

Analysis of Hudson Avenue

TIPS Initiative

(Trust – Information – Programs – Services)

Working Paper # 2009-03

November 2009

Greg Drake
Center for Public Safety Initiatives
Rochester Institute of Technology
585-475-2432
Gmd3165@rit.edu

John Klofas
Center for Public Safety Initiatives
Rochester Institute of Technology
585-475-2432
jmkgcj@rit.edu

(Trust – Information – Programs – Services)

Analysis of Hudson Avenue TIPS Initiative Survey

The TIPS initiative, which stands for Trust, Information, Programs, and services, on Hudson Avenue in Rochester, New York, was implemented to both to show support for a neighborhood that has been taken aback by drugs and youth violence, and to investigate community member's concerns and desires for their neighborhood. This report is designed to analyze the second part of that initiative. It will discuss the various likes that the community around Hudson Avenue has for the neighborhood, the various concerns the community around Hudson Avenue has about their neighborhood, and the initiatives or activities the community around Hudson Avenue would like implemented within the neighborhood. Finally, this paper will provide multiple anecdotes that the community members near Hudson Avenue wish to share with law enforcement and community members in the community around Hudson Avenue.

Methodology

The initiative used surveys to obtain this information. These surveys asked people to list their likes, concerns, and desires for things to be done within their neighborhood. The surveys asked community members how much they liked living in their area, how long they have lived there, and how likely they were to be living in the area in the future. The surveys then asked the respondents if they had anything specific to tell the police, and, finally, if they had anything to share with their fellow community members.

Groups of three or four volunteers were sent out to administer the survey to pre-selected streets in the neighborhood. Each group had at least one Rochester City Police officer with them. These groups were instructed to travel down one side of the street and then return on the other side, knocking on every door. When residents answered, the volunteers were to read a ready made script to the participant and then conduct the survey. Only those houses where residents responded and agreed to take the survey were included in the sample.

Because of this door-by-door sampling method, the resulting sample is not a random sample of the community surrounding Hudson Avenue. Despite this, the resulting analysis should give valuable insight into the various issues within the Hudson Avenue community.

