

Social

SouthCoast Massachusetts

Social Capital
Community Benchmark Survey '09

Capital

Prepared for the
UMass Dartmouth Center
for Civic Engagement



CENTER FOR POLICY ANALYSIS
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
DARTMOUTH

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**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS DARTMOUTH
CENTER FOR POLICY ANALYSIS**

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David Borges, M.P.A., Public Administration
Senior Research Associate

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Research Assistant

Andrea Davis, Sociology
Assistant to the Director

ADJUNCT RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Paul Vigeant, M.A., Public Administration
SouthCoast Development Partnership

Correspondence and inquiries should be addressed to: Center for Policy Analysis, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, 285 Old Westport Road, North Dartmouth, Massachusetts 02747-2300 (telephone: 508-990-9660; fax: 508-999-8374).

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Author: David R. Borges, Assistant Director, Center for Policy Analysis

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Coinciding with the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth's recently formed School of Education, Public Policy and Civic Engagement (SEPPCE), the UMass Dartmouth Center for Policy Analysis, with support from the Center for Civic Engagement and the Office of Community Service and Partnerships, undertook the first ever analysis of social capital in the SouthCoast. The initiative arises from the work of the Saguaro Seminar at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, which was founded to "increase Americans' connectedness to one another and to community institutions."

The decline in social capital and civic engagement in communities throughout the United States is well documented, particularly by Robert Putnam in *Bowling Alone: Collapse and Revival of the American Community*. The issue of eroding social capital is salient, since a growing body of research shows that communities with higher levels of social capital have higher levels of educational achievement, better performing governments, stronger economies, and less crime and violence. People in these communities also report to be happier, healthier, and live longer. However, the SouthCoast lags behind the state and nation in many of these measures; despite business and housing costs that are some of the lowest in the state, the SouthCoast has been less able to capitalize on the state's general prosperity than other regions because it is still plagued by low education and income levels, higher crime rates, a poor external image, and its relative isolation from much of the state.

In March of 2009, the Center for Policy Analysis conducted 606 telephone interviews with SouthCoast residents to assess key dimensions of social capital. These dimensions include civic leadership, faith-based engagement, giving and volunteering, informal socializing, political participation/political confidence, and social trust. The goal of the survey is to provide baseline data that measures the level of social capital in the region. It is hoped that the project will stimulate discussion among community leaders and SouthCoast residents about strategies that can be employed to build social capital within our communities. In addition, the survey will be conducted annually or bi-annually so that trends can be analyzed and strategies refined over time.

The survey includes twenty-one measures that are directly comparable to national results. The data show that SouthCoast respondents score higher than the national average on only three of the twenty-one social capital measures and score equal to national respondents on two measures:

- percentage who have had friends of a different race in their home (73% SouthCoast, 67% national),
- percentage registered to vote (87% SouthCoast, 81% national),
- percentage who have attended a political rally (23% SouthCoast, 18% national),
- percentage who have attended an organizational meeting (45% SouthCoast, 45% national), and
- percentage who have had friends over (91% SouthCoast, 91% national).

SouthCoast respondents trail national respondents most significantly on these measures:

- percentage who attended a public meeting where a discussion of towns or schools took place (44% national, 23% SouthCoast),
- frequency that respondent attends religious services at least almost every week (48% national, 35% in the SouthCoast),
- percentage who agree that people can be trusted (44% national, 32% SouthCoast),
- percentage who trust people in their neighborhood "a lot" (46% national, 34% SouthCoast), and
- percentage who have volunteered (64% national, 53% SouthCoast).

Results by Dimension

The social capital measures are indexed into six dimensions, each of which represents a broader component of social capital: Civic Leadership, Faith-Based Engagement, Giving and Volunteering, Informal Socializing, Political Participation/Political Confidence, and Social and Inter-Racial Trust.

- Respondents report higher levels of Informal Socializing (e.g. had friends over, was in the home of a community leader) than respondents nationally, yet they report lower levels of Social Trust, particularly levels of trust in the people in their neighborhood and trust in people overall. In fact, the SouthCoast ranks lower than the national average on each of the seven trust measures.
- The SouthCoast reports lower levels of Giving and Volunteering in comparison to respondents nationally in terms of the percentage who have worked on a community project, volunteered, and donated blood.
- While SouthCoast respondents report high levels of Political Participation in terms of rates of voter registration, (87% SouthCoast vs. 81% national), both SouthCoast and national respondents report low levels of Political Confidence in national and local government. For example, only 4 percent of SouthCoast respondents trust the national or local government to do what is right “just about always.”
- Respondents have lower levels of Faith-Based Engagement in comparison to respondents nationally in terms of the frequency that they attend religious services; 35 percent of SouthCoast respondents attend religious services at least almost every week, compared to 48 percent nationally. Conversely, 35 percent of SouthCoast respondents attend religious services less than a few times per year or never, compared to only 14 percent nationally.
- Respondents report lower levels of Civic Leadership in comparison to respondents nationally, particularly in terms of the percentage who have attended a public meeting in the past 12 months (23% in the SouthCoast versus 44% nationally) and the percentage of respondents who have served as an officer of a club or organization (16 percent in the SouthCoast and 24 percent nationally).

Level of Social Capital by Dimension

The report includes a more detailed analysis of each of the six social capital dimensions. Within each dimension, respondents are categorized as having three levels of social capital: low, moderate, and high. Overall, respondents exhibit the highest levels of social capital in terms of Faith-Based Engagement (35% high level), followed by Giving and Volunteering (24% high level), Informal Socializing (19% high level), Political Participation/Political Confidence (11% high level) and Social and Inter-Racial Trust (11% high level), and Civic Leadership (7% high level).

Dimension	Level of Social Capital		
	Low	Moderate	High
Civic Leadership	69%	24%	7%
Faith Based Engagement	52%	13%	35%
Giving and Volunteering	50%	26%	24%
Informal Socializing	31%	50%	19%
Political Participation/Political Confidence	39%	50%	11%
Social and Inter-Racial Trust	71%	17%	11%

There are significant differences between levels of social capital and a respondent's demographic background. For example:

Age

- There is a direct relationship between age and 4 of the 6 social capital dimensions; respondents in older age cohorts have higher levels of Civic Leadership, Faith-Based Engagement, Informal Socializing, and Social and Inter-Racial Trust.

Income

- Overall, income is one of the primary determinants of a respondent having a high level of social capital, with respondents in higher income brackets reporting higher levels of social capital in all 6 social dimensions.

Education

- Education is also one of the primary determinants of a respondent having a high level of social capital, with college educated respondents reporting higher levels of social capital in all 6 social dimensions in comparison to respondents without a degree. For example, the percentage of college educated respondents who have high levels of Civic Leadership is five times that of respondents with a high school diploma or less.

Race

- Nearly twice the percentage of non-white respondents have high levels of Informal Socializing in comparison to white respondents, although the percentage of white respondents who have high levels of Social and Inter-Racial Trust is more than three times that of non-white respondents.
- A higher percentage of non-white respondents have low levels of Political Participation/Political Confidence in comparison to non-white respondents.

City/Town

- Generally, respondents who live in the region's suburban areas have higher levels of social capital in comparison to respondents who live in Fall River and New Bedford, particularly in terms of Civic Leadership, Giving and Volunteering, Political Participation/Political Confidence, and Social Trust. This is likely due to residents having higher levels of education and income in those areas.

Health and Happiness

Respondents with higher levels of social capital report being happier and having better overall health than respondents with lower levels of social capital. For example,

- Respondents with high levels of Civic Leadership, Giving and Volunteering, Political Participation/Political Confidence, and Social Trust report better health and higher levels of happiness in comparison to respondents with low or moderate levels. Conversely, respondents with a low level of Informal Socializing report poorer health than do respondents with moderate or high levels of Informal Socializing.

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1.00 INTRODUCTION

Coinciding with the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth's recently formed School of Education, Public Policy and Civic Engagement (SEPPCE), the UMass Dartmouth Center for Policy Analysis, with support from the Center for Civic Engagement and the Office of Community Service and Partnerships, undertook the first ever analysis of social capital in the SouthCoast. The initiative arises from the work of the *Saguaro Seminar: Civic Engagement in America* project at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, which was founded to "increase Americans' connectedness to one another and to community institutions."¹

In 2000, approximately three dozen community foundations from across America joined the Saguaro Seminar and a Scientific Advisory Committee to develop the Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey. First conducted in 2000 and again in 2006, the survey is the largest ever conducted to measure levels of civic engagement and social capital in America.² The 2000 survey included a national sample of 3,000 respondents and a representative sample of 26,200 individuals in 40 communities nationwide. Approximately 12,100 respondents were interviewed in 2006.

1.10 *What is Social Capital?*

There is no single definition of social capital. Generally, the definition of social capital is a product of the discipline, study level, and context of the research (Robinson 2000). However, many definitions are based on the principle that social capital includes networks that people can draw upon to solve common problems or that produce some benefit. The Saguaro Seminar, which provides the framework for this report, defines social capital as the collective value of all "social networks" (who people know) and the inclinations that arise from these networks to do things for each other ("norms of reciprocity") with the premise that strong social networks have value.

Examples of measures of social capital might include activities that involve political participation such as attendance at public meetings, voting, interest in politics and national affairs, and attending a political rally. Or social capital might include community activities such as a neighborhood sponsored block party. Social capital might also include the strength of connections between people, such as one's general trust in people and trust in various groups such as neighbors, the police, and individuals from different racial and ethnic backgrounds. Whatever the example, the basic premise of social capital is that these connections are good for our communities and the people who live in them.

¹ Saguaro (pronounced sah-WAH-ro) is a cactus that grows in the Sonora desert in the Southwestern United States.

² See <http://www.hks.harvard.edu/saguaro/>



1.20 Why Measure Social Capital?

A growing body of research shows that communities with higher levels of social capital have higher levels of educational achievement, better performing governments, stronger economies, and less crime and violence. People in these communities also report to be happier, healthier and live longer. However, many measures of social capital are in decline. Consider these facts from the Saguaro Seminar:

- Family dinners and family vacations or even just sitting and talking with your family are down by one third in last 25 years.
- Having friends over to the house is down by 45 percent over last 25 years.
- Participation in clubs and civic organizations has been cut by more than half over last 25 years.
- Involvement in community life, such as public meetings is down by 35 percent over last 25 years.
- Church attendance is down by roughly one third since the 1960s.
- Philanthropy as a percentage of income is down by nearly one third since the 1960s.

Where are we in terms of the level of social capital in the SouthCoast? How strong are our community connections? How do we compare to national averages? As a benchmark survey, this is the first attempt at measuring the region's social capital. The results will provide baseline data that draws a clearer picture of the level of social capital in the region and will provide community leaders with a tool to aid the development of strategies that strengthen social capital in the SouthCoast. In addition, the survey will be conducted annually or bi-annually so that trends can be analyzed and strategies developed and refined over time.

2.00 METHODOLOGY

A total of 606 telephone interviews were conducted with SouthCoast households from March 23, 2009 through March 29, 2009, which provides an overall margin of error of +/- 4.0 percent for the complete set of data.³ Interviews were conducted between 9:00 am and 8:00 pm on weekdays and 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. This range of hours provides the interviewers with an opportunity to contact hard to reach respondents, a procedure crucial to producing high quality survey data. Return calls were scheduled at the convenience of the respondents. Respondents were called a minimum of ten times before they were determined to be unreachable. Spanish speaking interviewers were also available to administer the survey to respondents who speak that language.

The Center's senior staff continually monitored the progress of interview outcomes to prevent problem cases that could interfere with the integrity of survey procedures. The survey procedures used by the Center for Policy Analysis adhere to the highest quality academic and government research standards. Spanish speakers were available to administer the survey to respondents who speak that language.

