

**Community Concerns and Desires: Analysis of
Edgerton Park TIPS Compared to TIPS Average
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On August 25th, 2016, the TIPS (Trust, Information, Programs, and Services) initiative was held at the Edgerton Park in Rochester, New York. The main goal of this initiative is to improve relations between the community and law enforcement through face-to-face interaction, as well as community building through the event that takes place during the initiative with a barbecue, activities for children, and services. Surveys developed by CPSI were administered in approximately twenty-three different street segments surrounding Edgerton Park by collective quantitative data regarding the community's demographics, concerns, perception of police practices, as well as feelings of safety and social cohesion of the neighborhood. In addition, we added questions regarding the awareness of Rochester Police Department's (RPD) implementation of body-worn cameras as well as questions about their usage.

Methodology

Approximately twenty-three groups of one to three volunteers and a law enforcement officer were sent out to the various street segments selected in the Edgerton Park neighborhood. Each group was given brief instructions to knock on every door in their street segment and verbally administer the survey to those who agree to participate. All the survey participants were 18 years of age or older and lived in the area that was surveyed.

It is important to note that because the survey respondents were not selected randomly, there is likely some bias in the results (i.e., only those home when the survey was conducted can complete it), and the results from this study cannot be generalized to the population at large. Therefore, the results of data analysis can only be applied to the Edgerton Park neighborhood.

Within this paper we also included average percentage responses from previous 2015 TIPS locations. These four locations are: Troup Street, Grand Avenue and Chamberlain Street,

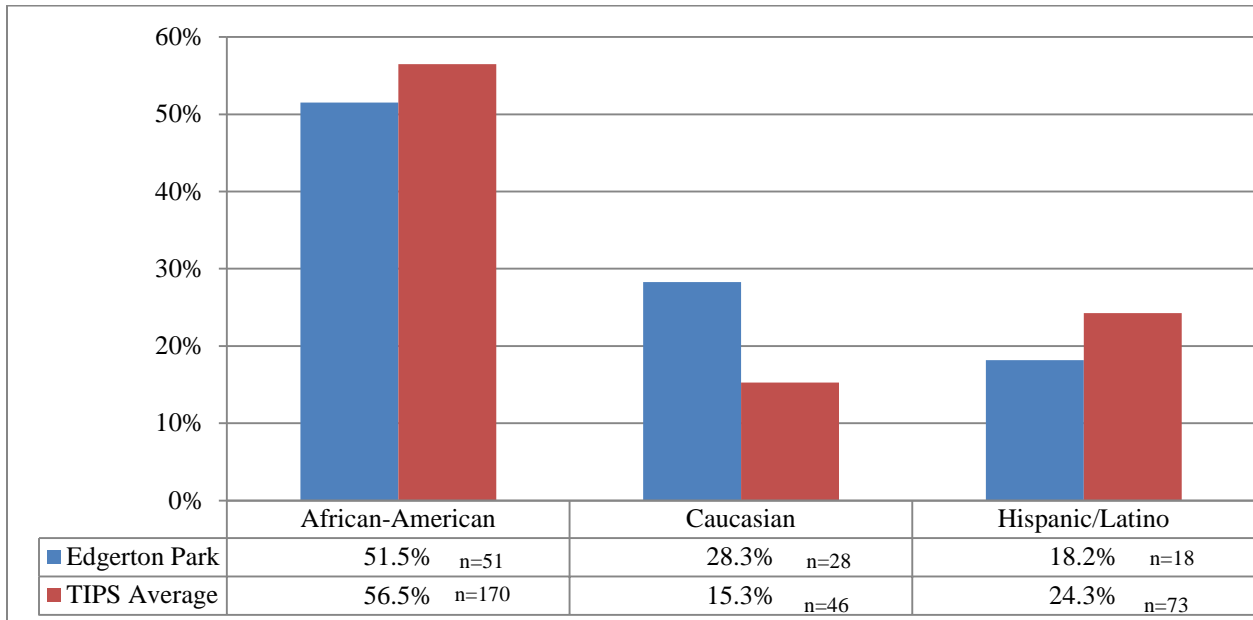
Avenue D and Conkey Street, and Carter and Norton Streets. This will give a reference point and provide comparisons to the average 2015 TIPS neighborhood

Demographics

Ethnicity

From the 108 respondents who took TIPS surveys, 99 answered questions about their ethnicity. In the Edgerton Park community, respondents who were surveyed are primarily African American (51.5%). The second largest ethnic population was Caucasian (28.3%), followed by the Hispanic/Latino population with 18.2% (See Figure 1). Overall, these percentages were similar to the 2015 TIPS average.

