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*The Family Services Network presents.....*

# **Branch County Snapshot Survey**

*2004*





# Introduction

The 2004 Snapshot Community Assessment was a collaborative effort between the Family Services Network of Branch County and the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency. The Snapshot is just what it says, a “picture” of Branch County at a point in time, namely 2004. With funding reductions to many organizations and service providers in our area and around the State, the need for substantiating programs with data about their effectiveness is more critical today than ever before. Additionally, setting priorities based on public support and readiness is critical to success.

This information is intended to be used by decision makers across the county to set priorities and plan for the future. In addition to the indicators collected, the Snapshot project surveyed the County as to their specific attitudes and behaviors toward a variety of issues. 7,000 random surveys were mailed out across Branch County, with nearly 2,000 responses returned, giving us a wealth of information on the beliefs of the citizens of Branch County. This document includes indicators in the areas of demographics, economic well being, housing, safety, health, education and community life. We would like to thank the residents of Branch County for their interest in providing information and assure them that this information is not being ignored and their time was not wasted. This information will be made available to the media, the public and organizations across Branch County who provide services to the community.

Sincerely,

The Snapshot Planning Committees

Thanks to our Planning Committee members:

Linda George	Joe Lopez
Sarah Himebaugh	Sandra MacDonald
Kirk Kashian	Emily Mason
Connie Kennedy	John Robertson
Dan List	

*\*Special thanks to Branch County United Way for financial assistance in printing this report.*

# Demographics

While Michigan experienced moderate growth in the 90's (6%), Branch County experienced significantly more. Branch County grew by more than 10% in the same decade, with greater growth in its minority populations than the State as a whole. The African American population grew by 45% compared to 9% statewide and the Hispanic population grew by 70%. Additionally, Census figures show 6.5% of Branch County residents speak something other than English at home, many of them speaking Spanish or Arabic. These 2 populations represent our largest non-English speaking minorities whose needs will need to be met as our community diversifies.

Another demographic consideration will be the growth of the senior population over the next 15 years. Michigan long term growth estimates show that the population over 60 in Branch County will grow by more than 40% by 2020 while the population ages 20-59 will only grow by 3%. This will put additional pressure on service providers serving the senior population.

These demographic changes add a cultural diversity to Branch County that did not exist at this level, a short 15 years ago. These changes bring with them, however, challenges in addressing new cultural issues, including language barriers that many institutions and organizations must address to meet the needs of their clients.

<u>Population</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>% Change</u>
<b>Branch</b>	<b>41,502</b>	<b>45,787</b>	<b>10.3%</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>9,295,297</b>	<b>9,938,444</b>	<b>6.9%</b>
 <u>Households</u>	 <b>14,965</b>	 <b>16,440</b>	 <b>9.8%</b>

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

<u>Children by age</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2002</u>
<b>0 to 4 years</b>	<b>3,204</b>	<b>2,763</b>
<b>5 to 19 years</b>	<b>9,432</b>	<b>9,658</b>

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>Michigan 2002</u>
White	97.2%	93.4%	80.1%
Black	1.7%	2.2%	14.1%
Indian	.6%	.4%	.6%
Asian	.3%	.5%	1.8%
Hispanic	1.0%	2.9%	3.2%
Arabic	.7%	.8%	1.0%
Other	.3%	3.4%	3.4%

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

### Percentage of children who live with one vs two parents

<u>Household Type</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
2 Parents	75%	73.3%
1 Parent	18%	26.7%

*Note: Data obtained from US Census; remaining children from 1990 were included in kinship care or non-relative care*

<u>Family configurations</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Family Households	11,113	11,693
Spouse	9,175	9,261
Natural children (or adopted)	12,260	12,110
Stepchildren	1,002	1,248
Grandchildren	419	545
Other relatives	659	917
Non Relatives	667	1,023
Male alone	1,166	1,657
Male not alone	380	574
Female alone	2,139	2,290
Female not alone	167	226
Institutionalized (including group settings)	1,628	3,155

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

# Economic Well Being

From 1990 to 2000, Branch County showed healthy economic progress. Households earning less than \$10,000 annually, decreased by 56% and households with less than \$20,000 in annual income decreased by 41%. At the same time these two economic groups across the state fell by 40% and 31%, respectively. At the same time households with more than \$50,000 in annual income grew by 260% in Branch County and more than 90% across the state. Additionally during the period 1990-1999, Branch County surpassed the state average for median household income, with Branch County rising 53% during the 1990's and Michigan rising 44%. While there were strong economic gains during the 90's, more than 1 in 5 households in Branch County still earn less than \$20,000 per year and 9% of our citizens live within the federal poverty guidelines.

