

# Battle Creek, MI

## The National Community Survey

Report of Results  
2022

Report by:



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## About The NCS™

The National Community Survey™ (The NCS™) report is about the “livability” of Battle Creek. A livable community is a place that is not simply habitable, but that is desirable. It is not only where people do live, but where they want to live. The survey was developed by the experts from National Research Center at Polco.

Great communities are partnerships of the government, private sector, community-based organizations and residents, all geographically connected. The NCS captures residents’ opinions considering ten central facets of a community:

- Economy
- Mobility
- Community Design
- Utilities
- Safety
- Natural Environment
- Parks and Recreation
- Health and Wellness
- Education, Arts, and Culture
- Inclusivity and Engagement

The report provides the opinions of a representative sample of 290 residents of the City of Battle Creek collected from April 21st 2022 to June 24th 2022. The margin of error around any reported percentage is 6% for all respondents and the response rate for the 2022 survey was 11%. Survey results were weighted so that the demographic profile of respondents was representative of the demographic profile of adults in Battle Creek.

### How the results are reported

For the most part, the percentages presented in the following tabs represent the “percent positive.” Most commonly, the percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, etc.). On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the tab “Complete data.” However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in most of the tabs. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

### Comparisons to benchmarks

NRC’s database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in surveys from over 600 communities whose residents evaluated the same kinds of topics on The National Community Survey. The comparison evaluations are from the most recent survey completed in each community in the last five years. NRC adds the latest results quickly upon survey completion, keeping the benchmark data fresh and relevant. The communities in the database represent a wide geographic and population range. In each tab, Battle Creek’s results are noted as being “higher” than the benchmark, “lower” than the benchmark, or “similar” to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by Battle Creek residents is statistically similar to or different (greater or lesser) than the benchmark. Being rated as “higher” or “lower” than the benchmark means that Battle Creek’s average rating for a particular item was more than 10 points different than the benchmark. If a rating was “much higher” or “much lower,” then Battle Creek’s average rating was more than 20 points different when compared to the benchmark.

The survey was administered during the COVID-19 pandemic, a time of challenge for many local governments. While we provide comparisons to national benchmarks, it is important to note that much of the benchmark data was collected prior to the pandemic. This may impact how your City’s 2022 ratings compare to other communities’ ratings from the past five years.



## Trends over time

Trend data for Battle Creek represent important comparison data and should be examined for improvements or declines\*. Deviations from stable trends over time represent opportunities for understanding how local policies, programs, or public information may have affected residents' opinions. Changes between survey years have been noted with an arrow and the percent difference. If the difference is greater than seven percentage points between the 2018 and 2022 surveys, the change is statistically significant.

\* In 2020, The NCS survey was updated to include new and refreshed items. Consequently, some of the trends may be impacted due to wording modifications that could have potentially altered the meaning of the item for the respondent.

## Methods

### Selecting survey recipients

All households within the City of Battle Creek were eligible to participate in the survey. A list of all households within the zip codes serving Battle Creek was purchased from Go-Dog Direct based on updated listings from the United States Postal Service. Since some of the zip codes that serve the City of Battle Creek households may also serve addresses that lie outside of the community, the exact geographic location of each housing unit was compared to community boundaries using the most current municipal boundary file. Addresses located outside of the City of Battle Creek boundaries were removed from the list of potential households to survey. Each address identified as being within city boundaries was further identified as being within one of the 10 areas. From that list, addresses were randomly selected as survey recipients, with multi-family housing units (defined as those with a unit number) sampled at a rate of 5:3 compared to single family housing units.

An individual within each household was selected using the birthday method. The birthday method selects a person within the household by asking the “person whose birthday has most recently passed” to complete the questionnaire. The underlying assumption in this method is that day of birth has no relationship to the way people respond to surveys. This instruction was contained in the introduction of the survey.

### Conducting the survey

The 2,700 randomly selected households received mailings beginning on April 21st 2022 and the survey remained open for 9 weeks. For 1,200 households, the first mailing was a postcard inviting the household to participate in the survey. The next mailing contained a cover letter with instructions, the survey questionnaire, and a postage-paid return envelope. The final mailing contained a reminder letter, another survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. For the remaining 1,500 households, the first mailing was a postcard inviting the household to participate, followed one week later by a reminder postcard. All mailings included a web link to give residents the opportunity to respond to the survey online. Additionally, each household received a reminder postcard invitation. All follow-up mailings asked those who had not completed the survey to do so and those who had already done so to refrain from completing the survey again.

The survey was available in English and Spanish, and Burmese. All mailings contained paragraphs in all languages instructing participants on how to complete the survey in their preferred language.

About 4% of the 2,700 mailed invitations or surveys were returned because the household address was vacant or the postal service was unable to deliver the survey as addressed. Of the remaining 2,589 households that received the invitations to participate, 290 completed the survey, providing an overall response rate of 11%. The response rate was calculated using AAPOR’s response rate #2\* for mailed surveys of unnamed persons.

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates made from surveys by a “level of confidence” and accompanying “confidence interval” (or margin of error). A traditional level of confidence, and the one used here, is 95%. The 95% confidence interval can be any size and quantifies the sampling error or imprecision of the survey results because some residents’ opinions are relied on to estimate all residents’ opinions. The margin of error for the City of Battle Creek survey is no greater than plus or minus six percentage points around any given percent reported for all respondents (290 completed surveys).

In addition to the randomly selected “probability sample” of households, a link to an online open participation survey was publicized by the City of Battle Creek. The open participation survey was identical to the probability sample survey with two small updates; it included a map at the beginning asking where the respondent lives and a question about where they heard about the survey. The open participation survey was open to all city residents and became available on May 17th 2022. The survey remained open for 10 weeks. The data presented in the following tabs exclude the open participation survey data, but a tab at the end provides the complete frequency of responses to questions by the open participation respondents.

## Analyzing the data

Responses from mailed surveys were entered into an electronic dataset using a “key and verify” method, where all responses are entered twice and compared to each other. Any discrepancies were resolved in comparison to the original survey form. Range checks as well as other forms of quality control were also performed. Responses from surveys completed on Polco were downloaded and merged with the mailed survey responses.

The demographics of the survey respondents were compared to those found in the 2010 Census and 2020 American Community Survey estimates for adults in the City of Battle Creek. The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey respondents reflective of the larger population of the community. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, housing tenure, and area. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.\* The results of the weighting scheme for the probability sample are presented in the following table.

NRC aligns demographic labels with those used by the U.S. Census for reporting purposes, when possible. Some categories (e.g., age, race/Hispanic origin, housing type, and length of residency) are combined into smaller subgroups.

		Unweighted	Weighted	Target*
Age	18-34	9%	30%	30%
	35-54	24%	34%	34%
	55+	66%	36%	36%
Hispanic origin	No, not Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino	98%	93%	94%
	Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino	2%	7%	6%
Housing tenure	Own	75%	61%	61%
	Rent	25%	39%	39%
Housing type	Attached	21%	33%	33%
	Detached	79%	67%	67%
Race & Hispanic origin	Not white alone	18%	32%	32%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	82%	68%	68%
Sex	Man	40%	47%	47%
	Woman	60%	53%	53%
Sex/age	Man 18-34	3%	14%	15%
	Man 35-54	9%	16%	16%
	Man 55+	28%	17%	17%
	Woman 18-34	6%	15%	15%
	Woman 35-54	15%	18%	18%
	Woman 55+	38%	19%	20%

The survey datasets were analyzed using all or some of a combination of the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), R, Python and Tableau. For the most part, the percentages presented in the reports represent the “percent positive.” The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good, very safe/somewhat safe, essential/very important, etc.), or, in the case of resident behaviors/participation, the percent positive represents the proportion of respondents indicating “yes” or participating in an activity at least once a month.

On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in the tab “Complete data”. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the reports. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

## Contact

The City of Battle Creek funded this research. Please contact Jessica Vanderkolk of the City of Battle Creek at [JLVanderkolk@battlecreekmi.gov](mailto:JLVanderkolk@battlecreekmi.gov) if you have any questions about the survey.

## Survey Validity

See the Polco Knowledge Base article on survey validity at <https://info.polco.us/knowledge/statistical-vali>

\* See AAPOR’s Standard Definitions for more information at

<https://www.aapor.org/Publications-Media/AAPOR-Journals/Standard-Definitions.aspx>

\* Pasek, J. (2010). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from

<https://web.stanford.edu/group/iriss/cgi-bin/anesrake/resources/RakingDescription.pdf>

\* Targets come from the 2010 Census and 2020 American Community Survey

## Highlights

### **Safety is a continued priority for the Battle Creek community.**

When asked about which aspects of the community the City should focus on in the next two years, about 9 in 10 residents identified the overall safety of Battle Creek as an area of priority. This is similar to sentiment expressed in the previous iteration of The NCS in 2018, and all survey items in this facet remained stable since then as well. While about 4 in 10 gave positive ratings to the overall feeling of safety in Battle Creek, other items received mixed reviews. A strong majority, about three-quarters of respondents, reported feeling safe in both their neighborhood and Battle Creek's commercial area during the day, and about 8 in 10 felt safe from fire, flood, and other natural disasters. Nearly half of residents felt very or somewhat safe from violent crime (48%) and property crime (45%).

Additionally, much of the safety-related services in Battle Creek garnered scores similar to the last iteration of the NCS. Most residents gave high marks to the City's fire services (82% excellent or good) and ambulance or EMS services (68%). About 6 in 10 residents approved of police/sheriff services as well as fire prevention and education, while 4 in 10 felt similarly toward emergency preparedness and animal control services. Although these ratings generally held steady since 2018, survey items pertaining to safety in Battle Creek tended to receive lower ratings than in comparison communities across the nation, suggesting an opportunity for growth in these areas.

### **Some aspects of Battle Creek's economy are on the rise, and it remains an important focus area for residents.**

Battle Creek's overall economic health was identified by residents as an area of relatively lower quality (17% excellent or good) and higher importance (91% essential or very important) when compared to other facets of community livability, suggesting that this is a possible area of focus for the City. Although the overall economic health of Battle Creek was rated lower than the national average, a number of related items experienced significant growth since the last survey iteration. Evaluations of Battle Creek as a place to work improved by over 10% (51% excellent or good this year), while employment opportunities (43%) and the overall quality of business and service establishments (46%) both increased by roughly 20% over 2018 results. The majority of remaining items related to the economy in Battle Creek were similar to ratings given in 2018. Nearly 4 in 10 residents gave high ..

### **Residents value the ease of car travel in Battle Creek but identify some opportunities for growth in related services.**

Survey items relating to mobility in Battle Creek largely received similar ratings to those given in previous years. Residents praised the ease of travel by car (75% excellent or good) and gave positive marks to the traffic flow on major streets (60%), as well as the ease of public parking (56%). Each of these ratings was on par with benchmark comparison communities across the nation. About 4 in 10 respondents were also pleased with both the ease of walking in Battle Creek and the ease of travel by bicycle, while roughly one-third felt similarly about the ease of travel by public transportation and the overall quality of the city's transportation system. Street-related services, which may present some room for improvement, generally remained stable since 2018. Nearly half of residents approved of snow removal services and street lighting, while a slightly lower proportion gave excellent or good ratings to traffic signal timing (42%), traffic enforcement (41%), and street cleaning (36%). The lowest-performing item in this facet was street repair (13%).

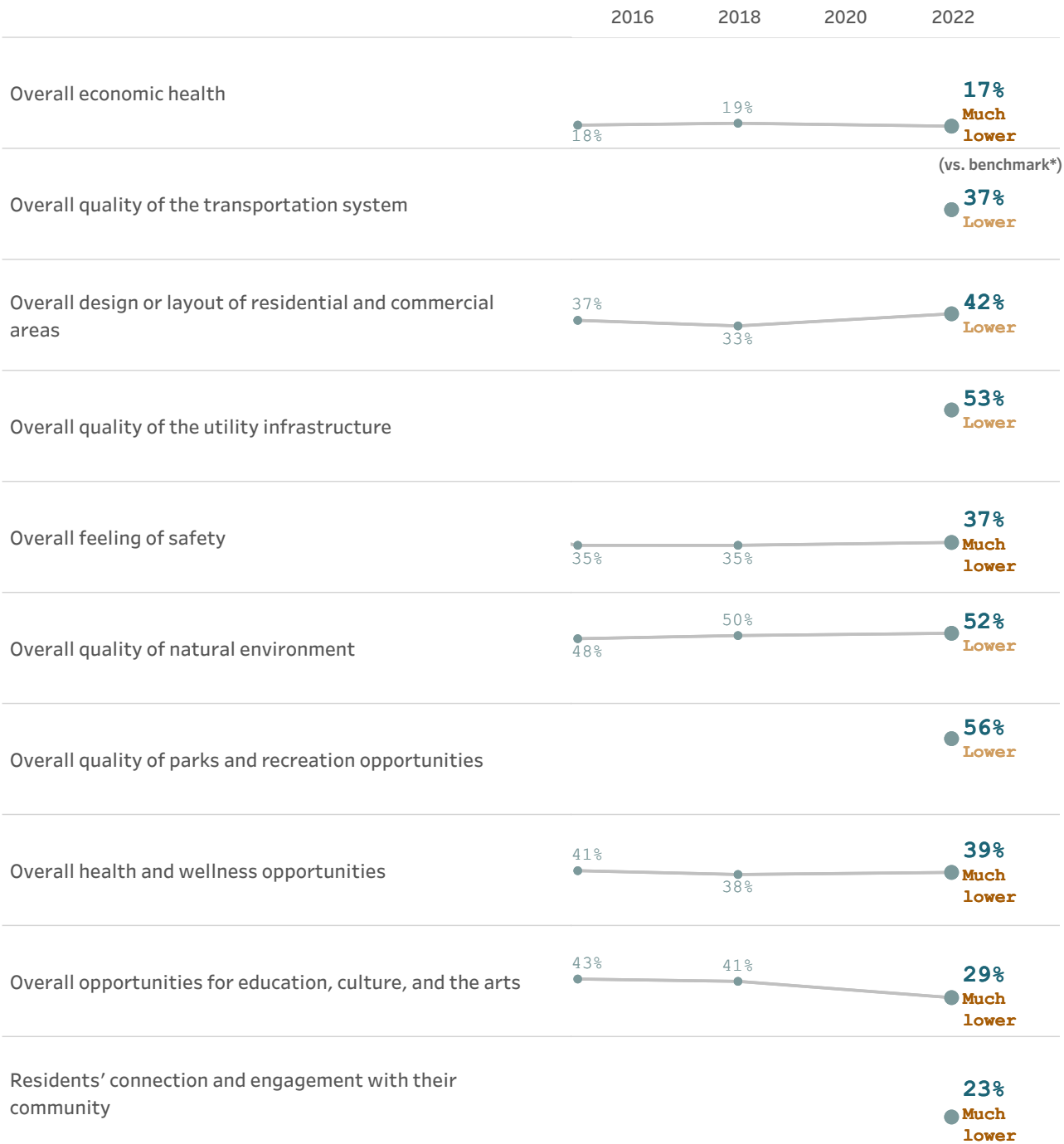
Along with the standard mobility questions included on The NCS, Battle Creek also opted to ask a few additional questions related to streets in the city. When asked how much they would support or oppose the implementation of certain traffic calming methods in Battle Creek, the overwhelming majority (90%) reported that they would support enhanced signage in the City. This was followed by additional traffic enforcement, which garnered support from about 7 in 10 residents. Adding speed bumps and installing roundabouts received more mixed reviews, with 51% and 47% support respectively.

## Facets of livability

Resident perceptions of quality and importance for each of the facets of community livability provide an overview of community strengths and challenges that are useful for planning, budgeting and performance evaluation.

The charts below show the proportion of residents who rated the community facets positively for quality and the priority (importance) placed on each. Also displayed is whether local ratings were lower, similar, or higher than communities across the country (the national benchmark).

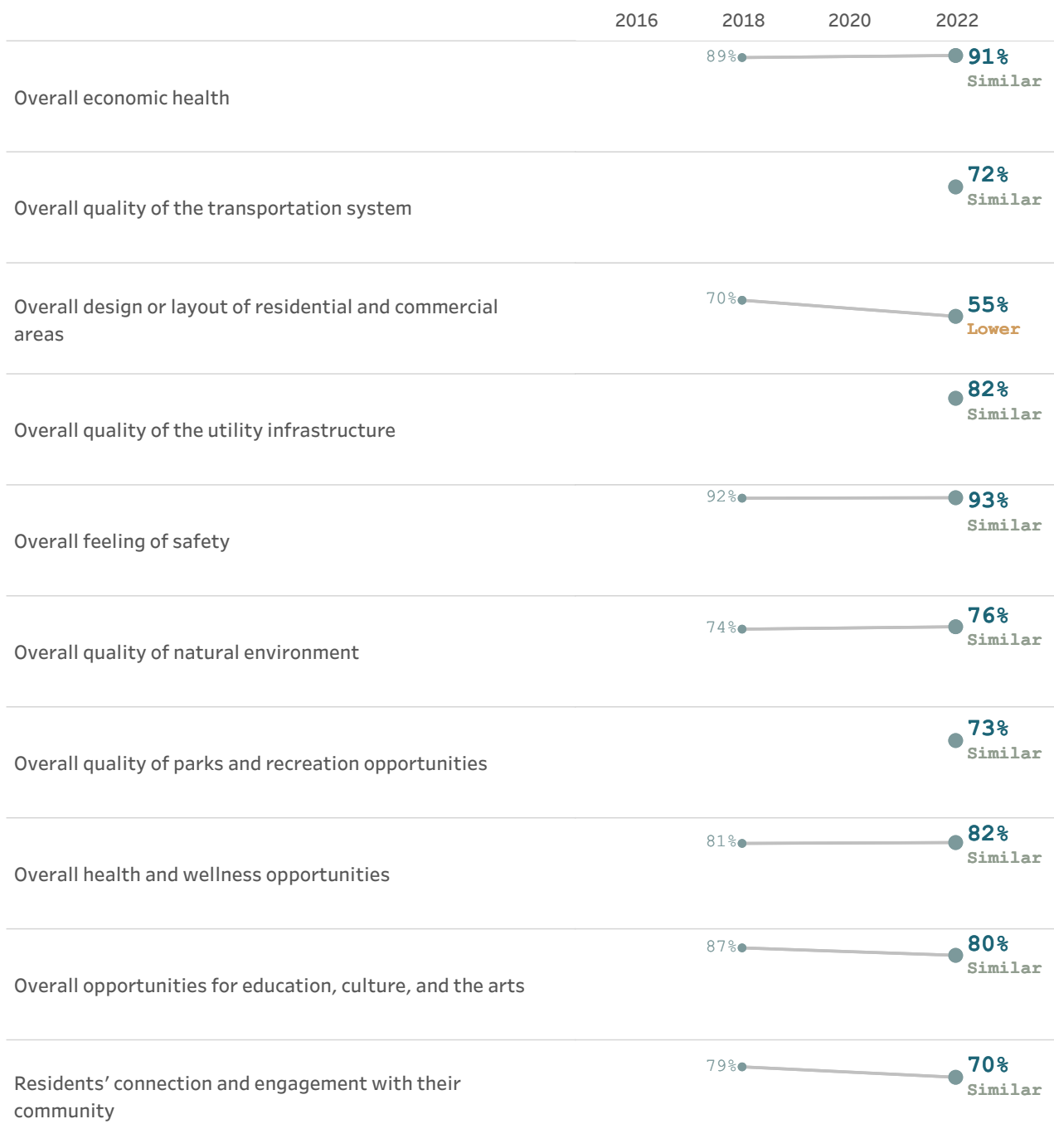
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)





Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Battle Creek community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.

(% essential or very important)



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

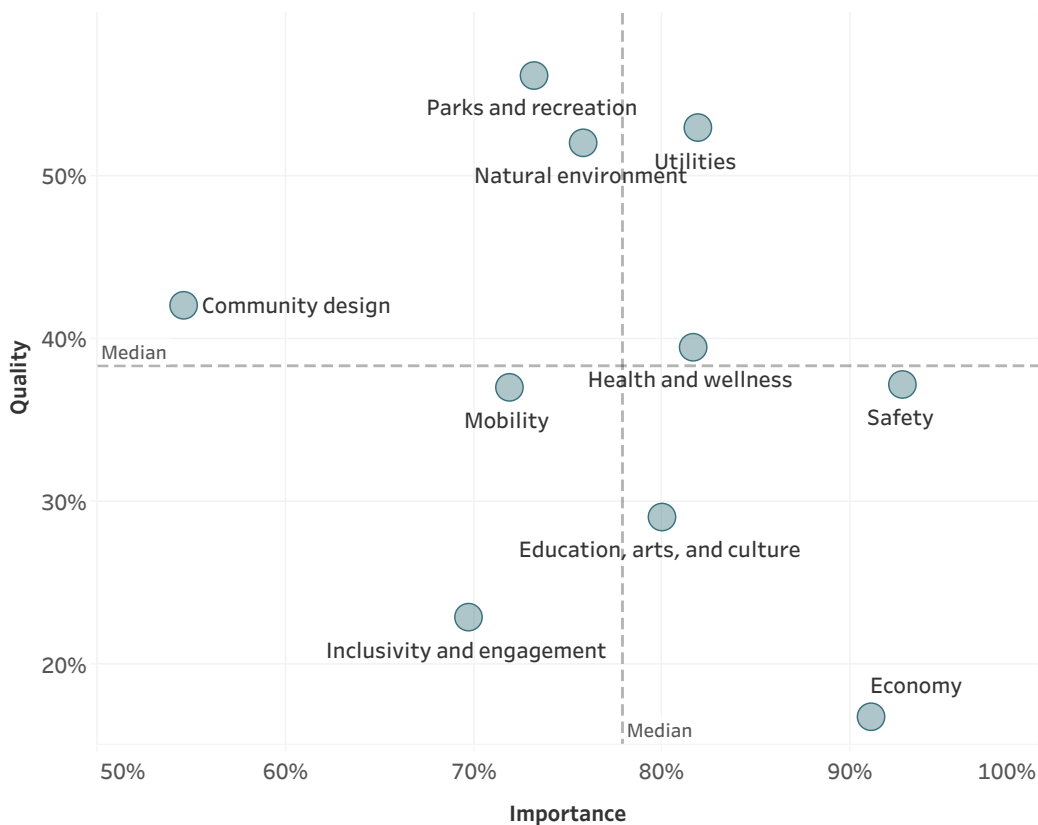
## Balancing performance and importance

Every jurisdiction must balance limited resources while meeting resident needs and striving to optimize community livability. To this end, it is helpful to know what aspects of the community are most important to residents and which they perceive as being of higher or lower quality. It is especially helpful to know when a facet of livability is considered of high importance but rated as lower quality, as this should be a top priority to address.

To help guide City staff and officials with decisions on future resource allocation, resident ratings of the importance of services were compared to their ratings of the quality of these services. To identify the services perceived by residents to have relatively lower quality at the same time as relatively higher importance, all services were ranked from highest perceived quality to lowest perceived quality and from highest perceived importance to lowest perceived importance. Some services were in the top half of both lists (higher quality and higher importance); some were in the top half of one list but the bottom half of the other (higher quality and lower importance or lower quality and higher importance); and some services were in the bottom half of both lists.

Services receiving quality ratings of excellent or good by 38% or more of respondents were considered of “higher quality” and those with ratings lower than 38% were considered to be of “lower quality.” Services were classified as “more important” if they were rated as essential or very important by 78% or more of respondents. Services were rated as “less important” if they received a rating of less than 78%. This classification uses the median ratings for quality and importance to divide the services in half.

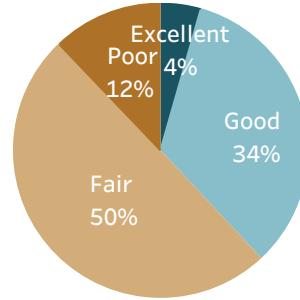
The quadrants in the figure below show which community facets were given higher or lower importance ratings (right-left) and which had higher or lower quality ratings (up-down). Facets of livability falling closer to a diagonal line from the lower left to the upper right are those where performance ratings are more commensurate with resident priorities. Facets scoring closest to the lower right hand corner of the matrix ( higher in importance and lower in quality) are those that may warrant further investigation to see if changes to their delivery are necessary to improve their performance. This is the key part of this chart on which to focus. Facets falling in the top left hand corner of the chart (lower in importance but higher in quality) are areas where performance may outscore resident priorities, and may be a consideration for lower resource allocation.



