

# CONCERNING KIDS A SKILLMAN FOUNDATION STUDY

## Baseline Survey Results April 2002

Conducted by



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## Executive Summary of Baseline Survey Results Concerning Kids: A Skillman Foundation Study

Education is cited across Detroit and out-Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland Counties as the most important issue facing the state of Michigan. About two in ten (19%) people say "education, education reform, or the funding of education" is the most important issue facing the State.

 Across the four geographic areas surveyed; 22% of the public in Detroit, 20% in out-Wayne, 16% in Macomb, 18% in Oakland say education is the most important issue.

"Jobs, employment/unemployment" (15%) and the "economy" (11%) rank as second and third most important issues facing the State. From a broad perspective these two issues can be seen as a single issue. "Jobs" ranks second across all counties and the City of Detroit, while the third most important issue facing the State varies within the three counties.

When respondents were asked what they feel the most important issue facing the county they live in, "education, education reform, education funding" (18%) ranks first in Detroit and second in all other counties, except Macomb where it ranks third. "Roads" is considered to be the most important issue in out-Wayne and Oakland (15% and 20%, respectively). Macomb respondents identify the "environment" as the most important issue in their county.

"People, including diversity, culture, and community" is the top mention for the major strength of the City of Detroit and all the counties except Oakland, where this was second mention. "Economy, wealth, income" (27%) was the top mention for Oakland County. Interestingly, the next highest response for all except Oakland was that the respondent did not know what the major strength of their county was.

• 29% of the public in Detroit, 25% in out-Wayne, 29% in Macomb, and 24% in Oakland mentioned "*People, diversity, culture, community.*"

Overall, education is very important to people from the three counties and the City of Detroit. Detroiters (89%) are more likely than people from out-Wayne (77%), Macomb (76%), and Oakland (76%) to say education is "very important" to them. Detroiters are also more likely to say funding for their public schools is a major problem (31%), than in out-Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland County.

When asked to grade the overall quality of public schools in their district opinions vary widely based on area. Seven-in-ten (71%) people in Oakland County give their public schools an "A" (31%) or "B" (40%). Nearly six-in-ten (59%) Macomb residents grade the quality of their public schools either with an "A" (19%) or a "B" (40%). Out-Wayne residents are divided when it comes to grading the quality of their school district, with just less than half (48%) giving a grade of "B" or higher and 46% grading the quality as "C" or lower. Detroit schools received the lowest grades. About three quarters (74%) of Detroit residents grade the quality as "C" or lower and only two-in-ten (20%) give a "B" or higher.

Correspondingly, Detroiters are the most likely to grade the quality of public schools outside their district the highest, with 56% having a grade of "B" or higher. Out-Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland residents are less likely to give either an "A" or "B" to public schools outside their district, (31%, 40%, and 35%, respectively).

"Financing, funding, lack of money" is the most important issue facing out-Wayne's (25%), Macomb's (22%), and Oakland's (24%) public school districts, according to residents. Respondents from the City of Detroit say "quality of teachers, qualified teachers" (22%) is the most important issue facing their public school district, with "financing, funding, lack of money" (17%) ranking as the next most important issue.

Majority across all four geographic areas support a tax increase to pay for increased spending for improving public schools. Support is approximately equal in Detroit (56%), out-Wayne (52%), Macomb (55%), and Oakland (56%).

Most of the public is paying attention to the City of Detroit school reform process. Almost two-thirds (64%) of Detroiters have been paying "a lot" (27%) or "some" (37%) attention to the school reform process in the City of Detroit. Just over half of out-Wayne (53%) and Oakland (55%) residents have been paying "a lot or some" attention to the process, compared to just less than half (45%) of Macomb residents.

When respondents were asked how important school reform is to them, just over half (54%) of Detroiters say it is "very important," compared to over one third (36%) of out-Wayne, 29% of Macomb, and 26% of Oakland respondents.

Although respondents are in favor of the school reform process in the City of Detroit, when it came to rating the effectiveness of reform the public reports reform as being only middle of the road effective. Two-thirds (67%) of respondents have been in favor of the school reform process since it started in Detroit a few years ago, and seven-in-ten (71%) are still in favor. Less than one-in-ten (9%) respondents opposed the school reform process when it started, and 11% are now opposed.

Slightly more than four-in-ten in the City of Detroit are somewhat opposed to having an appointed school board. Four-in-ten (42%) Detroiters say they are "somewhat opposed" and less than two-in-ten (18%) say they are "strongly opposed" to having an appointed board. One third (33%), a substantial minority of the City, is in favor of the appointed board over an elected board with 17% "favoring strongly" and 16% "favoring somewhat."

Children and youth healthcare is a very important issue for about two-thirds of respondents. Detroiters (81%) are more likely to say children and youth healthcare is "very important" to them compared to people living in out-Wayne (65%), Macomb (65%), and Oakland (61%) counties. There were no major differences in opinion with regards to affordability and quality of healthcare in the Detroit Metro area. Most think the cost of healthcare is affordable (56%) and quality of care is neither extremely poor nor excellent, but about average (mean of 6.84).

The public recognizes drugs, vaccinations and immunizations, and child abuse as the top three health issues facing children in the Detroit Metro area. On a scale of zero to ten with zero being "not at all important" and ten being "very important," almost two-thirds (63%) of the public rate drugs as being a 9 or 10. About six-in-ten (58%) rate vaccinations and immunizations as either a 9 or 10, and 57% give child abuse a 9 or 10.

Children and youth recreation programs are another important issue for the majority of the public. Access to children and youth programs is a problem rather than the quality of programs. Additionally, there is a problem with the quality of children and youth recreational facilities. Six-inten (61%) respondents rate the importance of children and youth recreation programs to them as

either a 9 or 10. On a scale of zero to ten with zero being "not at all important" and ten being "very important," Detroiters (72%) are more likely to give a 10 than members of the public from out-Wayne (51%), Macomb (44%), or Oakland (41%). Detroiters are also more likely than people in out-Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland to say access to children and youth programs are a major problem and that the quality of facilities are poor.

The Detroit Metro area is worried about the kids in their community. Detroiters are more likely to say violence toward youth is a major problem for them than respondents in the other three areas are. Eight-in-ten (80%) people in the City of Detroit report that violence toward youth is "very important" to them. About two-thirds in out-Wayne (67%), Macomb (63%), and Oakland (65%) report the same. Similarly, 75% of Detroiters say violence committed by youth is "very important" to them, compared to about six-in-ten in the other three areas. Half (50%) of Detroit respondents say violence toward youth is a major problem in the City of Detroit, 29% of out-Wayne respondents say violence toward youth is a major problem in out-Wayne County, and only one-in-ten Macomb (11%) and Oakland (10%) County respondents say this about their county. Again, similar numbers are reported regarding violence committed by youth across all four geographic areas surveyed.

Agreement for investing money in after-school programs and in school readiness programs is what the majority thinks would have more impact in the community in reducing youth committing violence both in and out of school. More than three quarters (77%) of the public prefer investing money into programs rather than into security measures like metal detectors, surveillance, and policing in and around schools. Detroiters (77%) are more likely to say there are a "fair or poor" amount of children and youth recreation programs available in the City, than respondents from out-Wayne (59%), Macomb (38%), and Oakland (43%) is about the county they live in. Similarly, three quarters (75%) of Detroiters think there are a "fair or poor" amount of children and youth after-school programs available in the City, compared with 62% in out-Wayne, 43% in Macomb, and 38% in Oakland.

There is a difference of opinion by area when respondents were asked if their community has done enough to teach tolerance to youth. Three quarters (75%) of the City of Detroit does not think their community has done enough to teach tolerance to youth, compared to 44% of respondents in out-Wayne, 33% in Macomb, and 35% in Oakland.

Community organizations fare somewhat better in the public eye than political leaders and parents when it comes to helping solve the problems children face today. A clear majority (73%) does not believe their political leaders nor parents (87%) are doing enough to help solve the problems facing children today. Although still a majority (61%), fewer people agree that community organizations are *not* doing enough to help solve problems facing children today.

### A. Overview of Opinions on Metropolitan Detroit

### Most Important Issue Facing Michigan

Education is cited across Detroit and out-Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland Counties as the most important issue facing the state of Michigan. About two in ten (19%) people say education is the most important issue facing the State. Across the four geographic areas surveyed; 22% of the public in Detroit, 20% in out-Wayne, 16% in Macomb, 18% in Oakland say education is the most important issue.

"Jobs" (15%) and the "economy" (11%) rank as second and third most important issues facing the State. From a broad perspective these two issues can be seen as one. Jobs rank second across all counties and the City of Detroit, while the third most important issue facing the State varies within the three counties. Slightly more than one-in-ten (12%) Detroiters rank "crime" as the third most important issue, while "economy" ranks third for people in out-Wayne (12%) and Oakland (13%) County. One-in-ten (10%) of respondents in Macomb County say "roads" are the third most important issue facing Michigan.

Other issues mentioned include "environment" (4%), "healthcare and prescription drug costs" (3%), "safety, security, terrorism, threats" (3%), and "taxes" (3%). Mentions less than three percent include "the governor" (2%), "state and local government" (2%), "school facilities" (1%), "automotive industry decline and layoffs" (1%), and "drugs" (1%).

### Q1. What do you feel is the most important issue facing the State?

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	0akland (N=413)
Education/education reform/ education funding	19%	22%	20%	16%	18%
Jobs/employment/ unemployment	15	17	16	16	13
Economy	11	8	12	9	13
Crime	7	12	2	5	7
Roads	6	2	6	10	7

### Most Important Issue Facing Metropolitan Detroit

When respondents were asked what they feel the most important issue facing the county they live in, "education" (18%) ranks first in Detroit and second in all other counties, except Macomb where it ranks third. "Roads" is considered to be the most important issue in out-Wayne and Oakland (15% and 20%, respectively). Macomb respondents (13%) identify the "environment" as the most important issue in their county.

"Crime" (16%) is the second most mentioned important issue facing the City of Detroit. Other mentions for the most important issue facing the county respondents live in were similar to the most important issues facing the State.

### Major Strength of Metropolitan Detroit

Detroit Metropolitan respondents were asked what they consider to be the major strength of the county they live. "People including diversity, culture, and community" is the top mention for the major strength of the City of Detroit and all the counties except Oakland, where this was second mention.

Nearly three-in-ten (29%) of the public in Detroit and Macomb, and one quarter in out-Wayne (25%) and Oakland (24%) mentioned "People, diversity, culture, community" as the top strength.

"Economy, wealth, income" (27%) was the top mention for Oakland County. Interestingly, the next highest response for all except Oakland was that the respondent did not know what the major strength of their county was.

