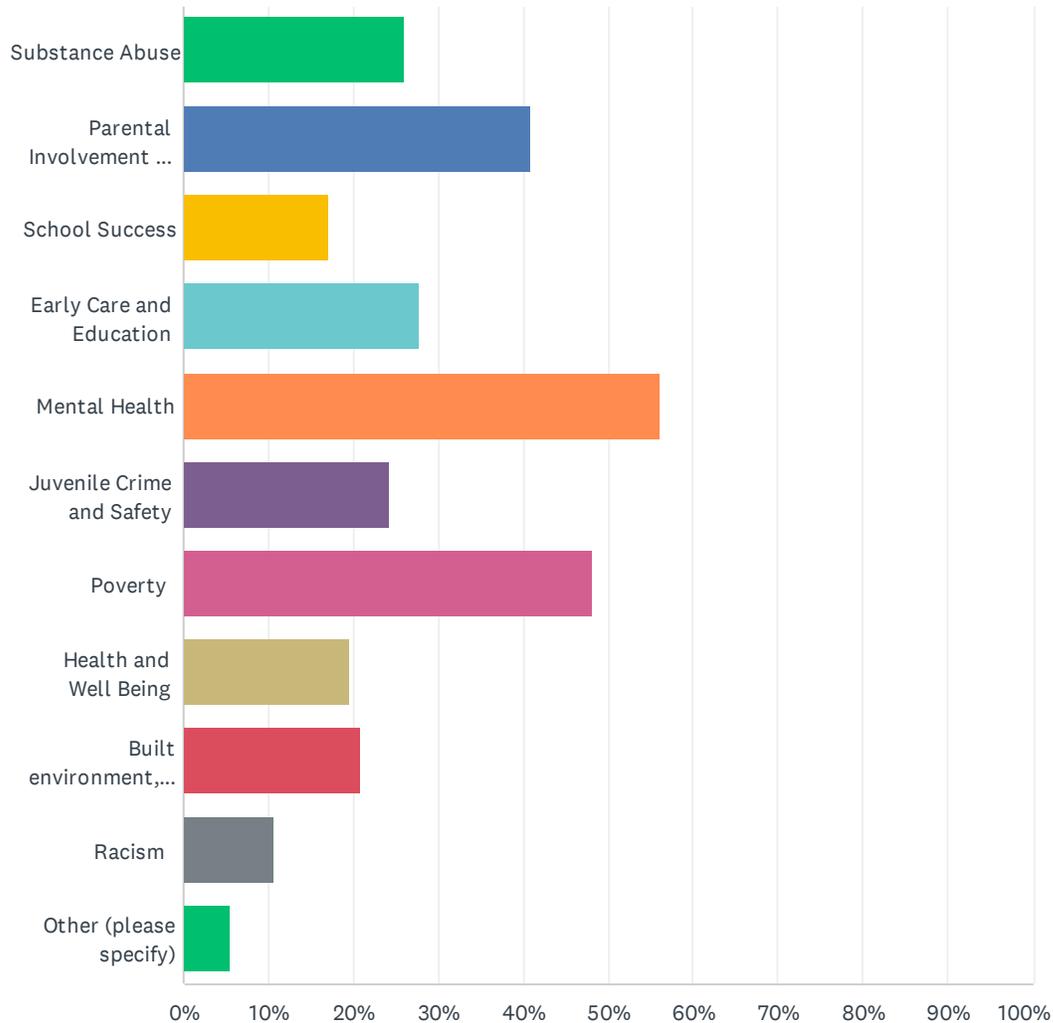


**Q1 What are the TOP THREE (3) issues affecting children and families in Jefferson County? Check three from the list below.**

Answered: 234 Skipped: 0



**2021 Top 3 Needs/Concerns In Jefferson Count:**

**2022 Top 3 Needs/Concerns In Jefferson Count:**

- 1) Poverty
- 2) Mental Health
- 3) Parental Involvement / Family Engagement

- 1) Mental Health
- 2) Poverty
- 3) Parental Involvement / Family Engagement

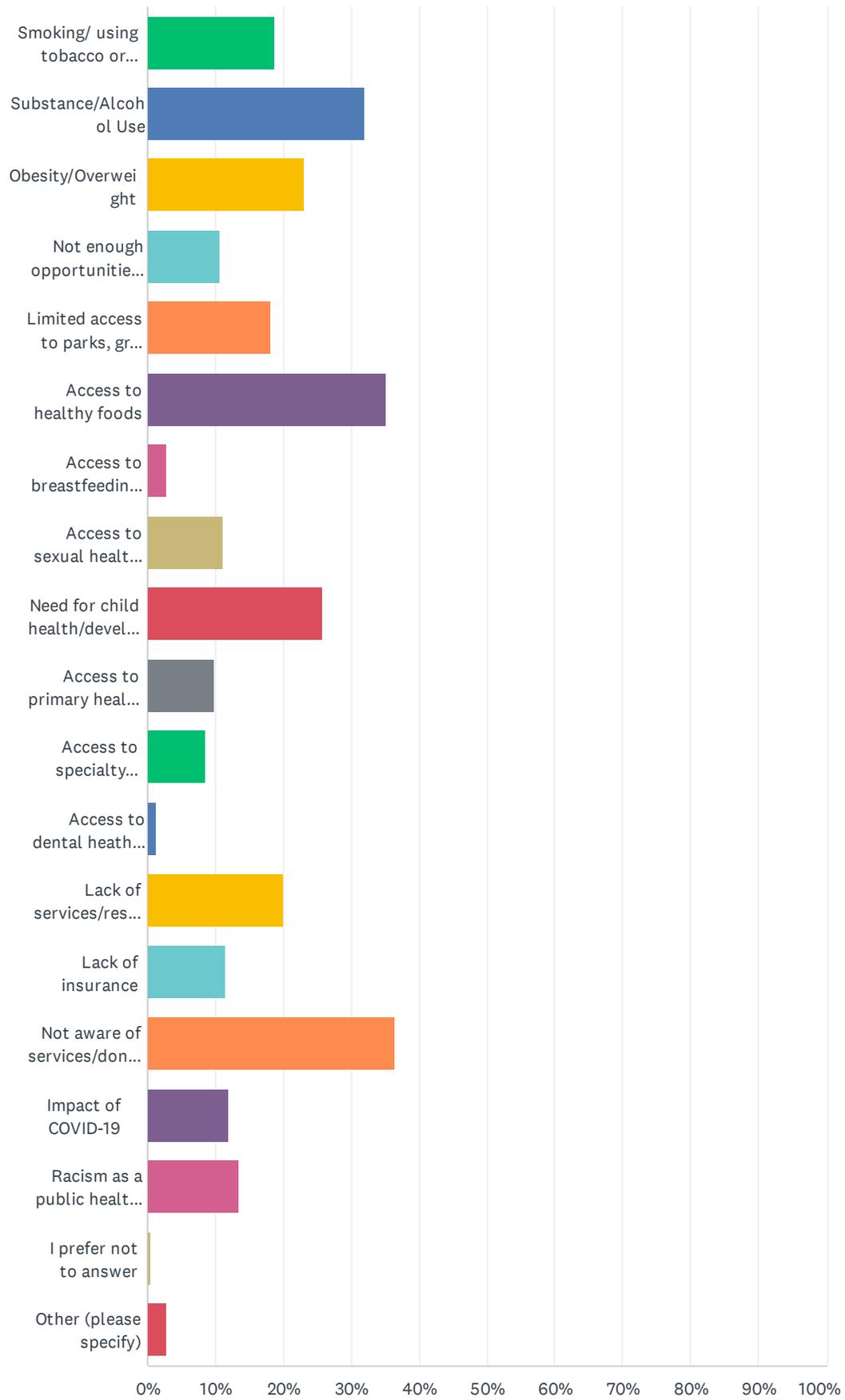
## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Substance Abuse	26.07%	61
Parental Involvement and Family Engagement	41.03%	96
School Success	17.09%	40
Early Care and Education	27.78%	65
Mental Health	55.98%	131
Juvenile Crime and Safety	24.36%	57
Poverty	48.29%	113
Health and Well Being	19.66%	46
Built environment, Neighborhoods, Housing, Transportation	20.94%	49
Racism	10.68%	25
Other (please specify)	5.56%	13
<b>Total Respondents: 234</b>		

