

Washtenaw County Health Department Community Survey 2023

Survey focus

- WCHD created a 20-question survey with the goal of better understanding the health needs of our community. Survey questions did not focus on individual health outcomes (for example, we did not ask questions like “have you ever been diagnosed with heart disease?”) and instead focused on lived experiences and overall needs of the community.
- The survey was available in English and Spanish.
- We had a goal of collecting a minimum of 364 responses and were able to exceed that, collecting a total of 1,034 responses.

Our survey was distributed in two phases:

- **Phase 1 (March – April 2023):** An online version of the survey was made available and was broadly shared with our partners, through social media, and in our email newsletter.
- At the end of phase 1, we found that the majority of respondents identified as white women. In order to get better representation from the people of color in our community we decided to re-open the survey.
- **Phase 2 (May-June 2023):** During this phase we focused largely on using paper copies of the survey gathered in cooperation with partners or at events. We were able to successfully improve the representation of survey respondents who identified as African American/Black and Latinx. The online version of the survey was also available during this time, but not widely advertised.

Limitations:

- The proportion of survey respondents who identified as Asian remained low compared with the overall proportion of the Asian population in our county.
- The proportion of respondents who identified as men was low compared with the overall proportion of men in our county.
- While we did have a high response rate from some zip codes in our county, we had a very low response rate from others and are not able to show a breakdown of data by zip code for all zip codes within our county.

Copy of Final Survey Instrument

Welcome to the Washtenaw County Health Department Community Survey. The information collected in this survey will allow community organizations across our county to better understand the health needs in our community. What we hear from you will be used to understand and improve health for everyone in Washtenaw. Please tell us about the issues you feel are most important in our community.

In this survey, “community” refers to the people in major areas where you live, shop, play, work, and get services.

You must be 18 years old or older and a resident of Washtenaw County to complete this survey. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary. We estimate that it will take 10 minutes to complete. Survey results will be available and shared broadly in the community within the next year. The responses that you provide will remain anonymous and will not be attributed to you individually in any way.

If you have any questions, please contact Washtenaw County Health Department by email at health@washtenaw.org. Visit www.healthforallwashtenaw.org for local community data and information on our community health assessment process.

Thank you very much for your input and your time!

1. Which of the following health issues do you feel are of greatest concern to our community? Please select your top 5 choices.

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us better understand community needs and opportunities to improve health.

- a. Children's health
- b. Adolescent/teen health
- c. Older adult health (hearing/vision loss, arthritis, etc.)
- d. Women's health (mammogram, pap exam, reproductive health care, etc.)
- e. Men's health (prostate exam, prostate health, etc.)
- f. Maternal and infant health
- g. Alcohol use
- h. Substance use (opioid use, stimulant use, etc.) and access to substance use treatment
- i. Tobacco use (cigarettes, e-cigarettes/vapes, chewing tobacco, etc.)
- j. Alzheimer's disease/dementia
- k. Anxiety, depression, and other mental health conditions
- l. Cancer
- m. Chronic pain
- n. Diabetes
- o. Heart disease and stroke
- p. Infectious disease (flu, COVID, tuberculosis, measles, etc.)
- q. Obesity
- r. Respiratory/lung diseases (asthma, COPD, etc.)
- s. Other (please describe) _____

2. We know that the social and economic factors listed below play an important role when it comes to health. Which of the following do you feel are of greatest concern to our community? Please select your top 5 choices.

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us better understand community needs and opportunities to improve health.

