

What is VoiceKent?

VoiceKent 2017 is a **county-wide survey about residents' views and experiences** related to health and wellbeing, discrimination and inclusion, and overall quality of life in the greater Grand Rapids area. An important feature of the survey is that it allows for the disaggregation of results, or splitting the total sample results to show findings among particular subgroups, in order to compare how people from various demographic groups answered each of the questions. Understanding the diversity in the experiences and views of individuals from different demographic groups provides more useful information to guide community decisions, particularly on matters of equity and inclusion.

KEY

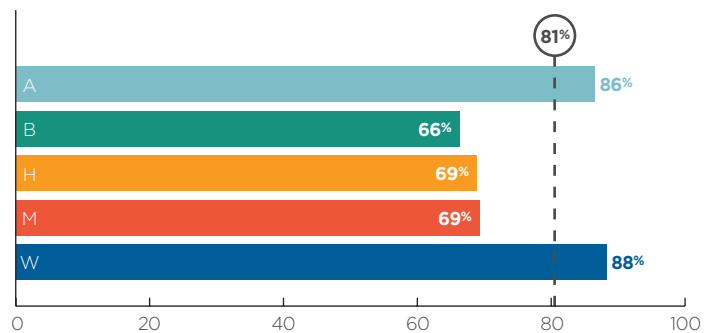
- A Asian
- B Black or African American
- H Hispanic or Latino/a
- M Multiracial
- W White
- Overall



What grade would you give the Greater Grand Rapids area as a place to live overall?

81% of all VoiceKent respondents gave greater Grand Rapids a grade of "A: Excellent" or "B: Good" as a place to live. However, ratings varied substantially by race/ethnicity.

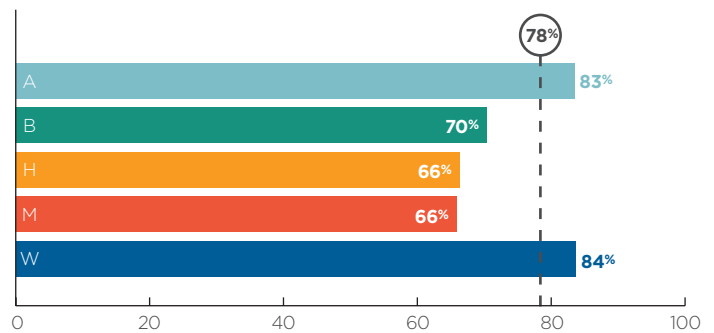
Respondents who rated Greater Grand Rapids as an "excellent" or "good" place to live, by race/ethnicity*



How well can you afford to meet your basic needs (food, including water; shelter; utilities; and clothing)?

22% of all VoiceKent respondents reported not being able to meet their basic needs, however, Hispanic or Latino/a, Multiracial, and Black or African American respondents reported being unable to meet their basic needs at significantly higher rates than White and Asian respondents.

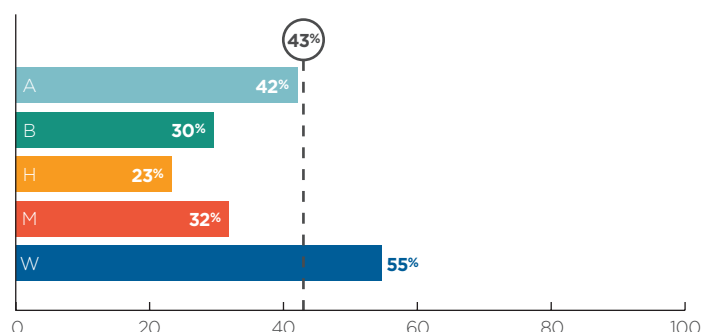
Respondents who reported being able to meet their basic needs either "fairly well" or "very well," by race/ethnicity*



Does your family currently have access to enough fruits and vegetables?

23% of Hispanic or Latino/a respondents, 30% of Black or African American respondents, 32% of Multiracial respondents, and 42% of Asian respondents agreed to the statement compared to 55% of White respondents.

