2022 Manitowoc County Online Community Health Survey Frequencies Report

Methodology

To supplement the Community Health Survey phone survey, an online survey was created by partners: Aurora Health Care, Holy Family Memorial in association with Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin, Lakeshore Community Action Program (CAP), Lakeshore Community Health Care, Manitowoc County Public Health Department and the United Way of Manitowoc County.

An English, Hmong and Spanish version were entered in to Survey Monkey with links and QR codes for easy access. Partners marketed the survey throughout the county. A total of 958 online surveys were completed between April 8 and June 1, 2022. Post-stratification was conducted at the age-group level by sex of the 2019 characteristics of the American Community Survey. The margin of error is ± 3 percent. The margin of error for smaller subgroups will be larger than ± 3 percent, since fewer respondents are in that category.

The survey was conducted by JKV Research, LLC. For technical information about survey methodology, contact Janet Kempf Vande Hey, M.S. at (920) 439-1399 or janet.vandehey@jkvresearch.com. For further information about the survey, contact the Manitowoc County Public Health Division at (920) 683-4155.

1. Do you live in Manitowoc County?	1.	Do you	live in	Manitowoc	County?
-------------------------------------	----	--------	---------	-----------	---------

Yes	96%
No	4

2. Do you work in Manitowoc County?

Yes	74%	
No	26	→ AND Q1=No

"I'm sorry, you are not eligible for this survey. We are looking to collect data from those who live or work in Manitowoc. Thank you for your time."

3. Below are some statements about health care services and providers (doctors, nurse practitioners, physician assistants or primary care clinics) in Manitowoc County. Select an option for your response in each row below. [Respondents who selected "not applicable" were excluded.]

		Yes	No	Not Sure
a.	I have a health care provider where I regularly go for check-ups			
	and when I am sick	84%	14%	2%
b.	I can get an appointment for my health needs quickly	76	15	9
c.	I can easily get to my health care provider or clinic	93	5	2
d.	I am heard, seen and listened to when receiving health care	85	7	7
e.	I am treated differently because of my race or ethnicity when			
	receiving health care	4	88	8
f.	I am treated differently because of my gender when receiving			
	health care	6	83	12
g.	I am treated differently because of my sexual orientation when			
	receiving health care	1	91	7
h.	My family/support people are seen and listened to when I			
	receive health care	82	7	11
i.	I am seen and listened to when my child/children are receiving			
	health care	88	9	3

4.	In the past year, did you seek community resource support from an organization in Manitowoc County? Examples include food pantries, support groups, energy assistance, pregnancy resources or housing assistance.
	Yes
5.	What resource(s) did you seek? (open-ended) [93 Respondent: Multiple Responses Accepted]
	Food Assistance/Pantry/Salvation Army/St. Vincent DePaul
6.	How supported did you feel by [Resource] offered to you? Would you say [93 Respondents Listing 149 Resources]
	Not at all supported11% Slightly supported4
	Somewhat supported23
	Very supported57
	Extremely supported64
	Not sure

	Finances
	Stigma related to needing help/disapproval22
	Lack of knowledge of where to go
	Poor quality of care 9
	Inconvenient hours 7
	Other, please specify
	• Availability.
	Caregiving issues.
	• Got turned away.
	 Medicaid recipients' quality of care suffers because of the low
	pay scale offered to physicians who take part in the program. Dentists, physicians, etc. can't afford
	to accept Medicaid people, much less provide the higher quality of care offered to private
	pay individuals.
	 Never got a response back. Maybe they didn't get me emails.
	No one was available when needed.
	 Not lots of options.
	They were unable to provide assistance.
	• Felt limited in options.
	• It seems more of an inconvenience that you are there for help/immunizations, etc. I've had to wait
	for almost an hour on more than one occasion. I could understand if I had just shown up and
	expected them to drop everything and take care of me, but
	that wasn't the case. I had made appointments well in advance.
	It's tiring that somehow being poor equals less than.
	• No help was given, had to pay for all remodeling of bathroom out of my own savings. A hardship!
	 Not enough gluten-free options – allergy related of course.
	Waiting on response.
	 They were unable to provide assistance.
	• The heartless comment I received in a snide tone was "Your breast cancer's just not bad enough." (I
	assure you, breast cancer has destroyed my life.)
0	
8.	During the past year has anyone made you afraid for your personal safety?
	Yes
	No
	Not sure \sim 4G TO Q10
	Not suit
9.	What relationship is this person or people to you? Please remember, all your responses are strictly confidential.
٦.	[103 Respondents: Multiple Responses Accepted]
	[103 respondents. Wattiple responses recepted]
	Stranger33%
	Acquaintance
	Ex-spouse
	Friend
	Child6
	Coworker
	Brother or sister
	Boyfriend or girlfriend 3
	Parent
	Spouse<1
	Separated spouse 0

211 connects you with thousands of nonprofit and government services in your area. If you want personal assistance, call the three-digit number 211 or 877-947-2211. **A friendly voice to talk with you 24/7/365.** You can also go to https://211wisconsin.communityos.org.

10. Below are some statements about Manitowoc County. Select an option for your response in each row below. [Respondents who selected "not applicable" were excluded.]

		**	3 T	No
		Yes	No	Not Sure
a.	There are quality health care services in my community	81%	9%	10%
b.	There are affordable health care services in my community	59	21	20
c.	Individuals in my community can access health care services			
	regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status,			
	etc	63	5	32
d.	There are enough well-paying jobs available for those who are			
	over 18 years old	62	20	18
e.	There are enough jobs available for those who are under 18 years			
	old	63	9	28
f.	There are job trainings or employment resources for those who			
	need them	60	6	34
g.	There are resources for individuals in my community to start a			
	business (financing, training, real estate, etc.)	33	10	57
h.	Childcare (daycare/pre-school) resources are affordable and			
	available for those who need them	12	49	39
i.	The K-12 schools in my community are well funded and provide			
	good quality education	40	34	27
j.	Our local university/community college provides quality education			
	at an affordable cost	53	13	34
k.	There are affordable places to live in my community	57	22	21
1.	Streets in my community are typically clean and buildings are well			
	maintained	64	28	8
m.	Public transportation is easy to use if I need it	48	15	37

11. What are the **two** largest <u>social or economic issues</u> in our community that must be addressed in order to improve the quality of life of county residents? (Check up to two responses.)

