Public Safety in Minneapolis: Community Perceptions of Policing

The Leadership Conference Education Fund

December 2020
Building an America as good as its ideals.

This report is a product of The Leadership Conference on Education Fund (The Education Fund), which was founded in 1969 as the education and research arm of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights (The Leadership Conference).

The Leadership Conference is a coalition charged by its diverse membership of more than 220 national organizations to promote and protect the civil and human rights of all people in the United States. Through advocacy and outreach to targeted constituencies, The Leadership Conference works toward the goal of a more open and just society — an America as good as its ideals.

The Education Fund is a 501(c)(3) organization that builds public will for laws and policies that promote and protect civil and human rights of every person in the United States. The issues the Education Fund works on have deep roots in its organizational history and across the communities it represents.
Acknowledgments

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Table of Contents

4 Introduction
5 Approach
6 Method
8 Results
9 Overall Themes
18 Themes by Communities
23 Conclusion
25 Appendix
Introduction

Feeling safe in our neighborhoods and communities is not only a civil and human right, but also a foundational building block for strong, cohesive, vibrant, and participatory communities. In the United States, police officers and policing have been the primary ways that government has sought to protect and maintain public safety. However, how policing occurs in communities varies drastically, from militaristic models that rely on threat of force to community policing models that are more relational in nature.

In Black, Latino, and Native American communities, the relationship between police and residents is often steeped in fear and mistrust. With the murder of George Floyd in May 2020, the community-police relationship, particularly in Minneapolis where Mr. Floyd was killed, reached a crisis point. Residents are frightened, and police are finding it increasingly difficult to fulfill their critical job of responding to crime and protecting the public.

Although the murder of Mr. Floyd has intensified the need to address this problem, and in fact shifted the national conversation from policing reform to the defunding of police departments—with Minneapolis at the center of that debate—it is not a new problem. In 2018, The Leadership Conference Education Fund (The Education Fund) launched the New Era of Public Safety initiative to strengthen public safety through community-centered, collaborative policing reform in the cities of Minneapolis, MN, and Dallas, TX. The campaign sought to integrate community voices to create and implement new policing policies and practices. Deep engagement of residents in communities of color was necessary to begin a dialogue about policing in their neighborhoods with big-picture questions like:

1. What do you think about policing in your community?
2. What are you satisfied with about policing in your community?
3. What could be better about policing in your community?

Toward this end, in late November 2019, The Education Fund commissioned Grassroots Solutions, a Minnesota-based consultant, to help conduct a community assessment in Minneapolis. This report is the product of the year-long, community-centered process and includes key learnings from the Black, Latino, and Native American communities in Minneapolis, as well as overall themes across all three communities.
The following considerations informed the approach for conducting the community assessment:

First, authentic engagement of communities at the very beginning of any effort to address systems change dramatically increases the chances that community members will participate more fully and provide the deep insight needed to build effective policies and/or programs. All too often, groups or organizations, both national and local, engage under-resourced communities in Minnesota in projects about or for them only after the projects have been developed. These communities are expected to participate even when the tone, structure, or methodology of the project does not represent or consider their point of view or seem conducive to their everyday lives.

Second, although The Education Fund engaged the Black, Latino, and Native American communities in Minneapolis, the differing backgrounds, culture, language, and contexts between the communities had to be taken into account to gather the best undiluted, community-specific information. This required a deep level of partnership with each of these communities to gain insight into their lived experiences.

With the above two considerations in mind, we used a community co-creation approach for the project. Based on existing community relationships and public information about police interactions, Grassroots Solutions worked with the Education Fund to determine that the groups represented in this assessment would be the Black, Latino, and Native American communities. Once these key communities were identified, we engaged Minneapolis community partners that are deeply rooted and trusted by the key communities. Community co-creation meant that along with key staff, the community partners were integral in identifying and confirming learning questions, designing information gathering and data collection protocols, and interpreting information collected. Additionally, the community partners led data collection by leaning into their relationships with their respective communities.

