



# COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## Spokane County 2025-2027

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners (SNAP) has addressed the needs of those experiencing poverty in Spokane County, Washington, for over 58 years. SNAP is the Community Action Agency within Washington State serving Spokane County. While several SNAP programs cover multiple counties, for this Community Needs Assessment, SNAP specifically surveyed individuals in Spokane County.



Spokane County is located in Eastern Washington and is home to the City of Spokane, the second largest city in the State of Washington. Spokane's population is 559,400, with a median age of 39. The poverty rate in Spokane County is 12.2%, 2.2% higher than that in the State of Washington.

Every three years, SNAP conducts a Community Needs Assessment (CNA) to help inform strategic initiatives, resource allocation, and community education. The CNA uses input from community members through a survey tool and a literature review to determine the key needs in Spokane County. SNAP received 654 survey responses for this needs assessment.

Below is a chart of key and additional findings. While these findings were derived from both survey data and a literature review, the table only addresses the relevant

survey data points.

Key Finding/Great Areas of Need	Type of Need	Contributing Factors as Indicated by the Percentage of Survey Responses
Affordability of and Access to Housing	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>31.04% of all respondents and 44.09% of BIPOC respondents desired affordable housing rent</li> <li>24.46% of all respondents and 32.28% of BIPOC respondents indicated they could not afford housing-related expenses</li> </ul>
Food Security Challenges	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25.38% of all respondents and 35.43% of BIPOC respondents noted limited options for affordable, nutritious food</li> <li>19.88% of all respondents and 23.62% of BIPOC respondents identified a lack of food as a safety concern</li> </ul>
Increase Financial Resiliency	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>35.63% of all respondents and 53.54% of BIPOC respondents wish to build or improve their credit</li> <li>29.82% of all respondents and 37.80% of BIPOC respondents shared they have too much debt</li> </ul>

Additional Findings	Type of Need	Contributing Factors as Indicated by the Percentage of Survey Responses
Physical Health Needs and Supports	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 37.31% of all respondents and 37.80% of BIPOC respondents indicated living with a chronic health condition</li> <li>• 22.63% of all respondents and 23.62% of BIPOC respondents said they had limited options to obtain dental care</li> </ul>
Access to Affordable Transportation	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33.49% of all respondents and 43.31% of BIPOC respondents indicated they needed gas vouchers</li> <li>• 29.36% of all respondents and 36.22% of BIPOC respondents indicated they need assistance with auto repair costs</li> </ul>
Education Supports	Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20.95% of all respondents and 33.07% of BIPOC respondents shared that they could not afford to continue their education</li> </ul>
Access to Affordable Mental Health Services	Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17.13% of all respondents and 24.41% of BIPOC respondents indicated a lack of access to mental health services</li> <li>• 15.14% of all respondents and 18.11% of BIPOC respondents shared they felt there was a lack of affordable mental health services</li> </ul>



## SPOKANE COUNTY OVERVIEW

Spokane County covers 1,764 square miles in Eastern Washington and is the fourth largest county in Washington. Founded in 1873, Spokane is the largest city within Spokane County and the second-largest city in Washington State.

Spokane County Demographics	Spokane Community Indicators <sup>1</sup>
Total Population	559,400
Median Age of Population	39
Median Household Income	\$69,070
Median Home Value	\$415,400
Fair Market Rent	\$1,102
Percent of Population in Poverty	12.2%
Percent of Children in Poverty	16.3%

### Race and Ethnicity Data for Spokane County<sup>2</sup>

Race/Ethnicity	Population	Percent of Total Population
American Indian and Alaskan Native	8,092	1.44%
Asian	12,654	2.26%
Black or African American	10,979	1.96%
Hispanic or Latino	35,350	6.32%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4,303	.77%
Some Other Race	11,999	2.14%
Two or More Races	48,360	8.64%
White	442,952	79.18%

Spokane County offers a wide variety of employment opportunities. The top five employment sectors are manufacturing, accommodation and food service, retail trade, government and health care, and social assistance. Between 2021 and 2022, Spokane County added 8,299 jobs.<sup>1</sup>

Spokane County has 110 parks, including 87 within the City of Spokane, and 86% of Spokane residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park.<sup>3</sup> Despite this green space and parks' pollution-filtering benefits, Spokane County's particulate pollution has been rated "F" by the American Lung Association, meaning that particle pollution in Spokane County exceeds the Environmental Protection Agency's limit, which results in increased health risks.<sup>4</sup>

## ASSESSMENT PURPOSE AND PROCESS

The Community Needs Assessment is a vital tool that guides SNAP's strategic plan and service delivery. It is also helpful in prioritizing funding opportunities that arise and communicating with our community about what needs have been identified within Spokane County.

