

Vestavia Hills, AL

The National Employee Survey

Report of Results

2025

Report by:





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National Research Center at Polco is a charter member of the AAPOR Transparency Initiative, providing clear disclosure of our sound and ethical survey research practices.

About The NES™

This report of The National Employee Survey[™] (The NES[™]) for the City of Vestavia Hills presents the opinions of employees regarding their job satisfaction, engagement and key characteristics of their work environment. The survey was developed by the experts from National Research Center at Polco. A periodic sounding of employee opinion on critical workplace issues offers management, staff and elected officials an opportunity to identify challenges, plan for and evaluate improvements and sustain organizational effectiveness for long-term success.

The NES report is about the work environment of the City of Vestavia Hills. A quality work environment is a workplace that is not simply acceptable, but that is desirable. It is not only where people do work, but where they want to work.

Great workplaces are partnerships of employees, management and the residents they serve. The NES captures employees' opinions within the aspects of organizational climate as well as community quality and city governance as well as ratings of City internal support services (such as human resources and finance), community quality, and City governance:

- Quality of Community
- Quality of Governance
- Employee Engagement
- Workplace essentials
- Organizational Climate
- Employee Development
- Equity and Inclusion
- Internal Support Services



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THENES

THE NATIONAL EMPLOYEE SURVEY "



A total of 234 completed surveys were obtained, providing an overall response rate of 74%. Because the survey was intended to be taken by all employees, no traditional margin of error was calculated. However, because not all employees responded, NRC recommends using plus or minus five percentage points as the "range of uncertainty" around any given percent reported for the organization as a whole. The full description of methods used to garner these opinions can be found in the Methods tab.

How the results are reported

For the most part, the percentages presented in the following tabs represent the "percent positive." The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., "excellent" and "good," "strongly agree" and "somewhat agree," etc.). On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer "don't know." The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the tab "Complete data." However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in most of the tabs. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item. When a table for a question that only permitted a single response does not total to exactly 100%, it is due to the customary practice of rounding percentages to the nearest whole number.

Comparisons to the benchmarks

This is Vestavia Hills's 1st administration of The National Employee Survey. The survey was administered after the COVID-19 pandemic, a time of challenge for many local governments. While we provide comparisons to national benchmarks, it is important to note that much of the benchmark data was collected prior to the pandemic, so the comparisons may not be entirely comparable for all of the data points.

NRC's database of comparative employee opinion comprises the perspectives of more than 25,000 employees gathered from employee surveys from local governments across the U.S. Those employees evaluated the

organization in which they work and gave their opinion about job satisfaction, supervisor relationships and other aspects of the employee experience. The City of Vestavia Hills was compared to the entire database. A benchmark comparison (the average percent positive from all the comparison organizations where a question was asked, excluding Vestavia Hills's) has been provided when there were at least five organizations in which the question was asked. The percent positive response was created by combining the most favorable response options (i.e., "strongly agree" and "somewhat agree" or "excellent" and "good").

Where comparisons are available, two columns are provided in the table. The first column is Vestavia Hills's percent positive. The second shows the comparison of Vestavia Hills's rating to the benchmark, where Vestavia Hills's results are noted as being "higher" than the benchmark, "lower" than the benchmark or "similar" to the benchmark. These labels come from a statistical comparison of Vestavia Hills'srating to the benchmark where a rating is considered "similar" if it is within the margin of error (five percentage points or less) and "higher" or "lower" if the difference between Vestavia Hills's rating and the benchmark is greater the margin of error (greater than five percentage points).

Methods

Survey Background



The City of Vestavia Hills partnered with National Research Center (NRC) at Polco to conduct a City-wide employee survey. Employees were asked questions about their job satisfaction, work environment, compensation, supervisory relationships, organizational climate and communication. This was the first survey of Vestavia Hills employees. The results can be used by the City to better understand employee experiences, address employee concerns and monitor perspectives over time.

