Latinx Data Report

From VoiceGR 2016 & VoiceKent 2017

AUGUST 2019
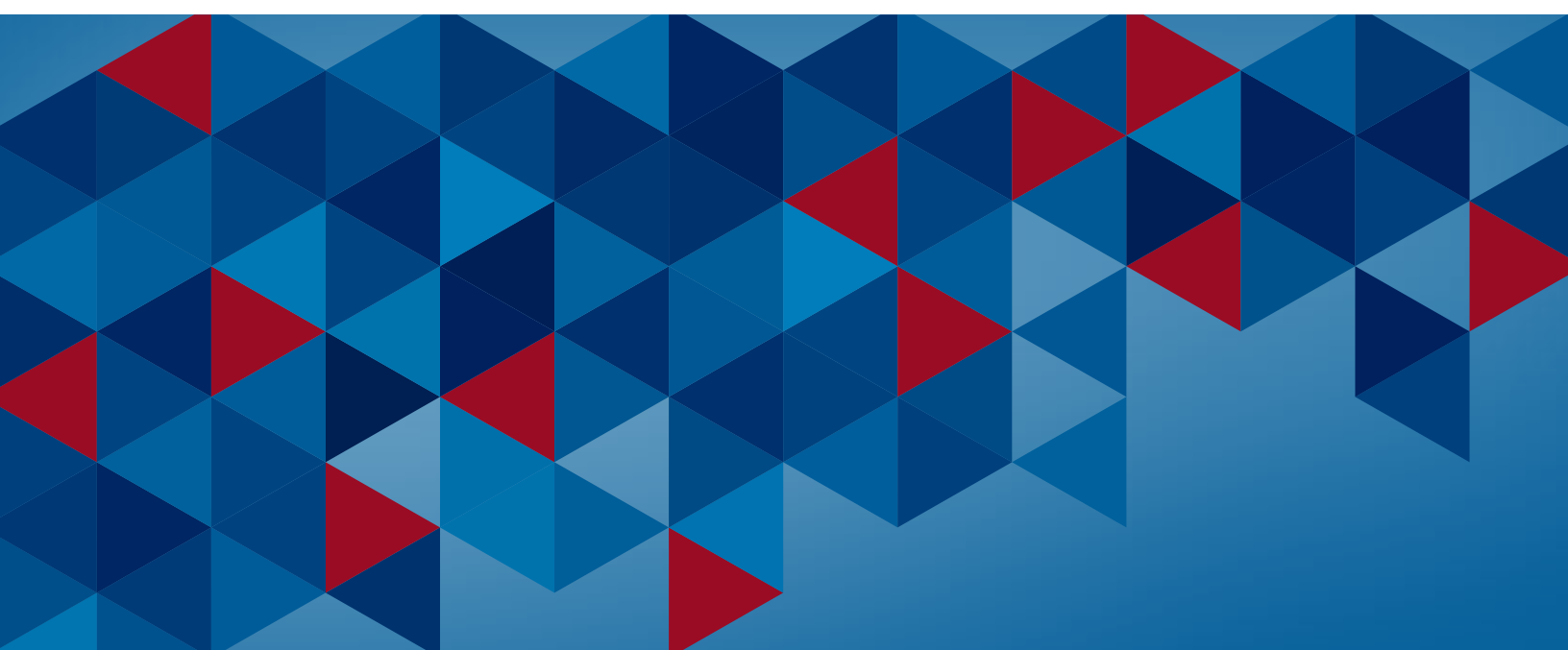
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the Latinx Data Report is to understand Greater Grand Rapids' Latinx[1] residents' perceptions and experiences on a variety of topics through analysis of survey data from VoiceGR 2016 and VoiceKent 2017. There is specific interest in not only understanding the responses to these surveys by residents who identify as Latinx, but also how their responses compare to those of residents who identify as another race or ethnicity.

The VoiceGR and VoiceKent surveys gathered information on topics such as housing, education, health, and food accessibility from residents in the greater Grand Rapids area and Kent County, respectively. The surveys were administered by researchers at the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy's Community Research Institute (CRI) at Grand Valley State University. Responses from 4,641 VoiceGR 2016 surveys and 4,704 VoiceKent 2017 surveys were used for analysis.

Key Findings

- In 2016 and 2017, Latinx respondents had the lowest levels of educational attainment of all racial/ethnic groups.

- In 2017, Latinx respondents were about equally as likely as other racial/ethnic groups to have full-time and part-time jobs, yet were more than twice as likely not to have health insurance.

- Latinx respondents were less likely than White respondents to report they could meet their basic needs "very well" based on their current income. In 2017, Latinx respondents were the least likely of all racial/ethnic groups to say their families have access to enough fruits and vegetables based on their current income.

- Two-thirds of Latinx respondents rated their mental and emotional health as "excellent" or "good" — the same rate as White respondents. However, Latinx respondents were more than twice as likely as White respondents to say they could not recognize signs and symptoms of a mental health condition in themselves or others.

- In both 2016 and 2017, Latinx respondents were the least likely of all racial/ethnic groups, and only half as likely as White respondents, to say they felt "very safe" in their neighborhoods/communities. Latinx respondents who were near or below twice the federal poverty level were twice as likely as other Latinx respondents to say they feel "very unsafe" or "somewhat unsafe" in their neighborhoods.

- Themes emerged across responses to open-ended questions regarding a neighborhood's biggest strengths and problems, including a sense of community vs. lack of community, tranquility vs. noisiness, cleanliness vs. lack of cleanliness, proximity to resources vs. distance from resources, feelings of safety and lack of crime/violence vs. feelings of insecurity and presence of crime/violence.

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[1] The term "Latinx" in this report refers to all respondents who selected the category "Hispanic or Latino/a" on VoiceKent 2017 or "Hispanic/ Latino" on VoiceGR 2016 when asked about their race and/or ethnicity. The term African American refers to those who selected "Black/African American" on VoiceGR 2016 or "Black or African American" on VoiceKent 2017. The terms African American, Multiracial, and White refer to respondents who did not also select the option "Hispanic or Latino/a" when asked about their race and/or ethnicity.

INTRODUCTION

This report is based on data from the VoiceGR 2016 and VoiceKent 2017 surveys. These community surveys assess the perceptions and experiences of community members on a variety of topics related to inclusive growth. The results presented in this report disaggregate the data by race/ethnicity, specifically to help understand how the responses of Latinx members of the community compare to those of other groups. This project will also inform forthcoming work in the community related to inclusive growth, which will focus on access, opportunity, and the ability to prosper, including health, educational attainment, and access to jobs. The analysis contained in this report examines responses from VoiceGR and VoiceKent that speak directly to perceptions and experiences of the Latinx community as well as to questions of inclusive growth.

METHODOLOGY

Data Collection and Processing

VoiceGR 2016 and VoiceKent 2017 utilized a deliberate network-engagement strategy. By partnering with local organizations for survey collection, natural networks of communication were utilized to encourage residents to complete the survey, which was available in both English and Spanish. Paper surveys were collected at community events and at partner organizations' locations.[1] The survey was also available online and was distributed through a variety of nonprofit, community, and academic organizations' email newsletters and social media. While VoiceGR focused on residents of greater Grand Rapids, VoiceKent 2017 expanded the survey to include residents throughout Kent County.

To obtain geographic information, the online survey asked respondents to click on the approximate location of their home on a map, and the paper version asked for the intersection nearest to their home. From that information, respondents were assigned to larger geographic areas, such as ZIP codes and neighborhoods, for analysis.

Incentives were offered for participation. VoiceKent respondents were entered into a drawing for one of three prizes, which were donated by Amway Grand Plaza, JW Marriott Grand Rapids, and the Grand Rapids Griffins. VoiceGR respondents were entered into a drawing for one of four prizes, which were donated by Amway Grand Plaza, Grand Rapids Public Museum, Hyatt Place Grand Rapids South, and JW Marriott Grand Rapids. Small incentives such as snacks and bus passes were offered at in-person surveying events.

Quantitative Analysis

Data Cleaning

Prior to beginning this project, researchers employed typical data cleaning measures, and removed nonsensical answers and assigned each person to one race/ethnicity category. Each respondent who selected Hispanic or Latino/a in addition to a race/ethnicity category was recorded as "Hispanic or Latino/a." Respondents who checked more than one race were assigned to the Multiracial category, and anyone who checked only one race was assigned to that category. In this report, then, the categories "African American," "Multiracial," and "White" exclude Hispanic/Latinx individuals.

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[1] A full list of community partners can be found at https://johnsoncenter.org/services/community-research/voicekent/partners.

Descriptive Statistics

To explore the VoiceKent 2017 and VoiceGR 2016 data for this project, bar charts were created for each quantitative question (i.e., closed-ended), divided by each racial/ethnic group. These bar charts then provided a launching point for further analysis, such as cross tabulations between two ore more questions, modeling attempts, and mapping. Variables included are those of particular interest for those studying and working in the field of inclusive growth, and for those interested in specific needs of the Latinx community in the area.

Classification

In order to understand the impact of race/ethnicity on specific outcomes more fully, logistic regression models were created. Race/ethnicity was used as an explanatory variable in models for income, ratings of safety, and ratings of physical and mental health. In each model, religious status, relationship status, age, gender, sexual orientation, and educational attainment were controlled for. Findings from these models are reported throughout the Findings section. For more information on the creation of these models, see Appendix M.

Additionally, logistic regression models and decision trees were created using data from Latinx respondents with other demographics, such as those listed above, used as explanatory variables. The intent of this was to understand where disparities may lie within Latinx respondents for the same outcome variables listed above. Neither the decision trees nor the logistic regression models were good predictors of mental health, physical health, income, or safety within Latinx respondents. This does not mean that there are not disparities among Latinx respondents, only that one cannot say the differences are statistically significant and related to particular demographic variables. This could be due to a true lack of relationship between demographic characteristics and outcomes within Latinx responses, missing data, or a small sample size, among other possibilities. Due to these inconclusive results, no findings from these models are discussed throughout the rest of the report.

Mapping

Quantitative data related to the area or neighborhood in which the respondent lived, and the percentage of Latinx respondents who fell into each theme for the qualitative questions were mapped by ZIP code. Only those ZIP codes with a sample size of ten or more were included, thus only ZIP codes in and around the City of Grand Rapids are shown on the maps. These maps are included in Appendices A–K. The number of Latinx respondents in each ZIP code is shown in Appendix L.

Qualitative Analysis

Researchers completed grounded-theory qualitative analysis on responses to two VoiceKent 2017 survey questions: "What do you think is the biggest strength of your neighborhood/community?" (*n*=238), and "What do you think is the biggest problem in your neighborhood/community?" (*n*=237). Researchers used NVivo, a qualitative data analysis package, to assign responses to codes. These codes were refined and grouped into categories called themes. These themes were refined, and some were divided into smaller sub-themes to represent the survey responses more precisely.

LIMITATIONS

As previously mentioned, the VoiceKent 2017 and VoiceGR 2016 surveys did not utilize a random sampling methodology. This means that researchers cannot establish with certainty that these respondents accurately represent the Kent County population as a whole. For example, about 40% of the respondents were male and 60% female, whereas ideally there would have been a 50/50 split between male and female respondents. Similar discrepancies exist for other demographic characteristics, such as race/ethnicity, income, and educational attainment. It must be emphasized that these data are not necessarily representative of the greater Grand Rapids area.

An additional limitation of the survey is that some of the terms used may be interpreted differently by different people. For example, when answering the question, "Based on your current income, how well can you afford to meet your basic needs (food, including water; shelter; utilities; and clothing)?" some may have interpreted "income" to include only the money they earn from employment, while others may include organizational or governmental assistance.
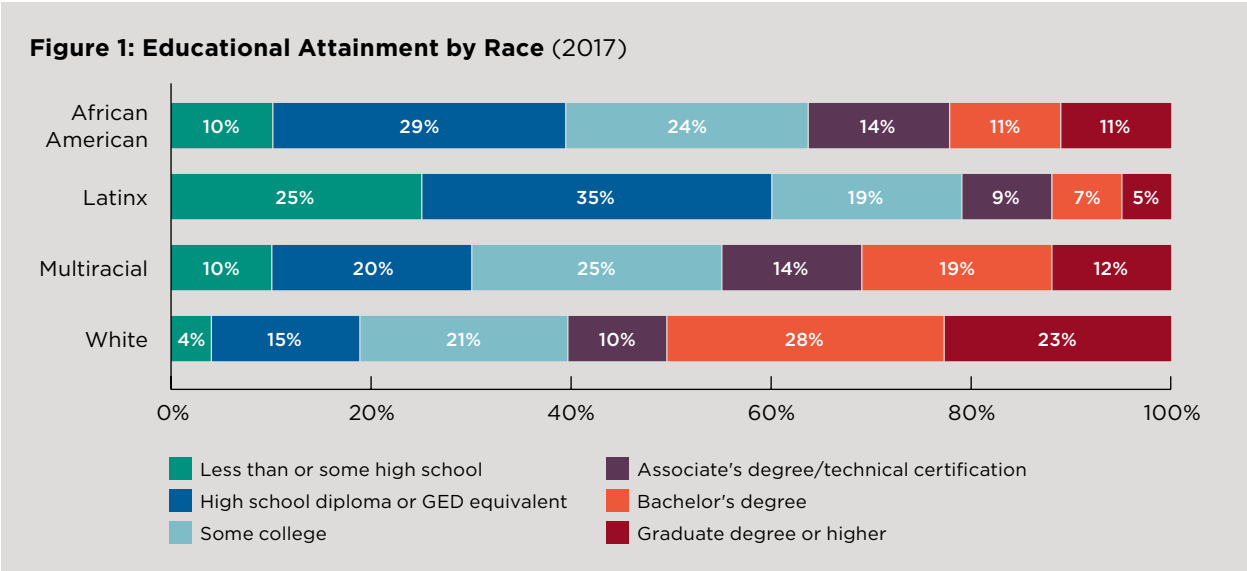
Qualitative analysis was also limited by researchers' difficulties interpreting some Spanish-language responses, likely due to spelling errors and researchers' lack of knowledge of colloquial terms.

FINDINGS[2]

Educational Attainment

In 2016 and 2017, Latinx respondents had the lowest levels of educational attainment out of all racial/ethnic groups. On the whole, this group had attained graduate degrees, bachelor's degrees, associate/technical degrees, or some college at the lowest rates, while having the highest percentage of persons without a high school diploma or with only a high school diploma or GED.

In 2017, one in four Latinx respondents did not have a high school diploma. Sixty percent did not have an education beyond a high school diploma or GED, compared to only 19% of White respondents. This means Latinx respondents were more than three times as likely as White respondents to not have attended at least some college courses.

Figure 1: Educational Attainment by Race (2017)

	Less than or some high school	High school diploma or GED equivalent	Some college	Associate's degree/technical certification	Bachelor's degree	Graduate degree or higher
African American	10%	29%	24%	14%	11%	11%
Latinx	25%	35%	19%	9%	7%	5%
Multiracial	10%	20%	25%	14%	19%	12%
White	4%	15%	21%	10%	28%	23%

Employment

In 2017, Latinx respondents were about equally as likely as respondents of other racial/ethnic groups to have full-time and part-time jobs. Yet they were more than twice as likely to have no health insurance: 23% had no health insurance and 12% had health insurance for part of the year. In comparison, 5% of White respondents had no health insurance and 6% had health insurance for part of the year. Of Latinx respondents who worked full time, 17% said they did not have health insurance in the past year.
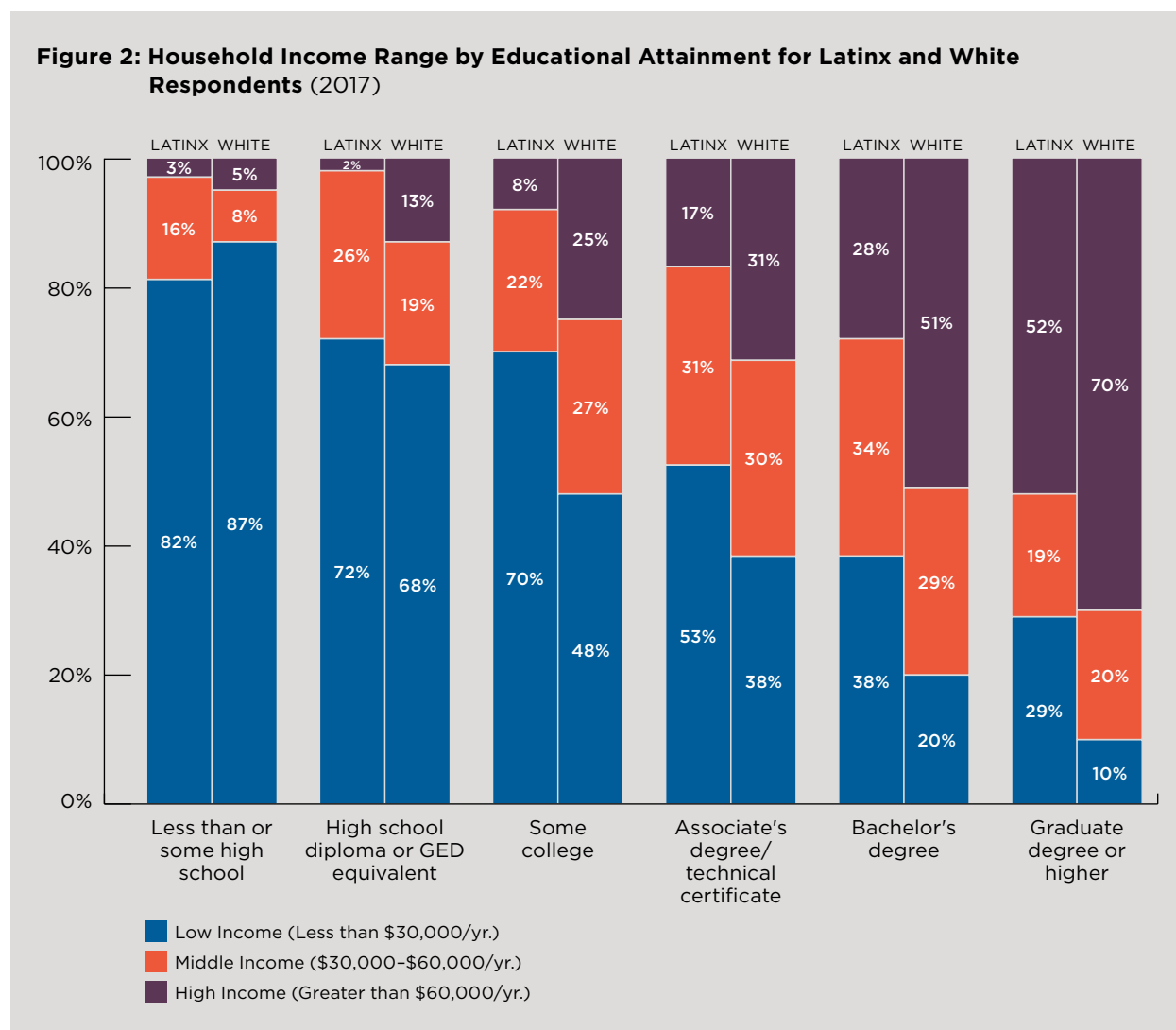
> **23%** of Latinx respondents reported having no health insurance, versus only **5%** of White respondents.

