



Highlights from Online Survey #1



The first online survey for TogetherDM was open from March 1 through April 9 at TogetherDM.org. During that time, 466 completed surveys were submitted. This summary calls attention to key findings from the survey. All survey results, including typed comments, are included in the full survey readout that follows the summary.

People are generally optimistic about the future—but cautiously so.

When asked how they felt about the overall direction of the Delaware-Muncie community and where they thought it was heading, 60% expressed some level of optimism. Of those expressing optimism, three out of four were cautiously optimistic and felt that course corrections were needed on a few issues.

28% of respondents expressed a moderate or high level of pessimism and thought that major course corrections were needed. Another 12% did not have a strong sense of the community's direction one way or another.

Other questions in the survey about quality of life revealed that the vast majority of survey respondents are generally satisfied with their quality of life, with economic well-being and neighborhood quality being rated the greatest contributors to quality of life in the community. At the same time, economic opportunities were identified as the most significant threat to quality of life, or the factor most likely to contribute to a decline in well-being.

Poverty and blight are viewed as the top issues that absolutely must be addressed.

Survey takers were asked to select no more than three issues from a list of 10, with their selections reflecting what they think are the “Big Things” the community needs to address.

Of the three ‘votes’ cast by survey takers, the one chosen most often was “address poverty, especially concentrated and multi-generational poverty,” with 18.6% of all votes cast. A close second was “remove sources of blight or address vacancy/abandonment” with 17.5%

Coming in third with 10.9% was “take care of environmental/natural assets.” And fourth, with 10.1% was “improve workforce quality.”

Community amenities are recognized as a significant limiting factor to economic vitality.

When asked to identify the factors that have contributed most significantly to job loss in Delaware County since 2000, the most highly rated answer was “not enough high-quality amenities to attract or keep workers and the businesses that need those workers”. Overall, 40% of survey takers gave that answer the highest possible rating.

Local government is seen as having an active role to play in strengthening the housing market.

When asked how Delaware County and/or the City of Muncie should respond to disinvestment in the housing stock, only 11% of survey takers said that the market should be left to its own devices. In terms of the best ways to intervene, 36% of survey takers thought that local governments should “encourage or reward property owners who upgrade or improve their properties.” 24% saw support for the development of new housing types as an important role to play. And 22% viewed demolition of dilapidated homes as an important function for local governments.

Maintenance of basic infrastructure is viewed as a high priority investment for the community.

Survey takers were given a hypothetical scenario where a \$10 million bond had been issued to support implementation of TogetherDM, and they were tasked with distributing the \$10 million across nine different potential projects or project categories. They could put all \$10 million towards the same project, or divide it as equally as possible. The most popular choice (21% of all dollars allocated) was maintenance of basic infrastructure, such as filling potholes. That was followed by investments in quality of life amenities (such as parks and recreation) with 15% of all dollars, and neighborhood revitalization with 14% of all dollars.

TogetherDM Survey #1 - Dashboard

2,131

Viewed

466

Total Responses

466

Completed

100%

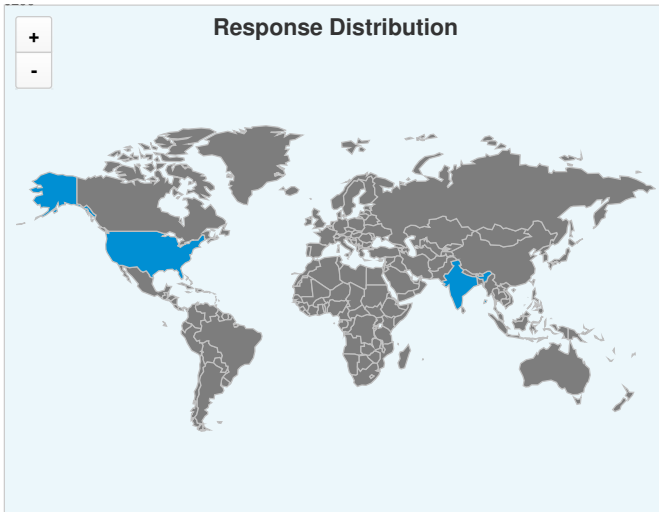
Completion Rate

0

Dropouts

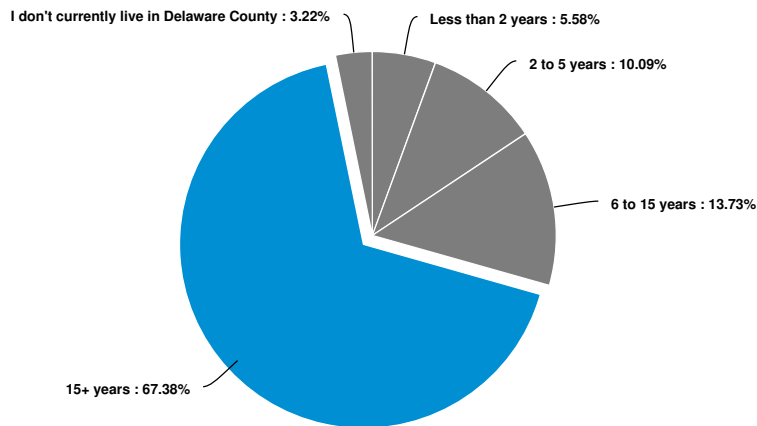
17 mins

Average Time



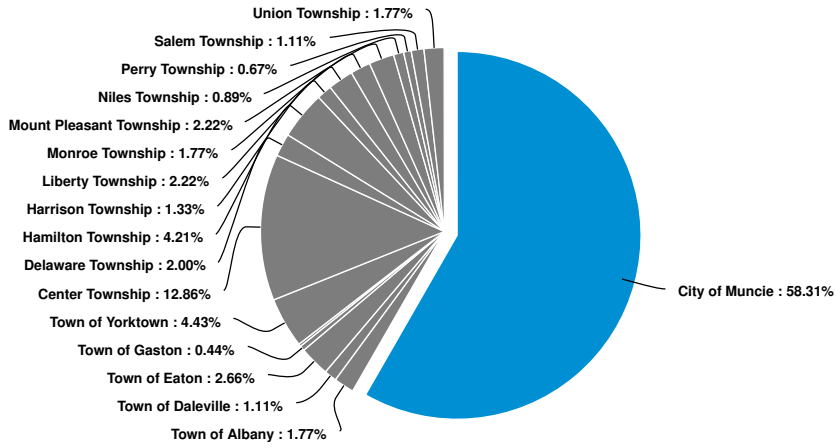
Countries	Responses
US	99.57%
IN	0.43%
Total	100.00%

How long have you lived in Delaware County?



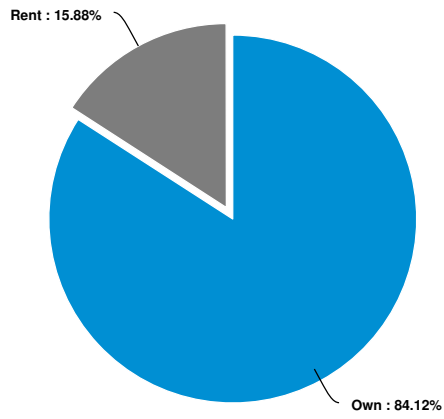
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Less than 2 years	26	5.58%	<div style="width: 5.58%;"></div>				
2 to 5 years	47	10.09%	<div style="width: 10.09%;"></div>				
6 to 15 years	64	13.73%	<div style="width: 13.73%;"></div>				
15+ years	314	67.38%	<div style="width: 67.38%;"></div>				
I don't currently live in Delaware County	15	3.22%	<div style="width: 3.22%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

Where do you currently live in Delaware County? Please select one option from the drop-down menu.



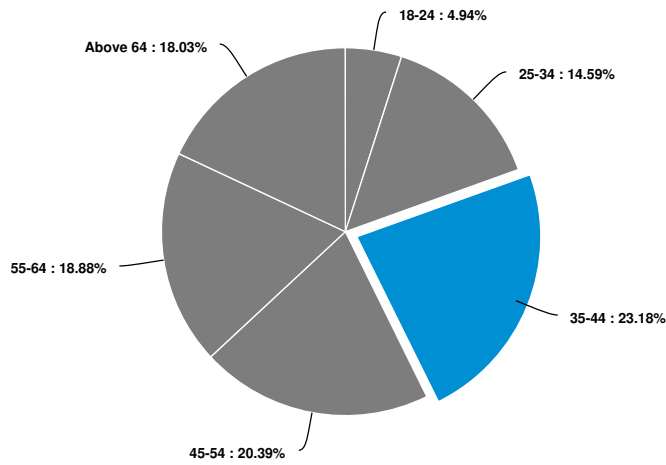
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
City of Muncie	263	58.31%	<div style="width: 58.31%;"></div>				
Town of Albany	8	1.77%	<div style="width: 1.77%;"></div>				
Town of Chesterfield	0	0%	<div style="width: 0%;"></div>				
Town of Daleville	5	1.11%	<div style="width: 1.11%;"></div>				
Town of Eaton	12	2.66%	<div style="width: 2.66%;"></div>				
Town of Gaston	2	0.44%	<div style="width: 0.44%;"></div>				
Town of Selma	1	0.22%	<div style="width: 0.22%;"></div>				
Town of Yorktown	20	4.43%	<div style="width: 4.43%;"></div>				
Center Township	58	12.86%	<div style="width: 12.86%;"></div>				
Delaware Township	9	2%	<div style="width: 2%;"></div>				
Hamilton Township	19	4.21%	<div style="width: 4.21%;"></div>				
Harrison Township	6	1.33%	<div style="width: 1.33%;"></div>				
Liberty Township	10	2.22%	<div style="width: 2.22%;"></div>				
Monroe Township	8	1.77%	<div style="width: 1.77%;"></div>				
Mount Pleasant Township	10	2.22%	<div style="width: 2.22%;"></div>				
Niles Township	4	0.89%	<div style="width: 0.89%;"></div>				
Perry Township	3	0.67%	<div style="width: 0.67%;"></div>				
Salem Township	5	1.11%	<div style="width: 1.11%;"></div>				
Union Township	8	1.77%	<div style="width: 1.77%;"></div>				
Washington Township	0	0%	<div style="width: 0%;"></div>				
Total	451	100%					

Does your household rent or own your current residence?



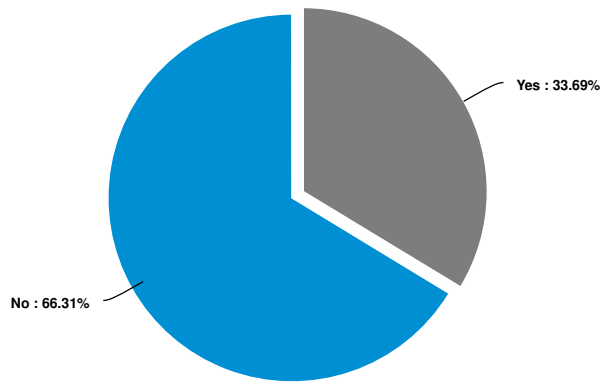
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Own	392	84.12%	<div style="width: 84.12%;"></div>				
Rent	74	15.88%	<div style="width: 15.88%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

How old are you?



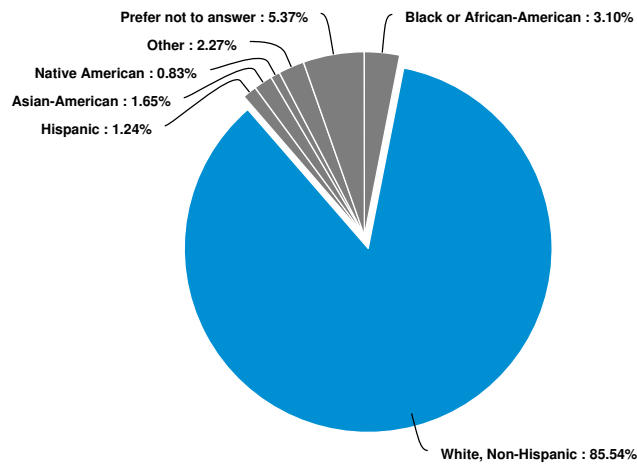
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Under 18	0	0%	<div style="width: 0%;"></div>				
18-24	23	4.94%	<div style="width: 4.94%;"></div>				
25-34	68	14.59%	<div style="width: 14.59%;"></div>				
35-44	108	23.18%	<div style="width: 23.18%;"></div>				
45-54	95	20.39%	<div style="width: 20.39%;"></div>				
55-64	88	18.88%	<div style="width: 18.88%;"></div>				
Above 64	84	18.03%	<div style="width: 18.03%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

Are there school-age children in your household?



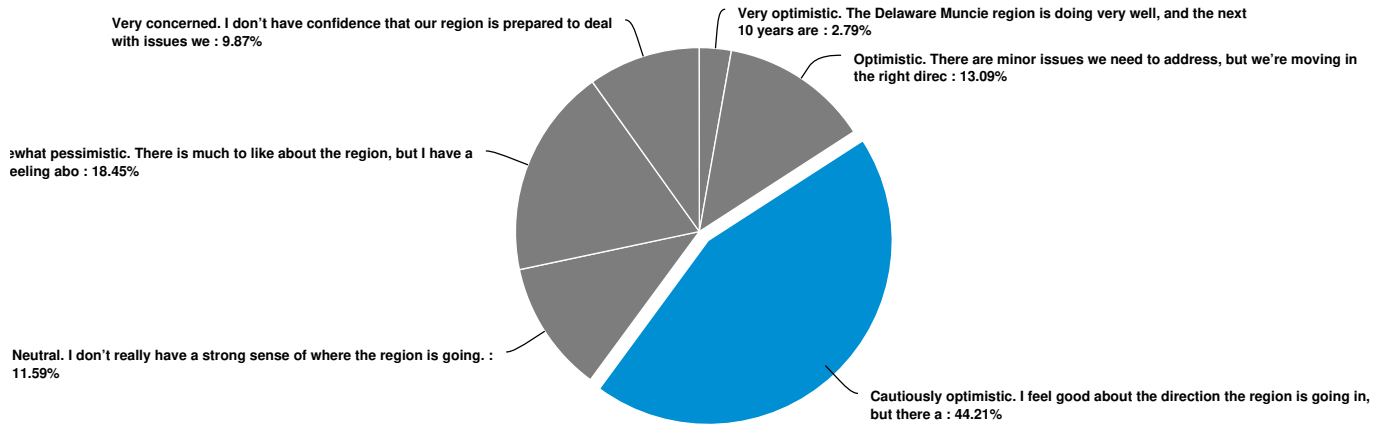
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Yes	157	33.69%	<div style="width: 33.69%;"></div>				
No	309	66.31%	<div style="width: 66.31%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

Which ethnicity or race to you identify with? (select all that apply)



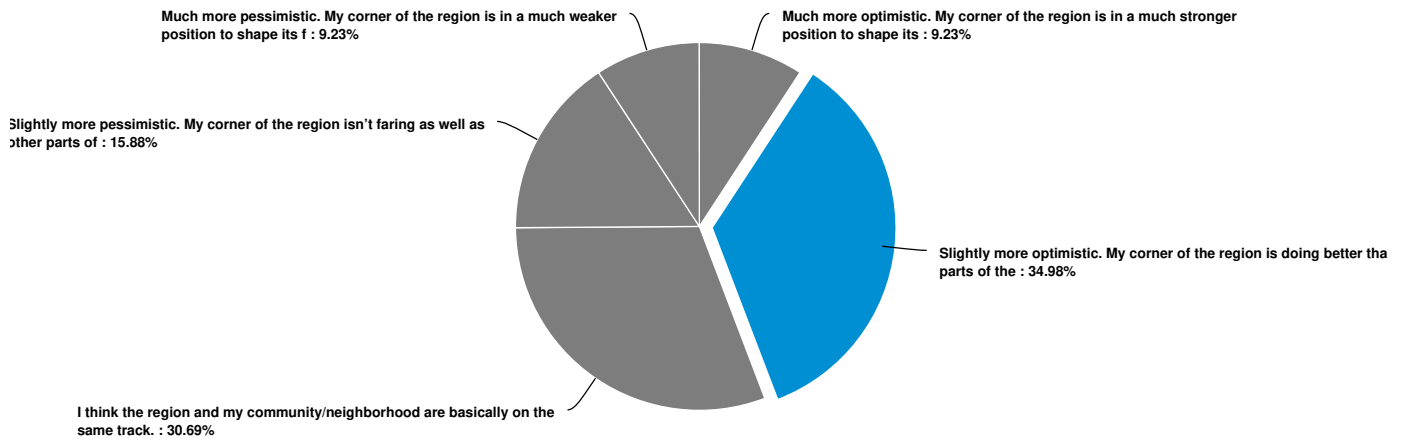
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Black or African-American	15	3.1%	<div style="width: 3.1%;"></div>				
White, Non-Hispanic	414	85.54%	<div style="width: 85.54%;"></div>				
Hispanic	6	1.24%	<div style="width: 1.24%;"></div>				
Asian-American	8	1.65%	<div style="width: 1.65%;"></div>				
Native American	4	0.83%	<div style="width: 0.83%;"></div>				
Other	11	2.27%	<div style="width: 2.27%;"></div>				
Prefer not to answer	26	5.37%	<div style="width: 5.37%;"></div>				
Total	484	100%					

TogetherDM is an opportunity for the community to decide on its future direction. Should it stay the course and keep doing what it's been doing, or does it need to change direction in small or significant ways? Please select the response below that best matches how you feel about the overall direction of the Delaware Muncie region and where you see it going over the next decade:



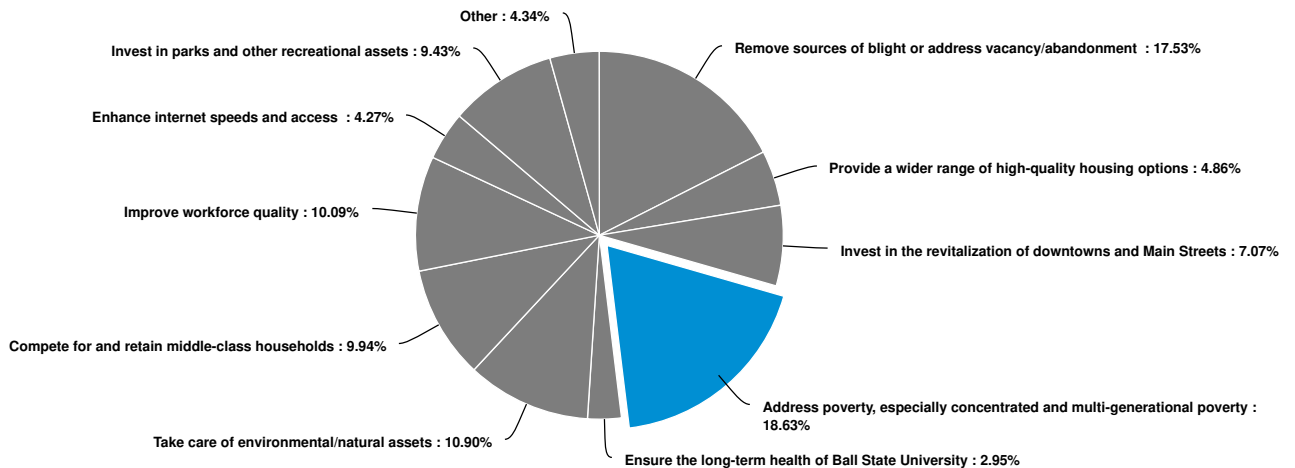
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Very optimistic. The Delaware Muncie region is doing very well, and the next 10 years are going to be great if we keep doing what we've been doing.	13	2.79%					
Optimistic. There are minor issues we need to address, but we're moving in the right direction and are prepared to face our challenges without losing momentum. Only very minor course corrections are needed.	61	13.09%					
Cautiously optimistic. I feel good about the direction the region is going in, but there are a few things that concern me. We need to make a course correction on a few issues to stay on track.	206	44.21%					
Neutral. I don't really have a strong sense of where the region is going.	54	11.59%					
Somewhat pessimistic. There is much to like about the region, but I have a bad feeling about a few issues and think changes are needed.	86	18.45%					
Very concerned. I don't have confidence that our region is prepared to deal with issues we've been putting off or ignoring. Some significant course corrections are needed to set Delaware Muncie on a better path.	46	9.87%					
Total	466	100%					

Narrow your focus from the Delaware Muncie region to the community or neighborhood where you live or spend the most time within the region. Compared to what you think about the direction of the region, what do you think about the direction of your own community or neighborhood?



