



# CONCERNING KIDS A SKILLMAN FOUNDATION STUDY

CHANGE OVER TIME: FOLLOW-UP  
BENCHMARK SURVEY RESULTS  
FEBRUARY 2005

Conducted by



341 Mansfield Road  
Storrs, CT 06269  
860-486-6666

In November 2001 the Skillman Foundation commissioned the Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut to conduct a series of *Concerning Kids* surveys in order to gauge public opinion regarding issues facing children and youth in the Metropolitan Detroit area.

The Baseline Survey was the first in the *Concerning Kids* series. It was released in April 2002 and focused on several different issues related to children and youth. Three specific issue surveys followed and focused on education (released in September 2002), violence, crime and youth development (November 2002) and public health (April 2003). In addition, the Parents and Kids survey was released in November 2003. This survey was conducted with both parents and their children and focused on how parents and children spend their time, what parents and children are concerned about, children's self-esteem and plans for the future, prejudice and discrimination, safety in schools, and health related questions including a series of alcohol and drug use questions, and questions regarding sex.

The following report details results from the most recent *Concerning Kids* survey, the Two-Year Benchmark Survey, which continues this focus on issues such as education, after-school and summer programs, healthcare, youth violence and safety. A number of the questions in the survey repeat those in the baseline and issue surveys and provide measures regarding whether public opinion about these issues has changed over time.

## **Findings**

### ***Education***

- Metropolitan Detroit residents continue to be concerned about education and consistently rank it as one of the top two issues facing their region. Within the issue of education even more Metropolitan Detroit residents think that financing is the most important issue in 2004 than in 2002.
- Metropolitan Detroit residents give their schools about the same marks they have in previous years and rate their school facilities approximately the same. Residents rate the quality of teachers at the same levels as in 2002, except in Macomb where they are rated more highly.
- Metropolitan Detroit residents are somewhat more positive about improvements in school-related areas in 2004 than they were in 2002.

### ***Violence and Safety***

- Metropolitan Detroit residents think that children are just as safe in schools in their districts now as they were in 2002.
- Just as they did in 2002, City of Detroit and Wayne County residents are more likely to think that violence *toward* youth and violence *committed by* youth is a problem in their area,

### ***Healthcare and Youth Programs***

- Metropolitan Detroit Residents rate the quality of healthcare lower than they did in 2003 and 2002.
- A greater percentage of Metropolitan residents think that healthcare is not affordable than in April 2003 or April 2002.

- Attitudes about the *number* of after-school programs have not changed since 2002: over half of Metropolitan Detroit residents think that there are either a fair or poor amount of after-school and summer programs in their region.

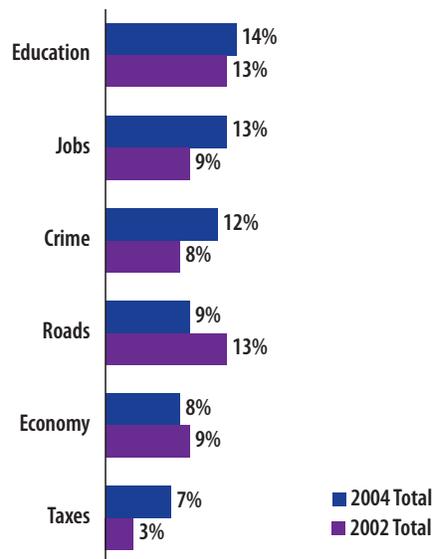
It is hoped that continued research on children’s issues in the Metropolitan Detroit area will allow for monitoring of change over time as well as insights into the attitudes and opinions of the public regarding these critical areas. Additional research will also allow policy-makers and community leaders to continue to make strong data-centric decisions during the strategic planning process for children’s issues at a broad level and specifically in the areas of education, youth violence and health.

**Most important issue**

Metropolitan Detroit residents continue to be concerned about education. When asked what they feel is the most important issue facing the area in which they live, the top three issues for Metropolitan Detroit residents are jobs and the economy (21%), education (14%), and crime (12%). These are closely followed by roads or public transportation (9%) and taxes (7%). Residents felt similarly in April 2002, when 13% cited education, 13% cited roads or transportation, 9% cited jobs and 9% cited the economy. At that point crime was the fifth top issue and was cited by 8%.

**What do you feel is the most important issue facing <your region>?**

**Baseline and Benchmark Comparison**



The top issues varied by where the residents lived. Education ranks first in Wayne County, with 16% of residents citing it as the top issue facing Wayne County, but ranks second among city of Detroit residents and ties for second in Macomb and Oakland counties. Crime ranks first among Detroit residents, with over one fourth (26%) citing it as the most important issue facing the city. This represents a shift from April 2002, when 18% thought education was the most important issue and 16% cited crime.

Crime ties for second in Wayne county, ties for fourth in Macomb, and is not ranked among the top five issues in Oakland. This also represents a shift in Wayne County in which crime ranked fourth in April 2002. “Jobs or unemployment” ranks first in Macomb County, with 16% naming it in that county. It ranks third in Wayne and Detroit, and fifth in Oakland. When “jobs or unemployment” is combined with “economy” into a broader category, it ranks first across all regions, except the city of Detroit, where it still ranks behind crime.

The most often-cited issue in Oakland county is “roads or public transportation,” with 15% citing this as the most important issue. This issue ties for second in Macomb, ranks fourth in Wayne (where it ranked first in 2002), and is only cited by 2% of Detroit residents. Taxes, also an economic issue, ties for second in Oakland with 11% naming the issue as the most important. “Taxes” ties for fourth in Macomb, and ties for fifth in the city of Detroit, but the issue does not make the top five issues in Wayne county.