This Community Needs Assessment evaluates current needs within SNAP's service area within Spokane County using various strategies to identify the most significant needs or "key findings." SNAP's Community Needs Assessment survey results, in combination with a literature review, were used to determine the findings of this assessment.

Data for this Community Needs Assessment were gathered through a survey using a convenience sample approach, meaning SNAP selected participants based solely on their availability and accessibility to complete the survey. To gather surveys, SNAP used the following methods:

- Link on SNAP's website
- QR code available in each SNAP office
- Paper copies available in each SNAP office
- Paper and QR codes shared directly with partners
- Paper and QR codes shared at SNAP outreach events
- Sponsored advertising on Facebook
- Social media – Twitter (X), Instagram and Facebook

This year, SNAP's Community Needs assessment was provided in four languages:

- English
- Arabic
- Russian
- Dari

A full copy of the survey can be found in Appendix A. The data set can be found in Appendix B.

## RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

654 survey responses were collected.

Demographic	Majority
Gender/Sex	75% Female
Age	26.11% Age 65+
Disability Status	50.39% Identified as having a disability
Income	44.75% Monthly income under \$2000
Housing Status	53.68% Renting
Length of Time in Spokane County	82.74% More than 5 years
Education	27.38% Some college, no degree
Sexual Orientation	76.52% Heterosexual
Other Stats	Majority
Access to a phone	95.67% Yes

Internet access	93.19% Yes
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Race/Ethnicity	Survey Respondents	Spokane County Population in Poverty <sup>2</sup>
American Indian and Alaskan Native	3.12%	15.9%
Black or African American	2.03%	14.9%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2.03%	Not reported
Asian	1.40%	10.8%
Other Race	2.65%	23.3%
Two or More Races	6.24%	17.8%
White	82.53%	11.2%
Hispanic/Latinx/Spanish	7.25%	16.25%

For a full listing of demographics, please see Appendix C.

**KEY FINDINGS**

**Affordability of and Access to Housing**

Survey respondents identified access to affordable housing and the resources available to cover housing-related expenses as a top need. The 2023 Worst Case Housing Needs report completed by HUD identified that during 2021, 8.53 million households had worst-case housing needs, defined as households at 50 percent of Area Median Income (AMI) and below, who do not have housing subsidies and pay more than one half of their income toward housing-related expenses.<sup>6</sup> 31.04 percent of all survey respondents and 44.09 percent of BIPOC respondents desired affordable rents. The Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University reports that the share of cost-burdened renters increased by 3.2 percent from 2019. Higher-income households also saw their housing cost burden increase by 2.2 percent.<sup>7</sup> According to the 2022 American Community Survey, 46.7 percent of renters in Spokane County pay more than 35 percent of their income for rent, meaning nearly 50 percent of renters in Spokane County are rent-burdened.<sup>2</sup>

A low supply of low-rent units also negatively impacts the burden of housing costs. In 2022, 7.2 million units nationwide had contract rents of less than \$600 per month, the maximum rent affordable to 26 percent of renters with annual incomes of less than \$24,000. This is a loss of 2.1 million units since 2012.<sup>7</sup> The vacancy rate for Spokane County in 2022 was 1.6 percent, and the homeowner vacancy rate was even lower at .4 percent.<sup>2</sup> The inadequate supply of housing has impacted homelessness in Spokane County. In 2024, an estimated 2,021 individuals were identified as homeless during the Point-In-Time count conducted in January of 2024. 443 of those individuals were unsheltered at the time of the count.<sup>8</sup> The Homeless Research Institute found that gender-expansive individuals, which HUD defines as those who have changed their gender since birth or do not identify as male or female, are overrepresented in the Homeless community, and federal data reveals a sharp increase in gender-expansive individuals experiencing homelessness since 2015 when HUD started using expanded gender categories for data collection. Specifically, gender non-singular and gender-questioning individuals in emergency shelters increased by 110

percent from 2019 to 2021, and transgender individuals in emergency shelters increased by 42 percent in the same time frame.<sup>9</sup>

In addition to needing affordable rents, 24.46 percent of survey respondents and 32.28 percent of BIPOC respondents indicated they could not afford housing-related expenses. The Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University 2024 Rental Housing report suggests that "while rental markets are finally cooling, evictions have risen, the country is seeing the highest homelessness counts on record, and the need for rental assistance is greater than ever." The report goes on to share that "despite the number of very low-income renter households grew by 4.4 million between 2001 and 2021, the number of assisted households in this income range increased by just 910,000."<sup>7</sup> The SNAP rental assistance program has shrunk from an all-time high of approximately \$40,000,000 during the pandemic to just over \$1,000,000 per year in 2024. The need for rental assistance continues to outpace the resources available.