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Much more optimistic. My corner of the region is in a much stronger position to shape its future in a positive way.	43	9.23%	<div style="width: 9.23%;"></div>				
Slightly more optimistic. My corner of the region is doing better than other parts of the region.	163	34.98%	<div style="width: 34.98%;"></div>				
I think the region and my community/neighborhood are basically on the same track.	143	30.69%	<div style="width: 30.69%;"></div>				
Slightly more pessimistic. My corner of the region isn't faring as well as other parts of the region.	74	15.88%	<div style="width: 15.88%;"></div>				
Much more pessimistic. My corner of the region is in a much weaker position to shape its future than most other communities in Delaware Muncie.	43	9.23%	<div style="width: 9.23%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

Successful plans help a community prioritize limited resources to make sure that issues of vital importance—the 'BIG THINGS'—get addressed. From the following list of issues at a general level, all of which have been deemed important by residents in Delaware Muncie, please select no more than three issues that you think the TogetherDM effort MUST address:



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Remove sources of blight or address vacancy/abandonment	238	17.53%	<div style="width: 17.53%;"></div>				
Provide a wider range of high-quality housing options	46	4.86%	<div style="width: 4.86%;"></div>				

Provide a wider range of high-quality housing options	66	4.86%	<div style="width: 4.86%;"></div>
Invest in the revitalization of downtowns and Main Streets	96	7.07%	<div style="width: 7.07%;"></div>
Address poverty, especially concentrated and multi-generational poverty	253	18.63%	<div style="width: 18.63%;"></div>
Ensure the long-term health of Ball State University	40	2.95%	<div style="width: 2.95%;"></div>
Take care of environmental/natural assets	148	10.9%	<div style="width: 10.9%;"></div>
Compete for and retain middle-class households	135	9.94%	<div style="width: 9.94%;"></div>
Improve workforce quality	137	10.09%	<div style="width: 10.09%;"></div>
Enhance internet speeds and access	58	4.27%	<div style="width: 4.27%;"></div>
Invest in parks and other recreational assets	128	9.43%	<div style="width: 9.43%;"></div>
Other	59	4.34%	<div style="width: 4.34%;"></div>
Total	1358	100%	

Successful plans help a community prioritize limited resources to make sure that issues of vital importance—the ‘BIG THINGS’—get addressed. From the following list of issues at a general level, all of which have been deemed important by residents in Delaware Muncie, please select no more than three issues that you think the TogetherDM effort MUST address: - Dynamic Text / Comments

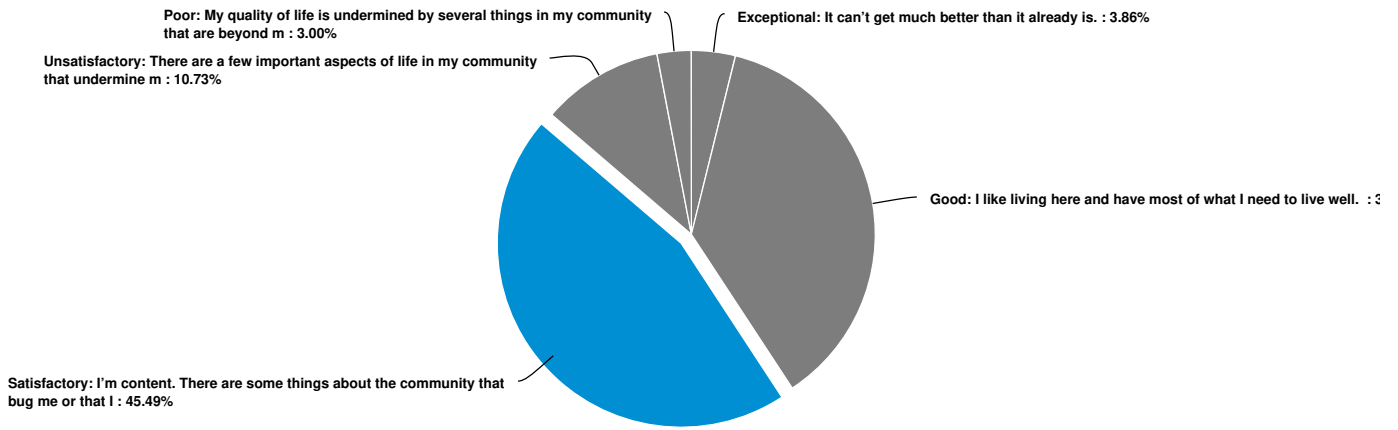
04/08/2021	112765332	[Other] Address the lack of educational attainment across the full Cradle to Career spectrum which directly impacts the quality of the workforce, company profits, poverty and quality of life that makes communities like Muncie appealing to for people to stay or move to. This is the single most important challenge that drives everything else. The data is clear, population continues to decrease and poverty is on the rise. This is the BIG Challenge that will drive the future of the community and must be front and center.
04/07/2021	112732845	[Other] Lifting the level of educational attainment Improving poor community health profile
04/02/2021	112650650	[Other] Road repairs
04/02/2021	112645424	[Other] Projects and opportunities that get people out of their houses and their comfort zones.
03/31/2021	112598974	[Other] Drug problem
03/31/2021	112596200	[Other] I think there is a need for better, high paying jobs, so we need to attract more businesses/industries to the area. We will never go back to the manufacturing hub we once were, but we need to attract other businesses to fill in the gap.
03/30/2021	112589480	[Other] improve schools and adult learning, focus on better education breeds better communities
03/30/2021	112567636	[Other] trash clean up on side roads
03/29/2021	112544835	[Other] Improve roads.
03/29/2021	112535526	[Other] Drug abuse. Help addicts, they're detrimental to the view of Muncie and growth of especially the downtown area.
03/28/2021	112527072	[Other] Living wages
03/26/2021	112502618	[Other] Provide more for domestic violence and substance use
03/26/2021	112500918	[Other] Better streets, sidewalks on S macedonia like from Willard to memorial. Grocery Store on South side. No more Government Housing on South side
03/25/2021	112476489	[Other] Human rights and Police brutality.
03/25/2021	112469104	[Other] There is at least an appearance of a good, old boy network which has led to graft and corruption. That appearance, and to the extent there is truth behind the appearance, must be removed.
03/25/2021	112465649	[Other] We must stop CAFOs from coming to our county. And all the hog and chicken manure from Ohio (which has legally has too much) to our fields that go into our ditches to our streams, to our ponds, to our wells, to our lakes, to our rivers. Hog farms make enough manure or more as a town. Remember, the big Eaton spill done on purpose and than the operator fled the USA. Remember, a couple of years back when the whole of Ball Hospital & Ball State experienced the awful manure smell. If that keeps happening IU will pull more of it's services and employees to Indy. And

what new students will attend a campus that smells bad?

03/24/2021	112454499	[Other] Work on disability accessibility issues for all types of disabilities so that Muncie can be a community for all!!
03/24/2021	112447057	[Other] Quality employment for young educated (20-45) professionals with pay in line with what they could received in Indianapolis or another mid-major market. (Columbus, St. Louis, Louisville).
03/24/2021	112439644	[Other] Address opiate addiction and rehabilitation and prevention
03/24/2021	112436004	[Other] Address substance abuse epidemic
03/24/2021	112419741	[Other] Safer, more-open roads
03/23/2021	112389084	[Other] Bring new business to Southside of town. Tear down old buildings to make room for new businesses on Memorial St.
03/22/2021	112356405	[Other] The progress made between 2012 - 2019 is being either ignored or thwarted. All of the long-range plans for the Community are, by all observations, being stopped by the whims of the "leaders" of the Community.
03/22/2021	112355676	[Other] CLEAN UP TRASH alongside main roads and neighborhoods. There is SO much litter around the Muncie community (Shirey and Bennet roads for ex), it makes for poor representation of our town.
03/19/2021	112289854	[Other] Reduce regulation and government excess. Streamline permitting. Significant overhaul of planning and zoning office, including the replacement of staff is necessary to be more business friendly to attract investment.
03/17/2021	112244064	[Other] The improvement - in both perception and reality - of Muncie Community Schools. Its sustained improvement is tied to everything on the above list.
03/16/2021	112204270	[Other] diversity in leadership
03/15/2021	112171620	[Other] Support and invest in our cultural assets
03/13/2021	112127114	[Other] address the city's lack of care of and for its citizens that the city deems are socioeconomically disadvantaged. In the neighborhoods where lower income citizens or citizens of color reside there is less care for the quality of life these people live. Often times there is violence, drugs, prostitution, ongoing disturbing music for hours and loud cars and motorcycles. Despite calling the police and making reports little is ever done.
03/13/2021	112123691	[Other] Hold racist and bad cops accountable
03/12/2021	112102863	[Other] Our streets need repair and repaving. This is my #1 priority!!
03/12/2021	112099794	[Other] help provide environment for new company and employers, Better jobs will ultimately resolve some of the listed issues.
03/10/2021	112049536	[Other] Pollution and trash everywhere.
03/09/2021	112026168	[Other] Improve k-12 education Attract new business/employers/investment to the region. Good paying - blue/white/living wage and above jobs.
03/09/2021	112021319	[Other] Helping the businesses that are HERE to thrive.
03/08/2021	111997245	[Other] Introduce and expand electric vehicle charging and infrastructure. We've recently purchased a Tesla and there are NO public charging options in Delaware County. Muncie's talk of going solar is a great opportunity to be a leader in EV charging and will greatly improve value of the area to people looking to move here. EVs are the future and we need to lead the way.
03/08/2021	111993999	[Other] Education and our schools should be our top priority. We need to provide strong learning opportunities in STE(A)M (including art) that will produce students with problem-solving skills, and the capacity to create businesses, some of which may even stay in our region. Teachers need to be valued, These problems are not just local, but are state-wide. Addressing them locally is critical to creating a place where people with young families will choose to live.
03/08/2021	111989522	[Other] 1) discrepancy in Educational resources (K-12) 2) invite business such as Cosco, trader joes, international grocery stores that currently require us to travel for an hour
03/07/2021	111975101	[Other] Property taxes way to high for ONLY CERTAIN PROPERTIES in the neighborhood that I live. Assessment's not correct!!! I am also concerned about the path of the Muncie bypass on the South West side!!!
		[Other]

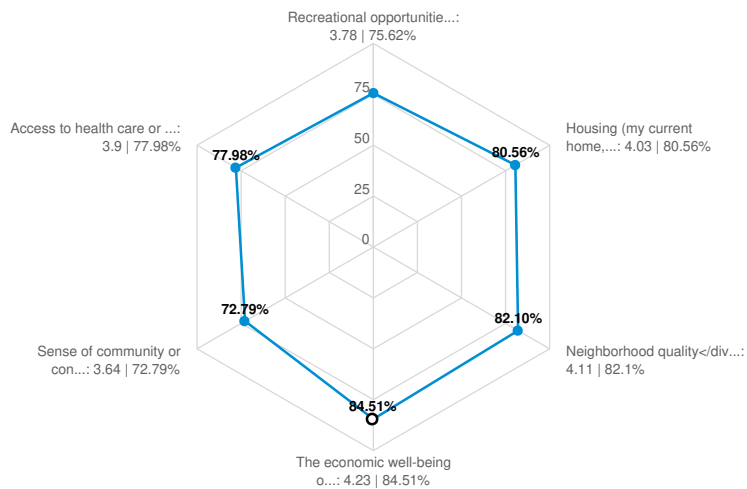
03/07/2021	111970076	Invest in the revitalization of the city streets and infrastructure. The "downtown" is too small of an area and has had the most money poured into already. The tertiary city streets and sidewalks are in bad shape. Please invest in long lasting repairs. Use KISS principles, and I emphasize the last "S".
03/06/2021	111964255	[Other] Improve Communication, Transparency and Accountability! Citizens must be able to trust their Elected Officials!
03/06/2021	111962512	[Other] deal with food deserts by providing opportunites for local small farms to produce food for the local community
03/05/2021	111941536	[Other] improve K-12 school quality, particularly in MCS, which is a drag to the region.
03/05/2021	111938543	[Other] Provide better "affordable" quality housing for families living in poverty.
03/04/2021	111923375	[Other] investments in clean energy and infrastructure jobs
03/04/2021	111913787	[Other] Fix the roads. No new businesses are going to come to Muncie with the condition the roads are in. Prosecute the crooked politicians and make them reimburse the city/county for the money they stole. That would go a long way in paving the roads. Protect against the encroachment of the industrial wind turbines in Delaware county. We do not need them ruining our landscape. House values drop, people abandon their houses and they are dangerous. The electricity is sent out west. We could be in the same situation as Texas recently. Also in 20 years, Delaware county will be paying to have them torn down when they no longer work.
03/04/2021	111908421	[Other] Improve Job opportunities, attracting good businesses through the MRC.... maybe hire a economic development director/team
03/04/2021	111900414	[Other] Address the fraud that caused the FBI to focus on Muncie
03/03/2021	111887079	[Other] corruption and lack of ethics in government lack of a viable independent press in the area
03/03/2021	111887067	[Other] Invest in roads, sidewalks, and other infrastructure.
03/03/2021	111885754	[Other] It feels very much like Muncie never refused to believe the 70s were over until the 2010s and now the various governmental agencies are trying a shotgun approach to bring the region into the 21st century by force. "Green" is a buzzword, so let's bring in "green" businesses, etc. I feel like there has not been a unified or targeted approach to future planning. Find out what other businesses are not saturating the region already and target them. What strengths does the Muncie area have? An airport, railroad access, nationally recognized educational institution, regionally excellent hospital, etc. What do future trends look like? More working from home? Improve internet access and speeds. People are buying more from the internet- can we use the airport for shipping/receiving? Turn the Muncie Mall into a distribution center? Can we find more partners like Progress Rail and become a railroad manufacturing hub? Fabrication? Can we work with Ball State and Muncie Schools to find partners in the education or research fields? If you can attract one or a few large anchor businesses, the associated support businesses- and jobs- should follow. When there are jobs- good, secure jobs, not more crappy minimum wage restaurants- the rest of the issues (crime, blight, etc.) will sort themselves.
03/03/2021	111883529	[Other] Crime is a problem.
03/03/2021	111878900	[Other] Focus on bringing the citizens of Muncie together. As members of our community begin to work together rather than independently many of the above would improve.
03/02/2021	111854350	[Other] Enhance and attract professional job opportunities.
03/02/2021	111852380	[Other] We need our municipal and philanthropic leaders to be trained how to listen, govern and work intentionally to act on plans of action.
03/02/2021	111842905	[Other] Education and School Systems should definitely be included and is at the top in my opinion. I also think that removing blight is important but also transforming that into affordable housing is a key step and should somewhat happen simultaneously.
03/02/2021	111842333	[Other] Education opportunities for all of Muncie
03/02/2021	111837675	[Other] invest in our schools so that families would want to move here. you can fix up our city but without good paying jobs and good schools young families will not want to live here. Young families want to live in places like Carmel and Noblesville. We need to find ways to bring these families back.
03/01/2021	111821742	[Other] 2. Key Infrastructure that has long lasting impact to Delaware -Muncie. 3. Planning zones of enterprise that meet the needs of business and industry and preserve neighborhoods for those living here.

'Quality of Life' can be defined in a number of ways, but it usually refers to an individual's sense of well-being and how it is influenced by the characteristics of the community around them. In general, how would you rate your quality of life?



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Exceptional: It can't get much better than it already is.	18	3.86%					
Good: I like living here and have most of what I need to live well.	172	36.91%					
Satisfactory: I'm content. There are some things about the community that bug me or that I find wanting, but the good outweighs the bad.	212	45.49%					
Unsatisfactory: There are a few important aspects of life in my community that undermine my well-being.	50	10.73%					
Poor: My quality of life is undermined by several things in my community that are beyond my control.	14	3%					
Total	466	100%					

What community factors have the greatest positive impact on YOUR quality of life right now? Rate the following factors on a 5-star scale, with 5 being "very important" and 1 being "not important."