Figure 1: Edgerton Park TIPS Respondents Ethnicity (N=99) versus 2015 TIPS Average (N=301)

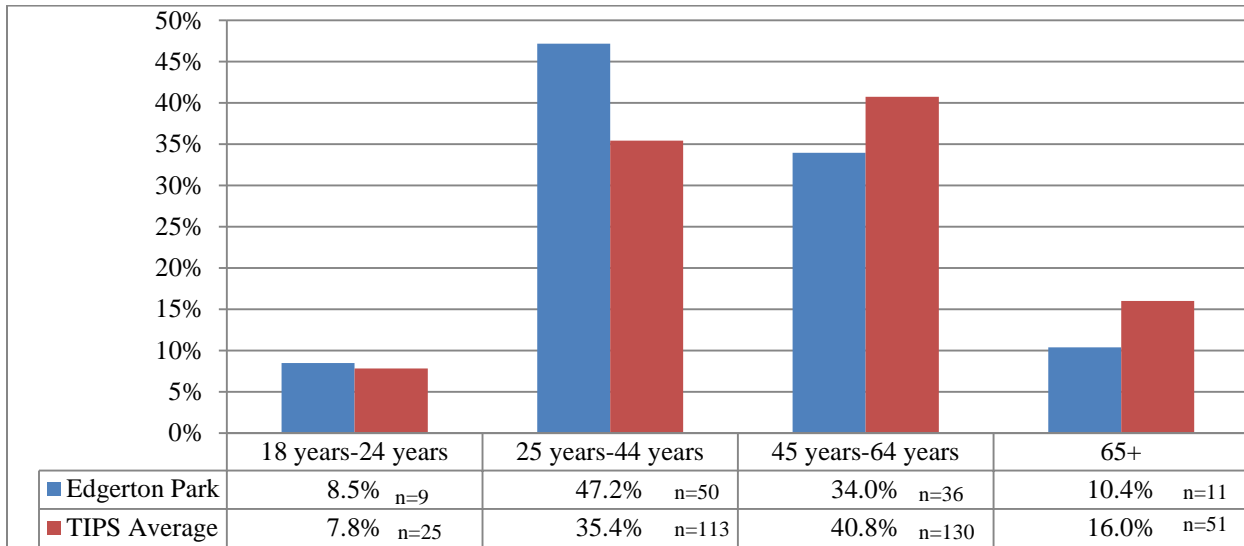


Note: Due to the limited responses from participants identifying with other ethnicities, they were not included in this chart. Therefore percentages will not add up to 100% for the 2015 TIPS Average or Edgerton Park.

Age

The majority of respondents in the Edgerton Park neighborhood fell into the 25-44 year old age range (47.2%). The second largest age group of respondents was in the 45-64 year old range (34% - See Figure 2). Edgerton Park respondents were slightly younger than the 2015 TIPS respondents.

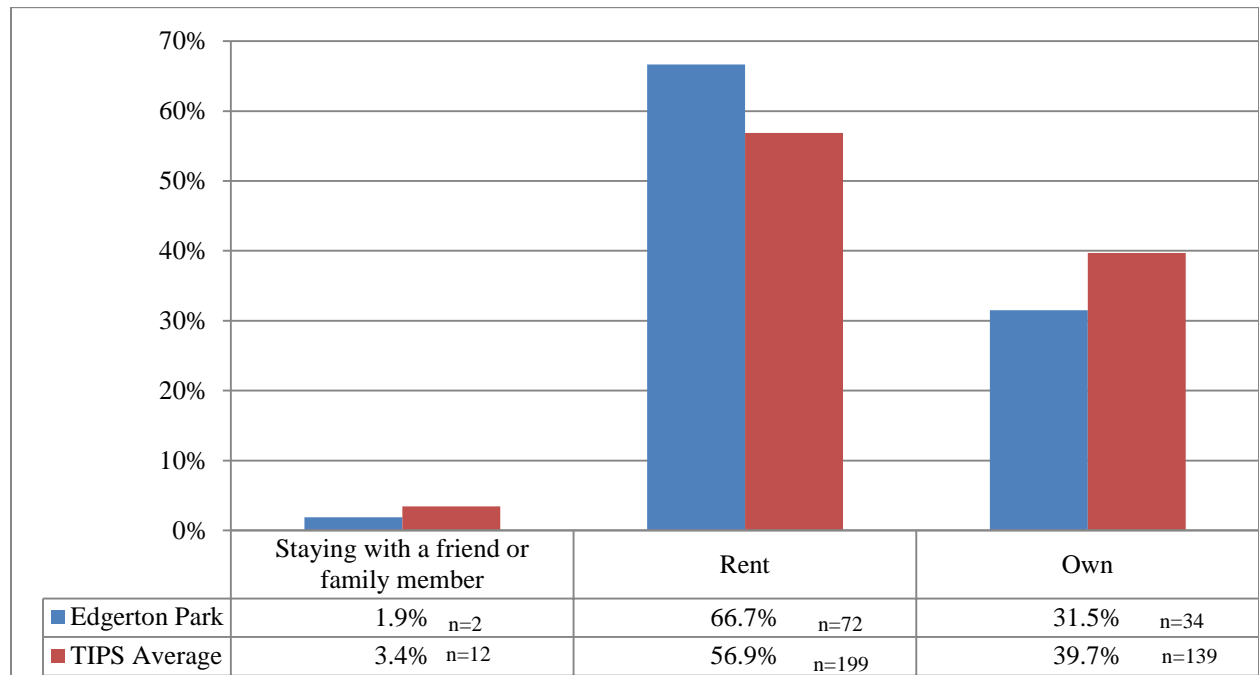
Figure 2: Edgerton Park TIPS Respondents Age (N=106) versus 2015 TIPS Average (N=319)



