

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

Survey Methodology and Results

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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 provided by the U.S. Department of HUD for Camden County, Georgia (see page 6).² The

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

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

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.

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.”

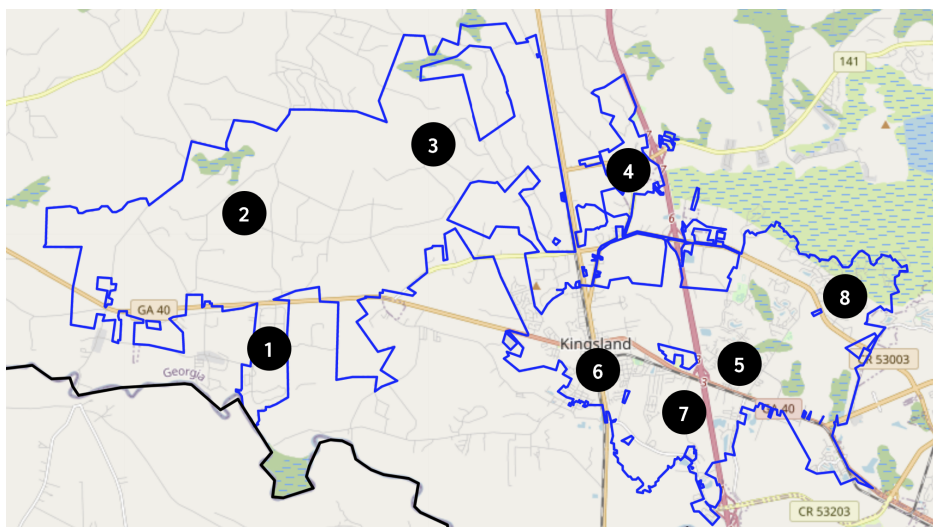


Figure 1: Survey Map Insert

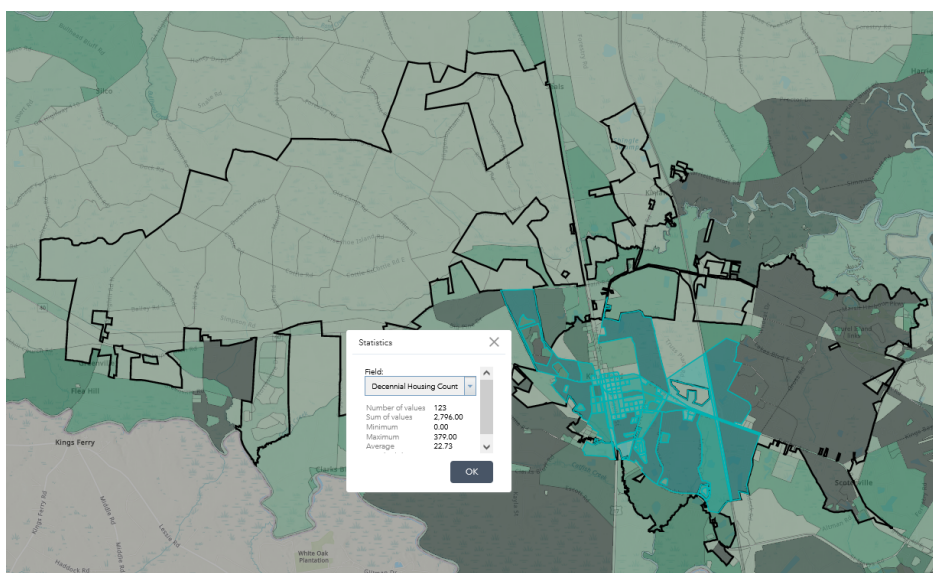


Figure 2: Census Tract in Proposed CDBG-DR-Infrastructure Project Area

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.
215
3. Enter the total number of low- and moderate- income families interviewed.
72
4. Enter the total number of persons living in the low- and moderate-income families interviewed.
232
5. Enter the total number of non-low- and moderate-income families interviewed.
143
6. Enter the total number of persons living in the non-low- and moderate-income families.
432

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)

3.22

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)

0.33

10. Divide Line 5 by Line 2. (This is the proportion of families interviewed that do not have low and moderate incomes)

0.67

11. Multiply Line 1 by Line 9. (This is the estimate of the total number of low-mod families in your target area)

923

12. Multiply Line 1 by Line 10. (This is the estimate of the total number of non-low-mod families in your target area.)

1873

13. Multiply Line 7 by Line 11. (This is the estimate of the total number of low-mod persons in your target area.)

2972

14. Multiply Line 8 by Line 12. (This is the estimate of the total number non-low-mod persons in your target area.)

5656

15. Add Line 13 and Line 14. (This is the estimate of the total number of persons in your target area)

8628

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.)

34.45

4 ARPA Needs Assessment Results

4.1 Which option best describes your current housing situation?

Response	Count	Percentage
I own my house or apartment	428	79.55
I rent my own house or apartment	77	14.31
Other	33	6.13

4.2 How many people live in your home?

Response	Count	Percentage
1	58	10.78
2	197	36.62
3	105	19.52
4	93	17.29
5	44	8.18
6	25	4.65
7	11	2.04
8 or more	5	0.93

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

Response	Count	Percentage
No	316	58.74
Yes	222	41.26

4.4 If yes, how many?

Response	Count	Percentage
1	77	35.81
2	82	38.14
3	37	17.21
4	13	6.05
5	5	2.33
6	1	0.47

4.5 Do you live in a single-parent household?

Response	Count	Percentage
No	420	83.33
Yes	84	16.67

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

Response	Count	Percentage
No	378	71.05
Yes	154	28.95

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

Response	Count	Percentage
No	316	63.07
Yes	185	36.93

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

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	145	81.01
No	34	18.99

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

Response	Count	Percentage
No	118	65.92
Yes	61	34.08

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

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	115	64.61
No	63	35.39

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

Response	Count	Percentage
No	132	74.58
Yes	45	25.42

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

Response	Count	Percentage
No	199	40.53
No longer working	154	31.36
Yes	138	28.11

4.13 How did you find work during COVID?

Response	Count	Percentage
I did not look for work	355	77.01
Internet-based searches	58	12.58
Friends, family, or word of mouth	37	8.03
Local job advertisements	7	1.52
Department of Labor	4	0.87

4.14 Do you require child care?

Response	Count	Percentage
No, I do not need child care	417	84.76
Yes, our child care needs are met	38	7.72
Yes, we have additional child care needs	19	3.86
Yes, we require child care but do not have it	18	3.66

- 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	401	81.67
Yes	90	18.33

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

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	52	60.47
No	34	39.53

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

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	449	97.82
No	10	2.18

- 4.18 Do you have internet access?**

Response	Count	Percentage
Yes	455	98.27
No	8	1.73

- 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	461	99.35
No	3	0.65

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

Response	Count	Percentage
Always Enough	341	76.12
Mostly Enough	89	19.87
Rarely Enough	17	3.79
Never Enough	1	0.22

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	242	54.50
Pay with a credit card	115	25.90
Not able to pay	49	11.04
Borrow the money	19	4.28
Sell or pawn something	19	4.28