The survey consisted of thematically similar statements grouped into question sets and all were asked on a four-point scale (e.g., strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree or excellent, good, fair, poor).

Selecting Survey Recipients

All City of Vestavia Hills employees were eligible to complete the survey. The City provided NRC with a list of email addresses for all employees with City emails. The City also communicated with all employees about the survey so that employees without City emails were informed about and could participate in the survey.

Survey Administration and Response

The survey was administered on the Polco platform. Beginning May 5th, 2025, employees were sent an email with a link inviting them to complete the web-based survey on Polco. Employees received email reminders each week.

The survey was available in English only. Data collection continued through May 26th. Of the 317 employees receiving an invitation to complete the survey, a total of 234 employees returned completed surveys, providing a response rate of 74%. The response rate was calculated using the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) response rate #2 for Internet surveys of named persons.¹

Because the survey was intended to be taken by all employees, no traditional margin of error was calculated. However, because not all employees responded, NRC recommends using plus or minus five percentage points as the "range of uncertainty" around any given percent reported for the organization as a whole. Additionally, no statistical weighting was performed.

Since the surveys were completed online, the data were automatically saved electronically. The survey dataset was analyzed through a combination of software programs including the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), R, Python, and Tableau. The anonymity of all employees was fully maintained as no names or other unique identifiers have been recorded.

Contact

The City of Vestavia Hills funded this research. Please contact Jeff Downes of the City of Vestavia Hills at jdownes@vhal.org if you have any questions about the survey.

1. See AAPOR's Standard Definitions for more information at https://aapor.org/standards-and-ethics/standard-definitions/

2. Pasek, J. (2014). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from https://surveyinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Full-anesrake-paper.pdf

Key Findings

Highest-performing areas:



• Nearly all employees said they have friends at work (95% strongly or somewhat agree), plan to remain with the organization in the next year (94%), and feel positively about working for the City (90%). In addition, 9 in 10 said they would recommend working for the City to someone who asked.

• About 9 in 10 employees positively rated their immediate supervisor's performance in encouraging employees to use their own judgement to get the job done and communicating information in a timely manner. Similarly, 8 in 10 employees rated their department's working relationships (78% excellent or good) and the organization's ability to provide a clear vision (78%) favorably.

• Employees also gave high ratings to the organization's overall skill set of staff (85% excellent or good) and to their immediate supervisor's performance in providing opportunities for employees to learn and grow (84%), both exceeding results from other comparison communities.

• Equity and inclusion is a strength, with employees positively rating the organization for providing a safe and secure environment for employees of all backgrounds (88% excellent or good), and their immediate supervisor's performance in treating employees with respect (89%), both scoring above the national average.

Focus areas:

• IT Desktop/Help Desk services (61% excellent or good) and general information (IT) services overall (59%) fell below the national average and were the lowest-rated support services.

• Fewer employees gave positive ratings to the organization's connection between compensation and performance (70% excellent or good), openness to new ideas and initiatives (69%), and showing employee appreciation (69%).

• Lower ratings were also given to their department's communication among all staff (68% excellent or good) and their immediate supervisor's performance in managing low-performing employees (72%).

Other notable results:

• 83% of employees gave positive ratings to their immediate supervisor's communication of city-wide and departmental strategic goals.

• About 8 in 10 employees reported feeling very or moderately confident in City leadership (City Manager and Assistant City Manager).

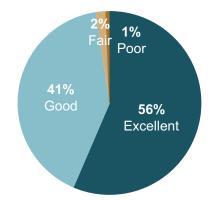
• Internal employee communications were rated excellent or good by nearly 8 in 10 employees.

Vestavia Hills as a place to live



Quality of Community

The quality of a government is often revealed through the quality of the community served.



Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Vestavia Hills.

| | vs. benchmark ³ |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| 98% | Higher |
| 96% | Higher |
| 86% | Higher |
| | 96% |

How likely or unlikely are you to recommend LIVING in Vestavia Hills to someone who asks? (% very or somewhat likely)

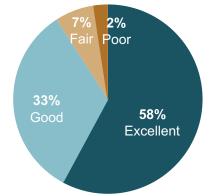
| How likely or unlikely are you to recommend LIVING in Vestavia Hills to someone who asks? | 92% | Higher | |
|---|-----|--------|--|
| Someone who asks: | | | |



The overall quality of the services provided by the City

Quality of Governance

Employees want to be a part of a team that does high quality work that is well received by their community and well supported by the organization.



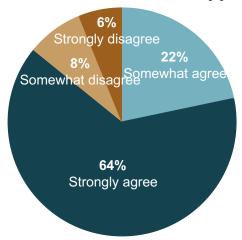
| Please rate the following categories of Vestavia Hills' government perf (% excellent or good) | ormance. | vs. benchmark⁴ |
|--|----------|-------------------|
| The overall quality of the services provided by the City | 91% | Higher |
| Generally acting in the best interest of the community | 90% | Higher |
| The overall direction that Vestavia Hills is taking | 85% | Higher |
| Overall confidence in Vestavia Hills government | 83% | Higher |
| Please rate your overall level of confidence in the leadership of: (% very or moderately confident) | | |
| Your supervisor | 88% | Higher |
| Council/elected officials | 85% | Higher |

Overall, I am satisfied with my job



Employee Engagement

An organization of engaged employees is one where employees feel motivated to do their best possible work and where they hope to continue working in years to come. To impact employee engagement, an organization typically will want to see which of the other aspects of organizational climate were most influential on their engagement ratings.



For employees of the City of Vestavia Hills, the key organizational characteristics found to be most closely correlated⁵ with employee ratings of engagement were:

- Benefits overall (vacation, sick leave, health care, retirement plan, etc.)
- Providing a clear vision for our organization
- Opportunities to develop a career path
- Providing recognition for doing good work

Of these, all were higher than the benchmark comparison. To impact employee engagement, an organization typically will want to consider improvements to any key features that were not higher than the benchmark.

Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements about your job working for the City of Vestavia Hills.

| (% strongly or somewhat agree) | | benchmark [®] |
|--|-----|------------------------|
| I have good friends at work | 95% | Higher |
| I plan on working for this organization a year from now | 94% | Higher |
| Overall, I feel positive about working for the City | 90% | Higher |
| My values match or fit with the values of this organization | 88% | Higher |
| I gain satisfaction from my current job responsibilities | 87% | Similar |
| The mission and vision of the City of Vestavia Hills makes me feel my job is important | 87% | Higher |
| I see a career path for me at the City of Vestavia Hills | 86% | Higher |
| Overall, I am satisfied with my job | 86% | Higher |
| I feel positively challenged in my current job | 84% | Similar |
| I have the opportunity to do what I do best every day at work | 83% | Similar |

How likely or unlikely are you to recommend working for the CITY OF VESTAVIA HILLS to someone who asks?

(% very or somewhat likely)

| How likely or unlikely are you to recommend working for the CITY OF VESTAVIA HILLS to someone who asks? | 87% | Higher | |
|--|-----|--------|--|
|--|-----|--------|--|

5. A statistical technique called Key Driver Analysis was used to identify the key organizational characteristics most closely associated with employee ratings of job satisfaction and engagement. This technique is used widely in the private sector to help organizations prioritize which aspects of a service are more likely to influence loyalty and overall satisfaction. The Key Driver Analysis was based on both linear and multivariate modeling techniques using an index of employee engagement.

Essentials



Foundational to employee engagement are having a safe work environment, the resources needed to do a good job, and receiving compensation commensurate with work accomplished.

