Redwood City & North Fair Oaks Community Needs Assessment Survey Findings

Brandon Balzer Carr
Amy Gerstein
March 2021
Thank You To Our Generous Funders!

Redwood City Education Foundation

Redwood City, California (Founded 1867)

Sequoia Healthcare District

For Your Health

Stanford Community Engagement
Office of External Relations

John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities
About the Survey Tool

**TOPICS** include …

- food
- housing
- employment
- medical care
- childcare
- education
- technology
- demographics

**HOUSEHOLD SURVEY**

One respondent answers on behalf of everyone they live with
Distribution Method

DATA COLLECTION
September & October 2020

SURVEY DISTRIBUTION CHANNELS
• text messages • newsletters
• email blasts • periodicals
• social media • word of mouth

RECRUITMENT CHANNELS
• Boys & Girls Club
• Cañada College
• Caron Sheriff’s Program
• Catholic Charities
• Dream Center
• Faith in Action
• Familia Cristiana Verbo
• Family Harvest
• Friends for Youth
• Immigration Institute of the Bay Area
• Innovate Public Schools
• Multicultural Institute
• NFO Community Council
• One Life Counseling Services
• Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center
• Police Activities League
• City Office of Redwood City
• Redwood City Parks & Rec
• Redwood City Public Libraries
• Redwood City School District
• Siena Youth Center
• Socios for Success
• UndocuCollective
• United Through Education
• Upward Scholars
## Sample Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>People in Redwood City</td>
<td>85K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Represented in Survey</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Responses</td>
<td>1395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responses with Complete Needs</td>
<td>889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Cleaning</td>
<td>1145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People Represented</td>
<td>3555</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Statistical Analysis

- We applied statistical weights to the data to account for...
  - Race and ethnicity
  - Housing type (rent/own)
  - Children’s ages
  - Household Sizes
- Weighted findings suggest survey sample was representative of Redwood City population
- Findings compared to historical census data validated our rates of increased need
Demographics
Race / Ethnicity

Mostly representative, slight overcount of Latinx people and undercount of Asian people.
Education Level

Mostly representative, with an overcount of grad degrees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than HS</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HS Graduate &amp; GED</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate's Degree or Some College</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's Degree</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate or Professional Degree</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Demographic Subgroups

A diverse sample of key local communities.

- North Fair Oaks Residents: 33%
- Renters: 49%
- Spanish Language Respondents: 25%
- Immigrants: 13%
Household Types
Most households (64%) had a combination of 2+ adults and children.

- 13% of households had 1 or 2 adults.
- 8% of households had 3+ adults.
- 10% of households had 1 to 3 children.
- 5% of households had 4+ children.
- 45% of households had 1 to 3 children and 2 adults.
- 1% of households had 4+ children and 2 adults.
- 15% of households had 1 to 3 children and 3 adults.
- 3% of households had 4+ children and 3 adults.
Most children were elementary or middle school age.
Key Takeaways
Key Takeaways

**HEALTHCARE INSECURITY**
- Always has been high (20-25%) but has not increased as much as other unmet needs since COVID.

**FOOD INSECURITY**
- Increased dramatically and remains relatively high (15%), despite widespread awareness of multiple services.

**HOUSING INSECURITY**
- Affects one-third of renters (30-35%), with a small but meaningful portion (7%) under eviction threat.

Spanish language respondents are six times as likely to be food insecure and twice as likely to be housing insecure.
Key Takeaways

**DIGITAL DIVIDE**
Most pronounced for high-quality technology, for example:
- Lack of installed internet (15-30%)
- Lack of a home computer (20-40%)

**DISTANCE LEARNING**
Top challenges include:
- Lack of private workspace (22%)
- Insufficient support from teachers or school staff (20%)
Key Takeaways

SECOND SHIFT

• Most full-time workers (55%) are caring for children more than 8 hours a day.

INCOME

• Unemployment and furlough rates have doubled since COVID.
Food Insecurity
Youth & Food Insecurity

At least **255 youth** live in food insecure households.

At least **761 youth** live in households where adults worry food will run out.
Moderate to severe food insecurity affects 15% of households, twice what they reported before COVID.

During COVID:
- Often not enough to eat: 11
- Sometimes not enough to eat: 25
- Enough, but not always the kind of food we want: 62

Pre-COVID:
- Often not enough to eat: 5
- Sometimes not enough to eat: 12
- Enough, but not always the kind of food we want: 81
Worry that Food Will Run Out

40% of households worry sometimes or often that food will run out, versus 25% before COVID.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>During COVID</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-COVID</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Food Insecurity Subgroups

Spanish language respondents (up to 35%) faced more food insecurity than any other subgroup.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subgroup</th>
<th>Often not enough to eat</th>
<th>Sometimes not enough to eat</th>
<th>Enough, but not always the kind of food we want</th>
<th>Enough of the kinds of foods we want to eat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>61</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFO</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Language</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinx</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Housing Insecurity
Youth & Housing Insecurity

At least 314 youth live in a household that has missed rent.

At least 176 youth live in a household that has received a utility shut off notice.
Ability to Pay Rent

Over one-third of households did not pay all their rent, and of those, three-quarters do not know about rental assistance.
Eviction threats have more than doubled despite a moratorium on them.
One in seven renter households have been informed that their utilities could be shut off due to lack of payment.

