

THE NCSTM

The National Citizen SurveyTM

Erie, CO

Dashboard Summary of Findings

2017



2955 Valmont Road Suite 300
Boulder, Colorado 80301
n-r-c.com • 303-444-7863



Leaders at the Core of Better Communities

777 North Capitol Street NE Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
icma.org • 800-745-8780

Summary

The National Citizen Survey™ (The NCS™) is a collaborative effort between National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). The survey and its administration are standardized to assure high quality research methods and directly comparable results across The NCS communities. The NCS captures residents’ opinions within the three pillars of a community (Community Characteristics, Governance and Participation) across eight central facets of community (Safety, Mobility, Natural Environment, Built Environment, Economy, Recreation and Wellness, Education and Enrichment and Community Engagement). This report summarizes Erie’s performance in the eight facets of community livability with the “General” rating as a summary of results from the overarching questions not shown within any of the eight facets. The “Overall” represents the community pillar in its entirety (the eight facets and general).

By summarizing resident ratings across the eight facets and three pillars of a livable community, a picture of Erie’s community livability emerges. Below, the color of each community facet summarizes how residents rated each of the pillars that support it – Community Characteristics, Governance and Participation. When most ratings were higher than the benchmark, the color is the darkest shade; when most ratings were lower than the benchmark, the color is the lightest shade. A mix of ratings (higher and lower than the benchmark) results in a color between the extremes.

Overall, ratings for each facet within each pillar were similar to the benchmark. Within the pillar of Community Characteristics, Mobility ratings tended to be higher than the benchmark and Economy ratings tended to be lower than ratings in comparison communities. Within Participation, most facets were rated similar to the benchmark; however, ratings for Natural Environment were higher than the benchmark. This information can be helpful in identifying the areas that merit more attention.

Figure 1: Dashboard Summary

	Community Characteristics			Governance			Participation		
	Higher	Similar	Lower	Higher	Similar	Lower	Higher	Similar	Lower
Overall	8	29	9	2	39	3	8	20	6
General	1	6	0	0	3	0	0	3	0
Safety	1	2	0	0	7	0	1	1	1
Mobility	6	1	1	0	7	1	1	1	1
Natural Environment	0	3	0	0	4	1	1	1	0
Built Environment	0	4	0	0	6	0	0	1	0
Economy	0	3	5	0	1	0	1	1	1
Recreation and Wellness	0	2	2	2	1	1	1	4	0
Education and Enrichment	0	3	1	0	2	0	2	0	1
Community Engagement	0	5	0	0	8	0	1	8	2

Legend	
Higher	Higher
Similar	Similar
Lower	Lower

The National Citizen Survey™

Figure 2: Detailed Dashboard

	Community Characteristics	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive	Governance	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive	Participation	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive
General	Overall appearance	↔	↔	76%	Customer service	↑	↔	82%	Recommend Erie	↔	↔	90%
	Overall quality of life	↔	↔	88%	Services provided by Erie	↑	↔	79%	Remain in Erie	↔	↔	90%
	Place to retire	↔	↔	64%	Services provided by the Federal Government	↑	↔	39%	Contacted Erie employees	↓	↔	48%
	Place to raise children	↔	↑	94%								
	Place to live	↔	↔	92%								
	Neighborhood	↔	↔	94%								
	Overall image	↑	↔	74%								
Safety	Overall feeling of safety	↔	↑	94%	Police	↔	↔	86%	Was NOT the victim of a crime	↔	↔	93%
	Safe in neighborhood	↔	↔	97%	Crime prevention	↔	↔	83%	Did NOT report a crime	↔	↑	87%
	Safe downtown/commercial area	↔	↔	95%	Fire	↔	↔	95%	Stocked supplies for an emergency	↔	↓	24%
					Fire prevention	↔	↔	83%				
					Ambulance/EMS	↔	↔	92%				
					Emergency preparedness	↔	↔	56%				
					Animal control	↔	↔	63%				
Mobility	Traffic flow	↓	↑	68%	Traffic enforcement	↔	↔	67%	Carpooled instead of driving alone	↔	↔	43%
	Travel by car	↓	↑	80%	Street repair	↔	↔	51%	Walked or biked instead of driving	↔	↑	67%
	Travel by bicycle	↔	↑	74%	Street cleaning	↔	↔	66%	Used public transportation instead of driving	↔	↓	13%
	Ease of walking	↔	↑	79%	Street lighting	↔	↔	64%				
	Travel by public transportation	↓	↓	23%	Snow removal	↔	↔	51%				
	Overall ease travel	↔	↔	76%	Sidewalk maintenance	↔	↔	59%				
	Public parking	↓	↑	71%	Traffic signal timing	↓	↔	52%				
Natural Environment	Paths and walking trails	↔	↑	81%	Bus or transit services	↔	↓	33%				
	Overall natural environment	↓	↔	69%	Garbage collection	↔	↔	82%	Recycled at home	↔	↑	97%
	Air quality	↔	↔	76%	Recycling	↓	↔	75%	Conserved water	↔	↔	87%
	Cleanliness	↔	↔	84%	Yard waste pick-up	↓	↓↓	46%				
					Drinking water	↔	↔	79%				
					Natural areas preservation	↓	↔	51%				
Built Environment	New development in Erie	↑	↔	53%	Sewer services	↔	↔	83%	NOT experiencing housing cost stress	↔	↔	75%
	Affordable quality housing	↓	↔	33%	Storm drainage	↑	↔	74%				
	Housing options	↓	↔	52%	Power utility	↔	↔	80%				
	Overall built environment	↔	↔	54%	Utility billing	↓	↔	69%				
					Land use, planning and zoning	↔	↔	37%				
				Code enforcement	↔	↔	46%					

