

NOTABLE RESULTS: MIMACS 1 Flint

This memo reports results from a survey of a representative sample of 628 Flint residents conducted between February 24 and April 19, 2022 by the Michigan Metro Area Communities Study (MIMACS). The survey was undertaken as part of a collaborative data collection effort across 22 states through the NIH Community Engagement Alliance (CEAL) Against COVID-19 Disparities. Invitations to participate in the survey were sent by U.S. mail to 5,000 households in Flint, selected at random from a complete list of addresses provided by a vendor, Marketing Systems Group (MSG). Every address in the list was verified as deliverable by the United States Postal Service as part of its Computerized Delivery Sequence (CDS) file.

The invitation specified that one adult (age 18 or over) per household was eligible, and it provided a link to complete the survey online and a phone number to call if they preferred completing the survey by phone. The survey questionnaire and the recruitment mailings were available in English and Spanish. The response rate was 13.21% (using AAPOR Response Rate 1).

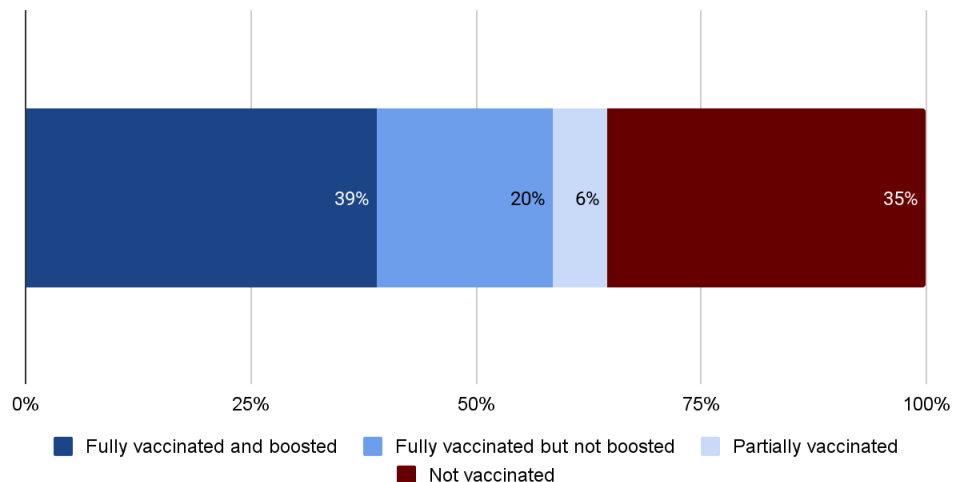
MSG created a disproportionate address-based sample by leveraging demographic data available from commercial databases. They oversampled records of households with (a) a Hispanic surname or ethnic group code from their commercial databases and (b) an African American ethnic group code from their commercial databases. Respondents were assigned a design weight that was equal to the inverse of the selection probability (the number of households in the area as estimated by the Census, divided by the number of sampled households in each strata, multiplied by the number of residents in the selected household). We applied raking to adjust the weights to match the estimated distributions on gender, age, race, education, and income based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 American Community Survey (ACS). The margin of error for a simulated Bernoulli variable ($p = 0.5$) is 6% percentage points at the 95% confidence level. The actual margin of sampling error varies by statistics.

This report covers some of the most notable results from the survey.

VACCINE UPTAKE

The majority of Flint residents reported being fully vaccinated (Figure 1), including those who had not only been vaccinated but also received at least one booster (39%), and those who had been vaccinated but not boosted (20%). Slightly

Figure 1. COVID-19 vaccination and booster status



more than one third (35%) of Flint residents had not been vaccinated, while 6% were partially vaccinated, meaning that they received a single dose of a two-dose vaccine.

VACCINATION RATES AMONG DEMOGRAPHIC GROUPS

The percentage of fully vaccinated residents varied significantly by age, education, and income, but there were no significant differences by gender or race/ethnicity.¹

The vaccination rate was significantly higher among Flint residents aged 55-64 (73%) and 65 and over (87%) compared to younger age groups -- the vaccination rate was only 48% for Flint residents aged 35-54 and 44% for those less than 35 years old (Figure 2).