³ The margin of error is +/- 4.0 percent at the 95% confidence interval. This means that if a question from the survey was asked 100 times, 95 of those times the percentage of people giving a particular answer to the question would be within 4.0 points of the percentage who gave the same answer in this poll. However, the number of responses is lower for some questions, thus the margin of error is higher in those instances.



2.10 Survey Questionnaire

The telephone survey was conducted using the “short-form” survey from the Saguaro Seminar, which consists of a smaller subset of questions from the Seminar’s long-form survey. The decision to use the shorter questionnaire was made because of budget constraints; the long-form survey takes approximately 25 minutes to administer, compared to ten minutes or less for the short-form survey. However, the goal is to administer the long-form survey in the future if budgets allow.⁴

2.20 Sampling Procedures

The Center for Policy Analysis uses the Genesys Sampling System from Marketing Systems Group to generate random telephone numbers. The system uses a list of all possible telephone numbers in the United States to randomly generate a telephone sample for a designated geographic area. The survey was conducted using a random digit dialing (RDD) sample of the SouthCoast. The RDD sample ensures an equal and known probability of selection for every residential telephone number in the sample frame. More about RDD samples from Marketing Systems Group can be found at <http://www.genesys-sampling.com>.

2.30 Survey Administration

The Center for Policy Analysis uses Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing, or CATI, to conduct telephone surveys. Specifically, the Center for Policy Analysis uses WinCATI software from Sawtooth Technologies, which is one of the oldest and most widely used CATI systems in the world. Using WinCATI, telephone interviewers conduct interviews via computers, which provides highly reliable data because the computer controls the questionnaire, skip patterns are executed exactly as intended, responses are within range, and there are no missing data.

The survey questionnaire was tested in WinCATI to determine if there were any errors. In addition, twenty test interviews were conducted with SouthCoast residents before the project began to further vet the survey questionnaire.

2.40 Telephone Interviewer Training and Supervision

Student research assistants, graduate students, and Center staff were employed as telephone interviewers. The majority of these interviewers have conducted numerous telephone polls on behalf of the Center and all have been trained intensively, including practice interviews. Senior-level staff at the Center for Policy Analysis monitored the interviewers at all times to ensure high quality data collection.

⁴ The Center for Policy Analysis also made some small changes to the short-form survey. A copy of the survey instrument can be found in Appendix A.

2.50 Analysis of Results

The data was weighted to account for sampling bias. Sampling bias is defined as the tendency of a sample to exclude some members of the sampling universe and over-represent others. In this sample, females and older respondents are over-represented. Weighting the data allocates more “weight” to groups that are under-represented (e.g. younger males), while providing less weight to groups that are over-represented (e.g. older females). In other words, weighting adjusts the sample so that it looks more like the actual population of the SouthCoast as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau (2000). All data in this report have been weighted to adjust for sex and age, although the actual difference between the unweighted and weighted samples are generally within 3 percentage points for nearly all of the survey questions.

2.60 Data Limitations

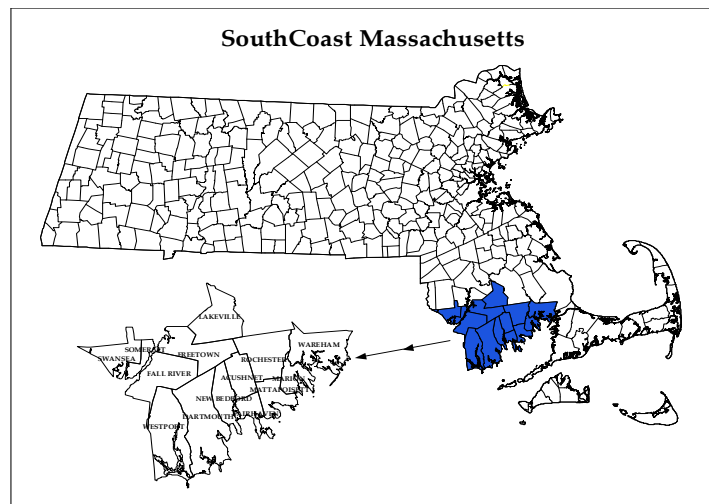
Comparisons to national data are made where available, although there are some limitations when comparing SouthCoast data to national figures due to differences in methodology. These limitations include, but are not limited to, the number of attempts made to reach respondents by telephone, the number of attempts to convert refusals, the length of the survey, the number of days over which the survey was fielded, differences in the questionnaires, and the length of time that the survey was fielded.

Importantly, this project reports descriptive statistics such as basic frequencies, means, and crosstabulations. Additional analysis, such as regressions and factor analysis were not conducted, although these types of analyses will be considered for future reports. The report also does not make recommendations or analyze the implications of the data. The purpose of this report is to stimulate discussion among community leaders with the intention that recommendations and strategies will be developed from “the bottom up.”

3.00 SOUTHCOAST MASSACHUSETTS – THE DATA IN CONTEXT

Measuring social capital in the SouthCoast should be made with a contextual understanding of the geographic, economic, education, and employment characteristics of the region. The Massachusetts SouthCoast consists of the cities of Fall River and New Bedford, and the towns of Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Lakeville, Marion, Mattapoisett, Rochester, Somerset, Swansea, Wareham, and Westport. The region occupies 391 square miles and has a population of 345,610 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000). The region's two cities account for over one-half (53.7%) of the region's population.

The population statewide is slightly more diverse than in the SouthCoast; more than eighty-five percent of SouthCoast residents (85.4%) indicate that they are non-Hispanic white, compared to 77.8 percent of residents statewide, although the region's cities are experiencing a recent and large influx of African Americans, Southeast Asians, and Hispanics.



The SouthCoast's economic base has been historically dependent on manufacturing jobs located in the cities and, consequently, its economy has been extremely volatile with wide fluctuations in unemployment levels between peaks and troughs of the business cycle. Average unemployment rates in the region are historically higher than the statewide average throughout the business cycle and much of the difference is driven by high unemployment rates in Fall River and New Bedford. While the region's unemployment rate declined steadily during the 1990s and was slowly closing the gap with the statewide unemployment rate, the recent economic downturn has reversed that trend.

Despite business and housing costs that are lower than the Boston metro area, the SouthCoast has been less able to capitalize on the state's general prosperity than other regions because it is still plagued by low educational attainment levels, a poor external image, and its relative isolation from much of the state. While employers often compliment the region's workforce for its dedication and motivation, much of the SouthCoast's labor force consists of low skilled workers with low levels of educational attainment. This is especially true in

Fall River and New Bedford, although many of the region's suburban towns have educational attainment levels that are below state averages.

Table 1

Education, Income, and Employment		
	SouthCoast	Massachusetts
Educational Attainment (2000)		
No Diploma	32.4%	15.2%
H.S. Diploma	67.6%	84.8%
Bachelor's +	16.4%	33.2%
Drop-Out Rate (2008)		
4-Year Dropout rate	17.5%	9.9%
Income (1999)		
Per Capita	\$19,498	\$25,952
Poverty		
Below Poverty Level (2000)	10.1%	6.7%
Children Below Poverty Level (2007)	38.3%	28.9%
Employment		
Annual Unemployment Rate, 2008	7.8%	5.3%

4.00 SUMMARY OF RESULTS

4.10 Social Capital Dimensions

The Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey includes dozens of social capital measures that the Saguaro Seminar groups into 11 dimensions, each of which measures a broader component of social capital. These dimensions include two measures of “social trust,” two measures of political participation, two measures of civic leadership and associational involvement, a measure of giving and volunteering, a measure of faith-based engagement, a measure of informal social ties, a measure of the diversity of people’s friendships, and a measure of the equality of civic engagement at the community level.⁵ For example, measures of social trust (e.g. trust in police, trust in the people in your neighborhood, etc.) can be indexed into one dimension that measures a person’s overall level of social trust.

The short-form survey used in this report includes fewer measures of social capital than the long-form questionnaire, although these measures can be grouped into six of the dimensions developed by the Saguaro Seminar (see Table 2).⁶

Table 2

Dimension and Variable Name	Measure
Civic Leadership	
PUBMEET	Attended a public meeting w/ discussion of town or schools
ORGMTNG	Attended a club or organizational meeting
OFFICER	Served as officer or on committee of club/organization
Faith Based Engagement	
RELATEND	Frequency respondent attends religious services
Giving and Volunteering	
PROJECT	Worked on a community project
BLOOD	Donated blood
VOLITM	Volunteered
GIVE	Amount given to religious and secular causes
Informal Socializing	
FRDRAC	In home of friend of different race/had them in your home
FRDVIS	Had friends over
FRDXNEI	In home of someone of different neighborhood/had them in your home
LDRHOM	In home of community leader/had them in your home
Political Participation/Political Confidence	
POLINT	Interest in politics and national affairs
REGVOTE	Registered to vote
RALLY	Attended a political rally
TGNAT	How often trust national government to do what's right
TGLOC	How often trust local government to do what's right
Social and Inter-Racial Trust	
TRUST	Generally can most people be trusted
TRWHT	Trust whites
TRBLK	Trust African Americans or blacks
TRHISP	Trust Hispanics
TRCOP	Trust police
TRSHOP	Trust people where you shop
TRNEI	Trust people in your neighborhood

⁵ See <http://www.hks.harvard.edu/saguaro/communitysurvey/results5.html> for a more detailed description of these dimensions.

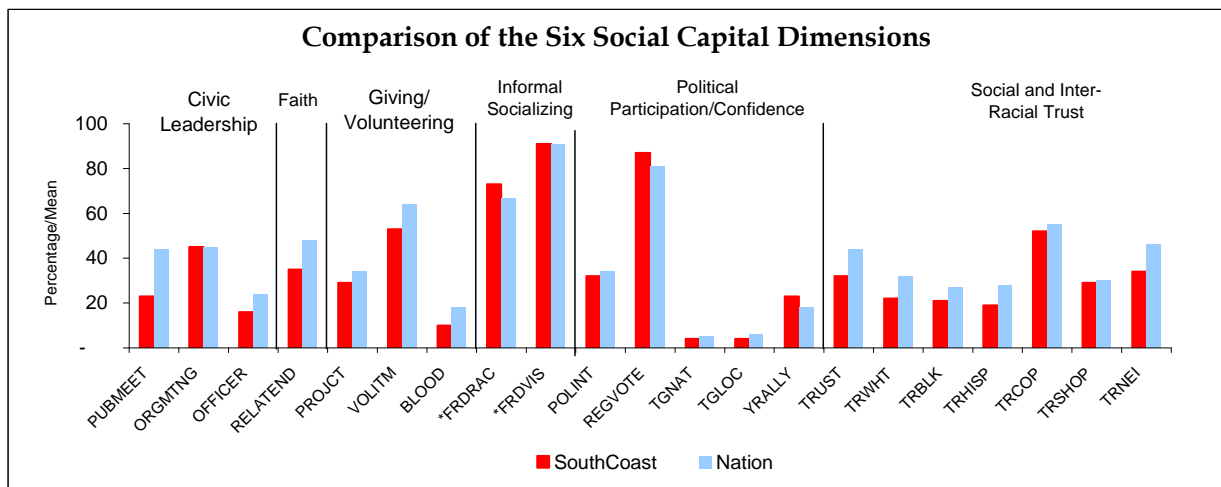
⁶ The measures included in each dimension do not perfectly align with those of the Saguaro Seminar.