The Urban Institute published a 2024 report on the Implications of Housing Conditions for Racial Wealth and Health Disparities. When comparing the utility costs of White and Black homeowners, the report found that Black homeowners face higher utility costs relative to the size of their homes. Black homeowners are also 5.7 percent more likely to live in inadequate housing, nearly double the 2.9 percent of White homeowners living in similar housing conditions.<sup>10</sup> While some renters and homeowners in Spokane County benefit from the My Energy Discount program, which helps reduce households' energy burden to six percent of their income, limited resources are available to assist homeowners and renters with costly repairs to maintain their homes or pay for unexpected rental or mortgage expenses.<sup>11</sup> 17.58 percent of survey respondents and 18.90 percent of BIPOC responders noted that they needed to learn basic

home repair skills. As of 2020, 42 percent of Spokane's housing stock was built in 1960 or earlier, with 19 percent built before 1940.<sup>12</sup>

## Food Security and Access

The Food Security Survey conducted by the University of Washington and Washington State University found that among the low-income households surveyed between 2020 and 2023, the price for grocery expenditures increased by 49 percent for those identified as food secure and 71 percent for food insecure households.<sup>13</sup> 19.88 percent of all survey respondents and 23.62 percent of BIPOC respondents identified a lack of food as a key safety concern. From 2017 to 2021, 8.9 percent of Washington residents and 11.8 percent of Washington youth were food insecure. In Spokane County, those numbers increase to 10.1 percent of the total population and 13.1 percent of youth experiencing food insecurity.<sup>1</sup> The 2022 American Community Survey 44.3 percent of the population below the federal

poverty level and 55.7 percent of households at or above the federal poverty level receive food stamp benefits.<sup>2</sup> Data from the Urban Institute shows that the average SNAP benefit per meal is \$2.83, yet the average meal cost in Spokane County is \$3.40.<sup>15</sup> While SNAP benefits are a helpful tool in reducing food insecurity, households are still not financially resourced enough to cover the full cost of nutritious food options in Spokane County.

25.38 percent of survey respondents and 35.43 percent of BIPOC survey respondents noted having limited options for affordable, nutritious food. According to the Food Access Research Atlas published by the USDA, over 30 census tracts in Spokane County are primarily low-income and more than one-half mile away from a grocery store.<sup>14</sup> A study published in 2023 in the *Journal of Transport and Health* indicates that food deserts do not always mean that individuals living in those areas are food insecure but notes that it is often a contributing factor. Additionally, living in a food desert is associated with an increase in the likelihood of health issues such as diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and obesity due to decreased access to healthy and nutritious foods, whether the household is food insecure or not.<sup>16</sup> In 2022, Second Harvest provided 2,981,596 pounds of fresh produce to households in Spokane County. Second Harvest also utilizes a mobile market (truck delivery) to reach households unable to access food pantry locations. In 2022, 952,509 pounds of food were delivered via the mobile market in Spokane County.<sup>17</sup>

### Increase Financial Resiliency

Household debt rose to 17.69 trillion dollars in the first quarter of 2024 with housing debt equaling \$12.82 trillion of the total.<sup>18</sup> For the State of Washington, 16 percent of all accounts are in collections with a median of \$1,865 of active debt in collections while 22 percent of accounts held by BIPOC individuals are in active collection with a median of \$1,784 of debt in collections. The rate of accounts in collections for Spokane County is 18 percent with a median of \$2,023 of debt in collections.<sup>19</sup> 29.82 percent of all CNA survey respondents and 37.80 of all BIPOC respondents shared that they have too much debt.

Having significant debt, and specifically, debt in collections negatively impacts credit scores. 35.63 percent of all CNA survey respondents and 53.54 percent of all BIPOC survey respondents indicated a desire to build or improve their credit. Individuals with high incomes see an average credit score of 774, while individuals with low incomes see an average credit score of 658.<sup>20</sup> Having sufficient income to support debt and improve credit is more difficult for BIPOC communities. Wealth gaps based on race and ethnicity are troubling. In 2022, white families' average wealth (\$1.4 million) was six times the average wealth of Black (\$211,544) and Hispanic (\$227,544) families.<sup>21</sup> In the state of Washington, 670,540 households live below the Self-Sufficiency Standard. The Self-Sufficiency Standard measures how much income is needed for a household based on family composition in a given geography to adequately meet their basic needs without public or private assistance. From 2001 to 2021 the Self-Sufficiency Standard for Spokane County increased 117 percent from \$33,717 to \$73,100 meaning that a family of two adults, one preschooler and one school-age child would need to earn \$73,100 to afford basic necessities.<sup>22</sup> Basic necessities do not include saving for retirement, having a savings account, or taking care of unanticipated expenses. In 1989 white families had about \$50,000 more in average retirement savings than Black and Hispanic families. By 2022, white families had \$260,000 more than Black and Hispanic families.<sup>21</sup>

## ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

### Access to Affordable Transportation

According to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, lower-income households spent 30 percent of their after-tax income on transportation costs.<sup>23</sup> 33.49 percent of all survey respondents and 43.31% of BIPOC respondents indicated that they need assistance paying for fuel costs. Additionally, 29.36 percent of all respondents and 36.22 percent of BIPOC respondents noted that needed assistance with auto repairs costs. One of The Spokane Regional Transportation Council's Horizon 2045 report key concerns is a lack of understanding of transportation needs for health care specifically mental health care.<sup>24</sup> Existing services like ParaTransit and medical need bus passes can assist people with these needs, but there are gaps and barriers to these services. As an example, many of these services do not allow for a caregiver to ride along which can present a financial barrier for households. These transportation services will also not cover transportation to other necessary service providers such as credit unions, food banks, or community or senior centers.



77 percent of adults over the age of 50 wish to age in place.<sup>25</sup> As driving becomes more difficult, access to low-cost transportation options becomes more critical. A lack of access to transportation can harm health outcomes due not only to missed medical appointments but due to social isolation. Without access to reliable and affordable transportation, older adults can be faced with the possibility of placement into long-term care facilities.<sup>26</sup>

### Access to Affordable Mental Health Care

17.13 percent and 15.14 percent of all CNA survey respondents and 24.41 percent and 18.11 percent of BIPOC survey respondents shared that there is a lack of access to mental health services and a lack of affordable mental health services in our community. In 2022 in Spokane County, 7.1 percent of residents reported having a serious mental illness.<sup>27</sup> In any given year, more than five million Americans experience an acute episode of mental illness.<sup>28</sup> While high numbers of Americans are experiencing mental illness financial constraints can be a major barrier to accessing mental health care.<sup>29</sup> The average monthly out-of-pocket cost for therapy is \$178. While there are avenues to receive free or reduced-cost mental health care, a lack of knowledge about available resources remains a barrier for families. Other barriers include a lack of transportation and the inability to get time away from employment to attend therapy sessions.<sup>29</sup>

Poverty also impacts mental well-being. 19.4 percent of people living below the poverty line reported feeling worried, nervous, or anxious at higher rates than Americans generally. Children growing up in poverty are also more vulnerable and are two to three times more likely to develop mental health conditions than those living in a more economically stable household.<sup>30</sup> In 2023 in Spokane County, 28 percent of eighth graders and 32 percent of tenth graders reported feeling sad or hopeless.<sup>1</sup>

## Physical Health Needs and Supports

An estimated 129 million people in the United States have at least one major chronic disease such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes and hypertension and 42 percent have two or more chronic health conditions.<sup>31</sup> In our survey response pool 37.31 of all respondents and 37.80 of all BIPOC respondents identified as having a chronic health condition. Poverty and low-income status are linked with adverse health outcomes such as higher infant mortality rates and higher death rates for the 14 leading causes of death.<sup>33</sup> Geography and poverty are linked to health outcomes. There are significantly lower rates of asthma, arthritis, diabetes, hypertension, and obesity in affluent counties compared with the last affluent ones.<sup>31</sup> In Spokane County, the zip code where a community member resides impacts how long they are likely to live. The zip codes with the five highest life expectancies in Spokane County have an average life expectancy of 81.2 years while the bottom five zip codes have an average life expectancy of 74.2.<sup>1</sup>



Health concerns of our CNA survey respondents also included a lack of access to dental or oral health care. According to the CDC, the prevalence of untreated cavities in the primary teeth of children aged 2-5 from low-income households is about three times higher than that of children from higher-income households.<sup>34</sup> In Washington State, of the individuals enrolled with State Medical Insurance (Apple Health) the dental benefit utilization rate for individuals 21 years of age or older is 17 percent. Apple Health dental utilization rates across the county sit at 53 percent. Of all Apple Health expenditures, 3 percent is on oral health and the remaining 97 percent is on other physical health needs.<sup>35</sup> Across the country, 57 million Americans live in a dental health professional shortage area.<sup>34</sup> 61 percent of people making less than \$30,000 per year have an oral health symptom, compared to 50 percent of those making \$100,000 per year or more. Individuals living in poverty have unmet dental needs as compared to 58 percent of higher-income individuals. Outside of poverty, race and ethnicity impact oral health outcomes as well. 68 percent of Black adults are more likely to have unmet oral health needs than white adults. 52 percent of Latino individuals are more likely than white individuals to have unmet oral health needs.<sup>36</sup> 22.63 percent of all survey respondents and 23.62 percent of BIPOC respondents felt they had limited options to obtain dental care.