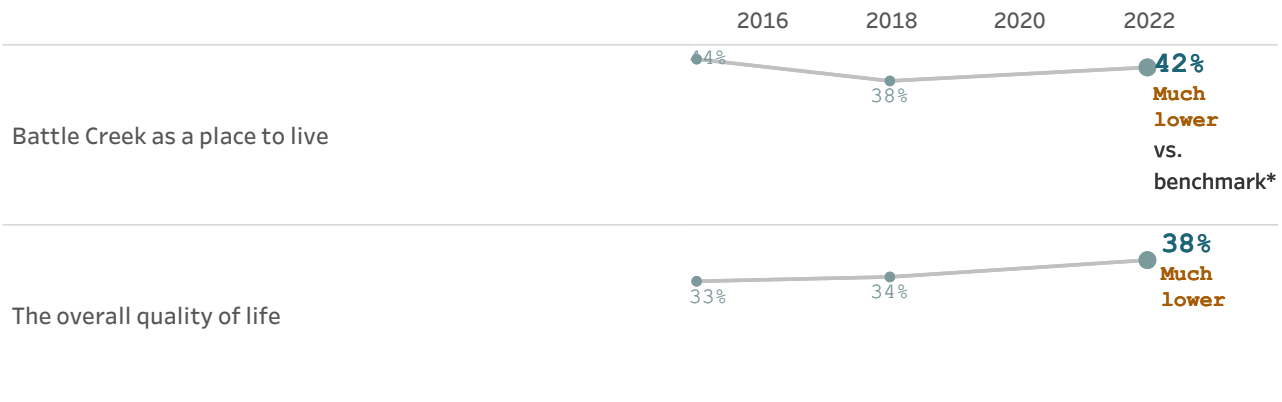
## Quality of life

Measuring community livability starts with assessing the quality of life of those who live there, and ensuring that the community is attractive, accessible, and welcoming to all.

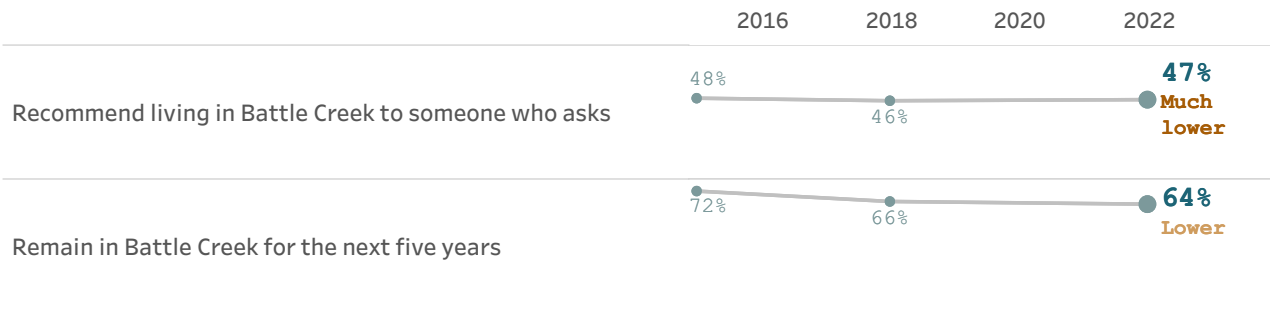
The overall quality of life in Battle Creek, 2022



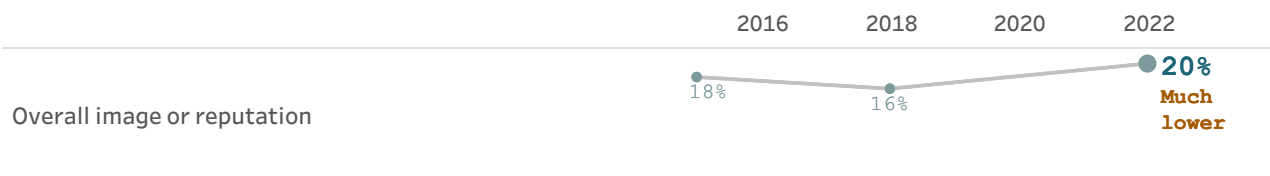
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.  
(% excellent or good)



Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.  
(% very or somewhat likely)



Please rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.  
(% excellent or good)

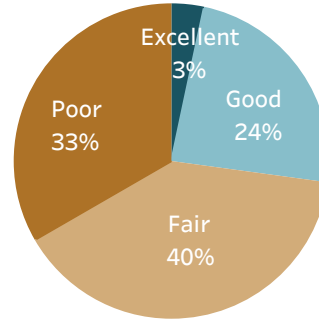


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

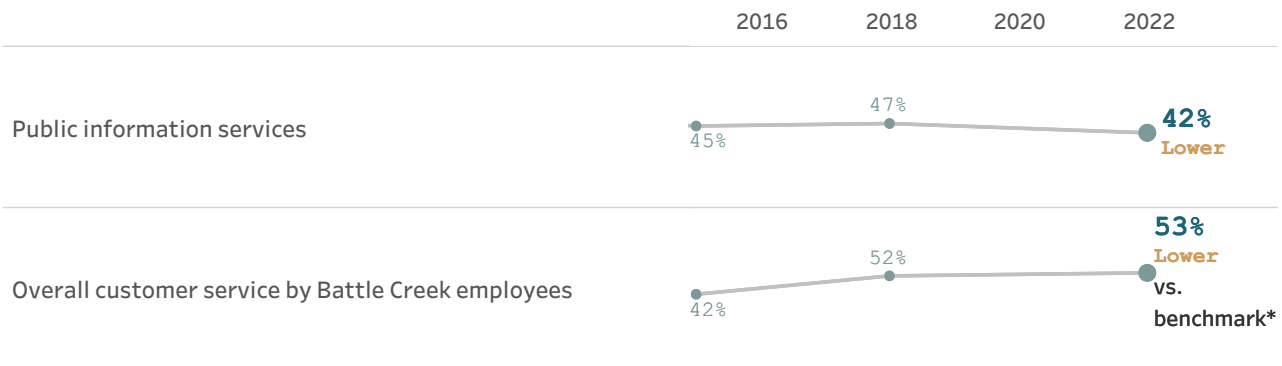
## Governance

Strong local governments produce results that meet the needs of residents while making the best use of available resources, and are responsive to the present and future needs of the community as a whole.

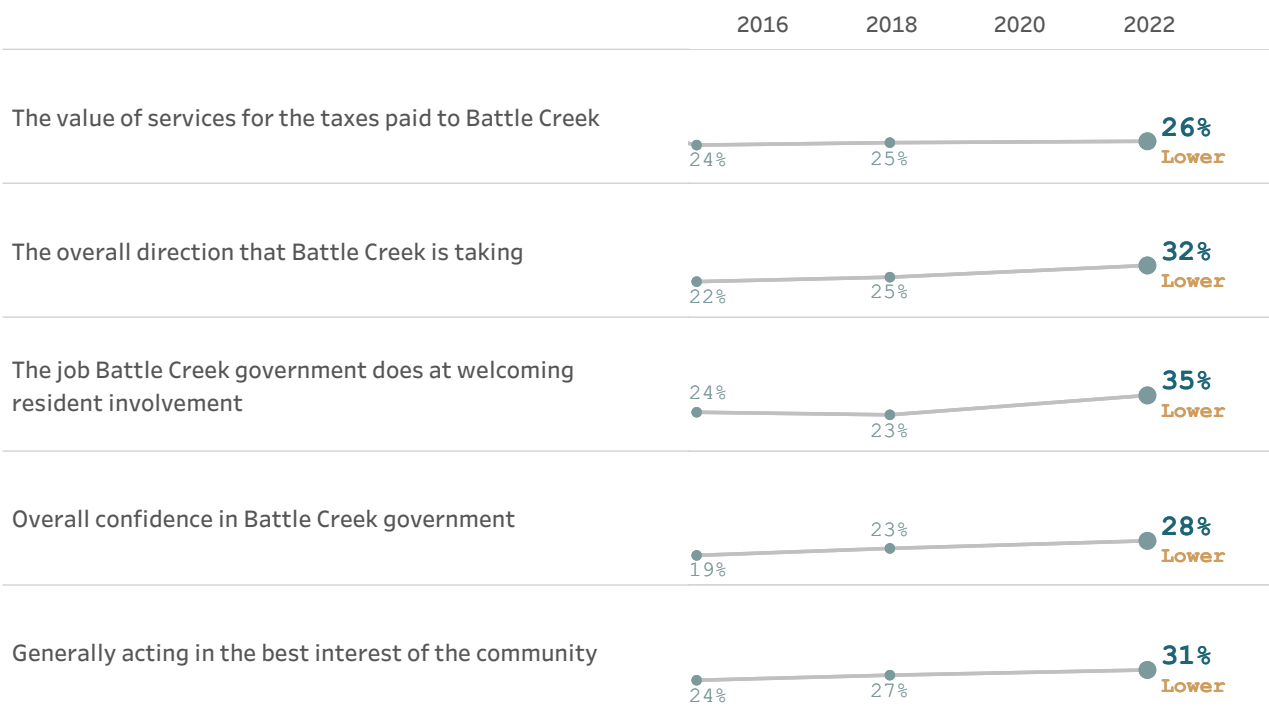
Overall confidence in Battle Creek government, 2022

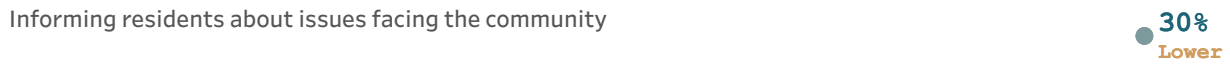


Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek. (% excellent or good)

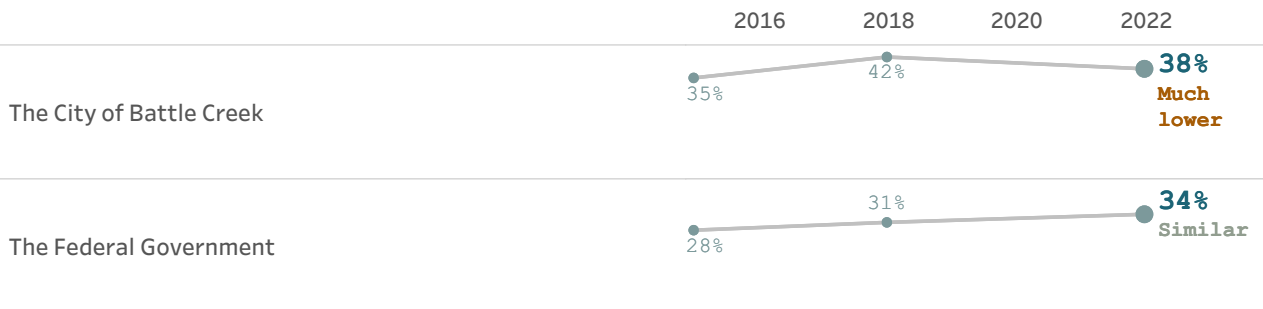


Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance. (% excellent or good)





**Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?  
(% excellent or good)**

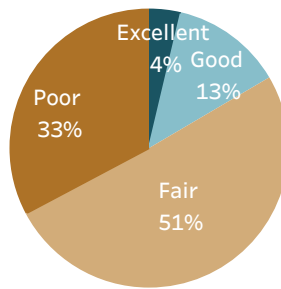


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

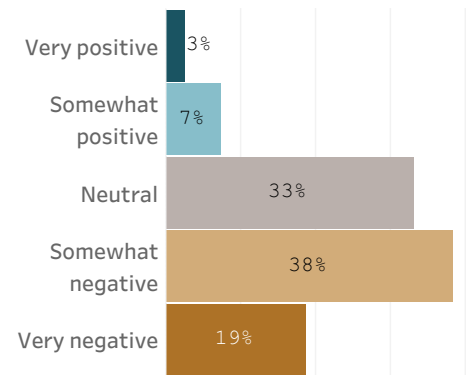
## Economy

Local governments work together with private and nonprofit businesses, and with the community at large, to foster sustainable growth, create jobs, and promote a thriving local economy.

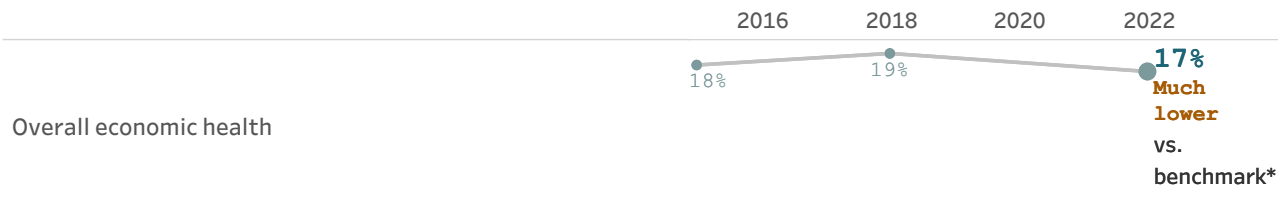
Overall economic health of Battle Creek, 2022



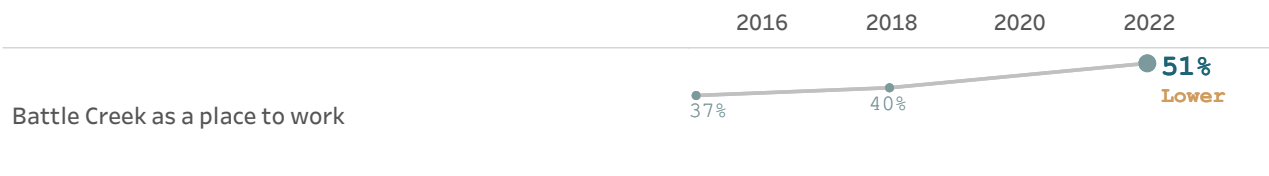
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole. (% excellent or good)



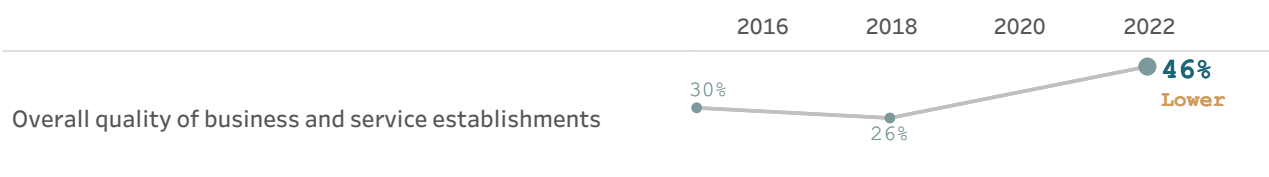
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek. (% excellent or good)



Battle Creek as a place to visit



Please rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community. (% excellent or good)

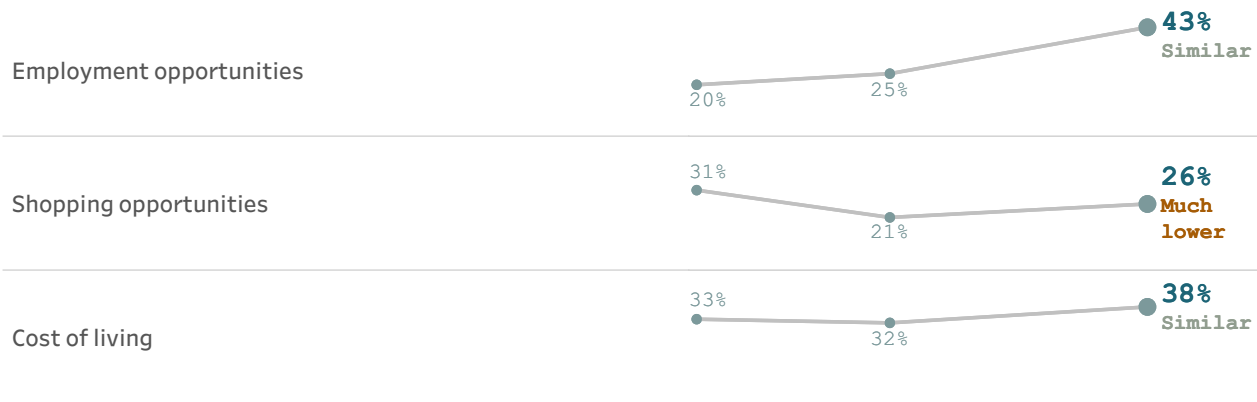


Variety of business and service establishments

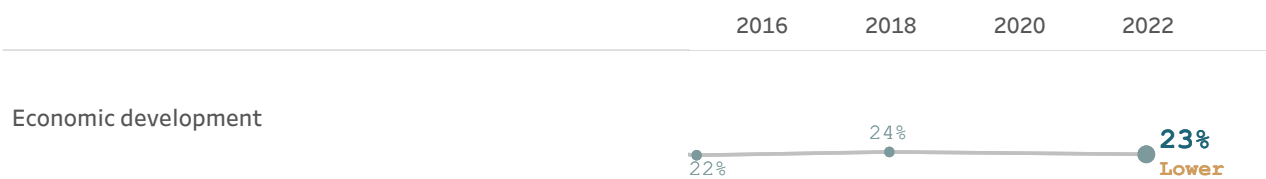


Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area

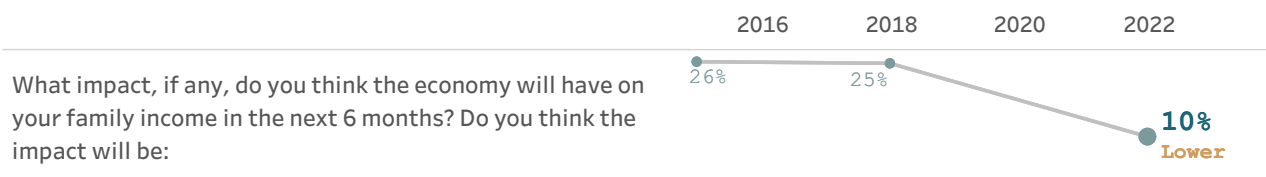




Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.  
(% excellent or good)



What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:  
(% very or somewhat positive)

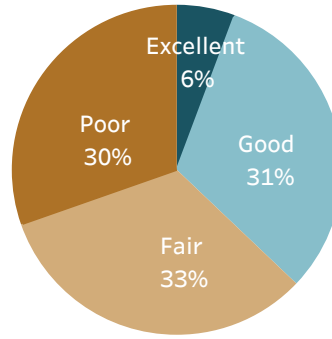


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

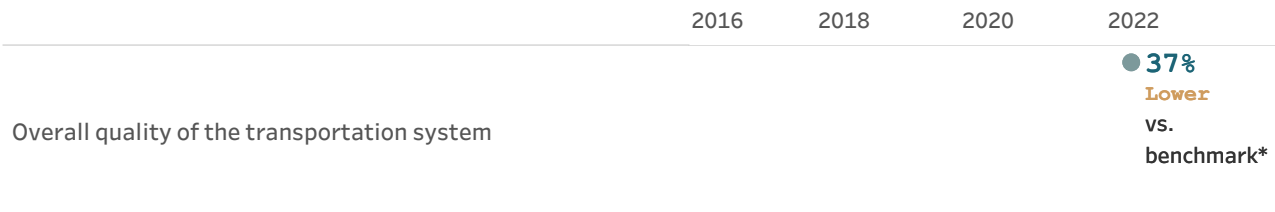
## Mobility

The ease with which residents can move about their communities, whether for commuting, leisure, or recreation, plays a major role in the quality of life for all who live, work, and play in the community.

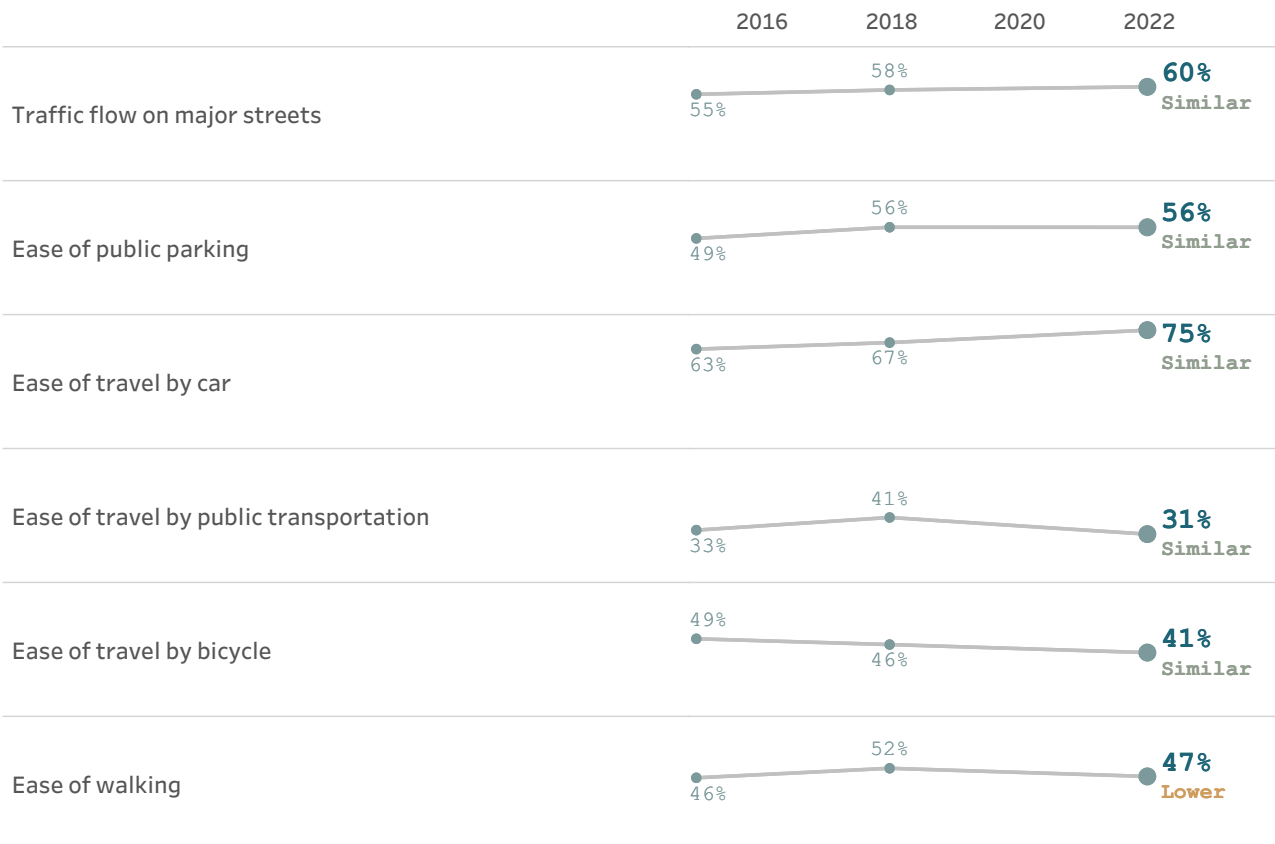
Overall quality of the transportation system in Battle Creek, 2022



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



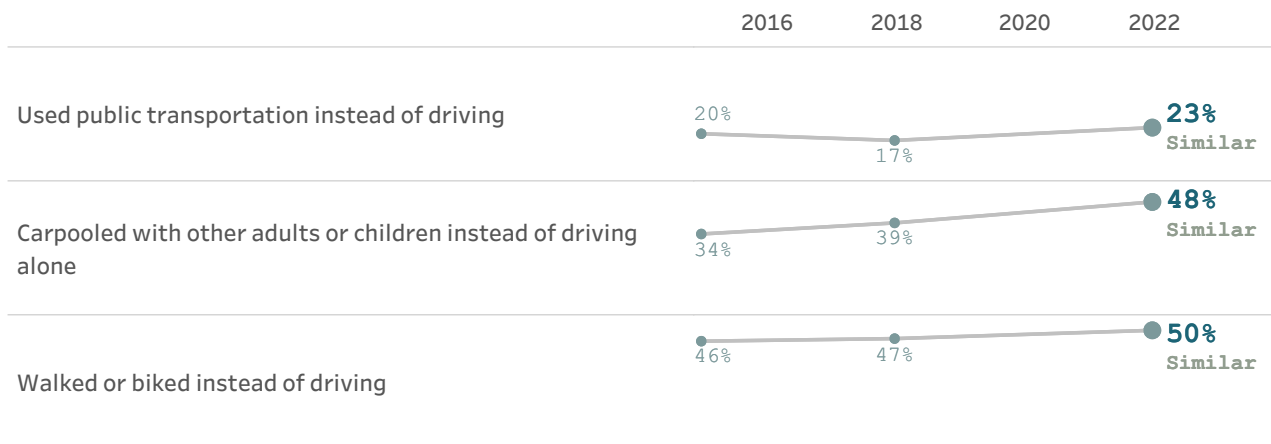
Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.  
(% excellent or good)





**Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.**

(% yes)



**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.**

(% excellent or good)

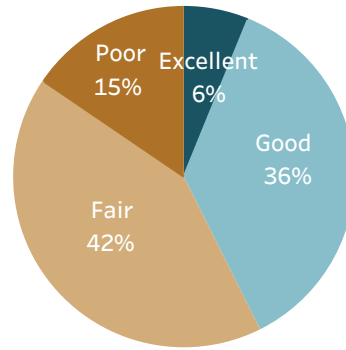


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

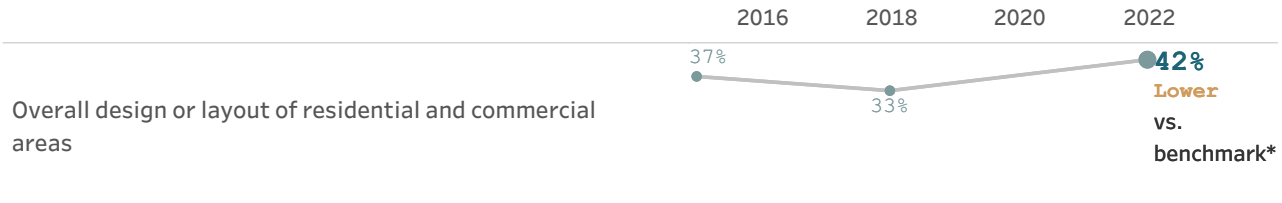
Overall design or layout of Battle Creek's residential and commercial areas, 2022

## Community design

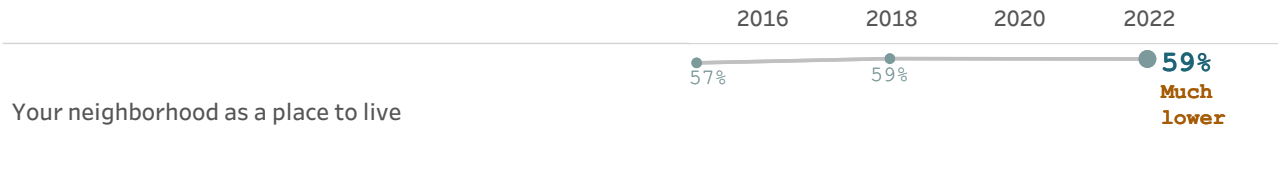
A well-designed community enhances the quality of life for its residents by encouraging smart land use and zoning, ensuring that affordable housing is accessible to all, and providing access to parks and other green spaces.