4.20 Comparison to National Results

Figure 1 compares SouthCoast results with data from the national Social Capital Survey Benchmark Survey conducted in 2006.⁷ These results are grouped by the six social capital dimensions explained in Table 2 and include respondents who provided the highest possible social capital response to each question.⁸ The data show that SouthCoast respondents report higher levels on three of the twenty-one social capital measures in comparison to respondents nationally, while they report equal levels on two of the measures.⁹

- Respondents report higher levels of Informal Socializing (e.g. had friends over, was in the home of a community leader) than respondents nationally, yet they report lower levels of Social Trust, particularly levels of trust in the people in their neighborhood and trust in people overall. In fact, the SouthCoast ranks lower than the national average on each of the seven trust measures.
- The SouthCoast reports lower levels of Giving and Volunteering in comparison to respondents nationally in terms of the percentage who have worked on community project, volunteered, and donated blood.
- While SouthCoast respondents report higher levels of Political Participation in terms of voter registration and the percentage who have attended a political rally, both SouthCoast and national respondents have low levels of Political Confidence in terms of their level of trust in national and local government.
- SouthCoast respondents have lower levels of Faith-Based Engagement than respondents nationally in terms of the frequency that they attend religious services.
- The SouthCoast has lower levels of Civic Leadership in comparison to respondents nationally, particularly the percentage of respondents who have attended a public meeting in the past 12 months.

Figure 1



⁷ The national data includes 40 sites throughout the United States that represent a wide range of geographic areas and includes both urban and suburban communities.

⁸ See Appendix C for detailed data and dimension definitions.

⁹ Not all short form questions were asked nationally. The chart includes only those variables where both SouthCoast and national data is available.

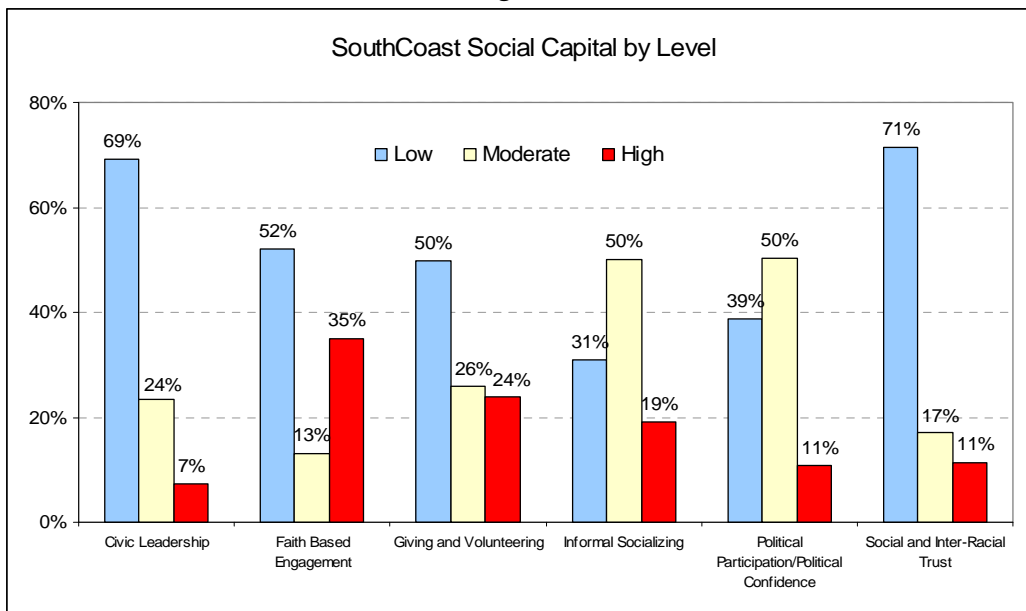


5.00 LEVEL OF SOCIAL CAPITAL BY DIMENSION

This section presents a more detailed analysis of each of the six social capital dimensions. Within each dimension, respondents are categorized as having three levels of social capital: low, moderate, and high. These levels are based on the number of measures to which a respondent meets the highest level of social capital within each dimension.¹⁰ For example, a respondent who fits the highest social capital level in 6 of the 7 social trust variables (e.g. agrees people can be trusted, trusts police and people in neighborhood “a lot”) is defined as having a “high” level of social capital, while a respondent who meets the highest social capital level in 2 or less social trust measures is classified as having a “low” level of social capital.¹¹

Overall, respondents report the highest levels of social capital in terms of Faith-Based Engagement (35% high level), followed by Giving and Volunteering (24% high level), Informal Socializing (19% high level), Political Participation/Political Confidence (11% high level) and Social and Inter-Racial Trust (11% high level), and civic leadership (7% high level) (see Figure 2).¹²

Figure 2



Sections 5.10 through 5.60 present a more detailed examination of each of the six social capital dimensions. The analysis includes a summary of the data followed by more specific analysis of social capital levels by various demographic variables and outcomes.

¹⁰ A similar methodology was used by the Institute for Policy Research, University of Cincinnati in “Social Capital in Greater Cincinnati, Building on Trust, Reciprocity, and Cooperation.” The Greater Cincinnati Foundation. (See <http://www.greatercincinnati.org/index.cfm>).

¹¹ An explanation of the methodology used to categorize respondents into one of these three groups can be found in Appendix D.

¹² Comparisons to national data are not available because the national data includes measures from the long-form survey.

5.10 Civic Leadership

Participation in civic institutions is considered important because it provides a sense of membership in the democratic community and a sense of personal satisfaction. By participating in a diverse array of civic institutions, citizens contribute to building a healthy civil society, while directly influencing the goals, values, and resource allocations of their communities. Civic participation is also an educational process that teaches the civic virtues of a democratic society (e.g., freedom of press, speech, lawful assembly, rule by law, rotation in office, etc.).

Statistics show that Americans are less and less likely to participate in the private institutions of civil society, which provide the foundation for community interaction and political participation. For example, fewer than a third (32%) of all Americans report being active in an organization involved in solving community problems, while even fewer (30%) report having worked with others to solve a community problem. Only 20 percent of U.S. citizens have ever contacted a local government official and only 19 percent have attended a political meeting during the last three years (U.S. Census Bureau, Statistical Abstract of the United States 2004).

5.11 SUMMARY DATA

The short-form Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey includes 3 civic leadership measures:

- Attendance at a public meeting in which there was discussion of town or school affairs in the past 12 months.
- Attendance at a club or organizational meeting in the past 12 months.
- Served as an officer or on a committee of a club or organization in the past 12 months.

Overall, respondents nationally have higher levels of civic leadership in comparison to SouthCoast respondents. For example, while equal percentages of SouthCoast and national respondents have attended a club or organizational meeting in the past 12 months (45%), nearly twice the percentage of respondents nationally have attended a public meeting in the past 12 months (44% vs. 23%). In addition, 24 percent of respondents nationally have served as an officer on a committee of a club or organization, in comparison to 16 percent of SouthCoast respondents (see Table 3).

Table 3

Measure	% Who Participated in Activity	
	SouthCoast	National
Attended club/organizational meeting	45%	45%
Attended a public meeting	23%	44%
Served as officer or on committee of club/organization	16%	24%

5.12 CIVIC LEADERSHIP BY DEMOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

Table 4 explores differences between levels of civic leadership and a respondent’s demographic background.

- There is a direct relationship between civic leadership and age; respondents in older age cohorts have higher levels of civic leadership in comparison to respondents in younger age cohorts, although civic leadership levels are relatively low at all age levels.
- The percentage of college educated respondents who have high levels of civic leadership is five times that of respondents with a high school diploma or less. Conversely, respondents with a high school diploma or no diploma are nearly twice as likely to have a low level of civic leadership in comparison to respondents with a college degree.
- There is a direct relationship between income and level of civic leadership; respondents with higher incomes have higher levels of civic leadership in comparison to respondents in lower income groups.
- Respondents who live in the region’s towns have higher levels of civic leadership in comparison to respondents who live in Fall River and New Bedford.
- Respondents who are married have higher levels of civic leadership in comparison to respondents who are not married.

Table 4

	Low	Moderate	High	Sample Size
Total	69%	24%	7%	606
Sex				
Male	71%	23%	6%	278
Female	68%	24%	8%	328
*Age				
18-34	77%	19%	4%	173
35-49	64%	30%	6%	171
50-64	66%	23%	10%	116
65+	68%	21%	11%	131
*Education				
<= HS	82%	15%	3%	277
Some College	76%	20%	4%	123
College Degree	47%	38%	15%	199
**Race				
White	68%	24%	8%	477
Non-White	74%	21%	5%	116
*Income				
<30K	86%	13%	1%	217
30K-75K	64%	28%	8%	167
>75K	55%	29%	16%	140
*City/Town				
FR/NB	78%	19%	3%	337
Towns	59%	29%	13%	270
*Marital Status				
Married	63%	27%	11%	287
Not Married	75%	21%	4%	310

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.

** Throughout this report, non-white respondents include those who identified themselves as Hispanic, African American/Black, Asian, Pacific Islander, American Indian, or some other race.



5.13 CIVIC LEADERSHIP BY LEVELS OF HAPPINESS, HEALTH, AND TELEVISION VIEWING

As noted earlier, research shows that communities with higher levels of social capital have respondents with higher levels of health and happiness. To measure the effect to which this applies to the SouthCoast, the survey asked respondents to rate their overall levels of happiness and health. The survey also included a question that asked respondents if television is their primary form of entertainment, with the hypothesis that respondents who watch more television may be more socially isolated and therefore have lower levels of social capital.

- Respondents with high levels of civic leadership report better health in comparison to respondents with low or moderate levels of civic leadership.
- A lower percentage of respondents with moderate levels of civic engagement report that television is their primary form of entertainment in comparison to respondents with low and high levels of civic leadership.
- Similarly, respondents with high levels of civic leadership report higher levels of happiness in comparison to respondents with lower levels of civic leadership, although most respondents report high levels of happiness.

Table 5

Measure	Scale			Sample Size
*Describe Overall Health	Excellent/Very Good	Good	Fair/Poor	
Low	43%	30%	28%	417
Moderate	49%	38%	13%	142
High	64%	30%	7%	44
*Television is Primary Form of Entertainment	Agree	Neither/Depends	Disagree	
Low	Strongly/Somewhat	3%	Some/Strongly	415
Moderate	66%	8%	43%	141
High	50%	2%	36%	44
Level of Happiness	Very Happy/Happy	Not Very Happy/Not Happy at All		
Low	86%	14%		417
Moderate	91%	9%		140
High	93%	7%		44

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.

5.20 Faith-Based Engagement

Faith-based involvement is an important component of civic life for many Americans. Religion has the ability to bring people together but also to expose fundamental differences in beliefs and lifestyles. Involvement in faith-based organizations is strongly associated with charity and civic participation, most notably volunteering. Additionally, religiously engaged people are more likely than religiously disengaged people to vote, to be more active in community issues, to donate blood, to trust other people, to be aware of public officials and to socialize with friends and neighbors.¹³

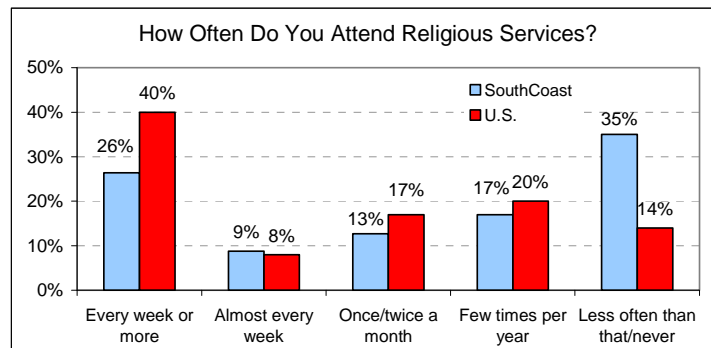
5.21 SUMMARY DATA

The Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey includes one faith-based engagement measure:

- Frequency that respondent attends religious services

Respondents in the SouthCoast attend religious services less frequently than do respondents nationally. For example, 35 percent of SouthCoast respondents attend religious services less than a few times per year or never, compared to 14 percent nationally. Conversely, 26 percent of SouthCoast respondents attend religious services every week or more, compared to 40 percent nationally. (see Figure 3).

Figure 3



¹³ See http://www.cfsv.org/communitysurvey/results_pr.html.

5.22 LEVEL OF FAITH-BASED ENGAGEMENT BY DEMOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

Table 6 explores differences between levels of faith-based engagement and a respondent's demographic background.

