

The 2021 Sangamon County Citizen Survey



Conducted
By
The Institute for Legal, Legislative, and Policy Studies
&
Center for State Policy and Leadership

Funded By

**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
for the Land of Lincoln

UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS
SPRINGFIELD

**United
Way**
United Way of Central Illinois

Table of Contents

Purpose, Scope, and Methodology.....	2
The Community.....	6
Quality of Life for Sangamon County Residents.....	15
Equity in Sangamon County.....	21
Economy of Sangamon County.....	25
COVID-19 in Sangamon County.....	31
Leadership in Sangamon County.....	37
Appendix.....	39

Purpose, Scope, and Methodology

The Sangamon County Citizen Survey is a collaborative effort between the UIS Center for State Policy & Leadership, the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln, and the United Way of Central Illinois. The project's purpose is to establish benchmarks and assess changes in residents' assessments of life in Sangamon County. The periodic survey provides local leaders, community organizations, and citizens with insight into issues facing local residents. Each survey includes core items that serve as barometers of public opinion as well as topic-specific items that will provide timely data for local leaders. The following areas are covered in the 2021 survey: the Sangamon County community, quality of life for Sangamon County residents, equity, the economy, COVID-19, and leadership.

Since its outset, the survey has been guided by a steering committee of representatives from the community. Many questions in the current survey remain the same as in previous versions— this is necessary to make comparisons over time. However, the current survey also contains new questions on topics, which have recently received attention in the community. These topics include the COVID-19 pandemic, expanded questions around moving from the area, and equity.

Methodology

The Institute for Legal, Legislative, and Policy Studies is dedicated to the principles of transparency in research and, through its previous Survey Research Office, was a charter member of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) Transparency Initiative. Membership entails adherence to AAPOR's code of ethics as well as a commitment to promoting understanding of survey methodology and how it relates to survey quality. For more information about project methodology please contact us at illaps@uis.edu

Funding

The Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln, the United Way of Central Illinois and, the Center for State Policy and Leadership at the University of Illinois Springfield commissioned the Institute for Legal, Legislative, and Policy Studies to conduct a mixed-mode survey (mail and web) of adults living in Sangamon County. The survey was conducted from June 4, 2021 to July 9th, 2021 via mail questionnaire, with the option to take the survey via the Qualtrics Research Suite. Due to potential delays in mail delivery, we allotted for an additional two weeks to receive any responses post-dated by the deadline before finalizing the data.

Sampling Frame

The sample is an address-based sample (ABS) of 10,000 households in Sangamon County, Illinois. Those in zip codes 62702 and 62703 were oversampled to better obtain representativeness with regards to income and minority status. We do this to compensate for low response rates for areas of lower income and higher minority populations. To calculate the percentage for the oversampled zip codes, we took the percentage of individuals living in zip codes 62702 and 62703 and divided it by the unweighted percentage of responses for these zip codes in a previous survey conducted by SRO. Similar to previous years, in the sample, 9060 households (91%) had a name appended to the address. The remaining addresses were sent to "Sangamon County Resident." The sampling frame excludes those who do not have an address (such as the homeless) as well as those living in group quarters (such as a boarding house or a fraternity/sorority), and those who may have moved into a formerly vacant address (a delivery point that has been unoccupied for 90 days or more). The survey also excludes those who are unable to take the survey in English. The sample was developed by personnel at Marketing Systems Group for UIS.

Purpose, Scope, and Methodology

Recruitment

ILLAPS sent an envelope to addresses containing an introductory letter, the mail questionnaire, and a postage paid business reply envelope. Households with a matching name were addressed to the name of the individual. Individuals without a matching name were addressed simply to “Sangamon County Resident.” The introductory letter tells respondents that the survey is sent to the household rather than the individual listed on the envelope. Because all individuals over the age of 18 residing in Sangamon County were considered eligible to participate there is no purposive within-household selection.

A total of 726 questionnaires were completed during the fielding period (643 via mail; 83 via the web using Qualtrics Research Suite). Additionally, zero individuals completed some questions in the survey but not enough to be considered completes and 13 individuals sent back blank questionnaires. These were coded as implicit refusals. 27 persons sent back the questionnaire but after the field period. 69 questionnaires came back as undeliverable. Finally, 6 questionnaires were returned with responses indicating no one at the household was able to take the survey. The majority of questionnaires were never returned (9159).

The Response Rate for the survey (AAPOR Response Rate 3) is 7.3%, the Cooperation Rate is 98.2% (AAPOR Cooperation Rate 3), and the refusal rate is 1.7% (AAPOR Refusal Rate 3). The table below shows the final disposition of cases which were coded in accordance with guidelines set forth by AAPOR as well as outcome rates calculated using AAPOR’s response rate calculator. More information can be found on **Table 1**.

Precision of Findings

The margin of sampling error for the survey is 4% at the 95% confidence level, consistent with prior iterations of the survey. When examining subgroups, the margin of error will increase and subgroup comparisons should be viewed with this understanding. In line with prior years, the margin of sampling error has not been adjusted for design effect.

The following individuals served as the 2021 Citizen Survey Steering Committee and were instrumental to the development of the Survey:

Dr. Beverly Bunch, University of Illinois Springfield and the Citizens Club of Sangamon County
Patrice Jones, SIU School of Medicine
John Kelker, United Way of Central Illinois
Dr. Molly Lamb, Center for State Policy and Leadership (Chair)
Tiffany Mathis, The Boys and Girls Club of Central Illinois
Polly Poskin, member of the Sangamon County community
Dr. AJ Simmons, Institute for Legal, Legislative, and Policy Studies
Dr. David Steward, Southern Illinois University (retired)
John Stremsterfer, Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln

The report was written by the staff of the Institute for Legal, Legislative, and Policy Studies. For questions on the project, please contact us at illaps@uis.edu. This report reflects the observations and views of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln, United Way of Central Illinois, nor those of the members of the 2021 Citizen Survey Steering Committee.

Table 1. Final Disposition of Cases and Outcome Rates

1.0	Questionnaires	
	<i>Completed Questionnaires</i>	726
2.0	Eligible non-completes	
	<i>Implicit refusal</i>	13
	<i>Break off/ Implicit refusal</i>	0
	<i>Completed questionnaire, but not returned during the field period</i>	27
3.0	Unknown eligibility, non-interviews	
	<i>Nothing returned</i>	9159
	<i>USPS: Cannot be delivered</i>	69
4.0	Not eligible	6
	<i>No eligible respondent</i>	
	<i>Total sample used</i>	10000
5.0	Outcome Rates	
	AAPOR Response Rate 3	7.3%
	AAPOR Cooperation Rate 3	98.2%
	AAPOR Refusal Rate 3	1.7%

Table 2. Demographics of the Survey Sample

Demographics	Weighted Sample	Sangamon County
Gender¹		
Male	48%	48%
Female	52%	52%
Race²		
White	82%	82%
Black or African American	13%	13%
Hispanic	2%	2%
Asian	2%	2%
Other	2%	3%
Education³		
HS degree or less	35%	35%
Between HS degree and 4 year degree	30%	30%
4 year degree or more	35%	35%
Age⁴		
18-34	26%	27%
35-44	16%	16%
45-54	18%	18%
55-64	18%	18%
65+	21%	21%

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (2019). *Annual Estimates*

² U.S. Census Bureau. (2019). 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates Population

³ Ibid

⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (2019). *Annual Estimates*

The Community⁵

Do respondents use a positive, negative, or neutral phrase to describe Sangamon County currently? (Additional information on Table 3)

Positive
20%

Neutral
30%

Negative
50%

Do respondents use a positive, negative, or neutral phrase to describe Sangamon County in the future?

Positive
74%

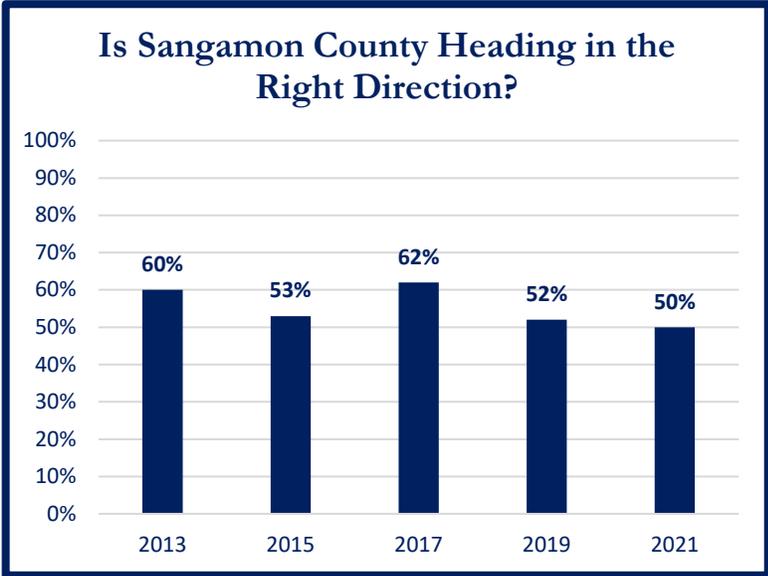
Neutral
21%

Negative
4%

Would you say things are generally heading in the right direction, or do you think things are going off on the wrong track here in Sangamon County? (Additional information on Table 3)

Direction of Sangamon County

- 50% of respondents report that things are generally heading in the right direction here. 50% of respondents report that things are on the wrong track. This result is similar to the 2019 iteration of the survey.
- Female respondents (50%) and male respondents (49%) report things are generally heading in the right direction at similar rates.
- White respondents (49%) report things are generally heading in the right direction compared to non-white respondents (51%) at similar rates.
- Age has a U-shaped relationship on evaluations. Respondents 18 to 34 (59%) and respondents 55 years and older (53%) are much more likely to report Sangamon County is headed in the right direction than respondents aged 35 to 54 (39%).
- Non-parents (53%) are more likely to report that the county is heading in the right direction than parents (40%).
- Residents who report living in Sangamon County fewer than 10 years (59%) report things are generally heading in the right direction at a higher rate than residents who have lived in the area for at least 10 years (48%).



⁵ Examples of positive words used are: “home”, “love”, “safe”; neutral words: “Springfield”, “rural”, “government”; negative words: “struggling”, “stagnant”, “disappointing”.