## Education Support

20.95 percent of all survey respondents and 33.07 percent of BIPOC respondents noted that they did not have the resources necessary to continue their education. Debt from higher education has long-lasting consequences for low-income students and students of color.<sup>38</sup> This is not a new disparity, but the gap is widening quickly. Nearly half of Black

students owe more money four years after graduating than they originally borrowed in contrast to 17 percent of white students. 10 years after attaining a bachelor's degree 37 percent of Black Americans reported negative net worth, nearly double the average for their white peers.<sup>38</sup> The costs of higher education have increased 180 percent. In 1980 the average cost to attend a four-year college full-time was \$10,231 per year. By 2020 that price increased to \$28,775.<sup>39</sup> Students from low-income families who received Pell grants borrowed \$43,983 to attend college versus \$25,375 for students from higher-income families. Black students who qualified for Pell grants borrowed an average of \$58,644 as compared to an average of \$31,578 borrowed by white students who received Pell grants.<sup>38</sup> Access to quality education continues to be inequitable for low-income and BIPOC students. More than two-thirds of students whose families are in the lowest quintile of income attend two-year institutions or less and only four percent of those students attend highly competitive four-year institutions. In families with incomes in the highest quintile, 37 percent of students attend a highly competitive four-year institution.<sup>38</sup>



## APPENDIX

- A. Respondent Demographics
- B. Full Survey
- C. Data Set



# **APPENDIX A**

# Appendix A

Community Needs Assessment Survey Tool

Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners (SNAP)  
Community Needs Assessment Survey



Thank you for completing the attached survey.  
This survey will give voice to the needs of your household.

Would you prefer to complete on your phone or computer?

Visit us at <https://snapwa.org/cna24>

or

Scan the QR code below with your smartphone to take our digital survey



If you would like to know more about SNAP services, please visit our website at [www.snapwa.org](http://www.snapwa.org) or call us at 456-SNAP.

Do you know someone else who might be willing to fill out this survey?

We want their input! \*

Please refer friends to the same hyperlink above or take a paper copy to them

All surveys are to be completed by February 21, 2024

\*Please have friends fill out the survey through the hyperlink above OR return the hard copy to the agency from which you received this paper copy OR call 456-SNAP for drop-off locations.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this survey

Please contact us at [feedback@snapwa.org](mailto:feedback@snapwa.org).

Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners (SNAP)  
2024 Community Needs Assessment Survey

This survey is not an application for services. The information you provide will not be used to determine services for you or your household.

Your answers will give voice to the overall needs of our community.

Your answers to this survey will remain confidential.

If you are interested in receiving SNAP services, you may visit our website:  
[www.snapwa.org](http://www.snapwa.org) or call our main line: 509-456-SNAP

1) How do you identify yourself?

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary
- Prefer to Self-describe: \_\_\_\_\_
- Choose not to disclose

2) Age

- 17 or younger
- 18-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65 or older
- Choose not to disclose

3) Which category or categories best describes your race?

- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Mixed Race
- White
- Other

4) Are you of Hispanic, Latinx, or of Spanish origin?

- Yes
- No

- 5) Are you or someone in your household living with a disability?
- Yes
  - No
- 6) Including yourself, how many people live in your household? \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Including yourself, how many people under age of 18 are living in your household? \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) Total Monthly Income Per Household
- Under \$2,000
  - \$2,000 / \$3,999
  - \$4,000 / \$5,999
  - \$6,000 / \$7,999
  - \$8,000 / \$8,999
  - \$9,000 / \$9,999
  - \$10,000 / \$11,999
  - \$12,000 / \$14,999
  - Above 15,000
- 9) What is your current housing situation?
- Own home/mortgage
  - Renting
  - Staying with Friends/Family
  - Homeless
  - Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) How many years have you lived within Spokane County?
- 0-12 months
  - 1 - 3 years
  - 3-5 years
  - More than 5 years
- 11) What is the highest level of education completed by you (or someone in your household?)
- Some High school, no degree
  - High school degree or equivalent
  - Some college, no degree
  - Associates degree or technical school/certificate
  - Bachelor's degree
  - Master's degree or higher

12) What is your sexual orientation?

