



Neighborhood Vitality Index

Data Descriptions: 2026 Release

2025 Neighborhood Vitality Index Survey
2020–2025 Secondary data sources

▲ Indicator was moved from another category

* The definition of the indicator or the survey question changed from the prior year

+ The wording changed to improve clarity, but there was no methodological change from the prior year

COMMUNITY CAPACITY

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Plan to stay in the neighborhood through the next 12 months	Residents reporting (somewhat or strongly agree) they plan to stay for the next 12 months / Total respondents	I plan to stay in my neighborhood for the next 12 months	5=Strongly Agree 4=Somewhat Agree 3=Neither Agree or Disagree 2=Somewhat Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree 0=N/A	NVI Survey, 2025	Residents planning to stay in the neighborhood can be a signal of satisfaction with the area, while a lot of residents planning to leave can signal dissatisfaction or be an early warning sign for displacement.
Have sufficient access to support systems	Residents reporting (somewhat or strongly agree) that they have sufficient access in the city to the following: housing resources and supports, financial services, medical care, mental health, and human services / Total respondents	During the past 6 months, I have sufficient access to the following resources and supports that I need in the city of Detroit. (1) Housing resources and supports (such as eviction defense, financial assistance, tax foreclosure prevention, home repair, mortgage lending assistance); (2) Financial resources and supports (such as budgeting, training, credit counseling); (3) Medical Care; (4) Mental Health Services; (5) Human services (such as food and clothing, aging services, medicine, etc.)	5=Strongly Agree 4=Somewhat Agree 3=Neither Agree or Disagree 2=Somewhat Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree 0=N/A	NVI Survey, 2025	Support systems are critical for helping residents and communities weather unexpected events in life.

COMMUNITY CAPACITY CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Are involved in a community engagement process	Residents reporting involvement in a community engagement process with a CDO, city government, or other entity / Total respondents	In the last 12 months, I have participated in a community engagement process with the following (Select all that apply): A community engagement process involves an organization working with people in the community to shape policies, programs, and practices. It centers on building relationships, trust, and shared power through consistent outreach, inclusive dialogue, and transparent decision-making.	1=Community development organizations 2=City government 3=I have not participated in a community engagement process 4=Other (please describe)	NVI Survey, 2025	It's important to neighborhood vitality for residents to feel heard and connected to community engagement processes in their neighborhood.
Participate in block/ neighborhood/ community/ school groups	Residents reporting that they often or sometimes participate in a block/ neighborhood/community group/school whether inside or outside of neighborhood / Total respondents	(1) I currently participate in a block/ neighborhood/ community group in my neighborhood (Ex. Block club, neighborhood or community development association, PTA, sports volunteer, etc.) (2) I currently participate in a community group outside of my neighborhood (Ex. City-wide or regional association or social justice organization, such as Black Lives Matter)	4=Often 3=Sometimes 2=Rarely 1=Never	NVI Survey, 2025	Strong connections between residents and nonprofits are a key piece of neighborhood vitality.
Are involved in addressing neighborhood conditions	Residents reporting improving neighborhood conditions by purchasing a vacant lot, cleaning own lot, cleaning another lot, securing vacant buildings, cleaning alleys, or cleaning parks / Total respondents	In the last 12 months, I have... (Select all that apply)	6=Purchased a lot or lots near my home 5=Cleaned up or improved lot(s) that I own 4=Cleaned up or improved lot(s) that I do not own 3=Secured or improved vacant housing 2=Cleaned up or improved alleyways 1=Cleaned up or improved park/open spaces 0=I have not participated in any of these activities	NVI Survey, 2025	Communities with highly-involved residents are more likely to have greater social cohesion overall.
Square miles served by at least one community development organization +	Square miles served by at least one community development organization / Total land area			Building the Engine of Community Development in Detroit, Community Development Organization Service Areas, 2025	Community Development Organizations are dedicated to helping specific places, which means that they can support neighborhoods deeply in a way that other nonprofits may not be able to.

