OVERVIEW

The following report provides findings and analysis from the 2018 Lehigh Valley Quality of Life Survey. The survey was conducted by the Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion (MCIPO) in September of 2018 for the Lehigh Valley Research Consortium (LVRC) in conjunction with the LVRC’s annual State of the Valley Report. The survey examined the perceptions of adult residents of Lehigh and Northampton Counties regarding social, economic and environmental aspects of life in the Lehigh Valley. The 2018 survey results are compared, when possible, to findings from earlier Quality of Life Surveys conducted by the MCIPO and the Morning Call between 2003 and 2015. The study was financed from contributions from the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation, The United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley and Muhlenberg College.

KEY FINDINGS

1. A strong majority of Lehigh Valley residents rate the quality of life in the region positively with over 9 out of 10 indicating life in the area is either “excellent” or “good.”

2. A record percentage of residents of the Lehigh Valley report they are optimistic about the direction of quality of life in the area, with 56% of local adults indicating that life in the Lehigh Valley is “getting better” compared to 20% who see life here “getting worse.”

3. A decade after the start of the Great Recession perceptions of the Lehigh Valley economy are more positive than at any time since 2003 with almost 8 out of 10 residents describing the local economy as either “excellent” or “good.”

4. While positive appraisals of the local economy are found across most demographic divides, local residents without a college degree are twice as likely (20% to 11%) as those with degrees to rate the Lehigh Valley economy negatively.

5. Only about 1 in 5 Lehigh Valley residents are concerned about becoming unemployed in the next year, however among residents with family income under $60,000 a year almost 1 in 3 report being either “very” or “somewhat” concerned about becoming unemployed in the next 12 months.

6. In general Lehigh Valley residents report satisfaction with their income levels, however dissatisfaction levels in 2018 equaled a 15 year high with 23% indicating they are either “somewhat” or “very dissatisfied” with their income. Notably women in the Lehigh Valley reported higher levels of dissatisfaction (27%) with their income than their male counterparts (19%).

7. Satisfaction with one’s current job various across age demographics within the Lehigh Valley with residents under the age of 30 significantly less likely to be satisfied with their current job than residents age 30 and older.
8. Lehigh Valley residents generally gave positive ratings of the local environment, but significant segments of the regional adult population expressed concerns about air quality, drinking water safety and loss of open spaces.

9. About 3 out of 4 Lehigh Valley residents rated housing in the Lehigh Valley as either “excellent” or “good,” yet ratings of housing were considerably less positive among residents with annual family income under $60,000.

10. Dissatisfaction with transportation in the Lehigh Valley reached record levels in 2018 with almost half (46%) of local adults rating transportation in the region as either “not so good” or “poor.”

METHODOLOGY

The following key findings report summarizes data collected in a telephone survey of residents of the Lehigh Valley between September 4 and 14, 2018. Individual households throughout Lehigh and Northampton counties were selected randomly for inclusion in the study. The sample of cell and landline phone numbers used in the survey was generated by Genesys Sampling Systems of Ft. Washington, PA. Interviews were conducted by the staff of the Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion, with 408 surveys completed (263 cell and 145 landlines). This number of completions results in a margin of error of +/- 5% at the 95% confidence interval. However the margin of errors for sub groups (i.e. women, college educated, parents, etc.) and select questions is larger due to smaller sample size. Data from the survey was weighted to population parameters provided by the United States Census Bureau for: gender; age; race; income and educational attainment. Percentages throughout the survey have been rounded upward at the .5 mark, thus many totals in the results will not equal 100%. The survey questionnaire, found in Appendix 1, was designed by Dr. Christopher Borick of the Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion in consultation with staff members of the Lehigh Valley Research Consortium. Analysis and report writing were completed by the Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion under the direction of Dr. Borick.

QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE LEHIGH VALLEY

This survey marks the fourteenth in a series of annual observations of citizen views on life in the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania. Over the fifteen years of this project the Lehigh Valley has emerged as one of the fastest growing areas in the Northeastern United States. With that growth have come many changes to the local landscape and cultures. From major developments in the areas of commerce and recreation to the diminishing amount of open space in the area, it is clear that the Lehigh Valley is undergoing a transformation. This study attempts to measure how residents of the Valley view their lives here, and how those views are evolving over time. Between 2003 and 2015 the survey was conducted through a partnership between the Morning Call and Muhlenberg College. The project was on hiatus in 2016 and 2017 before the Lehigh Valley Research Consortium (LVRC) initiated a new fielding of the survey in conjunction with its 2018 State of the Valley Report. The findings from the 2018 surveys are presented in the remainder of this report.
OVERALL PERCEPTIONS OF QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE LEHIGH VALLEY

The survey findings indicate that Lehigh Valley residents rate the region positively as a place to live. Overall, 91% of residents identified the Valley as a positive place to reside, with 30% giving the region an “excellent” rating and 61% a “good” mark. Conversely, only 9% of Lehigh Valley residents viewed the overall livability of the region negatively. These findings are consistent with the ratings Lehigh Valley residents have provided over the past 15 years, demonstrating persistent positive appraisals of the region’s livability. A full breakdown of ratings for the quality of life of the region over the last six years follows in Table One below:

Chart One

The generally positive appraisals of quality of life in the Lehigh Valley are matched by record levels of optimism for the overall direction of life in the region. A solid majority (56%) of Lehigh Valley residents indicated that life in the area is getting better with only 1 in 5 indicating it is getting worse. In every survey conducted since 2011 (see Table Two) the percentage of Valley residents who indicated that life in the area was getting better increased, moving from only 26% with optimistic evaluations in 2011 to 56% in 2018.
Chart Two

Is Life in the Lehigh Valley Getting Better or Worse?

Percentage

Year

Getting Better
Getting Worse
Staying the Same
Not Sure


32% 38% 43% 32% 29% 25% 28% 26% 30% 34% 47% 51% 56% 51% 56%
PERCEPTIONS OF THE ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT IN THE LEHIGH VALLEY

A decade after the start of the Great Recession began Lehigh Valley residents gave very positive ratings to the condition of the region’s economy. Nearly 8 out of 10 adults living in Lehigh and Northampton counties described the local economy as either “excellent” (9%) or “good” (70%) in 2018. Comparatively, at the height of the recession in 2009, only 38% of Lehigh Valley residents had positive appraisals of the local economy with 61% evaluating local economic conditions as either ‘not so good” or “poor.” The 79% positive rating for the local economy is 12 points higher than the previous record highs of 67% established in both the pre-recession year of 2007 and the post recession survey of 2015. Notably only 2% of Lehigh Valley residents said the local economy was “poor” in 2018, surpassing the previous low of 5% that was established in 2007.

Chart Three

While Lehigh Valley residents rated the local economy more positively than at any time since the first Quality of Life Survey in 2003, there were some notable differences across groups in the region. Notably, perceptions of the local economy are moderately better among Lehigh Valley residents with a college degree in comparison with those without a degree. As can be seen in Table 4, 20% of local residents without a degree rated the local economy negatively (18% “not so good” and 2% “poor”) compared to only 11% of residents with a degree (10% “not so good” and 1% “poor”).
Concern about becoming unemployed, a key indicator of the economic health of the region, has lessened significantly since the depths of the Great Recession. In 2018 over 2 out of 3 Lehigh Valley adults reported that they are either “not too concerned” or “not concerned at all” with losing their jobs in the next year. As the region was emerging from the Great Recession in 2011 only about 1 in 3 local residents expressed little or no concern with becoming unemployed.
These declining levels of concern reflect the changing Lehigh Valley labor market between 2011 and 2018. When the 2011 Quality of Life Survey was being fielded the local unemployment rates were over 9% compared to the 4.2% unemployment rate measured during the fielding of the latest survey in September of 2018.