Homeownership and Social Cohesion

Renters represented the largest group of respondents who participated in the survey (66.7%) and 31.5% owned their residence (See Figure 3). Homeownership is slightly lower than the 2015 TIPS average homeownership (39.7% - See Figure 3).

Figure 3: Residential Status of Edgerton Park TIPS Respondents (N=108) versus 2015 TIPS Average (N=350)



We also wanted to measure the social cohesion of the Edgerton Park neighborhood. Questions on the survey such as “How often do you speak to your neighbors,” and “How many different neighbors do you speak to regularly,” helped us measure this. We found that Edgerton Park respondents spoke to their neighbors slightly more than the 2015 TIPS average, and spoke to fewer neighbors than the 2015 TIPS average (See Figures 4 and 5).

Figure 4: How Many Different Neighbors Edgerton Park Respondents Speak To (N=99) Versus 2015 TIPS Average (N=239)

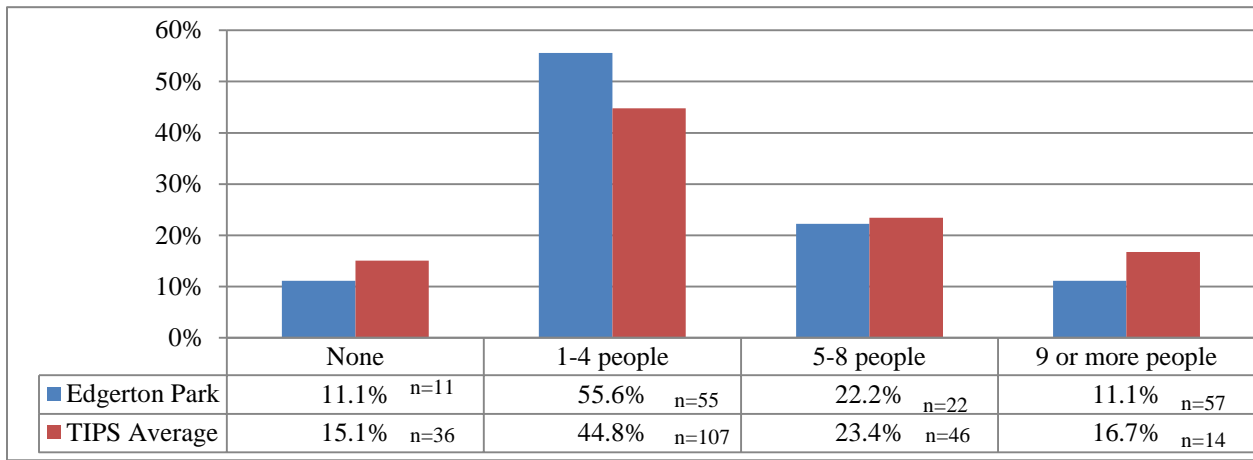
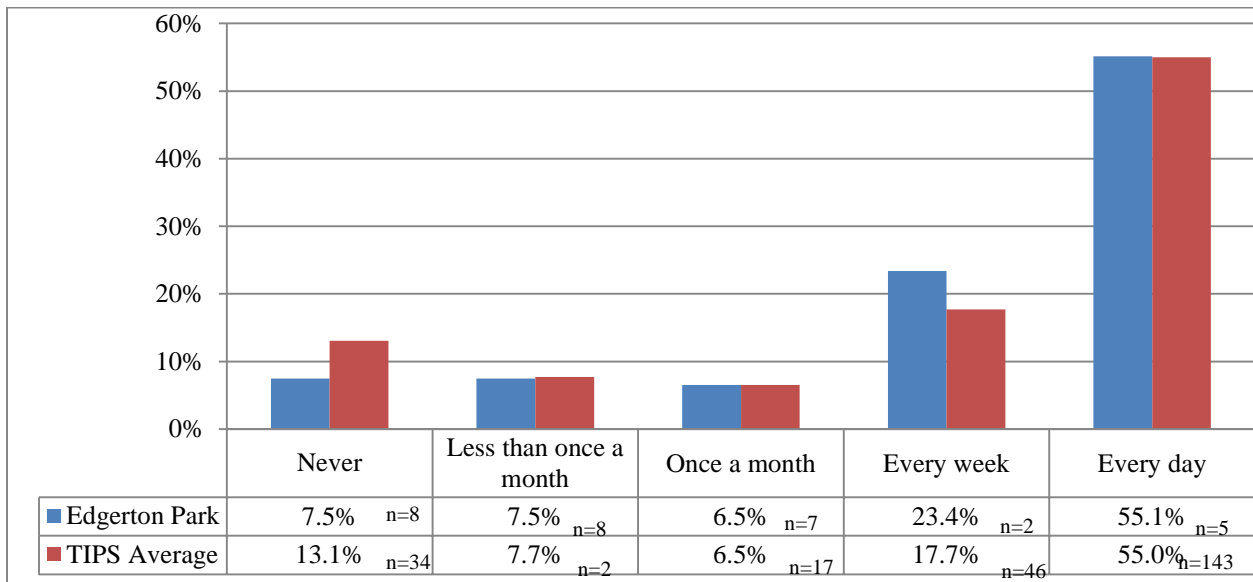


