

St. Croix Valley survey

*Assessment of needs and quality of life
in Chisago, Washington,
Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix Counties*

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St. Croix Counties*

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Prepared by:

Laura McLain and Richard Chase

Wilder Research Center
1295 Bandana Boulevard North, Suite 210
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108
651-647-4600
www.wilder.org

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Summary

This survey of 1,612 residents of the St. Croix Valley in Chisago, Washington, Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix counties was carried out from October 2000 to March 2001 to assess community needs and quality of life issues.

2000 Census data:

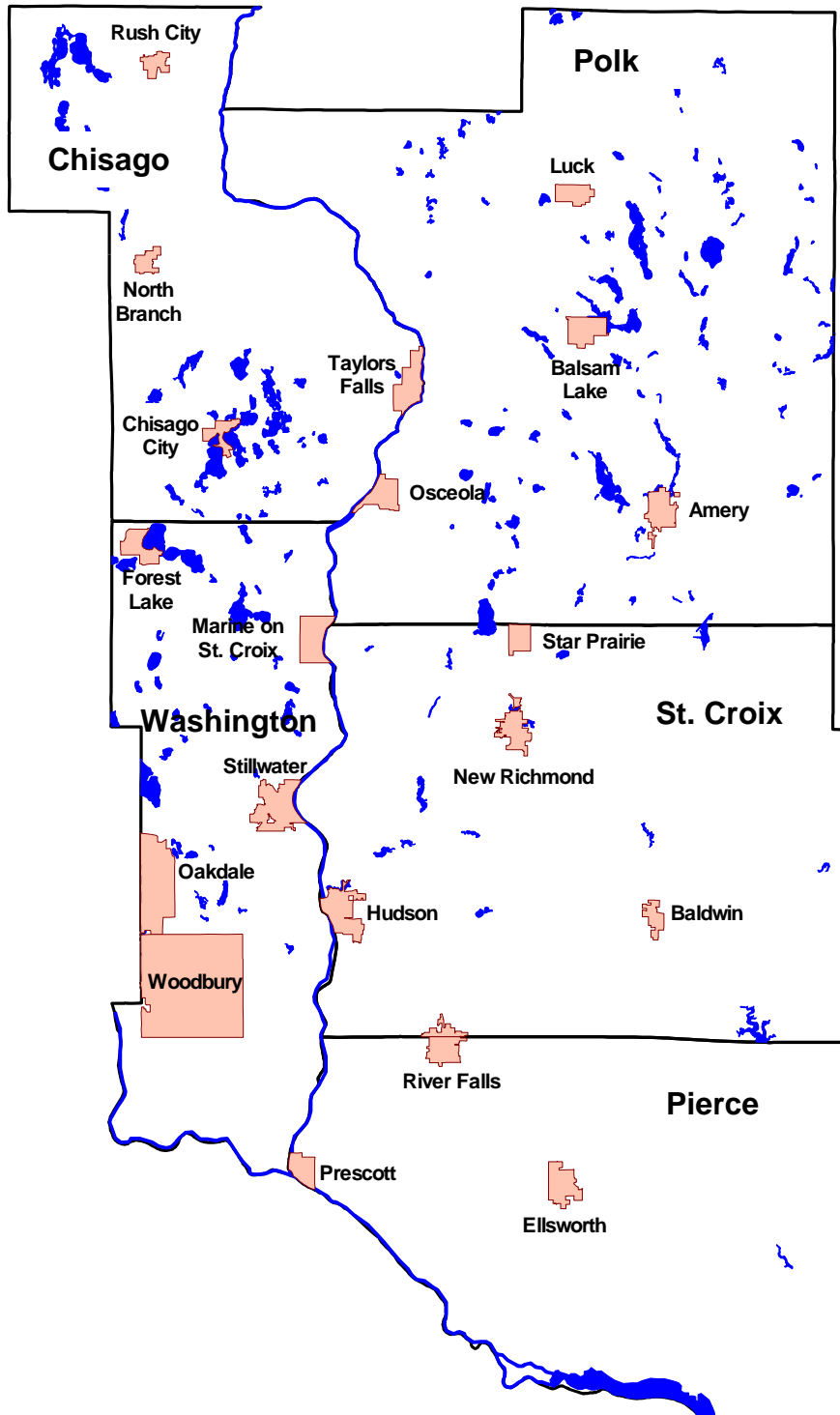
- Washington County has the highest population growth rate in the St. Croix Valley, up 38 percent between 1990 and 2000. Chisago County followed closely with a growth rate of 35 percent. The Wisconsin counties grew at slightly slower rates, 12 to 26 percent.

Survey highlights

- The most important reasons for living in a St. Croix Valley county include: the rural atmosphere (30%), close to work (27%), small community (23%), stayed where they grew up (22%), and close to friends and relatives (21%).
- Respondents were asked to rate their community on a number of factors. Generally, at least 80 percent of respondents give good ratings to where they live.
- The top five concerns are: overcrowding or too much residential growth (25%); general concerns about the area's growth rate (18%); education and school quality (15%); increases in taxes (12%); and crime, drugs, and violence (10%).
- Hopes and dreams for the future include keeping the rural or small town atmosphere (16%), staying the same as it is right now (14%), community involvement and cooperation (11%), cutting back on growth (10%), and high quality education and schools (10%).
- In general, most people surveyed live in a single family home that they own, are satisfied with their current housing situation, have not looked for other housing in the area, and have few housing problems.
- Overall, 54 percent pay less than 35 percent of household income on housing. One-third spend between 35 and 60 percent of income and 5 percent pay more than 60 percent.
- Most respondents appear to have a good informal support network to rely on when they need help, mainly friends and relatives. Respondents are less certain about assistance from more formal services like social, health, mental health, safety, and public services and how to get it.

- Forty-five percent of households have children under 18.
- Almost half of these families include children who need child care. Eighty-eight percent of respondents with children say child care is always or often available when they need it. Eighteen percent of families have enough problems with child care that it causes an obstacle to employment for their household.
- Seventy-seven percent of respondents with children under 18 in the household say they feel good or excellent about the time they are able to set aside to spend with their families.
- The main sources of strain and pressure on their family life include time, work or busy schedules (49%) and money (24%).
- Nine percent of respondents have some level of transportation problems although they do not appear to be very frequent.
- Forty-three percent of employed respondents commute 30 miles or more each way to work. Chisago County has the highest percentage of commuters (54%) and Washington County has the least commuters (39%). The rest of the counties (all of them in Wisconsin) have similar amounts of commuters, 44 to 45 percent.
- The most important factor in deciding on a long commute is higher wages than available locally (62%). Sixty-four percent of respondents say that the time commuting takes up is one of the drawbacks, and 41 percent say expense is a drawback. Sixty-three percent say there are benefits to commuting.
- Three quarters of respondents are currently employed and most of them (86%) work full-time.
- The highest percentage of respondents (43%) say they attended arts events in Minneapolis and/or St. Paul, and 12 percent say they attended both there and in the local community. Thirty-one percent say they attended only in the local community, and there were 13 percent that did not attend in either area.
- The highest percentage of respondents (43%) say they occasionally use natural public recreation areas in their community. The popular activities include: walking, running or jogging (40%), biking (21%), fishing (21%), and hiking (17%).

St. Croix Valley area



Introduction

Survey methods and presentation of results

This survey of 1,612 residents of the St. Croix Valley was carried out from October 2000 to March 2001.

First, households were randomly selected based on randomly generated phone numbers, for each county (Washington, Chisago, Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix). Next, we selected someone in the household age 21 or older with the most recent birthday. The sample was stratified by county. Wilder Research Center purchased the randomly generated phone numbers from Survey Sampling Inc.

Wilder Research Center and a study advisory committee (see acknowledgements) developed the questionnaire with the goal of assessing community needs and quality of life issues.

The response rate is 65 percent with 23 percent who refused and 12 percent who were tried but never reached.

A sample size of 1,612 has a margin of error of +/- 2.4 percent. Sub-samples of 325 to 326 for Chisago, Pierce, Polk and St. Croix counties have a margin of error of +/- 5.4 percent. Washington County has a sub-sample of 311 and a margin of error of +/- 5.6 percent.

Data presented may not always add up to 100 percent due to rounding. Area totals in the text and tables are weighted to be representative of the number of households in each county.

Sub-categories are selected for reporting if there is 10 percent or more difference between counties.

Census data (Tables 1 and 2)

Preliminary results from the 2000 Census help illustrate what the St. Croix Valley area is like and changes that have taken place.

Washington County has the highest rate of population growth, up 38 percent between 1990 and 2000. Chisago County followed closely with a growth rate of 35 percent. The Wisconsin Counties grew at slower rates: 26 percent in St. Croix, 19 percent in Polk, and 12 percent in Pierce County.

Washington County also has the largest population (201,000), followed by St. Croix County (63,000). Polk and Chisago counties each have about 41,000 residents, followed by 37,000 in Pierce County.

All five counties are predominately white. Washington County is more diverse, with 6 percent minority population. Chisago County has 3 percent minority population, and the Wisconsin counties each have 2 percent minorities.

Demographic characteristics of survey respondents (Tables 3-5)

The average household size is two adults and one child. Sixty-three percent of households have two adults and 22 percent have one. Forty-five percent of households have children under 18. Fifteen percent of all households have one child and 18 percent have two. If children under 18 are in the household, 96 percent of the respondents are the parent or guardian.

Sixty-seven percent of respondents are married, 11 percent have never been married, 11 percent are divorced, 8 percent are widowed, and 2 percent are living with a partner. One percent are separated.

Fifty-four percent of respondents are female and 46 percent are male.

The average age of respondents is 46 years old. Twenty-one percent are age 21 to 34, 30 percent age 35 to 44, 23 percent age 45 to 54, and 7 percent are age 55 to 59 years old. Eighteen percent of respondents are age 60 or over.

Ninety-four percent of respondents are white. Five percent are minority and are evenly distributed between these groups: African American; American Indian; Asian, Asian American or Pacific Islander; Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin; and biracial or multiracial. One percent did not disclose their racial background.

Overall, 95 percent of respondents have a high school degree or GED. Twenty-six percent of respondents' highest level is a high school degree or GED. Twenty-one percent of respondents' highest level of education is some college and 12 percent have a two-year degree. Thirty-five percent of the respondents' highest level of education is a college or advanced degree. Five percent have less than a high school education.

Education differences exist by county, mainly among those whose highest level of education is a high school degree or GED and those whose highest level of education is a college or advanced degree.

- In Polk County, 35 percent of respondent's highest level of education is a high school degree compared to 22 percent in Washington County.
- Forty percent of those in Washington County are college graduates or have a more advanced degree, compared to 28 percent in Chisago County and 24 percent in Polk County.

Eleven percent of households have incomes \$25,000 and under. Twenty-seven percent of households have incomes \$25,001 to \$50,000, and 52 percent have incomes over \$50,000. Two percent didn't know their household income and eight percent refused to answer the question.

Just over half of all households have incomes over \$50,000.

- Polk County has the highest percent with household incomes \$25,000 or less (20%), followed by Chisago County (17%). Washington County has the lowest (7%).
- Washington County also has the highest percent of respondents with household incomes over \$50,000 (58%), followed by St. Croix County (52%).
- Washington County has the highest percentage of respondents with household incomes over \$100,000 (17%). In Chisago County, 8 percent are in this range, followed by 7 percent in Pierce, and 4 percent in Polk County.

The sample of people who participated in this study is representative by race compared to the 2000 U.S. Census information.

Survey results

Quality of life: Community cohesion, attachment, and activism (Tables 6-13)

Respondents have lived in the St. Croix Valley counties an average of 21 years. Forty percent have lived in the county 10 years or less. Twelve percent have lived in their county of residence two years or less (new comers), 12 percent have lived there three to five years, and 15 percent have lived in the area 6 to 10 years.

Eighteen percent have lived in the county 11 to 20 years, 30 percent have lived there 21 to 40 years, and 13 percent have lived there over 40 years.

Sub-areas of Washington and St. Croix counties were analyzed further for differences. Reasons for choosing to live in the county and length of residence differ by sub- areas¹ of the counties. The Washington County area near St. Paul has the lowest average length of residence (17 years), with Hudson and the surrounding area having the second lowest (19 years). The remaining section of St. Croix County (not including the Hudson area) has the highest average length of residence, 25 years. The highest rates of newcomers (those living in the area two years or less) are also in the Hudson area (17%) and Washington County next to St. Paul (16%). The northern area of Washington County has the lowest percent of newcomers, 2 percent.

Reasons for choosing to reside in county

Respondents were asked to provide the most important reasons they chose to live in their county of residence. Responses are grouped into categories, and a number of reasons fall into pre-established categories. Thirty percent mentioned the rural atmosphere, 27 percent said the location was close to work, 23 percent liked the small community, 22 percent said they stayed where they grew up, and 21 percent said it is close to friends and relatives.

¹ Hudson area=Hudson, Hudson Township, North Hudson Township, and Troy Township
Washington County-northern area=Forest Lake, Forest Lake Township, Hugo, and New Scandia
Washington County-next to St. Paul=Dellwood, Grant, Birchwood Village, Pine Springs, Oakdale, Lake Elmo, Landfall, Woodbury, Newport, St. Paul Park, Cottage Grove, Grey Cloud Island, Denmark, and Hastings.
Washington County-along St. Croix River=Marine on St. Croix, May, Stillwater, Stillwater Township, Oak Park heights, Bayport, Baytown, West Lakeland, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, Lake St. Croix Beach, St. Mary's Point, and Afton

Respondents mention other reasons for living in a county quite frequently. Thirteen percent of respondents said it is close to yet out of the cities, 9 percent said they like the location, and 6 percent live there because of the friendly people and good atmosphere.

In the Hudson area of St. Croix County, the number one reason people live there is the rural atmosphere, followed by close to work. In the remaining portion of St. Croix County, the number one reason is it is where they grew up, followed by close to work.

The number one reason respondents live in both the northern and St. Croix river areas of Washington County is the rural atmosphere, while the number one reason respondents live in the area close to St. Paul, is that it is close to work.

People's reasons for choosing where they live differ by county, for example:

- Top reasons for living in county: "Close to work" is the number one reason for living in Washington County. While in Chisago, Pierce, and Polk counties, the reason most people give is the rural atmosphere. In St. Croix County, growing up there is the most common reason for choosing to live there.
- Close to work: St. Croix County has the highest response who live where they do because it is close to work (30%), followed by Washington County (29%), and Polk (27%). Living close to work is least likely to be given as a reason in Chisago County (17%).
- Rural atmosphere: Respondents in Chisago County are most likely to say the rural atmosphere is a reason they live there (46%), higher than all the other counties which have responses between 25 and 33 percent.
- Small town atmosphere: Pierce (31%) and Chisago (30%) respondents are most likely to live where they do because of the small town atmosphere, while respondents in Washington County (20%) are least likely to give this as a reason.
- Where they grew up: The Wisconsin counties have much higher proportion of respondents who say that they choose to live where they grew up: Pierce (30%), Polk (33%), and St. Croix (33%). Respondents in the Minnesota counties of Washington (16%) and Chisago (17%) are least likely to say they live there because it is where they grew up.
- Close to relatives and friends: Respondents in Polk County are most likely to say they live there because it is close to relatives and friends (27%), compared to Chisago respondents (17%).

- Close to, yet out of the Twin Cities: Respondents of St. Croix (14%) and Pierce (13%) counties were more likely to say they like living close to the Twin Cities, yet out of the Twin Cities, than were Polk county respondents (7%).

Community ratings

Respondents were asked to rate their community on a number of factors. Generally, at least 80 percent give good ratings to where they live. In fact, 90 percent rate the community as a good or excellent place to live; 91 percent agree or strongly agree they feel they belong and are accepted by others in the community; and 87 percent agree they have the chance to get involved in the community or neighborhood.

Slightly fewer respondents say they agree or strongly agree that residents cooperate to solve community problems (73%) or that they feel like a participating member of the community (75%).

Two questions regarding neighbor relationships and connection also get quite high ratings. Eighty-four percent say they can always or often count on neighbors if the need help. Eighty-three percent agree or strongly agree that their neighbors share a sense of community.

Civic involvement

Thirty-one percent of respondents are involved in a number of different civic or resident groups or organizations in the local community. Of those involved in civic activities, 29 percent report assisting the community through churches or faith communities, 18 percent are involved with fraternal or business organizations, 13 percent work with youth groups or with youth development, 12 percent work with schools, and 11 percent are members of a variety of community clubs. There are differences with church or faith community and neighborhood civic participation by county.

