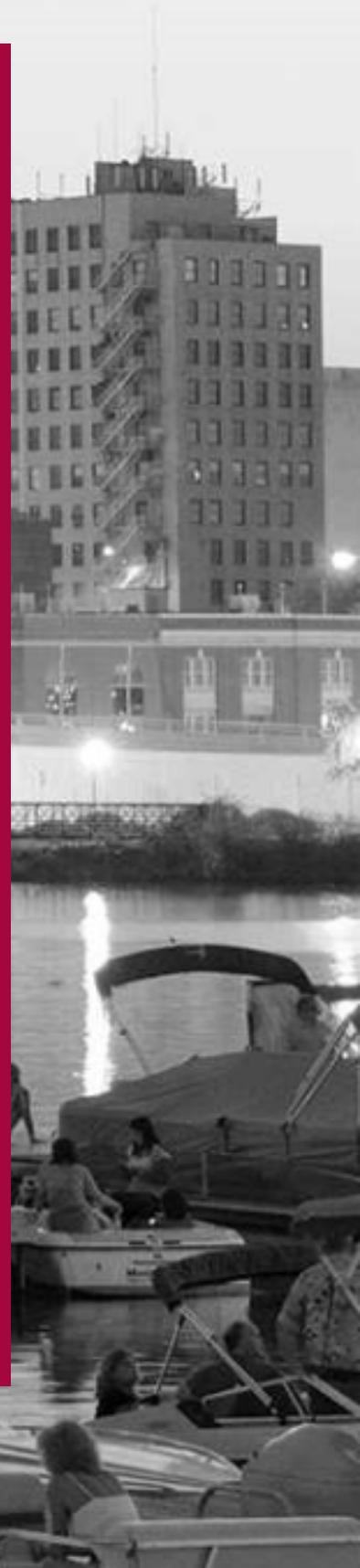# The Rockford Community Survey: Results

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Executive Summary

Over the past year, the Rockford Police Department, other county and state criminal justice agencies, and community groups and organizations have engaged in a planning process to design and implement a focused deterrence project, facilitated by the Region 1 Planning Council (R1PC) and Loyola University Chicago. Because of the importance of the community, part of the planning process also involved gauging citizens' perceptions of crime and disorder in Rockford, what they see as appropriate responses to violent crime and those who commit violent crime, as well as their perceptions of the Rockford Police Department and the Winnebago County Court system. To accomplish this, a survey was administered electronically (i.e. internet-based) between September 25, 2017 and November 30, 2017, and more than 1,300 Rockford residents completed the survey. A summary of the key findings from the survey include:

- The majority of survey respondents agreed that people in their neighborhood are close-knit and have the same values and beliefs, but most did not agree that people in their neighborhood get together or talk to each other often. Black survey respondents (relative to whites) and renters (relative to home owners) were less likely to agree with these statements regarding those in their neighborhood (Tables 2 through 5).
- The survey indicates that the community is largely supportive of an approach that includes both accountability (punishment) *and* rehabilitation (services and treatment) to reduce violence. The majority of survey respondents agreed that

people who commit violent crime should be punished severely, and the majority of respondents also agreed that those who commit violent crime need to be provided with services and treatment to change their behavior. The respondent characteristic that had the strongest influence on their views regarding punishment and treatment was perception of Rockford's safety. Respondents who felt that Rockford had become a less safe place to live in the past year were much more likely to support punishment and less likely to support services and treatment (Tables 6 through 8).

- The crime issues that respondents were the most concerned about included shootings, robbery, gang activity, and burglary. Forty percent or more of respondents to the survey indicated they were "very concerned" about these problems in their neighborhood. These specific crime issues were also the areas where respondents were most likely to indicate the police should give the "most attention" (Tables 11 and 12).

- Just over one-half (56%) of respondents felt as though crime *in general* had increased in their neighborhood over the past year, while less than one-half (44%) felt as though *violent crime* had increased in their neighborhood. There were no statistical differences in the perception of crime increasing in the respondents' neighborhood across different racial groups, however, men were more likely than women to perceived that crime increased in their neighborhoods (Tables 14 and 15).

- The majority of respondents were satisfied with the policing in their neighborhood, with no statistically significant differences in the rating of police satisfaction across respondent race, gender, education level, home ownership, or employment status. Older respondents tended to have a higher level of satisfaction with policing in their neighborhood, while those who perceived that crime in their neighborhood had increased over the past year were less likely to be satisfied with policing (Tables 19 and 20).

- The majority (59%) of survey respondents indicated that they had contact with the Rockford Police in the past year. Of those who reported contact with the police, the majority (76% or more) were satisfied with how they were treated and agreed that the officer clearly explained their actions and appeared to know what they were doing (Tables 23 and 24).

- The majority of respondents agreed with a variety of statements regarding the Rockford Police treating residents with respect, being honest, treating people fairly, caring about the community, treating everyone equally, and taking the time to listen. When responses to these survey items were combined to create a Police Procedural Justice scale, the average score across all respondents combined was positive. Ratings among black respondents on this scale tended to be lower than other racial groups, and the rating among renters was lower than home owners (Tables 25 and 30).

- The majority of respondents agreed with almost all of the statements regarding the Winnebago County court system treating residents with respect, being honest, treating people fairly, caring about the community, treating everyone equally, and taking the time to listen. When responses to these survey items were combined to create a Court Procedural Justice scale, the average score across all respondents

combined was slightly positive. Ratings among black respondents on this scale tended to be lower than other racial groups and the rating among renters was lower than home owners. Further, those who felt that Rockford was less safe had lower ratings of Court Procedural Justice. However, the older the respondent, the higher the rating on the Court Procedural Justice scale (Tables 26 and 31).

- The majority of survey respondents rated the police as satisfactory or better in terms of fighting crime, being visible in the streets, treating people fairly and being available when you need them. When responses to these survey items were combined to create a Police Effectiveness scale, the average score across all respondents combined was positive. On this scale, there were no statistically significant differences in ratings by race, gender, education, employment, or whether the respondent had contact with the police. However, the older the respondent, the more likely they were to rate the Police Effectiveness as higher, and those who felt that Rockford was less safe had lower ratings of Police Effectiveness.

Introduction

Over the past year, the Rockford Police Department, other county and state criminal justice agencies, and community groups and organizations have engaged in a planning process to design and implement a focused deterrence project, facilitated by the Region 1 Planning Council (R1PC) and Loyola University Chicago. Support for this planning activity was provided by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority through a grant made available by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance.[1] Included in this planning has been the development of a strategy to identify individuals at highest risk for engaging in violent crime who are both under the jurisdiction of the justice system (i.e., on probation or Mandatory Supervised Release/Parole) as well as those the police have information may be at risk of committing, or being the victim of, violent crime. Under the strategy, these individuals will be identified, warned of the risks they face for continued involvement in crime or victimization, and offered a range of services to address their criminogenic needs and to reduce their risk. One of the key elements of any violence reduction strategy is the support, cooperation and involvement of the community, and this is an important component to the focused deterrence project in Rockford.

Because of the importance of the community, part of the planning process also involved gauging citizens' perceptions of crime and disorder in Rockford, what they see as appropriate responses to violent crime and those who commit violent crime, as well as their

perceptions of the Rockford Police Department and the Winnebago County Court system. Obtaining this information from a broad and large number of Rockford residents was accomplished through an on-line, voluntary and anonymous, 85-question survey. The survey was created through a collaborative effort between the participating justice agencies, the Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning (RMAP), as well as the Center for Criminal Justice Research, Practice and Policy and the Center for Urban Research and Learning, both housed at Loyola University Chicago. The population of interest consisted of individuals that either live, work, or go to school in Rockford. Question topics in the survey included: perceptions about crime and safety in their neighborhood; perceptions of police and the courts and how they treat people; community involvement and relationships among neighbors; available sources of information about crime in Rockford, and personal demographic information (e.g., gender, race or ethnicity, age, education level).

Methodology

The survey was administered electronically (i.e. internet-based) using Opinio software to the target population between September 25, 2017 to November 30, 2017. Respondents were not offered, nor did they receive, any direct compensation for completing the anonymous survey. To recruit potential respondents, Rockford citizens were notified of the survey via various social media websites (e.g., Facebook) and websites of various Rockford and Winnebago County agencies, organizations, and elected officials (e.g., city webpage). In addition, media outlets in the Rockford area also were made aware of the survey, and their subsequent coverage of the survey also made residents aware of the opportunity to participate. Thus, participants were gained as they encountered the notification through their own voluntary travel to Rockford websites and, potentially, through subsequent notices via social media, news outlets, and word-of-mouth.

The research team was committed to adhering to ethical guidelines during the data collection process. The Institutional Review Board (IRB) at Loyola University Chicago approved the survey as well as the protocols for survey dissemination and data storage. Due to the online nature of the data collection, subjects did not sign a written consent document. However, they were informed of the voluntary nature and anonymity of the survey, and granted consent to participate in the survey by clicking a button on their computer screen. When the subjects arrived at the survey website, they were greeted by informed consent language. If they agreed to participate, they begun the survey by clicking a button which said "Begin survey." Subjects were informed that by pressing that button, they were voluntarily agreeing to participate. The survey was created to be completed anonymously, and therefore written documented consent would violate the anonymity of participation. Those whose primary language was Spanish also had the opportunity to participate. The first page of the online survey had information, in Spanish, directing Spanish-speaking individuals ("If you would like to take this survey in Spanish, please click

here"). Once individuals clicked that button, the website took them to an informed consent page that was in Spanish. That page contained the same "Begin survey" button (in Spanish), with the same informed consent language as the English version.