In terms of overall poverty and children in poverty, Branch County made significant progress in the past decade. Persons living in poverty have decreased at a faster pace than Michigan, as well as a larger increase in persons living above 200% of poverty.

Unemployment in the County is typically close to the State rate, however, in the past 3 years, Michigan unemployment rates have been noticeably higher than the national average.

<u>Households with Income</u>	<u>1990</u>		<u>2000</u>	
0 to 9,999	2,663	17.8%	1,161	7.1%
10,000 to 19,999	3,121	20.9%	2,274	13.9%
20,000 to 29,999	3,061	20.5%	2,642	16.1%
30,000 to 39,999	2,435	16.3%	2,396	14.6%
40,000 to 49,999	1,501	10.1%	2,123	13.0%
50,000 to 59,999	1,019	6.8%	1,679	10.3%
60,000 to 74,999	622	4.2%	1,797	11.0%
75,000 to 100,000	302	2.1%	1,434	8.8%
Greater than 100,000	241	1.7%	934	5.7%

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

<u>Per Capita Income</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
	\$11,033	\$17,552

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

<u>Median Household Income</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Branch County	25,332	38,760
Michigan	31,020	44,667

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

<u>Poverty Status (all)</u>	<u>Branch County</u>		<u>Michigan</u>			
	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>		
100% & below	5,600	14.1%	3,979	9.3%	13.1%	10.5%
101-149%	4,384	11.0%	4,241	9.9%	7.4%	7.2%
150-199%	4,618	11.6%	4,280	10.0%	8.4%	7.7%
> 200%	25,157	63.3%	30,175	70.7%	71.0%	74.0%

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

<u>Children living in Poverty</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Branch County	20.9%	13.3%
Michigan	18.6%	13.9%

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

#### Unemployment - % of Labor Force

<u>Year</u>	<u>Michigan</u>	<u>Branch Co.</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
1996	4.9%	5.2%	5.4%
1997	4.2%	3.7%	4.9%
1998	3.9%	3.8%	4.5%
1999	3.8%	3.6%	4.2%
2000	3.5%	4.1%	4.0%
2001	5.3%	5.8%	4.8%
2002	6.2%	6.0%	5.8%
2003	7.3%	6.9%	6.0%

*Note: Data obtained from Bureau of Labor Statistics*

# Safety

According to Kids Count Michigan 2004, the number of confirmed child abuse and neglect cases per 1,000 children has increased 130% in Branch County since last year and has increased 164% since 1990. In addition, the number of out of home placements for children has increased 160% since last year. The cases are evenly distributed between the most severe to those requiring community-based support. This community-wide problem is extremely disturbing, and much work needs to be done as a community to reverse this trend. Our efforts must address prevention and each level of child abuse and neglect.

## Number of Children Removed from home

	<u>1999-00</u>	<u>2001-02</u>
Referrals Received	836	944
Investigated	398	522
Children Removed	40	37

*Note: Data obtained from 2002 Family Independence Agency (FIA) Report, Branch County Child Protective Services*

## Victims of confirmed child abuse & neglect (Rate)

	<u>FY 1995</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>
Branch County	11.2	25.4

**Branch County ranks 80th out of 82 counties in this category.**

*Note: Data obtained from Kids Count, 2004*

## Crime Statistics - Branch County vs Michigan 1999-2003 (5 year average)

	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Michigan</u>
Murder	1.3	6.6
Rape	87.5	52.1
Burglary	479.2	695.7
Motor Vehicle Theft	122.2	526.9
Arson	31.2	44.8
Sex Offenses	162.4	100.6
Narcotic Offenses	502.7	416.3
Family & Children	208.6	98.8
Liquor Laws	311.5	225.9
Disorderly Conduct	753.6	626.8

*Note: Crime statistics are rates per 100,000 based on current population estimates allowing for valid comparison between local and state crime levels.*

# Housing

In both 1990 and 2000, Branch County had a higher home owner-occupied rate than the State of Michigan. In addition, Branch saw nearly a 3% increase in owner-occupied housing from 1990-2000. The Snapshot Survey showed an overwhelming majority of people seem to be satisfied with their housing situation.