- Chisago (44%) and St. Croix (37%) counties have the most respondents involved with civic activities working with church or faith communities, and Washington (22%) and Pierce (26%) counties have the lowest.
- Civicly involved Washington County respondents are more likely to work with neighborhood or block groups (12%), compared to 2 percent in Polk County. Neighborhood or block groups may be less common in more rural areas such as Polk County, while church or faith community involvement may be higher.

Volunteering

On average, one person per household volunteers. Sixty percent of households have at least one volunteer. If there is a volunteer in the household, the survey respondent is the volunteer 84 percent of the time. Respondents who volunteer do so an average of 144 hours per year.

- On average, respondents in each county spend at least 100 hours per year volunteering, but there are a few differences. Respondents in Polk County have the highest average hours per year, 190, followed by those in Chisago County with 165 hours per year. Respondents in Pierce County had the lowest average, 120 hours per year.

Of respondents who volunteer, half do so through their church or faith community, 20 percent volunteer through schools, and 14 percent volunteer through community assistance programs. Other volunteer activities include youth groups or development (9%), community clubs (5%), and helping people they know (5%).

- Volunteering through a church or faith community differs by county. Washington County respondents are least likely to volunteer through their church or faith community (44%), while in the other counties 55 to 60 percent volunteer through their church or faith community.

Overall, of all the volunteers, 41 percent volunteer in Washington County, followed by 17 percent in St. Croix County, 11 percent in Pierce County, 10 percent in Polk County, and 9 percent in Chisago County. A few respondents volunteer in other nearby counties.

- Looking at volunteer location by county of residence explains the patterns more clearly. A good number who volunteer do so in their own county, with a smaller group that volunteer in a few neighboring counties. Over 80 percent volunteer in the county they live in except for Washington County. Washington County has slightly fewer people who volunteer in their county of residence (74%) and more who do so in neighboring counties, especially Ramsey County in Minnesota.

Family members who volunteer have a similar breakdown of activities. Fifty-six percent volunteer with churches or faith communities, 22 percent through schools, 17 percent with community assistance programs, and 12 percent with youth groups or development.

- Family member volunteers in the Minnesota counties of Washington (18%) and Chisago (19%) are least likely to volunteer at schools compared to respondents in Pierce (29%) and St. Croix (29%). Respondents in Washington County are least likely to volunteer at churches or faith communities (53%) compared to St. Croix respondents (63%).

Future views

Respondents were also asked their concerns about and hopes for the future (open-ended questions with responses grouped into categories). The top five concerns are: overcrowding or too much residential growth (25%); general concerns about the area's growth rate (18%); education and school quality (15%); increases in taxes (12%); and crime, drugs, and violence (10%).

- There are differences in worries and concerns by county. Respondents in Chisago County (33%) are more concerned about overcrowding than Polk County respondents (21%).
- Respondents in St. Croix County (24%) and Chisago County (23%) are more concerned with the general growth rate than those in Polk County (13%) and Pierce County (14%). Washington County respondents (14%) are more concerned about lack of road construction. Respondents of Pierce (3%) and Polk (2%) counties are less concerned about the need to build sufficient roads than respondents from other counties are.
- Respondents in the Wisconsin counties are more concerned about an increase in taxes than those in Minnesota counties. Respondents in Pierce County (21%) and St. Croix County (16%) are most concerned about increases. In comparison, those in Chisago County (6%) and Washington County (10%) are least concerned.

People's hopes and dreams for the future somewhat mirror the concerns and include (open ended question grouped into categories): keeping the rural or small town atmosphere (16%), staying the same as it is right now (14%), community involvement and cooperation (11%), cutting back on growth (10%), and high quality education and schools (10%). Additionally, 11 percent say they have no hopes or dreams for the future.

Housing (Table 14-17)

In general, respondents live in a single family home that they own, are satisfied with their current housing situation, have not looked for other housing in the area, and have few housing problems.

Housing satisfaction levels are high. Ninety-four percent of respondents are satisfied or very satisfied with their current housing situation. Five percent are somewhat dissatisfied and 1 percent are very dissatisfied.

Overall, 54 percent pay less than 35 percent of household income on housing. One third (34%) spend between 35 and 60 percent of income and 5 percent pay more than 60 percent. In addition, 6 percent don't know and 2 percent refused to answer the question.

- Percent of income spent on housing varies by county. In Chisago, 47 percent spend less than 35 percent on housing, compared to 55 to 57 percent in St. Croix Valley counties.

Difficulties related to housing costs occur when the expense is a significant portion of income so there is little left to meet other needs. This can especially be a problem for low-income households (those making \$25,000 or less). Percent of income spent on housing varies by income range. Respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less and \$25,001 to \$50,000 have similar levels paying 35 percent or more of their income on housing, 54 to 52 percent. In comparison, 36 percent of respondents with incomes over \$50,000 pay 35 percent or more of their incomes on housing.

Eighty-seven percent of respondents own their home, and 12 percent rent. One percent have other living arrangements such as living with their parents or living in a parsonage. Two percent of respondents have subsidized rent, and 10 percent of respondents pay market rate rent. Eleven percent of renters need help finding subsidized housing, which is 2 percent of all respondents.

Almost all (93%) of those who live in single family homes own them, 77 percent of both townhome and mobile home residents own, and 46 percent of those who live in a duplex, triplex, or fourplex own where they live. In comparison, just 1 percent of apartment residents own where they live.

- Those who rent or own housing vary by county and state. In the Minnesota counties of Washington and Chisago, 9 percent rent and 90 percent own. The Wisconsin counties have the highest percent of renters, notably St. Croix County where 19 percent rent and 79 percent own.
- Pierce County has the lowest rate (6%) of all renters who have subsidized rent, and Chisago County has the highest, 41 percent. The rest fall in between, 18 percent in Washington, 20 percent in Polk, and 22 percent in St. Croix. In Pierce County 1 percent of all respondents have subsidized rent and 15 percent pay market rate rent. In Chisago County 3 percent of all respondents have subsidized rent and 5 percent pay market rate rent.

- In the Minnesota counties, more respondents who rent need assistance finding subsidized housing, 19 percent in Washington County (2% of all) and 13 percent in Chisago County (1% of all). In Pierce and Polk counties, 6 percent need assistance (1% of all) followed by 5 percent in St. Croix County (1% of all).

Respondents were asked if they have any of a series of specific housing problems. The most commonly reported housing problem (13%) is not having enough space or being over crowded. This is followed by 10 percent each who either can not afford needed repairs or have trouble paying utility bills. The percent of people with utility bill problems may be related to the high cost of heating during the past winter.

- Respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less have more problems with affording needed repairs, paying utility bills, and making rent or mortgage payments, especially compared to those with incomes over \$50,000.

Nineteen percent of respondents have looked for other housing in the area since living in their current situation. Of those that have looked, the biggest reason is needing a bigger house (27%), followed by just looking to see what is out there (15%), wanting more land (11%), wanting to pay less (10%), and currently renting and wanting to own (9%). People looking for other housing reported some problems. Although, there are 48 percent who said that housing was too expensive. Other problems included that the housing was just not what they were looking for, and there was limited availability. Thirty-nine percent have not had any problems looking for housing.

- More land: Respondents in Chisago (18%) and Polk (15%) counties are most likely to be looking because they want more land, especially compared to Pierce (8%) and St. Croix (5%) respondents.
- Bigger house: St. Croix (29%), Washington (29%), and Polk (27%) respondents are more likely to look for a bigger house than Chisago (16%) County respondents are.
- More rural: Respondents in Pierce County (13%) are more interested in living somewhere more rural, especially compared to St. Croix County respondents (3%).
- Less expensive: More Polk County (18%) and Pierce County (12%) respondents are looking to find housing that is less expensive compared to St. Croix County (7%) and Chisago County (2%) respondents.
- Browsing: Chisago respondents are more likely to be looking just to see what is out there (22%) compared to either Polk (12%) or Washington (12%) County respondents.

- Problems looking for housing: Respondents in Chisago County are least likely to have problems looking for housing due to finding high-priced housing (29%) compared to respondents in any other county. Respondents in St. Croix County (57%) are most likely to have this problem, even compared to Polk (43%) or Pierce (45%) County respondents.

Informal support, access to services, barriers, and unmet needs (Tables 18-20)

Informal support

Respondents appear to have a good informal support network to rely on when they need help, mainly friends and relatives. Eighty-nine percent of people feel they always or often have a friend, relative, or neighbor they can really count on. Slightly fewer respondents, 85 percent, say it is always or often easy to get informal support from friends, relatives, neighbors, or others such as their church or synagogue.

Respondents were also asked to specify which sources of informal support they have usually relied on. Seventy-three percent say relatives give them support, and an additional 58 percent rely on friends. Respondents rely about equally on neighbors (26%), church or religious community (21%), and co-workers (19%).

- Those who rely on neighbors for informal support vary by county. In Polk County 33 percent and in Chisago County 32 percent of respondents rely on their neighbors, compared to Washington County where 23 percent of respondents rely on neighbors.

Formal support

Respondents were asked about experiences they may have had with more formal assistance programs like social, health, mental health, safety, and public services. They are less certain about what formal services offer and how to get the services than they are with their informal supports.

Respondents are more confident in their ability to contact formal resources for help than they are about the ability of services to respond in a flexible way to meet their needs. Some of the difference is due to the low number of people who have had experiences with the services indicated by the high percent responding “don’t know.” Of those that could respond, 58 percent always or often know where to go when the need more formal help or assistance. Twenty-one percent sometimes knew who to call, and 22 percent rarely or never knew who to call. Nineteen percent of respondents said “don’t know” in response to the question.

- Those who know who to call or where to go vary by county. In Polk County, 66 percent often or always know where to go compared to 55 percent in Washington County and 57 percent in Chisago County (of those who could respond).

Fifty-five percent of respondents have an opinion of the ease of getting services or help. Of these, 53 percent say it always or often is easy to get services or help from the county or community services. Twenty-eight percent said sometimes, and an additional 19 percent said rarely or never.

Respondents provide somewhat similar information when asked if agencies are flexible and able to respond to personal situations. Half of those giving an opinion said agency's response is always or often flexible, and 34 percent say agencies are sometimes flexible. Sixteen percent of respondents say they rarely or never feel agencies are flexible and able to respond to personal situations.

- In St. Croix County, 10 percent of those who could respond say that agencies rarely or never are flexible or able to respond to personal situations, much lower than all the other counties. In Chisago County, 20 percent say this, followed by 19 percent in Polk County, and 17 percent each in Pierce and Washington counties.

Just 5 percent of respondents report not being able to get any formal help, social services, or community services for themselves or others in their household in the past 6 to 12 months. There were 21 percent who did not know if they had been unable to receive services.

Slightly more respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less who have been unable to get assistance that someone in the household needed in the past 6 to 12 months, 9 percent compared with 4 to 6 percent.

People said that they were unable to get include social services (18%), personal care for the handicapped or disabled (15%), financial assistance (14%), counseling services (14%), and medical referrals or information (13%).

- Eleven percent in Washington County said they couldn't get transportation services compared to 5 percent of Chisago County.

Respondents were asked about what kept them from getting needed help. Twenty-five percent said it was hard to contact services or workers, including difficulties with unreturned phone calls. Other reasons include not qualifying (18%), and not knowing where to go (16%).

Family issues (Tables 21-25)

As a significant part of the population ages, more people may have to consider caring for an elderly relative is something as a part of their lives. Currently, 6 percent provide care for an elderly parent. Of these, 45 percent have difficulties or stress due to meeting these needs.

- St. Croix County has the lowest rates experiencing stress, 24 percent of those providing care to elderly parents. In Pierce County 37 percent do, followed by 38 percent in Polk, 53 percent in Washington, and 55 percent in Chisago.
- More respondents with incomes over \$25,000 say they experience stress caring for an elderly family member (51 to 55 percent). In comparison, 11 percent with incomes \$25,000 or less report experiencing stress.

Geographic isolation is another situation that can cause stress or difficulties on families, as it can be more difficult to rely on relatives who are far away. St. Croix Valley respondents are a median of 10 miles from relatives. The average is much higher, 103 miles.

Families with children under 18

Forty-five percent of households have children under 18 and half of those families need child care.

- Washington County has the most people with children who need child care (56%), much more than any other county. In the remaining counties, 37 to 45 percent of families need child care.

Families ask relatives to take care of their children an average of 18 times per year.

Eighty-eight percent of respondents who need child care say it is always or often available when they need it. Six percent say child care is sometimes available and 6 percent say it is rarely or never available.

Fourteen percent of people with incomes between \$25,001 and \$50,000 say child care is rarely or never available, compared to 4 percent of those with incomes over \$50,000 and 5 percent of those with incomes \$25,000 or less. Ninety-percent with incomes over \$50,000 say child care is always or often available when needed, compared to 84 percent with incomes \$25,000 or less and 80 percent with incomes between \$25,001 and \$50,000.

- Chisago County has the least amount of families who always or often have child care available when they need it, 75 percent. Those in other counties who need child care range from 87 to 96 percent.

Eighteen percent of people with children have enough problems with child care that it causes an obstacle to employment for their household.

- In Pierce County, 7 percent of respondents have this problem, the lowest of all counties. Chisago County has the most respondents with this problem, 29 percent. The other three counties fall in the middle with 16 to 20 percent reporting this level of difficulties with child care.

People with children under 18 were also asked how often they were able to set aside time for family activities, and how they feel about it. Seventy-seven percent say they feel good (47%) or excellent (31%) about the time they are able to set aside time to spend with their families. Eighteen percent feel okay about the time they spend with their families, and 4 percent of respondents feel bad or terrible about the time they spend with their families.

Respondents talk about and organize time they can set aside to spend with their families in different ways. Thirty-nine percent are able to set aside time for their families daily, with an additional 10 percent that say they always or often can. Seventeen percent are able to set aside time once a week, and 15 percent are able to two to three times per week. An additional 6 percent can set aside time on weekends, and 4 percent say evenings.

- Washington County respondents are most likely to respond they set aside time to spend together daily (43%), compared to Pierce County respondents (28%). Pierce County respondents were the most likely to say they can spend time together as a family in the evenings (14%) compared to Washington, Chisago, or St Croix County families (3% each).

People with children were also asked about the main sources of strain and pressure on their family life. Almost half of respondents with children under 18 say time, work or a busy schedule, followed by a quarter who say money, and 16 percent who say having kids or teenage behavior. Eleven percent say there are no sources of strain and pressure on family life.

- Chisago County has the lowest percent who say time, work, or a busy schedule is the main source of strain and pressure (39%).

- The lower the income, the more money is a strain, and the higher the income, the more time, work, or busyness is a strain. Higher percentages of respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less say money is the main strain or pressure on family life (48%), followed by respondents with incomes \$25,001 to \$50,000 (43%). Higher percentages of respondents with incomes over \$50,000 say time, work or a busy schedule is the main source of strain or pressure on family life (56%), followed by 48 percent of those with incomes \$25,001 to \$50,000.
- Respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less have the highest percentage who say disabilities, mental illness or poor health is the main source of stress, compared to respondents in the other income ranges.

Youth activities (Table 26)

A common concern about youth is whether there are sufficient structured activities for them. While more than half of respondents agree that there are enough structured activities for youth in the area, 21 percent disagree. Twenty percent are neutral on the issue, and another 8 percent of respondents do not feel they knew enough about youth activities to respond.

- In Washington County respondents are most likely to agree that there are enough structured activities for youth in their community (57%). A noticeably lower proportion of respondents in Chisago (43%), Polk (44%), and Pierce (46%) counties agree. The highest percent of neutral respondents are in Chisago County (27%) and lowest in Washington County (16%).

Transportation (Tables 27-30)

Area respondents rely almost entirely on their own cars (97%) for transportation. The other three percent also rely on cars for transportation, but either get a ride with someone (2%), or borrow a car (1%).

There are just two percent of respondents that do not have any cars in the household. On average, there are 2.2 cars per household. Fifty-one percent have two cars, 20 percent have three and 18 percent have one car in the household. Nine percent have four or more cars in the household.

Respondents were asked to rate the reliability of each car in the household. In general, the first cars (or only cars) rated are more reliable than other cars. As other cars in the household are rated, reliability decreases. Eighty-nine percent of first cars are rated “very reliable,” while 59 percent of third cars are.