**Chart Five**

![Levels of Concern of Becoming Unemployed](image)

While concern with becoming unemployed has significantly dissipated among Lehigh Valley residents as the region emerged from the Great Recession, concerns with job security do significantly vary across income strata. About 30% of Lehigh Valley residents who have annual family incomes under $60,000 indicated they are either “very” or “somewhat” concerned with losing their job in the next year compared to only 13% of individuals with incomes over $60,000.
Fairly high levels of satisfaction regarding income levels compliment the generally high levels of job security reported by Lehigh Valley residents. The survey found 7 out of 10 individuals in the region were either “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with their family income levels in 2018. While a large majority of residents are satisfied with their incomes, there has been a 13 point drop in satisfaction since 2014 when satisfaction levels set the 15 year record of 85%.
The 2018 survey results also indicate a moderate gender gap among Lehigh Valley residents in terms of satisfaction with family income. While 37% of male residents in the region reported they were “very satisfied” with their family incomes in 2018, only 23% of women reported the same level of satisfaction. The satisfaction disparity may likely reflect actual income disparity between men and women with women earning 82% of what men earned in 2017 across the nation.
Lehigh Valley residents also indicated generally high levels of satisfaction with their current jobs during 2018. Overall about 6 out of 10 adult residents of the Lehigh Valley reported that they were either “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with their jobs, compared to only 1 in 10 local residents that were either “somewhat dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied with their employment situation. These job satisfaction levels in 2018 are fairly consistent with levels reported since 2013 and about 10 points higher than the 2010-2012 period when the local economy was emerging out of recession.
Job satisfaction among Lehigh Valley residents is affected by the age of the resident with younger individuals significantly more likely than older residents to express dissatisfaction with their current employment status. The 2018 survey found that 3 out of 10 residents under the age of 30 were dissatisfied (either somewhat or very) with their current job, compared to only 13% of those 30-49 and 6% of those 50-64. While this disparity may reflect the prevalence of entry level positions from which younger workers seek to move on from, the fairly levels of job dissatisfaction within this cohort is a concern for regional efforts to retain younger residents.

**Chart Ten**

![Chart Ten: Satisfaction with Current Job in 2018 by Age of Respondent](chart.png)
Residents of the Lehigh Valley rate the local environment positively with 8 out of 10 describing environmental quality as either excellent or good. Despite some minor fluctuations year to year, overall perceptions of the local environment have been fairly consistent since 2003.

While most individuals in the Lehigh Valley offered generally positive appraisals of the region’s overall environmental quality, many in the area indicated significant concern regarding the Lehigh Valley’s water quality. The percentage of residents who indicated some degree of concern for the safety of their drinking water was 44%. This is a slight increase from the 39% who held concern for the quality of their drinking water the last time this question was asked in 2013.
One factor that appears to influence local concerns regarding water quality is the presence of children in a household. A majority (51%) of Lehigh Valley adults that have at least 1 child under the age of 18 reported that they are either “very concerned” (26%) or “somewhat concerned” (25%) with the safety of drinking water in their community. Comparatively only 41% of respondents without children in their household reported elevated levels of concern with drinking water safety. This difference in concern levels may be partially explained by the high level of media exposure given to the damaging effects of the Flint, Michigan drinking water crisis on children’s health.
The survey results also indicate a fairly substantial degree of concern among local residents with Lehigh Valley air quality. In the 2018 survey 45% of respondents reported that they are either “very concerned” (16%) or “somewhat concerned” (29%) with air quality in their community. While the survey results do indicate substantial concern with Lehigh Valley air quality there has been a modest decline in concern levels since the first decade of the 2000s when concern levels averaged about 10 points higher (55% “very” or “somewhat” concerned between 2003 and 2009).
Another indicator of the environmental quality is the loss of open spaces, including forests and farms. This is particularly relevant in the Lehigh Valley, which has seen a large influx of new residents and commercial development since the beginning of the 21st Century. In this present study, 64% of citizens expressed some level of concern over this issue, with nearly 4 in 10 (38%) indicating they are “very concerned” about loss of open spaces such as forests and farms in the Lehigh Valley. The fairly widespread concern with the loss of open space is significantly lower than the concern measured during the first decade of the century when concern levels averaged over around 83%.
Chart Fifteen

Levels of Citizen Concern with the Loss of Open Spaces

Year

-5%  5%  15%  25%  35%  45%  55%  65%

Percentage

2005  2006  2008  2009  2010  2011  2012  2013  2018

-6%  3%  3%  3%  0%  1%  0%  1%  3%

-5%  5%  69%  43%  36%  37%  34%  33%  26%

-4%  27%  28%  32%  40%  44%  43%  40%  38%

-3%  26%  26%  54%  56%  55%  60%  55%  55%

Legend:
- Very Concerned
- Somewhat Concerned
- Not too Concerned
- Not at all Concerned
- Not Sure / Refused
PERCEPTIONS OF HOUSING

In terms of perceptions about the Valley’s housing we find that about 3 out of 4 residents had positive views about this aspect of life in the region. More specifically 74% of Lehigh Valley residents indicated that housing in the region was either “excellent” (10%) or “good” (64%). These findings are fairly in line with the average housing ratings since 2003.

