

Clarkston Needs Assessment Report

Prepared for Clarkston City Council March 29, 2022

The Georgia State University Prevention Research Center (PRC) works with community organizations, state and local governments, residents and other partners in Clarkston, Georgia to address disparities and determinants of health for community residents. In 2021, the PRC received a grant from the CDC to increase COVID-19 vaccine confidence and uptake in Clarkston. As part of that project, the PRC conducted a community-based survey to understand how COVID-19 has impacted Clarkston residents.

We held community survey events to accommodate speakers of 10 different languages. Interpreters were available to assist. People were eligible to participate if they were 18 years of age or older and lived in 30021.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

What problems are people facing in Clarkston right now?

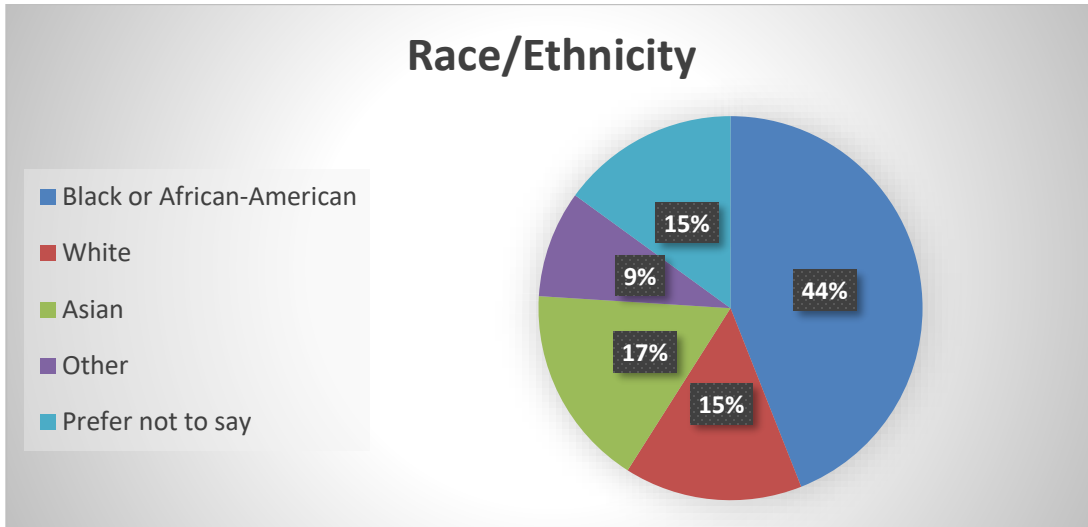
- 1. Financial problems**
- 2. Staying healthy during COVID-19**
- 3. Limited English skills**

What would make people's lives better?

- 1. Living wage jobs, higher wages, financial stability**
- 2. Education**

Survey Results

A diverse sample of 93 people participated in the survey. They ranged from 22-75 years old (average 44 years old). The largest proportion of participants were Black or African/American.



6 out of 10 people do not speak English at home



6 out of 10 people were not born in the US



4 out of 10 people identify as refugees



3 out of 10 people live below the poverty level



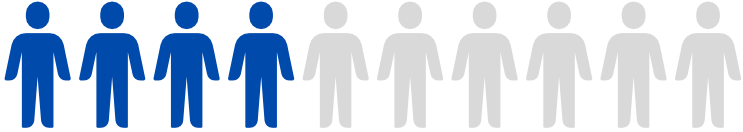
The most common languages spoken among those who speak another language than English at home included Amharic, Arabic, Dari/Pashto, Urdu, Somali, Swahili, and Spanish.