- Asexual
- Bisexual
- Homosexual
- Straight (Heterosexual)
- Lesbian
- Pansexual
- Queer
- Prefer to Self-Describe -----
- Choose not to disclose

13) What is your current employment status? (select all that apply)

- Full-time employed
- Part-time employed
- Seasonal work
- Self-employed
- Unemployed -student
- Unemployed -SSI/disability
- Unemployed -cannot find a job
- Unemployed by choice
- Retired
- Other (Please specify) -----
- None of the above

14) If unemployed – are you looking for work?:

- Yes
- No

15) What Employment-related needs do you and/or someone in household have? (check all that apply)

- In need of more job training / education
- Cannot find a job because there are not enough jobs
- Cannot find a job that pays enough to support my family
- In need of Employment Search skills (e.g. Resume building, Cover letters, etc.)
- Other (Please specify) -----
- None of the above

16) What Education needs do you and/or someone in household have? (Check all that apply)

- Cannot afford to continue my education
- Need to know more about starting or expanding a business
- Need to know more about eating healthier
- Need to understand our rights as a renter
- Needs to understand our rights as a homeowner
- Need to learn basic home repairs
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

17) What Housing needs do you and/or someone in your household have? (select all that apply)

- Affordable housing to rent
- Unable to qualify for rental housing
- Unable to find suitable housing due to discrimination
- Affordable homes to purchase
- Difficulty finding structurally-sound and safe housing
- Finding shelter beds
- Not being able to afford housing-related expenses
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

18) Do you or someone in your household have other housing-related needs? (Check all that apply)

- Not being able to afford housing-related expenses
- Furniture or household goods
- Finding affordable and reputable home repair services
- Disability access or modifications
- Other medical related accommodations
- Mortgage or Rent assistance
- A Pet friendly environment
- Utility assistance
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

19) Do you /or someone in the household have any of the following transportation-related needs?  
(Check all that apply)

- Rides to medical-related appts or food sources
- Bus tickets
- Purchase a car
- Obtain a Driver's License
- Gasoline vouchers
- Insurance coverage for vehicle
- Auto repairs
- Vehicle registration and/or inspection fees/driver license fees
- Transportation for someone with a disability
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

20) What Financial needs do you and/or someone in household have? (select all that apply)

- Improve our credit score and/or build my credit
- Have too much debt
- Cannot afford the cost of cable/satellite/internet
- Cannot afford current medical bills
- Cannot afford childcare
- Cannot access banking systems
- Cannot afford to continue my education
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

21) What Mental Health needs you and/or someone in household have? (select all that apply)

- Lack or limited coverage for mental health services
- Lack of affordable mental health care services within the community
- Lack of access to mental health care services within the community
- Lack of prescription coverage
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

22) What Physical Health care needs do you and/or someone in household have? (select all that apply)

- Living with a Chronic Disease (diabetes, heart disease, obesity, etc.)
- Lack of affordable health care services within the community
- Lack of health insurance
- Lack of dental insurance
- Limited access to dental care services
- Limited options for affordable, nutritious, and/or culturally-relevant food resources
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

23) What kind of child care, elder care, and/or dependent care support do you or someone in your household need? (Check all that apply)

- Care for child(ren) in household with special needs
- Care for adult(s) in the household with special needs
- Childcare Centers more conveniently located to home or work
- Increase options for Before/after school care
- Access to a childcare that will take a child who is/are sick
- Evening / weekend hours due to work shift schedule
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

24) What Safety issues have you and/or someone in household experienced within the past year? (check all that apply)

- Abandoned houses / buildings in my neighborhood
- No enough street lighting in neighborhood
- Crime to self or property
- Child abuse and/or neglect
- Adult abuse and/or neglect
- Senior abuse or disabled neglect
- Little to no emergency response when contacting authorities
- Lack of food
- Substance abuse and addiction
- Child safety seats
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- None of the above

25) Do you have reliable phone/cell access?

- Yes
- No

26) Do you have access to the Internet?

- Yes
- No

27) Where do you usually use the internet? (Choose the one you use most often)

- At home
- At work
- At the library
- At a friend's home
- At a family member's home
- Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

28) What programs, services, and/or resources would you like SNAP to consider providing to the community?

29) Comments/Suggestions:

Thank you for completing this survey.