<u>Owner occupied housing</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
Michigan	71.0	73.8
Branch County	76.1	78.9

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

<u>Median Gross Rent</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2000</u>
% of Household Income	27.0%	23.4%

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

Responses to our Snapshot Survey revealed the following about residents opinions about their own housing situation.

- 14% of respondents are dissatisfied with their current housing situation.
- Of those dissatisfied, more than half said it was either too small or too expensive.

The 2004 Coldwater Housing Market Study showed that housing for large low-income families (6 or more) is in extremely low supply and at the time of the survey, 17 homeless families had 6 or more family members.

Infant health, including low birth weight and adequacy of prenatal care are measures of the health and well being of children. They are a reflection of health care accessibility and quality of primary care in a community. In Branch County, our issue of concern appears to be adequacy of prenatal care. While low weight births (<2500g) in Branch County fall below state rates, births with adequate prenatal care in Branch County significantly exceed state rates. In 2002, 68% of births in Branch County had adequate prenatal care, compared with 78% statewide. Additionally, while infant deaths are low, thankfully, the infant mortality rate for Branch County based on a three year average has been higher than the state rate for the last two 3-year periods.

Adult and senior health are also 2 areas of concern in our county. More than 30% of adults over 18 report not exercising at all and 1 in 3 seniors over 60 stated that they do not exercise. Additionally, nearly 1 in 10 (9%) Snapshot Survey respondents report having no health insurance at all. With ever increasing insurance costs it will be more difficult for businesses to offer health benefits to employees, making optimal health more and more difficult to attain.

## Branch County Births

<u>Year</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>561</b>

*Note: Data obtained from Birth Files*

## Low Birth Weight %, <2500g (5 lbs 7 oz)

<u>Year</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
<b>Branch</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.6</b>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>8.1</b>

*Note: Data obtained from Birth Files*

## Adequate prenatal care as a % of Live births

<u>Year</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>75.5</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>74.8</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>74.5</b>	<b>77.4</b>	<b>78.2</b>
<b>Branch</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>68.8</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>70.7</b>	<b>68.3</b>

*Note: Data obtained from Birth Files, per 1,000 births*

Many risk factors for infant mortality can be addressed with adequate prenatal care. While Branch County does not have high percentages of births classified with inadequate prenatal care, we do fall short significantly of state rates for **adequate** prenatal care. Branch County has about 13% fewer births that qualify as having received adequate prenatal care with many of them falling into a middle category called intermediate prenatal care. This category has been consistently higher (21-23%) in Branch County than with births statewide (14-15%).

**Infant Mortality - 3 year rates (due to low # of deaths)**

<u>Year</u>	<u>1996-8</u>	<u>1997-9</u>	<u>1998-00</u>	<u>1999-01</u>	<u>2000-02</u>
<b>Michigan</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Branch</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>9.1</b>

*Note: Data obtained from Birth Files, per 1,000 births*

The three year average for infant mortality in Branch County was impacted significantly by 2001. In 2001 there were 8 infant deaths in the county. This was double the previous year and there have not been more than 5 in any given year since 1993. While 3 year averages help smooth out data from spikes, small numbers in any dataset are impacted significantly by spikes in any single number.

<u>Medicaid Recipients</u>	<u>April 2002</u>	<u>April 2003</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>MI Increase</u>
<b>Branch County</b>	<b>3,155</b>	<b>3,577</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>17.3%</b>
<b>Eligible Recipients</b>		<b>6,142</b>		

*Note: Data obtained from Family Independence Agency website*

- Only 77% of Snapshot survey respondents indicated that they had a primary care provider to meet their medical needs.
- 9% of Snapshot survey respondents reported having no health insurance.
- 3 of 10 respondents did not exercise at all and 5 of 10 exercised 2 times per week or less.

# Education

Branch County has a slightly higher graduation rate than the State of Michigan. Performance on proficiency tests for 4th and 8th students has increased by 29.6% and 34.3% respectively from the 2001-2002 to the 2003-2004 school year. Yet, 21% of Branch County residents 25 years of age or older have not graduated from high school, nearly 5% less than the State of Michigan average. Since our recent graduation rates have been stronger than the State, these numbers seem to point to a group of older residents with less education which complicates our employment situation.

