



# Community Survey Results

September 11, 2023



- **What is the Community Survey and How Does It Work?**
- **What did we learn?**
- **What's Next**
- **Questions**



## What is the Community Survey?

- **Recurring survey**
- **Measures how satisfied residents are with their community and local government-provided services**
- **Allows us to compare scores over time and against a cohort of similar communities**
- **1,186 respondents were digitally invited over social media, mobile apps, local websites, and survey panels. Additional 327 responses were collected through our distribution efforts.**
- **A representative sample was built by matching respondent data to the U.S. Census Bureau's race, ethnicity, age, and gender distributions in Lenawee County**
- **No demographic group is overrepresented or underrepresented in the final score**
- **February – May 2023. The next cycle will start later this month and will include trending data.**



What is the  
Community  
Survey?

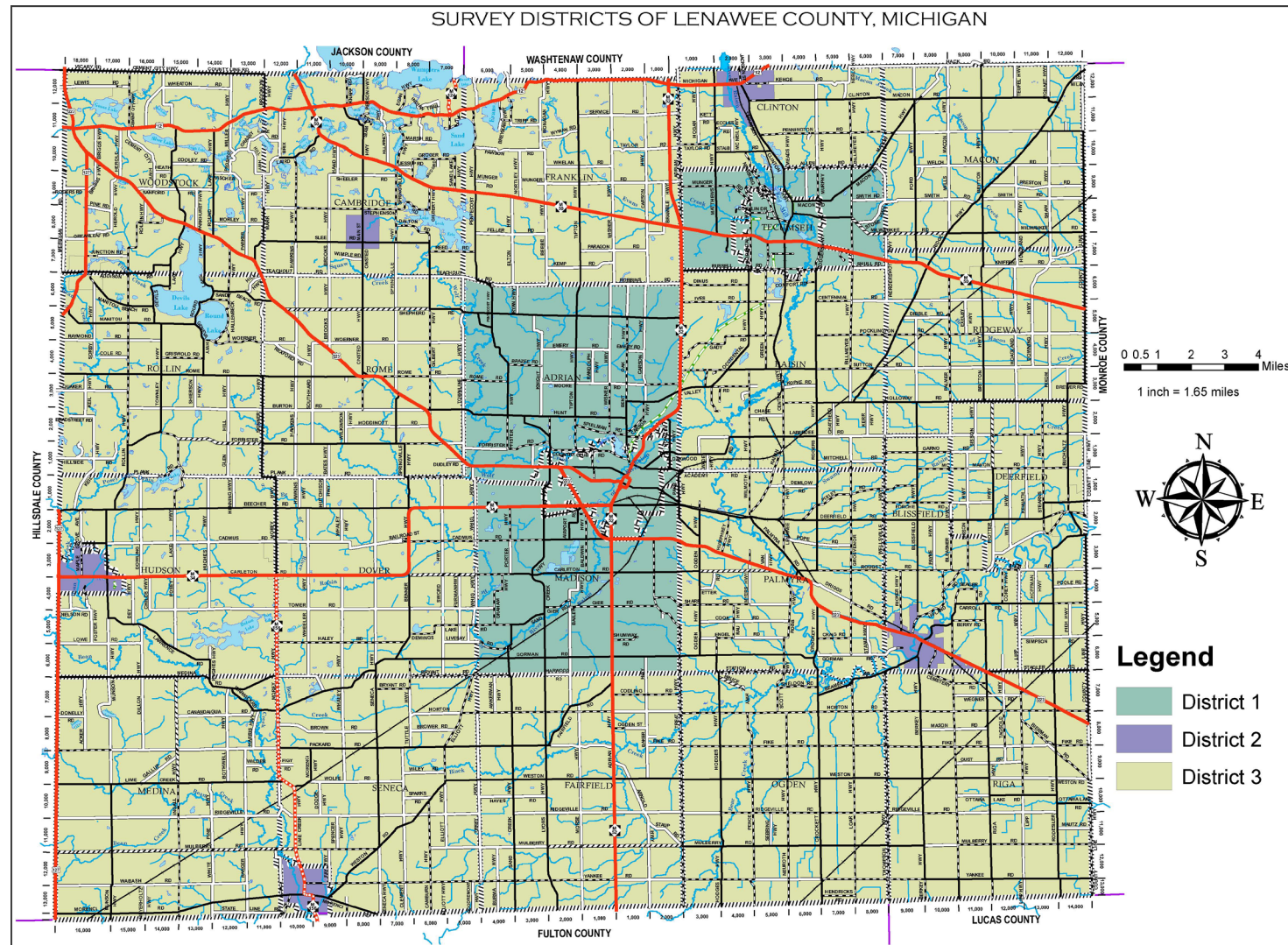
## Our Respondents

DEMOGRAPHIC	GROUP	SCORE	N
<b>Age</b>	18-34	38%	211
<b>Age</b>	35-54	47%	339
<b>Age</b>	55+	69%	621
