

SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

2010 County of Lambton
Lambton Community Health Study
Online Survey

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1. Summary

Introduction

- The overall purpose of this online survey was to provide data on the views of Lambton County residents on potential health impacts related to industrial pollution and to complement the random telephone survey conducted for the same purpose.

Highlights of Results

Demographics

- Respondents were from throughout the Region of Lambton County, with just over half living in Sarnia (56%).
- In total, 55% of respondents were female, and 57% were aged 45 years or older.
- Over 40% reported living in those areas closest to industry.
- About 66% reported they or someone in their household works or has worked in the chemical or petrochemical industries in Lambton County.

Importance of and Participation in Health Study

- The vast majority of respondents (91%) reported that it is important to conduct a Health Study in Lambton County; about 61% reported they would be willing to participate in a Health Study and 26% reported that it depends.

Community Concerns

- Respondents appeared to be most concerned (very concerned or concerned) with not having clear answers about health risks (88%), unemployment and the local economy (86%), health risks from living near local industries (83%), and health risks from working in local industries (76%).

Sources of Pollution

- The level of concern with the various sources of pollution was relatively high. The number one concern was industrial air pollution (54%), followed by industrial accidents (18%) and surface water pollution (17%).

Health Concerns

- About four out of five respondents reported that they think pollution from the industries causes health problems for themselves or their families (79%) or for residents of Lambton County in general (82%).
- The most common type of health problems that respondents feel the industries are causing include respiratory or breathing problems and cancer.

- When asked what types health concerns should be studied, most stated that respiratory or breathing problems (84%) and cancer (86%) should be studied. Somewhat fewer respondents, but still relatively high proportions, reported that child development problems (62%), reproductive problems (58%), and circulation problems (55%) should be studied.
- Cancer was indicated as the top priority by nearly half of respondents (49%) while respiratory problems were indicated by 20% of respondents.

2. Introduction

2.1. Background

In Lambton County, adverse health impacts associated with environmental exposures has been a long-standing concern among stakeholder groups and their representatives. In early 2007, a meeting of community leaders and stakeholders took place and it was agreed that a study of the health effects associated with exposure to environmental contaminants is a public health priority. Multiple phases of that study have been undertaken since that time.

This online survey was administered as part of the larger Community Health Study for Lambton County which is designed to investigate the incidence of specific diseases in Lambton County and determine their relationship to the presence of the petrochemical manufacturing industries in Lambton. The online survey component was designed to gain important information regarding the views of Lambton County residents on potential health impacts related to industrial pollution. It was meant to complement the telephone survey administered by CCI Research Inc. and give all Lambton residents a chance to provide input.

The Lambton County Health Study Board will use the data collected from this survey to identify priority areas of public concern and direct future investigations.

2.2. Survey Purpose

The purpose of this survey was to gather public input regarding environmental health concerns. The broad questions that the Lambton County Health Study Board seeks information on include:

1. Are Lambton County residents concerned about the health impacts of living near petrochemical industries?
2. What are their specific concerns related to:
 - a. Routes of exposure (air, water, soil)?
 - b. Types of exposure (specific emissions, releases)?
 - c. Types of health effects related to these exposures?
3. What concerns would Lambton County residents most like to see addressed in a Community Health Study?

3. Methodology

3.1. Survey Instrument Design

Representatives from the County of Lambton, Community Health Services Department designed a survey instrument to capture the views of Lambton County residents on potential health impacts related to industrial pollution. The survey was originally designed as a telephone survey which was reviewed and administered by CCI Research. The online survey was slightly different, with more open ended questions included.

The online survey was created using Fluid Surveys (www.fluidsurveys.com). Paper surveys were also available upon request. The survey was open between November 5th, 2010 and December 31st, 2010.

A copy of the complete survey instrument is attached as Appendix A.

3.2. Target Populations and Sampling

The target population for this survey included residents of Lambton County. Residents were encouraged to participate and the survey was promoted at the five open houses, on local radio stations and in the local newspapers. A link to the survey was on the Lambton Community Health Study website (www.lambtonhealthstudy.ca).

