

ISSUE II • 2024

# FOCUS ON FLINT

Facts, figures and community insights

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ON FLINT?

**2** VILLAGE  
OF 100

**4** FOCUS  
ON FLINT  
TIMELINE

**8** FIVE-YEAR  
SURVEY  
RESULTS

[focusonflint.org](http://focusonflint.org)



CHARLES STEWART  
MOTT FOUNDATION®

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Vital Signs is a community check-up conducted by foundations around the world that measures the vitality of our communities and identifies significant trends in a range of areas critical to quality of life. Vital Signs is coordinated internationally by Community Foundations of Canada.

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**ON THE COVER:** An artist performs during Flint Alley Fest in downtown Flint.

PHOTO: MIKE NADDEO

### ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

Focus on Flint builds on the Vital Signs® publication model developed in Canada. The Mott Foundation would like to thank the Toronto Foundation for developing and sharing the Vital Signs concept. We also want to give special thanks to the Community Foundations of Canada and the Victoria Foundation, who shared valuable insights and advice as we sought to launch our initial publication in 2019.

### FOCUS ON FLINT TEAM

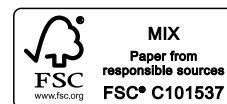
The Mott Foundation led editorial efforts for this project. We were joined and supported by Behr Communications and FM3, who conducted community opinion surveys and analyzed the results. Olmsted Associates in Flint handled design and production. McKay, an RRD Company, in Midland, Michigan, printed the publication.



The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation is a private philanthropy that supports efforts to promote a just, equitable and sustainable society in our hometown of Flint and communities around the world.

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# WHY FOCUS ON FLINT?

The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation is a private, charitable organization that makes grants to help communities around the world. Because Flint is our hometown, we care deeply about what happens here and the well-being of residents. In 2023, the Foundation granted more than \$80 million – over half of our total grantmaking for the year – to nonprofits and other organizations doing good work in support of the Flint community.

However, we always want to know if what we and other organizations are doing in the community is adding up to positive change you can feel in your day-to-day life. The Focus on Flint project, which was launched in 2019, gives us a way to track that over time. It also gives us another opportunity to hear about your priorities and share what we learn. What do you think are the most urgent concerns facing our community? What can we celebrate?

While Flint faces challenges similar to other aging industrial cities across the country, we believe it's important to continue to focus on residents' specific needs and tailor solutions accordingly. As part of this effort, we've supported annual surveys about key issues and top concerns. We've also gathered community data published by credible sources.

It's been five years since we published the first Focus on Flint report, and though we've shared updates online, we thought it was time to publish a second report. In it, you'll learn how residents' feelings about key issues have – or have not – changed over the years. You'll also find a deeper look at education, something residents continue to report is a priority.

You'll learn how information from the surveys, combined with what residents told us during community conversations and through online voting, has helped to shape our local grantmaking. That includes support for neighborhood projects you told us were important to you.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in 2020, many residents found themselves needing extra help for the first time and looking to the community to find it. That's why this report also includes a list of resources in the Flint area that can help you, your loved ones, neighbors and colleagues.

Flint's story is one of challenges and triumphs. This publication doesn't tell us everything about our community, but I hope it will continue to spark conversations about how – together – we can Focus on Flint and keep making progress toward a great quality of life for all residents.



Ridgway White, President and CEO  
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

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 [x.com/RidgwayWhite](https://x.com/RidgwayWhite)



PHOTO: MIKE NADDEO

*Ridgway White*

## STAYING CONNECTED

Focus on Flint is one of many ways the Mott Foundation gathers input from the community about priorities for Flint. We will continue to listen and to ask for your input and feedback.

You can share your thoughts at any time by emailing us at [focusonflint@mott.org](mailto:focusonflint@mott.org) or calling **810-237-4888**.



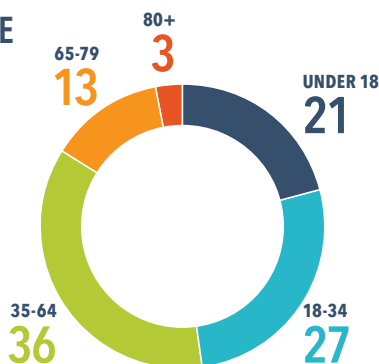
# IF FLINT WERE A VILLAGE OF 100

All data on pages 2 and 3 come from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey One-year Estimates. In some cases, numbers rounded to the nearest whole number will not add to 100.

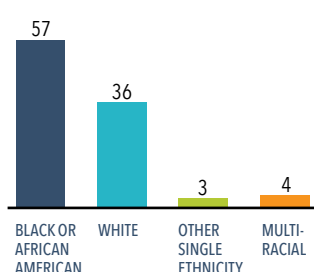


If Flint had **100 residents**, this is what the community would look like.

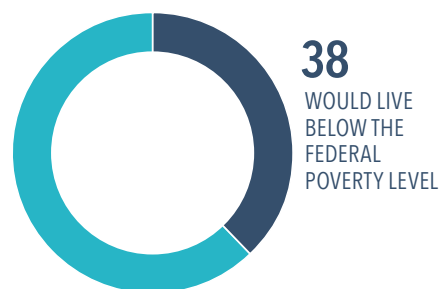
## AGE



## RACE/ETHNICITY



## INCOME LEVEL



## GENDER

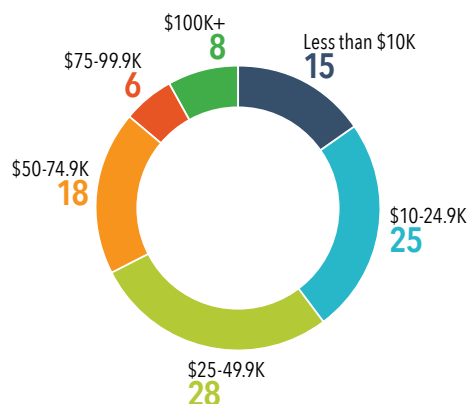


## LANGUAGE SPOKEN IN THE HOME

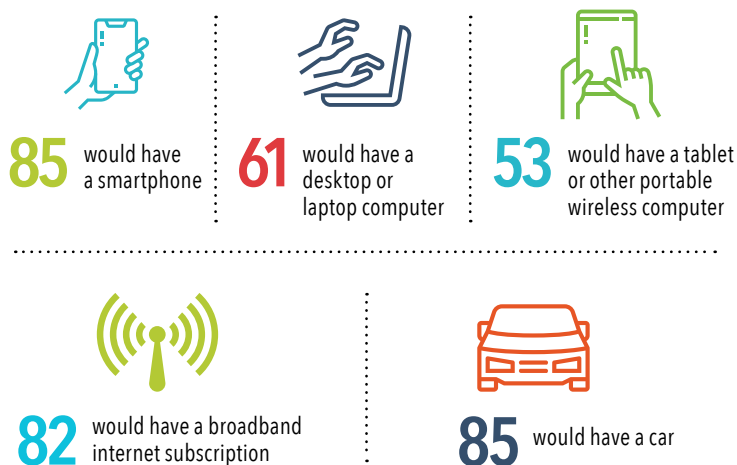


If Flint had **100 households**, this is what the community would look like.

## ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME



## OTHER HOUSEHOLD RESOURCES



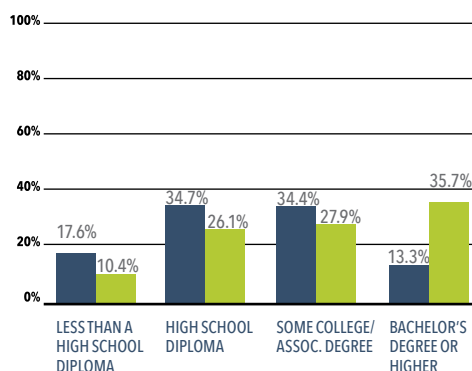
# HOW FLINT COMPARES WITH THE REST OF THE COUNTRY

KEY: ■ FLINT ■ UNITED STATES



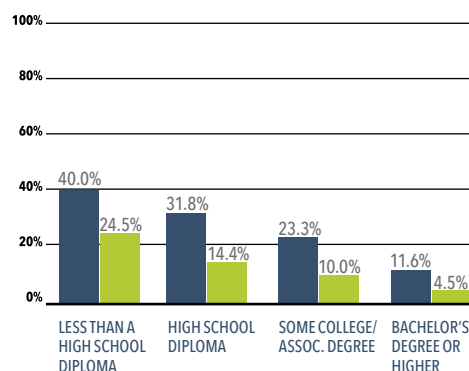
## EDUCATION

AMONG RESIDENTS AGE 25 AND OVER

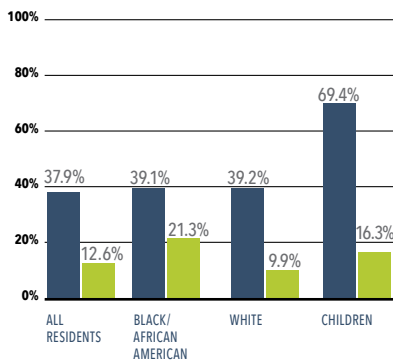


## POVERTY RATES BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

RESIDENTS AGE 25 AND OVER

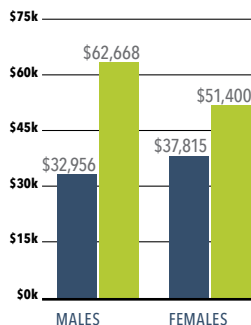


## POVERTY RATES BY SUBPOPULATION



## MEDIAN ANNUAL EARNINGS

FOR FULL-TIME, YEAR-ROUND WORKERS



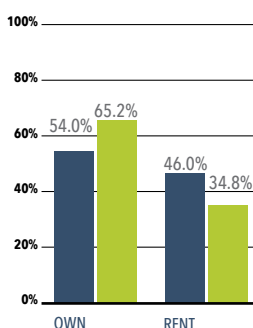
## MEDIAN HOME VALUE

OWNER-OCCUPIED UNITS

**\$48,700**  
**\$320,900**

KEY: ■ FLINT ■ UNITED STATES

## OWN OR RENT



## MEDIAN MONTHLY RENT

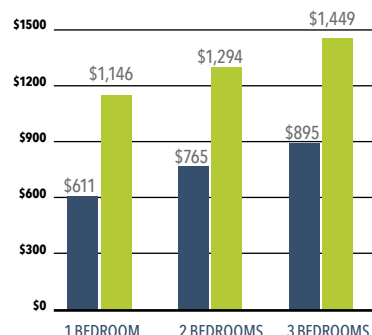




PHOTO: MIKE NADDEO

# FOCUS ON FLINT **TIMELINE**

**T**he Focus on Flint initiative launched in the summer of 2019. We began by surveying 900 residents and gathering community data published by credible sources.

We used that information to develop and publish a report that provided a realistic picture of Flint's challenges and opportunities, and to lift up how residents felt about life in our community. Residents shared their views about quality of life, challenges facing the community, whom they trust and more.

The Focus on Flint report was mailed to every address in the city of Flint to serve as a springboard for community conversations about the needs and bright spots of Flint.

**Here's what happened next.**

## SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER 2019 RESIDENTS IDENTIFY THEIR TOP FOUR CONCERNS

The Mott Foundation hosted 30 community conversations throughout the city. We heard from more than 400 residents and business owners who shared their priorities for making Flint a better place to live, learn, work and play.