Legend

↑↑ Much higher ↑ Higher ↔ Similar ↓ Lower ↓↓ Much lower * Not available

The National Citizen Survey™

	Community Characteristics	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive	Governance	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive	Participation	Trend	Benchmark	Percent positive
Economy	Overall economic health	↑	↔	59%	Economic development	↑	↔	40%	Economy will have positive impact on income	↔	↑	42%
	Shopping opportunities	↑	↓↓	13%					Purchased goods or services in Erie	↑	↔	90%
	Employment opportunities	↑	↓↓	11%					Work in Erie	↔	↓	30%
	Place to visit	↑	↓	40%								
	Cost of living	↓	↔	35%								
	Vibrant downtown/commercial area	↑	↔	34%								
	Place to work	↑	↓↓	31%								
	Business and services	↑	↓	42%								
Recreation and Wellness	Recreational opportunities	↔	↔	75%	Town parks	↔	↔	85%	In very good to excellent health	↔	↔	78%
	Health care	↑	↓	42%	Recreation centers	↔	↑	87%	Used Erie recreation centers	↔	↑	75%
	Food	↑	↓	42%	Recreation programs	↔	↑	84%	Visited a Town park	↔	↔	89%
	Health and wellness	↔	↔	67%	Health services	↔	↓	45%	Ate 5 portions of fruits and vegetables	↔	↔	88%
									Participated in moderate or vigorous physical activity	↔	↔	92%
Education and Enrichment	K-12 education	↑	↔	80%	Public libraries	↔	↔	92%	Used Erie public libraries	↔	↑	73%
	Cultural/arts/music activities	↑	↓	38%	Special events	↑	↔	79%	Participated in religious or spiritual activities	↔	↓↓	21%
	Child care/preschool	↔	↔	54%					Attended a Town-sponsored event	↑	↑	73%
	Overall education and enrichment	↑	↔	61%								
Community Engagement	Opportunities to participate in community matters	↑	↔	60%	Public information	↑	↔	75%	Sense of community	↑	↔	70%
	Opportunities to volunteer	↑	↔	59%	Overall direction	↔	↔	49%	Voted in local elections	↔	↑	93%
	Openness and acceptance	↑	↔	67%	Value of services for taxes paid	↔	↔	53%	Talked to or visited with neighbors	↔	↔	97%
	Social events and activities	↑	↔	62%	Welcoming citizen involvement	↑	↔	58%	Attended a local public meeting	↔	↔	22%
	Neighborliness	↔	↔	72%	Confidence in Town government	↑	↔	51%	Watched a local public meeting	↓	↓	14%
					Acting in the best interest of Erie	↑	↔	52%	Volunteered	↔	↓	27%
					Being honest	↑	↔	58%	Participated in a club	↔	↔	18%
					Treating all residents fairly	↑	↔	65%	Campaigned for an issue, cause or candidate	↔	↔	25%
									Contacted Erie elected officials	↔	↔	17%
									Read or watched local news	↔	↔	84%
								Done a favor for a neighbor	↔	↔	87%	

Legend

↑↑ Much higher ↑ Higher ↔ Similar ↓ Lower ↓↓ Much lower * Not available