4. Analysis & Reporting

For the purposes of this report, data analysis includes the presentation of descriptive statistics (frequencies) for survey items in text, tables, and figures, as appropriate. The following should be noted with regard to the presentation of frequency data:

1. Percentages are based on all responses for each item (i.e., “don’t know” and “refused/not stated” are included in the calculations).
2. All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number based on computer-generated analysis. For single response items, percentages may not total to 100% due to rounding.

This report was prepared based on the template provided by CCI Research Inc. The format closely follows that of the telephone survey report, so that results can be compared.

5. Sample Demographics

5.1. Community of Residence

The following sections show the demographic results for the survey which indicate in general that the sample appears to be a reasonable representation of the population in Lambton County.

Table 5-1a shows the demographic information for community of residence for the survey sample. Respondents most commonly reported living in Sarnia (56%), St Clair (15%), Plympton-Wyoming (5%), Petrolia (4%) or Aamjiwnaang First Nation (4%). Tables 5-1b and 5-1c show the results for the community of residence grouped by those closest to industry and by area, respectively. Overall, 42% of respondents reported they lived in those areas closest to the industry (Table 5-1b).

Table 5-1a Demographics – Community		
Community	n	%
Sarnia	109	56%
St. Clair	30	15%
Plympton-Wyoming	9	5%
Petrolia	8	4%
Aamjiwnaang First Nation	8	4%
Lambton Shores	6	3%
Warwick	5	3%
Point Edward	4	2%
Enniskillen	1	1%
Dawn-Euphemia	2	1%
Oil Springs	1	1%
Walpole Island First Nation	1	1%
Kettle and Stony Point First Nation	0	0%
Brooke-Alvinston	0	0%
Other	9	5%
Don't know	1	1%
Not Stated	0	0%

Table 5-1b Demographics – Closest to Industry		
Area	n	%
South Sarnia/Aamjiwnaang/North St. Clair	81	42%
Rest of County	114	58%

Table 5-1c Demographics – County Grouped		
Area	n	%
Sarnia/Point Edward/Aamjiwnaang	121	62%
St.Clair	30	15%
Lambton Shores/Kettle Point/Plympton-Wyoming/Warwick	20	10%
Petrolia/Enniskillen/Brooke-Alvinston/Dawn-Euphemia	11	6%

As shown in Table 5-2, respondents most commonly reported they had lived in their community for 30 or more years (46%) and similarly, had lived in Lambton County for 30 or more years (59%).

Table 5-2 Demographics – Length of Residence				
Length	Community		Lambton County	
	n	%	n	%
Less than 1 year	0	0%	0	0%
1-4 years	29	15%	7	4%
5-9 years	15	8%	6	3%
10-14 years	13	7%	7	4%
15-19 years	11	6%	7	4%
20-24 years	18	9%	21	11%
25-29 years	19	10%	22	11%
30 or more years	89	46%	115	59%
Don't know	0	0%	0	0%
Not Stated	1	1%	10	5%

5.2. Gender

Table 5-3 shows the demographic information for gender for the survey sample. Males appear to be somewhat underrepresented and females somewhat overrepresented, in comparison to the 2006 Census information (49% males and 51% females). The gender distribution was similar to that seen in the telephone survey (39% males and 61% females).

Table 5-3 Demographics - Gender		
Gender	n	%
Male	76	39%
Female	108	55%
Not Stated	11	6%