<b>Education</b>	High school degree or less	47%	289
<b>Education</b>	Some college or college degree	52%	498
<b>Education</b>	Higher education degree	61%	399
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Hispanic/Latino	37%	69
<b>Ethnicity</b>	White	56%	1039

DEMOGRAPHIC	GROUP	SCORE	N
<b>Gender</b>	Female	54%	737
<b>Gender</b>	Male	54%	428
<b>Income</b>	\$49,999 or less	47%	428
<b>Income</b>	\$50,000-\$124,999	58%	578
<b>Income</b>	\$125,000 or more	53%	166



What is the  
Community  
Survey?





What is the  
Community  
Survey?

## Our Cohort

COMMUNITY NAME	TOTAL POP	DENSITY	DIVERSITY	MEDIAN INCOME (\$)
Lenawee County, Michigan	98,310	131	3.79%	57,314
Bay County, Michigan	103,506	234	2.93%	48,290
Clinton County, Michigan	78,957	139	4.24%	72,490
Midland County, Michigan	83,445	161	4.93%	64,078
Allegan County, Michigan	117,104	142	4.13%	65,071
LaSalle County, Illinois	108,998	96	6.30%	60,069

+ more communities with similar characteristics

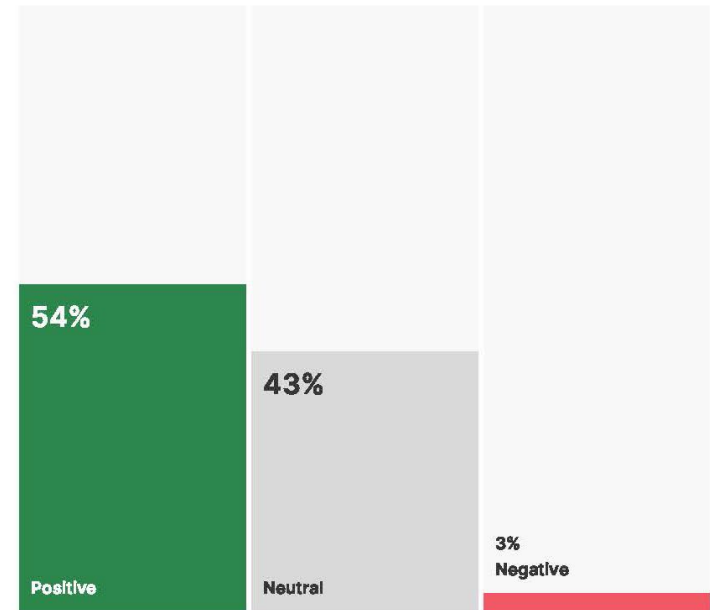


What did we learn?

## Are Residents Satisfied With Life in Lenawee County?

**54%**




of 1186 surveyed residents are satisfied with life in Lenawee County





What did we learn?