**What do you feel is the most important issue facing <your region>?**

Top 6 Issues	Total (n=1607)	Macomb County (n=400)	Oakland County (n=401)	Wayne County (n=402)	City of Detroit (n=404)
Education/education reform/education funding	14%	8%	11%	16%	19%
Jobs/employment/unemployment	13	16	9	12	17
Crime	12	7	5	14	26
Roads/public transportation	9	8	15	10	2
Economy/business concerns/poverty	8	6	10	8	8
Taxes	7	7	11	6	2

Overall, education was more likely to be named by those with children under 18 living at home: 20% of those with children at home name it as the most important issue compared to only 12% of those with no children under 18 living at home.

**Education**

Since the first *Concerning Kids* survey, more respondents have consistently cited financing as the most important issue facing the schools in Metropolitan Detroit. However, even more Metropolitan Detroit residents think that financing is the most important issue in 2004 than in 2002. Nearly one third (29%) of Metropolitan Detroit residents say that financing is the most important issue facing their school district. In two previous *Concerning Kids* surveys released in 2002, only 22% (April survey) and 19% (September survey) thought that financing was the most important issue facing their school district.

Financing is the issue most often cited by residents of all regions, with 35% of Oakland residents naming it as the most important issue, 31% of Macomb residents, 30% of Wayne residents, and 20% of Detroit residents. In April 2002, 24% of Oakland residents, 22% of Macomb residents, 25% of Wayne residents, and 17% of Detroit residents named it as the most important issue facing schools. (The September 2002 survey showed similar results.) Overall, “quality of teachers” ranks second as the most important issue, with nearly 1 in 10 (9%) saying that it is the most important issue. It also ranks second in Wayne County (where it was cited

by 9%) and the city of Detroit (15%). In both April and September 2002, this issue ranked first in Detroit, with 22% citing it as the most important issue in April and 24% in September. “Academic standards and curriculum” rank third overall, with 8% saying that it is the most important issue. This issue ranks second or third in each of the regions. Although overcrowded classrooms rank fourth overall, this issue ranks second in both Macomb and Oakland counties, with 10% of Macomb residents saying that it is the most important issue facing schools, and 7% of Oakland residents saying so.

**What do you think is the most important issue facing your school district?**

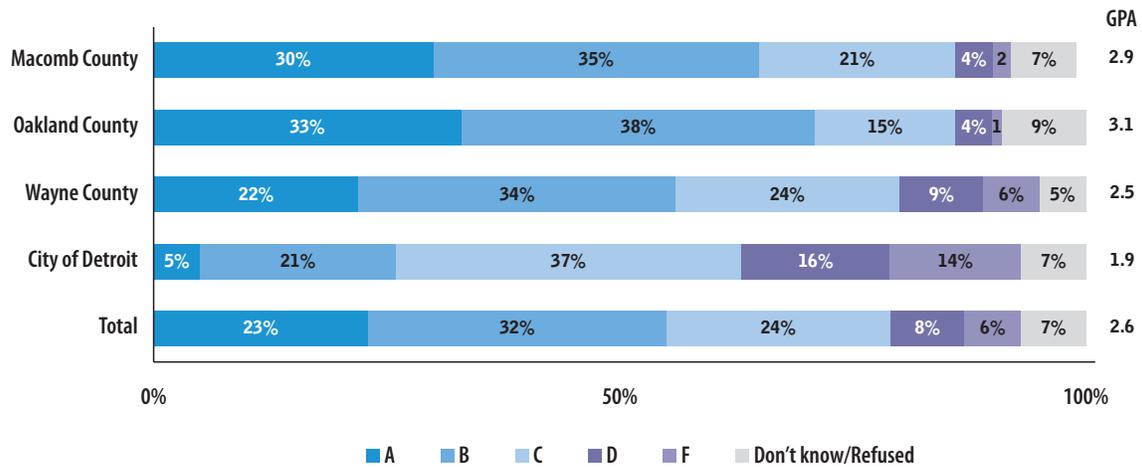
Top 5 Issues	Total (n=1607)	Macomb County (n=400)	Oakland County (n=401)	Wayne County (n=402)	City of Detroit (n=404)
Financing/funding/lack of money	29%	31%	35%	30%	20%
Quality of teachers/qualified teachers	9	7	6	9	15
Academic standards/curriculum	8	9	7	7	10
Overcrowded classrooms	7	10	7	6	6
Violence/security issues	5	5	6	4	6

Metropolitan Detroit residents give their schools about the same marks they have in previous years. Overall, over half (55%) of Metropolitan Detroit residents give the schools in their district a grade of B or higher. This compares to 51% of residents in April 2002 and 54% of residents in September 2002.

As in both 2002 surveys, schools in Oakland receive the highest grades, followed by Macomb, Wayne and the city of Detroit: 71% of Oakland residents giving their schools a grade of A or B. Almost two-thirds (65%) of Macomb county residents give their schools a grade of B or higher, and 56% of Wayne county residents do so. City of Detroit schools receive the lowest grades, with only 26% of residents giving their schools an A or B. “Grade Point Averages” for the counties were a B (3.1) for Oakland, a B (2.9) for Macomb, a C+ (2.6) for Wayne, and a C (1.9) for the city of Detroit.

If you had to grade the overall quality of the schools in the district you live in, would you give them, an A, B, C, D, or F?

Base: Macomb (n=400), Oakland (n=401), Wayne (n=402), Detroit (n=404), Total (n=1607)