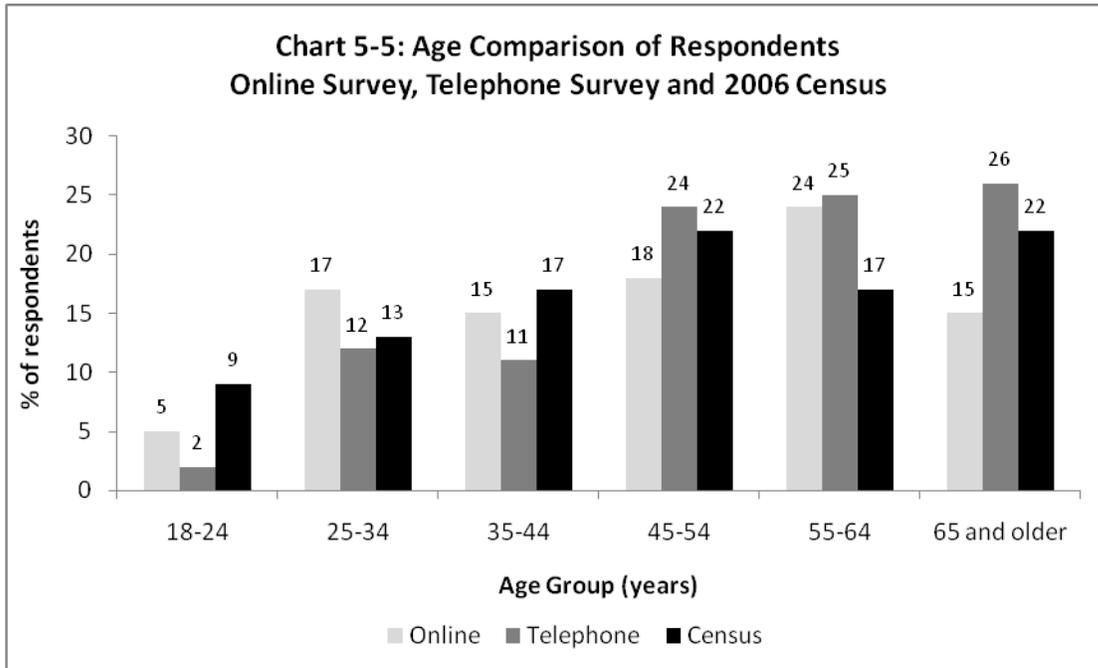
5.3. Age

Table 5-4 shows the demographic information for age for the survey sample, while Chart 5-5 displays the age breakdowns in comparison to the 2006 Census and the telephone survey.

Respondents most commonly reported they were 55-64 years of age (24%), 45-54 years of age (18%), or 25-34 years of age (17%) (Table 5-5).

Table 5-4 Demographics – Age		
Age	n	%
18-24	9	5%
25-34	33	17%
35-44	30	15%
45-54	36	18%
55-64	46	24%
65 and older	29	15%
Don't know	0	0%
Not Stated	12	6%

In comparison with the 2006 Census information, the survey sample provides coverage of all relevant age groupings, although it appears to be somewhat under-represented in the 18-24 years old and the 65 years and older categories and somewhat over-represented in the 25-34 years old and 55-64 years old categories (Chart 5-6). The online survey appears to have captured proportionately more young people than the telephone survey.



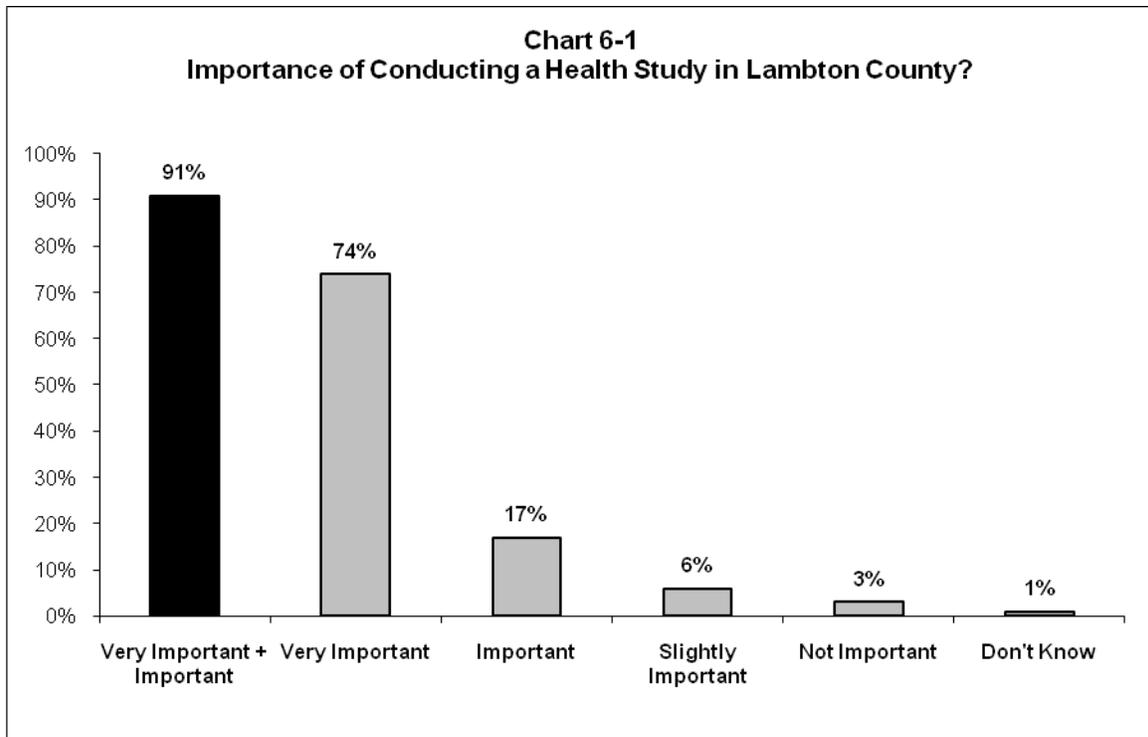
5.4. Employment in Chemical or Petrochemical Industry