1. NEIGHBORHOODS



2. SAFETY



3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



4. EDUCATION

**NOVEMBER 2019** On Nov. 8, 2019, Mott announced we would grant **\$1 million in 2020 to strengthen Flint's neighborhoods**, and we asked for residents' ideas on how to do it.

We gathered ideas from members of the Flint community at a town hall meeting and via focusonflint.org, phone calls, snail mail and suggestion boxes placed throughout the city. Mott Foundation staff read through all of the suggestions we received – 625 in total.

Based on concerns shared during the community conversations, we asked for ideas in **four categories**:



BEAUTIFICATION AND NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP



HOME IMPROVEMENTS



DEMOLITION



STREETLIGHT AND SIDEWALK REPAIR

2019



**JULY 2020** Mott staff reviewed all ideas submitted, combined those that were similar and removed those Mott could not fund. This resulted in 70 potential projects. Residents were asked to vote on how they would use \$1 million to fund up to 10 of the projects.

More than 800 people voted. After votes associated with ZIP codes outside the city of Flint were removed, votes from 640 residents were tallied.

2020

**AUGUST 2020** Listed below are the top eight vote-getters, along with the average dollar amount residents said should go toward each. Based on this, the Mott Foundation was able to fully fund the top seven projects and provide \$76,680 toward the eighth project for a total of \$1 million.

1. Demolish vacant houses that are beyond repair.  
**235 votes | \$150,553**
2. Hire young people to assist with neighborhood cleanups and beautification.  
**215 votes | \$109,860**
3. Offer a home improvement loan/grant fund for home repairs and upgrades.  
**197 votes | \$161,878**
4. Take down properties that have been burned.  
**193 votes | \$139,378**
5. Demolish homes that appear on the city's Property Portal, but for which no funds are available.  
**184 votes | \$158,098**
6. Offer a home repair program for seniors who want to stay in their homes but are unable to do minor repairs themselves.  
**160 votes | \$121,406**
7. Place dumpsters throughout the city during designated times of the year (e.g., spring cleaning and fall winterizing).  
**156 votes | \$82,147**
8. Build upon the city's Blight Elimination Task Force.  
**146 votes | \$139,966**



2020

[ \$121,406 ]

**AWARDED TO GENESEE COUNTY  
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY  
FOR SENIOR HOME REPAIRS**



**OCTOBER 2020** The first grant awarded through the Foundation's Focus on Flint community-led grantmaking process was **\$121,406** to **Genesee County Habitat for Humanity** to help provide home maintenance and repair services for seniors in Flint.

With the grant, Habitat **completed projects at 12 Flint homes** in seven of the city's nine wards. The projects included roof and porch repairs, wheelchair ramps and handrails, as well as accessible showers, toilets and door thresholds.

**NOVEMBER 2020** **\$448,029** was granted to the **Genesee County Land Bank** to help reduce blight in the city of Flint in response to how residents voted to strengthen neighborhoods.

This grant funded three of the top eight projects residents said they wanted to see happen:

**\$150,553** to demolish vacant houses that are beyond repair.

**\$139,378** to take down properties that have been burned.

**\$158,098** to demolish homes that appear on the city's Property Portal, but for which no funds are available.

The Land Bank asked for the community's input to prioritize those properties. A total of 37 structures were demolished across the city's nine wards.

**NOVEMBER 2020** **\$192,007** was granted to the **Neighborhood Engagement Hub** to coordinate neighborhood cleanups in Flint and hire young people to assist with the work. The grants to NEH funded two of the top eight projects residents said they wanted to see happen:

**\$109,860** to hire young people to assist with neighborhood cleanups and beautification.

**\$82,147** to place dumpsters throughout the city during designated times of the year (e.g., spring cleaning and fall winterizing).

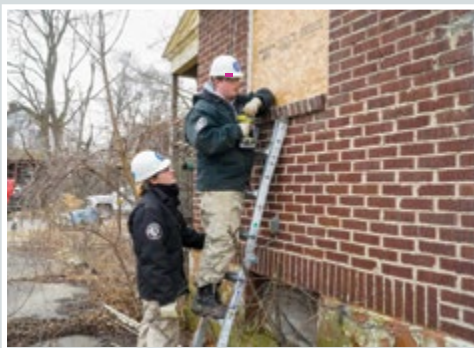
The Neighborhood Engagement Hub worked with resident leaders and neighborhood groups throughout the city of Flint to host two citywide cleanup days – May 15 and Sept. 18, 2021. During each cleanup, neighborhood groups and individual residents completed projects on more than 20 sites throughout the city's nine wards.



PHOTO: JENIFERVELOSO

2020

PHOTO: CRISTINA WRIGHT



**NOVEMBER 2020** **\$76,680** was granted to the **Genesee County Land Bank** to help update and strengthen Flint's blight elimination plan and coordinate efforts to fight blight throughout the city.

The Land Bank partnered with the **Flint Police Foundation** to build upon a five-year blight elimination framework that was adopted in 2015. The work funded through the Focus on Flint grant included evaluating the condition of all vacant lots throughout the city and identifying problem properties and hot spots for dumping.

2020



PHOTO: SARAH SCHUCH



2020

**NOVEMBER 2020** The Mott Foundation granted a total of **\$661,878** to **Genesee County Habitat for Humanity** to provide funding for no-interest home repair loans for Flint residents and to support Habitat's management of the program. We awarded an initial grant of **\$500,000**, followed by a **\$161,878** grant increase as part of the Focus on Flint initiative, to help launch the Flint Home Improvement Fund, which started accepting applications in February of 2021.

The Foundation has granted an additional **\$300,000** each year to support the program. Since the launch of the program, projects have been completed at more than 400 homes throughout Flint's nine wards with support from the Mott Foundation and other funding sources. [Learn more about the program at Flint-HIF.org.](#)

2022

PHOTO: CRISTINA WRIGHT



**\$208,579**



AWARDED TO **GENESEE CONSERVATION DISTRICT** FOR REMOVAL OF DEAD TREES

**NOVEMBER 2020** The Mott Foundation granted **\$208,579** to the **Genesee Conservation District** to remove more than 330 dead and dangerous trees throughout the city of Flint based on residents' feedback during community conversations. Although it wasn't one of the top eight projects funded after residents voted on how to allocate \$1 million to strengthen Flint neighborhoods, it was raised as a priority by community members.

**FALL 2021** Mott Foundation staff hosted several small community conversations with Flint area educators, parents and guardians to learn more about what is working well regarding education in Flint and what still needs to be done to help Flint kids thrive.

**\$140,000**



AWARDED TO **GENESEE CONSERVATION DISTRICT** TO PLANT TREES

**OCTOBER 2021** Residents also said planting new trees was important to them, so the Mott Foundation was happy to support that, as well. We granted an additional **\$140,000** to the Genesee Conservation District to plant **250 trees** throughout Flint's nine wards over two years.

2021

**\$10 million**

**NOVEMBER 2022** The Mott Foundation granted \$10 million to the **Genesee County Land Bank Authority** to support the organization's blight elimination initiative, which aims to demolish 1,910 structures by 2025. A total of 462 structures had been torn down as of April 30, 2024.

# FIVE-YEAR SURVEY RESULTS

## KEY ISSUES AND OVERALL RATINGS: 2019-2023

When the Mott Foundation launched the Focus on Flint initiative in 2019, we promised to continue to ask about and report on residents' perspectives on life in the city. For the past five years, we have commissioned a survey of Flint residents about nine key issues that affect quality of life, as well as the top concerns and priorities they want to see addressed. Along with community conversations, survey results help to inform the Foundation's local grantmaking.

On a scale from one to five, with one meaning "very negative" and five meaning "very positive," below are residents' average ratings recorded from 2019 through 2023. Arrows indicate if the most recent rating increased or decreased from the initial 2019 survey, while an equals sign indicates the rating was unchanged.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	CHANGE
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.1	<b>2.2</b>	↑
<b>ARTS &amp; CULTURE</b>	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.8	<b>3.7</b>	↑
<b>ECONOMY</b>	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	<b>2.4</b>	=
<b>EDUCATION</b>	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.6	<b>2.5</b>	↓
<b>HOUSING</b>	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	<b>2.1</b>	↓
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.4	<b>2.4</b>	↑
<b>HEALTH</b>	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.9	<b>2.9</b>	↑
<b>STANDARD OF LIVING</b>	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	<b>2.5</b>	=
<b>QUALITY OF LIFE</b>	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.7	<b>2.5</b>	=

## TOP CONCERNS FOR FLINT RESIDENTS

Survey participants were asked, "What do you think is the most serious issue facing the residents of Flint that you would like to see community leaders do something about?" Among those who responded in 2023, crime and water quality continue to top the list of key concerns. Below are the top three concerns from the 2023 survey:



## A FEW THINGS WORTH NOTING

- Residents' feelings toward **arts and culture** programming and opportunities in Flint have remained majority-positive over the last few years and have continued to rank the highest among the nine key issues.
- Attitudes toward **water supply** and affordability are slowly improving.
- The majority of residents who took the survey say they pay more for water than residents of surrounding communities and describe their rates as unfair, but the intensity of this sentiment has decreased over time.
- Flint residents continue to have negative feelings about the direction of the country and the city. The negative perception about the direction of the United States is shared throughout the nation, according to numerous public polls commissioned by major media outlets.
- Two-thirds of residents provide a negative rating when it comes to **housing** in Flint, but the 2.1 rating in 2023 is the lowest yet.
- **Crime** has been the biggest concern for Flint residents since 2020.
- **Local, traditional media** outlets still play a significant role in where residents get their information about the community.



PHOTO: ADAM STOLTMAN

## 2023 SURVEY RESULTS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

In addition to gathering feedback on nine key issue areas, we wanted to take a closer look at other important community issues. So this update also features residents' thoughts and concerns regarding opportunities for young people in the city.

Residents rated these opportunities for Flint's young people as very important or somewhat important:



However, residents were a bit more divided on the affordability of opportunities for young people in Flint.

**34%** said academic support and tutoring were very or somewhat affordable where **26%** said they were very or somewhat unaffordable.

**31%** said recreation and sports leagues were very or somewhat affordable where **30%** said they were very or somewhat unaffordable.

**30%** said having safe places to hang out and have fun was very or somewhat affordable, while **34%** said it was very or somewhat unaffordable.



PHOTO: JENIFER VELOSO

## TOP PRIORITIES

When asked which expanded opportunities for young people should be priorities, residents focused on education. The top three choices were:



To see more information on survey results from the previous four years, visit [focusonflint.org](https://focusonflint.org).