Accessible and affordable health care (medical, dental, mental health)28%
Community violence and crime
Affordable and accessible childcare
Safe and affordable housing
Education access and quality14
Economic stability and employment
Social connectedness and belonging
Racism and discrimination
Environmental health (clean air, safe water, etc)
Family support
Quality of health care
Access to social services
Food insecurity
Accessible and affordable transportation
Other, please specify
Not sure
Do not want to answer

Δ1co	ohol and substance use	72%
	tal health, mental conditions and suicide	
	ition, physical activity and obesity	
	acco and vaping products	
	nate partner and domestic violence	
	imunicable diseases or Covid-19	
	onic diseases	
	health	
	oductive and sexual health	
	ernal, infant, and child health	
	ntentional injury, including falls and motor vehicle accidents	
	er, please specify	
	sure	
	not want to answer	
Finally, a few que	estions about you to make sure we have a good representation	of the people in Manitowoc County.
12 1 1	1 1 1' 0 N	1 4 1
13. In what zip c	ode do you live? Please enter your five-digit zip code. [812 Re	espondents
	5422068%	
	54241	
	54230	
	54228	
	54214	
	54247	
	53015	
	Other (1% or less)	
	Other (170 or less)	
14. What is your	age? [891 Respondents]	
	10.24	
	18-34	
	35-44	
	45-54	
	65 and Older25	
15. What is your	gender? Which gender identity do you most identify with? [88	80 Respondents]
	Male49%	
	Female	
	Transgender Male	
	Transgender Female	
	Non-binary<1	
	Or, if you feel comfortable doing so, please list	
	another gender identity you most identify with 0	
	another gender identity you most identity with 0	
16. Are you Hisp	panic or Latino? [885 Respondents]	
	Yes	
	No	
	110	

12. What are the **two** largest <u>health conditions or behaviors</u> that must be addressed in order to improve the health of

county residents? (Check up to two responses.)

17. What is your i	race? [871 Respondents]
	White94%
	Black, African American<1
	Asian 2
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 0
	American Indian or Alaska Native<1
	Another race (please specify)1
	Multiple races
18. Which of the	following best describes your highest level of education completed? [891 Respondents]
	8th grade or less<1%
	Some high school<1
	High school graduate or GED13
	Some college14
	Technical school graduate14
	College graduate
	Master's degree or higher20
19. What is your a	annual household income before taxes? [878 Respondents]
	Less than \$10,000
	\$10,000 to \$20,000
	\$20,001 to \$30,000
	\$30,001 to \$40,0009
	\$40,001 to \$50,00011
	\$50,001 to \$60,00010
	\$60,001 to \$75,000 8
	\$75,001 to \$90,00011
	\$90,001 to \$105,000 8
	\$105,001 to \$120,000 8
	\$120,001 to \$135,000 5
	Over \$135,00011
	Not sure
20. How many tot	tal adults, including yourself, live in your household? [873 Respondents]
	One
	Two66
	Three
	Four
	Five
	Six 0

 Seven
 0

 Eight
 <1</td>

 Nine
 0

 Ten or more
 <1</td>

21. Who currently lives in your household, besides yourself? [876 Responder

Spouse/Partner	72%
Parent(s)/In-law(s)	3
Grandparent(s)	
Child(ren) Under 18	
Child(ren) 18 or Older	
Friend/Roommate(s)	
Sibling(s)	
Extended Family Member(s) Not Listed Above	
Other (please specify)	<1

22. What is your living situation today? [876 Respondents]

I have a steady place to live	.95%
I have a place to live today, but I am worried about losing it in the future	. 4
I do not have a steady place to live (I am temporarily staying with others, in a	
hotel, in a shelter, living outside on the street, on a beach, in a car, abandoned	
building, bus or train station, or in a park)	.<1

23. Did someone help you complete this survey today? [879 Respondents]

Yes	<1%
No	100

- 24. Please list any additional thoughts or comments you have about helping us improve the health of county residents.
 - Human Services needs an overhaul! That is a broken system. Make medicine more affordable. Be proactive instead of reactive. Parenting strategies/positive parenting ideas/classes that help parents to feel empowered not judged. Take mental health in kids more seriously.
 - Questions in this survey could be answered differently depending on how the question is interpreted. For example: regarding schools...the funding of schools and the quality of education should have been 2 separate questions. For example: are schools adequately funded? Do you feel that children are getting a quality education in your neighborhood school? Also, providers may hear what a patient is saying but they may not act upon a patient's concern, obviously for various reasons. Perhaps the question could read: Does your provider listen to your concerns? Does your provider act upon your health care needs in a way that addresses your concern?
 - In response to who made me scared/concerned for my personal health in the last year, my answer is our government. -We need more focus on keeping drugs out of our community, a lot is being trafficked into Manitowoc, you can see it happening in daylight. Why are we making Manitowoc such an attractive city for individuals who are unemployed (or trafficking drugs) to come to, and receive so many free handouts. Too many free "handouts" for individuals, need to get these people into jobs and make it harder to live off of free government options. -Too easy to get "disability" and live that way, it should be more difficult to get and urge individuals to take the initiative to work hard for the things they want, rather than getting for free from the working class's taxes.
 - I think we need to stop putting a band aid on these problems and realize we have to go back in time to understand that when mothers were able to stay home with their children and nurture them from a young age, the problems we see today, for the most part were not the norm. If one parent, whether it's a mom, dad, 2 moms, 2 dads, whatever, is able to stay home to provide that crucial molding of values, respect and empathy, so that they have a solid base before entering school, drug use, racism, assaultive behaviors would be far less. Financial insecurity and/or greediness has caused many to neglect their children's basic emotional needs and directly corresponds with the problems like drug abuse and violence that we have had major increases in.

