



Community Needs Assessment 2025 Findings Report

Introduction: From September 2024 to March 2025, CAP OC conducted its biennial comprehensive Community Needs Assessment (CNA) to understand the emerging & ongoing needs in Orange County.

Domains



Finance



Employment



Health



Housing

Half of respondents (55%) reported struggling in at least one domain
16% of respondents are struggling across all 4 domains

Top 7 Needs

Households lack enough money to sustain themselves

Families lack the ability to save money and manage or reduce their debt

Households struggle to pay for safe and stable housing due to high costs

Individuals and families have difficulty paying for basic essentials such as food and/or housing



Individuals face difficulty obtaining and maintaining stable employment, resulting in ongoing economic instability

Families struggle to pay for utilities, affecting usage.

The community lacks affordable housing

Key Insights



Health

24% of individuals reported struggling in the health domain



¼ of those struggling in this domain also struggle with housing



½ of respondents struggling with this domain earn less than \$25,000



2 out of every 5 (40%) OC respondents are living in poverty (4x higher than Orange County's poverty rate of 9.5%)



65% of respondents spend 30% or more of their income on housing (1,019 survey respondents)



Older people are disproportionately affected

- 1 in 5 respondents struggling were 65 years or older

Data Collection



10 one-on-one Interviews



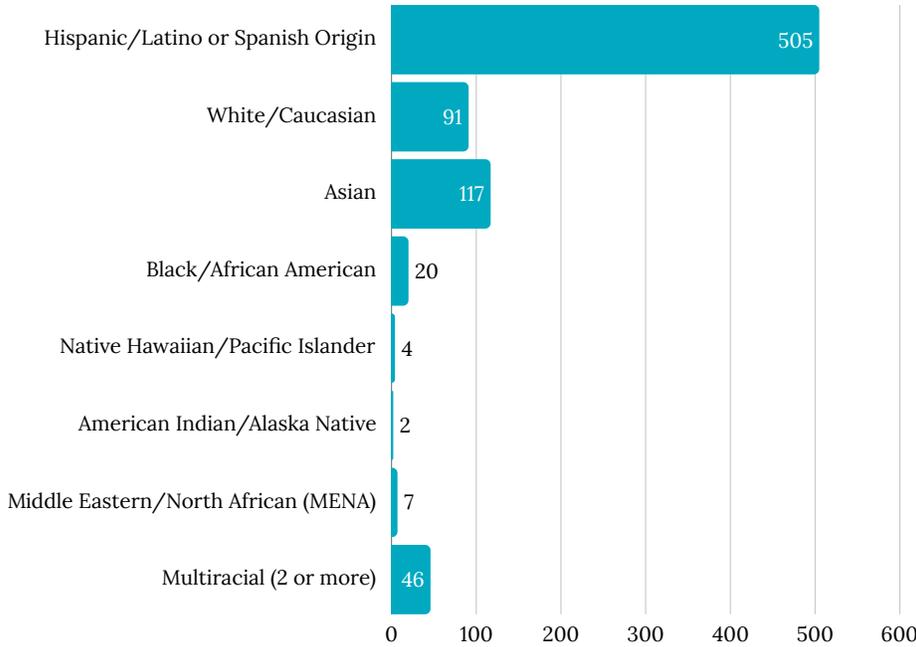
Survey (1,566 OC responses)



6 Community Meetings (70 Participants)

Demographics of Struggling Respondents (857)

Race and Ethnicity



Income



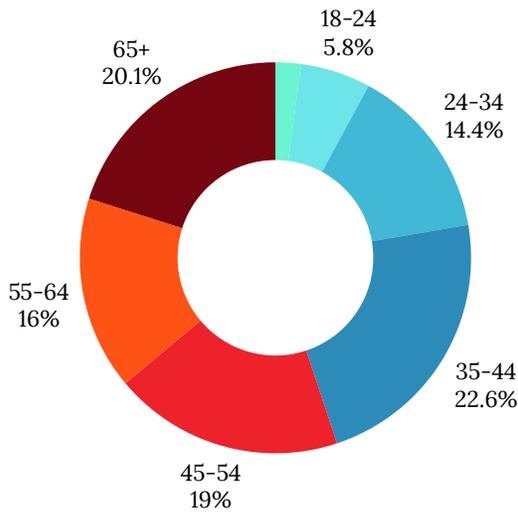
Median Income Range \$25k-\$35k
66% earn less than 50k
55% earn less than \$35k

Education

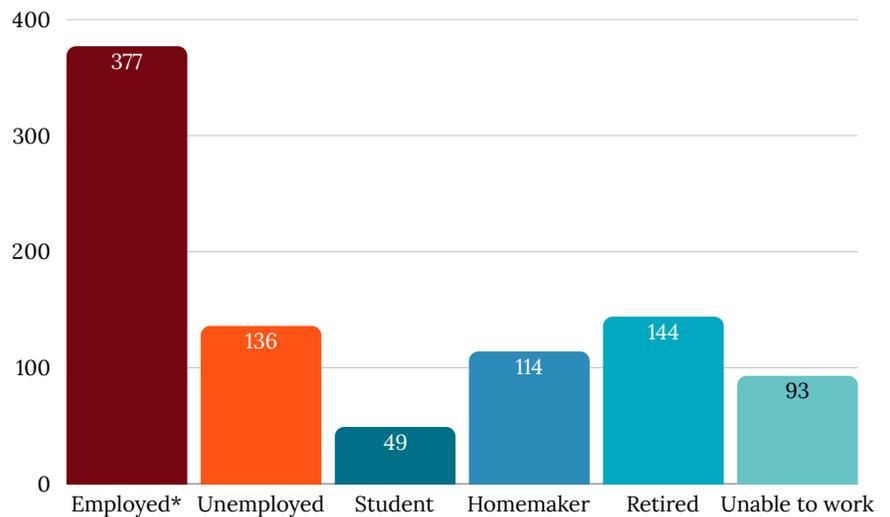


55% had obtained at least a high school diploma or less
44% obtained a higher education (beyond high school)

Age



Work Status



*Full-time, Part-time & Self-employed