Chart Sixteen

The generally positive aggregate rating of housing in the Lehigh Valley does mask notable differences in opinion across individuals of varied economic standing. Among individuals with annual family income below $60,000 there are less positive perception of Lehigh Valley housing conditions with nearly 1 out of 4 (24%) in this group maintaining negative perceptions of this aspect of life in the region. In addition, while 16% of Lehigh Valley residents with income over $60,000 per year rated housing in the region as “excellent” only 3% of their counterparts with income below $60,000 maintained similar perspective. These findings may reflect growing affordable housing challenges that the Lehigh Valley has been experiencing, as housing markets have recovered in the wake of the Great Recession.
Chart Seventeen

“Rating of Housing in the Lehigh Valley”

Under 60K
- Good: 62%
- Not So Good: 15%
- Poor: 12%
- Not Sure: 8%
- Excellent: 3%

Over 60K
- Good: 50%
- Not So Good: 13%
- Poor: 1%
- Not Sure: 8%
- Excellent: 18%
PERCEPTIONS OF RACE RELATIONS

Another important issue in the Lehigh Valley, with its growing racial and ethnic diversity, is race relations. In 2018 almost 2 in 3 (63%) Lehigh Valley residents rated race relations in the region positively with 5% saying race relations are “excellent” and 58% saying race relations are “good.” The survey results do find nearly 3 in 10 (28%) residents of Northampton and Lehigh counties had negative views of race relations with 22% indicating relations across races were “not so good” and 5% indicating that race relations were “poor.” The findings in regards to race relations are fairly consistent with the average results since 2003 with the most positive ratings on this matter coming in 2013 with 73% of residents offering positive appraisals and the lowest rate of positive appraisals (55%) coming two years later in 2015.

Chart Eighteen

The race of respondents did play a role in their evaluations of race relations in the Lehigh Valley with individuals identifying as a member of a racial minority group more likely to maintain negative views of local race relations than those identifying as white. In particular, 34% of minority residents of the Valley rated local relations as either “not so good” or “poor” compared to 25% of white residents in Lehigh and Northampton Counties.
The views of local residents on transportation in the Lehigh Valley have become more negative over the course of the Quality of Life Surveys with more residents in 2018 rating transportation in the region as “not so good” or “poor” than at any time since 2003. For the first time since the survey’s inception more residents had negative (“not so good” or “poor”) perceptions of the region’s transportation than positive (“excellent” or “good”) perceptions. The 46% negative mark recorded in 2018 was 9 points higher than the last time the question was asked in 2013 and 17 points higher than the first Quality of Life Survey in 2003.

### Chart Twenty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Not So Good</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Not Sure</th>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VIEWS ON SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE LEHIGH VALLEY

The 2018 QOL survey sought to gain a better understanding of where local residents get their information and to what degree they trust various sources of data regarding life in the Lehigh Valley. The survey included a battery of questions regarding the media consumption habits of local residents and their trust with an array of data sources. As can be seen in Table One local residents turn to a variety of sources for their information about the Lehigh Valley. Television was identified as the primary source of information for about one third (34%) of Lehigh Valley residents with about one quarter (24%) turning primarily to social media sites. Similar portions of local residents primarily use print newspapers (17%) or websites (14%) as their source of information about the area.

As might be expected the age of local residents has a significant impact upon their primary source of news about the Lehigh Valley. Among Lehigh Valley residents under the age of 30 the most common source of local news is social media with just under half (49%) of this group going to this source for local information. Television was the most commonly utilized source of information for local residents between the ages of 30 to 49 with 30% of this group turning to TV as their main source of local news. Large portions of the 30 to 49 year old age group also turned to social networks (28%) and websites (26%) as their main source of Lehigh Valley news. A majority (51%) of local residents between the age of 50 and 64 turn most often to television...
for their Lehigh Valley news while those 65 and older turn most commonly to either television (45%) or print sources (34%) for their local information.

