

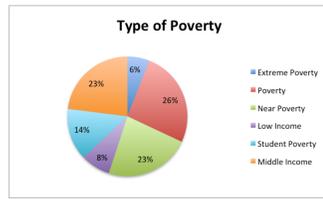


Census Tract 9: Armory Park/Barrio Santa Rosa

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Respondent Demographic Characteristics



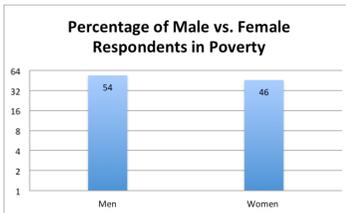
Who we interviewed

- ★ **Employment Status**
- 49% work full time
- 20% work part time
- 17% are retired
- ◆ **Median Age**
- 45 years
- ◆ **Who controls the households**
- 48% live in single households without children

Education by Percentage of Entire Sample

High school Degree 23%
Some College 17%
Bachelor's Degree 23%

- Parents education closely mirrors the education of their children.
- Although an education is helpful towards obtaining a job with an income exceeding the poverty rate, poverty may affect anyone from a college graduate to high school graduate.



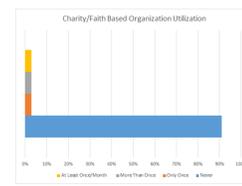
House Condition/Characteristics on Scale from: Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor

- > 57% were in fair condition
- > 29% were in good condition
- > 57% live in a single-family home
- > 31% live in a multi family home
- > 9% were in poor condition

The diversity of downtown allows for the existence of houses in excellent condition in neighborhoods of primarily houses in fair condition. The majority of houses were in fair condition and were single-family homes.

Unfortunately for Tucsonans, working a full time job does not equate to a life above the poverty line.

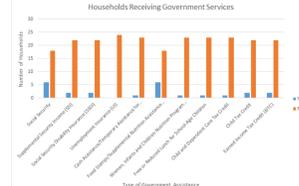
Government Assistance and Service Organization Utilization and Knowledge



Interviewer: "Why do you think that you were not able to get more than \$0.48?"

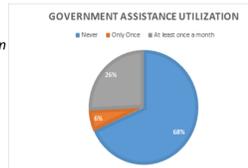
"That was because of, well I think the fact that I owned the house. And that my income is from Social Security and apparently my income was too high to meet their requirements to become eligible for food stamps I'm assuming I don't know how they work to tell you the truth. Because I don't have enough children is what I was told. I make too much money and I make nothing so it's ridiculous, no."

--Single Mother Living in Poverty



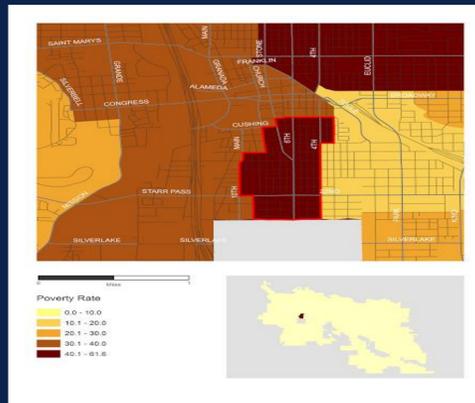
"Yeah, there's a church down the street, they do a thing over here. And the food bank... Guadalupe...you know, the hot meals in the morning. Yeah, that's a main resource if I need it. It's an everyday thing."

--Ex-Homeless Transgender Veteran



Because it's really really really difficult. So difficult to get. You can't get an appointment, you have to do same day so you have to call that morning and then if there is an appointment available, you get put in that timeslot so I have called like every morning and I just can't get an appointment to save my life."

--Low Income Mother



Suggestions

1) Make Help More Accessible

"...I did try to ask for help when I first moved in here with my deposit, and you always have to call at certain times or by the time you do get a hold of anybody there's nothing available. So I just don't even ask anymore because I just keep getting the run around," - School teacher and single mother

"...The whole DS thing and their new offices. They actually, it really sucks over there. They're overcrowded, I know there's not budget for it but...it's very irritating because just to apply for benefits you might as well. You're gonna be in a crowded room all day long. I mean, some people are really nice, other people aren't...It's not like you have an option...the online f*ckin, the online f*ckin application is so f*ckin complicated...I could probably spend over six hours just trying to apply online. Because I'm that confused by it," - Ex-homeless trans-gender veteran

2) Improve roads and public transportation

"Fix the roads, the roads in this neighborhood are awful... 4th is horrible. Local roads are pretty bad," - Low Income Family

"Bike lanes are, like, a huge deal. And for someone who hasn't had a car for a long time and doesn't use public transport...biking in Tucson is hard sometimes, like as bike accessible as it is in terms of flat surfaces, but in terms of bike lanes, it's like horrendous," - Single teacher

"The potholes are pretty bad," - Retired man living in extreme poverty

"Public transportation could be improved, and adding bike lanes would help a lot of people," - Single Art Teacher

Financial

How well respondents get by with resources in a typical month :