About 66% of respondents indicated they or anyone in their household either works or has worked in the chemical or petrochemical industries in Lambton County.

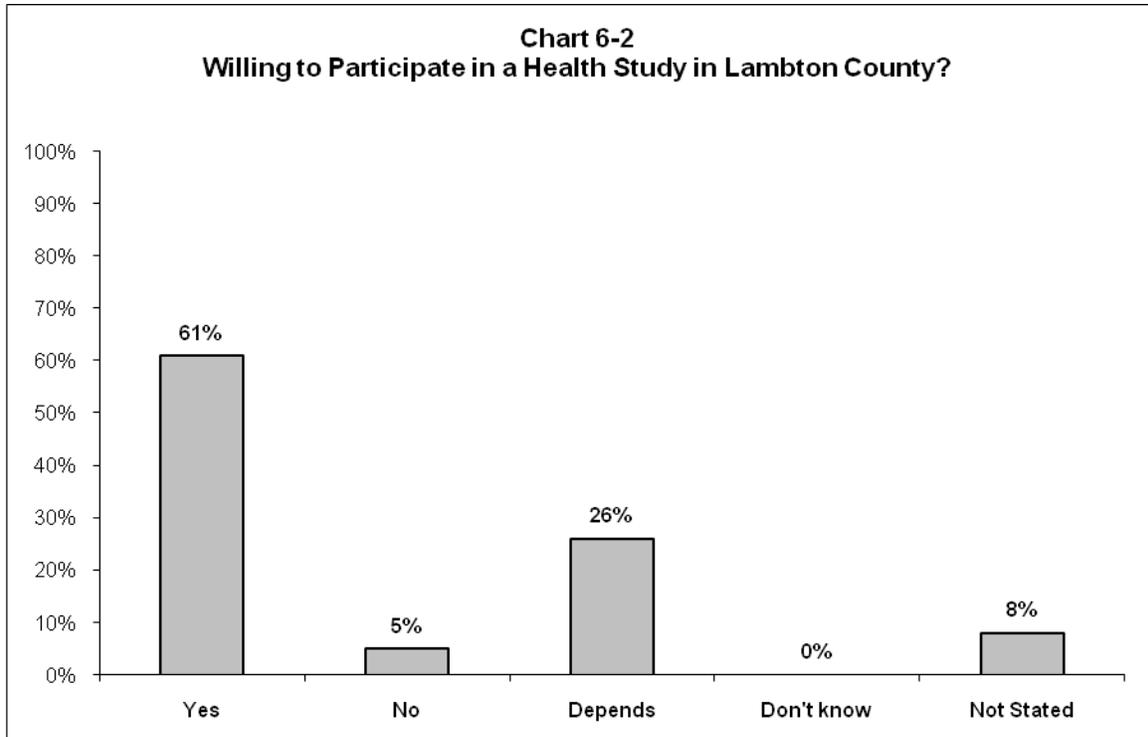
6. Survey Results

6.1. Importance of and Participation in Health Study

When asked about the importance of conducting a Health Study in Lambton County, the overwhelming majority of respondents (91%) reported that it is either very important or important (Chart 6-1). Only 6% reported it was slightly important while 3% reported it was not important.



About 61% reported they would be willing to participate in a Health Study in Lambton County if one were to be conducted, and 26% stated that it depends (Chart 6-2). Only 5% stated that they would not participate.



As shown in Table 6-3, respondents most commonly indicated they would like to be informed of the Health Study's progress through a website (61%), followed by newspapers (57%) and short progress reports in the mail (35%). This differed from the telephone survey in that only 29% of telephone respondents indicated website (likely a reflection of the older age of the sample). Many of those reporting "other" indicated that they would like to receive updates by email or e-newsletter.

Table 6-3 How Would You Like To Be Informed Of The Health Study's Progress?	
Website	61%
Newspapers	57%
Short progress reports in the mail	35%
Radio/TV	32%
Drop-in meetings with the researchers at a community centre	23%
Other	9%
Don't know	2%
Not Stated	6%

6.2. Community Concerns

Respondents were asked a series of questions regarding their level of concern about issues in their community.

Respondents reported the highest level of concern (very concerned or concerned) about not having clear answers about health risks (88%), unemployment and the local economy (86%), health risks from living near local industries (83%), and health risks from working in local industries (76%) (Table 6-4). Overall, levels of concern reported by online respondents were higher than those reported by telephone respondents.

Table 6-4 Level of Concern Regarding Community Issues							
	Very Concerned + Concerned	Very Concerned	Concerned	Slightly Concerned	Not Concerned	Don't Know	Not Stated
Not having clear answers about health risks	88%	68%	20%	8%	4%	1%	0%
Unemployment and the local economy	86%	55%	31%	10%	3%	1%	1%
Health risks from living near local industries	83%	62%	21%	9%	7%	0%	1%
Health risks from working in local industries	76%	56%	21%	12%	9%	2%	2%
Other people's perceptions of the area	66%	31%	35%	18%	15%	1%	1%
Property values	61%	30%	30%	20%	17%	2%	1%

6.3. Potential Impacts Of The Chemical and Petrochemical Industries On the Physical Environment in Lambton County

6.3.1. Sources Of Pollution

The next set of questions on the survey related to respondents' level of concern regarding the impacts that chemical and petrochemical industries may have on the physical environment in Lambton County.

Overall, the level of concern regarding the various sources of pollution was fairly high, with 72%-87% reporting that they are very concerned or concerned about each source of pollution (Table 6-5). A similar pattern was observed with the telephone survey, but online respondents expressed higher levels of concern for each pollution source.

Table 6-5 Level of Concern Regarding the Following Sources of Pollution in Your Community							
	Very Concerned + Concerned	Very Concerned	Concerned	Slightly Concerned	Not Concerned	DK	RF
Surface water pollution (e.g. river, lakes, streams)	87%	72%	14%	7%	4%	1%	2%
Industrial Air pollution (All types)	85%	69%	16%	8%	4%	1%	3%
Groundwater pollution	84%	68%	16%	8%	5%	0%	3%
Soil pollution	82%	62%	19%	9%	6%	1%	3%
Odours	73%	51%	23%	17%	6%	1%	3%
Industrial accidents (e.g. spills, leaks)	72%	67%	17%	9%	4%	1%	2%

Respondents were asked to indicate which source of pollution was their number one concern. As shown in Table 6-6, industrial air pollution (54%) was the number one concern. Results are similar to those from the telephone survey, but online respondents expressed higher concerns about surface water pollution and less concern about groundwater pollution than telephone respondents.

Table 6-6 Source of Pollution That is Most Concerning	
Industrial Air pollution (All types)	54%
Industrial accidents (e.g. spills, leaks)	18%
Surface water pollution (e.g. river, lakes, streams)	17%
Groundwater pollution	5%
Odours	2%
Soil pollution	1%
Don't know	1%
Not Stated	3%

All respondents were asked if there were any other specific concerns about pollution in their community related to local chemical and petrochemical industries. Overall, 47% of respondents (n=91) mentioned some other type of concern. The following concerns were mentioned:

- Cumulative effects of multiple exposures
- Impacts of old industrial sites, old equipment still in use, historical waste disposal
- Concern about current regulations
- Impact of transboundary pollution from the United States where different regulations are in place
- Concern about Clean Harbours toxic waste facility and methods of industrial waste disposal.
- Concerns about our drinking water, including the addition of fluoride, chlorine and hormones
- Health concerns (to be discussed below)
- Concerns about communication regarding spills, accidents; requests for faster response; call for industry to be more forthcoming and proactive regarding potential health impacts
- Flaring and smoke from stacks (Nova, Fibrex, Imperial Oil)
- Maintenance on pipes has been scaled back and they are left until broken or near broken.
- Impact of pollution of locally grown foods

6.3.2. Health Concerns

The majority of respondents think that pollution from the chemical and petrochemical industries causes health problems for themselves or their families (79%) and for residents of Lambton County in general (82%).

Respondents were asked how they think pollution from these industries affects their health, their family's health or the health of Lambton residents in general. The following health concerns were expressed:

- Respiratory health issues (asthma, allergies, COPD, difficulty breathing, upper respiratory issues)
- Cancer (brain, mesothelioma, lung, prostate, breast, blood, bladder, bowel)
- Child development issues (birth defects, learning disabilities, ADHD)
- Reproductive health issues (sex ratio, miscarriages, infertility, preterm birth)
- Skin conditions (psoriasis, eczema)
- Neurological disorders (Parkinson's, MS, Alzheimer's, dementia)
- Mental Health (anxiety, stress, PTSD, suicide, depression, fear)
- Headaches (migraines)
- Rare disorders (e.g. Cyclical Cushing's due to pituitary adenoma)

Respondents were asked what types of health concerns they think should be studied, and almost all reported cancer (86%) and respiratory or breathing problems (84%). Child development (62%), reproductive (58%), and circulation and heart problems (55%) were the next most indicated concerns.

Respondents were subsequently asked to indicate their number one concern. In response, cancer was mentioned by 49% as a first priority while 20% reported respiratory or breathing problems as their number one concern (Table 6-7). This was similar to the telephone survey where 52% reported cancer and 30% reported respiratory problems as their first priority.

Table 6-7 Types of Health Problems Should Be Studied		
	Health Concerns That Should Be Studied	Primary Health Concern
Cancer	86%	49%
Respiratory or breathing problems (e.g. asthma, allergies)	84%	20%
Child development problems (e.g. birth defects, delayed development)	62%	7%
Reproductive problems (e.g. difficulties conceiving a baby, miscarriages)	58%	5%
Circulation and heart problems (e.g. stroke, heart attack)	55%	2%
Stomach/digestion problems	41%	0%
Mental health problems (e.g. depression, anxiety)	40%	2%
Other	16%	6%
Don't know	2%	1%
Not Stated	5%	9%

Of those who indicated 'other' when asked what health problems should be studied, respondents mentioned neurological diseases (MS, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's), thyroid disorders and skin conditions.

Several respondents also indicated that they could not choose one health concern, and that they are all important.

Those respondents who had indicated that cancer was a health concern that should be studied were asked to specify the types of cancer that they felt were important to study. Most (73%) specified all types of cancer, while 29% specified lung cancer (Table 6-8). Breast cancer was chosen by 22%, followed by leukemia (19%), brain cancer (18%), colon cancer (16%), Hodgkin's lymphoma (12%) and thyroid cancer (12%).

Table 6-8 Types Of Cancer That Should Be Studied	
All types of cancer	73%
Lung cancer	29%
Breast cancer	22%
Leukemia	19%
Brain cancer	18%
Colon cancer (or Colorectal)	16%
Hodgkin's Lymphoma	12%
Thyroid cancer	12%
Non-Hodgkin's-Lymphoma	10%
Prostate cancer	10%
Kidney cancer	10%
Pancreatic cancer	10%
Bladder cancer	9%
Melanoma	8%
Ovarian cancer	8%
Cervical cancer	8%
Endometrial cancer	5%
Other	4%
Don't know	3%

"Other" responses included: hepatocarcinoma & bone cancer in children.