Chart Twenty-Two

The 2018 Lehigh Valley Quality of Life Survey asked local residents to report their level of trust in 5 sources of information. As can be observed in Table Twenty Three local residents have significantly varied levels of trust in information from common sources of information. As may be expected, local residents place the highest degree of trust on information provided by family and friends, with 8 out of 10 indicating a high (41%) or moderate (42%) level of trust in these sources of information. Only 16% of adults in Lehigh and Northampton Counties maintain a high level of trust in information from media outlets compared to 36% with either low (24%) or no (12%) trust in this information source. Fairly low trust in information from government is also observable among Lehigh Valley residents with over 4 out of 10 residents indicating either low (29%) or no (13%) trust in information provided by government.
Other than information from family and friends, Lehigh Valley residents are most likely to trust information from colleges and universities with about 2 out of 3 individuals maintaining either high (32%) or moderate (45%) trust from these sources. Individual trust in information from colleges and universities is highly related to an individual’s level of education. As can be seen in Table Twenty Four there is as strong relationship between levels of trust in information from colleges and universities and individual levels of educational attainment. Lehigh Valley residents with college degrees are much more likely than their counterparts without a degree to say that they have a high level of trust in information from colleges and universities.
The fairly substantial number of Lehigh Valley residents that have little or no trust in information from major sources has significant ramifications for the community. For example, the 2018 Lehigh Valley Quality of Life Survey indicates that a fairly large portion of local residents are expressing concern for the quality of air and drinking water in the region. Appraisals of environmental risks should optimally be based on empirical data that is regularly gathered from academic and governmental institutions and reported through local media sources. If the public lacks trust in information from these sources it is reasonable to question how individuals are determining their concerns. While individual experiences and information from friends and family can be valuable in terms of evaluating aspects of quality of life in the region, building trust in public sources of information remains an important factor in developing common assessments of the challenges that the Lehigh Valley community faces.
2018 Lehigh Valley Quality of Life Survey
Surveys Instrument

Q1: What county do you currently reside in?
Lehigh…………….1
Northampton……...2
Other……………...3 (Terminate interview)

Q2: Overall, how would you rate the Lehigh Valley as a place to live? Would you say it's an excellent, good, not so good, or poor place to live?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Not So Good
4. Poor
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q3: In general, would you say that life in the Lehigh Valley is getting better or getting worse?

1. Getting Better
2. Getting Worse
3. Staying the Same (Volunteered)
4. Not Sure (Volunteered)
5. Refused (Volunteered)

Q4: Next I would like you to rate the quality of various categories of life in the Lehigh Valley. For each category that I mention, please rate it as either excellent, good, not so good, or poor as it pertains to life in the Lehigh Valley.

First the Economy?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Not So Good
4. Poor
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q5: Next, Housing?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Not So Good
4. Poor
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)
Q6: The Environment?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Not So Good
4. Poor
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q7: Transportation?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Not So Good
4. Poor
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q8: and Race Relations?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Not So Good
4. Poor
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q9: Now I would like to ask you some questions regarding your satisfaction with various aspects of your life. For each aspect that I mention please indicate if you are very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied.

First how satisfied are you with your current job?

1. Very Satisfied
2. Somewhat Satisfied
3. Somewhat Dissatisfied
4. Very Dissatisfied
5. Not Sure/Retired/Unemployed (Volunteered)
6. Refused(Volunteered)

Q10: Your Family Income?

1. Very Satisfied
2. Somewhat Satisfied
3. Somewhat Dissatisfied
4. Very Dissatisfied
5. Not Sure/Retired/Unemployed (Volunteered)
6. Refused(Volunteered)

Q11: And the amount of time it takes you to commute to work
1. Very Satisfied  29%
2. Somewhat Satisfied  19%
3. Somewhat Dissatisfied  2%
4. Very Dissatisfied  4%
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)  20%
6. Refused (Volunteered)  25%

Q12: Next, I have a few questions regarding your level of concern for a variety of issues. For each issue that I mention please tell me if you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

First, how concerned are you that you will become unemployed in the next year?

1. Very Concerned
2. Somewhat Concerned
3. Not Too Concerned
4. Not At All Concerned
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q13: And how concerned are you about not having enough money to pay your rent or mortgage?