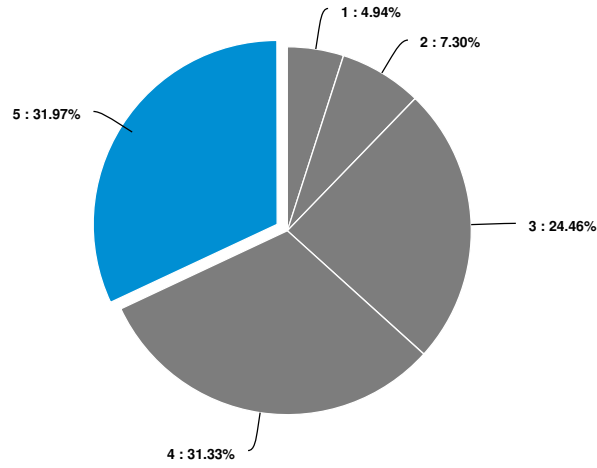


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Question	Count	Score	1	2	3	4	5
Recreational opportunities or amenities (indoors or outdoors)	466	3.78					
Housing (my current home, or housing opportunities in the region)	466	4.03					

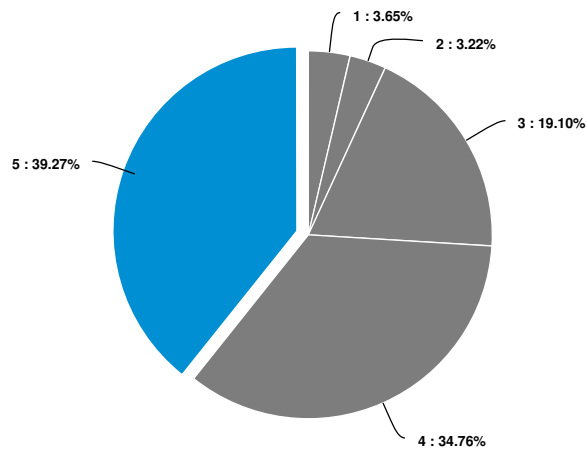
Neighborhood quality	466	4.11	<div style="width: 4.11%;"></div>
The economic well-being of my household	466	4.23	<div style="width: 4.23%;"></div>
Sense of community or connections with neighbors	466	3.64	<div style="width: 3.64%;"></div>
Access to health care or other critical services	466	3.9	<div style="width: 3.9%;"></div>
Average		3.95	

Recreational opportunities or amenities (indoors or outdoors)



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	23	4.94%	<div style="width: 4.94%;"></div>				
2	34	7.3%	<div style="width: 7.3%;"></div>				
3	114	24.46%	<div style="width: 24.46%;"></div>				
4	146	31.33%	<div style="width: 31.33%;"></div>				
5	149	31.97%	<div style="width: 31.97%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

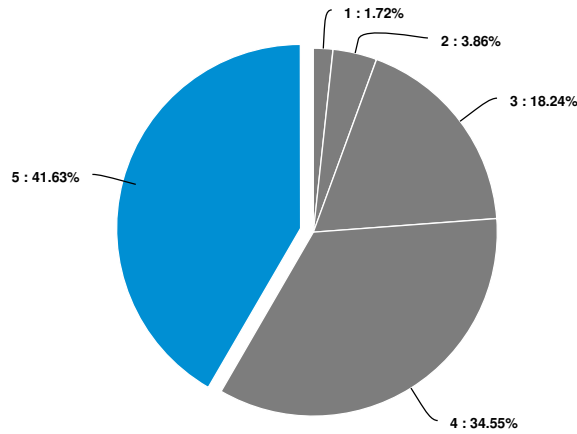
Housing (my current home, or housing opportunities in the region)



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	17	3.65%	<div style="width: 3.65%;"></div>				
2	15	3.22%	<div style="width: 3.22%;"></div>				
3	89	19.1%	<div style="width: 19.1%;"></div>				

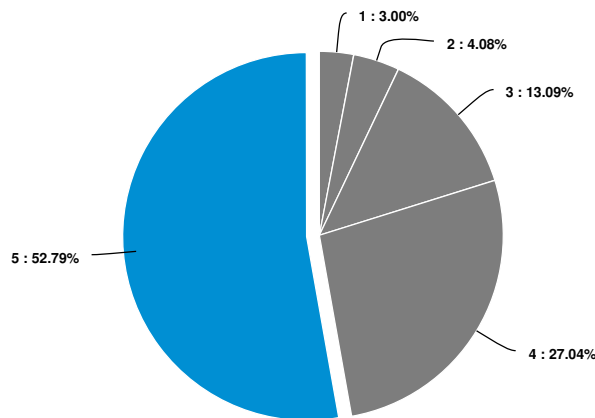
4	162	34.76%	<div style="width: 34.76%;"></div>
5	183	39.27%	<div style="width: 39.27%;"></div>
Total	466	100%	

Neighborhood quality



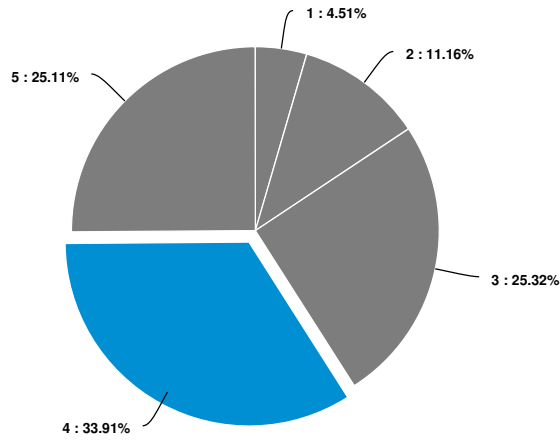
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	8	1.72%	<div style="width: 1.72%;"></div>				
2	18	3.86%	<div style="width: 3.86%;"></div>				
3	85	18.24%	<div style="width: 18.24%;"></div>				
4	161	34.55%	<div style="width: 34.55%;"></div>				
5	194	41.63%	<div style="width: 41.63%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

The economic well-being of my household



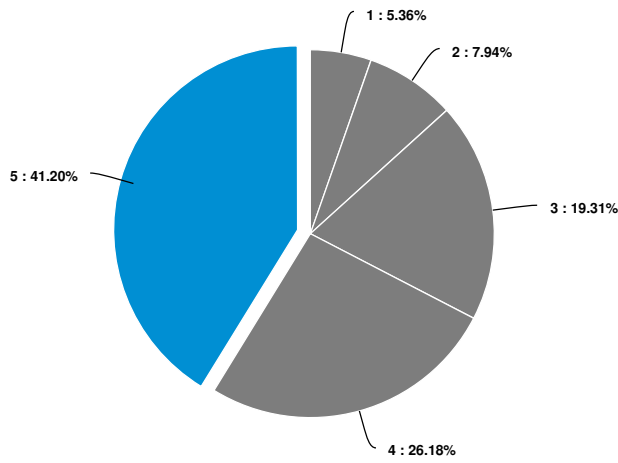
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	14	3%	<div style="width: 3%;"></div>				
2	19	4.08%	<div style="width: 4.08%;"></div>				
3	61	13.09%	<div style="width: 13.09%;"></div>				
4	126	27.04%	<div style="width: 27.04%;"></div>				
5	246	52.79%	<div style="width: 52.79%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

Sense of community or connections with neighbors



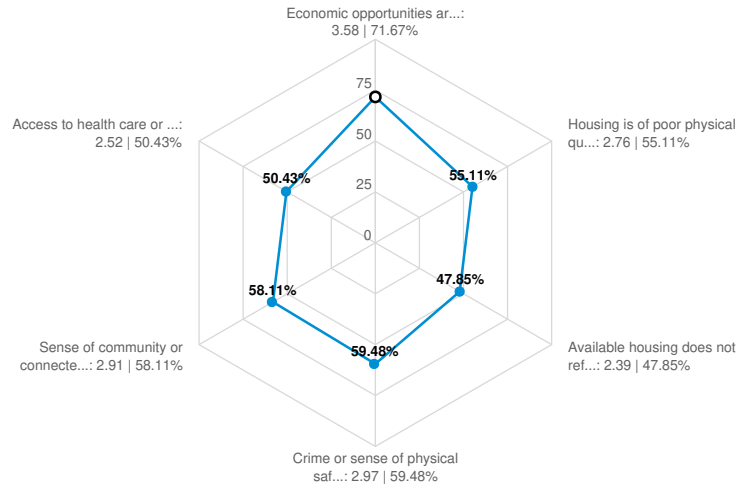
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	21	4.51%					
2	52	11.16%					
3	118	25.32%					
4	158	33.91%					
5	117	25.11%					
Total	466	100%					

Access to health care or other critical services



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	25	5.36%					
2	37	7.94%					
3	90	19.31%					
4	122	26.18%					
5	192	41.2%					
Total	466	100%					

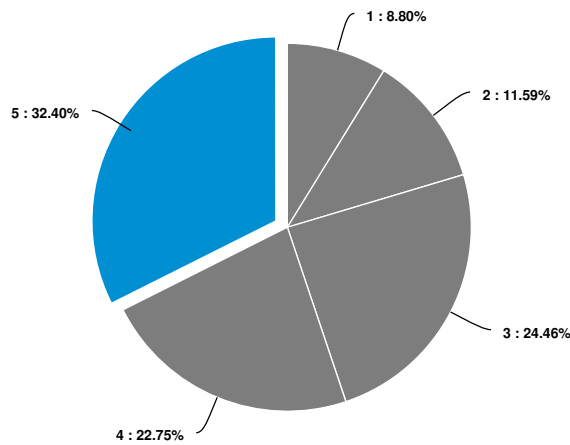
What are the biggest threats or impediments to YOUR quality of life, or the issues that threaten to make YOUR quality of life decline from where it is now? Rate the following factors on a 5- scale, with 5 being "significant threats" and 1 being "insignificant threats."



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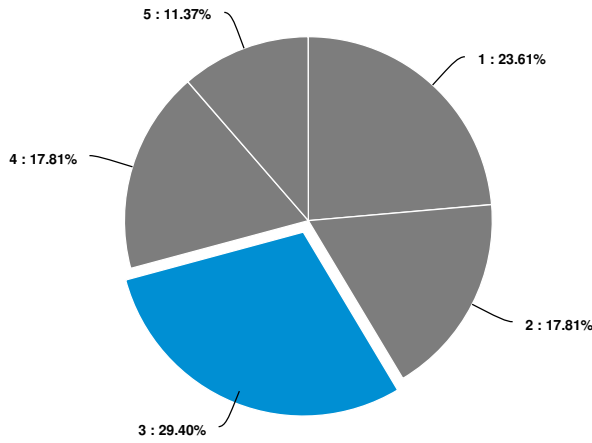
Question	Count	Score	1	2	3	4	5
Economic opportunities are limited	466	3.58					
Housing is of poor physical quality	466	2.76					
Available housing does not reflect my needs or what I'm looking for	466	2.39					
Crime or sense of physical safety	466	2.97					
Sense of community or connectedness is low	466	2.91					
Access to health care or other critical services is not sufficient	466	2.52					
Average		2.85					

Economic opportunities are limited



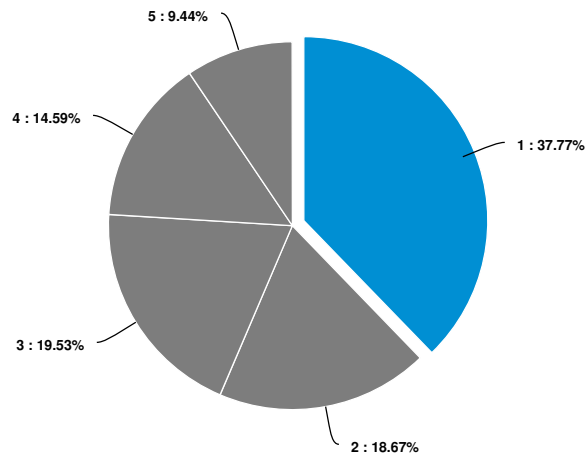
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	41	8.8%					
2	54	11.59%					
3	114	24.46%					
4	106	22.75%					
5	151	32.4%					
Total	466	100%					

Housing is of poor physical quality



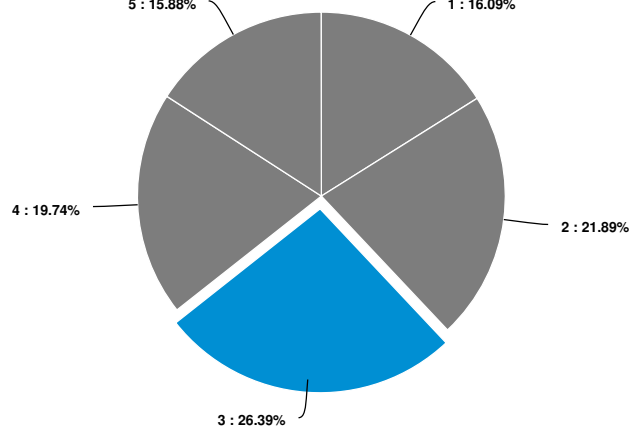
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	110	23.61%	<div style="width: 23.61%;"></div>				
2	83	17.81%	<div style="width: 17.81%;"></div>				
3	137	29.4%	<div style="width: 29.4%;"></div>				
4	83	17.81%	<div style="width: 17.81%;"></div>				
5	53	11.37%	<div style="width: 11.37%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

Available housing does not reflect my needs or what I'm looking for



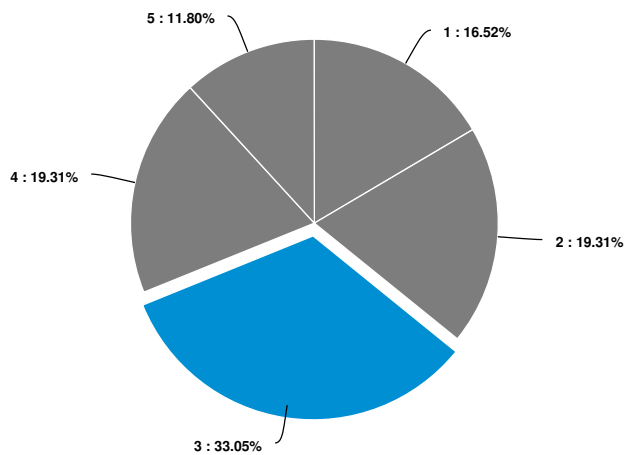
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	176	37.77%	<div style="width: 37.77%;"></div>				
2	87	18.67%	<div style="width: 18.67%;"></div>				
3	91	19.53%	<div style="width: 19.53%;"></div>				
4	68	14.59%	<div style="width: 14.59%;"></div>				
5	44	9.44%	<div style="width: 9.44%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

Crime or sense of physical safety



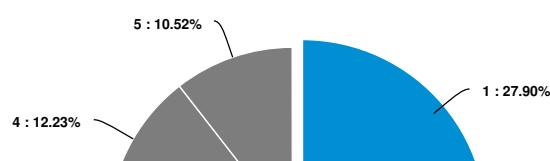
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	75	16.09%	<div style="width: 16.09%;"></div>				
2	102	21.89%	<div style="width: 21.89%;"></div>				
3	123	26.39%	<div style="width: 26.39%; background-color: #0070C0;"></div>				
4	92	19.74%	<div style="width: 19.74%;"></div>				
5	74	15.88%	<div style="width: 15.88%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

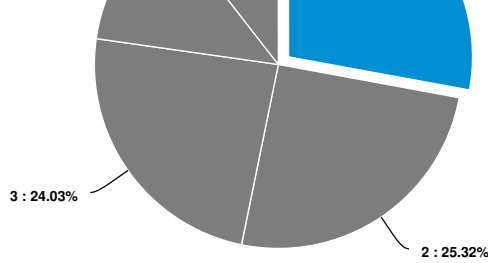
Sense of community or connectedness is low



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	77	16.52%	<div style="width: 16.52%;"></div>				
2	90	19.31%	<div style="width: 19.31%;"></div>				
3	154	33.05%	<div style="width: 33.05%; background-color: #0070C0;"></div>				
4	90	19.31%	<div style="width: 19.31%;"></div>				
5	55	11.8%	<div style="width: 11.8%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

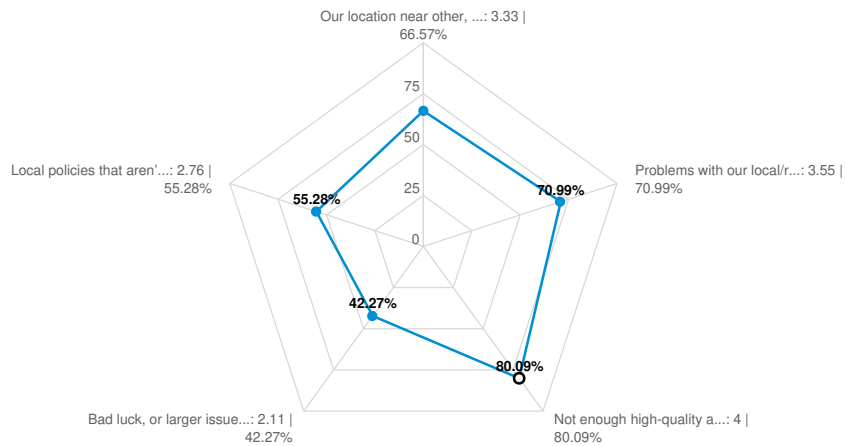
Access to health care or other critical services is not sufficient





Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	130	27.9%					
2	118	25.32%					
3	112	24.03%					
4	57	12.23%					
5	49	10.52%					
Total	466	100%					

The number of jobs within Delaware County has declined by almost 7,000 (or 13%) since 2002. Jobs located in the City of Muncie declined by 20% over the same period. What do you think are the biggest contributors to this decline? Using a 5-star scale, rate the importance of the following factors, with 5-stars for "very important factors" and 1-star for "unimportant factors."

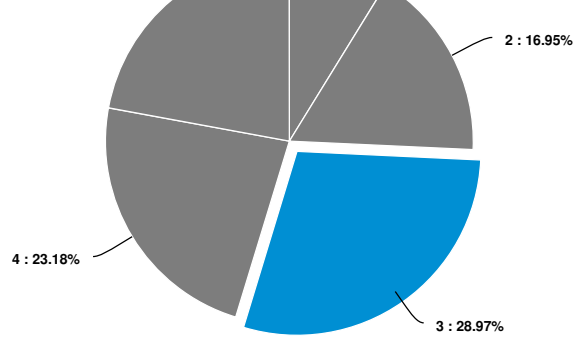


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Question	Count	Score	1	2	3	4	5
Our location near other, larger economic centers that draw away businesses and workers	466	3.33					
Problems with our local/regional workforce	466	3.55					
Not enough high-quality amenities to attract or keep workers and the businesses that need those workers	466	4					
Bad luck, or larger issues that we have no control over	466	2.11					
Local policies that aren't business-friendly	466	2.76					
Average		3.15					

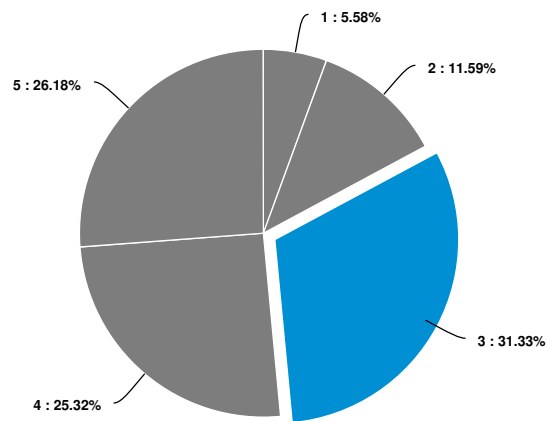
Our location near other, larger economic centers that draw away businesses and workers





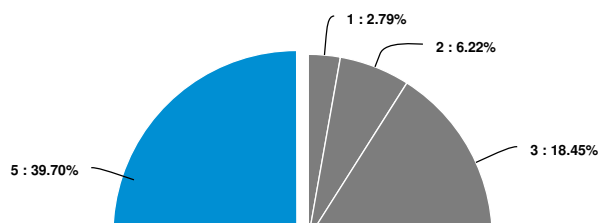
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	41	8.8%					
2	79	16.95%					
3	135	28.97%					
4	108	23.18%					
5	103	22.1%					
Total	466	100%					

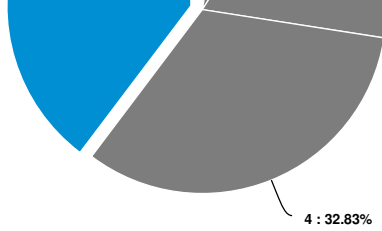
Problems with our local/regional workforce



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	26	5.58%					
2	54	11.59%					
3	146	31.33%					
4	118	25.32%					
5	122	26.18%					
Total	466	100%					

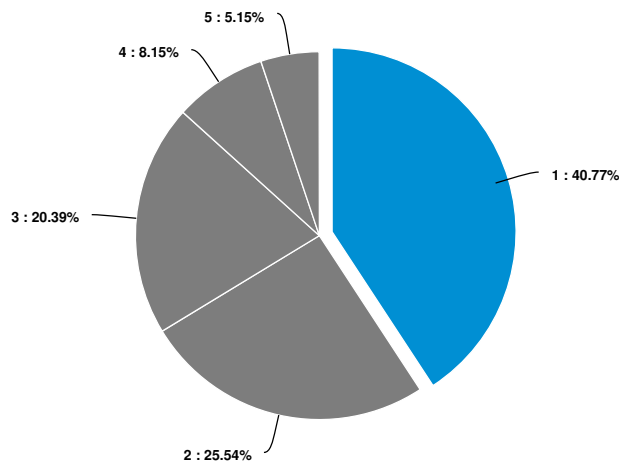
Not enough high-quality amenities to attract or keep workers and the businesses that need those workers