- Nurse practitioners making house calls, especially during winter months, would help prevent falls in the elderly. HFM goes to homes for blood testing and this is a great service. Something similar for primary care would be helpful. It could even be private pay if Medicare won't pay.
- Stop mandating masks. Even in schools. It's a disruption for students and staff. There's no evidence that supports masks work affectively. And it goes against 1st amendment.
- A steady income is important for all citizens so they can support themselves and their families. Many people aren't working due to the lack of affordable and available child care. The county needs more affordable housing so that a family doesn't have to spend their whole paycheck on rent or mortgages. We also need to address the major negative impacts that substance use is having on our community. Some efforts have been made, but more needs to be done to assist individuals and families in living their best lives.
- Address obesity and make people accountable for themselves and their children. We have an abundance of jobs that include health insurance. Sadly, people get more benefits and freebies for not working.
- Affordable and available drug abuse rehab and counseling.
- Affordable and safe housing is a big challenge in our community which can lead to and exacerbate other
 issues like mental health and substance use. Those issues spiral into one another and require a great many
 more resources to alleviate.
- Affordable mental health. This county needs to learn how to be nice to their neighbors (community members) regardless of political affiliation. Young people need jobs with benefits and pay that makes existence affordable. Stop saying "Nobody wants to work" when reality is no one wants to pay. Do something about the obvious racism in the community.
- Again, as educated healthcare professionals you should not be confusing people, especially young people about the sex identification. We all studied biology and know what our DNA tells us. There are only two genders. When educators and healthcare professionals tell otherwise, they are doing more damage mentally to those who hear it. Be the professionals that you are to be and stop spreading these false ideas.
- Aging resources that are not for people who are already in poor condition. Treat people BEFORE this happens. Youngest "Boomers" want to age differently than older ones. Help us STAY healthy, active, alert, relevant and seen. This is a challenge in our small towns especially. Also, UNIVERSAL DESIGN to include people of all abilities regardless of age. Our four-year-old granddaughter is in a wheelchair, she has NO or very limited access to playgrounds, etc. So disappointing.
- Alcohol and substance abuse is a major issue. I feel there is not a lot of activities here, winter time being the worst. People turn to going to bars and using drugs because that is all there is to do. If there were more ways to socialize, outside of a tavern, in the winter I think the citizens of Manitowoc County would greatly benefit. Jobs need to pay more, the cost of living, the cost of rent, the cost of food, etc. is increasing. People don't want to live in poverty, but are pretty much forced to due to low paying jobs. Affordable housing is needed, there's plenty of apartments, however, the rent cost is ridiculous! How do you expect people to pay for these \$800-\$900 apartments making \$15/hour? And the whole "income driven" rent cost is even more so ridiculous. People who make \$15/hour make "too much" to qualify for these income-based apartments, but then can't afford the \$800/month rent. Most citizens of Manitowoc fall in this category, at least in my experience as a 30 year old. All of this leads to unnecessary stress, which then turns people to the taverns or the drugs. Don't even get me started on childcare, again, another stressor on people. Manitowoc County has a lot of issues that need to be addressed and I don't think Manitowoc County is the issue. I think it's just the way of the world now. But maybe if we could learn to adapt, and attempt to ease the issues, that's a start.
- Along with more support for alcohol, drug and mental health issues, we need more availability to see a specialist such as rheumatology, geriatrics, etc.
- A lot of homeless people don't know what can be done.
- A lot of homeless people in Manitowoc.
- Although not checked alcohol and drug abuse are also a top concern in the county. The number of bars/breweries does not have to increase but shows the importance of alcohol on people's lives. The quality of health care is also a concern as witnessed by the number of referrals to health centers outside the county. There is no doubt that the joke about excess weight being in Mishicot units not only reflects the overweight people in Mishicot but whole county in general. It's time for the county to start addressing physical activity of its residents increased bike and walking paths would be a good initial step.
- Anger management perhaps is needed.

- Any additional support for folks with disabilities is vital.
- Any job for an adult that does not pay enough to have quality childcare for young family members is not a living job. Working and leaving the children in substandard care either with private individuals or a group site is not "pro-family or pro-life". It is "pro-corporate'. Raising a child is important and not something to "deal with" after the fact. It is like starting a war without taking into account the cost of health care physical and mental of the soldiers who are sent off to battle then and into the future. Death benefits are included by law, but how about the trauma dealt to the individuals and their family members who are affected by the returning survivors.
- As a business owner in Manitowoc County our biggest hurdle for employment is childcare accessibility. Manitowoc county NEEDS more childcare centers.
- As a medical doctor since 1975, I have watched the health of this nation plummet! We now have a great decline in neurological health of all kinds, autism, anxiety, depression, suicide, M-S, Parkinson's, neuropathy, stroke, dementia and Alzheimer's. This is on top of the earlier rise in C-V disease, cancer, metabolic and immunologic disease. I.e., we are falling apart as is our environment and social order! I would love to share my perspective as to how we might proceed, but I wonder if anyone will really listen. If someone is serious about wanting my input, I will gladly expand upon my brief comments here. Please contact me [Name and Phone Number Provided Upon Request]. God is the source of all good things, including our health. Pray for His help. Worship is as important as food, but not a replacement for our physical needs, it is the source. We also need a healthy environment. Our toxic world is cause of over 50% of chronic disease. Nutrition is another huge factor and is part of environment. Factory farms and processed food are the death of our people. Health restoring medicine! Modern drugs are made from the waste products of refining gasoline. They are great for the petroleum and pharmaceutical industries, but not for our health. Lifeway. How we spend our time is equally important. We need balance of work, rest, nature, worship, etc. Thank you for reading this!! May your efforts truly help us all!!
- As a teacher we are seeing more and more mental health problems in our schools. Funding and resources are going to be needed more than ever to address the mental issues our students have.
- Awareness of what services are available in our community. Accessibility to what services are available.
 Educational tools (brochures, social media, organizations) of what is available and how to reach these
 resources. Promote positive stories. How someone found help, secured help and the end result was a
 positive outcome.
- Better health care doctors that care about you as an individual and take the time with you that's needed and affordable prices for doctor visits.
- Business and school connections for employment.
- Can you improve people's critical thinking skills?
- Consistent ready access to health information in the county. Such as current communicable disease trends, injury, prevention approaches. What is being done and how citizens can help. This should be done on social media sites, the radio and newspaper.
- Continue to encourage all types of vaccines for children and adults. Mental health needs must be met to decrease abuse and crime.
- County and city officials need to be more involved in the issues surrounding health.
- Crime is getting worse, nobody can afford anything, groceries, utilities, etc. No one can find a decent apartment to live in or house for that matter. Can't afford to get sick, health care is outrageous.
- Doctors come and go too frequently. Hard to establish a patient/doctor relationship. After dealing with our local hospital for the last several years, I personally feel something isn't right with the nursing staff. They're just not on the ball with things. Example: birth delivery difficulties. I had three different deliveries at three different hospitals and the one at HF was terrible. No medications given even though I asked for them. This resulted in a long labor with baby heart rate dropping into the forties. Another child had 104 fever due to a ruptured appendix and nothing was done for it until he later reached 106. Hospitalized for four days. I had to come and get him washed up in the mornings and changed. The nurse thought nothing of this. I walked him in the hallway. My mother needed another blood transfusion once. Got to hospital at 11:00. Finally started giving her one unit of blood at 3:00. Didn't have a chair for her, had to lay in bed. I personally feel they didn't want to toilet her. She got back to her assisted living at 9:00. Husband needed a routine colonoscopy. Ended up not being able to get all the way up his colon. Pulse dropped in the 30's. Five years later, just now had another one done with no problems at Aurora. Also, due to my mother not