A strong relationship between education and employment was found for Latinx respondents as well as for respondents of each other racial/ethnic group. The percentage of Latinx respondents employed full time increases with each level of education: 27% of those who have less than or some high school were employed full-time, and 80% of

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[2] Unless otherwise specified, findings are from VoiceKent 2017 survey responses.

those with a graduate degree or higher were employed full-time. Additionally, no Latinx respondents with a bachelor's degree or higher marked their employment status as "not currently working."[3]
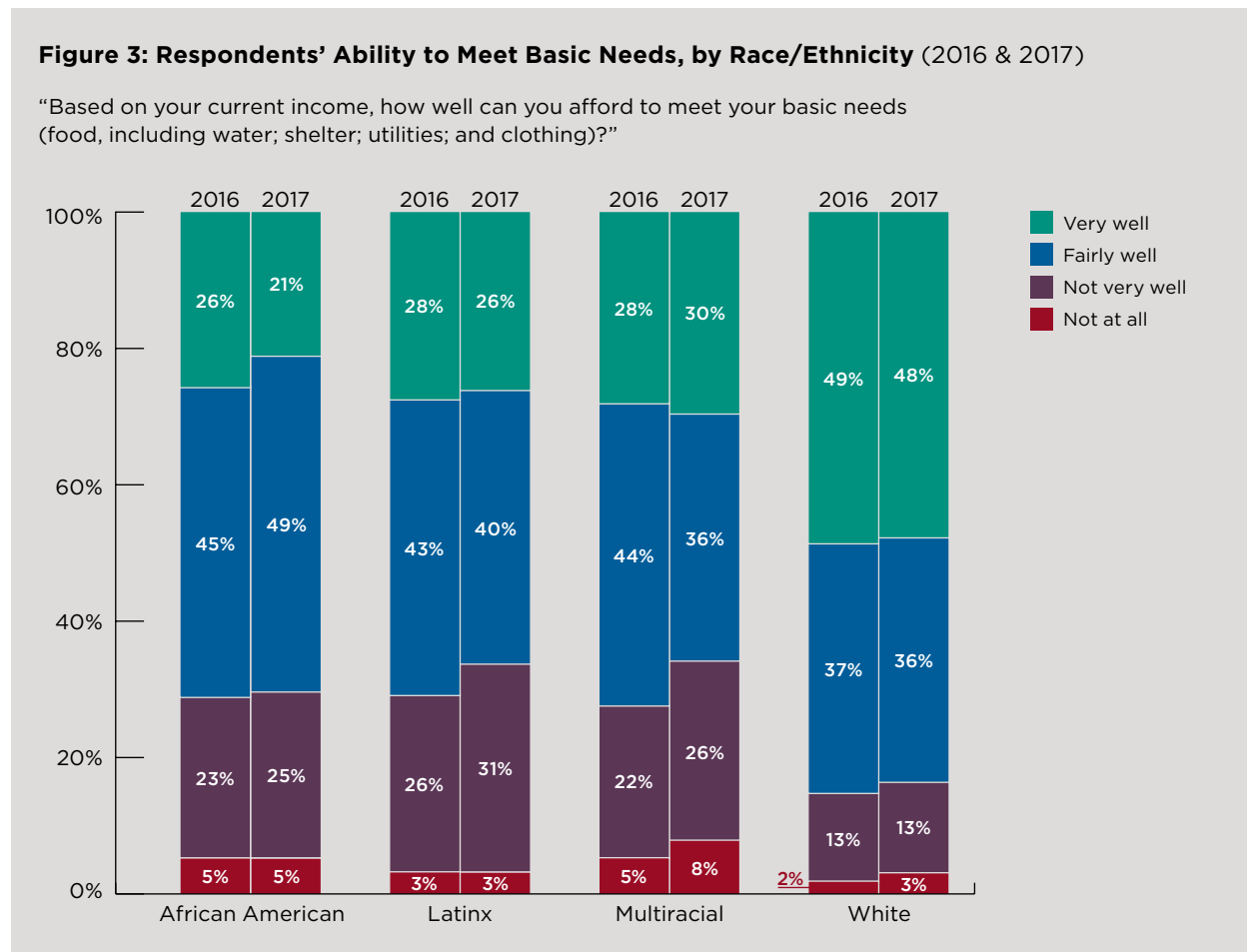
While there was a strong link between education and household income for each racial/ethnic group, there were income disparities between races/ethnicities within the same education level. For example, 48% of Latinx respondents with a graduate degree or higher make less than $60,000 annually, but only 30% of White respondents with a graduate degree or higher make less than $60,000. African American and Multiracial populations also share similar income disparities within education levels.

Figure 2: Household Income Range by Educational Attainment for Latinx and White Respondents (2017)

Legend:
- Low Income (Less than $30,000/yr.)
- Middle Income ($30,000–$60,000/yr.)
- High Income (Greater than $60,000/yr.)

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[3] This category does not include those who are unable to work, retired, or stay-at-home parents.

Food Access and Basic Needs

Consistent with African American and Multiracial respondents, Latinx respondents were less likely than White respondents to be able to meet their basic needs "very well" based on their current income. When analyzed by ZIP code, the percentage of Latinx respondents who said they are able to meet their basic needs "very well" ranged from 4% in 49504 to 44% in 49519. There were no ZIP codes where at least half of Latinx respondents said they could afford to meet their basic needs "very well." To view these data on a map, see Appendix A.

Figure 3: Respondents' Ability to Meet Basic Needs, by Race/Ethnicity (2016 & 2017)

"Based on your current income, how well can you afford to meet your basic needs (food, including water; shelter; utilities; and clothing)?"
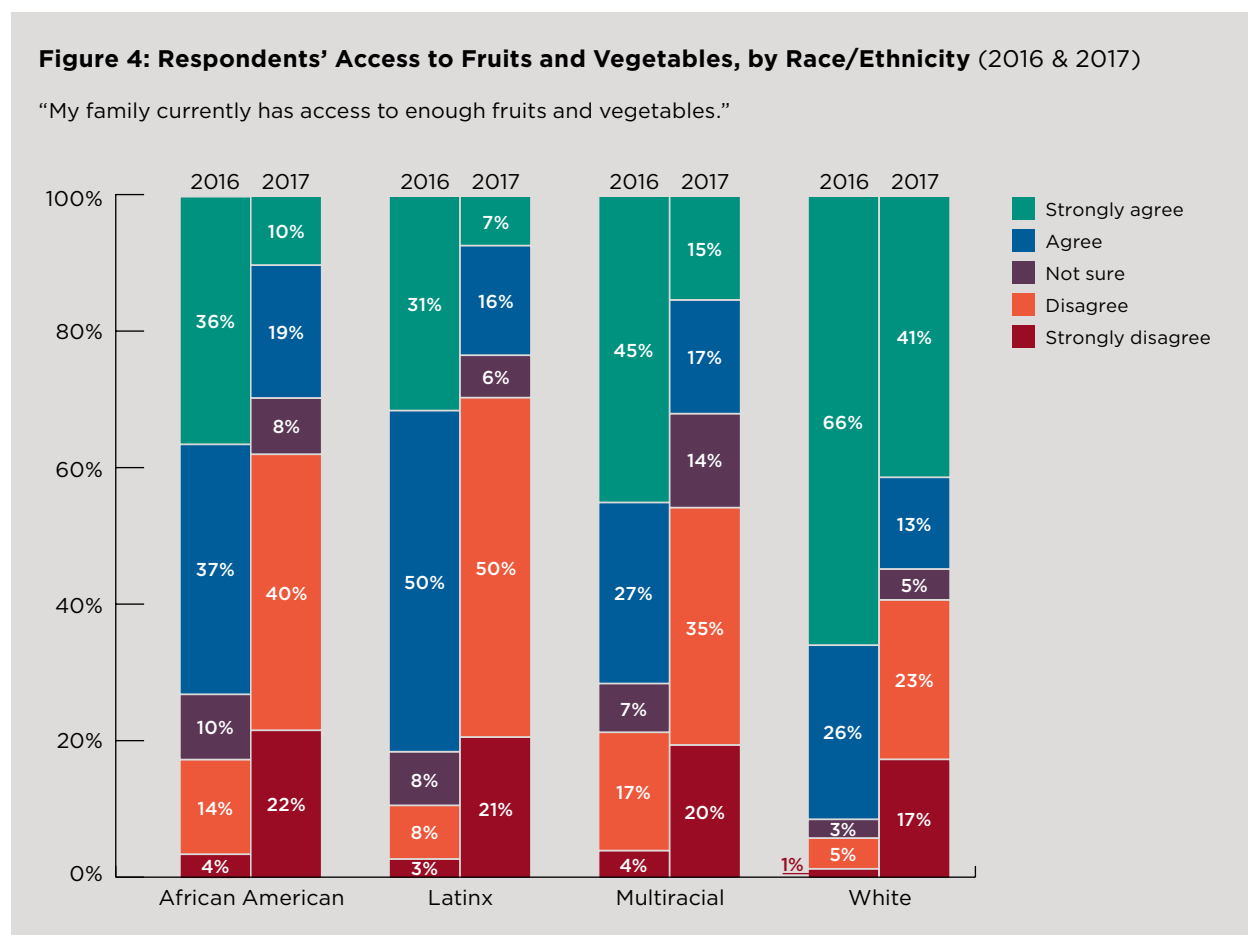

More than 1 in 10 Latinx respondents said their utilities had been turned off due to lack of payment in the past year. This was most likely to happen to those making $20,000 to less than $25,000. This differed from other major racial groups in that Latinx respondents with the lowest income (less than $5,000) were not the most likely to have their utilities turned off in the last year due to lack of payment.

> Latinx respondents were the **least likely** of all racial/ethnic groups to say their families had access to enough fruits and vegetables.

Along with the rest of respondents, Latinx respondents saw a dramatic decline in perceived access to fruits and vegetables for their families and children (under age 18) from 2016 to 2017. In 2017, Latinx respondents were the least likely of respondents of all racial/ethnic groups to say their families have access to enough

fruits and vegetables — only 20% say they have sufficient access, compared to 54% of White respondents. This may be due to a true decrease in accessibility, or a different understanding of what it means to have access to enough fruits and vegetables. When examined by ZIP code, the percent of Latinx respondents who agree or strongly agree that their families have access to enough fruits and vegetables was as low as 14% in 49503 and only as high as 33% in 49519 and 49504. These data are displayed on a map in Appendix B.

Figure 4: Respondents' Access to Fruits and Vegetables, by Race/Ethnicity (2016 & 2017)

"My family currently has access to enough fruits and vegetables."

Among all respondents, the higher the income, the more likely respondents were to say that their family has access to enough fruits and vegetables. Most Latinx respondents were more likely to disagree than agree with this question. Even still, among Latinx respondents, more than 40% of those in the highest income bracket said their families do not have access to enough of these foods.

When asked if they knew anyone or any place that could help with basic needs, 48% of Latinx respondents (the highest of any racial/ethnic group) said they did not. More than 70% of the Latinx respondents who said they could "not at all" meet their basic needs based on their current income also said they did not know anyone or any place that could help with basic needs.

More than 70% of the Latinx respondents who said they could "not at all" meet their basic needs based on their current income also said they did not know anyone or any place that could help with basic needs.
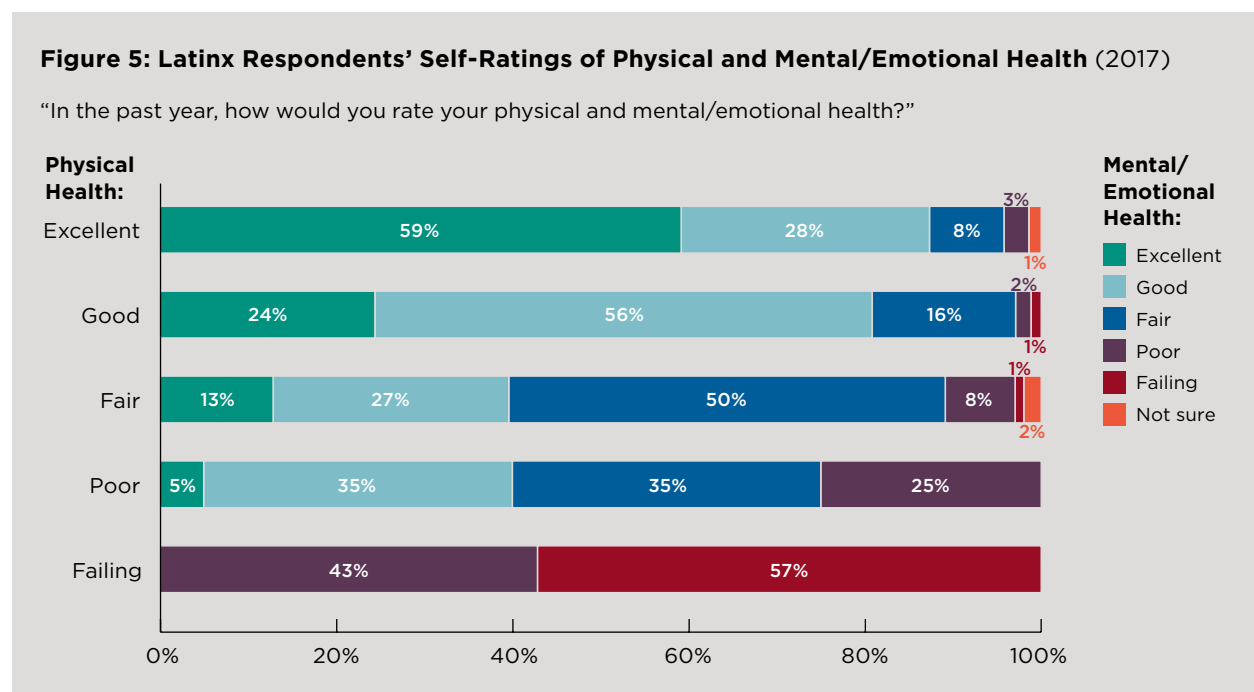
Mental and Physical Health

In 2017, two-thirds of Latinx respondents said they would rate their mental and emotional health as either "excellent" or "good" — the same rate as White respondents. However, they were more than twice as likely as White respondents to say they could not recognize signs and symptoms of a mental health condition in themselves or others, at 29% and 13%, respectively.

One hundred percent of Latinx respondents who rated their mental health as "failing" said they could recognize signs and symptoms of mental health conditions in themselves or others. The same statistic was as low as 65% for Latinx respondents who rated their mental and emotional health as "good," and 50% for those who were "not sure" how they would rate their mental and emotional health. Latinx respondents who said they cannot recognize signs of a mental health condition were more likely to rate their mental and emotional health as "excellent" or "good."

Statistical modeling showed that after controlling for religious status, relationship status, age, gender, sexual orientation, and educational attainment, being Latinx instead of White had a statistically significant impact on ratings of mental health. The odds of rating one's mental health as "Excellent" or "Good" were nearly 30% lower for Latinx respondents than White respondents.

Latinx respondents rated their physical health approximately the same as other respondents, with 65% rating their physical health as "excellent" or "good."

> Latinx respondents were **more than twice as likely** as White respondents to say they could not recognize signs and symptoms of a mental health condition in themselves or others.

Figure 5: Latinx Respondents' Self-Ratings of Physical and Mental/Emotional Health (2017)

"In the past year, how would you rate your physical and mental/emotional health?"

Physical Health:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Failing	Not sure
Excellent	59%	28%	8%	3%		1%
Good	24%	56%	16%	2%	1%	1%
Fair	13%	27%	50%	8%	1%	2%
Poor	5%	35%	35%	25%		
Failing				43%	57%	

Mental/Emotional Health: Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor, Failing, Not sure

There is a strong relationship between respondents' rating of their physical and mental health. Of Latinx respondents who rated their physical health "excellent," 59% rated their mental health the same, whereas only 5% of respondents who said their physical health was "poor" said their mental health was "excellent." Furthermore, all Latinx respondents who said their physical health was "failing" rated their mental health as either "poor" or "failing."

The top two barriers to getting both physical and mental health care for Latinx respondents were costs and not knowing who to contact. Latinx respondents were also three times as likely as other respondents to point to language as a barrier to receiving mental health care, as the doctor's office/staff do not speak their language. Only 21% of Latinx respondents said there were no barriers to receiving physical health care, and only 15% said there were no barriers to receiving mental health care.