Respondents were next asked to indicate why they chose their primary health concern. Those who chose cancer as their primary health concern stated that it was because:

- It affects more people in our area ("hot spot for cancer")
- It affects young people
- It is fatal and often incurable
- There are known occupational and environmental links ("not a natural cause of death).
- Personal experience with the disease (self, family or friend)

Those who chose respiratory disease as their primary concern stated it was due to personal experience, concern for children and an obvious link to air pollution. Those reporting child development and reproductive outcomes as a primary concern stated it was due to a concern for future generations and/or personal experience with these issues.

At the end of the survey respondents were given the opportunity to express any other concerns they had.

Many respondents were generally happy to see the study progressing and looked forward to seeing meaningful results. There were suggestions that any future study should include lifestyle factors in addition to occupational and environmental exposures. It was suggested that levels of various pollutants should be compared between Sarnia and other cities across Ontario and that these should be compared to meaningful benchmarks. Similarly, respondents would like to see disease rates compared with other similar and dissimilar cities/regions to see how we compare. While many supported the study, some focused on finding out what we are exposed to, stating that research has already been done to study the effects of exposure to various chemicals on human health.

There were some respondents who expressed concerns about the complexity of the issue and questioned whether a study can make clear links between exposure and disease. Some felt there was a need for a precise scope of the study to be defined, so that money is well spent and the study accomplishes specific goals. There were also concerns raised about covering up or “whitewashing” the results of a study to protect industry interests and the need for transparency.

Some residents wanted the study done in order to confirm whether there is a problem or dispel myths. Some expressed concern about community’s reputation and loss of employment. There were some who felt that while we should investigate the links between pollution and disease, we must recognize that the industry in Sarnia-Lambton provides jobs locally and products that are used by everyone. While improvements should be continuous, there were concerns expressed that we don’t want industry to leave and Sarnia to be left a “ghost town”.

Overall, there was a general desire to better understand disease rates in relation to industrial pollution, particularly cancer and respiratory disease. One respondent stated: “Even if these plants aren’t the main source of our cancer rates, etc., I think it is important to know what other risks there are in our area that could be causing these issues.”

APPENDIX A: Lambton Community Health Study Online Survey

As you know, there is a large industrial area located in Lambton County that includes oil refineries, petrochemical plants, chemical plants, hazardous waste disposal facilities and other industrial manufacturers. In response to concerns about the potential health effects of these industries, the Lambton Community Health Study Board of Directors has come together to oversee the development of a Health Study in Lambton County. The purpose of this survey is to understand your views on the potential health effects of local industries. We will be able to design a better study if we have input and feedback from Lambton County residents. This survey is voluntary and all responses will remain confidential. You may refuse to answer any question or exit the survey at any time. The information gathered will be used for reporting purposes ONLY and cannot be linked to you in any way. This survey will take approximately 10 minutes of your time. If you have any concerns about this survey you can contact Kevin Churchill at the County of Lambton, Community Health Services Department (519-383-6231 ext. 3505).

Are you willing to participate in this survey?

- Yes
- No

First, some general questions about where you live in Lambton County:

1. a) Do you currently live in...

- Aamjiwnaang First Nation
- Brooke-Alvinston
- Dawn-Euphemia
- Enniskillen
- Kettle and Stony Point First Nation
- Lambton Shores
- Oil Springs
- Petrolia
- Plympton-Wyoming
- Point Edward
- Sarnia
- St. Clair
- Walpole Island First Nation
- Warwick
- Other (specify) _____
- Don't know

1. b) Do you live north or south of Highway 402?

- North
- South
- Don't Know

c) Please enter your postal code.

1. d) Are the first three digits of your postal code N0N or N0P?

- N0N
- N0P
- Other (specify) _____

2. How long have you lived in {{ 1a }}?

- 1-4 years
- 5-9 years
- 10-14 years
- 15-19 years
- 20-24 years
- 25-29 years
- 30+ years

3. How long have you lived in Lambton County?

- 1-4 years
- 5-9 years
- 10-14 years
- 15-19 years
- 20-24 years
- 25-29 years
- 30+ years

4. How important do you feel it is to conduct a Health Study in Lambton County?

- Very Important
- Important
- Slightly Important
- Not Important
- Don't know

The next question is about your level of concern regarding issues in your community.