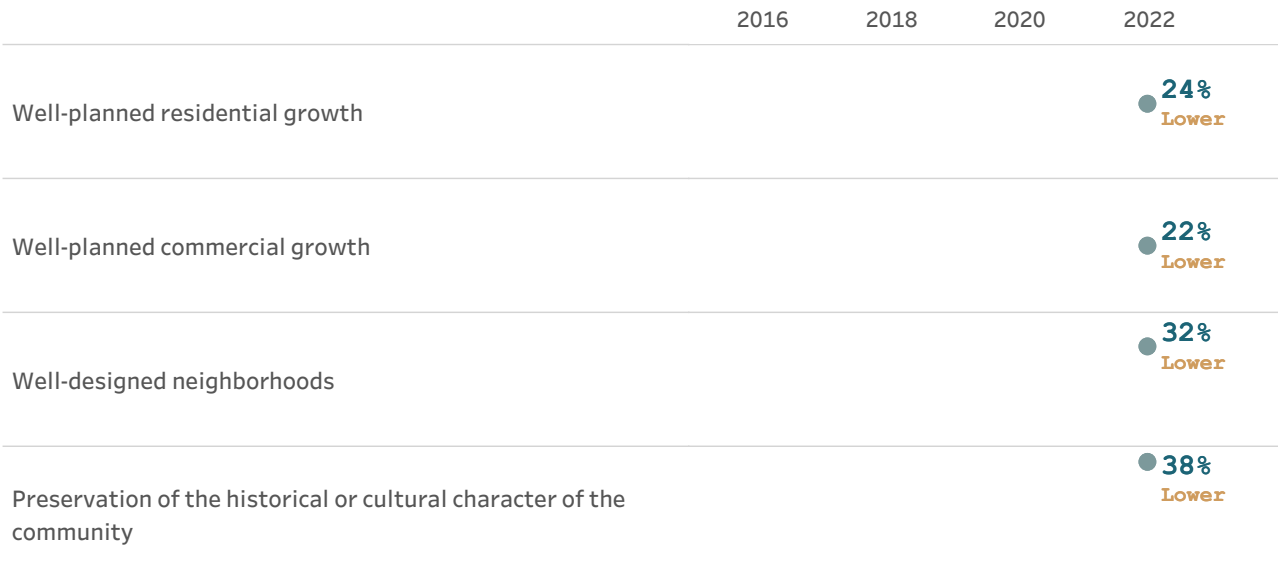
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.  
(% excellent or good)

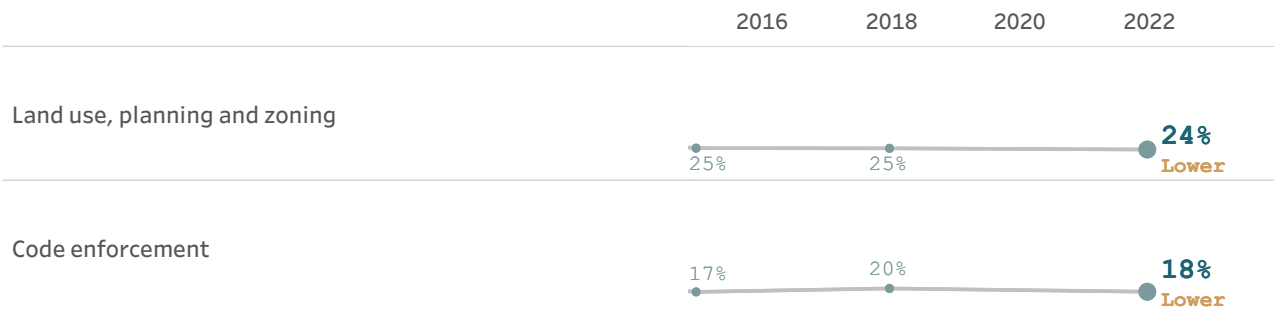


Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.  
(% excellent or good)



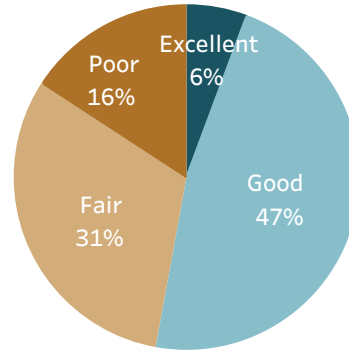


Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.  
(% excellent or good)



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

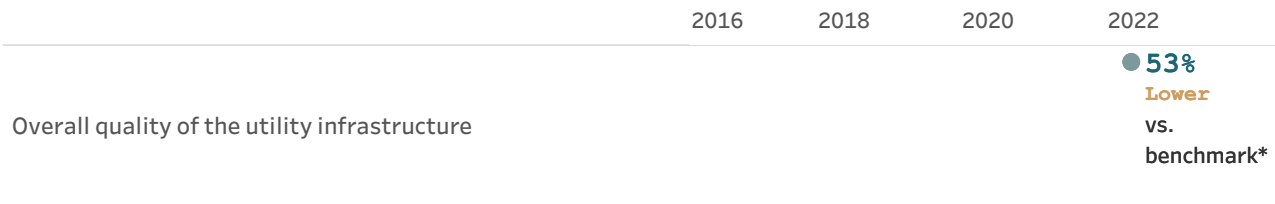
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Battle Creek, 2022



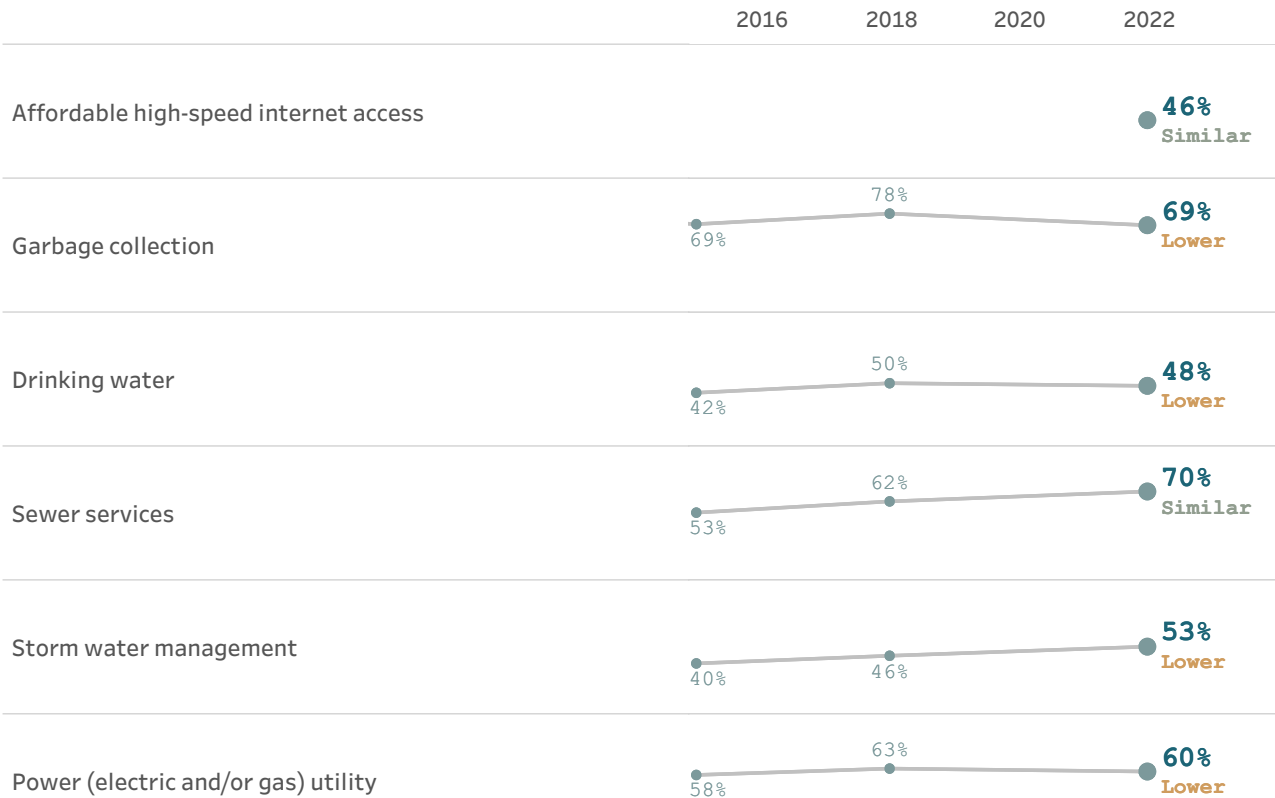
## Utilities

Services such as water, gas, electricity, and internet access play a vital role in ensuring the physical and economic health and well-being of the communities they serve.

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek. (% excellent or good)



Utility billing

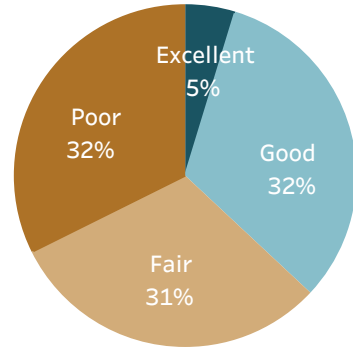


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

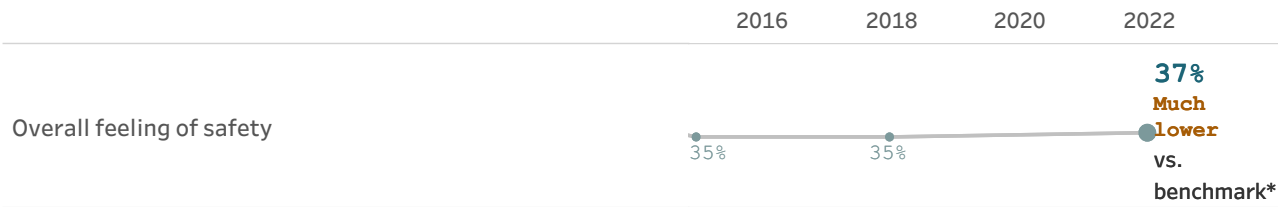
## Safety

Public safety is often the most important task facing local governments. All residents should feel safe and secure in their neighborhoods and in the greater community, and providing robust safety-related services is essential to residents' quality of life.

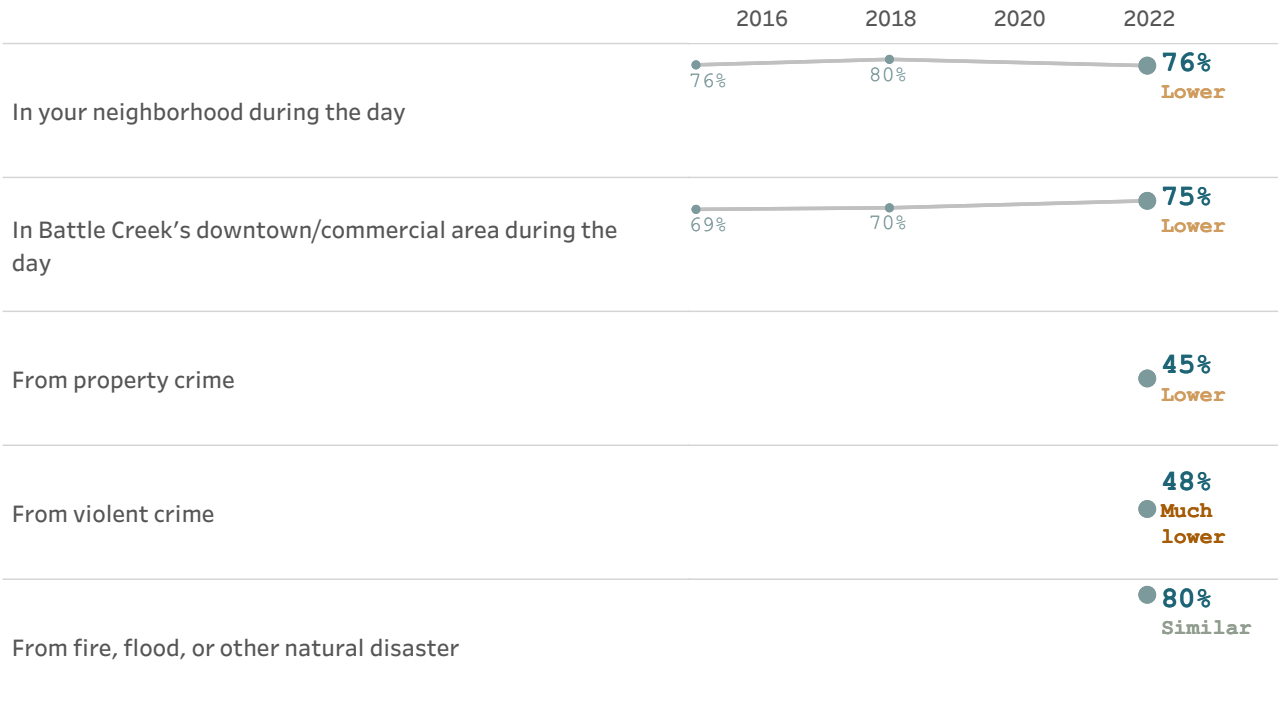
Overall feeling of safety in Battle Creek, 2022



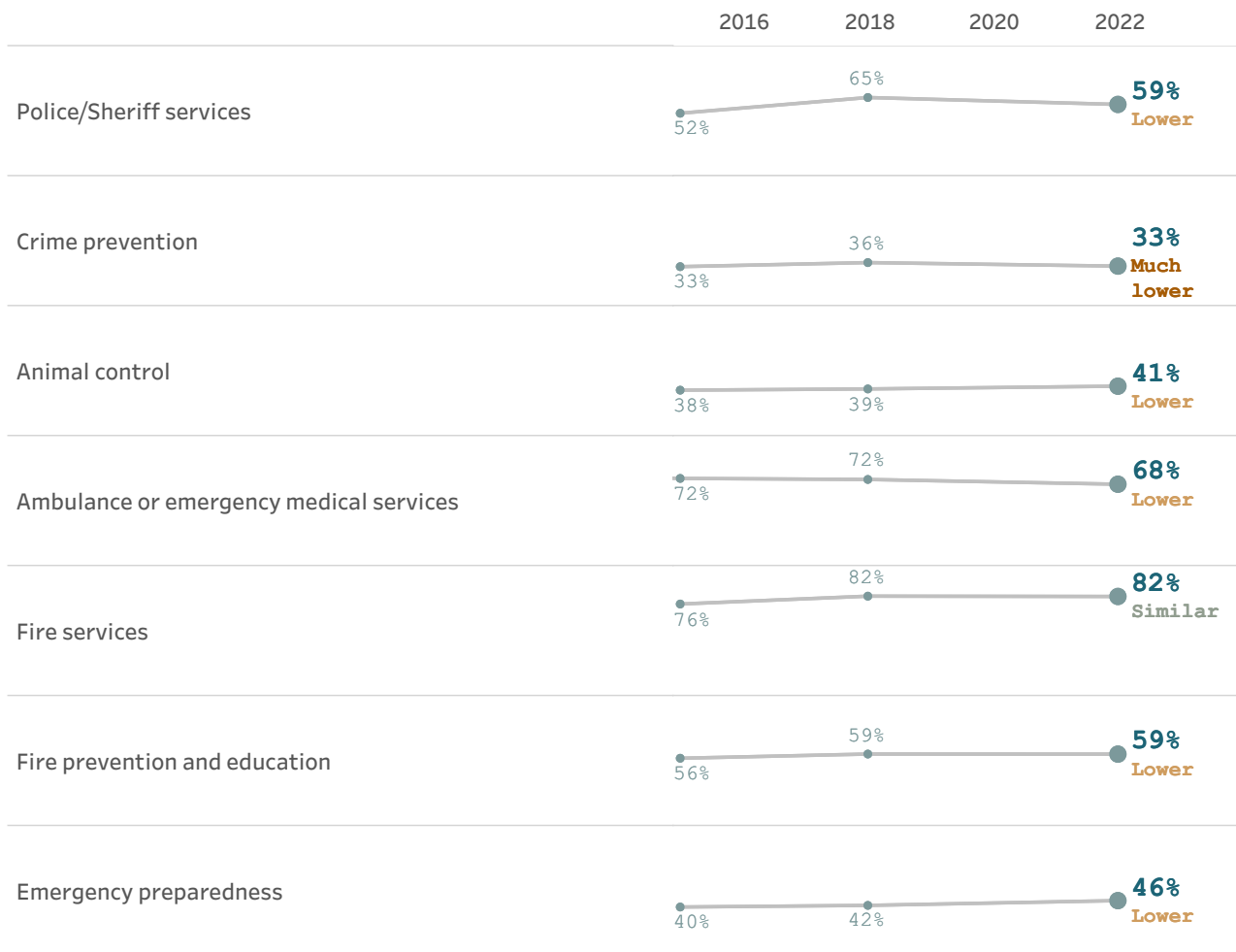
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole. (% excellent or good)



Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel: (% very or somewhat safe)

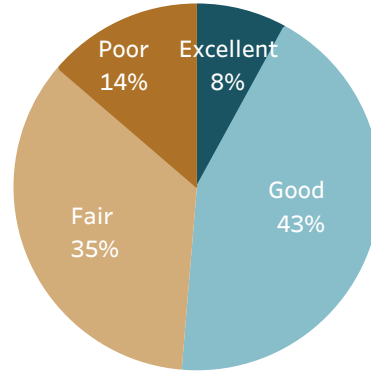


**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.**  
 (% excellent or good)



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

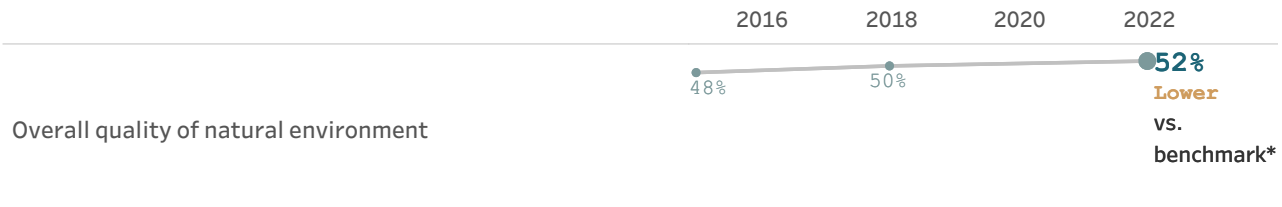
Overall quality of natural environment in Battle Creek, 2022



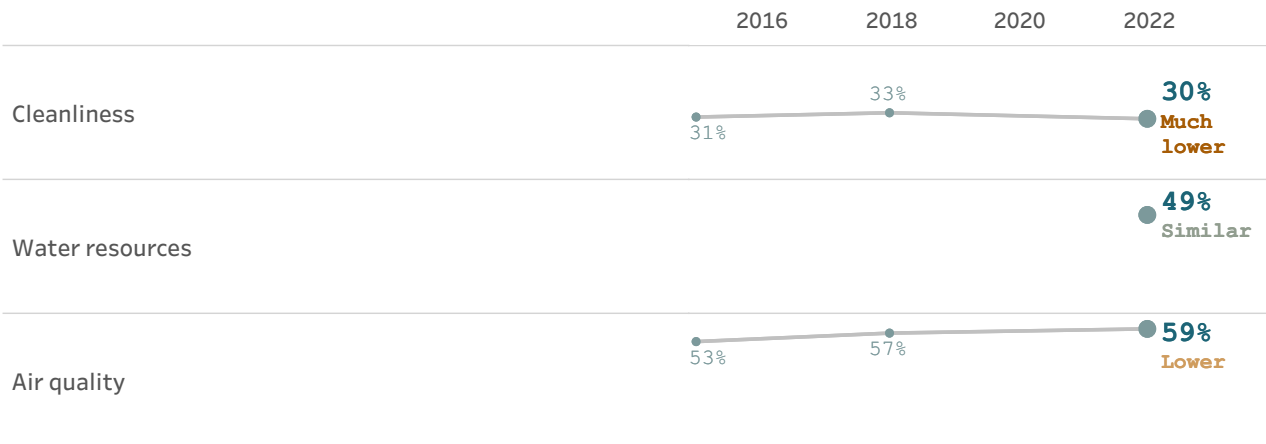
## Natural environment

The natural environment plays a vital role in the health and well-being of residents. The natural spaces in which residents live and experience their communities has a direct and profound effect on quality of life.

