

# Summary: Milwaukee County Community Health Survey

This summary is a partial list of data from an online survey conducted by Conduent Healthy Communities Institute from August through October 2021 on behalf of Advocate Aurora Health, Ascension Wisconsin, Children's Wisconsin, Froedtert Health and the Milwaukee Health Care Partnership (MHCP). As part of an overall Community Health Needs Assessment to better understand community needs and community perception of health, the survey contained 50 questions and collected input from 8,616 Milwaukee County residents ages 18 years and older. The community health survey was promoted by MHCP member organizations and community partners across numerous traditional and digital communication channels, including a press release, member and partner websites, social media, emails, newsletters, events and on-the-ground outreach.

**Sample sizes:** County overall (n=8616), Black/African American (n=642), Hispanic/Latino (n=463), High-need zip codes (1535), Household with children (n=1145), Older adult (n=3450)

<b>PERSONAL HEALTH</b>						
Question: Self-rated personal health:						
	County overall n=8616	Black/African American n=642	Hispanic/Latino n=463	High-need zip codes n=1535	Household with children n=1145	Older adult (>65 yrs) n=3450
Very healthy	11.9%	2.1%	9.4%	9.8%	12.7%	13.5%
Healthy	46.0%	38.4%	36.8%	42.6%	42.7%	50.9%
Somewhat healthy	32.9%	44.2%	37.3%	36.8%	34.5%	29.4%
Unhealthy	7.3%	9.4%	13.0%	9.3%	8.3%	4.8%
Very unhealthy	1.9%	2.1%	3.5%	1.5%	1.8%	1.5%

<b>HEALTH CONDITIONS</b>						
Question: In the past three years, have you been treated for or been told by a doctor, nurse or health care provider that you have:						
Response: "YES"	County overall	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	High-need zip codes	Household with children	Older adult (>65 yrs)
Diabetes	13.0%	23.8%	15.8%	15.2%	6.3%	17.7%
High blood pressure	36.8%	52.1%	27.3%	38.8%	18.3%	53.3%
High cholesterol	31.5%	34.3%	24.9%	30.3%	18.2%	41.6%
Heart disease or heart condition	12.1%	9.6%	8.1%	10.6%	3.7%	20.7%
Mental health condition	20.9%	20.5%	30.0%	24.1%	27.7%	10.7%

<b>HEALTH BEHAVIORS</b>						
Question: In the past three years, have you participated in:						
Response: "YES"	County overall	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	High-need zip codes	Household with children	Older adult (>65 yrs)
Alcoholic consumption (binge drinking at least monthly)	22.7%	14.7%	18.6%	19.4%	21.2%	19.7%
Smoking cigarettes (some times or daily)	7.9%	10.2%	10.6%	11.0%	8.3%	5.8%
Electronic cigarettes (some times or daily)	2.3%	2.8%	4.3%	2.9%	2.8%	1.1%

<b>HEALTH CARE ACCESS</b>						
Question: Questions varied.						
Response: "YES"	County overall	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	High-need zip codes	Household with children	Older adult (>65 yrs)
I have health insurance	97.4%	95.0%	87.5%	94.8%	96.9%	99.1%
Did not access health care or dental health services in last 12 months	18.7%	24.6%	30.8%	23.0%	23.1%	12.0%
Cost as reason	52.2%	44.7%	56.6%	48.7%	51.7%	44.8%
Did not access mental health/substance use services in last 12 months	9.8%	12.7%	13.9%	11.5%	15.5%	3.6%
Cost as reason	37.5%	28.0%	38.2%	31.9%	32.2%	18.1%
I used the ER in the past 12 months	19.0%	26.5%	23.6%	22.5%	21.3%	19.3%

<b>HEALTH ISSUES</b>						
Question: From the following list, what do you think are the three most important health issues/conditions in your community?						
Response: "YES as one of the top three issues"	County overall	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	High-need zip codes	Household with children	Older adult (>65 yrs)
Mental health	50.4%	51.1%	58.2%	49.5%	62.0%	37.4%
Infectious disease (Includes COVID-19 as an issue)	38.3%	29.6%	31.0%	30.2%	34.9%	43.3%
Chronic disease	35.3%	40.7%	34.3%	34.9%	30.1%	38.7%
Drug use and abuse	34.8%	42.7%	37.7%	44.1%	36.3%	33.3%
Alcohol use and abuse	30.7%	32.7%	36.6%	33.3%	30.4%	30.4%

