

WINNEBAGO AND BOONE COUNTIES 2010 HEALTHY COMMUNITY STUDY HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

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Prepared for



Rockford Health Council
1601 Parkview Avenue
Rockford, Illinois 61107
p: 815.395.5701
f: 815.395.5706
e: info@rockfordhealth.org
web: www.rockfordhealth.org

Prepared by
Health Systems Research
Division of Health, Policy and Social Science Research
University of Illinois
1601 Parkview Avenue
Rockford, Illinois 61107
815.395.5639

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

- The Rockford Health Council Healthy Community Study 2010 included several household surveys to assess the quality of life in Boone and Winnebago Counties including questions about community issues needing attention, household situations experienced, health care availability and use, disease prevalence and weight related topics.
- The print survey used an eight-page questionnaire of structured questions with several open-ended questions allowing recipients to comment as they desired. Verbatim comments are included in the report appendix. No identification number or other identifying marks were used so that respondents could be assured that their answers would be anonymous.
- The community survey (mailed portion) was sent to a random sample of one in sixteen households in Boone (1,000) and Winnebago (7,000) counties. Response was 1,005 surveys or 12.6% of the sample.
- Another segment of the Community Survey was conducted online in a “Survey Monkey” format transmitted to selected Rockford Chamber of Commerce lists: the Chamber’s Minority Advisory Group (12), Ignite, entry level young professionals (330), Next Rockford, next generation of leaders (81) and various other groups (98). Sixty online responses were received from individuals living in the two-county study area for a response rate of 12.5%.
- Another study element was the Rockford District 205 parent survey sent to 5,254 parents/guardians in 13 elementary schools with high low-income/minority proportions. Children received the forms which were completed by 1,241 (23.6%) parents and returned to school in a sealed envelope. A Spanish version was available for Spanish-speaking parents.
- The community and school parents samples were analyzed separately. Community respondents were older and better educated while the school survey participants were younger with strong minority representation. Female responses were greater than male for both segments, but especially for the parents.

Chapter 2: COMMUNITY ISSUES

- In this section local residents were given a list of 31 issues and asked to mark those which they feel need greater attention. The two samples agreed on three of the four top issues - gangs/delinquency, crime and violence/guns. However, community surveys placed “high health costs” second while school parents put “activities for teens” first.
- Agreement on issues needing attention also appeared in the sixth through tenth needs with both sample groups naming school dropouts, substance abuse and youth substance abuse. Rounding out the top ten were child obesity placing seventh for community respondents and affordable housing - sixth for the school parents.

- The community respondents gave higher rankings to activities for seniors, support for caregivers, mental health, health costs and truancy while school parents gave higher ranks for affordable housing and teen pregnancy.
- Asked whether they usually feel safe walking in their neighborhood, 73.6% (community) and 46.8% (parents) said yes. In 1999, 83.9% felt “very safe” or “safe” during the day, 45.3% at night. The 2010 question did not differentiate by time of day. About one-in-nine (11.7%) community households experienced a crime in the past year, one-in-five (19.9%) of school parent households.
- Asked whether they feel prepared for emergencies like natural disasters or disease outbreaks, most persons do not, just 25.0% of community respondents and 11.2% of school parents.
- Survey completers could indicate whether they are pleased with Rockford area land is being developed. More are displeased than pleased, though many did not respond.
- An open-ended question asked respondents what is the “one thing” they like about their community. The leading response was “the parks”, more so by the community sample. Also named at a high level were “good people” and “small town feel.”
- Suggestions to improve their community were led by “jobs, better jobs and an improved economy.” Second was to reduce crime, followed by improved schools and more youth activities.

Chapter 3: HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS AND EXPERIENCES

- Survey participants read a listing of 27 situations and were asked to indicate whether they have experienced them in the past year. For both survey samples, the top four problems experienced were the same, though with far higher prevalence among the school parents. High levels were experienced for financial problems, unemployed, needed dental care but couldn’t afford, and emotional problems, depression or anxiety. Also appearing in the top ten of both lists were couldn’t afford medical care, needed legal help and unable to get credit.
- A comparison to 1999 findings for situations currently experienced as compared to the 2010 community sample reveals some very large gains in situations faced, notably a fourfold increase in households with someone unemployed. The need for dental care nearly doubled over the decade.
- Results for the parents reveal very high levels for the listed household situations, led by more than half, 54.8%, saying that their financial situation means that they do not have enough to live on. Nearly half (46.5%) of school parents report that someone in their household was unemployed during the past year. One quarter (24.5%) were unable to get credit or a mortgage. More than one-in-five (21.4%) lacked transportation or had their utilities shut off in the past year.

- Among school parent health-related situations, unable to afford needed dental care (37.6%) is the clear leader, though substantial proportions also could not afford needed medical care (23.4%) or prescriptions (18.9%). More than one-quarter (26.3%) of school parents report that someone in their home experienced emotional problems, depression or anxiety in the past year.
- Though not as extensive, issues were also still relatively common in the community sample including financial problems (23.9%), someone unemployed (22.3%), needed dental care, but couldn't afford (21.2%), emotional problems (21.2%), needed medical care (15.7%) or needed prescription medications (15.1%).
- Reported discrimination was not widespread in the community sample, although age discrimination reached 8.3%, just over one-in-ten for older respondents aged 45-64 (10.4%) and 65-74 (10.1%). Among school parents, levels were higher. Of the discrimination types, only racial or ethnic discrimination was widely reported, 19.9% overall, somewhat higher for school respondents who are Hispanic (24.6%), other race (23.8%) or Black (21.8%).
- As a follow-up to indicating household situations, respondents were asked whether anyone in their home needed help, but did not receive that help and the reasons for the failure to get help. By far, two reasons dominated those explaining the failure to receive help. These were "didn't know where to find or learn about services" - community (21.1%), parents (29.9%) and "not eligible for services - community (22.3%) and parents (28.1%).
- Several other reasons were also cited as barriers to getting needed help by District 205 school parents - could not afford fees (16.6%), no service available (16.3%), no transportation (13.2%) and hours not convenient (12.6%).
- In 1999, the community sample gave "didn't know where to find or learn about services (13.4%) and "not eligible for services" (12.7%) as the leading reasons for not having received help. 2010 saw a considerable increase in not being able to find out about services.
- Several survey questions asked about the employment of adults in the home. Extraordinary proportions of homes contained an adult looking for work during the past year, two-thirds (68.3%) of the school parents' homes and one-third of the community sample. When respondents 65+ are excluded, the proportion of community sample households where someone sought work rises to 44.7%.
- Respondents in homes with job seekers were asked what factors made looking for a job, getting a job or keeping a job difficult for them or someone in their home seeking work. Lack of jobs in the area is perceived as the largest barrier by both the community (64.7%) and school parents (54.2%). Three more factors in both samples said to impede finding or keeping a job are need for more education or training (community - 29.7%, parents - 38.1%), not having work experience (community - 22.7%, parents - 27.9%) and discrimination (community - 22.4%, parents 17.5%).
- Four factors were also reported to have significant effects on the job search by just the parent group - lack of child care (24.9%), lack of transportation (26.5%), difficulties with English (19.2%) and criminal record (15.0%).

- Regarding money management, while most community respondents indicated that they could meet basic needs (85.8%) and manage debt (77.0%) in the past year, fewer were able to put money away for emergencies (49.7%) or save for the future (44.3%). Results were quite similar to 1999, although households savings for the future dropped by 5.3%.
- Controlling money and debt appears to be far more difficult for Rockford School District 205 parents than for the community sample. Only 57.0% of school parents have sufficient money for basic needs and just 42.1% are able to keep debt under control. Far fewer report being able to put money away for emergencies (18.0%) or save money for the future (12.1%).
- In terms of computer and internet access, most households would appear to have computer access in that only 15.7% of the community sample and 26.3% of the school parents do not have computer access. Most have a home computer, but others use one at work or at another location including a library. The elderly and those who have not graduated from high school are most likely not to have a computer.
- Another question asked survey respondents whether they have a will or other preparation for end of life. Results show that while over half (57.6%) were able to respond that they do have a will or similar, the level for the school parents (13.6%) is far lower, perhaps because the parents are younger.

Chapter 4: HEALTH STATUS

- In one segment of the survey, respondents were asked to indicate whether household members by age group have been told by a health professional that they have each of 14 diseases or conditions. Prevalence was then calculated for each age group.
- For the community sample, the leading diseases/conditions across all age groups are hypertension (23.0%), high cholesterol (18.4%), arthritis or rheumatism (16.6%), and chronic back pain (12.4%). For the parent households, arthritis/rheumatism (13.5%) and asthma (10.0%) lead.
- Patterns are far more revealing when arrayed by age group. For children 0-17, the clear leaders are asthma and ADD/ADHD. For persons 18-44, both samples include asthma, chronic back pain, high cholesterol and hypertension. Persons in the community sample aged 18-44 also include ADD/ADHD as a leader, while the school parent households 18-44 includes arthritis/rheumatism in the top five.
- Prevalence levels escalate in the 45-64 age groups. Hypertension is on top for both groups - community (29.0%), parents (27.4%). High cholesterol, arthritis/rheumatism, chronic back pain and diabetes appear in the top five for both groups - all over ten percent.
- Among persons 65+, hypertension is very common - community (44.2%), parents (58.7%). Diabetes (55.6%) also affects half of the elderly in the school parent homes. High levels are also evident of high cholesterol, heart disease, arthritis/rheumatism and chronic back pain in the community sample.

Chapter 5: EXERCISE, ACTIVITY AND WEIGHT

- The first question posed in this section asked respondents about the amount and frequency of exercise as follows - "During the past 30 days, other than your regular job, did you participate in any physical activities or exercise such as running, aerobics, golf, gardening or walking for exercise?"
- Responses indicated that while almost three-quarters (73.3%) of the community sample reported getting regular exercise, only half (49.6%) of the school parents did so. The question was not asked in 1999.
- A follow-up question asked how many days in a week the respondent engages in "activities that cause at least small increases in breathing or heart rate." For both of the survey samples, those persons who exercise vigorously do so about half the days of the week - 3.7 (community) and 3.4 (school parents).
- Respondents were asked their height and weight so that body mass index (BMI) could be calculated. Non-response was very high, almost one-quarter for the school parents. For those who submitted, community results were obese (34.3%), overweight (34.3%) and normal (31.4%). School parent BMI categories stood at obese (40.3%), overweight (34.4%) and normal (25.3%).
- Asked to evaluate their weight status, only eight to nine percent of each group evaluated themselves as obese. Those self appraisals were far more favorable than the reality of BMI calculated from their heights and weights.

Chapter 6: MENTAL HEALTH

- A first mental health question sought to find out whether respondents feel isolated because they do not have a trusted person to talk with. Results reveal that 11.7% of the community sample and 19.0% of school parents do feel isolated. New movers and residents of 61104 reveal high levels.
- A question set asked whether the respondent thought about seeking professional help for any personal or emotional problems and then whether they actually sought help. Result show that 20.9% of community respondents and 27.1% of school parents considered help. About half of each group actually sought help.
- Only a few households did not find a support group that they needed. Most specifics named involved the inability to find counseling when needed.
- Some respondents (community - 10.7%, school parents - 8.4%) had ever thought about suicide, of those with ideation, some had actually attempted suicide (19.1% - community, 16.3% school parents).
- Asked whether a mental health problem, substance abuse or developmental disability kept them from "usual activities" in the past 30 days, 6.1% community and 5.5% school parents replied affirmatively. The affected were disabled about two weeks out of the month.

Chapter 7: HEALTH CARE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

- Participants were first asked if they have health insurance that pays for all or part of their medical care. While only 7.8% of the community sample reported lacking health insurance, more than one-quarter (26.2%) of the Rockford school parents reported no insurance.
- Asked about the type of insurance, the 2010 community sample plans primarily included private employer plans (54.9%) and Medicare (34.4%). Results from 1999 were similar with more private and fewer Medicare recipients. In both years, the great majority of those with Medicare also are covered by a supplement.
- The parent group exhibited a very different pattern with a strong Medicaid presence. Coverage is highest for Medicaid including Family Care and All Kids (58.6%) followed by private employer medical plans at 29.6%. Medicare was reported by 5.7% although only 1.0% or parents or guardians are 65 or older.
- For the 2010 community results, young adults 18-29 were easily the group most lacking coverage at 33.8%. Next highest without medical coverage were those 0-17 (19.0%) and 30-44 (18.5%). Among school parents, all groups exceeded 25% with 18-29 at 36.2%.
- Among community sample respondents, nearly one of five (19.2%) calls out-of-pocket health care costs “serious,” more than double 1999 when the level was 9.2%. For 205 parents, 29.1% describe “out-of-pocket” costs as a serious problem. In addition, another 33.6% (community) and 27.1% (parents) say that these costs are “a problem, but not serious.”
- Survey recipients were asked whether there is a particular person or place where they usually go when they are sick or need health advice. Reporting no regular doctor or clinic in the community sample were 7.4%, just slightly elevated from 6.1% in 1999. For school parents, one in ten (9.6%) has no regular care location.
- School parents rely strongly on Crusader Clinic (33.6%) in addition to doctor’s offices or clinics (33.8%). However, many name urgent care (8.3%) or hospital emergency rooms (7.2%) as their usual care location. Community sample results in both 2010 and 1999 revealed four of five using a “traditional” doctor’s office or clinic.
- In the community sample, more than one-in-five (21.0%) had a household member unable to receive needed medical care and more than one-quarter (26.7%) could not get needed dental care. Levels were even higher among the school parents, 40.9% medical and 43.2% dental. Financial dominated the reasons for not getting care.
- Inquiring about use of health care outside the Rockford area, respondents were asked: “In the past year, have you or a member of your household traveled to a community outside Winnebago or Boone Counties to receive medical care?” Results indicate that community household members were more likely to leave the area for medical care in that 17.9% of community sample households reported receiving care elsewhere as compared to 9.5% for the school parents. Dental was included in the responses. One-third (33.9%) of Rockton/Roscoe/South Beloit households left the area for care, the highest level among the community sample areas.

- For the “community” sample households, Madison, Wisconsin is the most common external destination, accounting for one-third (34.0%) of all places named. Other areas included Cook County (18.2%) and Rock County, WI (12.3%). Among the “school parent” households, Chicago area centers led with over half (51.8%) traveling to Cook County and 14.1% venturing to Madison, Wisconsin.
- Visit reasons given for the care obtained elsewhere were diverse. Some of the leading reasons included dental, eye, cancer, physicals, orthopedic and cardiovascular care. Leading reasons for the families and individuals seeking care outside Winnebago/Boone Counties included specialty care available elsewhere, former residence or provider, and insurance limitations relative to provider allowed.
- Drawing conclusions from survey responses is not definitive, but outflow factors would seem to include: Veteran’s care at VA centers, pediatric specialized care, limitations of insurance plans and flows across the border to Beloit and Janesville from northern area of the county.

Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

Introduction

This survey report presents the results of one component of the 2010 Healthy Community Study, a comprehensive analysis of health and human services and the quality of life in Boone and Winnebago Counties. By surveying a sample of local residents, the survey sought to determine:

- community issues needing more attention.
- employment characteristics and barriers.
- household situations experienced
- health care availability and use.
- barriers to the use of medical, dental and human services.
- use of medical services outside the Rockford area.
- mental health needs, use.
- physical activity, nutrition.
- diseases, conditions, disability.

The list above features the major survey topics covered. Many other areas were also explored and are described in this report.

Survey content was guided by the Needs Assessment Committee of the Rockford Health Council with input from the ad hoc Design Committee formed of representatives from major local health and human services organizations who are expected to benefit from survey results. Many local groups are expected to use survey results for strategic planning, funding decisions and grant submissions.

Prior surveys served as one basis for the choice of questions. These included the 2003 *Minority Survey* by the Rockford Health Council and the 1999 *Healthy Community Survey* by Health Systems Research whose "16 priorities" were then adopted for implementation by the Health Council and other local organizations.

Other components of the 2010 Healthy Community Study included a Community Analysis of demographic, health, social and economic data for the two-county area, key informant interviews with community leaders and knowledgeable individuals plus focus group discussions with target populations likely to need or use human services.

The Rockford Health Council is a nonprofit forum whose purpose is to promote better health for the residents of northern Illinois by serving as a catalyst for collaborative education, action and advocacy. Health Systems Research at the University of Illinois - Rockford Health Sciences Campus is an applied research unit which specializes in needs assessment for health and human services organizations throughout northern Illinois.

Organization of Report

The report of the 2010 Healthy Community Survey is divided into the following chapters.

- Chapter 1: *Introduction*. Study background, purpose, methodology
- Chapter 2: *Community Issues*. Issues needing attention, crime and safety, emergency preparedness, land development.
- Chapter 3: *Household Situations and Experiences*. Situations experienced by household, money management, community activities, internet access, wills, child care.
- Chapter 4: *Health Status*. Prevalence of diseases and conditions.
- Chapter 5: *Exercise, Activity and Weight*. Exercise, body weight index.
- Chapter 6: *Mental Health*. Isolation, professional help, support groups, suicide, disability
- Chapter 7: *Health Care Availability and Accessibility*. Health insurance, usual source of care, barriers to care, care received outside the area.

Methodology - Introduction

The survey used an eight-page questionnaire of structured questions including several open-ended questions which allowed recipients to comment as they desired. No identification number or other identifying marks were used so that respondents could be assured that their answers would be anonymous.

The survey was conducted in three ways - a random household survey of Boone and Winnebago Counties, an online survey of selected Rockford Chamber of Commerce lists and a survey of parents at certain Rockford District 205 elementary schools. Each survey is described more fully below.

In the analysis “community” refers to the random household survey and online Chamber responses and “school parents” refers to the District 205 parent responses.

Community Survey: Random Household Survey

The household survey used a mailed survey booklet sent to a random sample of 8,000 households in Boone (1,000) and Winnebago (7,000) Counties. A cover letter from Council Chair Dennis Norem, MD stressed the importance of the study and urged local residents to participate. A postage-paid envelope was provided for returning the survey. The sample was chosen to be proportional to the population in each zip code. Approximately one of every sixteen homes in the two-county area received the survey packet. A follow-up post card was sent two weeks after the original mailing. At the cut-off date for analysis, 1,005 surveys or 12.6% of the sample had been received.

Community Survey: Chamber Online

Another segment of the Community Survey was conducted online. The questionnaire was produced in a “Survey Monkey” format and transmitted to each of four Rockford Chamber of Commerce lists: the Chamber’s Minority Advisory Group (12), Ignite, entry level young professionals (330), and Next Rockford, next generation of leaders (81) and various other groups (98). Sixty online responses were received from individuals living in the two-county study area for a response rate of 12.5%.

District 205 Parents

The needs assessment survey was sent to 5,254 parents/guardians in 13 elementary schools chosen by District 205 as having high low-income/minority proportions. Participating schools were:

Barbour	Hillman	Lewis Lemon	Nelson
Beyer	King	McIntosh	Spring Creek
Ellis	Lathrop	Nashold	Summerdale
Haskell			

In total, these schools are 40% African American and 38% Hispanic.

Surveys were distributed to students in the classrooms with instructions to have a parent or guardian complete the form, then returned to the teacher in the envelope which was to be sealed. The cover letter from Superintendent LaVonne Sheffield urged parents to complete the survey. Spanish versions of the survey and cover letter were created and given to students whom the principal/teacher thought would be appropriate. Comments received in Spanish were translated into English.

Response Summary

A summary of the survey methodologies with response rates are shown below.

Table 1.1
ROCKFORD HEALTHY COMMUNITY SURVEY 2010
SURVEY SAMPLES AND RESPONSE

Sample	Distributed	Returned	Response Rate
Community	8,521	1,070	12.6%
Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	8,000	1,005	12.6%
Rockford Chamber of Commerce	521	65	12.5%
District 205 Parents	5,254	1,241	23.6%
Total	13,775	2,311	16.8%

In total 13,775 homes were reached by the Healthy Community Survey with one in six (16.8%) who received the assessment completing and returning the questionnaire.

A total of 1,241 surveys were returned from the schools for a response rate of 23.6%. Of the returns, 881 (71.0%) were in English and 360 (29.0%) were in Spanish.

Survey Accuracy

Survey work revolves around two basic issues - validity and adequacy. Any good survey design seeks to maximize both of these characteristics. Validity refers to the soundness or effectiveness of how the research project is carried out. Are the right questions being asked in the right way? Validity is achieved through the careful use of variables which truly are relevant to the study. A sample may be termed adequate when the size is sufficient to replicate the characteristics of a population given the precision and confidence levels desired in the results.

If each individual in the population has an equal chance of being chosen, sampling error can be assumed to be random and thus measurable in terms of probability. Precision refers to how closely the investigator wants the survey results from the sample to match those of the general population. A confidence level is the probability of obtaining a sample which, in fact, does have the precision desired. For example, if sample data reveal that 70% of the population favors more drug prevention, and the precision and confidence levels are .02 (2%) and .95 (95%) respectively, the investigator may declare that the chances are 95 in 100 that between 68% and 72% of the population actually favor more drug prevention. Only if error is distributed randomly may this conclusion be made.

The adequacy of the sample depends on the population under consideration and the nature of the responses. For all households in the sample (2,311 in this case), chances are 95 out of 100 that the error can be no greater than 1.9%. While the reader can interpret results of the larger sample segments with confidence in their relative accuracy, smaller segments (such as zip codes, age, gender or education) should be judged in light of their own standard errors, which are considerably higher. Not all results should be viewed as being equally adequate. In general, results based on larger samples can be considered to be more truly reflective of the actual population characteristics. Results from small samples should be viewed as preliminary findings to be subjected to further study.

Non-Response

Non-response is merely the failure to obtain answers to a questionnaire. Non-response bias is often a major problem in survey work. People may refuse to answer, be on vacation or have any of a variety of personal reasons for not responding. Non-response poses no problem if replies from non-respondents are similar to those of the respondents. However, when the views of those who respond are different from those who don't, the value of the survey is greatly diminished. Unfortunately, this bias may not be known unless a second, more intensive survey of the population is performed which is usually not feasible.

Experiences of the researcher play an important role in deciding whether or not non-response bias exists, or if such bias is affecting the results. One method for checking bias is to conduct personal

interviews or follow-up in greater depth than the original study in order to compare them. For smaller studies, costs usually preclude this. Another method of checking non-response bias is by matching the characteristics of respondents to Census or other comparable data for the population from which the sample has been drawn. The latter method is used here. While lack of response bias cannot be assured, at least the nature of respondent differences are known in terms of their characteristics.

Representativeness of the Sample

Tables 1.2 - 1.6 looks at the characteristics of the responding households and compares them, as possible, to 2006-2008 Census data for the Rockford Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which covers the two study counties.

The concept of the two samples was that when combined the overall response would be representative of the area. However, because the school parent response was greater than the community response, the survey population was younger with greater minority representation than would be expected based on the current census information. The parent overrepresentation was exacerbated by their larger household size.

Response was also primarily female although women tend to respond in mail and telephone surveys unless the distribution is controlled. The educational level of respondents, however was relatively similar to the area distribution.

ROCKFORD HEALTHY COMMUNITY SURVEY 2010 WITH COMPARISON TO 2006 - 2008 AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY¹

Table 1.2
AGE GROUP OF RESPONDENT

Age Group ²	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		Total Survey		2006-2008 ACS
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
18 - 29	51	4.8%	326	26.3%	377	16.3%	12.6%
30 - 44	157	14.7%	712	57.4%	869	37.6%	29.5%
45 - 64	479	44.8%	149	12.0%	628	27.2%	37.2%
65 - 74	189	17.7%	12	1.0%	201	8.7%	10.6%
75+	157	14.7%	0	0.0%	157	6.8%	10.2%
No answer	37	3.5%	42	3.4%	79	3.4%	—
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%	2,311	100.0%	100.0%
Median Age	57.9		35.8		42.8		49.2

Table 1.3
AGES OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		Total Survey		2006-2008 ACS ^{1,2}
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
0 - 12	277	10.7%	2,908	49.5%	3,185	37.6%	18.2%
13 - 17	133	5.1%	1,238	21.1%	1,371	16.2%	7.3%
18 - 29	260	10.0%	580	9.9%	840	9.9%	16.5%
30 - 44	346	13.3%	797	13.6%	1,143	13.5%	20.8%
45 - 64	914	35.3%	263	4.5%	1,177	13.9%	24.9%
65 - 74	345	13.3%	82	1.4%	427	5.0%	6.2%
75+	280	10.8%	0	0.0%	280	3.3%	6.2%
No answer	37	1.4%	11	0.2%	48	0.6%	---
Total	2,592	100.0%	5,879	100.0%	8,471	100.0%	100.0%
Average HH size	2.42		4.74		3.67		2.74
Median Age	50.7		13.1		16.1		36.2

¹The American Community Survey (Census Bureau) obtains an annual sample. For the 2006-2008 figures, results were combined for the three years.

²Age of householder for ACS.

Table 1.4
RESPONDENT RACE/ETHNIC CATEGORY

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		Total Survey		2006-2008 ACS
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
White (non-Hispanic)	939	87.8%	264	21.3%	1,203	52.1%	75.3%
Black/African American (non-Hispanic)	60	5.6%	371	29.9%	431	18.7%	9.9%
Hispanic/Latino	19	1.8%	475	38.3%	494	21.4%	11.4%
Asian or Pacific Islander	5	0.5%	11	0.9%	16	0.7%	2.0%
American Indian	1	0.1%	1	0.1%	2	0.1%	0.2%
Multi-racial or bi-racial	7	0.7%	66	5.3%	73	3.2%	1.1%
Other (please write in)	2	0.2%	6	0.5%	8	0.3%	---
No answer	37	3.5%	47	3.8%	84	3.6%	---
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%	2,311	100.0%	100.0%

Table 1.5
RESPONDENT HIGHEST EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		Total Survey		2006-2008 ACS ¹
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Less than high school	39	3.6%	388	31.3%	427	18.5%	16.5%
High school diploma or GED	225	21.0%	350	28.2%	575	24.9%	35.2%
Some college, no degree	237	22.2%	264	21.3%	501	21.7%	20.5%
Associate or technical degree	139	13.0%	109	8.8%	248	10.7%	7.7%
Bachelor's degree	223	20.8%	46	3.7%	269	11.6%	13.4%
Graduate or professional degree	173	16.2%	31	2.5%	204	8.8%	6.6%
No answer	34	3.2%	53	4.3%	87	3.8%	---
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%	2,311	100.0%	100.0%

¹Persons 25+

Table 1.6
GENDER OF RESPONDENT

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		Total Survey		2006-2008 ACS
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Male	410	38.3%	189	15.2%	599	25.9%	49.5%
Female	636	59.4%	1,016	81.9%	1,652	71.5%	50.5%
No answer	24	2.2%	36	2.9%	60	2.6%	---
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%	2,311	100.0%	100.0%

Chapter 2 COMMUNITY ISSUES

Introduction: Community Issues Needing More Attention

In this section of the survey, new to the 2010 application, local residents were given a list of 31 issues and asked to mark those which they feel need greater attention. Respondents could mark each that they feel need attention. The average respondent marked ten issues, somewhat more for the school parents (11.8) than for the community sample (8.4).

The two samples agreed on three of the four top issues - gangs/delinquency, crime and violence/guns. However, community surveys placed “high health costs” second while school parents put “activities for teens” first.

Table 2.1
COMMUNITY ISSUES NEEDING MORE ATTENTION

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample			Rockford District 205 Parents		
1.	Gangs/delinquency	56.3%	1.	Activities for teens	66.2%
2.	High health costs	55.6%	2.	Gangs/delinquency	63.5%
3.	Crime	51.5%	3.	Crime	59.7%
4.	Violence/guns	43.0%	4.	Violence/guns	52.8%
5.	Job retraining	42.6%	5.	Drug/alcohol abuse	51.1%
6.	Activities for teens	42.3%	6.	Affordable housing	49.7%
7.	Child obesity	40.9%	7.	School dropouts	49.2%
8.	School dropouts	36.8%	8.	Teen pregnancy	48.8%
9.	Substance abuse	35.9%	9.	Job training	47.8%
10.	Youth substance abuse	32.6%	10.	Youth substance abuse	46.5%

Agreement on issues needing attention also appeared in the sixth through tenth needs with both sample groups naming school dropouts, substance abuse and youth substance abuse. Rounding out the top ten were child obesity, seventh for community respondents and affordable housing - sixth for the school parents.

Though a great deal of agreement appears in the results for issues needing attention, some issues were also far apart when ranked. The largest differences in perceived need for attention broken out by sample are shown in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2
ISSUES NEEDING ATTENTION
LARGEST DIFFERENCES IN RANKINGS¹

Issue	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
Activities for seniors	14	28
Support for caregivers	11	25
Mental health services	13	26
High health costs	2	12
Housing in all prices	16	6
Teen pregnancy	18	8
Truancy	2	22

¹Low numbers were given greater importance

The community respondents gave higher rankings to activities for seniors, support for caregivers, mental health, health costs and truancy while school parents gave higher ranks for affordable housing and teen pregnancy.

Open-Ended Issues Comments

Respondents were also able to write in needs. Sometimes the suggestions duplicated those offered on the questionnaire. The need for jobs and employment was the leader for both samples - community (7), school parents (7). Activities for youth was next with eight mentions, six of which came from the parents. Quality public education was named six times community (4), school parents (2).

The community respondents also named enforcement of illegals (4) and better skills for high school graduates (3). Named by school parents as issues needing attention were bullying (4), school safety (4) and family activities (3).

Table 2.3
COMMUNITY ISSUES NEEDING MORE ATTENTION
WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE RANKINGS

Rank	Need Greater Attention in Community	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	
		Number	Percent
1.	Gangs, delinquency, youth violence	602	56.3%
2.	High health care costs	595	55.6%
3.	Crime	551	51.5%
4.	Violence involving guns	460	43.0%
5.	Job retraining, coping with job loss	456	42.6%
6.	Activities for teens	453	42.3%
7.	Obesity in children	438	40.9%
8.	School dropouts	398	36.8%
9.	Drug or alcohol abuse	384	35.9%
10.	Youth substance abuse	349	32.6%
11.	Support for caregivers, elderly, disabled	335	31.3%
12.	Truancy	311	29.1%
13.	Mental health services	286	26.7%
14.	Activities for seniors	275	25.7%
15.	Child abuse	271	25.3%
16.	Need for housing in all price ranges	268	25.0%
17.	Domestic violence	264	24.7%
18.	Teen pregnancy	258	24.1%
19.	Programs for families and children in crisis	256	23.9%
20.	Lack literacy, ability to read	229	21.4%
21.	Counseling-individual, family, marital	222	20.7%
22.	Special education for children	207	19.3%
23.	Disabled persons' employment/training	199	18.6%
24.	Recreation programs for disabled	147	13.7%
25.	AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases	139	13.0%
26.	Racial or socioeconomic discrimination	137	12.8%
27.	Support groups for parents	119	11.1%
28.	Duplication of local groups, agencies	114	10.7%
29.	Help coping with death	80	7.5%
30.	Inclusion of diverse persons	68	6.4%
31.	Hispanic social services	47	4.4%
32.	Any other problems?	108	10.1%

Table 2.4
COMMUNITY ISSUES NEED MORE ATTENTION
ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS' RANKINGS

Rank	Need Greater Attention in Community	Rockford District 205 Parents	
		Number	Percent
1.	Activities for teens	822	66.2%
2.	Gangs, delinquency, youth violence	788	63.5%
3.	Crime	741	59.7%
4.	Violence involving guns	655	52.8%
5.	Drug or alcohol abuse	634	51.1%
6.	Need for housing in all price ranges	617	49.7%
7.	School dropouts	611	49.2%
8.	Teen pregnancy	605	48.8%
9.	Job retraining, coping with job loss	593	47.8%
10.	Youth substance abuse	577	46.5%
11.	Programs for families and children in crisis	539	43.4%
12.	High health care costs	534	43.0%
13.	Obesity in children	529	42.6%
14.	Special education for children	472	38.0%
15.	Domestic violence	467	37.6%
16.	Child abuse	453	36.5%
17.	Counseling-individual, family, marital	450	36.3%
18.	Racial or socioeconomic discrimination	446	35.9%
19.	AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases	416	33.5%
20.	Lack literacy, ability to read	404	32.6%
21.	Support groups for parents	402	32.4%
22.	Truancy	376	30.3%
23.	Hispanic social services	366	29.5%
24.	Disabled persons' employment/training	353	28.4%
25.	Support for caregivers, elderly, disabled	347	28.0%
26.	Mental health services	298	24.0%
27.	Recreation programs for disabled	276	22.2%
28.	Activities for seniors	269	21.7%
29.	Help coping with death	228	18.4%
30.	Duplication of local groups, agencies	159	12.8%
31.	Inclusion of diverse persons	134	10.8%
32.	Any other problems?	95	7.7%

Table 2.5
COMMUNITY ISSUES NEEDING MORE ATTENTION
COMPARISON OF COMMUNITY SAMPLE AND DISTRICT 205 PARENTS' RANKINGS

Need Greater Attention in Community	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Ranking	Ranking
Activities for seniors	14	28
Activities for teens	6	1
AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases	25	19
Child abuse	15	16
Counseling-individual, family, marital	21	17
Crime	3	3
Disabled persons' employment/training	23	24
Domestic violence	17	15
Drug or alcohol abuse	9	5
Duplication of local groups, agencies	28	30
Gangs, delinquency, youth violence	1	2
Help coping with death	29	29
High health care costs	2	12
Hispanic social services	31	23
Inclusion of diverse persons	30	31
Job retraining, coping with job loss	5	9
Lack literacy, ability to read	20	20
Mental health services	13	26
Need for housing in all price ranges	16	6
Obesity in children	7	13
Programs for families & children in crisis	19	11
Racial or socioeconomic discrimination	26	18
Recreation programs for the physically/mentally challenged	24	27
School dropouts	8	7
Special education for children	22	14
Support for caregivers, elderly, disabled	11	25
Support groups for parents	27	21
Teen pregnancy	18	8
Truancy	12	22
Violence involving guns	4	4
Youth substance abuse	10	10

Table 2.6
**TOP THREE COMMUNITY ISSUES NEEDING MORE ATTENTION
 COMMUNITY SAMPLE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS**

Characteristic	Top Three Issues Needing More Attention
GENDER	
Male	Gangs/delinquency (59.3%), Health costs (52.4%), Crime (51.0%)
Female	Health costs (57.7%), Gangs/delinquency (53.9%), Crime (51.4%)
ZIP CODE	
Boone County	Health costs (50.6%), Gangs/delinquency (50.6%), Job retraining (42.7%)
Loves Park/ Machesney Park	Health costs (65.5%), Job retraining (47.9%), Gangs/delinquency (47.3%)
Rockton/Roscoe/ S. Beloit	Health costs (62.5%), Crime (46.3%), Gangs/delinquency (44.1%)
Western Winnebago County	Health costs (66.7%), Job retraining (51.1%), Child obesity (42.2%)
61101	Gangs/delinquency (62.5%), Crime (62.5%), Health costs (62.5%)
61102	Activities for teens (81.6%), Crime (65.8%), Gang/delinquency (57.9%)
61103	Crime (59.0%), Gangs/delinquency (57.7%), Health costs (47.7%)
61104	Health costs (65.1%), Crime (60.5%), Gangs/delinquency (60.5%)
61107	Gangs/delinquency (64.1%), Crime (53.5%), School dropouts (47.9%)
61108	Gangs/delinquency (60.0%), Health costs (59.0%), Crime (50.5%)
61109	Gangs/delinquency (73.1%), Crime (70.1%), Health costs (56.7%)
61114	Gangs/delinquency (67.2%), Violence-guns (60.9%), Crime (54.7%)
RACE/ETHNIC	
White	Gangs/delinquency (55.9%), Health costs (54.7%), Crime (50.7%)
Black	Activities for teens (81.7%), Health costs (75.0%), Job retraining (66.7%)

Table 2.6 (cont'd.)
TOP THREE COMMUNITY ISSUES NEEDING MORE ATTENTION
COMMUNITY SAMPLE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

Characteristic	Top Three Issues Needing More Attention
AGE GROUP	
18 - 29	Activities for teens (60.8%), Health costs (56.9%), Child obesity (54.9%)
30 - 44	Crime (47.1%), Activities for teens (46.5%), Gangs/delinquency (46.5%)
45 - 64	Health costs (58.7%), Crime (49.7%), Job retraining (48.6%)
65 - 74	Gangs/delinquency (61.9%), Health costs (60.3%), Crime (54.0%)
75+	Gangs/delinquency (56.7%), Crime (56.1%), Violence-guns (52.9%)
EDUCATION	
Less than high school	Health costs (74.4%), Crime (69.2%), Violence-guns (61.5%)
High school or GED	Health costs (64.4%), Gangs/delinquency (54.7%), Activities for teens (52.0%)
Some college	Health costs (62.9%), Gangs/delinquency (59.9%), Crime (52.7%)
Associate/Technical	Health costs (63.3%), Gangs/delinquency (52.5%), Violence-guns (47.5%)
Bachelor's degree	Gangs/delinquency (58.3%), Crime (48.9%), Health costs (48.0%), Child obesity (48.0%)
Graduate/Professional	Gangs/delinquency, Crime (49.1%), School dropouts (43.4%)
HOUSEHOLD	
Married couple	Gangs/delinquency (55.8%), Health costs (53.8%), Crime (50.6%)
Single parent	Activities for teens (66.7%), Health costs (58.0%), Crime, Gangs/delinquency, Affordable housing (56.8%)
Unmarried persons	Health costs (62.3%), Crime (55.0%), Gangs/delinquency (53.6%)
Single person	Health costs (56.8%), Gangs/delinquency (55.1%), Crime (49.8%)
HOUSING	
Own	Gangs/delinquency (56.6%), Health costs (54.0%), Crime (50.6%)
Rent	Health costs (63.9%), Crime (55.6%), Activities for teens (54.2%)
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	
Yes	Health costs (63.8%), Gangs/delinquency (55.8%), Activities for teens (54.6%)
No	Gangs/delinquency (56.1%), Health costs (53.7%), Crime (51.1%)
TIME IN COUNTY	
< 5 years	Crime (46.5%), Health costs (46.5%), Gangs/delinquency (41.9%)
5+ years	Gangs/delinquency (57.5%), Health costs (56.3%), Crime (51.7%)

Table 2.7
**TOP THREE COMMUNITY ISSUES NEEDING MORE ATTENTION
 ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS**

Characteristic	Top Three Issues Needing More Attention
GENDER	
Male	Gangs/delinquency (67.7%), Crime (63.5%), Activities for teens (63.0%)
Female	Activities for teens (66.9%), Gangs/delinquency (62.9%), Crime (58.9%)
ZIP CODE	
61101	Activities for teens (76.4%), Gangs/delinquency (67.4%), Crime (62.7%)
61102	Activities for teens (67.4%), Gangs/delinquency (64.9%), Crime (63.2%)
61103	Crime (66.7%), Gangs/delinquency (64.6%), Activities for teens (61.6%)
61104	Activities for teens (63.2%), Crime (61.1%), Gangs/delinquency (60.5%)
61107	Activities for teens (60.9%), Crime (56.3%), Gangs/delinquency (54.7%)
61108	Activities for teens (71.6%), School dropouts (56.8%), Gangs/delinquency, Health costs (54.7%)
61109	Gangs/delinquency (67.7%), Activities for teens (60.8%), Crime (58.9%)
61114	Gangs/delinquency (61.5%), Child obesity (53.8%), Activities for teens (38.5%)
RACE/ETHNIC	
White	Gangs/delinquency (64.8%), Crime (59.1%), Activities for teens (58.3%)
Black	Activities for teens (73.6%), Affordable housing (64.7%), Crime (61.2%)
Hispanic	Gangs/delinquency (64.4%), Activities for teens (64.2%), Hispanic social services (63.8%)
Other	Affordable housing (58.3%), Violence-guns (58.3%), Job retraining (54.8%)
AGE GROUP	
18 - 29	Gangs/delinquency (62.0%), Crime (61.7%), Activities for teens (58.6%)
30 - 44	Activities for teens (68.3%), Gangs/delinquency (62.4%), Crime (57.2%)
45 - 64	Gangs/delinquency (71.8%), Activities for teens (70.5%), Crime (67.8%)

Table 2.7 (cont'd.)
**TOP THREE COMMUNITY ISSUES NEEDING MORE ATTENTION
 ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS**

Characteristic	Top Three Issues Needing More Attention
EDUCATION	
Less than high school	Activities for teens (72.4%), Gangs/delinquency (67.0%), Crime (65.7%)
High school or GED	Activities for teens (55.1%), Gangs/delinquency (54.9%), Crime (52.6%)
Some college	Activities for teens (66.3%), Gangs/delinquency (61.4%), Crime (56.1%)
Associate/Technical	Activities for teens (62.4%), Gangs/delinquency (59.6%), Crime (51.4%)
Bachelor's degree	Gang/delinquency (67.4%), Child obesity (60.9%), Crime (54.3%)
Graduate/Professional	Activities for teens (74.2%), Gangs/delinquency (64.5%), Crime, Child obesity (54.8%)
HOUSEHOLD	
Married couple	Gangs/delinquency (65.1%), Activity for teens (63.7%), Crime (58.5%)
Single parent	Activities for teens (71.6%), Gangs/delinquency (62.2%), crime (59.1%)
Unmarried persons	Gangs/delinquency (65.2%), Activities for teens (64.6%), Crime (64.1%)
HOUSING	
Own	Gangs/delinquency (68.8%), Activities for teens (64.7%), Crime (61.4%)
Rent	Activities for teens (67.6%), Gangs/delinquency (61.1%), Crime (59.0%)
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	
Yes	Activities for teens (66.6%), Gangs/delinquency (63.8%), Crime (60.7%)
No	Activities for teens (65.1%), Gangs/delinquency (64.0%), Crime (57.5%)
TIME IN COUNTY	
< 5 years	Activities for teens (61.0%), Gangs/delinquency (59.7%), Crime (55.4%)
5+ years	Activities for teens (67.2%), Gangs/delinquency (64.5%), Crime (61.4%)

Crime and Safety

Asked whether they usually feel safe walking in the neighborhood, 73.6% (community) and 46.8% (parents) said yes. In 1999, 83.9% felt “very safe” or “safe” during the day, 45.3% at night. The 2010 question did not differentiate by time of day.

Table 2.8
FEEL SAFE: HIGHEST, LOWEST GROUPS

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample				Rockford District 205 Parents			
High		Low		High		Low	
61114	96.8%	61104	43.9%	61114	94.1%	61104	35.4%
Rockton/Roscoe	89.6%	61102	51.4%	Grad/Prof	74.2%	< HS	41.5%
Western Winnebago County	88.6%	Rent	56.2%	Bachelors	68.9%	Unmarried, living together	43.5%
Grad/Prof	87.6%	< HS	59.5%	61108	68.1%	61101	44.2%
Boone	85.9%	61101	59.6%	61107	65.6%	Other race	44.4%

Persons living in 61114 feel safest, well over 90% for both samples. Among community sample respondents, persons living outside Rockford feel safest along with those holding a graduate degree. Higher education and living on Rockford’s east side predict higher safety feelings.

Less safety is perceived by Rockford west side residents especially those living in 61104.

Table 2.9
FEEL SAFE WALKING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	787	73.6%	581	46.8%
Not sure	95	8.9%	204	16.4%
No	146	13.6%	400	32.2%
No answer	42	3.9%	56	4.5%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

A second question relative to crime and safety asked whether a household member was a crime victim during the past year.

For the community sample, about one in nine households (11.7%) experienced crime compared to one in five (19.9%) for school parent households.

Table 2.10
HOUSEHOLD MEMBER WAS CRIME VICTIM IN PAST YEAR

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	125	11.7%	247	19.9%
Not sure	21	2.0%	42	3.4%
No	873	81.6%	899	72.4%
No answer	51	4.8%	53	4.3%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

The crime experience reaches 35.0% of those living in 61104 in the community sample and more than one-quarter of school parents in these groups: bachelor's degree (28.9%), 18-29 (26.4%), and 61104 (26.1%). The lowest household crime was in Boone, 61114 and western Winnebago County for the community sample; those with graduate education and 61114 for the school parents.

Table 2.11
HOUSEHOLD EXPERIENCED CRIME: HIGHEST, LOWEST GROUPS

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample				Rockford District 205 Parents			
High		Low		High		Low	
61114	35.0%	Boone	6.0%	Bachelors	28.9%	Grad/Prof.	3.2%
Single parent	22.5%	61114	6.6%	18 - 29	26.4%	61114	7.8%
18 - 29	22.4%	W. Winn	6.8%	61104	26.1%	61103	15.6%
Financial assistance	21.4%	65 - 74	7.2%	Associate	25.0%	Other race	16.0%
Associate	18.4%	Rockton/ Roscoe	8.9%	HS education	23.9%	Home owner	17.0%

Emergency Preparedness

A question on emergency preparedness asked whether survey respondents have felt prepared for future emergencies like natural disasters, terrorism, bioterrorism or a disease outbreak.

Based on the results shown in Table 2.12, most local residents do not feel prepared. One-quarter (25.0%) of community respondents felt prepared, but far fewer (11.2%) school parents. Levels of preparedness did not vary greatly among sub groups.

Most prepared according to their answers are those new to the county (33.3%) and persons with a graduate degree (32.7%). Only 7.0% of Hispanic school parents reported feeling ready for emergencies.

Table 2.12
FELT PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	268	25.0%	139	11.2%
Not sure	395	36.9%	263	21.2%
No	360	33.6%	784	63.2%
No answer	47	4.4%	55	4.4%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Land Development

Another question related to development. Survey completers could indicate whether they are “usually pleased with the way that land is being developed in the Rockford area.”

As shown below in Table 2.13, of those who had an opinion, more are displeased (community - 40.4%, parents - 35.7%) than are pleased (community - 23.7%, parents - 21.1%). However, about one-third were not sure and some others did not respond.

Table 2.13
PLEASED WITH LAND DEVELOPMENT

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	254	23.7%	262	21.1%
Not sure	338	31.6%	470	37.9%
No	432	40.4%	443	35.7%
No answer	46	4.3%	66	5.3%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Most displeased, 50.0% or more saying “no” are 61102 (59.5%), 61103 (50.0%) and black (50.0%) respondents in the community sample and other race (51.8%) and associate degree (50.0%) in the school parent sample. Most satisfied with land development are those who have moved here within the last five years and those 75 or older.

Table 2.14
SAFETY, PREPAREDNESS AND DEVELOPMENT
WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP

Characteristics	Feel safe walking	Crime victim	Prepared for emergencies	Not pleased with land development
GENDER				
Male	82.9%	12.5%	30.2%	45.5%
Female	73.2%	12.0%	23.9%	40.2%
ZIP CODE				
Boone County	85.9%	6.0%	28.6%	38.6%
Loves Park/Machesney Park	77.8%	10.8%	20.4%	35.5%
Rockton/Roscoe/S. Beloit	89.6%	8.9%	29.1%	38.1%
Western Winnebago County	88.6%	6.8%	22.2%	46.7%
61101	59.6%	18.0%	25.5%	42.3%
61102	51.4%	16.7%	24.3%	59.5%
61103	64.9%	15.5%	30.1%	50.0%
61104	43.9%	35.0%	25.0%	46.2%
61107	83.3%	9.5%	24.3%	44.7%
61108	73.0%	14.7%	28.7%	39.2%
61109	70.8%	12.9%	21.0%	46.9%
61114	96.8%	6.6%	41.0%	45.2%
RACE/ETHNIC				
White	77.4%	11.8%	26.6%	41.9%
Black	70.7%	16.4%	21.8%	50.0%
AGE GROUP				
18 - 29	73.5%	22.4%	30.6%	44.9%
30 - 44	81.8%	12.3%	19.6%	48.7%
45 - 64	78.9%	14.3%	27.6%	44.6%
65 - 74	75.8%	7.2%	22.1%	40.1%
75+	71.3%	9.1%	32.6%	28.5%

Table 2.14 (cont'd.)
SAFETY, PREPAREDNESS AND DEVELOPMENT
WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP

Characteristics	Feel safe walking	Crime victim	Prepared for emergencies	Not pleased with land development
EDUCATION				
Less than high school	59.5%	14.3%	20.6%	28.6%
High school or GED	68.4%	14.1%	22.2%	41.6%
Some college	72.2%	11.9%	23.3%	42.7%
Associate/Technical	78.4%	18.4%	27.2%	43.7%
Bachelor's degree	84.7%	9.4%	30.0%	42.6%
Graduate/Professional	87.6%	9.5%	32.7%	44.1%
HOUSEHOLD				
Married couple	83.4%	11.6%	28.6%	43.2%
Single parent	69.7%	22.5%	25.0%	40.3%
Unmarried persons	68.2%	18.5%	26.2%	49.2%
Single person	66.5%	9.2%	23.4%	38.5%
HOUSING				
Own	81.0%	11.4%	26.4%	42.4%
Rent	56.2%	16.3%	26.5%	39.7%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE				
Yes	63.9%	21.4%	18.3%	43.3%
No	79.9%	10.9%	28.3%	41.9%
TIME IN COUNTY				
< 5 years	72.3%	13.3%	33.3%	27.7%
5+ years	77.6%	12.5%	26.0%	43.7%

Table 2.15
SAFETY, PREPAREDNESS AND DEVELOPMENT
ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP

Characteristics	Feel safe walking	Crime victim	Prepared for emergencies	Not pleased with land development
GENDER				
Male	46.2%	21.1%	13.0%	29.5%
Female	49.6%	21.1%	11.7%	39.4%
ZIP CODE				
611012	44.2%	23.0%	13.7%	43.6%
61102	45.2%	21.7%	11.5%	38.5%
61103	45.4%	15.6%	15.5%	42.3%
61104	35.4%	26.1%	8.7%	34.6%
61107	65.6%	19.7%	4.8%	25.8%
61108	68.1%	20.2%	6.6%	27.2%
61109	49.3%	20.9%	11.0%	40.9%
61114	94.1%	7.8%	34.0%	30.6%
RACE/ETHNIC				
White	59.5%	21.6%	15.9%	48.1%
Black	54.2%	22.3%	13.5%	45.6%
Hispanic	40.0%	19.9%	7.0%	21.8%
Other	44.4%	16.0%	15.9%	51.8%
AGE GROUP				
18 - 29	47.3%	26.4%	13.1%	41.6%
30 - 44	49.6%	19.2%	9.9%	35.5%
45 - 64	47.9%	17.7%	17.4%	37.7%
EDUCATION				
Less than high school	41.5%	17.2%	9.4%	29.5%
High school or GED	45.9%	23.9%	11.9%	40.7%
Some college	56.1%	22.0%	13.2%	42.2%
Associate/Technical	50.0%	25.0%	9.6%	50.0%
Bachelor's degree	68.9%	28.9%	20.0%	33.3%
Graduate/Professional	74.2%	3.2%	16.7%	40.0%

Table 2.15 (cont'd.)
SAFETY, PREPAREDNESS AND DEVELOPMENT
ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP

Characteristics	Feel safe walking	Crime victim	Prepared for emergencies	Not pleased with land development
HOUSEHOLD				
Married couple	50.9%	19.1%	12.1%	31.8%
Single parent	52.5%	23.6%	12.1%	45.2%
Unmarried persons	43.5%	22.0%	13.5%	35.3%
HOUSING				
Own	55.5%	17.0%	13.8%	32.2%
Rent	45.6%	23.0%	11.3%	40.5%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE				
Yes	47.6%	22.3%	11.2%	39.3%
No	56.6%	18.1%	14.4%	35.3%
TIME IN COUNTY				
< 5 years	46.4%	22.8%	15.6%	28.8%
5+ years	49.8%	20.8%	10.7%	40.4%

Open-Ended Responses About the Community

Respondents were able to express themselves in an open-ended manner for two questions about the community. More than 3,000 answers were written in. The diverse responses required some subjectivity in classifying the categories of the answers. Sometimes interpretation was required. Nevertheless, giving residents such an opportunity provides a good overview as to what the local population is thinking.