**Q2 Health and Well Being: Please check your TOP THREE issues or concerns related to the health and well being of children in Jefferson County.**

Answered: 225 Skipped: 9

# State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

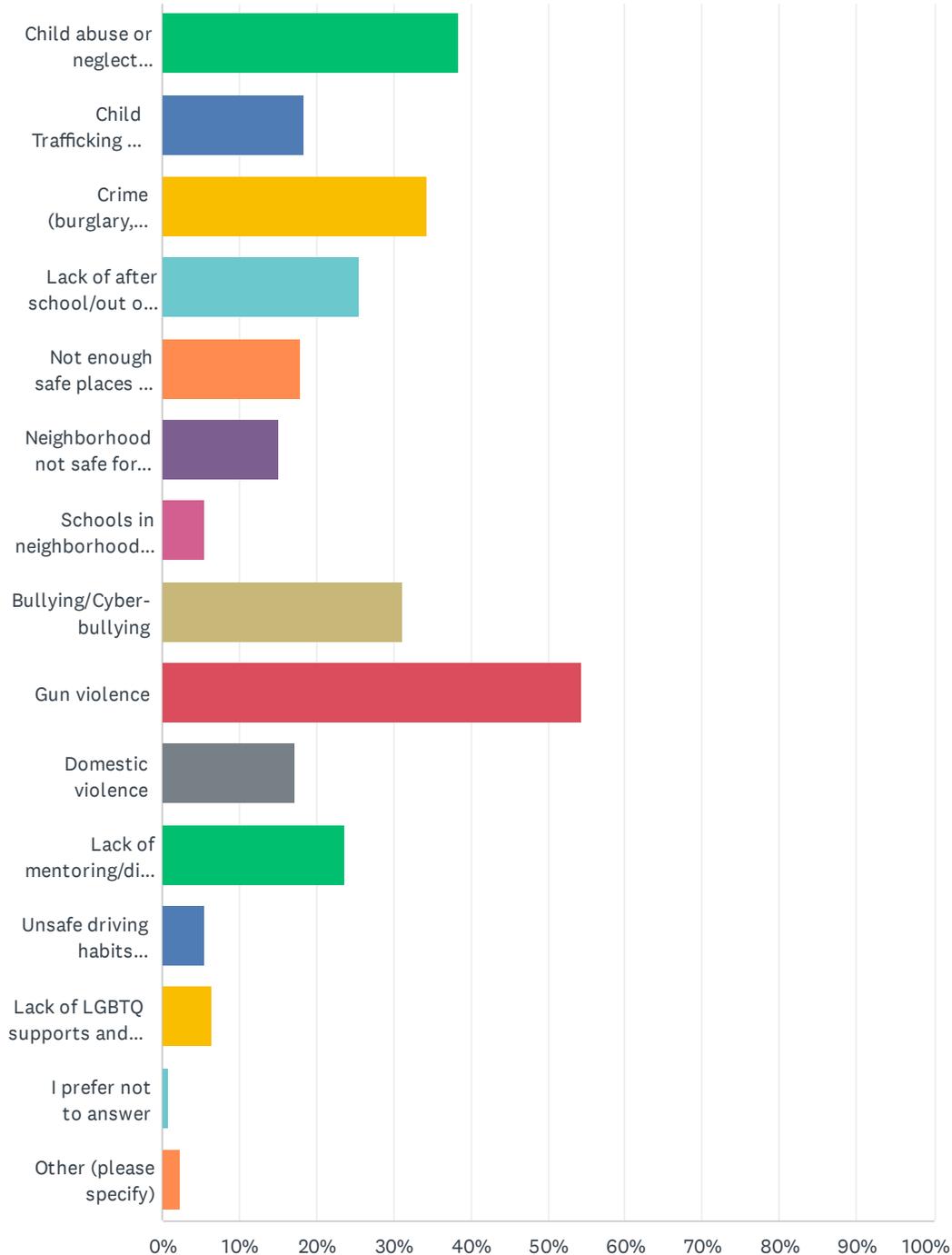


## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Smoking/ using tobacco or tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, e-cigarettes, vaping, dipping, chewing)	18.67%	42
Substance/Alcohol Use	32.00%	72
Obesity/Overweight	23.11%	52
Not enough opportunities for physical activity	10.67%	24
Limited access to parks, green space, sidewalks, playgrounds, walking/bike paths, etc. (built environment)	18.22%	41
Access to healthy foods	35.11%	79
Access to breastfeeding support and education	2.67%	6
Access to sexual health education	11.11%	25
Need for child health/development education for parents	25.78%	58
Access to primary health care (a place for regular check-ups, immunizations, and sick visits)	9.78%	22
Access to specialty health care services	8.44%	19
Access to dental health services	1.33%	3
Lack of services/resources for children/teens with disabilities/special needs	20.00%	45
Lack of insurance	11.56%	26
Not aware of services/don't know how to navigate the system	36.44%	82
Impact of COVID-19	12.00%	27
Racism as a public health problem	13.33%	30
I prefer not to answer	0.44%	1
Other (please specify)	2.67%	6
Total Respondents: 225		

### Q3 Juvenile Crime and Safety: Please select TOP THREE (3) issues that you think are the biggest issues or concerns related to the juvenile crime and safety of children in Jefferson County.