### Q3. What do you feel is the major strength of <INSERT COUNTY RESPONDENT LIVES IN OR CITY OF DETROIT>?

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	0akland (N=413)
People/diversity/ culture/community	26%	29%	25%	29%	24%
Economy/wealth/income	12	3	5	7	27
Jobs/employment/industry/ automotive industry	12	10	14	13	11
Education	5	1	3	7	8
The mayor, elected officials	4	14	2	2	0
Police	4	1	4	7	4
Airport	1	0	5	0	0
Healthcare	1	1	1	1	0
Water resources	1	0	1	2	1
Nothing/none	1	2	1	0	1
Other (specify)	11	14	11	12	10
Don't know/refused	22	25	29	22	14

### B. Education in Metropolitan Detroit

### Importance of Education

Overall, education is very important to people from the three counties and the City of Detroit. Detroiters (89%) are more likely than people from out-Wayne (77%), Macomb (76%), and Oakland (76%) to say education is "very important" to them. However, consistently across all four geographic areas surveyed nearly all respondents are in the "Top 3 Box," that is they rated the importance of education as an 8, 9, or 10.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

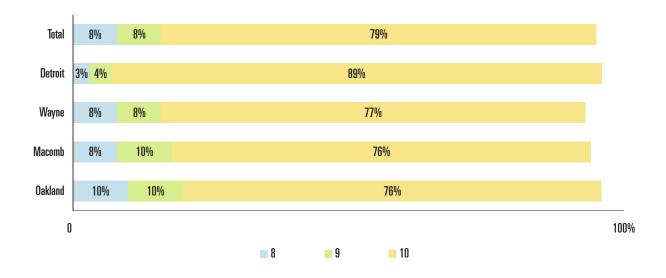
African-Americans in the Detroit Metro area are statistically more likely than Whites to say education is very important (means respectively, 9.75 and 9.40).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

Women are significantly more likely than men to rate education as an important issue:

- Out-Wayne County (means respectively, 9.64 and 9.21);
- Macomb County (means respectively, 9.76 and 9.12);
- Oakland County (means respectively, 9.57 and 9.16).

### Q4. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not at all important" and 10 being "very important", how important an issue is education to you?



### **Funding of Education**

More than half of the respondents surveyed across all four geographic areas support a tax increase to pay for increased spending for improving public schools. Support is approximately equal in Detroit (56%), out-Wayne (52%), Macomb (55%), and Oakland (56%). Close to four-in-ten (42%) people oppose any increase in taxes to pay for public schools improvements.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

Women are significantly more likely than men to favor an increase in taxes to pay for public schools improvements:

- Out-Wayne County (60% vs. 45%);
- Macomb County (62% vs. 48%).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### MACOMB COUNTY

Respondents with an annual income of more than \$40,000 have a greater likelihood to favor a tax increase to improve public schools than respondents with an annual income of \$40,000 or less (56% vs. 40%).

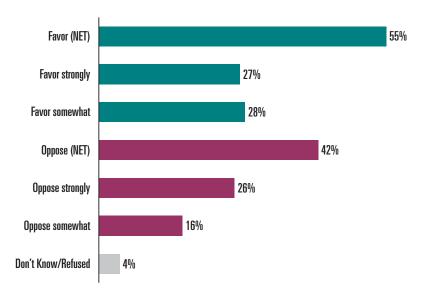
### Statistically Significant Differences Among Respondents with Children Living at Home

#### MACOMB COUNTY

Respondents with children in the home are significantly more likely to favor an increase in taxes to pay for improving public schools than respondents without children in the home (67% vs. 47%).

### Q12. Would you favor or oppose a tax increase to pay for increased spending for improving public schools?

Base: Total respondents (N=1618)



### Funding In the District

Detroiters are also more likely to say funding for their public schools is a major problem (31%), than respondents in out-Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland County (9%, 5%, and 6% respectively). On a scale of zero to ten where zero is "not a problem at all" and ten is "a major problem," more than half (53%) of Detroiters rate funding for public schools in their district as an 8, 9, or 10. Fewer people in out-Wayne (28%), Macomb (20%), and Oakland (19%) give a "Top 3 Box" rating. The mean ratings for how much of a problem funding for public schools in each area are; 7.37 in Detroit, 5.35 in out-Wayne, 4.94 in Macomb, and 4.86 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### **OUT-WAYNE COUNTY**

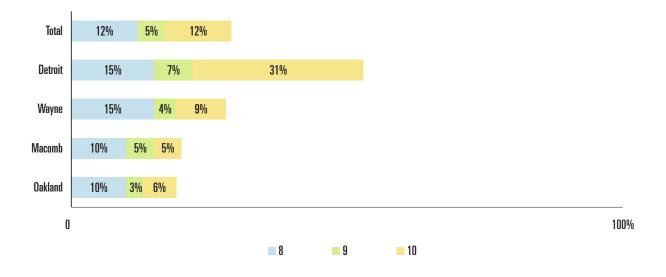
Respondents who make an annual income of less than \$40,000 are statistically more likely than those who make more than \$70,000 to rate funding for public schools as a problem (means respectively, 5.87 and 4.58).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

### CITY OF DETROIT

Women in Detroit are significantly more likely than men to say the funding for public schools is a problem (means respectively, 7.71 and 7.09).

### Q10. On a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being "not a problem at all" and 10 being "a major problem" please rate how much of a problem you think the funding for public schools IN your district is?



### Funding Outside the District

When asked to rate how much of a problem the funding of public schools outside their district is, people in Oakland (34%) and out-Wayne (35%) are more likely than people in Detroit (21%) or Macomb (20%) to give an 8, 9, or 10 rating. The mean ratings for how much of a problem funding for public schools outside each area are; 4.81 in Detroit, 6.23 in out-Wayne, 6.21 in Macomb, and 6.44 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans in Detroit Metro are significantly more likely than Whites to say funding for public schools in the district they live in is a problem (means respectively, 6.96 and 5.11).

Correspondingly, Whites in Detroit Metro are significantly more likely than African-Americans to think the funding for public schools outside the district they live in is a problem (means respectively, 6.24 and 5.18).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

**OUT-WAYNE COUNTY** 

Women are significantly more likely than men to think the funding for public schools outside the district they live in is a problem (means respectively, 6.79 and 5.85).

### Q11. On a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being "not a problem at all" and 10 being "a major problem" please rate how much of a problem you think the funding for public schools OUTSIDE your district is?



### Most Important Issue Facing Public Schools

Financing is the most important issue facing out-Wayne's (25%), Macomb's (22%), and Oakland's (24%) public school districts, according to residents. Qualified teachers rank as the second most mentioned important issue facing public school districts in out-Wayne (18%), Macomb (14%), and Oakland (12%). Respondents from the City of Detroit say, qualified teachers (22%) is the most important issue facing their public school district, with financing (17%) ranking as the next most important issue.

Detroiters mention overcrowded classrooms and higher pay for teachers, which ranks as the third most important issue with 9%. Overcrowded classrooms also ranks as the third most important issue facing public schools in out-Wayne (9%), Macomb (12%), and Oakland (9%) counties.

### Q7. What do you think is the most important issue facing your public school district?

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	Oakland (N=413)
Financing/funding/ lack of money	22%	17%	25%	22%	24%
Quality of teachers/ qualified teachers	16	22	18	14	12
Overcrowded classrooms	10	9	9	12	9
Curriculum	6	5	7	5	7
Discipline of children	6	4	6	6	6
Administration/policies	5	6	6	3	4
Teacher retention/ higher pay for teachers	5	9	4	3	4
Violence/security issues	4	7	3	5	3
Attendance	2	3	1	2	3
Facilities	2	3	1	0	2
Parents	1	3	1	0	2
Drugs	1	1	2	2	1
Other (specify)	7	3	6	8	9
Don't know/refused	12	10	11	15	15

### **Quality of Education**

When asked to grade the overall quality of public schools in their district opinions vary widely based on area. Seven-in-ten (71%) people in Oakland County give their public schools an "A" (31%) or "B" (40%). Nearly six-in-ten (59%) Macomb residents grade the quality of their public schools either with an "A" (19%) or a "B" (40%). Out-Wayne residents are divided when it comes to grading the quality of their school district, with just less than half (48%) giving a grade of "B" or higher and 46% grading the quality as "C" or lower. Detroit schools received the lowest grades. About three quarters (74%) of Detroit residents grade the quality as "C" or lower and only two-in-ten (20%) give a "B" or higher.

Q5. If you had to grade the overall quality of the public schools IN the district you live in, would you give it an A, B, C, D or F? Base: Total (N=1618), Detroit (N=403), Wayne (N=402), Macomb (N=400), Oakland (N=413)



Correspondingly, Detroiters are the most likely to grade the quality of public schools outside their district the highest, with 56% having a grade of "B" or higher. Out-Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland residents are less likely to give either an "A" or "B" to public schools outside their district, (31%, 40%, and 35%, respectively).

Q6. Now thinking of the overall quality of the public schools OUTSIDE the district you live in, would you give it an A, B, C, D, or F? Base: Total (N=1618), Detroit (N=403), Wayne (N=402), Macomb (N=400), Oakland (N=413)



### Best and Worst Aspects of Public Schools

Dichotomous opinions are shown when respondents are asked about the best and worst aspects of their public schools. Nearly one-quarter (24%) cite "teachers, staff, and administrators" as the best aspect of the public schools in their district, compared to less than two-in-ten (15%) who cite the same as the worst aspect. More Detroiters (19%) are likely to say "teachers, staff, and administrators" as the worst aspect of their public schools than respondents are in out-Wayne (17%), Macomb (13%), and Oakland (13%) about their public schools.

"Education curriculum" is the next highest mentioned best aspect of public schools across all areas; 7% in Detroit, 14% in out-Wayne, 15% in Macomb, and 16% in Oakland. Followed by "activities and programs" in the City of Detroit (5%), out-Wayne (8%), Macomb (11%) and Oakland (5%). "Parental involvement" was also mentioned by 5% of people in Oakland County as the best aspect of the public schools in their district.

### Q8. What do you consider to be the BEST aspect of the public schools IN your district?

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	Oakland (N=413)
Teachers/staff/ administrators	24%	24%	23%	22%	24%
Education/curriculum	13	7	14	15	16
Activities/programs	7	5	8	11	5
Parental involvement	4	2	4	3	5
Financing/funding	2	1	2	3	3

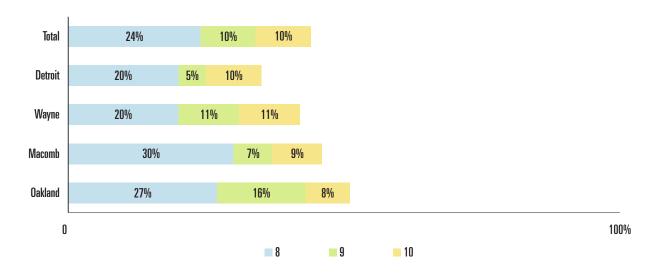
### Q9. What do you consider to be the WORST aspect of the public schools IN your district?