Flint residents with higher levels of education were more likely to be fully vaccinated than those with lower levels of education (Figure 3). For example, the vaccination rate was 79% among Flint residents with college degrees compared to 43% among those who did not receive a high school diploma.

Flint residents in households with higher annual incomes were significantly more likely to be fully vaccinated (Figure 4). For example, only 35% of those with household incomes under \$10,000 had been fully vaccinated compared to 80% of those with incomes in the range of

Figure 2. Percent fully vaccinated by age

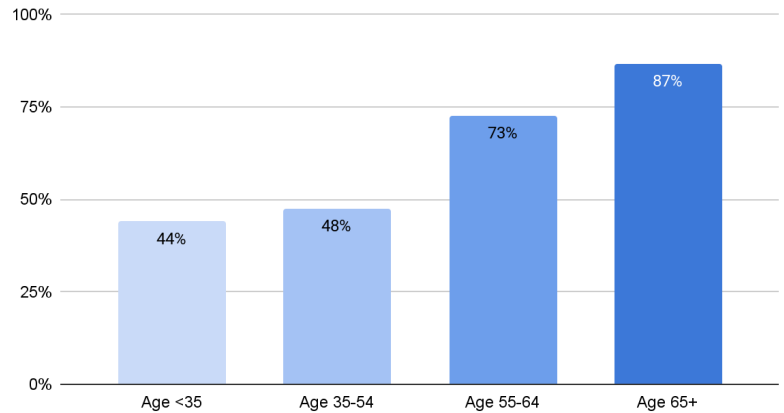


Figure 3. Percent fully vaccinated by education

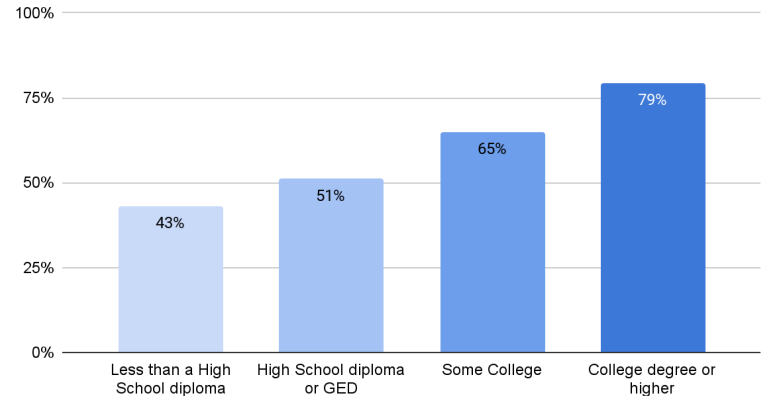
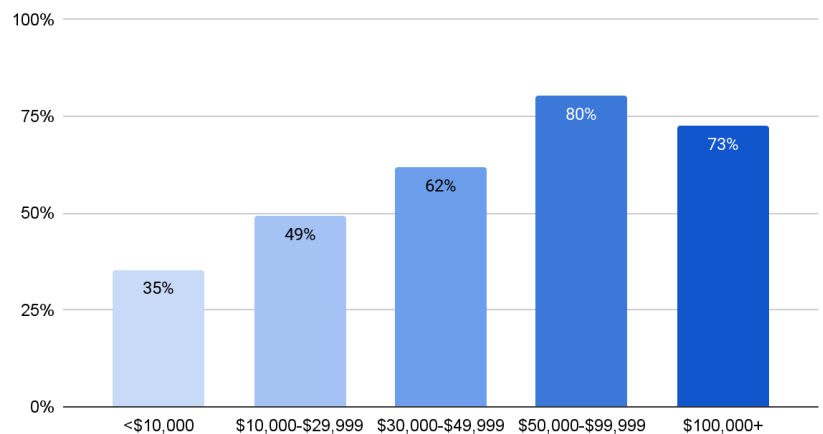