- Overall, women display higher levels of faith-based engagement than men.
- There is a direct relationship between faith-based engagement and age; respondents in older age cohorts have higher levels of faith-based engagement in comparison to respondents in younger age cohorts.
- Respondents with college degrees have higher levels of faith-based engagement in comparison to respondents who do not have a college degree.
- Respondents with annual household incomes between \$30,000 and \$75,000 have higher levels of faith-based engagement in comparison to respondents in other income brackets.
- Respondents who are married have higher levels of faith-based engagement in comparison to respondents who are not married.

Table 6

	Low	Moderate	High	Sample Size
Total	52%	13%	35%	
*Sex				
Male	59%	12%	29%	274
Female	46%	14%	40%	327
*Age				
18-34	66%	13%	21%	174
35-49	54%	17%	29%	168
50-64	51%	9%	40%	116
65+	32%	9%	59%	132
*Education				
<= HS	55%	11%	34%	273
Some College	58%	13%	29%	122
College Degree	43%	15%	42%	198
Race				
White	51%	12%	37%	474
Non-White	56%	15%	29%	116
*Income				
<30K	58%	10%	32%	216
30K-75K	45%	15%	40%	168
>75K	56%	14%	30%	140
City/Town				
FR/NB	54%	12%	34%	332
Towns	50%	14%	36%	268
*Marital Status				
Married	47%	13%	40%	286
Not Married	57%	12%	30%	306

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.



5.23 FAITH-BASED ENGAGEMENT BY LEVELS OF HAPPINESS, HEALTH, AND TELEVISION VIEWING

- There are no direct relationships between faith-based engagement and levels of health and happiness, although respondents with moderate levels of faith-based engagement report lower levels of fair/poor health and are somewhat happier than respondents who report low levels of faith-based engagement.

Table 7

Measure	Scale			Sample Size
*Describe Overall Health	Excellent/Very Good	Good	Fair/Poor	
Low	45%	31%	24%	312
Moderate	45%	39%	16%	76
High	47%	30%	23%	211
*Television is Primary Form of Entertainment	Agree Strongly/Somewhat	Neither/Depends	Disagree Some/Strongly	
Low	64%	4%	32%	311
Moderate	54%	7%	40%	76
High	61%	3%	36%	211
Level of Happiness	Very Happy/Happy	Not Very Happy/Not Happy at All		
Low	85%	15%		311
Moderate	93%	6%		76
High	90%	10%		211

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.

5.30 Giving and Volunteering

Charitable giving is important in that it affects the ability of the region's non-profits and religious organizations to provide services, while it also bolsters the self worth of those who donate. According to Giving USA, a publication of the American Association of Fundraising Counsel Trust for Philanthropy, Americans gave an estimated \$306.69 billion to charities in 2007, a 1 percent increase when adjusted for inflation from 2006 (Giving USA Foundation 2008). Individual donors account for 75 percent of the total. The largest amount of the donations, \$102.32 billion or 33 percent, went to religious organizations. The second largest slice, \$43.32 billion or 9 percent, went to education, including gifts to colleges, universities and libraries. Organizations that provide services to the needy received 9.2 percent of total estimated giving, or about \$29.64 billion.

Volunteering is an important component of civic participation that brings people together for the good of the community. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that about 61.8 million people, or 26.4 percent of the population, volunteered through or for an organization at least once between September 2007 and September 2008. Both the level and rate of volunteering were essentially unchanged from the prior year.

5.31 SUMMARY DATA

The Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey includes four giving and volunteering measures:

- Worked on a community project in the past 12 months.
- Donated blood in past 12 months.
- Volunteered in the past 12 months.
- Amount donated to religious and secular causes.

A majority of SouthCoast respondents (53%) report that they have volunteered at least once in the past 12 months, which compares to 64 percent of respondents nationally (see Table 8). This result is similar to data obtained by the Center for Policy Analysis' SouthCoast Signals survey, which reports that 48.4 percent of SouthCoast respondents have volunteered in the past 12 months (2007).¹⁴ In addition, higher percentages of respondents nationally have worked on a community project (34% versus 29%) and donated blood (18% versus 10%) in comparison to respondents in the SouthCoast.

Table 8

Measure	% Who Participated in Activity	
	SouthCoast	National
Volunteered	53%	64%
Worked on a community project	29%	34%
Donated blood	10%	18%

¹⁴ The SouthCoast Signals project, which has been conducted by the Center for Policy Analysis annually since 2002, measures a variety of social, economic, educational, and environmental indicators in the SouthCoast. See <http://www.umassd.edu/cfpa/signals.cfm>.

5.32 GIVING AND VOLUNTEERING BY DEMOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

Table 9 explores differences between levels of giving and volunteering and a respondent's demographic background.

- A greater percentage of women have a high level of giving and volunteering in comparison to men, although this result is not statistically significant.
- There is a direct relationship between levels of giving and volunteering and education; the higher a respondent's education, the higher their level of giving and volunteering. This relationship also extends to income.
- Levels of giving and volunteering among age cohorts is mixed, with respondents in the 18 to 34 age cohort having the highest percentage of respondents with low levels of giving and volunteering and respondents in the 50 to 64 age cohort having the highest percentage of respondents with high levels of giving and volunteering.
- Suburban respondents have higher levels of giving and volunteering in comparison to respondents who live in Fall River and New Bedford.

Table 9

	Low	Moderate	High	Sample Size
Total	50%	26%	24%	606
Sex				
Male	53%	27%	20%	278
Female	47%	25%	27%	328
*Age				
18-34	55%	20%	25%	174
35-49	43%	33%	24%	172
50-64	49%	23%	28%	117
65+	52%	27%	21%	132
*Education				
<= HS	62%	24%	14%	277
Some College	57%	22%	21%	123
College Degree	28%	32%	40%	199
Race				
White	49%	28%	23%	478
Non-White	53%	18%	29%	116
*Income				
<30K	64%	21%	15%	218
30K-75K	45%	26%	29%	167
>75K	35%	31%	34%	139
*City/Town				
FR/NB	59%	20%	21%	336
Towns	38%	34%	28%	269
Marital Status				
Married	45%	30%	25%	287
Not Married	54%	23%	23%	311

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.



5.33 GIVING AND VOLUNTEERING BY LEVELS OF HAPPINESS, HEALTH, AND TELEVISION VIEWING

- Respondents with high levels of giving and volunteering report better health in comparison to respondents with lower levels of giving and volunteering.
- Similarly, respondents with high levels of giving and volunteering report higher levels of happiness in comparison to respondents with lower levels of giving and volunteering.
- There is a direct relationship between levels of giving and volunteering and television viewing; respondents with higher levels of giving and volunteering disagree more strongly or somewhat strongly that television is their primary form of entertainment.

Table 10

Measure	Scale			Sample Size
*Describe Overall Health	Excellent/Very Good	Good	Fair/Poor	
Low	39%	31%	30%	300
Moderate	46%	35%	19%	159
High	58%	30%	12%	144
*Television is Primary Form of Entertainment	Agree Strongly/Somewhat	Neither/Depends	Disagree Some/Strongly	
Low	69%	2%	29%	295
Moderate	62%	4%	34%	159
High	45%	8%	47%	146
Level of Happiness	Very Happy/Happy	Not Very Happy/Not Happy at All		
Low	83%	17%		295
Moderate	91%	9%		159
High	94%	6%		146

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.

5.40 Informal Socializing

Informal socializing refers to the basic relationships and connections that individuals make with others, apart from formal memberships and associations. Most of these relationships are formed from simple friendships and social interaction. Informal socializing includes activities such as gathering with friends in a public place, visiting with relatives, socializing with co-workers outside of work, and activities such as playing cards and board games.

5.41 SUMMARY DATA

The Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey includes four measures of informal socializing:

- Respondent had friends over in the past 12 months.
- Respondent was in the home of a friend of a different race or had one in their home in the past 12 months.
- Respondent was in the home of someone from a different neighborhood or had one in their home in the past 12 months.
- Respondent was in the home of a community leader or had one in their home in the past 12 months.

Respondents report high levels of informal socializing; more than ninety percent of respondents were in the home of someone from a different neighborhood or had one in their home (93%) or had friends over (91%) in the past 12 months. Nearly three quarters of respondents (73%) were in the home of a friend of a different race, while a smaller percentage (29%) were in the home of community leader or had one in their home (see Table 11).

Table 11

Measure	% Who Participated in Activity	
	SouthCoast	National
In the home of someone from a different neighborhood/had one in your home	93%	No data
Had friends over	91%	91%
In the home of a friend of a different race/had one in your home	73%	67%
In the home of a community leader/had one in your home	29%	No data

5.42 INFORMAL SOCIALIZING BY DEMOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

Table 12 explores differences between levels of informal socializing and a respondent's demographic background.

- Respondents in older age cohorts report lower levels of informal socializing in comparison to younger respondents.
- Respondents with college degrees have higher levels of informal socializing in comparison to respondents who do not have a college degree.
- Nearly twice the percentage of non-white respondents have high levels of informal socializing in comparison to white respondents.
- Respondents with annual household incomes between \$30,000 and \$75,000 and with incomes over \$75,000 have higher levels of informal socializing in comparison to respondents who earn less than \$30,000 per year.

Table 12

	Low	Moderate	High	Sample Size
Total	31%	50%	19%	606
Sex				
Male	31%	50%	19%	278
Female	31%	49%	19%	328
*Age				
18-34	16%	66%	18%	174
35-49	28%	49%	23%	172
50-64	39%	43%	18%	116
65+	48%	35%	17%	132
*Education				
<= HS	37%	49%	14%	277
Some College	30%	56%	14%	122
College Degree	23%	48%	29%	198
*Race				
White	33%	51%	16%	477
Non-White	23%	46%	31%	117
*Income				
<30K	36%	50%	14%	217
30K-75K	28%	46%	26%	167
>75K	25%	49%	26%	140
City/Town				
FR/NB	30%	53%	17%	335
Towns	33%	46%	21%	270
Marital Status				
Married	31%	51%	18%	286
Not Married	32%	48%	20%	310

5.43 INFORMAL SOCIALIZING BY LEVELS OF HAPPINESS, HEALTH, AND TELEVISION VIEWING

- Respondents with a low level of informal socializing report poorer health than do respondents with moderate or high levels of informal socializing.
- Respondents with a low level of informal socializing more strongly agree that television is their primary form of entertainment.
- The higher a respondent's level of informal socializing, the higher their level of happiness.

Table 13

Measure	Scale			Sample Size
*Describe Overall Health	Excellent/Very Good	Good	Fair/Poor	
Low	40%	29%	31%	199
Moderate	49%	32%	19%	300
High	47%	35%	18%	114
*Television is Primary Form of Entertainment	Agree Strongly/Somewhat	Neither/Depends	Disagree Some/Strongly	
Low	68%	4%	28%	185
Moderate	62%	4%	34%	301
High	48%	5%	47%	115
Level of Happiness	Very Happy/Happy	Not Very Happy/Not Happy at All		
Low	82%	18%		185
Moderate	89%	11%		301
High	95%	5%		115

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.

5.50 Political Participation/Political Confidence

A wide array of statistics and surveys document that Americans are disaffected with politics, government, and civic association. For example, the United States has the lowest voter turnout among the 22 established democracies (Pintor 2002). They are also less and less likely to participate in the private institutions of civil society, which provide the foundation for community interaction and political participation.

The level of trust in government among Americans is also declining. For example, the American National Election Series, which has polled Americans for nearly fifty years and records public trust levels of the United States federal government, reports that the percentage of Americans who trust the national government to do what is right “just about always” decreased from a high of 17 percent in 1966 to just 4 percent in 2004.

Public confidence in state and local government is also low. For example, in 2001, only 6.2 percent of Americans reported that they had “a lot” of confidence in state government and 12.6 percent reported that they had a lot of confidence in local government (Toppe 2002). Experts suggest redoubling efforts to build trust in government by expanding political participation in order to bridge class barriers, reduce social isolation, and build greater social connectedness.

