# **Washtenaw County Speaks**

Thank you for your interest in the Washtenaw County Speaks Survey. This survey will study the needs and interests of the community in the Washtenaw County area. This study is being conducted by a partnership between <u>NORC at the University of Chicago</u> and the Cohen Center at <u>Brandeis University</u>.

This survey will not benefit you directly. Your participation in this study will help inform the work of local organizations.

The survey is completely voluntary. You can skip any question you wish or end the survey at any time. The survey may take about 30 minutes to complete. Any information you provide will remain strictly confidential and will never be used to identify you individually in the study data or any reports.

Participation in this survey is by invitation only. Anyone age 18 or older in your household can complete this survey, but do not share or forward this survey outside of your household. We appreciate your cooperation.

This message serves as your informed consent to participate in this research and can also be downloaded here. Additional information is included in the FAQs below.

Enter your Access Code Start Survey

#### (Found on the letter or email we sent to you)

For questions while taking the survey, you can contact NORC at WCSpeaks@norc.org or (877) 319-2553. To contact the Cohen Center at Brandeis, call (781) 736-2936 or email washtenawstudy@brandeis.edu.

This research was approved by an office/committee that oversees the ethics of research at Brandeis University. If you have any questions about your rights as a participant, contact them at (781) 736-8133 or <u>hrpp-group@brandeis.edu</u>. Please include "Washtenaw County Speaks" in your message.

For Russian speaking community members: Пожалуйста позвоните (877) 268-1125

For Spanish speaking community members: Por favor llámenos a (877) 319-2553

#### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the survey about?

The survey will ask you about different issues facing residents of the Washtenaw County area. The information collected will be used to evaluate services and programs, assess needs, and inform decision-makers about how to best plan and support the Washtenaw County area community.

### What does it mean to participate?

- The survey is completely voluntary you can choose whether to participate.
- You can skip any question you wish.
- The survey may take about 30 minutes to complete.
- You can complete it in more than one sitting if you would like to take a break.
- You must be at least 18 years old and live in the Washtenaw County area for at least part of the year to participate.
- The survey should be completed only once for your whole household.

#### Who is conducting the study?

This study is being conducted by a partnership between:

- <u>The Cohen Center at Brandeis University</u>
- NORC at the University of Chicago

Please visit <u>http://WCSpeaks.norc.org</u> or <u>https://www.norc.org/Research/Projects/Pages/2022-</u> washtenaw-community-survey.aspx for more information about the study.

#### Why should I complete the survey?

This is a chance for you to be part of an important research study and for your voice to be heard.

#### How do I take part?

Participation is easy. You can take the survey from a desktop or laptop computer, tablet, or smartphone with internet access.

- In the box at the top of this page, enter the Access Code from the letter, postcard, or email we sent you.
- Call (877) 319-2553, tell the interviewer your access code, and they will ask you the survey questions over the phone.

#### How was I selected?

We randomly selected your address from all home addresses in the Washtenaw County area. This means that when you respond, you represent hundreds of other Washtenaw County area residents like you. When all completed surveys are combined, they represent a snapshot of all Washtenaw County area households.

#### How will you protect my privacy?

All information is kept in password-protected files. These files are only available to the research teams at NORC and the Cohen Center at Brandeis University. The files will not be released to any outside organization.

Only combined data will be reported. Although data that do not identify individuals will be kept indefinitely and may be used in other research, all identifying data will be destroyed at the end of the project.

#### **Questions and Concerns**

For questions while taking the survey, you can contact NORC at WCSpeaks@norc.org or (877) 319-2553. To contact the Cohen Center at Brandeis, call (781) 736-2936 or email washtenawstudy@brandeis.edu.

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## NORC at the University of Chicago

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