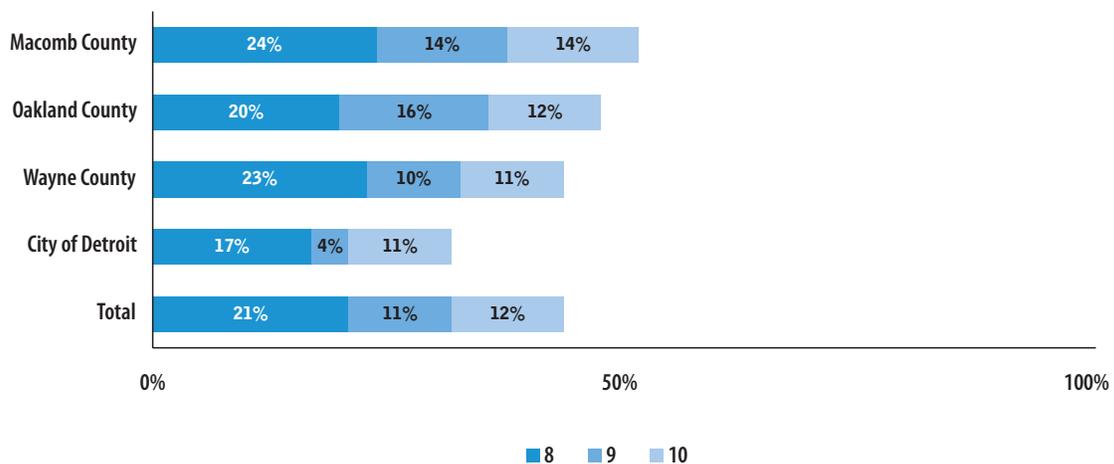


Overall, Metropolitan Detroit residents rate the quality of teachers at the same levels as in 2002. When asked to rate the quality of teachers in their school district, 44% of Metropolitan Detroit residents rate it as 8 or higher (on a 10-point scale with 0 meaning “poor quality” and 10 meaning “excellent quality”). This was the same percentage in April 2002.

Macomb residents rate their teachers more highly than in 2002. Over half (52%) of Macomb county residents rate the quality of their teachers as 8 or higher compared to 46% in April 2002. Nearly half (48%) of Oakland residents, 44% of Wayne residents, and 32% of Detroit residents do so (these are similar to 2002 percentages). The average ratings are 7.8 in Macomb, 7.6 on Oakland, 7.2 in Wayne, and 6.6 in the city of Detroit.

On a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being “poor quality” and 10 being “excellent quality” please rate the quality of teachers in your school district.

Base: Macomb (n=400), Oakland (n=401), Wayne (n=402), Detroit (n=404), Total (n=1607)



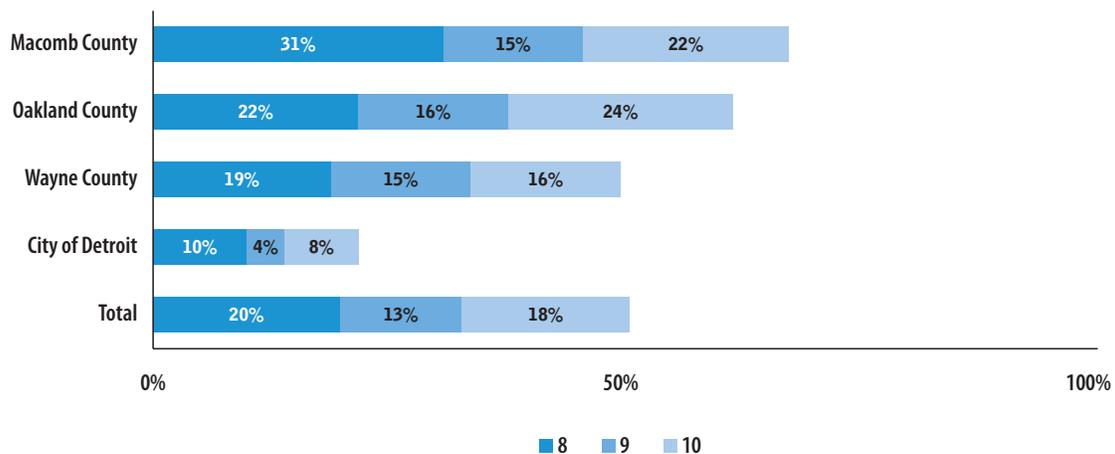
Metropolitan Detroit residents rate their school facilities approximately the same as they did in 2002, except in Macomb County. Metropolitan Detroit residents were asked to rate the quality of the school facilities (meaning buildings and grounds) in their school district. Overall, over half (51%) of Metropolitan Detroit residents rate the facilities as 8 or higher on the same 10-point scale (compared to 48% in April 2002).

Macomb residents rate the quality of their school facilities higher than in 2002. Over two-thirds (68%) of Macomb residents rate the quality of the school facilities as 8 or higher, compared to only 52% of residents in 2002. Residents in the remaining areas rate the facilities at similar percentages to 2002. More than 6 in 10 (62%) of Oakland residents and 50% of Wayne residents rate the quality of the school facilities as 8 or higher. City of Detroit residents are more likely to rate the quality of their school facilities lower, with only 22% rating the quality as 8 or higher. The average ratings are 8.1 in Macomb, 7.9 in Oakland, 7.1 in Wayne, and 5.6 in Detroit.

Those who do not have children under 18 living at home were more likely to rate the facilities an 8 or higher, with 55% of those with no children at home rating it 8 or higher, compared to 48% of those *with* children under 18 living at home.

**On a scale of 0 to 10 with 0 being “poor quality” and 10 being “excellent quality” please rate the quality of school facilities, meaning buildings and school grounds in your school district.**

**Base: Macomb (n=400), Oakland (n=401), Wayne (n=402), Detroit (n=404), Total (n=1607)**



Overall, Metropolitan Detroit residents are somewhat more positive about improvements in school-related areas than they were in April 2002.

Respondents were read a list of education-related issues and were asked if each had gotten better, worse, or had stayed the same in the last three years in Metro Detroit. These issues included test scores, the graduation rate, the number of high school graduates going on to college, the number of high school graduates going on to technical schools to learn a skill or trade, reducing the number of children who drop out of school, and increasing the number of graduates who can get jobs directly out of high school.

Respondents are significantly more informed about these educational issues than in 2002. In 2002, around one third of respondents either said that they did not know if these issues had improved or did not answer the

question. In the 2004 survey, only 12% to 21% of respondents say that they do not know if these issues have improved or do not answer the question.

Less than one third (29%) of Metropolitan Detroit residents think that test scores have gotten at least somewhat better in Metropolitan Detroit. In 2002, only 25% thought so.