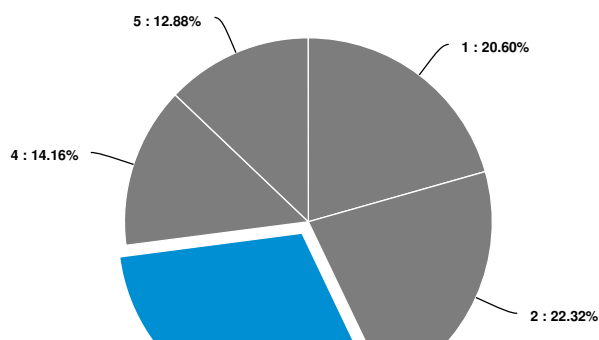
Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	13	2.79%					
2	29	6.22%					
3	86	18.45%					
4	153	32.83%					
5	185	39.7%					
Total	466	100%					

Bad luck, or larger issues that we have no control over



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	190	40.77%					
2	119	25.54%					
3	95	20.39%					
4	38	8.15%					
5	24	5.15%					
Total	466	100%					

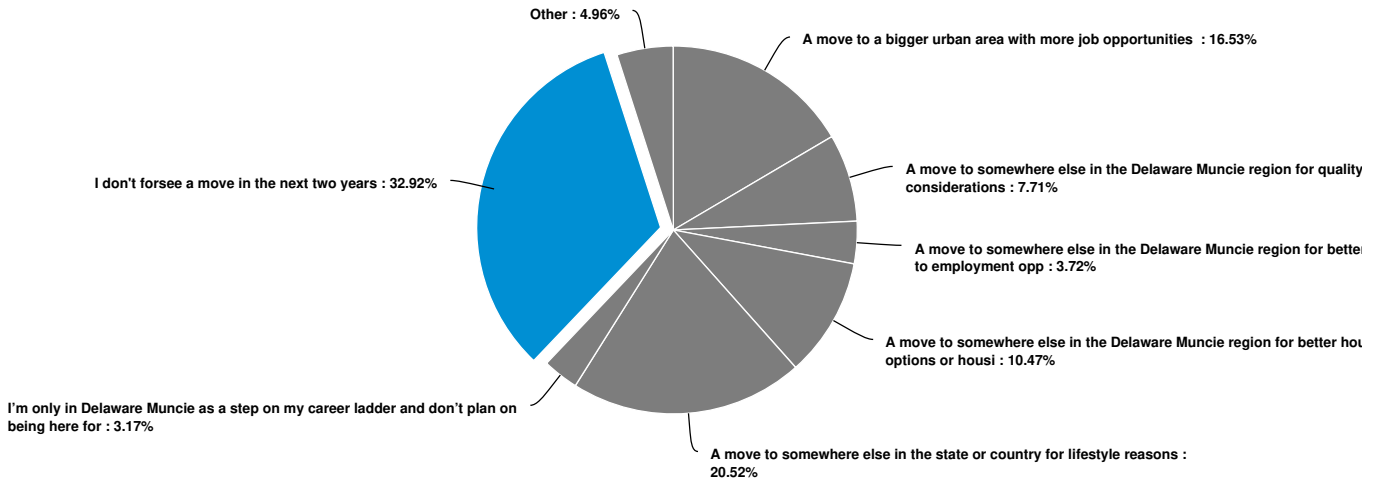
Local policies that aren't business-friendly



3 : 30.04%

Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	96	20.6%	<div style="width: 20.6%;"></div>				
2	104	22.32%	<div style="width: 22.32%;"></div>				
3	140	30.04%	<div style="width: 30.04%;"></div>				
4	66	14.16%	<div style="width: 14.16%;"></div>				
5	60	12.88%	<div style="width: 12.88%;"></div>				
Total	466	100%					

If you foresee yourself or someone in your household considering a move in the next two years, what would be the reasons behind the move? Select all that apply.



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
A move to a bigger urban area with more job opportunities	120	16.53%	██████████				
A move to somewhere else in the Delaware Muncie region for quality-of-life considerations	56	7.71%	██████				
A move to somewhere else in the Delaware Muncie region for better access to employment opportunities	27	3.72%	███				
A move to somewhere else in the Delaware Muncie region for better housing options or housing that better fits my life stage	76	10.47%	██████				
A move to somewhere else in the state or country for lifestyle reasons	149	20.52%	██████████				
I'm only in Delaware Muncie as a step on my career ladder and don't plan on being here for very long	23	3.17%	███				
I don't foresee a move in the next two years	239	32.92%	████████████████████				
Other	36	4.96%	██████				
Total	726	100%					

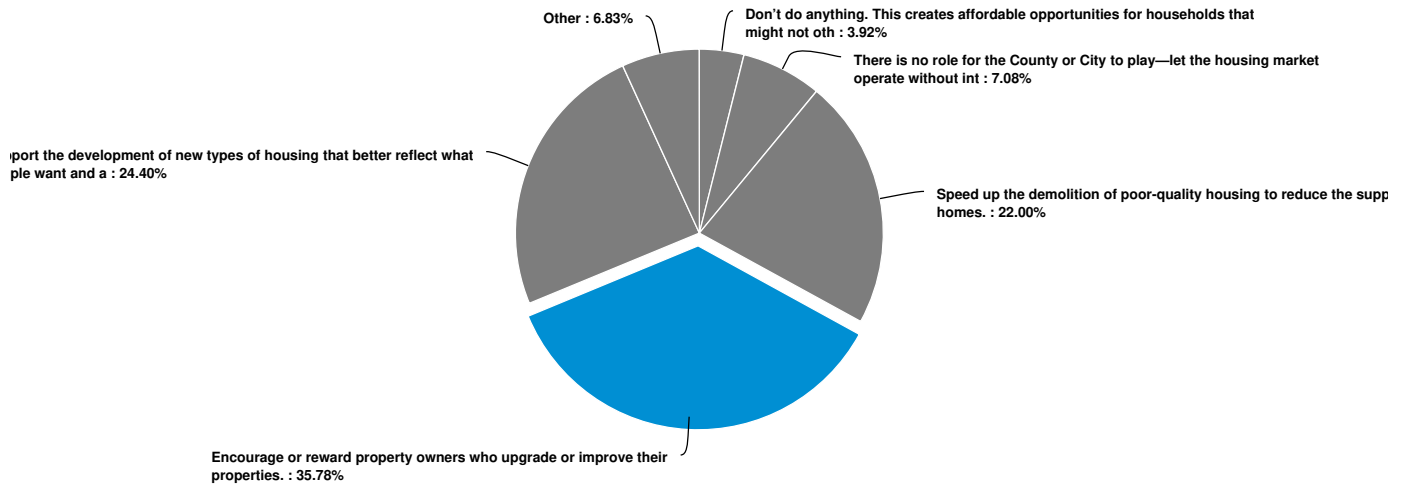
If you foresee yourself or someone in your household considering a move in the next two years, what would be the reasons behind the move? Select all that apply. - Dynamic Text / Comments

- 04/08/2021 112765332 [Other] To find higher quality schools and an educational system that enables family members to have greater opportunity for the next generation. At the same time with a better educated workforce at all levels companies can be more profitable and attractive so folks don't have to move to find a better circumstance.
- 04/03/2021 112661001 [Other] An overseas move would be on my bucket list. A country with cheaper Healthcare, easier educational opportunities, competent government, and less violent crime against people of color is looking pretty good right now.
- 04/02/2021 112650650 [Other] Crime! And we are looking at moving do to the rising crime!
- 03/30/2021 112589480 [Other] to be closer to our children
- 03/28/2021 112527072 [Other] Services for disabled people
- 03/26/2021 112500164 [Other] Muncie is very divided with a pretty significant problem with racism, classism, and sexism. It feels like it is socially about 50 years behind other places I have lived. If you are not white, Christian, with children, you will have a hard time fitting in here, and you will receive negative blow-back for being different. It is the hardest place I have ever lived (socially) - there is a lot of negative energy that drives young professionals away. The only way you are going to fix this is by making your citizens (across the board) feel valued. Also, BSU is very unsupportive of its junior faculty, so that alone as a major employer in the area does not help keep young professionals in Muncie.

03/25/2021	112476489	[Other] Further education. Plan to return.
03/25/2021	112465649	[Other] If CAFOs continue to be allowed than Fort Wayne has a better policy. They make the farmer who want to have a CAFO to bet the whole farm. No separating the CAFO business making it so when the environmental issues happen (and they will) the whole farm has to pay for it. When the foreign investors run out when the pollution creates extreme problems the whole farm is responsible. Not just the CAFO business that just declares bankrupt and leaves it to tax payers pay to clean up the mess. Since, Allen County put this in their zoning rules - no CAFO has applied.
03/25/2021	112461816	[Other] A move for better race relations and better opportunities that are not racially motivated by racism or bigotry
03/24/2021	112447470	[Other] We drive to Hamilton county all the time for parks. Most people drive south on 69 to spend time and money not bring up our local business.
03/24/2021	112423220	[Other] Moving to an area with better wages and increased environmental concerns.
03/22/2021	112356334	[Other] Want to purchase more land, will move wherever we can buy it in Delaware, Jay, Blackford, Randolph, Henry or Madison County.
03/22/2021	112356235	[Other] I only work in Muncie and live 45 minutes away-- I did live here ~10 years ago and left because I didn't like it.
03/17/2021	112232540	[Other] Local politics. While we really need the new administration we have now as they are a 90% improvement over who we had for decades - there is a strong need to remember to listen to the people who live in the neighborhood where a possible change is proposed. Absolutely nobody from previous admin let us know that the Riverside Trail was in the works and now instead of a sidewalk there is going to be a slab of asphalt the size of a street lane in front of the homes here - all because some well-heeled bikers decided it was in "our" best interest - even though most don't even live in our neighborhood. How does plastering a 9' wide slab of asphalt in front of your house improve the neighborhood? Sidewalk - yes, 9' slab - no. Then the proposal to destroy Tuhey park by the YMCA. These kinds of actions make residents feel that changes are being crammed down our throats by people who "know what's best for us" - as if we aren't educated enough to know for ourselves! Feeling as if we have no voice is what makes people want to leave their community. Fortunately we are seeing a better trend towards local neighborhood input - like the Storer site. That gives us hope again that this community is for everyone and not just a place for the rich or big developers to pave over paradise and put up a parking lot and then leave us to the mess while they go sit in their big homes (that don't have 9' slabs in their yard you will notice). IF we can stay on this trend to "listen" always to the people first - then we will be less likely to leave.
03/16/2021	112210068	[Other] Move to international for family and employment and philosophical reasons.
03/14/2021	112135922	[Other] Move to avoid excessive taxes
03/13/2021	112123691	[Other] A move due to a racist community. Who's black population is less then 1% police brutality and corrupt town politicians
03/12/2021	112114519	[Other] Somewhere with a cleaner environment, less poverty, higher standard of living, and more educational opportunities
03/11/2021	112088419	[Other] State politics and the gerrymandering of districts that thus don't represent me.
03/10/2021	112059011	[Other] Out of state for university; out of state for better job opportunities
03/08/2021	111995253	[Other] To be closer to family.
03/08/2021	111992266	[Other] A move to another area where the police do their job and some effort to deal with all the meth and opioid addicts is made. Seriously, do your fucking jobs.
03/06/2021	111962512	[Other] I'm only in Muncie to take care of my aging parents. Once they have passed away, I'm looking to move.
03/05/2021	111941867	[Other] My child is graduating college in the spring. I am encouraging them to go elsewhere. There is NOTHING in this County/City for them. It's a dirty nasty town run amuck with drugs and deadbeats. We will relocate to a community that has involved citizens that take care of what they have and take pride in their community. Sad, 15 years ago I really thought several of us could make a difference, but nothing has changed. Time to give up and move on.
03/04/2021	111923117	[Other] Somewhere warmer.
03/04/2021	111906777	[Other] A move to a more diverse and inclusive state that aligns with more progressive ideals
03/04/2021	111904015	[Other] Regressive policies and attitudes by local politicians. Lack of transparency in local politics. Lack of interest in developing community quality of life that attracts jobs and retains community members. Lack of focus on education and health care access within the State of Indiana.
03/03/2021	111887079	[Other] moving due to taxes corrupt politics, Muncie is dying, open your eyes drive around
03/03/2021	111885768	[Other]

03/03/2021	111884764	[Other] Crime is becoming a problem min Muncie.
03/03/2021	111880303	[Other] Most other states realize the importance of public education and workforce investment and provide adequate or better funding to their schools.
03/03/2021	111876945	[Other] Move out of state, possibly Kentucky, for better cost of living and job opportunities.
03/03/2021	111867919	[Other] Move to more isolated, less sprawl areas. Less strip commerce.
03/02/2021	111854350	[Other] Out of Indiana
03/02/2021	111837675	[Other] better schooling, and better job opportunities with higher wages
03/01/2021	111821742	[Other] A move to an area selected by my spouses employment for advancement opportunity within his own company (Regional Midwest Company)

Analysis of Census Bureau data reveals that median home values in Delaware County grew 23% between 2000 and 2018—a rate that was far below the rate of inflation over the same period (42%). This reflects the loss of jobs and population since 2000, which has dampened demand for housing. If this trend continues, it could lead to further disinvestment in the housing stock as homeowners hold back on improvements (such as updating kitchens, as well as routine maintenance) because they sense that there will be little to no return on their investment. How do you think Delaware County and the City of Muncie should respond to this trend? Select no more than two of the options below.



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Don't do anything. This creates affordable opportunities for households that might not otherwise be able to buy a home.	31	3.92%					
There is no role for the County or City to play—let the housing market operate without interference.	56	7.08%					
Speed up the demolition of poor-quality housing to reduce the supply of homes.	174	22%					
Encourage or reward property owners who upgrade or improve their properties.	283	35.78%					
Support the development of new types of housing that better reflect what people want and are willing to pay for today.	193	24.4%					
Other	54	6.83%					
Total	791	100%					

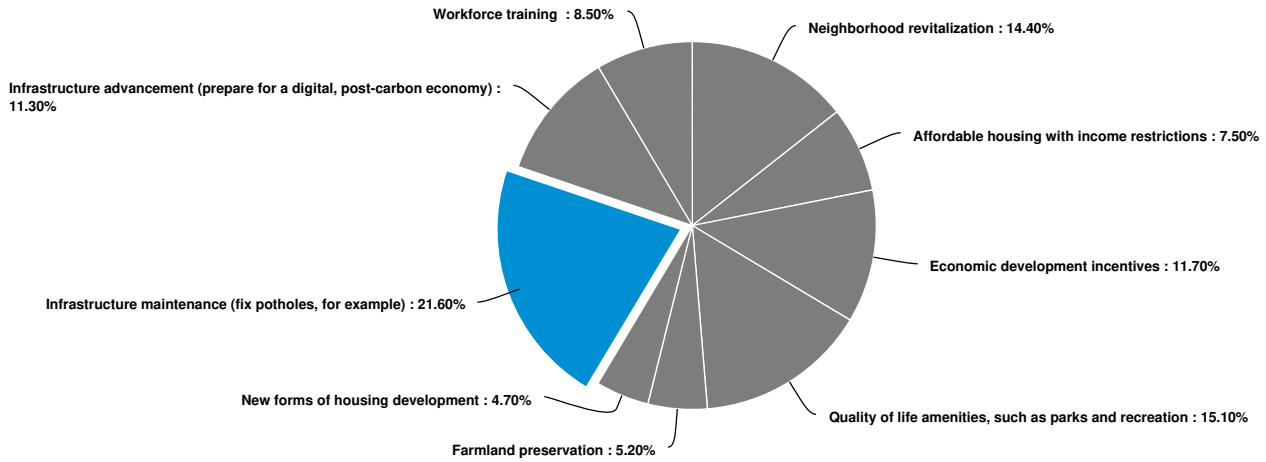
Analysis of Census Bureau data reveals that median home values in Delaware County grew 23% between 2000 and 2018—a rate that was far below the rate of inflation over the same period (42%). This reflects the loss of jobs and population since 2000, which has dampened demand for housing. If this trend continues, it could lead to further disinvestment in the housing stock as homeowners hold back on improvements (such as updating kitchens, as well as routine maintenance) because they sense that there will be little to no return on their investment. How do you think Delaware County and the City of Muncie should respond to this trend? Select no more than two of the options below. - Dynamic Text / Comments

04/08/2021	112765332	[Other] Currently two-thirds of the jobs in the community are for low wage positions. This is related to the current quality of the workforce via low educational attainment levels. Good, higher paying positions go to communities with a well prepared workforce that lends itself to having higher company profits, higher salaries and the ability to pay for high quality housing - thus reversing the current trends. Reversing the current trend in workforce preparation should be on the BIG Idea list at the top.
04/03/2021	112661001	[Other] Bring the factories back. Create more employment opportunities for people without degrees. Invest in the Southside, Industry and lower income neighborhoods, instead of the Northside & bsu all the time. Make educational opportunities easier to afford. Who cares about property values when the community is so broke they can't even afford a single family home. Take better care of the people FIRST, so they can eventually get into their own home, then worry about property values and such.
04/02/2021	112650172	[Other] Make buyproperty offers to those who live next or near blight houses and/or empty lots BEFORE allowing out-of-state companies and groups to come in and buy. People that live in areas where there is blighted homes are never given a opposite to purchase. They are left out of the buying process and that needs to stop!
04/01/2021	112625812	[Other] create or enforce regulations that force landlords to maintain their properties
03/31/2021	112607061	[Other] Create a rental registry so landlords are accountable for the problems the do not attend to that create housing problems.
03/31/2021	112606509	[Other] create jobs that fill the needs of lower income housing and neighborhoods being very expensive to live in - as in highly energy-efficient homes so utilities are very low; connect housing to efficient and safe transportation, enhance services in those areas that have not been able to prosper due to being lower income and lower tax revenue areas
03/31/2021	112593676	[Other] Focus on development of workforce and job opportunities to indirectly improve the housing market. Demolish vacant or abandoned homes to minimize urban decay.
03/30/2021	112589480	[Other] improve the infastructure and ammenities in these neighborhoods
03/30/2021	112570770	[Other] Bring back manufacturing jobs and people will buy or build. Too many service jobs with poor service. Too many Stores type jobs we need skilled trade jobs and factories.
03/28/2021	112527072	[Other] People aren't doing repairs because they can't afford them. Help low income people get repairs and maintenance.
03/28/2021	112521902	[Other] Encourage the development of "missing middle" housing, the investment in rehabilitation of vacant and abandoned housing, and only demolish if there is a planned strategic use for the parcel post-demolition.
03/26/2021	112503392	[Other] Bring more than minimum wage jobs into the area to encourage positive economic growth-including housing.
03/25/2021	112474849	[Other] Enforce ordinances already in place. This is absolutely not being done now considering the amount of junk, trash and abandoned vehicles that one can easily observe by simply driving down some of Muncie' main thoroughfares.
03/25/2021	112470059	[Other] Viewing housing as an investment is idiotic. Help people maintain the places they live in and provide housing for the unhomed members of the community from the abandoned stock.
03/25/2021	112469848	[Other] Engage in more green rehabilitation of existing housing stock via programs such as "Eco Rehab"
03/25/2021	112465649	[Other] Keep CAFOs away. Home will loose 80%-90% of resale value if a CAFO goes in within a few miles
03/25/2021	112462013	[Other] Invest in schools and quality of life that attracts people to areas for residence.
03/25/2021	112461816	[Other] Give homeowners grants that are trying to improve their homes and the quality of their communities.
03/24/2021	112447470	[Other] Families buy where the families can play. If want young families you need better parks and trails. Yes we have the greenway but you need neighbors to connect to it. Look at Broadripple! More trail connects equal more business. And the half way done walk ways are crap.
03/24/2021	112420968	[Other] Help low income families more. City helps some. And help ppl learn how to make their houses nice
03/23/2021	112404708	[Other] Incentivize energy efficiency/conservation improvements and renewable energy installations.
03/17/2021	112244064	[Other] The City has doubled its geographical and infrastructural footprint over the last 50 years while staying the same population. Serious consideration needs to be happen on how the City deals with the this excess infrastructure in a strategic, human, and common sense way. Strategic demolition in areas with a high concentration of abandonment/vacancy should be considered. over the long term and with community input.
		[Other] If people don't have jobs that allow them to afford to buy, then you won't have many buyers. At one point we had 4,000 abandoned homes