Responses have not been organized by residence. Over half of responses (54.1%) in the community sample and nearly all (95.2%) of the school parents live in the Rockford zip codes.

One of the two open-ended questions asked for the “one thing” that residents like about the community. Responses with five or more mentions are shown in Table 2.16. All responses appear in Appendix 3. The leading response (268 persons) named the parks and related organizations especially the Rockford Park District. Community sample respondents were more likely to write in “parks” than were school parents.

Next cited were the “good people” including friends and family, named by 231 persons. The third response with over 200 citations was the small town feel of the community. More than 100 persons wrote in the recreational, event and activity opportunities available in the area.

Table 2.16
 “ONE THING” RESIDENTS LIKE ABOUT THEIR COMMUNITY
 (Five or more mentions)

What Residents Like	Community	School Parents	Total
Parks, District	189	79	268
Good people, friends	112	119	231
Small town feel, quiet	126	99	225
Recreation, activities, events	78	47	125
Safe, low crime	24	60	84
Schools, colleges	19	42	61
Stores, restaurants	33	23	56
Social services, government	23	33	56
Attractive, clean	24	28	52
Location	41	9	50
Affordable	26	24	50
Diversity	12	30	42
Medical care	25	7	32
Churches	19	9	28
Libraries	3	8	11
Rock River	10	0	10
Jobs	4	5	9
Transportation	2	3	5
Nothing/not much	17	103	120

Also praised as the “thing” that is liked were safety, low crime (84), schools and colleges (61), stores and restaurants (56), attractive and clean (52) location meaning proximity to other places (50) and affordable (50).

Community respondents were far more likely to name the parks, locations and medical care. School parents were far apt to name safety, schools, and diversity.

Some 120 individuals, primarily school parents, felt unable to name a positive aspect of their community, instead writing in “nothing,” “not much” or a similar answer.

The responses to the suggestions to improve their community appear in Table 2.17 led by “jobs, better jobs and an improved economy” cited by 292 residents. Second with 211 notations was a desire to reduce crime, violence and guns. School concerns placed third with a variety of areas to address including the administration and policy, Board, students and parents.

The fourth leading response, more youth activities and efforts to help youth received 148 mentions overall, coming mostly from the school parents.

More than 50 persons chose the following areas for improvement: more, better police (96), reduce gangs, drugs (95), working together (85), affordable family activities (83), and improved roads, lights and sidewalks (73). The community sample was more apt to name better schools, better government, lower taxes and improved mental health access. School parents were more likely to name youth activities, drugs/gangs, better police, family activities, community cleanup, job retraining, less delinquency and discrimination.

Table 2.17
 “ONE THING” RESIDENTS WANT TO MAKE COMMUNITY BETTER
 (Five or more mentions)

Area for Improvement	Community	School Parents	Total
Jobs, better jobs, improve economy	151	141	292
Reduce crime, violence guns	96	115	211
Better schools, Board, parent involvement	104	65	169
More youth activities, help	27	121	148
More, better police enforcement	33	63	96
Drugs, gang, reduction	35	60	95
Unity, work together	35	50	85
Family affordable activities	17	66	83
Improved roads, lights, sidewalks	33	40	73
Affordable health care	27	19	46
Clean up, improve looks	12	34	46
More family help, social services	6	27	33
Job retraining, placement, counseling	13	19	32
Parenting education, involvement	4	26	30
Reduce delinquency	3	26	29
Less discrimination	7	20	27
Better government leaders	19	4	23
Lower taxes, bills, better spending	20	0	20
More parks, playgrounds	0	19	19
More stores	4	14	18
Improved buses, transportation	6	9	15
Affordable housing	10	4	14
Behavioral, mental health access	13	1	14

Table 2.17 (cont'd.)
 “ONE THING” RESIDENTS WANT TO MAKE COMMUNITY BETTER
 (Five or more mentions)

Area for Improvement	Community	School Parents	Total
Information Resource	10	2	12
Better downtown, Riverfront	11	0	11
Parent, grandparent support	1	10	11
Commuter rail	10	0	10
More higher education	6	3	9
Neighborhood watches	4	5	9
Eliminate abandoned homes	3	5	8
Help for homeless families	0	8	8
Hispanic support	0	8	8
Affordable dental	6	1	7
More senior services	7	0	7

Open-Ended Comments

The final survey question asked respondents if they cared to express anything else. Both sample groups wrote about their concerns with the schools (community -11, parents - 17) and police/crime (community - 11, parents - 5). Virtually all commenters call for improvement. Jobs (community - 3, parents - 12) are also cited as a key local need.

Community respondents believe that attention is needed to lower property taxes (10), restrict “illegals” (5), improve government (5) and reduce welfare (5). Help for seniors was also requested for a variety of services.

The school parents described their financial distress (5) and want streets in better conditions (5). Hispanics asked for immigration reform and special help (6).

Both groups indicated problems with health care costs, and desire low cost activities for youth and families.

Several persons were negative about Rockford, saying that they would like to move, were sorry they came here or would urge others not to come.

Verbatim comments appear in Appendix 3.

In 1999, the top community “dislikes” were taxes, schools and safe streets

Chapter 3
HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS AND EXPERIENCES

Introduction

Almost every home experiences difficult situations at some time. This chapter describes some of the situations experienced by area households over the past year, notably those related to four different categories: basic needs, family situations, health care/mental health and discrimination. Most of the named situations were also asked in 1999. Additionally, this chapter reports results for computer/internet access, having a will and child care availability.

Situations Experienced

Survey participants read a listing of 27 situations and could also write in others which they might have experienced in the past year.

For both survey samples, the top four problems experienced were the same, though with far higher prevalence among the school parents. High levels were experienced for financial problems, unemployed, needed dental care but couldn't afford, and emotional problems, depression or anxiety. Also appearing in the top ten of both lists are couldn't afford medical care, needed legal help and unable to get credit or mortgage.

Table 3.1
TOP TEN SITUATIONS EXPERIENCED BY HOUSEHOLD IN PAST YEAR

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
Situation	Pct.	Situation	Pct.
1. Financial problems, not enough to live on	23.9%	1. Financial problems, not enough to live on	54.8%
2. Unemployed	22.3%	2. Unemployed	46.5%
3. Needed dental care, couldn't afford	21.2%	3. Needed dental care, couldn't afford	37.6%
4. Emotional problems, depression, anxiety	21.2%	4. Emotional problems, depression, anxiety	26.3%
5. Couldn't afford medical care	15.7%	5. Unable to get credit or mortgage	24.5%
6. Couldn't afford prescriptions	15.1%	6. Couldn't afford medical care	23.4%
7. Elderly or disabled person needed outside help or home companion	10.7%	6. Needed legal help	23.4%
8. Age discrimination	8.3%	8. No transportation	21.4%
9. Unable to get credit or mortgage	8.0%	8. Utilities shut off	21.4%
10. Need legal help	7.7%	10. Racial or ethnic discrimination	19.9%

Table 3.1 above shows the top ten situations for each group. In addition, all situations along with the 1999 results appear in Table 3.2.

A comparison of 1999 findings for situations currently experienced compared to the 2010 community sample reveals some very large gains in situations faced, notably a fourfold increase in households with someone unemployed. The need for dental care nearly doubled over the decade.

Results for the parents reveal very high levels for the listed household situations, led by more than half, 54.8%, saying that their financial situation means that they do not have enough to live on. Nearly half (46.5%) of school parents report that someone in their household was unemployed during the past year. One quarter (24.5%) were unable to get credit or a mortgage. More than one-in-five (21.4%) lacked transportation or had their utilities shut off in the past year.

Among health-related situations, unable to afford needed dental care (37.6%) is the clear leader, though substantial proportions also could not afford needed medical care (23.4%) or prescriptions (18.9%). More than one-quarter (26.3%) of school parents report that someone in their home experienced emotional problems, depression or anxiety in the past year.

Though not as extensive, issues were also still relatively common in the community sample including financial problems (23.9%), someone unemployed (22.3%), needed dental care, but couldn't afford (21.2%), emotional problems (21.2%), needed medical care (15.7%) or needed prescription medications (15.1%).

Reported discrimination was not widespread in the community sample, although age discrimination reached 8.3%, just over one-in-ten for older respondents aged 45-64 (10.4%) and 65-74 (10.1%).

Among school parents levels were higher. Of the discrimination types, only racial or ethnic discrimination was widely reported, 19.9% overall, somewhat higher for respondents who are Hispanic (24.6%), other race (23.8%) or Black (21.8%).

Table 3.2
HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS: 2010, 1999

Basic Needs Situations	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		1999 Community Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Difficulty getting or lost government benefits ¹	117	10.9%	304	24.5%	4.4%
Financial problems, not enough to live on	256	23.9%	680	54.8%	15.0%
Without transportation, no car available	54	5.0%	265	21.4%	5.0%
Utilities shut off	24	2.2%	265	21.4%	1.9%
Homeless, evicted with no place to go	10	0.9%	77	6.2%	0.2%
Home too small, overcrowded ²	37	3.5%	216	17.4%	1.2%
Victim of a disaster ³	7	0.7%	24	1.9%	0.7%
Unemployed ⁴	239	22.3%	565	46.5%	5.6%
Unable to get credit or mortgage	85	8.0%	304	24.5%	4.6%
Home foreclosed	12	1.1%	54	4.4%	---

Family Situations	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		1999 Community Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Needed legal help with child support, custody, divorce, debts, or housing	82	7.7%	291	23.4%	4.2%
Serious conflict within family ⁵	71	6.6%	147	11.8%	3.7%
Child or adolescent ran away from home ⁶	4	0.4%	45	3.6%	0.9%
Family member dropped out of high school	17	1.6%	100	8.1%	1.1%
Truancy	10	0.9%	75	6.0%	---
Elderly or disabled person needed outside help or companion in the home.	114	10.7%	72	5.8%	4.1%

1999 wordings when different:

¹Difficult getting government benefits, lost government benefits, were separate questions.

Responses have been combined.

²Home inadequate for family.

³Victim of a natural disaster.

⁴Unemployed for 60 days or more.

⁵Serious conflict within family.

⁶Family member ran away from home.

Table 3.2 (cont'd.)
HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS: 2010, 1999

Health Care/Mental Health Situations	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		1999 Community Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Couldn't afford medical care	168	15.7%	290	23.4%	2.5%
Couldn't afford prescription medicines	162	15.1%	234	18.9%	5.0%
Needed dental care, but couldn't afford	227	21.2%	466	37.6%	11.0%
Alcoholism, drug abuse	39	3.6%	62	5.0%	2.2%
Emotional problems; depression, anxiety	227	21.2%	326	26.3%	14.9%

Discrimination Situations	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		1999 Community Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Racial or ethnic discrimination	49	4.6%	247	19.9%	3.6%
Sex discrimination	20	1.9%	35	2.8%	2.9%
Age discrimination	89	8.3%	53	4.3%	4.7%
Sexual harassment	17	1.6%	42	3.4%	1.4%
Sexual preference discrimination	12	1.1%	29	2.3%	0.7%
Gender discrimination	24	2.2%	34	2.7%	---

Other Situations	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		1999 Community Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
	42	3.9%	36	2.9%	---

Demographic Variations in Household Situations Experienced

The prior analysis featured overall results plus the differences between the community and parent groups. However, sizable differences also exist within the samples.

Table 3.3 reveals that the highest level experienced by District 205 single parents was financial problems which were experienced by more than two-thirds at 69.0%. More than half (57.1%) of the “other race” school parents experienced unemployment in their home.

In addition, more than half (56.4%) of community sample participants receiving financial assistance reported having financial problems in the past year. Nearly half (49.7%) of this financial assistance group also reported a need for dental care which they could not afford.

Table 3.3
SELECTED HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS BY TOP THREE DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE	
Household Situation	Top Three Demographic Groups
Financial problems	Financial assistance (56.4%), renter (45.8%), single parent (45.7%)
Unemployed	Single parent (46.9%), financial assistance (40.5%), renter (34.0%)
Needed dental care	Financial assistance (49.7%), renter (40.3%), unmarried living together (39.1%)
Emotional problems	18-29 (41.2%), single parent (37.0%), financial assistance (33.7%)
Needed medical care	Financial assistance (39.9%), unmarried living together (30.4%), 18-29 (29.4%)
Need prescriptions	Financial assistance (39.3%), single parent (34.6%), black (28.3%)

ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS	
Household Situation	Top Three Demographic Groups
Financial problems	Single parents (69.0%), black (63.3%), some college (62.9%)
Unemployed	Other race (57.1%), black (54.2%), unmarried, living together (54.0%)
Needed dental care	Hispanic (45.5%), male respondent (42.9%), 61102 (42.6%)
Emotional problems	White (37.9%), some college (34.5%), 61104 (33.7%)
Needed medical care	Associate degree (32.1%), male respondent (31.2%), 45-64 (30.2%)
Needed prescriptions	Associate degree (27.5%), 45-64 (26.8%), male respondent (22.8%)

Table 3.4
**SELECTED HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS EXPERIENCED
 WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE BY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Characteristic	Financial Problems	Household Member Unemployed	Needed Medical Care	Needed Dental Care	Emotional Problems	Needed Prescriptions
GENDER						
Male	21.5%	23.2%	13.7%	18.8%	18.8%	12.9%
Female	25.6%	21.7%	16.8%	22.6%	22.6%	16.5%
ZIP CODE						
Boone County	29.2%	22.5%	16.9%	23.6%	16.9%	21.3%
Loves Park/Machesney Park	36.4%	27.3%	23.0%	27.3%	22.4%	18.8%
Rockton/Roscoe/S. Beloit	14.0%	20.6%	8.1%	14.0%	21.3%	5.9%
Western Winnebago County	11.1%	15.6%	11.1%	17.8%	13.3%	8.9%
61101	37.5%	23.2%	19.6%	17.9%	28.6%	25.0%
61102	28.9%	31.6%	15.8%	28.9%	26.3%	23.7%
61103	24.4%	19.2%	15.4%	25.6%	17.9%	12.8%
61104	34.9%	32.6%	25.6%	46.5%	30.2%	23.3%
61107	19.0%	19.0%	10.6%	14.1%	19.7%	11.3%
61108	18.1%	23.8%	16.2%	20.0%	19.0%	13.3%
61109	23.9%	23.9%	19.4%	17.9%	28.4%	19.4%
61114	14.1%	12.5%	9.4%	17.2%	18.8%	12.5%
RACE/ETHNIC						
White	23.2%	21.4%	14.7%	19.8%	20.7%	13.8%
Black	36.7%	33.3%	25.0%	35.0%	18.3%	28.3%
AGE GROUP						
18 - 29	43.1%	33.3%	29.4%	37.3%	41.2%	21.6%
30 - 44	33.1%	25.5%	20.4%	22.3%	31.8%	19.1%
45 - 64	26.9%	31.7%	20.5%	25.7%	22.5%	19.6%
65 - 74	16.9%	9.5%	7.9%	14.8%	16.4%	9.0%
75+	9.6%	2.5%	1.9%	8.9%	5.7%	3.2%

Table 3.4 (cont'd.)
SELECTED HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS EXPERIENCED
WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE BY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	Financial Problems	Household Member Unemployed	Needed Medical Care	Needed Dental Care	Emotional Problems	Needed Prescriptions
EDUCATION						
Less than high school	35.9%	30.8%	23.1%	35.9%	30.8%	20.5%
High school or GED	28.9%	23.1%	18.7%	30.2%	18.2%	19.1%
Some college	35.4%	28.7%	21.9%	28.3%	28.3%	20.7%
Associate/Technical	28.1%	28.8%	21.6%	25.9%	23.7%	21.6%
Bachelor's degree	13.0%	16.6%	9.4%	8.5%	17.0%	7.2%
Graduate/Professional	9.8%	13.3%	5.2%	9.2%	16.2%	5.2%
HOUSEHOLD						
Married couple	17.4%	21.0%	12.6%	15.8%	18.4%	11.5%
Single parent	45.7%	46.9%	28.4%	38.3%	37.0%	34.6%
Unmarried persons	34.8%	33.3%	30.4%	39.1%	33.3%	23.2%
Single person	28.2%	11.9%	12.8%	23.3%	19.8%	11.5%
HOUSING						
Own	20.0%	19.9%	13.6%	17.6%	20.2%	12.9%
Rent	45.8%	34.0%	27.8%	40.3%	29.9%	25.7%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE						
Yes	56.4%	40.5%	39.9%	49.7%	33.7%	39.3%
No	17.3%	18.7%	11.1%	15.1%	18.5%	10.2%
TIME IN COUNTY						
< 5 years	32.6%	30.2%	16.3%	22.1%	26.7%	14.0%
5+ years	23.1%	21.2%	15.7%	21.0%	20.9%	15.0%

Table 3.5
**SELECTED HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS EXPERIENCED
 ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS BY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Characteristic	Financial Problems	Household Member Unemployed	Needed Medical Care	Needed Dental Care	Emotional Problems	Needed Prescriptions
GENDER						
Male	39.7%	40.2%	31.2%	42.9%	18.5%	22.8%
Female	57.6%	46.9%	22.0%	36.6%	28.2%	18.3%
ZIP CODE						
61101	60.9%	47.6%	25.8%	35.2%	27.5%	22.3%
61102	55.7%	48.1%	27.5%	42.6%	20.3%	18.9%
61103	56.6%	42.4%	19.2%	29.3%	32.3%	19.2%
61104	62.6%	43.2%	20.5%	38.4%	33.7%	20.5%
61107	45.3%	46.9%	25.0%	37.5%	18.8%	14.1%
61108	55.2%	43.8%	28.1%	41.7%	24.0%	20.8%
61109	52.5%	51.9%	20.3%	39.2%	32.3%	16.5%
61114	19.2%	19.2%	9.6%	23.1%	21.2%	11.5%
RACE/ETHNIC						
White	56.1%	43.9%	22.7%	35.6%	37.9%	18.9%
Black	63.3%	54.2%	16.7%	29.4%	27.5%	16.7%
Hispanic	45.3%	38.1%	28.6%	45.5%	18.7%	20.2%
Other	70.2%	57.1%	26.2%	39.3%	32.1%	21.4%
AGE GROUP						
18 - 29	59.5%	50.9%	23.0%	36.2%	20.9%	16.9%
30 - 44	54.2%	43.5%	22.5%	37.8%	29.4%	18.0%
45 - 64	25.5%	45.6%	30.2%	39.6%	24.8%	26.8%
EDUCATION						
Less than high school	56.7%	42.0%	25.3%	42.0%	23.5%	20.1%
High school or GED	52.6%	50.0%	21.7%	36.9%	25.4%	17.7%
Some college	62.9%	52.3%	22.0%	38.3%	34.5%	16.7%
Associate/Technical	57.8%	41.3%	32.1%	36.7%	27.5%	27.5%
Bachelor's degree	37.0%	26.1%	13.0%	19.6%	28.3%	17.4%
Graduate/Professional	38.7%	32.3%	12.9%	29.0%	9.7%	16.1%

Table 3.5 (cont'd.)
**SELECTED HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS EXPERIENCED
 ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS BY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**

Characteristic	Financial Problems	Household Member Unemployed	Needed Medical Care	Needed Dental Care	Emotional Problems	Needed Prescriptions
HOUSEHOLD						
Married couple	45.2%	39.8%	24.6%	38.6%	23.4%	19.0%
Single parent	69.0%	53.2%	20.6%	35.5%	30.5%	18.0%
Unmarried persons	55.6%	54.0%	24.2%	38.9%	25.8%	20.7%
HOUSING						
Own	45.5%	37.3%	22.7%	33.6%	22.9%	16.1%
Rent	60.7%	50.6%	22.2%	39.5%	28.7%	19.2%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE						
Yes	61.7%	50.1%	23.1%	38.6%	29.8%	18.9%
No	37.0%	34.2%	24.3%	34.2%	18.5%	18.8%
TIME IN COUNTY						
< 5 years	54.1%	52.4%	18.6%	34.2%	23.8%	12.6%
5+ years	55.9%	44.5%	24.1%	38.4%	27.7%	20.1%

Reasons for Not Receiving Help

As a follow-up to indicating household situations that they experienced, respondents were asked whether anyone in their home needed help, but did not receive that help and what reasons were responsible for the failure to get help. Fourteen possible reasons were listed along with the opportunity to write in other reasons for help not being received.

By far, two reasons dominated those explaining the failure to receive help. These were “didn’t know where to find or learn about services” - community (21.1%), parents (29.9%) and “not eligible for services - community (22.3%) and parents (28.1%).

Several other reasons were also cited as barriers to help by District 205 school parents - could not afford fees (16.6%), no service available (16.3%), no transportation (13.2%) and hours not convenient (12.6%). Fewer barriers were named by the community sample, but “could not afford fees” was cited by 12.6%.

In 1999, the community sample gave “didn’t know where to find or learn about services (13.4%) and “not eligible for services” (12.7%) as the leading reason for not having gotten help. 2010 saw a considerable increase in not being able to find out about services.

Table 3.6
REASONS FOR NOT RECEIVING HELP WHEN NEEDED: 2010, 1999

Situation	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		1999 Percent
	Number	Percent ¹	Number	Percent ¹	
Concern about privacy	51	7.1%	91	8.0%	8.1%
Didn't know where to find or learn about services	151	21.1%	338	29.9%	13.4%
No service available	44	6.1%	185	16.3%	4.4%
Prior bad experience with agency	35	4.9%	88	7.8%	2.6%
Could not get child care	11	1.5%	88	7.8%	1.0%
Discriminated against	23	3.2%	81	7.2%	2.0%
Lacked handicapped access	18	2.5%	30	2.7%	1.5%
No transportation, could not get there	23	3.2%	149	13.2%	3.8%
Hours not convenient	45	6.3%	143	12.6%	3.6%
Language was a barrier	8	1.1%	102	9.0%	0.6%
Paperwork too great	47	6.6%	61	5.4%	2.6%
Wait for service too long	59	8.2%	153	13.5%	4.3%
Could not afford fees	90	12.6%	188	16.6%	7.9%
Not eligible for services	160	22.3%	318	28.1%	12.7%
Other	21	2.9%	44	3.9%	0.2%

¹Percent of households who needed, but did not receive help.

Employment Status

In the course of learning about the lives and needs of Boone and Winnebago County households, some elements of employment were obtained from the survey questionnaire.

Respondents first indicated the working status for up to two adults in the home. This question provided the opportunity to find out how many working persons have multiple or part-time positions.

In the community sample, almost 30% of the adults were retired as well as another 10% who were not seeking employment. As Table 3.7 reveals, 7.2% are unemployed and looking for work while 10.4% are employed part-time or seasonally. Four in ten adults work full time at one job, while 2.9% work two or more jobs.

Table 3.7
EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF ADULTS

Respondent Employment Status	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Self-employed full-time	131	7.1%	110	5.8%
Work a full-time job only	603	32.8%	727	38.0%
Work a part-time job only	165	9.0%	205	10.7%
Work two or more jobs	54	2.9%	51	2.7%
Work seasonally or part of the year	26	1.4%	62	3.2%
Unemployed, looking for work	133	7.2%	342	17.9%
A homemaker	60	3.3%	205	10.7%
A student	8	0.4%	37	1.9%
Retired	547	29.7%	24	1.3%
Disabled	50	2.7%	66	3.5%
Not employed	31	1.7%	78	4.1%
Other	33	1.8%	5	0.3%
Total	1,841	100.0%	1,912	100.0%

The school parent group included higher levels of persons unemployed, looking for work (17.9%) and homemakers (10.7%). Part-time or seasonal workers (13.9%) and those with multiple jobs (2.7%) were fairly similar to the community sample.

Work Location

Information was also gathered on the work locations for employed respondents as shown in Table 3.8.

The school parents' work settings are strongly centralized within the City of Rockford where five of six (83.9%) are employed. An additional 5.4% work elsewhere in Winnebago County with 3.0% in Boone County.

Community responses show the primary workplaces to be the City of Rockford (63.7%), other Winnebago County (16.7%), and Boone County (6.6%). Employed in the Chicago area are 3.8% with 2.6% venturing to Wisconsin. Results include residents of both counties combined.

Among Boone County residents, primary work locations include Boone County (40.3%), Winnebago County (38.7%) and the Chicago area (38.7%).

Table 3.8
PRIMARY WORK LOCATION¹

Primary Work Location	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
City of Rockford	423	63.7%	732	83.0%
Winnebago County other than Rockford	111	16.7%	47	5.3%
Boone County	44	6.6%	26	2.9%
City of Chicago or Cook County	10	1.5%	12	1.4%
DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry	15	2.3%	18	2.0%
DeKalb County	4	0.6%	3	0.3%
Ogle County	0	0.0%	10	1.1%
Wisconsin	17	2.6%	5	0.6%
I travel to many locations	38	5.7%	25	2.8%
Other	2	0.3%	4	0.5%
Total	664	100.0%	882	100.0%

¹Of those giving a location

Looking for Work

Extraordinary proportions of homes contained an adult looking for work during the past year, two-thirds (68.3%) of the school parents' homes and one-third of the community sample. When respondents 65+ are excluded, the proportion of community sample households where someone sought work rises to 44.7%.

Table 3.9
DID SOMEONE IN HOUSEHOLD LOOK FOR WORK IN THE PAST YEAR?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes, someone looked for work	357	33.4%	848	68.3%
No, no one looked for work	656	61.3%	337	27.2%
No answer	57	5.3%	56	4.5%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Respondents in homes with job seekers were asked further what factors made looking for a job, getting a job or keeping a job difficult for them or someone in their home seeking work.

Results, shown in Table 3.10, indicate that lack of jobs in the area is perceived as the largest barrier by both the community (64.7%) and school parents (54.2%). Three more factors in both samples

said to impede finding or keeping a job are need for more education or training (community - 29.7%, parents - 38.1%), not having work experience (community - 22.7%, parents - 27.9%) and discrimination (community - 22.4%, parents 17.5%).

Table 3.10
BARRIERS TO FINDING OR KEEPING A JOB

Job Barrier	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Not having work experience	81	22.7%	237	27.9%
Need more education, training	106	29.7%	323	38.1%
Not having child care	18	5.0%	211	24.9%
Lack of transportation, vehicle	32	9.0%	225	26.5%
Difficulties with English	8	2.2%	163	19.2%
Physical disability	33	9.2%	51	6.0%
Discrimination (age, race, gender, other)	80	22.4%	148	17.5%
Mental, behavioral problem	16	4.5%	26	3.1%
Lack of jobs which are nearby	231	64.7%	460	54.2%
Drug or alcohol problem	5	1.4%	22	2.6%
Criminal record	14	3.9%	127	15.0%
Lack proper clothes for an interview	4	1.1%	75	8.8%
Other	47	13.2%	73	8.6%

Four factors are also reported to have significant effects on the job search for just the parent group - lack of child care (24.9%), lack of transportation (26.5%), difficulties with English (19.2%) and criminal record (15.0%).

Community Activities

This section delves into the lives of survey respondents - their activities, money management, computer access, child care and will. The analysis looks at differences between the samples as well as variations among demographic groups.

Two questions concerning activities were asked in the survey, one dealing with local events or attractions and another assessing levels of volunteering. The first asked whether the respondent went to a local event or attraction such as a concert or play, museum, sports, parade, fireworks, park, movie, libraries or community center in the past year.

Table 3.11
DID RESPONDENT GO TO A
LOCAL EVENT OR ATTRACTION IN THE PAST YEAR?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	878	82.1%	891	71.8%
Not sure	2	0.2%	28	2.3%
No	130	12.2%	258	20.8%
No answer	60	5.6%	64	5.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Results indicate that most respondents did visit a community site or attend an event or attraction over the past year. However, Rockford District 205 parents (71.8%) were less likely to partake of community opportunities than the community sample (82.1%). Variations within the samples were small.

The current question is more inclusive than asked in 1999 when specific locations/events were shown. Involvement included concert or play (50.6%), museum (26.7%), high school or college sports (28.4%), professional sports (20.0%), community event (48.6%), neighborhood park (64.0%), state park (41.8%), movie (55.4%), library (52.8%) and community center (17.0%).

A second “involvement” question inquired as to whether the respondent or anyone else in their home volunteered for a community agency, organization or church. Survey results indicated that the level of volunteering in the community sample (63.5%) was double that of the school parents (31.3%).

Table 3.12
DID HOUSEHOLD MEMBER VOLUNTEER IN THE PAST YEAR?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	679	63.5%	388	31.3%
Not sure	11	1.0%	62	5.0%
No	315	29.4%	733	59.1%
No answer	65	6.1%	58	4.7%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Table 3.13, shows that some variation exists in the level of volunteering. Well educated persons and residents of NE Rockford are most likely to volunteer, while the less educated and renters are less likely to have volunteered.

Table 3.13
HIGHEST AND LOWEST VOLUNTEERING
BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample				Rockford District 205 Parents			
High		Low		High		Low	
Group	Pct.	Group	Pct.	Group	Pct.	Group	Pct.
61114	91.9%	< HS Education	42.4%	Grad/Prof Education	77.4%	< HS	19.4%
Grad/Prof Education	88.8%	HS/GED	48.8%	61114	72.0%	Hispanic	22.7%
Bachelor's Education	79.2%	Renter	50.4%	Bachelor's Education	50.0%	61107	24.6%
61107	75.9%	Unmarried	55.4%	61101	41.8%	61108	24.7%
W. Winn.	75.6%	61109	55.9%	White	40.8%	Renter	29.5%

In 1999, the volunteering questions were more specific indicating whether the proportion having household members participating were helping with fund-raising or a special event (35.0%), a person in need (33.8%), serving on a board or committee (25.1%) or working with kids (24.0%).

Money and Debt Management

Four questions were asked in the 2010 household survey about money management, all similar to those posed about the topic in 1999.

While most community respondents indicated that they could meet basic needs (85.8%) and manage debt (77.0%) in the past year, fewer were able to put money away for emergencies (49.7%) or save for the future (44.3%). Results were quite similar to 1999, although households savings for the future dropped by 5.3%.

Table 3.14
HOUSEHOLD ABILITY TO MANAGE MONEY

Statement	Winnebago/ Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents	1999 Community
Our household usually had enough money for basic needs like food, clothing. ¹	85.8%	57.0%	83.4%
Our household was able to keep debt under control, manage debt.	77.0%	42.1%	79.2%
Our money was able to put money away for emergencies.	49.7%	18.0%	51.2%
Our household was able to save money for the future.	44.3%	12.1%	49.6%

¹Enough money for important needs in 1999. Yes responses shown, others marked no, not sure or no answer.

Controlling money and debt appears to be much more difficult for Rockford School District 205 parents than for the community sample. Only 57.0% of school parents have sufficient money for basic needs and just 42.1% are able to keep debt under control. Far fewer report being able to put money away for emergencies (18.0%) or save money for the future (12.1%).

Internet Access

Computers and the internet provide a major current source of information and communication. A single question explored both access to a computer and locations for internet access.

Table 3.15
INTERNET ACCESS LOCATION

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No computer	168	15.7%	327	26.3%
Home	798	74.6%	675	54.4%
Work	353	33.0%	136	11.0%
Other	62	5.8%	218	17.6%
Library	29	2.7%	86	6.9%
Phone, mobile	16	1.5%	32	2.6%
Relative, friend	10	0.9%	29	2.3%
School, college	3	0.3%	16	1.3%
Employment office	3	0.3%	11	0.9%

Most households would appear to have computer access in that only 15.7% of the community sample and 26.3% of the school parents do not have computer access. Most have a home computer, but others use one at work or at another location.

Broken down in Table 3.16 are those respondents who marked “no computer” broken down by demographic groups represented in the study. Most likely to lack a computer are the following.

Table 3.16
PERCENT HOUSEHOLDS WITH “NO COMPUTER”
BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
< High school	61.5%	< High school	41.0%
75+	34.4%	61104	38.4%
High school	31.1%	61102	34.0%
Single person	30.4%	18 - 29	33.4%
Renter	27.8%	Hispanic	33.1%

Homes without computer access are highest for both samples among those who have not completed high school.

On the other hand, more than 90% of households in the community sample have computers in all these groups: western Winnebago County, Rockton/Roscoe/S. Beloit, 61114, 18-29, 30-44, Bachelor’s, Graduate Degree, married couple and unmarried persons living together.

Wills and Advance Directives

Another question asked survey respondents whether they have a will or other preparation for end of life advance plans. Results show that while over half (57.6%) were able to respond that they do have a will or similar, the level for the school parents (13.6%) is far lower.

Table 3.17
HAVE A WILL OR OTHER ADVANCE DIRECTIVE

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	616	57.6%	169	13.6%
Not sure	34	3.2%	115	9.3%
No	379	35.4%	902	72.7%
No answer	41	3.8%	55	4.4%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

The school parent sample is much younger which may explain some of the variation. Within the community sample, the presence of a will rises with age as follows: 18-29 (16.3%), 30-44 (34.6%), 45-64 (55.2%), 65-74 (82.7%) and 75+ (88.6%). The school parent level is much lower reaching only 25.9% in the 45-64 age group.

Child Care

The survey also asked all households whether they had difficulty finding an affordable child care.

Table 3.18
DIFFICULTY FINDING AFFORDABLE CHILD CARE

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	54	5.0%	319	25.7%
Not sure	73	6.8%	103	8.3%
No	688	64.3%	735	59.2%
No answer	255	23.8%	84	6.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Affirmative responses came from five percent of the community sample, but a much higher 25.7% for the school parents.

When only homes with a child under 13 are considered in the school parent households, the results are not too different - yes (28.2%), not sure (8.6%) and no (63.2%).

Open-Ended Comments

Given the opportunity to write in comments at the end of the survey, difficulties in paying for health care easily was the leading comment (community - 23, parents 4). Dental access problems (community - 7, parents - 1) also were mentioned.

Financial distress, having a hard time “making it” was described by five persons in each group.

Some persons feel that benefits are going to some without real need or lacking a desire to help themselves, while a few respondents say they are not eligible because they are just beyond the eligibility threshold.

Verbatim comments appear in Appendix 3.

Table 3.19
COMPUTER ACCESS, WILL AND CHILD CARE
WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE

Characteristics	No Computer	Have Will	Childcare Difficulty
GENDER			
Male	15.4%	61.3%	5.8%
Female	16.2%	59.6%	7.2%
ZIP CODE			
Boone County	16.9%	58.1%	15.2%
Loves Park/Machesney Park	18.2%	52.5%	5.6%
Rockton/Roscoe/S. Beloit	8.1%	64.9%	4.3%
Western Winnebago County	2.2%	57.8%	2.9%
61101	17.9%	51.0%	13.5%
61102	26.3%	43.2%	6.3%
61103	26.9%	62.0%	3.8%
61104	23.3%	45.0%	15.6%
61107	14.8%	68.3%	1.8%
61108	13.3%	65.3%	8.5%
61109	19.4%	54.0%	8.5%
61114	6.3%	75.8%	3.7%
RACE/ETHNIC			
White	16.1%	62.4%	5.8%
Black	18.3%	41.5%	10.2%
AGE GROUP			
18 - 29	9.8%	16.3%	15.2%
30 - 44	5.1%	34.6%	12.1%
45 - 64	11.3%	55.2%	7.0%
65 - 74	22.2%	82.7%	
75+	34.4%	88.6%	

Table 3.19 (cont'd.)
**COMPUTER ACCESS, WILL AND CHILD CARE
 WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE**

Characteristics	No Computer	Have Will	Childcare Difficulty
EDUCATION			
Less than high school	61.5%	67.6%	4.0%
High school or GED	31.1%	54.7%	5.9%
Some college	13.9%	61.6%	7.9%
Associate/Technical	10.1%	50.0%	9.8%
Bachelor's degree	4.5%	58.6%	8.1%
Graduate/Professional	6.9%	72.9%	2.8%
HOUSEHOLD			
Married couple	9.1%	61.6%	6.9%
Single parent	16.0%	44.2%	20.6%
Unmarried persons	8.7%	43.9%	8.6%
Single person	30.4%	65.4%	0.7%
HOUSING			
Own	13.3%	62.7%	6.5%
Rent	27.8%	47.4%	8.9%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE			
Yes	23.9%	43.6%	16.4%
No	13.9%	62.7%	4.7%
TIME IN COUNTY			
< 5 years	15.1%	48.8%	8.6%
5+ years	15.6%	60.9%	6.5%

Table 3.20
COMPUTER ACCESS, WILL AND CHILD CARE
ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS

Characteristics	No Computer	Have Will	Childcare Difficulty
GENDER			
Male	21.2%	14.6%	22.7%
Female	27.2%	14.2%	28.7%
ZIP CODE			
61101	24.0%	15.4%	5.0%
61102	34.0%	13.0%	9.4%
61103	24.2%	16.7%	7.4%
61104	38.4%	6.6%	11.6%
61107	15.6%	12.9%	6.6%
61108	21.1%	18.5%	9.1%
61109	20.3%	14.3%	9.9%
61114	7.7%	34.0%	6.1%
RACE/ETHNIC			
White	14.0%	20.4%	30.8%
Black	26.1%	19.8%	24.4%
Hispanic	33.1%	6.6%	28.8%
Other	28.6%	12.0%	29.3%
AGE GROUP			
18 - 29	33.4%	13.7%	30.2%
30 - 44	24.2%	11.8%	28.8%
45 - 64	18.8%	25.9%	20.6%
EDUCATION			
Less than high school	41.0%	7.3%	25.8%
High school or GED	28.0%	12.4%	29.1%
Some college	12.5%	18.4%	32.2%
Associate/Technical	14.7%	19.6%	27.6%
Bachelor's degree	6.5%	28.9%	18.2%
Graduate/Professional	16.1%	38.7%	16.7%

Table 3.20 (cont'd.)
 COMPUTER ACCESS, WILL AND CHILD CARE
 ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS

Characteristics	No Computer	Have Will	Childcare Difficulty
HOUSEHOLD			
Married couple	23.4%	14.3%	29.9%
Single parent	29.3%	25.4%	17.2%
Unmarried persons	30.8%	14.6%	28.6%
HOUSING			
Own	18.3%	19.1%	26.4%
Rent	31.8%	11.7%	28.4%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE			
Yes	28.8%	12.9%	29.1%
No	20.5%	20.3%	24.2%
TIME IN COUNTY			
< 5 years	22.1%	17.6%	27.1%
5+ years	27.5%	13.5%	27.8%

Chapter 4 HEALTH STATUS

Introduction

In one segment of the survey, respondents were asked to indicate whether household members by age group have been told by a health professional that they have each of 14 diseases or conditions. Prevalence was then calculated for each age group.

Overall Prevalence of Diseases and Conditions

Table 4.1 and 4.2 reveal disease prevalence for the community and parent samples. Most households reported at least one disease or condition, 84.2% (community) and 73.0% (parents). The community sample is “older” than the “parent” sample.

For the community sample, the leading diseases/conditions across all age groups are hypertension (23.0%), high cholesterol (18.4%), arthritis or rheumatism (16.6%), and chronic back pain (12.4%). For the parent households, arthritis/rheumatism (13.5%) and asthma (10.0%) lead.

Patterns are far more revealing when arrayed by age group. For children 0-17, the clear leaders are asthma and ADD/ADHD. For persons 18-44, both samples include asthma, chronic back pain, high cholesterol and hypertension. Persons in the community sample aged 18-44 also includes ADD/ADHD as a leader while the school parent households 18-44 includes arthritis/rheumatism in the top five.

Prevalence levels escalate in the 45-64 age groups. Hypertension leads both groups easily - community (29.0%), parents (27.4%). High cholesterol, arthritis/rheumatism, chronic back pain and diabetes appear in the top five for both groups - all over ten percent.

Among persons 65+, hypertension is very common - community (44.2%), parents (58.7%). Diabetes (55.6%) also affects half of the elderly in the school parent homes. High levels are also evident of high cholesterol, heart disease, arthritis/rheumatism and chronic back pain in the community sample.

A similar question was not asked in 1999.

Table 4.1
TOP FIVE DISEASES/CONDITIONS
BY AGE GROUP

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample			Rockford District 205 Parents		
Disease or Condition			Disease or Condition		
Rank	Age Group 0 - 17	Pct.	Rank	Age Group 0 - 17	Pct.
1.	Asthma	8.3%	1.	Asthma	12.3%
2.	ADD/ADHD	7.1%	2.	ADD/ADHD	7.0%
3.	Chronic bronchitis, emphysema, COPD, respiratory	2.4%	3.	Autism Spectrum Disorder	0.7%
4.	High cholesterol	2.4%	4.	Chronic digestive or stomach disorders, GERD	0.7%
5.	High blood pressure, hypertension	2.2%	5.	High blood pressure, hypertension	0.6%
Age Group 18 - 44			Age Group 18 - 44		
1.	Asthma	10.2%	1.	High blood pressure, hypertension	6.7%
2.	Chronic back pain or disc disorders	8.6%	2.	Asthma	6.6%
3.	ADD/ADHD	7.9%	3.	Chronic back pain or disc disorders	5.7%
4.	High cholesterol	7.1%	4.	Arthritis or rheumatism	4.3%
5.	High blood pressure, hypertension	6.1%	4.	High cholesterol	4.3%
Age Group 45 - 64			Age Group 45 - 64		
1.	High blood pressure, hypertension	29.0%	1.	High blood pressure, hypertension	27.4%
2.	High cholesterol	24.9%	2.	High cholesterol	19.9%
3.	Arthritis or rheumatism	18.9%	3.	Diabetes	19.4%
3.	Chronic back pain or disc disorders	15.9%	3.	Arthritis or rheumatism	16.3%
5.	Diabetes	10.3%	5.	Chronic back pain or disc disorders	11.4%
Age Group 65+			Age Group 65+		
1.	High blood pressure, hypertension	44.2%	1.	High blood pressure, hypertension	58.7%
2.	Arthritis or rheumatism	36.3%	2.	Diabetes	55.6%
3.	High cholesterol	30.2%	3.	High cholesterol	34.9%
4.	Cardiovascular or heart disease	20.5%	4.	Arthritis or rheumatism	25.4%
5.	Chronic back pain or disc disorders	18.1%	4.	Cardiovascular or heart disease	25.4%

Table 4.2
 ROCKFORD HEALTHY COMMUNITY SURVEY 2010
 DISEASE OR CONDITION BY AGE GROUP
 WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE

Disease or Condition	Age Group				Total
	0-17	18-44	45-64	65+	
ADD/ADHD	7.1%	7.9%	1.9%	1.1%	4.0%
Alzheimer's, dementia, severe memory impairment	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	5.0%	1.4%
Arthritis or rheumatism	0.5%	3.6%	18.9%	36.3%	16.6%
Asthma	8.3%	10.2%	7.3%	6.6%	8.0%
Autism Spectrum Disorder	1.5%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
Cancer, malignant neoplasms	0.7%	1.8%	5.5%	8.5%	4.6%
Chronic back pain or disc disorders	2.0%	8.6%	15.9%	18.1%	12.4%
Chronic bronchitis, emphysema, COPD, respiratory	2.4%	1.5%	4.5%	7.7%	4.2%
Chronic digestive or stomach disorders, GERD	2.0%	4.5%	9.0%	9.3%	6.8%
Diabetes	1.5%	3.8%	10.3%	16.8%	8.9%
Cardiovascular or heart disease	0.5%	1.2%	6.1%	20.5%	7.6%
High blood pressure, hypertension	2.2%	6.1%	29.0%	44.2%	23.0%
High cholesterol	2.4%	7.1%	24.9%	30.2%	18.4%
Osteoporosis	0.2%	0.7%	5.5%	14.7%	5.8%
No one has any of these					15.8%

¹Population in survey by age group: 0-17 (410), 18-29 (260), 30-44 (346), 45-64 (914), 65-74 (345), 75+ (280), Total (2,592).

Table 4.3
 ROCKFORD HEALTHY COMMUNITY SURVEY 2010
 DISEASE OR CONDITION BY AGE GROUP
 ROCKFORD DISTRICT 205 PARENTS

Disease or Condition	Age Group				Total
	0-17	18-44	45-64	65+	
ADD/ADHD	7.0%	1.0%	0.7%	0.0%	4.2%
Alzheimer's, dementia, severe memory impairment	0.0%	0.5%	0.7%	11.1%	0.4%
Arthritis or rheumatism	0.4%	4.3%	16.3%	25.4%	13.5%
Asthma	12.3%	6.6%	11.2%	11.1%	10.0%
Autism Spectrum Disorder	0.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
Cancer, malignant neoplasms	0.1%	1.1%	3.4%	17.5%	0.9%
Chronic back pain or disc disorders	0.3%	5.7%	11.4%	15.9%	3.4%
Chronic bronchitis, emphysema, COPD, respiratory	0.5%	1.7%	7.0%	12.7%	1.6%
Chronic digestive or stomach disorders, GERD	0.7%	2.3%	5.8%	6.3%	1.8%
Diabetes	0.3%	4.0%	19.4%	55.6%	3.7%
Cardiovascular or heart disease	0.0%	1.3%	4.9%	25.4%	1.1%
High blood pressure, hypertension	0.6%	6.7%	27.4%	58.7%	5.5%
High cholesterol	0.4%	4.3%	19.9%	34.9%	3.6%
Osteoporosis	0.1%	0.5%	4.9%	6.3%	0.6%
No one has any of these					27.0%

¹Population in survey by age group: 0-17 (4,146), 18-29 (580), 30-44 (797), 45-64 (263), 65-74 (82), 75+ (0), Total (5,879).

Chapter 5
EXERCISE, ACTIVITY AND WEIGHT

Introduction

This chapter presents the results for questions relative to physical activity and weight. Respondents provided information regarding their activity level as well as height, weight and self judgment of their weight status.

Exercise

The first question posed in this section asked respondents about the amount and frequency of exercise as follows - "During the past 30 days, other than your regular job, did you participate in any physical activities or exercise such as running, aerobics, golf, gardening or walking for exercise?"

Table 5.1
REGULAR EXERCISE IN THE PAST THIRTY DAYS

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	784	73.3%	615	49.6%
No/Not sure	233	21.8%	551	44.4%
No answer	53	5.0%	75	6.0%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Responses indicated that while almost three-quarters (73.3%) of the community sample reported getting regular exercise, only half (49.6%) of the school parents did so. The question was not asked in 1999.

A follow-up question sought to determine the extent of that exercise by asking how many days in a week the respondent engages in "activities that cause at least small increases in breathing or heart rate."

For both of the survey samples, those persons who exercise vigorously do so about half the days of the week - 3.7 (community) and 3.4 (school parents). About one-in-ten who said they exercise did not respond by providing the number of days with vigorous exercise.

Table 5.2
STRENUOUS ACTIVITY DAYS PER WEEK
AMONG THOSE WHO EXERCISE

Number of Days	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	39	36
2	114	103
3	188	145
4	116	93
5	125	98
6	57	14
7	84	57
No answer	61	69
Total	784	615
Median days	3.7	3.4

Height, Weight and BMI

Survey participants were asked their height and weight. Not all respondents chose to respond with many school parents not completing these questions. For the community sample, 8.5% did not give their height while 10.0% did not complete their weight. For the school parents, 23.0% did not choose to fill in their height and 22.2% did not complete their weight, similar for both genders. Relative to the remainder of the survey, non-completion was extremely high for the height/weight questions.

For those survey participants who did answer the height and weight questions, the averages were as follows:

Table 5.3
AVERAGE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

Sample	Height	Weight
Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	66.6 inches	181.5 pounds
Rockford District 205 Parents	64.7 inches	176.1 pounds

The full range of response for height and weight may be found in Appendix 3 though these figures provide a profile for those willing to offer their personal information.

Body mass index (BMI) is a commonly used measure of body fat based on height and weight for adults. Persons considered obese or overweight according to the BMI chart are at elevated risk for heart disease and other cardiovascular conditions.

When the individual height/weight responses are applied to the BMI chart, the results (for those who provided both figures) were as shown in Table 5.4.

Table 5.4
BODY MASS INDEX EVALUATION

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Obese	330	34.3%	373	40.3%
Overweight	330	34.3%	319	34.4%
Normal	302	31.4%	234	25.3%
Total	962	100.0%	926	100.0%

Individuals were also asked to evaluate their weight with the resulting responses shown below.

Table 5.5
SELF EVALUATION OF HEIGHT/WEIGHT

Status	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Obese	93	8.7%	101	8.1%
Overweight	467	43.6%	500	40.3%
Normal ¹	412	38.5%	421	33.9%
Not sure	27	2.5%	135	10.9%
No answer	71	6.6%	84	6.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

¹Normal is a combination of “underweight” and “about the right weight.”

Self appraisal of weight appropriateness reveals a far more favorable view than shown by the BMI figures, especially for the proportion believing that they are obese. For the community sample, 8.7% view themselves as obese, 43.6% overweight and 38.5% normal. An additional 9.1% were not sure or did not answer. The school parents saw themselves as obese - 8.1%, overweight 40.3% and normal 33.9% with 17.7% unsure or not answering.

Whereas the BMI analysis showed higher levels of obesity and overweight for the school parents, than the community, the parents own appraisal was more favorable than the community sample. Especially notable is the obesity difference. The BMI chart shows 40.3% of school parents as obese whereas only 8.1% placed themselves in that category. Actual obesity is likely greater because nearly one-quarter of the parents did not desire to provide the necessary information for the calculation.

Chapter 6
MENTAL HEALTH

Introduction

Emotional problems commonly affect area residents causing a range of effects ranging from difficulties in coping with daily living to disability. This section of the survey investigated several aspects of mental health including isolation, need for professional help, use of professional help, support groups, suicide and interference with usual activities.

Isolation

Most individuals require social interaction and a confidant with whom they may share concerns. The question posed sought to find out whether respondents feel isolated because they do not have a friend, family member or other trusted person to talk with regularly or share concerns.

Table 6.1
WHETHER RESPONDENT FELT ISOLATED

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes, I feel isolated	125	11.7%	236	19.0%
No, I do not feel isolated	867	81.0%	948	76.4%
No answer	78	7.3%	57	4.6%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

A considerable number of survey respondents did report feeling isolated, 11.7% of the community sample and 19.0% of the school parents.

Of further value is to learn which groups feel most isolated. The proportions are shown in Table 6.2 for all groups.

Table 6.2
TOP GROUPS: RESPONDENTS WHO FEEL ISOLATED

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
Group	Percent	Group	Percent
18 - 29	22.9%	Graduate/professional	30.0%
New movers	22.2%	Other race	28.0%
30 - 44	21.7%	61104	26.8%
Financial assistance	20.1%	New movers	26.4%
61104	19.5%	61107	25.4%

The “isolation” results reveal two groups appearing in the top five for both surveys, new movers and residents of 61104. Otherwise, some differences appear.