RESIDENT OPPORTUNITY

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Have not had transportation prevent them from working, attending appointments, or other daily living activities	Residents reporting transportation has not prevented them from working, attending appointments, or other daily living activities / Total respondents	During the past 12 months, about how often has a lack of reliable transportation kept you from missing important activities such as medical appointments, meetings, school or classes, work, etc.? *	5=Always 4=Often 3=Sometimes 2=Rarely 1=Never	NVI Survey, 2025	Reliable transportation is critical for people to be able to reach jobs and access services, and this indicator measures places where lack of transportation has been a barrier to accessing opportunities.
Are able to pay their bills ▲	Residents who have not struggled to pay their bills and have not had utilities threatened for shutoff / Total respondents	During the past 12 months... (1) was there a time when you were not able to pay your mortgage, rent or utility bills? (2) was there a time when an electric, gas, oil, or water company threatened to shut off services?	1=Yes 2=No	NVI Survey, 2025	Residents who aren't facing financial pressures and stresses like utility shutoffs are more likely to enjoy a higher quality of life.
Are able to purchase adequate food ▲	Residents who have rarely or never struggled to purchase food / Total respondents	During the past 12 months, about how often have you not had the resources to purchase the food you need?	5=Always 4=Usually 3=Sometimes 2=Rarely 1=Never	NVI Survey, 2025	Residents who are able to purchase food without concerns are more likely to enjoy a higher quality of life.
Have not struggled to get healthcare due to financial hardships	Residents reporting they have not struggled to get healthcare due to financial hardships / Total respondents	During the past 12 months... have financial concerns prevented you or someone in your family from getting the level of healthcare or medicine that you need?	1=Yes 2=No 3=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Health is really important to people's ability to pursue opportunity, and people who either have amassed medical debt or have been unable to care for their health due to finances are more likely to face struggles in this.
Have a savings account in a bank or credit union	Residents reporting that they have a savings account in a bank or credit union / Total respondents	Do you currently have a savings account at a bank or credit union?	1=Yes 2=No	NVI Survey, 2025	Having a savings account is a commonly-used measure of residents' financial health, and their ability to access other financial tools (credit, mortgages, etc.).
Currently have their job in Detroit	Residents reporting that they currently work in the city or both (have jobs inside and outside of Detroit) / Total respondents	Do you currently work or hold a job...	1=In the city of Detroit? 2=Outside of Detroit? 3=Both 4=I am not currently employed	NVI Survey, 2025	Residents who are also able to work in Detroit keep more tax dollars in the city, and also contribute to the city's overall vitality through both their work and home lives.
Employment situation is the same or better in the last year ▲	Residents whose employment situation is the same or better in the last 12 months / Total respondents	Thinking about the past 12 months, how would you describe your employment situation now? (For example: layoffs, difficulty finding work, fewer job opportunities, stable job, etc.) *	5=Much better 4=Somewhat better 3=About the same 2=Somewhat worse 1=Much worse 9=Don't know/Not sure	NVI Survey, 2025	Residents who are able to maintain steady employment tend to have more financial stability and better access to opportunities.

RESIDENT OPPORTUNITY CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Own a business	Residents reporting that they own a business they run from home or a co-working space, or own a business with a physical location outside their home / Total respondents	Do you own a business located in Detroit?	1=Yes, I own a business that I run from my home or from a co-working space 2=Yes, I own a business with a dedicated physical location outside my home (e.g. storefront) 3=No, I do not currently own a business in Detroit 4=No, I do not currently own a business in Detroit but I would like/plan to 5=I own a business outside of Detroit	NVI Survey, 2025	Business ownership is a major path toward building wealth and accessing opportunity.
Ages 20 and older participating in the workforce	Residents ages 20 and over employed or actively looking for employment / Population ages 20 and over			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B23001	Labor force participation is a strong indicator of how people view their access to economic opportunity - if people feel that they don't have access to opportunities, labor force participation rates tend to be lower.
Have at least a high school diploma or GED	Residents age 25 and over with at least high school diploma or GED / Population age 25 and over			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B15003	A high school diploma is another key tool needed for someone to access opportunity and build wealth.
Have a post-secondary credential	Residents age 25 and over with a post-secondary credential (associate's degree or higher) / Population age 25 and over			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B15003	Post-secondary credentials (Associate's Degrees, Bachelor's degrees, etc.) provide further economic stability and access to opportunity for neighborhood residents.
Owner-occupied households spend less than 30% of income on housing	Owner-occupied households spending less than 30% on housing / Number of owner-occupied households			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B25106	Households spending more than 30% of their income on housing are considered cost-burdened, which means that their housing expenses place limits on their ability to access other goods and services.

RESIDENT OPPORTUNITY CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Renter-occupied households spend less than 30% of income on housing	Renter-occupied households spending less than 30% on housing / Number of renter-occupied households			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B25106	Households spending more than 30% of their income on housing are considered cost-burdened, which means that their housing expenses place limits on their ability to access other goods and services.
Properties not in tax foreclosure	Properties not in foreclosure for taxes / Total number of properties			Wayne County Treasurer Tax Auction and Claims; City of Detroit Parcel File; 2025	Tax foreclosure can be devastating for families and neighborhoods, and even having large numbers of properties in the tax foreclosure pipeline can be an indicator of economic distress.
Above 200% of the federal poverty level	Residents above 200% of poverty level / Population for whom poverty status is determined			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table C17002	Areas of less concentrated poverty tend to produce better life outcomes for all residents, even those who live below the poverty level.
Third grade students meet or exceed grade level standards in ELA	Number of 3rd graders who meet or exceed expectations for ELA at public or charter schools in the geography / Number of 3rd grade students at public or charter schools in the geography			Michigan's Center for Educational Performance and Information, 2024-2025	Third grade reading scores are an important view into education, as third grade is when reading independently becomes more essential for students to continue to learn.
Births where the mother received adequate prenatal care	Live births to pregnant people who received adequate prenatal care (defined by the Kessner Index) / Total live births			Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, 2024	Adequate prenatal care is an important measure of pregnant mothers' ability to access health care services.
Births where the mother received adequate prenatal care	Live births to pregnant people who received adequate prenatal care (defined by the Kessner Index) / Total live births			Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, 2024	Adequate prenatal care is an important measure of pregnant mothers' ability to access health care services.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONDITIONS

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Have lived in the city for at least six years	Residents reporting they have lived in the city for at least 6 years / Total respondents	About how long have you lived in the city of Detroit?	1=Less than one year 2=1-3 Years 3=4-5 Years 4=6-10 Years 5=More than 10 Years	NVI Survey, 2025	Neighborhoods with lots of long-term residents are more likely to have high social cohesion, and are also likelier to have more residents who have invested substantially in their homes.
Are satisfied with the condition vacant residential buildings in their neighborhood +	Residents reporting satisfaction (very and somewhat satisfied) of vacant residential buildings in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your neighborhood: The condition of vacant residential buildings in your neighborhood.	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Vacant houses can create negative perceptions of neighborhood conditions, and some can be better-maintained than others.
Are satisfied with the condition of vacant lots in their neighborhood +	Residents reporting satisfaction (very and somewhat satisfied) with the condition of vacant lots in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your neighborhood: The condition of vacant lots in your neighborhood.	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Vacant lots in a neighborhood can be a crisis or an opportunity. Lots that are well-maintained can be used for a variety of beneficial purposes (gardens, side lots, etc.), while lots that are not can be magnets for blight and dumping.
Are satisfied with the condition of vacant commercial buildings in their neighborhood	Residents reporting satisfaction (very and somewhat satisfied) with the condition of vacant commercial buildings in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your neighborhood: The condition of vacant commercial buildings in your neighborhood.	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Commercial buildings are usually some of the first structures seen when passing through a neighborhood, and their condition can have an outsize impact on how people perceive the surrounding area.
Are satisfied with the condition of infrastructure in their neighborhood	Residents reporting satisfaction (very and somewhat satisfied) with the condition of infrastructure (roads, lighting, sidewalks) in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your neighborhood: The condition of infrastructure in your neighborhood (roads, sidewalks, lighting, etc)	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Infrastructure is often unseen - unless it becomes a problem. Street lights, sidewalks, pipes, fire hydrants - these can contribute greatly to neighborhood vitality if they're in good condition, and can harm it if not.
Are satisfied with access to quality public/charter schools in their neighborhood ^	Residents reporting satisfaction (very or somewhat satisfied) with access to quality public/charter schools in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Please indicate how satisfied you are with access to the following resources and amenities in your neighborhood: Access to quality K-12 public/charter schools in your neighborhood.	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Access to quality, tuition-free schools (public or charter) is a very important factor for families in deciding where to live long-term.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONDITIONS CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Residential structures that are not in poor or blighted condition	Residential structures needing demolition as of 2015 or long-term vacant structures in 2022-2023, or structures with a blight ticket in 2022-2023 / Total residential structures			City of Detroit Parcel File (2023); Vericast VNEF Plus (2021 Q4 - 2023 Q3); City of Detroit Blight Violations (2023); Motor City Mapping (2015); SEMCOG Building Foot Prints (2023)	Blight can have negative effects on a neighborhood, reducing property values and social cohesion.
Building permits issued per 10,000 residents	Building permits issued in the year / Total population * 10,000			City of Detroit Buildings, Safety, Engineering and Environmental Department, 2025	Building permits are an imperfect measure of economic activity in a neighborhood. While not everybody pulls permits, they do offer insight into positive activities (home repairs, new construction, new businesses, etc.) that can improve neighborhood conditions.