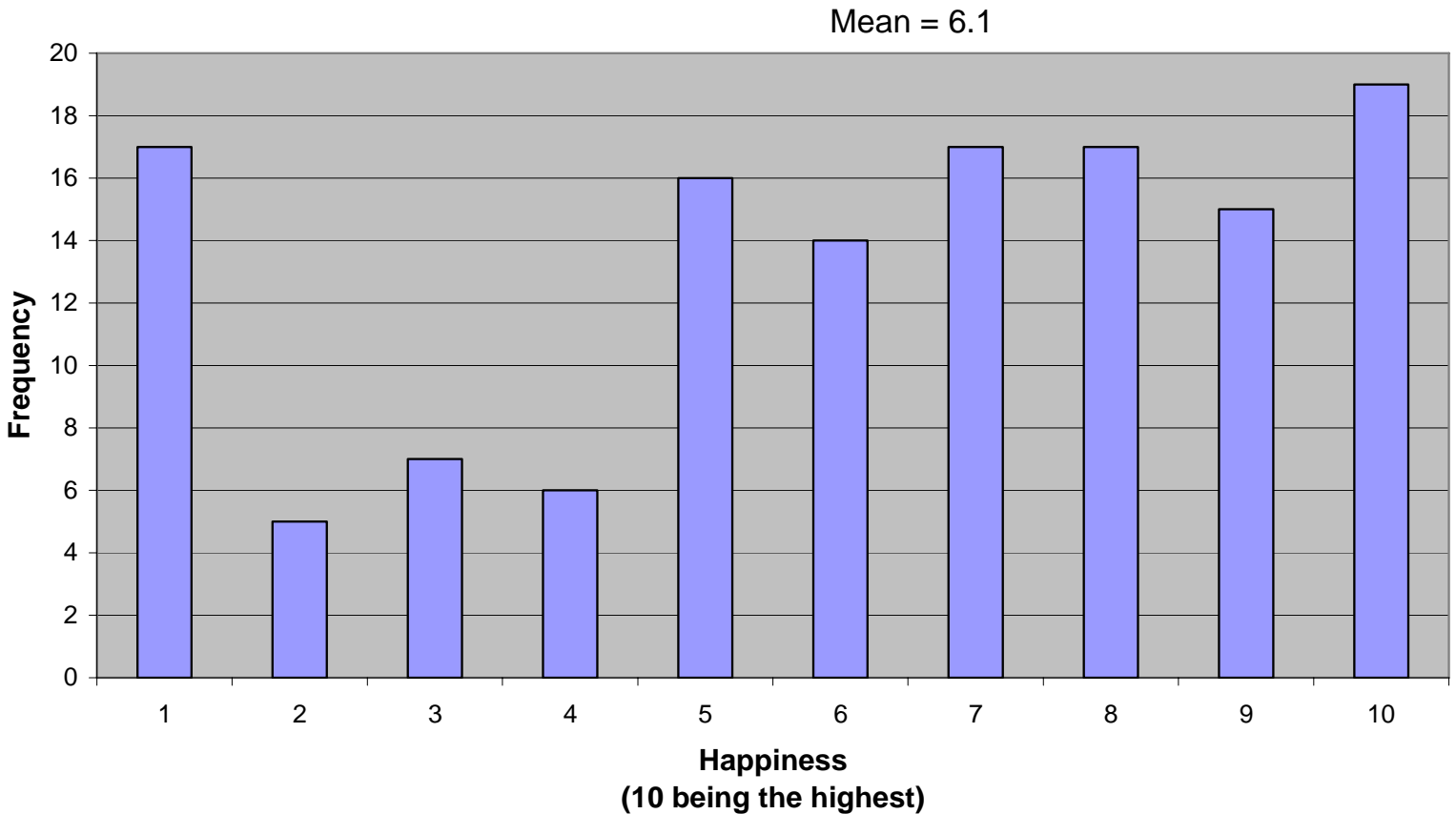
Data

Twelve streets, comprised of thirteen street blocks, were surveyed. These streets were Weaver Street, Pulaski Street, Peckham Street, Norton Street, Sobieski Street, Kosciusko Street, Stanislaus Street, Northeast Avenue, St. Casimir Street, North Street, and Wakefield Street. Due to a small number of surveys collected on each street it is difficult to accurately compare between them. Therefore, for this analysis the surveys

collected from the streets mentioned above will be pooled together for analysis. This group will be referred to as 'the community around Hudson Avenue'.

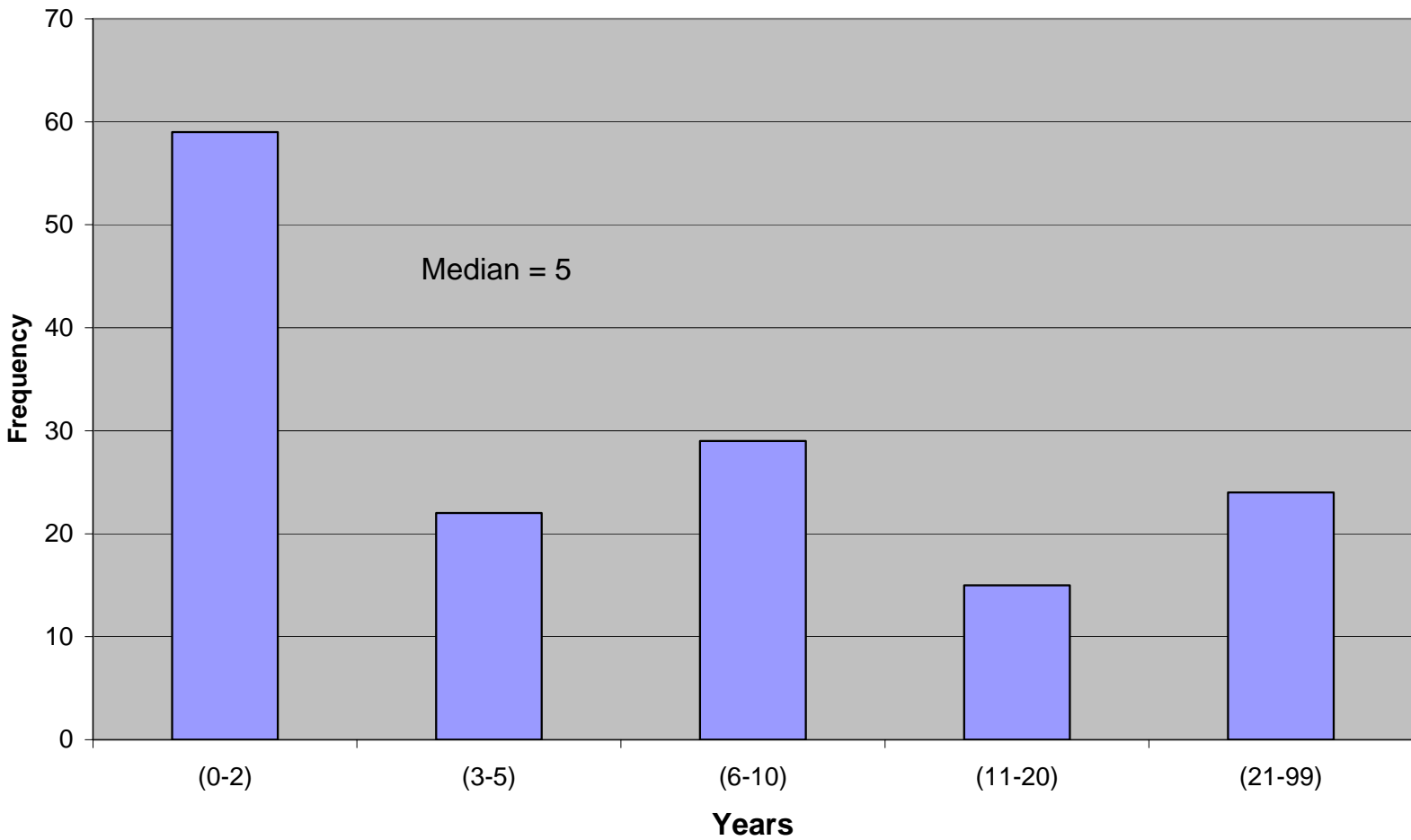
The first question to the community around Hudson Avenue asked respondents to rate on a scale of one to ten, ten being the highest, how happy they were living in their neighborhood. This was the second time that this question was asked in a TIPS survey. Most respondents, 14.3%, listed a ten, the highest possible score. Overall, 61.7% reported a 6 or higher. The mean, or average, response for this section was a 6.1 on the 1-10 scale.