Figure 5: How Often Edgerton Park Respondents Speak To Their Neighbors (N=107) Versus 2015 TIPS Average (N=260)



Community Concerns

We asked participants a variety of questions about their level of concern for specific issues that may occur within their neighborhood. Respondents were given a choice to respond to a concern question with: “not at all,” minor concern,” or “major concern.” Overall, the largest

concerns for the Edgerton Park neighborhood were speeding, drug use, and violence. When compared to the 2015 TIPS average, Edgerton Park had higher speeding concerns (65.4%), higher violence concerns (45.4%), and higher stray animal concerns (30.5% - See Table 1).

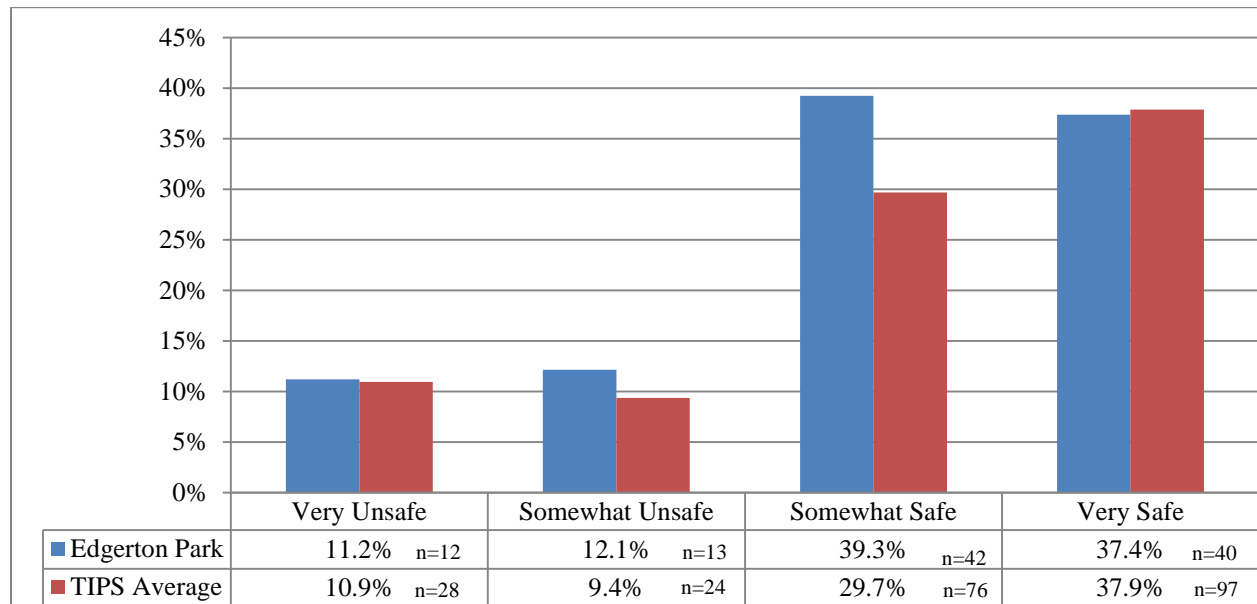
Table 1: Edgerton Park Village Major Community Concerns versus 2015 TIPS Average

