligns with broader feedback elsewhere in the survey regarding awareness, access, and communication.

“Other” Responses: Key Themes

- **Arts, dance, and organized classes**
- **Indoor fitness and gym-based activities**
- **Court and field sports (volleyball, badminton, hockey)**
- **Outdoor recreation (disc golf, skate parks, walking)**



Recreation and Sports Participation Interests

Continued

Open-ended responses provide additional context and nuance beyond the ranked options. Several consistent themes emerged:

- Interest in recreation options beyond traditional team sports, including arts, dance, fitness classes, and organized programming that appeals to a broader range of ages and abilities.
- Strong desire for indoor recreation and year-round fitness opportunities, particularly gym-based activities and flexible indoor spaces that are not weather dependent.
- Requests for a wider mix of court and field sports, such as volleyball, badminton, hockey, and other multi-use recreational options not currently available in Kennedale.
- Interest in alternative and outdoor recreation amenities, including disc golf, skate parks, walking-focused facilities, and casual outdoor recreation that supports everyday use rather than structured leagues.

Key Takeaways

Responses suggest that interest in recreation and sports in Kennedale extends beyond traditional team-based athletics and reflects a desire for more flexible, inclusive, and year-round options. Respondents expressed particular interest in indoor fitness and gym-based activities, water-based recreation, and court sports that serve a wide range of ages and abilities.

At the same time, open-ended comments point to demand for alternative and outdoor recreation opportunities, including walking-focused amenities, disc golf, skate parks, and organized classes such as arts or dance. Overall, the feedback indicates that expanding recreation offerings in ways that support both structured programming and informal, everyday use would help broaden participation and better reflect community interests.



Open-Ended Feedback

Emerging Themes

“I am proud of our city council and our city manager for working together so well on issues concerning our city. I am proud of all our City employees that truly seem to love working for the City of Kennedale.”

“Be more transparent about what is happening at the city level and how money is being spent.”

The survey closed with an open-ended question inviting participants to share anything else about living in Kennedale or their vision for the City's future. **Responses reveal a community with strong pride and attachment to Kennedale, paired with sharp disagreements about growth and development.** Many respondents expressed appreciation for City staff and day-to-day service providers, including public safety, library, and City employees, describing them as helpful, professional, and committed. At the same time, respondents used this question to voice frustration about perceived inconsistency in decision-making, limited transparency, and a local political climate they described as divisive or unproductive. Comments most frequently focused on growth and development, infrastructure and basic services, the local business mix, and City governance, with the majority framed as constructive or critical rather than purely negative.

“This town needs to grow and flourish. Clean up 287 and let's get it to be something to be proud of.”

“Stop making our small town big.”

Growth and development dominated the feedback. This theme appeared in more comments than any other, reflecting a strong desire to protect Kennedale's “small town” identity and avoid growth patterns associated with larger nearby cities. Many respondents expressed opposition to additional apartments, townhomes, and higher-density housing, often linking these concerns to traffic congestion, school impacts, and public safety perceptions. Others supported growth in principle but called for intentional, higher-quality development that strengthens the tax base and community amenities rather than adding more housing without accompanying services. Across viewpoints, the underlying message was consistent: respondents want development decisions to reflect a clear vision and measurable community benefit.



Open-Ended Feedback Emerging Themes

Continued

“Kennedale is nothing more than a drive-through town.”

Respondents consistently called for a stronger mix of everyday retail and services, making this the second most frequently cited theme in the open-ended feedback. Many described Kennedale as a “pass-through” community where residents spend their time and money in Mansfield, Arlington, or Fort Worth due to limited local options. Responses frequently cited the absence of a full-service grocery store, sit-down restaurants, and basic service-oriented businesses (e.g., medical clinic, urgent care, pharmacy, banking). Several comments criticized the prevalence of auto-related uses, scrap or industrial areas, and a growing number of smoke shops or liquor stores, expressing a preference for businesses viewed as more family-oriented and aligned with a “hometown” image. Others emphasized that attracting stable retail and service employers is essential for long-term fiscal health and for easing the tax burden on homeowners.

“Focus on basic city services—water, sewer, police, and streets.”

“Keeping us neat and clean keeps the city looking nice and home values up.”

Affordability and “getting the basics right” were also prominent, with infrastructure, taxes, and utility concerns appearing across a majority of comments that referenced daily livability. Respondents repeatedly highlighted property taxes, utility rates, and water quality as issues affecting day-to-day life. Some called for a stronger focus on core infrastructure, including streets, drainage, water and sewer reliability, and code enforcement. Several comments underscored neighborhood-level concerns such as speeding, school zone safety, yard parking, junk vehicles, and property maintenance, often tying these issues to community appearance, safety, and home values. Related feedback emphasized the need to improve key corridors, especially the visual condition, landscaping, and lighting along Kennedale Parkway and Business 287, which many described as shaping first impressions of the City.

