



*Building Relationships of Trust*  
**Community Perception Survey**

Thank you for participating in this short survey. Your contribution will help us improve our service to the community and make us more effective in the work that we do.

1. Have you had any direct interaction with a representative of the police department during the past year?
  - Yes
  - No (skip Question 2)
  
2. If yes, what was the nature of the most recent interaction you had with the police department?
  - I called the police to report a crime or problem.
  - I was stopped for a traffic violation.
  - I called the police because of a traffic accident.
  - I was a witness to a crime.
  - I attended a community meeting.
  - I attended the department's Citizen's Police Academy.
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. Please indicate how familiar you are with the police department:
  - Very familiar
  - Somewhat familiar
  - Not familiar

4. Do you know by name the officers who regularly patrol your neighborhood or business area?

Yes

No

5. Do you know who the district commander is for your neighborhood or business area?

Yes

No

6. Do you know the names of the police department's command staff (i.e., assistant chiefs of police and captains)?

Many of them

Some of them

A few of them

None

7. What do you view as some of the noteworthy achievements of the police department over the last three years?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

8. In your opinion, what are the three biggest challenges for the police chief?

---

---

---

9. In your opinion, what are three areas in which the police department could improve its performance or effectiveness?

---

---

---

10. From your perspective, how effective is the leadership of the police department?

- Highly effective
- Effective
- Not effective

11. Overall, I feel that my city is:

- A very safe community
- A safe community
- An unsafe community
- A very unsafe community
- No opinion

12. In my opinion, my neighborhood is:

- Very safe
- Safe
- Unsafe
- Very unsafe
- No opinion

13. How familiar are you with the principles of community policing?

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Somewhat unfamiliar
- Very unfamiliar

14. Which of the following do you feel are the **three** most important elements of community policing?

- A police officer assigned full-time in the same police district to establish relationships with the community
- A liaison officer reporting to the chief of police, who maintains contact with community groups
- Police officers who treat all residents of the community with respect and dignity
- A police department that involves the community in policing activities
- Special training for police in how to interact with the public
- A police department that enables the community to have direct input in developing department strategies and tactics
- The police and community solving problems in the neighborhood together

15. Please rate the effectiveness of the police department's community policing efforts:

- Very effective
- Somewhat effective
- Somewhat ineffective
- Very ineffective
- No opinion

16. What do you think is the most important action the department could take to improve its effectiveness in addressing crime and improving community life?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

17. In your opinion, how well does the police department prevent crime?

- Very well
- Well
- Not well
- Not at all
- No opinion

18. In your opinion, how well does the police department solve crime?

- Very well
- Well
- Not well
- Not at all
- No opinion

19. In your opinion, overall, violent crime in the city is:

- Increasing
- Staying the same
- Decreasing

20. In your opinion, gang violence in the city is:

- Increasing
- Staying the same
- Decreasing
- Nonexistent

**FOR STATISTICAL INFORMATION ONLY**

21. Are you male or female?

- Male
- Female

22. Please indicate which of the following responses best describes your age:

- Under 21
- 22 to 35
- 36 to 50
- 51 or older

23. Please indicate which of the following responses best describes how long you have lived in the city:

- Less than 1 year
- 1 to 5 years
- 6 to 15 years
- More than 15 years

24. Please indicate which of the following best describes your race or ethnic background:

- White
- African American
- Hispanic
- American Indian
- Asian American
- Other

25. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- Less than high school
- High school diploma or GED
- Some college
- College degree
- Graduate-level degree

26. What is your total household income?

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 – \$29,999
- \$30,000 – \$49,999
- \$50,000 – \$69,999
- \$70,000 – \$89,999
- \$90,000 or above

27. Please list any community groups in which you are an active participant:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey. Your input will be used to improve our police department's relations with the community.**

This project was supported by Cooperative Agreement 2010-CK-WX-K024 awarded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions contained herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. References to specific agencies, companies, products, or services should not be considered an endorsement by the author(s) or the U.S. Department of Justice. Rather, the references are illustrations to supplement discussion of the issues.