Local Leaders’ Assessments of Police-Community Relations in Michigan

Presented to the League of Women Voters Troy Area
September 22, 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 (in Oakland Co: 87%)**

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

- **Expert advisors on questionnaire content such as MTA, MML, and state gov’t officials.**

- **Borrow from other proven sources such as National League of Cities 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: 24%
- None: 24%
- Don’t Know: 1%

Law Enforcement Service Provision, by Community Size

- <1500: 62%
- 1500-5000: 50%
- 5001-10000: 24%
- 10001-30000: 24%
- >30000: 18%

Don’t Know:
- <1500: 14%
- 1500-5000: 25%
- 5001-10000: 52%
- 10001-30000: 61%
- >30000: 82%
How Law Enforcement Services are Delivered
- Oakland County -

Law Enforcement Service Provision, Overall (Oakland)

- Directly: 68%
- Indirectly: 24%
- None: 8%
Relationship between Officers and Citizens

Police-Community Relations, Overall

- Excellent: 40%
- Good: 48%
- Fair: 7%
- Poor: 1%
- 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1500</td>
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<td>5%</td>
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<td>5001-10000</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>10001-30000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;30000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Relationship between Officers and Citizens
- Oakland County -

Police-Community Relations, Overall (Oakland)

- Excellent: 25%
- Good: 75%
Citizen Trust in their Police Officers

Most People Trust Officers, Overall

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

Most People Trust Officers, by Community Size

- Strongly Agree:
  - <1500: 9%
  - 1500-5000: 9%
  - 5001-10000: 4%
  - 10001-30000: 4%
  - >30000: 4%
- Somewhat Agree:
  - <1500: 37%
  - 1500-5000: 35%
  - 5001-10000: 33%
  - 10001-30000: 36%
  - >30000: 38%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree:
  - <1500: 4%
  - 1500-5000: 3%
  - 5001-10000: 4%
  - 10001-30000: 4%
  - >30000: 4%
- Somewhat Disagree:
  - <1500: 2%
  - 1500-5000: 3%
  - 5001-10000: 3%
  - 10001-30000: 1%
  - >30000: 1%
- Strongly Disagree:
  - <1500: 5%
  - 1500-5000: 4%
  - 5001-10000: 2%
  - 10001-30000: 4%
  - >30000: 4%
- Don’t Know:
  - <1500: 9%
  - 1500-5000: 9%
  - 5001-10000: 4%
  - 10001-30000: 4%
  - >30000: 4%
Citizen Trust in their Police Officers
- Oakland County -

Most People Trust Officers, Overall (Oakland)

- Strongly Agree: 73%
- Somewhat Agree: 23%
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: 6%
- Strongly Disagree: 2%
- Don't Know: 1%

Most Officers Treat All People Professionally, by Community Size

- Strongly Agree
- Somewhat Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't Know

Community Size:
- <1500: 9% Strongly Agree, 2% Somewhat Agree, 7% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 6% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 3% Don't Know
- 1500-5000: 25% Strongly Agree, 8% Somewhat Agree, 1% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 2% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 2% Don't Know
- 5001-10000: 24% Strongly Agree, 2% Somewhat Agree, 4% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 2% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 3% Don't Know
- 10001-30000: 22% Strongly Agree, 2% Somewhat Agree, 2% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 2% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 3% Don't Know
- >30000: 62% Strongly Agree, 30% Somewhat Agree, 25% Neither Agree nor Disagree, 6% Somewhat Disagree, 2% Strongly Disagree, 2% Don't Know
Most Officers Treat All People Professionally
- Oakland County -

Most Officers Treat All People Professionally, Overall

- Strongly Agree: 2%
- Somewhat Agree: 14%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 84%
Significant Number of People are Hostile to Officers

**Significant Number of People are Hostile to Officers, Overall**

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

**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: 5%
  - Strongly Disagree: 1%
  - Don't Know: 3%
- 1500-5000:
  - Strongly Agree: 6%
  - Somewhat Agree: 15%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 18%
  - Somewhat Disagree: 8%
  - Strongly Disagree: 20%
  - Don't Know: 15%
- 5001-10000:
  - Strongly Agree: 5%
  - Somewhat Agree: 13%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 20%
  - Somewhat Disagree: 8%
  - Strongly Disagree: 20%
  - Don't Know: 20%
- 10001-30000:
  - Strongly Agree: 5%
  - Somewhat Agree: 18%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 20%
  - Somewhat Disagree: 20%
  - Strongly Disagree: 20%
  - Don't Know: 20%
- >30000:
  - Strongly Agree: 11%
  - Somewhat Agree: 13%
  - Neither Agree nor Disagree: 15%
  - Somewhat Disagree: 13%
  - Strongly Disagree: 20%
  - Don't Know: 3%
Significant Number of People are Hostile to Officers
- Oakland County -

![Pie Chart]

Significant Number of People are Hostile to Officers, Overall

- Somewhat Agree: 2%
- Somewhat Disagree: 21%
- Strongly Disagree: 77%
Significant Number of Officers are Overly Strict

**Significant Number of Officers are Overly Strict, Overall**

- Strongly Agree: 42%
- Somewhat Agree: 24%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 19%
- Somewhat Disagree: 15%
- Strongly Disagree: 8%
- Don't Know: 5%