QUALITY OF LIFE

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Are satisfied with the overall quality of their lives	Residents reporting satisfaction (very or somewhat satisfied) with the overall quality of their lives / Total respondents	How satisfied are you with the overall quality of your life?	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied	NVI Survey, 2025	Resident satisfaction with the quality of their life is perhaps the strongest evidence of living in a vital neighborhood.
Current housing needs are being met	Residents reporting they strongly or somewhat agree that their current housing needs are being met / Total respondents	Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about your current housing situation. My current housing meets my needs today.	5=Strongly Agree 4=Somewhat Agree 3=Neither Agree nor Disagree 2=Somewhat Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree	NVI Survey, 2025	Stable, secure, and sufficient housing is a critical component to ensuring a high quality of life.
Are satisfied with the condition of housing in their neighborhood	Residents reporting satisfaction (very or somewhat satisfied) with the overall condition of housing in their neighborhoods / Total respondents	Please indicate how satisfied you are with each of the following aspects of your neighborhood: The condition of housing in your neighborhood.	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied	NVI Survey, 2025	Residents who are satisfied with the condition of housing in their neighborhood are more likely to stay in the neighborhood, contributing to its long-term vitality.
Housing will meet future needs	Residents who strongly or somewhat agree that their current housing will meet their needs for the next 10 years / Total respondents	Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about your current housing situation. My current housing will meet my anticipated needs for the next 10 years.	5=Strongly Agree 4=Somewhat Agree 3=Neither Agree nor Disagree 2=Somewhat Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree	NVI Survey, 2025	This indicates whether residents may have longer-term plans to stay in the neighborhood, which would in turn contribute positively to social cohesion and vitality in that neighborhood.
Get the social and emotional support they need from friends and family +	Residents reporting satisfaction (very or somewhat satisfied) with the social and emotional support they receive / Total respondents	How satisfied are you currently with... The social and emotional support you get from friends and family?	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied	NVI Survey, 2025	Residents that can access social and emotional support are more likely to contribute to a neighborhood's social cohesion.
Are satisfied with their physical and mental health	Residents reporting satisfaction (very or somewhat satisfied) with their physical and mental health / Total respondents	How satisfied are you currently with... (1) Your physical health (2) Your mental health?	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied	NVI Survey, 2025	In order to enjoy a high quality of life as part of a vital neighborhood, residents should be able to be satisfied with their physical, mental, and emotional health.
Feel safe in their neighborhood	Residents reporting that they feel very or somewhat safe in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Thinking about your neighborhood, how safe do you feel you are... in your neighborhood?	4=Very Safe 3=Somewhat Safe 2=Not Very Safe 1=Not Safe At All 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Residents often perceive crime and safety in their neighborhood very differently from what is reflected in reported data, and these perceptions are just as important (if not more so) to their long-term decision-making.

QUALITY OF LIFE CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Feel safe in public spaces	Residents that strongly or somewhat agree they feel safe in public spaces / Total respondents	Thinking about your neighborhood, how safe do you feel you are... in public spaces, such as parks or recreational facilities?	4=Very Safe 3=Somewhat Safe 2=Not Very Safe 1=Not Safe At All 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	This indicator identifies resident perception of safety in public spaces, which can also impact their use and enjoyment of those spaces.
Are satisfied with access to health-related amenities in their neighborhood	Residents reporting satisfaction (very or somewhat satisfied) with access to health-related amenities in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Please indicate how satisfied you are with access to the following aspects of health-related amenities or healthy opportunities in your neighborhood: (1) Access to quality medical care; (2) Access to quality mental health services; (3) Access to places to be active; (4) Access to fresh healthy food.	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Easy access to health-related amenities (primary doctors, urgent cares, etc.) is really important for people to be able to maintain a high quality of life in a neighborhood.
Are satisfied with access to quality parks and green spaces in their neighborhood	Residents reporting satisfaction (very or somewhat satisfied) with access to quality parks, playgrounds, and public spaces in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Please indicate how satisfied you are with access to the following resources and amenities in your neighborhood: Access to quality parks, playgrounds and public spaces in your neighborhood.	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Quality parks and green spaces provide local opportunities for residents to get exercise, be outside, and have fun, and can greatly improve their quality of life.
Are satisfied with access to retail and service amenities in their neighborhood	Residents reporting satisfaction (very or somewhat satisfied) with access to retail and service amenities in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Please indicate how satisfied you are with access to the following resources and amenities in your neighborhood: Access to amenities such as retail and services in your neighborhood.	5=Very Satisfied 4=Somewhat Satisfied 3=Neither Satisfied or Dissatisfied 2=Somewhat Dissatisfied 1=Very Dissatisfied 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Local retail and service amenities provide residents with more convenient and accessible shopping options, and help to keep more money in a neighborhood.
Violent crime rate per 10,000 residents	Number of violent crimes in the year / Total population * 10,000			Detroit Police Department RMS Crime Incidents; Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Reporting definition of violent crime; 2025	While imperfect, measuring the rate of reported violent crimes provides an insight into public safety in the neighborhood.
Vehicle crashes per 10,000 residents	Automobile crashes in the year / Total population * 10,000			Michigan Traffic Crash Facts, 2024	As Detroit is a car-centric city, the number of automobile crashes per 10,000 residents is a key contributor to residents' feelings of safety in their neighborhood.

QUALITY OF LIFE CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Pedestrian- or bicyclist-involved vehicle crashes per 10,000 residents	Pedestrian- or cyclist-involved vehicle crashes in the year / Total population * 10,000			Michigan Traffic Crash Facts, 2024	Pedestrian and bicyclist-involved crashes are also key identifiers of safety and quality of life in a neighborhood - in areas where these numbers are higher, residents will likely feel more constraints on their quality of life.
Herfindahl index of income diversity	$1 - \text{SUM}((\% \text{ households earning less than } \$25\text{k})^2 + (\% \text{ households earning } \$25\text{k} - \$75\text{k})^2 + (\% \text{ households earning more than } \$75\text{k})^2)$ Note: values range from 0 to 1, with higher numbers meaning greater diversity +			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B19001	Neighborhoods with greater diversity of incomes tend to be more resilient and create better outcomes for their residents than neighborhoods with concentrations of poverty or extreme wealth. Values range between 0 and 1, with higher numbers meaning greater diversity.