In the community sample, elevated isolation was revealed in young adults 18-29 (22.9%), new movers to the area in the last five years (22.2%), persons 30-44 (21.7%), individuals receiving financial assistance (20.1%) and residents of 61104 (19.5%). Parents with a graduate degree (30.0%) topped the 205 parent list followed by persons of “other race” (28.0%) primarily Asian and multi-racial, residents of 61104 (26.8%) and 61107 (25.4%) and new movers (26.4%).

Professional Help

These questions first asked whether the respondent “thought about seeking professional help for any personal or emotional problems” and then inquired whether they actually sought professional help.

Table 6.3
CONSIDERED SEEKING PROFESSIONAL HELP
FOR PERSONAL OR EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		Community 1999
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Yes	224	20.9%	336	27.1%	18.9%
No	798	74.6%	848	68.3%	77.9%
No answer	48	4.5%	57	4.6%	3.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%	100.0%

Table 6.3 results show that 20.9% of community respondents considered obtaining help along with 27.1% of the school parents. In the 1999 community survey, 18.9% considered help.

The follow-up question sought to determine whether those who considered getting help actually did so.

Table 6.4
WHETHER PERSONS CONSIDERING HELP
ACTUALLY SOUGHT PROFESSIONAL HELP FOR PROBLEMS

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		Community 1999
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Yes	118	52.7%	147	43.8%	51.7%
No	87	38.8%	148	44.0%	44.8%
No answer	19	8.5%	41	12.2%	3.5%
Total	224	100.0%	336	100.0%	100.0%

In general, about half of those who think about obtaining help for problems actually do so, 52.7% of the community sample and 43.8% of the school parents. A similar figure - 51.7% - was found in the 1999 community survey.

Below are the groups within each sample which considered seeking help at the highest levels. Also shown for each is the percent who actually sought help.

Table 6.5
HIGHEST GROUPS - CONSIDERED HELP (ACTUALLY SOUGHT HELP)

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample			Rockford District 205 Parents		
Group	Percent		Group	Percent	
61104	39.0%	(75.0%)	61107	40.6%	(66.7%)
Unmarried/living together	37.3%	(37.5%)	White	38.6%	(48.4%)
18 - 29	36.0%	(36.8%)	Some college	37.1%	(42.0%)
Financial assistance	34.8%	(58.3%)	61103	35.1%	(35.5%)
Single parent	32.5%	(63.4%)	Financial assistance	33.5%	(47.2%)

The community sample is led by residents of 61104, 39.0% of whom considered help in the past year. Unmarried persons living together (37.3%) and 18-29 (36.0%) were next in considering counseling, although actual help seeking was only around 37%. Next in considering help were those with financial assistance (34.8%) and single parents (32.5%).

Among 205 school parents who “thought about seeking professional help for personal or emotional problems,” the highest levels were for 61107 (40.6%), some college (37.1%), white (38.6%), 61103 (35.1%) and those with financial assistance (33.5%). The lowest level of follow-up to actually seek help was among residents of 61103 at 35.5%.

Table 6.6
ISOLATION, CONSIDERING AND SEEKING CARE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

Characteristic	Isolated		Considered Help		Actually Sought Help ¹	
	Winn/Boone Random Sample	Rockford Dist. 205 Parents	Winn/Boone Random Sample	Rockford Dist. 205 Parents	Winn/Boone Random Sample	Rockford Dist. 205 Parents
GENDER						
Male	11.0%	11.7%	17.4%	11.6%	59.6%	61.1%
Female	13.9%	21.3%	24.9%	31.2%	56.6%	48.9%
ZIP CODE						
Boone County	11.9%		25.9%		40.0%	
Loves Park/Machesney Park	19.0%		22.4%		56.3%	
Rockton/Roscoe/S. Beloit	9.4%		19.7%		62.5%	
Western Winnebago County	11.6%		11.1%		0.0%	
61101	13.0%	19.7%	23.6%	26.4%	66.7%	43.1%
61102	5.6%	19.7%	23.7%	20.9%	62.5%	55.1%
61103	15.9%	11.5%	20.0%	35.1%	38.5%	35.5%
61104	19.5%	26.8%	39.0%	29.8%	75.0%	51.1%
61107	7.0%	25.4%	14.9%	40.6%	58.8%	66.7%
61108	11.7%	16.5%	22.2%	29.7%	57.1%	50.0%
61109	18.2%	18.4%	28.8%	30.1%	55.6%	44.2%
61114	6.8%	8.0%	25.4%	23.5%	73.3%	50.0%
RACE/ETHNIC						
White	12.3%	16.5%	22.0%	38.6%	57.7%	48.4%
Black	12.7%	21.9%	19.6%	30.4%	60.0%	41.2%
Hispanic		18.2%		19.7%		62.0%
Other		28.0%		31.3%		59.1%
AGE GROUP						
18 - 29	22.9%	22.5%	36.0%	28.6%	36.8%	42.0%
30 - 44	21.7%	19.4%	32.3%	29.2%	53.3%	51.7%
45 - 64	11.5%	18.0%	25.6%	25.5%	60.0%	58.1%
65 - 74	11.2%	8.3%	8.9%		64.3%	
75+	7.1%		8.7%		70.0%	

¹Percent of those who considered help, then actually sought help.

Table 6.6 (cont'd.)
ISOLATION, CONSIDERING AND SEEKING CARE BY DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

Characteristic	Isolated		Considered Help		Actually Sought Help ¹	
	Winn/Boone Random Sample	Rockford Dist. 205 Parents	Winn/Boone Random Sample	Rockford Dist. 205 Parents	Winn/Boone Random Sample	Rockford Dist. 205 Parents
EDUCATION						
Less than high school	17.6%	22.1%	21.9%	25.0%	42.9%	50.0%
High school or GED	14.2%	17.9%	20.0%	26.2%	52.4%	55.8%
Some college	16.9%	24.1%	27.6%	37.1%	46.0%	42.0%
Associate/Technical	13.7%	12.1%	25.7%	29.6%	34.3%	50.0%
Bachelor's degree	7.7%	8.7%	17.2%	26.1%	65.8%	50.0%
Graduate/Professional	8.3%	30.0%	20.2%	25.8%	70.6%	62.5%
HOUSEHOLD						
Married couple	10.3%	16.7%	19.1%	24.6%	61.5%	58.0%
Single parent	17.3%	21.7%	32.5%	32.4%	56.5%	41.8%
Unmarried persons	18.5%	22.7%	37.3%	31.1%	37.5%	49.1%
Single person	16.5%	18.8%	21.5%	22.2%	63.4%	100.0%
HOUSING						
Own	11.1%	13.7%	20.6%	25.6%	58.3%	52.5%
Rent	19.4%	22.7%	26.7%	29.6%	62.9%	49.1%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE						
Yes	20.1%	21.8%	34.8%	33.5%	58.3%	47.2%
No	10.8%	13.9%	19.3%	14.4%	57.1%	66.7%
TIME IN COUNTY						
< 5 years	22.2%	26.4%	27.7%	26.7%	45.5%	50.9%
5+ years	11.8%	18.1%	21.6%	29.2%	54.5%	50.2%

¹Percent of those who considered help, then actually sought help.

Support Groups Needed

Many individuals or families seek help through support groups composed of individuals facing similar situations. While the Rockford area offers a wide array of support groups, some may not be available or located by those seeking one. A survey question asked whether a support group was needed, but not found.

Table 6.7
SUPPORT GROUP NEEDED, BUT NOT FOUND

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	73	6.8%	45	3.6%
No	859	80.3%	1,087	87.6%
No answer	138	12.9%	109	8.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

In response to this question, 6.8% of the community sample and 3.6% of the school parents indicated needing a support group, but not being able to find one.

Those who responded positively were then asked the nature of support group desired. Table 6.8 combines responses from both groups and shows those categories receiving three or more mentions.

Table 6.8
SPECIFIC SUPPORT GROUP NEEDED,
BUT NOT FOUND

Support Group Needed	Number
Counseling (unspecified)	9
Family (unspecified)	7
Child counseling	7
Grief, widows	6
Substance abuse	5
Depression	4
Autism disorders	3
Persons hit by cars	3

Many persons also wrote in that they could not find a counseling professional who was professional.

Suicide

Respondents were asked whether they had thought about or attempted suicide.

Table 6.9
THOUGHT ABOUT OR ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		Community 1999
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Yes	115	10.7%	104	8.4%	13.9%
No	916	85.6%	1,101	88.7%	82.8%
No answer	39	3.6%	36	2.9%	3.3%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%	100.0%

Among respondents, 10.7% of the community sample and 8.4% of the school parents said that they had considered or attempted suicide which was lower than 13.9% in 1999.

Suicide ideation is strongly related to age in the community sample as in 1999, but not among the school parents because suicidal ideation is higher in the whites than minority population.

Table 6.10
CONSIDERED OR ATTEMPTED SUICIDE
BY AGE GROUP

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents	Community 1999
	Percent	Percent	Percent
18 - 29	20.0%	5.6%	23.1%
30 - 44	14.3%	10.0%	19.6%
45 - 64	12.8%	10.3%	16.2%
65 - 74	5.9%		6.8%
75+	6.3%		4.2%

Those with suicidal ideation were asked whether they had attempted suicide. Table 6.11 reveals that 19.1% of the community respondents those who considered suicide actually attempted the act, 16.3% in the school parents.

Table 6.11
 WHETHER PERSONS WHO CONSIDERED SUICIDE
 ACTUALLY ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Thought about it	89	77.4%	85	81.7%
Actually attempted	22	19.1%	17	16.3%
No answer	4	3.5%	2	1.9%
Total	115	100.0%	104	100.0%

When suicide attempts are compared to the entire sample, 2.1% of the community group and 1.4% of the school parents attempted suicide. The comparable 1999 figure was 1.8%.

Disability

“During the past 30 days, did a mental health problem, substance abuse or developmental disability interfere with doing your work or other usual daily activities?” was asked of survey respondents. Replying that this was the case for them were 6.1% of the community sample and 5.5% of the school parents.

Table 6.12
 MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY
 AFFECTED DAILY ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST THIRTY DAYS

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	65	6.1%	68	5.5%
Not sure	38	3.6%	51	4.1%
No	916	85.6%	1,062	85.6%
No answer	51	4.8%	60	4.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

This question was not asked in 1999.

Those who felt that their condition impacted daily activities also were asked to indicate the number of days affected in the past 30 days.

Table 6.13
**DAYS UNABLE TO PERFORM USUAL ACTIVITIES
 DUE TO MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY**

Number of Days	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
1	4	1
2	6	3
3	5	6
4	2	3
5	5	3
6 - 9	1	2
10 - 14	5	5
15 - 19	4	4
20 - 24	3	5
25+	16	9
No answer	14	27
Total	65	68

Days affected per “month” were an average of 13.9 (community) and 13.5 (parents). If these levels are applied to the entire adult population, the number of affected monthly days in Winnebago and Boone Counties would be approximately 225,000. Given that many of these persons are employed, the effect of the conditions on the workplace would be substantial.

Chapter 7
HEALTH CARE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

Introduction

This chapter presents the results for questions relating to health care including insurance coverage, source of care, access to medical and dental care when needed including barriers to care. In addition, information is reported on the location and types of medical care received outside Winnebago and Boone Counties.

Health Insurance

Several survey questions focused on health insurance coverage in the populations. Participants were first asked if they have health insurance that pays for all or part of their medical care.

Table 7.1
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE
FOR SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	958	89.5%	840	67.7%
Not sure	13	1.2%	43	3.5%
No	83	7.8%	325	26.2%
Don't need	0	0.0%	6	0.5%
No answer	16	1.5%	27	2.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Responses indicate high insurance levels in the community samples, both 2010 (89.5%) and 1999 (92.9%). Lesser coverage appeared evident, however, in the 205 parent group with just two-thirds (67.7%) reporting medical insurance.

Asked about the type of insurance, the 2010 community sample plans primarily included private employer plans (54.9%) and Medicare (34.4%). Results from 1999 were similar with more private and fewer Medicare recipients. In both years, the great majority of those with Medicare also are covered by a supplement.

The parent group exhibited a very different pattern with a strong Medicaid presence. Coverage is highest for Medicaid including Family Care and All Kids (58.6%) followed by private employer medical plans at 29.6%. Medicare was reported by 5.7% although only 1.0% of parents or guardians are 65 or older.

Table 7.2
HEALTH INSURANCE TYPE
FOR SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Type of Health Insurance	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		1999 Community Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Private medical plan from employer	526	54.9%	249	29.6%	65.3%
Private medical - individual plan	31	3.2%	8	1.0%	---
Medicaid/Family Care/All Kids	40	4.2%	492	58.6%	1.3%
Private plan and Family Care/All Kids	4	0.4%	26	3.1%	---
Medicare only	26	2.7%	42	5.0%	1.3%
Medicare, supplement	304	31.7%	6	0.7%	23.2%
Military (VA/CHAMPUS)	8	0.8%	3	0.4%	0.4%
Don't know	4	0.4%	11	1.3%	0.4%
Other	11	1.1%	2	0.2%	5.0%
No answer	4	0.4%	1	0.1%	1.2%
Total	958	100.0%	840	100.0%	100.0%

Further probing revealed the age groups not covered by health insurance. For the 2010 community results, young adults 18-29 were easily the group most lacking coverage at 33.8%. Next highest without medical coverage were those 0-17 (19.0%) and 30-44 (18.5%). In 1999, individuals without insurance were much lower, 6.4% overall versus 13.4% currently though young adults (17.9%) also led other age groups by an appreciable amount.

Table 7.3
PERSONS UNINSURED BY AGE GROUP

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample			Rockford District 205 Parents			1999 Community Percent
	Not Covered	Total Persons	Percent	Not Covered	Total Persons	Percent	
0 - 17	78	410	19.0%	165	3,101	5.3%	5.1%
18 - 29	88	260	33.8%	274	757	36.2%	17.9%
30 - 44	64	346	18.5%	427	1,497	28.5%	6.5%
45 - 64	99	914	10.8%	111	412	26.9%	5.7%
65+	14	625	2.2%	18	63	28.6%	3.3%
Total	343	2,555	13.4%	995	5,830	17.1%	6.4%

Current uninsured is quite high with the school parents, 17.1% overall but with all age groups except children exceed 25% with 18-29 at 36.2%.

Even when a person has health insurance, they often must still pay certain costs themselves. Respondents were asked to indicate how much of a problem these “out-of-pocket” costs area.

Table 7.4
OUT-OF-POCKET IMPACT

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		1999 Community Percent
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
A serious problem	205	19.2%	361	29.1%	9.2%
A problem, but not serious	359	33.6%	336	27.1%	30.4%
Not much of a problem	233	21.8%	221	17.8%	32.7%
Not a problem at all	159	14.9%	198	16.0%	23.9%
No answer	114	10.7%	125	10.1%	3.7%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%	100.0%

Among community sample respondents, nearly one of five (19.2%) calls out-of-pocket costs “serious,” more than double 1999 when the level was 9.2%. For 205 parents, 29.1% say that “out-of-pocket” costs are a serious problem. In addition, another 33.6% (community) and 27.1% (parents) say that these costs are “a problem, but not serious.”

For some demographic groups, “out-of-pocket” expenses pose a serious problem at even higher levels.

Table 7.5
“OUT-OF-POCKET” COSTS
A SERIOUS PROBLEM AT HIGHEST LEVELS

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
Received financial assistance	48.3%	Male	42.4%
Renters	37.1%	45-64	41.9%
Single parent	37.1%	61109	36.8%
< High school education	36.1%	61102	36.7%
61104	35.1%	White	36.4%

Usual Source of Care

Survey recipients were asked whether there is a particular person or place where they usually go when they are sick or need health advice.

Reporting no regular doctor or clinic in the community sample were 7.4%, just slightly elevated from 6.1% in 1999. For school parents, one in ten (9.6%) has no regular care location.

School parents rely strongly on Crusader Clinic (33.6%) in addition to doctor's offices or clinics (33.8%). However, many name urgent care (8.3%) or hospital emergency rooms (7.2%) as their usual location. Community sample results in both 2010 and 1999 revealed four of five using a "traditional" doctor's office or clinic.

Table 7.6
USUAL SOURCE OF CARE

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No , I do not have a regular doctor or clinic for primary medical care	79	7.4%	119	9.6%
or Yes , I <u>usually</u> go to:				
A doctor's office or private clinic	857	80.1%	420	33.8%
The health department	6	0.6%	27	2.2%
Crusader Clinic	47	4.4%	417	33.6%
VA hospital or clinic	14	1.3%	30	2.4%
Urgent immediate care	36	3.4%	103	8.3%
Hospital emergency room	2	0.2%	89	7.2%
Other	4	0.4%	6	0.5%
No answer	25	2.3%	30	2.4%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Table 7.7
USUAL SOURCE OF MEDICAL CARE
WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE BY CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	No regular doctor	Doctor office or clinic	Health Department	Crusader Clinic	VA hospital or clinic	Urgent Care	Hospital ER
GENDER							
Male	9.2%	81.7%	0.2%	3.5%	2.7%	2.0%	0.5%
Female	6.3%	82.9%	0.8%	4.8%	0.3%	4.5%	0.0%
ZIP CODE							
Boone County	9.0%	85.4%	0.0%	2.2%	1.1%	2.2%	0.0%
Loves Park/ Machesney Park	8.9%	84.7%	0.0%	1.9%	1.3%	2.5%	0.6%
Rockton/Roscoe/ S. Beloit	8.1%	84.4%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%	0.0%
Western Winnebago County	7.0%	88.4%	0.0%	0.0%	2.3%	2.3%	0.0%
61101	7.1%	73.2%	1.8%	5.4%	3.6%	7.1%	1.8%
61102	8.3%	69.4%	0.0%	19.4%	0.0%	2.8%	0.0%
61103	2.7%	78.4%	1.4%	12.2%	0.0%	5.4%	0.0%
61104	19.0%	57.1%	2.4%	19.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
61107	7.7%	85.2%	0.0%	1.4%	2.8%	2.8%	0.0%
61108	7.9%	83.2%	2.0%	4.0%	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%
61109	3.0%	82.1%	0.0%	7.5%	3.0%	3.0%	0.0%
61114	3.2%	92.1%	0.0%	1.6%	0.0%	1.6%	0.0%
RACE/ETHNIC							
White	7.2%	84.1%	0.3%	2.8%	1.2%	3.8%	0.2%
Black	8.5%	64.4%	3.4%	18.6%	1.7%	1.7%	0.0%
AGE GROUP							
18 - 29	28.0%	44.0%	6.0%	10.0%	2.0%	10.0%	0.0%
30 - 44	12.8%	75.0%	0.6%	1.9%	0.6%	7.7%	0.0%
45 - 64	6.8%	82.1%	0.4%	6.0%	0.9%	3.2%	0.2%
65 - 74	3.8%	89.2%	0.0%	3.8%	2.2%	1.1%	0.0%
75+	2.0%	94.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	1.3%	0.7%

Table 7.7 (cont'd.)
USUAL SOURCE OF MEDICAL CARE
WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE BY CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	No regular doctor	Doctor office or clinic	Health Department	Crusader Clinic	VA hospital or clinic	Urgent Care	Hospital ER
EDUCATION							
Less than high school	18.4%	65.8%	2.6%	10.5%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%
High school or GED	7.8%	77.0%	0.9%	8.3%	1.4%	4.1%	0.5%
Some college	9.4%	79.1%	0.4%	6.0%	2.6%	2.1%	0.4%
Associate/Technical	7.4%	83.0%	1.5%	3.0%	1.5%	3.0%	0.0%
Bachelor's degree	5.9%	86.8%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	5.9%	0.0%
Graduate/Professional	4.7%	90.1%	0.0%	1.2%	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%
HOUSEHOLD							
Married couple	7.2%	85.5%	0.2%	1.6%	1.1%	3.8%	0.2%
Single parent	3.8%	73.4%	6.3%	11.4%	0.0%	3.8%	1.3%
Unmarried persons	14.5%	73.9%	0.0%	7.2%	0.0%	2.9%	1.4%
Single person	6.8%	80.5%	0.5%	7.7%	2.3%	1.8%	0.5%
HOUSING							
Own	6.7%	85.8%	0.4%	1.6%	1.2%	3.6%	0.2%
Rent	12.9%	60.0%	2.1%	20.0%	2.1%	2.9%	0.0%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE							
Yes	13.8%	61.9%	2.5%	17.5%	2.5%	1.3%	0.0%
No	6.4%	85.9%	0.2%	1.8%	1.2%	4.0%	0.1%
TIME IN COUNTY							
< 5 years	14.3%	66.7%	1.2%	6.0%	2.4%	9.5%	0.0%
5+ years	6.7%	83.7%	0.5%	4.1%	1.3%	3.0%	0.2%

Table 7.8
USUAL SOURCE OF MEDICAL CARE
ROCKFORD DISTRICT 203 PARENTS BY CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	No regular doctor	Doctor office or clinic	Health Department	Crusader Clinic	VA hospital or clinic	Urgent Care	Hospital ER
GENDER							
Male	15.7%	25.4%	1.1%	37.3%	7.6%	7.0%	4.3%
Female	8.7%	36.7%	2.3%	33.9%	1.5%	8.7%	7.9%
ZIP CODE							
61101	10.9%	36.5%	0.9%	31.3%	2.6%	7.8%	9.6%
61102	10.2%	26.0%	2.5%	45.3%	2.8%	7.4%	6.0%
61103	6.1%	38.8%	2.0%	27.6%	4.1%	9.2%	11.2%
61104	10.3%	24.3%	4.9%	39.5%	2.7%	8.6%	9.2%
61107	8.1%	41.9%	4.8%	32.3%	0.0%	6.5%	4.8%
61108	14.6%	33.3%	0.0%	32.3%	3.1%	8.3%	7.3%
61109	6.5%	48.7%	1.3%	28.6%	1.9%	8.4%	3.9%
61114	3.9%	70.6%	0.0%	7.8%	0.0%	13.7%	3.9%
RACE/ETHNIC							
White	10.0%	59.5%	0.8%	12.7%	0.4%	9.3%	6.6%
Black	6.3%	37.1%	1.9%	40.1%	0.3%	6.5%	7.4%
Hispanic	11.7%	19.2%	3.2%	42.8%	6.0%	9.3%	7.3%
Other	13.3%	34.9%	2.4%	27.7%	0.0%	10.8%	10.8%
AGE GROUP							
18 - 29	9.0%	29.8%	1.2%	36.6%	1.9%	11.8%	9.3%
30 - 44	10.6%	35.5%	3.0%	33.5%	2.9%	7.3%	6.9%
45 - 64	6.8%	43.8%	0.7%	33.6%	2.1%	5.5%	6.2%
EDUCATION							
Less than high school	10.3%	18.5%	2.1%	46.2%	4.5%	6.9%	11.1%
High school or GED	10.0%	32.3%	3.5%	35.5%	2.9%	9.1%	5.9%
Some college	8.0%	47.7%	0.8%	27.3%	0.8%	9.1%	6.4%
Associate/Technical	12.1%	45.8%	2.8%	24.3%	0.0%	10.3%	3.7%
Bachelor's degree	8.9%	68.9%	0.0%	6.7%	0.0%	6.7%	8.9%
Graduate/Professional	6.5%	74.2%	0.0%	6.5%	0.0%	12.9%	0.0%

Table 7.8 (cont'd.)
USUAL SOURCE OF MEDICAL CARE
ROCKFORD DISTRICT 203 PARENTS BY CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	No regular doctor	Doctor office or clinic	Health Department	Crusader Clinic	VA hospital or clinic	Urgent Care	Hospital ER
HOUSEHOLD							
Married couple	10.2%	36.4%	1.4%	33.4%	3.7%	8.3%	6.0%
Single parent	8.4%	33.7%	3.3%	35.3%	0.5%	8.4%	10.0%
Unmarried persons	10.0%	32.6%	3.2%	37.4%	3.7%	6.8%	6.3%
HOUSING							
Own	8.3%	46.8%	1.1%	24.4%	3.8%	10.1%	5.1%
Rent	10.2%	29.4%	2.6%	39.3%	1.4%	7.7%	9.0%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE							
Yes	7.4%	31.8%	2.7%	38.6%	1.7%	8.4%	8.8%
No	15.6%	46.2%	1.0%	20.5%	4.5%	8.7%	3.1%
TIME IN COUNTY							
< 5 years	12.1%	29.9%	2.2%	40.3%	2.2%	6.1%	6.9%
5+ years	8.6%	37.1%	2.4%	32.2%	2.5%	9.1%	7.6%

Unable to Get Care

This section of the questionnaire explored whether survey household members had been unable to receive care. As revealed in Table 7.9, in the community sample, more than one-in-five (21.0%) had a household member unable to receive needed medical care and more than one-quarter (26.7%) could not get needed dental care. Levels were even higher within the school parents, 40.9% medical and 43.2% dental.

Table 7.9
HOUSEHOLD MEMBER UNABLE TO RECEIVE CARE IN PAST YEAR

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes, medical	62	5.8%	214	17.2%
Yes, dental	123	11.5%	243	19.6%
Yes, both medical and dental	163	15.2%	293	23.6%
No, able to get needed medical and dental care	642	60.0%	377	30.4%
No answer	80	7.5%	114	9.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

The 1999 question was somewhat different, asking whether the participant or a household member was unable to receive needed physical or mental health care in the past two years. One of ten (10.1%) responded positively in 1999.

Table 7.10
HOUSEHOLD MEMBER UNABLE
TO GET NEEDED CARE AT HIGHEST LEVELS

Winnebago/Boone Random Sample				Rockford District 205 Parents			
Medical		Dental		Medical		Dental	
Financial Assistance.	37.5%	Financial Assistance	47.2%	Single persons	64.3%	61102	58.5%
Unmarried Persons	31.8%	61104	44.8%	< HS Education	53.3%	Hispanic	55.0%
Assoc/Tech Degree	29.8%	Unmarried Persons	37.9%	61104	53.3%	Unmarried Persons	54.4%
< HS Education	27.3%	HS/GED Education	36.6%	Hispanic	52.8%	< HS Education	53.3%
61104	26.4%	Assoc/Tech Degree	35.9%	61102	50.0%	61107	50.0%

For some groups, lack of care was even higher. Most notable in the community sample were individuals receiving financial assistance. However, the highest level for school parents were different - single persons for medical and residents of 61102 for dental.

Further detail was obtained as to why care was not obtained. Seventeen reasons were listed with respondents able to mark all reasons that applied. Responses related to either or both medical and dental care.

Table 7.11
HOUSEHOLD MEMBER UNABLE TO RECEIVE NEEDED CARE
WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE BY CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	Yes, Medical Care	Yes, Dental Care	Yes, Both	No, Got All Care
GENDER				
Male	6.5%	11.0%	15.4%	67.0%
Female	6.0%	13.3%	16.4%	64.4%
ZIP CODE				
Boone County	6.2%	16.0%	11.1%	66.7%
Loves Park/Machesney Park	7.9%	13.2%	18.5%	60.3%
Rockton/Roscoe/S. Beloit	7.0%	7.8%	13.2%	72.1%
Western Winnebago County	4.8%	9.5%	14.3%	71.4%
61101	3.9%	11.8%	17.6%	66.7%
61102	5.6%	19.4%	11.1%	63.9%
61103	3.1%	14.1%	21.9%	60.9%
61104	13.2%	31.6%	13.2%	42.1%
61107	5.1%	6.5%	18.8%	69.6%
61108	8.9%	8.9%	18.8%	63.4%
61109	6.5%	21.0%	8.1%	64.5%
61114	1.7%	8.5%	13.6%	76.3%
RACE/ETHNIC				
White	6.2%	12.0%	15.9%	65.9%
Black	7.7%	19.2%	13.5%	59.6%
AGE GROUP				
18 - 29	6.5%	21.7%	13.0%	58.7%
30 - 44	7.1%	12.2%	16.0%	64.7%
45 - 64	6.5%	12.9%	17.6%	62.9%
65 - 74	5.1%	12.0%	16.6%	66.3%
75+	5.2%	7.5%	11.9%	75.4%

Table 7.11 (cont'd.)
**HOUSEHOLD MEMBER UNABLE TO RECEIVE NEEDED CARE
 WINNEBAGO/BOONE RANDOM SAMPLE BY CHARACTERISTICS**

Characteristic	Yes, Medical Care	Yes, Dental Care	Yes, Both	No, Got All Care
EDUCATION				
Less than high school	12.1%	15.2%	15.2%	57.6%
High school or GED	7.3%	19.5%	17.1%	56.1%
Some college	7.7%	13.6%	17.7%	60.9%
Associate/Technical	9.2%	15.3%	20.6%	55.0%
Bachelor's degree	3.8%	7.1%	12.7%	76.4%
Graduate/Professional	2.5%	5.6%	14.3%	77.6%
HOUSEHOLD				
Married couple	4.8%	10.0%	16.0%	69.3%
Single parent	9.6%	21.9%	13.7%	54.8%
Unmarried persons	10.6%	16.7%	21.2%	51.5%
Single person	6.5%	15.4%	14.9%	63.2%
HOUSING				
Own	5.0%	10.4%	16.1%	68.4%
Rent	12.6%	22.8%	12.6%	52.0%
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE				
Yes	14.6%	24.3%	22.9%	38.2%
No	4.8%	9.7%	15.2%	70.3%
TIME IN COUNTY				
< 5 years	7.5%	13.8%	15.0%	63.8%
5+ years	6.3%	12.2%	16.0%	65.5%

Table 7.12
REASONS UNABLE TO RECEIVE MEDICAL OR DENTAL CARE

Reason Medical Care Not Received	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents		1999 Community
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Financial concerns, cost of care	250	71.8%	363	48.4%	54.4%
Physician would not take public aid	30	8.6%	187	24.9%	7.4%
Lack of insurance	177	50.9%	289	38.5%	32.6%
Couldn't afford deductible or co-pay	105	30.2%	205	27.3%	19.1%
No transportation	17	4.9%	73	9.7%	4.7%
Fear of receiving care	12	3.4%	33	4.4%	
Couldn't find a doctor I liked	17	4.9%	50	6.7%	
Couldn't find a doctor to take new	18	5.2%	99	13.2%	
Could not find the specialist needed	16	4.6%	55	7.3%	
Long wait to get appointment	35	10.1%	149	19.9%	24.2%
Long wait at office	16	4.6%	90	12.0%	
Have no regular doctor	44	12.6%	120	16.0%	12.6%
Needed child care	6	1.7%	32	4.3%	3.3%
Office times inconvenient	21	6.0%	36	4.8%	11.6%
Language barrier, no interpreter	1	0.3%	58	7.7%	0.5%
Lack of trust in doctors	18	5.2%	48	6.4%	
Discriminated against at office	6	1.7%	29	3.9%	
Other	25	7.2%	35	4.7%	2.8%

For the 2010 community sample, financial reasons dominated with these reasons primarily cited - financial concerns (71.8%), lack of insurance (50.9%) and couldn't afford deductible or co-pay (30.2%). These reasons also predominated in 1999 though at far lower levels. Improvement could be observed in "long wait to get appointment" which fell from 24.2% in 1999 to 10.1% in 2010 "Office times inconvenient" also improved.

Rockford 205 school parents were somewhat more likely than the community sample to cite couldn't find a doctor, long wait at office and physician would not take public aid as reasons for not obtaining medical care.

Services Received Outside the Rockford Area

One section of the questionnaire inquired about the use of health care services outside the Rockford area. The question asked: "In the past year, have you or a member of your household traveled to a community outside Winnebago or Boone Counties to receive medical care?" Upon marking "yes" the respondent was then asked where they or a household member went, for what disease, condition, procedure or test and why care was received there instead accessing care in the Rockford area. Responses often required significant red interpretation or were incomplete.

Table 7.13
LEFT ROCKFORD AREA FOR MEDICAL CARE?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	191	17.9%	118	9.5%
No	780	72.9%	1,046	84.3%
No answer	99	9.3%	77	6.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Results indicate that community household members were more likely to leave the area for medical care in that 17.9% of community sample households reported receiving care elsewhere as compared to 9.5% for the school parents. Dental was included in the responses.

One-third (33.9%) of Rockton/Roscoe/South Beloit households left the area for care, the highest level among the community sample areas.

Locations for "outside" care are revealed in Table 7.14. When respondents listed multiple locations, all were recorded. For the "community sample" households, Madison, Wisconsin is the most common destination, accounting for one-third (34.0%) of all places named. Other areas included Cook County (18.2%) and Rock County, WI (12.3%). Among the "school parent" households, Chicago area centers led with over half (51.8%) traveling to Cook County and 14.1% venturing to Madison, Wisconsin.

Visit reasons given for the care obtained elsewhere were diverse. Some of the leading reasons included dental, eye, cancer, physicals, orthopedic and cardiovascular care.

Leading reasons for the families and individuals seeking care outside Winnebago/Boone Counties included specialty care available elsewhere, former residence or provider, and insurance limitations relative to provider allowed.

Drawing conclusions from survey responses is not definitive, but outflow factors would seem to include: Veteran's care at VA centers, pediatric specialized care, limitations of insurance plans and flows across the border to Beloit and Janesville from northern area of the county.

Table 7.14
MEDICAL SERVICE LOCATIONS OUTSIDE WINNEBAGO/BOONE

Area	Community	School Parents	Total
ILLINOIS	68	63	131
Rush - Chicago	5	0	5
Children's - Chicago	2	4	6
Northwestern - Chicago	6	1	7
UIC - Chicago	0	9	9
Other Chicago	8	19	27
Hoffman Estates	3	2	5
Loyola - Maywood	3	5	8
Streamwood	1	1	2
Other Cook County	9	3	12
DeKalb County	8	2	10
Kane County	7	4	11
Lake County	3	2	5
McHenry County	9	2	11
Ogle County	0	2	2
Peoria County	2	1	3
Stephenson County	3	4	7
Other Illinois	1	2	3
WISCONSIN	109	15	124
Beloit	15	1	16
Janesville	10	0	10
Monroe	6	0	6
UW - Madison	45	9	54
VA - Madison	13	1	14
Other Madison	11	2	13
Milwaukee	6	2	8
Other Wisconsin	3	0	3
OTHER STATES	24	3	27
Iowa	2	0	2
Minnesota - Mayo	10	0	10
Other	12	3	15
FOREIGN	0	4	4
Mexico	0	4	4
TOTAL	203	85	288

Table 7.15
REASON FOR CARE OUTSIDE AREA
(Three or more mentions)

Disease/Condition	Community	School Parents	Total
Dental	9	19	28
Eye, vision, ophthalmology	21	4	25
Cancer and related	19	3	22
Physical, check-up	16	6	22
Orthopedic, joints, knees, hips	15	2	17
Cardiovascular, heart	15	1	16
ENT/OTO/Hearing	6	3	9
Transplant	4	3	7
Allergies	3	4	7
Neurology, MS, Parkinson's	6	0	6
Brain tumor	3	3	6
Thyroid	5	0	5
Diabetes	5	0	5
Behavioral	3	2	5
OB/GYN	4	0	4
Foot surgery	4	0	4
Respiratory, asthma	2	2	4
Skin	1	2	3
Seizures	0	3	3
Total	141	57	198

Table 7.16
 REASON CARE RECEIVED OUTSIDE AREA
 (Three or more mentions)

Disease/Condition	Community	School Parents	Total
Specialty or service available outside area	40	13	53
Previous provider, lived elsewhere	25	6	31
Insurance, PPO choices	20	5	25
Could not find here	7	10	17
Public aid taken by outside provider	5	10	15
Referred by doctor	11	2	13
Better service, care	9	4	13
Excellent medical center elsewhere	11	1	12
Convenient, close, near school, work	12	0	12
On vacation, traveling	10	2	12
Lower cost elsewhere	5	5	10
Rockford providers not competent	11	0	11
Second opinion, more objective elsewhere	4	3	7
Alternative care not available here	5	0	5
Ability to get appointment quickly	3	0	3
Total	178	61	239

Appendix 1

Cover Letter and Survey Instrument

ROCKFORD HEALTH COUNCIL
HEALTHY COMMUNITY STUDY 2010

April 2010

Dear Neighbor,

The Rockford Health Council, a collaborative forum to promote the health and quality of living for the residents of the Rockford area, needs your help.

We are currently engaged in a comprehensive assessment of needs in the Rockford area. Results will help to improve our lives. This confidential community survey is a key part of that assessment which should take only 15 to 20 minutes to complete.

You have been randomly selected to receive this survey. Even if you or your family have not experienced problems, your responses are still very important. This survey should be completed by a household member who is 18 or older. **If you require help or have any questions or concerns, please call Health Systems Research at 1.815.395.5639.** Please return this completed survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. **Remember that all your answers are confidential so that you cannot be personally identified from your survey.**

Health Systems Research at the University of Illinois College of Medicine (Rockford) has been retained to conduct this survey, a follow-up to a similar study ten years ago. Health Systems Research will analyze the data derived from all surveys and present a report which will be widely used by local agencies, organizations and governments to better understand community patterns and trends, plan services and apply for grants.

The results of this survey will help to assure that appropriate services are available to all. Your participation will benefit your family, your neighbors and the community.

Thank you for taking part in this important survey!

Sincerely,

Dr. Dennis Norem, Chair
Rockford Health Council

INSTRUCTIONS: Please fill in, mark with an X or ✓ or write in your responses. Please try to answer all questions as completely as possible, but feel free to skip any question. Questions are numbered for data entry.

COMMUNITY ISSUES NEEDING MORE ATTENTION

1-32. The following are needs or problems that many communities face. Please mark those which you feel need **greater attention** in your community. **(Mark all that apply)**

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> 1. Activities for seniors | <input type="radio"/> 18. Mental health services |
| <input type="radio"/> 2. Activities for teens | <input type="radio"/> 19. Need for housing in all price ranges |
| <input type="radio"/> 3. AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases | <input type="radio"/> 20. Obesity in children |
| <input type="radio"/> 4. Child abuse | <input type="radio"/> 21. Programs for families and children in crisis |
| <input type="radio"/> 5. Counseling-individual, family, marital | <input type="radio"/> 22. Racial or socioeconomic discrimination |
| <input type="radio"/> 6. Crime | <input type="radio"/> 23. Recreation programs for the physically/mentally challenged |
| <input type="radio"/> 7. Disabled persons' employment/training | <input type="radio"/> 24. School dropouts |
| <input type="radio"/> 8. Domestic violence | <input type="radio"/> 25. Special education for children |
| <input type="radio"/> 9. Drug or alcohol abuse | <input type="radio"/> 26. Support for caregivers, elderly, disabled |
| <input type="radio"/> 10. Duplication of local groups, agencies | <input type="radio"/> 27. Support groups for parents |
| <input type="radio"/> 11. Gangs, delinquency, youth violence | <input type="radio"/> 28. Teen pregnancy |
| <input type="radio"/> 12. Help coping with death | <input type="radio"/> 29. Truancy |
| <input type="radio"/> 13. High health care costs | <input type="radio"/> 30. Violence involving guns |
| <input type="radio"/> 14. Hispanic social services | <input type="radio"/> 31. Youth substance abuse |
| <input type="radio"/> 15. Inclusion of diverse persons | <input type="radio"/> 32. Any other problems? _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> 16. Job retraining, coping with job loss | _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> 17. Lack literacy, ability to read | _____ |

33. What is ONE thing that your community needs to make it better? _____

34. What is ONE thing that you like best about your community? _____

EMPLOYMENT

35. Where is your primary work location?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> (1) City of Rockford | <input type="radio"/> (7) Ogle County |
| <input type="radio"/> (2) Winnebago County other than Rockford | <input type="radio"/> (8) Wisconsin |
| <input type="radio"/> (3) Boone County | <input type="radio"/> (9) I travel to many locations |
| <input type="radio"/> (4) City of Chicago or Cook County | <input type="radio"/> (10) I do not work |
| <input type="radio"/> (5) DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry | <input type="radio"/> (11) Other _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> (6) DeKalb County | |

36. Did you or another adult in your household look for a job or work during the **past year**?

- (1) Yes, someone looked for work (2) No, no one looked for work (Go to Q. 50)



37-49. Which of the following factors made looking for a job, getting a job, or keeping a job difficult for you or someone in your household? **(Mark all that apply.)**

- | <u>Job Barrier</u> | <u>Job Barrier</u> |
|---|--|
| 37. <input type="radio"/> Not having work experience | 45. <input type="radio"/> Lack of jobs which are nearby |
| 38. <input type="radio"/> Need more education, training | 46. <input type="radio"/> Drug or alcohol problem |
| 39. <input type="radio"/> Not having child care | 47. <input type="radio"/> Criminal record |
| 40. <input type="radio"/> Lack of transportation, vehicle | 48. <input type="radio"/> Lack proper clothes for an interview |
| 41. <input type="radio"/> Difficulties with English | 49. <input type="radio"/> Other _____ |
| 42. <input type="radio"/> Physical disability | _____ |
| 43. <input type="radio"/> Discrimination (age, race, gender, other) | _____ |
| 44. <input type="radio"/> Mental, behavioral problem | |

YOUR VIEWS OR EXPERIENCES

50-61. Please indicate a response for your own views or situation during the **past year**.

<u>Statement</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	<u>No</u>
50. I went to a local event or attraction such as a concert or play, museum, sports, parade, fireworks, park, movie, library or community center.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
51. You or another person in your home volunteered for a community agency, organization or church.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
52. Our household usually had enough money for basic needs like food, clothing.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
53. Our household was able to keep debt under control, manage debt.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
54. Our household was able to put money away for emergencies.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
55. Our household was able to save money for the future.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
56. I usually felt safe walking alone in my neighborhood.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
57. A member of your household was a victim of a crime.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
58. I felt prepared for future emergencies like natural disasters, terrorism, bioterrorism, or a disease outbreak.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
59. I am usually pleased with the way that land is being developed in the Rockford area.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
60. I have a will or other preparation for end of life advance plans.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
61. Our household had difficulty finding an affordable child care provider.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

HOUSEHOLD SITUATIONS EXPERIENCED

62-90. Almost every home faces difficult situations at some time. Please mark those situations which YOU or SOMEONE IN YOUR HOME experienced during the past year. **(Mark all that apply)**

BASIC NEEDS

- 62. Difficulty getting or lost government benefits
- 63. Financial problems, not enough to live on
- 64. Without transportation, no car available
- 65. Utilities shut off
- 66. Homeless, evicted with no place to go
- 67. Home too small, overcrowded
- 68. Victim of a disaster
- 69. Unemployed
- 70. Unable to get credit or mortgage
- 71. Home foreclosed

FAMILY

- 72. Needed legal help with child support, custody, divorce, debts, or housing
- 73. Serious conflict within family
- 74. Child or adolescent ran away from home
- 75. Family member dropped out of high school
- 76. Truancy
- 77. Elderly or disabled person needed outside help or companion in the home.

HEALTH CARE & MENTAL HEALTH

- 78. Couldn't afford medical care
- 79. Couldn't afford prescription medicines
- 80. Needed dental care, but couldn't afford
- 81. Alcoholism, drug abuse
- 82. Emotional problems; depression, anxiety

DISCRIMINATION EXPERIENCED

- 83. Racial or ethnic discrimination
- 84. Sex discrimination
- 85. Age discrimination
- 86. Sexual harassment
- 87. Sexual preference discrimination
- 88. Gender discrimination
- 89. Other _____
- 90. **NONE OF THESE**

91-105. If you or anyone in your home needed help during the last year, such as for personal, financial, family or job problems, and didn't receive help, what were some of the reasons that help was not received? **(Mark all that apply)**

- 91. Concern about privacy
- 92. Didn't know where to find or learn about services
- 93. No service available
- 94. Prior bad experience with agency
- 95. Could not get child care
- 96. Discriminated against
- 97. Lacked handicapped access
- 98. No transportation, could not get there
- 99. Hours not convenient
- 100. Language was a barrier
- 101. Paperwork too great
- 102. Wait for service too long
- 103. Could not afford fees
- 104. Not eligible for services
- 105. Other _____

HEALTH CARE AVAILABILITY AND USE

106. Is there a particular person or place where you usually go when you are sick or need advice about health? **(Mark one)**

(1) **No**, I do not have a regular doctor or clinic for primary medical care

or Yes, I usually go to:

(2) A doctor's office or private clinic

(6) Urgent immediate care

(3) The health department

(7) Hospital emergency room

(4) Crusader Clinic

(8) Other (please write in)

(5) VA hospital or clinic

107. **During the past year**, have you been unable to receive **medical or dental** care that was needed for yourself or a family member in your household?

(1) Yes, medical

(2) Yes, dental

(3) No, able to get needed medical and dental care

108-125. What reason(s) kept you or a family member from receiving medical or dental care? **(Mark all that apply)**

108. Financial concerns, cost of care

118. Long wait at office

109. Physician would not take public aid

119. Have no regular doctor

110. Lack of insurance

120. Needed child care

111. Couldn't afford deductible or co-pay

121. Office times inconvenient

112. No transportation

122. Language barrier, no interpreter

113. Fear of receiving care

123. Lack of trust in doctors

114. Couldn't find a doctor I liked

124. Discriminated against at office

115. Couldn't find a doctor to take new patient

116. Could not find the specialist needed

125. Other (please write in)

117. Long wait to get appointment

126. In the past year, have you or a member of your household traveled to a community outside Winnebago or Boone Counties to receive medical care?

(1) Yes

(2) No (Go to Q. 130)

↓

127. If YES, where did you or they go? (Please name city, hospital or clinic)

128. Why did you or a household member receive your care there instead of the Rockford Area?

129. What was the medical disease, condition, procedure or test?

130-131. Do you have health insurance that pays for all or part of your medical care?

- (1) Yes (2) Not sure (3) No (4) Don't need health insurance

↓

IF YES, what type of health insurance do you have? Is it a traditional major medical plan, an HMO, PPO, or something else? **(Mark one)**

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> (1) Private medical plan from employer | <input type="radio"/> (6) Medicare, supplement |
| <input type="radio"/> (2) Private medical - individual plan | <input type="radio"/> (7) Military (VA/CHAMPUS) |
| <input type="radio"/> (3) Medicaid/Family Care/All Kids | <input type="radio"/> (8) Don't know |
| <input type="radio"/> (4) Private plan and Family Care/All Kids | Other (please write in) |
| <input type="radio"/> (5) Medicare only | <input type="radio"/> (9) _____ |

132-136. If any persons in your home are not covered by health insurance, please enter the number of persons in each age group who are not covered:

132. _____ Persons ages 0-17 not covered 135. _____ Persons ages 45-64 not covered
133. _____ Persons ages 18-29 not covered 136. _____ Persons ages 65+ not covered
134. _____ Persons ages 30-44 not covered

137. Even when a person has health insurance, often they must still pay certain costs themselves. How much of a problem are these "out-of-pocket" costs for your household? **(Mark one)**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> (1) A serious problem | <input type="radio"/> (3) Not much of a problem |
| <input type="radio"/> (2) A problem, but not serious | <input type="radio"/> (4) Not a problem at all |

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORT

138. Do you feel isolated because you do not have a friend/family member or other trusted person to talk with regularly or share concerns? **(Mark one)**

- (1) Yes, I feel isolated (2) No, I do not feel isolated

139-140. In the past year, did you think about seeking professional help for any personal or emotional problems?

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> (1) Yes → Did you actually seek professional help? | <input type="radio"/> (1) Yes |
| <input type="radio"/> (2) No | <input type="radio"/> (2) No |

141. Is there a support group that you or a household member needed, but could not find:

- (1) No (2) Yes → Which? _____

142-143. Have you ever thought about or attempted suicide?

- (1) No (2) Yes → (1) Thought about it (2) Actually attempted

221-229. Does this home include: **(Mark all that apply)**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 221. <input type="radio"/> A married couple | 226. <input type="radio"/> Unmarried persons living together |
| 222. <input type="radio"/> Single parent | 227. <input type="radio"/> Single person, living alone |
| 223. <input type="radio"/> Adult with adult child or relative | 228. <input type="radio"/> Same sex partners living together |
| 224. <input type="radio"/> Grandparent(s) raising grandchildren | 229. <input type="radio"/> Other (please write in) _____ |
| 225. <input type="radio"/> Two or more families living together | _____ |

230. Do you own or rent? (1) Own (2) Rent (3) Provided without rent

231-234. Where do you access the internet? **(Mark all that apply)**

- | | |
|--|--|
| 231. <input type="radio"/> No computer | 233. <input type="radio"/> Work |
| 232. <input type="radio"/> Home | 234. <input type="radio"/> Other _____ |

235. Did anyone in your home receive any financial assistance in the past year such as a medical card, KidCare, TANF (AFDC), Township or General Assistance, Food Stamps, SSI or other types of aid? (Do not include Medicare or Social Security retirement)

- (1) Yes (2) No (3) Not sure

236. Did you move to Winnebago County for the first time within the last five years?

- (1) Yes (2) No (3) Not sure

237. Is there anything else that you would like to tell us? (Feel free to add paper)

THANK YOU!

Approved by the University of Illinois College of Medicine Institutional Review Board (IRB) on March 29, 2010. Research Support Services may be reached at 1.815.395.5942 should you have any concerns about protection of your privacy or rights.

Appendix 2

SURVEY FREQUENCIES

ROCKFORD HEALTH COUNCIL
HEALTHY COMMUNITY SURVEY
SURVEY FREQUENCIES

1-32. The following are needs or problems that many communities face. Please mark those which you feel need **greater attention** in your community. (Mark all that apply)

Need Greater Attention in Community	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Activities for seniors	275	25.7%	269	21.7%
Activities for teens	453	42.3%	822	66.2%
AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases	139	13.0%	416	33.5%
Child abuse	271	25.3%	453	36.5%
Counseling-individual, family, marital	222	20.7%	450	36.3%
Crime	551	51.5%	741	59.7%
Disabled persons' employment/training	199	18.6%	353	28.4%
Domestic violence	264	24.7%	467	37.6%
Drug or alcohol abuse	384	35.9%	634	51.1%
Duplication of local groups, agencies	114	10.7%	159	12.8%
Gangs, delinquency, youth violence	602	56.3%	788	63.5%
Help coping with death	80	7.5%	228	18.4%
High health care costs	595	55.6%	534	43.0%
Hispanic social services	47	4.4%	366	29.5%
Inclusion of diverse persons	68	6.4%	134	10.8%
Job retraining, coping with job loss	456	42.6%	593	47.8%
Lack literacy, ability to read	229	21.4%	404	32.6%
Mental health services	286	26.7%	298	24.0%
Need for housing in all price ranges	268	25.0%	617	49.7%
Obesity in children	438	40.9%	529	42.6%
Programs for families & children in crisis	256	23.9%	539	43.4%
Racial or socioeconomic discrimination	137	12.8%	446	35.9%
Recreation programs for the physically/mentally challenged	147	13.7%	276	22.2%
School dropouts	398	36.8%	611	49.2%
Special education for children	207	19.3%	472	38.0%
Support for caregivers, elderly, disabled	335	31.3%	347	28.0%
Support groups for parents	119	11.1%	402	32.4%
Teen pregnancy	258	24.1%	605	48.8%
Truancy	311	29.1%	376	30.3%
Violence involving guns	460	43.0%	655	52.8%
Youth substance abuse	349	32.6%	577	46.5%
Any other problems?	108	10.1%	95	7.7%

33. What is ONE thing that your community needs to make it better?

	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Comments	759	70.9%	921	74.2%

See comments in Appendix 3.