Not enough to make ends meet: 3%
Just enough to make ends meet: 51%
Some money left over at the end of the month: 31%
Plenty of money left over at the end of the month: 11%

"I think that I live pretty comfortably but I try to live within my means. I think that I am quite different than most people because it takes very little to satisfy me with forms of entertainment and things like that. I mean I have no interest in spending 50 dollars to go see a show every weekend. I mean that just doesn't interest me. I am fine just sitting here with a book. So I have some left over."
- Manager living in poverty

Incomes	Average	Standard Deviation
Income	1033.28	1188.97
Social Security	148.33	333.47
Disability	38.09	157.79
Child Support	0.57	3.38
Tax Credit	278.21	516.09
TANF	0.29	1.69
SNAP	9.51	34.63
WIC	0.38	1.77
Energy	0.46	2.70
Other	40.19	170.74
Total	1549.28	

*Income and expenses are reported per capita

Respondents borrowing money in the past year to pay for the things they need to survive:

Yes 51% No 45% Don't know/Refused 4%
Many of the respondents who answered no stated that it was because they do not like to owe anyone any money or that they did not want to accumulate any more debt
Of the respondents that did borrow money they borrowed mainly from friends or family with few relying on extra loans

"Indeed indeed. I borrowed some money from the credit union. I borrowed a thousand dollars I had to make the ends meet and that's when the reverse mortgage payments stopped and all the utilities were due and so I had to pay those off." - Senior Citizen

Expenses	Average	Standard Deviation
Rent	345.41	233.69
Utilities	80.06	64.79
Cable	30.06	34.90
Repairs	2.50	9.87
Home Goods	24.91	21.14
Groceries	156.05	95.42
Food Out	69.67	75.66
Cell Phone	37.21	33.67
School Related	25.56	63.18
Transportation	120.80	126.61
Health	30.31	59.19
Debt	61.44	100.93
Entertainment	49.18	95.81
Pet Related	13.20	24.68
Other	44.69	66.04
Total	1091.10	

Nutrition and Food Security

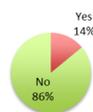
Only 51% of the respondents ranked food as being one of their top 3 priorities. The rest of the respondents chose to rank other things like rent, utilities, their pets and gas as higher priorities than food.

One respondent reported problems receiving assistance from Meals on Wheels and ended up losing this service which led to greater food insecurity for her household:

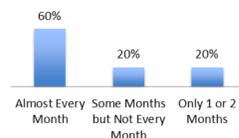
"now I decided to get it again and they won't give it to me. Cause she said are you home bound? And I said I well, I take a taxi to the doctor, this is free because of AHCCCS. And I take SunAM to get my groceries and she said, well then you're not home bound. But they gave it to me before." - Elderly Woman Living Alone

Although the majority of our respondents did not suffer from food insecurity, those that did experienced food insecurity suffered from it greatly.

Respondents skipping meals because there was not enough money for food



How often did this happen?



When asked what it would cost a respondent to take off work to attend to a personal matter, this respondent stated:

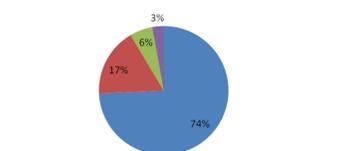
"Yes, I would definitely be able to and it would cost me like a meal but um, luckily I have like a loan, like student loans and credit cards and I know that would try to like to cover me. But yeah, I would definitely be able to but it would be a lost meal."
- College student returning back to school after working full-time for almost a decade.

Social Networks and Support Systems

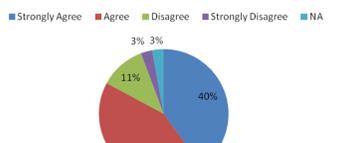
- The majority of the respondents in our sample had strong support systems in place. These support systems are primarily made up of family and close friends.
- "Parents, they always have good advice" --RN working night shifts
- 86% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that **There is someone I trust whom I would turn to for advice if I were having problems.**
- 60% specified Family, 32% specified Close Friend, others mentioned a Pastor, Army superior, Co-worker, Boss, Neighbor, or Landlord.
- Have you ever needed to borrow money to pay for any of your expenses? Can you tell me about the last time that happened? What led up to the situation and how did you resolve it?
- 34% of those who answered yes to this question borrowed money from family, 75% of the family mentioned were parents

- While most people reported having strong non-financial support systems, they were less confident about having financial support.
- "Close with family just not on the financial front. Money is tight all around."
- 30-year-old Tucson native who strongly agreed that he had people to count on in a non-financial emergency, but disagreed that he had family and friends who would loan him \$200.

Non-financial Emergency



Loan \$200



"I would say probably the last time is when I was between jobs, and I can always kind of like talk to my dad and if has the money will help me out you know, and I am always responsible in paying it back within a couple weeks so." --Near poverty, working two jobs

57% of respondents live alone

Even though respondents had supports systems, most did not live in close proximity.

"I don't talk with my neighbors...I don't talk to nobody. I don't have time."
-Mexican immigrant

How about your neighbors? Do you think your closest neighbors could find a way to raise \$2,000? How would they do it?
Only 20% said they know their neighbors or mentioned something specific about them