Answered: 219 Skipped: 15

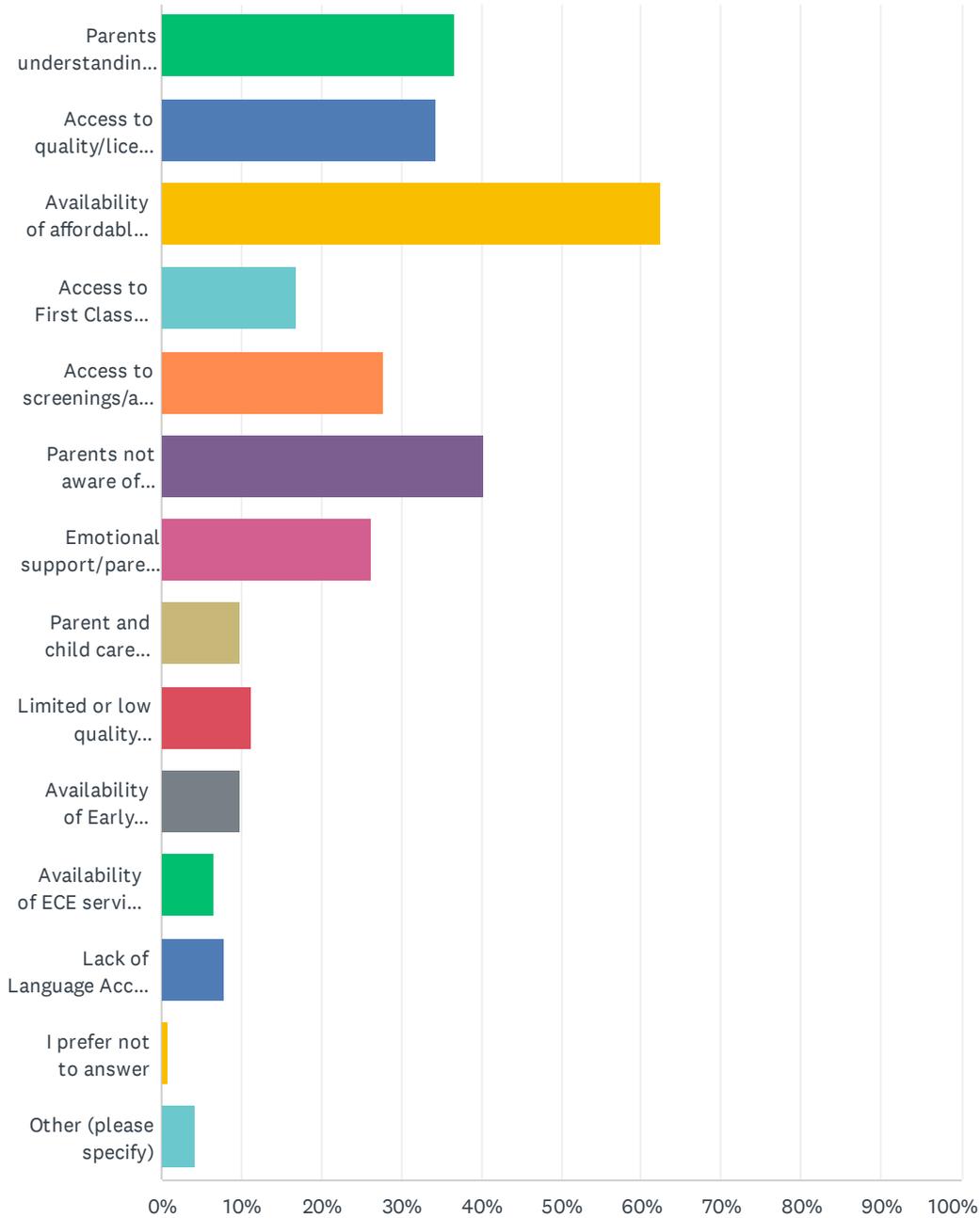


## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Child abuse or neglect detection/prevention	38.36%	84
Child Trafficking and Exploitation	18.26%	40
Crime (burglary, vandalism, drug dealing, street violence)	34.25%	75
Lack of after school/out of school programs	25.57%	56
Not enough safe places to play/recreational programs	17.81%	39
Neighborhood not safe for children/teens to walk to/from school	15.07%	33
Schools in neighborhood are not safe	5.48%	12
Bullying/Cyber-bullying	31.05%	68
Gun violence	54.34%	119
Domestic violence	17.35%	38
Lack of mentoring/diversion programs	23.74%	52
Unsafe driving habits (distracted driving, speeding, texting/cell phone use, not wearing seat belt)	5.48%	12
Lack of LGBTQ supports and resources	6.39%	14
I prefer not to answer	0.91%	2
Other (please specify)	2.28%	5
<b>Total Respondents: 219</b>		

**Q4 Early Care and Early Childhood Education: Please select TOP THREE (3) issues that you think are the biggest issues or concerns related to the early care and early childhood education of infants and young children in Jefferson County.**

