

# A Portrait of Clark County: Needs of a Community

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Virtual Feedback Forum

Rebecca Royce and Michael Torres

December 2 & 3, 2020



# Co-sponsors

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WASHINGTON  
ADVOCATES OF  
DEAF & HARD  
OF HEARING  
WADHH



# Forum Basics

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**Welcome! Thank you for your flexibility. Here are a few pointers for our forum:**

- Mute button turns red  when you are muted.
- Please raise your hand  to ask a question, or you can type your question in the Q&A feature.
- This forum is being recorded to aid in information gathering. Personally identifying information will not be made public unless you speak your name.
- Several polls/surveys will pop up on your screen throughout the forum. We hope you will participate. All responses are anonymous.



# Agenda

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- Welcome
- “Getting to Know You” poll
- Brief presentation
- “Did you Know” poll
- Data walk virtual version
- Group discussions
- “Coming Together as a Community” poll
- Thank you and satisfaction survey



# Getting to Know You Poll



## Getting to Know You Poll

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7. Have you or anyone in your family ever needed public services (food assistance, TANF, Medicaid, rental assistance)?



# Getting to Know You Poll

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8. Do you pay more than 30% of your income for housing?



# Why are we doing this?





# Background

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- Clark County is the Community Action Agency for our area.
- The Community Needs Assessment (CNA) is a requirement of the Community Services Block Grant Act, Section 676(b)(11).
- The purpose of the CNA is to:
  - Collect and analyze data about the needs of people in our community that have low-incomes
  - Inform future funding decisions
  - Inform policy and program decisions



# Required Components of Community Needs Assessment

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- Quantitative Data
  - American Community Survey data
  - Clark County Survey of Needs
  - Other needs assessments, published documents
- Qualitative Data
  - Community feedback forums
  - Focus groups
  - Other needs assessments, published documents
- Demographic Information
  - American Community Survey data
  - Clark County Survey of Needs
- Causes and Conditions of Poverty



# Survey of Needs

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- Distributed from November 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020
- Survey was available in hard copy and online
  - Hard copies available in English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese and Chuukese
  - Online available in English, Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese
- Distributed through over 100 partner organizations
- Received 1,655 total responses

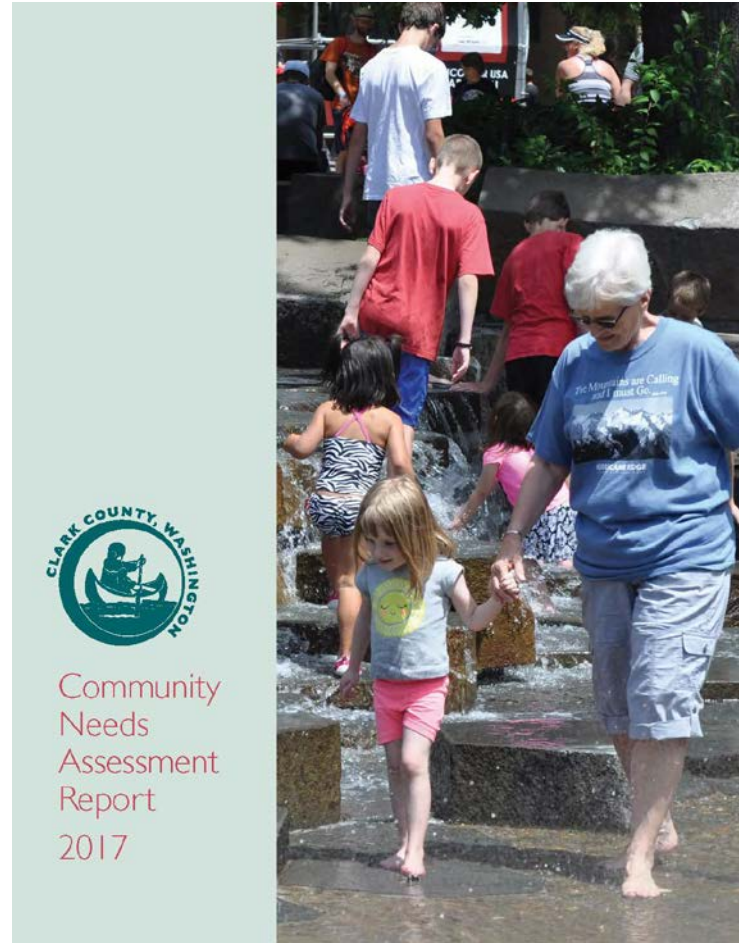


# 2017 Community Needs Assessment

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Available on our website at:

<https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/community-action-documents>



# Did you Know? poll



## Did you know?

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1. How much do you need to make per hour to afford a studio apartment in Clark County?
  - \$13.50 (minimum wage)
  - \$15.50
  - \$18.75
  - \$22.92



## Did you know?

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2. The Federal Poverty Threshold definition that is used to determine the Federal Poverty Level was designated as the official definition of poverty in what year?
- 1965
  - 1969
  - 1975
  - 1989



## Did you know?

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3. Race impacts your chances of prosperity.
  - True
  - False





## Did you know?

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4. If every person in the US that is living in poverty lived in the same state, it would be the most populous state in the nation.
- True
  - False



## Did you know?

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5. Nearly 1 of every 5 children in America live in poverty.
- True
  - False



## Did you know?

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6. For the most part, people living in poverty do not work.
- True
  - False

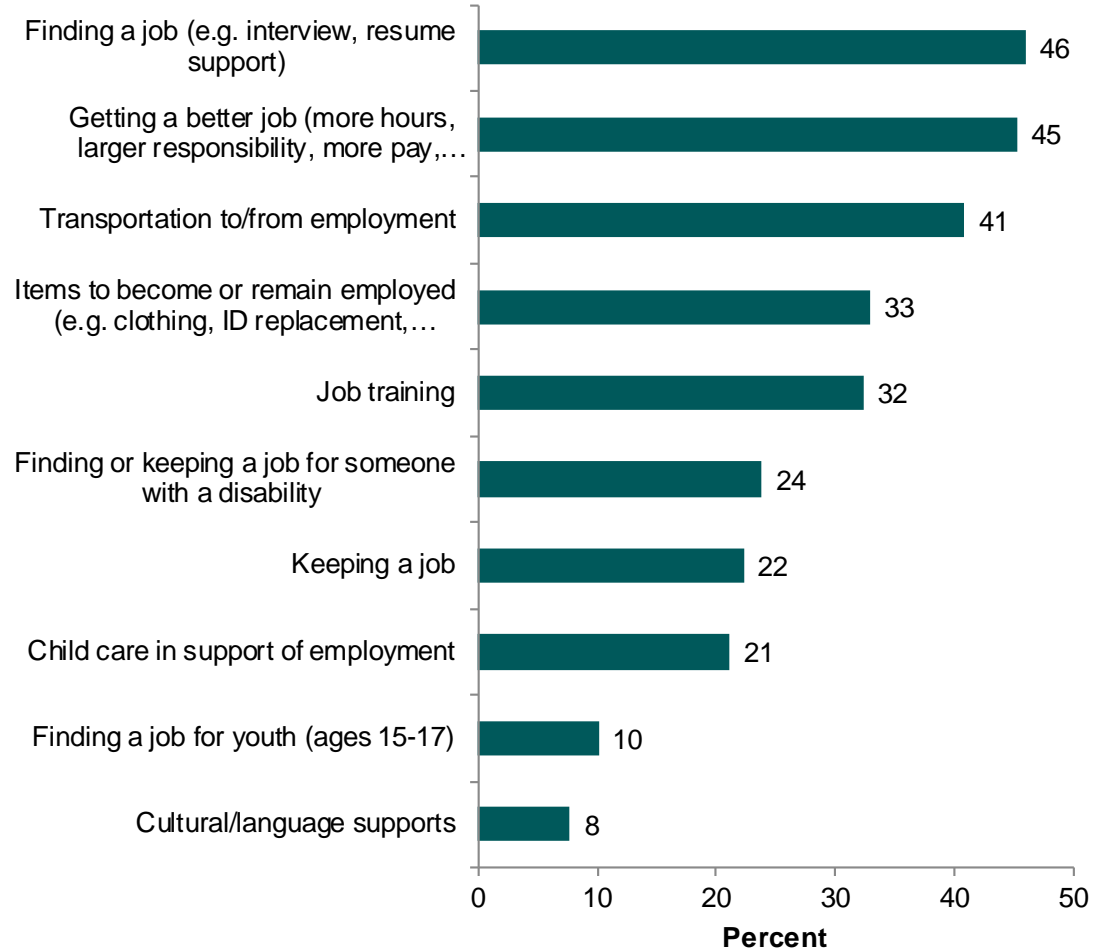


# Data Walk



# Employment needs

Survey respondents were asked to identify up to five needs or concerns that they, or someone in their family, were currently experiencing regarding employment. This figure shows that just under half of respondents with employment needs said that **finding a job** is a current need or concern. This is followed just slightly by **getting a better job** (45%) and **transportation to and from employment** (41%).