Figure 4. Percent fully vaccinated by household income



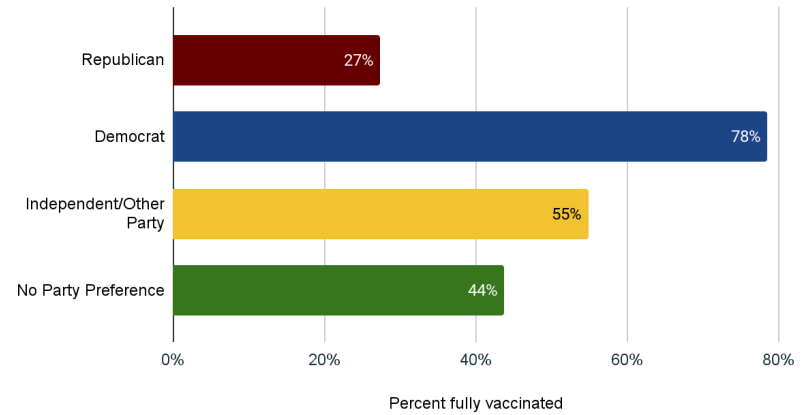
¹ The term “fully vaccinated” refers here to receiving both doses of a two-dose vaccine or one dose of a single-dose vaccine.

\$50,000-\$99,999 and 73% with incomes of \$100,000 or more.

VACCINATION RATES AND POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION

There were large differences in vaccination rates across people with different political party affiliations (Figure 5). The vaccination rate was highest among Flint residents who identify as Democrats (78%) and lowest among Republicans (27%).

Figure 5. Percent fully vaccinated by political party affiliation



VACCINE HESITANCY AND RESISTANCE

We asked Flint residents who had not yet received any form of COVID-19 vaccination about the reasons they had not yet been vaccinated (Figure 6). The most commonly cited reasons for not being vaccinated were concerns about the effectiveness of the vaccine (80%) and about vaccine safety or side effects (79%). Fewer Flint residents cited access issues as reasons for not being vaccinated, such as lack of transportation (11%), time (9%), or inability to schedule a vaccine (6%).

Figure 6. Reasons for not being vaccinated

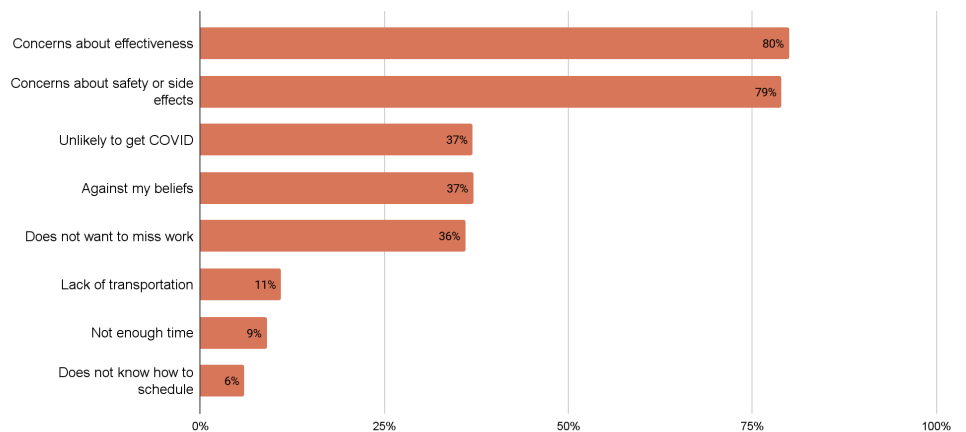
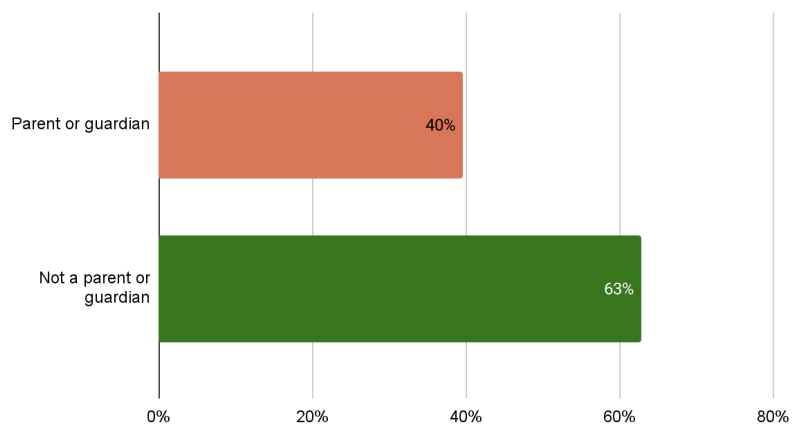


