

Camden County Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Study

Survey Methodology and Results

Drs. Keith E Lee Jr. and Joseph Robbins

Contents

1	Executive Summary	2
2	Survey Methodology	2
2.1	Selecting the Survey Method	3
2.2	Developing a Questionnaire	3
2.3	Selecting the Sample	3
2.4	Conducting the Survey	5
2.5	Determining the Results	5
2.6	Documenting Your Effort	5
3	Low- and moderate-income worksheet	5
3.1	Part A. Information Contained in Your Survey	5
3.2	Part B. Calculations Based on Data Contained in Your Survey	6
4	ARPA Needs Assessment Results	7
4.1	Which option best describes your current housing situation?	7
4.2	How many people live in your home?	7
4.3	Are there any individuals living in your household who are younger than 18 years old?	7
4.4	If yes, how many?	7
4.5	Do you live in a single-parent household?	8
4.6	Are there any individuals living in your household who are older than 65 years old?	8
4.7	Was the employment of anyone in your household affected by the COVID pandemic?	8
4.8	Did someone in the household experience a temporary reduction in hours worked?	8
4.9	Did someone in the household experience a permanent reduction in hours worked?	8

4.10	Did someone in the household become temporarily out of work?	9
4.11	Did someone in the household become permanently out of work?	9
4.12	If you are still working, are you able to work remotely?	9
4.13	How did you find work during COVID?	9
4.14	Do you require child care?	9
4.15	Since March 2020, did you access any services or resources from a nonprofit or community organization (for example, church, shelter, food pantry, etc.)?	10
4.16	If yes, was this the first time you needed resources from nonprofit or community organizations?	10
4.17	Do you have access to the COVID vaccine and/or booster?	10
4.18	Do you have internet access?	10
4.19	Do you have access to an internet-connected device in your home (for example, computer/laptop, smartphone, or tablet)?	10
4.20	There is _____ food in my home to satisfy the needs of those in the household	11
4.21	If there was an emergency today and you needed \$400, how would you handle the situation?	11
5		11

1 Executive Summary

Steven Sainz, Camden Connection’s CEO, submitted a draft plan of action to Darrell Moore at the Center for South Georgia Regional Impact regarding a needs assessment survey in October 2021. Darrell reached out to us and requested our assistance in conducting the survey soon thereafter. We were later asked on April 18, 2022 to include survey questions that would be used to support their application for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA). The anonymous survey was approved by Valdosta State University’s Institutional Review Board (IRB) in June 2022 and responses were gathered from June 27, 2022 through December 17, 2022. The survey received 722 responses, with 232 responses from the CDBG target area. This report outlines our survey methodology and the resulting analysis.

2 Survey Methodology

We followed DCA’s “Guide to Acceptable Methodology and Sample Survey Form¹ to conduct the LMI study. This study utilized a Qualtrics survey designed for an ARPA needs assessment, embedding specific questions to ascertain household size and household income . Specifically, respondents were asked how many residents lived in the house and a follow up question was asked whereby the respondent would answer if the household income was over or under a specified threshold. This is consistent with the methodology guide mentioned above (see pages 3-4 for DCA’s suggested procedures). The study used the income limits

¹https://www.dca.ga.gov/sites/default/files/guide_to_acceptable_survey_methodology_0.pdf

provided by the U.S. Department of HUD for Camden County, Georgia (see page 6).² The LMI thresholds for Camden County are in Table 1.³

Table 1: LMI Threshold by Household Size

Household Size	Threshold
1	\$37,050
2	\$42,350
3	\$47,650
4	\$52,900
5	\$57,150
6	\$61,400
7	\$65,600
8+	\$69,850

2.1 Selecting the Survey Method

The survey was accessed via a QR code that directed respondents to a Qualtrics-administered survey. These QR codes were available on widely distributed flyers in Kingsland and were mailed to residents in their utility bills.

2.2 Developing a Questionnaire

We developed the survey using input from stakeholders in Camden County, primarily Steven Sainz. The survey questions were embedded into a broader, anonymous ARPA needs assessment survey. Therefore, we did not collect personally identifying information for the study. Further, given the method of collection, multiple responses could have been provided from any given household.

2.3 Selecting the Sample

The universe for the study was residents in Kingsland, Georgia. The sample from the broader survey was pulled from respondents living in map areas six or seven (see Figure 2).

Map areas six and seven were selected based on the affected area for Camden Counties proposed CDBG-DR-Infrastructure project (see Figure 2).

There are approximately 2,796 households in areas six and seven (see block contained in Figure 2). Thus, the required sample size for the CDBG per Table 2 (page 6) in DCA’s acceptable survey methodology instructions is 400 respondents. Unfortunately, the survey conducted only received 215 responses.