Sample

More than 1,300 people participated in the survey, although the number of responses to each individual question varied slightly due to some questions not being answered by all respondents. A majority (62.5%) of respondents were female. The median age of the sample was 49.04 years of age (SD=15.08), and approximately two-fifths (39.7%) of the sample was 55 years of age or older. When compared with 2010 Rockford Census data[2], minority populations were underrepresented in the sample: African-Americans comprised 5.5% of the sample, but 20.5% of the city population based on Census data, and Latino/Hispanic comprised 3.3% of the sample, compared to 15.8% of the census population. Whites were overrepresented in the sample, comprising 87.6% of the sample that completed the survey versus 65.1% of the city population based on the Census.[3] Persons of other races comprised 3.6% of the sample. More than half of the sample (57.0%) indicated that they were married, and more than two-thirds (69.1%) indicated that they had children. Homeowners represented over three-fourths (76.6%) of sample, whereas renters comprised 23.4% of the respondents. Just under three-fourths of the sample stated that they were currently employed. In terms of education, the modal category was 'some college,' accounting for 25.6% of the sample. Finally, respondents were somewhat represented from all areas of the city. The three highest represented zip codes were 61103 (19.2%), 61108 (17.5%), and 61107 – West of Alpine Road (15.1%). The three lowest represented zip codes were 61109 – North of U.S. 20 Bypass (4.9%), 61109 – South of U.S. 20 Bypass (3.9%), and 61101 – East of Rockton Avenue (3.3%). Table 1 provides a complete breakdown of the sample demographic, socio-economic and community characteristics.

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[2] The 2010 Census used because this was the last time that the population of the City of Rockford was actually measured and not extrapolated.

[3] Because of differences in the racial composition of the survey respondent sample and the racial characteristics of the population, weighting techniques were used to determine whether or not the results of the analyses would change substantively if the sample racial characteristics were similar to the population racial characteristics. All of the frequency distributions are presented using the unweighted data, and all of the multivariate analyses use the weighted data. The use of unweighted data in the analyses of the frequency distribution of responses to questions did not substantively change any of the conclusions reached or discussed in the analyses.

Table 1: Sample Demographic, Socio-economic and Community Characteristics (Unweighted)

Characteristics	Percent	Characteristic	Percent
Gender		*Marital Status*	
Female	62.5%	Single	26.5%
Male	37.5%	Married	57.0%
		Divorced	12.5%
Race		Widowed	4.0%
White	87.6%		
African-American	5.5%	*Have Children*	
Latino/Hispanic	3.3%	Yes	69.1%
Other	3.6%	No	30.9%
Age		*Zip Code*	
18-24	5.0%	61101 – East of Rockton Ave	3.3%
25-34	15.2%	61101 – West of Rockton Ave	5.6%
35-44	19.6%	61102	7.0%
45-54	20.5%	61103	19.2%
55-64	21.6%	61104	8.9%
65-74	14.8%	61107 – East of Alpine Road	7.0%
75 or older	3.3%	61107 – West of Alpine Road	15.1%
		61108	17.5%
Education		61109 – North of U.S. 20 Bypass	4.9%
Less than HS Diploma	1.6%		
HS Diploma/GED	11.9%		
Some college, no degree	25.6%		
Associate's Degree	14.5%	*Go to school in Rockford?*	
Bachelor's Degree	22.2%	Yes	12.7%
Some graduate/professional education, no degree	5.8%	No	87.3%
Graduate/professional degree	18.3%		
		Work in Rockford	
Employment		Yes	69.2%
Employed	73.5%	No	30.8%
Unemployed	26.5%		
		Live in Rockford?	
Homeowner		Yes	89.1%
Own	76.6%	No	10.9%
Rent	23.4%		

Data Analysis Strategy

Data were examined using a variety of analytic techniques and methods, including univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analyses. The results presented below provide frequency distributions to the responses for each of the questions included on the survey, along with a brief description of the patterns evident in the data. The order of the analyses presented below follows the order of the questions as they appeared in the survey, and for each specific survey question or element, the tables below include the specific number of respondents that answered each individual question. In addition to the frequency distributions and explanation of the patterns evident in the data, for some questions more comprehensive and sophisticated analyses were used to examine the data. Specifically, multivariate statistical techniques were used to determine the degree to which specific respondent characteristics, such as race, gender, age, etc., had statistically significant and independent relationships to the measure being examined after statistically controlling for the influence of the other characteristics included in the analyses.

In addition to examining the responses to each individual question on the survey, attitudinal scales were also developed and analyzed. Specifically, by combining the responses to individual items used in the survey, three additive scales were created to represent three attitudinal variables: (1) Rockford police procedural justice, (2) Winnebago County court system procedural justice, and (3) police effectiveness. These three variables were created based on face validity of the survey items, factor analyses, and prior research using validated items (e.g., Jonathan-Zamir et al., 2015; Lombardo & Donner, in press; Mazerolle et al., 2013; Reisig & Parks, 2000; Weitzer & Tuch, 2005). All three variables demonstrated acceptable internal consistency (i.e. reliability) as evinced by Cronbach alpha statistics. Analyses of these scales are presented towards the end of the report, as are more detailed descriptions of the concepts of procedural justice and police effectiveness.

Findings: Responses to Individual Questions

Below are analyses of the individual survey questions designed to measure the respondent's perceptions of the relationships between residents in their neighborhood, the level of crime and safety in their neighborhood, and their perceptions of the police and the courts and how they treat people in their neighborhood. The question number referenced in the text and tables below correspond to the question numbers as they appear in the survey (see Appendix 1 for a hard-copy version of the on-line survey). For each question and analysis, the number of respondents that answered the question is indicated by "N=" next to the question text in the tables below.

Questions 7 through 9

Questions 7, 8 and 9 in the survey asked respondents their level of agreement with statements about the people in their neighborhood being "close-knit and willing to help each other," "having the same values and beliefs" and "getting together or talking often" (Table 2). The majority of respondents agreed (combining the responses of "strongly agree" and "somewhat agree") with the first two of these questions (Questions 7 and 8), while just over one-half disagreed (combining "somewhat disagree" and "strongly disagree") that people in their neighborhood "get together or talk often" (Question 9). Specifically, 68.2% *agreed* with the statement "people in my neighborhood are close-knit and willing to help each other" and 65.5% *agreed* that "people in my neighborhood have the same values and beliefs." On the other hand, 54% *disagreed* with the statement "people in my neighborhood get together or talk to each other often."

Table 2: Responses to Questions 7 through 9 in the Rockford Community Survey (Unweighted)

	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Question 7: The people in my neighborhood are close-knit and willing to help each other. (N=1,331)	12.0%	19.8%	52.6%	15.6%	100.0%
Question 8: People in my neighborhood have the same values and beliefs. (N=1,323)	11.3%	23.2%	55.2%	10.3%	100.0%
Question 9: People in my neighborhood get together or talk to each other often. (N=1,330)	22.9%	31.1%	36.8%	9.2%	100.0%

Multivariate analyses (using logistic regression) were also performed to determine the effect that age, gender, race, education level, employment status, home ownership and where the respondent lived (i.e., zip code) had on a respondents' agreement as to whether people in their neighborhood are close-knit (Table 3).[4] These analyses found that black respondents were *less likely* than white respondents to agree that their neighborhood was close- knit, after accounting for the influence of all the other variables in the model. Similarly, respondents who reported renting were *less likely* to agree that their

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[4] Logistic regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, whether or not the respondent agreed or disagreed with the statement, was coded into a dichotomous measure of agree (which combined agree and strongly agree and was coded as "1") versus disagree (which combined disagree and strongly disagree and was coded as "0").

neighborhood was close-knit than individuals who reported owning their home. All other respondent characteristics, including age, gender, education level, and employment status, had no statistically significant, independent association with their responses to this question.[5]

Table 3: Multivariate Analyses of Agreement with the Statement "People in my neighborhood are close-knit" (weighted, N=1,087) (Dependent variable: disagree=0, agree=1)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Exp(B)
Age (in years)	.01	.01	1.00	1	1.00
Race (White Reference Category)			15.39	2	
Black (Relative to White)	-.61	.16	13.95	1	.54***
Hispanic (Relative to White)	.07	.19	.13	1	1.07
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	-.05	.13	.13	1	.95
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	.10	.18	.30	1	1.11
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	-.70	.15	20.59	1	.49***
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	.16	.17	.87	1	1.17
Constant	1.05	.44	5.73	1	2.88*
					Pseudo R^2=.07

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

Multivariate analyses (using logistic regression) were also performed to examine the relationship between respondent characteristics and a dichotomous measure of agree vs. disagree with the statement regarding individuals in their neighborhood "sharing the same values" (Table 4).[6] Similar to the multivariate analyses presented in Table 3 ("close-knit"), black respondents were also *less likely* than white respondents to agree that individuals in

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[5] In addition to the base model, which included age, race, gender, education level, employment status and home ownership, separate additional models were run where a variable indicating which zip code the respondent indicated they lived in was added to the base model. When these models were tested, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61101 (West of Rockton Ave.), 61102, and 61104 were statistically (p<.05) *less likely* to agree that people in their neighborhood were close-knit than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. On the other hand, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61103, 61108, and 61114 were statistically (p<.05) *more likely* to agree that people in their neighborhood were close-knit than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. Respondents in zip codes 61101 (East of Rockton Ave.), 61107 (East of Alpine Ave.), 61107 (West of Alpine Ave.) 61109 (North of US 20 Bypass) and 61109 (South of US 20 Bypass) were not statistically any more or less likely to agree that people in their neighborhood were close-knit than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model.