As an employee of the City of Vestavia Hills, how would you rate the job the organization does at each of the following? $$_{\rm vs.}$$

| (% excellent or good) | | vs. benchmark ⁷ |
|--|-----|-------------------------------|
| Maintaining a work environment free from drug or alcohol abuse | 95% | Higher |
| Maintaining a work environment free from violence or harassment | 89% | Higher |
| Protecting employees from health and safety hazards on the job | 89% | Higher |
| Availability of necessary materials, resources and equipment to do the job effectively | 86% | Higher |
| Work schedule flexibility | 83% | Higher |
| Providing individual and group workspaces to do the job effectively | 83% | Higher |
| Work-life balance | 81% | Higher |
| Benefits overall (vacation, sick leave, health care, retirement plan, etc.) | 80% | Higher |
| Access to technology that helps employees do their job effectively | 77% | Higher |
| Compensation (salary, benefits and incentives/bonuses) compared with similar opportunities | 72% | Higher |
| | | |

Organizational Climate



Organizational climate is a set of policies, strategies, and behaviors that form the primary colors that paint the everyday experience of employees in the workplace. From providing clear communications to encouraging innovation, the quality of these practices directly affects staff morale and engagement.

As an employee of the City of Vestavia Hills, how would you rate the job the organization does at each of the following?

| (% excellent or good) | | benchmark [®] |
|--|-----|------------------------|
| Providing a clear vision for our organization | 78% | Higher |
| Collaboration between departments | 74% | Higher |
| Speed of response to important issues or change | 73% | Higher |
| Communicating information that helps employees understand the proble | 72% | Higher |
| Valuing creativity | 71% | Higher |
| Openness to new ideas and initiatives | 69% | Higher |

Please rate each of the following aspects of your CITY DEPARTMENT. (% excellent or good)

| The working relationships in my department | 78% | Similar |
|--|-----|---------|
| Collaboration among all staff in my department | 73% | Similar |
| Effectiveness of meetings in my department | 72% | Higher |
| Overall staff morale in my department | 71% | Higher |
| Communication among all staff in my department | 68% | Similar |

Please rate each of the following aspects of your IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR'S performance. (% excellent or good)

| Encouraging employees to use their own judgment to get the job done | 88% | Higher |
|---|-----|--------|
| Communicating information in a timely manner | 86% | Higher |
| Encouraging employees to come up with innovative solutions to problems | 81% | Higher |
| Welcoming employee involvement in decision-making | 81% | Higher |
| Encouraging an environment where employees feel comfortable to raise issues and concerns that are important to them | 81% | Higher |

Employee development



The development of human capital requires investment in performance evaluation and professional development as well as supporting employees as they seek to meet new challenges and career opportunities.

| How would you rate the job the organization does at each of the following? (% excellent or good) | | vs. benchmark [®] |
|--|-----|-------------------------------|
| The overall skill set of staff | 85% | Higher |
| Supporting continual learning and development | 81% | Higher |
| Clarity of staff roles and responsibilities | 81% | Higher |
| Availability of opportunities for employees to develop knowledge and skills | 79% | Higher |
| Accuracy of performance evaluations | 78% | Higher |
| Opportunities to develop a career path | 73% | Higher |
| Connection between compensation and performance | 70% | Higher |
| Showing employee appreciation | 69% | Higher |

Please rate of each of the following aspects of your IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR'S performance. (% excellent or good)

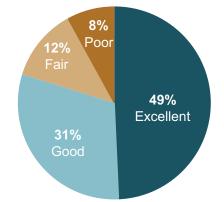
| Providing opportunities for employees to learn and grow | 84% | Higher |
|---|-----|--------|
| Communicating expectations of employees | 84% | Higher |
| Providing specific, constructive feedback that helps improve employee performance | 83% | Higher |
| Working together with employees to set goals | 82% | Higher |
| Coaching or mentoring employees | 81% | Higher |
| Applying discipline fairly and consistently | 80% | Higher |
| Providing recognition for doing good work | 79% | Higher |
| Recognizing high-performing employees | 78% | Higher |
| Managing low-performing employees | 72% | Higher |

Making all employees feel welcome



Equity and inclusion

Inclusion and equity are a priority for local government organizations. Strategically building a more diverse workforce fosters relevance, innovation, and organizational effectiveness.