“I love the community events—please have more.”

“Kennedale needs a recreational center for indoor games, a gym, and halls for events.”



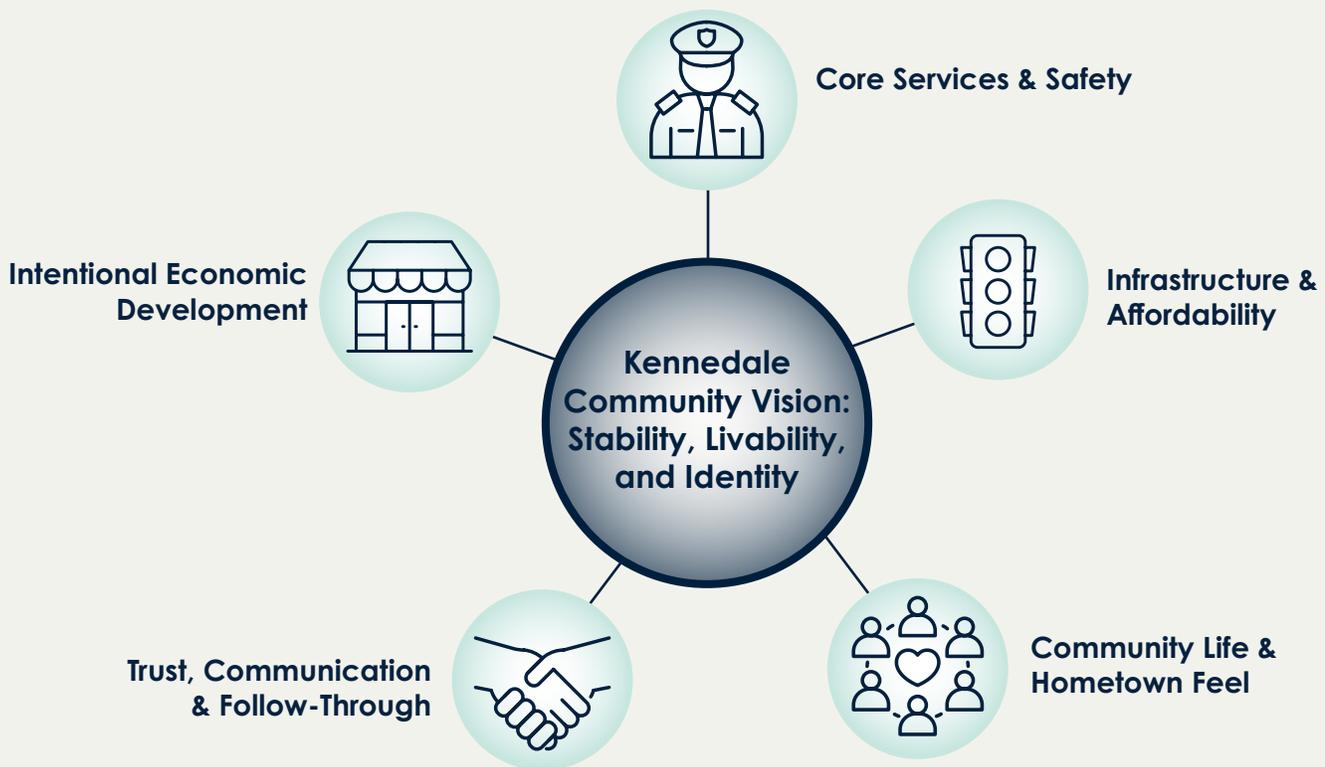
Open-Ended Feedback Emerging Themes

Continued

Community amenities and quality-of-life investments also surfaced as a forward-looking priority, though less frequently than growth, infrastructure, or business-related concerns. Many respondents supported ideas such as an indoor recreation center or fitness facility, expanded community events, a more active and functional Town Center or “downtown” area, and improved walkability through sidewalks and safer connections.

Some respondents noted a desire for stronger coordination with Kennedale ISD and youth sports to reinforce community identity and offer meaningful activities for families and teens. A smaller subset suggested specific place-making ideas such as a walkable town square, boulevard-style gathering areas, farmers markets, arts and greenery enhancements, and improved signage and gateway aesthetics.

“This is home. We have no plans to ever leave our house.”