[6] Logistic regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, whether or not the respondent agreed or disagreed with the statement, was coded into a dichotomous measure of agree (which combined agree and strongly agree and was coded as "1") versus disagree (which combined disagree and strongly disagree and was coded as "0").

their neighborhood "shared the same values," after statistically accounting for the influence of all the other variables in the model. Also, similar to the findings regarding in Table 3, respondents who reported renting were *less likely* to agree that individuals in their neighborhood shared the "same values" than individuals who reported owning their home (Table 4). Finally, respondents who reported having more than a high-school education were *more likely* to agree that individuals in their neighborhood shared the "same values" than those reporting they did not have an education beyond high-school, and the older the respondent the more likely they were to agree with the statement regarding people sharing the "same values." The other respondent characteristics, including gender and employment, had no statistically significant, independent association with the responses to this question.[7]

Table 4: Multivariate Analyses of Agreement with the Statement "People in my neighborhood share the same values" (weighted, N=1,082) (Dependent variable: disagree=0, agree=1)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Exp(B)
Age (in years)	.01	.01	11.65	1	1.02***
Race (White Reference Category)			9.61	2	
Black (Relative to White)	-.49	.16	9.54	1	.61**
Hispanic (Relative to White)	-.07	.19	.15	1	.93
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	.04	.13	.10	1	1.05
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	.35	.17	3.99	1	1.43*
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	-.45	.15	8.98	1	.63**
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	-.13	.16	.63	1	.88
Constant	.06	.43	.02	1	1.06
Pseudo R^2=.07					

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

[7] In addition to the base model, which included age, race, gender, education level, employment status and home ownership, separate additional models were run where a variable indicating which zip code the respondent indicated they lived in was added to the base model. When these models were tested, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61101 (West of Rockton Ave.), 61102, and 61104 were statistically (p<.05) less likely to agree that people in their neighborhood share the same values than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. On the other hand, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61107 (West of Alpine Rd.) and 61114 were statistically (p<.05) more likely to agree that people in their neighborhood share the same values than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. Respondents in zip codes 61101 (East of Rockton Ave.), 61103, 61107 (East of Alpine Rd.), 61108 and 61109 were not statistically any more or less likely to agree that people in their neighborhood share the same values than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model.

Finally, multivariate analyses (using logistic regression) were performed to determine the influence of respondent characteristics on whether or not they agreed with the statement that people in their neighborhood "get together and talk often" (Table 5).[8] In these analyses, black and Hispanic respondents were *less likely* to agree with this statement than whites, after statistically controlling for the influence of other characteristics. Similarly, those with an education beyond high-school and those that indicated they rented were *less likely* than their counterparts to agree that people in their neighborhood "get together and talk often" after statistically controlling for the other characteristics of respondents. Age, gender and employment status were not independently correlated with responses to this question (i.e., they were not statistically significant).[9]

Table 5: Multivariate Analyses of Agreement with the Statement "People in my neighborhood get together and talk often" (weighted, N=1,091) (Dependent variable: disagree=0, agree=1)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Exp(B)
Age (in years)	.00	.01	.79	1	1.00
Race (White Reference Category)			14.27	2	
Black (Relative to White)	-.60	.16	13.11	1	.54***
Hispanic (Relative to White)	-.31	.18	2.99	1	.73
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	-.07	.13	.29	1	.93
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	-.64	.17	13.26	1	.52***
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	-.67	.16	17.75	1	.51***
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	.01	.16	.01	1	1.02
Constant	.81	.42	3.64	1	2.27
Pseudo R^2=.07					

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

[8] Logistic regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, whether or not the respondent agreed or disagreed with the statement, was coded into a dichotomous measure of agree (which combined agree and strongly agree and was coded as "1") versus disagree (which combined disagree and strongly disagree and was coded as "0").
[9] In addition to the base model, which included age, race, gender, education level, employment status and home ownership, separate additional models were run where a variable indicating which zip code the respondent indicated they lived in was added to the base model. When these models were tested, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61102 were statistically (p<.05) less likely to agree that people in their neighborhood get together and talk often than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. Respondents in all of the other zip codes, including 61101 (East of Rockton Ave.), 61101 (West of Rockton Ave.), 61103, 61104,61107 (East of Alpine Rd.), 61107 (West of Alpine Rd.), 61108, 61109 (North of US 20 Bypass) 61109 (South of US 20 Bypass), and 61114 were not statistically any more or less likely to agree that people in their neighborhood get together and talk often than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model.

Questions 10 and 11

Questions 10 and 11 sought to gauge respondent views on whether those who commit violent crime should be punished severely and/or provided with rehabilitative services. The responses highlight the complexity of criminal justice practice and policy, and the multiple goals and expectations that the public has regarding those who commit crime and engage in violence (Table 6). Specifically, more than 90% of those who responded to the survey agreed (combining "strongly agree" and "somewhat agree") that "people who commit violent crime should be punished severely." Similarly, 79.2% agreed (combining "strongly agree" and "somewhat agree") that "people who commit violent crime need to be provided with services and treatment to change their behaviors." Although a larger portion of the respondents "strongly agreed" with the statement regarding punishment, the survey indicates that the community is largely supportive of an approach that includes both accountability (punishment) *and* rehabilitation (services and treatment) to reduce violence.

Table 6: Responses to Questions 10 through 11 in the Rockford Community Survey (Unweighted)

	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Question 10: People who commit violent crime should be punished severely. (N=1,347)	2.0%	4.0%	21.4%	72.6%	100.0%
Question 11: People who commit violent crime need to be provided with services and treatment to change their behaviors. (N=1,339)	9.1%	11.7%	35.2%	44.0%	100.0%

As was done with the previous set of questions, multivariate analyses (logistic regression) were performed to examine the independent effect of the respondent characteristics (age, gender, race, education level, employment status, and home ownership) and their perception of safety in Rockford with whether or not they reported <u>*strong agreement*</u> that people who commit violent crime should be severely punished (Table 7).[10] These analyses found that black respondents were *less likely* to "strongly agree" that people who commit violent crime should be "punished severely" than were white respondents, after statistically

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[10] Logistic regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, whether or not the respondent *strongly agreed* with the statement, was coded into a dichotomous measure of strongly agree (which only included the response of strongly agree and was coded as "1") versus not strongly agree (which combined strongly disagree, disagree and agree and was coded as "0"). Because such a small percent of respondents did not agree with this statement, these analyses focused on strong agreement to better understand views and attitudes.

controlling for the other variables included in the analyses. The only other variable that was statistically associated with "strong agreement" to this statement was whether or not the respondent perceived that Rockford had become less safe in the past year (response to survey Question 33). Respondents who felt as though Rockford had become less safe in the past year were much *more likely* to strongly agree that people who commit violent crime should be punished severely. All of the other respondent characteristics, including age, gender, education level, employment status and home ownership did not have statistically significant influences on whether or not there was "strong agreement" regarding punishment.

Table 7: Multivariate Analyses of Agreement with the Statement "People who commit violent crime should be punished severely" (weighted N=1,084) (Dependent variable: not strongly agree=0, strongly agree=1)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Exp(B)
Age (in years)	.01	.01	.60	1	1.01
Race (White Reference Category)			21.51	2	
Black (Relative to White)	-1.04	.26	15.79	1	.35***
Hispanic (Relative to White)	.77	.50	2.34	1	2.18
Contact with Police (0=No Contact, 1= Contact)	.10	.24	.17	1	1.11
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	.44	.26	2.78	1	1.56
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	.06	.34	.04	1	1.07
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	-.32	.27	1.38	1	.72
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	.40	.33	1.44	1	1.49
Rockford Safety (0=Other, 1= Less Safe)	1.24	.29	17.46	1	3.46***
Constant	1.17	.84	1.94	1	3.24
Pseudo R^2=.11					

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

In addition to examining "strong agreement" for punishment for those who commit violence, multivariate analyses (logistic regression) were also performed to examine the independent effect of the respondent characteristics and their perception of safety in Rockford with whether or not they "strongly agree" that people who commit violent crime should be "provided with services and treatment to change their behavior" (Table 8).[11]

[11] Logistic regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, whether or not the respondent *strongly agreed* with the statement, was coded into a dichotomous measure of strongly agree (which only included the response of strongly agree and was coded as "1") versus not strongly agree (which combined strongly disagree, disagree and agree and was coded as "0"). Because such a small percent of respondents did not agree with this statement, these analyses focused on strong agreement to better understand views and attitudes.