5.51 SUMMARY DATA

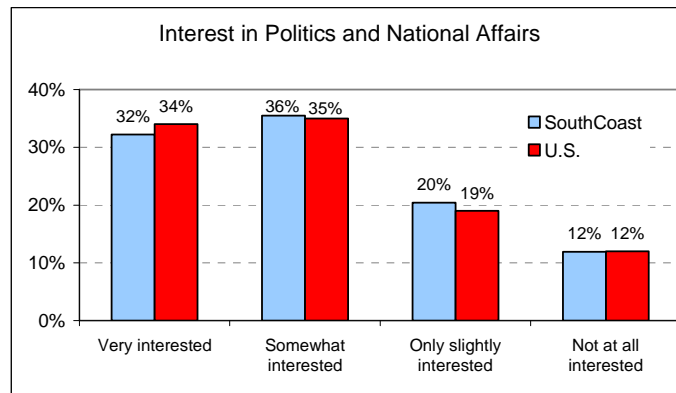
The Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey includes five political participation/political confidence measures:

- Interest in politics and national affairs.
- Voter registration.
- Respondent attended a political rally.
- Trust in national government.
- Trust in local government.

Interest in Politics and National Affairs

Respondents in the SouthCoast and nationally report similar levels of interest in politics and national affairs, with over two-thirds of both groups at least somewhat interested in politics and national affairs (see Figure 4). In the SouthCoast, respondents with higher levels of education and higher incomes have greater levels of interest in politics and national affairs in comparison to respondents with lower levels of education and income.

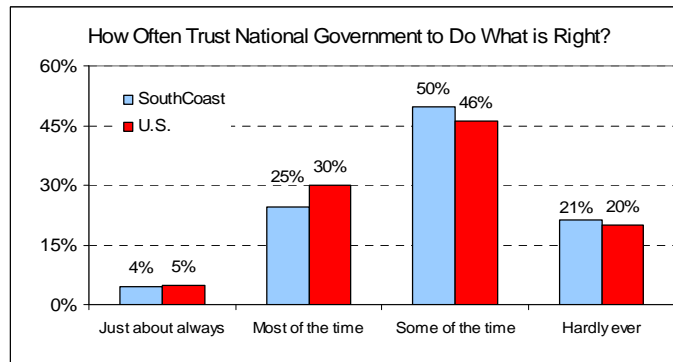
Figure 4



Trust in National and Local Government

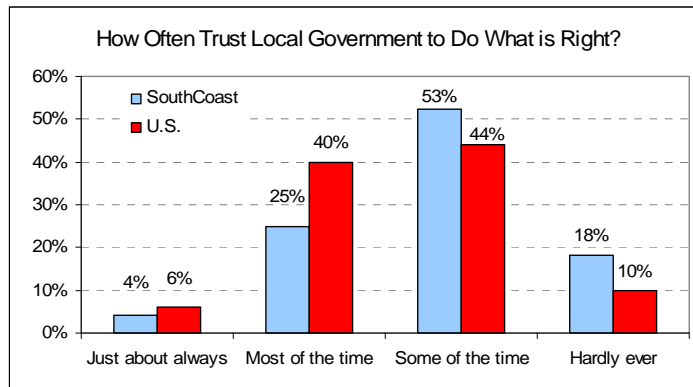
Respondents in the SouthCoast and nationally report low levels of trust in the national government, with only 29 percent of SouthCoast respondents trusting the national government to do what is right just about always (4%) or most of the time (25%) and 35 percent of respondents nationally trusting the national government to do what is right just about always (5%) or most of the time (30%) (see Figure 5).

Figure 5



Both SouthCoast and respondents nationally report low levels of trust in local government, although SouthCoast respondents have lower levels of trust in local government in comparison to respondents nationally. Less than thirty percent of SouthCoast respondents trust local government most of the time (25%) or just about always (4%), compared to 46 percent of respondents nationally who trust local government to do what is right most of the time (40%) or just about always (6%) (see Figure 6). More than half of SouthCoast respondents (53%) trust local government to do what is right most of the time and 18 percent “hardly ever” trust local government to do what is right.

Figure 6



5.52 POLITICAL PARTICIPATION/POLITICAL CONFIDENCE BY DEMOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

Table 14 explores differences between levels of political participation/political confidence and a respondent's demographic background.

- Men report higher levels of political participation/political confidence in comparison to women.
- There is a direct relationship between age, education, and income and a respondent's level of political participation/political confidence; the higher a respondent's age, education, or income, the higher their level of political participation/political confidence.
- A greater percentage of non-white respondents report low levels of political participation/political confidence in comparison to non-white respondents.
- Respondents who live in the region's suburbs report higher levels of political participation/political confidence in comparison to respondents of Fall River and New Bedford.

Table 14

	Low	Moderate	High	Sample Size
Total	39%	50%	11%	606
*Sex				
Male	33%	55%	12%	278
Female	44%	47%	10%	328
*Age				
18-34	52%	41%	7%	174
35-49	42%	48%	9%	172
50-64	33%	56%	10%	117
65+	21%	61%	18%	132
*Education				
<= HS	42%	51%	6%	278
Some College	42%	46%	12%	123
College Degree	32%	52%	16%	199
Race				
White	37%	53%	11%	478
Non-White	47%	43%	10%	116
Income				
<30K	45%	48%	7%	217
30K-75K	35%	54%	11%	168
>75K	34%	51%	14%	140
*City/Town				
FR/NB	43%	48%	8%	337
Towns	33%	53%	14%	269
Marital Status				
Married	35%	54%	11%	286
Not Married	42%	48%	9%	310

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.



5.53 POLITICAL PARTICIPATION/POLITICAL CONFIDENCE BY LEVELS OF HAPPINESS, HEALTH, AND TELEVISION VIEWING

- Respondents with higher levels of political participation/political confidence report somewhat better health.
- Respondents with a high level of political participation/political confidence more strongly/somewhat agree that television is their primary form of entertainment.
- Respondents with a high level of political participation/political confidence report higher levels of happiness than respondents with low and moderate levels of political participation/political confidence.

Table 15

Measure	Scale			Sample Size
	Excellent/Very Good	Good	Fair/Poor	
*Describe Overall Health				
Low	43%	33%	24%	234
Moderate	47%	31%	22%	304
High	49%	32%	19%	65
*Television is Primary Form of Entertainment	Agree Strongly/Somewhat	Neither/Depends	Disagree Some/Strongly	
Low	59%	5%	36%	232
Moderate	62%	4%	34%	304
High	68%	2%	31%	65
Level of Happiness	Very Happy/Happy	Not Very Happy/Not Happy at All		
Low	88%	12%		232
Moderate	86%	14%		302
High	97%	3%		66

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.

5.60 Social and Inter-Racial Trust

The core of social capital is the level to which one person can trust another. Inter-racial trust measures the extent to which different racial groups trust one another.

5.61 SUMMARY DATA

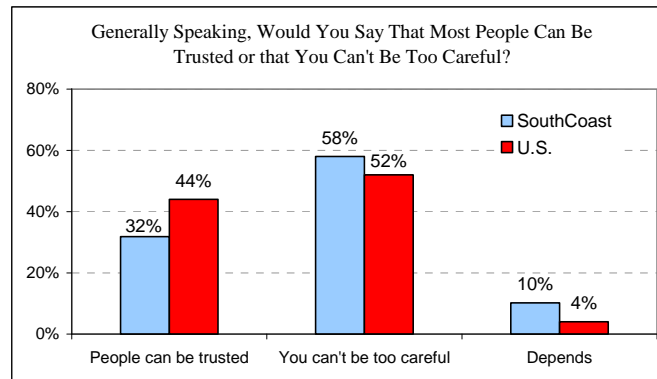
The Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey includes 7 Social and Inter-Racial Trust measures:

- Trust in people in general
- Trust in white people
- Trust in African Americans/Blacks
- Trust in Hispanics
- Trust in police
- Trust in people where respondent shops
- Trust in people in respondent's neighborhood

Trust in People in General

SouthCoast respondents have lower levels of trust in people generally than do respondents nationally, although a majority of both groups agree that you "can't be too careful" in trusting people (see Figure 7).

Figure 7



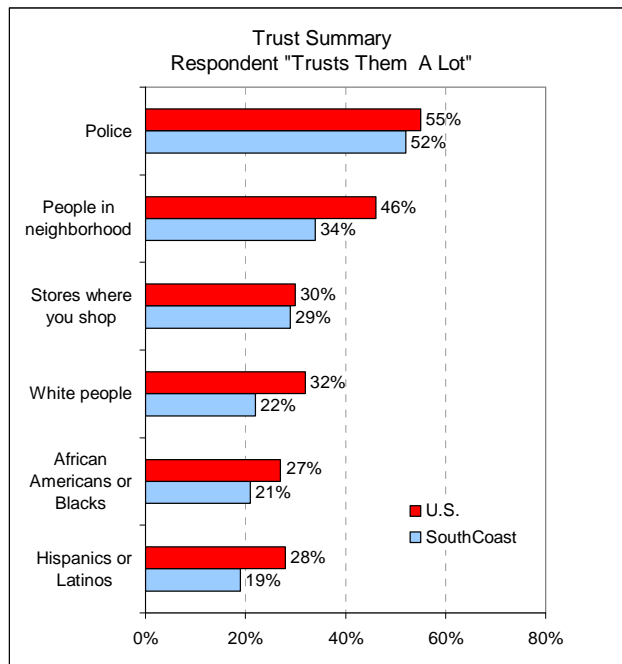
Trust in Specific Groups

Respondents were asked the level to which they trust various groups on a scale of a lot, some, a little, or not at all. Figure 8 below illustrates the percentage of respondents who trust these groups “a lot.” Detailed results can be found in Appendix B.

Respondents in both the SouthCoast and nationally have the highest level of trust for the police, followed by trust of people in their neighborhood and in the stores where they shop. Respondents in the SouthCoast have lower levels of trust in white people, African Americans or Blacks, and Hispanics. In addition:

- Respondents in older age cohorts have higher levels of trust in all six groups in comparison to respondents in younger age cohorts.
- Whites have higher levels of trust of people in their neighborhoods, people in the stores where they shop, police, and whites in comparison to non-whites.
- Respondents with higher levels of income have higher levels of trust in all six groups in comparison to respondents at lower income levels.
- Respondents who live in the region’s towns have higher levels of trust in all six groups in comparison to respondents who live in Fall River and New Bedford.

Figure 8



5.62 SOCIAL TRUST BY DEMOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

Table 16 explores differences between levels of social and inter-racial trust and a respondent's demographic background.

- There is a direct relationship between social trust and age cohorts; respondents in higher age cohorts have a greater level of trust than respondents in lower age cohorts.
- Respondents with a college degree have a higher level of trust in comparison to respondents without a college degree.
- The percentage of white respondents who have high levels of trust is more than three times that of non-white respondents.
- Respondents who live in the region's towns have higher levels of trust in comparison to respondents who live in Fall River and New Bedford.
- Respondents who are married have higher levels of trust in comparison to respondents who are not married.

Table 16

	Low	Moderate	High	Sample Size
Total	71%	17%	11%	606
Sex				
Male	71%	17%	12%	279
Female	72%	17%	11%	328
*Age				
18-34	85%	13%	3%	174
35-49	77%	15%	9%	60
50-64	60%	25%	15%	115
65+	58%	19%	24%	132
*Education				
<= HS	78%	16%	6%	276
Some College	73%	15%	12%	122
College Degree	62%	20%	18%	198
*Race				
White	70%	18%	13%	478
Non-White	82%	14%	4%	116
Income				
<30K	77%	16%	7%	217
30K-75K	71%	17%	19%	167
>75K	67%	19%	14%	140
*City/Town				
FR/NB	80%	13%	7%	337
Towns	61%	22%	16%	269
*Marital Status				
Married	63.0%	26.0%	11.0%	287
Not Married	75.0%	21.0%	4.0%	310

* Statistically significant at the .05 level or below.