Hudson Avenue Area Respondents' Happiness in Living in the Area N = 133



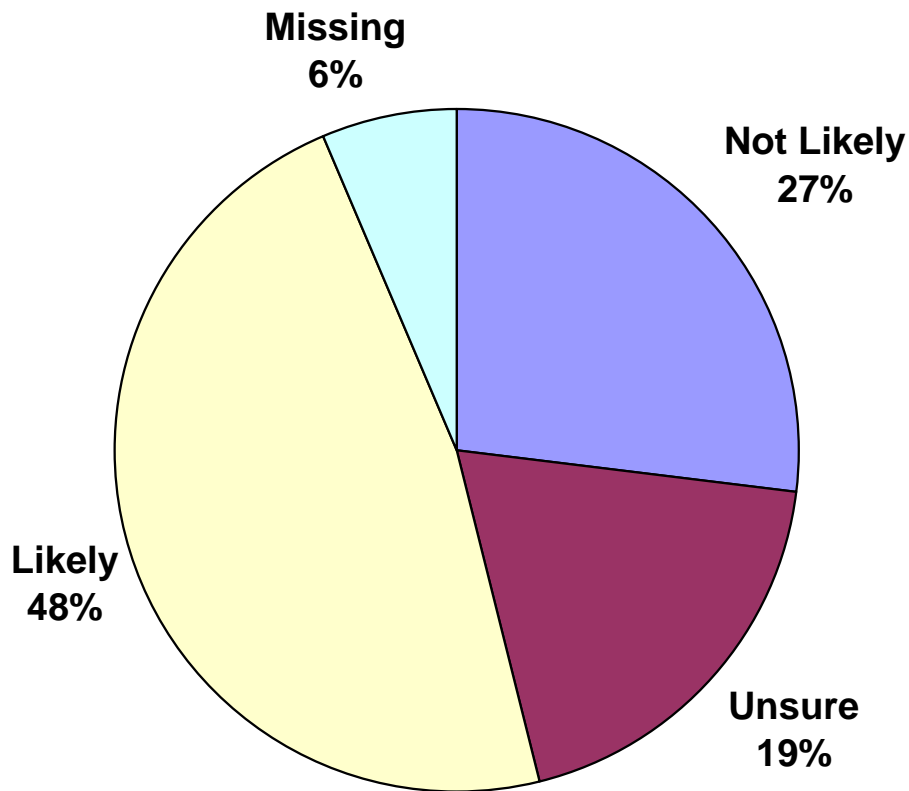
The next question asked respondents how long they had lived in the community around Hudson Avenue. Of the respondents, 26.6% had lived in the area one year or less, 51.1% reported living in the area five years or less, and 71.9% reported living in the area 10 years or less. The median number of years lived in the area for these respondents was five.