# ARTS & CULTURE

*"The important thing that I've learned is how to be open to so many different cultures and how to be loving to the community. I think it is super important to teach others how to express themselves through rhythm and music."*

— LaCresia Brown, Tapology participant

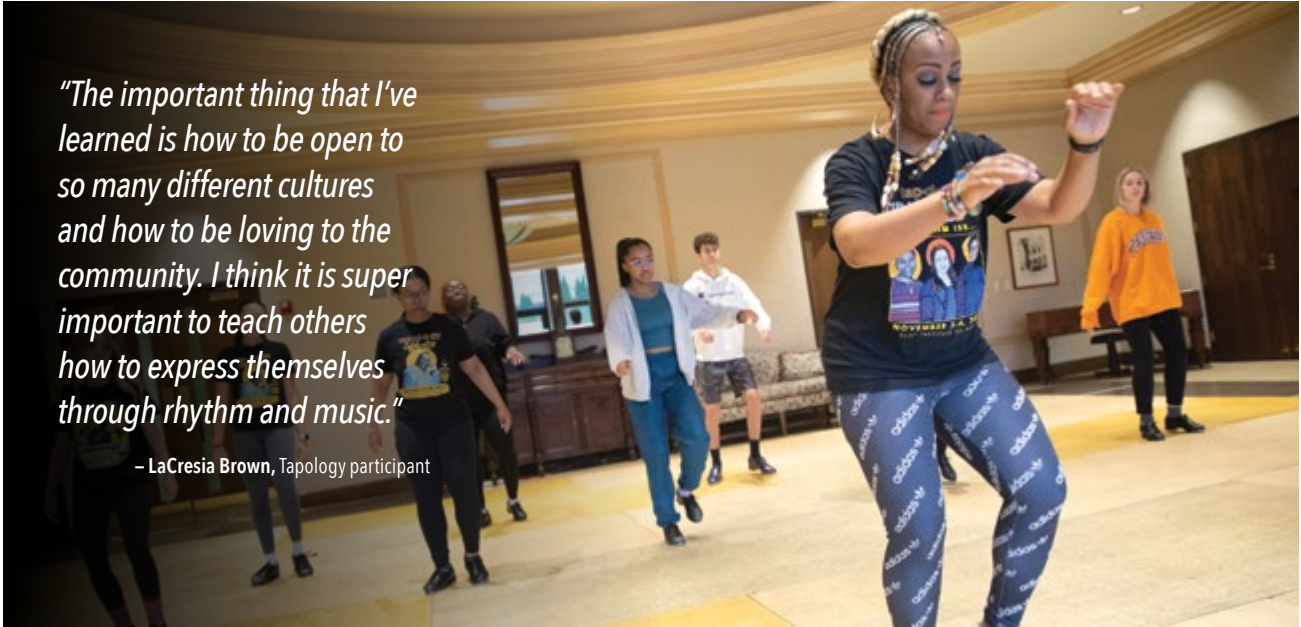


PHOTO: MIKE NADDEO

Alexandria "Brinae Ali" Bradley, Tapology instructor, teaches a tap class to a group of students during the Fall Tap Festival.

## THE ISSUE

Young people who participate in dance, music, theater or visual arts programs report higher self-esteem and often improve academic achievement. Many schools are lacking arts-related classes or extracurricular activities, which has impacted early exposure to enriching opportunities. Many arts and cultural programs in Flint are offered for free, at low cost or through scholarships for participants of all ages. However, these opportunities are still not accessible for everyone due to: transportation needs; competing priorities, such as afterschool jobs; and lack of awareness.

## THE RESPONSE

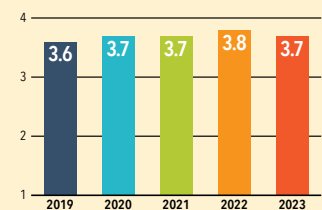
Many local organizations provide access to the arts through community theater, fashion shows, concerts, visual arts showcases, dance programs, pop-up entertainment events and art education. Downtown festivals celebrating our community and its diversity take place nearly every weekend from May to October and attract tens of thousands of residents and visitors to downtown Flint.

Flint is also home to the Flint Cultural Center, a community gem that is unique in a city the size of Flint. In fiscal year 2023, the cultural center campus organizations served nearly 650,000 people. Those institutions – Flint Institute of Arts, Flint Institute of Music (including FIM Whiting Auditorium, FIM Capitol Theatre, Flint Repertory Theatre and Flint School of Performing Arts), Sloan Museum of Discovery and Longway Planetarium – offer a broad range of experiences.

Events such as the Second Friday Art Walk in downtown Flint and festivals along Saginaw Street in the warmer months are often free. Tuition-based programs and summer camps, such as those at the Flint School of Performing Arts or Sloan Museum, offer scholarships for individuals and financial and transportation support for schools and community groups to participate.

Additionally, organizations such as El Ballet Folklórico Estudiantil, Tapology, New McCree Theatre, Greater Flint Arts Council, Buckham Gallery, Flint Public Art Project and many more offer programming and a supportive environment to learn and grow in the arts.

### ARTS & CULTURE RATING 5-YEAR COMPARISON



## FACTS & FIGURES

A recently released Americans for the Arts economic and social impact study found that, in 2022, the Flint and Genesee County nonprofit arts and culture industry supported more than 2,171 jobs and generated over \$129 million in economic activity including:

**\$74**  
**million**  
from event-related  
spending by audiences.

**\$55**  
**million**  
spent by arts and  
culture organizations.

**\$19**  
**million**  
in local, state and federal  
government revenues  
also supported the arts in  
Genesee County.

### PUBLIC FUNDING FOR THE ARTS

Growth in Flint and Genesee County property values has increased funding for arts programming and organizational operations through the Flint and Genesee County Arts and Education Millage.

The Greater Flint Arts Council awarded a total of



**\$2.2 million**  
in millage funds to 32 smaller arts/cultural  
organizations located throughout Genesee  
County from 2019-2024.

Organizations may apply for up to

**\$5,000**  
in project grants.

**\$30,000**  
in general support.

PHOTO: JENIFER VELOSO



In 2023, placemaking  
events engaged over  
**9,000**  
people in the  
downtown area.

PHOTO: JENIFER VELOSO



A total of  
**278**  
murals curated by  
the Flint Public Art  
Project can be seen  
throughout Flint.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Community Foundation of Greater Flint's Neighborhoods Small Grants Program provides mini grants to neighborhood groups and block clubs to support activities around the city. The Mott Foundation has been a longtime supporter of the NSGP, having made an initial grant of \$80,000 in 1990. Since 2019, the Mott Foundation has granted \$270,000 to CFGF for neighborhood-based arts and cultural programs, such as summer art camps, festivals and events. To learn more about this program, go to [www.cfgf.org](http://www.cfgf.org).



PHOTO: JAMAL BRANSFORD

*A young Flint resident paints during the Summer Art Series program at the James E. Kennedy Family Life Center.*

# ECONOMY

*"I always hated getting up in the morning to go punch a clock. But when I started working here, I looked forward to it. Knowing that I was doing something productive and helping myself, along with others, to make life more bearable meant a lot to me."*

— Olivia Young, head seamstress at St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center



PHOTO: JENIFER VELOSO

Head Seamstress Olivia Young makes final touches on a Stormy Kromer vest at St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center.

## THE ISSUE

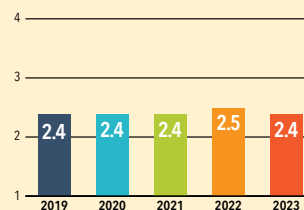
A strong economy is essential for creating and maintaining a vibrant community. Jobs, careers and pathways to economic mobility give residents the ability to plant deep roots in the city and invest in homes, neighborhoods and new businesses. Unfortunately, much of Flint is still struggling with low workforce participation rates, high poverty rates and below-average household income. There's a continuous need for different types of workforce development programs that support a living wage and help residents build the skills they need to improve their quality of life.

## THE RESPONSE

Workforce development programs available in the community prepare Flint's workers and entrepreneurs for current and new job opportunities. Michigan Works!, Flint & Genesee Group's Summer Youth Initiative, and Flint & Genesee Job Corps are among those leading the way to support those new to or reentering the workforce. The Greater Flint Health Coalition, Mott Community College, St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center, Peckham, MADE Institute and Flint STRIVE are some of the organizations preparing adults who are traditional and non-traditional job seekers. These programs provide training to hundreds of individuals in Flint each year, placing them into employment with above-minimum-wage jobs that offer opportunities to advance. The programs also provide wraparound services to help residents become or stay employed.

Health care and education are among the top employment sectors in the city, and those, along with manufacturing, remain strong for job training and placement. Newcomer Lear Corporation already is among the top 10 employers, and Ashley Capital's recent purchase of the former Buick City could usher in as many as 3,000 new jobs through future development of the site.

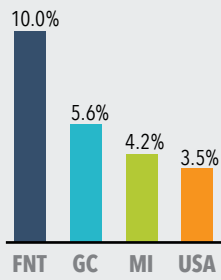
### ECONOMY RATING 5-YEAR COMPARISON





# FACTS & FIGURES

## UNEMPLOYMENT



SOURCE: MICHIGAN BUREAU OF LABOR MARKET INFORMATION AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

## TRANSPORTATION TO EMPLOYMENT BY WORKERS



73%

travel alone via car, truck or van.



16%

use other means.



4.8%

use public transportation.



6.2%

work from home.

SOURCE: AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2018-2022 FIVE-YEAR ESTIMATES

## TOP EMPLOYERS IN FLINT BY NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

GENERAL MOTORS CORP/MOTORS LIQUIDATION CO.	9,741	GENESEE COUNTY	1,262
HURLEY MEDICAL CENTER	2,851	STATE OF MICHIGAN	849
McLAREN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER	2,485	LEAR CORPORATION	844
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN	1,830	KETTERING UNIVERSITY	824
EXPRESS SERVICES, INC.	1,581	CITY OF FLINT	729

SOURCE: CITY OF FLINT COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022



58,602

## EMPLOYEES WORK IN THE CITY OF FLINT

SOURCE: CITY OF FLINT COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022

## DID YOU KNOW?

Entrepreneurs are contributing to Flint's economy by starting and expanding small businesses in the city. For instance, Spectacular Spudz has moved from the Flint Farmers' Market to its own downtown storefront. They've expanded their menu offerings, added days of operation and increased staffing to meet community demand. A strong network of entrepreneurship service providers, such as SIPI, the Flint & Genesee Group, Flint SOUP and 100K Ideas, support both emerging and established entrepreneurs' efforts to get to their next level in contributing to a robust local economy in Flint.



PHOTO: 360INTERACTIVE

Aliz Mendoza, owner of I Love Pig, wins the People's Choice award during a 100K Ideas pitch competition.

# HEALTH

*"My son began attending GHS for the learning center a year ago. The progress he has made has been phenomenal. His language and social skills have improved so much, and they are very focused on the parent relationship for communication to help a child in all settings."*

– Flint mother



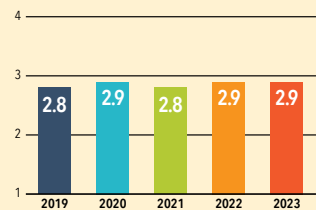
PHOTO: HED AND JOHN D'ANGELO PHOTO

Learning pods at the Genesee Health System Center for Children's Integrated Services provide confidential spaces for activity-based evaluation and treatment for children and families.

## THE ISSUE

Health equity is essential to creating a thriving community that promotes the health and well-being of all residents. Not only do healthy residents enjoy greater quality of life, they also contribute to increased economic productivity of the community overall. The COVID-19 pandemic brought increased attention to significant health inequities that exist in the United States. Communities like Flint are more at risk because socioeconomic factors and environmental issues like the water crisis led to increased vulnerability to diseases and other negative health outcomes. While there has been some improvement in health outcomes, such as life expectancy, Genesee County still ranks 82nd out of 83 Michigan counties for overall health outcomes. Infant mortality in Flint, for example, has drastically increased over the past five years and far exceeds the rate in Genesee County.