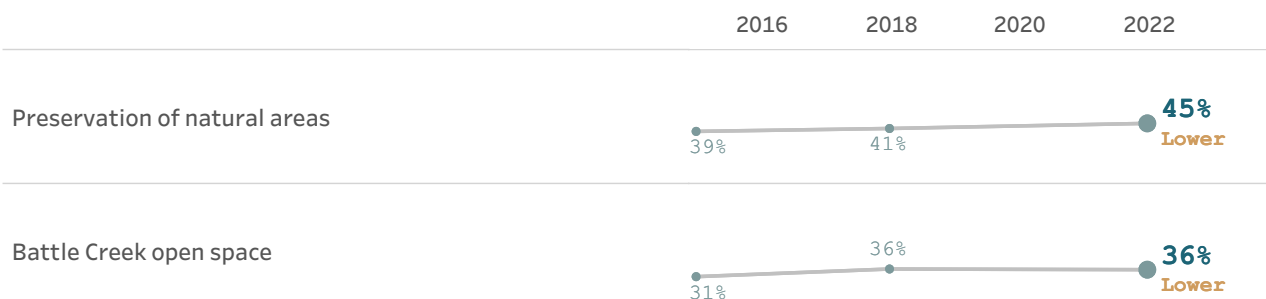
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



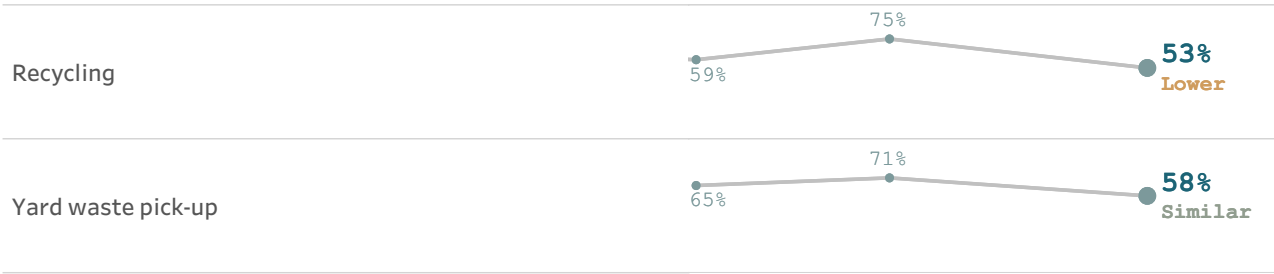
Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.  
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.  
(% excellent or good)







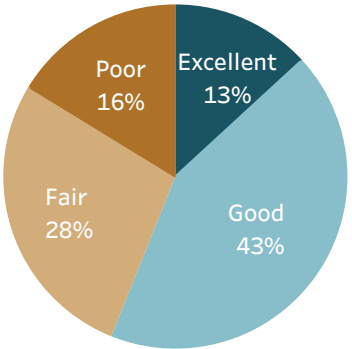
\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities, 2022

Parks and recreation

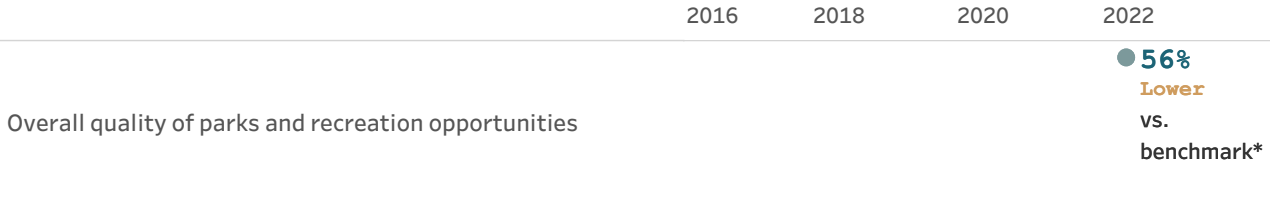
“There are no communities that pride themselves on their quality of life, promote themselves as a desirable location for businesses to relocate, or maintain that they are environmental stewards of their natural resources, without such communities having a robust, active system of parks and recreation programs for public use and enjoyment.”

- National Recreation and Park Association



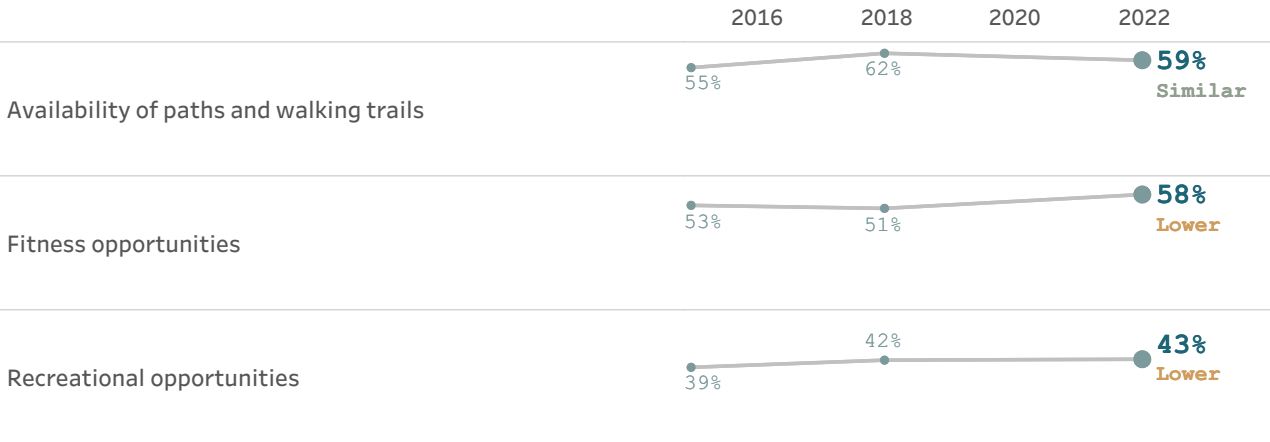
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.

(% excellent or good)



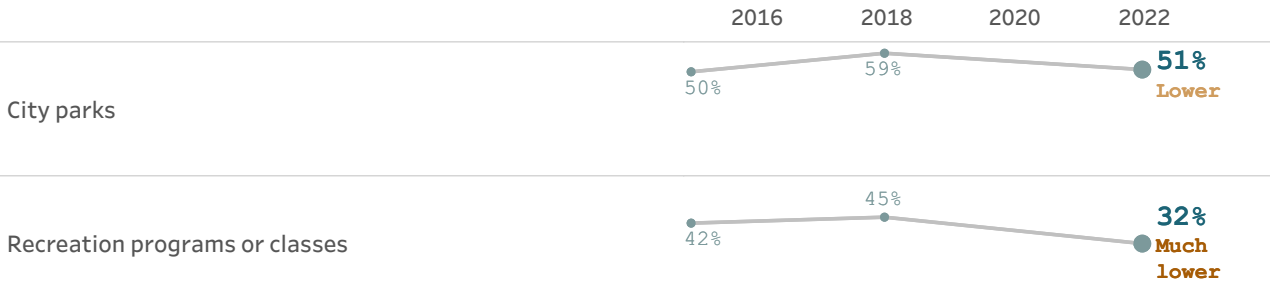
Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.

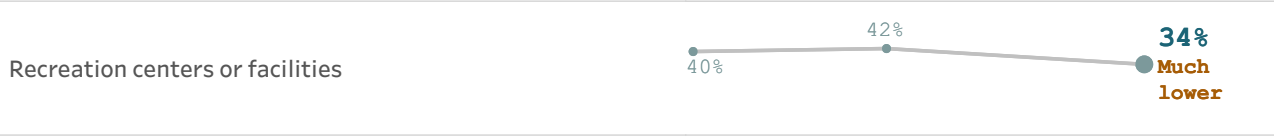
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.

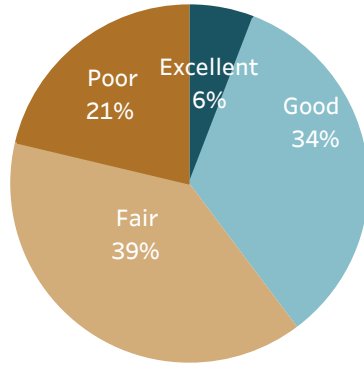
(% excellent or good)





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

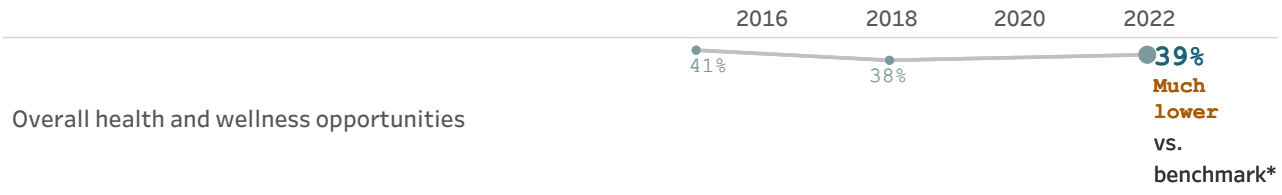
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Battle Creek, 2022



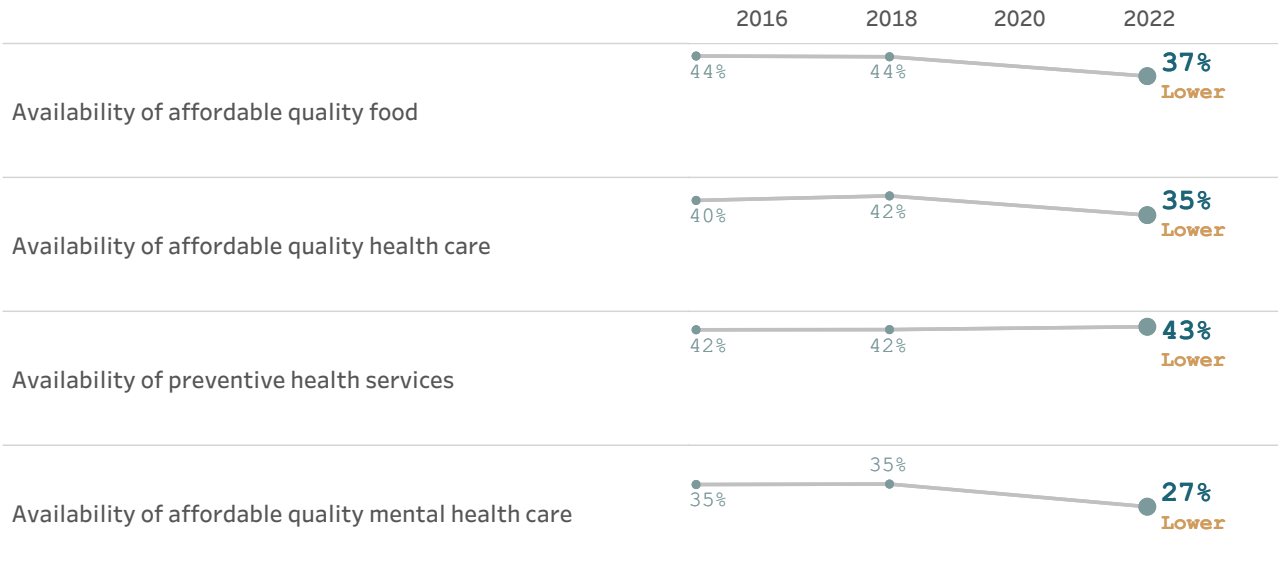
## Health and wellness

The characteristics of and amenities available in the communities in which people live has a direct impact on the health and wellness of residents, and thus, on their quality of life overall.

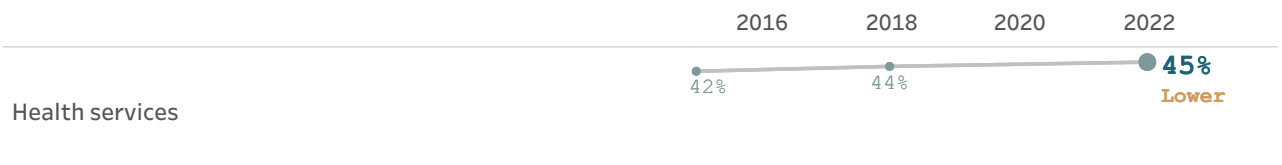
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



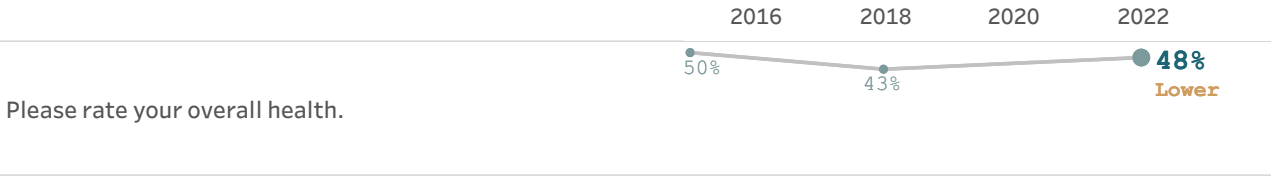
Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.  
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.  
(% excellent or good)



Please rate your overall health.  
(% excellent or very good)

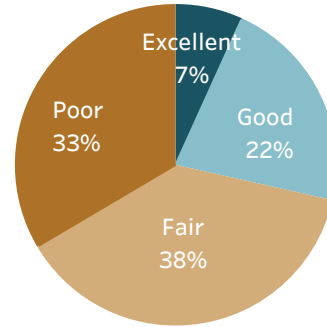


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

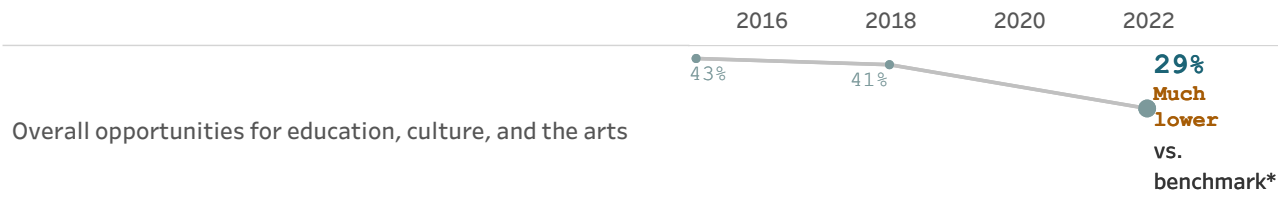
## Education, arts, and culture

Participation in the arts, in educational opportunities, and in cultural activities is linked to increased civic engagement, greater social tolerance, and enhanced enjoyment of the local community.

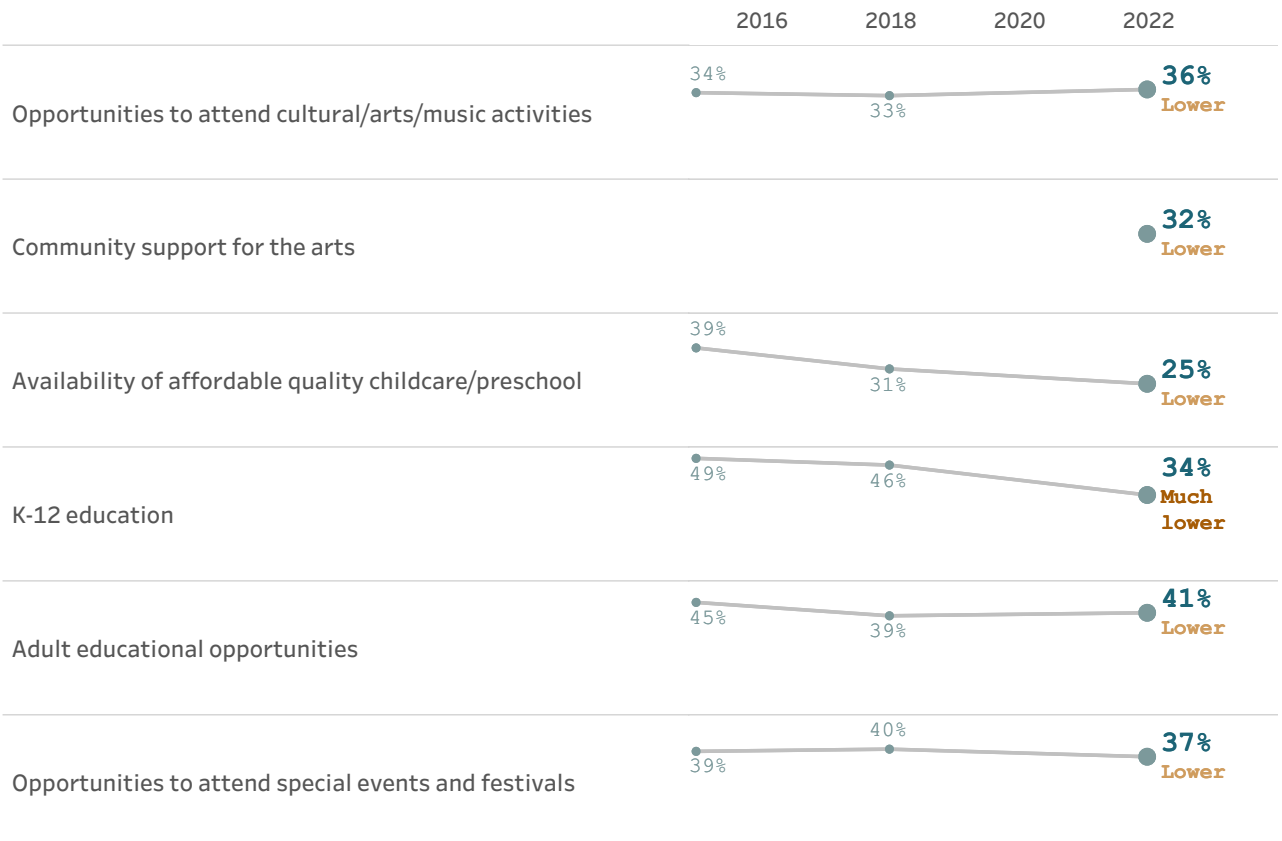
Overall opportunities for education, culture and the arts, 2022



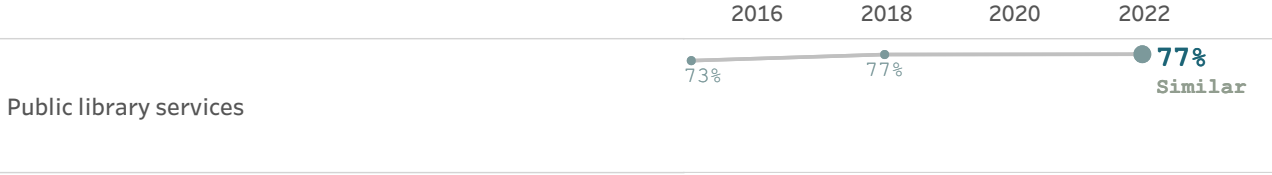
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.  
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.  
(% excellent or good)

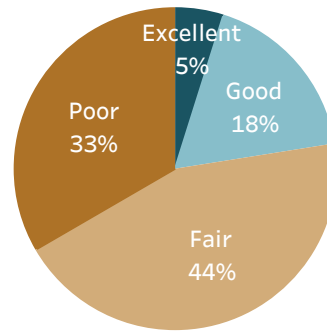


\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

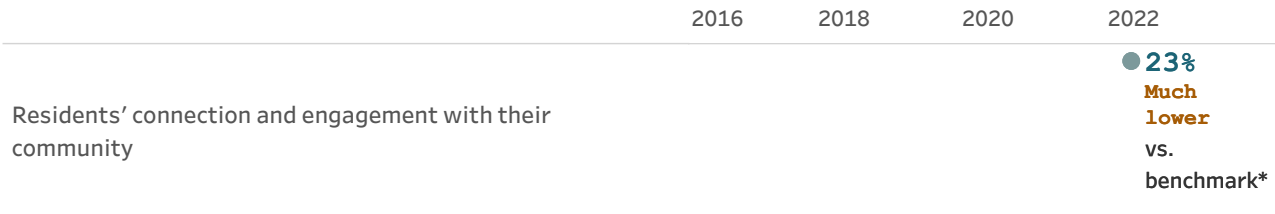
Residents' connection and engagement with their community, 2022

## Inclusivity and engagement

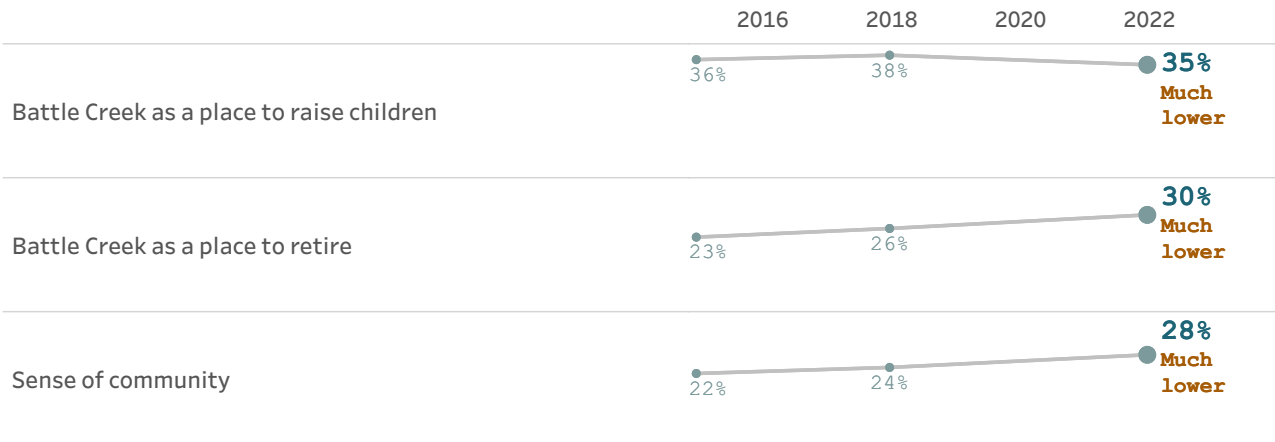
Inclusivity refers to a cultural and environmental feeling of belonging; residents who feel invited to participate within their communities feel more included, involved, and engaged than those who do not.