Figure 6: Latinx Respondents' Reported Barriers to Getting Mental Health Care (2017)

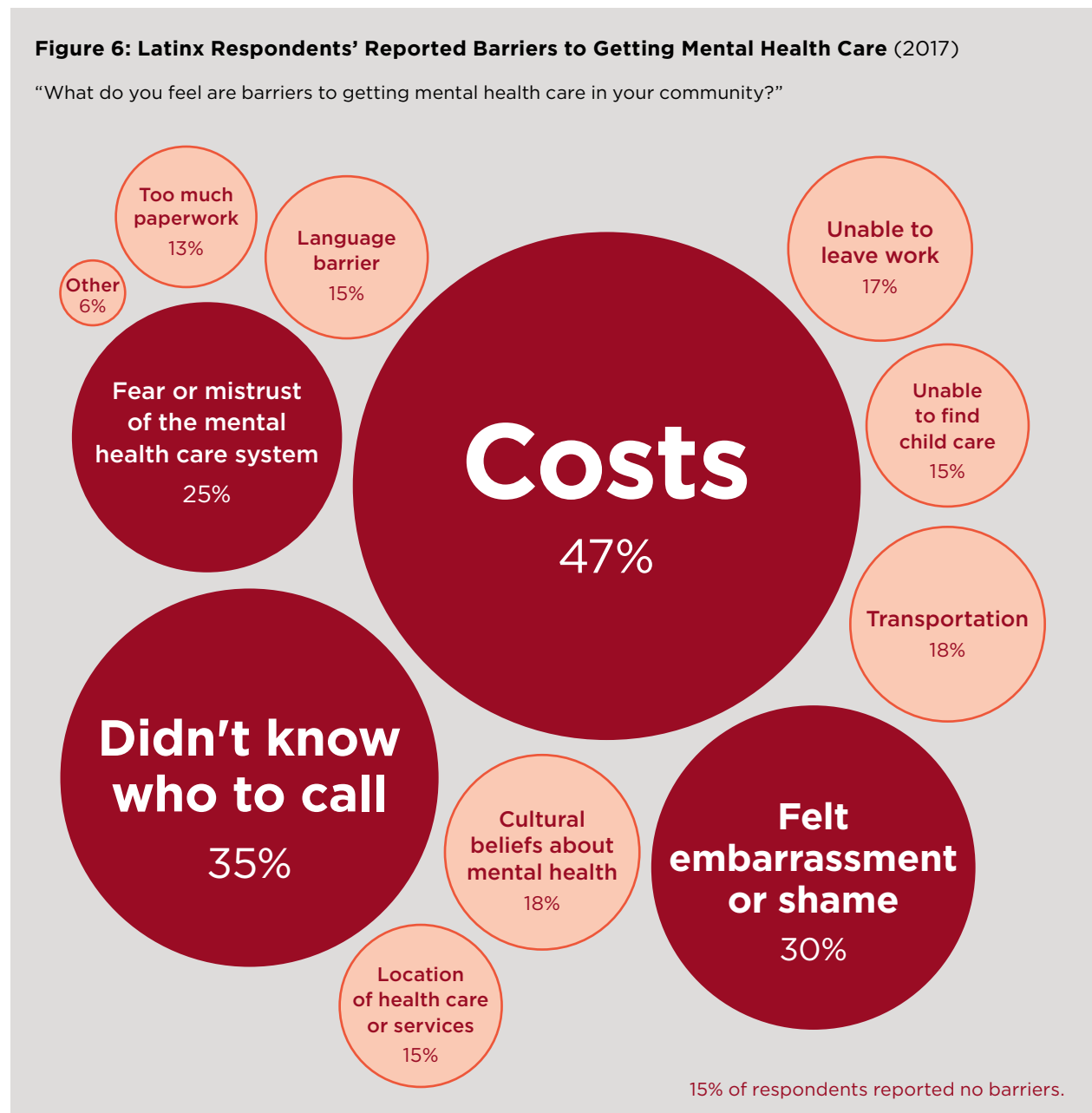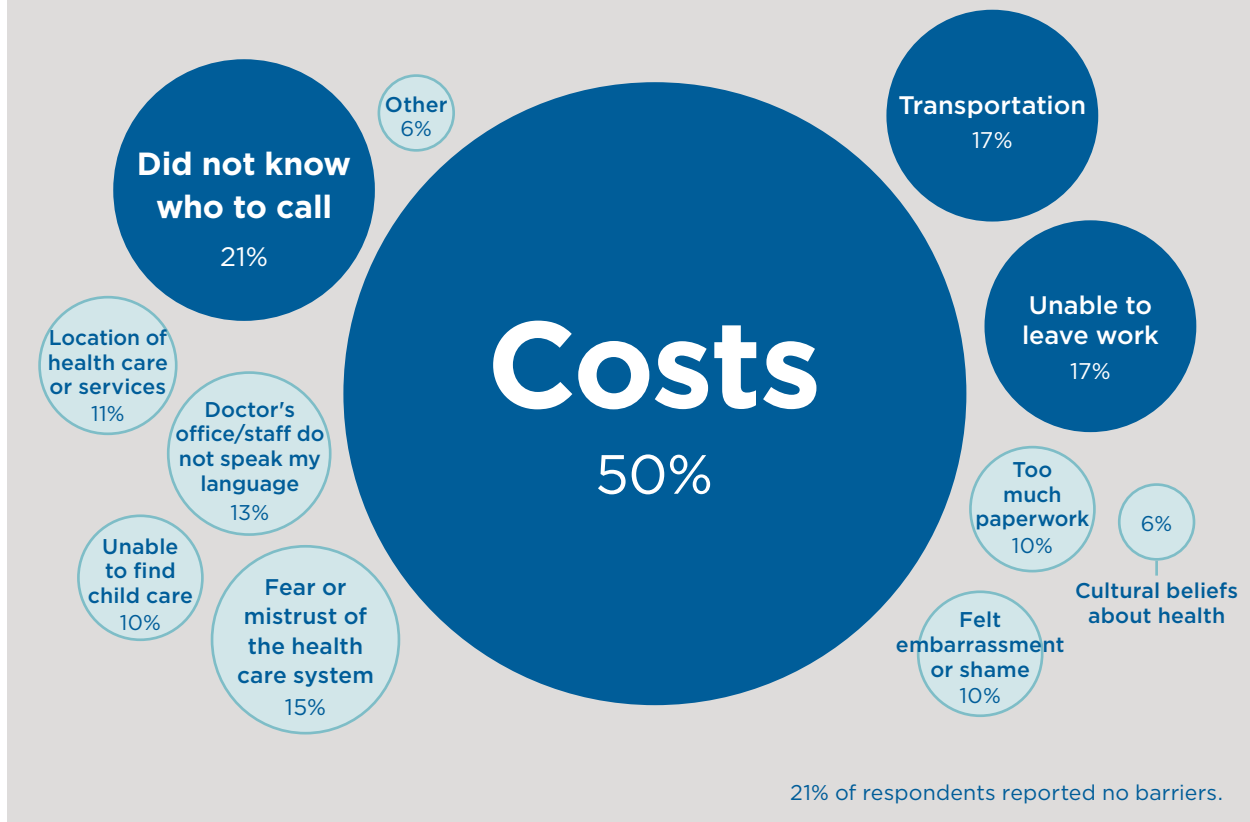"What do you feel are barriers to getting mental health care in your community?"

Too much paperwork 13%

Language barrier 15%

Other 6%

Unable to leave work 17%

Fear or mistrust of the mental health care system 25%

Costs
47%

Unable to find child care 15%

Transportation 18%

Didn't know who to call
35%

Cultural beliefs about mental health 18%

Felt embarrassment or shame
30%

Location of health care or services 15%

15% of respondents reported no barriers.

Figure 7: Latinx Respondents' Reported Barriers to Getting Physical Health Care (2017)

"What do you feel are barriers to getting physical health care in your community?"
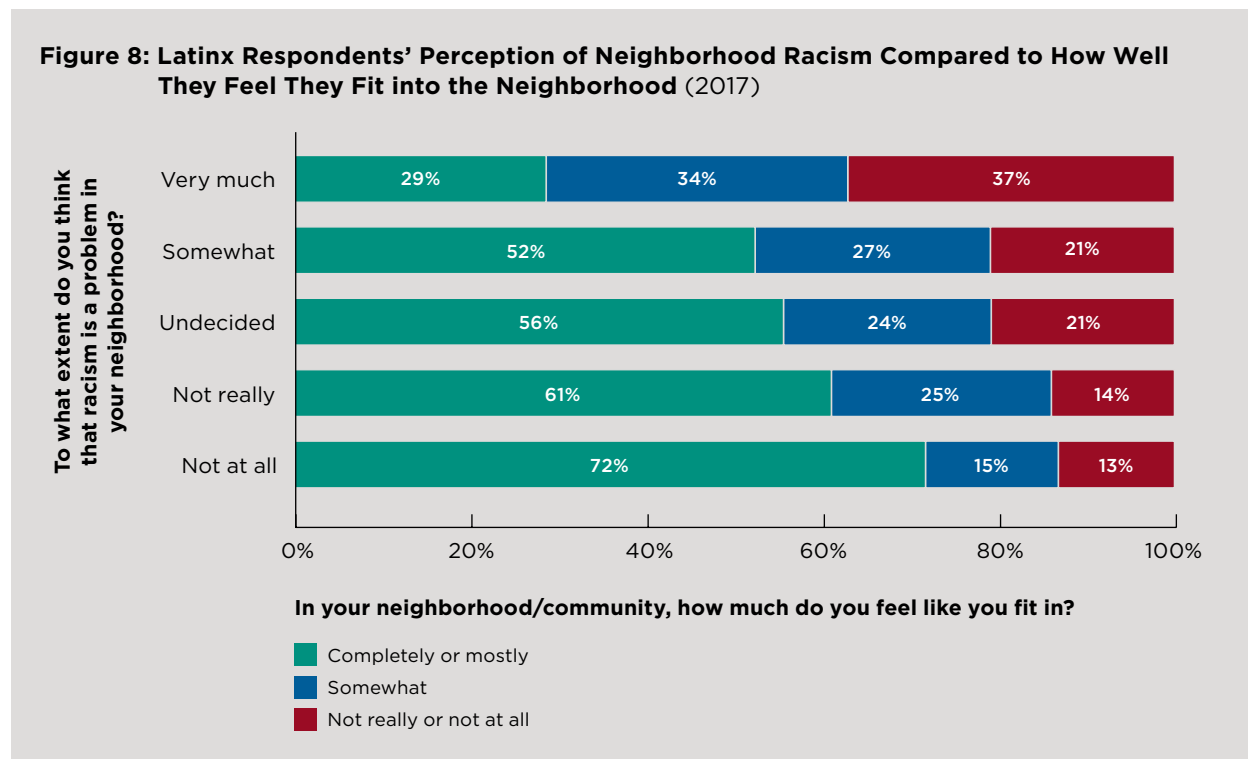
Other 6%

Did not know who to call 21%

Transportation 17%

Location of health care or services 11%

Doctor's office/staff do not speak my language 13%

Costs 50%

Unable to leave work 17%

Unable to find child care 10%

Fear or mistrust of the health care system 15%

Too much paperwork 10%

6% Cultural beliefs about health

Felt embarrassment or shame 10%

21% of respondents reported no barriers.

Feeling Welcomed, Fitting In, and Racism

In both 2016 and 2017, Latinx respondents, along with African American and Multiracial respondents, were less likely than White respondents to say they "fit in" in their neighborhood/community. They said the same for downtown Grand Rapids, where they were less likely than White respondents to say they "fit in" or "feel welcomed." When examined by ZIP code, as few as 53% (in 49507, 49509, and 49519) and as many as 87% (in 49548) of Latinx respondents said they felt like they fit in "completely" or "mostly" in their neighborhood/ community. For a map of these data, see Appendix C.

Latinx respondents were slightly less likely than other racial/ethnic groups to see racism as an issue in their neighborhood, the Greater Grand Rapids Area, or the United States as a whole. This held true for both 2016 and 2017. As shown on the map in Appendix D, 50% of Latinx respondents in ZIP code 49519 said racism is "very much" or "somewhat" a problem in their neighborhood/community. Conversely, only 9% of Latinx respondents in ZIP code 49321 said the same.

However, there is a strong relationship for Latinx respondents, as well as other respondents, between how much they say they fit in, and to what extent they consider racism a problem in their neighborhood. Seventy-two percent of Latinx respondents who do not see racism as a problem at all in their neighborhood

also say they fit in "completely" or "mostly." The numbers are reversed for those who see racism as "very much" a problem in their neighborhood — only 28% of such respondents say they fit in their neighborhood "completely" or "mostly."
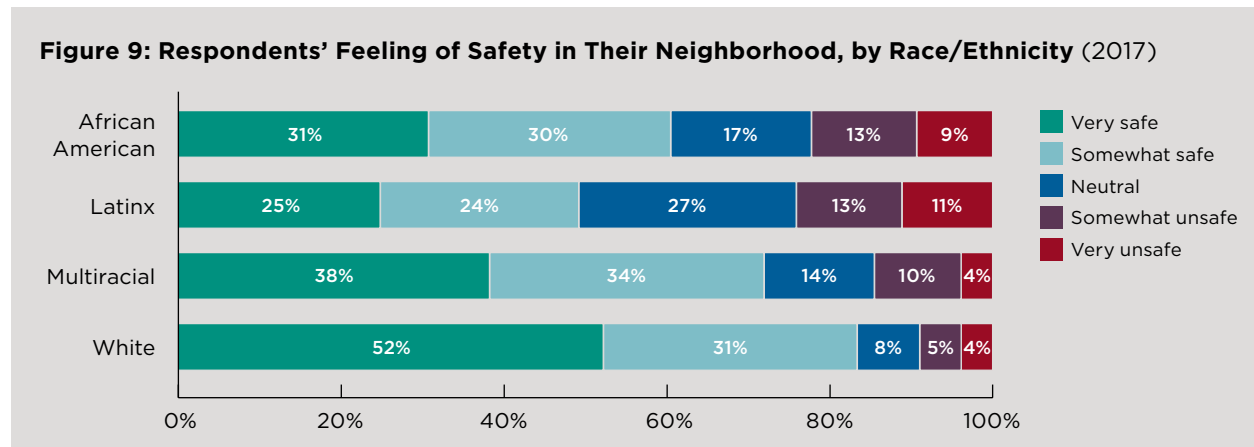
Figure 8: Latinx Respondents' Perception of Neighborhood Racism Compared to How Well They Feel They Fit into the Neighborhood (2017)

Relatedly, lack of a sense of community emerged as a theme throughout the problems that Latinx respondents identified in their neighborhood. Specifically, a lack of communication among neighbors and a lack of unity were cited as indicators of this issue. Negative characteristics of people and neighbors were listed by other respondents as their neighborhood/community's biggest problem. Examples of these characteristics include racism and intolerance, a lack of diversity, and a lack of friendliness amongst neighbors. Other respondents listed the presence of unsupervised youth and a general dislike of their neighbors. When examined by ZIP code, the percentage of Latinx respondents who mentioned lack of community as a problem was as low as 13% in 49507 and as high as 23% in 49508 and 49509. See Appendix E for a map of these data.

However, other Latinx respondents cited a sense of community as a strength in their neighborhood. Specifically, respondents pointed to the level of communication between community members as a strength, along with a sense of unity among members. One feature of this unity, according to respondents, is the fact that neighbors look out for and take care of one another. Several participants identified the diversity of people within the community and the community's multiculturalism as their neighborhood/community's biggest strength. In addition, respondents also mentioned the friendliness of their neighbors and the presence of children. The percentage of Latinx respondents who mentioned a sense of community as a strength was as low as 38% in 49509, and as high as 50% in 49548. See Appendix F for the percentages of Latinx respondents mentioning a sense of community as a strength in select ZIP codes.
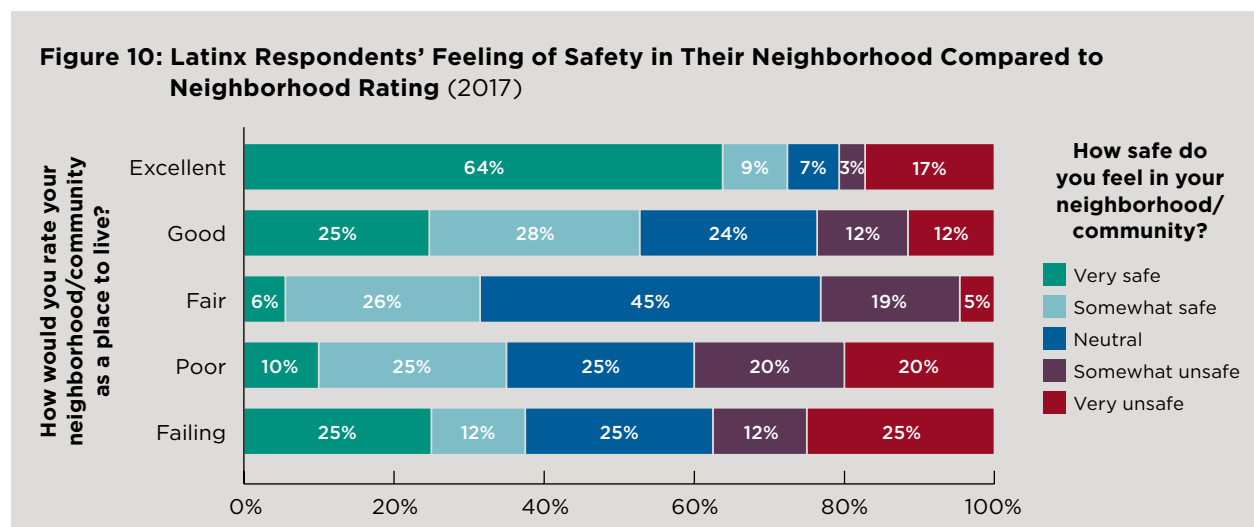
Safety

In both 2016 and 2017, Latinx respondents were the least likely of respondents of all racial/ethnic groups, and only half as likely as White respondents, to say they felt "very safe" in their neighborhood/community. The ZIP code with the highest percentage (30%) of Latinx respondents saying they felt "somewhat unsafe" or "very unsafe" was 49503. The ZIP code with the lowest percentage (6%) of Latinx respondents saying they felt unsafe was 49508. See Appendix G for a map of these data.

Figure 9: Respondents' Feeling of Safety in Their Neighborhood, by Race/Ethnicity (2017)

Race/Ethnicity	Very safe	Somewhat safe	Neutral	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe
African American	31%	30%	17%	13%	9%
Latinx	25%	24%	27%	13%	11%
Multiracial	38%	34%	14%	10%	4%
White	52%	31%	8%	5%	4%

Within Latinx respondents, there may be a moderate relationship between perceptions of racism and safety. Of those who said that racism is "not at all" a problem in their community, half also said they feel "very safe." Meanwhile, less than a quarter of Latinx respondents who thought racism was "not really," "somewhat," or "very much" a problem, and "undecided" respondents said they feel "very safe" in their community.

There may also be a relationship between respondents' ratings of their neighborhood and their perception of safety. While more than 60% of Latinx respondents who rated their neighborhood as "excellent" said they felt "very safe," 25% or fewer of respondents who rated their neighborhood as anything less than "excellent" said they felt "very safe" in their neighborhood.

Figure 10: Latinx Respondents' Feeling of Safety in Their Neighborhood Compared to Neighborhood Rating (2017)

How would you rate your neighborhood/community as a place to live?

How safe do you feel in your neighborhood/community?

Rating	Very safe	Somewhat safe	Neutral	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe
Excellent	64%	9%	7%	3%	17%
Good	25%	28%	24%	12%	12%
Fair	6%	26%	45%	19%	5%
Poor	10%	25%	25%	20%	20%
Failing	25%	12%	25%	12%	25%

In addition, Latinx respondents whose household income was near or below 200% of the federal poverty level were twice as likely as those living above that level to say they feel "very unsafe" or "somewhat unsafe" in their neighborhood. In fact, no Latinx respondents with a household income above 200% of the federal poverty level said they felt "very unsafe" in their neighborhood.

Furthermore, statistical modeling showed the odds of rating one's neighborhood as "Very" or "Somewhat" safe were nearly 70% lower for Latinx respondents than White respondents, even after controlling for the combined influence of religious status, relationship status, age, gender, sexual orientation, and educational attainment.

Latinx participants' responses about the strengths and problems in their neighborhoods often revolved around feelings of safety. Feeling unsafe was listed by several participants as their neighborhood's greatest problem, while at the same time, feeling safe was listed by other participants as their neighborhood's greatest strength. Many respondents reported a feeling of safety and/or security in their community, and lauded the vigilance of their neighbors in an effort to maintain safety. More specifically, respondents highlighted a lack of crime — specifically, a lack of violence or theft — as an important facet of neighborhood/community safety. At the ZIP code level, the highest percentage of respondents mentioning safety as a strength was 10% in 49548. For a map of these data, see Appendix H.

> Latinx respondents were **half as likely** as White respondents to say they felt "very safe" in their communities.