Transportation problems

Nine percent of respondents have some level of transportation problems, although they don't appear to be very frequent. Seven percent say they sometimes have problems and 2 percent say they often or always have transportation problems. The remainder (91%) rarely or never have transportation problems.

Respondents' children have slightly more transportation problems (17%). Fourteen percent say transportation is sometimes a problem for their children, and 3 percent say transportation is always or often a problem. Eighty-three percent report their children rarely or never have transportation problems.

Ten percent of respondents report that a member of their household was unable to go somewhere in the past 6 to 12 months because they did not have transportation. Of these people, 33 percent did not attend social activities, 29 percent could not go to work, 28 percent could not go grocery shopping, and 20 percent did not do recreational activities.

Seventy-five percent of respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less say their cars are very reliable compared to 89 percent of those with incomes \$25,001 to \$50,000 and 93 percent of those with incomes over \$50,000.

Six percent of those with incomes over \$50,000 and 9 percent of those with incomes \$25,001 to \$50,000 report some level of transportation problems. In comparison, 23 percent of respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less report some level of transportation problems.

Higher percentages of children of respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less have some level of transportation problems (29%), especially compared to those with incomes over \$50,000 (16%).

Fifteen percent of respondents in both income groups under \$50,000 report that someone in the household did not go somewhere because they did not have transportation, compared to 7 percent of respondents with incomes over \$50,000.

- The destinations and activities people were unable to get to vary by county. Respondents in Washington County were most likely to have trouble getting to the grocery store (35%) compared to Polk County respondents (24%) or Chisago County respondents (25%). St. Croix County respondents (18%) had the least problems.
- Respondents in Polk County were most likely to have trouble with transportation to other shopping (27%). Respondents in St. Croix County were least likely (6%) to have trouble with transportation to other shopping followed by those in Pierce County (17%).

- Respondents in Polk County were most likely to have problems with transportation to medical or dental appointments (21%). In Pierce County, no one had transportation problems to medical or dental appointments, and only 7 percent did in Chisago County.
- Respondents in Polk County were most likely to have transportation problems to recreational activities (27%). In comparison, 17 percent each of respondents in Washington and Pierce counties had similar problems.
- Twelve percent of respondents in Polk County and 14 percent in Washington County had transportation problems to religious events. Pierce (0%) and St. Croix (3%) respondents had the least transportation problems to religious events.
- Respondents in Washington County were most likely to have transportation problems to social events (38%), especially compared to Chisago respondents (25%).

Commuting (Table 31-32)

Forty-three percent of employed respondents commute or travel more than 15 miles (one way) to work.

- Chisago County has the highest percentage of commuters (54%) and Washington County had the least commuters (39%). The rest of the counties (all of them in Wisconsin) have similar amounts of commuters, 44 to 45 percent.

Forty-five percent of respondents with incomes over \$50,000 commute, compared to 40 percent of respondents with incomes \$25,001 to \$50,000 and 30 percent of respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less.

The most important factors in deciding to commute are higher wages than locally available (62%) followed by other benefits (50%). For 39 percent, there were no jobs locally in their field, and 35 percent of respondents moved to the area after finding their current job. Six percent said their company moved to a different location, and 21 percent say they decided on a long commute for other reasons. Some of these other reasons for deciding to commute include liking their job, and liking living away from Minneapolis and St. Paul.

- Reasons for a long commute vary by county. Respondents of Pierce and Polk Counties are most likely to commute to earn higher wages (71%).
- Respondents in Polk County have the highest percent that commute because there are no jobs locally in resident's field (46%). Pierce County respondents have the least (33%) commuting for this reason.

- Chisago County residents are most likely to report commuting due to moving to the area (42%). Respondents in St. Croix (29%) and Pierce (30%) counties are least likely to commute for this reason.

Generally, commuters see both negatives and positives to commuting. Sixty-four percent of respondents say that the time commuting takes up is one of the drawbacks, and 41 percent say expense is a drawback. Twenty-seven percent say commuting is stressful, and 37 percent who mention other drawbacks including weather conditions, traffic or congestion, wear on the car, and bad drivers.

Sixty percent of respondents with incomes \$25,000 or less say expense is a drawback to commuting, compared with 49 percent in the \$25,001 to \$50,000, and 38 percent in the over \$50,000 income ranges.

- Views on the drawbacks of commuting vary by county. Respondents in Washington County are least likely to say expense is a drawback (38%) and Pierce respondents are most likely (50%). Although, Washington County respondents are most likely to say time is a drawback to commuting (67%), especially compared to Polk County respondents (56%).

Sixty-three percent say there are benefits to commuting. Some of these benefits include: satisfaction with their current job or pay (30%), having time alone and relaxation (25%), allowing them to live away from the Twin Cities (23%), and having a break between home and work (15%).

- Respondents in Washington County are least likely to say there are benefits to commuting (58%), compared to respondents in Pierce (70%) and Polk (72%) Counties.
- Commuting benefits vary by county of residence. Polk County respondents are least likely to say that a benefit to commuting is living away from the Twin Cities (12%), but this may be because fewer residents commute to the Twin Cities than in other counties. Chisago (28%) and Washington (25%) County respondents are most likely to list this as a benefit.
- Pierce County respondents are most likely to report the time they get to spend alone is a benefit (31%), in comparison to St. Croix respondents (21%). On the other hand, Pierce County respondents are least likely to report having a better job or better pay as a benefit to commuting (20%), in comparison to those in Polk county (34%), St. Croix County (34%), or Washington County (32%).

Thirty-nine percent of commuters have explored looking for another job closer to home.

- Commuters in Polk County are most likely to look for another job (48%), compared to commuters in Washington County (36%).

Labor force issues (Table 33-34)

Thirty-eight percent of households have one member working full-time, and another 38 percent have two members working full-time. Nineteen percent of households do not have anyone working full-time. Sixty-seven percent of households do not have anyone working part-time, 27 percent have one person and 5 percent have two people working part-time. On average, 1.3 people work full-time and 0.4 people work part-time per household. Just over three quarters of respondents are currently employed and most of them (86%) work full-time.

Twenty-seven percent of respondents work in Washington County, followed by 23 percent in Ramsey, 11 percent each in Hennepin and St. Croix, 7 percent in Polk, 6 percent in Dakota, 5 percent in Pierce, and 5 percent in Chisago counties. The differences between counties are due in part to population size.

The highest percentage of respondents work in the county in which they live, followed by a few that work in other adjacent counties. In Minnesota, the nearby counties are often Ramsey or Hennepin County. For Wisconsin residents, nearby counties may be Ramsey along with Washington and St. Croix counties.

- Of Washington County residents, 42 percent work there, 32 percent work in Ramsey County, and 14 percent in Hennepin County.
- Forty-one percent of Chisago County respondents work in the county, followed by 16 percent in Ramsey and 15 percent in Hennepin counties. Ten percent work in Washington County.
- Forty percent of Pierce County respondents work there, followed by 14 percent who work in St. Croix County, 13 percent who work in Ramsey County, and 12 percent in Goodhue County.
- Polk County has the most residents working in the county (58%). Nine percent work in Washington County, 8 percent work in St. Croix County, and 7 percent work in Ramsey County.

- Forty-nine percent of St. Croix respondents work in the county, followed by 17 percent who work in Washington County, and 14 percent who work in Ramsey County.

Respondents travel an average of 17 miles to work each day, taking them an average of 41 minutes.

Ninety percent of respondents get to work using a car, 3 percent walk, 2 percent use a carpool or vanpool, and 1 percent take the bus. Five percent mentioned other methods of transportation including: not needing transportation because they work at home, a combination of driving and taking the bus, and using a company car.

Seventy-nine percent of employed respondents are offered health benefits where they work. There are differences in benefits offered to full-time and part-time employees. Eighty-seven percent of those employed full-time are offered benefits and 33 percent of those employed part-time are offered benefits.

Thirty-six percent of respondents say they need more training to reach their career goals, either to advance their current career or start a new one, of which 87 percent feel they are able to get this training.

Higher percentages of those with incomes \$25,000 or less say they need more training to advance their current career or start a new career, 45 percent, compared with 35 to 38 percent in the other income groups. In addition, fewer of the lower income respondents say that they feel they are able to get this training (71%), especially compared to those in the high-income group (93%).

- Residents in Chisago (76%) and Polk (79%) counties are least likely to feel they can get needed training. Eighty-nine percent of Washington County residents who need training feel they are able to get it, and 92 percent feel the same in St. Croix County.

Arts, entertainment and recreation (Tables 35-37)

Arts

The most popular arts are performance arts such as plays, musicals and dance (68%) and music (49%). Visual arts (15%) which is composed of painting/drawing, sculpture/pottery, photography and art shows or galleries, are also somewhat popular, as are children's and school related arts (12%). Specifically, plays or theater productions are the most popular art, mentioned 57 percent of the time. Other popular arts include music (26%), music concerts or orchestra performances (23%), movies (12%), and museums (11%).

- County differences exist with people who mention enjoying the most popular art, drama, theater, or plays. Respondents in Washington County are most likely to mention drama, theater, or plays (62%) compared to respondents in Pierce County (50%) and Polk County (52%).

In general, 78 percent of arts respondents enjoy are “always” or “usually” available locally, 57 percent were “not often” or “never” available locally, and 49 percent of arts are available locally “some of the time.”

Local availability of the most popular arts differs. Movies are available locally the most, with 75 percent “always” or “usually” available, followed by 42 percent of drama/theater/ plays and 41 percent of music (unspecified) responses. Respondents who enjoy music concerts and orchestra most often rate them as available “some of the time” (39%). Museums are least available, with 63 percent who say they are “not often” or “never” available locally.

- County differences in arts availability exist. Respondents in the Minnesota counties of Washington (65%) and Chisago (68%) are most likely to say the arts they enjoy are “not often” or “never” available locally, compared to 40 percent who say this in Polk and St. Croix counties and 50 percent in Pierce County.
- Availability ratings of the five most popular arts differ by county. In general, St. Croix County respondents give the most popular arts the highest availability ratings and Chisago County respondents give the lowest.
- With drama, theater, or plays, 58 percent of St. Croix respondents said they are “always” or “usually” available compared to 26 percent of Chisago respondents. Respondents in the rest of the counties say plays are “always” or “usually” available between 37 and 43 percent of the time.
- Those interested in music concerts most often rate them as available “some of the time.” Respondents in Polk County gave the highest ranking of “some of the time” (47%) in comparison to Chisago respondents (35%). St. Croix respondents also gave music (general) the highest “always” or “usually” available ranking (47%), compared to Polk (31%) and Chisago (32%) respondents.
- Respondents in Polk County have the lowest “not often” or “never” available ranking for museums, 44 percent. Pierce County has the next lowest, 59 percent. Chisago County respondents gave the highest “not often” or “never” available ranking (72%).

- Respondents in Washington (68%) and Pierce (72%) are least likely to say movies were “always” or “usually” available. St. Croix County respondents most often say that movies are “always” or “usually” available (92%).

Where people attend arts events

The highest percentage of respondents (43%) say they attended arts event in Minneapolis and/or St. Paul, and 12 percent say they attended both there and in the local community. Thirty-one percent say they attended only in the local community, and there were 13 percent who did not attend in either area. A few respondents attend arts events in other locations.

- Where people attended arts events varies by county. Washington County respondents (53%) are most likely to have attended arts events in Minneapolis and St. Paul, followed by those in Chisago County (38%). Respondents in Polk County were least likely (27%). Respondents in Washington County were least likely to attend in the local community (24%). Between 35 percent and 42 percent of respondents in the other four counties attended arts events in the local community.

Free time

Generally, respondents say they do errands or spend their free time closer to home than in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Eighty-four percent say they spend their free time close to home and slightly less (77%) say they do errands close to home.

Additionally, 11 percent of respondents do errands and shopping in Minneapolis or St. Paul, and another 11 percent say they do errands or shopping equally between home and the two cities. A few people mention doing errands and shopping in the suburbs.

Eight percent of respondents spend their free time in equal amounts between Minneapolis and St. Paul and at home, 7 percent do so only in Minneapolis or St. Paul, and a few spend their free time in the country or rural areas or at their cabin or vacation home.

- Respondents in Washington (87%) and Chisago (72%) counties are most likely to do errands and shopping near home. Respondents in the other counties are less likely to do shopping near home, ranging from 61 percent to 67 percent who do shopping nearer to home.
- Respondents in Washington County are also least likely to do shopping or errands in Minneapolis or St. Paul, just 5 percent. Between 16 and 20 percent of respondents in the other counties do their errands and shopping in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Respondents of Polk County are most likely to do shopping both close to home and in Minneapolis and St. Paul, 18 percent, especially compared to 7 percent of Washington County respondents who do the same.

Natural public recreation areas

The highest percentage of respondents (43%) say they occasionally use natural public recreation areas in their community. Five percent say they use these areas daily, 21 percent use them weekly and 18 percent make use of them monthly. Fourteen percent never use the areas.

Respondents were asked what two or three activities they do most often. The question was open-ended and responses are grouped into categories. Some of the popular activities include: walking, running or jogging (40%), biking (21%), fishing (21%), and hiking (17%). Other common activities are boating, canoeing, or kayaking (15%), going to parks or playgrounds and picnicking (14%), sporting events (12%), hunting (10%), swimming or beaches (10%), and skiing (10%).

Figures

Census data

1. Population

County	Respondents	Population 2000	Population 1990	Percent change
Minnesota				
Chisago	326	41,101	30,521	34.7%
Washington	311	201,130	145,896	37.9%
Wisconsin				
Pierce	325	36,804	32,765	12.3%
Polk	325	41,319	34,773	18.8%
St. Croix	325	63,155	50,251	25.7%

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

2. Race and ethnicity

County	White	Non-white			Percent non-white	Hispanic (any race)
		Total	One race	Multi-racial		
Minnesota						
Chisago	39,953	1,148	821	327	2.8%	473
Washington	188,317	12,813	10,053	2,760	6.4%	3,892
Wisconsin						
Pierce	36,071	733	468	265	2.0%	301
Polk	40,342	977	699	278	2.4%	329
St. Croix	61,796	1,359	880	479	2.2%	483

Source: 2000 U.S. Census

Demographic characteristics of survey respondents

3. Household and family data

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Average number of adults in household	1.95	2.03	2.04	1.91	1.96	1.98
Number of adults in household	(N=326)	(N=309)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=324)	(N=1606)
1	23.0%	19.0%	22.0%	25.0%	24.0%	22.0%
2	65.0%	63.0%	60.0%	62.0%	62.0%	63.0%
3	8.0%	14.0%	14.0%	10.0%	9.0%	12.0%
4	4.0%	3.0%	4.0%	2.0%	3.0%	3.0%
5	1.0%	-	<1.0%	<1.0%	3.0%	<1.0%
6	-	1.0%	<1.0%	<1.0%	<1.0%	1.0%
Average number of children in household	1.02	.96	.66	.79	.88	.86
Number of children in household	(N=324)	(N=308)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1603)
0	53.0%	54.0%	62.0%	59.0%	56.0%	55.0%
1	12.0%	16.0%	18.0%	16.0%	15.0%	15.0%
2	23.0%	19.0%	14.0%	15.0%	18.0%	18.0%
3	9.0%	8.0%	5.0%	8.0%	8.0%	7.0%
4	3.0%	3.0%	2.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
5	1.0%	1.0%	-	<1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
9	<1.0%	<1.0%	-	-	-	<1.0%
Parent/guardian of children	(N=153) 98.0%	(N=143) 95.8%	(N=124) 95.2%	(N=132) 90.9%	(N=142) 95.8%	(N=715) 95.5%
Marital status	(N=324)	(N=309)	(N=324)	(N=325)	(N=320)	(N=1601)
Married	69.1%	68.0%	65.4%	64.3%	67.2%	67.3%
Living with partner	1.9%	1.6%	2.8%	2.8%	2.5%	2.0%
Divorced	9.0%	12.3%	9.0%	8.3%	10.6%	10.9%
Se parated	2.2%	0.6%		2.8%	0.9%	1.0%
Widowed	10.5%	5.8%	9.0%	8.9%	9.7%	7.6%
Never been married/single	7.4%	11.3%	13.9%	12.9%	9.1%	10.9%
Other	-	0.3%	-	-	-	0.2%