These analyses found that Hispanic respondents were *more likely* to "strongly agree" that people who commit violent crime should be "provided with services and treatment to change their behavior" than were white respondents, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the analyses. In addition, those with an education beyond high school and renters were more likely to "strongly agree" that people who commit violent crime should be "provided with services and treatment to change their behavior" than were respondents with a high-school or less education and homeowners. Finally, respondents who perceived that Rockford had become less safe in the past year were *less likely* to "strongly agree" that people who commit violent crime should be "provided with services and treatment to change their behavior" than those who did not think Rockford had become less safe. All of the other respondent characteristics, including age, gender, employment status and blacks relative to whites did not have statistically significant influences on whether or not there was "strong agreement" regarding services and treatment.

Table 8: Multivariate Analyses of Agreement with the Statement "People who commit violent crime need to be provided with services and treatment to change their behaviors" (weighted, N=1,074) (Dependent variable: not strongly agree=0, strongly agree=1)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Exp(B)
Age (in years)	-.00	.01	.08	1	.99
Race (White Reference Category)			12.52	2	
Black (Relative to White)	.21	.21	.94	1	1.24
Hispanic (Relative to White)	.97	.27	12.34	1	2.66***
Contact with Police (0=No Contact, 1= Contact)	-.10	.17	.37	1	.90
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	-.17	.17	1.01	1	.84
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	.59	.21	7.38	1	1.81**
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	.69	.22	9.59	1	1.99**
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	.23	.21	1.16	1	1.26
Rockford Safety (0=Other, 1= Less Safe)	-.76	.16	20.48	1	.46***
Constant	.89	.57	2.43	1	2.45

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

Questions 12 and 13

Question 12 asked respondents where they get their "information about crime in the community," and respondents were able to select all of the information sources included in the survey that applied (Table 9). Because respondents could select multiple categories, the percentages in Table 9 add up to more than 100%. The three most frequently cited sources of information about crime among those who completed the survey was "television news"

(56% of the respondents), "Scanner social media" (40%), and "Print media-newspapers" (36%) (Table 9). Question 13 in the survey asked respondents to select "which 3 sources of information are the most reliable," and again, these three sources ("television news," "print media-newspapers," and "Scanner social media") were among the top three (Table 10).

Table 9: Responses to Question 12 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

Question 12: Where do you get information about the crime in the community? (N=1,803)	Yes	No	Total
Print Media (newspapers)	35.9%	64.1%	100.0%
Radio News	25.9%	74.1%	100.0%
Television News	56.2%	43.8%	100.0%
Winnebago County Websites	17.4%	82.6%	100.0%
City of Rockford Websites	21.6%	78.4%	100.0%
Official Winnebago County social media	16.8%	83.2%	100.0%
Official City of Rockford social media	22.2%	77.8%	100.0%
Scanner social media	40.2%	59.8%	100.0%
Personal friends social media	31.8%	68.2%	100.0%
Nixel	4.8%	95.2%	100.0%
NextDoor.com	25.6%	74.4%	100.0%

Table 10: Responses to Question 13 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

Question 13: Which 3 sources of information are the most reliable? (N=1,803)	Yes	No	Total
Print Media (newspapers)	25.2%	74.8%	100.0%
Radio News	14.8%	85.2%	100.0%
Television News	41.0%	59.0%	100.0%
Winnebago County Websites	10.4%	89.6%	100.0%
City of Rockford Websites	15.1%	84.9%	100.0%
Official Winnebago County social media	11.3%	88.7%	100.0%
Official City of Rockford social media	15.4%	84.6%	100.0%
Scanner social media	22.1%	77.9%	100.0%
Personal friend's social media	9.8%	90.2%	100.0%
Nixel	3.0%	97.0%	100.0%
NextDoor.com	10.1%	89.9%	100.0%
Other	7.0%	93.0%	100.0%

Questions 14 and 15

Question 14 asked respondents to indicate how concerned they were, on a scale from "not concerned at all" to "very concerned," regarding a wide range of possible crime and public order issue within their neighborhood. These issues ranged from loud music from cars and loitering to serious crimes, such as shootings, robbery and domestic violence (Table 11).

Combining the ratings of "concerned" and "very concerned" into a "combined concerned" measure, there were five specific topics that more than 50% of respondents indicated they were "combined concerned." From highest to lowest, were burglary (67% "combined concerned"), shooting (64% "combined concerned"), robbery (63%), gang activity (54%), and drug sales (53%). In general, the levels of concern across these crime issues did not vary across the racial characteristics of the respondents.

Table 11: Responses to Question 14 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

Question 14: How concerned are you about the following problems occurring in your neighborhood?	Not at all concerned	Not very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Concerned	Very Concerned	Total
Loud music from automobiles (N=1,318)	24.7%	30.0%	21.7%	12.9%	10.7%	100.0%
Burglary (N=1,312)	2.2%	11.1%	19.4%	25.1%	42.1%	100.0%
Sale of drugs N=1,317)	9.6%	17.7%	16.7%	17.4%	38.6%	100.0%
Use of drugs (N=1,303)	12.0%	20.4%	17.7%	17.3%	32.7%	100.0%
Prostitution in public places (N=1,304)	32.1%	26.5%	12.7%	10.9%	17.7%	100.0%
Speeding/traffic issues (N=1,313)	10.1%	18.7%	23.8%	21.3%	26.0%	100.0%
Robbery/mugging (N=1,320)	8.3%	12.9%	14.8%	19.2%	44.8%	100.0%
Shootings (N=1,315)	9.3%	14.6%	12.1%	13.8%	50.2%	100.0%
Domestic violence (N=1,312)	10.3%	22.6%	21.0%	19.3%	26.8%	100.0%
Loitering/panhandling (N=1,304)	23.8%	25.8%	20.8%	14.2%	15.3%	100.0%
Disorderly youth (N=1,314)	12.7%	20.6%	18.7%	18.6%	29.4%	100.0%
Auto theft (N=1,316)	10.3%	19.9%	20.4%	20.5%	28.9%	100.0%
Gang activity (N=1,317)	14.4%	18.5%	13.4%	14.1%	39.6%	100.0%
Other (N=712)	28.4%	14.0%	18.3%	11.8%	27.5%	100.0%

Question 15 was similar to Question 14, but asked respondents how much attention, on a scale from "little/no attention" to "most attention," they felt police *should give* to the same wide range of crime and public order issue within their neighborhood (Table 12). Combining the ratings of "more attention" and "most attention" into an "attention" measure, the patterns were almost identical to the levels of concern expressed in Question 14: there were six specific topics that more than 50% of respondents indicated they felt needed "attention" by the police in their neighborhood. From highest to lowest, were shootings (71% needs attention), robbery (69%), burglary (64%), gang activity (63%), drug sales (59%), and domestic violence (51%). In general, these responses did not vary across the racial characteristics of the respondents, with the exception of auto theft; 60% of black respondents felt attention (more attention and most attention combined) needed to be paid to this problem, compared to 49% of white respondents.

Table 12: Responses to Question 15 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

Question 15: How much attention should the police give the following problems in your neighborhood?	Little/no Attention	Occasional Attention	Routine Attention	More Attention	Most Attention	Total
Loud music from automobiles (N=1,304)	29.4%	31.1%	27.5%	9.0%	2.9%	100.0%
Burglary (N=1,306)	3.2%	6.7%	26.2%	30.7%	33.2%	100.0%
Sale of drugs (N=1,305)	8.5%	10.1%	22.1%	25.1%	34.2%	100.0%
Use of drugs (N=1,290)	12.0%	14.7%	28.9%	21.6%	22.7%	100.0%
Prostitution in public places (N=1,290)	26.0%	14.5%	31.9%	12.7%	15.0%	100.0%
Speeding/traffic issues (N=1,302)	8.0%	20.0%	36.1%	22.0%	13.9%	100.0%
Robbery/mugging (N=1,300)	6.7%	7.9%	16.9%	23.5%	45.0%	100.0%
Shootings (N=1,308)	9.2%	7.0%	13.4%	12.5%	58.0%	100.0%
Domestic violence (N=1,295)	8.0%	11.7%	29.1%	22.4%	28.7%	100.0%
Loitering/panhandling (N=1,291)	21.9%	23.6%	33.5%	12.2%	8.8%	100.0%
Disorderly youth (N=1,297)	11.3%	14.5%	28.2%	22.2%	23.7%	100.0%
Auto theft (N=1,304)	7.7%	10.9%	31.8%	22.3%	27.2%	100.0%
Gang activity (N=1,304)	11.7%	8.4%	17.3%	15.4%	47.2%	100.0%
Other (N=648)	27.0%	10.2%	30.7%	9.6%	22.5%	100.0%

Questions 16 through 18

Question 16 in the survey asked respondents to describe how much crime had impacted them in the past year, with possible responses ranging from "not at all" to "a lot" (Table 13). Roughly one out of seven respondents (15.8%) indicated that crime had impacted them "a lot" in the past year, and another 31.9% indicated that crime had "moderately" impacted them this past year. Thus, combining "a lot" and "moderately," just under 50% of respondents indicated that crime had impacted them in the last year (Table 13). Due to the nature of the survey methodology and the scope of the questions, it was not possible to determine specifically *how* crime had impacted respondents, such as making them fearful, causing them to change their behaviors, such as walking alone, etc.