Answered: 213 Skipped: 21



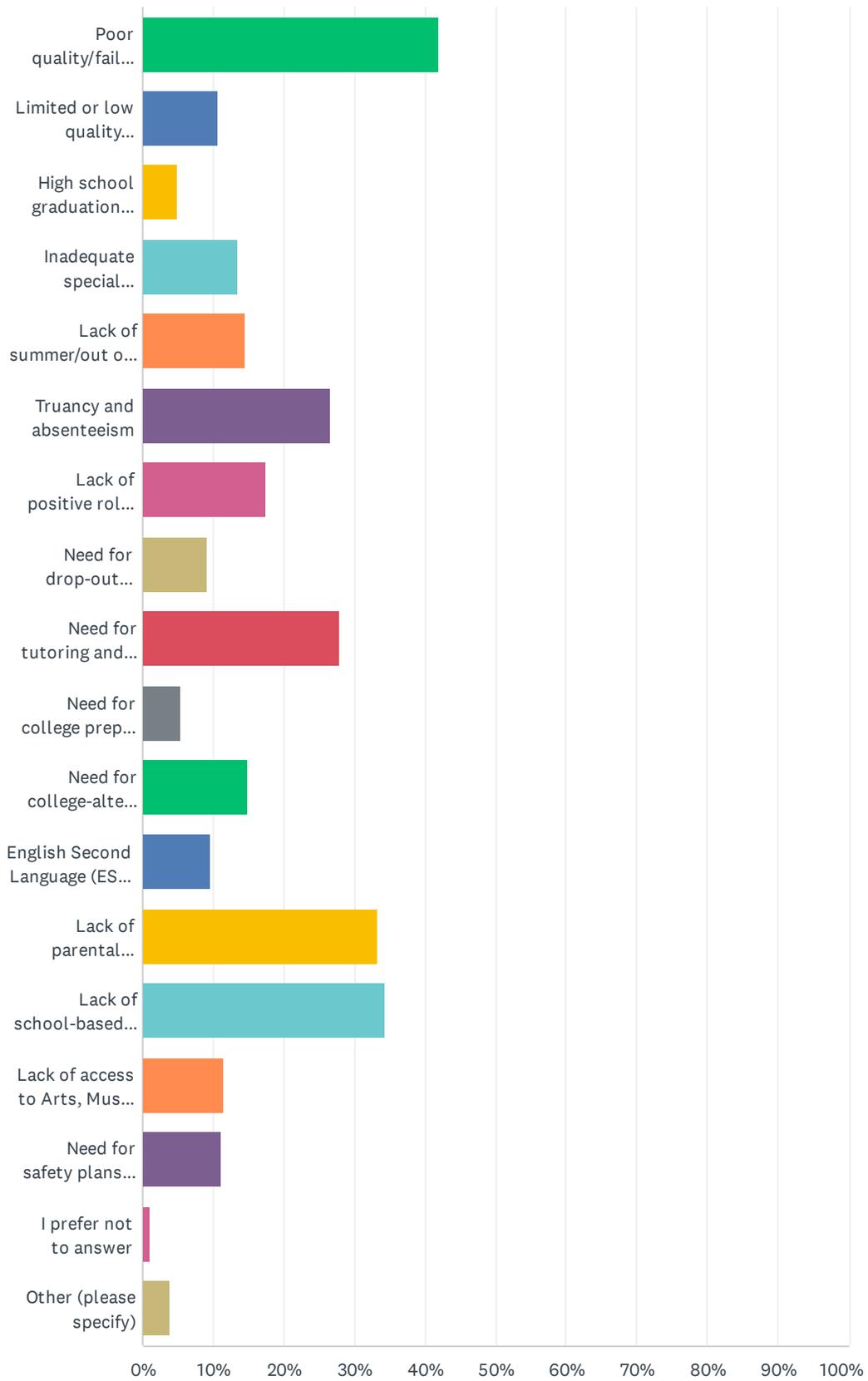
## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Parents understanding importance of reading to their children birth to 5	36.62%	78
Access to quality/licensed child care/family care	34.27%	73
Availability of affordable child care	62.44%	133
Access to First Class Pre-K/Head Start programs	16.90%	36
Access to screenings/assessments to identify problems early (health, mental health/emotional well-being, and developmental)	27.70%	59
Parents not aware of available services and programs or don't know how to apply for them	40.38%	86
Emotional support/parenting support programs and resources for parents	26.29%	56
Parent and child care provider education re: food and nutrition, particularly with limited budgets	9.86%	21
Limited or low quality professional development for child care providers/early education teachers	11.27%	24
Availability of Early Intervention/Home Visitation Services	9.86%	21
Availability of ECE services for children with special needs birth to 5	6.57%	14
Lack of Language Access ESL Early education services/child care	7.98%	17
I prefer not to answer	0.94%	2
Other (please specify)	4.23%	9
Total Respondents: 213		

**Q5 School Success: Please select TOP THREE (3) issues that you think are the biggest issues or concerns related to school success of children and youth in Jefferson County.**