Housing: about 40% of people had housing difficulties

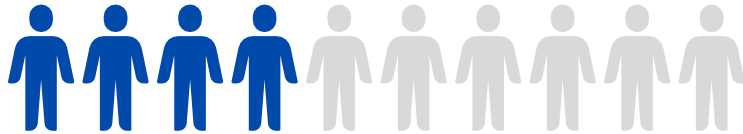
4 out of 10 people have trouble finding a place to live or stay



4 out of 10 people are behind on their mortgage or rent

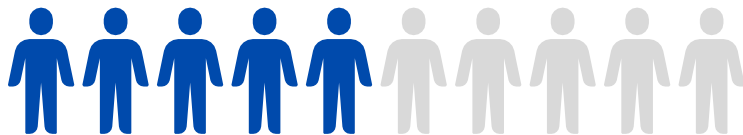


4 out of 10 people cannot pay their next month's mortgage or rent



Food Insecurity: between 30% - 50% of people faced food insecurity

5 out of 10 people skipped meals because they did not have enough money



3 out of 10 people were hungry because they did not have enough money



Employment: about 50% of people had employment problems

6 out of 10 people stopped working due to COVID



4 out of 10 people were laid off due to COVID

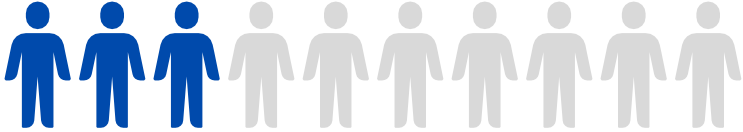


Computer Access for Children's Schooling

4 out of 10 children did not have access to a computer

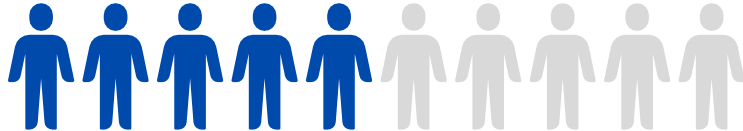


3 out of 10 children did not have internet access

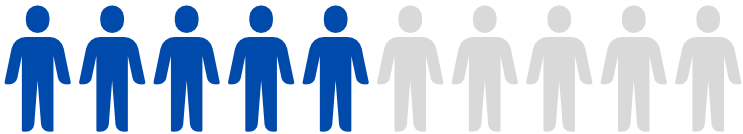


Healthcare: about 50% of people had healthcare-related problems

5 out of 10 people had trouble getting healthcare



5 out of 10 people had trouble getting medicines



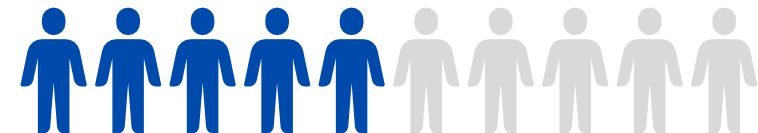
4 out of 10 people did not get needed medical care



4 out of 10 people did not get counseling or therapy

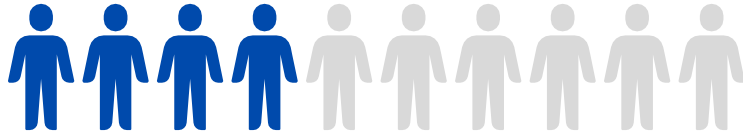


5 out of 10 people did not get routine vaccines

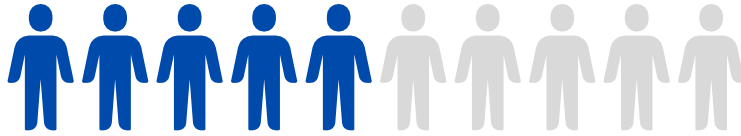


COVID-19 Vaccines

4 out of 10 people had COVID-19



5 out of 10 people knew someone who was hospitalized or died due to COVID



4 out of 10 people had trouble getting a vaccine



6 out of 10 people had a health professional recommend the vaccine



4 out of 10 people heard negative information about the vaccine



7 out of 10 people got either 1 or 2 doses of the vaccine



For more information on the survey and findings, contact Dr. Ashli Owen-Smith at aowensmith@gsu.edu

This publication was supported by Grant or Cooperative Agreement number U48DP006393, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.