Respondents' Years Lived in Hudson Avenue Area



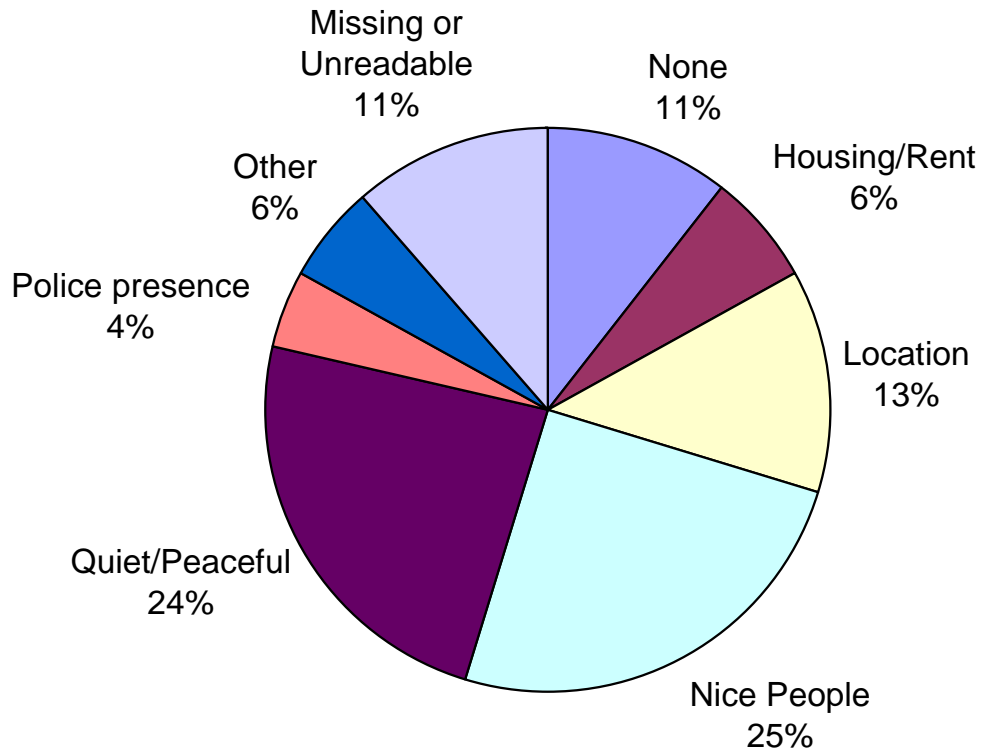
The next question asked residents how likely they were to be living in the community around Hudson Avenue in two years time. Responses were taken on a three point scale consisting of the responses 'not likely', 'unsure', and 'likely'. Of the 141 residents who were recorded in this survey, 48% responded that they were likely to be in the area in two years, 19% responded that they were unsure, and 27% responded that it was not likely that they would be in the area in two years. Only 6% of those surveyed did not answer this question.

Respondents' Likelihood of Being in the Neighborhood in 2 Years
N = 141



The next question asked residents to list the one thing they liked most in the community around Hudson Avenue. This question was open ended, meaning that the residents were not limited as to what they could respond. Most respondents, 25%, stated that they liked the people around Hudson Avenue, followed by 24% reporting that they liked how the area was 'quiet' or peaceful. The remaining responses are depicted in the graphic below. The category of 'other' refers to the responses of 'cameras', 'community programs', 'don't know, just moved here', 'lived there a long time', and 'its safe'.