Answered: 207 Skipped: 27

# State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

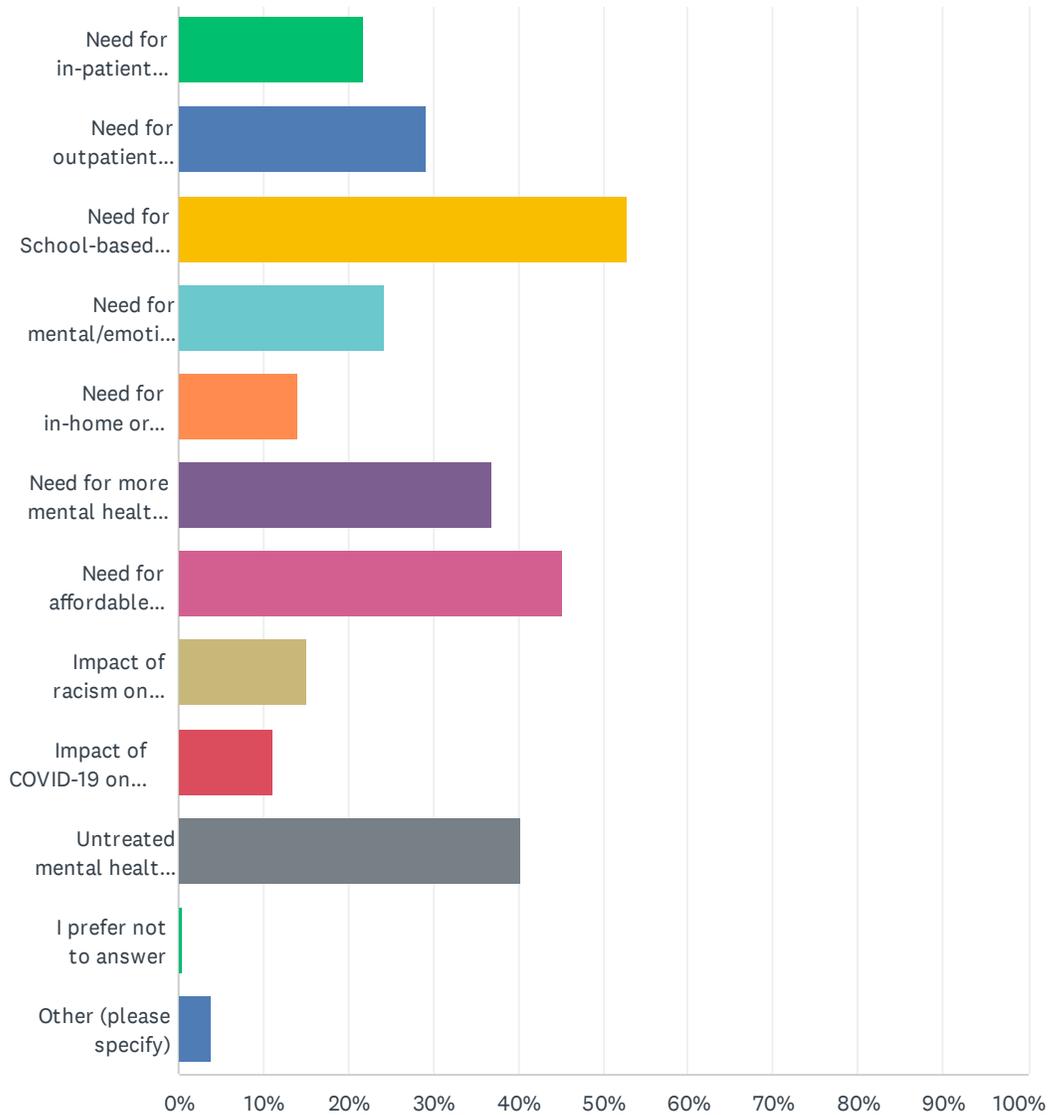


## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Poor quality/failing public schools	42.03%	87
Limited or low quality professional development for teachers	10.63%	22
High school graduation rates	4.83%	10
Inadequate special education services	13.53%	28
Lack of summer/out of school/after school care and activities	14.49%	30
Truancy and absenteeism	26.57%	55
Lack of positive role models/people for children/youth to look up to	17.39%	36
Need for drop-out prevention programs	9.18%	19
Need for tutoring and mentoring programs	28.02%	58
Need for college prep courses/career planning programs	5.31%	11
Need for college-alternative programs (vocational school, technical programs, job training)	14.98%	31
English Second Language (ESL) families - difficulty helping with homework, reading and writing in English, etc.	9.66%	20
Lack of parental engagement in school activities (homework, clubs, events)	33.33%	69
Lack of school-based mental health/behavioral health supports and resources	34.30%	71
Lack of access to Arts, Music, STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) programs and resources	11.59%	24
Need for safety plans, safe spaces and supports within schools for vulnerable children/teens (LGBTQ, ESL, special needs, other)	11.11%	23
I prefer not to answer	0.97%	2
Other (please specify)	3.86%	8
Total Respondents: 207		

### Q6 Select the TOP THREE (3) issues pertaining to Mental Health affecting children and families in Jefferson County.

Answered: 206 Skipped: 28

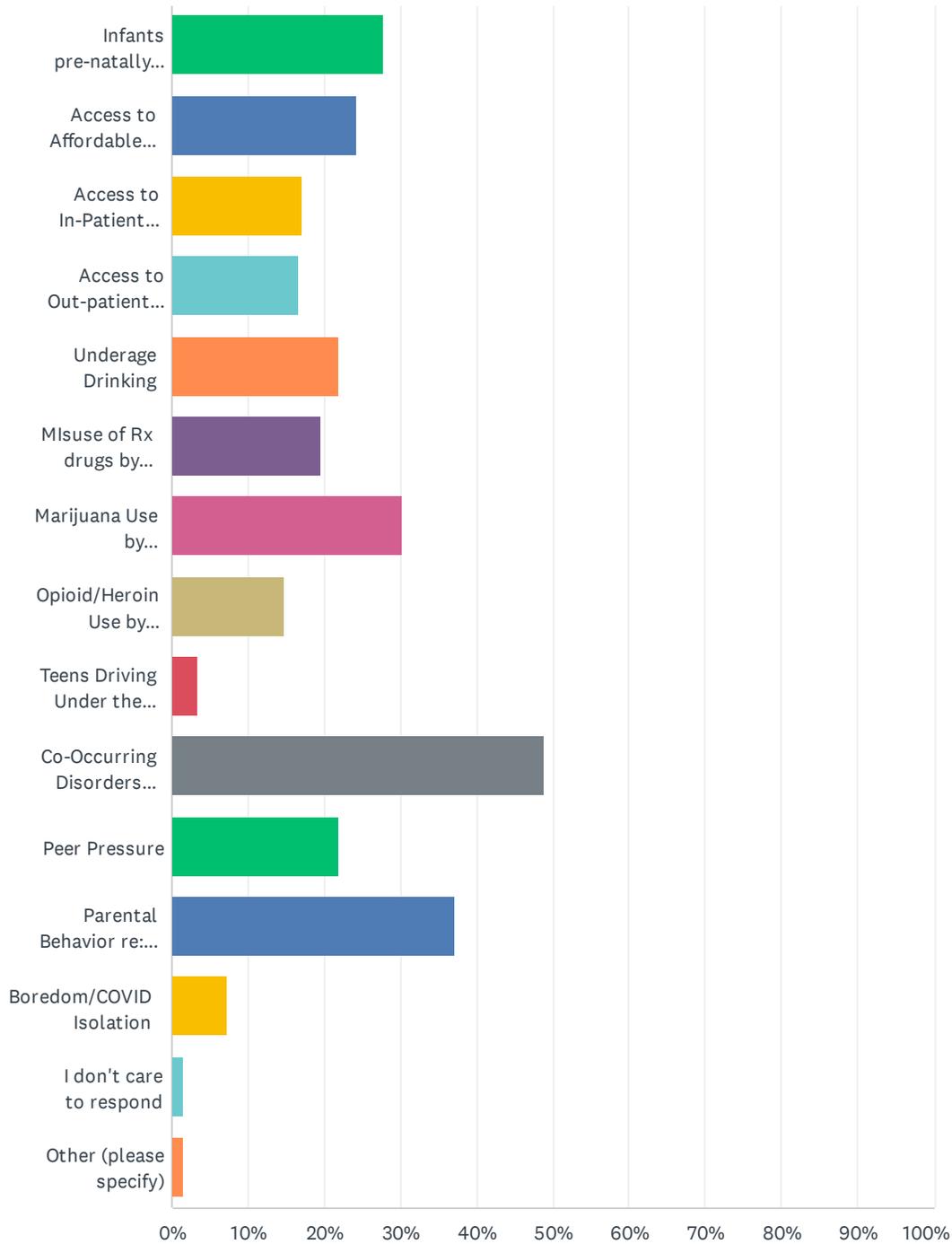


## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Need for in-patient mental health services for all ages	21.84%	45
Need for outpatient mental health services for all ages	29.13%	60
Need for School-based mental health services	52.91%	109
Need for mental/emotional/behavioral health services for children birth to 8 years	24.27%	50
Need for in-home or tele-mental health services for children and families	14.08%	29
Need for more mental health counselors trained in trauma-based therapies	36.89%	76
Need for affordable mental health services, access regardless of income	45.15%	93
Impact of racism on mental/emotional/behavioral health	15.05%	31
Impact of COVID-19 on mental/emotional/behavioral health	11.17%	23
Untreated mental health issues of parents/family members	40.29%	83
I prefer not to answer	0.49%	1
Other (please specify)	3.88%	8
Total Respondents: 206		

### Q7 Select the TOP THREE (3) issues pertaining to Substance Abuse affecting children and families in Jefferson County.