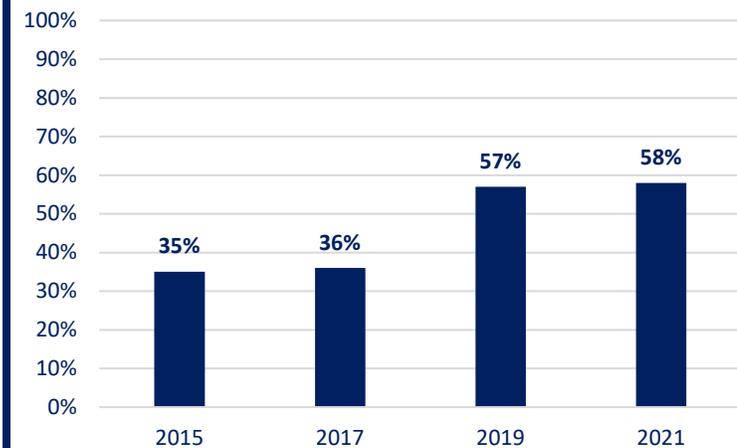
Table 3. Attitudes Towards The Local Community Questions By Demographics⁶

Demographics	Sangamon County is heading in the right direction	Have considered moving out of Sangamon County	Uses a positive word to describe Sangamon County currently	Uses a positive word to describe Sangamon County in future
All Respondents	50%	58%	20%	74%
Female	50%	54%	25%	74%
Male	49%	62%	15%	75%
White	49%	59%	20%	76%
Non-White	51%	56%	17%	65%
High School Degree or Less	54%	52%	20%	77%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	49%	60%	15%	74%
Four-Year Degree or More	48%	62%	24%	73%
\$30,000 or Less	54%	58%	19%	80%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	36%	59%	19%	68%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	57%	57%	21%	77%
\$100,001 or More	53%	55%	20%	72%
18-34	59%	63%	16%	82%
35-54	39%	71%	17%	77%
55 and Older	53%	44%	26%	68%
Parent	40%	66%	16%	85%
Non-Parent	53%	55%	23%	72%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	59%	50%	21%	69%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	48%	60%	19%	76%

⁶ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

The Community

Percent of Respondents Who Have Considered Moving Out of Sangamon County in the Past Twelve Months



27% of those who report having considered moving out expect to do so in the next year

If you have considered moving out of Sangamon County, do you expect to in the next 12 months?

This sentiment is more likely in respondents over the age of 55 (33%) and those with between a high school and four-year degree (36%). Respondents 34 years old and younger (20%) are less likely to report an expectation of moving as are respondents with at least a four-year college degree (20%). Parents (28%) and non-parents (27%), as well as respondents who have lived here less than ten years (28%) and more than ten years (27%) report this intent at similar rates. See **Table 4** or the appendix for additional information.

58% have considered moving out of Sangamon County in the past year

In the past twelve months, have you considered moving out of or away from Sangamon County?

This sentiment is more common among respondents who are male (62%), between the ages of 35 and 54 (71%), with at least a four-year college degree (62%), parents (66%), and those who have lived in Sangamon County for at least 10 years (60%). See **Table 4** or the appendix for additional information.

19% of respondents who have considered moving have applied for a job in a new location while 6% have filled out paperwork to buy or rent housing elsewhere

If you have considered moving out of Sangamon County in the past 12 months, which of the following actions have you done? (Please, select all that apply.)

The most common answer (69%) is looking up at housing in a new location, closely followed up by looking up the cost of living (66%). Other answers include looking at jobs in a new location (45%), looking up the cost of moving (35%), and telling friends or family about their intention to move (25%). See **Tables 5 and 6** or the appendix for additional information.

59% of respondents who have considered moving have only considered moving out of Illinois

If you have considered moving from Sangamon County in the previous 12 months, have you considered moving somewhere else in Illinois, considered moving out of Illinois entirely, or both?

A further 34% have considered moving out of either Sangamon County to somewhere else in Illinois or moving out of Illinois entirely. 7% have only considered moving out of Sangamon County to elsewhere in Illinois. See **Table 4** or the appendix for additional information.

Taxes, both state (63%) and local (60%), and politics, both local (53%) and state (51%), were the most common reasons cited for desiring a move.

Table 4. Attitudes towards Moving Away Questions By Demographics ⁷

Demographics	Of those who have considered moving, do you expect in the next 12 months?	Of those who've considered moving, considered moving elsewhere in Illinois	Of those who've considered moving, considered moving out of Illinois entirely	Of those who've considered moving, considered either moving out of IL entirely or elsewhere in IL
All Respondents	27%	7%	59%	34%
Female	29%	7%	56%	37%
Male	25%	8%	60%	32%
White	25%	8%	57%	35%
Non-White*	38%	6%	67%	28%
High School Degree or Less	28%	0%	63%	37%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	36%	10%	62%	28%
Four-Year Degree or More	20%	11%	52%	37%
\$30,000 or Less	29%	2%	58%	41%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	31%	7%	55%	38%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	27%	13%	49%	38%
\$100,001 or More*	15%	9%	66%	25%
18-34	20%	11%	44%	46%
35-54	28%	9%	62%	30%
55 and Older	33%	3%	66%	31%
Parent	28%	8%	60%	32%
Non-Parent	27%	7%	59%	34%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years*	28%	15%	39%	46%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	27%	6%	62%	32%

⁷ A * denotes a demographic group is smaller than 100 respondents and comparisons across groups should be made with caution. For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Table 5. Steps taken by those considering a move⁸

Demographics	Looked at Jobs	Applied for Jobs	Told friends or family of intention to move
All Respondents	45%	19%	25%
Female	53%	20%	29%
Male	40%	19%	22%
White	47%	17%	21%
Non-White*	45%	28%	47%
High School Degree or Less	47%	28%	25%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	29%	9%	26%
Four-Year Degree or More	60%	20%	26%
\$30,000 or Less	47%	21%	32%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	55%	26%	20%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	40%	18%	27%
\$100,001 or More*	45%	8%	20%
18-34	60%	20%	21%
35-54	57%	27%	28%
55 and Older	16%	7%	27%
Parent	66%	28%	33%
Non-Parent	37%	16%	20%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years*	63%	22%	18%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	43%	18%	27%

⁸ A * denotes a demographic group is smaller than 100 respondents and comparisons across groups should be made with caution. For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Table 6. Steps taken by those considering a move⁹

Demographics	Looked up cost of living	Looked up cost of moving	Looked at Housing	Applied for Housing
All Respondents	66%	35%	69%	6%
Female	70%	39%	67%	6%
Male	62%	33%	71%	6%
White	65%	32%	71%	4%
Non-White*	71%	66%	57%	15%
High School Degree or Less	64%	36%	66%	8%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	76%	37%	76%	4%
Four-Year Degree or More	61%	32%	67%	6%
\$30,000 or Less	64%	50%	70%	10%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	61%	31%	61%	4%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	71%	32%	73%	6%
\$100,001 or More*	66%	29%	78%	2%
18-34	53%	41%	63%	2%
35-54	70%	32%	78%	8%
55 and Older	73%	36%	63%	7%
Parent	81%	40%	85%	10%
Non-Parent	61%	33%	64%	4%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years*	68%	38%	71%	5%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	66%	35%	69%	6%

⁹ A * denotes a demographic group is smaller than 100 respondents and comparisons across groups should be made with caution. For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Table 7. Reasons given for considering moving by demographics¹⁰

Demographics	Cultural/Entertainment	Educational Opportunities	Employment Opportunities	Family/Personal Reasons
All Respondents	31%	17%	27%	24%
Female	31%	17%	25%	27%
Male	33%	17%	31%	21%
White	32%	16%	26%	24%
Non-White*	24%	19%	35%	24%
High School Degree or Less	34%	18%	26%	24%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	23%	12%	23%	23%
Four-Year Degree or More	36%	21%	33%	25%
\$30,000 or Less	35%	25%	32%	32%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	29%	22%	38%	26%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	38%	12%	25%	21%
\$100,001 or More*	29%	13%	19%	19%
18-34	39%	36%	42%	39%
35-54	32%	12%	29%	15%
55 and Older	22%	7%	11%	22%
Parent	40%	23%	30%	22%
Non-Parent	28%	15%	27%	24%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years*	30%	16%	29%	26%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	31%	17%	27%	21%

¹⁰ A * denotes a demographic group is smaller than 100 respondents and comparisons across groups should be made with caution. For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Table 8. Reasons given for considering moving by demographics, continued¹¹

Demographics	Cost of Living	Crime	Weather/Climate	Other
All Respondents	41%	43%	25%	11%
Female	47%	50%	24%	14%
Male	35%	36%	27%	9%
White	41%	43%	27%	10%
Non-White*	39%	42%	13%	19%
High School Degree or Less	59%	63%	34%	12%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	42%	40%	21%	9%
Four-Year Degree or More	26%	29%	23%	13%
\$30,000 or Less	48%	67%	32%	22%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	38%	36%	30%	4%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	46%	40%	18%	22%
\$100,001 or More*	29%	33%	28%	12%
18-34	46%	40%	33%	16%
35-54	26%	45%	24%	12%
55 and Older	56%	43%	21%	8%
Parent	35%	49%	21%	19%
Non-Parent	43%	39%	29%	8%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years*	22%	20%	19%	8%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	43%	45%	25%	12%

¹¹ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

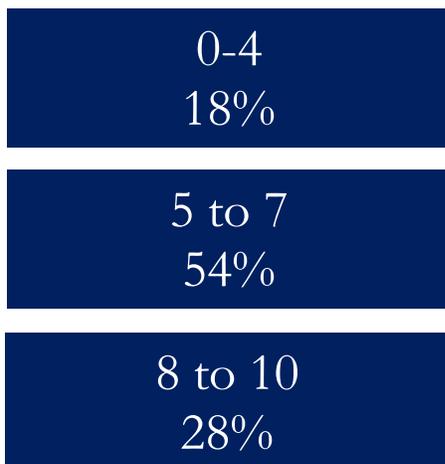
Table 9. Reasons given for considering moving by demographics, continued¹²