34. What is ONE thing that you like best about your community?

	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Comments	713	66.6%	629	50.7%

See comments in Appendix 3.

35. Where is your primary work location?

Primary Work Location	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
City of Rockford	423	39.5%	732	59.0%
Winnebago County other than Rockford	111	10.4%	47	3.8%
Boone County	44	4.1%	26	2.1%
City of Chicago or Cook County	10	0.9%	12	1.0%
DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry	15	1.4%	18	1.5%
DeKalb County	4	0.4%	3	0.2%
Ogle County	0	0.0%	10	0.8%
Wisconsin	17	1.6%	5	0.4%
I travel to many locations	38	3.6%	25	2.0%
I do not work	396	37.0%	339	27.3%
Other	2	0.2%	7	0.6%
No answer	10	0.9%	17	1.4%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

36. Did you or another adult in your household look for a job or work during the **past year**?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes, someone looked for work	357	33.4%	848	68.3%
No, no one looked for work (Go to Q. 50)	656	61.3%	337	27.2%
No answer	57	5.3%	56	4.5%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

37-49. If YES, which of the following factors made looking for a job, getting a job, or keeping a job difficult for you or someone in your household? (Mark all that apply.)

Job Barrier	N = 357		N = 848	
	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Not having work experience	81	22.7%	237	27.9%
Need more education, training	106	29.7%	323	38.1%
Not having child care	18	5.0%	211	24.9%
Lack of transportation, vehicle	32	9.0%	225	26.5%
Difficulties with English	8	2.2%	163	19.2%
Physical disability	33	9.2%	51	6.0%
Discrimination (age, race, gender, other)	80	22.4%	148	17.5%
Mental, behavioral problem	16	4.5%	26	3.1%
Lack of jobs which are nearby	231	64.7%	460	54.2%
Drug or alcohol problem	5	1.4%	22	2.6%
Criminal record	14	3.9%	127	15.0%
Lack proper clothes for an interview	4	1.1%	75	8.8%
Other	47	13.2%	73	8.6%

50-61. Please indicate a response for your own views or situation during the **past year**.

50. I went to a local event or attraction such as a concert or play, museum, sports, parade, fireworks, park, movie, library or community center.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	878	82.1%	891	71.8%
Not sure	2	0.2%	28	2.3%
No	130	12.2%	258	20.8%
No answer	60	5.6%	64	5.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

51. You or another person in your home volunteered for a community agency, organization or church.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	679	63.5%	388	31.3%
Not sure	11	1.0%	62	5.0%
No	315	29.4%	733	59.1%
No answer	65	6.1%	58	4.7%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

52. Our household usually had enough money for basic needs like food, clothing.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	918	85.8%	707	57.0%
Not sure	18	1.7%	103	8.3%
No	99	9.3%	374	30.1%
No answer	35	3.3%	57	4.6%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

53. Our household was able to keep debt under control, manage debt.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	824	77.0%	522	42.1%
Not sure	41	3.8%	159	12.8%
No	164	15.3%	505	40.7%
No answer	41	3.8%	55	4.4%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

54. Our household was able to put money away for emergencies.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	532	49.7%	223	18.0%
Not sure	53	5.0%	85	6.8%
No	439	41.0%	880	70.9%
No answer	46	4.3%	53	4.3%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

55. Our household was able to save money for the future.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	474	44.3%	150	12.1%
Not sure	60	5.6%	84	6.8%
No	478	44.7%	955	77.0%
No answer	58	5.4%	52	4.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

56. I usually felt safe walking alone in my neighborhood.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	787	73.6%	581	46.8%
Not sure	95	8.9%	204	16.4%
No	146	13.6%	400	32.2%
No answer	42	3.9%	56	4.5%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

57. A member of your household was a victim of a crime.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	125	11.7%	247	19.9%
Not sure	21	2.0%	42	3.4%
No	873	81.6%	899	72.4%
No answer	51	4.8%	53	4.3%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

58. I felt prepared for future emergencies like natural disasters, terrorism, bioterrorism, or a disease outbreak.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	268	25.0%	139	11.2%
Not sure	395	36.9%	263	21.2%
No	360	33.6%	784	63.2%
No answer	47	4.4%	55	4.4%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

59. I am usually pleased with the way that land is being developed in the Rockford area.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	254	23.7%	262	21.1%
Not sure	338	31.6%	470	37.9%
No	432	40.4%	443	35.7%
No answer	46	4.3%	66	5.3%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

60. I have a will or other preparation for end of life advance plans.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	616	57.6%	169	13.6%
Not sure	34	3.2%	115	9.3%
No	379	35.4%	902	72.7%
No answer	41	3.8%	55	4.4%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

61. Our household had difficulty finding an affordable child care provider.

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	54	5.0%	319	25.7%
Not sure	73	6.8%	103	8.3%
No	688	64.3%	735	59.2%
No answer	255	23.8%	84	6.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

62-90. Almost every home faces difficult situations at some time. Please mark those situations which YOU or SOMEONE IN YOUR HOME experienced during the past year. (Mark all that apply)

62-71. Basic Needs

Situation	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Difficulty getting or lost government benefits	117	10.9%	304	24.5%
Financial problems, not enough to live on	256	23.9%	680	54.8%
Without transportation, no car available	54	5.0%	265	21.4%
Utilities shut off	24	2.2%	265	21.4%
Homeless, evicted with no place to go	10	0.9%	77	6.2%
Home too small, overcrowded	37	3.5%	216	17.4%
Victim of a disaster	7	0.7%	24	1.9%
Unemployed	239	22.3%	565	46.5%
Unable to get credit or mortgage	85	8.0%	304	24.5%
Home foreclosed	12	1.1%	54	4.4%

72-77. Family

Situation	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Needed legal help with child support, custody, divorce, debts, or housing	82	7.7%	291	23.4%
Serious conflict within family	71	6.6%	147	11.8%
Child or adolescent ran away from home	4	0.4%	45	3.6%
Family member dropped out of high school	17	1.6%	100	8.1%
Truancy	10	0.9%	75	6.0%
Elderly or disabled person needed outside help or companion in the home.	114	10.7%	72	5.8%

78-82. Health Care & Mental Health

Situation	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Couldn't afford medical care	168	15.7%	290	23.4%
Couldn't afford prescription medicines	162	15.1%	234	18.9%
Needed dental care, but couldn't afford	227	21.2%	466	37.6%
Alcoholism, drug abuse	39	3.6%	62	5.0%
Emotional problems; depression, anxiety	227	21.2%	326	26.3%

83-89. Discrimination Experienced

Situation	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Racial or ethnic discrimination	49	4.6%	247	19.9%
Sex discrimination	20	1.9%	35	2.8%
Age discrimination	89	8.3%	53	4.3%
Sexual harassment	17	1.6%	42	3.4%
Sexual preference discrimination	12	1.1%	29	2.3%
Gender discrimination	24	2.2%	34	2.7%
Other	42	3.9%	36	2.9%

90. None of these	379	35.4%	109	8.8%
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91-105. If you or anyone in your home needed help during the last year, such as for personal, financial, family or job problems, and didn't receive help, what were some of the reasons that help was not received? (Mark all that apply)

Reason Help Was Not Received	N = 717		N = 1,132	
	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Concern about privacy	51	7.1%	91	8.0%
Didn't know where to find or learn about services	151	21.1%	338	29.9%
No service available	44	6.1%	185	16.3%
Prior bad experience with agency	35	4.9%	88	7.8%
Could not get child care	11	1.5%	88	7.8%
Discriminated against	23	3.2%	81	7.2%
Lacked handicapped access	18	2.5%	30	2.7%
No transportation, could not get there	23	3.2%	149	13.2%
Hours not convenient	45	6.3%	143	12.6%
Language was a barrier	8	1.1%	102	9.0%
Paperwork too great	47	6.6%	61	5.4%
Wait for service too long	59	8.2%	153	13.5%
Could not afford fees	90	12.6%	188	16.6%
Not eligible for services	160	22.3%	318	28.1%
Other	21	2.9%	44	3.9%

106. Is there a particular person or place where you usually go when you are sick or need advice about health? (Mark one)

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No , I do not have a regular doctor or clinic for primary medical care	79	7.4%	119	9.6%
or Yes , I <u>usually</u> go to:				
A doctor's office or private clinic	857	80.1%	420	33.8%
The health department	6	0.6%	27	2.2%
Crusader Clinic	47	4.4%	417	33.6%
VA hospital or clinic	14	1.3%	30	2.4%
Urgent immediate care	36	3.4%	103	8.3%
Hospital emergency room	2	0.2%	89	7.2%
Other	4	0.4%	6	0.5%
No answer	25	2.3%	30	2.4%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

107. **During the past year**, have you been unable to receive **medical or dental** care that was needed for yourself or a family member in your household?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes, medical	62	5.8%	214	17.2%
Yes, dental	123	11.5%	243	19.6%
Yes, both medical and dental	163	15.2%	293	23.6%
No, able to get needed medical and dental care	642	60.0%	377	30.4%
No answer	80	7.5%	114	9.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

108-125. What reason(s) kept you or a family member from receiving medical or dental care? (Mark all that apply)

Reason Medical Care Not Received	N = 348		N = 750	
	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Financial concerns, cost of care	250	71.8%	363	48.4%
Physician would not take public aid	30	8.6%	187	24.9%
Lack of insurance	177	50.9%	289	38.5%
Couldn't afford deductible or co-pay	105	30.2%	205	27.3%
No transportation	17	4.9%	73	9.7%
Fear of receiving care	12	3.4%	33	4.4%
Couldn't find a doctor I liked	17	4.9%	50	6.7%
Couldn't find a doctor to take new patient	18	5.2%	99	13.2%
Could not find the specialist needed	16	4.6%	55	7.3%
Long wait to get appointment	35	10.1%	149	19.9%
Long wait at office	16	4.6%	90	12.0%
Have no regular doctor	44	12.6%	120	16.0%
Needed child care	6	1.7%	32	4.3%
Office times inconvenient	21	6.0%	36	4.8%
Language barrier, no interpreter	1	0.3%	58	7.7%
Lack of trust in doctors	18	5.2%	48	6.4%
Discriminated against at office	6	1.7%	29	3.9%
Other	25	7.2%	35	4.7%

126. In the past year, have you or a member of your household traveled to a community outside Winnebago or Boone Counties to receive medical care?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	191	17.9%	118	9.5%
No	780	72.9%	1,046	84.3%
No answer	99	9.3%	77	6.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

127. If YES, where did you or they go? (Please name city, hospital or clinic)

Comments	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
	189	17.7%	107	8.6%

See comments in Appendix 3.

128. Why did you or a household member receive your care there instead of the Rockford Area?

Comments	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
	182	17.0%	106	8.5%

See comments in Appendix 3.

129. What was the medical disease, condition, procedure or test?

Comments	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
	178	16.6%	91	7.3%

See comments in Appendix 3.

130-131. Do you have health insurance that pays for all or part of your medical care?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	958	89.5%	840	67.7%
Not sure	13	1.2%	43	3.5%
No	83	7.8%	325	26.2%
Don't need	0	0.0%	6	0.5%
No answer	16	1.5%	27	2.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

IF YES, what type of health insurance do you have? Is it a traditional major medical plan, an HMO, PPO, or something else? (Mark one)

Type of Health Insurance	N = 958		N = 840	
	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Private medical plan from employer	526	54.9%	249	29.6%
Private medical - individual plan	31	3.2%	8	1.0%
Medicaid/Family Care/All Kids	40	4.2%	492	58.6%
Private plan and Family Care/All Kids	4	0.4%	26	3.1%
Medicare only	26	2.7%	42	5.0%
Medicare, supplement	304	31.7%	6	0.7%
Military (VA/CHAMPUS)	8	0.8%	3	0.4%
Don't know	4	0.4%	11	1.3%
Other	11	1.1%	2	0.2%
No answer	4	0.4%	1	0.1%
Total	958	100.0%	840	100.0%

132-136. If any persons in your home are not covered by health insurance, please enter the number of persons in each age group who are not covered:

Persons ages 0-17 not covered

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	62	41
2	6	24
3	2	15
4	2	6
6	4	0
7	1	1
9	1	0
Total Persons Not Covered	78	165
Total Persons	410	3,101
Percent Not Covered	19.0%	5.3%

Persons ages 18-29 not covered

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	51	163
2	17	39
3	1	8
4	0	1
5	0	1
Total Persons Not Covered	88	274
Total Persons	260	757
Percent Not Covered	33.8%	36.2%

Persons ages 30-44 not covered

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	39	209
2	9	94
3	1	7
4	1	1
5	0	1
Total Persons Not Covered	64	427
Total Persons	346	1,497
Percent Not Covered	18.5%	28.5%

Persons ages 45-64 not covered

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	76	81
2	10	15
3	1	0
Total Persons Not Covered	99	111
Total Persons	914	412
Percent Not Covered	10.8%	26.9%

Persons ages 65+ not covered

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	12	18
2	1	0
Total Persons Not Covered	14	18
Total Persons	625	63
Percent Not Covered	2.2%	28.6%

137. Even when a person has health insurance, often they must still pay certain costs themselves. How much of a problem are these “out-of-pocket” costs for your household? (Mark one)

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
A serious problem	205	19.2%	361	29.1%
A problem, but not serious	359	33.6%	336	27.1%
Not much of a problem	233	21.8%	221	17.8%
Not a problem at all	159	14.9%	198	16.0%
No answer	114	10.7%	125	10.1%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

138. Do you feel isolated because you do not have a friend/family member or other trusted person to talk with regularly or share concerns? (Mark one)

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes, I feel isolated	125	11.7%	236	19.0%
No, I do not feel isolated	867	81.0%	948	76.4%
No answer	78	7.3%	57	4.6%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

139. In the past year, did you think about seeking professional help for any personal or emotional problems?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	224	20.9%	336	27.1%
No	798	74.6%	848	68.3%
No answer	48	4.5%	57	4.6%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

140. Did you actually seek professional help?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	118	52.7%	147	43.8%
No	87	38.8%	148	44.0%
No answer	19	8.5%	41	12.2%
Total	224	100.0%	336	100.0%

141. Is there a support group that you or a household member needed, but could not find:

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	73	6.8%	45	3.6%
No	859	80.3%	1,087	87.6%
No answer	138	12.9%	109	8.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Which support group?

Comments	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
	67	6.3%	41	3.3%

See comments in Appendix 3.

142. Have you ever thought about or attempted suicide?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	115	10.7%	104	8.4%
No	916	85.6%	1,101	88.7%
No answer	39	3.6%	36	2.9%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

143. IF YES . . .

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Thought about it	89	77.4%	85	81.7%
Actually attempted	22	19.1%	17	16.3%
No answer	4	3.5%	2	1.9%
Total	115	100.0%	104	100.0%

144. During the past 30 days, did a mental health problem, substance abuse or developmental disability interfere with doing your work or other usual daily activities?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	65	6.1%	68	5.5%
Not sure	38	3.6%	51	4.1%
No	916	85.6%	1,062	85.6%
No answer	51	4.8%	60	4.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

145. Number of days unable to perform usual activities in the past 30 days.

Number of Days	N = 65		N = 68	
	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
1	4	6.2%	1	1.5%
2	6	9.2%	3	4.4%
3	5	7.7%	6	8.8%
4	2	3.1%	3	4.4%
5	5	7.7%	3	4.4%
7	0	0.0%	2	2.9%
8	1	1.5%	0	0.0%
10	1	1.5%	3	4.4%
12	1	1.5%	0	0.0%
14	3	4.6%	2	2.9%
15	4	6.2%	4	5.9%
20	3	4.6%	3	4.4%
21	0	0.0%	1	1.5%
24	0	0.0%	1	1.5%
25	5	7.7%	1	1.5%
30	11	16.9%	8	11.8%
No answer	14	21.5%	27	39.7%
Total	65	100.0%	68	100.0%

146. During the past 30 days, other than your regular job, did you participate in any physical activities or exercise such as running, aerobics, golf, gardening, or walking for exercise?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	784	73.3%	615	49.6%
No/Not sure	233	21.8%	551	44.4%
No answer	53	5.0%	75	6.0%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

147. How many days per week do you engage in activity that causes at least small increases in breathing or heart rate?

Number of Days	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	39	36
2	114	103
3	188	145
4	116	93
5	125	98
6	57	14
7	84	57
No answer	61	69
Total	784	615

148. Your height ____ft. ____in.

Height	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
48 inches	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
50 inches	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
51 inches	1	0.1%	1	0.1%
52 inches	2	0.2%	0	0.0%
54 inches	2	0.2%	0	0.0%
56 inches	2	0.2%	1	0.1%
57 inches	2	0.2%	10	0.8%
58 inches	4	0.4%	2	0.2%
59 inches	5	0.5%	22	1.8%
60 inches	31	2.9%	57	4.6%
61 inches	38	3.6%	72	5.8%
62 inches	72	6.7%	103	8.3%
63 inches	71	6.6%	92	7.4%
64 inches	90	8.4%	119	9.6%
65 inches	100	9.3%	102	8.2%
66 inches	81	7.6%	114	9.2%
67 inches	80	7.5%	87	7.0%
68 inches	69	6.4%	45	3.6%
69 inches	64	6.0%	34	2.7%
70 inches	81	7.6%	34	2.7%
71 inches	45	4.2%	21	1.7%
72 inches	67	6.3%	14	1.1%
73 inches	28	2.6%	3	0.2%
74 inches	25	2.3%	12	1.0%
75 inches	10	0.9%	3	0.2%
76 inches	6	0.6%	2	0.2%
77 inches	0	0.0%	2	0.2%
78 inches	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
79 inches	0	0.0%	1	0.1%
80 inches	2	0.2%	1	0.1%
No answer	91	8.5%	285	23.0%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Your weight ____ lbs.

Height	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
< 100 pounds	3	0.3%	2	0.2%
100 - 109 pounds	10	0.9%	14	1.1%
110 - 119 pounds	30	2.8%	25	2.0%
120 - 129 pounds	47	4.4%	57	4.6%
130 - 139 pounds	66	6.2%	85	6.8%
140 - 149 pounds	70	6.5%	103	8.3%
150 - 159 pounds	97	9.1%	94	7.6%
160 - 169 pounds	94	8.8%	115	9.3%
170 - 179 pounds	83	7.8%	76	6.1%
180 - 189 pounds	88	8.2%	86	6.9%
190 - 199 pounds	75	7.0%	69	5.6%
200 - 209 pounds	65	6.1%	57	4.6%
210 - 219 pounds	58	5.4%	32	2.6%
220 - 229 pounds	44	4.1%	35	2.8%
230 - 239 pounds	24	2.2%	19	1.5%
240 - 249 pounds	29	2.7%	22	1.8%
250 - 259 pounds	26	2.4%	14	1.1%
260 - 269 pounds	10	0.9%	13	1.0%
270 - 279 pounds	8	0.7%	7	0.6%
280 - 289 pounds	7	0.7%	19	1.5%
290 - 299 pounds	8	0.7%	2	0.2%
300+ pounds	21	2.0%	20	1.6%
No answer	107	10.0%	275	22.2%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

149. Would you describe yourself as: (Mark one)

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Obese	93	8.7%	101	8.1%
Overweight	467	43.6%	500	40.3%
Underweight	13	1.2%	34	2.7%
About the right weight	399	37.3%	387	31.2%
Not sure	27	2.5%	135	10.9%
No answer	71	6.6%	84	6.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

150-206. Has anyone in your household been told by a health professional that they have the diseases or conditions below? Please mark in the age group the **number of persons** with each.

150. Attention Deficit Disorder, ADHD

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	29	7.1%	219	7.0%
18 - 44	48	7.9%	22	1.0%
45 - 64	17	1.9%	3	0.7%
65+	7	1.1%	0	0.0%
Total	101	4.0%	244	4.2%

154. Alzheimer's, dementia, severe memory impairment

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	1	0.2%	1	0.0%
18 - 44	1	0.2%	11	0.5%
45 - 64	4	0.4%	3	0.7%
65+	31	5.0%	7	11.1%
Total	37	1.4%	22	0.4%

158. Arthritis or rheumatism

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	2	0.5%	11	0.4%
18 - 44	22	3.6%	96	4.3%
45 - 64	173	18.9%	67	16.3%
65+	227	36.3%	16	25.4%
Total	424	16.6%	190	13.5%

162. Asthma

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	34	8.3%	383	12.3%
18 - 44	62	10.2%	149	6.6%
45 - 64	67	7.3%	46	11.2%
65+	41	6.6%	7	11.1%
Total	204	8.0%	585	10.0%

166. Autism Spectrum Disorder

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	6	1.5%	22	0.7%
18 - 44	6	1.0%	3	0.1%
45 - 64	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
65+	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	12	0.5%	25	0.4%

170. Cancer, malignant neoplasms

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	3	0.7%	2	0.1%
18 - 44	11	1.8%	24	1.1%
45 - 64	50	5.5%	14	3.4%
65+	53	8.5%	11	17.5%
Total	117	4.6%	51	0.9%

174. Chronic back pain or disc disorders

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	8	2.0%	10	0.3%
18 - 44	52	8.6%	129	5.7%
45 - 64	145	15.9%	47	11.4%
65+	113	18.1%	10	15.9%
Total	318	12.4%	196	3.4%

178. Chronic bronchitis, emphysema, COPD, respiratory

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	10	2.4%	17	0.5%
18 - 44	9	1.5%	38	1.7%
45 - 64	41	4.5%	29	7.0%
65+	48	7.7%	8	12.7%
Total	108	4.2%	92	1.6%

182. Chronic digestive or stomach disorders, GERD

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	8	2.0%	23	0.7%
18 - 44	27	4.5%	52	2.3%
45 - 64	82	9.0%	24	5.8%
65+	58	9.3%	4	6.3%
Total	175	6.8%	103	1.8%

186. Diabetes

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	6	1.5%	10	0.3%
18 - 44	23	3.8%	91	4.0%
45 - 64	94	10.3%	80	19.4%
65+	105	16.8%	35	55.6%
Total	228	8.9%	216	3.7%

190. Cardiovascular or heart disease

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	2	0.5%	1	0.0%
18 - 44	7	1.2%	29	1.3%
45 - 64	56	6.1%	20	4.9%
65+	128	20.5%	16	25.4%
Total	193	7.6%	66	1.1%

194. High blood pressure, hypertension

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	9	2.2%	19	0.6%
18 - 44	37	6.1%	150	6.7%
45 - 64	265	29.0%	113	27.4%
65+	276	44.2%	37	58.7%
Total	587	23.0%	319	5.5%

198. High cholesterol

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	10	2.4%	11	0.4%
18 - 44	43	7.1%	98	4.3%
45 - 64	228	24.9%	82	19.9%
65+	189	30.2%	22	34.9%
Total	470	18.4%	213	3.6%

202. Osteoporosis

Age Group	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 17	1	0.2%	2	0.1%
18 - 44	4	0.7%	11	0.5%
45 - 64	50	5.5%	20	4.9%
65+	92	14.7%	4	6.3%
Total	147	5.8%	37	0.6%

206. No one has any of these

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
	169	15.8%	335	27.0%

207. What is your gender?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	410	38.3%	189	15.2%
Female	636	59.4%	1,016	81.9%
No answer	24	2.2%	36	2.9%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

208. What is your zip code?

Zip Code/Name	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Boone County				
61008 - Belvidere	63	5.9%	0	0.0%
61011 - Caledonia	5	0.5%	0	0.0%
61012 - Capron	4	0.4%	0	0.0%
61038 - Garden Prairie	3	0.3%	0	0.0%
61065 - Poplar Grove	14	1.3%	0	0.0%
Boone County Total	89	8.3%	0	0.0%
Winnebago County				
61016 - Cherry Valley	14	1.3%	1	0.1%
61024 - Durand	14	1.3%	0	0.0%
61111 - Loves Park	100	9.3%	6	0.5%
61115 - Machesney Park	65	6.1%	2	0.2%
61063 - Pecatonica	9	0.8%	0	0.0%
61101 - Rockford - Northwest	56	5.2%	233	18.8%
61102 - Rockford - Southwest	38	3.6%	291	23.4%
61103 - Rockford - Northwest	78	7.3%	99	8.0%
61104 - Rockford - East Central	43	4.0%	190	15.3%
61107 - Rockford - Near Northeast	142	13.3%	64	5.2%
61108 - Rockford - Southeast	88	8.2%	95	7.7%
61109 - Rockford - Bypass	67	6.3%	158	12.7%
61112 - Rockford - Cherryvale	3	0.3%	0	0.0%
61114 - Rockford - Far Northeast	64	6.0%	52	4.2%
61072 - Rockton	43	4.0%	0	0.0%
61073 - Roscoe	68	6.4%	0	0.0%
61080 - South Beloit	25	2.3%	0	0.0%
61088 - Winnebago	22	2.1%	0	0.0%
Winnebago County Total	937	87.6%	1,191	96.0%
No Zip Code	44	4.1%	50	4.0%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

209. What is your age group?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
18 - 29	51	4.8%	326	26.3%
30 - 44	157	14.7%	712	57.4%
45 - 64	479	44.8%	149	12.0%
65 - 74	189	17.7%	12	1.0%
75+	157	14.7%	0	0.0%
No answer	37	3.5%	42	3.4%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

210-216. **Not** including yourself, **how many other persons** in each age group live in your home?
(Enter number of persons)

210. Ages 0 - 12

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	98	373
2	55	391
3	12	236
4	7	111
5	1	31
6	0	13
7	0	6
Total	277	2,582

211. Ages 13 - 17

Number of Days	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	76	321
2	22	77
3	3	17
4	1	0
Total	133	526

212. Ages 18 - 29

Number of Days	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	136	250
2	26	73
3	3	9
4	3	2
Total	209	431

213. Ages 30 - 44

Number of Days	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	150	454
2	18	131
3	1	16
4	0	4
5	0	1
Total	189	785

214. Ages 45 - 64

Number of Days	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	354	168
2	39	43
3	1	3
Total	435	263

215. Ages 65 - 74

Number of Days	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	132	26
2	12	7
Total	156	40

216. Ages 75+

Number of Days	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample	Rockford District 205 Parents
	Number	Number
1	101	11
2	11	0
Total	123	11

217. Of what racial or ethnic group do you consider yourself?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
White (non-Hispanic)	939	87.8%	264	21.3%
Black/African American (non-Hispanic)	60	5.6%	371	29.9%
Hispanic/Latino	19	1.8%	475	38.3%
Asian or Pacific Islander	5	0.5%	11	0.9%
American Indian	1	0.1%	1	0.1%
Multi-racial or bi-racial	7	0.7%	66	5.3%
Other (please write in)	2	0.2%	6	0.5%
No answer	37	3.5%	47	3.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

See “other” in Appendix 3.

218. What is the highest grade that you finished in school?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Less than high school	39	3.6%	388	31.3%
High school diploma or GED	225	21.0%	350	28.2%
Some college, no degree	237	22.2%	264	21.3%
Associate or technical degree	139	13.0%	109	8.8%
Bachelor's degree	223	20.8%	46	3.7%
Graduate or professional degree	173	16.2%	31	2.5%
No answer	34	3.2%	53	4.3%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

219-220. The **employment** status of adults in our home is: **(Mark one for each person)**

Respondent Employment Status	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Self-employed full-time	81	7.6%	55	4.4%
Work a full-time job only	341	31.9%	386	31.1%
Work a part-time job only	97	9.1%	131	10.6%
Work two or more jobs	35	3.3%	32	2.6%
Work seasonally or part of the year	14	1.3%	25	2.0%
Unemployed, looking for work	64	6.0%	220	17.7%
A homemaker	26	2.4%	163	13.1%
A student	1	0.1%	21	1.7%
Retired	336	31.4%	9	0.7%
Disabled	29	2.7%	36	2.9%
Not employed	15	1.4%	44	3.5%
Other	31	2.9%	4	0.3%
No answer	0	0.0%	115	9.3%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

Other Adult Employment Status	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Self-employed full-time	50	4.7%	55	4.4%
Work a full-time job only	262	24.5%	341	27.5%
Work a part-time job only	68	6.4%	74	6.0%
Work two or more jobs	19	1.8%	19	1.5%
Work seasonally or part of the year	12	1.1%	37	3.0%
Unemployed, looking for work	69	6.4%	122	9.8%
A homemaker	34	3.2%	42	3.4%
A student	7	0.7%	16	1.3%
Retired	211	19.7%	15	1.2%
Disabled	21	2.0%	30	2.4%
Not employed	16	1.5%	34	2.7%
Other	2	0.2%	1	0.1%
No answer	299	27.9%	455	36.7%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

221-229. Does this home include: (Mark all that apply)

Other Adult Employment Status	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
A married couple	625	58.4%	578	46.6%
Single parent	81	7.6%	423	34.1%
Adult with adult child or relative	93	8.7%	56	4.5%
Grandparent(s) raising grandchildren	21	2.0%	68	5.5%
Two or more families living together	21	2.0%	48	3.9%
Unmarried persons living together	69	6.4%	198	16.0%
Single person, living alone	227	21.2%	18	1.5%
Same sex partners living together	13	1.2%	5	0.4%
Other	27	2.5%	26	2.1%

230. Do you own or rent?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Own	870	81.3%	459	37.0%
Rent	144	13.5%	666	53.7%
Provided without rent	10	0.9%	41	3.3%
No answer	46	4.3%	75	6.0%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

231-234. Where do you access the internet? (Mark all that apply)

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No computer	168	15.7%	327	26.3%
Home	798	74.6%	675	54.4%
Work	353	33.0%	136	11.0%
Other	62	5.8%	218	17.6%

235. Did anyone in your home receive any financial assistance in the past year such as a medical card, KidCare, TANF (AFDC), Township or General Assistance, Food Stamps, SSI or other types of aid? (Do not include Medicare or Social Security retirement)

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	163	15.2%	880	70.9%
No	863	80.7%	292	23.5%
Not sure	15	1.4%	28	2.3%
No answer	29	2.7%	41	3.3%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

236. Did you move to Winnebago County for the first time within the last five years?

Response	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Yes	86	8.0%	231	18.6%
No	951	88.9%	948	76.4%
Not sure	3	0.3%	15	1.2%
No answer	30	2.8%	47	3.8%
Total	1,070	100.0%	1,241	100.0%

237. Is there anything else that you would like to tell us? (Feel free to add paper)

Comments	Winnebago/Boone Random Sample		Rockford District 205 Parents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
	205	19.2%	172	13.9%

Appendix 3

VERBATIM COMMENTS

Rockford Health Council Survey 2010
Community Comments (Mailed & Online)

32. The following are needs or problems that many communities face. Please mark those which you feel need greater attention in your community? 32. Any other problems?

- Facilities for brain injury victims
- Senior housing
- Effective education in RPS
- The cost of living
- Speeding motorists on Bonus Avenue (25 mph)
- Get back to old days when children had respect for others
- Services that assist seniors to remain independent like Meals-on-Wheels, adult day services, access to other services
- Coping with government, hospitals, police
- Roads
- Urgent need for recreational activities for youth
- Insurance cost vs benefits
- Free/low cost legal aid that doesn't go by zip code. Sometimes kids may live in 61108 - 61114 but their parents have cut them off. When they need help they have nowhere to turn
- Racial and elderly discrimination
- Illegal immigrants drain on resources
- Random southwest side parking on county/city borderline creates problems as to which police department is to respond
- Unfair child support rates
- Guns period
- Help with adult ADD
- Healthy school lunches
- Taxes
- This community has a lot of help for the poor, but little or nothing for the middle class workers
- Community clean up
- Bullying in schools
- Lack of comprehension in reading
- Stop gang want-to-be by kids intervention
- High unemployment
- Takes police too long to respond
- Drug and prostitution trafficking
- Traffic law enforcement

- Literacy in our high school grads
- More jobs for employment
- More help for USA citizens and less for foreign
- Genetic counseling
- High school education meaningful. Additional not-for-profit colleges
- The people who steal
- High taxes
- Noise
- Crumbling infrastructure
- Run down properties
- Illegal immigration law enforcement
- Lack of work ethic
- All of the above but not government sponsored
- Drugs, lack math skills
- More jobs for Americans
- Boy's or girl's home for troubled kids who refuse to go to school. Kids that parents' can't handle at home on own
- The obscene property taxes
- Recreation for youth and seniors, more playing fields, and more and better access to bike paths
- Got too busy (traffic, etc.)
- Transportation for sick shut-ins
- Too much tax money goes to the schools
- Legal advisors
- How to reach a decision when I need to move to another level of care
- Animal control
- Driving elderly to doctor appointments
- Lack of parental control
- Jobs, jobs, jobs, jobs
- Long-term care for people under age 60
- Violence in the schools
- Lack of a 708 mental health commission
- Affordable respite services, affordable child psychiatrist
- Employment opportunities
- More financial assistance for seniors
- School programs being cut
- Removing all aliens that have not passed a U.S. Constitution test
- Quality public education

- Teaching historic U.S. history and constitution, info citizens don't seem to know how our government is supposed to work
- School days need to be longer and more of them
- PR for all the programs that do exist, like coping and loss of economic innovation and more active public role in creating program's base
- Discrimination in District 205 schools
- Utilities (ComEd and Nicor) dishonesty
- Education R/T, guns in the home/ owner's responsibility
- Roads
- Education of children
- Chronic disease prevention, poor birth outcomes
- Affordable health insurance
- Drivers Ed training expensive for teens
- Mail list of services available to each household. Sometimes services not used due to lack of knowledge about it
- Outdoor burning to cook 24/7 and noise, especially on weekends loud music, shouting, lawlessness. Too many spoiled brat adults blaming others for own problems
- Improve schools
- Lack of police enforcement of illegals
- Taxes going to District 205 and lack of discipline in 205
- There are so many on the list to be marked. People need to get involved at the local level. Too much red tape at the State and Federal level. Volunteer
- Too many welfare cases
- Positive parenting classes
- Working poor
- Bus service to Rockford
- Dress code in schools
- Jobs – non government
- Waste in government spending
- Visit and call on old people
- Illegal aliens
- Premarital sex causing many social and economic lifetime problems and divorced men not financially supporting kids
- More senior retirement housing
- Better educational opportunities
- Too many giveaway programs. People need to work to meet their needs
- Parenting skills
- Health insurance for low income
- Public schools

- Controlling the amount of stray animals
- Marital counseling services pre-divorce, parenting information/classes pre-crisis, and grandparent support information/classes pre-crisis
- Transportation – need for more bus routes
- Community funding of mental health and related matters
- Coping with major losses – job, relationship, home, etc.
- Support groups for teens – collaboration between social service agencies
- Train your OBs about HELLP syndrome
- Schools and unemployment
- All of the above
- Housing for women and children that goes beyond 6 months

33. What is one thing that your community needs to make it better?

- The education system
- More jobs
- Applying police, etc. to more important problems and less “Big Brother” to law abiding citizens
- More social outlets
- Lower union employment
- Health care and low-income place for seniors, good clean people
- Low income-housing for elderly, more ground floor access
- Less TV, more reading, more exercise!
- Commuter rail
- More awareness about all issues
- Get back to basics and get rid of politically correct crap. Get back to God!
- More ads on what we do have in Rockford, so more people can get there for help they need sooner
- Better tax structure, “complete” medical available here
- Jobs=money=solutions
- Less crime
- Manufacturing jobs
- Medical
- Unity
- Better clothing stores, higher quality
- Jobs
- Casino and hotel
- Fewer fat, lazy cops

- Leadership that understands and supports the collaboration and cooperation between for profit and non profit groups
- More employment opportunities
- Controlled fun and amusement park, free of all cost, volunteers help to keep things clean and policed
- Better morale, more jobs
- Education
- Safety at night
- Manufacturing jobs
- Enthusiasm – a more positive attitude can reap results
- A place for teens to hang out afternoons and have dances on weekends
- Less crime and gang activity
- Do with guns
- More jobs
- Getting everyone in the community involved
- Affordable housing for people that work for minimum wage
- Police force – making them more people oriented
- More jobs
- Safer neighborhoods for children
- Comprehensive access to mental health care
- Finances
- A music festival
- Jobs
- More people working at decent salaries
- Affordable entertainment
- Greater economic equality
- A place for kids to play. Free youth center
- More activities for teens – sports, skate boards, ball games
- It's own impression of itself. Natives tend to be pessimistic about the community, when really it has so much to offer. We are our own worst enemy
- Traffic lights
- Jobs and better schools
- Better educated workforce - alternative educational opportunity for non college bound
- Better jobs
- Positive engagement of disaffected/non-productive members of community
- Replace jobs that moved
- Teen programs in the smaller community outside of Rockford
- Investment by the business leaders in stores, banks
- Community cleanup and more attention to zoning violations

- Job fairs for elderly, teens
- The high rate of rising crimes
- Better enforcement of laws – good people need to feel safe
- A solid broad-based economically stable, business
- Good paying jobs, affordable food both organic and non organic
- We have to be more creative about the unemployment mess we are in. We need to develop new industry, offer more job training opportunities, etc. Too many unemployed and underemployed young people, no future, dead end jobs
- Living costs less for low income
- Professional entertainment
- Better perception of school system
- More jobs
- Give men jobs so they won't have to go to jail
- Better leadership
- Sidewalks
- Need new legislators
- Lower crime rate/better public school system
- Develop downtown, walking, entertainment, food, music
- Watch spending our taxes so they can be lowered, too much waste
- Eliminate and prosecute drug dealers with death penalty
- More quicker responses by authorities
- More activities for families that don't cost a lot to do
- Prepare people for work, not welfare. Local taxes
- Cleaner streets, reduce litter. Sidewalks, a better daily newspaper, any health food store – Trader Joe's, Wildoats, Whole Foods
- More men committed to families
- Disabled persons' employment training
- School taxes out of hand ☺
- Rapid response budget adjustments to keep spending within revenue
- Better city streets
- Dental establishment that is affordable
- Reduction of violent crime
- Job training
- Bring more jobs into the community
- Less crime
- I would say all the above. For 10 years, I worked in adult literacy and know how much a problem this is
- Better lighting/more patrol
- Strong economy

- Cheap family entertainment
- Discipline/self-control in schools
- Schools – parent involvement
- Jobs
- Replace Mayor, most police (they're crooked and above the law)
- More activities for single senior adults
- More jobs
- More sidewalks along the side streets for walking
- Vibrant downtown
- Embracing diversity
- Police parking
- Family activities
- Fighting gangs, drug violence
- More patrols at late night
- Reason
- Better school system. Teachers should be evaluated by parents and not protected by tenure
- Need for housing in all price ranges
- Better quality public schools
- Streets – better
- More confidence in school district
- Support for everyone and not just diverse groups
- More affordable health care
- Teamwork
- Easier health care
- Less tax
- Need for housing in all price ranges
- Better overall support for schools and teachers
- Better jobs
- Keep taxes low for elderly
- Image
- More jobs in summer for kids
- Sliding scale health care
- Education
- More personal freedoms, personal responsibility over government programs
- Jobs that pay well \$50,000 +
- Less ignorant people
- Activities for youth

- Change politicians getting pay raises when they do nothing
- Stop giving welfare to people that have kids to keep it and don't try to work for anything. I've seen people drive into Crusader parking lot while waiting for my uncle, driving Audis, Mustangs, wearing designer clothes, and high priced athletic shoes. My wife and I can't get help because we don't have kids, but yet I make too much while filing bankruptcy and living in her parent's basement for 6 years and we're not foreign
- Clean up or tear down old buildings
- Smarter politicians, too much spent on outside counsel
- Train service from Rockford to Chicago
- Youth groups with social activities and zoo, arts, "Navy Pier" river front
- A local government with better ideas on how to bring jobs to the area
- More diverse interest in future projects
- Less crime
- Teen pregnancy
- Substance abuse
- More jobs
- Working industries aside from manufacturing
- Less Section 8 housing
- Public school system
- Better schools
- More factory type jobs. Better school system
- More jobs
- Gang activity
- Jobs
- Better roads
- A completed river walk with shops and restaurants
- More rapid enforcement of community standards ordinances
- Middle income jobs
- Reasonable property taxes, better grocery stores (Trader Joe's/Whole Foods)
- School dropouts
- Street repairs
- Get rid of old ideas
- A health care system that is accessible and affordable for all
- Better employment opportunities
- Better school system
- School district educating the children, our leaders tomorrow
- Reduce gangs and get those kids back in school
- Crime
- Do away with politics of all issues and put people first

- More jobs and employment
- Easier access to elderly care
- Better employment opportunities which would help the racial and socioeconomic discrimination
- Stop corruption in police dept, stop political corruption, stop judicial corruption
- Less crime, better government leaders
- Opportunities for young and unemployed to find a job, be given a chance
- Children living in poverty
- Vision
- A senior center located on the NE side, not quite so expensive
- Crime is out of control and better schools in District 205
- More businesses to keep crime, prostitutes down and to give more jobs and a grocery store
- Elected/tax paid people do their job
- Make people clean up yards
- Violence involving guns
- Jobs
- Lower high health costs
- Improve education – high school diploma to be worth something, not a joke where the individual can't read and do basic math
- Balanced budget, uncorrupted government, police present
- Responsible parenting
- A vibrant public school system that is not controlled by outsiders and Board members with a slanted agenda
- Better education for our children, more employment opportunities
- Bringing more manufacturing back to Rockford
- More jobs
- People getting involved in neighborhoods
- Help our seniors and the homeless more
- Jobs
- More jobs
- More outside play areas for children
- Jobs
- Help in repair or replacements in homes of the disabled low-income elderly
- A better school system
- Do more against gangs
- Safer
- Affordable assistant living for seniors
- A government that focuses on entire city, not downtown

- A better self-image
- Jobs, businesses
- Gangs, delinquency, youth violence
- “Can’t go anywhere,” direct intro (home) car doctor, stores, banks, malls, hospitals, social services
- A positive attitude toward community
- Better library/river access (beach) play areas for kids made safe
- Jobs
- High health cost. School dropouts
- More businesses
- Pride. Too many people are negative about Rockford. Take pride in your community
- Collaboration/consolidation/coordination of services/agencies
- Better access to dental care
- Health care cost control
- More jobs
- Better police watch
- Water and sewer bills are too high
- Forward looking, risk taking government
- Crime reduction
- Work
- Transportation for those who do not have their own vehicle
- Lower taxes to help create job growth
- Less violence and crime
- City officials work for the community, not for their interests
- Money for the Harlem Community Center so kids have activities to keep them busy
- More business, etc. on the west side. Too bad downtown, as I knew it, was destroyed
- Kids that want to learn
- Less violence
- Jobs
- Each hospital needs 2 emergency rooms – 1 for people with strokes, etc. 1 for people who have no doctor and use emergency rooms for sore throat, etc. I know 3 people who waited 6 hours to be seen when they had strokes. Advertising says being seen immediately is crucial!
- Provide more resources (money) to take care of community problems
- Improved economy, creation of good paying jobs
- Parenting classes, a parent is not a buddy. People are afraid to correct their children
- More jobs would be the biggest help
- A division I or division II NCAA College
- Police to enforce the loud radios in cars

- More economic diversity, need to emerge beyond an industrial center
- More places for kids to hang out
- Reduction in violent crime/drug dealers
- More industry so people can work and make a fair wage
- A public school superintendent who holds kids responsible for their behavior rather than providing them excuses based on their race
- Personal responsibility and accountability
- Better race relations
- Schools
- A police force dedicated to stopping crime
- More neighborhood watch groups
- An umbrella agency to coordinate support services/activities across all age groups
- District 205 excellence
- Need housing in all price ranges
- Schools need dramatic improvement. Current path not good, we are a welfare community
- Youth violence
- Help for mental disability and help for unemployment
- More help for caregivers and elderly
- More good jobs, less unions
- Good jobs
- A place for the kids to play and hang out
- Better communication between government and people
- Something for teens to do
- Passenger rail service
- Better community leaders
- Crime reduction, particularly gun violence
- Task force targeting gangs and gang violence
- Repeal Obama Care
- Expanded drug/alcohol treatment centers. It is almost impossible to get into a place like Rosecrance unless you have great medical insurance
- Honest politicians, jobs
- Incentives to go green
- Rockford school system graduates, students that cannot perform basic math skills
- Fix streets and sidewalks
- Assistance for health care for unemployed uninsured people
- Hospital
- Desperately needed improvement in school system!
- Jobs

- A decent public school system
- We need more love for each other
- Better education system
- Better service with the police dept.
- People being good to everyone else
- Attention to how our community looks
- More activities for preteen and teenage kids to curb their getting involved in non productive activities like gangs, drugs, etc.
- All of the above – drug abuse
- Gang violence is an important one in my community
- Senior citizens center
- Racial or socioeconomic discrimination
- More sidewalks and bike paths to encourage alternatives to driving a car
- Less jail time for drug abuse, and more programs to help people
- Lower taxes, but of course, if they lower taxes, they won't be able to afford expanded social services
- Jobs
- Good paying jobs, not Wal-Mart jobs
- No junk on front or back yards, low cost dentist
- More jobs
- More enforcement of the laws
- Needs more attention to condition of roads
- More college educated people with good paying jobs
- Listen to the people
- More jobs
- More restaurants
- More jobs
- Free beer
- Our schools are the worst ever
- Less gang activity
- Jobs! We need to make things to sell to other countries
- Form small groups of ageing seniors on health issues
- More interest in neighborhood watch committees
- Wise use of tax money, river walk not a priority now
- Activities for teen recreation programs for the physically/mentally challenged
- Reduce high health care costs without taxation
- Any would be a worthy case to support
- Cops

- Less crime
- Psychiatric care for seniors with dementia and Alzheimer's, like Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital in Hoffman Estates
- Cut taxes
- Less church influence
- Employment
- Treat all areas that are having problems at the same time/get rid of blight
- Consistency in the leadership of District #205 schools
- Better streets
- Let the police deal with crime and gangs
- Our legislators need to start funding essentials and stop funding things we don't have to have and balance the budget. Stop the great graft
- Better roads, quality schools
- Jobs, more things to do and things for kids to do to keep them out of trouble
- Jobs
- Keeping empty lots mowed regularly
- Youth to actually see the effects of drugs, gangs, and violence
- Less crime
- Street lights! We need them – currently there are none
- Better school system
- Improving our school system
- A new school (205) superintendent!
- Crooked worthless politician/we have no good ones left
- A government that works for the people
- More activities for our teens so they don't run the streets
- Police priorities – less seat belts and more speeding & rage reduction
- Help for elderly in transporting to appointments
- More youth programs
- Cut back on youth substance abuse
- School funding
- School dropouts and teen pregnancies
- High health care costs should be lowered
- More job opportunities, job training
- Jobs
- Jobs
- School system, get rid of "good old boy politics"
- Better countywide concerns and cooperation
- Focusing on rehabing all the jail inmates so they do not return to jail

- Jobs
- Public schools on both sides of the river that anyone can attend and would want to attend
- Improve public schools – community has negative view of them
- More money
- Rockford has community services, many people do not know that they are available – public information
- Major improvement in public education grades K-12
- Reduce crime
- Schools
- Activities for teens
- Town pool – Winnebago
- Recreation/entertainment
- Jobs
- Unemployment/job training support or new businesses coming to Rockford
- Community cooperation/involvement
- School dropouts
- Better health care for mental illness
- Get a new Mayor – one who stays home and doesn't spend taxpayers' money
- Curb drug abuse
- Understanding and support of the professional art world
- Help coping with job loss
- The schools. Our children and grandchildren moved away. Schools was a big factor
- Employment
- More businesses here for more jobs
- God
- Activities for children from age 5-17 years
- Better coordination of road repairs so alternative routes aren't closed, also maybe more work done in evening hours
- Better streets, fewer potholes
- Better police protection
- Clean up properties, trash, overgrown alleyways, etc.
- Better medical care
- Jobs
- Less crime
- Better schools
- More enforcement on immigration, illegal people living in our community and using our tax dollars
- Schools
- A local drug store in Rockton

- Jobs
- Community activities where you can meet people and do things
- Education
- Entertainment
- Dentists with labs in the area for the poor who need dentures
- Attract businesses with higher paying jobs
- Bus service
- We have places to go for all the things above
- More affordable health care
- More jobs for the unemployed. Bring more businesses into Rockford
- Senior care
- More good paying jobs
- Hope
- More local jobs
- Train to Chicago
- Rockford didn't adapt, so manufacturing went away. We need aggressive, think outside the box leaders determined to bring Rockford back
- A walk path or small park area
- Elimination of street gangs
- More employment
- Health care
- Street repairs
- More family events
- Job retraining
- A program to help hard working people with mortgage down payments
- Activities teens
- Neighborhood watches
- To allow franchise businesses to come into Rockton
- Crack down on drug houses/dealers more
- More jobs
- Eliminate gun violence
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Less crime
- Merge between OSF and Rockford Health Systems
- Better schools and training and less stupidity on School Board members
- More affordable housing for single moms
- Our schools need to be much better and safe
- Culture and employment

- A park district that offers residents activities for less
- More police
- Jobs
- More specialist doctors and surgeons locally – SwedishAmerican Hospital
- Schools
- Doctors that do a thorough job of diagnosing a patient
- More money to fund programs
- More easier to get aid to young families
- Training people on how to find jobs, especially for older workers who may not be computer literate
- Job growth and support for small businesses
- Jobs all ranges
- Jobs, education programs for those needing work, downtown revitalization
- Public transportation to the Chicago area
- Good jobs
- Replace the Chief of Police Epperson
- More activities, programs, etc. Something to occupy the youth and promote their talents
- School/educational issues
- Remove non local groups who stir up problems in Rockford
- More attractions
- Multi-model transportation options
- Better paying jobs
- Money
- Activities for teens
- Fixing public school system
- Help kids with activities to stay in school
- Jobs, jobs, jobs, jobs, jobs, good living wages
- Quality public education
- Teaching historic U.S. history and constitution, info citizens don't seem to know how our government is supposed to work
- Vision
- Teach people economics, buy American
- Work together
- Require those able persons in many and varied assistance programs give back to community in community service of some kind (litter, mowing, etc.)
- I think real planning for the community's better good, instead of the self-interest status quo
- Needs to have a positive attitude
- Jobs
- A place all people can go for help, not just a few!