03/17/2021	112232540	<p>thanks to the recession. Why aren't we grabbing those and allowing people to invest in fixing them up and living in them? Also, stop forcing people to lose their homes if they default on their taxes. I see in the paper where someone is losing their home because they missed a \$100 tax payment. How many of these are elderly people? Then you allow an out of state buyer to purchase and charge huge \$ and often the house is left to decay as it is a big write-off for them - example is a wonderful historic home on E. Jackson. Why are we allowing this to happen? Those out of towners don't give a hoot if the building falls down - meanwhile our city loses character and some formerly beautiful neighborhoods go downhill. Take a look at Noblesville - they kept their historic homes and it became "the" place to move to. Building all new is not the answer - you are just abandoning more of the inner-city homes and leaving them to create more blight. Incentivize people to buy the older homes and revitalize the neighborhoods. Statistics show there are plenty of jobs - we just don't have workers who are educated enough to do them. Incentivize students, they will grow up to be educated workers with good jobs and they will stay here!</p>
03/15/2021	112172956	<p>[Other] Bring in quality jobs and people will come and have funds to maintain and or purchase property.</p>
03/15/2021	112166279	<p>[Other] Consider seriously the zoning issues that enable landlords to destroy the character of a neighborhood by removing garages and trees to put in gravel for parking (not even parking pads) that relatively quickly turn to mud and to construct cheap rental property that does not fit the character of the neighborhood without notifying neighbors that construction was even contemplated ("grandfathering" should not eliminate notice to neighbors). Muncie was derelict in not adopting the landlord-tenant responsibilities that would have protected both--as well as the neighbors.</p>
03/15/2021	112158421	<p>[Other] There needs to be more options for one-income families; apartments or houses to rent and/or buy that aren't absolutely awful or incredibly expensive.</p>
03/13/2021	112127114	<p>[Other] Stop allowing the same 10-20 people to buy all the affordable properties, tax sale properties and deed sale properties. Then they lose them in the tax sales and have someone buy them in another name, or they just sell them to them for nothing. This goes on and on, and it is so obvious that the recorders, treasurer and assessors office all have to know what is going on, but nothing has ever been done. The majority of these houses sit vacant when they could be housing for families.</p>
03/12/2021	112114519	<p>[Other] Delaware County and the City of Muncie should invest in improving its environmental health and helping low income communities so more people might be inclined to move there.</p>
03/10/2021	112059011	<p>[Other] Speed up demolition of poor-quality housing with incentives to build new in-fill housing.</p>
03/10/2021	112051962	<p>[Other] What you really should be doing is taking the abandoned and neglected housing that we have in droves and either 1) homestead them to telecommuters who want to live cheaply, 2) invest development funding in repair and restoration of historic homes so that they can come back on the market, 3) create a municipal bank with cheap loans to facility repair and restoration, 4) offer combined cheap loans and grants for student loan forgiveness to attract millennials and zoomers to live in houses locally even if they telecommute (or commute) elsewhere.</p>
03/10/2021	112049536	<p>[Other] Watch infill housing that will add to already crowded neighborhoods. Leave parking spots available in front of open green spaces in order to give parking opportunities to growing families who could easily have more than two cars. Another idea would be to possibly give incentives to those who would build a garage on the empty green space next to their homes to lessen on street parking. My Congerville neighborhood has a mix of older homes and some in the past had small garages that have since been torn down, but the curb cuts remain. Other homes had or have alley entry garages. Without a solid Landlord Registry in Muncie numerous driving adults living in one household make for crowded on street parking and especially for homes on corner lots. In addition, trash tote pickup needs to go back to the alleys. Totes positioned between parked cars can get a little tight on trash days. Lastly, let's move the mailboxes off the curbs and back to the homes. The mail people have to get out of their trucks anyway to deliver mail due to the parked cars and this only encourages mail theft and makes it difficult for the elderly to retrieve their mail. Side note: moving trash totes out front doesn't work for the older folks either.</p>
03/09/2021	112026168	<p>[Other] Hold landlords/owners accountable for the upkeep of their properties.</p>
03/08/2021	111993999	<p>[Other] Property tax caps/limitations restrict options for city tax base and affect the overall ability to create a higher 'quality of place'. The housing and rental options and therefore investment in properties is reflective of this restriction.</p>
03/08/2021	111993084	<p>[Other] Educate owners on the benefits of home maintenance and improvement.</p>
03/07/2021	111975101	<p>[Other] Cut spending to reflect the loss of countywide income rather than increase property taxes for populations on fixed incomes. Tax the so called nonprofits like IU Ball Hospital!!!! Encourage competition for health care so that we will have better health care and good Doctors will want to stay in Muncie and we won't have to go to Indianapolis for health care!!!!!! FIX THIS TERRIBLE SURVEY!!!! DOESN'T WORK RIGHT!!!! CAN'T READ ACTIVITIES LISTED BELOW</p>
03/07/2021	111970076	<p>[Other] Continue the demolition of inhabitable housing, while investing in infrastructure. Market forces will guide the rest.</p>
03/06/2021	111962512	<p>[Other] increasing work opportunities for the current residence may help to bolster local economies. Also have a big push for residence to spend money in local stores vs big box stores can help bolster economy.</p>
03/06/2021	111962195	<p>[Other] Improve schools, especially in Muncie</p>
03/05/2021	111953660	<p>[Other] Direct funds to refurbish 'On the Brink' properties in neighborhoods. There *are* companies in the area that are working to restore worthy houses and retain Muncie's historical character. We would be wise to see what can be saved, salvaged and reused somewhere else in the community. Not just simple demolished or sold off.</p>
03/05/2021	111943216	<p>[Other] Give incentives to local organizations (grants, education opportunities, ect...) to encourage development and upkeep of housing in their area. Work with those who are ready or can get ready, help them build their capacity. This will divide the workload and speed up revitalization.</p>

03/04/2021	111916076	[Other] If the income level of many households was elevated they would be able to invest in their home and property.
03/03/2021	111887067	[Other] Offer tax abatement as for those who purchase and/or improve homes in the city core rather than building new and expanding the city. We do it for companies, let's do it for homeowners.
03/03/2021	111886309	[Other] Preserve the 80% of your buildings that are over 50 years old!
03/03/2021	111885754	[Other] Unless the flight of population can be reversed, all these options are like repainting a sinking ship. Keep up with infrastructure improvements, tear down the blight that is beyond saving, and focus on efforts that will retain or attract population.
03/03/2021	111880303	[Other] If we focus on improving the quality of life in the region by investing more in infrastructure (trails, roads, maintenance, low drinking water quality, and river restoration), education/workforce preparation (school funding and resources but equally important are education/training opportunities for adults), and provide more support/rehabilitation opportunities to encourage those struggling with addiction, poverty, and criminal activity to move forward and rejoin the workforce and society in a productive manner. These changes will bring more companies with higher paying jobs to the region that will increase our average incomes and provide a means for citizens to maintain and improve their homes. Multiple economists have advised on this situation and with the current housing situation, building and renovating properties in the area is rarely cost-effective as the costs exceed the price that the property will be worth when sold at market prices.
03/03/2021	111873456	[Other] Rehabilitate older/poorer-quality housing, and only demolish and rebuild if that is more cost-effective.
03/02/2021	111860698	[Other] Create programs to aide first time home owners and those seeking to buy a home. Perhaps a reward/assistance program so those abandoned homes go to someone who can repair them.
03/02/2021	111856254	[Other] develop better zoning codes and enforce them
03/02/2021	111854358	[Other] Address gentrification and other factors that may lead to housing disinvestment: https://www.newamerica.org/future-land-housing/reports/displaced-america/housing-loss-in-marion-county-indiana/ while this report is on housing loss in Indianapolis (didn't look long enough to see if somethings been done for muncie?), our area likely is dealing with the same trends and this points to a number of factors that could also influence disinvestment, as well as policy suggestions for change.
03/02/2021	111852380	[Other] Incentive homeownership through homesteading and other types of inducement
03/02/2021	111847201	[Other] From what I can tell, there are a significant number of homes that are owned and poorly maintained by landlords, providing insufficient quality and safe rentals to individuals who are new to the area and need quick housing, those who cannot afford to purchase a home, or those who want less maintenance responsibilities.
03/02/2021	111842905	[Other] Rehabilitate existing structures that are salvageable, support IDA accounts for first time home buyers, support the Muncie Land Bank, and consider land trusts to ensure affordable housing remains affordable.
03/02/2021	111841752	[Other] Improving run down vacant houses and reusing them for families such as myself who cant afford a mortgage but can pay a reasonable amount for rent.
03/02/2021	111837675	[Other] better education and higher paying jobs. Give a reason for families to want to move here!! then we can address housing. If we don't good schools and good paying jobs then families move which then leaves this area for the poorest. which

If Delaware County and the City of Muncie were to collaborate on a \$10 million bond in 2022 to kickstart the implementation of TogetherDM priorities, how would you choose to allocate the resources? In amounts of at least \$1 million, please allocate the \$10 million between the activities listed below. For example, you may direct all \$10 million to a single activity or divide the money as evenly as you wish:



Answer	Count	Percent	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
Neighborhood revitalization	1.44	14.44%	[Progress bar]				
Affordable housing with income restrictions	0.75	7.49%	[Progress bar]				
Economic development incentives	1.17	11.67%	[Progress bar]				
Quality of life amenities, such as parks and recreation	1.51	15.11%	[Progress bar]				
Farmland preservation	0.52	5.24%	[Progress bar]				
New forms of housing development	0.47	4.66%	[Progress bar]				
Infrastructure maintenance (fix potholes, for example)	2.16	21.57%	[Progress bar]				
Infrastructure advancement (prepare for a digital, post-carbon economy)	1.13	11.29%	[Progress bar]				
Workforce training	0.85	8.54%	[Progress bar]				
Total	10	100%					

What opportunities are you most excited about for the Delaware Muncie region? In other words, what fills you with the most hope for the region's prospects over the coming decade?

04/08/2021	112765332	When the community realizes the 21st Century economy demands highly prepared employees at all levels to be able to earn living wages, support their families, enable companies to be more profitable, have adequate and attractive housing, and attract population growth - that is when the community will be successful. If this plan doesn't address the BIG and core issues we will be missing opportunity staring us in the face. Thanks for all your efforts to pursue this planning effort.
04/07/2021	112742476	By5 Kindergarten-Readiness, United Way's Grade Level Reading effort, and George and Frances Ball Foundation's Cradle to Career Initiative is helping to prepare the next generation to be a skilled/educated workforce. If we can enhance infrastructure (including internet access) and incentivize corporations to relocate here with childcare options for their workforce and on-going workforce developments through Ivy Tech and BSU, I think we could see our tax-base start to improve...and all the good that comes from having a stronger tax base as a result (better housing, better schools, etc).
04/07/2021	112741518	Not having the YMCA take over Touhy Park
04/07/2021	112732845	Lifting level of educational attainment, which has the biggest impacts on all other factors of civic life, including poverty and health issues
04/03/2021	112661001	N/A
04/02/2021	112650172	Right now. I do not have any hope because I'm seeing too many officials looking out for themselves and not the people. My hope for this city will take some time.
04/01/2021	112632492	I am excited that everyone is trying to get Muncie back to the top! This city is awesome, and it has really gone downhill the past couple of years. I am hopeful for the future.

04/01/2021	112621162	Environmental issues and global warming are a huge concern regulations on industrial farming and harmful industrial production should be regulated more strictly by the county
03/31/2021	112607061	Only the people. Their willingness to persevere and their generosity when it is needed. Muncie and Delaware County have both squandered opportunities to better what we already have. Yet the people persist.
03/31/2021	112606509	The people of Muncie are resourceful and resilient. I also feel like climate change overhangs all of our decisions, and that was not listed separately in the questions. That needs to be present in every discussion, as does addressing systematic bias (economic class and racial bias legacy).
03/31/2021	112605884	Investing in sustainable, renewable energy sectors resources and jobs. Emphasis on a clear quality of life for diverse populations.
03/31/2021	112603246	The pockets of creativity and hard work in communities give me hope. A new generation of leadership gives me hope. When I hear "innovate" instead of "maintain" I have hope. When I hear people I don't know say we need to work toward more just systems and keep that massive new jail we just poured a bunch of money into and called "development" as empty as possible, I have hope.
03/31/2021	112602396	Resource investments into the Industry neighborhood so that it is no longer an underserved community.
03/31/2021	112598974	I hope our beloved city can stay afloat, sometime I feel as if ballstate is the only thing keeping us going.
03/31/2021	112598735	We need to become the education/healthcare center of the state. The biggest key to this is coordinating with Ball State University to leverage that young talent our university produces towards our local community. Creating incentives for home ownership among recent college grads will also be critical to the future of our community along with improving Muncie Community Schools.
03/31/2021	112596759	Community/Ball State Collaboration, Strengthening Neighborhood Associations
03/31/2021	112596335	More racially diverse police force. Greater investment in high quality, affordable housing. Solid funding and higher quality local schools.
03/31/2021	112596200	The fact that there is this group and many other neighborhood and local organizations that are working to improve our area gives me a lot of hope for the future. You can't improve if you don't try.
03/31/2021	112595973	Dining, amenities, entertainment, arts and culture
03/31/2021	112595320	The work that Next Muncie is doing (especially the downtown riverfront development), the MCS-BSU school partnership, the affordability of our community compared to other places in the state
03/30/2021	112589480	The fact that we are looking at and asking each other what steps can we take to make our area a more inviting& sustainable place
03/30/2021	112574065	I have lived all over the country, and I was immediately taken with how invested local business leaders are in the success of the region.
03/30/2021	112573894	- Greenway development, hopefully connecting the smaller towns, if management can be improved. - Small towns undertaking infrastructure improvements (water, sewer separation, etc.). - More demolition of derelict structures to improve neighborhoods; defunct manufacturing sites cleaned up or reused. - BSU's potential consideration of offering micro certifications and lifelong learning/continuing education opportunities. Micro certifications would really benefit the improvement and retention of a skilled workforce. - Red Tail Conservancy's work to preserve and manage natural resources in the county. Would like to see more programming/education from them about their work and how natural resources can be protected and managed.
03/30/2021	112573087	the advances being made at Ball State to connect to the city, the new mid-upper income rental apartments being developed
03/30/2021	112571182	Currently, BSU holds a big impact on the city's well-being. I look forward to more attractions and opportunities that take the focus off of BSU. I don't mean to imply that I hope BSU doesn't do well, I just look forward to the day that Muncie has more going for it than just the college. Look at Bloomington and West Lafayette. These cities are much bigger and more prosperous than Muncie and have a lot more going for them. Albeit, they are more college towns than Muncie, as the colleges there really helped build the city. Conversely, Muncie has been impacted by BSU greatly, but it was already an established city when the college was really established. I look forward to the day when the city is more cohesive and there is financially active in the summer when the students are away.
03/30/2021	112571016	There are groups of very passionate people who are investing in our city and that is exciting. People are committed to staying.
03/30/2021	112570864	Access to internet for the entire city. Internet is a necessity for many Americans to be able to function in regard to schooling and jobs. I think we need to move forward and implement the internet access plan.
03/30/2021	112570783	-
03/29/2021	112548031	The school system had bottomed out and is now recovering. Ball State continues to perform well and is central to our success. Our city leaders are really working hard to attract business to our area.
03/29/2021	112544446	That Muncie and Delaware County are working together to figure out a good working plan for the future and that BSU, IU Health and ITCC are more engaged with the community than ever before.
03/29/2021	112535526	The Downtown Being developed, focusing on that area and letting that be an epicenter of revitalization. We have good paying jobs at many places, but a large portion lives out of town due to housing or lifestyle desires.
03/28/2021	112530231	I want to see reform for dangerous drugs happen in Delaware County.
03/28/2021	112529542	Ethnic groceries and restaurants. My friend and I joke that Muncie will be a real city once there is a Vietnamese restaurant here. I hope that Asia Mart can reopen.
03/28/2021	112528860	The development of downtown.
03/28/2021	112524300	This city needs to be cleaned up. Road repair and forcing owners to clean and maintain their property.
		Muncie and Delaware County can look to other cities in the region and across the country and see what works. A buffet of success is at our disposal. We just need to have the vision and courage to stop being mediocre and start being a place that turns heads. We could tackle blight and abandoned properties by demoing them, sure. But let's be strategic about it. Plan it out and demo these properties in such a way that we could take the lots and turn them into a trail network that would link Heekin, McCulloch, Westside, the Downtown, Minnetrista, and other major