For current students at risk, after-school tutoring programs are handled through school districts, targeting children at risk for academic failure or students with multiple risk factors. Quality after-school programs continue to be a need for students of all ages, especially when the 2004 Search Institute survey shows that 24% of youth go out 5 or more times per week with friends, with nothing special to do.

## Educational Attainment, 25+

	<u>Branch 1990</u>	<u>Branch 2000</u>	<u>Michigan 2000</u>
<9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9.6%	6.7%	4.7%
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade	16.6%	13.3%	11.9%
HS Graduate	39.8%	40.8%	31.3%
Some college	17.9%	22.3%	23.3%
Associates	5.7%	6.2%	7.0%
Bachelor's & Post Graduate	10.3%	10.6%	21.8%

*Note: Data obtained from US Census*

<u>High School Graduation Rate</u>	<u>Michigan 2002</u>	<u>Branch 2002</u>
	88.9%	89.5%

*Note: Data obtained from Standard and Poors, local private school information*

## Students enrolled in different types of school

<u>Type of School</u>	<u>Branch, 2002</u>
Public School	8,004
Charter	197
Private	202
Amish Schools	175
Home Schooled	N/A

*Note: Data obtained from Standard and Poors, local private school information*

## Community Life

Response to the 2004 Snapshot survey was phenomenal and gave us a look at what county residents thought of community life in Branch County. Nearly 90% of respondents indicated that they have a friend, neighbor, or family member to turn to if they needed help. This social capital is an extremely important indicator for the strength of a community. More than 40% of respondents volunteered at least one hour per week. There appears to be rather large interest in indoor exercise facilities, including an indoor pool and more affordable cultural activities.

- ö Some respondents suggested creating a linear park that would run north, south east and west through the county.
- ö Roughly 30% of county residents did not know where to go for public services, and some respondents requested “there should be one person you could go to with a difficult problem.”
- ö More than half of respondents stay in-county for major purchases like automobiles and furniture, groceries and health care. Many people requested more family restaurants and shopping facilities.
- ö Many requested more participation in government with over half of respondents feeling they had no influence over the community.
- ö Another theme among comments was a concern for and about seniors. Several seniors wrote that they were currently driving but expected to need BATA services in the near future.

2004 Survey information about community life.

- ö The 2004 Search Institute Study of Branch County Youth revealed that 49% of Branch County Youth do not volunteer any time providing an unpaid service to others.
- ö The Snapshot Survey to parents revealed much the same result - 55% of adults in Branch County report that they do not volunteer in their community.

# Survey Results

The 2004 Snapshot survey was extremely successful thanks to the overwhelming response of the citizens of Branch County. 7,000 persons were randomly selected from the voter registration database, in an attempt to obtain a varied cross section of persons living in Branch County. Response rates for most mailed surveys vary between 10% and 30%. The Snapshot response rate was 27% of persons completing and returning the survey. The major identified problem with the survey was the under-representation of minorities. 97.5% of respondents identified themselves as white, while only 93% of county residents report being white in the 2000 Census. We will need to establish different methods of collecting survey information from under-represented groups.

Survey committee members were from each community in the County and represented a variety of interests. Questions were chosen from other community surveys and by consensus of committee members about topics of local interest.

Below are some comments from the returned surveys and some results that we learned.

- 3% of respondents wrote about the need for an indoor pool and an additional 20 requested a YMCA-type facility.
- Some people felt there were adequate sports-related after school activities, but not nearly enough options for children who needed tutoring or other types of enrichment.
- There is a great desire for more cultural activities and more affordable activities for people of all ages.
- Many people appear to be disenfranchised. Over 50% of respondents said they had no impact on their community. Comments ran the gamut from having influence because they voted, to people who try to speak out and are treated like they are ignorant. A number of people wrote about their concern regarding elected officials and the inability to voice their opinions to local government.
- The most comments on the survey were in regards to health care. There were great concerns about not being able to afford quality care, access to specialists and not having insurance.
- Many requests were made for increased services for the elderly, including assistance with prescriptions, in home care and assistance getting out in the community.
- While an overwhelming majority were satisfied with their housing, a number of people wrote in concern about high property taxes and utility bills.
- A great number of people wrote in about the employment situation in our community, including concerns about providing for their family and finding a high paying job that provided benefits.

## Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to review the results of Branch County's Snapshot community assessment. Some community assessments, when completed, are relegated to a nice place on a shelf in your office or home. With the high level of input from community leaders and the overwhelming response to the community survey, our hope is that a shelf is the last place this book will find itself. Our hope is that this information will be used, by you, to better inform the community, to support programs that are serving our areas of need, develop programming that addresses our community's concerns, write and/or support grants, inform your neighbors, write your legislator or get involved in a community project.

Ask questions, correct misconceptions about our county, set the record straight. Information is power and gives us the ability to make necessary change. Our community will change for the better when you, the citizens are engaged, supported, and informed. We hope that this book helps you to become just that. Please help us by working to make your community a better place to live, grow and work.

If you have questions or comments about this publication, its content, or are seeking additional information about topics covered, you may contact either of the project coordinators who worked on this report.

Project Coordinators,

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*This information is also available on the worldwide web at [www.bhsj.org](http://www.bhsj.org). Select the health data tab located on the front page and follow the link for Branch County.*

# Family Services Network

The Family Services Network is made up of leaders in the fields of health and human services, parent leaders, and consumer representatives. They work together to coordinate health and human services for Branch County families. Their efforts include creating the Community Resource Directory, which provides information on basic needs and other assistance available in our community. The Family Services Network has five standing committees;

- ö Success by Six coordinates early childhood efforts for Branch County.
- ö Transition Council works with teachers, students and parents involved with Branch Intermediate School District so that students with special needs have the information, plans and resources needed to succeed outside of school.
- ö Healthy Communities · Healthy Youth works with students and youth-serving organizations to promote the Search Institute's 40 Assets - things that middle and high school students need to succeed in life.
- ö Housing and Homeless Coalition works to build partnerships that will lead to the prevention and ending of homelessness in our county and promotes housing stability.
- ö Cultural Diversity committee works to build bridges of understanding through culturally competent strategies.

In addition to these committees, the Family Services Network works tirelessly to encourage communication between initiatives and organizations in the community by working with groups like the Community Resource Center of Branch County, Arab American Community Center of Coldwater, SAFE KIDS Chapter, Tobacco Reduction Action Coalition, and the Interagency Coordinating Council.

The Snapshot Survey 2004 will inform members of the Family Services Network as they set priorities for the next several years.

# Membership

Adapt, Inc  
Altrusa Teen Share  
Beginnings Care for Life  
Branch County Administration  
Branch County Chamber of Commerce  
Circuit Court, Family Division  
Branch County Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Branch County Commissioners  
Branch County Council on Aging  
Branch County Community Foundation  
Branch County Council for Children  
Prosecuting Attorney's Office  
Branch County Sheriff  
Branch County United Way  
Branch-Hillsdale Family Independence Agency  
Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency  
Branch Interfaith Hospitality Network  
Branch Intermediate School District  
Bronson Community Schools  
Coldwater Community Schools  
City of Coldwater  
Coldwater Housing Commission  
Community Action Agency of South Central Michigan  
Community Health Center of Branch County  
Community Unlimited  
Donna Baylis, Parent Leader  
Human Resources Development, Inc.  
Michigan State University Extension  
Midwest Radio Group, Inc.  
Pines Behavioral Health Services  
Q-1 Video  
Quincy Community Schools  
Tammy Knisley, Parent Leader  
The Coldwater Daily Reporter  
Union City Community Schools  
Workforce Development Board

**Total number of surveys returned = 1917**  
**Percent of responses to each question listed below**  
**NA = No Answer**

## Branch County Snapshot survey 2004

### General Information (Circle the best answer)

<b>Age</b>	Under 18 <b>&lt;1%</b>	18-29 <b>8%</b>	30-40 <b>15%</b>	41-59 <b>36%</b>	60 and over <b>40%</b>	<b>NA &lt;1%</b>		
<b>Race/Ancestry</b>	White <b>98%</b>	Black <b>&lt;1%</b>	Asian <b>&lt;1%</b>	Hispanic <b>&lt;1%</b>	Arabic <b>1%</b>	Native American <b>&lt;1%</b>	Other <b>&lt;1%</b>	<b>NA 1%</b>
<b>Yearly Household Income (range)</b>	0-\$20,000 <b>20%</b>	\$20,000-\$30,000 <b>18%</b>	\$30,000-\$50,000 <b>26%</b>	\$50,000-\$80,000 <b>17%</b>	Over \$80,000 <b>10%</b>	<b>NA 8%</b>		
<b>School District</b>	Bronson <b>17%</b>	Coldwater <b>51%</b>	Quincy <b>18%</b>	Union City <b>10%</b>	Other <b>5%</b>	<b>NA 1%</b>		

