



Manhattan Institute
Survey of 4,000 adults across 20 MSAs (200 per MSA)
Fielded August 11–20, 2021
Online survey, sample from web panels

LANDSCAPE

Now, we would like to ask you some questions about the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area . . .

1. **[QDirection] All in all, do you think things in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel things are off on the wrong track?**
 1. Generally headed in the right direction 52%
 2. Off on the wrong track 32%
 3. Unsure 17%

2. **[QStayLeave] If you could live anywhere, would you prefer to . . . ? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**
 1. Stay in the [MAIN CITY] area 50%
 2. Move away from the [MAIN CITY] area 39%
 3. Unsure 12%

3. **[QUrbanPref] If you would live anywhere, in what type of area would you prefer to live?**
 1. City 32%
 2. Suburb near a city 38%
 3. Small town 17%
 4. Rural area 10%
 5. Unsure 3%

4. [Ratings Battery] How would you rate each of the following in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area today? [DISPLAY AS GRID OVER TWO PAGES] [RANDOMIZE A-I] [RANDOMIZE: FORM A SCALE 1-5, FORM B SCALE 5-1]

1. Very good 2. Good 3. Average 4. Poor 5. Very poor 6. Unsure

	VERY GOOD/GOOD	VERY POOR/POOR	1. Very good	2. Good	3. Average	4. Poor	5. Very Poor	6. Unsure
A. Overall quality of life	46%	18%	18%	28%	34%	12%	6%	2%
B. Economic conditions	37%	24%	14%	23%	36%	17%	8%	3%
C. Quality of public schools	37%	22%	15%	22%	34%	14%	8%	6%
D. Public safety and crime rates	33%	32%	13%	20%	32%	19%	14%	3%
E. Quality of roads and bridges	32%	30%	10%	22%	35%	19%	11%	2%
F. Public transportation (buses, subway, etc.)	32%	30%	11%	21%	32%	19%	11%	6%
G. Cost of living	27%	41%	11%	16%	29%	21%	20%	2%
H. Affordability of housing	25%	47%	10%	15%	26%	22%	25%	2%

5. [QCostLiving] Thinking about your personal financial circumstances, do you feel you are . . . ? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-3, 3-1]

1. Able to afford the cost of living in the [MAIN CITY] area and still have income to put into savings	40%
2. Barely able to afford the cost of living – don't have income to put into savings	37%
3. Not able to afford the cost of living in the [MAIN CITY] area	16%
4. Unsure	6%

6. [Problems Battery] How concerned are you, if at all, that the following are a problem in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area? [RANDOMIZE A-I]

1. Extremely concerned 2. Very concerned 3. Somewhat concerned 4. Not very concerned 5. Not at all concerned 5. Unsure

	EXTR./VERY	NOT AT ALL	1. Extremely concerned	2. Very concerned	3. Somewhat concerned	4. Not very concerned	5. Not at all concerned	5. Not at all concerned	6. Unsure
A. Cost of housing	64%	11%	36%	28%	22%	9%	3%	3%	
B. Homelessness	63%	11%	33%	30%	24%	8%	3%	3%	
C. Spread of COVID-19 infections	60%	16%	35%	24%	22%	10%	6%	3%	
D. Traffic	59%	13%	29%	30%	25%	10%	3%	2%	
E. Public safety and crime rates	58%	14%	30%	28%	25%	11%	3%	3%	
F. High taxes	57%	15%	29%	29%	24%	11%	4%	4%	
G. Lack of police presence	44%	27%	22%	22%	25%	19%	8%	4%	
H. Quality of local schools and curriculum	44%	22%	20%	24%	27%	16%	6%	7%	
I. Ability to find well-paying jobs	43%	23%	20%	22%	29%	15%	8%	4%	