03/28/2021	112521902	could take the lots and turn them into a trail network that would link Hickin, Meadcoth, Westside, the Downtown, Mimetista, and other major areas of the city. Muncie has the opportunity to revitalize its park system to create the best parks system in Indiana with playgrounds, gardens, and amenities available in every neighborhood. Delaware County could partner with INDNR and land conservancy groups such as Red-Tail to protect land around Muncie, creating a green loop. Imagine being able to hike, bike, or ride all around the county. Only London has something comparable and it would put us on the map. I'm excited because Muncie has potential and possibility to transform itself into something great, to see a new golden era not seen since the gas boom. But the way we do things has to change. Ideas on parking minimums, housing, and economic development all has to be reevaluated.
03/27/2021	112512706	Improvement in the Muncie Community Schools! Becoming top notch in high school learning. Need to support the school as the school of Muncie and highlight the great things that are being down there.
03/27/2021	112512147	Safe, affordable, communities and strong faith and family commitments.
03/27/2021	112511794	A focus n improving what is already here, as opposed to trying to be PC and woke n order to keep pace with progressives and losing the values of our flyover states attraction.
03/27/2021	112510905	I like to see the trails and parks coming to life. I like to see when neighborhoods take pride and clean up trash and try to keep their homes looking nice.
03/27/2021	112510407	Nothing
03/26/2021	112503409	New leadership in government
03/26/2021	112503392	More realistic jobs, much more than a fast food economy around here. A second hospital for competition based services. More police/less crime. Less corruption in politics.
03/26/2021	112502618	Without BSU, Muncie would probably be a ghost town
03/26/2021	112501220	I grew up in Muncie and am a current homeowner with my growing family. Muncie has evolved in a positive direction within the last 10+ years. I've very hopeful and optimistic that we can continue to make Muncie a place where people want to start families. Community involvement and investment is growing, which can only help. I also look forward to more entertainment options to keep people within the Muncie city limits instead of feeling the need to travel to Indy for entertainment.
03/26/2021	112500837	I'm unaware of any opportunities in the Delaware Muncie region.
03/26/2021	112500164	There are amazing people who come here. The problem is that they do not stay. If faculty and staff, for example, had to live and spend their money in Muncie, there would naturally be more income in the region and more social engagement. There would be more business and opportunity for new restaurants, new amenities, and a shift in political and social values.
03/26/2021	112493381	Improvements in downtown, emphasis on parks and trails, Ironman.
03/26/2021	112489345	Our current government structure will continue to make bad decisions for the region as a whole. Jail location, YMCA are two examples
03/26/2021	112488344	Farmer's markets, improvements to parks and trails, recycle and composting programs, and other neighborhood programs.
03/26/2021	112485791	Collaboration between organizations such as Ball State, non profits, MCS, Ball Hospital. Working together is the best way to create unity in the city.
03/26/2021	112484871	The people here who deeply care and fight for good in our city
03/26/2021	112484797	The riverfront district, downtown Yorktown Redevelopment, new infrastructure projects such as repaving of 32 and the sidewalk/roundabout at Nebo.
03/25/2021	112475003	Creative solutions and affordable housing.
03/25/2021	112474849	Community involvement and our growing arts community. The more people who feel involved and invested in our community, the better our chance for future success.
03/25/2021	112470059	red tail conservancy, the way the town came together to say a firm no to the toxic metals plant, and I hope, to the Y taking over Tuhey Park.
03/25/2021	112469848	Apparent stabilization of community school system
03/25/2021	112469444	.
03/25/2021	112465649	Clean environment, river activities and jobs, clean lakes, clean reservoir, encourage bee keeping, selling days increased at farm markets for our farmers. Educational about CAFO meat products using steroids', antibodies, and growth hormones. Education and promotion of our local farmer's organic products.
03/25/2021	112462013	Growth in the western portion of the county with good schools, safe streets and implementation of strategies that have encouraged housing growth and business development due to quality of life improvements.
03/25/2021	112461816	Grants for home improvements, quality of affordable life opportunities, outdoor park recreations, more free outdoor events, race relations, promotions and better job opportunities for the Black Community, affordable housing & livable wages for job opportunities and infrastructure!
03/25/2021	112459459	Train travel to Indianapolis would help bring a safer, faster, cleaner commute
03/25/2021	112458384	New administration, development along river
03/25/2021	112458156	Neighborhood organizations investing in the homes and people
03/25/2021	112456652	Development of resources for community members to use the river. A viable arts corridor. Continued revitalization of downtown. Future of work and the web of support it offers. MadJax
03/24/2021	112447503	Solar Energy

03/24/2021	112447470	I want to see a living city that breaths new life. I am tired of hear about lost jobs. Yes, it stinks but we can life in that forever or adapted and become better!
03/24/2021	112447387	I love the expansion of the greenway. I also really hope that all of the city's parks stay open (especially Tuhey). The parks and Greenways are the reason why I have stayed in Muncie, rather than moving like the majority of my friends.
03/24/2021	112444899	Would have larger companies come to our area if we had an airport that was active. The City has too many rentals with slumlords or out of state owners. BSU was ruined all of the neighborhoods around campus, with sofas in front yards, trash everywhere, cars parked in front yards. Too many people in one house.
03/24/2021	112444476	Neighborhood Revitalization, Park upgrades & amenities and Improved Sidewalks & Roads in the city.
03/24/2021	112442477	I am excited about the prospect of more green space, the turning blighted properties into gardens and parks, and the new solar energy park getting proposed. I'm excited about how much cleaner the White River has become since the removing of the dams, though I think more work needs to be done in sustaining its natural habitat. We need to have an eye toward the future, not looking longingly at the past. What type of space do we want to sustain for our residents to make sure the health and livelihood of all are considered? The city needs to continue to work with Ball State as one of the area's most significant assets. I also appreciate the growth of the trail system for bikes and pedestrians, and hope it continues
03/24/2021	112442053	Corrupt politicians going to federal prison and government working for all the people not just the insiders who pay to play!
03/24/2021	112440381	More Greenway, innovation connector, green energy.
03/24/2021	112439644	Downtown growth is the most positive factor in Muncie currently. But without a focus on parks and outdoor recreation, and food and local farming, we will not grow our young professional artistic base.
03/24/2021	112438440	Better VARIED career training options for adults of all ages.
03/24/2021	112438285	We have the opportunity to change the trajectory of life for individuals and families, by doing something different and developing strategies that are outside the box that are going to be extremely impactful for our community. I feel change is coming and it is very exciting.
03/24/2021	112436528	Climate action and neighborhood revitalization
03/24/2021	112436004	Ball Syaye seems to be holding its own...without it Muncie dies
03/24/2021	112435596	Getting rid of the criminals and graft within the City of Muncie government is a giant step forward. The City brings down the entire County. My hope is that by cleaning up the city, the whole county will benefit.
03/24/2021	112434758	Creation and development of more cohesive and supportive neighborhoods who will then function as agents of change
03/24/2021	112434407	The soundness of our remaining economic base in healthcare and education . We've already shed the jobs that we will for the foreseeable future.
03/24/2021	112434003	This is a quality place to live in. I prefer Muncie to Indy. The challenge is to have a better economy and offer more jobs that can keep qualified people here.
03/24/2021	112432327	I'm encouraged by the level of engagement and activism in the community, especially with young people. That feels invigorating and promising to me. And surveys like this one! Thank you ;)
03/24/2021	112430898	We have to improve the infrastructure and parks and recreation. This will help to bring business which will bring people and more money to the community.
03/24/2021	112430629	Anything that provides environmental and wildlife protections. Anything that addresses climate change protection. Anything that addresses improved reading skills for children and adults. Another hospital (non IUH) would be great.
03/24/2021	112428340	Attracting new business or industries. Housing developments to attract and retain residents.
03/24/2021	112427950	I Have very little long-term hope for this region.
03/24/2021	112426587	I'm excited that many older residents are becoming more active in helping in the schools, with environmental projects, and as mentors for newer workers.
03/24/2021	112425131	I see lots of positive motion for Muncie. I see many needs to develop downtown Muncie & encourage people to work/live/shop/eat downtown. Help existing storefronts downtown improve their appearance. Develop the riverfront as a beautiful art & recreation area. Provide financial assistance to those who want to purchase run-down properties & revitalize them (including the plethora of such properties in the Old West End near downtown), such as providing demolition (when needed) or reconstruction funds. Make Muncie look better & promote recreation & art opportunities, to attract employers, who will attract employees, who will spend money and buy housing, and lead to a true revitalization of Muncie. Make sure the basic needs of citizens are met -- food, housing, healthcare, mental healthcare -- plus positive programs for kids, to help curb the drugs & crime. Thank you for providing this survey. I'm excited to see where the results will lead.
03/24/2021	112424968	I'm retired but moved here to be near my grand kids. I'm concerned about needing more employment opportunities for skilled workers other than Ball State and IU Health. Enjoy the parks, trails, etc. Moved from Florida so was used to lots of outdoor activity.
03/24/2021	112424238	Muncie / BSU partnerships Improvement of Muncie Community Schools is essential to the prosperity of the city. It should be THE number one priority, and I was surprised that it was not even mentioned on this survey. A strong school system will bring people back to the community who will demand (and be willing to pay for) many of the items that you list as necessary.
03/24/2021	112423220	Muncie has come such a far way. I am so excited for the future of this great city! We have been taking so many strides and love that our voices can be heard!
03/24/2021	112422018	The nonprofits of Muncie bring the city to life with their programs and resources. We need to allocate more funding for community programs and resources. These resources should also include housing and workforce training and improvement.
03/24/2021	112421135	Ball State and the possibility of legalized cannabis

03/24/2021	112420968	Honestly, not much. Muncie lacks in terms of better ness and progression. Hate to sound negative but Muncie doesn't even have the business/corporations necessary to get people to stay long term. Those factories a long time ago have left and there's small industry here hospital school that only get ran if people have children and keep jobs. Recreation is low. Health is low. You need a car for a lot of activities here. So sorry but not much is to go so for except hopefully low cost housing and schooling to raise a child in.
03/24/2021	112420924	Schools and the quality of our children's learning makes me hopeful for the future. Lately I have heard to several big companies moving to the muncie area soon and with jobs means better quality of life and hearing to the revitalization of the downtown to provide more housing. Seeing lots of places hiring as makes it seem like companies are doing good business
03/24/2021	112419741	Greater downtown development, including preserving & renovating historic buildings, infill development, fixing sidewalks, and proposed road diets.
03/23/2021	112412174	Outdoor activities, cultural and arts, just everything opening back up
03/23/2021	112404708	The work of Red-tail Land Conservancy and Solarize Indiana to enhance biodiversity, sequester carbon in forests, and switch to renewable energy. Why don't you ask the opposite? The lack of transparency and climate leadership from Ball State regarding (straetgies to reduce GHG emissions) and the building spree that Ball State is engaged without regard to the carbon emissions associated with construction and demolition.
03/23/2021	112389084	New businesses and a higher minimum wage. Give people a way to support their families.
03/22/2021	112363647	It may sound surprising, but I think the best thing that Muncie can do to attract people is to upkeep and maintain what it already has. Work on snow removal programs. Repair sidewalks and streets. Paint light polls, bridges, and etc so they aren't rusted and unsightly. Power-wash said bridges. You don't have to have a lot to get people to notice, you just need what you have to look like it's cared for. Invest in culture. Invest in music festivals and things that draw people to the area and have them well orchestrated and with talent that people would travel to see. These investments will work better than any standard city marketing campaign. People want to move to places that are doing cool things. Aside from those events, they just want everything else to work.
03/22/2021	112356592	The White River lofts and focus on the White River as an amenity and not as a dumping ground for Muncie. Leadership seems to be more aware of the importance of the White River in continuing the revitalization of downtown Muncie and surrounding areas. Also, the improvements of our trail system. Cardinal Greenway is phenomenal!!
03/22/2021	112356405	I really don't have much excitement for this area because the same cycle of "leaders" bringing down and purposely stopping any progress continues. For some reason, the Community with the aid of the local news sources/papers continues to want to make the Muncie and Delaware County area appear completely backward. These negative attitudes, professed during "leaders" communications, only continue to make the Community appear to be a horrible place to live. Any transparency of the Governments or other larger institutions are no longer and the ability of Community members to engaged to gain knowledge of the decisions of these "leaders" that directly impact the Community members' lives has ended.
03/22/2021	112356334	Entities within the community working together to better Delaware County (neighborhood associations, government, businesses, etc.)
03/22/2021	112355676	collaboration with BSU students to improve our community, more trees being planted and hopefully environmental care of our city.
03/21/2021	112343420	Better communities coming together to make our city a better place to live. I'd like to see better rental opportunities at a small rate and more partnerships to expand the power to reach our people.
03/21/2021	112339681	Downtown and the work they have been doing to push toward increasing culture in the city. I hope we continue to push the envelope, grow with the young people, and retain great workers who want to live here
03/21/2021	112334509	I would hope that we have more businesses that are unique to our area. We need affordable rent and opportunities for small business owners. Also we need a downtown that is more than just walnut street. A stronger downtown development that reaches well beyond just the businesses on walnut. More events, more food trucks. I know it's Covid times and that has been put on hold but even before... rib fest, the regatta, music fest... all of these things were cancelled...we need more cool things to do. At least we have the 3 trails series that brings great musicians into the city for free concerts... if that continues.
03/21/2021	112332993	I am optimistic about the development happening in downtown Muncie. Muncie is growing and improving in a number of ways. However, especially right now, I am gravely concerned about the housing market in Muncie. Most homes in Muncie are run-down, either because they are vacant and dilapidated, or because they are managed by college landlords who do not take as great of care of the home as a homeowner would. Apartments are hard to come by, and it is difficult to find quality, affordable apartments. Downtown apartment rates continuously increase year over year, but I don't think salaries in the area are rising at the same rate; soon, I'm afraid all the apartments will prices themselves out of the market because there aren't enough high-paying jobs in the area to sustain the market.
03/20/2021	112326905	Ball State programs offered to kids Halteman Park (I don't live in that neighborhood) More opportunities opening downtown
03/20/2021	112326595	Nothing
03/20/2021	112326449	Taking advantage of the river as an amenity
03/20/2021	112326182	I'm not excited about anything. There is a lot of talk. Plans and actions that will 'pay off' in years. Yet our people need jobs *now*. Don't worry about the faces down the road. Deal with the ones who have been here through the industrial flight and residential blight. We ought to do more to develop programs that give people an incentive to care for their neighborhood. Put residents to work with the funds we do have. Clean the streets and alleys, *then* fix the infrastructure. Muncie is a dirty city. If residents had assistance in cleaning up their property and the city property adjacent to it. We may be able to spark some pride. People may actually want to live here if we stopped dreaming about things 5 or 10 years down the line. And clean up the mess we're in *now*.
03/20/2021	112325631	I'm hoping that you all see that quality-of-life things are what will actually attract people who want to live and work here. Nice, activity filled parks. More youthful art-focused culture (not just a monthly craft fair or bars with paintings up) like the Plyspace projects and the big mural downtown. These kinds of things, if put in the right hands, need funded and encouraged. I can't believe a city of this size does not have a skatepark - ESPECIALLY considering how many young adults I see skating. I heard one might be put in - but I don't see any action. I also hope that you quit building these plywood apartment building with faux modern facades and thinking people and businesses will move right in. The promenade has ruined the village. It's a terrible build and a terrible company and no one wants to live or open business there. It makes me sad. Lastly, I hope you do not make a huge mistake and move the Y from downtown to Tuhey park. I bought my house because of that park. It improves my life and makes so many people happy. The thought that Dan and the city would even CONSIDER plopping a Christian-based "nonprofit," gym facility on a HUGE PUBLIC GREENSPACE is appalling and so short-sited. The fight against this has directly led to my husband's and my decision to relocate to Indianapolis in a year or so. We are two young professionals, active in the community, who feel like Dan does not listen to us or have our needs in mind. We are also excruciatingly embarrassed of how this administration handled the pandemic. I quit going to the grocery last May when MAYOR DAN WAS THE MASKLESS PERSON NEAR THE DELI I HAD TO AVOID. On top of that, our city's social media is rife

		with spelling errors, incorrect info, and odd religious motivational pictures. People and companies look at this kind of stuff. We look like fools on social media. So yeah, keep trying to make this place a Fishers kind of town and I think you'll continue to lose people and businesses that make it cool and unique. If that's the aim - good luck.
03/20/2021	112322217	The conservative nature of its citizens
03/20/2021	112320187	Muncie Community Schools-BSU partnership; emphasis by city leaders on park improvements in the city; a need to recognize the significance of quality of place - without it Muncie and Delaware County are going to find it hard to attract business and people to relocate here
03/19/2021	112293911	New housing developments and employers coming to the region. COVID will continue to quicken the trend of East/West coast people returning to the heartland for affordability. Muncie needs to EMBRACE this and prepare for educated people to be able to "work from home" So we need quality housing, infrastructure (that leads to recreation/shopping not necessarily employers)
03/19/2021	112289854	The old guard will finally retire.
03/18/2021	112267738	There is a leadership group in place to assist to prioritize projects with available resources
03/18/2021	112262705	QP TEST
03/17/2021	112246024	I'm in favor of anything that would make Muncie a more attractive place to live. Because that would be different things for different people, it means doing many things at once. The most important part of that is creating a sense that we're going in the right direction.
03/17/2021	112244064	I think that Ball State University and Muncie either sink or swim together. I have been hopeful over the last four years, perhaps more than ever, that BSU realizes that their future is desperately intertwined with the future of the City. The University has neglected this relationship in the past (and the city too), and has to make up for it. The previous, and to a certain extent, current divide between BSU/City must constantly be addressed/evaluated. The recent administration of MCS by BSU was a very hopeful move. However, that move needs to be seen/heard/expanded on so that it is not seen solely as something out of necessity but as something that BSU was morally/community obligated to do. Recent silence about this partnership is concerning. Resources - both financial and expertise - can and have made a difference in Muncie/Region. Those resources - for community benefit - have to continually be developed, nurtured, and strategically employed.
03/17/2021	112239048	The commitment to Muncie by a growing group of 30 and 40 year olds. I love the shift from talking poorly about the community to public shaming of those that speak ill of Muncie. SO many people who are transplants have made Muncie their home and are willing to work hard for our city's success.
03/17/2021	112232540	That we've gotten most of the crooked politicians out of office, we've needed that for decades. We finally have an administration that appears to have the education and training to put us back in the black and our city infrastructure back into shape (looking forward to paved roads that don't rattle your teeth). People are finally paying attention to the environment - a better, cleaner city will automatically attract employers (without having to give tax incentives that cost more than what the jobs are worth). That the need for "Quality of Place" is finally being recognized. That there is more outreach for the poor and elderly - (although that needs to keep growing - elder housing for the poor is a BIG need) and a recognition of the diversity in our city (not only by race but age as well - are we a friendly place for retirees?).
03/17/2021	112232317	Removal of dead vision officers who in charge of our city. We need Muncie enthusiasm officers to lead our city. There is so many opportunities and liveliness in our city but you never see it. Give leadership opportunities only to people that have the vision for Muncie' s future. This is where Muncie/Delaware county is failing. We have a new team in our government, expand this to Muncie's vision. It will move mountains and make Muncie the great place it is supposed to be. Change the image of Muncie, and start now.
03/16/2021	112216556	Education!!
03/16/2021	112210068	I would like to see more public transit options between here and Indianapolis, like light-rail. This would help the area a great deal. Otherwise I am not particularly optimistic and would like to move.
03/16/2021	112204380	Seeing the blighted houses coming down. The 8th Street Coalition and Habitat for Humanity's work is great.
03/16/2021	112204270	I was excited about downtown becoming more popular, but due to covid I am worried again. I am hopeful we can get back to where we were.
03/16/2021	112193619	My job. Clearner safer city. Adminments to CAFO regulations, making them stricter to protect rual communities livelihoods and their health/well being as well as protecting out environment.
03/15/2021	112172956	As a resident if Delaware County for 34 years, one observation is quality employment is needed for the people to earn mean and above wages. Our young people need to have employment to stay here. The area will grow and people will come if quality employment is available. We have good educational and medical facilities to support the population. What is missing is work for our people to support their families and ultimately the community. We do not need positions that increase the working poor population.
03/15/2021	112171620	The opportunity for environmental advancements in all areas. The incredible cultural assets we have, including BSU. I am extremely frustrated that none of that is addressed in this survey, even under quality of life. We have opportunities for major increases in tourism, especially if we work closely with our region in brand management and alignment. And with that comes all of the supporting elements in the service industries: hotels, restaurants, shopping, etc. PLEASE don't sell this plan short on those items. They require community investment.
03/15/2021	112166279	If we can anticipate and meet the needs for a digital, post-carbon economy--and I believe we can--we can reimagine what "neighborhood revitalization" means (to include infrastructure advancement like 5G internet access and solar as well as infrastructure maintenance--streets, sidewalks, trees, utilities--removal of blighted structures, and quality, affordable housing). Neighborhoods should be walkable, including parks (even pocket parks) and safe bike paths or lanes. Quality of life for each individual begins at home, expands through the neighborhood to the city and to the larger area surrounding the city. Public parks and recreation should be accessible by foot, bike, and public transportation as well as by private transportation. The White River Trail and Cardinal Greenway are wonderful amenities for our community, and developing more along the river will be an advantage (removing the remaining dams on the White River would be helpful). Heekin, McCulloch, and Tuhey Parks need continuing maintenance and additional recreational amenities. And we need to support farmland use policies that will increase the soil viability (planting cover crops, for example) and reduce pollution of our waterways. Retaining and restoring wetlands that purify water should also be included under farmland preservation. All of these efforts would create jobs, an economic incentive for pursuing them. One item that is not mentioned anywhere is education--and that is key to retaining and attracting people to live and work in our community. Read Michael Hicks.
03/15/2021	112164234	The stability of Ball State University and IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital; city + county working together; possibility of being a solar/green hub for living and working.
03/15/2021	112163320	I believe if quality of parks, recreation, neighborhoods and schools are increased that you will draw families in. Families that typically would live in neighboring counties even when parents work in DM region, would choose to live here.