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	Oakland (N=413)
Teachers/staff/ administrators	15%	19%	17%	13%	13%
Overcrowded classrooms	10	10	10	11	8
Financing/funding	9	8	10	7	9
Curriculum/ poor academic standards	9	8	8	11	9
Security/safety issues	6	9	8	5	5

### **Quality of Teachers**

Oakland County gives their teachers the highest marks for quality compared to other geographic areas surveyed. The quality of teachers is rated highest in Oakland County, followed by Macomb, out-Wayne, and the City of Detroit. The "Top 3 Box" ratings on a scale of zero to ten with zero being "poor quality" and ten being "excellent quality," the quality of teachers in public schools for each area are; 51% in Oakland, 46% in Macomb, 42% in out-Wayne, and 35% in Detroit. The average rating for the quality of teachers in each areas public school districts are; 7.45 in Oakland, 7.09 in Macomb, 6.99 in out-Wayne, and 6.61 in Detroit.

### Q13. On a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being "poor quality" and 10 being "excellent quality" please rate the quality of the teachers IN YOUR public school DISTRICT.



### Quality of School Facilities and Programs

Similarly, the quality of the school facilities including buildings and school grounds is rated highest in Oakland, followed by Macomb, out-Wayne, and the City of Detroit. Six-in-ten (62%) residents in Oakland give an 8, 9, or 10 rating for the quality of their school facilities. About five-in-ten (52%) Macomb residents, over four-in-ten (45%) out-Wayne residents and less than two-in-ten (17%) Detroit residents give "Top 3 Box" ratings. The average rating for the quality of the school facilities in each area are; 7.70 in Oakland, 7.27 in Macomb, 7.03 in out-Wayne, and 5.13 in Detroit.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans in the Detroit Metro area are statistically more likely than Whites to rate the quality of school facilities as poor (means respectively, 5.66 and 7.29).

### Q14. On a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being "poor quality" and 10 being "excellent quality" please rate the quality of the school facilities, meaning buildings and school grounds, IN YOUR public school DISTRICT.



When asked about the quality of special education programs in their public school district three-inten (30%) Oakland and almost one third (32%) of out-Wayne respondents give a "Top 3 Box" rating. Roughly one-quarter of Macomb (26%) and Detroit (23%) residents give an 8, 9, or 10 rating for the quality of special education programs in their district. The mean rating for each area are; 5.47 in Detroit, 7.08 in out-Wayne, 6.78 in Macomb, and 6.99 in Oakland.

It is important to note that similar numbers of respondents say they did not know how to rate these programs. Roughly, one quarter (26%) of residents in the City of Detroit, one third (34%) in out-Wayne, and four-in-ten (41%) in Macomb and Oakland said they did not know how to rate special education programs.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are also significantly more likely than Whites to rate the quality of special education programs as poor (means respectively, 5.57 and 7.03).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

CITY OF DETROIT

Women are significantly more likely than men to rate the quality of special education programs lower (means respectively, 4.88 and 5.94).

Most people are able to rate the quality of extracurricular or after-school programs in their public school district. Residents in Oakland County are more likely to rate the quality of extracurricular or after-school programs in their public school districts higher than residents in the other counties. Nearly half (48%) of Oakland respondents give a "Top 3 Box" rating for the quality of extracurricular programs, compared to four-in-ten respondents in Macomb (42%) and out-Wayne (41%), and with less than one quarter in Detroit (23%). The mean ratings for the quality of extracurricular programs in the public school districts in each area are; 5.00 in Detroit, 6.96 in out-Wayne, 7.11 in Macomb, and 7.48 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are also significantly more likely than Whites to rate the quality of extracurricular programs as poor (means respectively, 5.47 and 7.18).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

MACOMB COUNTY

Respondents who make under \$40,000 annually are statistically more likely than those who make over \$70,000 to rate the quality of extracurricular programs as poor (means respectively, 6.73 and 7.41).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

OAKLAND COUNTY

Women are significantly more likely than men to rate the quality of extracurricular or after school programs higher (means respectively, 7.69 and 7.26).

### Q15. On a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being "poor quality" and 10 being "excellent quality" please rate the quality of special education programs IN YOUR public school DISTRICT.

	Total	Detroit	Wayne	Macomb	Oakland
	(N=1618)	(N=403)	(N=402)	(N=400)	(N=413)
Mean	6.57	5.47	7.08	6.78	6.99

### Q16. On a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being "poor quality" and 10 being "excellent quality" please rate the quality of extracurricular or after school programs IN YOUR public school DISTRICT.

	Total	Detroit	Wayne	Macomb	Oakland
	(N=1618)	(N=403)	(N=402)	(N=400)	(N=413)
Mean	6.67	5.00	6.96	7.11	7.48

### C. School Reform

### Paying Attention to School Reform

Most of the public is paying attention to the City of Detroit school reform process. Almost two-thirds (64%) of Detroiters have been paying "a lot" (27%) or "some" (37%) attention to the school reform process in the City of Detroit. Just over half of out-Wayne (53%) and Oakland (55%) residents have been paying "a lot or some" attention to the process, compared to just less than half (45%) of Macomb residents.

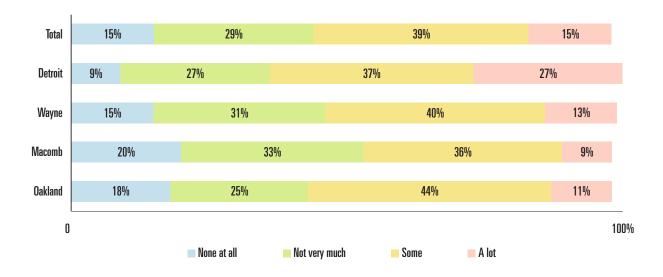
Over one third of Detroit residents are not paying very much (27%) or no attention at all (9%) to the school reform process in Detroit. Over four-in-ten respondents in Oakland are not paying very much (25%) or no attention at all (18%) to the school reform process in Detroit. Also, over four-in-ten respondents in out-Wayne are not paying very much (31%) or no attention at all (15%) to the school reform process in Detroit. Just over half of Macomb residents are not paying very much attention (33%) or none at all (20%) to the school reform process in the City of Detroit.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

CITY OF DETROIT

Men are more likely than women to pay "a lot or somewhat" attention to the school reform process (70% vs. 58%).

### Q19. How much attention have you been paying to the school reform process in Detroit, a lot, some, not very much, or none at all?



### Importance of School Reform

When respondents were asked to rate how important school reform is to them on a scale from zero to ten with zero being "not at all important" and ten being "very important," just over half (54%) of Detroiters say it is "very important," compared to 36% of out-Wayne, 29% of Macomb, and 26% of Oakland respondents. Detroiters are more likely than respondents from the other areas to rate the issue of school reform as an 8, 9, or 10. Three quarters (75%) of the City's residents give a "Top 3 Box" rating, compared with 63% of out-Wayne, 55% of Macomb, and 54% of Oakland residents. The mean ratings for the importance of school reform in each of the areas are; 8.59 in Detroit, 7.86 in out-Wayne, 7.58 in Macomb, and 7.46 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

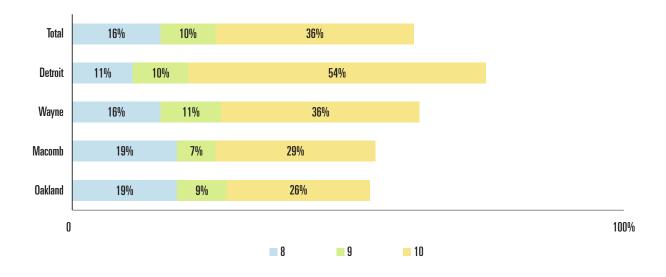
African-Americans are significantly more likely than Whites to report school reform as an important issue (means respectively, 8.59 and 7.58).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

#### MACOMB COUNTY

Women are significantly more likely than men to report school reform as an important issue (means respectively, 7.95 and 7.29).

### Q23. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not at all important" and 10 being "very important", how important an issue is school reform to you?



### Support for School Reform, Although Reform Moderately Effective

Although respondents are in favor of the school reform process in the City of Detroit, when it came to rating the effectiveness of reform the public reports reform as being only middle of the road effective. Two-thirds (67%) of respondents have been in favor of the school reform process since it started in Detroit a few years ago, and seven-in-ten (71%) are still in favor. Less than one-in-ten (9%) respondents opposed the school reform process when it started, and 11% are now opposed.

Two-thirds (67%) of Detroiters favor the reform process that started in Detroit a few years ago "strongly" (42%) or "somewhat" (25%), while only 15% oppose "strongly" (6%) or "somewhat" (9%). Support within the three counties is similar with seven-in-ten respondents from out-Wayne (70%) and Macomb (69%), and 65% from Oakland favoring "strongly or somewhat" and 10% or less opposing "strongly or somewhat."

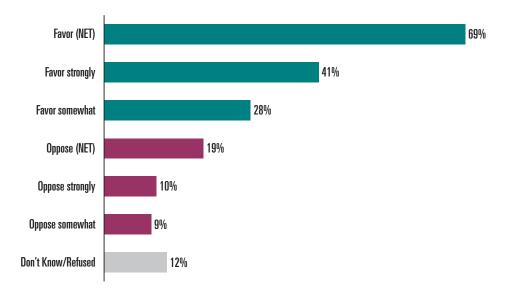
When asked if they favor or oppose the school reform process *now* versus when it started a few years ago, similar numbers are reported across all four geographic areas surveyed. About seven-in-ten (69%) Detroiters favor "strongly" (41%) or "somewhat" (28%), compared with over seven-in-ten respondents from out-Wayne (74%), Macomb (71%), and Oakland (71%). About two-in-ten (19%) Detroit respondents are opposed "strongly" (10%) or "somewhat" (9%) now, compared to less than one-in-ten in all other areas; out-Wayne (9%), Macomb (7%), and Oakland (9%).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### **OUT-WAYNE COUNTY**

Higher income respondents are more likely than lower income to favor school reform "strongly" at first and now. More than half (51%) of people who make more than \$70,000 "favored strongly" the school reform process when it started compared to 37% of those who make less than \$40,000 per year. Similar numbers are in support of the process now.