Lastly, it is important to note that the original timeline for conducting the assessment and producing the report was six months (December 2019-May 2020). In March 2020, just as the community survey process was starting, COVID-19 forced the state of Minnesota to shut down and restrict social and community gatherings, requiring the community partners to adjust the data collection methods to comply with these restrictions. In May 2020, once the methods of information gathering were adapted to fit into the new virtual norm, Mr. Floyd was murdered by a Minneapolis Police Department officer. There was widespread civil unrest that had the community partners and their communities protesting Mr. Floyd’s murder during the day and defending their neighborhoods from people rioting at night. The community partners had less bandwidth and worried that people were too angry to participate. After the unrest in the city had calmed, the community partners wanted to continue the assessment, identifying it as critical to the long-term work needed for reimagining policing and public safety in Minneapolis. We then continued with administering the survey and collecting responses.
Method

1. Identifying Community Partners

Through its relationships, Grassroots Solutions surfaced community partners from the Native American, Latino, and Black communities in Minneapolis who had grassroots connections and the capacity and interest in exploring policing in their communities. The community partners were:

**Black Visions Collective (BVC):** BVC aims to center their work in healing and transformative justice principles, intentionally develop the organization’s core “DNA” to ensure sustainability and develop Minnesota’s emerging Black leadership to lead powerful campaigns. BVC worked to collect information from the Black community in Minneapolis. Specifically, the generational African American community and the newer Somali community.

**Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI):** NACDI’s work is founded on the belief that all-American Indian people have a place, purpose and a future strengthened by sustainable community development.

**UNIDOS-MN:** Unidos MN (also known as Navigate MN) is a community organization led by Latinx immigrants that builds power for gender, racial and economic justice. The lived experiences of their leaders as immigrants means that immigration, education, and climate justice are at the core of our campaigns and programs.

2. Determining Sample Size

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that in 2018 the population of Minneapolis was 429,606 with about 19% identifying as Black, 64% as White, 1.4% as American Indian, 6% as Asian, 9.6% as Latino, and 16% foreign born. Minnesota has the highest Somali diaspora in the United States, with much of the Somali population living in Minneapolis. For this reason, we sought to ensure that the Black respondents included Somali and Black immigrants in addition to African American individuals. We determined that 148-150 questionnaires from each group would provide meaningful insights into how these communities view policing in Minneapolis and would serve as a starting point for identifying themes about their individual and collective experiences. However, as described in the following section, because of the COVID pandemic and social distancing mandates, the partners were not able to meet the target sample.

*Population numbers based on American Community Survey, 2018*
3. Designing Information Gathering

To get the most responses, it was crucial to identify and use an information gathering method that worked best for each community — in-person group, virtual group, one-on-one, or other (text message, surveys, etc.) and leverage opportunities such as existing community events and celebrations. With each community partner, we explored the best method for surveying their community and developed an inventory of community events where information gathering could occur. The census count was in full swing at the time and several community partners identified large census community events where they could engage participants to take the survey or be interviewed. It is important to note that these key assessment areas were set before the murder of George Floyd.

Together with the community partners we developed:

- **Key questions (Appendix).** There were 4 areas that the community and The Education Fund staff converged on exploring in the assessment and the survey questions were built around those areas.
  1. **Interaction:** The frequency of interactions between community respondents and MPD and whether there are Minneapolis police officers who are also from and represent the communities surveyed.
  2. **Accessibility:** How accessible MPD services are overall to community members with unique needs and the department’s ability to respond to mental health calls.
  3. **Satisfaction:** Level of satisfaction with MPD overall, their use of force practices, and whether community members are willing to cooperate with them.
  4. **MPD Role:** Public safety challenges facing each community and their thoughts on what organizations or entities could help meet those challenges other than MPD.

- **Detailed timeline and plan for implementation of the information gathering period that lasted from March 15-May 1, 2020.**

All three community partners decided that a combination of survey, one-on-one interviews, and listening sessions were the best way to reach their communities. They also identified Google Forms as the easiest medium to gather information. Once the partners developed the survey questions, they were put into a Google Form and translated into Spanish and Somali.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected Black, Latino, and Native American communities and that, combined with the killing of George Floyd in the heart of where these communities live, left many people who participated in this survey deeply traumatized, including our partners. Additionally, policing has become such a divisive topic in Minneapolis that our community partners are prioritizing making change happen now over more convenings on defining the issue. For that reason, as well as public health restrictions, the community partners gathered the responses for this assessment through surveys and did not conduct listening sessions. Furthermore, the data collection timeline shifted from March-May to April-November.
Results

Number of Responses and Demographic Breakdown

Almost 500 questionnaires were completed (n=498).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minneapolis Racial/Ethnic Community</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th># Questionnaires Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American + Somali</td>
<td>82,552 + 19,383 = 101,935</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td>
<td>7745</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>40,912</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overall Themes

The following themes arose from the responses. They reflect the community perceptions of MPD as reported by Black, Latino, and Native American respondents.