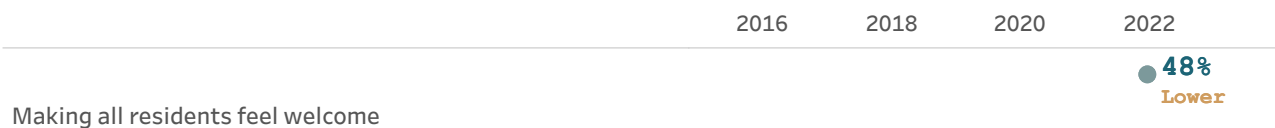
Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.  
(% excellent or good)



Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.  
(% excellent or good)



Please rate the job you feel the Battle Creek community does at each of the following.  
(% excellent or good)





● **53%**  
Similar

Attracting people from diverse backgrounds

● **47%**  
Lower

Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds

● **34%**  
Lower

Taking care of vulnerable residents

Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.  
(% excellent or good)

2016 2018 2020 2022

Sense of civic/community pride

● **25%**  
Much  
Lower

Neighborliness of residents



Opportunities to participate in social events and activities



Opportunities to volunteer



Opportunities to participate in community matters



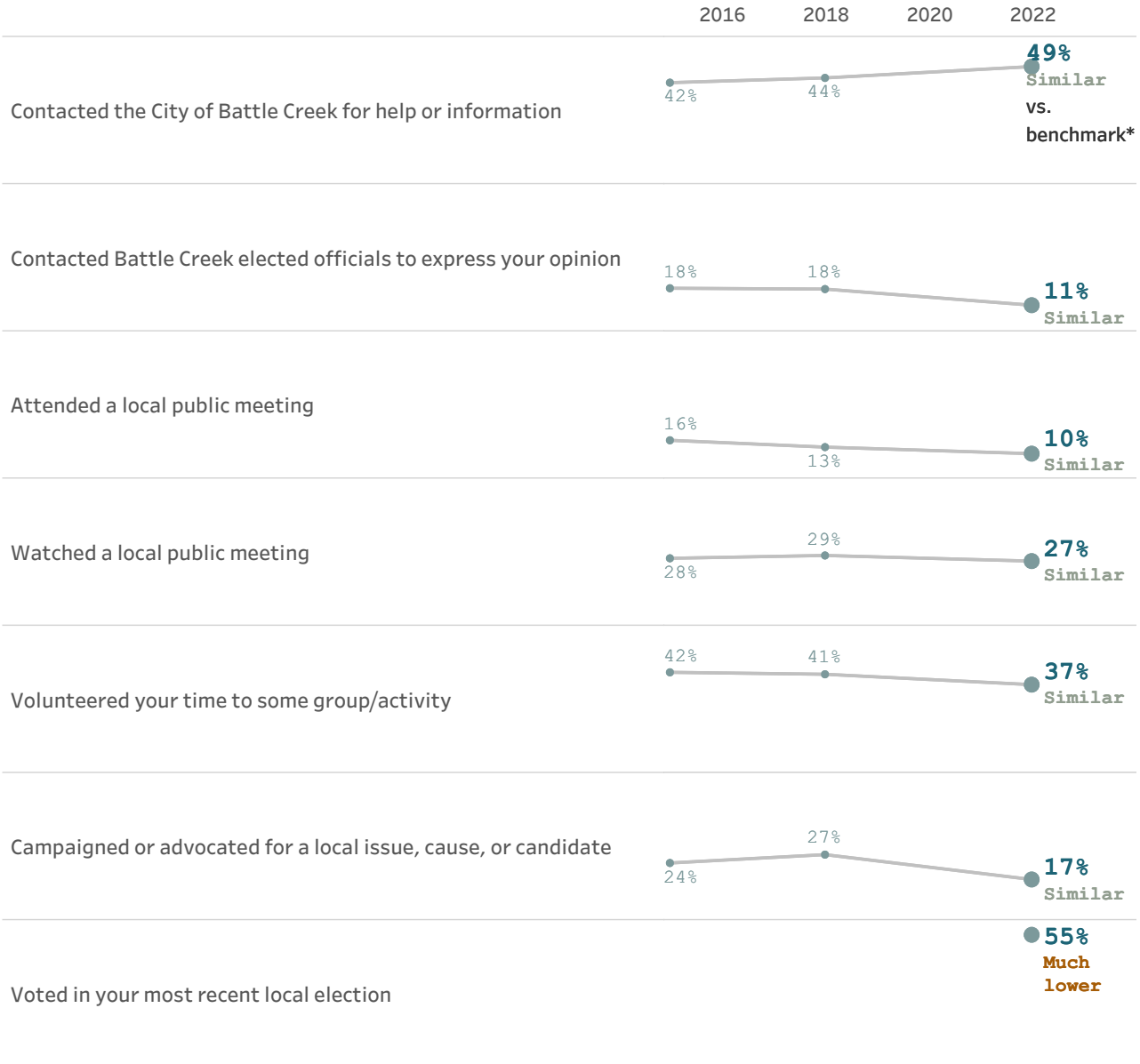
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds



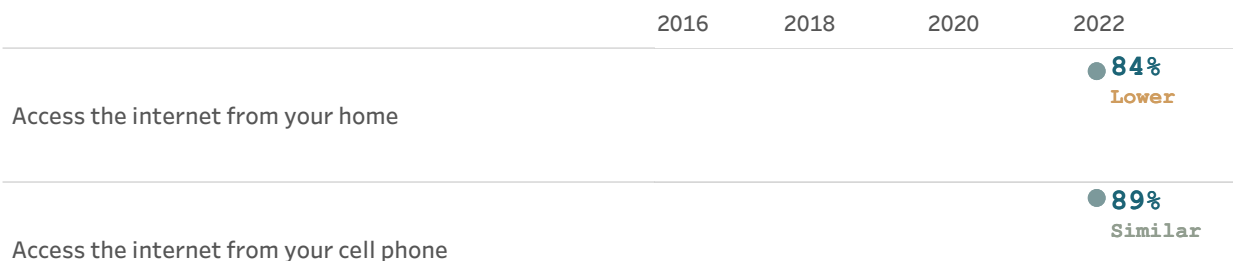
\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

## Residents' participation levels

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.  
(% yes)



In general, how many times do you:  
(% a few times a week or more)



---


























Visit social media sites	● <b>80%</b> Similar
Use or check email	● <b>89%</b> Similar
Share your opinions online	● <b>42%</b> Higher
Shop online	● <b>46%</b> Similar

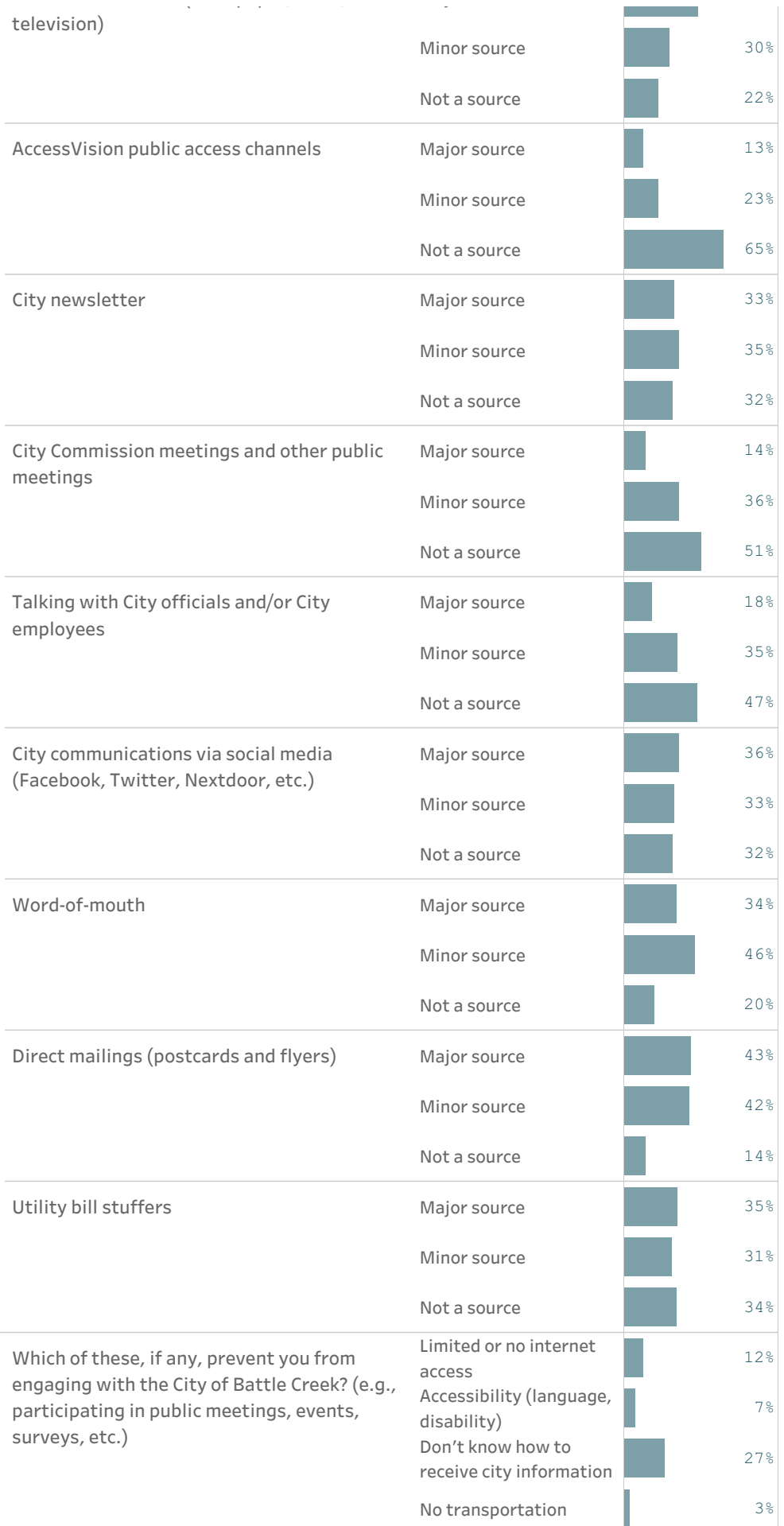
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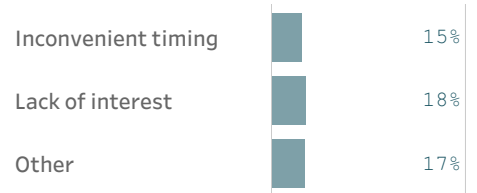
\* Comparison to the national benchmark is shown. If no comparison is available, this is left blank.

## Custom questions

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

		Include "don't know"		
		No		
Overall, how would you rate the quality of Battle Creek's current traffic calming processes? (i.e. deliberately working to slow traffic in residential areas.)	Excellent		4%	
	Very good		16%	
	Good		33%	
	Fair		28%	
	Poor		19%	
How much, if at all, do you support or oppose the following traffic calming methods in Battle Creek?	Installing roundabouts	Strongly support		22%
		Somewhat support		25%
		Somewhat oppose		17%
		Strongly oppose		37%
	Additional enforcement	Strongly support		35%
		Somewhat support		35%
		Somewhat oppose		15%
		Strongly oppose		15%
	Enhanced signage	Strongly support		31%
		Somewhat support		59%
		Somewhat oppose		6%
		Strongly oppose		5%
Additional speedbumps	Strongly support		16%	
	Somewhat support		35%	
	Somewhat oppose		22%	
	Strongly oppose		27%	
How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for getting information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?	City website ( <a href="https://www.battlecreekmi.gov">https://www.battlecreekmi.gov</a> )	Major source		33%
		Minor source		44%
		Not a source		23%
	Local media outlets (newspaper, radio, local	Major source		48%





## National benchmark tables

This table contains the comparisons of Battle Creek’s results to those from other communities. The first column shows the comparison of Battle Creek’s rating to the benchmark. Battle Creek’s results are noted as being “higher”, “lower” or “similar” to the benchmark, meaning that the average rating given by Battle Creek residents is statistically similar to or different than the benchmark. The second column is Battle Creek’s “percent positive.” Most commonly, the percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., excellent/good). The third column is the rank assigned to Battle Creek’s rating among communities where a similar question was asked. The fourth column is the number of communities that asked a similar question. The fifth column shows the percentile for Battle Creek’s result -- that is what percent of surveyed communities had a lower rating than Battle Creek.

			% positive	Rank	Number of communities	Percentile
<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.</b>	Battle Creek as a place to live	Much lower	42%	348	348	0
	Your neighborhood as a place to live	Much lower	59%	298	300	1
	Battle Creek as a place to raise children	Much lower	35%	350	352	0
	Battle Creek as a place to work	Lower	51%	275	343	20
	Battle Creek as a place to visit	Much lower	27%	298	301	1
	Battle Creek as a place to retire	Much lower	30%	344	348	1
	The overall quality of life	Much lower	38%	369	374	1
	Sense of community	Much lower	28%	300	300	0
<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health	Much lower	17%	286	288	1
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Lower	37%	153	177	14
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Lower	42%	250	281	11
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Lower	53%	157	173	9
	Overall feeling of safety	Much lower	37%	332	338	2
	Overall quality of natural environment	Lower	52%	281	290	3
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Lower	56%	168	178	6
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Much lower	39%	274	283	3

<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.</b>	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Much lower	29%	277	285	3
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Much lower	23%	172	174	1
<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in Battle Creek to someone who asks	Much lower	47%	290	292	1
	Remain in Battle Creek for the next five years	Lower	64%	285	289	1
<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	In your neighborhood during the day	Lower	76%	305	319	4
	In Battle Creek's downtown/commercial area during the day	Lower	75%	277	303	8
	From property crime	Lower	45%	172	182	6
	From violent crime	Much lower	48%	175	182	3
	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Similar	80%	122	172	29
<b>Please rate the job you feel the Battle Creek community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome	Lower	48%	175	180	3
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Similar	53%	126	177	29
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Lower	47%	168	178	6
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Lower	34%	161	174	8
<b>Please rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Lower	46%	261	288	9
	Variety of business and service establishments	Lower	36%	160	174	8
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Lower	23%	248	270	8
	Employment opportunities	Similar	43%	193	304	36
	Shopping opportunities	Much lower	26%	267	295	9
	Cost of living	Similar	38%	153	282	46
	Overall image or reputation	Much lower	20%	341	343	0
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	Similar	60%	127	316	60
	Ease of public parking	Similar	56%	134	264	49
	Ease of travel by car	Similar	75%	119	303	61



Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.

Ease of travel by public transportation	Similar	31%	163	264	38
Ease of travel by bicycle	Similar	41%	204	305	33
Ease of walking	Lower	47%	264	306	14
Well-planned residential growth	Lower	24%	166	176	6
Well-planned commercial growth	Lower	22%	168	176	5
Well-designed neighborhoods	Lower	32%	168	173	3
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Lower	38%	170	173	2
Public places where people want to spend time	Much lower	25%	271	276	2
Variety of housing options	Lower	25%	256	288	11
Availability of affordable quality housing	Similar	26%	230	310	26
Overall quality of new development	Much lower	24%	292	300	3
Overall appearance	Much lower	31%	320	322	0
Cleanliness	Much lower	30%	302	310	2
Water resources	Similar	49%	115	158	27
Air quality	Lower	59%	257	275	6
Availability of paths and walking trails	Similar	59%	219	307	28
Fitness opportunities	Lower	58%	241	276	13
Recreational opportunities	Lower	43%	285	297	4
Availability of affordable quality food	Lower	37%	260	270	4
Availability of affordable quality health care	Lower	35%	256	279	8
Availability of preventive health services	Lower	43%	237	265	10
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Lower	27%	225	266	15
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Lower	36%	257	293	12

<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Community support for the arts	Lower	32%	159	173	8
	Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Lower	25%	257	277	7
	K-12 education	Much lower	34%	259	280	7
	Adult educational opportunities	Lower	41%	231	273	15
	Sense of civic/community pride	Much lower	25%	172	173	1
	Neighborliness of residents	Lower	31%	274	277	1
	Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Lower	36%	275	284	3
	Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Lower	37%	275	283	3
	Opportunities to volunteer	Lower	52%	263	280	6
	Opportunities to participate in community matters	Lower	41%	279	283	1
	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Lower	38%	291	300	3
	<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of Battle Creek for help or information	Similar	49%	117	318
Contacted Battle Creek elected officials to express your opinion		Similar	11%	243	276	12
Attended a local public meeting		Similar	10%	266	279	5
Watched a local public meeting		Similar	27%	103	260	60
Volunteered your time to some group/activity		Similar	37%	100	281	64
Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate		Similar	17%	164	270	39
Voted in your most recent local election		Much lower	55%	170	175	3
Used public transportation instead of driving		Similar	23%	81	252	68
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone		Similar	48%	57	273	79
Walked or biked instead of driving		Similar	50%	194	277	30
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.</b>	Public information services	Lower	42%	287	296	3
	Economic development	Lower	23%	279	289	3

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.

Traffic enforcement	Lower	41%	319	337	5
Traffic signal timing	Lower	42%	269	281	4
Street repair	Much lower	13%	326	332	2
Street cleaning	Lower	36%	277	295	6
Street lighting	Similar	45%	277	324	14
Snow removal	Lower	49%	204	250	18
Sidewalk maintenance	Lower	30%	278	291	4
Bus or transit services	Similar	34%	185	261	29
Land use, planning and zoning	Lower	24%	278	297	6
Code enforcement	Lower	18%	317	330	4
Affordable high-speed internet access	Similar	46%	131	170	23
Garbage collection	Lower	69%	283	313	9
Drinking water	Lower	48%	273	292	6
Sewer services	Similar	70%	259	295	12
Storm water management	Lower	53%	269	309	13
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Lower	60%	220	234	6
Utility billing	Lower	50%	251	261	4
Police/Sheriff services	Lower	59%	346	364	5
Crime prevention	Much lower	33%	323	336	4
Animal control	Lower	41%	287	307	6
Ambulance or emergency medical services	Lower	68%	294	302	2
Fire services	Similar	82%	297	327	9
Fire prevention and education	Lower	59%	279	292	4



























<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.</b>	Emergency preparedness	Lower	46%	277	291	5
	Preservation of natural areas	Lower	45%	239	274	13
	Battle Creek open space	Lower	36%	261	266	2
	Recycling	Lower	53%	275	316	13
	Yard waste pick-up	Similar	58%	218	272	20
	City parks	Lower	51%	297	309	4
	Recreation programs or classes	Much lower	32%	296	302	2
	Recreation centers or facilities	Much lower	34%	276	286	3
	Health services	Lower	45%	230	260	11
	Public library services	Similar	77%	218	307	29
	Overall customer service by Battle Creek employees	Lower	53%	337	352	4
	<b>Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to Battle Creek	Lower	26%	350	356
The overall direction that Battle Creek is taking		Lower	32%	306	321	4
The job Battle Creek government does at welcoming resident involvement		Lower	35%	300	319	5
Overall confidence in Battle Creek government		Lower	28%	276	286	3
Generally acting in the best interest of the community		Lower	31%	280	290	3
Being honest		Lower	31%	264	281	6
Being open and transparent to the public		Lower	27%	169	179	6
Informing residents about issues facing the community		Lower	30%	179	184	3
Treating all residents fairly		Much lower	31%	282	287	2
Treating residents with respect		Lower	39%	174	176	1
<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of Battle Creek	Much lower	38%	340	348	2
	The Federal Government	Similar	34%	232	270	14





















<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Battle Creek community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	Similar	91%	111	262	57
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Similar	72%	80	172	54
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Lower	55%	258	262	1
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Similar	82%	150	171	12
	Overall feeling of safety	Similar	93%	91	262	65
	Overall quality of natural environment	Similar	76%	237	262	9
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Similar	73%	168	172	2
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Similar	82%	117	262	55
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Similar	80%	90	262	65
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Similar	70%	144	262	45
<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Access the internet from your home	Lower	84%	166	172	4
	Access the internet from your cell phone	Similar	89%	148	172	14
	Visit social media sites	Similar	80%	77	171	55
	Use or check email	Similar	89%	171	172	1
	Share your opinions online	Higher	42%	8	172	95
	Shop online	Similar	46%	149	172	13
	Please rate your overall health.	Lower	48%	272	272	0
	What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	Lower	10%	267	274	2

## Complete set of frequencies



























This dashboard contains a complete set of responses to each question on the survey. By default, "don't know" responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter to the right. In some tables, the percentages may not sum to 100%; this is either because the question permitted the respondent to "choose all that apply", or for a question that asked the respondent to select one answer, it is due to the customary practice of rounding values to the nearest whole number.



























Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.	Aspect	Rating	Frequency	
			Percentage	Count (N)
Battle Creek as a place to live		Excellent	5%	N=14
		Good	36%	N=101
		Fair	46%	N=131
		Poor	13%	N=37
Your neighborhood as a place to live		Excellent	16%	N=44
		Good	43%	N=120
		Fair	28%	N=80
		Poor	14%	N=38
Battle Creek as a place to raise children		Excellent	7%	N=17
		Good	28%	N=70
		Fair	37%	N=92
		Poor	29%	N=72
Battle Creek as a place to work		Excellent	12%	N=32
		Good	37%	N=97
		Fair	32%	N=84
		Poor	18%	N=46
Battle Creek as a place to visit		Excellent	5%	N=14
		Good	22%	N=59
		Fair	34%	N=93
		Poor	39%	N=107
Battle Creek as a place to retire		Excellent	5%	N=13
		Good	24%	N=56
		Fair	30%	N=70



























<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.</b>	Battle Creek as a place to retire	Poor		41% N=94
	The overall quality of life	Excellent		4% N=12
		Good		34% N=94
		Fair		50% N=139
		Poor		12% N=34
Sense of community	Excellent		5% N=14	
	Good		22% N=61	
	Fair		34% N=93	
	Poor		38% N=104	
<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health	Excellent		4% N=10
		Good		13% N=34
		Fair		51% N=133
		Poor		33% N=86
Overall quality of the transportation system	Excellent		6% N=14	
	Good		31% N=78	
	Fair		33% N=81	
	Poor		30% N=76	
Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Excellent		6% N=17	
	Good		36% N=102	
	Fair		42% N=117	
	Poor		15% N=43	
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Excellent		6% N=15	
	Good		47% N=128	
	Fair		31% N=85	
	Poor		16% N=43	
Overall feeling of safety	Excellent		5% N=13	

<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.</b>	Overall feeling of safety	Good		32% N=89
		Fair		31% N=84
		Poor		32% N=89
Overall quality of natural environment	Excellent			8% N=22
	Good			43% N=119
	Fair			35% N=96
	Poor			14% N=38
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Excellent			13% N=36
	Good			43% N=117
	Fair			28% N=75
	Poor			16% N=44
Overall health and wellness opportunities	Excellent			6% N=16
	Good			34% N=91
	Fair			39% N=104
	Poor			21% N=57
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Excellent			7% N=18
	Good			22% N=59
	Fair			38% N=102
	Poor			33% N=90
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Excellent			5% N=12
	Good			18% N=45
	Fair			44% N=111
	Poor			33% N=84
<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in Battle Creek to someone who asks	Very likely		6% N=17
		Somewhat likely		40% N=110
		Somewhat unlikely		27% N=75





























<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in Battle Creek to someone who asks	Very unlikely		27% N=75
	Remain in Battle Creek for the next five years	Very likely		36% N=96
		Somewhat likely		27% N=73
		Somewhat unlikely		22% N=60
		Very unlikely		14% N=39
<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	In your neighborhood during the day	Very safe		46% N=130
		Somewhat safe		29% N=82
		Neither safe nor unsafe		14% N=41
		Somewhat unsafe		8% N=23
		Very unsafe		2% N=7
	In Battle Creek's downtown/commercial area during the day	Very safe		31% N=84
		Somewhat safe		44% N=120
		Neither safe nor unsafe		16% N=43
		Somewhat unsafe		5% N=14
		Very unsafe		5% N=14
	From property crime	Very safe		13% N=35
		Somewhat safe		33% N=91
		Neither safe nor unsafe		19% N=52
		Somewhat unsafe		26% N=72
		Very unsafe		10% N=28
From violent crime	Very safe		12% N=33	
	Somewhat safe		36% N=97	
	Neither safe nor unsafe		23% N=62	
	Somewhat unsafe		21% N=59	
	Very unsafe		8% N=23	
From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Very safe		35% N=99	

<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Somewhat safe		45% N=125
		Neither safe nor unsafe		11% N=31
		Somewhat unsafe		7% N=20
		Very unsafe		3% N=7
<b>Please rate the job you feel the Battle Creek community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome	Excellent		8% N=21
		Good		40% N=101
		Fair		33% N=85
		Poor		18% N=46
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		10% N=24
		Good		43% N=104
		Fair		32% N=77
		Poor		15% N=36
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		9% N=23
		Good		37% N=89
		Fair		34% N=83
		Poor		19% N=47
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Excellent		8% N=18
		Good		25% N=56
		Fair		31% N=71
		Poor		36% N=81
<b>Please rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Overall quality of business and service establishments	Excellent		9% N=26
		Good		37% N=102
		Fair		39% N=110
		Poor		15% N=41
	Variety of business and service establishments	Excellent		6% N=18
		Good		29% N=80

<b>Please rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Variety of business and service establishments	Fair		37% N=103
		Poor		28% N=77
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Excellent		6% N=14
		Good		17% N=44
		Fair		41% N=106
		Poor		36% N=94
	Employment opportunities	Excellent		6% N=15
		Good		36% N=91
		Fair		35% N=89
		Poor		22% N=56
	Shopping opportunities	Excellent		4% N=12
		Good		22% N=62
		Fair		29% N=81
		Poor		45% N=126
	Cost of living	Excellent		16% N=46
		Good		22% N=60
		Fair		35% N=98
		Poor		27% N=76
	Overall image or reputation	Excellent		3% N=7
		Good		18% N=49
		Fair		38% N=105
		Poor		42% N=116
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	Excellent		9% N=27
		Good		50% N=142
		Fair		24% N=68
		Poor		16% N=45

Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.