#### Q21. Now do you favor or oppose the school reform process?



"Improves curriculum and education" is cited by nearly one-third (32%) of Detroit residents who are in favor of school reform as the most important reason why they are in favor. Less than two-in-ten (16%) say the most important reason why they are in favor of the school reform process is because it will "improve the administration and accountability." Less than one-in-ten report they are in favor of the reform process because it will "improve school facilities and supplies" (6%), "improve teachers" (5%), "increase accessibility to education" (4%), and "increase safety" (3%).

"Not in the best interest of the students, and will not make a difference" is reported by four-in-ten (40%) of Detroit residents opposed to school reform as the most important reason why they are opposed. Nearly than one quarter (24%) of those opposed cite "administrative policy problems, and a non-democratic school reform process" as the most important reason why they are opposed. One-in-ten (10%) of those opposed to school reform say "the misuse of funds" is their main reason for being opposed.

Detroit residents were asked what kind of job the public school district in Detroit is doing managing its budget. A clear majority (84%) said "fair" (35%) or "poor" (49%) and only 11% said "excellent" (3%) or "good" (8%).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### CITY OF DETROIT

Higher income residents in Detroit are more likely to say the public school district is doing a "fair or poor" job managing its budget than lower incomes (96% of those who make more than \$70,000 and 84% of those who make \$70,000 or less).

When rating the effectiveness of reform, the public reports reform as being only moderately effective. On a scale of zero to ten with zero being "not at all effective" and ten being "very effective", the overall effectiveness mean for the school reform process is 4.84. The means for how effective each area thinks the City of Detroit school reform process is are; 5.05 in Detroit, 4.68 in out-Wayne, 4.85 in Macomb, and 4.79 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### OAKLAND COUNTY

Respondents who make over \$70,000 annually are statistically more likely than those who make between \$40,000 and \$70,000 to say the school reform process has not been effective (means respectively, 4.57 and 5.36).

### Q24. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not at all effective" and 10 being "very effective", how effective do you think the school reform process has been?

	Total	Detroit	Wayne	Macomb	Oakland
	(N=1618)	(N=403)	(N=402)	(N=400)	(N=413)
Mean	4.84	5.05	4.68	4.85	4.79

### Performance of School Reform

Majority of respondents are unable to quantify performance of school reform. Unchanged opinion in the school reform process may be linked to the inability to measure its progress.

Detroit Metro respondents were asked if several aspects have gotten better, gotten worse, or have stayed the same since the school reform process had started in Detroit a few years ago. These aspects include; test scores, drop out rate, graduation rate, and the number of graduates going onto college, technical schools, or jobs directly out of high school. Overall residents outside the City are more likely than residents in Detroit to say they don't know if these aspects have gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed the same. Across the region Oakland residents surveyed are more likely to feel confident in their school district and support its initiatives. For this reason, school reform is much less of an issue.

The first area Detroiters have seen improvement is the number of high school graduates going onto technical schools to learn a skill or trade. Over half (52%) of Detroit residents report this aspect is "a lot" (13%), "somewhat" (22%), or "only slightly" (17%) better. Less than two-in-ten (17%) think the number of high school graduates going on to technical schools has "stayed the same" since the school reform process started in Detroit. About one-in-ten Detroit respondents say this aspect has become only "slightly worse" (5%), "somewhat worse" (4%), or "a lot worse" (2%).

Test scores is the second aspect Detroiters have seen improvement in since the school reform process started a few years ago. Over half (51%) of Detroit residents think test scores have gotten "a lot better" (9%), "somewhat better" (23%), or "only slightly better" (19%). Less than two-in-ten (16%) report this aspect has "stayed the same", and 15% say test scores have become worse.

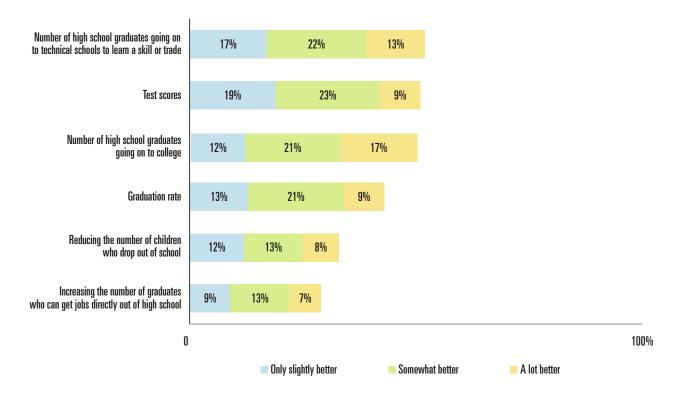
Half (50%) of Detroiters report the number of high school graduates going onto college has gotten better; 12% say "a lot", 21% say "somewhat", and 17% say "only slightly." Less than two-in-ten (17%) think the number has "stayed the same" since school reform started, and 14% say the number of high school graduates going onto college has gotten worse.

Detroit respondents see the graduation rate as slightly improving. Over four-in-ten (43%) of Detroiters think this aspect has gotten better with 9% reporting "a lot better," 21% reporting "somewhat better," and 13% reporting "only slightly better." Nearly one-quarter (23%) say the graduation rate has stayed the same since school reform started in Detroit. Less than two-in-ten (17%) feel the graduation rate has become worse, 9% say "slightly worse," 5% say "somewhat worse," and 3% say "a lot worse."

Likewise, Detroiters think the reduction in the number of children who drop out of school has improved slightly from when the reform process started. One-third (33%) report the number of children who drop out has gotten better; 8% say "a lot," 13% say "somewhat," and 12% say "only slightly better." Over two-in-ten (22%) think the number of children who drop out of school has stayed the same. One-quarter (25%) report the number of children who drop out has gotten worse; 7% say "slightly worse" and "somewhat worse," while 11% say "a lot worse."

When it comes to increasing the number of graduates getting jobs directly out of high school, Detroiters are divided on the issue. Almost three in ten (29%) say the number is "a lot" (7%), "somewhat" (13%), or only "slightly" (9%) better. One quarter (25%) think the number of graduates getting jobs directly out of high school has stayed the same since school reform started, and 26% think it has gotten worse; 12% say "slightly," 8% say "somewhat," and 6% say "a lot" worse.

IQ25. Next, I am going to read you a list of items. Please tell me if these aspects have gotten better, gotten worse or stayed the same since school reform in Detroit. (PROBE: a lot better, somewhat better, only slightly better, a lot worse, somewhat worse, only slightly worse) First...



### Roles in the School Reform Process

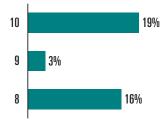
A clear majority (67%) in the City of Detroit thinks school reform *should be* top priority for their community leaders. On a scale of zero to ten with zero being "not at all a priority" and ten being "top priority," the mean response for how much of a priority school reform should be is 9.28. However, when the City was asked how much of a priority they think school reform *is* to leaders in their community, only two-in-ten (19%) said it is "top priority" to their leaders, with a mean response of 6.65.

Q26. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not at all a priority" and 10 being "top priority", how much of a priority do you think school reform should be to leaders in your community?

Base: Detroit respondents (N=403)



Q27. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not at all a priority" and 10 being "top priority", how much of a priority do you think school reform is to leaders in your community?

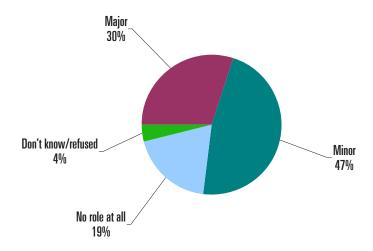


All areas surveyed were asked if they think parents currently have a major role, minor role, or no role at all in school reform. Opinions varied across all four geographic areas. In the City of Detroit nearly half (47%) think parents currently have a minor role in the school reform process, while fewer from out-Wayne (43%), Macomb (37%), and Oakland (36%) think the same. Three-in-ten (30%) Detroiters think parents currently have a major role in school reform compared to four-in-ten (44%) in out-Wayne, 50% in Macomb, and 48% in Oakland. Two-in-ten (19%) Detroit residents think parents currently have no role at all in school reform, compared to 6% in out-Wayne, 7% in Macomb, and 10% in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

Whites are significantly more likely than African-Americans to think parents currently have a major role in school reform (48% vs. 34%).

### Q30. Do you think parents currently have a major role, a minor role, or no role at all in school reform?



### Appointed Versus Elected School Board

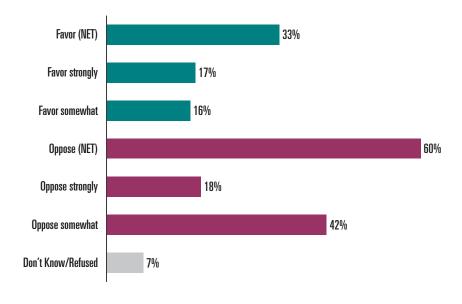
Slightly more than four-in-ten in the City of Detroit are somewhat opposed to having an appointed school board. Four-in-ten (42%) Detroiters say they are "somewhat opposed" and less than two-in-ten (18%) say they are "strongly opposed" to having an appointed board. One third (33%), a substantial minority of the City, is in favor of the appointed board over an elected board with 17% "favoring strongly" and 16% "favoring somewhat."

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

CITY OF DETROIT

Women are more likely to favor having an appointed school board than men (38% vs. 28%).

### Q28. As you may know, school board members currently are appointed and not elected. Do you favor or oppose having an appointed school board?



### D. CHILDREN AND YOUTH HEALTHCARE IN METROPOLITAN DETROIT

### Importance of Healthcare

Children and youth healthcare is a very important issue for about two-thirds of the respondents. Detroiters (81%) are more likely to say children and youth healthcare is "very important" to them as compared to people living in out-Wayne (65%), Macomb (65%), and Oakland (61%) counties. The average importance ratings for youth and children healthcare in each of the areas are; 9.59 in Detroit, 8.98 in out-Wayne, 9.11 in Macomb, and 8.98 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

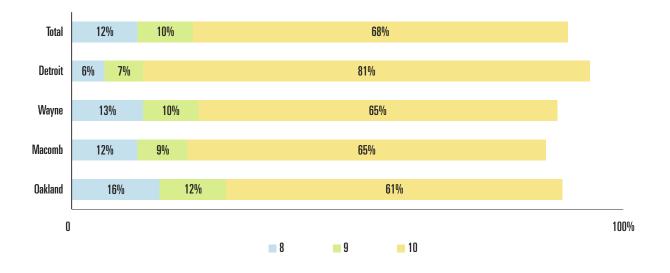
African-Americans are significantly more likely than Whites to report children and youth healthcare is an important issue (means respectively, 9.60 and 8.98).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

Women are significantly more likely than men to say children and youth healthcare is an important issue:

- Out-Wayne County (means respectively, 9.44 and 8.50);
- Macomb County (means respectively, 9.38 and 8.92);
- Oakland County (means respectively, 9.29 and 8.77).