- a. Access to affordable, high-quality health care/medical services, including mental health, oral/dental health, and sexual health services
- b. Access to affordable and convenient public transportation
- c. Access to affordable, healthy food
- d. Access to affordable housing
- e. Access to internet and technology resources (phones, computers, etc.)
- f. Access to quality, affordable childcare
- g. Access to safe parks and recreational facilities to support physical activity
- h. Language barriers
- i. Opportunities for better paying jobs and financial stability
- j. Pollution (air and water quality)
- k. Resources and quality of education for schools
- l. Resources for people living with disabilities (assistive technology, improved accessibility, etc.)
- m. Child abuse and neglect
- n. Domestic and sexual violence
- o. Injury and violence/crime
- p. Legal system (police, court, jail, etc.)
- q. Fire/rescue and emergency services
- r. Other (please describe) _____

3. What do you think our community does well that helps people to thrive and be healthier?

Why are we asking this question? This question will help better understand community strengths that we can build on to improve health for everyone.

4. What do you think makes it harder for people in our community to thrive and be healthier?

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us better understand barriers to health in our community.

5. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us better understand community strengths and needs.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Don't Know
The people in my community feel like their voices are heard on issues that impact their lives					
There is a strong sense of connection and belonging among residents where I live					
Community members can access high quality health care/medical services regardless of					

race, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, etc.					
Public buildings and spaces in my community are accessible to people with different physical abilities					
The people in my community are receiving the health care/medical services they need					
My community is a safe place to live					
There is a feeling of trust in law enforcement in my community					
The public K-12 schools in my community provide good quality education					
The independent or charter K-12 schools in my community provide good quality education					
There are enough safe places for recreation and physical activity in my community					
There are pedestrian sidewalks and/or walking paths in or near my neighborhood that I can easily use					

6. From the list below, which of the following are DIFFICULT for people in our community to access? Access means services are conveniently located and you can get the service you need quickly and easily when you need it. Select all that apply.

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us better understand barriers to health in our community.

- a. Affordable, high-quality childcare
- b. Affordable, high-quality housing
- c. Affordable legal services
- d. Credible and accurate health information
- e. Health care/medical services
- f. Healthy and affordable food
- g. Immunizations/vaccinations
- h. Internet access and technology resources (phones, computers, etc.)
- i. Mental health services (therapy, counseling, in-patient or outpatient services, etc.)
- j. Oral/dental health services
- k. Prenatal care/health care for pregnancy
- l. Sexual health services (sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment, birth control, etc.)
- m. Substance use services
- n. Transportation
- o. Utility assistance and eviction resources
- p. Other _____

7. From the list below, which of the following does our community struggle to afford? Select all that apply.

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us better understand barriers to health in our community.

- a. Health care/medical services
- b. Healthy food
- c. High-quality childcare
- d. Housing
- e. Internet
- f. Legal services
- g. Medications (prescription or over the counter)
- h. Recreation/exercise
- i. Transportation
- j. Utilities
- k. Other (please specify) _____

8. Where do you get most of your health information? Select all that apply.

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us learn what the best way to share information with community members is.

- a. Community organization/agency
- b. Doctor, nurse, or other health professional
- c. Family or friends
- d. Hospital (website, email, phone, etc.)
- e. Internet
- f. Library
- g. Local health department
- h. Newspaper/magazine
- i. Place of worship (church, mosque, synagogue, etc.)
- j. Radio
- k. School or college
- l. Social media (Facebook, Twitter, NextDoor, Instagram, etc.)
- m. TV
- n. Workplace
- o. Other (please specify) _____

9. In the past year, where have you experienced discrimination? Discrimination is when a person is treated unfairly because of who they are or because they possess certain characteristics. Select all that apply.

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us understand which groups are experiencing discrimination in our county.

- a. At home
- b. Healthcare facility (doctor's office, hospital, dentist, etc.)

- c. Long-term care (nursing home, assisted living, etc.)
- d. Legal system (court, jail, police department, or related setting)
- e. With law enforcement outside of court, jail, or police department
- f. Rental housing/apartment setting (landlord, leasing office, etc.)
- g. School setting
- h. Work setting
- i. Other (please specify) _____
- j. I have not experienced discrimination

Skip logic question if “healthcare facility” is selected above. Please share what type of healthcare facility you’ve experienced discrimination at. Select all that apply.

