Local Leaders’ Assessments of Police-Community Relations in Michigan

Presented to the Michigan Department of Civil Rights
Lansing, MI
April 20, 2016
Michigan ranks 7th in the number of general purpose local governments (1,856):

- 83 counties
- 256 villages
- 277 cities
- 1,240 townships.
The Michigan Public Policy Survey

- **Census survey** – all counties, cities, villages, and townships
- **Respondents** – chief elected and appointed officials
- **Administered** – online and via hardcopy
- **Timing** – Spring and Fall each year
- **Topics** – wide range, such as fiscal health, budget priorities, economic development, intergovernmental cooperation, employee policies, labor unions, state relations, roads, environmental sustainability, citizen engagement, much more.
MPPS is not a typical opinion poll

- 70+% response rates

- Transparency
  -- Questionnaires online
  -- Pre-run data tables online
  -- Sharing of (anonymized) datasets with other researchers

- Expert advisors on questionnaire content

- Borrow from other proven sources such as NLC and ICMA
What does the MPPS aim to do?

• **Improve understanding** of local government to help improve policymaking and quality of life

• **Inform local leaders** about peers across the state: challenges and responses

• **Inform state policymakers** and other stakeholders with data about local level challenges and responses not available from any other source

• **Build a longitudinal data archive** to allow tracking of fundamental changes (such as the economic transition, aging population, etc.)

• Foster **academic research and teaching** on local government issues
Police-Community Relations
In Michigan communities
How Law Enforcement Services are Delivered

Law Enforcement Service Provision, Overall

- Directly: 28%
- Indirectly: 48%
- None: 24%
- Don't Know: 1%

Law Enforcement Service Provision, by Community Size

- <1500: Directly 62%, Indirectly 50%, None 24%
- 1500-5000: Directly 22%, Indirectly 25%, None 24%
- 5001-10000: Directly 52%, Indirectly 24%, None 33%
- 10001-30000: Directly 61%, Indirectly 33%, None 6%
- >30000: Directly 82%, Indirectly 18%, None 18%
Relationship between Officers and Citizens

Police-Community Relations, Overall

- Excellent: 40%
- Good: 48%
- Fair: 7%
- Poor: 4%
- Don’t Know: 3%

Police-Community Relationships, by Community Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Size</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Don’t Know</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1500</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<td>1500-5000</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5001-10000</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>10001-30000</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>58%</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;30000</td>
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<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Citizen Trust in their Police Officers

**Most People Trust Officers, Overall**

- **Strongly Agree**: 49%
- **Somewhat Agree**: 36%
- **Neither Agree nor Disagree**: 8%
- **Somewhat Disagree**: 3%
- **Strongly Disagree**: 4%
- **Don't Know**: 5%

**Most People Trust Officers, by Community Size**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Size</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Somewhat Agree</th>
<th>Neither Agree nor Disagree</th>
<th>Somewhat Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>1500-5000</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5001-10000</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>38%</td>
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<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>10001-30000</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>36%</td>
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<td>36%</td>
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<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Visual representation of data is not included in the text format.)
Most Officers Treat All People Professionally

Most Officers Treat All People Professionally, Overall

- Strongly Agree: 60%
- Somewhat Agree: 25%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 7%
- Somewhat Disagree: 2%
- Strongly Disagree: 1%
- Don't Know: 6%

Most Officers Treat All People Professionally, by Community Size

- <1500: 9% Strongly Agree, 2% Somewhat Agree, 2% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 7% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 6% Don't Know
- 1500-5000: 8% Strongly Agree, 2% Somewhat Agree, 2% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 6% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 1% Don't Know
- 5001-10000: 24% Strongly Agree, 2% Somewhat Agree, 2% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 4% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 2% Don't Know
- 10001-30000: 22% Strongly Agree, 2% Somewhat Agree, 2% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 2% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 2% Don't Know
- >30000: 30% Strongly Agree, 2% Somewhat Agree, 2% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 3% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 3% Don't Know

CLOSUP
Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy

GERALD R. FORD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Significant Number of People are Hostile to Officers

Significant Number of People are Hostile to Officers, Overall

- 52% Strongly Agree
- 19% Somewhat Agree
- 15% Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 6% Somewhat Disagree
- 6% Strongly Disagree
- 1% Don’t Know