### HEALTH RATING 5-YEAR COMPARISON



## THE RESPONSE

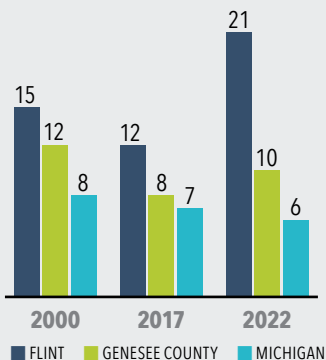
Recognizing the need to reduce inequities in health care and address compounded health concerns, local institutions of higher learning, health providers, philanthropic organizations like the Mott Foundation, nonprofits and other community-based organizations are working collectively on initiatives that promote better health for Flint residents.

For example, the Genesee Health System's Center for Children's Integrated Services is a state-of-the-art, family-centered space that offers Genesee County families health care services and behavioral supports in one place. Similarly, the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic, which provides high quality comprehensive medical care and health care education at no cost, is another example of efforts to strengthen health care for residents. Other initiatives include the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine Flint campus expansion, the Flint Public Health Youth Academy, the Greater Flint Coronavirus Taskforce on Racial Inequities and the Genesee County Prevention Coalition. Through these efforts and many others, the groundwork is being laid to help Flint residents increase their health and overall well-being.

# FACTS & FIGURES

## INFANT MORTALITY

DEATHS PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS\*

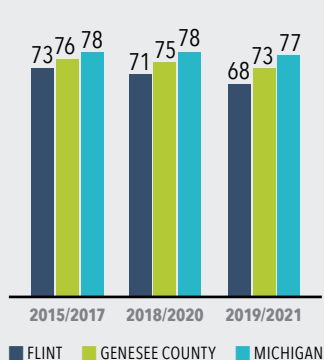


SOURCE: MICHIGAN DEPT. OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

\* Numbers are rounded to the nearest whole.

## AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY

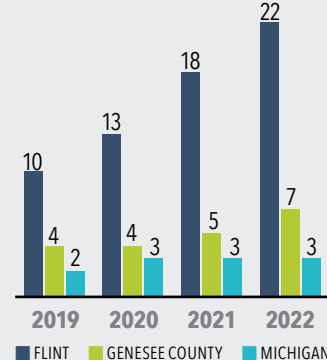
YEARS\*



SOURCES: GREATER FLINT HEALTH COALITION AND COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS & ROADMAPS

## OPIOID-RELATED DEATHS

PER 10,000 PEOPLE\*



THE MOTT FOUNDATION CALCULATED THESE NUMBERS BASED ON DATA FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN INJURY PREVENTION CENTER, MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AND U.S. CENSUS BUREAU.



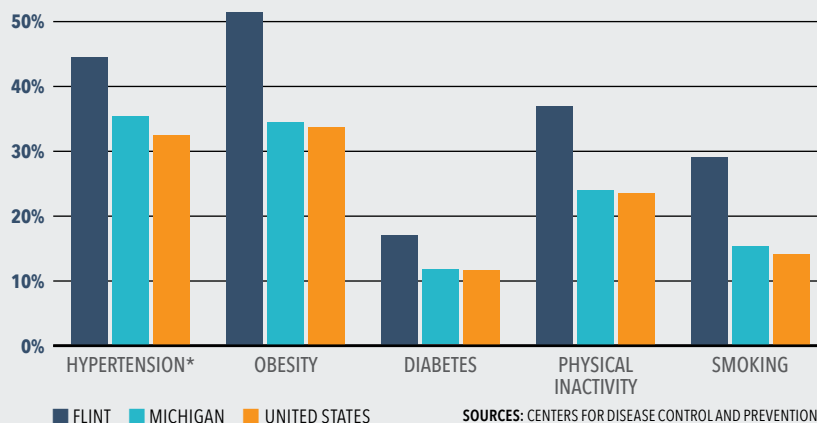
23,708

Flint residents were enrolled in Medicaid under the state of Michigan's expansion of the program as of March 27, 2024.

SOURCE: STATE OF MICHIGAN

## CHRONIC DISEASE INDICATORS

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION THAT EXPERIENCED THESE HEALTH ISSUES IN 2022



\*Hypertension data is from 2021.

SOURCES: CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION; UNITED HEALTH FOUNDATION, AMERICA'S HEALTH RANKINGS

PHOTO: COURTESY OF AMERICAN RED CROSS



A volunteer helps at a blood drive.

## DID YOU KNOW?

In 2021, Black residents accounted for 20% of the Genesee County population but only 3% of its blood donors. This disconnect is leaving the Black population underserved for an adequate blood supply specifically matched to blood type. For instance, because most people in the U.S. who have sickle cell disease are Black, the most compatible blood type match is often from a donor of the same race or ethnicity. The Blood Saves Lives initiative aims to triple the number of Black donors in Flint and Genesee County by 2025, which will result in better outcomes for Black patients who depend on blood products.

For more information on the Blood Saves Lives Initiative or to find a blood drive near you, please contact the American Red Cross of East Central Bay Michigan at 810-232-1401 or visit [redcross.org/local/michigan](https://redcross.org/local/michigan).



# HOUSING



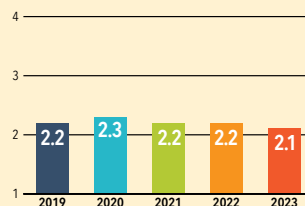
PHOTO: SARAH SCHUCH

Ashara Manns poses on her new porch, which was rebuilt with help from the Flint Home Improvement Fund.

## THE ISSUE

Housing is more than shelter. Good housing leads to better health outcomes, safer neighborhoods and a higher quality of life. Home ownership also helps families pass wealth along to the next generation and break the cycle of poverty. However, despite new development in the city, homelessness and blight have had a negative impact in Flint for decades. New housing cannot be built quickly enough to meet demand. According to the Flint and Genesee County Continuum of Care, nearly 4,000 people experienced homelessness in Genesee County in 2022, and 11% of those individuals were completely unsheltered, living on the streets or in spaces not suitable for human dwelling.

### HOUSING RATING 5-YEAR COMPARISON



## THE RESPONSE

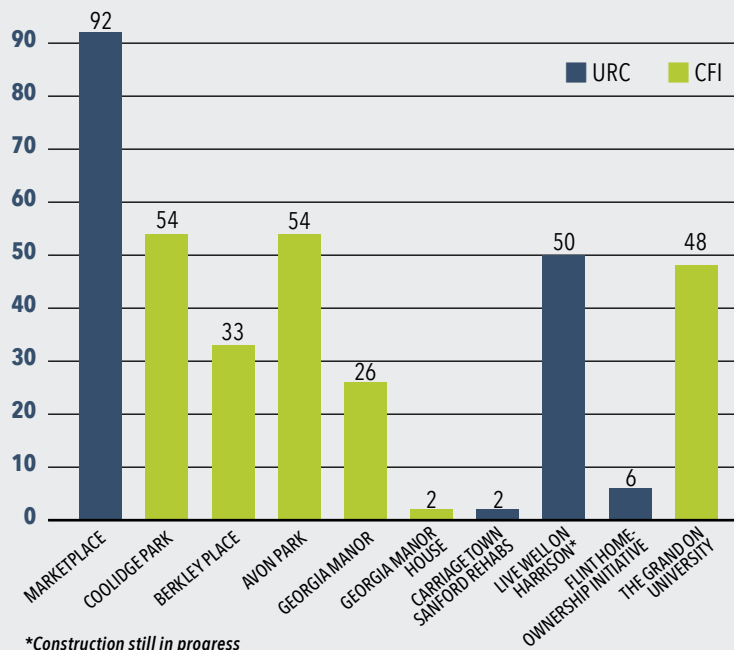
Government and the private sector recognize the need for more affordable, quality housing in Michigan. In January 2024, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer called for \$1.4 billion of state and federal money to build or rehabilitate 10,000 homes of all sizes and varieties throughout Michigan. While this will be a boost for housing throughout the state, the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission found that 7,000 units of affordable housing are needed in the county for those with very low incomes. Although local developers are annually building 100-200 new units in Genesee County, it would take 35 years at the current pace to eliminate the housing shortage.

Residents have repeatedly said that maintaining quality housing is also a concern. Low- and middle-income residents are often unable to secure traditional loans for home improvements due to current home values. In 2020, several funders, including the Mott Foundation, provided support to Genesee County Habitat for Humanity to expand its Flint Home Improvement Fund. This multifaceted program enables Flint residents who either cannot afford or do not qualify for other home improvement lending programs to address vital home repair needs.

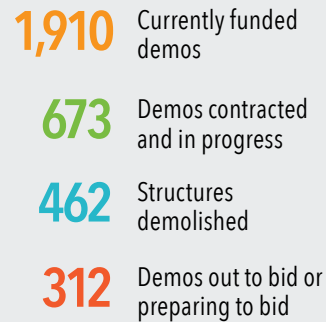
Successful neighborhoods need active resident participation and diversity of housing to be successful. Organizations such as the Neighborhood Engagement Hub and Flint Neighborhoods United support neighborhood associations, block clubs and engaged residents to beautify and activate neighborhoods around the city.

# FACTS & FIGURES

## NEW HOUSING UNITS FROM UPTOWN REINVESTMENT CORPORATION AND COMMUNITIES FIRST SINCE 2020



## LAND BANK DEMOLITION DATA AS OF APRIL 30, 2024



SOURCE: GENESEE COUNTY LAND BANK AUTHORITY DEMO TRACKER

## MEDIAN HOME VALUE

SOURCES: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY ONE-YEAR ESTIMATES, 2012 AND 2022

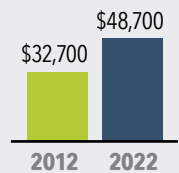


PHOTO: MIKE NADDEO



## FLINT HOME IMPROVEMENT FUND DATA FOR 2023



**73**

Flint HIF households served.

**TOTAL INVESTMENT: \$1,182,755**

SOURCE: GENESEE COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



**98**

furnace & water heater replacements.

**TOTAL INVESTMENT: \$441,500**

## DID YOU KNOW?

Several local organizations are building new housing in Flint. For example, Communities First, Inc., has built 217 rental units, most of which qualify as affordable housing, since 2019. Uptown Reinvestment Corporation, in partnership with Michigan Community Capital, recently focused on a new neighborhood project, that brought some of the first new construction to the historic Carriage Town Neighborhood in nearly a century. Six units of housing in Carriage Town were completed by the end of 2023. The modest, affordable homes went up for sale in early 2024.



PHOTO: JENIFER VELOSO

New duplexes went up for sale in early 2024 in the historic Carriage Town Neighborhood.

# PUBLIC SAFETY



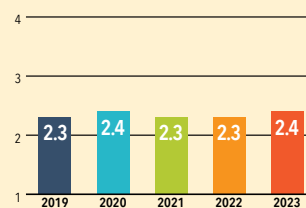
PHOTO: SISTER LINDA MUHAMMAD

Peacekeepers organized a community event to bring together local youth, law enforcement and community groups.

## THE ISSUE

Residents cannot enjoy a good quality of life if they don't feel safe in their homes and neighborhoods. Since the first Focus on Flint survey, residents have ranked public safety among their top concerns. A significant decrease in the number of police officers in Flint over the last decade, national upward trends in gun violence and a population that has experienced high unemployment have all contributed to public safety concerns in Flint. Even as multiple public safety departments, community partners and residents have worked together to tackle this issue, it has been difficult to decrease overall crime rates.