Ease of public parking	Excellent		20% N=53
	Good		36% N=97
	Fair		33% N=89
	Poor		12% N=33
Ease of travel by car	Excellent		25% N=71
	Good		50% N=142
	Fair		20% N=56
	Poor		5% N=13
Ease of travel by public transportation	Excellent		9% N=14
	Good		22% N=36
	Fair		28% N=45
	Poor		41% N=66
Ease of travel by bicycle	Excellent		14% N=29
	Good		27% N=56
	Fair		36% N=76
	Poor		23% N=49
Ease of walking	Excellent		15% N=39
	Good		32% N=82
	Fair		29% N=74
	Poor		24% N=62
Well-planned residential growth	Excellent		6% N=11
	Good		17% N=33
	Fair		35% N=65
	Poor		42% N=78
Well-planned commercial growth	Excellent		4% N=9
	Good		17% N=33

Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.				
Well-planned commercial growth	Fair		36%	N=72
	Poor		43%	N=86
Well-designed neighborhoods	Excellent		4%	N=11
	Good		28%	N=67
	Fair		42%	N=102
	Poor		26%	N=63
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	Excellent		10%	N=24
	Good		28%	N=65
	Fair		35%	N=83
	Poor		26%	N=62
Public places where people want to spend time	Excellent		5%	N=13
	Good		20%	N=53
	Fair		42%	N=114
	Poor		33%	N=90
Variety of housing options	Excellent		4%	N=10
	Good		20%	N=53
	Fair		41%	N=106
	Poor		35%	N=93
Availability of affordable quality housing	Excellent		5%	N=14
	Good		20%	N=51
	Fair		23%	N=59
	Poor		51%	N=129
Overall quality of new development	Excellent		5%	N=11
	Good		19%	N=41
	Fair		36%	N=79
	Poor		40%	N=89

Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.

Overall appearance	Excellent		4% N=12
	Good		25% N=70
	Fair		41% N=113
	Poor		29% N=79
Cleanliness	Excellent		6% N=15
	Good		25% N=68
	Fair		43% N=119
	Poor		26% N=72
Water resources	Excellent		12% N=31
	Good		37% N=97
	Fair		37% N=99
	Poor		14% N=38
Air quality	Excellent		8% N=21
	Good		50% N=135
	Fair		29% N=77
	Poor		13% N=35
Availability of paths and walking trails	Excellent		22% N=57
	Good		36% N=95
	Fair		27% N=72
	Poor		15% N=39
Fitness opportunities	Excellent		12% N=32
	Good		45% N=119
	Fair		28% N=73
	Poor		15% N=38
Recreational opportunities	Excellent		8% N=20
	Good		34% N=90



























**Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.**

Recreational opportunities	Fair		32% N=85
	Poor		26% N=68
Availability of affordable quality food	Excellent		9% N=24
	Good		28% N=76
	Fair		39% N=106
	Poor		24% N=65
Availability of affordable quality health care	Excellent		8% N=20
	Good		27% N=68
	Fair		40% N=101
	Poor		25% N=64
Availability of preventive health services	Excellent		8% N=20
	Good		34% N=81
	Fair		31% N=74
	Poor		26% N=61
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Excellent		6% N=12
	Good		20% N=37
	Fair		35% N=66
	Poor		38% N=72
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Excellent		10% N=23
	Good		25% N=59
	Fair		35% N=81
	Poor		30% N=70
Community support for the arts	Excellent		10% N=23
	Good		21% N=46
	Fair		35% N=78
	Poor		33% N=74

Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.



























Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Excellent		7% N=12
	Good		18% N=31
	Fair		33% N=58
	Poor		42% N=74
K-12 education	Excellent		8% N=17
	Good		26% N=52
	Fair		41% N=83
	Poor		25% N=52
Adult educational opportunities	Excellent		7% N=14
	Good		32% N=64
	Fair		32% N=64
	Poor		29% N=58
Sense of civic/community pride	Excellent		4% N=11
	Good		19% N=48
	Fair		46% N=114
	Poor		30% N=75
Neighborliness of residents	Excellent		10% N=26
	Good		21% N=55
	Fair		47% N=126
	Poor		22% N=58
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Excellent		9% N=20
	Good		27% N=62
	Fair		35% N=79
	Poor		29% N=65
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Excellent		11% N=28
	Good		25% N=61





























<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Fair		36% N=88
		Poor		27% N=67
	Opportunities to volunteer	Excellent		13% N=26
		Good		39% N=78
Fair			29% N=58	
Poor			19% N=38	
Opportunities to participate in community matters	Excellent		7% N=15	
	Good		33% N=67	
	Fair		35% N=70	
	Poor		25% N=49	
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Excellent		9% N=19	
	Good		29% N=64	
	Fair		37% N=82	
	Poor		25% N=56	
<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of Battle Creek for help or information	No		50% N=143
		Yes		50% N=140
	Contacted Battle Creek elected officials to express your opinion	No		89% N=251
		Yes		11% N=31
	Attended a local public meeting	No		89% N=252
		Yes		11% N=30
	Watched a local public meeting	No		73% N=202
		Yes		27% N=76
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	No		63% N=178
		Yes		37% N=103
	Campaign or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	No		83% N=233
		Yes		17% N=49

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.		
Voted in your most recent local election	No	45% N=126
	Yes	55% N=154
Used public transportation instead of driving	No	77% N=214
	Yes	23% N=64
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	No	53% N=149
	Yes	47% N=133
Walked or biked instead of driving	No	50% N=140
	Yes	50% N=142
Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.		
Public information services	Excellent	7% N=16
	Good	35% N=85
	Fair	38% N=93
	Poor	20% N=49
Economic development	Excellent	4% N=9
	Good	19% N=39
	Fair	47% N=98
	Poor	30% N=62
Traffic enforcement	Excellent	11% N=28
	Good	29% N=75
	Fair	33% N=84
	Poor	27% N=69
Traffic signal timing	Excellent	7% N=18
	Good	34% N=94
	Fair	26% N=72
	Poor	33% N=90
Street repair	Excellent	2% N=7
	Good	11% N=30



























**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.**

Street repair	Fair		27% N=76
	Poor		60% N=166
Street cleaning	Excellent		8% N=21
	Good		28% N=76
	Fair		40% N=109
	Poor		25% N=67
Street lighting	Excellent		9% N=26
	Good		35% N=97
	Fair		40% N=113
	Poor		15% N=42
Snow removal	Excellent		14% N=39
	Good		36% N=100
	Fair		33% N=92
	Poor		18% N=50
Sidewalk maintenance	Excellent		6% N=14
	Good		24% N=58
	Fair		35% N=85
	Poor		35% N=86
Bus or transit services	Excellent		8% N=12
	Good		26% N=40
	Fair		33% N=51
	Poor		34% N=52
Land use, planning and zoning	Excellent		5% N=8
	Good		19% N=29
	Fair		43% N=67
	Poor		34% N=53



























Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.



























Code enforcement	Excellent		5% N=8
	Good		13% N=23
	Fair		42% N=78
	Poor		41% N=77
Affordable high-speed internet access	Excellent		9% N=24
	Good		36% N=92
	Fair		27% N=67
	Poor		28% N=70
Garbage collection	Excellent		19% N=54
	Good		48% N=134
	Fair		24% N=67
	Poor		8% N=22
Drinking water	Excellent		9% N=23
	Good		38% N=102
	Fair		32% N=86
	Poor		21% N=55
Sewer services	Excellent		12% N=30
	Good		57% N=143
	Fair		23% N=58
	Poor		8% N=20
Storm water management	Excellent		12% N=29
	Good		40% N=96
	Fair		32% N=76
	Poor		16% N=38
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Excellent		13% N=36
	Good		47% N=128

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.



























Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Fair		33% N=90
	Poor		7% N=20
Utility billing	Excellent		11% N=29
	Good		39% N=104
	Fair		33% N=88
	Poor		16% N=43
Police/Sheriff services	Excellent		14% N=34
	Good		45% N=112
	Fair		25% N=61
	Poor		16% N=41
Crime prevention	Excellent		6% N=12
	Good		27% N=59
	Fair		35% N=76
	Poor		33% N=72
Animal control	Excellent		9% N=18
	Good		31% N=61
	Fair		48% N=95
	Poor		12% N=25
Ambulance or emergency medical services	Excellent		24% N=50
	Good		44% N=92
	Fair		26% N=55
	Poor		6% N=14
Fire services	Excellent		30% N=58
	Good		52% N=101
	Fair		16% N=32
	Poor		2% N=4

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.


























Fire prevention and education	Excellent		18% N=31
	Good		41% N=69
	Fair		24% N=41
	Poor		17% N=28
Emergency preparedness	Excellent		11% N=17
	Good		35% N=55
	Fair		25% N=40
	Poor		29% N=46
Preservation of natural areas	Excellent		9% N=19
	Good		35% N=71
	Fair		40% N=82
	Poor		16% N=33
Battle Creek open space	Excellent		5% N=10
	Good		30% N=61
	Fair		46% N=94
	Poor		19% N=39
Recycling	Excellent		17% N=42
	Good		35% N=88
	Fair		24% N=60
	Poor		24% N=59
Yard waste pick-up	Excellent		19% N=42
	Good		39% N=86
	Fair		31% N=69
	Poor		12% N=26
City parks	Excellent		12% N=30
	Good		39% N=100

<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.</b>	City parks	Fair		38% N=96
		Poor		11% N=28
	Recreation programs or classes	Excellent		7% N=14
		Good		24% N=47
		Fair		47% N=92
		Poor		21% N=41
	Recreation centers or facilities	Excellent		7% N=15
		Good		27% N=56
		Fair		46% N=94
		Poor		20% N=41
	Health services	Excellent		8% N=19
		Good		37% N=88
		Fair		40% N=95
		Poor		15% N=37
	Public library services	Excellent		41% N=99
		Good		36% N=87
		Fair		15% N=36
		Poor		7% N=18
	Overall customer service by Battle Creek employees	Excellent		14% N=35
		Good		40% N=99
		Fair		32% N=79
		Poor		15% N=38
<b>Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to Battle Creek	Excellent		4% N=10
		Good		22% N=54
		Fair		34% N=86
		Poor		40% N=99























**Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance.**

The overall direction that Battle Creek is taking	Excellent		3% N=8
	Good		28% N=67
	Fair		36% N=84
	Poor		33% N=78
The job Battle Creek government does at welcoming resident involvement	Excellent		4% N=9
	Good		30% N=59
	Fair		31% N=61
	Poor		35% N=70
Overall confidence in Battle Creek government	Excellent		3% N=8
	Good		24% N=56
	Fair		40% N=93
	Poor		33% N=79
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Excellent		5% N=11
	Good		25% N=59
	Fair		38% N=88
	Poor		32% N=75
Being honest	Excellent		6% N=13
	Good		24% N=46
	Fair		42% N=82
	Poor		28% N=54
Being open and transparent to the public	Excellent		5% N=10
	Good		21% N=42
	Fair		37% N=72
	Poor		37% N=73
Informing residents about issues facing the community	Excellent		7% N=15
	Good		23% N=54





























<b>Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance.</b>	Informing residents about issues facing the community	Fair		33% N=77
		Poor		38% N=90
	Treating all residents fairly	Excellent		5% N=10
		Good		25% N=54
Fair			30% N=64	
Poor			40% N=84	
Treating residents with respect	Excellent		6% N=13	
	Good		32% N=67	
	Fair		34% N=70	
	Poor		28% N=60	
<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of Battle Creek	Excellent		6% N=16
		Good		31% N=86
		Fair		44% N=121
		Poor		18% N=50
	The Federal Government	Excellent		6% N=15
		Good		27% N=70
		Fair		32% N=81
		Poor		35% N=89
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Battle Creek community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	Essential		47% N=131
		Very important		43% N=120
		Somewhat important		8% N=23
		Not at all important		1% N=3
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Essential		33% N=92
		Very important		38% N=108
		Somewhat important		25% N=71
		Not at all important		4% N=10



























Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Battle Creek community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.

Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Essential		18% N=51
	Very important		36% N=100
	Somewhat important		40% N=112
	Not at all important		6% N=18
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Essential		42% N=117
	Very important		40% N=111
	Somewhat important		17% N=46
	Not at all important		2% N=6
Overall feeling of safety	Essential		59% N=166
	Very important		33% N=93
	Somewhat important		6% N=17
	Not at all important		2% N=5
Overall quality of natural environment	Essential		28% N=79
	Very important		47% N=130
	Somewhat important		24% N=65
	Not at all important		1% N=3
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Essential		20% N=54
	Very important		53% N=146
	Somewhat important		26% N=72
	Not at all important		1% N=4
Overall health and wellness opportunities	Essential		30% N=83
	Very important		51% N=142
	Somewhat important		13% N=37
	Not at all important		6% N=16
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Essential		32% N=90
	Very important		48% N=133





















<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Battle Creek community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Somewhat important		19% N=53
		Not at all important		2% N=5
Residents' connection and engagement with their community		Essential		24% N=68
		Very important		44% N=124
		Somewhat important		30% N=83
		Not at all important		1% N=4
Overall, how would you rate the quality of Battle Creek's current traffic calming processes? (i.e. deliberately working to slow traffic in residential areas.)		Excellent		4% N=12
		Very good		16% N=44
		Good		33% N=93
		Fair		28% N=78
		Poor		19% N=53
<b>How much, if at all, do you support or oppose the following traffic calming methods in Battle Creek?</b>	Installing roundabouts	Strongly support		22% N=56
		Somewhat support		25% N=63
		Somewhat oppose		17% N=43
		Strongly oppose		37% N=95
	Additional enforcement	Strongly support		35% N=93
		Somewhat support		35% N=93
		Somewhat oppose		15% N=39
		Strongly oppose		15% N=39
	Enhanced signage	Strongly support		31% N=78
		Somewhat support		59% N=150
		Somewhat oppose		6% N=15
		Strongly oppose		5% N=12
	Additional speedbumps	Strongly support		16% N=41
		Somewhat support		35% N=94
		Somewhat oppose		22% N=59

<b>How much, if at all, do you support or oppose the following traffic calming methods in Battle Creek?</b>	Additional speedbumps	Strongly oppose		27% N=71
	<b>How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for getting information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?</b>	City website ( <a href="https://www.battlecreekmi.gov">https://www.battlecreekmi.gov</a> )	Major source	
Minor source				44% N=121
Not a source				23% N=63
Local media outlets (newspaper, radio, local television)	Major source		48% N=135	
	Minor source		30% N=84	
	Not a source		22% N=61	
AccessVision public access channels	Major source		13% N=36	
	Minor source		23% N=63	
	Not a source		65% N=181	
City newsletter	Major source		33% N=90	
	Minor source		35% N=98	
	Not a source		32% N=88	
City Commission meetings and other public meetings	Major source		14% N=38	
	Minor source		36% N=99	
	Not a source		51% N=140	
Talking with City officials and/or City employees	Major source		18% N=50	
	Minor source		35% N=95	
	Not a source		47% N=129	
City communications via social media (Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc.)	Major source		36% N=99	
	Minor source		33% N=92	
	Not a source		32% N=88	
Word-of-mouth	Major source		34% N=94	
	Minor source		46% N=127	
	Not a source		20% N=56	
Direct mailings (postcards and flyers)	Major source		43% N=121	

<b>How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for getting information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?</b>	Direct mailings (postcards and flyers)	Minor source		42% N=118
		Not a source		14% N=40
	Utility bill stuffers	Major source		35% N=97
		Minor source		31% N=87
		Not a source		34% N=95
	Which of these, if any, prevent you from engaging with the City of Battle Creek? (e.g., participating in public meetings, events, surveys, etc.)	Limited or no internet access		12% N=32
Accessibility (language, disability)			7% N=18	
Don't know how to receive city information			27% N=69	
No transportation			3% N=9	
Inconvenient timing			15% N=40	
Lack of interest			18% N=46	
Other			17% N=44	
<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Access the internet from your home	Several times a day		64% N=177
		Once a day		9% N=25
		A few times a week		10% N=28
		Every few weeks		2% N=6
		Less often or never		14% N=40
	Access the internet from your cell phone	Several times a day		82% N=226
		Once a day		3% N=9
		A few times a week		4% N=10
		Every few weeks		1% N=4
		Less often or never		9% N=26
	Visit social media sites	Several times a day		52% N=145
		Once a day		17% N=47
		A few times a week		11% N=31
		Every few weeks		2% N=6

<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Visit social media sites	Less often or never	 18% N=50
	Use or check email	Several times a day	 60% N=165
Once a day		 21% N=57	
A few times a week		 9% N=25	
Every few weeks		 4% N=11	
Less often or never		 7% N=19	
Share your opinions online		Several times a day	 9% N=24
	Once a day	 11% N=30	
	A few times a week	 22% N=60	
	Every few weeks	 11% N=30	
	Less often or never	 48% N=131	
Shop online	Several times a day	 6% N=18	
	Once a day	 6% N=16	
	A few times a week	 34% N=92	
	Every few weeks	 31% N=84	
	Less often or never	 23% N=64	
Please rate your overall health.	Excellent	 12% N=33	
	Very good	 36% N=102	
	Good	 32% N=92	
	Fair	 16% N=44	
	Poor	 5% N=13	
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	Very positive	 3% N=7	
	Somewhat positive	 7% N=21	
	Neutral	 33% N=94	
	Somewhat negative	 38% N=108	
	Very negative	 19% N=53	

How many years have you lived in Battle Creek?	Less than 2 years		16% N=47
	2-5 years		10% N=29
	6-10 years		16% N=47
	11-20 years		9% N=25
	More than 20 years		48% N=137
Which best describes the building you live in?	One family house detached from any other houses		64% N=182
	Building with two or more homes (duplex, townhome, apa..		32% N=91
	Mobile home		1% N=3
	Other		3% N=8
Do you rent or own your home?	Rent		40% N=113
	Own		60% N=171
About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	Less than \$500		17% N=47
	\$500 to \$999		42% N=117
	\$1,000 to \$1,499		24% N=65
	\$1,500 to \$1,999		9% N=25
	\$2,000 to \$2,499		3% N=7
	\$2,500 to \$2,999		2% N=6
	\$3,000 to \$3,499		2% N=5
	\$3,500 or more		1% N=4
Do any children 17 or under live in your household?	No		73% N=207
	Yes		27% N=75
Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?	No		73% N=207
	Yes		27% N=76
How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Less than \$25,000		20% N=56
	\$25,000 to \$49,999		34% N=93
	\$50,000 to \$74,999		22% N=60

How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	\$75,000 to \$99,999		12% N=33
	\$100,000 to \$149,999		8% N=21
	\$150,000 or more		5% N=13
Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino?	No, not Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino		94% N=264
	Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino		6% N=17
What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)	American Indian or Alaskan Native		2% N=5
	Asian, Asian Indian, or Pacific Islander		4% N=10
	Black or African American		14% N=39
	White		73% N=204
	Other		12% N=33
In which category is your age?	18-24 years		6% N=17
	25-34 years		25% N=70
	35-44 years		15% N=42
	45-54 years		19% N=54
	55-64 years		11% N=31
	65-74 years		16% N=44
	75 years or older		9% N=25
What is your gender?	Woman		53% N=148
	Man		46% N=129
	Identify in another way		2% N=5



## Full trends

This table contains the trends over time for the City of Battle Creek. The combined "percent positive" responses for each survey year are presented (e.g., excellent/good or yes). If an item was not included during an administration of the survey, no percentage will be shown in the table. If the difference between the 2018 and 2022 surveys is greater than seven percentage points, the change is statistically significant.

It is important to note that in 2020, The NCS survey was updated to include new and refreshed items. Consequently, some of the trends may be impacted due to wording modifications that could have potentially altered the meaning of the item for the respondent.

		1997	2004	2006	2009	2015	2018	2022
<b>Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.</b>	Battle Creek as a place to live					44%	38%	42%
	Your neighborhood as a place to live					57%	59%	59%
	Battle Creek as a place to raise children					36%	38%	35%
	Battle Creek as a place to work					37%	40%	51%
	Battle Creek as a place to visit					28%	24%	27%
	Battle Creek as a place to retire					23%	26%	30%
	The overall quality of life					33%	34%	38%
	Sense of community					22%	24%	28%
<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.</b>	Overall economic health					18%	19%	17%
	Overall quality of the transportation system							37%
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas					37%	33%	42%
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure							53%
	Overall feeling of safety				75%	35%	35%	37%
	Overall quality of natural environment					48%	50%	52%
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities							56%
	Overall health and wellness opportunities					41%	38%	39%
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts					43%	41%	29%
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community							23%
<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in Battle Creek to someone who asks					48%	46%	47%
	Remain in Battle Creek for the next five years					72%	66%	64%
<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	In your neighborhood during the day					76%	80%	76%
	In Battle Creek's downtown/commercial area during the day					69%	70%	75%
	From property crime							45%
	From violent crime							48%

<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	80%
<b>Please rate the job you feel the Battle Creek community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome	48%
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	53%
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	47%
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	34%
<b>Please rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Overall quality of business and service establishments	30% 26% 46%
	Variety of business and service establishments	36%
	Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	21% 16% 23%
	Employment opportunities	20% 25% 43%
	Shopping opportunities	31% 21% 26%
	Cost of living	33% 32% 38%
	Overall image or reputation	18% 16% 20%
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	55% 58% 60%
	Ease of public parking	49% 56% 56%
	Ease of travel by car	63% 67% 75%
	Ease of travel by public transportation	33% 41% 31%
	Ease of travel by bicycle	49% 46% 41%
	Ease of walking	46% 52% 47%
	Well-planned residential growth	24%
	Well-planned commercial growth	22%
	Well-designed neighborhoods	32%
	Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community	38%
	Public places where people want to spend time	33% 33% 25%
	Variety of housing options	36% 36% 25%
	Availability of affordable quality housing	36% 29% 26%
	Overall quality of new development	21% 21% 24%
	Overall appearance	31% 34% 31%
	Cleanliness	31% 33% 30%
	Water resources	49%
	Air quality	53% 57% 59%

<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Availability of paths and walking trails	55%	62%	59%	
	Fitness opportunities	53%	51%	58%	
	Recreational opportunities	39%	42%	43%	
	Availability of affordable quality food	44%	44%	37%	
	Availability of affordable quality health care	40%	42%	35%	
	Availability of preventive health services	42%	42%	43%	
	Availability of affordable quality mental health care	35%	35%	27%	
	Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	34%	33%	36%	
	Community support for the arts			32%	
	Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	39%	31%	25%	
	K-12 education	49%	46%	34%	
	Adult educational opportunities	45%	39%	41%	
	Sense of civic/community pride			25%	
	Neighborliness of residents	27%	36%	31%	
	Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	30%	31%	36%	
	Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	39%	40%	37%	
	Opportunities to volunteer	48%	48%	52%	
	Opportunities to participate in community matters	37%	40%	41%	
	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diver..	33%	39%	38%	
<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of Battle Creek for help or information	42%	44%	49%	
	Contacted Battle Creek elected officials to express your opinion	18%	18%	11%	
	Attended a local public meeting	16%	13%	10%	
	Watched a local public meeting	28%	29%	27%	
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	42%	41%	37%	
	Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	24%	27%	17%	
	Voted in your most recent local election			55%	
	Used public transportation instead of driving	20%	17%	23%	
	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	34%	39%	48%	
	Walked or biked instead of driving	46%	47%	50%	
	<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle</b>	Public information services	82%	45%	47%

**Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.**

Economic development	91%	22%	24%	23%
Traffic enforcement		42%	47%	41%
Traffic signal timing		26%	39%	42%
Street repair	43%	7%	14%	13%
Street cleaning	81%	20%	27%	36%
Street lighting		35%	41%	45%
Snow removal		34%	45%	49%
Sidewalk maintenance		20%	26%	30%
Bus or transit services	89%	40%	43%	34%
Land use, planning and zoning	94%	25%	25%	24%
Code enforcement	88%	17%	20%	18%
Affordable high-speed internet access				46%
Garbage collection	94%	96%	96%	69%
Drinking water		42%	50%	48%
Sewer services		53%	62%	70%
Storm water management		40%	46%	53%
Power (electric and/or gas) utility		58%	63%	60%
Utility billing		46%	59%	50%
Police/Sheriff services		52%	65%	59%
Crime prevention		33%	36%	33%
Animal control		38%	39%	41%
Ambulance or emergency medical services	99%	72%	72%	68%
Fire services		76%	82%	82%
Fire prevention and education		56%	59%	59%
Emergency preparedness		40%	42%	46%
Preservation of natural areas		39%	41%	45%
Battle Creek open space		31%	36%	36%
Recycling	91%	59%	75%	53%
Yard waste pick-up		65%	71%	58%
City parks		50%	59%	51%

<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.</b>	Recreation programs or classes	42%	45%	32%	
	Recreation centers or facilities	40%	42%	34%	
	Health services	42%	44%	45%	
	Public library services	73%	77%	77%	
	Overall customer service by Battle Creek employees	42%	52%	53%	
<b>Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to Battle Creek	76%	24%	25%	26%
	The overall direction that Battle Creek is taking	22%	25%	32%	
	The job Battle Creek government does at welcoming resident invol..	24%	23%	35%	
	Overall confidence in Battle Creek government	19%	23%	28%	
	Generally acting in the best interest of the community	24%	27%	31%	
	Being honest	23%	30%	31%	
	Being open and transparent to the public			27%	
	Informing residents about issues facing the community			30%	
	Treating all residents fairly	21%	27%	31%	
	Treating residents with respect			39%	
<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of Battle Creek	35%	42%	38%	
	The Federal Government	28%	31%	34%	
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Battle Creek community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	91%	89%	91%	
	Overall quality of the transportation system			72%	
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	63%	70%	55%	
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure			82%	
	Overall feeling of safety	89%	92%	93%	
	Overall quality of natural environment	68%	74%	76%	
	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities			73%	
	Overall health and wellness opportunities	79%	81%	82%	
	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	84%	87%	80%	
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	82%	79%	70%	
<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Access the internet from your home			84%	
	Access the internet from your cell phone			89%	
	Visit social media sites			80%	

<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Use or check email	89%
	Share your opinions online	42%
	Shop online	46%
	Please rate your overall health.	50% 43% 48%
	What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your fa..	26% 25% 10%

## Methods (open participation)

As part of its participation in The National Community Survey™ (The NCST™), the City of Battle Creek conducted a survey of 2,700 residents. Survey invitations were mailed to randomly selected households and data were collected from April 21st to June 24th. The results from this main survey effort represent the most robust estimate of your residents’ opinions.