4. Demographic data

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Gender	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1,162)
Male	47.2%	45.7%	46.8%	45.8%	44.0%	45.7%
Female	52.8%	54.3%	53.2%	54.2%	56.0%	54.3%
Age	(N=325)	(N=306)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=323)	(N=1595)
21-24	3.1%	4.2%	7.4%	4.0%	4.3%	4.4%
25-34	17.2%	16.7%	16.7%	15.7%	18.6%	16.9%
35-44	28.0%	34.0%	22.8%	27.2%	26.6%	30.3%
45-54	24.0%	21.9%	26.2%	24.1%	23.8%	23.1%
55-59	7.4%	7.5%	9.9%	4.9%	6.8%	7.3%
60-64	3.4%	3.9%	4.0%	5.6%	5.3%	4.3%
65-74	7.1%	8.8%	7.7%	10.8%	6.2%	8.3%
75 or older	9.8%	2.9%	5.2%	7.7%	8.4%	5.4%
Race or ethnicity	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1589)
African American or Black	-	2.3%	0.3%	-	0.6%	1.3%
American Indian	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%	1.2%	0.3%	0.6%
Asian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander	-	1.9%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	1.1%
White or Caucasian	97.2%	91.3%	96.9%	96.3%	97.2%	94.0%
Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish	0.3%	1.6%	-	0.9%	0.3%	1.0%
Biracial or multiracial	0.9%	0.3%	0.6%	0.9%	0.3%	0.5%
Refused	1.2%	1.9%	1.2%	0.3%	0.9%	1.4%
Education	(N=326)	(N=308)	(N=324)	(N=325)	(N=323)	(N=1602)
Less than high school	2.5%	1.0%	2.8%	4.6%	2.2%	1.9%
Some high school	4.9%	2.6%	2.2%	2.8%	2.5%	2.8%
High school graduate or GED	30.1%	22.1%	29.6%	34.5%	29.7%	26.3%
2 year degree	15.0%	11.0%	11.4%	13.2%	11.5%	11.8%
Some college	18.1%	22.1%	20.4%	20.3%	18.9%	20.7%
College graduate or more	27.9%	40.3%	32.7%	23.7%	33.4%	35.2%
Other	1.5%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	1.9%	1.2%

5. Household income

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago (N=326)	Washington (N=311)	Pierce (N=325)	Polk (N=325)	St. Croix (N=325)	
Household Income						(N=1612)
Under \$10,000	2.8%	1.0%	2.5%	4.3%	2.8%	2.0%
\$10,000-15,000	5.5%	1.6%	3.1%	4.6%	4.6%	3.0%
\$15,001-25,000	8.6%	4.2%	9.2%	11.1%	6.5%	6.3%
\$25,001-35,000	10.1%	5.8%	12.9%	9.8%	7.4%	7.7%
\$35,001-50,000	22.4%	19.6%	16.3%	24.3%	15.4%	19.4%
\$50,001-75,000	22.1%	24.1%	24.0%	25.8%	22.8%	23.8%
\$75,001-100,000	10.7%	16.1%	15.7%	9.2%	17.5%	14.9%
\$100,001 or more	7.7%	17.4%	7.4%	4.0%	11.4%	12.9%
Don't know	1.5%	1.6%	2.5%	4.0%	2.8%	2.1%
Refused	8.6%	8.7%	6.5%	2.8%	8.9%	7.9%
\$25,000 or less	16.9%	6.8%	14.8%	20.0%	13.8%	11.3%
\$25,001 to \$50,000	32.5%	25.4%	29.2%	34.2%	22.8%	27.1%
Over \$50,000	40.5%	57.6%	47.1%	39.1%	51.7%	51.7%
Missing	10.1%	10.3%	8.9%	6.8%	11.7%	10.0%

Quality of life: Community cohesion, attachment and activism

6. Length living in county and reasons chose to live there

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Average years living in county	(N=326) 17.87	(N=310) 18.93	(N=325) 25.01	(N=325) 24.76	(N=325) 23.23	(N=1609) 20.75
Years living in county	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1612)
2 years or less	12.0%	12.0%	8.0%	12.0%	13.0%	12.0%
3 to 5 years	14.0%	12.0%	13.0%	11.0%	12.0%	12.0%
6 to 10 years	20.0%	17.0%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	15.0%
11 to 20 years	20.0%	19.0%	16.0%	14.0%	19.0%	18.0%
21 to 40 years	24.0%	31.0%	32.0%	33.0%	28.0%	30.0%
Over 40 years	10.0%	9.0%	21.0%	20.0%	24.0%	13.0%
Reasons chose to live in county (Multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=325)	(N=309)	(N=322)	(N=324)	(N=325)	(N=1604)
Rural atmosphere	45.8%	25.2%	32.6%	32.4%	29.2%	29.7%
Close to work	17.2%	28.5%	26.1%	26.9%	30.2%	27.1%
Small community	30.2%	19.7%	31.1%	25.0%	24.6%	23.4%
Where grew up/raised	16.6%	15.5%	30.1%	32.7%	32.9%	21.9%
Close to relatives/friends	16.6%	18.8%	23.0%	26.9%	23.1%	20.5%
Good schools	12.0%	16.2%	10.2%	9.9%	16.6%	14.5%
Natural beauty	24.0%	15.2%	18.9%	16.4%	18.5%	17.2%
Recreation opportunities	8.6%	8.7%	7.5%	6.2%	8.0%	8.2%
Environment	7.4%	6.8%	8.1%	9.3%	9.5%	7.7%
Education	3.1%	6.1%	5.6%	1.9%	3.7%	4.9%
Sports	1.5%	1.9%	-	1.9%	0.3%	1.4%
Arts	-	-	-	-	0.9%	0.2%

6. Length living in county and reasons chose to live there (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Other: (Multiple responses grouped into categories)	55.7%	70.9%	54.0%	54.3%	53.5%	62.9%
Close to the cities, yet out of the cities	11.1%	13.6%	13.0%	7.1%	14.2%	12.9%
Liked location	9.8%	10.0%	7.8%	6.2%	7.7%	9.0%
Friendly people/atmosphere	5.8%	6.8%	4.0%	7.1%	4.0%	6.0%
Housing (unspecified)	2.8%	4.5%	2.2%	1.5%	2.8%	3.5%
Privacy/space	5.2%	7.8%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	5.7%
Cheap housing/land	6.2%	6.5%	5.3%	6.2%	1.8%	5.5%
Safe area/less crime	4.3%	7.4%	3.1	2.3%	2.8%	5.3%
Miscellaneous	2.8%	6.1%	2.8%	6.2%	4.0%	5.1%
Lower cost of living	0.9%	1.3%	0.9%	1.2%	2.5%	1.4%
None (No reason)	1.8%	1.6%	0.9%	1.5%	0.9%	1.4%
Quality of life	1.4%	1.0%	1.9%	0.3%	2.8%	1.3%
Spouse lived there	0.6%	0.6%	1.6%	3.4%	2.5%	1.3%
Already had land/property there	0.3%	0.3%	1.2%	2.8%	0.6%	1.2%
Job opportunities	0.6%	0.6%	3.4%	2.8%	0.9%	1.2%
Lower taxes	0.6%	1.0%	1.2%	0.9%	1.5%	1.1%
Close to church	2.8%	1.0%	0.3%	0.9%	0.6%	0.9%
Health reasons	2.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	-	0.3%
Job relocation	-	-	0.9%	-	0.9%	0.2%
Only place I could find	-	0.3%	-	-	-	0.2%
Don't know	-	-	-	0.7%	-	0.1%

7. Length of residence in sub-areas²

	Average length of residence	Percent living in area 2 years or less
Hudson and surrounding area-St. Croix County (N=109)	19.0 years	16.5%
Remainder of St. Croix County (N=217)	25.3 years	10.6%
Washington County-northern area (N=43)	21.3 years	2.3%
Washington County-next to St. Paul (N=168)	16.9 years	15.5%
Washington County-along St. Croix River (N=94)	21.3 years	9.6%

8. Reasons for living in county-sub areas³

	Hudson and surrounding area-St. Croix County (N=109)	Remainder of St. Croix County (N=217)	Washington County-northern area (N=43)	Washington County-next to St. Paul (N=168)	Washington County-along St. Croix River (N=94)
Environment	11.9%	8.3%	4.7%	4.2%	12.6%
Close to work	32.1%	29.0%	27.9%	33.1%	18.9%
Natural beauty	28.4%	13.4%	11.6%	8.4%	27.4%
Recreation opportunities	10.1%	6.9%	2.3%	9.0%	12.6%
Sports	-	0.5%	-	1.2%	4.2%
Arts	0.9%	0.9%	-	-	-
Education	5.5%	3.2%	7.0%	5.4%	7.4%
Rural atmosphere	35.8%	26.3%	48.4%	15.1%	31.6%
Small community	30.3%	21.7%	9.3%	18.7%	25.3%
Where grew up	22.0%	38.2%	30.2%	12.7%	15.8%
Close to relatives/friends	22.0%	23.5%	18.6%	18.1%	21.1%
Good schools	18.3%	16.1%	16.3%	16.9%	15.8%

³ Hudson area=Hudson, Hudson Township, North Hudson Township, and Troy Township
 Washington County-northern area=Forest Lake, Forest Lake Township, Hugo, and New Scandia
 Washington County-next to St. Paul=Dellwood, Grant, Birchwood Village, Pine Springs, Oakdale, Lake Elmo, Landfall, Woodbury, Newport, St. Paul Park, Cottage Grove, Grey Cloud Island, Denmark, and Hastings.
 Washington County-along St. Croix River=Marine on St. Croix, May, Stillwater, Stillwater Township, Oak Park heights, Bayport, Baytown, West Lakeland, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, Lake St. Croix Beach, St. Mary's Point, and Afton

8. Reasons for living in county-sub areas (continued)

	Hudson and surrounding area- St. Croix County (N=109)	Remainder of St. Croix County (N=217)	Washington County- northern area (N=43)	Washington County-next to St. Paul (N=168)	Washington County-along St. Croix River (N=94)
Other reasons:					
Housing (unspecified)	1.8%	3.2%	2.3%	5.4%	3.2%
Cheap housing/land	1.8%	1.8%	4.7%	10.2%	1.1%
Privacy/space	1.8%	3.7%	14.0%	6.7%	7.4%
Already had land/ property there	0.9%	0.5%	-	-	1.1%
Spouse lived there	0.9%	3.2%	2.3%	0.6%	-
Liked location	9.2%	6.9%	9.3%	9.6%	11.6%
Close to the cities, yet out of the cities	20.2%	11.1%	9.3%	12.7%	16.8%
Only place I could find	-	-	-	0.6%	-
Lower cost of living	3.7%	1.8%	-	2.4%	-
Lower taxes	2.8%	0.9%	2.3%	1.2%	-
Job relocation	-	1.4%	-	-	-
Job opportunities	-	1.4%	-	0.6%	1.1%
Safe area, less crime	3.7%	2.3%	7.0%	9.6%	3.2%
Friendly atmosphere	4.6%	3.7%	2.3%	8.4%	7.4%
Close to church	0.9%	0.5%	-	1.8%	-
Quality of life	2.8%	2.8%	-	1.2%	1.1%
Health reasons	-	-	-	-	1.1%
Misc.	0.9%	5.5%	2.3%	7.8%	5.3%
None	-	1.4%	-	1.8%	2.1%

9. Community rating

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Overall rating of community as a place to live	(N=326)	(N=309)	(N=325)	(N=324)	(N=322)	(N=1604)
Excellent	29.8%	45.3%	37.5%	39.5%	49.1%	42.8%
Good	55.5%	46.6%	48.3%	48.8%	40.1%	46.9%
Okay	12.9%	7.4%	12.6%	11.1%	10.2%	9.4%
Bad	1.2%	0.3%	1.2%	0.3%	0.6%	0.6%
Terrible	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	-	0.3%
Belong and are accepted by others in the community	(N=326)	(N=309)	(N=325)	(N=324)	(N=325)	(N=1606)
Strongly agree	33.7%	36.2%	36.6%	38.0%	42.2%	37.2%
Agree	55.5%	55.0%	54.5%	53.7%	48.9%	53.8%
Disagree	2.1%	1.9%	2.8%	3.1%	0.3%	1.9%
Strongly disagree	0.3%	-	0.6%	0.9%	0.9%	0.3%
Neutral	8.3%	6.8%	5.5%	4.3%	7.7%	6.7%
Neighbors share a sense of community	(N=322)	(N=307)	(N=322)	(N=320)	(N=318)	(N=1589)
Strongly agree	25.5%	29.0%	31.4%	30.9%	27.7%	28.8%
Agree	56.2%	52.4%	54.3%	56.9%	58.5%	54.5%
Disagree	7.1%	5.2%	5.3%	3.4%	2.8%	4.8%
Strongly disagree	1.2%	0.3%	1.6%	1.9%	0.6%	0.8%
Neutral	9.9%	13.0%	7.5%	6.9%	10.4%	11.0%
Residents cooperate to solve community problems	(N=308)	(N=296)	(N=313)	(N=306)	(N=313)	(N=1536)
Strongly agree	10.1%	17.6%	16.0%	15.4%	15.0%	15.9%
Agree	63.3%	54.7%	56.5%	61.4%	57.2%	57.0%
Disagree	9.1%	7.4%	7.7%	6.5%	5.4%	7.2%
Strongly disagree	0.3%	1.0%	1.9%	1.6%	1.0%	1.1%
Neutral	17.2%	19.3%	17.9%	15.0%	21.4%	18.8%

9. Community rating (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Have the chance to get involved in community or neighborhood	(N=324)	(N=307)	(N=323)	(N=320)	(N=322)	(N=1594)
Strongly agree	25.6%	31.6%	31.9%	33.1%	31.7%	31.1%
Agree	60.5%	54.1%	54.8%	55.0%	57.5%	55.5%
Disagree	6.2%	3.9%	5.3%	2.5%	5.0%	4.3%
Strongly disagree	0.3%	1.3%	1.2%	0.3%	-	0.9%
Neutral	7.4%	9.1%	6.8%	9.1%	5.9%	8.2%
Feel like a participating member of the community*	(N=324)	(N=309)	(N=323)	(N=321)	(N=323)	(N=1601)
Strongly agree	20.4%	18.8%	25.7%	23.1%	24.8%	21.1%
Agree	55.2%	55.7%	53.6%	46.7%	51.7%	53.8%
Disagree	13.0%	8.1%	10.8%	12.8%	11.8%	10.0%
Strongly disagree	0.3%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%	0.6%	0.8%
Neutral	11.1%	16.5%	9.0%	16.5%	11.1%	14.3%
How much you can count on neighbors if you need help	(N=319)	(N=303)	(N=322)	(N=319)	(N=320)	(N=1578)
Always	53.9%	54.1%	57.8%	62.7%	55.0%	55.5%
Often	31.0%	29.0%	29.2%	24.8%	26.9%	28.4%
Sometimes	9.1%	11.2%	9.3%	8.8%	13.8%	11.0%
Rarely	4.4%	3.6%	2.2%	3.4%	2.2%	3.3%
Never	1.6%	2.0%	1.6%	0.3%	2.2%	1.7%

*Such as doing volunteer work, voting, being involved in your church, synagogue, or faith community, or generally contributing to the communities' well-being.