Figure 7. Percent fully vaccinated for parents and non-parents



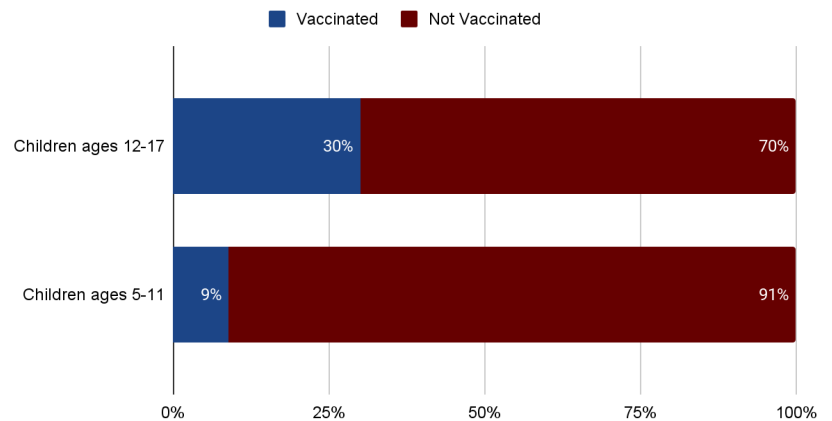
VACCINATION RATES AMONG FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Flint residents who are parents or guardians and live with their children under the age of 18 were less likely to be vaccinated than those without children (Figure 7), with 63% of parents

being fully vaccinated compared to only 40% of adults who are not parents.

We asked Flint parents about the vaccination status of their children (Figure 8) and found that relatively few had children who were vaccinated: 30% of Flint parents with children between the ages of 12 and 17 reported that their children in that age range had been vaccinated, and only 9% of parents with children between the ages of 5 and 11 reported that their children in that age range had been vaccinated. Note that at the time this survey was launched, the youngest children (ages 6 months to 5 years) were not yet eligible to receive the vaccine.