Open-Ended Feedback Emerging Themes

Continued

Open-Ended Feedback: Top Themes and Sentiment

Theme	Total Mentions (n)	Positive / Supportive (n)	Constructive / Critical (n)
Growth & Development Direction	~165	~25	~140
Economic Development & Business Mix	~145	~30	~115
Infrastructure & Basic Services	~135	~15	~120
Taxes, Affordability & Cost of Living	~95	~5	~90
Appearance, Corridors & Cleanliness	~110	~10	~100
Governance, Transparency & Civic Climate	~90	~22	~68

Open-ended responses were thematically coded. Individual comments may reference multiple themes and are counted once per theme. "Positive" reflects supportive or affirming statements, while "Constructive/Critical" reflects concerns, requests for change, or dissatisfaction.



Open-Ended Feedback Emerging Themes

Continued

Theme Definitions	Key Takeaways 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth & Development Direction: Apartments/townhomes, density, green space, “small-town feel,” intentional vs. unwanted growth. • Economic Development & Business Mix: Grocery store, sit-down restaurants, retail/services, “pass-through” economy, auto uses, smoke shops/liquor stores. • Infrastructure & Basic Services: Street maintenance, drainage/runoff, water quality/taste, sewer access, sidewalks, lighting. • Taxes, Affordability & Cost of Living: Property taxes, utility rates, senior affordability, school tax burden. • Appearance, Corridors & Cleanliness: Kennedale Parkway / Business 287 aesthetics, scrap yards, landscaping, signage, gateways. • Governance, Transparency & Civic Climate: City Council conduct, trust, transparency, decision-making, political tone. 	<p>Taken together, and consistent with the most frequently cited themes in open-ended responses, feedback suggests that stakeholders share a strong sense of pride in Kennedale and want to preserve its identity, but they differ significantly on what “the right kind of change” looks like. Across perspectives, respondents consistently emphasized four cross-cutting priorities: (1) strengthen basic services and infrastructure, (2) improve affordability pressures tied to taxes, utilities, and water quality, (3) pursue more intentional, community-aligned economic development that expands retail/services and improves corridor appearance, and (4) rebuild trust through clearer communication, transparency, and a shared long-term vision for growth.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Kennedale is an amazing place. It just needs some tweaks.”</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>



Community Vision: Cross-Cutting Insights

The survey results reveal a consistent picture of how respondents experience Kennedale today and what they value most in the community. Respondents who expressed an opinion view Kennedale most favorably in its core residential roles, a finding reinforced by strong satisfaction with essential services that build everyday trust, particularly Fire and EMS, Police and public safety, and the Library. Across multiple sections, participants described these services as reliable, professional, and visible, contributing to a general sense of safety and stability.

At the same time, several pressure points cut across satisfaction ratings, priorities, and open-ended feedback. Street maintenance and road conditions emerged as the most persistent concern, reflected in both low satisfaction scores and high priority rankings for infrastructure investment. Water and sewer affordability also ranked among the most urgent issues, underscoring the importance participants place on costs that directly affect household budgets. Walkability and trail connectivity appeared repeatedly as well, suggesting that sidewalks, crossings, and connected routes are viewed as fundamental infrastructure that shapes daily mobility and neighborhood experience.

Another unifying theme is the relationship between core services and community identity. Respondents consistently described “hometown feel” in terms of belonging, safety, and familiar social connections, reinforced by community events, shared spaces, and visible care for public places. Interest in community programs, indoor recreation or fitness facilities, and accessible gathering spaces aligns closely with these definitions, indicating that social infrastructure is viewed as integral to maintaining Kennedale’s character.

Economic development preferences also intersect with identity and affordability concerns. Many respondents described Kennedale as a pass-through community and expressed a desire for more everyday retail and services that support local living and reduce reliance on neighboring cities. At the same time, responses reveal clear expectations about the type of development participants find acceptable. Concerns about additional apartments and higher-density housing were frequently linked to traffic, infrastructure strain, and changes in community character, while support for growth was more commonly expressed when tied to improved services, corridor appearance, and long-term fiscal stability.



Community Vision: Cross-Cutting Insights

Continued

Across nearly all topic areas, communication and perceived fairness of investment emerged as underlying factors shaping satisfaction. Even where ratings were generally positive, respondents emphasized the importance of clear, accessible information, consistent application of policies, and visible follow-through across neighborhoods. These themes suggest that trust in City decision-making is closely tied to both outcomes and process.

Key Takeaways

Overall, the survey findings point to a shared community vision grounded in stability, livability, and identity.