- Affordable activities
- Opportunities for earning income (jobs)
- Opportunities for youth and persons returning to serve in the community they grew up in
- Community leadership by those in decision-making positions
- I have no complaints except the winters are too long and cold
- Better involvement in the community by the police force
- More street lights and more public bus service (RMTD) along Charles Street
- Everyone respect the authorities
- Affordable housing
- Good jobs
- Get rid of gangs
- Create jobs
- A senior activity center
- Need jobs for young people, something to keep them busy
- Better use of our riverfront. Please look at South Beloit's improvements as an example
- More supervised dance facilities for teens
- Transportation to and from Rockford
- Work
- A more positive school superintendent. She is driving people out of our public schools
- Fire Sheffield as superintendent of Rockford schools
- Teach everybody to speak English
- Greatly improve the high school graduation rate
- Honesty, trust, and common sense
- Joining together
- Schools
- I think that the police should be more visible
- More jobs
- Cooperation between different agencies
- Better roads
- Lower real estate taxes
- Less crime
- Jobs
- More social/cultural activities, art, theater
- Stop the crime
- Jobs
- More family support within the schools
- More white collar jobs
- Pot holes all over the city including our street

- Equitable support for health and human services
- Slow reckless drivers. Replace Molly Phalen, no supt is going to be able to do the necessary job until union and Board find common ground
- Leadership
- Job training
- Splashpad and larger park
- Maintain households informed of services and of volunteering opportunities
- Gangs and violence
- Cut down on heavy traffic on North Second Street
- More jobs, less concern for making us a mini Chicago
- Cooperation among leaders
- More employment opportunities
- Residents that use “the Golden Rule”
- Improved roads
- Drive by shootings stopped
- A school system that can figure out how to control violent students so that classrooms are actually used for learning
- Crime – guns
- Deport all illegal aliens
- Enforcement by police on curfew violation – loud cars, etc.
- Gangs, violence
- Stop the gang violence
- Jobs
- More green space
- Commuter train to Chicago
- Positive attitude
- It’s difficult, but the gangs
- Knowledge of more job opportunities in Rockton, Roscoe, and Loves Park; street lights; network for 50 and over for jobs
- Family counseling
- Jobs
- Overhauling of District 205
- More school budgeted programs K-8
- More services for mentally challenged adults and children
- Development around museums to make Rockford a travel destination
- A permanent location for cultural, ethnic, and city festivals
- Getting families to value and take responsibility for their children’s education
- Pull down vacant, run down houses
- More employers/employment opportunities

- Control of spending of our taxes
- Better job outlook
- More sidewalks – State Street, Mulford, Perryville, Alpine, Harrison
- Enforce the laws
- Improvements in the school system and more involvement with parents
- Jobs
- Water and septic systems, bills too high
- Jobs
- Not to charge money for poor people for help in the mental health, recreation, and a lot of other programs because they are neglected because of the ability to being able to pay and have a better life too. They need love and help and have the right to be happy like everyone else
- Counseling individual/family based on sliding scale
- Find ways to make senior citizens happy
- More high paying skilled jobs, higher education institution
- Respect for diversity
- Jobs
- Unity
- Jobs
- More positive events and activities for adolescents
- Honest people
- Decrease crime rate, and decrease unemployment by increasing jobs
- Better family values
- Bike lanes on major streets
- Pride
- Better pay, equal care for white people for food and medical care
- Education, particularly District 205
- Help for the elderly that insurance don't cover
- Crime
- Limitation to use of Public Aid, food stamps, etc. People should earn their handouts, like community service maybe?
- Less politics, more new ideas that work to make a better community
- Have the politicians listen to the people
- Lack literacy ability to read
- Revitalize Machesney Mall and 55+ senior housing (affordable) - Machesney Park
- Keep on budget
- Police patrols
- Better information of things available to help seniors or disabled people
- I think there should be more discipline in school classrooms. Classrooms are out of control

- Raise graduation rates
- More jobs
- A solid leader
- Economic development
- Enforce noise ordinance
- More dental services for those on Public Aid or have no insurance
- An actual sense of community. People do not feel safe in Rockford!
- Lower taxes so people can fix their homes, so it doesn't look like a dump!
- Domestic violence
- Small businesses
- More pride in all the good things we have here
- Reduce crime
- More involvement and volunteering, programs to get kids and people involved outdoors
- Use existing empty buildings instead of building new ones
- A skilled workforce, attract/retain stable companies
- Add or bring back the good jobs
- Jobs
- Downtown area with more shopping and activity
- Better streets
- Right now, it's less about fixing downtown and more of helping people who need help
- Better paying jobs
- Reduce the crime rate – make the roads better
- Employment
- Need for housing for the elderly
- Support for young adults with special needs
- Less crime
- Our community development listen to us, the public
- I feel that Rockford public middle schools and high schools have gone downhill so much that I want to move my family elsewhere
- City police dept should have more patrol officers
- Investment in rundown properties to make it nicer, especially downtown
- Jobs that pay a living wage
- Be independent, don't expect others to provide everything to make you happy
- Why isn't someone doing something to replace Cub Foods. We need more options. The area is growing
- More people getting involved by volunteering to help/mentor
- Education improvement grades 6-12
- More factories and other resources for jobs

- A need to see itself as one community, the city is very divided
- More beautification. Stricter rules on keeping up properties
- A lot of seniors don't know or unaware due to not having resources available to them on what to do, when, how, and why, seems many are in the dark. Sometimes I feel that way
- More resources for families, job training, parenting help, drug counseling
- Employment opportunities for the disabled and underprivileged
- To get all these people out of this high rise
- More drug and gang action taken
- Develop river area – more family activities – free or low cost
- A much more highly educated citizenry
- Help with mental health services, cost of service, and medication
- Schools and advanced education
- Justice system, parole officers, drug counselors, better paying jobs, DCFS
- More patrol
- Better control of gang violence
- Health care for seniors
- More communication between the Mayor's office, law enforcement, and School Board with the community
- Better leadership
- Youth programs
- More jobs, more food for pantries
- Bring back contact telephone crisis center
- More police to help reduce gangs from forming
- Repair streets and curbs
- For people of all areas of Rockford to be exposed to one another
- Senior chores assistance (publicized) advertised
- Reasonable and more dental care. A must for jobs for people with no training
- The availability of programs for teens and young adults on morals and values
- More employment, less illegal aliens
- Gang control
- Jobs
- Prevention or case counseling in the schools, healthy responsible kids
- Inclusion of diverse persons/jobs and economy
- My community needs to work together and become eco-friendly
- Lower unemployment rate
- A respected Mayor and Police Chief
- High health care costs, violence
- Coping with job loss and helping in finding jobs

- Quit bringing in all the families from other countries
- Help care for persons who are not seniors like Bright Side, etc.
- No “common sense” School Board. We pay higher taxes to not have children bused away from neighborhood schools. Keep kids in their own neighborhood schools please
- Less taxes
- More rural urban input, not core city
- Private MD accepting Medical Cards
- More “small town” community activities, not one side of city activities and other side of city because we will never be unified
- More businesses
- High health cost
- Communication with all agencies for continuity in growth
- Equalized opportunities and services at schools (public)
- Educating people not to litter our streets or highways
- Relationship between races
- Restructured economy and jobs
- A sense of common goal and togetherness
- Activities for youth during the summer
- Roads
- More police officers
- My community is wonderful already
- Drug or alcohol abuse
- Learning to work together despite differences
- Physicals, blood work, cancer screenings for those with insurance but very high deductibles (\$5,000)
- Better city services – potholes an epidemic, snow removal questionable
- A positive “can do” attitude
- A program to make parents more accountable for their responsibilities
- Low cost live entertainment
- Jobs
- Less crime
- Gangs, stiffer penalties
- I think students in school need to be held accountable for their behavior
- Schools
- A good leader
- More activities for the various minorities
- Get people working and not giving away everything
- Jobs
- Communication

- Bike/walking paths, a larger mass transit system
- Parenting skills including healthy cooking, parenting through the teen years, help with parent support
- Better education programs for schools
- Get the prostitutes and drug dealers off of street corners
- More jobs
- Fix the public schools
- Jobs
- Youth walking in the streets and it takes them a long time for a car to get through
- Special education for children
- More industry to bring more and better jobs
- Shopping center southwest side of Rockford
- More youth programs and affordable college options
- Better public schools
- Lower crime rate
- Better public school system
- Support for families in divorce
- More support from the City of Rockford regarding (repairs) roads, sidewalks, etc.
- To keep our community from being incorporated with the “City” of Rockford
- Neighborhoods should be corrected, crime
- Fix streets and roads
- No tax breaks to big business and better roads
- More employment opportunities
- Controlling who receives Illinois Public Aid
- It needs to address the crime rate and unemployment
- Better service, better education, services made available
- Jobs
- Information/Resources available
- More jobs
- Improved schools
- Crime prevention
- Local funding for behavioral health
- Mental health services
- New mayor
- Employment opportunities for ALL
- Better funding for medical and behavioral health care for the uninsured and underinsured
- Local financial support for mental health services
- Make downtown area more appealing

- Money from local as well as state – funding for mental health services
- A comprehensive childhood obesity program
- Mental health services
- Better after-school programs, especially for learning disabled or lower-income families
- High speed train
- More money for community social services
- More good paying jobs
- More jobs for non-degree people
- Stop the shooting and killing
- Get rid of the "us versus them" mentality
- Lower the availability of illegal substances
- Funding always gets attention, but arrangement of teams of volunteers does not and professionals are not trained to give back via volunteer service
- More diverse entertainment
- Mental health services
- Funding
- A political system that understands and responds to the needs of the community, not their own wishes
- Mental health services need to be more accessible and in greater quantity
- Reduce number of unwanted pregnancies
- More jobs for young African-American males
- Quality, sustainable jobs
- Money and grants from federal funds
- Crime reduction
- Funding for increased mental health services
- Gangs, delinquency, youth violence, crime, or drug and alcohol abuse
- Less taxes
- More employment
- Collaboration within social services, communication within profit and not-for-profit groups
- Jobs
- Local funding
- Improved public schools
- More resources
- More cooperation between teachers and school administration
- Downtown activities
- Highly qualified doctors and nurses – not just those who got C's in medical school
- Jobs
- Local leadership to be more aware of the needs of families in crisis/poverty

- Greater willingness to assume responsibility for community challenges and pitch in and help
- Equal education
- Jobs
- Less crime
- Better public education
- Less apathy and more people to get involved
- Better education
- Cooperation between community and schools
- A thriving downtown area for young professionals
- Higher educational attainment
- Clean up – building fronts, streets, homes, etc. Curb appeal
- Education
- School zones
- Thriving downtown
- Something that inspires a better sense of community pride
- Decrease of domestic violence – a high percentage of crimes come from domestic issues
- Better housing support for women and children
- Better public transportation options including extending bike paths and fixing roads
- Employment opportunities
- Families living healthy (socially, physically, spiritually, mentally) lifestyles
- Improve graduation rates

34. What is one thing that you like best about your community?

- The park district
- Lived here all my life
- My area (Loves Park) is well managed. I am well satisfied for the most part
- Recreational activities
- Events/attractions like Anderson Gardens, OTB, art science, etc.
- Center
- Park system
- Not too large
- My shopping and recreation needs are well met
- The strong bond between each other
- Right now nothing. We have chased out most all businesses through high property tax and unions
- All the good changes, much better place. Anybody can go to school, can't anybody go to school and get a schooling, lesson, and a blessing

- Friends
- Diversity
- People don't give up
- Some of the activities they have for seniors
- Parks and walking paths
- Small
- Size and nature
- Choice of restaurants and golf courses
- Recreation availability
- River and Coronado
- The people's ability to step up in time of need
- I'll be leaving it soon
- Conservative
- Crime free, but things are starting to get bad
- Parks, community, activities
- Park district
- Restaurant choices
- Parks
- Friendly neighbors, sporting events, Discovery Center and Burpee Museum
- Work availability
- Help there to get a job
- Location to major cities
- Security patrol
- The parks
- It makes you want to move out of area
- Parks and rec
- My neighbors help each other
- Churches are coming together for the greater causes
- Parks
- Quiet
- Friendly
- Shopping convenience
- Access to urban areas like Chicago and Madison
- River fishing
- Being small, not fond of large cities
- Rockford is full of caring, generous people and is a great place to raise a family. One thing? Park district
- The green foliage

- Park district
- The feeling of living in a smaller community, yet large enough to provide most of the necessities of life
- Family
- People (friendly, optimistic, non-pretentious, honest). Low cost of living, ease of traffic, climate
- Park district and forest preserves
- My neighbors. It is basically a quiet neighborhood
- Convenience to all locations
- Churches, events for community
- People willing to help others
- Lots of fun things to do
- Open space
- Parks here are great
- City that feels like a pretty suburb – full of trees and green space in most areas
- Neighbors are helpful and help people here in need
- Parks
- Opportunity for a variety of leisure time activities
- Parks
- Parks, recreational areas
- Nice neighbors
- People
- Takes 10 minutes to get anywhere in Rockford
- Activities for seniors
- Nothing
- That I still have a job
- Short commutes
- We are a large city with a small town feel, no traffic congestion, good book stores
- Rarity of heavy automobile traffic
- It's a nice place to live
- Rockton swimming pool (should be free)
- Central location in U.S. allowing convenient NSEW travel. Having 4 seasons
- Small town atmosphere
- That there are churches with food pantries to help others that have no one working in household
- Very excellent park system
- Park district, size of community
- Nothing
- Nothing

- In the past, it's creativity in solving problems. Not currently abreast of what is happening – gone a lot
- Its country atmosphere
- Affordable standard of living
- Size, “family” feeling. Roscoe is small town feeling
- Parks and recreational activities
- Life long resident good feeling, church, colleges, arts, and the park district's offerings
- Recreation/beauty
- Really cannot think of anything
- Fairly nice people, most of us think of others and not so much ourselves
- Parks, bike paths, Midway Village, etc.
- Keen Age Center and beautiful parks and conservation district
- Peaceful atmosphere
- Parks
- Parks and trails
- Bus accessible
- Safe neighborhood, no crime
- Park district
- Convenience to medical (doctors, hospitals) and shopping
- Friendly neighbors
- The cohesiveness of its people
- Small community that works together. Great Memorial Day Parade
- Close to a large city
- The park district has lots of nice facilities and diverse entertainment options
- Affordable housing
- Great neighbors
- The variety of services available to older people
- Parks, bike path
- Great parks
- Church communities
- Natural land beauty
- Not much
- Diversity in parks and museums
- Quiet
- Parks
- Has everything
- Country living
- Nothing

- Parks
- The park across the street
- Friendly and small town
- People generally care about their neighbor
- Rockford Riverhawks baseball, car cruises
- The Boy & Girl Scouts
- Parks
- I lived in the Chicago area for about 10 years before moving to Rockford, I really appreciate the fact that Rockford is not crowded and that houses have enough space for a yard
- Rock Valley College
- Recreational choices are many
- Park district
- Convenience to work
- Lots of parks
- Low real estate taxes
- Calm, no violence
- Small town feeling in a bigger city
- Parks
- Don't know. It keeps going downhill
- Making our city green. The beautiful parks and park systems
- Park district and its programs
- Quietness
- Can you name one? Can't come up with anything. Mayor sucks, school district sucks, policing sucks, job market sucks
- Family friendly
- Parks
- Many churches
- Walking distance to park and bike path
- People and places to visit and being so close to three major cities
- Its communities and friendly neighbors
- Music concerts
- Where I live is very quiet - nice
- Activities for seniors
- Great police & fire protection - feel safe
- Beauty of the city
- The education system
- Affordable
- Park system

- Fire & Police Department, air ambulance
- The amount of park programs
- Can't think of one thing I like about this community!
- Heartland Church
- Very family oriented
- Overall decent values of its citizens
- Not a whole lot
- Activities to go to and service organizations
- Clean and well cared for in NE area, elsewhere, not as well done, need incentives
- My whole family lives here
- Frequent police patrols
- Geography
- Our health care system. No waiting, no problem parking, very attentive and diversified
- Rockford Symphony Orchestra Starlight and Rockford College Plays
- Nothing, it sucks!
- Access to health care, shopping
- Quietness
- Getting one place to another
- Police do a wonderful job with what they work with daily
- Access to parks, river, and closeness to Wisconsin and Chicago
- Lived here all my life – everything
- Small town atmosphere
- Beautiful city with lots of opportunities
- We have beautiful parks and walking paths
- Recreational things to do like bowling, golfing, parks in general
- Recreation and park district facilities
- Park system
- Convenient to stores
- Friendly – has what I need and want
- Bike paths
- Parks
- Parks and recreation
- Schools
- Family focused
- Churches, schools, and parks
- The parks
- The parks, the library, and the people
- My area

- Safe area to live in
- Individuals' concerns about someone else
- Beauty of trees, parks, and buildings
- Friendly Midwestern atmosphere
- Playgrounds/parks
- Convenient shopping
- The parks and forest preserves, museums for kids, and close location to Chicago and Milwaukee
- First class hospitals and physicians
- Parks and schools
- Small town
- My house
- Quiet neighborhood
- The people
- The parks
- People
- That it still has a possibility to become a progressive forward community with diverse job opportunities, affordable housing, strong cultural arts, and a great place for recreation
- Parks
- The park district
- The park facilities
- Can't think of anything I like about this community other than living on the river
- Open spaces, parks
- Restaurants
- I like the parks and river walking path
- Quiet, which is nice after living in Rockford 13 years
- Small town living
- Its sense of community
- Cherry Valley is very much a small town
- Parks
- Most neighbors mind their our business
- Size, proximity to Madison, Chicago, Milwaukee without all the problems of a super-sized city
- Parks
- Airport
- The park system
- Activity opportunities for youth
- Rockford Symphony Orchestra
- Park services

- Golf
- Downtown Rockford, parks, bike path, Coronado
- I like the smaller town feel. I hope we don't get too commercial in Belvidere, keep the farms
- Variety of parks/forest preserves and skate parks that are all free
- Park district
- Good friends
- Schools
- We all look out for each other and family
- Easy access to grocery, medical, and pharmacy
- Friendly
- Churches and river. We need to concentrate on the children's education
- Everyone is helpful when someone is in need
- The diversity of the people
- I don't have to go very far to be out in the country
- Parks
- A sense of loyalty that we "Rockfordians" have no matter how tough "it" gets
- Private organizations that provide the above (1-31) items
- It's ok to be stupid and uneducated ☺
- Park district
- Our parks
- They work hard to help mentally unstable and poor
- Freedom
- Immediate Care Center
- Low housing costs
- Mostly feels safe
- Proximity to Chicago
- Nothing
- Recreational facilities
- Ease to get places
- Small town feel
- Its small, good schools
- My community can be nice and giving towards teens and adults
- Lots of space, various kinds of wild animals, birds
- I live in a beautiful area with shopping nearby
- Size not too big, not too small
- It is not too big and yet you have lots to do, and so much good food
- Parks

- I've known it long enough, I've gotten accustomed to its liabilities
- The river
- The rural setting and the river
- Hospitals
- We have good people in this community still
- Quiet, peaceful
- Friendly neighbors
- Many different activities and close to major cities
- The people
- Being small town
- For the most part, people are friendly
- Libraries
- The Lombardi Club
- Size
- Housing prices
- Location
- It's small, the community leaders need to keep taxes lower
- Park system
- Variety of activities, good health care
- Not too big, not too small
- Quiet, peaceful
- Access to all needs
- Family and friends
- Parks
- Recreation
- We don't have all the violence here, yet
- Health care systems, great doctors, good hospitals, ease of getting doctor appointments
- Much help in the medical field
- Economical pricing
- Stores available
- Rockford is starting to look better in some areas
- The park district
- Good health providers
- My friends
- Small, safe
- Safe, Cherry Valley
- Friendly people
- Special education services of local school

- Friendly people, Rockford Park District, local parks
- Seems friendly and relaxed
- Friendly people
- The selection of activities, arts, theatre, etc.
- Nothing any more
- Small town
- Parks
- Size, small population
- Small town atmosphere
- Outdoor activity opportunities
- Park system
- The parks
- Location
- Easy to get around
- Many varieties of activities to be involved in
- The Rock River
- Quality of life
- I love our free (mostly) ability to recycle almost anything on our curb
- How our church (Heartland) and other churches are working to make improvements in our community
- Parks and walking paths, people
- Rockford does have good health services to those who can afford it
- Lots to do in community, i.e., churches, park district, colleges, festivals, etc. On further thought, I think one thing I like best is that we have both a community college and 4-year college and the recent arrival of career colleges such as Rasmussen
- It is beautiful
- My neighbors
- Parks
- Small and convenient
- Proximity to Wisconsin/Chicago
- Affordable, but getting unaffordable
- The people, some go out of their way to help
- The parks
- Convenience
- That we have excellent police dept. (city & county) and an excellent fire dept. (No, I don't belong to these.)
- Not much any more
- Cultural events, theatre, music, etc.
- Not one thing

- Neighborhood very friendly, close to church, and grocery store
- Affordable housing
- Nice parks, Discovery Center for my grandsons
- The park district facilities
- High amount of owner occupied residences
- The people
- Park district
- Affordability
- Parks
- People helping others
- Is a small town
- Parks and nature preservation
- Location to other cities
- Low crime rate
- Small town
- Parks
- The four seasons
- Strong values of the people who live here
- The Belvidere Park System
- Even if you don't have insurance, you will be seen at the emergency room
- A small town atmosphere
- Nothing. It's a depressing city that offers nothing for middle age people. It has been crime infested and there's no downtown areas to speak of
- Well-rounded
- Uncongested, light traffic, small city atmosphere
- Parks
- Surrounding landscape
- Close proximity of services/shopping
- Family focus – churches, schools, parks, activities are here
- Friendly and quietness
- Friendliness
- Size
- Shopping district on 173
- Quiet
- Parks, river, good medical facilities
- Low crime
- Good neighbors
- Small town

- Park district
- Parks
- Its diversity
- Police/Fire/Medical
- Parks
- Non profit organizations
- Parks and recreation programs, newer and nicer offices and medical treatment facilities popping up all over the county. They all are needed, not just along State Street, North and South Rockford and west. Plenty of places on the east side
- Schools
- The cleanliness
- I've been here all my life, familiar with it
- My family is here
- It still has the small town, family-type of atmosphere
- Being from Rockford
- Ambulance response time very good
- Parks
- Neighbors are friendly, there if you need them
- Having four seasons
- The parks
- Small
- A small town, less problems
- We have beautiful parks and recreation facilities
- Holiday based recreation (4th of July, etc.)
- Racism
- The hometown feel
- Good and affordable community
- Park system is wonderful
- Many family-type neighborhoods
- Small cohesive environment
- The many golf courses
- My church
- Caring
- Park district, golf, housing
- I feel free from danger and it looks very clean
- Fourth of July firework show
- We have many beautiful parks
- Access is good to all needed services

- Social services
- Still a fine place to raise a family
- The privilege of paying the highest sales tax outside of Chicago
- At this point nothing
- Churches and many members of community are helping those in need in various ways
- Low cost of housing
- It has a great park system for everyone
- Parks
- Smallness
- Low cost of living
- The many park activities
- Size of population
- Friendly neighbors and people all around
- Parks, bike paths, golf courses
- The hospital care. It may be expensive, but all three are great at service
- It's quiet, mostly older people, not a lot of teens
- Park district
- Arts and cultural scene
- Friendly neighbors
- Parks
- The people, beautiful parks
- All the ways you could exercise
- Our neighborhoods, feel of community
- Parks, golf courses, and bike paths
- Great location geographically, riverfront
- Medical facilities and services
- Parks and forest preserves
- They try
- Willingness to help
- The park system
- Parks
- Nice friendly neighborhood
- Its park system and programs offered
- Quiet, no crime
- Small area
- Parks
- The community itself
- This is where my family is

- Lots of available parks for recreation
- Trees
- The medical care and choice of physicians
- I think Rockford is a great community
- Churches
- The churches
- Vicinity to Chicago, Madison, Milwaukee
- Convenience to most services
- Parks
- In my community, especially my neighborhood, it is very family-oriented
- Minimal traffic jams
- The ability to quickly get where we're going
- Quiet, pretty, well-maintained
- Size and affordability
- Coronado, Starlight, entertainment venues
- Parks
- Clean environment and great schools - education
- Rockford is a friendly ☺, clean, well-cared for city with beautiful parks, museums, stores, hotels, restaurants to fit any budget, and with many, many options for health and dental care, (if it can only be available and affordable for families without insurance or with Medicaid insurance, they struggle to see a specialist, ☹)
- Has a lot to support my needs
- Low crime rate
- Park system
- Close to friends
- Lots of activities/things to do
- A lot of recreational opportunities
- We love the park district
- Low cost housing
- Born and raised in Rockford, loved it as a kid, not so much any more
- Rock Valley College
- Rock River
- Many good people
- Size, not too big and not too small
- People are trying to make this a better community
- Quiet, after schools let out
- Everybody picks up trash and we all work together
- Small town
- Park district

- Privacy
- The people
- Parks and recreation
- No noise, well kept homes, no break-ins
- Proximity to services
- Parks, Sinnissippi Gardens
- Peace and quiet
- Small size
- Smallness
- Good hospitals, good parks
- Parks
- Rockford Park District programs, especially for children
- Size and locality
- Close knit families, we know everyone
- People
- I like all the parks here
- Nice parks and forest preserves
- Activities for the older people
- Parks and recreation
- Parks and walking paths
- Services
- Family
- Parks and recreation
- Lots of volunteer opportunities
- Great parks for families
- Park district
- The parks and outdoor space
- Ease of access to all 4 corners
- Churches
- Affordability
- I love Rockford, it's a pretty fair place to live
- Proximity to lots of variety
- Usually can find some type of entertainment
- It's small
- Illinois needs to pass a law like Arizona
- Summer concerts at the Sinnissippi Band Shell, plays and concerts
- Special education for children
- 173 Corridor and other shopping (Logli, etc.)

- Good place to live
- Neatness
- Large town but doesn't feel that way
- The park system
- Mostly quiet
- Our support for our school district and our students' achievements
- The park system
- The arts
- Small town living
- I work as a case manager at the Rockford Rescue Mission and I find there is a lot of good programs for those in need, although we could always use more
- How "green" it is becoming
- Small town atmosphere
- Wonderful friends and neighbors
- There are many resources available for individuals. We have many nice parks, but they need to be monitored
- Recreation – parks
- Community works to improve roads when needed
- Low cost of living
- Small
- Park system
- Parks, conservation
- Size
- Parks
- Friendly people
- Health care, park systems
- All the restaurants
- Church
- It is peaceful
- Cooperation
- The health care is tremendous
- Park department
- Quiet for a big city
- Bike path
- It's not in Cook County
- Foresight need to take responsibility for self. Too much fun and games
- That it's a small community and crime is relatively low
- Usually quiet, no drive-by shootings so far

- Easy shopping access
- Still has a lot of small town ideals
- All the lovely parks. The Rock River
- Having the ability to see concerts, doing things with others, Rock Valley College, Van Galder, Coronado, Metro Center seems to make this town better. Very dull if didn't have these to enjoy or do at an affordable price
- Lots of parks
- It's all right and I don't hear a lot of noise. We have to have security, it's drug attacks in here
- Parks
- Many opportunities for arts and entertainment, (theater, music) life-long learning (Rock Valley College, continued learning in retirement)
- Park district and forest preserves
- Parks and recreation
- Pretty quiet
- Cheery Valley (sic)
- The desire of the city to make cuts and still not lower services extremely. I am impressed with the city standing firm against the unions
- Caring people
- Diversity
- Their willingness to help those in need
- Recreational facilities, Rockford Park District
- Small and quiet, not much violence
- River
- My neighborhood is safe
- Good police
- Parks
- Ability to travel across town within reasonable amount of time
- The amount of resources available to people in need
- 7th Street business district and fire department
- My neighbors, we look out for each other, keep each other informed of things. Community, there is nothing I can think of
- Smaller, family oriented
- Friendly people
- We are close to interstates to go anywhere
- It is predominately white
- Friendly supportive attitude
- Built in open spaces
- I like the fact that everyone is very respectful

- It is quiet and clean
- Small town feel with plenty of services
- Park district/parks
- Great hospitals
- Its parks
- Boone County Council on Aging
- Small town living, low crime
- Diversity
- Friendliness hometown feeling
- Our parks and all the programs for kids art, sports, education
- School and parental communication
- The caring people of Rockford to step up when needed
- Choice of health care services
- Ease of getting from place to place
- My church
- My history
- Small home town atmosphere
- Forest preserves
- Poplar Grove is a quiet, friendly community
- Physical beauty in parts
- Small communities within our city
- Lots to do
- Beautiful parks, gardens, and river
- How much we are growing and expanding
- Park district, city streets
- It is still a neighborhood
- Rural, not crowded
- The Swedish background of Rockford
- Keenage Center Community Building
- I think the park district and the YMCA are doing a lot of good along with Heartland Church
- Parks
- Park district
- Not much
- Parks
- Can walk down the street with family without fear
- Parental support
- Good state park and forest preserve
- Parks and museums

- Generally speaking the people. Many would give the shirt off their backs
- The weather
- Parks
- The many parks and trails we have (Rock Cut State Park)
- Most will mow their lawn and take fairly good care of their property
- The sports teams we have
- Town Hall information meetings
- Cost of living is low relative to other communities
- Lots of shopping and dining facilities
- The parks
- Small and self-contained
- People
- Parks
- The feeling that I can get places without traveling a lot. To obtain goods and services
- We have a neighborhood watch program
- Quiet, accessibility to many occasions
- Smaller size, able to get to know neighbors and community members, parks, and bike paths, convenience to services
- People
- Convenience of shopping
- It is home!
- So many volunteer
- The park system
- People
- My house
- RVC – beautiful campus with excellent program offerings
- Affordable colleges
- Park district
- Housing
- Ability of non profits to work together
- Having a FQHC Facility
- Diversity
- Diversity
- The variety of kids recreational opportunities
- The many good non-for-profit groups
- Variety of shopping and restaurants
- Big community, but feels small
- The variety of opportunities and cultures

- Location
- The array of social services in the area
- Golf and recreation facilities
- Wonderful houses at low cost, many family activities
- Diversity of people
- Nucleus of caring, qualified people in public service agencies
- The parks are wonderful
- We have plenty of able people who with leadership would supply many services needed
- Not far from Chicago and Milwaukee
- Parks are nice
- Variety of parks
- My neighborhood
- Nothing
- Parks and recreation
- Population size
- The vicinity, we are close to everything as a community, a feeling of city and country living at the same time, it is close and small enough to be friendly and wholesome
- Parks
- Library services
- Activities for seniors and teens
- Recreation
- Park district
- The beauty of the city in relation to parks, restaurants, professional persons, educational opportunities
- Leadership of government
- Variety of retail services available
- Availability of health care
- Its size
- Affordable place to live
- Parks
- Lots of recreation
- It's safe
- The natural beauty
- Diversity
- Size
- Lots of things to do and park district
- Parks and recreation
- There are a lot of things to do with young children in the area

- Innovative history
- People, parks and recreation system
- Affordable living
- Affordability
- Parks
- Great park system
- Small size
- Quality of life assets
- Boundless opportunities for affordable children's programs through the Y and park district, etc.
- Park systems
- Diversity
- The people are so friendly and kind
- Being close to family
- Strong spiritual base within total population of families living in community
- The diversity

37-49. Which of the following factors made looking for a job, getting a job, or keeping a job difficult for you or someone in your household? 49. Other:

- Freelance
- Health issues requiring surgery
- He got a great job doing IT work with the U.S. Census but because he had an old Class B misdemeanor charge for trespassing on his record, he was let go, even though he worked in the office because background agency said Census people can't have trespassing charges.
- Because temporarily not able to work, didn't have money to accrue CEU's
- The economy
- Economy – bad downsizing
- Being overqualified
- Too many applying for the same positions
- Neuro problems
- Market flooded with qualified candidates
- State budget a problem – State of Illinois
- No job to be found in area of education and wages
- Lost job due to the recession
- Lack of hours offered
- Minimum wage jobs, only less than my husband's previous job
- No expectation to work or support myself or my family

- Over qualifications for the job
- Lack of money for gas for job search
- Pay
- Lack of jobs in social service area
- Jobs going across seas
- No new home building
- Trimming trees and firewood jobs few available. No teeth – need dentures
- A.D.D.
- Businesses hire only part-time, no benefits
- Overqualified, college but limited by degree, no money to get training or courses
- No one hiring
- Online applications
- Underemployment
- Lack of decent pay rate jobs
- Need RTMD service on the new Charles Street
- Worried about residency issues
- Very little human contact, most applications done online, or resumes sent through the mail
- The fact that I belong to a union
- Economy slowed construction
- No one hiring
- Availability of entry level accounting positions
- Owned by a foreign country
- Cut teaching jobs
- Overqualified when looking
- Nepotism

62-90. Almost every home faces difficult situations at some time. Please mark those situations which you or someone in your home experienced during the past year. 89. Other:

- Doctors who are or seem less interested in patient needs than their profit margin
- Obesity discrimination
- Didn't get medical financial help through Crusader or food stamps because we don't have children
- Social status discrimination
- Political
- Local School Board politics
- Discrimination for financial
- My child was being harassed by school staff
- Unsafe work environment for wife who is a teacher in public school
- Reverse discrimination
- Unable to get preferred RX med because of FDA interference with natural thyroid meds.
- I'm worried about my medical care and prescriptions if I lose my health insurance
- Trying to keep up in two mortgages
- Medical is too costly
- Special needs discrimination
- Lack of education discrimination
- Discrimination due to disability by neighbors and police no action taken
- Trying to sell a house but unable to
- Can't afford down payment for a home
- Discrimination due to work history
- Medical concern makes hard to get job offer
- Employment
- Grandchild without insurance needs free mental health services
- Vet discrimination, Vietnam Vets don't receive SS Vet bonus, the cut is anyone in the service before 1968
- I am a heterosexual and have been discriminated against – reverse discrimination
- Reverse racial discrimination because I am white
- Expense challenge obtaining health insurance
- Because of union affiliation
- Class discrimination
- Cut hours some of the time
- High tax
- Illinois Public Aid receiver
- Disability
- Unsafe work place

- Student bullying
- Disabled discrimination
- Trying to help adult child, not able to get info due to HIPAA laws
- Marital discord, worry about care of grandchildren by their parents, unable to financially assist financial crisis of adult children
- A double homicide in the neighborhood
- Having enough money to market my business products and services
- Reverse discrimination
- Both of my children left private school and entered the public system. Difficult but rewarding overall

91-105. If you or anyone in your home needed help during the last year, such as for personal, financial, family, or job problems, and didn't receive help, what were some of the reasons that help was not received? 105. Other:

- Exwife doesn't pay child support
- SSA website lacked clarity in qualifying for benefits process. Same for Public Aid site for food stamps and medical/income aid
- One of the boys who stays with us developed Type 1 diabetes and tried to get a Medical Card because he is unemployed (constantly looking for work) but he was denied. He doesn't have a penny, has some fines to pay, his family stopped supporting him financially and emotionally at 16 (he just turned 21). We have been paying for his insulin and supplies, but he wants to be independent. Doesn't like having to ask
- Insurance company harassed, stalled, did everything to thwart payment. Crusader Clinic took so long to get appointment, then when had appointment they had to cancel and took 3-4 weeks to reschedule. Happened twice. Once in, had good treatment
- Swedish American ER nurse discriminates against gays
- Denied for help
- Don't have kids and aren't Mexican or Hispanic
- Needed brief nursing help at home after operation. Could not get through surgeon's office
- Service refused to help
- Bad legal advice for bankruptcy and home
- I get food stamps
- FDA has made natural thyroid meds virtually unavailable even though they pre-date and are grandfathered without "FDA approval." Score one for big pharma who profits from this
- Could not get school to complete form for doctor to review. My child needs testing
- Government bureaucracy slows things done
- Two year wait for housing, not even taking applications
- Unemployed household member challenged to obtain health care insurance
- Daughter having difficulty with financial aid for college
- SSI mistake, finally corrected

- Continued education money
- Medical issues cause exhaustion/fatigue, too great to pursue adequate counseling services
- Marketing plan is still under development

106. Is there a particular person or place where you usually go when you are sick or need advice about health? (8) Other:

- Internet
- Chiropractic, naturopath
- Naturopathic physician. Chinese doctor in S.F., CA in WI (Note: not “practitioners” passing herself off as a doctor here in Rockford and the internet)
- Chiropractor

108-125. What reason(s) kept you or a family member from receiving medical or dental care? 125. Other:

- Laid off
- The only in-network dentist in Wisconsin and could not get referral from PCP
- Went to Crusader for a back problem. They told him to go to Swedes to get a back x-ray. He had no money for the x-ray so never got the help he needed
- Appointments were canceled by clinic for legitimate reason, but took so long
- Teeth really bad, experienced discrimination at Crusader Clinic, was told all of us white people look the same
- Doctors won't take Medicare
- Care was delayed
- Not a lot of doctor/dental care take Medical Card
- Have over \$500 in doctor bills to pay because can't get assistance
- Confused
- No at home care on short notice
- Elective procedure not done because doctor of choice would not take insurance coverage
- Could not do locally
- Doctor error
- Deadbeat dads
- Doctors not available to talk to on phone, must wait for appointment
- 3-4 hour wait at ER (Swedes)
- Owed dentist money
- Not sure if they could service me, no gums – need dentures
- Pre-existing condition
- Crusader Clinic lack of organization
- I have to depend on the charity program

- Lack of medicare (denied)
- Over use of medical services instead of people taking responsibility for their own health

127. In the past year, have you or a member of your household traveled to a community outside Winnebago or Boone Counties to receive medical care? If yes, where did you or they go?

- Chicago, IL – VA
- Chicago, IL – Chicago Prostate Cancer Center
- Oak Park, IL
- Marshall, MI
- Rochester, MN
- Madison, WI
- Madison, WI – UW Madison
- Madison, WI – UW Madison Janesville, WI – Mercy
- Madison, WI – University of WI Hospital and Clinics
- Beloit and Janesville, WI – Mercy Clinics
- Madison, WI – VA Hospital
- Streamwood, IL – Alexian Brothers
- Madison, WI – University Hospital
- Mayo
- Chicago Suburbs – Central DuPage
- Madison, WI & Monroe, WI – University of Wisconsin & Monroe Clinic
- Madison, WI – UW Sports Medicine Clinic
- Beloit, WI – Beloit Memorial Hospital
- Madison, WI – University of Wisconsin
- Madison, WI
- Brookfield, WI & Franklin, WI – Bariatric Institute
- WI – free clinic
- Chicago, IL
- North Chicago, IL – Great Lakes Naval Base
- Athens, GA – emergency room at local hospital
- Milwaukee, WI – Aurora Sinai
- Monroe, WI – Monroe Clinic
- Madison, WI – University of Wisconsin
- Beloit, WI – Beloit Clinic/Hospital
- Chicago, IL – Children’s Memorial Hospital
- Beloit, WI – Beloit Clinic
- Madison, WI – UW Health University of Wisconsin Hospital

- Lake Geneva, WI
- Chicago, IL – Children’s Memorial Hospital
- Beloit, WI – Beloit Clinic and Hospital
- Beloit, WI – Beloit Health Care
- Madison, WI – UW Madison
- Madison, WI – University Hospital
- Mesa Arizona – Banner Baywood Hospital ER
- Madison, WI
- Evanston – North Shore Clinic
- Park Ridge, IL – dentist
- Cincinnati, Ohio – Children’s Hospital
- Madison, WI – VA Care West Clinic
- Madison, WI – UW Hospital
- Beloit, IL – Beloit Health System
- Monroe, WI – Monroe Clinic
- Janesville, WI – Naturopathic Family Clinic
- Madison, WI
- Harvard, IL – Mercy Hospital
- Milwaukee, WI – Neurologic Institute
- Chicago, IL – Rush Medical Center
- Madison, IL – VA Hospital
- Iowa – Resettled in Iowa receiving medical care there
- Chicago, IL – Loyola University
- Madison, WI – UW Hospital and Clinics
- Phoenix, AZ – Mayo Clinic
- Madison, WI – Williams S Middletown Memorial Veterans Hospital
- Madison, WI – UW pediatrics doctor
- Chicago, IL
- Chicago, IL
- Charlotte, FL – County Hospital
- Beloit, WI – Beloit Memorial Hospital
- Loyola University Medical Center
- Minnesota – Mayo Clinic
- Madison, WI – UW Madison
- Beloit, WI
- Beloit, Janesville, Madison, WI
- Madison, WI – VA
- Madison, WI – UW

- Janesville, IL
- Lake Geneva, WI
- Hoffman Estates, IL – Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Adult dementia psychiatric ward
- Beloit, WI – Beloit Memorial Hospital
- FHN Family dental, Northwest eye care
- Janesville, WI – RiverView Clinic
- Las Vegas, NV – Desert Springs Hospital
- Monroe, WI – Monroe Clinic
- Madison, WI – UW Madison Retina Clinic
- Madison, WI – UW Hospital
- Janesville, WI – Mercy Health
- Beloit, WI – Beloit Clinic
- Freeport, IL – Clinic
- Chicago, IL – Rush Medical Center
- Dayton, Ohio – mother paid for teeth removal
- St. Charles, IL – Dental
- Madison, WI
- North Carolina
- St. Charles, IL – St. Charles Family Medical
- Chicago, IL – University of Chicago Clinic
- Winter Haven, FL – First Care
- Madison, WI – St. Mary’s Hospital
- Elgin, IL – Alexian Brothers Wimmer Plaza
- Madison, WI – UW Hospital
- Sycamore, IL – Hauser Ross Eye Center
- Kishwaukee, IL – Kishwaukee Hospital & Midwest Orthopedic Services
- Crystal Lake, IL
- Mayo Clinic
- Chicago, IL – Diamond Headache Clinic
- Madison, WI – University Hospital
- Elk Grove Village, IL – Alexian Brothers
- Madison, WI – VA Hospital
- Madison, WI – UW Hospital
- Rochester, MN – Mayo Clinic
- Monroe, WI – Monroe Clinic and/or Hospital
- Crystal Lake, Woodstock Centegra, Barrington
- Chicago, IL – Northwestern University Medical
- Crystal Lake Centegra Health

- Grapevine, TX – Baylor
- Madison, WI – VA
- Peoria, IL – OSF endocrinology
- Madison, WI – UW Clinic
- Janesville, WI – Family Naturopathic Clinic
- Madison, WI – UW Children’s Hospital
- Leesburg, FL – Leesburg Regional Hospital
- Crystal Lake, IL – Ortho doctor
- Dixon, IL – KSB
- Madison, WI
- Beloit, IL – Beloit Mercy Health Clinic
- Rochester, MN – Mayo Clinic & Madison, WI – UW
- Madison, WI – VA
- Madison, WI – UW
- Madison, WI – University Clinics
- Chicago, IL – Rush University Medical Center
- Elgin, IL – St Joseph’s Hospital
- Madison, WI – UW Eye Clinic
- Monroe, Madison, WI – Monroe Clinic, UW Hospital
- Cook County
- Mayo
- Madison, WI
- Midwest Ortho at Rush – Chicago
- Bartlett Family Doctor and Dentist
- Madison, WI – UW Hospital
- Rolling Meadows – HomeFirst
- Madison, WI – UW Madison
- Hoffman Estates, IL – St. Alexian Brothers Hospital complex
- Madison, WI
- Madison, WI – UW Hospital
- Madison, WI – UW
- Chicago, IL – Kraff Eye Institute/Belmont Harlem Surgery Center
- Chicago, IL
- Milwaukee, Madison UW Eye Clinic, Mayo
- Chicago, IL – Northwestern University Hospital
- Woodstock/McHenry, IL – Centegra
- Loyola Hospital
- McHenry, Kane

- Minnesota – Mayo
- UW Madison
- Elmhurst Medical Center
- Madison WI – Madison VA
- Kane Geneva, IL – Fox Valley Family Physicians
- Madison, WI – Madison VA Hospital
- Madison, WI – UW Madison
- Beloit Health System
- Madison, WI – UW Madison
- Chicago, IL – Rush
- Peoria, Hinckley, Illinois
- DeKalb, IL – Kishwaukee Hospital
- North Barrington & McHenry, IL
- Madison, IL – UW Madison
- Woodstock, IL – Mercy Clinic
- Milwaukee, WI
- Chicago, IL – Northwestern Hospital
- Madison, WI – Madison VA
- Beloit, IL – Beloit Memorial Hospital
- Madison, WI – University Hospital
- Madison, WI – Madison VA
- Madison, WI
- DeKalb, IL & Madison, WI – NIU Clinic & Walgreens Clinic
- Madison, WI – UW
- Madison, WI – UW
- Janesville WI – Mercy Hospital
- Avon Park, Florida
- Madison, WI – University of Wisconsin Medical Center
- Hauser Ross Eye Clinic
- Kishwaukee, IL – Kishwaukee Medical Associates
- Madison, WI – VA Clinic
- Chicago, IL – Northwestern Clinic
- Madison, WI – UW
- Chicago, IL – Northwestern Medical Center
- Janesville, Wisconsin
- Madison, WI – UW Hospital
- DeKalb, IL
- Madison, WI – UW

- Bloomingdale
- Delnor, St. Charles, IL
- Hoffman Estates, IL – St. Alexian Medical Center
- Milwaukee, WI – Children’s Hospital, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
- Northwestern Memorial
- Iowa
- FHN

128. Why did you or a household member receive your care there instead of the Rockford Area?

- Previous resident of Chicago
- Specialist
- No one in area does this
- Previous medical provider
- Incompetent Rockford doctors
- Specialist
- Referred by doctor here
- Insurance
- I am a liver transplant
- Closer, previous treatment
- Cost and more competent people to deal with
- Specialized procedure not available here
- Lack of competent specialists in our area
- 1 attempt alternative treatments first
- Academic Health Center
- Quality
- Second opinion in Madison, wanted objective view out of town
- My husband taught in Beloit, I taught in Rockford. When we retired, I could either pay \$500/mo to continue my insurance and keep all Rockford doctors or take his WI insurance and sometimes have to see a doctor in WI. His insurance is much cheaper, so I took it
- Wife’s insurance is covered by both
- Location
- Better there
- That’s where Bariatric Institute is
- It was free, no questions asked
- Command from VA
- Fell when on vacation
- This is a center of excellence for movement disorders

- Don't like Rockford
- Difficulty being seen/ability to get an appointment on a timely basis
- Closer
- Was done incorrectly
- We have insurance with my spouse's employer in Beloit
- Better service and care
- Specialist
- Started care in Rockford, but operation & followup visits are in Chicago
- Doctor and insurance
- Closer
- Referred by local physician
- Better and more immediate care
- Accident happened while there
- Needed specialist
- Expertise
- Former dentist cannot pay on time
- Needed medical care specialist
- My primary provider
- Sent there by doctor here
- Health insurance dictates
- Naturopathic care of this type is not available here
- Checkup
- Rockford does not have the service here
- Could not get the same kind of care
- Rockford VA Clinic has no eye clinic
- Fewer problems, now living with another brother
- Doctor specialist
- Specialty not available in Rockford
- Emergency
- Child lung condition
- Equivalent care not available
- The father of the house needs to see a person about his screws in his back
- Vacation
- Closer to home
- Rockford doesn't do lung transplant which I had last year
- Could not do it locally, they transferred us to Minnesota
- We use the Beloit Health System
- Couldn't find doctor

- Improperly diagnosed in Rockford area
- I was sent
- Rockford couldn't provide needed care
- Insurance provider
- Less costly, better service
- Not available psychiatrists with expertise in adult dementia, psychiatric care non existent
- Insurance
- Previous caregivers for 15+ years
- That's where my health insurance has me go
- Was on vacation
- Have gone to Monroe for three years
- Long-term relationship with the doctor
- Local doctor referral
- Privacy and availability
- Specialist
- Would work with my finances
- Referral
- Did not know where to go. No money, infected teeth and not removed correctly here
- Used this dentist for many years
- Better quality
- Moved there
- No orthodontist to take Public Aid
- Family doctor
- 2nd opinion
- We winter in Florida
- Cancer
- Only place nearest that would and could fill pump
- Specialist
- Friend's recommendation
- Closer to school (NIU) for after care/therapy
- Specialist
- Comprehensive evaluation, not 5 min doctor evaluation
- Been going there for years, prior to treatment available in Rockford
- Sleep disorder since 1989 same doctor
- Been OB/GYN all of my life
- Service and care needed not available in Rockford, needed special surgeon
- Have been a patient there for twenty years
- That's where primary care doctor is located

- Long-term physical issues with core team of doctors prior to moving here
- Next level of care for lymphoma
- Couldn't find doctor in the area for need
- His job took him to Texas for a project
- I need to find a doctor in Rockford
- Endocrinology physicians are not at highest level
- Specialist
- To resolve the problem and heal rather than be cut
- Referred to specialist in Madison by Rockford doctor
- Emergency
- Know doctor and trust him
- I went blind in my right eye playing hockey in Dixon
- Doctor on Public Aid list and accepting new patients and not at Crusader
- More trust, better qualified, and more efficient
- Husband is Vet
- Workman's Comp
- For further medical testing related to hearing
- The clinic is rated top in the nation and has proved to be so
- Longtime established with PCP and hospital, per insurance also
- Wife received care at an eye clinic
- Better care
- Unsure of local diagnosis
- Acknowledged expert
- Hurt at work
- In process of switching, moved here two years ago
- Special doctor
- More natural approach to health care
- A specialist at UW was able to treat me with my Medical Card
- An excellent urologist was recommended to me
- Doctor there was previously transferred there
- Best retina specialist
- Not available
- Lack of trust of eye surgeon
- Better care
- Lack of holistic in Rockford, better service, specialist
- Was established there before we moved to Rockford five years ago
- Doctor is there
- No one in Rockford will give me the meds I need

- Doctor accepted KidCare there
- No good heart doctors here
- Part of insurance plan
- Long time doctor there
- Referred
- Been with doctor for 20 years
- Not so expensive
- Doctor is the only one performing that surgery
- Better quality, care, access
- Specialized medicine, better care
- Going to school in DeKalb
- Not available here in Rockford
- Specialists
- Transplant needs
- Continuity of care, kept same doctors after moving to Boone County
- No specialist (fertility) here. Eye doctor before moving
- Recommended to go because no one else could do the surgery
- Insurance didn't have joint replacement surgeon in network in Rockford
- Second opinion
- It was VA
- No doctor in the area that specializes in non surgical TMJ treatment
- School attendance
- Needed University setting for diagnoses
- Has GYN Oncology dept.
- Cataract operation
- Spent 6 months in Florida
- Second opinion
- Doctor recommendation
- Live in that area
- Veteran benefits
- Specialty
- Needed specialty care for surgery
- Was in Chicago when a heart condition was experienced
- Originally from there
- Specialists not available in Rockford, treated rudely by the local specialist's office
- Husband is going to school there and has only limited insurance through the school
- Needed more expertise in presenting medical concern
- PCP

- In PPO – later I learned better care
- Insurance requirements
- Because we needed a specialized pediatric endocrinologist
- Opportunity for other treatment not offered locally
- Higher level of care
- Closer

129. What was the medical disease condition, procedure or test?

- Prostate cancer
- Procedure
- Skin cancer checkup
- Vasculitis
- Allergy
- Cheek abnormality - MRI
- Neurological event
- I have a liver transplant and was receiving interferon therapy for Hepatitis C, which was contracted from blood transfusions 4-10-1988
- X-rays, physical
- Appendicitis, umbilical hernia, hemorrhoids removed, brain aneurysm
- Gamma knife, brain tumor treatment
- Nephrology
- Thyroid
- Cardiovascular
- Saw rheumatologist for fibromyalgia and arthritis in Monroe and got 2nd opinion on carpal tunnel surgery in Madison
- First they thought I had bone cancer in my arm, so I was sent to Dr. H. When that was ruled out, he sent me to Dr. O to continue with my rotary cuff injury and frozen shoulder
- Kidney stones, mammogram
- Vision
- Parkinson's
- Heart
- Birth control
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- X-rays to check left foot and left knee to make sure there was no breakage
- Parkinson's disease
- Prostate cancer
- Thyroid ENA
- Seronegative Spondyloarthropathy, colonoscopy

