



Baltimore In Depth

A Closer Look at the 2010 Baltimore Citizen Survey Results
Department of Finance/Bureau of the Budget and Management Research/City of Baltimore

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The 2010 Baltimore Citizen Survey asked 1,800 respondents a series of questions to measure their satisfaction with the services offered by the City of Baltimore and the quality of life in the City. This report focuses on individuals **who have children**.

Demographics

Respondents with children differ significantly with the overall population in terms of race, education, income, housing, work, and shopping.

Respondents with children are more likely to be Black (71%) than the overall population (62%). They are also more likely to have some college experience or a college degree (46%) than the overall population (39%) and to make more than \$75,000 per year (25%) than the population as a whole (21%).

Another trend in the survey responses is that respondents with children are more likely to rent their homes (39%) than the overall population (33%). These respondents are also more likely to work in

Baltimore (57%) than the population as a whole (44%), yet they do more of their shopping in the County (45%) than the population as a whole (41%).

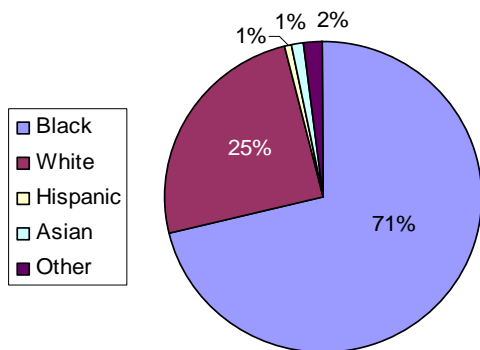
Finally, respondents are more likely to have lived in Baltimore for five years or less (10%) than the overall population (7%). There is, however, no particular part of the city that has more respondents with children than the others. The distribution of families seems to be fairly even across planning districts.

Key Findings

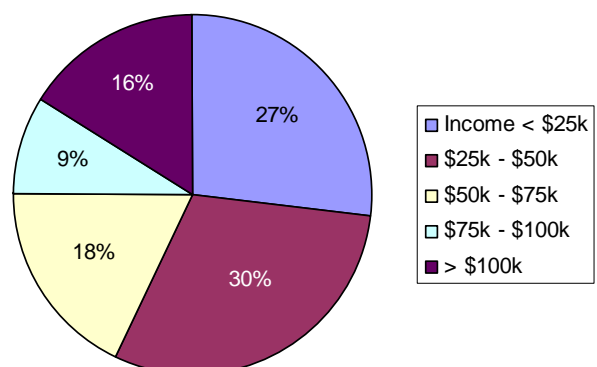
The Survey shows that respondents with children:

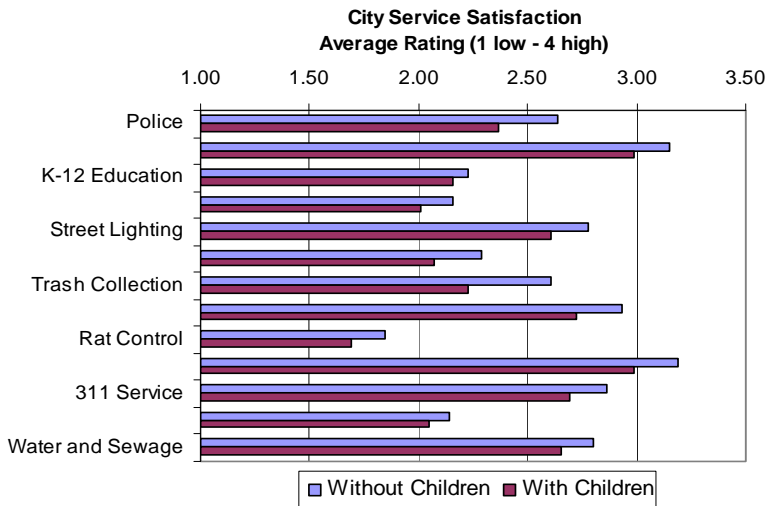
- Consistently rate City services lower than respondents without children
- In the Western Planning District rate schools better than those in the city as a whole.
- In the Southwestern Planning District rate schools worse than those in the city as a whole.

Racial Makeup of Respondents with Children



Incomes of Respondents with Children





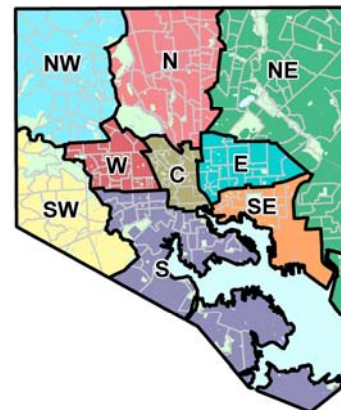
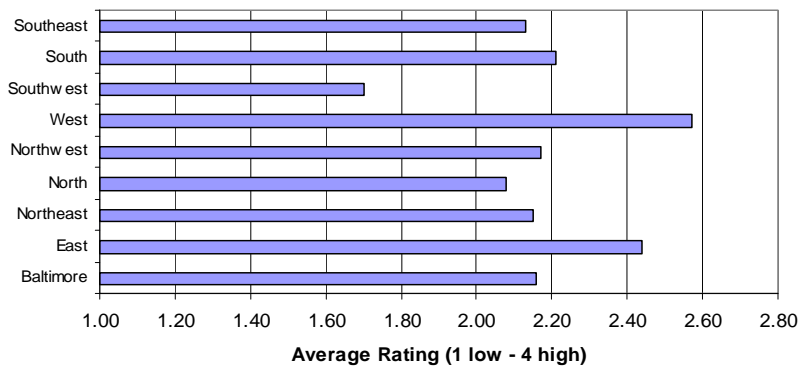
Findings

Respondents with children are, in general, likely to be less satisfied with City services than the overall population, and also more likely to rate some of these services as important or very important. Regarding service quality, respondents with children rated their satisfaction with every service lower than the overall population – except for K-12 Education

and Housing Code Enforcement. They also perceive problems to be more serious and are more likely to say that they are planning to leave Baltimore in the next 1-3 years. They are, however, more likely to visit City parks, City libraries, and City pools. This suggests that respondents with children are more critical but also more invested in City services.

Respondents with children also rated the quality of public schools somewhat differently among the different planning districts. In particular, respondents from the Western Planning District rated the quality of schools significantly higher than the population as a whole, while the respondents from the Southwestern District rated the quality of schools significantly lower. The respondents from the Eastern District also seemed to rate the quality of schools higher than the population as a whole, but the sample size was too small to make any definitive statement – this higher rating could simply be random error in the response patterns.

Average School Rating by District, Respondents with Children



The Baltimore Citizen Survey is an annual survey, with 1,800 respondents, and a margin of error of $\pm 2.5\%$. For more information on the survey, and to read full reports, please visit our website at www.baltimorecity.gov/citizensurvey.