EQUITY IMPACT

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Have not been impacted by neighborhood environmental health issues	Residents reporting they have not been impacted by neighborhood environmental health issues (illegal dumping, air pollution, lead, stray dogs, flooding, water quality, brownfields, etc.) / Total respondents	For each of the environmental health issues listed below, please indicate how you would describe the extent that this issue has been a problem for you and/or your neighborhood during the past 12 months? (1) Illegal dumping; (2) poor air quality; (3) lead; (4) stray dogs; (5) flooding; (6) poor water quality; (7) extreme outdoor temperatures; (8) power outages; (9) Brownfields (A piece of land that may be hard to expand, redevelop, or reuse because it could have harmful chemicals.)	0=Severe 1=Major 2=Moderate 3=Minor 4=Insignificant/Not a Problem	NVI Survey, 2025	Environmental factors (air pollution, noise pollution, water pollution) can disproportionately affect certain neighborhoods, and can substantially lower residents' quality of life.
Have not been impacted by crime	Residents who have not been impacted by crime or had family members impacted by crime / Total respondents	Please indicate the best answer for the following questions. Have you, or a family member, been a victim of crime in your neighborhood?	1=Yes 2=No 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Victims of crime may experience immediate and/or longer-term physical and mental harm with resulting impacts on quality of life.
Would not hesitate to report crime	Residents who wouldn't hesitate to report crime / Total respondents	Would any of the reasons below cause you to hesitate or avoid reporting crime? Select all that apply.	1=General distrust of law enforcement 2=Concern that I won't be taken seriously, or no action will be taken 3=Fear of retaliation 4=Risk of consequences from immigration (such as deportation) 5=Other 6=I would not hesitate or avoid reporting crime	NVI Survey, 2025	Resident willingness to report crime is a powerful measure of trust in local police departments.
Do not have a family member that has been incarcerated in the last 3 years	Residents reporting that a family member has not been incarcerated in the last 3 years / Total respondents	Do you have a family member who is or has been incarcerated in the last 3 years?	1=Yes 2=No 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Families that experience incarceration face many more challenges to accessing opportunities and maintaining quality of life than those who do not.
Report they or a family member have not been negatively impacted or harmed by the bail system in the last 12 months +	Residents reporting that they or a family member have not been impacted or harmed by the bail system in the last 12 months / Total respondents +	During the past 12 months, have you or a family member been negatively impacted or harmed by any of the following? Bail System.	1=Yes 2=No 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	As with crime, families that have interacted with the bail system face greater barriers to opportunities than those who do not.

EQUITY IMPACT CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Report that opportunities for Black, Latino, and other people of color to advance or get ahead are improving	Residents reporting that opportunities for Black, Latino and other people of color to advance or get ahead are improving / Total respondents	To what extent do you agree that opportunities for Black, Latino and other people of color to get ahead are improving in Detroit?	5=Strongly Agree 4=Agree 3=Neither Agree or Disagree 2=Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree	NVI Survey, 2025	Opportunity in Detroit (and America) is not equal across race and ethnicity, so this indicator assesses whether opportunities for all of Detroit's residents (or only some) are improving.
Report that they are treated the same as people of other races at work	Residents reporting that they are treated the same as other races at work / Total respondents	Within the past 12 months at work, do you feel you were treated...	1=Worse than other races 2=The same as other races 3=Better than other races 4=Worse than some races but better than others	NVI Survey, 2025	Workplace discrimination can be commonplace, so this indicator measures whether people face equity and discrimination issues in their workplace that could affect their quality of life.
Report that they are treated the same as people of other races when seeking health care	Residents reporting that they are treated the same as other races when seeking health care / Total respondents	Within the past 12 months when seeking health care, do you feel you were treated...	1=Worse than other races 2=The same as other races 3=Better than other races 4=Worse than some races but better than others	NVI Survey, 2025	Discrimination is also commonplace in health care, so this indicator measures whether people face equity and discrimination issues that could affect their health.
Have access to the internet at home using their home internet service	Residents reporting they have access to the internet at home using their home internet service / Total respondents *	Do you have access to the internet at home? Please check all that apply.	1=Yes, I can access the internet at home using a mobile data plan (on my cell phone or via hotspot) 2=Yes, I can access the internet at home using my home internet service 3=Yes, I can access the internet at home but I'm unsure which of these apply 4=Yes, I can access the internet at home but I need assistance from a friend or family member to do so 5=No, I cannot access the internet at home	NVI Survey, 2025	Access to the internet is the foundation of access to opportunity in the modern world.