Theme 1: Minneapolis police officers and the police department are not part of the community or accessible.

Best practice recommendations, including from the Department of Justice, cite the importance of having police be visible in their communities and knowing their residents, beyond crime and calls for safety related services. This helps reduce bias and build trust on the part of both community members and police officers. In this assessment, more than half, and up to three fourths, of respondents reported they did not personally know anyone who is a Minneapolis police officer. This includes 56.3% of Native American respondents, 71.2% of Latino respondents, and 74.6% of Black respondents. Furthermore, 82.3% of respondents reported that they do not know if or do not think MPD provides the necessary accessibility services to all community members.

Does not personally know a Minneapolis police officer.

However, respondents reported repeated interactions with police, from which we can infer the interactions were crime or safety related. Most respondents, 80.5%, reported having had an interaction with Minneapolis police officers at least one to two times. Nearly half of all respondents, 49.1%, reported having had three or more interactions with MPD officers, with 57.1% of Native American reporting such, as did 49.6% of Black respondents, and 41.7% of those who answered the Latino survey.

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Interacted with the Minneapolis Police 3 or more times.

No or I don’t know if MPD has accessible services.

When asked whether they thought MPD is accessible in terms of language, disability, or other services, 75.6% of Native American participants, 74.1% of Latino participants, and an overwhelming 90.8% of Black respondents responded either “no” or “I don’t know.”

Sample Responses

- “They don’t know how to deal with someone on the autism spectrum”
- “MPD has a complaint process that is complicated and intimidating…”
- “They don’t have many language translators”
- “More cultural sensitivity, Native Cops.”
- “For individuals that are sight impaired or hearing impaired they have very limited equipment or anything available for them”
- “I feel if they were more accessible we as a community could feel safer”
- “No community interaction the community is afraid of them afraid to call the cops even for a domestic abuse because they don’t want to be treated like crap by the people that are supposed to serve and protect US”
- “It is hard to help a community if you do not know the community. Most officers are from outside of the city and view the inner city with fear which leads to unnecessary escalation…”
- “I live one block from a police dept if I didn’t drive by it on occasion I wouldn’t even know they were here”
- “Get outta their cars and TALK to people.”
Theme 2: MPD’s response to mental health calls is inadequate.

Nationally, experts and communities are assessing the role of police in responding to mental health crises, including whether they are the appropriate help to send, whether they have the proper training, and whether alternative responses are available. Nearly half, 47.9%, of Native American respondents, 31.2% of Black of respondents, and 20.1% Latino respondents reported interacting with MPD while experiencing a mental health crisis or that of someone they know.

Yes, I have interacted with MPD in the case of a mental health crisis for me or someone else.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
<th>Native</th>
<th>Latinx</th>
<th>Black</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
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<td>50</td>
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</table>

% of Respondents
Of those who reported interacting with Minneapolis police in a mental health crisis, 61.4% of Native American individuals, 71.4% of Latino individuals, and 82.7% of Black individuals reported not being satisfied with the interaction. When asked more generally whether MPD involvement helped the situation, 51% of those to whom the question applied in the Native American community said no, along with 60.7% in the Latino community, and 81.3% in the Black communities.

![Bar chart showing percentages of respondents for different races regarding help in the mental health crisis situation.](chart)

When asked to elaborate, respondents reported that MPD was rude, disrespectful, aggressive, did not listen, and arrived with "hands on their guns."

As far as what police could have done better, the respondents offered that the officers could have shown more compassion, listened more, been less violent, communicated better, and had better training.

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**Sample Responses**

- “I had a manic attack, and my son called the police. When they arrived, they didn’t assist me in the ways I needed...They kept asking me to provide information and prove I was who I was saying I was. I felt very unsafe and was fearing for my life and my kids life”
- “They had large guns around someone who was trying to kill the selves.”
- “I called 911 because I was in a mental health crisis (anxiety/panic) and the officers were mean and acted scared of me, clutching their weapons as if they were going to shoot me rather than assist me in any meaningful way.”
- “They didn’t listen just wrestled my family member to the ground”
- “They made my attack worse and I thought that I was going to die. The officers consistently used their weapons to intimidate and threaten me.”
- “They laughed and made fun of her”
- “The whole situation might have gone better had they had more empathy to what that person was going through rather than fear”
Theme 3: The community is unsatisfied with MPD and its services.