Table 13: Responses to Question 16 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

	Not at all	A little	Moderately	A lot	Total
Question 16: In the last year, how much has crime impacted you? (N=1,335)	18.9%	33.4%	31.9%	15.8%	100.0%

Questions 17 and 18 asked respondents their perceptions of how levels of crime had changed in their neighborhood in the past year, with Question 17 being broadly worded as "crime in general," and Question 18 specifically asking about "violent crime" (Table 14). Just over one-half (56%) felt that "crime in general" had increased (combining "increased some" with "increased a lot") and just under one-half (44.5%) of respondents felt that "violent crime" had increased in their neighborhood in the past year. Overall, the largest proportion of respondents felt as though "crime in general" and "violent crime" had stayed the same in the past year.

Table 14: Responses to Questions 17 through 18 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

	Decreased a lot	Decreased some	Stayed about the same	Increased some	Increased a lot	Total
Question 17: How have levels of *crime in general* changed in your *neighborhood* over the PAST YEAR? (N=1,318)	0.9%	3.6%	39.5%	32.4%	23.6%	100.0%
Question 18: How have levels of *violent crime* changed in your *neighborhood* over the PAST YEAR? (N=1,315)	1.5%	4.6%	49.4%	25.9%	18.6%	100.0%

Multivariate analyses (logistic regression) were performed to examine the independent relationship between the respondent characteristics, including age, gender, race, education level, employment status, home ownership and where the respondent lived (i.e., zip code), and whether or not they felt that "*crime in general*" had increased in their neighborhood.[12] These analyses revealed that only gender had a statistically significant relationship to whether or not they perceived that crime in general had increased in their neighborhood in the past year, with women being less likely than men to perceive crime to have increased (not presented in tabular form). All of the other respondent characteristics, including age, race, education level, employment status, and home ownership, did not have a statistically significant relationship to perceptions of crime in general increasing in the respondents' neighborhood over the past year after statistically controlling for the influence of the other variables in the analyses.

Similarly, multivariate analyses (logistic regression) were performed to examine the independent relationship between the respondent characteristics, including age, gender, race, education level, employment status, home ownership and where the respondent lived (i.e., zip code), and whether or not they felt that "*violent crime*" had increased in their neighborhood (Table 15).[13] Similar to the multivariate analyses examining *crime in general*, gender had a statistically significant relationship to whether or not they perceived that *violent crime* had increased in their neighborhood in the past year, with women being less likely than men to perceive violent crime to have increased (Table 15). In addition to gender, respondents who indicated they were renters (relative to home owners) and unemployed (relative to being employed) perceived that violent crime had increased in their neighborhood after statistically accounting for the influence of the respondent characteristics included in the analyses. Age, race, and education level had no influence on whether or not the respondent perceived violent crime had increased or decreased in their neighborhood.[14]

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[12] Logistic regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, whether or not the respondent felt that *crime in general* had increased in their neighborhood during the past year, was coded into a dichotomous measure of increased (which combined increased and increased a lot and was coded as "1") versus did not increase (which combined decreased a lot, decreased, and stayed about the same and was coded as "0").

[13] Logistic regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, whether or not the respondent felt that *violent crime* had increased in their neighborhood during the past year, was coded into a dichotomous measure of increased (which combined increased and increased a lot and was coded as "1") versus did not increase (which combined decreased a lot, decreased, and stayed about the same and was coded as "0").

[14] In addition to the base model, which included age, race, gender, education level, employment status and home ownership, separate additional models were run where a variable indicating which zip code the respondent indicated they lived in was added to the base model. When these models were tested, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61101 (west of Rockton Ave.), 61102, and 61103 were statistically (p<.05) *more likely* to feel that violent crime had *increased* in their neighborhood over the past year than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. On the other hand, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61107 (East of Alpine Rd.), 61107 (West of Alpine Rd.), 61109 (South of US 20 Bypass) and 61114 were statistically (p<.05) *less likely* to feel that violent crime had increased in their neighborhood over the past year than those

Table 15: Multivariate Analyses of Agreement with the Statement "Violent Crime in my Neighborhood in the past year" (weighted, N=1,078) (Dependent variable: violent crime did not increase=0, violent crime increased=1)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)
Age (in years)	.00	.01	.29	1	.59	1.00
Race (White Reference Category)			3.32	2	.19	
Black (Relative to White)	-.21	.16	1.81	1	.17	.80
Hispanic (Relative to White)	.17	.18	.88	1	.34	1.19
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	-.27	.12	4.58	1	.03	.76*
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	-.24	.17	2.03	1	.15	.78
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	.30	.15	4.08	1	.04	1.36*
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	.32	.15	4.08	1	.04	1.38*
Constant	-.52	.41	1.56	1	.21	.59
						Pseudo R^2= .03

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. Respondents in zip codes 61101 (East of Rockton Ave.), 61104, 61108 and 61109 (North of Us 20 Bypass) were not statistically any more or less likely to feel that violent crime had increased in their neighborhood over the past year than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model.

Questions 19 through 21

Questions 19 through 21 asked respondents their views regarding various behaviors of people in their neighborhood and how often they witnessed specific forms of crime or disorder. Questions 19 and 20 asked respondents how much they disagreed or agreed with statements regarding people carrying guns and joining gangs in their neighborhood (Table 16). The majority (64.6%) of those who completed the survey indicated that they agreed (combining "strongly agree" with "somewhat agree") that people in their neighborhood "sometimes carry guns." On the other hand, less than one-half (38.2%) agreed (again, combining "strongly agree" with "somewhat agree") that people in their neighborhood "join gangs."

Table 16: Responses to Questions 19 through 20 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Question 19: In my neighborhood, sometimes people carry guns. (N=1,303)	15.1%	20.3%	44.3%	20.3%	100.0%
Question 20: In my neighborhood, people join gangs. (N=1,294)	32.8%	29.1%	27.8%	10.3%	100.0%

Question 21 asked those who completed the survey how often in the past year they witnessed specific forms of criminal behavior, ranging from vandalism/graffiti to drug selling to hearing gunshots (Table 17). The majority of people who completed the survey did not see these forms of criminal behavior very often, with most reporting seeing drug selling, vandalism, people carrying guns or hearing gunshots less than a few times a month (i.e., combining those who reported seeing these once a month or never). Interestingly, while 64% of the survey respondents indicated that they agreed that people in their neighborhood sometimes carry guns (Question 19), 64% reported _never_ seeing people carrying a gun in the past year. Similarly, while 56% of respondents that they were concerned (concerned plus very concerned) about drug selling in their neighborhood (Question 14), almost half (47.3%) reported in Question 21 that they _never_ witnessed people buying and selling drugs in their neighborhood, and an additional 21.9% reported seeing this behavior once a month or less.

Table 17: Responses to Question 21 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

Question 21: In the past year, how often have you witnessed:	Never	Once a month or less	A few times a month	Weekly	Daily	Total
People buying and selling drugs in your neighborhood (N=1,313)	47.4%	21.9%	12.0%	10.0%	8.7%	100.0%
People committing vandalism or drawing graffiti (N=1,306)	66.0%	23.2%	7.3%	2.5%	1.0%	100.0%
Sight or sound of gunshots (N=1,311)	27.0%	24.3%	22.4%	15.9%	10.4%	100.0%
People carrying a gun (N=1,289)	64.4%	16.8%	8.8%	4.0%	6.1%	100.0%

Questions 22 through 24

Questions 22 and 23 asked those completed the survey how often, ranging from "never" to "daily," they _saw_ the police in their neighborhood, and how often they would _like to see_ the police (Table 18). Overall, one-quarter (25.3%) of survey respondents reported that they saw the police in their neighborhood on a weekly basis (weekly and daily combined), but more than 70% would _like to see_ the police in their neighborhood on a weekly (weekly and daily combined) basis. While only about 10% report seeing police in their neighborhood on a daily basis, almost one-half (45.7%) of respondents would like to see the police on a daily basis in their neighborhood.

Table 18: Responses to Questions 22 through 23 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

	Never	Once a month or less	A few times a month	Weekly	Daily	Total
Question 22: How often do you see police in your neighborhood? (N=1,321)	15.4%	35.1%	24.2%	15.0%	10.3%	100.0%
Question 23: How often _would you like to see_ police in your neighborhood? (N=1,318)	1.8%	7.3%	18.7%	26.5%	45.7%	100.0%

Question 24 asked respondents how satisfied, from very dissatisfied to very satisfied, they were with policing in their neighborhood. Among those who completed the survey, 59.4% reported that they were satisfied ("very satisfied" combined with "somewhat satisfied") (Table 19). Most respondents were somewhere in the middle in terms of their level of satisfaction with policing in their neighborhood, with roughly 15% being at either extreme of "very satisfied" or "very dissatisfied."