## General satisfaction questions

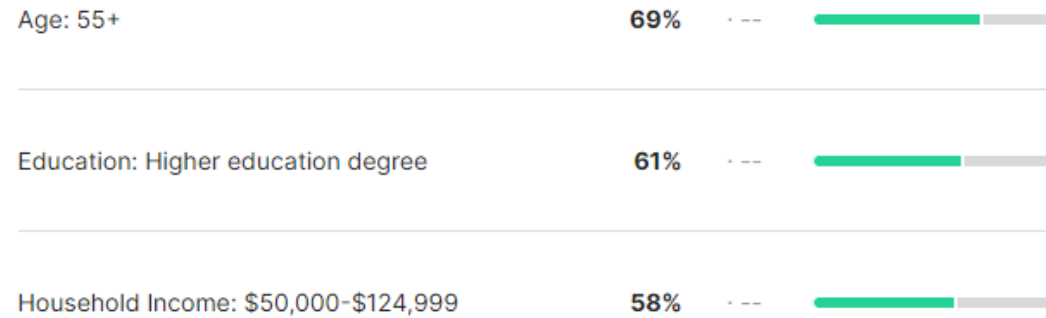
QUESTION	RESIDENT SATISFACTION
How is the overall quality of life in Lenawee County?	40% 
How likely are you to recommend Lenawee County as a place to live?	36% 
How likely are you to be living in Lenawee County 5 years from now?	59% 



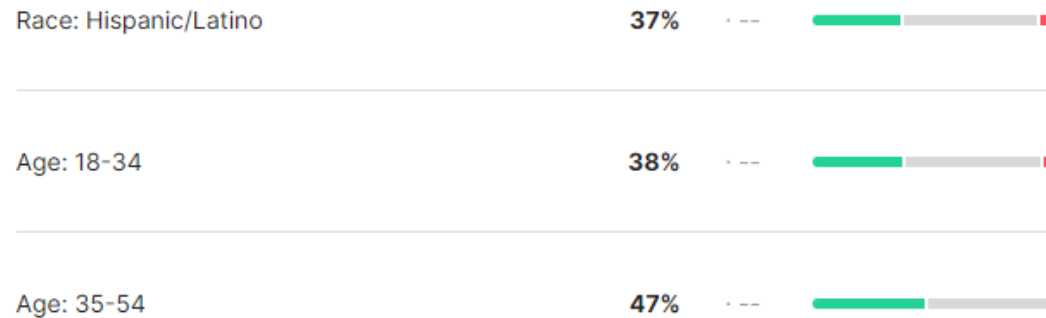
What did we learn?

## Demographic breakdown

### Most satisfied demographics



### Least satisfied demographics









What did we learn?

## How did our younger respondents answer?


### Ages 18-34



Q1 How is the overall quality of life in Lenawee County? 29%  



Q2 How likely are you to recommend Lenawee County as a place to live? 21%  

Q3 How likely are you to be living in Lenawee County 5 years from now? 41%  

### Ages 35-54

Q1 How is the overall quality of life in Lenawee County? 30%  

Q2 How likely are you to recommend Lenawee County as a place to live? 29%  

Q3 How likely are you to be living in Lenawee County 5 years from now? 58%  



What did we learn?

## How did we compare to our cohort of similar communities and nationwide?

The overall resident satisfaction in Lenawee County is lower than its cohort.