EQUITY IMPACT CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Have no issues in using the internet or devices	Residents reporting no issues using the internet or devices / Total respondents	Have any of the following issues prevented you from using the internet or a device? Please check all that apply.	1=Cost of device 2=Cost of internet 3=Slow internet connection 4=Devices that don't work well 5=Having to share a device 6=Physical difficulty using the device (e.g. the screen is too small to read) 7=Lack of confidence in my ability to use the device or how to use the internet 8=No, none of these issues have prevented me from using the internet or a device	NVI Survey, 2025	Along with accessing it, it's also important for people to know how to use the internet and technology devices in order to succeed in today's job markets.
Have no concerns with using a computer or digital device	Residents reporting they have no concerns using a computer or digital device / Total respondents	Do you have any of the following concerns about using a computer or digital devices? Please select all that apply.	1=Concerns about my ability to protect personal information online 2=Concerns about protecting my financial information 3=Worries about online security or cyber threats 4=Fear of being hacked or getting a virus 5=Worries about tracking and surveillance by companies 6=Worries about tracking and surveillance by the government 7=Concerns about being able to determine if online content is real 8=I do not have any of these concerns	NVI Survey, 2025	Along with accessing it, it's also important for people to know how to use the internet and technology devices in order to succeed in today's job markets.

YOUTH QUALITY OF LIFE

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Are satisfied with the quality of childcare	Residents reporting that they are satisfied (very true or quite true) with the quality of childcare / Respondents with children under 5 in the household *	I am satisfied with the quality of childcare.	1=Very true 2=Quite true 3=Somewhat true 4=Not too true 5=Not true at all	NVI Survey, 2025	Childcare is a major barrier that families face when trying to access jobs, medical care, and other critical components of neighborhood vitality. (As reported by respondents with at least one child age 5 or under in their household.)
Youth participating in community-building, social justice, and/or leadership activities †	Residents reporting at least one person under age 18 in their household participated in community-building, social justice and/or leadership activities in the last 12 months / Respondents with children in the household	Thinking about the youth (under 18) in your household. In the last 12 months... Youth (under 18) in my household have participated in community-building, social justice, and/or leadership activities.	1=Yes 2=No	NVI Survey, 2025	Youth who feel more connected to their community are more likely to succeed in the future, as well as to stay in Detroit long-term. (As reported by respondents with at least one person under 18 living in their household.)
Feel youth are safe in their neighborhood †	Residents reporting (strongly or somewhat agree) the people under age 18 in their household are safe in this neighborhood / Respondents with children in the household	Thinking about the young people under the age of 18 in your household, how safe do you feel they are... in this neighborhood?	4=Very Safe 3=Somewhat Safe 2=Not Very Safe 1=Not Safe At All 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Youth experience neighborhoods very differently than adults, and safe spaces for youth are critical to their healthy growth and development. (As reported by respondents with at least one person under 18 living in their household.)
Feel youth are safe in public spaces †	Residents reporting (strongly or somewhat agree) the people under age 18 in their household are safe in public spaces / Respondents with children in the household	Thinking about the young people under the age of 18 in your household, how safe do you feel they are... in public spaces, such as parks or recreational facilities?	4=Very Safe 3=Somewhat Safe 2=Not Very Safe 1=Not Safe At All 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	Youth experience neighborhoods very differently than adults, and safe public spaces for youth are critical to their healthy growth and development. (As reported by respondents with at least one person under 18 living in their household.)
Youth have access to quality recreational programs †	Residents reporting (strongly or somewhat agree) the people under age 18 in their household have access to quality recreational programs. / Respondents with children in the household	The children in my home have access to quality recreational programs.	5=Strongly Agree 4=Somewhat Agree 3=Neither Agree or Disagree 2=Somewhat Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree	NVI Survey, 2025	Quality recreational programs are a critical component of youth quality of life and access to opportunity. (As reported by respondents with at least one person under 18 living in their household.)

YOUTH QUALITY OF LIFE CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Youth participating in out-of-school programs in the last twelve months +	Residents reporting at least one person under age 18 participated in out-of-school programs in the last 12 months / Respondents with children in the household	Thinking about the youth (under 18) in your household. In the last 12 months... Youth (under 18) in my household have enrolled in Detroit-based out of school programming, such as recreational programs, tutoring, sports teams, etc.	1=Yes 2=No	NVI Survey, 2025	Quality out-of-school programs are a critical component of youth quality of life and access to opportunity. (As reported by respondents with at least one person under 18 living in their household.)
Ages 16-19 participating in the workforce	Residents ages 16-19 employed or actively looking for employment / Population ages 16-19			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B23001	Youth participating in the labor force are more likely to be connected to resources and support systems.

CONTEXT INDICATORS

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Total population				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B01001	
Population under age 18				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B01001	
Population over age 65				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B01001	
People per square mile	Total population / Square miles of land area			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B01001; Data Driven Detroit	
Homeownership rate	Owner-occupied housing units / Total occupied housing units			American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B25003	
Land use by type	Number of parcels by land use type			Detroit Assessor's Office, 2025	
Households by type				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B11001	

