

Quality of Life for Adults 60 years+ in Washtenaw County

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Why this matters?

Our senior population faces many pressing challenges including lack of healthcare, affordable housing and independent living support, transportation and mobility, and social, employment, and volunteer opportunities. These challenges will only grow over the next 25 years because older seniors will constitute the fastest-growing population in Washtenaw County.

What is CTAC?

CTAC (Community Technical Assistance Collaborative) is a University of Michigan's Ginsberg Center initiative that contributes to our community through meaningful and authentic partnerships. Working together, students, faculty and community partners support a wide range of data and evaluation projects. Together, we foster a culture of learning and improvement for a thriving and equitable community.

What is STATCOM?

STATCOM (Statistics in the Community) is a community outreach program provided by graduate students in the Departments of Biostatistics, Statistics, and the Program for Survey Methodology at University of Michigan. The program offers the expertise of statistics graduate students, free of charge, to non-profit governmental and community organizations in the areas of data organization, analysis, and interpretation.

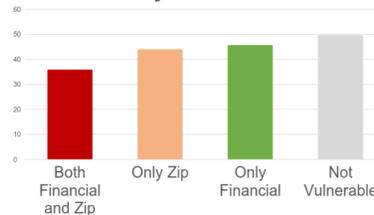
What did we do?

CTAC and STATCOM students worked together to develop and administer a survey to better understand the quality of life and social connectedness of vulnerable older adults residing in Washtenaw County. The survey was translated to 4 languages and over 750 surveys were collected over a 3 week period from 47 collection sites. The results helped document the status and service needs of older adults in Washtenaw County which helped determine partial allocation of a \$13 million fund.

Main Takeaways continued:

+ Financial and zip code vulnerability have a compounding effect on quality of life

Quality of life lowest with **combined** financial and zip code vulnerability



Main Takeaways:

+ Receiving Medicaid, receiving housing assistance, or answering "no" to "enough money for bills" as an indicator of financial vulnerability correlated with lower quality of life



+ Living in 48198 and 48197 correlated with lower quality of life

+ People who were financially stable, but who lived in 48197 or 48198 still had lower quality of life

+ Living alone does not seem to be a significant indicator of lower quality of life