- Stakeholders place strong value on core services and emergency response, which consistently rank as community strengths.
- Infrastructure condition and affordability are central to daily quality of life and remain the most pressing areas of concern.
- Community character and “hometown feel” are closely linked to events, shared spaces, and visible upkeep of public areas.
- Preferences for growth emphasize intentional, community-serving development rather than expansion that strains infrastructure or dilutes local identity.
- Clear communication, attention across neighborhoods, and follow-through are critical to sustaining trust and support.

These cross-cutting insights provide an integrated framework for understanding how stakeholders connect service performance, infrastructure priorities, and community character, and they inform the broader conclusions and planning implications discussed in the final section of this report.



Summary of Findings and Implications for Future Planning

This survey provides a comprehensive picture of how stakeholders experience Kennedale today and what they expect from the City moving forward. Across quantitative ratings and thousands of open-ended comments, several consistent patterns emerge that help clarify where the City is performing well, where pressure is building, and how future planning decisions are likely to be evaluated by the community.

Core Community Priorities



Respondents consistently express strong attachment to Kennedale as a place to live, raise a family, and maintain long-term roots. High satisfaction ratings for these residential roles, paired with positive feedback about public safety, Fire and EMS, and the Library, indicate a solid foundation of trust in core services and City staff. These functions are widely viewed as reliable, professional, and essential to quality of life.

At the same time, respondents place high value on everyday livability factors: safe and well-maintained streets, affordable and reliable utilities, accessible parks and trails, and community events that foster connection. Across age groups, there is broad support for amenities that encourage daily use and social interaction, such as walking trails, family-oriented recreation, and spaces that bring people together across generations.

Areas of Greatest Pressure and Concern



Where dissatisfaction appears, it is concentrated in areas that directly affect daily routines and household costs. Street maintenance, neighborhood road conditions, traffic safety, and utility affordability consistently emerged as the most visible and pressing concerns. Open-ended comments reinforce that respondents experience these issues repeatedly and locally, shaping perceptions of fairness, responsiveness, and overall City performance.

Growth and development represent a second major pressure point. Many respondents express concern that recent development patterns—particularly higher-density housing—are outpacing infrastructure capacity and altering community character. Others support growth in principle but want it to be more intentional, better aligned with infrastructure investment, and focused on strengthening the tax base through retail, services, and employment opportunities rather than additional housing alone.



Summary of Findings and Implications for Future Planning

Continued

Perceptions of transparency and communication also surfaced as a cross-cutting concern. While many respondents appreciate existing communication efforts, dissatisfaction often reflects a desire for clearer explanations of City decisions, greater visibility into how resources are allocated, and more inclusive engagement beyond a narrow set of platforms.

Implications for City Investment and Decision-Making



Taken as a whole, the findings suggest that respondents are less focused on new or aspirational initiatives than on the City's ability to maintain, improve, and clearly explain the fundamentals. Investments that address street conditions, utility reliability, traffic safety, and attention to older neighborhoods are likely to have the greatest immediate impact on public confidence and quality of life.

Similarly, community support for parks, recreation, and programming is strongest when investments emphasize connectivity, usability, and maintenance rather than one-off or highly specialized projects. Indoor recreation facilities, trails, and youth-oriented amenities stand out as opportunities to reinforce community identity while responding to clearly stated needs.

Economic development decisions are likely to be evaluated through a dual lens: whether they preserve Kennedale's character and whether they deliver tangible benefits in terms of services, retail options, and long-term fiscal sustainability. Respondents are signaling openness to change, but only when it is clearly tied to community benefit and supported by infrastructure and services.

Considerations for Future Planning and Engagement



This survey underscores the importance of aligning planning decisions with lived experience. Respondents are asking not only for outcomes, but for clarity, consistency, and follow-through. Transparent communication about priorities, constraints, timelines, and tradeoffs will be essential, particularly around infrastructure investment and growth-related decisions.

These findings provide a clear framework for next steps: focus first on core services and infrastructure, pursue community-serving amenities that strengthen daily life, and ensure that development aligns with a shared vision for Kennedale's character and long-term resilience. By grounding planning efforts in these priorities, the City can reinforce its strengths while addressing the issues that matter most to stakeholders today.



Appendix - Citywide and Age-Based Satisfaction Patterns (Adult Respondents)

Citywide composite satisfaction scores indicate that Kennedale is viewed very positively overall, particularly as a place to live and raise a family. Citywide scores for these dimensions are among the highest in the survey, while overall quality of life is also rated favorably. At the same time, citywide results point to more moderate or neutral perceptions related to employment and visitor appeal, with “Kennedale as a place to work” and “as a place to visit” scoring below other community attributes.