Concern	Edgerton Park		2015 TIPS Average	
Speeding	N=106	65.4% (n=70)	N=253	54.5% (n=138)
Drug Use	N=107	50.0% (n=54)	N=250	50.0% (n=125)
Violence	N=108	45.4% (n=49)	N=255	38.8% (n=99)
Drug Selling	N=105	41.9% (n=44)	N=252	44.0% (n=111)
Stray Animals/Pests	N=105	30.5% (n=32)	N=251	20.3% (n=51)
Burglary	N=106	29.2% (n=31)	N=254	35.4% (n=90)
Property Maintenance	N=104	25.0% (n=26)	N=237	25.3% (n=60)
Gangs	N=106	20.8% (n=22)	N=249	31.3% (n=78)

Feelings of Safety

We also asked respondents how safe they felt in their neighborhood. The majority of respondents felt somewhat safe (39.3%) followed by very safe (37.4%). Overall, these percentages were similar to the 2015 TIPS average.

Figure 6: How Safe Edgerton Park TIPS Residents Feel (N=107) versus 2015 TIPS Average (N=256)



Note: The response of “neutral” feeling of safety was omitted as it was only included in the Grand Avenue and Chamberlain Street survey. Therefore, the 2015 TIPS Average will not total 100%

Collective Efficacy

A portion of the survey asked questions related to the concept of “collective efficacy” (Sampson, Raudenbush, & Earls, 1997, p. 919). Collective efficacy is a term coined by Sampson, Raudenbush, and Earls (1997) in their study of Chicago neighborhoods.¹ We used three of the questions, shown in Table 2, from a survey developed by Sampson et al. (1997) to measure the collective efficacy of Edgerton Park neighborhoods. Higher collective efficacy is associated with decreased neighborhood violence, motivational commitment to group missions, and resilience to adversity.² Respondents were asked whether they “strongly agreed,” “agreed,” “disagreed,” or “strongly disagreed” with a collective efficacy question. For the purpose of this table we coded

¹ Sampson, J. R., Raudenbush, W. S., & Earls, F. (1997). Neighborhoods and violent crime: A multilevel study of collective efficacy. *Science*, 277, 918-924

² Bandura, A. (2000). Exercise of human agency through collective efficacy. *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 9(3), 75-78

responses of strongly agree and agree into “agreement,” as well as responses of strongly disagree and disagree into “disagreement.” Furthermore, we compiled the coded responses into a scale in which “agreement” to a question was counted as a point into the scale, in which the highest score is “3” and the lowest score is “0.” Edgerton Park residents agreed substantially less to these questions in comparison to the 2015 TIPS Average (See Table 2). Overall, Edgerton Park’s mean score for collective efficacy was 1.76, which is lower than the 2015 TIPS Average of 2.03.

Table 2: Percentage of Edgerton Park Respondents Who Agree with Collective Efficacy Questions versus 2015 TIPS Average

Statement	Edgerton Park		2015 TIPS Average	
	N	% (n)	N	% (n)
People around here are willing to help neighbors.	N=103	68.0% (n=70)	N=259	79.9% (n=207)
I could count on my neighbors to intervene if a fight broke out in front of my house.	N=104	55.8% (n=58)	N=256	65.2% (n=167)
People in this neighborhood share the same values.	N=101	51.5% (n=52)	N=253	58.1% (n=147)

Law Enforcement Satisfaction

As with the collective efficacy scale questions, the Rochester Police Satisfaction questions were developed with similar criteria. Individuals were able to respond to the questions with: strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree. For the purpose of this table as well as the Rochester Police Department Satisfaction scale, strongly agree and agree were coded into “agreement,” similarly, strongly disagree and disagree were coded into “disagreement.”