705 respondents with employment needs

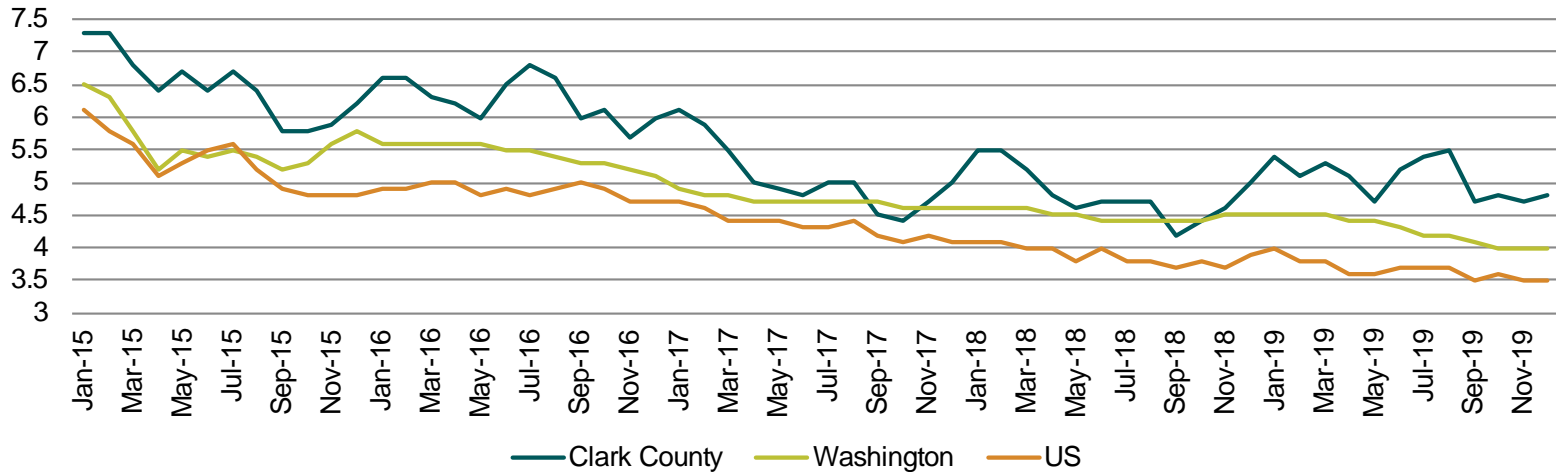


# Employment needs

## Did you know?

In Clark County, the highest median wage workers are software developers at \$66.44 while the lowest median wage workers earn \$13.43 at fast food establishments, a difference of \$53 per hour.

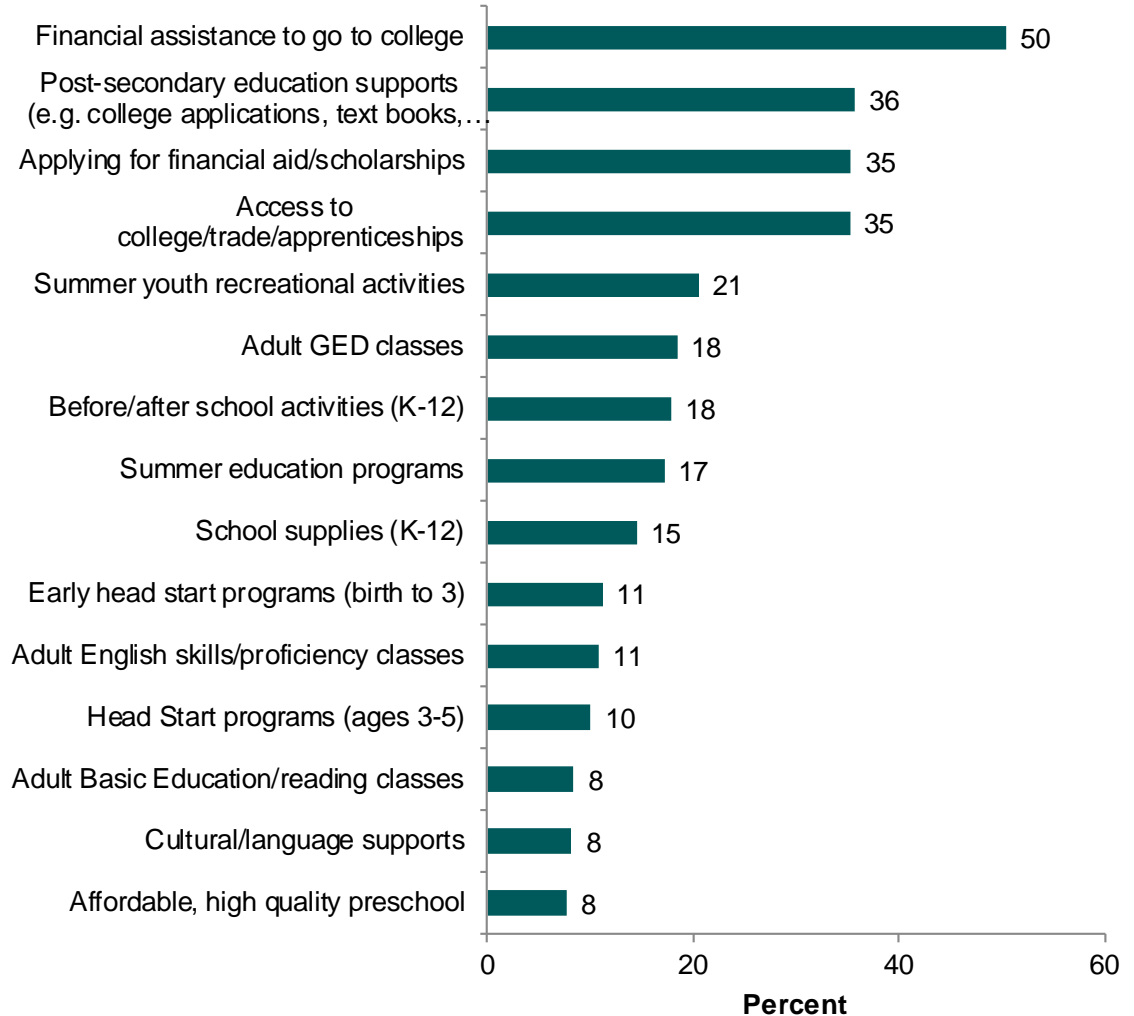
## Unemployment Rates 2015-2019



# Education needs

This figure shows that half of respondents with education needs said that **financial assistance to go to college** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **post-secondary education supports** (36%) and **applying for financial aid/scholarships** and **access to college/trade/apprenticeships** (both at 35%).