Significant Number of People are Hostile to Officers, by Community Size

- <1500
  - Strongly Agree: 7%
  - Somewhat Agree: 51%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 59%
  - Somewhat Disagree: 7%
  - Strongly Disagree: 5%
  - Don’t Know: 3%
- 1500-5000
  - Strongly Agree: 2%
  - Somewhat Agree: 51%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 59%
  - Somewhat Disagree: 7%
  - Strongly Disagree: 5%
  - Don’t Know: 3%
- 5001-10000
  - Strongly Agree: 5%
  - Somewhat Agree: 66%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 66%
  - Somewhat Disagree: 5%
  - Strongly Disagree: 5%
  - Don’t Know: 3%
- 10001-30000
  - Strongly Agree: 5%
  - Somewhat Agree: 59%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 59%
  - Somewhat Disagree: 7%
  - Strongly Disagree: 5%
  - Don’t Know: 3%
- >30000
  - Strongly Agree: 11%
  - Somewhat Agree: 20%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 20%
  - Somewhat Disagree: 15%
  - Strongly Disagree: 20%
  - Don’t Know: 3%
Significant Number of Officers are Overly Strict

Significant Number of Officers are Overly Strict, Overall

- Strongly Agree: 24%
- Somewhat Agree: 19%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 20%
- Somewhat Disagree: 25%
- Strongly Disagree: 7%
- Don't Know: 1%

Significant Number of Officers are Overly Strict, by Community Size

- <1500: 49% Strongly Agree, 41% Somewhat Agree, 8% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 6% Somewhat Disagree, 8% Strongly Disagree, 7% Don't Know
- 1500-5000: 51% Strongly Agree, 41% Somewhat Agree, 8% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 6% Somewhat Disagree, 8% Strongly Disagree, 7% Don't Know
- 5001-10000: 51% Strongly Agree, 41% Somewhat Agree, 8% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 6% Somewhat Disagree, 8% Strongly Disagree, 7% Don't Know
- 10001-30000: 51% Strongly Agree, 41% Somewhat Agree, 8% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 6% Somewhat Disagree, 8% Strongly Disagree, 7% Don't Know
- >30000: 51% Strongly Agree, 41% Somewhat Agree, 8% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 6% Somewhat Disagree, 8% Strongly Disagree, 7% Don't Know
Concern about Civil Unrest
Concern about Potential Civil Unrest

Concern about Potential Civil Unrest, Overall

- Not at all concerned: 57%
- Not very concerned: 32%
- Somewhat concerned: 8%
- Very concerned: 2%
- Don't Know: 2%

Concern about Potential Civil Unrest, by Community Size

- Not at all concerned
  - <1500: 25%
  - 1500-5000: 33%
  - 5001-10000: 43%
  - 10001-30000: 44%
  - >30000: 31%
- Not very concerned
  - <1500: 7%
  - 1500-5000: 9%
  - 5001-10000: 15%
  - 10001-30000: 15%
  - >30000: 9%
- Somewhat concerned
  - <1500: 2%
  - 1500-5000: 3%
  - 5001-10000: 3%
  - 10001-30000: 3%
  - >30000: 2%
- Very concerned
  - <1500: 2%
  - 1500-5000: 2%
  - 5001-10000: 2%
  - 10001-30000: 2%
  - >30000: 2%
- Don't Know
  - <1500: 31%
  - 1500-5000: 31%
  - 5001-10000: 31%
  - 10001-30000: 31%
  - >30000: 31%
Concern about Potential Civil Unrest

Concern about Potential Civil Unrest, by Community Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Size</th>
<th>Not at all concerned</th>
<th>Not very concerned</th>
<th>Somewhat concerned</th>
<th>Very concerned</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1500</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1500-2499</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<td>31%</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;30000</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Concern about Potential Civil Unrest, among jurisdictions >30,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Not at all concerned</th>
<th>Not very concerned</th>
<th>Somewhat concerned</th>
<th>Very concerned</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Counties</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townships</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ferguson & Baltimore Have Lowered Officers’ Morale

Ferguson & Baltimore have Lowered Morale of Officers, Overall

- Not at all: 24%
- Very little: 31%
- Somewhat: 23%
- A great deal: 7%
- Don't Know: 16%

Ferguson & Baltimore have Lowered Morale of Officers, Big Cities

- Not at all: 53%
- Very little: 12%
- Somewhat: 6%
- A great deal: 3%
- Don't Know: 25%
Ferguson & Baltimore have Lowered Citizen Trust in Officers, Overall

- Not at all: 2%
- Very little: 13%
- Somewhat: 42%
- A great deal: 32%
- Don't Know: 11%