Agreement to questions were counted as points towards our “RPD Satisfaction Scale,” with exception to the last two questions in the table which were reverse coded, where agreement would imply dissatisfaction. The lowest score on the RPD scale would be a “0” with the highest being a “6.”

Table 3: Percentage of Edgerton Park Respondents Who Agree With Police Satisfaction Statements vs. 2015 TIPS Average

Statement	Edgerton Park		2015 TIPS Average	
	N	% (n)	N	% (n)
The RPD does a good job preventing crime.	N=104	77.9% (n=81)	N=261	71.3% (n=186)
RPD officers listen to what you have to say.	N=90	74.4% (n=67)	N=258	76.7% (n=198)
The police work with the community to solve problems that really matter to people in my neighborhood.	N=94	67.0% (n=63)	N=252	75.0% (n=282)
RPD response time is appropriate	N=99	62.6% (n=62)	N=255	63.5% (n=162)
Police use of excessive force (verbal or physical) is an issue in my neighborhood.	N=100	26.0% (n=26)	N=235	33.2% (n=78)
Police stopping people without good reason is a problem in my neighborhood.	N=103	19.4% (n=20)	N=233	30.5% (n=71)

Edgerton Park respondents perceived RPD practices differently than the 2015 TIPS average. They agreed with the statement “The RPD does a good job preventing crime” (77.9%) more than the 2015 TIPS average (71.3% - See Table 3). Edgerton Park respondents agreed less with the statement “The police work with the community to solve problems that really matter to people in my neighborhood” (67.0%) than the 2015 TIPS average (75.0% - See Table 3). Lastly, Edgerton Park respondents perceived unwarranted stopping by the police and excessive force by

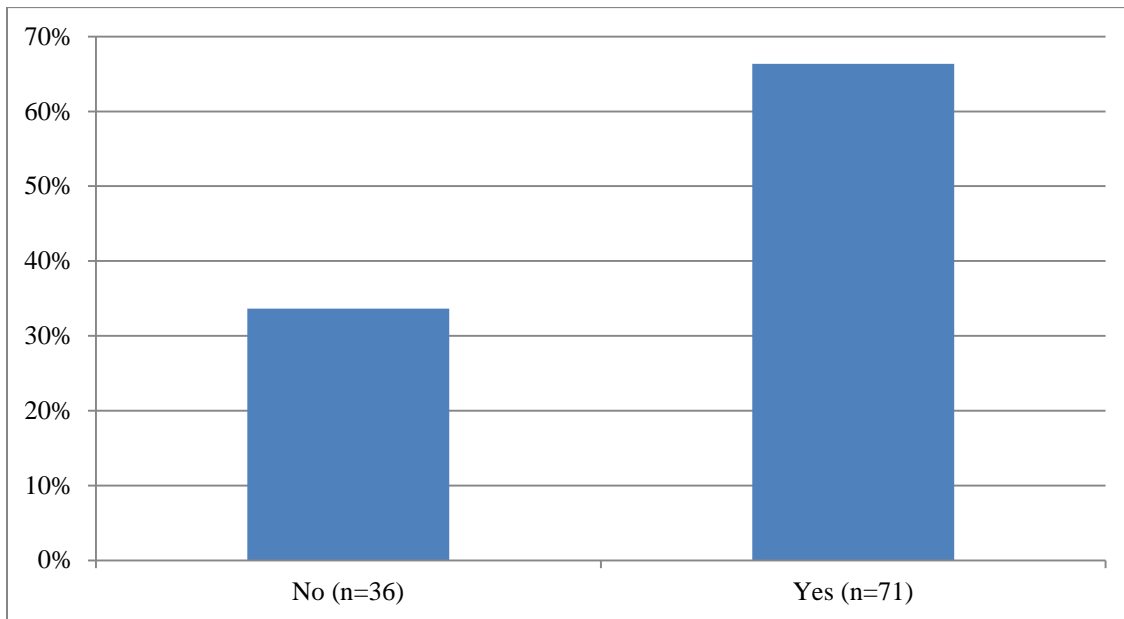
the police to be less of an issue than the 2015 TIPS average (See Table 3). Overall, Edgerton Park’s mean Rochester Police Satisfaction score was 4.33, marginally better than the 2015 TIPS average of 4.22.

Body Worn Cameras

Our newest survey revision included questions about respondents’ awareness and feelings towards RPD’s implementation of body worn cameras. This item was not asked on the 2015 TIPS surveys. “Body worn cameras” are cameras worn by police on their uniform. The videos record incidents before, during, and after an incident.