Police and police departments are often a city’s primary infrastructure for ensuring the safety of its residents. However, how well they are able to do that is linked to how well community members trust the police to fulfill that duty, whether they view police as a legitimate source for their benefit and safety, and whether police actions are justified. Overall, when asked if they are satisfied with the MPD and its services, only 26% of the Native American respondents, 25.9% of the Latino respondents, and a mere 10.4% of Black respondents endorsed being either “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with MPD.

When asked to elaborate on their dissatisfaction, participants’ responses centered primarily on general mistrust, police racism, use of excessive force, and lack of responsiveness during interaction and/or calls.

Sample Responses

- “They don’t help my community. They are always harassing the youth even when they’re playing soccer or basketball. I fear for my life when I see the police and I know other Somali fathers who feel the same way. The police aren’t protecting us because they are the one’s hurting us the most”
- “The way they interact especially with Black folks not good”
- “Cops harsher on Natives”
- “They shot me”
- “They kill black people”
- “I don’t feel safe with them they need more training and they shouldn’t be policing neighborhoods that they are scared of”
- “They take too long”
Theme 4: Minneapolis police officers inappropriately use force and are not held accountable for misconduct.

Again, community mistrust and doubt about a police department’s actions significantly undermine how well it can meet a community’s safety needs. Communities are willing to cooperate and trust their police department when they feel police actions reflect community values and are justified. Regarding MPD’s use of force, the overwhelming majority of respondents, 71.7%, are “very unsatisfied” or “unsatisfied,” with only 15.1% of Native American participants, 12.2% of Latino participants, and just 6.7% of Black participants reporting being either “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with how and when MPD uses force.

I am “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with how and when MPD uses force.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Native</th>
<th>Latinx</th>
<th>Black</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of Respondents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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Furthermore, 56.3% of Native American individuals, 54.7% of Latino individuals, and an overwhelming 74.5% of Black individuals do not believe MPD officers are held accountable for misconduct.

**Sample Responses**

- “I have seen them jump out of their vehicle and run full force into this drunk guy without asking what happened or what was going on. It was brutal.”
- “...I’ve watched officers able to grab someone and another officer just tackles them even after they were contained...and person hit his head and ambulance had to be called. This was one of our young native men who was experiencing homelessness and is an opioid drug user”
  “They overreact to people of color”
- “I’ve seen them hit people who were defenseless and handcuffed”
- “They seem to always escalate the situation specifically with Black and brown people.”
- “They come and talk shit, they treat me like I don’t exist”
- “Community oversight could help but individual police officers need to police themselves as well.”
**Theme 5: MPD’s role needs to change.**

When asked what the greatest safety challenges facing their communities are, common themes shared across groups were poverty, lack of housing, lack of trust in police, gun violence, drug use, and other health issues. With these challenges in mind, over half of survey respondents (54.6% Native American, 66.5% Black, 69.1% Latino) believe that MPD’s role in supporting safety in their communities needs to change.

**MPD’s role needs to change.**

<table>
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<th>Groups</th>
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<th>No</th>
<th>I don’t know</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinx</td>
<td>69.1%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Moreover, the majority of respondents (52.9% of Native American respondents; 55.4% of Latino respondents; 45.6% of Black respondents) reported they believe there are community entities besides MPD such as mental health and social work agencies, faith organizations, and tribal affairs organizations that could play a role in meeting safety challenges in the community.

**Other community entities could help meet safety challenges.**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Groups</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>I don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>51.9%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinx</td>
<td>55.4%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
<td>38.3%</td>
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Based on our review of all individual responses, the following themes about the problems related to policing in Minneapolis and possible solutions emerged from the survey:

**The overall problems reflected in the assessment:** MPD does not respect the community, is not culturally competent, is not part of or from the community, is racist, rude, lacks compassion, and uses excessive force that has resulted in general mistrust.

**Overall solutions from assessment:** Respect the community, be part of the community (events, hire people from the community), be trained in cultural competency and responding to calls that are mental health and substance abuse related, be responsive. MPD needs to include the community and increase representation. There is so much/too much to change.