Similar percentages think that the graduation rate (29%), the number of high school graduates going on to college (32%), and the number of high school graduates going on to technical schools to learn a skill or trade (29%) have gotten at least somewhat better.

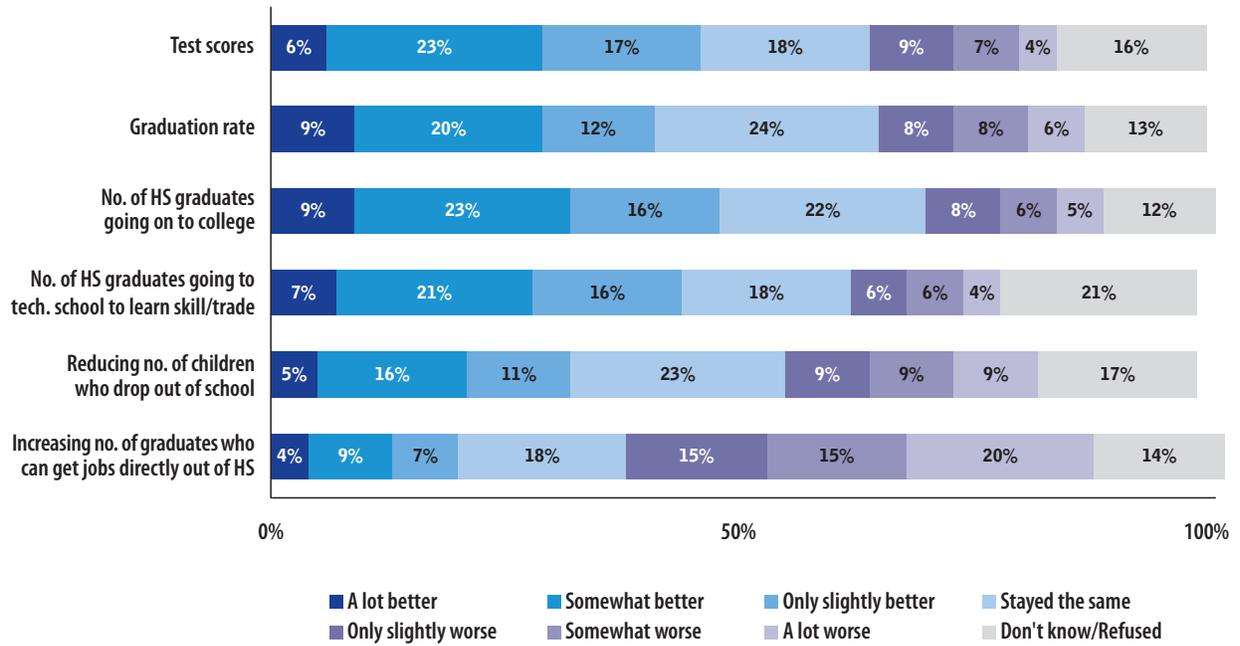
In 2002, only 27% thought that the graduation rate and 27% thought that the number of high school graduates going on to college had gotten at least somewhat better. A slightly greater percentage of Metro Detroit residents thought that the number of high school graduates going on to technical schools to learn a skill or trade had improved in 2002, with 32% believing that it had gotten at least somewhat better.

Only 1 in 5 (21%) believe that reducing the number of children who drop out of school has gotten at least somewhat better, with more than twice that many (43%) believing that it has stayed the same or only gotten slightly better or slightly worse and 18% believing that it has gotten at least somewhat worse. These percentages are almost identical to the 2002 survey results, when 20% believed that reducing the number of children who drop out of school had gotten at least somewhat better, 43% believed that it had stayed the same or only gotten slightly better or slightly worse, and 9 believed that it has gotten at least somewhat worse (the 2002 to 2004 difference between the percentages who thought it had gotten at least slight worse can be explained by the differences in those responding “don’t know”). City of Detroit residents are more likely to think that this issue has gotten worse in the last three years, with 31% believing that it has gotten at least somewhat worse. This percentage was only 18% in 2002.

Metropolitan Detroit residents believe that the issue that has improved the least is increasing the number of graduates who can get jobs directly out of high school, with more than one third (35%) believing that this has gotten at least somewhat worse in metro Detroit.

Please tell me if these aspects have gotten a lot better, somewhat better, only slightly better, only slightly worse, somewhat worse, or a lot worse in the last three years in metro Detroit.

Base: Total (n=1607)

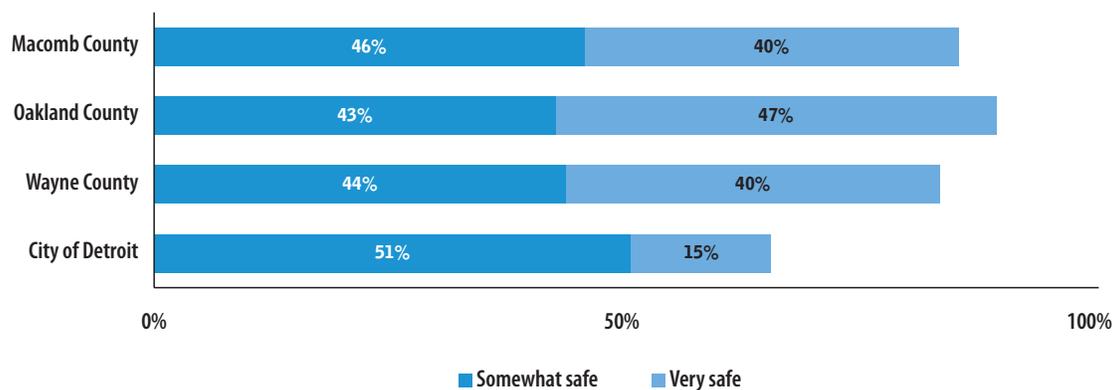


## Violence and Safety

Overall, Metropolitan Detroit residents think that children are as safe in schools in their districts now as they were in 2002, with 83% thinking that children are at least somewhat safe while in schools (this is the same percentage that thought so in April 2002). A large majority (90%) of Oakland residents think children are at least somewhat safe while in Oakland schools (91% thought so in 2002). Likewise, 86% of Macomb residents and 84% of Wayne county residents think that children are at least somewhat safe in their respective schools (these percentages were 88% and 87% respectively in 2002). City of Detroit residents are less likely to think so, with only 66% thinking that children are at least somewhat safe in Detroit schools. This was also the case in April 2002, when 65% thought so.