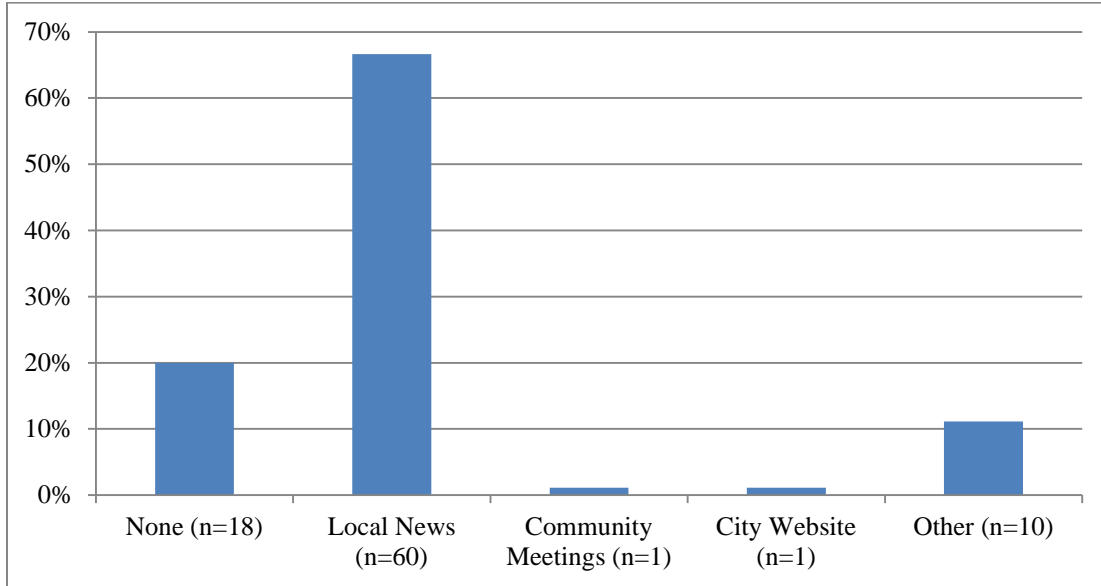
The first question we asked was whether respondents were aware that the RPD was using body worn cameras. Furthermore, 66.4% of respondents were aware that the RPD was using body worn cameras (See Figure 7).

Figure 7: Norton Village’s Awareness of RPD Using Body Worn Cameras (N=107)



The second question asked respondents what sources they used to obtain information on body worn cameras. Most found their information from the local news (66.7%), followed by “none” (20.0%), then “other” (11.1% - See Figure 8).

Figure 8: Edgerton Park's Sources Used to Find Out About Body Cameras (N=90)



When respondents were asked if they felt body worn cameras would improve community relations with the RPD, approximately 79% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed, and 21% disagreed or strongly disagreed (See Figure 9). When respondents were asked if they felt body worn cameras would be used fairly, approximately 82% either agreed or strongly agreed, and the remaining 18% disagreed or strongly disagreed (See Figure 10).

Figure 9: Edgerton Park's Perception That Body Worn Cameras Will Improve the Community's Relationship with RPD (N=102)