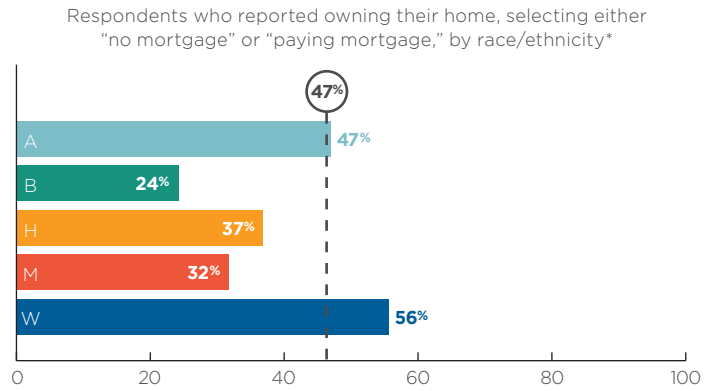
Respondents who "agreed" or "strongly agreed" that their family had access to enough fruits and vegetables, by race/ethnicity*





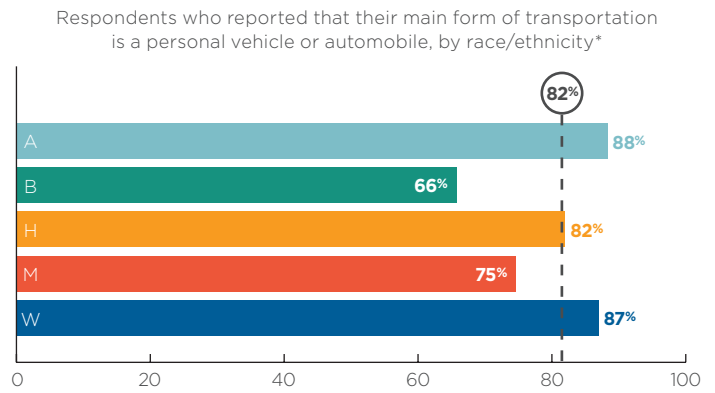
What is your housing status right now?

Home ownership — a key measure of wealth — is significantly lower among Black or African American, Multiracial, and Hispanic or Latino/a respondents, than among White and Asian respondents.



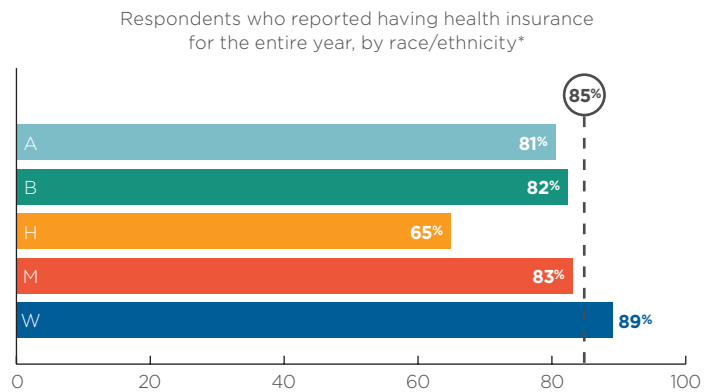
What is your main form of transportation?

82% of all VoiceKent respondents used a personal vehicle or automobile as their main form of transportation.



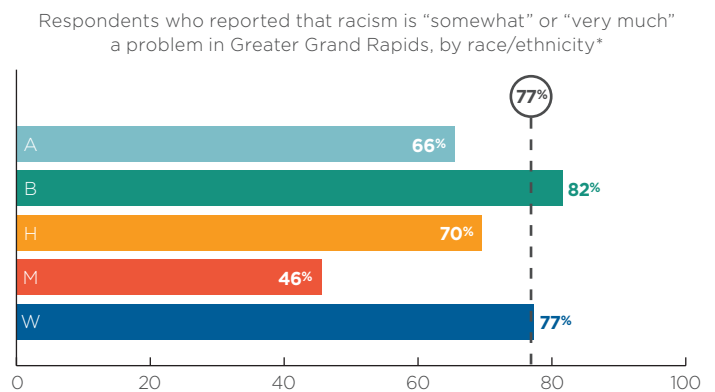
In the past year, did you have health insurance?

23% of Hispanic or Latino/a respondents did not have health insurance at all during the past year, compared to 9% of Black or African American respondents, 9% of Multiracial respondents, 8% of Asian respondents, and 5% of White respondents.



To what extent do you think racism is a problem in the Greater Grand Rapids area?

77% of all VoiceKent respondents saw racism as "somewhat" or "very much" a problem in the greater Grand Rapids area, and these perceptions of racism also varied by race/ethnicity.



*Due to small sample sizes (10 or fewer respondents), all or some results for the following racial/ethnic categories have been excluded: American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and Middle Eastern or North African descent.