565 respondents citing education needs

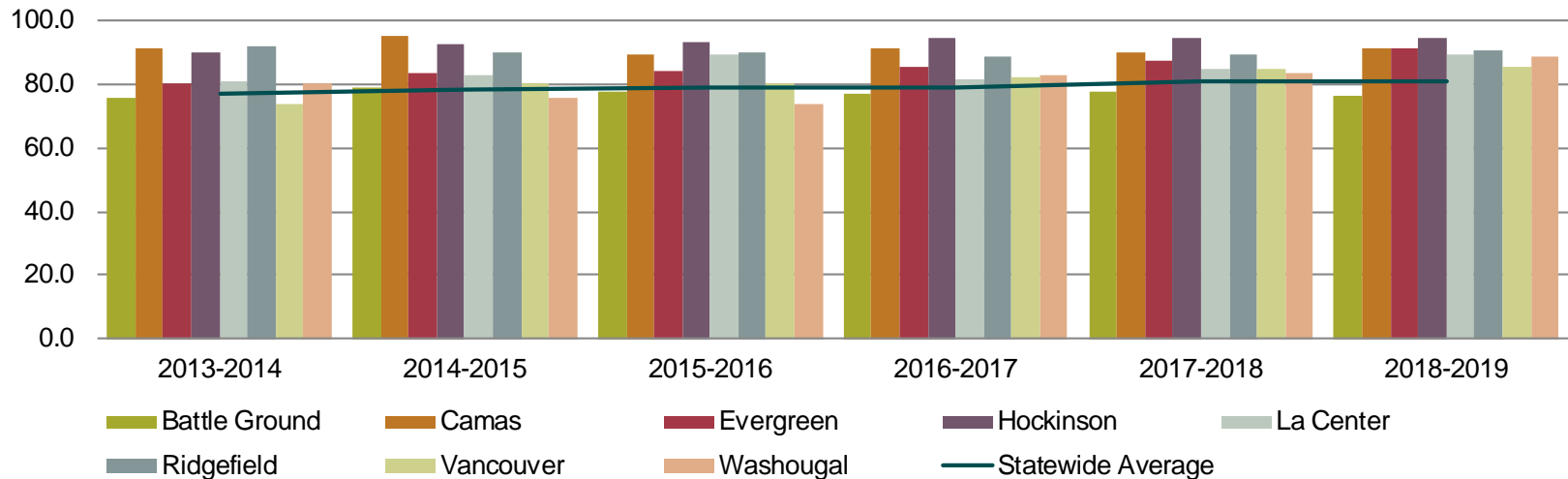


# Education

## Did you know?

An estimated 2/3 of students who are unable to read with proficiency by the end of 4th grade are likely to end up on welfare or in jail.

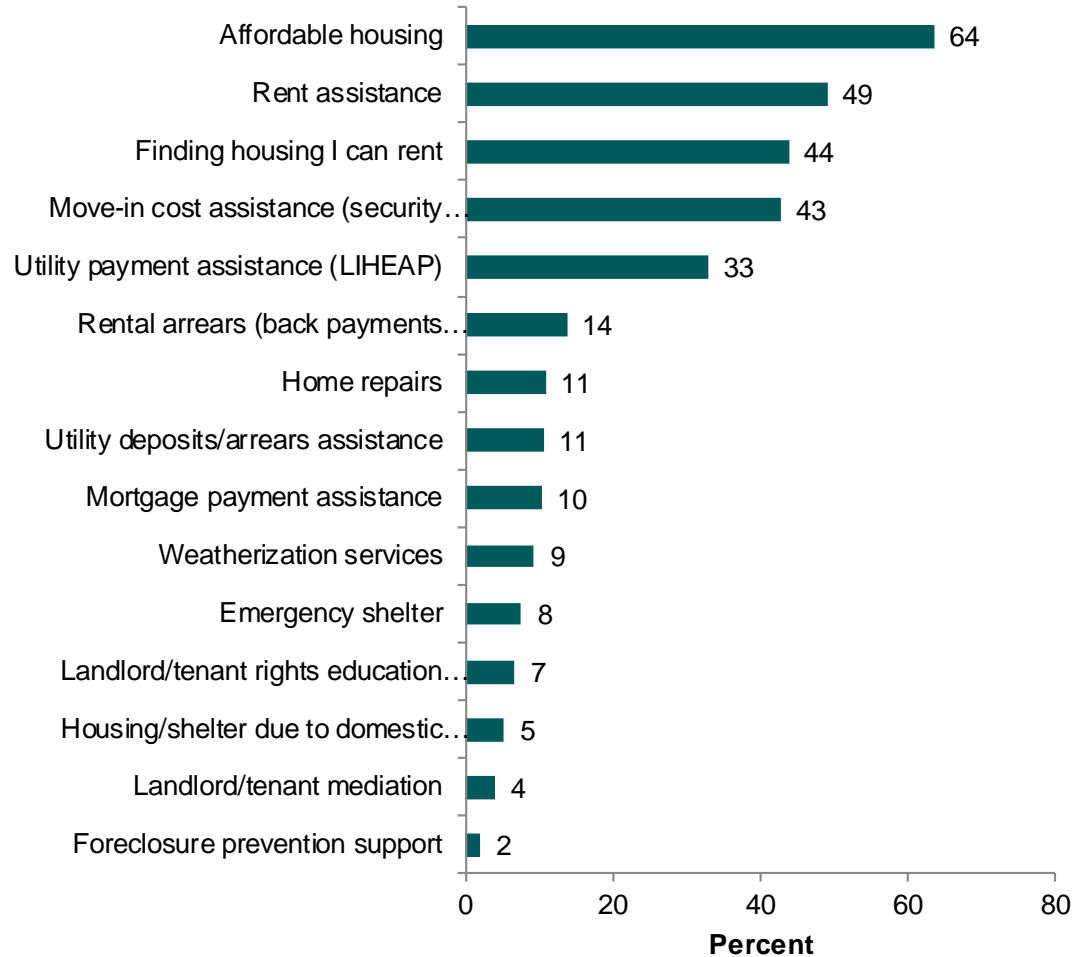
## Graduation Rates by District 2014-2019





# Housing needs

This figure shows that almost 2/3 of respondents with housing needs said that **affordable housing** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **rent assistance** (49%) and **finding housing I can rent** (44%).



765 respondents with housing needs



# Housing

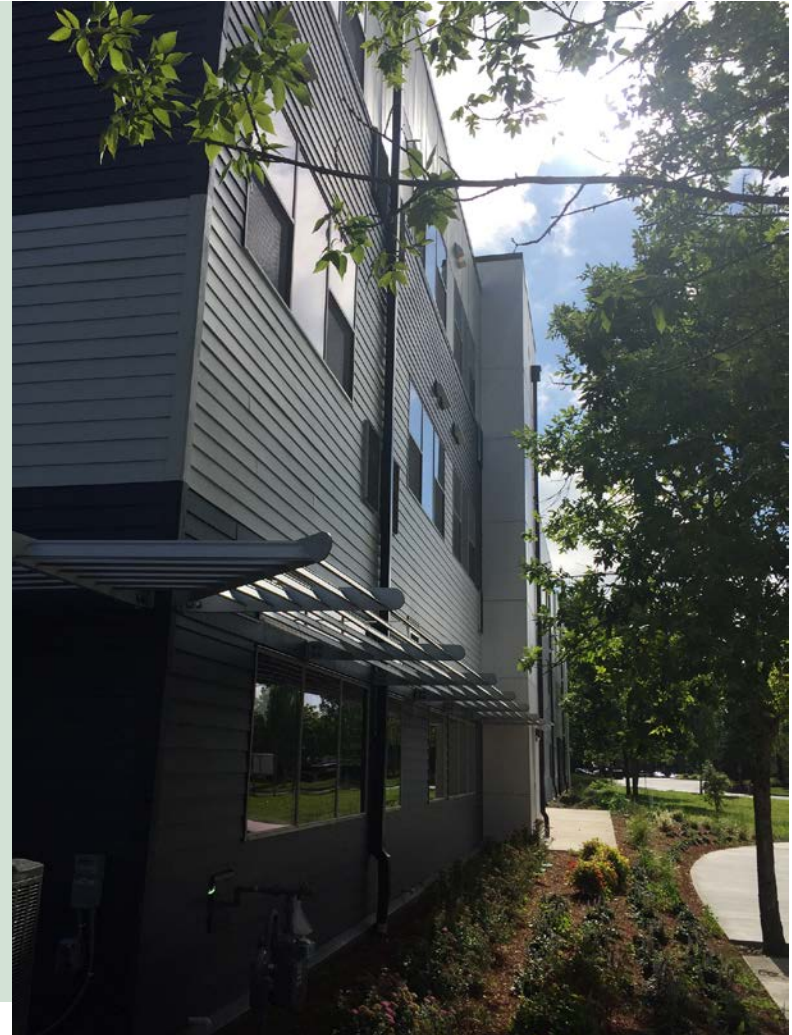
## Did you know?