CONTEXT INDICATORS CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Age distribution of the population				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B01001	
Total population trend				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B01001	
Eviction cases over time				36th District Court website, 2019-2022	
Tax foreclosures over time	Tax foreclosures / Total parcels			Wayne County Treasurer, 2025	
Median housing value				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B25075	
Median gross rent				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B25063	
Percent of parcels owned by Detroit Land Bank Authority	Parcels owned by Detroit Land Bank Authority / Total parcels			Detroit Land Bank Authority, 2026	
Percent of parcels that are vacant	Vacant parcels / Total parcels			Detroit Assessor's Office, 2026	
Percent of residential structures that are vacant	Vacant residential structures / Total residential structures			Vericast VNEF Plus Database, 2025	
Percent of area historically redlined	Land area historically redlined / Total land area			HOLC Boundary Layer from CCP Project 2021 (Home Owners' Loan Corporation)	

CONTEXT INDICATORS CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Race/ethnicity distribution				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B03002	
Age distribution of population under 18				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B01001	
Race/ethnicity of people ages 0-17 years				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B01001 racial iterations	
Number of children 5-9 enrolled in school				American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2020-2024, Table B14003	

OTHER SURVEY DATA

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Have access to childcare when their child is not with them	Residents with people age 5 or younger reporting a relative, friend/neighbor, school-based childcare or preschool, home-based daycare, community-based childcare center, preschool, kindergarten cares for their children / Respondents with people age 5 or younger in their household	Who cares for the child/children age 5 and under when they are not with a parent or guardian? Select all that apply.	1=A relative 2=A friend/neighbor 3=A school-based childcare or preschool 4=A home-based daycare 5=A community-based childcare center or preschool 6=Kindergarten 7=No one else cares for my child [mutually exclusive]	NVI Survey, 2025	
Have no difficulty finding the childcare they want	Residents reporting they do not have difficulty (not too true or not true at all) finding the childcare they want / Respondents with people age 5 or younger in their household	I had difficulty finding the childcare I want.	1=Very true 2=Quite true 3=Somewhat true 4=Not too true 5=Not true at all	NVI Survey, 2025	
Have no difficulty finding childcare when they need it	Residents reporting they do not have difficulty (not too true or not true at all) finding childcare available when they need it / Respondents with people age 5 or younger in their household	I had difficulty finding childcare available when I need it (such as second shift or weekends).	1=Very true 2=Quite true 3=Somewhat true 4=Not too true 5=Not true at all	NVI Survey, 2025	
Don't struggle with taking or keeping a job due to lack of childcare	Residents reporting that lack of childcare did not make it difficult to take or keep a job (not too true or not true at all) / Respondents with people age 5 or younger in their household	Lack of childcare has made it difficult to take or keep a job.	1=Very true 2=Quite true 3=Somewhat true 4=Not too true 5=Not true at all	NVI Survey, 2025	
Don't struggle with transportation to and from childcare	Residents reporting that transportation is not a challenge (not too true or not true at all) getting to and from childcare / Respondents with people age 5 or younger in their household	Transportation is a challenge for getting my child to and from child care.	1=Very true 2=Quite true 3=Somewhat true 4=Not too true 5=Not true at all	NVI Survey, 2025	
Have lived in their current neighborhood for at least six years	Residents reporting they have lived in their neighborhood for at least 6 years / Total respondents	About how long have you lived...In your current neighborhood?	1=Less than one year 2=1-3 Years 3=4-5 Years 4=6-10 Years 5=More than 10 Years	NVI Survey, 2025	
Are a member of a block club	Residents reporting they belong to a block club / Total respondents	Are you part of a block club?	1=Yes 2=No	NVI Survey, 2025	

OTHER SURVEY DATA CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Feel supported in the community / neighborhood	Residents reporting they strongly or somewhat they are supported in their community/ neighborhood / Total respondents	I feel supported in my community/ neighborhood.	5=Strongly Agree 4=Somewhat Agree 3=Neither Agree or Disagree 2=Somewhat Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree 0=N/A	NVI Survey, 2025	
Have support from fellow residents	Residents reporting they strongly or somewhat agree they have support from fellow residents in their neighborhood / Total respondents	I feel I have support from fellow residents in my neighborhood.	5=Strongly Agree 4=Somewhat Agree 3=Neither Agree or Disagree 2=Somewhat Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree 0=N/A	NVI Survey, 2025	
Own their home	Residents reporting they own (without a mortgage, with a mortgage, or with a land contract) their home / Total respondents	Do you own or rent the home in which you live?	1=Own – outright without a loan/mortgage 2=Own – with a mortgage/loan (i.e I have borrowed money from a bank or similar to buy a house) 3=Own -- with a land contract 4=Rent 5=Neither – I live with my parents, family or friends but pay some rent to them 6=Neither – I live rent-free with my parents, family or friends 7=Other 8=I do not currently have permanent housing 9=Prefer not to say	NVI Survey, 2025	
Have not been at risk of losing their home due to financial hardship	Residents reporting they have not been at risk of losing their home or living situation due to financial hardship / Total respondents	During the past 12 months have you..... have you ever been at risk of losing your home/living situation due to financial hardship?	1=Yes 2=No 3=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	
Don't need major housing improvements or repairs	Residents reporting they strongly or somewhat disagree that their housing needs major improvements or repairs to remain livable / Total respondents	My current housing needs major improvements or repairs to remain livable.	5=Strongly Agree 4=Somewhat Agree 3=Neither Agree nor Disagree 2=Somewhat Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree	NVI Survey, 2025	