Demographics	Local Government or Politics	Local Taxes	State Government or Politics	State Taxes
All Respondents	53%	60%	51%	63%
Female	44%	60%	47%	62%
Male	59%	60%	54%	66%
White	53%	58%	52%	64%
Non-White*	50%	76%	44%	58%
High School Degree or Less	70%	85%	60%	88%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	48%	60%	48%	59%
Four-Year Degree or More	42%	42%	45%	46%
\$30,000 or Less	51%	82%	47%	83%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	57%	58%	53%	56%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	46%	47%	46%	59%
\$100,001 or More*	53%	56%	63%	59%
18-34	48%	60%	49%	68%
35-54	52%	52%	47%	55%
55 and Older	56%	72%	57%	69%
Parent	49%	54%	45%	63%
Non-Parent	53%	64%	52%	64%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years*	38%	28%	32%	35%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	52%	65%	52%	66%

¹² For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Quality of Life for Sangamon County Residents

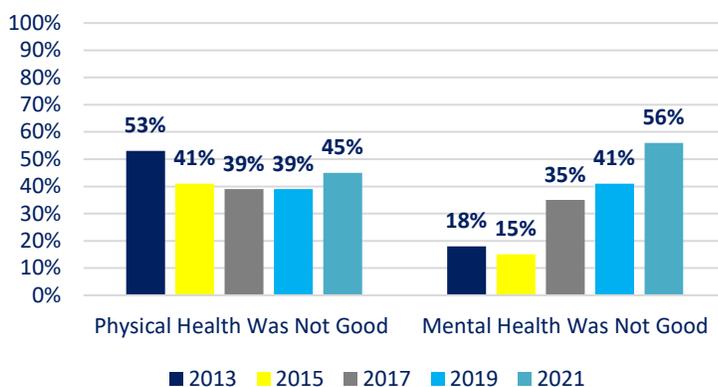
On a 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest) scale, percent that rate their quality of life as...



Quality of Life

- Similar rates of Men (29%) and women (27%) rate their life in the 8 to 10 range.
- 30% of white respondents rate their life in the 8 to 10 range compared to 21% of non-white respondents.
- Over one-third (36%) of respondents with at least a four-year college degree rate their quality of life between an 8 and a 10 compared to 23% of those with a high school degree or less.
- Those reporting an annual household income greater than \$100,000 are more likely (52%) to rate their life between 8 and 10 compared to those reporting under \$30,000 (12%), between \$30,001 and \$60,000 (23%), and \$60,001 to \$100,000 (31%).
- Respondents 55 year and older (43%) are more likely to rate their life between 8 and 10 than respondents aged 18 to 34 (15%) and 35 to 54 (22%).
- Non-parents (33%) are more likely than parents (19%) to rate their life between 8 and 10.
- See **Table 10** or the appendix for additional information.

Percent of Respondents Who Report Experiencing the Following At Least One Day in the Past 30 Days



Physical and Mental Health

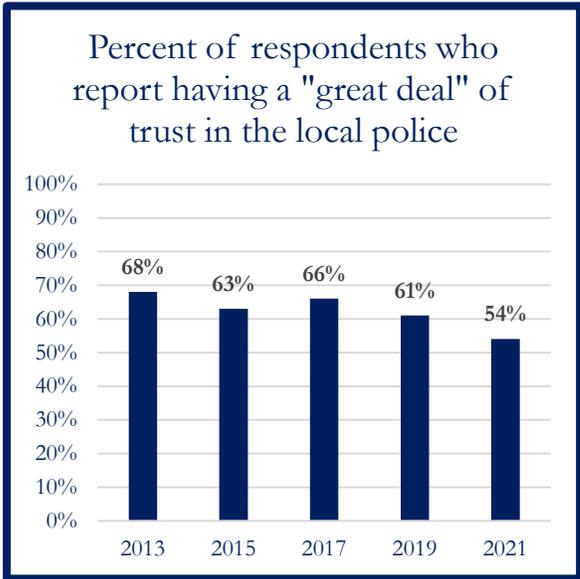
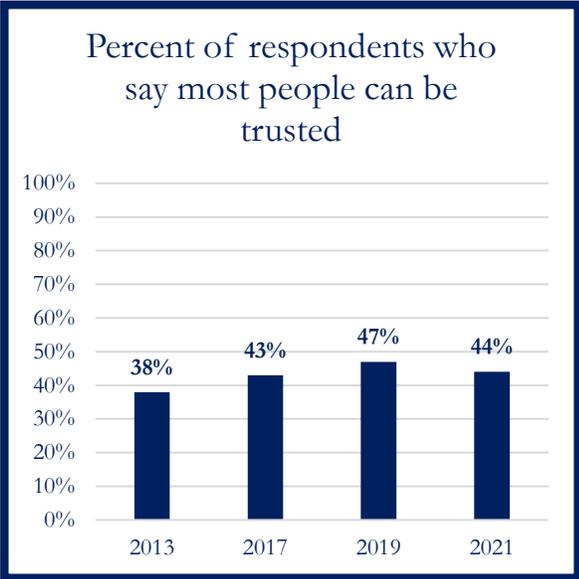
- Women (63%) were much more likely than men (50%) to report having at least one day of poor mental health in previous 30 days. In comparison, their reported rates of at least one day of poor physical health were similar, women (48%) and men (43%).
- While White (55%) and non-White (60%) respondents reported similar rates of having at least one day of poor mental health, non-White (62%) respondents were more likely than White (42%) respondents to report having at least one day of poor physical health.
- One-third (34%) of respondents with at least a four-year degree report at least one day of poor physical health, compared to over half (53%) of respondents with a high school diploma or less. Similar rates (55% to 59%) are reported for mental health.
- Respondents with an annual household income of less than \$30,000 a year (60%) are much more likely to report at least one day of poor physical health than respondents from households with a reported household income of greater than \$100,000 a year (33%). When it comes to mental health, nearly two-thirds (63%) of respondents from households making less than \$30,000 a year report at least one day of poor mental health compared to 40% of households reporting a household income of greater than \$100,000.
- Respondents under the age of 35 (75%) are nearly twice as likely to report experiencing at least one day of poor mental health in the previous month compared to respondents 55 years and older (39%). However, while one-third (34%) of responders under 35 report at least one day of poor physical health, just over half (52%) of respondents 55 years and older do.

Table 10. Attitudes toward quality of life questions by demographics¹³

Demographics	Quality of Life 0 to 4	Quality of Life 5 to 7	Quality of Life 8 to 10	At least 1 Day of Bad Physical Health in Past 30	At least 1 Day of Bad Mental Health in Past 30
All Respondents	18%	54%	28%	45%	56%
Female	18%	55%	27%	48%	63%
Male	17%	54%	29%	43%	50%
White	17%	54%	30%	42%	55%
Non-White	21%	58%	21%	62%	60%
High School Degree or Less	25%	51%	23%	53%	55%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	16%	59%	25%	47%	59%
Four-Year Degree or More	11%	53%	36%	34%	55%
\$30,000 or Less	37%	51%	12%	60%	63%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	15%	62%	23%	42%	68%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	10%	59%	31%	45%	59%
\$100,001 or More	6%	42%	52%	33%	40%
18-34	23%	63%	15%	34%	75%
35-54	21%	58%	22%	45%	63%
55 and Older	11%	46%	43%	52%	39%
Parent	16%	65%	19%	41%	57%
Non-Parent	17%	50%	33%	47%	56%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	15%	70%	15%	48%	71%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	18%	50%	31%	44%	53%

¹³ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

LIFE IN SANGMON COUNTY



44% report believing most be can be trusted

Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

Respondents who are male (53%), white (45%), have at least a four-year degree (63%), report an annual household income higher than \$100,000 (72%), and are older than 55 (68%) are more likely than others in their comparison groups to report that most people can be trusted.

54% report having a great deal of trust in the local police

How much trust do you have in the police in your area to keep you and your family safe?

Respondents who are white (56%), male (63%), have a household income over \$100,000 (72%), and those 65 and older (68%) are more likely than others in their comparison groups to report having a great deal of trust in the local police. See **Table 11** or the appendix for additional information.

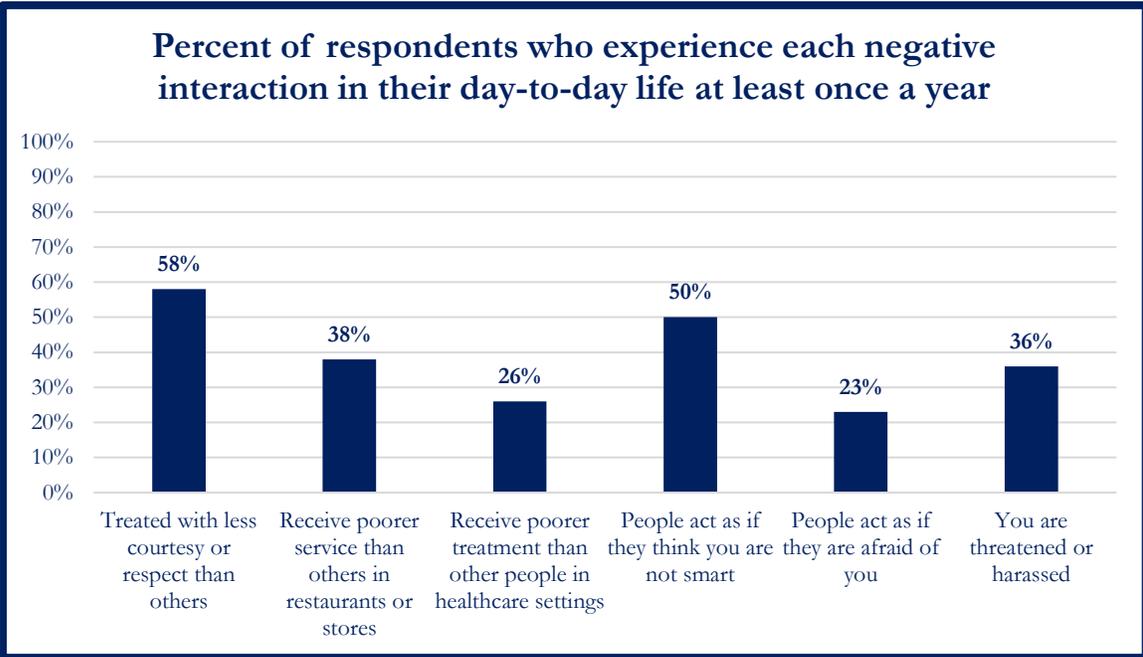


Table 11. Attitudes Towards Life in Sangamon County Questions by Demographics¹⁴

Demographics	Is Everyone in Sangamon County Treated Equally?	Can most people be trusted?	Does respondent have a “great deal” of trust in the police in their area to keep them safe?
All Respondents	22%	44%	54%
Female	16%	36%	45%
Male	27%	53%	63%
White	21%	45%	56%
Non-White	27%	37%	45%
High School Degree or Less	18%	36%	53%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	19%	44%	44%
Four-Year Degree or More	29%	51%	63%
\$30,000 or Less	11%	20%	37%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	25%	51%	49%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	22%	52%	58%
\$100,001 or More	30%	52%	72%
18-34	17%	42%	38%
35-54	20%	42%	49%
55 and Older	26%	48%	68%
Parent	25%	41%	55%
Non-Parent	20%	45%	54%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	11%	37%	38%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	25%	46%	58%

