State of the State Survey
Fall 2019

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State of the State Survey
Fall 2018

Trust in government
About SOSS Wave 78

937 Interviews Completed
Margin of Error: ± 3.2%

Male: 47.9%  Female: 52.0%

White: 79.3%  Black: 12.1%
Michigan residents’ trust in local government decreased slightly.

Still, trust in local government is now higher than it has been in most of this century.
Michigan Residents' Opinions of How Often They Can Trust Local Government, Fall 2019

- Most of the Time: 43.7%
- Some of the Time: 37.2%
- Seldom: 11.4%
- Almost Never: 7.6%

- **Nearly All or Most of the Time**
- **Seldom or Almost Never**

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**Michigan Residents’ Opinions of How Often They Can Trust Local Government, 1995-2019**

- **Nearly All or Most of the Time**
- **Seldom or Almost Never**

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Michigan residents’ trust in state government also decreased slightly. Even before this dip, trust in state government had already been much less favorable than it was.
Michigan Residents' Opinions of How Often They Can Trust the State Government, Fall 2019

- Most of the Time: 21.3%
- Some of the Time: 49.5%
- Seldom: 18.4%
- Almost Never: 10.9%
Michigan Residents' Opinions of How Often They Can Trust the State Government, 1995-2019

- Nearly All or Most of the Time
- Seldom or Almost Never
Michigan residents’ trust in the federal government also decreased slightly.

Those who say they can trust the federal government “seldom or never” outnumber those who say “nearly all or most of the time”, by a margin of three to one.

Trust in the federal government is far below the all-time high, which came shortly after the attacks of September 11, 2001.
Michigan Residents' Opinions of How Often They Can Trust the Federal Government, Fall 2019

Percent

- Most of the Time: 13.7%
- Some of the Time: 41.1%
- Seldom: 26.3%
- Almost Never: 19.0%


- Nearly All or Most of the Time
- Seldom or Almost Never
Ever since we began measuring trust in government, Michigan residents have always had greater trust in local government than in either state or federal government, by a wide margin.
Percent of Michigan Residents Who Believe They Can Trust Different Branches of Government "Nearly All or Most of the Time", Fall 2019

- Local: 43.7%
- State: 21.3%
- Federal: 13.7%
Percent of Michigan Residents Who Believe They Can Trust Different Branches of Government "Seldom or Almost Never", Fall 2019

- **Local**: 19.0%
- **State**: 29.3%
- **Federal**: 45.3%
Percent of Michigan Residents Saying They Trust Local, State, or Federal Government "Nearly All or Most of the Time", 2001-2019

- **Local**
- **State**
- **Federal**
How to Learn More about SOSS:

http://ippsr.msu.edu/SOSS/

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