PROSPERITY

7. **[QJobs] Thinking about the current job market in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area, would you say . . . ? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**
- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. There are plenty of good jobs available | 39% |
| 2. Good jobs are hard to find | 44% |
| 3. Unsure | 17% |
8. **[QImpJobFuture] How important are future job prospects and opportunities to you in deciding whether you want to continue living in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area or move somewhere else?**
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| VERY/SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT | 66% |
| NOT THAT/NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT | 28% |
| 1. Very important | 36% |
| 2. Somewhat important | 30% |
| 3. Not that important | 14% |
| 4. Not at all important | 13% |
| 5. Unsure | 6% |
9. **[QGetAhead] How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the opportunity for a person in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area to get ahead by working hard?**
- | | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| VERY/SOMEWHAT SATISFIED | 62% |
| VERY/SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED | 28% |
| 1. Very satisfied | 22% |
| 2. Somewhat satisfied | 40% |
| 3. Somewhat dissatisfied | 18% |
| 4. Very dissatisfied | 10% |
| 5. Unsure | 10% |
10. **[QSupportSmall] How supportive do you feel local government in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area is toward small businesses?**
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| VERY/SOMEWHAT SUPPORTIVE | 56% |
| NOT THAT/NOT AT ALL SUPPORTIVE | 30% |
| 1. Very supportive | 18% |
| 2. Somewhat supportive | 38% |
| 3. Not that supportive | 20% |
| 4. Not at all supportive | 10% |
| 5. Unsure | 14% |

DESIRABLE COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

11. [QPlaceChoice] What are the top two most important factors for you in choosing where to live? [SELECT TWO] [RANDOMIZE 1-12]

1. Cost of living	41%
2. Affordable housing	33%
3. Crime rates	25%
4. Being close to family	21%
5. Access to good jobs	17%
6. Ease of commuting	11%
7. Access to parks, nature, or outdoor recreation	10%
8. Access to good schools	9%
9. Access to good restaurants or shops	9%
10. Diversity and inclusivity	9%
11. Opportunity to get ahead	8%
12. Access to entertainment options (e.g. music venues, theaters)	5%
13. Something else (Please specify)	3%

12. [QPrefComm] Would you prefer to live in . . . ? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

1. A community where the homes are larger and farther apart, but schools, stores, and restaurants are a few miles away	52%
2. A community where the homes are smaller and closer to each other, but schools, stores, and restaurants are within walking distance	39%
3. Unsure	9%

13. [QHousPol Battery] People have proposed various ways of making more affordable housing options available. Would you support or oppose each of the following being done in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area? [RANDOMIZE A-C]

	1. Strongly support	2. Somewhat support	3. Somewhat oppose	4. Strongly oppose	5. Unsure				
	SUPPORT		OPPOSE		5. Unsure	1. Strongly support	2. Somewhat support	3. Somewhat oppose	4. Strongly oppose
A. Expediting and streamlining the approvals process so it is easier to begin building more housing	68%	20%	29%	38%	14%	6%	13%		
B. Allow more housing to be built near transit stops	66%	20%	28%	38%	14%	7%	14%		
C. Allow more backyard apartments to be built	55%	31%	24%	31%	18%	14%	14%		

14. [QHousingDebate] Thinking about the availability and affordability of housing in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area, which of the following statements do you agree with more? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Housing prices are high because there aren't enough homes available for rent or purchase, making it harder for working and middle-class people to afford a home. State and local governments need to make it easier to build more homes. | 30% |
| 2. There are homes available, but they're too expensive for working and middle-class people to rent or purchase. State and local governments need to subsidize building more affordable homes. | 55% |
| 3. Unsure | 15% |

EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITY

15. [Education Proposals] Would you support or oppose each of the following policy changes in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area? [RANDOMIZE A-C]

	1. Strongly support	2. Somewhat support	3. Somewhat oppose	4. Strongly oppose	5. Unsure		
	SUPPORT		OPPOSE		5. Unsure		
	1. Strongly support	2. Somewhat support	3. Somewhat oppose	4. Strongly oppose	5. Unsure		
A. Allow parents to choose which public school they would like to send their children to, regardless of their zip code, and have the funding for that student follow them to their school of choice	71%	18%	40%	31%	12%	6%	11%
B. Encourage more charter schools	57%	22%	26%	32%	13%	9%	21%
C. Remove lessons based on critical race theory about concepts such as white privilege and systemic racism from public school curriculum	54%	29%	34%	20%	11%	18%	16%

CRIME, POLICING, AND PUBLIC SAFETY

16. [QCrimeTrend] Do you think crime in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area is . . . ? [RANDOMIZE 1-5, 5-1]

INCREASING A LOT/SOME	60%
DECREASING A LOT/SOME	10%
1. Increasing a lot	30%
2. Increasing some	30%
3. Staying the same	23%
4. Decreasing some	7%
5. Decreasing a lot	3%
6. Unsure	7%

17. [QPoliceSafe] How much confidence do you have in the police in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area?