**Significant Number of Officers are Overly Strict, by Community Size**

- <1500: 40%
- 1500-5000: 41%
- 5001-10000: 49%
- 10001-30000: 51%
- >30000: 35%

- Strongly Agree: 7%, 4%, 4%, 4%, 3%
- Somewhat Agree: 25%, 25%, 25%, 22%, 21%
- Neither Agree nor Disagree: 19%, 20%, 15%, 22%, 31%
- Somewhat Disagree: 40%, 41%, 49%, 51%, 35%
- Strongly Disagree: 8%, 8%, 6%, 7%, 7%
- Don't Know: 1%, 1%, 1%, 1%, <1%
Significant Number of Officers are Overly Strict
- Oakland County -
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: 37%
  - >30000: 27%
- Not very concerned:
  - <1500: 69%
  - 1500-5000: 57%
  - 5001-10000: 43%
  - 10001-30000: 37%
  - >30000: 31%
- Somewhat concerned:
  - <1500: 9%
  - 1500-5000: 7%
  - 5001-10000: 15%
  - 10001-30000: 15%
  - >30000: 31%
- Very concerned:
  - <1500: 15%
  - 1500-5000: 3%
  - 5001-10000: 3%
  - 10001-30000: 2%
  - >30000: 9%
- Don't Know:
  - <1500: 2%
  - 1500-5000: 2%
  - 5001-10000: 2%
  - 10001-30000: 2%
  - >30000: 2%
Concern about Potential Civil Unrest

Concern about Potential Civil Unrest, by Community Size

- <1500: 69% not at all concerned, 25% not very concerned, 5% somewhat concerned, 2% very concerned, 2% don't know
- 1500-4999: 57% not at all concerned, 33% not very concerned, 9% somewhat concerned, 2% very concerned, 2% don't know
- 5000-9999: 43% not at all concerned, 43% not very concerned, 9% somewhat concerned, 2% very concerned, 2% don't know
- 10000-29999: 37% not at all concerned, 44% not very concerned, 15% somewhat concerned, 2% very concerned, 2% don't know
- >30000: 27% not at all concerned, 31% not very concerned, 31% somewhat concerned, 2% very concerned, 2% don't know

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

- Not at all concerned: 30% for Counties, 40% for Townships, 40% for Cities
- Not very concerned: 49% for Counties, 27% for Townships, 27% for Cities
- Somewhat concerned: 27% for Counties, 19% for Townships, 19% for Cities
- Very concerned: 54% for Counties, 54% for Townships, 54% for Cities
- Don't know: 10% for Counties, 10% for Townships, 10% for Cities
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: 31%
- Very little: 53%
- Somewhat: 12%
- A great deal: 6%
- Don't Know: 3%
Ferguson & Baltimore Have Lowered Citizen Trust in Officers

Ferguson & Baltimore have Lowered Citizen Trust in Officers, Overall

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

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

- Not at all: 41%
- Very little: 7%
- Somewhat: 42%
- A great deal: 6%
- Don't Know: 3%
Inappropriate Use of Force has been an Issue in the Community

**Inappropriate Use of Force has been an Issue in Community, Overall**

- Strongly agree: 2%
- Somewhat agree: 5%
- Neither agree nor disagree: 9%
- Somewhat disagree: 11%
- 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: 9%
- Somewhat disagree: 10%
- Strongly disagree: 26%
- Don't know: 45%
Large Cities Taking Steps to Address Concerns
# How Jurisdictions are Addressing Concerns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>All of Michigan</th>
<th>Cities &gt;30,000</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Training in de-escalation, cultural understanding, and/or bias awareness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community policing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent investigations for officer-involved injuries/deaths</td>
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<td>Citizen satisfaction surveys</td>
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<td>Citizen task force</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policies available for public review</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Diverse workforce</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Support for Military Equipment, Overall

- Strongly Support: 25%
- Somewhat Support: 24%
- Neither Support nor Oppose: 19%
- Somewhat Oppose: 25%
- Strongly Oppose: 23%
- Don't Know: 10%

Support for Military Equipment, by Community Size

- <1500: 8%
- 1500-5000: 10%
- 5001-10000: 11%
- 10001-30000: 11%
- >30000: 5%

- <1500: 11%
- 1500-5000: 9%
- 5001-10000: 7%
- 10001-30000: 6%
- >30000: 6%

- <1500: 6%
- 1500-5000: 6%
- 5001-10000: 7%
- 10001-30000: 2%
- >30000: 6%
Key Takeaways

• Statewide, many indicators look positive
• In Oakland county, an even higher percentage of positive reports
• But concerns are more pronounced in more populous places
• Michigan’s biggest cities are most likely to express concerns
• However, biggest cities are also most likely to be taking actions to address issues
More from the Michigan Public Policy Survey
Current waves of the MPPS

• **Spring 2016 topics:**
  - State government performance (online)
  - Fiscal and budget policies (online)
  - System of funding local government (online)
  - Water infrastructure (report available October 2016)
  - Tax appeals (report available December 2016)

• **Fall 2016 topics:** 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