### PUBLIC SAFETY RATING 5-YEAR COMPARISON



## THE RESPONSE

Ensuring public safety requires a holistic approach, as crime, blight and other safety concerns can't be solved by one initiative or organization. Increases in both the number of officers and funding for law enforcement programs are necessary – but, alone, not enough – to decrease crime and community violence. A comprehensive approach to public safety also must include interventions that address violence indirectly, such as programs that focus on blight elimination, access to food, jobs that pay living wages and mental health services.

The Flint National Service Accelerator, housed at the United Way of Genesee County, has deployed hundreds of national service members throughout Flint since 2015 to help with some of these issues. For example, AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps teams come to Flint for approximately eight weeks at a time to board up blighted houses and work with residents to start block clubs and maintain neighborhoods.

Since 2022, the Mott Foundation has granted over \$4.2 million to the city of Flint, Genesee County and University of Michigan-Flint Department of Public Safety to reduce crime. Grants to the city have included funding for overtime for officers, 24-7 Intelligence Center staffing, technology upgrades and a gun buy-back program. Funds to the county support Operation Arrowhead, led by the Genesee County Sheriff's Department, which helps respond to police calls and proactively patrols nearly 30% of the city. Grant funds to UM-Flint increased the number of officers who patrol the downtown area by foot, bike and car.

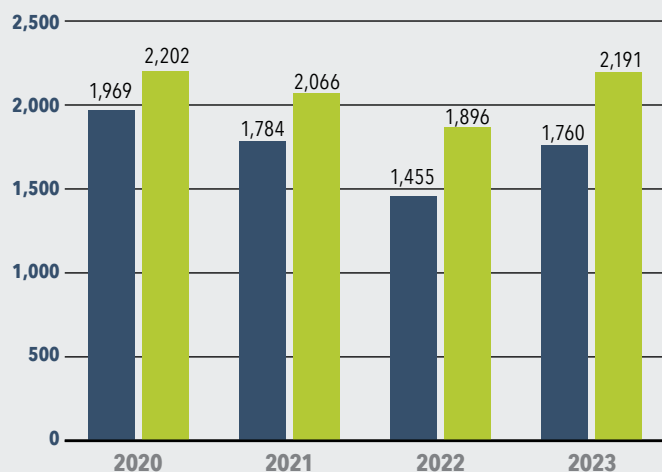


# FACTS & FIGURES

## FLINT PROPERTY AND VIOLENT CRIME RATE

PER 1,000 PEOPLE

- TOTAL VIOLENT CRIMES (part 1\* only)
- TOTAL PROPERTY CRIMES (part 1\* only)



SOURCE: FLINT POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIMESTAT-CITYWIDE PROFILE

\*Part I Crimes fall into two categories: violent crimes and property crimes. Violent crimes are murder, rape, aggravated assault, robbery and human trafficking. Property Crimes are burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft and arson.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF WOW OUTREACH



## WOW OUTREACH

Since 2000, WOW Outreach has led an annual Peace March that brings organizations and residents together to curb violence.

## NORTH FLINT NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION COUNCIL

The North Flint Neighborhood Action Council addresses issues related to safety, education, communication, housing and beautification by bringing together residents, neighborhood block associations and organizations to develop ways for North Flint to enhance the quality of life for all.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION COUNCIL

## CRIME STOPPERS

Since 2014, Crime Stoppers of Flint & Genesee County has increased its presence in the area. Communication with law enforcement, community partnerships and consistent leadership have led to the following successes:

**5,300** tips received.

**300+** tips helped lead to an arrest.

**\$158,000** awarded to tipsters.



## NUMBER OF FLINT POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

**265**  
in 2008

**111**  
in 2018

**118**  
in 2022

PHOTO: KENYETTA DOTSON



A Flint resident participates in a Unity March.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Flint Gun Violence Prevention Network facilitated by the city of Flint and Community Foundation of Greater Flint includes many partners, such as local law enforcement agencies, nonprofits, foundations, colleges, universities and residents affected by violence. Network members support and implement programs and strategies to address gun violence in the city through traditional community policing approaches and nontraditional efforts, such as block parties and peace rallies that connect people at risk of engaging in violence with resources and mentors. The work is funded, in part, by a \$1.5 million U.S. Department of Justice grant to the city.

# STANDARD OF LIVING



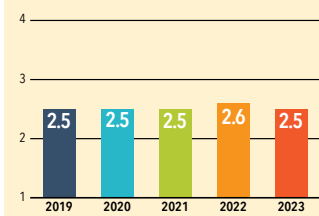
Double Up Food Bucks staff set up at the Flint Farmers' Market to share information about the program.

## THE ISSUE

A higher standard of living would mean more residents would have opportunities to lead a healthy life, advance in their careers, own a home and have access to a quality education, as well as cultural and recreational amenities. With over 69% of children living in poverty and median household income in the community falling well below the county and state, residents continue to express serious concerns about Flint's standard of living. Addressing this will require: meeting the basic needs of residents; designing programs and resources that aim to break the cycle of poverty; and providing comprehensive support for vulnerable populations, such as uninsured residents and older adults.

### STANDARD OF LIVING RATING

5-YEAR COMPARISON



## THE RESPONSE

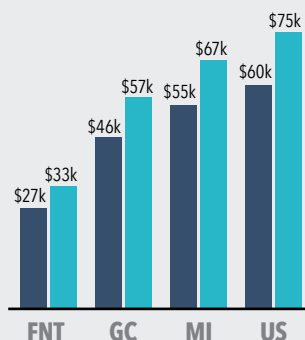
Nonprofit organizations are working with local government and philanthropies to offer resources to help people meet their basic needs. This includes: access to healthy food; options for low-cost health insurance; rent and utility assistance; and programs for vulnerable populations. (See Resource Guide on page 28 for more information.) Below are just a few examples of what's available in the Flint community:

- The Double Up Food Bucks program, operated by the Fair Food Network, increases families' access to fresh fruits and vegetables. Through this program, households that use a Bridge Card to purchase fruits and vegetables receive a dollar-for-dollar match for such purchases.
- In 2020, over one-third (37%) of Genesee County residents received Medicaid health care coverage. Enrollment in Healthy Michigan (Michigan's Medicaid expansion program under the Affordable Care Act) increased more than 25% between December 2016 (29,223) and December 2020 (39,827).
- Organizations such as Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee Counties assist with rent and utility expenses.
- Senior centers, such as Brennan and Hasselbring, offer programs and events for older adults to engage, connect and stay active. The Valley Area Agency on Aging also supports seniors with a variety of services.

Unfortunately, in some cases, such as rent and utility assistance, the need far exceeds available resources. Longer-term, systemic solutions must be developed to eliminate the need for these programs.

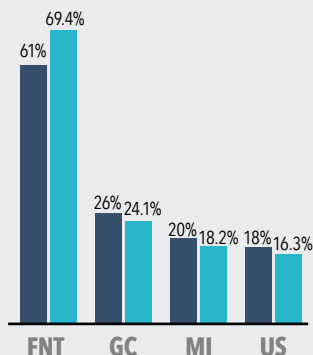
# FACTS & FIGURES

## MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



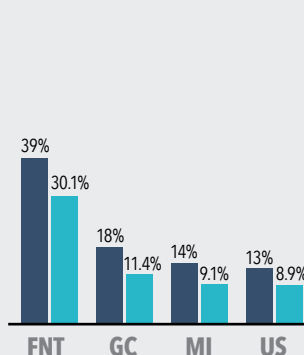
SOURCES: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY ONE-YEAR ESTIMATES, 2017 AND 2022

## CHILDREN (<18) LIVING IN POVERTY



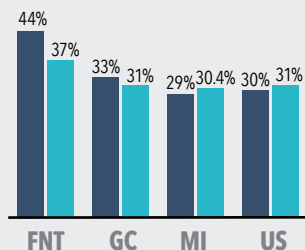
SOURCES: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY ONE-YEAR ESTIMATES, 2017 AND 2022

## HOUSEHOLDS IN POVERTY



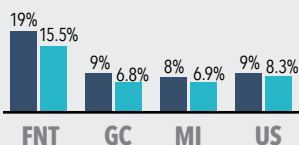
SOURCES: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY ONE-YEAR ESTIMATES, 2017 AND 2022

## PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME SPENT ON RENT



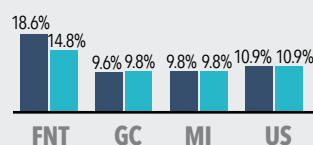
SOURCES: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY ONE-YEAR ESTIMATES, 2017 AND 2022

## HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT VEHICLES



SOURCES: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY ONE-YEAR ESTIMATES, 2017 AND 2022

## SENIORS LIVING IN POVERTY (65+)

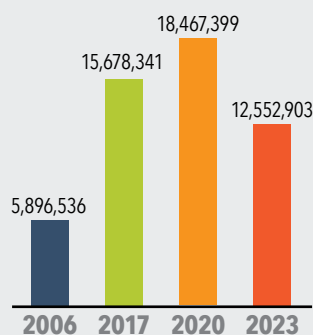


SOURCES: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY ONE-YEAR ESTIMATES, 2017 AND 2022

■ 2017 ■ 2022

## POUNDS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED IN GENESEE COUNTY

BY FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN



SOURCE: FOOD BANK OF EASTERN MICHIGAN

## DID YOU KNOW?

Rx Kids, led by Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha at the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, will provide cash payments to expectant mothers in Flint during pregnancy and throughout the first year of a child's life. Through Rx Kids, which began enrollment in early 2024, families will be "prescribed" a total of up to \$7,500 in cash. This will include a one-time \$1,500 payment to expectant mothers in mid-pregnancy, followed by \$500 per month for the first year of a child's life. All pregnant women and infants who are residents of the city of Flint will be eligible for the program. It is the first citywide program of its kind in the United States.



Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha holds one of the first babies enrolled in Rx Kids.

PHOTO: MIKE NADDEO



# WATER



PHOTO: JOSHUA KENNEDY

*"When I signed up for the Flint Registry two years ago, I was immediately informed about different resources available throughout the community, and I had the opportunity to listen to speakers brought in to discuss different topics affecting the city. The Registry is important because it empowers people to want to be advocates and speak up for what's right."*

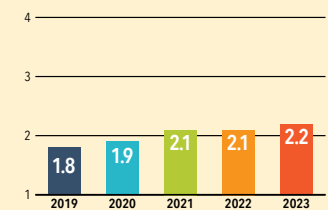
– Danielle Snell

Lisa Pasbjerg, outreach and engagement coordinator at the Flint Registry, talks with community members about the organization at an event in downtown Flint.

## THE ISSUE

Since July 2016, the city of Flint's water system has been tested to ensure that both lead and copper levels are within allowable levels. For the past seven years, water has tested below federal action levels. Testing above allowable levels would require a number of water treatment and public notification protocols. Despite this good news, pipe replacement is still underway, no one has been held accountable for the decisions that led to the switch to river water, and lawsuits have yet to yield compensation for residents. All of this results in lingering negative effects from the crisis, including a lack of trust in systems and institutions.