Nationally, there is a shortage of more than 7 million affordable homes for our nation's 11 million plus extremely low-income families.

There is no state or county where a renter working full-time at minimum wage can afford a two-bedroom apartment.

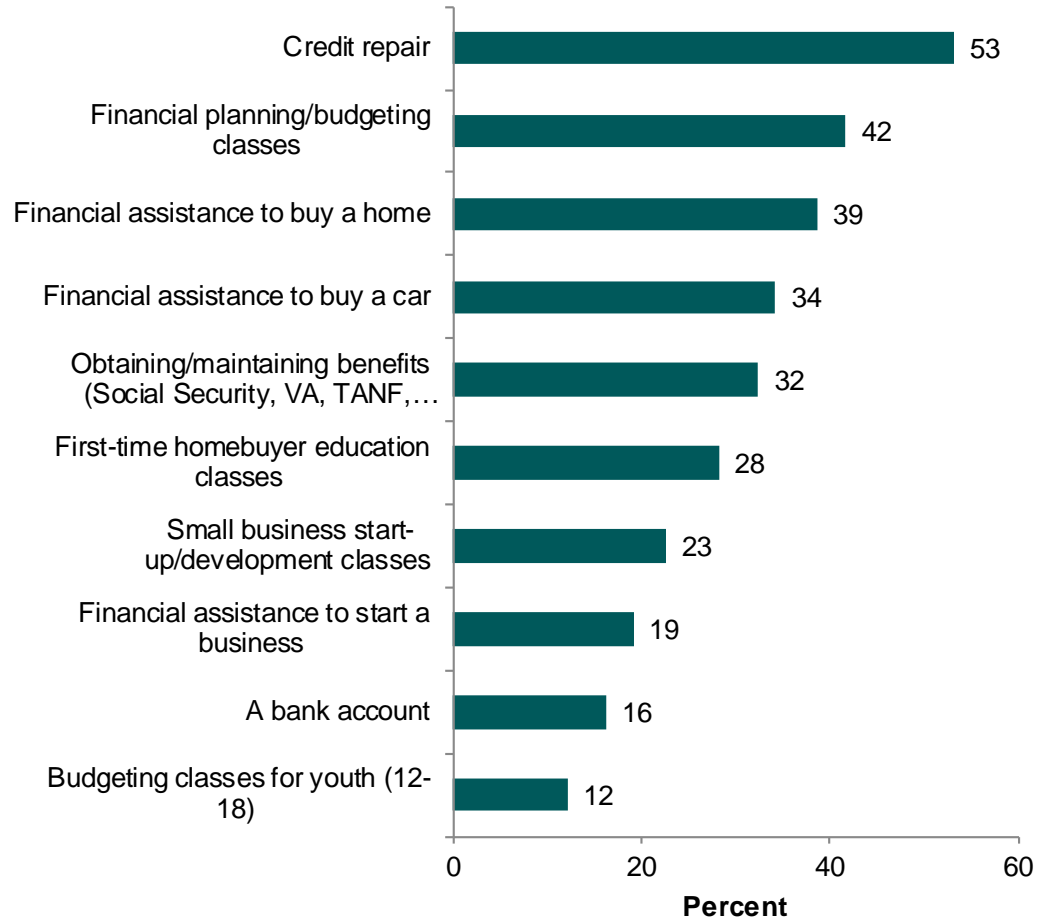
**In Washington State, you can make a request to change the date your rent is due.** Under the law, a landlord must agree to your request if your main source of income is government assistance. If your income mainly comes from other sources, the landlord is not required to change the date.

To afford a two-bedroom apartment, a person would need to make \$28.75 per hour in Clark County.



# Income and asset building needs

This figure shows that over half of respondents with income and asset building needs said that **credit repair** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **financial planning/budgeting classes** (42%) and **financial assistance to buy a home** (39%).



660 respondents citing income and asset building barriers

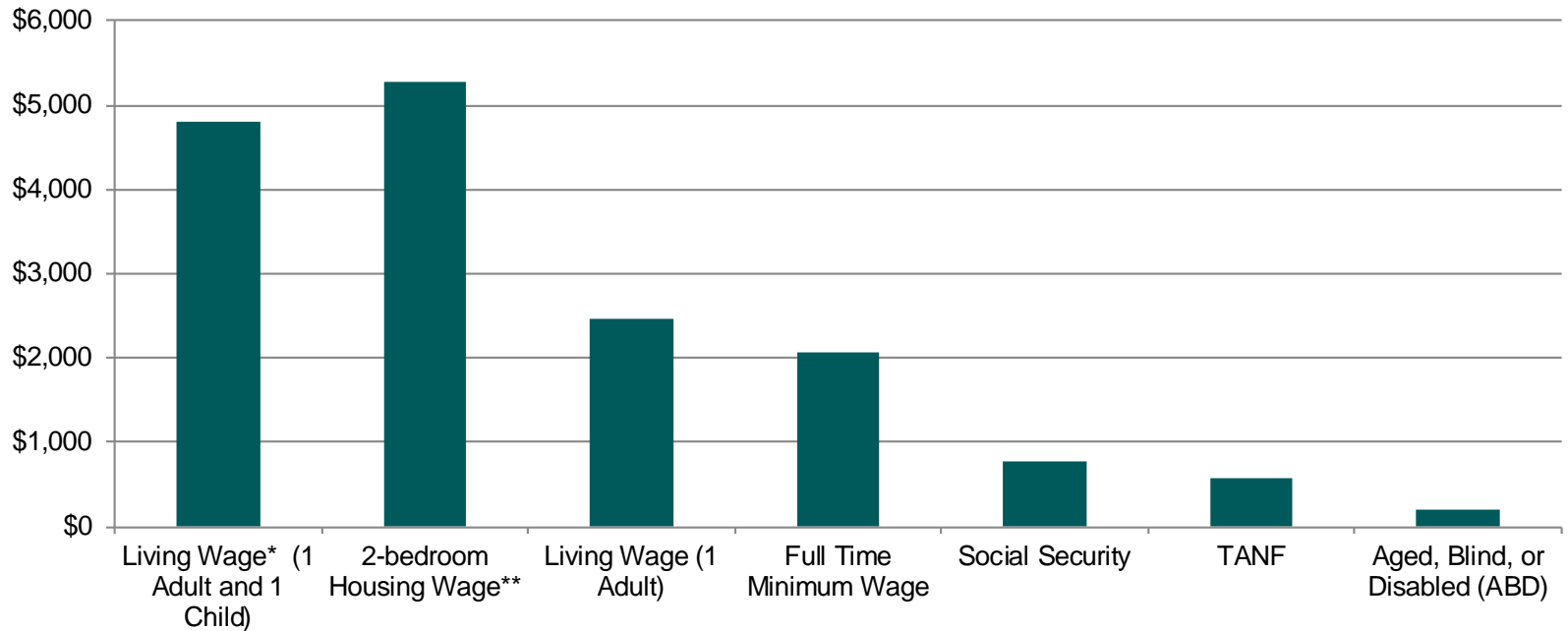


# Income and asset building

## Did you know?

Rent prices have skyrocketed over the last few years making the cost of renting the same or more than a mortgage payment.