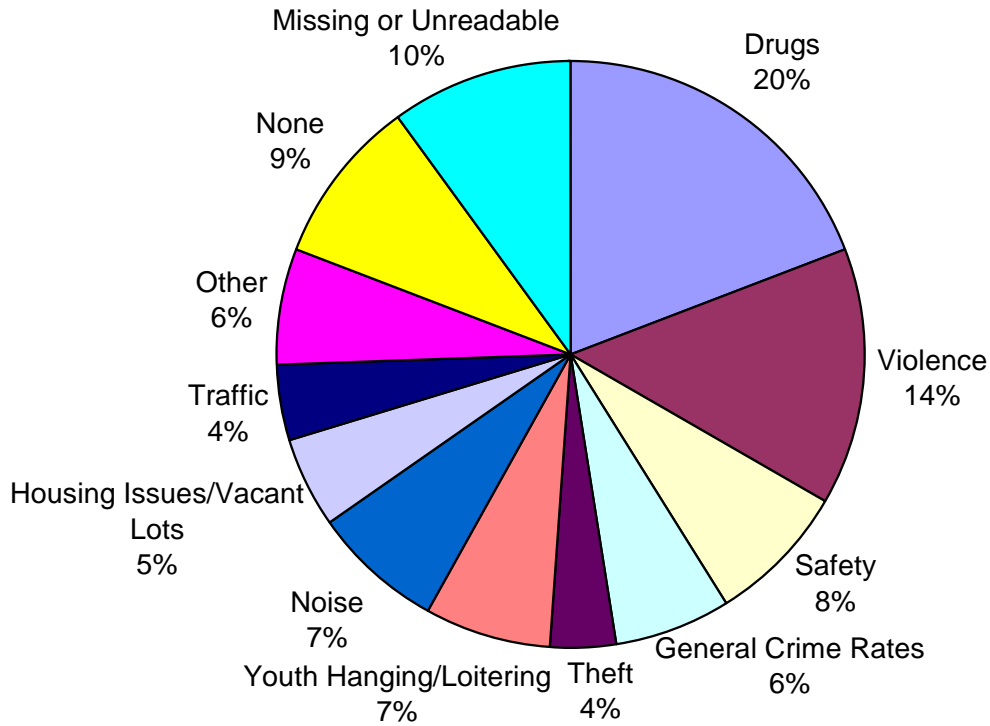
Hudson Avenue Area Respondents' Likes N = 141



The next question asked residents to list up to three concerns that they had in the community around Hudson Avenue. In this survey, the respondents were also asked to list these concerns in ranked order. The highest concerns listed by the community around Hudson Avenue will be discussed first, then the second, and then the third.

For the residents' highest listed concerns, 20% reported drugs and 14% reported violence. Of the respondents, 9% specifically reported that they had no concerns whatsoever.

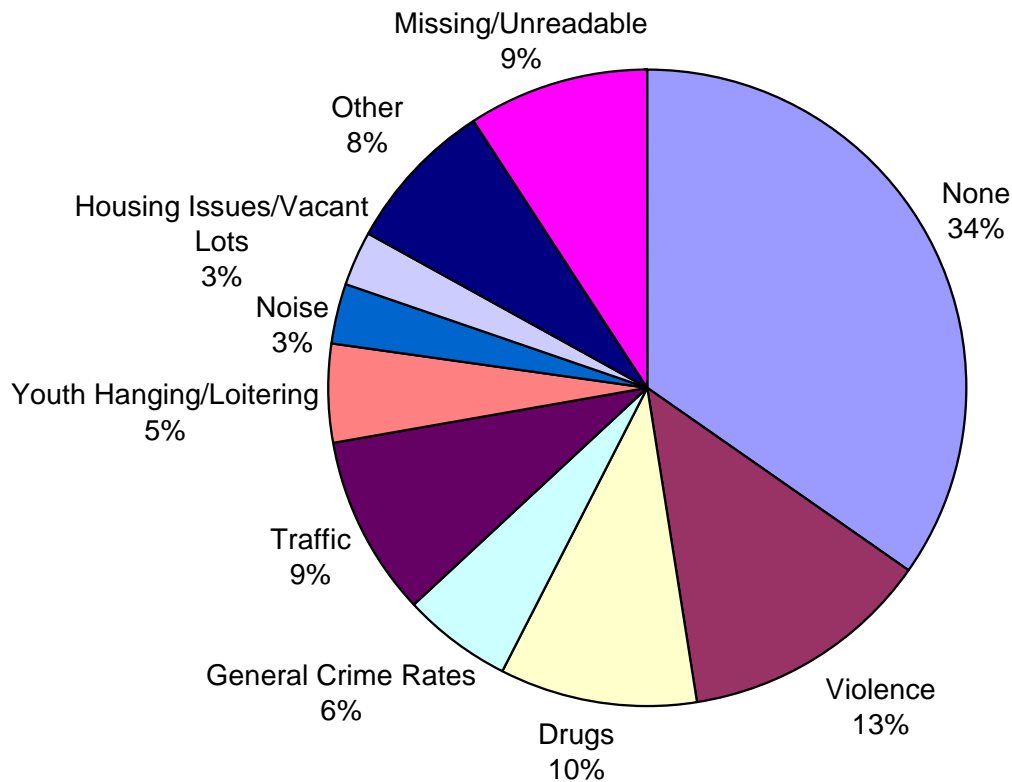
Hudson Avenue Respondents' Highest Concern N = 141