Table 19: Responses to Question 24 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

	Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Total
Question 24: How satisfied are you with policing in your neighborhood?	15.1%	25.5%	44.7%	14.7%	100.0%

Multivariate analyses (logistic regression) were performed to examine the independent relationship between the respondent characteristics, including age, gender, race, education level, employment status, home ownership, their perception of whether or not crime had increased in their neighborhood, if they had contact with the police, and where the respondent lived (i.e., zip code), and whether or not they were satisfied with policing in their neighborhood (Table 20).[15] In these analyses, there were two respondent characteristics that were independently related to their satisfaction with policing in their neighborhood: age and whether or not they perceived that crime had increased in their neighborhood in the past year (Question 17). The older the respondent, the more likely they were to be satisfied with policing in their neighborhood, and those who felt as though crime had increased in their neighborhood were less likely to be satisfied with policing in their neighborhood. Whether or not the respondent had contact with the police in the past year had no relationship with their satisfaction with policing in their neighborhood. All of the other demographic and socio-economic characteristics, including gender, race, education level, home ownership, and employment status had no statistically significant relationship to whether or not they were satisfied with policing in their neighborhood.[16]

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[15] Logistic regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, whether or not the respondent was satisfied with policing in their neighborhood, was coded into a dichotomous measure of satisfied (which combined somewhat satisfied with satisfied and was coded as "1") versus not satisfied (which combined somewhat dissatisfied with very dissatisfied and was coded as "0").

[16] In addition to the base model, which included age, race, gender, education level, employment status and home ownership, separate additional models were run where a variable indicating which zip code the respondent indicated they lived in was added to the base model. When these models were tested, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61101 (West of Rockton Ave.) and 61102 were statistically (p<.05) *less likely* to report feeling satisfied with policing in

Table 20: Multivariate Analyses of "Satisfaction with the policing" in respondent neighborhood (weighted, N=1,078) (Dependent variable: not satisfied=0, satisfied=1)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Exp(B)
Age (in years)	.02	.00	16.85	1	1.02***
White Reference Category			1.22	2	
Black	-.02	.17	.02	1	.97
Hispanic	.20	.19	1.07	1	1.22
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	.12	.13	.86	1	1.13
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	.13	.13	.88	1	1.14
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	-.17	.18	.91	1	.83
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	-.07	.16	.22	1	.92
Contact with Police (0=no, 1=Yes)	-.08	.13	.35	1	.92
General Level of Crime in Neighborhood (0=Other, 1= Increased)	-1.36	.14	92.68	1	.25***
Constant	.75	.46	2.66	1	2.11
Pseudo R^2=.15					

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

Questions 25 through 30

Respondents were also asked in Question 25 if they had contact with the Rockford Police Department in the past year, and if so, how often. The majority of respondents to the survey (59.6%) indicated that they had contact with the Rockford Police Department in the past year, while 40.4% reported having no contact (Table 21). Most people who did report having contact reported 1 to 3 instances, while 8% of all respondents to the survey reported being in contact with the Rockford Police Department 7 or more times in the past year. The specific reasons for the most recent contact varied, ranging from interacting with police because the respondent was a witness (22%), a crime victim (15%), through a neighborhood watch program (14%), or at a community/special event (12%) (Table 22). Almost one-quarter (23%) of those reporting contact with the police in the past year indicated the reason as "other."

their neighborhood than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. On the other hand, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61114 were statistically (p<.05) *more likely* to report feeling satisfied with policing than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. Respondents in zip codes 61101 (East of Rockton Ave.), 61103, 61104, 61107 (East of Aline Rd.), 61107 (West of Alpine Rd.), 61108, 61109 (North of US 20 Bypass) and 61109 (South of US 20 Bypass) were not statistically any more or less likely to report feeling satisfied with policing than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model.

Table 21: Responses to Question 25 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

	0 times	1-3 times	4-6 times	7 or more times	Total
Question 25: How many times have you had contact with the *Rockford Police Department* in the past year? (N=1,328)	40.4%	42.4%	9.0%	8.3%	100.0%

Table 22: Responses to Question 26 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

Question 26: What was your most recent contact with Rockford police? (N=763)	Percent
Crime victim	15.3%
Witness	22.4%
Motor vehicle crash	7.5%
Neighborhood watch	14.4%
Traffic stop (traffic violation/warning citation)	4.3%
Pedestrian stop (non-vehicle stop and questioning)	0.8%
Arrested	0.1%
Community/special event	12.0%
Other	23.1%
Total	100%

For those who completed the survey and also indicated that they had contact with the Rockford Police Department, follow-up questions were asked to gauge their level of satisfaction (Table 23) and attitudes with how they were treated during their most recent encounter with the police (Table 24). For example, Question 27 asked how satisfied they were with how they were treated by the officer, and more than one-half (51.9%) reported that they were "very satisfied," and an additional 24.4% indicated that they were "somewhat satisfied." Thus, more than 75% reported that they were satisfied with how they were treated, while approximately 24% were dissatisfied (Table 23).

Table 23: Responses to Question 27 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

	Very Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Very Satisfied	Total
Question 27: Thinking of your latest experience with police, and taking the whole experience into account how SATISFIED are you with the way you were treated by the officer during your encounter? (N=770)	10.3%	13.4%	24.4%	51.9%	100.0%

Again, among those who completed the survey and had contact with the police, the survey asked how much they agreed or disagreed with statements regarding the police officer's clarity in explaining their actions and whether they appeared to know what they were doing (Questions 28 and 29, Table 24). As with the previous question, the majority responded to these statements favorably, with almost 80% agreeing ("strongly agree" combined with "somewhat agree") that the officer "clearly explained the reasons for his/her actions" and almost 85% agreed ("strongly agree" and "somewhat agree" combined) that "the offer appeared to know what he/she was doing."

Table 24: Responses to Questions 28 through 29 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Question 28: During the encounter, the officer *clearly explained* the reasons for his/her actions. (N=748)	9.4%	11.6%	28.5%	50.5%	100.0%
Question 29: During the encounter, the offer *appeared to know* what he/she was doing. (N=756)	6.3%	9.1%	26.1%	58.5%	100.0%

While the previous three questions (Questions 27 to 29) were only asked of respondents to the survey who reported that they had contact with the police over the past year, Question 30 asked *all* respondents to indicate their level of agreement, ranging from "strongly disagree" to "strongly agree," to various statements about the Rockford Police (Table 25). Included in these statements were: "Police treat residents with respect," "The police are honest," "Police treat people fairly," "Police care about the community," "Police treat everyone in Rockford equally," "Police take the time to listen to people," and "Police take the time to listen to people." Across all of these statements, the majority of those who completed the survey responded favorably, agreeing ("strongly agree" and "somewhat agree" combined) with these statements. Although the majority of respondents agreed with all of the statements, there were two statements where a relatively large portion of those who completed the survey indicated that they did not agree ("somewhat disagree" and "strongly disagree" combined): "Police treat everyone in Rockford equally" and "Police take the time to listen to people." Specifically, 40.8% of respondents did not agree with the statement "Police treat everyone in Rockford equally" and 29.5% disagreed with the statement "Police take the time to listen to people."

Table 25: Responses to Question 30 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

Question 30: Please indicate how much you agree or disagree about the following statements about the *Rockford Police:*	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Police treat residents with respect (N=1,220)	4.6%	10.7%	42.7%	42.0%	100.0%
The police are honest (N=1,211)	7.0%	12.8%	43.8%	36.4%	100.0%
Police treat people fairly (N=1,220)	7.5%	15.7%	41.1%	35.6%	100.0%
Police care about the community (N=1,218)	6.0%	12.5%	34.3%	47.2%	100.0%
Police treat everyone in Rockford equally (N=1,215)	16.8%	24.0%	33.5%	25.8%	100.0%
Police take the time to listen to people (1,211)	10.5%	19.0%	37.9%	32.6%	100.0%

Question 31

Similar to Question 30, Question 31 asked all respondents their level of agreement with various statements about the Winnebago County Court System. These statements included: "The court System treats people with respect", "The court system is honest", "The court system treats people fairly", "The court system cares about the community", "The court system treats everyone in Rockford equally", and "The court system takes time to listen to people" (Table 26). Across all but one of these statements, the majority (50% or more) of those who completed the survey responded favorably, agreeing ("strongly agree" and "somewhat agree" combined) with these statements. For one of the statements, "The court system treats everyone in Rockford equally," just under 50% of the respondents agreed (49.6%), and 50.4% disagreed. Further, although the majority of respondents agreed (strongly or somewhat combined) with all but one of the statements, there were two other statements where a relatively large portion of those who completed the survey indicated that they did not agree ("somewhat disagree" and "strongly disagree" combined). Specifically, 45.1% disagreed with the statement "The court system takes the time to listen to people", and 39.8% disagreed with "The court system treats people fairly".

Table 26: Responses to Question 31 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

Question 31: Please indicate how much you agree or disagree about the following statements about the *Winnebago County* court system:	Strongly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
The court system treats people with respect (N=1,187)	9.1%	19.2%	48.5%	23.2%	100.0%
The court system is honest (N=1,189)	11.1%	21.8%	44.0%	23.1%	100.0%
The court system treats people fairly (N=1,183)	12.8%	27.0%	39.6%	20.5%	100.0%
The court system cares about the community (N=1,187)	15.4%	22.8%	38.5%	23.3%	100.0%
The court system treats everyone in Rockford equally (N=1,185)	20.4%	30.0%	33.1%	16.5%	100.0%
The court system takes the time to listen to people (N=1,185)	18.8%	26.3%	38.6%	16.3%	100.0%

Question 32

The survey also asked all respondents to rate the Rockford Police, on a scale from "very poor" to "very good," across a variety of tasks, including fighting crime, being visible, treating people fairly and being available when you need them. The ratings by respondents to this question were generally moderate to positive, depending on the specific task (Table 27). For example, while just over one-half (52.3%) felt that the police were "satisfactory" or better at fighting crime, a combined 47.7% rated the police as poor ("poor" or "very poor" combined) at fighting crime. The strongest ratings of the police were in regards to the question regarding the police "being available when you need them," with 63.7% rating the police as "satisfactory" or better on this measure.