Citywide Satisfaction Scores

As a place to live	4.13
As a place to raise a family	4.13
As a place to work	2.76
As a place to retire	3.56
As a place to visit	2.68
Overall quality of life in Kennedale	3.83

While these composite results provide a useful high-level snapshot, they mask important variation by age group. To better understand how different segments of the community experience Kennedale, satisfaction scores were examined by age for adult respondents.

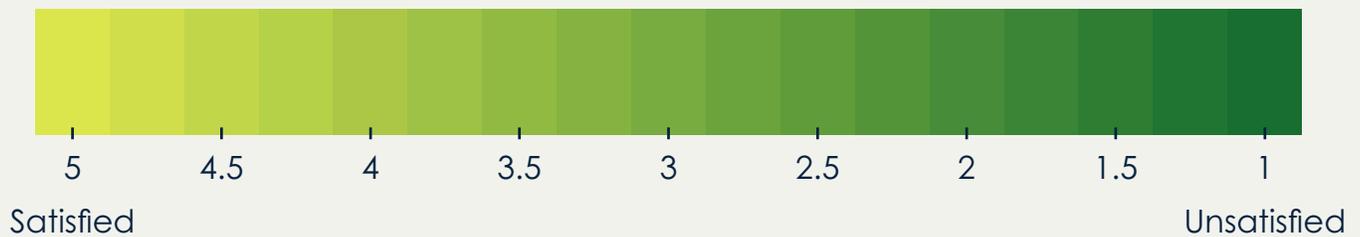


Appendix - Citywide and Age-Based Satisfaction Patterns (Adult Respondents)

Continued

Citywide Satisfaction Scores by Age

	18–34	35–54	55–64	65+
As a place to live	3.50	4.02	3.82	4.66
As a place to raise a family	3.43	3.94	4.02	4.48
As a place to work	2.18	2.36	2.68	3.14
As a place to retire	2.88	2.85	3.18	4.38
As a place to visit	2.05	2.28	2.73	3.15
Overall quality of life in Kennedale	3.18	4.30	3.57	4.41



Note: Responses from individuals under age 18 were excluded from age-based analysis due to extremely limited participation (n=2). Scores reflect adult respondents ages 18 and older.

Age-based scores shown in this appendix were calculated by excluding “not sure” or missing responses. Satisfaction was converted to a numeric scale by assigning a value of 5 to “satisfied” and 1 to “unsatisfied,” then averaging results by age group. Under this approach, a score of 3.0 represents a neutral or evenly balanced perception. Responses from individuals under age 18 were excluded from age-based analysis due to limited participation (n=2).



Appendix - Citywide and Age-Based Satisfaction Patterns (Adult Respondents)

Continued

When viewed by age, satisfaction patterns show clear life-stage effects that help explain the citywide averages.

Respondents age 65 and older consistently report the highest satisfaction across nearly all measures, including Kennedale as a place to live, raise a family, retire, and overall quality of life. These strong scores suggest that older individuals experience Kennedale as a stable, comfortable community that aligns well with daily livability. Notably, satisfaction with Kennedale as a place to retire rises sharply with age, indicating that residents who are actively experiencing retirement report far more positive perceptions than younger adults who are assessing retirement in the abstract.

Adults ages 35–54 also report high overall quality-of-life satisfaction, reinforcing the citywide finding that Kennedale performs well as a residential community. However, ratings related to employment and retirement are more neutral for this group, indicating that mid-career participants may be balancing positive day-to-day experiences with concerns about job opportunities and long-term planning.

Younger adults ages 18–34 tend to express more neutral satisfaction overall. While perceptions of Kennedale as a place to live remain modestly positive, lower scores related to working, visiting, and retirement suggest that younger respondents may view the City primarily as a place to reside rather than as a center for employment opportunities, destination amenities, or long-term life planning.

One finding is consistent both citywide and across all adult age groups: “Kennedale as a place to work” receives the lowest satisfaction ratings. This alignment between the composite score and age-based results indicates that employment-related perceptions are not confined to a single cohort but reflect a broader community-wide theme.

Key Takeaways

Taken together, the age-based analysis provides essential context for interpreting citywide satisfaction scores. While overall results point to strong residential satisfaction, the age breakout reveals how different life stages shape perceptions of work, amenities, and long-term community fit. These patterns help clarify where Kennedale’s strengths are broadly shared and where future planning efforts may need to respond to more targeted, age-specific expectations.



City of
KENNEDALE.
Texas

Report Completed February 2026 By:

