Vital Signs 8
Neighborhood Action and
Sense of Community

BNIA
Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance
Jacob France Institute

Neighborhood Action and Sense of Community

Baltimore City has a rich history of community organizing and involvement. BNIA-JFI tracks several neighborhood and community indicators to measure the extent in which the City's neighborhoods are active, organized, and empowered. Highlights of changes in the neighborhood action and sense of community indicators tracked by BNIA-JFI include:

Neighborhood Groups

- In 2008, the City reported nearly 500 neighborhood associations and block clubs. This number has decreased since 2003 when there were 650 neighborhood associations and block clubs. It is hard to determine the cause of this decrease, but it may be due to less engaged residents and/or groups not registering their information with the City Department of Planning that maintains the list of community groups in Baltimore City.

- The number of Community Development Corporations (CDCs) increased from 45 in 2003 to 60 in 2008. CDCs provide important and wide-ranging programs, services, and other activities that promote and support community but are primarily engaged in housing development.

Neighborhood Initiatives

- The number of neighborhoods with a Healthy Neighborhood Initiative program (HNI) has nearly doubled from 10 in 2006 to 19 in 2008. The mission of HNI is to help strong but undervalued City neighborhoods increase home values, market their community, create high standards for property improvements, and forge strong connections among neighbors.

- The number of registered historic buildings has increased by 19% from 2003 to 2008. As of 2008, there are over 8,600 designated historic buildings in Baltimore City with the largest numbers of these buildings located in Midtown and Fells Point.

Voter Participation

- The percentage of the City's residents who are registered to vote increased from 59.0% in 2002 to 67.0% in 2008.

- The percentage of the City's residents who voted in the general election increased by 18.1% percentage points from 32.6% in 2002 to 50.7% in 2008. An increasing level of voter turnout may be an indicator that residents are becoming more involved in community and in civic decisions that may impact their neighborhoods.

	Community Statistical Area	Neighborhood associations and block clubs*			Community development corporations			"Umbrella" organizations			Parks and environmental stewardship groups		
		2003	2007	2008	2003	2007	2008	2003	2007	2008	2003	2007	2008
1	Allendale/Irvington/South Hilton	13	11	11	2	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	0
2	Beechfield/Ten Hills/West Hills	10	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Belair-Edison	6	4	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
4	Brooklyn/Curtis Bay/Hawkins Point	6	6	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
5	Canton	7	7	7	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	2
6	Cedonia/Frankford	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Cherry Hill	5	3	3	2	3	3	1	1	1	0	0	0
8	Chinquapin Park/Belvedere	9	5	5	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Claremont/Armistead	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Clifton-Berea	18	9	9	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	1
11	Cross-Country/Cheswolde	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Dickeyville/Franklintown	6	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1
13	Dorchester/Ashburton	14	8	8	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
14	Downtown/Seton Hill	12	4	4	2	5	5	2	1	1	0	3	3
15	Edmondson Village	7	6	6	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
16	Fells Point	17	7	7	1	0	0	3	1	1	0	2	2
17	Forest Park/Walbrook	10	9	9	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
18	Glen-Falstaff	12	8	8	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
19	Greater Charles Village/Barclay	18	9	9	1	5	5	2	2	2	1	1	1
20	Greater Govans	16	11	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
21	Greater Mondawmin	11	10	10	0	1	1	3	2	2	0	0	0
22	Greater Roland Park/Poplar Hill	11	8	8	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
23	Greater Rosemont	36	27	27	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1
24	Greenmount East	9	10	10	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
25	Hamilton	9	3	3	0	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	0
26	Harford/Echodale	8	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
27	Highlandtown	5	3	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	Howard Park/West Arlington	6	5	5	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
29	Inner Harbor/Federal Hill	16	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
30	Jonestown/Oldtown	19	14	14	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
31	Lauraville	13	7	7	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
32	Loch Raven	10	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Madison/East End	6	9	9	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Medfield/Hampden/Woodberry/Remington	6	11	11	0	0	0	1	1	1	4	7	7
35	Midtown	7	10	10	1	2	2	2	1	1	3	3	3
36	Midway/Coldstream	3	3	3	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
37	Morrell Park/Violetville	5	6	6	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
38	Mount Washington/Coldspring	9	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2
39	North Baltimore/Guilford/Homeland	4	19	19	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40	Northwood	18	10	10	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
41	Orangeville/East Highlandtown	4	4	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
42	Patterson Park North & East	6	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
43	Penn North/Reservoir Hill	14	23	23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0
44	Perkins/Middle East	12	7	7	1	3	3	2	2	2	0	0	0
45	Pimlico/Arlington/Hilltop	7	20	20	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
46	Poppleton/The Terraces/Hollins Market	17	7	7	3	3	3	4	5	5	0	0	0
47	Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park	10	20	20	3	2	2	5	4	4	0	0	0
48	South Baltimore	12	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0
49	Southeastern	18	3	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
50	Southern Park Heights	16	20	20	3	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0
51	Southwest Baltimore	11	9	9	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	1
52	The Waverlies	11	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
53	Upton/Druid Heights	36	10	10	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
54	Washington Village/ Pigtown	9	6	6	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1
55	Westport/Mount Winans/Lakeland	9	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Baltimore City	**650**	**482**	**482**	**45**	**60**	**60**	**54**	**43**	**43**	**35**	**32**	**32**

NOTES:
Total is not the sum of the columns, Citywide groups that are active in neighborhoods are included in the Baltimore City number
See the EXPLANATIONS for calculation considerations and definitions of these Vital Signs
 * To the extent possible, none of the groups in the Neighborhood Groups category are repeated

	Community Statistical Area	Community gardens	Areas with a Healthy Neighborhood Initiative program***			Number of designated local historic buildings (CHAP)		
		2005**	2006	2007	2008	2003	2007	2008
1	Allendale/Irvington/South Hilton	4				1	0	0
2	Beechfield/Ten Hills/West Hills	2				473	491	491
3	Belair-Edison	1	yes	yes	yes	1	0	0
4	Brooklyn/Curtis Bay/Hawkins Point	1		yes	yes	1	0	0
5	Canton	1				1	2	2
6	Cedonia/Frankford	2				2	0	0
7	Cherry Hill	0				0	0	0
8	Chinquapin Park/Belvedere	1	yes	yes	yes	1	0	0
9	Claremont/Armistead	0				0	0	0
10	Clifton-Berea	2				38	77	78
11	Cross-Country/Cheswolde	0				30	30	30
12	Dickeyville/Franklintown	1				162	199	198
13	Dorchester/Ashburton	0			yes	0	0	0
14	Downtown/Seton Hill	0				336	296	302
15	Edmondson Village	1			yes	0	0	0
16	Fells Point	1				161	1,395	1,399
17	Forest Park/Walbrook	3	yes	yes	yes	2	0	0
18	Glen-Falstaff	0		yes	yes	0	0	0
19	Greater Charles Village/Barclay	6	yes	yes	yes	5	53	53
20	Greater Govans	3				0	0	0
21	Greater Mondawmin	1	yes	yes	yes	0	0	0
22	Greater Roland Park/Poplar Hill	0				2	15	15
23	Greater Rosemont	2		yes	yes	1	0	0
24	Greenmount East	4				3	0	0
25	Hamilton	0				0	0	0
26	Harford/Echodale	0				0	0	0
27	Highlandtown	0	yes	yes	yes	0	0	0
28	Howard Park/West Arlington	2			yes	0	0	0
29	Inner Harbor/Federal Hill	3				590	561	561
30	Jonestown/Oldtown	1				363	611	611
31	Lauraville	2	yes	yes	yes	0	0	1
32	Loch Raven	0				0	0	0
33	Madison/East End	3				0	0	0
34	Medfield/Hampden/Woodberry/Remington	1				3	33	39
35	Midtown	2	yes	yes	yes	2,694	1,857	1,893
36	Midway/Coldstream	0		yes	yes	1	9	9
37	Morrell Park/Violetville	1				0	0	0
38	Mount Washington/Coldspring	2				147	151	151
39	North Baltimore/Guilford/Homeland	0				3	27	28
40	Northwood	0				0	0	0
41	Orangeville/East Highlandtown	0				0	0	0
42	Patterson Park North & East	2	yes	yes	yes	42	47	46
43	Penn North/Reservoir Hill	1	yes	yes	yes	454	583	579
44	Perkins/Middle East	0				11	13	11
45	Pimlico/Arlington/Hilltop	0		yes	yes	0	0	0
46	Poppleton/The Terraces/Hollins Market	4				448	483	483
47	Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park	9				1	1	1
48	South Baltimore	0				0	0	0
49	Southeastern	1				0	0	0
50	Southern Park Heights	0				0	0	0
51	Southwest Baltimore	4				783	842	842
52	The Waverlies	2		yes	yes	23	81	81
53	Upton/Druid Heights	1				437	426	426
54	Washington Village/ Pigtown	2				9	0	0
55	Westport/Mount Winans/Lakeland	0				1	0	0
	Baltimore City	**79**				**7,259**	**8,592**	**8,634**

NOTES:
Total is not the sum of the columns, Citywide groups that are active in neighborhoods are included in the Baltimore City number
See the EXPLANATIONS for calculation considerations and definitions of these Vital Signs
  ** Data not currenlty available. Parks and People are still conducting a survey of community gardens in Baltimore.
  *** Healthy Neighboorhoods are the neighborhood and not the CSA. For a full description of each of the Healthy Neighborhoods please go to:
http://www.healthyneighborhoods.org/

	Community Statistical Area	Percent population ages 18 and over who are registered to vote					Percent population 18 years and over who voted in the general election				
		2002	2004	2006	2008	Change 2002-2008	2002	2004	2006	2008	Change 2002-2008
1	Allendale/Irvington/South Hilton	58.35	61.77	65.71	69.66	11.31	31.66	42.47	27.40	50.83	19.18
2	Beechfield/Ten Hills/West Hills	61.69	67.68	71.26	75.66	13.97	37.14	50.74	36.22	62.86	25.72
3	Belair-Edison	62.10	68.38	75.44	70.65	8.55	35.06	47.70	32.64	60.98	25.92
4	Brooklyn/Curtis Bay/Hawkins Point	35.76	41.11	50.57	53.37	17.61	16.68	24.27	16.28	30.20	13.53
5	Canton	62.83	72.99	87.15	65.72	2.89	35.39	51.16	38.19	62.38	26.99
6	Cedonia/Frankford	54.47	61.14	69.99	71.62	17.15	31.47	43.12	30.50	56.79	25.32
7	Cherry Hill	66.97	75.43	80.73	63.57	-3.40	31.65	45.23	26.63	57.75	26.10
8	Chinquapin Park/Belvedere	66.55	71.97	74.81	73.79	7.24	40.95	53.64	37.81	61.27	20.32
9	Claremont/Armistead	47.31	50.66	54.46	65.19	17.88	22.71	32.62	21.69	39.71	17.00
10	Clifton-Berea	68.36	66.67	73.70	64.06	-4.30	34.26	41.84	29.30	51.91	17.64
11	Cross-Country/Cheswolde	73.56	80.46	85.02	72.03	-1.53	51.43	63.38	50.25	65.76	14.33
12	Dickeyville/Franklintown	46.20	53.54	57.95	68.84	22.64	24.50	38.60	22.56	44.86	20.35
13	Dorchester/Ashburton	67.19	71.26	74.33	73.28	6.09	41.15	52.03	36.77	60.03	18.88
14	Downtown/Seton Hill	35.88	43.56	78.29	57.25	21.37	13.11	28.57	23.77	53.66	40.55
15	Edmondson Village	73.96	79.09	80.59	71.73	-2.23	41.63	54.23	36.02	63.57	21.94
16	Fells Point	52.53	61.08	70.44	63.19	10.66	28.93	40.84	29.69	49.09	20.16
17	Forest Park/Walbrook	59.28	62.93	66.41	70.26	10.98	33.65	43.87	28.87	52.72	19.07
18	Glen-Falstaff	62.37	70.46	72.57	69.63	7.26	37.75	50.24	36.37	55.79	18.04
19	Greater Charles Village/Barclay	43.40	46.42	53.18	62.07	18.67	22.71	32.38	21.60	36.33	13.62
20	Greater Govans	64.42	66.81	77.02	71.03	6.61	36.27	46.00	34.66	60.97	24.70
21	Greater Mondawmin	67.35	70.62	75.13	67.88	0.53	37.47	47.90	32.70	56.98	19.51
22	Greater Roland Park/Poplar Hill	75.94	80.80	86.03	78.79	2.85	52.39	63.01	58.86	71.20	18.81
23	Greater Rosemont	67.89	68.92	70.43	65.75	-2.13	34.91	45.14	28.17	51.49	16.58
24	Greenmount East	64.20	63.19	68.51	60.14	-4.06	29.10	35.96	23.26	45.36	16.26