Other category includes: Failing Schools(3), Gangs(2), Anti-Gay Attitudes(1), Disrespectful Youth(1), Curfew(1), and Lack of Parental Supervision(1)

For the resident's second highest concern, 13% reported violence and 10% reported drugs. Because of the ranking system in the survey, those respondents who left only one concern total were reported as having no second highest concern and were coded with a 'none'. Resulting from this is 34% of the respondents reporting that they have no second concern.

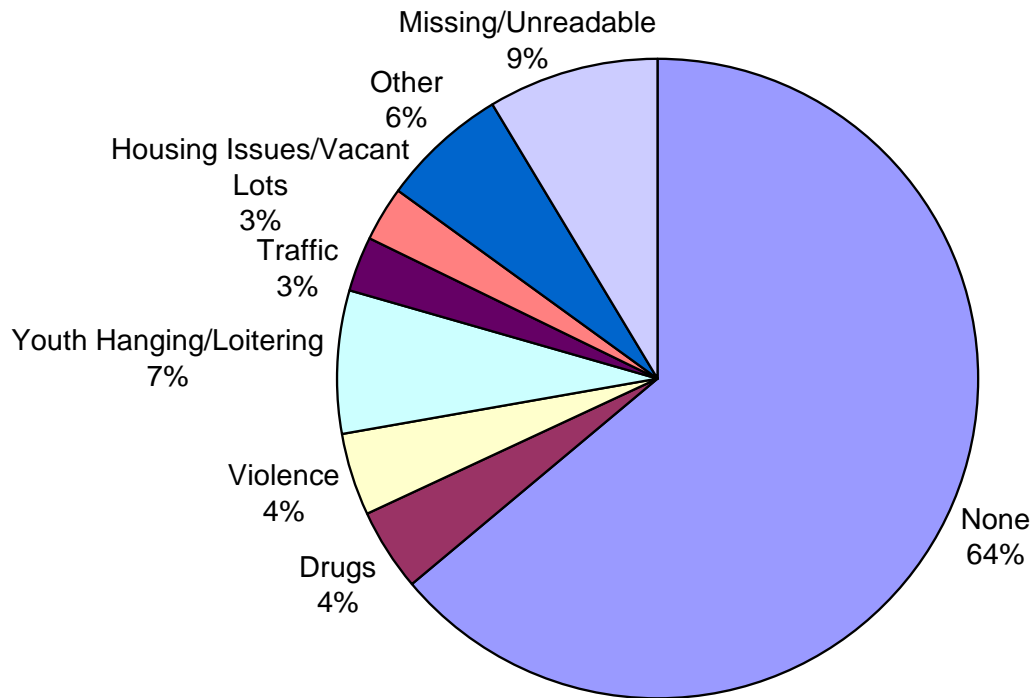
Hudson Avenue Respondents' Second Highest Concerns



Other category includes: Theft(1), Burglary(1), Personal Safety(1), Camera Surveillance(1), Verbal Disputes(1), Unprofessional Businesses(1), Vandalism(1), Gangs(2), and Garbage on Streets(2).

For the third highest concern, 7% reported concern for youth hanging out or loitering and 4% reported concern for both drugs and violence. Finally, 64% did not report a third concern for the same reason as stated for the second highest concern.