A GREAT DEAL/A FAIR AMOUNT	56%
JUST SOME/VERY LITTLE	38%
1. A great deal	21%
2. A fair amount	35%
3. Just some	23%
4. Very little	16%
5. Unsure	6%

18. [Policing Policies Support Battery] Would you support or oppose each of the following policy changes related to police departments in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area? [RANDOMIZE A-E]

	1. Strongly support	2. Somewhat support	3. Somewhat oppose	4. Strongly oppose	5. Unsure		
	SUPPORT		OPPOSE		5. Unsure		
	1. Strongly support	2. Somewhat support	3. Somewhat oppose	4. Strongly oppose	5. Unsure		
A. Establish more partnerships between local police and community groups to identify and address community concerns	82%	8%	47%	35%	6%	2%	10%
B. Recruit more police officers with college degrees, who research suggests are less likely to use physical force	74%	13%	39%	35%	9%	4%	13%
C. Empower police officers to be more responsive to quality-of-life issues in communities, such as graffiti, public urination, and littering	72%	16%	34%	39%	11%	5%	12%
D. Empower police officers to remove homeless encampments if the people living there are offered social services and housing in shelters	71%	16%	36%	35%	10%	7%	13%
E. Reduce the budget of the police department in your community, even if that means fewer police officers, if the money is shifted to programs related to mental health, housing, and education	39%	51%	19%	20%	16%	35%	10%

19. [QPolicePresence] Which would you prefer to see in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]

1. A larger police presence than currently exists	53%
2. A smaller police presence than currently exists	13%
3. No change	22%
4. Unsure	13%

DEMOGRAPHICS MODULE

Finally, we have some questions for statistical purposes.

20. [QEmployment] What is your current employment status?

1. Employed full-time	42%
2. Employed part-time	10%
3. Freelance, contract, temporary, or gig work	3%
4. Unemployed and looking for work	8%
5. Stay-at-home parent or caregiver	6%
6. Full-time student	4%
7. Retired	22%
8. Something else	3%
9. Prefer not to say	1%

21. [QHHmembers] Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household?

1. 1 (Only me)	21%
2. 2	32%
3. 3	18%
4. 4	17%
5. 5	8%
6. 6	3%
7. 7	1%
8. 8	*%
9. 9	*%
10. 10 or more	*%
11. Prefer not to say	1%

22. [QIncome] Which range includes your annual household income?

1. Less than \$30,000 per year	21%
2. \$30,000 to \$49,999 per year	19%
3. \$50,000 to \$74,999 per year	18%
4. \$75,000 to \$99,999 per year	14%
5. \$100,000 to \$149,999 per year	13%
6. \$150,000 to \$199,999 per year	5%
7. \$200,000 or more per year	5%
8. Prefer not to say	6%

23. [QHomeType] Which of the following describes the type of home you currently live in?

(Your primary residence)

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Single-family home that is detached from any other house | 60% |
| 2. Apartment or condo | 26% |
| 3. Single-family home that is attached to one or more houses (e.g. row house or townhome) | 8% |
| 4. Mobile home | 3% |
| 5. Hotel or motel | 1% |
| 6. Other (Please specify) | 1% |
| 7. Prefer not to say | 2% |

24. [QRentOwn] Do you own or rent your home? (Your primary residence)

- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Own | 58% |
| 2. Rent | 38% |
| 3. Prefer not to say | 4% |

25. [QTypical Transport] In a typical week, which one or two of the following forms of transportation do you most often use to get around in the [INSERT MAIN CITY] area? [SELECT UP TO TWO.] [RANDOMIZE 1-8]

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. My own car | 76% |
| 2. Walking | 24% |
| 3. Buses | 11% |
| 4. Subway or metro | 9% |
| 5. Rideshare services like Uber or Lyft | 8% |
| 6. Riding a bicycle | 4% |
| 7. Taxis | 3% |
| 8. Microtransit services like scooters | 1% |
| 9. Something else (Please specify) | 3% |

26. [QParent] Are you the parent or guardian of a child under the age of 18?

- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Yes | 30% |
| 2. No | 69% |
| 3. Prefer not to say | 1% |

27. [QParty] Regardless of how you typically vote, would you say you consider yourself a ... ? [RANDOMIZE ORDER 1-5, 5-1]

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| STRONG/NOT VERY STRONG REPUBLICAN | 24% |
| STRONG/NOT VERY STRONG DEMOCRAT | 41% |
| 1. Strong Republican | 15% |
| 2. Not very strong Republican | 8% |
| 3. Independent | 26% |
| 4. Not very strong Democrat | 13% |
| 5. Strong Democrat | 28% |
| 6. A member of another party | 1% |
| 7. Unsure | 8% |

IF INDEPENDENT OR UNSURE, ASK:

**28. [QPartyLean] Which of the following statements would you say best describes you?
[RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]**

	(n=1321)
TOTAL VOTES FOR REPUBLICANS	16%
TOTAL VOTES FOR DEMOCRATS	24%
1. I almost always vote for Republican candidates	5%
2. I vote for Republicans more often than I vote for Democrats	11%
3. I vote for Democrats more often than I vote for Republicans	15%
4. I almost always vote for Democratic candidates	9%
5. I vote equally for Democrats and Republicans	21%
6. Unsure	38%

Recode: QParty + QPartyLean

1. Total Republican+Republican- leaning Independents	29%
2. Total Democratic+Democratic- leaning Independents	50%
3. Total Independent	7%
4. Total Member of Another Party	1%
5. Unsure	13%

ASK ALL:

29. [QIdeology] Regardless of how you typically vote, would you say you consider yourself to be...? [RANDOMIZE ORDER 1-5, 5-1]

VERY/SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE	28%
VERY/SOMEWHAT LIBERAL	29%
1. Very conservative	14%
2. Somewhat conservative	14%
3. Moderate	36%
4. Somewhat liberal	14%
5. Very liberal	14%
6. Unsure	8%

SCREENERS AND INITIAL DEMOGRAPHICS (ASKED AT BEGINNING OF SURVEY)

30. [QAge] What is your age?

1. 18-29	21%
2. 30-39	21%
3. 40-49	15%
4. 50-64	23%
5. 65+	20%

31. [QState] Which state do you live in?

1. Cost of living	41%
2. Affordable housing	33%
3. Crime rates	25%
4. Being close to family	21%
5. Access to good jobs	17%
6. Ease of commuting	11%
7. Access to parks, nature, or outdoor recreation	10%
8. Access to good schools	9%
9. Access to good restaurants or shops	9%
10. Diversity and inclusivity	9%
11. Opportunity to get ahead	8%
12. Access to entertainment options (e.g. music venues, theaters)	5%
13. Something else (Please specify)	3%

32. [QZip] Please enter your 5-digit zip code:

[TEXT BOX] [TERMINATE IF ZIP CODE IS NOT IN MSA]

33. [QUrban] How would you describe the area where you live?

1. City	42%
2. Suburb near a city	47%
3. Small town	5%
4. Rural area	6%

34. [QIndustry] Do you or does anyone in your household work in any of the following industries? [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES] [RANDOMIZE 1-7]?

1. Technology		5%
2. Retail stores		6%
3. Healthcare or the pharmaceutical industry		8%
4. Journalism or the media	TERMINATE	-
5. Food service or the restaurant industry		6%
6. Market research	TERMINATE	-
7. Public relations	TERMINATE	-
8. None of these		79%

35. [QGender] Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or in some other way?

- | | |
|-------------------|-----|
| 1. Man | 48% |
| 2. Woman | 51% |
| 3. Some other way | *% |

36. [QRace] What is your race or ethnicity? You may choose any that apply to you. [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES] [RANDOMIZE 1-6]

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. White | 61% |
| 2. Black or African American | 14% |
| 3. Hispanic or Latino | 23% |
| 4. Asian | 9% |
| 5. Native American or Alaska Native | 1% |
| 6. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 1% |
| 7. Something else (Please specify) | 1% |

37. [QEducation] What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- | | |
|------------------------|-----|
| 1. High school or less | 34% |
| 2. Some college | 18% |
| 3. Associate degree | 11% |
| 4. Bachelor's degree | 23% |
| 5. Graduate degree | 14% |
| 6. Prefer not to say | 1% |

38. MSA WEIGHTED BY POPULATION SIZE

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Atlanta | 6% |
| 2. Austin | 2% |
| 3. Boston | 5% |
| 4. Charlotte | 2% |
| 5. Dallas-Fort Worth | 7% |
| 6. Denver | 3% |
| 7. Houston | 7% |
| 8. Las Vegas | 2% |
| 9. Los Angeles | 12% |
| 10. Miami | 6% |
| 11. Minneapolis | 3% |
| 12. New York City | 15% |
| 13. Orlando | 2% |
| 14. Phoenix | 5% |
| 15. Riverside - San Bernardino | 4% |
| 16. San Antonio | 2% |
| 17. San Francisco | 5% |
| 18. Seattle | 4% |
| 19. Tampa | 3% |
| 20. Washington D.C. | 6% |