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

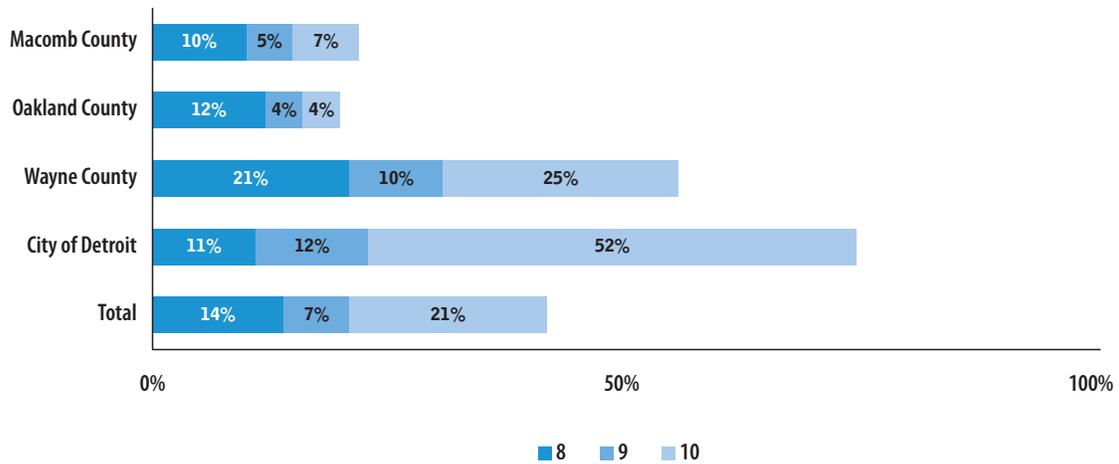
**Base: Macomb (n=400), Oakland (n=401), Wayne (n=402), Detroit (n=404)**



Just as they did in 2002, City of Detroit and Wayne County residents are more likely to think that violence *toward* youth is a problem in their area, with three-fourths (75%) of Detroit residents and 56% of Wayne County residents rating such violence as 8 or higher on a 0 to 10 scale with 0 being “not a problem at all” and 10 being “a major problem,” compared to only 23% of Macomb residents and 20% of Oakland residents. The April 2002 survey showed similar results: the percentages rating violence toward youth as 8 or higher were 74% in Detroit, 55% in Wayne, 29% in Macomb, and 27% in Oakland. (Those percentages had dipped in the November 2002 survey.) The average ratings (on the 0 to 10 scale) are 8.6 in Detroit, 7.5 in Wayne, 5.5 in Oakland, and 5.7 in Macomb.

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 do you think violence TOWARD youth is in <your region>?

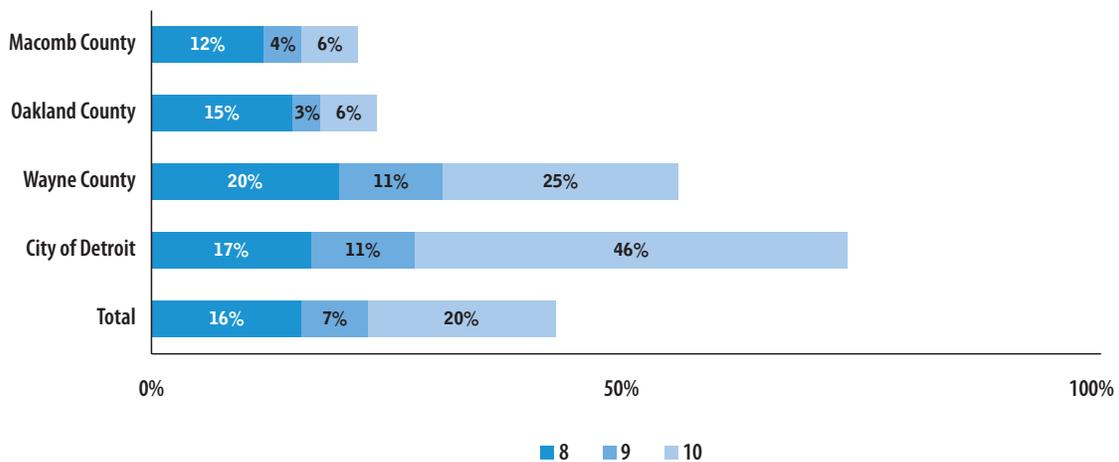
Base: Macomb (n=400), Oakland (n=401), Wayne (n=402), Detroit (n=404), Total (n=1607)



The pattern is the same in terms of violence *committed* by youth: City of Detroit and Wayne residents are more likely to think that violence committed by youth is a problem in their area compared to other areas. The same percentages (75% and 56% respectively) of Detroit and Wayne residents rate such violence as 8 or higher, compared to only 23% of Macomb residents and 24% of Oakland residents. In April 2002, the percentage rating it 8 or higher was 74% in Detroit, 61% in Wayne, 29% in Macomb, and 28% in Oakland. Again, those percentages had dipped in the November 2002 survey. The average ratings are 8.4 in Detroit, 7.6 in Wayne, 5.8 in Oakland, and 5.8 in Macomb.

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 do you think violence COMMITTED by youth is in <region>?