# **APPENDIX B**

# Appendix B

## Survey Data Set

### Employment:

What is your current employment status?	ALL	BIPOC
Full-time employed	23.39%	24.41%
Part-time employed	9.63%	12.60%
Seasonal work	1.53%	1.57%
Self-employed	5.05%	6.30%
Unemployed-student	2.60%	3.94%
Unemployed-SSI/disability	21.56%	24.41%
Unemployed-cannot find a job	5.66%	9.45%
Unemployed by choice	2.45%	2.36%
Retired	24.92%	7.87%
None of the above	3.98%	7.09%
If unemployed – are you looking for work:		
Yes	28.90%	34.43%
What Employment related needs do you and/or someone in household have?		
In need of more job training / education	10.24%	20.47%
Cannot find a job because there are not enough jobs	3.82%	7.09%
Cannot find a job that pays enough to support my family	12.54%	21.26%
In need of Employment Search skills (e.g. Resume building, Cover letters, etc.)	5.50%	11.81%
None of the Above	43.58%	40.16%

### Education:

What Education needs do you and/or someone in household have? (Check all that apply)	ALL	BIPOC
Cannot afford to continue my education	20.95%	33.07%
Need to know more about starting or expanding a business	9.94%	18.90%
Need to know more about eating healthier	11.31%	14.96%
Need to understand our rights as a renter	12.69%	14.96%
Needs to understand our rights as a homeowner	6.57%	7.87%
Need to learn basic home repairs skills	17.58%	18.90%
None of the Above	52.29%	34.65%

Housing Needs:

What Housing needs do you and/or someone in your household have?	ALL	BIPOC
Affordable Housing to rent	31.04%	44.09%
Unable to qualify for rental housing	2.29%	0.00%
Unable to find suitable housing due to discrimination	3.82%	7.09%
Affordable Homes to purchase	16.36%	22.05%
Difficulty finding structurally sound and safe housing	4.74%	9.45%
Finding affordable and reputable home repair services	11.01%	10.24%
Finding shelter beds	.46%	.79%
Not being able to afford housing related expenses	24.46%	32.28%
None of the Above	37.31%	25.98%
Do you or someone in your household have other housing-related needs?		
Not being able to afford housing related expenses	26.30%	33.86%
Furniture or household goods	17.58%	28.35%
Finding affordable and reputable home repair services	13.76%	14.96%
Disability access or modification services	10.09%	11.81%
Other medical related accommodations	7.34%	7.87%
Mortgage or Rent assistance	29.82%	40.16%
A Pet friendly environment	13.91%	17.32%
Utility assistance	37.31%	40.94%
None of the above	26.30%	19.69%

Transportation Needs:

Do you /or someone in the household need any of the following transportation-related help? (Check all that apply)	ALL	BIPOC
Rides to Medical related appts or Food sources	11.77%	20.47%
Bus tickets	9.17%	12.60%
Purchase a car	13.61%	22.83%
Obtain a Driver's license	10.24%	16.54%
Gasoline vouchers	33.49%	43.31%
Insurance	19.42%	23.62%
Auto repairs	29.36%	36.22%
Vehicle registration and/or inspection fees	15.75%	19.69%
Transportation for someone with a disability	9.48%	11.81%

Financial Needs:

What Financial needs do you and/or someone in household have?	ALL	BIPOC
Improve our credit score and/or build my credit	22.86%	53.54%
Have too much debt	19.11%	37.80%
Cannot afford the cost of cable/satellite/internet	16.26%	22.83%
Cannot afford current medical bills	9.95%	13.39%
Cannot afford childcare	4.24%	12.60%
Cannot access banking systems	2.27%	6.30%
None of the Above	19.70%	19.69%
Other	5.62%	0.00%

Mental Health Needs:

What Mental Health needs you and/or someone in your household have?	ALL	BIPOC
Lack or limited coverage for Mental Health services	11.95%	20.47%
Lack of affordable mental health care services within the community	12.45%	18.11%
Lack of access to mental health services within the community	14.09%	24.41%
Lack of prescription coverage	4.65%	7.87%
None of the Above	53.08%	51.97%
Other	3.77%	0.00%

Physical Health Needs:

What Physical Health care needs do you and/or someone in your household have? (select all that apply)	ALL	BIPOC
Living with a Chronic Disease (diabetes, heart disease, obesity etc)	28.64%	37.80%
Lack of affordable health care services within the community	8.69%	14.96%
Lack of health insurance	5.63%	10.24%
Lack of dental insurance	15.49%	25.20%
Limited options to obtain dental care services	17.37%	23.62%
Limited options to affordable nutritious, and/or culturally relevant food sources	19.48%	35.43%
Other	4.69%	0.00%
None of the Above		26.77%