### Q31. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not at all important" and 10 being "very important", how important an issue is children and youth healthcare to you?



### Access, Affordability and Quality

There were no major differences in opinions with regards to affordability and quality of healthcare for children and youth in the Detroit Metro area. Most think the cost of healthcare is affordable (56%) and quality of care is about average (mean of 6.84). Yet, when asked about access to healthcare, opinions vary significantly by area surveyed.

"Top 3 Box" ratings, with regards to how much of a problem access to healthcare for children and youth, are highest in the City of Detroit. This finding indicates that Detroiters have more of a problem with access to healthcare than the other areas surveyed. Forty-five percent (45%) of Detroit respondents give an 8, 9, or 10 compared with, 30% in out-Wayne, 22% in Macomb and 19% in Oakland. The mean ratings on a zero to ten scale with zero being "not a problem at all" and ten being "a major problem" for access to healthcare for children and youth are; 6.68 in Detroit, 5.86 in out-Wayne, 4.76 in Macomb, and 4.50 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are statistically more likely than Whites to say access to healthcare for children and youth is a problem (means respectively, 6.51 and 5.00).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

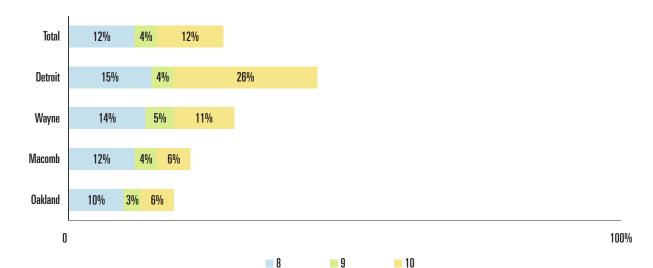
#### **OUT-WAYNE COUNTY**

Respondents who make an annual income under \$40,000 are statistically more likely than those who make more than \$70,000 to report access to healthcare for children and youth is a problem (means respectively, 6.47 and 5.11).

#### OAKLAND COUNTY

Respondents who make an annual income under \$40,000 are statistically more likely than those who make more than \$70,000 to report access to healthcare for children and youth is a problem (means respectively, 5.12 and 4.08).

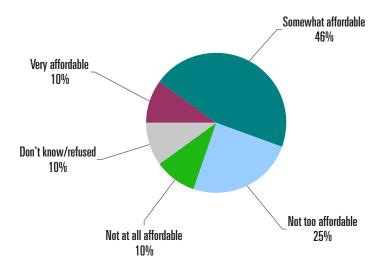
### Q32. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not a problem at all" and 10 being "a major problem", how much of a problem if any do you think access to healthcare for children and youth is in <INSERT COUNTY OR CITY OF DETROIT>?



More than half of Metropolitan Detroit find the cost of children and youth healthcare to be affordable; 51% of Detroit respondents say "very" (10%) or "somewhat" (41%) affordable, 50% of out-Wayne respondents say "very" (9%) or "somewhat" (41%) affordable, 59% of Macomb respondents say "very" (7%) or "somewhat" (52%) affordable, and 61% of Oakland respondents say "very" (12%) or "somewhat" (49%) affordable. Roughly four-in-ten Detroit (42%) and out-Wayne (41%) residents report children and youth healthcare as not affordable, compared with over one-quarter in Macomb (26%) and Oakland (28%).

### Q34. Do you think the cost of healthcare for children and youth in <INSERT COUNTY RESPONDENT LIVES IN OR CITY OF DETROIT> is very affordable, somewhat affordable, not too affordable, or not at all affordable?

Base: Total respondents (N=1618)



Oakland and Macomb County residents rate the quality of children and youth healthcare somewhat higher than residents of out-Wayne County. Five-in-ten Oakland (51%) and Macomb (50%) respondents give a "Top 3 Box" rating for the quality of healthcare, compared with almost one-third (32%) in Detroit and 28% in out-Wayne. The mean ratings for the quality of children and youth healthcare in each area are; 6.15 in Detroit, 6.35 in out-Wayne, 7.41 in Macomb, and 7.44 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

Whites are significantly more likely than African-Americans to report the quality of healthcare is excellent (means respectively, 6.99 and 6.40).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### MACOMB COUNTY

Respondents who make over \$70,000 annually are statistically more likely than those who make under \$40,000 to report the quality of healthcare is excellent (means respectively, 7.48 and 7.36).

#### OAKLAND COUNTY

Respondents who make over \$40,000 annually are statistically more likely than those who make under \$40,000 to report the quality of healthcare is excellent (means respectively, 7.55 and 6.86).

### Q33. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "extremely poor quality" and 10 being "excellent quality", how would you rate the quality of healthcare for children and youth in <INSERT COUNTY OR CITY OF DETROIT>?

Base: Total (N=1618), Detroit (N=403), Wayne (N=402), Macomb (N=400), Oakland (N=413)



Metropolitan Detroit residents give mediocre satisfaction ratings on the way the uninsured issue is being addressed in the Detroit area. The mean satisfaction ratings on a scale of zero to ten with zero being "extremely dissatisfied" and ten being "very satisfied" for the way the issue of the uninsured is being addressed for each area are; 4.19 in Detroit, 4.42 in out-Wayne, 4.43 in Macomb, and 4.25 in Oakland.

### Top Health Issues Facing Children

Overall the public recognizes drugs, vaccinations and immunizations, and child abuse as the top three health issues facing children in the Detroit Metro area. On a scale of zero to ten, with zero being "not at all important" and ten being "very important," almost two-thirds (63%) of the public rate drugs as being a 9 or 10. About six-in-ten (58%) rate vaccinations and immunizations as either a 9 or 10, and 57% give child abuse a 9 or 10 rating.

In the City of Detroit, the top five health issues rank ordered by mean include; vaccinations and immunizations (8.73), drugs (8.66), child abuse (8.57), prenatal care (8.49), and nutrition (8.33). The middle five health issues include; sexual health (8.32), mental health (8.20), dental care (8.18), affordability of health insurance (8.17) and alcohol (8.04). The last three health issues include; smoking (7.95), lead poisoning (7.94), and obesity (7.40).

In out-Wayne County, the top five health issues rank ordered by mean include; drugs (8.84), child abuse (8.44), vaccinations and immunizations (8.28), alcohol (8.18), and prenatal care (8.16). The middle set includes; smoking (8.10), sexual health (7.94), nutrition (7.91), affordability of health insurance (7.81), and mental health (7.78). Dental care (7.56), obesity (7.45), and lead poisoning (6.94) rank as the last three health issues in out-Wayne County.

Macomb residents rate drugs (8.44), child abuse (8.12), prenatal care (8.11), vaccinations and immunizations (8.06), and sexual health (7.90) as the top five health issues in their county. The next five include; smoking (7.88), alcohol (7.85), mental health (7.70), nutrition (7.55), and affordability of health insurance (7.53). The last three important health issues include; dental care (7.40), obesity (7.17), and lead poisoning (5.89).

Oakland residents rate drugs (8.33), prenatal care (8.04), vaccinations and immunizations (8.03), alcohol (7.94), and sexual health (7.92) as the top five health issues in their county. The middle set includes; child abuse (7.90), nutrition (7.78), smoking and affordability of health insurance (7.64), and dental care (7.52). The least three important health issues include; mental health (7.48), obesity (7.25), and lead poisoning (5.94).

Q36. For each of the following health issues facing children please rate on a scale of zero to ten how important each issue is...

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	Oakland (N=413)
Drugs					
Mean	8.75	8.66	8.84	8.44	8.33
"Top 2 Box"	63%	74%	68%	60%	55%
"Top 3 Box"	76%	79%	82%	74%	72%
Vaccinations					
and Immunizations					
Mean	8.26	8.73	8.28	8.06	8.03
"Top 2 Box"	58%	68%	59%	52%	54%
"Top 3 Box"	71%	78%	72%	65%	70%
Child Abuse					
Mean	8.25	8.57	8.44	8.12	7.90
"Top 2 Box"	57%	67%	58%	54%	50%
"Top 3 Box"	67%	73%	70%	65%	62%

NOTE: "Top 2 Box" is a score of 9 or 10 on scale of 0-10 "Top 3 Box" is a score of 8, 9, or 10 on scale of 0-10

### E. CHILDREN AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT IN METROPOLITAN DETROIT

### Importance of Youth Programs

Children and youth recreation programs are another important issue for the majority of the public. Access to children and youth programs is more of a problem than the quality of programs. Additionally, there is a problem with the quality of children and youth recreational facilities.

Six-in-ten (61%) respondents rate the importance of children and youth recreation programs to them as either a 9 or 10. On a scale of zero, to ten with zero being "not at all important" and ten being "very important," Detroiters (72%) are more likely to give a 10 than members of the public from out-Wayne (51%), Macomb (44%), or Oakland (41%). The mean rating for importance of children and youth recreation programs are; 9.30 in Detroit, 8.55 in out-Wayne, 8.51 in Macomb, and 8.42 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are significantly more likely than Whites to rate the importance of children and youth recreation programs as more important (means respectively, 9.32 and 8.46).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

Women are significantly more likely than men to rate the importance of children and youth recreation programs as more important:

- City of Detroit (means respectively, 9.44 and 9.02);
- Out-Wayne County (means respectively, 8.85 and 8.06);
- Macomb County (means respectively, 8.79 and 7.95);
- Oakland County (means respectively, 8.66 and 8.13).

### Access and Quality of Youth Programs

Detroiters are also more likely than people in out-Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland to say access to children and youth programs are a major problem, and that the quality of facilities are poor. "Top 3 Box" ratings are highest in the City (47%), and significantly lower in out-Wayne (28%), Macomb (18%), and Oakland (20%) counties. The mean ratings for how much of a problem access to children and youth recreation programs in each of the four geographic areas are; 6.86 in Detroit, 6.04 in out-Wayne, 4.56 in Macomb, and 4.95 in Oakland.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are also significantly more likely than Whites to report access to children and youth programs as a problem (means respectively, 6.76 and 5.22).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### **OUT-WAYNE COUNTY**

Respondents who make an annual income under \$40,000 are statistically more likely than those who make over \$70,000 to say access to children and youth programs is a problem (means respectively, 6.58 and 5.71).

#### MACOMB COUNTY

Respondents who make an annual income under \$40,000 are statistically more likely than those who make over \$40,000 to say access to children and youth programs is a problem (means respectively, 4.94 and 4.20).