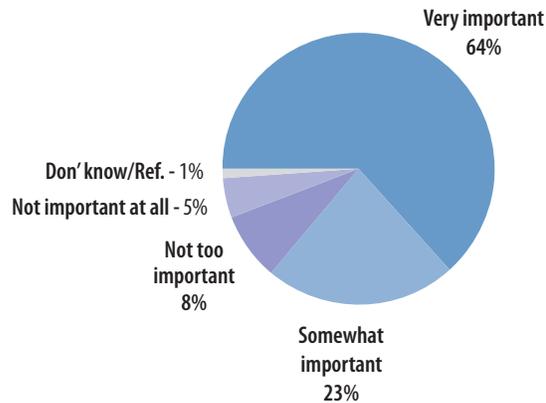
Base: Macomb (n=400), Oakland (n=401), Wayne (n=402), Detroit (n=404), Total (n=1607)



Nearly 9 in 10 (87%) Metropolitan Detroit residents think that it is at least somewhat important to limit the violence that children are exposed to on television, and in movies, video games and other entertainment media as a way to help reduce youth committing violence. Almost two-thirds (64%) believe that it is very important, compared to 67% in April 2002. This belief is consistent across all regions.

**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?**

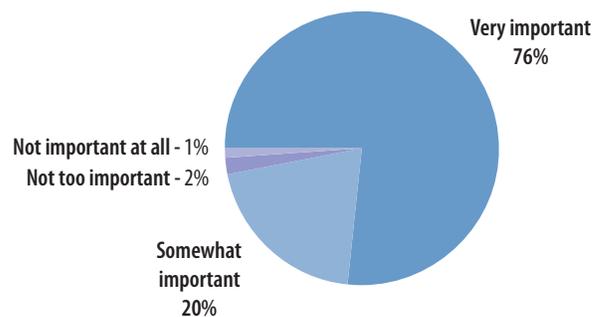
**Base: Total (n=1607)**



An even greater percentage (96%) of Metropolitan Detroit residents think that it is at least somewhat important to increase counseling and communication as a way to help reduce youth committing violence, with 76% believing that it is very important. This is the same percentage that thought so in 2002.

**To help reduce youth committing violence, how important do you think it is to increase counseling and communication with our youth? Is it very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?**

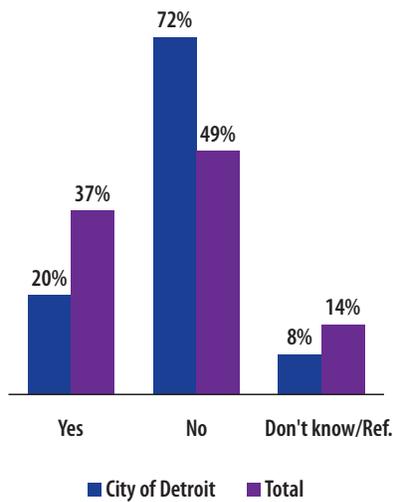
**Base: Total (n=1607)**



Metropolitan Detroit residents are just as likely to believe that their community has *not* done enough to teach tolerance to youth in 2004 as they were in 2002. When asked if their community has done enough to teach tolerance to youth, nearly half (49%) of residents say that it has *not*, while only 37% say that it has. Oakland residents are more likely to say that their community has done enough to teach tolerance to youth, with nearly half (49%) saying yes, compared to 41% of Macomb residents, 36% of Wayne residents, and 20% of Detroit residents. Nearly three-fourths (72%) of Detroit residents say that their community has *not* done enough to teach tolerance to youth. In April 2002, similar percentages (46% overall and 75% in Detroit) said that their community had not done enough to teach tolerance to youth.

**Has your community done enough to teach tolerance to youth?**

**Base: Total (n=1607), Detroit (n=404)**



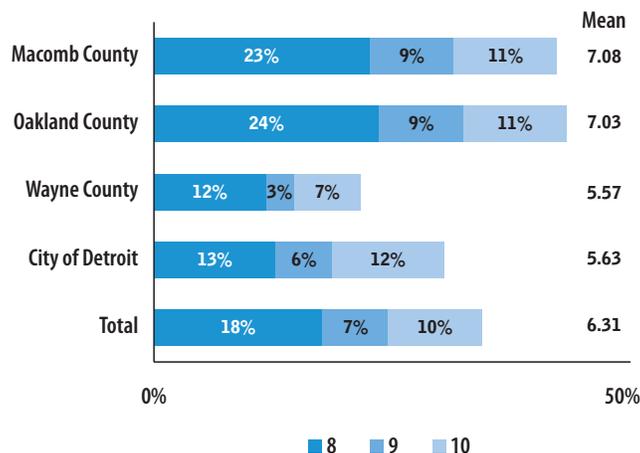
## Healthcare Issues

Overall, Metropolitan Detroit Residents rate the quality of healthcare lower than they did in April 2002. Just over one third (35%) percent of Metropolitan Detroit residents give the quality of healthcare an 8 or higher (on a 0 to 10 scale with 0 being extremely poor quality and 10 being excellent quality), compared to 41% in April 2002.

As they did in previous years, residents of Oakland and Macomb rate the quality of healthcare in their counties higher than those in Wayne and Detroit. Forty-four percent of Macomb county residents give the quality of healthcare in Macomb an 8 or higher and 44% do so in Oakland. However, only 22% of Wayne County residents and 31% of Detroit residents rank it that highly. In 2002, 50% of Macomb residents, 51% of Oakland residents, 28% of Wayne county residents, and 32% of Detroit residents gave the quality of health care an 8 or higher. The average rankings in 2004 are 7.1 in Macomb, 7.0 in Oakland, and 5.6 in both Wayne and Detroit, compared to 7.4 (Macomb), 7.4 (Oakland), 6.4 (Wayne) and 7.3 (Detroit) in 2002.