After the above data collection period was underway, a link to an online open participation survey was publicized by the City of Battle Creek. The open participation survey was identical to the probability sample survey with two small updates; it included a map at the beginning asking where the respondent lives and also a question about where they heard about the survey. The open participation survey was open to all city residents and became available on May 17th. The survey remained open for 10 weeks and there were 420 responses.

The open participation survey data were not collected through a random sample and it is unknown who in the community was aware of the survey; therefore, a level of confidence in the representativeness of the sample cannot be estimated. However, to reduce bias where possible, these data were statistically weighted to match the demographic characteristics of the 2010 Census and 2020 American Community Survey estimates for adults in the City of Battle Creek. The characteristics used for weighting were age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, housing type, housing tenure, and area. No adjustments were made for design effects. Weights were calculated using an iterative, multiplicative raking model known as the ANES Weighting Algorithm.\* The results of the weighting scheme for the open participation survey are presented in the following table.

\* Pasek, J. (2010). ANES Weighting Algorithm. Retrieved from <https://web.stanford.edu/group/iriss/cgi-bin/anesrake/resources/RakingDescription.pdf>

		Unweighted	Weighted	Target*
Age	18-34	12%	30%	30%
	35-54	35%	34%	34%
	55+	54%	36%	36%
Hispanic origin	No, not Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino	94%	94%	94%
	Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispa..	6%	6%	6%
Housing tenure	Own	90%	61%	61%
	Rent	10%	39%	39%
Housing type	Attached	11%	33%	33%
	Detached	89%	67%	67%
Race & Hispanic origin	Not white alone	17%	32%	32%
	White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	83%	68%	68%
Sex	Man	45%	47%	47%
	Woman	55%	53%	53%
Sex/age	Man 18-34	4%	15%	15%
	Man 35-54	15%	16%	16%
	Man 55+	27%	17%	17%
	Woman 18-34	7%	15%	15%
	Woman 35-54	21%	18%	18%
	Woman 55+	26%	20%	20%

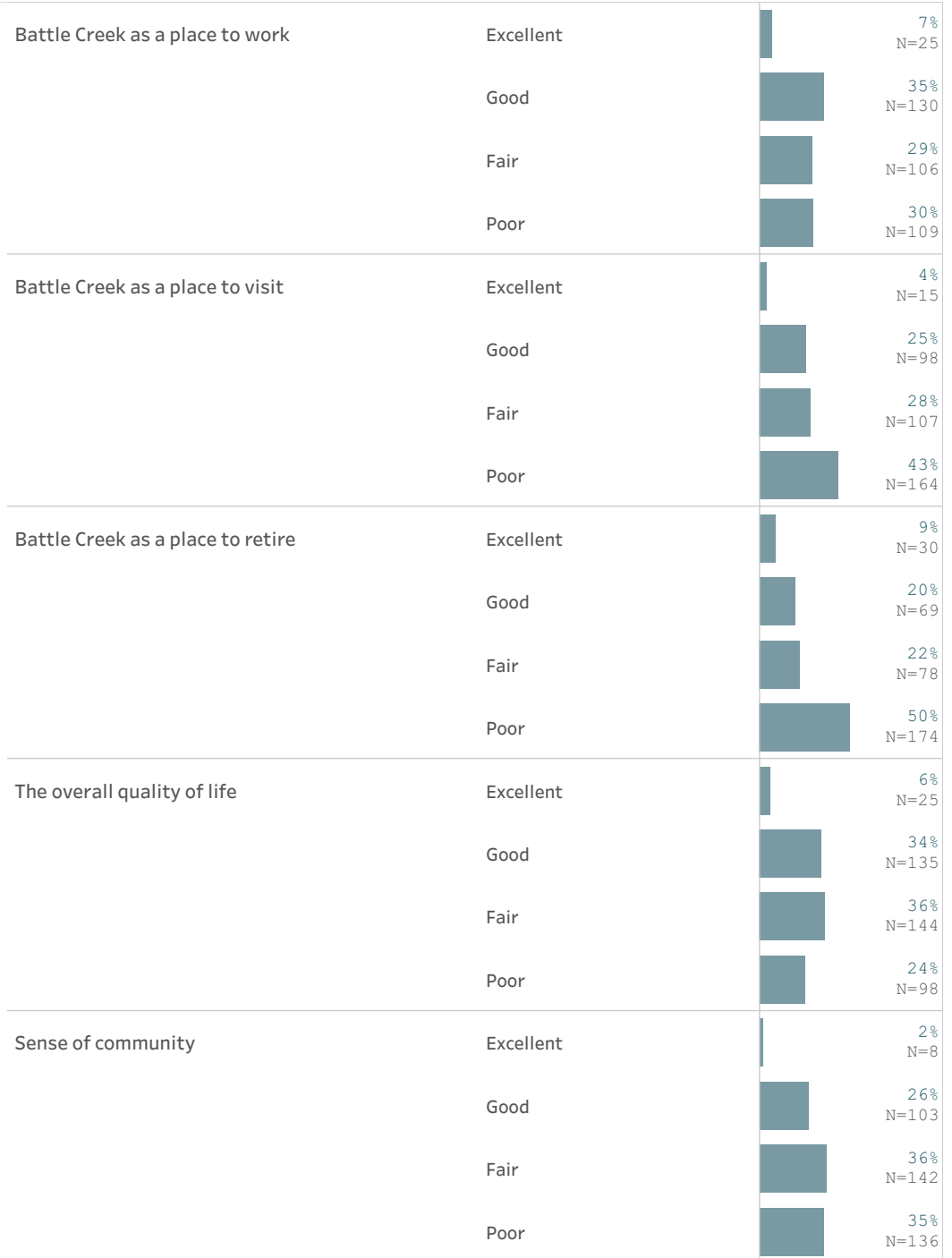
## Open participation survey results

This dashboard contains a complete set of responses to each question on the open participation survey. By default, "don't know" responses are excluded, but may be added to the table using the response filter to the right. In some tables, the percentages may not sum to 100%; this is either because the question permitted the respondent to "choose all that apply", or for a question that asked the respondent to select one answer, it is due to the customary practice of rounding values to the nearest whole number.

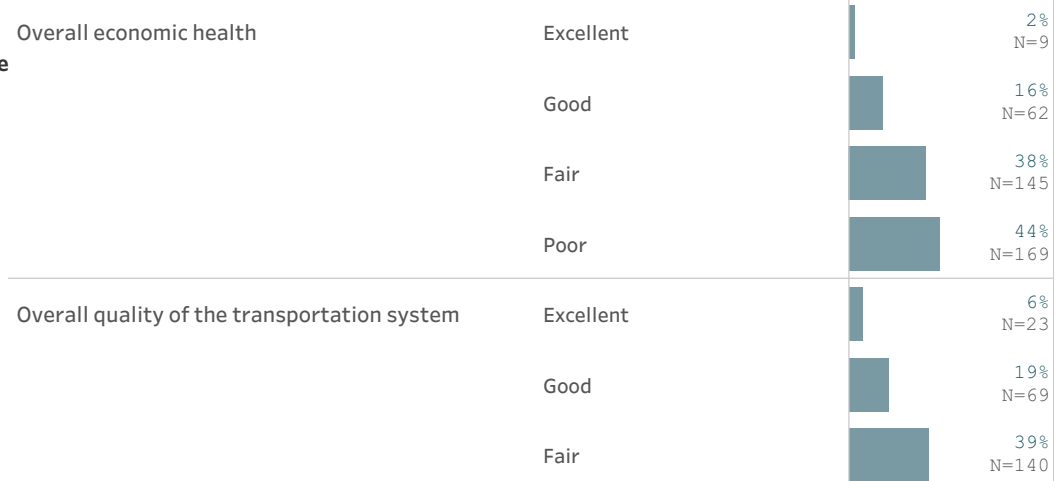
In which area of Battle creek do you live?	1 - Central	7% N=28
	2 - Downtown Business District	3% N=11
	3 - Minges Brook Riverside	17% N=68
	4 - North Central	9% N=35
	5 - North East	15% N=62
	6 - Post Franklin	5% N=20
	7 - Rural South West	12% N=50
	8 - Urbandale	6% N=24
	9 - W.K . Kellogg Airport/Fort Custer Industrial Park	5% N=18
	10 - Westlake Prairievew	13% N=54
	Other	6% N=24
	None of these/I do not reside in Battle Creek	2% N=8
Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.	Battle Creek as a place to live	Excellent 5% N=22
		Good 37% N=148
		Fair 33% N=134
		Poor 25% N=99
Your neighborhood as a place to live	Excellent	16% N=65
	Good	43% N=170
	Fair	24% N=96
	Poor	16% N=64
Battle Creek as a place to raise children	Excellent	5% N=16
	Good	29% N=98
	Fair	32% N=107
	Poor	35% N=118






























Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.



























Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.



Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.	Characteristic	Rating	Percentage and Count		
			Percentage	Count (N)	
Overall quality of the transportation system	Overall quality of the transportation system	Poor	36%	N=128	
		Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Excellent	5%	N=21
			Good	30%	N=119
			Fair	43%	N=166
Poor	22%	N=84			
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Excellent	12%	N=48	
		Good	36%	N=139	
		Fair	32%	N=123	
		Poor	20%	N=76	
Overall feeling of safety	Overall feeling of safety	Excellent	6%	N=22	
		Good	30%	N=120	
		Fair	24%	N=97	
		Poor	40%	N=157	
Overall quality of natural environment	Overall quality of natural environment	Excellent	14%	N=53	
		Good	36%	N=142	
		Fair	34%	N=132	
		Poor	16%	N=63	
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Excellent	15%	N=58	
		Good	36%	N=137	
		Fair	27%	N=101	
		Poor	22%	N=82	
Overall health and wellness opportunities	Overall health and wellness opportunities	Excellent	10%	N=36	
		Good	24%	N=91	
		Fair	34%	N=128	
		Poor	33%	N=124	
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Excellent	6%	N=24	
		Good	24%	N=91	






<b>Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.</b>	Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Fair		34% N=130
		Poor		35% N=134
	Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Excellent		3% N=11
		Good		17% N=64
		Fair		37% N=138
		Poor		42% N=156
<b>Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.</b>	Recommend living in Battle Creek to someone who asks	Very likely		10% N=40
		Somewhat likely		35% N=140
		Somewhat unlikely		15% N=58
		Very unlikely		40% N=161
	Remain in Battle Creek for the next five years	Very likely		35% N=129
		Somewhat likely		28% N=105
		Somewhat unlikely		12% N=46
		Very unlikely		25% N=93
<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	In your neighborhood during the day	Very safe		42% N=170
		Somewhat safe		31% N=123
		Neither safe nor unsafe		10% N=40
		Somewhat unsafe		11% N=46
		Very unsafe		6% N=24
	In Battle Creek's downtown/commercial area during the day	Very safe		29% N=108
		Somewhat safe		34% N=129
		Neither safe nor unsafe		16% N=59
		Somewhat unsafe		15% N=56
		Very unsafe		6% N=22
From property crime	Very safe		16% N=63	
	Somewhat safe		32% N=128	
	Neither safe nor unsafe		14% N=58	




























<b>Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:</b>	From property crime	Somewhat unsafe		21% N=82
		Very unsafe		17% N=69
	From violent crime	Very safe		19% N=72
		Somewhat safe		31% N=120
		Neither safe nor unsafe		11% N=43
		Somewhat unsafe		20% N=77
		Very unsafe		19% N=72
	From fire, flood, or other natural disaster	Very safe		37% N=145
		Somewhat safe		37% N=144
		Neither safe nor unsafe		13% N=52
Somewhat unsafe			5% N=20	
Very unsafe			7% N=26	
<b>Please rate the job you feel the Battle Creek community does at each of the following.</b>	Making all residents feel welcome	Excellent		7% N=26
		Good		26% N=97
		Fair		31% N=114
		Poor		36% N=134
	Attracting people from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		12% N=43
		Good		23% N=85
		Fair		38% N=136
		Poor		27% N=98
	Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds	Excellent		11% N=40
		Good		34% N=123
		Fair		25% N=90
		Poor		30% N=109
	Taking care of vulnerable residents	Excellent		2% N=6
		Good		27% N=97
		Fair		27% N=97

**Please rate the job you feel the Battle**

**Creek community does at each of the following.**

**Please rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.**

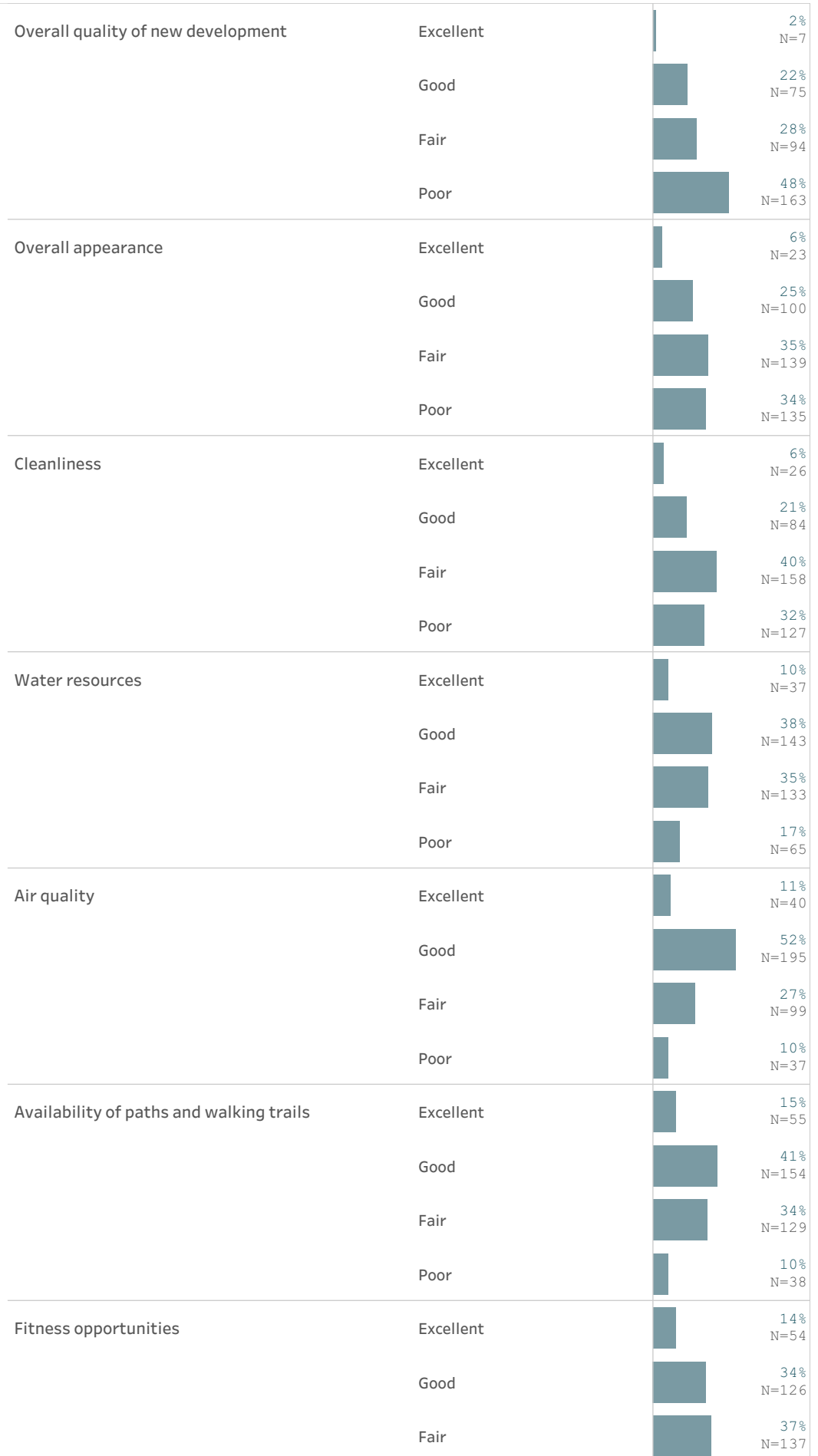
Taking care of vulnerable residents	Poor		44% N=158
Overall quality of business and service establishments	Excellent		6% N=22
	Good		29% N=115
	Fair		40% N=158
	Poor		25% N=98
Variety of business and service establishments	Excellent		5% N=20
	Good		18% N=70
	Fair		35% N=140
	Poor		42% N=165
Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area	Excellent		4% N=14
	Good		18% N=65
	Fair		37% N=136
	Poor		42% N=156
Employment opportunities	Excellent		7% N=23
	Good		29% N=103
	Fair		29% N=105
	Poor		35% N=127
Shopping opportunities	Excellent		5% N=20
	Good		17% N=67
	Fair		26% N=101
	Poor		52% N=206
Cost of living	Excellent		10% N=37
	Good		22% N=83
	Fair		39% N=149
	Poor		30% N=113
Overall image or reputation	Excellent		2% N=6
	Good		19% N=77

<b>Please rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Overall image or reputation	Fair		32% N=127
		Poor		47% N=188
<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Traffic flow on major streets	Excellent		10% N=41
		Good		44% N=172
		Fair		28% N=112
		Poor		17% N=69
Ease of public parking	Ease of public parking	Excellent		15% N=58
		Good		38% N=148
		Fair		35% N=134
		Poor		12% N=47
Ease of travel by car	Ease of travel by car	Excellent		22% N=86
		Good		48% N=188
		Fair		25% N=100
		Poor		5% N=19
Ease of travel by public transportation	Ease of travel by public transportation	Excellent		6% N=12
		Good		17% N=35
		Fair		34% N=71
		Poor		43% N=88
Ease of travel by bicycle	Ease of travel by bicycle	Excellent		8% N=22
		Good		30% N=82
		Fair		34% N=91
		Poor		28% N=76
Ease of walking	Ease of walking	Excellent		11% N=39
		Good		30% N=108
		Fair		37% N=134
		Poor		23% N=82
Well-planned residential growth	Well-planned residential growth	Excellent		3% N=10

Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.












Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.


















































































Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.

Fitness opportunities	Poor		15% N=56
Recreational opportunities	Excellent		10% N=40
	Good		27% N=105
	Fair		42% N=162
	Poor		20% N=78
Availability of affordable quality food	Excellent		7% N=26
	Good		32% N=125
	Fair		32% N=124
	Poor		30% N=118
Availability of affordable quality health care	Excellent		6% N=23
	Good		35% N=130
	Fair		25% N=92
	Poor		34% N=126
Availability of preventive health services	Excellent		7% N=25
	Good		34% N=126
	Fair		30% N=109
	Poor		29% N=106
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	Excellent		3% N=9
	Good		25% N=73
	Fair		23% N=69
	Poor		49% N=145
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	Excellent		7% N=25
	Good		23% N=83
	Fair		40% N=145
	Poor		31% N=113
Community support for the arts	Excellent		11% N=38
	Good		24% N=81




























Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.

Community support for the arts	Fair		38% N=129
	Poor		27% N=91
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool	Excellent		0% N=
	Good		18% N=38
	Fair		25% N=52
	Poor		57% N=123
K-12 education	Excellent		5% N=16
	Good		26% N=79
	Fair		31% N=96
	Poor		38% N=114
Adult educational opportunities	Excellent		3% N=9
	Good		25% N=68
	Fair		39% N=106
	Poor		33% N=90
Sense of civic/community pride	Excellent		3% N=10
	Good		21% N=77
	Fair		31% N=111
	Poor		45% N=163
Neighborliness of residents	Excellent		4% N=15
	Good		26% N=98
	Fair		35% N=134
	Poor		35% N=131
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	Excellent		6% N=23
	Good		27% N=100
	Fair		39% N=143
	Poor		28% N=105
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Excellent		8% N=30




























<b>Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.</b>	Opportunities to attend special events and festivals	Good		33% N=123
		Fair		36% N=135
		Poor		23% N=88
	Opportunities to volunteer	Excellent		9% N=28
		Good		39% N=124
		Fair		36% N=114
		Poor		17% N=54
	Opportunities to participate in community matters	Excellent		4% N=14
		Good		31% N=96
		Fair		36% N=115
		Poor		29% N=90
	Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	Excellent		5% N=17
Good			34% N=116	
Fair			34% N=115	
Poor			27% N=91	
<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Contacted the City of Battle Creek for help or information	No		53% N=212
		Yes		47% N=191
	Contacted Battle Creek elected officials to express your opinion	No		75% N=302
		Yes		25% N=101
	Attended a local public meeting	No		79% N=314
		Yes		21% N=83
	Watched a local public meeting	No		61% N=243
		Yes		39% N=154
	Volunteered your time to some group/activity	No		52% N=211
		Yes		48% N=192
	Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate	No		74% N=293
		Yes		26% N=104

<b>Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.</b>	Voted in your most recent local election	No		17% N=70
		Yes		83% N=333
	Used public transportation instead of driving	No		84% N=338
		Yes		16% N=63
	Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	No		56% N=227
		Yes		44% N=175
Walked or biked instead of driving	No		40% N=159	
	Yes		60% N=243	
<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.</b>	Public information services	Excellent		6% N=20
		Good		29% N=97
		Fair		39% N=131
		Poor		26% N=85
	Economic development	Excellent		2% N=9
		Good		19% N=64
		Fair		36% N=123
		Poor		43% N=147
	Traffic enforcement	Excellent		2% N=9
		Good		28% N=98
		Fair		30% N=107
		Poor		39% N=138
	Traffic signal timing	Excellent		5% N=18
		Good		19% N=73
		Fair		42% N=161
		Poor		35% N=133
Street repair	Excellent		1% N=4	
	Good		15% N=61	
	Fair		29% N=114	






















Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.

Street repair	Poor		55% N=217
Street cleaning	Excellent		7% N=27
	Good		30% N=118
	Fair		31% N=122
	Poor		31% N=121
Street lighting	Excellent		5% N=19
	Good		42% N=166
	Fair		35% N=140
	Poor		18% N=72
Snow removal	Excellent		14% N=53
	Good		40% N=152
	Fair		27% N=103
	Poor		20% N=76
Sidewalk maintenance	Excellent		4% N=15
	Good		29% N=106
	Fair		28% N=103
	Poor		40% N=149
Bus or transit services	Excellent		2% N=3
	Good		21% N=43
	Fair		44% N=89
	Poor		33% N=67
Land use, planning and zoning	Excellent		1% N=2
	Good		23% N=56
	Fair		36% N=89
	Poor		40% N=98
Code enforcement	Excellent		1% N=2
	Good		12% N=36




























Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.