#### OAKLAND COUNTY

Respondents who make an annual income under \$40,000 are statistically more likely than those who make over \$70,000 to say access to children and youth programs is a problem (means respectively, 5.86 and 4.53).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

Women are significantly more likely than men to say access to children and youth programs is a problem;

- Out-Wayne County (means respectively, 6.52 and 5.55),
- Macomb County (means respectively, 4.83 and 4.23).

Quality of children and youth recreation programs across all counties is rated slightly more than average with a mean of 6.91. The mean quality rating of children and youth recreation programs across all areas are; 7.34 in Detroit, 6.23 in out-Wayne, 7.36 in Macomb, and 7.24 in Oakland. Nearly half (47%) of Detroiters give a "Top 4 Box" rating, compared to four-in-ten (40%) out-Wayne residents. More than six-in-ten Macomb (65%) and Oakland (62%) respondents rate the quality of children and youth recreation programs in their county a 7, 8, 9, or 10.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are significantly more likely than Whites to rate the quality of children and youth recreation programs as poor (means respectively, 6.76 and 6.95).

Quality of children and youth recreational facilities varies within the three counties. The mean quality rating of children and youth recreational facilities in Detroit is 5.66, 6.09 in out-Wayne, 7.12 in Macomb, and 7.26 in Oakland. The "Top 4 Box" ratings are highest in Oakland (66%), followed by Macomb (61%), the City of Detroit (39%), and out-Wayne (38%).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are also significantly more likely than Whites to rate the quality of children and youth recreation facilities as poor (means respectively, 6.76 and 6.84).

Q37-40. Children and Youth Recreation Programs: Importance, Access and Quality

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	Oakland (N=413)
Importance of	(11 1010)	(11 100)	(02)	(11 100)	(11 110)
Importance of					
Programs	0.40		0.55	0.54	0.40
Mean	8.68	9.30	8.55	8.51	8.42
"Top 2 Box"	61%	81%	60%	54%	54%
"Top 3 Box"	79%	90%	79%	77%	75%
Problem of					
Access to Programs					
Mean	5.63	6.86	6.04	4.56	4.95
"Top 2 Box"	16%	30%	14%	8%	12%
"Top 3 Box"	28%	47%	28%	18%	20%
Quality of Programs					
Mean	6.91	7.34	6.23	7.36	7.24
"Top 2 Box"	16%	19%	8%	19%	17%
"Top 3 Box"	36%	34%	23%	46%	42%
Quality of Facilities					
Mean	6.81	5.66	6.09	7.12	7.26
"Top 2 Box"	13%	12%	9%	15%	20%
"Top 3 Box"	32%	28%	21%	39%	44%

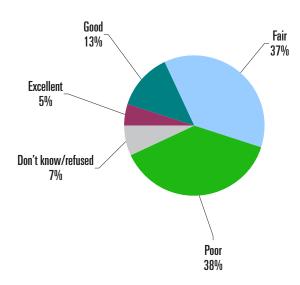
NOTE: "Top 2 Box" is a score of 9 or 10 on scale of 0-10 "Top 3 Box" is a score of 8, 9, or 10 on scale of 0-10

### Quantity and Variety of Recreational Programs

Detroit residents are more likely to report that there are a "fair or poor" *amount* of children and youth recreation programs available in the City, than residents within the three other areas. Over three-quarters (77%) of Detroiters report that the amount of programs available is "fair or poor" compared with almost six-in-ten (59%) residents from out-Wayne, 38% from Macomb, and 43% from Oakland who say this. Only 16% of Detroiters think there are an "excellent or good" amount of programs available compared to 30% in out-Wayne, 50% in Macomb and Oakland.

## Q42. Do you think there are an excellent, good, fair, or poor amount of children and youth recreation programs available in <INSERT COUNTY RESPONDENT LIVES IN OR CITY OF DETROIT>?

Base: Detroit respondents (N=403)



Similarly, Detroit residents think there are a "fair or poor" *variety* of children and youth recreation programs available in the City. Seven-in-ten (72%) report the variety of programs in Detroit are "fair" (36%) or "poor" (36%), compared with almost six-in-ten (57%) residents of out-Wayne, one-third (33%) in Macomb, and 35% in Oakland.

Metropolitan Detroit respondents were asked what type of children and youth recreational programs they think should be available. Mentions include traditional sports such as "baseball, football, basketball, and soccer," non-traditional sports such as "swimming, tennis, and camping," programs that offer "multi-disciplinary activities" like the "YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs," "educational and mentoring" programs, "arts and crafts as well as other programs at the community building," and "after-school, latch-key programs."

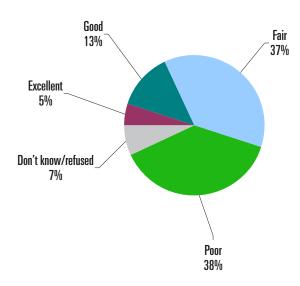
In Detroit 21% said "educational and mentoring" programs, followed by 17% who said "multi-disciplinary activities," and 15% who said sports such as "baseball, football, basketball, and soccer." In out-Wayne sports and education programs are mentioned the most by 15% of respondents. Non-traditional sports, "multi-disciplinary activities," and arts and crafts each were mentioned by 13% of respondents. Two-in-ten (20%) Macomb residents mention sports as the type of program they think should be available, followed by non-traditional sports (17%), with "multi-disciplinary activities" as well as "educational and mentoring" (12%). Almost two-in-ten (18%) Oakland residents mention sports and "multi-disciplinary activities." Followed by 17% who mention non-traditional sports and 15% who said arts and crafts.

### Quantity and Variety of After-school Programs

The public has similar opinions regarding the amount and variety of children and youth after-school programs offered in the Metro Detroit area. Three-quarters (75%) of Detroit residents say there are a "fair" (37%) or "poor" (38%) *amount* of after-school programs in the City. Less than two-in-ten (18%) of Detroit residents say there are an "excellent" (5%) or "good" (13%) amount of after-school programs available. Six-in-ten (62%) of out-Wayne respondents rate the amount of after-school programs as "fair or poor," compared with 43% of respondents in Macomb, and 38% in Oakland.

## Q46. Do you think there are an excellent, good, fair, or poor amount of children and youth after school programs available in <INSERT COUNTY RESPONDENT LIVES IN OR CITY OF DETROIT>?





Similar to the ratings regarding amount of programs, 72% of Detroiters say there are a "fair" (33%) or "poor" (39%) *variety* of after-school programs in the City. Nearly six-in-ten (57%) of out-Wayne respondents rate the variety of after-school programs as "fair or poor," compared with 39% of respondents in Macomb, and 36% in Oakland.

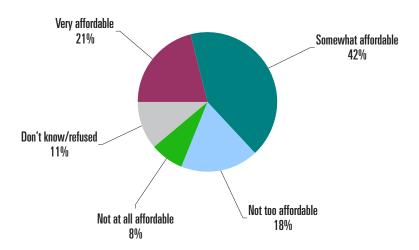
When respondents were asked what type of after-school programs should be available, "educational and mentoring" programs ranks first. Nearly four-in-ten (38%) Detroiters mention "educational and mentoring" programs compared to one-quarter (25%) of out-Wayne, 19% of Macomb and 22% of Oakland respondents. Programs such as "arts and crafts as well as other programs at the community building" were the second highest mention across all four geographic areas; 15% in Detroit, 12% in out-Wayne, 14% in Macomb, and 17% in Oakland. Twelve percent (12%) of out-Wayne respondents and 14% of Macomb respondents mentioned non-traditional sports also. Other programs mentioned include, sports including "baseball, football, basketball, and soccer," "multi-disciplinary activities" like the "YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs," and "after-school, latch-key programs."

#### Affordability of Recreational Programs

Majority across each county think the cost of children and youth recreation programs is affordable. Over six-in-ten (63%) Detroiters think the cost of children and youth recreation programs in the City is "very" (21%) or "somewhat" (42%) affordable. Seven-in-ten (70%) out-Wayne respondents think the cost of recreation programs in their county is "very" (17%) or "somewhat" (53%) affordable. Nearly eight-in-ten (79%) Macomb and Oakland respondents say the same, with 20% saying "very" and 59% saying "somewhat" in Macomb and in Oakland 18% saying "very" and 61% saying "somewhat." Conversely, just over one-quarter (26%) of Detroiters think the cost is not affordable either "not too affordable" (18%) or "not at all affordable" (8%), compared to less than two-in-ten in out-Wayne (16%), Macomb (7%), and Oakland (12%).

# Q41. Do you think the cost of children and youth recreation programs in <INSERT COUNTY RESPONDENT LIVES IN OR CITY OF DETROIT> is very affordable, somewhat affordable, not too affordable, or not at all affordable?

Base: Detroit respondents (N=403)

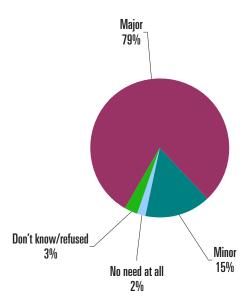


#### **Funding for Youth Programs**

Correspondingly, Detroiters are more likely to think there is a major need for additional funding of youth programs in the City, than respondents in other areas surveyed are about their county. About eight-in-ten (79%) Detroiters think there is a "major need" for additional funding of their youth programs, 15% say there is a "minor need" and only 2% say there is "no need at all." Nearly six-in-ten (57%) out-Wayne residents say there is a "major need" for additional funding of their youth programs, while 27% say "minor" and 7% say "no need at all." Macomb and Oakland residents are more likely to say there is a "minor need" than Wayne County residents. One-quarter (25%) of Macomb and 28% of Oakland residents think there is a "major" need and less than two-in-ten think there is no need at all in for additional funding of youth programs in Macomb and Oakland counties (13% and 15%, respectively).

Q45. Do you think there is a major need, minor need, or no need at all for additional funding of youth programs in <INSERT COUNTY RESPONDENT LIVES IN OR CITY OF DETROIT>?

Base: Detroit respondents (N=403)

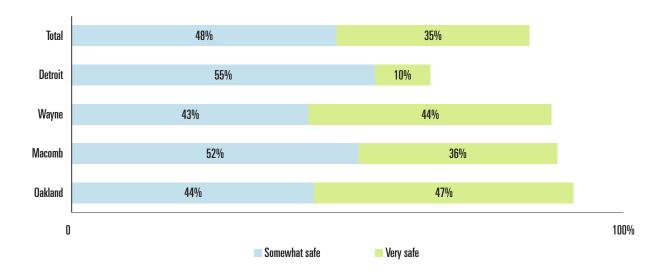


### F. Violence and Safety Issues Concerning Metropolitan Detroit

## Safety in Schools

The City of Detroit is more worried about the safety of the kids in their community, than other geographic areas surveyed. Just over half of Detroit residents report they think their children are "very or somewhat" safe while in public school, while one-third (33%) report "not too safe or not safe at all." Contrastingly, a majority across out-Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland counties says their children are "very or somewhat" safe while in public school.