10. Civic involvement

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Percent of respondents involved in civic or resident groups or organizations	(N=327) 29.2%	(N=310) 29.7%	(N=323) 34.4%	(N=325) 36.0%	(N=325) 32.9%	(N=1608) 31.3%
Of those civically involved, percent working with: (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=95)	(N=92)	(N=111)	(N=117)	(N=107)	(N=503)
Church	44.2%	21.7%	26.1%	31.6%	37.4%	28.5%
Fraternal/business organization	18.9%	16.3%	17.1%	23.9%	16.8%	17.7%
Youth group development	10.5%	13.0%	16.2%	11.1%	15.0%	13.2%
Schools	8.4%	10.9%	11.7%	12.8%	15.0%	11.7%
Community clubs/social groups	11.6%	9.8%	10.8%	13.7%	9.3%	10.5%
Local government	10.5%	7.6%	15.3%	5.1%	15.0%	9.7%
Sports/recreation groups	8.4%	8.7%	8.1%	11.1%	6.5%	8.5%
Neighborhood/block groups	8.4%	12.0%	3.6%	1.7%	2.8%	7.8%
Community assistance-general	5.3%	5.4%	5.4%	9.4%	11.2%	6.9%
Youth sports/recreation	10.5%	6.5%	0.9%	4.3%	5.6%	5.9%
Organization boards	9.5%	4.3%	7.2%	7.7%	4.7%	5.6%
Volunteer Fire Dept./EMT	5.3%	4.3%	5.4%	11.1%	0.9%	4.8%
Social issues	5.3%	2.2%	2.7%	2.6%	5.6%	3.2%
Environmental	1.1%	4.3%	0.9%	1.7%	0.9%	2.7%
Arts/cultural	1.1%	-	1.8%	1.7%	8.4%	2.0%
Historical society/heritage center	2.1%	2.2%	1.8%	1.7%	0.9%	1.9%
Library	1.1%	1.1%	0.9%	0.9%	3.7%	1.5%
Help people in need on own	-	2.2%	0.9%	0.9%	-	1.3%
Refused	-	2.2%	1.8%	-	-	1.3%
Helping elderly/seniors	1.1%	1.1%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%
Hospital	1.1%	-	0.9%	0.9%	1.9%	0.6%
Miscellaneous	-	-	1.8%	0.9%	0.9%	0.5%
Political/election groups	1.1%	-	1.8%	0.9%	-	0.4%
Don't know	1.1%	-	-	-	0.9%	0.3%

11. Volunteer involvement

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Average number in household volunteering	(N=326) 0.99	(N=310) 1.04	(N=324) 1.03	(N=325) 1.01	(N=325) 1.11	(N=1069) 1.12
Percent with at least one person in household volunteering	(N=326) 53.4%	(N=310) 61.0%	(N=342) 58.9%	(N=325) 55.1%	(N=325) 63.1%	(N=1609) 59.6%
Percent of respondents who volunteer	(N=174) 85.1%	(N=189) 84.7%	(N=190) 87.9%	(N=179) 88.3%	(N=205) 79.5%	(N=959) 84.4%
Average hours per year respondent volunteers	(N=145) 165	(N=156) 136	(N=167) 120	(N=155) 189	(N=160) 138	(N=794) 144
County respondent volunteers in (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=147)	(N=160)	(N=167)	(N=158)	(N=163)	(N=809)
Volunteer in county of residence	83.0%	74.4%	82.0%	92.4%	87.1%	NA

11. Volunteer involvement (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Other counties:						
Aitkin	0.7%	-	-	-	-	0.1%
Anoka	0.7%	0.6%	-	0.6%	-	0.5%
Burnett	-	-	-	1.3%	0.6%	0.2%
Chippewa, WI	0.7%	-	-	-	-	0.1%
Chisago	-	1.3%		1.9%		9.0%
Dakota	-	6.3%	2.4%	-	-	3.5%
Dane	-	-	0.6%	-	0.6%	0.2%
Dunn	-	-	1.8%	-	0.6%	0.3%
Goodhue	-	0.6%	4.2%	-	-	0.7%
Hennepin	2.0%	8.1%	2.4%	0.6%	1.2%	5.0%
Isanti	2.7%	-	-	-	-	0.3%
Lake	-	-	-	-	0.6%	0.1%
Lincoln, WI	-	-	-	0.6%	-	0.1%
Pepin	-	-	0.6%	-	-	0.1%
Pierce	-	-	-	-	16.0%	10.6%
Pine	2.0%	-	0.6%	-	-	0.3%
Polk, WI	1.4%	-	-	-	0.6%	10.1%
Ramsey	2.7%	15.0%	3.0%	1.9%	3.1%	9.2%
Sherburne	-	-	-	-	0.6%	0.1%
St Croix	0.7%	1.3%	12.6%	5.1%	-	17.1%
St Louis	-	0.6%	-	-	-	0.3%
Washington, MN	8.8%	-	1.8%	0.6%	4.9%	41.4%
Washington, WI	-	0.6%	-	-	-	0.3%
Don't know	1.4%	1.3%	1.8%	0.6%	-	1.0%
Refused	-	-	-	0.6%	-	0.1%

11. Volunteer involvement (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Of respondents who volunteer, percent working with: (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=148)	(N=160)	(N=167)	(N=158)	(N=163)	(N=810)
Church	59.5%	44.4%	55.7%	59.5%	54.6%	50.3%
Schools	14.9%	18.8%	23.4%	19.0%	25.8%	20.0%
Community assistance-general	13.5%	14.4%	15.6%	15.2%	11.0%	13.9%
Youth groups/development	12.2%	8.1%	13.2%	9.5%	9.8%	9.4%
Community clubs/social groups	6.1%	5.0%	3.6%	4.4%	7.4%	5.3%
Youth sports/recreation	5.4%	6.3%	0.6%	3.8%	4.9%	5.1%
Help people in need on own	1.4%	5.6%	4.2%	3.8%	3.7%	4.5%
Helping elderly/seniors	9.5%	2.5%	2.4%	7.6%	6.7%	4.4%
Fraternal/business organization	5.4%	3.1%	7.2%	5.7%	4.9%	4.3%
Sports/recreation groups	3.4%	4.4%	3.0%	6.3%	1.2%	3.8%
Social issues	3.4%	3.8%	1.8%	2.5%	1.2%	3.0%
Hospital	4.1%	2.5%	1.8%	1.9%	3.1%	2.6%
Local government	2.7%	1.3%	1.8%	3.8%	3.1%	2.0%
Organization boards	0.7%	1.9%	3.0%	1.3%	1.8%	1.8%
Library	0.7%	1.9%	-	2.5%	2.5%	1.7%
Political/election groups	0.7%	2.5%	-	-	0.6%	1.5%
Volunteer Fire Dept./EMT	2.0%	0.6%	1.8%	3.8%	2.5%	1.5%
Neighborhood/block groups	1.4%	1.3%	1.8%	0.6%	0.6%	1.1%
Environmental	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	1.3%	2.5%	1.0%
Refused	0.7%	1.3%	1.8%	0.6%	-	1.0%
Arts/cultural	0.7%	-	-	0.6%	4.9%	1.0%
Historical society/heritage center	1.4%	0.6%	1.8%	1.3%	-	0.8%
Miscellaneous	0.7%	0.6%	1.2%	-	1.2%	0.7%

11. Volunteer involvement (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Of other household members who volunteer, percent working with: (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=113)	(N=123)	(N=122)	(N=121)	(N=137)	(N=629)
Church	54.9%	52.8%	54.1%	61.2%	62.8%	55.8%
Schools	18.6%	17.9%	28.7%	24.8%	28.5%	21.6%
Community assistance-general	15.9%	21.1%	12.3%	12.4%	12.4%	17.3%
Youth groups/development	13.3%	12.2%	14.8%	8.3%	10.2%	11.8%
Community clubs/social groups	5.3%	5.7%	4.1%	9.1%	6.6%	6.0%
Historical society/heritage center	0.9%	-	1.6%	1.7%	0.7%	0.5%
Fraternal/business organization	8.0%	6.5%	6.6%	7.4%	4.4%	6.4%
Local government	3.5%	-	0.8%	1.7%	2.2%	1.0%
Organization boards	-	-	1.6%	0.8%	2.2%	0.6%
Political/election groups	0.9%	-	-	0.8%	0.7%	0.3%
Neighborhood/block groups	0.9%	-	1.6%	1.7%	-	0.4%
Volunteer Fire Dept./EMT	2.7%	3.3%	2.5%	6.6%	0.7%	3.0%
Sports/recreation groups	3.5%	7.3%	3.3%	4.1%	2.9%	5.4%
Helping elderly/seniors	9.7%	4.9%	4.1%	5.0%	3.6%	5.1%
Hospital	1.8%	3.3%	4.9%	2.5	1.5%	2.9%
Youth sports/recreation	1.8%	2.4%	4.1%	4.1%	2.2%	2.7%
Help people in need on own	4.4%	0.8%	4.9%	3.3	5.1%	2.6%
Don't know	-	2.4%	4.1%	-	0.7%	1.8%
Environmental	0.9%	1.6%	3.3%	1.7%	0.7%	1.5%
Arts/cultural	-	-	1.6%	1.7%	2.9%	0.9%
Miscellaneous	-	0.8%	-	0.8%	1.5%	0.8%
Library	-	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%
Social issues	0.9%	-	3.3%	1.7%	0.7%	0.7%
Refused	-	0.8%	-	-	0.7%	0.6%

12. Worries or concerns for the future

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago (N=326)	Washington (N=311)	Pierce (N=324)	Polk (N=3241)	St. Croix (N=3257)	
(Multiple responses grouped into categories)						(N=1611)
Overcrowding/Too much residential growth	33.4%	23.8%	25.6%	21.3%	25.5%	25.0%
Growth rate (unspecified)	23.0%	17.0%	14.2%	13.3%	23.7%	18.1%
Quality of schools/education	18.1%	17.0%	15.4%	10.5%	8.6%	14.9%
Increase in taxes	6.4%	10.0%	21.0%	11.4%	16.0%	11.8%
Crime/drugs/guns/violence	8.3%	10.6%	8.0%	15.1%	8.6%	10.3%
Not enough road/highway development	11.0%	13.8%	2.5%	1.5%	6.2%	9.8%
None/nothing	-	8.4%	9.3%	9.0%	11.4%	9.0%
Retaining natural beauty/pollution control	9.2%	8.0%	4.6%	6.2%	4.0%	7.0%
Losing rural/small town atmosphere	9.5%	4.5%	10.2%	8.6%	9.5%	6.9%
Not enough affordable housing	1.5%	4.2%	4.0%	3.4%	5.8%	4.1%
Quality of local government	4.3%	5.5%	2.8%	2.2%	0.9%	4.0%
Quality of areas resources and utilities	4.3%	3.9%	2.8%	3.4%	2.5%	3.5%
Not enough activities for youth	1.2%	4.2%	0.9%	2.2%	2.5%	3.0%
Miscellaneous	2.5%	2.9%	3.4%	4.6%	2.5%	3.1%
Not enough commercial/industrial develop	4.6%	1.6%	2.8%	6.2%	1.8%	2.6%
Too much road/highway development	-	3.9%	0.9%	2.2%	1.2%	2.5%
Don't know	8.0%	1.3%	1.5%	6.8%	0.9%	2.0%
Too much commercial/industrial development	1.8%	1.0%	2.8%	0.9%	2.5%	1.5%
Employment opportunities/wages	0.6%	0.6%	2.8%	4.3%	1.8%	1.4%
Don't want casino built	-	-	-	0.3%	7.4%	1.3%
Too much cheap/low quality housing	0.3%	1.3%	0.3%	0.6%	-	0.8%
Stay the same/don't want change/concerned	3.4%	0.3%	0.6%	0.9%	-	0.3%

13. Hopes and dreams for future

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
(Multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1612)
Keep rural/small town atmosphere	16.0%	15.4%	16.9%	14.8%	16.6%	15.8%
Stay the same as it is now	10.4%	14.1%	12.0%	17.5%	15.4%	14.1%
Community involvement/cooperation	10.7%	10.6%	12.9%	13.8%	10.8%	11.2%
Cut back on growth	12.0%	13.2%	4.3%	5.5%	7.4%	10.4%
High quality education/schools	11.7%	10.0%	9.8%	5.5%	8.9%	9.5%
Well planned growth	8.3%	7.4%	9.5%	4.6%	10.2%	7.9%
Keep out crime/drugs/violence	4.9%	7.7%	6.2%	6.8%	7.4%	7.1%
Retain natural beauty/pollution controls	5.5%	6.4%	6.2%	6.8%	4.3%	6.0%
Miscellaneous/other	5.8%	5.5%	4.6%	3.4%	4.6%	5.1%
Need more growth	4.3%	3.9%	7.1%	9.8%	4.6%	5.0%
Need more commercial/industrial development	5.2%	4.5%	5.2%	8.0%	3.1%	4.8%
More recreation areas/parks	3.1%	5.8%	3.4%	1.8%	2.5%	4.3%
Employment opportunities/high paying jobs	4.9%	1.6%	9.8%	9.2%	4.6%	4.1%
More activities for youth	4.0%	3.5%	6.2%	4.3%	4.3%	4.0%
Need more road/highway development	7.4%	4.5%	1.5%	0.9%	2.2%	3.7%
Maintain steady economy/cost of living	4.3%	1.3%	1.5%	4.0%	4.6%	2.5%
Quality government/better use of tax dollars	1.5%	2.9%	2.5%	1.5%	0.6%	2.2%
More affordable housing	0.3%	3.5%	0.9%	1.8%	0.3%	2.2%
Lower taxes	2.1%	1.0%	6.2%	2.5%	2.8%	2.1%
Maintain high quality utilities (water)	0.9%	0.3%	0.6%	1.2%	1.5%	0.7%

Housing

14. Housing

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Satisfaction with current housing	(N=325)	(N=310)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=1607)
Very Satisfied	75.7%	72.9%	71.6%	72.2%	71.0%	72.7%
Somewhat satisfied	18.5%	21.3%	22.8%	22.8%	23.1%	21.6%
Somewhat dissatisfied	4.3%	4.5%	4.3%	4.0%	4.9%	4.5%
Very dissatisfied	1.5%	1.3%	1.2%	0.9%	0.9%	1.2%
Percent income spent on rent or home ownership	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1612)
Less than 35%	46.6%	55.0%	52.6%	56.3%	56.9%	54.3%
35-60%	38.7%	32.8%	34.5%	34.2%	32.3%	33.7%
More than 60%	5.8%	4.8%	4.3%	3.4%	4.3%	4.6%
Don't know	5.5%	5.8%	6.5%	5.2%	4.6%	5.6%
Refused	3.4%	1.6%	2.2%	0.9%	1.8%	1.8%
Income \$35,000 or less	(N=88)	(N=39)	(N=90)	(N=97)	(N=69)	(N=305)
Less than 35%	41.0%	38.0%	38.0%	47.0%	46.0%	42.0%
35% or more	49.0%	5.0%	54.0%	47.0%	45.0%	52.0%
Income \$35,001-\$75,000	(N=145)	(N=136)	(N=131)	(N=163)	(N=124)	(N=697)
Less than 35%	46.0%	49.0%	51.0%	58.0%	51.0%	50.0%
35% or more	50.0%	49.0%	45.0%	39.0%	46.0%	47.0%
Income \$75,001 or more	(N=60)	(N=104)	(N=75)	(N=43)	(N=94)	(N=449)
Less than 35%	65.0%	72.0%	75.0%	74.0%	77.0%	72.0%
35% or more	35.0%	21.0%	20.0%	23.0%	23.0%	22.0%
Spend more than 60% of income on rent	(N=19)	(N=15)	(N=14)	(N=11)	(N=15)	(N=75)
Income \$35,000 or less	53.0%	47.0%	60.0%	73.0%	43.0%	52.0%
Income \$35,001 to \$75,000	42.0%	53.0%	16.0%	18.0%	43.0%	44.0%
Income \$75,000 or more	5.0%	-	-	-	-	1.0%

14. Housing (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Type of housing	(N=326)	(N=310)	(N=324)	(N=325)	(N=324)	(N=1608)
Single-family	89.0%	82.3%	84.3%	80.9%	79.6%	82.6%
Duplex/triplex/fourplex	0.9%	1.9%	3.1%	2.2%	4.0%	2.3%
Apartment	3.7%	3.9%	8.0%	7.1%	9.6%	5.6%
Townhouse	2.8%	9.4%	1.2%	0.9%	4.0%	6.0%
Mobile home	3.4%	1.6%	3.1%	8.3%	1.9%	2.7%
Other	0.3%	1.0%	0.3%	0.6%	0.9%	0.8%
Ownership	(N=326)	(N=310)	(N=323)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1608)
Own	90.2%	90.0%	83.3%	82.5%	79.4%	86.8%
Neither rent or own	1.2%	1.0%	0.9%	2.2%	1.8%	1.3%
Fair Market rent	5.2%	7.4%	14.9%	12.3%	14.8%	10.0%
Subsidized rent	3.4%	1.6%	0.9%	3.1%	4.0%	2.3%
Percent of renters who need assistance finding subsidized housing	(N=32)	(N=32)	(N=54)	(N=55)	(N=65)	(N=213)
	12.5%	18.8%	5.6%	5.5%	4.6%	11.2%
Percent of all respondents	1.2%	1.9%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	1.5%
Housing problems						
Not enough space/overcrowded	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=324)	(N=325)	(N=324)	(N=1611)
	11.3%	12.9%	12.0%	16.3%	12.0%	12.9%
Can't afford needed repairs	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=324)	(N=323)	(N=323)	(N=1609)
	9.5%	9.6%	10.8%	11.8%	8.7%	9.8%
Difficulty making rent or mortgage payments	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=324)	(N=323)	(N=325)	(N=1610)
	6.1%	5.5%	2.8%	5.0%	4.6%	5.1%
Have trouble paying utility bills	(N=326)	(N=310)	(N=323)	(N=324)	(N=325)	(N=1608)
	12.0%	11.3%	6.5%	9.3%	9.2%	10.3%
Sharing house with another person or family due to lack of space	(N=325)	(N=310)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=1607)
	5.5%	4.5%	3.7%	4.0%	2.2%	4.1%