- getting properly diagnosed years back by two Manitowoc doctors, we ended up taking her to Bellin. She was diagnosed with several clots in her lungs and CHF. She excreted 17 pounds of urine. Since this episode, my family has turned to Bellin Health for our health care.
- Does there have to be alcohol at every community event? Drug use at middle and high school needs to be looked at. If we can't hold students accountable hold their parent(s) accountable. More indoor space for kids and teens to be active in the cold weather. YMCA has too many rules on what pre-teens and teenagers cannot do to be active at their facility. Boys and Girls club is a great addition but really meant for kids with lack of resource (or at least that's how it feels).
- Don't go "woke".
- Don't make it so easy for people to collect unemployment and get them back. Too many lazy people out there and too easy for them to collect unemployment. The jobs are out there.
- Don't ignore the spiritual needs of men and women and children you propose to help. Without it, you will not be able to cure or improve anyone's health.
- Drugs, both use of and trafficking of is a big issue I believe. I know the metro drug unit works hard on this issue, but I'd like to see more of the "see something, say something" type of public education. Also, STDs are more of a problem than some folks realize, I fear. Knowledge seems scarce about the dangers of HPV and how it's spread, including through oral/anal sex. It would seem this may be an area where our schools (public and private) may be falling short. Obviously, you can't force this info on people, but are there posters in bar bathrooms like there were for abuse or pregnancy support as I recall from my bar days? I can't remember the last time my doctor even brought up safe sex, condoms, etc. unless I brought it up first. Obesity. I just don't even know what to offer in terms of what to do I weigh over 400# myself so I certainly don't have the answers, but I sure have the problem. I don't envy you your jobs.
- Education needs more funding.
- Employers complain they can't man their business but if they paid a LIVING WAGE and benefits and train employees and not treat them like crap, they would have all they need and then retain!
- Encourage self-sufficiency. Many people could work more hours, but decline because then they would not qualify for programs that no longer be able to use services that provide food, heat assistance etc. These programs should be temporary, not a way of life. Use parks and trails for walks and entertainment. Read. Cook. Bake.
- Financial literacy is non-existent for most people. The effects of government spending and mandates that manipulate a "free market" are killing the American dream. Affordable housing and health care are only achievable when financial well-being is taught properly and we can start that by highlighting government monetary policies that cause wealth gap increases. Publicly funded healthcare is failing millions of people and senior care facilities are going broke. The facilities that manage to operate out of the red cannot keep skilled labor or afford to pay livable wages.
- For me, the issue of healthcare is that the quality of healthcare professionals in the area is not up to par. It seems like "good" physicians don't stick around. Another major issue is lack of skilled laborers in the manufacturing sector.
- Good health care has seemed to be going downhill. A full physical used to include checking one's skin, listening to someone's heart, blood work, checking ears and nose. Giving needed boosters or shots. At least a stool sampling thing to check for colon cancer every few years. I've spoken to my doctor many times about the pain. She might ask for test, but there's never ever any follow-up and at times you have to call to get results. I'm lucky if they listen to my heart during a physical and maybe they'll look at my ears. And charge \$600 and something dollars for that. A full physical requires a lot more than what we're getting
- Good luck, I'm afraid that the current political climate makes your job much more difficult than it should be. Hope you're doing well.
- Have affordable apartments available for less than \$500 per month, without an income limit and no background check regarding court or jail records. Housing and apartments available no matter what background someone has. Everyone needs a place to live.
- Health care is difficult to find. In 4 years, my family doctor has changed 3 times. I currently do not have a doctor as they are hoping to get a new one. The clinic is 30 minutes from my home. I have to use urgent care most of the time. Specialist doctors do not stay either and constantly change. I now drive to Green Bay for medical appointments which is 40 minutes away. Also, racism has become more of an issue in the past 2 years and needs to be addressed to avoid more community violence and separation.