Child/Dependent Care Needs:

What kind of child care, elder care, and/or dependent care help do you or someone in your household need?	ALL	BIPOC
Care for child(ren) in the household with special needs	3.23%	10.24%
Care for adult(s) in the household with special needs	5.92%	11.02%
Childcare centers more conveniently located to home or work	4.85%	13.39%
Increase options for Before/after school care	5.92%	12.60%
Access to childcare that will take a child(ren) who is/are sick	4.31%	12.60%
Evening / weekend hours due to work shift schedule	5.79%	14.17%
N/A	65.95%	66.93%
Other (please specify)	4.04%	0.00%

Safety Needs:

What Safety issues have you and/or someone in household experienced within the past year?	ALL	BIPOC
Abandoned houses / buildings in my neighborhood	3.53%	7.09%
No enough street lighting in neighborhood	8.61%	11.02%
Crime to person or property	14.46%	23.62%
Child abuse and neglect	0.66%	.79%
Adult abuse and neglect	2.10%	4.72%
Senior abuse or disabled neglect	2.54%	5.51%
Little to no emergency response when contacting authorities	6.07%	10.24%
Lack of food	14.35%	23.62%
Substance Abuse and Addiction	5.96%	11.02%
None of the above	37.97%	47.24%
Other	3.75%	0.00%

Phone Access:

Do you have reliable phone/cell access?	ALL	BIPOC
Yes	95.67%	97.62%
No	4.33%	2.36%

Internet Access:

Do you have access to the Internet?	ALL	BIPOC
Yes	93.19%	98.43%
No	6.81%	1.57%
Where do you usually use the internet? (Choose most often)		
At home	81.17%	73.23%
At work	5.86%	5.51%
At the library	3.55%	4.72%
At a friend's home	1.85%	.79%
At a family member's home	1.39%	3.94%
N/A	1.85%	1.57%
Other	4.32%	9.45%



# **APPENDIX C**

# Appendix C

## Survey Respondent Demographics

### Gender/Sex:

How do you identify yourself?		
Female	486	75.00%
Male	145	22.38%
Non-binary	8	1.23%
Prefer to self-describe	0	0.00%
Prefer to not to disclose	9	1.39%

### Age:

Age		
17 or younger	0	0.00%
18-24	22	3.38%
25-34	97	14.90%
35-44	124	19.05%
45-54	101	15.51%
55-64	131	20.12%
65 or older	170	26.11%
Choose not to disclose	6	0.92%

### Race/Ethnicity:

Which category or categories best describes your race?		
American Indian or Alaskan Native	20	3.12%
Black or African American	13	2.03%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	13	2.03%
Asian	9	1.40%
Mixed Race	40	6.24%
White	529	82.53%
Other	17	2.65%
Are you of Hispanic, Latinx, or of Spanish origin?		
Yes	47	7.25%
No	601	92.75%

Disability:

Are you or someone in your household living with a disability?		
Yes	324	50.39%
No	319	49.61%

Income:

Total Monthly Income Per Household		
Under \$2,000	290	44.75%
\$2,000 / \$3,999	186	28.70%
\$4,000 / \$5,999	59	9.10%
\$6,000 / \$6,999	13	2.01%
\$7,000 / \$7,999	8	1.23%
\$8,000 / \$9,999	10	1.54%
\$10,000 / \$11,999	17	2.62%
\$12,000 / \$14,999	14	2.16%
Above 15,000	51	7.87%

Housing Situation:

What is your current housing situation?		
Own your home/mortgage	239	36.66%
Renting	350	53.68%
Staying with Friends/Family	21	3.22%
Homeless	22	3.37%
Other	20	3.07%

Length of Time in Spokane County:

How many years have you lived within Spokane County?		
0-12 months	21	3.24%
1 - 3 years	50	7.70%
3-5 years	41	6.32%
More than 5 years	537	82.74%

Education:

What is the highest level of education completed by you (or someone in your household?)		
Some High school, no degree	37	5.69%
High school degree or equivalent	115	17.69%
Some college, no degree	178	27.38%
Associates degree or technical school/certificate	154	23.69%
Bachelor's degree	118	18.15%
Master's degree or higher	48	7.38%

Sexual Orientation:

What is your sexual Orientation		
Choose not to disclose	68	10.58%
Prefer to Self Disclose	5	0.78%
Straight (Hetrosexual)	492	76.52%
Asexual	10	1.56%
Pansexual	9	1.40%
Gay	10	1.56%
Lesbian	9	1.40%
Bi-sexual	27	4.20%
Non-Binary	1	0.16%
Queer	12	1.87%

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