<b>HEALTH NEEDS</b>						
Question: From the following list, what do you think are the three most important community needs that have to be addressed to improve health for everyone in the community?						
Response: "YES as one of the top three issues"	County overall	Black/African American	Hispanic/Latino	High-need zip codes	Household with children	Older adult (>65 yrs)
Access to affordable health care	44.4%	36.4%	46.3%	39.9%	38.6%	45.0%
Access to mental health services	29.7%	28.2%	32.1%	27.0%	38.3%	21.9%
Access to affordable housing	22.7%	31.6%	29.5%	28.1%	22.7%	21.4%
Gun violence	21.2%	26.8%	11.6%	28.4%	n/a*	27.5%
Community safety	19.7%	22.1%	21.6%	22.0%	16.3%	22.4%

Individual Health Conditions and Behaviors

Community Health

**HEALTH CARE SERVICES****Question:** Below are some statements about health care services in your community. Select an option for your response in each.

<b>Response: "YES"</b>	<b>County overall</b>	<b>Black/African American</b>	<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	<b>High-need zip codes</b>	<b>Household with children</b>	<b>Older adult (&gt;65 yrs)</b>
Yes, I am connected to primary care that I am happy with	90.8%	88.6%	83.6%	89.0%	85.8%	96.2%
Yes, I can get an appointment when needed	83.9%	84.0%	80.2%	81.5%	77.5%	90.1%
Yes, I can easily get to my health care provider	94.1%	91.6%	89.9%	92.3%	92.3%	96.4%

**COMMUNITY SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS****Question:** Below are some statements about your community. Select an option for your response in each row below.

<b>Response: "YES"</b>	<b>County overall</b>	<b>Black/African American</b>	<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	<b>High-need zip codes</b>	<b>Household with children</b>	<b>Older adult (&gt;65 yrs)</b>
There are affordable health care services	51.4%	45.4%	40.7%	46.5%	47.8%	58.5%
Childcare resources are affordable and available	15.7%	16.0%	16.1%	13.5%	19.4%	13.6%
There are plenty of well-paying jobs 18+	37.5%	22.7%	27.0%	28.3%	40.1%	35.9%
There are plenty of available jobs <18	42.4%	26.8%	31.7%	32.7%	46.9%	37.0%
K-12 schools are well-funded and provide quality education	44.5%	19.0%	30.5%	22.6%	52.5%	47.3%
Our local university/college is of quality and affordable	45.1%	27.2%	34.7%	39.5%	44.4%	49.8%
Crime is not a major issue in my neighborhood	54.3%	33.9%	40.8%	29.5%	56.6%	55.6%
There is a feeling of trust in law enforcement	59.8%	24.3%	43.8%	34.9%	57.3%	65.9%
Affordable healthy food options are accessible nearby	77.7%	45.2%	57.7%	56.0%	76.5%	82.6%
There are good sidewalks/trails for walking/biking safely	83.2%	53.0%	66.7%	67.0%	79.4%	86.8%
The streets are clean and buildings are well maintained	75.7%	36.0%	56.6%	44.2%	73.9%	82.0%
The air and water quality are safe	70.2%	46.4%	55.8%	51.5%	67.5%	75.3%

**INDIVIDUAL: LIFE CHALLENGES WITH SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS****Question:** Thinking about your own life, do you feel that any of the following have been a challenge?

<b>Response: "YES"</b>	<b>County overall</b>	<b>Black/African American</b>	<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	<b>High-need zip codes</b>	<b>Household with children</b>	<b>Older adult (&gt;65 yrs)</b>
Unconscious bias	34.1%	58.5%	52.6%	43.1%	38.7%	26.3%
Individual acts of racism/discrimination	20.2%	56.0%	42.6%	32.2%	24.0%	15.3%
Structural or systemic racism	19.9%	63.8%	41.8%	33.4%	25.2%	15.4%
Limited access to wealth	20.2%	45.6%	35.0%	31.9%	23.7%	12.0%
Limited access to quality education	11.1%	31.1%	23.4%	19.6%	16.4%	6.4%
Limited access to career opportunities	20.4%	44.2%	37.6%	29.2%	26.8%	10.4%
Limited access to quality housing	13.1%	41.0%	26.1%	24.4%	15.4%	8.8%

**INDIVIDUAL: RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION IN HEALTH CARE ACCESS****Question:** Below are some statements about health care services and providers (doctors, nurses, other hospital clinic staff) in your community.