¹⁴ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Table 12. Experience of negative interactions in day-to-day life at least once a year¹⁵

Demographics	Treated with less courtesy or respect than others	Receive poorer service than others in restaurants or stores	Receive poorer treatment than other people in healthcare settings
All Respondents	58%	38%	26%
Female	66%	46%	32%
Male	49%	29%	20%
White	57%	36%	23%
Non-White	63%	45%	39%
High School Degree or Less	63%	53%	36%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	60%	32%	27%
Four-Year Degree or More	52%	28%	16%
\$30,000 or Less	70%	56%	47%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	57%	34%	23%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	54%	33%	17%
\$100,001 or More	45%	24%	13%
18-34	62%	42%	24%
35-54	66%	44%	33%
55 and Older	48%	29%	22%
Parent	60%	37%	27%
Non-Parent	57%	37%	24%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	61%	45%	31%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	57%	37%	25%

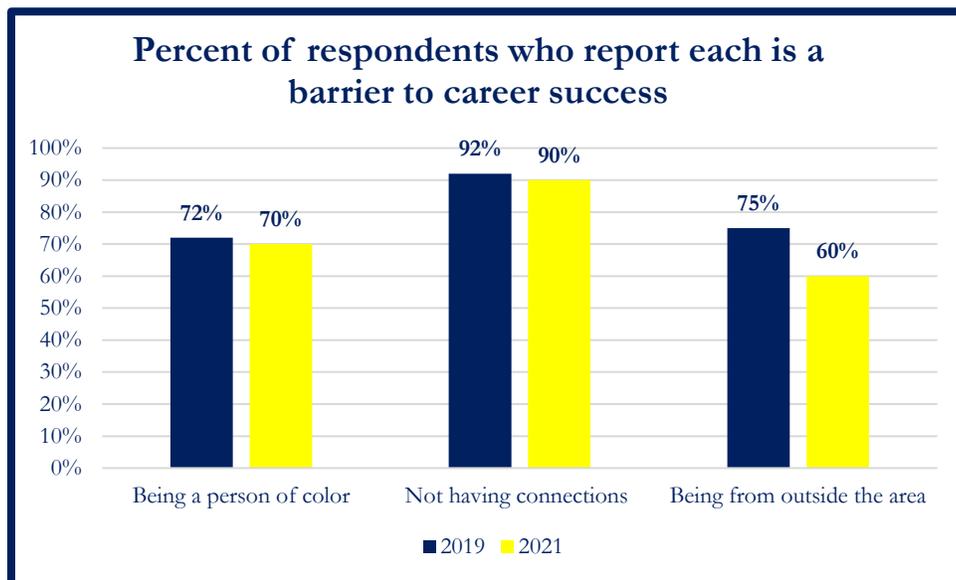
¹⁵ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Table 13. Experience of negative interactions in day-to-day life at least once a year, continued¹⁶

Demographics	People act as if they think you are not smart	People act as if they are afraid of you	You are threatened or harassed
All Respondents	50%	23%	36%
Female	58%	18%	40%
Male	40%	27%	31%
White	49%	19%	34%
Non-White	54%	40%	43%
High School Degree or Less	57%	33%	41%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	51%	19%	37%
Four-Year Degree or More	42%	16%	31%
\$30,000 or Less	67%	31%	54%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	49%	24%	34%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	45%	19%	27%
\$100,001 or More	31%	13%	26%
18-34	62%	22%	50%
35-54	52%	32%	42%
55 and Older	38%	13%	19%
Parent	52%	26%	33%
Non-Parent	47%	20%	35%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	60%	23%	50%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	47%	22%	32%

¹⁶ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Equity in Sangamon County¹⁷



70% report being a person of color is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County

To what extent, if at all, are each of the following items a barrier to career success in Sangamon County?

This sentiment is more common among respondents who are female (75%), ages 18 to 34 (76%), a parent (78%), and a resident of Sangamon County for less than 10 years (91%). White (70%) and non-White (73%) respondents express this sentiment at similar rates. A similar rate (72%) shared this sentiment in 2019. See **Table 14** or the appendix for additional information.

90% report not having connections is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County

To what extent, if at all, are each of the following items a barrier to career success in Sangamon County?

White respondents (92%) are more likely than non-White respondents (80%) to report sharing this sentiment. Beyond race, there are relatively consistent results across all demographic groups. Approximately 92% of all respondents shared this sentiment in 2019. See **Table 14** or the appendix for additional information.

60% report being from outside the area is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County

To what extent, if at all, are each of the following items a barrier to career success in Sangamon County?

Women (66%) are more likely than men (53%) to report this sentiment. When it comes to income, respondents reporting a household income between \$60,000 and \$100,000 (67%) are more likely than other income groups to report that being from outside the area is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County. When looking at age, those respondents between 35 to 54 years old (69%) are more likely than those 34 and under (59%) and those 55 and older (51%). Parents (71%) are more likely than non-parents (57%) this sentiment. Lastly, respondents who have lived in Sangamon County less than 10 years (70%) are more likely than residents who have lived here for longer than ten years (57%) to report being from outside the area is a barrier to career success. Overall, this is a decrease compared to 2019 (75%). See **Table 14** or the appendix for additional information.

¹⁷ Answer options for these questions were “large barrier”, “small barrier”, and “not a barrier at all.” For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Table 14. Assessing potential barriers to career success in Sangamon County¹⁸

Demographics	Not Having Connections	Being from Outside the Area	Being a Person of Color
All Respondents	90%	60%	70%
Female	89%	66%	75%
Male	90%	53%	64%
White	92%	60%	70%
Non-White	80%	60%	73%
High School Degree or Less	89%	62%	70%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	90%	53%	65%
Four-Year Degree or More	90%	63%	73%
\$30,000 or Less	86%	56%	68%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	90%	58%	70%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	94%	67%	73%
\$100,001 or More	89%	58%	69%
18-34	87%	59%	76%
35-54	93%	69%	70%
55 and Older	88%	51%	65%
Parent	88%	71%	78%
Non-Parent	92%	57%	67%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	87%	70%	91%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	91%	57%	64%

¹⁸ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Equity in Sangamon County

80% report not having a college degree is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County

To what extent, if at all, are each of the following items a barrier to career success in Sangamon County?

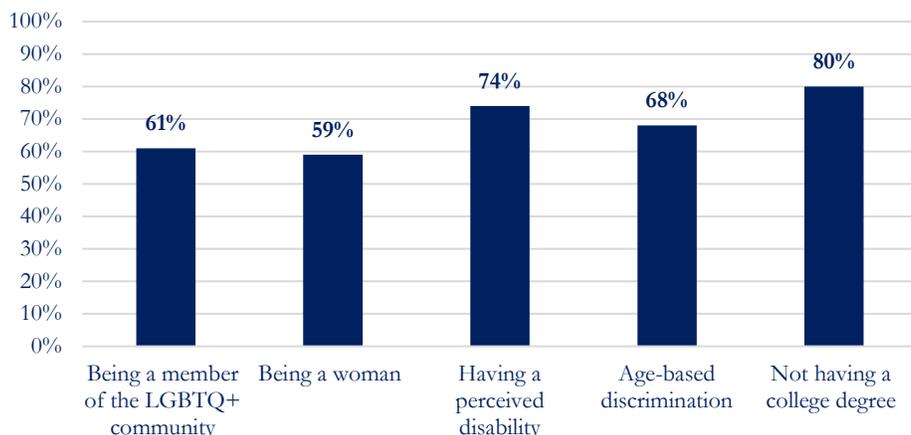
Respondents without a college degree (83%), women (88%), are white (82%), between the ages 35 and 54 (87%), and are parents (85%) are more likely to report not having a college degree is a barrier to career success. Respondents reporting a household income of at least \$100,000 (22%) are much less likely than other income brackets to report a college degree as a career barrier. See **Table 15** or the appendix for additional information.

61% report being a member of the LGBTQ+ community is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County

To what extent, if at all, are each of the following items a barrier to career success in Sangamon County?

98% of respondents who identify as LGBTQ+ identify being so as a barrier to career success in Sangamon County. Women (66%), white respondents (63%), those with at least a four-year degree (67%), respondents under 35 (65%), people who have lived in Sangamon County (71%), and those with an income over \$60,000 (67%) are more likely to share this sentiment. See **Table 15** or the appendix for additional information.

Percent of respondents who report each is a barrier to career success



74% report having a perceived disability is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County

To what extent, if at all, are each of the following items a barrier to career success in Sangamon County?

A similar rate of respondents with a reported disability (74%) as those who do not have a disability (74%) report a perceived disability as a career barrier. Women (75%), respondents who are white (75%), and non-parents (78%) are more likely to express this sentiment. See **Table 15** or the appendix for additional information.

59% report being a woman is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County

To what extent, if at all, are each of the following items a barrier to career success in Sangamon County?

Women (70%) are much more likely than men (46%) to report being a woman is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County. White respondents (61%), respondents under 35 (70%), and residents who have lived in Sangamon County for less than 10 years (75%) are all more likely to share this sentiment. See **Table 15** or the appendix for additional information.

68% report age-based discrimination is a barrier to career success in Sangamon County

To what extent, if at all, are each of the following items a barrier to career success in Sangamon County?