5.63 SOCIAL TRUST BY LEVELS OF HAPPINESS, HEALTH, AND TELEVISION VIEWING

- Respondents with a high level of social trust report better overall health than respondents with low or moderate levels of social trust.
- Respondents with moderate and high levels of social trust report higher levels of happiness in comparison to respondents with low levels of social trust.
- Respondents with a high level of social trust are more likely to strongly/somewhat agree that television is their primary form of entertainment in comparison to respondents with low and moderate levels of social trust.

Table 17

				Sample Size
Describe Overall Health	Excellent/Very Good	Good	Fair/Poor	
Low	44%	33%	23%	431
Moderate	44%	27%	29%	103
High	59%	29%	13%	70
Level of Happiness	Very Happy/Happy	Not Very Happy/Not Happy at All		
Low	85%	15%	-	428
Moderate	94%	6%	-	103
High	94%	6%	-	69
Television is Primary Form of Entertainment	Agree Strongly/Somewhat	Neither/Depends	Disagree Somewhat/ Strongly	
Low	60%	5%	35%	428
Moderate	64%	1%	36%	104
High	68%	3%	29%	68

6.00 CONCLUSION

Results of the first SouthCoast Community Benchmark Survey show that the SouthCoast generally has a lower level of social capital, exceeding the national average in only three of twenty-one social capital measures. Perhaps most striking is the general lack of Social Trust among SouthCoast residents, including trust of people in general and trust in various groups. The low trust levels are particularly curious in that the SouthCoast reports high levels of informal socializing in comparison to national averages.

The SouthCoast also exhibits lower levels of Giving and Volunteering in comparison to respondents nationally in terms of working on community projects, volunteering, and donating blood. And while New Englanders pride themselves on small town government and civic engagement, respondents report lower levels of Civic Leadership in comparison to respondents nationally, particularly in terms of the percentage who have attended a public meeting in the past 12 months (23% in the SouthCoast versus 44% nationally) and the percentage of respondents who have served as an officer of a club or organization (16 percent in the SouthCoast and 24 percent nationally). In fact, only 7 percent of respondents are classified as having a “high” level of Civic Leadership, which is the lowest percentage among the six social capital dimensions.

The difference between respondents with low and high levels of social capital is primarily driven by two factors: education and income. Respondents with higher levels of education and income have higher levels of social capital in all six dimensions, but particularly in terms of Civic Leadership, Giving and Volunteering, and levels of Social Trust. Respondents with higher education and income also report higher levels of happiness and better overall health. These results are not surprising; greater income inequality has been linked to lower life expectancy in cross-national comparisons (Wilkinson, 1996); higher mortality rates (Kaplan et al. 1996; Kennedy et al. 1996) and worse self-rated health (Kennedy et al. 1998). Greater income inequality has also been attributed to higher levels of interpersonal mistrust, lower per capita membership in voluntary associations, and other indicators of disinvestment in social capital (Kennedy et al. 1998).

The table below shows the dramatic link between social capital and income among SouthCoast respondents; higher income respondents are more likely to have higher levels of social capital in 5 of 6 of the social capital dimensions. The greatest differences between high and low income respondents is found in Giving and Volunteering (19% difference), Civic Leadership (15% difference), and Informal Socializing (12% difference).

Table 18

Income and Social Capital			
Dimension	<30K	\$30K-\$75K	\$75K+
High Civic Leadership	1%	8%	16%
High Faith Based Engagement	32%	40%	30%
High Giving and Volunteering	15%	29%	34%
High Informal Socializing	14%	26%	26%
High Political Participation/Political Confidence	7%	11%	14%
High Social and Inter-Racial Trust	7%	19%	14%

Education exhibits a similar relationship with social capital. College educated respondents are more likely to have high levels of social capital than are respondents with lower levels of education in all 6 social dimensions. The greatest difference between high and low educated respondents is found in Giving and Volunteering (26% difference) and Informal Socializing (15% difference).

Table 19

Education and Social Capital			
Dimension	HS or Less	Some College	College Degree
High Civic Leadership	3%	4%	15%
High Faith Based Engagement	34%	29%	42%
High Giving and Volunteering	14%	21%	40%
High Informal Socializing	14%	14%	29%
High Political Participation/Political Confidence	6%	12%	16%
High Social and Inter-Racial Trust	6%	12%	18%

In light of the link between income and social capital, one of the primary strategies to build social capital in the SouthCoast may be to address income inequality. However, the region's relatively poor economy, combined with large segments of the population who possess low levels of education and few skills, remain significant obstacles.

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APPENDIX A - SURVEY INSTRUMENT

INTRO Hi, my name is _____ and I'm calling from UMass Dartmouth. How are you today? We are conducting an important survey about life in the SouthCoast.

Q1_1. Do you have a few minutes to complete the survey? Let me assure you that all your responses are strictly confidential.

- 1 YES [SKIP TO Q3]
- 2 NO [SKIP TO Q2]

Q2_1. Your opinions on this issue are very important and we'd like to give you an opportunity to make your opinions heard. Are you sure you do not have just a few minutes to complete the survey?

- 1 YES [PROCEED TO Q3]
- 2 NO [END INTERVIEW]

Q3_1. Thank you. First I would like to ask you if you are 18 years of age?

- 1 YES [SKIP TO Q6]
- 2 NO [SKIP TO Q5]

Q4_1. Is there someone 18 years of age or older that I can speak to?

- 1 YES [SKIP TO INTRO]
- 2 NO [INTERVIEWER READ: SORRY, BUT WE NEED TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE WHO IS AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE. WE WILL CALL BACK AT ANOTHER TIME.]
[TERMINATE INTERVIEW]

Q5_1 In which town or city do you live?

- 01 ACUSHNET
- 02 DARTMOUTH
- 03 FAIRHAVEN
- 04 FALL RIVER
- 05 FREETOWN
- 06 LAKEVILLE
- 07 MARION
- 08 MATTAPOISETT
- 09 NEW BEDFORD
- 10 ROCHESTER
- 11 SOMERSET
- 12 SWANSEA
- 13 WAREHAM
- 14 WESTPORT

- 88 Does not live in the SouthCoast
- 99 REFUSED

[GENDER: INTERVIEWER: RECORD R's GENDER
(IF NECESSARY SAY: I am recording that you are a male/female.)
<GENDER>

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

Q1 We'd like to ask you some questions about how you view other people, groups and institutions.

Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?
<TRUST>

- 1 People can be trusted
- 2 You can't be too careful
- 3 (VOLUNTEERED) Depends
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused



Q2. Next, we'd like to know how much you trust different groups of people. First, think about (GROUP). Generally speaking, would you say that you can trust them a lot, some, only a little, or not at all?

Q2A People in your neighborhood
(CLARIFY IF NECESSARY: How about in general?)
<TRNEI>

- 1 Trust them a lot
- 2 Trust them some
- 3 Trust them only a little
- 4 Trust them not at all
- 5 (VOLUNTEERED) Does not apply
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

2B (How about) **The police in your local community** (would you say that you can trust them a lot, some, only a little, or not at all?)
<TRCOP>

- 1 Trust them a lot
- 2 Trust them some
- 3 Trust them only a little
- 4 Trust them not at all
- 5 (VOLUNTEERED) Does not apply
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

2C **People who work in the stores where you shop**
<TRSHOP>

- 1 Trust them a lot
- 2 Trust them some
- 3 Trust them only a little
- 4 Trust them not at all
- 5 (VOLUNTEERED) Does not apply
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused



2D (How about) **White people?**

<TRWHT>

- 1 Trust them a lot
- 2 Trust them some
- 3 Trust them only a little
- 4 Trust them not at all
- 5 (VOLUNTEERED) Does not apply
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

2E (How about) **African Americans or Blacks?**

<TRBLK>

- 1 Trust them a lot
- 2 Trust them some
- 3 Trust them only a little
- 4 Trust them not at all
- 5 (VOLUNTEERED) Does not apply
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

2F (How about) **Hispanics or Latinos?**

<TRHISP>

- 1 Trust them a lot
- 2 Trust them some
- 3 Trust them only a little
- 4 Trust them not at all
- 5 (VOLUNTEERED) Does not apply
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q3 My next questions are about public affairs. How interested are you in politics and national affairs? Are you very interested, somewhat interested, only slightly interested, or not at all interested?

<POLINT>

- 1 Very interested
- 2 Somewhat interested
- 3 Only slightly interested
- 4 Not at all interested
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused



Q4 Are you currently registered to vote?
<REGVOTE>

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 3 (VOLUNTEERED) Not eligible to vote
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q5A How much of the time do you think you can trust the NATIONAL government to do what is right – just about always, most of the time, only some of the time, or hardly ever?
<TGNAT>

- 1 Just about always
- 2 Most of the time
- 3 Some of the time
- 4 Hardly ever
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

5B How about your LOCAL government? How much of the time do you think you can trust the LOCAL government to do what is right? (Would you say just about always, most of the time, only some of the time, or hardly ever?)
<TGLOC>

- 1 Just about always
- 2 Most of the time
- 3 Some of the time
- 4 Hardly ever
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

5C Thinking POLITICALLY AND SOCIALLY, how would you describe your own general outlook--as being very conservative, moderately conservative, middle-of-the-road, moderately liberal or very liberal?
<IDEO>

- 1 Very conservative
- 2 Moderately conservative
– Short Form - Page 10
- 3 Middle-of-the-road
- 4 Moderately liberal
- 5 Very Liberal
- 6 (VOLUNTEERED) Something else
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused



Q6 Now I'm going to ask you how many times you've done certain things in the past 12 months, if at all. For all of these, I want you just to give me your best guess, and don't worry that you might be off a little. About how many times in the past 12 months have you (ACTIVITY):

RANDOMIZE A-J

Note: for all questions 6A-6J, interviewer probes for an actual number and if respondent can not provide an actual number, the interviewer follows up with:

Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that? (IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

6A (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **Worked on a community project?**

<CPROJECT>

VALID RANGE 0 to 53

--

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that? (IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times? < PROJECT >

1 never did this

2 once

3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)

4 2-4 times

5 5-9 times

6 about once a month on average

7 twice a month

8 about once a week on average

9 more than once a week

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

- Short Form - Page 11

6B (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **Donated blood?**

<CBLOOD>

VALID RANGE 0 to 53 _ _

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that?

(IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

< BLOOD >

1 never did this

2 once

3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)

4 2-4 times

5 5-9 times

6 about once a month on average

7 twice a month

8 about once a week on average

9 more than once a week

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

6C (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **Attended any public meeting in which there was discussion of town or school affairs?**

<CPUBMEET>

VALID RANGE 0 to 53

--

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that?

(IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

< PUBMEET >

1 never did this

2 once

3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)

4 2-4 times

5 5-9 times

6 about once a month on average

7 twice a month

8 about once a week on average

9 more than once a week

98 Don't Know

99 Refused



6D (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **Attended a political meeting or rally?**

<CRALLY>

VALID RANGE 0 to 53

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that?

(IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

< RALLY >

1 never did this

2 once

3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)

4 2-4 times

5 5-9 times

6 about once a month on average

7 twice a month

8 about once a week on average

9 more than once a week

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

6E (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **Attended any club or organizational meeting** (not including meetings for work)?

<CORGMTG>

VALID RANGE 0 to 53

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that?

- Short Form - Page 13

(IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

< ORGMTG >

1 never did this

2 once

3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)

4 2-4 times

5 5-9 times

6 about once a month on average

7 twice a month

8 about once a week on average

9 more than once a week

98 Don't Know

99 Refused



6F (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **had friends over to your home?**

<CFRDVIS>

VALID RANGE 0 to 53

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that?

(IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

< FRDVIS>

1 never did this

2 once

3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)

4 2-4 times

5 5-9 times

6 about once a month on average

7 twice a month

8 about once a week on average

9 more than once a week

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

6G (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **been in the home of a friend of a different race or had them in your home?**

<CFRDRAC>

- Short Form - Page 14

VALID RANGE 0 to 53

--

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that?

(IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

< FRDRAC >

1 never did this

2 once

3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)

4 2-4 times

5 5-9 times

6 about once a month on average

7 twice a month

8 about once a week on average

9 more than once a week

98 Don't Know

99 Refused



6H (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **been in the home of someone of a different neighborhood or had them in your home?**

<CFRDXNEI>

VALID RANGE 0 to 53 _ _

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that?

(IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

<FRDXNEI>

1 never did this

2 once

3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)

4 2-4 times

5 5-9 times

6 about once a month on average

7 twice a month

8 about once a week on average

9 more than once a week

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

6I (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **been in the home of someone you consider to be a community leader or had one in your home?**

<CLDRHOM>

VALID RANGE 0 to 53 _ _

98 Don't Know

99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that?

(IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

<LDRHOM>

1 never did this

2 once

3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)

4 2-4 times

5 5-9 times

6 about once a month on average

7 twice a month

8 about once a week on average

9 more than once a week

98 Don't Know

99 Refused



6J (How many times in the past twelve months have you) **volunteered?**

<CVOLTIM>

VALID RANGE 0 to 53

--
98 Don't Know
99 Refused

(IF RESPONDENT IS UNABLE TO ANSWER, PROBE:) Would you say you never did this, did it once, a few times, about once a month on average, twice a month, about once a week on average, or more often than that?
(IF RESPONDENT ANSWERS "A FEW TIMES", PROBE WITH:) Would that be closer to 2-4 times or 5-9 times?

- Short Form - Page 16
< VOLTIM >

1 never did this
2 once
3 a few times (ENTER ONLY IF FIGURE CANNOT BE CLARIFIED)
4 2-4 times
5 5-9 times
6 about once a month on average
7 twice a month
8 about once a week on average
9 more than once a week
98 Don't Know
99 Refused

Q7 In the past twelve months, have you served as an officer or served on a committee of any local club or organization?

<OFFICER>

1 Yes
2 No
8 Don't know
9 Refused

Q8 Not including weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services? (IF NECESSARY PROBE WITH CATEGORIES) (Every week (or more often)/Almost every week/Once or twice a month/A few times per year/Less often than that/Don't know/Refused)

<RELATEND>

- 1 Every week (or more often)
- 2 Almost every week
- 3 Once or twice a month
- 4 A few times per year
- 5 Less often than that
- 6 Never
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q9 People and families contribute money, property or other assets for a wide variety of charitable purposes. During the past 12 months, approximately how much money did you and the other family members in your household contribute to all secular causes and all religious causes, including your local religious congregation (IF NECESSARY: By contribution, I mean a voluntary contribution with no intention of making a profit or obtaining goods or services for yourself.)

(IF NECESSARY: REPEAT ASSURANCES OF CONFIDENTIALITY)

<GIVE>

- 1 None
- 2 Less than \$100
- 3 \$100 to less than \$500
- Short Form - Page 17
- 4 \$500 to less than \$1000
- 5 \$1000 to less than \$5000
- 6 More than \$5000
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q10 All things considered, would you say you are very happy, happy, not very happy, or not happy at all?

<HAPPY>

- 1 Very happy
- 2 Happy
- 3 Not very Happy
- 4 Not happy at all
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused



Q11 And how would you describe your overall state of health these days? Would you say it is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?

<HEALTH>

- 1 Excellent
- 2 Very Good
- 3 Good
- 4 Fair
- 5 Poor
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused

Q12 Please tell me for the following statement whether you agree strongly, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly. Television is my primary form of entertainment

<TVONE>

- 1 Agree strongly
- 2 Agree somewhat
- 3 (VOLUNTEERED) Neither/depends
- 4 Disagree somewhat
- 5 Disagree strongly
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q13 Our last questions are used to ensure that our sample for this survey accurately reflects the population as a whole. First, we'd like to know if you are working now, temporarily laid off, or if you are unemployed, retired, permanently disabled, a homemaker, a student, or what? (INTERVIEWER: IF MULTIPLE RESPONSES ARE GIVEN, ENTER THE ONE WITH THE LOWEST CODE NUMBER.)

<LABOR>

- 1 Working
- 2 Temporarily laid off
- 3 Unemployed
 - Short Form - Page 18
- 4 Retired
- 5 Permanently Disabled
- 6 Homemaker
- 7 Student
- 8 Don't Know
- 9 Refused



Q14 . Next, in what year were you born?

<BYEAR>

VALID RANGE 1880-1982

Q15 What is the highest grade of school or year of college you have completed?

<EDUC>

- 1 Less than high school (Grade 11 or less)
- 2 High school diploma (including GED) SKIP TO 16
- 3 Some college SKIP TO 16
- 4 Assoc. degree (2 year) or specialized technical training SKIP TO 16
- 5 Bachelor's degree SKIP TO 16
- 6 Some graduate training SKIP TO 16
- 7 Graduate or professional degree SKIP TO 16
- 8 Don't know SKIP TO 16
- 9 Refused SKIP TO 16

Q16 Do you have a GED or high school equivalency?

<EDUC2>

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q17 Do you consider yourself to be White, Hispanic, Black or African American, Asian or Pacific Islander, Native American, or some other race??

<HISPRACE>

- 1 White
- 2 Hispanic
- 3 African American or Black
- 4 Asian or Pacific Islander
- 5 Alaskan Native/Native American
- 6 Other
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q18 Are you an American citizen?

<CITIZ>

1 Yes

2 No

8 Don't know

9 Refused

Q19 How many different telephone numbers does your household have, not counting those dedicated to a fax machine or computer?

<PHONES>

VALID RANGE 1-9

Q20A If you added together the yearly incomes, before taxes, of all the members of your household for last year, 2001, would the total be: (READ LIST)

<YP_1>

1 Less than \$30,000 or

2 \$30,000 or more

---DO NOT READ BELOW---

8 Don't Know

9 Refused

IF <YP_1> = 2, SKIP TO 20C.

IF <YP_1> = 8 or 9, REPEAT ASSURANCES OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Q20B Would that be: (READ LIST)

<YP_2>

1 \$20,000 or less SKIP TO 21

2 Over \$20,000 but less than \$30,000 SKIP TO 21

---DO NOT READ BELOW---

8 Don't Know SKIP TO 21

9 Refused SKIP TO 21

Q20C Would that be: (READ LIST)

<YP_3>

1 \$30,000 but less than \$50,000

2 \$50,000 but less than \$75,000

3 \$75,000 but less than \$100,000

4 \$100,000 or more

---DO NOT READ BELOW---

8 Don't Know

9 Refused



Q21 And what city or town do you live in? (RECORD VERBATIM)

<CITY_STR> [STRING]

Q22 Are you currently married, separated, divorced, widowed, or have you never married?

- Short Form - Page 21 - Short Form - Page 22

<MARITAL>

1 Currently married

2 Separated

3 Divorced

4 Widowed

5 Never Married

9 Refused

Q23 How many children, aged 17 or younger, live in your household?

<KIDS>

VALID RANGE 0-20

--

98 Don't know

99 Refused

Q24 Do you or your family own the place where you are living now, or do you rent?

<OWN>

1 Own

2 Rent

8 Don't know

9 Refused

APPENDIX B – DATA TABLES

2006 Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey
 SouthCoast and National Averages: Totals & Crosstabs
 (Note: Percentages may not add to 100% do to rounding)
 Cells highlighted are significant at the .05 level

TRUST Whether most people can be trusted or can't be too careful

	SouthCoast		National		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
	Total	Total	Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
People can be trusted	32	44	36	28	23	35	42	26	33	34	35	34	21	23	33	44	25	40	36	26	35	28
You can't be too careful	58	52	55	61	71	54	43	66	57	55	52	56	66	71	52	49	67	47	50	67	53	64
(VOLUNTEERED) Depends	10	4	9	11	7	11	15	8	11	11	13	10	13	6	15	7	8	13	14	7	13	8

TRNEI How much you can trust people in your neighborhood

	SouthCoast		National		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
	Total	Total	Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
A lot	34	46	32	35	24	32	49	20	29	45	49	37	19	23	36	44	19	52	46	21	41	27
Some	42	35	45	39	41	47	40	43	47	36	41	42	44	38	48	46	45	38	42	42	43	41
A little	15	14	14	15	19	14	9	22	13	13	8	14	16	22	9	8	20	7	8	22	8	20
Not at all	10	6	9	10	16	8	2	15	12	5	2	7	21	16	7	2	16	3	4	16	8	12

TRSHOP How much trust people who work in the stores where you shop

	SouthCoast		National		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
	Total	Total	Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
A lot	29	30	25	35	25	25	35	15	29	34	42	30	22	24	28	33	24	35	31	26	28	29
Some	53	49	50	53	50	60	53	57	52	50	51	55	45	48	61	54	51	54	57	49	59	47
A little	14	16	19	12	19	12	8	21	14	13	6	12	22	19	9	12	18	9	11	17	11	17
Not at all	5	5	5	3	5	3	4	8	5	4	0	3	11	9	3	1	7	2	2	8	3	6

TRCOP How much you can trust the police in you local community

	SouthCoast		National		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
	Total	Total	Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
A lot	52	55	47	56	44	49	64	35	49	61	72	56	34	45	53	57	41	65	59	42	59	44
Some	33	28	32	35	36	36	29	39	39	25	26	33	38	31	39	33	37	28	31	37	32	36
A little	8	10	11	6	10	10	5	13	9	8	2	7	14	12	4	8	11	5	6	11	6	11
Not at all	7	7	11	5	11	5	2	14	4	6	0	5	14	13	4	2	11	2	3	10	4	10

TRWHT How much you can trust white people

	SouthCoast		National		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
	Total	Total	Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
A lot	22	32	24	21	20	20	27	11	21	25	37	23	16	20	25	19	18	28	22	21	21	23
Some	65	55	63	67	63	66	68	69	64	66	58	65	64	62	70	70	65	64	68	63	69	62
A little	11	10	12	9	13	12	6	17	14	6	4	9	18	13	4	10	14	7	9	12	7	14
Not at all	3	3	1	4	4	2	0	3	1	4	1	3	2	5	1	2	4	1	1	4	3	2

TRBLK How much you can trust African Americans or blacks

	SouthCoast		National		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
	Total	Total	Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
A lot	21	27	22	21	19	17	26	13	17	24	36	22	16	20	19	20	17	27	22	19	19	23
Some	64	57	64	64	62	68	64	64	67	65	58	63	66	62	69	67	64	64	66	62	67	61
A little	12	11	12	11	13	14	9	18	13	7	6	11	15	11	11	12	15	8	10	14	11	13
Not at all	3	5	2	5	6	2	1	4	3	4	0	3	3	6	1	2	5	2	2	5	3	3



Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey, 2009

Data Tables Continued

TRHIS How much you can trust Hispanics or Latinos

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
A lot	19	28	21	18	16	19	24	12	14	23	34	20	16	18	20	18	14	26	22	16	18	20
Some	62	55	59	64	58	65	65	60	68	62	56	62	62	57	66	69	61	62	65	59	66	58
A little	14	13	16	12	18	12	8	22	15	6	9	13	17	16	12	11	18	8	9	19	12	16
Not at all	6	4	5	6	8	4	2	6	3	9	1	6	5	10	2	3	7	4	4	7	4	7

Currently registered to vote

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	87	87	87	87	79	89	97	79	85	90	96	89	76	79	90	95	80	94	94	79	92	82
No	13	13	14	13	21	11	4	21	15	10	4	11	24	21	10	5	20	6	6	21	8	18