### Monthly Income Comparison



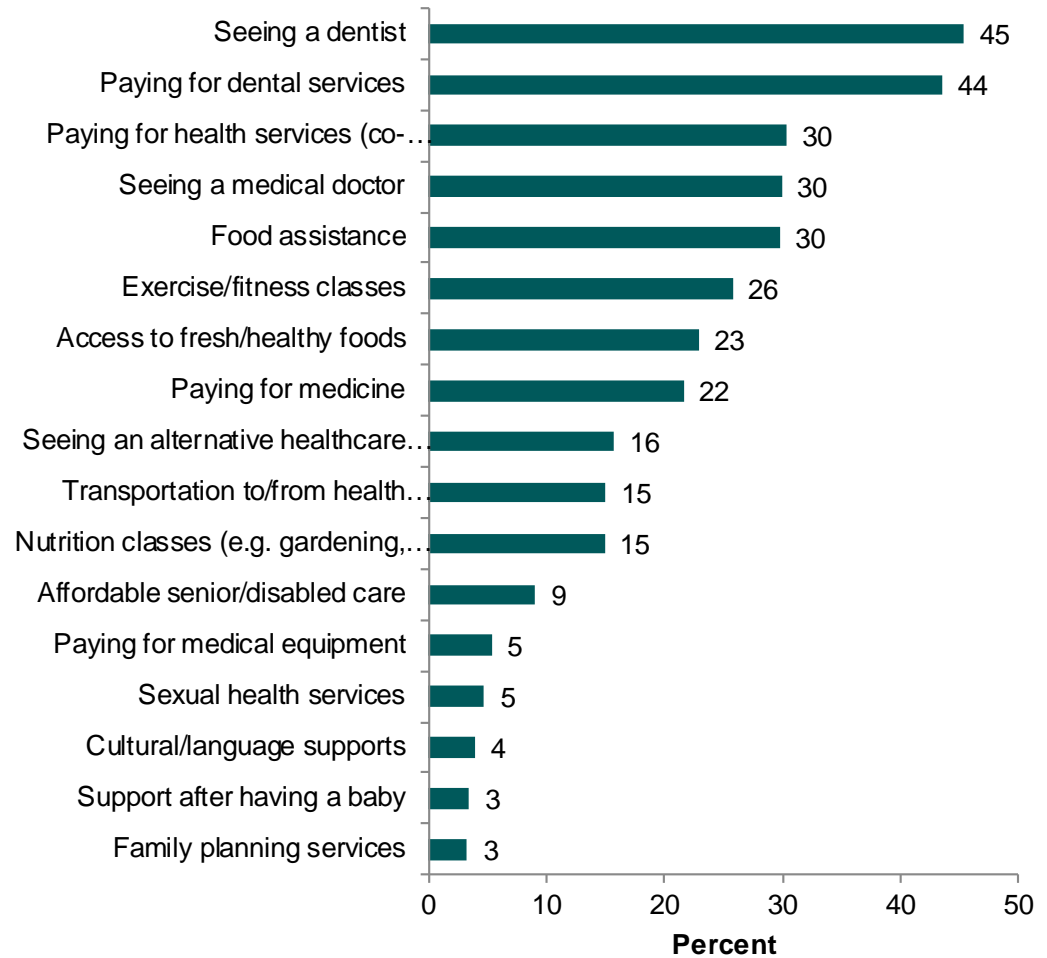
\*Living Wage is a wage that is high enough to maintain a normal standard of living.

\*\*Housing Wage is the amount a person must earn to afford fair-market rent without paying more than 30%



# Physical health needs

This figure shows that nearly half of respondents with physical health needs said that **seeing a dentist** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **paying for dental services** (44%) and **paying for health services** (30%).