Respondents aged 55 and older (74%) and between the ages of 35 and 54 (71%) are more likely than those under 35 (58%) to share this sentiment. Respondents who are women (75%), white (71%), with a high school degree or less (74%), and those reporting a household income between \$60,000 and \$100,000 (75%) are all more like report age is a barrier. See **Table 15** or the appendix for additional information.

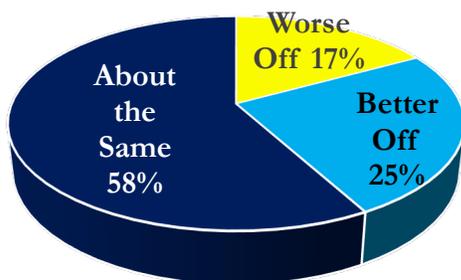
Table 15. Assessing potential barriers to career success in Sangamon County, continued¹⁹

Demographics	Age	Being a Member of the LGBTQ+ Community	Having a Perceived Disability	Not Having a College Degree	Being a Woman
All Respondents	69%	61%	74%	80%	59%
Female	75%	66%	76%	88%	70%
Male	63%	57%	72%	73%	46%
White	71%	63%	77%	82%	61%
Non-White	55%	47%	55%	70%	41%
High School Degree or Less	74%	61%	75%	83%	60%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	66%	55%	71%	83%	56%
Four-Year Degree or More	65%	67%	74%	76%	59%
\$30,000 or Less	65%	61%	79%	79%	60%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	69%	54%	68%	80%	60%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	75%	67%	78%	82%	60%
\$100,001 or More	62%	67%	71%	22%	53%
18-34	58%	65%	75%	75%	70%
35-54	71%	60%	73%	87%	53%
55 and Older	74%	59%	73%	78%	54%
Parent	68%	65%	68%	85%	57%
Non-Parent	71%	61%	78%	78%	60%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	69%	71%	76%	77%	75%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	68%	58%	73%	81%	54%

¹⁹ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Economy of Sangamon County

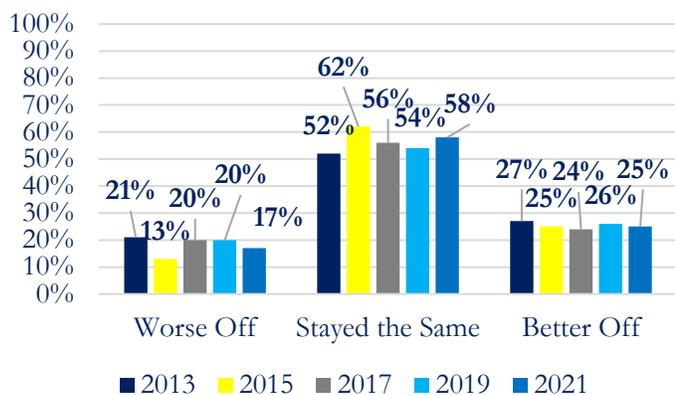
Personal Financial Conditions Compared to 12 Months Ago



Personal finances compared to one year ago

- Overall, results of those who report their finances are better off are similar to previous iterations of the survey.
- 34% of respondents with at least a four-year college degree report their finances are better off, compared to 17% of those with a high school degree or less.
- 32% of respondents who report a household income of at least \$100,000 report this compared to 22% of those reporting a household income of \$30,000 or less.
- 33% of respondents under the age of 35 report their personal finances are better off compared to 18% of those 55 or older
- 39% of those surveyed who have lived in Sangamon County for less than 10 years report their personal finances are better off compared to 22% of those who have lived in Sangamon County for more than 10 years.
- See **Table 16** or the appendix for additional information.

Thinking about 12 months ago, would you say you are better off financially, worse off, or about the same?



Rating personal financial situation

- 57% of all respondents rate their personal finances as “good” or “excellent”.
- 60% of men rate their personal finances as “good” or “excellent” compared to 55% of women.
- 60% of white respondents rate their personal finances as “good” or “excellent” compared to 40% of non-white respondents.
- 78% of respondents with a four-year degree are more likely to rate their personal finances as “good” or “excellent”, double the 39% of those with a high school diploma or less.
- 85% of those surveyed who report an annual household income of greater than \$100,000 a year report their personal finances as “good” or “excellent”, compared to 22% of those reporting \$30,000 a year or less.
- 62% of respondents 55 years and older report their personal finances as “good” or “excellent”, compared to 49% of those under 35.
- See **Table 16** or the appendix for additional information.

Belief personal finances will be better in a year

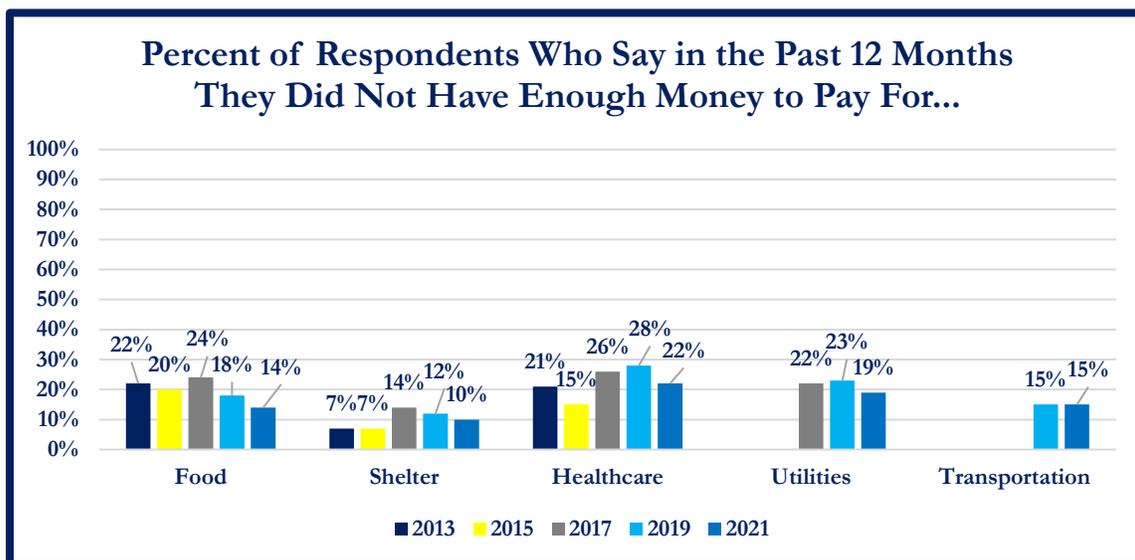
- 40% of all respondents report their personal finances will be better in a year.
- 43% of female respondents report their personal finances will be better in a year compared to 39% of male respondents.
- 41% of white respondents report their personal finances will be better in a year compared to 35% of non-white respondents.
- 43% of respondents with a four-year degree are more likely to report their personal finances will be better in a year, compared to 37% of those with a high school diploma or less.
- 36% of those surveyed who report an annual household income of greater than \$100,000 a year report their personal finances will be better in a year, the lowest of the four income groups.
- 68% of respondents under 35 report their personal finances will be better in a year compared to 21% of those 55 and older.
- 48% of parents report their personal finances will be better in a year, compared to 36% of non-parents.
- 60% of respondents who have lived in Sangamon County fewer than 10 years report their personal finances will be better in a year, compared to 36% of those who have lived here for more than 10 years.
- See **Table 16** or the appendix for additional information.

Table 16. Respondent assessments of their personal finances²⁰

Demographics	Personal finances “good” or “excellent”	Personal finances are “better” than a year ago	Think personal finances will be “better” in a year.
All Respondents	57%	25%	40%
Female	55%	25%	43%
Male	60%	25%	39%
White	60%	25%	41%
Non-White	40%	22%	35%
High School Degree or Less	39%	17%	37%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	52%	24%	42%
Four-Year Degree or More	78%	34%	43%
\$30,000 or Less	22%	22%	42%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	49%	27%	45%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	73%	27%	44%
\$100,001 or More	85%	32%	36%
18-34	49%	33%	68%
35-54	59%	27%	41%
55 and Older	62%	18%	21%
Parent	57%	25%	48%
Non-Parent	57%	26%	36%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	55%	39%	60%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	57%	22%	36%

²⁰ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Economy of Sangamon County



Differences across gender

- 19% of women reported there was a time they could not afford food, compared to 8% of men.
- 12% of women reported there was a time they could not afford shelter, compared to 8% of men.
- 28% of women reported there was a time they could not afford costs related to healthcare and medicine, compared to 16% of men.
- 24% of women reported there was a time they could not afford utilities, compared to 13% of men.
- 17% of women reported there was a time they could not afford transportation, compared to 12% of men.

16% of parents report there was a time they could not afford childcare

Differences across race

- 20% of non-white respondents report there was a time they could not afford food, compared to 13% of whites.
- 17% of non-white respondents report there was a time they could not afford shelter, compared to 9% of whites.
- 33% of non-white respondents report there was a time they could not afford healthcare, compared to 20% of whites.
- 34% of non-white respondents report there was a time they could not afford utilities, compared to 16% of whites.
- 32% of non-white respondents report there was a time they could not afford transportation, compared to 11% of whites.

Differences across income

- 34% of those reporting a household income less than \$30,000 report not being able to afford food.
- 30% of those reporting a household income less than \$30,000 report not being able to afford shelter.
- 41% of those reporting a household income less than \$30,000 report not being able to afford healthcare costs.
- 49% of those reporting a household income less than \$30,000 report not being able to afford utilities.
- 40% of those reporting a household income less than \$30,000 report not being able to afford transportation.
- These results compare to just 1% of those reporting an income of greater than \$100,000 for each area.

Differences across education

- 23% of respondents with a high school diploma or below report there was a time they could not afford food, compared to 3% of those with a four-year degree.
- 19% of respondents with a high school diploma or below report there was a time they could not afford shelter, compared to 2% of those with a four-year degree.
- 35% of respondents with a high school diploma or below report there was a time they could not afford shelter, compared to 9% of those with a four-year degree.
- 33% of respondents with a high school diploma or below report there was a time they could not afford utilities, compared to 3% of those with a four-year degree.