<b>Response: "YES"</b>	<b>County overall</b>	<b>Black/African American</b>	<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	<b>High-need zip codes</b>	<b>Household with children</b>	<b>Older adult (&gt;65 yrs)</b>
I feel heard and seen and listened to when receiving health care	88.9%	84.9%	82.8%	87.3%	84.7%	94.5%
I feel I am treated differently because of my race or ethnicity when receiving health care	5.4%	21.5%	13.1%	10.2%	8.3%	3.1%
I feel I am treated differently because of my gender when receiving health care	9.0%	10.1%	11.2%	11.0%	12.6%	4.3%
I feel I am treated differently because of my sexual orientation when receiving health care	2.3%	2.3%	3.4%	3.5%	2.9%	0.9%
I feel my family or support people are seen and listened to when receiving health care	70.6%	62.6%	67.3%	68.5%	73.4%	75.3%
I feel seen and listened to when my child/children are receiving health care	46.9%	55.4%	54.3%	46.8%	86.3%	41.1%

**COMMUNITY: PERCEPTION OF REASONS FOR HEALTH DISPARITIES****Question:** On average, people of color (POC) in the U.S. have worse health outcomes compared to White people. Do you think any of the following are reasons for the difference?

<b>Response: "MAJOR REASON"</b>	<b>County overall</b>	<b>Black/African American</b>	<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	<b>High-need zip codes</b>	<b>Household with children</b>	<b>Older adult (&gt;65 yrs)</b>
Historic gaps in wealth	63.5%	83.9%	67.9%	72.5%	63.9%	63.0%
Structural/systemic racism	57.1%	85.6%	65.0%	69.0%	63.3%	52.8%
POC have less access to quality education	45.0%	65.1%	57.9%	53.3%	50.3%	40.3%
POC have less career opportunities	42.1%	72.5%	53.8%	54.5%	45.6%	38.6%
POC have less access to quality housing	50.9%	75.8%	58.7%	60.3%	63.9%	48.0%
POC are more likely to be exposed to bad environmental conditions	50.1%	76.0%	53.4%	58.7%	50.8%	49.9%
Doctors are less likely to provide the same care to POC	26.0%	56.8%	36.1%	37.5%	36.4%	15.5%
POC are less likely to have health care and/or insurance	49.9%	70.0%	54.2%	56.0%	51.8%	47.4%
POC have less opportunities for healthy activities and/or eating	28.6%	47.3%	34.6%	35.2%	33.3%	24.8%
POC are genetically less healthy than whites	7.7%	20.8%	15.2%	12.7%	9.4%	6.0%

**CHILDREN'S QUALITY OF LIFE****Question:** *In general, would you say your child's quality of life is:*

Excellent	50.9%
Very good	37.5%
Good	10%
Fair	1.6%
Poor	0.2%

**HEALTH PLAN COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN****Question:** *Which type(s) of health plans(s) do children in your home have to cover the costs of health care services? Select all that apply.*

Insurance through an employer	77.8%
Medicaid/Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)/BadgerCare	20.2%
Private insurance I pay for myself (HMO/PPO)	3.0%
I pay out of pocket/cash	2.3%
Insurance through the Health Insurance Marketplace/Obama Care/Affordable Care Act (ACA)	2.2%

**CHILDREN'S HEALTH ISSUES****Question:** *Have the children (under 18) in your home experienced any of the following health issues? Select all that apply.*

No, the child/children have not faced any health issues	49.0%
Mental or behavioral health (fearfulness, depression, self-regulation)	21.8%
Chronic diseases (allergies, asthma, diabetes)	13.7%
Oral health/dental health	8.4%
Overweight or underweight	8.2%
Hearing and/or vision	7.3%
Infant health (low birth weight, premature birth)	6.7%
Childhood disabilities or special needs	6.3%
Infectious diseases (measles, COVID-19)	5.4%

**CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES****Question:** *In the past 12 months, was there a time when children in your home needed medical care or other health related services but did not get the services that they needed?*

No, they got the services that they needed	81.3%
Yes	8.9%
Does not apply, the child/children did not need services	9.7%

**Which of the following services were the children in your home not able to get in the past 12 months when they needed them?**

Mental health services	34.1%
Dental care (routine cleaning or urgent care)	24.7%
Well child visit/check-up	23.5%
Sick visit/urgent care visit	20.0%
Services for special needs	17.7%
Prescription medications	16.5%

**Select the top reason(s) that children in your home did not get the medical/health care services that they needed in the past 12 months.**