Multiple respondents who named a lack of safety as their neighborhood's biggest problem identified a lack of vigilance among neighbors as a contributing factor to this problem. More specifically, the presence of crime and violence such as shootings, theft, gang activity, and speeding vehicles were identified as the biggest problems related to safety in participants' neighborhoods/communities.
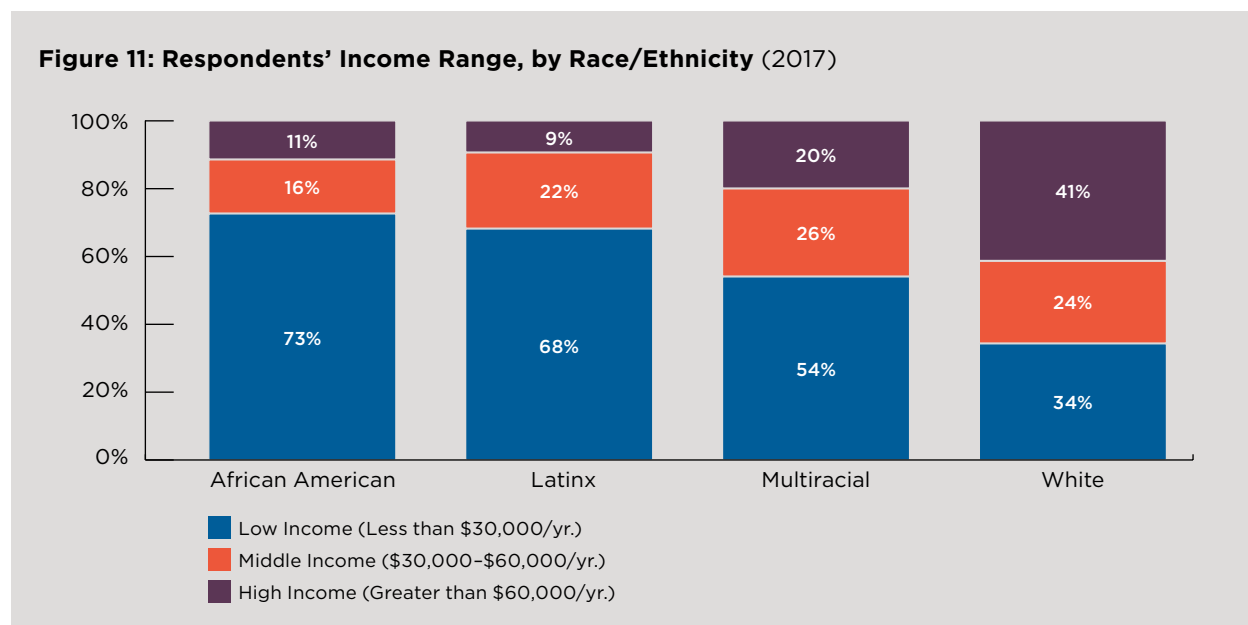
Respondents emphasized drug use, too, and the presence of drugs as their neighborhood/community's biggest problem. Several respondents also answered that the biggest problem in their neighborhood/community is the strong police presence, which contributed to a feeling of fear and insecurity among participants.

Fifty percent or more of Latinx respondents in ZIP codes 49507 and 49503 cited insecurity as a problem in their communities. For a map of these data, see Appendix I.

Poverty, Income, and Wealth

Latinx respondents were the most likely of respondents of all racial/ethnic groups to be near or below the federal poverty level in both years. In 2016, 42% of Latinx respondents were near or below the federal poverty level, and 75% were near or below twice the federal poverty level. From 2016 to 2017, the percentage of respondents within each racial group who were impoverished increased. In 2017, 68% of Latinx respondents were near or below the federal poverty level, and nearly nine out of 10 Latinx respondents were near or below twice the federal poverty level.

Moreover, Latinx respondents were the least likely of all racial/ethnic groups to be making more than $60,000 a year, and most likely to be making less than $30,000 per year. In contrast, White respondents were the most likely to be making more than $60,000 per year, and the least likely to be making less than $30,000 per year. The odds of having an income over $30,000 for Latinx respondents were half those of White respondents after controlling for religious status, relationship status, age, gender, sexual orientation, and educational attainment.

Figure 11: Respondents' Income Range, by Race/Ethnicity (2017)

Legend:
- Low Income (Less than $30,000/yr.)
- Middle Income ($30,000–$60,000/yr.)
- High Income (Greater than $60,000/yr.)

Homeownership, commonly used as a proxy measure for wealth, varied considerably between racial/ethnic groups. While slightly more Latinx respondents were homeowners than African American and Multiracial respondents, they were still far less likely to own a home than White respondents. Fifty-five percent of White respondents said they owned a home, compared to 36% of Latinx respondents, 32% of Multiracial respondents, and 24% of African American respondents. Nevertheless, Latinx respondents were the least likely of any racial/ethnic group to say that they had experienced homelessness.

Latinx respondents were the **least likely** of any racial/ethnic group to say that they had experienced homelessness.

Proximity to Resources

Another major theme that emerged among the responses of Latinx survey participants was proximity to resources. Some participants identified proximity to certain establishments and resources as the biggest strength of their neighborhood/community. More specifically, respondents mentioned their neighborhood/community's proximity to schools; the downtown area in general; parks and trails; stores and restaurants; libraries; and public transportation.

Latinx respondents who identified a lack of proximity of their neighborhood/community to certain resources as its biggest problem named the lack of proximity to parks, grocery stores, and the downtown area specifically.

Interestingly, the ZIP code 49508 held both the highest percentage of Latinx respondents saying proximity to resources was a strength and the highest percentage saying it was a problem. This could be due to a difference in which part of the ZIP code the respondents live, or a difference in which resources are important to them. To see the percentage of respondents in select ZIP codes who mentioned proximity to resources as a strength or problem, see Appendix J and Appendix K, respectively.

Other Neighborhood Strengths and Problems

In addition to the aforementioned themes, Latinx respondents mentioned several other strengths and problems. These primarily consisted of faith, schools, housing, poverty, noise, and cleanliness.

Several respondents indicated that faith, described by many simply as "God" (or "Dios" when answered in Spanish), was the biggest strength of their neighborhood/community. At least one respondent named the presence of the church in their neighborhood as its biggest strength.

Survey participants noted that the presence of schools, and the quality of the schools themselves, were the biggest strength of their neighborhood/community. Proximity to schools and community support of schools were highlighted as specific school-related strengths.

Latinx respondents who identified housing-related themes as the biggest strength of their neighborhood focused on specific aspects of housing: the presence of historical homes, homes with increasing value, the prevalence of home ownership, and well-kept homes were all described as strengths.

Much like participants who named housing in their neighborhood/community as its biggest strength, several respondents identified certain aspects of the housing within their neighborhoods/communities as their biggest problems. Specifically, houses in disrepair that need attention and high rent rates were named as significant problems related to housing.

A unique theme that emerged among responses was the prevalence of poverty in respondents' neighborhoods/communities. Several participants noted a lack of income as a community-wide issue, while others pointed out the lack of financial help and/or resources for the neighborhood/community.

Many respondents listed the "tranquility" of their community as its biggest strength. Along similar lines, respondents identified the quiet atmosphere, peacefulness, and friendliness of their communities as strengths. Conversely, while some respondents listed the tranquility of their neighborhood/community as its biggest strength, many other respondents noted the high noise level of their community as its biggest problem. Loud neighbors, parties, and music were identified as sources of the high noise level.

Cleanliness of their neighborhood/community was identified by several participants as the biggest strength of their community, while many other respondents identified a lack of cleanliness as their community's biggest problem. Those who indicated cleanliness was a strength of their neighborhood specifically mentioned the cleanliness of homes, the street, and the neighborhood in general as strengths. Additionally, multiple respondents described how the members of their community work together to keep the neighborhood clean. Those respondents who identified a lack of cleanliness as their neighborhood/community's biggest problem named litter in the streets and the presence of vermin (such as rodents and insects) as specific problems. Related to cleanliness, multiple participants noted that poor road quality was the biggest problem in their neighborhood. Potholes, roads in need of repair, and inadequate snow and leaf removal were specifically identified as problems.

Several respondents indicated that they did not know or were unsure about the biggest strength or problem in their neighborhood/community. Other respondents indicated that there was no biggest strength or problem in their neighborhood/community.[4]

CONCLUSIONS

From educational attainment to safety to feelings of community, the VoiceGR 2016 and VoiceKent 2017 results suggest that Latinx residents' perceptions and experiences are both unique to their communities and the same as seen in the rest of the community, especially African American and Multiracial populations. Specific racial/ethnic disparities were found — and are likely at least somewhat intertwined — in educational attainment, income and wealth, accessibility of healthy foods, awareness of signs and symptoms of mental health conditions, and safety.

Latinx respondents had the lowest levels of educational attainment of any major racial group. Because educational attainment tends to lead to higher incomes, among other positive outcomes, closing the gap in educational attainment may lead to better outcomes across the board. Latinx respondents also had lower levels of income. This may signify a need for better jobs, access to or information regarding higher paying jobs, higher educational attainment, or other factors that may lead to higher income. Accessibility of healthy foods may also be tied to income. Because the term accessibility was not defined in the survey, accessibility may encompass issues of proximity to stores that sell fruits and vegetables, the cost of produce, as well as other factors that make people feel they do not have access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

Latinx respondents were least likely to say they could recognize signs and symptoms of mental health conditions. This may be a lack of education regarding mental health or its importance, and additional research is needed to find out how this gap of awareness in mental health conditions may be closed.

Latinx residents were also the least likely of any major racial group to feel safe in their neighborhoods/communities. Feelings of safety could be tied to the presence of a number of things in the neighborhood, such as crime, drugs, or police, all of which were mentioned by respondents as problems in their communities.

Across Latinx participants, similar themes emerged as responses to each open-ended question were analyzed. Community, and the people within a community, are an important aspect of neighborhood

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[4] Responses that did not pertain to the survey question, were unable to be deciphered, or were unable to be translated (likely due to spelling errors and lack of researcher knowledge of colloquial language) were categorized into a "Miscellaneous" category. Further analysis of the responses placed in this category is recommended.

quality to Latinx respondents. While some listed a great sense of community and friendly neighbors as their neighborhood/community's biggest strengths, a lack of community and unfriendly neighbors were listed by others as their neighborhood/community's biggest problems.

Other themes emerged across responses, including tranquility vs. noisiness, cleanliness vs. lack of cleanliness, proximity to resources vs. distance from resources, feelings of safety and lack of crime/violence vs. feelings of insecurity and presence of crime/violence. These themes represent the most salient aspects of Latinx participants' neighborhoods/communities, as represented by survey responses. It is reasonable to conclude that these themes represent what is most important to Latinx people as they experience life in their neighborhood/community. Building strong communities with good relationships with neighbors, maintaining a clean and tranquil space, being close to community resources, and feeling safe have all been identified as aspects that make a strong neighborhood/community, with their themes describing neighborhoods/communities with significant problems.

Beyond the aforementioned themes, unique themes such as poor road quality, poverty, schools, and faith emerged. These themes also represent important aspects of neighborhood/community life for Latinx respondents. While strong faith and good schools were listed as community strengths, poor road quality and poverty illuminate areas for possible economic development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Call to Action

This report suggests that not enough attention is given to the needs of Latinx communities. There is much work to be done to close racial/ethnic disparities in the greater Grand Rapids area and Kent County. Philanthropic dollars could be well spent on improvement of quality of life specifically for Latinx populations. To close the racial/ethnic gaps, greater efforts are needed to ensure access to higher education, higher wages, safer neighborhoods, mental health information, and other resources for Latinx residents throughout Kent County.

Additional Research

Because of the convenience sampling methodology, some populations in Kent County are underrepresented. In subsequent iterations of the VoiceKent survey, researchers recommend a more rigorous sampling methodology, such as stratified or simple random sampling, in order to obtain a more representative sample of the county. Oversampling of Latinx and African American residents is also recommended in order to be able to draw stronger conclusions between specific demographic characteristics, and to be able to understand differences between geographic areas with smaller populations, such as townships, smaller ZIP codes, neighborhoods, and census tracts.

It would also be helpful to compare this research to similar studies in different areas, and the Census 2020 data, when available, to help ensure reproducibility of results, and especially to understand the extent of the effect of the convenience sampling.

Additional qualitative research would be an excellent supplement to this project. While quantitative data is certainly helpful and vitally important for identifying disparities and helping to understand the ecosystem in which we live at a broad level, qualitative data may be able to better address more specific experiences, and may help to capture nuance and more complex questions than quantitative data can measure. One benefit
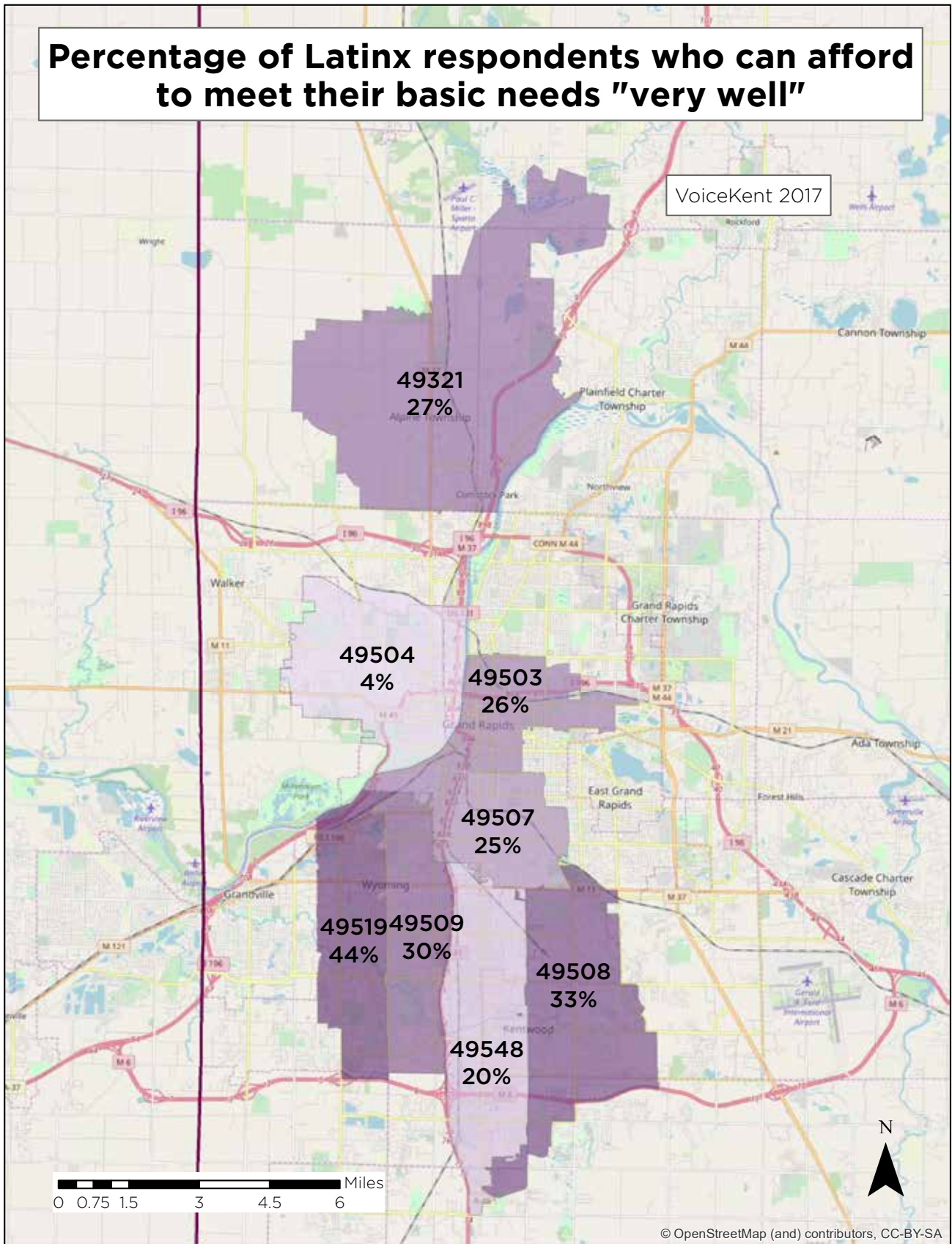
of qualitative data is an improved ability to explain quantitative results. For example, this project has shown that Latinx respondents are less likely to feel safe in their neighborhoods than other groups, but that does not explain why this is so. In this instance, it would be helpful to analyze the qualitative question on VoiceKent, "What about your neighborhood/community makes you feel unsafe?" Additionally, asking follow-up questions may also provide further useful information. For example, researchers could ask, "Why do you think this is the biggest strength/problem in your neighborhood/community?" or, "If you could change one thing about the biggest problem in your community, how would you change it?" These and other open-ended questions may help further understanding of the needs of the Latinx community in the Greater Grand Rapids area.

Comparing the responses of Latinx participants to the two open-ended questions to the responses of other racial groups would be helpful in future analysis. Doing so would illuminate whether the strengths and problems identified by Latinx participants are unique to that racial/ethnic group, or if other groups share similarly themed responses.

Additionally, participants frequently mentioned drugs as the biggest problem in their neighborhood/community. Learning more about the presence of drugs and their usage in communities would enable greater understanding of the issue. Similarly, asking more questions about the police presence in certain neighborhoods/communities may help explain why such a police presence exists, and its impact on community members.