Figure 8. Percent of children fully vaccinated by age

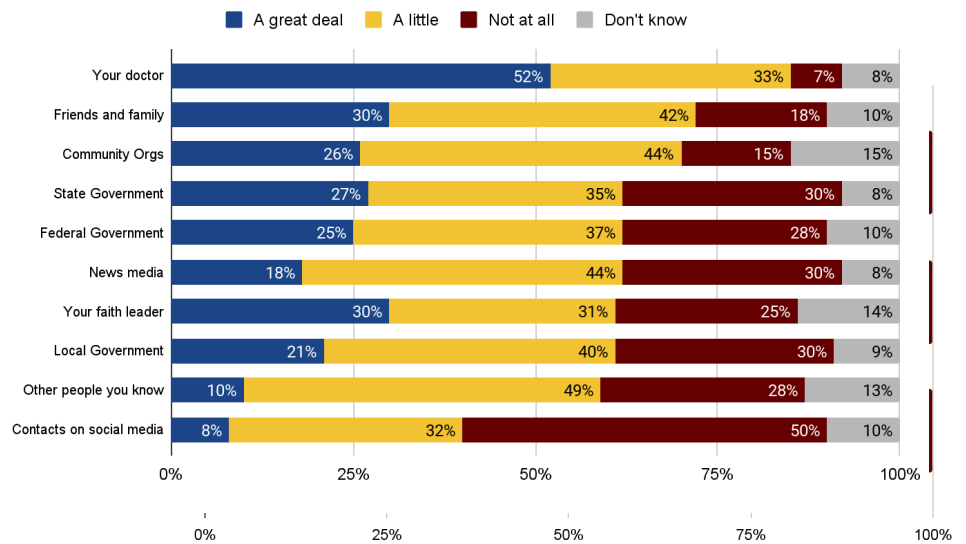


TRUST

Sources of Information

We asked Flint residents how much they trust different sources of information about COVID-19 (Figure 9). Residents placed the most trust in their doctors and health care providers, with 52% percent of residents saying they trust their doctor or health care provider “a great deal.” But, only 24% of Flint residents who were not fully vaccinated placed “a great deal” of trust in doctors and health care providers compared to 71% of those who were fully vaccinated. Residents placed the least amount of trust in social media and other people they know to provide them with information about COVID-19.

Figure 9. Trust in sources of information about COVID-19

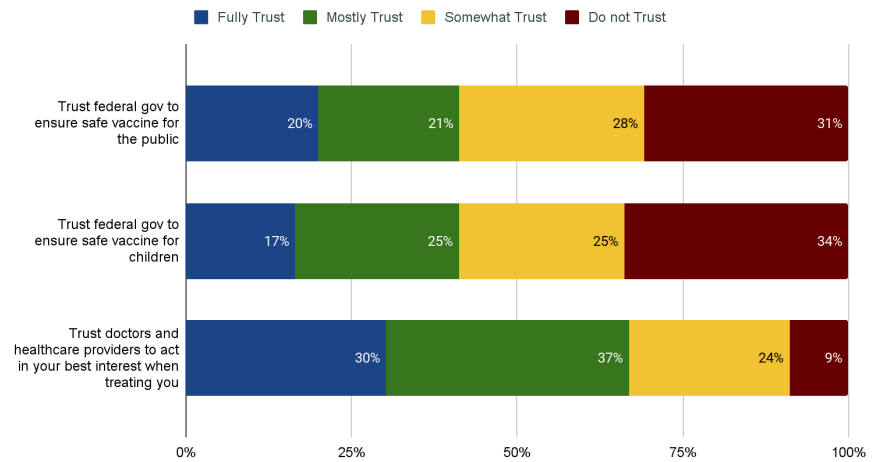


Vaccine Safety and Healthcare Providers

Flint residents expressed considerable distrust in the federal government to ensure safe vaccines for adults and children (Figure 10). Less than half (41%) of Flint residents reported that they fully trust or mostly trust the federal government to ensure that the COVID-19 vaccine is

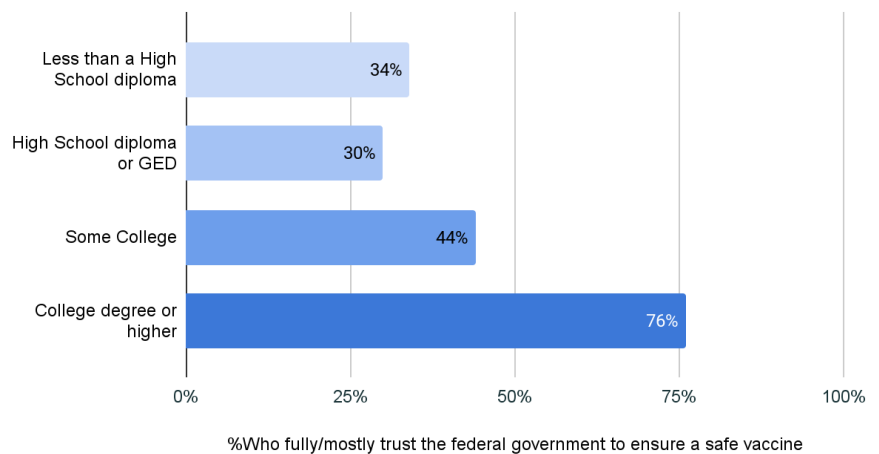
safe for the public, while 31% expressed no trust. We found similar levels of distrust about whether the federal government could ensure that the COVID-19 vaccine is safe for children, with 42% of Flint residents reporting that they fully trust or mostly trust the federal government and 34% expressing no trust. Flint residents expressed more trust in healthcare providers. More than two-thirds (67%) of Flint residents reported that they fully trust or mostly trust doctors and healthcare providers to act in their best interest compared to only 9% who did not trust doctors or healthcare providers.