Answered: 205 Skipped: 29

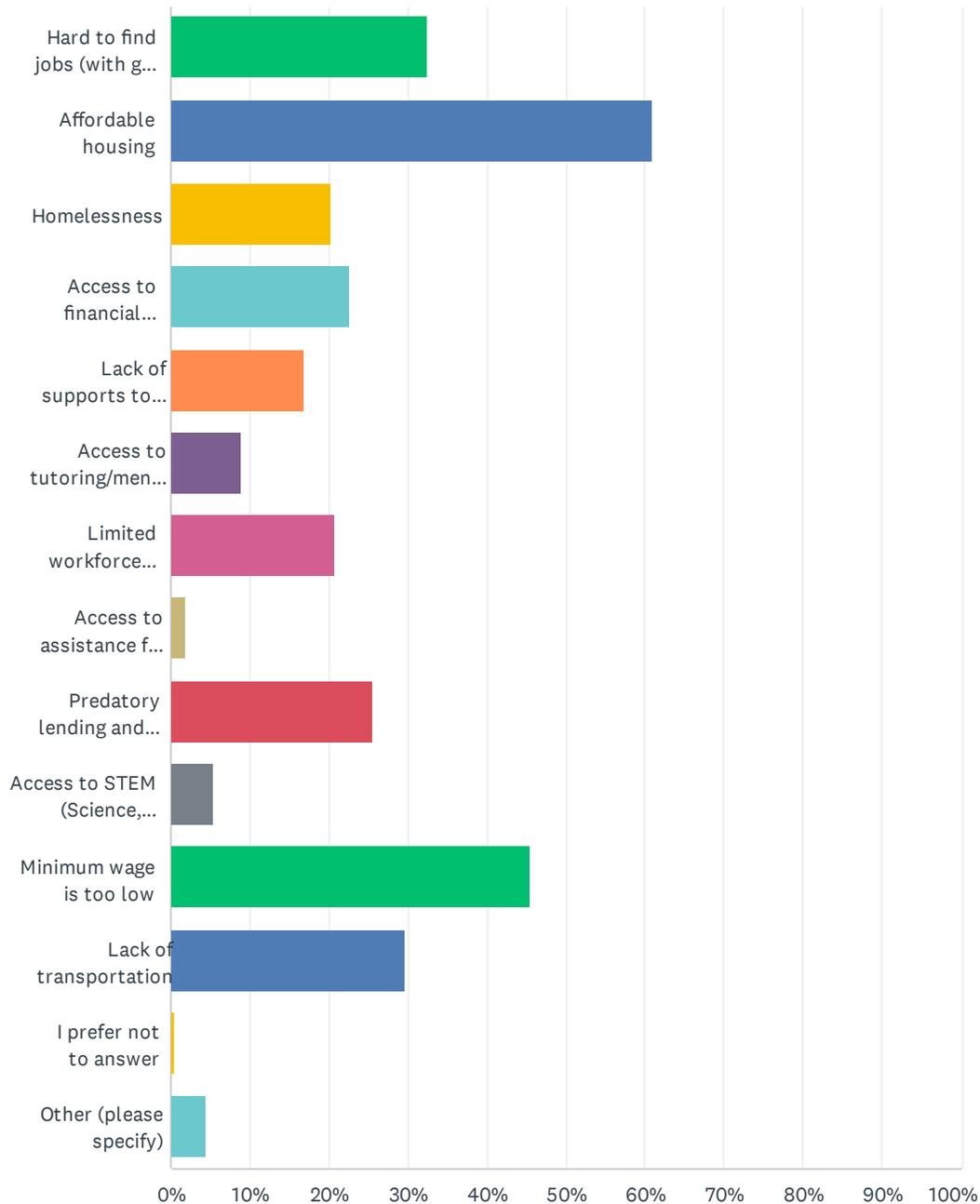


## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Infants pre-natally exposed to substances	27.80%	57
Access to Affordable In-Patient Treatment/Recovery Services for children/teens	24.39%	50
Access to In-Patient Treatment/Recovery Services for Mothers and their Babies staying together	17.07%	35
Access to Out-patient Treatment/ Recovery services for children/teens	16.59%	34
Underage Drinking	21.95%	45
Misuse of Rx drugs by children/teens	19.51%	40
Marijuana Use by children/teens	30.24%	62
Opioid/Heroin Use by children/teens	14.63%	30
Teens Driving Under the Influence	3.41%	7
Co-Occurring Disorders (mental health, depression, anxiety, trauma/PTSD, ACE)	48.78%	100
Peer Pressure	21.95%	45
Parental Behavior re: Substance Use	37.07%	76
Boredom/COVID Isolation	7.32%	15
I don't care to respond	1.46%	3
Other (please specify)	1.46%	3
Total Respondents: 205		

**Q8 Poverty: Please select THREE TOP (3) issues that you think are the biggest issues or concerns related to the Economic Security of children and families in Jefferson County.**