Table 27: Responses to Question 32 in the Rockford Community Survey, Unweighted

Question 32: How good are the Rockford police at:	Very Poor	Poor	Satisfactory	Good	Very Good	Total

Fighting crime (N=1,219)	16.5%	31.2%	27.9%	18.7%	5.7%	100.0%
Being visible in the streets (N=1,221)	10.9%	30.6%	31.8%	17.9%	8.8%	100.0%
Treating people fairly (N=1,201)	7.1%	14.1%	40.1%	24.6%	14.1%	100.0%
Being available when you need them (N=1,208)	14.1%	22.2%	32.9%	20.5%	10.3%	100.0%

Question 33

Finally, those who completed the survey were asked "In the past year, has Rockford become a safer place to live/work," with possible responses on a scale from "much less safe" to "much more safe," as well as "about the same" (Table 28). Roughly 72% of those who completed the survey perceived that Rockford as a whole had become a less safe place (combining "much less safe" with "less safe") to live/work in the past year, and just over 22% of the respondents felt as though the level of safety in Rockford was "about the same" in the past year (Table 28). Interestingly, while 72% of respondents perceived *Rockford* as becoming less safe over the past year, when asked about their perceptions of how crime had changed in *their neighborhood* in the past year (Questions 17 and 18), a much smaller percent (56%) felt that "crime in general" had increased and less than one-half (44.5%) felt that violent crime had increased (Table 28). Thus, there may be some subtle differences in the perception of crime between what respondents see occurring in their own neighborhood versus the city as a whole.

Table 28: Responses to Question 33 in the Rockford Community Survey

	Much less safe	Less safe	About the same	More safe	Much more safe	Total
Question 33: In the past year, has Rockford become a safer place to live/work? (N=1,229)	41.5%	30.9%	22.3%	5.0%	0.2%	100.0%

Multivariate analyses (logistic regression) were performed to examine the independent relationship between the respondent characteristics, including age, gender, race, education level, employment status, home ownership, their perception of whether or not crime had

increased in their neighborhood, and where the respondent lived (i.e., zip code), and whether or not they felt Rockford had become a less safe place to live/work (Table 29).[17] In these analyses, there were only two respondent characteristics that were independently related to whether or not they felt Rockford had become a less safe place to live/work: gender and whether or not they perceived that crime had increased in their neighborhood in the past year (Question 17). Women were less likely than men to feel that Rockford had become a less safe place to live/work, and those who felt as though crime had increased in their neighborhood were more likely to feel as though Rockford had become less safe. All of the other demographic and socio-economic characteristics, including age, race, education level, employment status, and home ownership had no statistically significant relationship to whether or not the respondent felt Rockford had become a less safe place to live/work.

Table 29: Multivariate Analyses Response to "Has Rockford become a Safer Place to Live/Work" (weighted, N=1,072) (Dependent variable: not less safe=0, less safe=1)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Exp(B)
Age (in years)	-.01	.01	3.53	1	.99
Race (White Reference Category)			5.76	2	
Black (Relative to White)	.37	.20	3.36	1	1.45
Hispanic (Relative to White)	.44	.24	3.37	1	1.56
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	-.65	.15	17.29	1	.52***
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	.01	.23	.01	1	1.02
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	-.18	.19	.93	1	.83
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	.35	.20	2.86	1	1.42
General Level of Crime in Neighborhood (0=Other, 1= Increased)	2.11	.19	115.93	1	8.28***
Constant	1.79	.52	11.76	1	6.04***
					Pseudo R^2=.24

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

[17] Logistic regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, whether or not the respondent felt Rockford had become less safe, was coded into a dichotomous measure of less safe (which combined much less safe with less safe and was coded as "1") versus not less safe (which combined about the same, more safe, and much more safe and was coded as "0").

Measuring Procedural Justice: Introduction and Methods

Agents of the criminal justice system, particularly the police, require voluntary cooperation from the general public to be effective in controlling crime and maintaining order. Research shows that citizens are more likely to comply and cooperate with police and obey the law when they view the police as legitimate (e.g., Tyler, 2006; Tyler et al., 2007). And one of the most effective pathways that the police use to increase citizen perceptions of legitimacy is through the use of procedural justice processes within their interactions with citizens (e.g., Gau et al., 2012; Mazerolle et al., 2013). In the context of focused deterrence, procedural justice practices can facilitate garnering community buy-in and support.

Thibaut and Walker (1975) first used the term 'procedural justice' to refer to one's perception of treatment during decision-making processes. In the field of policing, renewed academic interest in procedural justice emerged in the late 1980s and early 1990s when police agencies throughout the world were implementing community policing initiatives while incidents of police corruption and misconduct (e.g., racial profiling, excessive force) pervaded the public conscience (Kelling & Moore, 1988; Reiner, 1992). Tyler (2004, p. 91) argues that "the legitimacy of authorities and institutions is rooted in public views about the appropriateness of the manner in which the police exercise their authority." Procedural justice refers to the idea of fairness in the processes that resolve disputes and allocate resources. It is a concept that, when embraced, promotes positive organizational change, bolsters good relations with the community, and enhances officer safety. Thus, procedural justice describes a central way in which the police can exercise this authority in a fair and just way through both the "quality of treatment" and the "quality of the decision making process" (Reisig et al., 2007, p. 1006). In recent research, procedural justice has been operationalized as the way in which police treat citizens and the fairness of the decisions made (e.g., Reisig et al., 2007; Sunshine & Tyler, 2003).

An important distinction is made in the research between *procedural* justice and *distributive* justice. In the context of policing, distributive justice refers to perceptions regarding the fairness of the distribution of police services and activities between different communities, groups and individuals (Jonathon-Zamir & Weisburd, 2013). So, procedural justice refers to the process (i.e. the interaction in police-citizen encounters, while distributive justice refers to the outcome/disposition of the police-citizen encounter (e.g., stop vs. no stop, citation issued vs. warning; arrest vs. no arrest; force used vs. no force used).

Procedural justice comprises four essential components:
- Fairness
- Voice
- Transparency
- Impartiality

These four core factors shape police-citizen encounters and subsequently influence perceptions of police legitimacy. First, perceptions of **fairness** are driven not only by outcomes but also by the fairness and consistency of the processes used to reach those outcomes. Often, the outcome of an interaction is *less* important than the interaction itself. Simply put, the process of decision making matters. Second, all people want to be heard. Involving people in the decisions that affect them gives them **voice**. Having voice in situations that may be somewhat out of their control (e.g., whether they get a traffic ticket or not) helps them to feel that their opinions matter and that someone is listening to their side of the story, taking them seriously, and giving some consideration to their concerns. Third, **transparency** means that the processes by which decisions are made unfold in the open. People do not like to feel that their future is being decided upon another person's whim. People like to be able to see how things are unfolding so that they can come to understand the ultimate result of a decision. When police decision-making is transparent, citizens are more likely to accept officers' decisions—even if they are unfavorable to them. Fourth, **impartiality** refers to decisions that are made based on relevant evidence or data (e.g., probable cause) rather than on personal opinion, speculation, or guesswork. The process underlying these decisions are objective rather than subjective.

International research studies suggests that when the public perceives police decision-making to be procedurally just, it can lead to positive outcomes. For example, it has been shown to enhance citizen perceptions of police legitimacy and their cooperation with police (e.g., Bradford, 2014; Mazerolle et al., 2013; Jonathon-Zamir & Weisburd, 2013), citizen respect toward the police during the encounter (Dai et al., 2011), citizen willingness to accept the disposition of the encounter and their satisfaction with the police (Tyler & Wakslak, 2004), citizen trust and willingness to obey the law (Gau, 2014), and citizen confidence in the criminal justice system (Salvatore et al., 2013). Thus, beyond the importance of procedural justice in a focused deterrence program, procedural justice is also important because people will comply with the law even when the police are not around (i.e. informal social control), people will comply with police directives, people will assist police, and people will be satisfied with the police.

Whether its police officers, prosecutors, judges, or probation/parole officers, procedural justice practices amount to four basic actions: 1) treat people with dignity and respect (fairness); 2) listen to what they have to say (voice); 3) make unbiased decisions (impartiality); and 4) explain your actions (transparency).

Creation of Scales to Measure Procedural Justice, Police Effectiveness, and Multivariate Analyses

While the previous analyses presented the survey responses to each of the individual questions, it was also possible to combine survey questions that sought perspectives on specific concepts into broader composite measures, or scales. Specifically, by combining the responses to individual items used in the survey, three additive scales were created to represent three attitudinal variables: (1) Rockford police procedural justice, (2) Winnebago County court system procedural justice, and (3) police effectiveness. These three variables were created based on face validity of the items, factor analyses, and prior research using validated items (e.g., Jonathan-Zamir et al., 2015; Lombardo & Donner, in press; Mazerolle et al., 2013; Reisig & Parks, 2000; Weitzer & Tuch, 2005). All three variables demonstrated acceptable internal consistency (i.e. reliability) as evinced by Cronbach alpha statistics.