Percentage of Latinx respondents who can afford to meet their basic needs "very well"
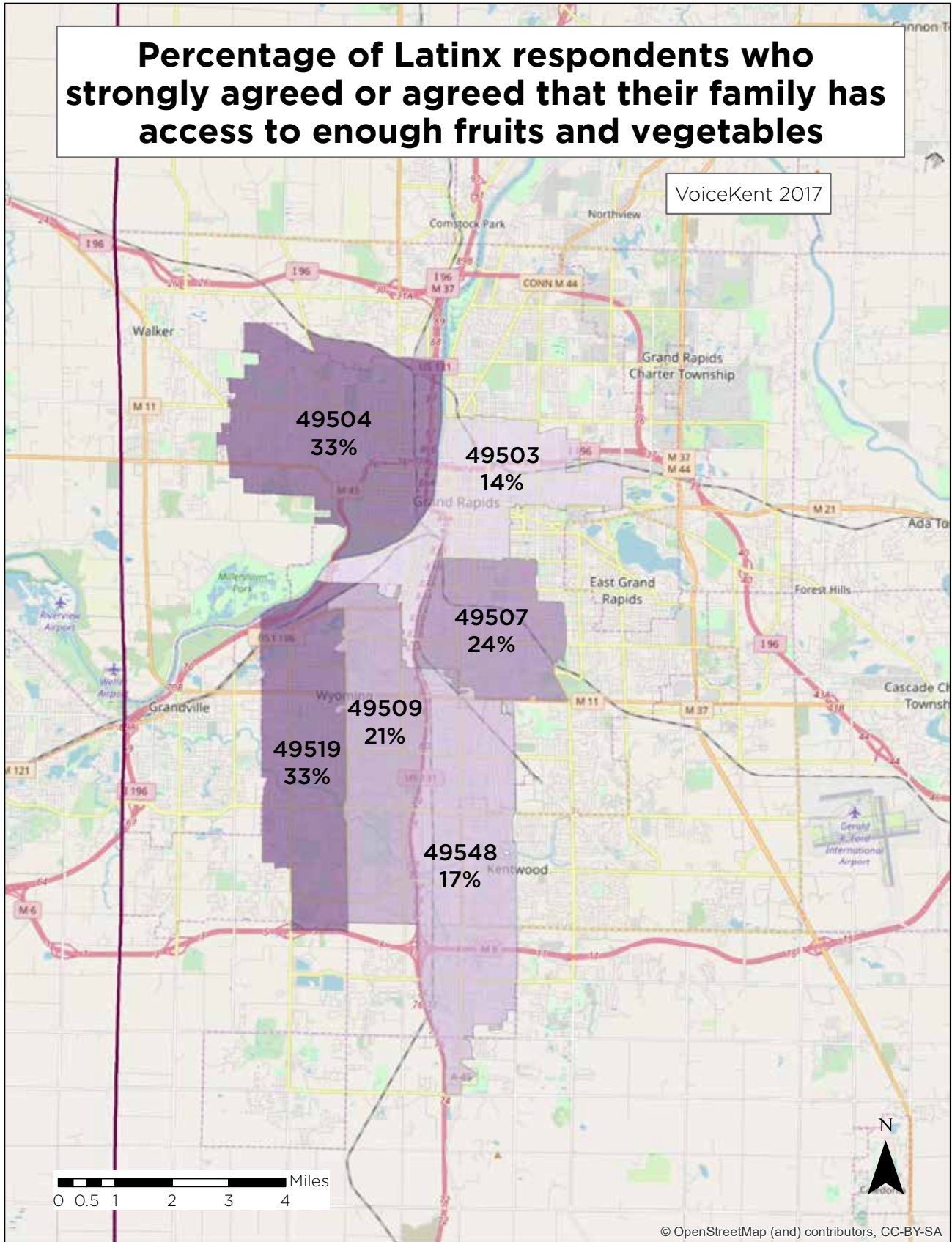
VoiceKent 2017

49321
27%

49504
4%

49503
26%

49507
25%

49519
44%

49509
30%

49508
33%

49548
20%

Miles
0 0.75 1.5   3   4.5   6

N

Percentage of Latinx respondents who strongly agreed or agreed that their family has access to enough fruits and vegetables

VoiceKent 2017
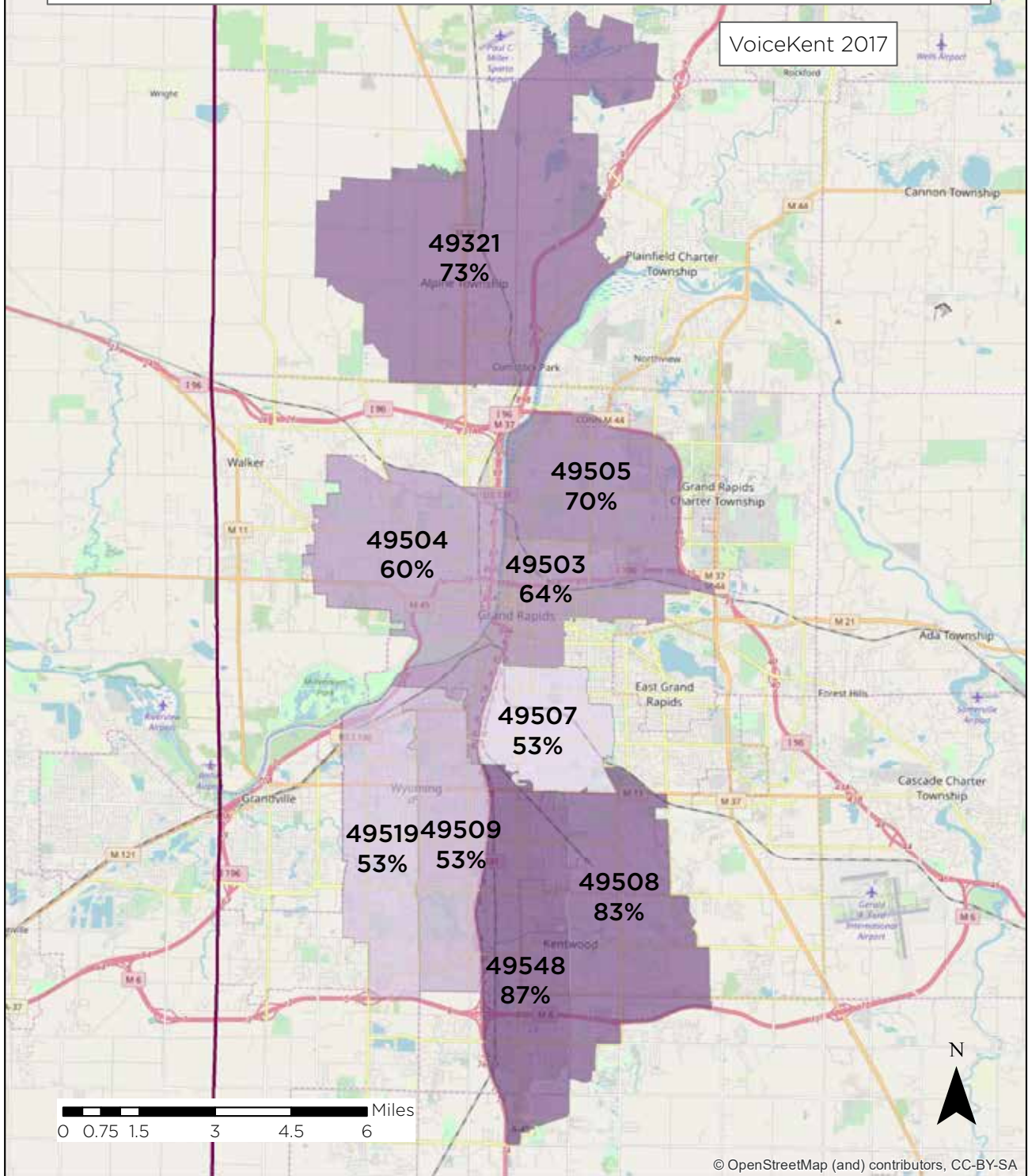
49504
33%

49503
14%

49507
24%

49509
21%

49519
33%

49548
17%

Miles
0 0.5 1 2 3 4

N

Percentage of Latinx respondents who said they feel like they fit in "completely" or "mostly" in their neighborhood/community
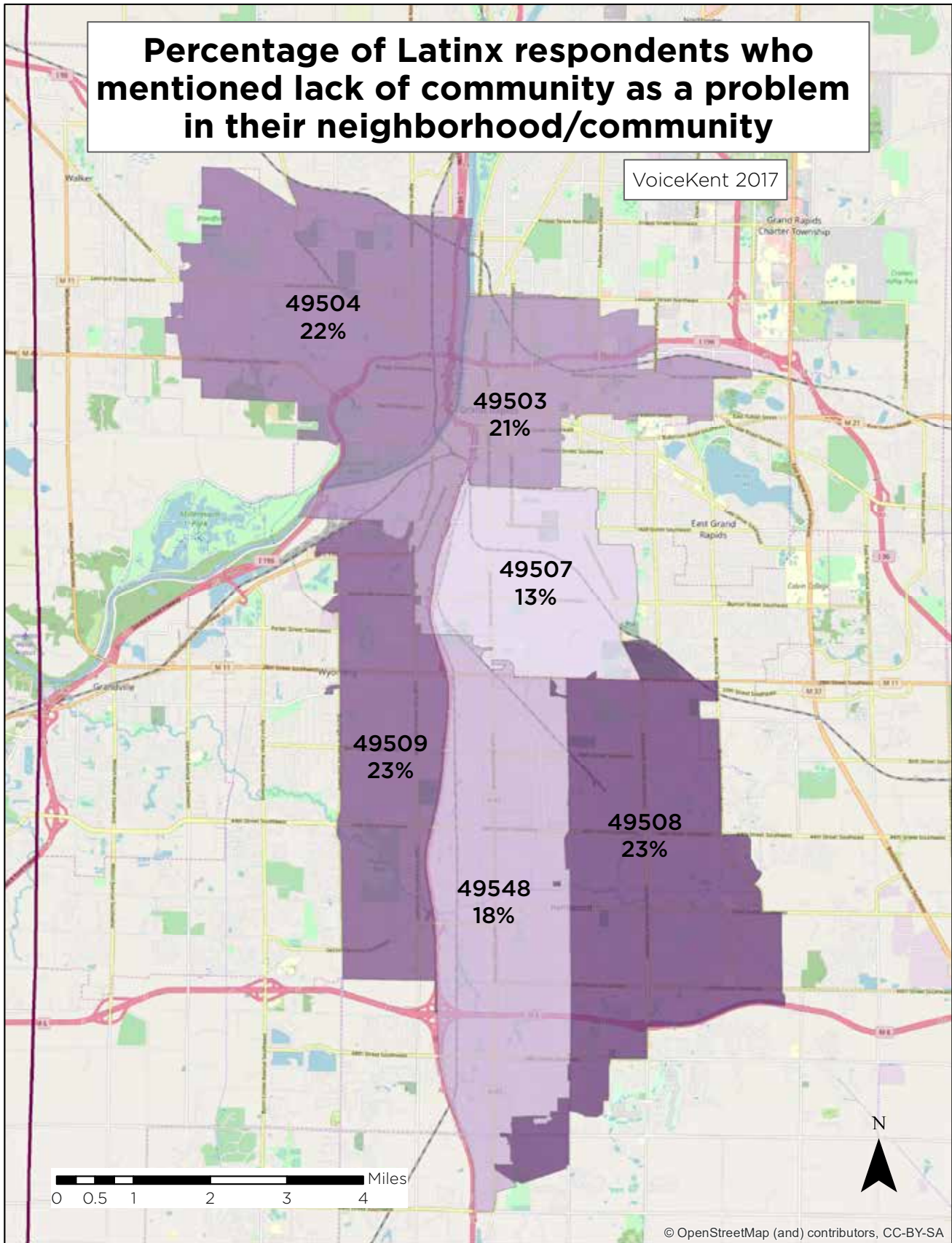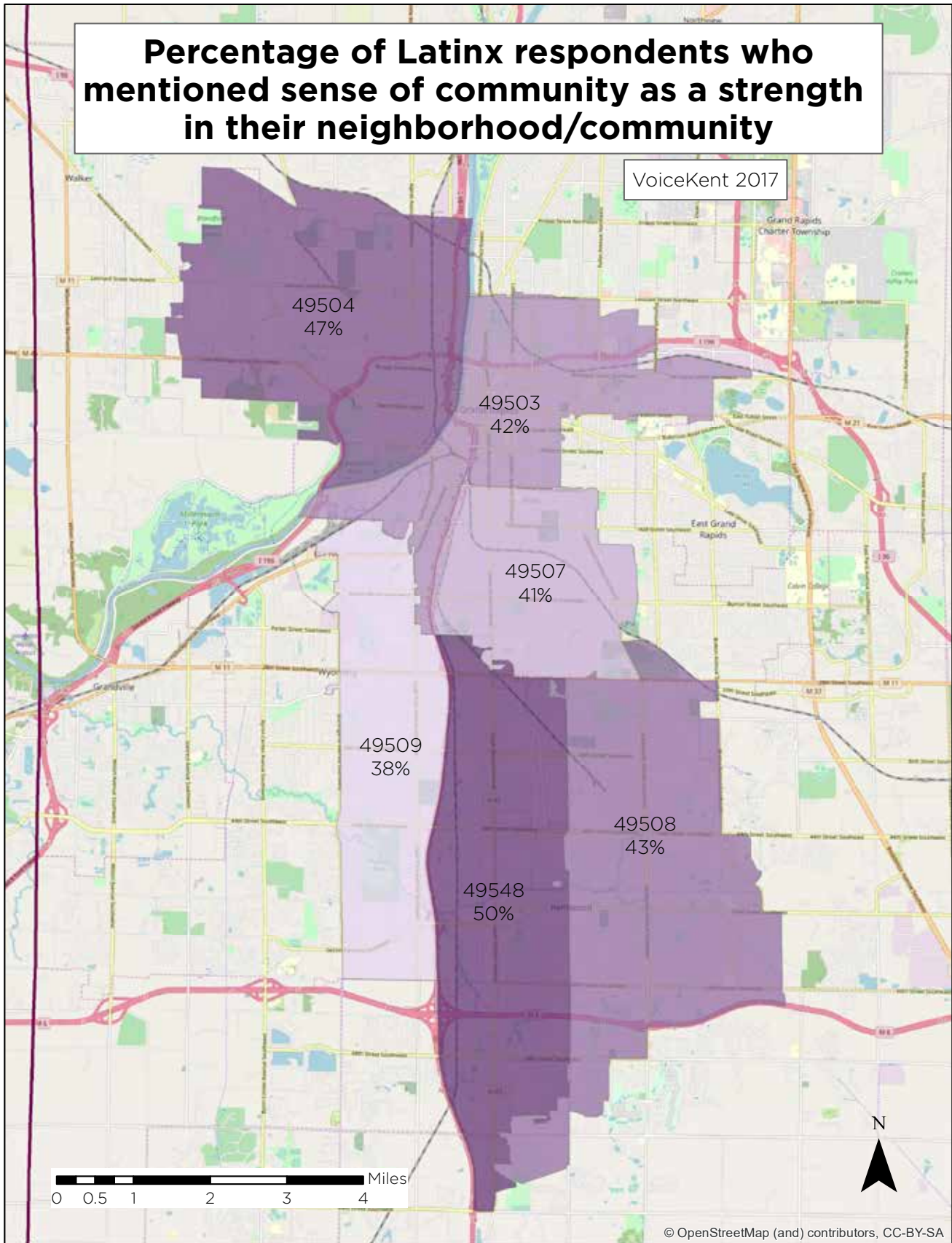
VoiceKent 2017

49321
73%

49505
70%

49504
60%

49503
64%

49507
53%

49519
53%

49509
53%

49508
83%

49548
87%

Miles
0   0.75 1.5   3   4.5   6

N

Percentage of Latinx respondents who think racism is "very much" or "somewhat" a problem in their neighborhood/community
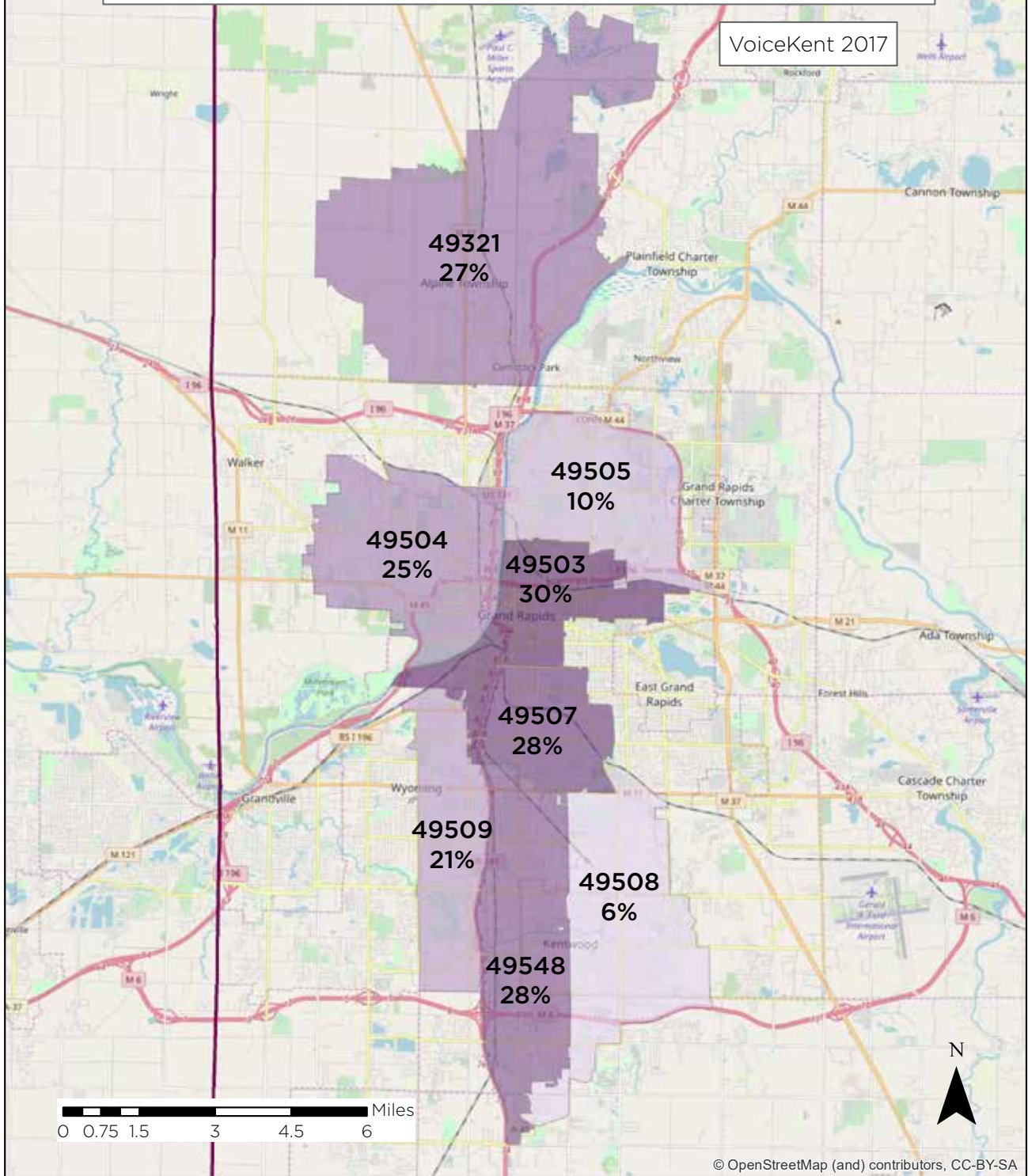
VoiceKent 2017

49321
9%

49505
20%

49504
30%

49503
31%

49507
34%

49519
50%

49509
36%

49508
31%

49548
25%

Miles
0 0.75 1.5   3   4.5   6

Percentage of Latinx respondents who mentioned lack of community as a problem in their neighborhood/community

VoiceKent 2017

49504
22%

49503
21%

49507
13%

49509
23%

49508
23%

49548
18%

Miles
0   0.5   1   2   3   4

N

Percentage of Latinx respondents who mentioned sense of community as a strength in their neighborhood/community