²https://www.dca.ga.gov/sites/default/files/2021_income_limits.pdf

³The “LOW INCOME” row contained in the income limits file represents the 80% average median income (AMI) level for Camden County, which is the threshold for those households labeled as “moderate-income.”

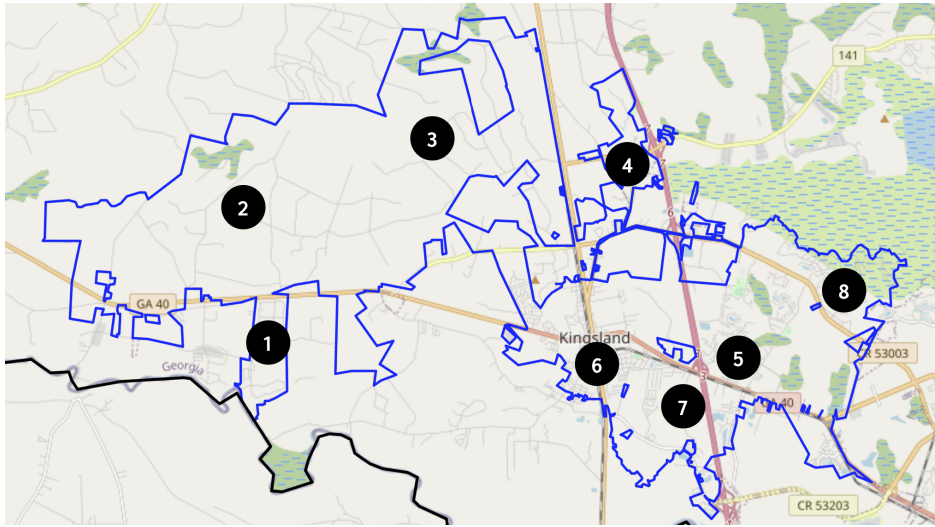


Figure 1: Survey Map Insert

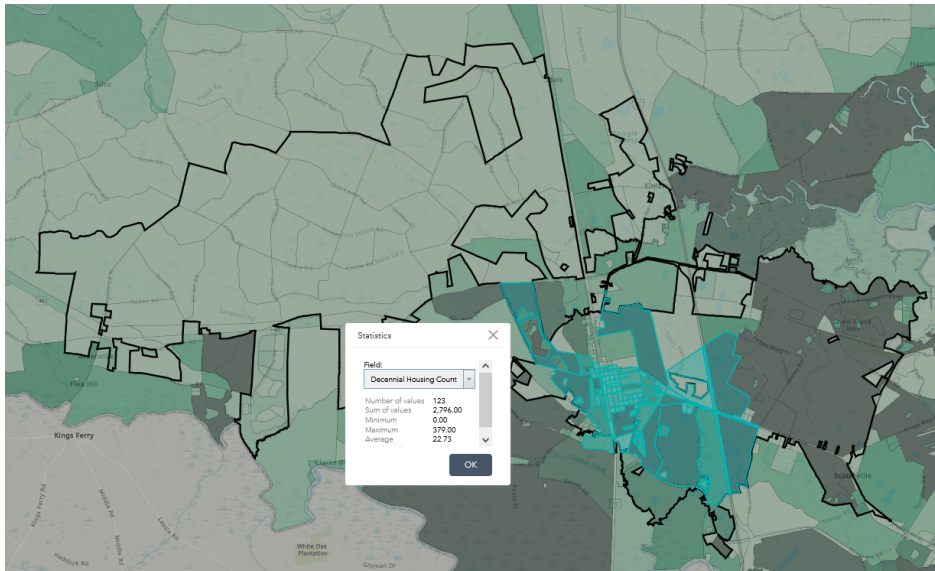


Figure 2: Census Tract in Proposed CDBG-DR-Infrastructure Project Area

2.4 Conducting the Survey

As noted above, the survey was widely publicized in Kingsland and distributed through mail inserts .

2.5 Determining the Results

The results have been analyzed and parts A and B of the low- and moderate-income sheet are provided below.

2.6 Documenting Your Effort

Documentation can be found on Github.⁴ The raw data is stored as an MS Excel file titled “qualtrics-data.xlsx”.⁵ We used R for the data analysis. The .rmd file is titled “dca-cdbg-analysis.Rmd.”⁶

3 Low- and moderate-income worksheet

3.1 Part A. Information Contained in Your Survey

1. Enter the estimated total number of families in the target area.
2796
2. Enter the total number of families interviewed.
148
3. Enter the total number of low- and moderate- income families interviewed.
47
4. Enter the total number of persons living in the low- and moderate-income families interviewed.
144
5. Enter the total number of non-low- and moderate-income families interviewed.
101
6. Enter the total number of persons living in the non-low- and moderate-income families.
305

⁴<https://github.com/keitheleejr/cc-arpa-cdbg-study>

⁵<https://github.com/keitheleejr/cc-arpa-cdbg-study/blob/main/qualtrics-data.xlsx>