25	Hamilton	57.39	63.43	71.79	72.93	15.54	36.79	47.47	37.37	58.02	21.23
26	Harford/Echodale	57.73	64.36	69.71	70.46	12.73	35.58	46.47	34.49	54.29	18.71
27	Highlandtown	56.28	62.40	69.79	61.63	5.35	29.61	39.03	28.64	45.80	16.18
28	Howard Park/West Arlington	68.70	73.83	76.20	72.57	3.88	42.06	52.11	37.89	60.80	18.73
29	Inner Harbor/Federal Hill	61.71	66.56	78.50	67.48	5.77	37.02	51.00	37.19	57.73	20.70
30	Jonestown/Oldtown	51.38	55.55	72.66	57.81	6.44	23.12	32.69	23.22	48.02	24.91
31	Lauraville	59.13	66.14	70.11	72.38	13.26	38.18	49.62	38.20	55.11	16.92
32	Loch Raven	58.83	65.26	73.97	76.25	17.42	36.06	48.49	36.39	63.97	27.91
33	Madison/East End	56.37	57.65	64.15	57.98	1.61	24.26	33.81	19.12	41.90	17.64
34	Medfield/Hampden/Woodberry/Remington	52.84	59.72	70.80	68.02	15.17	31.62	43.64	35.27	51.88	20.27
35	Midtown	48.44	54.93	64.14	64.61	16.17	26.71	40.48	27.28	45.63	18.92
36	Midway/Coldstream	67.60	68.43	68.51	62.80	-4.80	31.31	42.13	24.48	47.01	15.70
37	Morrell Park/Violetville	40.05	45.43	54.00	58.57	18.52	22.38	30.06	23.47	34.17	11.79
38	Mount Washington/Coldspring	81.39	88.99	94.86	77.68	-3.72	59.82	72.79	61.56	77.14	17.32
39	North Baltimore/Guilford/Homeland	54.36	58.51	65.31	73.84	19.47	39.29	47.91	40.96	50.65	11.36
40	Northwood	62.67	68.02	71.50	73.06	10.39	38.77	49.45	36.21	57.22	18.46
41	Orangeville/East Highlandtown	48.53	50.35	52.77	52.42	3.89	23.98	29.97	21.02	28.89	4.91
42	Patterson Park North & East	52.74	57.74	65.03	59.49	6.75	24.69	35.89	23.72	42.80	18.11
43	Penn North/Reservoir Hill	58.94	62.34	64.45	66.07	7.13	29.97	41.08	25.12	47.87	17.90
44	Perkins/Middle East	59.16	57.92	56.68	56.57	-2.59	25.32	34.24	18.17	35.92	10.60
45	Pimlico/Arlington/Hilltop	58.20	61.15	64.71	65.62	7.41	30.15	38.88	26.04	48.00	17.84
46	Poppleton/The Terraces/Hollins Market	56.13	60.95	67.64	61.92	5.78	26.32	38.82	22.30	47.66	21.34
47	Sandtown-Winchester/Harlem Park	60.83	61.29	67.71	61.02	0.20	26.30	36.33	22.30	46.40	20.10
48	South Baltimore	59.60	67.37	85.11	67.96	8.36	34.41	47.66	38.55	63.52	29.12
49	Southeastern	47.47	50.58	50.66	50.66	3.19	21.88	27.79	19.31	30.15	8.27
50	Southern Park Heights	54.89	61.27	65.29	64.24	9.35	26.96	39.57	23.71	47.53	20.58
51	Southwest Baltimore	48.44	50.77	57.88	58.53	10.09	21.04	29.71	18.60	38.29	17.25
52	The Waverlies	66.64	72.31	81.56	70.04	3.40	36.00	50.22	36.86	63.45	27.46
53	Upton/Druid Heights	59.99	63.21	70.38	60.23	0.23	25.97	37.57	23.91	48.54	22.57
54	Washington Village/ Pigtown	48.63	52.80	64.68	63.24	14.61	23.84	34.54	23.13	45.75	21.90
55	Westport/Mount Winans/Lakeland	49.45	54.03	57.88	63.32	13.87	23.75	34.43	20.63	40.20	16.45
	Baltimore City	**58.98**	**63.60**	**69.45**	**66.97**	**7.99**	**32.60**	**43.67**	**30.11**	**50.73**	**18.12**