- a. Dental clinic
- b. Emergency department
- c. Local health department
- d. Mental health provider or facility (therapy, counseling, in-patient or outpatient services, etc.)
- e. Obstetrics/gynecology
- f. Pediatric office
- g. Pharmacy
- h. Primary care
- i. Other (please specify) _____

10. What do you think is the main reason(s) for these experiences of discrimination? Select all that apply.

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us understand which groups are experiencing discrimination in our county.

- a. Your ancestry or national origins
- b. Your language or accent
- c. Your race
- d. Your religion
- e. Your age
- f. Your gender
- g. Your sexual orientation
- h. Your education or income level
- i. Your height
- j. Your weight
- k. Some other aspect of your physical appearance
- l. A mental condition or disability
- m. A physical disability
- n. Other _____
- o. I have not experienced discrimination

11. Considering how things were BEFORE the pandemic compared to TODAY, how do you think the following have changed for people in our community?

Why are we asking this question? This question will help us better understand the impact of the pandemic.

	Is better now than before COVID-19	Is the same as before COVID-19	Is worse now than before COVID-19
Ability to pay bills such as rent and utilities			
Access to affordable, healthy food			
Access to affordable housing			
Access to health care/medical services and screenings			
Access to internet and technology resources (phones, computers, etc.)			
Access to mental health and substance use services			
Access to quality, affordable childcare			
Access to medications (prescription or over the counter)			
Air and water quality			
Discrimination or inequity			
Domestic and sexual violence			
Economy and job availability			
Job flexibility			
Work-life balance			
Education and schools (pre-K to 12 th grade)			
Neighborhood safety			
Public transportation			
Services for adults over 65			
Social connection (feeling of belonging and feeling close to others)			
Support for families with children			

12. Is there anything else you would like to share about health in our community?

Demographics

Information from the following questions helps us understand who responded to this survey and helps us understand if some groups in our community are experiencing health differently than others. The responses that you provide will remain anonymous and will not be attributed to you individually in any way.

13. What zip code do you live in? Please write in your five-digit zip code in the box below.

14. Which of the following best describes you? Select all that apply.

- a. American Indian or Alaska Native
- b. Asian
- c. Black or African American
- d. Latino/Hispanic
- e. Pacific Islander
- f. White
- g. Other (please specify) _____

15. What is your age? Select one.

- a. 18-24 years old
- b. 25-44 years old
- c. 45-64 years old
- d. 65-74 years old
- e. 75+ years old

16. Do you identify with any of the following statements? Select all that apply

- a. I am a member of the LGBTQ+ community
- b. I am a veteran
- c. I am an immigrant or refugee
- d. I have experienced homelessness in the past year
- e. I have a mental health condition or learning disability
- f. I have a physical disability
- g. I was formerly incarcerated
- h. Prefer not to answer
- i. I do not identify with any of these

17. Including yourself, how many people live in your household? Please count both adults and children.

- a. 1
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5
- f. 6
- g. 7 or more

18. How much total combined money did all members of your household earn last year? Select one.

- a. Less than \$15,000
- b. \$15,000 to \$24,999
- c. \$25,000 to \$34,999
- d. \$35,000 to \$49,999
- e. \$50,000 to 74,999
- f. \$75,000 to \$99,999

- g. \$100,000 to \$149,999
- h. \$150,000 to \$199,999
- i. \$200,000 or more
- j. Prefer not to answer

19. What sex were you assigned at birth on your original birth certificate? Select one.

- a. Male
- b. Female
- c. Other (please specify) _____

20. How do you best describe your current gender identity? Select all that apply.

- a. Man
- b. Woman
- c. Transgender
- d. Gender non-conforming
- e. Self-describe. Please write below.: _____
- f. Prefer not to answer

End of Survey

Thank you for taking time to respond to this survey. Your answers will help us understand how to improve health in our community.