VoiceKent 2017

49504
47%

49503
42%

49507
41%

49509
38%

49508
43%

49548
50%

Miles
0   0.5   1   2   3   4

N
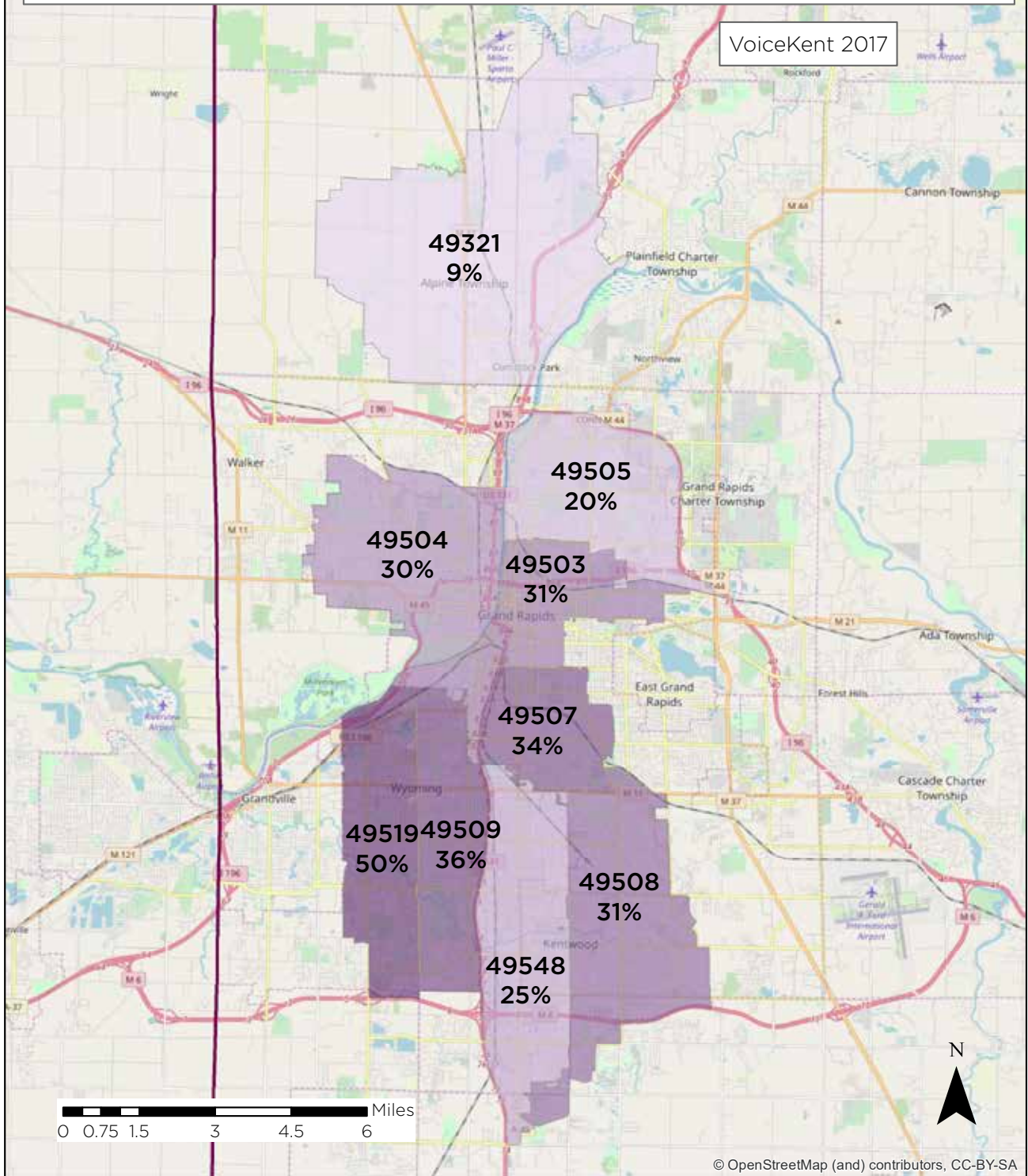
Percentage of Latinx respondents who feel "somewhat unsafe" or "very unsafe" in their neighborhood/community

VoiceKent 2017

49321
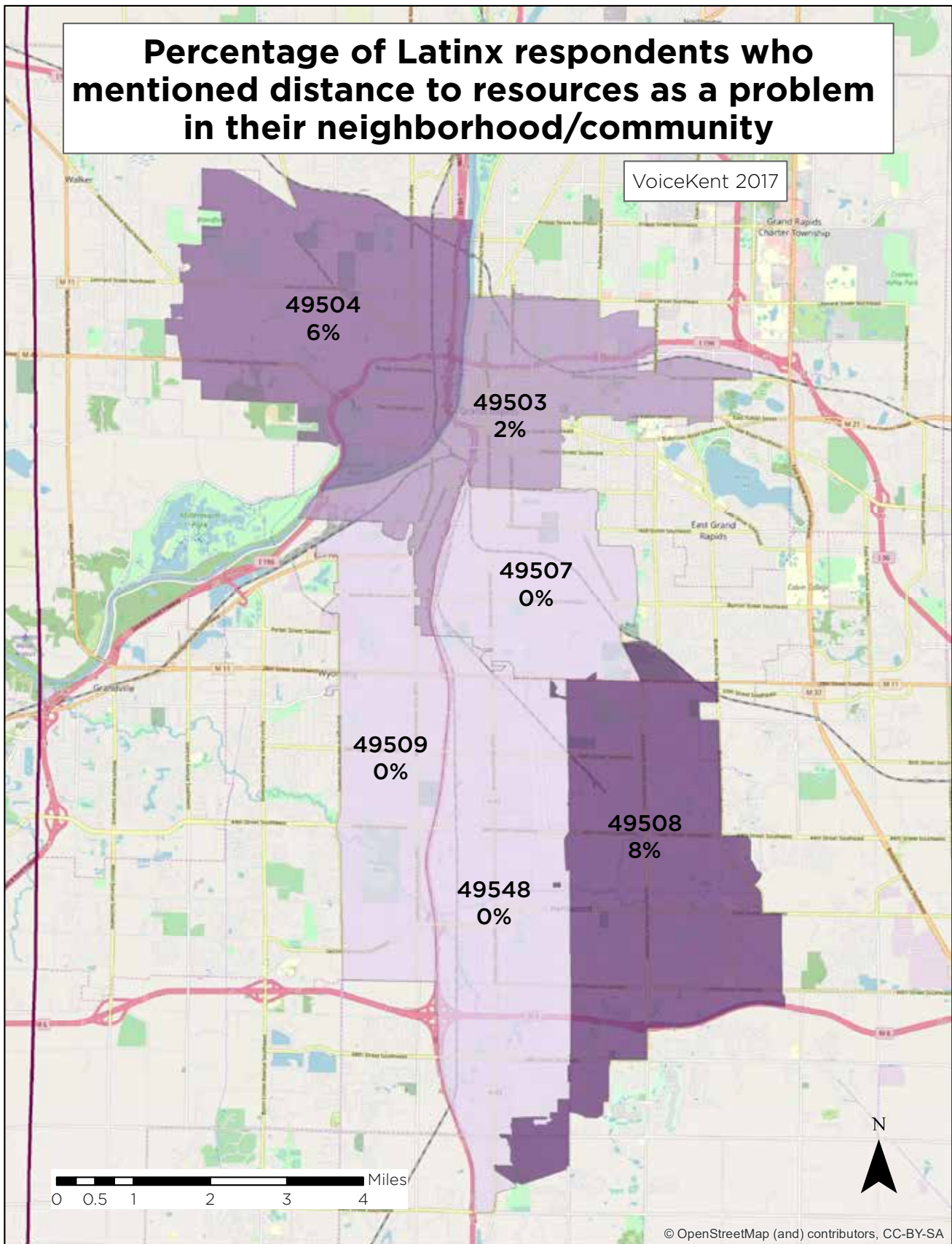27%

49505
10%

49504
25%

49503
30%

49507
28%

49509
21%

49508
6%

49548
28%

Miles
0   0.75 1.5   3   4.5   6

N

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Percentage of Latinx respondents who mentioned safety as a strength in their neighborhood/community

VoiceKent 2017

49504
0%

49503
0%

49507
4%

49509
3%

49508
7%

49548
10%

Miles
0   0.5   1   2   3   4

N

Percentage of Latinx respondents who mentioned safety as a problem in their neighborhood/community

VoiceKent 2017

49504
39%

49503
50%

49507
53%

49509
34%

49508
31%

49548
35%

Miles
0   0.5   1   2   3   4

N

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Percentage of Latinx respondents who mentioned proximity to resources as a strength in their neighborhood/community

VoiceKent 2017

49504
6%

49503
11%

49507
8%

49509
11%

49508
14%

49548
0%

Miles
0 0.5 1   2   3   4

N

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Percentage of Latinx respondents who mentioned distance to resources as a problem in their neighborhood/community

VoiceKent 2017

49504
6%

49503
2%

49507
0%

49509
0%

49508
8%

49548
0%

Miles
0   0.5   1   2   3   4

N

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Latinx sample size by ZIP code for mapped questions

ZIP code	Sample sizes in…						
	Appendix A	Appendix B[1]	Appendix C	Appendix D	Appendix G	Appendices F, H, J	Appendices E, I, K
49321	11	< 10	11	11	11	< 10	< 10
49503	58	35	59	52	57	42	36
49504	24	12	25	23	24	18	17
49505	< 10	< 10	10	10	10	< 10	< 10
49507	88	45	90	86	86	62	49
49508	18	< 10	18	16	18	13	14
49509	60	29	60	59	58	35	37
49519	18	12	17	18	18	< 10	< 10
49548	25	18	23	24	25	17	20

---

[1] This question tended to have less responses because it was only asked to respondents with children.

Description of logistic regression modeling

Four logistic regression models were created — one for each of four outcomes: income, ratings of safety, and ratings of physical and mental health. Prior to modeling, each of these variables was made into a binary variable. For the three ratings variables, "Excellent and good" were separated from "Fair, poor, and failing." Income was split into "Less than $30,000" and "$30,000 or more." To understand the impact of race/ethnicity, six demographic variables were controlled for in the model, including religious status, relationship status, age category, gender, sexual orientation, and educational attainment.

White was used as the reference race/ethnicity, so there were three new binary variables created from the race/ethnicity variable: one for Black/African American, one for Latinx, and one for Multiracial. The table below shows the coefficients for each of these race/ethnicity variables in each model and the p-value associated with that coefficient. These coefficients are log odds ratios. In order to interpret them, they must be transformed and then interpreted as an odds ratio relative to White. For example, the Latinx variable had a coefficient of -0.7233 in the income model. To convert to an odds ratio: $e^{-0.7233} = .4851$. Therefore, the odds of a Latinx respondent reporting a household income of $30,000 or more are approximately half that of a White respondent after controlling for religious status, relationship status, age category, gender, sexual orientation, and educational attainment.

	Coefficient	Odds ratio	p-value
Mental health rating model			
Black/African American	-0.1945	0.8232	0.0749
Latinx	-0.3420	0.7103	0.0150*
Multiracial	0.2081	1.2313	0.1312
Physical health rating model			
Black/African American	0.3041	1.3554	0.0043**
Latinx	0.0068	1.0068	0.9619
Multiracial	0.4651	1.5922	0.0008**
Safety rating model			
Black/African American	-0.8675	0.4200	< 0.0001**
Latinx	-1.1801	0.3072	< 0.0001**
Multiracial	-0.5241	0.5921	0.0005**
Income model			
Black/African American	-1.1547	0.3152	< 0.0001**
Latinx	-0.7233	0.4851	< 0.0001**
Multiracial	-0.6221	0.5368	< 0.0001**

* p-value is significant at a significance level of 0.05

** p-value is significant at a significance level of 0.01

Appendix N: Neighborhood strength and problem themes from qualitative analysis

What do you think is the biggest strength of your neighborhood/community?

- Proximity to Resources
    Schools

    Other Community Resources

    People: diversity, multiculturalism, friendly people, presence of children

    Sense of Community: communication, unity, looking out for/taking care of one another

- Overall Neighborhood Experience
    Tranquility: quiet, peaceful

    Cleanliness

    Friendliness

- Safety
    Feeling of Safety

    Lack of Crime/Violence

- Other Neighborhood Strengths

    Faith
    Schools
    Housing
    Tranquility
    Cleanliness/Friendliness

- Miscellaneous
- Don't Know/Unsure
- None
- N/A

What do you think is the biggest problem in your neighborhood/community?

- Proximity to Resources
    Other Resources

- Community
  - People: racism, lack of diversity, lack of friendliness, unsupervised youth, dislike of neighbors

  - Sense of Community: lack of communication, lack of unity

- Safety
  - Strong police presence

  - Crime/Violence: shootings, robbery, gang activity, speeding cars

  - Lack of Safety

  - Drug Use

- Housing
  - Houses in Need of Repair

  - High Rent

- Poverty
  - Lack of Income

  - Lack of Financial Help/Resources

- Other Neighborhood Problems
  - Noisiness
  - Cleanliness: littering, vermin
  - Poor Road Quality: potholes, inadequate snow and leaf removal
- Miscellaneous

- Don't Know/Unsure
- None
- N/A

VOICEGR

Powered by the Johnson Center for Philanthropy

- The survey asks questions about you and your experiences.
- It takes about 10 – 15 minutes to complete.
- It is up to you if you want to take or not take the survey.
- You can skip any questions you do not want to answer.
- The survey does not ask for your name.
- **Your personal information will NOT be shared.**
- In the spring of 2017, results can be seen on www.VoiceGR.org.
- Questions? Please email ShareYourVoice@gvsu.edu or call 616-331-7121.

Thank you for sharing your voice!

What do you think about Grand Rapids?

1. For yourself, what grade would you give the Greater Grand Rapids Area as a place to live overall?
    *Choose **only one***:

    O   A – Excellent
    O   B – Good
    O   C – Fair
    O   D – Poor
    O   F – Failing

About You

2. Which of the following race categories best describes you? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

    ☐   White
    ☐   Black/African American
    ☐   American Indian/Alaska Native
    ☐   Asian
    ☐   Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
    ☐   Hispanic/Latino
    ☐   Multiracial
    ☐   Other (please specify):
    _____

3. What is your primary language?
    *Choose **only one***:

    O   English
    O   Spanish
    O   Arabic
    O   Mandarin
    O   Other (please specify):
    _____

4. What other languages do you speak? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

    ☐   English
    ☐   Spanish
    ☐   Arabic
    ☐   Mandarin
    ☐   Other (please specify):
    _____

5. What gender do you identify with?
    *Choose **only one***:

    O   Male
    O   Female
    O   None of the above (please specify):
    _____
    O   Don't know/not sure

6. How would you describe your sexual orientation?
    *Choose **only one***:

    O   Heterosexual/straight
    O   Gay/lesbian
    O   Bisexual
    O   None of the above (please specify):
    _____
    O   Don't know/not sure

7. How old are you? *(Enter age in years. For example, 27)*

_____ years old

8. What is your current relationship status? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

- ☐ Single
- ☐ Committed relationship and not married
- ☐ Married
- ☐ Widowed
- ☐ Divorced
- ☐ Separated
- ☐ Other (please specify):

_____

9. What is your current religion, faith or belief? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

- ☐ Agnostic
- ☐ Atheist
- ☐ Buddhist
- ☐ Catholic
- ☐ Protestant Christian (for example, Baptist, Reformed, Non-Denominational)
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Hindu
- ☐ Muslim
- ☐ Spiritual, Non-religious
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

_____

10. Are you currently a student? *Choose **only one***:

- O Yes **(Continue to 11)**
- O No **(Skip to 12)**

11. If you are a student, which of the following are you working towards? *Choose **only one***:

- O High school diploma or GED
- O Associate degree / Technical Certification
- O Bachelor's degree
- O Graduate degree
- O Continuing education classes (non-degree)

12. What is the highest level of education you have completed? *Choose **only one***:

- O Less than or some high school (no diploma)
- O High school graduate or GED
- O Some college (no degree)
- O Associate degree (AA or 2-year college)/Technical certification
- O Bachelor's degree
- O Graduate degree or higher

Work, Benefits, and Health Insurance

13. Are you currently looking for a paying job? *Choose **only one***:

- O Yes
- O No

14. Do you currently have at least one paying job? *Choose **only one***:

- O Yes **(Skip to 16)**
- O No **(Continue to 15)**

15. If you do **not** have a paying job, why is that? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

- ☐ Not applicable **(Continue to 16)**
- ☐ Retirement **(Skip to 19)**
- ☐ Disability **(Skip to 19)**
- ☐ Being laid off **(Skip to 19)**
- ☐ Quit previous job **(Skip to 19)**
- ☐ Choice (for example, stay-at-home parent) **(Skip to 19)**
- ☐ Other (please specify) **(Skip to 19)**:

_____

Continue to next page   2

16. How many paying jobs do you currently have? *(Enter number of jobs)*

_____ job(s)

17. About how many total hours per week do you work at your paying job(s) on average? *(Enter total number of hours)*

_____ hour(s)

18. Have you been offered any the following benefits through any of your paying jobs? This question does **NOT** include health or medical insurance. ***Check all*** *that apply:*

- ☐ Paid vacation (for example, paid time off)
- ☐ Paid sick leave
- ☐ Paid maternity/paternity leave
- ☐ Employer contributions to a retirement plan
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

   _____

19. In the past year, did you receive any of the following government benefits? ***Check all*** *that apply:*

- ☐ Childcare Assistance
- ☐ Medicaid
- ☐ TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
- ☐ Cash Assistance
- ☐ Food Assistance (EBT/Bridge Card or SNAP/Food Stamps)
- ☐ State Emergency Relief (for example, utility and water shutoff)
- ☐ Social Security
- ☐ Medicare
- ☐ WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)
- ☐ HUD assistance (Department of Housing and Urban Development, lilke, Section 8 Housing)
- ☐ MSHDA assistance (Michigan State Housing Development Authority)
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

   _____

20. In the past year, did you have health insurance? *Choose **only one**:*

- ○ Yes, for all of the year (***Continue to 21***)
- ○ Yes, for part of the year (***Continue to 21***)
- ○ No, not in the past year (***Skip to 23***)

21. Did you buy your health insurance through a health insurance marketplace, or exchange? (Also known as, Affordable Care Act, ACA, MiCare, or Obamacare) *Choose **only one**:*

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

22. In the past year, what health insurance have you had? ***Check all*** *that apply:*

- ☐ Health insurance through your employer
- ☐ Health insurance through your spouse or domestic partner
- ☐ Health insurance through your parent(s)
- ☐ Student health insurance
- ☐ Medicaid
- ☐ Medicare or Medicare supplement
- ☐ Healthy Michigan Plan
- ☐ Self-paid health insurance (I pay the premiums myself)
- ☐ Veteran's Administration, TRICARE
- ☐ Indian Health Service, Tribal Health Services
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

   _____

If you answered 21 and 22, skip to 24.