- For a scrotum correction on baby boy, the surgery wasn't done due to transport
- Child with ear infection, mammogram, general physical
- MRI and a sleep study
- Pineal brain tumor removal, shunt placement, 3rd ventriculoscopy, followup visits since 2004
- Tore ligament in rotor cuff
- General depression
- Giant cell arteritis, kidney failure, diabetes
- Cancer
- Pulled groin muscle and back muscle strain. Husband fell off back of truck and landed on back, 911 called due to previous heart problems. Not transported and there was no charge for ambulance to come. Went to ER next day
- 6 months checkup
- Urology, OBGyn
- Dental correction, cleaning, bridge
- Tuberous Sclerosis
- Pancreatitis
- General health
- All care
- All natural care
- Transplant patient
- Lap band
- Parkinson
- Brain cancer
- Eye exam for cataract surgery
- Multiple issues, physical disabilities, and dental care
- Followup
- Eye disease, ear problems
- Stroke
- Diabetes
- Child restrictive lung disease
- Determining age of our internationally adopted child
- The father of the house has screws in his back
- Pain in hip
- Surgery
- Have emphysema and had to have a lung transplant
- Pancreatitis
- Lithotripsy
- Back pain

- Shingles in my eye
- Skin cancer
- Physical
- Alzheimers, delusional – no doctor expertise in drugs to prescribe
- Sinus surgery
- Routine exams
- Checkups
- Food poisoning
- Diabetes
- Follow-up on damaged retina (30 years ago)
- Bladder cancer
- Alcoholism
- Preventive
- Cancer
- Tumor
- Bad teeth - sick - sick - mental issues
- Care of teeth
- Knee replacement
- Test
- Several teeth cannot come in, will need oral surgery if not taken care of soon
- Ear infection
- 2nd opinion
- Allergy injections and check blood thickness/thinness
- Diabetes
- Procedure (cancer)
- Severe diabetic peripheral neuropathy refill infusion pump
- Removal of eye cancer
- Severely broken ankle (slipped on ice)
- Neurologist
- Physical
- Migraine headaches
- Sleep disorder test not available 1989. Doctors in Rockford come and go, like working with same doctor
- Check-up
- I had a cataract removed from my left eye, heart stress test and ultrasound on kidneys
- Cancer, surgery, and chemo treatment
- Cancer Rockford doctors wouldn't get a date over Christmas holidays
- Chronic myeloid leukemia

- Degenerative disc disorder
- Lymphoma, lung biopsy-bone marrow biopsy
- Infertility & psychiatry (mental)
- Kidney stones
- A complete medical checkup
- Type I diabetes
- Pain in joint where previous surgery correction was done by this surgeon in past
- Ovarian cyst. A doctor wanted my partner to have an ovariectomy that solved the symptom, not the problem
- Scoliosis
- Heart
- Shoulder injury
- Many things done by ophthalmologist
- Wrist injury
- Grave's disease, eye surgery, and bariatric concerns
- Surgery on foot
- Back and hip surgery
- Treatments for multiple sclerosis
- Regular care, hospital – cataract surgery
- Macular degeneration
- Cancer
- Neuropathy
- ETE operation
- For shoulder spur
- Dental
- Update on previous surgery
- Well child checkup, cold and ear infection
- Pure red cell aplasia
- Grade I cancer of urinary bladder – surgery, so far great results. Still having BCG Rx monthly. April of 2011 will end the Rx.
- Eye disease and wound care
- Detached retina
- Eye surgery
- Cataracts
- Cancer
- General, general exam, heart
- Knee repair, stents in bypass artery, thyroid problem
- Annual checkup

- R.A. Fibromyalgia
- Heart
- None of your business
- Eye exam/contact, glasses replaced
- Blood work/CT
- Asthma, bronchitis, allergies
- Bone
- Parathyroid remove/minimally invasive
- Routine and basic urgi-style
- Treating/monitoring MS conditions
- OB
- Peoria – GI bypass, Hinckley – dental
- Two knee replacements, blood clots in lungs, heart blockage, and one stent
- TMJ and osteopathic procedures needed
- Transplant needs
- All care
- Fertility, routine checkup
- Consult
- Multiple joint replacements
- Thought I had MS
- Test
- Non surgical TMJ – improper positioning of jaw bruxism, pain
- Ear infection/strep
- ALS
- Ovarian/Uterus cancer survivor
- Eye operation
- Anemia and received blood transfusions
- Torn rotator cuff
- Strabismus
- Uti
- Cataracts & general physical exams
- Foot surgery
- Hypospadias
- 3 stints after a heart attack
- Cardiology
- High blood pressure, alcoholism, psoriasis
- Cataract surgery
- Checkup

- Diagnostic
- Hospitalized for ischemic colitis, had a colonoscopy
- Growth hormone deficiency
- Women's health
- Flu, virus

130-131. Do you have health insurance that pays for all or part of your medical care? If yes, what type of health insurance do you have? Is it a traditional major medical plan, an HMO, PPO, or something else? (9) Other:

- Pink Card
- HSA
- COBRA
- COBRA
- Private Plan with Public Employees Retirement Assoc. (PERA)
- COBRA
- COBRA
- COBRA
- OSF charity approved
- Temporary insurance
- COBRA

141. Is there a support group that you or a household member needed, but could not find? Which?

- Loss of a spouse (deceased)
- Home care financial assistance
- Driver to appointments
- MS
- Hospice Grief Center
- Post War Support
- Grieving pet owner (Pets are kids when people don't have)
- Psychiatrist
- Support for loss of my mother
- Widowed/single
- Nar A Non
- Post partum depression
- Mental help for mental care
- Fibromyalgia support group

- To address autism spectrum for son
- We are starting our own support group for transplant patients
- Counseling on depression
- How to reach a decision when I need the next level of home care
- Parent of autistic child
- Someone to talk to, not just at a meeting
- Counselor
- Grief
- Help with my 17 year old grandson mental issues
- Medical
- Family counseling services covered by insurance
- Senior financial help counsel
- Grief counseling
- Medical doctor
- Al-Anon (Family of an alcoholic)
- Divorce, abandonment, alcoholism
- Hospice
- Kids with special needs
- How to find a second job
- Services for hearing impaired
- Mental health
- Emotional
- Stop smoking
- Physiology
- Gender support
- Now trying to get help through Rockford Charter of NAMI
- National Alliance on Mental Illness
- I attempted to seek help from a private counselor and when I did, I did not receive a call back
- HELLP syndrome support group

221-229. Does this home include: 229. Other:

- Father in law
- Care giver cares for owner of home
- Adult son
- 2 young men
- Roommates
- Disabled son
- Homeless friend living with us
- Temporary for homeless person
- One adult child
- Adult son
- 2 adult children
- 2 adult children
- Senior care
- 2 adult children
- Parent
- 3 adult children
- Parent
- Adult grandson
- 2 adult children
- Adult son
- Grandmother
- Adult child
- 2 adult children
- Adult children

231-234. Where do you access the internet? 234. Other:

- Public library
- Dad's
- Library
- IDES & RVC or library
- Smart phone
- Rockford & Cherry Valley Libraries & YMCA
- My friend's internet
- Wi-Fi Hot Spots
- IL Dept. of Employment Services

- Cell phone
- Library
- Mobile device
- Library
- Smart phone
- Library
- Library
- Library
- Library
- IPhone
- Family's house
- Library
- My relatives
- Blackberry cell phone
- Brother's home
- Mobile
- Library
- Library when needed
- Library
- Library
- Library or employment office
- Blackberry
- Phone
- Blackberry cell phone
- College, school
- Library
- Cell phone
- Library
- Phone
- Coffee shop
- IPhone
- Library
- Cell phone
- Library, family
- Cell phone
- IPhone
- Library in Winnebago
- Library

- Library, friends, family
- Library
- My son's house
- Public library
- Cell phone
- Library
- Daughters
- Rock Valley College
- Phone
- Sister's house
- Library
- Library
- School
- Public library
- Travel

237. Is there anything else that you would like to tell us?

- Please call if needed, I will try and help. Where do the poor old people go next to homeless.
- Currently unemployed, receiving unemployment benefits from the State of Illinois. Will be taking courses to qualify for insurance license in June. Begin new employment in July. Currently, wife is Filipino immigrant and cannot work until she is a U.S. citizen. Should get work authorization within a month.
- I have OCD.
- Affording health care has been a major issue. We are not on welfare, but somehow the people that take advantage of those services get better health care than we do. Simply going to the doctor to check for sinus problems is too difficult for us to afford.
- Property taxes hinder most people who own their own home. Illinois – Winnebago County has the highest or at least one of the highest tax rates in the entire country. Lowering this and implementing a sales tax would at least include the illegals, drug dealers, prostitutes, etc. into the tax base and free up seniors and others to buy better health care.
- My mother had to go to University of Wisconsin for surgical procedures for prolapsed rectum and bladder. Couldn't be taken care of here. Time lapses for above contributed to her death.
- Not enough where to go places for elderly to get legal, medical, and dentist help for free.
- I don't think that people in office should get everything free for being in office one term.
- Roads in Rockford are horrible, education at its lowest, a government that supports incompetency in its agencies and services. If I had the money or financial means, I'd move out of Rockford, actually Illinois.

- Better insurance is needed. Employers raise rates, cut benefits, and raise copays. Pharmaceutical (mail order) just sucks. I have the right to purchase my meds locally, yet “insurance” doesn’t allow that. Mail order is risky and should be “optional.” To pay three months mail order is difficult, versus one month locally.
- Over the last 10 years, I’ve either had wage freezes or wage reductions to the point that I’m now earning the same amount for a year as I was making in 1985. I make \$25,000 less now than I was making 5-6 years ago working for the same company.
- Equality in Rockford needs to be for all people, not just minorities. I would move my family out of the Rockford area if I could afford it.
- This area and socio-economic nucleus seems to have a leaning towards socialized health and benefits offerings, i.e., where is mine, however, the economic tax base infrastructure has no ability or current plan to fund the service demands. So the Health related question needs to focus on growing the local economy and tax base.
- It is quite a coincidence that this survey arrived when it did. We lost our son May 2009, due to a series of bungled medicine by local doctors. Up until now, I haven’t known who to tell his story to, but someone needs to know so it isn’t repeated. He was a brilliant young man whose life was totally wasted by carelessness on the part of a number of doctors over a long period of time. He was a wonderfully talented young man and very kind and caring. In his honor, we happened to meet two young homeless men, who due to unfortunate family circumstances, both needed a second start in life. We took these two young men in (aged 20, 21) and are helping them. One had undiagnosed Type 1 juvenile diabetes. He said he’d had the symptoms six-seven years, but his parents thought they’d go away. Both boys have a number of issues (thankfully not drugs) that we are attempting to deal with now. We’ve managed to get one enrolled in Rock Valley for Fall.
- My husband died in 2009. He was 84 years old and developed the West Nile Virus. He was in the Navy for 3½ years and served his country with honors. We got married in 1945 and this coming September we would of been married 65 years. It’s so hard to lose someone you love so much. I miss him more each day.
- I’m self-employed (child care) 23 years. Have had major medical for 17 of these years. Several of the families I sit for have lost their jobs, so I’ve lost kids. I had to drop my insurance. I have two bad hips and need surgery. I was told no for a Medical Card. So my age group falls between the cracks for help. I can hardly walk so I can’t work outside my home. What I need is disability until I recover from hip surgery and medical assistance.
- Disgusting that the cover letter had to be written also in Spanish. If you live in the USA, you learn our language, my grandparents did.
- Husband just moved to nursing home for people with dementia. Doctor wouldn’t allow him to come home. Doctor didn’t think I could manage.
- Contain truancy, hold parents responsible. Bring graduation scores up will attract higher than blue collar. We need mix, Rockford is too blue collar. Great town for philanthropy, supportive agencies. Improve police department. Tackle gangs and drugs and illegals.
- More help for shut-ins.
- Business stinks. Government sucks. The world’s nuts. I am blessed.
- We are tired of Rockford so we are moving toward Freeport.
- Can make monthly payments but can’t find a dentist. The need is extremely urgent.

- Daughter is 22, laid off work and teeth are in real bad shape, 3 offices told her \$5,000-\$6,000. She has only unemployment. Crusaders Clinic only does many visits and not fast enough to save her teeth. I am unable to help her cause of the cost to keep the home. Any suggestions?
- I own my home and have lived here for 32 years. There is another who has lived here for almost a year. She will eventually leave when she can get back on her feet. The past year health and financial problems have plagued her. Health issues kept her from working, financial issues kept her from getting her CEU's to keep up her license. Her car was stolen.
- We need jobs here ☺, not in India.
- We pay \$4,000 yearly property taxes and they want to raise them. I make \$14,000 yearly. We have a very, very corrupt city & state governor, Mayor, police dept, city alderman. Health insurance is too expensive. The rich get richer, the poor are destitute. Want my opinions: lower health care costs, stop letting jobs leave Rockford. Newspaper will not print these issues, will you?
- Property taxes are intrinsically unfair.
- Need to do something about the high real estate taxes imposed on senior citizens. Should exempt the school taxes after 65 and a certain income level. Puts a great burden on seniors that have higher medical and prescription bills. Someone other than School Board members need to scrutinize school budgets, too much "buddy business" going on hiring "buddy" teachers, giving budget approvals for things not really needed.
- Smile 2 times daily and you will get a smile in return.
- This form only encourages negative responses.
- I don't see how this can help change anything. It's just a way to waste money and be nosey.
- Our children, both good students and hard workers, were penalized by the system when trying to get financial aid for college. They received little or no help, but if they had been children of immigrants would have gotten a free ride. The college aid system really hurts families who work, pay their bills, and taxes. I didn't used to resent the assistance available in all forms, but after seeing the students getting the "free rides" in action, I now deeply resent all of the aid, etc., etc., that I see people who won't work getting every day. Too much tax dollars being spent on bad parents/parenting.
- Because I work third shift and my wife works 1st shift and we have two children ages 3 & 1. I average 25-30 hours of sleep a week that is 3½ to 4½ hours of sleep a day because we have no child care.
- So tired of government agencies costing so much with very little benefit to the people.
- We just want help. I bring home \$489 a week. We have rent, clothes, food, medical bills, and other bills to pay plus car repairs. We're filing bankruptcy for a 2nd time. Our credit sucks, can't afford to move out of my in-laws, been here for 6 years. I have possible skin cancer, we both need colonoscopy. Sick of people getting help because they have kids or are Mexican or Hispanic, drive nice cars, have nice clothes, and we have nothing. Our med bills are \$500 plus, over a \$1,000 just for chiropractor. Everyone's supposed to get medical insurance, but how can we when it costs well over \$100 a month for two people.
- Do a good job. Thank you.

- The health care and access to care is very good in this town. You have clean air, water, traffic is good, but the older parts of the city and newer, just lack the constant care buildings need to look good. The city should “force” the private owners to clean up their property. No new development should be granted unless an equal or better development is done in a vacant or older part of town.
- We need to bring back Vo-Tech. We need in Rockford like Chicago’s “Science & industry.” We need activities for young kids and teens. We as a community need to teach kids respect, tolerance, and manners. Early age, preschool, grade school learn right from wrong. Stop the violence in kids and young adults.
- It is irritating to be needlessly referred to a specialist, then have a physician’s assistant (nurse practitioner) perform the function that could have and should have been done by the referring doctor. Then, to add insult to injury, is being charged a higher copay and never seeing the specialist.
- Reduce crime, teen pregnancy, and make treatment for drug and alcohol abuse more readily available. Filling out this form confirms how blessed I am!
- I feel the Weed and Seed program is stupid. At least with the ghettos, you knew where most of the problems were. Now, good neighborhoods are going bad and the police are very slow to respond. If we could afford to move, we would to another state.
- The huge problem with our state government, unable to pay or reimburse agencies like public schools, health care, agencies which rely on state funding.
- Good questions, I look forward to seeing the results.
- I owned my own business and sold it in 2004. In August 2009, the new owner cut my hours to 20 hours a week. I looked for another part-time job with no success. I am 61 years old so I do not qualify for SS yet. I am really having a hard time. Thank goodness I have some savings to fall back on, but it is going down fast.
- We have medical insurance, but with a very large deductible. Further, many regular immunizations, physicals, and regular checks and tests are not covered so they do not even apply to the deductible. These costs are a major concern and often keep us from getting regular check ups and care. Yet, we are not uninsured and so do not qualify for many programs. The system is so frustrating because doctors cannot tell us what our cost will be before the service.
- I feel roads are very bad, property taxes are too high, and activities are too few and expensive. River is filthy, unemployment is too high, and gas prices are too high. Not enough senior living homes – assisted or nursing homes. Not enough fee swimming pools around town and too many gangs and shooting.
- I’m age 64 and concerned (fearful) that I won’t be able to receive (afford) health care for my health issues (Parkinson, gout) or even finding a Medicare accepting doctor in the State of Illinois and will have to move.
- Winnebago County does a fairly good job providing care options for the elderly, however, I feel the cost of elderly care whether in-home or out of home is extremely high and very difficult for many families. I also feel this is a national issue, not just here in Winnebago County as I have family in Indiana and Florida.
- Seniors need volunteers to help with painting, yard work, gardening, house cleaning, snow removal, and etc.
- More for teens to do in Belvidere. To get a movie theater in Belvidere.

- How are we going to help our society take care of their children and be responsible parents? I am an ex educator. We need to bring down health costs without federal or state government intervention. We need better communication between doctors so duplicate tests need not be run. Medicine needs to be more wholistic. We need to treat mind and body. Doctors and teachers need to know their patients and students better. There is too much run them through as fast as possible.
- I attended a tour to Harlem, Michigan with the CLR group. They had a most wonderful senior center there with exercise equipment, library, pool, and activities. Very reasonable and not in a dangerous area. I would be happy to work on fund raising or whatever it takes to get that for the NE side seniors, i.e., the Ace hardware building on Riverside near Mulford and others. Actually, Rockford is very generous in their offerings. Crime and school, to me, are more important than anything. Thanks for all you do.
- I have seen a terrible decrease in business since I moved here. That increases crime, violence, and homeless people. This should not be happening. Everything now is for money, not neighborly people helping others. The elderly including me does not feel safe and everything is being taken away from us. What about we don't get a raise for 2 years, but the high rises still make our rent go up. Doesn't anyone care at all? There are so many people collecting Medicare social security who are very much able to work. I'm talking about young people. They are stealing from us. There should be stricter rules. Put me in the White House, I'd straighten them out!
- My mom is 89 year old. Has a bad hip, blind in one eye. One of my friends who became homeless stayed at the house one winter night. That night led to him being part of our family. My brother and me go to work and he watches over mom. So we told him to stay and be part of our family. He has been with us 1½ years. I wish there was some kind of program to get homeless hooked up with the needy good for both? Have a good day. Hope this helps.
- I deliver Meals on Wheels. If a good diet is important to one's health, why can't affordable dental insurance also be available to seniors?
- Employment work - indigenous racial natives hard to determine employment maybe I can learn is limited - ethnic racial natives doesn't exist. I receive disability SSI. I pay attention to financial and educational existence - 100 jobs for ethnic racial school is not ethic or genealogical 100 jobs aren't for school work test-GED. Fired-Job lazy.
- Would be useful and economical to have Medicare cover or assist with internet-based home monitoring, which would be helpful in caregivers being able to "keep tabs" on elderly relatives without the necessity of hiring healthcare workers. Cameras in the house/outside would allow working children to view activities of elderly and perhaps prevent accidents, etc., and to call for help more rapidly. Thank heavens for RMH. Thanks for this survey, wish you had sent one to homeowner as well, would have had very different answers.
- Bus routes are poor for those without car or would like to use public transit. Need all neighbors to be connected with sidewalk to parks and grocery stores. Need neighborhood schools. New subdivisions should include space for school and parks. Must include more diversity in community planning and neighborhood solutions. Need more free activities - concerts, outside plays, park bands in areas that can be walked to by community.
- My hearing is bad. I am working with Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Rehabilitation Services Social Services Career Trainee.
- High taxes are making it very difficult for myself to prosper.

- I do think health care is too expensive, but everything is expensive. We got good care when we had no insurance, now the insurance companies rule. It seems to be a problem for some. Maybe the drug companies charge too much? I don't have a problem, have a Medicare direct plan.
- While my husband has been unemployed, we applied for food assistance. We were denied because we have too much money in savings. Why do we have to pay for everyone else to receive these benefits, but when we need assistance, we get denied? We have to live on our retirement money because we have done things the "right" way. Non-U.S. citizens are able to get this help and so are other U.S. citizens that are capable of working. Our government needs serious help.
- I would like to receive a Medical Card for myself for health and dental care. I have very bad teeth and am in need of dentures or something, I also need glasses or contacts.
- Real estate taxes are too high. Rockford School District needs to get their act together and find a bonafide superintendent. Parents should have programs to support their kids while in school and not rely on teachers totally.
- Pass a law, no talking on cell phones while driving. No going through a red light. Lawns mowed on empty houses. No barking dogs. If ill, same day appointments with doctors. Personal doctor to visit patient in hospital.
- I think this form is pretty much it.
- A lot of the "tragedy" of Rockford starts with the very low graduation rate. Where are the parents supporting/encouraging students to get an education?
- Distressed that I cannot afford orthodontics even with insurance. I have a brother who is unemployed, uninsured, and going through social security disability. The process is horrendous. The Medical Card won't cover him because he has not been determined disabled yet and he has no dependants. We are unable to seek medical care for him. My siblings are paying his rent, but two have lost their jobs. We need help and are dealing with an unreasonable person.
- If Rockford doesn't get the educational system changed and property taxes lowered in the future, no one will come to Rockford and the young people will all leave.
- I would like to see funding to assist the mutual health of young mothers with children with special needs.
- Rockford needs less government involvement and more health, religion, private intervention to help the need of the people.
- I don't have any issues with my current health care coverage through my employer except rising co-pays and deductible costs, but I know my coverage and costs are going to be downgraded and more expensive once Obama Care really takes effect. It will hurt most of us working Americans. Malpractice awards need to be limited because it's costing us all more \$ and making lawyers rich. I am pissed off as a citizen who works and pays a lot of taxes that I am paying for free health care for illegal aliens who do not belong in our country. Why do they get services and benefits that I cannot receive? They get paid under the table to avoid taxation and get all the perks because we're a stupid country!
- I don't think the problems listed in the first and other sections should be related to governmental solutions, but instead, should be addressed by individuals and the private sector.
- The police in this town are nasty and lie to the citizens.

- I have never had a traffic ticket in my life until I moved here. A warning should be issued for 1st timers. Who has the money to pay these tickets? At least lower the amount for hardship cases!
- I take care of this home and owner in exchange for a room. If I did not have this, I would be homeless. I do not receive enough unemployment to afford rent, insurance, food, or anything. I would be on the street. I have a injured ankle and cannot even get it fixed because I have no money, and I do feel like Public Aid will not help because I'm white.
- Education and poverty are issues that need urgently to be addressed. If improvement in these areas were attained, other serious problems would be greatly diminished.
- I am 82 years young. I have used Rockford Health System since 1949. My children all born here. I recommend this hospital whenever I'm asked, have high praise for it.
- The cost of insurance for those ineligible for Medicare is outrageous. My family is slowly losing all of the money we saved paying for insurance. It would be nice if the middle class taxpayers could catch a break!
- We love North Pointe. We would love if our medical insurance company would either pay our fees to join or somehow subsidize our membership so we could exercise/swim, etc.
- Don't press your luck.
- Was unemployed for a year with benefits. Now working for less than one-third the wages with no benefits.
- Northern Illinois needs to change focus from manufacturing jobs to more technology jobs. Or stop sending our work to Mexico or China or wherever. We need to make our country strong again and politicians to stop selling us out to foreign countries, also greedy CEOs. We need to improve our education system. Not necessarily spending more tax dollars, but start teaching again!
- I wish they would get affordable dental care.
- Our insurance is applying prescriptions that formerly were covered toward our deductible. What was \$0.00 is now \$260/month. We can no longer receive that prescription until our deductible is met. No, my husband won't die without it, but his heart is no longer being protected.
- If we can budget our monies, we expect and demand our local and national governments do the same. I love Rockford, here since 1977, but we are ashamed of the school system. We hate and are annoyed with the garbage, dump smells, often embarrassed when frequent out of town/state guests experience the odors.
- I wish it was up to the people to give pay increases to Congress and all government employees. They should not have the right to adjust their wages, the taxpayers should.
- Enforce the immigration laws. The illegals are draining our budgets and they are no value to our community.
- I live in Boone County. Most of these questions do not apply to me.
- The brain drain in the Rockford area is frightening. Also, the leadership in District #205 needs a real wake-up call about the violence in our schools. I have never seen such low morale in the ranks of the teachers (I am a tutor). Also, the city leaders need to take a serious look at the morale of our police and fire departments.
- Except for being overweight, I am a healthy happy individual with many friends and volunteers. I do a lot of gardening and raise a lot of my food organically.

- Feel that the people that live in U.S. should be able to get help faster than the ones from another place. Mexican and others can get help before we can.
- All health insurance providers should be required to cover autism spectrum disorders.
- I think more land should be set aside for parks and reserves. We are lucky to have a wonderful park district, but that does not just happen by itself. We appreciate the hard work and dedication of those who have made the park district what it is. Crime is a huge concern for many people. People are afraid of being robbed. Maintain our police force. Rockford schools – those problems are ongoing. I realize many people are trying very hard. A community is only as good as its schools.
- The area I live in has no street lights. I believe this is very unsafe, people walk/run after dark, people look for houses, etc. It is very strange to me that there are many neighborhoods in the Rockford area that are ignored (apparently) when it comes to being somewhat “safe by lights” after the dinner hour. Who is responsible – the community the developer? To me this is unacceptable!
- More housing for seniors. Not multiple units, preferably duplexes, rent based on income. Spring Valley/Peru Illinois area has a great program.
- Find honest politicians to run the government. Quit spending what you don't have and giving away what you don't have to people that won't work when they have a job.
- I just found out about two months ago that I have prostate cancer, I received a hormone shot to slow it down, they say they can't treat me until I lose about 75 lbs, I don't have insurance at this time so the cost of things that I have had done so far is really hurting the pocket book. I am applying for insurance through the CHIP program in IL, but the monthly premium is so high and the deductible will be about \$5,000 per year. I don't know what the future is going to bring, but I am hoping for the best.
- Medical records – my suggestion is for a computer expert and also knowledgeable about the immune system of the body and physical interaction to develop a disk that individuals medical information can be entered into. This could be accessed by any medical physician or patient. Suggestion, check with Dr. Zeitz.
- Classes need to be offered at no cost to help people become financially able to handle their money responsibly. Also, to get job training at very low fee. This all needs to be published all over so people know it.
- My husband and I will only be eligible for All Kids through the State for one more year when our son will turn 19. I am so thankful to have had that insurance and scared to death of not having it. We are generally healthy though, and I really need to lose weight which is depressing and makes me eat. Thank you. ☺
- In loan modification process on our current home, renting last home because we can't sell it.
- This person called us in March saying he was dying and needed medical assistance. Did not know what to do. He was examined at the emergency room and released. We have taken him to Janet Wattles Center, Crusader Clinic, and Hope Meetings. His needs are new glasses and dentures. We are working on the dentures but these services take a lot of time (appointments). We are trying to help him apply for food stamps and housing. It is sad, but in June, he must find a new home and work on financial issues himself – food, transportation, and living. We just do not have the answers.
- Need more activities for seniors – outings to concerts, casino, need one in this area.

- We had an appointment with a doctor at the Renaissance building who refused to take one of us as a patient and proceeded to tell us how sinful we were for being gay. Community needs to do more to erase discrimination against homosexuality. Also, switch school support money from property tax to income tax.
- Property tax is out of line. Rockford has too much crime. Too many expect entitlements – do not work for a living, expect government aid.
- In the last 30+ years, the Rockford area community has continued on a downward spiral. Schools have gone from bad to worse. Crime gets worse. Industry and jobs leave the area. The hospitals are not regarded in high esteem. School Board and city government are incompetent and a laughing stock. Now we have mass driving groups on the streets. Our family has had three generations in Rockford actively involved in the community in several ways, can't wait to leave.
- I think this survey lacked meaning due to the fact I'm retired, have my own supplemental insurance, own my home, and don't owe anyone anything. Have my doctor and the VA to take care of me. All this is done, because I can pay for it, so far. All who live in the U.S.A. should speak English!
- There is increased crime and/or the perception of it. Many of our neighbors have now got alarm systems. Increased gang activity and violence in the schools. Undereducated and unemployable youth, even if we had the jobs here. I feel like we live on the west side of the mountain, and we see the sun setting on Rockford.
- I am old. I am tired. I want the angels to come get me out of here. People are disgusting.
- I feel that after age 65 persons making under \$25,000 per year and own their own home should not have to pay taxes (real estate) or health insurance premiums. Supplements to Medicare should be free for those over 65+. Bus and other transportation should be free after 65+. These young woman, unmarried having baby after baby should get no government help after the 2nd child. These young adults need to get out in the world and work like the rest of us had to and some of us past 65 are still working. We are the ones paying for these young mothers and absent fathers to collect free money.
- There should be more surveys to allow the public to express their opinions and the needs of the community.
- Education is very bad in Rockford, so expenses of a private school are a huge concern. Crime is bad, sometimes scary. Not enough options to do in the city, not enough festivals, cultural arts, etc.
- Dental concerns for all adults. We need dentists that accept Medicare and Medicaid as well as that have labs in the area that make partials and dentures that need not be sent out of area or state to be made.
- No, just young couple only lived here for 3 years unsure of what really needs attention in community because we have a young family (no kids in school). I am a personal trainer, so I believe all communities have huge weight issues especially kids. Husband is a plumber (union).
- Rockford is a very poor area for raising children. The school system is the worst in the State of Illinois. No special help for children with social or mental deficiencies. The agencies only look at the dollars, not the child. One of my grandsons were taken to Mildred Berry, but they did not help him. My other grandson has not had his eyes examined in four years because no one takes his Medical Card.

- We are in the group that doesn't qualify for assistance, but we live month to month. If one of us lost a job or had an emergency, we'd be royally screwed! Thanks for asking.
- The "medical" community does not put enough emphasis on "wellness" care including complementary therapies and supplements. Too many "prescription" drugs. Medical care too fragmented, too many different appointment to specialists, etc., especially for the elderly. Too difficult to piece it all together. The passing of a 708 referendum to improve access to services community mental health.
- Too many excuses, not enough action. Our community needs an upgrade. We have lost too many manufacturing employers/jobs but failed to attract an equal number of new employers/jobs. Politics play a part in that, old money does too, so does the "woe is me attitude" of many here. Unions are killing Rockford as well as escalate the cost of goods and services and restrict the ability of employers to adapt to changing times. So employers close plants and move businesses. The ripple effect hurts all but a few. Minorities, I'm tired of the belief they are owed something. Stay in school, study, get a job, have some class.
- Adult child can't find work so she got food stamps for herself. Husband of senior adult recently passed away in nursing home was on aid.
- There should be a program designed to help working families with a down payment to use towards a home. My husband and I qualify for a home loan, but we do not have the money for a down payment, it is very frustrating when we work so hard but do not have enough to save.
- With no increase in Social Security, the cost of living of utilities and premiums on health insurance is increasing, too high for our income. At times it's very hard meeting expenses. We don't legally think that is fair to us or the country. Thank you.
- Winnebago County needs two more hospitals, one far to the north like south part of Roscoe or Rockton. Also, to the south like where the old motels are at 11th street. You would get traffic from Rt 2 and 251 and Rt 20.
- Need more programs for single moms. Need more programs for financial assistance for child programs, park, etc. Need to fix low-income housing, some live there 10+ years and don't work, I always work 1-2 jobs till company closed last month. Need more child support help when ex chooses to work for cash.
- There is a real need for grade school and high school kids to learn about money. How to budget, setting limits, realizing you can't afford everything, to lower your needs, especially if you don't have a good job. It's not how much you make, but how you handle your money. Many make a lot and still can't live in their means and in debt. I can't feel sorry for these people. You must have a back up plan and emergency funds. Most of our social problems stem from money and not knowing how to handle it. Learn the basics, do it and follow thru and depend on yourself, not others. Common sense, responsibility, (less about sex, music) respect of others and property.
- I need eye care as well as other medical and dental care.
- I'm sorry that medicine has to be so expensive.
- Uninsured people need access to specialty doctors, why can't specialists volunteer to give a few hours monthly to Crusader Clinic? I think only legal immigrants should qualify for Public Aid.
- It's hell getting older.

- A pre-existing condition (diabetes) caused a family member who was self-employed to lose a family business due to astronomical insurance costs. No tax breaks or assistance, also contributed to the closing of this business after 12 years. We need to support community members who are willing to open businesses in our community if we want to improve the jobless rate.
- The leadership in this area is short sighted. They don't seem to plan, instead jumping on the bandwagon of the latest solution. More thought, vision, and planning is necessary to save Rockford. The recent talk about tourism being the key to getting out of our economic descent is ridiculous. Instead, consider promoting the area as a great place to retire, cost of housing is reasonable and could fill the several empty houses per block. Three hospitals, near to Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison, and the Twin Cities, and an airport. Filling those houses would increase the tax base. Great golf courses. Consider the possibility.
The other thing I would like to discuss is the lack of support for a friend who is disabled. In spite of his physical challenges, he works full-time at a local company. It is difficult for him to maintain his home, work, and have a life. The car he had recently died, making it difficult for him to get from his place to the cafeteria in the allotted time. Someone suggested that he could receive some home help with chores through the Department of Rehabilitative Services. He contacted them and was told that because he worked he could not get the services. He has to be on disability to get the services they offer. Here is someone who pays income and property taxes, but cannot get help because he works. Instead the system encourages him to go on disability to get the services. This is a waste of a good human resource and money.
- I think it's pretty sad you can't get help because agency thinks you make too much money for two people and you are only over by a few dollars and losing your home. Also, the medical is so high here and if you can't afford the copay why can't they just take what insurance pays them? But no, they have collections come hound you and after so long they just won't take you any more. Then they bitch when you use a hospital for care and can't pay that either. I hate it here and wish we never moved here!
- Property taxes must be a constant issue that is reviewed. Costs vs services provided, duplicated services by the taxing bodies. Assessment of property values, reducing the multiplier.
- Relating to the police, two things. First, everyone sees them as the police force, not as people who share our community. Second, people also feel that the police are after our money in these tough times. They are pulling us over more and more, and the city is leaving up construction zones longer than needed to let the police write bigger tickets, especially Cherry Valley on Bell School Road in between State Street and Newburg Road. I didn't get pulled over, but several people I know have been and I know how much money was going directly to the city of Cherry Valley out of that several hundred. These are tough times for all of us, not just our cities.
- Need changes in Medicaid, can't pay doctors bills and they want a \$50 co pay per month.
- I feel anxious about the job security of my adult children, the economy in general, and the "bad news" broadcast 24 hours a day!
- In regard to the health care questions, I feel that there should be more help for those people that cannot afford it, but have no option but to get it.
- Need coordinated growth both geographically and economically.

- We moved to Rockford the fall of 1967. We raised a family here. Rockford has had its problems over the years, but Rockford has a great deal to offer its residents and the greater Rockford area. Our two children live in the greater Rockford area with their families and enjoy and contribute to the area.
- Crime and violence (gang-drug issues) are out of control in some neighborhoods. We need help with our youth, keeping them away from trouble and holding those who make poor choices accountable. Some of these poorly behaving youth get too many “second chances.”
- The cost for eye exam and glasses, etc.
- Health is more than an end in itself, it is essential for human development and a well-functioning community. As such, equity in health status benefits everyone. More must be invested in protecting, preserving, and improving health. Such increased emphasis can not just focus on personal behavior change, but must include environmental and social change important for facilitating personal change.
- Got a job, call me.
- Welcome the opportunity to work and use my knowledge gleaned from graduate school, but can't get any place willing to give me a chance in this area.
- In order to make this a better community, everyone needs to work together – schools, industry, people. It is hard to move forward when people are stuck without jobs, education, or feeling safe in your own neighborhood.
- We live in an area that gets a “bad rap” sometimes. For the most part, we have not had any problems. We live here because we wanted or needed to send our kids to private schools because the public system is such a mess. This was the only way we could afford the tuition. Now we are stuck for a few years until the housing market gets better. We have raised two fine young men here. One has some disabilities, but is working two jobs and the other is a student at RVC and working. What we see too much of is teenagers having babies they can't take care of and getting all the services they need for free. While we know it's necessary to care for the innocent children, we can't help but feel it encourages them, makes it too easy to rely on the state. Maybe if the classrooms had control, kids wouldn't be on the streets, though we know it's not that simple?
- I think being “white” is now the minority and we are discriminated against because of it. It shouldn't matter what color or race anyone is, why even ask those questions?
- The May/June issue of AARP had an article on veterans and pensions. It states that all vets are eligible for some kind. I wrote to Manzullo and they gave me a VA phone number in Chicago. In Chicago, they stalled me or they are dumber than a box of rocks. No help. The veterans in Winnebago County do not get the help they need.
- Taxes are too high, do not want to live in Winnebago County any longer. Struggling financially – daughter has difficulty getting financial aid for college. Husband in union and has to give 15% of wages back each pay period and not sure if his pension is safe. The minority group is now the whites?
- I would be interested in the results of this research. I worked in public health on the west side of Rockford mostly in housing projects which now have been demolished back in the 80's. Thanks for your efforts.
- Medical “issues” not a problem right now, but in less than 1 month I lose my sheet metal workers insurance, then we will have big problems.

- Too many high paying officials in government, on S. Madison at the Board of Education Building too. I am 90 years old, I have seen a lot, some good, some bad. Times change I know, but I fear for the young people today. The government does not know what they are doing. I always vote, but sometimes I wonder why. I'll get off of my soap box. Do hope you can read my scribbling and do have a good day. I am still glad to live in the U.S.A.
- I'm really concerned about low-income people that cannot afford recreation for their children. Also, gang and violence problems in school and in the neighborhoods. Also for counseling that people can't afford. People that need help have a hard time getting it in Rockford.
- Would like to see support group and activities for single parents (with a good income).
- I wish our community had a better option for dental care for IPA patients. My mother, who is on Medicare, Medicaid, needs her teeth pulled because of lack of care and malnutrition. She has a deep infection running through her system which affects her heart and blood pressure and she can't get care or food stamps to help her eating habits. It is so sad that she may die from this. I am not eligible for food stamps either because even though I am poverty level income and have been for years, I am starving! I have to put groceries on a credit card and see many people "of color" or Hispanics with cart loads of food and their many, many children at the store at the same time. Thank you!
- Dental is hard to get when you're in a bracket, they won't help and who has \$5,000 for dentures. They want a cosigner, my age who would. Insurance just don't cover, all my teeth are bad and no help, just take lots of Tylenol for pain. Work all your life and then you have to retire and your teeth get bad, no help. ☹
- Stop illegal immigration. Illinois needs a strong law like Arizona and then we might have the health care to help legal people here, not law breakers.
- It would be nice to have a place where 60+ seniors could live safely and affordably within walking distance to grocery stores, drug stores, restaurants, bike paths, the river, etc., and public transportation.
- Rockford needs more than service jobs. Lack of education is making Rockford a SLUM. Our state is broke and will spiral downward.
- Senior citizen, been here all my life. Attended School District 205, K thru 12. So did my kids. Now is really screwed up. Admin. reading too many books, kids will learn if admin. lets teachers be way more unstructured.
- My biggest beef is to get the State of Illinois to find a way to fund our schools, and put an end to the corrupt politics that are keeping our kids from getting the education they should be entitled to.
- I'm a CASA volunteer. My home was broken into 3 years ago and the police were not very helpful. We receive no help from the government at all. I paid 100% full tuition at University of Illinois for four yeas with no break.
- Recycle – get people involved in the outdoors, their health will improve and they will respect the earth. ☺
- This area seems to be one of great missed opportunity. People are satisfied with status quo and do not seek improvement.
- We need more assistance for the elderly. More assisted living made affordable for seniors, not low-income facilities. We deserve better and more help for veterans. Please!

- Any programs out there for the people who have jobs but have no disposable income? If the tire blew on my vehicle, I have no money to fix it or replace it without using grocery money.
- We also have two children who do not live with us, we are a blended family. We make just enough income to not qualify for any type of assistance for two high school and two middle students. Fees, sports, insurance costs are overwhelming and there are no breaks. There is no help for families like us who barely make it.
- I have job but make \$100 more than top they have, but if didn't have job could get help with utilities, etc. Was told by person seen don't work, then can get. This is not right or fair? Not everyone wants to be a loser, maybe they do!
I moved here in 1997 and feel Rockford is like being on a deserted island. I really do not care for Rockford at all. Grew up in the Chicago North side area.
- I would really like to know after all these years why do you need my information. I can't get any help anyway. I don't mean any harm, but to me that's telling all my business and I still can't get any help.
- Cut all taxes.
- Doctors not taking Medicare and letting Medicare people go. There are a lots of older people who depend on it. Medical prices are bad even for working people. It could wipe us out financially.
- I think Rockford could be a greater community if all areas of Rockford open their minds and learn more about one another. I think the circle of poverty that encompasses many families needs to be stopped. How, I don't know.
- Senior assistance – (chores) carrying groceries upstairs, minor home maintenance (bulbs, smoke alarms, batteries, dusting fan blades), and a few other things. Socializing seniors for brunches out or lunches out or movies, to stay engaged and current. Phone friends if hard to get around, like pen pals on the phone to visit. Will promote conversations re: interests, books, policies, current events, etc., keeping on, keeping on.
- We need more companies moved in so we have jobs to pay for what everybody needs. Companies have told me that they don't hire if you don't have experience. Well, it's kinda hard to train everyone for a job whether you have worked before or not. The companies should take the time to hire and train people. They are all so worried about background checks and ability to pay on credit reports and the way the economy is and also people such as myself who have made mistakes (not major) but still on credit reports, keeps us from getting hired anyway. This is nonsense and certainly not fair.
- The Kishwaukee corridor (Kishwaukee from the airport to State Street) is in great need of a gas station. Farther south on Kishwaukee – Harrison to Sandy Hollow is horrible for driving. The requirements for the \$25,000 owner-occupied home fix and repairs was a joke. You basically had to be a pauper to qualify or have good credit to borrow part of \$ to borrow part of the money.
- I am paying for individual plan with high deductible for 15 year old son. My work wanted \$400/month to add him to my plan. I tried to switch him to All Kids, but was denied because I struggled and kept him on a plan. Can only get All Kids if I keep him off insurance for a period of time. But what if something happens in that period? Same with boyfriend. He has individual plan with high deductible. He is trying now to get VA insurance.

- Mental health access is superior in Beloit. The same is true for basic health care. If I needed fertility care, I would go to Madison and not the three weak hospitals in Rockford. Let's see what the UW/Swedens merger brings.
- Thank you for taking an interest in my community. We need more people like you guys – strong-minded and caring.
- Health care needs to be seriously addressed to lower costs and make health insurance affordable. The money being spent on the war could easily help Americans with their health care needs and help provide housing for those of us struggling paying bills.
- Our police dept. has no rapport with the community, trust or anything else. Our children have no "Boys Club" or open "Y"s to be supportive if a family is poverty stricken. Our seniors live in fear of the youth and the middle class is very prejudiced. We need community policing (same officers) for respect, crime prevention, and support. Community get together could and would help if persuaded in right manner of point system so kids could earn memberships. Such as bring an "elderly" or "handicap" to the "local cookout" at "so and so" Park. Two times three, summertime. I am open for communication to help with our growing city.
- Fancy buildings don't make people healthy. Doctors, nurses, and a good sustaining environment does.
- I was raised poor, no gas or electric and sometimes no home, but I got a job and did better for myself, anyone can, everyone can.
- I've been laid off after 19 years at Rockford's "premier" employer.
- When we have catastrophic health insurance, high deductible, we do not qualify for especially free pap/mammograms, cancer screenings, complete blood work and general physicals that is well care. How do we pay for well care when we pay for insurance \$350 a month?
- I hope the family-friendly Fridays will continue in downtown and that participation will grow. Good ideas being acted upon, not just talked about. Move West State project as rapidly as possible to restore pride in their neighborhood for the residents who live and work there. They surely most feel forgotten, neglected, etc.
- Thanks for opportunity to give any input.
- I currently rejoined the Y and am on a new exercise program, so I plan to lose weight in the next few months and not be in the "overweight" category.
- Stop all the giveaway programs and make the people getting aid to do some work for it. There are many things that people can do to help the community to earn what they get. Remember the W.P.A. People need to feel worth.
- I live in Rockton which is a great community. I wouldn't prefer Rockford due to their crime and school system.
- Need assisted living facilities in Belvidere. Would have liked to stay in Belvidere rather than having to move to Rockford last year.
- I struggle financially. I only have a part-time job. Have simple needs, my car is year 2000 Neon. I need health care regularly, I have asthma, thyroid, high blood pressure. I can't get Medicaid. I raised two grandchildren 10 years because of my health and my son's efforts to improve life my grandchildren went home. I am involved in church and community.

- There needs to be a safe biking route to get around the city on your bike. You take your life in your hands trying to ride in the roads.
- Priorities for Rockford – fix schools, more jobs, more mental health services for the poor. Janet Wattles barely touches the surface of the need.
- I would like to see people pull their own weight in this community and not draw a check every month because they have too many kids to work or some lawyer has told them that they can draw a check every month because of their problem.
- I think that our education system is very corrupt and it needs serious help. I also think that IPA shouldn't be handed out to people that don't work and have no intention of ever working or trying to get a job. I work more than one job in the medical field and have no insurance and have health issues that I cannot take care of because I can't afford to, while I work very hard to take care of lazy ungrateful people that seek medical care when they don't even really need to. I also think attention needs to be paid to our population of stray animals. Most of all, the foster care system/DCFS needs some serious help.
- No jobs here. It's a significant stressor on me that I have to commute 3 hours one way and my husband has to work and live near KC, MO a good part of the year. Rockford is a dying town, no jobs, crime problems, ageing population, why do you think graduates don't come back here? We are gone from here ASAP. Who wants to raise children in this atmosphere with few cultural activities, an inbred culture with jobs going to family and friends first (nepotism), poor schools, and little research or opportunity here? Who can think about going to the doctor or dentist when the wait is so long and it's so expensive?
- Rockford needs a 708 Board to support people with developmental disabilities and mental illnesses.
- I wish there were more activities in Rockford that are family-friendly and affordable. I enjoyed the waterfront and Magic Waters, however, the prices are unaffordable now which is why we no longer go.
- Thanks for another survey – sorely needed. Get the leaders to listen to the results!
- There should be mental health services available and the budget should not be balanced by decreasing services in this area.
- The biggest problem with our community, as well as, most urban communities is that many people are having children without the necessary resources (ability to parent, work, financial, health care). Services seem to focus on providing care for children and families (which is good), but this often overlooks the need for better birth control. Awareness of the burden of unwanted or poorly planned pregnancies undermines all of the efforts of the community. I work in a local children's mental health facility and the need for services is out stripping the resources. There seems to be no public or private campaigns to reduce the birth rate to parents who are ill-equipped to manage the needs of their own life, let alone the myriad needs of children. Birth control should be a priority.
- I am living in Winnebago County since December 2003.
- Efforts to create jobs that pay good and keep young people from leaving and going elsewhere for school and work.
- As far as Rockford is concerned, I would like to see more cleanup of old businesses and vacant lots, as well as, more attention to the school district and education.
- Restructure the medical community here because the quality of medical care is terrible. Get rid of doctors who continue to make a series of "poor judgements." Make all doctors

who deliver babies have training in HELLP syndrome and make an OB complaint hotline so we can get rid of those incompetent doctors. My doctor didn't listen to me despite the fact that I had all of the symptoms. She needs to no longer be a doctor – since she doesn't have compassion about pain, she can't even do hospice.

- Doctor ___ displays negligent and reckless behavior. He prescribed high doses of prednisone to a patient for 20+ years causing permanent health problems. Dr. ___ should have gone before the Medical Board of Review. Fortunately for him, the family did not pursue legal action!

Rockford Health Council Survey 2010
School Parent Comments

32. The following are needs or problems that many communities face. Please mark those which you feel need greater attention in your community? 32. Any other problems?