Answered: 203 Skipped: 31

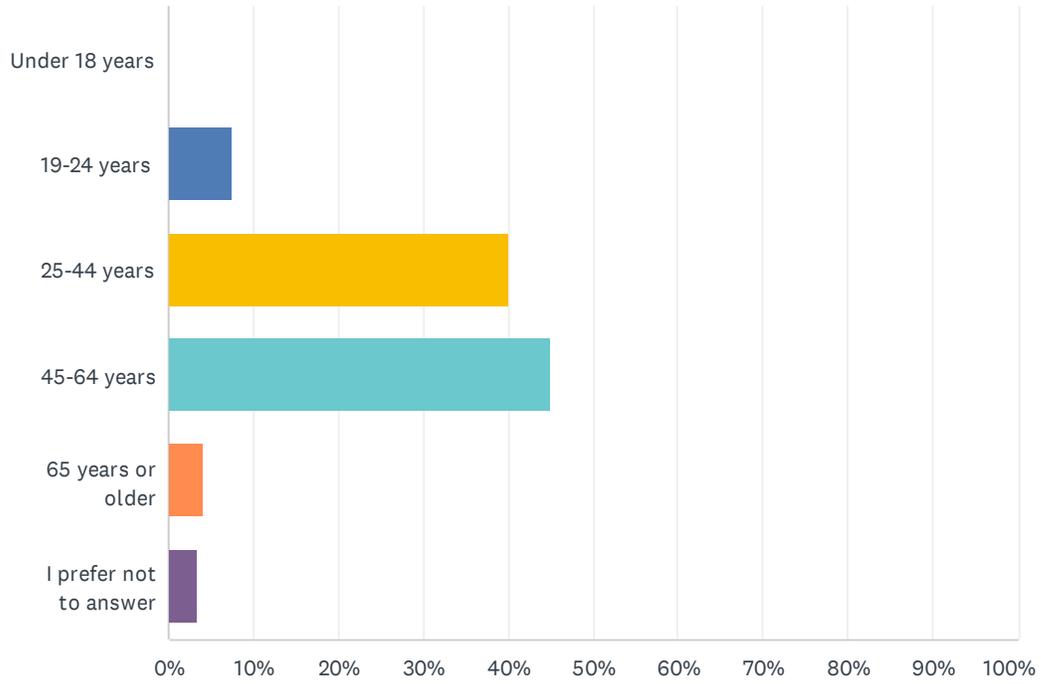


## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Hard to find jobs (with good pay, benefits, etc.)	32.51%	66
Affordable housing	61.08%	124
Homelessness	20.20%	41
Access to financial literacy/budgeting skills programs	22.66%	46
Lack of supports to finish high school or get a GED	16.75%	34
Access to tutoring/mentoring	8.87%	18
Limited workforce development for high skilled jobs	20.69%	42
Access to assistance for tax filing/tax credit education	1.97%	4
Predatory lending and lack of access to credit counseling services	25.62%	52
Access to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) programs/career development paths	5.42%	11
Minimum wage is too low	45.32%	92
Lack of transportation	29.56%	60
I prefer not to answer	0.49%	1
Other (please specify)	4.43%	9
Total Respondents: 203		

## Q9 What is your age?

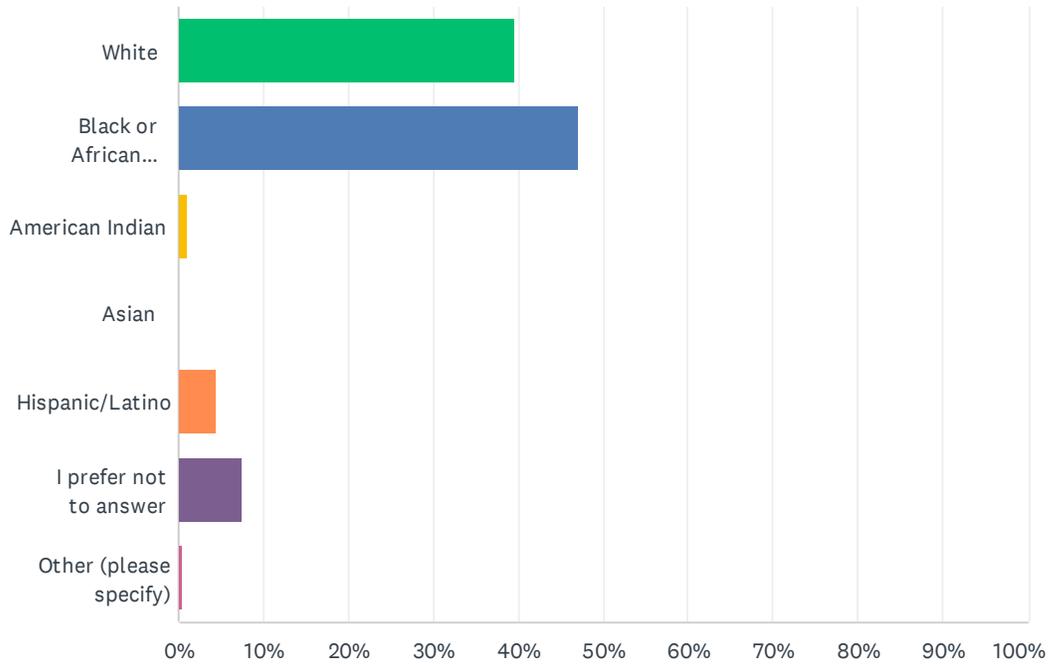
Answered: 202 Skipped: 32



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18 years	0.00%	0
19-24 years	7.43%	15
25-44 years	40.10%	81
45-64 years	45.05%	91
65 years or older	3.96%	8
I prefer not to answer	3.47%	7
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>202</b>

### Q10 How would you describe your race and ethnicity? [Check all that apply]

Answered: 202 Skipped: 32



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White	39.60%	80
Black or African American	47.03%	95
American Indian	0.99%	2
Asian	0.00%	0
Hispanic/Latino	4.46%	9
I prefer not to answer	7.43%	15
Other (please specify)	0.50%	1
Total Respondents: 202		

## Q11 Is there anything else you'd like to add or share concerning unmet needs of children, youth, and families in Jefferson County?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 181

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	No	9/13/2022 7:58 AM
2	Hopefully this survey will lead to true assistance. Once assistance is available, ensure it is marketed and assessible to those in need. Thank you for your efforts.	9/11/2022 10:21 AM
3	Again, I do feel resources are available and in place. People are not valuing and using the resources in the manner in which they were put into place. Pre k the majority of the children in the programs are not poverty or low income families. The ones that are poverty level will not bring the children and they don't value the program and the policies. It's very disappointing how the government keeps giving them and they do not appreciate and are now depending on the government resources and do not want to work. The people sit around awaiting on stimulus, food stamps and whatever little the government will give to them.	9/9/2022 1:22 PM
4	Increased faith-based participation	9/7/2022 2:35 PM
5	most of the issues we face have their roots originating in the family. Schools should hold parents accountable for the welfare of their children and stop trying to pacify parents	9/7/2022 12:49 PM
6	No	9/7/2022 11:19 AM
7	NA	9/7/2022 11:13 AM
8	Most of these children are black and have no role models and a lack of strong leadership in their communities.	9/7/2022 11:13 AM
9	My main concern is with title one schools, or schools that have a fairly large population of low income students.	9/7/2022 10:49 AM
10	Jefferson County encompasses all levels of income; therefore, this survey should be specific to areas in JeffCo that meet the criteria for unmet needs (i.e., North / Central Birmingham, Tarrant, Center Point, Fairfield, Ensley, Bessemer, Brighton, etc.).	9/7/2022 10:47 AM
11	Employers' lack of understanding of impact of access to affordable, QUALITY, child care.	9/7/2022 10:44 AM
12	Services for families who has lost someone to gun violence	9/6/2022 8:27 PM
13	I do not think there is a magic wand that can fix all the problems. There are so many different issue that affect families differently. Canvassing the street and talking to the people who are directly affected seems like a good start.	9/6/2022 11:58 AM
14	Gun violence within schools and out of schools.	9/6/2022 9:34 AM
15	Consistency in everything kids do is important. I think it is unfortunate that we don't have consistency in the principals and teachers at our school. My son is in 5th grade and has 4 principals in his short time in elementary school. That is ridiculous.	9/2/2022 6:07 PM
16	I feel that if more people would just really take an interest and just care about our youth and children today things can change.	9/2/2022 2:26 PM
17	Non-profits need access to grant and other funding opportunities to help combat these community issues and concerns.	9/2/2022 10:41 AM
18	No	9/2/2022 10:09 AM
19	NA	9/2/2022 9:57 AM
20	As long as there are programs which merely take the word of families that know how to work the system, there will always be issues because those families who truly have needs are left out. The priority should be on reaching the neediest families in the community.	9/2/2022 9:47 AM

## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

21	Poverty is at the root of every single unmet need.	9/2/2022 8:58 AM
22	No	9/2/2022 8:42 AM
23	DHR needs a complete overhaul from top on down.	9/1/2022 11:03 PM
24	No	9/1/2022 7:15 PM
25	Mental health all the way around	8/30/2022 11:11 PM
26	Leaders in neighborhoods who are not afraid to promote and act on community pride projects. Creating cultures in schools our community programs that promote and require basic kindness and respectful responses in language and dress. Cutting some of the simple red tape that discourages people from believing and acting on situations that could take them out of complex cycles. Teaching and encouraging people how to not allow or think themselves into being a victim forever. Don't just set up systems for people in distress to receive, but promote their ability to give, build and be a part of the change they want to see. Place businesses and housing in communities together where they are more easily accessible and encourage stability/communities and people more helpful and dependent on themselves. If you have a dual model of family housing, education and work industries within the same community, it is likely that crime and levels of conflict will decrease because people are more likely to share common goals and experiences, not esteeming the availability of resources in one community over the other.	8/29/2022 10:56 AM
27	no	8/29/2022 8:36 AM
28	I think that the incarceration of parents and caregivers is a large issue that is not being talked about enough. It ties into over policing in low income neighborhoods and the school to prison pipeline.	8/26/2022 12:00 PM
29	Young adults transitioning out of foster care have very little guidance and/or direction as it relates to their futures.	8/25/2022 9:52 PM
30	Environmental racism is entirely too prevalent in the Jefferson County especially when comparing the placement of factories inside communities that are heavily underserved such as Bessemer or Ensley in comparison to a place like Mountain Brook.	8/25/2022 8:13 PM
31	Service Providers have to remain or become unbiased when providing services to families.	8/25/2022 4:58 PM
32	Free child care and after school care for all ages with educational tutoring would be a game changer	8/25/2022 3:43 PM
33	No	8/25/2022 3:18 PM
34	NA	8/25/2022 3:11 PM
35	cleanliness and adequate food and shelter	8/25/2022 1:48 PM
36	Having community resource centers in these communities or close to these communities that offer resources for all of these issues on everyone of these lists. Every reason on these lists and more are reasons for these families, children and our cities failing. If even one family fail, the whole city fails. That one family will fall into disarray, chaos and disrepair and IT WILL affect other families, communities, cities and our state, because that mother and father, if they don't just give up, they WILL do whatever they can legal or not, to get what they need for their family. Crime came from someone wanting more than what they have. The main cause of crime is the family factors (Poverty, Peer pressure, Drugs, Politics, Religion, Background, Society, Unemployment, Unequal rights, and an unfair justice system.	8/25/2022 1:45 PM
37	Attitudes of all. Total disrespect, would rather stay in the position they are in than work to get out of it. Will not listen to anyone of authority. Rejects authority.	8/25/2022 1:23 PM
38	No	8/25/2022 1:12 PM
39	No! Thank you.	8/25/2022 12:33 PM
40	Not at this time	8/25/2022 12:21 PM
41	N/A	8/15/2022 4:15 PM
42	when giving extra benefits such SNAP we educate parents on how to successfully utilize	8/15/2022 1:36 PM

## State of the Child in Jefferson County Survey 2022

	benefits to achieve good eating habits and a healthy diet within the family	
43	children need more access to mental health services in schools. they are trying to navigate having peers, learning, their emotions and issues they may have at home; which is a lot for a child to navigate.	8/14/2022 7:08 PM
44	More people are needed who have a genuine passion to assist others.	8/14/2022 7:07 PM
45	Thanks for doing whatever possible to support good quality of life for all children and families in Jefferson County.	8/12/2022 4:15 PM
46	In schools-we are seeing suicidal thoughts and ideations at younger ages-especially in the younger elementary post covid- need more access mental health services and behavioral/trauma therapists in schools; more parents facing substance abuse, need more availability- families are on waitlists for months/year- for diagnostic and counseling services, in 20 years- I have never seen bullying among students outside of school and online/digitally to this level. Schools are sinking trying to respond and police this. We need help with the bullying outside of school- texts/screenshots/digital threats- need man power in school or community to deal with this. Access to full time threat assessment person in school system- school counselors are completely overwhelmed. social workers/behavioral therapists at all schools.	8/12/2022 3:42 PM
47	No	8/10/2022 10:53 AM
48	Breaking cycles is incredibly difficult, and the system is set up for failure rather than support for those attempting to do so. Systemic racism is clearly apparent in JeffCo (downtown vs suburbs being one laughable example.) Affordable housing in "good" neighborhoods is unattainable, and therefore discourages diversity, so the cycles continue. We have to intervene and start with the next generations so they have a chance in the future. Add funding for mental health needs for children, add funding for those resources in schools so parents don't bear the burden of connecting their kids with resources when they have to work to make ends meet. Give our kids a fighting chance at a better life (while still making changes to help our adults live better lives too!)	8/9/2022 11:34 AM
49	Priority on addressing firearm access and violence locally, regionally and nationally.	8/9/2022 8:55 AM
50	Thank you for what you do!	8/8/2022 1:25 PM
51	collaboration and communication between all the agencies providing support	8/8/2022 12:03 PM
52	N/A	8/8/2022 11:17 AM
53	basic needs resources.	8/5/2022 11:58 AM