### Community Related Questions

**Do you think there are adequate after-school activities in your community?** Yes **35%** No **27%** Unsure **36%** NA **3%**

**Do you know where to go for "public service" (Housing assistance, mental health services, legal services, grief support) in Branch County?** Yes **66%** No **33%** NA **1%**

**Please respond to the following statement: I have family members/neighbors I can turn to for help.** Yes **89%** No **10%** NA **1%**

**I use the BATA bus (Branch County's public transportation system) on:** Weekdays **3%** Saturday **<1%** Sunday **<1%** I do not use BATA **96%** NA **1%**

**If you do not use the BATA bus, why?** I have transportation **90%** Wait time too long **2%** Doesn't serve my area **2%** Other **2%** NA **6%**

**Do you think you have influence over what your community is like?** Yes **42%** No **54%** NA **4%**

**Do you think that the people in your community have the ability to get problems solved?** Yes **65%** No **27%** NA **8%**

### Leisure Related (Circle the best answer)

**Do you think there is a LACK of recreational facilities in your community? (swimming pools, sports fields, Parks, etc)** Yes **41%** No **57%** NA **3%**

**Do you think there is a LACK of cultural activities in your community? (museums, theatre, concerts, etc.)** Yes **56%** No **41%** NA **3%**

**How often do you use your local library?** Never **22%** Seldom **47%** 1-2 times/month **19%** 3-7 times/month **9%** More than 7 times/month **3%** NA **1%**

**How often do you feel unsafe, due to crime?** Never **25%** Rarely **46%** Sometimes **23%** Often **4%** Daily **1%** NA **1%**

**Health Related** (circle the best answer)

**How many days per week do you exercise at least 20 minutes, nonstop?**

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 NA 2%  
30% 8% 14% 18% 9% 10% 4% 7%

**How often do you think you eat the recommended daily amount of fruits and vegetables?**

Never Sometimes Usually Always Don't know NA <1%  
5% 39% 45% 8% 3%

**Do you anticipate needing hospice care (end of life care with terminal illness) for a family member in the next five years?**

Yes 20% No 76% NA 4%

**How concerned are you about smoking/tobacco and its health effects in Branch County?**

Not at all Some what Very much NA 1%  
18% 34% 47%

**Do you have Health Insurance?** No Medicare Medicaid Private Supplemental NA 1%

9% 32% 3% 51% 4%

**How many days in the past month did you miss work due to illness?**

0-2 58% 3-7 2% 8-15 <1% 16-30 <1% Do not work 38% NA <1%

**How often do you have a routine physical exam?**

Never 1/year Every 2-3 yrs 4 yrs or more NA 1%  
9% 65% 17% 8%

**How often do you go to the dentist?**

Never Every 6 months 1 time/year Every 2-3 yrs 4 yrs or more NA 1%  
10% 54% 18% 9% 8%

**When you and/or your child (if you have children) get sick and need medical care, where do you go?**

Family doctor Health clinic Emergency room Other NA 3%  
77% 11% 7% 2%

**Miscellaneous**

**Are you satisfied with your housing situation?** Yes 84% No 14% NA 2%

**If not, why?**

Too small Problem neighbors Poor condition Expensive Too far from services Other NA 84%  
5% 4% 2% 5% 1% 1%

**If you had an issue involving a senior citizen, who would you call for assistance?**

911 Branch Health Center Senior Center Area Agency on Aging Other NA 17%  
29% 7% 12% 31% 4%

**How many hours per month do you participate in volunteer activities? (School, hospital, etc.)**

None 1-5 hours 6-10 hours more than 10 hours NA 1%  
55% 28% 8% 8%

**Do you think you have the financial means to provide adequately for your family's needs?** Yes 73% No 24% NA 3%

**Do you typically purchase Groceries outside of Branch County?** Yes 15% No 85%

**Do you typically purchase Home furnishings outside of Branch County?** Yes 47% No 52%

**Do you typically purchase Automobiles outside of Branch County ?** Yes 47% No 52%

**Do you typically travel outside of Branch County for Healthcare services?** Yes 43% No 57%

**Do you have any comments regarding topics you feel are not addressed in this survey?**