



**COMMUNITY ACTION  
PARTNERSHIP**  
ORANGE COUNTY

# 2023 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT POCKET GUIDE

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# INTRODUCTION



Every two years, Community Action Partnership of Orange County (CAP OC) conducts a comprehensive Community Needs Assessment (CNA) to identify the emerging and ongoing needs, understand the causes and conditions of poverty and assets to fight against poverty. This results in a needs-driven process that is used to improve the quality of life for community members and respond to the ever-changing needs of Orange County (OC).

Through surveys, community meetings, and database research collected between January-April 2023, we have identified community needs, trends and assets. Our findings are organized into the following four (4) issue domains, ranked based on community input:



**FINANCE**



**HOUSING**



**EMPLOYMENT**



**HEALTH**

# FINDINGS

## RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

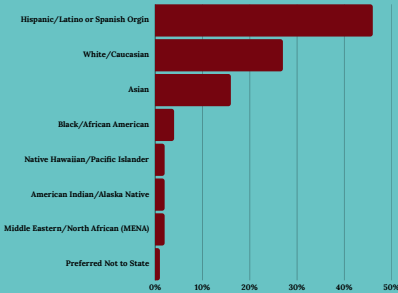


1,221 responses

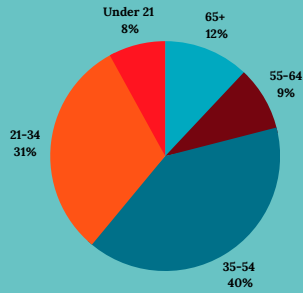


83% completion rate

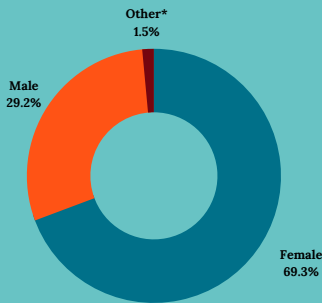
### RACE & ETHNICITY



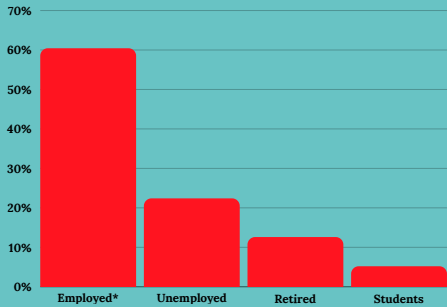
### AGE



### GENDER



### WORK STATUS



### INCOME



- 76.8% earned a yearly income of \$80,000 or less
- 34% earned a yearly income under \$30,000

### EDUCATION

- 80.18% had a high school diploma or more
- 32.27% had a college degree or more



### HOUSEHOLD SIZE



- 61% resided in a household ranging from 3-5 individuals
- 84% of those living with 3-5 individuals resided in a household with 1-2 children
- 34% reported no children living in the household

# TOP NEEDS IDENTIFIED

The list below shows the top (11) needs identified in 2023 Community Needs Assessment.

#	Top Needs Identified	Issue Domain
1	Lack of opportunity to save money for the future.	Finance
2	Difficulty paying for basic essentials such as food and safe housing.	Finance
3	Inability to consistently pay debts on time.	Finance
4	Difficulty paying for utilities and affecting utilization.	Housing
5	Lack of living wage employment opportunities.	Employment
6	Lack of affordable housing due to high cost of rent or mortgage.	Housing
7	Lack of basic (key) financial skills such as making budgets and obtaining/ managing credit.	Finance
8	Difficulty navigating the healthcare system to access services.	Health
9	Lack of access to affordable health insurance, medical cares, and prescription medicine.	Health
10	Lack of access to job training and education to obtain desired employment.	Employment
11	Lack of safety in the community due to crime or violence	Housing



# FINANCE

## NEEDS



**MORE THAN 60%** of respondents struggle with paying for basic essentials, debt and saving money.



**62%** of respondents lack financial skills such as budgeting, obtaining & managing credit scores, and accessing a bank.

## TRENDS

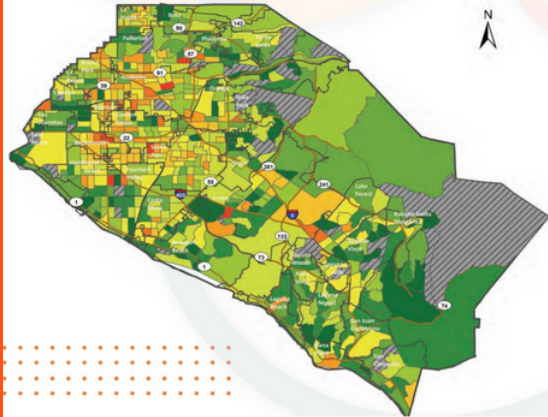
Financial instability in OC rose about 1 percent from



- Santa Ana, Los Alamitos, and Westminster had the highest concentration of families who are financially unstable in 2020.

2022-2023 OC Community Indicators Report (see map)

FAMILY FINANCIAL STABILITY INDEX – ORANGE COUNTY:  
2020 NEIGHBORHOOD-LEVEL RESULTS



Red and orange indicate high levels of family financial instability.

## ASSETS



Financial Programs

- OC United Way’s SparkPoint OC
- CAP OC’s Economic Empowerment Classes & Lending Circle



# HOUSING

## NEEDS



**61%** of respondents have difficulty paying for rent or mortgage and utilities.

*“La comunidad necesita empatia y equidad, la vivienda es un derecho.”*



**HALF** of respondents state feeling unsafe in their community.

## TRENDS

Housing prices continue to rise as wages remain low.

OC minimum wage

**\$15.50**

**\$51.39**

Hourly wage needed to afford OC's avg. monthly rent of \$2,672.

Violent crime rates have remained steady over the past few years in OC.



DATAUSA (see map)

## ASSETS



The Kennedy Commission - housing advocacy  
CAP OC - provide utility & water assistance, a variety of food programs, and help house people.





# EMPLOYMENT

## NEEDS



**61%** of respondents report difficulty finding and keeping a job that pays a living wage.



**53%** of respondents express difficulty having the necessary education and skills to get a well paying job.

## TRENDS

Of the top 3 most common occupations in OC, only 1 exceeds earnings (median hourly wage) above the living wage (\$23.66).

Executive, Managers & Administrators	Sales	Office & Administrative Support
\$60.84	\$17.97	\$22.71

U.S. Census Bureau

## ASSETS



Workforce Development Programs

- OC United Way's UpSkill OC
- CAP OC's Empowered2Work
- OC Workforce Solution Centers



# HEALTH

## NEEDS



### **MORE THAN HALF**

of respondents indicate difficulty navigating the healthcare system & accessing affordable health insurance, medical care and prescription medicines.



72% of respondents report their health being impacted by COVID-19 in the past year (2022).



## TRENDS

**Almost 1 in 6 people in OC**



**report not having a usual place to go when sick.**

OC Health Improvement Plan 2020-2022

## ASSETS



- Mobile Clinics & Family Resource Centers (FRCs)
- CAP OC in partnership with CalOptima Health provide 6 CalAIM Community Supports & Enhanced Care Management (ECM)



This Pocket Guide is a shortened version of our 2023 Community Needs Assessment. A full list of citations, references and assets can be found in the full report.

The full report is available at [www.capoc.org/about](http://www.capoc.org/about)





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