Code enforcement	Fair		25% N=78
	Poor		63% N=195
Affordable high-speed internet access	Excellent		8% N=28
	Good		21% N=75
	Fair		33% N=120
	Poor		39% N=141
Garbage collection	Excellent		17% N=63
	Good		40% N=149
	Fair		29% N=109
	Poor		15% N=56
Drinking water	Excellent		13% N=47
	Good		38% N=136
	Fair		25% N=90
	Poor		23% N=80
Sewer services	Excellent		15% N=51
	Good		49% N=172
	Fair		26% N=89
	Poor		11% N=37
Storm water management	Excellent		12% N=40
	Good		39% N=130
	Fair		25% N=83
	Poor		23% N=75
Power (electric and/or gas) utility	Excellent		12% N=48
	Good		45% N=175
	Fair		27% N=106
	Poor		16% N=61
Utility billing	Excellent		9% N=31




























Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.

Utility billing	Good		34% N=125
	Fair		33% N=119
	Poor		25% N=90
Police/Sheriff services	Excellent		18% N=62
	Good		29% N=103
	Fair		26% N=91
	Poor		27% N=93
Crime prevention	Excellent		6% N=18
	Good		24% N=79
	Fair		30% N=98
	Poor		41% N=134
Animal control	Excellent		8% N=22
	Good		27% N=70
	Fair		34% N=90
	Poor		31% N=80
Ambulance or emergency medical services	Excellent		16% N=45
	Good		44% N=126
	Fair		30% N=85
	Poor		10% N=29
Fire services	Excellent		26% N=70
	Good		50% N=136
	Fair		18% N=48
	Poor		7% N=19
Fire prevention and education	Excellent		18% N=42
	Good		38% N=90
	Fair		25% N=59
	Poor		18% N=42




























Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.


























Emergency preparedness	Excellent		8% N=18
	Good		28% N=61
	Fair		34% N=74
	Poor		31% N=68
Preservation of natural areas	Excellent		9% N=26
	Good		33% N=96
	Fair		35% N=102
	Poor		22% N=64
Battle Creek open space	Excellent		6% N=17
	Good		33% N=97
	Fair		34% N=98
	Poor		27% N=80
Recycling	Excellent		12% N=42
	Good		31% N=107
	Fair		30% N=107
	Poor		27% N=95
Yard waste pick-up	Excellent		15% N=48
	Good		40% N=129
	Fair		26% N=85
	Poor		19% N=60
City parks	Excellent		11% N=42
	Good		39% N=149
	Fair		23% N=88
	Poor		27% N=101
Recreation programs or classes	Excellent		6% N=15
	Good		29% N=76
	Fair		27% N=71





<b>Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.</b>	Recreation programs or classes	Poor		38% N=98	
	Recreation centers or facilities	Excellent		5% N=14	
		Good		26% N=74	
		Fair		32% N=93	
		Poor		38% N=109	
	Health services	Excellent		6% N=20	
		Good		36% N=118	
		Fair		32% N=106	
		Poor		25% N=83	
	Public library services	Excellent		38% N=139	
		Good		46% N=168	
		Fair		11% N=40	
		Poor		5% N=18	
	Overall customer service by Battle Creek employees	Excellent		10% N=33	
		Good		43% N=150	
		Fair		27% N=94	
		Poor		20% N=69	
	<b>Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance.</b>	The value of services for the taxes paid to Battle Creek	Excellent		4% N=12
			Good		21% N=73
			Fair		33% N=112
		Poor		42% N=145	
The overall direction that Battle Creek is taking		Excellent		4% N=13	
		Good		26% N=93	
		Fair		24% N=86	
		Poor		47% N=170	
The job Battle Creek government does at welcoming resident involvement		Excellent		2% N=5	
		Good		21% N=65	




























**Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance.**

The job Battle Creek government does at welcoming resident involvement	Fair		32% N=100
	Poor		45% N=139
Overall confidence in Battle Creek government	Excellent		5% N=17
	Good		19% N=67
	Fair		35% N=123
	Poor		42% N=149
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	Excellent		4% N=15
	Good		22% N=74
	Fair		33% N=112
	Poor		41% N=141
Being honest	Excellent		6% N=18
	Good		24% N=76
	Fair		30% N=95
	Poor		39% N=122
Being open and transparent to the public	Excellent		4% N=12
	Good		18% N=57
	Fair		34% N=107
	Poor		44% N=137
Informing residents about issues facing the community	Excellent		6% N=19
	Good		19% N=64
	Fair		25% N=82
	Poor		50% N=167
Treating all residents fairly	Excellent		5% N=17
	Good		20% N=62
	Fair		29% N=92
	Poor		46% N=146
Treating residents with respect	Excellent		6% N=19




























<b>Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance.</b>	Treating residents with respect	Good		28% N=90
		Fair		32% N=103
		Poor		34% N=110
<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?</b>	The City of Battle Creek	Excellent		5% N=19
		Good		35% N=133
		Fair		32% N=120
		Poor		28% N=103
	The Federal Government	Excellent		2% N=7
		Good		25% N=88
		Fair		37% N=129
		Poor		36% N=128
<b>Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Battle Creek community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.</b>	Overall economic health	Essential		66% N=257
		Very important		29% N=114
		Somewhat important		5% N=20
		Not at all important		0% N=
	Overall quality of the transportation system	Essential		39% N=155
		Very important		36% N=140
		Somewhat important		21% N=84
		Not at all important		4% N=15
	Overall design or layout of residential and commercial areas	Essential		24% N=92
		Very important		34% N=135
		Somewhat important		38% N=150
		Not at all important		4% N=16
	Overall quality of the utility infrastructure	Essential		46% N=177
		Very important		37% N=144
		Somewhat important		15% N=58
		Not at all important		2% N=6


























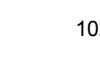
Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Battle Creek community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.




























Overall feeling of safety	Essential		57% N=223
	Very important		35% N=138
	Somewhat important		7% N=29
	Not at all important		1% N=5
Overall quality of natural environment	Essential		32% N=129
	Very important		43% N=170
	Somewhat important		23% N=90
	Not at all important		2% N=9
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities	Essential		31% N=123
	Very important		39% N=153
	Somewhat important		27% N=107
	Not at all important		3% N=11
Overall health and wellness opportunities	Essential		38% N=151
	Very important		41% N=165
	Somewhat important		20% N=82
	Not at all important		0% N=2
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts	Essential		43% N=172
	Very important		39% N=155
	Somewhat important		16% N=65
	Not at all important		1% N=6
Residents' connection and engagement with their community	Essential		32% N=127
	Very important		39% N=155
	Somewhat important		28% N=113
	Not at all important		1% N=5
Overall, how would you rate the quality of Battle Creek's current traffic calming processes? (i.e. deliberately working to slow traffic in residential areas.)	Excellent		6% N=25
	Very good		18% N=73
	Good		32% N=128

	Overall, how would you rate the quality of Battle Creek's current traffic calming processes? (i.e. deliberately working to slow traffic in residential areas.)	Fair		21% N=83
		Poor		23% N=90
<b>How much, if at all, do you support or oppose the following traffic calming methods in Battle Creek?</b>	Installing roundabouts	Strongly support		22% N=82
		Somewhat support		20% N=74
		Somewhat oppose		11% N=41
		Strongly oppose		47% N=172
	Additional enforcement	Strongly support		28% N=108
		Somewhat support		40% N=153
		Somewhat oppose		14% N=55
		Strongly oppose		17% N=64
	Enhanced signage	Strongly support		39% N=147
		Somewhat support		49% N=185
		Somewhat oppose		8% N=31
		Strongly oppose		4% N=17
Additional speedbumps	Strongly support		22% N=85	
	Somewhat support		33% N=123	
	Somewhat oppose		15% N=57	
	Strongly oppose		30% N=112	
<b>How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for getting information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?</b>	City website ( <a href="https://www.battlecreekmi.gov">https://www.battlecreekmi.gov</a> )	Major source		37% N=146
		Minor source		42% N=168
		Not a source		21% N=83
	Local media outlets (newspaper, radio, local television)	Major source		45% N=176
		Minor source		36% N=138
		Not a source		19% N=75
	AccessVision public access channels	Major source		7% N=27
		Minor source		23% N=92
		Not a source		70% N=278




























**How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for getting information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?**

City newsletter	Major source	 21% N=83
	Minor source	 42% N=163
	Not a source	 37% N=145
City Commission meetings and other public meetings	Major source	 15% N=58
	Minor source	 35% N=140
	Not a source	 50% N=198
Talking with City officials and/or City employees	Major source	 18% N=70
	Minor source	 32% N=125
	Not a source	 50% N=192
City communications via social media (Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc.)	Major source	 45% N=180
	Minor source	 27% N=109
	Not a source	 28% N=111
Word-of-mouth	Major source	 37% N=148
	Minor source	 46% N=180
	Not a source	 17% N=68
Direct mailings (postcards and flyers)	Major source	 44% N=175
	Minor source	 42% N=164
	Not a source	 14% N=56
Utility bill stuffers	Major source	 26% N=103
	Minor source	 37% N=150
	Not a source	 37% N=148
Which of these, if any, prevent you from engaging with the City of Battle Creek? (e.g., participating in public meetings, events, surveys, etc.)	Limited or no internet access	 13% N=46
	Accessibility (language, disability)	 5% N=20
	Don't know how to receive city information	 34% N=125
	No transportation	 12% N=44
	Inconvenient timing	 43% N=157
	No child care	 9% N=33

		Which of these, if any, prevent you from engaging with the City of Battle Creek? (e.g., participating in public meetings, events, surveys, etc.)	Lack of interest		32% N=116
			Other		21% N=78
<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Access the internet from your home		Several times a day		75% N=296
			Once a day		4% N=15
			A few times a week		9% N=36
			Every few weeks		4% N=15
			Less often or never		8% N=32
			Access the internet from your cell phone		
Once a day		4% N=16			
A few times a week		3% N=10			
Every few weeks		1% N=3			
Less often or never		6% N=24			
Visit social media sites			Several times a day		58% N=231
			Once a day		14% N=55
			A few times a week		9% N=35
			Every few weeks		1% N=4
			Less often or never		18% N=73
Use or check email			Several times a day		62% N=247
			Once a day		27% N=106
			A few times a week		9% N=35
			Every few weeks		1% N=3
			Less often or never		1% N=5
Share your opinions online			Several times a day		15% N=59
			Once a day		5% N=21
			A few times a week		12% N=47
			Every few weeks		21% N=82
			Less often or never		47% N=184

<b>In general, how many times do you:</b>	Shop online	Several times a day	 11% N=42
		Once a day	 6% N=24
		A few times a week	 30% N=115
		Every few weeks	 36% N=139
		Less often or never	 18% N=70
Please rate your overall health.	Excellent	 18% N=70	
	Very good	 41% N=164	
	Good	 26% N=101	
	Fair	 12% N=48	
	Poor	 3% N=14	
What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:	Very positive	 2% N=9	
	Somewhat positive	 7% N=29	
	Neutral	 26% N=102	
	Somewhat negative	 43% N=172	
	Very negative	 22% N=88	
How many years have you lived in Battle Creek?	Less than 2 years	 10% N=42	
	2-5 years	 11% N=44	
	6-10 years	 9% N=36	
	11-20 years	 13% N=53	
	More than 20 years	 56% N=226	
Which best describes the building you live in?	One family house detached from any other houses	 64% N=256	
	Building with two or more homes (duplex, townhome, apa..	 34% N=134	
	Other	 2% N=10	
Do you rent or own your home?	Rent	 41% N=163	
	Own	 59% N=237	
<b>About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and</b>	<b>About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?</b>	Less than \$500	 16% N=62
		\$500 to \$999	 46% N=182



<b>About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?</b>	About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	\$1,000 to \$1,499		19% N=73
		\$1,500 to \$1,999		10% N=39
		\$2,000 to \$2,499		4% N=16
		\$2,500 to \$2,999		3% N=12
		\$3,000 to \$3,499		0% N=1
		\$3,500 or more		2% N=8
	Do any children 17 or under live in your household?	No		75% N=299
		Yes		25% N=99
	Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?	No		72% N=287
		Yes		28% N=112
	How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Less than \$25,000		24% N=94
		\$25,000 to \$49,999		25% N=96
		\$50,000 to \$74,999		18% N=72
		\$75,000 to \$99,999		11% N=43
		\$100,000 to \$149,999		14% N=55
		\$150,000 or more		8% N=31
<b>Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?</b>	Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino?	No, not Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino		95% N=371
		Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino		5% N=21
	What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)	American Indian or Alaskan Native		3% N=13
		Asian, Asian Indian, or Pacific Islander		6% N=23
		Black or African American		12% N=46
		White		78% N=311
		Other		9% N=35
	In which category is your age?	18-24 years		7% N=27
		25-34 years		23% N=93
		35-44 years		16% N=64
		45-54 years		17% N=67

In which category is your age?	55-64 years		13% N=53
	65-74 years		18% N=72
	75 years or older		5% N=21
What is your gender?	Woman		51% N=205
	Man		45% N=180
	Identify in another way		3% N=14
How did you hear about this survey? (Select all that apply.)	The City's website		5% N=19
	The City's social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram,...		13% N=50
	Received an email from the City		7% N=28
	In a City newsletter or utility bill		2% N=7
	Received a postcard or letter from the City		74% N=297
	Nextdoor		2% N=7
	In my Facebook feed		5% N=18
	Saw it in a newspaper article or ad (hard copy or online)		1% N=6
	Saw a flyer or poster about it		1% N=3
	Heard about it from a family member, friend or neighborhood		1% N=3
	Heard about it from a business or social organization in my co..		0% N=
	Polco's weekly email		0% N=
	Polco social media post		1% N=2
	Other		3% N=14

Please complete this survey if you are the adult (age 18 or older) in the household who most recently had a birthday (the year of birth does not matter). Your responses are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

**1. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Battle Creek.**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Battle Creek as a place to live .....	1	2	3	4	5
Your neighborhood as a place to live .....	1	2	3	4	5
Battle Creek as a place to raise children .....	1	2	3	4	5
Battle Creek as a place to work.....	1	2	3	4	5
Battle Creek as a place to visit.....	1	2	3	4	5
Battle Creek as a place to retire.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall quality of life in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of community.....	1	2	3	4	5

**2. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Battle Creek as a whole.**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall economic health of Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall design or layout of Battle Creek's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.) .....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Battle Creek (water, sewer, storm water, electric, gas) .....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall feeling of safety in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of natural environment in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts.....	1	2	3	4	5
Residents' connection and engagement with their community .....	1	2	3	4	5

**3. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following.**

	<u>Very likely</u>	<u>Somewhat likely</u>	<u>Somewhat unlikely</u>	<u>Very unlikely</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Recommend living in Battle Creek to someone who asks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Remain in Battle Creek for the next five years.....	1	2	3	4	5

**4. Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:**

	<u>Very safe</u>	<u>Somewhat safe</u>	<u>Neither safe nor unsafe</u>	<u>Somewhat unsafe</u>	<u>Very unsafe</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
In your neighborhood during the day.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
In Battle Creek's downtown/commercial area during the day .....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From property crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From violent crime.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
From fire, flood, or other natural disaster .....	1	2	3	4	5	6

**5. Please rate the job you feel the Battle Creek community does at each of the following.**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Making all residents feel welcome .....	1	2	3	4	5
Attracting people from diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Valuing/respecting residents from diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Taking care of vulnerable residents (elderly, disabled, homeless, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5

**6. Please rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of business and service establishments in Battle Creek .....	1	2	3	4	5
Vibrancy of downtown/commercial area .....	1	2	3	4	5
Employment opportunities .....	1	2	3	4	5
Shopping opportunities .....	1	2	3	4	5
Cost of living in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall image or reputation of Battle Creek .....	1	2	3	4	5

**7. Please also rate each of the following in the Battle Creek community.**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Traffic flow on major streets.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of public parking.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by car in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by public transportation in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of travel by bicycle in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ease of walking in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned residential growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-planned commercial growth.....	1	2	3	4	5
Well-designed neighborhoods.....	1	2	3	4	5
Preservation of the historical or cultural character of the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public places where people want to spend time.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of housing options.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality housing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall quality of new development in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall appearance of Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Cleanliness of Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Water resources (beaches, lakes, ponds, riverways, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Air quality.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of paths and walking trails.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)... ..	1	2	3	4	5
Recreational opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality food.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality health care.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of preventive health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality mental health care.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Community support for the arts.....	1	2	3	4	5
Availability of affordable quality childcare/preschool.....	1	2	3	4	5
K-12 education.....	1	2	3	4	5
Adult educational opportunities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sense of civic/community pride.....	1	2	3	4	5
Neighborliness of residents in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to attend special events and festivals.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to volunteer.....	1	2	3	4	5
Opportunities to participate in community matters.....	1	2	3	4	5
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5

**8. Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.**

	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>
Contacted the City of Battle Creek (in-person, phone, email, or web) for help or information.....	1	2
Contacted Battle Creek elected officials (in-person, phone, email, or web) to express your opinion.....	1	2
Attended a local public meeting (of local elected officials like City Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.).....	1	2
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting.....	1	2
Volunteered your time to some group/activity in Battle Creek.....	1	2
Campaigned or advocated for a local issue, cause, or candidate.....	1	2
Voted in your most recent local election.....	1	2
Used bus, rail, subway, or other public transportation instead of driving.....	1	2
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone.....	1	2
Walked or biked instead of driving.....	1	2

**9. Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Battle Creek.**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Public information services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Economic development.....	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic enforcement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Traffic signal timing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street repair.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street cleaning.....	1	2	3	4	5
Street lighting.....	1	2	3	4	5
Snow removal.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sidewalk maintenance.....	1	2	3	4	5
Bus or transit services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Land use, planning, and zoning.....	1	2	3	4	5
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Affordable high-speed internet access.....	1	2	3	4	5
Garbage collection.....	1	2	3	4	5
Drinking water.....	1	2	3	4	5
Sewer services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Storm water management (storm drainage, dams, levees, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5
Power (electric and/or gas) utility.....	1	2	3	4	5
Utility billing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Police/Sheriff services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Crime prevention.....	1	2	3	4	5
Animal control.....	1	2	3	4	5
Ambulance or emergency medical services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Fire prevention and education.....	1	2	3	4	5
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations).....	1	2	3	4	5
Preservation of natural areas (open space, farmlands, and greenbelts).....	1	2	3	4	5
Battle Creek open space.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recycling.....	1	2	3	4	5
Yard waste pick-up.....	1	2	3	4	5
City parks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation programs or classes.....	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation centers or facilities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Health services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Public library services.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall customer service by Battle Creek employees (police, receptionists, planners, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	5

**10. Please rate the following categories of Battle Creek government performance.**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
The value of services for the taxes paid to Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
The overall direction that Battle Creek is taking.....	1	2	3	4	5
The job Battle Creek government does at welcoming resident involvement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall confidence in Battle Creek government.....	1	2	3	4	5
Generally acting in the best interest of the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Being honest.....	1	2	3	4	5
Being open and transparent to the public.....	1	2	3	4	5
Informing residents about issues facing the community.....	1	2	3	4	5
Treating all residents fairly.....	1	2	3	4	5
Treating residents with respect.....	1	2	3	4	5

**11. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?**

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
The City of Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4	5
The Federal Government.....	1	2	3	4	5

**12. Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Battle Creek community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years.**

	<u>Essential</u>	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>
Overall economic health of Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the transportation system (auto, bicycle, foot, bus) in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4
Overall design or layout of Battle Creek's residential and commercial areas (e.g., homes, buildings, streets, parks, etc.).....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of the utility infrastructure in Battle Creek (water, sewer, storm water, electric, gas).....	1	2	3	4
Overall feeling of safety in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of natural environment in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4
Overall quality of parks and recreation opportunities.....	1	2	3	4
Overall health and wellness opportunities in Battle Creek.....	1	2	3	4
Overall opportunities for education, culture, and the arts.....	1	2	3	4
Residents' connection and engagement with their community.....	1	2	3	4

**13. Overall, how would you rate the quality of Battle Creek's current traffic calming processes? (i.e. deliberately working to slow traffic in residential areas.)**

- Excellent     Very good     Good     Fair     Poor

**14. How much, if at all, do you support or oppose the following traffic calming methods in Battle Creek?**

	<u>Strongly support</u>	<u>Somewhat support</u>	<u>Somewhat oppose</u>	<u>Strongly oppose</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Installing roundabouts.....	1	2	3	4	5
Additional enforcement.....	1	2	3	4	5
Enhanced signage.....	1	2	3	4	5
Additional speedbumps.....	1	2	3	4	5

**15. How much of a source, if at all, are each of the following for you for getting information about the City government and its activities, events, and services?**

	<u>Major source</u>	<u>Minor source</u>	<u>Not a source</u>
City website ( <a href="https://www.battlecreekmi.gov">https://www.battlecreekmi.gov</a> ).....	1	2	3
Local media outlets (newspaper, radio, local television).....	1	2	3
AccessVision public access channels.....	1	2	3
City newsletter.....	1	2	3
City Commission meetings and other public meetings.....	1	2	3
Talking with City officials and/or City employees.....	1	2	3
City communications via social media (Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc.).....	1	2	3
Word-of-mouth.....	1	2	3
Direct mailings (postcards and flyers).....	1	2	3
Utility bill stuffers.....	1	2	3

**16. Which of these, if any, prevent you from engaging with the City of Battle Creek? (e.g., participating in public meetings, events, surveys, etc.)**

- Limited or no internet access                       No transportation                       Lack of interest  
 Accessibility (language, disability)                       Inconvenient timing                       Other  
 Don't know how to receive city information                       No child care

Our last questions are about you and your household.  
 Again, all of your responses to this survey are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

**D1. In general, how many times do you:**

	Several times a day	Once a day	A few times a week	Every few weeks	Less often or never	Don't know
Access the internet from your home using a computer, laptop, or tablet computer .....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Access the internet from your cell phone.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Visit social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, etc. ....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Use or check email.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Share your opinions online.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
Shop online.....	1	2	3	4	5	6

**D2. Please rate your overall health.**

- Excellent   
  Very good   
  Good   
  Fair   
  Poor

**D3. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months?**

**Do you think the impact will be:**

- Very positive   
  Somewhat positive   
  Neutral   
  Somewhat negative   
  Very negative

**D4. How many years have you lived in Battle Creek?**

- Less than 2 years  
 2-5 years  
 6-10 years  
 11-20 years  
 More than 20 years

**D5. Which best describes the building you live in?**

- One family house detached from any other houses  
 Building with two or more homes  
 (duplex, townhome, apartment, or condominium)  
 Mobile home  
 Other

**D6. Do you rent or own your home?**

- Rent  
 Own

**D7. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance, and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?**

- Less than \$500             \$2,000 to \$2,499  
 \$500 to \$999             \$2,500 to \$2,999  
 \$1,000 to \$1,499         \$3,000 to \$3,499  
 \$1,500 to \$1,999         \$3,500 or more

**D8. Do any children 17 or under live in your household?**

- No     Yes

**D9. Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?**

- No     Yes

**D10. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)**

- Less than \$25,000     \$75,000 to \$99,999  
 \$25,000 to \$49,999     \$100,000 to \$149,999  
 \$50,000 to \$74,999     \$150,000 or more

**D11. Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino?**

- No, not Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino  
 Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino

**D12. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)**

- American Indian or Alaskan Native  
 Asian, Asian Indian, or Pacific Islander  
 Black or African American  
 White  
 Other

**D13. In which category is your age?**

- 18-24 years             55-64 years  
 25-34 years             65-74 years  
 35-44 years             75 years or older  
 45-54 years

**D14. What is your gender?**

- Female  
 Male  
 Identify in another way

**Thank you!** Please return the completed survey in the postage-paid envelope to:  
**National Research Center, Inc., PO Box 549, Belle Mead, NJ 08502**