

Community Concerns

Key Findings

Allen County adults reported the single most important problem facing local families and the community was unemployment.

Community Concerns

As part of the community survey, respondents were presented with the following table and asked to rank each issue as a big, medium, or small problem, or not a problem. These 11 community issues were identified as areas of concern on previous community assessments.

2002 Allen County Comparisons

- ❖ In 2002, Allen County adults ranked the following as the top 5 big problems in the community:
 1. Drug abuse
 2. Crime
 3. Unemployment
 4. Underage alcohol consumption
 5. Domestic Violence

(Source: 2002 Community Needs Assessment)

This table is sorted in order of respondents' opinion of the severity of the community issue.

| Tell us whether you think each issues is a ___: | | Big Problem | Medium Problem | Small Problem | Not a Problem |
|---|--|-------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | Unemployment | 77% | 19% | 2% | 2% |
| 2 | Drug abuse | 73% | 22% | 4% | 1% |
| 3 | Crime | 71% | 22% | 6% | 1% |
| 4 | Poverty | 47% | 38% | 13% | 2% |
| 5 | Child abuse | 41% | 41% | 16% | 2% |
| 6 | Juvenile delinquency | 38% | 41% | 20% | 1% |
| 7 | Domestic Violence | 37% | 46% | 15% | 2% |
| 8 | Underage drinking | 37% | 38% | 22% | 3% |
| 9 | Teenage pregnancy | 33% | 50% | 16% | 1% |
| 10 | Lack of recreational programs and resources | 23% | 32% | 35% | 10% |
| 11 | Lack of support for local business community | 18% | 40% | 30% | 12% |

Source: 2009 Allen County Health Risk and Community Needs Assessment

Respondents' Most Important Family and Community Problems

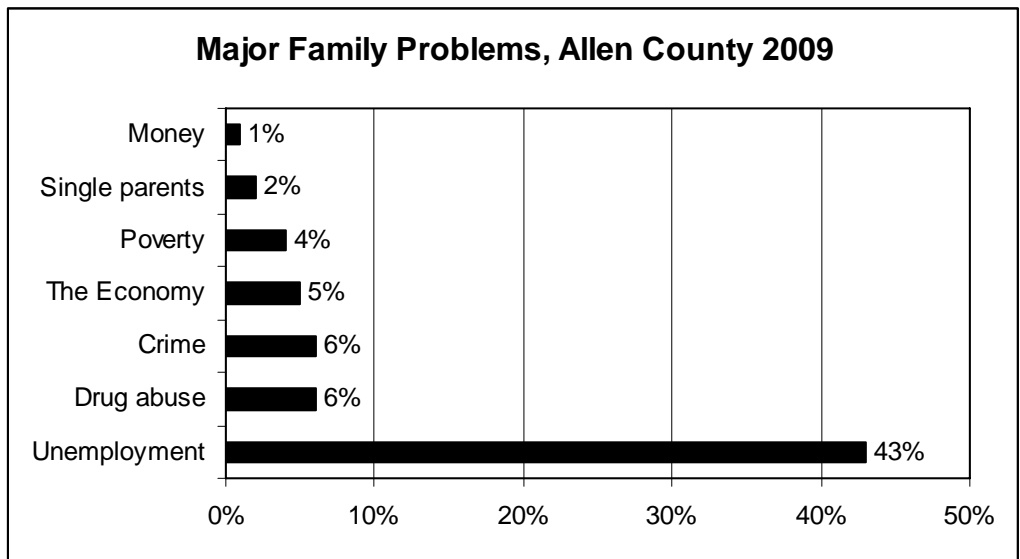
The community survey also included two open-ended questions about family and community problems. The questions asked respondent to identify the single most important problem facing local **families** and the single most important problem facing **their community**. Respondents wrote in their answers to the following questions.

1. What do you think is the single most important problem facing local **families** at the present time?
2. What do you think is the single most important problem facing your **community** at the present time?

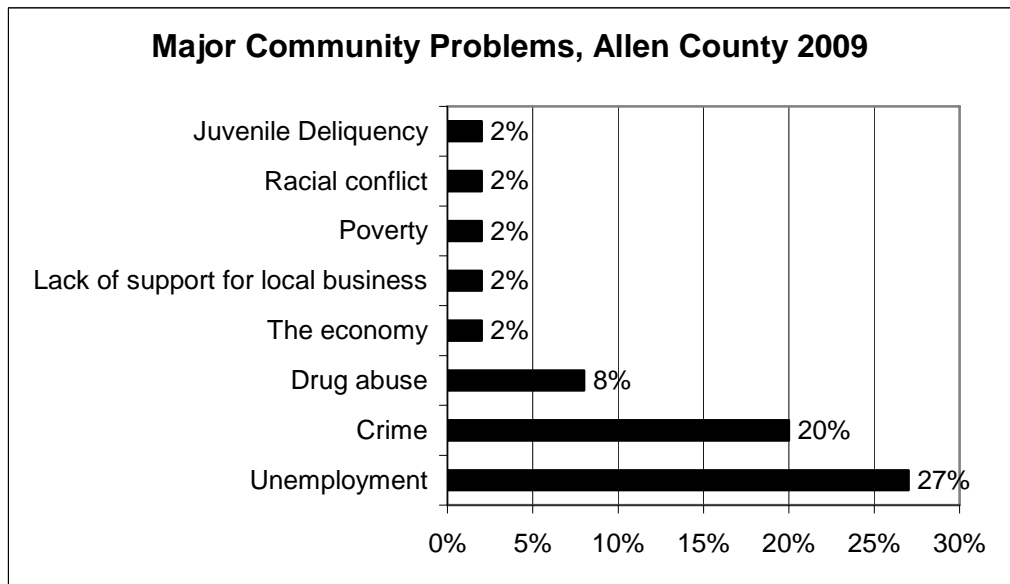
Community Concerns

The responses were compiled.

- ◆ When asked what the single most important problem facing **local families** was, Allen County adults reported the following: unemployment (43%), drug abuse (6%), crime (6%), poverty (4%), the economy (5%), single parents (2%), and money (1%).
- ◆ When asked what the single most important problem facing the **community** was, Allen County adults reported the following: unemployment (27%), crime (20%), drug abuse (8%), the economy (2%), the lack of support for local businesses (2%), poverty (2%), racial conflict (2%), and juvenile delinquency (2%).



Source: 2009 Allen County Health Risk and Community Needs Assessment



Source: 2009 Allen County Health Risk and Community Needs Assessment