Table 17. Percent of respondents who could not afford the following necessities by demographics²¹

Demographics	Food	Shelter	Healthcare	Utilities	Transportation	Childcare*
All Respondents	14%	10%	22%	19%	15%	16%
Female	19%	12%	28%	24%	17%	
Male	8%	8%	16%	13%	12%	
White	13%	9%	20%	16%	11%	
Non-White	20%	17%	33%	34%	32%	
High School Degree or Less	23%	19%	35%	33%	29%	
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	16%	9%	24%	21%	12%	
Four-Year Degree or More	3%	2%	9%	3%	4%	
\$30,000 or Less	34%	30%	41%	49%	40%	
\$30,001 to \$60,000	13%	4%	19%	17%	8%	
\$60,001 to \$100,000	7%	5%	21%	6%	5%	
\$100,001 or More	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	
18-34	17%	15%	25%	25%	20%	
35-54	11%	8%	24%	17%	15%	
55 and Older	14%	8%	18%	16%	10%	
Parent	15%	13%	28%	23%	22%	
Non-Parent	13%	9%	21%	17%	12%	
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	16%	12%	35%	19%	21%	
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	13%	9%	19%	19%	13%	

²¹ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Economy of Sangamon County

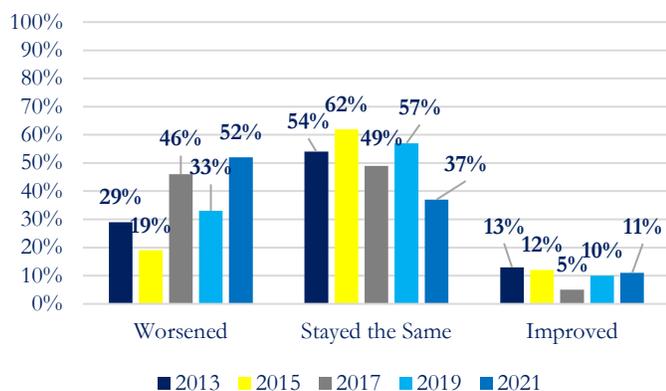
Local Area Business Conditions Compared to 12 Months Ago



Local business conditions compared to one year ago

- Highest percent of respondents to report things have worsened since the survey began in 2013.
- 14% of respondents who are women report local business conditions are better compared to 9% of men.
- 17% of non-white respondents report local business conditions are better compared to 10% of white respondents.
- 12% of respondents who report a household income of at least \$100,000 report local business conditions are better compared to 6% of those reporting a household income of \$30,000 or less.
- 13% of those with a four-year degree report this compared to 9% of those with a high school diploma or less.
- 9% under the age of 35 report business conditions are better off compared to 13% of those 55 or older
- See **Table 18** or the appendix for additional information.

Compared to Last Year Have Business Conditions in the County...



Rating local economy "good" or "excellent"

- 21% of respondents rate the local economy as "good" or "excellent".
- 21% of white respondents rate the local economy as "good" or "excellent" compared to 16% of non-white respondents.
- 26% of respondents with a four-year degree are more likely to rate the local economy as "good" or "excellent", higher than the comparison education groups.
- 28% of those surveyed who report an annual household income of greater than \$100,000 a year rate the local economy as "good" or "excellent", compared to 14% of those reporting \$30,000 a year or less.
- 26% of respondents 55 years and older rate the local economy as "good" or "excellent", compared to 18% of those under 35 and 16% of those ages 35 to 54.
- 23% of respondents who are not parents describe the local economy as "good" or "excellent" compared to 16% of parents.
- See **Table 18** or the appendix for additional information.

Belief local economy will be better in a year

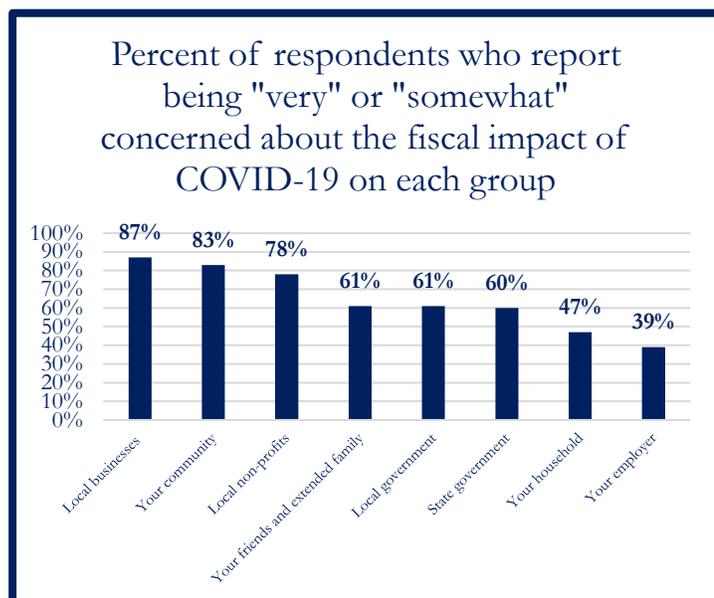
- 40% of respondents think the local economy will be better in a year.
- 44% of women think the local economy will be better in a year compared to 37% of men.
- 40% of white respondents report this about the local economy compared to 39% of non-white respondents.
- 43% of respondents with a four-year degree are more likely to report this, compared to 42% of those with a high school diploma or less and 35% of those between a high school diploma and four-year degree.
- 51% of those surveyed who report an annual household income between \$60,000 and \$100,000 report the economy will be better next year, highest of all the income groups.
- 35% of respondents between the ages 35 and 54 report thinking the economy will be better next year, the lowest of the three age groups.
- 57% of respondents who have lived in Sangamon County less than 10 years report believing the economy will be better in a year compared to 36% of those who have lived in Sangamon County more than 10 years.
- See **Table 18** or the appendix for additional information.

Table 18. Respondent assessments of the local Sangamon County economy²²

Demographics	Sangamon County economy is “good” or “excellent”	Local economy “better” than a year ago	Local economy will be “better” in a year
All Respondents	21%	11%	40%
Female	21%	14%	44%
Male	20%	9%	37%
White	21%	10%	40%
Non-White	16%	17%	39%
High School Degree or Less	18%	9%	42%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	16%	12%	35%
Four-Year Degree or More	26%	13%	43%
\$30,000 or Less	14%	6%	37%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	17%	17%	36%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	25%	13%	51%
\$100,001 or More	28%	12%	39%
18-34	18%	9%	42%
35-54	16%	12%	35%
55 and Older	26%	13%	43%
Parent	16%	14%	43%
Non-Parent	23%	10%	39%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	19%	9%	57%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	21%	12%	36%

²² For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

COVID-19 in Sangamon County



Concern for the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on their community

- 86% of female respondents report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on their community compared to 79% of men.
- 85% of white respondents report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on their community compared to 68% of non-white respondents.
- 87% of respondents ages 18 to 34 report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on their community compared to 76% of those 55 years and older.
- 85% of those with a four-year degree report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on their community, with a similar rate (83%) of those with a high school diploma or less compared to 78% of those with an education level in between.
- See **Table 19** or the appendix for additional information.

Concern for the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local businesses

- 93% of female respondents report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local businesses compared to 81% of men.
- 95% of respondents ages 18 to 34 report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local businesses compared to 81% of those 55 years and older.
- 89% of those with a high school diploma or less and those with at least a four-year degree or more report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local businesses compared to 82% of those with an education level in between.
- See **Table 18** or the appendix for additional information.

Concern for the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local non-profits

- 85% of female respondents report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local non-profits compared to 73% of men.
- 80% of white respondents report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local non-profits compared to 62% of non-white respondents.
- 84% of respondents with at least a four-year degree report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local non-profits, higher than both other education groups.
- 30% of those reporting a household income of less than \$30,000 report being concerned about the fiscal impact of COVID-19 on local non-profits, the lowest of the four income groups.
- See **Table 18** or the appendix for additional information.

What COVID-19 influenced changes would you like to see remain going forward in Sangamon County?	Percent
Improved hygiene measures in public places	60%
Increased outdoor dining options	54%
Increased outdoor socializing options	50%
Increased telecommuting options for work	45%
Increased availability of telehealth	40%
Increased availability for curbside pick-up of goods and groceries	39%
Increased availability of remote attendance for public meetings	38%
Wearing masks in public	24%
Lower crowd capacity limits	19%
Increased remote schooling (% of parents)	14%
Other	11%

Table 19. Percent of respondents who are concerned about COVID-19s fiscal impact on...²³

Demographics	Local businesses	Local government	State government	Local non-profits
All Respondents	87%	61%	60%	78%
Female	93%	66%	66%	85%
Male	81%	57%	55%	73%
White	89%	62%	60%	80%
Non-White	76%	56%	56%	62%
High School Degree or Less	89%	66%	65%	73%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	82%	54%	58%	75%
Four-Year Degree or More	89%	60%	56%	84%
\$30,000 or Less	86%	68%	67%	73%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	87%	63%	62%	78%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	87%	60%	60%	85%
\$100,001 or More	85%	53%	50%	79%
18-34	95%	74%	72%	83%
35-54	86%	51%	50%	78%
55 and Older	81%	62%	62%	75%
Parent	90%	57%	60%	80%
Non-Parent	85%	61%	59%	77%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	90%	64%	60%	85%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	86%	60%	59%	76%

²³ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Table 20. Percent of respondents who are concerned about COVID-19's fiscal impact on...²⁴

Demographics	Household	Community	Friends and Family	Employer
All Respondents	47%	83%	61%	39%
Female	52%	86%	59%	42%
Male	40%	79%	63%	36%
White	44%	85%	59%	39%
Non-White	61%	68%	71%	43%
High School Degree or Less	60%	83%	65%	52%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	47%	78%	64%	36%
Four-Year Degree or More	32%	85%	55%	30%
\$30,000 or Less	65%	83%	73%	52%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	40%	80%	53%	36%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	48%	85%	56%	38%
\$100,001 or More	24%	80%	55%	23%
18-34	46%	87%	60%	50%
35-54	51%	86%	65%	33%
55 and Older	41%	76%	57%	35%
Parent	53%	84%	57%	31%
Non-Parent	43%	82%	62%	42%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	46%	88%	62%	35%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	47%	81%	61%	41%

²⁴ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

COVID-19 in Sangamon County

Life getting back to normal

- Respondents were asked when they thought their daily life will return a sense of normal. See **Table 21** for additional information.