14. Housing (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Looked for other housing in area	13.8%	21.0%	20.7%	18.6%	17.8%	19.4%
Reasons looked for other housing (of those looking for other housing)	(N=45)	(N=65)	(N=67)	(N=60)	(N=58)	(N=311)
Need bigger house	29.2%	15.6%	20.9%	26.7%	29.3%	27.1%
Just want to see what's out there	12.3%	22.2%	19.4%	11.7%	20.7%	15.0%
Want more land	10.8%	17.8%	7.5%	15.0%	5.2%	10.6%
Need smaller house	7.7%	2.2%	3.0%	6.7%	6.9%	6.6%
Want to live in more rural location	7.7%	4.4%	13.4%	11.7%	3.4%	7.8%
Want to pay less (rent/house payments)	9.2%	2.2%	11.9%	18.3%	6.9%	9.5%
Want to own house (currently renting)	7.7%	11.1%	10.4%	6.7%	13.8%	9.1%
Want something new	7.7%	11.1%	4.5%	5.0%	8.6%	7.5%
Want lakeshore property	1.5%	2.2%	-	1.7%	1.7%	1.5%
Miscellaneous	4.6%	2.2%	7.5%	3.3%	1.7%	4.1%
Personal/family	4.6%		3.0%	5.0%	1.7%	3.7%
Want to live closer to work	1.5%	2.2%	3.0%	3.3%	-	1.7%
Unsatisfied with current situation	4.6%	2.2%	-	-	-	2.8%
Need housing for handicapped/disabled person	1.5%	2.2%	1.5%	8.3%	-	2.1%
Have to move, house being sold	1.5%	-	3.0%	1.7%	-	1.3%
Looking for investment/rental property	-	4.4%	1.5%	-	3.4%	1.0%
Bad landlord	-	4.4%	1.5%	-	1.7%	0.8%
Looking for vacation/summer home	-	-	3.0%	-	1.7%	0.6%
Want to be in different school district	-	2.2%	-	1.7%	1.7%	0.6%

14. Housing (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Encountered problems (of those looking for other housing)	(N=45)	(N=65)	(N=67)	(N=60)	(N=58)	(N=311)
No	48.9%	40.0%	31.3%	35.0%	36.2%	38.7%
Too expensive	28.9%	50.8%	44.8%	43.3%	56.9%	48.6%
Not what we were looking for	4.4%	7.7%	4.5%	10.0%	5.2%	7.0%
Limited availability	6.7%	6.2%	14.9%	10.0%	1.7%	6.8%
Miscellaneous	11.1%	4.6%	3.0%	3.3%	3.4%	4.6%
Low quality	2.2%	4.6%	-	3.3%	-	3.1%
No animals	-	1.5%	6.0%	-	-	1.5%
Physical limitations	-	-	1.5%	-	-	0.2%

15. Percent of income spent on housing by income groups

	Total
Income up to \$25,000	(N=171)
Less than 35%	46.2%
35% or more	53.8%
Income \$25,001-\$50,000	(n=417)
Less than 35%	48.4%
35% or more	51.6%
Income \$50,001 or more	(n=802)
Less than 35%	65.1%
35% or more	34.9%

16. Type of housing and rent or ownership

	Rent	Own	Neither rent or own
Single family home (N=1324)	3.9%	92.5%	1.0%
Duplex/triplex/fourplex (N=37)	54.1%	45.9%	-
Apartment (N=90)	98.9%	1.1%	-
Townhouse (N=97)	22.7%	77.3%	-
Mobile home (N=44)	6.8%	77.3%	15.9%
Other (N=13)	53.8%	46.2%	-

17. Housing problems by income groups

	Up to \$25,000 (N=152)	\$25,001 to \$50,000 (N=435)	\$50,001 and up (N=832)
Can't afford needed repairs	25.4%	13.1%	5.9%
Have trouble paying utility bills	21.4%	15.9%	6.0%
Difficulty making rent or mortgage payments	12.7%	9.4%	2.0%

Access to services, barriers, unmet needs, informal support

18. Informal support

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
When you need help for any reason at all, how often do you feel that you have a friend, relative, or neighbor you can really count on?	(N=320)	(N=308)	(N=323)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=1598)
Never	0.9%	1.3%	-	3.1%	0.3%	1.2%
Rarely	3.8%	2.9%	0.9%	2.5%	2.2%	2.6%
Sometimes	7.5%	7.1%	6.5%	5.6%	6.2%	6.8%
Often	13.8%	14.3%	16.7%	14.5%	12.0%	14.1%
Always	74.1%	74.4%	75.9%	74.4%	79.3%	75.3%
How often do you feel it is easy to get help or support from friends, relatives, neighbors, or other sources of informal support such as church or synagogue members?	(N=317)	(N=308)	(N=321)	(N=319)	(N=323)	(N=1592)
Never	2.2%	1.3%	0.6%	2.5%	0.3%	1.3%
Rarely	2.8%	2.3%	1.2%	3.1%	2.2%	2.3%
Sometimes	11.0%	11.7%	12.5%	10.3%	10.8%	11.4%
Often	19.2%	16.9%	20.9%	17.2%	17.3%	17.6%
Always	64.7%	67.9%	64.8%	66.8%	69.3%	67.4%
In the past 6 to 12 months, when you've needed help from informal sources of support, who has usually provided it? (from list)	(N=314)	(N=300)	(N=316)	(N=319)	(N=317)	(N=1562)
Friends	59.9%	56.3%	58.2%	63.3%	60.6%	58.4%
Relatives	73.9%	71.3%	73.4%	77.1%	74.4%	73.0%
Neighbors	32.2%	23.3%	27.8%	32.9%	26.2%	26.3%
Church/synagogue/faith community	26.8%	17.7%	23.4%	27.3%	24.3%	21.4%
Co-workers	22.9%	16.7%	25.7%	25.1%	17.7%	19.3%
Other	3.8%	2.3%	2.8%	4.1%	1.9%	2.7%

19. Access to services

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
If you need more formal help or assistance-like from county or community services-how often do you know who to call or where to go?	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1612)
Percent who don't know	16.6%	20.9%	17.5%	15.1%	16.0%	18.7%
Of those who give a response:						
Never	14.3%	11.4%	8.6%	11.7%	11.4%	11.5%
Rarely	8.5%	11.4%	8.2%	8.0%	9.5%	10.0%
Sometimes	20.6%	22.4%	19.5%	14.6%	20.9%	20.7%
Often	26.1%	24.4%	24.0%	22.6%	23.4%	24.2%
Always	30.5%	30.5%	39.7%	43.1%	34.8%	33.6%
When you need help, how often do you feel it is easy to get services or help from the County or community services	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1612)
Percent who don't know	42.9%	47.3%	44.0%	37.5%	41.8%	44.5%
Of those who give a response						
Never	11.9%	7.9%	5.5%	9.4%	7.9%	8.3%
Rarely	11.4%	12.2%	8.8%	8.4%	5.8%	10.2%
Sometimes	26.5%	29.3%	29.8%	26.1%	27.5%	28.3%
Often	27.6%	20.1%	25.4%	24.6%	30.2%	23.8%
Always	22.7%	30.5%	30.4%	31.5%	28.6%	29.4%
How often do you feel that agencies are flexible and able to respond to your personal situation and needs?	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1612)
Percent who don't know	42.9%	52.1%	46.5%	38.5%	45.8%	48.0%
Of those who give a response:						
Never	8.1%	8.1%	4.6%	8.5%	4.5%	7.2%
Rarely	11.8%	8.7%	12.7%	10.0%	5.7%	9.1%
Sometimes	33.3%	34.2%	30.1%	30.5%	36.4%	33.6%
Often	28.0%	29.5%	31.8%	29.5%	34.1%	30.4%
Always	18.8%	19.5%	20.8%	21.5%	19.3%	19.8%

19. Access to services (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Unable to get any help, social services, or community services that someone in household needed	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1612)
Yes	6.1%	5.8%	4.3%	5.5%	4.0%	5.4%
No	69.0%	74.0%	75.7%	74.8%	74.2%	73.7%
Don't know	23.9%	19.9%	19.7%	19.7%	21.5%	20.6%
Refused	0.9%	0.3%	0.3%	-	0.3%	0.3%
Type needed for those unable to get help (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=20)	(N=18)	(N=14)	(N=18)	(N=13)	(N=86)
Social services	5.0%	27.8%	-	-	15.4%	18.1%
Personal care for handicapped/disabled	15.0%	16.7%	21.4%	11.1%	7.7%	15.1%
Financial assistance	5.0%	11.1%	28.6%	22.2%	23.1%	14.4%
Counseling services	15.0%	16.7%	-	-	23.1%	14.1%
Medical referrals/information	25.0%	5.6%	7.1%	22.2%	30.8%	13.2%
Transportation	5.0%	11.1%	-	-	-	6.8%
Housing assistance	5.0%	5.6%	14.3%	5.6%	7.7%	6.4%
Childcare information	-	11.1%	-	-	-	6.2%
Utility assistance	10.0%	-	14.3%	27.8%	-	5.5%
School information	-	5.6%	21.4%	5.6%	-	5.4%
Employment information	-	5.6%	-	5.6%	-	3.7%
Legal help	5.0%	-	14.3%	11.1%	-	3.0%
Refused	5.0%	-	7.1%	5.6%	-	1.8%
None	5.0%	-	7.1%	-	-	1.2%
Drug/alcohol intervention services	5.0%	-	-	-	-	0.6%
Voting information	-	-	7.1%	-	-	0.5%

19. Access to services (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
What kept you from getting help? (of those unable to get help)	(N=20)	(N=18)	(N=14)	(N=18)	(N=13)	(N=86)
Hard to contact/wouldn't call back	25.0%	33.3%	14.3%	22.2%	-	25.4%
Didn't qualify	20.0%	11.1%	14.3%	44.4%	23.1%	17.8%
Didn't know where/who to go to	5.0%	22.2%	7.1%	5.6%	15.4%	16.2%
Miscellaneous	5.0%	11.1%	21.4%	22.2%	-	11.0%
Not available in area	10.0%	11.1%	7.1%	-	23.1%	10.9%
Incompetent people	10.0%	5.6%	14.3%	5.6%	23.1%	9.0%
The legal system/government/politics	15.0%	5.6%	28.6%	5.6%	-	7.8%
Physician	15.0%	5.6%	-	5.6%	-	5.6%
Insurance limitations	5.0%	-	14.3%	5.6%	7.7%	3.3%

20. Access to services by income groups

	Up to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$50,001 and up
Unable to get any help, social services, or community services that someone in household needed?	(N=234)	(N=465)	(N=759)
Yes	9.4%	5.6%	4.0%
No	70.5%	77.0%	75.5%
Don't know	20.1%	17.2%	20.2%
Refused	-	0.2%	0.4%

Family issues

21. Family issues

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Providing care to an elderly parent	(N=326) 6.1%	(N=309) 4.9%	(N=324) 8.3%	(N=325) 6.5%	(N=325) 5.2%	(N=1609) 5.6%
Those who provide care who have difficulties or stress due to meeting these needs	(N=20) 55.0%	(N=15) 53.3%	(N=27) 37.0%	(N=21) 38.1%	(N=17) 23.5%	(N=89) 44.6%
How close geographically to nearest relatives?-average miles	(N=323) 53.6	(N=309) 141.7	(N=324) 54.6	(N=324) 75.3	(N=325) 59.3	(N=1604) 102.6
Median miles	12	10	10	7	6	10

22. Families with children under 18

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Percent of respondents with children under 18 in the household	(N=324) 47.2%	(N=308) 46.4%	(N=325) 38.2%	(N=325) 40.6%	(N=325) 43.7%	(N=1603) 44.6%
How often you ask nearest relatives to take care of children-average times per year	(N=150) 12.7	(N=137) 19.6	(N=118) 11.1	(N=120) 25.2	(N=136) 13.8	(N=683) 17.6
Family includes children that need child care	(N=62) 41.3%	(N=76) 55.9%	(N=44) 37.3%	(N=45) 37.5%	(N=61) 44.9%	(N=334) 49.0%
Child care is available when you need it	(N=61)	(N=74)	(N=44)	(N=45)	(N=61)	(N=328)
Always	55.7%	64.9%	75.0%	68.9%	62.3%	64.5%
Often	19.7%	24.3%	20.5%	20.0%	24.6%	23.3%
Sometimes	14.8%	4.1%	4.5%	8.9%	8.2%	6.2%
Rarely	9.8%	5.4%	-	2.2%	4.9%	5.2%
Never	-	1.4%	-	-	-	0.8%
Insufficient child care creates an obstacle to employment for household	(N=62) 29.0%	(N=76) 15.8%	(N=44) 6.8%	(N=45) 20.0%	(N=61) 19.7%	(N=334) 17.5%
How often are you able to set aside time for family activities (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=150)	(N=137)	(N=120)	(N=118)	(N=136)	(N=683)
Daily	36.0%	43.1%	28.0%	35.0%	38.2%	39.4%
2-3 times per week	15.3%	15.3%	11.0%	12.5%	16.2%	14.9%
4-6 times per week	6.0%	2.9%	5.9%	4.2%	3.7%	3.8%
Once a week	18.0%	15.3%	20.3%	19.2%	19.9%	17.2%
Twice a month/every 2 weeks	2.7%	2.9%	0.8%	1.7%	0.7%	2.2%
Once a month	2.0%	0.7%	1.7%	0.8%	-	0.8%
Always	3.3%	1.5%	5.1%	1.7%	3.7%	2.4%
Often	8.7%	7.3%	5.9%	9.2%	6.6%	7.4%
Sometimes	2.0%	-	0.8%	0.8%	1.5%	0.6%
Rarely	2.0%	5.1%	4.2%	2.5%	1.5%	3.8%
Weekends	4.7%	5.1%	8.5%	10.8%	3.7%	5.6%
Evenings	2.7%	2.9%	13.6%	8.3%	2.9%	4.3%
Whenever I want	2.0%	2.9%	0.8%	4.2%	3.7%	2.9%

22. Families with children under 18 (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
How do you feel about the time you can usually spend with family (asked to rate)	(N=150)	(N=137)	(N=118)	(N=120)	(N=136)	(N=683)
Excellent	30.0%	29.9%	29.7%	27.5%	36.8%	30.8%
Good	48.7%	45.3%	53.4%	46.7%	45.6%	46.5%
Okay	16.0%	20.4%	11.9%	23.3%	13.2%	18.3%
Bad	2.0%	3.6%	3.4%	2.5%	3.7%	3.3%
Terrible	3.3%	0.7%	1.7%	-	0.7%	1.0%
Main sources of strain and pressure on family life (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=150)	(N=137)	(N=118)	(N=120)	(N=136)	(N=683)
Money	28.0%	22.6%	28.0%	26.7%	23.5%	24.2%
Time	16.0%	23.4%	16.9%	19.2%	14.7%	20.1%
Work	16.7%	18.2%	22.9%	20.8%	22.8%	19.4%
Having kids/teenage behavior	20.7%	14.6%	14.4%	16.7%	16.9%	15.9%
Busy schedule (unspecified)	6.0%	11.7%	17.8%	13.3%	14.7%	12.2%
Nothing	14.7%	12.4%	-	7.5%	8.8%	11.4%
Relationship problems	9.3%	5.1%	4.2%	4.2%	4.4%	5.3%
Busy children's schedule	3.3%	5.8%	3.4%	3.3%	4.4%	4.9%
Miscellaneous	0.7%	5.1%	4.2%	2.5%	2.9%	3.9%
Busy adult	4.0%	4.4%	3.4%	0.8%	3.7%	3.8%
Being a single parent	2.7%	3.6%	1.7%	4.2%	0.7%	2.9%
Disabilities/mental illness/poor health	2.0%	2.9%	2.5%	4.2%	2.2%	2.8%
Refused	2.7%	2.2%	9. %3	0.8%	0.7%	1.7%
Housing problems	1.3%	1.5%	1.7%	0.8%	1.5%	1.4%
Don't know	2.7%	0.7%	-	0.8%	3.7%	1.4%
Caring for an older parent	0.7%	0.7%	1.7%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%
Small house	-	-	0.8%	-	-	0.1%