**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 <your region>?**

**Base: Macomb (n=400), Oakland (n=401), Wayne (n=402), Detroit (n=404), Total (n=1607)**

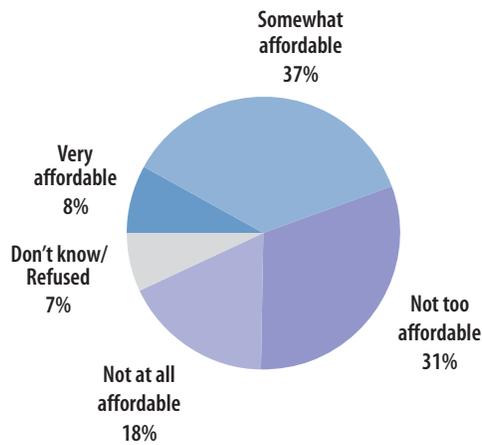


A greater percentage of Metropolitan residents think that healthcare is not affordable than in April 2002. Overall, Metropolitan Detroit residents are currently almost split on the question of whether or not the cost of healthcare for children and youth is affordable in their area, with 45% believing that it is either somewhat or very affordable and 49% believing that it is either not too affordable or not at all affordable. In April 2002, 56% thought that it was either somewhat or very affordable. Thirty-five percent thought that it was either not too affordable or not at all affordable in 2002.

Wayne and Detroit residents are less likely to believe that healthcare is affordable than residents of Macomb and Oakland. Only 42% of Wayne county residents and 39% of Detroit residents believe that it is affordable, compared to 50% of Macomb residents and 45% of Oakland residents. Over a quarter (26%) of Detroit residents believe that the cost of healthcare for children and youth is *not at all* affordable. In April 2002, 50% of Wayne county residents and 51% of Detroit residents thought it was affordable; 59% of Macomb residents and 61% of Oakland residents thought so.

Do you think the cost of healthcare for children and youth in <your region> is very affordable, somewhat affordable, not too affordable, or not at all affordable?

Base: Total (n=1607)



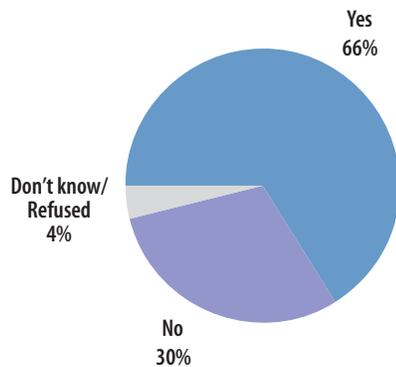
Not surprisingly, those who do *not* have health insurance are more likely to think that the cost of healthcare for children is not affordable, with 61% of those with no health insurance thinking that it is either not too or not at all affordable compared to less than half (47%) of those with health insurance.

### Youth Issues

Two-thirds (66%) of Metropolitan Detroit residents say that their children, grandchildren, or school age friends and relatives participate in after-school and summer programs.

Do your children, grandchildren, or school age friends and relatives participate in after-school and summer programs?

Base: Total (n=1607)



Of those who know children in an appropriate age group who live in the area, the top three reasons for why their friends and relatives do *not* participate in after-school and summer programs are too expensive (15%), none available in school (14%), and none available in the neighborhood (14%). City of Detroit residents were more likely to say that there are none available in their neighborhood, with 27% citing that as a reason, compared to 16% of those in Wayne county, 6% of those in Oakland, and 4% of those in Macomb.

Overall, Metropolitan Detroit residents do not rate after-school and summer programs very highly, giving the quality of after-school and summer programs an average rank of 6.1 on a 0 to 10 scale. Residents of Macomb and Oakland counties are more likely than residents of Wayne and Detroit to rate the after-school and summer programs in their area with an 8 or higher, with 39% of Macomb residents and 40% of Oakland residents doing so, compared to only 17% of Wayne and 23% of Detroit.

Not surprisingly, those with children, grandchildren or friends who participate in such programs are more likely to rate them higher: they give them an average rating of 6.4 compared to an average rating of 5.3 from those who do not know youth who participate in such programs.

**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 after-school and summer programs in <your region>?**

	Total (n=1607)	Macomb County (n=400)	Oakland County (n=401)	Wayne County (n=402)	City of Detroit (n=404)
Mean	6.09	6.91	6.85	5.37	5.31

Six in ten (62%) Metropolitan Detroit residents think that the cost of after-school and summer programs is at least somewhat affordable. Residents of Wayne county and Detroit are more likely to think that after-school and summer programs are either not too affordable or not at all affordable, with 29% of those in Wayne county and 34% of Detroit residents thinking so, compared to only 20% of those in Macomb and 19% in Oakland.

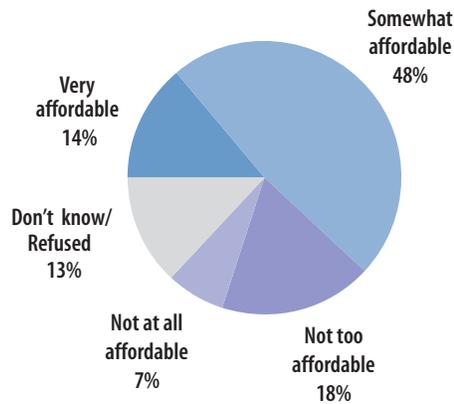
Again—not surprisingly—those who have friends or relatives in after-school and summer programs are more likely to think that they are affordable, with over two-thirds (68%) thinking that such programs are at least somewhat affordable compared to less than half (49%) of those who do not have friends or relatives in such programs.

Those with lower household incomes are more likely to think that the cost is not too affordable or not at all affordable, with 34% of those with incomes below \$40,000 thinking they are not affordable compared to 20% of those with incomes of \$40,000 or more.

Those who are not married or partnered are also more likely to think that the cost is not affordable, with 32% of those who are not married thinking the cost is not too or not at all affordable compared to 22% of those who are married or partnered.

Do you think the cost of after-school and summer programs in <your region> is very affordable, somewhat affordable, not too affordable, or not at all affordable?

