

# DID YOU KNOW?

In the Spring of 2003, nearly 400 Swift Current and surrounding area residents participated in the Action Swift Current Youth Survey. The Youth Committee is very excited to report that the results have provided them with a demographic profile of the youth in the city, as well as a better understanding of the social and cultural activities these residents are or would like to be involved in. For additional information, and to see the results of the youth survey in its entirety, go to [www.actionswiftcurrent.com](http://www.actionswiftcurrent.com).

## AGE OF RESPONDENTS

35% of those surveyed were 20-24 years of age; one quarter of respondents were less than 20 years of age; one-fifth were 25-29 years and nearly one-fifth were 30 years or older.

## LIVE IN SWIFT CURRENT

Nearly three quarters of the respondents live in Swift Current at the present time. Of these, nearly half have lived here for more than 10 years. One quarter have lived here for 1-5 years.

## ATTRACTION TO CITY

Family is the most common reason as to why respondents are attracted to the city. Well over half of respondents indicated their family is the main reason they were attracted to Swift Current.

One-third stated they are attracted due to an employment opportunity, while one-fifth indicated they are attracted to the affordable lifestyle.

## YOUTH-FRIENDLY

Over one-quarter of respondents feel that Swift Current and its amenities are youth-friendly, however approximately half of the respondents feel that the city and its amenities are only somewhat youth-friendly.

## ARTS, CULTURAL & SOCIAL

The top five arts, cultural, and social activities respondents participated most often in consisted of: Frontier Days, dining out, video rental, mall shopping, and the cinema.

## MARITAL STATUS

Over two-thirds are single and nearly one-fifth indicated they are married. Other types of marital status included engaged, common-law or divorced.

## SPORTS & RECREATIONAL

The sports and recreational activities respondents participate most often in included: golfing, hockey, working out, pool/billiards, and slo-pitch.

## ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY

The vast majority of respondents (93%) feel that the youth should become actively involved in the growth and development of the city of Swift Current. The majority of respondents (88.3%) also feel that youth should consider volunteer work.

## EMPLOYMENT

Results indicated 38% of respondents are not employed, followed closely by 43% of respondents who are employed full time or self-employed and 19% who are employed part-time.

## ANNUAL INCOME

Nearly one half of the respondents make less than \$10,000 in income per year. Of these, the majority are less than 20 years old. A larger proportion of young women (62%) reported income levels less than \$10,000 relative to young men (32%), and a larger proportion of young men (33%) reported incomes over \$30,000 relative to young women (5%).

## ATTENDING SCHOOL

Approximately 19% indicated that they are presently attending high school, 36% are currently in post-secondary, while the remaining 45% are not currently participating in formal education.

## POST-SECONDARY PLANS

One-half of the respondents are planning to enroll in post-secondary education in the next twelve months. Over 20% are staying in Swift Current, and the remaining 30% plan to enroll elsewhere. Of these, one-third are going to Saskatoon, 17% are heading to Regina, and 10% in other Saskatchewan communities, primarily Moose Jaw. One quarter are planning to attend in Alberta cities: Medicine Hat, Lethbridge, Calgary and Edmonton.

## PROGRAM OR FIELD OF STUDY

The top 7 programs or fields of study that respondents plan to enroll in the next twelve months included Trades (16.4%), Business (15.3%), Education (13.1%), Science (9.8%), Medical (9.8%), Arts & Science (8.7%), and Emergency Services (8.7%).

## LEVEL OF EDUCATION

4.2% have obtained a university degree  
 6.3% have a Journeyman's certificate  
 26% achieved a certificate or diploma  
 28.4% have partial or are currently enrolled in post-secondary  
 55.4% have grade 12 diploma or GED  
 23.7% have some or are currently enrolled in high school  
 11.1% have some junior high school

## ACCESS TO EDUCATION/TRAINING

Nearly one-half feel that access to post-secondary programs in Swift Current is good to excellent. 10.3% feel that access is poor, and one quarter felt the question does not apply to them