23. Child care by income groups

	Up to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$50,001 and up
Is child care available when you need it?	(N=19)	(N=78)	(N=219)
Always	52.6%	60.3%	66.7%
Often	31.6%	19.2%	23.3%
Sometimes	10.5%	6.4%	6.4%
Rarely	5.3%	10.3%	3.7%
Never	-	3.8%	-
Insufficient child care creates an obstacle to employment	(N=18) 44.4%	(N=77) 27.3%	(N=226) 12.8%

24. Family stress

Categories re-grouped to combine time/work/busy schedule together	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Main sources of strain and pressure on family life (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=150)	(N=137)	(N=118)	(N=120)	(N=136)	(N=683)
Time/work/busy schedule	38.7%	50.4%	52.5%	50.9%	50.8%	49.2%
Money	28.0%	22.6%	28.0%	26.7%	23.5%	24.2%
Having kids/teenage behavior	20.7%	14.6%	14.4%	16.7%	16.9%	15.9%
Nothing	14.7%	12.4%	9.3%	7.5%	8.8%	11.4%
Relationship problems	9.3%	5.1%	4.2%	4.2%	4.4%	5.3%
Miscellaneous	0.7%	5.1%	4.2%	2.5%	2.9%	3.9%
Being a single parent	2.7%	3.6%	1.7%	4.2%	0.7%	2.9%
Disabilities/mental illness/poor health	2.0%	2.9%	2.5%	4.2%	2.2%	2.8%
Refused	2.7%	2.2%	-	0.8%	0.7%	1.7%
Housing problems	1.3%	1.5%	1.7%	0.8%	1.5%	1.4%
Don't know	2.7%	0.7%	-	0.8%	3.7%	1.4%
Caring for an older parent	0.7%	0.7%	1.7%	0.8%	0.7%	0.8%
Small house	-	-	0.8%	-	-	0.1%

25. Family stress and income

	Up to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$50,000 and up
Main sources of strain and pressure on family life (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=33)	(N=167)	(N=437)
Time/work/busy schedule	9.1%	42.8%	56.1%
Money	48.0%	43.3%	17.0%
Having kids/teenage behavior	15.4%	12.2%	16.7%
Nothing	3.35	7.4%	11.9%
Relationship problems	9.0%	7.4%	4.2%
Miscellaneous	1.6%	0.9%	4.9%
Being a single parent	6.3%	6.1%	1.6%
Disabilities/mental illness/poor health	13.8%	2.4%	2.4%
Refused	2.5%	0.3%	0.7%
Housing problems	9.7%	0.3%	1.3%
Don't know	1.6%	0.3%	1.9%
Caring for an older parent	-	0.6%	1.0%
Small house	-	0.3%	-

Youth issues

26. Youth activities

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
There are sufficient structured activities for youth in the area (all respondents asked)	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1612)
Agree	43.3%	56.9%	45.8%	44.3%	51.1%	52.0%
Disagree	22.1%	18.0%	24.0%	26.2%	21.2%	20.5%
Neutral	26.7%	16.1%	22.2%	21.8%	22.2%	19.5%
Don't know	8.0%	9.0%	8.0%	7.7%	5.5%	8.1%

Transportation

27. Methods of transportation

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Primary method of transportation	(N=312)	(N=304)	(N=315)	(N=311)	(N=308)	(N=1612)
Own car	95.7%	97.7%	96.9%	95.7%	94.8%	96.7%
Ride with someone (Informal)	2.5%	1.3%	1.2%	2.2%	3.1%	1.8%
Borrowed car	0.6%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.6%
Walking	-	-	0.3%	1.5%	0.9%	0.4%
Bike	-	0.3%	-	-	-	0.2%
Other	0.6%	-	0.6%	0.3%	-	0.2%
Cab	-	-	0.3%	-	0.3%	0.1%
HIS transportation, Metro Mobility or other organized bus service	0.3%	-	0.3%	-	0.3%	0.1%
Bus (regular)	0.3%	-	-	-	-	0.0%
Number of cars in the household (average)	(N=324) 2.30	(N=308) 2.17	(N=324) 2.38	(N=325) 2.14	(N=324) 2.17	(N=1602) 2.20
Number of cars in household	(N=324)	(N=308)	(N=324)	(N=325)	(N=324)	(N=1602)
Zero	2.5%	1.0%	1.2%	2.8%	3.4%	1.8%
One	17.3%	17.5%	17.3%	20.6%	21.0%	18.4%
Two	47.8%	54.2%	45.7%	48.6%	45.1%	50.5%
Three	22.2%	19.8%	21.6%	19.1%	19.4%	20.1%
Four or more	10.3%	7.4%	14.2%	8.9%	11.1%	9.1%

28. Car reliability

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Reliability of cars – Car 1	(N=316)	(N=305)	(N=319)	(N=315)	(N=313)	(N=1572)
Very reliable	88.9%	89.5%	85.9%	89.2%	90.4%	89.2%
Somewhat reliable	10.4%	9.8%	12.9%	8.9%	9.6%	10.0%
Not reliable transportation	0.6%	0.7%	1.3%	1.9%	-	0.7%
Reliability of cars – Car 2	(N=260)	(N=251)	(N=263)	(N=248)	(N=245)	(N=1277)
Very reliable	75.8%	78.5%	74.9%	77.0%	81.2%	78.1%
Somewhat reliable	21.5%	19.1%	21.7%	19.8%	17.1%	19.4%
Not reliable transportation	2.7%	2.4%	3.4%	3.2%	1.6%	2.5%
Reliability of cars – Car 3	(N=104)	(N=84)	(N=116)	(N=91)	(N=99)	(N=468)
Very reliable	50.0%	60.7%	58.6%	45.1%	67.7%	58.8%
Somewhat reliable	38.5%	29.8%	31.9%	46.2%	27.3%	32.4%
Not reliable transportation	11.5%	9.5%	9.5%	8.8%	5.1%	8.9%
Reliability of cars – Car 4	(N=33)	(N=23)	(N=46)	(N=29)	(N=36)	(N=147)
Very reliable	36.4%	60.9%	43.5%	34.5%	61.1%	52.6%
Somewhat reliable	45.5%	30.4%	47.8%	41.4%	27.8%	35.4%
Not reliable transportation	18.2%	8.7%	8.7%	24.1%	11.1%	12.0%
Reliability of cars – Car 5	(N=15)	(N=2)	(N=17)	(N=8)	(N=9)	(N=33)
Very reliable	33.3%	50.0%	41.2%	25.0%	55.6%	41.8%
Somewhat reliable	53.3%	-	29.4%	62.5%	22.2%	33.2%
Not reliable transportation	13.3%	50.0%	29.4%	12.5%	22.2%	25.0%

29. Transportation problems

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
How often transportation is a problem	(N=326)	(N=311)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=325)	(N=1612)
Never	64.1%	64.6%	60.0%	64.3%	67.1%	64.5%
Rarely	24.5%	27.0%	28.9%	25.5%	25.5%	26.5%
Sometimes	8.6%	6.1%	9.8%	7.4%	6.2%	6.9%
Often	2.1%	1.3%	0.6%	1.2%	-	1.1%
Always	0.6%	1.0%	0.6%	1.5%	1.2%	1.0%
How often a problem for children	(N=150)	(N=136)	(N=118)	(N=120)	(N=136)	(N=681)
Never	65.4%	56.7%	64.4%	65.8%	64.0%	64.1%
Rarely	16.2%	25.3%	21.2%	18.3%	23.5%	19.1%
Sometimes	15.4%	14.7%	13.6%	11.7%	11.8%	14.2%
Often	2.9%	2.0%	0.8%	1.7%	-	2.0%
Always	-	1.3%	-	2.5%	0.7%	0.5%
Someone in household did not go somewhere because did not have transportation	(N=326)	(N=310)	(N=323)	(N=324)	(N=325)	(N=1608)
	13.5%	9.4%	11.1%	10.2%	10.2%	10.2%
Type of activity unable to do (of those unable to go somewhere):						
Banking	10.3%	2.3%	8.6%	6.1%	-	6.8%
Grocery shopping	25.0%	34.5%	20.0%	24.2%	18.2%	27.8%
Other shopping	25.0%	20.7%	17.1%	27.3%	6.1%	19.2%
Medical/dental	6.8%	13.8%	-	21.2%	15.2%	12.4%
Recreation	22.7%	17.2%	17.1%	27.3%	24.2%	20.3%
Religious	4.5%	13.8%	-	12.1%	3.0%	9.1%
School	11.4%	6.9%	8.6%	12.1%	12.1%	9.2%
Social	25.0%	37.9%	34.3%	27.3%	30.3%	33.2%
Work	25.0%	27.6%	28.6%	33.3%	33.3%	28.9%
Other	11.4%	13.8%	16.7%	18.2%	9.1%	13.4%

30. Transportation by income groups

	Up to \$25,000	\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$50,001 and up
Reliability of Car 1	(N=159)	(N=436)	(N=833)
Very reliable	74.8%	88.8%	93.0%
Somewhat reliable	22.0%	10.3%	6.7%
Not reliable transportation	3.1%	0.9%	0.2%
How often transportation is a problem	(N=181)	(N=436)	(N=833)
Never	52.5%	59.9%	67.1%
Rarely	24.9%	30.7%	26.7%
Sometimes	14.4%	7.3%	5.3%
Often	2.2%	1.8%	0.6%
Always	6.1%	0.2%	0.4%
How often transportation is a problem for you children	(N=34)	(N=167)	(N=437)
Never	64.7%	54.5%	67.0%
Rarely	5.9%	24.6%	24.6%
Sometimes	26.5%	14.4%	14.4%
Often	-	6.0%	0.9%
Always	2.9%	0.6%	0.2%
Someone in household did not go somewhere because did not have transportation	(N=181)	(N=437)	(N=833)
	14.9%	14.9%	7.4%

Commuting

31. Commuting

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Percent employed who commute 15 miles or more each way to work	(N=221) 54.3%	(N=229) 39.3%	(N=243) 45.3%	(N=225) 44.0%	(N=236) 43.6%	(N=1168) 42.6%
Factors important in deciding on long commute (from list)	(N=104)	(N=129)	(N=116)	(N=104)	(N=108)	(N=551)
Higher wages than locally available jobs	57.4%	60.6%	70.7%	71.2%	59.3%	62.0%
Other benefits	48.1%	49.0%	58.6%	57.8%	41.3%	49.5%
No jobs locally in my field	37.2%	40.8%	32.5%	45.7%	34.9%	39.0%
Company moved	3.9%	7.7%	2.6%	7.6%	2.8%	5.9%
I/we moved to area	42.2%	35.6%	30.2%	35.2%	29.4%	34.8%
Other: (multiple responses grouped into categories)	16.3%	20.2%	21.6%	20.0%	27.5%	21.0%
Like my job	2.4%	9.3%	13.8%	7.7%	12.0%	10.3%
Like living away from cities	4.8%	2.3%	2.6%	3.8%	4.6%	3.4%
Less of commute than old job	1.0%	1.6%	-	1.0%	1.9%	1.5%
Cheaper than living in Twin Cities	4.8%	-	0.9%	1.9%	2.8%	1.3%
Lived to close to old job	-	0.8%	-	1.0%	2.8%	1.1%
Better schools	1.0%	0.8%	1.7%	-	0.9%	0.9%
Wanted to move and keep same job	-	0.8%	-	-	0.9%	0.7%
Took any job I could find/hard to find close job	2.9%	-	1.7%	1.9%	0.9%	0.7%
None	-	0.8%	-	-	-	0.5%
Want to live close to family/friends	1.0%	-	0.9%	1.0%	1.9%	0.5%
Job involves travel	1.0%	-	-	1.9%	0.9%	0.3%
Don't think it is a long commute	1.0%	-	-	-	-	0.2%
Don't know	1.0%	-	0.9%	-	-	0.2%

31. Commuting (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Drawbacks of commuting (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=129)	(N=104)	(N=116)	(N=104)	(N=109)	(N=551)
Expense	46.5%	37.5%	50.0%	44.2%	42.2%	41.3%
Stress	26.4%	28.8%	22.4%	22.1%	24.8%	26.5%
Time	64.3%	67.3%	60.3%	55.8%	57.8%	63.5%
Other:	33.3%	33.7%	41.4%	44.2%	41.3%	36.7%
Weather conditions	9.3%	6.7%	20.7%	19.2%	19.3%	11.8%
Traffic/congestion	10.1%	16.3%	5.2%	5.8%	7.3%	11.8%
Bad drivers	4.7%	3.8%	5.2%	5.8%	5.5%	4.5%
Wear on car	8.5%	1.9%	6.0%	6.7%	7.3%	4.5%
Cuts into family/personal time	2.3%	1.0%	2.6%	8.7%	6.41%	2.9%
Boring/waste of time	1.6%	1.9%	1.7%	1.0%	0.9%	1.6%
Environmental/fuel concerns	0.8%	1.0%	5.2%	1.9%	1.8%	1.6%
Bad roads	0.8%	1.0%	-	4.8%	1.8%	1.5%
Can't go home for lunch/ activities	-	1.0%	-	-	0.9%	0.7%
None	0.8%	1.0%	0.9%	1.0%	-	0.7%
Want to work in and contribute to local community	-	-	0.9%	2.9%	-	0.4%
Road construction	0.8%	-	0.9%	-	-	0.2%

31. Commuting (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Percent of commuters who say there are benefits	(N=124) 65.3%	(N=104) 57.7%	(N=114) 70.2%	(N=105) 72.4%	(N=106) 66.0%	(N=545) 62.7%
Benefits to commuting (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=81)	(N=60)	(N=80)	(N=76)	(N=70)	(N=342)
Job is more satisfying/better paid	25.9%	31.7%	20.0%	34.2%	34.3%	30.4%
Time alone/relaxing	25.9%	23.3%	31.3%	28.9%	21.4%	24.9%
Allows me to live away from Twin Cities	28.4%	25.0%	20.0%	11.8%	21.4%	22.7%
Break between home and work	14.8%	15.0%	18.8%	11.8%	15.7%	15.1%
Freedom to drive/run errands during work	3.7%	13.3%	11.3%	9.2%	4.3%	9.8%
Separation of work and private life	6.2%	5.0%	6.3%	5.3%	7.1%	5.7%
Socialization while commuting (carpools, bussing)	1.2%	3.3%	5.0%	5.3%	2.9%	3.2%
Miscellaneous	1.2%	1.7%	1.3%	7.9%	1.4%	2.3%
None-no benefit	-	1.7%	-	3.9%	2.9%	1.9%
Explored finding a job closer to home	(N=129) 39.5%	(N=103) 35.9%	(N=116) 39.7%	(N=105) 47.6%	(N=109) 42.2%	(N=549) 39.0%

32. Commuting by income groups

	Up to \$25,000 (N=25)	\$25,001 to \$50,000 (N=132)	\$50,001 and up (N=350)
Percent of employed who commute 30 or more miles round trip per day	29.6%	40.2%	45.3%
Expense is a drawback to commuting (percent of commuters)	60.0%	48.5%	37.7%

Labor force issues

33. Employment information

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Average number employed in household	(N=325)	(N=308)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=1602)
Full-time	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.3
Part-time	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4
Number of household members employed	(N=325)	(N=308)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=1602)
Full-time						
None	19.7%	17.2%	18.5%	23.1%	20.1%	18.7%
One	38.8%	39.9%	32.4%	36.4%	37.0%	38.2%
Two	37.5%	37.3%	41.7%	37.3%	37.3%	37.8%
Three or more	4.0%	5.5%	7.4%	3.1%	5.5%	5.2%
Part-time						
None	69.0%	67.5%	66.4%	68.2%	63.6%	67.0%
One	25.8%	26.9%	25.9%	28.4%	29.6%	27.3%
Two	4.3%	4.5%	6.2%	3.1%	5.9%	4.7%
Three or more	0.9%	0.9%	1.5%	0.3%	0.9%	0.9%
Respondent is currently employed	(N=325)	(N=308)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=1602)
Full-time	74.5%	76.9%	79.0%	74.1%	77.5%	76.6%
Part-time	86.9%	87.2%	86.3%	85.8%	80.9%	85.7%
Part-time	13.1%	12.8%	13.7%	14.2%	19.1%	14.3%