Figure 10. Trust in government and healthcare providers



Trust in the federal government to ensure vaccine safety (for the public as a whole and for children in particular) varied significantly with age, race/ethnicity, education, and political party identification. Younger residents, Latino residents, those with less education, and Republicans expressed more distrust in the federal government to ensure vaccine safety. For example, Flint residents with a college degree or higher are more than twice as likely to “fully” or “mostly” trust the federal government to ensure a safe COVID-19 vaccine compared to those with a high school degree or less (Figure 11).

Figure 11. Educational differences in trust of COVID-19 vaccine

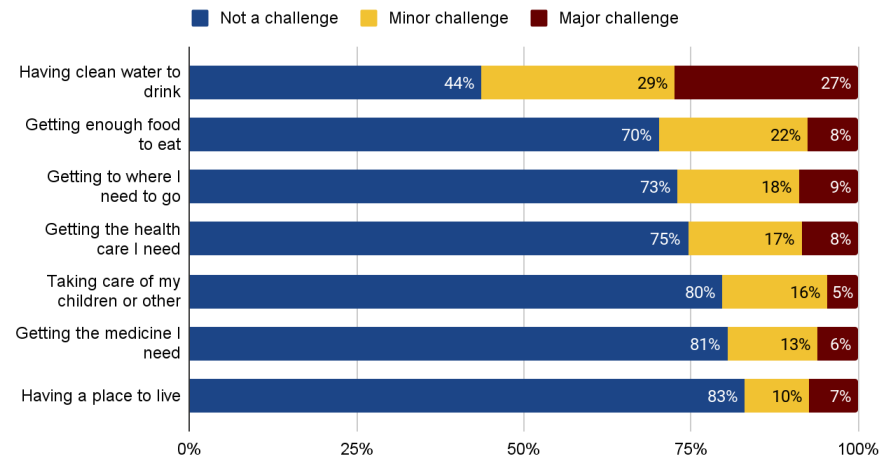


CHALLENGES DURING THE PANDEMIC

We asked Flint residents about challenges that their families faced during the past month, including challenges in obtaining necessary health care, getting adequate food, clean water, transportation, medicine, secure housing, and providing care to their children and other loved ones (Figure 12). Many Flint residents are still experiencing challenges with having clean water

to drink. Over half (56%) of Flint residents reported that getting clean water was either a major or minor challenge, and this problem was especially acute for Blacks (60%) and Latinos (72%). Substantial proportions of Flint residents reported challenges with finding enough food to eat (30% reported it was a major or minor challenge), getting to where they need to go (27%), and getting the health care they need (26%).

Figure 12. Challenges you or your family experienced in past month



NEIGHBORHOOD SATISFACTION

We asked Flint residents about their satisfaction with the overall quality of life in their neighborhoods and specific aspects of their neighborhoods (Figure 13). Overall, half of Flint residents were very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the quality of life in their neighborhood, but Black residents were significantly less satisfied with their neighborhoods than Whites and Latinos. Roughly two-thirds (65%) of Flint residents were very or somewhat satisfied with their access to public transportation, and just over half (56%) were very or somewhat satisfied with their public facilities such as libraries, recreation and community centers. On the other hand, many Flint residents were dissatisfied with the amount of crime (71% were very or somewhat dissatisfied) and the condition of houses (60% very or somewhat dissatisfied) in their neighborhoods.

Figure 13. Satisfaction with aspects of neighborhood life

