# Section 2: **Benchmarking Data**



### **Benchmarking Summary Report**

#### Overview

ETC Institute's DirectionFinder® program was originally developed in 1999 to help community leaders across the United States use statistically valid community survey data as a tool for making better decisions. Since November 1999, the survey has been administered in nearly 200 cities and counties in 38 states. Most participating communities conduct the survey on an annual or biennial basis.

This report contains benchmarking data from two sources: (1) a national survey that was administered by ETC Institute during July 2009 to a random sample of more than 2,000 residents in the continental United States, and (2) individual community surveys that were administered in 30 medium-sized cities (population of 20,000 to 199,999) between May 2007 and November 2009. The "U.S. Average" shown in this report reflects the overall results of ETC Institute's national survey. The results from individual cities were used as the basis for developing the ranges of performance that are shown in this report for specific types of services.

Some of the cities included in the performance ranges that are shown in this report are listed below:

- Ames, IA (Iowa State)
- Auburn, AL (Auburn)
- Austin, TX (University of Texas)
- Charlottesville, VA (University of VA)
- Columbia, MO (University of Missouri)
- Des Moines, IA (Drake)
- Durham, NC (Duke)
- Iowa City, IA (University of Iowa)
- Lawrence, KS (University of Kansas
- Manhattan, KS (Kansas State University)
- Norman, OK (University of Oklahoma)

- Princeton, NJ (Princeton)
- Providence, RI (Brown and Providence)
- Lubbock, TX (Texas Tech)
- Rolla, MO (University of Missouri at Rolla)
- Sioux Falls (South Dakota State)
- Springfield, MO (Missouri State)
- Tamarac, Florida
- West Des Moines, Iowa
- Tempe, AZ (Arizona State)
- Tucson, AZ (University of Arizona)
- Yuma, Arizona

#### **Interpreting the Performance Range Charts**

The charts on the following pages provide comparisons for several items that were rated on the survey. The horizontal bars show the range of satisfaction among residents in communities that have participated in the DirectionFinder® Survey during the past two years. The lowest and highest satisfaction ratings are listed to the left and right of each bar. The yellow dot on each bar shows how the results for Chapel Hill compare to the community average, which is shown as a vertical dash in the middle of each horizontal bar. If the yellow dot is located to the right of the vertical dash, the Town of Chapel Hill rated above the community average. If the yellow dot is located to the left of the vertical dash, the Town of Chapel Hill rated below the community average.

## **National Benchmarks**

Note: The benchmarking data contained in this report is protected intellectual property. Any reproduction of the benchmarking information in this report by persons or organizations not directly affiliated with the City of Chapel Hill, NC is not authorized without written consent from ETC Institute.