Ferguson & Baltimore have Lowered Citizen Trust in Officers, Big Cities

- Not at all: 2%
- Very little: 7%
- Somewhat: 42%
- A great deal: 41%
- Don't Know: 6%
Inappropriate Use of Force has been an Issue in the Community

- Inappropriate Use of Force has been an Issue in Community, Overall
  - Strongly agree: 5%
  - Somewhat agree: 9%
  - Neither agree nor disagree: 11%
  - Somewhat disagree: 2%
  - Strongly disagree: 71%
  - Don’t know: 2%

- Inappropriate Use of Force has been an Issue in Community, Big Cities
  - Strongly agree: 6%
  - Somewhat agree: 3%
  - Neither agree nor disagree: 10%
  - Somewhat disagree: 9%
  - Strongly disagree: 26%
  - Don’t know: 45%
Large Cities Taking Steps to Address Concerns
How Jurisdictions are Addressing Concerns

- Training in de-escalation, cultural understanding, and/or bias awareness
  - All of Michigan: 20% (Very likely to use in near future) 26% (Already use)
  - Cities >30,000: 10% (Very likely to use in near future) 77% (Already use)

- Community policing
  - All of Michigan: 13% (Very likely to use in near future) 27% (Already use)
  - Cities >30,000: 3% (Very likely to use in near future) 79% (Already use)

- Independent investigations for officer-involved injuries/deaths
  - All of Michigan: 16% (Very likely to use in near future) 23% (Already use)
  - Cities >30,000: 19% (Very likely to use in near future) 51% (Already use)

- Citizen satisfaction surveys
  - All of Michigan: 4% (Very likely to use in near future) 5% (Already use)
  - Cities >30,000: 16% (Very likely to use in near future) 41% (Already use)

- Citizen task force
  - All of Michigan: 3% (Very likely to use in near future) 6% (Already use)
  - Cities >30,000: 16% (Very likely to use in near future) 38% (Already use)

- Policies available for public review
  - All of Michigan: 12% (Very likely to use in near future) 11% (Already use)
  - Cities >30,000: 26% (Very likely to use in near future) 28% (Already use)

- Diverse workforce
  - All of Michigan: 21% (Very likely to use in near future) 18% (Already use)
  - Cities >30,000: 25% (Very likely to use in near future) 13% (Already use)
Other Related Issues
Use of Surveillance Equipment

- **Dashboard cameras**
  - All of Michigan: 19% use, 51% very likely to use in future
  - Cities >30,000: 96% use

- **Body cameras**
  - All of Michigan: 26% use, 24% very likely to use in future
  - Cities >30,000: 41% use, 22% very likely to use in future

- **Public surveillance (on buildings, streetlights)**
  - All of Michigan: 17% use, 28% very likely to use in future
  - Cities >30,000: 23% use, 47% very likely to use in future

- **Aerial surveillance (drones)**
  - All of Michigan: 6% use, 3% very likely to use in future
  - Cities >30,000: 6% use, 13% very likely to use in future

Legend:
- Light blue: Very likely to use in near future
- Dark blue: Already use
Support for Military Equipment for Local Police

Support for Military Equipment, Overall

- Strongly Support: 24%
- Somewhat Support: 10%
- Neither Support nor Oppose: 27%
- Somewhat Oppose: 5%
- Strongly Oppose: 24%
- Don't Know: 10%

Support for Military Equipment, by Community Size

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Size</th>
<th>Strongly Support</th>
<th>Somewhat Support</th>
<th>Neither Support nor Oppose</th>
<th>Somewhat Oppose</th>
<th>Strongly Oppose</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1500</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500-5000</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5001-10000</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>10001-30000</td>
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<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>9%</td>
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Key Takeaways

• Statewide, many indicators look positive
• But concerns are more pronounced in bigger places
• Michigan’s biggest cities are most likely to express concerns
• But biggest cities are also most likely to be taking actions to address issues
More from the Michigan Public Policy Survey
Upcoming reports
(Fall 2015 wave)

• Law Enforcement Services

• Fire Services

• EMS Services
Future waves of the MPPS

• Spring 2016:
  • Fiscal and budget policies
  • System of funding local government
  • Tax appeals
  • Water infrastructure
  • State government performance

• Fall 2016: Emergency manager law; relationships with other governments, between board and staff, etc.

• Other survey topics?

• How can MPPS better serve policymakers and practitioners?
The Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)

Email: closup-mpps@umich.edu
Web: www.closup.umich.edu
Twitter: @closup