23. Why did you **not** have health insurance?

   _____
   _____

Continue to next page   3

Shelter/Housing and Household

24. What is your current housing status right now? *Choose **only one***:

- O Own, no mortgage
- O Own, paying mortgage
- O Rent, including subsidized housing or college housing (contract or lease)
- O Living with someone (friend, relative, etc.) and paying rent **without** a contract or lease
- O Living with someone (friend, relative, etc.) and **not** paying rent **without** a contract or lease
- O Homeless
- O Other (please specify):

_____

25. In the past year, have your utilities been turned off due to lack of payment? *Choose **only one***:

- O Yes
- O No

26. In the past year, have you faced foreclosure or been evicted for non-payment? *Choose **only one***:

- O Yes
- O No

27. Have you experienced homelessness (lived outside in places such as a street, park, abandoned building, car, in an emergency shelter, or in transitional or supportive housing for homeless persons)? *Choose **only one***:

- O Yes, in the past year
- O Yes, more than one year ago
- O No

28. How many adults ages 18 years or older live in your household, including yourself? (***Enter number of adults***)

_____

29. How many children under 18 years old live in your household? (***Enter number of children***)

_____

30. Which of the following categories best fits your **total household income** last year? *Choose **only one***:

- O Less than $5,000
- O $5,000 to less than $10,000
- O $10,000 to less than $15,000
- O $15,000 to less than $20,000
- O $20,000 to less than $25,000
- O $25,000 to less than $30,000
- O $30,000 to less than $35,000
- O $35,000 to less than $40,000
- O $40,000 to less than $45,000
- O $45,000 to less than $50,000
- O $50,000 to less than $60,000
- O $60,000 to less than $70,000
- O $70,000 to less than $80,000
- O $80,000 to less than $90,000
- O $90,000 to less than $100,000
- O $100,000 to less than $120,000
- O $120,000 to less than $140,000
- O $140,000 or more

Your Neighborhood

A neighborhood is made up of where you stay and the small geographic area that surrounds where you stay. For example, Grand Rapids has over 30 neighborhoods.

	A – Excellent	B – Good	C – Fair	D – Poor	F – Failing
31. How would you rate your neighborhood as a place to live?	O	O	O	O	O

Continue to next page 4

32. About what year did you move into your neighborhood? *(Enter year. For example, 2010)*

_____

33. In your neighborhood, how much do you feel like you fit in? *Choose __only one__:*

O Completely
O Mostly
O Somewhat
O Not really
O Not at all

34. Do you feel like you can make a positive difference in your neighborhood? *Choose __only one__:*

O Yes
O No
O Don't know/Not sure

The next three questions will be used to group your answers with other answers in your neighborhood. Your personal information will __NOT__ be shared.

35. What street do you live on? *(Include the direction. For example, NW or SE)*

_____

36. What is the closest street that crosses the street you live on? *(Include the direction. For example, NW or SE)*

_____

37. What is your ZIP code? *(For example, 49504)*

_____

38. What do you think is the biggest strength of your neighborhood?

_____
_____

39. What do you think is the biggest problem in your neighborhood?

_____
_____

40. Does your neighborhood have a Neighborhood Association that you know of? *Choose __only one__:*

O Yes (*Continue to 41*)
O No (*Skip to 42*)
O Don't know/Not sure (*Skip to 42*)

41. How involved are you in your Neighborhood Association? *Choose __only one__:*

O I am not involved at all
O I am somewhat involved
O I am very involved

	Very Unsafe	Somewhat Unsafe	Neutral	Somewhat Safe	Very Safe
42. How safe do **you** feel in your neighborhood?	O	O	O	O	O

Continue to 43   *Skip to 44*

43. What about your neighborhood makes you feel unsafe?

_____

Continue to next page   5

Your Experiences

	Very Much	Somewhat	Undecided	Not Really	Not at All
44. To what extent do you think racism is a problem **in the U.S.?**	O	O	O	O	O
45. To what extent do you think racism is a problem in the **greater Grand Rapids area**?	O	O	O	O	O
46. To what extent do you think racism is a problem in **your neighborhood**?	O	O	O	O	O

47. Based on your current income, how well can you afford to meet your basic needs (food, including water; shelter; utilities; and clothing)? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Very well
- O Fairly well
- O Not very well
- O Not at all

48. Based on your current income, how well can you afford to meet the following basic needs:	Very well	Fairly well	Not very well	Not at all
a. Food, including water	O	O	O	O
b. Shelter	O	O	O	O
c. Utilities	O	O	O	O
d. Clothing	O	O	O	O
e. Prescriptions	O	O	O	O
f. Health care	O	O	O	O
g. Transportation	O	O	O	O

49. Do you know anyone or any place that could help with basic needs? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Yes
- O No

6

50. In the past year, how often have you had trouble getting to where you need to go because:	Not at all	Less than Once Per Month	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
a. Public transportation was inconvenient	O	O	O	O	O
b. You were unable to afford public transportation	O	O	O	O	O
c. You did not have enough money for gas	O	O	O	O	O
d. Transportation was unreliable	O	O	O	O	O
e. You did not have a vehicle because you could not afford one	O	O	O	O	O
f. You did not have a vehicle by choice	O	O	O	O	O
g. Due to traffic	O	O	O	O	O
h. Due to seasonal construction	O	O	O	O	O
i. Due to poor road conditions (e.g., potholes; does not include snow)	O	O	O	O	O
j. Other (please specify): _____	O	O	O	O	O

Your Health

51. In the past year, how would you rate your physical health? *Choose **only one***:

- O A – Excellent
- O B – Good
- O C – Fair
- O D – Poor
- O F – Failing

52. In the past year, how would you rate your mental and emotional health? *Choose **only one***:

- O A – Excellent
- O B – Good
- O C – Fair
- O D – Poor
- O F – Failing

53. Do you have one person that you think of as your personal doctor or primary health care provider? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Yes
- O No

54. Do you use tobacco products (For example, cigarettes, snuff, chewing tobacco, etc.)? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Every day
- O Some days
- O Not at all

55. Do you use electronic cigarettes (e-cigs) or vaporizer (vape) pens? *Choose **only one:***

- O Every day
- O Some days
- O Not at all

56. Over the past seven days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 30 minutes per day? Physical activity is an activity that increases your heart rate and makes you get out of breath some of the time. *Choose **only one***:

- O 0 days
- O 1 day
- O 2 days
- O 3 days
- O 4 days
- O 5 days
- O 6 days
- O 7 days

7

57. Yesterday, did you eat any fruit? Please do **NOT** count fruit juice. *Choose __only one__*:

○ No, I did not eat any fruit yesterday.
○ Yes, I ate 1 fruit yesterday.
○ Yes, I ate 2 fruits yesterday.
○ Yes, I ate 3 fruits yesterday.

58. Yesterday, did you eat any vegetables? Vegetables are all uncooked vegetables and salads. Please do **NOT** count potatoes. For example, mashed potatoes, french fries, or potato chips. *Choose __only one__*:

○ No, I did not eat any vegetables yesterday.
○ Yes, I ate vegetables 1 time yesterday.
○ Yes, I ate vegetables 2 times yesterday.
○ Yes, I ate vegetables 3 times yesterday.

The next three questions will be used to calculate body mass index (BMI). BMI is a common estimate of health.

59. What is your height without shoes?

_____ feet and _____ inches

60. What is your weight without shoes?

_____ pounds

61. Are you currently pregnant? *Choose __only one__*:

○ Yes
○ No
○ Not applicable

62. Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
a. I am currently able to buy or receive all the healthy food I need for my family	○	○	○	○	○
b. Is it easy to obtain fresh fruits and vegetables within your community or neighborhood	○	○	○	○	○

63. In the past 6 months, how often did you experience the following:	Never	Less than Once Per Month	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
a. I worried whether food would run out before I/we got money to buy more	○	○	○	○	○
b. The food I bought just didn't last, and I/we didn't have money to get more	○	○	○	○	○
c. Adults in my/our household cut the number of our meals or skipped meals because there wasn't enough money for food	○	○	○	○	○
d. I was hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food	○	○	○	○	○

64. Which of these statements best describes the food eaten in your household in the last 12 months? *Choose __only one__*:

○ Enough of the kind of the food we wanted to eat
○ Enough but not always the kind of food we want
○ Sometimes but not enough to eat
○ Often not enough to eat
○ Don't Know/Can't Say

8

65. Have you been diagnosed with any of the following physical or mental health conditions? ***Check all*** that apply:

- ☐ Diabetes
- ☐ High blood pressure
- ☐ Heart disease
- ☐ Depression
- ☐ Asthma
- ☐ ADD/ADHD
- ☐ Lead poisoning
- ☐ Anxiety
- ☐ High cholesterol
- ☐ High blood glucose (A1C)
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

  _____

66. Have you been diagnosed with any of the following disabilities? ***Check all*** that apply:

- ☐ Visual (such as blindness or cataracts)
- ☐ Auditory (such as deaf or hard of hearing)
- ☐ Physical (such as arthritis or limited limb functioning)
- ☐ Mental (such as low mental functioning or a closed head injury)
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

  _____

Environment

67. How would you rate the overall water quality of the Grand River? *Choose **only one***:

- O A – Excellent
- O B – Good
- O C – Fair
- O D – Poor
- O F – Failing
- O Don't Know/Not Sure

9

Downtown Grand Rapids

The next four questions ask about Downtown Grand Rapids. On the map, the area inside of the black line is known as Downtown Grand Rapids.

68. In the past year, how often did you visit Downtown Grand Rapids for dining, nightlife, entertainment, and/or events? *Choose **only one**:*

- O 1-5 times
- O 6-10 times
- O 11-15 times
- O 16 or more times
- O Not at all
- O Don't Know/Not Sure

69. Based on your personal experiences, how welcomed do you feel when you are in Downtown Grand Rapids? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Very welcomed
- O Somewhat welcomed
- O Neutral
- O Somewhat unwelcomed
- O Very unwelcomed
- O I have never been to Downtown Grand Rapids
- O Don't Know/Not Sure

70. Based on your personal experiences, how much do you feel like you fit in when you are in Downtown Grand Rapids? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Very much
- O Somewhat
- O Neutral
- O Not really
- O Not at all
- O I have never been to Downtown Grand Rapids
- O Don't Know/Not Sure

71. Based on your personal experiences, how easy is it to find any visitor parking in Downtown Grand Rapids? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Very easy
- O Somewhat easy
- O Neutral
- O Somewhat difficult
- O Very difficult
- O I have never looked for parking as a visitor to Downtown Grand Rapids
- O Don't Know/Not Sure

Children and Family

72. Overall, do you think Grand Rapids Public Schools are (*Choose **only one***):

- O Getting better
- O Staying the same
- O Getting worse
- O Don't know

73. Do you have children? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Yes **(*Continue to 74*)**
- O No **(END OF SURVEY)**

If you do not have children, you have completed the survey. Thank you for sharing your voice!

74. How many of your children are *(Enter number of children):*

- ____ 0-4 years old **(*Continue to 75*)**
- ____ 5-8 years old **(*Continue to 75*)**
- ____ 9-13 years old **(*Continue to 75*)**
- ____ 14-17 years old **(*Continue to 75*)**
- ____ 18+ years old and living in your household **(*Continue to 75*)**
- ____ 18+ years old and **NOT** living in your household **(*Continue to 75*)**
- ____ None of the above (*Skip to END OF SURVEY*)

75. Do any of your children currently attend (***Check all*** that apply):

- ☐ Grand Rapids Public Schools (GRPS)
- ☐ Public schools other than GRPS (please specify):
  _____
- ☐ Charter schools
- ☐ Private schools
- ☐ Homeschool
- ☐ Other (please specify):
  _____
- ☐ None of the above

76. I believe the schools in my community are committed to building each child's strengths. *Choose **only one**:*

- O Strongly Agree
- O Agree
- O Not Sure
- O Disagree
- O Strongly Disagree

77. I believe the teachers in my community's school excite children about the future. *Choose **only one**:*

- O Strongly Agree
- O Agree
- O Not Sure
- O Disagree
- O Strongly Disagree

78. How would you rate the number of choices available when choosing a local school or district? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Excellent
- O Good
- O Fair
- O Poor
- O Don't Know/Can't Say

79. Whether or not you have children attending Grand Rapids Public Schools, how would you rate the district overall? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Excellent
- O Good
- O Fair
- O Poor
- O Don't Know/Cant' Say

80. Do any children in your household have any of the following physical or mental health conditions? ***Check all*** that apply:

- ☐ Type I diabetes
- ☐ Type II diabetes
- ☐ Heart disease
- ☐ Depression
- ☐ Asthma
- ☐ ADD/ADHD
- ☐ Lead poisoning
- ☐ Anxiety
- ☐ No child(ren) living in household
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

_____

81. Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement:	Strongly agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
a. My family currently has access to enough fruits and vegetables	O	O	O	O	O

82. *Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement:* My children (under age 18) are able to get enough fruits and vegetables. *Choose **only one**:*

- O Strongly agree
- O Agree
- O Not sure
- O Disagree
- O Strongly disagree

83. (If you have children under 18 living with you) In the last 6 months, did any of the children in your household ever skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Daily
- O Weekly
- O Monthly
- O Never
- O Does not apply

END OF SURVEY

You have completed the survey. Thank you for sharing your voice!

VOICEGR

Powered by the Johnson Center for Philanthropy

Powered by the Johnson Center for Philanthropy
and Kent County Health Department

- The survey asks questions about you and your experiences.
- It takes about 15 minutes to complete.
- It is up to you if you want to take or not take the survey.
- You can skip any questions you do not want to answer.
- The survey does not ask for your name.
- **Your personal information will NOT be shared.**
- In the spring of 2018, results can be seen on www.VoiceKent.org.
- Questions? Please email ShareYourVoice@gvsu.edu or
  call 616-331-7121.

Thank you for sharing your voice!

What do you think about the Greater Grand Rapids Area?

1. For yourself, what grade would you give the Greater Grand Rapids Area as a place to live overall? *Choose **only one***:

O A – Excellent
O B – Good
O C – Fair
O D – Poor
O F – Failing
O Don't know/Not sure

About You

2. Which of the following race/ethnicity categories best describes you? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

☐ White
☐ Black or African American
☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
☐ Asian
☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
☐ Hispanic or Latino/a
☐ Middle Eastern or North African descent
☐ Multiracial
☐ Other (please specify):
_____

3. What is your primary language? *Choose **only one***:

O English
O Spanish
O Arabic
O Mandarin
O Other (please specify):
_____

4. What other language(s) do you speak? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

☐ None
☐ English
☐ Spanish
☐ Arabic
☐ Mandarin
☐ Other (please specify):
_____

5. How old are you? *(Enter age in years. For example, 27)*

_____ years old

6. What gender do you identify with? *Choose **only one***:

O Male
O Female
O None of the above (please specify):
_____
O Don't know/Not sure

7. How would you describe your sexual orientation? *Choose **only one***:

O Heterosexual/straight
O Gay/lesbian
O Bisexual
O None of the above (please specify):
_____
O Don't know/Not sure

8. What is your current relationship status? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

☐ Single
☐ Committed relationship and not married
☐ Married
☐ Widowed
☐ Divorced
☐ Separated
☐ Other (please specify):
_____

Continue to next page 1

9. What is your current religion, faith, or belief? **_Check all_** that apply:

- ☐ Agnosticism
- ☐ Atheism
- ☐ Buddhism
- ☐ Catholicism
- ☐ Protestant Christianity (for example, Baptist, Reformed, Non-Denominational)
- ☐ Hinduism
- ☐ Islam
- ☐ Judaism
- ☐ Spiritualism, Non-religious
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

  _____

10. What is the highest level of education you have completed? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Less than or some high school (no diploma)
- O High school graduate or GED
- O Some college (no degree)
- O Associate degree (AA or 2-year college)/Technical certification
- O Bachelor's degree
- O Graduate degree or higher

11. Are you currently a student? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Yes
- O No

Work, Benefits, and Health Insurance

12. Are you currently looking for a paying job? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Yes
- O No

13. What is your current employment status? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Employed, full-time
- O Employed, part-time
- O Not currently working
- O Unable to work
- O Retired
- O Homemaker or stay-at-home parent
- O Other (please specify):

  _____

14. Have you been offered any of the following benefits through any of your paying jobs? This question does **NOT** include health or medical insurance. **_Check all_** that apply:

- ☐ Paid vacation (for example, paid time off)
- ☐ Paid sick leave
- ☐ Paid maternity/paternity leave
- ☐ Employer contributions to a retirement plan
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

  _____

15. In the past year, did you receive any of the following government benefits? **_Check all_** that apply:

- ☐ Childcare Assistance
- ☐ TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
- ☐ Cash Assistance
- ☐ Food Assistance (EBT/Bridge Card or SNAP/Food Stamps)
- ☐ State Emergency Relief (for example, utility and water shutoff)
- ☐ Social Security
- ☐ WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)
- ☐ HUD assistance (Department of Housing and Urban Development, Section 8 Housing)
- ☐ MSHDA assistance (Michigan State Housing Development Authority)
- ☐ I do not receive any government benefits
- ☐ Other (please specify):

  _____

16. In the past year, did you have health insurance? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Yes, for all of the year (**_Continue to 17_**)
- O Yes, for part of the year (**_Continue to 17_**)
- O No, not in the past year (**_Skip to 18_**)

17. In the past year, what health insurance have you had? **Check all** *that apply:*

☐ Health insurance through the Marketplace or exchange (Affordable Care Act, ACA, MiCare, Obamacare)
☐ Health insurance through your employer
☐ Health insurance through your spouse or domestic partner
☐ Health insurance through your parent(s)
☐ Student health insurance
☐ Medicaid
☐ Medicare or Medicare supplement
☐ Healthy Michigan Plan
☐ Self-paid health insurance (I pay the premiums myself)
☐ Veteran's Administration, TRICARE
☐ Indian Health Service, Tribal Health Services
☐ I did not have health insurance
☐ Other (please specify):

_____

If you answered question 17, skip to question 19.

