

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

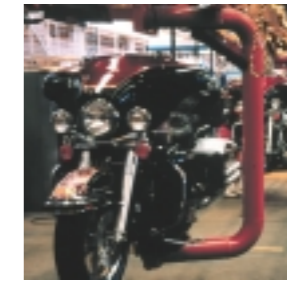
“The YorkCounts report shines a bright light on what is working in our community, and what needs to change. By telling the bold truth, it sets the stage for sustaining our region’s long tradition of collaborative work for strong families, a vibrant economy, preservation of natural resources, and a healthy society.

What can every community resident do? Study this report, build on the solid work already underway and roll up your sleeves to tackle the tough issues under the scrutiny of future generations.”

Tyler Norris
Community Initiatives



YORK COUNTY



THE IMPORTANCE OF QUALITY OF LIFE

Across the country, Quality of Life measures are being used to assess just how livable a community is:

“... A good place to raise a family...”

- Are the neighborhoods safe, convenient and comfortable?
- Will our children have the opportunity to become responsible and productive citizens?
- Are there employment options that allow us to use our talents and abilities?
- Does the environment provide natural, cultural, and recreational amenities for residents?

In the New Economy, answers to questions like these are valuable in assessing future stability, vitality and growth. They can help predict whether or not a region will thrive, and whether it will be able to attract and retain young people and vibrant businesses.

THE INDICATORS PROCESS

This report uses 57 separate indicators to measure the quality of life in York County. These indicators are objective, quantifiable factors that provide a snapshot of the community. They allow us to see how York County is performing at this point in time – and will enable us to continue to review and track our progress in the future.

The indicators employed by YorkCounts are grouped into four major areas:

- Family and Community
- Economics
- Education
- Health and Safety

Although these four areas are presented separately, there is a strong synergy between them.

As you review the findings in this report, it is important to view the information holistically, and keep in mind that not one of these four areas can stand alone. Like the four legs of a table, each one relies on the strength of the others to create a stable foundation.