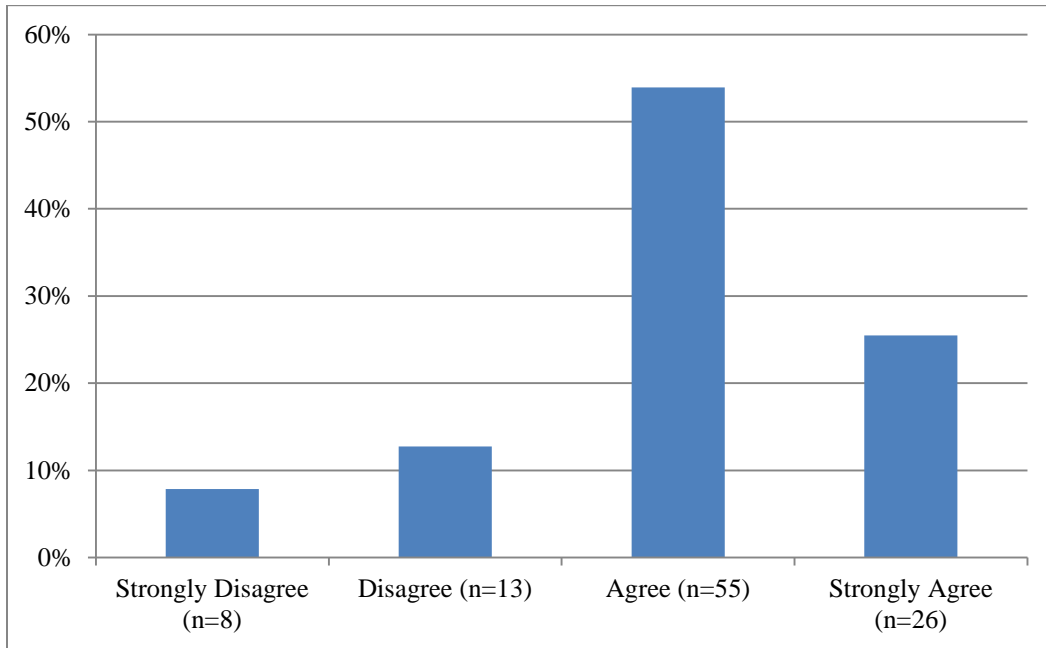
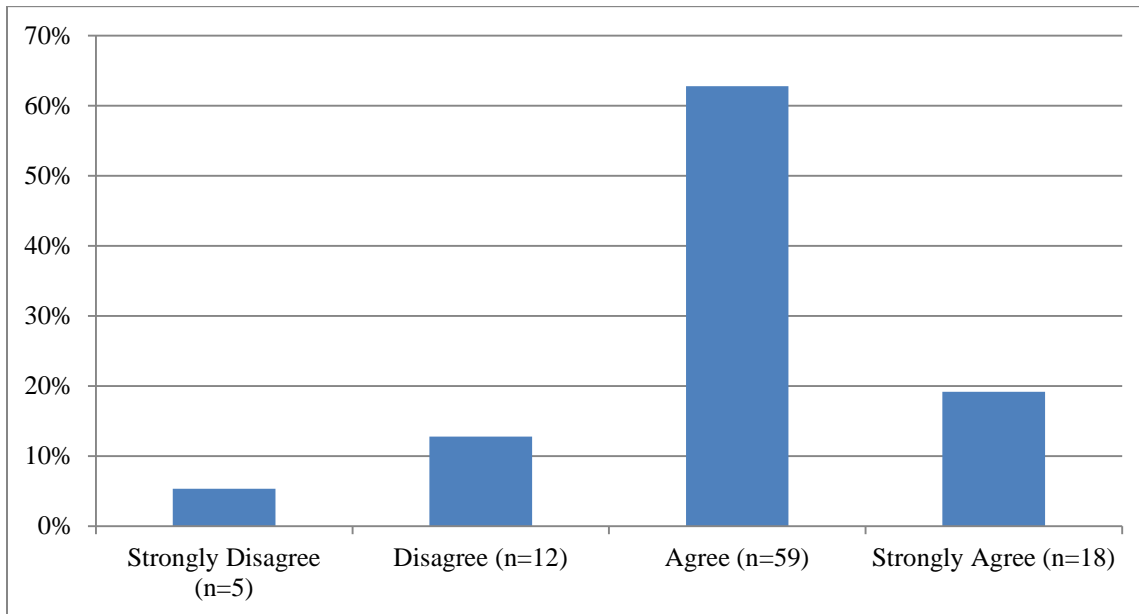


Figure 10: Edgerton Park's Perception That RPD Will Use Body Worn Camera Footage Fairly and Impartially (N=94)



Conclusion

In conclusion, Edgerton Park neighborhood is a younger, African American neighborhood. Respondents to the survey primarily rented their homes, and represented similar levels of social cohesion when compared to the 2015 TIPS Average. The majority of Edgerton Park respondents felt that their neighborhood was somewhat or very safe.

However, Edgerton Park respondents represented substantially lower levels of collective efficacy in comparison to the 2015 TIPS Average. Furthermore, Edgerton Park respondents held better perceptions of the police than the 2015 TIPS average, but agreed substantially less to the question “The police work with the community to solve problems that really matter to my neighborhood.” They also agreed substantially less to questions that asked about police use of excessive force and unwarranted stopping; indicating that fewer Edgerton Park respondents than 2015 TIPS respondents felt that the excessive force and unwarranted stopping were a problem.

Nearly two-thirds of the Edgerton Park respondents were aware that the RPD was using body cameras, and the majority identified the local news as their primary information source. The majority of respondents also felt that body cameras will improve RPD’s relationship with the community and that the footage will be used fairly and impartially.

The recommendation for Edgerton Park respondents is to meet and organize with members of the community regularly to create and foster a more communicative and engaged neighborhood. As a result of improved communication between community members, the concept of collective efficacy in the neighborhood may increase.