**54%**

Lenawee County

**71%**

Cohort

**70%**

National



**What did we learn?**

## Life in Lenawee County

### QUESTIONS

**Availability of affordable housing**

**Availability of jobs that pay a living wage**

**Access to quality health care services**

**Access to quality mental health services**

**Access to quality education**

**Availability of a variety of art and cultural events**

**Ease of getting around by public transportation**

**Sense of overall safety**

**Sense of community among residents**

### QUESTIONS

**Acceptance of residents of all backgrounds**

**Ability of residents to give input to the Lenawee County government**

**Overall cleanliness and maintenance**

**Quality of parks and recreational amenities**

**Quality of the library system**

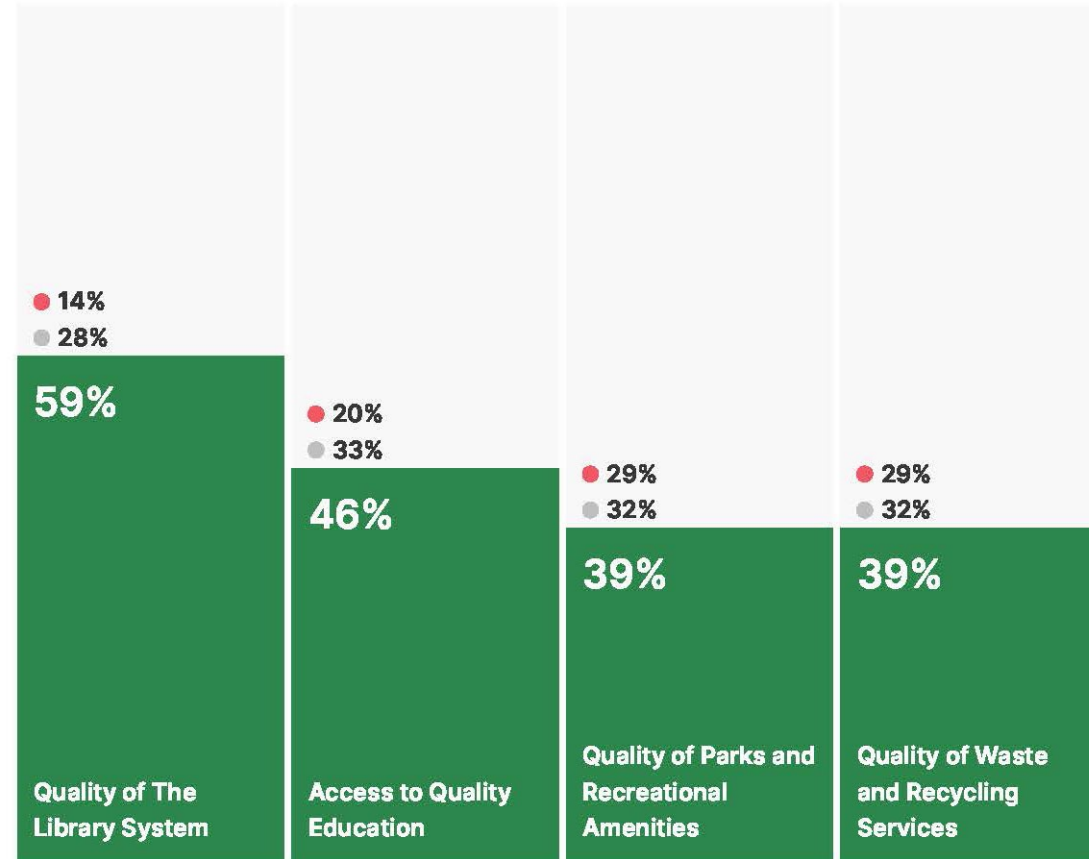
**Quality of waste and recycling services**

**Overall quality of services provided by Lenawee County**



What did we learn?