As an employee of the City of Vestavia Hills, how would you rate the job the organization does at each of the following?

| (% excellent or good) | | vs. benchmark ¹⁰ |
|---|-----|--------------------------------|
| Fostering a respectful atmosphere | 83% | Higher |
| Helping new employees feel connected and integrated | 81% | Higher |
| Making all employees feel welcome | 80% | Higher |

How would you rate the job the organization does at each of the following? (% excellent or good)

| Providing a safe and secure environment for employees of all backgrounds | 88% | Higher |
|--|-----|---------|
| Respecting individual cultural beliefs and values | 86% | Similar |
| Attracting employees from diverse backgrounds | 80% | Higher |
| Applying policies and procedures equally to all employees | 75% | Higher |

Please rate each of the following aspects of your IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR'S performance. (% excellent or good)

| Treating employees with respect | 89% | Higher |
|--|-----|---------|
| Valuing employees from diverse backgrounds | 88% | Similar |

| Promoting a positive working relationship among work group members | 88% | Higher |
|--|-----|--------|
| Fostering an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence | 84% | Higher |
| Treating all employees fairly | 82% | Higher |

36% Excellent

Overall City internal services

Poor

| Please rate the QUALITY of each of the following support services (% excellent or good) | in Vestavia Hills. | vs. benchmark ¹¹ |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Custodial cleaning services | 94% | Higher |
| Risk management services overall | 89% | Higher |
| Overall City internal services | 88% | Higher |
| Facilities management services overall | 86% | Higher |
| Purchasing services overall | 86% | Higher |
| Maintenance and repair services | 85% | Higher |
| Finance services overall | 85% | Higher |
| Human resources services overall | 84% | Higher |
| Training services | 82% | Higher |
| Fleet maintenance services overall | 81% | Higher |
| Benefits administration | 80% | Higher |
| Telephone systems | 80% | Higher |
| Recruitment services | 77% | Higher |
| Network services | 71% | Similar |
| IT Desktop / Help Desk services | 61% | Lower |
| General information technology (IT) services overall | 59% | Lower |

11. Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

There are many services that are essential to local government that most residents would never hear about. The "visible" services could not be performed without the support of internal groups that create the infrastructure to make external services possible.



Custom questions

Below are the complete set of responses to each custom question on the survey. By default, "don't know" responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter below.

Include "don't know" No

| | How likely or unlikely are you to | Very likely | 67% |
|---|--|----------------------|-----|
| | recommend working for YOUR CITY DEPARTMENT to someone who | Somewhat likely | 18% |
| | asks? | Somewhat unlikely | 5% |
| | | Very unlikely | 11% |
| Please rate each of the following | Communicating city-wide and | Excellent | 51% |
| aspects of your IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR'S | departmental strategic goals | Good | 32% |
| performance. | | Fair | 10% |
| | | Poor | 7% |
| Please rate your overall level of | City leadership (city manager and | Very confident | 68% |
| confidence in the leadership of: | assistant city manager) | Moderately confident | 16% |
| | | Slightly confident | 8% |
| | | Not confident | 8% |
| Please rate the QUALITY of each | Internal employee communications | Excellent | 35% |
| of the following support services in Vestavia Hills. | | Good | 49% |
| | | Fair | 10% |
| | | Poor | 6% |

This survey is to be completed by the City of Vestavia Hills employee who received an invitation. Your responses will be kept anonymous and no identifying information will be shared.

1. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Vestavia Hills.

| | <u>Excellent</u> | <u>Good</u> | <u>Fair</u> | <u>Poor</u> | Don't <u>know</u> | |
|---|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|--|
| Vestavia Hills as a place to live | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Vestavia Hills as a place to work | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| The overall quality of life in Vestavia Hills | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |

2. How likely or unlikely are you to recommend LIVING in Vestavia Hills to someone who asks?

• Very likely • Somewhat likely • Somewhat unlikely • Very unlikely • O Don't know

3. Please rate the following categories of Vestavia Hills' government performance.

| | <u>Excellent</u> | <u>Good</u> | Fair | <u>Poor</u> | bon t <u>know</u> |
|--|------------------|-------------|------|-------------|----------------------|
| The overall direction that Vestavia Hills is taking | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Generally acting in the best interest of the community | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Overall confidence in Vestavia Hills government | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The overall quality of the services provided by the City | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

4. Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements about your job working for the City of Vestavia Hills.

| | Strongly | Somewhat | Somewhat | Strongly | Don't |
|--|----------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | agree | <u>agree</u> | <u>disagree</u> | <u>disagree</u> | <u>know</u> |
| Overall, I am satisfied with my job | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I plan on working for this organization a year from now | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I see a career path for me at the City of Vestavia Hills | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I gain satisfaction from my current job responsibilities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I feel positively challenged in my current job | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I have the opportunity to do what I do best every | | | | | |
| day at work | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| My values match or fit with the values of this | | | | | |
| organization | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I have good friends at work | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Overall, I feel positive about working for the City | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The mission and vision of the City of Vestavia Hills | | | | | |
| makes me feel my job is important | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

5. How likely or unlikely are you to recommend working for the CITY OF VESTAVIA HILLS to someone who asks?

O Very likely O Somewhat likely O Somewhat unlikely O Very unlikely O Don't know

5a. How likely or unlikely are you to recommend working for YOUR CITY DEPARTMENT to someone who asks?

• Very likely • Somewhat likely • Somewhat unlikely • Very unlikely • O Don't know

D - -- /4



6. As an employee of the City of Vestavia Hills, how would you rate the job the organization does at each of the following?

| | Excellent | Good | <u>Fair</u> | Poor | Don't know |
|---|-----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| Availability of necessary materials, resources and equipment | <u>LACCHCII</u> | <u>uoou</u> | <u>1 an</u> | <u>1 001</u> | KIIOW |
| to do the job effectively | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Providing individual and group workspaces to do the job effectively | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Access to technology that helps employees do their job effectively | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Compensation (salary, benefits and incentives/bonuses) compared | | | | | |
| with similar opportunities | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Benefits overall (vacation, sick leave, health care, retirement plan, etc.) | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Work-life balance | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Work schedule flexibility | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Maintaining a work environment free from violence | | | | | |
| or harassment | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Maintaining a work environment free from drug or alcohol abuse | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Protecting employees from health and safety hazards on the job | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Providing a clear vision for our organization | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Communicating information that helps employees understand | | | | | |
| the problems and issues facing the City | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Speed of response to important issues or change | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Collaboration between departments | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Openness to new ideas and initiatives | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Valuing creativity | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Making all employees feel welcome | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Helping new employees feel connected and integrated | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Fostering a respectful atmosphere | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

7. How would you rate the job the organization does at each of the following?

| | _ | | | | Don't | |
|---|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | <u>Excellent</u> | <u>Good</u> | <u>Fair</u> | <u>Poor</u> | <u>know</u> | |
| Respecting individual cultural beliefs and values | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Attracting employees from diverse backgrounds | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Applying policies and procedures equally to all employees | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Providing a safe and secure environment for employees of | | | | | | |
| all backgrounds | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Clarity of staff roles and responsibilities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Accuracy of performance evaluations | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Connection between compensation and performance | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Showing employee appreciation | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Supporting continual learning and development | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Availability of opportunities for employees to develop | | | | | | |
| knowledge and skills | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| Opportunities to develop a career path | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| The overall skill set of staff | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| The work being done at the City of Vestavia Hills overall | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| | | | | | | |