- Young men with backgrounds not getting jobs
- Activities for children 3-12 years
- Volunteer opportunities for families
- That the problems with the parents need to be more in-tune with their kids
- People in power need to be held accountable
- Teens and sex education
- Mental health for kids with ADHD
- Unemployment
- Quality education
- Discipline in schools
- Helping grandparents adopt grandchildren
- Bullying in schools, especially grade schools
- More doctors that accept the Medical Card besides Crusader Clinic
- Autism awareness
- Education system
- Need more businesses in the northwest side of town
- People who work get less help, not fair
- At risk youth programs
- Homeless people
- Need housing authorities to stop denying mothers housing
- Animal control (dogs loose)
- Teen jobs, volunteer opportunities
- Dental
- The majority of police officers are no different than the criminals
- Slum lord landlords
- Training for students with mild mental retardation for living and life skills, training for a job
- New neighbors with issues entering our city from other states - counseling
- Less or no cost on adoptions
- Affordable and available child care for more than just 1st shift
- Help with college costs
- Low-income housing for men
- Single parenting

- Child activities
- Politically motivated groups stirring up negativity
- Giving seminars to explain exactly what security officer job description is
- Struggling single parents
- Prostitution
- Need more lights on streets
- RPS 205
- Abuse by some social services
- Help with low income
- Need more child/parent involvement
- Runaways
- Schools (District 205) more 1 on 1 with kids
- Help for single mothers, housing
- Need permanent jobs, not just seasonal or short-term to build something for downtown
- More jobs in the Rockford area
- Bullies
- Need more stores
- Help for low-income housing
- Activities for 0-12 years of age
- Nothing for low-income families to do
- Poor nutrition in school lunches
- The safety of all Americans. Grandparents do need special help when raising a grandchild and should not need to pay school fees
- Bullies in the schools
- Lack of homeopathic doctors who take the Medical Card
- School violence
- Low cost activities for kids outside of school
- You need to let parents have new laws to let parents discipline their children properly so that we won't have so many problems
- Affordable family activities to improve health like recreational center and YMCA
- Services that are free for those without money
- Lack of safe schools
- Racial or socioeconomic discrimination
- Unemployment
- GED programs more of
- Transportation for parents to schools for special school events, conferences, etc., less sex, violence at school, more cameras, hall monitors
- We need good paying jobs in Rockford and brought back to Rockford

- Support Aspergers, peer support groups for teens. High functioning on spectrums
- Bullies
- Sexual harassment and the mentally disabled
- More playgrounds, more summer activities
- Self-imposed discrimination of blacks
- That a class be offered on morality in all schools and high school
- We need Immigration Reform!
- We need more places for families without money
- Lack of employment
- Help for birth control
- Help to overcome depression
- Activities for children during winter
- Lack of employment
- More vigilance
- Help with adoption for children
- Respect for parents
- Racial discrimination in the workplace
- Tutoring for children
- Transportation
- Psychological education support for parents
- That there would be a type of moral in all the schools and high schools

33. What is one thing that your community needs to make it better?

- Vacant homes rehab or torn down
- Stop the violence
- More stuff for the kids to do
- More activities for the children
- More job training programs for young minorities men
- More things to do for young adults and teens
- More parents getting involved with not just their children but other children as well
- More positive cost efficient/low-income activities for youth and teen, more male mentors
- Something for kids to do even in the hood
- Patrol officers to discourage crime. Note, I feel my area has minimum crime
- The roads need to be fixed better
- Graffiti clean up

- The racial discrimination to stop
- Working together to make the community better
- Drugs and crime
- The community needs a stronger school district and more activities for minorities
- Job retraining, coping with job loss
- Free activities for families
- More security or a curfew for kids
- Jobs and things for kids to do affordable
- Helping out more of the single parents
- More things for kids to do
- Need to stop drug selling
- More teachers that are qualified
- Violence, bullying, and people driving without licenses
- Reduce high health care costs
- Jobs
- More jobs, more police, parents who parent their children
- Violence involving guns
- Park
- We need more jobs
- Mayor
- More recreational activities for teens
- More jobs. Dental assistance to people who need caps, root canals, etc.
- Need something for teens to do. Have no trouble, I go to community meetings
- Many things
- To come together as a community
- We need more jobs in Illinois – Rockford
- Activities for children ages K-18 and their families
- More activities for the kids and more school programs to get involved in
- Activities for young children
- More things to do at cheaper (affordable) prices
- More jobs
- Crime
- Better school education
- Physical

- Unity
- More community involvement in activities. Community pride
- Better paved roads
- A more equalitarian system of funding public schools using property taxes seems to segregate schools by the amount of money a certain “district” collects from property taxes. The more tax collected, the more financially capable the schools, while other neighborhood schools collect as much don’t have enough funds to provide equal education opportunities and advantages because of money. It’s outrageous.
- Police patrol and response
- More schools
- More things to do for young teens
- More youth groups or activities/active places for our children and teens
- Jobs and job retraining
- Less gangs/violence
- More community centers for youth
- More places for kids and their family to go that cost cheap
- Mental health services
- Jobs
- Love, peace, etc., a little more help in helping families
- More jobs
- Programs for better education. Education is a corner stone for a better community
- Kid programs, cleaning crews
- Better police response
- More officers around so we can feel safe
- Programs for families still struggling but income not low enough to qualify for assistance
- Cost of living
- Neighborhood Watch
- Youthful, positive activities
- Get more jobs
- House improvement, box store on the west side
- Crime
- Crime
- Better parenting, making parents stick together for the community
- Violence
- More officers around so we can feel safe

- Services to help grandparents adopt their grandchildren
- Put a teen center or find a job for our young adults. Keep them out of trouble
- More police patrol
- Unity
- Making people take accountability for themselves
- Stop denying mothers housing authority for misdemeanors, when you got people who went to prison and they're housed
- Lots of jobs
- Crime
- More police driving around
- The west side and south side fixed up
- Less crime, gang violence, parents who care about their children
- More things to do like sporting events, concerts, etc., less discrimination
- Reliable, caring, flexible education, especially special education, stability and safety
- Drug and crime
- Rockford Public Schools
- They need to get together first to find out what is going on in the community
- Jobs
- Stop killing and more housing for homeless, cash assistance
- City work on the streets in our community is tearing up our cars
- Jobs
- More activities for the youth
- More funds and more participation from the community itself
- The gun problem
- More jobs
- Everything
- Job opportunities
- We need more recreational or learning facilities to help our children with math
- The way the city uses its money
- The way the city uses its money
- More things to do for young teens
- Job retraining, coping with job loss
- Clean up the streets - garbage, dogs
- School dropouts

- Less ignorance
- More jobs
- More activities for preteens and teens so they can have things to do and hopefully stay out of trouble
- Crime decreasing
- Less gang violence with young people and neighbors that get along
- Local authorities need to stop harassing citizens and start protecting them
- Employment
- More patrolling
- More entertainment for young adults as well as families
- Do better with crime and drug dealers
- Proper security
- Drugs and crime
- More jobs and something that teenagers can go to instead of the streets
- More things to do in Rockford for the kids and for the families. All these abandon buildings could be turned into housing for homeless people
- Discrimination, prejudice, dark people
- Money
- Job training
- Activities that focus on maintaining growth of our youth
- Neighbors helping each other
- Cleaning the city up
- They need to house mothers in housing and not do background checks 5 years back. Once you get housing you should be able to go back
- Support groups for parents
- More involved parents, adults who care about our youth
- Less discrimination
- To get to know our neighbors, maybe a block party or neighborhood garage sale
- Better and more jobs
- Reduce crime
- Cleaning out the drugs and gangs in our community
- More help for single parents
- Kids and teen to have something to do when school is out. Won't be so much trouble
- More support groups
- The ability for low-income families to get a home to live in

- More jobs
- Yards, garbage, noise, traffic (too fast)
- Our kids need schools after
- Gangs and need more activities for kids
- More community activities
- Sufficient programs for children and youth. I believe finances are available for each of the above
- More jobs
- Crime prevention
- More activities for youth
- To have something more to do for kids once out of school
- Spend funds more wisely in order to have funds available for more programs
- Improved public education for children
- Less racial discrimination from black to white, this is affecting our schools, public assistance, and jobs
- More security
- More security
- Unemployment
- Not littering
- Light poles on the street to reduce break-ins to cars and garages. Streets are too dark
- Helping the homeless people and families with children
- We need something for teens to do and activities for adults
- More police and more help in finances
- To fix the streets
- Activities for teens
- The crime rate
- More evening events and spots for couples/not always a club
- A place for teens to go in order to help keep our youth off the streets
- Speed bumps
- Everybody needs to work together
- Crime
- Parents who care what their kids are doing
- Better public transportation, after-school activities for elementary schools
- More diverse entertainment of all race groups
- Make sure the program in the community really work for the special purpose, people in charge should investigate more closely

- Programs for children of all ages. Church involvement in community affairs
- Attention to Rockford's southwest side. There is very little for people/families
- More help for women with children who are homeless
- Job or stable unemployment
- Have plenty and better paying jobs
- More parents that care
- Grocery stores, retail stores, food places, entertainment
- A playground for all our children
- Money
- More police supervision
- High health care cost
- Cleaning up trash
- To give second chances to the people who have backgrounds for jobs
- More jobs, more services for single parents
- More after-school programs
- More buses on Sundays
- More programs for youth
- The children need something to do, there's nothing for them. The children need more education. Make education fun.
- Jobs
- More money
- More education on # 2 and violence amongst minority groups and ages 7-28
- All the above
- The welfare of our children
- Better jobs, uniform all school grades 1-12. Add votech training
- Activities for teens
- Community interaction
- More money
- More low cost/free family activities
- Drugs and alcohol
- Build more things for teens to do beside read, movies, food, game rooms
- More people to keep yard clean and clean up garbage in back yards
- Job retraining, job loss
- Lack of violence in the summer and clean up
- Litter control
- The roads and more activities for children whose parents are struggling

- Care for disabled persons
- Neighborhood Watch for vandalism and violence
- Gangs, delinquency, youth violence in schools
- More programs for teens
- More activities for children
- Recycle
- Neighbor take p
- Crime
- Better schools
- Low cost housing
- More activities for kids
- To fix all the potholes on 6th and 7th Streets and streets around this neighborhood
- Less crime
- Crime, guns
- The violence
- Schools need to make equal races in school, there are 3 white children in room (Lathrop)
- More medical services
- Safety
- Less child abuse and more opportunity to adopt
- Keeping our teachers employed and in the classroom, not out training. School Board needs to consider children over racial ethics. That's discrimination, too
- Programs for families
- More things for kids with low-income families
- Activities for teens
- Jobs
- More parents that care
- To make it safe anywhere me and my family are
- Groceries/shopping on the west side
- Violence
- Better jobs
- Get kids involved in after-school activities and make more after-school activities available
- Parents more accountable for their kids in and out of school
- After-school programs at all schools (elementary)
- Less drugs, gangs, and crimes
- To help the kids in this area at any cost
- Improve special education for children, quit reducing programs

- Improved socioeconomic status of depressed sectors
- More activities for teens/families, low cost
- More jobs
- Obesity in children
- More control over gangs
- Property development
- Build new homes, apartments, etc., roads
- Finding jobs
- Youth violence
- Bring jobs back
- A place for teens that is not in school
- Helping the kids more
- More help and services
- It's a well-rounded community, I wouldn't change anything
- Closer schools for my kids
- Jobs
- Public and parent involvement
- Friendships, relationships, building bridges, etc.
- More public school funds, enforcing littering fines, more animal shelters, outlet shopping stores
- A 4-year university
- Confidence in our school system
- Violence and gang affiliated activities
- More police, less guns on street
- Road repair and better city transportation
- Bring jobs back
- Gangs, delinquency, youth violence
- Continued early childhood programs to help children get a jump start
- Information
- Positive, well-trained, highly qualified professionals that enhance our community, not demean it
- Activities for seniors
- More jobs
- To come together and help one another
- Cracking down on gang violence and bullies
- Parents being more involved in their children's lives

- More jobs
- Education
- Playground for children and park
- Some activities for our young children and teens to do that will help build their social and work skills
- Kid focused programs (Ala-teen groups, Ala-tot groups)
- More jobs
- Help teens for summer jobs or an after-school program for teens
- Programs to retrain older adults over 40
- Drug or alcohol abuse
- Help for homeless families
- Activities for families
- Programs for children
- Parents to be involved in their child's life
- More employment opportunities
- Park or playground for children
- Neighbor yard appearance
- Parks, playground for children, churches
- A new school superintendent
- Better education system
- Better school and bus system and less crime
- Neighborhood Watch
- Crime
- More activities child and adult other than bars
- More things for our children to be able to do so they don't turn in wrong direction
- Stop so much crime
- Activities for teens
- Help for homeless families
- More community centers/less alcohol stores
- Eliminate gangs
- Trash can on each corner
- More jobs
- Resident law enforcement officers in each school K-12
- Safer place for children to play
- Cleaning of the neighborhood, more police, traffic control, speeding of cars up and down the street

- Jobs for single parents, places for teenagers to go
- More jobs
- Honestly, we need to get rid of gangs and drugs
- Drug gangs, domestic violence, cost of living
- Just to know that everyone is going through a struggle
- Education, job placement
- Let all kids be bused to school
- Dealing with teen pregnancy
- Youth and family involved programs
- Community center for teens
- Racial or socioeconomic discrimination
- Our schools
- More communication on new important info in most languages, nicer police
- Help me and others with social service
- People to actually care about their community
- More businesses on the west side of Rockford to eliminate old buildings not being used and to bring more residents and eliminate some more of the crime
- Jobs and activities for teens
- Unity
- More jobs and educational institutions
- All the violence needs to be cut down big time in certain areas
- Programs for teens
- Safer road conditions
- Jobs
- Truancy
- Prayer (Fellowship in the community with beliefs in Jesus) Prayers
- Jobs
- Hope
- More police involvement
- The economy and lack of employment opportunities
- Better jobs, uniform all schools, school training (votech)
- Jobs to help people with no degrees, not McDonald's
- More communication with law enforcement and the resident
- More businesses, college for west side
- Better jobs
- Better ways to keep our children in school away from violence

- More family activities
- More jobs and training classes for teens and adults
- More parent involvement
- More jobs
- Less drugs and gang violence
- More church involvement
- Need to stop with all the gang fights and drive by shootings
- Stopping violence
- Mandatory English classes
- Neighborhood Watch
- Better schools, ADHD training. Wal-Mart on the southeast or New Milford area. Better roads
- More opportunities, less crime/drugs for all
- Places to go for family activities
- Giving the kids activities when school is out
- Delinquency
- Better schools
- More activities for kids' mentor programs
- More jobs, help for single mothers struggling to survive
- Activities for teens
- Getting better control of drugs. It's everywhere
- Place for low-income kids to go for summer
- Schools/everything
- They are getting rid of teachers, there aren't any jobs, and no help with rent
- More police security in the high schools and middle schools
- More activities for kids to be involved in
- Can't say there's not a lot of nothing to do for children recreational activities like for individual with no income or little income
- Activity for youth
- Getting together at a meeting to discuss issues
- More parents involved
- More jobs
- More police protection
- More jobs
- Find work
- Crime rate, schools

- More after-school programs
- Trying to stop the gangs, violence
- Activities for the teens to do
- More programs for low-income family
- Crime rate, safety of others
- Youth mentors
- A place for teens to go in order to help keep our youth off the streets
- Diversify in all areas, jobs, entertainment, etc. A lot needs to change and I'm only one person, cannot do it alone
- Jobs
- A place for teens to go weekend nights that's safe and supervised, reasonable price
- Education for our children needs to improve. I feel the curriculum is poor
- More activities for teens and children
- The community could help families
- More information on how to prevent these problems
- Jobs
- More jobs, things for teens to do when out of school
- People who care
- Activities for teenagers to keep them busy constructively
- A new Mayor. One that cares about Rockford in a whole than just downtown
- Standing up to crime
- Rail service like Metra. Jobs. Better qualified staff on jobs, management should be better qualified
- More attention for teens
- Sticking together to keep the children safe like it was back when my parents were growing up
- More entertainment for children/teens
- Jobs
- Drugs, gangs, racial discrimination
- Money
- Speed bumps. There are cars that drive through here speeding and we don't have sidewalks and there are a lot of children
- Violence involving guns
- Safer place for children to play
- Need for housing in all price ranges
- Helping each other in these bad times
- Better schools

- Money
- Our community needs leaders and educators who care about the community
- Hispanic people need a lot of help from the City of Rockford to get their driver licence or ID. They want everyone to know that this city is safe and that people who is driving had passed a driving test. A lot of people go to jail because they get in car accident and with out drivers license. They are criminals. If the City of Rockford want to be safe, they need to do something for Hispanic people. We need your support Rockford, please.
- More incentives to help those that do care
- Help with young teens
- More programs for the children
- Stop the selling of drugs and alcohol abuse
- More service for working families like help with utilities, everything is for non workers of really low-income families
- More activities for children to keep them out of trouble and activities for single parents and their children
- Jobs for single mothers, places for teenagers to go
- More community centers, places for children to go
- I believe a good support staff
- Park
- More productive activities for our youth
- More affordable programs to help homeowners beautify their property
- More involvement from everyone
- Sports areas
- New neighbors
- People who can relate to what you're going through
- Help me or others with housing or others with needed things
- More activities for young teenagers
- Jobs
- Sticking together to keep the children safe like it was back when my parents were growing up
- Activities for kids during summer
- More responsible parents and block parties
- People to actually care about their community
- More control of neighborhood kids
- More job placements for parents
- Fighting
- Take care of drugs, gangs, delinquency, youth violence before it gets worse

- A park
- More jobs
- Funding
- They need to make more jobs for people who do want to work
- More jobs
- Garbage cans on the corners so people can throw their trash
- Work together as a community and more Hispanic social services
- Hispanic social services
- More activities for teens and kids
- Need more things for low-income families to do
- More community involvement from the clients that utilize the services it provides when decisions are being made
- Recycling
- Proper security
- To extend Barbour School to a high school
- More emphasis on violence/gun use
- More grocery stores
- More jobs and safe streets
- Gangs, youth violence
- Crime
- Cops
- More things for teens to do
- More jobs in the area, less focus on Hispanic services
- We need less crime and gang activity
- A more united community within all leaders
- Better employment
- Make eligible for low-income families to better housing and better areas
- More things to challenge my kids' minds
- Have more activities for teens
- People to actually care about their community
- Positive things for teens to do
- A place for teens to go
- Stricter domestic violence laws
- Better resources for disabled parents wanting to work
- Parks
- Decrease noise pollution

- More affordable activities in the community
- More recreational activities for teens
- Decrease noise pollution
- More entertainment geared toward the black community
- Need to fix roads
- Not littering
- Parks
- Parents supporting kids in school and activities
- Needs to be cleaner
- Improving our children's education. Rockford's education is so poor
- Volunteer family activities
- No littering and no graffiti
- Cleaning out the drugs and gangs in our community
- Helping the homeless people and families with children
- Affordable entertainment and more accessible transportation
- Better living environments
- Better roads
- Properties in south Rockford look bad. We need a cleanup and the roads are terrible
- Better playgrounds for children
- Reduce crime
- I know it's not a crime to "hangout," but in the middle of the street, on street corners blocking the way for cars to pass by, disturbing the people who live around the area, people who have kids who need sleep to go to school or work, etc.
- School busing zones
- More jobs
- Violence and abandon homes
- More free activities for families
- More involved
- More activities for kids
- A drug-free community
- Stop school violence
- A drug-free community
- Help felons get job without past keeping from getting jobs or keeping their jobs
- Sidewalks
- Cleanliness, more police patrol
- Crack down on all the thugs and prostitution

- The drugs
- Better schools
- More shelter for homeless
- School district
- Jobs
- Things for young people
- A bigger activity park with more activities for all ages
- Activities for teens
- Less crime
- More teachers which need to know how to deal with children who act out
- All of the above
- More stuff to do for teenagers
- Keep violence off the streets
- Better schools, neighborhood schools strengthen community
- Better housing, better built homes
- Free make up classes for high school students
- They need to talk to young girls to stop teen pregnancy
- Safer playgrounds for children (playground violence awareness)
- Need for teachers who can deal with behavioral students
- There's not just one thing, that's why we are looking to move
- Something for kids and/or families to do together that doesn't cost an arm and leg
- Delinquency
- To help the kids in this area at any cost
- A community center like the YMCA
- A new superintendent of schools
- More active and responsible parenting
- Stricter regulations against renter and their pets
- More jobs
- Stop catering to the poor and undereducated. Make improvements to this city by not always dubbing down things on how everyone can afford it
- Better schools, bilingual programs in schools and busing children to schools they don't belong at
- Advertised free ESL classes for better assimilation
- More respect for each other and other's things
- To stop the violence
- Less drugs, gangs, and crimes

- Stricter regulations against renters (care for property and pet guidelines) how many – proper restraints
- School system – make neighborhood schools instead of busing kids all over
- Communication
- Provide English learning courses for free for adults
- Schools
- To help the kids in this area at any cost
- To stop the violence
- Less violence
- Quit busing children to neighborhoods who don't live in the area. Make everyone learn English
- Lower the medical cost
- More cheaper activities for low-income families
- A 4-year university
- God
- Housing, health services, and jobs
- More exercise programs for kids that can be affordable for everyone
- Better schools
- Police protection
- Help for teens with gang and drug abuse
- We need a new superintendent
- Youth violence
- More activities for the teenagers
- Get more jobs
- Schools/everything
- Patrolling
- Jobs
- Better housing at decent prices for decent people
- Better parks for families in the neighborhood to prevent people from loitering
- Violence in schools
- People who are parents to be parents and everyone else to open their mouths when something goes wrong
- The crime rate
- To stop the crime, selling drugs, etc.
- Community activities for youth
- More support groups for teens to avoid gang activity

- It needs after-school programs for children
- Renew roads, schools, homes
- A lot more activities for younger kids that we can afford
- More jobs
- My community needs more involvement with each other
- The gang and gun violence
- Assistance with low-income people who want to refinance homes
- Neighborhood Watch
- More recreation activities for everyone
- More police patrolling the community on a daily basis
- Crime
- Focus on the long-term education of our children
- Job training
- A safe play area
- More jobs
- More positive adults
- Jobs and gun and drug control
- The living environment and repairs to Rockford housing apartments in a timely manner
- Counseling for teens having problems in school
- More entry level jobs
- Things for the youth to do
- We need for more police to watch the community because of all the drugs out here, there should be no way or reason that they should be
- Gun violence prevention, community togetherness
- Better police response
- More involvement
- Police control 24/7 from drug and alcohol activities
- City needs to stop using money for unnecessary things and use it for more important things
- Children signs on the street because they drive too fast
- After-school programs for kids
- Cleaner neighborhoods
- A teen curfew
- More places to go hang out and take the kids
- More things for kids to do
- Special education for kids with needs
- Cleaner parks

- For officers to check more for safety issues than to only go hard on drug dealers, but put more officers into sex offenders, rapists, murder, domestic, etc.
- Activities for everyone
- Landscaping
- More competent, compassionate leaders
- Youth programs
- Better security with police
- Stop all the violence. We need good paying jobs and jobs brought back to this town
- My neighborhood needs to be more kid-friendly
- A better class of people
- Better streets
- For the adults to stop encouraging the continuance of the races, because there is no more white or black things
- Social classes for teens
- Helping each other in this economy
- Gang violence and gun control
- The west side overall appearance
- That everyone would come together when a problem is going on
- Teen pregnancy
- More two parent homes, jobs, and community centers for children out of school and after-school programs
- Take care of violence and guns, more programs for kids
- Youth violence
- Schools
- Social gatherings to discuss the community needs
- Make sure everyone comes together and keep it clean, peaceful, and updated as of building that's around
- Recreation centers
- I live east of Ridge and north of Auburn Street, we don't have many problems. The things I checked are things that need work on as a city
- Activities for the teens
- More programs to improve the way the community looks
- Fix roads on west side and stop patching them up
- More jobs throughout the community
- LOVE
- More activities for youth and teens
- It needs after-school programs for children

- Work more together
- Our roads
- Gangs and crime
- Park activities for families
- Better people
- Better roads
- More police patrolling problem areas in community
- Crime
- Litter problems
- We need more jobs
- Less crime
- Crime
- Stop delinquency on violence
- More attraction for children and adults
- Police to not be afraid of the community lawsuits and to use the laws to the fullest extent possible
- Drug abuse, education
- Get rid of all the older houses that make our community look bad
- Helping the homeless people and families
- More activities for children and teens
- Roads
- Activities for children and teens
- Jobs
- Jobs
- Law enforcement concentrating on more important issues
- The schools, King School had no good air to breathe inside the school
- Better housing cost
- A youth center for young kids to do homework and play games, have computers
- Keeping kids and teens occupied in sports or anything of good interest
- Less violence
- Security, gangs, and violence. Parents need to discipline their kids
- More activities for teens
- Larger gas station
- The city and home owners to take better care of the abandoned houses in my community
- Immigration Reform
- Security

- More activities for adolescents
- Employment
- More security
- In the neighborhood where I live, we need more police vigilance because there are many problems. There should be more job fairs
- That the teachers have more capacity
- That there be more jobs so that we can help our children advance
- Jobs
- Better competitive representatives or a better government
- Our community needs more tutors and mentors for children whose families don't have the necessary set skills to help them academically
- Vigilant police
- That there be more vigilance in the streets against the delinquency
- Information about government help and programs for help at home
- Be more educated
- More things for low-income families to do
- Major support group for youth to decrease delinquency
- That there not be delinquency
- Recreation centers and diversions for children and adolescents and the family in general
- Have more activities for the youth
- Much more attention for the children
- More police vigilance
- More social services and community services
- Charge less money for the sporting clubs for the family or children. It's very expensive
- A nursery that doesn't charge much or free
- Support from the government for the immigrant
- More neighborhood protection
- Activities for adolescents
- Students that abandon their studies
- Social services for Hispanics
- Work
- More security, and also there are many trees that are lifting the sidewalks
- That there was more vigilance in the schools grades 9 and up
- Offer activities for the youth that are free during vacation
- Gangs, delinquency, juvenile violence
- Family services and activities and more vigilance
- Programs for the youth to keep them occupied
- For security, more vigilance in the streets

- More programs for children
- Students that abandon their studies
- That there were more jobs
- More opportunities for people that don't speak English
- That there not be discrimination with Hispanics
- That there not be discrimination
- That there be more employment
- More programs for children
- Programs for youth so they don't hang out with gangs
- That there be more employment
- More vigilance
- Have more work opportunities
- More employment
- Have more social services and educational services for Hispanics
- More organizations that help with the development of children and activities that are free
- More security
- More police to combat the delinquencies and we can feel more secure
- A lot of work
- More economical dentists
- Programs on how to live together
- More programs for the youth where they are spoken to about drugs and sex
- Elevated costs of medical services
- Help for people with alcoholism and drugs
- Work for all people
- Help for parents and children
- Fix the streets
- Fix the streets and sidewalks
- No drugs
- Education so that the youth don't leave school
- More jobs
- My response is that I wish there were more buses every 30 or 45 minutes because I don't drive
- Programs for children and adolescents
- Recreational places for families
- Medical services for people with few resources
- More attention to the youth
- Security in the streets
- Activities for children

- More protection
- What I think would be better is if there wasn't so much delinquency
- Stop the delinquency, gangs, drugs before it gets worse
- No violence
- Rehabilitation centers and therapy centers at low cost
- More parks for the children to play
- Programs for Hispanics
- Improve the education of the school buildings
- Union, not the lack of unity
- More help
- No gangs
- Places to exercise for parents and children that don't cost a lot
- Help people mentally so there won't be discrimination
- More jobs
- Center for medical health, dental, and optometry
- More vigilance in the streets
- Jobs necessary for all of us that have responsibilities
- Better social activities
- A little more vigilance in the morning and at night
- More employment for the people and less discrimination
- Programs for families and children in crisis
- Work
- More activities for children from families of little means
- Tutors to support people that don't speak English
- More jobs, many people have to go out of Rockford to find work
- Special attention for education and medical services
- More sport activities for children and youth
- Better streets
- Fix streets or roads
- Improve the roads
- More attention for the children in the community
- Recreation areas with some stimulus so that youth respond
- Reconstruct your streets
- Have more employment for Hispanics and remove all types of racist police. In Rockford the majority are racist
- Teach me to drive and have a job
- That there would be more summer schools and summer vacation shorter

- Place more public lights. Put lights by the traffic lights for pedestrians. Make paths so the people can go out and walk
- Education for parents with little means
- There aren't Hispanic faces in administration. What is there are CATS
- More opportunities for work
- Everything that is before
- More vigilance or security in the streets so there won't be so much delinquency
- Counseling for parents, and more attention for our families
- The cleaning
- Maintaining clean
- More jobs
- Gangs
- More support for Hispanics
- Of the patrols at night
- Help people to adopt children at less cost
- Parks
- Help us to get health insurance
- We all need employment
- To keep it clean
- Support groups for parents
- More work
- More security (safety)
- That there would be less violence with guns and more surveillance
- Parks and supermarkets that were closer to home
- Nothing
- If we were more united
- Street lighting and police surveillance
- Employment
- More support for the Hispanics in all ways
- That there would be employment
- For people to be more humane
- Security (safety)
- To help the people who need it the most
- To clean the streets
- I live in Winnebago County and I like that the police respond faster for emergency calls
- More work
- Open more factories to give us more work and more commerce
- Better schools that offer better education

- For me, all the points mentioned above are important
- Jobs
- Psychological counseling for Hispanics
- More work and better schools
- More surveillance
- Keep the community more clean
- Better parents or better examples for the young people
- More work
- Better jobs and that there would be more of them
- A big problem is the delinquency of the gangs, the drugs, and racism
- What the paper says above is pretty complete
- More security (safety)
- Better social and community services
- The cleanliness and control of the schools
- A closer supermarket and work
- To fix the streets and the outside parts of the houses
- Everything you say on the part above
- More work
- A school for adults who don't know how to read or write
- Groups for young people so that they have something to occupy their time
- More work
- No more discrimination
- I think fixing the streets is a big problem
- Help for Hispanics, like counseling for adolescents
- To know the people a little better
- To stop the crime
- More security (safety)
- More security
- That they put more attention to the children
- Fix the public lights and more surveillance from the police
- I am not sure, but my opinion is more surveillance so we don't have so much violence and also to make more jobs
- Programs for families and children in crisis
- Fix the public lights and more surveillance from the police
- Fix the public lights and more surveillance from the police
- That they would have more support for the children in school
- That they would lower medical costs
- Less gangs

- Activities for infants
- More surveillance
- Computer classes because now everything revolves around computers
- More work
- Surveillance at night
- Programs to involve the children and young people in sports
- More school tutoring during vacation periods (primarily summer)
- To fix the streets
- More surveillance
- To put more electric lights in the streets
- That there wouldn't be a lot of crime
- More surveillance of the police because people always drive by very fast and there are children playing outside and the police never say anything to them. They drive 60 mph on a street that is only 25 mph
- More work
- That there wouldn't be a lot of crime
- To have programs for children
- Computer classes because now everything revolves around computers
- More surveillance by the police and lights in the street
- Work for the immigrants
- More protection
- To have better social services and more programs for education for Hispanics
- More activities with children
- Attention to vandalism and more employment
- More police
- More employment because this way it will eliminate the delinquency
- More places for activities
- For everyone to help
- Delinquency, individual, family, and marital counseling
- For all the people to respect each other and help each other
- That there would be more work and there wouldn't be racism
- Fix the streets
- To have bilingual people in the clinics and hospitals
- That they fix the streets
- Activities for adolescents
- More transportation for people that don't drive
- That everyone helps
- More security in the streets and the parks

- To have control and power to control "the violence in different schools." That's why students abandon their studies because they are afraid of the gangs
- Better lighting in the streets and more jobs for work
- More police
- Teachers without sufficient intellect for children's education
- Activities for adolescents
- Racial discrimination
- That they give more funds to the public schools to better the education and the quality
- For the security and that there be more surveillance in the streets
- To better the schools because there is a lot of delinquency
- More areas for entertainment
- Centers for support for diabetic children
- Better jobs
- Intervention from police because in my area they sell every drug
- More work
- More work opportunities
- Parents educated with at least the elementary
- That we could stop seeing so much violence with weapons
- Survey the area more (surveillance)
- Information programs and awareness for the young people who are interested in continuing to study and programs to avoid getting pregnant so young
- What would make it better is there to not be so much delinquency
- To complete these questions
- That there would be more work so we could help our children get ahead
- High costs of medical services

34. What is one thing that you like best about your community?

- It's on the making to be a better community
- Neighborhood
- The people in the neighborhood
- The parks
- I think the crime has gotten a lot better from when I was a kid and people aren't afraid to tell if they see bad things any more
- The area
- Some places don't look like our community and it's quiet in some areas
- Quiet, next to a school
- Quiet

- Police are always riding on my street
- Nothing
- It's nice
- Activities for teens
- Quiet
- That they are trying
- It is clean and nice families
- Really nothing where we live
- Heartland Church
- Neighbors watching out for each other
- You don't have to have a high paying job to buy a house
- Affordable housing
- I can't think of anything good about our community
- Counseling individuals, family, and marital
- It's calm and peaceful
- We have good teachers
- Parks
- Affordable housing
- Friendly environment
- We have the Weed and Seed Community Center
- I like the people here because they are very nice, some people are
- Summerdale
- Cheaper to live than many other communities
- Parks kept clean
- The park district
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Neighbors
- Keep nice, clean environment
- The park district
- My home
- Our unity, while at times we are divided, this community seems to always want the best for our children
- Size of lot for the money
- The parks
- Some of the sports they have
- Our neighborhood
- None

- Nothing
- Activities for young children
- None, I don't like Rockford
- I don't
- Everything is close in one area
- That we have good hospitals
- Summerdale school principal and teachers are great
- Quiet
- My son is in a school that cares
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Quiet clean areas
- That we have good hospitals
- It's quiet
- Rockford is central to several larger cities
- The school my children attend, Barbour Language Academy
- Nothing. It's prejudice
- Nothing, it's turning my life into poverty
- Nice, clean, quiet area
- It is safe, not a lot of crime
- The different cultures it has
- It's growing, everything you need is near. A lot of interactions with community
- Natural resources, parks and recreation
- It's nice
- Better park where my children can be safe to play and the park can be smoke free
- Is quiet
- Nothing
- Department of Human Service and that they help with child care
- The people
- Safe place to raise a family
- The museums and nice houses
- Schools (public elementary)
- Parks
- There are a lot of things
- The resources of social services
- That there are some places we can get to that are in walking distance
- Some of the sports they have
- None

- Nothing
- Access to Medicare/dental
- Parks
- People really seem concerned about things
- We live next to parents (grandparents)
- The programs available to tenants in low-income housing
- Its diversity
- The people are nice
- We all come together when needed
- Nothing
- Nothing, it's a prejudice city
- Some neighborhoods are okay
- I would say the recent decline of violence and drug presence
- Inter racial
- Nothing, Rockford has nothing for African-American, no concerts or nothing
- Nothing much really. I hate Rockford, I think the system is screwed up
- Most of my neighbors and their families
- Nothing
- Where I live
- That it is somewhat clean
- Outreach programs
- They come together in a time of trouble
- Quiet
- Children interaction
- Nothing
- Nothing
- None
- Recreation in the area for kids
- Friendly people
- My neighbors
- The size
- City opportunities without the big city congestion and with a small town atmosphere. We have a great park district and YMCA
- Convenience to stores
- Friends
- That there is help when you can find it
- I like that everyone looks out for each other
- No drug dealers on my block

- Parks
- Nothing
- It's a nice community
- It isn't too bad of a place to raise a child
- A sign in front stating the area "Garden Hills"
- I live in a good area with good clean people
- Nothing
- Housing is affordable for the most part
- Large city but slower pace of living for families, great parks
- At this time there is nothing, because some programs only unable people of doing things by themselves. Some people are always expecting more from these programs
- Rockford has always been a great place to live until massive crime moved in under the then leadership of Mayor Scott. Cabrene Green residents moved in here with unruly children
- All of my family lives in Rockford
- The Maya House day care for homeless children
- Quiet
- The safety of my children
- Quiet and calm
- Library
- Centrally located
- Peace and safety
- Small
- Help that is offered for needy families
- RVC offering learning opportunity for adults
- My house
- They have recreation programs for the kids during the summer
- Parks closeby on bus route
- Nothing
- School is in walking distance
- The parks because it gives the kids things to do
- The arts
- Clean streets, good neighbors, community togetherness
- Unsure if any ☺
- Quiet
- On the Waterfront
- It's okay when others isn't coming starting things
- No drug activities

- There are a lot of neighborhood parks
- We are stepping up on crime
- Nothing
- Low gang activity
- Inclusion of diverse persons
- Took down the apartments that were across from us
- Cultural diversity
- Nothing
- Safer than most
- Clean areas, community
- That they have somewhat cleaned up the neighborhood with the dealing of drugs and prostitution. Although that problem still is and always will be an issue in any neighborhood
- Nothing
- Different programs they have for children
- Partnership
- The libraries are accessible
- Natural beauty of our location
- Not a thing
- Not a lot of violence
- It is fairly quiet and child-friendly
- Nothing, if I could move, I would
- Our neighborhood is peaceful and neighbors are very nice
- Safety of my children
- We have a strong community, and if more people stood together, it will really be at its best
- More police
- Housing rates
- Libraries and parks
- Help with child care
- Community involvement
- Rockford is a nice area to raise a family
- Nothing, I would move if I didn't have a job here
- Quite a bit of events
- Friendly people
- School dropouts
- Rockford is a nice town, variety of stores, middle size city
- Rock Valley College
- Government assistance
- Everyone gets along and helping each other

- Sinnissippi Gardens
- Community involvement
- Peaceful and safe
- Peaceful
- Quiet at night
- Friendly neighborhood
- We have 3 highly advanced health care facilities. We can for the most part get “big city” health care without having to live in a big city
- The people in our neighborhood, our church
- Still questionable
- Small town feel with big city conveniences
- Park system
- Parks
- Multi cultural
- Harlem community park camp
- Sinnissippi Gardens
- People help other people
- The majority of people are kind, hardworking individuals who want the best for their children
- More activities near to house
- Family oriented
- When I go to a place, they teach me good
- Able to get to stores with ease closeby
- It's more settled
- Nothing
- Honestly, nothing
- There is not a lot of gang activity in my new neighborhood
- The quietness
- Many of my neighbors take good care of their homes and want to see their community clean
- The churches and the youth groups dedicated to help kids
- Good people
- Kid's programs
- Parks
- Quiet
- The sense of family
- Family activities
- Cleanliness

- Cultural diversity
- Cleanliness
- Not a thing, Rockford is the armpit of the U.S.
- The diversity
- The cost of living is pretty reasonable
- Neighbors
- Size and potential for growth
- Trying to have more activities
- Friendly and hard workers
- Nothing
- It's a safe zone for my two children, parks, friendly neighbors
- The small business my spouse and I built from the ground up
- The peace and quiet
- Crime and violence has improved
- Quiet
- My inside of my home for my kids that it stay safe and out of trouble
- None
- Community I'm not sure, but I love my neighborhood, everyone is friendly
- It's quiet
- The cleanliness
- I don't know
- We live in gated community
- The 4th of July
- Smaller
- Nothing
- My kids get to interact with a whole bunch of different types of people
- How the generations of families still make Rockford bloom over and over again
- Everything is near stores, gas station, library
- How you have many programs to help with food, living, and support
- How everyone comes together as one
- Family is here
- We stick together
- Togetherness. Dealing with similar difficulties
- Everyone has been in neighborhood for at least five years
- Nothing
- The opportunities available if you search
- The school my children attend
- Clean street, good neighbors not drug infested, community togetherness

- Nothing
- Activities it offers
- Nothing, I consider moving out of the city every month
- Parents being involved more with their children
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Nothing
- We all keep to ourselves
- I don't know, maybe the people need to start being more kind to others
- Lots of stuff to do with the kids
- The jobs
- Parks, decent homes, caring neighbors
- My family is here
- It offers a variety of ethnic groups
- The park down the street
- Hispanic social services
- My family is here
- Volunteer programs
- Parks and forest preserves
- Police patrol
- My family is here
- It's quiet
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Low income
- The parks
- Nothing
- Churches
- Parks
- Police patrol
- Nothing/cheap to live here
- The people in it
- Not a bad place to raise a child
- The parks and golf courses, all Rockford Park District, All Kids is great, gives my children lessons I can't afford
- Low taxes on housing
- The neighbors
- Variety

- Discovery Center
- Pretty much lost hope on all, but can't make a move. But Kenrock Community Center is great for my kids. It's the only center near 11th street area
- Openness and friendliness. Sorry to say it is not found in certain subdivisions like "Caledonia"
- Don't know
- Nothing
- It can be helped
- Parks
- That more people than most, think and care about where they live and how it affects their children
- I don't
- The peace and quiet
- The law enforcement is always around, good job
- It is very nice and everything goes as planned
- Cheap housing
- Really nothing
- I like the families who live in my neighborhood
- Its history
- Clean up
- Most neighbors get along and help one another
- To live in a non violence environment
- Not a whole lot
- The parks are beautiful
- I can be helped
- Honestly, I don't feel that there is any good thing
- Quiet
- Family
- No matter where you are there is a Wal-Mart close
- Nothing, have not seen any social service
- Nothing
- It's quiet and diverse
- My kids get to interact with a whole bunch of different types of people
- The parks are wonderful
- I and my family have been safe
- Quietness
- The people
- I really like my community, we are just afraid about the delinquency and gangs. I will like to enjoy the parks (Levings Lake Park) with my kids, without seeing this problem

- There's only so many homes on my block
- Community family
- How the police patrol around the area for safety
- My son's school Barbour Language Academy, it does not receive the recognition it deserves
- Working mental health services
- I once liked school choice, but now that is changing
- Its diversity
- The bike path near the YMCA
- The parks
- Delinquency and youth violence
- Crime stoppers, prostitution
- Sorry but I am not sure
- The people
- The thrift stores like Share Stuff, Mission Mart
- There is no truancy problems
- Nothing, especially the school system
- The people
- Don't know
- Get together and become one
- My kids get to interact with a whole bunch of different types of people
- I like how the schools are trying to involve more dad's things
- The support of the counseling services
- Its diversity
- It's calm and peaceful
- For the most part, it's safe during the day
- None
- Affordable housing
- For the most part, it is safe
- Nothing
- Friends
- Quiet, peaceful
- Mostly quiet
- Diversity
- Quietness and order in the community
- Quiet, peaceful
- Nothing
- Park is near, Sinnissippi bike path

- That it is somewhat clean
- That it is a smaller community, less crime
- That there is help when you can find it
- The effort we put into keeping it clean and pretty
- That a police car patrols my area
- More things for children to do
- Parks
- I like that there is plenty of places and activities for kids to join without cost
- My family is here
- It has many parks and sport venues
- Convenience to shopping
- I like the different kinds of entertainment
- Nothing, love it all
- It's peaceful
- It's peaceful
- Neighbors
- Location to necessities
- Church and the presence of police in community
- Convenient to stores, shopping, etc. and diversity
- Park district
- Lots of different things
- It's clean, peaceful, and quiet
- None
- Has all the stores you need
- All the resources for help
- Can't really say I like anything about the community
- I love my neighborhood
- Nothing
- Neighborhood schools
- It's okay, nice and quiet, not a lot of violence
- Plenty of stores, I don't have to leave town to shop
- Most of the people in our community are trying and wanting better things, but it's unfortunate that they're giving up
- Watch out for each other, fairly quiet
- Rockford is a nice area to raise a family
- The stores and businesses
- The affordability
- Nothing

- Quiet and responsible
- Low cost rent
- It has all the services we need
- The great diversity of our community
- Working together
- I have friendly neighbors
- Community involvement
- Quiet, responsible
- There are always sheriffs in our community
- The park district and access to the arts, libraries
- Church
- Rockford is a nice area to raise a family
- I have friendly neighbors
- We have 3 advanced health care facilities. We can get most any “big city” health care without having to live in one
- Cheap to live in
- That it’s clean
- It is very clean
- Park system
- Immigrants prosperity in the field of equals rights
- Very diverse city
- The cost of living
- How affordable our housing is
- Everyone gets along and helping each other
- Nothing, there are no activities in my community
- My neighbors
- Kind of quiet
- I like the way the teachers go out of their way to help the parents
- Nothing
- Well nothing, just somewhere to live
- Can’t think of any
- Low violence
- Government assistance
- It is very quite in the country
- Lots of things to do
- Nothing
- The year round schooling
- Friendliness and churches, also schools for kids

- Only the low housing cost
- I don't
- Neighborhood participation in watching the children in the neighborhood
- Number of parks
- It's quiet
- Lots of close grocery stores and laundromats
- Helpfulness
- That there are some things that can be changed, and the center they have for children
- Haven't really seen anything that I like since I became adult
- The elderly people are very quiet and people don't bother them
- Convenience to local grocery stores and other stores
- The parks
- Park programs
- No one bother me and son yet
- Festivities, parades, family things park district provides
- Because I lived in this community for 30 years
- Some of the services they provide
- Everyone is pretty nice
- Some great people
- Some of the programs that help single mothers including the Link program and Section 8 program
- It's clean and the nice families
- Activities for kids
- School choices
- Nothing
- I wanna move back to the east side
- The ability of most of us to come together in a time of need
- Neighbors look out for each other
- It's somewhat family oriented, but we don't have nothing here for fun and entertainment. We need jobs brought back to Rockford cause everything is leaving us going to different states
- Shopping
- Nothing
- The willingness to help those in need
- Forest preserves
- Neighborhood Watch
- Do not know
- Some main services are closeby

- That it's kind of nice and quiet
- Bus transportation to help people who cannot afford cars and try to make a decent living to get to and from work
- How good the Rockford police are doing
- Violence about gun kill young and old
- Good place to raise children
- Quiet, low crime
- Children, I love to come home and see the kids out playing
- Residential convenience to shop, availability of restaurants, libraries, etc.
- The community in which I live is quite nice, quiet. I know my neighbor to the left and to the right. We don't have much or any violence in our area
- The people
- Nothing
- No drugs
- We have a lot of churches
- The focus on children's activities, baseball, karate, cheerleading, gymnastics, basketball, etc.
- Low violence
- It's slowly coming together
- Access to stores and banks, etc.
- Curfew law
- Schools
- The neighborhood
- Nothing
- Not much
- Mental health services
- They allow you to get some privacy
- We have good teachers
- Growth, but need to improve on what was already here
- Willing to improve
- Enjoy being outside
- Nice place to raise a family
- Cost of living
- Diversity
- Parks
- That there is help when you can find it
- Church, park
- It is peaceful and a family filled community

- Safety at public schools
- Nothing
- Nothing
- Our community is good because of people taking time to volunteer
- Nothing
- Access to a large park
- My child's school is close to home
- Mexican stores
- Clean yards
- That the police are always vigil of us
- Medical help
- When there is an event where different cultures are reunited
- Your people
- That there are some free services like going to English, computer science, etc.
- NOTHING
- That the area where one lives be watched over more and more tranquil
- We feel that our school community is warm, friendly, and care deeply about the children at our school
- Maintain the streets and houses cleaner
- Classes for dance and singing for art – information for free classes
- The parks
- That we are united
- That there be less gangs and juvenile delinquency
- The tranquility of my neighborhood
- There are many events but they are very expensive for my family – like the Metro Center and others
- More vigilance and less prostitution
- The parks
- That there was more bilingual
- Employment/training for disabled persons
- Programs that are recreational for persons with physical/mental deficiencies
- Special education for children
- The people
- That it's a community that doesn't care about your legal status with the minors, especially with medical help and student body
- The tranquility that we feel sometimes and the environment in the summer
- The people
- That there is communication with neighbors

- The tranquility which one lives in
- Activities for adolescents
- That there wouldn't be violence in the streets
- The tranquility and ease of modes of transportation
- It's a very tranquil place
- That it's a tranquil place
- That there not be violence in the streets
- That there not be violence in the streets
- It's clean but it could improve
- That there not be so much discrimination with Hispanics
- The tranquility that I can let my children go outside without worrying that something will happen to them
- So far it's tranquil
- The good treatment given to each person that settles in the city
- Nature and that there isn't as much traffic as the big cities
- That there would be a lot of work
- Hispanic festivals in the park – diversity
- The parks
- There are good schools
- Job training for people
- That there are bilingual public schools
- It's tranquil
- The tranquility
- The parks
- Less gangs
- That it's a little tranquil – there aren't gangs and walk through the streets anyway
- Have good neighbors
- The parks and recreational centers for children
- Some activities for the youth
- I have good neighbors
- Very tranquil
- Vigilance in the schools
- My family enjoys our community only we worry about the delinquency and I would like to enjoy the parks without it (Levings Lake Park)
- The union that exists in people in relation to a grave situation (Mexicans)
- Youth centers for help and recreations
- The airport
- Don't know

- The area where I live
- More opportunities for work and doctors
- Parks
- That we pick up the trash that is in the streets
- That we teach the youth about the traditions from our countries
- I have a library closeby, and most of us are Hispanics that support each other
- The friendly people
- That the people in the community are united
- Social services for Hispanics
- Nothing
- No comments
- The parks
- The respect for people without caring about their origin
- The diversity of cultures
- Security
- Improve the parks
- I would like a park around my area – there is only one and it's very small
- The recreational places
- The schools
- I don't have social security
- That the area is very tranquil
- Bilingual programs at schools
- Don't know
- Don't discriminate against Hispanics for not knowing English in the clinics or hospitals and work
- The parks and recreation areas
- That there are many places to have fun but sometimes the economy or time doesn't allow it
- That people respect things that belong to other people
- The public schools
- I don't know if I have anything I like about my community
- Tranquility
- The tranquility
- My neighbors. Thank God I have good neighbors
- Very tranquil
- The schools are good and they help the students a lot
- We are happy when it's summertime
- It's cool or calm "tranquil"

- I don't know if I have something that I like about my community
- That there are many different classes to help every race (lots of programing for minorities)
- I am very happy in my community. It's very cool, calm, or tranquil
- If there wasn't as much violence, everything would be good
- I would like it if it had more places for the children to play
- It's calm
- Its parks
- The calmness
- Surveillance
- That there wouldn't be violence or drugs or guns
- The people who help others
- That it's very calm
- Peacefulness
- There is nothing good offered here
- Places for family recreation
- It's a more calm place
- The stores
- That it's a little calm
- The parks
- The parks and the schools
- The young people don't abandon their studies
- The public schools
- The peacefulness
- The close schools
- The peacefulness
- Public transportation, "the bus"
- That there isn't a lot of racial discrimination
- The people
- The calmness
- Support for single mothers and children with disabilities
- The "coolness" or "calmness" of the neighbors
- The gardens and the parks
- More parks
- To fix the streets
- That our community doesn't have a lot of problems
- That they don't let the dogs run free in the streets
- The open parks for having fun with your family
- That they don't let the dogs run free in the streets

- The cleanliness
- The calmness or coolness of the region or area
- I don't understand this question
- Places for family recreation
- Rockford is very calm. There's not a lot of traffic and the people are nice
- That it is very calm
- That it is calm
- I like that in the area where I live it's calm and there are parks near where I take my children to play
- The aid
- Honestly, nothing right now because everything is so bad
- That they teach children in school
- The aid
- That they have been putting more interest in fixing the streets
- It's very calm
- Until now, it has been very calm
- The parks
- The libraries
- Nothing
- It's a calm place and ..
- That people respect you
- Social services
- The parks that serve for children to run and have fun!
- That they offer us a lot of help
- Diverse parks
- The parks
- That they respect you
- The parks
- The places for recreation for children
- Police security
- Nothing
- The calmness
- That there wouldn't be racism
- Communication with neighbors
- Everything is nearby
- What I like to see is people bettering the community by destroying old buildings and constructing new ones to make more places of employment
- I don't like anything because it's a very violent area

- Its security
- That we are very social
- Their police organization. Also socially and economy
- Nothing
- Everything
- That there are various programs for our children
- The calmness
- That there would be more security in the schools

37-49. Which of the following factors made looking for a job, getting a job, or keeping a job difficult for you or someone in your household? 49. Other:

- Big dogs
- Bailout of banks did not work
- Overqualified for jobs that were available
- Appropriate documentation
- Lack of work available
- Was told I was overqualified many times
- My mother drives semis so it's always a struggle finding an honest, fair company
- Insufficient pay for my experience
- No one hiring
- Was stay at home mom so there again my work history they discriminate
- Not enough work
- \$
- Many companies folding, leaving the area, poor economy
- Haven't worked in a long time
- Places not hiring
- Lack of jobs
- Had a baby
- No money
- Termination from previous job and multiple years of experience
- Due to the economy, it's hard to find people that can afford services that they would normally receive
- Too many illegal aliens in workforce
- Not enough pay
- School Board terminating numerous positions
- Hours
- Being fired before at a job

- Simply not enough jobs for all of us. With so many unemployed, the employers can pick and choose with college degrees and the rest of us are looked over
- Not a lot of employment available
- Was laid off
- There ain't no jobs
- This is a manufacturing city, but there are no manufacturing jobs. I understand economy shut shops down, but the Mayor doesn't seem to be doing anything to bring them back. A person with over 20 years manufacturing experience can't get a job in a tourist downtown restaurant, walkway or seasonal construction to build. This is not a drive thru just visit city, we live here
- In Rockford, job discrimination, diversity found only in jobs with lower wages like customer service, telemarketing, etc.
- Too much experience/overqualified for a position
- No one is hiring
- Too much experience/overqualified for a position
- No one hiring
- Overqualified for jobs that were available
- Not enough experience or overqualified
- I haven't worked in so long
- Not hired for jobs for being overqualified
- Nobody hiring
- Jobs are rare
- The lack of employers willing to hire a 30 year old person with no experience
- Mexican stealing jobs
- Terminated from previous job, multiple years of experience
- Not enough work
- I'm 6 months pregnant
- All the jobs are leaving Rockford, so leaving us without work
- No one is hiring
- He's a teacher
- Haven't worked in so long
- Social Security
- Not having security to work
- Lack of support from a husband because I am a single mother. I don't know how to drive, for me it's a great obstacle because I don't have a car, because I don't have a license to drive
- Good paying jobs!
- The managers at my past job discriminated against me and cut my hours
- Temporary lay off

- None
- Lack of documents
- Not being an American citizen
- The managers that discriminate their own workers
- Being English
- My work is seasonal
- Lacking a social security number
- I don't have papers or a social security number
- Undocumented
- I don't have a social security number
- I don't have a social security number
- I am older than 40 years old
- I don't have a telephone
- I haven't had a lot of work experience
- What's happening is that more sources of jobs are required because there's so many people who aren't employed currently
- There's no work

62-90. Almost every home faces difficult situations at some time. Please mark those situations which you or someone in your home experienced during the past year. 89. Other:

- Criminal record
- Financial, I make too much
- Socioeconomic class discrimination
- Hearing problems
- Making too much for assistance but barely making it
- Foster children terrible stealing. No consequences from state agency, left with high bills from theft, going to write governor
- Special needs child not able to participate in activities
- Appearance
- Economic status discrimination
- Sports fees for kids too high
- Schools needed to split up races equally
- Mental abuse by employer
- With one of the neighbors/my child
- Can't be hired due to background
- Very old background

- Weight discrimination
- No work
- The outside look discrimination
- Parental discrimination
- Getting looked over for jobs because I am not bilingual
- Discrimination on looks
- Religion discrimination
- Property stolen but had no home insurance couldn't afford
- Weight discrimination
- I am disabled
- Harassment in the workplace
- Pregnant woman
- Physical appearance
- Discriminated because my teeth are messed up
- The government doesn't fix the areas well
- Discrimination because of language
- My rent went up and I kept the downstairs for my family and the other part I rented but I don't like being this way
- Physical discrimination
- I can't have a surgery because of a lack of facilities – related to cost
- A member of the family suffers from alcoholism
- Legal help with business
- At work the managers sometimes don't talk to us and don't want us to get some coffee. The secretaries and another one feels that this is discrimination because there are coworkers that like to smoke and they can't smoke but the manager can and the ones that were born here can too

91-105. If you or anyone in your home needed help during the last year, such as for personal, financial, family, or job problems, and didn't receive help, what were some of the reasons that help was not received? 105. Other:

- Rockford Housing Authority keeps denying me because of utilities
- Did not receive paperwork needed
- My mother makes too much money to receive help but not enough money to cover all the bills every month, at times. I feel the problem is actually that the poverty level is too low when compared to most recent costs of living
- No jobs

- Denied for background not felony, misdemeanor
- Rockford housing denied my application for housing and I had this 12-15 years old and had 1 thing on my background a misdemeanor and they denied me housing for me and my kids
- Tired of being told your overqualified
- Have to be living outside to get help
- Most services are for low-income people, but low-middle working class there is nothing to help vs only because my work, often we don't get help. Low-income people have lots of help and is never enough
- They think my income is high, but for me to live on it I don't think it's enough
- No jobs
- Housing
- Services required not covered, protection against break-ins
- Unemployment has been very helpful and has saved us a great hardship
- No jobs available
- Bus service waits are too long
- Bad, either too much experience or someone else met qualifications than I did
- Bus service is inconvenient
- Organizations that could help gave conflicting information or could not provide enough agency "guidelines" to the public. Performance was "preferential" and "shady" and under qualified
- No jobs
- Trying to get help to lower my mortgage. I am working on it
- No pay stub for proof of income
- Disabled
- Felt they (DCFS) were not there for my daughter and grandson
- We make \$9 too much that's the state's reason
- Finances
- Tried to get help to lower my mortgage but no help. I am working on it
- Waiting on housing
- Credit score
- A lot of discrimination by the government towards Hispanics
- They don't help me with my legal status
- My mom is disabled, doesn't work and they won't give her the Medical Card or Link because they say she gets too much disability - \$1,100 a month and my little sister makes \$200 every two weeks. She worked hard for 30 years and is a citizen
- Nothing more than I just want them to treat me good at work

- Information about the services and types of help

108-125. What reason(s) kept you or a family member from receiving medical or dental care? 125. Other:

- Transportation to specialist in Chicago
- Child support
- No orthodontic or primary for adults or children
- Medical Card doesn't help with braces
- Had foster kids transferred from Crusader to my family physician, cost waste. They move from home to home month to month. Agency needs to be looked at
- Wanted my children to get care. I have to wait
- No specialists in my area take Medical Card
- Child needed special dentistry and closest place that accepted Medical Card was Chicago
- Only have the family planning card
- Oral surgeon needed
- Told I would have to go to Chicago
- Because they won't give me a Medical Card for us
- My weight prevented needed surgery
- Would not listen to symptoms, got serious before any doctor would do test
- Denied Medical Card
- Medicaid does not cover dental work needed for child
- Some medication not covered with Public Aid
- Making too much when not true and say we could pay the bills
- For not being in collection
- Discrimination
- Difficulties in payment facilities
- There is no facility to arrange payments
- The people in Crusader Clinic don't want to give me a prescription
- I have a sickness that requires 3 operations but I don't have the money nor the capacity to look for help
- Don't have the money
- So I don't have to be in collections because I don't have a way to pay

127. In the past year, have you or a member of your household traveled to a community outside Winnebago or Boone Counties to receive medical care? If yes, where did you or they go?