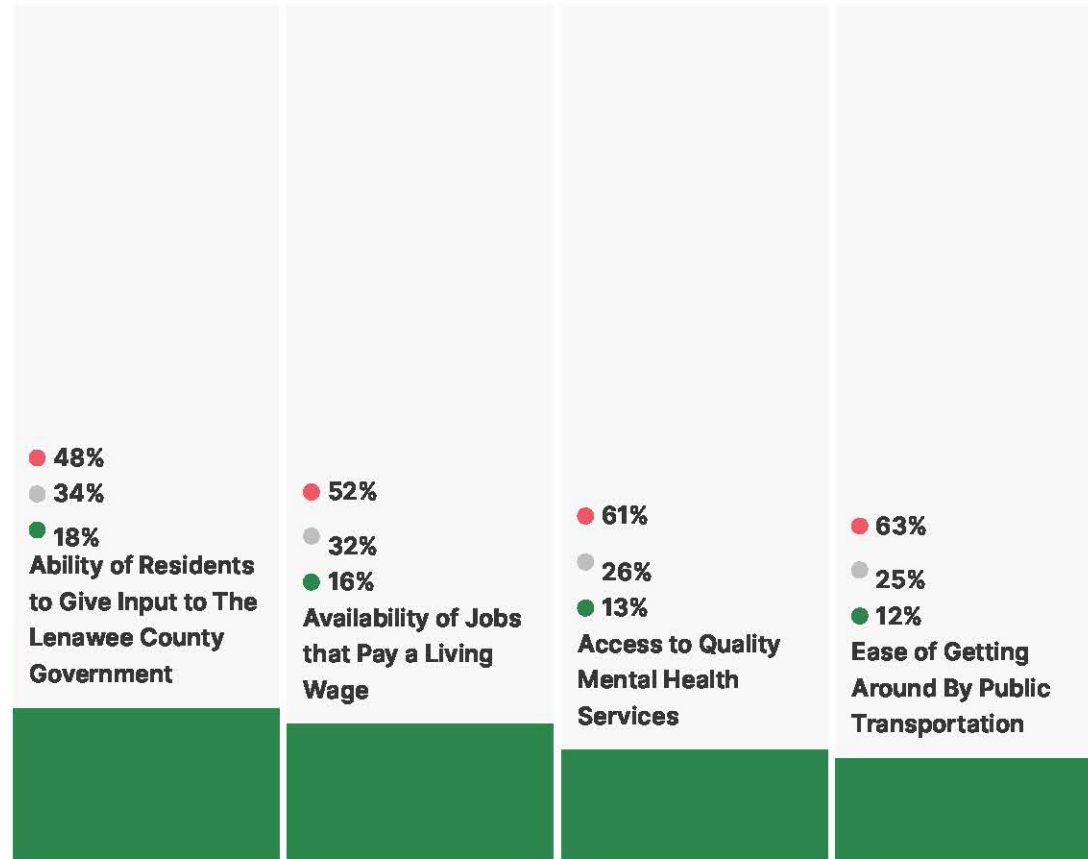
## What were our strengths? (Highest satisfaction scores)





What did we learn?

## What needs most improvement? (Lowest satisfaction scores)





What did we learn?

# Ability of residents to give input to the Lenawee County Government – by age

## Ages 18-34

Q14 Ability of residents to give input to the Lenawee County government 14%

A horizontal progress bar for the 18-34 age group. It is divided into three segments: green (14%), grey, and red. A small downward arrow is at the end of the bar.

## Ages 35-54

Q14 Ability of residents to give input to the Lenawee County government 15%

A horizontal progress bar for the 35-54 age group. It is divided into three segments: green (15%), grey, and red. A small downward arrow is at the end of the bar.

## Ages 55+

Q14 Ability of residents to give input to the Lenawee County government 22%

A horizontal progress bar for the 55+ age group. It is divided into three segments: green (22%), grey, and red. A small downward arrow is at the end of the bar.



## What did we learn?

# Ability of residents to give input to the Lenawee County Government - other

## What is the thing you would most want to change about life in Lenawee County?

May 27, 2023, Area: District 3

Male, 55+, Native American or Alaskan Native

Corruption in government!!!

May 15, 2023, Area: District 3

Male, 55+, White

More Local News. Friendlier, more welcoming access to local government (Too much "Old Boy" nepotism in government entities).

Apr 27, 2023, Area: District 3

Male, 55+, White

Government

Apr 29, 2023, Area: District 1

Female, 18-34, White

The representation of minorities in our county government.