Office/service/program has limited access or is closed due to COVID-19	41.3%
Wait is too long	28.8%
Cost - too expensive/can't pay	26.3%
Insurance not accepted	20.0%

**CONCERNS FOR CHILDREN'S HEALTH****Question:** *Do you have concerns for any of the following activities for the children (under 18) in your home? Select all that apply.*

I have no concerns	65.1%
Nutrition and eating habits	23.5%
Physical activity and exercise	20.6%
Drug use and abuse (prescription drug misuse and street drug use, including marijuana and weed)	5.1%
Vaping, juuling and e-cigarette use	3.6%
Other	3.5%
Alcohol use	3.4%
Cigarette smoking and other tobacco use	2.1%

**Technical Notes:**

- Sample sizes: County overall (n=8616), Black/AA (n=642), Hispanic/Latino (n=463), High-need zip codes (1535), Children in household (n=1145), Older adult (n=3450)
- Sample size denominators vary across survey questions based on survey completion by respondent
- Convenience sample survey method was utilized; results may not be generalizable
- Survey methods: 50 total questions, online, English/Spanish, no incentive, voluntary, anonymous
- High-need zip codes are based on a suite of social and economic indicators found on [healthcompassmilwaukee.org](https://healthcompassmilwaukee.org). Those zip codes are: 53206, 53205, 53204, 53225, 53208, 53210, 53233, 53218, 53209, 53212, 53215
- The Community Health Survey is one of three data inputs for the Milwaukee Community Health Needs Assessment. View the full report at [healthcompassmilwaukee.org](https://healthcompassmilwaukee.org)

**Survey Respondent Demographics**

Total sample size: n=8616

RACE	n	%
White or Caucasian	6742	80.5%
Black or African American	642	7.7%
Asian or Asian American	108	1.3%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	53	0.6%
Two or more races	186	2.2%
Some other race	81	1.0%
Prefer not to answer	560	6.7%
ETHNICITY		
Hispanic/Latino/Latinx	463	5.4%
Mexican	156	36.5%
Mexican American	123	28.7%
Puerto Rican	121	28.2%
South American	27	6.3%
Central American	22	5.1%
Cuban	5	1.2%
Dominican	5	1.2%
Other	25	5.8%
Non-Hispanic/Latino/Latinx	7474	86.8%
Prefer not to answer	679	7.9%
AGE		
18-20	35	0.4%
21-24	128	1.5%
25-34	799	9.5%
35-44	1102	13.1%
45-54	1039	12.4%
55-64	1656	19.7%
65-74	2651	31.6%
75-84	751	9.0%
85 or older	48	0.6%
GENDER		
Female	5938	70.8%
Male	2221	26.5%
Transgender Male	10	0.1%
Transgender Female	9	0.1%
Non-binary	34	0.4%
Other	22	0.3%
Prefer not to answer	159	1.9%
SEXUAL ORIENTATION		
Straight	7334	87.5%
Gay	156	1.9%
Lesbian	86	1.0%
Bisexual	175	2.1%
Pansexual	48	0.6%
Queer	52	0.6%
Other	44	0.5%
Prefer not to answer	463	5.5%

EDUCATION	n	%
Less than 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	37	0.4%
Some high school	110	1.3%
High school graduate (GED)	2034	24.3%
Associate degree	1218	14.5%
Bachelor's degree	2614	31.2%
Master's/Professional degree	2372	28.3%
INCOME		
Less than \$25,000	738	8.8%
\$25,000-\$50,000	1332	10.6%
\$50,000-\$75,000	1392	16.6%
\$75,000-\$100,000	1132	13.5%
\$100,000-\$125,000	897	10.7%
\$125,000+	1186	14.2%
Prefer not to answer	1704	20.3%
EMPLOYMENT		
Employed part-time	754	9.0%
Employed full-time	3354	39.9%
Out of work, looking	110	1.3%
Not working by choice	186	2.2%
Unable to work	273	3.2%
Retired	3431	40.8%
Student	84	1.0%
Out of work, not looking	45	0.5%
HOUSEHOLD SIZE		
1	2141	25.8%
2	3853	46.4%
3	1142	13.7%
4	770	9.3%
5	278	3.3%
6 or more	129	1.6%
PRIMARY LANGUAGE		
English	8060	96.8%
Spanish	160	1.9%
Other	67	0.8%
Arabic	17	0.2%
Russian	12	0.1%
Hmong	10	0.1%