

# **Baltimore in Depth**

# A Closer Look at the 2011 Baltimore Citizen Survey Results

City of Baltimore/Department of Finance/Bureau of the Budget and Management Research

The 2011 Citizen Survey asked 1,786 respondents a series of questions to gauge their satisfaction with the services offered by the City of Baltimore and the quality of life in the City. One of the questions asked respondents was *how likely they would be to move out of the City in the next 1 to 3 years*: 34 percent of respondents said they were likely to leave Baltimore in the near future, up by one percent from 2010.

## **Citizen Survey Results**

Although the percentage of those who were likely or very likely to leave Baltimore remained stable compared to the 2009 and 2010 Citizen Survey, more respondents said that they were not at all likely to move out of Baltimore, up from 26% to 32%.

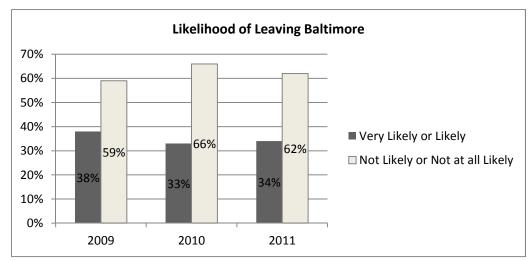


Chart 1: Likelihood of Leaving Baltimore

Likelihood of Leaving Baltimore	2009	2010	2011
Very Likely	19%	20%	20%
Likely	19%	13%	14%
Not Likely	33%	40%	30%
Not at all Likely	26%	26%	32%

Table 1: Trend of Likelihood of Leaving Baltimore

Demographics characteristics of those who were more likely to leave Baltimore include:

- Younger respondents (Aged 18 to 24)
- Females
- Asians
- Southwestern district residents
- Respondents with an annual income of \$50,000 to \$75,000

#### **Key Findings:**

Demographics characteristics of those who were more likely to leave Baltimore:

- Females
- 18 to 24 year-olds
- Southwestern district residents
- Income range of \$50,000 to \$75,000

Those who were likely or very likely to leave Baltimore were:

- More likely to be unsatisfied with City services
- More likely to rate
   Downtown in the
   daytime and nighttime as
   unsafe or very unsafe
- More likely to rate City cleanliness as poor

Respondents with an annual income of \$50,000 to \$75,000:

- 43% were Northeastern and Northwestern residents
- 54% were <45 years old
- 58% Non-Hispanic Blacks;
   36% Whites
- 27% High school Grad;
   31% Some College
- 23% would leave
   Baltimore because of crime; 11% because of high taxes

Demographics characteristics of those who were less likely to leave Baltimore include:

- Males
- Hispanics
- Northwestern district residents
- Homeowners

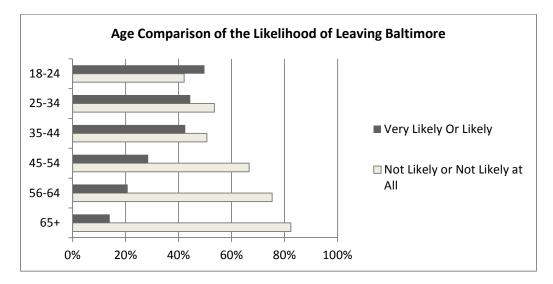


Chart 2: Age Comparison of the Likelihood of Leaving Baltimore in the Next Three Years

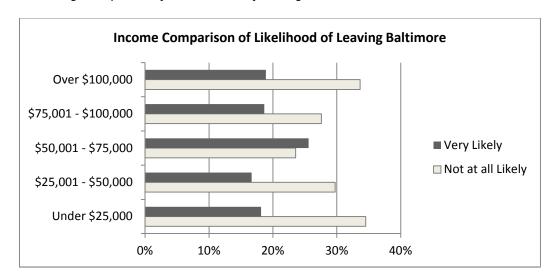


Chart 3: Income Comparison of the Likelihood of Leaving Baltimore in the Next Three Years

Those who were very likely or likely to leave Baltimore were more likely to rate Downtown safety both during the daytime nighttime as unsafe or very unsafe and were more likely to rate City cleanliness as poor. Those who were likely or very likely to leave Baltimore were also more likely to be unsatisfied and very unsatisfied with City services.

## Respondents with an Annual Income of \$50,000 to \$75,000

Respondents within the income range of \$50,000 and \$75,000 were the most likely to leave Baltimore. This subset of respondents was mostly Northwestern and Northeastern district residents. Their average age was 45, compared to the Citywide average age of 51. Compared to City respondents, this group of respondents was more likely White, less likely non-Hispanic Blacks, and had higher education level. While their ratings of City cleanliness and safety closely matched the responses of all respondents, they were less likely to be very satisfied or satisfied with overall City services.

#### Why Are You Likely to Leave?

Same with the Citizen Survey results in 2010, crime and taxes were the most frequently cited reason for leaving Baltimore in 2011. A smaller percentage of respondents thought cost of living was the reason for leaving in 2011, but a higher percentage of respondents thought pursuing another job was the reason for leaving.

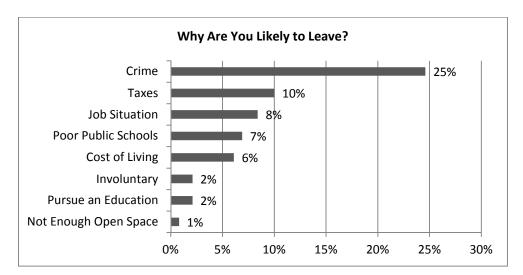


Chart 4: Reasons for Leaving Baltimore in the Next Three Years

Females were more likely to leave Baltimore overall and were more likely to leave Baltimore because of high cost of living and to pursue an education. Males were more likely to leave Baltimore because of crime, poor quality of public schools, and high taxes.

The reasons for leaving Baltimore also varied among other demographics characteristics. Respondents under the age of 45 were significantly more likely to leave Baltimore than those above the age of 45. Those who were under 45 were more likely to leave Baltimore because of poor quality of public schools and to pursue another job. Those who were above 45 were more likely to leave Baltimore because of high taxes.

Respondents from the Eastern district were more likely to leave Baltimore because of high crime rates, while respondents from the Northern district were more likely to leave Baltimore because of poor public schools and high taxes. Respondents from the Southwestern district were significantly more likely to leave Baltimore to pursue another job.

Those who earned under \$25,000 were more likely to leave Baltimore because of high crime rates whereas those with income more than \$75,000 were more likely to leave Baltimore because of high taxes. Those with income more than \$100,000 were also more likely to leave Baltimore because of poor quality of public schools.

Respondents who were homeowners were more likely to leave Baltimore because of poor public schools and high taxes while those who were renters were more likely to leave Baltimore because of crime and to pursue another job.

#### **Key Findings:**

Those who were more likely to leave Baltimore because of *high crime* rates:

- Eastern district residents
- Income under \$25,000
- Renters

Those who were more likely to leave Baltimore because of *high taxes*:

- Males
- Aged 45 or above
- Northern district residents
- Income above \$75,000
- Homeowners

Those who were more likely to leave Baltimore to *pursue another job:* 

- Males
- Aged under 45
- Southwestern district residents
- Renters

Those who were more likely to leave Baltimore because of *poor quality* of public schools:

- Males
- Aged under 45
- Northern district residents
- Income above \$100,000
- Homeowners