Apr 19, 2023, Area: District 1

Female, 35-54, White

There are some money obsessed and racist big fish that hurt our community. They sell public assets for gain. They pay for their sex harassment lawsuits with county money. They focus on improving the rich areas. They drive out thriving local businesses because the owner is Asian.

Apr 16, 2023, Area: District 1

Female, 55+, White

Have local governmental bodies LISTEN to what you have to say, and atheist pretend to give it some thought, instead of the Good Ole Boy Atmosphere and continue to do what they want. We are SO RED, that those of us on the more liberal side might just as well keep our mouth shut because We Don't Have a Voice and WE Don't Count!



# What did we learn?

Apr 15, 2023, Area: District 1

Male, 55+, White

Too many people living in the past. Too much emphasis on religion in governance

Apr 13, 2023, Area: District 3

Female, 35-54, White

Corrupt politicians utilizing lies to get elected and destroying good ideas and momentum for change in our communities

Apr 13, 2023, Area: District 1

Female, 55+, White

Those in power.

Apr 12, 2023, Area: District 3

Female, 35-54, White

Availability of affordable housing, better healthcare, more resources for mental healthcare, a complete change in leadership from the good old boys club to the actual future of Lenawee county—so there can be a better future.

Apr 11, 2023, Area: District 1

Gender not provided, 35-54, White

Corrupt government

Apr 9, 2023, Area: District 1

Male, 55+, White

Change some commissioners

Apr 8, 2023, Area: District 3

Gender not provided, 55+, Native American or Alaskan Native

Corruption!

Apr 11, 2023, Area: District 1

Male, 55+, White

The government good o boy bullshit

Apr 9, 2023, Area: District 3

Female, 55+, White

Citizen involvement in local government decisions.

Apr 9, 2023, Area: District 3

Female, 55+, White

Less politics

Apr 8, 2023, Area: District 1

Male, 35-54, White

Government

Apr 3, 2023, Area: District 1

Male, 35-54, White

Small minded political bullshit

Apr 2, 2023, Area: District 1

Male, 35-54, White

Hold government officials to the same standards as general public

Apr 2, 2023, Area: District 1

Female, 35-54, White

County commission

Apr 1, 2023, Area: District 1

Gender not provided, 35-54, Ethnicity not provided

The in fighting of the county commissioners and their lack of knowledge about the county residents



Apr 1, 2023, Area: District 3

Male, 35-54, White

For the county to stop wasting money

Mar 31, 2023, Area: District 1

Female, 55+, White

Our representatives

Mar 31, 2023, Area: District 2

Male, 55+, Ethnicity not provided

Good old boys club

Mar 31, 2023, Area: District 3

Female, 35-54, White

Reigning in the toxic hick attitudes, inclusivity, better services, affordable housing, accountability for ALL, less religion-ESPECIALLY at public meetings- prayers during meeting only including 1 religion is ridiculous

Mar 30, 2023, Area: District 3

Male, 55+, White

Government officials failure to work for the people.

Mar 30, 2023, Area: District 3

Female, 55+, White

Politics preventing what is best for the people

Mar 30, 2023, Area: -

Male, 55+, White

The political thinking process

Mar 26, 2023, Area: District 1

Female, 55+, White

More diversity in county and Adrian government.

Mar 29, 2023, Area: District 1

Male, 35-54, White

Government corruption

Mar 26, 2023, Area: District 1

Female, 35-54, White

I would want government to listen to the community. They just arbitrarily do what they want.

Mar 29, 2023, Area: District 1

Male, 55+, Ethnicity not provided

County Government

Mar 26, 2023, Area: District 3

Male, 55+, White

Government

Mar 26, 2023, Area: District 3

Female, 55+, White

Local government listening to residents

Mar 26, 2023, Area: District 3

Male, 55+, Ethnicity not provided

Honesty and Transparency



# What did we learn?

Mar 26, 2023, Area: District 1  
Male, 35-54, White

The false sense of collaboration amongst some leaders

Mar 25, 2023, Area: District 3  
Gender not provided, 35-54, Ethnicity not provided

The failure of the previous commission and the Phoenix project.