⁶<https://github.com/keitheleejr/cc-arpa-cdbg-study/blob/main/dca-cdbg-analysis.Rmd>

3.2 Part B. Calculations Based on Data Contained in Your Survey

7. Divide Line 4 by Line 3. (This is the average size of the low-mod family you interviewed)
3.06
8. Divide Line 6 by Line 5. (This is the average size of non-low-mod family you interviewed)
3.02
9. Divide Line 3 by Line 2. (This is the proportion of families interviewed that have low and moderate incomes)
0.32
10. Divide Line 5 by Line 2. (This is the proportion of families interviewed that do not have low and moderate incomes)
0.68
11. Multiply Line 1 by Line 9. (This is the estimate of the total number of low-mod families in your target area)
895
12. Multiply Line 1 by Line 10. (This is the estimate of the total number of non-low-mod families in your target area.)
1901
13. Multiply Line 7 by Line 11. (This is the estimate of the total number of low-mod persons in your target area.)
2739
14. Multiply Line 8 by Line 12. (This is the estimate of the total number non-low-mod persons in your target area.)
5741
15. Add Line 13 and Line 14. (This is the estimate of the total number of persons in your target area)
8480
16. Divide Line 13 by Line 15, and multiply the resulting decimal by 100. (This is the estimated percentage of persons in your target area who have low and moderate Incomes.)
32.3

4 ARPA Needs Assessment Results

4.1 Which option best describes your current housing situation?

Response	Count	Percentage
I own my house or apartment	318	82.38
I rent my own house or apartment	49	12.69
Other	19	4.92

4.2 How many people live in your home?

Response	Count	Percentage
1	41	10.62
2	140	36.27
3	81	20.98
4	63	16.32
5	32	8.29
6	17	4.40
7	8	2.07
8 or more	4	1.04

4.3 Are there any individuals living in your household who are younger than 18 years old?

Response	Count	Percentage
No	230	59.59
Yes	156	40.41

4.4 If yes, how many?

Response	Count	Percentage
1	52	34.67
2	59	39.33
3	26	17.33
4	8	5.33
5	4	2.67
6	1	0.67

4.5 Do you live in a single-parent household?

Response	Count	Percentage
No	297	83.19
Yes	60	16.81

4.6 Are there any individuals living in your household who are older than 65 years old?

Response	Count	Percentage
No	265	69.55
Yes	116	30.45

4.7 Was the employment of anyone in your household affected by the COVID pandemic?

Response	Count	Percentage
No	232	65.54
Yes	122	34.46

4.8 Did someone in the household experience a temporary reduction in hours worked?

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	89	76.72
No	27	23.28

4.9 Did someone in the household experience a permanent reduction in hours worked?

Response	Count	Percentage
No	74	63.79
Yes	42	36.21

4.10 Did someone in the household become temporarily out of work?

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	71	61.74
No	44	38.26

4.11 Did someone in the household become permanently out of work?

Response	Count	Percentage
No	83	72.81
Yes	31	27.19

4.12 If you are still working, are you able to work remotely?

Response	Count	Percentage
No	143	41.57
No longer working	102	29.65
Yes	99	28.78

4.13 How did you find work during COVID?

Response	Count	Percentage
I did not look for work	248	76.78
Internet-based searches	40	12.38
Friends, family, or word of mouth	26	8.05
Local job advertisements	7	2.17
Department of Labor	2	0.62

4.14 Do you require child care?

Response	Count	Percentage
No, I do not need child care	289	83.53
Yes, our child care needs are met	32	9.25
Yes, we have additional child care needs	15	4.34
Yes, we require child care but do not have it	10	2.89

4.15 Since March 2020, did you access any services or resources from a nonprofit or community organization (for example, church, shelter, food pantry, etc.)?

Response	Count	Percentage
No	295	85.76
Yes	49	14.24

4.16 If yes, was this the first time you needed resources from nonprofit or community organizations?

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	31	64.58
No	17	35.42

4.17 Do you have access to the COVID vaccine and/or booster?

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	311	97.49
No	8	2.51

4.18 Do you have internet access?

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	314	98.12
No	6	1.88

4.19 Do you have access to an internet-connected device in your home (for example, computer/laptop, smartphone, or tablet)?

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	317	99.06
No	3	0.94

4.20 There is _____ food in my home to satisfy the needs of those in the household

Response	Count	Percentage
Always Enough	243	79.41
Mostly Enough	55	17.97
Rarely Enough	7	2.29
Never Enough	1	0.33

4.21 If there was an emergency today and you needed \$400, how would you handle the situation?

Response	Count	Percentage
Pay with cash, check, or debit card	165	54.46
Pay with a credit card	86	28.38
Not able to pay	26	8.58
Sell or pawn something	15	4.95
Borrow the money	11	3.63

5