- Beloit, WI
- Sycamore, IL – NIU Speech and hearing clinic
- Madison, WI – VA Hospital
- Chicago, IL – Loyola
- Madison, WI
- Chicago, IL
- Chicago, IL – Chicago Children’s Memorial Hospital
- Madison, WI – University Medical Center
- Chicago, IL– University of Illinois Hospital
- Trumbull County
- Madison, WI – University Wisconsin Hospital
- Chicago, IL
- Waukegan, IL
- Rochelle, IL
- Chicago, IL Feel it is sad that you have to travel that far
- McHenry, IL
- Madison, WI
- Chicago, IL – Chicago Dental Care
- Chicago, IL – Chicago Hospital
- Milwaukee, WI – take care clinic
- Forest Park, IL – Riveredge Mental Health
- Peoria, IL – St. Francis Hospital
- Chicago, IL
- Mexico
- Elgin, IL
- Chicago, IL – Loyola
- Chicago, IL – Chicago Children’s Memorial
- Madison, WI – University Wisconsin Madison
- Madison, WI – University Wisconsin Madison Hospital
- Chicago, IL
- Chicago, IL
- Chicago, IL – Northwestern Memorial Hospital
- Harvard, IL
- New Jersey and South Carolina
- Madison, WI – University Hospital

- Freeport, Rochelle, IL
- Glenview, IL
- Chicago, IL – St. Mary’s Hospital
- Chicago, IL – UIC
- Madison, WI
- Kankakee, IL – Riverside Manteno Clinic
- Freeport, IL – Monroe Clinic
- Cook County, IL – UIC
- Kishwaukee Hospital
- Streamwood, IL
- Kane County – Elgin
- Hoffman Estates, IL – Associated Allergists and Asthma Specialists
- Missouri – Dexler Hospital
- Chicago, IL – University of IL in Chicago
- Stephenson County, IL – FHN
- Madison, WI – UW Hospital and Clinic
- Chicago, IL– Loyola
- Chicago, IL
- Mexico
- Freeport, IL
- Maywood, IL – Loyola Hospital
- Chicago, IL – Children’s Memorial Hospital
- Chicago, IL – UIC
- Milwaukee, WI, Loyola, IL
- Aurora, IL
- Outside of Chicago
- Wisconsin, – UW
- Chicago, IL – Walter Payton Liver Center UIC
- Madison, WI – UW
- Chicago, IL
- Chicago, IL
- Aurora, IL
- Chicago, IL
- Hoffman Estates, IL
- Chicago, IL
- Mexico – Guadalajara, Jalisco
- Madison, WI – Children’s hospital
- Wheeling, IL

- Chicago, IL – University of IL
- Wheeling, IL
- Chicago, IL
- Chicago, IL – UIC
- Chicago, IL
- Chicago, IL – Access Community Health Network
- Chicago, IL
- Mexico
- Chicago, IL – Children's Hospital
- Chicago, IL – Cook County Clinic UIC
- Indiana, Minnesota, Philadelphia, Florida

128. Why did you or a household member receive your care there instead of the Rockford Area?

- I don't care for Crusader Clinic
- Age of child, referred by doctor, Public Aid
- Because he is a vet and can only get care there
- My doctor works in Loyola
- She is a veteran
- Specialist to perform surgery
- Pediatric dermatologist for hemageonmas
- Specialist
- Best care for illness need for that hospital
- Moved
- Doctor being none for a while
- That is where I am from and I go to visit my mother there
- Referral
- Needed oral surgeon, dental was not available here
- More confident in the doctors, better trained, seemed to care and not judge and listened to concerns
- Needed specialist
- Rockford does not have dental specialist
- I have doctors in Chicago as well as in Rockford
- No specialist
- Visiting family out of state
- No physicality in Rockford, Boone County, or Winnebago County

- I have brain tumor/only have machine in Peoria for gamma knife surgery
- Second opinion
- More economical
- Only place that takes Medical Card for root canals
- Specialist (child)
- Needed a particular specialist
- Specialty
- Specialist doctors
- We wanted a homeopathic doctor
- That was the location of where I lived
- That is where I had my kidney transplant and they continue to monitor my progress
- That's where the kids doctor was, need to find one here
- No doctors that specializes in treatment near
- Better treatment
- Cause the one dermatologist in Rockford that accepts Medical Card is booked up until February of 2011
- Visiting family at Christmas season
- Specialist
- Instead of doing medically necessary tests like EEG, blood work, urine test, my 8 year old was drug tested and they haven't been able to justify why?
- Didn't take Public Aid
- My doctor is located there
- Rockford sucks, better health care, referred there
- In that area when problem occurred
- Allergy doctors in Rockford that took Public Aid had two months wait and needed appointment now
- Rockford area's medical and dental services are obsoleted and behind the times (staff too)
- Better doctors, more knowledge
- I was visiting my family, was stressed and had 5 seizures
- Needed a specialist, only one available in Rockford, wasn't in our insurance
- Pediatrician
- Didn't have a doctor here that take the Medical Card
- No specialist here
- Rockford hospitals are horrible, no good doctors
- My doctor works in Loyola

- Lack of money
- Lack of doctors accepting Medical Card plus outstanding bill at SwedishAmerican who refused services
- The type of doctor we needed wasn't in Rockford
- Because of insurance
- They took the Medical Card there
- The dentist that we needed for certain things that took Public Aid is outside of Chicago closest
- No specialist
- No liver specialist here in Rockford
- Better doctors, facility
- They wouldn't pull tooth and still have a wisdom tooth that needs pulled, can't find anyone
- Dental work
- They took the Medical Card there
- No specialist
- Better services
- I did not receive attention. Did not accept Medical Card
- It's cheaper
- Did not take Medicaid
- The appropriate specialty at that hospital
- Because I had that doctor for a long time
- Because there wasn't an available place
- Medical Card for braces – dental (no services in Rockford)
- Because they don't accept Medical Card
- Because we had to go there
- Because they told us we had to go there
- Because they told us we had to go there
- Needed another opinion from a specialist
- Because in Rockford there aren't places that accept patients without health insurance and receive attention at a low cost
- Because they don't accept Medicaid for braces
- Specialists
- I found myself in the area
- There wasn't a dentist that accepted Medical Card
- Because they did not want to see us and it was an emergency

- Because there aren't doctors here with that specialty
- Because we wanted to receive it and it was an emergency
- Because it's cheaper
- Because there aren't doctors with this specialty here
- The doctor for the children
- Because there they have Hispanic psychiatrists
- More economic
- We needed to get another opinion from a specialist
- Because they didn't accept Medical Card
- There wasn't specialists that accept Medical Card
- Routine checkup

129. What was the medical disease condition, procedure or test?

- Hearing loss
- Hand problems, depression, PTSD
- Pulmonary fibrosis transplant
- Partial hysterectomy
- Hirsch sprung disease
- Hemangiomas – counseling, blood work
- Cancer/high risk
- An illness
- Collapsed ankle
- Asthma
- Asthma
- Orthopedic
- Extractions/oral surgery/dental
- Foot surgery
- Nuero-ophthalmologist, severe pain and loss of eye sight, possible tumor
- My son had to go to a dental specialist for his teeth
- Leukemia (cancer)
- Remove staples
- Full psychological evaluation (medwash)
- MRI/Cat scan/x-rays/Gamma knife surgery

- Cancer
- Dental
- For dental problems, root canal
- Ped kidney treatment
- Seizure disorder and severe eczema
- Arthroscopic hip surgery
- Eye injury and neck surgery
- Checkup
- Checkups
- Kidney transplant due to membranous nephropathy
- My stomach and I have 2 little boys
- Rare
- Checked a rash that continues to spread on face
- Earache and chest pain
- Brain tumor
- Ongoing testing, it's a possibility my son has a rare form of epilepsy
- Bunion on my foot
- Brain surgery
- Kidney stones
- Food allergies, blood work
- Dental service, MRI, and treatment for high blood pressure
- Food and environmental allergies
- I need to stop thinking about everything, I need to do and relax
- Ped eye problem
- Keloid
- Epilepsy
- Pulmonary fibrosis lung transplant
- Dental
- Primary physician, checkups
- Strep throat and ear infection
- Laser eye surgery
- Back pain and left leg
- Dental
- Brain surgery

- Liver and kidney failure
- Biopsy, blood tests
- Pulling of teeth, etc.
- Dentist
- Dental
- Dental work
- Dental
- Spine Bifida
- Physical exam
- Dental
- Orthopedist
- They have not given me the name of what my daughter had
- I went for a complete exam including pap smears
- Dental and doctor for ear, nose, and mouth
- Cough
- Dental cavities in my four year old daughter
- Allergic reaction
- Checkup for hip surgery
- It was an allergic reaction
- Cavities
- Hip surgery checkup
- A medical exam
- ADHD
- Dental
- He needed braces and dental bridge
- They didn't give me the name of what she had
- Dental, Otolaryngology (specialist of ears, nose, throat), plastic surgery
- High blood pressure

130-131. Do you have health insurance that pays for all or part of your medical care? If yes, what type of health insurance do you have? Is it a traditional major medical plan, an HMO, PPO, or something else? (9) Other:

- Two kinds
- PPO my husband and I
- Discount in the clinic
- We don't have health insurance, just the girls
- Medical Card
- Only for my children
- For the children
- Only for my son
- My kids have it, my husband and I don't
- Target Medical

141. Is there a support group that you or a household member needed, but could not find? Which?

- Depression
- Alcohol
- Family counseling
- Church
- Counseling for children (affordable)
- Hit & run victim group
- For people that get hit by cars
- Getting hit by a car group
- Stress situation
- Any family help program
- Hispanic Advocacy
- Someone for my 8 year old son
- I need help for depression
- Bipolar
- Support for parents with children with mild mental impairments
- Therapist that accepts Medicaid
- For single moms
- Help with ODD/child, disrespect, attitude
- Divorce support

- Free family counseling
- Single mothers
- We live near downtown and my nephew needs counseling closer than way out on State Street and I-90
- Counseling
- Free counseling
- Support for young widows
- Grandparents raising grandchildren
- La Voz Latina
- Marriage counselor
- Anger management
- Counseling for my son
- Aspergers teen group for support and skills for high functioning on spectrum
- Mildred Berry family counselor
- Support for my children and I
- Not sure
- Help for depression
- Counselor
- For avoiding drugs and family problems
- Tutoring and advice for parents; help with children
- Psychologist
- Psychologist
- Psychological help in my children's school
- Domestic violence
- Professional help

221-229. Does this home include: 229. Other:

- Single parent living with parents and brother
- Disabled grandmother
- Disabled elderly parent/grandparent
- Foster mom and foster children, I raised their mom
- Children living here too
- Adult child, retired mother
- 2 adults and children

- Married, but going through divorce and raising my 3 kids and brother's 2 kids
- Grandmother
- Adult with 2 children married to a person in prison
- Married raising my 3 kids and brother's two kids
- Unmarried couple with kids
- Married going through divorce and raising my 3 kids and brother's two kids
- Mom with children going through divorce
- Child, exhusband
- Separated adult with 2 children
- Married living separate
- Grandma with grandkids and mother
- Single grandfather
- Grandmother and kids and her son and girlfriend and kids
- Single person living with 2 children
- 2 live together maintaining children
- Children and a sister
- There is a son from the couple that's married

231-234. Where do you access the internet? 234. Other:

- Job Service Center
- Library
- Library
- Library
- Have computer, but not on internet
- Library or relatives' house
- My sisters
- Brother's house
- Cell phone
- Need new computer
- Relative's home
- Library or cousin's home
- School
- Cell phone
- Cell phone
- Mom's

- Library
- Cell phone
- School
- Library
- Laptop computer
- Parent's house
- Daughter's
- Family
- Library
- School
- Right now our PC has a virus, so we also go to the library
- Library
- School
- School
- Unemployment office, library
- Library
- Library
- My phone - anywhere
- Have computer, don't use internet
- My phone
- Library
- Park district
- Library
- Library
- Cell phone
- Cell phone
- Phone
- Grandma
- Unemployment office
- Mobil phone
- Mom's house
- Library
- School
- Parent's house

- Library
- Phone, library
- School
- Mobile device
- Phone, library
- Library
- Library
- Library
- Unemployment office
- Friends' house
- Library
- Unemployment office
- Library, employment office
- Library
- Phone
- The center
- Library
- Community center
- School
- Library
- Library
- Cell phone
- Library
- Library
- Library
- School
- Family home
- Family's houses
- School
- Library
- School
- Phone
- My mom's house
- Mother's house

- Community center
- Library
- Library
- Family members house
- Library
- Cell phone
- Library
- Cell phone or mom's house
- Phone
- The center
- Family's home
- Library
- Friends/family home
- Library
- Library
- Cell phone
- Cell phone, mom's house
- Library
- Library
- Library
- Library
- Library
- Laptop computer
- Cell phone
- Unemployment office
- Friend
- Library
- Cell phone
- Cell phone
- Library
- Library
- Unemployment office, library
- School
- Library

- School
- Cell phone
- Library
- Library
- Library
- Cell phone
- Phone
- Friend's house
- Phone
- Unemployment office, library
- Grandparents
- Library
- Library
- Library
- Cell phone
- Phone
- Library
- Laptop computer
- WiFi
- Library
- IDES office, unemployment office
- Friend's house
- Stepmother's house
- School
- School
- Workforce
- Cell phone
- Free WiFi
- Library, friends computer
- Friend's home
- Library
- Library
- Library
- Library

- WiFi
- Wherever can find to use it
- Library
- A center with computers
- Unemployment, library
- School
- Bookstore
- Library
- Bookstore
- Telephone
- Bookstore
- Library
- Library
- Bookstore
- Library
- Bookstore
- Library
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- Cell phone
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- Library

237. Is there anything else that you would like to tell us?

- My mom who I stay with has been on her job 12 years or maybe more and pays rent and we or she can't buy a house and it seems like all white people own a house.
- I make just too much to get help and need help.
- I think Rockford is a great place to raise a family, but it needs more events and places that are reasonably priced and on bus routes for those of us with no transportation and limited financial resources.
- I believe this city needs to work on the homeless problem and setting a curfew for all underage kids that would keep the kids off the street at night and maybe less gang related crimes or kids doing crimes at night when most crimes happen. FIX OUR STREETS, my car was ruined from all the HOLES. Plus our schools are # 1. Quit taking from them. Leave our children's education source ALONE!
- The limit on doctors that will take the Medical Card is ridiculous and the lack of dental care is a major problem. Not being able to get to a doctor because of a small child or infant that has problems has been my biggest problem and getting a large enough van that I can afford.
- The school system could be better than what it is. These kids that want to go and learn should without being bullied nor yelled at. The teachers could talk to them instead of say things that hurt them. Today's kids need more love and attention now more than ever. As single parent homes, we could use more help than homes with two parents. But I am just one person right.
- Why are you wasting our time with those questions that have nothing to do with the school system?
- Applied for help to lower our house payments was denied. Applied for Public Aid denied. The people who really need help (working families) are always denied (system sucks).
- I think this town needs to focus more on gang related problems, teen pregnancy, and speaking less Spanish. I am bothered that my children learn Spanish in elementary school. I don't like that my 9 year old knows gang signs from school or that dirt bikes go up and down my street at all hours but the police never do anything. I don't like that my kids are surrounded by drugs and the police do nothing.
- I do not feel that school should be down to four days a week. I strongly disagree with this. Also, I don't see how one year your student has a spot at a school, the next year they may not be guaranteed a spot. That's ridiculous. I don't see how your going to take a child's spot who is already comfortable at their school to give it to another child.
- Add more questions about persons living in community such as communication, help neighbors in need if disaster happens, neighborhood clean up. How persons on their block (community) would provide assistance to their fellow neighbor.

- I didn't feel my daughter was challenged this year in school.
- Do the right thing for our babies, as should we! And we grossly undervalue our teachers and staff. They should be both respected and paid more, they are the keys to a great future!
- Bring more jobs to Rockford.
- My son has ADHD. He needs more than pills and someone to talk to. I need help with skills on what to do with him and maybe I need someone to talk to.
- There needs to be more help with homeless families and the mentally challenged.
- Rockford has nothing to offer as far as jobs. No income hope, only poverty. Rich getting rich, middle class becoming poverty class.
- There needs to be more jobs out there so that people who really need them can find them, and more financial benefits so that people can get to and from their job.
- I just feel that education is one of the keys for a successful community. If our children get the education that would make them more successful, employers from here and outside the area would see this and want to have businesses here and grow our economy. Also, somehow reach out to all these young people who do not seem to understand that they need a stronger self-value. This "kids having kids" and so many different partners needs to be addressed. They are so much more and need to see that.
- Programs, especially child care, should provide assistance to families that don't qualify for Y assistance. Yes, I may not live below poverty levels, but paying in full for day care \$600/month, rent \$650, utilities \$250, my groceries \$200, making \$38,000/year is barely enough. It's almost like I shouldn't want more because by working hard means I lose assistance and live check to check. Should I make the bare minimum and allow the state to take care of us, it's not fair.
- The answers to my questions look good on paper, but even with a steady income, bills and mortgage and car payment with insurance are still overwhelming. With our income, we qualify for no public assistance. It is very frustrating in this community as well as others I'm sure that just because you are employed you do not meet income requirements you don't get assistance and on the turn side there are people who are able to work and choose not to and get a large income from illegal drug dealing and they get public assistance. Very frustrating!
- Rockford has no hope for living and surviving. I tell a lot of people who do not live here, don't come, this is no hope city. I'm trying to get enough money to get my family out of this terrible ___ hole.
- Help the city, don't bother me please!
- It is getting hard to live in Rockford. I don't love the school system. Everything such as food, gas, etc., is getting too expensive and my pay is staying the same. It's hard to try to save money when you have bills to pay with one income. All I hear on the news is they want to raise taxes. That is ridiculous for people like myself.
- Rockford is a sorry city to live in. No hope of living. Trying to get money to move where I can support my family and see my kids be able to eat enough and laugh, play again.
- More programs are needed for single parents, male and female single parents.
- Rockford could use a lot of improvement.

- There needs to be more jobs out there. Especially for us younger mothers that had children just a little too early. We need to be able to support our children. The economy is so terribly bad right now. I can't find no work. Not able to find the time nor have the money to get a degree behind me, at the moment it makes it very difficult to raise children, keep a home in order with gas, electric, food, and find the financial stability to do so.
- We live life to the fullest with a lot of love.
- Rockford has the worst unemployment rate and it's a disgrace to Illinois. I relocated from Chicago, Illinois almost four years ago, and I have never been unemployed until I moved out here.
- I think that crime is too high, especially in low-income areas. I think authorities harass citizens instead of helping. I'm only speaking from personal experience. I also feel that there is a lack of responsibility in a lot of houses (from adults) and it is affecting the youth in a major way.
- It is hard to get into another profession such as medical field, when there aren't any classes during the times I need. How can someone make too much to get services and be below poverty at the same time?
- Rockford in my opinion is a great place to live. I've lived here all my life. I have visited many other places. Rockford just needs more organized things to do.
- We need more activities for our youth. The community centers and boys and girls club are geared towards 5-16 leaving the 16-21 to wonder toward gang's crime-making kids.
- District 205 should be looking at new approaches for children that fall under the autism spectrum instead of labeling them with learning disabilities. Autism is so broad and they only look at the black and white, not the grey areas. Also, our teens are bored to death on weekends because of age, appropriate entertainment and events, this includes the Waterfront. Rockford also needs the Renter's Coalition to do something about more affordable rent throughout the city, not everyone qualifies for Section 8, but the wages in the city has dropped and working low-class families are caught in the middle. That is your annual income is between \$25,000-\$35,000 before taxes and medical insurance, but you are spending 55%-65% of income just for rent and utilities.
- What about a break for working class people, we need programs too. Not only for low-income people that get everything for nothing and is never enough. Also, have supervisors that do their job investigating where the benefits of the community programs go. Everybody lies in order to get free stuff. It's about time to pay more attention. This is why we are in such a bad economic situation.
- Born here when life was sweet and people cared about their neighbors. The foster care system here needs looking into. The children that I have worked with are the worst. Coming out of Detroit and Chicago, Aurora areas, unruly, no respect for adults or the law. They drop from school to school and home to home. It's ridiculous how the state allows these kids to steal and get away with it. You spend so much time, money, and effort in helping them and they could care less and the agencies don't care. Just in it to place them, you do all the work, they lie and your investigated. It's harder on the children in the schools that want to really learn putting up with that behavior.
- I wish there were more teachers that were concerned with their students such as Ms. Hyslop (Lathrop Elementary) and she also gets involved with the parents as well. Thanks so much.

- You can do all of the assessments and tools but if there is nothing done “who really cares.” There is so much potential in people, but it is always given and monies spent on NE and E Rockford (they don’t need one more restaurant, motel, gym, shops, stores, etc.) they have too much of everything. Regular hard working people live in Southwest Rockford and we have next to nothing in the area. Grocery stores turn into Mexican markets, shops are dirty, parking lots to go there are disgusting. People have nothing to take pride in. You can’t walk to anything nearby, nothing is handy. No chain stores, restaurants, gyms, theaters, etc. The local schools are like prisons (RESA), you can’t get in to talk to anyone, we have asked to volunteer as parents, you are treated like a leper if you aren’t WHITE. But we stay because can’t afford to move due to lack of both parents having full-time decent employment and pay. But again, what really are you going to do to change Rockford and give younger kids 9-16 something to do to keep them out of trouble and provide a positive caring atmosphere.
- Both are unemployed and unemployment got cut off in February, had to wait for extension to find out that didn’t get any extension. No income for 1 almost 2 months now.
- Our children need an adequate education. They need to be provided with the tools that are necessary to survive. We need to raise money for our children and then take care of other countries. We need to rebuild the U.S. The children need after-school activities somewhere that they can do their homework and then leisure activities. We need more jobs, people with college degrees are working in video stores and retail because there are no jobs.
- I would just like to say, I think the teachers are doing a great job. But there is some schools, I think, need to be looked at a little closer. Some are not teaching the kids nothing at all because they think the kids are from the project, so they don’t give the kids that much credit.
- I think these teacher’s here in the Rockford Schools are afraid of the students and allow the anger and physical actions gets worst. There’s a lot of parents that try so hard with their children at home, but when they get out in the world they make their own decisions, some choose wisely some poorly, but with that said, don’t give up, there are some who just need that extra guidance. Please save our children.
- My neighborhood is constantly being littered by broken glass bottles. We have a huge issue with glass alcohol bottles all over the sidewalks, streets, and parks. It would be great to see something get done about this problem.
- Please put a playground for children and music school, more activities for adults, more information.
- Every neighborhood is going to have their problems and their issues. We as a community need to look out for our kids and make sure that they have the chance and opportunity to be and make things better for their future and their kids’ future. They won’t be able to do this if Rockford doesn’t wake up and realize that we need to stop lending money to places like the Metro Center, when we’re getting nothing in return. Think about all the stuff we could have done for schools with all that money.
- I feel Rockford needs more free or low, low-cost family activities. Rockford needs better things for teens to do. It needs more social service agencies that help families, not just single people. There are zero agencies that help with basic needs for families, like Rockford Township will not help a family, but will help a single person with no children.
- More programs for families, not single persons.

- There is one main concern, you the Rockford Public School District #205, is that as a parent I am not bi-racial, but when my child comes home and ask why himself is there only 3 children by his race (white) in the classroom. I think they would equal out the races on school, that's why we rule out discrimination.
- Pet control to take care of complaints.
- This took 40 minutes and I can't see how it relates to our school district issues. I have children in other schools and they did not get this, so can't I assume your results will be skewed? How much has this cost our school district?
- We plan to move out of Rockford because it's too expensive and the schools are really bad. My son can't spell very good. They don't seem to care. When we lived in Missouri he was 3 years behind the children and they asked us where we were from. I said Rockford, IL and they laughed.
- I wish there were more teachers that were more concerned and the kids learning such as Ms Hyslop, and she really has been a really big help with my son and we thank her so very much. Thank you so much Ms. Hyslop.
- I think and feel as well as other people, places that provide assistance like Public Aid office or child support office need to be a lot more friendlier and professional. The people that work for the state act like some people are a burden to them. This applies for the YWCA as well. People should not be as a number. People who help with assistance need to be audited undercover so the state can see how people are being treated. People should be treated the way they want to be.
- The property taxes in Rockford are too high. My taxes are higher than my mortgage. People cannot afford them. They need to cut in half - many foreclosed homes in my neighborhood. No one seems to care. I want out of Illinois. Public schools are terrible, too many students per teacher. Send kids to summer school in their own neighborhood.
- I believe that the city could use a place for men to get help and housing financially to help them get on their feet. A safe place for teens that dropped out of school, to get them off the streets and reduce crime.
- Please tell the Rockford Mayor to stop thinking he can make decisions for or even has the right to make decisions for the Rockford schools. I never voted for the man, yet, I have paid District 205 taxes for many, many years. We elect a School Board, and if he has something to say, then he can get himself added to a meeting agenda, just like any other taxpayer has to do! From there, the School Board as a group will make a decision.
- Sheffield needs to go!
- I believe that our community is a wonderfully diverse place to live. My children are public school children (white) that are the minorities at their school. I want to culture acceptance of all people in my children. So far, my children have been widely accepted among peers. Until this year, when my older son started reading the papers, etc., his awareness of racism was very limited. He now asks me if things will calm in our city. He loves his school and his teachers. He loves his school community. He does struggle with stability now as his school has been greatly affected by the dismissals Dr. Sheffield and the RBOE made. Sad Mom. ☺ I want the schools to be stable again. It's not the teachers fault.
- I am grateful for the help my family and I do receive, although it seems I never get ahead. It is too much to go back to school because I cannot afford to do everything. I need to better myself with a career to earn more, but I cannot let my kids do without!

- There should be a lot more opportunities for single parents with housing instead of RHS waiting list, too long with Section 8. Some older kids that live in RHA project they are the problem, bad security officers. There should be the real police, I don't feel safe for me and my family.
- I plan to move again this year before school starts back. I plan to leave to search for work and better housing.
- My kids aren't learning anything at their school. Some of my younger nephews know more than them. So I think they need to get some better teachers. I think they think since the kids was or still live in the projects, they really feel like their not going to amount to nothing anyway. I am a parent that tries to do the right thing. I feel like they just don't care about the kids sometimes. Thank you.
- The main concern that I see in my community is the lack of respect teens seem to have for authority and their schools and themselves. All the programs and organizations can help to a certain extent, but their home life is what we're seeing them manifest. We need to come together as a community and begin to let these teens know the choices they make today will affect them in the future. We need to pray for our children.
- I would like to see the city, county, state adopt a conceal-carry law where law abiding citizens can protect and defend themselves against the rash of street thugs that plague the City of Rockford. I would like to see a relationship between RPS 205 and the Mayor's office to house a resident officer in every school in the district; start rebuilding the community at the elementary level before they get to high school. I would like every member of the School Board to be fired so that our schools can get the attention they need. Fresh minds, fresh ideas. Hold parents responsible for the actions of their children or simply change the name from RPS 205 to "free day care centers of Rockford."
- Streets need to be more better to make it a safe place for kids to play.
- None at all, we just all need to be equal.
- No thank you and God Bless.
- Yes, in person for am to converse on Rockford's issues.
- Rockford Memorial Hospital is a "death trap." The Rockford Police Dept. is "corrupt." Rockford Public schools are "failing our children." Rockford City Council mismanages taxpayer's money.
- I am a single parent, I feel there are many programs to help mothers that don't work. Programs like food stamps, health care, child care, but because I work I make too much for Link and for child care. When I did have child assistance from the YWCA, I had to pay \$300 a month from my own pocket so how is that help. I have medical insurance from my job for me and my son and I am buying my home. I am living pay check to pay check. I feel there needs to be programs for people that work to help them get by. A girl I used to know told me once, why should I work when Section 8 pays my rent. The state gives me Link, cash assistance, and a Medical Card. I am doing better now than when I was working. And the way I am struggling and I am working, I think she was right. Help the people that are trying to help themselves.
- I think it's a good idea that RPS did this survey.
- I think that laying off the teachers at the end of the year is not right. The kids need them to learn, without teachers kids are not going to get the right education that they need.

- I personally think we should use more eco-friendly materials such as recycled cloth to make more clothes, organize a litter patrol group. Secondly, I honestly think that each job provider should provide English classes for those who need it. Thirdly, I think that more things need to be more private more anonymous. Fourth, we need better streets, they need to be more constantly taken care of. Fifth, we need better protection on the roads such as cops, CMC (convenient medical care). Finally we need a comments box in every public place such as a place of work.
- As a parent, I don't understand all these cuts from schools and other safe places for kids.
- I think Sheffield is doing a great job trying to change the school district. Nashold is one of the lowest rated schools and I'm tired of my son going to a school that can't pass the grade. How can he when the whole school fails in itself?
- Winnebago County needs more than one school in the zone to where children can be able to go to any school the parent chooses and security needs to be tight in the schools. This county needs new restaurants like a White Castle, Home Run Inn Pizza, etc. More jobs.
- You all need to add more recreational activities for individuals who have no or little income and give the children and parents the freedom of choice to pick where they would like to attend school. Add more programs for the youth and troubled teens, stop incarcerating them not knowing their background history, make a way, not put them away.
- Fix schools, keep the teachers.
- I have five children, trying to obtain GED, but have no one to watch my newborn. Have no transportation at all. It's hard to find someone to watch my child when I know no one at all.
- One comment that I'd like to make is that our high schools need a health dept. in them after school and maybe before school so teens can get birth control, they have no rides to North Main Annex and don't want parents to know that they are sexually active. Teenage girls get pregnant and drop out of school and can only get low paying jobs and then need food stamps, Medicaid to support themselves, and children which costs a lot more than birth control clinic.
- Need more jobs for single parent's programs for single parents.
- Your questions don't make sense to the choices of answers. Feels like it's a way to secure your already decision on how things are going.
- Rockford is too isolated from outside towns and counties that have affluence. People are friendly, but there are not any opportunities to exist financially without holding 2 jobs or just plain struggling. If I had known just how much lack this area suffers from, I would not have bought a home in this area. Who wants to work in a factory or a plant when they're used to working a professional position?
- ☺
- Ya'll are too nosey. The height and weight thing shouldn't matter.
- It's really hard nowadays with single or married mothers trying to take care of their children. Then when summertime comes around, they try and get them off the streets and put them in YMCA or other programs so they don't get into gangs or trouble, but there's not enough money to keep them in camp or programs, so the lower community suffers. Your helping but then your not helping, we need to fix our county and fix the crime.
- It's hard living in Rockford, this the worst me and my kids have ever lived.

- I'm so happy with the YMCA for all the help that we get to keep our children moving. I'm so thankful with Crusader Clinic for all the help that my diabetic mom and sister get from them. They don't have insurance and Crusader helps them all the time.
- Rockford School District needs to get with the program. I should be able to decide where my kids go to school in every grade based on my wants, not someone telling me where to send them.
- I am glad to have participated in this survey. It is the first of its kind I've seen and I have lived in Rockford all my life. Kudos to Ms. Sheffield.
- Grandparents raising mixed race grandkids.
- Next time need Spanish formulary, not everyone speaks two languages and read. Thank you.
- Rockford is a horrible place to live. There is no rhyme or reason to this place, it's like its been forgotten, to become a waste land. What has become of the world that what goes on here is okay. The crime is out of control. I am scared to raise my child here, something has to be done. This is coming from someone born and raised in Chicago. The schools are a joke and now my daughter moves to the next grade and I fear what will happen to her because of all the horrible stories I heard from other parents about the schools in Rockford. I am scared for her and I shouldn't have to be scared or worried she will be shot in school. Since I've moved here 3 years ago, just about every place within 2 miles including my job has been robbed, sometimes twice. People walk in drinking and doing drugs at my work all the time, shooting up in the bathrooms, doing drug deals in the parking lots all day long. Where are the cops? I was taking out the garbage and got stuck in the foot by a dirty drug needle. I went to the doctor, he didn't even know what to do, he had to call someone. Now I know this can happen anywhere, but to be out of control in Rockford when you have a crack dealer living next door or downstairs from you, how would you feel? I feel like I've entered the twilight zone, and I live in the good part of Rockford. I know this might sound harsh but my point is Rockford needs all the help it can get and it better be soon.
- I'm a hard working mom that can't ever get caught up on bills. Kids get good grades, have no way to show them good job well done. It's really hard out here and if there is resources, they need to be known.
- We moved from California to Rockford , I think it is very expensive living here, property tax is too much. I think I'm going back to California.
- Services and help aides for education are too expensive.
- I believe that DHS provides more help and assistance to families who are not trying to help themselves, over families who work with single parent home working full-time. The requirements you have to fall under to get help is absurd. There are families who work hard, pay taxes, and when need a little help, they cannot receive that help, it's unfair. That puts a person into a depression state, and you think about your life and why are you alive when you have to struggle everyday, when the only thing that keeps you going is your child.
- School systems and free/low cost family activities need to be more available. Not enough of them and what there may be, you nearly need to be beyond homeless to qualify and/or are held on school nights.

- This community lacks employment nearby and needs the roads repaved because they have many potholes and are just horrible. Also, the playgrounds around the 61109 area absolutely are unsafe and pathetic for children to play. Also, children need more learning and don't get that. Many classes may be too large to assist each child.
- I am a single parent who has to work and my oldest will be going to a school that is not in the same zone as where I work. She was ADHD and I have no idea how to get her to the bus on time when I have to be at work by 7:45 a.m. and her school won't start till 9ish. I think buses should bus from wherever the parent needs them no matter what their zone is.
- Better bus routes and times would be convenient for those who have no transportation.
- It is very difficult to find out about services for the community that provide to lower income. You must find out by word-of-mouth or once you get to the services the waiting list is overfull.
- I don't understand why I keep getting denied for a Medical Card and I'm a single parent and low income. Some services that are suppose to be there to help are actually harder to receive than they should be.
- You can really help young girls not to get pregnant at age 16. Talk to them, have other teen moms make an assembly to tell them that it's really hard.
- I can't believe how the schools have become over the past few years. I have a 15 year old son who was a honor student until he went to Jefferson. He was jumped the first part of the year by some boys in a gang and he has been scared to go to school. The teachers, not all, have been rude to him in ways that an adult shouldn't be towards any child. We have 5 kids, all boys, and were trying to move out of Rockford so the younger 4 boys have a chance. We have 1 at Jefferson, 1 at RESA, 2 at Rolling Green, and 1 at Nashold. Rockford is messing our children up.
- Jobs for friends and family.
- What is this survey going to solve?
- Too many Mexicans.
- Very concerned for the unemployment ratio for Rockford. Do not care for the unzoned elementary schools. I feel they need to be neighborhood schools only.
- It would be nice to have easier access to Medical/Food Stamp assistance. The type of job my spouse has, his wages vary week to week. Some as low as \$200 a week and some as high as \$800 a week, and yet we can qualify for medical but not Food Stamps. It's disturbing to see people rolling up to stores in vehicles that cost \$40,000 or more, then paying for their groceries with Food Stamp Card and walking out with 2-3 carts full.
- Need to get rid of bilingual programs and make these people have to learn English. Quit busing children from BAD parts of Rockford into our neighborhood schools, this is why so many people are moving out of Rockford or are putting their kids into private schools.
- Fix schools so our teachers can stay.
- I feel that the school systems needs improvement.
- All I want is for my kids to be safe enough to go outside and play without in the back of my head it might be a gun shot or anything, I just want the crime rate to stop.
- We need a teen curfew.

- Hard time finding places for assistance in many things. Get info sometimes too late after program or whatever is done. Like to know who to talk to or where to go for many things.
- Need activities for the youth and more meaningful entertainment for grown ups of different ethnics.
- We need more activities for the kids in the summer and after school to keep them out of the streets.
- With the state of economy, I feel that the government should assist people until they can return to work. This would save the state large sums of money as opposed to caring for all those sick homeless people who number in the millions and constantly growing. If you pay one family \$21,000 a year for care for their family, care and treatment for one person be it adult or child could cost anywhere from \$11,000 to \$400,000 per person.
- Would like there to be more affordable things to do with the kids on weekends and in the summer. Help with adults getting their GED, public assistance to help people who is helping themselves.
- Myself and children live with my mother and father because I can't get no housing help, plus the projects are so bad to where I don't want my kids living there because I work and I can't work and worry about them at the same time.
- We need better dentists that take the Medical Card and more dentists. Not to cut the school budget and programs offered to kids, more places to go for mental health problems, and more help for rent and bill problems.
- Yup, moving out of Rockford in June, going to where there are better schools for the kids and more help in special ed and going to finally be somewhere where my kids aren't harassed for being white!
- Teenagers need more options for the poor. They need YMCA passes. They need big brothers, they need people to talk to and places off the streets. Maybe we can save a few before gang life or drug dealing, jail or prison. They need more opportunities.
- If we are going to have better schools in this community, it needs to start with a better superintendent and elected School Board Members by the people. I feel as a parent the damage these "professionals" have done is irreplaceable. As parents and students, we have to take a "like it" or "lump it" because I am in charge attitude. That's not fair. The community falls apart, the schools apart.
- No that was enough questions. I hope that this survey will make a change.
- This community is not geared towards African-American's being successful. There are hardly no activities for the youth to involve themselves in. Thus resulting in living a life of crime and being on the streets. The city needs to fix the streets, they are horrible. I've paid so much money on repairs that I could've bought a new car. There is also not enough help for the working single mothers. It's hard to get ahead in Rockford. This is the reason I am moving out of Rockford. The teachers in these schools or public schools are also horrible (some).
- We need a tougher system for deadbeat dads! Thank you.
- Government taxing us too much on everything. Get rid of some government and government spending, we will have more money for schools, roads, and no more handouts if you want welfare, you should do some kind of community service to give back to the community.

- More free programs, activities for all ages especially sports, arts, games. I think keeping the kids and young teenagers busy and be with other kids from different or other country may help enjoy more shared with others kids and be outside.
- We need jobs.
- I don't like the fact that my child doesn't have a bus. My house is about one and a half miles away from the school and that is too far for a 6 year old to walk and I have other kids so I can't walk him back and forth everyday. Therefore, my boyfriend has to take an early break everyday and come and take my son to school. I think they should have transportation for the children in elementary no matter how close they live to the school. Thank you.
- Thank you for trying to help us. All the Hispanics are grateful to you. Hopefully you can also help us with Immigration Reform. We only want to work and give a better future to our children, a good education, something we were not able to have because of the extremely poor conditions that we were born into. Our children are the most important in our lives; for that reason, we want the best for them. God willing and we will accomplish this. Thank you. We the Hispanics don't steal jobs from anyone, simply we do the heavy work that others can't do or want to do.
- We need Immigration Reform ASAP please.
- What is the final result of answering these questions and how am I benefitted or my children or my family in general?
- In all public places, the private clubs, and in the city, there is a lot of racial discrimination. And all sports clubs, they charge too much money. Atwood Park, YMCA, and the programs from the Rockford district, the theaters, Metro Center, and more without forgetting the 4th of July Festival.
- There should be Hispanics that teach English because the Americans aren't understood.
- That after the children's class where they are learning English, that they stay after class for 1 hour so they learn more 2 or 3 times per week.
- More programs for children to learn music and to be economical or any other thing that would keep children away from bad habits.
- Thank you for taking us into account and worrying about our security.
- Many youth abandon their studies because they don't know English or aren't citizens. And it's difficult to find a scholarship because some youth don't practice any sport.
- That all women should receive a Medical Card to be sure of their health. The Hispanic women don't count on sufficient funds to go to the doctor when they feel bad because they don't know where to get the money to pay for medical bills.
- Yes, the mothers need a free day care service so that they can work and help our husbands with the costs for the house.
- I would like to receive support for me and my children. We come from a different county. I separated from my husband because of domestic violence and it has not been easy. Actually I am not working. I would like to learn to read, write, and speak English and be able to finish my GED and receive support with my children in day care so I can work. My children would like to attend the YMCA in the summer. If I could receive information so they could go, I would appreciate it.

- I liked knowing that you are concerned for the community and the problems of the people that need help but can't find it, and I hope you can help us with our problems in the community.
- Thank you.
- Thank you for making this type of evaluation a reality. I only hope that every person that receives it answers and returns it, and the information is taken to obtain better results for our community.
- Please, we would like help with better medical care and not so expensive to better care for one's self, and also medicines cost a lot.
- We have a good service for help services, but I think we need more vigilance by police to prevent juvenile delinquency and a little help with education programs and youth.
- That the school – Lathrop – make another path so I can cross better and not have car problems.
- I haven't found support for treatment for depression in my community. If there is some, it's too expensive and last year I did not have health insurance. The doctors don't accept you unless you have cash or health insurance.
- That adults should qualify to receive Medical Card to help with the doctor and not worry about how to pay for prescriptions and consults. Because there are many adults that don't work because of their illnesses that don't allow it.
- Rockford needs to improve in education and have enough jobs. Also have teachers that are appropriate to teach students.
- Why so many confidential questions?
- Lathrop School needs to make another entrance because there is a lot of problems picking up the children.
- Rockford needs to improve its education and have sufficient jobs. It also needs to have supportive teachers to teach our students.
- Our area needs more stores. Closer supermarkets and parks for the kids.
- I am a lady by myself with 3 children wanting to find a way to get a divorce without having to pay money and have the father of my children pay child support.
- It is important that some stop in the street when they need to.
- Well sometimes I get scared for my daughters to go outside in the yard and play because they heard a lot of gunshots and it makes me very scared for my family because like 2 years ago they killed a friend of ours during the day and my neighbors got bullets in their houses. And it makes me very scared for my family and for my innocent neighbors. I asked my brother who lives with us if he still hears gunshots any more because sometimes they hear them at night and it scares me that these bullets might come into my house. We are a good family that only wants safety and we are innocent people who are bearing pain because of the gangs.
- I would like there to be more support for the Hispanics, like family counseling or counseling for the children with ADHD. I know there are places or maybe I am not very informed but in these places (like psychologists or psychiatrists) there aren't bilingual people. I also think that there is very little work and there was a good idea for those who work outside of Rockford, like in Chicago, to have more transportation maybe like a train or buses.

- There needs to be Immigration Reform. It's difficult to bring your family up when there is a lot of discrimination and abuse.
- For what is all these personal questions?
- I didn't understand some of the questions.
- I have 2 children in high school and recently one of them had a problem in school. Some of the girls (in school) hit her (my daughter) and they broke her arm. They took her in an ambulance to the closest hospital. Nobody from the school accompanied my daughter. For me, this situation is the fault of the school, the teachers, and the principals. They are very irresponsible. Later on I tried to see what happened and nobody wanted to say anything. Only that I had to wait and wait. I put in a complaint to the police and they told me that I had to wait until the girls that hit my daughter returned to school. When they returned I went another time to the police and they only told me that they couldn't do anything and that everything was fine. There was a lady interpreting at the school and she told the police something that I couldn't understand so I looked for help somewhere else but still I'm waiting. The lady from the school told me that if I keep asking for them to arrest the girls or their parents (because they are minors) that the school was going to sue me. To me this felt like a threat, but anyway, the girls that hit my daughter are two and one got suspended for 2 days and the other 5 or 6 days. This isn't everything though. One of the girls has a lot of problems and she fights with everyone. One time I went to a get together and that girl was there and they arrested her for fighting with other people. They were all in a group dressed like gangsters. My daughter told me, "mami, this is the girl that hit me in school." Now I am so worried that I don't want to send my daughters to school, but they told me that they will send me to court if they don't go. Now what are we supposed to do with all this delinquency? The schools says they have new rules in the district and they can't do anything. I say to the principal or to the director of the district, "What is going to happen to our young people? What future do you want for them?" In this school there is so much violence. The children fight all the time. The police don't do anything. The other day I went to pick up my kids and there was other kids fighting. I went to tell the police that were passing and they told me they recognized the fighting and they just stayed there and didn't do anything. This is why kids go to big universities and kill a lot of people, because when they were younger they never got punished. Please make these people aware of what they are doing. And in my case, there was a good deal of discrimination for being Hispanic. Why is there a crime in being Hispanic? How are we going to reach the young people? What do we want for them? A diploma from high school or a diploma from prison?
- I would like it if you helped me with medical things because I can't pay for the prescriptions from my doctor. This is the only thing that I want. Thank you.
- Yes, I would like everyone to have direct access to health because now the new law includes the people who are undocumented and I say that health is the most precious treasure that we have as human beings. I would love if instead of what the government spending money on the war that they would spend money on security and good performance in school because the gangs make people quit their classes because they are afraid (of the gangs) and if a student is a good student and they are doing well in school it's also used to mock him. I think that the future of the world is the children and the adolescents, if the situation continues like this, we will have less professionals tomorrow.
- This is it. Thank you.

- The schools don't give sufficient support for the students and families that need psychiatric help or family therapy for problems with the children. There exists many teachers with sufficient vocation for the teaching of students because they don't have patience and they only yell at the students and punish them by not letting them go to lunch. It's up to the school district to be more careful in selecting their teaching personnel. All the teachers should be of the same educational level like the teachers at Washington School.
- I would like it if you would help us and the many people like me that can't get a license to drive. If you want, maybe you could just give us a permit. Thank you very much.
- You know my situation is frustrating because I can't obtain a license for the reason that I don't have a social security number. My daughter can't enjoy events in her school because her dad works and he's never in the house to take us. You all know that driving is necessary and I would love for our Latin leaders or protectors to make sure they do something to help us obtain a Social Security number so that we can get a license to drive. I would be forever grateful to them.
- Just thank you for caring and please continue your work.
- Well even though I have KidCare for the children, they don't cover everything from dentists and there are problems with paying.
- We hope that we could have more help and support for Latinos even though that sets us apart for being Hispanic or Latino. Thank you and I hope that this serves some good.