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**Sample Responses**

- “MPD actually playing a role in taking the community safety serious instead of responding after the fact”
- “Youth groups, support groups, group homes”
- “Community services representatives from Native and Black communities could help.”
- “The community”
- “Addiction Social Worker; Case Manager; Child Social Worker; Child Welfare Social Worker; Clinical Social Worker; Corrections Social Worker; Court Liaison; Disability Social Worker”
- “Treatment centers, after school programs and helping with the problem of crime”
- “Street level outreach groups. They have what the police department doesn’t have. Trust with community members.”
- “We have de-escalators, mediators, mental health professionals and more inside of our communities. We have the talent and the knowledge in our communities, we need to invest in and resource our folks to scale up this work”
- “Grassroots orgs that push for gun control and alternative means of justice.”
- “Local and state agencies that help with housing, employment assistance and other similar needs”
“They don’t need to be guard dogs. Be part of our community. We need to trust those that are supposed to protect us.”

— Black survey respondent
Themes by Community

Black Community (Self-Identified Generational African American + Somali)

Age
240 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>115</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Non-binary</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Gender Fluid</td>
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The Black community expressed the most distrust of MPD. It is important to note that most of the Black respondents completed their questionnaire after the murder of George Floyd, during and after the civil unrest. In addition to the overall themes, the following themes were prominent in the Black respondents.
Theme 1: The Black community does not trust MPD to keep its community safe.

While 55.5% of Native American respondents and 53.2% of Latino respondents reported they are “willing” or “very willing” to cooperate with the MPD to provide information about a crime or to report a concern, just 19.6% of Black respondents answered as such. The primary reasons cited for the unwillingness were around mistrust and racism.

Theme 2: The Black community did not find MPD involvement helpful during a mental health crisis.

Of the 31.3% of the surveyed Black community who reported interacting with Minneapolis police officers during a mental health crisis, an overwhelming 81.3% said that MPD involvement did not help the situation compared to 51% of the Native American community, and 66% of the Latino community who reported interacting with Minneapolis police in a mental health crisis.

Sample Responses

- “I don’t trust them. more worried about being accused of wrongdoing if i come to them with a problem than them helping me.”
- “They kill Black people”
- “I feel like I would be assisting in murder”
- “I will never willingly cooperate with them if i feel that someone else will be put in danger by them”
- “My brother was killed, and they weren’t giving my family any answers and while his body was still laying on the ground they ordered pizza for themselves”
- “They acted like they didn't care even though they were giving information to help with the situation” “They reacted poorly and did not listen and beat that person up”
- “the officer was agitating my suicidal friend and aided in them wanted to harm themselves more”
Native American Community (Self-Identified)

Age
119 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Number of Respondents</th>
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<td>Female</td>
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<td>Male</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two-Spirit</td>
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In addition to the overall themes across communities, the following themes were unique to the Native American respondents:
Theme 1: The Native American community is more likely to have interacted with MPD during a mental health crisis and reported the need for better mental health responses.

Of all the groups, the Native American community had the highest percentage of respondents who interacted with MPD during a mental health crisis, with 47.9% responding they had, compared to 31.2% of Black respondents, and 20.1% of Latino respondents.

Theme 2: MPD is slow to respond or does not respond at all to calls for service from the Native American community.

In open-ended questions asking for respondents to elaborate on concerns or reasons for dissatisfaction, Native American respondents often listed that MPD was unresponsive to their calls or slow to respond in areas where the Native American community lives (Little Earth).

Sample Responses

- “People are taken to jail for having untreated mental health issues instead of offered help or support”
- “They basically told me there was nothing they could do until someone got seriously hurt!”
- “The police are not mental health providers and they have are counted on in this time on need but it’s scary”
- “Responding to the call on a timely matter could been more of a priority”
- “They came but took an hour and a half”
- “Responds calls should be top priority. Waiting around for the police for the police for 30+ mins should not be acceptable”
Latinx Community (Self-Identified)

Age
139 respondents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender Identity</th>
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<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Binary</td>
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Other than what was laid out in the overall themes across communities, there were no additional themes that emerged specific to the Latino community. This could be because most respondents (n=125) completed the questionnaire after the murder of George Floyd and much of the conversation in the Latino community around policing was focused on supporting the Black community. Another possible reason might be that the area where George Floyd was killed is a heavily Latino business corridor. During the civil unrest, many of these businesses (including others) were damaged or destroyed, causing debate and tension within the Latino community about where to place the blame: the killing of Mr. Floyd, the police, or the protestors.
Conclusion

It is important to consider events which occurred during data collection to infer possibilities in response data. For example, in addition to the structural racism that exists in many of the nation’s bedrock institutions and the historical racism of police departments, George Floyd’s murder in Minneapolis in May 2020 by a police officer occurred just as our team was collecting responses for this assessment. Mr. Floyd’s killing may have contributed to the elevated concerns and mistrust of the Black respondents toward the Minneapolis Police Department.