OTHER SURVEY DATA CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Don't need mobility-related housing changes	Residents reporting they strongly or somewhat disagree that their housing needs mobility-related improvements / Total respondents	My current housing needs changes so I can get around in my home.	5=Strongly Agree 4=Somewhat Agree 3=Neither Agree nor Disagree 2=Somewhat Disagree 1=Strongly Disagree	NVI Survey, 2025	
Use neighborhood amenities, including retail and services, in their own neighborhood	Residents reporting they often or sometimes use amenities including retail and services in their neighborhood / Total respondents	Thinking about amenities, including retail and services, such as stores, boutiques, dry cleaners, restaurants, and more...How often do you use neighborhood amenities?	4=Often 3=Sometimes 2=Rarely 1=Never	NVI Survey, 2025	
Rarely leave the city for amenities, including retail and services	Residents reporting they rarely or never leave the city for amenities including retail and services / Total respondents	Thinking about amenities, including retail and services, such as stores, boutiques, dry cleaners, restaurants, and more...How often do you leave the city for amenities?	4=Often 3=Sometimes 2=Rarely 1=Never	NVI Survey, 2025	
Feel welcome visiting businesses and services in their neighborhood	Residents reporting they feel welcome (very welcome and somewhat welcome) visiting businesses and services in their neighborhood / Total respondents	How welcome do you feel visiting businesses and services in your neighborhood?	4=Very Welcome 3=Somewhat Welcome 2=Not Very Welcome 1=Not At All Welcome 0=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	
Business owners earning more than 25 percent of their annual household income from their business	Business owners reporting more than 25% of their annual household income comes from their business / Respondents who own a business	Thinking about how much you rely on your business for living expenses, about how much of your annual household income comes from your business?	1=10% or less 2=11-25% 3=26-50% 4=51-75% 5=More than 75%	NVI Survey, 2025	
Report they or a family member have not been negatively impacted or harmed by the police in the last 12 months	Residents reporting that they or a family member have not been negatively impacted or harmed by the police / Total respondents	During the past 12 months, have you or a family member been negatively impacted or harmed by any of the following?: Police.	1=Yes 2=No 3=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	
Report they or a family member have not been negatively impacted or harmed by the courts in the last 12 months	Residents reporting that they or a family member have not been negatively impacted or harmed by the courts / Total respondents	During the past 12 months, have you or a family member been negatively impacted or harmed by any of the following?: Courts.	1=Yes 2=No 3=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	
Report they or a family member have not been negatively impacted or harmed by immigration in the last 12 months	Residents reporting that they or a family member have not been negatively impacted or harmed by immigration / Total respondents	During the past 12 months, have you or a family member been negatively impacted or harmed by any of the following?: Immigration.	1=Yes 2=No 3=Don't Know	NVI Survey, 2025	

OTHER SURVEY DATA CONTINUED

Indicator Name	Definition/Calculation	Survey Question(s)	Survey Answer Options	Data Source	Why It Matters
Have access to a tablet at home	Residents reporting they own or share a tablet they can access at home / Total respondents	Do you have access to one or more of these devices in your home? If yes, please select all that apply and indicate whether it is your own device or you share it with others in your home.: Tablet (ex: iPad).	1=My own 2=Share it 3=I don't have access	NVI Survey, 2025	
Have access to a cell phone at home	Residents reporting they own or share a cell phone they can access at home / Total respondents	Do you have access to one or more of these devices in your home? If yes, please select all that apply and indicate whether it is your own device or you share it with others in your home.: Cell phone.	1=My own 2=Share it 3=I don't have access	NVI Survey, 2025	
Have access to a desktop or laptop computer at home	Residents reporting they own or share a desktop or laptop computer they can access at home / Total respondents	Do you have access to one or more of these devices in your home? If yes, please select all that apply and indicate whether it is your own device or you share it with others in your home.: Desktop or laptop computer.	1=My own 2=Share it 3=I don't have access	NVI Survey, 2025	
Have basic digital skills	Residents reporting they are comfortable submitting an online job application, passing a basic computer skills test, printing and scanning documents, uploading documents, using Office or Google applications, using email applications, and using video conferencing software / Total respondents	Do you feel comfortable doing the following tasks? Please select all that apply.	1=Submitting an online job application 2=Passing a basic computer skills test 3=Printing and scanning documents 4=Uploading documents 5=Using Microsoft Office, or Google applications (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Docs, Sheets, or Slides) 6=Using email applications (Microsoft Outlook, Gmail) 7=Using video conferencing software (Zoom, Google Meet) 8=Using communication and collaboration tools (Slack, Teams) 9=Writing code 10=Using software to analyze data 11=Using a website builder 12=Using photo or video editing software 13=I do not feel comfortable doing any of these tasks	NVI Survey, 2025	