Date	Percent
It already has	47%
By Labor Day 2021	15%
By Halloween 2021	6%
By Thanksgiving 2021	6%
By New Year's Day 2022	4%
After New Year's Day 2022	24%

In a sign of the ever-changing world we are in, answers may be different for the same respondents now following the spread of the Delta variant.

81% of respondents reported they had received at least one vaccine shot or they intend to get the vaccine in the future

Many respondents missed the State Fair

Respondents were asked what locally held event cancelled during the pandemic did they miss the most. (Excluding those who gave no response or wrote “don't know/nothing/none”)

Answer	Percent
State Fair	40%
Concerts	12%
Additional Local Festivals or Fairs	7%
Other Events	7%
Sports	7%
Family/Friend Events	5%
Live Theatre	4%
Old Capitol Art Fair	4%
Pridefest	4%
Church	3%
Fourth of July	2%
Route 66 Car Show	2%
K-12 School Social Events	2%
Farmer's Market	1%
Restaurants	1%

73% agreed with the statement “I am more likely now to shop at or support a local small business than before COVID-19.”

- Women (77%) were more likely than men (69%) to agree with this statement
- White respondents (77%) were more likely than non-White respondents (55%) to agree with this statement.
- Respondents reporting a household income under \$30,000 (66%) were less likely than other income groups to agree with this statement.
- See **Table 22** for additional information.

45% agreed with the statement “I am ordering goods or groceries online more than before COVID-19.”

- Women (54%) were more likely than men (36%) to agree with this statement
- Respondents with a high school diploma or less (39%) were less likely than other education groups to agree with this
- Respondents reporting an income of \$60,000 to \$100,000 (51%) and over \$100,000 (53%) were more likely than other income groups to agree with this
- See **Table 22** for additional information.

56% agreed with the statement “When I want food from a restaurant I get it to go instead of eating at the restaurant more often than before COVID-19.”

- Women (63%) were more likely than men (46%) to agree with this statement
- Non-white respondents (63%) are more likely than white respondents (54%) to agree with this statement
- Respondents with a four-year degree (60%) are more likely than those with a high school diploma or less (50%) to agree with this statement
- Respondents under 35 (70%) are more likely than other age groups to report this.

Table 21. Percent of respondents who...²⁵

Demographics	Have Received or Plan to Receive the Vaccine	Expected their daily life to return a sense of normal by Labor Day
All Respondents	81%	62%
Female	76%	59%
Male	88%	65%
White	84%	64%
Non-White	69%	52%
High School Degree or Less	76%	57%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	78%	63%
Four-Year Degree or More	89%	63%
\$30,000 or Less	66%	50%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	85%	59%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	87%	68%
\$100,001 or More	92%	72%
18-34	76%	65%
35-54	79%	60%
55 and Older	87%	62%
Parent	72%	60%
Non-Parent	87%	61%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	83%	59%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	81%	63%

²⁵ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Table 22. Percent of respondents who agree with each statement²⁶

Demographics	“I am more likely now to shop at or support a local small business than before COVID-19.”	“I am ordering goods or groceries online more than before COVID-19.”	“When I want food from a restaurant I get it to go instead of eating at the restaurant more often than before COVID-19.”
All Respondents	73%	45%	56%
Female	77%	54%	63%
Male	69%	36%	46%
White	77%	43%	54%
Non-White	55%	49%	63%
High School Degree or Less	72%	39%	50%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	75%	47%	57%
Four-Year Degree or More	73%	47%	60%
\$30,000 or Less	66%	41%	60%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	76%	41%	52%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	76%	51%	55%
\$100,001 or More	74%	53%	59%
18-34	73%	48%	70%
35-54	72%	54%	50%
55 and Older	75%	34%	49%
Parent	72%	58%	60%
Non-Parent	76%	40%	53%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	77%	60%	76%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	72%	41%	51%

²⁶ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Leadership in Sangamon County²⁷

Confidence in Local Elected Leaders?

49% of Sangamon County residents reported being confident that local elected leaders can effectively address local problems. This evaluation was most common among female respondents (53%), individuals ages 55 and older (54%), white respondents (50%), individuals making between \$60,000 and \$100,000 a year (65%), individuals with at least a four-year degree (58%) and those who have lived in Sangamon County for less than 10 years (58%). See **Table 23** for additional information.

Confidence in State Elected Leaders?

63%
of respondents are very or somewhat confident in unelected leaders in their community.

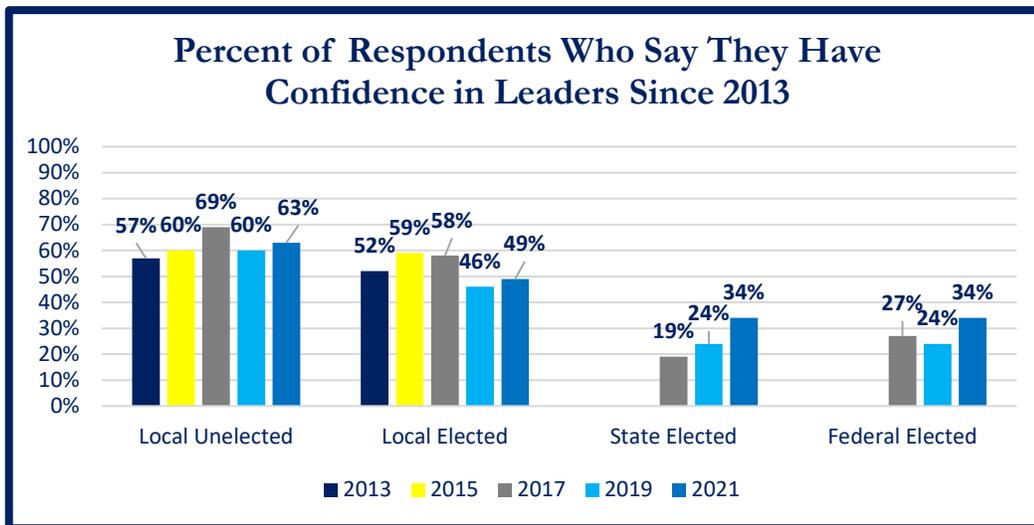
34% of Sangamon County residents reported being confident that State leaders can effectively address problems.

In general, women (41%) are more confident in state elected officials than men (28%). Individuals 55 and older are the most confident (38%) while those aged 35 to 44 and 45 to 54 are the least confident (32%). Those with a four-year degree (39%) have the highest level of confidence in elected state government officials of all the education groups. Those reporting an annual household income between \$30,000 and \$60,000 are more confident (44%) than the other income brackets. Those who have lived in Sangamon County for fewer than ten years (45%) are more likely to express confidence in state government leaders than those who have been here longer (32%). See **Table 23** for additional information.

Confidence in Federal Elected Leaders?

34% of Sangamon County residents are confident that federal elected leaders can effectively address problems.

Women (46%) are more likely than men (22%) to report being confident in federal level leaders. White respondents (35%) are more likely than non-white respondents (31%) to report being confident in federal elected officials. Those with less than a high school education (36%) and those with a four-year degree (37%) are more likely than those between a high school degree and four-year degree to report being confident in federal elected officials. Those who have lived in Sangamon County less than ten years (43%) are more likely than those who have lived here longer (32%) to report this. See **Table 23** for more.



²⁷ The questions around state and federal leadership were not included in the 2013 and 2015 iterations of the survey

Table 23. Attitudes Towards Leadership by Demographics²⁸

Demographics	Un-elected community leaders	Local elected officials	State elected officials	Federal elected officials
All Respondents	63%	49%	34%	34%
Female	65%	53%	41%	46%
Male	63%	47%	28%	22%
White	67%	50%	34%	35%
Non-White	45%	44%	34%	31%
High School Degree or Less	62%	40%	32%	36%
Between HS Degree and Four-Year Degree	68%	47%	31%	29%
Four-Year Degree or More	63%	58%	39%	37%
\$30,000 or Less	49%	33%	31%	36%
\$30,001 to \$60,000	65%	45%	44%	40%
\$60,001 to \$100,000	72%	65%	31%	29%
\$100,001 or More	75%	59%	35%	33%
18-34	60%	47%	32%	39%
35-54	60%	46%	33%	27%
55 and Older	71%	54%	38%	39%
Parent	47%	45%	30%	28%
Non-Parent	72%	52%	35%	36%
Lived in Sangamon County Fewer than 10 Years	56%	58%	45%	43%
Lived in Sangamon County for 10 Years or Longer	65%	47%	32%	32%

²⁸ For full question wording and answer options please see the appendix.

Appendix²⁹

Q1: What is the first word that comes to mind when thinking about Sangamon County **currently**?

Answer	Percent
Positive	20%
Neutral	30%
Negative	50%

Q2: What word do you hope describes Sangamon County **in the future**?

Answer	Percent
Positive	74%
Neutral	21%
Negative	5%

Q3: Generally speaking, would you say that things in Sangamon County are heading in the right direction or are they off on the wrong track?

Answer	Percent
Right direction	50%
Wrong track	50%

Q4: In the past twelve months, have you considered moving out of or away from Sangamon County?

Answer	Percent
Yes	58%
No	42%

Q5: If you answered yes to the previous question, please choose the main reasons why you **personally** have considered moving out of Sangamon County. (Please, mark all that apply.)

Answer	Percent
Cost of living	41%
Crime	43%
Cultural or entertainment options	31%
Employment opportunities	27%
Family (or personal) reasons	24%
Local government or politics	53%
Local taxes	60%
School/educational opportunities	17%
State government or politics	51%
State taxes	63%
Weather/climate	25%
Other	11%

Q6: If you have considered moving from Sangamon County in the previous 12 months, have you:

Answer	Percent
Considered moving somewhere else in Illinois	7%
Considered moving out of Illinois entirely	59%
Both	34%

Q7: If you have considered moving out of Sangamon County in the past 12 months, which of the following actions have you done? (Please, select all that apply.)

Action	Percent
Looked at jobs in a new location	45%
Applied for jobs in a new location	19%
Looked up the cost of living in a new location	66%
Looked at housing in a new location	69%
Submitted paperwork to rent/buy housing in a new location	6%
Looked up the cost of moving to a new location	35%
Told friends or family you were moving to a new location	25%

Q8: If you have considered moving out of Sangamon County, do you expect to in the next 12 months?