Future research might include a white and/or Asian sample to ascertain differences in the experience of White residents as compared to the Black, Latino, and Native American communities in Minneapolis sampled here. This research may also help stakeholders make inferences about the number of police interactions with Black, Latino, and Native American people compared to White individuals in the city of Minneapolis. We expect these numbers are higher for the communities sampled in this assessment, but additional data and a comparison sample could be helpful in qualifying and quantifying this assertion. Likewise, an assessment of the Asian community would provide insight to the experiences and concerns specific to this group. Based on the information we have now from the assessment, there might be correlation between the mistrust, general abuse of power, and MPD officers’ lack of connection to and representation of the Minneapolis communities they serve.

It is time to reimagine public safety in a way that prioritizes upfront investments in community-led solutions and resources that center dignity and respect for everyone. The police violence that stole the life of George Floyd and so many others in 2020 reaffirmed the urgency to end systemic racism in law enforcement and build a new framework for justice from the ground up.

This community assessment in Minneapolis serves to inform that process. To realize a new vision for public safety that respects and protects human life and ensures safety, we must hear directly from communities about how they experience policing and how they would solve the crisis before us. Only by having people with diverse perspectives and experiences at the decision-making table, can we create a public safety system that best serves our communities.
Appendix

Minneapolis Policing: Community Assessment Questionnaire

Introduction
Hello! Thank you for sharing some of your time with us today. You may already be aware and have seen that policing and the safety of communities have been in the news quite a bit the past few years. Our organization (NACDI/BVC/UNIDOS) and our partners are trying to understand and lift up the concerns and ideas our Minneapolis community might have with regards to the Minneapolis Police Department. As one of our valued community members, we want to hear your thoughts, ideas, and experiences on this topic.

We have some specific questions to go through with you. We will be capturing your answers and putting them in a report, BUT don’t worry, the report won’t mention names. If you’re concerned about being identified through your responses, feel free to withhold names and specific details that might identify you or others (names, etc.). Our goal is to lift up the experiences and thoughts of our community as a whole. We will be sharing the final report back with you.

Let’s get started!

Demographic Information:
Age:

Race:

Country of Origin:

Gender Identity:

Zip code:
Questions

1. Do you know anyone that is a Minneapolis Police Officer? (Yes/No).

2. Have you ever interacted with the Minneapolis Police Department? (Yes/No).
   If yes, a) How many times have you interacted with the Minneapolis Police Department? (1-2 times) (3 or more times)

3. Has anyone you know interacted with Minneapolis Police? (Yes/No).

4. In your opinion, does the Minneapolis Police Department provide necessary services to make the department accessible to all community members? (Yes/No). Specifically,
   c. Other accessibility topics or issues we didn’t bring up that you’d like to talk about. Explain.

5. Have you ever interacted with the Minneapolis Police Department in the case of a mental health crisis for you or someone you know? (Yes/No). If yes,
   a. Were you satisfied with how that interaction went? (Yes/No) Why or why not?
   b. What went well? What could have gone better?
   c. Did they help the situation? (Yes/No) Explain
   d. Did they share and/or make connections to other resources? (Yes/No).

6. Overall, are you satisfied with the Minneapolis Police Department? Why or why not? Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Somewhat Satisfied, Dissatisfied, Very Dissatisfied

7. Overall, are you satisfied with when and how the Minneapolis Police Department uses force? Why or why not? Very Satisfied, Satisfied, Somewhat Satisfied, Dissatisfied, Very Dissatisfied

8. In your opinion, do you believe that MPD officers are held accountable for misconduct? (Yes/No) Explain.

9. Overall, how willing are you to cooperate with the Minneapolis Police Department, for example, to provide information about a crime, or report a concern? Why or why not? Very Willing, Willing, Somewhat Willing, Unwilling, Very Unwilling
10. In your opinion, what are the greatest safety challenges facing your community? List.
   a. Do you think there are other entities (city based, community based, or other) besides the Minneapolis Police Department that could play a role in meeting those safety challenges in your community? (Yes/No)
   b. What are those entities? List.
   c. What service/s could those entities provide?

11. In your opinion, is there anything that needs to be changed about the role of the Minneapolis Police Department in supporting safety in your community? (Yes/No). If yes,
   a. What needs to change about their role? Explain.

12. Is there anything we didn’t ask about that you’d like us to know?

   Thank you!