POLINT Interest in politics and national affairs

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Very interested	32	34	38	27	25	33	43	18	32	39	47	33	27	24	37	36	27	38	37	27	35	29
Somewhat interested	36	35	33	38	34	35	39	33	35	37	39	38	25	33	33	46	32	40	40	31	40	33
Only slightly interested	20	19	16	24	25	20	14	31	22	14	11	19	28	25	22	15	23	18	16	26	18	24
Not interested at all	12	12	14	11	16	12	3	18	11	10	4	10	20	19	8	4	18	5	7	16	8	15

TGNAT How often trust national govt to do what is right

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Just about always	4	5	6	3	6	3	4	3	3	1	11	4	5	5	5	4	5	4	6	3	3	5
Most of the time	25	30	25	24	25	24	25	20	23	27	32	24	27	23	27	25	22	28	27	22	26	22
Some of the time	50	46	49	51	43	55	57	50	52	53	47	53	41	43	54	56	50	50	52	48	54	47
Hardly ever	21	20	20	22	27	19	15	27	23	20	11	19	28	29	15	15	24	18	16	27	17	26

TGLOC How often trust local govt to do what is right

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Just about always	4	6	6	3	6	3	3	3	4	2	9	5	0	6	4	4	3	6	4	4	3	6
Most of the time	25	40	26	25	22	30	26	21	26	25	27	26	23	23	26	26	22	28	28	22	27	22
Some of the time	53	44	49	55	51	52	57	52	53	56	52	52	55	51	54	57	52	53	55	51	55	52
Hardly ever	18	10	20	17	22	14	15	24	17	17	12	17	22	21	17	12	23	12	13	23	16	20

IDEO Self-reported political ideology

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Very conservative	9	15	10	9	10	10	8	9	6	15	11	8	16	12	10	6	10	8	9	10	10	9
Moderately conservative	30	32	29	30	33	21	31	23	32	27	37	31	23	31	26	30	28	32	34	25	34	26
Middle-of-the-road	35	29	36	34	33	38	36	42	34	33	28	35	35	33	36	41	34	36	32	38	35	35
Moderately liberal	18	16	18	18	15	26	18	15	20	15	22	17	20	15	20	19	18	18	18	18	15	20
Very liberal	8	8	7	9	9	6	8	11	9	10	3	9	5	10	7	5	10	6	8	9	7	10



Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey, 2009

Data Tables Continued

RALLY Attended a political meeting or rally in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	23	18			19	22	28					24	17	16	24	31			26	19	23	22
No	77	82			81	78	72					76	83	84	76	69			74	81	77	78

BLOOD Donated blood in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	10	18			8	7	15					9	14	7	13	9			11	9	9	11
No	90	82			92	93	85					91	86	93	87	91			89	91	91	89

Worked on a community project in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	29	34	74	82	20	28	44	28	30	33	29	29	32	21	32	39	26	34	32	27	30	29
No	71	66	26	18	80	72	56	72	70	68	72	71	68	79	68	61	74	66	68	73	70	72

Attended a public meeting in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	23	NA			26	25	53	30	43	37	30	36	28	19	38	52	28	43	42	28	42	29
No	77	NA			74	75	47	71	57	63	70	64	72	81	62	48	72	57	59	73	59	71
Mean	1.93	2.29																				

Attended a club/organizational meeting in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	45	NA	80	84	32	45	64	36	48	51	50	47	39	30	55	54	37	56	53	38	52	39
No	55	NA	20	16	68	55	36	64	52	49	50	53	61	70	45	46	63	44	48	62	48	61
Mean	6.59	4.72																				

Had friends over in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	91	NA	95	96	87	93	94	95	92	90	82	91	89	85	93	95	89	92	91	90	93	89
No	9	NA	5	4	13	7	6	5	8	10	18	9	11	15	7	5	11	8	9	10	7	11
Mean	32.84	19.29																				

Have been in the home of a friend of a different race in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	73	NA	88	91	71	74	78	87	77	65	58	70	87	71	76	78	77	69	70	77	71	75
No	27	NA	12	9	29	26	22	13	24	35	43	30	14	29	24	22	23	31	30	23	29	25
Mean	19.04	10.09																				

Have been in the home of someone of a different neighborhood in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	83	NA	93	95	77	88	89	91	86	80	71	83	74	75	89	90	81	86	85	81	84	82
No	17	NA	7	5	23	12	11	9	14	20	29	17	16	26	11	10	19	14	15	19	16	18

Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey, 2009

Data Tables Continued

Have been in home of community leader in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	29	NA	73	77	26	18	41	25	30	33	31	26	42	24	34	35	26	33	31	27	29	30
No	71	NA	26	23	75	82	59	75	70	67	69	74	58	76	66	65	74	67	69	73	71	70

Have volunteered in past 12 months

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	53	NA	80	84	40	51	72	49	59	50	50	53	50	41	57	61	43	65	57	49	55	50
No	47	NA	20	16	60	49	28	51	42	50	50	47	50	59	43	39	57	35	44	51	45	50
Mean	10.12	9.69																				

Served as officer or on committee of local club/organization

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Yes	16	NA	16	16	10	15	27	10	17	20	22	18	11	9	15	26	11	23	19	13	21	12
No	84	NA	84	84	91	85	73	90	83	80	78	82	89	91	85	74	89	77	81	87	79	88

RELATEND How often you attend religious services

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Every week (or more often)	26	40	23	30	29	17	30	15	19	29	49	28	21	25	27	24	26	28	29	24	30	23
Almost every week	9	8	7	11	6	12	12	6	10	10	11	9	9	7	14	6	9	9	11	7	11	7
Once or twice a month	13	17	12	14	11	13	15	13	17	10	9	12	15	10	15	14	12	14	13	13	13	12
A few times per year	17	20	20	15	16	15	18	21	16	22	9	17	16	17	14	21	17	16	17	17	18	15
Less often than that	35	14	7	9	7	12	6	9	9	4	8	8	10	10	7	9	8	9	10	5	7	9
Never			33	23	32	30	20	36	30	25	15	27	30	31	24	25	29	25	21	35	22	33

GIVEREL \$ contributed to religious and secular causes

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
None	19	18	28	21	6	29	16	13	15	17	28	28	21	31	13	8	23	14	12	27	10	28
Less than \$100	26	NA	22	29	35	21	16	22	26	25	31	25	31	38	25	11	29	22	21	32	22	30
100\$ to less than \$500	33	NA	33	33	27	37	40	37	33	34	28	34	29	25	38	41	32	34	36	30	35	31
\$500 to less than \$1000	11	NA	13	10	9	8	17	9	13	13	10	12	6	3	13	18	9	14	15	8	16	6
\$1000 to less than \$5000	9	NA	9	9	2	12	17	4	11	12	13	11	4	2	10	18	6	13	15	4	14	5
More than \$5000	1	NA	2	1	0	0	5	0	1	3	4	1	2	0	1	4	0	3	3	0	2	0

Are you very happy, happy, not very happy, or not happy at all

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Very happy	29	NA	26	32	24	31	36	36	23	28	29	30	27	19	32	39	24	36	35	22	38	21
Happy	58	NA	62	56	59	57	58	54	63	58	61	59	57	60	59	57	59	57	56	62	54	63
Not very happy	9	NA	10	9	13	9	4	9	8	11	9	8	12	17	7	3	12	5	7	11	6	12
Not happy at all	3	NA	3	4	4	3	2	2	6	3	2	3	4	5	2	1	5	2	2	5	3	4

HEALTH Reported overall health

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Excellent	7	5	18	14	12	21	19	24	15	11	10	16	17	11	15	23	13	19	18	13	18	14
Very Good	16	12	30	29	25	36	33	31	33	28	26	32	22	19	37	42	28	33	34	26	33	27
Good	32	28	29	34	32	26	36	34	28	29	35	31	36	30	35	26	32	32	30	34	30	34
Fair	30	34	15	18	24	11	9	8	15	21	24	15	20	27	11	7	19	12	14	19	14	19
Poor	16	21	8	6	8	7	4	2	9	11	5	7	6	13	2	1	8	4	4	9	5	7

TVONE Television is my primary form of entertainment

	Total	Total	Sex		Education			Age				Race		Income			City/Town		Own/Rent		Marital Status	
			Male	Female	<=H.S.	Some	Degree	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	White	Non-white	<30K	30K-75K	>75K	NB/FR	Town	Own	Rent	Married	Not Married
Agree strongly	30	31	35	25	42	25	16	19	29	36	40	31	28	43	22	22	34	25	27	33	27	33
Agree somewhat	32	23	32	32	27	34	36	38	27	33	29	32	30	26	34	35	28	36	33	30	35	28
(VOLUNTEERED) Neither/depends	4	4	4	4	4	1	6	4	5	3	4	4	6	3	5	2	3	5	4	4	5	3
Disagree somewhat	21	22	17	25	19	24	24	26	22	18	15	21	19	19	21	26	21	22	23	20	19	23
Disagree strongly	13	21	12	15	8	16	19	12	18	10	12	13	17	9	18	14	14	13	14	13	14	13

Data Tables Continued

LABOR Current employment status

	Total	Total
Working	41	62
Temporarily laid off	5	1
Unemployed	8	3
Retired	21	17
Permanently Disabled	14	5
Homemaker	7	10
Student	5	3

MARITAL Current marital status

	Total	Total
Never married	28	20
Widowed	10	6
Divorced	11	10
Separated	3	2
Currently married	48	62

KIDS Kids 17 or younger in household

#	Total	Total
0	58	55
1	19	17
2	16	15
3	6	8
4	1	3
5	1	1
6	0	0

EDUC Highest education completed

	Total	Total
Less than high school (Grade 11 or less)	14	17
High school diploma (including GED)	32	30
Some college	21	17
Assoc. degree (2 year) or specialized technical training	10	9
Bachelor's degree	14	15
Some graduate training	2	2
Graduate or professional degree	8	11

Data Tables Continued

EDUC2 GED or equivalency

	Total	Total
No	4	91
Yes	96	9

Race/Ethnicity

	Total	Total
White	80	NA
Hispanic	6	NA
African American/Black	5	NA
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	NA
Alaskan Native/Native American	0	NA
Other	7	NA

Are you an American citizen

	Total	Total
Yes	97	92
No	3	8

INCOME 2005 Total household income

	Total	Total
\$20,000 or less	25	13
Over 20K but <30K	17	15
\$30,000-\$49,999	20	23
\$50,000-\$74,999	12	19
\$75,000-\$99,999	12	13
\$100K+	15	16

Own or rent home

	Total	Total
Own	53	NA
Rent	47	NA

APPENDIX C - DEFINITION OF LOW, MODERATE, AND HIGH LEVELS OF SOCIAL CAPITAL

Dimension & Measure	Highest Score
Civic Leadership	
Attended a public meeting w/ discussion of town or schools	Yes
Attended a club or organizational meeting	Yes
Served as an officer or on committee of club/organization	Yes
Faith Based Engagement	
Frequency R attends religious services	Every week/almost every week
Giving and Volunteering	
Worked on a community project	Yes
Volunteered	Yes
Donated blood	Yes
Gave to religious or secular cause	Gave at least some amount
Informal Socializing	
In home of friend of a different race	Yes
Had friends over	Yes
In home of someone from different neighborhood	Yes
In home of community leader/had them in your home	Yes
Political Participation/Political Confidence	
Interest in politics and national affairs	Very interested
Registered to vote	Yes
How often trust national gov't to do what's right	Just about always
How often trust local gov't to do what's right	Just about always
Attended a political rally	Yes
Social and Iner-Racial Trust	
Generally can most people be trusted	People can be trusted
Trust whites	Trust them a lot
Trust African Americans or blacks	Trust them a lot
Trust Hispanics	Trust them a lot
Trust police	Trust them a lot
Trust people where you shop	Trust them a lot
Trust people in your neighborhood	Trust them a lot