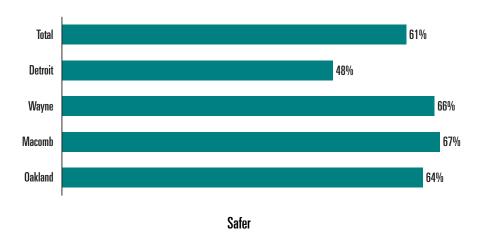
# Q17. How safe do you think children are while in public schools in your district—very safe, somewhat safe, not too safe, or not safe at all?



Respondents were asked if they think children in schools outside Detroit are safer, as safe as, or not as safe as children in schools outside Detroit. Nearly two-thirds in out-Wayne (66%), Macomb (67%) and Oakland (64%) say children in schools outside Detroit are safer, compared to less than half (48%) of Detroit residents.

## Q18. In general, do you think children in schools outside Detroit are safer, as safe as, or not as safe as children in Detroit area schools?

Base: Total (1618), Detroit (403), Wayne (402), Macomb (400), Oakland (413)



## Statistically Significant Differences by Race

Whites are significantly more likely than African-Americans to say children in the public schools in their district are safe (89% vs. 69%).

#### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### MACOMB COUNTY

Respondents who make over \$70,000 annually are statistically more likely than those who make under \$40,000 to say children in their public school district are safe (87% vs. 69%).

#### OAKLAND COUNTY

Respondents who make over \$70,000 annually are statistically more likely than those who make under \$40,000 to say children in their public school district are safe (95% vs. 88%). While higher income residents also are more likely than lower income to say Oakland schools are safer than Detroit schools (72% vs. 55%).

## Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

#### CITY OF DETROIT

Men are more likely than women to say children in their public school district are "very or somewhat" safe (70% vs. 60%).

#### **OUT-WAYNE COUNTY**

Degree of safety varies by gender, but overall children are considered safe. Men are significantly more likely than women to say children are "very" safe (51% vs. 37%).

### MACOMB COUNTY

Degree of safety varies by gender. Men are significantly more likely than women to say children are "very" safe (45% vs. 26%).

#### OAKLAND COUNTY

Men are more likely than women to say children in their public school district are "very or somewhat" safe (95% vs. 88%).

#### Violence Toward Youth

Detroiters are more likely to say violence *toward* youth is important to them and a major problem than respondents in the other three areas are. Eight-in-ten (80%) people in the City of Detroit report that violence toward youth is "very important" to them. About two-thirds in out-Wayne (67%), Macomb (63%), and Oakland (65%) report the same. The mean importance rating of violence toward youth for each area are; 9.55 in Detroit, 9.24 in out-Wayne, 8.96 in Macomb, and 9.16 in Oakland.

## Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are significantly more likely than Whites to report violence toward youth as important (means respectively, 9.60 and 9.21).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### MACOMB COUNTY

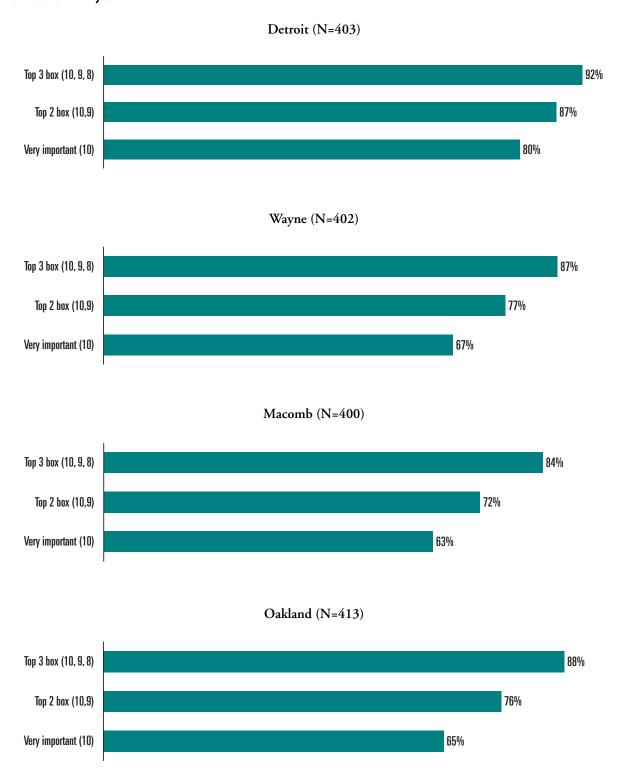
Respondents who make an annual income between \$40,000 and \$70,000 are statistically more likely than those who make over \$70,000 to report violence toward youth as important (means respectively, 9.38 and 8.71).

## Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

Women are significantly more likely than men to report violence toward youth as important:

- Out-Wayne County (means respectively, 9.61 and 8.91);
- Macomb County (means respectively, 9.45 and 8.73);
- Oakland County (means 9.49 and 8.89).

# Q.49 On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not at all important" and 10 being "very important", how important is violence TOWARD youth?



NOTE: "Top 3 Box" is a score of 8, 9, or 10 on scale of 0-10 "Top 2 Box" is a score of 9 or 10 on scale of 0-10

Half (50%) of Detroit respondents say violence *toward* youth is a "major problem" in the City of Detroit, 29% of out-Wayne respondents, and only one-in-ten Macomb (11%) and Oakland (10%) County respondents say this about their county. The mean rating of how much of a problem violence toward youth is in each area are; 8.54 in Detroit, 7.80 in out-Wayne, 6.07 in Macomb, and 5.96 in Oakland.

## Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are also significantly more likely than Whites to say violence toward youth is a problem (means respectively, 8.32 and 6.71).

#### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### CITY OF DETROIT

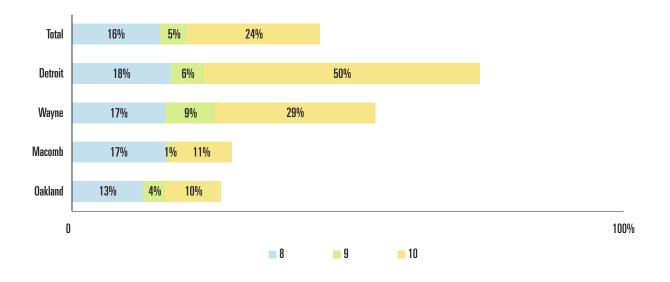
Respondents, who make less than \$40,000 per year, are significantly more likely than those who make \$40,000 or more per year to report violence toward youth is a problem (means respectively, 8.92 and 7.96).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

Women are significantly more likely than men to report violence toward youth is a problem;

- Macomb County (means respectively, 6.64 and 5.65),
- Oakland County (means 6.10 and 5.59).

Q51. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not a problem at all" and 10 being "a major problem", how much of a problem if any do you think violence TOWARD youth is in <INSERT COUNTY RESPONDENT LIVES IN OR CITY OF DETROIT>?



#### Violence Committed by Youth

Again, similar numbers are reported regarding the importance of violence *committed* by youth across all four geographic areas surveyed. Three quarters (75%) of Detroit residents give a rating of 10 indicating violence committed by youth is "very important" to them. Over six-in-ten out-Wayne (63%) and Macomb (61%) residents say violence committed by youth is "very important" to them. The mean importance rating of violence committed by youth for each area are; 9.23 in Detroit, 9.13 in out-Wayne, 9.11 in Macomb, and 8.99 in Oakland.

## Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### MACOMB COUNTY

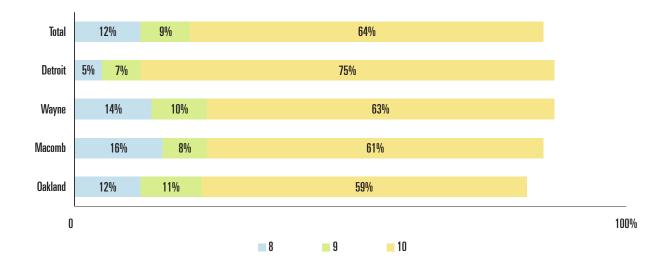
Respondents who make an annual income under \$40,000 are statistically more likely than those who make over \$70,000 to report violence committed by youth as important (means respectively, 9.63 and 8.80).

## Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

Women are significantly more likely than men to report violence committed by youth as important:

- Out-Wayne County (means respectively, 9.46 and 8.94);
- Macomb County (means respectively, 9.50 and 8.88);
- Oakland County (means 9.32 and 8.72).

# Q50. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not at all important" and 10 being "very important", how important to you is violence COMMITTED by youth?



"Top Box" ratings for how much of a problem violence *committed* by youth is in each of the counties mirrors the variation seen when asked about violence *toward* youth. Nearly half (49%) of Detroiters, one-third (32%) of out-Wayne, and only one-in-ten Macomb (10%) and Oakland (11%) residents think violence committed by youth is a major problem in their community. Likewise, 46% of Detroiters, 30% of out-Wayne, 8% of Macomb, and 9% of Oakland think youth committing crime is a major problem in their community.

### Statistically Significant Differences by Race

African-Americans are significantly more likely than Whites to say violence committed by youth is a problem (means respectively, 8.21 and 6.96).

Also, African-Americans are statistically more likely than Whites to report youth committing crimes is a problem (means respectively, 7.98 and 6.81).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Income

#### CITY OF DETROIT

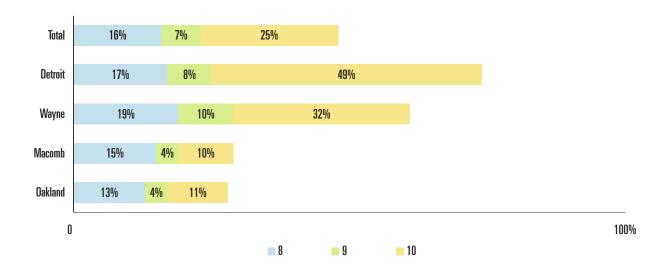
Respondents, who make less than \$40,000 per year, are significantly more likely than those who make \$40,000 or more per year to report violence committed by youth is a problem (means respectively, 8.76 and 7.90).

### Statistically Significant Differences by Gender

#### MACOMB COUNTY

Women are significantly more likely than men to report violence committed by youth is a problem (means respectively, 6.64 and 6.13). Also, women are more likely than men to say youth committing crimes is a problem (means respectively, 6.50 and 5.89).