- When someone has a disability and is looking for some kind of financial help for remodeling their home, to make it safe to live in by themselves, there is nowhere to go unless you are a vet! Then agencies bend over backwards to help. What about us seniors that have worked our whole life and paid taxes to fund these agencies, (ADRC) and cannot get any help? It is a sad thing to have to deplete your savings just to make your home safe to live in by yourself and then have to go begging for food and financial assistance to pay for utilities.
- Homes that have trash, debris, multiple cars, boats etc. in poor condition in their yards. Haven for rats, etc.
- Human services including economic support division has been helpful too.
- I am in the V.A. System.
- I am treated differently as a female because of my body parts. Please separate the school funding question and quality of education. These are very separate thoughts! Schools are not funded adequately. Regarding personal safety an added thought could be where the person feels unsafe...I am thinking about what just happened in the shootings in Texas.
- I believe resources that were taken away years ago by the urging of County Executive Ziegelbauer have had drastic far-reaching negative impacts to our county. Our county needs to put funds back into these resources. For public education, I believe we have become subpar under the leadership of Mark Holzmann. This is a top-down issue. We continue to lose good teachers because of lack of support by administration. I am not sure how a new superintendent is going to be able to turn it around.
- I believe that access to care (particularly mental health/substance abuse services) is too difficult in this community. I think those reaching out for support and those in need deserve returned phone calls and a few less hoops to jump through in order to prove they're "serious". That mentality is outdated and irresponsible. I also think that communication between agencies (even within agencies) is lacking. I have never lived anywhere else that keeps resources so secret. You have to know someone it seems to get anywhere. I am concerned about the future of our already failing school district with the recent school board election. I am less worried about the outcome than the precedent that the negative behaviors set. Same goes for the County Board. The behaviors of our leaders need to be healthy if you want the behaviors in the community to be healthy. I think if we all just decided to play on the same team we'd be in a better place.
- I believe that there needs to be more options for mental health in our community. The waitlist to receive mental health treatment in our area is too long. Also, there is a shortage of treatment options for substance use. I believe that the community needs to focus more on these areas.
- I can't compare my care level with someone of another gender or race. How do I know if I am treated differently? Also, you did not include "retired" people in any response. Also, there are many people in the county who live in the country and cannot compare housing and transportation with those from the city. Just saying.
- I currently see VERY little evidence of the health department doing anything to make our community better other than occasional vaccine clinics.
- I don't believe that people's mental issues should become that of the community. They created the problem. They need to take care of themselves and not make it everyone's problem. I am tired of paying for everybody else. There are many jobs out there for people to apply for. They should go find a job and learn to support themselves. Manitowoc County would be a much better different place and their health would also improve by getting out and working on a regular basis.
- I don't have any additional thoughts but I appreciate the survey and the information you are working to gather. I assume that once the info is gathered work will occur to resolve these issues. Thank you!
- I don't live here, but I do work in Manitowoc County. There is a serious lack of mental health care resources. Most clinics are maxed out and there are very long wait lists to be seen. We also do not have a nearby inpatient mental health clinic. Lack of mental health care, the stigma associated with not understanding mental illness, and access to services due to high costs leads to self-medicating and drug/alcohol overuse.
- I felt some of your questions about education had too many moving parts for me to provide an appropriate answer. I think the schools are well funded but not getting the quality of education we should be providing. Teach the basics and give them a good foundation and forget all this woke and trendy items. Health care is available but short on general family practitioners. Used to be if you had a heart attack Holy Family had a cath lab you could be taken to. Now you have to time your heart attack for when they're open.

- I have said this several times before as a member of the Board of Health and County Board. Our county's number one health and community problem are the effects of hard drugs. Not only does our County suffer from the large number of deaths but the increase in violence, property crime and econ cost to our community is huge.
- I live in rural Manitowoc County. Transportation for non- drivers is a big issue.
- I see gender identity with the youth as a real problem. I feel social media has played a huge part in allowing children to change their name or change their gender. I am curious to know how many Lincoln high school students identify as another gender. It's all social media influenced and is ridiculous. A teenager hasn't even lived or experienced life yet, they should not be allowed to freely change their name or gender.
- I strongly believe that our schools need additional resources. I am worried about students not receiving services that they need to learn and thrive. I also believe that vaping is a major issue especially in our public schools. I think that between vaping and the state of mental health following the COVID-19 pandemic MUST be addressed if we want to continue to better our community.
- I think the biggest thing that turns people away from Manitowoc is the drug and violence issue. I was born and raised in Manitowoc and I know that it hasn't always been this way but Manitowoc definitely has a reputation now.
- I wanted to mention more about abuse from earlier. The abuse is coming from healthcare and health depts, CDC. They are dishonest and aren't looking out for any one's best interest regarding covid. The best treatments have been demonized and worst treatments such as vaccines, and remdesivir are given without a thought because of "order followers" and those fearful of others. I wonder how many would have been alive if politically demonized affordable treatments were given. Those pushing covid vaccines should qualify as abuse when people die from them. The number was 20,000 deaths from covid vaccines last time I checked. Know the TV or other "authoritative sources" (also known as, known liars) aren't going to tell you that. Go research and find out on your own.
- I was not happy with the scare-reporting of Covid in our county on the Facebook page. I think much of it was exaggerated and thus pitted families and friends against each other. So sad.
- I was raised in Manitowoc County, left, and have returned in the last three years. I think a question that was missing is what is your occupation and industry. In education, my observation would be that the local economy (providing middle-class wages) greatly affects the quality of education available. The quality of education available affects the desirability of the area. A desirable area creates community engagement. Community engagement increases available services through that engagement. We need employers that invest in our communities in Manitowoc County. Also, regarding health care, all of my providers (medical, dental, vision) are all outside of Manitowoc County in Sheboygan and Brown counties. I have never found or regularly seen an acceptable healthcare provider in Manitowoc County in my life. This county has many gaps to address. Thankfully some of Sheboygan County's influence has seeped North. Also, the Mayor is doing a great job for Manitowoc proper, but how about the rest of the county? We need connections.
- I would like to see a quality Neurology practice and more emphasis on self-care and maintenance and preventative medicine. I would also like to see functional and/or holistic medical practitioner availability.
- I've filled out many surveys and can't believe some of the (leading) questions and answers you have offered for response. This is not a well written survey and will provide biased answers. Still shaking my head!
- If you want to attract more working families then we need more childcare. Daycare has such low profit and such high regulation that not many want to get involved. City/county could find a way to fund daycare startups. We have no overnight options in the city.
- Improve all races to obtain a good job and a good paycheck with benefits.
- Improved lighting and button triggered flashing lights at crosswalks like by Wilson Middle School. At frequently used intersections near all schools to promote walking as a healthy and safe transportation.
- In addition to racial discrimination and sexual orientation discrimination one of the other large problems in this county and community is age discrimination.
- It would be nice once you reach age 70 -75 if we would get rent assistance at a normal senior apartment complex
- It would have been helpful to have some basic demographic, morbidity and mortality data before answering the questions regarding the most important health issues.