### WATER SUPPLY RATING 5-YEAR COMPARISON



## THE RESPONSE

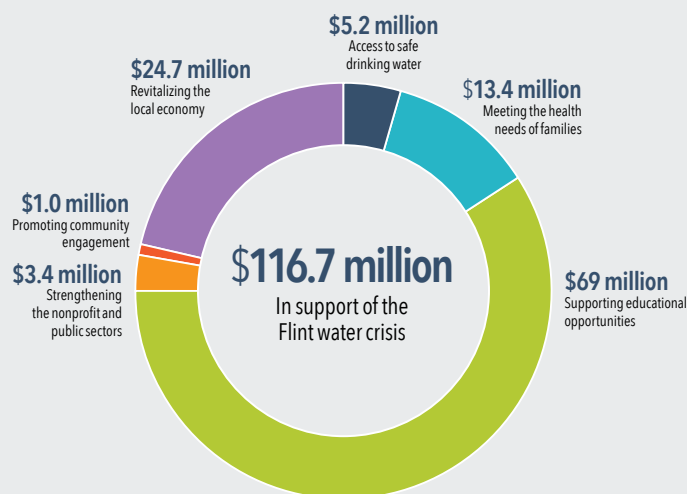
The city of Flint will continue to inspect service lines in the public rights-of-way – the city-owned spaces between sidewalks and curbs – to determine if they are made of lead. The city is required to notify residents when lead service lines are discovered. However, to complete lead service line replacement, residents must give consent for city of Flint contractors to access their homes and must be present at the scheduled time. All work is done at no cost to residents. The city of Flint has completed outreach and attempted to obtain consent from over 31,000 households. Lead line replacement resumed on April 30. Those who still want to take advantage of the opportunity should call 810-410-1133.

The McKenzie Patrice Croom Flint Community Lab at the Flint Development Center offers free drinking water testing to Flint residents. This state-of-the-art lab tests drinking water for lead and copper. Outreach staff work with households to collect samples and then provide information about test results and related resources, such as access to water filters, in-home repair programs and health care.

# FACTS & FIGURES

## FOUNDATION SUPPORT FOR THE WATER CRISIS

On May 11, 2016, the Mott Foundation announced we would commit up to \$100 million in grants over a five-year period to help the city of Flint recover and rise from its water crisis. While we fulfilled that commitment ahead of schedule in June 2020, we continued to make related grants throughout the five-year period. This graphic highlights our support – a total of \$116.7 million – for water crisis recovery efforts through May 11, 2021. Support for the Flint area continues to be the largest of Mott's four grantmaking programs. You can stay up to date on our local grantmaking at [mott.org/flint](https://mott.org/flint).



## FLINT REGISTRY

The Flint Registry was created to connect residents to services and programs that promote health and wellness and help participants understand how the Flint water crisis has affected the community. Sixty jobs have been created to ensure participants are well supported.

Since its launch in 2017:

**21,790**

people have enrolled.

SOURCE: FLINT REGISTRY AS OF FEB. 28, 2024

**34,778**

referrals to services have been made.

## PIPE REPLACEMENT As of May 1, 2024:

**29,747**

pipes have been explored.

SOURCE: CITY OF FLINT

**10,522**

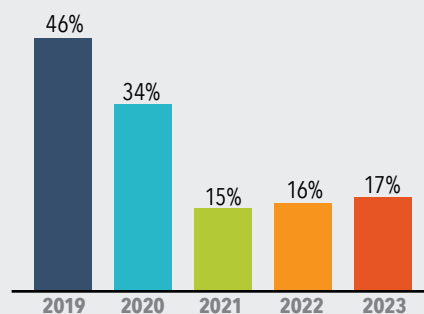
pipes have been replaced.

**1,900**

property owners have yet to respond or grant access.

## PERCENT OF PEOPLE CITING WATER QUALITY AS THEIR TOP CONCERN

In the first Quality of Life Survey in 2019, residents cited water as their highest priority for leaders in the city to address. While it continues to be a high priority for residents, the percentage who cite it as their top concern has decreased significantly since the first survey.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Mott grantees and other nonprofit organizations helped lay the groundwork for elevating lead pipe replacement as a federal priority in response to the Flint water crisis. In 2021, the Biden administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law included \$15 billion for lead service line replacement in the nation's most impacted communities. Service lines connect the municipal water system to an individual home, business or other facility. In 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed a rule that would require water systems across the country to replace most lead service lines within 10 years.

Municipalities across the country are exploring water affordability models through which the cost of water would not exceed a certain percentage of household income. Progress has been made on developing a water assistance program in Detroit that would end water shutoffs for low-income residents. There are currently conversations about developing a statewide program to reduce the cost of water for Michigan residents and provide temporary assistance to qualified residents.



Workers replace service lines in Flint.

# EDUCATION: A DEEPER DIVE



PHOTO: JENIFER VELOSO

A young student enjoys playtime while attending Educare Flint.

Every child who lives in Flint should have the same opportunity to succeed as a child who lives in a more affluent community anywhere else in our state or country. Achieving that will require high-quality educational opportunities – from cradle to college and career – and collaboration among many community partners.

A quality education gives people a much better chance of finding a good job with a strong career path. Those with a post-secondary degree or credential are more likely to be employed and earn more – and much less likely to live in poverty.

In 2022, 40% of Flint residents who lacked a high school diploma lived below the poverty level, compared to 11.6% of Flint residents who earned a bachelor's degree or higher.

This section looks at what programs, initiatives and organizations are doing to help strengthen educational opportunities in Flint, as well as what the Mott Foundation is supporting toward this effort.

Educare Flint and Cummings Great Expectations are among the strong early childhood education options for Flint families, designed to help kids get a solid start to school and life. Both schools focus on high quality experiences, high staff-to-child ratios, strong relationships with students and their families, and a pipeline of resources for the entire family. Despite the lingering impacts of the Flint water crisis, kids at Educare Flint and Cummings came through the COVID-19 pandemic without statistically significant increases in social-emotional challenges, compared with the 40% of their national peers who did.

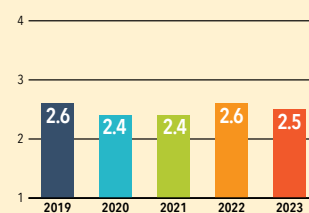
K-12 education in Flint has experienced drastic changes over the years. Of the 16,445 school-age kids who live in Flint, approximately 3,000 of them are enrolled in Flint Community Schools. College- and

career-readiness measures for Flint kids continue to trail state averages, increasing the need to address gaps for Black, Latino and economically disadvantaged students. Critical initiatives like community education and afterschool programming help to fill the gaps for students who need them the most.

Access to higher education also has expanded, with more opportunities for young people and adults to earn degrees and/or certificates. The Flint Promise provides free enrollment to Flint residents at Flint's colleges and universities. The Michigan Reconnect program has recently expanded free community college enrollment. While eligibility previously began at age 25, now anyone who is 21 or older can benefit. The University of Michigan-Flint launched its Go Blue Guarantee program and the Direct Admission Pathway, both of which are intended to make it easier and more affordable for students to earn college degrees.

Through Focus on Flint surveys and community conversations, parents and guardians expressed their belief that our community needs to think differently about how to serve Flint kids. To see the bigger picture of education in the city, Mott Foundation staff worked with a research firm to gather and bring together information about Flint kids and where they attend school. Data presented on the next two pages tell more of that story.

## EDUCATION RATING 5-YEAR COMPARISON





## Where are Flint kids attending school?

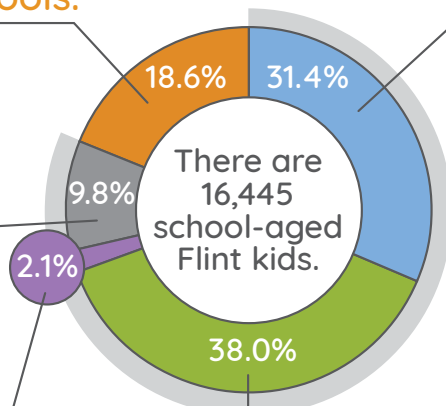
2021-2022  
School Year

3,066 attend Flint  
Community Schools.

5,170 attend a public school  
district other than FCS.

Enrollment is  
unknown for  
1,610 Flint kids.

345 attend  
Genesee  
Intermediate  
School District.



**81.4% of Flint kids do not attend Flint Community Schools.**

25.6% of Flint kids who do not attend FCS are enrolled at:

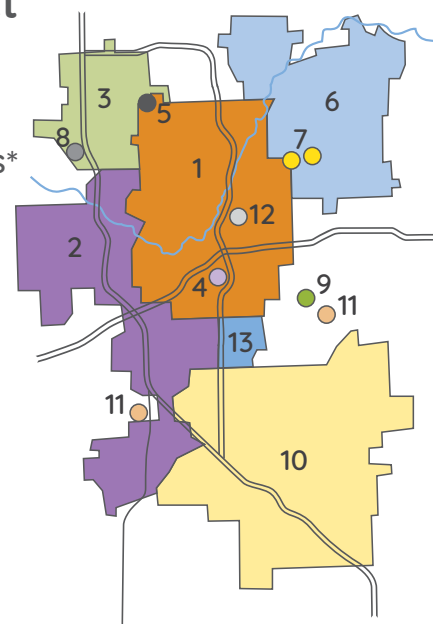
- Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools
- Westwood Heights Schools
- International Academy of Flint

6,255 attend a charter school.

## Number of Flint kids enrolled by district

13 districts with the highest enrollment of Flint kids

- |       |           |                                     |
|-------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 3,066 | <b>1</b>  | Flint Community Schools             |
| 1,134 | <b>2</b>  | Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools* |
| 1,034 | <b>3</b>  | Westwood Heights Schools            |
| 848   | <b>4</b>  | International Academy of Flint      |
| 687   | <b>5</b>  | The New Standard Academy            |
| 657   | <b>6</b>  | Kearsley Community School District  |
| 601   | <b>7</b>  | Richfield Public School Academy     |
| 532   | <b>8</b>  | Linden Charter Academy              |
| 524   | <b>9</b>  | Burton Glen Charter Academy         |
| 491   | <b>10</b> | Grand Blanc Community Schools       |
| 473   | <b>11</b> | Madison Academy**                   |
| 349   | <b>12</b> | Flint Cultural Center Academy       |
| 277   | <b>13</b> | Bendle Public Schools               |



The outlined areas represent public school districts.

The circles represent charter school districts.

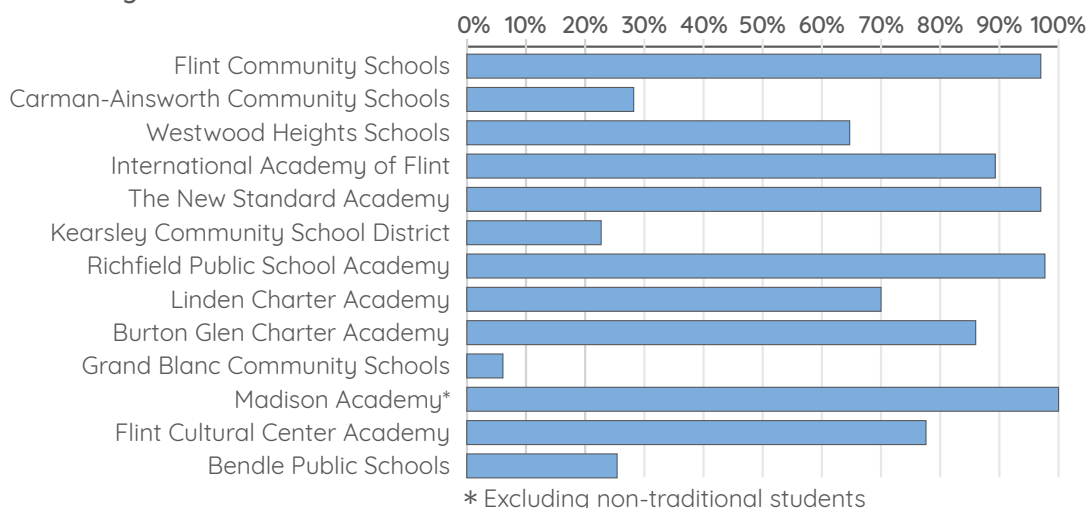
\*Mott Middle College and Genesee Early College students are counted as Carman-Ainsworth students. In the 2021-2022 school year, 263 Flint kids attended Mott Middle College, and 65 attended Genesee Early College.