# Q52. On a scale of zero to ten with 0 being "not a problem at all" and 10 being "a major problem", how much of a problem if any do you think violence COMMITTED by youth is in <INSERT COUNTY RESPONDENT LIVES IN OR CITY OF DETROIT>?

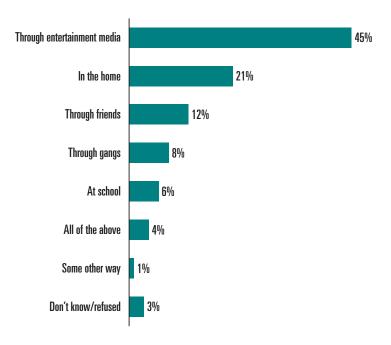


### Exposure To and Reducing Violence

Most people in the Metro Detroit area feel children and youth are exposed to violence the most through entertainment media including television, video, games and the Internet. Half (51%) of Oakland residents say this, more than four-in-ten in Macomb (47%) and out-Wayne (46%), and less than four-in-ten (38%) Detroiters say they feel children are most exposed to violence through entertainment media. Roughly two-in-ten residents in each of the four geographic areas say in the home is where they think children are most exposed to violence; 21% of Detroiters and out-Wayne County residents, 22% of Macomb and Oakland residents. Less than two-in-ten say children are most exposed through friends, gangs, and at school, or some other way.

## Q54. How do you feel children and youth are MOST exposed to violence?

Base: Total respondents (N=1618)



A clear majority feels it is "very important" to do more to limit the violence children are exposed to on television, in the movies, video games, and other entertainment media. Over three-quarters (76%) Detroit residents, seven-in-ten (71%) out-Wayne residents, and roughly six-in-ten Macomb (62%) and Oakland (59%) residents think it is very important to limit exposure to violence in the media.

Q55. To help reduce youth committing violence, how important do you think it is to do more to limit the violence that children are exposed to on television, in movies, video games, and other entertainment media? Is it very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?

Base: Total (1618), Detroit (403), Wayne (402), Macomb (400), Oakland (413)



An even stronger majority thinks increasing counseling and communication with our youth will help to reduce youth committing violence. Eighty-six percent (86%) of Detroiters, eight-in-ten (79%) out-Wayne residents, seven-in-ten Macomb (69%) and Oakland (70%) residents say it is "very important" to increase counseling and communication with our youth.

There is agreement that an investment in after-school programs which provide adult supervision, and providing more in-school readiness programs would have an impact in reducing youth violence. More than three quarters (77%) of the public prefer investing money into programs, rather than into security measures like metal detectors, surveillance, and policing in and around schools. Less than two-in-ten Metro Detroit residents prefer investing money in security measures; 18% in Detroit, 16% in out-Wayne, 14% in Macomb, and 15% in Oakland.

## Q58. Which of the following do you think would have more impact in the community in reducing youth committing violence both in and out of schools?

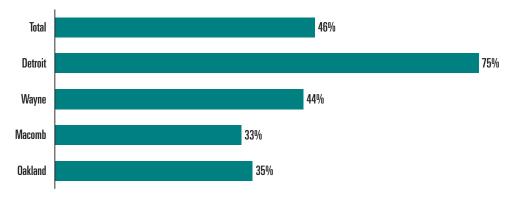
Base: Total (1618), Detroit (403), Wayne (402), Macomb (400), Oakland (413)



Investing money in after-school programs that provide adult supervision and investing more in school readiness programs

There is a difference of opinion by area when respondents were asked if their community has done enough to teach tolerance to youth. Three quarters (75%) of the City of Detroit does not think their community has done enough to teach tolerance to youth, compared to 44% of respondents in out-Wayne, 33% in Macomb, and 35% in Oakland. Conversely, less than two-in-ten Detroiters (17%) think their community has done enough to teach tolerance to youth, compared to 39% of out-Wayne, 39% of Macomb, and 46% of Oakland residents.

#### Q57. Has your community done enough to teach tolerance to youth?



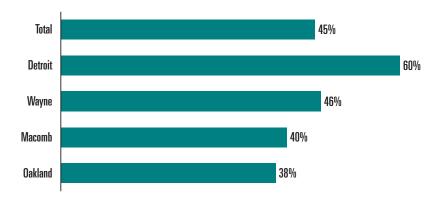
### G. Parents, Policymakers, and Community Organizations

Community organizations are viewed somewhat better in the public eye than political leaders and parents when it comes to helping solve the problems children face today. Respondents generally felt that parents, political leaders, and community organizations were not doing enough to solve the problems facing children today. Parents in particular did not fare well with 87% overall agreeing with the statement that parents are not doing enough. The findings were consistent across the areas.

Political leaders fared only marginally better as 73% overall agreeing that they were not doing enough for children's problems. Detroit residents were significantly more likely to agree, with 85% saying political leaders were not doing enough compared to 74% in out-Wayne, 66% in Macomb and 69% in Oakland.

Community organizations fared somewhat better as 61% agreed they were not doing enough. There was significant variance across the areas with Detroit having the most respondents (73%) agreeing and Oakland the fewest (52%).

# Q59a. Our political leaders are not doing enough to help solve the problems facing children today. (PROBE: agree/disagree strongly/somewhat)



Strongly Agree

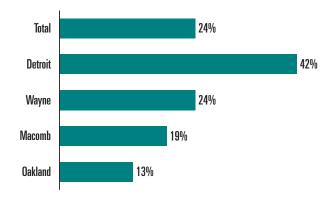
# Q59b. Parents are not doing enough to help solve the problems facing children today. (PROBE: agree/disagree strongly/somewhat)

Base: Total (1618), Detroit (403), Wayne (402), Macomb (400), Oakland (413)



**Strongly Agree** 

# Q59c. Community organizations are not doing enough to help solve the problems facing children today. (PROBE: agree/disagree strongly/somewhat)



**Strongly Agree** 

Respondents were asked to prioritize the major issues that had been addressed in the questionnaire. Their rankings show that education is both the number one children's issue and it is also the number one issue overall. The issue was ranked first by 36% of respondents and was the highest ranked issue in each of the four geographic areas surveyed. Youth violence and crime was the second ranked issue at 17% with the economy following at 14%.

Q60. Of all the things we discussed today, what do you think should be the top priority for local politicians and policy makers in <INSERT COUNTY RESPONDENT LIVES IN OR CITY OF DETROIT>?

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	Oakland (N=413)
Quality of education	36%	40%	35%	30%	37%
School reform	7	5	8	6	7
Healthcare	7	5	7	9	7
Youth programs	8	10	8	8	7
Youth violence and crime	17	18	18	17	14
Drugs	5	3	4	7	7
Alcohol	1	0	0	2	1
The economy	14	12	14	17	14
Don't know/refused	5	6	5	5	5

## H. Sources of Information on Children and Youth

Respondents were asked where they would go for information regarding children's issues. Schools and school staff, and the Internet were the most frequently mentioned at 18% each. "Books and the library" (15%) was the third most mentioned source of information. Community services and local governments were the fourth most mentioned at 12%. Schools, the Internet, and Community Services were also the three "most important" sources of information respectively.

Q62. What would you say is your most important source for information on children and youth issues? (ASK AS OPEN-ENDED)

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	Oakland (N=413)
Schools/school staff/ administration	20%	17%	21%	21%	21%
Internet	12	12	12	13	13
Community services/ local government	11	13	12	10	9
Newspapers/magazines	11	7	12	14	12
Other media	7	6	7	7	7
Church/Bible	7	7	7	5	8
Friends/family/ co-workers	6	6	6	7	7
Kids themselves	4	5	3	3	4
Books/library	3	3	4	2	3
Television	3	4	3	3	2
Pediatrician/ other doctors	2	1	2	2	2
Other	3	5	3	3	2
Don't know/refused	11	12	9	11	9

The responses that come to mind by respondents when asked which charities help children and youth in the Detroit Metro region evidenced a long and diverse list of organizations. Churches were the single most mentioned but because responses were so diffused they were mentioned by only 11%. The United Way was next at 9%. Salvation Army and the YMCA were mentioned overall by 7% of respondents.

Q63. When you think of charities in the Detroit area that help children and youth who do you think of? (ASK AS OPEN-ENDED)

	Total (N=1618)	Detroit (N=403)	Wayne (N=402)	Macomb (N=400)	0akland (N=413)
Churches/ religious organizations	11%	13%	9%	11%	9%
United Way	9	7	9	7	9
Salvation Army	7	5	8	8	6
YMCA	7	6	6	8	9
Boys/Girls Clubs	5	4	6	3	6
Children's health/ abuse/poverty/ abused woman charities	5	4	3	4	5
Focus Hope	4	6	3	2	3
Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts	3	1	4	4	2
PAL (Police Athletics League)	3	4	3	2	3
Big Brothers/Sisters	2	1	2	2	2
Good Will	1	1	0	1	0
Soup kitchens	1	1	0	1	1
Good Fellows	1	0	1	2	0
Make-a-Wish	1	0	1	1	2
Mother Waddles	1	1	1	1	1
Purple Heart	1	0	1	1	1
Red Cross	1	1	2	2	1
Government programs	1	2	0	1	2
Other (specify)	13	11	13	14	14
Don't know/refused	26	29	25	29	25

### **Methodology**

In order to glean information on knowledge, opinions, values, and behaviors of the general public, voters, and children in the Detroit Metropolitan area the Skillman Foundation commissioned the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut to conduct a series of surveys on issues concerning children and youth.

This first survey in the Concerning Kids series, conducted February 14-March 24, 2002, covers topics ranging from public education and the progress of school reform, to recreation and after-school activities for children and youth, and health care for youth. Other topic areas covered in the survey include crime and safety concerning young people, the problem of violence against children, and youth development opportunities.

A total of 1618 interviews were conducted with residents of the Detroit Metropolitan area and the sample was stratified by four metropolitan areas:

Detroit	N = 403
Wayne	N = 402
Macomb	N = 400
Oakland	N=413

The margin of error is  $\pm 2.5\%$  for the total population and  $\pm 4.5\%$  for each of the metropolitan areas. The margin of error may be greater for smaller sub-groups.

Telephone numbers for this survey were generated through a random-digit-dial telephone methodology to ensure that each possible residential telephone number in the tri-county region had the opportunity to be selected for this survey. Once selected, each telephone number was contacted a minimum of four times to attempt to reach an eligible respondent. Households where a viable contact was made were called additional times. Within each household one adult was randomly selected to complete the interview.

To ensure the survey data was projectable to all adults in the tri-county area, data was weighted to adjust for probabilities of selection, sample design, and to ensure that characteristics of survey respondents match known population estimates for each county.

Unweighted data was used for one-way analysis of variance, including Scheffe post hoc tests to determine statistically significant differences at the 95% confidence level.