33. Employment information (continued)

Work location	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total (N=1227)
	Chisago (N=242)	Washington (N=237)	Pierce (N=256)	Polk (N=240)	St. Croix (N=251)	
Aitkin	-	-	-	-	0.4%	0.1%
Anoka	5.4%	0.8%	-	1.7%	0.8%	1.3%
Barron	-	-	-	1.7%	-	0.2%
Buffalo	-	-	0.4%	-	-	0.0%
Burnett	-	-	-	1.3%	-	0.1%
Chisago	40.9%	0.8%	-	3.8%	-	5.2%
Dakota	0.8	8.9%	6.3%	0.4%	2.8%	5.8%
Dane	-	-	0.4%	-	-	0.0%
Dunn	-	0.4%	1.2%	0.4%	2.0%	0.7%
Eau Claire	-	0.4%	-	-	-	0.2%
Goodhue	-	-	12.1%	-	-	1.2%
Hennepin	14.9%	13.9%	4.7%	5.4%	6.8%	11.0%
Isanti	3.3%	-	-	-	-	0.4%
Otter Tail	-	-	-	-	0.4%	0.1%
Pepin	-	-	0.4%	-	-	0.0%
Pierce	-	-	39.8%	0.8%	7.2%	5.2%
Pine	1.2%	-	-	0.4%	-	0.2%
Polk, WI	2.5%	0.4%	2.0%	58.3%	2.0%	7.2%
Ramsey	15.7%	32.1%	12.5%	7.1%	13.9%	22.7%
Sawyer	-	-	0.4%	-	-	0.0%
Scott	-	-	-	-	0.4%	0.1%
Sherburne	0.4%	-	-	-	-	0.0%
St Croix	0.4%	0.8%	13.7%	8.3%	48.6%	11.0%
Washburn	-	-	0.4%	-	-	0.0%
Washington, MN	9.9%	41.8%	9.0%	8.8%	16.7%	27.4%
Wright	0.4%	-	-	-	-	0.0%

33. Employment information (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Work location (continued)						
Work all over the metro area	1.7%	0.8%	0.4%	1.7%	0.4%	0.9%
Work in the counties surrounding my home	-	-	-	0.4%	-	0.0%
Work in many counties	3.3%	1.7%	0.8%	1.3%	1.6%	1.7%
Work all over the state (MN)	0.8%	-	-	-	-	0.1%
Work all over the state (WI)	-	-	-	0.4%	0.4%	0.1%
Work all over state(Unspecified)	1.2%	-	-	0.8%	-	0.2%
Work over several states	1.2%	-	-	-	0.4%	0.2%
Work all over the United States	0.8%	0.4%	-	0.4%	0.8%	0.5%
Work in a specific city outside of MN	-	0.4%	-	-	0.4%	0.3%
Don't know	0.4%	-	0.8%	-	-	0.1%
Refused	-	-	-	0.4%	-	0.0%

33. Employment information (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Miles travel to work each day-average	(N=221) 22.8	(N=229) 14.8	(N=243) 16.4	(N=225) 20.1	(N=236) 15.6	(N=1168) 16.5
Length of trip to work-average minutes	(N=221) 50.6	(N=229) 40.2	(N=243) 39.1	(N=223) 44.8	(N=236) 38.3	(N=1167) 41.3
Usual work transportation	(N=242)	(N=237)	(N=256)	(N=240)	(N=250)	(N=1227)
Car	87.6%	91.1%	86.3%	90.4%	87.6%	89.6%
Bus	0.4%	0.8%	-	0.4%	-	0.5%
Walk	2.9%	1.3%	5.1%	4.2%	4.0%	2.6%
Carpool/vanpool	3.3%	1.3%	3.9%	2.1%	1.6%	1.9%
Other	5.8%	5.5%	4.7%	2.9%	6.8%	5.4%
Health benefits offered through employment	(N=241) 79.7%	(N=327) 81.0%	(N=256) 77.3%	(N=238) 73.1%	(N=248) 76.2%	(N=1223) 78.9%
To full-time employees	84.3%	88.8%	81.4%	81.9%	86.1%	86.5%
To part-time employees	48.4%	29.0%	51.4%	20.6%	34.0%	33.3%
Need more training to advance current career or start a new career	(N=241) 32.4%	(N=236) 36.0%	(N=256) 36.3%	(N=239) 39.3%	(N=249) 36.1%	(N=1222) 36.0%
Feel you are able to get this training	(N=76) 76.3%	(N=83) 89.2%	(N=93) 84.9%	(N=91) 79.1%	(N=90) 92.2%	(N=432) 86.9%

34. Training to advance career by income groups

	Up to \$25,000 (N=74)	\$25,001 to \$50,000 (N=323)	\$50,001 and up (N=739)
Need more training to advance current career or start a new career	44.6%	38.4%	35.2%
Feel able to get this training	71.0%	77.7%	92.6%

Arts, entertainment, and recreation

35. Types of arts respondents enjoy

Type of arts enjoyed (multiple responses grouped into categories)	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago (N=243)	Washington (N=252)	Pierce (N=262)	Polk (N=258)	St. Croix (N=262)	
Drama/theatre/plays	52.7%	61.5%	49.6%	51.9%	54.6%	57.3%
Music (unspecified)	24.3%	24.6%	29.4%	32.6%	27.9%	26.4%
Music concerts/orchestra	20.2%	23.8%	22.1%	17.8%	22.9%	22.5%
Movies	11.9%	13.5%	9.5%	7.4%	9.9%	11.7%
Museums (unspecified)	10.7%	11.1%	13.0%	7.0%	9.2%	10.5%
Children/school - plays/theatre	11.5%	6.0%	9.2%	12.0%	7.3%	7.7%
Dance/Recitals	7.4%	7.9%	8.4%	3.9%	7.6%	7.4%
Art show/galleries/museums	6.2%	5.2%	8.0%	5.8%	8.4%	6.2%
Painting/drawing	7.0%	4.4%	4.2%	1.9%	3.8%	4.5%
Children/school - music/concerts	5.8%	1.6%	6.9%	3.9%	5.3%	3.4%
Musicals	4.5%	3.2%	3.8%	1.6%	3.1%	3.2%
Church music/concerts	2.5%	2.0%	2.3%	4.7%	3.1%	2.5%
Crafts/craft shows	1.6%	2.0%	3.8%	2.3%	2.7%	2.3%
Visual arts (unspecified)	1.2%	1.6%	3.1%	1.2%	5.0%	2.2%
Literature/poetry/reading	1.6%	2.0%	2.7%	1.6%	1.1%	1.8%
Art (unspecified)	1.6%	2.0%	2.7%	1.6%	1.1%	1.8%
Choir/opera	4.5%	0.4%	1.5%	1.2%	3.1%	1.5%
Sporting events	1.6%	1.6%	1.5%	-	0.8%	1.3%
Photography	0.8%	1.2%	2.3%	-	1.5%	1.3%
Church plays/theatre	-	1.2%	0.4%	1.6%	1.1%	1.0%
Performance arts (unspecified)	1.2%	1.2%	0.8%	3.9%	1.1%	1.0%
Sculpture/pottery	0.8%	0.8%	1.1%	1.2%	1.1%	1.0%
Science/history museums	1.2%	0.8%	1.9%	1.6%	0.4%	1.0%
Quilting/sewing	0.4%	1.2%	-	0.8%	1.1%	0.9%
Miscellaneous	1.2%	0.8%	0.4%	1.9%	0.4%	0.9%
School/children's activities/events (unspecified)	0.4%	0.4%	0.8%	1.6%	2.7%	0.9%

35. Types of arts respondents enjoy (continued)

Type of arts enjoyed (continued)	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Outdoors (gardening, wildlife/ natural)	1.2%	0.4%	0.4%	0.8%	1.1%	0.6%
Church activities/events (Unspecified)	0.4%	-	1.5%	0.4%	-	0.4%
Antiques/shows	-	-	0.8%	1.6%	0.8%	0.4%
TV	0.8%		0.8%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%
Woodworking		0.4%	0.4%	-	0.4%	0.3%
Comedy/Comedians	0.8%	0.4%	-	-	-	0.3%
Martial Arts/Tai Chi	-	-	0.8%	-	0.4%	0.1%
Don't know	-	-	0.8%	-	-	0.1%
Holiday programs	-	-	-	0.8%	1.1%	0.1%
General availability	(N=238)	(N=246)	(N=258)	(N=253)	(N=259)	(N=1264)
Available locally always	34.9%	45.1%	46.1%	42.7%	62.2%	46.8%
Available locally usually	21.0%	31.3%	32.9%	28.5%	40.2%	31.6%
Available locally some of the time	60.9%	40.7%	65.5%	63.6%	47.5%	48.8%
Not often available locally	41.6%	36.2%	29.8%	26.5%	23.9%	33.0%
Never available locally	26.5%	28.5%	20.2%	13.8%	16.2%	23.8%
Type of arts and availability						
Movies	(N=29)	(N=34)	(N=25)	(N=18)	(N=26)	(N=150)
Available locally always	69.0%	55.9%	40.0%	88.9%	73.1%	60.7%
Available locally usually	13.8%	11.8%	32.0%	-	19.2%	13.9%
Available locally some of the time	13.8%	2.9%	20.0%	5.6%	-	5.2%
Not often available locally	-	-	-	-	3.8%	0.6%
Never available locally	3.4%	29.4%	8.0%	5.6%	3.8%	19.8%
Drama/theatre/plays	(N=126)	(N=149)	(N=130)	(N=134)	(N=139)	(N=718)
Available locally always	11.1%	20.1%	18.5%	23.1%	32.4%	21.4%
Available locally usually	15.1%	20.1%	18.5%	20.1%	25.2%	20.3%
Available locally some of the time	39.7%	22.8%	46.9%	39.6%	25.2%	28.5%
Not often available locally	26.2%	24.2%	9.2%	14.2%	10.8%	19.9%
Never available locally	7.9%	121.8%	6.9%	3.0%	6.5%	9.8%

35. Types of arts respondents enjoy (continued)

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Type of arts and availability						
Music (unspecified)	(N=56)	(N=62)	(N=77)	(N=82)	(N=72)	(N=338)
Available locally always	14.3%	21.0%	27.3%	13.4%	22.2%	20.3%
Available locally usually	17.9%	21.0%	15.6%	17.1%	25.0%	20.3%
Available locally some of the time	32.1%	30.6%	26.0%	41.5%	33.3%	32.2%
Not often available locally	25.0%	24.2%	22.1%	24.4%	12.5%	22.0%
Never available locally	10.7%	3.2%	9.1%	3.7%	6.9%	5.2%
Music concerts/orchestra	(N=49)	(N=60)	(N=58)	(N=45)	(N=60)	(N=289)
Available locally always	6.1%	20.0%	12.1%	11.1%	15.0%	16.4%
Available locally usually	8.2%	11.7%	15.5%	11.1%	26.7%	14.3%
Available locally some of the time	34.7%	38.3%	37.9%	46.7%	40.0%	39.0%
Not often available locally	34.7%	16.7%	24.1%	17.8%	16.7%	19.1%
Never available locally	16.3%	13.1%	10.3%	13.3%	1.7%	11.3%
Museums (unspecified)	(N=25)	(N=25)	(N=34)	(N=18)	(N=23)	(N=126)
Available locally always	4.0%	20.0%	14.7%	22.2%	17.4%	17.4%
Available locally usually	4.0%	8.0%	5.9%	-	4.3%	6.1%
Available locally some of the time	20.0%	8.0%	20.6%	33.3%	13.0%	13.6%
Not often available locally	24.0%	16.0%	23.5%	11.1%	8.7%	16.3%
Never available locally	48.0%	48.0%	35.3%	33.3%	56.5%	46.5%
Where tended to attend arts events in last six months	(N=306)	(N=314)	(N=310)	(N=319)	(N=313)	(N=1562)
Minneapolis and St. Paul	38.2%	52.6%	31.3%	26.6%	32.3%	42.8%
Local community	35.0%	23.9%	41.9%	40.8%	39.6%	31.2%
Both	9.9%	9.5%	14.2%	14.7%	15.0%	11.5%
Neither	16.6%	12.4%	10.3%	16.6%	12.5%	13.1%
Other	0.3%	1.6%	2.3%	1.3%	0.6%	1.3%

36. Free time

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
Do you tend to do more of your errands and shopping closer to home or closer to Minneapolis and St. Paul	(N=326)	(N=310)	(N=321)	(N=325)	(N=324)	(N=1607)
Home	71.8%	87.4%	61.4%	63.4%	67.3%	77.2%
Minneapolis/St. Paul	16.3%	5.2%	19.9%	16.9%	16.0%	10.9%
Equal	11.0%	6.5%	15.9%	18.2%	15.1%	10.6%
Other	0.9%	1.0%	2.8%	1.5%	1.5%	1.3%
Do you tend to spend more of your free time closer to home or closer to Minneapolis and St. Paul	(N=325)	(N=310)	(N=323)	(N=324)	(N=324)	(N=1606)
Home	85.5%	82.3%	82.0%	89.5%	84.9%	83.8%
Minneapolis/St. Paul	6.2%	7.4%	6.8%	4.0%	7.7%	6.9%
Equal	7.1%	8.1%	9.6%	6.2%	5.6%	7.5%
Other	1.2%	2.3%	1.5%	0.3%	1.9%	1.8%

37. Outdoor recreation

	Minnesota		Wisconsin			Total
	Chisago	Washington	Pierce	Polk	St. Croix	
How often do you utilize natural public recreation areas in your community?	(N=311)	(N=326)	(N=323)	(N=324)	(N=323)	(N=1609)
Daily	5.5%	5.5%	4.3%	4.9%	4.0%	5.1%
Weekly	23.2%	19.3%	19.8%	17.0%	19.8%	21.2%
Monthly	17.4%	16.3%	17.0%	15.7%	21.1%	17.6%
Occasionally	40.5%	43.3%	45.8%	47.5%	43.0%	42.5%
Never	13.5%	15.6%	13.0%	14.8%	12.1%	13.6%
What 2 or 3 outdoor activities do you do most often in the area? (multiple responses grouped into categories)	(N=275)	(N=269)	(N=283)	(N=277)	(N=286)	(N=1393)
Walking/running/jogging	30.2%	44.6%	38.2%	31.8%	40.2%	40.3%
Biking	21.8%	25.7%	14.5%	13.4%	16.1%	21.2%
Fishing	35.3%	11.2%	27.6%	37.9%	26.2%	20.8%
Hiking	15.3%	17.1%	16.3%	19.9%	16.4%	17.0%
Going to parks/playgrounds/picnics	8.7%	17.1%	9.5%	9.7%	13.3%	14.0%
Boating/canoeing/kayaking	14.9%	16.4%	7.4%	13.4%	14.3%	14.7%
Sporting events	5.5%	14.9%	8.8%	7.6%	10.8%	11.8%
Skiing	12.4%	9.3%	9.5%	9.7%	13.6%	10.4%
Hunting	16.4%	3.7%	18.4%	19.9%	12.9%	9.8%
Swimming/beaches	10.9%	9.7%	8.5%	8.3%	10.8%	9.7%
Golfing	7.3%	9.7%	7.8%	9.0%	8.0%	8.9%
Four wheeling/snowmobiling	14.5%	4.5%	8.5%	17.0%	8.4%	8.0%
Camping	7.3%	4.8%	9.2%	7.6%	11.2%	6.9%
Miscellaneous	5.5%	4.8%	8.1%	7.6%	4.2%	5.4%
Yard work/gardening	6.2%	2.6%	8.1%	5.8%	3.8%	4.1%
Horseback riding	5.1%	1.5%	5.3%	2.5%	3.5%	2.7%
Sledding	1.1%	3.3%	-	0.4%	4.2%	2.6%
Roller skating/blading	2.5%	3.0%	1.8%	0.7%	1.7%	2.4%
Ice skating	1.5%	3.3%	0.7%	1.1%	1.4%	2.3%
Snow-shoeing	0.7%	0.4%	1.1%	1.8%	1.0%	0.7%
Nature observation	1.8%	1.1%	1.8%	3.6%	-	1.3%
Photography	0.4%	-	1.1%	-	0.3%	0.2%
Don't know	-	0.4%	0.4%	-	-	0.2%