18. What are some reasons why you did **not** have health insurance?

_____
_____
_____
_____

Shelter/Housing and Household

19. What is your housing status right now? *Choose **only one**:*

○ Own, no mortgage
○ Own, paying mortgage
○ Rent, including subsidized housing or college housing (contract or lease)
○ Living with someone (friend, relative, etc.) and **not** paying rent
○ Homeless **(skip to 27)**
○ Other (please specify):

_____

20. Does your home or the place where you live have…	Yes	No	Don't know/Not sure
a. a basic emergency supply kit? *This kit may include water, non-perishable food, any necessary prescriptions, first-aid supplies, flashlight and batteries, non-electric can opener, blanket, etc.?*	○	○	○
b. a working carbon monoxide detector?	○	○	○
c. signs of mice, rats, and/or rodents (within the last 12 months)	○	○	○
d. signs of cockroaches (within the last 12 months)	○	○	○

3

21. How often do you, family, or visitors smoke inside your home? *Choose **only one**:*

O Daily
O Weekly
O Monthly
O A few times
O Never

22. Does your home or the place where you live have a private septic system or is it connected to the city system? *Choose **only one**:*

O Private septic system *(continue to 23)*
O City system *(skip to 24)*
O Don't know/Not sure *(skip to 24)*

23. How old is your septic system? *Choose **only one**:*

O Less than 10 years old
O 10 – 19 years old
O 20 – 29 years old
O 30 years old or older
O Don't know/Not sure

24. When you drink water at home, where does the water come from? *Check all that apply:*

☐ Private water well
☐ The city
☐ The store
☐ Other (please specify):

   _____

☐ Don't know/Not sure

25. When was the last time your drinking water was tested? *Choose **only one**:*

O 1 year ago or less
O Between 1 – 3 years ago
O More than 3 years ago
O I have never had my water tested
O Don't know/Not sure

26. Have you experienced homelessness (lived outside in places such as a street, park, abandoned building, car, in an emergency shelter, or in transitional or supportive housing for homeless persons)? *Choose **only one**:*

O Yes, in the past year
O Yes, more than one year ago
O No

27. In the past year, have your utilities been turned off due to lack of payment? *Choose **only one**:*

O Yes
O No

28. In the past year, have you faced foreclosure or been evicted for non-payment? *Choose **only one**:*

O Yes
O No

29. Which of the following categories best fits your **total household income** last year, before taxes? *Choose **only one**:*

O Less than $5,000
O $5,000 to less than $10,000
O $10,000 to less than $15,000
O $15,000 to less than $20,000
O $20,000 to less than $25,000
O $25,000 to less than $30,000
O $30,000 to less than $35,000
O $35,000 to less than $40,000
O $40,000 to less than $45,000
O $45,000 to less than $50,000
O $50,000 to less than $60,000
O $60,000 to less than $70,000
O $70,000 to less than $80,000
O $80,000 to less than $90,000
O $90,000 to less than $100,000
O $100,000 to less than $120,000
O $120,000 to less than $140,000
O $140,000 or more

4

30. How many adults ages 18 years or older live in your household, including yourself? (***Enter number of adults***)

_____

31. How many children under 18 years old live in your household? (***Enter number of children***)

_____

Your Neighborhood/Community

A neighborhood/community is made up of where you stay and the small geographic area that surrounds where you stay. For example, Grand Rapids has over 30 neighborhoods.

32. How would you rate your neighborhood/community as a place to live? *Choose **only one**:*

O Excellent
O Good
O Fair
O Poor
O Failing
O Don't know/Not sure

33. About what year did you move into your neighborhood/community? (***Enter year. For example, 2010***)

_____

*The next three questions will be used to group your answers with other answers in your neighborhood/community. Your personal information will **NOT** be shared.*

34. What street do you live on? (***Write the street name and circle the direction, if applicable.***)

_____ NE NW SE SW
Street Name

35. What is the closest street that crosses the street you live on? (***Write the street name and circle the direction, if applicable.***)

_____ NE NW SE SW
Street Name

36. What is your ZIP code? (*For example, 49504*)

_____

37. In your neighborhood/community, how much do you feel like you fit in? *Choose **only one**:*

O Completely
O Mostly
O Somewhat
O Not really
O Not at all

38. What do you think is the biggest strength of your neighborhood/community?

_____
_____
_____
_____

39. What do you think is the biggest problem in your neighborhood/community?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

40. From the following list, what do you believe are the HEALTH PROBLEMS that most affect your neighborhood/community? *Check **no more than five (5).***

☐ Asthma
☐ Cancer
☐ Dental problems
☐ Diabetes
☐ Environmental quality
☐ Heart disease
☐ High blood pressure
☐ Infant mortality
☐ Mental health
☐ Obesity
☐ Poor nutrition
☐ Prenatal health
☐ Opioids/prescription drugs
☐ Sexually transmitted infection
☐ Stress
☐ Substance abuse
☐ Suicide
☐ Teen pregnancy
☐ Tobacco use
☐ Violence
☐ Other (please specify): _____

Continue to next page   5

	Very Unsafe	Somewhat Unsafe	Neutral	Somewhat Safe	Very Safe
41. How safe do **you** feel in your neighborhood/community?	O	O	O	O	O

Continue to 42   *Skip to 43*

42. What about your neighborhood/community makes you feel unsafe?

_____

Your Experiences

	Not at all	Not Really	Undecided	Somewhat	Very Much
43. To what extent do you think racism is a problem in **the U.S.?**	O	O	O	O	O
44. To what extent do you think racism is a problem in **the Greater Grand Rapids Area**?	O	O	O	O	O
45. To what extent do you think racism is a problem in **your neighborhood**?	O	O	O	O	O

46. Based on your current income, how well can you afford to meet your basic needs (food, including water; shelter; utilities; and clothing)? *Choose **only one**:*

O Very well
O Fairly well
O Not very well
O Not at all

47. Based on your current income, how well can you afford to meet the following basic needs:	Not at All	Not Very Well	Fairly Well	Very Well
a. Food, including water	O	O	O	O
b. Shelter	O	O	O	O
c. Utilities	O	O	O	O
d. Clothing	O	O	O	O
e. Prescriptions	O	O	O	O
f. Health care	O	O	O	O
g. Transportation	O	O	O	O

48. Do you know anyone or any place that could help with basic needs? *Choose **only one**:*

O Yes
O No

6

49. What are your main forms of transportation? ***Check all*** *that apply:*

☐ Personal vehicle or automobile
☐ Friend, relative, or neighbor
☐ Public transportation (bus, the Rapid, etc.)
☐ Bicycle or walking
☐ Uber, Lyft, taxi, or other ride-share program
☐ Volunteer driver (i.e. Medicaid transportation, senior center van, etc.)
☐ Other (please specify):
_____

Your Health

50. Can you recognize signs and symptoms of a mental health condition in yourself or others which would require professional assistance? *Choose **only one**:*

O Yes
O No
O Don't know/Not sure

51. What do you feel are barriers to getting **mental health care** in your community? ***Check all*** *that apply:*

☐ Did not know who to call
☐ Costs
☐ Fear or mistrust of the mental health care system
☐ Transportation
☐ Felt embarrassment or shame
☐ Cultural beliefs about mental health
☐ Location of health care or services
☐ Doctor's office/staff do not speak my language
☐ Unable to leave work
☐ Unable to find childcare
☐ Too much paperwork
☐ No barriers
☐ Other (please specify):
_____

52. In the past year, how would you rate your mental and emotional health? *Choose **only one**:*

O Excellent
O Good
O Fair
O Poor
O Failing
O Don't know/Not sure

53. What do you feel are barriers to getting **physical health care** in your community? ***Check all*** *that apply:*

☐ Did not know who to call
☐ Costs
☐ Fear or mistrust of the health care system
☐ Transportation
☐ Felt embarrassment or shame
☐ Cultural beliefs about health
☐ Location of health care or services
☐ Doctor's office/staff do not speak my language
☐ Unable to leave work
☐ Unable to find childcare
☐ Too much paperwork
☐ No barriers
☐ Other (please specify):
_____

54. In the past year, how would you rate your physical health? *Choose **only one**:*

O Excellent
O Good
O Fair
O Poor
O Failing
O Don't know/Not sure

55. In the past year, have you had an eye exam? *Choose **only one**:*

O Yes
O No
O Don't know/Not sure

Continue to next page   7

56. Do you have one person you think of as your personal doctor or primary health care provider? *Choose **only one**:*

O Yes, only one
O Yes, more than one
O No
O Don't know/Not sure

57. Where do you usually go when you are sick or need health care? *Choose **only one**:*

O Doctor's office
O Urgent care facility
O Hospital emergency room
O Health department
O Community health center/clinic
O Other (please specify):
_____

58. Where do you get information about the health resources available in your community? ***Check all** that apply:*

☐ Health professional
☐ Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
☐ Internet/health-related websites
☐ E-newsletters
☐ Church
☐ Family and friends (NOT social media)
☐ School
☐ TV and radio
☐ Newspaper and magazines
☐ Community service organizations
☐ Other (please specify):
_____

59. Do you use electronic cigarettes (e-cigs) or vaporizer (vape) pens? *Choose **only one:***

O Not at all
O Some days
O Every day

60. How harmful do you think using electronic cigarettes are to a person's health? *Choose **only one**:*

O Not at all harmful
O Moderately harmful
O Very harmful
O Don't know/Not sure

61. Do you use tobacco products (For example, cigarettes, snuff, chewing tobacco, hookah, etc.)? *Choose **only one**:*

O Not at all
O Some days
O Every day

62. How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically or in other ways when they use marijuana at least once or twice a week? *Choose **only one**:*

O No risk
O Slight risk
O Moderate risk
O Great risk
O Don't know/Not sure

63. Over the past seven days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 30 minutes per day? Physical activity is an activity that increases your heart rate and makes you get out of breath some of the time. *Choose **only one**:*

O 0 days
O 1 day
O 2 days
O 3 days
O 4 days
O 5 days
O 6 days
O 7 days

64. Yesterday, did you eat any fruit? Please do **NOT** count fruit juice. *Choose **only one**:*

O No, I did not eat any fruit yesterday.
O Yes, I ate 1 fruit yesterday.
O Yes, I ate 2 fruits yesterday.
O Yes, I ate 3 or more fruits yesterday.

65. Yesterday, did you eat any vegetables? Please do **NOT** count fried vegetables, french fries, or potato chips. *Choose **only one**:*

O No, I did not eat any vegetables yesterday.
O Yes, I ate vegetables 1 time yesterday.
O Yes, I ate vegetables 2 times yesterday.
O Yes, I ate vegetables 3 or more times yesterday.

Continue to next page   8

66. Where do you purchase most of your fruits and vegetables? *Choose **only one***:

- O Grocery store (Meijer, Aldi, Family Fare, etc.)
- O Veggie Van
- O Farmer's market
- O Neighborhood corner store
- O Other (please specify):_____

The next three questions will be used to calculate body mass index (BMI). BMI is a common estimate of health.

67. What is your height without shoes?

_____ feet and _____ inches

68. What is your weight without shoes?

_____ pounds

69. Are you currently pregnant? *Choose **only one***:

- O Yes
- O No
- O Not applicable

70. Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not sure	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. I am currently able to buy or receive all the healthy food I need for my family	O	O	O	O	O
b. It is easy to obtain fresh fruits and vegetables within my community or neighborhood	O	O	O	O	O

71. In the past 6 months, how often did you experience the following:	Never	Less than Monthly	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
a. I worried whether food would run out before I/we got money to buy more	O	O	O	O	O
b. The food I bought just didn't last, and I/we didn't have money to get more	O	O	O	O	O
c. Adults in my/our household cut the number of our meals or skipped meals because there wasn't enough money for food	O	O	O	O	O
d. I was hungry but didn't eat because there wasn't enough money for food	O	O	O	O	O

72. Which of these statements best describes the food eaten in your household in the last 12 months? *Choose **only one***:

- O Enough of the kind of food we wanted to eat
- O Enough food, but not always the kind of food we wanted
- O Sometimes not enough food to eat
- O Often not enough food to eat
- O Don't know/Can't say

73. Have you been diagnosed with any of the following disabilities? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

- ☐ Visual (such as blindness or cataracts)
- ☐ Auditory (such as deaf or hard of hearing)
- ☐ Physical (such as arthritis or limited limb functioning)
- ☐ Mental (such as low mental functioning or a closed head injury)
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

  _____

Continue to next page 9

74. Have you been diagnosed with any of the following physical or mental health conditions? **_Check all_** that apply:

- ☐ Arthritis
- ☐ Asthma
- ☐ Cancer
- ☐ Chronic pain
- ☐ Diabetes or pre-diabetes [high blood sugar or high blood glucose (A1C)]
- ☐ Drug abuse/addiction
- ☐ Heart disease
- ☐ High blood pressure
- ☐ High cholesterol
- ☐ Lead poisoning
- ☐ Mental health condition (ADD/ADHD, anxiety, bipolar disorder, depression, etc.)
- ☐ Obesity or overweight
- ☐ Stroke
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other (please specify):

  _____

This question collects information about adverse childhood experiences you may have had during the first 18 years of life.

75. During your first 18 years of life, how many of the following things happened to you at least once? **_Check all_** that apply:

- ☐ Death of a parent or caregiver
- ☐ Divorce/family disruption
- ☐ Mental abuse
- ☐ Physical abuse
- ☐ Sexual abuse
- ☐ Saw violence in your home or neighborhood
- ☐ Lived with a person who had a mental illness or had attempted suicide
- ☐ Lived with a person who was an alcoholic or used drugs
- ☐ Lived with a person who went to jail or prison
- ☐ None of these happened to me

Environment

76. How would you rate the overall water quality of the Grand River? *Choose **_only one_**:*

- O Excellent
- O Good
- O Fair
- O Poor
- O Failing
- O Don't know/Not sure

77. Would you prefer tobacco-free parks? *Choose **_only one_**:*

- O Yes
- O No
- O Don't know/No opinion

78. About how often do you visit outdoor parks, beaches, nature trails, or other greenspaces for any reason? (*This also includes playgrounds, picnic areas, dog parks, golf courses, etc.*) *Choose **_only one_**:*
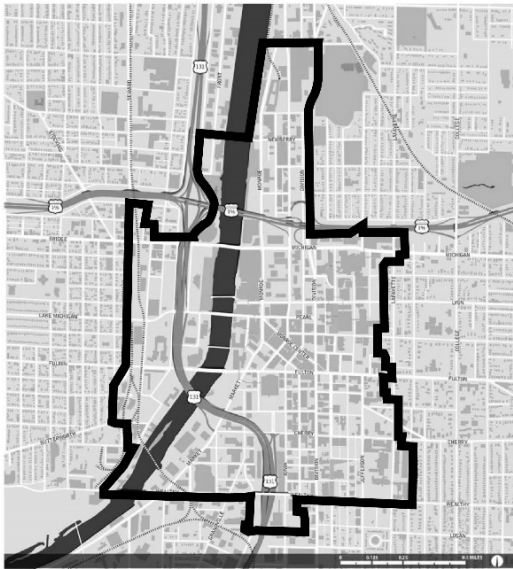
- O Never
- O Less than monthly
- O Monthly
- O Weekly
- O Daily

Continue to next page

Downtown Grand Rapids

The next four questions ask about Downtown Grand Rapids. On the map, the area inside of the black line is known as Downtown Grand Rapids.

79. In the past year, how often did you visit Downtown Grand Rapids for dining, nightlife, entertainment, and/or events? *Choose **only one**:*

- O 1-5 times
- O 6-10 times
- O 11-15 times
- O 16 or more times
- O Not at all
- O Don't know/Not sure

80. Based on your personal experiences, how welcomed do you feel when you are in Downtown Grand Rapids? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Very welcomed
- O Somewhat welcomed
- O Neutral
- O Somewhat unwelcomed
- O Very unwelcomed
- O I have never been to Downtown Grand Rapids
- O Don't know/Not sure

81. Based on your personal experiences, how much do you feel like you fit in when you are in Downtown Grand Rapids? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Very much
- O Somewhat
- O Neutral
- O Not really
- O Not at all
- O I have never been to Downtown Grand Rapids
- O Don't know/Not sure

82. Based on your personal experiences, how easy is it to find any visitor parking in Downtown Grand Rapids? *Choose **only one**:*

- O I have never looked for parking as a visitor to Downtown Grand Rapids **⎱ Skip to 84**
- O Don't know/Not sure
- O Very easy
- O Somewhat easy
- O Neutral
- O Somewhat difficult **⎱ Continue to 83**
- O Very difficult

83. Why have you had difficulty finding visitor parking in Downtown Grand Rapids? ***Check all*** *that apply:*

- ☐ Costs too much
- ☐ Not close enough to destination
- ☐ Parking signs are unclear
- ☐ Safety or felt unsafe
- ☐ Cannot find open place/spot to park
- ☐ Other (please specify):

———————————————

Continue to next page   11

Children and Family

84. Whether or not you have children attending Grand Rapids Public Schools, how would you rate the district overall? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Excellent
- O Good
- O Fair
- O Poor
- O Don't know/Not sure

85. Overall, do you think Grand Rapids Public Schools are (*Choose **only one**):*

- O Getting better
- O Staying the same
- O Getting worse
- O Don't know/Not sure

86. I believe the schools in my community are committed to building each child's strengths. *Choose **only one**:*

- O Strongly Agree
- O Agree
- O Not Sure
- O Disagree
- O Strongly Disagree

87. I believe the teachers in my community's school excite children about the future. *Choose **only one**:*

- O Strongly Agree
- O Agree
- O Not Sure
- O Disagree
- O Strongly Disagree

88. How many children do you have? *Choose **only one**:*

- O None **(END OF SURVEY)**
- O 1 child
- O 2 children
- O 3 children ⎫ **Continue to 89**
- O 4 children
- O 5 or more children

89. Do you have children under the age of 18? *Choose **only one**:*

- O Yes **(Continue to 90)**
- O No **(END OF SURVEY)**

If you do not have children, you have completed the survey. Thank you for sharing your voice!

90. How old are your children? ***Check all*** *that apply:*

- ☐ 0-4 years old
- ☐ 5-8 years old
- ☐ 9-13 years old
- ☐ 14-17 years old
- ☐ 18+ years old and living in your household
- ☐ 18+ years old and **NOT** living in your household

91. What schools do your children currently attend? (***Check all*** *that apply*):

- ☐ Preschool of any type
- ☐ Grand Rapids Public Schools (GRPS)
- ☐ Public schools other than GRPS (please specify):
  _____
- ☐ Charter schools
- ☐ Private schools
- ☐ Homeschool
- ☐ Other (please specify):
  _____
- ☐ None

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92. How would you rate the number of choices available when choosing a local school or district? *Choose **only one**:*

O Excellent
O Good
O Fair
O Poor
O Don't know/Can't say

93. About how often do you read books **to your children** in English (including picture books)? *Choose **only one**:*

O Daily
O 5-6 times per week
O 3-4 times per week
O 1-2 times per week
O 1-3 times per month
O Less than monthly
O Never
O My children are too old for me to read to them

94. About how often do you read books **to your children** in a language other than English (including picture books)? *Choose **only one**:*

O Daily
O 5-6 times per week
O 3-4 times per week
O 1-2 times per week
O 1-3 times per month
O Less than monthly
O Never
O My children are too old for me to read to them

95. Please rate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not sure	Agree	Strongly Agree	Not Applicable
a. I am confident helping my child or children read at home.	O	O	O	O	O	O
b. My child or children have enough books at home to read.	O	O	O	O	O	O
c. My child or children have many different types of books at home to read. (*For example, storybooks, novels, biographies, fiction, nonfiction, magazines, and poetry.*)	O	O	O	O	O	O

96. Do any children in your household have any of the following physical or mental health conditions? ***Check all*** *that apply*:

☐ ADD/ADHD
☐ Anxiety
☐ Asthma
☐ Depression
☐ Heart disease
☐ Lead poisoning
☐ Obesity
☐ Type I diabetes
☐ Type II diabetes
☐ No child(ren) living in household
☐ None
☐ Other (please specify): _____

Continue to next page   13

97. In the last 6 months, did any of the children (under age 18) in your household ever skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food? *Choose **only one***:

O Daily
O Weekly
O Monthly
O Never
O Does not apply

98. Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not sure	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. My family currently has access to enough fruits and vegetables.	O	O	O	O	O
b. My children (under age 18) are able to get enough fruits and vegetables.	O	O	O	O	O

END OF SURVEY

You have completed the survey. Thank you for sharing your voice!

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