698 respondents citing housing barriers

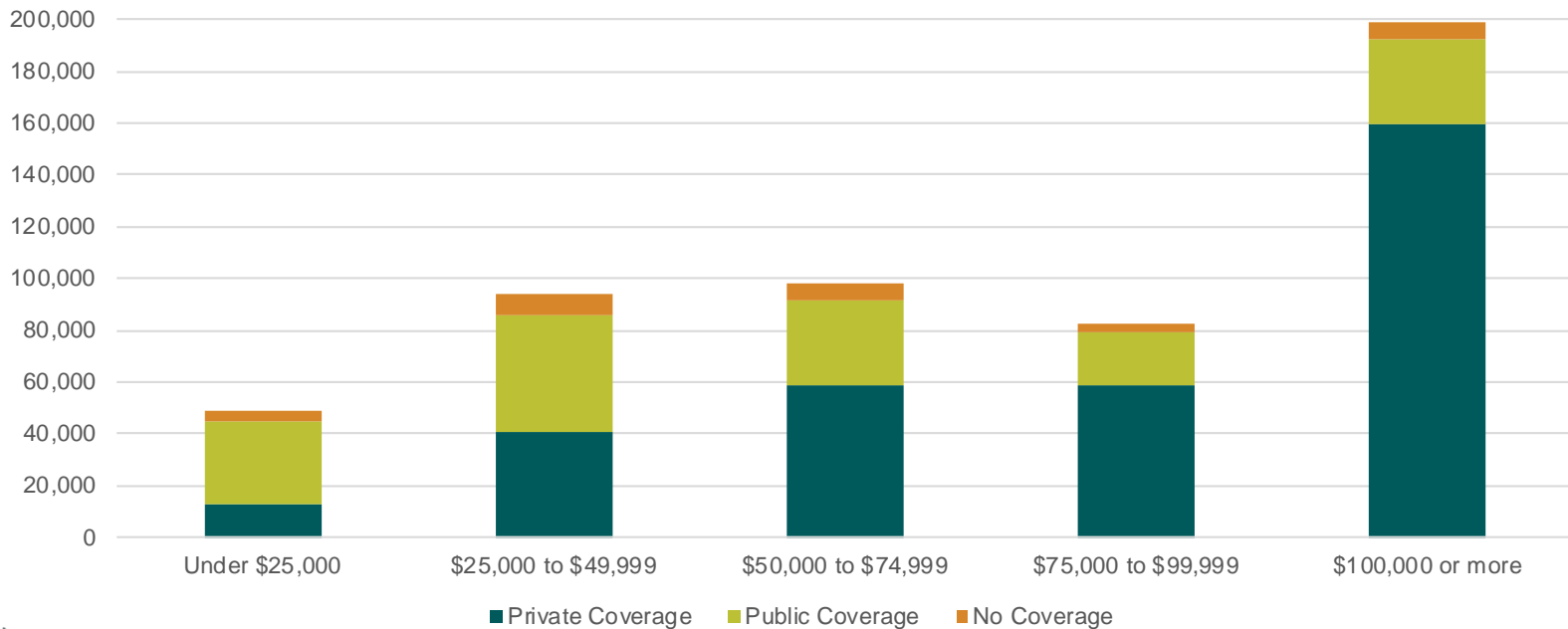


# Physical health

## Did you know?

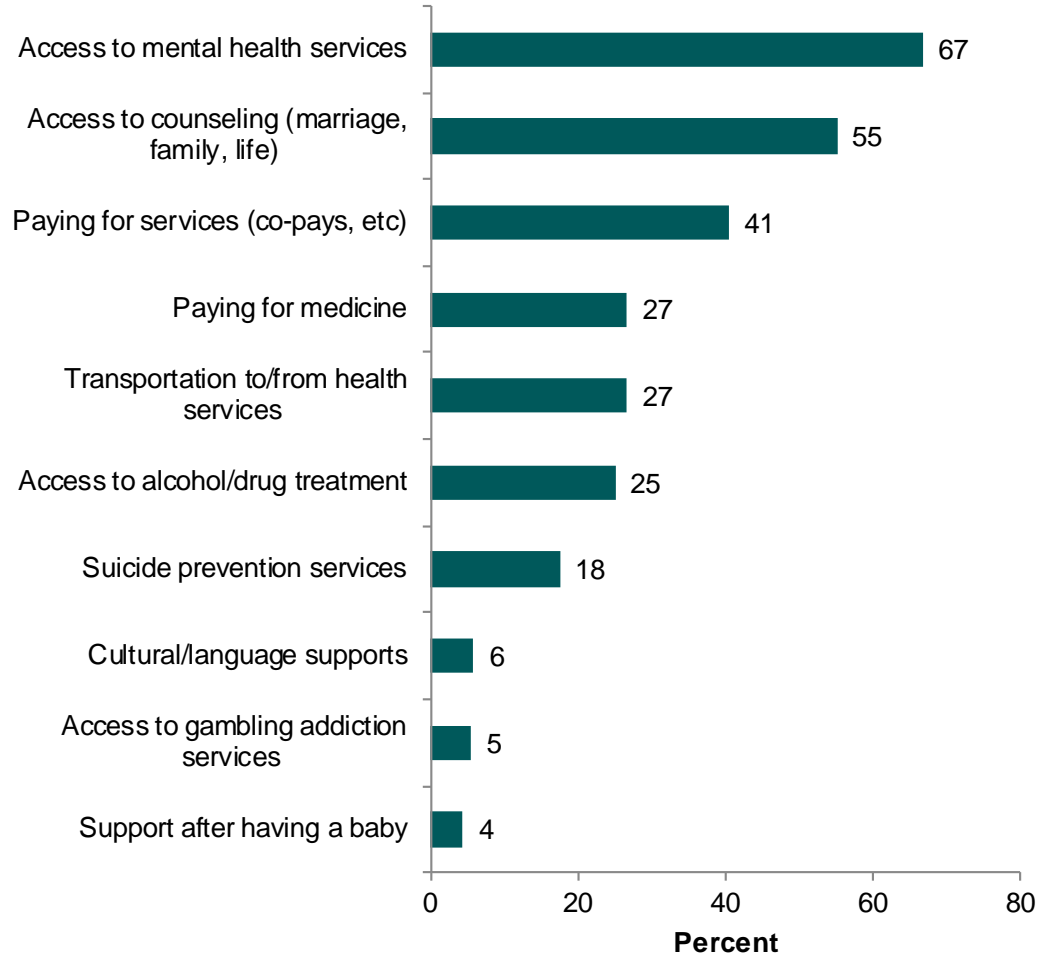
Vulnerable populations are particularly at risk for insufficient health insurance coverage; people with lower incomes are often uninsured, and minorities account for over half of the uninsured population.

### Health Insurance Type by Household Income



# Behavioral health needs

This figure shows that over 2/3 of respondents with behavioral health needs said that **access to mental health services** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **access to counseling** (55%) and **paying for services** (41%).



479 respondents citing housing barriers



# Behavioral health

## Did you know?

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among people ages 15-34 in the United States.

Of the 283 million people in the United States age 12 and older, nearly 14% had a substance use disorder in 2018.

Nearly 10% of youth have severe major depression, but 60% of these youth do not receive mental health treatment.

10.8% of Americans with a mental illness are uninsured.

In Clark County, 40% of people counted in the 2020 Point-in-Time Count reported having a mental illness, but only 11% indicated it was a barrier to becoming permanently housed.





# Support services needs

This figure shows that over half of respondents with support service needs said that ***paying for vehicle costs*** is a current need or concern. This is followed by ***paying for transportation*** (47%) and ***information and referral services*** (27%).



632 respondents citing housing barriers

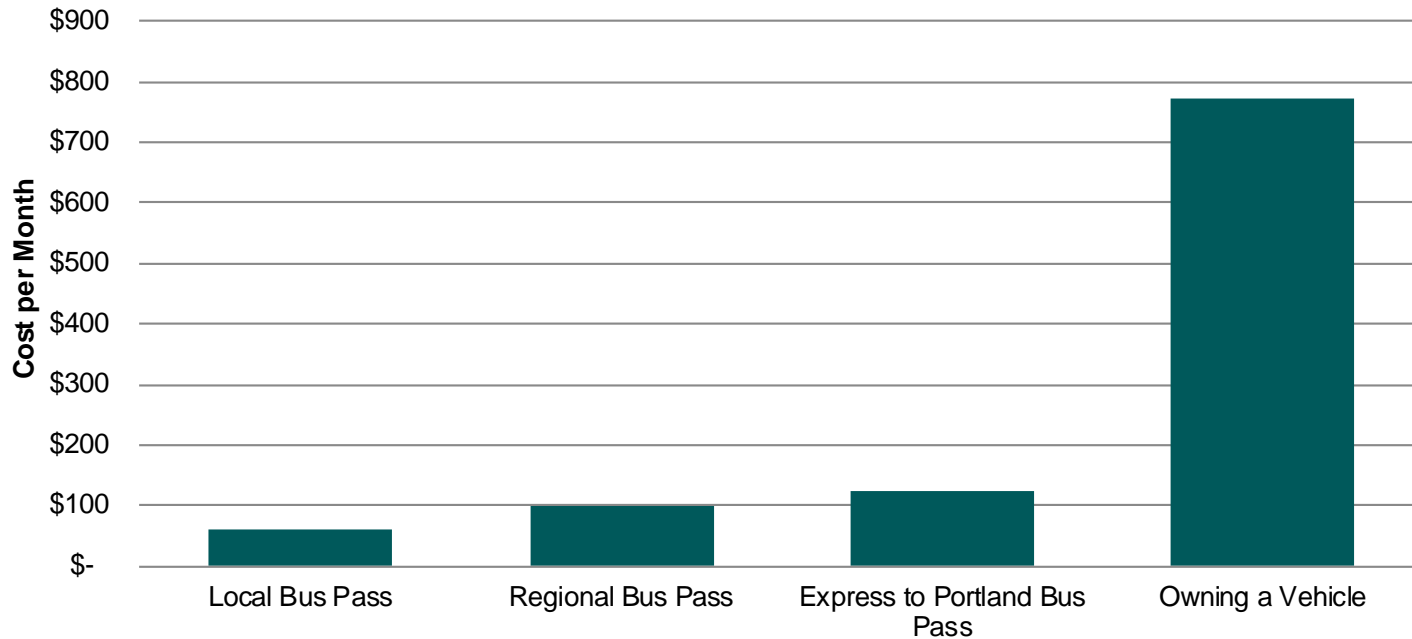


# Support services

## Did you know?

In 28 states, center-based childcare for infants and toddlers is more expensive than in-state tuition and fees at a public university.