Using these scales, analyses were performed to examine the degree to which specific respondent characteristics, including race, gender, education level, employment status, home ownership, and whether or not the respondent had contact with the police during the past year, were related/correlated to their scale score. Presented below is a summary of each scale, the scale average (mean) across all respondents, and then a description of how the scale score varied across respondent characteristics.

Police Procedural Justice

The Rockford Police Procedural Justice (PJ) scale is a five-item variable comprised of the following items: 1) the police treat residents with respect; 2) the police are honest; 3) the police treat people fairly; 4) the police treat everyone in Rockford equally; and 5) police take the time to listen to people (alpha = 0.94). All individual items were measured on a four-point scale, where 1=Strongly Disagree and 4=Strongly Agree, and the scale itself was standardized with a possible minimum score of 1, and a maximum of 4. Higher values indicated higher perceptions of PJ, a score above a 2.5 would be interpreted as an overall favorable score, and the overall mean of the scale across all respondents was 3.00 (SD = 0.83).

When multivariate analyses (using ordinary least squares, or OLS) were performed to examine the independent effect of the characteristics of survey respondents on their police procedural justice scale score, a number of patterns were evident.[18] First, the respondent's gender, education level and whether or not they had contact with the police in the past year had no statistically discernable influence on their police procedural justice score after statistically accounting for the influence of other respondent characteristics. However, the analyses did reveal that race, employment status,

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[18] Ordinary least squares (OLS) regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, the Police Procedural Justice scale, was coded as an interval-level measure, with a minimum value of 1, a maximum value of 4, a mean of 3.0 and a standard deviation of .83. The scale also displayed a normal distribution of values.

home ownership and age did have statistically significant influences on the police procedural justice scale. For example, blacks had an average police procedural justice score that was .48 points lower than the rating by all other racial groups combined after accounting for the influence of all other respondent characteristics included in the model (i.e., gender, education, etc.). Thus, the average PPJ score for blacks was roughly 2.5, compared to 3.0 among white respondents. Hispanics did not have a PPJ score that was statistically different than the rating by all other racial groups combined after controlling for the other respondent characteristics. Further, those that indicated they were unemployed had an average PPJ score that was .17 points *higher* than those who were employed, after controlling for other characteristics, and this relationship was statistically significant. Finally, the older the respondent, the higher their rating on the PPJ scale.[19]

Table 30: Multivariate Analyses of Police Procedural Justice Scale (weighted, N=1,085)

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t
(Constant)	2.73	.16		16.27***
Age (in years)	.01	.00	.12	3.41***
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	.03	.05	.02	.73
Black vs. All Other Races (0=Other, 1=Black)	-.48	.06	-.22	-7.37***
Hispanic vs. All Other Races (0= Other, 1= Hispanic)	-.06	.07	-.02	-.84
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	-.07	.06	-.03	-1.02
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	.17	.06	.09	2.80**
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	-.23	.06	-.12	-3.96***
Contact with Police (0=no, 1= Contact)	.07	.05	.04	1.51
				R^2=.11

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

[19] In addition to the base model, which included age, race, gender, education level, employment status and home ownership, separate additional models were run where a variable indicating which zip code the respondent indicated they lived in was added to the base model. When these models were tested, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61101 (west of Rockton Ave.) and 61102 statistically (p<.05) had *lower* ratings of police procedural justice than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. On the other hand, respondents who reported living in zip codes 61103 statistically (p<.05) had *higher* ratings of police procedural justice than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model. Respondents in zip codes 61101 (East of Rockton Ave.), 61104, 61107 (East of Apline Rd.), 61107 (West of Apline Rd.) 61108, 61109 (North of US 20 Bypass) 61109 (South of US 20 Bypass), and 61114 did not have ratings of police procedural justice that were statistically any higher or lower than those respondents living in the rest of Rockford as a whole, after statistically controlling for the other variables included in the base model.

Winnebago County Court Procedural Justice

The Winnebago County court system procedural justice (alpha = 0.95) scale is a five-item variable comprised of the following items: 1) the court system treats people with respect; 2) the court system is honest; 3) the court system treats people fairly; 4) the court system treats everyone in Winnebago County equally; and 5) the court system takes the time to listen to people. All items were measured on a four-point scale where 1=Strongly Disagree and 4=Strongly Agree. Higher values indicated higher perceptions of Winnebago Court Procedural Justice (WCPJ). Descriptive statistics (n = 1,155) indicated a mean of 2.67 (SD = 0.86) with a minimum of 1.00 and a maximum of 4.00.

When multivariate analyses were performed to examine the independent effect of the characteristics of survey respondents, perceptions of Rockford becoming less safe, on their Winnebago court procedural justice (WCPJ) rating scale a number of patterns were evident.[20] First, the respondent's gender and education level had no statistically discernable influence on their court procedural justice score after statistically accounting for the influence of other respondent characteristics. However, the analyses did reveal that race, employment status, home ownership, age and whether they felt Rockford had become a less safe place did have statistically significant influences on the WCPJ scale. Specifically, blacks had *lower* ratings on the court procedural justice scale than other racial groups, and those who were unemployed and renters had lower ratings on the WCPJ scale than did those respondents who were employed and home owners. The older the respondent, the higher their rating on the WCPJ scale. Finally, those who felt that Rockford had become less safe in the past year had lower ratings on the WCPJ scale than did not who felt that otherwise.

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[20] Ordinary least squares (OLS) regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, the Winnebago Court Procedural Justice scale, was coded as an interval-level measure, with a minimum value of 1, a maximum value of 4, a mean of 2.7 and a standard deviation of .86. The scale also displayed a normal distribution of values.

Table 31: Multivariate Analyses of Winnebago County Courts Procedural Justice Scale (weighted, N=1,088)

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t
(Constant)	2.61	.17		14.85***
Age (in years)	.01	.00	.11	3.26***
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	-.06	.05	-.038	-1.35
Black V All Other Races (0=Other, 1=Black)	-.69	.06	-.30	-10.363***
Hispanic v All Other Races (0= Other, 1= Hispanic)	.00	.07	-.00	-.03
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	-.02	.07	-.01	-.39
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	.22	.06	.11	3.54***
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	-.18	.06	-.09	-2.99**
Rockford Safety (0=Other, 1= Less Safe)	-.19	.05	-.09	-3.42***
				R^2=.15

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

Police Effectiveness

The police effectiveness (PE) scale is a four-item variable comprised of the following items: 1) how good are the Rockford police at fighting crime; 2) how good are the Rockford police at being visible on the streets; 3) how good are the Rockford police at treating people fairly; and 4) how good are the Rockford police at being available when you need them? All items were measured on a five-point scale, where 1=Very Poor, 3=Satisfactory, and 5=Very Good (alpha = 0.84). Higher values indicated higher perceptions of effectiveness, and a score of 3 would be interpreted as "satisfactory." The overall average score on this scale was 2.91 (SD = 0.92).

When multivariate analyses were performed to examine the independent effect of the characteristics of survey respondents on their police effectiveness scale score, a number of patterns were evident.[21] First, the respondent's gender, race, education level, employment status, and whether or not they had contact with the police in the past year had no statistically discernable influence on their police effectiveness score after statistically accounting for the influence of other respondent characteristics. However, the analyses did find that home ownership, age, and perceptions about Rockford becoming

[21] Ordinary least squares (OLS) regression was used in these analyses because the dependent variable, the Police Effectiveness scale, was coded as an interval-level measure, with a minimum value of 1, a maximum value of 5, a mean of 2.9 and a standard deviation of .92. The scale also displayed a normal distribution of values.

a less safe place did have statistically significant influences on the respondents' police effectiveness scale rating. The respondents who are renters (compared to home owners) had lower ratings on the police effectiveness scale, while the older the respondent, the higher their ratings of police effectiveness. Finally, those who felt that Rockford was less safe had lower ratings of police effectiveness than everyone else.

Table 32: Multivariate Analyses of Police Effectiveness (weighted, N=1,094)

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	
	B	Std. Error	Beta	t
(Constant)	3.35	.18		18.33
Age (in years)	.01	.00	.17	5.23***
Gender (0=Female, 1=Male)	-.09	.05	-.05	-1.79
Black relative to All Other Races (0=Other, 1=Black)	-.10	.12	-.02	-.86
Hispanic relative to All Other Races (0= Other, 1= Hispanic)	.01	.14	.00	.12
Education (0=High School of less, 1= Greater than High School)	-.06	.07	-.02	-.86
Employment (0=Employed, 1=Unemployed)	-.04	.06	-.02	-.71
Home Ownership (0= Own, 1=Rent)	-.16	.06	-.07	-2.50*
Contact with Police (0=no, 1= Contact)	-.06	.05	-.03	-1.26
Rockford Safety (0=other, 1=Less Safe)	-.65	.05	-.32	-11.32***
				R^2= .15

*p<.05, **p<.01, and ***p<.001

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