Mar 25, 2023, Area: District 3  
Male, 55+, White

Often times unwillingness to listen to/consider different perspectives or ideas

Mar 25, 2023, Area: District 3  
Female, 55+, White

IT's leadership

Mar 24, 2023, Area: District 3  
Female, 55+, White

Government that actually listens to residents instead of old "blue blood" politics

Mar 24, 2023, Area: District 1  
Gender not provided, 18-34, Ethnicity not provided

County and city government

Mar 23, 2023, Area: District 1  
Female, 55+, White

County government that would take advantage of community minded growth opportunities, such as the recent sports park proposal in Tecumseh. More interest in the benefits to the public county wide and not limited to the interests of each individual community.

Mar 23, 2023, Area: District 3  
Female, 55+, White

The democrat commissioners that love to tax and spend

Mar 17, 2023, Area: District 1  
Female, 35-54, Ethnicity not provided

Better cooperation between cities/townships and the county

Feb 14, 2023, Area: District 3  
Female, 35-54, White

Government

Mar 12, 2023, Area: District 1  
Female, 55+, White

Lenawee board of commissioners need to get their shit together. You must have your out agendas but you all work for me taxpayer

Mar 11, 2023, Area: District 3  
Female, 35-54, White

Lack of progressive leadership. The county needs to grow and prosper with the current times.

Mar 10, 2023, Area: District 3  
Female, 35-54, White

County government



## What did we learn?

Mar 11, 2023, Area: District 1  
Male, 35-54, Black or African American

There is an avenue to communicate with local governments, it's just that only a small number of people are considered which lends to disengagement and disenfranchisement. That is the largest opportunity for us to truly be great, the resolution of this behavior. I'd also focus on the amount of blight, vacant structures, and lack of the investment in our communities.

Mar 11, 2023, Area: District 3  
Gender not provided, 35-54, Ethnicity not provided

Having Government officials that want to invest based on the community needs and no personal gain.

Mar 10, 2023, Area: District 1  
Male, 55+, White

More transparency from county government and greater responsiveness to doing what the citizens want instead of what administrators and commissioners in county government want.

Mar 10, 2023, Area: District 1  
Male, 55+, White

The county needs to invest in modernization, collaboration with other governments including but not limited to municipalities, dealing with blight, and access for families to natural resources (Raisin River).

Mar 9, 2023, Area: District 1  
Male, 35-54, White

The political environment created by the commission both new and old commissioners are bullheaded and arrogant. They lack the ability to relate to their constituents and only care about their personal agendas. This behavior costs us time money and credibility in the state legislature.