03/15/2021	112162300	No comment
03/15/2021	112162240	Small Business revitalization of Downtown. Increase in pride of place. Neighborhood organization. Concerns: Ball State University overreach - "Doing for" rather than "Doing with" while participating in the siphoning off of resources by living in Yorktown, Noblesville, and Fishers, pulling money out of this region and into those communities. Rise of Ecommerce undermining local retail - businesses need training and infrastructure to compete in this format.
03/15/2021	112160766	Potential for reduction in crime and drug use, investments in affordable housing, and the continued success of Ball State University.
03/15/2021	112160401	Im not familiar with any new plans
03/15/2021	112158421	The arts are really what's kept post-college life in Muncie an attraction for me. I think continuing to invest in and celebrate things such as First Thursday or other downtown art events will keep things current for adults of more ages.
03/13/2021	112128969	The number of young people who are invested.
03/12/2021	112114831	Businesses are leaving because Muncie has turned into a city of homeless drug addicts and crime. Parents do not want to raise a family in an environment where shots being fired has become the norm
03/12/2021	112114432	Education
03/12/2021	112112590	We have to get jobs back, I'm not the expert there. But someone needs to figure it out.
03/12/2021	112112586	Bring in more employment opportunities
03/12/2021	112112527	For Muncie to remain our "little big" town with the amenities of larger cities and access to needs for individuals and families, but also the ability to unite people from various locations in Muncie in entertaining and helpful ways to bring the community together and help others when they need it.
03/12/2021	112111327	Don't forget the small towns and townships are part of Delaware county
03/12/2021	112108680	Renewable Energy
03/12/2021	112102863	Fixing our streets and attracting new businesses
03/12/2021	112100892	A renewed sense of community trust and excitement.
03/12/2021	112100833	Yorktown's trail system and downtown vision.
03/12/2021	112099794	some new business growth and opportunities for better jobs. Community development downtown and in the neighborhoods
03/12/2021	112099655	Park improvements, better housing options, New Solar fields/ Eco Tech oppertunities
03/12/2021	112099460	This place is beautiful and has so much potential, I feel like alot of effort is being done to turn this place around and I'm excited to see better quality houses in Muncie, I am looking forward to this place being house fixer upper friendly and not just bought up by the same 3 company's to rent out at unaffordable prices. I feel like this place could thrive if we focus on the safety of our communities, fixing up houses/or tearing them down to start over, and giving more opportunities to those who need to rent a place via home owner not renting company's. There should be an incentive for more people to buy a house, fix it up and rent it out but so far the renting company's are grabbing any housing worth while for anyone to actually do that.
03/11/2021	112088529	BSU and community partnering could improve our future. Adapting our downtown to attract students and retain young professionals seems critical. With departure of major banks such as Mutual, and the quiet "departure" of many of First Merchants employees to Daleville and Indy, creates some big gaps for downtown businesses when you add in departure of city/county and jail (stupid move, Muncie. Thanks Mayor Tyler), the number of employees downtown has waned. Ivy Tech has helped somewhat.
03/11/2021	112088419	Need to focus efforts on touting and building on the concept that Muncie is the economic hub of East-Central Indiana.
03/11/2021	112088244	I think the people of Delaware county are good, wonderful people. The good hearts of the people and the desire to care for the less fortunate I think is one of the greatest things happening in the area!
03/11/2021	112087386	Trail construction. I would love to safely bike around Muncie and the County.
03/11/2021	112083191	The presence of Ball State University, IVY Tech, and major health care facilities in the region.
03/11/2021	112079922	Ball State's assumption of responsibility for the schools Lots of new faces in city government, most or all of whom appear to be committed to the public good rather than to a political machine or self-enrichment Cultural amenities including the Symphony, Ball State Museum of Art, Civic Theatre and Minnetrista Continued expansion of the trail system Undertaking this planning effort
03/10/2021	112059011	This area has the potential to bounce back because it is not in an area that is under immediate threat of climate-change and will be able to absorb climate-change refugees if it can make itself a place anyone would want to move to. Delaware County needs to work on quality place-making with the help of professionals and stop wasting all its resources on the whims of politicians.
03/10/2021	112051962	What fills me with hope is organizations like Muncie Action Plan, Bridges, and ACDC, which are actively trying to help solve problems locally. What fills me with dread -- beyond the nonsense of local politics being a cesspool of corruption and ineptitude -- is the utter bullshit known as "Next Muncie." This group of self-described "community leaders" (in other words, rich white privileged people without any expertise in urban planning or anything else actually useful to helping our city) that seems to drive the bus on most decisions locally. As far as I'm concerned, Next Muncie should be summarily abolished and disempowered from making ANY decisions about our city.
03/10/2021	112049536	At this time not anything.
03/10/2021	112048196	Possible alternative energy. Better working relationship with Ball State and Ivy Tech. Development of trails.
03/10/2021	112044185	Neighborhood revitalization

03/09/2021	112032117	Improving the economic opportunities in Delaware County and the expansion of public green spaces.
03/09/2021	112029375	Knowing Muncie holds the power and potential to be at the tier of cities such as Fort Wayne.
03/09/2021	112029270	I'd be very excited if the region could get jobs that aren't poorly-paid retail positions or manufacturing tasks that could be lost to automation. Delaware County has one of the lowest median household incomes in the entire state of Indiana. And yet local leaders are focused on building luxury homes and completely ignoring calls to hold slum landlords accountable for ignoring their tenants. If we increase the quality of affordable rentals and first-time homes that people can afford on the salaries of local jobs (aka \$9 an hour), we'd address a small portion of systematic poverty in the area.
03/09/2021	112026168	The commitment of long-standing businesses and residence to a more robust future. Being new to the region, I'm negatively impacted by the number of large businesses that have closed, leaving behind industrial "waste lands". I'm also struck by the lack of quality schools in Muncie. The University, hospital, and smaller firms that are thriving are likely keys to continued improvement. I'm also concerned that a survey such as this did not have one question regarding quality of education. Having lived in both Columbus and Valparaiso, I saw first-hand the difference a quality school system had on the retention of residence, the investment by residence in their homes and in schools, and the overall quality of life as a result.
03/09/2021	112021319	The Muncie community seemed to rally around the idea of saving Tuhey Pool, one of the only outdoor, riverside, public pools in the country. And I was pleased to see that a love for preserving something worth preserving is still alive and well here. Local food. Local engineering. Local genius. Local entrepreneurial enterprise. I see instances of each of these and that is encouraging. I wish I saw more. I wish our student were taught to think this way.
03/08/2021	112006330	Young people at Ball State, IWU, Taylor, and Ivy Tech do get involved and do love being here at the end of their studies much more so than past generations of Boomer and GenX alumni who couldn't wait to leave: this is cause for celebration and optimism in Muncie's future. There is beauty amongst and in the rust and grit.
03/08/2021	112002503	Community activities
03/08/2021	111997245	I'm not sure that there's anything that really sticks out that makes me "excited" for anything in Muncie or Delaware. The recent solar initiative is neat, as would be expanding access to EV charging if done. While low incoming housing is great and needed, there's starting to be a massive gap in what lower middle class families can afford. We currently rent a house probably well below what it should be valued, and if we were to move, we'd be faced with extremely tough choices on where to live and fitting into a house smaller than what we'd like with children.
03/08/2021	111995253	The willingness of partners to work together to tackle issues. The availability of funding from local philanthropic organizations - most communities are not as fortunate as we are in this regard.
03/08/2021	111994689	Good restaurants and pubs with live entertainment
03/08/2021	111993999	We are a proud community, with many residents who wish to make a difference. Our current administration seems to be pointing us in the right direction!
03/08/2021	111993084	Perseverance of community members and the desire to improve on the areas needed to provide better quality of life.
03/08/2021	111992865	Mayor Ridenour's goal to make Muncie a Solar City to differentiate us to new residents and businesses, re-establish a manufacturing base, create solar- and eco-tech jobs, and increase our community resilience. BRAVO, MAYOR!!!
03/08/2021	111992592	I see several opportunities related to Muncie and BSU that al don't think are being considered. 1. given that we have a nursing school, a gerontology program, and a hospital, let's work to make muncie a more senior friendly community. 2. using some of the same assets, create and provide rehab opportunities for those with drug issues. 3. I see hope in the attendance at events like the three trails music events. they are usually full of families enjoying themselves regardless of income or status. We have a very good university, let's invite them to help in all things and take advantage of their expertise.
03/08/2021	111992317	There are many potential opportunities and sites that could be beneficial to the City of Muncie/Delaware County. However there are no opportunities that come to mind that make me excited for the community. I have not heard of any projects that spur interest. Empty industrial sites lay abandoned and desolate. Large swaths of blighted neighborhoods on the South side.
03/08/2021	111992266	The constant FBI investigations make me hopeful that one day, maybe soon, we will not be the most corrupt county govern In the state of Indiana.
03/08/2021	111990761	Park improvements, improving roads/sidewalk's, becoming an Eco Tech hub, making city county partnerships (instead of being adversaries)
03/08/2021	111989522	Improvement in parks/side walks (for walking/running), and quality/organic stores are very important to me but right now, it requires me to drive often to other cities. Muncie should be a more attractive place by improving and developing such. Thank you!
03/08/2021	111989236	I am excited to see a park going into our neighborhood and replacing a very run down looking old park and pool. I am also looking forward to seeing how the downtown river front area is developed and hope there will be something there that myself or my family will be able to enjoy, but at least it will look better and hopefully provide more housing for the middle class which is desperately needed in the area. Overall though I am very concerned about that lack of housing and jobs available to draw in the businesses and the middle class.
03/07/2021	111979024	Can't say at this time.
03/07/2021	111975101	NOTHING
03/07/2021	111970076	I see the area as still maintaining its rural roots based in common sense and fiscal responsibility. Hopefully we can keep those same ideals in the urban areas in. I am also pleased with the recreational opportunities that the community has invested in with the help of large contributing donors.
03/06/2021	111966514	Development of downtown / apartments, as well as fixing housing all around the region, especially south side neighborhoods. Will bring needed stabilization and make neighbors proud of their community.
03/06/2021	111965486	Cooperation between city and county government and our 2 biggest employers-IU Ball and Ball State to share resources and improve the quality of life
03/06/2021	111964255	The citizens that are getting more involved in local government!

03/06/2021	111962512	I'm hopeful to see the growth of downtown. I'm hopeful to see more jobs created and that more people spend money at local mom and pop shops. I'm hopeful that local farmers can make a decent living providing nutrient dense food to the residence of Delaware county.
03/06/2021	111961978	Well, I'm disappointed that this is the question chosen for the final open-ended question. My hope is that the city and county will truly look at homelessness and addiction issues. I don't understand why addiction wasn't one of the choices on the slides for \$\$ in the last question. It feels like the local leadership is blind to what is truly needed in our community if homelessness and addiction are not prioritized. Also not sure what "high-quality" housing was referring to in one of the earlier questions - if this means "high-end," then no. If it means "livable quarters that provide the resident with sustainable housing and dignity," then a huge yes! As far as hope, I actually have little hope for the ability of everyday citizens (and leaders, really) to make sound decisions when we've elected people like Ryan Webb to county leadership. I don't say that to be petty or out of any desire to call people out individually, but that election represents a true lack of critical thinking among our residents. He stands for things and defends ideas that are 100% contradictory to progress, health, and well-being. If we are on a continued track toward more people like Webb being given leadership positions, and without other governmental leaders making strong stands against his brand of messaging, I anticipate I'll be leaving for another county soon. It's truly demoralizing, and I (and others, of course) have invested significant time and money into efforts to combat the trajectory, but it doesn't seem to be working. I want to put my time and energy into a community where that effort feels welcome and effective, and where it is supported by the rest of the area's leadership.
03/05/2021	111954476	More cooperation between all parties in our community.
03/05/2021	111953660	Muncie has been a cultural hub in ECI for a long time. There is a deep history of Americana culture and art. Muncie is a prominent character in our national conversation. It's the home of Garfield and James Dean. The place where David Letterman, Doug Jones and many other entertainers cut their teeth. We have a culture of manufacturing. Taking things and making something else out of it. I think a key to Muncie's sustainability going into the future is to lean into our reputation. Work with BSU to provide a place for their T-Com and film students to practice their crafts. Warehouses, sound stages and production assets needed to produce quality content. Compete with other regions like Georgia, New York and California for a cost effective filming location. We've got the talent. We've got the background and cultural clout to at least try something.
03/05/2021	111953651	Parks, restaurants, outdoor entertainment, would love to see more music and museums
03/05/2021	111952741	Programs for school age children
03/05/2021	111949949	Downtown revitalization. Trail development and outdoor pursuits. Capitalizing on small city feel and not trying to be something we aren't or shouldn't be.
03/05/2021	111947772	There are good people here who are willing to put in a lot of volunteer time and talent to try to improve things.
03/05/2021	111943493	We have so many good people, in government and out, who are working on quality of life improvements.
03/05/2021	111943411	?
03/05/2021	111943216	Hope in the revitalization of our neighborhoods, middle-class housing developments and improvements in our workforce.
03/05/2021	111941536	The geographic spread of Indianapolis is Muncie's only real hope for long term economic growth. COVID likely expands the geography new workers may move to, and parts of Delaware county will benefit. Muncie, and points east will not, but Daleville and Yorktown will see substantial growth from the Indianapolis metropolitan area in this decade. The city, and county as a whole will continue to lose population.
03/05/2021	111941362	The Muncie Landbank. We need more preservation, affordable housing and blight elimination. Opportunities to avoid more demolitions. Opportunities to rehabilitate and preserve our historic housing stock whilst providing safe, high quality, affordable housing is essential. The Landbank could be key to this resurgence in Muncie. Investment into neighborhoods will do so much as well--I have observed that dollars seemed to be pumped into one concentrated area over the last few years (8Twelve). This is not going to solve the problem--more equitable distribution among neighborhoods is essential. If we can stabilize and improve on the structures in Muncie (which is also greener than demolishing and building new, and honestly the old houses here are constructed with materials and craftsmanship that cannot be obtained in this day and age), it will attract GOOD investors and residents. This is the start of improving quality of life and attracting more industry/employers. If people WANT to live here, and have attractive, safe options, things like infrastructure, economic development and amenities can and will follow. Folks already here will take pride in where they live, will want to stay and we can still attract new residents, investors, and development. Then, we can look at new housing stock, when the current overwhelming blight and absentee landlord issues are addressed with existing properties.
03/05/2021	111940822	Two things: Community involvement and action at the neighborhood level; Responsive city/county government that solicits-- and is willing to act-- on exactly the kind of work YOU are doing in partnership with people like ME who love living here. Thanks, and good luck.
03/05/2021	111940671	Continuing improvements in Muncie Community Schools. Quality schools are one of the primary reasons family locate in an area. Continuing improvement in Muncie City Government to be more transparent and focused on the quality of life in the city and get out from under the dark cloud caused by the FBI investigation and litigation associated with that.
03/05/2021	111938317	Increased recreational and quality of life activities in the City of Muncie for children and families
03/04/2021	111924370	I'm excited by the new resources and organizations that are collaborating to work on various issues with a focus on the South side. *There was nothing in this questionnaire about addictions, but with our new jail, even being named a 'rehabilitation center', must get high quality mental health and addiction programs...not just token services. *The people living in some local public housing are living in unhealthy and unsafe conditions but are afraid to say anything due to intimidation and threats of eviction. The current public housing should be evaluated for ways to improve quality of life for these people. There are not enough low income housing options. People feel stuck in bad situations without options to move. They realize they are just an accusation away from being homeless, whether the accusation is true or not...and are frightened in their current situation. People renting from slum lords also feel afraid and stuck in their situation. More safe, well-managed low income housing is needed with programs focused to help these individuals work their way into a better situation. *I would love to see more community volunteer activities such as picking up trash or helping paint houses, plant trees and flowers, etc on main roads. Finding ways for people to be involved, make improvements, and take pride in their community is key to pulling everyone together. We have a lot of positive things happening in our community, but hope we can continue the momentum and start to find and address a few important details that may not be in the forefront.
03/04/2021	111923375	The natural beauty and park recreation opportunities coupled with the arts and cultural programs of BSU and downtown. Clean energy infrastructure jobs for sustainable livelihoods. I see a great future here.
03/04/2021	111923117	Help for families in the new family center that I read about in the newspaper.
03/04/2021	111920722	Growing as a progressive, cultural hub for East Central Indiana.
03/04/2021	111919979	Honest City Government
03/04/2021	111919468	Our mayor is great and moving us in the right direction.