- It would help if mental health issues were taken more seriously in the community because I feel it's an overall issue contributing to other factors in the community such as alcohol and drug use, violence, and suicide. There are numerous community resources available but not everyone in the community is aware.
- It's hard to find a new doctor when my current doctor leaves the area. The doctors in this area leave often.
- Jobs are available, but not reliable, affordable housing, transportation and child care. Lakeshore Community Clinic is available for affordable health care, but the need is greater than what they can serve Mental health needs well exceed treatment capacity in the county. Wait lists are long, and people who need the most help are often excluded because they miss appointments due to transportation and child care issues. Public transportation is not the best in the community; undocumented persons are forced to drive "illegally" in order to transport themselves and their families to medical appointments, work or their jobs.
- Just be honest and truthful when reporting to the media. Check your facts and report accordingly.
- Lead water pipe in blood stream.
- Lived in this community my entire life and never felt scared to go out until the past 2 years. Violence, drugs and crime has increased so much that our family does not feel as safe as we use to.
- Manitowoc County is a great place to live and does well in trying to provide resources to our residents in all areas of need, however; needs to work on mental health more & crime.
- Manitowoc County is broken and until it is adequately funded and invested in by the community, and there are county board changes we will continue to remain stagnant. Also, you all do good work even though your hands are tied by working in the public sector.
- Manitowoc County severely needs mental health resources; psychiatrists, hospital beds, counseling. It's unfathomable to me how bad it is here, how hard it is to be seen.
- Manitowoc needs a few psychiatrists to choose from. Currently there are none. We need well-educated and experienced M.D. psychiatrists, NOT nurses. Mental health services are extremely poor in Manitowoc.
- Masks and vaccination SHOULD NOT BE FORCED ON ANYONE IN ANY PLACE! It is causing anxiety, anger, depression, people to NOT seek healthcare needs. Higher pay, better quality restaurants, stores, government officials who represent everyone not just 1 side or the other. More opportunity for small businesses along lakeshore.
- Mental health two people recently had crisis that was not handled well and both had psychiatrist.
- Mental health and drug/alcohol abuse typically go hand in hand. Both need addressed.
- Mental health is the biggest concern facing everyone, not just Manitowoc County.
- Mental health needs to be a priority. 6+ month wait lists are not acceptable to those who are in need of help. Providers and the county are truly failing at this.
- Mental health resources are abysmal!!!!! We need more psychologists. Waiting 5-8 weeks for an appointment is unacceptable!
- Mental health services for children and elderly are seriously lacking in our community. It can take months to be seen. Social Services puts more of an emphasis on the parents and not doing enough to support the child(ren) in our community.
- Mental Health Services, specifically those available to youth, are in great need. Resources are limited.
 Schools within Manitowoc County, especially rural schools, lack police presence. The increase in drug use
 and alcohol abuse is on the increase. Schools and communities like Valders need police presence and
 support from area resources.
- Misinformation and politics are a leading cause of problems with education, disease and other social problems out there.
- More activities and opportunities to connect as we have been so isolated. So many are obese in this area.
 We need opportunities/incentives for fitness. More affordable child care options. More education on the
 dangers of vaping/marijuana uses and other mind-altering substances. So many think it is "harmless,"
 because of states legalizing it. More education and help for kids and parents with the use of internet/social
 media.
- More affordable childcare options, especially for new and working parents.
- More eye doctors not many available!
- More health classes in schools. Nurses being able to go to homes to give vaccines to children or help with elderly. More doctors, seems all we can see now are physician assistants which might mean we need to see doctor so two visits and even more delays. Not enough women doctors in Manitowoc

- More mid-range price apartments are needed, in the 450-650 range. Also, there's a lot of drug problems.
- More organized physical activities to battle diseases and obesity. Get people out moving and doing things.
 Money should be set aside to run contests to encourage community involvement and participation via the
 rec department, etc. Drug and alcohol abuse in this community is at an all-time high. More resources to
 combat these huge problems.
- More people would be working if there was adequate childcare in our community. Drugs are a huge issue in this community we have a huge lack of programs for those that want to get clean. Lack of mental health services and support is a huge shortfall in this community.
- More primary care providers that establish a practice and remain in Manitowoc for an extended period of
 time are needed. Dental health costs need to be reduced for senior citizens or be covered in the same way
 medical costs are covered by Medicare and supplements. Work needs to be done to help students who are
 struggling in our schools. Support services for families with school age kids are needed.
- Much of this I answered for myself, however, I have been working at [Organization] for 18 years and I know I would have answered those beginning questions very differently if I were answering for the hundreds of families we see. Access to health care, being treated equally, living conditions, transportation, all these and more would have been answered much less positively. Thank you!
- My biggest concern is alcohol and drug abuse.
- My daughter is raising 2 children alone and needs to work 2 jobs to make ends meet. Rent was raised to \$825 for a dump and landlord will not fix anything. This community needs decent and affordable housing.
- My husband is currently in a local nursing home. Apparently, the place is understaffed. At times he waits up to an hour for someone to help him when he calls. Unacceptable!
- Need better access to good mental health services. Get rid of drugs AND the drug dealers in our community.
- Need more kayak launches one down town would be nice. More activity our entertainment revolves heavily around alcohol many people are "at risk" drinkers and don't even realize the connection between drinking and health issues for example hypertension.
- Need more senior housing in Kiel and have it by income level.
- Need neurologist, need mental health professions and higher grade medical so people don't have to go to Milwaukee.
- Need to address senior citizens in the community.
- Need to deal with the homeless in Manitowoc County. Hope House and The Haven are not enough.
- Obesity seems to be a major health risk for many people in Manitowoc County, including many in the health field.
- Offer more opportunities for the sedentary people to get outside and do activities.
- Offer rewards for the arrest of local drug dealers, then make the dealers pay it back.
- One question I would have liked to see is "I am treated differently in a medical setting because of my weight." A lot of times, people who are "overweight" are overlooked for serious medical conditions because physicians say it is because of the person's weight without even running any other tests. That is completely unacceptable. Telling someone to "lose weight" is NOT a prescription or a valuable piece of advice.
- Our society needs to be more preventative and less reactive. We need to work together to prevent situations for our community members, rather than wait until things are a mess. Provide ideas and assistance to help establish a household, healthy relationships, and quality nutrition. Give lots of ideas and aid in helping implement rather than working to fix.
- People are overweight with bad diets creating poor health conditions, coupled with excessive drinking and substance abuse.
- People need more help with their chronic conditions and obesity. There needs to be more one-on-one help.
- Please inform residents as to the air quality by the brewery in Manitowoc.
- PLEASE stop all the COVID-19 stuff. Everyone who wants the vaccine has it. Concentrate on encouraging chastity and getting some quality mental health services in our community.
- Police the public schools. Crack down on the discipline problems, insist on more respect for elders and make sure the administration backs up the staff.
- Promote better nutritional issues get people to exercise. This will help Covid related issues and obese.