### Transportation Cost Comparison



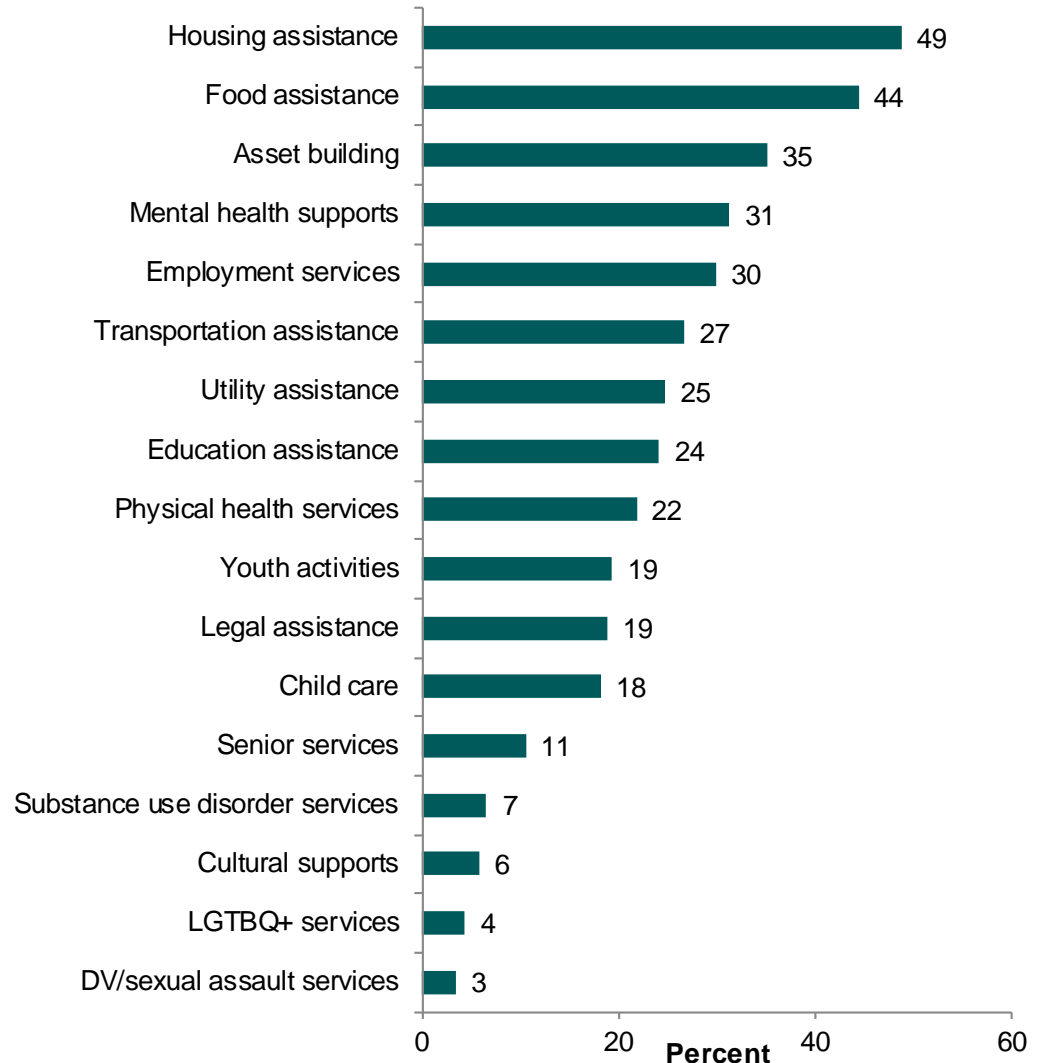
# Overall need

Respondents were asked to identify the top five service area needs for their family from the list provided.

**Nearly half of respondents who participated in this section of the survey mentioned housing assistance (49%).**

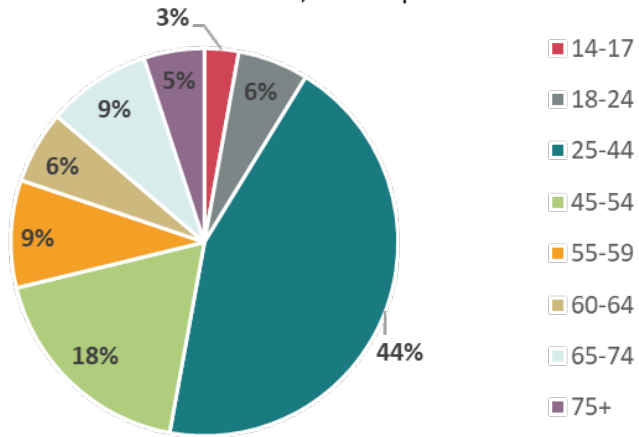
**Other top mentions include: food assistance (44%) asset building (35%) mental health supports (31%) employment services (30%)**