During COVID

- Yes: 14
- No: 86

Pre-COVID

- Yes: 8
- No: 92
Housing Insecurity Subgroups

Spanish language respondents were about twice more likely to be housing insecure than English language respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Unable to Pay</th>
<th>Able to Pay Some</th>
<th>Able to Pay All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>64</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFO</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>58</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Language</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinx</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Youth & Healthcare Insecurity

At least 621 youth rely on public healthcare.

At least 355 youth live in a household that forewent care.
Trouble paying bills has increased modestly during COVID.
Foregoing Physical Care

Foregoing physical care has not increased since COVID.

- **During COVID**:
  - Often: 19
  - Sometimes: 77
  - Never: 78

- **Pre-COVID**:
  - Often: 19
  - Sometimes: 78
  - Never: 78
Foregoing Mental Care

Mental care insecurity equivalent to physical care, except “often” was twice as frequent.

- **During COVID**
  - Often: 7
  - Sometimes: 15
  - Never: 78

- **Pre-COVID**
  - Often: 5
  - Sometimes: 15
  - Never: 80

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
There’s a smaller spread in healthcare insecurity across subgroups than for other needs.
Digital Divide
99% of households with school-age children have a connected device.

Only 82% of households with school-age children have a computer.
A majority of households have access to a connected device.

- **Parents**: 99%
- **School Age**: 98%
- **NFO**: 98%
- **Latinx**: 96%

**Yes** | **No**
---|---

---
Fewer households have a home computer, including one in five families with school aged children.

- Parents: 79 Yes, 21 No
- School Age: 82 Yes, 18 No
- NFO: 67 Yes, 33 No
- Latinx: 63 Yes, 37 No
Most households have internet access.
Fewer households have installed internet, particularly Latinx households.

- Parents: Yes 85, No 15
- School Age: Yes 85, No 15
- NFO: Yes 74, No 26
- Latinx: Yes 71, No 29
Distance Learning
Distance Learning Challenges

Nearly **one-third of families** lacked access to a private place to work last Spring.

About **one-fifth of families** had insufficient support from teachers or school staff last Spring.
Households with English learner and special education students report more problems due to lack of private workspace.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Youth</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Youth</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Learner</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Relatively few households struggled with having enough time to complete work, but this may be higher in Fall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Yes (%)</th>
<th>No (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Youth</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Youth</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Learner</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Low rates of challenges due to lack of access to online materials, even among people with limited technology.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Youth</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Youth</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Learner</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Households with English learners and special education students report needing more teacher support.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Youth</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Youth</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Learners</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Second Shift
Childcare Burden

Households are spending much more time on childcare.

Households are spending less money on childcare.
A plurality of households (40%) are providing twelve or more hours of childcare on a workday, much more than before (14%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Pre-COVID</th>
<th>During COVID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 3</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 to 7</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 to 11</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12+</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The proportion of households who are spending less than $100 a month on childcare has increased dramatically since COVID.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>During COVID</th>
<th>Pre-COVID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0-100</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$101-500</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$501-1000</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1001-2000</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2001+</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
One third of full-time employees also provide twelve or more hours of childcare.
Job Insecurity
Job Insecurity

Total hours worked have decreased since COVID.

Wages have decreased since COVID, especially for those already low-income.
Unemployment and furlough rates have more than doubled. People do not appear to be exiting the workforce yet.

### Employment Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>During COVID</th>
<th>Pre-COVID</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed but Furloughed</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed but On Leave</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed and Working</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired, Disabled, or Not Looking</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Job insecurity does not vary based on geography, ethnicity, or socioeconomic status, unlike other forms of insecurity.

### Employment Status by Subgroup

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subgroup</th>
<th>Unemployed</th>
<th>Employed but Furloughed</th>
<th>Employed but On Leave</th>
<th>Employed and Working</th>
<th>Retired, Disabled, or Not Looking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renters</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFO</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latinx</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Resource Uptake
Community Resource Uptake

86% of parents are aware of Redwood City school lunches.

27% of renters are aware of Redwood City COVID Rental Assistance.
Community Resource Uptake Comparison

Resources for food have the highest awareness and uptake.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Don't Know</th>
<th>Know but Don't Use</th>
<th>Use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Francis</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Oaks Community Center</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RWC Lunches</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Harvest</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Assistance</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMC Human Services</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Community Resource Preferences**

Free meals were ranked higher than housing, technology, education, and transit resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free Meals &amp; Pantry Bags</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free WiFi Near RWC School</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Assistance</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WiFi Hotspots &amp; Computers</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Workspaces</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tech Support Hubs</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Public Transit</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next Steps
Next Steps

- Deliberate amongst community leaders on implications of survey findings.
- Conduct data learning sessions and community briefings.
- Solicit feedback, determine any new questions, and survey again in spring 2021.
Thanks for joining us today!

The John W. Gardner Center partners with communities, researchers, and practitioners to produce research to improve and strengthen the well-being of youth, inform policy and practice, and emphasize equity and capacity-building in youth-serving organizations.

https://gardnercenter.stanford.edu