- Replace all of the trees being cut down. Provide healthy public activities. Too bad the Visitors Center is no longer open. People would stop by and go in to find out what there is to do not any more.
- Retaining physicians in the community.
- Rising theft and people who are able to work but don't and collect benefits. Plenty of jobs out there. Let's fill those positions before handing out benefits.
- Safe, affordable, supervised, places for school age youth to gather and socialize when their parents are at work.
- Schools have fantastic teachers more funding is needed. Our district is an extremely low spending district with less state aide than many other districts in the state. Fix the formula it is not fair our community has lost millions of dollars over the past decades simply because they were fiscally responsible, which caused our district (Manitowoc) to receive less funding.
- Sex is not a choice. Male has a penis...Female does not. No other options!!! This is why our mental health is declining!
- Sexual health is an area lacking in education. Example, at age 40 I had to specifically request an HPV test from my healthcare provider. She said it was only recommended every 5 years, however I'm not in a monogamous, committed relationship. She did not recommend the HPV vaccine to me which CAN and SHOULD be given to adults up to age 46. Additionally, when I was up front about having more than one sexual partner, I was labeled a "sexual worker" in my medical chart. Is small town mentality the cause? I felt it prudent to give my healthcare provider accurate information so she could give proper medical advice, not to be judged. I'm not going around hooking up with men I meet in bars, I have two partners that I'm committed to. How many of those women who ARE hooking up with different men are getting proper care? I assumed as an educated person who was a strong advocate for my own healthcare that I would be treated with respect and dignity, and with the most current information out there; this was not the case. How are other people who may not feel the need to educate themselves on their own situations supposed to believe they're getting reliable health advice?
- Should be more groups for LGBT families. So, we all can feel safe and welcomed anywhere
- Staffing of nursing home's needs (understaffed).
- Stop educators from teaching their ideologies in the public sector.
- Stop promoting masks and the shot for C-19 to anyone under the age of 50.
- Stop pushing the covid vaccine. There is enough evidence out there now between adverse events and Pfizer documents that prove this is causing more harm than good in children especially.
- Stop studying the problem and move on to finding the solution. Frankly, we've been studied to death and the answers to this study won't be a surprise. Seems like a smoke screen to doing the hard work of solution implementation.
- Stop wasting everyone's time with this Covid bs. People are sick of it.
- Substance abuse and alcoholism leads to many of the other issues we are concerned about.
- Thank you for putting this survey together, and for the work you do to keep Manitowoc County safe and informed. I appreciate you!
- Thanks for all you are trying to do for the community.
- The community needs more behavioral health providers and more family practice providers.
- The Crossings is the greatest place to learn and for help!!
- The drug and alcohol addiction here is very prevalent. Crime has also been on an upward trajectory. I live in what I used to consider a "safe" neighborhood. Recently, I have seen a large uptick in property crimes and police calls.
- The drug problem in Manitowoc County is of major concern. Also, the welfare programs are available in plenty, and the state has been giving out maximum Food Share benefits to clients who may only qualify for \$20/month based on their income. As much as this assistance is needed, it also creates a great deal of dependency and laziness when people become used to getting handouts vs. hands up. Laziness does not make a society productive.
- The food card program needs to be revamped. As a cashier, I've seen people buy family packs of steak, crab legs and lobster on food cards. Money misused could be used to help people in other ways. Also, children are not being taken care of. Some students go to school hungry, with inappropriate clothing for the weather. Tank tops in winter. I don't know how to fix this, but parents need to take care of their children.

- The health care training for doctors needs to change. They are too computer reliant and lack practical experience and common sense. They don't ask about your symptoms or read past medical information. Chronic illnesses are overlooked as they want to specialize in more fascinating illnesses.
- The health care we have in Manitowoc does not meet the needs. If a person needs quality care, they are sent to Green Bay or Milwaukee. Why is that? Any cardiac care/surgeries are not done in Manitowoc because we have no faith in the local hospitals. Manitowoc hospitals only stabilize then think you should just wait till later to see what's going on with you. Just be sure to pay the bill or be sent to collections. I would never stay at a Manitowoc hospital. I personally see providers at the little Bellin clinic then if needed, I go to Green Bay Bellin for treatment. Mental health is nonexistent in Manitowoc. There are no providers that care just collect money when the insurance money runs out, they are discharged to wherever. Manitowoc county chose not to support any mental health services many years ago. Closed down facilities that the people lived at for many years and put them on the streets in rooms for rent with no supervision. Others they moved outside of town. This meant they could no longer go to the bank, church, restaurants. Manitowoc county just shut them out of life. Sad.
- The local funding to MPSD needs to increase to get us on par with the per pupil spend or neighboring school districts. Also, we don't have enough low-income housing in our community. This needs to be addressed.
- The restrictions on Covid-19 in Manitowoc County are causing the quality of healthcare to plummet. Due to restrictions nursing home residents are suffering and denied healthcare due to vaccination status. Health care is poor for the elderly because they are unable to effectively communicate with their providers due to masks. They have respiratory issues, hearing and vision deficits which are significantly impacted by unnecessary use of masks in populations where most residents are vaccinated.
- The streets are poor. The area is slummy and dirty. People have garbage and unkept yards. People and businesses do not shovel their snow in winter. Walmart is scary to shop at due to the people that are in the store and in the parking lot. I do not feel safe in this town. There are too many burglaries and people stealing things off/from vehicles. I wish I could move.
- There are meth or drug houses all over the south side. I see it when I walk my dogs.
- There are plenty of affordable senior living apartments but not enough for the other generations.
- There is a horrible lack of teenage and children's counseling.
- There is affordable housing but not enough for the need. Seems more luxury apartments are being built but not affordable or income driven housing. It is also difficult to find housing if you have felonies or are in recovery. Affordable and quality childcare is also an issue. Hard to get ahead once living in poverty. Government assistance cuts off once you're making a certain amount even though you still can't make it by with the low amount of money you make especially after high rent and childcare expenses.
- There needs to be more emphasis on mental health, drug/substance abuse, healthy parenting, and racism/discrimination. It's a continuous cycle that needs to be addressed and controlled. Too many minorities are being racially profiled that has been exacerbated due to COVID. This all stems from ignorance and poor parenting. Mental health is worsening throughout the community and world along with drug/substance abuse all causing a more dangerous environment for our kids and families.
- This community has been hit hard with manufacturing jobs leaving and it shows when most of the employers are restaurants and big-box retailers. It spills over into schools. There is a lack of understanding that school is a place to build a foundation. People are struggling with being homeless and there is not enough housing to go around. I could go on and on, but there are so many deep issues that are affecting people and kids.
- This community needs more options for homeless people and more affordable housing and childcare for those with low income.
- This place loves alcohol too much. It's all around here and at every turn. Sad. All the other problems follow. You reading this are probably working for the weekend and that next glass of wine or beer.
- This survey repeatedly had two questions rolled into one. Example: "The K-12 schools in my community are well funded and provide a quality education." These are two very separate ideas that should be addressed individually. The public schools in Two Rivers are grossly over funded for the poor quality of the education provided. The question regarding available & affordable healthcare has the same issue. Yes, healthcare is available, but the cost is well above the national average and out of reach for anyone with a serious or life-threatening illness.