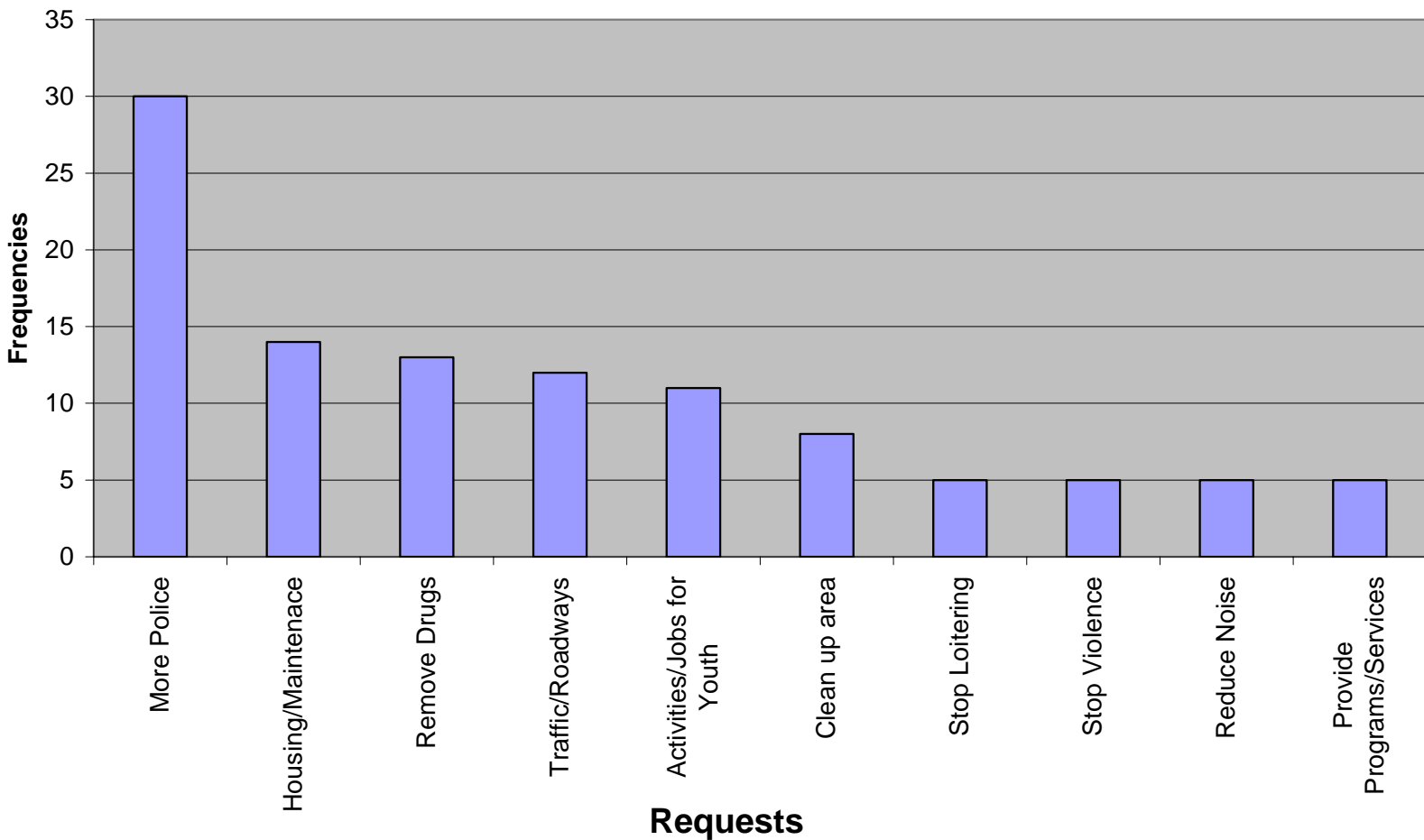
Hudson Avenue Respondents' Third Highest Concerns



Other category includes: Garbage on Streets(1), Prostitution(1), Camera Surveillance(1), General Crime(1), Rape(1), Verbal Disputes(2), Noise(2)

The next question asked respondents if there were any specific requests to be done in the community around Hudson Avenue. A total of 97 respondents listed a total of 122 requests. Only 25 respondents listed two requests. The most frequent requests were for more police officers followed by dealing housing and maintenance issues, which included tearing down abandoned houses and cleaning up yards. The remainder of the requests is listed below. Note that this graphic does not include the less frequent requests for; cameras(3), faster police response(3), street lights(2), curfew(1), take care of animals(1), more parental involvement(1), more police effort(1), to fix schools(1).

Specific Requests To Be Done



The next two questions asked respondents if they had anything specific to tell the police or their fellow community members. Because these questions were open ended, very little in the way of quantification can be done. However, their anecdotes can provide interesting insight into how the members of the community around Hudson Avenue think and feel about crime and quality of life issues in their community.