5. Are you not concerned, slightly concerned, concerned or very concerned about the following issues in your community?

	Not Concerned	Slightly Concerned	Concerned	Very Concerned	Don't Know
Health risks from living near local industries	<input type="radio"/>				
Health risks from working in local industries	<input type="radio"/>				
Property values	<input type="radio"/>				
Other people's perceptions of the area	<input type="radio"/>				
Not having clear answers about health risks	<input type="radio"/>				
Unemployment and the local economy	<input type="radio"/>				

The next few questions are about your level of concern regarding the impacts that chemical and petrochemical industries may have on the physical environment in Lambton County.

6. Are you not concerned, slightly concerned, concerned or very concerned about the following sources of pollution in your community?

	Not Concerned	Slightly Concerned	Concerned	Very Concerned	Don't Know
Industrial air pollution (All types)	<input type="radio"/>				
Industrial accidents (e.g. spills, leaks)	<input type="radio"/>				
Surface water pollution (e.g. river, lakes, streams)	<input type="radio"/>				
Groundwater pollution	<input type="radio"/>				
Soil pollution	<input type="radio"/>				
Odours	<input type="radio"/>				

7. What is your NUMBER ONE concern related to these sources of pollution in your community?

- Industrial Air pollution (all types)
- Industrial accidents (e.g. spills, leaks)
- Surface water pollution (e.g. river, lakes, streams)
- Groundwater pollution
- Soil pollution
- Odours
- Don't know

8. Do you have any other specific concerns about pollution in your community related to local chemical and petrochemical industries that the Study Team may not be aware of?

The next few questions are about potential health effects of chemical and petrochemical industries located in Lambton County.

9. a) Do you think that pollution from these industries affects your health or that of your family members?

- Yes
- No

9. b) How do you think pollution from these industries affects your health or that of your family members?

10. a) Do you think that pollution from these industries causes health problems for Lambton County residents in general?

- Yes
- No

10. b) What health problems do you think pollution from these industries causes for Lambton County residents as a whole?

11. a) Please indicate what types of health concerns you think we should study (select all that apply).

- Cancer
- Respiratory or breathing problems (e.g. asthma, allergies)
- Reproductive problems (e.g. difficulties conceiving a baby, miscarriages)
- Child development problems (e.g. birth defects, delayed development)
- Circulation and heart problems (e.g. stroke, heart attack)
- Mental health problems (e.g. depression, anxiety)
- Stomach/digestion problems
- Other (please describe) _____
- Don't know

11. b) If you mentioned cancer, what types of cancer do you think we should study? (select all that apply)

- All types of cancer
- Bladder cancer
- Brain cancer
- Breast cancer
- Cervical cancer
- Colorectal cancer
- Endometrial cancer
- Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Kidney cancer
- Leukemia
- Lung cancer
- Melanoma
- Mesothelioma
- Non-Hodgkin's-Lymphoma
- Ovarian cancer
- Pancreatic cancer
- Prostate cancer
- Thyroid cancer
- Don't know
- Other, please specify: _____

12. a) Of the health concerns you selected, which one is your NUMBER ONE concern?

- Cancer
- Respiratory or breathing problems (e.g. asthma, allergies)
- Reproductive problems (e.g. difficulties conceiving a baby, miscarriages)
- Child development problems (e.g. birth defects, delayed development)
- Circulation and heart problems (e.g. stroke, heart attack)
- Mental health problems (e.g. depression, anxiety)
- Stomach/digestion problems
- Other (please describe)
- Don't know

12. b) Why is this your number one concern?

13. Do you have any other concerns that directly relate to the chemical and petrochemical industries located in Lambton County?

**14. How would you like to be informed of the Health Study's progress?
(Select all that apply)**

- Short progress reports in the mail
- Drop-in meetings with the researchers at a community centre
- Newspapers
- Radio/TV
- Website
- Other (please specify) _____
- Don't know

15. We appreciate your participation in this survey. If a Health Study is conducted in Lambton County, would you be willing to participate?

- Yes
- No
- Depends

16. In which age range do you belong?

- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65 and older

17. Do you or anyone in your household currently, or have they previously, worked in the chemical and petrochemical industries located in Lambton County (employee, contractor, etc.)?

- Yes
- No

18. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

19. Do you have any additional comments?