\*\*Excluding non-traditional students.

## Where are Flint kids attending school?

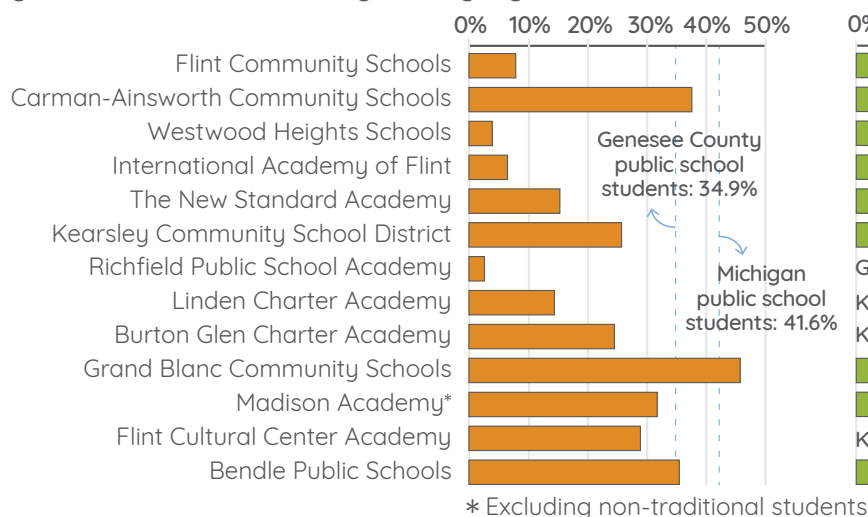
2021-2022  
School Year

Percentage of student enrollment that is Flint kids

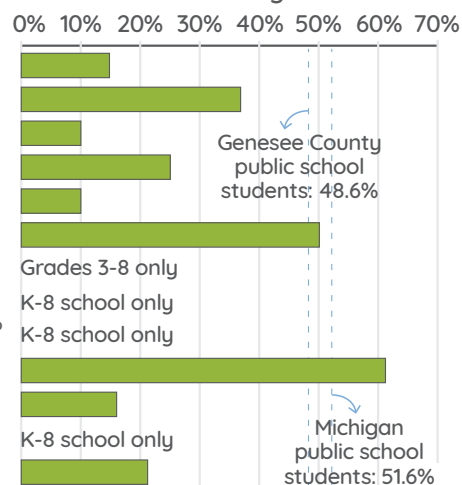


## What are their outcomes?

Percentage of all third graders who met grade-level standards in English language arts



Percentage of 11th graders who met the reading and writing benchmark for college readiness



### Sources:

American Community Survey 2016-2020 5-Year Estimates  
 American Community Survey 2016-2020 5-Year Estimates  
 Public Use Microdata Sample  
 Center for Educational Performance and Information,  
 2018-2019, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022

DATA DRIVEN DETROIT

CHARLES STEWART  
MOTT FOUNDATION®

This report was created by Data Driven Detroit with support from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation as a part of its Focus on Flint initiative.

To better serve Flint students no matter where they attend school, the Mott Foundation is supporting a coordinated approach to improving academic outcomes and well-being for Flint kids.

Launched in early 2023 with Mott funding to the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, the Flint Center for Educational Excellence leads and coordinates six cooperative efforts:

- Community education, which is a school-based holistic approach to supporting students and families with academic, enrichment, recreational, health, and other programs and services.
- Afterschool programming, which provides out-of-school-time activities and programs for students.
- The Flint Early Childhood Collaborative, which supports best practices in early learning.
- A Flint Parent Collaborative, which builds on existing avenues for engagement, creating opportunities for greater involvement and advocacy.
- A Community Council on Education, which brings together a broad set of stakeholders interested in bolstering the educational landscape in Flint.
- A Network for School Excellence, which is a cohort of schools that work together to improve educational outcomes.

Schools that are part of the Network will have support through afterschool programming and the community education initiative. In addition, the Mott Foundation granted a total of \$1.75 million to

### The Network's initial cohort of schools includes:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1 Dailey Elementary</b><br>Beecher Community School District  | <b>5 Doyle-Ryder Elementary</b><br>Flint Community Schools         |
| <b>2 Dye Elementary</b><br>Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools    | <b>6 International Academy of Flint</b><br>Public School Academy   |
| <b>3 Flint Cultural Center Academy</b><br>Public School Academy  | <b>7 Hamady/McMonagle Elementaries</b><br>Westwood Heights Schools |
| <b>4 Durant-Tuuri-Mott Elementary</b><br>Flint Community Schools |  |

support participation by eight Flint area schools in the Network. The grants are intended to provide more resources to create innovative solutions that will help improve student success, and school leaders have flexibility in how they can use the grant dollars.

The Mott Foundation is pleased to support these projects and initiatives, as well as provide additional grants for youth programming outside of schools offered through a variety of community-based organizations. In the coming year, the Foundation will continue to create spaces to listen to Flint kids and parents about how to best support the Flint educational ecosystem and ensure Flint kids thrive.

IMAGE: COURTESY OF STANTEC



*The Brownell-Holmes campus project includes the construction of a new community hub, referred to as "The Cube." This rendering shows The Cube built between Brownell STEM Academy to the right and Holmes STEM Middle School to the left.*

### BROWNELL-HOLMES CAMPUS PROJECT

In December 2023, the Mott Foundation also supported upgrades at two FCS school buildings. The Foundation granted \$14 million to FCS to support renovations to the Brownell STEM Academy and Holmes STEM Middle School campus on the city's north side. In addition to supporting school renovations, Mott Foundation funds also will be used to construct The Cube, a 5,000-square-foot building that can be used by students, staff or residents throughout the school day, as well as during extended hours on mornings, evenings and weekends.



# RESOURCE GUIDE

This list of organizations and programs was created to help Flint residents more easily access resources they need. We know this isn't an exhaustive list of all resources offered throughout the community as needs and supports continue to shift to meet evolving needs. More resources and information can be found at [focusonflint.org](http://focusonflint.org).

## MICHIGAN 2-1-1

[mi211.org](http://mi211.org) | Dial 2-1-1 or 844-875-9211 to find resources that may be able to assist you with health and human services.

## FOOD AND NUTRITION

### Double Up Food Bucks

[doubleupfoodbucks.org](http://doubleupfoodbucks.org) | 866-586-2796

### Food Bank of Eastern Michigan Food Distribution Calendar

[fbem.org/find-food/](http://fbem.org/find-food/)

### Free Meals

#### Carriage Town Ministries

[carriagetown.org](http://carriagetown.org) | 810-233-8787

#### Catholic Charities North End Soup Kitchen/ Center for Hope

[catholiccharitiesflint.org/meal-programs](http://catholiccharitiesflint.org/meal-programs) | 810-785-6991

#### Eastside Mission

[flinteastsidemission.org](http://flinteastsidemission.org) | 810-767-5312

#### First Presbyterian Neighborhood Breakfast

[fpcf.org/neighborhood-breakfast](http://fpcf.org/neighborhood-breakfast) | 810-234-8673

#### South Flint Soup Kitchen

[southflintsoupkitchen.org](http://southflintsoupkitchen.org) | 810-239-3427

## Food Pantries

### Asbury Church

[flintasbury.org](http://flintasbury.org) | 810-235-0016

### Bethel United Methodist Church

[bethelumcflint.org](http://bethelumcflint.org) | 810-407-6642

### Crossover Outreach

[crossoveroutreach.org](http://crossoveroutreach.org) | 810-234-2479

### Every Nation Church Storehouse

[everynationflint.com](http://everynationflint.com) | 810-234-6246

### Flint City Church

[flintcitychurch.com](http://flintcitychurch.com) | 810-288-6387

### Greater Flint Outreach Center

[gfoc777.org](http://gfoc777.org) | 810-767-4064

### Greater Holy Temple

### Community Outreach Center

[rljonescoc.org/community-outreach-center](http://rljonescoc.org/community-outreach-center) | 810-228-3368

## CRISIS INTERVENTION AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

### Carriage Town Ministries

(Emergency shelter, meals)  
[carriagetown.org](http://carriagetown.org) | 810-233-8787

### Catholic Charities

(Clothing, personal items, meals, warming center)  
[catholiccharitiesflint.org](http://catholiccharitiesflint.org) | 810-232-9950

### Crossover Outreach

(Food pantry, household goods, personal items, clothing)  
[crossoveroutreach.org](http://crossoveroutreach.org) | 810-234-2479

### Family Promise of Genesee County

(Prevention services, emergency shelter, adult education)  
[familypromisegeneseecountymi.org](http://familypromisegeneseecountymi.org) | 810-234-9444

### GCCARD

(Utilities assistance, senior nutrition programs, water heater replacement)  
[geneseecountymi.gov/departments/gccard/index.php](http://geneseecountymi.gov/departments/gccard/index.php)  
810-232-2185

### Genesee County Elder Abuse/Child Abuse

[gchwc.org/report-abuse](http://gchwc.org/report-abuse) | 855-444-3911

### My Brother's Keeper

(Emergency shelter)  
[mybrotherskeeperflint.org](http://mybrotherskeeperflint.org) | 810-234-1163

### National Human Trafficking Hotline

[humantraffickinghotline.org](http://humantraffickinghotline.org) | 888-373-7888

### Salvation Army

(Utilities assistance, meals, other resources)  
[centralusa.salvationarmy.org/flintcitadel](http://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/flintcitadel) | 810-232-2199

### Shelter of Flint

(Emergency shelter)  
[shelterofflnt.org](http://shelterofflnt.org) | 810-239-5433

### St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center

(Food pantry, employment, adult education)  
[stlukenewlife.com](http://stlukenewlife.com) | 810-239-8710

### Voices for Children

(Child advocacy resources, child and family therapy)  
[voicesforcac.org](http://voicesforcac.org) | 810-238-3333

### YWCA of Greater Flint

(Domestic violence support)  
[ywcaflint.org](http://ywcaflint.org) | Main: 810-238-7621, Crisis: 810-238-7233



Victoria Lang, a seamstress at St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center, works on her assigned piece of a Stormy Kromer vest.

PHOTO: JEN FERVELOSO



Staff and volunteers distribute food and other resources to Flint residents at Bethel United Methodist Church.