- This survey seems quite biased. It's one thing to feel that I'm being underserved by my community. It's quite a leap for me to presume that the reason I'm being underserved is due to some genetic attribute I possess or lifestyle choices I've made in order to answer these questions. Am I treated differently by my healthcare provider due to my gender? I am. Is that a negative? Absolutely not. I am very appreciative that my healthcare provider is familiar with common maladies and treatments unique to my gender. However, in this survey I felt compelled to answer no, I am not treated differently, since the question implies some sort of inequality or mistreatment.
- Though I answered we have affordable places to live, there are NOT enough DECENT, low cost, affordable housing options!!
- Treat those who do not have insurance better. They are humans as well. Advocate with the government for better and affordable health care. Employee doctors who do not leave the area as rapidly as they do.
- Trick question: the K-12 schools in my community are well funded and provide good quality education. A school can be well funded but not provide a good quality education.
- Develop a culture of non-discrimination. Since COVID-19, people have hated our Hmong because they think we are the cause of COVID-19. This makes us unsafe.
- Universal access to mental health care. Parenting classes/support beyond 0-5yr.
- Use the old mall site for a community vegetable garden. You could even use the old concrete to build raised garden beds and pathways. Ask that people not sell what they grow. If they can't use it all, donate to neighbors or the community. Gets people outside in the fresh air. A little exercise. Activity that doesn't involve booze and loud music. Healthy food. Make some new friends. Happiness in seeing things grow. Clean up a huge eye sore.
- Very pointed questions and answer choices.
- We are constantly looking for good workers/employees at [Organization], Manitowoc.
- We have a huge alcohol/drug problem. The poor people are being priced out of housing. I do know rents/house prices have gone up a lot! My daughter works in the domestic violence field, and a big problem is child care! Affordable child care, decent care. So, we have more than two issues to work on. We are retired and need help around our house and yard. It's cheaper to stay in our house, but there are jobs we cannot do and cannot afford to have done. Where are the teens who have a heart for helping plus could use some cash??? We had to pay \$350 to have our yard raked!
- We have a huge need for better mental health services. I waited 1.5 years to get a new therapist. I asked repeatedly, was dropped on phone calls, never called back, referred to do e-visits with Milwaukee but they never called me back after 3 attempts to call them, etc. Thank God I have had enough prior therapy that I could make it through, but there are people who really need attention immediately. I know there is no quick fix, but we need to address this issue locally. People are hurting and need help, especially the homeless. Also, the drug and opioid crisis is growing causing increasing crime and out of county people coming here. Thank you for presenting this survey.
- We have lost trust in local health care and often travel to Milwaukee for the best care
- We need a trusted Hispanic community center.
- We need more affordable childcare. I am moving out of the area due to educational options. Roncalli is an old boys club, Lutheran doesn't support women, and I fear for MPSD under the new insurrectionist leadership.
- We need more programs for mentally ill people and addicts. There needs to be more help for family problems. We need more low-income housing. Single people don't have the money to pay a high rent.
- We need our own mental health facility instead of transferring the patients out of town after they show up in crisis at a hospital. Why does it take so long to be able to see a psychologist? We need affordable oral care open to all. Most people cannot afford to pay the entire bill up front. More attention needs to be addressed for abused children. The court system is far too lenient on those found guilty.
- We need places for the low-income elderly. Rent in Manitowoc is way too high.
- We need specialty Medical Providers. We should not have to travel out of town to see a specialist. Now that Holy Family is part of Froedtert, why don't we have more specialists?
- We need support for young teens and young adults. Bullying in schools need to stop, teachers are too scared to discipline cause of race.

- We need to tear down blighted areas of our community and build low-income housing that will be made available to those who are not able to currently afford housing. It's accomplish this we need to allow those who live in those homes to participate in the appreciation of those properties. I.e., build equity.
- We need well educated and experienced mental health professionals! This area is very sadly lacking, and always has been in Manitowoc.
- We recently moved to the area, I am disabled, my spouse recently became disabled. The health care system in this area is sadly lacking in so many areas. Being new to the area we have received no guidance from anyone.
- What maternal/child programs are available besides the Crossing and WIC???
- When planning new projects and housing, the low to mid income groups need to be given more consideration. Is it affordable? Enough bars already.
- While I don't directly experience difficulties in access to health care or have difficulties in social areas that impact health, I work with those that do and access to quality, consistent and immediate mental health care is a deficit in our area. The resources we have are either unaffordable for many on our community or insufficient to meet the need of those accessing services due to high demand of patient loads. Care is often superficial and a "band-aid" approach rather than actual treatment. Providers don't have the time or the ability to handle the issues effectively. People who have attempted to access immediate assistance for immediate severe suicidal ideation are sent on a goose chase from agency to agency to find services and are often left at the end of the chase being told there isn't anything that can be offered other than a crisis number if issues persist. It's frustrating as caseworker in attempting to assist clients and if these are the road blocks a professional runs into in attempting to access services with clients, how are others in the community who do not have the assistance from a professional able to do so.
- While I may be stable, I work with many who are not. I am concerned about their access to care, the affordability of that care. I find many of my contacts facing discrimination for not fitting in culturally whether that be race, politics, gender, etc. Acceptance of differences is a big issue.
- Working in a school I see families struggle to find mental health services in our area. Waiting lists are long, insurance can be a problem for some families, and even transportation from a rural area can be a challenge. In addition, I often feel like so many committees and organizations focus on the City of Manitowoc, which leaves the smaller, rural communities, having to advocate for themselves.
- You all are doing a good job.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this community survey. Your feedback and insight are vital as we work to improve and address issues impacting our community's health.

211 connects you with thousands of nonprofit and government services in your area. If you want personal assistance, call the three-digit number 211 or 877-947-2211. A friendly voice to talk with you 24/7/365. You can also go to https://211wisconsin.communityos.org