In regards to specific reports to tell police, 55 of the 141 left an answer. Of those, 20 reported specific crimes or behaviors. Those reports have been provided to Rochester Police Chief David Moore. Seven people provided encouragement for the police, saying that they were doing well. Six offered criticisms of police, requesting faster response times or stating that they ‘need to do their job.’

In regards to specific ideas to tell community members, 51 of the 141 left responses. Of those, 17 reported that community organization would be helpful. Another four requested community watch type programs. Other responses asked neighbors to watch their kids and to be safe.

Crosstab Analysis

Cross tabulation is a research method that allows for the examination of subsets of a group. In the case of this survey people who reported different lengths of residence, different probabilities of remaining in the area, and different levels of happiness will be examined across some of the questions in the survey.

To begin, the paper will examine if the amount of time spent in the community is a predictor of the likelihood of remaining in the area in two years time. Statistical analysis depicted in appendix A shows that it does. People who report living in the area for less than 10 years are relatively evenly spread in their likelihood of remaining in the area. However, people who report being in the area for more than 10 years report that they are more likely to stay in the area.

Secondly, the paper will examine the affect of a resident’s happiness on that resident’s likelihood of remaining in the area. Analysis shows that people who report being less happy are less likely to report that they will be in the area. Consistent with this, people who report being happier are more likely to report that they will be in the area. This data is shown in appendix B of this report.

Lastly, the paper will examine if the amount of time lived in the area affects the level of happiness reported by the residents. Statistical analysis, provided in appendix C, show that residents who live in the area for less than 2 years are more likely to be unhappy than those who live in the area between 3 and 10 years, but, those who live in the area for more than 10 years are most likely to be unhappy. Those who live in the area for less than 5 years are less likely to report the highest level of happiness living in the

neighborhood compared to those live in the neighborhood between 6 and 10 years. Those who live in the area for 11 years or more are less likely to report the highest level of happiness in the neighborhood compared to those who have lived there for between 6 and 10 years.

Appendix A

**Years Lived in Area * How likely are you to be living in this neighborhood in two years?
Crosstabulation**

			How likely are you to be living in this neighborhood in two years?			Total
			Not Likely	Unsure	Likely	
Years Lived in Area	0-2	Count	18	11	17	46
		Percent	47.4%	40.7%	25.4%	34.8%
	3-5	Count	5	5	11	21
		Percent	13.2%	18.5%	16.4%	15.9%
	6-10	Count	10	5	13	28
		Percent	26.3%	18.5%	19.4%	21.2%
	11-20	Count	5	6	26	37
		Percent	13.2%	22.2%	38.8%	28.0%
Total		Count	38	27	67	132
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	10.773(a)	6	.096
Likelihood Ratio	11.213	6	.082
Linear-by-Linear Association	7.608	1	.006
N of Valid Cases	132		

Appendix B

Happiness * How likely are you to be living in this neighborhood in two years? Crosstab

			How likely are you to be living in this neighborhood in two years?			Total
			Not Likely	Unsure	Likely	
Happiness	Not Very Happy	Count	13	6	8	27
		Percent	37.1%	23.1%	12.7%	21.8%
	Happy	Count	14	9	26	49
		Percent	40.0%	34.6%	41.3%	39.5%
	Very Happy	Count	8	11	29	48
		Percent	22.9%	42.3%	46.0%	38.7%
Total	Count	35	26	63	124	
	Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	9.641(a)	4	.047
Likelihood Ratio	9.744	4	.045
Linear-by-Linear Association	8.486	1	.004
N of Valid Cases	124		

Appendix C

Happiness* Years Lived in Area

			Years Lived in Area				Total
			0-2	3-5	6-10	11-90	
Happiness	Not Happy	Count	13	1	4	11	29
		Percent	27.1%	4.8%	14.3%	30.6%	21.8%
	In Between	Count	21	13	7	12	53
		Percent	43.8%	61.9%	25.0%	33.3%	39.8%
	Happy	Count	14	7	17	13	51
		Percent	29.2%	33.3%	60.7%	36.1%	38.3%
Total		Count	48	21	28	36	133
		Percent	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	14.973(a)	6	.020
Likelihood Ratio	15.637	6	.016
Linear-by-Linear Association	.474	1	.491
N of Valid Cases	133		