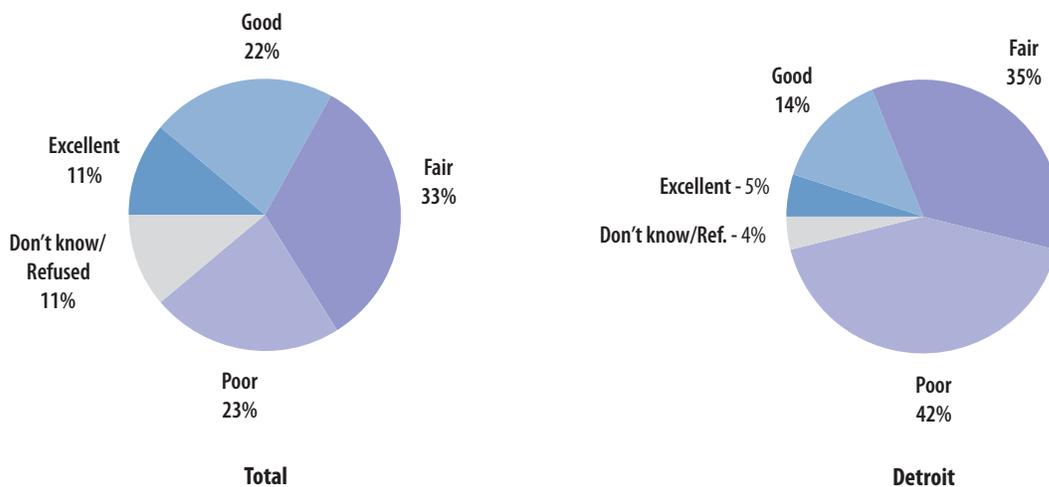
Base: Total (n=1607)



Attitudes about the *number* of after-school programs have not changed since 2002. Over half of Metropolitan Detroit residents (56%) think that there are either a fair or poor amount of after-school and summer programs in their region, compared to only 33% who think there are an excellent or good amount of programs. In 2002, those percentages were 54% and 32% respectively (at that time the question was asked about after-school programs alone). City of Detroit residents were more likely to say that there were a poor amount of programs in the city, with 42% thinking so. In 2002, that percentage was 38%.

Do you think there are an excellent, good, fair, or poor amount of after-school and summer programs available in <your region>?

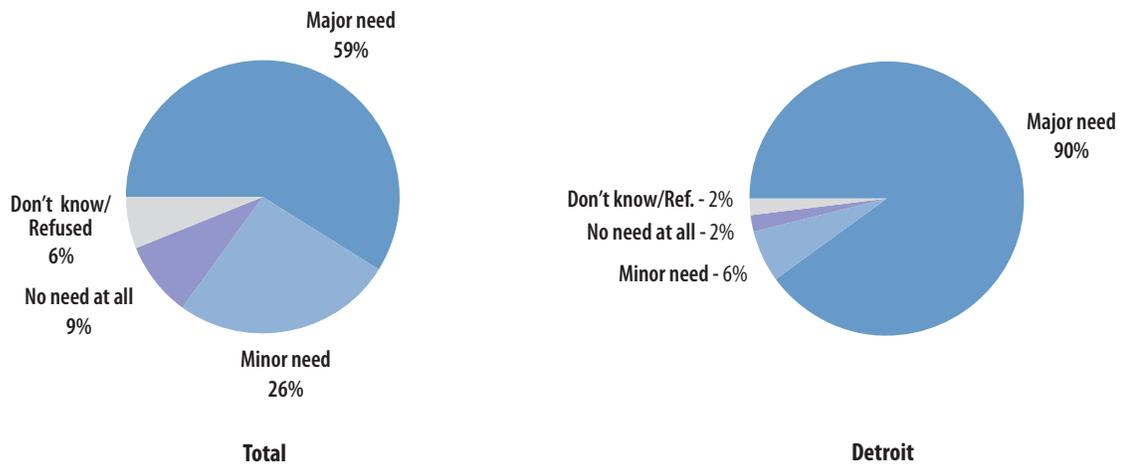
Base: Total (n=1607), Detroit (n=404)



Nearly 6 in 10 (59%) of Metropolitan Detroit residents think that there is a major need for additional funding of after-school and summer programs in their area. City of Detroit residents are much more likely to believe there is a major need for additional funding of such programs, with 90% thinking there is a major need compared to 63% of those in Wayne county, 46% of those in Macomb, and 42% of those in Oakland.

**Do you think there is a major need, minor need, or no need at all for additional funding of after-school and summer programs in <your region>?**

**Base: Total (n=1607), Detroit (n=404)**



People of color are more likely to think that there is major need for additional funding for after-school and summer programs compared to whites no matter their income, with 82% of people of color thinking there is a major need for additional funding, compared to only 52% of whites. This is consistent with the geographical patterns.

Those with higher incomes are less likely to think that there is a major need for additional funding for such programs: less than half (48%) of those with household incomes of \$70,000 or more believe that there is a major need for additional funding, compared to 65% of those with incomes of \$40,000 to \$70,000, and 77% of those with incomes less than \$40,000.

Those who are not married or partnered are more likely to think that there is a major need for additional funding of after-school and summer programs in their area, with 69% of those who are not married or partnered thinking that there is a major need for additional funding, compared to only 53% of those who *are* married or partnered.

Surprisingly, there is no significant difference of opinion on this issue between those who know children in such programs and those who do not.

## 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 sixth survey in the series, conducted from September 27, to November 21, 2004, is the final benchmark survey in the series and covers topics such as public education and the progress of school reform, after-school and summer activities for children and youth, health care for youth, crime and safety concerning young people and the problem of violence against children.

A total of 1607 interviews were conducted with residents of the Detroit Metropolitan area and the sample was stratified by four metropolitan areas:

Detroit	N=404
Wayne	N=402
Macomb	N=400
Oakland	N=401

The margin of error is  $\pm 2.4\%$  for the total population and  $\pm 4.9\%$  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 were projectable to all adults in the tri-county area, data were weighted to adjust for probabilities of selection, sample design, and to ensure that characteristics of survey respondents match known population estimates for each county.