8. Please rate each of the following aspects of your CITY DEPARTMENT.

| Communication among all staff in my department | Excellent | Good 2 | Fair 3 | Poor A | Don't <u>know</u> 5 |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| - · · · | | 2 | 2 | т 4 | 5 |
| The working relationships in my department | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Collaboration among all staff in my department | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Overall staff morale in my department | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Effectiveness of meetings in my department | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The quality of work being done in my department | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

9. Please rate each of the following aspects of your IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR'S performance.

| | | - | | | D |
|---|----------|----------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------|
| | Excelle | <u>nt Good</u> | <u>d Fair</u> | <u>Poor</u> | Don't <u>know</u> |
| Communicating information in a timely manner | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Communicating city-wide and departmental strategic goals | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Welcoming employee involvement in decision-making | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Encouraging an environment where employees feel comfortable to | | | | | |
| raise issues and concerns that are important to them | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Encouraging employees to come up with innovative solutions | | | | | |
| to problems | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Encouraging employees to use their own judgment to get | | | | | |
| the job done | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Promoting a positive working relationship among work | | | | | |
| group members | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Fostering an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Treating employees with respect | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Valuing employees from diverse backgrounds | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Treating all employees fairly | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Providing specific, constructive feedback that helps improve | | | | | |
| employee performance | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Communicating expectations of employees | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Working together with employees to set goals | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Recognizing high-performing employees | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Providing recognition for doing good work | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Applying discipline fairly and consistently | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Managing low-performing employees | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Providing opportunities for employees to learn and grow | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Coaching or mentoring employees | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | | |
| Please rate your overall level of confidence in the leadership of | | | | | |
| Ve | ry Mod | lerately | Slightly | Not | Don't |
| confi | dont cor | fidant | confident | confidant | know |

| | Very | Moderately | Slightly | Not | Don't |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| | <u>confident</u> | <u>confident</u> | <u>confident</u> | <u>confident</u> | <u>know</u> |
| Your supervisor | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Your department head | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| City leadership (city manager and assistant city manager) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Council/elected officials | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |



Support Services

11. Please rate the QUALITY of each of the following support services in Vestavia Hills.

| | <u>Excellent</u> | <u>Good</u> | <u>Fair</u> | <u>Poor</u> | <u>Don't know</u> |
|--|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Custodial cleaning services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Maintenance and repair services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Facilities management services overall | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Fleet maintenance services overall | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Recruitment services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Benefits administration | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Training services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Human resources services overall | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Telephone systems Network services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Network services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| IT Desktop / Help Desk services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| General information technology (IT) services overall | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Purchasing services overall | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Finance services overall | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Risk management services overall | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Internal employee communications | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Overall City internal services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

12. If you have any additional comments, please share them here:

The City of Vestavia Hills 2025 Employee Survey

Our last questions are about you. Again, all of your responses to this survey are completely anonymous and no identifying information will be revealed or shared. Completing this information will help us better understand employees' experiences working for the City.

| Employee Information D1. In which City agency or department do you work? (Please choose one.) Administration Building Safety City Clerk Finance Fire Human Resources IT Library Municipal Court Parks and Leisure Services Police | D6. Are you of Hispanic, Latino/a/x, or Spanish origin? No Yes D7. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.) American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White A race not listed D8. What is your gender? Female Male |
|---|--|
| Public Services D2. What is your management status? Manager Non-manager Don't know D4. Are you employed full time or part time? Full time Part time Demographic Information D5. Do you live in Vestavia Hills? Yes No | D9. In which category is your age? 20 years or younger 21-30 years 31-40 years 31-40 years 61 years or older D10. How many years have you worked for the City of Vestavia Hills? 0 to 5 years 6 to 10 years 11 to 15 years 16 to 20 years More than 20 years |

Thank you very much for completing this survey!