## HEALTH CARE

### Genesee County Community Health

genchc.org | 810-496-5777

### Genesee County Free Medical Clinic

(For the uninsured)

gcfmc.org | 810-235-4211

### Genesee County Health Department

geneseecountymi.gov/departments/health-department | 810-257-3612

### Genesee Health Plan

geneseehealthplan.org | 810-232-7740

### Genesee Health System

genhs.org | 810-257-3705

### Hamilton Community Health Network

hamiltonchn.org | 810-406-4246

### Mid-Michigan CHAP

(Community Health Access Plan)

gfhc.org/mid-michigan-community-health-access-program-chap | 810-953-2427

### Mott Children's Health Center

mottchc.org | 810-767-5750

### Planned Parenthood

plannedparenthood.org | 810-238-3631

## MENTAL HEALTH

### 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

(24/7 free and confidential support)

988lifeline.org | call or text 988

### Ele's Place

elesplace.org | 810-232-3040

### Gerholz Center for Christian Counseling

gerholz.org | 810-234-0500

### GHS Behavioral Health Urgent Care

810-496-5500

### Mott Children's Health Center

mottchc.org | 810-767-5750

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUPPORT

### Alcoholics Anonymous Genesee County 24/7 Helpline

geneseecountyaa.org | 810-234-0815

### Catholic Charities' Center for Hope

catholiccharitiesflint.org/centerforhope | 810-265-7025

### Flint Odyssey House

odysseyvillage.com | 810-238-0483

### Life Challenge Ministries/Teen Challenge

lcministries.org | 810-424-9039

### Narcotics Anonymous 24/7 Helpline

michigan-na.org/flint-area/meetings | 800-230-4085

### New Paths

newpaths.org | 810-233-5340

### Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Services

flint.satruck.org | 810-234-2678

## TRANSPORTATION

### Mass Transportation Authority - Flint

mtaflint.org | 810-767-0100

### Rides to Wellness

mtaflint.org/rides-to-wellness | 810-780-8946

### Your Ride

mtaflint.org/your-ride | Flint East: 810-767-5541, Flint West: 810-233-4751

## BIRTH TO 5 SUPPORT

### Heartbeat of Greater Flint

(Baby food/formula)

heartbeatflint.com | 810-232-3101

### Revive Community Health Center

revivechc.org | 248-206-4498

### Rx Kids

(Cash payments to expectant Flint moms)

flintrkids.com | flintrkids@msu.edu  
844-382-8447

### United Way of Genesee County

unitedwaygenesee.org | 810-232-8121

### Women, Infants & Children (WIC)

michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/wic | michiganwic@michigan.gov

## K-12 SUPPORT/YOUTH DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNITY CENTERS

### Berston Field House

berston.org | 810-787-6531

### Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Flint

bgclubflint.org | 810-249-3413

### Flint Center for Educational Excellence

theflintcenter.org | 810-202-2568

### Flint Development Center

flintdc.org | 810-422-9833

### Latinx Technology & Community Center

latinxflint.org | 810-715-5050

### Salvation Army LIFE Center

facebook.com/thesalvationarmylifecenter | 810-789-4003

### Summer Youth Initiative

educateflintandgenesee.org/  
summer-youth-initiative | 810-600-1404

### Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village

sbev.org | 810-893-6098

### TeenQuest

educateflintandgenesee.org/teenquest | 810-600-1404

### YMCA of Greater Flint

flintymca.com | Downtown: 810-232-9622, Pierson Road: 810-732-9622

## SENIOR CENTERS

### Brennan Senior Center

brennanseniorcenter.com | 810-766-7238

### Hasselbring Senior Center

hasselbringsseniorcenter.com | 810-766-9516

## HOME OWNERSHIP/HOME REPAIR/ NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAMS

**Flint Housing Commission**  
flinthc.org | 810-736-3050

**Genesee County Habitat for Humanity**  
geneseehabitat.org | 810-766-9089

**Genesee County Land Bank Authority**  
thelandbank.org | 810-257-3088

**Metro Community Development**  
metrocommunitydevelopment.com |  
810-767-4622

**Neighborhood Engagement Hub**  
nehflint.org | 810-214-4829

## ADULT EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

**Beecher Adult Education Center**  
beecherschools.org/o/baec | 810-591-9820

**Flint Genesee Job Corps Center**  
flintgenesee.jobcorps.gov | 800-733-5627

**Flint Healthcare Employment  
Opportunities Program**  
geneseehealthcarecareers.org | 810-232-2228

**Flint STRIVE**  
flintstrive.com | 810-232-5661

**GST Michigan Works!**  
gstmiworks.org | 810-233-5974

**Mott Community College Workforce &  
Economic Development**  
mcc.edu/wfed | 810-232-2555

**Mt. Morris Center for Adult Education**  
mmecc.mtmorrissschools.org | 810-591-0105

**Peckham**  
peckham.org | 517-316-4000

**St. Luke N.E.W. Life Center**  
stlukenewlife.com | 810-239-8710

## HIGHER EDUCATION

**Kettering University**  
kettering.edu | 810-762-9500

**Mott Community College**  
mcc.edu | 810-762-0200

**University of Michigan-Flint**  
umflint.edu | 810-762-3300

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP/ SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT

**100K Ideas**  
100kideas.org | 810-213-4720

**Factory Two**  
factorytwo.org | 810-354-7766

**Flint & Genesee Economic Alliance,  
Small Business Help Desk**  
developflintandgenesee.org/  
small-business-help-desk | 810-600-1406

**Flint SOUP**  
facebook.com/flintsoup | info@flintsoup.org

**SIPI – Entrepreneurship support**  
sipi-inc.com

**Small Business Development Center**  
michigansbdc.org | 833-522-0025

**UM-Flint's Innovation Incubator**  
umflint.edu/innovation-incubator |  
810-424-5488

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**East Village Magazine**  
eastvillagemagazine.org |  
eastvillagemagazineflint@gmail.com

**Flint Beat**  
flintbeat.com | team@flintbeat.com

**The Flint Courier News**  
theflintcouriernews.com |  
theflintcouriernews@gmail.com

**Flintside**  
flintside.com | editor@flintside.com

**Mid-Michigan Now/WEYI NBC 25/  
WSMH Fox 66**  
midmichigannow.com |  
news@midmichigannow.com

**MLive/The Flint Journal**  
mlive.com/flint | contact@mlive.com

**My City Magazine**  
mycitymag.com | sherron@mycitymag.com

**Our Community, Our Voice**  
focov.org | fnucommunications@gmail.com

**WJRT ABC 12**  
abc12.com | abc12news@abc12.com

**WNEM CBS 5**  
wnem.com | wnem@wnem.com

## OTHER

**The Disability Network**  
disnetwork.org | 810-742-1800  
caption calls: 810-742-7647

**Flint Cultural Center**  
flintcultural.org | 810-237-7330

**Gloria Coles Flint Public Library**  
fpl.info | 810-232-7111

**Report dead/dangerous trees**  
810-766-7343 | geneseed@yahoo.com

**Valley Area Agency on Aging**  
valleyareaaging.org | 810-239-7671



PHOTO: SARAH SCHUCH

*A volunteer colors with a young resident during summer programming at Berston Field House.*



# METHODOLOGY

## FLINT RESIDENT SURVEY

A total of 838 residents contributed to this Focus on Flint report by responding to the 2023 Quality of Life Survey and sharing their views about various aspects of life in Flint, challenges facing the community, and the performance of local, state and national leaders. Their responses were collected through telephone and online interviews conducted between August 10 and August 23 of 2023 by FM3 Research, a nationally respected opinion research firm. FM3 weighted results reflect Flint demographics, resulting in a statistically valid sample with a margin of error of less than 5% at the 95% confidence interval.

Respondents answered many survey questions with a number from one to five to help capture intensity of feeling, with one meaning “very negative” and five meaning “very positive.” In addition, FM3 asked questions to measure residents’ overall ratings for key aspects of life in

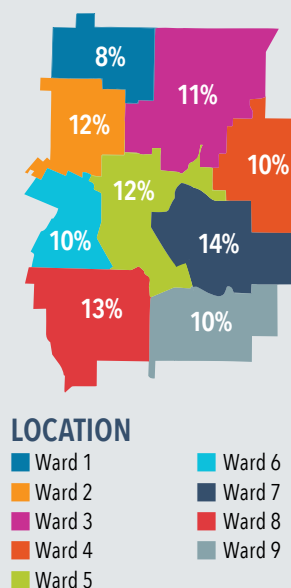
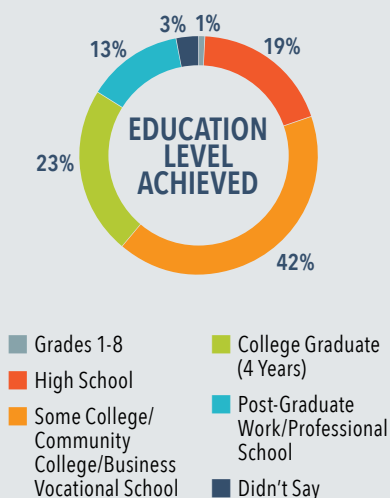
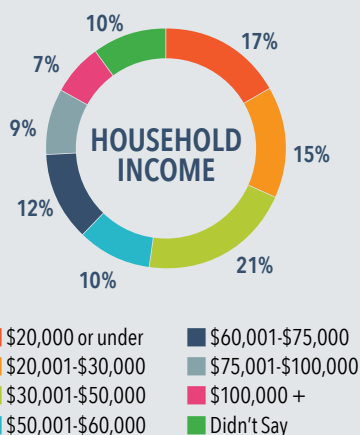
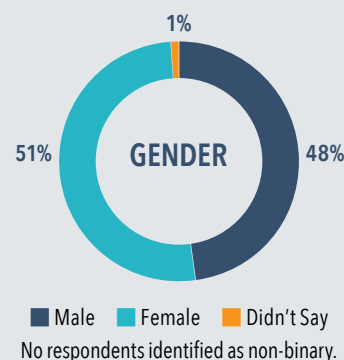
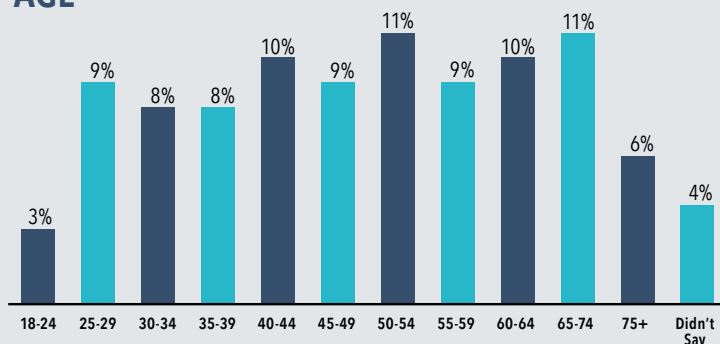
Flint. The answers to those questions from 2019 to 2023 were used to calculate the annual ratings that appear in each section of the report.

## SECONDARY DATA

To complement the resident survey, Focus on Flint includes data and statistics about life in the community from many different sources. Additional data sources for this report include: the city of Flint, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Greater Flint Health Coalition, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, University of Michigan Office of Economic Development and Geographic Information Systems Center, and U.S. Census Bureau. Information about attendance at community events and other local projects is provided by Flint area nonprofits. Information about the educational landscape in Flint was provided by Data Driven Detroit. Original sources for that data are included on page 26.

## SURVEY PARTICIPANT SNAPSHOT\*

### AGE



\*Some numbers do not add up to 100% due to rounding.



PHOTO: MIKE NADDEO

*A woman stops on Lewis Street on Flint's east side to admire a mural of Frida Kahlo, which was painted by Charles Boike as part of the Flint Public Art Project.*





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