Feb 22, 2023, Area: District 3  
Female, 55+, White

Republican policies and good-old-boy politics

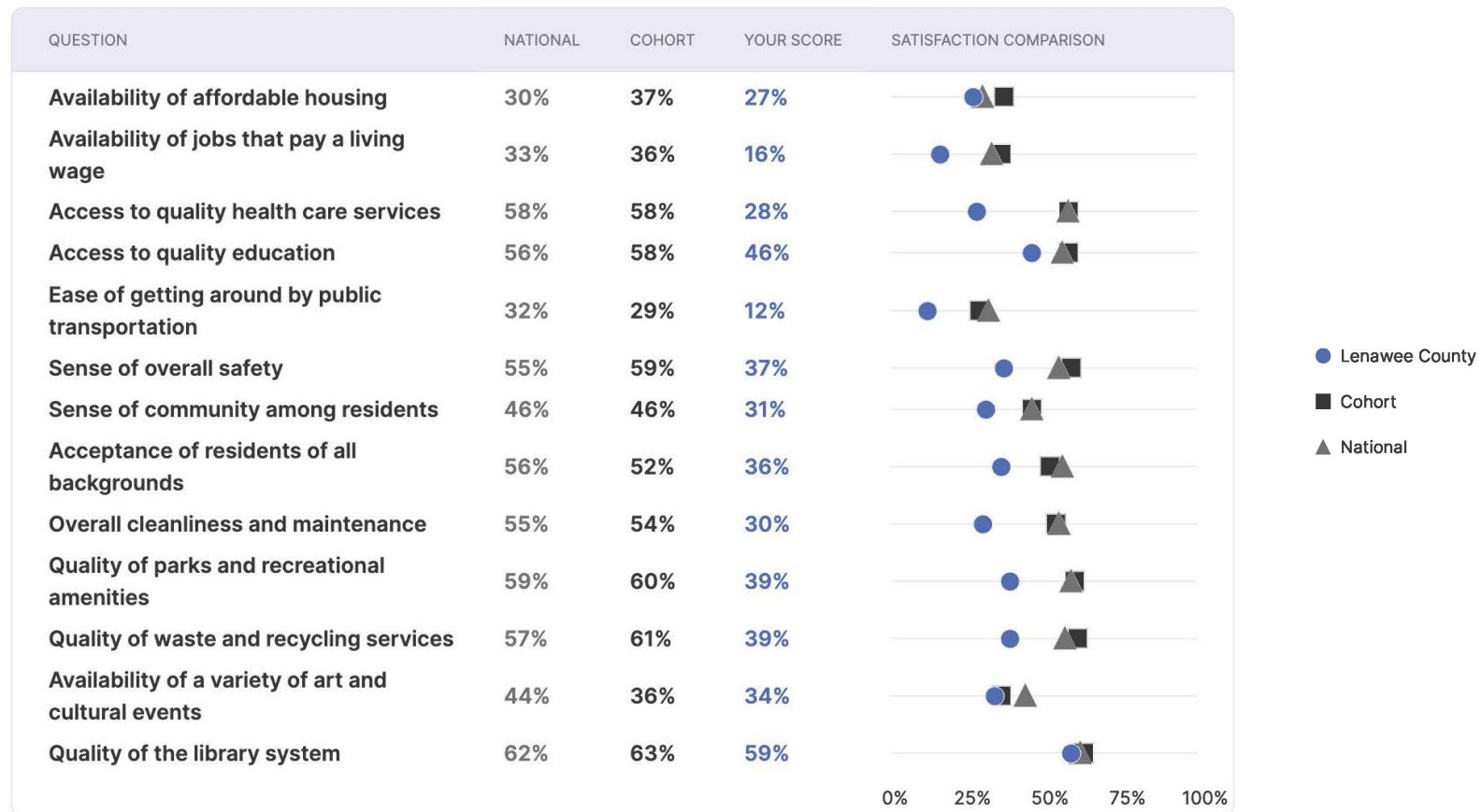
Mar 9, 2023, Area: District 1  
Male, 18-34, White

More forward thinking, it is okay to honor tradition but we cannot consistently shoot down ideas that will make Lenawee County a more attractive place to live.



What did we learn?

## How do we compare to our cohort of similar communities and nationwide?





**What did we  
learn?**

## Deeper dive into the data on the following:

- Availability of jobs that pay a living wage
- Quality health care services
- Ease of getting around by public transportation
- Overall cleanliness and maintenance
- Quality of parks and recreational amenities
- Quality of waste and recycling services



**What's next?**

- Share the data; full report will be available online and distributed
- Set goals for focus areas at the next Human Services Committee and inform the public of the action plan as part of a presentation to the full Board of Commissioners
- Monitor trends after the next survey cycle and determine if improvements were made or if new goals need to be set

**“Your most unhappy customers are your greatest source of learning.”**

**- Bill Gates**



- Questions?