03/04/2021	111919363	Keeping BSU alive. It's the only thing Muncie has. We have lost everything thing else.
03/04/2021	111917190	Actively involving neighborhood associations in decision making.
03/04/2021	111916076	Ball State development, IU Health Ball being recognized as an outstanding health facility. More businesses locating to Delaware County with higher paying jobs.
03/04/2021	111916009	I most look forward to another 20 years of watching local government suck the teat of corporate America and sell out its citizens with short sighted Projects celebrated in our local skill paper. Like this survey for example.
03/04/2021	111915618	MAP, neighborhood associations
03/04/2021	111913907	Continuing the partnership between BSU and Muncie/Delaware County
03/04/2021	111913787	A new administration.
03/04/2021	111913178	Economic development!
03/04/2021	111912462	I love to see the development of the riverfront (near "Fallen Heroes" bridge) in downtown Muncie. In my view, this leverages the developments that have been happening in downtown Muncie over the past two decades. This also mirrors the trends across the nation, wherein "rustbelt" towns and cities reinvest in themselves in order to reinvent themselves in a post-industrial economy. I believe that such development (along with plenty of "post-carbon infrastructure" development) would make Muncie a much more attractive city for young professionals.
03/04/2021	111912132	Connection and access to quality resources.
03/04/2021	111912117	Possibility dwells in Muncie. The "small town" life Muncie/Delaware County can offer should be it's biggest draw. We have excellent public schools; Ball State University and it's myriad of opportunities for personal growth and interest; the Cardinal Greenway, good health care options; and local food production. Let's find a way to make all of those work together to draw-in and keep jobs in production, education, service, and tech industries.
03/04/2021	111911212	· The corrupt 214 Democrats are slowly being voted out of office and removed from positions of authority.
03/04/2021	111909995	Workforce development, renovation of old properties, growing arts scene, dedicated nonprofit professionals
03/04/2021	111909087	I am hopeful that our community will continue to make strides in bridging both the racial divide (active racism being addressed/educated on and systematic racism especially as it relates to police training improving) and the poverty divide between the north and south side of town. Support for our homeless and housing insecure populations as well as addiction recovery programming to strengthen families and reduce the number of children experiencing foster care (CHINS cases) in Delaware county would give me great hope.
03/04/2021	111908421	The majority of our city Council is working to improve our community. It's just so unfortunate we elected a completely incompetent mayor. The County government is excellent.
03/04/2021	111907816	The neat opportunities families have to raise their kids here (i.e. Mitchell Family Center with nature preschool (very few schools around the nation have options for nature preschool), dual-language programs (again, very few schools around the nation have dual-language programs), university ownership of schools, etc. Overall, the innovation that exists in this area and the desire to improve.
03/04/2021	111907650	The people and the community built between them like MAP, Neighborhood Associations, and organizations that help foster such community.
03/04/2021	111907615	There is a sense of unity in the community that is stronger than divisiveness.
03/04/2021	111906840	I am excited that the Delaware Muncie region is starting to attract some new manufacturing companies. I am glad that the Delaware Muncie region is starting to clean up the old manufacturing sites and using them for something new.
03/04/2021	111906777	I'm glad to see so much community mobilization, particularly about racial injustice and inequities, since this summer and continuing into 2021.
03/04/2021	111906422	none
03/04/2021	111905511	I am excited to see the leaders of our community finally working together to achieve success. The stabilization of MCS, increased job training opportunities and the revitalization efforts like those of 8Twelve are encouraging.
03/04/2021	111905301	better jobs
03/04/2021	111904498	This rise of neighborhood associations that are willing to meet and act in ways that give people a vested interest in their surroundings. Downtown development and activities that bring the community together. Preservation of green spaces and recreational opportunities like the Cardinal Greenway and Red Tail Conservancy.
03/04/2021	111904015	I see a lot of budding interest in making Muncie a broadly welcoming and quality community among younger generations. I am hopeful that some of them will stay and be able to break through party politics to make sound, evidence-based decisions to improve. I am hopeful, but not optimistic.
03/04/2021	111903769	A more educated and poverty-free workforce able to work in any of the remote or on-site jobs possible with an improved road and digital infrastructure that encourages companies to relocate or launch in Muncie and Delaware County.
03/04/2021	111903659	New manufacturing companies coming to Delaware County
03/04/2021	111903152	Support for the manufacturing trades
03/04/2021	111903102	The partnership with Ball State University and the role that Ball State is taking with our local school system. The education of our children is vital to raise the economic outlook for our county.
03/04/2021	111902622	None. The loss of many retail options over the past year were pretty much the last straw for me. Once my job and family issues are settled, I look to leave Muncie (likely to Indianapolis) ASAP.

03/04/2021	111900414	That the FBI may have identified the ringleaders that have compromised the integrity of the area.
03/04/2021	111899907	Downtown development, arts, music, feeling of pride in community.
03/04/2021	111897876	Greater community engagement. Not just folks with important last names and titles. Focusing the community on a person to person not big money and back rooms with Steering committees of folks in 10 other organizations making all the call in the community with out any community representation.
03/03/2021	111889761	We must prepare & improve for the digital revolution & electric cars, better roads, smart traffic signals, connect everything digitally
03/03/2021	111888902	Some amount of revitalization dollars going to the south side of town. Not skipping over the south central or south west side with these dollars. I don't live in that area, but I drive through regularly, it's abysmal. The south end industrial areas are getting factories, workers, families with real spending power. I want to see blighted homes obliterated and that land available to be improved by middle class families. I want to see retail on the South Side. Grocery, home improvement retailers, restaurants(not fast food) mid cap store fronts... places available to spend money (other than Walmart). Places closer to the employment, that you don't get stuck in traffic or by stopped trains for hours or that it takes half your 'home improvement Saturday to drive across town for supplies. Retail is important. The South Side is also a great location for north New Castle, Selma, Daleville, and the south east side is better for people as far as Portland. People want to live where they work. It makes sense to make where they work livable. More jobs means less crime. I mean, this is not something regularly brought up. We need to entice the middle class to live and work here. Education opportunities is another idea. The dual language school is across town. ELP is across the tracks. How about a STEM school at Grissom? A Waldorf school at Southview? Or a KIPP program? Or Core? Education opportunities are HUGE to bringing economic prospects and mid class families here. To be able to offer a highly diverse public education offering... that really could kick off Muncie into the economic gold standard. (Also making in public and offering transportation and allowing equal opportunities is key)
03/03/2021	111888291	Bring higher paying jobs, treatment facilities, dont develop the area by the new jail. People who live out there don't want it
03/03/2021	111888056	Organic agriculture. Family farms. Urban farms and urban chickens. Outdoor recreation advancement. River development. Increased improvement of downtown and the Old West End.
03/03/2021	111887079	there are no opportunities because of the piss poor uneducated leadership in this county who have no clue what it means to make a payroll. All they have done is live off the taxpayer tit their entire life.
03/03/2021	111887067	I don't have much hope for the region. The politicians and the wealthy class (especially those of generational wealth) in the area have all the power and use it largely to benefit their own groups
03/03/2021	111886309	Specifically Muncie has a large stock of old structures (80% over 50yo) and the community should directly invest in the rehabilitation of this building stock. The majority of these buildings are residential while Muncie lacks quality housing units (affordable, clean, and safe). Historic neighborhoods that are rehabilitated attract new home buyers and lead to revitalized urban centers.
03/03/2021	111885768	One thing that fills me with a lot of hope for the region is that the FBI is finally rooting out the political corruption that has plagued Muncie and Delaware County for decades. This corruption has significantly inhibited progress here.
03/03/2021	111885754	Not much right now. The Muncie Schools/Ball State merger has potential. There are lots of undeveloped commercial areas that could be exploited if someone was creative. But the general trend seems to be attracting a business that employs maybe 20 people, giving tax breaks for years, expecting future growth, calling it a major victory, getting no growth, the business closes, and the community gained nothing and possibly lost money from incentives that were provided. I know we need to take risks but there needs to be some research done. Brevini, Waelz, the list goes on.
03/03/2021	111884764	I am not excited about Me nice or Delaware county. We have the lowest wages in the state, and I don't see things improving anytime soon.
03/03/2021	111883636	Elected officials work to acquire more interested businesses to relocate to Delaware/Muncie. High tech, manufacturing jobs.
03/03/2021	111883184	I'm not sure, the people who make the decisions can't get along. No one wants to do what's best for the citizens they want to do what sounds good for the political party letter after their name.
03/03/2021	111883108	spending 8 million dollars on infrastructure: streets, sidewalks, curbs, sidewalks, gateways and having a vibrant downtown that is expanding into the adjacent neighborhoods.
03/03/2021	111882548	There are a lot of great networks and systems working together. If we can keep the momentum and communicate and work together effectively, we could see some good outcomes. Watching nearby small towns decline rapidly is concerning. Muncie has the potential to do that, or go the opposite direction.
03/03/2021	111881933	With decling population I can't say I'm looking forward to the next 10 years. I would like to see growth and expansion but unfortunately believe those days are long gone. Wish I didn't.
03/03/2021	111881432	Open communication and collaboration between community partners
03/03/2021	111880303	The investment in trails, adding sidewalks, the brownfield rehab on East Jackson, the solar farm at the former GM plant, the rail cargo hub at 332, and the removal of two dams on the White River are all positives for our community.
03/03/2021	111879224	More sidewalks or trails connecting neighborhoods, upgrades of parks, more middle class housing on Cardinal Greenway, more ethnic restaurants besides Mexican, more retail stores
03/03/2021	111878900	Collaboration to help increase the revitalization of Downtown Muncie. I feel there is motivation there, but a few holding things back. I am hopeful that with time, the community will make the right decisions to move Muncie forward.
03/03/2021	111878235	Downtown revitalization--riverfront development with new apartments, Kitselman Trailhead and removal of dams for more recreational opportunities and conversion of brownfields to greenfields, Yorktown revitalization...these are the kinds of projects that attract families to move here
03/03/2021	111876945	Investment from large tech companies or even big businesses like Amazon.
03/03/2021	111875732	improvements to Muncie Schools with Ball State partnership, improving existing trails and pathways around Muncie
03/03/2021	111873456	I think Muncie can become a great example for other cities if it keeps pursuing green energy, bikeability, and revitalization efforts. What excites me the most is the amount of community input and involvement in these efforts, such as Muncie Habitat and ecoREHAB. I think Muncie has a great location, with only around a 1hr 30min commute to either Fort Wayne or Indianapolis, which could be used to attract people looking for a

'middle city

03/03/2021	111872448	1 - It's hard for it to get worse. 2 - I'm interested to see what BSU does next. 3 - ?
03/03/2021	111869448	I love driving downtown and seeing the revitalization of that area. Driving TO downtown from the east side of Delaware County is depressing. McGalliard between the bypass and Broadway is terrible. Embarrassing. The empty rundown homes, and empty businesses add to that feeling. The infrastructure--poor roads, sidewalks, curbs, etc. make Delaware County look "tired" and rundown. When we drive toward Indy and shop in Noblesville, Fishers, Pendleton, etc. we say, "Oh, look, this is how a town looks that takes care of its roads and buildings over time!" It's more inviting.
03/03/2021	111869324	Low cost of living, close proximity to Indy & Fort Wayne + larger push for work from home means Muncie could be in an excellent position to draw in 'professionals' who do not have to go into work to work. We have a lot of trails and other recreational amenities, but more connectivity to the surrounding communities within Delaware County would bolster this network & infrastructure.
03/03/2021	111868948	I'm excited about the development of our downtown and riverfront area. I'm excited about MadJax. I'm excited about our local art community and hopes the city continues to invest in public art and art-related events. I'm excited about our trail system. I'm excited about some of the new businesses coming to Muncie, especially restaurants, grocery stores, tech companies, and retail stores -- as these business developments have a higher impact on my life.
03/02/2021	111862281	Improvements in infrastructure. I hope we can improve Internet access to lower income families with the direction that public schools seem to be going.
03/02/2021	111860698	Preserving farmland and the natural attractions in the county. Taking care of the citizens that live here by aiding them in buying and keeping their homes. Keeping the cost of living here down.
03/02/2021	111856655	Th exciting intellectual life of the university. Also, the vital artistic community. Look at Carmel and how they used the arts to draw businesses from throughout the United States. The university has the venues to allow major performances as well as exciting exhibitions of local and national artists. Mayor Brainard loves the arts and has used them to showcase Carmel as a place to come and enjoy life and the arts. This is the way to attract the people you want. Currently, many doctors as well as administrators and faculty at Ball State live in the Indianapolis area. That trend can be reversed by showcasing the arts here. Contact the Americans for the Arts and obtain their studies of just how much the arts stimulate local economies. Your study seems not to have had any questions relating access to the arts to quality of life issues in a community. Randy Cohen, one of their vice-presidents, has appeared at a lecture series at the BSU Alumni Center discussing how the arts can stimulate the economic development of a community. If Muncie is to be competitive, it needs to do what successful communities have done to attract residents.
03/02/2021	111856254	collaborative efforts with town and gown
03/02/2021	111854358	Seeing and hearing diverse representation (BIPOC, queer, disabled, class-varying, generational) thrive, sharing ideas, implementing those in the community
03/02/2021	111854350	Quite frankly, the overall policy-making in Indiana will continue to be a drag on Muncie/DC. In Muncie, we've spent 15 years on an incubator which hasn't produced any local businesses to attract professionals into our community. We remain a low paying service oriented community. Ball State hasn't even spun off any research entities since all their higher paid staff live near Indy in the donut ring counties and commute to Muncie. Same for the hospital staff.
03/02/2021	111850375	Downtown revitalization and taking full advantage of the "University Town" option.
03/02/2021	111849541	To see us working together as a region rather than against each other. City and County should be on the same team!
03/02/2021	111847751	Local business development
03/02/2021	111847201	I am daily inspired by the number of talented, passionate people who are willing to work together to improve the community. There is something truly special about this place! It is easy to get involved in meaningful work and I think that is a very attractive trait in a community. But grassroots organizing eventually needs well-connected, strategic champions and significant resources to increase momentum and traction. I feel very optimistic that we have the talented, forward thinking leadership of Next Muncie. President Mearns and Dr. Bird are exceptional, strategic leaders and have demonstrated an ability to mobilize others for long-term planning. I feel the same way about Dr. Lee Ann Kwiakowski of Muncie Community Schools. It is essential for our community to have strong leaders of integrity who embrace new ways of thinking and earn their influence. In order to compete for talent/businesses with other regions in the state and nation, we must embrace creative, transformational solutions that will set us apart. We also must address the continual breakdown of families, due to poverty and/or addiction. Too high a percentage of our children have significant needs beyond education, which leaves me very concerned about Muncie's long-term prospects.
03/02/2021	111847110	Improvements to neighborhoods and celebration of culturally significant amenities that could attract new residents, businesses, etc. For example, the revitalization of historic neighborhoods (like Old Washington Street), the long-running events like First Thursday, Minnetrista Farmer's Market, the new events like BridgeFest, the night life brand in DWNTWN, etc.
03/02/2021	111846498	Community leadership is strong and we need to continue to include diverse voices and perspectives. If we are able to get momentum with job creation and retain residents in Del Com, we can see a huge change in the next decade.
03/02/2021	111846217	The pandemic has shown that there are many jobs that can be done remotely; we can capitalize on this by attracting young talent to stay and invest locally by buying homes and providing amenities that rival larger cities but at a fraction of the cost. We can vastly improve internet access across the region to bolster remote work and schooling, invest in amenities that young professionals are looking for, improve infrastructure to connect people to amenities and resources, and protect the environment all with purposeful planning and vision and by tapping into the talent that is already here eager to help.
03/02/2021	111844243	Downtown Muncie's revitalization offers a glimpse into the future of this community. Through unique, local businesses, downtown offers the community—especially Ball State students—opportunities to form deeper connections with Muncie, perhaps encouraging them to stay longer.
03/02/2021	111843903	Muncie and Delaware county seems to be moving forward slightly faster than similar neighboring post-industrial communities. I would love to see that progress continue. We have a huge variety of nonprofits, organizations, etc. that are working to create greater quality of life in a variety of aspects (housing revitalization, recreation and beautification, health, housing and food insecurity, etc) and I would love to see the city/county come alongside those efforts and support in a larger, more strategic way. We have a strong history of coming together to achieve community-wide goals and I think that will serve us well as we plan the next several years.
03/02/2021	111843385	I filled out this survey mainly to say the following: I'm happy that Muncie/Delaware County is looking toward the future. However, this seems to be yet ANOTHER organization trying to do similar things. We have NextMuncie, Muncie Redevelopment Commission, The Chamber, Muncie Visitor's Bureau, Delaware Advancement Corp, Muncie Action Plan, Energize ECI, etc. Why do we need yet another "commission" entity in the mix? What would happen if all of these different organizations actually worked together and pooled their resources to do what was actually best for

what would happen if all of these different organizations actually worked together and pooled their resources to do what was actually best for the area instead of creating even more competing agencies doing the same work. Work smarter not harder Muncie.

03/02/2021	111842905	I am not feeling necessarily hopeful, but more like complacent. I know that we have a lot of potential but I would like to see more grassroots foundational organizing and mobilizing to improve our school system, poverty rate, public health and housing. I love that Ivy Tech invested in Downtown and is making secondary education more attainable for more residents. I love that we are continuing to invest in cleaning up the White River and our parks. I think that some County elected leaders are more focused on outside of Muncie's core and that is going to have negative impacts on the progress we have made in Downtown Muncie. I don't think we celebrate our diversity enough and our leadership isn't reflective of all residents, both elected and appointed. I am a very optimistic person but it's been hard to remain so hopeful in Muncie when I see so many of my neighbors and friends struggling to find quality of life. I definitely won't stop working to make a difference and I am always willing to roll up my sleeves to help out.
03/02/2021	111842333	Strong anchor institutions, strong community leadership, active foundations, growing interest in improving downtown
03/02/2021	111841752	Improving streets, sidewalks, curbs, lighting, which in turn will encourage more businesses.
03/02/2021	111841267	A continued focus on neighborhood revitalization at the grassroots level and supporting resident engagement and resident-driven projects. I am also hopeful that the City will continue to improve parks and recreational opportunities and NOT lease or sell city land for development (especially park land).
03/02/2021	111840118	A government that is smart enough to understand that it is not up to them to fix every issue. Get out of the way!
03/02/2021	111839090	Our community organizations work together well and collaborate. We have people willing to volunteer and lean in to get things accomplished.
03/02/2021	111837675	you are repeating the same mistakes. yes we need to fix potholes have places for our children and families to enjoy themselves. But we need to have good paying jobs and good schools for families to move here. But the biggest question you should ask yourself here is Why would you MOVE here? I can't tell you how much this will cost but I do know I have lived in another state most my life and our education system for our children has much to be desired. We moved here only AFTER retiring because my husband was a RN and the hospital he worked for was wonderful, schools had so many more opportunities there were many more recreational indoor and outdoor activities for children and adults. Pay was much better, housing was higher but was worth it. you ask then why did you move? Because this was my husband's childhood home! If it wasn't we would not choose to move here!
03/01/2021	111832284	Affordable housing opportunities.
03/01/2021	111827794	Tuhey park/housing development along white river. Repurposing large empty property (Old Chevy plant) a nod towards the future with solar power farm.
03/01/2021	111826783	The city has improved during my two decades here. Downtown is more comfortable and people want to make improvements.
03/01/2021	111821981	Once we get over the covid restrictions and can get back to "business as the new normal" it will help small business recover and try to rebuild what they have lost. That is what I am most excited about. Getting past the bad PR of our city with the FBI Investigations and growing economic development opportunities for our city.
03/01/2021	111821965	I have seen much improvement under the Ridenour administration. I think the path we are on now will improve the quality of life for Delaware County and Muncie through their partnership. The openness to community engagement will always be key to providing what is best for the residents of the County and City.
03/01/2021	111821742	I believe that this is a special place to live and raise a family because the cost is lower than more urban areas. The Universities - BSU and Ivy Tech provides a good partnership with Muncie and other area schools and can keep them ahead of the curb. Recovering from an industrial rust belt of job losses has been slow but I think that many of the recent announcements of jobs and job creation paired with a good main street entrepreneurial spirit is a positive force in our communities.