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| --- | --- |
|  | **2024**  **Economic**  **Survey** |

The information you supply will be used in compiling insights reported in the *2024 Economic Forum* booklet, which will be published in conjunction with the 2024 Economic Forum, scheduled for October 29, 2024. The title of this year’s event is: Comparison of Kleberg County, San Patricio County, and Val Verde County: Three South Texas Counties Using Similar Levels of Technology. *If you would like to receive a formal invitation, please supply your email/personal address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

***All information you supply will be kept confidential****.* You are not required to begin or complete this survey. Complete this survey only if you are 18 years old or older. Please take the survey only once.

**Who is Responding? (Please circle): Business manager/owner**

**Resident**

**Student**

**Circle your response (Circle one):**

1. I think the United States’ economy is:

a. deteriorating at a rapid pace

b. deteriorating at a gradual pace

c. not changing

d. improving gradually

e. improving at a rapid pace

2. I think the local economy is:

a. deteriorating at a rapid pace

b. deteriorating at a gradual pace

c. not changing

d. improving gradually

e. improving at a rapid pace

3. I think a year from now, my family will be:

a. significantly worse off

b. slightly worse off

c. about the same

d. slightly better off

e. significantly better off

4. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the statement “My community (i.e., Kleberg County) is supportive of business owners.”

a. strongly disagree

b. disagree

c. neither agree or disagree

d. agree

e. strongly agree

5. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the statement “state and local government are supportive of business owners.”

a. strongly disagree

b. disagree

c. neither agree or disagree

d. agree

e. strongly agree

6. I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with the statement “Texas A&M – Kingsville is supportive of business owners”.

a. strongly disagree

b. disagree

c. neither agree or disagree

d. agree

e. strongly agree

7. How do you rank the following economic concerns?

Rank the following economic concerns from most important (1) to least important (10) by placing the ranking in the line before the concern (or draw a line from the concern to the number on the right). Every concern should get a different ranking.

\_\_\_City beautification 1 (Most important)

\_\_\_Education (K-12) 2

\_\_\_Health care 3

\_\_\_Housing (i.e., affordability, options) 4

\_\_\_Inflation 5

\_\_\_Infrastructure (i.e., transportation) 6

\_\_\_Personal security (i.e., assault, burglary) 7

\_\_\_Taxation 8

\_\_\_Terrorism (i.e., community security) 9

\_\_\_Unemployment 10 (Least important)

8. Assume that Kleberg County receives a grant allowing it to spend an additional $100,000. How would you direct government officials to allocate the money?

For ease, total payments should equal 100 (100%). You may forgo funding one or multiple accounts

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ City building and property maintenance

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Code enforcement

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Economic development

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fire department

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parks and recreation

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Police department

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Public education (K-12)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Solid waste

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Streets

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Tax reduction (spend no more, reduce tax rate)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Tourism

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Other items: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

THANK YOU!

**This research project has been reviewed by the Texas A&M University — Kingsville Institutional Review Board for the protection of human subjects. For questions, complaints, or concerns about the research, you may contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs**

**by phone at 361-593-2677, or by email at** [ResearchCompliance@tamuk.edu](mailto:ResearchCompliance@tamuk.edu)

**CONSENT FORM**

You are invited to take part in a research study being conducted by Professor Thomas Krueger, DBA a researcher from Texas A&M University – Kingsville and funded by Kleberg Bank and the Texas A&M University – Kingsville’s College of Business. You may contact the Principal Investigator, Thomas Krueger, DBA to tell him/her about a concern or complaint about this research at 361-230-9117 or thomas.krueger@tamuk.edu. The information in this form is provided to help you decide whether or not to take part. If you decide to take part in the study, you will be asked to read this consent form. If you decide you do not want to participate, there will be no penalty to you, and you will not lose any benefits you normally would have.

The purpose of this study is to gather information about individual perceptions regarding recent and anticipated economic conditions. You will be asked to answer eleven multiple-choice questions. There are no risks greater than those encountered in everyday life or costs incurred in taking the survey. Aside from your time, there are no costs for taking part in the study and you will not be paid for answering this survey. There are no direct benefits to you, however, the information will be presented at the 2024 Economic Forum and posted on the website of Texas A&M – Kingsville’s College of Business. Approximately 350 residents will be surveyed. The 2024 Economic Forum will be held on October 29, and is titled: “Comparison of Kleberg County, San Patricio County, and Val Verde County: Three South Texas Counties Using Similar Levels of Technology.”

Kleberg County, Aransas County, and La Salle County: Three South Texas Counties with Similar Levels of Tourism**.”**

The records of this study will be kept private. No identifiers linking you to this study will be included in any sort of report that might be published. For questions about your rights as a research participant, to provide input regarding research, or if you have questions, complaints, or concerns about the research, you may call the Texas A&M University-Kingsville Institutional Review Board at the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs by phone at 361-593-2677, or by email at [ResearchCompliance@tamuk.edu](mailto:ResearchCompliance@tamuk.edu).

This research is voluntary and you have the choice whether or not to be in this research study. You may decide to not begin or to stop participating at any time.

**STATEMENT OF CONSENT**

You agree to be in this study and know that you are not giving up any legal rights by agreeing to participate. The procedures, risks, and benefits have been explained to you, and all questions have been answered. You know that new information about this research study will be provided to you as it becomes available and that the researcher will tell you if you must be removed from the study A copy of this entire consent form will be given to you. You confirm that you are 18 years of age or older.

**INVESTIGATOR'S AFFIDAVIT**:

Either I have or my agent has carefully explained to the participant the nature of the above project. I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the person who read this consent form was informed of the nature, demands, benefits, and risks involved in his/her participation.

**This research project has been reviewed by the Texas A&M University — Kingsville Institutional Review Board for the protection of human subjects. For questions, complaints, or concerns about the research, you may contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs**

**by phone at 361-593-2677, or by email at** [ResearchCompliance@tamuk.edu](mailto:ResearchCompliance@tamuk.edu)