Answer	Percent
Yes	27%
No	73%

Q9: Please imagine a ladder with steps numbered from 0 at the bottom and 10 at the top. The top of the ladder represents the best possible life for you and the bottom of the ladder represents the worst possible life for you. On which step of the ladder would you say you **personally** stand?

Step	Percent
0	2%
1	1%
2	1%
3	3%
4	11%
5	17%
6	14%
7	23%
8	19%
9	6%
10	4%

Q10: Thinking about your physical health, which includes physical illness and injury, for how many days during the past 30 days was your physical health not good?

Answer	Percent
0 days	55%
1-5 days	22%
6-10 days	6%
11-15 days	7%
16-20 days	2%
21 or more days	9%

²⁹ Answers may not total up to 100% due to rounding.

Q11: Thinking about your mental health, which includes stress, depression, and problems with emotions, for how many days during the past 30 days was your mental health not good?

Answer	Percent
0 days	44%
1-5 days	21%
6-10 days	9%
11-15 days	8%
16-20 days	5%
21 or more days	13%

Q12: Do you think everyone in Sangamon County is treated equally? In other words, does everyone get a “fair shake?”

Answer	Percent
Yes	22%
No	78%

Q13: To what extent, if at all, are each of the following items a barrier to career success in Sangamon County?

Potential Barriers	A large barrier	A small barrier	Not a barrier at all
Being a person of color	38%	32%	31%
Not having connections	55%	35%	10%
Being from outside the area	16%	43%	40%
Being a member of the LGBTQ+ community	26%	35%	39%
Being a woman	17%	42%	42%
Having a perceived disability	31%	43%	26%
Age-based discrimination	27%	41%	31%
Not having a college degree	35%	45%	20%

Q14: How often do any of the following happen to you in your day-to-day life because of your actual or perceived race, ethnicity, age, gender, health, income, education, sexual orientation, disability status, or some other personal characteristic?

Action	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annually	Never
You are treated with less courtesy or respect than other people.	8%	7%	14%	29%	42%
You receive poorer service than other people at restaurants or stores.	4%	4%	7%	24%	62%
People act as if they think you are not smart.	7%	9%	13%	21%	50%
People act as if they are afraid of you.	6%	4%	4%	9%	77%
You are threatened or harassed.	4%	5%	5%	23%	64%
You receive poorer treatment than other people in	5%	1%	6%	15%	74%

healthcare settings.					
----------------------	--	--	--	--	--

Q15: Have there been times in the past twelve months when you did not have enough money to pay for the following items that you and your family needed?

Items	Yes	No
Food	14%	86%
Shelter	10%	90%
Healthcare and/or medicine	22%	78%
Utilities or Internet	19%	81%
Transportation	15%	85%
Childcare (% of respondents who have children)	16%	84%

Q16: Which comes closest to your situation: you are not planning to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, or you are planning to receive or have already received a COVID-19 vaccine?

Answer	Percent
You have already received at least one shot	78%
You plan to receive a COVID-19 vaccine	3%
You are not planning to receive a COVID-19 vaccine	13%
Don't Know	5%

Q17: If you **DO NOT** plan to get vaccinated, or are not sure if you want to, which of the following are reasons you may choose not to? (Please, mark all that apply.)

Answer	Percent
You had COVID and do not need it	25%
You have concerns about side effects	67%
You have a known allergy to a vaccine ingredient	11%
You do not get vaccinations for personal or religious reasons	27%
Other	21%

Q18: How concerned are you about the financial impact(s) of COVID-19 on:

Group	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not too concerned	Not at all concerned
Your household	26%	21%	28%	25%
Your community	41%	42%	12%	5%
Your friends and extended family	26%	35%	26%	13%
Your employer	20%	19%	24%	36%
Local businesses	53%	34%	8%	6%
Local government	29%	32%	20%	19%
State government	30%	30%	20%	20%
Local non-profits	47%	31%	13%	10%

Q19: As COVID-19 vaccinations and mitigations continue, when do you expect **YOUR** daily life will return to a sense of normal?

Date	Percent
It already has	47%
By Labor Day 2021	15%
By Halloween 2021	6%
By Thanksgiving 2021	6%
By New Year's Day 2022	4%
After New Year's Day 2022	24%

Q20: Thinking about your shopping and eating habits, do you agree or disagree with the following statements:

Habit	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
"I am more likely now to shop at or support a local small business than before COVID-19."	25%	48%	16%	11%
"I am ordering goods or groceries online more than before COVID-19."	22%	23%	25%	31%
"When I want food from a restaurant I get it to go instead of eating at the restaurant more often than before COVID-19."	23%	33%	26%	19%

Q21: What COVID-19 influenced changes would you like to see remain going forward in Sagamon County? (Please, mark all that apply.)

Options	Percent
Increased outdoor dining options	54%
Wearing masks in public	24%
Increased telecommuting options for work	45%
Increased availability of telehealth	40%
Improved hygiene measures in public places	60%
Increased availability for curbside pick-up of goods and groceries	39%
Lower crowd capacity limits	19%
Increased availability of remote attendance for public meetings	38%
Increased outdoor socializing options	50%
Increased remote schooling (of parents)	16%
Other	11%

Q22: What locally held event that was cancelled during the pandemic did you miss the most?

Answer	Percent
State Fair	28%
Concerts	8%
Additional Local Festivals or Fairs	5%
Other Events	5%
Sports	5%
Family/Friend Events	4%
Live Theatre	3%
Old Capitol Art Fair	3%
Pridefest	3%

Church	2%
Fourth of July	2%
Route 66 Car Show	2%
K-12 School Social Events	2%
Farmer's Market	1%
Restaurants	1%
"Nothing In Particular"	7%
No Response	22%

Q22: What locally held event that was cancelled during the pandemic did you miss the most? (Excluding "Nothing in Particular" and no response)

Answer	Percent
State Fair	40%
Concerts	12%
Additional Local Festivals or Fairs	7%
Other Events	7%
Sports	7%
Family/Friend Events	5%
Live Theatre	4%
Old Capitol Art Fair	4%
Pridefest	4%
Church	3%
Fourth of July	2%
Route 66 Car Show	2%
K-12 School Social Events	2%
Farmer's Market	1%
Restaurants	1%

Q23: Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

Answer	Percent
Most people can be trusted	44%
Can't be too careful	56%

Q24: How much trust do you have in the police in your area to keep you and your family safe?

Trust Level	Percent
A great deal	54%
A little	36%
None at all	10%

Q25: In general, how much confidence would you say you have in the following to effectively address problems in your community?

Habit	Very Confident	Somewhat Confident	Not Very Confident	Not Confident at all
Leaders in your community (not elected officials)	11%	52%	26%	11%
Local elected officials	6%	42%	31%	21%
State elected officials	6%	28%	30%	36%
Federal elected officials	5%	29%	30%	36%

Q26: Which of the following best describes your current employment status? (Please, mark all that apply.)

Employment Status	Percent
Employed full-time	51%
Employed part-time	7%
Unemployed	9%
Stay at home parent	4%
Full-time student	2%
Disabled, unable to work	9%
Retired	25%

Q27: How would you rate your personal financial situation today?

Answer	Percent
Excellent	15%
Good	42%
Fair	29%
Poor	15%

Q28: Thinking about twelve months ago, would you say you are now better off financially, about the same, or worse off?

Answer	Percent
Better	25%
Worse	17%
About the same	58%

Q29: Twelve months from now, do you expect your financial situation to be better, about the same, or worse off than it is today?

Answer	Percent
Better	40%
Worse	8%
About the same	52%

Q30: How would you rate Sangamon County's economy today?

Answer	Percent
Excellent	1%
Good	20%
Fair	60%
Poor	19%

Q31: How do you think current economic conditions are in Sangamon County compared to twelve months ago?

Answer	Percent
Better	11%
Worse	52%
About the same	37%

Q32: Twelve months from now, do you expect Sangamon County's economy to be better off, about the same, or worse than it is today?

Answer	Percent
Better	40%
Worse	16%
About the same	45%

Q33: For how many years have you lived in Sangamon County?

Answer	Percent
Fewer than five years	9%
5 to 9 years	10%
10 to 14 years	8%
15 years or more	73%

Q34: Do you have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, government plans such as Medicare, or Indian Health Services?

Answer	Percent
Yes	91%
No	9%

Q35: What best describes your highest level of education?

Education Level	Percent
High school diploma, GED, or less	35%
Between HS and 4-Year Degree	30%
Four-Year Degree or More	35%

Q36: What is your gender?

Gender	Percent
Male	47%
Female	52%
Non-binary or other	1%

Q37: What is your age?

Age	Percent
18 to 34 years old	26%
35 to 44 years old	16%
45 to 54 years old	18%
55 to 64 years old	18%
65 and older	21%

Q38: Do you consider yourself... (Please, check all that apply.)

Race or Ethnicity	Percent
Asian-American or Pacific Islander	2%
African-American or Black	13%
Hispanic or Latina/O	2%
White	82%
Other	2%

Q39: What is your current marital status?

Marital Status	Percent
Single, living alone	27%
Living with a partner, but not married	9%
Married	49%
Divorced	10%
Widowed	6%

Q40: Are you the parent or primary guardian of a child 18 years old or younger?

Answer	Percent
Yes	30%
No	70%

Q41: Generally speaking, would you consider yourself...

Ideology	Percent
Very conservative	4%
Conservative	25%
Moderate	44%
Liberal	16%
Very liberal	11%

Q42: Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as...

Party	Percent
A Democrat	22%
An independent who "leans" Democrat	21%
An independent with no partisan lean	19%
An independent who "leans" Republican	15%
A Republican	16%
Other	8%

Q43: What is your disability status?

Answer	Percent
Have a disability	18%
Do not have a disability	82%

Q44: What was your household's income last year before taxes?

Income Range	Percent
Less than \$15,000	16%
\$15,001 to \$30,000	12%
\$30,000 to \$45,000	10%
\$45,001 to \$60,000	15%
\$60,001 to \$75,000	10%
\$75,001 to \$100,000	17%
\$100,001 to \$150,000	12%
More than \$150,000	9%

Q45: Which of the following do you consider yourself to be? (Please, mark all that apply.)

Answer	Percent
Straight or heterosexual	93%
Bisexual	4%
Lesbian	1%
Gay	2%
Transgender or Something Else	1%