1. Very Concerned
2. Somewhat Concerned
3. Not Too Concerned
4. Not At All Concerned
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q14: How concerned are you with the safety of drinking water in your community?

1. Very Concerned
2. Somewhat Concerned
3. Not Too Concerned
4. Not At All Concerned
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q15: How concerned are you with the air quality in your community?

1. Very Concerned
2. Somewhat Concerned
3. Not Too Concerned
4. Not At All Concerned
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)
Q16: How concerned are you with the loss of open spaces such as forests and farms in the Lehigh Valley?

1. Very Concerned
2. Somewhat Concerned
3. Not Too Concerned
4. Not At All Concerned
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q17: In the Lehigh Valley there are numerous non-profit organizations that are engaged in efforts to address a number of community problems. Do you think that local non-profits have a major effect, moderate effect, minimal effect or no effect on addressing problems facing the Lehigh Valley?

1. Major Effect
2. Moderate Effect
3. Minimal Effect
4. No Effect
5. Not Sure
6. Refused

Q18: Which of the following is the primary way that you get information about Lehigh Valley news?

1. Reading news in a print newspaper
2. Listening to news on the radio
3. Watching news on television
4. Getting news from a social media site such as Facebook or Twitter
5. Getting news from a website
6. Do not get information about local news (Vol)
7. Not Sure (Vol)
8. Refused (Vol)

Q19: Next I have a few questions on your level of trust in the quality of information you receive from a variety of sources. For each source of information I mention please tell me if you have a high level, moderate level, low level or no trust in information from that source.

First, Media outlets

1. High Level of Trust
2. Moderate Level of Trust
3. Low Level of Trust
4. No Trust
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q20: Next, colleges and universities

1. High Level of Trust
2. Moderate Level of Trust
3. Low Level of Trust
4. No Trust
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q21: Family and friends
1. High Level of Trust
2. Moderate Level of Trust
3. Low Level of Trust
4. No Trust
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q22: Government organizations

1. High Level of Trust
2. Moderate Level of Trust
3. Low Level of Trust
4. No Trust
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q23: Businesses

1. High Level of Trust
2. Moderate Level of Trust
3. Low Level of Trust
4. No Trust
5. Not Sure (Volunteered)
6. Refused (Volunteered)

Q24: Next I have a question about immigrants and their role on quality of life in the Lehigh Valley. Which of the following comes closer to your view? Immigrants burden the Lehigh Valley by taking jobs, housing and health care, or immigrants strengthen the Lehigh Valley through their hard work and talents?

1. Immigrants burden the Lehigh Valley
2. Immigrants strengthen the Lehigh Valley
3. Neither (Volunteered)
4. Not Sure (Volunteered)
5. Refused (Volunteered)

Q25. Finally, I have a few questions about yourself. First, what is your current marital status?

1. Single
2. Married
3. Separated
4. Divorced
5. Widowed
6. Partnered
7. Not sure (Volunteered)
8. Refused (Volunteered)
Q26. What is your highest level of education? Is it (READ LIST)?

1. Less than High School
2. High School graduate
3. Some college or technical school
4. College graduate (4 yr only)
5. Graduate or professional degree
6. Not sure (Volunteered)
7. Refused (Volunteered)

Q27. Which of the following categories best describes your racial identity? (READ LIST)

1. White/Caucasian
2. African-American
3. Hispanic
4. Latino
5. Asian
6. Native American
7. Mixed race
8. or other
9. Not Sure (Volunteered)
10. Refused (Volunteered)

Q28. What is your zip code? ________________

Q29. Which of the following categories best describes your family income? (READ LIST)

1. Under $20,000
2. $20,000-$40,000
3. $40,000-$60,000
4. $60,000-$80,000
5. $80,000-$100,000
6. Over $100,000
7. Not sure (Volunteered)
8. Refused (Volunteered)

Q30. How many children do you have under 18? ______

Q31: In which of the following age categories does your current age fall. READ LIST ______

1. 18-29
2. 30-49
3. 50-65
4. or Over 65

Q32. Finally to which gender identity do you most identify? (READ LIST)

1. Male
2. Female
3. Or another category besides Male or Female
4. Other (Vol)
5. Note Sure (Vol)
6. Refused (Vol)