*1,188 respondents citing a top need*

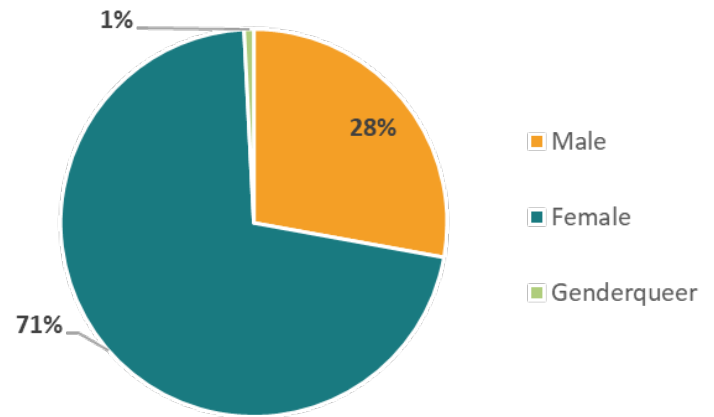


# Demographic Information

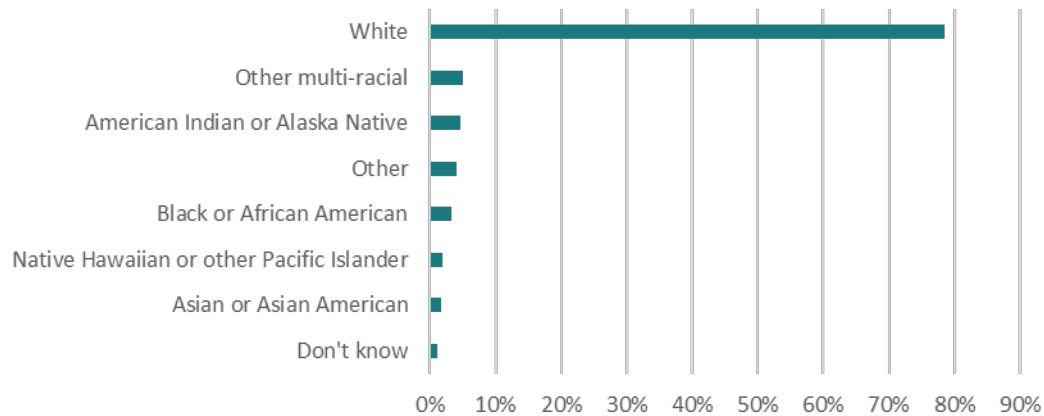
**Age**  
1,403 responses



**Gender**  
1,361 responses



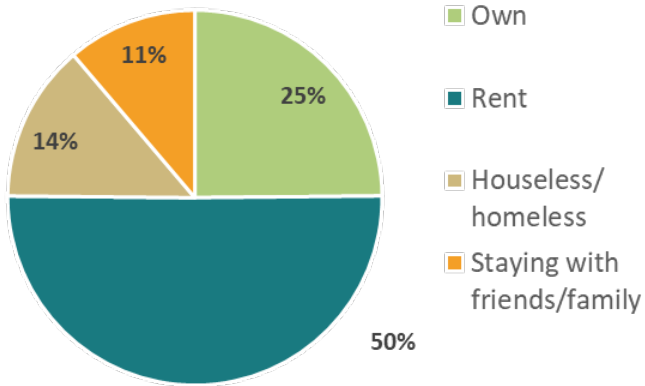
**Race**  
1,346 responses



# Demographic Information

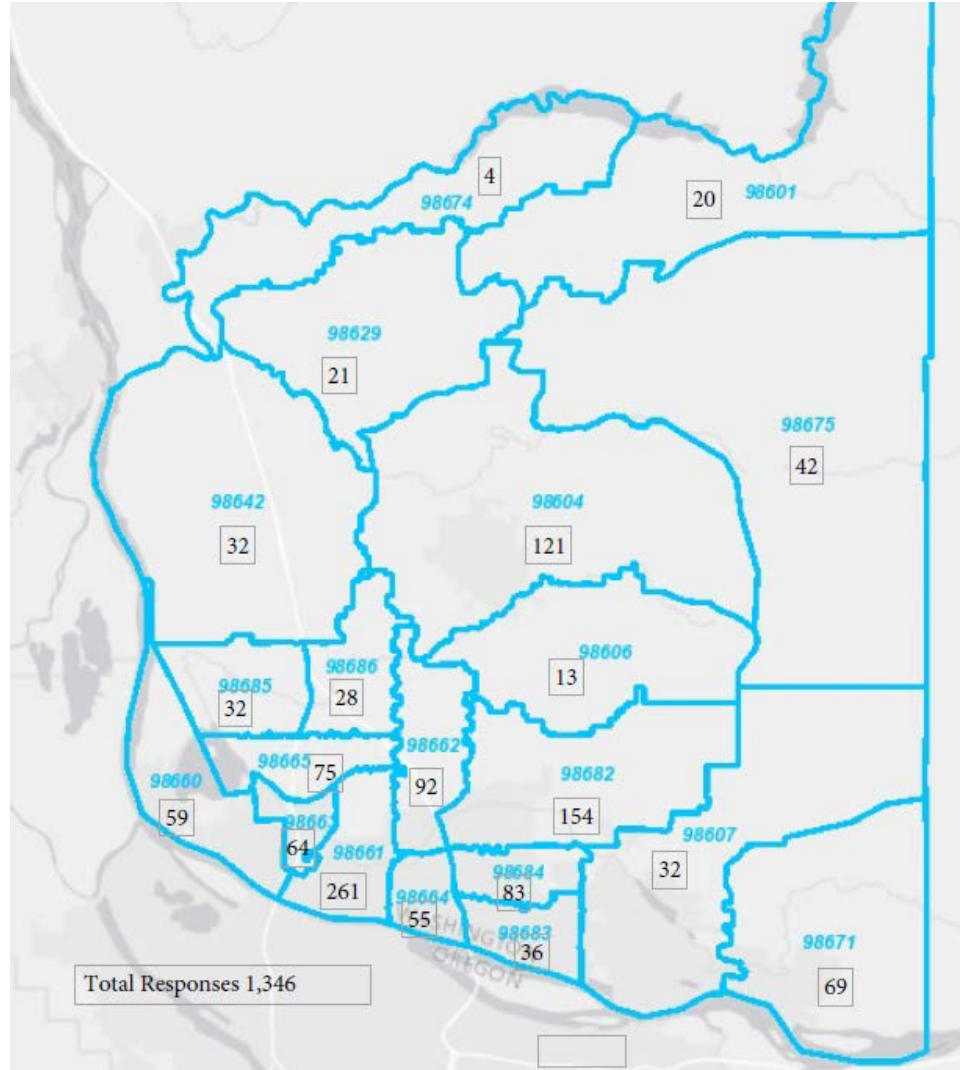
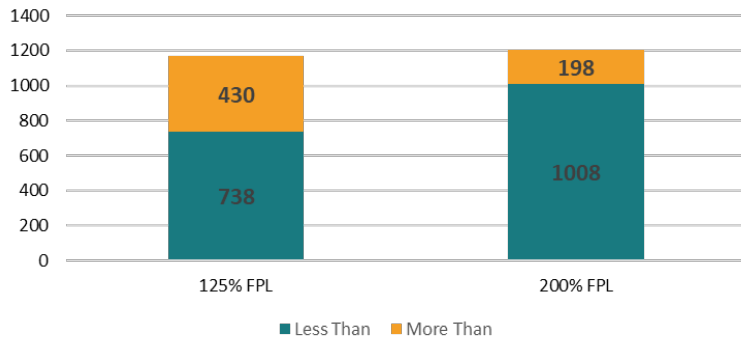
## Housing Situation

1,352 responses



## Income

1,168 and 1,206 responses



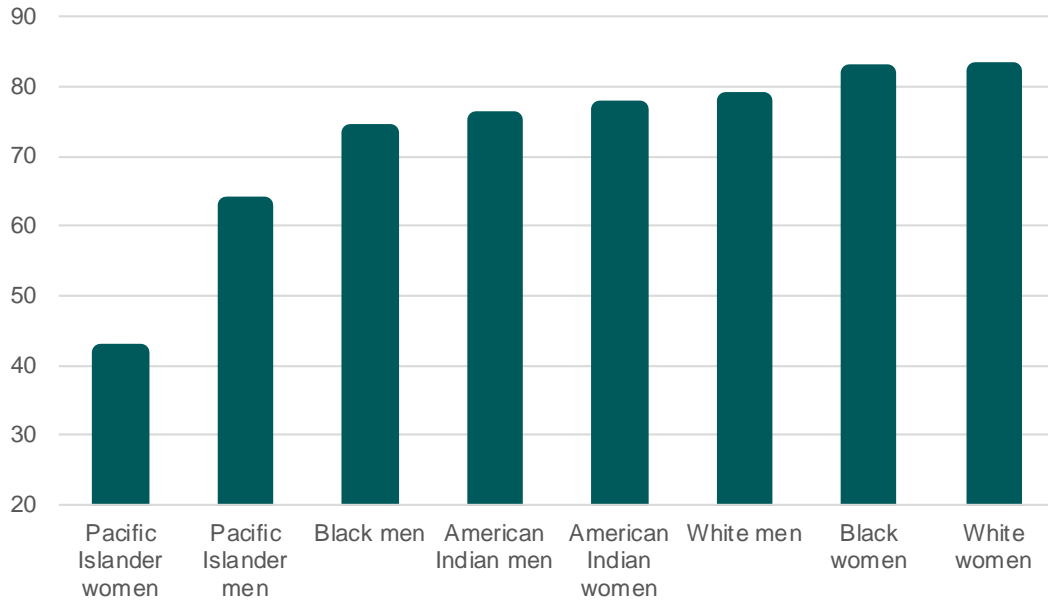
# Group Discussion



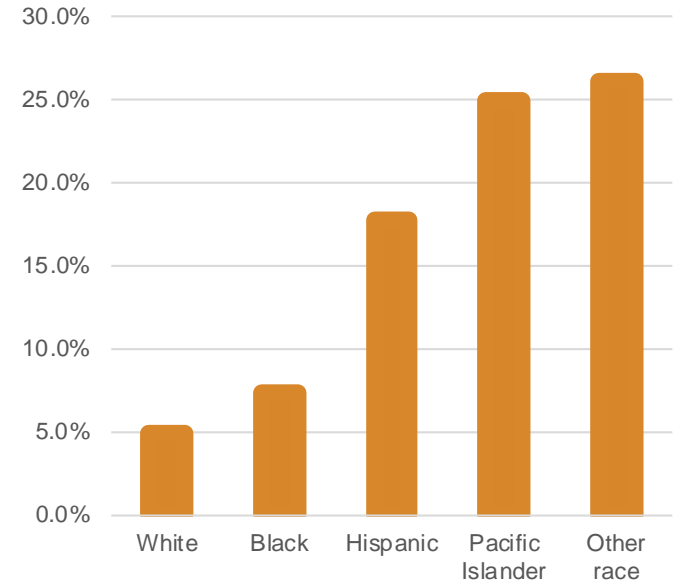
# How does racism impact Clark County?

- Racism is a driving force of the social determinants of health (like housing, education, transportation access and employment) and is a barrier to health equity.

Clark County Life Expectancy



Clark County Uninsured Rate



# How does racism impact Clark County?

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- Vancouver Public School system's review showed students of color 2.2 times more likely to be suspended or expelled than white students.
- Black people are 2.4% of the Clark County population but make up:
  - 9% of Clark County prison inmates
  - 12% of evictions
  - 16% of those entering the homeless crisis response system





## How has COVID-19 impacted Clark County?

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- 4,230 cases, 65 deaths as of October 19, 2020.
- 10,000 Clark County residents filed a continued unemployment claim in September 2020, 9.4% unemployment rate in August.
- Hispanic/Latinx community makes up 10.0% of Clark County population and represents 33.9% of confirmed cases with available ethnicity data.
- Leisure and hospitality industry largest loss at 25% decline, manufacturing and construction 10% loss in employment.
- 98,806 total tests as of September 29, 2,995 positive (3.03%)



# Group Norms

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- Assume goodwill
- Respect all ideas and opinions
- Listen for understanding
- Share the floor
- Honor confidentiality



## Group Discussion Question #1

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What do you think about when you see the information provided tonight?

Is there anything significant or interesting?



## Group Discussion Question #2

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What do you think are the causes of poverty in our community?



## Group Discussion Question #3

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What programs/services do you think will help lift people out of poverty?



## Group Discussion Question #4

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Is there anything you think is missing from the information/discussion provided tonight?



# Coming Together as a Community Poll



# Coming Together as a Community

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## 1. How do you think human services are best provided?

- Faith-based organizations
- Private donations to local charities
- Government Assistance
- Family/friends
- Combination of the above
- Not the community's responsibility to provide human services.





# Coming Together as a Community

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## 2. Where would you direct more funding if you could?

- Housing Assistance
- Homeless Services
- Education Services
- Employment Services
- Healthcare
- Mental Health Services
- Substance Use Services
- Food Assistance
- Senior Services
- Youth Services



# Coming Together as a Community

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## 3. Our community is doing a great job helping those in need.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree



# Thank you

## We appreciate your time and perspective!

We will send you a link to complete a satisfaction survey. Please tell us how we did, provide additional information and sign up to receive the completed Community Needs Assessment.

